

MACKENZIE COUNTY

Title	AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD – WOLF DEPREDATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	Policy No.	ASB020
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Legislation Reference	
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Purpose:

Mackenzie County supports wolf population control efforts in order to reduce Boreal Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer Tarandus Caribou*) predation. Mackenzie County will implement procedures to provide a Wolf Depredation Management Program for the purpose of promoting the lawful harvesting of wolves. Through this program, participants will receive monetary compensation for the entire carcass of an adult wolf lawfully harvested within the boundaries of Mackenzie County.

Policy Statement and Guidelines

1. Mackenzie County Wolf Depredation Management Program will be established for a period of one calendar year, at which time, the program and this policy will be evaluated.
2. Council will, during budget deliberations, establish a budget for the Wolf Depredation Management Program.
3. By resolution of Council, the Wolf Depredation Management Program will be activated or terminated.
4. Mackenzie County shall pay compensation of two hundred dollars (\$200) per adult wolf taken by a registrant within the boundaries of Mackenzie County in accordance with the listed conditions.
5. Eligible registrants requesting compensation shall be registered in advance with Mackenzie County and have entered into a Hold-Harmless Agreement, attached as Appendix A.
6. Entire wolf carcass shall be delivered to a location designated by the Agricultural Fieldman for examination and marking, and authorization of payment of compensation;
 - a) Examination of the carcass will be performed to verify the animal has been destroyed by means other than vertebrate toxicant.
 - b) The carcass will be marked by a representative of Mackenzie County; a carcass that has been previously marked will be rejected.

- c) If eligible, the claimant will be provided with a payment authorization.
7. Registrants will be responsible for disposal of all parts of the wolf carcass using provincially recognized carcass disposal methods.
 8. To request authorization for compensation, the participants will provide proof of permission from the owner or authorized occupant of the land upon which the harvested was conducted, and declare the following;
 - a) The legal land location where the wolf was harvested.
 - b) The date of harvest.
 - c) The harvest was conducted in a lawful manner, in accordance with current legislation.
 - d) The participant in the legal landowner or authorized occupant of the land; and/or
 - e) The participant had permission to harvest on said land.
 9. Individuals participating on the Wolf Depredation Management Program will follow all Federal and Provincial Legislation and Regulations including, but not limited to the *Wildlife Act* and *Wildlife Regulations*, the *Firearms Act*, the *Petty Trespass Act*, and *Alberta Hunting and Trapping Regulations*, and any amendments or successor legislation thereto.
 10. Participants will be removed from the list of eligible participants and will forfeit all benefits from the said program; if it is determined they have not adhered to the Policy as set by Mackenzie County Council.
 11. Disputes over eligible claims for compensation will be settled at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman or designate, whose decision will be final and binding.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	2016-08-09	16-08-574
Amended	2016-08-24	16-08-654
Amended		

Policy ASB020 Wolf Depredation Management Program
Appendix A

**Contract of Participation - Wolf Depredation Management Program
Between Participants and Mackenzie County**

In an effort to support population control efforts and to further public interest regarding predatory wildlife, Mackenzie County (“County”) has approved a Wolf Depredation Management Program (“Program”) for the purpose of promoting wolf harvesting within the County. Through this program, eligible individuals (“Participants”) will receive monetary compensation (“Compensation”) with the presentation at a location designated by County Administration of an adult wolf carcass harvested lawfully within the County and in accordance with this Contract (“Contract”) of Participation.

The terms and conditions of participation in the Program are as follows;

1. **STATUTORY ADHERENCE:** While participating in the Program, the Participant will, at all times, abide by all statutes, regulations, and bylaws enacted by the Federal, Provincial, and Municipal governments, and the Participant agrees there has been NO violation of any statutory or regulatory provision in any way. The relevant statutes include but are not limited to: the *Firearms Act*, the *Petty Trespass Act*, the *Wildlife Act*, and the *Wildlife Regulations* or any current *Hunting or Trapping Regulations*. A Participant who fails to strictly adhere to all relevant laws will forfeit any right to compensation under the Program.
2. **INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS:** The Participant will indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officers, representatives, agents and employees, from and against any and all liability for any and all claims, costs, damages and expenses or liability arising out of or on account of injury or death to persons or damage or destruction to property resulting from or arising out of or in any way connected to the Program or participation in the Program.
3. **PRECONDITIONS OF COMPENSATION:** Intended participants will notify the Agricultural Fieldman or his/her designate of their intention to participate in the Program, in advance of participation. In order to obtain the compensation, the entire carcass of a lawfully harvested adult wolf will be presented to an appropriate representative of the County at a delivery point as designated by the representative responsible for administration of the Program. Any carcass received by a representative of the County will be marked, and any carcass that has been previously marked by a representative of the County will be rejected. To qualify for the compensation, a wolf must have been lawfully harvested within the boundaries of the County, by a ratepayer of the County. Any individual who has not previously agreed to the terms and conditions of this Contract will be considered ineligible to receive the Compensation. The

Participant will provide the date of harvest and the location where each wolf was harvested, and will produce appropriate documentation as follows:

- a. **If the wolf was harvested on private property**, the Participant will, at the time of presentation of the carcass to a representative of the County, produce **either**:
 - i. a letter of permission, signed by the registered owner or authorized occupant of the property, authorizing the Participant to harvest wolves on the property, or
 - ii. proof that the Participant is the registered owner or authorized occupant of the property

 - b. **If the wolf was harvested on public lands used for Agricultural Production such as grazing leases**, the Participant will, at the time of presentation of the carcass to a representative of the County, **produce one** of the following:
 - i. proof that the Participant is authorized to maintain livestock on that land,
 - ii. a letter of permission, signed by the person authorized to maintain livestock on that land, authorizing the Participant to harvest wolves on the land,
 - iii. proof that the land is within 8 kilometers (5 miles) of property owned by the Participant or lands on which the Participant is authorized to maintain livestock, or lands for which the Participant has a signed letter authorizing permission as contemplated in (ii) above:
 - a) **and** if the land is leased, a letter of permission, signed by the lessee.
 - b) **and** if the land is not leased, proof that the land is not leased.

 - c. **Any wolf that was harvested on crown land not being used for Agricultural Production** (green zone) will be accepted under the following conditions;
 - i. Written permission from the trapline owner.
 - ii. Participant holds a big game license within big game season.
 - iii. Or otherwise exempt.
4. **COMPENSATION:** If, and only if, the representative of the County is satisfied that the Participant has complied with the terms and conditions of this Contract, the compensation will be paid by the County to the Participant. Compensation will be paid by the County to a successful Participant at the rate established in the Fee Schedule Bylaw, which may be amended from time to time as determined by Council for the County.

SIGNED on this _____ day of _____, 2_____.

Participant Name

Participant Signature

County Representative Name

County Representative Signature