



CAFO 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

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INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Natural Resources Program Area is to ensure healthy natural resources, environment, and economy for Oregonians now and in the future through inspection and certification, regulation and promotion of agriculture and food.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture remains able to serve the changing needs of Oregon's diverse agricultural and food sectors to maintain and enhance a healthy natural resource base and strong economy in rural and urban communities across the state.

Oregon Department of Agriculture Core Values:

- » Honesty, integrity and fairness
- » Diversity, equity and inclusion
- » Respect for people and property
- » Practical collaborative approaches to problem solving
- » Science-based approaches: technical and professional competence
- » Transparency
- » Quality customer service

As part of protecting Oregon's natural resources, the Oregon Legislature established a special regulatory program for Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) in 1989. The legislation required the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to issue CAFO permits and directed ODA to inspect CAFO facilities. In 1993, the CAFO statutes were amended to direct the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) and ODA to enter into a formal memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU authorizes ODA to perform the CAFO related functions of DEQ and the EQC. ODA has continued to operate the CAFO Program in concert with DEQ under this MOU.

The most current CAFO Program MOU was signed on August 31, 2021, by the Director of ODA, Alexis Taylor, and the Director of DEQ on behalf of the EQC, Richard Whitman. The MOU will remain effective until December 31, 2026.

This report has been prepared as required by the MOU. The 2023 CAFO Program Annual Report describes the CAFO Program's activities that have occurred over the last year. The report includes:

- » Program statistics
- » Permitted CAFO inspection types and results
- » Non-permitted CAFO inspection types and results
- » Enforcement actions
- » Administrative functions

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

CAFO Geographic Boundaries

Permitted CAFO facilities are located across the entire State of Oregon. The CAFO Program has divided the state into six geographic regions. The CAFO areas have been created to capitalize on geographic similarities, CAFO facility similarities, and equitable distribution of work responsibilities.

There is a map detailing the six CAFO areas. The number of permitted CAFO facilities located in each area can be found in Table 1, Page 7.

CAFO Program Staff

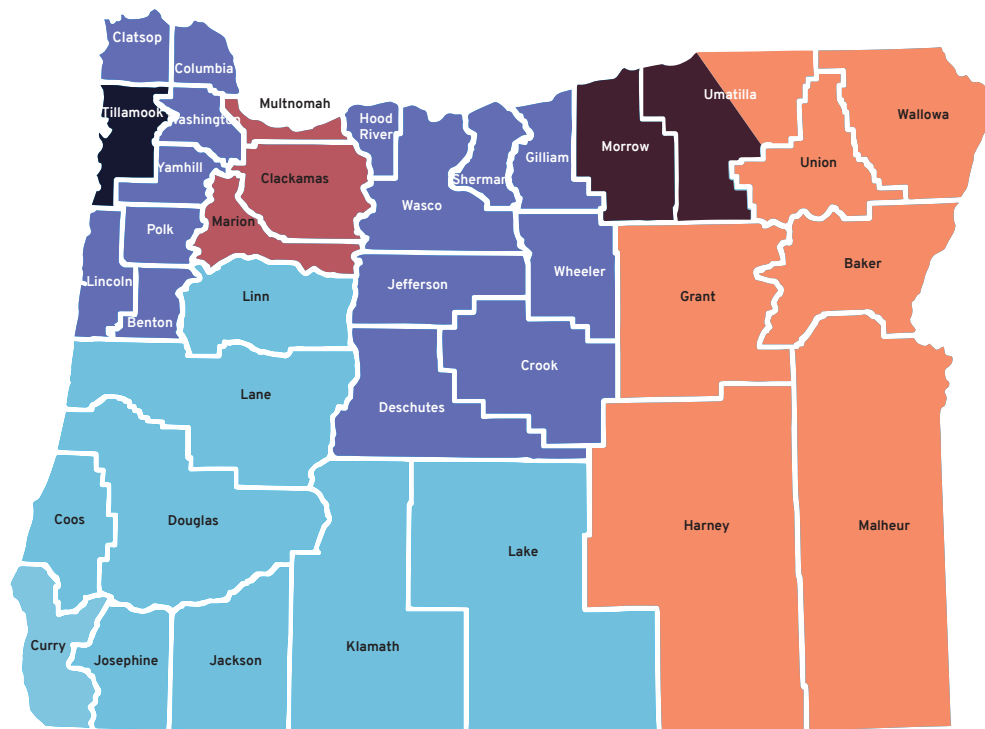
The CAFO Program has a staff goal of 9.0 FTE. The program lost their program support person at the end of November. Other challenges faced in 2023 were a moratorium on poultry CAFO inspections due to High Pathogenic Avian influenza (HPAI). There was an extreme public interest in the Lower Umatilla Basin Ground Water Management Area (LUBGWMA), increasing time spent on public records requests.

The program is led by the CAFO and Fertilizer Program Manager. The CAFO Program consists of six regional Livestock Water Quality Specialists (LWQS) with one position being a hybrid position that is half time admin and half time inspector. The LWQS are primarily responsible for assessing a facility's compliance with the CAFO Program. In addition to the LWQS, the CAFO Program has a Program Analyst and a Program Support staff.

