



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW No. 16

REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

9:30 AM

Council Chambers
Administration Building

#1	CALL TO ORDER		
#2	ADOPTION OF AGENDA		
#3	MINUTES	3.1 Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting minutes held Wednesday, July 27 2022, to be adopted.	3
		3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes	
		3.3 Action Items	7
#4	DELEGATION	4.1 Emerson Trail Veterinary Services	8
#5	BUSINESS	5.1 Hog Operation Fence Requirement	12
		5.2 Farm Saved Seed	16
		5.3 ASB Resolution Drafts	24
		5.4 Livestock Forage and Feed Testing Program	34
		5.5 Manager's Report	37
#6	MEMBERS REPORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Warren Wohlgemuth • Vice Chair Shelley Morrison • Deputy Reeve Bill Smith • Councillor Dave Berry • Member Richard Brochu • Member Larry Smith • Member Mark Pellerin 	

#7 CORRESPONDENCE

- Map 1 15-day precipitation accumulations as of August 10 2022 40
- Map 2 30-day precipitation accumulations as of August 10 2022
- Map 3 30-day precipitation relative to Normal as of August 10 2022
- Map 4 30-day temperature patters as of August 10 2022

#8 ADJOURNMENT

Minutes of a
REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW NO. 16
 Greenview Administration Building,
 Valleyview, Alberta, on Wednesday, July 27, 2022

- #1**
CALL TO ORDER Chair Warren Wohlgemuth called the meeting to order at 8:06am
- PRESENT**
- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| A.S.B. Member - Chair | Warren Wohlgemuth |
| A.S.B. Member – Vice Chair | Shelley Morrison |
| A.S.B. Member – Deputy Reeve | Bill Smith |
| A.S.B. Member – Councillor | Dave Berry |
| A.S.B. Member | Larry Smith |
- ATTENDING**
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Manager, Agriculture Services | Sheila Kaus |
| Landcare Coordinator | Sarah Cairns |
| Reeve | Tyler Olsen |
| Manager, Communications & Marketing | Stacey Sevilla |
| Recording Secretary | Chelsea McDonald |
- ABSENT**
- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| A.S.B. Member | Richard Brochu |
| A.S.B. Member | Mark Pellerin |
- #2**
AGENDA MOTION: 22.07.75 Moved by: DEPUTY REEVE BILL SMITH
 That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the July 27, 2022, Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda as presented.
 CARRIED
- #3.1**
REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES MOTION: 22.07.76 Moved by: DEPUTY REEVE BILL SMITH
 That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the minutes of the Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, as presented.
 CARRIED
- #3.2**
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES **3.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**
- #3.3**
ACTION ITEMS **3.3 ACTION ITEMS**
- MOTION: 22.07.77 Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY
 That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Action Items, as presented.
 CARRIED
- #4.0**
DELEGATION **4.0 DELEGATIONS**
- There were no delegations present

#5.0 BUSINESS

5.0 BUSINESS**5.1 WEEVILS**

WEEVILS

MOTION: 22.07.78 Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY

That the Agricultural Service Board approve the importing of Canada Thistle Stem Mining Weevils from the United States, to facilitate a locally available rearing site for eventual weevil distribution on acceptable sites throughout Greenview.

CARRIED

A.S.B. Member – Councillor Dave Berry left meeting at 8:24am

A.S.B. Member – Councillor Dave Berry rejoined meeting at 8:31am

5.2 ASB RESOLUTION GRADINGASB RESOLUTION
GRADING

MOTION: 22.07.79 Moved by: MEMBER LARRY SMITH

That the Agricultural Service Board accept the grade submissions for the following Provincial Agricultural Service Board Motions Resolutions for information, as presented:

1-22 Vegetation Management on Alberta Highways: Unsatisfactory

2-22 Restoration of Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development Regional Network of Experts: Accept the Response

3-22 Celebrate Canada Agriculture Day in Alberta Schools (Feb 22, 2022): Accept in Principal

4-22 Properly Managing Ungulate Populations: Accept in Principal

5-22 Exemption of Natural Gas and Propane for Agriculture Under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act: Accept in Principal

6-22 Amendments to the ASB Conference Resolution Rules of Procedure: Accept the Response

CARRIED

5.3 MANAGER'S REPORTMANAGER'S
REPORT

MOTION: 22.07.80 Moved by: DEPUTY REEVE BILL SMITH

That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Managers' report, as presented

CARRIED

Vice Chair Shelley Morrison joined meeting at 9:05am

#6

6.0 MEMBERS' BUSINESS & REPORTS

**MEMBERS'
BUSINESS &
REPORTS**

**ASB MEMBERS
REPORTS**

CHAIR WARREN WOHLGEMUTH updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- No report

VICE CHAIR SHELLEY MORRISON updated the Agriculture Service Board on her recent activities, which include;

- No report

DEPUTY REEVE BILL SMITH updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- No report.

COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- No report

MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- No report

MEMBER LARRY SMITH updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- No report

MEMBER MARK PELLERIN updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which include;

- No report

**MEMBERS
BUSINESS AND
REPORTS**

MOTION: 22.07.81 Moved by: VICE CHAIR SHELLEY MORRISON
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Members reports as information.

CARRIED

**#7
CORRESPONDENCE**

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

**ASB
CORRESPONDENCE**

MOTION: 22.07.82 Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence as information.

CARRIED

#8
ADJOURNMENT

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

ASB
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 22.07.83 Moved by: MEMBER LARRY SMITH
That this Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourn at 9:18am.
CARRIED

MANAGER, AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

ASB CHAIR

UNADOPTED

3.3 Action Items - Agricultural Services Motion Tracker

No.	Motion	Assigned to	Status
MOTION: 21.06.66 June 23, 2021	Moved by: MEMBER MARK PELLERIN that the Agricultural Service Board direct administration to produce a document assisting interested producers with having commodity and livestock check off dollars returned to the producer.	Sheila Kaus, Agricultural Services Manager	In Progress
MOTION: 21.08.76 August 25, 2021	Moved by: MEMBER LARRY SMITH that the Agricultural Service Board authorize Administration to develop options to publicly highlight the past, present and future Greenview Farm Family Award recipients with the following revision: Change 1995 recipient to Larry & Donna Noullett.	Communications and Agricultural Services	2023 Capital Item
MOTION: 21.11.131 November 24, 2021	Moved by: MEMBER MARK PELLERIN that the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to gather information on AgriStability accessibility issues and report back to the board.	Sheila Kaus. Agricultural Services Manager	In Progress
MOTION: 21.12.143 December 13, 2021	Moved by: VICE CHAIR SHELLEY MORRISON that the Agricultural Service Board recommend to Council to postpone the Agricultural Plastics Recycle capital purchase project for 2022 and to be considered for 2023.	Sheila Kaus. Agricultural Services Manager	2023
MOTION: 22.02.23 February 23, 2022	Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY that the Agricultural Service Board recommend Council approve the increase to the 2022 – 2024 Satellite Rental Agent Contract from \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00, to compensate for the increase in oversight and documentation of the rental program, with the following changes; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove Bill Smith from Grovedale contract. - Remove item 8 regarding snow removal from both contracts. - Change item 9 from \$2,500.00 to \$200.00 per implement with a minimum of \$2,500.00 per year for both contracts. 	Sheila Kaus, Agricultural Services Manager	Delayed – Insurance Concerns
MOTION: 22.02.24 February 23, 2022	Moved by: MEMBER LARRY SMITH that the Agricultural Service Board recommend Administration investigate the purchase of sheds for the satellite rental yards for potential inclusion in the 2023 Capital Budget.	Sheila Kaus, Agricultural Services Manager	2023 Capital Budget
MOTION: 22.02.29 February 23, 2022	Moved by: VICE CHAIR SHELLEY MORRISON that the Agricultural Service Board authorize Administration to streamline reporting for funding grants to bring in line with current Greenview reporting procedures.	Sheila Kaus, Agricultural Services Manager	In Progress – 2023 or 2024 deliverable
MOTION: 22.07.78 July 27, 2022	Moved by: COUNCILLOR DAVE BERRY that the Agricultural Service Board approve the importing of Canada Thistle Stem Mining Weevils from the United States, to facilitate a locally available rearing site for eventual weevil distribution on acceptable sites throughout Greenview.	Sarah Cairns, Landcare Coordinator	In Progress



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT:	Emerson Trail Veterinary Services Ltd.		
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
MEETING DATE:	August 24, 2022	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	DIR:	PRESENTER: SK
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Governance	LEG:	

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy (cite) – N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the presentation from Emerson Trail Veterinary Services Ltd. for information, as presented.

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Dr. Evan Lowe, owner of the Emerson Trail Veterinary Services (ETVS), a bovine ambulatory vet service, in Beaverlodge and the surrounding area., sent a letter to Administration on July 29, 2022 seeking grants or information on funding for agriculture programs for constructing a livestock veterinary clinic.

Within the letter, the doctor detailed the ambulatory vet services he provides to the Greenview livestock producers and informed of the plan to build a clinic on the Emerson Trail, west of Grande Prairie to expand the business and provide a haul-in large animal facility. It is the anticipation of the owner that the central location will be able to serve the livestock clients better for emergency services, alleviate the shortage of veterinary services available, as well as provide improved access to herd health programs.

Dr. Lowe will be in attendance at the Agricultural Service Board meeting via Zoom.

BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. The benefit of the Agricultural Service Board accepting the recommended motion is that the board will be informed of the services, initiatives and requests of this veterinary service utilized by Greenview residents.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended motion.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative #1: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

Inform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

There are no follow up actions to the recommended motion.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Letter from Emerson Trail Veterinary Clinic; dated July 29, 2022



Emerson Trail Veterinary Services Ltd.
Box 509, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0
(780) 356-3887 office@etvs.ca

July 29, 2022

MD Greenview #16
4806 – 36 Avenue
PO Box 1079
Valleyview, AB
T0H 3N0

To Whom it May Concern,

RE: Livestock Veterinarian Clinic

Emerson Trail Veterinary Services Ltd. (ETVS) is a mobile livestock veterinarian service that has been serving Grande Prairie and surrounding communities since 2018. We service livestock exclusively on a herd health and individual animal basis.

I am contacting you today as we are in the process of constructing a livestock veterinary clinic and we are seeking grants or information on funding for agriculture programs through the MD of Greenview

In the past 4 years I have done approximately \$40,000 in services, 2300 preg tests, and 150 bull tests for clients in the MD of Greenview. I believe that with a haul in facility these numbers could be increased significantly.

There has been a shortage of large animal veterinarians in the Peace Country for many years and this has become even more obvious in the past two years. This is a multi-factorial issue but some contributing factors, such as retirements and corporate buy-outs of existing clinics, have exacerbated the overall challenge that this region has faced in recruiting and retaining trained professionals.

I was born and raised on a farm outside of Beaverlodge. After completing my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in Calgary in 2014, I have worked in multiple small town clinics with a focus on beef medicine. For the past four years, I have owned and operated my own mobile practice. In this time we have become well acquainted with the severe shortage of livestock veterinarians in this area. I regularly travel 200 kilometers or more from home for cattle work when no other veterinarians are available. During calving season, I am occasionally too late to farms to save animals due to the distance I am required to travel and the sheer number of calvings for one veterinarian to attend.

In order to help alleviate some of these issues, we are in the process of building a clinic Emerson Trail to expand our business and provide a haul-in large animal facility. By having a central location we will be able to serve our livestock clients better for emergency services as well as provide improved access to herd health programs.



Emerson Trail Veterinary Services Ltd.
Box 509, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0
(780) 356-3887 office@etvs.ca

I believe that this facility will be a great addition to the Peace Country. Most importantly it would help alleviate a desperate need of veterinary services for the livestock producers of this area. Healthy livestock are profitable livestock.

The costs associated with building and maintaining livestock facilities have increased dramatically. I know that in the past the MD of Greenview has partnered with veterinarians and I would like to start the conversation to see if there is any funding available to aid us in this process.

I can be reached at evan.lowe@etvs.ca or at our office number 780-356-3887.

Sincerely,

Evan Lowe, DVM



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT:	Hog Operation Fence Requirement	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
MEETING DATE:	August 24, 2022	DIR:	PRESENTER: SC
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	LEG:	
STRATEGIC PLAN:			

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board recommend Council include minimum fencing standards for hog producers in the Land Use Bylaw to control and prevent the establishment of a feral pig population within Greenview.

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Feral swine (pig/hog) is the most invasive species in the world, and populations are on the rise in Alberta, and with it many new threats are posed. It was previously thought that feral swine could not survive in much of Alberta's climate, however, this is proving untrue. Damage to the environment, economic loss, danger to humans and wildlife, and disease transmission, are all caused by feral swine. Wild_pigs will destroy native vegetation to create bedding areas and root up vegetation as they search for food. This creates bare areas devoid of natural vegetation that are subject to invasive vegetation species. They also erode and compact the soil, destroy natural areas (particularly wetlands), and negatively impact water quality (in this case natural surface bodies of water). Native wildlife suffers as the wild pigs consume the natural resources and spread parasites throughout the area. Significant economic loss is created as these pigs will enter crop land and either eat or root up crops which causes large financial losses to the producer. Wild pigs are known to be aggressive and dangerous to wildlife, pets, and humans. Wild pigs can carry diseases that can be spread to humans, wildlife, and domestic pigs. There is a danger of wild pigs introducing disease into hog operations which would very negatively impact the industry. Some diseases are transmissible to other livestock as well and poses a threat to the beef industry in particular. A common misconception is that wild boar as we know them are a specific species or breed, this is not the case. While feral swine is a specific breed of exotic pig when it is referred to in this sense it means an escaped or feral swine. Feral swine would be the best term for this animal, though it is often called wild boar. Feral swine have become a problem across the globe as domestic pigs escape through fences and begin to live in the wild. Pigs adapt very quickly to their environment, becoming feral quickly and reproducing at a fast pace.

-Municipalities in Alberta have begun to take action to prevent the hog population from increasing. Through municipal land use bylaws, bans on wild boar production are being implemented. While beneficial, bans on wild boar production addressing only one aspect of this issue. Research has shown that what is commonly referred to as wild

boar would more correctly be called feral swine. In addressing pasture raised pork through minimum fencing requirements, Greenview would be addressing the issue entirely, but it would be setting a precedent.

By implementing new fencing requirements for hog operations that raise their animals in a pasture setting, domestic animals are prevented from adding to the current population and exasperating the problem. Currently there have been feral swine sightings in both Yellowhead and Woodlands County. With these sightings so close to Greenview a domestic animal that escapes its enclosure in the MD could find a mate and start a population in Greenview which would increase and spread the population. Currently the MD of Greenview has no fencing requirements on hog operations. There is an Albertan Minimum Containment Standard currently set for Feral swine Farms in the province. This new bylaw would utilize some of the requirements set in this standard and extend it to all pasture hog operations in the MD. Prevention of the problem is key as the damage caused by feral swine populations is widespread and extremely costly. Hunting and trapping efforts are rarely successful once a population has been established. When deciding on this proposal the Council should keep in mind the damage and economic cost that feral swine cause and cost of additional fencing requirements that producers may potentially need to incur to upgrade their current facilities.

It is proposed that the fencing requirements includes multiple options to ensure that it is attainable by every producer regardless of financial limitations or personal beliefs. This requirement will be a minimum standard, but it is of course highly encouraged that producers build fences that exceed these requirements. Producers must have a perimeter fence that meets the following requirements (note that this requirement applies ONLY to the perimeter or outer fence. Cross fences within a fenced area that has a perimeter fence, do NOT need to follow the requirements):

- Fence posts must be placed within 3.5m of each other.

Producers must choose a minimum of one of the following options:

Option 1: Electric wire must be placed 10 cm – 30 cm above ground surface and must always be charged with a current of at least two thousand volts when the pen or pasture being used will contain pigs. The electric wire must pass through all points along the entire perimeter of the outer fence.

Option 2: The fence must be buried to a minimum depth of 45 cm.

Option 3: The fence must have a board or other sturdy material located at the base of the fence, at ground level that cannot be moved by a pig's snout. The material must be securely fastened to a post or anchored.

Option 4:

There must be an inner and outer fence. The outer fence must be 1 -5 metres away from the inner fence and one of the fences must be appropriately anchored to the ground with stakes following the existing fences guideline.

Existing fences must match criteria or be anchored to the ground with stakes placed a minimum of 1.5 metres apart. The stakes must be buried to a minimum depth of 1 metre. This is considered an equivalent to a buried fence.

Fences must always be maintained in proper working order. This includes ensuring the electric current is running throughout the entire fence perimeter when the pen or pasture is in use, controlling vegetation so it does not interfere with the electric wire, replacing fence posts as needed, if using wire then it must be at an adequate tension, if using a woven wire the fence should be free of weak points and sizeable dents, if using wooden boards then the boards should be in good condition (i.e. not rotting).

All current operations have 5 years to meet these standards.

It is recommended that the new bylaw would contain all fencing requirements outlined in the background. Initiating preventative measures will drastically reduce the costs that would be required to control feral swine. Currently, implementing this proposal will create a cost for producers, however, the growth of this problem will create a much larger cost for all ratepayers as control measures become increasingly required. Slowing the spread of feral swine may prevent environmental damage, economic loss, human and wildlife injuries, and disease transmission. While the proposed requirements are sufficient to contain domestic pigs, they are still practical and applicable enough that most hog operations already have most, if not all, of these standards in place. This should not affect producers who are effectively containing their animals and should only be affecting the producers who are having issues containing their animals as these requirements are a minimum requirement. The goal of this bylaw is not to control or negatively impact producers, simply to ensure that producers are keeping their domestic pigs contained within their own property or leased area to prevent the animals from becoming feral and contributing to the wild pig population.

BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By following the recommended action there will be less chance or at the least a slowed spread of the feral swine population throughout Greenview.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The perceived disadvantages of this bylaw may be that the producers will incur additional fence expense for maintaining the hog operation, however, most hog producers have implemented sufficient fencing controls to ensure their animals remain on their property.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative #1: The Agricultural Service Board has the option to alter or deny the recommended motion.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

Direct Costs: N/A

Ongoing / Future Costs: N/A

STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

Inform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

Should the Agricultural Services Board approve the recommended action, administration will proceed with presenting the initiative to Council.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- N/A



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT:	Status of Farm Saved Seed Royalties		
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
MEETING DATE:	August 24, 2022	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	DIR: MH	PRESENTER: SK
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Governance	LEG:	

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy - N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Farm Saved Seed Report for information, as presented.

