



## 2019 – 2020 Funding Application for SARPAL Project BMPs

### Species at Risk Partnerships on Agricultural Lands Program

SARPAL is a federal program delivered by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) in partnership with ARDCorp focused on delivery of SARPAL support to key commodity sectors, outside of the cattle ranching industry (BCCA SARPAL program).

### Beneficial Management Practices Program

Producers who develop and have a completed and current EFP may be eligible to apply for cost-shared incentives through the SARPAL program to implement conservation actions identified in their on-farm environmental action plans. The following document lists the BMP categories and practices eligible for cost-shared funding in British Columbia.

### Application Steps

- 1. Complete an EFP for your farm and receive a 'Statement of Completion' from the BC ARDCorp recognized Planning Advisor**
- 2. Fill out a BMP application form (providing all requested identification and details of your project)**
- 3. Applicant must sign the application form**
- 4. Submit the application form to the ARDCorp office**

ARDCorp (B.C. Agricultural Research & Development Corporation)  
Unit 1 - 2650 Progressive Way, Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 6H9

P: 604-854-4483

TF: 1-866-522-3447

F: 604-854-4485

This project was undertaken with the financial support of:  
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada



## General Policy Statements and Conditions for SARPAL BMP Program

The following lists of Beneficial Management Practices and Policy are for the Program Year 2019/2020 (to March 31, 2020).

### 1. Access to the ARDCorp SARPAL BMP program:

- Access will be based on an Environmental Farm Plan (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. This does not imply the farm operation will be able to access SARPAL BMP program dollars.
- The farm operation must be in British Columbia and have valid "Farm Class" land as designated by the BC Assessment Authority or be a First Nations agricultural operation with designated authority.
- Farms that are primarily classified as a beef operation are not eligible under this program and should apply under the BC Cattlemen's SARPAL program.
- The applicant must have a valid business (GST) number.
- Access to certain BMPs require additional assessments, planning or design that must be completed prior to approval (e.g., Biodiversity Management Plans). These BMPs are considered to be "linked" and the planning BMP must be completed and submitted prior to beginning a project. Concurrency of planning and/or technical assessment may be allowed for projects that are not contingent on a final design for the project construction activity or may be waived at the discretion of the Program Manager.

**Applications will be accepted during the Application Intake Window or until SARPAL Program Funds are fully committed.**

2. **Projects per Application:** Each eligible project constitutes a single application, but some projects may include more than one practice code, however, category caps still apply.
3. **Number of project applications:** Eligible farm operations are limited to two project or equipment related BMP applications per year per eligible farm enterprise. Planning, Technical Assessments or Engineered Designs which are necessary prior to the completion of a construction project are not included in this total.
4. **Project justification:** *The merits of each project will be considered, so the following must be included with the BMP project application:*
  - What federally listed species at risk are being addressed by this project?
  - How will this project resolve the issue?

- Are you willing to provide video footage of the project being implemented in order to promote conservation practices?
5. **Funding of partial projects:** Funding for partial projects *will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis* and are 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 which may have delayed project completion.
  6. **Planning or Technical Design BMP Applications and Reports:** 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).
  7. **Engineering or Technical Design:** 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 and acting under that association's Code of Ethics and subject to disciplinary action by that association. He or she must also be someone who, through demonstrated suitable education, experience, accreditation and knowledge relevant to the particular matter, may be reasonably relied on to provide advice within his or her area of expertise.

**If there is no regulatory requirement for the engineering or technical designed to be carried out by a qualified professional,** the technical design maybe 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.

8. **Application requirements:**
  - Cost estimates or quotes are required for all projects.

