

# Saskatchewan Agri-Environmental Group Planning (AEGP)

## General Process Description for Geographic AEGPs

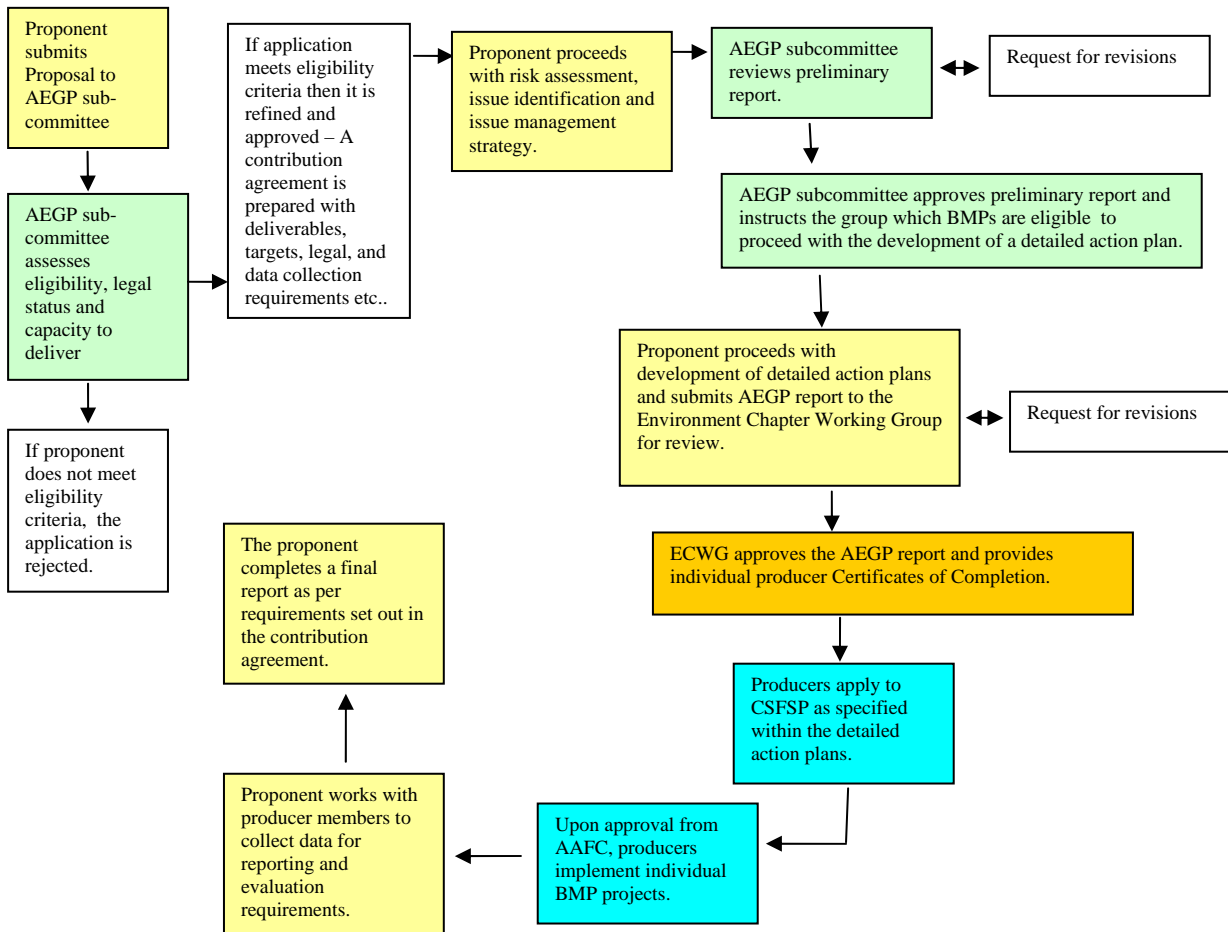
AEGPs can be developed on a geographic/physical (e.g. watershed) or on a sectoral/commodity basis. This document outlines the process for geographic AEGPs.

- 1) The **proponent** develops an AEGP proposal as outlined in the Proposal Guidelines and submits it prior to application deadline.
- 2) The **AEGP Sub-Committee** assesses the proponent's eligibility, legal status and capability to carry out an AEGP. If the proposal is approved by the **Environment Chapter Working Group (ECWG)**, a member of the subcommittee works with the proponent to refine the proposal. When the proposal is complete, the proponent enters into a contribution agreement with **AAFC-PFRA**. The contribution agreement identifies available funding for delivery of the AEGP and details deliverables and legal requirements. The AEGP project may include provision for the proponent to hire a **Group Planning Advisor** to assist in implementing the AEGP project.
- 3) The **proponent** proceeds with the risk assessment and issue identification as set out in the AEGP proposal. These components outline processes (e.g. workshops and consultations) and preliminary data analysis (imagery, maps, tables etc) used in the risk assessment and issue identification and identifies the priority issue.
- 4) The **proponent** completes an issue management strategy. This strategy lists the Canada - Saskatchewan Farm Stewardship Program (CSFSP) BMP categories which will be used to address the issue identified in step 3. The strategy also includes the targets or goals for BMP implementation within the area defined by the AEGP. The BMPs are ranked by the degree to which they address the priority issue.
- 5) A preliminary report including the risk assessment, issue identification and issue management strategy is sent to the **AEGP Sub-Committee** for review. The AEGP subcommittee reviews the report and determines if the BMPS selected are applicable to the issue and available within the CSFSP. Upon approval of the report, the AEGP subcommittee advises the proponent as to BMP categories available to AEGP participants.
- 6) The **proponent** moves to completion of the detailed action plan, with emphasis on raising awareness about agri-environmental issue and achieving the group's targets/goals for producers developing and implementing individual site plans for AEGP participants within the planning area.
- 7) The AEGP (composed of the risk assessment, issue management strategy and detailed action plans) is compiled and submitted to the **Environment Chapter Working Group (ECWG)**. Upon Working Group approval of the AEGP, Statement of Completion Certificates are provided for each of the producers within the AEGP. These certificates contain the name and address each producer who actively participated in the AEGP process and lists the BMPs the producers will be eligible to access under the CSFSP.

8) **Producers** complete and submit CSFSP applications to the AAFC-PFRA Client Service Centre. A copy of the Statement of Completion Certificate must accompany each application form.

9) Upon approval of CSFSP funding, **producer members of the AEGP group** begin implementation of their individual BMP projects. The **Group Planning Advisor**, employed by the proponent, works with the producers to facilitate implementation of their BMPs and continues to promote awareness and encourage participation in activities to address the identified agri-environmental issue in the planning area. The **Group Planning Advisor** also works to promote the AEGP process and involve other producers for the next round of AEGP development and implementation.

10) The **proponent** works with **producer members** to fulfill requirements under the contribution agreement and with the **AEGP Sub Committee** to ensure capture of information to fulfill data collection, reporting and evaluation requirements.



**Figure 1:** Geographic AEGP process