

Problem Wildlife Incentive Policy

SUBJECT: Wolf/Wildlife Incentive

REF: ASB

CODE: 63

DATE APPROVED: May 26, 2015

MOTION NO: 847/26/05/15

REPLACES: 473/14/10/14

The Problem Wildlife Incentive Policy will ensure livestock producers within the County of Northern Lights are assisted in the control of wolves which are or may be causing predation issues.

Through this program, landowners who are livestock producers, or persons approved by the producer will be monetarily reimbursed for their efforts to control problem wolves, when hunted lawfully and honorably within the Municipality.

CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. Council may annually during budget deliberations, establish a budget for the Wolf Incentive program.
- 1.2. By resolution of Council the Problem Wildlife Incentive Policy (the Program) will be activated or terminated, and the level of incentive received for adult and/or juvenile wolves will be set.
- 1.3 Council may limit the number of wolf carcasses eligible to be claimed by or on behalf of any Landowner, in an effort to ensure all Landowners are equally able to participate in the Program, while remaining within the budget set by Council for the program.
 - 1.3.1 Participants will be limited to 9 wolves per calendar year.
- 1.4 Council may amend the number of wolf carcasses eligible to be claimed by or on behalf of any Landowner at any time in an effort to utilize the budgeted amount in the most effective manner possible.

2. Responsibilities

- 2.1 The County of Northern Lights shall pay compensation of fifty (\$50) dollars per adult wolf taken by an approved participant within the boundaries of the County in accordance with the listed conditions: The County of Northern Lights Problem Wildlife Incentive will be in effect for private property and grazing leases within 3 miles of a registered legal land location and within the boundaries of the County of Northern Lights only.
 - 2.1.1 Payment will be withheld if “Participants” are indebted more than fifty dollars (\$50) to the County. This restriction applies to debts that are outstanding for more than 90 days and in the case of property taxes, any amounts owing from any other years except for the current year. Participation will only be allowed upon full payment to the County.
- 2.2 Landowners wishing to participate in the program will be required to register with the Agricultural Fieldman or his/her designate, in advance of participation in the program. Landowners will identify individuals who may also participate in the program on their behalf.
- 2.3 To request authorization for compensation, the “Participant” will provide proof of permission from the owner or authorized occupant of the land upon which the harvest was conducted, and declare the following:
 - a) the legal land location where the wolf was harvested.
 - b) the date of harvest.
 - c) that the harvest was conducted in a lawful manner, in accordance with current legislation.
 - d) the participant is the legal landowner or authorized occupant of the land; and/or
 - e) the participant is authorized beforehand, to participate in the program on behalf of a Landowner, and had permission to harvest on said land.
- 2.4 For verification and authorization of payment, the carcass from each adult wolf harvested must be presented at the County office to the Agricultural Fieldman.

- 2.5 Entire wolf carcasses shall be delivered to a location designated by the County for examination and marking, and authorization of payment;
- 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 the County; a carcass that has been previously marked will be rejected.
 - c) if eligible, the claimant will be provided with a payment authorization.
- 2.6 The Participant will be responsible for disposal of all parts of the carcass, and such disposal will be in accordance with Provincial legislation;
- 2.7 Participants of the Wolf Incentive 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 legislations thereto.
- 2.8 Participants will be removed from the list of eligible Participants and will forfeit all benefit from the program, if it is determined they have not adhered to the Policy or program guidelines as set by County Council.
- 2.9 Participants attempting to receive payment for wolves taken from outside of the County of Northern Lights shall be disqualified from receiving any further benefit from the program.
- 2.10 Disputes over eligible claims for compensation will be settled at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman, whose decision will be final and binding.
- 2.11 Compensation will be paid for livestock defined as: cattle, sheep, goats, elk, buffalo and horses.
- 2.12 See Appendix A for further information.



Appendix A (Policy 2.63.30.01.256)
Contract of Participation – Problem Wildlife Incentive
Between Participants and the County of Northern Lights

In an effort to reduce wolf predation of livestock by controlling the predatory wolf population, the County of Northern Lights (“County”) has approved a Problem Wildlife Incentive Policy (“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 and honorably within the County and in accordance with this Contract (“Contract”) of Participation and all binding Legislation.

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 SAVE HARMLESS:** The Participant will indemnify and save harmless the Municipality, 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:** In advance of participation, Landowners will notify the Agricultural Fieldman or his/her designate of their intention to participate in the Program and will identify Participants authorized to participate on their behalf (if any). In order to obtain Compensation, the entire carcass of a lawfully harvested adult wolf will be presented to an appropriate representative of the County at a delivery point designated by the County. Any carcass received by the County will be marked, and any carcass that has been previously marked by the County will be rejected. To qualify for compensation, a wolf must have been lawfully harvested within the boundaries of the County by a Landowner or under the direction of a Landowner of the County. Any individual who has not previously agreed to the terms and conditions of this Contract will be considered ineligible to receive Compensation. The Participant will complete the wolf compensation authorization form providing 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:

- 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, and
- iii. must be registered on file at the County beforehand by the livestock producer.

b. **If the wolf was harvested on public lands**, 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 3 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.

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 Policy, which may be amended from time to time as determined by Council for the County. Payment will be withheld if "Participants" are indebted more than fifty dollars (\$50) to the County. This restriction applies to debts that are outstanding for more than 90 days and in the case of property taxes, any amounts owing from any other years except for the current year. Participation will only be allowed upon full payment to the County.

5. LIMITATIONS: The maximum number of wolf carcasses eligible to be claimed by, or on behalf of, any Landowner, in the calendar year is nine (9). This limitation has been placed in an effort to ensure all Landowners are equally able to participate in the Program, while remaining within the budget set by Council for the program.

SIGNED on this _____ day of _____, 2_____.

Landowner: _____
print

signature

Land Owner Contact info: _____

List of other individuals eligible to participate on behalf of the Landowner:

Name: _____ Contact info: _____

Name: _____ Contact info: _____

Name: _____ Contact info: _____

Authorized Legal Land Locations:

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

Quarter _____ Section _____ Township _____ Range _____ W5

County Representative: _____

print

signature



County of Northern Lights

Problem Wildlife Incentive

I (*print name*): _____ *sign* _____,

have permission from _____ to hunt wolves on the lands stated below.

Address: _____

Example: NE 30 90 21 W5

_____ W5

_____ W5

_____ W5

Wolf/wolves were destroyed by the following

Shot _____

Trapped/snared _____

Other _____

Signed by the legal land owner/occupant.

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

BELOW TO BE FILLED OUT BY A COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

Number of wolves submitted _____

Adults _____ X \$50.00 \$ _____

County Representative: sign _____ Date _____

Declaration of the Participant – Problem Wildlife Incentive Authorization Form

1. I am presenting wolf carcass (') under the Problem Wildlife Incentive. I am requesting payment from the Program.
2. I have previously read and signed or been identified as a person acting on behalf of a Landowner under the Contract of Participation. I agree that I have followed all rules noted in the Contract.
2. I understand that I am not entitled to receive any payment from the Program if I provide false or misleading information to the Program.
3. I declare that the carcass that I am presenting:
 - a) was harvested in a lawful manner, in accordance with current legislation,
 - b) was killed humanely,
 - c) was killed at the location that I have reported to the Agricultural Fieldman; and
 - d) that I am the legal landowner or authorized occupant of the land; and/or
 - e) the Participant is authorized on behalf of a Landowner, and had permission to harvest on said land beforehand.
4. I agree to provide further information if requested by the Agricultural Fieldman for the purpose of verifying my claim for compensation.