



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region



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28 September 2010

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR COLD WATER CONCENTRATED AQUATIC ANIMAL PRODUCTION FACILITY DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS; DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME, DARRAH SPRINGS FISH HATCHERY, SHASTA COUNTY

The State of California Department of Fish and Game (hereafter Discharger) owns and operates the Darrah Springs Fish Hatchery (hereafter Facility). The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) dated 9 December 2008 for renewal of existing Order No. R5-2004-0112 (NPDES No. CA0004561) for the Facility. The ROWD was deemed complete on 7 January 2010.

On 29 January 2010, General Order No. R5-2010-0018, (NPDES No. CAG135001), Waste Discharge Requirements for Cold Water Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production Facility Discharges to Surface Waters (General Order) was adopted by the Central Valley Water Board. The General Order regulates the discharge of pollutants from Cold Water Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production facilities (CAAP facilities) to surface waters in the Central Valley Region. The Facility discharge meets the conditions for coverage under the General Order. The Central Valley Water Board has determined that discharges from your CAAP facility are more appropriately regulated under the General Order than by the existing individual permit. Therefore, the existing Order No. R5-2004-0112 (NPDES No. CA0004561) is scheduled for rescission by a separate action of the Central Valley Water Board at a future regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The Discharger has been assigned an enrollee number of R5-2010-0018-012. Administrative information for the Facility is provided in Attachment A, a part of this Notice of Applicability (NOA).

The CAAP facility operations and discharge shall be managed in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order, this NOA, and with the information submitted by the Discharger. The General Order (enclosed) may also be viewed at the following web address:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_order/r5-2010-0018_npdes.pdf



You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire General Order. Attachment C of the General Order prescribes mandatory monitoring requirements.

FACILITY INFORMATION/DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Facility is located west of Manton in Section 29, T30N, R1W, MDB&M as shown in Attachment B, a part of this NOA. The Facility is located within the Battle Creek Hydrologic Subarea No. 507.12. The property is owned by the Discharger and is on Assessor's Parcel No. 704-240-03. The hatchery facilities are spread out over 80 acres and consist of a large hatchery building, two separate raceway series (the Upper and Lower Raceway Series), a large spring fed Brood Pond, a main office, a vehicle maintenance shop, a former freezer building (used only for storage at this time) and multiple bulk feed storage bins. Based on information in the ROWD the Facility has an annual production of 530,000 pounds (lbs) of cold water species (rainbow trout, eagle lake trout, and cutthroat trout).

Source water for the Facility comes from Darrah Springs, unnamed springs, and the Pacific Power Ditch. The Facility has a design maximum flow rate of 26.7 million gallons per day (mgd) of flow-through water. Wastewater is discharged from the Facility back to Darrah Creek, and also to the Pacific Power Ditch, as shown in the Facility schematic, Attachment C, a part of this NOA and described as follows:

Discharge Point 001 – The hatchery building is fed by a diversion from Darrah Creek. Currently all flow-through wastewater from the hatchery building is discharged back to the Lower Raceway Series. The Discharger reported that Discharge Point 001 (discharge back to Darrah Creek) is no longer used but its designation is retained in the event future use occurs.

Discharge Point 002 – Several unnamed springs supply water to three concrete-lined Brood Ponds. Approximately 4.8 mgd of flow-through water from the Brood Ponds is discharged to Darrah Creek at Discharge Point 002. However, at times, approximately 80 percent of the discharge from the Brood Ponds can be pumped, aerated, and re-circulated through the Lower Raceway Series.

Discharge Point 003 – The Lower Raceway Series is supplied by several water sources, including a surface water diversion from Darrah Creek, flow-through wastewater from the hatchery building, and re-circulated water from the Brood Ponds. An average of 11.6 mgd of flow-through wastewater from the Lower Raceway Series is discharged directly back into Darrah Creek (Discharge Point 003). The Lower Raceway Series does not have a settling basin, therefore, all flow-through wastewater is discharged directly back into Darrah Creek without benefit of settling. Darrah Creek flows into Ward's Pond, located approximately 1300 feet downstream of the Lower Raceway Series. Water in Ward's Pond is diverted into the Coleman Canal via the Asbury Pumping Station and Asbury Siphon. If an overflow occurs from Ward's Pond, the overflow enters Baldwin Creek, a tributary of Battle Creek.

