



Beneficial Management Practices

Planning, Technical Assessments, and Engineered Designs 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, 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!



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).

Activities: Practice Code Details

For all planning, technical assessments, or engineering designs, a quote and a CV are required from the plan/design writer. [IAF has compiled a list of verified contractors for reference, who have been utilized in the past for various plans and designs.](#)

Basic Plans

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
2401.1	Voluntary Nutrient Management Planning (NMP)	Consultative services to develop nutrient management plans, planning, and decision support tools designated for Nutrient Management Planning (as per The Code of Practice for Agricultural Environmental Management) Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$3,000 per plan. Plan must include Required elements according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food's checklist that best match the farm or industry type. Eligible costs: - Laboratory analyses (e.g., manure, soil, leaf tissue, or compost) - NMPs should include required elements (appropriate record keeping and reporting standards) - Estimated actual costs associated with the development of the plan must be submitted for review and approval Note: Raw laboratory nutrient data analysis– free of farm identification – will need to be saved for environmental health indicators reporting purposes. Connected to: Nutrient & Waste Management project code 0201 – Treatment systems for solid or liquid manure – Poultry or Livestock
2401.2	Regulatory Nutrient Management	Consultative services to develop nutrient management plans, planning and decision support tools designated for Nutrient Management Planning (as per The Code of Practice for Agricultural Environmental Management) and relative to any high-risk locations or environments as indicated by the Vulnerable Aquifer Recharge Areas map or a farm's Environmental Farm Plan.

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
	Planning (NMP)	Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$6,000 per plan Plan must include • Required elements according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food's checklist that best match the farm or industry type. Eligible costs: • Laboratory analyses (e.g., manure, soil, leaf tissue, or compost) as part of the eligible costs of the nutrient management plan • NMPs should include required elements (appropriate record keeping and reporting standards) • Estimated actual costs associated with the development of the plan must be submitted for review and approval Note: Raw laboratory nutrient data analysis– free of farm identification – will need to be saved for environmental health indicators reporting purposes. Connected to: • Nutrient & Waste Management project code 0201 – Treatment systems for solid or liquid manure – Poultry or Livestock
2501	Integrated Pest Management Planning (IPM)	Consultative services to develop integrated pest management plans, planning, and decision support tools. Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$3,000 per plan Eligible costs: • IPM consultant must be approved by IAF to be eligible for reimbursement. • IPM plans must contain the required elements of a plan as designated by the Government of British Columbia. • Actual costs associated with the development of the plan must be submitted for review and approval Note: Limit of one plan per eligible farm operation.

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
2601	Grazing Management Planning	Consultative services to develop range and grazing management plans, planning and decision support tools. Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$3,000 per plan Eligible costs: • Grazing management consultant must be approved by IAF to be eligible for reimbursement. • Grazing management plans must contain the required elements of a plan • Actual costs associated with the development of the plan must be submitted for review and approval Note: Limit of two plans per eligible farm operation. Connected to: • Riparian & Grazing project code 1004 – Rejuvenation and enhancement of sensitive areas through revegetation and restoration of disturbed areas • Riparian & Grazing project code 1005.1 – Improved grazing management of tame pasture • Riparian & Grazing project code 1005.2 – Improved grazing management of native pasture
2801	Biodiversity Management Planning	Professional consultant services to create a biodiversity management plan. Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$3,000 per plan Plan must include: • An opportunities assessment, an action plan, identification of potential activities to be implemented, and a monitoring plan. • A comprehensive list of species present and known occurrences for species at risk (or anecdotal reports from landowners and neighbours if no occurrence data is present) • Any planning and decision support tools used (e.g., computer software and aerial photos) • Maps and land resource information costs • Consultant's report

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- A document covering what was discussed during the producer and consultant's final plan review Guidance for this plan is derived from the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food's "Planning for Biodiversity: A Guide for BC Farmers and Ranchers." Connected to: Biodiversity Project Code 2207 – Creating Pollinator Habitat
2901	Irrigation System Assessment	Professional consultant services by a Certified Irrigation Designer (CID) from the Irrigation Industry Association of BC (IIABC) to assess existing irrigation systems and provide an action plan on how to increase water use efficiency and irrigation system performance. Note: The BMP program does not recognize certified irrigation designers from elsewhere. Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$3,000 per plan Plan must include: - Notes from CID's initial site investigation prior to action plan and quote preparation - Identification of areas where maintenance is required - CID's signature and seal - Assessment of the existing irrigation system to determine whether the design aligns with industry standards and whether the water supply and water licences are adequate to meet crop needs - Details on how the system can be improved to increase water use efficiency and performance for all components of irrigation systems, including water delivery and application - A certified design layout, material list, and operation and maintenance requirements - CID's invoice to the producer outlining the services before payment for the plan can be made For existing irrigation systems: - Pre-project (baseline) and post-project energy source, - Pre-project (baseline) and post-project annual energy consumption (in kWh), and