A complete list of CAFO Program staff in 2023 is available below:

- » Wym Matthews, CAFO and Fertilizer Program Manager (located at ODA, Salem)
- » **Area I - Tillamook County:** Armando Macias, Livestock Water Quality Specialist
- » **Area II - Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Hood River, Gilliam, Lincoln, Polk, Sherman, Wasco, Washington, Wheeler and Yamhill counties:** Charlene Olson, Livestock Water Quality Specialist
- » **Area III - Clackamas, Marion, and Multnomah, Morrow and Umatilla counties:** Ben Krahn, Livestock Water Quality Specialist
- » **Area IV - Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane and Linn counties:** Chris Anderson, Area IV Livestock Water Quality Specialist
- » **Hybrid Position:** Katie Kearney, Livestock Water Quality Specialist
- » **Area VI - Baker, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Umatilla, Union, and Wallowa counties:** Hilary Collinsworth, Livestock Water Quality Specialist
- » **Program Analyst:** Christy Caldwell (Located in Salem)
- » **Program Support Staff:** Manda Sweeney, vacant at the end of 2023

Figure 1: CAFO Geographic Boundaries Map



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AREA 4: Chris Anderson, 541.660.9611,
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AREA 5 (hybrid position): Katie Kearney, 971.707.8386
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AREA 6: Hilary Collinsworth, 541.881.6020,
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PROGRAM STATISTICS

General Statistics

Together, ODA and DEQ issued the Oregon CAFO National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPES) General Permit Number 01-2016. This permit was issued on March 31, 2016, was effective on April 20, 2016, and expired February 28, 2021, it is administratively extended until a new permit is approved. On October 1, 2015, ODA and DEQ issued the Oregon CAFO Water Pollution Control Facilities General Permit Number 01-2015. The WPCF CAFO General Permit became effective on October 21, 2015, and expires September 30, 2025. In addition to the General Permit, ODA and DEQ also administer Individual NDPES and WPCF Permits.

On December 31, 2023, the CAFO Program had a total of 486 permitted CAFO facilities. Of the permits issued:

- » 340 CAFO operators are registered to the General NPDES Permit.
- » 4 CAFO operators are registered to Individual NPDES Permits.
- » 141 CAFO operators are registered to the General WPCF Permit.
- » 1 CAFO operator is registered to the General WPCF Individual Permit.
- » Dairy cattle (milk production) are the species with the largest number of permits.
- » Almost one-half of the facilities registered to the CAFO Permit meet the size designation of Medium.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 Summarize CAFO Permit types by area and designation, NAICS by area and CAFO designation by area.

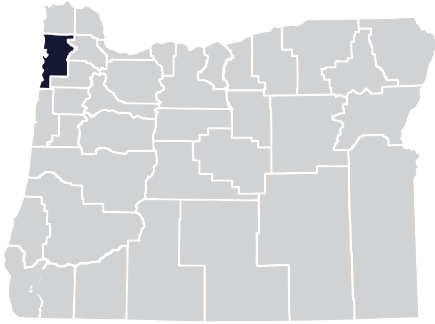
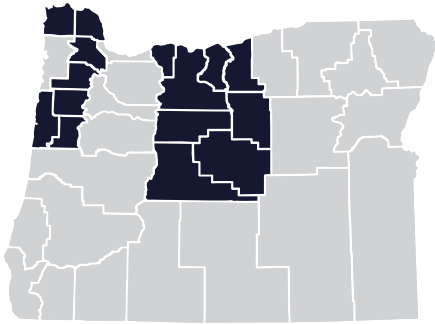
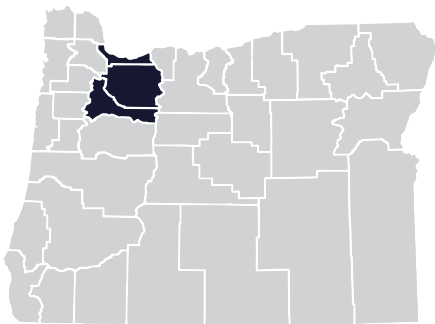


Table 1: CAFO Permit Type by Area and Designation

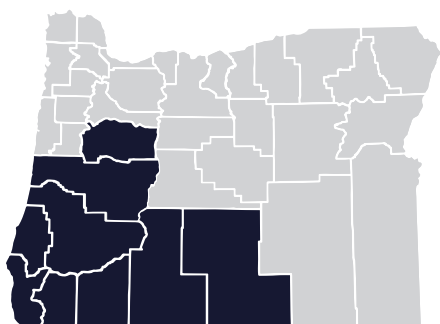
Area 1	NPDES General Permit Registrations	Individual Permits	WPCF General Permit Registrations	Total
TOTAL	83	0	19	102
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	1	0	0	1
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	0	0
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	11	0	0	11
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	0	0	0
Medium Concentrated	48	0	0	48
Medium Confined	0	0	6	6
Small Concentrated	23	0	0	23
Small Confined	0	0	13	13