Discharge Point 004 – The Upper Raceway Series is supplied by a surface water diversion from the Pacific Power Ditch. An average of 7.1 mgd of flow-through wastewater from the Upper Raceway Series is discharged back into the Pacific

Power Ditch at Discharge Point 004. There is no settling basin associated with the Upper Raceway Series, and all flow-through wastewater is discharged directly to the Pacific Power Ditch.

Chemicals currently used at the Facility include salt, potassium permanganate, hydrogen peroxide, PVP Iodine, Chloramine-T, Sodium Thiosulfate, Formalin, Florfenical, Oxytetracycline, Enteric Redmouth Vaccine, Tricane Methane Sulfonate, and Acetic Acid. The Discharger reports that copper sulfate is no longer used at the Facility. Additional chemicals, antibiotics and other therapeutic drugs listed in the General Order may be used during periods of disease outbreaks.

Approximately 20 people, consisting of employees and their family members, occupy 12 residences located on the grounds of the Facility. Potable water is supplied from a domestic well. Domestic wastewater from the Facility is discharged to three separate septic tank/leachfield systems as shown on the Facility schematic, Attachment C. The easterly residences discharge into a septic tank/leachfield system (Leachfield #1). The residences near the Upper Raceway Series discharge into a community septic tank/leachfield system adjacent to the residences (Leachfield #2). Domestic sewage from the office building and hatchery building discharges into a third septic tank/leachfield system (Leachfield #3). A sewage lagoon measuring approximately 80 by 40 feet and 15 feet deep was constructed to accommodate excess sewage from the northern leachfield (Leachfield #3), during the rainy season. A groundwater monitoring well was installed in 1997 adjacent to the lagoon. A barbwire fence with a gate encircles the lagoon.

The Facility has a 1,000-gallon Convault tank for storage of gasoline. Limited vehicle maintenance is performed on-site in the Facility's garage. Oil is stored in the garage adjacent to the shop. Used oil, oil filters and extra oil are hauled on a routine basis by a licensed hazardous waste hauler.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The General Order requires that dischargers comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program that is incorporated as Attachment C to the General Order. Influent, effluent, and receiving water monitoring requirements are based on the pounds of fish produced. This Facility is in the category of production greater than 100,000 lbs of fish.

The Discharger conducted priority pollutant metals monitoring on 18 November 2008. The data show that there is no reasonable potential for priority pollutant metals to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives. The Discharger reports that the Facility does not use copper sulfate or chelated copper compounds. The receiving waters are not listed under the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies; therefore, no additional monitoring requirements will be required.

Site-specific monitoring locations for influent, effluent and receiving water monitoring are shown in Attachment C to this NOA (Facility schematic), and as described in the following table:

Monitoring Location Descriptions

Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
Influent	INF-001	At a location representative of influent water to the Facility from Darrah Springs upstream of the second diversion dam.
Influent	INF-002	At a location representative of influent water to the Facility from Pacific Power Ditch.
Discharge Point 001	EFF-001	At a location representative of the effluent discharge from the Hatchery Building to Darrah Creek.
Discharge Point 002	EFF-002	At a location representative of the effluent discharge from the Brood Ponds to Darrah Creek.
Discharge Point 003	EFF-003	At a location representative of the effluent discharge from the Lower Raceway Series to Darrah Creek.
Discharge Point 004	EFF-004	At a location representative of the effluent discharge from the Upper Raceway Series to Pacific Power Ditch.
Receiving Water Upstream (Darrah Creek)	RSW-001	At a location in Darrah Creek upstream from the diversion to the Main Hatchery Building.
Receiving Water Downstream (Darrah Creek)	RSW-002	At a location in Darrah Creek below Discharge Point 003.
Receiving Water Upstream (Pacific Power Ditch)	RSW-003	At a location in Pacific Power Ditch immediately upstream from the diversion point to the Upper Raceway Series.
Receiving Water Downstream (Pacific Power Ditch)	RSW-004	At a location in Pacific Power Ditch 50 feet downstream of Discharge Point 004.

