Does My Confined Bovine Feeding Operation Need a Permit from the Central Valley Water Board?

**DO YOU HAVE A COMMERCIAL OPERATION?**
Commercial facilities are those that raise livestock with the intent of making a profit. Typically, 4-H, FFA, and educational facilities are not considered commercial.

**LOCATED IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION?**
Is your facility located within the Central Valley Region? A map of the Region is included on the back of this page. Contact Central Valley Water Board staff for any questions regarding counties that are partially within the Region.

**DOES IT INCLUDE MORE THAN 6,000 POUNDS OF LIVESTOCK?**
Are there ever more than 6,000 pounds (6 Animal Units) of bovine animals on site at the same time? In other words, is the maximum combined weight of bovines (cows, heifers, calves, bulls, steers, etc.) on site more than 6,000 pounds?

**ARE ANIMALS CONFINED?**
Are the livestock fed and maintained in areas with no vegetation (pens, corrals, stockyards, etc.) for more than 45 days per year? Most grazing operations should be able to answer ‘No’ to this question.

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**YOU NEED A PERMIT**
You need to submit an application (called a Notice of Intent) and filling fee for coverage under the Confined Bovine Feeding Operations General Order R5-2017-0058. The Notice of Intent form and more information are available at our website or by contacting Central Valley Water Board staff. See below for contact information.

**LIMITED TIME OPERATIONS**
If there are at least four days a month with no livestock on site and you maintain corrals and store manure properly, you may qualify for the limited operations tier, which has fewer requirements. Refer to Order R5-2017-0058 or contact Water Board staff. (Limited time operations are typically auction yards or other facilities that rotate livestock).

**LIMITED POPULATION OPERATIONS**
If there are never more than 100,000 lbs. of livestock on site at one time and you properly store and export all manure, you may qualify for the limited population tier, which has fewer requirements. Refer to Order R5-2017-0058 or contact Water Board staff.

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**Questions?**
See the Bovine Feedlot Regulations and Requirements on our web site: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/confined_animal_facilities/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/confined_animal_facilities/)

Or contact Central Valley Water Board staff:
Merced/Mariposa Counties north: Charlene Herbst at (916)-464-4724 or charlene.herbst@waterboards.ca.gov
Fresno/Madera Counties south: Dale Essary at (559)-445-5093 or dale.essary@waterboards.ca.gov
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Boundaries and Office Jurisdictions