Agriculture and Water Quality Advisory Committee

Meeting #5

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Intent

- Provide an overview of water quality regulations and information on livestock related water quality impacts to help landowners make informed livestock management decisions.
Key Principles

- Promote compliance with state and federal law and the water quality standards.
Key Principles

- Recognize the importance of the livestock industry to Washington State.
Key Principles

- Clearly articulate good and bad site conditions. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) should be clear about noncompliant conditions as well as low risk conditions.
Key Principles

- Landowners are able to make informed decisions about the level of legal and environmental risk they are comfortable taking when making livestock management decisions.
Outline

- Clean Water Law Summary
- Risk Management Concepts
- Site Conditions
Risk of Causing Pollution and Violating Clean Water Laws

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clear Violation: Action is needed to ensure compliance.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Higher risk of noncompliance: There are urgent issues or multiple conditions of concern. Action is needed.</td>
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<td>• Medium Risk of noncompliance: Undesirable site conditions are present. Action is needed.</td>
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<td>• Lower Risk-Some desirable site conditions are present. Action may be needed to ensure compliance.</td>
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| Compliance-Desirable site conditions and management practices ensure compliance. |
Site Conditions

- **Stream Corridor**
  - Protecting stream corridors is often a key to keeping waters of the state from being polluted.
  - Site conditions can indicate if it is a healthy stream corridor or if there are indications that stream health is being impacted.

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Site Conditions

- **Confinement Areas**
  - Confinement and winter feeding areas if properly sited and maintained can help prevent pollutants from reaching surface water.
  - Look for pathways to surface waters and indications that those areas are affecting stream health.
Site Conditions

- **Upland Pasture Areas**
  - Well managed upland areas can ensure that riparian areas and water quality are protected from pollution.
  - Look for pathways to surface waters and indications that those areas are affecting stream health.
Site Conditions

- Manure Storage
  - Proper collection, disposal, storage, and use of manure is key to protecting water quality.
  - Look for pathways to surface waters and indications that those areas are affecting stream health

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Questions?