



Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

Competitive. Innovative. Resilient.

RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES PROGRAM (RALP)

Extensive Wintering Site Management BMP

Extensive wintering sites are field settings where animals are fed or sheltered through the winter feeding period outside of confinement. The purpose of this BMP is to create or improve extensive wintering sites to protect soil and water resources.

Funding through the Extensive Wintering Site Management BMP assists livestock producers to improve their management of livestock wintering sites to minimize nutrient runoff into surface water and maximize nutrient retention to improve soil health.

FUNDING LEVEL

60 per cent of eligible costs to a combined maximum payment of \$50,000 for all eligible activities.

APPLICATION TYPE

Applicants must work through their local Ministry of Agriculture agri-environmental specialist to have their projects pre-approved. Please call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 to connect with a specialist in your area.

- Application deadline for pre-approval is September 30, 2027, for project to be completed by February 1, 2028.
- Applicants must submit a Ministry of Agriculture approved extensive wintering site plan.
- A Ministry of Agriculture specialist may complete a pre or post BMP implementation site visit.
- Claims must be received by February 1, 2028. A final inspection may be required to confirm changes were implemented in accordance with the initial site inspection.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

Some projects may be located on parcels of land deemed environmentally sensitive. Through the pre-approval application process, a Ministry of Agriculture agri-environmental specialist will conduct the environmental screening on private land. On Crown land, a land management specialist will conduct the environmental screening and a Crown Land Management Branch Application to Construct Improvements may be required. Projects located in environmentally sensitive areas may have special requirements including, but not limited to:

- Following Ministry of Environment [wildlife-friendly fencing guidelines](#);
- Following Ministry of Agriculture Crown Land Management Branch improvement authorization conditions.

AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

As a condition to access program funding, applicants are required to review the [Agri-Environmental Risk Assessment](#) before beginning their project.

ELIGIBILITY

- Saskatchewan agricultural producers (individual, partnership or corporation) who can demonstrate a minimum of \$50,000 in gross farm income in Saskatchewan in the year of application or the year prior to the application.
- Individual applicants are at least 18 years of age.
- Our programs allow flexibility for new entrants to become eligible if they expect to meet gross farm income eligibility within the five-year term of Sustainable CAP. New entrants who do not meet the annual gross farm income threshold are encouraged to submit a claim and will be required to provide proof of meeting the annual gross farm income threshold before February 29, 2028; or
- First Nation Bands in the Province of Saskatchewan.
- Must have a [Saskatchewan Premises Identification \(PID\) number](#).
- Own, lease or custom graze a minimum of 20 animal units.

First Nation producers may have distinct characteristics reflecting regulatory, operational, cultural and other factors. Our programs are designed to allow for flexibility to reduce barriers and ensure accessibility. If you are interested in applying for programs and have questions about the application process or eligibility criteria for First Nation producers, please contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 and ask to be connected with the appropriate extension specialist.

PROJECT COSTS

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES OR ITEMS

- Costs of materials for relocating or purchasing comparable infrastructure including [fencing at Ministry of Agriculture established rates](#), windbreaks (at one ft. for every head of cattle), water infrastructure and earthwork.
- Maximum eligible rebate for fencing costs is based on the following rates for fence construction:
 - For fencing costs associated with a barbed wire fence is set at \$3,231/km or \$5,400/mile (based on estimated construction costs of \$5,592/km or \$9,000/mile).
 - For fencing costs associated with a smooth wire fence is set at \$2,050/km or \$3,300/mile (based on estimated construction costs of \$3,418/km or \$5,500/mile).
 - For fencing costs associated with wildlife friendly fencing (as constructed per Ministry of Environment guidelines) is set at \$3,231/km or \$5,400/mile (based on estimated construction costs of \$5,592/km or \$9,000/mile).
 - Maximum eligible rebate for temporary fencing is \$2,400 (per applicant, per stream).
- SaskPower infrastructure including service installation, hookup and electrical for water distribution for livestock.
- Construction or replacement of permanent or portable handling loadout facilities.
- Cost of decommissioning and restoring the wintering site such as moving, demolition, decommissioning of old buildings, corrals, reclamation earthworks and seeding grass.
- Extensive wintering sites must be situated or designed so runoff to waterways is minimized or contained. Runoff controls may be required. Engineering plans related to runoff controls are eligible as a standalone activity.
- Costs to plant trees for sheltering and nutrient runoff mitigation including seedling purchase, tree planter equipment rental, and plastic mulch. Alternatively, custom tree planting costs are also eligible.
- Grass seed costs for earthwork stabilization.
- Development of dugouts or wells is not eligible under this BMP, however, pipeline development or heated watering bowls or geothermal 'power free' watering systems are eligible. If claimed under this BMP, these costs cannot also be claimed under the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program.
- Brush clearing is eligible as a fencing expense but is subject to the per-mile fencing funding caps outlined above. Clearing may be approved up to a maximum of 15 metres surrounding the proposed fenceline.
- Energizer (solar, battery or AC) system or components thereof for powering electric fence up to a maximum eligible rebate of \$900 per project. Purchase of an energizer must be in conjunction with a project that is implementing temporary or permanent electric fencing.
- Use of applicant's equipment at [Saskatchewan Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide rates](#).

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES OR ITEMS

- Invoices dated before April 1, 2023.
- Costs associated with expanding production capacity.
- Transportation or land application of manure.
- Use of leased equipment.
- Development of a new water source (refer to Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program for funding options).
- Water treatment systems.
- Costs for separating topsoil from clay.
- Maintenance costs related to tree planting including herbicides and watering equipment.
- In-kind materials such as rocks, sand, gravel or clay.
- In-kind labour or employee labour.
- In-kind payment (i.e., trading) for third-party services.
- In-kind freight/mileage.
- Portable windbreaks and/or feedbunks as stand-alone project expenses.
- Watering devices/accessories installed on frozen dugouts.
- Permanent shelters.
- Costs related to removing/replacing old fencing or maintaining existing fencing.