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PROTOCOLS FOR AFO/CAFO/LIVESTOCK WINTER FEED AREAS

STREAMBANK EROSION – Points should be counted if landuse contains active accelerated streambank erosion and BMP's will be applied to address and correct the problem. Streambank erosion may be occurring as a result of impacts from this landuse or originating from upstream actions. In order to score points on this issue, livestock exclusion or structural practices involving stream bank bioengineering, rock rip-rap, rock barbs or toe protection or other in-stream structures designed to protect the banks need to be applied. Producers who are implementing management changes within the riparian area to improve vegetation do not score points on this question.

GROUND WATER – NUTRIENTS & ORGANICS – Points for this category should be awarded for AFO's or feeding areas with inadequate storage facilities or temporary storage sites with soils characteristics not meeting agency permeability standards. A soil scientist determination or lab-tested sample taken by proper sampling technique meets this standard with soils containing a minimum of 15% clay. Winter feed areas located on high permeable soils, moderate to shallow depth to ground water may utilize this category.

GROUND WATER – PATHOGENS – Ground water impacted by item 2; nutrients and organic material will likely transport pathogens as well. Site characteristics identified above must be present to award points or be documented by historical well sampling identifying the presence of bacteria.

SURFACE WATER – NUTRIENTS AND ANIMAL WASTES – Main focus of this criterion are application of commercial fertilizer or organic material, which by transport degrades surface waters. Livestock feeding or confinement areas with uncontrolled runoff will also contribute to surface water degradation. For points to be taken, conservation practices must be implemented to solve the resource problem.

SURFACE WATER – SUSPENDED SEDIMENT & TURBIDITY – Points are awarded if it can be demonstrated that surface water is impacted by soil loss originating from concentrated feeding areas, corrals or heavy use areas and water gaps. For points to be taken, conservation practices must be implemented to solve the resource problem.

SURFACE WATER – PATHOGENS – Points are taken if organic transport is occurring from concentrated feeding areas, corrals, heavy use areas or water gaps **and** the waterbody of concern has pathogens identified as a pollutant/parameter of concern. If pathogens are **not** listed by DEQ as a pollutant for the 303d stream no points are taken. For points to be taken, conservation practices must be implemented to solve the resource problem.

AIR QUALITY – AIRBORNE ODORS – Points are awarded for permanent and objectionable odors. CAFO and AFO odors require supporting measurements from IDA odor specialists.

DOMESTIC ANIMAL DRINKING WATER-QUANTITY AND QUALITY – This category is intended to provide improvement to livestock watering facilities. The intent is the development of off-site water facilities to eliminate or reduce livestock impacts to surface waters.

REGULATORY AND OTHER ISSUES:

303D LISTED STREAMS: The conservation practices scheduled for implementation must have a positive impact on a 303d listed waterbody.

T&E SPECIES: In order to score points on this question, Federal Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E) fish, amphibians, and/or mollusks must be listed in the local FOTG and exist in the watershed where the planned practices will be implemented. (An example: If salmon are listed in the Snake River Watershed but are not listed in the local FOTG, **do not** take points for threatened and endangered species). This is a water quality statewide concern, so no points are given for birds, mammals, and/or plants. The conservation practice(s) must be expected to have a direct benefit to the considered species.

GROUND WATER QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS: Points can be taken if the land is in a Nitrate Priority Area as identified by DEQ or if the area is in a high or very high Ground Water Vulnerability Area as identified on maps in the FOTG or by rating the area using the Ground Water Contamination Probability Worksheet originally distributed by ID Bulletin 180-9-4. Conservation practices must be implemented that will reduce the potential for ground water degradation.

DISTANCE TO IMPACTED SURFACE WATERS <50 FEET: Livestock regularly have access to areas within 50 feet of an impacted waterbody.

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PROTOCOLS FOR AFO/CAFO/LIVESTOCK WINTER FEED AREAS (continued)

DISTANCE TO IMPACTED SURFACE WATERS 51 TO 200 FEET: Livestock regularly have access to areas within 51 to 200 feet of an impacted waterbody.

DISTANCE TO IMPACTED SURFACE WATERS <200 FEET: Livestock are located more than 200 feet from an impacted waterbody.