



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Katherine Hart, Chair

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding, California 96002
(530) 224-4845 • Fax (530) 224-4857
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>

28 September 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL

7009 2250 0002 9885 5945

Linda Radford
State of California
Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

CERTIFIED MAIL

7009 2250 0002 9885 5891

Scott Magrini
Pacific Gas and Electric
3600 Meadowview Drive
Redding, CA 96002

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 PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, CRYSTAL LAKE FISH HATCHERY, SHASTA COUNTY

The State of California Department of Fish and Game owns and operates the Crystal Lake Fish Hatchery (hereafter Facility) located on land leased from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. The California Department of Fish and Game and Pacific Gas and Electric Company 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 9 December 2008 for renewal of existing Order No. R5-2004-0114 (NPDES No. CA0004588) for the Facility. The ROWD was deemed complete on 9 January 2009.

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. R5-2004-0114 (NPDES No. CA0004588) 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 R5-2010-0018-011. 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 approximately 1 mile northeast of Cassel, adjacent to Crystal Lake and Baum Lake, in Section 32, T36N, R4E, MDB&M as shown in Attachment B, a part of this NOA. The Facility is located within the Lower Hat Creek Hydrologic Subarea No. 526.34. The property is owned by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and is on Assessor's Parcel No. 23-370-18. The hatchery facilities are spread out over several acres of hatchery property and consist of six residences for hatchery staff, a large hatchery building, two large raceway series (the Upper and Lower Raceway Series), a separate Brood Pond Series, 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 616,000 pounds (lbs) of cold water species (rainbow trout, brown trout, and brook trout).

The Facility has two distinct fish rearing areas with separate surface water sources, Rock Creek Springs and Crystal Lake; however, both fish rearing areas eventually discharge to Baum Lake. The Facility has a design maximum flow rate of 17.4 million gallons per day (mgd) of flow-through water. Wastewater is discharged from the Facility as shown in the Facility schematic, Attachment C, a part of this NOA and described as follows:

Discharge Point 001 – The main part of the hatchery receives 12.4 mgd of water from Rock Creek Springs, which flows through the Upper and Lower Raceway Series, as well as the main hatchery building. Wastewater is discharged into two parallel, flow-through settling ponds prior to discharging to Baum Lake at Discharge Point 001.

Discharge Point 002 – A smaller separate Brood Pond rearing area is located on the northern portion of the hatchery site and receives 4.0 mgd of water directly from Crystal Lake. This water flows through the rearing area and discharges to an in-line settling pond prior to discharging to Baum Lake at Discharge Point 002.

Chemicals currently used at the Facility include salt, potassium permanganate, hydrogen peroxide, PVP Iodine, and Formalin. 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.

Domestic sewage from the hatchery buildings and six homes is pumped from a holding tank into two sewage lagoons for disposal by evaporation and percolation. The Discharger meters chlorine into the sewage lagoons for disinfection due to the potential for high groundwater beneath the Facility. At times, there is less than the required 5-foot maximum soil separation between the bottom of the pond and the groundwater. Two groundwater monitoring wells are located adjacent to the lagoons. There is also a septic tank leachfield serving a public restroom located adjacent to the entrance to the Facility. Another septic tank leachfield system serves the shop and a residence located near the Brood Pond Series.

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 Rock Creek Springs.
Influent	INF-002	At a location representative of influent water to the Facility from Crystal Lake.
Discharge Point 001	EFF-001	At a location representative of the effluent Discharge Point 001 from the main settling basins prior to discharge to Baum Lake.
Discharge Point 002	EFF-002	At a location representative of the effluent Discharge Point 002 from the brood pond settling basin prior to discharge to Baum Lake.
Receiving Water Upstream	RSW-001	At a location in Baum Lake 100 feet southeast of Discharge Point 001. Samples shall be collected at least 10 feet from the shoreline.
Receiving Water Downstream	RSW-002	At a location in Baum Lake between Discharge Point 001 and Discharge Point 002. Samples shall be collected at least 10 feet from the shoreline.
Receiving Water Downstream	RSW-003	At a location in Baum Lake 100 feet northwest of Discharge Point 002. Samples shall be collected at least 10 feet from the shoreline.

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Based on the information provided in the ROWD, the Discharger is hereby authorized to discharge to Baum Lake 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 17.4 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 wells adjacent to sewage lagoons 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.
7. Pacific Gas and Electric Company, as owner of the real property at which the discharge will occur, is ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance with the General Order. The Department of Fish and Game retains primary responsibility for compliance with the General Order, including day-to-day operations and monitoring. Enforcement actions will be taken against Pacific Gas and Electric Company only in the event that enforcement actions against the Department of Fish and Game are ineffective or would be futile.

