

Sustainable Agriculture Manitoba Program

BMP 4700: 2025 Special Intake – Livestock Water Supply

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who is eligible?

A. This intake is for livestock producers experiencing water supply shortages caused by dry conditions in specific eligible areas across agri-Manitoba.

The land location(s) for the project must be within an eligible Municipality, Northern Affairs Community or First Nation. A <u>map and list of eligible regions</u> can be found on the <u>program webpage</u>.

If you are unsure of your eligibility, contact us at agriculture@gov.mb.ca or 1-800-811-4411.

Q. Has eligibility been updated since this special intake was announced?

A: Yes, there have been two updates to the program:

- The eligible regions have been expanded; and
- Aeration systems are now an eligible expense.

Please refer to the program webpage and guide for further details.

Q. How do I apply?

A: Application forms and program details can be found on the Special Intake webpage at <u>BMP</u>
<u>4700: 2025 Special Intake</u>. Applications are accepted on a first come, first serve basis, reviewed weekly and subject to the eligibility of submitted expenses and available funding. For eligibility criteria, refer to the BMP 4700: 2025 Special Intake – Livestock Water Supply Program Guide.

Q. What is the cost share and cap?

BMP 4700: 2025 Special Intake – Livestock Water Supply has a cost share ratio of 50 per cent government, 50 per cent applicant, and a BMP funding cap of \$15,000 per applicant.

Q. Can I apply more than once?

Eligible applicants may submit one (1) application for this intake, which may include multiple locations or projects within the same application. Regardless of the number of locations included in an application, the total funding cap will remain at \$15,000.

Q. If I have already completed a water supply project, am I eligible?

A: Any projects for water supply occurring after April 1, 2025, are eligible. Producers that were previously approved for Sustainable Agriculture Manitoba BMP 4700 Water Supply are eligible for up to an additional \$15,000 under the 2025 Special Intake – Livestock Water Supply for **new** projects.





Q. When do I have to complete my project by?

A: Projects must be completed and claims submitted by **December 12, 2025**.

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

A: You may submit an application without a valid Statement of Completion; however, you will be required to have one when you submit the claim to be reimbursed. To complete your Environmental Farm Plan, please visit https://online.manitobaefp.ca/.

Q. Are confined livestock operations eligible?

A: Yes. All livestock operations in need of water are eligible to apply provided they are located within the eligible areas.

Q. Do I have to dig a dugout to a specific size?

A: All dugout work, including new construction or rehabilitation of an existing location, should follow the Dugout Construction Guidelines. See Appendix A below.

Q. Can I drill a new well in my yard?

A: Drilling a well in a farmyard is eligible if it will be used for watering livestock and is the most cost-efficient means of doing so.

Q. Do I need any permits?

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

- a water rights license from Environment and Climate Change, which is required for all livestock operations extracting more than 25,000 litres (25m³ or 5,499 Imperial gallons) per day. If developing a new water source, a permit must be obtained in advance of work beginning.
- approvals from the rural municipality or Crown.
- any other standards or approvals as required by law.
- For details on regulatory requirements, please visit:
 <u>Licensing, Regulation and Policy</u>, Manitoba government
 <u>Groundwater and Wells</u>, Manitoba government
 <u>Drainage & Water Control</u>, Manitoba government

Q. Can I pipe water from an existing water source into a dugout that has run dry?

A: No. Piping or hauling from a water source (well, dugout or wetland) into a dugout that has run dry is <u>not</u> eligible. However, piping from a water source to an alternate watering system <u>is</u> eligible.

Q. How deep does the pipeline need to be?

A: Shallow or above-ground pipelines (including those above the frost line) that cannot be winterized are ineligible. **Projects must be for permanent solutions only**. Summer pasture pipelines permanently installed underground and those which are able to be winterized before freezing, are eligible.

Q. Can I apply for a project on a pasture that I rent?

A: Yes. Either the landowner or renter can apply. If the renter applies, they must identify the landowner and provide contact information as part of the project description. This includes pasture on Crown Land.

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

A: Livestock producers can call the toll-free line 1-800-811-4411 or send an email to Sustainable CAP - Program Administration at agriculture@gov.mb.ca.

Other related information

- Dugout Construction Guideline see Appendix A below
- Program Guide
- Program Webpage
- Map and list of eligible regions
- Licensing, Regulation and Policy, Manitoba government
- Groundwater and Wells, Manitoba government
- <u>Drainage & Water Control</u>, Manitoba government

Appendix A

Livestock Dugout Construction Guidelines

- Exclusion fencing is recommended but not required:
 - Exclusion fencing ensures that livestock are restricted from direct access to the dugout, protecting against manure contaminated runoff and drowning.
 - Exclusion fencing should be a minimum of 15m (50') from the edge of the dugout.

- Dugout location:

• The dugout should be far enough away from any stream, river or creek as to not compromise bank stability or impact the riparian area.

- Dugout construction:

- End slopes and side slopes should be no steeper than 1.5:1.
- Dugout edge should be stabilized (by excavator) during construction.

Dugout sizing:

- In order to build resilience into your farm, dugouts should be sized for drought proof standards by accounting for more than one season's worth of water.
- Dimensions can be calculated using this Dugout Volume Calculator
- Alternate water system components:
 - Troughs / tanks should supply a minimum of one day's water usage based on 15 imp gal/ head/day