The Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program's (RALP) objective is to increase the environmental resiliency of agricultural landscapes by accelerating adoption of beneficial management practices (BMPs) that maximize provision of Ecological Goods & Services (EG&S), particularly increased carbon sequestration and enhanced climate resilience. Several BMPs provide significant natural value but offer few private benefits to producers or have prohibitive costs. Therefore, up to 100% of eligible expenses may be covered for approved grants to support producers in their ability to implement and maintain projects over a three-year term.

Table 1 lists the types of BMP projects that are eligible for Program funding ("**Eligible BMP Activity**"). To qualify, the applicant's BMP project must match the descriptions in **Table 2**, and meet the "Minimum Requirements" (if any) for that project type. The applicant has the option to adopt one or more of the "Allowable Enhancements" for that project type. **Table 3** lists the BMP cost maximums.

In addition to covering applicant's implementation costs, the program may also pay an opportunity cost. Up to **15% impact adjustment** may be added to the total grant amount based on project size, carbon sequestration improvement, number of livestock impacted, and water quality & biodiversity enhancement.

The program funding maximum is **$150,000** for active primary producers and **$300,000** for grazing associations, community pastures, and approved Indigenous applicants. The minimum payment under the Program is **$2,000**.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a continuous basis within the intake period of each year.

Please note: Successful applicants must complete and implement their **Eligible BMP Activity within the first year** and maintain it for the remainder of the three year agreement. For example, if applying in Year 2, the applicant's BMP must be put into practice by November 30, 2024 and maintained in 2025 & 2026.

Applications are only **retroactive** to the start date of each intake cycle year. **Project must be established within the term of each intake cycle dates**. Applications cannot be received for future years outside the intake cycle date.

Intake Cycle Schedule (retroactive to the start of the intake year):

Year 1 April 3, 2023 – November 30, 2023 (CLOSED)

Year 2 February 1, 2024 – November 30, 2024

Year 3 February 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025

Wetland Intake Cycle Schedule (retroactive to the start of the intake year):

Year 1 Intake cycle April 3, 2023 – January 31, 2024 (CLOSED)

Year 2 Intake cycle February 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025

Year 3 Intake cycle February 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026

Table 1. RALP Eligible BMP Projects

Funding Category	Eligible BMP Activity
Pasture Management	• Activity Code 100 Riparian area management • Activity Code 101 Rotational grazing of tame pasture or native rangeland • Activity Code 102 Adding legumes to existing forage stands
Cropland Conversion	• Activity Code 200 Annual cropland conversion to native forages • Activity Code 201 Annual cropland conversion to tame forages • Activity Code 202 Strips/ Grass waterways/ Salinity • Activity Code 203 Intercropping
Tree Establishment	• Activity Code 300 Shelterbelts • Activity Code 301 Eco-buffers • Activity Code 302 Establishment of pollinator strips
Wetland	• Activity Code 400 Wetland restoration and Activity Code 401 Construction of new wetlands

Table 2. RALP BMP Project Descriptions

Implementation Costs are the BMP project costs that are eligible for Program funding. The Program will contribute to the cost of the items/activities listed in column 2 of Table 2. Some items/activities have a set cost maximum (see Table 3 "BMP cost maximum table" at Appendix A.)

Minimum Requirements are the items/activities that a BMP project must include in order to be eligible for funding.

Allowable Enhancments are project elements that may make a BMP more effective. They are eligible for funding if the applicant chooses to include them in their BMP project. They are optional.

Cost Determination is the formula for the payment that the Program will pay for an Eligible BMP Activity. It is a combination of Implementation Costs, Opportunity cost (if applicable) and Impact adjustment (if applicable; see Table 3 at Appendix A).

Opportunity Cost are the Program's estimate of the profit that an applicant foregoes by implementing a practice change.

Please note: the Wetland category has a flat fee per acre.

<table>
<tr><th>Pasture Management</th><th>Implementation Costs</th></tr>
<tr><td>Activity Code 100 Riparian area management

Purpose: Fencing and off-site watering system to manage livestock access around environmentally sensitive areas on farms and ranches.

