Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

Competitive. Innovative. Resilient.

RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES PROGRAM (RALP)

Livestock Water Protection BMP

The Livestock Water Protection Stream of the Livestock Stewardship Beneficial Management Practice (BMP) protects or improves surface water resources by mitigating impacts to nearby surface water from livestock operations.

Funding for livestock water protection assists livestock producers to implement measures to protect nearby surface water resources by preventing spring runoff from entering their livestock facility or migrating off-site.

FUNDING LEVEL

90 per cent of eligible costs up to a maximum payment of $20,000 under this BMP.

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.

- Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. Application deadline for pre-approval is September 30, 2027, for project to be completed by February 1, 2028.
- Applications must contain a detailed site diagram of the project and area requiring runoff control. Include the location of winter-feeding areas, corrals, holding pens, sorting/handling pens, manure storage/composting areas, existing water sources such as wells, dugouts and nearby watercourses.
- Claims must be received by February 1, 2028. A site inspection may be completed to verify the information contained in the application or claim form.

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.

PUBLICATIONS/RESOURCES:

- Projects must meet all federal, provincial and rural municipality regulatory requirements and/or approvals.
- Holding Pond Site Selection and Design.
- Regulation of Intensive Livestock Operations in Saskatchewan.
- For technical assistance, contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

PROJECT COSTS

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES OR ITEMS

- All invoices must be dated April 1, 2023, or later.
- Runoff control works on new or existing livestock confinement, winter feeding or sorting and handling sites.
- While not a mandatory requirement, the program funds technical, surveying and/or engineering costs. This work can be funded if the project does not proceed.
- Earthwork (holding ponds, ditches, berms, pen re-grading) related to diverting runoff around livestock confinement, winter feeding or sorting/handling and manure storage/composting areas, or diverting and collecting runoff from the livestock facility/area.
- Grass seed for earthwork stabilization.
- Well head protection and extension of well cribbing, if done in conjunction with a runoff control project.
- Construction materials may include:
  - Culverts, if required to manage diversion/flow of runoff;
  - Erosion control materials, if needed; and
  - Earthwork materials (such as rocks, gravel, dirt and clay) required to build berms or to regrade existing pens (in-kind materials will only be funded if they are purchased from a third-party and supported by an invoice.).
- Costs to plant trees used for mitigation of nutrient runoff including seeding purchase, tree planter equipment rental, and plastic mulch. Alternatively, custom tree planting costs are also eligible. Fencing to protect the trees will be funded at established Ministry of Agriculture fencing rates.
- Third-party freight.
- In-kind heavy equipment use.
- Use of applicant's equipment at current Saskatchewan Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES OR ITEMS

- Dugout or household lagoon construction.
- Runoff control for household lagoons if not part of an overall runoff control project for farmyards and/or livestock facilities.
- Field drainage.
- 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.
- Cement or roller compacted concrete.
- Costs for separating topsoil from clay.
- Materials for building fence, windbreaks or other infrastructure not related to tree protection.
- Items considered regular replacement, repair of maintenance (including damage to infrastructure during project completion).
- Fabricated items, equipment or materials not purchased from a recognized dealer. For the purposes of the program, a recognized dealer is typically defined as a business where manufacturing is a key service or the business is an authorized dealer for certain item(s);
- Cost of purchasing or leasing equipment.
- Financing, interest, legal fees or taxes.
- Any submission for rebate using a third-party vendor must be from a vendor who is third-party arm's-length, or the claim will be considered to be in-kind and funded based on the actual purchase price and require the submission of original invoices.
- Maintenance costs related to tree planting including herbicides and watering equipment.
- Projects on intensive livestock operations are not funded under this BMP (see the Intensive Livestock Management BMP for options for those operations).