



## **AGENDA**

### **Agricultural Service Board Meeting**

December 10, 2025

Immediately following the Committee of the Whole Meeting

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Changes to Agenda and Adoption of Agenda**
- 3. Confirmation of Minutes**
  - 3.1 June 11, 2025 Agricultural Service Board
- 4. Delegations – N/A**
- 5. Reports for Discussion**
  - 5.1 Beaver Control on Private Land Policy - ASB 2001-01-A
  - 5.2 Beaver Harvest Incentive Policy - ASB 2002-01-A
  - 5.3 Equipment Rental Policy - ASB 2004-01
  - 5.4 4-H Grant Program - ASB Policy 2005-02
  - 5.5 Soil Conservation Policy - ASB 2006-01-A
  - 5.6 Right-of-Way Brushing Policy - ASB 2007-01-A
  - 5.7 Private Land Weed Control Policy - ASB 2008-01
  - 5.8 Control of Clubroot Policy - ASB 2009-01-A
  - 5.9 Equipment Borrowing Policy - ASB 2010-01
  - 5.10 Coyote Harvest Incentive Program
  - 5.11 Roadside Mowing Program
  - 5.12 Co-operative Agribusiness Grant Program
  - 5.13 Heartland Training & Support Hub Request for Support
  - 5.14 ALUS
- 6. Reports**
  - 6.1 Agricultural Fieldman
- 7. Correspondence and Information Items**
  - 7.1 AAAS Press Release – Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards
  - 7.2 Alberta Crop Report Final 2025
  - 7.3 Agriculture Moisture Situation Update
  - 7.4 ARECA re AgKnow Program Update
  - 7.5 Saddle Hills County re On-Farm Slaughter
  - 7.6 Northern Sunrise County re On-Farm Slaughter
  - 7.7 Northern Sunrise County re Farmers Pesticide Certification Program
  - 7.8 MD of Ranchland re Lethbridge Research Facility
- 8. Agricultural Service Board Committee Priority Discussion**
- 9. Adjournment**



**AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 11, 2025**

Members Present: Member Joey Nafziger  
Member Eric Anderson  
Member Roger Konieczny  
Member Cliff Wowdzia  
Member Tara Kuzio  
Member Carl Ogrodnick  
Member Kevin Bentley

Administration Present: Pat Podoborzny, Chief Administrative Officer  
Norm De Wet, Director of Operations  
Quentin Bochar, Manager of Agriculture and Municipal Services

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

Agricultural Service Board Chairperson Member Anderson called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

**2 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**2025-ASB027**

**Moved by:** Member Wowdzia

THAT the June 11, 2025 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

3.1 April 16, 2025 Agricultural Service Board

**2025-ASB028**

**Moved by:** Member Konieczny

THAT the April 16, 2025 Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

**4 DELEGATION**

**5 REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION**

5.1 ASB Strategic Plan

**Administration Presenter:**

Quentin Bochar, Manager of Agriculture and Municipal Services

**2025-ASB029**

**Moved by:** Member Bentley

THAT the Agriculture Service Board recommend to County Council to approve the County of Minburn ASB Strategic Business Plan 2025-2029 as presented.

**Carried**

Chair's Initials	CAO's Initials
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5.2 Draft Agenda NE Region ASB Regional Conference

**Administration Presenter:**

Quentin Bochar, Manager of Agriculture and Municipal Services

**2025-ASB030**

**Moved by:** Member Konieczny

THAT the Agriculture Service Board accept the Agenda for the 2025 NE ASB Regional Conference as presented.

**Carried**

5.3 2025 ASB Resolutions Grading Packages

**2025-ASB031**

**Moved by:** Member Nafziger

THAT the Agricultural Services Board review and provide comments on the grading sheet, to be returned to the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee before June 30, 2025.

**Carried**

**6 REPORTS**

6.1 Agricultural Fieldman

**Administration Presenter:**

Quentin Bocher, Manager of Agriculture and Municipal Services

**2025-ASB032**

**Moved by:** Member Bentley

THAT the Agricultural Fieldman report be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**7 CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

7.1 Agri-Moisture Situation update April 30, 2025

7.2 Agri-Moisture Situation update May 21, 2025

**2025-ASB033**

**Moved by:** Member Kuzio

THAT the correspondence and information items be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**8 CLOSED SESSION**

**2025-ASB034**

**Moved by:** Member Konieczny

THAT the Agricultural Services Board meet in private to discuss matters protected from disclosure under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act specifically Section 17, Disclosure harmful to personal privacy to discuss Weed Notice over 20 Acres.

**Carried**

**9 OPEN SESSION**

**2025-ASB035**

**Moved by:** Member Wowdzia

THAT the Agricultural Service Board revert to Open Session.

**Carried**

**10 MOTIONS ARISING OUT OF THE CLOSED SESSION**

10.1 Weed Notice over 20 Acres

**2025-ASB036**

**Moved by:** Member Konieczny

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council that Council at their June 16, 2025 meeting move to approve Administration issue a Weed Act Inspector's Notice as discussed in Closed Session.

**Carried**

**9 ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Member Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Beaver Control Private Land Policy ASB 2001-01-A

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2001-01-A is up for review in 2025, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was changing the title of the contact person for any work that is completed via this policy, updated the collection of private information statement, and added definitions. Further, any costs will be added to the Master Rates Bylaw and not listed in the policy.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2001-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2001-01-A

Updated version: Draft ASB 2001-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Beaver Control on Private Land

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 1

**Policy Number:** ASB 2001-01-A

**Next Review Date:** 2025

**Approved by Council:** June 21, 2021

**Last Review Date:** N/A

**Resolution No:** 48-21

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### POLICY STATEMENT

Landowners in the County of Minburn have the authority under the Alberta Water Act to remove beaver dams within water courses, but in some instances, it may be necessary for the County to assist in such removals.