- Legible sketches or drawings with labels indicating layout and details of projects are required for all projects related to planting of vegetation, fence or livestock watering installations and any construction projects (e.g., buildings or other structures).
9. **Stacking:** Program policy sets a percentage maximum amount of government funds which can be used towards the total project costs. For SARPAL BMP program this has been set at 100% of the total eligible costs of the BMP Project.
10. **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:
    - i. Reasonable hours of labour invested by the applicant, his/her dependents and business partner(s) may be claimed.
    - ii. Equipment costs associated with equipment owned by the applicant and considered essential to implement the approved project.
    - iii. The maximum allowable in-kind labour and equipment rates are:

Category	Description	Rate
Labour	General labour (e.g. building, planting etc.)	\$20/hour
Small Equipment & Labour	Farm Tractor and Implements - up to 80 hp (does not include hand tools or motorized tools less than 25 hp)	\$60/hour
Medium Equipment & Labour	Farm Tractor and Implements - 80 to 120 hp (e.g., tandem axle dump truck)	\$90/hour
Large Equipment & Labour	Farm Tractor and Implements - greater than 120 hp (e.g., excavator, loader backhoe or land scraper)	\$140/hour

- If approved, actual labour and equipment hours must be tracked and submitted.
- Not eligible for in-kind funding:
  - i. Materials in a farm's inventory, or products produced on the farm and contributed to the project by the applicant.
  - ii. Costs associated with education, project planning, supervision, or administration.
- The total estimated in-kind contributions are limited to 25% of the total eligible project costs.
- For in-kind related to fencing projects – see Policy Item 11.
- For in-kind related to shelterbelts, hedgerows and vegetative buffers planting – see Policy Item 12.

If a farm business plans to claim for in-kind contributions, accurate estimates must be reflected in the total project cost submitted with the project application. **All proposed use of in-kind labour and equipment must be identified on the initial BMP project**

**application.** Refer to the BMP Application Form for more details. *ARDCorp will make a final determination, on what the number of hours and a reasonable rate is for the hours claimed, based on the BMP being implemented and the nature of the work performed.*

11. **Fencing costs (all fences):** The maximum amount of eligible costs for materials, labour and equipment is \$20.00 (at 60% cost share = \$12.00 from the program) per meter. This is regardless of whether the fence is installed by the applicant or by a fencing contractor. In-kind labour and equipment for producer installed fencing will be reviewed for applicant installed fences. In-kind will be limited to 100% of the receipted value of purchased fence materials. If approved, actual labour and equipment hours must be tracked and submitted.
12. **Tree and Shrub Planting Costs:** The maximum amount of eligible cost for any tree or shrub planting materials and planting is \$85 per tree/shrub exclusive of establishment costs. This applies to contractor or applicant planting.
  - Where a contractor is supplying and installing plants there is no in-kind eligibility.
  - Where an applicant is completing the planting, the maximum in-kind valuation for establishing shelterbelts, hedgerows or vegetative buffers to be 100% of the plant materials cost to a maximum of \$5.00 per meter (\$1.50 per foot) of the planting. This is inclusive of the materials and planting costs.
    - Note: one row of 30 meters or three rows of 10 meters each are equivalent with a total linear length of 30 meters)
13. **Project initiation: *Projects will be considered ineligible for funding if any portion has been initiated prior to approval.***
14. **Project completion:** All projects must be completed by the deadline outlined on their funding approval letter. Work, invoices and project summary report must be completed and dated on or before the deadline date outline in the approval letter. Projects will be considered cancelled if the paperwork is not received by the deadline date and the funding will then be reallocated to other projects.
  - Equipment purchases, and/or small capital infrastructure projects will be given 60 days for completion.
  - Large capital, irrigation system or construction projects will be given 100 days for completion.

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

15. **Caps and Cost Shares for BMP Categories:** These are valid for the 2019-2020 SARPAL BMP Program Year.
16. **Evidence of payment:** The program requires a paid company invoice(s) showing the amount as fully paid and the contact information for the invoicing company, cancelled cheque with invoice, or credit card transaction as evidence of payment.
17. **Cancelled Projects:** Any projects cancelled by 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 at a later date. 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.
18. **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**



