

Landowner Self-Assessment Tool

Agricultural Water Quality Program



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

Purpose: The Landowner Self-Assessment Tool will help you determine if there is potential for water pollution from agricultural activities on your property.

Landowner Self-Assessment: Complete the self-assessment by answering “Yes” or “No” to the following questions. Once completed, a “Yes” answer could indicate that there is an opportunity for you to adapt your farming or ranching practices to improve water quality. A “No” answer suggests that conditions are preventing water pollution.

STREAMSIDE MANAGEMENT

Yes No

- Is cropping or grazing preventing vegetation from establishing along the streambank?
- Are there areas of bare soil along streams?
- Are streambanks slumping or eroding?
- Is streamside vegetation mostly weeds (e.g. blackberries and reed canary grass)?

PASTURE AND LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Yes No

- Do pastures have areas of bare soil?
- Are winter feeding or heavy use areas adjacent or close to streams, ditches or wells?
- Does surface water runoff flow through winter feeding or heavy use areas?
- Is runoff from farm buildings draining into areas of potential contamination sources such as heavy use or manure storage areas?

NUTRIENT AND MANURE MANAGEMENT

Yes No

- Is manure stored adjacent or close to streams, ditches or wells?
- Is manure stored directly on bare soil?
- Is manure left uncovered during the rainy season?
- Is manure applied to fields greater than agronomic application rates?
- Is manure likely to be carried to streams or irrigation ditches by surface water runoff?

UPLANDS AND EROSION CONTROL

Yes No

- Do pastures and croplands have areas of bare soil where surface water runoff is causing gullies and rills that transport sediment to streams or ditches?
- Is drainage from underground tiles eroding soil around tile outlets?
- Is soil eroding from farm roads and transporting sediment to streams or ditches?

Financial and technical assistance may be available to help you achieve your farming and ranching goals while protecting water quality and Oregon’s natural resources. Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for more information, or go to the SWCD Directory: <https://oda.direct/SWCDDirectory>

For information about ODA’s Agricultural Water Quality Program, contact ODA at 503.986.4700 or go to <https://oda.direct/AgWQPlans>