



Beneficial Management Practices

Water Infrastructure Appendix 2024/25



Water Infrastructure Project Category

Cost Shared Ratio: 75% unless otherwise noted

Maximum total funding amount for all projects undertaken in the Water Infrastructure category: Up to \$200K unless otherwise noted

Application Window: Opens April 2, 2024

Submission Window: April 15, 2024, at 9 AM to April 19, 2024, at 4 PM

Project Completion Date: + 140 days from Project Approval/Start Date

Categories:

- Well protection (existing wells)
- Dams and reservoirs - new and existing
- Dugouts – new and existing
- Roof rainwater harvesting systems – new and existing
- Improved irrigation system management and irrigation scheduling
- Irrigation systems – new or upgrade/replacement of existing system
- Improvement of water supply system to farm
- Water meter and other flow measuring devices on farm



Funding for this program has been provided by the Governments of Canada and British Columbia through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The program is delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC (IAF).

If there is a discrepancy between this document and the information found on iafbc.ca, the website takes precedence.



Practice Code Details

BMP Category Practice Code and Commodity	Eligible BMPs and Costs	Required plans or actions to be completed prior to or concurrent with a project
<p>0901 – Well Protection</p> <p>All wells that are deemed at risk from contamination during an EFP assessment</p>	<p>Eligible costs:</p> <p>Existing wells that are deemed at risk from contamination during an EFP assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthwork at well head or runoff diversion • Installation of pit-less adaptor • Upgrading or maintenance of well head or well casing, fittings, seals, waterproof caps and connections to prevent seepage. • Installation of backflow prevention devices • Flow control for artesian wells and backflow prevention • Casing extensions to elevate wellhead • Raising of electrical components above 1:200-year flood levels <p>Work must be completed in accordance with the Water Sustainability Act and Groundwater Protection Regulation. Work must be completed by appropriately qualified and registered persons (see sections 14-17 of the Groundwater Protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of water licence* for the proposed use (e.g., irrigation) of the water source (i.e., aquifer) must be provided. • Project budget, project quotes, and map (showing well location on property) <p>* Proof that an Existing Use Groundwater licence application has been submitted for historical groundwater use (i.e., use that occurred prior to February 29, 2016) is also acceptable.</p>

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	<p>Regulation.) Proof of water licence* must be provided.</p> <p>Note: Photo evidence of before and after conditions must be provided with claim</p> <p>Ineligible items: New well construction</p>	
0903 – Dams and reservoirs - new and existing	<p>New construction, rehabilitation or upgrade of existing agricultural (regulated and unregulated**) dams and reservoirs for farm water use.</p> <p>Eligible costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction, materials, machinery/equipment (gates, valves, etc.) and other costs associated with the construction. • Pumping systems and watering troughs to keep livestock out of the existing reservoir are recommended and are eligible costs, provided the reservoir is deemed to provide a secure source in periods of extended drought. Fencing, if installed along with a pumping system, is recommended and eligible cost to keep cattle out of the reservoir. These systems will protect the water quality (stream health) and livestock and sustain the supply. • Other professional services associated with the project supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have technical design (1102) • Proof of water licence* for the proposed use (e.g., irrigation) of the water source (i.e., aquifer, stream) must be provided prior to construction and water use. • Water licence for the proposed storage volume. • Assessment/approval/ authorization from the Dam Safety Program staff • B.C. Dam Safety Regulations must be followed (may be exempt for minor/unregulated** dams). • Change approval to make changes in and about a stream (if applicable). • Easement (if applicable) <p>* Proof that an Existing Use Groundwater licence application has been submitted for historical groundwater use (i.e., use that occurred prior to February 29, 2016) is also acceptable.</p>

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	<p>Ineligible items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water used for non-agricultural purposes • Used materials • Water distribution system • Assessments and technical plans (funded under BMP category 1102). <p>Note: Photo evidence of before and after conditions must be provided with the claim.</p> <p>Please refer to the Dam Safety Technical Resources or contact the Dam Safety Program staff for technical advice on dams and reservoirs.</p>	<p>** Dams exempt from the B.C. Dam Safety Regulation is generally defined as less than 7.5 m high and capable of storing 10,000 cubic metres or less of water.</p>
0904 – Dugouts – new and existing	<p>Improvement, expansion or new construction of dugouts and storage facilities for irrigation water and livestock watering, including rangeland.</p> <p>Eligible costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction, materials, liner, pump, intake, machinery/equipment (e.g., gates, valves, etc.) and associated fittings and controls • Power supply to the farm property line as required • Solar or wind power supply for remote livestock watering systems • Planting of trees and snow fencing to facilitate snow collection and melt • Dugout aeration systems (wind or electric compressors) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have a water management plan (2902) • Must have a technical design (1102) • Design must follow guidance provided in British Columbia Farm Water Dugouts, specifically the minimum specifications as follows: side slope to end slope ratio (1.5:1), spoil pile (minimum 5 meter horizontally from dugout excavated edge), and minimum pond depth (4 meter). • Proof of water licence* for the proposed use (e.g., irrigation) of the water source (i.e., aquifer, stream) must be provided prior to construction and water use.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pumping systems and watering troughs to keep livestock out of the existing dugout are recommended and are eligible costs, provided the dugout is deemed to provide a secure source in periods of extended drought. Fencing if installed along with a pumping system is recommended and eligible cost to keep cattle out of the dugout. These systems will protect the water quality (stream health) and livestock and sustain the supply. • Other professional services associated with the project supervision <p>Ineligible items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water used for non-agricultural purposes • Water distribution system • Used materials • Dugouts with design specifications that are legally considered as dams according to the B.C. Dam Safety Regulation (DSR) <p>Note: Photo evidence of before and after conditions must be provided with claim.</p> <p>Please refer to Authorization Requirements for Storage, Use of Water in Dugouts, Guidance on Farm Water Storage, and B.C. Agriculture Water Calculator, and Dam Safety Technical Resources, or contact the Dam Safety Program staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water licence for the proposed storage volume. • Change approval to make changes in and about a stream (if applicable). • Easement (if applicable) <p>* Proof that an Existing Use Groundwater licence application has been submitted for historical groundwater use (i.e., use that occurred prior to February 29, 2016) is also acceptable.</p> <p>* To determine if a licence is required for a dugout, please refer to Authorization requirements for storage and use of water in dugouts.</p>

