

**Oregon Administrative Rules
Oregon Department of Agriculture
Chapter 603, Division 95
Agricultural Water Quality Management Program**

Middle John Day River Subbasin

603-095-2500

Purpose

(1) These rules have been developed to implement a water quality management area plan for the subbasin pursuant to authorities vested in the department through ORS 568.900-568.933. The area plan is known as the Middle John Day Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan.

(2) The purpose of these rules is to outline requirements for landowners in the Middle John Day Agricultural Water Quality Management Area for the prevention and control of water pollution from agricultural activities and soil erosion. Compliance with Division 95 rules is expected to aid in the achievement of applicable water quality standards.

Statutory Authority: ORS 561.190 – 561.191, and ORS 568.912

Statutes Implemented: ORS 568.900 – 568.933

603-095-2520

Geographic and Programmatic Scope

(1) The Middle John Day Agricultural Water Quality Management Area includes the area that drains into the John Day River between the Wheeler-Gilliam county line and the upstream end of Picture Gorge. The physical boundaries of the Middle John Day Agricultural Water Quality Management Area are indicated on the map included as an attachment to these rules.

(2) Operational boundaries for the land base under the purview of these rules include all agricultural and rural lands within the Middle John Day Agricultural Water Quality Management Area with the exception of public lands managed by federal agencies and activities that are subject to the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

(3) The provisions of these rules apply to all agricultural land whether or not in current productive agricultural use.

(4) For lands in agricultural use within other Designated Management Agencies' or state agency jurisdictions, the Department and the appropriate Local Management Agency shall work with these Designated Management Agencies to assure that provisions of these rules apply, and to assure that duplication of any services provided or fees assessed does not occur.

Statutory Authority: ORS 561.190 – 561.191, and ORS 568.912

Statutes Implemented: ORS 568.900 – 568.933

603-095-2540

Prevention and Control Measures

(1) Limitations: All landowners or operators conducting activities on agricultural and rural lands are provided the following exemptions from the requirements of OAR 603-095-2540 (Prevention and Control Measures).

(a) A landowner or operator shall be responsible for only those conditions caused by activities conducted on land managed by the landowner or operator.

(b) Rules do not apply to conditions resulting from unusual weather events or other circumstances not within the reasonable control of the landowner or operator. Within the reasonable control of the landowner means that technically sound and economically feasible measures must be available to address conditions described in Prevention and Control Measures.

(c) The Department may allow temporary exceptions when a specific integrated pest management plan is in place to deal with certain weed or pest problems.

(2) Waste Management: Effective on rule adoption, no person subject to these rules shall violate any provision of ORS 468B.025 or 468B.050.

(3) Effective by January 1, 2008, streamside management must allow the establishment, growth, and active recruitment of vegetation, consistent with the vegetative capability of the site, for protection of water quality by filtering sediment, stabilizing streambanks and providing shade.

(4) Effective January 1, 2008, irrigation must be done in a manner that limits the amount of pollutants entering waters of the state in the runoff from the irrigated area.

(5) Livestock Management, by January 1, 2008, areas used to control livestock, with a demonstrated impact on water quality, will be managed to control runoff of sediment or animal waste.

Statutory Authority: ORS 561.190 – 561.191, and ORS 568.912

Statutes Implemented: ORS 568.900 – 568.933

603-095-2560

Complaints and Investigations

(1) When the Department receives notice of an alleged occurrence of agricultural pollution it may conduct an investigation. The department will coordinate inspection activities with the appropriate Local Management Agency.

(2) Each notice of an alleged occurrence of agricultural pollution shall be evaluated in accordance with the criteria in ORS 568.900 to 568.933 or any rules adopted thereunder to determine whether an investigation is warranted.

(3) Any person allegedly being damaged or otherwise adversely affected by agricultural pollution or alleging any violation of ORS 568.900 to 568.933 or any rules adopted thereunder may file a complaint with the department.

(4) The department will evaluate or investigate a complaint filed by a person under section OAR 603-095-2560(3) if the complaint is in writing, signed and dated by the complainant and indicates the location and description of:

(a) The waters of the state allegedly being damaged or impacted; and

(b) The property allegedly being managed under conditions violating criteria described in ORS 568.900 to 568.933 or any rules adopted thereunder.

(5) As used in section OAR 603-095-2560(4), “person does not include any local, state or federal agency.

(6) Notwithstanding OAR 603-095-2560(4), the department may investigate at any time any complaint if the department determines that the violation alleged in the complaint may present an immediate threat to the public health or safety.

(7) If the department determines that a violation of ORS 568.900 to 568.933 or any rules adopted thereunder has occurred, the landowner may be subject to the enforcement procedures of the department outlined in OAR 603-090-0060 through 603-090-0120.

Statutory Authority: ORS 561.190 – 561.191, and ORS 568.912

Statutes Implemented: ORS 568.900 – 568.933

Attachment 1: Map

