

## ARIZONA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (AZPDES)

This document gives pertinent information concerning the reissuance of the AZPDES permit listed below. This facility is a fish hatchery with a design capacity of 8.64 million gallons per day (MGD) and is considered to be a minor facility under the AZPDES program. The effluent limitations contained in this permit will maintain the Water Quality Standards listed in Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R18-11-101 *et seq.* This permit is proposed to be issued for a period of 5 years.

<b>I. PERMITTEE INFORMATION</b>	
Permittee's Name:	United States Fish and Wildlife Services
Permittee's Mailing Address:	25808 North Willow Beach Road Willow Beach, Arizona 86445
Facility Name:	Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery (WBNFH)
Facility Address or Location:	WBNFH is located in the Colorado River basin in Mohave County, Arizona 14 miles south of the Hoover Dam off of Highway 93.
County:	Mohave
Contact Person(s): Phone/e-mail address	Kraig Ruebush, Project Manager (928) 767-3456 <a href="mailto:Kraig_ruebush@fws.gov">Kraig_ruebush@fws.gov</a>
AZPDES Permit Number:	AZ0000132
Inventory Number:	101363
LTF Number:	110818

<b>II. STATUS OF PERMIT(s)</b>	
AZPDES permit applied for:	Renewal
Date application received:	08/26/2025
Date application was determined administratively complete:	09/02/2025
Previous permit number (if different):	N/A
Previous permit expiration date:	09/02/2025
<b><u>208 Consistency:</u></b>	
In accordance with A.A.C. R18-9-A903(6), a permit cannot be issued for any discharge inconsistent with a plan or plan amendment approved under section 208(b) of the Clean Water Act.	

United States Fish and Wildlife Services has the following permits issued by ADEQ applicable to the Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery:

Type of Permit		
Aquifer Protection Permit (APP)	P-101363	Regulates discharges to the local aquifer

III. GENERAL FACILITY INFORMATION	
Type of Facility:	Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production (CAAP) – Fish Hatchery
Facility Location Description:	WBNFH is located in the Colorado River basin in Mohave County, Arizona 14 miles south of the Hoover Dam off of Highway 93.
Proximity to Tribal Nations	The WBNFH is approximately 50 miles upstream on the Colorado River from the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation.
Permitted Design Flow:	Flow-through fish hatchery with a maximum permitted flow of 8.64 MGD.
Applicable Treatment Processes:	The only treatment given to the water is partial screening of intake water for algae prior to routing through the hatchery. According to 40 CFR 503 provisions, fish waste is not considered biosolids.
Nature of facility discharge:	Water for this flow-through hatchery is obtained from the Colorado River and discharged back into the Colorado River via gravity flow through pipes.
Average flow per discharge:	5.804 MGD
Continuous or intermittent discharge:	Continuous

IV. RECEIVING WATER	
The State of Arizona has adopted water quality standards to protect the designated uses of its surface waters. Streams have been divided into segments and designated uses assigned to these segments. The water quality standards vary by designated use depending on the level of protection required to maintain that use.	
Receiving Water (Federal):	The Water of the U.S. Protected Surface Water (WOTUS PSW) for WBNFH is the Colorado River, specifically the segment after Lake Mead and before Topock Marsh. This is a surface water listed in A.A.C. R18-11 Appendix B.
River Basin:	Colorado River Basin
Outfall Location(s):	Township 29N, Range 22W, Section 29 Latitude 35°52'32" N, Longitude 114°39'54" W

Designated uses for the receiving water listed above:	<p>Aquatic and Wildlife cold water (A&amp;Wc)</p> <p>Full Body Contact (FBC)</p> <p>Fish Consumption (FC)</p> <p>Agricultural Irrigation (Agl)</p> <p>Agricultural Livestock watering (AgL)</p> <p>Domestic Water Supply (DWS)</p>
Is the receiving water on the 303(d) list?	The receiving water was removed from the 303(d) for a selenium impairment in 2018.
<p>Given the uses stated above, the applicable narrative water quality standards are described in A.A.C. R18-11-108, and the applicable numeric water quality standards are listed in A.A.C. R18-11-109 and in Appendix A thereof. There are two standards for the Aquatic and Wildlife uses, acute and chronic. In developing AZPDES permits, the standards for all applicable designated uses are compared and limits that will protect for all applicable designated uses are developed based on the standards.</p>	
<p>In addition to the above, the Colorado River has a salinity standard. A.A.C. R18-11-110 incorporates by reference the plan of implementation contained in the “2014 Review, Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System,” approved October 2014. The plan of implementation is a basin-wide approach to salinity control developed by the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum. Dischargers to the Colorado River and its tributaries upstream of the Imperial Dam must meet the plan of implementation requirements.</p> <p>Per A.A.C. R18-11-110, the flow-weighted average annual concentration of total dissolved solids shall not exceed 723 milligrams per liter (mg/L) in the river below Hoover Dam and above Parker Dam.</p>	

