



Beneficial Management Practices PROGRAM GUIDE 2025/26



The Beneficial Management Practices Program is an on-farm cost-share incentive program to assist farm and ranch operations in mitigating some of the risks identified in their associated Environmental Farm Plan.

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Funding for these programs have been provided by the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a \$3.5 billion, 5-year agreement between the federal, provincial and territorial governments. Additional funding has been provided by CleanBC. The program is delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC (IAF).

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Background

The Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) Program works to help producers contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment with projects that improve waste management, air quality control, emissions control, soil and riparian integrity, and environmental impacts.

Program Objective & Goal

The BMP Program is an on-farm cost-share incentive program to assist farm and ranch operations in mitigating some of the risks identified in their associated [Environmental Farm Plan \(EFP\)](#) or through on-farm extreme weather events. The BMP Program aims to increase the adoption of technology and practices to mitigate high-risk activities or emerging challenges by promoting agricultural sustainability, climate mitigation, and climate adaptation practices that contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment and resilient farm systems.

Program Structure

The BMP Program offers funding to farmers and ranchers completing two types of projects:

1. **Planning/design projects.** These projects facilitate the on-farm adoption of practices or technologies.
2. **On-farm equipment/infrastructure projects.** On-farm equipment/infrastructure projects facilitate the sustained adoption (ongoing implementation) of practice or technology.

Ultimately, the ongoing implementation of the practice or technology will improve one or more outcomes related to climate change mitigation, adaptation, or environmental performance.

If there is a discrepancy between the information found in this Program Guide and the information found at <http://www.iafbc.ca/bmp/> the webpage takes precedence. Please visit the webpage(s) for the most up-to-date details.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligible Applicants

Applicants must:

- Have an EFP that is less than 5 years old and reflects the current farm or ranch operation.
 - The EFP must be renewed if it is more than 5 years old, or if there have been changes made to the farm or ranch operation that could have impacted the environmental risk.
 - For the 2025/26 fiscal year, a grace period of up to 6 months is in place for EFPs if a renewal is unable to be completed for reasons beyond the applicant's control. Please confirm with IAF if you are eligible for the EFP grace period.
 - **Applicants applying for the Extreme Weather Preparedness category and associated plans and designs are not required to have an EFP.**
- Be a primary production agriculture business whose primary purpose is the production and sale of agricultural products and must be a BC registered business entity (including sole proprietor, partnership, corporations, cooperatives, Indigenous economic development corporations, and band-owned businesses). Applicants to the program must have farm status and, if you raise livestock, a premises ID.
- Be a taxable entity (e.g., individual, corporation, or trust), limited partnership, commune, cooperative with a GST and business number, or First Nation Band
- Have their main farmstead in British Columbia and file farm income tax (form T2042 or T1273) under the Income Tax Act in British Columbia*
 - *Licensed Aquaculture producers, and Federally licensed Cannabis or Hemp Producers are exempt from having to meet criteria #3. However, Aquaculture operations will have to provide their valid aquaculture license number, while Cannabis or Hemp producers must provide proof of either their standard-cultivators, micro-cultivators, or industrial hemp license as issued by Health Canada under the Cannabis Act or Industrial Hemp Regulations. The personal production of medicinal cannabis is not eligible for this program.
- Have completed the prerequisite activities required for the activities applied for.
 - Some BMP activities require assessments, plans, or engineered designs that must be completed prior.
 - Prerequisites must be completed and submitted before beginning a project.
 - Concurrent planning/design projects and on-farm equipment/infrastructure projects may be allowed in some cases where projects are not dependent on the final plan or design for the equipment/infrastructure activity or may be waived at the discretion of IAF on a case-by-case basis.

Additional Requirements & Notices

- Project activities should not commence prior to approval of the application; retroactive costs are not eligible.
- Beginning in 2025/26, a per-farm lifetime funding cap of \$100,000 has been established for the duration of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) period, which runs from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2028. This cap applies across all BMP categories unless otherwise specified. Exceptions:
 - For the 2025/26 program year, the BMP: Water Infrastructure category has a higher per-farm cap of \$200,000.
 - For the 2025/26 program year, the BMP: Extreme Weather Preparedness category has a separate annual per-farm cap of \$50,000 in effect for the 2025/26 intake.¹
- Applicants can only apply for each BMP activity (i.e., Practice Code) once per fiscal year. Example: Applicants may not apply to install a new irrigation system (Practice Code 1804) twice in one year.
- Stacking of funds from other government programs is permitted so long as the funding received from all government sources does not exceed 100% of project costs.