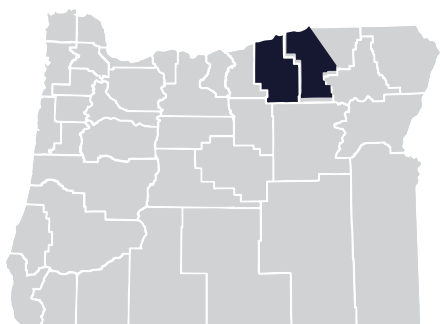
Area 2	NPDES General Permit Registrations	Individual Permits	WPCF General Permit Registrations	Total
TOTAL	50	0	13	63
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	5	0	0	5
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	0	0
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	11	0	0	11
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	0	1	1
Medium Concentrated	22	0	0	22
Medium Confined	0	0	3	3
Small Concentrated	12	0	0	12
Small Confined	0	0	9	9



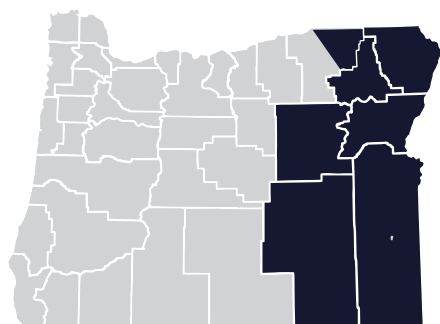
Area 3	NPDES General Permit Registrations	Individual Permits	WPCF General Permit Registrations	Total
TOTAL	55	0	23	78
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	5	0	0	5
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	0	0
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	10	0	0	10
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	0	1	1
Medium Concentrated	21	0	0	21
Medium Confined	0	0	5	5
Small Concentrated	19	0	0	19
Small Confined	0	0	17	17



Area 4	NPDES General Permit Registrations	Individual Permits	WPCF General Permit Registrations	Total
TOTAL	33	0	47	80
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	2	0	0	2
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	3	3
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	9	0	0	9
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	0	3	3
Medium Concentrated	11	0	0	11
Medium Confined	0	0	12	12
Small Concentrated	11	0	0	11
Small Confined	0	0	29	29



Area 5	NPDES General Permit Registrations	Individual Permits	WPCF General Permit Registrations	Total
TOTAL	51	5	19	75
Tier 2 Individual	0	1	0	1
Tier 1 Individual	0	4	0	4
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	14	0	0	14
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	0	0
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	16	0	0	16
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	0	5	5
Medium Concentrated	15	0	0	15
Medium Confined	0	0	6	6
Small Concentrated	6	0	0	6
Small Confined	0	0	8	8



Area 6	NPDES General Permit Registrations	Individual Permits	WPCF General Permit Registrations	Total
TOTAL	68	0	20	88
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	8	0	0	8
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	1	1
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	14	0	0	14
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	0	5	5
Medium Concentrated	39	0	0	39
Medium Confined	0	0	11	11
Small Concentrated	7	0	0	7
Small Confined	0	0	3	3

Total Permits	NPDES General Permit Registrations	Individual Permits	WPCF General Permit Registrations	Total
	340	5	141	486

Table 2: NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) by Area

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
All Other Animal Production, includes, dog kennels, alpaca, bison, worm production, and llama production	0	0	2	5	3	0	10
Auction Yard	0	0	0	2	1	1	4
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming, Back Grounding Cattle, Veal Calf Production	0	5	6	16	5	6	38
Broiler Chicken Production	0	9	7	8	1	0	25
Cattle Feedlots, Fattening cattle	9	9	5	8	35	65	131
Chicken Egg Production	0	1	8	2	2	0	13
Dairy Cattle and Milk Production	93	33	38	31	21	11	227
Fur-Bearing Animal and Rabbit Production, includes mink, chinchilla, and fox	0	0	6	1	0	0	7
Goat Farming (e.g., meat, milk, mohair production)	0	1	1	2	3	3	10
Hog and Pig Farming	0	4	4	1	0	1	10
Horses and Other Equine Production, includes burro, donkey, mule, and pony	0	0	1	1	2	0	4
Nature Parks and Other Similar Institutions	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Other Poultry Production	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sheep and Lambs	0	1	0	2	2	1	6
Total	102	63	78	80	75	88	486

Table 3: CAFO Designation by Area

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
Individual Tier 1	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Individual Tier 2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	1	5	5	2	14	8	35
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	0	3	0	1	4
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	11	11	10	9	16	14	71
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	1	1	3	5	5	15
Medium Concentrated	48	22	21	11	15	39	156
Medium Confined	6	3	5	12	6	11	43
Small Concentrated	23	12	19	11	6	7	78
Small Confined	13	9	17	29	8	3	79
Total	102	63	78	80	75	88	486

INSPECTIONS

Inspection type

The CAFO Program conducts multiple types of inspections on permitted and non-permitted facilities. The vast majority of the inspections conducted are routine inspections of permitted facilities. Routine inspections are used to assess the facility's compliance with permit conditions and state water quality laws.

