

ANIMAL EMERGENCY PLAN

FOR PERSONAL USE AND REFERENCE ONLY

LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION:

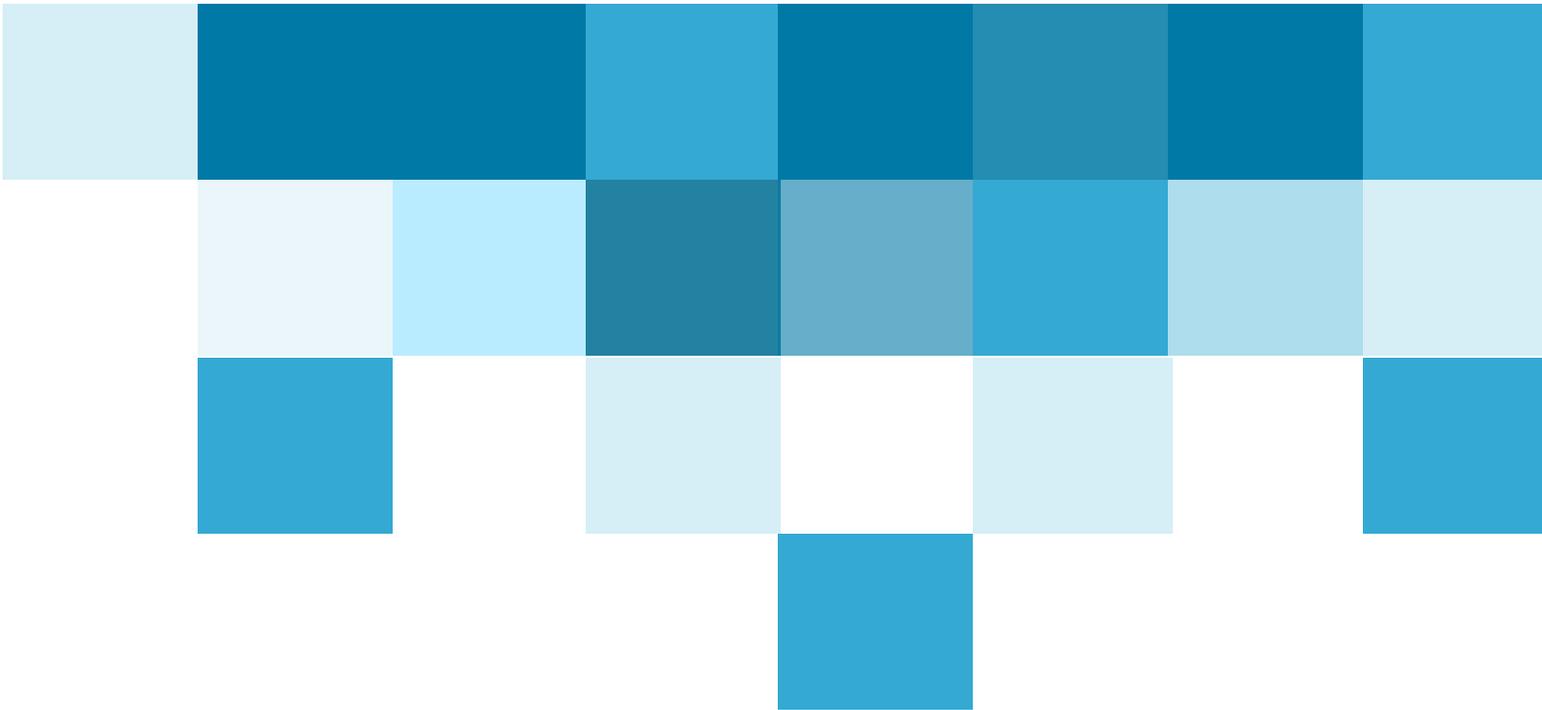
NAME:

RURAL ADDRESS:

LAST REVISED:



Lesser Slave River



The MD has prepared this Animal Emergency Plan template to help area producers develop plans to mitigate adverse consequences to their operations during and after a critical event.

Safeguard your animals, your property and your farming operation by taking precautions

This document focuses on the unique needs of domestic livestock (e.g., cattle, horses, chickens, sheep) and serves as a companion to a broader emergency preparedness plan. By incorporating your specific information in the designated areas, you can utilize this resource to make proactive and informed decisions,

thereby reducing potential dangers and risks to your animals and personnel.

For further information or assistance related to this document, call the MD's Agricultural Services department at 780.681.3929 (toll-free 1.866.681.3929) or email agriculture@mdlsr.ca.



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ANIMAL EMERGENCY PLAN

Purpose

A farm emergency plan helps ensure the safety and well-being of livestock and farm personnel during unexpected crises such as natural disasters, disease outbreaks, or accidents.

Emergencies like wildfires, floods, storms, or extreme weather conditions can severely impact a, causing injury, loss of life, and financial damage. By having a well-thought-out emergency plan, farmers can act swiftly to protect their animals, minimize losses, and maintain farm operations during challenging times.

An animal emergency plan outlines key steps for preparedness, including strategies for evacuation, securing food and water supplies, and providing temporary shelter. It ensures that all farm personnel are aware of their roles in an emergency and provides a clear communication structure for coordinating with emergency services. Proper animal identification, documentation, and veterinary care are also covered to aid in reunification and minimize stress or injury to the animals.

The plan reduces the risks associated with emergencies by proactively addressing potential hazards, maintaining animal welfare, and protecting the farm's assets.

Ultimately, an animal emergency plan enables quicker response times and better resource management and ensures both animals and humans are safe and well-cared for in times of crisis.