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, R5-2010-0018-011, 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

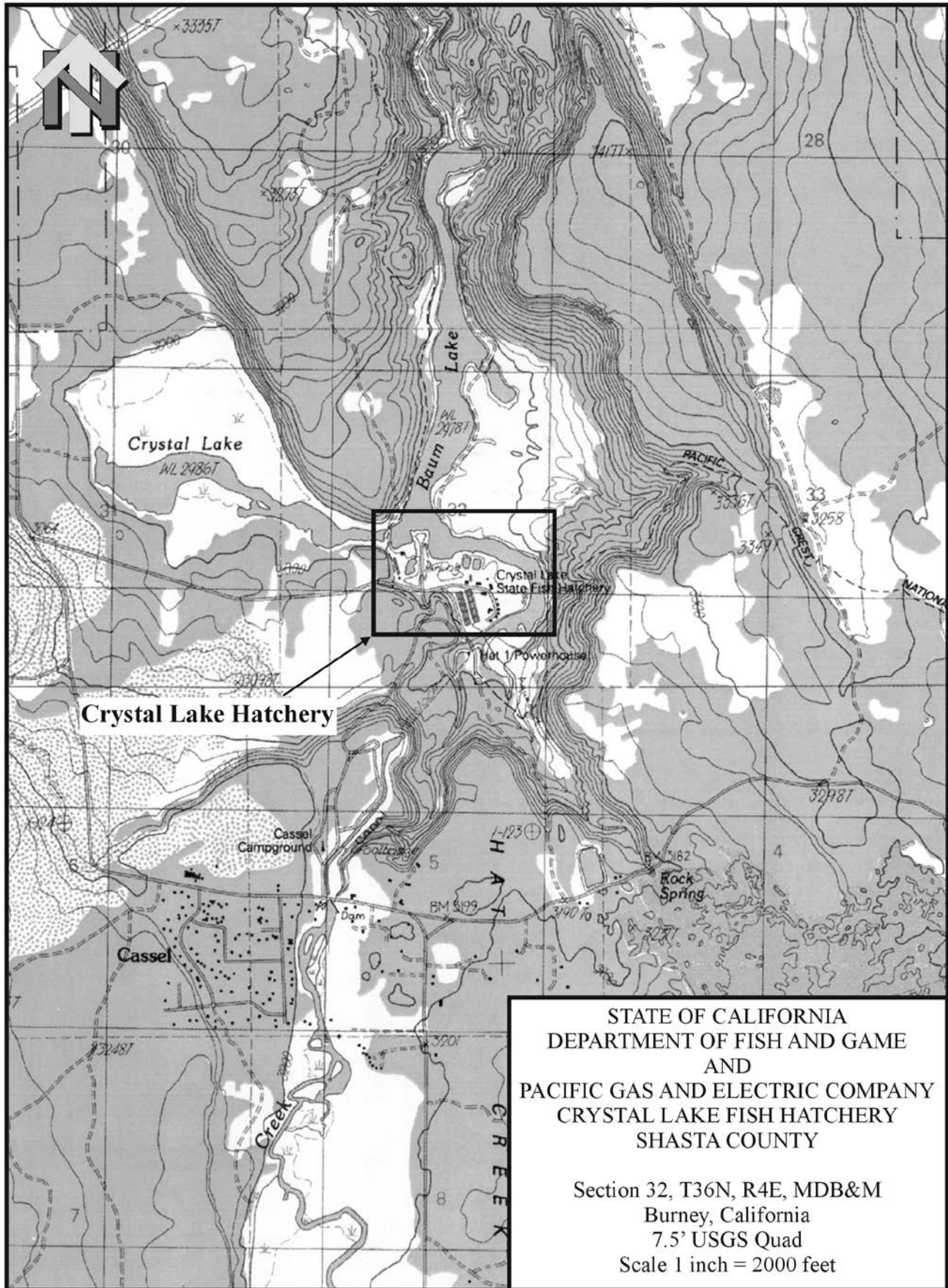
Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2010-0018 (Discharger only)

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

ATTACHMENT A – FACILITY ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Facility	Crystal Lake Fish Hatchery
Type of Facility	Cold Water Aquaculture Facility, SIC Code 0921
WDID	5A450803001
General Order NOA Enrollee Number	R5-2010-0018-011
Discharger	State of California Department of Fish and Game (Facility Owner/Operator) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Site Owner)
Facility Address	40156 Baum Lake Road Cassel, CA 96016
Land Owner (Address)	Pacific Gas and Electric Company 3600 Meadowview Drive Redding CA 96002 530-246-6403
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Shane Overton, Fish Hatchery Manager II, 530-335-4111
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)	616,000 lbs
Major or Minor Facility	Minor
Threat to Water Quality	2
Complexity	B
Facility Permitted Flow	17.84 mgd
Watershed	Sacramento River Basin
Receiving Water	Baum Lake, tributary to the Pit River
Receiving Water Type	Inland surface water

ATTACHMENT B – LOCATION MAP



ATTACHMENT C – FACILITY SCHEMATIC

