

**ABSTRACT**

**ON-SITE BMP EFFECTIVENESS PROCESS FOR AGRICULTURE**

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In 1981, efforts were initiated to incorporate site-specific Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring into Idaho's State Agricultural Water Quality program. The success of this effort was marginal at best. In January of 1990, the Coordinated Non-Point Source Water Quality Monitoring Program for Idaho stressed the need for BMP effectiveness monitoring. This document also provided some general guidelines for implementing BMP effectiveness evaluations for agriculture.

Since then, the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission has continued to develop and refine the process of agricultural BMP evaluation. The Commission has worked to expand BMP monitoring efforts within agricultural implementation projects. A comprehensive evaluation of BMP effectiveness for total maximum daily load (TMDL) validation requires the integration of three types of monitoring: 1) on-site evaluation of practice design and adequacy; 2) pollution source and transport; and 3) in-stream beneficial use assessment monitoring. The focus of this presentation was the on-farm, site-specific BMP evaluation process.

The current BMP evaluation field summary sheet was reviewed along with a number of supporting evaluation protocols and other documentation. This presentation also highlighted the tracking and reporting process.