General Information

Wildfire Threat

Being prepared is essential. Below are some tips to help you stay ready for a wildfire.

- **Download the Alberta Wildfire app** on your mobile device. It provides real-time updates on wildfire status, fire bans, and restrictions, and offers tips on wildfire prevention.
- **Keep an emergency kit** with essentials such as water, non-perishable food, a battery-powered or crank radio, a flashlight, and extra batteries.
- **Store important documents** like passports, birth certificates, banking information, and insurance papers in a secure, above-ground location.
- **Keep your vehicle ready** by maintaining a full gas tank in case power outages close fuel stations. Ensure you have a vehicle emergency kit, including an extra phone charger and adapters.
- **FireSmart your property** by gradually establishing fuel-free zones around buildings such as homes, barns, and storage areas. Reducing combustible materials around your property helps minimize fire risk.

Flood Assessment

- **Assess your property for flood risk** and determine where higher ground on your land would be suitable for keeping animals out of water.

Manage Vegetation & Feed Storage

- Manage the vegetation around buildings, fence posts, corrals, etc., to prevent fires from starting or spreading.
- Around dugouts and other water sources: Keep these areas free of equipment, lumber, and other trash to provide firefighters with access to the water.
- Dry bales are a magnet for sparks and embers. No matter how you store the bales, they cause fires that spread rapidly and are difficult to control or extinguish once ignited. Fires in stored hay are usually the result of high heat or spontaneous combustion. (The main cause of spontaneous combustion is excess moisture in the bales.)
- Store bales a reasonable distance from any structures to minimize the spread of fire to your house and outbuildings. The area between the bales and buildings should contain minimal vegetation - preferably mineral soil or gravel.
- Be FireSmart by storing your winter supply of bales in a few different locations to minimize loss should a fire occur. Also, if you use the bales closest to the house and outbuildings during feeding season, you will end up with a larger buffer in that area come spring.

For more FireSmart ideas, visit [FireSmartAlberta.ca](https://www.fire-smart.alberta.ca).



PART A:

BEFORE AN EMERGENCY

Proactive steps you can take now to prepare for a range of potential emergencies

By adding your details and familiarizing yourself with the information provided in this section, you'll be better equipped to make informed decisions and protect your livestock when the unexpected happens.

Farm Information

AGRICULTURAL OPERATION INFORMATION

 YEAR:

Agriculture operation name:

 Land classification *(on assessment notice)*:

LINC number:

Roll number:

Premises identification (PID) number:

Legal land description:

 Civic address *(blue sign)*:

 Directions *(nearest crossroad)*:

Owner name(s):

Mailing address:

Phone number — home:

Phone number — mobile:

Email address:

of individuals normally at farm:

Other information:

 Grazing lease disposition
number(s) & locations:

ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS

Owner name:

Phone number:

LOCATION 2 legal land description:

Premises identification (PID) number:

 Civic address *(blue sign)*:

LOCATION 3 legal land description:

Premises identification (PID) number:

 Civic address *(blue sign)*:

LOCATION 4 legal land description:

Premises identification (PID) number:

 Civic address *(blue sign)*:

LOCATION 5 legal land description:

Premises identification (PID) number:

 Civic address *(blue sign)*:


Emergency Contacts

NAME/ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE	EMAIL/WEBSITE
FARM PERSONNEL		
Manager(s) – other than owner:		
Staff:		
Tenants:		
LOCAL RESOURCES		
Electrician:		
Plumber:		
Fuel dealer:		
Fencing contractor:		
Feed supplier:		
Veterinarian:		
RELOCATION RESOURCES		
Trucker/livestock hauler:		
1		
2		
3		
Agriculture association:		
Animal rescue org (livestock or domestic):		
Refuge farm(s) for relocated livestock:		
1		
2		
3		
4		



Emergency Contacts (cont.)

NAME/ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE	EMAIL/WEBSITE
RELOCATION RESOURCES		
Rodeo grounds:		
Auction marts:		
Feedlot - holding:		
Friend/neighbour:		
SUPPORT RESOURCES		
Provincial emergency management:		
AEMA // 1-888-671-1111 // www.alberta.ca/alberta-emergency-management-agency		
Local municipal government:		
MD of Lesser Slave River // 780-849-4888 // www.mdlsr.ca		
Lands division:		
AB Forestry, Parks & Tourism // 310-LAND (5263) // www.alberta.ca/land-management-contacts		
Chief Provincial Veterinarian:		
310-0000 // 780- 427-3448 // 1-800-524-0051		
Alberta Wildfire:		
310-FIRE (3473) // www.alberta.ca/alberta-wildfire		
Local fire zone contact:		
1-800-FYI-FIRE (394-3473) // www.alberta.ca/wildfire-status		
Local RCMP contact:		
Local veterinarian:		
INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT RESOURCES		
Mental health resources:		
Suicide Crisis Helpline // Dial 988 // 988.ca		
AgKnow // 587-200-2552 // www.agknow.ca/get-support		
AgTalk // www.domore.ag/agtalk		
RISK MANAGEMENT RESOURCES		
Insurance agents/brokers/AFSC:		
1		
2		
3		
4		



List of Hazards

The events that are most likely to threaten an agricultural operation's livestock and assets:

- Animal disease
- Forest/wildland fire
- Prolonged power interruption
- Extreme temperatures
- Other (please list)



Farm Site Maps

Note: If a satellite map is preferred, please contact the MD's Agricultural Services department at 780-681-3929.

To properly designate all buildings on this page, refer to the building codes and site map legend on the next page.

