AGENDA
MD OF RANCHLAND NO. 66
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
CHAIN LAKES PROVINCIAL PARK
November 25, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA ..... Pages 1 – 2

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
ASB Minutes from September 2, 2025 ..... Pages 3 – 6

4. BUSINESS

A. Old Business

i. Council Letter re: Ag Canada Research Centre ..... Pages 7 - 8

ii. Proposed MDRL Resolution ..... Pages 9 - 12

iii Rangelands & Pastoralists Resolution

iv. ASB Action Items ..... Page 13

v. SR ASB Conference
Resolutions & Report – Harry, Donna,

B. New Business

i. ASB Chair Discussion and Election of Vice Chair

ii Introduction of New Hire

iii. NAISMA Conference Report

iv. Livestock Emergency Response Plan ..... Pages 14 -15
RFD

v. Integrated Pest Management Plan ..... Pages 16 - 32
RFD

vi. Agricultural Pest Act Policy Review ..... Page 33

vii. Soil Conservation Act Policy Review ..... Page 34

viii. Weed Control Act Policy Review ..... Page 35

ix. Animal Health Act Policy Review ..... Page 36

x. AG for Life Request for Donation ..... Pages 37 - 43

xi. 2026 BMO Farm Family Awards ..... Pages 44 - 45

xii. AISC Request for Donation ..... Pages 46 - 48

5. CORRESPONDENCE
None

6. **ADJOURN**

Information

Upcoming Events

2026 Provincial ASB Conference
January 20 to 22, 2026 – Edmonton

2026 SRM Conference
February 7 to 11, 2026 – Monterey, Ca.

2026 FFGA Tour
February, 2026 - Uruguay

MD OF RANCHLAND NO. 66
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday, October 7, 2025

The regular meeting of the Agricultural Service Board of the Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66 was held in Council Chambers in the Municipal Office on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 commencing at 10:03am

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lucy Streeter, Board Member
Donna Wilson, Board Member
Don Mowat, Board Member
Harry Streeter, Councillor

Rick Niwa, Ag Fieldman, Recording Secretary
Shayna Jones, Assistant Ag Fieldman, Scribe

GUESTS:

REGRETS: Jody Wilson, Chairman
Roxy Wideman, Member
Cameron Gardner, Councillor
Ron Davis, Reeve

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairman Lucy Streeter called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

M95/09/02/25 Moved by Member Donna Wilson to accept the agenda as presented.

Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M96/09/02/25 Moved by Member Donna Wilson to approve the ASB minutes from September 2, 2025 as presented.

Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Livestock Scale

M97/09/02/25 Moved by Member Harry Streeter to remove the Livestock Scale from the ASB action item list.

Carried.

SR ASB Conference

M98/09/02/25 Moved by Member Donna Wilson to accept SR ASB Conference for information.

Carried.

O,H & S Inspection

M99/09/02/25 Moved by Member Harry Streeter to accept O,H &S Inspection for information.

Carried.

ASB Action Items

M100/10/07/25 Moved by Member Don Mowatt to accept the ASB Action Items update for information.

Carried.

Beef "n" Bean

M101/10/07/25 Moved by Member Don Mowatt to accept Beef "n" Bean for information.

Carried.

New Business

Ecosystem Restoration Program & RSP Grant

M102/10/07/25 Moved by Member Harry Streeter to accept the Ecosystem Restoration Program & RSP Grant for information.

Carried.

Proposed MDRL Resolution

M103/10/07/25 Moved by Member Donna Wilson to direct Rick Niwa to draft a Proposed MDRL Resolution as discussed.

Carried.

Moved by Member Don Mowatt for Rick Niwa to prepare letter as discussed and request that council approve, sign and send it at the next meeting.

Carried.

November ASB Meeting

M104/10/07/25 Moved by Member Harry Streeter move the November ASB Meeting to November 25, 2025.

Carried.

ASB Membership

M105/10/07/25 Moved by Member Donna Wilson to accept ASB Membership for information.

Carried.

SR Resolutions

M105/10/07/25 Moved by Member Donna Wilson that members attending the South Region ASB Conference to vote as discussed in regard to SR Resolutions.

Carried.

Rangelands & Pastoralists Resolution

M107/10/07/25 Moved by Member Donna Wilson that the ASB recommend council declare a day of their choosing, in 2026, as Rangeland and Pastoralists Day.

Carried.

Correspondence

Declaration of an Agricultural Disaster-Thorhild County
Unlimited Of-Farm Slaughter & Sales-County of Minburn

M108/10/07/25 Moved by Member Don Mowatt to accept the Correspondence items for information.

Carried

Adjournment

Adjourned at 10:57am

These minutes approved this _____ day of _____ 2025.

_____ _____

Cam Gardner, Interim Chairman Rick Niwa, Agricultural Fieldman

October 14, 2025

The Honourable Heath MacDonald
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
1341 Baseline Road
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
aafc.minister-ministre.aac@agr.gc.ca

Subject: Inquiry Regarding the Vacant Research Scientist Position at AAFC Lethbridge Research and Development Centre

Dear Minister MacDonald,

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66 to inquire about the timeline for filling the research scientist position recently vacated by the retirement of Dr. Rosemarie De Clerck-Floate, Weed Biological Control Entomologist at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) Lethbridge Research and Development Centre. This vacancy leaves Canada without the capacity to evaluate and approve any new weed biological control (biocontrol) agents for use by farmers, land and water managers, effectively halting the pipeline of new tools to manage invasive species. Without this scientist in place, the significant federal investment in the Lethbridge quarantine facility cannot fulfill its intended purpose of developing and approving new agents, leaving this vital infrastructure underutilized and idle.

This position is pivotal to the future of weed biocontrol research and development in Canada. As a recognized cornerstone of integrated pest management, biocontrol provides a sustainable, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly approach to managing invasive species. The biocontrol of destructive plants that have invaded Canada from elsewhere involves importing insects that feed specifically on the weed at its place of origin, and this long-running AAFC program has earned wide recognition and acceptance among agricultural producers and land managers. Once developed, biocontrol agents offer long-term control with minimal ongoing costs, reduce reliance on chemical controls, and help restore balance to affected ecosystems.

Over the past year, the Alberta Invasive Species Council has convened a broad coalition of organizations from across Alberta, including municipal and provincial governments, federal agencies, industry, producer groups, and non-governmental organizations, to strengthen biocontrol capacity in our province. This collaboration, known as the Alberta Biocontrol Consortium, is focused on:

- Identifying and prioritizing invasive species targets for biocontrol in Alberta
- Supporting the development and evaluation of biocontrol agents
- Facilitating knowledge sharing among member organizations
- Mobilizing financial and in-kind resources to support biocontrol initiatives

Through this collaborative effort, we are working to secure the funding and partnerships needed to advance biocontrol research in Alberta and beyond. However, the absence of a dedicated research scientist at the AAFC Lethbridge facility creates a critical gap. Even if we are able to fund the overseas research needed to identify potential new biocontrol agents, without an AAFC scientist to lead and contribute to this work, the essential processes of assessing safety, efficacy, and suitability for release in Canada are disrupted.

The Lethbridge Research and Development Centre houses a state-of-the-art quarantine facility specifically designed for rearing biocontrol agents and testing them against invasive and native plant species to ensure host specificity and environmental safety. This specialized infrastructure is unique and irreplaceable, but without appropriately qualified scientific staff to operate it, the facility cannot fulfill its intended purpose and risks sitting idle despite the significant federal investment it represents.

We understand that the federal public service is facing fiscal pressures, but we urge you to recognize this position as essential to Canada's leadership in sustainable, science-based invasive species management. Filling this vacancy would ensure that the federal investment in the Lethbridge facility continues to deliver tangible benefits for producers and ecosystems across the country, work that is already backed by a broad grassroots network of collaborating organizations in Alberta.

