

Effluent Guidelines—Regulation for Open Water Aquaculture

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Effluent Guidelines Regulation

- Final Regulation
 - Published Aug. 23, 2004
 - Applies to the Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production Point Source Category
 - 40 CFR Part 451



Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production Point Source Category

- Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production (CAAP) Facilities are defined at 40 CFR 122.24 and Appendix C of 40 CFR Part 122
- The Effluent Guidelines apply to any CAAP facility which produces 100,000 pounds of aquatic animals per year

Effluent Guidelines Background

- The Effluent Guidelines Regulations establish *nationally applicable* technology based performance standards
 - Implemented through NPDES permits
 - Usually require a point source discharger to comply with numeric effluent limits for specific pollutants
 - Also have been based on best management practices (BMPs), e.g. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) and CAAP

CAAP Effluent Guidelines

- CAAP regulations established discharge requirements for 2 subcategories
 - Flow Through and Recirculating Systems Subcategory
 - Net Pen Subcategory
- The Flow Through and Recirculating Systems Subcategory applies to land based aquaculture operations
- The Net Pen Subcategory applies to open water systems

Net Pen Subcategory Requirements

- Reporting requirements for drugs
 - Use of any Investigational New Animal Drug (INAD) or extralabel drug must be reported to the permitting authority
 - For INADs within 7 days of agreeing or signing up to participate in an INAD study
 - For use of either INAD or extralabel drug oral reporting as soon as possible but no later than 7 days after initiating use
 - Report must include identification of drug, method of application and reason for its use
 - Written report within 30 days after initiating use
 - Report must include drug identity, reason for use, dates, times and duration of application, method of application and amount of drug applied

Net Pen Subcategory Requirements

- Structural reporting requirements
 - The permit may include specific discussion on what constitutes damage or failure
 - Failure or damage to the aquatic animal containment structure must be reported
 - Permittee must provide an oral report within 24 hours of occurrence
 - including description of the failure or damage, cause and description of materials released
 - Within 7 days permittee must submit a written report
 - Including documentation of cause, estimated time elapsed between failure and repair, an estimate of material that was released and steps being taken to prevent a reoccurrence

Net Pen Subcategory Requirements

- Spill of drugs, pesticides or feed resulting in discharge to water
 - Oral report within 24 hours of occurrence
 - Written report within 7 days
 - Report must identify material spilled and quantity spilled
- Development of Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan

Net Pen Subcategory Requirements

- Feed Management
 - Limit feed inputs to the amount necessary to achieve production goals
 - Minimize the accumulation of uneaten feed beneath pens
 - Conduct active feed monitoring
- Waste must be collected and transported to shore
- Minimize discharge associated with transport and harvesting

Net Pen Subcategory Requirements

- Carcass removal and disposal to prevent discharge to water
- Materials storage to prevent discharge to water
- Regular inspection and maintenance of structure
- Recordkeeping
 - Feed
 - Structural maintenance and net changes
- Staff training

For more Information

- Website:
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guide/aquaculture/](http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/guide/aquaculture/)
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