Ineligible Activities and Expenses

Unless specified in a BMP Practice Code, the following costs are ineligible:

- GST
- Fertilizer, seed, and crop protection products
- Fees for permits, approvals, or legal activities
- Typical farm equipment and related accessories or attachments (including tractors, skid steers, and trailers)
- Costs of ongoing activities
- Maintenance or repair costs
- Financing charges, loan interest payments, bank fees
- Maintenance or extended warranties on equipment, electronics, or technology purchases
- New building construction, including sheds, barns, or storage (for products or by-products)
- Expenses incurred before approval or expenses after the project completion date, unless consent is received from the program.
- Monthly or annual subscription fees (e.g., satellite, cellular, or internet uplinks for data transmission) or monthly or annual rental fees for equipment (e.g., orchard heaters)

¹ Future intakes for the EWP category may fall under the general BMP per-farm lifetime cap.

- Costs associated with removing and disposing of old equipment (e.g., renting a crane to remove a decommissioned wind machine)

Program policy sets a percentage maximum amount of government funds that can be used towards the total project costs. For the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, this has been set at 100% of the total eligible costs of the BMP Project.

The Program shall have the authority to deny an application if there is evidence of misrepresentation of pertinent information.

BOOK A CALL

There are now more ways to get in contact with the IAF Team!

Starting on the **Application Open date** for each 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 the category page to book.

The IAF Team is still available at 250.940.6150 during business hours and by email at bmp@iafbc.ca

APPLICATION DATES

Important Program Dates

Applicants to the BMP program will apply through the [IAF Client Portal](#). Applicants are invited to start (i.e., draft, edit, and view) their applications before the submission window opens. Application submissions will open at 9:00 am and be accepted until 4:00 pm on the posted dates. Applications are reviewed and adjudicated using a first-come, first-served approach.

BMP CATEGORY	APPLICATIONS OPEN	SUBMISSIONS OPEN	APPLICATIONS CLOSE
Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs	January 14, 2025	January 14, 2025, at 9 am	June 13, 2025
Water Infrastructure	January 14, 2025	February 10, 2025, at 9 am	February 12, 2025, at 4 pm
Biodiversity	February 20, 2025	March 13, 2025, at 9 am	March 20, 2025, at 4 pm
Riparian & Grazing	February 20, 2025	March 13, 2025, at 9 am	March 20, 2025, at 4 pm
Energy & Fuel Efficiency	March 4, 2025	March 25, 2025, at 9 am	March 28, 2025, at 4 pm
Nutrient & Waste Management	March 4, 2025	March 25, 2025, at 9 am	March 28, 2025, at 4 pm
Soil Carbon	March 4, 2025	March 25, 2025, at 9 am	April 8, 2025, at 4 pm
Extreme Weather Preparedness (including the Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs sub-category)	October 1, 2025	October 8, 2025, at 9 am	Ongoing until funding is fully committed

BMP CATEGORY ACTIVITIES

Below is a list of eligible activities and details within each BMP Category. This includes the cost-shared ratio and funding maximum for each activity. For detailed information about the individual activities, please see the appendix for each BMP category.

Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs

Cost-Shared Ratios:

- Basic Plans: 100%
- Complex Plans: 80%
- Designs: 80%
- Biogas: 80%
- Extreme Weather Preparedness: 80%-100%

Maximum funding amount: Varies by plan. See the details in [Plans, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs Appendix](#)

Applications Accepted: October 8, 2025, for the Extreme Weather Preparedness Plans sub-category
All other Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs categories opened January 14, 2025, and closed June 13, 2025.

Project Length: 90 days from Project Approval

Sub-Categories (and codes): (Full details in [Plans, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs Appendix](#))

- **Basic plans** (100% up to an identified amount)
 - Voluntary nutrient management (2401.1)
 - Regulatory nutrient management (2401.2)
 - Integrated pest management (2501)
 - Grazing management (2601)
 - Biodiversity management (2801)
 - Irrigation system assessment (2901)
 - Water management plan (2902)
 - Riparian management plan (3001)
 - Vegetative buffer plan (3401)
- **Complex plans** (80% to max program payment \$10,000)
 - Improved manure storage and handling (0106)
 - Product and waste management (0804)
 - Carbon dioxide emission reduction (3301)
- **Complex designs** (80% to a max program payment of \$20,000)
 - Manure treatment (0204)

- Farmyard runoff/storm water management (0503)
- Relocation of livestock confinement (0603)
- Nutrient recovery from wastewater (1702)
- Engineering or technical design or assessment – water/riparian (1102)
- Methane (CH₄) emission reduction (3102)
- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission reduction (3309)
- **Biogas feasibility studies** (80% to a max program payment of \$50,000)
 - Feasibility studies – biogas systems installation (0205)
- **Extreme Weather Preparedness (EWP) Plans**
 - FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment (3601) (100% up to \$2,000)
 - Planning & Design of Fill Pad for Farm Buildings (3704.1) (80% up to \$15,000)

