

**Project Justification and Assurances Form**

**CATEGORY 6: RELOCATION OF LIVESTOCK/GREENHOUSE FACILITIES FROM RIPARIAN AREAS**

**Beneficial Management Practices Categories:**

- 0601 Relocation of livestock confinement facilities such as barns, corrals, paddocks and wintering sites away from riparian and other very environmentally sensitive areas
- 0602 Relocation of horticultural facilities such as greenhouses and container nurseries away from riparian and other very environmentally sensitive areas

The client is responsible to help determine the equivalent value of the existing facilities.

The existing facilities are best described as:		ft. or m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	barn or greenhouse.....	dimensions _____ x _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	concrete yard or outdoor confinement area.....	dimensions _____ x _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	dirt yard.....	dimensions _____ x _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	fenced corral or feeding area.....	dimensions _____ x _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	other.....	dimensions _____ x _____

Current site: Please submit one or two color photographs of the existing site and structures. Please describe the materials/structures at the current site, (e.g. dirt yard alongside creek 40 ft x60 ft wooden shelter in floodplain; surrounded by page wire fence)

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Proposed site: Please provide details for the proposed site, (e.g. build new concrete yard on dryer location, with fence and vegetative filter strip.)

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Proposed projects in categories 0601 and 0602 require a letter of support from OMAFRA or Conservation Authority documenting environmental justification for the project.

<input type="checkbox"/> Letter of support is included <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Or</i></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Site visit has been arranged with specialist and letter will be forthcoming.
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Site sketch of relevant building/structure. Or use a separate attached sheet.  
Please identify manure storage and/or runoff management areas.

EXISTING LOCATIONS:

PROPOSED LOCATIONS:

Please indicate "Yes" or "No" to the following statement:

I have read, understood, and agree to abide by the  
Construction Guidelines that have been supplied and  
that apply to my planned project.

**Yes**

**No**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Please remove this sheet and return with original signature  
to:*

Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association  
1 Stone Road West  
Guelph ON N1G 4Y2

**INFORMATION PACKAGE for LIVESTOCK WATERING SYSTEMS, FENCING,  
IMPROVED STREAM CROSSINGS and OTHER PROJECTS  
WHICH INVOLVE WORKING NEAR WATER**

This is a general information package which has been specifically assembled for producers who have expressed interest in utilizing the government cost-share programs in the following beneficial management practices categories:

Best Management Categories include:

07 - Wintering Site Pasture Management

10 - Upland and Riparian Area Habitat Management

11 - Erosion Control (Riparian) Selected projects only that do not require specific prescribed design sheets.

12 - Erosion Control (non-Riparian) Selected projects only that do not require a specific prescribed design sheet.

19 - Shelterbelts

23 - Preventing Wildlife Damage

**AND** Working Near Water (within 30 metres of a surface water body)

Sections included in the information package are:

- I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR RIPARIAN AREA MANAGEMENT PROJECTS
- II. GENERAL CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

Program participants are required to read, understand and abide by the construction guidelines.

There are two Project Justification and Assurances Forms enclosed. One is more complex and is to be used for all Improved Stream Crossing projects\*. The more simple form will apply to other beneficial management practice code categories as identified. The appropriate one representing your proposed project must be completed and signed accordingly before being returned to the OSCIA Guelph office. Final approval for the proposed project will not be issued without the submission and acceptance of this form.

## PURPOSE.

1. To promote the control of nutrient runoff to and sedimentation of riparian areas adjacent to farmland through effective implementation of structural remedial measures and appropriate grazing management practices or fragile land retirement.
2. To provide financial assistance to producers for the construction of functional and practical riparian area management projects on farmland.
3. To encourage the integration of riparian area management projects with improved BMPs for Streamside Grazing, Field Crop Production, Water Management, Nutrient Management and Soil Management.
4. To use appropriate technology, where special solutions are required, through design by qualified
  - *Cost-share incentives are provided, to the maximum amount for which the applicant is eligible, for riparian area management projects required to reduce erosion, manure runoff and livestock access concerns on ditch banks and in surface waters.*
  - *Project Justification and Assurances Forms on sizing and safety features must be completed for the categories identified above. Project Justification and Assurances Forms may also include further information on sizing and safety. These forms will be attached to your 'Conditional Approval Letter'.*
  - *Projects may need approval by municipalities or other government agencies prior to construction.*

## Background Information for Riparian Area Management Projects

### PROJECT APPROVALS

- a) Multiple Landowner Projects - where two or more landowners are participating on a similar project under the cost-share programs, each landowner must apply for the portion of the project on his farm. Some riparian area management projects can involve large watershed, complex design and require careful construction so that involved landowners are adequately protected. Design of these systems by trained professionals is required.
- b) Design by professional engineers may be advisable on complex and/or large projects. The private sector is expected to fill these requirements. Supervision of Construction is not mandatory, yet may be specified as required on large and/or complex projects.

