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NPDES GENERAL PERMIT
AUTHORIZING DISCHARGES OF CIRCULATION WATER
FROM DECORATIVE PONDS OR TANKS

October 2007

1. Coverage under this General Permit
 - (a) This general permit covers discharges of circulation water from decorative ponds or tanks containing fish or other aquatic species, not including mammals. This general permit also covers discharges of circulation water from decorative ponds or tanks that do not contain fish or other aquatic species provided that the discharge complies with chapter 11-54 titled "Water Quality Standards."
 - (b) This general permit covers all areas of the State except for discharges in or to state waters classified by the department as "class 1, inland waters," "class AA, marine waters," and areas restricted in accordance with the State's "No Discharge" policy in chapter 11-54 titled "Water Quality Standards."
2. Limitations on Coverage Under the General Permit
 - (a) This general permit does not cover the following:
 - (1) Discharges of circulation water from decorative ponds or tanks into a sanitary sewer system and
 - (2) Discharges of circulation water from decorative ponds or tanks which

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initially enter separate storm water drainage systems, unless a permit, license, or equivalent written approval is granted by the owner(s) of the drainage system(s) allowing the subject discharge to enter their drainage system(s).

- (b) The director may require any permittee authorized by this general permit to apply for and obtain an individual permit, in accordance with sections 11-55-34.05 and 11-55-34.10.

3. Term of General Permit

- (a) This general permit becomes effective when section 11-55-34.02(11) becomes effective ten days after filing with the office of the lieutenant governor. This general permit expires when amendments to section 11-55-34.02(b)(11) are adopted, whichever is earlier.

- (b) A notice of general permit coverage under this general permit expires:

- (1) Five years after the effective date of this general permit;
- (2) When the notice of general permit coverage specifies; or
- (3) When amendments to section 11-55-34.02(b)(11) are adopted,

whichever is earliest, unless the notice of general permit coverage is administratively extended under section 11-55-34.09(d).

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4. Notice of Intent Requirements

- (a) The owner or its duly authorized representative shall submit a complete notice of intent no later than thirty days before the proposed starting date of the discharge.
- (b) The owner or its duly authorized representative shall include the following information in the notice of intent:
 - (1) Information required in section 34 of appendix A of chapter 11-55;
 - (2) Description of the decorative fish pond or tank and the type of aquatic species being housed. The description should include, but not be limited to: material type of the pond or tank; water volume contained; the type, size, and number of aquatic species being housed; and, the type(s) and quantity of food utilized;
 - (3) Description of the average frequency of flow and duration of any intermittent or seasonal discharge. The frequency of flow means the number of days or months per year when there is an intermittent discharge. Duration means the number of days or hours per discharge. Provide the best estimate for new discharges;
 - (4) Source(s) of the circulation water for the decorative fish pond or tank;
 - (5) Quantitative data on pollutants that the owner or operator of the facility knows or reasonably should know are or will be present in the discharge and for which

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the pollutants numerical criteria for the existing or proposed receiving state waters are specified in chapter 11-54, especially section 11-54-4;

- (6) Name and chemical composition of any water enhancement or treatment additives, if any used;
- (7) Best management practices applied to minimize or eliminate the discharge of pollutants (e.g., feeding procedures, pond or tank cleaning operations, and control measures); and
- (8) A brief description of any treatment system used or to be used. The treatment system plan, and all subsequent revisions, shall be retained on-site or at a nearby office.
- (9) If the decorative fish pond or tank discharges circulation water to a state water for which a total maximum daily load has been approved by the EPA, the permittee shall develop and submit an implementation and monitoring plan with the notice of intent or within ninety days after the issuance date of the notice of general permit coverage or by the date the permittee claimed automatic coverage as specified in section 11-55-34.09(e)(2). The permittee shall incorporate provisions to comply with the total maximum daily load into the facility's best management practices plan within sixty days of the date of submittal of the plan and implement necessary steps to meet the plan.

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- (c) The director may require additional information to be submitted.
- (d) The owner or its duly authorized representative shall submit a complete notice of intent to the director at the following address or as otherwise specified:

Director of Health
Clean Water Branch
Environmental Management Division
State Department of Health
P.O. Box 3378
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801-3378

5. Standard Conditions

The permittee shall comply with the standard conditions as specified in appendix A of chapter 11-55. In case of conflict between the conditions stated here and those specified in the standard general permit conditions, the more stringent conditions shall apply.

6. Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

- (a) The effluent shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified in this section and in Table 34.8.

(1) Sampling Points

The permittee shall collect representative discharge samples downstream from the decorative fish pond or tank circulation water discharge point(s) and prior to entering the receiving state water or separate storm water drainage systems or at a location

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that is approved by the department which is representative of the decorative fish pond or tank effluent water quality.