In 2023, the twenty-fifth year of performance-based inspections, CAFO Program staff completed 714 inspections of all types. These inspections took place on both permitted and non-permitted operations.

18 complaints were received in 2023 and resulted in complaint inspections (CI) with various outcomes. The complaints not resulting in an inspection were transferred to other programs or agencies or they were solved over the phone.

Below is a list, and descriptions, of the inspection types completed by the CAFO Program. Table 4 also provides a summary of the number of inspections, by type, completed during 2023.

- » **Administrative (ADMS):** Business transaction completed in the office.
- » **Close Out:** A final facility inspection conducted to assess if the permitted facility is appropriately prepared to prevent discharge during a permit transfer or permit cancellation.
- » **Complaint (CI):** Complaint investigations for water quality concerns on permitted and non-permitted animal agriculture facilities.
- » **Complaint Follow-up (CFUP):** Follow-up inspection to a complaint investigation for water quality concerns to determine whether a facility found to be in violation during a prior complaint inspection is now in compliance with the terms of their permit.
- » **Construction Inspection Approval to Build - (Construct ATB)** Construction Approval Request (CAR), and design package received. Operator approved/conditionally approved to start construction. Letter from ODA must be received before construction starts.
- » **Construction Inspection Approval to Occupy/Use - (Construct ATO/Use)** Construction complete, according to design package, approval/conditional approval to occupy/use facility.
- » **Drive By:** A visual inspection of a facility (permitted or non-permitted) from public access. Contact is not typically made with landowner of the facility. Typically used when the program receives a complaint. The drive-by allows for a quick assessment to determine next steps.
- » **Educational Review (EDR):** Requested by permitted CAFO operators, LWQS discusses performance standards and best management practices for enabling producers to attain permit compliance. LWQS may also evaluate new proposals from producers. An EDR is not a formal inspection and generally will not result in enforcement action.

- » **Fall Storage Check (Fall S/C):** Inspect liquid and solid storage to ensure sufficient winter storage.
- » **Follow-up (FUP):** Follow-up inspections are performed to determine whether a facility found to be in violation during a prior inspection is now in compliance with the terms of their permit.
- » **Initial Visit:** This is the first on-site meeting with a potential CAFO operator.
- » **Planning Assistance (PA):** LWQS provided both planning and technical assistance designed to increase client awareness of pollution prevention practices and innovative technologies to enhance their environmental performance and maintain Permit compliance.
- » **Routine (RI):** An announced regular, routine inspection on a scheduled frequency determined by overall program resources and workload, number of facilities, and size of inspection staff.
- » **Routine Drive By – (R/Drive by):** Scheduled inspections done due to circumstances that person to person or person to animal contact is a risk.
- » **Self-Reported Discharge (SR):** CAFO operator reports a discharge to surface water.

*Table 4: Total Number of Inspections by Type
(Permitted and Non-Permitted Facilities)*

Inspection Type	Number of Inspections	Percentage (%)
ADMS	13	1.8%
CI	18	2.5%
Close Out	15	2.2%
Construct ATB	4	0.6%
Construct ATO	5	0.7%
Drive By	1	0.2%
EDR	9	1.3%
FALL S/C	19	2.7%
FUP	46	6.4%
PA	44	6.2%
RI	538	75%
R/Drive By	1	0.2%
SR	1	0.2%
Total	714	100%

Inspection Outcome

During the closing conference of each inspection, an inspection result is issued. An inspection report form is completed and records compliance, or noncompliance, with permit conditions or state water quality laws or rules. Inspection results may be delivered after ODA receives results of sampling, confirms data, and/or confers with management on matters identified during the inspection.

Below is a list and descriptions of the inspection outcomes used by the CAFO Program. Table 5 also provides a summary of the inspection outcomes completed during CY 2023.

- » **Consent Order (CO):** A negotiated Final Order for an appealed NACP. A CO outlines owner/operator Required Actions (RAs) including timelines for implementation. A CO often specifies future enforcement action if RAs are not completed, or if repeat violations occur.
- » **Educational Review (EDR):** Educational review was completed.
- » **Facility in Compliance (FIC):** The permittee operated in compliance with their permit, state water quality law or rule.
- » **Final Inspection Result Pending (FIRP):** Additional time needed to assess the full extent of an inspection. This result is often issued if samples have been collected and results are needed before a conclusion can be issued.
- » **Follow Up (FUP):** Follow-up inspections are performed to determine whether a facility found to be in violation during a prior inspection is now in compliance with the terms of their permit.
- » **Notice of Noncompliance/Plan of Correction (NON/POC):** See 2023 CAFO Enforcement Activities - Formal Enforcement Actions.
- » **Notice of Assessment of Civil Penalty (NACP):** See 2023 CAFO Enforcement Activities - Formal Enforcement Actions.
- » **On-Schedule (O/S):** The owner/operator is completing the step-by-step required actions (RAs) of their compliance schedule and is currently on schedule with all RAs.
- » **On-Schedule (O/S) A:** On schedule Written
- » **On-Schedule (O/S) B:** On Schedule Verbal
- » **Planning Assistance (PA):** LWQS provided both planning and technical assistance to prepare and submit required AWMP(s), reports, or applications.
- » **Water Quality Advisory (WQA):** The permittee was in compliance during the inspection event, however, potential problems were noted, and voluntary efforts were encouraged to prevent future permit violations.