Without timely action to fill this position, Canada's capacity to deliver new biocontrol agents will remain stalled, leaving producers without vital tools and allowing costly invasive species to spread unchecked. This vacancy would render world-class federal infrastructure effectively idle, despite strong provincial momentum and partner investments ready to be leveraged. Filling this position is the critical step needed to unlock these resources and deliver real solutions on the ground.

Thank you for considering this request. We would be happy to provide more information on the collaborative work underway in Alberta or discuss this matter further

Sincerely,

Ron Davis, Reeve
Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66
403-646-3131
rdavis@ranchland66.com

Cc: John Barlow, Member of Parlement – Foothills
The Honourable R.J. Sigurdson, Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
The Honourable Rebecca Schulz, Alberta Minister of Environment and Protected Areas
The Honourable Todd Loewen, Alberta Minister of Forestry and Parks
Chelsae Petrovic, MLA – Livingstone-Macleod
Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee
Alberta Agricultural Service Boards

RESOLUTION XX: Vacant Weed Biological Control - Research Scientist Position, Lethbridge Research and Development Centre

WHEREAS: In 2008 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency estimates the economic cost of invasive plant species in Canada is $2.2 billion annually.[1]

WHEREAS: In 2022 the Alberta Invasive Species Council updated estimated the cost of invasive species to Albertans at $2.1billion annually.[2]

WHEREAS: Biological control is a critical tool for managing established invasive plants, particularly in natural landscapes or where chemical and mechanical controls are impractical, cost-prohibitive, or ineffective.

WHEREAS: The Lethbridge Research and Development Centre houses a state-of-the-art quarantine facility specifically designed for rearing and evaluating biocontrol agents.

WHEREAS: The recent retirement of the_Weed Biological Control Entomologist Research Scientist, working at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Lethbridge Research and Development Centre has left this pivotal position vacant, halting to evaluate and approve new weed biological control agents.

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

That Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to immediately fill the vacant Research Scientist - Weed Biological Control position at the AAFC Lethbridge Research and Development Centre, to restore Canada's critical capacity for biocontrol research and protect producers and land managers from the impacts of invasive species.

SPONSORED BY: (name of sponsoring municipality)
MOVED BY: _____
SECONDED BY: _____
CARRIED: _____
DEFEATED: _____
STATUS: Provincial
DEPARTMENT: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

EMERGENT ISSUE: This resolution is brought forward as an emergent issue as awareness of this critical situation only came to our attention after the regular submission timeline had closed. This event has created an immediate national crisis, halting all new biocontrol development, and requires an urgent response.

SUMMARY: The recent retirement of Dr. Rosemarie De Clerck-Floate, a leading Research Scientist for weed biological control at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) Lethbridge Research and Development Centre, has left a critical expertise and leadership gap. This vacancy idles the specialized weed biocontrol program at the Lethbridge facility, which is a primary national centre for this work. This creates a severe bottleneck, halting the development of new weed biocontrol agents for producers and land managers.

ISSUE: The AAFC weed biocontrol program provides sustainable, cost-effective, and environmentally sound solutions to invasive species[3], earning wide acceptance from agricultural producers and land managers. This vital work now faces a critical bottleneck.

- **Halted Research Pathway:** The pre-approval research process for a single new agent is extensive, requiring "10+ years research"[4]. While other AAFC facilities also conduct biocontrol importation, the Lethbridge scientist led key national weed biocontrol files. Without this dedicated expertise, the research and development of new weed agents at this primary facility cannot proceed.

- **Idle Federal Infrastructure:** The AAFC Lethbridge Research Centre houses a "state-of-the-art insect-microbial containment facility"[5] built specifically designed for rearing biocontrol agents and testing them against invasive and native plant species to ensure host specificity and environmental safety. This specialized infrastructure is unique and irreplaceable. Without this scientist in place, the significant federal investment in this facility cannot fulfill its intended purpose of developing and approving new agents, leaving this vital "long-term investment in scientific capacity" and infrastructure is "integral in driving research results"[6] and risks sitting idle without qualified scientific staff.

- **Blocked Provincial Partnerships:** The Alberta Invasive Species Council has convened the Alberta Biocontrol Consortium, a broad coalition of provincial/municipal governments, industry, and NGOs, which is actively mobilizing resources to support biocontrol initiatives. These efforts and partner investments are now blocked, as they depend on this federal position to lead the research and unlock the regulatory pathway.

LINKS TO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

Filling this position directly supports key federal objectives:

- **Supporting Canadian Farmers and Producers:** Biocontrol is a critical tool as producers face mounting challenges, including invasive species and pesticide resistance.

- **Protecting Environmental Sustainability:** As a world leader in biocontrol research[1], this AAFC program is a key tool for managing invasive species and addressing environmental challenges related to "climate change"[1].

- **Upholding Federal Mandates:** AAFC's success is built on "long-term investments in... scientific expertise"[4]. Staffing this position is essential to delivering on the core federal activity of developing "methods to address biological threats to the agriculture and agri-food chain"[1].

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada take immediate action to prioritize and fill the vacant Research Scientist, Weed Biological Control Entomologist position at the Lethbridge Research and Development Centre.

RATIONALE

The cost of inaction is high. Every month this position remains vacant, Canada's capacity to deliver new biocontrol solutions diminishes, allowing costly invasive species to spread unchecked.

This single vacancy has created a critical gap that:

1. Leaves producers and land managers without vital, long-term tools to combat invasive species and reduce pesticide reliance.

2. Renders "state-of-the-art" federal infrastructure effectively idle.

Filling this position is the critical step needed to clear this research bottleneck, ensure the federal investment in the Lethbridge facility delivers tangible benefits, and provide real solutions for producers and ecosystems across the country.

References

1. Canadian Food Inspection Agency, (2008). *Invasive Alien Plants in Canada, Summary Report*. Retrieved from https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2008/inspection/A104-64-2008E.pdf?utm_source=
2. Alberta Invasive Species Council, (2022). *Update to the Cost of Invasive Species in Alberta*. Retrieved from https://abinvasives.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Update-to-the-Costs-of-Invasive-Species-In-Alberta-2022-FINAL-1.pdf
3. Mason, P. G., & Gillespie, D. R. (Eds.). (2024). *Biological Control Programmes in Canada, 2013-2023*. Retrieved from https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/doi/10.1079/9781800623279.0000
4. Government of British Columbia. (2025). *Invasive Plant Pest Management Plan for Provincial Public Lands in Northern British Columbia*. Retrieved from https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/plants-animals-and-ecosystems/invasive-species/pest-management/pmp_northernbc_25-30_final_402-0692-25-30.pdf
5. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. (2009). *BIOCONTROL – USING NATURE TO CONTROL AGRICULTURAL PESTS*. Retrieved from https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2009/agr/A72-67-2009E.pdf
6. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. (2017). *Evaluation of Science 2.1.1: Science Supporting an Innovative and Sustainable Sector*. Retrieved from https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/department/transparency/audits-evaluations/evaluation-science-211-science-supporting-innovative-and-sustainable-sector

ASB Action Items

October 7, 2025

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	Draft a proposed resolution re: Ag Canada Research Centre vancant position	Complete
Staff	Prepare a letter for Council re: vancant research scientist positionat Lethbridge research centre	Complete
Harry & Donna	Vote on SR ASB Resolutions as discussed	Complete
Staff	Bring the ASB recommendation to Declare a day in 2026 as Rangeland & Pastoralist Day	Complete

September 2, 2025

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	Register Members and Staff for SR ASB Conference	Complete
Staff	Investigate available funding opportunities through the Rangeland Sustainability Program and assess potential avenues to support the Ecosystem Restoration Program	Complete
Staff	Register Members and Staff for SR ASB Conference	Removed M96/09/02/25