Use the tables on the following two pages to list any notable items, dangerous goods and livestock quantities.



Site Map Building Information

CODE	BLDG DESCRIPTION	NOTABLE ITEMS	DANGEROUS GOODS	# OF LIVESTOCK (if applicable)
H1	House		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
G1	Garage/shop		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-ME1	Machine/equipment shed		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-PB1	Poultry barn		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-HB1	Hog barn		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-MP1	Milking parlour		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-LN1	Livestock/calving barn		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-PS1	Processing shed		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-LS1	Open-faced livestock shelter		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-FB1	Fertilizer bin		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-GB1	Grain bin		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-CS1	Chemical shed		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-SIL1	Silage pit		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-MAN1	Manure pit/storage		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
B-MISC1	Other/miscellaneous		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Site Map Legend

P	Poison	XF	Fire extinguishers	MES	Main electrical shutoff
C	Corrosive	H2O	Water	MGS	Main gas shutoff
F	Flammable	FT	Fuel tanks (above/below)	MP	Muster/meeting point
E	Explosive	SE	Safety equipment		



Field Site Information

CODE	LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION (identifying name)	NOTABLE AREAS	DANGEROUS GOODS	# OF LIVESTOCK (if applicable)
F1			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F2			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F3			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F4			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F5			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F6			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F7			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F8			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
F9			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	



Vehicle and Response Equipment & Resources

VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT TYPE	NUMBER ON PROPERTY & LOCATION	NUMBER AVAILABLE NEARBY & LOCATION	SIZE, HP OR CAPACITY
Tractor, front end loader or backhoe			
Plow, disc or other cultivation equipment			
Livestock trailer			
Cattle liner			
Utility trailer			
Passenger vehicle			
Firehose (m or ft)			
Portable water pump			
Sprinkler kit or other sprinklers			
Generator			
First aid kit			
Portable panels			
Construction equipment			

Premises Identification (PID) Numbers

Premises Identification (PID) for livestock in Alberta is a system used to register land locations where animals are kept, raised, or disposed of. It is a key component of livestock traceability, helping protect animal health and public safety by tracking the movement of animals during disease outbreaks, natural disasters, or emergencies.

The system links livestock to specific locations, allowing for rapid response in controlling the spread of disease or coordinating rescue efforts. Premises identification is mandatory for livestock owners and operators, including those with cattle, poultry, horses, pigs, and other farmed animals.

Please visit www.alberta.ca/register-with-the-animal-premises-identification-program for more information.



Livestock Identification

Livestock Identification Services Ltd. (LIS) is a not-for-profit and legislated organization responsible for providing livestock inspection services, maintaining a brand registry, and administering the licensing of all livestock dealers in Alberta. By providing these services, LIS helps protect livestock owners from strayed and stolen livestock. Use the space below to insert pictures of your registered brands.

Please visit <https://lis-ab.com> for more information.

Main Headquarters: Brands Livestock Identification Services Ltd.

Toll-free 1-866-509-2088

109, 264 Midpark Way SE Calgary, AB T2X 1J6

Clyde Office: North Central Livestock

Phone 780-348-5539 Fax 780-348-2361

60020 Range Rd 253, Clyde, AB

Livestock Inventory

LIVESTOCK TYPE	NUMBER ON AGRICULTURE OPERATION (min/max number of animals)
Bulls	
Cattle & type <input type="checkbox"/> Cow & calf <input type="checkbox"/> Heifer <input type="checkbox"/> Steer <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed	
Bison	
Horses/donkeys	
Sheep	
Goats	
Swine	
Llamas/alpacas	
Poultry	
Pets	

Livestock Inventory

Please use the fields below to indicate the expected numbers of livestock by location during the early (May-June) and peak (July-September) fire seasons.

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		



Livestock Inventory (cont.)

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		

# OF ANIMALS GRAZING		
	EARLY	PEAK
Cattle:		
Horses:		
Other:		
Usual turnout date:		
Location:		



Water Sources

The following water sources are available for use during a wildfire. Consider vulnerability to power outages and potential restrictions during wildfires.

WATER SOURCE	CAPACITY	POWERED OR GRAVITY FEED SYSTEM	ON PROPERTY OR NEARBY (location)
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	
		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> GF	

Risk Reduction

Animal Disease

The following actions should be taken before animal disease threatens the agriculture operation:

Develop a Farm Biosecurity Plan

[National Farm-Level Biosecurity Planning Guide Proactive Management of Animal Resources — inspection.canada.ca](https://inspection.canada.ca)

- Identifying potential concerns or problems;
- Evaluating who and what enters and exits a farm;
- Determining the risk level for specific diseases of concern;
- Evaluating how diseases could enter and spread within and off the farm;
- Targeting diseases against which the biosecurity plan will operate;
- Identifying preventative biosecurity measures that will manage or minimize the risk factors for a disease entry or spread;
- Consulting federal, provincial, regional, and municipal regulations;
- Setting limits and standards for your farm;
- Establishing uptake of the plan; and
- Implementing the biosecurity plan.

Assess the Risks of the Operation

- Complete the biosecurity checklist located on the Government of Canada's website: inspection.canada.ca/en/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/biosecurity/tools/checklist

Livestock Traceability System

- Registered with the Premises Identification (PID) program
- Animal identification
- Animal movement

Forest/Wildland Fire

Complete a FireSmart assessment of the property at <https://firesmartcanada.ca>

Reduce Combustible Materials

The following list includes actions that should be taken before a forest/wildland fire threatens the farm.

1

2

3

Forest/Wildland Fire (cont.)