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		○ Estimated annual reduction of fossil fuel consumption (in kWh, if applicable) • Any applicable worksheets from the BC Government's Irrigation System Assessment Guide or the farm's current Environmental Farm Plan • Details of the current water licence(s) for the farm property, as they appear on the water licence(s), including but not limited to 1. Maximum irrigated area, 2. Maximum quantity of water (annual water use), and 3. Maximum withdrawal rate (peak flow rate) permitted, if specified. A copy of the water licence(s) must be provided by the funding applicant or retrieved through the Water Licence Search website. If the proposed project requires an additional water licence or amendment to an existing water licence, provide details on additional irrigated area, additional quantity of water, point(s) of diversion, purpose use, and other related information, as applicable, for the applicant to apply for a new water licence or water licence amendment (as part of the action plan). Connected to: • Water Infrastructure project code 1804 – Irrigation systems – new or existing • Water Infrastructure project code 1806 – Improvement of water supply systems to farms
2902	Water Management Plan	Professional consultant services' plan for water management planning to deal with issues arising from excess water (stormwater and drainage), shortage of water supply, and other water-related issues resulting from climate change must be developed, signed and sealed by a Qualified Professional (e.g., Professional Agrologist, Professional Engineer, or Certified Irrigation Designer with education and work experience in agricultural water use). Note: Certified Irrigation Designer must be registered in good standing with the Irrigation Industry Association of BC (IIABC). The BMP program does not recognize certified designers from elsewhere. Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$6,000 per plan

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		Plan must include: - Assessment of water supply to the farm (i.e., how the water is being managed on the farm for irrigation, livestock watering, and other farm water uses), as well as drainage and stormwater management. This includes assessment of existing water storage facilities for all farm water uses (e.g., dugouts), water supply sources, drainage channels/structures, and management of runoff/stormwater. - Recommendations for water management improvements on the farm and specify whether additional water supply, water storage, drainage/runoff control, or water licences are recommended/required. - Details of the current water licence(s) for the farm property, as they appear on the water licence(s), including but not limited to - Maximum irrigated area, - Maximum quantity of water (annual water use), and - Maximum withdrawal rate (peak flow rate) permitted, if specified, A copy of the water licence(s) must be provided by the funding applicant or retrieved through the Water Licence Search website. If the proposed project requires an additional water licence or amendment to an existing water licence, provide details on additional irrigated area, additional quantity of water, point(s) of diversion, purpose use, and other related information, as applicable, for the applicant to apply for a new water licence or water licence amendment (as part of the action plan). - Design and operation parameters should follow those identified in the BC Irrigation Management Guide, BC Agricultural Drainage Manual, and/or the EFP Drainage Management Guide. - A complete Water Management Plan Checklist Connected to: Soil Carbon project code 3201 – Improved drainage
3001	Riparian Management Plan	Professional consultant services to produce a riparian management plan based on a needs assessment from Riparian Health Assessments (RHA) generated during the EFP process. Cost-share ratio: 100%

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		Funding amount: Up to \$3,000 per plan Plan must include: • Results of previously done Riparian Health Assessment (RHA) • Any planning and decision support tools used (e.g., computer software, aerial photos) • Maps and land resource information costs • Data collection, materials and sampling, and analysis costs by the consultant • Design work by consultant for water course and wetland areas and riparian buffer strip projects. • Consultant's report • A document covering what was discussed during the producer and consultant's final plan review Ineligible costs: • Time, effort, and travel by the producer • Professional services not directly related to riparian health assessment and buffer strip planning • Field-specific agronomic practices (e.g. variable rate application of crop inputs) • Costs associated with developing engineer reports for drainage
3401	Vegetative Buffer Planning	Professional consultant services to produce a shelterbelt, buffer, or hedgerow vegetative buffer plan (VBP) based on a needs assessment generated during the EFP process. Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$3,000 per plan Plan must include: • Any planning and decision support tools used (e.g., computer software, aerial photos) • Maps and land resource information costs • Data collection, materials, sampling, and analysis costs by consultant or designate • Design work by the consultant for buffer layout, species selection, and establishment costs • Consultant's report

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		- A document covering what was discussed during the producer and consultant's final plan review Ineligible costs: - Time, effort, and travel by the producer - Professional services not directly related to the VBP Connected to: Biodiversity project code 1901 – Establishment of shelterbelts or tree buffers

