

MACKENZIE COUNTY

Title	AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD – BEAVER CONTROL	Policy No.	ASB013
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Legislation Reference	Municipal Government Act, 5(b)
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Purpose To implement a Beaver control program.
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Policy Statement and Guidelines

It is the policy of Mackenzie County, under the direction of the Agricultural Service Board, to implement a Beaver Control Program.

The purpose of the program is to assist ratepayers experiencing flooding problems of roads, fields, or other situations caused by beaver flooding from unoccupied crown land or ditches under the authority of the Mackenzie County. (Unoccupied crown land does not include the bed and shore of watercourses flowing through private land).

This policy is under the authority of Mackenzie County Agricultural Service Board in conjunction with Alberta Fish and Wildlife. It is funded by Mackenzie County Agricultural Service Board.

Procedure

1. Once a complaint is received, arrangements are made with the Agricultural Fieldman to investigate.
2. The priority given to complaints shall be:
 - a) Road flooding
 - b) Crop damage/Field flooding
 - c) Any other considerations that cause undue hardships will be handled at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman.
3. The Agricultural Fieldman will determine the most efficient method of removing the beaver dam(s). This will either be with excavation equipment or explosive blasting.
4. If a beaver dam located on privately owned land is causing or likely to cause damage to neighboring property, and the owner fails to undertake or authorize any action to prevent damage, Section 91 (1) of the Wildlife Act – General Wildlife (Ministerial) Regulation shall apply.
5. The cost to remove dams on private land will be invoiced to the landowner as per the Fee Schedule Bylaw. If there is a complaint received on a grazing

reserve, it shall be treated as occupied crown land and the complainant will be dealt with as per this policy.

6. It shall be the responsibility of the Mackenzie County Public Works Department to ensure that any culverts affected by beaver are cleaned.
7. All blasting will be done by a licensed operator with appropriate blasting certification and all blasting will follow all OH&S procedures.
8. Registered trapline holders and Fish and Wildlife will be notified if there are beaver dams on a registered trapline that are causing damage to private property.
9. The County will pay a bounty on beaver tails that were trapped on areas identified by the Agricultural Fieldman, this bounty will only be paid to Local Trappers Associations.
 - a) The Beaver Bounty is set at \$50 per tail on beaver tails trapped on areas identified by Agricultural Fieldman.

A day rate, up to a maximum of two (2) days, will be utilized at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman when beaver dams are located in remote areas that require repeated inspections by the trapper and as a result will require a lot of time and travel. Listed below is the fee schedule:

Fee Schedule	
Labour	\$250.00/day
ATV	\$50.00/day
Travel	\$0.54/km

- b) The Agricultural Fieldman will determine if the removal of beaver and dams is warranted. Upon determining that removal is warranted, the Local Trappers Association will be contacted to remove the beaver at the described location. The Agricultural Fieldman will inspect areas when appropriate.
- c) All beaver tails must be counted by the Agricultural Fieldman before payment is authorized.
- d) Legal Land Locations must accompany all beaver tail invoices.

The Agricultural Fieldman shall be responsible for policy compliance.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	2001-03-30	016-01
Amended	2004-04-22	04-27
Amended	2014-02-05	ASB-14-02-005
Amended	2015-03-27	ASB-15-03-27
Amended	2017-04-11	17-04-273
Amended	2024-01-31	24-01-069