<b>V. DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE</b>		
Because the facility is in operation and discharges have occurred, effluent monitoring data are available. The following is the measured effluent quality reported in the application.		
<b>Parameters</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Maximum Daily Discharge Concentration</b>
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	1,900
Ammonia	mg/L	1.92

<b>VI. STATUS OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE EXISTING AZPDES PERMIT</b>	
Date of Most Recent Inspection:	04/11/2023
Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR) Reviewed:	05/2021 through 01/2026
Lab Reports Reviewed:	07/2021 through 01/2026
Notice(s) of Violation (NOV) Issued:	None

NOVs Closed:	N/A
Formal Enforcement Action(s):	None

**VII. PROPOSED PERMIT CHANGES**

The following table lists the major changes from the previous permit in this permit.

Parameter	Existing Permit	Proposed Permit	Reason for Change
Noncompliance Reporting Hotline	(602) 771-2330	Noncompliance resulting in imminent threat to human health or the environment must be reported to (602) 771-2330, while all other noncompliance must be reported to (602) 771-1440.	Routing emergency calls to the emergency hotline, but all other calls to a non-emergency number.
Reporting Location for Effluent Characterization Monitoring	Submit results through DMRs	Report results on the EC Monitoring Data Sheet Excel form provided by ADEQ and submit annually to <a href="mailto:azpdes_data@azdeq.gov">azpdes_data@azdeq.gov</a> by January 28 <sup>th</sup> following each annual reporting period. See Part I.D.2 and Part II.B.3 of permit.  Laboratory reports for EC monitoring shall be submitted through myDEQ with the last DMR of the calendar year. See Part II.B.3.b. of the permit.	ADEQ is implementing this new procedure to facilitate data analysis by ADEQ and reporting by permittees. Outcomes include expedited data processing and improved data quality review, per ADEQ Surface Water Protection Quality Assurance Program Plan (2022).
Narrative Surface Water Quality Standards	Narrative surface water quality standards applicable to the receiving water listed in Part I.E of the permit.	Other limitations for the effluent listed in Part I.E of the permit to ensure the discharge is protective of the narrative surface water quality standards of the receiving water.	ADEQ is clarifying all narrative permit requirements are applicable to the discharge rather than the “end result” in the receiving water in accordance with <i>City &amp; County of San Francisco v. EPA</i> .

<p>Assessment Level monitoring frequency –</p> <p>Ammonia Ammonia Impact Ratio (AIR) pH Temperature (effluent)</p>	<p>1x/6 months</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>	<p>ADEQ requires facilities with high design flow capacities to monitor more frequently. This permit is being updated to those standards to achieve proper protection of the Colorado River.</p>
<p>Discharge limitations monitoring frequency –</p> <p>Total Suspended Solids (TSS) pH</p>	<p>Monthly monitoring-  TSS pH</p>	<p>Biweekly monitoring -  TSS pH</p>	<p>ADEQ requires facilities with high design flow capacities to monitor more frequently. This permit is being updated to those standards to achieve proper protection of the Colorado River.</p>
<p>Anti-backsliding considerations — “Anti-backsliding” refers to statutory (Section 402(o) of the Clean Water Act) and regulatory (40 CFR 122.44(l)) requirements that prohibit the renewal, reissuance, or modification of an existing NPDES permit that contains effluent limits, permit conditions, or standards that are less stringent than those established in the previous permit. The rules and statutes do identify exceptions to these circumstances where backsliding is acceptable. This permit has been reviewed and drafted with consideration of anti-backsliding concerns. No limits are less stringent due to a change in the WQS in this permit.</p>			

**VIII. DETERMINATION OF EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS, OTHER LIMITATIONS, and ASSESSMENT LEVELS**

When determining what parameters need monitoring and/or limits included in the permit, both technology-based and water quality-based criteria were compared and the more stringent criteria applied.

**Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations:**

Per 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(ii), (iii) and (iv), discharge limits must be included in the permit for parameters with “reasonable potential” (RP), that is, those known to be or expected to be present in the effluent at a level that could potentially cause any applicable numeric water quality standard to be exceeded. Numeric water quality standards are outlined in A.A.C. R18-11-109 and Appendix A. RP refers to an analysis, based on the statistical calculations using the data submitted or consideration of other factors, to determine whether the discharge may exceed the Water Quality Standards. The procedures used to determine RP are outlined in the *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (TSD)* (EPA/505/2-90-001). In most cases, the highest reported value for a parameter is multiplied by a factor (determined from the variability of the data and number of samples) to determine a “highest estimated value.” This value is then compared to the lowest applicable Water Quality Standard for the receiving water. If the value is greater than the standard, RP exists and a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) is required in the permit for that parameter. RP may also be determined from BPJ based on knowledge of the treatment facilities and other factors. The basis for the RP determination for each parameter with a WQBEL is shown in the table below.

The proposed permit limits were established using a methodology developed by EPA. Long Term Averages (LTA) were calculated for each designated use and the lowest LTA was used to calculate the average monthly limit (AML) and maximum daily limit (MDL) necessary to protect all uses. This methodology is described in Chapter 5 of the *TSD*, and considers water quality criteria, effluent variability, and the number of observations taken to determine compliance

with prescribed limits. Limits based on A&W criteria were developed using the “two-value steady state wasteload allocation” described on page 99 of the *TSD*. When the limit is based on human health criteria, the monthly average was set at the level of the applicable standard and a daily maximum limit was determined as specified in Sections 5.4.4 and 5.5.3 of the *TSD*.

### **Mixing Zone**

The limits in this permit were determined without the use of a mixing zone. Arizona state water quality rules require that water quality standards be achieved without mixing zones unless the permittee applies for and is approved for a mixing zone. Since a mixing zone was not applied for or granted, all water quality criteria are applied at end-of-pipe.

### **Assessment Levels (ALs)**

ALs are listed in Part I.B of the permit. An AL differs from a discharge limit in that an exceedance of an AL is not a permit violation. Instead, ALs serve as triggers, alerting the permitting authority when there is cause for re-evaluation of RP for exceeding a water quality standard, which may result in new permit limitations. The AL numeric values also serve to advise the permittee of the analytical sensitivity needed for meaningful data collection. Trace substance monitoring is required when there is uncertain RP (based on non-detect values or limited datasets) or a need to collect additional data or monitor treatment efficacy on some minimal basis. A reopener clause is included in the permit should future monitoring data indicate water quality standards are being exceeded.

The requirement to monitor for these parameters is included in the permit according to A.A.C. R18-11-104(C) and Appendix A. ALs listed for each parameter were calculated in the same manner that a limit would have been calculated (see Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations above).

### **Permit Limitations and Monitoring Requirements**

Table 1 summarizes the parameters that are limited in the permit and the rationale for that decision. Also included are the parameters that require monitoring without any limitations or that have not been included in the permit at all and the basis for those decisions. The corresponding monitoring requirements are shown for each parameter. In general, the regulatory basis for monitoring requirements is per 40 CFR §122.44(i) *Monitoring requirements*, and 40 CFR §122.48(b), *Required monitoring*; all of which have been adopted by reference in A.A.C. R18-9-A905, *AZPDES Program Standards*.

**Table 1. Permit limitations and monitoring requirements.**

Parameter	No. of Samples	Maximum Reported Concentration (1)	RP Multiplier (2)	Critical Concentration (Calculated)	Most Stringent Criterion	Most Stringent Criterion Basis (3)	Does Reasonable Potential Exist?	Proposed Monitoring Requirement/Rationale (4)
Flow	---	---		---	---		---	Discharge flow is to be monitored on a continual basis using a flow meter.
pH	10	8.07		N/A	Minimum: 6.5 Maximum: 9.0 A.A.C. R18-11-109(B)	A&Wc and FBC	N/A	pH is to be monitored using a discrete sample of the discharge and a WQBEL is set. 40 CFR Part 136 specifies that grab samples must be collected for pH. At least one sample must coincide with WET testing to aid in the determination of the cause of toxicity if toxicity is detected. pH sampling must also coincide with ammonia sampling when required (4).
Temperature	10	21.5°C		N/A	No applicable numeric standard	A&Wc:	N/A	Temperature of the discharge is to be monitored for effluent characterization by discrete sample. 40 CFR Part 136 specifies that discrete samples must be collected for temperature. Temperature sampling must also coincide with ammonia sampling when required (5).
Suspended Sediment Concentration	62	<10 mg/L			25 mg/L (6)	A&Wc	N/A	Monitoring of the effluent and downstream receiving water is required for effluent characterization. Samples shall not be collected within during or within 48 hours after a local storm event.
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	62	4,000 mg/L		N/A	No applicable standard	Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum requirements applies to dischargers to the Colorado River and its tributaries above Imperial Dam	N/A	Monitoring required and a limit is set.
Ammonia	10	1.92 mg/L AIR (5)		N/A	Standard varies with temperature and pH	A&Wc	RP Indeterminate	Ammonia is to be monitored by discrete sample and a WQBEL in the form of an ammonia impact ratio (AIR) of 1 is set in the permit (4). An ammonia data log with concurrent pH and temperature monitoring is also required.

