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An American livestock exporting company plans to convert a southern Alberta feedlot into a horse quarantine station.

Schnorno Agri-business of Yelm, Washington, is waiting for approval from the province's Natural Resources Conservation Board to convert the former Summerview Feedlot near Pincher Creek.

The NRCB needs a completed application from the company to determine whether changes are required to convert the lot from a cattle facility, such as manure storage changes, and distances to the lot's closest neighbours.

Schnorno spokesperson Bret Ripley said the company, which bought the feedlot this summer, buys mostly draft horses and sells them to Japan, Europe and South Africa. Until approval is granted, the lot's horse numbers have not been settled. but it will be fewer horses than cattle, said Ripley.

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