

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0061671-05-0

Permittee: Heller Farm Inc

Facility Where Discharge Occurs:

Cows R Us (Main Farm): W12465 State Road 95 Alma Center, WI 54611 (*NE & NW ¼ of the NW ¼ Sec. 36 T23N R05W*)

Hart Calf Farm: W10636 Old Stage Road, Alma Center, WI 54611 (*NW ¼ of the SE ¼ Sec. 23 T23N R05W*)

Receiving Water And Location: Hayden Creek & South Fork Halls Creek within the Halls Creek & Upper Trempealeau River Watersheds, and groundwaters of the state

Brief Facility Description : Heller Farm Inc is an existing Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) owned and operated by the Heller Family. Heller Farm currently has a total of 1,999 animal units (1,310 milking and dry cows, 136 heifers, and 290 calves) and does not have any plans to increase the number of animal units during the five-year permit term. Based on the current herd size Heller Farm has approximately 189 days of liquid manure storage capacity with the existing waste storage facilities. Heller Farm has approximately 4,087.5 acres included in their nutrient management plan (NMP) that are available for land application of manure and process wastewater, of which 3,979.5 are considered spreadable acres. Of the total acreage, approximately 916.5 are owned and approximately 3,171 are controlled through contracts, rental agreements, or are under manure agreements.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued. This WPDES permit action is an integrated analysis action under s. NR 150.20(2), Wis. Adm. Code, and does not require a separate action under NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Clare Freix, DNR, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701, (715) 492-4465, Clare.Freix@wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, or to request a public informational hearing may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is re-issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be re-issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if within 30 days of the public date of this notice, a request for a hearing is filed by any person. The Department shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from USEPA or from 5 or more persons or if the Department determines there is significant public interest. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (715) 492-4465 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME AND OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Banner Journal, 409 E Main Street, , Black River Falls, WI, 54615-1460

Date Notice Issued: Wednesday, February 19, 2025