

<p><b>MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133</b></p> <p><b>POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL</b></p> <p><b>BEAVER CONTROL AND DAM REMOVAL</b></p>	<p><b>Function:</b></p> <p><b>Policy No.</b></p> <p><b>Effective Date:</b></p> <p><b>Supercedes:</b></p> <p><b>Amends:</b></p>	<p><b>Agriculture Services</b></p> <p><b>ASB.27</b></p> <p><b>August 19, 2020</b></p> <p><b>August 16, 2012</b></p>
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**Policy Purpose:** The intent of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures to protect municipal infrastructure and agricultural lands from damage caused by beaver activity.

**Policy Statement & Guidelines:**

1. Beaver and beaver dams shall be removed following:
  - a. the Alberta Wildlife Act and Regulation;
  - b. the Alberta Water Act;
  - c. the municipal Government Act; and
  - d. other applicable Federal and Provincial Acts or Regulations.
  
2. All beaver related complaints will be prioritized in the following order:
  - a. threat to municipal infrastructure;
  - b. extent of flooding;
  - c. whether any beavers need to be removed; and
  - d. whether the landowner has attempted to remove the dams mechanically and blasting is required.
  
3. Infrastructure includes developed roadways, bridges, culverts, and environmental drainage ditched maintained by the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133.
  
4. Dams that are not affecting municipal infrastructure is the responsibility of the landowner and will only be removed by the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 under the following conditions:
  - a. Blasting is required after the landowner has attempted other means of removal;
  - b. the landowner has removed the beavers;
  - c. the removal of dams is limited to once per complaint per year;
  - d. the landowner will be billed on a cost recovery basis as per the current schedule of fees.
  
5. The Municipal District will annually obtain a Damage Control License from Alberta Environment and parks and report the number of beavers taken under the license. External Designates appointed by Administration to harvest beavers shall be added to the Municipal District's Damage Control License.

6. Compensation of \$50.00 (fifty dollars) per beaver shall be paid to the external designate appointed to harvest problem beavers identified by the Agriculture Service or Public Works Departments.
7. The Municipal District of Spirit River will obtain a signed Hold Harmless Agreement prior to entering beginning any works on private lands.