

**HEALTH CERTIFICATION PROTOCOL FOR SHEEP and GOATS USED FOR VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA OR ALBERTA:**

Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol (Revised June 29, 2021)

Background

The acceptance of domestic sheep or goats for managing vegetation on designated right-of-ways and forest sites is contingent on the assurance to maintain the health and welfare of the domestics, to specifically reduce risk to wild sheep and goats where applicable, and to reduce the risk of potential effects on other wildlife or the modification of habitats (i.e., predator attraction and conflict, domestic forages or faeces may introduce invasive plants, trampling riparian areas, grazing damage to nesting habitats).

The original Sheep & Goat Health Protocol (1998) was developed by representatives from BC and AB agriculture and wildlife departments, with the cooperation of the BC Sheep Federation, the Alberta Sheep and Wool Commission, and the BC and Alberta Veterinary Medical Associations. The document evolved to address significant concerns that arose during field activities associated with extensive use of domestic sheep for vegetation management, largely but not exclusively in BC in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

The protocol is intended to maximize the health of domestic and wild sheep & goats by minimizing the risks of disease in participating flocks, reducing the attraction to predators, and avoiding other welfare concerns. In providing “high health” livestock for vegetation management projects, the risk of pathogen transmission to wild species is reduced. Only sheep or goats meeting the criteria set out in the Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol (2021) will be permitted on areas approved for their use. A system of “on-farm” and/or “on-site” inspections are intended to ensure that animals used in these projects meet suitable health and welfare standards.

On-Farm Sheep or Goat Health Certification

Introduction

Professional veterinarians holding a valid license to practice in Alberta (AB) or British Columbia (BC)¹, and preferably with experience with small ruminants, will provide or be contracted to certify animals in accordance with the Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol. They will be responsible for ensuring any sheep or goats destined for BC or AB vegetation management sites are certified as per the current protocol.

Signed certificates should be retained by the producer/contractor and be available upon request, as needed. The certifying veterinarian should also retain a copy of the signed certificate. Records of individual sheep/goat identification, paint brands and/or branding paint also will be retained by the producer/contractor and made available upon request. It is the

¹ For purposes relating only to these guidelines, sheep or goat certification by veterinarians licensed in AB or BC will be valid in both provinces.

responsibility of the permittee to account for all domestic sheep or goats moved on or off the approved site.

All sheep/goats must be inspected on the farm of origin and certified by an inspection veterinarian as part of the on-farm inspection team and in accordance with the current Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol, within 30 days of the departure date. If smaller producers are moving sheep/goats to a shared location for the flock certification, the inspecting veterinarian must ensure that all sheep/goats on the original farm have been examined for Footrot² and other clinical disease identified herein that would result in the entire flock being denied certification.

The "on-farm" inspection team must include a minimum of a veterinarian (licensed in BC or AB, respectively) to inspect and certify sheep or goats under this program as well as the producer/contractor or their representative. Organizing inspection dates and visits will be the responsibility of the contractor and producer.

It is the livestock producer's/owner's responsibility to ensure and provide adequate proof that all procedures identified in the Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol have been completed. The producer/owner must sign the declaration that the "sheep/goats have been prepared according to the current Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol requirements". It is the producers' responsibility to ensure that all certified animals maintain at least a body condition score of two (2) out of five prior to departure and while at the grazing site. It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that the type and numbers of sheep/goats are compatible with the quality and quantity of palatable vegetation, geographic diversity, and extremes in weather conditions of the site. It is also the contractor's responsibility to care for all sheep/goats on the project site. The contractor or the contractor's agent must sign a declaration of "suitability to site" at the time of inspection.

All certificates must be signed by the owner, contractor or contractor's agent and authorized veterinarian upon completion.

Only properly completed certificates will be accepted.

A legible copy of the completed Sheep or Goat Health Certificate and Individual Sheep/Goat Identification Record must be retained by the producer/contractor as well as by the certifying veterinarian upon completion of the inspection.

One (1) legible copy of the Sheep or Goat Health Certificate, Individual Sheep/Goat Identification Record and Livestock Manifest must accompany the sheep/goats to the project area, and be retained on the site by the contractor, to be made available upon request.

² Footrot is a notifiable disease reportable by all parties to the Chief Provincial Veterinarian in Alberta and annually notifiable to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency by diagnostic laboratories.

Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol (On-farm certification)

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS/CRITERIA

1. Body Condition Score

- 1.1. All sheep/goats must have a minimum body condition score of two (2).

Reference (sheep): www.ablamb.ca/images/documents/resources/health/Ewe-body-condition-scoring-handbook.pdf

Reference (goats): <https://goats.extension.org/goat-body-condition-score-introduction/>

2. Age and Sex

Lambs/Kids:

- 2.1. Only lambs/kids greater than 22 kg. body weight at time of certification may be certified.
2.2. All weaned lambs/kids must be on roughage for a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the departure date.
2.3. All mandatory documentation procedures must be completed and documented.

Ewes/Does:

- 2.4. No age restrictions on ewes/does that meet the body score and physical condition criteria.

Rams/Bucks/Billys:

- 2.5. It is up to the producer to determine whether breeding males are used for vegetation management projects; however, it is not advised due to the potential for increased management issues, including tendency to wander.

3. Physical Condition

- 3.1. Sheep/goats over the age of four years must have all their incisors and must not have incisor or molar attrition. Body condition score may indicate tooth anomalies. Animals that do not meet these requirements will not be certified.
3.2. Sheep/goats with impaired vision will not be certified.
3.3. Sheep/goats with pendulous udders or active mastitis will not be certified.
3.4. Sheep/goats with deformities that result in an abnormal gait and difficulty feeding will not be certified.

4. Isolation

- 4.1. Rams/bucks/billys must be removed from the ewe/doe flock before January 1st. Parturition (birthing) or abortions on-site are not permissible and pregnant animals must not be certified.
4.2. Certified sheep/goats must not have contact with non-certified sheep or goats. When either the ewe/doe or her lamb(s)/kid(s) are not taking part in the project, and the producer prefers the female to continue nursing, both the female and her offspring(s) must meet the Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol requirements. Failure to maintain isolation of the individual certified sheep/goats will result in loss of the flock certification.

5. Identification

- 5.1. All sheep/goats must be identified with a specific flock/owner identification and individual animal identification. The producer will retain a written record of all animal ID numbers. Animals with more than two ear-tags in one ear will not be accepted for certification. Extra ear-tags must be removed.
- 5.2. All animals meeting the requirements of the Domestic Sheep & Goat Health Protocol will be identified with a recorded paint brand (as per pg 2) at the time of inspection by the inspecting veterinarian. The producer will retain a record of the paint brand.

6. Health/Pathogens

Lameness:

- 6.1. **All lame** sheep/goats must be **isolated** from the flock and available for inspection to ensure that Footrot is not the cause of lameness. Lame sheep/goats will not be certified.

Footrot

- 6.2. Footrot in sheep and goats is a notifiable disease in Alberta. Owners, contractors or veterinarians who suspect or confirm the presence of footrot must report this finding to the Chief Provincial Veterinarian within 24 hours. Additional information can be found online at alberta.ca/reportable-and-notifiable-diseases.
- 6.3. Flocks that are or have been affected with footrot within the last 12 months will not be certified or approved for grazing on vegetation management projects.
- 6.4. The inspecting veterinarian will need to consider all available information, including flock and veterinary records, producer interview, and individual animal inspection in order to form a clinical opinion as to whether there is evidence of footrot in the herd.

Hoof Care

- 6.5. All hooves must be examined and, if necessary, effectively trimmed a minimum of two weeks prior to inspection for use under this protocol. Sheep with hooves that have been poorly trimmed or with severely deformed hooves will not be certified.

Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae (M. ovi)

M. ovi infections are common in domestic sheep and goats (including some flocks in AB and BC) but not all infected animals show clinical signs. Infection may go unrecognized by producers and private practitioners, particularly if it involves subtle reduced weight gains and slight increase of respiratory disease or minor clinical signs. Clinical signs of *M. ovi* may include nasal discharges and coughing but this is not reliable to determine a flock/herd status. Testing for *M. ovi* is challenging since the bacteria occur in the nasal sinuses and can be shed in nasal secretions constantly, intermittently, or rarely in an infected animal over time. Currently the *M. ovi* PCR and serological testing is available through the Animal Health Centre with the BC Ministry of Agriculture³. In AB, limited testing may be available based on a case by case risk analysis. Call toll-free 310-0000 and ask for a Fish and Wildlife biologist or visit www.alberta.ca/bighorn-sheep-disease-surveillance for more information.

