Nutrient Discharge Control and Agriculture

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Colorado State Regulation 81

- CAFO Regs
  - Large and Medium Dairies and Feedlots
  - Ability to reclassify smaller operations if necessary
- Optional Discharge Permit
  - Comes with additional requirements
  - Gives protection in the advent of unusual weather events
Colorado State Regulation 85

- Nitrogen and Phosphorus discharge controls
- Sources
  - Agricultural discharges and other non-point sources
    - Voluntary controls now
    - Will be re-evaluated in 2022
  - Wastewater Treatment Plants (Point Source)
    - Smaller facilities not controlled
    - Effluent limits have delayed implementation until 2027.
  - Reg 85 requires monitoring of surface waters
    - Will inform the need for mandatory controls for Agriculture
Nutrients

Algal blooms may result in:

- Reduced water clarity & dissolved O$_2$
  > harm to aquatic animals and plants

- Cyanotoxins and microcystins
  > dangerous to animals and humans

- Reduced recreation & tourism
  > Visually unappealing, reduces use

- Impediments to irrigation
  > Clogged screens and pumps, high pH