
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING AN OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR LOW THREAT POULTRY OPERATIONS

25 June 2018

For Low Threat poultry operations, the Poultry General Order (Order R5-2019-0087) requires that an Operation and Maintenance Plan (O & M Plan or Plan) be prepared and submitted to the appropriate Central Valley Water Board office by **1 August 2018**. The O & M Plan must comply with Sections F and H of Attachment B to the Poultry General Order.

The goals of the Operation and Maintenance Plan are to protect groundwater and to prevent the discharge of waste or storm water from the production area to surface waters. If additional operation and maintenance procedures beyond those listed in this guidance are needed to ensure those goals are met, you must include those procedures in the O & M Plan.

All O & M Plans should include the following six sections, which are described in more detail below:

1. Introduction
2. Mortality Management Plan
3. Standard Operating Procedures
4. Backflow Prevention Devices
5. Water Treatment
6. Conclusion

Introduction – At the beginning of the O & M Plan, be sure to include the ranch name, ranch address, and either the date the Plan was prepared or the date the Plan was most recently revised.

Mortality Management Plan – Describe the procedure for disposal of dead animals, under both routine conditions and emergency disposal, and including name and contact information on any outside entity involved in carcass disposal for the Poultry Operation.

Provide a narrative to address, at a minimum, the following issues:

Routine Conditions – Describe the disposal method under routine conditions. Example disposal methods include: “incinerated on-site”...“composted on-site”...“incinerated/composted off-site at a company-owned facility located at

X address”...“rendered at ABC Rendering Company (telephone number XXX-XXX-XXXX)”.

Emergency Disposal – Describe the emergency procedures for short-term and long-term disposal in the event that the ranch needs to be depopulated.

Standard Operating Procedures – Describe standard operating procedures for manure/litter storage and removal. Provide a narrative to address, at a minimum, the following issues:

Cleanout measures for houses between flocks, including the location where any removed manure cake will be stored and for how long. Who will haul out manure cake (name/phone number)? Where will it go? When disinfecting houses, how will the application of disinfectants be controlled to minimize runoff?

Complete cleanout measures for houses, including how often, where removed material will be stored and for how long. Who will haul out removed material (name/phone number)? Where will it go? How will you ensure that there is little likelihood of rain during the time that manure is staged outside of the building? What will procedures be for tarping the material if a rain event is likely prior to manure removal – where are tarps stored? Describe procedure for installing (emergency) berms for controlling runoff and runoff from manure piles in the event of an unexpectedly heavy rainfall before manure removal is complete. When disinfecting houses, how will the application of disinfectants be controlled to minimize runoff?

Backflow Prevention Devices – If you do not add chemicals to fresh water lines at your ranch, state so in this section. If chemicals are added to fresh water lines for any purpose, backflow prevention must be installed to prevent the unintended movement of chemicals into the fresh water source. The O & M Plan needs to include the following:

A map showing the location of any mechanical backflow prevention devices, and noting the type of device on the map. In the Plan, for each device, describe maintenance procedures and how often the maintenance is to be conducted, and who will conduct the maintenance. For each device, describe how often it is to be tested, who will conduct the testing, and the location of the testing device, if applicable.

Water Treatment – If you do not use a water treatment system at your ranch, state so in this section. For Poultry Operations using a water treatment system such as reverse osmosis or ion exchange (i.e., a water softener) on site, this section should include:

- a. Quantity of brine generated per XXX (day, week month);
- b. Location of brine storage;
- c. Length of time brine will be stored before ultimate disposal;
- d. Ultimate method of brine disposal.

Conclusion – The conclusion of the O & M Plan needs to include the following certification statement from Section C.8 of Standard Provisions (which is part of the Poultry General Order):

I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

Section C.7 of Standard Provisions specifies that the certification above be signed by one of the following persons:

- a. For a sole proprietorship: by the proprietor;
- b. For a partnership: by a general partner;
- c. For a corporation: by a principal executive officer of at least the level of senior vice-president; or
- d. A duly authorized representative if:
 - i. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Subsection a, b, or c of this provision;
 - ii. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, such as the position of manager. A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or an individual occupying a named position; and
 - iii. The written authorization is submitted to the Central Valley Water Board.