



# State of New Jersey

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### FISH & WILDLIFE

#### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

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**PHILIP D. MURPHY**

*Governor*

**TAHESHA L. WAY**

*Lt. Governor*

**SHAWN M. LATOURETTE**

*Commissioner*

February 1, 2024

Dear Hatchery Manager,

The Division of Fish and Wildlife is currently updating the state's list of *Commercial Fish Hatcheries Serving New Jersey* for the 2024 stocking season. The list of Commercial Fish Hatcheries Serving New Jersey will be provided to all applicants for permits to stock fish or fish eggs in New Jersey. The list will contain the name and contact information for your hatchery, and the species of fish available for sale.

To be listed for a particular fish species, a hatchery supplier must provide accurate and satisfactory information concerning the origin and health status of the fish they sell, as well as comply with testing requirements. Our current policy requires that all fish released into New Jersey waters must be procured from a hatchery, which appears on this list. The 2024 Commercial Hatchery List will also list any specific disease certifications that you have documented for your facility. Please take note of the fish health requirements below.

**\*All documents are to be sent to Dr. Joseph Groff in Pequest, NJ. The mailing address and contact information are listed at the end of the document.**

To be included on this list a hatchery must:

1. Annually, complete a "Fish Health History Request Form" (enclosed), which indicates which fish species are offered for sale, the origin of all fish stocks, and their health status.
2. An annual fish health inspection must be completed and provided to the Division of Fish and Wildlife to be approved for stocking within the state. Details for fish health testing are as follows:
  - **Sample sizes** must conform to the American Fisheries Society (AFS) Bluebook or World Organization of Animal Health (OIE) requirements. Briefly, approved methods include a site inspection of 150 fish or testing of 60 fish per species/lot within the hatchery. When testing a facility using 150 fish, the most susceptible species and lots should be appropriately selected for each pathogen being tested. For facilities rearing and providing both salmonid and non-salmonid fish for sale, either 60 fish should be tested per species/lot for appropriate pathogens, or a representative 150 fish sample must be taken from each of the salmonids and non-salmonids to ensure a minimum of 150 salmonids are tested for the salmonid-specific pathogens.
  - **Salmonids** including all trout must be tested for the viral agents that cause infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN), infectious hematopoietic necrosis (IHN), and viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS). Any cytopathic effect with a suspected viral etiology must be reported in the health inspection. The bacterial agents including *Aeromonas salmonicida* causing furunculosis, *Yersinia ruckeri* causing enteric redmouth, and *Renibacterium salmoninarum* causing bacterial kidney disease (BKD) must be included in the inspection. Testing for whirling disease, caused by *Myxobolus cerebralis*, must include at least 60 of the most susceptible fish from each lot being tested.

- **Non-salmonids** must be tested for the viral agents causing infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN), viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), largemouth bass virus (LMBV), and spring viremia of carp (SVC). Any cytopathic effects with suspected viral etiology must be reported in the health inspection. The bacterial agents including *Aeromonas salmonicida*, causing furunculosis, and *Yersinia ruckeri*, causing enteric redmouth, must be included in the inspection.
  - **Biosecurity** should be maintained at the hatcheries. If any fish are brought in from outside the facility and are not represented on the current health inspection of the same year, the fish/species brought into the facility must be reported and health certification must be provided to the Division of Fish and Wildlife. The fish species and number being brought into the facility, origin of the fish, and appropriate fish health records must be sent to Sarah Friend to be maintained on the certified hatchery list.
3. Provide documentation (health inspection or certification reports) that all fish received from sources within the enzootic area of the parasite *Ceratonova Shasta* (west coast of North America or from outside of North America), have been inspected and found free of that parasite.
  4. If you rear Rainbow Trout and/or Brook Trout, report on the “Fish Health History Request Form” if gill lice (caused by *Salmincola californiensis* or *Salmincola edwardsii*) have been detected in your facility.
  5. Keep accurate records of fish health inspections and transfers of fish into and out of the facility, and, upon request, make those records available to the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife.

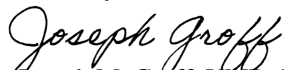
**\*In order to protect the biosecurity of the N.J. State Pequest Trout Hatchery, which raises all trout for public stocking within the state, the Pequest watershed will only be stocked by the Pequest Trout Hatchery. No private stocking of trout from outside sources will be approved for stocking within this watershed.**

For efficient processing please fill out both sides of the enclosed form completely and make any necessary corrections, additions or deletions to the address or contact information. Please be sure to answer all questions on the back of the form and to include all documents showing that your hatchery has been inspected for the diseases listed. If you sell fish that you do not raise, a Fish Health History Request form must be filled out by the owner or manager of the hatchery where the fish are raised and forwarded with your information. Documentation that these fish have been tested and found free of the applicable diseases must also accompany this information. In order to assure your information is processed without delay please obtain the required disease testing documentation and send it with your application. Also be sure to submit pertinent disease testing information for **all** species you seek approval for. You will not be notified by this office of species not approved for stocking from your facility.

Failure to complete the 2022 Fish Health History Request Form or provide the necessary information will result in denial of stocking permit applications that list your facility as the source hatchery. If you wish to be placed on New Jersey’s 2022 Commercial Hatchery List, **please return completed forms by email or mail to this office no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. Email the completed form and supporting documentation to [Joseph.Groff@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Joseph.Groff@dep.nj.gov) and I will confirm receipt of your information.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



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