



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region



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17 August 2010

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Anna Kastner
Department of Fish and Game
Feather River Hatchery-Thermalito Annex Facility
5 Table Mountain Blvd.
Oroville, CA 95965

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Eric See
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460 Glen Drive
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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 AND DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, FEATHER RIVER FISH HATCHERY-THERMALITO ANNEX FACILITY, BUTTE COUNTY

The State of California Department of Water Resources owns the Feather River Fish Hatchery – Thermalito Annex (hereafter Facility). The Facility is operated by the State of California Department of Fish and Game. The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and Department of Water Resources (DWR) are hereafter designated as the Discharger. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) dated 11 February 2009 and supplemental information dated 26 May 2010 for renewal of existing Order No. R5-2004-0121, (NPDES No. CA0082350) for the Facility. The ROWD was deemed complete on 28 May 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. R5-2004-0121 (NPDES No. CA0082350) 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 R5-2010-0018-001. 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_orders/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 adjacent to the western shoreline of Thermalito Afterbay, approximately 6 miles west of Oroville, in Section 10, T19N, R3E, MDB&M as shown in Attachment B, a part of this NOA. The Facility is located within the Butte Basin Hydrologic Area (HA) No. 520.40. The Thermalito Afterbay is a separate Hydrologic Area of the Lower Feather River HA No. 515.40. The property is owned by DWR and is on Assessor's Parcel No. 030-320-017. Fry are reared at the Facility for 6 to 8 months, typically from late December to June of each year. Coho or Chinook salmon are sometimes transported from the Feather River Hatchery to the Facility around July/August and stay there until November. A small number of steelhead and trout are also raised at the Facility on occasion. Occasionally fish are transferred back to the Feather River Hatchery. Based on information in the ROWD the maximum annual production of the Facility is approximately 130,000 pounds (lbs).

The Facility utilizes water from five Thermalito Afterbay groundwater wells operated by DWR. Groundwater is pumped to an aeration tower and piped to four parallel concrete raceways. Each raceway is approximately 600 feet long and drains directly into one of two sump basins. The sumps each have a separate sump pump with the combined ability to pump 16 cubic feet per second (cfs) [or 10.3 million gallons per day (mgd)]. The Facility has a maximum design operational flow limit of 11.3 mgd. Wastewater is discharged to the Thermalito Afterbay at Discharge Point No. 001, as shown in the Facility Schematic, Attachment C, a part of this NOA and described as follows:

Discharge Point No. 001 – Wastewater is pumped from each sump basin directly into the discharge pipeline. The pipeline outfall is located approximately 10 feet beneath the surface of the Thermalito Afterbay, approximately 20 feet from the shoreline.

Chemicals used at the Facility include potassium permanganate and sodium chloride. Additional chemicals, antibiotics and other therapeutic drugs listed in the General Order may be used during periods of disease outbreaks.

The Facility has a permanent residential trailer for a caretaker. Potable water is provided from an on-site domestic well. Domestic wastewater is retained in a 6,000 gallon holding tank which is pumped as needed by a commercial septage hauler.

The Facility has one 1,000-gallon split aboveground petroleum storage tank (AST) for diesel and gasoline fuel. The tank is stand mounted over a concrete pad with secondary containment. No vehicle maintenance is performed on-site.

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 4 February 2009. 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

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
Influent	INF-001	Influent prior to entering the raceways.
Effluent	EFF-001	Samples shall be collected from the sampling port installed in the discharge pipeline to the Thermalito Afterbay. Samples collected from the sampling port will be considered well mixed and representative of the discharge.
Receiving Water Upstream	RSW-001	125 feet north of the discharge pipe outfall structure 5 feet from the shoreline in the Thermalito Afterbay.
Receiving Water Downstream	RSW-002	50 feet south of the discharge pipe outfall structure, 5 feet from the shoreline in the Thermalito Afterbay.

