

Delivery Changes to Agri-Environmental Technical Services

The Ministry of Agriculture will be solely responsible for the delivery and extension support for all agri-environmental programming as of Oct. 1, 2021. The new service delivery model will provide consistent extension and client services and will eliminate resource duplication between ministry specialists and third party contract service providers. The work currently being supported by the agri-environmental technical services (watershed) organizations will be transitioned to the ministry and offered through the expertise available in our [regional offices located across Saskatchewan](#). Watershed organizations will continue to provide service to clients to support agri-environmental programming until their contracts conclude Sept. 30, 2021.

Agri-environmental programming is not changing. Ministry specialists will continue to support producers with agri-environmental programming applications such as the Farm Stewardship Program and the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program. During this transition, clients will still have assistance when completing their agri-environmental programming applications, whether that's through a watershed organization or through a Ministry of Agriculture regional specialist.

When will this service delivery change take place?

Application support provided by watershed organizations will continue until Sept. 30, 2021. However, some watershed organizations may choose to wind down their application support services prior to that date. If you're ever unsure who to call for programming support, contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 and they will direct you to a regional specialist.

Will this change have an impact on my application?

No. Clients will continue to receive application support. If you have an existing application with a watershed organization, technicians and ministry specialists will coordinate support to ensure your application is completed. Support for future applications will be provided by your ministry regional office.

The ministry's agri-environmental specialists and agriculture program specialists have always provided application support for agri-environmental programming. They are trained in program delivery and have the technical knowledge and expertise to assist clients in submitting program applications.

Do I have to go to the regional office to receive application or technical support?

No, you can ask for an agri-environmental specialist or agriculture program specialist to meet you at your location, or ministry specialists can also assist you by email or over the phone.

If you're ever unsure who to call or which office to go to, contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 and they will direct you to a specialist.

Will I have to wait longer to get my applications approved or paid?

No, this change will not negatively affect approval or payment timelines.

What do I do if I have or think I have critical habitat on my land?

South of the Divide Conservation Action Program no longer provides critical habitat support for the ministry. If you are a Crown land lessee or a private land owner and would like to know if you have critical habitat on your land, please call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377. Development projects in critical habitat areas must be pre-approved.

What watersheds are still providing application support and which are no longer providing support?

Our website has an up-to-date list of which watersheds are still providing support to new clients looking for agri-environmental technical support. Please visit our [agri-environmental technical services page](#) for the latest information.