Complex Plans & Designs

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
0106	Improved Manure Storage and Handling	Assessment of existing earthen manure or agricultural by-product storage basins (lagoons) built before February 28th, 2019, by a qualified professional utilizing the Ministry of Agriculture and Food's guidance on responsible solid or liquid manure management practices. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$10,000 per plan Eligible costs: - Site assessment by drilling - Analytical costs for soil or water - Report preparation Ineligible costs: - Permanent monitoring equipment - Leak prevention supplies

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
0804	Product and Waste Management	Engineering or technical design report and drawings to facilitate the construction of a composting facility, new liquid manure storage, or modification of existing liquid manure storage. Can also include compost facility operational planning and monitoring information Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$10,000 per plan Ineligible costs: • Construction materials • Monitoring equipment Connected to: • Nutrient & Waste Management project code 0803 – Composting of agricultural waste • Nutrient & Waste Management project code 0100 – Improve liquid manure storage facilities - Dairy
3301	Carbon Dioxide Emission Reduction	Professional consultant services for on-farm energy efficiency assessments, alternative energy assessments, or pre-feasibility studies. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$10,000 per plan
0204	Manure Treatment	Professional consultant services' assessment and design of agricultural by-product manure treatment, focusing on the recovery of nutrients. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$20,000 per design
0503	Farmyard Runoff/Storm	Professional consultant services' assessment and design of farmyard run of control and/or management of stormwater to prevent clean water from being contaminated or prevent the release of contaminated water using the design and operation parameters identified in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food's BC Agricultural Drainage Management Guide.

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
	Water Management	Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$20,000 per design Connected to: <u>Riparian & Grazing project code 0501 – Stormwater/runoff management around confined livestock facilities</u>
0603	Relocation of Livestock Confinement	Professional consultant services' assessment and design of outdoor livestock confinement areas while addressing protection of riparian areas and/or critical habitats. Engineering or technical design work should focus on the design of the new site as well as the decommissioning of the original site. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$20,000 per design
1702	Nutrient Recovery from Wastewater	Professional consultant services' assessment and design of agricultural by-product wastewater treatment, focusing on recovery of nutrients. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$20,000 per design
1102	Engineering or Technical Design or Assessment – Water/Riparian	Professional consultant services (by an accredited engineering consultant or a qualified professional in accordance with federal, provincial, and local government regulations and specifications) to complete the assessment and design of: - Any riparian structures (i.e., culverts, dams, bridges, revetments, root wads, fencing, off-stream watering, bank stabilization planting) - Water storage structures (e.g., dugouts, dams, reservoirs) for agricultural water use purposes. - Dugout technical design plans

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		○ Note: In cases where a QP is optional¹ (i.e., the water storage infrastructure is not regulated under the Dam Safety Regulation), Applicants have the option to either complete and submit the Dugout Planning Checklist to fulfill the prerequisite for BMP 0904 (in which case, BMP 1102 funding is not applicable) OR apply for BMP 1102 to hire a QP to complete the dugout technical design. For further information, please refer to: ▪ Dugout Planning Checklist ▪ Dugout Calculator ▪ BC Agriculture Water Calculator ▪ Guidance on Farm Water Storage ▪ British Columbia Farm Water Dugouts ▪ Authorization Requirement for Storage and Use of Water in Dugouts • Dam engineering assessments, dam emergency plans, dam safety reviews, redetermination of consequence classification, or any professional consultative services as required by the B.C. Dam Safety Regulation. Please contact the Dam Safety Program staff for details. • Engineering design or technical assessment required to support an application for a surface water/groundwater licence, use approval, or changes in and about a stream with an agricultural water use purpose (e.g., Environmental Flow Needs assessment, hydrogeological assessment, or other assessments). • Agricultural water supply assessment or feasibility study to determine available water supply to the farm. The components could include, but are not limited to: ○ Determination of current and future water demands ○ Assessment of currently available and viable future water supply sources and their points of diversion ○ Consideration of new or improved methodology or technology that promotes water use efficiency and is significant to provide long-term solutions to address current and/or anticipated water supply risks

¹ While a technical design completed by a Qualified Professional is not a requirement for BMP funding under 0904, this may still be required by Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) to support a water licence application for dugout water storage purposes. The [Dugout Planning Checklist](#) does not replace any technical designs required. A technical design must still be completed by a Qualified Professional for water storage infrastructure regulated under the Dam Safety Regulation that is funded under BMP Practice Code 0903

