



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Western Region Salem Office

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TTY 711

May 29, 2025

Jim Lewis, Facilities Manager
Oregon State University
Hatfield Marine Science Center
2030 SE Marine Science Drive
Newport Oregon, 97365

Re: Warning Letter
Hatfield Marine Science Center – Research Facility
2025-WL-9887
NPDES Permit #101477, EPA ID OR0043281
File 109156
WQ-Marion County

Dear Mr. Lewis,

DEQ has completed a records review for the Hatfield Marine Science Center's Marine research facility to determine compliance with the conditions of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number 101477 issued by DEQ on June 10, 2010. The findings are summarized below.

Records Review

I reviewed records from May 2023 through April 2025. HMSC has submitted all monthly discharge monitoring reports (DMR) on time in NetDMR.

Schedule A Violations

1. Schedule A of the permit requires HMSC to meet a maximum daily pH measurement of 9.0 S.U. In April 2025 HMSC violated their permit as indicated in the following table.

Table 1: pH Limit Violations

Monitoring Period	Parameter	Reported Value	Over/Under Limit by how much?	Violation Class
April 6, 2025	pH, daily maximum, SU	9.12	<1	III

If the discharge is outside the permitted pH range by more than 2 pH units, it is a Class I violation per OAR 340-012-0055(1)(k). If the discharge is outside the permitted pH range by more than 1 but less than or equal to 2 pH units, it is a Class II violation per OAR 340-012-0055(2)(a). If the discharge is outside the permitted pH range by 1 pH unit or less, it is a Class III violation per OAR 340-012-0055(3)(b).

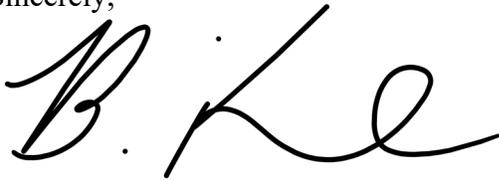
Class I violations are the most serious violations; Class III violations are the least serious. Compliance with your permit is required by Oregon Revised Statute 468B.025(2).

This notice is a warning letter. DEQ does not intend to take formal enforcement action at this time. However, should you repeat this violation, the matter may be referred to DEQ's Office of Compliance and Enforcement for formal enforcement action, including assessment of civil penalties and/or a DEQ order. Civil penalties can be assessed for each day of violation.

If you believe any of the facts in this warning letter with opportunity to correct are in error, you may provide information to me at the office at the address shown at the top of this letter. DEQ will consider the new information you submit and take appropriate action.

If you have any questions, please contact me in writing at brenda.kuiken@deq.oregon.gov or by phone at (503) 893-0924.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Kuiken', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brenda Kuiken
WQ Compliance Specialist

cc: DEQ Salem Office file

ec: Ranei Nomura, Manager, Western Region DEQ
Oregon Records Management Solution
David Huber, Maintenance Supervisor