June 3, 2025

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	NAISMA Conference - Book Hotel Rooms for Attending Members & Staff	Complete
Staff	Forward Inspector/Officer appointment recommendations to Council for Their Consideration	Complete
Staff	Froward NAISMA Partnership Recommendation to Council for Their Consideration	Complete
Staff	Froward 2024 Schedule of Producer Weed Assistance Programs to Council	Complete
Staff	Request that Council Direct Finance & Admin. create a Contingency Fund	Complete
Staff	Write a letter to from the MD of Ranchland regarding the Weed Reg. Review	Complete

May 6, 2025

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	Hire Danny Hooper for Beef n Bean	Complete
Staff	Hire Jitterbug Catering for Beef n Bean	Complete
Staff	Provide Information on Possible Livestock Scale Purchase to Next Meeting	Complete
Staff	Forward 2025 Scheddule of ASB Rates & Fees to Council for Approval	Complete
Staff	Forward IWMP to Council for Approval	Complete

March 4, 2025

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	Forward 2025 Schedule of Producer Weed Assistance Programs to Council	Complete
Staff	Contact Jerry Carroll, Danny Hooper & Dan Gilles for Pricing & Availibility for Beef n Bean	Complete

February 4, 2025

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	Donate $2000 to FFGA	Completed
Staff	Send letter to producers with unpaid invoices for weed control	Completed
Staff	Draft recommendations to address with unpaid weed control invoices	Pending
Staff	Update Rental Equipment Policy and forward to council for their consideration	Completed
Staff	Recommend council review the ASB Bylaw 2024-01	Completed
Staff	Recommend that council review the ASB Act	Completed

January 7, 2025

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	Present 2024 ASB Year End Report to Council	Completed

November 12, 2024

Designate	Description	Status
Staff	Create list of annual sponsorships and bring to next meetiing	Completed
Staff	Apply for 2025 to 2029 ASB & Enviro Grant	Completed
Staff	Complete Farm Family Award Nomination	Completed

M.D. OF RANCHLAND NO. 66
REPORT TO THE ASB
Request for Decision (RFD)

Title: Livestock Emergency Response Plan

Meeting Date: November 25, 2025

Originated By: Rick Niwa, Agricultural Fieldman

Recommendation: That the ASB recommends council appoint individuals to a Livestock Emergency Response Plan Advisory Committee to assist council, the ASB and staff in the development of a Livestock Emergency Response Plan in an advisory capacity.

Background: Staff and the ASB have considered implementing a Livestock Emergency Response plan for several years. However, due to our unique landscape and resulting management of livestock, drafting a response plan for councils' consideration has proved problematic.

The ASB Act allows for the establishment of advisory committees to assist the ASB and Council in an advisory capacity as outlined below.

Advisory committees
5 (1) A council may appoint one or more advisory committees with respect to any matter related to agriculture.
(2) An advisory committee appointed under this section shall act in an advisory capacity to the board and the council.
(3) A municipality may provide that reasonable allowances for travelling, subsistence and out-of-pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings of an advisory committee appointed under this section may be paid to the members of the committee

Benefits: Utilizes the authority granted under the ASB Act to provide additional resources to solve an ongoing issue by drafting a Livestock Emergency Response Plan for Councils consideration in the best interest of the residence and ratepayers of the municipality.

Disadvantages: Potential costs incurred by providing reasonable allowances for travel, subsistence and out-of-pocket expenses incurred by appointed members in attending meetings of the advisory committee.

Legislation: Agricultural Service Board Act & the Animal Health Act.

Strategic Pillar: Environmental Stewardship
Public Safety and Emergency Services
Community

Options for Action: 1. That the ASB recommends council appoint individuals to a Livestock Emergency Response Plan Advisory Committee to assist council, the ASB and staff in the development of a Livestock Emergency Response Plan in an advisory capacity.

2. Accept for Information

Costs: Potential costs incurred by providing reasonable allowances for travel, subsistence and out-of-pocket expenses incurred by appointed members in attending meetings of the advisory committee.

Attachments None

M.D. OF RANCHLAND NO. 66
REPORT TO THE ASB
Request for Decision (RFD)

Title: Integrated Pest Management Plan

Meeting Date: November 25, 2025

Originated By: Rick Niwa, Agricultural Fieldman

Recommendation: That the ASB recommends council adopt the Integrated Pest Management Plan as attached.

Background: One of the deliverables outlined in our 2025 to 2029 ASB Legislative Grant was the development of an Integrated Pest Management plan.
Further, implementing management plans assists current staff by outlining how to meet our goals as approved by the ASB and Council. Written management plans also ensure program continuity should the municipality experience staff turnover.

Benefits: Outlines actions to aid in the prevention and mitigation of agricultural pests.

Disadvantages: Staff time to prepare the plan

Legislation: Agricultural Pests Act

Strategic Pillar: Environmental Stewardship

Options for Action: 1. That the ASB recommends council adopt the Integrated Pest Management Plan as presented.
2. Accept for Information

Costs: None

Attachments Integrated Pest Management Plan

INTEGRATED AG PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF RANCHLAND NO. 66

VERSION 0.1

PREPARED BY: MD of Ranchland Agriculture Staff

BACKGROUND

The Municipal District (MD) of Ranchland has a long-standing history of being free from significant agricultural pest infestations. This achievement is a testament to the diligent efforts of local ranchers, agricultural professionals, and community members who have prioritized proactive pest management strategies. Despite this historical success, the MD of Ranchland remains vigilant in its commitment to pest prevention.

The focus on prevention is driven by the understanding that agricultural pests can cause substantial economic losses, damage to crops and livestock, and disrupt the ecological balance. By maintaining rigorous monitoring and implementing preventive measures, the MD aims to safeguard its agricultural productivity and environmental health. This proactive approach includes regular inspections, community education, and the adoption of sustainable ranching practices that reduce the risk of pest establishment.

In summary, the MD of Ranchland's emphasis on prevention ensures that it continues to protect its agricultural resources and maintain its reputation as a pest-free region. This ongoing commitment is crucial for the long-term sustainability and prosperity of the local agricultural industry.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS

The MD of Ranchland has and continues to actively engage in various preventive measures. Key actions include:

Provincial Grasshopper Survey Participation: The MD has consistently participated in the provincial grasshopper survey, a crucial initiative for monitoring grasshopper populations and preventing potential outbreaks. This proactive involvement helps in early detection and timely intervention, ensuring that grasshopper infestations do not threaten local agriculture.

Wild Boar Sign Assessment: Recognizing the potential threat posed by wild boars, the MD has conducted thorough assessments for signs of wild boar activity. These assessments are vital for identifying and mitigating any risks associated with wild boar presence, which can cause significant damage to crops and property.

Response to Wild Boar Reports: The MD has also responded promptly to reports of wild boar sightings. Interestingly, all reported cases have turned out to be domestic pigs rather than wild boars. This highlights the importance of accurate identification and response to ensure that resources are effectively utilized and genuine threats are addressed.

KEY STEPS

1. Prioritized Grouping of Agricultural Pest Species for the MD of Ranchland

- To effectively allocate resources, staff training, and inspection priorities, agricultural pest species have been sorted into groups and prioritized based on their threat level to the MD of Ranchland which is determined through the priority assessment tool.

2. Prevention

- Emphasize the Invasion Curve in prioritization and management of pests. This allows the greatest return on economic investment and most beneficial long-term results.

- Implement prevention strategies such as a bylaw preventing the farming of wild boar within the MD of Ranchland

3. Inspections and Monitoring

- Conduct Regular inspections to identify pests listed under the Agricultural Pests Act and its Regulations

- Improve consistency of monitoring pest populations through visual inspections, technology and other monitoring tools to track pest activity and population levels.