Transmission can follow direct contact with infected individuals. Multiple strains of this bacterium exist and may differ in virulence. Domestic flocks and herds may experience outbreaks when *M. ovi* is introduced or a new strain is introduced with new animals or if sheep are stressed by changing environmental or management conditions.

M. ovi is one of the most significant health risks for wild sheep and goats and transmission commonly leads to large-scale pneumonia die-offs with long-term effects on population composition and growth.

Current (2021) best management practices strongly recommend spatial separation between domestic and wild sheep and goats. BC has already established the 50 km setback distance from occupied Stone's sheep ranges in regulation, related to specific forestry operations, and is further promoting setback implementation as broader policy direction for incorporation into domestic sheep and goat production deliveries. Both BC and AB are working with stakeholders to enable cohesive inter-provincial guidelines. Implementing the minimum 50km separation distance identified in these guidelines, between domestic flock treatment sites, is anticipated to adequately reduce risk of *M. ovi* transmission and thus testing for *M. ovi* is not required under these guidelines.

Given the considerable documented risk to wild sheep and goats, all known occurrence of contact of domestic sheep and goats with wild sheep and goats must be reported immediately to the permit authorizing agency and the Chief Provincial Veterinarian (AB) or Provincial Wildlife Veterinarian (BC) in the appropriate jurisdiction. If you see a wild sheep or mountain goat mingling with or near your domestic animals: In BC, **Call RAPP at 1 877 952-7277** or #7277 on the TELUS Mobility Network or report online <https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/>. In AB, **call toll-free 310-0000 and ask for a Fish and Wildlife biologist** or visit www.alberta.ca/bighorn-sheep-disease-surveillance for more information.

Contagious Ecthyma (Orf, Soremouth)

Contagious ecthyma is a zoonotic disease that poses risk of infection in humans, domestic sheep and goats, and a variety of wildlife species.

- 6.6. Flocks containing sheep/goats with active or healed orf lesions will not be certified or transported to vegetation management sites. Prior to certification, the producer must inform the contractor and inspection veterinarian if an orf outbreak has taken place in the flock/herd within the past year (12 months).

Sheep/Goats with abscesses

- 6.7. Animals with abscesses or draining wounds (including infected ear-tags) will be denied certification.
- 6.8. Animals with healed abscess scars may be accepted at the discretion of the veterinarian.
- 6.9. Animals with non-infected vaccine reactions will be accepted at the discretion of the veterinarian or inspection team.

Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA)

- 6.10. Sheep with CLA lesions will not be certified.
- 6.11. If clinical signs of active infection (enlarged or caseous lymph nodes) are present, the flock or herd is not eligible for certification.
- 6.12. All sheep over 8 months of age, at time of inspection, must be vaccinated for CLA. This involves an initial and a booster vaccination, 4 to 6 weeks apart, with an annual booster one month prior to lambing.
- 6.13. Goats should be vaccinated for CLA in consultation with the herd veterinarian. The use of CLA vaccination for goats in Canada is off-label; however, the protocol specified for sheep is on-label for goats in other countries and is appropriate for goats with one

additional caution. Vaccination of goats already infected with CLA may be associated with development of fever, reduced feed intake, and milk drop for several days. Newly initiated vaccination of a goat herd for CLA may be targeted at kids only, with only those animals vaccinated as kids receiving a booster vaccine each year. Consult your flock veterinarian for further information.

- 6.14. Optimal age to initiate vaccination in lambs and kids should consider the presence of maternal immunity and anticipated time of exposure. Consult the flock veterinarian to develop a herd vaccination plan.
- 6.15. A producer with a closed flock (not mixing with other sheep/goats) and with a negative serological test may, at the discretion of the herd veterinarian, be exempt from vaccination.

Clostridial Diseases

- 6.16. All sheep/goats must have appropriate vaccinations for Pulpy Kidney (*Cl. perfringens* type D) and tetanus (*Cl. tetani*) according to the manufacturer's recommendations, followed thereafter by an annual vaccination four weeks prior to lambing.
- 6.17. Producers/practitioners might want to consider a broad-spectrum clostridial vaccine that includes CLA

7. Parasites

All flocks or herds should maintain a current health and parasite management program in consultation with their veterinarian.

