

**THE FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
FEBRUARY 4, 2008**

**FENCING GUIDELINES TO PROVIDE FOR WILDLIFE  
MOVEMENT AND LIVESTOCK CONTAINMENT**

**PURPOSES:**

1. To build fence which secures property boundaries.
2. To build proper type of fence either to hold livestock in or keep livestock out, while allowing for as much free movement by wildlife as possible, as well as easy passage for recreationists.
3. To build fence that is long lasting; easy to maintain and reasonably priced. Initial higher price to install fence is acceptable if done for purpose of reducing fence maintenance.

**GUIDELINES:**

**A. PROPERTIES WITH HIGH OR CONTINUOUS LIVESTOCK PRESENCE:**

\*STANDARD FENCE is 4 wires (3 of barbwire plus a bottom barb-less 2-strand wire).

\*Bottom wire at least 18" above the ground.

\*Top wire no more than 42" above the ground.

\*No stays.

\*Posts at 16.5' intervals (wooden posts preferred).

\*Gates at points of wildlife concentration or movement.

OR, a lay-down fence in appropriate places. See accompanying diagram for lay-down fence.

EXCEPTIONS to STANDARD FENCE are allowed, but there must be a written justification. The Future Fisheries Review Panel will base funding recommendations on the proposed justification.

A fence may need to change due to topography and wildlife use. For example, a wire fence may change to a wooden rail fence where it crosses a creek since wildlife movement along the creek will be less hindered by the rail fence. Or putting in several gates in close succession because of known wildlife movements where the gates can be left open during the proper season.

**B. PROPERTIES WITH LOW, INTERMITTENT OR NO LIVESTOCK PRESENCE.**

\*STANDARD FENCE is 3 wires of barb-less two-strand wire (or high tensile smooth wire if appropriate).

\*Bottom wire at least 18" above the ground.

- \*Top wire no more than 42” above the ground.
- \*No stays.
- \*Posts at 16.5’ intervals (wooden posts preferred).
- Gates at points of wildlife concentration or movement
- OR, a lay-down fence in appropriate places.

EXCEPTIONS to STANDARD FENCE are allowed, but there must be a written justification. The Future Fisheries Review Panel will base funding recommendations on the proposed justification.

C. INTERNAL FENCES: Generally, only reason for internal fences is for livestock control. STANDARD FENCE:

- \*3 wires of barbwire.
- \*Bottom wire at least 18” above the ground.
- \*Top wire no more than 42” above the ground.
- \*No stays.
- \*Posts at 16.5’ intervals (wooden posts preferred).
- \*Fence able to lay-down when not needed.
- \* *Electric fence, see accompanying document entitled “EVALUATION OF HIGH TENSILE ELECTRIC FENCE DESIGNS ON BIG GAME MOVEMENTS AND LIVESTOCK CONTAINMENT”*

EXCEPTIONS to STANDARD FENCE are allowed, but there must be a written justification. The Future Fisheries Review Panel will base funding recommendations on the proposed justification.

### **SPECIAL SITUATIONS:**

Jackleg/rail fence: 12’ centers; 42” off the ground for top rail; 30” from ground for rub rail

Human walk-through gates

Ladders over fence for recreational passage

Electric fence: no more than four wires. See accompanying document entitled “EVALUATION OF HIGH TENSILE ELECTRIC FENCE DESIGNS ON BIG GAME MOVEMENTS AND LIVESTOCK CONTAINMENT”