Biodiversity Projects

Cost-Shared Ratio: 50%

Maximum funding amount: Up to \$25,000

Application Open: February 20, 2025

Submission Open: March 13, 2025, at 9 AM

Application Close: March 20, 2025, at 4 PM

Project Length: 140 days from Project Approval

Activities (and codes): (see full details in [Biodiversity Appendix](#))

- Improved on-farm pesticide storage (0801.2)
- Habitat structures and enhancement (2204)
- Protection of wildlife – flushing bars (2206)
- Creation of pollinator habitat (2207)
- Stackyard fencing (2209)
- Improved pest management equipment - alterations to sprayers (1601.1)
- Improved pest management equipment - new sprayers (1601.2)
- Improved pest management equipment - rotary or flail mowers in row mowers and tillers (1601.3)
- Pest information collection and monitoring (1602)
- Establishment of shelterbelts or tree buffers (1901)
- Precision guidance applications – GPS pesticides/residuals (3202.2)
- Creative environmental solutions (3501.5)

Energy and Fuel Efficiency Projects

Cost-Shared Ratio: 30% unless otherwise specified

Maximum funding amount: Up to \$50,000

Application Open: March 4, 2025

Submission Open: March 25, 2025, at 9 AM

Application Close: April 1, 2025, at 4 PM

Project Length: 140 days from Project Approval

Activities (and codes): (see full details in [Energy and Fuel Efficiency Appendix](#))

- Replacement of fossil fuel driven equipment or motors with electrical equipment or motors (3302.1)
- Replacement or transition to fuel-efficient equipment (3302.2)
- Power line extension for replacement of fossil-fuel driven motors with electrical motors (3302.3)
- Replacement of fossil fuel driven engines with electric battery pack (3302.4)
- Alternative energy technology and supplementary energy storage (3303)
- Replacement of fossil-fuel dependent space heating with renewable heating (3304)
- Thermal energy efficiency improvements that increase insulation and reduce cooling and heating needs (3307)
- Lighting efficiency improvements (3308)
- Energy monitoring and controls (3310.1)
- Grain dryer energy efficiency (3310.2) [60% cost-share]
- Creative environmental solutions (3501.2)

Nutrient and Waste Management Projects

Cost-Shared Ratio: 50%

Maximum funding amount: Up to \$50,000

Application Open: March 4, 2025

Submission Open: March 25, 2025, at 9 AM

Application Close: April 1, 2025, at 4 PM

Project Length: 140 days from Project Approval

Activities (and codes): (see full details in [Nutrient and Waste Management Appendix](#))

- Improved on-farm fuel storage (0801.1)
- Poultry mortality incinerators (0802.1)
- Orchard and vineyard mulching mowers (0802.2)
- Composting of agricultural waste (0803)
- Wood residue management (0805)
- Plastics compactor equipment (0806)
- Precision guidance applications – GPS nutrients (3202.1)
- Low disturbance placement of seed and fertilizer (3305)
- Improve liquid manure storage – dairy only (0100)
- Assessment and monitoring of existing manure storage infrastructure – poultry and livestock only (0105)

- Treatment systems for solid or liquid manure – poultry and livestock only (0201)
- Specific equipment components for land application of agricultural by-products (0301)
- Recycling of wastewater streams (1701)
- Specific equipment components for land application of fertilizer (3203)
- Fertigation – including perennial and annual crops (3204)
- Covered manure storage with or without methane collection and renewable energy production (3101.1)
- Feed additives to manage enteric fermentation in ruminants (3101.3)
- Creative environmental solutions (3501.3)

Riparian and Grazing Projects

Cost-Shared Ratio: 60%

Maximum funding amount: \$70,000

Application Open: February 20, 2025

Submission Open: March 13, 2025, at 9 AM

Application Close: March 20, 2025, at 4 PM

Project Length: 140 days from Project Approval

Activities (and codes): (see full details in [Riparian and Grazing Appendix](#))

- Alternative watering systems to manage livestock (1001)
- Riparian habitat establishment - creation or widening of buffers (1002)
- Fencing to manage and improve riparian condition and function (1003)
- Rejuvenation and enhancement of sensitive areas through revegetation and restoration of disturbed areas (1004)
- Improved grazing management of tame pasture (1005.1)
- Improved grazing management of native pasture (1005.2)
- Improved stream crossings (1006)
- Erosion control and riparian habitat structures (1101)
- Storm water/runoff management around confined livestock facilities (0501)
- Relocation of livestock facilities (0601)
- Field access improvements for livestock winter feeding areas (0704)
- Creative environmental solutions (3501.4)

Soil Carbon Projects

Cost-Shared Ratio: 50%,

Maximum funding amount: Up to \$35,000

Application Open: March 4, 2025

Submission Open: March 25, 2025, at 9 AM

Application Close: April 1, 2025, at 4 PM

Project Length: 140 days from Project Approval

Activities (and codes): (see full details in [Soil Carbon Appendix](#))

- Strip tillage (3306.1)
- Transition to conservation/no-till tillage (3306.2)
- Improved drainage (3201)
- Preventing soil compaction (0012.0)
- Creative environmental solutions (3501.1)

Water Infrastructure Projects

For all project codes under the Water Infrastructure Category, the total maximum funding amount will be up to \$200,000 unless otherwise noted. This increase in funding cap is supported by the [Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program](#).

