

# Preliminary Draft CAFO Permit Webinar will begin soon

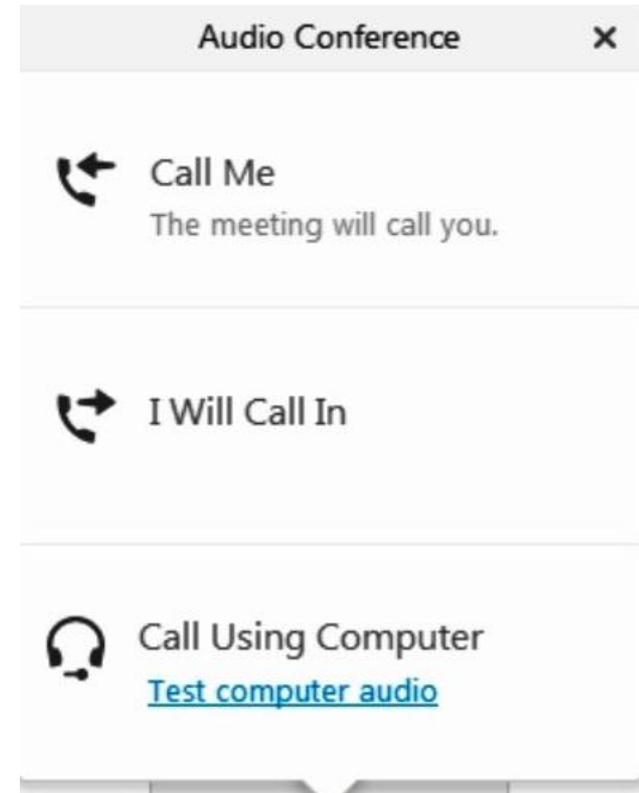
## Connecting to Audio: 3 Options

### Phone (best sound quality)

1. Select "Call Me"
  - Enter your phone number
  - You will be called
2. Or select "I Will Call In" and dial the number provided

### Computer microphone and speakers

3. Select "Call Using Computer" and follow directions



# Preliminary Draft CAFO Permit

The webinar is starting – you should be able to hear us now!

The screenshot displays the Cisco WebEx Meeting Center interface. The main content area shows a slide with the following text:

**Preliminary Draft CAFO Permit**

**Heather Bartlett**  
Program Manager  
Water Quality Program

**Bill Moore**  
PDS Section Manager  
Water Quality Program

**Jon Jennings**  
Permit Writer  
PDS Section  
Water Quality Program

 **DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

The right-hand side of the interface shows the 'Participants' and 'Chat' panels. The 'Participants' panel lists 'Dennis (me)' and 'Water Quality HQ (Host)'. The 'Chat' panel is currently empty. A red circle highlights the 'Participants' icon in the top right corner, and a large red arrow points from this icon down to the text 'For technical assistance, use Chat!'.

For technical assistance, use Chat!



# Webinar Instructions for Presentation and Public Hearing

- **You should be able to hear us now!**
- **This meeting/webinar is being recorded**
- During **Presentation**, your phone will be muted by Ecology



# Housekeeping

- This webinar is being recorded
- A copy of the webinar and this presentation will be made available here:  
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/cafo/historical.html>
- We will be presenting information, but not taking questions



