

# **Canada-New Brunswick Water Management Program**

## **Program Guidelines**

March 31, 2006

## **1.0 Objective**

The objective of the Canada-New Brunswick Water Management Program (CNBWMP) is to ensure the agricultural sector/community has access to secure, good quality water supplies to meet its existing and growing needs, and to reduce the risk of water management challenges through the planning, development, and conservation of suitable sources of such water, as well as appropriate on-farm management of water.

## **2.0 Funding and Duration**

The Government of Canada's contribution toward this program, up to a maximum amount of \$ 1.8 million, will come from the National Water Supply Expansion Program (NWSEP), which is a \$60-million Canada-wide initiative that will help improve the capacity of Canada's agricultural community to address water concerns. New Brunswick is providing technical support towards enhanced water management activities. The Canada-New Brunswick Water Management Program ends on March 31, 2008.

## **3.0 Eligible criteria**

Each CNBWMP project must be scientifically, technically, and financially feasible, environmentally acceptable and fall within at least one of the following criteria:

- Enhance the management of water resources;
- Reduce the risk of future water shortages;
- Meet a provincial water management priority;
- Enhance the potential for rural economic growth; or
- Result in a long-term water supply and management solutions.

Eligible applicants for Program assistance include individual farmer or groups of farmers; agricultural and conservation groups; rural communities and municipalities; agri-businesses; educational institutions; and provincial government departments, agencies and Crown corporations.

Any projects funded under this Program must meet the requirements under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act and New Brunswick legislation.

## **4.0 Eligible activities and costs**

The Program consists of the following three elements:

- On-farm Infrastructure
- Multi-User Infrastructure
- Strategic Work

The eligible activities differ from one program element to another and may also vary between project categories. For these reasons, the eligible activities are outlined under each of the program elements and categories.

It is important to note that the following costs are not eligible for funding under the Program:

- Legal costs
- Land acquisition costs (purchase of lands or any interest therein)
- Leasing costs (land, buildings, equipment)
- Maintenance and operational costs
- Any cost for project activities initiated prior to project approval date
- Projects solely for domestic water supply
- Refundable portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax

## **5.0 Guidelines**

### **5.1. Tier 1: On-Farm Infrastructure**

#### **Objective:**

To support enhanced management of the water resources on the farms.

#### **Eligible applicants:**

Farmers with a validated/approved Environmental Farm Plan (EFP).

#### **Funding:**

One-third (1/3) of eligible costs up to a maximum contribution of \$5,000 per project, with a maximum program contribution of \$15,000 per proponent over the life of the program.

#### **Eligible activities and cost:**

Eligible activities falling in the seven project categories below are listed in the corresponding Tables:

- Water Well
- Spring Development and Protection
- Dam Development
- Pond Development
- Transfer of Water from the Source to End-Use Site
- Surface Drainage
- Sub-surface Drainage

## WATER WELL

### Eligible activities

- Construction of a new water well, the deepening of an existing well to obtain a more secure water supply, and the reclamation of an unused or abandoned well. Only well construction activities conducted by a certified well driller in New Brunswick will be eligible for funding. Each well is considered a separate project for the purpose of CNBWMP implementation.
- Activities associated with the construction of a new well, the deepening of an existing well or the reclamation of unused or abandoned wells such as test drilling, water quality sampling and testing, permanent water level monitoring devices, and any design required are eligible activities.
- To be eligible, wells must be reclaimed according to New Brunswick standards and procedures.

### Eligible costs

All drilling and construction costs associated with the eligible activities above, including any associated professional service fees.

## SPRING DEVELOPMENT and PROTECTION

### Eligible activities

- Spring development (source development such as a collection well, cut-off trench, or cut-off wall that directs it into a gravity supply line), and any measures to protect the supply, including fencing for the intent of excluding livestock from direct access to the spring, and landscaping for surface runoff control.

*NOTE – Design must be approved by the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture (NBDAFA) prior to commencement of on-site work.*

### Eligible costs

- Material and construction costs for spring developments, and protection measures such as fencing and landscaping.

