

Frequently Asked Questions

Agricultural Crown Lands Forage Productivity Pilot Program



Q1. What is the Agricultural Crown Lands Forage Productivity Pilot Program?

A: The ACLFP is a pilot program that provides Agricultural Crown Land (ACL) lessees with 75% cost-shared programming of up to \$30,000 per farm operation to develop a grazing management plan, add infrastructure (cross-fencing, wells, dugouts) and rejuvenate forage lands (perennial forage seed, seeding and brush management) in order to improve pasture productivity. Project must occur between April and December of 2022. Program details can be accessed here: <http://webpublishing.mbgov.ca/en/agriculture/canadian-agricultural-partnership/Documents/guidebook/ag-action-mb-program-guide-for-aclfp.pdf>

Q2. Who is eligible to apply?

A: ACL lease holders in good standing can apply. A farm business or operation with multiple shareholders or partners, operation names or units, will count as one eligible applicant. Each farm operation can submit one application that includes all applicable activities (planning, infrastructure and/or rejuvenation).

However, Municipal lands under ACL lease are **not** eligible for this program.

Q3. When is the deadline to apply?

A: Applications must be received no later than **December 31, 2021**. They will be assessed by technical reviewers based on the environmental benefit assessment index, program priorities and project planning.

Q4. Do I need support from ACL to submit an application for a project?

A: Yes. You will need a *Letter of Support* for the proposed project from [your local Farm Production Extension Specialist \(FPES\) – Crown Lands](#) (see contact info in Q14, below) and the *Letter of Support* must be submitted along with your application.

While your FPES-Crown Lands must ensure that your proposed project is suitable for your ACL lease, they are not responsible for ACLFP funding approval.

Q5. What do I need to include with my application?

A: Be sure to answer all questions in the application form itself: explain the proposed project in detail, current practices, and the benefit of the new practice; answer all *BMP Specific Questions* (as listed in the [guidebook](#)), and complete the budget table in full.

Along with your application, you will need to include:

- a written *Letter of Support* from your local FPES – Crown Lands for your proposed project (see Q3 above).
- an aerial map of the forage land with the location of the existing and proposed water sources identified as well as any fencing (existing and new), and land to be rejuvenated.
- an official quote for contracted items (if applicable).

Q6. When can I start my project?

A: Projects must occur between April 1, 2022 and December 30, 2022 in order to be eligible for ACLFP funding. Project deadlines will be specified in the approval letter, should your application be approved.

If work is started on a project before formal written approval of program funding is received, the applicant does so at their own risk.

Q7. When do I need to complete my project?

A: The project must be completed and claims submitted by the date indicated in your decision letter (all claims must be submitted no later than December 30, 2022).

Q8. Do I need any permits?

A: Applicants must meet all regulatory requirements. This may include:

- approvals from the Crown: ACL Work Permit – see Q9 below.
- a [Water Rights License](#) is required for all livestock operations extracting more than 25,000 litres (25 m³ or 5,499 Imperial gallons) per day. If developing a new water source, a permit must be obtained in advance of work beginning.
- any other standards or approvals as required by law.

Q9. How do I get a Work Permit from ACL to implement a project on my ACL lease?

A: An ACL Work Permit is required prior to conducting work on ACL leases.

- If your ACLFP project application is approved, an ACL Work Permit will be issued to you from your FPES-Crown Land along with the approval letter.
- If you plan to initiate your project in advance of receiving ACLFP approval, you will need to secure an ACL Work Permit from an FPES – Crown Lands prior to beginning work.

Q10. Do I need a valid Environmental Farm Plan Statement of Completion?

A: You can submit an application **without** a valid Statement of Completion, however, if your project is approved, you will be required to provide proof of a valid EFP when you submit your project claim for reimbursement. Environmental Farm Plan workshop dates and locations will be listed [online](#).

Q11. Does my dugout or well need to have a specific capacity?

A: The ACLFP pilot program does not have guidelines for dugout capacity, but you should discuss your plans with your FPES – Crown Lands.

Q12. Can I pump / pipe / haul water from an existing water source into a dugout that has gone dry?

A: Piping or hauling water from any water source (well, dugout or wetland) into a dugout that has run dry is **not eligible**.

Q13. How deep does a pipeline need to be?

A: Summer pasture pipelines permanently installed underground, and which can be properly winterized before freezing are eligible (ex: installed with a pasture pipeline plow). Above-ground pipelines are **ineligible**. Projects must be for permanent solutions only.

Q14. If I have more questions, who can I contact?

A: If the question is about project implementation on an ACL lease, please contact:

FPES – Crown Lands	Location	Districts	E-mail
Greg Logan	Beausejour	20, 50, 52	Greg.Logan@gov.mb.ca
Luanne Berjian	Minnedosa	30, 31	Luanne.Berjian@gov.mb.ca
Neil Overby	Dauphin	42,51	Neil.Overby@gov.mb.ca
Tyson Gillis	Dauphin	43, 44	Tyson.Gillis@gov.mb.ca

A: If the question is about specific eligibility criteria or the application process, please contact:

- Andrea Bertholet (Andrea.Bertholet@gov.mb.ca) or
- Colleen Wilson (Colleen.Wilson2@gov.mb.ca).