

Agriculture and Water Quality Advisory Committee

Meeting #5



Presentation Overview

- Washington State Water Quality Plan to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution
- Controlled Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) General Permit



Background on Nonpoint Plan

- Section 319 added to the Federal Clean Water Act in 1987—State Nonpoint source management programs.
- Current version of plan published in April 2000.
- Last updated in June 2005.



Purpose for update

- Federal interest in nonpoint pollution.
 - Recognized as leading cause of impairment to nation's waters.
 - Found greater oversight needed along with additional data.
- EPA responded with two key pieces of guidance.
 - Key components for an effective state nonpoint plan.
 - Nonpoint source program and grants guidelines.
- Update frequency target is every five years.



Key Components

- Explicit short and long-term goals, objectives and strategies for addressing nonpoint pollution.
 - State plan covers all nonpoint pollution.



Key Components

- Focus on implementation.
- Strengthening partnerships.
- Better coordinate state programs.
 - Alignment of TMDL program with nonpoint efforts.
- All federal statutory requirements included in plan.



Status and timeline

- Plan must be submitted to EPA by June 30, 2015.
- Public Participation:
 - Webinar to kick-off updated process-end of 2014.
 - Draft Plan-spring 2015.
 - Public meetings-spring 2015.
 - Public comment period-spring 2015.
 - Available to meet with all stakeholders as needed.

Questions on Nonpoint Plan

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See also:

- Section 319 Program Guidance: Key Components of an Effective State Nonpoint Source Management Program (November 2012).
- Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidelines for States and Territories (April 2013)



CAFO Permit Re-Issuance

- Previous permit coverage 2006-2011.
 - Administratively extended
- Ecology initiating work on re-issuance of the CAFO permit.
- Anticipate wide range of expectations.
 - Pace and timeline
 - Permit components
 - Facilities covered



Tentative Process/Schedule

- Initiate meetings with key stakeholders – Nov/Dec 2014
- Hold 2-3 general interest listening sessions – Nov/Dec 2014
- Preliminary draft CAFO permit for informal public comment – spring 2015
- Formal draft CAFO permit for public comment – late summer 2015
- Issue final CAFO permit – January 2016

Questions on CAFO permit

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CAFO General Permit

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