# Preliminary Draft CAFO Permit

## **Heather Bartlett**

Program Manager  
Water Quality Program

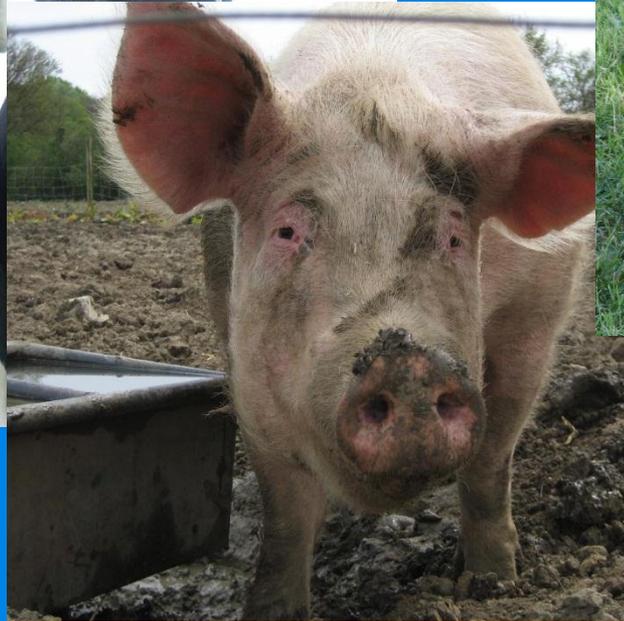
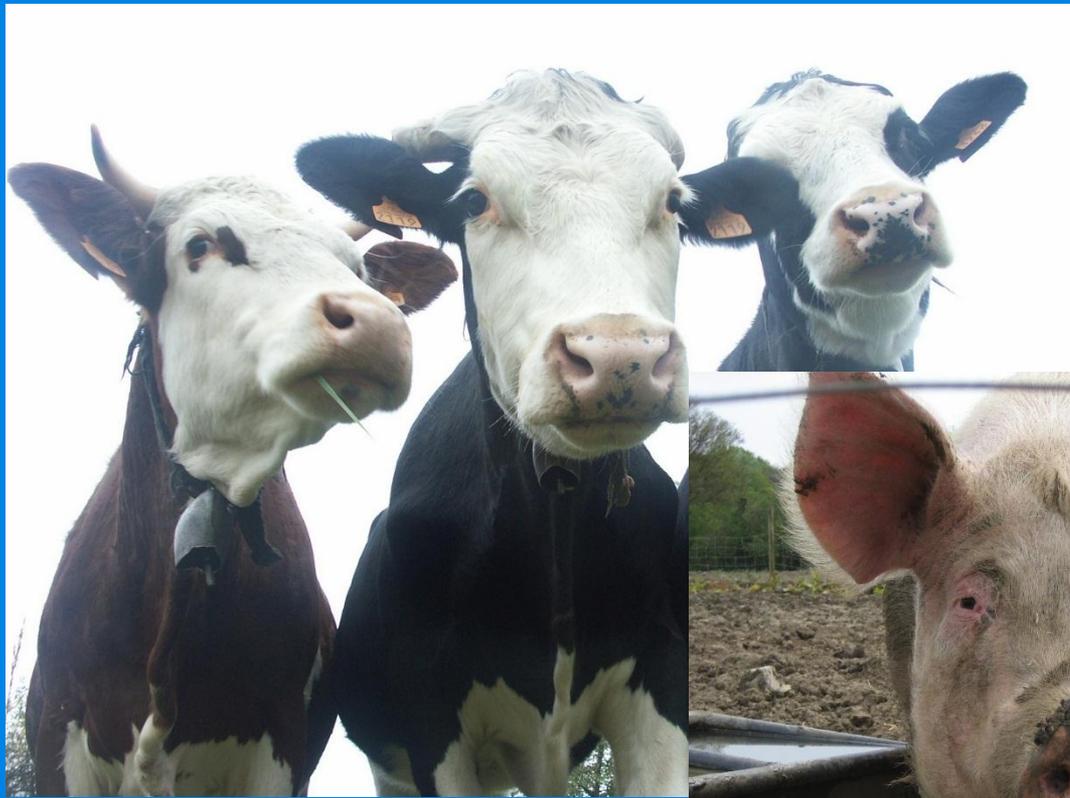
## **Bill Moore**

PDS Section Manager  
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## **Jon Jennings**

Permit Writer  
PDS Section  
Water Quality Program





# UPDATING THE EXPIRED CAFO PERMIT

# Foundation

- Federal regulations define a CAFO
- CAFO Facilities
  - Confine animals for  $\geq 45$  days
  - Confinement area has no forage or crop
  - Discharges contaminates to surface or ground water
- Permit sets operating requirements to protect water



# Early outreach



# Early outreach

## Extensive meetings with stakeholders

- Producers and producer representatives
- Environmental groups and representatives
- State agencies
- Conservation Commission and Conservation Districts
- Tribes
- Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

## Site visits to producers to learn about the business

- Strive to understand the operations, opportunities and economics.



# Learned

- Diversity of operations potentially covered and variable needs
  - Cattle feeding operations handle a lot of dry manure.
  - Dairies handle a lot of wet manure.
  - Animal operations growing in our state.
- Industry landscape for dairies is changing, impacted by global markets
  - Smaller facilities have difficulty responding to changes



# Opportunities

- Be more proactive rather than reactive
- Replace or eliminate the Nutrient Management Plan
- Address groundwater



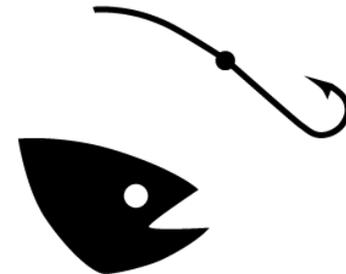
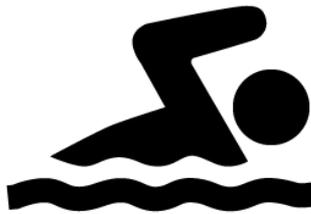
# Permit development schedule

