

Agriculture and Water Quality Advisory Committee

Meeting #7

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Intent

- Transparency
- Tool for Producers, Ecology, and Partners
- Integration of Risk Management Concepts

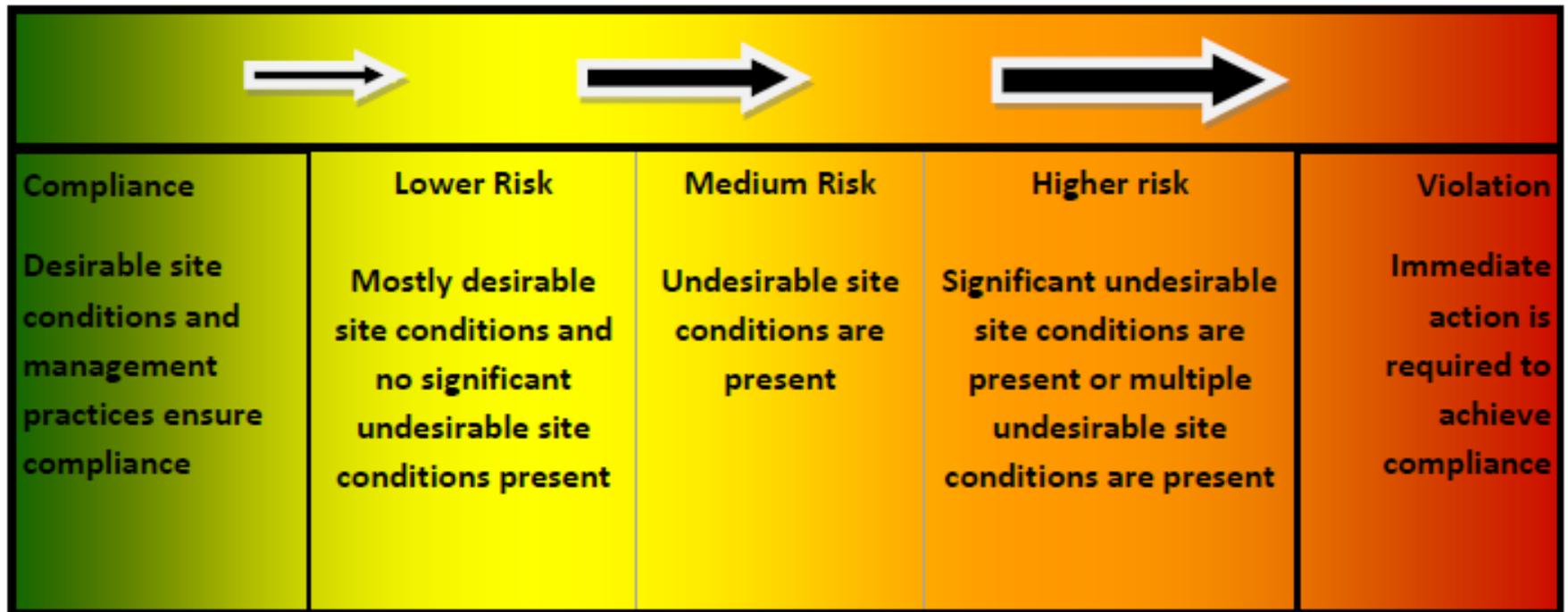
Key Principles

- Improve compliance with state and federal law and the water quality standards.
- Recognize the importance of the livestock industry to Washington State.
- Clearly articulate examples of good and bad site conditions. Enable landowners to make informed decisions about their operations related to protecting water quality.

Document Outline

- **Introduction**
 - Recognize importance of livestock production.
 - Recognize importance of clean water.
 - Livestock related pollution concerns.
- **Risk Management Concepts**
- **Site Conditions**
 - Riparian Areas, Confinement Areas, Upland Pasture Areas, Manure Storage.
- **Conclusion**
 - Water Quality Law.
 - Recognize the range of actions available to address WQ problems.

Risk Continuum



Key Questions

- Are there sources of nonpoint pollution?
- Is surface water present at the site or in proximity to the site? Are there ground water concerns?
- Are there pathways for pollution to get to state waters?
- Is there evidence that pollutants have left the site and entered state waters?
- Are management practices in place for identified sources of nonpoint pollution to prevent the delivery of pollution to state waters?

Watershed & Other Environmental Considerations

- Soil conditions and characteristics (runoff class, permeability, leaching potential, saturation, etc.)
- Slope of the land surface
- Precipitation and climate
- Anticipated flooding/flooding frequency
- Depth to groundwater-shallow groundwater is more vulnerable to pollution

Site Conditions-General Format

➤ Introduction

Healthy Riparian Area



*Indications that livestock may be affecting stream health.
Any one or combination could be a violation, or lead to a violation.*



Clear Violation



Riparian Areas

- 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.
- Examples:
 - Manure accumulations
 - Bare ground
 - Trails
 - Slumping banks
 - Erosion
 - Streamside vegetation sufficient to filter out pollutants

Confinement Areas

- Confinement and winter feeding areas if properly sited and maintained can help prevent pollutants from reaching surface water.
- Are there pathways to surface waters?
- Are there signs that pollution is moving to surface water?
- Is water diverted around confinement areas?
- Are there stockpiles of manure?

Upland Pasture Areas

- Recognize that upland practices can affect water quality.
- Well managed upland areas can ensure that riparian areas and water quality are protected from pollution.
- Poorly managed upland areas can overwhelm a well protected riparian area.
- Are there pathways to surface waters and indications that those areas are affecting stream health?

Manure Storage

- Proper collection, disposal, storage, and use of manure is key to protecting water quality.
- Can affect surface and groundwater.
- Are there pathways to surface waters and indications that those areas are affecting stream health?
- Distance to surface water or vulnerable ground water.
- Sufficient size and design considering the number of animals.



Discussion