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Based on the information provided in the ROWD, the Discharger is hereby authorized to discharge to Darrah Creek and the Pacific Power Ditch under the terms and conditions of General Order R5-2010-0018. In addition to the requirements contained in the General Order, the following shall also apply:

1. The discharge from the Facility shall not exceed 26.7 mgd during the effective period of the General Order.
2. The Discharger is required to comply with all the Monitoring and Reporting Requirements contained in Attachment C to the General Order for facilities with production greater than 100,000 lbs of fish.
3. The Discharger shall comply with the Groundwater Limitations, Section V.3. of the General Order. To determine compliance, the Discharger shall monitor the ground water monitoring well adjacent to sewage lagoon quarterly. When depth to ground water is less than 5 feet as measured from the bottom of the sewage lagoon groundwater samples shall be collected and analyzed for Total and Fecal Coliform and the results shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board.
4. The Discharger shall electronically submit Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program website (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html>). The CIWQS website will provide directions for SMR submittal in the event there will be service interruption for electronic submittal.

5. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has determined that individual or general permits for aquaculture activities defined in 40 CFR 122.25(b) will be subject to the same annual fee, which currently is \$1,000 (State Water Board Resolution 2002-0150), but may be subject to change.
6. The General Order expires on 1 January 2015, and enrollees will continue to be authorized to discharge until coverage becomes effective under a reissued Order or until Central Valley Water Board staff formally terminates your coverage. Only those CAAP facilities authorized to discharge and who submit a Notice of Intent at least 180 days prior to the expiration date of General Order No. R5-2010-0018 will remain authorized to discharge under administratively continued permit conditions.

Failure to comply with the General Order and this NOA may result in enforcement actions, which could include administrative civil liability. Effluent limitation violations and some late reporting violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation [California Water Code Sections 13385(h) and (i)]. If you have no discharge during a monitoring period, you must submit a report indicating that no discharge occurred. You must notify the Central Valley Water Board staff within 24 hours of noncompliance or anticipated noncompliance.

Please reference your enrollee number, R5-2010-0018-012, in all your correspondence and submitted documents.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, monitoring reports submittals, discharge notifications, compliance and enforcement, please contact, Kevin Kratzke at (530) 224-4850, or kkratzke@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Robert A. Crandall

(for) PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

KEK: knr

NOA Attachments: Attachment A - Administrative Information
Attachment B – Location Map
Attachment C – Facility Schematic