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

At the 2021 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference, Resolution 9-21 “Protect Farmers Right to Farm Saved Seed” was carried by the Provincial Body and the Provincial Committee began lobbying efforts. The background that accompanied the resolution provided a summary as follows:

“In 2018, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada conducted a series of consultations on proposals for royalty collection models for cereal grains. The royalty collection models are one mechanism to fund cereal grain variety development. Historically, the majority of cereal grain variety development was conducted by public institutions with public funds. However, public cereal variety research and development has decreased over time. In order for Canada to remain competitive in the international cereal grain market, new variety research is required. With the reduction in public funding for this research, new funding models for variety development are required. The new seed royalty proposal brought forward by the federal government will require farmers to pay additional seed royalties on farm saved seed. Previously, farm saved seed could be kept, cleaned, conditioned, and grown by farmers for years without having to pay royalties back to seed companies or the original plant breeders. The new seed royalty proposals are end point royalties or trailing royalties otherwise known as the Seed Variety Use Agreement (SVUA). End point royalties will mandate that farmers pay seed royalties on Plant Breeders’ Rights protected varieties at the time the crop is sold, while trailing royalties or the SVUA will have Canadian producers paying an annual fee that grants them the permission to grow their own farm saved seed each year. It is unclear how royalties would be collected if a farmer sells seed to a neighbor. The intended use of these new royalties is to fund plant breeding and research by private industry. Similar royalty schemes have been implemented in Australia and France. The royalty amount and method they are paid are still unknown, however, pilot projects on royalty collection are being conducted by the seed industry. “

The Provincial ASB received two responses to the resolution from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). The first response was as follows:

“As you are aware, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency were asked by the Grains Value Chain Roundtable, a consultative body with representation from across the value chain, to launch public consultations on two proposed seed royalty models to stimulate greater investment and innovation in Canada’s cereal sector. The first phase of the consultative process consisted of a series of face-to-face meetings across Canada in late 2018 and early 2019. These five sessions are viewed by government as an initial step in a multi-stage discussion process. The Government of Canada understands that many farmers place considerable value on their ability to save seed and often choose specific crop kinds and varieties that allow for replanting of saved seed in subsequent years. At the same time, a large number of agriculture sector stakeholders have signalled a desire for Canada to consider some form of value-creation model that would allow increased investment in wheat variety development by both public and private breeding programs across the country. Many producers see increased investment in research as being key to ensuring the long-term profitability and competitiveness of Canada’s cereals sector. The government remains open to hearing all perspectives on this matter and will consider the feedback heard to inform next steps in the process. Again, thank you for writing on what is a critical issue for the cereals sector, farmers, and Canadian agriculture.

Siddika Mithani
President
Canadian Food Inspection Agency”

An additional late response was received from Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on May 27, 2021:

“Thank you for your follow-up letter in regards to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency’s response to the Alberta Service Board Provincial Committee’s seed royalty resolution (Resolution 9-21: Protect Farmers Rights to Use Farm Saved Seed), passed at your 2021 meeting. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your views, and to clarify the status of stakeholder engagement efforts around seed royalty models.

As indicated in my previous correspondence, the six in-person sessions held across Canada in late 2018 and early 2019 were part of a consultative process that was undertaken at the request of the Grains Value Chain Roundtable. From what we heard at these sessions, and from the letters sent by stakeholder groups such as yours, there was a lack of consensus on a clear path forward. As a result, a decision was made to postpone further consultations for the time being.

The Government of Canada will continue exploring ways to improve Canada’s existing system for cereal variety development. In doing so, we remain open to all perspectives and options to enhance the profitability of the sector.

Siddika Mithani
President,
Canadian Food Inspection Agency”

The Provincial Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Committee provided the response to the individual ASBs across the Province and the following grading of the response was received:

GRADE: Incomplete

GRADE and COMMENTS from ASBs:

GRADE		COMMENTS
Accept the Response	14%	Per late received response
Accept in Principle	0%	
Incomplete	77%	May have to revisit in the future should consultations resume
Unsatisfactory	9%	

COMMENTS: The Committee grading this response as Incomplete because it did not specify how ASBs and farmers could present their perspectives, offer feedback and participate in next steps in the process. The Committee wrote to Siddika Mithani to ask for further information on the process and how to participate.

Despite the overwhelming rejection of this idea when public consultation took place, Seeds Canada is running a voluntary trailing contract system through variety use agreements (VUAs) - in which producers pay an annual fee for applicable cereal varieties. This is seen by some producers as a way around the protected rights of producers, referred to as “farmers privilege” in the Plant Breeders Rights Act.

Provincial ASB Resolutions remain active for 5 years, but the submitted resolution focuses on the federal bodies, namely CFIA, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada’s efforts to propose VUA as a standard practice for new cereal varieties. With the seed companies implementing the pilot use of the same process proposed by the federal government, this may constitute reassessment.

As the current resolution stands, should the federal government public consultations resume, the Provincial Committee will revisit the issue and Resolution 9-21.

BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. The benefit of the Agricultural Service Board accepting the report for information is that the Board will be updated on the current status of farm saved seed in Canada.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended motion.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative #1:

The Agricultural Service Board has the alternative to request Administration to draft an ASB resolution with regard to farm saved seed, however, Administration does not recommend this alternative as the Board has

requested the drafting of three resolutions for the Peace Region ASB Conference coupled with the potential of another municipality putting forth a resolution related to industry's use of VUAs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

Inform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL

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PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

There are no follow up actions to the recommended motion.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Resolution 9-21 "Protect Farmers Right to Farm Saved Seed"
- Western Producer Article, February 10, 2022: "Say no to crop variety-use agreements"

**RESOLUTION 9-21
PROTECT FARMERS RIGHTS TO USE FARM SAVED SEED**

WHEREAS: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) conducted consultations on implementing a system to collect royalties on farm saved seed in 2018/19; and

WHEREAS: Paying royalties on farm saved seed will increase the price of seed and decrease profit margins for farmers; and

WHEREAS: Royalties on farm saved seed could limit seed choices for farmers as seed companies move to deregister old varieties, which could mean farmers would be forced to pay royalties and to grow only newer varieties; and

WHEREAS: AAFC and CFIA have not outlined details on how much a royalty would be, how it would be collected or how royalties would be dispersed; and

WHEREAS: The Canadian Plant Technology Agency launched a pilot project in spring 2020 to test value use agreements whereby farmers would be required to pay royalties on farm saved seed; and

WHEREAS: A royalty system has potential to decrease farmers’ ability to make sound agronomic decisions and operate profitably; and

WHEREAS: Other options to fund crop variety research are available, including increased investment of grain commission check-off funds in variety research; and

WHEREAS: Options other than royalty systems to increase investment in crop variety development are required in order to maintain Canada’s competitive advantage in the global market; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada abandon the proposal to implement the adoption of End Point Royalties or farm saved seed “trailing royalty contracts” and pursue investment options for globally competitive crop variety development that have direct and tangible on farm benefits.

SPONSORED BY: Parkland County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Federal

DEPARTMENT: Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Background

In 2018, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada conducted a series of consultations on proposals for royalty collection models for cereal grains. The royalty collection models are one mechanism to fund cereal grain variety development. Historically, the majority of cereal grain variety development was conducted by public institutions with public funds. However, public cereal variety research and development has decreased over time.

In order for Canada to remain competitive in the international cereal grain market, new variety research is required. With the reduction in public funding for this research, new funding models for variety development are required.

The new seed royalty proposal brought forward by the federal government will require farmers to pay additional seed royalties on farm saved seed. Previously farm saved seed could be kept, cleaned, conditioned, and grown by farmers for years without having to pay royalties back to seed companies or the original plant breeders.

The new seed royalty proposals are end point royalties or trailing royalties otherwise known as the Seed Variety Use Agreement (SVUA). End point royalties will mandate that farmers pay seed royalties on Plant Breeders' Rights protected varieties at the time the crop is sold, while trailing royalties or the SVUA will have Canadian producers paying an annual fee that grants them the permission to grow their own farm saved seed each year. It is unclear how royalties would be collected if a farmer sells seed to a neighbor.

The intended use of these new royalties is to fund plant breeding and research by private industry. Similar royalty schemes have been implemented in Australia and France.

The royalty amount and method they are paid are still unknown, however, pilot projects on royalty collection are being conducted by the seed industry.

The proposed changes to the current seed royalty regulations being brought forward will have a negative financial impact on Canadian farmers.

The change to seed royalties will essentially take away "Farmers Privilege," which was the term used for farmers to freely grow farm saved seed. Government will argue that farmers are still entitled to the "Farmers Privilege," although now it is a privilege that must be paid for.

Say no to crop variety-use agreements

By **Cathy Holtlander, David Gehl**

Published: February 10, 2022

Opinion

Reading Time: 2 minutes



The National Farmers Union argues that Seeds Canada’s variety-use pilot project may be intended to normalize the concept of paying companies for farm-saved seed and help the industry lobby Ottawa to make royalty payments on farm-saved seed mandatory. | Reuters/Nick Oxford photo

The annual seed guides have arrived, bringing farmers reliable information on which to base this year’s variety choices.

These publications have a long history of providing objective, science-based information.

The seed guides also present information regarding the varieties’ intellectual property status. While often overlooked when choosing a new variety, this information should be considered — especially now that some varieties are being sold with a Variety Use Agreement.

The VUA is a pilot project of Seeds Canada in which some companies make specific new varieties available only under a contract requiring the farmer to pay the company a fee every time they use the variety for farm-saved seed.

Since the government amended Canada's Plant Breeders Rights (PBR) Act on Feb. 27, 2015, new varieties have been released under the UPOV 91 PBR framework.

UPOV 91 gives plant breeders sweeping rights over seed, but includes the farmers' privilege entitling farmers to reproduce, condition, and store varieties for use as seed on their own farms without further royalty payment.

Under UPOV 91, royalties to the PBR holder can be collected only once per sale.

During 2019 consultations, farmers rejected the idea of eliminating farmers' privilege and paying end-point royalties on their crops or to have trailing contracts that would require them to pay a royalty on their farm-saved seed.

Despite this rejection, Seeds Canada is now test driving a voluntary trailing contract system with its VUA project.

Farmers who participate sign a contract in which they agree to pay the company whenever they use farm-saved seed of the variety. The VUA allows the seed company to collect revenue from these farmers every year after their initial purchase of the variety.

When Parliament was debating the UPOV 91 PBR Act amendments, farmers fought hard to protect the ability to freely use farm-saved seed.

Yet when comparing the intellectual property status of cereal listings in the current seed guide with previous years, it shows a trend toward more royalty-generating varieties.

In 2015, the Saskatchewan Seed Guide listed 193 cereal crop varieties: 21 percent (41) with no PBR and 79 percent (152) with UPOV 78. None had restrictions on producers' ability to save and plant the seed on their farms.

In the 2022 guide, 15.2 percent (30 varieties) have no PBR, 20.8 percent (41) have UPOV 78, and 61.4 percent (121) have UPOV 91— and five (2.5 percent) are listed as having a Variety Use Agreement, which can only be accessed by farmers who sign a contract agreeing to pay the company an annual fee to use their farm-saved seed to sow future crops.

This restriction on the use of farm-saved seed appears to be an attempt to use commercial contracts to supersede the farmers' privilege provisions under UPOV 91.

This VUA pilot project may also be intended to normalize the concept of paying companies for farm-saved seed to make it easier for Seeds Canada to convince the federal government to introduce regulatory changes that would make royalty payments on farm-saved seed mandatory on all UPOV 91 varieties.

Even without regulatory change, if VUAs are applied when new varieties are released, there will be a massive transfer of wealth from farmers to seed companies.

Farmers have a choice. It's time for Canadian farmers to reject the VUA varieties.

David Gehl represents the National Farmers Union on the CFIA's Variety Registration Task Team.

Cathy Holtslander is NFU's director of research and policy.



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT:	ASB Resolutions for 2022	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
MEETING DATE:	August 24, 2022	DIR:	PRESENTER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	LEG:	
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Governance		

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) –

Council Bylaw/Policy (cite) –

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the 2022 drafts of “ASB Conference Centralization”, “Mid-Level Veterinary Professional”, and “Grizzly Bear Population Impact on Agricultural Production” resolutions for information, as presented.

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Annually, the Peace Regional Agricultural Service Boards meet to review and vote on resolutions proposed by individual Peace Region Agricultural Service Boards for inclusion in the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference. At the Conference, the entire Provincial Agricultural Service Board body reviews the resolutions forwarded from each of the five agricultural regions and vote on whether the resolution should be forwarded on to the appropriate authorities. Within the Agricultural Service Board Act, local Agricultural Services Boards are recognized as advisors to the Alberta Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development. This process is the formal application of the advisory capacity and lobbying power of individual Agricultural Service Boards to recommend changes related to current legislation and processes that impact agricultural producers.

Since the beginning of 2022, the Board has requested several resolutions be drafted for review. They are as follows:

1. Expansion of scope-of-practice for registered veterinary technicians
2. Centralization of the Provincial ASB Conference
3. Grizzly Bear Populations in MD of Greenview/Eastern Slopes

Administration has prepared drafts of these proposed resolutions for the Agricultural Service Boards input, to better ensure the quality of the resolution and that the writer is capturing the intent of the Board.

BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. The benefit of the Agricultural Service Board accepting the recommended motion is that in reviewing the resolutions, information can be gathered by Administration to ensure the intent and purpose as proposed by the Board is captured in the resolution.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended motion.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative #1: The Agricultural Service Board may alter or deny the recommended motion.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

Inform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

Administration will incorporate the board's feedback on the drafted resolutions for presentation at the July ASB Meeting.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Mid-Level Veterinary Professional Resolution
- Centralization of Provincial ASB Conference
- Grizzly Bear Population Impact on Agricultural Production
- Provincial Map with Bear Management Areas
- [Grizzly Bear Occurrence Summary 2020](#)

- [Spatially explicit capture-recapture estimates of grizzly bear density and abundance in Alberta's Bear Management Area 5](#)
- [2004 Population and Density Estimates for the Alberta 3B and 4B Grizzly Bear Management Area](#)
- [Grizzly Bear Population and Density Estimates for the 2008 DNA Inventory of the Grande Cache Bear Management Area \(BMA 2\)](#)
- [Alberta government reviewing threatened status of grizzly bears](#)
- [Alberta Grizzly Bear Populations Increasing](#)
- [Estimates of Grizzly Bear Population Size and Density](#)
- [Estimates of Grizzly Bear Population Size and Density for the Alberta Clearwater Population Unit \(BMA 4\)](#)
- [2018 Grizzly Bear Population Inventory – Bear Management Area 7](#)
- [Mapping ecological data and status of grizzly bears in Canada](#)

**RESOLUTION XX
CREATION OF A MID-LEVEL VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION**

WHEREAS the scope of practice for veterinary professionals is governed by the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, which is governed by the Veterinary Profession Act, (RSA 200, Ch. V-2);

WHEREAS the lack of veterinary professionals has a direct impact of the sustainability and profitability of livestock producers;

WHEREAS medical doctor shortages led to the growth of the Nurse Practitioner designation in human medicine;

WHEREAS addressing the current rural veterinary shortage will take a number of years to have an impact, but the livestock industry needs assistance now;

WHEREAS there are veterinary services that could be performed by a mid-level veterinary professional, alleviating some pressure on Doctor of Veterinary Medicine;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

the Minister of Labour began working with the AbVMA to create a Mid-Level Veterinary Professional designation within the Veterinary Profession Act to address the rural veterinary shortage and provide mid-level supportive care to Alberta livestock producers, including but not limited to:

1. Pregnancy Checking
2. Vaccination
3. Semen Testing
4. Blood draws
5. Injections
6. Catheterization
7. Wellness checks
8. Renewing prescriptions
9. Establishing required relationship for producers to purchase prescribed medicines.

SPONSORED BY: Municipal District of Greenview #16

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____
STATUS: Provincial
DEPARTMENT: Ministry of Labour

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

It is well established that the lack of veterinarians is a worldwide issue. Many in the profession state they are burned out and some have left the profession. While Canadian schools annually graduate approximately 380 veterinary doctors, this barely keeps pace with current levels of retirement and attrition. It is estimated that Alberta alone is short 850 veterinarians, and veterinary technicians are in short supply as well.

The Rural Municipalities of Alberta advanced a resolution in February, 2022 to the Government of Alberta that requested increased funding for the University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. This request was granted by the Provincial Government in an announcement on May 10, 2022. The increase in funding will take the total seats available for prospective students from 50 to 100. While a positive first step, this will address the issue in five years but the problem is now.

Registered Veterinary Technicians are paid low salaries, after two years of schooling, a Registered Veterinary Technician will receive an average of \$21.47 per hour. Minimum wage is currently \$15 per hour for individuals over 18 years of age in Alberta. The average length of a registered veterinary technician's career is 5-7 years.

Providing a mid-level veterinary professional designation may retain more registered veterinary technicians in the field as it would allow for advancement, improve financial compensation and alleviate some of the staffing challenges currently being experienced in veterinary practices in Alberta.

**RESOLUTION XX
CENTRALIZATION OF PROVINCIAL ASB CONFERENCE**

WHEREAS the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference incorporates the entire Provincial Body to set the lobbying and policy change priorities of Alberta Agricultural Service Boards;

WHEREAS attendance at the annual Provincial Conference is the most effective way of individual board members to represent their municipal agricultural producers;

WHEREAS the restrictions of weather and distance should be alleviated as much as possible to maximize individual municipal participation in the Provincial Conference;

WHEREAS there has been difficulty in organizing a Ministers forum at the last five (5) Provincial Conferences;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA’S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

the Organizing Committee of the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference permanently centralize the location of the annual conference in an effort to lessen travel difficulties for board members, maximize on potential cost savings, and provide networking opportunities outside of the conference itself.

SPONSORED BY: Municipal District of Greenview #16

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Regional

DEPARTMENT: AAAF Provincial ASB Hosting Committee

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference is an annual event that gathers the Provincial Body of Agricultural Service Board members to deliberate proposed resolutions that set the priority of lobbying efforts made on behalf of all Agricultural Service Boards in Alberta. The conferences features educational speakers to keep members up-to-date on current agricultural matters and policy, as well as deliberation of resolutions brought forward by each of the five agricultural regions of Alberta.

