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# Eastern Kern

Air Pollution Control District

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Glen E. Stephens, P.E.  
Air Pollution Control Officer

## **Conservation Management Practices**

Pursuant to District Rule 402.2 (Agricultural Operations), All commercial agricultural operations 10 acres and larger Must Submit a Conservation Management Practice (CMP) plan to the District. A CMP is an activity or practice farmers implement on their farm to help reduce, mitigate, or prevent fugitive dust emissions associated agricultural operations.

An approved CMP plan will include at least one (1) Conservation Management Practice from each of the following categories:

- 1. Land Preparation and Cultivation.**
- 2. Harvest Activities.**
- 3. Unpaved Roads and Traffic Areas.**
- 4. Windblown Dust/Cropland-Other.**

### **1. Land Preparation and Cultivation**

- A. Alternative Tilling,
- B. Bed/Row Size Spacing,
- C. Chemigation/Fertigation,
- D. Combined Operations,
- E. Conservation Irrigation,
- F. Cover Crops,
- G. Equipment Changes/Technological Improvements,
- H. Fallow Land,
- I. Integrated Pest Control,
- J. Mulching,
- K. Native Vegetation Mowing,
- L. Night Farming,
- M. Non Tillage/Chemical Tillage,
- N. Organic Pesticides,
- O. Precision Farming (GPS), or
- P. Transgenic Crops.

## **2. Harvest Activities**

- A. Baling /Large Bales,
- B. Combined Operations,
- C. Equipment Changes/Technological Improvements,
- D. Green Chop,
- E. Hand Harvesting,
- F. Fallow Land,
- G. Night Harvesting,
- H. No Burning,
- I. Pre-Harvesting Soil Preparation,
- J. Shed Packing, or
- K. Shuttle System/Large Carrier.

## **3. Unpaved Roads and Traffic Areas**

- A. At least one of the following CMPs shall be implemented, at all times, on all unpaved roads and traffic areas on agricultural operation site:
  - a. Chips/Mulches, Organic Materials, polymers, road oil and sand,
  - b. Gravel,
  - c. Paving,
  - d. Restricted access,
  - e. Low Speed limit (15 mph or less),
  - f. Track-out control,
  - g. Water Application, or
  - h. Field windbreak.
- B. Unpaved roads or traffic areas that have high traffic volume of fifty (50) or more vehicle trips per day; or twenty (20) or more vehicle trips per day made by three (3) or more axle vehicles, shall limit Visible Dust Emissions (VDE) to 20% opacity by implementing and maintaining one or more of the following CMPs:
  - a. Pave,
  - b. Apply Chemical Stabilization as directed by product manufacturer to control dust on Unpaved Roads,
  - c. Apply and maintain Gravel, recrushed/recycled asphalt or other material of low Silt (<5%) content to a depth of three or more inches,
  - d. Water Application,
  - e. Permanent road closure (as allowed by law), or
  - f. Restrict unauthorized vehicle access (as allowed by law).

#### **4. Windblown Dust**

- A. When preparing a field for planting, owner/operator shall minimize the time that newly tilled soil is smooth and dry by leaving the field surface with large clods for as long as possible and bedding and planting the field as soon as possible once it no longer has large clods.
  
- B. At least one of the following windblown dust CMPs shall be implemented on all agricultural operation sites in addition to the CMPs employed from Land Preparation and Cultivation and Harvest Activities.
  - a. Alternate Tilling,
  - b. Application Efficiencies,
  - c. Bailing/Large Bales,
  - d. Bulk Materials Control,
  - e. Chemigation/Fertigation,
  - f. Conservation Irrigation,
  - g. Fallow Land,
  - h. Grinding/Chipping/Shredding,
  - i. Integrated Pest Management,
  - j. Irrigation Power Units,
  - k. Mulching,
  - l. Night Farming,
  - m. No Burning,
  - n. Non Tillage/Chemical Tillage,
  - o. Organic Practices,
  - p. Permanent Crops,
  - q. Reduced Pruning,
  - r. Soil Amendments,
  - s. Soil Incorporation,
  - t. Sulfur: Reduction or Elimination of Dusting,
  - u. Surface Roughening,
  - v. Transgenic Crops, or
  - w. Wind Barrier.
  
- C. If an agricultural operation site has fields that are in between crops or more permanently fallow, the owner/operator shall implement at least one of the following windblown dust CMPs to limit VDE to no more than 20% opacity:
  - a. Cover Crop,
  - b. Conservation Tillage,
  - c. Crop Residue Management,
  - d. Cross Wind Stripcropping,
  - e. Field Windbreaks,
  - f. Ridge Roughness,
  - g. Surface Roughening, or
  - h. Wind Barrier.