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Based on the information provided in the ROWD, the Discharger is hereby authorized to discharge to Thermalito Afterbay 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 11.3 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 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.
4. 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.
5. 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, R5-2010-0018-001, 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

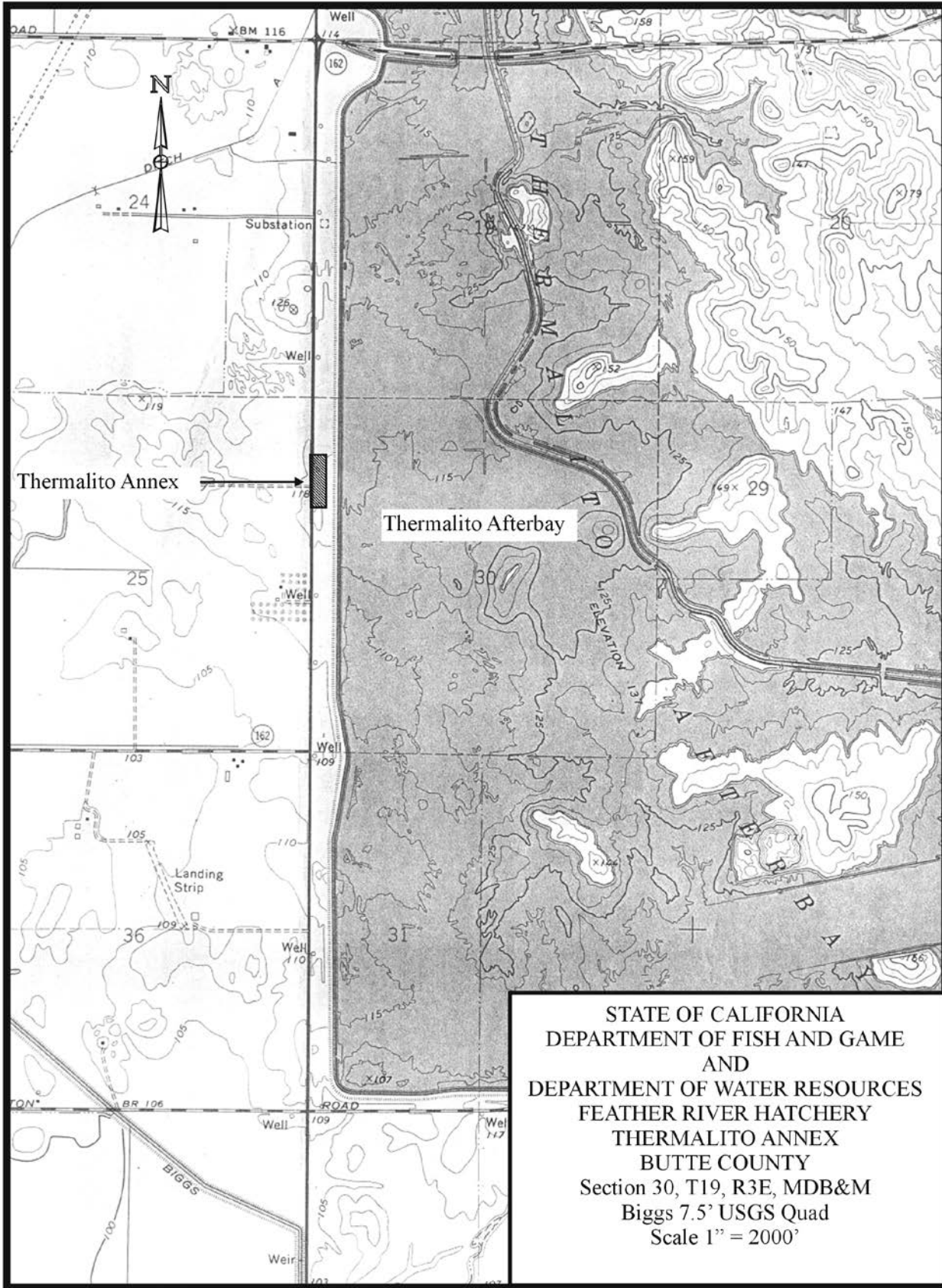
Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2010-0018 (Discharger only)

Distribution List: Mr. David Smith, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco
Mr. Phil Isorena, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento

