

**TITLE 35: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
SUBTITLE E: AGRICULTURE RELATED POLLUTION  
CHAPTER I: POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

**PART 503  
OTHER AGRICULTURAL AND SILVICULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

**Section**

- 503.101 Fish and Aquatic Animal Production Facilities  
503.102 Irrigation Activities  
503.103 Silvicultural Activities  
503.APPENDIX A References to Previous Rules (Repealed)

AUTHORITY: Implementing Sections 9, 12, 13, 21, and 22 of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/9, 12, 13, 21 and 22] and authorized by Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/27].

SOURCE: Filed and effective January 1, 1978; amended at 2 Ill. Reg. 44, p. 137, effective October 30, 1978; codified at 7 Ill. Reg. 10596; amended in R18-25 at 48 Ill. Reg.3269, effective February 15, 2024.

**Section 503.101 Fish and Aquatic Animal Production Facilities**

- a) A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit is required for the construction, modification, or operation of a facility that contains, grows, or holds aquatic animals in ponds, raceways, or similar structures for production, such as a hatchery or fish farm, and that discharges for any 30 or more days per year, except that an NPDES permit is not required for:
- 1) A closed pond that discharges only during periods of excess runoff; or
  - 2) A facility that produces less than 20,000 pounds of aquatic animals per year.
- b) An NPDES permit is required for any facility that contains, grows, or holds any species of fish or other aquatic animal life non-native to the United States and that discharges to a navigable water at any time. Non-native species of fish are identified in Special Publication No. 6 of the American Fisheries Society, entitled "A List of Common and Scientific Names of Fishes from the United States and Canada" (Washington, D.C., American Fisheries Society, 1970); except that carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), goldfish (*Carassius auratus*), and brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) are considered native species for this regulation.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. 3269, effective February 15, 2024)

**Section 503.102      Irrigation Activities**

NPDES permits are required for discharges of irrigation return flow (such as tailwater, tile drainage, surfaced groundwater flow or bypass water) operated by public or private organizations or individuals if:

- a)      There is a point source of discharge (e.g., a pipe, ditch or other defined or discrete conveyance, whether natural or artificial); and
- b)      The return flow is from land areas of more than 3000 contiguous acres, or 3000 noncontiguous acres which use the same drainage system.

**Section 503.103      Silvicultural Activities**

NPDES permits are required for discharges from silvicultural point sources.

(Source: Added at 2 Ill. Reg. 44, p. 137, effective October 30, 1978)

**Section 503.APPENDIX A    References to Previous Rules (Repealed)**