Cost Shared Ratio: 75%

Maximum total funding amount: Up to \$200,000

Application Open: January 14, 2025

Submission Open: February 10, 2025, 9 AM

Application Close: February 21, 2025, at 4 PM

Project Length: 140 days from Project Approval

Activities (and codes): (see full details in [Water Infrastructure Appendix](#))

- Well protection (0901)
- Dams and reservoirs – new and existing (0903)
- Dugouts – new and existing (0904)
- Rainwater harvesting systems – new and existing (0905)
- Improved irrigation system management and irrigation scheduling (1802)
- Irrigation systems – new and existing (1804)
- Improvement of water supply systems to farm(s) (1806)
- Water meters, backflow prevention devices, or other flow-measuring devices (1808)

Extreme Weather Preparedness Projects

Cost-Shared Ratio: 40%

Maximum funding amount: Up to \$50,000

Application Open: October 1, 2025

Submission Open: October 8, 2025, at 9 AM

Application Close: Ongoing until funding is fully committed

Project Length: 90 days from Project Approval

Sub-Categories (and codes): (see full details in [Extreme Weather Preparedness Appendix](#))

- **Wildfire Preparedness**
 - FireSmart™ BC Farm Building Retrofits (3602)
 - FireSmart™ BC Critical Farm Structures (3603)
 - FireSmart™ BC Addressing Vegetation & Combustible Materials (3604)
- **Flood Preparedness**
 - Flood Resilient Storage for Farm Inputs (3703)
 - Fill Pad for Farm Buildings (3704.2)
 - Flood Resilient Feed Storage (3705)
 - Flood Resilient Apiary Overwintering & Equipment Storage (3706)
- **Extreme Heat and Cold Preparedness**
 - Improved Barn and Indoor Aquaculture Cooling Systems (3801.1)
 - Cooling Systems for Outdoor Aquaculture Operations (3801.2)
 - Extreme Heat Protection for Horticultural Crops (3802)
 - Extreme Heat Protection for Outdoor Livestock – Shade Trees (3803.1)
 - Extreme Heat Protection for Outdoor Livestock – Infrastructure (3803.2)
 - Enhanced Livestock Watering to Mitigate Heat Stress (3804)
 - Extreme Cold and unpredictable weather protection for horticultural crops (3805)
- **Creative Solutions**
 - Creative solutions (3501.6)

APPLICATION PROCESS

Accessing the IAF Client Portal

REMINDER: Do not wait to start this process – it can take up to two business days to validate your organization!

To apply to the program, you must first create an [IAF Client Portal](#) account and register your organization by navigating to the IAF Client Portal and selecting “Create an account now.” Once you confirm you are a BC-based business/farm/individual, you will then need to complete two sections:

1. Primary Contact Information

This is the information needed for your account:

- Name
- Job Title
- Phone Number
- Email

2. Organization Information

This is the information needed for your organization to be validated:

- Legal Organization Name (either Federal or BC)
- Operating Name (if different from legal)
- Organization Type (select from set options)
- Organization Address, Email, Phone number, and website
- Organization Registration Date (either Federal or BC)
- Head Office Location
- BC Registration ID ([to look up your BC ID click here](#))
- CRA Business Number
- NAICS Code 6-digit (select from set options – [click here for guide](#))
- Primary Purpose of Operation (select from set options)
- Sector Group (select from set options)
- Region (select from set options)
- Brief Business Profile

IAF Client Portal emails are sent from do-not-reply.grants@fluxx.io, please save this as a contact in your email.

It can take up to two business days to validate your organization. If you haven't received an email in 3 – 5 business days check your spam folder, then contact IAF.

Starting Your Application

Applicants are invited to start (i.e., draft, edit & view) their application prior to submitting. Applicants are encouraged to include only activities they are confident will be completed on time and within budget limits.