## DAM DEVELOPMENT

(Earthen structure built in a watercourse to hold back water.)

### Eligible activities

- Construction of a new dam or improvement to an existing dam.
  - Design must be approved by NBDAFA prior to funding approval.
  - Approval through the New Brunswick Department of the Environment is required before working in or near a watercourse.

### Eligible costs

- Material and construction costs associated with the construction of a new dam or improvement to an existing dam, including any associated engineering fees.

## POND (for irrigation and livestock watering purpose)

### Eligible activities

- Construction of a new pond, expansion of an existing pond, and fencing of a pond. Pond aeration systems (wind or electric compressors) on new or existing ponds used for agricultural purposes are also eligible activities.
- Design must be approved by NBDFAFA prior to funding approval.

*NOTE* – Site and design must be approved by NBDFAFA staff prior to commencement of on-site work. Key consideration must be given to ensure a reliable water supply source.

### Eligible costs

- Materials and labour required for the implementation of eligible activities, including any engineering support towards infrastructure design and construction.

## TRANSFER OF WATER FROM THE SOURCE TO END-USE SITE

### Eligible activities

a) **Source location:**

Including, but not limited to, power supply (solar- or wind-powered system or access to “grid” power) for remote watering systems, and pumping systems. Power supply is considered as a separate project for the purpose of CNBWMP implementation.

b) **Delivery System:**

Including, but not limited to, construction of water supply line to extend permanent water sources to other areas (from the water source to pasture or to the edge of the field to be irrigated). Cisterns will be considered where they are an integral part of a system required to supply water for agricultural uses from low-flowing water wells.

c) **End-Use Site:**

Including, but not limited to, troughs, stock tanks, pumps, plastic tanks, cisterns, nose pumps, and piping and plumbing supplies that are part of long-term remote watering system. In-field irrigation equipment is **not** eligible for assistance under this program.

### Eligible costs

- Cost of materials and equipment as well as installation or other construction costs.

## SURFACE DRAINAGE

### Eligible activities

- Construction of surface drainage infrastructure such as: topsoil removal, stockpiling and replacement; excavation to suitable slopes; surface grading; spoil levelling; cut-off ditches and berms; seeding of disturbed areas; erosion control matting; stilling basins; energy dissipation structures; and the installation of rock riprap and geotechnical fabric for stabilization of ditches, and culverts including pipe, bedding and backfill materials.

**NOTE: All designs, methods, and materials must meet New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture standards before receiving funding. NBDFAFA may require plans for some surface drainage projects.**

- Any engineering support required for infrastructure design, construction, and reporting including: topographic survey and mapping, soil analysis as required to determine slope stability of ditches, construction layout survey, and as-built plan.

### Eligible costs

- Construction cost and related engineering costs of surface drainage infrastructure.

## SUB-SURFACE DRAINAGE

### Eligible activities

- Purchase and installation of sub-surface drainage infrastructure including: plastic drainage tile, outlet pipe (rigid, UV-stabilized polyethylene); removable rodent gate; outlet marker (post with UV-stabilized sign); outlet ditching; filter sock; filter gravel; tile fittings (junctions, couplers, reducers, end caps, etc.); surface inlet; settling basin (inlet or outlet); and the installation of rock riprap and geotechnical fabric for stabilization of settling basins as required.
- Any engineering support required for infrastructure design, construction, and reporting including: topographic survey and mapping, soil analysis to determine textural distribution and/or hydraulic conductivity, construction layout survey, as-built plan.

### Technical Criteria

- All designs, methods, and materials must meet New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture standards before receiving funding.
- Subsurface drainage contractors must prepare an installation plan and flag the field area prior to installation for all projects. The contractor's subsurface drainage installation plan shall clearly indicate drain line location, diameter, type, grade, depth, length, and spacing. Also, the plan shall indicate outlet locations, the location of any watercourses within 30m of an outlet, and the improved area of the field.
- Plans must be submitted to NBDFAFA Land & Environment Branch at least two working days prior to system installation.
- It is recommended that the contractor's as-built drainage plans locate all existing topographic features of the field that the drainage is installed in. It should show all roads, ditches, terraces, field boundaries, buildings, waterways, junctions of tile lines, end of tile lines, tile grade and depth, outlet(s) location and size, and all other dominate features that might be present to complete the plan. As-built drainage location plans should show the quantity and sizes of all drainage tubing, quantity and sizes of any filtered tubing that was installed, the drainage installation firm that installed the system, the field area and the name of the firm doing the mapping.
- An applicant may install up to 250 meters of subsurface drainage pipe by backhoe or excavator per project. Laser grade control and location plans are not required for these installations.