Table 5: Inspection Outcomes (Total all Permitted and Non-Permitted Facility Inspections)¹		
Inspection Outcome	Number of Inspections	Percentage (%)
Consent Order	1	0.1
EDR	8	1.1
FIC	580	81
FIRP	22	3.1
NCP	5	0.7
NON/POC	20	2.9
NON/POC to be Issued	1	0.1
O/S	21	3.0
O/S B	1	0.1
PA	39	5.6
WQA	16	2.3
Total	714	100%

¹ Also includes facilities in the process of applying for permit coverage.

Permitted CAFOs

A total of 691 inspections were completed on permitted CAFOs in 2023. Of all of the inspection activities completed, routine compliance inspections are the greatest number of inspections completed on permitted CAFO facilities, followed by follow-up inspections.

For all of the inspections completed during 2023, 96% of all inspection outcomes were facilities in compliance with permit conditions.

Tables 6 and 7 summarize the number of inspections completed, and the associated outcome, on permitted CAFO facilities.

Table 6: Inspection Type by Area for Permitted CAFOs²

Inspection Type	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
ADMS	3	1	2	2	4	1	13
CI	2	3	4	3	1	2	15
Close Out	3	1	1	4	3	3	15
Construct ATB	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Construct ATO	0	1	1	0	3	0	5
Drive By	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
EDR	0	2	0	1	0	1	4
FALL S/C	19	0	0	0	0	0	19
FUP	5	3	9	4	15	4	40
PA	1	0	3	3	3	29	39
R	105	66	93	105	71	94	534
R/Drive By	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
SR	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	138	78	113	122	104	136	691

² Also includes facilities in the process of applying for permit coverage.

Table 7: Inspection Outcome by Area of Permitted CAFOs

Inspection Outcome	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
Consent Order	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
EDR	0	2	1	1	0	0	4
FIC	122	68	96	101	83	102	572
FIRP	2	1	4	7	4	2	20
NCP	2	0	1	0	2	0	5
NON/POC	3	4	0	5	4	4	20
NON/POC to be issued	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
O/S	2	1	8	4	5	0	20
O/S B	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
PA	0	0	1	3	3	27	34
WQA	7	1	1	1	2	1	13
Total	138	78	113	122	104	136	691

Dam Safety Inspections

In 2011, the Oregon Department of Agriculture entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD). This MOU allows the CAFO Program to conduct dam safety inspections on statutory dams (as defined by ORS 540.340 through 540.400) during site inspections. OWRD completed rulemaking that includes the dam safety program and the agencies updated and signed a new Internal Agency Agreement (IAA) on July 6, 2020. The 2020 IAA is in effect until June 30, 2030.

Statutory dams on CAFO operations are earthen manure lagoons that have an earthen embankment of 10 feet or higher and have a storage capacity of equal, or greater than, 9.2 acre-feet.

Of the 486 permitted CAFO facilities, there are 30 earthen manure lagoons that meet the definition of a statutory dam. Each of these manure lagoons statutory dam(s) are classified as a 'low hazard' by the OWRD. According to the IAA with the Oregon Water Resources Department, inspections for low hazard dams need to be conducted at least once every six years.

In addition to conducting dam safety inspections on the statutory dams, the CAFO Program has adopted the dam safety inspection protocol for all other earthen manure storage lagoons located on permitted CAFO operations. ODA provides an annual report of dam safety inspections completed to OWRD.

See Table 8 for a summary of the dam safety inspection activities for both *statutory dams* and *non-statutory dams*.

<i>Table 8: Summary of Dam Safety Inspections completed on Permitted CAFOs³</i>		
Number of CAFOs that received Dam Safety Inspection	Statutory Dams Inspections	Non-Statutory Dams Inspections
164	16	148

³ Some of the CAFOs have more than one lagoon.

Water Sampling

Collecting water samples is another tool that is utilized by the CAFO Program in order to assess the operator's compliance with the CAFO permit. Water samples are typically collected when CAFO Program staff visually observe an active discharge or suspects a recent discharge.

In 2023, there were a total of 7 sampling events with 3 of the sampling events taking place during complaint inspections, two events during close out inspection, one during a follow-up inspection and one during a education review. A total of 19 samples were collected in the sampling events.

Six of the water sampling events were conducted on permitted CAFO facilities. See Table 12 on Page 18 for non-Permitted.

See Table 9 for a summary of the water sampling events that occurred on permitted facilities by area.