Use Fire Resistant Materials

The actions listed below should be taken to increase fire-resistant construction for farm sheds and barns.

- 1
- 2
- 3

Plan for Sprinkler Protection

Priority farm structures to protect with sprinklers are as follows:

- 1
- 2
- 3

Sprinkler equipment that is available for prepositioning includes:

- 1
- 2
- 3

- Gather the equipment and set the sprinkler system in place to test the coverage and identify problems.
- Mount the sprinklers in appropriate locations and connect to a water source. If the roof is made of combustible material, such as wood, direct the sprinkler spray onto the roof. If the roof is metal, mount the sprinklers on a high point (such as the ridge) to create a high humidity zone around the building. When sprinklers remain on the ground, position them so their reach just wets the sides of the structure.
- If possible, test the system for 2-3 hours. The sprinklers should create a humid environment around the structure without allowing water to enter buildings.
- Secure the water source, protect it against radiant heat, and remove nearby combustible materials.
- Create simple instructions on how to set up and activate the sprinkler system (see "Checklist to Deploy Sprinklers"). Prepare a simple map showing how to lay out the sprinkler equipment and water delivery system in an emergency. Attach the map to the Animal Emergency Plan. The instructions and map will allow others to help with farm protection

Prolonged Power Interruption

Prepare for Power Outages at the House

- Check the breaker at the transformer pole or breaker box to determine if a tripped breaker is causing the outage. Also, look for lights at neighbours' homes to see if they are impacted.
- If it's not a breaker or fuse box, call the power company to report the outage
- When power is restored, turn off all electrical equipment to prevent overloading the circuits in your home and the electrical system.
- Turn off all lights except one inside and one outside so that you and the power utility crews outside know that power has been restored.
- If lights are very dim or are unusually bright when power returns, turn off the power at the breaker or fuse box and call the power company again – there may still be a problem.
- Use surge protectors for valuable electronics
- Use a wood-burning or gas fireplace to stay warm. If you have a wood-burning fireplace, Keep a supply of wood on hand.
- Know how to manually open or close your garage door or bypass your garage door opener.
- Consider installing a generator to provide power for must-run operations, especially on a farm.

Prepare for Power Outages for Livestock

- Create a warming area for younger livestock using straw bales and a plastic tarp.
- Build a water reservoir with tanks or barrels covered by straw bales.
- Be sure to keep extra feed and water on hand.
- Keep barn doors closed to maintain heat, and a window slightly open for air exchange

Other Power Outage Tips

- Head to the warmest point: your basement
- Keep doors and blinds closed to keep heat in
- Keep flashlights, batteries, candles and matches on hand
- Gather extra blankets and warm clothes
- Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning by not using outdoor appliances indoors
- Keep a supply of water and non-perishable food for you and your livestock
- Keep the fridge and freezer doors closed

Extreme Temperatures

Water Access

- Water is just as important as feed for cattle health
- Frozen water bowls or limited access reduce water intake, impacting feed consumption and milk production
- Daily monitoring of water sources is crucial, with remote cameras being a useful tool
- Ensure multiple access points to prevent dominant cows from limiting others' water intake
- Extreme heat can cause heat stress in cattle, leading to reduced feed intake, lower milk production, and slower weight gain
- Increase the number of water access points to prevent competition among animals

Cold Weather Calving

- Extreme temperatures are dangerous for newborn calves
- Signs of cold stress include cold mouths, weak suckling, and low rectal temperatures.
- Colostrum intake within the first six hours is vital for calf survival.
- Producers use strategies like heated trailers and insulated shelters to keep calves warm without removing them from their mothers

Windbreaks and Shelter

- Wind chill is as harmful as freezing temperatures
- Proper wind protection (1 foot of windbreak per cow) is essential to protect weaker animals
- Feeding locations may be moved closer to shelters during cold spells, and water sources may be kept near shelters to encourage hydration
- Providing shaded areas or natural shelter, such as trees or man-made structures, helps cattle stay cool and avoid overheating
- Shade is especially important during the hottest parts of the day to reduce the risk of heat exhaustion

Mitigation Strategy 1

The following actions should be taken before extreme temperatures threaten the farm:

- 1
- 2
- 3

Mitigation Strategy 2

The following actions should be taken before extreme temperatures threaten the farm:

- 1
- 2
- 3

Insurance

Premises insurance coverage is a crucial step in managing risks before a wildfire. Producers should ensure they have proper insurance for their assets, such as livestock, crops (both in-progress and completed), buildings, equipment, and fences. Typically, federal and provincial disaster management programs cover only those risks that private insurance cannot.

Beyond private commercial insurance, producers can also access various government-supported risk management programs, including crop production insurance.

Here is an insurance preparation checklist:

- Schedule an annual meeting with an insurance agent, broker, or government representative to review your coverage.
- Fully understand your insurance policy, including what it covers and what it excludes.
- Ensure that important insurance information is accessible in case of a wildfire emergency. This includes private commercial insurance (e.g., farm, livestock, crop, business interruption) as well as government-supported insurance or risk management programs.
- Take updated photographs of your property and assets in their current condition from the same location every year, and securely store them with your insurance documents.
- Record key information on any additional commercial insurance or government-supported programs, including policy numbers and expiration dates.

Insurance Particulars

Insurance documents are often forgotten in emergency situations. Add your essential commercial farm insurance details to the table(s) below. Do this for each policy carry.