(2) Collection of Samples

The permittee shall take samples and measurements for the purposes of monitoring which are representative of the volume and nature of the total discharge.

(3) Types of Samples

(A) "Grab sample" means an individual sample collected within the first fifteen minutes of a discharge.

(B) "Composite sample" means a combination of a least eight samples aliquots, collected at periodic intervals during the operating hours of the facility over a 24-hour period. The composite shall be flow proportional; either the time interval between each aliquot or the volume of each aliquot shall be proportional to the total effluent flow since the collection of the previous aliquot. The permittee may collect aliquots manually or automatically, unless otherwise stated.

(4) Test Procedures

(A) The permittee shall use test procedures for the analysis of

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pollutants which conform with regulations published under Section 304(h) of the Act.

- (B) Unless otherwise noted in this general permit, the permittee shall measure all pollutant parameters in accordance with methods prescribed in 40 CFR Part 136, promulgated under Section 304(h) of the Act. The permittee may submit applications for the use of alternative test methods in accordance with 40 CFR §136.4.
- (C) The permittee shall use test methods with detection limits that reflect the applicable numerical limitations as specified in chapter 11-54. If the test result is not detectable, indicate that the test result is "less than #," where the # is the lowest detection limit of the test method used.

(5) Recording of Results

The permittee shall comply with section 14(c) of appendix A of chapter 11-55 for each measurement or sample taken under the requirements of this general permit.

(b) Basic Water Quality Criteria and Inspections

- (1) The permittee shall not cause or contribute to a violation of the basic water quality criteria as specified in section 11-54-4.

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- (2) The permittee shall timely inspect the receiving state waters, effluent, and control measures and best management practices to detect violations of and conditions which may cause violations of the basic water quality criteria as specified in section 11-54-4. (e.g., the permittee shall look at effluent and receiving state waters for turbidity, color, floating oil and grease, floating debris and scum, materials that will settle, substances that will produce taste in the water or detectable off-flavor in fish, and inspect for items that may be toxic or harmful to human or other life.)
- (c) There shall be no floating solids, foam, or visible oil sheen in the effluent.
- (d) There shall be no discharge of pond or tank cleaning wastewaters that are generated during the cleaning of a pond or tank that has been drained of water below the normal operating level(s).
- (e) There shall be no discharge of filter backwash effluent.
- (f) There shall be no discharge of any water enhancement or treatment additives above applicable water quality standards or above detectable levels or quantities if no applicable water quality standard for such constituents exists.

7. Corrective Action

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The permittee shall immediately stop, reduce, or modify the discharge as needed to stop or prevent a violation of the basic water quality criteria as specified in section 11-54-4.

8. Reporting Requirements

(a) Reporting of Monitoring Results

- (1) The permittee shall report monitoring results on a discharge monitoring report form (EPA No. 3320-1) or other form as specified by the director. The permittee shall submit results of all monitoring required by this general permit in a format that demonstrates compliance with the limitations in Table 34.8 and other requirements of this general permit.
- (2) The permittee shall submit monitoring results obtained during the previous calendar month, postmarked or received by the department no later than the twenty-eighth day of the month following the completed reporting period.
- (3) The permittee shall also submit the monitoring results with laboratory reports, including quality assurance/quality control data; effluent flow calculations; and any additional treatment strategies to be implemented based on monitoring results.
- (4) Should there be no discharges during the monitoring period, the discharge monitoring report form shall so state.

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(b) Additional Monitoring by the Permittee

If the permittee monitors any pollutant at location(s) designated herein more frequently than required by this general permit, using approved analytical methods as specified in section 6(a)(4)(B), the permittee shall include the results of this monitoring in the calculation and reporting of the values required in the discharge monitoring report form. The permittee shall also indicate the increased frequency.

(c) Reporting of Noncompliance, Unanticipated Bypass, or Upset

- (1) The permittee or its duly authorized representative shall orally report any of the following when the permittee or its duly authorized representative becomes aware of the circumstances:
 - (A) Violation of an effluent limitation specified in Table 34.8 or a basic water quality criteria specified in section 6(b) of this general permit;
 - (B) Discharge or noncompliance with effluent limitations which may endanger health or the environment; or
 - (C) Unanticipated bypass or upset.
- (2) The permittee shall make oral reports by telephone to the Clean Water Branch at (808) 586-4309 during regular office hours which are Monday through Friday

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(excluding holidays) from 7:45 a.m. until 4:15 p.m. or the Hawaii State Hospital Operator at (808) 247-2191 outside of regular office hours.

