

Delta Independent Science Board Educational Briefing Questionnaire

1. Program Title: Confined Animal Facility Program
2. Lead Agency/Department for Program: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
3. Brief Description of Program: The Central Valley regulates several types of confined animal facilities, including dairies, feedlots, poultry facilities, and horse facilities. The Confined Animal Facility Program primarily focuses on dairies. Over 765 dairies are located in the Central Valley watershed draining to the Delta with about 50 facilities in the legal Delta. In 2007 the Regional Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements for existing milk cow dairies (General Order). The General Order includes requirements for both the dairy production area and land application area.
4. Purpose and Objectives of Program: The purpose of the Confined Animal Facility Program is to protect surface and groundwater quality. The Program prohibits discharge of wastewater to surface water from the dairy production area or cropland. A dairy may apply wastewater to cropland to serve as a fertilizer after developing a Nutrient Management Plan. The plan requires, among other things, that the volume of water, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and total dissolved solids content of the waste be periodically measured and reported. The Nutrient Management Plan must be modified if monitoring shows that storm water discharges or discharges of fresh irrigation tailwater from cropland fail to meet surface water quality objectives or criteria. No discharges, including storm water, were reported in 2009; data for 2010 has not yet been reviewed.
5. Timeline for Program Objectives: Fully implement Waste Management Plan by 2011 and Nutrient Management Plan by 2012.
6. Current Status of Program: Ongoing and active
7. Contact Information for Lead Staff of this Program:

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8. Associated Total Annual Budget for Program: Monitoring costs are estimated at about \$20,000 per facility per year. Costs may drop in the future to about \$10,000 per year as baseline information is collected.
9. URL, if a Website is Available:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/dairies/index.shtml
10. How does adaptive management play a role in your program? The Central Valley Water Board may revise and modify the General Order to address changes in state plans, policies or regulations. Monitoring and reporting requirements may be revised by the Executive Officer of the Regional Board at any time.
11. Any additional information that would be helpful to understand the program: