

Purpose of this Feasibility Study

This Class E Feasibility Study has been designed to help you to assess the slaughter services that are available at provincially licensed Class A and B facilities in your area, and to determine whether they meet your needs. If the slaughter services that you need are already available through an existing provincially licensed facility in your area (i.e., within a 2 hour travel time from your farm/property), you are unlikely to be issued a Class E licence. If they are not available, you will be considered for a Class E licence.

In the following 18 nondesignated regional districts, completing and submitting a Class E Feasibility Study is required, and is the first step in the licence application process:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------------|
| Alberni-Clayoquot | Comox Valley | Kootenay-Boundary |
| Bulkley-Nechako | Strathcona (<i>Vancouver Island portion</i>) | North Okanagan |
| Capital | Cowichan Valley | Nanaimo |
| Cariboo | East Kootenay | Okanagan-Similkameen |
| Central Kootenay | Fraser Valley | Peace River |
| Central Okanagan | Fraser-Fort George | Thompson-Nicola |
| Columbia-Shuswap | Greater Vancouver | |

If you are in one of the following 10 designated regional districts, you do not need to complete this feasibility study:

- Central Coast
- Kitimat-Stikine
- Mount Waddington
- Northern Rockies
- Powell River
- Skeena-Queen Charlotte
- Squamish-Lillooet
- Stikine
- Strathcona (*Mainland and Discovery Islands portion*)
- Sunshine Coast

How to complete this Feasibility Study

1. Review all available information about existing provincially licensed slaughter facilities.

- **Dynamic map** showing the location of existing Class A and B slaughter facilities;

You can access these information resources on the [Ministry of Agriculture website](#)¹. You may need to contact the operator directly for more information about their services – this will be indicated on the abattoir profile for each facility.

2. Complete this Class E Feasibility Study self-assessment by [answering all questions](#) on the following pages.

In order for your feasibility study to be considered, it must be complete. Please read through all questions on the following pages, and ensure that you have answered all questions that apply to your proposed operation.

3. Send a completed copy of your Feasibility Study to the Provincial Coordinator for review:

Attn: Class E Feasibility Study Provincial Coordinator

Mailing Address:

Food Safety and Inspection Branch

Ministry of Agriculture

PO Box 9120 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC, V8W 9B4

Each Class E Feasibility Study will be reviewed by the Provincial Coordinator, and put into one of the categories listed in the right-hand column, **What we are considering**. Occasionally, studies will be referred to a Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) for further review. You will be notified in writing of the result. In most cases, the review of your feasibility study will take up to 4 weeks from when it is received.

In non-designated areas, only those applicants whose Class E feasibility study has been approved are eligible to apply for a Class E licence.

¹ Ministry of Agriculture website: <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/meatinspection/>

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full name of licence applicant: _____

Farm/legal business name: _____

Ownership of farm/business is: sole proprietorship corporation partnership other

Legal property owner name:
(if different from the applicant) _____

Physical address of proposed
Class D/E slaughter location: _____

Street/RR

City

Postal Code

Applicant mailing address:
(if different from above) _____

Street / RR / PO Box

City

Postal Code

Phone #: () _____ Alternate phone #: () _____ E-mail: _____

Name of regional district: _____

Questions	What we are considering
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Slaughter Services

1. Please list all provincially licensed Class A and B facilities (including docking stations) within a 2 hour travel time² of your farm or property (if any exist).

Facility Name	Class	Fixed plant or docking station?
Facility Name	Class	Fixed plant or docking station?
Facility Name	Class	Fixed plant or docking station?

2. (a) What species do you want to slaughter?

(b) Do any of the facilities you listed above slaughter the species that you want to slaughter?
 No (Category 1) Yes (go to question 3).

3. (a) What specialty slaughter services do you need?

(b) If you need specialty slaughter services, do any of the facilities you listed above provide these services? (i.e., organic, halal, kosher)³
 I don't need specialty slaughter services.
 No (Category 1).
 Yes, but these services are *not* available for the species I want to slaughter (Category 1).
 Yes, these services are available for the species I want to slaughter (Category 2, unless exceptional circumstances apply).

Category 1: Most favourable

Your application for a Class E licence is most favourable if there are:

- No facilities within a 2 hour travel time of your farm/property; or
- No facilities within a 2 hour travel time that:
 - slaughter the species you want to slaughter,
 - provide the specialty slaughter services that you need, and/or
 - are taking new customers.

Note: You will not be issued a licence if local government zoning or bylaws prohibit livestock slaughter where your property is located. Please ensure that you have read and responded to question 5.

Category 2: Unfavourable

You will not be issued a Class E licence if there is a facility within a two hour drive of your farm or proposed slaughter site that provides the slaughter services that you need, and can accommodate you within a reasonable time frame. Exceptional circumstances may be considered (see below).

² Travel time will be confirmed using mapping software that incorporates both distance and posted speed limits.
³ Please submit documentation to support your need for specialty slaughter services. For example, if you require organic slaughter services, please provide a copy of your farm's organic certification (e.g., Pacific Agricultural Certification Society).