- (3) The permittee shall provide a written report within five days of the time the permittee or its duly authorized representative becomes aware of the circumstances. The written report shall include the following:
- (A) Description of the noncompliance, unanticipated bypass, or upset and its cause;
 - (B) Period of noncompliance, unanticipated bypass, or upset including exact dates and times;
 - (C) Estimated time the noncompliance, unanticipated bypass, or upset is expected to continue if it has not been corrected; and
 - (D) Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance, unanticipated bypass, or upset.
- (4) The director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within twenty-four hours.

(d) Schedule of Maintenance

The permittee shall submit a schedule for approval by the director at least fourteen

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days prior to any maintenance of facilities which might result in exceedance of effluent limitations. For purposes of this general permit only, maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, the routine cleaning of the pond or tank while filled with water and otherwise still operated under normal conditions. The schedule shall include a description of the maintenance and its reason; the period of maintenance, including exact dates and times; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent occurrence of noncompliance.

9. Submittal Requirements

- (a) The owner or its duly authorized representative shall submit signed copies of monitoring and all other reports required by this general permit to the director at the following address or as otherwise specified:

Director of Health
Clean Water Branch
Environmental Management Division
State Department of Health
P.O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378

- (b) The owner or its duly authorized representative shall include the following certification statement and an original signature on each submittal in accordance with section 11-55-34.08(e) or (f):

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure

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that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine or imprisonment for knowing violations."

- (c) The owner or its duly authorized representative shall include the notice of general permit coverage file number on each submittal. Failure to provide the assigned notice of general permit coverage file number for this facility on future correspondence or submittals may be a basis for delay of the processing of the document(s).

10. Additional Conditions

The director may impose additional conditions under section 11-55-34.09(b).

11. Record Retention

The permittee shall retain all records and information resulting from the monitoring activities required by this general permit including all records of analyses performed and calibration and maintenance of instrumentation for a minimum of five years. This period of retention shall be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation or administrative enforcement action regarding the discharge of pollutants by the permittee or when requested by the director or Regional Administrator.

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12. Falsifying Report

Knowingly making any false statement on any report required by this general permit may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in Section 309 of the Act and in section 342D-35, HRS.

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TABLE 34.8

EFFLUENT LIMITATION AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS
FOR CIRCULATION WATER FROM DECORATIVE PONDS AND TANKS

| Effluent Parameter | Effluent Limitation {1} | Minimum Monitoring Frequency | Type of Sample |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Flow (GPD) | {2} | Once/Quarter | Estimate |
| Total Nitrogen (mg/l) | {2} | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen (mg/l) | {2} | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| Ammonia Nitrogen (mg/l) | {2} | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| Total Phosphorus (mg/l) | {2} | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| Chlorophyl a (µg/l) | {2} | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| Total Suspended Solids (mg/l) | 10 | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| Turbidity (NTU) | {3} | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| pH (standard units) | {4} | Once/Quarter | Grab {5} |
| Fecal coliform or Enterococcus (no./100 ml) {6} | {7} | Once/Quarter | Grab |
| Toxic Pollutants {8} | {9} | Once/Quarter | {10} |

GPD = gallons per day
 mg/l = milligrams per liter
 µg/l = micrograms per liter
 NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
 no./100 ml = number per 100 milliliters

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NOTES:

- {1} Pollutant concentration levels shall not exceed the effluent limits or be outside the ranges indicated in the table. Actual or measured levels which exceed those effluent limits or are outside those ranges shall be reported to the director as required in section 8(c) of this general permit.
- {2} No limitation at this time. Only monitoring and reporting required.
- {3} Effluent limitation is the specific criteria established in sections 11-54-5 and 11-54-6 for the classification of the receiving state waters, as applicable.
- {4} The pH value shall not be outside the range as specified in chapter 11-54 for the applicable classification of the receiving state waters.
- {5} The pH shall be measured within fifteen minutes of obtaining the grab sample.
- {6} Applicable if potentially present in the discharge.
- {7} Effluent limitation is the specific criteria established in section 11-54-8 for the classification of the receiving state waters, as applicable.
- {8} The permittee shall measure for toxic pollutants, as identified in Appendix D of 40 CFR Part 122 or in section 11-54-4 only if they are identified as potential pollutants requiring monitoring in the notice of intent. The permittee shall measure for the total recoverable portion of all metals.

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- {9} Effluent limitations are the acute water quality standards established in section 11-54-4, for either fresh or saline waters and specific criteria established in section 11-54-5 and 11-54-6 for the classification of the receiving state waters, as applicable. For pollutants which do not have established acute water quality standards or specific criteria, the permittee shall report any detected concentration greater than 0.01 µg/l.
- {10} The permittee shall measure for cyanide and the volatile fraction of the toxic organic compounds using a grab sample. The permittee shall measure for all other pollutants, as identified in Appendix D of 40 CFR Part 122 or in section 11-54-4 using a composite sample.