Other municipally related annual conferences have been centralized to improve the networking opportunities for delegates in attendance, to save on the costs of organizing and delivering the conference, and to ease transportation issues. Conferences that have been centralized are as follows:

Annual Land Use Planning Conference
Annual Emergency Management Conference
Annual Family and Community Support Services Conference
Bi-Annual Rural Municipalities of Alberta Conferences
Alberta Municipalities Conferences

The entire point of hosting an annual conference is to gather the provincial body, network, learn from each other and enjoy the proceedings. Of the responsibilities a municipal Agricultural Service Board are entrusted to carry out, attendance and involvement in the annual conference is the most direct method in which members can lobby to the provincial level for their producers concerns.

It has been mentioned that by rotating the Provincial ASB Conference, each agricultural region gets to show off their region. As the conference takes place in winter, we humbly suggest that a more appropriate time for showing off an agricultural region would be to host a summer tour as a region. This could lead to a return to summer tours being held annually, as it has become too large to be hosted by one municipality.

**RESOLUTION XX
GRIZZLY BEAR POPULATION IMPACT ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION**

WHEREAS population assessments completed in 2014 and 2018 of Alberta's Grizzly Bear in Bear Management Area 3, 4, and 5 revealed that population and density has increased in all three BMAs since the 2006-2008 estimates were completed;

WHEREAS population assessment of Bear Management Area 7 in 2018 provided population and density figures for the first time, but the research institute performing the assessment warned the results should be interpreted with caution due to low precision of the data collected;

WHEREAS population assessment of BMA 2 was completed in 2008 and revealed a density of 18.1 grizzly per 1000 km², the highest density in Alberta;

WHEREAS programming exists in BMA 5 to mitigate the impacts of Grizzly Bear populations on agricultural production, there are few programs to mitigate impacts elsewhere in the province;

WHEREAS rendering of deadstock is a difficult option, with rendering trucks not servicing north of Highway 16;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST**

The Minister of Environment to have BMA 2 population and density of Grizzly Bear assessed and develop a suite of programs for Agricultural Producers, like those available to agricultural producers in BMA 5, including a Provincial Grizzly Impact Mitigation Plan:

SPONSORED BY: Municipal District of Greenview #16

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Minister of Environment and Parks

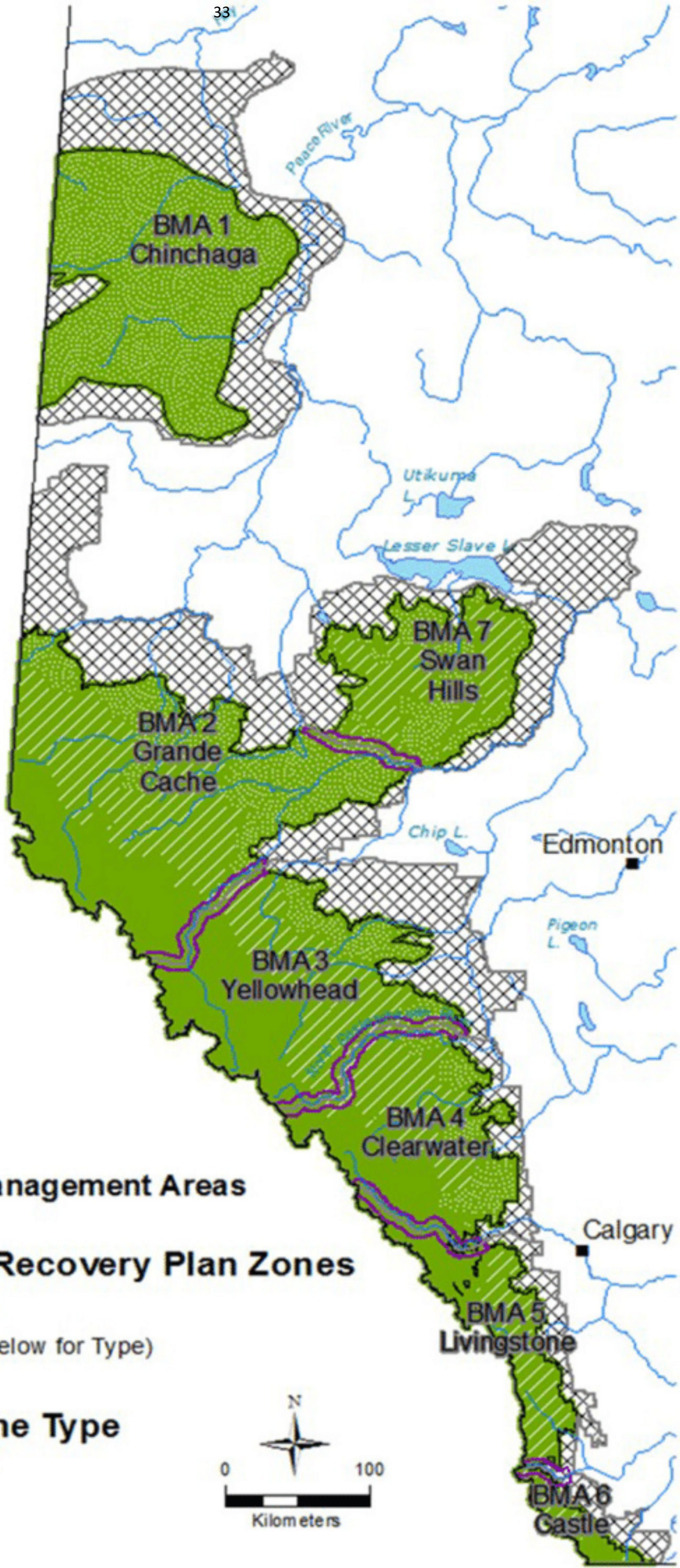
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The grizzly bear population estimate study in 2018 of Bear Management Area 4 indicated a 6% annual rate of increase and an increase in density from 4.39 grizzly per 1000 km² in 2005 to 9.64 grizzly per 1000 km²

The grizzly bear population estimate study completed in 2015 of Bear Management Area 3 indicated a 7% annual rate of increase and an increase in density of the population from 4.79 grizzly per 1000km² in 2004 to 8.42 grizzly per 1000 km². Population estimates on Bear Management Areas (BMA) Bear Management Areas (BMA) 2 and 7. BMA 7, Swan Hills, population survey conducted by Foothills Research Institute in 2018 suggested an estimate of 62 grizzly bears in BMA 7 be used for management purposes until a study with higher precision could be performed. The grizzly population density in BMA 7 is estimated at 12.6 bears per 1,000 km².

BMA 2, Grande Cache, was last surveyed in 2008, with no further surveys announced. The 2008 survey revealed an estimated population of 271 grizzly bears. The density of grizzlies stood at 18.11 bears per 1,000 km². This density was most concentrated in the Wilmore/Kakwa areas.

With the range of an adult male grizzly bear being 1800 km², the proximity of ranches in the BMA 2 increases the potential for conflicts. As populations appear to have rebounded in other BMAs, it would be prudent if the Alberta Government updated grizzly population estimates for BMA 2 and reassess with increased precision in BMA 7. With increased reports from residents of grizzly bears, the development of a Provincial Grizzly Mitigation Plan needs to be prioritized to address the safety of rural residents and inform agricultural producers as to what they can do to protect their livelihoods, potentially reducing wildlife conflicts.



Grizzly Bear Management Areas

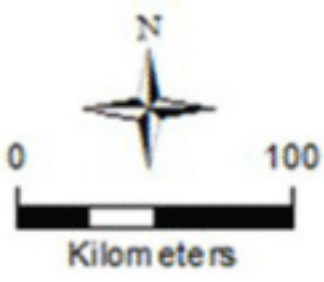


Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan Zones

- Habitat Linkage
- Recovery (see below for Type)
- Support

Recovery Zone Type

- Protected Areas
- Core
- Secondary





REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT:	Livestock Forage and Feed Testing Program		
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
MEETING DATE:	August 24, 2022	CAO:	MANAGER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	DIR:	PRESENTER: SC
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Environment	LEG:	

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agricultural Services Board approve the Agricultural Services Department to provide livestock forage and feed testing to producers within Greenview through a lab service.

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

In recent years the Agricultural Services Department has been receiving an increase in complaints and reports of livestock producers who have been improperly feeding their livestock which has been resulting in malnutrition, illness, and in some cases death. This is an issue that needs to be addressed. This has mostly been happening with producers who are inexperienced, and it is common that this is their first time owning or raising livestock. It is becoming increasingly popular for people to move out of the cities and move into acreages or small farms, and Greenview is an excellent place to do this. However, these people often do not have an education or background in agriculture. As a result, their animals suffer the consequences.

The Agricultural Services Department would like to help producers seeking forage testing by increasing education and awareness of proper animal nutrition and utilization of forage feed testing. Currently we have done this through our rental program and having a forage probe available to rent. Additionally, we have hosted a Forage Workshop with Barry Yaremco of Yaremco Ag Consulting LTD., to educate producers and realize the importance of feed testing. This not only addressed what type of feed testing to order, but how to read the results as well. The next step in this process is the implementation of a forage program in Greenview. Producers would be encouraged to rent the forage probe and bring their samples to the Agricultural Services building where they can be assisted to fill out the paperwork for their test, and the department can send it out to the lab for them.