Internal Parasites

- 7.1. All sheep and goats must be treated for internal parasites within six weeks of departure to the site. The treatment should include one or more products so that animals simultaneously receive anthelmintic drugs from two drug classes. Consult with the flock veterinarian for further information.
- 7.2. Flocks with clinical signs of internal parasitism should have appropriate veterinary investigations, such as representative fecal sampling, in order to confirm the diagnosis and to guide treatment.
- 7.3. Three to five days after sheep/goats have been treated with one of the above anthelmintics they must be placed on an area designated as "clean". With regards to internal parasites "clean" refers to an area where sheep or goats have not been for at least one year. Producers without "clean" areas should administer the required internal parasite treatments one week prior to departure to minimize the potential for reinfection.

External Parasites

- 7.4. Sheep must be free of clinical disease due to external parasites at certification.

8. Bluetongue Requirements³

- 8.1. Bluetongue virus (BTV) is a notifiable disease in Alberta. Contact the office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian if BTV is suspected.

9. Transportation

³ Previous federal restrictions applied to sheep from the Okanagan Valley was repealed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in 2012.

- 9.1. Transportation of sheep/goats must be in compliance with the federal *Health of Animals Regulations* Part XII: Transportation of Animals and the provincial *Animal Protection Regulation*.

SHEEP GRAZING PREPARATION SCHEDULE

This schedule is intended to serve as a guide to producers, contractors and authorized veterinarians. Planning sheep/goat health management procedures several weeks in advance improves the likelihood of meeting certification requirements on the inspection visit.

At Least Eight Weeks Prior To Certification:

- In order for the ewe/doe flock to be certified, rams/buck must be removed prior to January 1st.
- Monitor flock body condition scores. If the flock is thin, evaluate the feeding program, parasite control and other wasting disease conditions. Animals with a body condition score of less than two (2) will not be certified.
- Identify the proposed departure date as some components of the preparation schedule must be organized around this date.
- Ensure that your treatment log is in order and record all mandatory procedures performed.

At Least Four Weeks Prior to Certification:

1. Complete any surgical procedures (e.g. castration, tail docking and de-horning). These surgical procedures must be healed before certification.
2. Ensure that your treatment log is in order and record all mandatory procedure records.
3. All shorn sheep must have at least one-half inch of wool cover at time of certification. All adult sheep must have been shorn within the past nine months.
4. Vaccinate all sheep/goats over two months of age, not previously immunized, with a clostridial product that contains at least *Cl. perfringens* type D and *Cl. tetani*.
5. Vaccinate all sheep/goats not previously immunized, with a caseous lymphadenitis product in consultation with the flock veterinarian.
6. Arrange a time for the inspection visit (the inspection must be within 30 days of departure) with:
 - a. a licensed Veterinarian; and,
 - b. the contractor
7. Check the flock for evidence of keds or lice. If external parasite infestation is present, consult your flock veterinarian and follow the recommendations provided. Examine all sheep/goat hooves and, if necessary, trim at least two weeks prior to inspection. Hooves that are poorly trimmed or severely deformed will not be certified.
8. Ensure that all animals are identified with a appropriate flock and individual animal identification:
 - a. Tags are the responsibility of the owner;
 - b. Tags should be in place early to allow proper healing; remove extra ear-tags (a maximum of two ear-tags per ear); and,

9. Record all individual animal identifications and have them sorted in alphanumeric order to expedite the inspection process.
10. Confirm the inspection date and arrange for any additional labor to assist in the process.

At Least Two Weeks Prior to Certification:

1. Vaccinate all sheep/goats requiring a booster vaccination.
2. Assemble the inspection and isolation facilities.
3. All individual animal identifications must be sorted to expedite the certification process.
4. Thin ewes/does in the flock eligible for certification, must be managed in order to reach a body condition score of greater than two (2) at inspection.
5. All dry ewes/does destined for the grazing site must have their lambs/kids weaned three weeks prior to departure. To successfully wean, youngsters must be at least 30 days old.
6. Deworm all sheep and goats going out to vegetation management sites.

