



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

*PO Box 47775 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7775 • (360) 407-6300
711 for Washington Relay Service • Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341*

June 7, 2017

Lisa Wood, SEPA/NEPA Coordinator
WA Department of Fish and Wildlife
Regulatory Services Section
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Dear Ms. Wood:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the determination of nonsignificance for the Hoodspport Hatchery Raceway Replacement Project (DNS 17-031) located at 24350 North Highway 101 in Hoodspport as proposed by Chris Gourley, WA Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW). The Department of Ecology (Ecology) reviewed the environmental checklist and has the following comment(s):

WATER QUALITY: Kessina Lee (360) 407-7666

The WDFW Hoodspport Hatchery is covered under the Upland Fin-Fish and Rearing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit (permit number WAG131011). This permit limits the discharge of pollutants to surface waters under the authority of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (U.S.C.S. 1251) and limits the discharge of pollutants to surface and ground water under the authority of Chapter 90.48 RCW.

Chapter 173-221A WAC defines upland fin-fish hatching and rearing facilities as facilities in which fin-fish are hatched, fed, nurtured, held, maintained, or reared to reach the size of release or for market sale. The WAC specifically states that a wastewater discharge permit is required for facilities which produce more than 20,000 net pounds of finfish a year, or feed more than 5,000 pounds of fish food during any calendar month, or are designated as a significant contributor of pollution by Ecology in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 40, Part 122.24.

General Permit Section S10, Engineering Documents, states that prior to constructing or modifying any wastewater control facilities (including Pollution Abatement structures), the Permittee must submit:

- 1) An engineering report and detailed plans and specifications to Ecology for approval in accordance with Chapter 173-240 WAC.
- 2) Engineering reports, plans, and specifications at least 180 days prior to the planned start of construction unless Ecology approves a shorter time.

Section S6.D, Production Changes, states that the Permittee must notify Ecology of any proposed significant production increases (20% or greater) or changes in the nature of the discharge which substantially deviates from the information in the permit application.

Finch Creek, the Hoodspport Hatchery's receiving water, is on the state's 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies for dissolved oxygen and bacteria, and Hood Canal, the downstream waterbody, is listed as impaired for bacteria. Section S3.H, Discharges to Impaired Waters, states that for Permittees that discharge to a 303(d) listed waterbody, the discharge of the pollutant for which the water is impaired must comply with the applicable sampling requirements and effluent limits.

Ecology looks forward to reviewing WDFW's engineering report for the Hoodspport Hatchery Raceway Replacement. If, at a later date, production will be increased 20% or more, WDFW will need to evaluate the discharge for any listed parameters in the receiving water and downstream waters and confirm that the discharge complies with applicable effluent limits.

Ecology's comments are based upon information provided by the lead agency. As such, they may not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments, please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office

(SM:17-2676)

cc: Kessina Lee, WQ
Chris Gourley, WDFW (Proponent)