

Water Supply Considerations for Quarantined Beef Cattle

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is investigating cases of bovine tuberculosis in southern Alberta. If you are producer affected by a quarantine and have concerns about your water supplies, the following options may be available to you. If you need assistance determining if your current water supplies are sufficient, call the Agriculture and Forestry Water Specialists listed at the bottom of the page.

Information on financial assistance that may be available to producers facing unexpected costs as a result of the CFIA's investigation is available online at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/tb

Water hauling and pumping:

Private or Commercial Water Hauling

Water may be sourced from neighbouring water supplies (wells, dugouts) or by utilizing a regional water supply such as a truck fill station.

The Special Areas Board maintains truck-fill facilities at a number of locations in the quarantine area. Locations are mapped online at www.specialareas.ab.ca/living/water-services/. Further assistance for after-hours water supply emergencies is available at 1-844-WATER-02 (1-844-928-3702).

Pumping

Dugouts can be topped up using existing water supplies or natural water bodies. Producers affected by quarantine may be able to access equipment through Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's Emergency Water Pumping Program (780-422-5000).

Temporary Diversion Licences are needed to pump water from a natural waterbody. The application is available online at www.aep.alberta.ca/water/forms-applications/online-application-for-a-temporary-diversion-licence.aspx. You can also contact the Alberta Environment and Parks' Water Approval Staff listed below:

David Hunt (South Saskatchewan Region)
403-381-5994

Angela Fulton (Red Deer/North Sask. Region)
403-340-7736

Wells and Storage:

Extra storage

If your existing well is not able to meet peak demand, a cistern can be used. This type of system allows the well to slowly fill the cistern over a longer period. Livestock water is supplied from that storage. A Water Specialist can advise you on the design of such a system.

Drill a new well or rehabilitate unused wells

If you have wells that are currently not being used, you may be able to put them back into service. Contact a licensed water well driller to discuss whether or not this is an option for you. You may need to drill an additional well to supplement your needs. Contact a licensed water well driller for information.

Growing Forward 2 – On Farm Water Management Program:

The On Farm Water Management Program provides financial and technical assistance to producers who are securing water supplies for their existing operations. Eligibility and cost coverages for this program have been enhanced for producers affected by the quarantine. Please contact the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Water Specialists below on the details of the program.

Additional information:

More information on the development of safe, secure agricultural water supplies is available online:
Water Wells That Last: [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/wwg404](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/wwg404)
Quality Farm Dugouts: [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex15866](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex15866)

Contact Agriculture and Forestry Water Specialists:

Joe Harrington, Lethbridge – 403-381-5846

Brandon Leask, Red Deer – 403-340-5851