Footnotes:

1. Maximum quantified result or maximum reporting limit, whichever is highest. A maximum reporting limit is indicated with less than "<" sign.
  2. Reasonable potential (RP) multiplier is a factor applied to the limited dataset reported to ADEQ by the permittee over the current permit term. This factor is a function of the sample count and coefficient of variation for the dataset that is used to approximate the 99th percentile value at a 99% confidence level based on a lognormal distribution.
  3. This refers to the applicable designated use that determines the lowest (most protective) water quality standard for each pollutant. Designated use abbreviations are defined in A.A.C. R18-11-101.
  4. The monitoring frequencies are as specified in the permit.
  5. An AIR will be calculated by dividing effluent ammonia concentration by the applicable standard using the receiving water pH and temperature.
  6. The SSC standard is expressed as a median value determined from a minimum of four samples collected at least seven days apart. The results of a suspended sediment concentration sample collected during or within 48 hours after a local storm event shall not be used determine the median.
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## VIII. NARRATIVE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Narrative standards applicable to the receiving water are listed in A.A.C. R18-11-108. Part I of the permit contains discharge limitations, other limitations, and monitoring requirements to ensure the discharge is protective of the receiving water, including the narrative standards.

The applicable narrative standards follow below in italics. How ADEQ implements the standard in the permit follows the standard.

*A surface water shall not contain pollutants in amounts or combinations that:*

*Settle to form bottom deposits that inhibit or prohibit the habitation, growth, or propagation of aquatic life;*

- The permit requires monitoring for Suspended Sediment Concentration (SSC) and monitoring with an effluent limitation for Total Suspended Solids (TSS). The effluent limit for TSS ensures the discharge does not cause bottom deposits. ADEQ will continue to analyze SSC results and include an effluent limitation for SSC where reasonable potential exists.

*Cause objectionable odor in the area in which the surface water is located; and Cause off-taste or odor in drinking water*

- The permit contains a narrative requirement that the discharge must not contain objectionable odor.

*Cause off-flavor in aquatic organisms; and Are toxic to humans, animals, plants, or other organisms;*

- The permit contains discharge characterization monitoring to assess the quality of the discharge and determine what parameters of concern are present in the discharge and at what levels. The permit includes applicable technology-based limitations (TBELs) and water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELs), where reasonable potential exists, to ensure the discharge is non-toxic and safe for aquatic organisms, wildlife, and human health.

*Cause the growth of algae or aquatic plants that inhibit or prohibit the habitation, growth, or propagation of other aquatic life or that impair recreational uses;*

- The permit contains monitoring requirements for ammonia to assess the amount of nutrients present in the discharge. Where reasonable potential exists, ADEQ includes effluent limitations to prevent the growth of algae and other aquatic plants that may inhibit or prohibit the habitation, growth, or propagation of other aquatic life or impair recreational uses.

*Change the color of the surface water from natural background levels of color.*

- The permit contains a narrative requirement that the discharge must not contain unnatural color.

*A surface water shall not contain oil, grease, or any other pollutant that floats as debris, foam, or scum; or that causes a film or iridescent appearance on the surface of the water; or that causes a deposit on a shoreline, bank, or aquatic vegetation.*

- The permit contains a narrative requirement that the discharge shall be free from oil, grease and other pollutants that float as debris, foam, or scum; and a film or iridescent appearance.

*A surface water shall not contain a discharge of suspended solids in quantities or concentrations that interfere with the treatment processes at the nearest downstream potable water treatment plant or substantially increase the cost of handling solids produced at the nearest downstream potable water treatment plant.*

- The permit contains a monitoring with an effluent limitation for Total Suspended Solids (TSS). The effluent limit for TSS will ensure the discharge does not contain suspended solids in quantities or concentrations that would interfere with or increase the cost to the nearest downstream potable water treatment plant.