A riparian area is the green zone around rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands, and is a transition zone or interface between upland and aquatic ecosystems. Managing livestock around riparian areas provides protection for aquatic life, riparian vegetation, wildlife habitat and water quality.

• Riparian area management plan must be new or show incremental improvement over current management.</td><td>Minimum Requirement - your project must include any one of the following:
• Fencing for controlled access or exclusion as part of a riparian area fencing and management project
• Off-site watering system if being used to restrict livestock access to riparian areas. May include portable watering systems, stock tanks, pumping systems, plumbing materials, power sources (solar panels), and alert systems.
- Material for surface, shallow or deeply buried pipelines if used to distribute water within a pasture and/or protect a water source.
• Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor-CCA) support to develop management plans
• Watercourse crossing (*see note below)

Allowable Enhancements

Any items listed above</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Riparian area management:
Cost determination: Implementation Costs + Impact Adjustment</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">*Pursuant to The Water Act, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) must be notified for any projects that involve the placement, construction, maintenance, replacement or removal of a watercourse crossing to ensure compliance with the Water Act's Code of Practice. The Code of Practice for Watercourse Crossings can be found here (http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/codes/CROSSING.PDF). Please call the Regulatory Approval Centre at 780-427-6311 for more information.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Activity Code 101 Rotational grazing of tame pasture or native rangeland

Purpose: Balance forage supply and livestock demand; distribute grazing pressure across the pasture; provide rest for pasture plants during the growing season to help plants recover; and avoid grazing during sensitive times.

• Rotational grazing plan must be new or show incremental improvement over current management;</td><td>Minimum requirement
• Cross-fencing for controlled access as part of a rotational grazing management project

Allowable Enhancements
• Off-site watering systems. May include portable watering systems, stock tanks, pumping systems, plumbing materials, power sources (solar panels), and alert systems.</td></tr>
</table>

• Pasture must be divided into cells or paddocks for managed grazing (allowing rest and recover); • Plan should also include protection of riparian areas and or water sources, and; • Management schedule that includes monitoring of forage health; • Perimeter fencing is **not eligible.**	- Material for surface, shallow or deeply buried pipelines if used to distribute water within a pasture and/or protect a water source. • Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor-CCA) support to develop management plans • Watercourse Crossing (*see note below)
Rotational grazing: *Cost determination: Implementation Costs + Impact Adjustment*	
*Pursuant to The Water Act, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) must be notified for any projects that involve the placement, construction, maintenance, replacement or removal of a watercourse crossing to ensure compliance with the Water Act's Code of Practice. The Code of Practice for Watercourse Crossings can be found here (http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/codes/CROSSING.PDF). Please call the Regulatory Approval Centre at 780-427-6311 for more information.	
Activity Code 102 Adding legumes to existing forage stands Purpose: Adding **perennial legumes** into established tame pasture and hay fields to improve forage quality and digestibility, as well as reduce the need for nitrogen fertilizer for example through drilling, broadcasting, or mixing in with mineral application. • Adding perennial legumes to existing stand should show incremental improvement over current management; • Destroying existings stands to re-seed with legumes is **not eligible**; • *If you are using a commercial blend, note the brand name and supplier, seed type and percentages.	**Minimum requirement** • Perennial legume seed (commercial blends are okay if they contain legumes, *see note on the left). • Seeding operation costs **Allowable Enhancements** • Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor-CCA) support to develop management plans • Inoculant
Adding legumes to existing forage stands: *Cost determination: Implementation Costs + Impact Adjustment*	
Cropland Conversion	Implementation Costs
Activity Code 200 Annual cropland conversion to perennial native forages or; **Activity Code 201 Annual cropland conversion to perennial tame forages** Purpose: Converting annual crop to perennial forages to reduce inputs such as fertilizer and fuel in areas of marginal return, reduces erosion and increases soil carbon. • Fields have to be in annual cropping prior to conversion. • Additional support, i.e. opportunity costs, if converting to native forages for the increased cost and risk associated with establishment • Annual nurse crops **not eligible**.	**Minimum requirement** • Perennial forage seed (tame or native) • Seeding operation costs **Allowable Enhancements** • Perimeter fencing • Inoculant • Ag Lime or equivalent • Soil testing (**required** if you are requesting funding for Ag Lime or equivalent) • Off-site watering systems. May include portable watering systems, stock tanks, pumping systems, plumbing materials, power sources (solar panels), and alert systems. - Material for surface, shallow or deeply buried pipelines if used to distribute water within a pasture and/or protect a water source.

	• Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor-CCA) support to develop management plans
Annual cropland conversion to native forages: *Cost determination: Implementation Costs + $200 Opportunity Cost + Impact Adjustment* Annual cropland conversion to tame forages: *Cost determination: Implementation Costs + Impact Adjustment*	
Activity Code 202 Strips/ Grass waterways/ Salinity Purpose: To establish perennial forages in water runs, saline areas, or saline recharge zones to protect against erosion, increase productivity or reduce size of saline areas, and increase soil carbon. • Plan must be new or show incremental improvement over current management.	**Minimum Requirement** • Perennial forage Seed (tame or native) • Seeding operation costs **Allowable Enhancements** • Ag Lime or equivalent • Soil testing (**required** if you are requesting funding for Ag Lime or equivalent) • Inoculant • Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor-CCA) support to develop management plans
Strips/ Grass waterways/ Salinity: *Cost determination: Implementation Costs + $200 Opportunity cost + Impact Adjustment*	
Activity Code 203 Intercropping Purpose: Increasing new soil-building crops and annual legumes into rotations and reduce nitrogen use and improve soil health • This activity has to be seeded for three years; • Budget over three years of expenses must be included on the application form; • Can be on different fields if the acres are significant every year; If you are using a commercial blend, note the brand name and supplier, seed type and percentages. **Scenario 1 Intercropping**: interplanting two annual crops at the same time (must include one pulse). **Both crops must be harvested (seed or forage).** **Scenario 2 Cover Crop Cocktail**: three or more annual crops planted together **(must include one legume or pulse).**	**Minimum Requirements** **Intercropping:** • Pulse seed (cereal or oilseed crops are ineligible expenses) • Seeding operation costs **Cover crop cocktail:** • Pulse or annual legume • Other annual crop seed that are not cereal or oilseed • Commercial cover crop cocktail that includes pulse and/or annual legume • Seeding operation costs **Allowable Enhancements** • Off-site watering systems. May include portable watering systems, stock tanks, pumping systems, plumbing materials, power sources (solar panels), and alert systems. - Material for surface, shallow or deeply buried pipelines if used to distribute water within a pasture and/or protect a water source. • Perimeter fencing • Inoculant • Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor -CCA) support to develop management plans
Intercropping: *Cost determination: Implementation Costs + Impact Adjustment*	

<table>
<tr><th>Tree Establishment</th><th>Implementation Costs</th></tr>
<tr><td>Activity Code 300 Shelterbelts

Purpose: Establish permanent shelterbelts to reduce wind speeds which supports winter-feeding management, reduce manure nutrient build-up around farmyards and increase nutrient recovery thereby reducing fertilizer use. Also increases wildlife habitat.
Shelterbelt management plan must be new or show incremental improvement over current management.
Replacement of existing trees or shrubs or movement of existing trees or shrubs is not eligible.
Activity Code 301 Eco-buffers

Purpose: Creation or widening of buffers (trees or shrubs) in agricultural fields adjacent to surface water sources protects existing riparian areas.
Eco-buffer management plan must be new or show incremental improvement over current management.
Replacement of existing trees or shrubs or movement of existing trees or shrubs is not eligible.</td><td>Minimum Requirements
Purchase of trees and shrubs
Allowable Enhancements
Mulch (e.g. wood, plastic)
Irrigation system components including (but not limited to): trickle or drip systems, delivery hose/pipe and emitters
Soil and water testing (Soil testing is important to determine which species will thrive in the area)
First year fencing expenses for the purpose of excluding livestock from the shelterbelt.
Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor-CCA) support to develop management plans</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Shelterbelt & Eco-buffers if converting cropland:
Cost determination: Implementation Costs + $200 Opportunity Costs + Impact Adjustment

Shelterbelt & Eco-buffers if converting forages:
Cost determination: Implementation Costs + $100 Opportunity Costs + Impact Adjustment</td></tr>
<tr><td>Activity Code 302 Establishment of pollinator strips

Purpose: Create areas that provide habitat and food for native pollinators and increase species biodiversity as well as enhance pollination of field crops.

