

# Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP)

NBSCIA AGM  
March 14-15, 2024

# Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP)

- Where did RALP come from?
  - SCAP – 12.5% of money towards carbon sequestration
  - Projects under RALP count towards that proportionate spend
- The objective of the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program is to increase the environmental resiliency of agricultural landscapes by accelerating the adoption of on-farm land use and management practices that maximize provisions of multiple ecological goods and services (EG&S).

# Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP)

RALP = an Ecological Goods and Services Program (EG&S)

- Ecological goods and services (EG&S) are the benefits to society when ecosystems are healthy and functioning
  - maintenance and provision of healthy soil and water resources
  - wildlife habitat and biodiversity
  - adapting to the impacts of climate change (e.g. increasing carbon storage and resilience to floods and droughts, maintain soil structure, reducing erosion and better on farm water regulation).

# Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP)

**Basically... Doing good things for the environment that come at a cost but have little financial return (in the short term)**

# Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP)

- Three main areas:
  - reduced tillage
  - ponds and wetlands
  - pollinator habitat, critical and marginal landscapes, trees, riparian areas, and crop management

# Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP)

- Specific outcomes for this program include:
  - GHG reductions
  - improved soil health
  - increased conservation and restoration of critical wildlife habitat
  - strengthened resilience of agricultural lands

# Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP)

- Slightly different than other programs
  - RALP is not a traditional producer BMP incentive program, and design and delivery of incentive payment levels within a project may exceed traditional 'hard costs' in order to encourage producer adoption, reflect the valuation of EG&S derived, and compensate for lost opportunity.

# Who is eligible?

- Indigenous Peoples or Indigenous Organizations involved in primary agricultural production.
- All agricultural producers (individuals, partnerships, and incorporated agri-businesses) involved in primary agricultural production in New Brunswick.
- Agricultural producer associations involved in primary agricultural production (e.g., Registered Community Pasture Associations).
- A delivery agent, who is acting on behalf of one or several individual producers who qualify as an eligible applicant within the above section, and who are working on lands listed as eligible lands. Delivery agents will be identified on a case-by-case basis.



# Land eligibility

Eligible lands under the RALP program would include:

- Privately owned farmland, including all managed lands for agricultural production (e.g., crop land, grazing, orchards, etc.), as well as associated wetlands, woodlots, yard sites, associated with farm entities/operations;
- Land rented for agricultural production from another private third party;
- Federal, Provincial, Municipal, or Territorial Crown Land, under lease for the purpose of agricultural practices; and
- Indigenous lands being managed for the purpose of agricultural production

## Other eligibility requirements

- Applicants must have a valid Environmental Farm Plan certificate issued within the last five years from date of submission and maintain a valid certification during the approved period indicated in the Letter of Offer.
- Applicants must comply with all regulatory requirements including those related to public health and safety, labor codes and standards, wildlife habitat and environmental protection (e.g., Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Permits, etc.).
- Applicants must submit the program pre-approval form prior to submitting a project application.

# Process:

- Pre-approval form
- Conversation with RALP officer / Development officer
- Application
- Letter of Offer
- Project completion
- Payment
- Annual Monitoring

# Thank you!

Cora Hornbrook, P.Ag, CCA

RALP Officer

[Cora.hornbrook@gnb.ca](mailto:Cora.hornbrook@gnb.ca)

596-261-8432