*A surface water shall not contain solid waste such as refuse, rubbish, demolition or construction debris, trash, garbage, motor vehicles, appliances, or tires.*

- The permit contains a narrative requirement that the discharge must not contain refuse, rubbish, demolition or construction debris, trash, or garbage. Motor vehicles, appliances, or tires are not expected to be present in the discharge.

*A wadeable, perennial stream shall support and maintain a community of organisms having a taxa richness, species composition, tolerance, and functional organization comparable to that of a stream with reference conditions in Arizona.*

- The permit contains discharge characterization monitoring to assess the quality of the discharge and determine what parameters of concern are present in the discharge and at what levels. The permit includes applicable technology-based limitations (TBELs) and water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELs), where reasonable potential exists, to ensure the discharge is non-toxic and safe for aquatic organisms and wildlife.

**IX. MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (Part II of Permit)**

Section 308 of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR Part 122.44(i) require that monitoring be included in permits to determine compliance with effluent limitations. Additionally, monitoring may be required to gather data for future effluent limitations or to monitor effluent impacts on receiving water quality.

Monitoring frequencies are based on the nature and effect of the pollutant, as well as a determination of the minimum sampling necessary to adequately monitor the facility's performance. Monitoring frequencies for some parameters may be reduced in subsequent permits if all monitoring requirements have been met and the limits or ALs for those parameters have not been exceeded during the first permit term.

Discrete (i.e., grab) samples are specified in the permit for all parameters. The quality of the discharge is not expected to be highly variable.

For those discharges to non-WOTUS protected surface waters, if the parameter includes an analysis for total metals, the permittee can substitute the dissolved fraction for that parameter, as long as there is a SWQS in the non-WOTUS protected surface water for that parameter that is expressed as dissolved. The metals that are subject to the dissolved fraction and may have a SWQS in a non-WOTUS protected surface water include: cadmium, chromium III, copper, lead, nickel, silver and zinc.

Monitoring locations are specified in the permit (Part I.A and Part II.A) in order to ensure that representative samples of the influent and effluent are consistently obtained.

The requirements in the permit pertaining to Part II, Monitoring and Reporting, are included to ensure that the monitoring data submitted under this permit is accurate in accordance with 40 CFR 122.41(j). The permittee has the responsibility to determine that all data collected for purposes of this permit meet the requirements specified in this permit and is collected, analyzed, and properly reported to ADEQ.

The permit (Part II.A.3) requires the permittee to keep a Quality Assurance (QA) manual at the facility, describing sample collection and analysis processes; the required elements of the QA manual are outlined.

Reporting requirements for monitoring results are detailed in Part II, Section B of the permit, including completion and submittal of Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) and Ammonia Data Logs. The permittee is responsible for

conducting all required monitoring and reporting the results to ADEQ on DMRs or as otherwise specified in the permit.

**Electronic reporting**

The US EPA has published a final regulation that requires electronic reporting and sharing of Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program information instead of the current paper-based reporting (Federal Register, Vol. 80, No. 204, October 22, 2015). Beginning December 21, 2016 (one year after the effective date of the regulation), the Federal rule required permittees to make electronic submittals of any monitoring reports and forms called for in their permits. ADEQ has created an online portal called myDEQ that allows users to submit their discharge monitoring reports and other applicable reports required in the permit.

The permit also requires annual submittal of an Ammonia Data Log that records the results for temperature, pH, and ammonia samples and date of sampling (Part II.B.5). Because the ammonia standards in 18 A.A.C. 11, Article 1, Appendix A are contingent upon the pH and temperature at the time of sampling for ammonia, the permittee must determine the applicable ammonia standard using the ammonia criteria table(s) and calculate the Ammonia Impact Ratio for that ammonia sample result. The AIR is recorded on the DMR.

Requirements for retention of monitoring records are detailed in Part II.D.1 of the permit.

**X. BIOSOLIDS REQUIREMENTS (Part III in Permit)**

Standard requirements for the monitoring, reporting, record keeping, and handling of biosolids, as well as minimum treatment requirements for biosolids according to 40 CFR Part 503 are incorporated in the permit.

**XI. SPECIAL CONDITIONS (Part V in Permit)**

**Best Management Practices**

. The permittee shall submit an annual progress report to ADEQ by January 31st of each year which shall include information regarding best management practices implemented.