- Continue tweaking and improving mapping to provide greatest benefit. Mapping is used to track inspection sites, provide reports on activities, make plans and determine next steps, and overall improve organization and clarity.

- Keep detailed records and reports of Agricultural Pest Monitoring

4. Education and Training

- Provide adequate education and training to inspectors and producers on best management practices for Agricultural Pests and compliance requirements of the Agricultural Pests Act and its Regulations.

5. Review

- Continuosuly review and update this Integrated Pest Management plan to best target resources and prevent the establishment of Agricultural Pests in the MD of Ranchland.

PEST GROUPS

GROUP 1

High Risk of Invasion. Score greater than 20 on the priority assessment tool.
Goal: Prevention, avoid introduction and establishment.
Actions to support goal: Majority of resources will go towards prevention of species in this group due to them posing the greatest threat. This includes staff identification skills, awareness/identification extension for landowners and industry, inspections targeting high risk areas. Prioritizing professional development opportunities for staff such as the annual NAISMA (North American Invasive Species Management Association) conference as well as building new relationships and maintaining current connections with land managers in British Columbia and Montana. Monitoring methods may include visual inspections, aerial surveys (helicopter and drone) and trail cameras.

GROUP 2

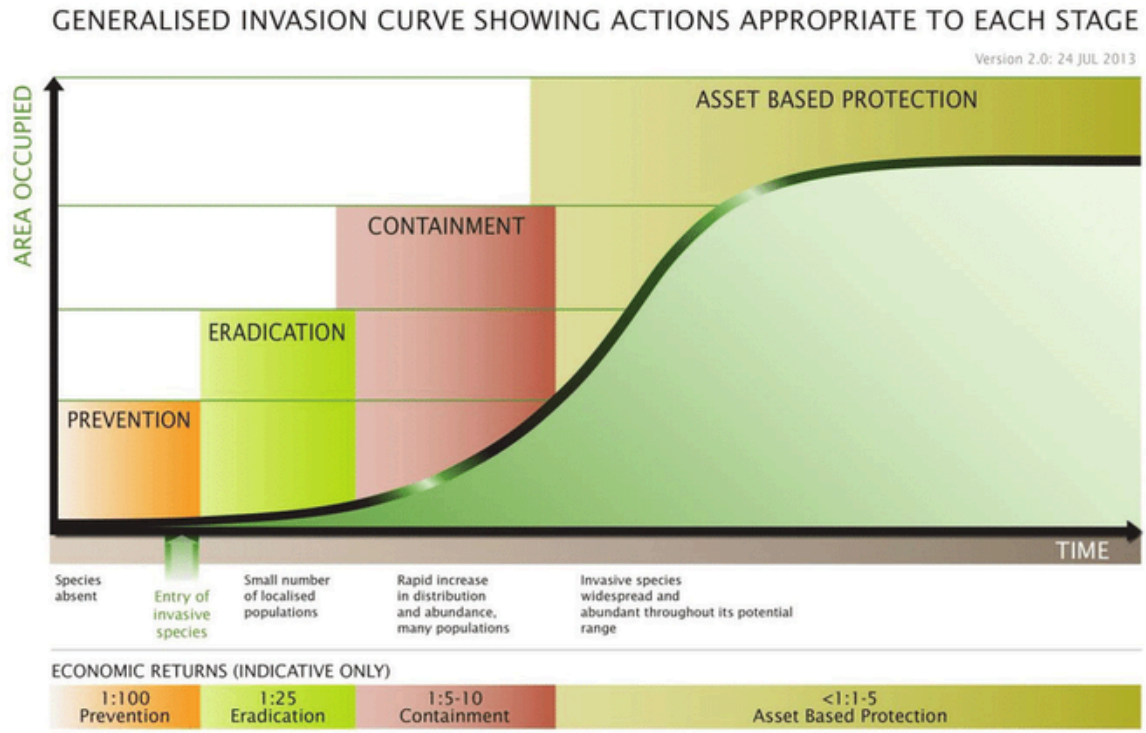
Moderate Risk of Invasion or naturally occurring nuisances in the MD in acceptable populations. Score less than 20 but greater than 10 on the priority assessment tool.
Goal: Prevention & avoid introduction. Promote best management practices for the species naturally occurring in the MD.
Actions to support goal: Ensure staff are aware of these species and participate in necessary training and monitoring such as the provincial grasshopper survey but significant resources will not be spent here unless in the instance of an invasion or request/complaint from producer. Resources will be allocated accordingly in the instance of an invasion.

GROUP 3

Low Risk of Invasion. Score of 10 or less on the priority assessment tool.
Goal: Prevention, avoid introduction and establishment
Actions to support goal: Ensure staff are aware of these species but understand that the likliehood of invasion is low. Staff will participate in very minimal training and monitoring regarding these species. Resources will be allocated accordingly in the instance of an invasion.

MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Incorporation of the Invasion Curve was a crucial step in the improvement of the Integrated Pest Management Plan.



Source: Harris, Stephen & Elliott, Craig & Woolnough, Andrew & Barclay, Candida. (2018). A heuristic framework for invasive species research planning and measurement. Developing an invasive species research strategy in Tasmania. No. 117. 13 pages.

This graph highlights the importance of priorities when it comes to management of invasive species. It indicates how to allocate time, resources, and funding to optimize efforts for greatest results from the least amount spent.

As shown, investing in prevention can lead to $100 return on every $1 invested. For example, an action might be paying staff time to scout for Group 1 pests in high risk areas. If the MD invests in $100 of staff time scouting Group 1 pests, that could save the MD $10,000 in costs associated with the consequences of a new pest entering. In comparison, investing in asset based protection can lead to only $5 return on every $1 invested. For example, an action might be hiring a contractor to control pests after establishment . If the MD invests in $100 of contractor services to control pests, that could only save the MD $500 in costs associated with the consequences of not preventing the establishment of the pest.

Therefore, it is much more cost effective to invest in prevention and eradication where feasible, rather than containment and asset based protection. For our priorities, Group 1 falls in prevention, Group 2 falls in eradication and containments and Group 3 falls under prevention with a very low risk of introduction. Therefore, the MD will invest more time, resources, and money into actions that support prevention, eradication and containment of pests in Groups 1, 2 and 3 (if necessary) to optimize returns.

AGRICULTURAL PEST LIST

- Pests are placed within the group that describes their current threat to the MD.

- (P) = Pest under the Agricultural Pest Act and its Regulations.
- (N) = Nuisance under the Agricultural Pest Act and its Regulations.

GROUP 1

Pests that pose the greatest threat to the MD of Ranchland (Score greater than 20 on the priority assessment tool)

- *Wild Boar (P)*

GROUP 2

Pests that pose a moderate risk to the MD of Ranchland or Nuisances that are naturally occurring in the MD (Score less than 20 but greater than 10 on the priority assessment tool)

- *Rats (P)*
- *Grasshoppers (P)*
- *Rabies (P)*
- *Coyote (N)*
- *Skunk (N)*
- *European Starling (N)*
- *Magpie (N)*
- *Gypsy moth (P)*
- *Thirteen-lined ground squirrel (N)*
- *Columbian Ground Squirrel (N)*
- *Northern Pocket Gopher (N)*
- *Deer Mouse (N)*
- *Meadow Vole (N)*
- *House Mouse (N)*
- *Bushy- tailed wood rat (N)*
- *Rock dove (N)*
- *Warble fly (P)*

GROUP 3

Pests that pose a very low risk to the MD of Ranchland and nuisances that are unlikely to occur (Score 10 or less on the priority assessment tool)