Recommend planting a diversity of plants with different blooming periods across the growing season. Native plant species are encouraged as well as introduced, non-invasive plant species.
Planting must include more than one species to be eligible;
Planting of annual flowering commodity crops such as canola is not eligible;
Eligible on acres of existing cropland and margins, not eligible in pasture land or land used for rotational grazing;
Replacement of existing trees or shrubs or movement of existing trees or shrubs is not eligible.</td><td>Minimum Requirements
Purchase of trees, shrubs, grass or wildflower seed.
Allowable Enhancements
Mulch (e.g. wood, plastic)
Irrigation system components including (but not limited to): trickle or drip systems, delivery hose/pipe and emitters
Soil and water testing (Soil testing is important to determine which species will thrive in the area)
Accredited technical (Professional Agrologist-P.Ag or Certified Crop Advisor-CCA) support to develop management plans</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Establishment of pollinator strips if converting cropland:
Cost determination: Implementation Costs + $200 Opportunity Costs + Impact Adjustment</td></tr>
</table>

Establishment of pollinator strips if converting forages:
Cost determination: Implementation Costs + $100 Opportunity Costs + Impact Adjustment

Wetland Restoration & Construction of New Wetlands

Wetland restoration and/or construction of a new wetland*.

Funding is available to agricultural landowners participating in Alberta Environment and Protected Areas Wetland Replacement Program (WRP). All grants are subject to WRP terms and conditions.

Completion report is required showing the number of acres & date of completion.

*Not applicable on Crown Land. Can apply on municipal or county land leased for agricultural production with a valid lease agreement.

https://www.alberta.ca/wetland-replacement-program.aspx

Cost determination: Flat rate payment of $1000 per acre

Appendix A

Table 3: Beneficial Management Practice (BMP) cost maximums

Item	Cost Maximum	Item Description
Accredited technical support (P. Ag or CCA)	Up to $2,000.00 per BMP	Grant reporting or management (such as completing an application form, reporting on behalf of a grant receipient) is not covered under this category, A detailed invoice will be required to verify the services of accredited technical support, including name of professional and their accreditation, for the implementation of an BMP activity.
Ag lime or equivalent	Up to $200 per acre	Includes product, equipment and labor. One time payment.
Fencing - Barbed/page wire	$10 per meter	Includes materials and installation
Fencing - Electric	$5 per meter	Includes materials and installation
Seeding operations	$30 per acre	Includes equipment and labor
Soil testing	$200 per quarter section	Includes sampling and analysis. Required if requesting funding for Ag lime or equivalent
Trees	$5 per tree or shrub	Includes seedlings and labor
Pollinator strips - grass or wildlfower seed	$60 per acre	Includes seed and labor
Materials on hand	Seed Fencing materials Trees/shrubs	The program will cover these materials on-hand, however they have to be new to the site at the time of applying. Note: only trees/shrubs purchased within six months prior to the start of the Intake Cycle (proof of purchase required) will be eligible for consideration as materials on hand.

Impact adjustment	Total grant amount may be adjusted up to 15% if the impact adjustment is incuded on the application. This will be based on the carbon sequestration capacity of the BMP activity, number of livestock, number of acres, improvement of water quality and biodiversity (if applicable) and degree of practice change over the three year land use agreement.

For awareness - list of other Federal Programs:

On-Farm Climate Action Fund:
Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP)
AAFC Agricultural Clean Technology Program
AAFC Living Labs
ECCC Nature Smart Solutions Program
NRCAN 2 Billion Trees Program (2BT)