POLICY 1	
Policy number	
Date of purchase/renewal	
Insurance provider	
Agent name, organization	
Phone number, 24/7 claims	
Key coverage	
Exclusions	

POLICY 2

Policy number	
Date of purchase/renewal	
Insurance provider	
Agent name, organization	
Phone number, 24/7 claims	
Key coverage	
Exclusions	

POLICY 3

Policy number	
Date of purchase/renewal	
Insurance provider	
Agent name, organization	
Phone number, 24/7 claims	
Key coverage	
Exclusions	



Backup Power

Certain actions should be taken ahead of a wildfire to ensure that critical equipment continues to function during a prolonged power outage. Protect yourself and those around you by confirming that any generator backup systems are installed correctly, preventing feedback into the main power grid. Electrical systems should be designed to disconnect from regular electric power.

Critical Operations

Identify critical agricultural operations that rely on electricity, prioritizing them by importance:

1	
2	
3	

- Gather the necessary power equipment to provide backup, such as electrical cords, fuel, lubricants, and filters for generators.
- Position the backup generators and connect them to the vital equipment that requires power. Ensure the generator is safely disconnected from the main power grid to avoid dangerous back-feeding.
- Test the generator system for at least one hour, if possible. Verify that the generator can sufficiently power the priority equipment. Document fuel consumption and calculate how long the backup system can supply power without needing service or refuelling.
- Create step-by-step instructions for setting up and operating the backup power system.
- Take updated photographs of your property and assets in their current condition from the same location every year, and securely store them with your insurance documents.
- Record key information on any additional commercial insurance or government-supported programs, including policy numbers and expiration dates.



PART B:
**DURING AN
EMERGENCY**

Swift and informed responses are essential for minimizing harm to livestock and personnel

This section provides guidance on immediate response protocols, prioritization of actions, response action checklists, and communication strategies to implement when a crisis is underway.

Emergency Information Sources

Learn about the wildfire situation. Note that data-based services such as text messaging, social media, or email are less likely to experience major interruptions when phone lines are down.

The following are key contacts to follow for official information:

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LESSER SLAVE RIVER NO. 124 (MDLSR)	
Municipal website	www.mdlsr.ca
Opt-in critical alerts (<i>Voyent Alert!</i>)	www.mdlsr.ca/alerts
POWER	
Service provider	
Contact information	
ALBERTA WILDFIRE	
Website	www.alberta.ca/alberta-wildfire
Facebook page	www.facebook.com/youralberta.ca/
OTHER CONTACTS	
Provincial emergency management:	
AEMA // 1-888-671-1111 // www.alberta.ca/alberta-emergency-management-agency	
Traveller information service:	
511 Alberta // https://511.alberta.ca/#:Alerts	
Weather information service:	
Environment Canada // weather.gc.ca	
Emergency financial assistance:	
Alberta Emergency Social Services // 780-427-3390 // alberta.ca/emergency-financial-assistance	
Emergency notification service:	
Alberta Emergency Alerts // www.alberta.ca/alberta-emergency-alert.aspx	

Learn About the Evacuation Status

There are three phases of an evacuation:

1. **Evacuation Alert:** When time allows, moving livestock to safety is encouraged during the evacuation alert phase. This is also a good time to move children and the elderly to safety.
2. **Evacuation Order:** During an evacuation order, the local police of jurisdiction may strictly enforce traffic flows that move residents to safety.
3. **Evacuation Rescind:** An evacuation order is rescinded when it is determined to be safe for residents and livestock to return home.

The RCMP is responsible for implementing evacuation notifications. They may use various local resources to notify people of an evacuation.

Decision Guide for Livestock Protection

The farm is prepared for the following response actions. Depending on the situation, different animals may require unique response actions to achieve the lowest overall risk.

Check the appropriate options below at the time of emergency.

Option 1: Shelter Livestock in Barn

- Shelter-in-place is best for _____ animals because:
 - There is a barn on the farm where the animals will be safely removed from the danger (i.e., the barn is protected by sprinklers).
 - It would require the least amount of time.

Option 2: Move Livestock to On-Farm Outdoor Location

- Moving livestock to an outdoor location is best for _____ animals because:
 - There is a pasture on the farm where the animals will be safely removed from the danger (i.e., a large field with food and water).
 - We have sufficient time, personnel, and equipment to round up and move our animals to this area.

Option 3: Relocate Livestock Off the Farm

- Relocating the _____ animals is the best option because:
 - We have located and prearranged an off-farm relocation site.
 - We can gather the animals into a safe location to be evacuated.
 - We have or can arrange for trucks, trailers, drivers, and handlers, if necessary.
 - We can arrange for feed, water, and veterinary care at the relocation site.

Option 4: Open Gates/Cut Fences **[IF SAFE TO DO SO]**

- Freeing the _____ animals is only considered if:
 - Livestock cannot be moved to a safer area.
 - There is no danger to people or vehicular traffic from freeing the animals.
 - We have the time and personnel to open gates and/or cut fences to allow the animals to avoid the wildfire.
 - We will inform emergency responders of our decision to free the livestock.



Response Action Checklists

Checklist for Sheltering Livestock in Barn

The following steps should be taken if you select **Option 1** (shelter livestock in barn).

- Ensure there is sufficient time, personnel, and equipment to move livestock to a protected barn. Ask family members, neighbours, and others for help.
- Move animals to one or more protected barns or other structures on the farm where the animals will be safe. A protected barn is one where:
 - Combustible materials have been removed around the structure
 - Fire-resistant materials have been used in its construction
 - Sprinklers can offer protection from forest fire hazards
 - Water pumps for the sprinkler system have backup power
- Ensure animals have access to food sources, clean water, and ample living space, and that support systems are connected to backup power.

Checklist for Moving Livestock to On-Farm Location

The following steps should be taken if you select **Option 2** (move livestock to on-farm location).