- *Bacterial Ring Rot (P)*
- *Black Leg of Canola (P)*
- *Columbia River root knot nematode (P)*
- *Dutch Elm Disease (P)*
- *Native elm bark beetle (P)*
- *European elm bark beetle (P)*
- *Dwarf Bunt (P)*
- *Fireblight and the causal Bacterium (P)*
- *Flag Smut of cereals (P)*
- *Golden nematode (P)*
- *richardsons ground squirrel (N)*
- *franklins ground squirrel (N)*
- *Head smut of corn (P)*
- *Karnal bunt (P)*
- *Potatoe wart (P)*
- *Stem and bulb nematode (P)*
- *White rot of onions (P)*
- *Africanized bee (P)*
- *Lesser grain borer (P)*
- *Fusarium head blight (P)*
- *Chalkbrood (P)*
- *Club root (P)*

Priority Assessment Tool

Alberta Agricultural Pest Act

MD of Ranchland Integrated Ag Pest Management Plan

Ratings		Groups	
Rare/Unlikely	1	Group 1	Score greater than 20
Minimal Impact	2	Group 2	Score less than 20 but greater than 10
Minor Impact	3	Group 3	Score 10 or less
Moderate Imapct	4		
Serious Impact	5		

Species	Environmental Impact	Economic Impact	Ecological Impact	Health Risks	Ecological Range	Total Score
Pests and nuisances listed under the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act	Evaluate the local climate, soil conditions, and availability of food sources. These factors can influence the pest's ability to establish and spread. Consider if the MD of Ranchland has ideal habitat conditions or host species for the pest.	Assess potential damage to agriculture, forestry, and property. Some pests can cause significant economic losses by damaging crops, trees, and structures. Consider how species could affect the MD of Ranchland	Consider the pest's effect on biodiversity. Invasive pests can outcompete native species, leading to reduced biodiversity and altered ecosystem. Consider how the species could affect the MD of Ranchlands native species.	Determine if the pest poses any health risks to humans or animals. Some pests can transmit diseases . How would diseases from said species affect the humans and animals in the MD of Ranchland	Evaluate existing pest management strategies and their effectiveness. Effective management can mitigate the threat posed by the pest. Consider neighboring jurisdictions and the species presence within them	The higher the score the bigger the threat the pest is to the MD of Ranchland

Species	Enviro. Score	Comment	Econ. Score	Comment4	Eco. Score	Comment7	Health Score	Comment9	Range Score	Comment12	Total Score
Wild Boar (P)	5	Ideal habitat & hiding areas	5	Could cause serious damage to rangeland and grazing land	5	Could cause serious damage to wetlands and other habitat which would negatively impact biodiversity in the MD of Ranchland	5	Wild boar can spread many diseases a few of which are brucellosis and turburculosis which could be detrimental to the cattle in the MD of Ranchland.	3	No surrounding jurisdictions currently have populations of wild boar. This rating could go up as time passes.	23

Rats (P)	2	Climate is relatively cold for rats in Ranchland.	3	Damage to infrastructure	3	eco system disruption	3	carriers of various diseases, such as leptospirosis, hantavirus, and rat-bite fever	2	BC has rats but the mountains serve as a natural barrier and no neighboring juristidtions have established populations.	13
Grasshoppers (P)	2	Mountains often have cooler temperatures and higher humidity than prairies which are less favorable for grasshopper populations	2	Forage competition with livestock and wildlife. Reduced yeilds on hay fieds, cropland is limited in Ranchland	2	Destruction of vegetation by grasshoppers can lead to soil erosion and degradation. This can disrupt nutrient cycles and impede water filtration, affecting the overall health of rangeland ecosystems	1		1	Ranchland has grasshoppers but populations are unlikely to reach unacceptable threshholds due to climate	8
Rabies (P)	4	Rabies is most commonly found in wildlife such as bats, raccoons, skunks, and foxes all of which are naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	4	Rabies can infect livestock, leading to direct losses from animal deaths and indirect losses from decreased productivity. This can impact farmers' livelihoods and the broader agricultural	3	The spread of rabies can reduce biodiversity by disproportionately affecting certain species. This loss of biodiversity can weaken ecosystem resilience and reduce the variety of	3	Rabies can be transmitted between wildlife species, domestic animals, and humans. This interspecies transmission can complicate disease management efforts and increase the risk of	1	While rabies is a serious concern, proactive measures such as vaccination programs, public education, and wildlife management can significantly reduce the risk of introduction and spread	15
Coyote (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	4	If populations get to high ranchers can experience problems with coyotes killing calves and other livestock	2	Naturally part of the food chain in the MD of Ranchland and are generally found in acceptable populations not posing any kind of threat to biodiversity	2	Can carry rabies, can also carry other diseases most at risk would be domestic canines	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	18

Skunk(N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	2	Naturally part of the food chain in the MD of Ranchland and are generally found in acceptable populations not posing any kind of threat to biodiversity	2	Can carry rabies, distemper and other diseases that can be transmitted to domestic pets	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	15
European Starling (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3	European starlings are highly adaptable and aggressive, often outcompeting native bird species for food and nesting sites1. This competition can lead to declines in native bird populations, especially cavity-nesting species like bluebirds and woodpeckers. DO WE HAVE	4	Starlings can carry and spread diseases that affect both wildlife and humans1. Their droppings can contaminate water sources and spread pathogens, posing health risks to other animals and people.	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	18
Magpie (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3	Magpies are known to prey on the eggs and chicks of smaller bird species1. This predation can lead to significant declines in the populations of these birds, affecting the overall avian community structure	3	Magpies can carry westnile but the transmission of it to humans is rare	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	17

Thirteen Lined Ground Squirrel (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	thirteen-lined ground squirrels can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife susch as bubonic plague and lyme disease, although transmission to humans is rare, more at risk is domestic pets	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14
Columbian Ground Squirrel (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	columbian ground squirrels can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife susch as bubonic plague and although transmission to humans is rare, more at risk is domestic pets	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14
Northern Pocket Gopher (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	northern pocket gophers can carry rabies although transmission is rare, more at risk is domestic pets	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14
Deer Mouse (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	northern pocket gophers can carry hanta virus although transmission is rare	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14

Meadow Vole (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife susch as hanta virus and lyme disease, although transmission is rare	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14
House Mouse (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14
Bushy-tailed wood rat (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14
Rock Dove (N)	5	Naturally occuring in MD, ideal habitat	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity	2	can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife	5	Naturally occuring species in the MD of Ranchland	14
Bacterial Ring Rot (P)	1	No potatoe crops in ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
Black Leg of Canola (P)	1	No canola crops in ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7

Columbia River root knot nematode (P)	2	Effect potatoes, carrots, sugar beets, corn all of which ranchland does not have. Can affect certain weed species which is why I put a 2, I don't know what species those are yet	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	8
Dutch Elm Disease (P)	1	No Elms in Ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
Native Elm Bark Beetle (P)	1	No Elms in Ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
European Elm Bark Beetle (P)	1	No Elms in Ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
Dwarf Bunt (P)	1	No winter wheat crops in Ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7

Fireblight and causal bacterium (P)	1	No apparent hosts in ranchland, unlikely to occur, check on tree species	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
Flag Smut of Cereals (P)	1	No cereal crops in ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
Golden nematode (P)	1	No host crops in ranchland (tomatoes, potatoes, eggplants, peppers), unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	does not directly impact human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
Richardson Ground Squirrel (N)	1	Very low populations, occuring in regions east of Ranchland	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity if species was to establish	2	can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife	2	Could occur	7
Franklins Ground Squirrel (N)	1	Occurs in regions east of Ranchland	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	1	limited negative impacts to biodiversity if species was to establish	3	can carry several diseases that may pose risks to humans, pets, and other wildlife	2	Could occur	8
Head Smut of Corn (P)	1	No corn in the MD of Ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	Does not directly affect human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7

