

**Section: 5.0 Environmental and Protective Services**  
**- A. Agricultural Services**

**Authority: General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services**

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### **Statement**

The Municipal District of Bonnyville (M.D.) Agricultural Service Board is committed to protecting municipal infrastructure from water movement problems related to beaver activity and providing the option to blast beaver dams on private land.

The beaver is not a declared pest or nuisance under the Agricultural Pest Act.

The M.D. does not have a legislated duty to provide beaver control on privately owned or provincial lands. However, beaver dams are the cause of frequent flooding in watersheds, creeks, and coulees within the municipality when heavy spring run-off and summer rainstorms occur.

### **Purpose**

Beavers pose many problems in an expanding human environment including private dwellings and agricultural land. The M.D. anticipates that such problems will occur from time to time to varying degrees of severity. This policy provides the guidelines required to remain flexible but prevent undue municipal expense.

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy:

- (1) "ASB" means the M.D. Agricultural Service Board duly appointed by M.D. Council.

### **Policy**

- (1) The M.D. will maintain a license authorizing the appropriate handling and use of explosives for the purpose of blasting dams (i.e. licensed magazine, certified blaster, fee for service).
- (2) Landowners with beaver issues on private land (i.e. agricultural crop and pasture lands, yards, etc.) are encouraged to rectify the issue independently.
- (3) If a landowner chooses, they may manage beaver control on their own property in accordance with the Alberta Wildlife Regulation and receive compensation from the M.D. by signing a Landowner Beaver Control Agreement (see Attachment A). This agreement must be approved by the General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services or his/her designate for the areas specified in the agreement prior to beaver removal.
- (4) The M.D. may employ local licensed trappers to assist with beaver control measures throughout the municipality when deemed necessary. A Trapper Beaver Control Agreement (see Attachment B) must be signed and approved by the General Manager

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*Date Adopted:* April 13, 1995

*Resolution No:* 95.189

*Date Reviewed*<sub>(01)</sub>: April 25, 2018

*Resolution No:* 18.253

*Date Amended*<sub>(03)</sub>: March 11, 2020

*Resolution No:* 20.145

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of Environmental and Protective Services or his/her designate for these active areas prior to beaver removal.

- (5) When flooding occurs on privately-owned land and certified blasting services is required, the landowner will pay a fee of \$100 per beaver dam per visit for the removal of these blockages.
- (6) The M.D. will provide beaver and/or beaver dam removal services from private property or public lands at no expense to the landowner only if the removal serves to protect municipal infrastructure (i.e. roads, bridges, culverts, etc.).
- (7) If a landowner requests that a beaver dam be removed on adjoining land that he/she does not own or control to resolve a flooding concern on his own land, municipal staff will provide the service subject to written permission from the landowner on which the beaver dam is located. This will be done on a cost recovery basis at the discretion of the General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services or his/her designate.
- (8) The M.D. may provide beaver and or beaver dam removal services on drainage ditches registered by the municipality to prevent the flooding of agricultural land subject to the authorization of the landowner.
- (9) All costs and fees associated with beaver control services will be reviewed by Council on an annual basis.

## Policy Review

Within five (5) years from date adopted / amended / reviewed.

### For administrative use only:

<b>Previous Policy Number:</b> (prior to July 24, 2019)	60.63.06
<b>Related Documentation:</b> (plans, bylaws, policies, procedures, etc.)	Attachment A: Landowner Beaver Control Application Attachment B: Trapper Beaver Control Agreement

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## Landowner Beaver Control Application

Adopted by Council – March 11, 2020 Resolution No. 20.145

### Purpose

In accordance with the Beaver Control Policy (Policy # 5A.003), residents of the Municipal District of Bonnyville (M.D.) who are registered landowners may apply for compensation of beaver control at approved locations. This program will help offset some of the landowner's expenses when dealing with wet habit areas that are of continuous concern.

### Terms and Conditions

- (1) The applicant must pre-register and have their land approved by the General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services or his/her designate to qualify for this program.
- (2) The applicant must be the owner/renter of the farmland in the municipality (Trapper proxy may be used to cull beavers).
- (3) The applicant must have verifiable beaver population on the parcel of land they wish to cull beavers on.
- (4) Only whole, untouched beaver tails will be accepted for this program.
- (5) The applicant may claim up to 10 beavers per parcel of land, per year, that has a waterbody on it with a verifiable beaver population. An incentive of \$20.00 per beaver is applicable up to a maximum of \$200.00 per year.
- (6) The applicant may claim up to 30 beavers per parcel of land, per year, that has a creek or stream on it with a verifiable beaver population. An incentive of \$20.00 per beaver is applicable up to a maximum of \$600.00 per year.
- (7) Trappers contracted by the M.D. are exempt from this program.
- (8) The M.D. Agricultural Service Board will deny payment and qualification for this program if the applicant is found to have provided false or misleading information.**
- (9) The applicant verifies that:
  - (a) The beaver(s) was/were destroyed at the location reported.
  - (b) The beaver(s) was/were not destroyed in a manner that would contravene any laws or legislation.
  - (c) The beaver(s) will be salvaged in accordance with Alberta Trapping Regulations on the location agreed upon on this form.
  - (d) The applicant understands that pursuant to Alberta Trapping Regulations it is illegal to sell whole or unskinned carcasses to anyone other than a licensed fur buyer.
  - (e) Removal of problem beavers for payment must adhere to fur management of prime pelts as per Fur Management Regulations and the Alberta Wildlife Act and Regulations. All beavers must be controlled in accordance with the Alberta Wildlife Regulation.

## Location

Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ W4M

Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ W4M

Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ W4M

## Declaration

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, in  
the Province of Alberta.

Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landowner (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
M.D. Representative (Signature)

The collection of personal information on this document is governed by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act as well as other provincial enactments. The M.D. has legal authority to collect information to assist in the operations of municipal programs and services. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the content of this document, please feel free to contact our *FOIP Coordinator at the M.D. of Bonnyville, 4905 – 50 Avenue Bonnyville, AB T9N 2J7 P: 780-826-3171 F: 780-826-4524.*

**Trapper Beaver Control Agreement**

Adopted by Council – March 11, 2020 Resolution No. 20.145

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a registered trapper, agree to undertake trapping activities under the direction of the Municipal District of Bonnyville (M.D.) Agricultural Service Board (ASB) adhering to the following conditions:

- (1) I will follow the trapping regulations set out by the provincial government and abide by the Code for Responsible Trapping set out in the trapping regulations.
- (2) I will use certified traps that will be inspected by ASB staff.
- (3) I will be responsible for supplying my own traps and the M.D. will not be responsible for any lost or stolen traps.
- (4) The M.D. will not be held liable for any injuries or accidents that occur during the trapping activities.
- (5) I will obtain written permission from the landowner(s) where the trapping is to be conducted and obtain the proper permits from the Alberta Fish & Wildlife office.
- (6) The M.D. will do a site visit with me to determine the approximate number of beavers to be removed and the value of monetary compensation.
- (7) I will complete a Work Site Hazard Assessment for each location where trapping is to occur.
- (8) I may salvage the hide from the trapped beavers and sell them to an approved fur buyer to my credit.
- (9) I will notify the M.D. after the trapping has been completed so a post-trapping inspection can be completed to verify that the work has been completed to the satisfaction of the M.D.
- (10) Compensation will be paid, as agreed, upon satisfactory completion of the trapping activity.

Land Locations to be trapped:

Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ W4M

Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ W4M

Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ W4M

Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ W4M

Trappers Licence Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, in  
the Province of Alberta.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trapper (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
M.D. Representative (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trapper (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
M.D. Representative (Signature)

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