- Ensure there is sufficient time, personnel, and equipment to move livestock to a safe outdoor location on-farm pasture or other irrigated or heavily grazed open area.
- Move livestock to one or more open areas on the farm where the animals will be safely away from the hazard. A safe outdoor area is one where:
 - The field has been recently irrigated and/or fire breaks have been constructed
 - The field has been heavily grazed / there is no dry fuel for fires
 - The field is located above the high-water level / out of the floodplain
 - Trees are native species only; exotic trees uproot easily
 - Appropriate fencing is in place
 - No overhead power lines or poles are in the field
 - No debris or sources of blowing debris
- Ensure animals have access to food sources, clean water, and ample living space.

Checklist for Relocating Livestock

Consider the actions below for relocating livestock during an emergency. Livestock should not be moved during an evacuation order to keep roads clear for people and responders.

1. If time is short, the priority animals for livestock relocation off-farm are:

Priority 1:

Priority 2:

Priority 3:

2. Notify the primary site selected for receiving relocated livestock.

Name:

Physical address:

Phone number:

Email address:

3. Ensure all relocated animals have farm/owner identification, including just-in-time methods such as paint on hooves and collaring.
4. Consult the evacuation notification team to determine safe routes. Record primary and alternate routes below.

Livestock pick-up
location on farm:

Primary route:

Alternate route:

5. Identify livestock haulers.

Hauler name:

Phone number:

Email address:

6. Identify any special challenges with assembling and loading your animals.

Challenge 1:

Challenge 2:

Challenge 3:

Checklist for Personal Evacuation

General Considerations

In addition to preparing your **Grab 'n Go Kit** and **Car Kit**, gather the following items well in advance of an evacuation:

- Identification that includes a photo and address, such as a driver's license. This helps producers obtain a permit if they are temporarily allowed to return to the agriculture operation to attend to essential services, including animal care and essential crop management.
- Premises ID Number, if applicable
- Operation/farm-related items (critical documents, building keys, employee records, etc.)
- I have assembled a Grab 'n Go Kit (see below) and know its location

Suggested Personal Grab 'n Go Kit Items

- Bottled water
- Nutritious foods (dried fruits, granola bars, nuts, or beef jerky)
- Personal medications
- Personal toiletries and medications
- Dust masks and gloves
- Pocketknife
- Family photos (recent)
- Personal papers (copies of insurance, emergency contacts)
- Radio
- Whistle
- Emergency blankets and garbage bags
- Extra pair of eyeglasses
- Extra money, coins, phone cards

Suggested Car Kit Items

At the beginning of wildfire season, prepare your car kit and store it in your vehicle. Keep up car maintenance and fuel so you don't run out.

- Bottled water
- Nutritious foods (dried fruits, granola bars, nuts, or beef jerky)
- Manual can opener
- Comfortable, sturdy walking shoes
- Warm blanket
- Heavy-duty work gloves (leather)
- Dust masks and gloves
- Change of clothing
- Road map & compass
- Duct tape and garbage bags
- First aid kit & manual
- Ziplock bags, toilet tissue
- Hardhat
- Large, sturdy backpack
- Small tool kit
- Booster cables





PART C:

AFTER AN EMERGENCY

The period following an emergency offers valuable opportunities for evaluation and learning

This section details recommended steps to take after the immediate crisis, including assessing the effectiveness of the emergency response, documenting damages, and initiating the recovery process.

Checklist for Damage Assessment

Once the evacuation order has been lifted and if damage is observed on the farm, consider the steps below to limit further damage.

- Check livestock that has sheltered-in-place at the earliest possible opportunity, and provide for their needs with water, feed, and safety.
- Inspect the farm for hazards and damage. Take care to avoid hazards, such as smouldering tree roots underground.
- Contact your insurance agent (refer to the [Insurance information](#) section of this document).
- Document any loss of livestock, farm buildings, fences, or equipment in writing, using the inventory list to verify losses. Document salvaged items.
- Take photos and video of any damage following a disaster to document the loss (ideally before and after taking any recovery action).
- Secure the site.

Checklist for Initiating Insurance or Other Loss Coverage

- Review your insurance policy with your agent or broker and report the damage/loss.
- Review any government-supported risk management program you have paid into or subscribed to with the government agent and report the damage/loss.
- Assemble required supporting documentation and complete and submit claims for losses.

Checklist for Recovery

The following steps should be taken to continue the disaster recovery process.

- Work with neighbours to locate and identify loose animals in the area, and to return livestock that escaped or were treed.
- Seek assistance from agriculture associations active in your area.
- Work with neighbours to get the agriculture operation and the community operational as soon as possible.
- Attend community recovery information sessions to find out about provincial measures that may assist the agriculture operation with disaster recovery.
- If eligible, apply for financial relief through the Alberta Disaster Recovery Program website: alberta.ca/disaster-assistance-and-recovery-support

Disposal of Dead Animals

Every livestock producer must face the reality of carcass disposal, regulated by the [Disposal of Dead Animals Regulation](#) of the [Animal Health Act](#), Appendix A.

Dead animals must be disposed of in an acceptable manner within seven days of death. Mortalities can be composted, incinerated, buried, rendered or naturally disposed.

Proper carcass disposal is important for preventing livestock disease transmission and protecting air and water quality. Access to carcasses by scavengers is only permitted under the guidelines for natural disposal.

Visit open.alberta.ca/publications/livestock-mortality-management-disposal to review the provincial summary on livestock mortality management.

