

Watershed Agricultural Program SOP

3.1.01.4

BMP PRIORITIZATION: DETERMINING THE POLLUTANT CATEGORY ON A MULTIPURPOSE BMP

To maintain the integrity of the BMP Prioritization process, it is important that BMPs be assigned to the proper Pollutant Category according to a consistent procedure. This procedure covers when to assign a multi-purpose BMP that has a manure storage component to Category I or when BMPs occupied by pathogen shedding animals should be assigned to Category IV.

If a multi-purpose BMP contains a manure storage component it should only be assigned to Pollutant Category I if it addresses an identified issue in Pollutant Category I and the following criteria are met.

1. Amount of manure collected and stored (one of the following must be met)
 - a. The BMP will be designed and sized to collect and store the manure produced by the majority of the animals in a particular management unit for three (3) or more months and have a capacity of at least 20 tons.
 - OR**
 - b. The BMP will be designed and sized to collect and store more than 150 tons of manure.
2. The manure storage component of the BMP will be a dedicated area confined on at least three (3) sides and will be designed to meet the intent of the NRCS manure storage standards and specifications.
3. Written documentation of how the criteria are met should be provided at the time of peer and coach review.

If a BMP contains “housing” or feeding area for pathogen shedding animals it should only be assigned to Pollutant Category IV if it addresses an identified issue in Category IV and if the following criteria are met.

1. The occupancy equivalent of pathogen shedding animals is at least 0.5 AU/mo or higher. (number of pathogen shedding animals occupying the BMP times the average weight during the pathogen shedding occupancy divided by 1000, times the months of occupancy)
- AND**
2. At least 30% of the pathogen shedding animals born on the farm each year will be using the BMP during their expected pathogen shedding period.
3. Written documentation of how the criteria are met should be provided at the time of peer and coach review.