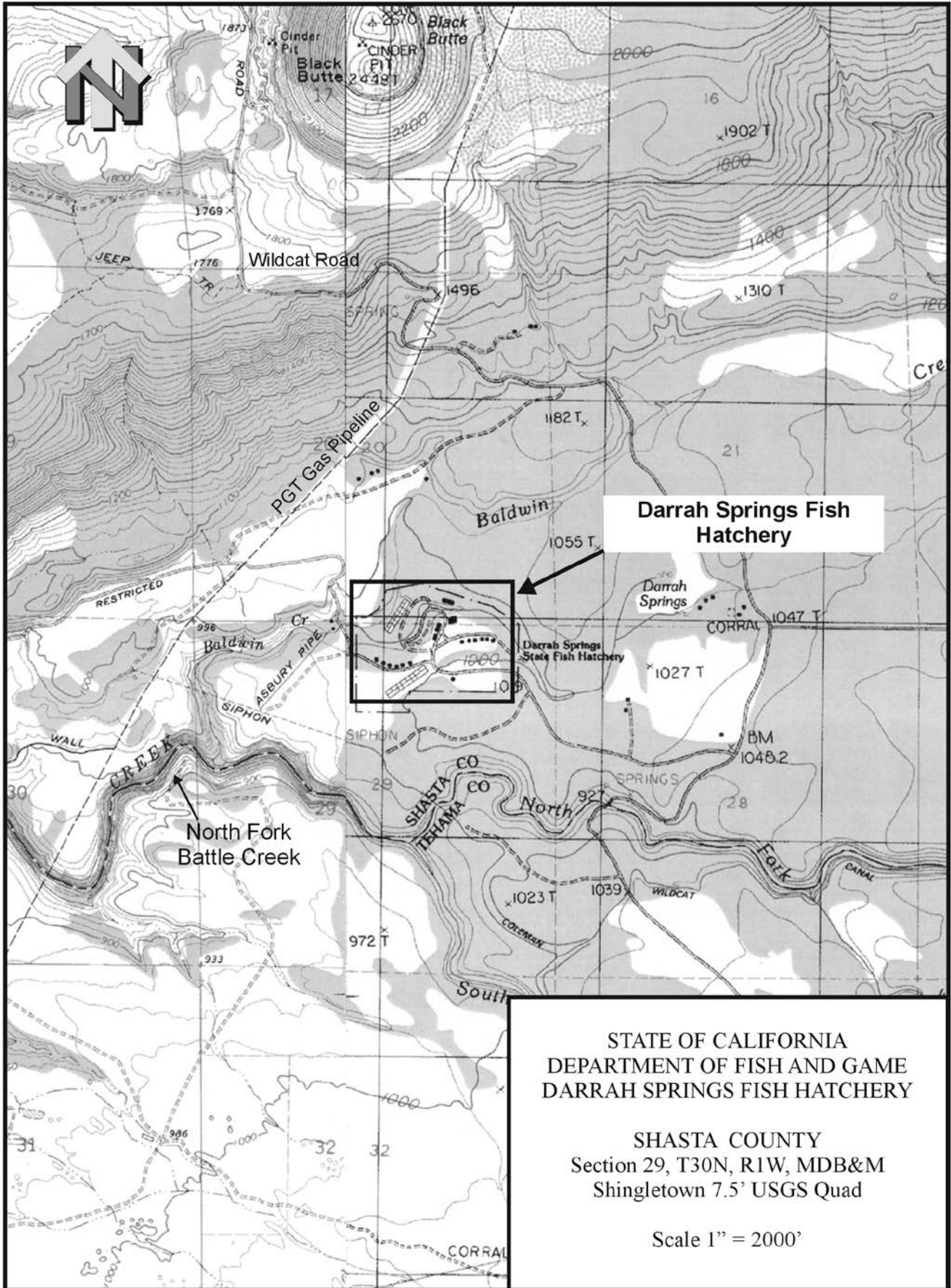
Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2010-0018 (Discharger only)

Distribution List: Mr. David Smith, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco
Mr. Phil Isorena, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento
Mr. Kevin Ceccato, Department of Fish and Game, Paynes Creek