Chemical Usage: ADEQ has retained the following requirement to document chemical usage at the site. ADEQ continues to believe that Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing is not necessarily due to the absence of a reasonable potential for the effluent to cause in stream toxicity. However, the reporting requirements for chemical usage may be evaluated in the future to determine if WET testing is required. The permittee must:

- (1) Submit annually by January 31st each year a list of all chemicals added to water in the fish hatchery during the preceding year.
- (2) The chemical list shall include antibiotics, fungicides, detergents, and other cleaning agents, disinfectants and any other chemicals added to the water. The submittal shall include information on frequency and duration of use, purpose, and amounts.

**Permit Reopener**

This permit may be modified based on newly available information; to add conditions or limits to address demonstrated effluent toxicity; to implement any EPA-approved new Arizona water quality standard; or to re-evaluate reasonable potential (RP), if assessment levels in this permit are exceeded [A.A.C. R18-9-B906 and 40 CFR Part 122.62 (a) and (b)].

**XII. ANTIDegradation**

Antidegradation rules have been established under A.A.C. R18-11-107 to ensure that existing surface water quality is maintained and protected. The discharge from the WBNFH will be to a perennial water with Tier 2 antidegradation protection. This is a renewal permit for an existing facility with no new or expanded discharge, and the existing uses have been maintained. Therefore, an antidegradation review is not required at this time. Effluent quality limitations and monitoring requirements have been established under the proposed permit to ensure that the discharge will meet the applicable water quality standards. As long as the permittee maintains consistent compliance with these provisions, the designated uses of the receiving water will be presumed protected, and the facility will be deemed to meet currently applicable antidegradation requirements under A.A.C. R18-11-107.

**XIII. STANDARD CONDITIONS**

Conditions applicable to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 122 are attached as an appendix to this permit.

**XIV. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Public Notice (A.A.C. R18-9-A907)**

The public notice is the vehicle for informing all interested parties and members of the general public of the contents of a draft AZPDES permit or other significant action with respect to an AZPDES permit or application. The basic intent of this requirement is to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to comment on significant actions of the permitting agency with respect to a permit application or permit. This permit will be public noticed on ADEQ's website or in a local newspaper after a pre-notice review by the applicant and other affected agencies.

**Public Comment Period (A.A.C. R18-9-A908)**

Rules require that permits be public noticed on ADEQ's website or in a newspaper of general circulation within the area affected by the facility or activity and provide a minimum of 30 calendar days for interested parties to respond in writing to ADEQ. After the closing of the public comment period, ADEQ is required to respond to all significant comments at the time a final permit decision is reached or at the same time a final permit is actually issued.

**Public Hearing (A.A.C R18-9-A908(B))**

A public hearing may be requested in writing by any interested party. The request should state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised during the hearing. A public hearing will be held if the Director determines there is a significant amount of interest expressed during the 30-day public comment period, or if significant new issues arise that were not considered during the permitting process.

**EPA Review (A.A.C. R18-9-A908(C))**

A copy of this permit and any revisions made to this draft as a result of public comments received will be sent to EPA Region 9 for review. If EPA objects to a provision of the draft, ADEQ will not issue the permit until the objection is resolved.

**XV. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information relating to this proposed permit may be obtained from:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Water Quality Division – Surface Water Permits Unit  
Attn: Ashley Foster  
1110 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Or by contacting Ashley Foster at (602) 771 – 4128 or by e-mail at [foster.ashley@azdeq.gov](mailto:foster.ashley@azdeq.gov).

## XVI. INFORMATION SOURCES

While developing effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and special conditions for the permit, the following information sources were used:

1. AZPDES Permit Application Form 1 received August 26, 2025, along with supporting data, facility diagram, and maps submitted by the applicant with the application forms. Permittee resent corrected files on 9/11/2025
2. No supplemental information to the application was received by ADEQ.
3. ADEQ files on Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery.
4. ADEQ Geographic Information System (GIS) Website
5. Information provided to ADEQ staff during a site visit to the future facility location on March 26, 2013.
6. Arizona Administrative Code (AAC) Title 18, Chapter 11, Article 1, *Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters*, adopted December 31, 2016.
7. A.A.C. Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 9. *Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System* rules.
8. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40:
  - Part 122, *EPA Administered Permit Programs: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System*.
  - Part 124, *Procedures for Decision Making*.
  - Part 133. *Secondary Treatment Regulation*.
  - Part 503. *Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge*.
9. EPA Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (EPA-505-2-90-001, 1991).
10. U.S. EPA NPDES Permit Writers' Manual, September 2010.
  - The Metals Translator: Guidance for Calculating a Total Recoverable Permit Limit from a Dissolved Criterion, US EPA (EPA-823-B-96-007, 1996).