

# ALBERTA LANDOWNER PROGRAMS

*When landowners and Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) work together, it's a win-win. There are several DUC landowner programs available that can become an integral part of your long-term land management plan that can help achieve your sustainability and conservation goals.*

## Hay/Graze Tender Program

Sound management of pastureland helps to keep forage stands healthy and vigorous. It also helps with weed control, while at the same time, maintains productive waterfowl habitat. As a unique opportunity for local producers, DUC makes land available for haying and/or grazing with annual tenders. Tenders are typically posted in February/March, and advertisements for available properties appear in local newspapers and on [ducks.ca/resources/landowners](http://ducks.ca/resources/landowners)

## DUC/CPS Forage Program

The DUC/CPS forage program provides cash-back incentives on all Proven® Seed forage seed purchases paid at full retail price when producers convert cultivated land to hay or pastureland. In Alberta, producers receive a rebate of \$100 per 50 lb bag of forage seed – which helps reduce input costs and make a difference to the bottom line for farmers and ranchers. By increasing their forage base, grassland and waterfowl productivity is also increased.

*The DUC/CPS forage program is best suited for producers in the parkland and prairie regions.*

## Wetland Restoration Lease Program

DUC compensates landowners based on current fair market value for previously drained wetland areas that are restored under a 10-year lease. As part of DUC's program, restored wetland areas stay under the management of the landowner. These areas may be hayed or grazed but they cannot be drained, altered or tilled during the term of the agreement. DUC's lease pays landowners significant compensation for this restriction.

*Landowners and cattle producers who have drained wetlands on grazing lands are often a very good fit for this program. Farmers should consider this program as a partial source of financing for new land.*

## Revolving Land Conservation Program

The Revolving Land Conservation Program (RLCP) provides an opportunity for greater impact on the landscape. Through this program, DUC purchases a piece of land, restores its wetlands and grasslands and then makes it available to potential land buyers on the real estate market after placing a CE on the title. Proceeds from these land sales go back into DUC programs to fund further conservation work.

*RLCP is an ideal fit for cattlemen. Land within high-capability waterfowl production areas.*



## Conservation Easement

A conservation easement (CE) allows for compatible agricultural land use such as haying and grazing on a property. Because a CE protects the land's natural features and supports the growth of native plants, perennial cover is maintained and serves as a sustainable source of forage.

*A CE is a voluntary legal agreement. Under the terms of a CE, the landowner commits to conserving the natural integrity of the land by limiting the amount and type of development such as breaking, cultivating or alternative land use. The area of land covered by the CE is protected in perpetuity.*



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