When dealing with a large number of livestock deaths due to a natural disaster or livestock disease, contact the Government of Alberta's [Inspection and Investigation Section](#) or 310-FARM (previously known as the Ag-Info Centre) for assistance. These agencies are available to assist you directly or refer you to the appropriate department or industry resource.

Inspection and Investigation Section

Open Monday to Friday from 8:15 am to 4:30 pm (closed statutory holidays)

Phone: 403.755.1474

Email: 310farm@gov.ab.ca

Mail: Inspection and Investigation Section Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation
#201, 5030 50 Street Olds, Alberta T4H 1S1

310-FARM (formerly Ag-Info Centre)

Open Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (closed statutory holidays)

Toll-free: 310.FARM (3276)

Email: aginfocentre@gov.ab.ca



Part D

SHELTER-IN-PLACE

In certain emergency situations, the safest course of action may be to shelter-in-place

This section provides essential guidance for situations where keeping livestock in the field or within a specific farm building offers the best protection from an immediate security hazard.

Shelter-in-Place for Livestock Producers

In an emergency, it is not always possible to evacuate livestock from the area where the hazard is present (flooding, wildfire, etc.). This may be due to the time of year (spring birthing), the nature of how the animals are kept (they are barn-based and difficult to move), or the emergency happening quickly, not allowing time to corral, load, and transport the animals.

If evacuation is not possible or feasible, producers should prepare for "Sheltering their Livestock in Place" prior to the producer and family evacuating..

Role of Livestock Owner

You will need to decide whether to confine animals in an available shelter or leave them outdoors.

Survey your property for the best location for animal sheltering. Ensure that your animals have room to move to avoid hazards (including access to high areas in case of flooding) and to access food and clean water.

Ensure you have enough food and water for the livestock for at least 72 hours (three days).

Role of Community/Municipality

The community or local municipality is responsible for the community's emergency response plan and all response activities inside the community's municipal jurisdiction (note that the MD's jurisdiction does not extend into the forest areas). This includes:

- Providing information to producers about options for emergency sheltering of livestock, evacuation routes, procedures for how to request temporary re-entry to farms (to check on animals, feed and water)
- Dispatching first response agencies to deal with the emergency
- Issuing evacuation alerts or orders
- Establishing protocols around entry to and control of evacuation zones

Steps to Develop Your Shelter-in-Place Plan for Livestock

- **Assess and reduce risks:** Is your property FireSmart? Does it have the recommended fuel reduction zones? Over time, create the recommended fuel-free zones around homes, barns, outbuildings and feed/chemical storage.
- **Flood assessment:** Assess your property for flood risk and determine where high ground on your land would be suitable for keeping animals out of water.
- **Location assessment:** Assess the location of fuel, chemical, and fertilizer storage locations to determine if they add risks to livestock when you have evacuated.
- **Vegetation management:** Manage vegetation around fence lines, corral lines and ditches. Unmanaged fence lines, corral lines and ditches can lead to a buildup of grass, weeds, and brush - excellent fuel for wildfires. To prevent fires from starting or spreading, manage the vegetation (for at least 100 metres in all directions) by mowing the areas and using herbicide/weed eater under the wires and between the posts.
- **Granaries, barns, and outbuildings:** Reduce the vegetation around buildings to lower the risk of wildfire.
- **Old corrals and unused corners of your yard:** Manage these areas by mowing, grazing, weed-eating, treating with herbicide and/or travelling.
- **Around dugouts and other water sources:** Keep these areas free of equipment, lumber, and other trash to provide firefighters with access to the water.

Managing Feed Storage

Dry bales are a magnet for sparks and embers. No matter how you store the bales, they cause fires that spread rapidly and are difficult to control or extinguish once ignited. Fires in stored hay are usually the result of high heat or spontaneous combustion (the main cause of spontaneous combustion is excess moisture in the bales).

Store bales a reasonable distance from any structures to minimize the spread of fire to your house and outbuildings. The area between the bales and buildings should contain minimal vegetation - preferably mineral soil or gravel.

If you do have grass in this area, it's essential that it remain short.

Be FireSmart by storing your winter supply of bales in several different locations to minimize loss should a fire occur. Also, if you use the bales closest to the house and outbuildings during feeding season, you will end up with a larger buffer in that area come spring.

Another important FireSmart practice is to clean up the old hay and straw that accumulates from broken bales and bale bottoms that freeze over the winter. You can do this by:

- Hauling it out onto the pasture for the livestock to pick through it
- Spreading it over the field (like manure)
- Let your livestock graze the leftover hay

Evaluate Livestock Evacuation/Relocation Options

- Do you have some open pasture near the animals to keep them away from the hazards?
- Is there feed and water for at least three days?
- Is there another farm/pasture nearby where you can arrange for temporary shelter/pasture?
- For flood risks, is there land with high ground where animals can get away from the water?

