



BIG LAKES COUNTY POLICY

TITLE: Aquatic Invasive Species Policy	
POLICY NUMBER: ASB- 14	
LEGAL AUTHORITY:	
APPROVED BY COUNCIL: February 27, 2019	
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 27, 2019	REVISED DATE:

Policy Statement

Big Lakes County recognizes the impact that Aquatic Invasive Species would have on Lesser Slave Lake and the municipality. In response, Big Lakes County has developed the following to address municipal monitoring and to direct municipal response in partnership with Alberta Environment and Parks(AEP); Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist should these species be detected.

Policy

In recognition of the threat aquatic invasive species (AIS) pose to the economic well-being and sustainability of Big Lakes County, the County shall establish the following initiatives in partnership with AEP; Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist:

Monitoring

1. An education and awareness campaign on AIS shall be initiated in partnership with AEP; Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Alberta Invasive Species Council and Local Non-Governmental Organizations.
2. Big Lakes County shall organize one public information session annually with Local Non-Governmental Organizations and AEP; Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist highlighting AIS
3. Reporting of species sightings shall be encouraged by the public through the avenues approved by the Alberta Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist provincially.
4. Big Lakes County shall work with Alberta Invasive Species Council and AEP; Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist to have the County Representative receive notification of a sighting within Big Lakes County. Should a sighting be confirmed, the Representative will inform the Big Lakes County CAO immediately.



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5. Should the Big Lakes County Public at-large contact Big Lakes County to report a sighting, the Representative shall:
 - a) Inform the AEP; Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist immediately that a reported sighting has been received.
 - b) Document the sighting through photos forwarded to the AEP; Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist for final confirmation.
6. Partnership with Local Resorts and Marinas
 - a. Big Lakes County shall partner with local tourism and sporting companies, marinas and resorts to increase the impact of awareness and education
 - i. Develop information packages and relationships with resorts and marinas to educate them as to current best management practices (BMP) to stop the spread of AIS and BMP to manage high risk watercraft.

Response

Big Lakes County Council shall adopt the AEP Alberta Aquatic Invasive Species Early Detection Rapid Response Plan once approved by Alberta Environment and Parks, enabling Alberta Environment and Parks and Big Lakes County to work together if an aquatic invasive species is detected and positively identified.

Reeve

Chief Administrative Officer

March 5, 2019

Date of Final Signature



BIG LAKES COUNTY PROCEDURE

RELATED TO: Aquatic Invasive Species Policy	
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Procedure

In partnership with Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP), Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) and Lesser Slave Lake Watershed Council (LSWC), Big Lakes County will develop an awareness campaign related to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) that will incorporate the following:

1. Public Awareness
 - a. Outreach through County communications, workshops and other educational events shall be developed to increase the public aware of the risk AIS pose.
 - b. County Communications shall be continuous, with an emphasis on the periods between April-October.
 - c. A minimum of one workshop will be delivered in partnership with AEP, AISCC and LSWC, annually.
2. Promotion of the AISC EDDMaps application for reporting of AIS.
 - a. EDDMaps Shall be promoted to the public as the chosen provincial avenue for reporting of suspected AIS
 - b. Big Lakes County shall work with Alberta Invasive Species Council and AEP; Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist to have the County representative receive notification of a sighting within Big Lakes County. Should a sighting be confirmed, the Representative will inform the Big Lakes County CAO immediately.
3. Education for local marinas and resorts regarding the threat of invasive species, how to handle high risk watercraft and the importance of reporting.
 - a. In partnership with AISC, AEP and LSWC, the County shall develop information packages and relationships with resorts and marinas to educate them as to
 - i. What they can do to stop the spread of invasive species,



BIG LAKES COUNTY PROCEDURE



- ii. Identification of AIS
 - iii. how to proactively manage watercraft coming from a high-risk location
- 4. Response
 - a. Response shall be led by AEP; AIS Specialist
 - b. The County shall support and assist the AEP AIS Specialist in all ways within the jurisdiction of the County to contain and control a confirmed AIS