## Beneficial Management Practice Codes

BMP Category Practice Code	Eligible BMPs and Costs	Required plans or actions to be completed prior to, or concurrent with, a project
<p><b>Biodiversity Management Planning - 2801</b></p> <p>Consultative services to create a biodiversity management plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Up to \$2K per plan</b></li> <li>• Plan must include an opportunities assessment, an action plan, identification of potential activities to be implemented, and a monitoring plan.</li> <li>• Planning and decision support tools (e.g., computer software and aerial photos)</li> <li>• Maps and land resource information costs</li> <li>• Report preparation by consultant</li> <li>• Plan review with producer</li> <li>• Guidance for this BMP is derived from the EFP “Planning for Biodiversity A Guide for BC Farmers and Ranchers”</li> <li>• Linked to BMP Practice Codes 2201, 2202, 2203, 2004 and 2205</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Limit of one plan per eligible farm operation</p>	
<p>2201 - Alternative watering systems and creation of biodiversity enhancements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of off-site watering systems for livestock to minimize negative impacts on identified critical habitat for species at risk.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding cap: \$20,000</b></p> <p><b>Ineligible Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repair and maintenance of existing riparian pasture management systems and equipment</li> <li>• On-going maintenance costs of existing equipment.</li> <li>• Opportunity costs associated with payments for land taken out of production.</li> <li>• Installation costs of main electrical service</li> </ul>	<p>Biodiversity Management Plan (2801) including details of Riparian Management</p>
<p>2202 - Improved Grazing Systems – Cross fencing to create biodiversity enhancements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of fences for improved livestock grazing systems to minimize negative impacts on identified critical habitat. Example grazing systems are rotational, seasonal, rest rotational deferred, and swath. (see: “Grazing Management in Surrounding Uplands” described under Practice Code 1005)</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding cap: \$20,000</b></p> <p><b>Ineligible Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repair and maintenance of existing riparian pasture management systems and equipment (e.g., can’t be used to repair existing fence)</li> <li>• On-going maintenance costs</li> <li>• Opportunity costs associated with payments for land taken out of production</li> </ul>	<p>Biodiversity Management Plan (2801) including details of Grazing Management</p>
<p>2203 - Improved Stream Crossings and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs associated with improving or removing stream/creek crossings to improve fish and wildlife critical habitat (see: “Improved Stream Crossings described under Practice Code 1006 of EFP BMP Project list)</li> </ul>	<p>Biodiversity Management Plan (2801)</p>

This project was undertaken with the financial support of:  
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA



biodiversity enhancements	<p><b>Funding cap: \$20,000</b></p> <p><b>Ineligible Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going maintenance costs</li> <li>• Stream crossing projects that are associated with a new or expanded agricultural activity– where no crossing has existed previously</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Projects that include culverts must meet same requirements as bridges in terms of design and regulations and maintenance of existing riparian pasture management</p>	including details of Riparian Management
2204 - Relocation of livestock facilities and creation of biodiversity enhancements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction and installation of nests/nest platforms</li> <li>• Construction of nests/nest platforms, protective structures (i.e. cattle guards), to prevent nest relocation</li> <li>• Construction of fences, powerlines, trails or other infrastructure having potential negative impacts on identified species at risk or critical habitat (see: “Relocation of Livestock Facilities described under Practice Codes 0601 of EFP BMP Project list)</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding cap: \$20,000</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Funding is to be used to move operations away from sensitive surface water, riparian areas, critical wildlife habitat and areas of severe erosion potential</p>	Biodiversity Management Plan (2801)
2206 - Hay land Management to Enhance Wildlife Survival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flushing bars on haying/silage cutting equipment to reduce wildlife mortality</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding cap: \$1,500</b></p> <p><b>Ineligible Items:</b> Equipment or components directly related to cutting or harvest of forage.</p>	N/A
2207 - Creating Pollinator Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of pollinator habitat</li> <li>• Consultative service for suitable species, composition and maintenance</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding cap: \$2,500</b></p> <p><b>Ineligible Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going maintenance</li> <li>• Costs associated with acquiring / planting invasive plant species</li> <li>• Opportunity costs associated with payments for land taken out of production</li> <li>• Landscape quality or landscaping type plantings</li> <li>• Commercial fruit trees, Christmas trees, ornamentals, afforestation, woodlot establishment and reforestation.</li> </ul>	Biodiversity Management Plan (2801)
3501 - Creative Environmental Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This category is open to applications that address projects or situations identified in an EFP but not represented by any other BMP Categories.</li> <li>• Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a “proposal driven basis” and be reviewed by an adjudication committee</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding cap: \$30,000</b></p>	Biodiversity Management Plan (2801)