<i>Table 9: Number of Water Sampling Events on Permitted CAFOs by Inspection Type and Area</i>							
Inspection Type	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
CI	1	1	0	1	0	0	3
Closeout	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
FUP	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
EDR	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	1	1	0	5	0	0	6

Non-Permitted CAFOs

Although the majority of the inspection activity completed by the CAFO Program takes place on permitted facilities, the CAFO Program interacts with non-permitted operations as well.

During 2023, the CAFO Program conducted 23 non-permitted CAFO inspections. Of these, almost half were a request from the operator to conduct Planning Assistance or an Educational Review.

See Tables 10 and 11 for a summary of inspection types, and associated outcomes, completed on non-permitted CAFO facilities.

<i>Table 10: Inspection Type by Area for Non-Permitted CAFOs</i>							
Inspection Type	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
CI	0	1	1	1	0	0	3
EDR	0	3	1	0	1	0	5
FUP	0	0	1	3	2	0	6
PA	0	2	0	1	0	2	5
RI	2	0	1	0	1	0	4
Total	2	6	4	5	4	2	23

Table 11: Inspection Outcome by Area of Non-Permitted CAFOs

Inspection Outcome	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
EDR	0	2	1	0	1	0	4
FIC	2	1	2	1	2	0	8
FIRP	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
O/S	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
PA	0	2	0	1	0	2	5
WQA	0	0	1	2	0	0	3
Total	2	6	4	5	4	2	23

Water Sampling – Non-Permitted CAFOs

Similar to permitted facilities, water quality samples are collected on non-permitted CAFO facilities to assess the facility’s compliance with state water quality laws.

In 2023, there was 1 water sampling events conducted on non-permitted CAFO facilities, with samples being taken during planning assistance inspections.

Table 12: Number of Water Sampling Events on Non-Permitted CAFOs by Inspection Type and Area

Inspection Type	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
CI	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Formal Enforcement Actions

If a discharge occurs or violation has been identified and the CAFO operator fails to complete corrective action(s) as required, the CAFO Program can take enforcement actions. Formal enforcement actions include, but are not limited to, Notice of Noncompliance (NON/POC), Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment (NCPA), and permit modification.

Listed below are the types of enforcement actions used by the CAFO Program.

- » **Consent Order (C/O):** A negotiated Final Order for an appealed NACP. A CO outlines owner/operator Required Actions (RAs) including timelines for implementation. A CO often specifies future enforcement action if RAs are not completed, or if repeat violations occur.
- » **Final Order (FO):** A department order issued after settlement conference between CAFO operator and department representative. The FO reflects modifications to the original order issued by the department.
- » **Notice of Noncompliance/Plan of Correction (NON/POC):** A negotiated department order that contains milestones describing required actions (RAs) that must be completed by the owner or operator to correct permit violations.
- » **Notice of Assessment of Civil Penalty Assessment (NACP):** A department order assessed against an owner or operator of a CAFO for failure to comply with a provision of Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) Chapter 468 or 468B or any rule adopted under a permit relating to the control and prevention of water pollution from a CAFO.
- » **Permit Registration Modification:** A department order that is used to change the permit conditions for a permitted operator. The modification of the permit is based on the permittee's program compliance history.

Notice of Assessment of Civil Penalty (NACP)

During 2023, there was one NACP's issued for an administrative permit violations. There were three NACP issued for discharge or other permit non-compliance. Table 13 and 14 summarize the NACPs issued in 2023.

Table 13: NPCAs issued for administrative permit violations

County	Amount	CAFO Permit Violation
Tillamook	\$680	S4.D.3 Reporting Requirements – Annual Report by March 15

Table 14: NACP issued for discharge or other permit non-compliance

County	Amount	CAFO Permit Violation
Marion	\$27,600	S2.A Prohibitions and Discharge Limitations S2.H Proper Operation and Maintenance S2.I Maintaining Compliance if System Fails S4.A Monitoring Requirements S4.B Inspection Requirements
Tillamook	\$1,800	S2.B Production Area Limitations
Morrow	\$13,260	S2.A Prohibitions and Discharge Limitations S4.A Monitoring Requirements
Total	\$42,660	

Other Enforcement Actions

Following the issuance of a NACP, the CAFO operator has the opportunity to file an appeal and to request an informal meeting to discuss the enforcement action or complete a Contested Case Hearing. A Final Order Incorporating Settlement Agreement, Final Order or a Contested Case Hearing are the possible outcomes of this process.

In 2023, the CAFO Program received two appeal requests one resulted in Order and Mutual Agreements and the other was withdrawn and reissued.

S4.E Order on Permit Modification

The Permit directs ODA to consider a Permit modification when a registrant has more than 2 discharges in any 24-month period. ODA also may issue a Permit modification to registrants that are experiencing difficulty maintaining Permit compliance.

Compliance Actions

See Tables 15, 16 and 17 for a summary of enforcement actions other than NACPs.

*Table 15: Other Enforcement Actions:
Notice of Permit Registration Modification*

County	Total
	0

Table 16: Appeals							
Appeals	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
Order and Mutual Agreements (Consent Order)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Final Order	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Total	1	0	1	0	1	0	3

Table 17: Court Proceedings Program Wide		
Type	Total	Outcome
Circuit Court Cases	0	Ongoing appeals
Contested Case Hearings	0	
Federal District Court	0	

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

2023 Administrative Activities

In addition to conducting field inspections, the CAFO Program staff performs several administrative functions.

