



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Iowa DNR News

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Manure spill in Winneshiek County stopped

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RIDGEWAY, Iowa – The DNR is investigating a manure spill about three miles north of Ridgeway in Winneshiek County.

An estimated 5,000 to 10,000 gallons of manure reached the headwaters of Walnut Creek after a hose came apart during manure application. The spill occurred on the Kevin Moellers cattle confinement about 4 p.m. Tuesday. Moellers reported it to DNR at 8:10 a.m. Wednesday.

Moellers dammed the creek about a mile downstream and pumped water to his lagoon until the water ran clear. He reported there was no fish kill.

DNR staff from Manchester took several water samples and tested for ammonia Wednesday morning. Inspectors did not see any dead fish and confirmed field tests showed low levels of ammonia.

“They went to a lot of effort and destroyed some cropland to prevent the manure from going further,” said Clark Ott, DNR environmental inspector.

The DNR will monitor the cleanup and consider appropriate enforcement action.