

TITLE: AGRICULTURAL PESTS POLICY

Approved by Council

Date: May 23, 2017

Revised by Council

Date: January 12, 2021

Related Provincial Legislation: *Agricultural Service Board Act*
Agricultural Pests Act and the *Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation*

Related Federal Legislation: *Pest Control Products Act*

Purpose:

The Agricultural Service Board is committed to assisting residents in mitigating conflict with crop and wildlife *Pests* or *Nuisances*, as identified by the *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act*. Changes in management practices are the preferred method to discourage the damage and/or establishment of these animals, insects or pathogens. When necessary and appropriate, however, other strategies for control will be considered.

Conflict involving all other categories of wildlife will be assigned to Alberta Fish and Wildlife.

Problem Wildlife Management:

AES Department staff, in cooperation with local Fish and Wildlife, will investigate livestock losses or harassment as well as crop, stored grain or water, and property damage due to problem wildlife.

AES Staff will:

- Provide information to residents on control and mitigation of coyotes
 - When deemed absolutely necessary, and under the guidelines of the *Pest Control Products Act*, provide the lethal toxicant Compound 1080.
 - Provide information to residents on control and mitigation of Richardson Ground Squirrels
 - When deemed absolutely necessary, and under the guidelines of the *Pest Control Products Act*, provide the lethal toxicant 2% liquid strychnine to producers dealing with an infestation of Richardson's ground squirrel (until March 4 of 2022)
 - Lethal toxins are a last resort and will be administered under the guidelines of the *Pest Control Products Act*. AES Department Staff will acquire and maintain a Form 7 Certification for these purposes.
 - Communicate with Alberta Fish and Wildlife for all matters concerning large carnivores other than coyotes.
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- Assist residents with information and resources to mitigate large carnivore issues
- Assist with the management and administration of the 'Deadstock Program' to lower the risk of large carnivore conflicts. Current program is in conjunction with the Waterton Biosphere Reserve's Carnivores and Communities Program (CACP).

For other problem wildlife, both under the Act and other, AES Staff will assist or provide;

- Rental of skunk-traps
- Problem bird control traps
- Spread awareness of, inspect for and help eradicate Norway rats
- Provide producers with information on minimizing the effects of Pests and Nuisances as outlined in the *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act*, as well as beavers, muskrats, badgers, other nuisance birds.

Surveys:

AES, in cooperation with the Province and/or Federal Government, will monitor for all *Pests* and *Nuisances* (listed in Appendix), in accordance with the *Agricultural Pests Act & Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation*. Regular *Pest* and *Nuisance* surveys done under the Act, both provincially and locally, are; Clubroot, Blackleg and Grasshoppers.

AES Staff assist with annual survey data to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF) on pests that are of concern to producers in our municipality and to our ASB, and as much as possible, the province, for example; Cutworms, Bertha Armyworm and Wheat Midge.

Awareness & Education:

Accomplished through direct resident contact in the field, information meetings, the media, web site, newsletter, email distribution list, and by working with other community groups and stakeholders. The ASB, through the Agricultural and Environmental Services (AES) Department, also coordinates with AAF, Fish and Wildlife, Alberta Environment and Parks and other relevant stakeholders for all of the above.

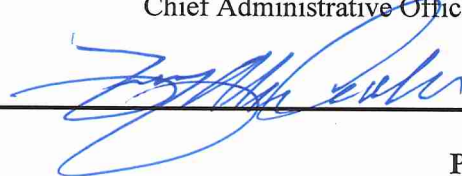
Brian Hammond

Reeve



Troy A. MacCulloch

Chief Administrative Officer



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APPENDIX

Schedule 1

Part 1

**Animals, birds, insects, plants and diseases
declared to be Pests throughout Alberta**

Africanized bee — *Apis mellifera adansonii*
Bacterial ring rot — *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *sepedonicus*
Blackleg of canola — *Leptosphaeria maculans*
Chalkbrood — *Ascosphaera aggregata*
Clubroot — *Plasmodiophora brassicae*
Columbia River root knot nematode — *Meloidogyne chitwoodi*
Dutch elm disease — *Ophiostoma ulmi* and *Ophiostoma nova-ulmi*
Dwarf bunt — *Tilletia controversa*
European elm bark beetle — *Scolytus multistriatus*
Fireblight and the causal bacterium — *Erwinia amylovora*
Flag smut of cereals — *Urocystis agropyri*
Golden nematode — *Globodera rostochiensis*
Grasshopper (*Locustidae*)
Gypsy moth — *Lymantria dispar*
Head smut of corn — *Spacelothecia reiliana*
Karnal bunt — *Tilletia indica*
Lesser grain borer — *Rhyzopertha dominica*
Native elm bark beetle — *Hylurgopinus rufipes*
Norway rat and any other rat species or strain derived from the genus *Rattus*
Potato wart — *Synchytrium endobioticum*
Rabies — *Rhabdoviruses*
Stem and bulb nematode — *Ditylenchus dipsaci*
Warble fly — *Hypoderma*
White rot of onions — *Sclerotium cepivorum*

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Part 2

**Animals, birds, insects, plants and diseases
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Bushy-tailed wood rat — *Neotoma cinerea*
Columbian ground squirrel — *Spermophilus columbianus*
Coyote — *Canis latrans*
Deer mouse — *Peromyscus maniculatus*
English sparrow — *Passer domesticus*
European starling — *Sturnus vulgaris*
Franklin's ground squirrel — *Spermophilus franklinii*
House mouse — *Mus musculus*
Magpie — *Pica pica*
Meadow vole — *Microtus pennsylvanicus*
Northern pocket gopher — *Thomomys talpoides*
Richardson's ground squirrel — *Spermophilus richardsonii*
Rock dove — *Columba livia*
Skunk — *Mephitis mephitis*
Thirteen-lined ground squirrel — *Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*

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