



Beneficial Management Practices

Extreme Weather Preparedness Appendix 2025/26



Applicants are responsible for reviewing and understanding the Beneficial Management Practices Program (BMP) criteria before submitting their application. For complete program details, visit www.iafbc.ca/bmp/

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BOOK A CALL

In addition to calling the IAF Team during business hours or sending an email to bmp@iafbc.ca, starting on October 1, 2025, for the Extreme Weather Preparedness category, you can book a 10-minute phone consultation with an IAF staff member to discuss your BMP application.

Prior to booking an appointment, you must start your draft application and provide the ID number (BMP-202425-0####). This gives you and the IAF staff member a specific application to reference and provide support for during the 10-minute phone call. Applicants are limited to one phone call appointment. Visit iafbc.ca/bmp to book your call!

Activities: Practice Code Details

Looking for information about a FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment? See the [BMP: Planning, Technical Assessments & Engineered Designs category](#).

Wildfire Preparedness

The Wildfire Preparedness Stream is offered in partnership with BC Wildfire Service and FireSmart™ BC. Applicants who have completed a FireSmart™ BC Farm and Ranch Assessment within the last 5 years will be eligible to apply for select on-farm Projects to address recommendations from the assessment. **Approved applicants will receive 40% cost-share reimbursements for select on-farm Projects up to a maximum of \$50,000.**

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
3602	FireSmart™ BC Farm Building Retrofits	Eligible costs: - Roof material and construction: - Install class A UL/ASTM fire-rated roof covering (e.g., metal, rated hot lay, clay tile, or asphalt shingles) - Remove unrated roof covering (including wood shakes and wood shingle roofs) - Roof covering: - Ensure there are no gaps or openings that expose combustible building components; or ensure there are no enclosed spaces where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate. - Gutter material: - If gutters are present, install non-combustible gutters (aluminum, metal, or copper); ensure there is no exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutters - Remove combustible (plastic, vinyl, wood) and/or exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutters - Cleanliness of roof and gutters: - Remove built-up needles, leaves, or other combustible materials - Eaves and vents: - Ensure all eaves are blocked or closed (i.e., no gaps, holes, or unprotected areas to the attic or interior of the building) - Ensure all vents are ASTM-rated ember-resistant vents OR are covered with 3 mm (1/8") non-combustible screening. If vents have louvres or flaps, ensure they are operational (self-close when not expelling air)

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- Exterior siding & walls: - Upgrade to ignition-resistant (i.e., cement fire board, log) or non-combustible (i.e., stucco, metals, concrete, brick/stone) siding material - Ensure there are no gaps or cracks, missing siding, or holes - Ensure there is no less than 15 cm of non-combustible vertical ground-to-siding surface. - Fire-resistant windows or doors (including large doors/garage doors): - Install tempered glass in all windows (including windows in doors) - Remove non-tempered glass - Ensure there are no gaps in or around any doors - Balcony, deck, porch, other building extensions, or open foundation: - If present (and not open heavy timber, non-combustible or fire-rated construction), ensure the balcony, deck, porch, or other building extension/open foundation is sheathed with fire-resistant/ non-combustible materials, or non-combustible siding, with no gaps or cracks - If a balcony, deck, porch, or other building extension or open foundation is present, ensure there is a non-combustible surface and no combustible debris underneath - Non-combustible fencing material: - Replace wood fences with fire-resistant fencing within the farm home plate or pastures connecting/adjacent to commercial livestock barns Required documents: - Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Designs prerequisite code 3601 – FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment Note: You are only eligible for funding for items that are recommended in your operation's FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment. Ineligible costs: - Any works that are not directly related to barns, buildings, and structures that are primarily for farm use

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- Residential buildings and structures (e.g., balcony, deck, porch, and other building extensions or open foundations relating to residential buildings) Additional resources: FireSmart™ BC resource webpage (https://firesmartbc.ca/resource-types/factsheets/) FireSmart™ BC Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness webpage (https://firesmartbc.ca/farm-and-ranch-wildfire-preparedness/)
3603	FireSmart™ BC Critical Farm Structures	Eligible costs: - Valve station/substation/fuel tanks: - Ensure a non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure - Utility line poles or critical components (weather stations, antenna masts, cellular towers): - Ensure poles/ support structures are constructed of non-combustible material (metal or concrete) - Ensure non-combustible or combustible poles or support structures are free of petroleum/ accelerant-based coatings, cracks, and gaps where embers may accumulate, lodge, or penetrate, and the non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure - Critical component: - Ensure critical components are not constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from significant radiant or convective heat fluxes - Ensure critical components are constructed of materials that are not susceptible to damage from embers; OR if critical components are constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from embers, ensure they are free of any gaps, holes, or areas where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate Required documents: - Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Designs prerequisite code 3601 – FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment Note: You are only eligible for funding for items that are recommended in your operation's FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment.

