Notice of Public Participation Opportunity

Proposal to register Martin Livestock LLC Stafford Ranch to the Oregon CAFO NPDES General Permit #01-2026

NOTICE ISSUED: November 9, 2026

WRITTEN COMMENTS DUE:
5 P.M. December 16, 2026

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) invite the public to provide oral and written comment on the proposed registration of Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch, a Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) in Jefferson County, to the Oregon CAFO National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit #01-2026. The CAFO has applied to register to the permit with all the required paperwork and documentation complete.

Summary

Subject to public review and comment, ODA and DEQ intend to register Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch to the Oregon CAFO NPDES General Permit #01-2026. Part of the review process is an opportunity for public comment.

Where can I get more information?

The Oregon CAFO NPDES General Permit #01-2026 and permitting documents for this facility can be viewed online at: https://oda.direct/cafo

For specific information about the Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch, please contact Mackinzey Landry to request documents electronically.
Phone: (503) 986-4699
Fax: (503) 986-4730
Email: Mackinzey.Landry@oda.oregon.gov

How do I participate?

You may submit your comments by mail, fax, or email to:

ODA CAFO Program
Attn: NPDES Registration for Martin Livestock, LLC
Stafford Ranch
635 Capitol St. NE
Salem, OR 97301
Fax: (503) 986-4730
Email:
cafo.COMMENTS@ODA.oregon.gov

Comments are due 5 p.m., December 16, 2026, and will become part of the public record.

HEARING

ODA will hold a public hearing via Teams.
Date: December 9, 2026
Time: 3 P.M. PST
Join via: Teams

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Programs
635 Capitol St. NE
Salem, OR 97301-2532
Phone: (503) 986-4699
Fax: (503) 986-4730
Contact: Connie Landis
http://www.oregon.gov/ODA

DEQ
State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Water Quality Permitting and Program Development
700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232
Phone: (503) 229-5696
Fax: (503) 229-6124
Contact: Rebecca Bodnar
www.oregon.gov/DEQ

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Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2626648209232583?p=tyJHIL1FrpFb1q4ewR

Meeting ID: 262 664 820 923 258 3

Passcode: 8uy7rR6H

Dial in by phone

+1 503-446-4951,,128316600#

United States, Portland

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: 128 316 600#

For organizers: Meeting options | Reset dial-in PIN

What is proposed?

ODA is proposing to register Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch to the Oregon CAFO NPDES General Permit #01-2026 as a new Large CAFO.

About the facility

Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch is a Large Tier 1 cattle feedlot proposing to confine up to 3,000 beef cattle at a time. The applicant is Kevin Martin dba Martin Livestock, LLC. The applicant's mailing address is: 3451 Highway 97, Madras, OR 97741, and phone number is: (541)-460-0521. The proposed operation location is: 9950 SW Culver Hwy, Culver, OR 97734, in Jefferson County.

The Oregon CAFO NPDES General Permit #01-2026 regulates manure, litter, and process wastewater generated by CAFOs to protect waters of the state. CAFOs develop and implement Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs) describing how manure, litter, and process wastewater will be managed and applied to crops at agronomic rates. These plans are reviewed by ODA and compliance with the permit requires that operations follow their approved NMP.

Additionally, per ORS 468B.215 and ORS 468B.216, new CAFOs must submit a Water Supply Plan (WSP) as part of their application. WSPs are reviewed by the Oregon Water Resources Department to determine if the CAFO's water uses are legally authorized and allowable.

The NMP and WSP are available for review as part of this notice as well as the other application documents including the Application to Register (ATR) and the Land Use Compatibility Statement (LUCS).

Who may be affected?

The Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch and residents in the vicinity of the operation may be affected by these permit actions.

What other ODA or DEQ permits are required?

Generally, there are no other ODA or DEQ permits required at this time for the Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch. If the operation plans to conduct composting activities, it may be required to obtain a DEQ permit for such activities. See OAR Chapter 340, Division 93 for more information.

What types of pollutants does the permit regulate?

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The most common pollutants in manure, litter, and process wastewater include biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus compounds), and bacteria. These pollutants could be harmful to the environment and public health if they are discharged to surface water or groundwater in violation of water quality standards.

However, this permit does not allow surface water discharges and effluent limits are zero for nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen, phosphorus, and E. coli.

How do ODA and DEQ monitor compliance with the permit requirements?

This permit requires manure, litter, and process wastewater be regularly monitored to determine nutrient concentrations and land application volumes. Soil monitoring is also required in fields that receive manure, litter, or process wastewater applications to determine if agronomic rates are being met.

Routine inspections are conducted on permitted CAFOs every 10 months. In addition, inspectors investigate every time ODA or DEQ receives a water quality complaint involving a permitted or non-permitted livestock operation.

What happens after the public comment period closes?

ODA and DEQ will consider and respond to all comments received and may register Martin Livestock, LLC - Stafford Ranch to the permit, require changes to its NMP, or deny registration. Equal weight is given to written and oral comments.

Accessibility Information

ODA and DEQ are committed to accommodating people with disabilities at our hearings. Please notify ODA of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille, or another format. To make these arrangements, contact ODA at (503) 986-4700.

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