



# Farm Water Supply Program

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# Farm Water Supply Program

- Objectives
  - Support producers to improve their water supply security and more effectively and efficiently manage their on-farm water resources.
  - Support producers to protect their water resources through beneficial management practices.
  - Provide technical assistance to producers to complete an assessment for the management of their water resources (e.g. Long Term Water Management Plan, or Water Management Assessment document in the future).

# FWS Program Eligibility

- An applicant must be a producer, corporation or not-for-profit organization with an active agricultural business in Alberta.
- Eligible projects can be located on:
  - private land, or
  - rented land or certain types of Crown land subject to prior written approval from the landowner.
- Eligible projects must be identified on a LTWMP and approved by an AF Water Specialist **prior** to project construction

# FWS Program Standard Incentives

- Cost share: 1/3 up to \$5000 max
- New water sources:
  - Wells
  - Dugouts
  - Spring developments
  - Dams
  - Unshared pipelines
  - Tie-in to multi-user pipeline



# FWS Program

## Standard Incentives – Cont'd

- Off-source watering systems
  - May include off-source watering system monitors \*New\*
  - Ineligible projects include:
    - “Drain-back” systems on wells
    - Homemade alert monitoring systems
  - Eligible for existing dugouts and springs \*New\*
  - Eligible with all new constructed water source projects
    - Off-source watering systems on natural water bodies, in riparian areas, etc. – see *Stewardship Producer* program
- Aeration systems
  - on new or existing dugouts
- Vermin-proof well caps \*New\*
  - on new or existing wells



# FWS Program

## Special Incentives

- Well Decommissioning:

- Cost share:

- 1 project at 50%
- 2 projects at 60% \*New\*
- 3 or more projects at 75% \*New\*
- Max \$2000 per project, max 20 projects
- Multiple projects but be included on the same application to receive higher cost share

- Drilled wells:

- Decommissioning must be done by an approved water well drilling contractor

- Bored wells:

- Decommissioning must be done by an approved water well drilling contractor OR by approved method



# FWS Program

## Special Incentives – Cont'd

- Well Pit Conversions
  - Cost share: 50% up to \$2000 per project
    - Max \$6000 for multiple projects
- Water Use Meter:
  - Cost share:
    - 1 at 50%
    - 2 at 60% \**New*\*
    - 3 or more at 75% \**New*\*
    - Max \$1000 per project, maximum 10 meters
    - Multiple meters but be included on the same application to receive higher cost share
- Water Level Monitor:
  - Cost share: 50% up to \$1000 per project



# FWS Program

## Special Incentives – Cont'd

- Wetland Assessments: \**New*\*
  - Cost share: 50% up to \$2000
  - Consultant fees for the purpose of properly planning and siting a new water project that may impact a wetland (ie new dugout)





# FWS Program

## Project Requirements - Wells

- New wells must have: \*New\*
  - A vermin proof well cap installed
    - Bored wells must have a cover that is securely attached with a screened vent to make it vermin-proof
  - Casing exposed 18" above ground
  - A 2 hr pump / 2 hr recovery test with drawdown and recovery measurements
  - A Well ID tag issued from Alberta Environment and Parks (once they become available)
- New wells also must:
  - be constructed by an approved water well driller
  - not be located in a pumphouse or other building
  - meet all regulatory requirements (ie. licence)

# FWS Program

## Project Requirements - Dugouts

- Dugout projects must be protected: \**New*\*
  - On new or expanded dugout projects, protection can include:
    - Fencing
    - Off-source watering system
- Dugouts also must:
  - Meet minimum specifications (slopes, depth, volume)
  - Meet all regulatory requirements:
    - Dugouts to be constructed in a wetland must meet all requirements as outlined in the Alberta Wetland Policy
    - Dugouts >2500m<sup>3</sup> (550,000 imp.gal **must** obtain approval from Alberta Environment and Parks **prior** to construction)
    - Large dugouts may require a licence from AEP

# FWS Program

## LTWMP and Environmental Checklist

- Long Term Water Management Plan (LTWMP)
  - Eligible project(s) must be identified on an approved Long Term Water Management Plan (LTWMP), and
  - The LTWMP must be approved by an AF Water Specialist ***prior*** to project construction.
  - Unconstructed projects identified on LTWMPs approved under GF or GF2 may still be eligible under CAP
    - contact an AF Water Specialist to confirm
- Environmental checklist
  - Will highlight environmental concerns to be addressed
  - Required as part of a Grant Application

# FWS Program

## More info...

- Forms, complete Program Funding list and Terms & Conditions available on CAP website:
  - [https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/FARM\\_WATER](https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/FARM_WATER)
- Call 310-FARM
- Contact an AF Water Specialist:
  - Dan Benson, Peace River
  - Shawn Elgert, Barrhead
  - Melissa Orr-Langner, Edmonton
  - Brandon Leask, Red Deer
  - Joe Harrington, Lethbridge