

CV-SALTS BMP Subcommittee

Management Practices Evaluation

Approach for Salt and Nutrients (Nitrate)

The BMP Subcommittee's charter is to assist CV-SALTS to improve salt and nitrate management through industry and community management practices, identifying, characterizing and evaluating the management alternatives to improve implementation and monitoring of results.

Management Practice Review Approach

At the recommendation of the CV-SALTS Committees or in accordance with the sector schedule below the Subcommittee will evaluate a management practices in accordance with the following process and standards.

Process

The process for new or developing and validated practices are different in their requirements and efforts. Each process is described in summary below (additional details to be described by the subcommittee). Practices are evaluated for acceptance as a salt or nitrate management practice. They may be accepted as a best practice if they are found to be a superior or ultimate practice for a given process and circumstances. Not

Validated Practices

Management practices which are established and can provide information shown in Attachment 1 should submit under validated practices. The standards (described below) for effectiveness and broadly demonstrated field implementation should be thoroughly met. This will allow the greatest implementation flexibility and lowest monitoring requirements.

Management Practices which have been evaluated by other Best Management Practice programs may submit documentation for concurrence.

New or Developing Practices

Many management practices to address salt and nitrate are new or are still being developed, demonstrated or validated. The identification of a practice as new or developing should not detract from its perceived effectiveness or value, but only indicates its status of implementation and review. New or developing practices will not have all documentation under the standards section and will not generally have monitoring necessary for full validation and acceptance.

Sector Schedule

The Pilot Salt and Nitrate Source Implementation Study identified sources of salt and each primary or significant source of salt shown in the report will be scheduled for review. Sources (industries or communities) which have prepared Best Management Practice documents will be reviewed in priority to other sources. The Subcommittee will establish the schedule for review of practices and technologies in each sector, at a pace that is manageable but which reviews all significant sources alternatives prior to the implementation plan development.

Source	Date
1. Surface Irrigation and Drinking Water	
2. Groundwater Drinking and Irrigation Water	
3. Irrigated agriculture/Fertilizer	
4. Non-point source/stormwater	
5. Wastewater/Industrial dischargers	
6. Wastewater/Residential dischargers	
7. Food processing industries	
8. Dairy and CAFO	
9. Water treatment and softening	
10. Septic tank discharges	
11. Other point sources and discharges to land	
12. Atmospheric deposition	

Standards

Effectiveness and superiority to general practice must be shown for management practices for salt and nitrate. The Demonstration of Best Practices may be situational or not be able to be determined until implemented in several locations. (The Subcommittee will develop these further in the coming meetings)

Technical Effectiveness

Demonstrating Technical effectiveness is critical for a management practice to be implemented and accepted. Evidence of technical effectiveness is demonstrated by lab, pilot and demonstration studies and evaluation of the studies.

Implementability

Implementability includes both feasibility as well as well as broad applicability. Satisfactory implementability is shown by evidence of implementation by industries and communities as wells as other issues related to cost and efficiency covered in other sections.

Cost effectiveness

Cost effectiveness is critical to being a best practice, low efficiency costly practices are not likely to be able to be broadly implemented due to the value of implementation. High value practices will likely be

implemented with minimal regulatory requirements. The assessment of effectiveness related to cost is not always as simple as dollars per ton of salt or pound of nitrate, often it is the cost to implement, operate and maintain and the availability of technically trained workforce to implement the practice.

Monitoring

Both ability to monitor as well as the length and breadth of the monitoring history will be identified in this standard, primarily related to validated or developing.

Other Regulatory or Non-Regulatory Approvals

CV-SALTS may be able to defer to prior decisions made by Waterboards, industrial societies and accreditation groups for validation. Where appropriate this should be done to reduce the cost and delays associated with duplication of validation.

Management Practice List

The Subcommittee will establish and update a list of management practices and alternatives that are known to the Subcommittee. This list will be used to track management practices, alternatives and technologies. The list will be maintained by the Subcommittee and CVSC. The list will be available on the cvsalinity.org website and track the status of evaluation and verification or monitoring.

CV-SALTS Management Practice or Technology Presentations

Technologies appropriate for presentation to CV-SALTS Technical Committee or Executive Committee are technologies and approaches that have been reviewed in accordance with the process set forth above and found to merit wider application. Presentation opportunities are limited to available meeting time and may take several months to schedule. Technologies warranting presentation should normally be validated or have had several pilot deployments with monitoring data to demonstrate effectiveness. Exceptions may be granted by the committee for alternatives and technologies that show special promise or that are strongly recommended by an Executive Committee Member.

Vendors or technology proponents who wish to have their salt and nitrate alternatives or technologies evaluated for presentation should contact the Central Valley Salinity Coalition or the Committee Chair.