



# Nutrient Management Fact Sheet: Idaho

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## Nutrient Management Plans

Topic	Summary
Coverage	<p>All Manufactured Grade and Grade A dairies licensed to sell milk for human consumption are required to implement a Nutrient Management Plan,<sup>1</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dairies are required to complete a Dairy Environmental Management Plan that includes Dairy Storage and Containment Facility Criteria and a Nutrient Management Plan, and the plans must be submitted to the Department of Agriculture.<sup>2</sup></li> </ul> <p>The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) requires Environmental/Nutrient Management Plans (E/NMPs) for all dairies. An online tool for creating the plan can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issues NPDES CAFO general permits<sup>3</sup> for Idaho, and the <a href="#">Idaho Department of Environmental Quality</a> oversee water quality issues within the state and will assume control of the NPDES permits in 2021.<sup>4</sup> The dairies that comply with an NPDES general permit do not also need to submit plans to the Department of Agriculture.</p> <p><i>Note: Idaho Nutrient Management Standard is under negotiated rulemaking. Additional information can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</i></p>
Content	<p>The Idaho E/NMP includes four general areas: facility information, source of nutrients, storage of nutrients and application of nutrients. The contents of the plan are outlined in a <a href="#">producer summary sheet</a> on the ISDA website.</p> <p>The nutrient management plan requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual soil tests where nutrients are applied (owned/managed by the operation);</li> <li>- The amount, date and application method of manure or fertilizer application; dates, amounts and receivers of exported manure; and</li> <li>- Records of crop yields and any changes in crop rotation or management.</li> </ul> <p>The nutrient management plan recommendations focus on the timing of fertilizer application and the type of application.</p> <p>The <a href="#">Phosphorus Site Index</a> shall be used to manage nutrient application, and it will be required as of July 2023.<sup>5</sup> Until that time, Phosphorus Threshold can be used.</p> <p>The NPDES General Permit requires a plan and those requirements can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>



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	For dairy operations, the Nutrient Management Standard is the 1999 publication by the USDA NRCS Conservation Practice Standard, Nutrient Management Code 590. <sup>6</sup>
Frequency of Updates	Plans can be from one to five years based on the recommendation of the nutrient management planner.
Paperwork	All dairies must have a nutrient management plan approved by the ISDA.  The NPDES requires documents to be submitted as part of the permit. Additional details can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
Planner Qualifications	Certified nutrient management planners who have completed the ISDA training and written two approved plans can develop an NMP.

### Manure Storage and Application

Topic	Summary
Storage	<p><a href="#">Facility Siting/Setbacks</a></p> <p>Counties can regulate siting of CAFOs in the state, and dairies must apply for county CAFO permits before opening. Public input is required by the state.<sup>7</sup></p> <p>Setback requirements for stockpile sites:<sup>8</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Three hundred (300) feet from a non-responsible party's dwelling;</li> <li>- Five hundred (500) feet from a hospital, church, or school;</li> <li>- One hundred (100) feet from a domestic or irrigation well;</li> <li>- One hundred (100) feet from surface waters of the State; and</li> <li>- Fifty (50) feet from a public highway.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Storage Structure and Length</a></p> <p>The <a href="#">producer summary sheet</a> outlines the requirements and recommendations for Storage and Handling Plan included in the Idaho E/NMP. The elements of the plan require fall application of wastewater to a growing crop, and that application outside the growing season is required to be notified to the ISDA Dairy Bureau prior to application.<sup>9</sup> Storage and handling plan recommendations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Berming around corrals to contain any runoff.</li> <li>- Ongoing inspection and maintenance of waste handling facilities and equipment.</li> <li>- Containing manure storage areas to prevent runoff and seepage to groundwater.</li> </ul> <p>Additional criteria for Waste Storage and Containment facilities are outlined in the Idaho Administrative Code (IDAPA 02.04.14), including requirements that dairy storage and containment facilities must be able to hold:<sup>10</sup></p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All process wastewater for 180 days during winter months.</li> <li>- The liquid manure a farm generates.</li> <li>- Contaminated stormwater produced during two events (a 5-year, 24-hour winter storm or a 25-year, 24-hour precipitation event).</li> </ul> <p>There are additional requirements on earthen dairy storage and containment facilities based on size of structure and vertical height of the facility. Additionally, storage facilities must be located on approved soils.</p> <p>Requirements for Storage under the NPDES permit can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
Application	<p><u><a href="#">Spreading</a></u> Appropriate application of nutrients must be done in accordance with the NMP during the growing season. Application outside the growing season is required to be notified to the ISDA Dairy Bureau prior to application.<sup>11</sup></p> <p><u><a href="#">Testing</a></u> Soil samples must be taken by a certified soil sampler and analyzed by a certified laboratory.</p> <p>Additional application requirements and setbacks under the NPDES can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

### Technical Assistance

Topic	Summary
Software Tools	<p>Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) has an Environmental Nutrient Management <a href="#">online tool</a> for certified nutrient management planners on the topics of bio nutrient management, water processing and application (an account must be created in order to access further details).</p> <p><a href="#">Manure Management Planner (MMP)</a> is a software tool created by Purdue University that includes state specific information for Idaho producers to create manure management plans for crop and animal feeding operations.</p>
Guides / Handbooks	<p>The University of Idaho Extension provides <a href="#">information</a> on the manure and agricultural waste management topics of lagoons, manure compost, rations and stockpiled manure.</p> <p>Idaho NRCS provides access to <a href="#">Idaho nutrient management technical notes</a>, which include information on diet and feeding management and links to Data Collection Forms and Guidelines to Prepare for NMPs.</p>
Tailored Expert Assistance	<p>ISDA provides a <a href="#">list</a> of active certified nutrient management planners.</p>



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### Financial Assistance

#### Summary

Idaho NRCS provides the following assistance:

- [Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\)](#) - offers financial cost-share assistance to farmers for the adoption of conservation practices and development of nutrient management plans.
  - o View the state cost-share rates and payment schedules for EQIP [here](#).
  - o AFO/CAFO Animal Waste Management [initiative](#) provides EQIP financial assistance for the storage, treatment, and utilization of animal waste.
  - o [Soil Health Initiative](#) provides funding for nutrient management practices.
- [Conservation Stewardship Program \(CSP\)](#), which gives producers financial assistance to implement new conservation management practices and enhancements.

<sup>1</sup> <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/02/020430.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/html/BUL967-Idaho-Environmental-Nutrient-Management-Program-Basics.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/npdes-general-permit-concentrated-animal-feeding-operations-cafos-idaho>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/permitting/water-quality-permitting/npdes/cafo-permits/>

<sup>5</sup> [Phosphorus-Site-Index-reference-2017-revised.pdf \(idaho.gov\)](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Administrative Rules \(idaho.gov\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations - Idaho Department of Environmental Quality](#)

<sup>8</sup> <https://agri.idaho.gov/main/animals/manure-stockpiling/>

<sup>9</sup> [Microsoft Word - Example Producer Summary.doc \(idaho.gov\)](#)

<sup>10</sup> [BUL967 Idaho Environmental/Nutrient Management Program \(E/NMP\) Basics \(uidaho.edu\)](#)

<sup>11</sup> [BUL967 Idaho Environmental/Nutrient Management Program \(E/NMP\) Basics \(uidaho.edu\)](#)