Inspection Visit (within 30 days prior to departure)

1. Inspection team must include at least licensed Veterinarian and a contractor or contractor's agent.
2. All records of flock health status, including records of vaccinations, internal and external parasite treatments, and husbandry practices including administration dates must be provided to the authorized inspecting veterinarian. These records are required to complete the Veterinary Health Certificates. The owner/producer and veterinarian must keep a copy of the certification.
3. All sheep/goats on the farm must be available for inspection. If the animals are inspected and certified on a farm other than the farm of origin, the veterinarian must inspect the rest of the flock at the farm of origin and sign a declaration stating to that effect.
4. All animals to be certified must be identified with the flock and individual animal identification before inspection. Identification devices must be properly placed in the ear and the ear-tag sites healed.
5. All required hoof trimming must have taken place at least two weeks prior to the inspection.
6. In order to reduce the risk of sheep or goats carrying footrot pathogens onto grazing sites, the inspecting veterinarian must:
 - a. Interview the flock owner with respect to the health of the flock, history of foot-related issues, and preventative and therapeutic foot treatments;
 - b. Review veterinary records for the flock, including prescribing records, for at least the previous 12 months for indications that footrot is or may be present in the flock;
 - c. Visually inspect the feet of each animal for evidence of foot lesions or abnormalities. Examine any foot lesions or abnormalities identified in order to determine their nature and identify likely cause(s).
 - d. Consider the evidence from all of the above investigations and come to a clinical opinion as to whether footrot is or is not likely to be present in the herd.
7. The presence of any of the following will result in the flock not being eligible for certification:
 - a. clinical evidence of footrot in the flock, as above,
 - b. ORF outbreak,
 - c. flocks with clinical evidence of a current outbreak of *M. ovi*

- d. flocks with clinical evidence of CLA
 - e. failure to provide proof that mandatory procedures have been completed,
 - f. clinical evidence of external parasites,
 - g. a lack of flock identification or unacceptable identification method,
 - h. if greater than 50% of the flock is under a body condition score of two (2),
 - i. lack of one half an inch (1/2") of wool cover.
 - j. flocks not treated for internal parasites as indicated in these guidelines.
8. The presence of any of the following will result in the individual sheep/goat not being eligible for certification:
- a. lameness
 - b. inadequate hoof trimming
 - c. inadequate wool cover
 - d. body condition score of less than two (2)
 - e. abscesses, lumps and bumps
 - f. clinical signs of respiratory disease or visible evidence of internal or external parasites
 - g. pendulous udders, mastitis
 - h. non-healed wounds, surgical sites (castration, docking, de-horning sites),
 - i. broken mouths and dental attrition,
 - j. infected ear-tags
 - k. impaired vision, conjunctivitis,
 - l. visible signs of pregnancy
 - m. lack of proper identification or greater than two tags in one ear,
 - n. other conditions as determined by the contractor and veterinarian that would result in the animal being unfit for the destined site.
9. Mandatory treatments (vaccinations, anthelmintic treatments) must be documented including receipts of purchase. In absence of documentation, these procedures must be done at time of certification.

In the case of vaccines that require two doses to establish immunization (e.g., for caseous lymphadenitis and clostridial diseases), the departure date will be contingent on the animals having enough time to respond to the vaccine before departure (see below 'pre-departure').

The veterinarian will record the earliest possible departure date on the health certificate. After all mandatory procedures are completed, those animals that were certified must:

- a. have their individual identification number recorded,
- b. be paint branded,
- c. be isolated and placed in a clean area to await shipping. No contact with any non-certified sheep or goats through fences or by common watering sources or pasture on common ground must occur. Failure to isolate the animals will nullify the certification.

The contractor or contractor's agent, veterinarian and owner must sign the personal declarations and each retain a copy of the certificate and be prepared to provide to the permitting agency if requested.

The owner will receive a completed copy of the Veterinary Health Certificate and Individual Sheep/Goat Identification Record.

Three Weeks Pre-departure

1. All sheep/goats must be on pasture or dry hay.
2. All weaned lambs/kids destined for the grazing site must be on roughage.

Two Weeks Pre-departure

1. Deadline for vaccination booster against:
 - a. caseous lymphadenitis (CL)
 - b. Clostridial (*Cl. perfringens* type D)
 - c. Clostridial (*Cl. tetani*)

One Week Pre-departure

1. Cull or remove all animals under a body condition score of two from the group going to the vegetation management site.
2. Remove animals from the certified flock that have engorged udders or mastitis.
3. Remove lambs/kids that weigh less than 22 kg.