### Eligible costs

- Construction cost and related engineering costs of sub-surface drainage infrastructure.

## **5.2. Tier 2: Multi-User Infrastructure**

### **Objective:**

To provide adequate infrastructure for the supply and/or the management of water for a number of water users as a long-term solution to water management challenges.

### **Eligible applicants:**

Groups of two or more property owners, the majority of whom are active agricultural producers. The active agricultural producers must each have a valid Environmental Farm Plan. The group members must enter into legal arrangement stipulating their respective responsibilities and cost-sharing of the infrastructure project.

### **Funding:**

One-third (1/3) of eligible costs up to a maximum contribution of \$ 50,000 per project.

### **Eligible activities and cost:**

Eligible activities under Tier 2 are consistent with those under Tier 1, and must be for common use by group members.

## **5.3. Tier 3: Strategic Initiative**

### **Objective:**

To increase the knowledge base of the water resource.

### **Eligible applicants:**

Agricultural and conservation groups; rural communities and municipalities; agri-businesses; educational institutions; and provincial government departments, agencies and Crown corporations.

Each project must have a strong agricultural component and be supported by the local agricultural industry.

There are two deadlines per fiscal year for the submission of project proposals under Tier 3. The dates are June 15, 2006, September 1, 2006, March 1, 2007 and September 1, 2007.

### **Funding:**

Up to 100% of eligible costs up to a maximum contribution of \$100,000 per project. The cost-sharing arrangement may vary and will be determined and approved on a project-by-project basis.

## Eligible activities and costs:

Eligible activities within the three project categories below are listed in the corresponding Tables:

- Watershed and Aquifer Management or Protection Plans
- Research and Development Pilot Projects
- Development and Dissemination of Information on Water Resources

### WATERSHED AND AQUIFER MANAGEMENT OR PROTECTION PLANS

#### Eligible activities

- All activities that lead to the development of a management or protection plan at the watershed or aquifer scale. The watershed or aquifer must be of significant importance to, or significantly influenced by, the agricultural sector.
  - A plan should address existing information and gaps (assessments), prioritization of hot spots, potential mitigation, and actions to be taken.
- Preference will be given to proposals that will analyze existing information and seek to meet information needs, prioritize activities to be undertaken, have an educational and awareness component, and include action on the ground.

#### Eligible costs

- Cost of development of the management or protection plan, with the exception of the operating costs of coordinating committees.

### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROJECTS

#### Eligible activities

- Projects that have an agricultural focus and that assist in the long-term development or protection of water supplies.
- Projects that investigate and document innovative technology and/or approaches to water supply or water protection issues faced by the agricultural community.
- Preference will be given to proposals that include information dissemination as part of an educational and awareness component.

#### Eligible costs

- Cost of implementing the Pilot Projects such as labour, materials, equipment, and project management.



## DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON WATER RESOURCES

### Eligible activities

- Planning activities or studies whose primary purpose is the collection and compilation of existing and/or new information on agricultural water resources.
- The development and/or dissemination of technical and management information on agricultural water resources, (e.g. project demonstration; workshops; the development, printing and dissemination of brochures, studies, feasibility studies).

### Eligible costs

- Cost of implementation of the above eligible activities.

### How to apply for funding

For information on the Canada/New Brunswick Water Management Program or to receive an application form, you may contact any office of the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture, or visit the following Web site: [www.gnb.ca/0180/apf-csa/index-e.asp](http://www.gnb.ca/0180/apf-csa/index-e.asp)