- **Spring 2015:** Listening sessions
- **Late Spring/Early Summer:** Develop preliminary draft CAFO permit
- **Summer 2015:** Informal public comment on preliminary draft
- **Summer-Winter 2015:** Develop form draft CAFO permit and get formal public comment
- **Winter-Spring 2016:** Develop and issue final CAFO permit



# What is a permit?

- A permit is a tool that allows, but also regulates, a discharge
- Establishes practices to protect water quality
- Provides consistency and transparency



# What is a *preliminary* draft?

- Preliminary draft is an extra opportunity for:
  - Public engagement
  - Presenting Ecology's current thinking
  - Gauging the direction the permit it is taking
- **Is not** Ecology's final decision about what will be in the formal draft permit
- Ecology is adding this extra step because:
  - Significant changes are proposed
  - We want input on the proposed changes



# Preliminary draft CAFO permit

- Major highlights:
  - Who is covered
  - Groundwater
  - Manure Pollution Prevention Plan (MPPP)
  - Lagoons
  - Land application of manure
  - Soil Nitrate Benchmarks
  - Manure Export



# Who is covered?

- CAFOs that have a surface or groundwater discharge must get permit coverage
- In general a CAFO is a facility that:
  - Confines animals for 45 days or more during a 12 month period
  - Confinement areas are not pasture or cropland
  - Has a discharge



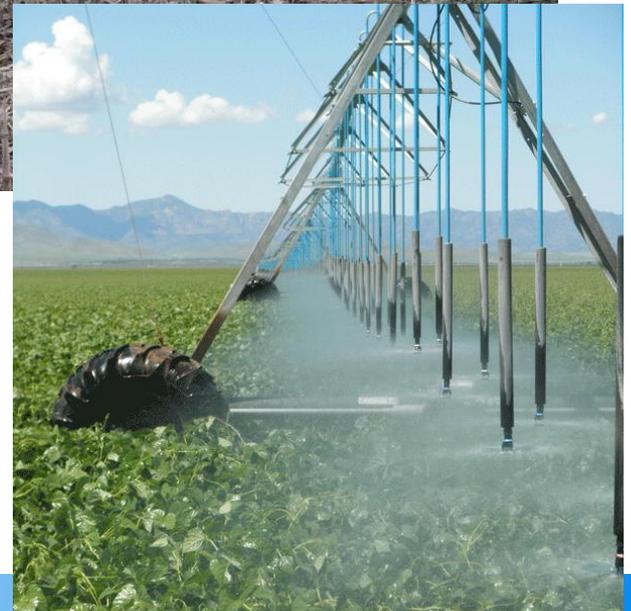
# Administration

- Expired permit required NMP submittal, review, and approval
- Proposing to remove this requirement by specifying requirements in the permit



# Groundwater

- Protections include:
  - MPPP
  - Lagoons
  - Land application of manure
  - Manure/soil nutrient testing and benchmarks
  
- Not proposing groundwater monitoring



# Manure pollution prevention plan (MPPP)

- Includes mandatory components that the Permittee must address
- How those areas are addressed is left up to the Permittee allowing site specific flexibility
- Only requires those parts of the plan that are applicable to the permit



