**GUIDANCE FOR DISPOSAL UPON RECEIVING**

This document establishes CMC’s guidelines for the disposal of raw cranberries by handlers upon receiving (i.e. without being frozen, processed or stored) in any crop year in which a handler withholding is established under §929.54 of the Marketing Order. It is recommended that handlers disposing of fruit voluntarily prior to any formal issuance of a volume regulation or other requirement by USDA comply with these guidelines. All definitions used in this form shall have the same meaning as those in §§929.1- 929.17 of the Marketing Order.

1. **CMC Inspection.** Disposal of cranberries at receiving will be subject to random inspection by CMC-approved inspectors. The timing and frequency of inspections is subject to the reasonable discretion of the CMC Executive Director. In setting an inspection plan, the Executive Director will endeavor to ensure that inspections occur weekly at all disposal locations, and will use her best reasonable judgment to determine the most effective inspection plan to ensure the effectiveness of the Volume Regulation.
2. **Notice of Disposal.** All handlers disposing of fruit in compliance with the volume regulation must provide advance written notice to CMC of the locations and approximate times/dates when such disposal activities will take place, so that CMC’s inspectors have the opportunity to verify that such disposal is in compliance with the volume regulation.
3. **Submitting Disposal Certification.** All handlers disposing of fruit upon receiving will be required to complete a Handler Disposal Certification for each distinct lot of fruit being treated as withheld fruit. Handler Disposal Certifications must be filed with CMC within two weeks of the disposal activity.
4. **Records Retention.** Handlers who submit Disposal Certifications to CMC must retain supporting documentation sufficient for CMC and its inspectors to confirm disposal activities, including but not limited to copies of lot samples, weight slips, and tests showing the % of usable fruit. Supporting documentation should be preserved throughout the marketing year (i.e. through August 31, 2018).
5. **Disposal At Grower’s Property.** Whenever a handler will dispose of any withheld fruit by sending it to any grower who has delivered cranberries to that handler, the recipient grower should be given instructions as follows: the lot of withheld fruit should be placed in a visible location on the grower’s property and available to CMC inspectors for a period of 7 days of receipt. During this time, the withheld lot should not be field spread, composted or otherwise disposed of.