SECTION: AG SERVICE BOARD POLICY SUBJECT: VERTEBRATE PEST CONTROL

Original Resolution No.: 97-04-05 Revised Resolution No.: 99-09-11 Revised Resolution No.: 04-07-37

VERTEBRATE PEST CONTROL

SKUNK COMPLAINTS

A. Nuisance Skunks

- 1. The County of Warner No. 5 is not responsible for removal of nuisance skunks within the County unless rabies is suspected.
- 2. Landowners within the County of Warner No. 5 may borrow traps free of charge once a \$50 deposit has been paid to the County along with a signed and dated skunk trap deposit slip.
- 3. The deposit will be refunded if the trap is returned in good condition within 30 days.
- 4. There will be a charge of \$10 per month for any traps kept longer than 30 days.
- 5. If the trap is not returned within two months, the deposit will be considered payment in full for the purchase of the trap.
- 6. Anyone may purchase a trap for \$50 before a deposit slip is signed and implemented.

B. Skunk Rabies Vector Control

- 1. The role of the County of Warner's Agricultural Service Board will be to assist in removal of rabies suspect animals and submission to the ADRI for testing.
- 2. All human or domestic animal contact cases are to immediately reported to the Federal Veterinary Inspection Directorate in Lethbridge at 382-3120 for further direction.
- 3. All skunks along the Montana border will be routinely depopulated by Alberta Agriculture staff to prevent the ingression of rabies.
- 4. The Agricultural Fieldman, at his discretion, may respond to any nuisance skunk complaints within a three mile radius of where the skunk rabies was confirmed within the County of Warner No. 5 in the last five years.

Reviewed: June 4, 2004

C. Nuisance Racoons

- 1. Currently racoons are not a named nuisance under the Agricultural Pest Act, but fall under the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Act. All landowners within the County of Warner No. 5 suffering racoon damage are to be referred to the nearest Fish and Wildlife District office.
- The County of Warner No. 5 offers live traps and egg traps for nuisance racoon complaints under the same conditions as nuisance skunk complaints. (see Nuisance Skunks)

D. Fox

1. Currently foxes are not a named nuisance under the Agricultural Pest Act but fall under the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Act. All landowners within the County of Warner No. 5 suffering fox damage are to be referred to the nearest Fish and Wildlife District office.

E. Coyote Control

- 1. The Agricultural Fieldman will coordinate investigations or investigate all complaints.
- 2. Cyanide guns or other toxicants for coyote control are only to be used by the Agricultural Fieldman or licensed employees.
- 3. The Agricultural Fieldman will take annual training set up by Alberta Agriculture in the area of Vertebrate Pest Control (Form B).
- 4. The Provincial Problem Wildlife Specialist will assist in routine predator investigations when the Agricultural Fieldman is unavailable and report all the work carried out to the Agricultural Fieldman.
- 5. The Agricultural Service Board will follow the guidelines as outlined in the attached <u>Coyote</u> and <u>Predation Management Program</u>, <u>Operations Policy and Procedure</u> as distributed by Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development and it is attached to this policy as Appendix A.

COUNTY OF WARNER NO. 5

Agriculture Service Board

RACOON/SKUNK TRAP DEPOSIT SLIP

NAME:		DATE:	
MAILING ADDRESS:			
_	TRAP NO.:		CHEQUE
TRAP PURCHASED: YES		NO	
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Nuisance Skunks

- 1. The County of Warner No. 5 is not responsible for removal of nuisance skunks or racoons within the County unless rabies is suspected.
- 2. Landowners within the County of Warner No. 5 may borrow traps free of charge once a \$50 deposit has been paid to the County along with a signed and dated skunk trap deposit slip.
- 3. The deposit will be refunded if the trap is returned in good condition within 30 days.
- 4. There will be a charge of \$10 per month for any traps kept longer than 30 days.
- 5. If the trap is not returned within two months, the deposit will be considered payment in full for the purchase of the trap.
- 6. Anyone may purchase a trap for \$50 before a deposit slip is signed and implemented.

Signature

County of Warner No. 5 Agriculture Service Board

Date Returned

Deposit Refunded (Borrower's Signature)