

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FACTSHEET (Pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

PERMITTEE NAME: **Bureau of Land Management - BLM**
US Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 3270
Sparks, Nevada 89432

PERMIT NUMBER: **NV0023388**

LOCATION: **National Wild Horse and Burro Center - NWHBC**
15780 SR 445
Reno, Washoe County, Nevada 89510
Latitude: 39° 50' 00" N, Longitude: 119° 42' 36" W
Township 23N, Range 20E, Section 7 MDB&M

FLOW: Authorized discharges would be only those which result from a **25-year, 24-hour storm event.**

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY: There are no public supply wells within one (1) mile of this facility.

GENERAL: The Applicant has applied for the renewal of its current National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) **Permit - NV0023388**, to discharge and process water from its **National Wild Horse and Burro Center (NWHBC)** facility from storm events in excess of a **25-year, 24-hour storm event**. The facility is located in Warm Springs Valley, Nevada; approximately 20 miles north of Sparks. This short-term **NWHBC** holding facility is a wild horse/burro adoption preparation center and has a maximum capacity of 2,000 horses/burros. This facility is defined as a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) because the facility confines at least 500 horses for 45 days or more in a 12-month period in an area devoid of vegetation during the normal growing season.

This 160 acre **NWHBC** facility began operation in 1977 and was expanded in the early 1990s. With rare exceptions, the facility only receives animals removed from Nevada rangelands. In order to improve and control the drainage at this facility, the applicant built a 70.6 acre-foot runoff retention pond, re-channeled approximately 1,000 linear feet of stream channel adjacent to the pond and constructed 3,400 linear feet of 4-foot high earth berms around the perimeter of the facility. All improvements to this facilities were intended to control runoff from a **25-year, 24-hour storm event**.

The retention pond was designed to contain all production area runoff resulting from the **25-year, 24-hour storm event**. The runoff retention pond is expected to hold water for up to one

or two weeks per year and will be dry the remainder of the year. Process water may be applied to the corrals for dust control measures as defined in the permit. The maximum design head on the liner will be 9 feet. Depths of water greater than 3 feet will be pumped and circulated to prevent anaerobic conditions from developing. The **60-mil HDPE** liner meets the minimum allowed permeability of 1×10^{-7} cm/sec. Two feet of freeboard is required for the pond. The 4-foot high berms will prevent run-on to the production area from adjacent lands.

Groundwater is approximately 100 feet below ground surface; flow is generally to the northeast toward Mullen Creek. Groundwater analysis has shown elevated total dissolved solids (690 mg/L) pH of 8.95 Standard Units (S.U.) and Nitrate was not detected with a detection level of 0.05 milligrams per liter (mg/L).

FLOW: The proposed permit would only authorize the discharge of an overflow of process water in response to storms that exceed a **25-year, 24-hour storm event**.

RECEIVING WATER CHARACTERISTICS: Discharges from the retention pond would flow to an unnamed ephemeral tributary to Cottonwood Creek – also an ephemeral creek. Cottonwood Creek discharges to the ephemeral Mullen Creek - Outfall 001. Ground water or stream water quality monitoring will not be required due to the transitory nature of these streams.

PROPOSED OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS: Manure & Process Water Transfer Protocol – Discharge Event Monitoring: Manure and process water samples taken in compliance with the monitoring and nutrients transfer requirements specified below shall be taken from:

- a. Manure – at main collection point – Monitoring point M001;
- b. Process water – at main collection point – Monitoring point M002;
- c. Storm-related discharge to waters of the State – at Outfall - 001; and
- d. Main Corrals – Monitoring point M003.

Table 1: Process Water & Manure Transfer Testing Protocol – Discharge Event Monitoring

Parameters	Discharge Limitations	Monitoring Requirements		
		Sample Location	Measuring Frequency	Sample Type
pH (standard units)	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Discrete
		c	Each discharge ²	
Chlorides (mg/L, mg/kg) ³	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Composite
		b & c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L, mg/kg) ³	Monitor & Report	b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	Monitor & Report	b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete

5-day Biological Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	Monitor & Report	c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Total Nitrogen – N (mg/L, mg/Kg) ³	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen–TKN(mg/L, mg/kg) ³	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Nitrate –N (mg/L, mg/kg) ³	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Ammonia –N (mg/L, mg/kg) ³	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Total Phosphorus - P (mg/L, mg/kg) ³	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Fecal Coliform (CFU or MPN/100 mL)	Monitor & Report	a & b	Annually ¹	Composite
		c	Each discharge ²	Discrete
Material Transferred to Other Parties (tons, gallons) ^{4,5}	Monitor & Report	a & b	Monthly	Estimate ⁵
Material Stored On-site (tons, gallons) ⁴	Monitor & Report	a, b & c	Monthly	Estimate ⁶
Volume of Discharge (gallons)	Monitor & Report	c	Each discharge ²	Estimate
Number and Type of Animals	Monitor & Report	d	Monthly	Count

