



Accountability Framework for TMDL Reasonable Assurances

AAP Rule
Compliance

Near Term Goals &
Milestones

Achieve substantial
compliance with
AAPs and
specifically assess
all dairies by 2016

- Increase inspection resources
- Provide small farms a resources assessment to give them an opportunity to resolve issues and the State to prioritize future efforts
- Start with SFO dairies in Lake Champlain basin, then SFO dairies statewide
- Provide opportunities for partners and private industry to assist in planning and design needs.



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**AAP Rule
Compliance**

Backstops

- Set declining cost-shares to increase implementation rates
- Retain rebuttable presumption and VT WQS process
- Provide additional enforcement remedies, currently a small farm has many more opportunities before a financial penalty is assessed
- Compliance with AAPs is an enforced condition of the Current Use program



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Nutrient
Management

Near Term Goals &
Milestones

All farms will be
implementing
appropriate NMP
by 2020

- Need to establish who needs a NMP, (examples: 6 or more cows, 2,000lbs/ac density, in a critical source area)
- Develop NM Planning Template (simplified version of current NRCS 590 Standard more appropriate for Small Farms)
- Provide training on how to develop and implement NMPs and whole Farm Resource Management Plans for service providers
- Empower partners to hold NMP development and update classes for farmers who want to write their own
- Implement declining cost-share rates in order to encourage implementation



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Nutrient
Management

Backstops

- NM Planning and Resource Management Plans become required under AAPs and enforcement remedies will be applied



Accountability Framework for TMDL Reasonable Assurances

Livestock Exclusion
from Streams

Near Term Goals &
Milestones

90% of all livestock
are excluded by
2018 from mapped
streams

- Identify a “Stream” for the purposes of applying this rule
- Quantify the extent of the issue in order to track progress and remaining needs
- Utilize a declining cost-share rate system
- Extend partner network in order for farmers to access technical and financial assistance
- Included in Resource Management Plan assessment
- Develop a waiver process where specific circumstances do not require exclusion if well managed



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Livestock
Exclusion from
Streams

Backstops

- Require livestock exclusion in AAPs by 2018
- Offer declining cost-share starting at 90% once enacted and then 50% cost-share for existing operations after 2018



Resource Management Plans

- Farm specific
- Includes the following subject areas:
 - Nutrient Management
 - ✦ Floodplain requirements
 - ✦ Livestock exclusion and trail management
 - ✦ Pasture management
 - ✦ Erosion tolerances
 - ✦ Buffer requirements
 - ✦ Ditch management
 - Production Area Management
 - ✦ Manure storages
 - ✦ Silage storages
 - ✦ Milkhouse waste
 - ✦ Barnyard management
 - ✦ High impact animal trails near production area