This will be done in conjunction with the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association's Feed Testing Service. Currently the Peace Country Beef and Forage association offers two (2) free feed tests with membership, additional hay and silage tests are available at \$45 per test. Membership costs \$50/year per producers. Non members are billed at cost for this service. Advertising the benefits of being a member of the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association will be a key component of this program. It is beneficial to have more ratepayers be members of the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association as they are well equipped to provide help with matters relating to livestock and feed testing. It is preferred for ratepayers to use the services that are provided as being a member of the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association. After correspondence with the association, they will be providing resources for the department to give to

the ratepayers about membership and specific information of the feed testing services. Peace Country Beef and Forage Association has expressed their approval and excitement for the proposed initiative of this program in Greenview.

The specific test that would be recommended to Greenview ratepayers has been recommended under the advice of Barry Yaremci~~o~~, the cost is \$25.65 plus shipping. It covers all nutrients recommended by Barry to be covered in a feed test and is also provided by the lab he recommends. Producers would be encouraged to choose this test; however, they are able to choose whatever test they feel will work best for them.

Administratively, it would be helpful if the department staff provided the forage and feed testing as a service and covered the cost of testing and shipping. As it is not on the Schedule of Fees, we are currently unable to charge for this service. It is possible that we can either conduct this service with no charge to the producers or amend the schedule of fees to accommodate the livestock feed testing.

BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The benefit of the Agricultural Service Board accepting the recommended action is the implementation of a program that works alongside the services currently provided by the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association may reduce the number of livestock deaths and illnesses related to poor nutrition.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The disadvantage of the recommended action would be that if the Agricultural Services Board decides to cover the cost of the feed tests, there will be a financial implication. If the Agricultural Services Board chooses to not cover the cost of the feed testing and shipping, then there will need to be an amendment to the Schedule of Fees to accommodate charging this as a service to ratepayers.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative #1: An alternative would be to not offer this program and continue to advertise the services provided by the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association. This is not recommended as the Association has been in place for many years and complaints have been increasing in the Greenview area. It is apparent that people are either choosing not to use the services provided by the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association or they are unaware of them.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

Direct Costs: Costs of the labour for staff to receive the samples and ship them to the appropriate lab and discuss the options with the ratepayer. Potential costs to Greenview if it is decided to cover the cost of shipping and of the feed tests itself. Feed tests can range from \$20-\$50 dependant on the type of test chosen. Shipping would depend on the courier rates.

Ongoing / Future Costs: Cost of the upkeep and maintenance of the program, regular wages for staff who are working on the program.

STAFFING IMPLICATION:

Incorporation of the program into the regular work of one or two staff members to help with test selection and mailing. Should this service be provided at a cost to the ratepayer, then the appropriate staff will create the applicable invoicing.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

Inform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

Should the Agricultural Service Board approve the recommended action, Administration will move forward with the proposed activity.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- N/A



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW No. 16

Manager's Report

Department: Agricultural Service Board

Submitted by: Sheila Kaus, Manager, Agricultural Services

Date: 8/24/2022

In total, 2,391 weed infestation case files have updated with a control rate of 72%. Of cases documented, 14% are of concern and flagged to be dealt with throughout the year, not only in the control season. It is hoped that the increased communication during the off-season will allow for more conducive discussions, leading to resolution. Of note, 34 of the infestations listed as requiring a weed notice are Greenview Right Of Way infestations- confirmation of species is being sought. 4 other prohibited noxious infestations have been controlled, 2 represent notices issued by the department earlier this year and 9 other cases are on lease sites, awaiting species confirmation.

Staff have completed pest inspections, with 422 inspection, 4 suspected cases of clubroot were found and samples sent to the lab for confirmation. During 2022, Greenview has participated in the Bertha Army Worm Survey, Clubroot Survey, Pea-Leaf Weevil Survey, Wheat Head Survey, the Grasshopper Survey and two separate Blackleg surveys. No aphanomyces has been detected to date. Fusarium surveys will take place this week, with Verticillium Wilt finishing off the survey year. Verticillium is most easily identified later in the season.

The Forestry Trunk Road was inspected and a significant infestation of a plant of concern was found. The Provincial Weed Specialist was contacted to confirm if the plant was Meadow Hawkweed, a prohibited noxious species or Yellow Devil Hawkweed, an unlegislated species. Samples were collected and carefully photographed, with a sample being couriered to the specialist. The specialist does not believe the plant is meadow hawkweed and directed administration send samples to the Alberta Plant Health Lab for DNA analysis. The results of this testing were inconclusive, with many potential species being sited. The specialist will discuss with Administration further as to next steps, suggesting eradication efforts this season would be ineffectual and definitive species identification is still required prior to Greenview making the commitment to eradication efforts.

Extension and outreach work continues, with the department hosting a forage sampling workshop. 25 people attended the workshop and rentals of the forage probe have increased. Administration is in talks with PCBFA to Work together to increase the number of producers and acreage owners testing their forage.

Rotational spraying continues with 1,518 kilometers, or 944 miles completed. This equates to 1821.6 ha sprayed or 4501.27 acres. 36 private spray requests have been completed to date.

CASE STATUS	# OF CASES
CONTROLLED	1726
0-11: Monitor for increase and new species, make landowner aware, cheaper to control now	324
12-19: Phone calls once a week, follow up inspection, offer of programs and assistance, mech and cult controls	234
20-26: Notify super, Phone calls twice a week, follow up inspections, offer programs and assistance, mech and cult, caution landowner severity is increasing, potential weed notice next year	30
27-30: Notify supervisor, weed notice	49
NOT SUCCESSFULLY CONTACTED	28

Every five years, a representative from the Ministry of Agricultural, Forestry, and Rural Economic Development conduct municipal visits to assess the current state of the Agricultural Service Board program. Greenview participated in this audit on July 29, 2022. The representative was pleased with Greenviews current trajectory in relation to the mandate and responsibilities the ASB Act outlines. The representative did suggest that Administration reach out to the Natural Resource Management Coordinator to inquire about potential funding for extension and outreach initiatives.

Administration and the representative reviewed the strategic business plan and participated in a discussion on Administrations efforts to align the ASB Strategic Business Plan with the overarching Strategic Plan put forth by Council. Programs, policies and documents, were review with copies being supplied to the representative. The visit culminated in a tour to both Tall Buttercup herbicide trial sites, our Scentless Chamomile site that has been completely controlled, and our Pale-Yellow Iris control site. Administration has received calls from other municipalities since this visit for assistance in improving record keeping and reporting, strategic business plan and municipal strategic plan harmonization, and pest management and policy.

Rental Equipment stands at 307 rental days up to August 17, 2022.

Thus far in 2022, 17 wolves were submitted for incentive, totaling \$5,100.00 and 237 beavers have been submitted for incentive, totaling \$7,110.00. Total hunting incentive payments for 2022 stand at \$12,060.

87 MD of Greenview beaver carcasses have been sold to an outfitter at \$7.00 per carcass for a revenue of \$609.00. It is hoped this relationship will continue, providing an ethical disposal method that returns funding to Greenview.

VSI Quarterly Reports and Service Breakdown – 2022

Second quarter VSI totals for 2022 arrived and thus far, Greenview is trending downwards, with a 4.49% reduction in claims. Thus far, 2067 pregnancy checks have been claimed, with this number expected to grow substantially in the third quarter. AbVMA recently changed the scop of practice for registered veterinary technicians to allow technicians that have completed appropriate courses to complete pregnancy checks. Semen testing stands at 411 claims with 41 examination claims and 13 caesarean sections rounding out the current totals.

	# Services	2022	2021	2020	+/- (%)
Total 1st Quarter	70	\$17,268.52	\$19,269.77	\$21,172.35	-8.99%
Total 2nd Quarter	175	\$33,563.50	\$33,953.33	\$36,569.40	-1.15%
Total 3rd Quarter			\$ 8,382.80	\$ 8,342.09	
Total 4th Quarter			\$40,995.55	\$34,228.60	
2022 Claims			\$102,601.45	\$100,312.44	-4.49%

Beaver numbers have dropped off for the month of August. The Problem Wildlife team have more sites coming in again, and in the coming months they are planning to have some problem areas cleared for spring runoff as they work with operations. They will also have more blasting coming up as some jobs close off and new ones arise. The Problem Wildlife team have been using the current lull in beaver related work orders to enter data into the GIS map for problem wildlife. This data collection will allow the team to rapidly address areas that are known trouble spots, anticipating the issues prior to the issue being reported by ratepayers. This data collection includes aerials of the area to inform decision making and communications with Greenviews other departments. 230 problem beaver have been removed and twenty (20) dams have been blasted.

