

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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July 30, 2003

**GENERAL MANUAL  
190 – ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
AMENDMENT ID4**

**Subject:** Part 402 – Idaho Nutrient Management Planning Policy

**Purpose:** Transmits Revised Idaho Policy for Nutrient Management Planning

**Effective Date:** Upon Receipt

**Filing Instructions:** File in General Manual 190 – Ecological Sciences, Part 402 – Nutrient Management. Remove Supplement ID1 dated July 2000 and insert Idaho Amendment 4 behind page 402-12 of Issue 9 the National Nutrient Management Policy dated April 1999.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard W. Sims".

RICHARD W. SIMS  
State Conservationist

Attachment

Part 402 – Idaho Nutrient Management Planner Certification Policy

Subpart A – General

402.01 Policy

(b) Plans prepared by NRCS staff for AFO/CAFO or dairy facilities shall comply with minimum requirements of the Idaho Department of Agriculture, Waste Management Guidelines, and State Law. Certification requirements are consistent between agency and private third party providers.

402.02 Definitions

(a)(5) 1. Certified Nutrient Management Planner –

Category 1 – A trained individual that can develop a Nutrient Management Plan **for application of commercial fertilizer**, and has job approval authority to sign plans they prepare.

Category 2 – A trained individual that can develop a Nutrient Management Plan **for application of commercial fertilizer and animal waste**, and has job approval authority to sign plans they prepare.

(a)(5) 2. Certified Nutrient Management Specialist. Individuals certified by the State Agronomist who in turn can certify other planners. Certification of planners is limited to the State Agronomist or designated Specialists.

(a)(10) Control of the Land: Control of the land is defined as owning, leasing or generally in control of the land and/or agronomic operations performed on that unit of land.

(a)(11) Second Party Application: Application of animal waste on land units owned or controlled by someone other than where waste is generated.

(a)(12) Waste Utilization Evaluation. An analysis to determine nutrient application rates of animal waste based on crop uptake for Phosphorus.

(a)(13) Nutrient Management Plan: A documented record of how nutrients will be used for plant production and environmental protection.

402.03 Recertification

(a) 1. All nutrient management planners certified following current policy and procedure will be recertified. The recertification process is:

- 1) Attend a recertification course using the Idaho OnePlan Nutrient Management Planning Module.
- 2) Write or rewrite, one nutrient management plan using Idaho OnePlan Nutrient Management Planning Module which is reviewed and certified.

## Part 402 – Idaho Nutrient Management Planner Certification Policy

### 402.04 Certification

- (a) 1. The same procedure is followed by agency or private third party proficers to become certified in Idaho. ISDA and NRCS require the same certification process. Idaho certification process is a three part process:

Part 1. Complete Part 1 of the Nutrient Management Tract of the NEDS Nutrient and Pest Management Considerations of Conservation Planning course.

Part 2. Attend a facilitated session to receive formal training in state rules and regulations related to land application of animal waste if needed, and/or in the use of Idaho OnePlan Nutrient Management Planning Module.

Part 3. Prepare two (2) nutrient management plans (reference discussion "Number of Plans" below) which are reviewed and approved by the appropriate agency representative.

- (b) Who Certifies Planners

(1) NRCS will certify nutrient management plans prepared by NRCS, Soil Conservation Commission, District, or Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District Staff. Submitted plans will be reviewed by the appropriate Division Nutrient Management Specialist or the State Agronomist. When two (2) plans are successfully completed the individual is certified. Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is notified and the individual's name entered in the State database which tracks certified nutrient management planners. Once certified, a planner may self certify all other plans they prepare. They may not certify plans prepared by others. Certifying plans prepared by others is part of the planner certification process, which is restricted to designated individuals.

(2) Technical Service Providers: Plans prepared by Technical Service Providers will be reviewed and approved by the appropriate representative of ISDA. When two (2) plans are approved (reference discussion "Number of Plans" below) by ISDA the person is certified. Once certified a planner may self certify any other plans they prepare. They may not certify plans prepared by others. Certifying plans prepared by others is part of the planner certification process, which is restricted to designated individuals.

- (c) Number of Plans Required: Plans, which address land application of animal waste also address commercial fertilizer. A person that is initially certified by developing nutrient management plans that include application of animal waste will be required to complete two (2) plans. A person that is initially certified by developing nutrient management plans that include application of commercial fertilizer will be required to complete two (2) plans. If that person later decides to become certified for land application of animal waste, development and approval of two (2) additional plans including that component will be required to insure the planner grasps the concepts of land application of animal waste and how NMP OnePlanner addresses those issues.

## Part 402 – Idaho Nutrient Management Planner Certification Policy

- (d) Maintenance of Certification. Certification will be subject to periodic quality reviews as follows:

For Agency Planners: Quality control will be maintained by two (2) review procedures. Any plan which becomes part of a cost share implementation program, federal or state, will be subject to the annual status review process as required by the program. Plans which are not part of a cost share implementation program will be subject to reviews which occur as part of the on-going field office technical quality review process.

For Technical Service Providers: Technical Service Providers will be subject to the review/quality control program as determined by the state regulatory agency.

### 402.05 Nutrient Management Plan Form and Content

- (a) 1. Method: Nutrient Management Plans: The Idaho OnePlan Nutrient Management program is the only recognized method of developing nutrient management plans in Idaho. Plans prepared using OnePlan program meet the requirements of the Waste Management System 312 and Nutrient Management 590 standards. They do not necessarily meet full Resource Management Plan (RMS) criteria.
2. Method: Waste Utilization Evaluations: Farm Service Agency and Rural Development require development of nutrient management plans as a prerequisite for loan approval. If there is not sufficient time for development of a NMP, then a Waste Utilization Evaluation (WUE) will be acceptable. The producer must agree to having a Nutrient Management Plan completed within one year of the loan approval. The WUE will be completed using Idaho Waste Management Program (IDAWM). The purpose of the WUE is to determine if sufficient acres are available for land application of animal waste at phosphorus crop uptake rates and/or if export is necessary.
3. Second Party Application: When waste is exported for application on land that receives cost share implementation funds a nutrient management plan for that land is required. A waste utilization evaluation using Idaho Waste Management Program (IDAWM) is required when waste is exported for application on land that is not or will not be covered by an RMS conservation plan and/or does not receive cost share implementation funds. The person exporting the waste will be responsible for obtaining a written statement from the second party that sufficient acres are available for waste application at prescribed rates.

### 402.05(e) 1 Format and appearance of Nutrient Management Plans (NMP)

Plans prepared as part of an NRCS comprehensive planning process must meet the requirements of the National Planning Procedures Handbook and General Manual 180 Part 409.10.