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		Ineligible costs: - Any works that are not directly related to barns, buildings, and structures that are primarily for farm use - Residential buildings and structures (e.g., balcony, deck, porch, and other building extensions or open foundations relating to residential buildings) are not eligible Additional resources: FireSmart™ BC resource webpage (https://firesmartbc.ca/resource-types/factsheets/) FireSmart™ BC Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness webpage (https://firesmartbc.ca/farm-and-ranch-wildfire-preparedness/)
3604	FireSmart™ BC Addressing Vegetation & Combustible Materials	Eligible costs: - Immediate Zone (0-1.5 m from furthest extent of building or critical structure (includes overhangs or extensions)) - Ensure there is a non-combustible surface, and there are no combustible debris, materials, fences, or plants present; see FireSmart™ BC Landscaping Hub (https://firesmartbc.ca/landscaping-hub/) - Intermediate Zone (within 1.5-10 m of building or critical structures): - Ensure flammable substances, or other combustible materials (i.e., vehicles, flammable liquids/gases, construction materials, debris, etc.) are stored/located more than 10 m from the structure (i.e., a farm building or a critical farm structure), or are stored in approved and ember-resistant storage containers - Ensure there are either no trees present or healthy deciduous only (i.e., poplar, aspen, birch); if conifers are present, ensure they are at least 3 meters apart from crown-to-crown, and all branches within 2 metres of the ground are removed - Ensure there are no twigs, branches, logs, and accumulations of tree needles or leaves and other combustible materials; no unmaintained grass (greater than 15 cm in length); no flammable plants; no continuous plants or tall growing plants - Extended Zone (within 10-30 m of buildings or critical structures): - Ensure there are either no trees present or healthy deciduous only (i.e., poplar, aspen, birch); if conifers are present, ensure they are at least 3 meters apart from crown-to-crown, and all branches within 2 metres of the ground are removed

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- o Ensure no surface vegetation and combustible materials Required documents: • Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Designs prerequisite code 3601 – FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment Note: You are only eligible for funding for items that are recommended in your operation's FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment. Ineligible costs: • Any works that are not directly related to barns, buildings, and structures that are primarily for farm use • Residential buildings and structures (e.g., balcony, deck, porch, and other building extensions or open foundations relating to residential buildings) are not eligible Additional resources: • FireSmart™ BC resource webpage (https://firesmartbc.ca/resource-types/factsheets/) • FireSmart™ BC Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness webpage (https://firesmartbc.ca/farm-and-ranch-wildfire-preparedness/)

Flood Preparedness

With a large portion of BC's highest-capability agricultural land located in floodplains, much of the province's most productive agricultural land is increasingly vulnerable to extreme flooding. The Flood Preparedness Stream provides cost-share payments to increase on-farm flood resiliency.

Approved applicants will receive 40% cost-share reimbursements for select on-farm projects up to a maximum of \$50,000.

Practice Code	Name	Description and details
3703	Flood Resilient	Eligible costs:

	Storage for Farm Inputs	- Increasing the flood resilience of on-farm storage of pesticides, non-fuel petroleum products, sanitation products for livestock and aquaculture operations, packaged fertilizer, paints, and veterinary products - Relocate/elevate existing storage rooms above flood level - Installation of solid metal shelves to restrict absorption of floodwater and spilled chemicals - Secured waterproof containers & flood bags - Racking of packaged fertilizer (including bags, pails, mini bulks, and 1000L totes) above flood level - Raising of electrical components above 1:200- year flood levels Required documents: - Declaration of pre-existing on-farm product storage Ineligible costs: - Locks, vents, and signage that are legally required and should already be installed - Storage facilities for bulk fertilizer products with storage sizes of greater than 1000 kg (granular) or greater than 1000 L (liquid) Additional Resources: Farm Flood Readiness Toolkit (https://www.bcclimatechangeadaptation.ca/app/uploads/SP05-Toolkit-Farm-Flood-Readiness-2022-fillable.pdf)
3704.2	Fill Pad for Farm Buildings	Eligible costs: - Acquisition and placement of fill that meets all applicable standards (i.e., must be acceptable for the specified use in the approved fill plan and free of contamination) - Raising of electrical components above 1:200- year flood levels Required documents: - Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Designs prerequisite code 3704.1 – Planning & Design of Fill Pad for Farm Buildings - Any other permits or authorizations as appropriate Ineligible costs: - Projects without design plans and necessary ALC/Local government approval - Farm building construction or renovation costs