To find the application, navigate to the 'Funding Opportunities' tab in the IAF Client Portal and select the appropriate program. When filling out your application, you will complete six sections:

1. Organization Information

This section is where you will provide program-relevant organization information that was not collected when you registered your organization with IAF. For BMP, this includes:

- Organization Name (select the organization applying for funding)
- Primary and Secondary Contact Information
- Business Type
- Farm Status
- Premises ID (if applicable)
- Opportunity to confirm the following is accurate:
 - CRA Business Number
 - Organization Type
 - Sector Group
 - Primary Purpose
 - Organization Registration Date

2. Demographic Information

As this program is funded under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, you are required to provide additional demographic information. The demographic information is collected by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and must be done before submitting your application. To provide your demographic information:

- Start drafting your application in the IAF Client Portal.
- Copy your application ID (it will be provided to you at the Demographic data section of the application or see the top of your application form). You will need to put this ID into the Ministry's form.
- Visit the Ministry's webpage through the link on the application and complete the form. (Note: this will open a new browser tab).
- Once the form is complete, **copy the Ministry's confirmation number** and enter it in the application form. It should look something like this AB123456

Note: Demographic information will not be used to assess eligibility for the program.

3. Project Overview

This section will require:

- Your EFP Workbook Number (unless applying to the Extreme Weather Preparedness category or the Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs Extreme Weather Preparedness sub-category)
- Your Planning Advisor's Name
- Name on EFP Statement of Completion

- This should be the same as your legal operation name, if not, please upload supporting documentation such as a certificate of incorporation, or a name change certificate, or [download and complete a copy of our landowner statement](#).

Please note: An Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is not required for Extreme Weather Preparedness projects; however, certain prerequisites apply for some categories within the program.

After, you will be asked for a project summary that will require information such as your farm breakdown by hectares, a brief overview of the environmental issues this project will address, a description of your project, steps to complete your project, a list of materials and equipment needed, contractors you plan on using, and start & end dates of your project.

4. Budget

Break down your project costs into the applicable project codes. If your proposed project has multiple components that would fit under two or more practice codes, please include a budget summary in your project documents that specifies what quoted costs reflect your selected project codes.

5. Declaration and Consent

This section is where you will review and sign the terms and conditions for applying to an IAF Program.

6. Documents

The following documents should be submitted with your application.

Mandatory

- Property Assessment Notice (current year)
- Legal Lease Agreement/ Proof of Ownership
- Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Statement of Completion
 - **Reminder:** An EFP is not required for Extreme Weather Preparedness projects
- Quotes for the work to be completed

If Applicable

- Supporting Lease Documentation
- Proof of water licence for proposed use
- Water licence for the proposed storage volume
- Water Management Plan and/or Irrigation system assessment and/or technical design
- Assessment/approval/authorization from the Dam Safety Program staff
- Change approval to make changes in and about a stream
- Easement
- Maps/Sketch/Photos

IAF recommends clicking 'Save' frequently as you work on your application in case of an unexpected disconnection. Once you are finished editing, click 'Save and Close' to minimize the editing panel and take you back to looking over your application.

Submit an application: Click 'Save and Close' when you are finished editing your application. Then click 'Submit'. The 'Submit' button will only appear from the date and time of Submission Open to Application Close.

NOTIFICATIONS & OBLIGATIONS

Review and Adjudication

Applications will be accepted on set open and close dates or until funding is fully committed. Upon submission of an application, all BMP applications will be reviewed under the first-come, first-served model for 2025/26 intakes. Project applications are screened and reviewed by IAF. This review involves:

- Ensuring application completeness.
- Organization/Applicant eligibility check.
- Project alignment and eligibility check.

IAF staff will return incomplete applications to applicants via the IAF Client Portal for resubmission with missing information/clarifications requested.

Funding Notifications and Contracts

IAF will contact the applicant with the details of a funding decision and any associated terms and conditions by email via the IAF Client Portal.

Funding decisions for complete applications will be communicated to applicants within 8 weeks of a complete application submission. If funding is fully committed, applications may be placed on a waitlist pending additional funding becoming available.

Funding is application and project specific. It must be used for the approved project and related expenses, and it is non-transferable.

Reporting Requirements

Successful applicants must complete a final report prior to receiving funds from the program. This report must be filled out and submitted via the IAF Client Portal with all invoices to be considered for funding reimbursement. It is important that the final report is submitted on time and with all required information. Expenses will be reimbursed based on the submitted receipts, the approved project budget and the corresponding cost-share ratio. All reporting will be completed via the [IAF Client Portal](#).

Funding Acknowledgements

This program is funded by the Governments of Canada and British Columbia through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership. As such, acknowledgement of funding is required when publicly communicating about a project and/or funding. To ensure appropriate acknowledgement, all communications and marketing materials, including public announcements or social media posts, must be pre-approved by the IAF Communications Team. Materials can be submitted via the [IAF Client Portal](#).

POLICY STATEMENTS AND CONDITIONS

The following BMP policies, statements, and conditions for the program are subject to revision during the life of the Sustainable CAP Agreement, which began on April 1, 2023.