Notes:

1. Characterizations shall be conducted in December for manure and reported in the 4th Quarter **Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR)**. Process water is precipitation dependent and should be characterized when sufficient volume is available for sampling; report in the appropriate **DMR**.
2. The Permittee shall collect the sample within 30 minutes of the first knowledge of the discharge. If sampling in that period is inappropriate due to dangerous weather conditions, collect the sample as soon as possible after suitable conditions occur, and document the reason for delay. Also, report the date and time of each discharge along with sample location.
3. mg/L for liquids, mg/kg for solids.
4. Tons for solid manure, gallons for process water.
5. Tons - Based on truck loads or similar.
6. Estimate amount manure, process water to be determined from pond depth.

mg/L: Milligram per liter.
gpd: Gallons per day.
-N: As nitrogen.
-P: As phosphorus.
mg/kg: Milligrams per kilogram.

CFU: Colony Forming Unit.
MPN: Most Probable Number.
mL: Milliliter.
ft: Feet.
lbs/ton: pounds per ton (wt/wt)

SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE: The Permittee shall implement and comply with the provisions of the schedule of compliance after approval by the Administrator, including in said implementation and compliance, any additions or modifications which the Administrator may make in approving the schedule of compliance.

- a. The Permittee shall achieve and/or maintain compliance with all effluent limitations upon issuance of the permit;
- b. **By MMM DD, 2011 (30 Days)**, the Permittee shall submit to **NDEP** an updated **Operations & Maintenance manual (O & M)** for this facility;

c. By **MMM DD, 2011 (30 Days)**, the Permittee shall submit to **NDEP** an updated Animal Mortality Management Plan (**AMMP**) as defined in **Section I.A.10**.

RATIONALE FOR PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

Discharge Limitations are being proposed to ensure that the Applicant has appropriate manure data to comply with the Manure Transfer Requirements and to determine any potential impact to **Waters of the U.S.** that may occur in response to a discharge.

Manure nutrient data, nitrogen and phosphorus, is required for the proper beneficial use of the manure; used primarily to determine manure application rates. The concentration of chlorides in the manure may determine, or at least be a factor in determining, the beneficial uses of this material.

Monitoring of the nitrogen species, total phosphorus, pH, chlorides, total dissolved solids, total suspended solids, and fecal coliform of the discharge is required because these are the parameters most likely to be present in the discharge. These parameters are not limited because **NDEP** has determined there is no reasonable potential for the discharge to cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards

Nutrient Management Plan (NMP): Submittal of an **NMP** is not required by this permit because this facility will transfer 100% of their manure to other parties; this facility will not be authorized to land apply any manure or nutrients. Containment of manure and feed storage area run-offs are part of the production area operation requirements. Providing the nutrient analysis data to anyone receiving manure are included in the proposed permit. Permit requirements include the inclusion of applicable sections that are normally included in **NMPs** as schedule of compliance items – for example Animal Mortality Management Plan (**AMMP**) in **Section I.A.10** of the permit.

The Division does not have authority to regulate manure transferred to other parties, unless the manure is used in an activity identified by the Administrator as a significant contributor of pollution or the manure is composted.

OPERATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Permittee shall operate the facility in compliance with permit provisions and requirements and in accordance with the Division approved Operations and Maintenance Manual (**O & M Manual**). The **O & M Manual** shall contain information required to comply with this permit.

PROPOSED DETERMINATION:

The division has made the tentative determination to renew the proposed permit, under the provisions prescribed, for a 5-year period. Under NAC 445A.232, this permit is classified as a permit for a concentrated animal feeding operation that does not discharge – CAFO whose animal holding area is 20 acres or more.

PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Notice of the Division's intent to issue a groundwater discharge permit to the applicant, subject to the conditions contained within the permit is being sent to the **Reno Gazette Journal** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline date and time by which all comments are to be submitted (via postmarked mail or time-stamped faxes, e-mails, or hand-delivered items) to the Division is **April, 8th, 2011 by 5:00 P.M.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with **NAC 445A.238**. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to **NRS 445A.605**.

The application and proposed permit on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing or by calling **Alexi Lanza, P.E.**, Bureau of Water Pollution Control at **(775)687-9468**; fax: **(775)687-4684**; or email: alanza@ndep.nv.gov. This notice and the fact sheet can be viewed online at the following web address: <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>

Prepared by:

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Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control – Permits Branch
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