		- Construction of dikes, berms, or other fill activities not associated with the raising of farm buildings Additional Resources: ALC Information Bulletin 07 Soil and Fill Uses in the ALR (https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/assets/alc/assets/legislation-and-regulation/information-bulletins/information_bulletin_07_-_soil_or_fill_uses_in_the_alr.pdf)
3705	Flood Resilient Feed Storage	Eligible costs: - Reconfiguration of high-value feed storage for intensive confined livestock and aquaculture operations - Bin and leg replacement on existing facilities to elevate above flood levels - Flood proofing of above-ground feed or commodity storage bunkers - Raising of electrical components above 1:200- year flood levels Required documents: - Declaration of pre-existing feeding system Ineligible costs: - Replacement or retrofitting of in-ground or below-ground level silage or hay storage facilities (i.e., sheds/barns/bunkers)
3706	Flood Resilient Apiary Overwintering & Equipment Storage	Eligible costs: - Reconfiguration of beehive, overwintering & equipment storage for apiary operations to elevate above flood levels - Installation of solid metal shelves to restrict the absorption of floodwater - Secured waterproof containers & flood bags - Raising of electrical components above 1:200- year flood levels Required documents: - Declaration of pre-existing beekeeping system Ineligible costs: - Replacement or retrofitting of in-ground or below-ground level silage or hay storage facilities (i.e., sheds/barns/bunkers)

Extreme Heat and Cold Preparedness

Livestock, horticulture, and seafood farming operations are particularly vulnerable to extreme heat and cold events. The Extreme Heat and Cold Preparedness Stream targets farmers who are most at risk of extreme heat and cold events and aims to support infrastructure and equipment upgrades that will reduce on-farm vulnerabilities. **Approved applicants will receive 40% cost-share reimbursements for select on-farm projects up to a maximum of \$50,000.**

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
3801.1	Improved Barn and Indoor Aquaculture Cooling Systems	Eligible costs: Infrastructure improvements to existing intensive livestock structures to improve animal, poultry, or aquaculture cooling, including: • Heat pumps and associated ducting or other works. (Includes cooling of air for aeration of recirculating aquaculture tanks and buildings) • Input or upgrades of water chillers for aquaculture tanks • Improved ventilation, including: ○ Tunnel or cross ventilation fans ○ Baffles, vents, or other air movement controls ○ Evaporative cooling systems (mistifiers or soakers) for cooling animals or indoor air • Improved building insulation • Enhanced temperature monitoring equipment and/ or control sensors/systems are required for all improvements listed above Required documents: • Declaration of pre-existing livestock or poultry barns or shelters, or aquaculture recirculation tanks and buildings, verification form of design parameters considered by the HVAC vendor/installer • For water-related eligible costs - Declaration that there is sufficient allocation from water license(s) (surface and/or groundwater) or water purveyor (e.g., irrigation district, municipality, Province) to complete the proposed project ○ For any projects involving modifications or improvements to irrigation systems, a Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Design prerequisite code 2901 – Irrigation System Assessment is required. Ineligible costs:

