



Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust
OFFICE USE ONLY

Program Year: **2026**

Agreement #: _____

DFWT Field Unit(s)

Regional Maps

**DELTA FARMLAND & WILDLIFE TRUST
BLUEBERRY REST SET ASIDE PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

DATE _____

BETWEEN THE COOPERATOR: _____
AND

THE DELTA FARMLAND AND WILDLIFE TRUST, a non-profit, community based, charitable society, whose mission is to promote the preservation of farmland and associated wildlife habitat in the Fraser River delta through sustainable farming and land stewardship (referred to hereafter as "DFWT").

WHEREAS: The Co-operator and DFWT have agreed to cost share the establishment of a Blueberry Rest Set-Aside where blueberry bushes have been removed, for the purposes of soil conservation in Metro Vancouver and Abbotsford in the Province of British Columbia.

THE COOPERATOR WILL:

- 1) establish a field, described in Schedule A, as a Blueberry Rest Set-aside for the benefit of both soil and pollinator populations as prescribed by DFWT. The Set-aside must be planted by **June 30, 2026** if this is the first year of the agreement. (Please note that approval is dependent on funding availability. New applications are treated on a first-come, first-served basis and funding will be allocated until it is fully utilized. Submitting your agreement as soon as possible is recommended.)
- 2) maintain and manage the field, described in Schedule A, as a Blueberry Rest Set-aside from **April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027**.
- 3) not mow or harvest a set-aside until after **July 15th** of any year covered by this agreement and limit harvest to one cut per year.
- 4) ensure that top-kill, mowing, discing or plough down of the Blueberry Rest Set-aside will not occur before **March 31, 2027**.
- 5) perform best management practices, as described in Schedule A and at the cooperators expense, which are associated with the maintenance of a field as a Blueberry Rest Set-aside.
- 6) discuss management practices with DFWT and concede to DFWT recommendations prior to undertaking any management activities.
- 7) allow DFWT to monitor the Blueberry Rest Set-aside for wildlife use, vegetation growth and/or soil quality.
- 8) not receive reimbursement or an exchange for rent payment for the Blueberry Rest Set-aside described in Schedule A, from any other program or agreement.
- 9) indemnify and save harmless the DFWT from and against any and all actions, suits, claims, demands, damages and losses, howsoever arising as a result of the establishment and operation of the DFWT Blueberry Rest program.

DELTA FARMLAND AND WILDLIFE TRUST WILL:

- 1) cost-share the establishment and management of Blueberry Rest fields established within Metro Vancouver and Abbotsford, described in Schedule A, as a Blueberry Rest Set-aside by paying the co-operator **\$500/acre/year**.
- 2) decline eligibility for the BRP at any time if vegetation is too sparse (vegetative cover of a spring set-aside planting must be 75% or greater).
- 3) in the event that the participant does not maintain the BRP by the standards prescribed herein, the DFWT obligations shall cease.
- 4) in the unlikely event that DFWT has a lack of funds to continue the program in the following year, notify the co-operator before **April 1, 2027**, of non-renewal of this agreement. This agreement can be renewed annually for up to one additional year (two years total) providing funding is available. Any extensions after two years are made at the Program Manager's discretion and are subject to funding availability.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS MUST:

- 1) be a registered landowner on the current Certificate of Title or Deed to the land: or
- 2) be entitled to become the registered landowner on Certificate of Title or Deed to the land under a contract, court order or any other legal instrument; or
- 3) have a valid land rental agreement to manage land for term of the Stewardship Agreement, and acknowledgement from the registered Landowner; or
- 4) be Indigenous (First Nation, Metis Nation, Inuit): a First Nation, Metis Nation or Inuit single person or a First Nation, Metis Nation or Inuit organization managing agricultural land. For example, be a First Nations Peoples in lawful possession of farmland under subsections 20(1), 20(2), or 20(3) of the Indian Act, or be a First Nations Band meeting these preceding conditions with an interest in farmland within the meaning of the Indian Act; and
- 5) have completed an agri-environmental risk assessment such as Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) or demonstrate working towards completing an agri-environmental risk assessment - prior to receiving final stewardship payments

Based on the above criteria, I am eligible to participate in this program Yes, I am eligible No, I am not eligible

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA COLLECTION SURVEY

Respondent Consent

The Province of British Columbia supports inclusive and increased representation of underrepresented groups. By providing the information below, you are helping to improve the delivery of programming. At this time, the questions focus on three identity groups (Indigenous, women, and youth), and do not cover all potential groups who are underrepresented in the agriculture sector. We plan to expand the focus to other underrepresented groups in future. Your personal information is collected under section 26(c) and 26(e) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purposes of evaluating applications and for the planning and evaluating of the S-CAP Ministry Program. The demographic information you provide is voluntary and will not be used to assess your eligibility for this program. Each individual understands the purposes of the collection, use, and disclosure of their demographic personal information. The information you provide will be shared with the federal government to fulfill the provincial obligations under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (S-CAP) bilateral agreement. It may be combined with other survey or administrative data sources and used for statistical, research and evaluation purposes. If any information is published, your responses will be combined with the responses of others so that you cannot be identified. If you have any questions about the collection of your information, please contact the Director of Sector Insights and Corporate Initiatives at alstats@gov.bc.ca.