Application Requirements

Additional requirements for applications include:

- Cost estimates or quotes
- A current BC property assessment notice
- A valid EFP statement of completion is required for all categories, excluding the Emergency Weather Preparedness category
- Management plans or designs as required.
- Legible sketches or drawings with labels indicating the layout and details of projects are required for all projects related to planting of vegetation, fence or livestock watering installations, irrigation system installation, and any construction projects (e.g., buildings or other structures).

Area-Based Projects

Where neighbouring producers in an area work together to resolve a defined environmental issue, participants may be eligible for an alternate funding arrangement. This excludes projects in the Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs and Emergency Weather Preparedness categories.

- Individual projects: These projects are implemented as a collaborative effort by two or more producers working together to resolve a defined environmental issue.
 - If approved, projects would be funded based on Project Code criteria plus an incentive premium equivalent to a 10% lift in the individual practice code cost share up to the Practice Code Cap.
 - Applications must identify the environmental issue and the neighbouring operations working to resolve it. They must also be received within the same program year.
- Pooled Projects: Where the project occurs at an individual location but is shared by two or more producers.

Pooled Project Guidelines:

- All applicants must have a current Statement of Completion.
- Applicants or agents must consult IAF Program staff.
- Applicants and Program staff must agree that a pooled project may be the most appropriate and cost-effective approach to developing the BMP.
- All applicants will obtain all necessary regulatory approvals, including any required environmental assessment, as a group.
- Applicants will apply for Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership BMP funding based on actual individual costs of the total project.

- Applications and invoices for pooled projects must clearly indicate the participants in the project and the share of the total project cost each applicant is responsible for.

Arm's Length Transactions

All businesses from which goods or services are purchased must be at Arm's Length from the applicant, meaning not related to the applicant, not affiliated with the applicant, or controlled in any way by the applicant.

Cancelled Projects

Any projects cancelled by the applicant or that exceed the time deadline are considered cancelled. Any materials or services obtained for a cancelled project are not eligible for payment if a new application is received later. A previously started but cancelled project is eligible for further consideration. However, all costs incurred for materials or services under the previous application will be ineligible for funding under the new application.

Cannabis

Federally licensed Cannabis or Hemp Producers are exempt from having to have a valid "Farm Class" land as designated by the BC Assessment Authority, as stated in Section 1 of the BMP Policy and Conditions. However, Cannabis or Hemp producers must provide proof of either their standard-cultivators, micro-cultivators, or industrial hemp license as issued by Health Canada under the Cannabis Act or Industrial Hemp Regulations, as well as licensed cannabis producers must provide their Standard Operating Procedures as approved by Health Canada. The personal production of medicinal cannabis is not eligible for this program.

Caps and Cost Shares for BMP Categories

These are valid for the 2025/26 BMP Program Year; however, they are subject to revision.

Changes to Project

Once a project is approved, it must be completed as per the application and approval unless written communication from the Program agrees to changes to the project. Projects may be subject to cancellation if they are not completed as approved. This applies to equipment purchases and construction projects. Projects that require planting of any form of vegetation (i.e., tree or shrubs) as vegetative buffers or riparian plantings must be based on the approved planting designs in required management plans and/or approved plans and description in the project application.

Engineering or Technical Design

A detailed quote and CV are required from the preparer of the design unless the design is stamped by a qualified professional. For projects that require an engineering or technical design, the design work must be carried out by a qualified professional or by an individual with demonstrated training and experience. Engineering or technical design work may be an eligible cost as a standalone item. Engineering or design

costs should be included as part of the BMP costs or as a stand-alone for structures that require engineering approval (i.e., structures, roofs, etc.).

If by regulatory statute the engineering or technical design must be carried out by an appropriately qualified professional, the term qualified professional means an applied scientist or technologist specializing in a relevant applied science or technology, including, but not necessarily limited to, agrology, forestry, biology, engineering, geomorphology, geology, hydrology, hydrogeology or landscape architecture. An appropriately qualified professional must be registered in British Columbia with the appropriate professional organization acting under that association's Code of Ethics and subject to disciplinary action by that association. They must also be someone who, through demonstrated suitable education, experience, accreditation, and knowledge relevant to the matter, may be reasonably relied on to provide advice within their area of expertise.

If there is no regulatory requirement that a qualified professional carry out the engineering or technical design, the technical design may be carried out by an individual who has suitable education, experience, accreditation, and knowledge and may be reasonably relied on to provide advice within his or her area of expertise.

Equipment

Funding may be provided for the environmental-enhancing components (incremental costs) of new or existing equipment. This is based on a project justification, cost estimates, and may be subject to a technical review by appropriate experts. Equipment (e.g., mowers, sprayers, spreaders, wood residue grinders, etc.) purchases must only be new equipment or, if used, they must be from a recognized and reputable farm equipment dealer who certifies the equipment has been reconditioned and is in good working order.