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- Any cooling systems for new barn or livestock housing construction, unless replacement is because of catastrophic loss from fire or flood Additional Resources: BC Climate Adaptation Report: Fraser Valley – State of Practices & Technologies Assessment for Managing Extreme Heat Impacts (2019) (https://www.bcclimatechangeadaptation.ca/app/uploads/FV07-Managing-Extreme-Heat-2019-report.pdf) Agricultural Building Ventilation Systems Report Template (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/farm-management/structures-and-mechanization/300-series/306412-1_ventilation_report.pdf)
3801.2	Cooling Systems for Outdoor Aquaculture Operations	Eligible costs: - Infrastructure improvements to existing, licensed aquaculture facilities that have a demonstrated need for supplemental cooling during heat domes, including: - Overhead canopy or reflective tarps used for shading of existing outdoor aquaculture tanks or pond culture systems. - Enhanced environmental monitoring equipment and/or control sensors/systems for existing, licensed marine-based aquaculture facilities that are vulnerable to marine heat waves. - Monitoring equipment must only be installed on pre-existing infrastructure that has been authorized in the tenure management plan. - Equipment may include water quality sensors such as temperature, pH, turbidity, and may include other parameters associated with marine heat wave events. This equipment is intended to inform management practices to help protect stocks from the negative impacts associated with marine heat waves. Required documents: - Declaration of pre-existing aquaculture infrastructure and susceptibility to, or having experienced impacts from, extreme heat events. - A valid aquaculture license

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- If a marine-based facility, an approved tenure management plan Ineligible costs: - Any costs that would be considered a normal, ongoing cost of production.
3802	Extreme Heat Protection for Horticultural Crops	Eligible costs: - Infrastructure improvements to existing fruit, berry, vegetable, and nursery crop production systems, including: - Overhead canopy evaporative cooling/sprinkler systems - Fogging systems - Evaporative cooling systems, such as cooling walls/towers - Shade/heat protection for harvested fruit, berry, or vegetable crops: - Modifications to farm vehicles (such as flatbed trucks or trailers) to add a roof and curtain walls for shading for harvested crops - Addition of roll tarp reflective covers to farm trailers/wagons or harvest equipment to shade harvested crops - Reflective tarps - Small investments for shade/heat protection practices for unharvested crops may also be considered - Reusable reflective tarps to cover harvested crop bins, totes, or lugs - Must have tiedowns or be designed to wrap around bins, totes, or lugs and provide a minimum of 70% reflectivity (e.g., reflective tarps are made of laminated fabric with a woven polyester core, which is double coated with bright white on the outer surface and a silvered Mylar® or similar material on the under surface) Required documents: - Declaration of area under horticulture crop production For water-related eligible costs - Declaration that there is sufficient allocation from water license(s) (surface and/or groundwater) or water purveyor (e.g., irrigation district, municipality, Province) to complete the proposed project - For any projects involving modifications or improvements to irrigation systems, a Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Design prerequisite code 2901 – Irrigation System Assessment is required.

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		Additional resources: • BC Climate Adaptation Report: Fraser Valley – State of Practices & Technologies Assessment for Managing Extreme Heat Impacts (2019) (https://www.bcclimatechangeadaptation.ca/app/uploads/FV07-Managing-Extreme-Heat-2019-report.pdf)
3803.1	Extreme Heat Protection for Outdoor Livestock - Shade Trees	Eligible costs: • Purchase and planting costs for new shade trees and tree protection fencing • Sturdy fencing to prevent livestock browsing or rubbing on trees. ◦ Irrigation systems establishment and maintenance of trees can be included if they are not within an irrigated livestock confinement area Note: Trees purchased must meet the following: • Climatically adapted deciduous species - Producers to ensure tree selection or management avoids potential toxicity issues for livestock - see additional resources below: ◦ Invasive Species Council of British Columbia – Identify Species (https://bcinvasives.ca/take-action/identify/) ◦ BC Vegetative Buffer Guide (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/agricultural-land-and-environment/environmental-farm-planning/vegetativebuffers.pdf) ◦ Cornell University Department of Animal Science – Plants Poisonous to Livestock (https://poisonousplants.ansci.cornell.edu/php/plants.php?action=display&ispecies=human) ◦ Cornell University Department of Animal Science – Poisonous to Livestock Plant Search (https://poisonousplants.ansci.cornell.edu/php/plants.php) • Trunk caliper not less than 1.5" (as measured at 6" above root flare) ◦ Note: Some flexibility on this caliper requirement may be granted to operations with small livestock (i.e., free range poultry) if requested at the time of application. Ineligible costs: • Trees that are less than 1.5" measured at 6" from the root flare • Coniferous or invasive species