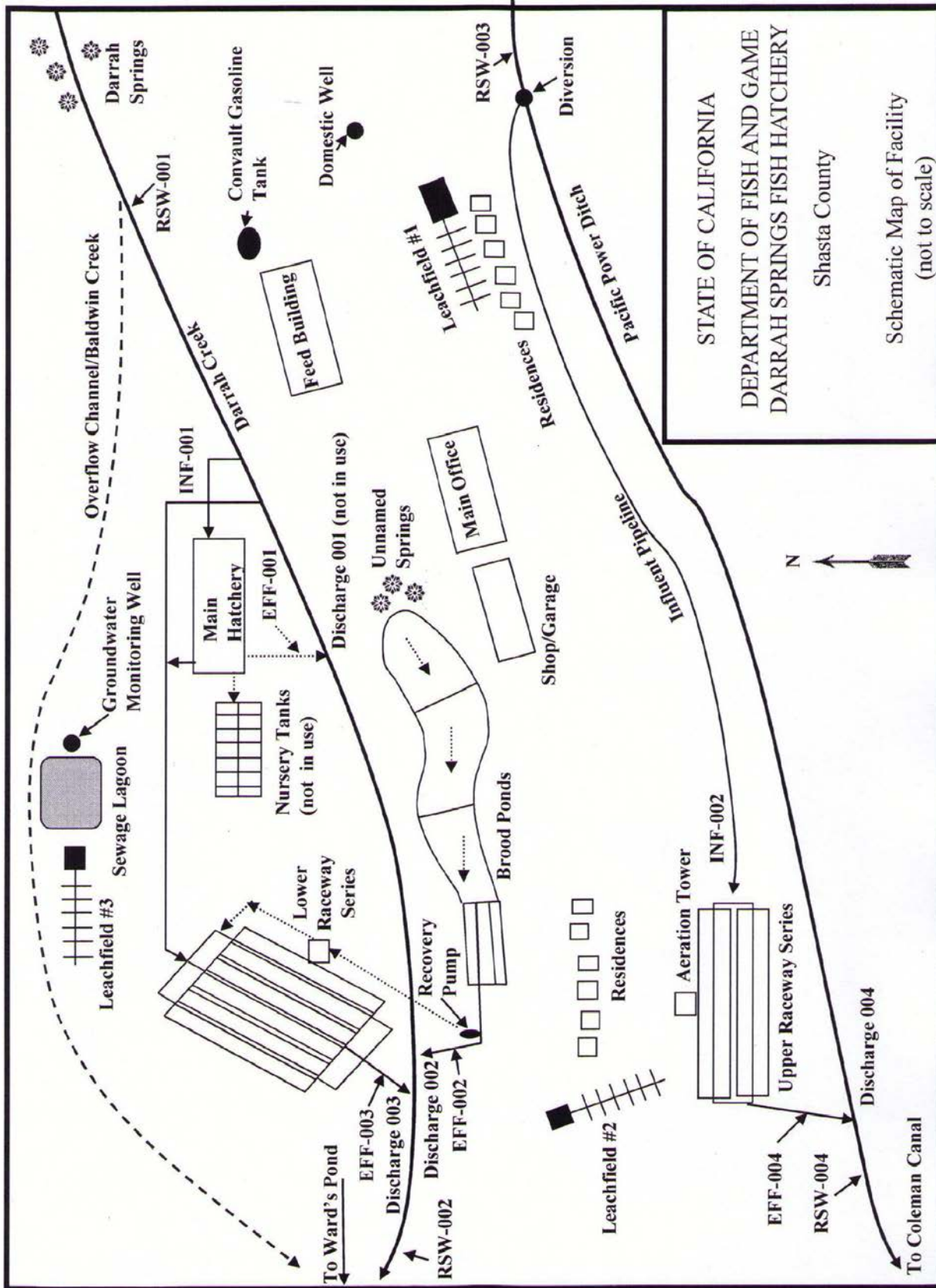
ATTACHMENT A – FACILITY ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Facility	Darrah Springs Fish Hatchery
Type of Facility	Cold Water Aquaculture Facility, SIC Code 0921
WDID	5A450803002
General Order NOA Enrollee Number	R5-2010-0018-012
Discharger	State of California Department of Fish and Game
Facility Address	29661 Wildcat Road Paynes Creek, CA 96075
Land Owner (Address)	State of California Department of Fish and Game 601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Kevin Ceccato, Fish Hatchery Manager II, 530-474-3141
Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports	Linda Radford, Senior Fish Hatchery Manager, 530-225-2369
Mailing Address	601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001
Billing Address	601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001
Total Weight Produced (Annual)	530,000 lbs
Major or Minor Facility	Minor
Threat to Water Quality	2
Complexity	B
Facility Permitted Flow	26.7 mgd
Watershed	Sacramento River Basin
Receiving Water	Darrah Creek and Pacific Power Ditch , tributaries to Coleman Canal, a tributary to Battle Creek
Receiving Water Type	Inland surface water

ATTACHMENT B – LOCATION MAP



ATTACHMENT C – FACILITY SCHEMATIC



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
 DARRAH SPRINGS FISH HATCHERY
 Shasta County
 Schematic Map of Facility
 (not to scale)

