



2.01 PROVINCIAL SUPPORT FOR LIVESTOCK RELOCATION DURING AN EMERGENCY

2.01.1 GENERAL

Farm businesses are an important source of livelihood in many communities across British Columbia. During emergencies, high levels of logistics and time are required to relocate agricultural livestock and this process is ideally initiated as soon as a potential threat is identified as imminent. In recognition of the time and resources required to relocate livestock, this policy allows for the relocation of livestock for eligible farm businesses during an evacuation alert stage. It also allows for the reimbursement of response costs incurred by the local authorities in order to relocate livestock.

Related Policies:

- [5.02 Expense Reimbursement](#)

2.01.2 DEFINITIONS

See [Terms and Definitions](#)

Farm businesses: Defined by the *Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act*. Generally, this is those farm businesses where a reasonable expectation of income, based on sales, is anticipated including, but not limited to, the rearing and keeping of livestock.

Livestock and Livestock Raising: Defined by the *Assessment Act*, Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation. It does not include the keeping of pets such as members of the genus *Canis* or *Felis*, hobby farms or animals kept within the confines of a home.

2.01.3 POLICY STATEMENT

- (1) EMBC will reimburse local authorities and First Nations for response costs related to their support of livestock relocations during an emergency response.
 - (2) Livestock relocation that occurs in the evacuation alert phase will be reimbursed if relocation is deemed necessary when assessing the risk.
 - (3) Rates for reimbursement shall be based on Livestock Relocation Rate Cards negotiated between Ministry of Agriculture and Emergency Management BC prior to the time of event.
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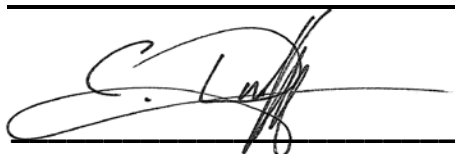


2.01.4 CONDITIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES

- (1) This procedure will only be considered when the listed conditions are met and the local authority makes the request.
 - a. An EMBC task number has been issued for the emergency.
 - b. A broad geographic assessment of risk has occurred and the local authority, Ministry of Agriculture and any other applicable provincial agencies agree that there is significant risk to livestock and relocation during the evacuation alert phase is supported.
 - c. The Local Authority has issued an evacuation alert or evacuation order. The farm business operator has requested assistance through the local authority EOC.
- (2) Livestock relocation for eligible farm businesses can occur during evacuation alert stage set by local authority.
- (3) Reimbursement rates including costs for the return of relocated livestock will only be considered for a maximum of 96 hours (4days) following an evacuation rescind, unless a specific exception is approved by EMBC.
- (4) Animals not claimed after the evacuation rescind is issued plus 96 hours (4 days) shall be dealt considered impounded at the relocation site and dealt with using the procedures of the Pound District Regulation of the *Livestock Act*.

2.01.5 AUTHORITIES

[Assessment Act, Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation](#)
[Emergency Program Act](#)
[Farm Practices Protection \(Right to Farm\) Act](#)
[Livestock Act](#)



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2.01.6 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- [2.01 Provincial Support for Livestock Relocation During an Emergency Procedures](#)
- [2.01 Provincial Support for Livestock Relocation During an Emergency Livestock Relocation Reimbursement Rate Card 2015](#)
- [2.01 Provincial Support for Livestock Relocation During an Emergency FAQs](#)