Evidence of payment

The program requires you to provide proof of payment for all invoices, and proof of payment must be under the Legal Name on your application. Proof of payment can be a paid company invoice(s) showing the amount as fully paid with a zero-balance owing and the contact information for the company, a processed cheque with an invoice, or a credit card statement as evidence of payment. Cash payments will not be eligible unless accompanied by an official company voucher and proof of payment. Financing or monthly payments to a contractor will not be eligible. Barter/exchange transactions are not eligible.

Farm Cap

Beginning in 2025/26, a per-farm lifetime funding cap of \$100,000 has been established for the duration of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) period, which runs from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2028. This cap applies across all BMP categories unless otherwise specified. Exceptions:

- For the 2025/26 program year, the BMP: Water Infrastructure category has a higher per-farm cap of \$200,000.
- For the 2025/26 program year, the BMP – Extreme Weather Preparedness category has a separate annual per-farm cap of \$50,000.

Operations that participated in the BMP program under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF), Continuity Year, Growing Forward, Growing Forward 2, and the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) agreements will have their funding caps reset, and those farms are now eligible for and can continue to access the program until such time as their farm cap has been reached.

Fencing costs (all fences)

The maximum amount of eligible costs for materials is \$20.00 per meter at the cost-share for the applicable practice code. This is regardless of whether the fence is installed by the applicant or by a fencing contractor.

Funding

Funding is designated to change practices on existing farm or ranch operations where an undesirable environmental risk(s) has been identified in the EFP. It is not designed for the development of new farm or ranch operations or to incentivize a change in enterprise type. The practice to be changed must have been in existence on the operation at the time of completion of the Environmental Farm Plan. The BMP funding is designated to make necessary changes to existing operations or practices that are impacting water quality, quantity, soil health, air quality, biodiversity, or climate change.

Funding of partial projects

Funding for partial projects will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and is eligible only when the partial projects, on their own, achieve significant environmental risk reduction. Requests for consideration must include justification or evidence of regulatory agency documentation that may have delayed project completion.

In-kind

The primary purpose for allowing in-kind contributions to cover a portion of the project costs is to reduce the cash cost to the applicant.

- Eligible for in-kind:
 - Reasonable hours of labour invested by the applicant, his/her dependants, and business partner(s) may be claimed.
 - Equipment costs associated with equipment owned by the applicant and considered essential to implement the approved project.
 - The maximum allowable in-kind labour and equipment rates are:

Category	Description	Rate
Labour	General labour (e.g., building, planting, etc.)	\$21.40/hour
Small Equipment & Labour	Farm Tractor and Implements - up to 80 hp (does not include hand tools or motorized tools less than 25 hp)	\$64.15/hour

Medium Equipment & Labour	Farm Tractor and Implements - 80 to 120 hp (e.g., tandem axle dump truck)	\$96.20/hour
Large Equipment & Labour	Farm Tractor and Implements - greater than 120 hp (e.g., excavator, loader backhoe or land scraper)	\$150/hour

- If approved, actual labour and equipment hours must be tracked and submitted.
- Not eligible for in-kind funding:
 - Materials or supplies in a farm’s inventory (on-hand), or products produced on the farm and contributed to the project by the applicant.
 - Applicant costs associated with education, project planning, supervision, or administration.
 - Projects in the Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs and Extreme Weather Preparedness categories.
- For all eligible Categories, the total estimated in-kind contributions are limited to 25% of the total eligible project costs.
- For in-kind related to fencing, in-kind labour and equipment for producer-installed fencing will be reviewed for applicant-installed fences. In-kind costs can equal the receipted value of purchased fence materials. If approved, actual labour and equipment hours must be tracked and submitted.
- For in-kind related to shelterbelts, hedgerows, and vegetative buffers planting – [see Tree and Shrub Planting](#).

If a farm business plans to claim in-kind contributions, accurate estimates must be reflected in the total project cost submitted with the project application. **All proposed uses of in-kind labour and equipment must be identified on the initial BMP project application.** Refer to the BMP Application Form for more details. *IAF will make a final determination on the number of hours and a reasonable rate for the hours claimed based on the BMP being implemented and the nature of the work performed.*

Legislation

All projects must abide by all applicable federal, provincial, and local government laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Federal and Provincial environmental assessment and protection acts, trade agreements, and zoning bylaws. **It is the responsibility of the applicant, not the Program, to ensure compliance.**

Livestock Premises ID

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food is responsible for providing a livestock and poultry premises identification system for the BC livestock sector. A premises is any parcel of land where animals are kept, assembled, raised, or disposed of. A premises ID is an important part of a full traceability system that also includes animal identification and animal movement. In the event of an animal health or disaster emergency, the faster suspect animals can be identified, the better. To be eligible for program funding under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, applicants of livestock operations are required

to register with the BC Premises Identification Program must provide their 9-digit BC Premises Identification Number.