Departure

1. Take animals off grass and grain 24 hours prior to loading and provide hay.
2. Take animals off water four hours prior to loading.
3. One copy of the following forms must accompany the sheep to the site:

Veterinary Health Certificate

Individual Sheep/Goat Identification Record

Livestock Transportation Manifest

FACILITIES REQUIRED FOR INSPECTION

Pens, a race for restraining sheep/goats, a sorting gate, and isolation space will be required. A smaller pen is required adjacent to a large holding corral. From this inspection pen, selected animals will enter the race. Here they will be examined individually and the final selection made.

ON-SITE HEALTH INSPECTION PROTOCOL

The acceptance of sheep/goats for managing vegetation on designated rights-of-way and forest sites is contingent on the assurance of maintaining the health of domestic sheep and goats, and various wildlife species. If you see a wild sheep or mountain goat mingling with or near your domestic animals: In BC, Call RAPP at 1 877 952-7277 or #7277 on the TELUS Mobility Network or report online <https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/>. In AB, call toll-free 310-0000 and ask for a Fish and Wildlife biologist or visit www.alberta.ca/bighorn-sheep-disease-surveillance for more information.

Sheep/Goat health and welfare

It is the sheep/goat contractor's responsibility to ensure that the animals are provided adequate care, nutrition (feed, water, and mineral supplementation) and shelter.

Lameness:

All lame animals must be evaluated for the cause of lameness. The contractor should immediately initiate treatment, **isolate** the lame sheep/goat from the main grazing flock and enter the treatment in the treatment log. If the lame animal has not fully recovered within two weeks, the animal(s) must be removed from the grazing site. Animals removed from the site must be entered into the Sheep/Goat Health and Welfare Form/record.

Footrot:

In accordance with Alberta's *Animal Health Act and Reportable and Notifiable Diseases Regulation* the contractor, shepherd, or veterinarian must notify the Chief Provincial Veterinarian of the finding within 24 hours. Animals with suspected footrot, should be isolated and all precautions taken to prevent the spread of the disease to other animals.

Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA):

Animals identified as having lesions consistent with **CLA** (e.g., enlarged caseous lymph nodes) must be removed from the site and identified in the Sheep/Goat Health and Welfare Form/record.

Internal parasites:

If sheep/goats show clinical signs of gastrointestinal parasite infection, appropriate investigations should occur in consultation with the flock veterinarian and appropriate treatment administered if required. Parasite treatments in sheep and goats should generally include one or more products so that animals simultaneously receive anthelmintic drugs from two drug classes.

External parasites:

Sheep/Goats that have clinical evidence of external parasites must be treated with an effective product in consultation with the flock veterinarian.

Body Condition Score:

All sheep and goats with a body condition score of less than two (2) must be provided with supplemental feed. If the animals do not improve within two weeks they must be either removed from the grazing site or slaughtered/euthanized.

Contagious Ecthyma (Orf, soremouth):

Animals with orf on the site must be isolated to quarantine pens. Adequate good quality forage, water and shelter must be provided. If the above requirements are not provided or if the animals continue to lose body condition, they must be removed from the site.

Births or abortions on the site:

Pregnant females should not be taken to the site.

Females that birth or abort on the project site must be confined in a separate pen within 24 hours of aborting or birth. The placenta and fetal tissue must be contained and disposed of within 24 hours in a manner that will not allow for environmental contamination with this potentially infectious material. The females and their newborn(s) or aborted fetus must be removed from the site as soon as possible and within seven days.

Transportation of livestock:

All sheep/goats must be transported according to the requirements set out in the federal *Health of Animals Regulations* Part XII: Transportation of Animals and the provincial *Animal Protection Regulation*.

Guardian and herding dogs:

It is recommended that:

- all dogs must be treated with an effective **tapeworm** anthelmintic within two weeks prior to being used on the project site and within two weeks before returning home from the project site;
- raw meat or offal must not be used as dog food;
- store all dog food securely and in a manner to avoid attracting wildlife;
- one livestock guardian dog per 1000 sheep is considered effective.

On-Site inspection:

A licenced veterinarian may arrange an on-site inspection with the contractor. This inspection may be conducted anytime during the grazing season. The contractor must supply the following:

- adequate handling facilities;
- adequate personnel to assist in the inspection; and,
- all required documentation (**Livestock Manifests, Veterinary Health Certificates, Individual Sheep Identification Records and Operation Forms** must be present at the site and available for review at the time of the inspection).