Revising the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation General Permit

Chelsea Morris, PhD
Agriculture & Water Quality Advisory Committee
Why we’re here

1. CAFO permit program overview
2. Recent legal decision
3. Reissuance next steps
Submit Feedback

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021 at 9 a.m.
Morning Webinar

Thursday, Oct. 14, 2021 at 5 p.m.
Evening Webinar

Sept. 20, 2021 to Oct. 24, 2021
Online Comment Form Open

https://ecology.wa.gov/cafo
Introductions

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Voluntary & Mandatory Permit Coverages Issued

March 2017
New permits goes into effect

Today
18 Voluntarily Apply
12 Required to Apply

March 2022
Current permits will expire
Permit Requirements

Production Area
- Collect contaminated runoff
- Properly store waste
- Regularly inspect collection and storage system

Land Application Fields
- Balance nutrients
- Keep application records
- Test manure and soil
- Regularly inspect equipment and field discharge management areas
Court of Appeals Decision

Production Area
- Address impacts from compost areas & existing waste storage lagoons
- Compliance monitoring needed

Land Application Fields
- Address land application on high-risk fields
- Address tile-drainage & emergency winter application impacts
- Compliance monitoring needed
Court of Appeals Decision

Process

• Add public participation in reviews of site-specific plans
• Consider climate change
Our Next Steps
Revising the Permits

Receiving Feedback
• Public Listening Sessions
• Open comment box

Workshopping Ideas
• Permit development team
• External consultations

Sharing Drafts
• Open comment period
• Formal public hearings
Reissuance Timeline
Where we’re headed next

Oct 2021
Listening Sessions & open comment box

March 2022
Current permit expires; no new permittees

Summer 2022
Draft permit published & public hearings held

End of 2022
Final decision
Submit Feedback

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