

TO: The Honorable Dylan Roberts, Chair
Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

The Honorable Karen McCormick, Chair
Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources Committee

FROM: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Environmental Agriculture Program

DATE: March 31, 2024

SUBJECT: Environmental Agriculture Program Annual Report

Reporting Requirement

Colorado Revised Statute, §25-8-502(1.7)(a), requires the Department of Public Health and Environment to submit a report on or before March 31 of each year to both the senate and house agriculture committees on the water quality protection activities of the Environmental Agriculture Program (“program”). The report must include information on the number of permits processed, the number of inspections conducted, the number of enforcement actions taken, and the costs associated with all program activities during the preceding year.

Program Duties

The program administers state and federal air and water quality requirements specific to animal feeding operations in Colorado. Included under the umbrella of animal feeding operations are large concentrated animal feeding operations (“CAFOs”), housed commercial swine feeding operations (“HCSFOs”), and smaller animal feeding operations, (“AFOs”).

The program assures compliance with:

- State-only odor and water quality discharge requirements specific to HCSFOs;
- Federally-delegated water quality requirements applicable to large CAFOs; and
- State-only best management practices for small AFOs.

In addition, the program:

- Writes discharge and odor emissions permits;
- Conducts compliance inspections;
- Develops and implements regulations and policies and provides technical assistance;
- Responds to complaints; and
- Obtains compliance through enforcement proceedings as necessary.



A summary of the Program's Fiscal Year 2024 budget and 2023 performance metrics are provided below.

Budget		
Funding		
Revenues from fees	\$556,352	
General Fund	\$108,500	
Total Funding	\$664,852	
Expenses		
4.2 FTE personal services, operating, indirect	\$661,361	
Regulated Community		
Unpermitted CAFOs	109	
Permitted CAFOs	104	
Permitted HCSFOs	9 water permits	70 air permits
Permit Processing		
New CAFO Certifications Issued	2	
CAFO Certification Renewals	29	
CAFO Certification Amendments	2	
New HCSFO Permits Issued	0	
HCSFO Permit Renewals	0	
HCSFO Permit Amendments	1	
Inspections		
CAFOs/AFOs	55	
HCSFOs (water and air)	98	
Enforcement		
Compliance Advisories	8	
Formal Enforcement Referrals	1	
Complaints		
AFOs	10	
CAFOs	11	
HCSFOs	1	

For additional information or questions:

Chad DeVolin, Program Manager

DEHS - Environmental Agriculture Program

303-692-3520; chad.devolin@state.co.us