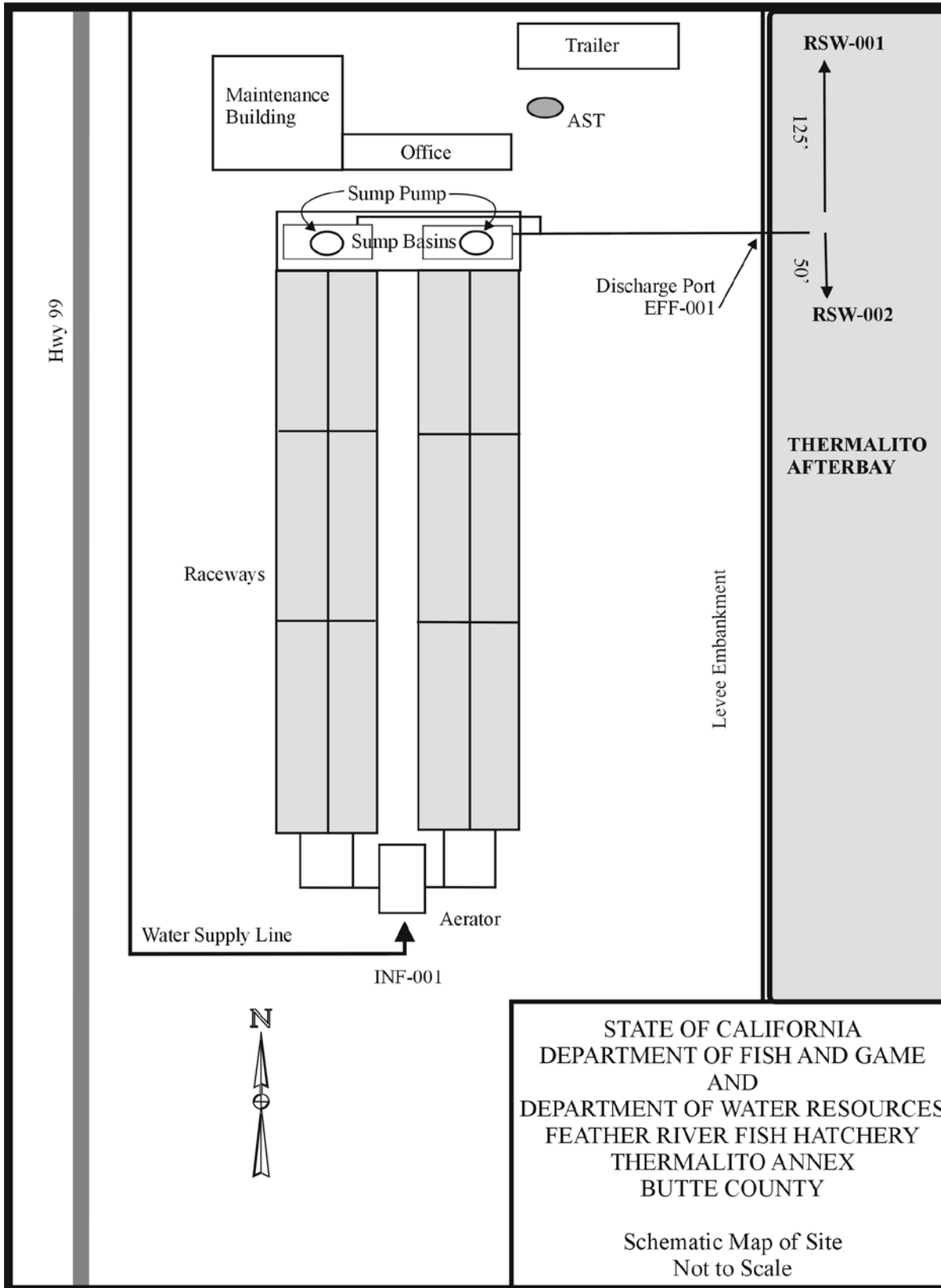
ATTACHMENT A – FACILITY ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Facility	Feather River Hatchery – Thermalito Annex Facility
Type of Facility	Cold Water Aquaculture Facility, SIC Code 0921
WDID	5A040804002
General Order NOA Enrollee Number	R5-2010-0018-001
Discharger	State of California Department of Fish and Game (Operator) and Department of Water Resources (Facility and Site Owner)
Facility Address	4700 Hwy 99E Oroville, CA 95965
Land Owner (Address)	California Department of Water Resources 460 Glen Drive Oroville, CA 95966
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Anna Kastner, Fish Hatchery Manager II, (530) 538 2222
Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports	Jim Starr, Department of Fish and Game, NPDES Coordinator, (916) 327-0713
Mailing Address	5 Table Mountain Boulevard Oroville, California, 95966
Billing Address	5 Table Mountain Boulevard Oroville, California, 95966
Total Weight Produced (Annual)	130,000 lbs
Major or Minor Facility	Minor
Threat to Water Quality	2
Complexity	B
Facility Permitted Flow	11.3 mgd
Facility Design Flow	11.3 mgd
Watershed	Sacramento River Basin
Receiving Water	Thermalito Afterbay
Receiving Water Type	Inland surface water

ATTACHMENT B – LOCATION MAP



ATTACHMENT C – FACILITY SCHEMATIC



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
 AND
 DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
 FEATHER RIVER FISH HATCHERY
 THERMALITO ANNEX
 BUTTE COUNTY

Schematic Map of Site
 Not to Scale