

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0044334-09-0

Permittee: Iron River National Fish Hatchery, 10325 Fairview Rd, Iron River, WI, 54847

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Iron River National Fish Hatchery, 10325 Fairview Road, Iron River, Wisconsin

Receiving Water And Location: Schacte Creek in Bayfield County within the Iron River Watershed and Lake Superior Drainage Basin

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service owns and operates the Iron River National Fish Hatchery. The hatchery's primary purpose is to produce lake and coaster brook trout for restoration purposes in the Great Lakes watershed. The hatchery located in Iron River raises approximately 100,000 pounds of stocking size fish.

Water for the hatchery is obtained through Schacte Creek (an average of 4,000 gallons per minute) at four draw-off points then diverted through the broodstock and production raceways and indoor nursery tanks. Water leaving the raceways and tanks is treated in two settling lagoons (operated in parallel) prior to discharge back to Schacte Creek. The stream flow originating from headwater springs and bogs is not dependent on precipitation in the drainage area providing a constant volume of water regardless of the season.

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be June 30, 2029. Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Significant changes from the previous permit include: [1] Effluent Phosphorus has a 12-month rolling average limit of 1 mg/L. The flow sample frequency was changed from quarterly to monthly help facility calculations. [2] The water quality based effluent limits for the additives halogen, peroxide and formalin have changed. [3] Annual Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) tests are required during additive use.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 635-4131, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Eric de Venecia, DNR, 1701 N 4TH ST, Superior, WI 54880, (715) 685-4155, Eric.DeVenecia@wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above-named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (715) 635-4131 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Superior Telegram, 1226 Ogden Ave., Superior, WI 54880-1584

Date Notice Issued: Tuesday, June 18, 2024