The largest ongoing administrative function performed by the CAFO Program includes the review and approval of Animal Waste Management Plans (AWMP). The AWMP is a document unique to the CAFO facility that describes the CAFO's manure production, storage, transfer, and application activities. Every permitted CAFO operator must implement an ODA approved AWMP. The approved AWMP is incorporated into the CAFO permit by reference (S3.A.).

Every AWMP submitted to the CAFO Program is reviewed to ensure that it meets the required AWMP Elements (S3.C.) of the CAFO permit. In certain circumstances, the AWMP may require public notice (S3.B.) therefore; the AWMP approval process can be quite lengthy.

Once the AWMP has been approved, LWQS review the AWMP in advance of inspections to ensure that the AWMP still reflects the CAFO's operation and maintenance. If there is a discrepancy between the operation and management of the CAFO and the AWMP, the LWQS will work with operators to ensure that AWMP reflects current activities on the CAFO operation while being in compliance in accordance with the required AWMP elements.

The second-most common administrative function performed by LWQS is pertaining to construction of manure storage facilities. New construction or modification of existing manure storage facilities must be approved in advance (S2.E.2.).

Table 18 summarizes the AWMP and construction activities completed during 2023.

Table 18: AWMP Type and Construction status by Area

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
ANIMAL INCREASE							
Approved	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Conditionally Approved	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Under Review/Pending	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Not Approvable	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Superseded	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
ANIMAL DECREASE							
Approved	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
AWMP							
Approved	0	5	0	1	1	1	8
Cancelled	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Conditionally Approved	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pending/Under Review	3	1	0	1	0	1	6
Superseded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	10	1	3	1	4	28
CONSTRUCTION							
Approval to Construct/Install	2	0	1	1	4	0	8
Conditionally Approved to Construct/Install	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Approval to Occupy/Populate/Utilize	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Conditionally Approval to Occupy/Populate/Utilize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not Approvable	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	2	0	1	4	7	1	15

Cancellation of CAFO Permits

In 2023, the program cancelled 23 registrations to CAFO permits. The majority of the permits cancelled were for dairy CAFOs.

The primary reason CAFO permits were cancelled was because the facility was sold or leased to a new CAFO operator, and subsequently the permit must be transferred to a new owner or operator and the previous owner or operator permit registration is cancelled. The second most common reason a CAFO permit was cancelled was because the facility no longer met the definition for requiring a CAFO permit. In this case, the operator sold the animals and/or the facility and the operator was no longer going to use or maintain the waste systems on the farm.

Table 19: Number of CAFO Permits cancelled by NAICS Code and Area

NAICS Code	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
All Other Animal Production, includes, Dog kennels, Alpaca, Bison, worm production, llama production	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Cattle Feedlots, Fattening cattle	0	0	2	2	2	1	7
Chicken Egg Production	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Dairy Cattle and Milk Production	5	1	1	2	1	0	10
Fur-Bearing Animal and Rabbit Production, includes mink, chinchilla, and fox	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hog and Pig Farming	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Horses and Other Equine Production, Includes burro, donkey, mule, and pony	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	5	1	6	5	4	2	23

CAFO Permit Registrations Issued

A total of 23 CAFO permit registrations were issued in 2023. The primary reason for issuance of a new CAFO permit registration was a transfer of permit from a previously permitted operator. The transfer activity was highest in Area I.

Table 20: Number of CAFO Permit Registrations issued by NAICS Code and Area for 2023 CY

NAICS Code	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
All Other Animal Production, includes, Dog kennels, Alpaca, Bison, worm production, llama production	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming, Back Grounding Cattle, Veal Calf Production	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Broiler chicken production	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Cattle Feedlots, Fattening cattle	1	0	2	0	2	2	7
Chicken Egg Production	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
Dairy Cattle and Milk Production	4	2	0	1	0	0	7
Goat Farming	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Sheep and Lambs	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	5	5	4	3	4	2	23

Pending Permit Applications

A total of 10 applications to register (ATR) were received in 2023. Four applications received remain pending. One of them is an Individual Permit Application. The remaining seven application are pending for previous years. Permit applications for individual CAFO NPDES Permits require Permit Development by the agencies and Public Notice opportunities.

Table 21: Pending Permit Applications

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
NPDES Permit							
Small Concentrated	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Medium Concentrated	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Large Tier 1 Concentrated	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Large Tier 2 Concentrated	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	0	3	1	1	0	0	5
WPCF Permit							
Small Confined	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Medium Confined	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Large Tier 1 Confined	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Large Tier 2 Confined	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Individual Permit							
Tier 1	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Tier 2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	1	0	0	0	1	1	3

Public Notice and Participation (S1.H.)⁴

Prior to approving new permit coverage, renewing permit coverage or approving proposed substantial changes to an AWMP, the CAFO Program will provide public notice and participation.