NOTE: Any professional fees for design and construction supervision are eligible costs for approved projects - but they will only be considered eligible upon completion of the project.

- c) Owner's Responsibilities include:
  - ensuring that any required justification and design sheets are supplied to OSCIA in response to Conditional Approval of the proposed project.
  - ensuring that those contracted to design and construct the project are qualified to carry out the work.
  - negotiating the terms and conditions of the contract for construction, selecting a qualified contractor and ensuring that all work is completed according to the plan is the responsibility of the landowner.

- ensuring that all projects take collected water to a sufficient and legal outlet. The applicant must secure permission in written form from any adjacent landowner to outlet an NMFAP - funded erosion control structure when legally required. Refer to OMAF Factsheet. Common Law Aspects of Water.
- d) Technical Project Justification and Assurances Forms for all proposed improved stream crossing projects will be supplied to the applicant by OSCIA. These sheets must be completed by someone familiar with recognized hydrologic and hydraulic engineering principles related to that project, e.g. qualified contractor, professional engineering consultant or Conservation Authority professional engineer.
- e) Funding is not allocated for structures until the Project Justification and Assurances Forms are completed and final approval for the proposed project is granted by OSCIA Guelph.
- f) The Intent of OSCIA Acceptance of a project relates to the acceptance of both the proposal, in terms of the size and safety features, and final verification of the project. Verification of projects by OSCIA and subsequent issuing of incentive funds should not imply professional engineering endorsement of the project. All are advised that neither OMAF nor AAFC nor OSCIA are commenting on the structural adequacy of projects under this program.
- g) Projects must be complete and operational prior to contacting program official for final inspection.

## **IMPROVED STREAM CROSSING DESIGNS**

- a) Mid-Level Low Flow Ditch and Stream Crossings with Culverts
  - Projects must obtain approval from all appropriate agencies prior to construction
  - These structures are used where a crossing can be constructed above the bottom grade level on a ditch or a stream
  - A mid-level crossing allows low channel flows to pass through steel corrugated culverts which have been designed to carry a minimum of the mean annual flow for the stream or ditch. Flows exceeding the capacity of the culvert(s) pass over the top surface of the crossing.
  - Fences and gates must be used to keep cattle out of watercourse
  - These crossings must include adequate slope and slope length for exit and entrance ramps, properly protected from erosion
  - Care should be taken to choose and properly install the correct armour material for the crossing as well as the correct geotextile.
- b) Bed-Level Ditch and Stream Crossings
  - Projects must obtain approval from all appropriate agencies prior to construction
  - These structures are used where a machinery crossing can be constructed at or below the bottom grade level on a ditch or a stream
  - A bed-level crossing allows flows to pass over the surface of the structure without causing obstructions to channel flow
  - These crossings must include adequate slope and slope length for exit and entrance ramps, properly protected from erosion
  - Livestock must be excluded from this type of crossing unless approval has been obtained from appropriate authorities.
  - Care should be taken to choose and properly install the correct armour material for the crossing as well as the correct geotextile

## II. GENERAL CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

Please note the mitigation stated below applies to most, **but not necessarily all** projects. Program participants are responsible for applying appropriate mitigation.

### **Project Design and Planning**

- Participants must refer to the appropriate Worksheets in the Canada-Ontario *Environmental Farm Plan Program*, Third Edition Workbook, 2004 (or earlier version) for guidance. In addition, you should contact your local Conservation Authority for further guidance.
- All engineering structures should be designed as regards sizing and safety according to recognized hydrologic and hydraulic engineering principles as stated in the OMAF Soil Erosion Manual, 1986. (Contact your local OMAF field office.)
- Program participants are responsible for **obtaining** licenses, permits, approvals or authorizations and complying with all applicable municipal, provincial and federal legislation. Projects near water may require approval from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). Please contact your local Conservation Authority.
- All projects are to be designed and constructed so as not to damage or obstruct Municipal Drains and other drainage works in the system. Permission from the Municipality is mandatory if the work involves municipal drainage. Compliance with existing legislation must be met (e.g. Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act, Fisheries Act and the fill-line regulations of the local Conservation Authority).
- Program participants should take measures to ensure that substances (manure, pesticides, fertilizers and other chemicals, soil, mulch, etc.) applied in the riparian area do not enter water bodies.
- Program participants should follow the appropriate **Best Management Practice (BMP)** guidelines for the activity being undertaken.

### **Soil Erosion and Sediment Control**

- Effective short term erosion and sediment controls should be installed prior to work and maintained until the site has been stabilized.
- Phase work to minimize duration of exposure of disturbed areas.
- Divert surface runoff away from working areas and areas of exposed or susceptible soils, where feasible.
- Ensure earthworks do not intensify flood hazards or create undesired obstructions to drainage into natural water bodies.
- Ensure that any sediment laden water is discharged onto land or into a settling pond prior to re-entry into a water body (during construction, pipeline washing, etc).
- Postpone clearing of slopes (as required) until immediately prior to construction.
- If prolonged period of exposure is expected, stabilize stored and stockpiled soils against wind and water erosion by using temporary cover.
- Remove accumulated sediments prior to removal of controls, where feasible.
- Avoid dewatering in sensitive groundwater areas or near wells, where feasible.

