

RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES PROGRAM (RALP)

Rangeland Health Assessment BMP

Healthy rangelands are integral to a successful grazing operation and contribute to a healthy ecosystem, climate change mitigation and biodiversity preservation.

The Rangeland Health Assessment Beneficial Management Practice (BMP) increases producer knowledge of range health and grazing management planning by funding producers to contract private agrologists to complete rangeland health assessments and grazing plans on their tame, native or forested rangelands.

FUNDING LEVEL

50 per cent of eligible costs for contracting services to complete a rangeland health assessment and associated grazing plan to a maximum of \$10,000.

- The agrologist completing the range health assessment and grazing plan must be in good standing with the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists and completed the articling requirements and must have range management within their scope of practice. Additionally, the agrologist must:
 - Use the <u>Prairie Conservation Action Plan rangeland health assessment guidelines</u> to complete the assessment (or the Alberta guidelines for tame forage);
 - · Complete at least one site visit;
 - · Follow the Ministry of Agriculture template for grazing management plans;
 - Be aware of and keep in mind activity restrictions for Species at Risk and Critical Habitat, as designated under the federal *Species at Risk Act*.
- Consultant fees must be based on billable hours. Consultant charges considered unreasonable relative to the pasture size will be reviewed and may not be eligible for rebate.

APPLICATION TYPE

Applicants must complete the <u>project screening checklist</u> before commencing their project. Rebate claims must be received by March 31, 2028.

AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

As a condition to access program funding, applicants are required to review the <u>Agri-Environmental Risk Assessment</u> before beginning their project.

ELIGIBILITY

- Saskatchewan agricultural producers (individual, partnership or corporation) who can demonstrate a minimum of \$50,000 in gross farm income in Saskatchewan in the year of application or the year prior to the application. Individual applicants are at least 18 years of age. Our rebate programs allow flexibility for new entrants to become eligible if they expect to meet gross farm income eligibility within the five-year term of Sustainable CAP. New entrants who do not meet the annual gross farm income threshold are encouraged to submit a rebate claim and will be required to provide proof of meeting the annual gross farm income threshold before the end of the program in March of 2028; or
- Crown Land Pasture Associations in Saskatchewan; or
- First Nation Bands in the Province of Saskatchewan.
- Must have a Saskatchewan Premises Identification (PID) number.







The province is committed to supporting the success of Indigenous producers in the agriculture and food sector. We understand Indigenous applicants may have distinct characteristics reflecting regulatory, operational, cultural and other factors. We aim for flexibility in our program delivery to reduce barriers and ensure the accessibility of our programs. If you are interested in applying to the program, and have questions about the application process or eligibility criteria, please call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 and ask to be connected with the Building and Strengthening Indigenous Supports (BASIS) agriculture programs specialist who serves your location.

PROJECT COSTS

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES OR ITEMS

• Consulting costs for completion of a rangeland health assessment and associated grazing management plan.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES OR ITEMS

- Consultant fees where the consultant did not follow the provided guidelines and templates.
- Consultant fees where the chosen consultant is not in good standing with the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists with range management in their scope of practice.
- Project costs where the screening checklist was not completed by the producer prior to project commencement.
- Costs for projects completed prior to April 1, 2023, or prior to 18 months from the claim date.



