MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

PREDATOR CONTROL (COYOTE) PROGRAM

Function:
Policy No.
Effective Date:
Supercedes:
Amends:

Agriculture Services ASB.15

April 4, 2002

Policy Statement

The problem of livestock predation (coyotes) shall be addressed through extension and the distribution of control devices in a manner that is both agriculturally and environmentally sustainable.

Procedure

- 1. All resident complaints of livestock predation by COYOTES are to be directed to the Agricultural Fieldman. Complaints of predation of livestock by all other wild predators, such as wolves, foxes, bears and cougars, are to be directed to the local office of Alberta Sustainable Resources, Fish and Wildlife office. Complaints of livestock predation and other problems by domestic dogs should be directed to the local RCMP office.
- 2. Upon receiving the complaint, the Agricultural Fieldman shall instruct the resident to secure any carcass or remains, if possible. The Agricultural Fieldman and / or Fish and Wildlife will, as soon as possible, investigate the complaint to ensure that the death loss was actually caused by predation and not another health problem.
- 3. If the loss was the result of predation (coyote kill) or if the animals were harassed by coyotes, the Agricultural Fieldman may then issue up to a maximum of six 1080 tablets (Monosodium fluoracetate). The Agricultural Fieldman may assist the resident in preparing and placing the baits.
- 4. If further losses should take place at a later date, the Agricultural Fieldman may issue additional 1080 tablets (up to a total maximum of 12) to the resident to use on his own.
- 5. 1080 pellets must not be issued to provide a resident with an "inventory" for potential predation that could occur later.
- 6. The resident must be told of the hazard to livestock and pet prior to the 1080 pellets use and the ways to protect these animals from accidental poisoning.
- 7. The resident must return all unused tablets to the Agricultural Fieldman upon expiry of the permit.
- 8. The resident must remove and destroy all poisoned baits within 15 days of initial placement.
- 9. If in conducting his initial investigation, the Agricultural Fieldman determines that poor management was a contributing factor in the predation problem, he may

- make recommendations to the producer on management changes that would reduce the chances of further predation.
- 10. If the resident chooses to ignore recommendations and continue in his present management practices, the Agricultural Fieldman shall reserve the right to refuse further assistance through the distribution of 1080 tablets.
- 11. The Regional Problem Wildlife Specialist should be immediately contacted by the Agricultural Fieldman for assistance or consultation on difficult predation cases or for on-going losses.