

Working Together to Protect Utah's Waters

Utah Strategy

The Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs) Committee is a partnership of the Division of Water Quality (DWQ), Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF), Utah Farm Bureau, Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD), Utah State University (USU) Extension, United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 8, and Utah's animal producer groups. In 2001, the AFO Committee developed the Utah Strategy which is an agreement to help AFOs with compliance to environmental regulations to improve water quality. While the original Utah Strategy expired in 2008, the AFO Committee wants to continue to build on past success and has prepared a working draft of a new Utah Strategy to continue the work and partnerships of the original strategy.

DWQ's Partnerships to Assist AFO Producers with Compliance

Through Clean Water Act delegation, DWQ's program focus has been to oversee Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). DWQ has helped to fund efforts of the agricultural partners to assist AFO producers with compliance to water quality regulations. DWQ has provided monies to USU Extension, Utah Farm Bureau, UACD, and UDAF for AFO work. The partner's knowledge of the regulated community and relationships with the producers has allowed greater access to AFOs that otherwise may not have been available through an enforcement based approach for AFO compliance. The efforts of the partnership through the Utah Strategy have provided education, compliance and technical assistance to the AFOs resulting in greater water quality protection.



Before

Manure runoff discharges to Spanish Fork River



After

Runoff addressed through a berm and moving the corrals