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		○ Plan of future water infrastructure required to support those water demands that are not being met with the current water supply sources ○ Schematic/drawing that identifies the location of viable water supply options, and mechanisms and infrastructure required to deliver water from the water source(s) to support the farm water use ○ A detailed plan that includes the technical, environmental, financial, construction, and project management requirements that would be necessary to execute the construction plan Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$20,000 per design Ineligible costs: • Construction services Connected to: • Riparian & Grazing project code 1001 – Alternative watering systems to manage livestock • Riparian & Grazing project code 1002 – Creation or widening of buffers adjacent to surface water sources • Riparian & Grazing project code 1003 – Fencing to manage and improve riparian condition and function • Riparian & Grazing project code 1004 – Rejuvenation and enhancement of sensitive areas through revegetation and restoration of disturbed areas • Riparian & Grazing project code 1006 – Improved stream crossings • Riparian & Grazing project code 1101 – Erosion control and riparian habitat structures • Water Infrastructure project code 0903 – Dams and reservoirs – new and existing • Water Infrastructure project code 0904 – Dugouts – new and existing
3102	Methane (CH ₄) Emission Reduction	Professional consultant services' feasibility studies are required prior to the start of a project for practice code 3101.1. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$20,000 per design

Practice Code	Activity	Description and details
		Note: This practice code would only stand alone if the project does not proceed due to economic, technical, or environmental reasons. Connected to: Nutrient & Waste Management project code 3101.1 – Covered manure storage with or without methane collection and renewable energy production from collected methane
3309	Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Emission Reduction	Professional consultant services' feasibility studies, engineering, or technical design are required prior to the start of a project for codes 3303 or 3304. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$20,000 per design Note: This practice code would only stand alone if the project does not proceed due to economic, technical, or environmental reasons. Connected to: Energy & Fuel Efficiency project code 3303 – Alternative energy technology and supplementary energy storage Energy & Fuel Efficiency project code 3304 – Replacement of fossil-fuel dependent space heating with renewable heating

Biogas

Practice Code	Name	Description and details
0205	Feasibility Studies – Biogas Systems Installation	Consultative services to develop pre-feasibility, technical feasibility, or engineering design work for on-farm biogas systems. Projects must either reduce agricultural carbon dioxide emissions or reduce the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$50,000 Eligible costs: - Assessments through feasibility studies and design of biogas systems to be integrated into on-farm waste management systems - Engineering or technical design report and drawings to facilitate the construction of biogas systems - focus should be on biogas systems and the associated required infrastructure - recovery of nutrients may be included if it is required to meet a regulated nutrient management plan (NMP) - Estimated costs associated with the development of studies or designs must be submitted for review and approval Ineligible costs: - Costs and infrastructure for standalone manure storage systems

Extreme Weather Preparedness

Practice Code	Name	Description and details
3601	FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment	FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Assessment completed by an approved Local FireSmart™ BC Representative (LFR) or Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) with FireSmart™ BC Farm & Ranch Training. Cost-share ratio: 100% Funding amount: Up to \$2,000 Connected to: • Extreme Weather Preparedness project code 3602 – FireSmart™ BC Farm Building Retrofits • Extreme Weather Preparedness project code 3603 – FireSmart™ BC Critical Farm Structures • Extreme Weather Preparedness project code 3604 – FireSmart™ BC Addressing Vegetation & Combustible Materials Additional Resources: • To learn more and to find a qualified individual to complete the assessment: Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness (https://firesmartbc.ca/farm-and-ranch-wildfire-preparedness/)
3704.1	Planning & Design of Fill Pad for Farm Buildings	Consultative services for planning, design, and authorizations of a fill pad to raise existing farm structures (livestock barns, indoor aquaculture facilities, equipment storage, feed and crop storage, greenhouses) above the 200-year flood level. Cost-share ratio: 80% Funding amount: Up to \$15,000 Plan must include: • Declaration of pre-existing farm structure • Stamped fill design plans • Approval from ALC or confirmation that the project fits the criteria outlined in ALC Information Bulletin 07 Ineligible costs: • Any costs or works related to the acquisition or placement of fill • Any permit or application fees

		Note: New residences in a floodplain (if allowed) are often required by local government building bylaws to be placed on a fill pad. Your local government staff will be able to tell you if they have such requirements in your area, if any permitting is involved, and what qualifications are needed to design/implement fill pads in your area (they may also have a list of contractors that meet those qualifications). Placing fill in the ALR will require either a 'Notification' if it meets specified criteria, or an 'Application' if it does not meet those criteria (both require extra time to allow the process to be completed). Depending on the location and size of your proposed fill pad, it may also affect the interests/mandates of other government agencies. For these reasons, it is a requirement that any fill projects be planned and designed by a Qualified Person before applying for funding for the on-farm work. Connected to: • Extreme Weather Preparedness project code 3704.2 – Fill Pad for 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)
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