In 2023, the CAFO Program had no noticing activities.

Table 22 summarizes the public notice and participation opportunities by designation and the noticing activities are below.

<i>Table 22: Public Noticing Activity by Designation and Area</i>	
	Total
Public Noticing Activity	0

⁴ For the full public notice and participation schedule, see Table 2: CAFO Public Notice Requirements, page 8 of the CAFO NPDES General Permit #01-2016. <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/shared/Documents/Publications/NaturalResources/NPDESGeneralPermit.pdf>

Annual Report (S4.D.2.)

Each year the CAFO operator registered to an NPDES General, or Individual Permit must submit an annual report to the CAFO Program by March 15th of each year. The Annual Report documents the number of animals, amount of manure, litter and/or process wastewater generated and exported by the facility, land application information and information about the operation's AWMP.

Once the reports have been received, they are then reviewed by the regional LWQS for completeness. If the Annual Report is incomplete, the LWQS will work with the operator to resolve the issues.

In 2023, the CAFO Program collected and processed a total of 364 Annual Reports for 2022. Below is a table that summarizes the 2022 Annual Reports received by area.

<i>Table 23: 2022 Annual Reports Received by Area</i>							
	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Total
Annual Reports Received	87	52	56	41	59	69	364

Financial Agreements Administered

When the CAFO Program issues a Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment (NCPA), the money received from these activities is placed into an account that can only be used for educational projects and efforts that will benefit the CAFO operators. Funds are awarded through a financial agreement process.

In 2023, the CAFO Program awarded three financial agreements for a total of \$5,401.13.

The financial agreements were for the following projects:

2023 CAFO Record Keeping Calendars, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

A record keeping tool developed and printed for permitted CAFO operators to maintain the required CAFO records.

Projected total: \$2,463.61

Final amount billed for: \$2,101.13

Nutrient Management Planning Tool (NMPT) (ODA-4447)

Total Paid in 2023: \$3,300.00

Public Records Requests

Most information associated with the CAFO NPDES or WPCF Permit is subject to Oregon's Public Records Law (ORS Chapter 192) and NPDES Program and Permit (S1.G) and Clean Water Act requirements and is publicly available. The CAFO Program received numerous requests for program files and information. Requests range from a single document to complete registrant files. In 2023, the CAFO Program responded to 74 different public records requests. The time estimated to produce the requests ranged from less than 30 minutes to 15 hours. Total staff time on PRR in 2023 was 32.25 hours.

A public records request is not required when program or permit records are requested during a public notice and participation opportunity.

2023 CAFO Individual Permit Development Activities

The program staff are involved with development of three, CAFO Individual NPDES Permits and related materials. These Permits are jointly developed by ODA and DEQ staff. These Permits require a multi-agency coordination with OWRD, DEQ, ODA, DSL, OHA and ODFW. Consultations on both technical and policy questions occur during development of these Permits. All Individual Permits require Public Notice and a hearing.

2023 General CAFO Permit Renewal Activities

The CAFO NPDES Permit No. 1-2016 expired on February 28, 2021. Permit development is ongoing. Senate Bill 85 rules will be incorporated into this permit. Once the permit is complete it will go out for public notice.

The CAFO WPCF General Permit NO. 01-2015 will expire on September 30, 2025. Permit development will begin in 2025. Renewal forms will be sent out in April of 2025.

CAFO Advisory Committee

Each year the CAFO Program holds three regularly scheduled CAFO Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings. The CAC was created to provide feedback to the department about the CAFO Program. The membership of the committee is comprised of permitted CAFO operators, technical advisors, stakeholder representatives, and the public. Post Covid meeting protocol is conducting in-person meetings in Salem with virtual attendance and presentation options through the TEAMS platform.

A new CAFO Advisory Committee member was appointed to the committee as representative for one of two public seats. Tammy Stark was appointed on June 13, 2023, and will attend the CAC meeting starting in October.

CAFO Program Activities specific to Ground Water Management Areas (GWMA)

There are permitted CAFOs located in each of the three, DEQ named GWMA's. The Lower Umatilla GWMA committee has met regularly and the CAFO subcommittee has updated the CAFO chapter of the action plan this year and added another member representing a permitted CAFO. The South Willamette GWMA group continues to meet with DEQ support and the CAFO staff support the ongoing implementation of the action plan and specific CAFO Compliance with their Permit conditions.

CAFO Rulemaking

On July 27, 2023, Governor Kotek signed Senate Bill 85 which amends ORS 468B (Water Quality) and ORS 537.545 (Water Use). Rulemaking is required for ODA OAR 603-074 to incorporate SB 85 requirements and update program rules. New requirements will include:

- » CAFO definitions
- » Clarity to construction requirements
- » Pre-populations Inspections
- » Permit Designations
- » Permit Application Procedures
- » Water Supply Plans

There will be a Rule Advisory Committee (RAC) formed for this Rulemaking that will include Industry members, CAFO Operators, members of ODA and our agency partners. This RAC will help draft changes in CAFO rules for public notice.