A Premises Identification Number is a unique national number assigned to a piece of land by the Government of British Columbia and is a critical component of the National Livestock Traceability System. If you have livestock or poultry on your property, you are required to provide your 9-digit BC Premises Identification Number (e.g., BC33A13P4 or BC44TR55E) to be eligible for this cost-shared funding. If you have not previously registered your premises with the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, please visit the BC Premises ID Program website at www.gov.bc.ca/premisesidprogram or email BCPID@gov.bc.ca or call (Toll-Free) 1-888-221-7141 or (604) 556-3001 to register your premises.

Multi-year projects

Funding for projects that are expected to take longer than the set deadline for the project category (for example, for Riparian and Grazing Projects, there is a set deadline of 140 days from the Project Approval/Start Date) and/or projects that are expected to span more than one fiscal year (April – March) will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Applications that intend to span more than one fiscal year must indicate the work that will occur in each project year and the budget associated with that work. It should be noted that projects that span more than one fiscal year will still only be entitled to the same Maximum Total Funding Amount for the one Fiscal Year (for example, for Riparian and Grazing Projects, the maximum total funding amount would remain \$70,000). Requests for consideration must include justification for extending the project.

- For the 2025/26 program year, the BMP - Extreme Weather Preparedness category and Extreme Weather activities within the Planning, Technical Assessments & Engineered Designs category will request applicants to confirm projects can be completed by January 30, 2026, if approved. If not, the project may proceed, but payments will take place on April 1, 2026, or later.

Number of project applications

Eligible farm or ranch operations are not limited to the number of projects or equipment-related BMP applications per year per eligible farm enterprise.

Nutrient Management Plans (NMP) (Practice Codes 2401.1 and 2401.2)

Farm or ranch operations that have completed an NMP between April 1, 2016, and February 28th, 2019, are only eligible for funding under these practice codes if their NMP no longer meets the “in-force” Sections of The Code of Practice for Agricultural Environmental Management (BC Reg 8/2019). Operations that have not previously completed an NMP are eligible to access these practice codes if all other BMP Program eligibility requirements are met.

Planning or Technical Design BMP Applications and Reports

A detailed quote and CV are required from the preparer of the plan or design. The subsequent invoice will be required from a contractor who is proposed to complete or has completed the work. The quote and invoice should include itemized charges for consulting services and costs (i.e., hours, testing, and

travel). Reports must clearly indicate issue(s) requiring action and the recommended actions or equipment required to achieve the desired agri-environmental outcomes (e.g., type of equipment currently in place and recommended new equipment).

Project completion

All projects must be completed by the deadline outlined in their funding approval letter. Work, invoices, and project summary reports must be completed and dated on or before the deadline date outlined in the approval letter. Projects will be considered cancelled if the paperwork is not received by the deadline date; the funding will then be reallocated to other projects.

If a project extension is required, the applicant may request written approval from program administration to extend their project work beyond the deadline date. A project extension will only be considered in extenuating circumstances (i.e., delays because of regulatory approval or significant environmental conditions such as forest fires or flooding).

Project initiation

Projects will be considered ineligible for funding if any portion of the project has been initiated prior to the beginning of the fiscal year (April 1, 2025).

Projects per Application

Each eligible project constitutes a single application, but some projects may include more than one practice code. Category caps and farm caps still apply.

Stacking

Program policy sets a percentage maximum amount of government funds that can be used towards the total project costs. For Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership environmental and climate programming, this has been set at 100% of the total eligible costs of the BMP Project.

Subscription and rental fees

Monthly or annual subscription fees (e.g., satellite, cellular, or internet uplinks for data transmission) or monthly or annual rental fees for equipment (e.g., weather stations) are not eligible for reimbursement. The exception to this would be the one-time rental of equipment or tools required to construct a project (e.g., excavators).

Tree and Shrub Planting Costs

The maximum amount of eligible cost for any tree or shrub planting materials is \$85 per tree/shrub, exclusive of establishment costs. This applies to contractor or applicant planting.

- Where a contractor supplies and installs plants, there is no in-kind eligibility.
- Where an applicant completes the planting, the in-kind labour and equipment categories above will be used.

Vertical Farming

Vertical farming businesses will be exempt from the farm class status eligibility requirement of the BMP program for the following categories: Planning, Technical Assessments, or Engineered Designs, Energy and Fuel Efficiency, Nutrient & Waste Management, Biodiversity, and Extreme Weather Preparedness. Vertical farm applicants will be required to provide documentation demonstrating that their farm businesses have achieved the minimum Farm Class Status Equivalent annual gross revenues for the sale of 'agricultural products' in the year prior to their application.

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