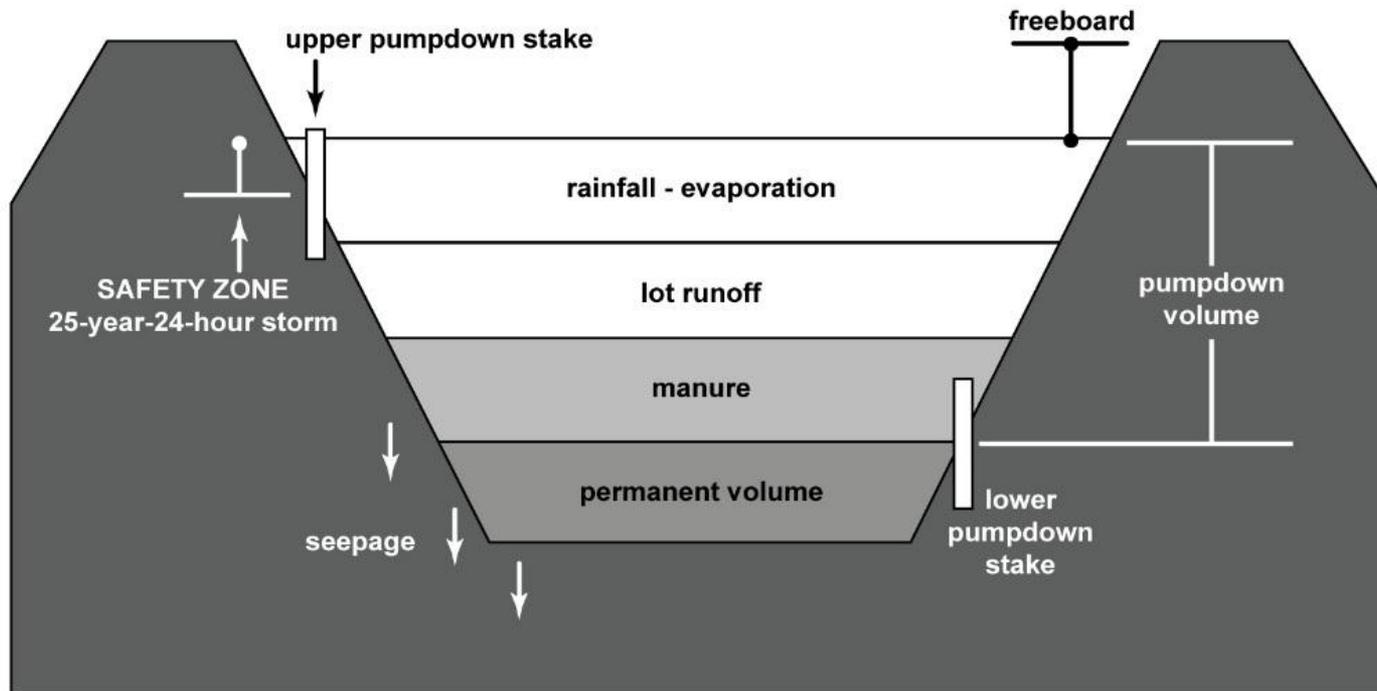
# Components of a MPPP

- Facility Documentation
- Facility Run-off Controls
- Manure and Feedstock Storage
- Infrastructure
- Diversion of Clean Water
- Prevent Direct Animal Contact with Water
- Chemical Handling
- Mortality Management
- Manure Nutrient Testing
- Soil Nutrient Testing
- Land Application
- Irrigation Water Management
- Field Run-off Prevention Management
- Practices
- Manure Export



# Lagoons

- Science and current practice documentation point to a discharge to ground from lagoons, which requires a permit



# Lagoons

- Not proposing retrofit of lagoons to install geomembrane liners
- Information gathering to document:
  - Lagoon construction
  - Environmental conditions
- Better determine what the impacts to groundwater from lagoons are



# Land application of manure

- Requirements for when, where and how much manure may be applied
- No manure application to:
  - Frozen, snow covered, or saturated soil
  - Dormant crops
  - Bare fields



# Soil benchmarks

- An adaptive management tool that triggers taking action
- Using benchmarks encourages managing towards a goal (e.g. lower nitrates) versus a number
- It is not a violation to exceed a benchmark
  - Is a violation to not take the action(s) required by exceeding a benchmark



# Soil benchmarks

- Management responses based a “point” system

<b>Fall Soil Test Response Matrix</b>				
<b>Depth of Sample</b>	<b>Low (&lt;15 ppm)</b>	<b>Medium (15-30 ppm)</b>	<b>High (31-45 ppm)</b>	<b>Very High (&gt;45 ppm)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Foot (0-12 inches)	0	0	1	3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Foot (13-24 inches)	0	1	2	3
3 <sup>rd</sup> Foot (25-36 inches)	0	2	3	3



# Manure export

- Manure export occurs when the producer is no longer in control
- Proposing to require recording the parcel number where manure will be used
- Proposing that on-farm manure composting and sale by 3<sup>rd</sup> party is not part of export



# How you can help us

Accepting comments until Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>

– Prefer that comments are submitted via web form at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/cafo/comments.html>

– Email or written comments are accepted as well

Grey textboxes in the draft highlight areas that we especially want input on



# Contact Information

- A copy of this presentation and a recording of the Webinar to:  
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/cafo/historical.html>
- For questions about the preliminary draft, or to set up a meeting to discuss the draft contact:

**Jon Jennings**

CAFO Permit Writer

[jonathan.jennings@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jonathan.jennings@ecy.wa.gov) or 360-407-6283

- For policy questions contact:

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