Karnal Bunt (P)	2	Very limited host species in ranchland (wheat, durum, triticale) could occur but unlikely	2	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland as acres of host species is very low	3		1	Does not directly affect human health	2	Could occur but unlikely	10
Potatoe Wart (P)	1	No potatoes in ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	Does not directly affect human health	1	unlikely to occur	7
Stem and bulb nematode (P)	1	No host species in ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a very low threat to econimic losses in the MD of Ranchland	3		1	Does not directly affect human health	1	unlikely to occur	7
Warble Fly (P)	5	Lots of host species in ranchland (cattle and other livestock) could occur	4	Warble flies lay eggs on cattle, and the larvae burrow into the skin, causing painful swellings known as "warbles." This can lead to discomfort, reduced weight gain, and decreased milk production12. Infestations can result in substantial economic losses due to decreased meat and milk yield, as well as damage to hides, which lowers their market value	4	Warble flies primarily infest mammals such as cattle, deer, and caribou. The larvae burrow into the host's skin, causing discomfort, reduced weight gain, and lower reproductive success12. This can lead to population declines in heavily infested areas.he presence of warble flies can alter the dynamics of ecosystems. For example, if herbivores like caribou or cattle are less effective at grazing due to fly harassment, this can	3	The wounds caused by larvae can become infected, leading to further health complications and the need for additional medical interventions	4	could occur	20

White Rot of Onions (P)	1	No onions in ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a low economic threat to Ranchland	3		1	Does not directly affect human health	1	Unlikely to occur	7
Gypsy Moth (P)	5	Lots of host species in ranchland (poplar, aspen, birch), could occur	1	This species poses a low economic threat to Ranchland	3	Gypsy moth larvae feed on the leaves of many tree species, causing extensive defoliation. This can weaken trees, making them more susceptible to diseases and other pests12. In severe cases, defoliation can lead to tree mortality, altering forest composition and structure	1	Do not directly affect humn or animal health	2	Unlikely to occur.While gypsy moths can cause significant damage to deciduous trees, their presence in Alberta is currently limited and controlled	12
Africanized Bee (P)	`1	Climate is generally to cold in alberta	1	This species poses a low economic threat to Ranchland	4	Africanized bees, also known as "killer bees," primarily affect European honey bees by competing with them for resources and sometimes taking over their hives	3	They can also pose a threat to humans and animals due to their aggressive behavior	1	Unlikely to occur	9
Lesser Grain Borer (P)	1	No host species in ranchland, unlikely to occure	1	This species poses a low economic threat to Ranchland	3		1	Doe not directly affect human or animal health	1	Unlikely to occur	7

Fusarium Head Blight (P)	2	Limited host soecies in ranchland but can occur on foxtail barley	1	This species poses a low economic threat to Ranchland	3		1	Doe not directly affect human or animal health	1	Unlikely to occur	8
Chalk Brood (P)	2	Could occur, affect honey bee larvae	1	This species poses a low economic threat to Ranchland	3		1	Doe not directly affect human or animal health	2	Could occur	9
Club Root (P)	1	No conola in ranchland, unlikely to occur	1	This species poses a low economic threat to Ranchland	3		1	Doe not directly affect human or animal health	1	Unlikely to occur	7

POLICY NAME:	**Agricultural Pest and Nuisance Policy**
Section: **Agriculture & Environment**	Policy No.: # **6320-01**
Effective Date: **March 26, 2024**	Resolution **#: 24/03/26/092**
Replaces Policy:	Revised Date:

POLICY PURPOSE:

To mitigate, control, destroy and prevent establishment of any Pest and Nuisance Species identified by the Agricultural Pests Act and the Alberta Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation.

DEFINITIONS:

"Act" means the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act and its regulations.

"Appeal Committee" means an independent appeal panel as outlined in the Act (5), established annually by the local authority.

"ASB" means council appointed members of the Agricultural Service Board.

"Notice" means a notice referred to in section 12 through 13 of the Agricultural Pests Act.

"Municipality" means the Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66.

POLICY STATEMENTS:

The Agricultural Fieldman and appointed inspectors will conduct inspections and initiatives to control, destroy and prevent establishment of any Pest and Nuisance species on all lands within Municipality jurisdiction.

The Agriculture Fieldman and appointed inspectors will conduct inspections and enforcement procedures as outlined in the Act.

voluntary compliance with the Act will be encouraged through professional communication with landowners, occupants, industry stakeholders and members of the general public.

Notices will be issued to applicable occupants in accordance with the Act.

In the instance of non-compliance with a notice, remedial work will be carried out by Municipality employees, or an appointed contractor and the charges will be applied to the property subject of the notice. The remedial charges that apply are outlined in the Act.

As outlined in the Act, notices of appeal will be conveyed to the Appeal Committee

POLICY NAME: **Soil Conservation Act Policy**

Section: **Agriculture & Environment**	Policy No.: # **6320-02**
Effective Date: **March 26, 2024**	Resolution #: 24/03/26/094
Replaces Policy:	Revised:

POLICY PURPOSE: To prevent the loss of soil and soil productivity through enforcement of the Soil Conservation Act and its Regulations.

DEFINITIONS:

"Act" means the Soil Conservation Act and its regulations;

"Appeal Committee" means appointed Agricultural Service Board (ASB) members;

"ASB" means council appointed members of the Agricultural Service Board;

"Notice" means a notice referred to in section 4 of the Alberta Soil Conservation Act;

"Municipality" means the Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66;

POLICY STATEMENTS:

The Agricultural Fieldman and appointed inspectors will conduct inspections and initiatives to prevent the loss of soil and soil productivity on all lands within Municipality jurisdiction.

The Agriculture Fieldman and appointed inspectors will conduct inspections and enforcement procedures as outlined in the Act.

Voluntary compliance with the Act will be encouraged through professional communication with landowners, occupants, industry stakeholders and members of the general public.

Notices will be issued to applicable occupants in accordance with the Act.

In the instance of non-compliance with a Notice, remedial work will be carried out by Municipality employees, or an appointed contractor and the charges will be applied to the property subject of the notice. The remedial charges that apply are outlined in the Act.

As outlined in the Act, notices of appeal will be conveyed to the Appeal Committee.

POLICY NAME: **Weed Control Policy**

Section: **Agriculture & Environment** Policy No.: # **6320-04**

Effective Date: **March 26, 2024** Resolution #: 24/03/26/095

Replaces Polic: **"Weed Control" and "Roadside Weed Control" enacted on September 6, 2005**

POLICY PURPOSE:

To prevent establishment and control the spread of Noxious and Prohibited Noxious species through enforcement of the Alberta Weed Control Act and the Alberta Weed Control Regulation.

DEFINITIONS:

"Act" means the Alberta Weed Control Act and its regulations;

"Appeal Committee" means an independent appeal panel as outlined in the Act 19(1), established annually by the local authority;

"ASB" means council appointed members of the Agricultural Service Board;

"Notice" means a notice referred to in section 13 through 16 of the Alberta Weed Control Act;

"Municipality" means the Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66;

POLICY STATEMENTS:

The Agricultural Fieldman and appointed Weed Inspectors will conduct inspections and initiatives to prevent the establishment and the spread of Noxious and Prohibited Noxious species on all lands within Municipality jurisdiction.

The Agriculture Fieldman and appointed Weed Inspectors will conduct inspections and enforcement procedures as outlined in the Act.

Voluntary compliance with the Act will be encouraged through professional communication with landowners, occupants, industry stakeholders and members of the general public.

Species will be managed based on the management plans outlined in the most recent version of the Municipality's Integrated Weed Management Plan.

In the instance of non-compliance with a Notice, the Municipality will charge a surcharge as per Schedule of ASB Rates and Fees.

As outlined in the Act, notices of appeal will be conveyed to the Appeal Committee.

RECINDING CLAUSE:

Upon adoption of this policy, the policies titled, "Weed Control" and "Roadside Weed Control" enacted on September 6, 2005 are hereby rescinded.