Questions	What we are considering
<p>Exceptional Circumstances (Category 3)</p> <p>4. If there is a Class A or B provincially licensed facility or docking station within a 2 hour travel time of your farm that does provide the slaughter services you need, do any of the following apply? (check all that apply)</p> <p>(a) Travel conditions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I have to take a ferry or other marine transport to access the facility.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I have to travel via roads/highways that are subject to annual seasonal road closures.⁴</p> <p>(b) Capacity</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The facility is not taking any new customers.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The facility has no available appointments within a reasonable timeframe.</p> <p>If you checked either of these boxes, please indicate the slaughter dates you requested and when you made the request (i.e., how far in advance of your preferred slaughter date):</p> <p>Slaughter dates requested: _____</p> <p>Date the request was made: _____</p> <p>(c) Cancellations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> My scheduled appointments were cancelled _____ (#) times in the last year</p> <p>Please specify the appointment dates that were cancelled: _____</p> <p>Was a replacement date scheduled within a reasonable time frame? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I have cancelled or missed my scheduled appointments _____ (#) times in the last year</p> <p>How far in advance did you cancel your appointment(s)? _____</p>	<p>Category 3: Favourable due to exceptional circumstances</p> <p>If any of the following apply, your application for a Class E licence may be successful:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have to take a ferry or other marine travel to access the facility that offers the services you need; Travel is subject to annual seasonal road closures; You have consistently been unable to access slaughter services within a reasonable time frame in the past because all facilities within a 2 hour travel time are operating at full capacity. <p>To support your application, please provide additional detail about your circumstances in the Comments section on Page 7. If you have documentation to support your concerns, please submit this with your application (e.g., a letter from a Class A or B facility confirming that they have no appointments available within the next year).</p> <p><i>Note that licence conditions may apply (see Page 8).</i></p>

⁴ Seasonal road closures will only be considered if they occur on an annual basis for a defined period of time.

Questions	What we are considering
<p>Zoning Restrictions</p> <p>5. Are there regional or municipal zoning bylaws or restrictions that prohibit animal slaughter on the farm/property where you propose to carry out slaughter?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Category 4)</p> <p><i>If no, attach a letter from regional or municipal authority confirming no bylaws or restriction would prevent slaughter on the farm/property.</i></p> <p>You are responsible for confirming that local government zoning or bylaws allow on-farm livestock slaughter where your property is located, contact your regional district or municipality directly for information. Your regional health authority will be able to provide you with contact information for local governments in your area, and may be able to provide you with information about local zoning and bylaws.</p>	<p>Category 4: A Class E licence will not be issued due to municipal or regional restrictions.</p> <p>Local government zoning and bylaws dictate where farm activities like slaughter can occur. They may also regulate things like setbacks from property boundaries or bodies of water, or waste disposal.</p> <p>If there are regional/municipal zoning or bylaws that prohibit animal slaughter where your farm or proposed slaughter site is located, you will not be issued a Class E licence.</p>
<p>Other considerations</p> <p>6. If a licensed mobile abattoir could operate in your area, have you contacted the operator or associated docking stations about developing your own docking station?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable (no mobile facilities are operating in my area)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes: If yes, what was the outcome? _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No: If not, why not? _____</p>	<p>If a mobile operator could develop a docking station and provide reasonable service, a Class E licence won't be issued.</p>

Comments:

Please provide any additional information that you would like evaluators to consider.

Please attach any supporting documentation. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Certification documentation to support your need for specialty slaughter licence (i.e., PACS certification) - *note that this documentation is required to justify your need for specialty slaughter services.*
- A letter or email from a Class A or B operator in your area confirming that they are not taking new customers or can't accommodate your needs – *note that this is optional, but any supporting documentation you can provide is helpful.*

RESULTS OF YOUR SELF-ASSESSMENT

Based on this self-assessment, what category do you believe your application is in?

- Category 1: Most favourable** (see Licence Conditions on Page 8)
- Category 2: Unfavourable**
- Category 3: Favourable due to exceptional circumstances** (see Licence Conditions on Page 8)
- Category 4: A Class E licence will not be issued due to municipal or regional restrictions.**

Licence Conditions

As stated above, Class E licences will only be issued in nondesignated areas when existing facilities cannot provide the services required by a Class E applicant, or exceptional circumstances apply. **If a licence is issued within a 2 hour travel time of an existing facility, one or more licence conditions will apply.**

Unconditional licences can be issued outside of the 2 hour service area of existing facilities.

The licence conditions that may apply are:

- 1. Species-specific:** limits the species that can be slaughtered under the licence. For example, a licence for beef slaughter could be issued within 2 hours of a facility that only slaughters poultry.
- 2. Specialty slaughter:** limits the allowable slaughter activities to the type of specialty (custom) slaughter required by a Class E licensee. Certification documentation must be submitted with the application to support the need for a specialty slaughter licence within a 2 hour travel time (i.e., service area) of existing facilities.
- 3. Time-limited:** Class E licences may be issued for less than 5 years if there is a reasonable expectation that the necessary slaughter services will be available in the near future. For example, Class E licence might only be issued for 1 year if an operator in the area is working towards full Class A or B licensing and has plans submitted and approved by the BC Centre for Disease Control.
- 4. Seasonal slaughter:** A 1 year seasonal licence may be issued if all Class A or B facilities within a 2 hour travel distance are operating at full capacity for an extended period of time (for example during peak slaughter season, typically Sept-Jan). The E licence holder will only be permitted to slaughter when the Class A or B facility is full. Verbal or written confirmation from the A or B operator that services are unavailable is required.