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		Tree planting that does not directly benefit commercial livestock animal welfare
3803.2	Extreme Heat Protection for Outdoor Livestock - Infrastructure	Eligible costs: - Infrastructure improvements to existing outdoor confined livestock areas, including: - Installation of outdoor misters or soaker systems designed for livestock cooling - Construction or modification of loafing sheds to provide shade (must have the ability to remove walls or structures must be movable to avoid the accumulation of manure) Required documents: - Declaration of existing commercial livestock normally held outdoors in a confined area For water-related eligible costs - Declaration that there is sufficient allocation from water license(s) (surface and/or groundwater) or water purveyor (e.g., irrigation district, municipality, Province) to complete the proposed project - For any projects involving modifications or improvements to irrigation systems, a Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Design prerequisite code 2901 – Irrigation System Assessment is required. Ineligible costs: - Shelter for non-commercial livestock
3804	Enhanced Livestock Watering to Mitigate Heat Stress	Eligible costs: - Installation of additional watering infrastructure, including: - Supplying cool, fresh water at more points, addressing the needs of higher water demand due to heat - Increased water access for young stock - Systems can include upgrades to supply, treatment, and distribution, as well as permanent and mobile waterers Required documents: - Declaration of existing livestock or poultry watering systems For water-related eligible costs - Declaration that there is sufficient allocation from water license(s) (surface and/or groundwater) or water purveyor (e.g., irrigation district, municipality, Province) to complete the proposed project

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- For any projects involving modifications or improvements to irrigation systems, a Plans, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Design prerequisite code 2901 – Irrigation System Assessment is required. Ineligible costs: - New waterers where there was no pre-existing livestock or poultry drinking water supply Additional resources: BC Livestock Watering Handbook (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/agricultural-land-and-environment/water/water-supply-conservation/livestock-watering-handbook) Livestock Watering Requirements - Quantity and Quality (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/agricultural-land-and-environment/water/livestock-watering/590301-1_livestock_water_requirements.pdf)
3805	Extreme Cold and Unpredictable Weather Protection for Horticultural Crops	Eligible costs: - Protective covers and associated infrastructure - For protective covers and wind machines, it is recommended that the applicant obtain drawings and installation plans from an authorized distributor. - Energy efficient heaters (e.g., propane or wood pellet) - Wind machines - Reconditioned/refurbished wind machines are eligible. The same requirements apply to reconditioned/refurbished wind machines as new machines, including a quote for purchase and proof of payment following approval - Stationary compression-ignition (SCI) engines manufactured on or after June 4, 2021, and 2015 all mobile compression-ignition engines are required to meet US EPA Tier 4 SCI emission standards in order to be admissible into Canada. - It is the responsibility of the person importing the products into Canada to ensure that those products are compliant with any applicable vehicle and engine emission regulations and to demonstrate compliance. - Hail netting and associated infrastructure

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		○ For hail netting, it is recommended that the applicant obtain an installation plan from an authorized dealer that includes netting specifications. ○ Information on Photosensitive Anti-Hail Netting ○ Information on the use of protective netting in Washington State apple production Ineligible costs: • Fuel tanks required for operating wind machines • Wind machines that are unable to meet the US EPA Tier 4 SCI emission standards Additional Resources: • Considerations before purchasing non-tunnel covering systems for sweet cherries • Learn how to use wind machines to protect tender tree fruits from temperatures.

Creative Solutions

If your agriculture or aquaculture operation would benefit from a different preparedness activity or technology, not listed above, and can demonstrate how it addresses a need directly related to the preparation/mitigation of the impacts of extreme weather events (flood, wildfire, extreme heat, and cold). We encourage you to apply to the creative environmental solutions stream of funding. **Approved applicants may receive 40% cost-share reimbursements for select on-farm projects up to a maximum of \$50,000.**

Practice Code	Name	Description and details
3501.6	Creative solutions	This category is open to applications that address projects or situations identified under the BMP: Extreme Weather Preparedness stream but are not represented by any existing EWP practice codes. For example, if your farm or ranch would benefit from a preparedness activity or technology not listed in the current EWP practice codes—and you can demonstrate how it directly supports preparation for or mitigation of the impacts of extreme weather events (e.g., flood, wildfire, extreme heat, or extreme cold)—we encourage you to apply under the Creative Solutions stream.

		Applications will be accepted on a proposal-driven basis and will be reviewed by a technical expert and/or staff at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Required documents: • Applicable planning, engineering, or technical design must accompany the application.
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