### **Construction Equipment and Operation**

- Clean all machinery and equipment prior to transport to new construction areas.
- Construction equipment must be properly maintained to prevent leaks and spills of fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or coolants.
- Participant should have spill clean up materials on site. In the event of any reportable petroleum product or hazardous material spills, appropriate provincial authorities must be notified. Ensure emergency contact numbers are available on site.

### **Wastes**

- Storage, handling and disposal of wastes and hazardous waste materials, will be done properly and in accordance with all relevant municipal, provincial and federal legislation.

#### Wildlife and Species at Risk Section

- Minimize disturbance to fish and wildlife by scheduling work to avoid sensitive periods (i.e., spawning, nesting, migration, staging, breeding, hibernation or nursing) and areas (i.e., residence, wildlife movement corridors). Comply with any applicable 'no construction' timing windows.
  - May need to consult COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada) species list (federal) and the provincial list on rare and endangered species.  
Federal: <http://www.cosewic.gc.ca>;  
Provincial: <http://www.rom.on.ca/ontario/risk.php>  
(Please contact Steve Bowcott at the Ministry of Natural Resources (705) 755-1754 for assistance.)
  - Survey the area for active nests, burrows or dens prior to clearing, and avoid disturbing them.
  - If migratory birds are breeding in the project area, contact Environment Canada regarding appropriate measures to protect them. (Please contact Andrew Taylor at Environment Canada (905) 336-4464.
  - If any aquatic species at risk are known or expected to be present at any time within or adjacent to the project area, consult with Fisheries and Oceans Canada specialists or the relevant provincial authority regarding measures to avoid harmful disturbance. Contact your local Conservation Authority.
- Use existing roads and trails for site access where possible.

#### Intakes in a Potentially Fish Bearing Water Body

- Ensure that the quantity of water diverted from the watercourse does not restrict in-stream flow needs. Refer to BMP for Irrigation.
- Where water is pumped from a potentially fish bearing waters, intakes must be screened according to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' "Freshwater Intake End-of-Pipe Fish Screen Guideline" (1995). Contact your local Conservation Authority.
- Project may require an authorization/approval under the Navigable Waters Protection Program if the water body is navigable. Contact Transport Canada, Navigable Waters Protection Program for assistance:
  - Prescott, ON 613-925-1946;
  - Parry Sound, ON 705-774-9250;
  - Kenora, ON 807-468-3079;
  - Sarnia, ON 519-383-1866

Additional Guidance for Pumps/Power Sources

- Remove temporary fuel storages from the pumping site at the end of each growing season.
- Provide drip trays underneath internal combustion engines to capture leaking or spilled oil, grease and fuel.

Additional Guidance for Watering Devices

- Watering device is to be placed in an area that has a minimal effect on water quality (preferably, at least 30 meters from a water body).
- Provide a concrete or gravel pad around the watering facility.

Additional Guidance for Fencing

- The proposed construction, installation, operation, expansion, modification or removal of a fence **should not**:
  - Prevent the passage of wild animals along a wildlife corridor
  - Be carried out within 10 feet (3 metres) of a water body
  - Involve the likely release of a polluting substance into a water body and
  - Be constructed across a water body.

**Site Preparation**

- Prepare the site according to the project plan including the erosion and sediment controls.
- Keep site clearing to a minimum and minimize disturbance to ground surface and vegetation, especially those that affect infiltration and runoff characteristics.
- All topsoil stripped and disturbed during the project should be salvaged and replaced as quickly as possible to encourage revegetation.
- Stabilize slopes as appropriate for local site conditions.

**Construction**

- Avoid work activities during excessively wet site conditions.
- Reduce vehicle emissions from heavy equipment by reducing/eliminating idling and also by properly maintaining/servicing the heavy equipment.
- Fuelling and/or servicing of mobile construction equipment and the storage of fuel and hazardous materials are not to occur within 100m of a surface water body.
- In the event that any cultural or heritage resources (bones, pottery) are discovered, construction must cease and the Ministry of Culture should be notified immediately. (Please contact Neil Chisholm at the Ministry of Culture at (416) 314-7148 who will direct you to the responsible Heritage Planner for the area.) If this occurs, construction will occur as directed by the Ministry of Culture.

**Post Construction**

- Restore or re-vegetate all disturbed areas, including riparian areas, to pre-construction conditions, as soon as possible and to the fullest extent possible. All re-vegetation should be done with species that existed prior to construction or suitable species as planned (preferably native).
- Remove and dispose of wastes and hazardous waste materials from site properly and in accordance with all relevant municipal, provincial, and federal legislation as planned.