POLICY NAME: **Animal Health Act Policy**

Section: **Agriculture & Environment**	Policy No.: # **6320-03**
Effective Date: **March 26, 2024**	Resolution #: 24/03/26/093
Replaces Policy:	Revised:

POLICY PURPOSE:

To minimize the impact of disease in agricultural animals by assisting in the control of animal diseases under the Animal Health Act and it's Regulations.

DEFINITIONS:

"Act" means the Alberta Animal Health Act and its regulations;

"Municipality" means the Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66;

POLICY STATEMENTS:

The Municipality Agriculture Services staff will support the Animal Health Act and regulations on all lands within Municipality jurisdiction.

In the instance of a positive case or outbreak as stated in the Act, the Municipality will cooperate with provincial and federal authorities for the control of any livestock disease.

Voluntary compliance with the Act will be encouraged through professional communication with landowners, occupants, industry stakeholders and members of the general public.

Donations List

Foothills Forage	$2000
AISC	$2000
SWIM via WBRA	$500
Ag for Life	$1000 Donation was in late 2024, none so far in 2025
U of S Range Team	$500 (first.time.in.8680?Oliva.was.a.member).Did not request nor receive funds in 2025,
NAISMA Partnership	$1057

Memberships

PVMA	$250 (8.(Rick–Shayna).X.Pƒ78❶).new.in.8680
AAAF	$600 (8.(Rick–Shayna).X.Pƒ966).will.be.9.in.868❶
SR AAAF	$300.(9.(Rick–Shayna–Erika).X.Pƒ766)
NAISMA	$282.02 (8.℗ .Pƒ707¡67) (Rick–Shayna).
AISC	$105 (9.X.Pƒ9❶)

Previous

AFAC	$500
Ab. Farm Safety Center	$500
Nanton Ag Society	JH Prov Finals (moved out of Ag budget)
Nanton Ag Society	JH Rodeo (moved out of Ag budget)
Southern Ab. Grazing School for Women	
Transboundary Weed Tour	

Rejected

AgKnow

Alberta Goat Association

Ag for Life

2025 Mid-Year Impact Report

Because of You: Rooted in learning. Growing bright futures.

Your support gave thousands of students the chance to experience hands-on agriculture and rural and farm safety education — lessons that will stay with them for life - from classroom to careers.

Thanks to your support...

The past six months have been full of learning, discovery, and impact. **Thanks to your support,** we delivered hands-on agriculture education that builds knowledge, strengthens public trust, and connects communities. This report reflects the difference you've made — for students, for agriculture, and for the future.

Growing Futures

This spring, students got their hands in the dirt, discovered where their food comes from, and imagined careers they never knew existed.

In classrooms big and small, on schoolyards and community grounds, and inside traveling education trailers—something powerful was growing.

Not just crops, but curiosity. Confidence. Connection.

It happened because partners like you believe students deserve more than textbooks. You believe in real-world learning, in sparking discovery, and in giving young people the tools to dream big.

And together, we made that happen.

Seeds of Knowledge

Classroom Agriculture Program

In **272 classrooms**, grade 4 and 5 students discovered where their food comes from—and the people who make it possible. Through the **Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP)**, volunteers brought agriculture to life with real stories, hands-on lessons and meaningful conversations.

Thanks to your support, **10,000 students** experienced CAP — sparking curiosity, confidence, and connection.

"Thank you soo much for showing in us about a lot of farming it was amazing i really enjoyed the pictures of the animals and the videos it was super cool i can't wait to see you next time."

- Bostynn, Grade 4-

In 9 schools and 1 school division across Alberta, students learned about the nutritional benefits of oats and how oats are grown.

Through the **School Oats Program**, students in both rural and urban classrooms received $350 bursaries to purchase oats and oat-based foods.

Over **4,200** students took part — gaining a better understanding of healthy eating and a connection to local agriculture.

Planting Curiosity

In **166 classrooms**, **3,900+ students** planted potatoes—and grew pride, patience and curiosity.

Through **Spuds in Tubs**, students didn't just learn how things grow—they experienced it.

"My class was excited and here is their picture with our plants.They were very proud that their plants had flowers so that meant that they were doing well!!!"

- Teacher -

Ag Education on the Road

The **Know Your Food** trailer visited **7 schools, 45 classes, and 1,211 students**—bringing agriculture education straight to communities across the province.

KNOW YOUR FOOD

"That was fun! Your resources have literally changed our school. We have incorporated them into everything we do. Thank you."

- Teacher -

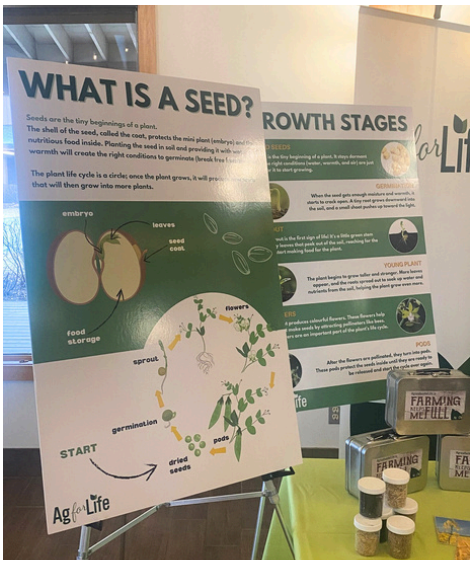
AGRICULTURE DISCOVERY DAY
AG FOR LIFE

Safety Matters

Through the **Rural Farm Safety Unit**, more than **2,400 students** at **15 schools** learned how to stay safe around equipment, animals and everyday farm hazards.

Community Events

Ag for Life attended Aggie Days and various community events, engaging with over **50,000** attendees. Through interactive displays and educational resources, we delivered rural and farm safety education while raising awareness about agriculture.



Future of Ag

Careers

At five career events, **4,700 students** gained insight into agriculture careers—and walked away with resources to guide their next steps.

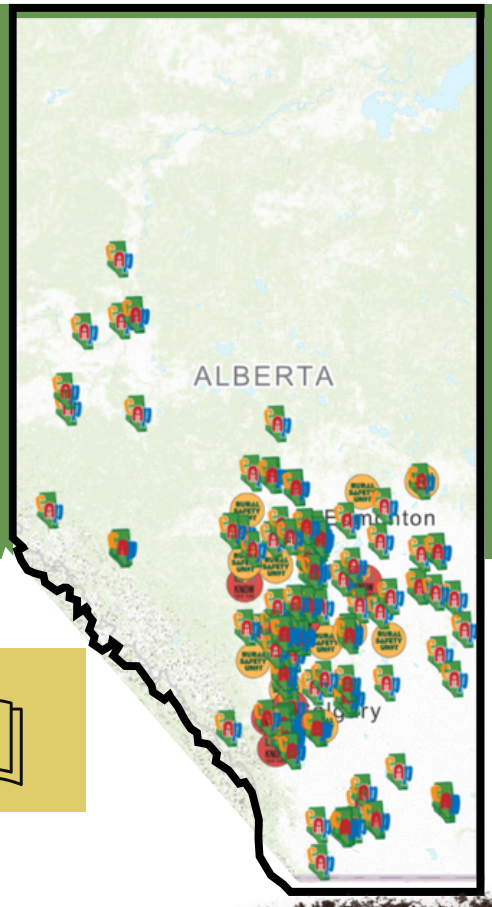
Educators

At teacher conventions across the province, we connected with **27,288 educators**—sharing resources, building relationships, and helping bring agriculture into more classrooms.

Where we've been...

Explore the reach of your impact over the past six months.

From urban cities to rural communities, your support brought hands-on agriculture and safety education to students across Alberta.



PLUS

28,000+ Curated learning kits, student workbooks, teacher support and learning guides sent out.

Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Farm Family Awards
M.D. of Ranchland No. 66 Recipients

1.	Francis & Bonnie Gardner	Mount Sentinel Ranch Ltd.	1997
2.	Ron & Donna Davis	Nelson Creek Farms	1998
3.	Stan Wilson & Family	Wilson Ranch	1999
4.	Harry Streeter & Family	T over V	2000
5.	Rick Burton & Family	Burke Creek	2001
6.	Mac Blades & Family	Rocking P	2002
7.	Muriel Dais	Mountain Park Ranch	2003
8.	Brian Ransom	Cross Six Ranch	2004
9.	Arthur & Betty Webster & Family	Webster Ranch	2005
10.	William & Pat Bateman	Bateman Ranch	2006
11.	Einar & Judy Nelson	Nelson Ranch	2007
12.	Don & Donna Mowat		2008
13.	Cam & Jolayne Gardner	Bluebird Valley Ranch Ltd.	2009
14.	Carl & Julia Gerwin	Willow Spring Ranch	2010
15.	John & Donna Keeley & Family	L4L Ranch	2011
16.	Wideman Family	Mapiatow Ranch	2012
17.	Rod, John Blake & Family		2013
	Blakes were unable to accept in 2013 due to medical reasons so they		
	Were re-nominated in 2014		2014
18.	ASB made a motion to not put a name forward		2015
19.	Clark & Ethel Schlosser	Anchor P Land & Cattle	2016
20.	Tony & Debbie Webster	`	2017
21.	Rod Blades	TL Cattle Company Ltd.	2018
22.	Lynnie Blades	Big Fire Ranch	2019
23.	Mark & Donna	Mark Parsons & Donna Wilson	2020
	2020 event was cancelled due to Covid-19, Mark & Donna received their Award in 2021.		
24.	Sarah Green	Mt. Sentinel Ranch	2022
25.	Jody & Jason Wilson	Riley Ranch Ltd. – *did not attend*	2023
	Did not nominate anyone in 2024		
26.	Ty & Lucy Streeter		2024

Some of the families that have not received the award yet;

Bar S
Nicole Monkman
George Erht

2026 BMO Farm Family Awards

On behalf of the Calgary Stampede and our generous presenting sponsor BMO Bank of Montreal, thank you for participating in the BMO Farm Family Awards Program. Your support of our program enables us to honour those deserving families throughout Southern Alberta that ensure our agriculture industry and our rural communities continue to thrive. It is that time of year again when we are asking for nominations for the ***2026 BMO Farm Family Awards***.

As you know, the Calgary Stampede has a long tradition of bringing people together to celebrate the successes and the unique spirit of the community. We strive to engage Albertans in the celebration of western heritage and values, as well as are proud to showcase Alberta to the world. At this time, we would like to invite each Southern Alberta Agricultural Service Board to **nominate a farm or ranching family** within your Municipal District, who makes their living through this means. We look forward to highlighting and celebrating those families who still practice this western lifestyle today.

The nominees will be hosted at a recognition program during the 2026 Calgary Stampede. As special guests, they will enjoy a daylong itinerary of Stampede events, including an awards banquet, meal and tickets to the afternoon rodeo. We also invite you and a guest to take part in this celebration.

Upon receipt of the nomination form from your office, we will contact the family directly and gather additional background information. This information will assist us in developing a program for the awards.

If you have any questions regarding the criteria, please contact me to discuss. I look forward to receiving your nomination **on or before Tuesday, January 13, 2026** deadline. (Email submission and prior to the deadline is preferred in order to get started on gathering family information.) If you have any questions regarding the application or believe there may be a problem submitting your nomination by the deadline, please let me know.

Best Regards,

Kristin J. Dennett
Calgary Stampede
kdennett@calgarystampede.com
406-760-8541

Alberta Invasive Species Council
P.O. Box 1925
Blairmore, AB T0K 0E0

November 6, 2025

M.D. of Ranchland
Box 1060
Nanton, AB T0L 1R0

Subject: Reconnecting to Protect Alberta's Future: An Invitation to Renew Your 2026 Partnership

To: Agricultural Service Board/Agricultural Fieldman of M.D. of Ranchland

Greetings,

On behalf of the Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC), I am writing to reconnect and thank you for your past 2025 Silver Partnership support. Your previous partnership was instrumental in helping us protect Alberta's rural communities from the economic and ecological threats of invasive species. As we look to the future, we invite you to renew that vital partnership.

The challenges we face from invasive species continue to grow, posing a significant risk to agricultural producers and local economies that our communities depend on. As you know from our previous work together, the AISC serves as a cost-effective, non-regulatory partner, providing the practical tools and scientific resources needed to meet these challenges head-on and fulfill your responsibilities under the *Weed Control Act* and *Agricultural Pest Act*.

A Reminder of How We Serve as Your Partner:

Your past support helped us deliver services that directly benefit your staff and residents, including:

- **Overseeing Key Outreach Tools:** We update, print, and distribute essential guides like the *Invasive Plants of Alberta Guide* and the *Aquatic Invasive Species Pocket Guide*.
- **Maintaining Alberta's Go-To Factsheet Library:** We provide a comprehensive library of invasive species factsheets, a critical resource for your staff and the public.
- **Providing Professional Development:** Through our annual conference, workshops and webinars, we offer vital training and networking for certified pesticide applicators, weed inspectors, and land stewards.

- **Facilitating Data and Early Detection:** We support platforms like EDDMapS, improving early detection and verifying invasive species reports for actionable municipal decision-making.
- **Leading Province-Wide Programs:** We coordinate critical initiatives like the biological control release program and the Certified Weed Free Forage Program.
- **Delivering High-Impact Awareness Campaigns:** Our memorable campaigns like *Rat on Rats!*, *Protect Our Waters*, and *Squeal on Pigs* engage the public and reinforce the important work you do.

Why Your Renewed Partnership is Critical

While we are successful in securing project-specific grants, this funding is restricted to deliverables and does not cover the core operational capacity needed to sustain our work. Consistent partnership funding provides the essential operational support that allows us to function effectively.

This stable funding is an investment we leverage to bring even more resources into the province. It allows us to dedicate the staff time required to manage the numerous grant applications that fund our programs and enables us to navigate unexpected funding gaps or address emerging invasive threats swiftly.

We are confident that renewing your partnership with the AISC remains a sound investment in the long-term well-being of your community. We would be pleased to provide a virtual presentation to your board or council, complete a formal funding application, or provide any additional information you require to make this decision.

Rekindle a Vital Alliance: Partnership Opportunities

Please see the partnership levels below for a detailed breakdown of benefits. We hope you will consider rejoining us in our mission to combat invasive species and safeguard our province's future.

Partner Benefit	**Bronze Partner ($1,000)**	**Silver Partner ($2,000)**	**Gold Partner ($5,000)**	**Platinum Partner ($10,000+)**
Free use of EDDMapS, EDDMapS Pro, and ISM Track apps	✓	✓	✓	✓
Opportunity to contribute articles & participate in working groups/events	✓	✓	✓	✓

Recognition on the AISC website	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition in our quarterly newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition at AISC's Annual Conference	✓	✓	✓	✓
Exclusive access to the AISC's Newsletter Archive	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to campaign promotional and educational materials	✓	✓	✓	✓
Annual AISC Memberships (with AGM vote)	2	3	4	5
Member rate for AISC Conference Registration	2	3	4	5
Member rate on select items in the AISC online store	2	3	4	5
Free conference registration(s)	—	—	1	2
Customized virtual presentation	—	✓	✓	✓
Customized in-person presentation	—	—	—	✓

We valued your partnership in the past and hope to have the opportunity to collaborate with you once again. Together, we can ensure Alberta remains a beautiful, prosperous, and resilient place for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Megan Evans

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