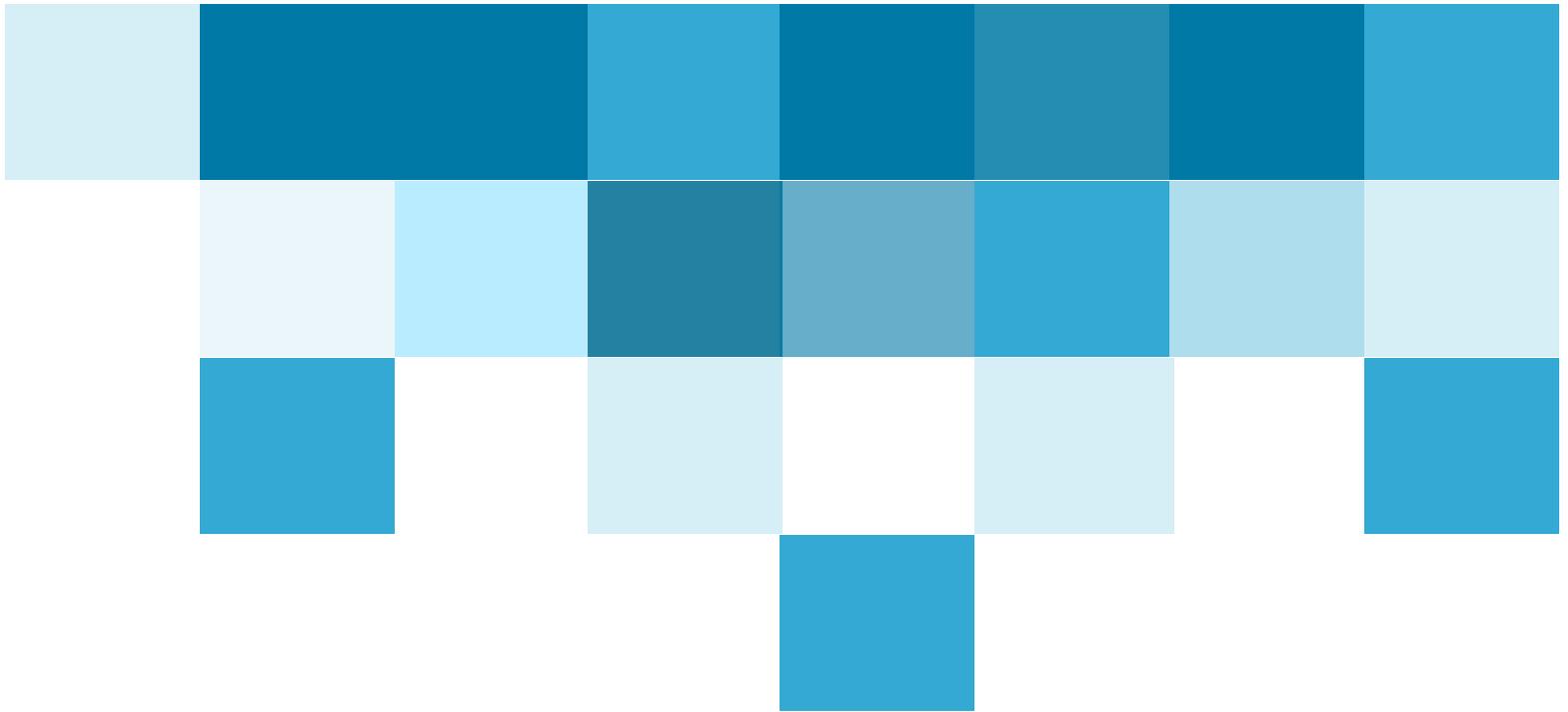
Develop Shelter-in-Place Options for Livestock That Cannot Leave

- Access to water:** The watering source needs to be independent of power if possible. Failure of the power grid is common with fires and floods.
- Extra feed:** Ensure that three days of feed is available, if appropriate.
- Provide room for animals to move:** It is ideal to move livestock to larger pens away from structures or an open fireproof pasture.
- Plan to create **impromptu fire breaks** (using a disc or cultivator to break up the soil around the property or buildings). Most fires need some ground fuel to move, so creating a break in the dry grass, small bushes, etc., will help slow or redirect a fire.
- Sprinkler plan:** Fire Services recommend a wetting time of two hours prior to fire reaching the property for full saturation and effectiveness. If the water source for your sprinklers is dependent on electricity to operate (for example, it comes from a well), you may need to start the sprinklers early to ensure the ground and vegetation get wet.
- Create a map** of your operation and where the key sites are located, such as:
 - Livestock locations
 - Wildfire Plan document storage
 - Fertilizer and fuel storage
 - Chemical/flammable liquids/compressed gas storage
- Place extra feed in the location where animals are going to shelter (if necessary) Open gates as planned to give livestock room to stay away from hazards.
- Build/cultivate impromptu firebreak around the property and important buildings/pens/pastures. Make one or two passes around your yard and feed storage areas.
- Set up sprinklers and start watering ground and vegetation around buildings.
- Take pictures of property and livestock before departure. This will help you identify livestock that get loose after the emergency. This will also help explain the level of damages to your insurance company if you need to make a claim. If possible, implement livestock evacuation.
- Notification to receiving site** (if required): Let the owner/operator of the receiving site know that you are bringing the animals.



- **Implement the transportation plan**—Have the trucks/trailers/handlers start moving the livestock to be loaded and transported to the selected evacuation site.
- **Departure of humans** (It is time for you and your family to evacuate!) Power and gas shut-off to non-essential buildings.
- **Start sprinklers** (if set up and not started already)
- **Request temporary re-entry** to the evacuation zone from your municipality (County, Municipal District, Settlement or First Nation) when it is safe. To check on animals and provide feed and water.





Thank you for taking the time to create your *Animal Emergency Plan*. Use it as a framework for safeguarding your agricultural operation.

The safety and well-being of our farm and communities in Lesser Slave River is a shared responsibility

This document is an essential emergency preparedness and recovery tool. Keep it readily accessible, review it regularly, and act decisively on its recommendations when a critical event happens.

For further information or assistance related to this document, call the MD's Agricultural Services department at 780.681.3936 (toll-free 1.866.681.3929) or email agriculture@mdlsr.ca.





Lesser Slave River

 mdlsr.ca/animal-emergency-plan

 780.681.3929

 agriculture@mdlsr.ca