**Section 503.102 Irrigation Activities**

NPDES permits are required for discharges of irrigation return flow (such as tailwater, tile drainage, surfaced groundwater flow or bypass water) operated by public or private organizations or individuals if:

a) There is a point source of discharge (e.g., a pipe, ditch or other defined or discrete conveyance, whether natural or artificial); and

b) The return flow is from land areas of more than 3000 contiguous acres, or 3000 noncontiguous acres which use the same drainage system.