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0905 – Rainwater harvesting systems- new and existing	<p>Capture system for the collection of rainwater or snowmelt water (Section 5) for farm water use. Can fund the installation of a new system or rehabilitation/upgrade of an existing system.</p> <p>Eligible costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machinery cost • Above-ground and below-ground storage structures (excluding dugouts, ponds, and reservoirs funded under other categories). • Construction materials, including foundation pad, tanks, pump, collection pipes, filters, liners, valves, and plumbing to the point of final distribution <p>Ineligible items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water used for domestic commercial or industrial use • Used equipment • Any portion of the system used to collect wastewater or reclaimed water from the water treatment system • Water distribution system <p>Note: Photo evidence of before and after conditions must be provided with claim. If the system includes use of licensable water (e.g., surface water or groundwater), proof of a water licence* must be provided.</p>	<p>For projects that include a mix of rainwater and surface water/groundwater sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of water licence* for the proposed use (e.g., irrigation) of the water source (i.e., aquifer, stream) must be provided prior to construction and water use. • Water licence for the proposed storage volume. <p>* Proof that an Existing Use Groundwater licence application has been submitted for historical groundwater use (i.e., use that occurred prior to February 29, 2016) is also acceptable.</p>
1802 – Improved irrigation system management and irrigation scheduling	<p>Eligible costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controllers, electric valves and low voltage wiring to valves when identified as part of an improved 	

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	<p>irrigation system management project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation scheduling equipment such as soil moisture sensors and moisture meters when combined with an automation of an irrigation system. • Weather station with a data transmission unit using cellular, internet or satellite. Station must be connected to Farmwest.com website or similar web network as approved by BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food. The stations must be located in an area of the farm that is not directly impacted by farm operations (e.g., station cannot be located where irrigation water may interfere with the rain sensor). Costs to connect station to Farmwest, transmit data to Farmwest, and regular station maintenance of approved systems will be paid for by BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food unless otherwise notified. <p>Ineligible items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour to install systems or improvements to systems 	
1804 – Irrigation systems – new or upgrade/replacement of existing system	<p>Installation of new irrigation system or upgrade/replacement of an existing system as recommended by an irrigation system assessment (2901).</p> <p>New systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System selection should achieve best water application efficiency possible (that is, wheeline or centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation system assessment (2901) • Proof of water license for the proposed work* • Change approval to make changes in and about a stream (if applicable).

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	<p>pivot irrigation systems are eligible for forage crops, drip for horticultural crops).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New irrigation system must be identified in an irrigation system assessment plan (2901) and must indicate how and to what level irrigation water use efficiency will be achieved for the entire irrigation system. • Irrigation system design must be certified by a Certified Irrigation Designer through the Irrigation Industry Association of BC (IIABC). <p>Existing systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation system assessment (2901) must indicate how, and to what level, irrigation water use efficiency will be increased by the project. More specifically, by the time the project report is submitted the following data is required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (1) pre-project (baseline) and post-project energy source, ○ (2) pre-project (baseline) and post-project annual energy consumption (in kWh), and ○ (3) estimated annual reduction of fossil fuel consumption (in kWh, if applicable). <p>Note: Consulting services with a Certified Irrigation Designer, specifically to provide the 3 data points above (if they are not already provided in the applicant's Irrigation System</p>	<p>* Proof that an Existing Use Groundwater licence application has been submitted for historical groundwater use (i.e., use that occurred prior to February 29, 2016) is also acceptable.</p>

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	<p>Assessment (BMP 2901)) are eligible costs for this code.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible items for system upgrades (if identified in plan) include replacement of nozzles, gaskets, sprinklers, suction screen, intake pipes, and mainlines. • For system redesign/replacement, irrigation system design must be certified by a Certified Irrigation Designer through the Irrigation Industry Association of BC (IIABC). <p>Ineligible items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used irrigation systems, unless purchased from an authorized irrigation supplier and certified by a Certified Irrigation Designer through the Irrigation Industry Association of BC (IIABC). • Electrical system 	
1806 – Improvement of water supply systems to farms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category can be used for replacing a ditched irrigation supply to a piped irrigation supply or improving an existing piped system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation system assessment (2901) • Proof of water license* for the proposed work. • Change approval to make changes in and about a stream (if applicable). <p>* Proof that an Existing Use Groundwater licence application has been submitted for historical groundwater use (i.e., use that occurred prior to February 29, 2016) is also acceptable.</p>

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1808 – Water meters or other flow-measuring devices	Purchase and installation of new or replacement meters or other flow measuring devices. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials costs • Labour costs • Valves • Piping through hookup 	

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