Problem Wildlife Work Orders,

File Status	Beaver-MD	Beaver-Ratepayer	Customer Service	Predation	TOTAL
In Queue					
Open	1	5	0	0	6
Closed	62	30	10	15	117
TOTALS	63	35	10	15	123



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT: **Correspondence**

SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION
MEETING DATE:	August 24, 2022	CAO: MANAGER: SK
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE	DIR: MH PRESENTER: SK
STRATEGIC PLAN:	Level of Service	LEG:

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy (cite) – N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence for information, as presented.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Map 1 15-day precipitation accumulations as of August 10 2022
2. Map 2 30-day precipitation accumulations as of August 10 2022
3. Map 3 30-day precipitation relative to Normal as of August 10 2022
4. Map 4 30-day temperature patterns as of August 10 2022

UPCOMING EVENT(S):

1. Aug 30, 2022 [AUG Grazing Series – Watering Systems](#)
2. Sept 2, 2022 [Your Path to Farm Transition](#)
3. Sept 9th and 10th, 2022 [Peace Country Forest Grazing School](#)

BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. The benefit of the Agricultural Service Board accepting the recommended motion is that the Board will be made aware of the events, seminars and conferences within the agricultural community throughout the Province.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended motion.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative #1: The Agricultural Service Board has the alternative to alter or deny the recommended motion.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

Inform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

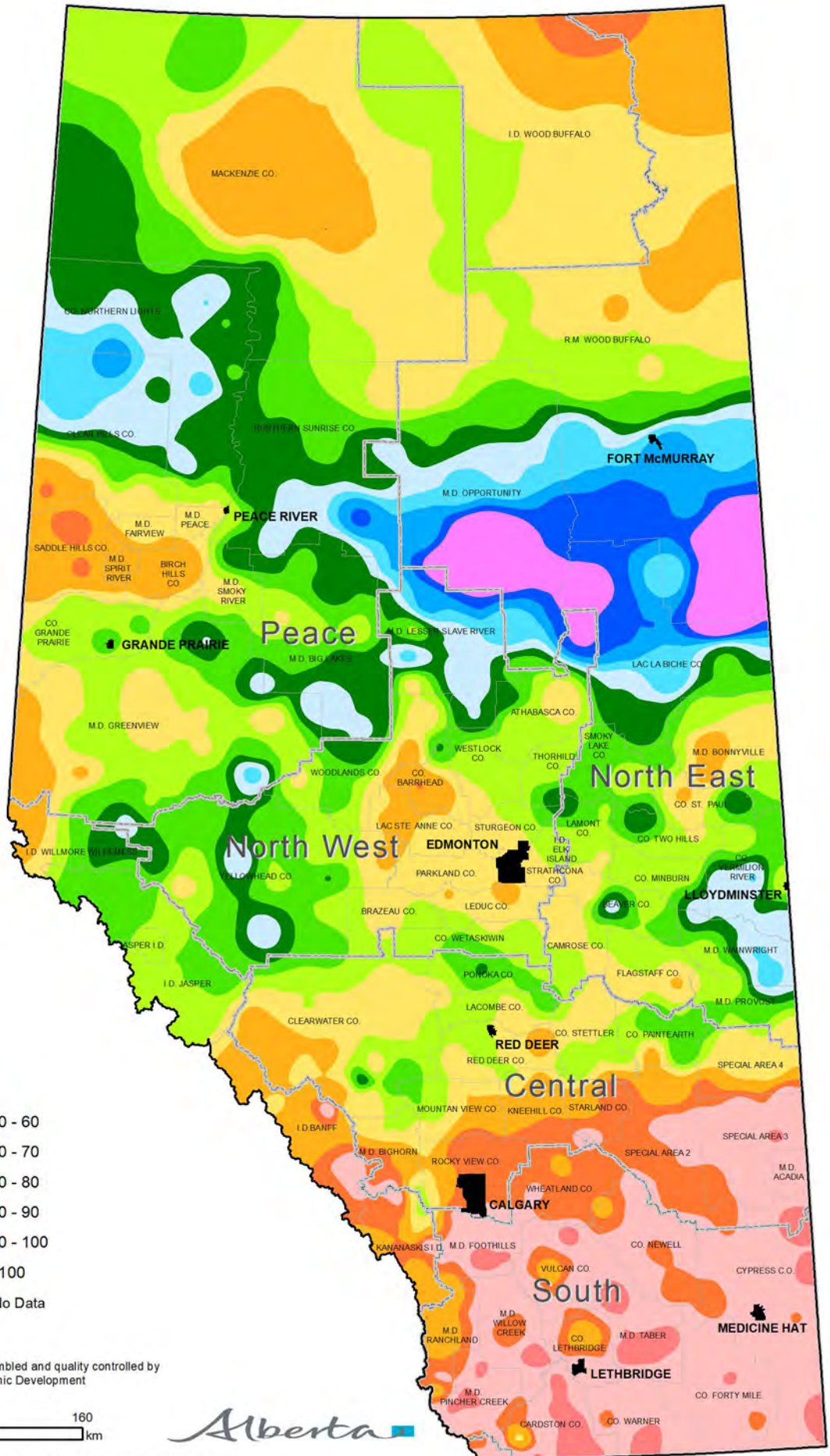
Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

There are no follow up actions to the recommended motion.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Map 1, 15-day Precipitation Accumulation as of August 10, 2022
- Map 2, 30-day Precipitation Accumulation as of August 10, 2022
- Map 3, 30-day Precipitation Relative to Normal as of August 10, 2022
- Map 4, 30-day Temperature Patterns as of August 10, 2022



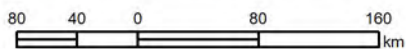
Precipitation Received During the Past 15-days

July 27, 2022 to August 10, 2022

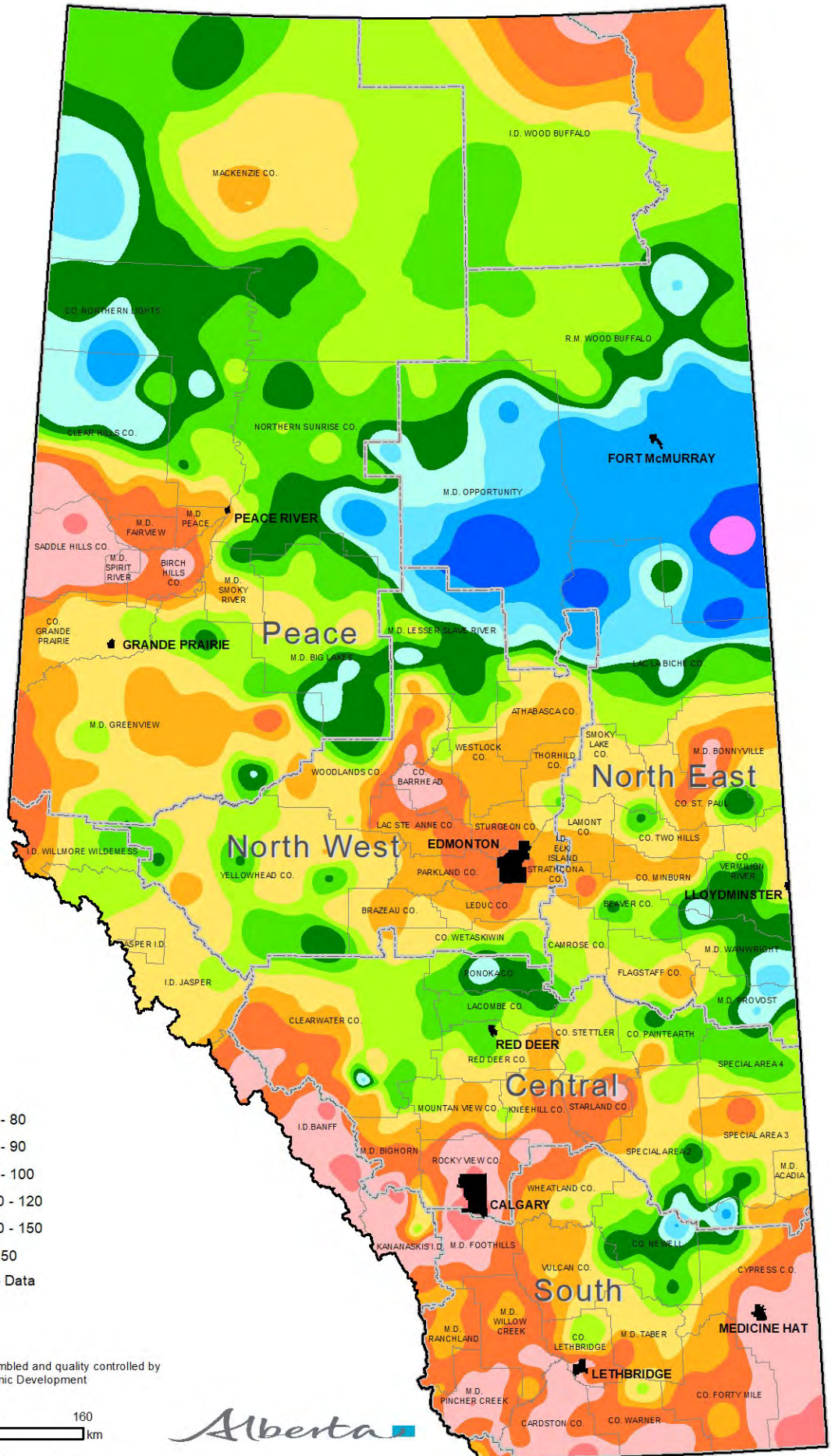
Precipitation (mm)

■ < 1	■ 50 - 60
■ 1 - 5	■ 60 - 70
■ 5 - 10	■ 70 - 80
■ 10 - 20	■ 80 - 90
■ 20 - 30	■ 90 - 100
■ 30 - 40	■ >100
■ 40 - 50	 No Data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch
Created on August 11, 2022



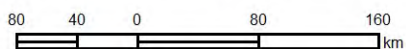
Precipitation Received During the Past 30-days

July 12, 2022 to August 10, 2022

Precipitation (mm)

0 - 10	70 - 80
10 - 20	80 - 90
20 - 30	90 - 100
30 - 40	100 - 120
40 - 50	120 - 150
50 - 60	> 150
60 - 70	No Data

