

BIG LAKES COUNTY

TITLE:	Wolf Hunting Incentive
APPROVED BY COUNCIL:	8 September 2010
EFFECTIVE DATE:	8 September 2010
REVISED:	28 Sept. 2011, 14 March 2012, 23 April 2014 23 March 2016
MOST RECENT REVISION:	13 April 2016
POLICY NO.	AG-10
LEGAL AUTHORITY:	Wildlife Act & Regulations, Firearms Act, Petty Trespass Act, Agricultural Pests Act

POLICY STATEMENT

Big Lakes County recognizes a need to support wolf population control efforts to reduce livestock depredation. Big Lakes County will implement procedures to provide for a wolf hunting incentive program, for the purpose of promoting the lawful hunting of wolves. Through this program, registrants will receive a monetary reward for the carcass of an adult wolf hunted within the County.

POLICY

1. General

- 1.1 The Wolf Hunting Incentive program will be continued for a period of one year from revision date, at which time, the program will be re-evaluated.
- 1.2 Council will, during budget deliberations, establish a budget cap for the Wolf Hunting Incentive program. If the budget cap is reached prior to the scheduled revision date, the program will be re-evaluated at such time.
- 1.3 By resolution of Council, the Wolf Hunting Incentive program will be activated or terminated.

2. Responsibilities of Parties

- 2.1 Big Lakes County shall pay compensation as per Schedule 'A', per *adult* wolf carcass, presented to the designated receiving location in accordance with the listed conditions:
 - 2.1.1 Big Lakes County Wolf Hunting Incentive program will be in effect within the boundaries of Big Lakes County, including First Nation and Métis communities.

- 2.1.2 Registrants requesting bounty reward payment shall enter into a Contract of Participation agreement.
- 2.1.3 Eligible registrants will be limited to registered landowners within the Big Lakes County boundaries, legally licensed trappers, and licensed resident trappers *only*; residents of First Nations and Métis Settlements will be accepted as landowners of the Nation or Settlement as per delineated map boundaries.
- 2.1.4 Carcasses will be delivered to a designated delivery point, for examination. Examination of the carcass will be performed to verify the animal has been destroyed by means other than vertebrate toxicant, and that the wolf was not claimed in another program; the registrant will then be provided with a payment authorization. The registrant shall be responsible for proper carcass disposal.
- 2.1.5 Carcasses are to be presented within 72 hours from the time of harvest.
- 2.1.6 Carcasses are to be delivered unaltered, both ears and tongue must be visible upon delivery to be eligible for a bounty claim.
- 2.1.7 When requesting authorization for reward payment, the registrant must declare the following:
- 2.1.7.1 That the wolf was harvested within an 8 kilometre (5 mile) perimeter of private property or grazing leases
 - 2.1.7.2 The legal land location where the wolf was harvested
 - 2.1.7.3 That they are the registered legal landowner or the authorized occupant of the land; and/or
 - 2.1.7.4 That the registrant has permission to hunt on said land
- 2.1.8 Registrants participating in the Wolf Hunting Incentive Program shall follow all Federal and Provincial Legislation and Regulations; including, but not limited to the Wildlife Act, Alberta Hunting Regulations, the Firearms Act, Petty Trespass Act.
- 2.1.9 Registrants shall be removed from the list of qualified participants if it is determined that they have not adhered to the Policy as set by the Council, and shall forfeit all benefit from the said program.
- 2.1.10 Wolves taken from outside Big Lakes County, or where criteria of 2.1.7 are not met, do not qualify for incentive reward.
- 2.1.11 Disputes over eligible claims for incentive reward shall be settled at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman.

2.1.12 At the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman a harvest site inspection may be required to verify a bounty claim.


Reeve


Chief Administrative Officer





CONTRACT OF PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE A - POLICY AG-10 Wolf Hunting Incentive Program

In an effort to support population control efforts regarding predatory wildlife, Big Lakes County ("County") has approved a wolf hunting incentive program ("Incentive Program") for the purpose of reducing livestock depredation. Through this program, hunters or licensed trappers ("Participants") may qualify to receive a monetary reward ("Incentive Reward") upon delivery of the carcass of an adult wolf, hunted lawfully, within the County.

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

1. **Statutory Adherence:** While participating in the Incentive 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 not to violate any statutory or regulatory provision in any way. The relevant statutes include, but are not limited to: the Firearms Act, the Wildlife Act and the Wildlife Regulations, and the Petty Trespass Act. Any Participant who fails to strictly adhere to all relevant laws will forfeit any right to an Incentive Reward under the Incentive Program.
2. **Indemnify and Save Harmless:** The Participant will indemnify the County, its officers, representatives, agents and employees, against and save them harmless 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 Incentive Program or participation in the Incentive Program.
3. **Preconditions of Reward:** In order to obtain the Incentive Reward, the carcass of a lawfully hunted adult wolf must be presented to an appropriate designation as outlined in Big Lakes County Policy (AG - 10) for examination. To qualify for the Incentive Reward, a wolf must have been lawfully hunted within the boundaries of the County, *within 8 kilometres (5 miles) of private property or a grazing lease*, by a registered landowner of the County, First Nation or Métis Settlement, a legally Licensed Trapper or a Licensed Resident Trapper. Any person, who has not adhered to the terms and conditions of the Contract of Participation ("Contract") will be considered ineligible to receive the Incentive Reward. The Participant must declare the location where each wolf was killed and must execute a sworn declaration as follows:
 - a) *If the wolf was hunted on private property*, the Participant must, at the time of the claim for reward, make the following sworn declaration:
 - (i) That permission was obtained from the registered legal owner of the land or the authorized occupant of the land, authorizing the Participant to hunt wolf on the land,
 - (ii) That the Participant is satisfied that the individual providing authorization to hunt on the land is the registered legal owner of the land, or the authorized occupant of the land
 - b) *If the wolf was hunted on public lands*, the Participant must, at the time of presentation of the claim for reward declare the following:
 - (i) That the Participant is legally authorized to maintain livestock on that land; or
 - (ii) That permission was granted by the person authorized to maintain livestock on the land, authorizing the Participant to hunt wolf on the land, and provide written proof; or
 - (iii) That the Participant is legally authorized to hunt or trap on the land from the owner of the land (Crown), and provide proof.
4. **Incentive Reward:** 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 Incentive Reward will be paid by the County to the Participant. The Incentive Reward will be paid by the County to a successful Participant at the rate of two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars per adult wolf harvested.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Participant (print) _____ Signature _____

County Officer (print) _____ Signature _____

*Contract to be signed annually and maintained in County records.

Big Lakes County Agricultural Services