1. Do you agree to respond to questions on the demographics of the business or organization?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I agree. <input type="checkbox"/> No, I do not agree	If yes, proceed to #2 If no, proceed to Schedule A
2. Is the respondent a business owner of either a sole proprietorship or a general partnership? If you are filling out this information on behalf of a business owner or owners of a sole proprietorship or general partnership, please answer 'yes' and seek the response to the following demographic questions from the business owners.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, proceed to #7 If no, proceed to #3
3. Does the applicant's organization have a governing board (for example, a Board of Directors)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, proceed to #4 and #5 If no, proceed to #4 and Schedule A
4. Indicate any of the following groups who are specifically targeted beneficiaries of the project's activities. Select all that apply.	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous - First Nations (including status and non-status) <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous - Inuk (Inuit) <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous - Métis <input type="checkbox"/> Women <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (40 years of age and under) <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above groups	
5. Is the respondent's organization a post-secondary institution, local government, provincial government, or Indigenous governing body (for example, a band or tribal council, government of a self-governing First Nation or Métis Nation Chartered Community)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, proceed to Schedule A If no, proceed to #6 and #7
6. How many members does the organization's governing body have?		

7. Please indicate the number of board members or the proportion (% of shares) of the business that is owned by people who identify with each of the following groups.

INDIGENOUS

Indigeneity in Canada refers to people who are: First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit), and/or Registered or Treaty Indians (that is, registered under the Indian Act of Canada), and/or those who have membership in a First Nation or Indian band.

Do not select these options if the owner(s) identify as Indigenous but not Indigenous to Canada (for example, Ainu, Sámi, or Māori).

	Number of members	-OR-	Percentage of shares (%)
First Nations (including status and non-status)			
Inuk (Inuit)			
Métis			
Indigenous - not specified			
None of the above (not indigenous to Canada)			
Unable to answer/identify			

Gender

Gender refers to an individual's personal and social identity as a man, woman or non-binary person.

	Number of members	-OR-	Percentage of shares (%)
Women+			
Men+			
Other			
Unable to answer/identify			

Age

	Number of members	-OR-	Percentage of shares (%)
Over 40			
Youth (40 or under)			
Unable to answer/identify			

IMPORTANT:

Set-asides must be seeded with mixes that include **perennial grasses** and must stay in place until at least March 31, 2027.

DFWT, upon review of the Blueberry Rest Set-Aside, may decline eligibility of the set-aside at any time if vegetation is too sparse (vegetative cover of the Blueberry Rest Set-Aside must be 75% or greater). Blueberry Rest Set-aside Mix should be planted at 40-50lb/acre. If establishment in the first year is deemed, for any reason, to be unsuccessful, soil tests may be conducted, and/or lime applications and/or reseeding may be required. All costs associated with these activities are to be paid by the cooperator.

In the event that the cooperator does not maintain the Blueberry Rest Set-aside in accordance with the standards prescribed herein, the DFWT obligations pursuant to this agreement shall cease.

Schedule A.

Farm/Land Disclosure (Blueberry Rest Program area (funded and on waiting list) will be limited to 50% of the total area farmed and/or owned by the applicant or 50 acres whichever is the lesser)

How much land do you own/farm within Metro Vancouver and Abbotsford?

Own Farm _____ acres Non-Owned Farm _____ acres

Please provide a valid business number (GST/HST). _____
This is a requirement of the program.

Have you completed an agri-environmental risk assessment such as an Environmental Farm Plan?

- Yes, I have a valid EFP (a statement of completion from within the past 5 years) from the Canada-BC EFP Program
 - If yes, please provide the statement of completion code here: _____
- No, I do not have an EFP, but I am willing to complete and submit an alternate agri-environmental risk assessment, and I consent to participating in a one-hour follow-up session with the Ministry of Agriculture, if requested.
- No, I do not have an EFP, and I am not willing to complete an alternate agri-environmental risk assessment. I understand this may mean I am not eligible for cost-share.

Field Description

Field Address(es): _____

Previous crop on field: _____ Next cash crop on field: _____

Anticipated replant date (year): _____

Reason for removing blueberries: _____

Reason for planting a set-aside: _____

Field Size (acres to be planted in set-aside): _____ acres

Set-aside Seeding Date: _____ Set-aside Seeding Rate: _____ lbs/acre

Seeding Method: _____

Species seeded (set-aside), note seed mix must include perennial grasses: _____

Is field laser levelled? Yes No If yes, when? _____

Is effective sub-surface drainage installed in field? Yes No

What margins of the field have drainage ditches in working condition? _____

Are there areas of the field where crop establishment is consistently poor? _____

Please describe: _____

When was lime last applied to the field? _____

What is the general soil texture of the field? Coarse Medium Fine Unsure/Other: _____

Please attach a map clearly showing the location of the field(s) and return to Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust. Management Requirements

The following are management practices that may be required to be performed at the Cooperator's expense for the establishment and maintenance of the Blueberry Rest field as a set-aside:

- application of fertilizer or manure if and when required
- weed control – preferably through mowing or selective cutting
- soil surface ditching to reduce water ponding if and when required
- mowing or harvesting – as per guidelines set forth in the attached agreement.

Cooperator's Name: _____

Tel # _____

Company Name: _____

Cell # _____

Mailing Address: _____

Fax # _____

E-Mail: _____

X

X

Co-operator's Signature

DFWT Signature