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development















Compiled by Alberta Agriculture Forestry and Rural Economic Development
Created on August 11, 2022

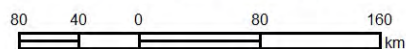


30-Day Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Long Term Normal

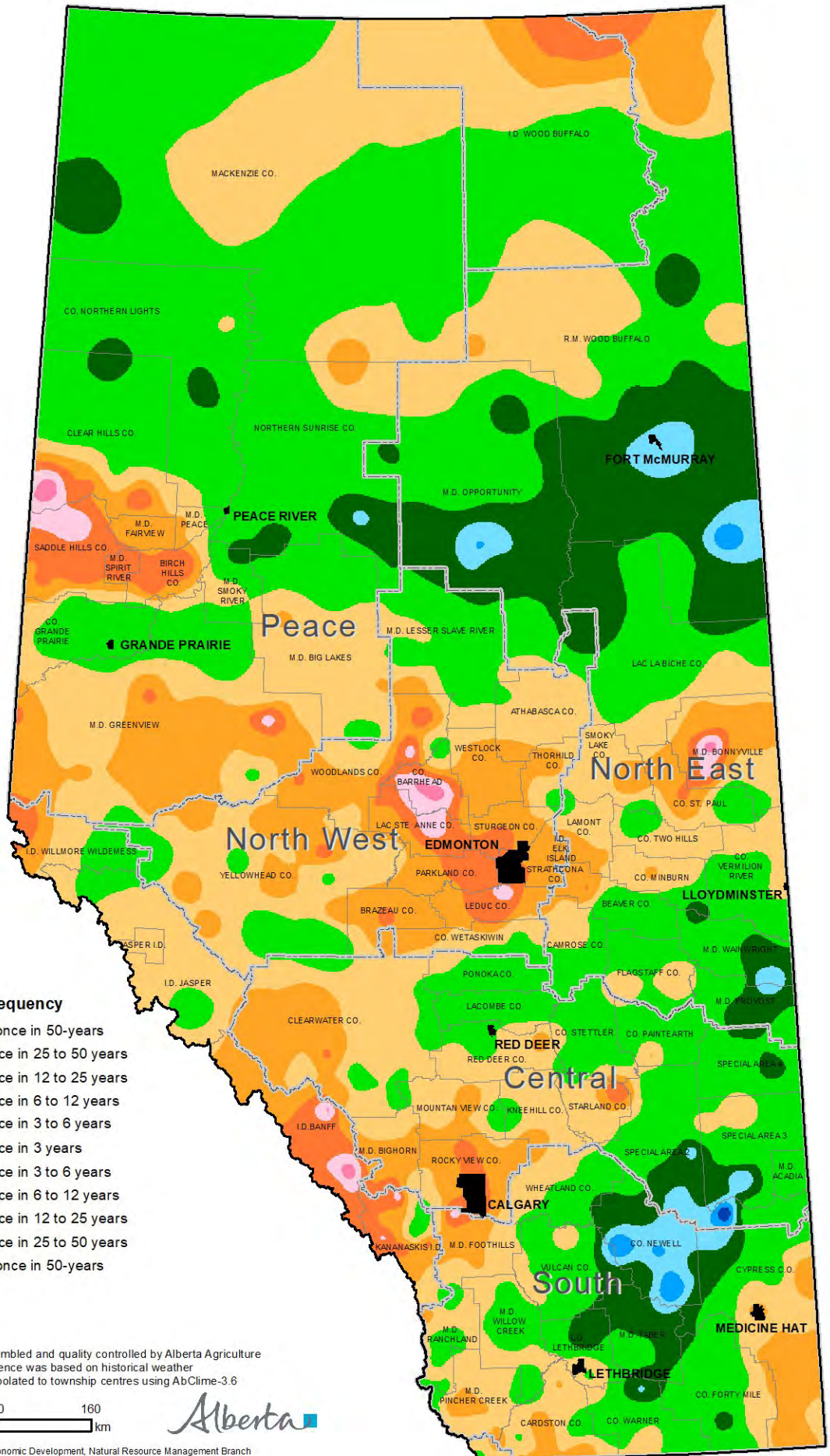
July 12, 2022 to August 10, 2022

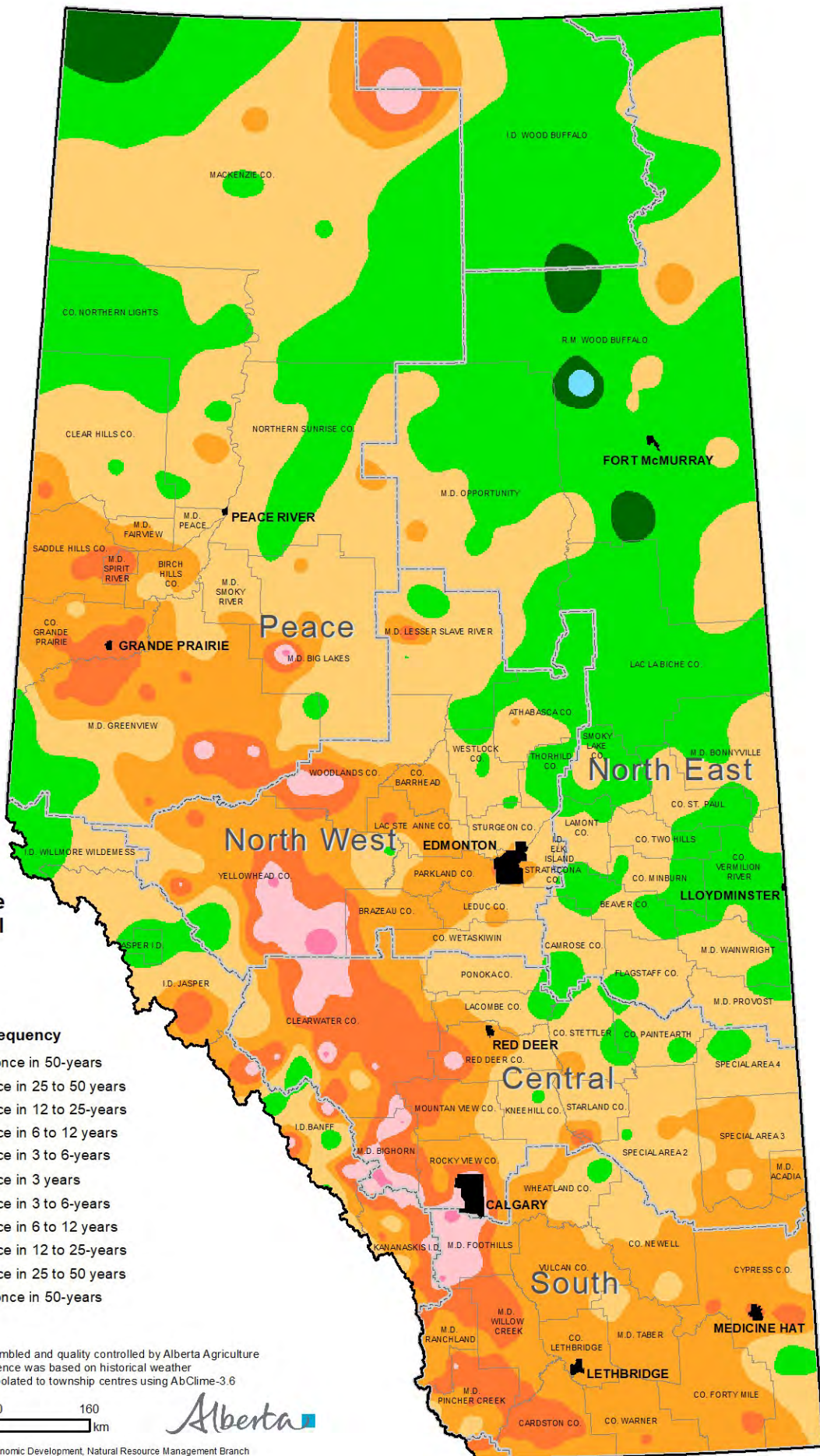
Condition	Frequency
 driest	< once in 50-years
 extremely low	once in 25 to 50 years
 very low	once in 12 to 25 years
 low	once in 6 to 12 years
 moderately low	once in 3 to 6 years
 near normal	once in 3 years
 moderately high	once in 3 to 6 years
 high	once in 6 to 12 years
 very high	once in 12 to 25 years
 extremely high	once in 25 to 50 years
 wettest	< once in 50-years
 no data	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClime-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch
Created on August 11, 2022



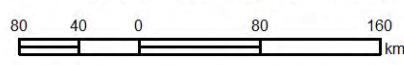


30-Day Average Daily Mean Temperature Relative to Long Term Normal

July 12, 2022 to August 10, 2022

Condition	Frequency
warmest	< once in 50-years
extremely warm	once in 25 to 50 years
very warm	once in 12 to 25-years
warm	once in 6 to 12 years
moderately warm	once in 3 to 6-years
near normal	once in 3 years
moderately cool	once in 3 to 6-years
cool	once in 6 to 12 years
very cool	once in 12 to 25-years
extremely cool	once in 25 to 50 years
coldest	< once in 50-years
no data	

Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1961-2021 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClima-3.6



Compiled by Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, Natural Resource Management Branch
Created on August 11, 2022