



Most Americans may not think about chemicals when they are in the seafood aisle of the grocery store or casting their line into a lake when they go fishing, but chemicals, such as hydrogen peroxide for disinfecting tanks, are critical to commercial fish farming and hatcheries. When used properly, these chemicals assist fisheries and hatcheries in providing our nation with the seafood we consume. In the wrong hands, however, some of these chemicals can also be used for great harm.



Worker helping move golden trout at a hatchery. (Source : Joe Evans)

### What is CFATS?

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program focuses precisely on filling this chemical security gap. Authorized by Congress in 2006, CFATS identifies and regulates facilities that possess specific high-risk chemicals at certain quantities and concentrations—known as chemicals of interest (COI)—to ensure they have security measures in place that reduce the risks associated with the COI.

Appendix A of the CFATS regulation lists more than 300 COI and their respective screening threshold quantity (STQ), concentration, and security issues for which they are regulated. Any facility, including fisheries and hatcheries, that meets or exceeds the STQ for any COI must report those chemicals to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through an online survey called a Top-Screen. Regulated fisheries and hatcheries include but are not limited to:

- Cage Systems
- Irrigation Ditches/Ponds
- Composite Fish Cultures
- Integrated Recycling Systems
- Classic Fry Farming

### Chemicals Commonly Found in CFATS-Regulated Fisheries and Hatcheries

Some of the commonly reported COI among fisheries and hatcheries include, but are not limited to:

COI	Security Issue	STQ & Minimum Concentration
Hydrogen peroxide	Theft: Explosives/Improvised Explosive Devise Precursors (EXP/IEDP)	400 lbs.; 35% Concentration or higher
Potassium permanganate	Theft: EXP/IEDP	400 lbs.; A Commercial Grade (ACG)
Ammonia (anhydrous)	Release: Toxic	10,000 lbs.; 1% Concentration or higher

While the table displays COI commonly possessed by fisheries and hatcheries, some may possess other chemicals regulated by DHS that may need to be reported. It is, therefore, important to become familiar with the COI listed in Appendix A.

DHS has given certain agricultural facilities a time extension for their reporting requirements if the COI is used in preparation for, in treatment of, or during application to crops, feed, land, livestock, or other areas of an agricultural production facility. However, this extension does not apply to fisheries and hatcheries. For more information about this agricultural extension, visit [www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-agricultural-production-facilities](http://www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-agricultural-production-facilities).

## What's Next?

If your facility possesses any COI at or above the STQ and concentration listed in Appendix A:

- Register for a Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) account, at <https://csat-registration.dhs.gov/>.
- Fill out a Top-Screen, an easy-to-use online survey facilities use to report their chemical holdings and facility information to DHS.
- Based on the information provided in the Top-Screen, DHS assesses the overall risk of the facility.
- Facilities assessed as “high risk” by DHS are required to submit a security plan tailored to the risks associated with their chemicals.
- More than 150 DHS Chemical Security Inspectors are located nationwide to assist high-risk facilities identify and implement security measures, and conduct inspections to ensure compliance with the CFATS regulation.

## Failure to Comply or Meet Required Security Standards

The Department has the authority to issue an enforcement action against a chemical facility found to be in violation of CFATS. Failure to comply with the regulation may result in the imposition of a civil penalty.

## Tools and Resources

DHS is committed to providing CFATS resources and tools to facilities with COI.

- Appendix A Chemicals of Interest (COI) List: [www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-coi-list](http://www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-coi-list)
- CFATS Penalty Policy: [www.dhs.gov/cfats-penalty-policy](http://www.dhs.gov/cfats-penalty-policy)
- Request a CFATS Presentation to learn about any part of the CFATS regulation from submitting a Top-Screen to editing a security plan: [www.dhs.gov/request-cfats-presentation](http://www.dhs.gov/request-cfats-presentation).
- Request a Compliance Assistance Visit to learn what to expect from a CFATS Authorization or Compliance Inspection: [www.dhs.gov/cfats-request-compliance-assistance-visit](http://www.dhs.gov/cfats-request-compliance-assistance-visit).
- The CFATS Knowledge Center is an online repository of FAQs, articles, and more: [csat-help.dhs.gov/](http://csat-help.dhs.gov/).
- The CSAT Help Desk provides timely support to chemical facility owners and operators. Call 1-866-323-2957 or email [CSAT@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:CSAT@hq.dhs.gov).

## Contact Information

For any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact [CFATS@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:CFATS@hq.dhs.gov) or visit [www.dhs.gov/chemicalsecurity](http://www.dhs.gov/chemicalsecurity).