### PURPOSE

To provide guidance on how the County undertakes Beaver Control on private land.

### POLICY PROCEDURE

1. Applications to have beaver dam work done on private land shall be made directly to the Agriculture and Utilities Foreman by landowners.
2. A fee of \$300 per dam is charged to offset the cost of removal. A fee of \$200 shall be charged to the removal of any additional dams during the same visit. These fees may be adjusted by Council via amendments to the County of Minburn *Master Rates Bylaw*.
3. If it is deemed by the Agriculture and Utilities Foreman that a dam on private land poses immediate risk to County infrastructure, the above charges may be waived.
4. Requesting landowners must sign a consent agreement prior to removal activities commencing.
5. The fee must be paid in full prior to removal activities commencing.
6. The County of Minburn accepts no liability for any damage done to private property during the removal of beaver dams.
7. The County of Minburn reserves the right to prioritize beaver control on private land according to its operational requirements.

8. Beaver control by the County shall be in accordance with all relevant municipal, provincial, and federal legislation.

## **POLICY RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **1. Council**

- a. To establish County policy relating to beaver control on private land.
- b. To establish removal rates via the County Master Rates Bylaw.
- c. To review this policy periodically and amend it as required.

### **2. Agriculture and Utilities Foreman**

- a. To accept and review applications.
- b. To collect payment of fees from landowners
- c. To prioritize the removal of beaver dams on private land.
- d. To update and recommend changes to this policy to Council as required.

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Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Beaver Control on Private Land

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2001-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2001-01-A

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### POLICY STATEMENT

Landowners in the County of Minburn have the authority under the Alberta Water Act to remove beaver dams within watercourses, but in some instances, it may be necessary for County to assist in such removals.

### PURPOSE

To provide guidance on how the County undertakes Beaver Control on private land.

### DEFINITIONS

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture and Municipal Services.

**Watercourse** means flowing water as defined in the Alberta Environmental Protection Act and the Alberta Water Act.

### GUIDELINES

1. Applications to have beaver dam work on private land shall be made directly to the Manager, Agriculture & Municipal Services by landowners.
2. A fee for the first dam is charged to offset the cost of removal. A fee shall be charged for the removal of each additional dam during the same visit. These fees are listed in the Master Rates Bylaw.
3. If it is deemed by the Manager that a dam on private land poses an immediate risk to County infrastructure, the above charges may be waived.
4. Requesting landowners must sign a consent agreement prior to removal activities commencing.

5. The fee must be paid in full prior to removal activities commencing.
6. The County accepts no liability for any damage done to private property during the removal of beaver dams.
7. The County reserves the right to prioritize beaver control on private land according to its operational requirements.
8. Beaver control by the County shall be in accordance with all relevant municipal, provincial, and federal legislation.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Beaver Harvest Incentive Policy ASB 2002-01-A

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2002-01-A is up for review, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content and relevancy and updated to a new standard. The primary changes include updating the title of the contact person for any work completed under this policy and removing the requirement for the County of Minburn to hold a DCL (Damage Control Licence), which is now only needed in very limited circumstances. In addition, the policy now clarifies that the \$20 bounty will be paid only if an annual budget allocation is approved by County Council during the budget process.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommends to County Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2002-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2002-01-A

Updated version: Draft ASB 2002-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Beaver Harvest Incentive Program

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 11

**Policy Number:** ASB 2002-01-A

**Next Review Date:** December 2025

**Approved by Council:** December 21, 2020

**Last Review Date:** November 2021

**Resolution No:** 157-20

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### POLICY STATEMENT

The County of Minburn is committed to protecting municipal infrastructure from water movement problems related to beaver activity and the reduction of flooding on agricultural property.

### PURPOSE

To provide procedures for the harvest of beavers for the purpose of preventing damage to infrastructure and flooding of agricultural land caused by beavers.

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. The County of Minburn shall prioritize the harvesting of beavers in the following order:
  - a. Areas that occur on County of Minburn land and cause operational and/or structural integrity issues to municipal infrastructure (i.e., roads, bridges culverts, etc.)
  - b. Areas that occur on County of Minburn land that is currently or has the potential to cause damage/flooding to private land such as yard sites, agricultural crops, and pastureland.
  - c. The County of Minburn shall hold a valid Damage Control License authorizing the removal of beavers.
  - d. The County of Minburn shall implement a Beaver Harvest Incentive Program that will pay a bounty of twenty dollars (\$20) for each beaver harvested by a ratepayer or resident within the municipal boundaries of the County of Minburn in accordance with policy procedures. There is no minimum size difference for eligible beavers. Problem wildlife personnel employed or who are specifically contracted by the County of Minburn are exempt from this program.
  - e. Landowners with beaver issues on private land (i.e., agricultural crop and pastureland, yards, etc.,) are encouraged to rectify the issue independently.

## PROCEDURES

1. The Agriculture and Utilities Foreman, or designate, shall work with internal departments and the public on prioritizing the harvesting of beavers in accordance with General Principles, Section 1 of this policy.
2. The Agriculture and Utilities Foreman, or designate, shall ensure the delivery of the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program.
3. Beavers harvested under the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program shall be compensated upon a signed declaration of the following:
  - a. The legal land location where the beaver was harvest.
  - b. The date of the harvest.
  - c. The harvest was conducted in a lawful manner, in accordance with current legislation.
  - d. The participant has permission to harvest on the said land.
  - e. Trappers must present entire beaver carcass at which time a County of Minburn employee will remove one front paw, and eligible paws will be totalled and compensated in accordance with this policy.
4. Disposal of all beavers submitted under the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program shall be the responsibility of the person submitting the carcass after proper submission procedures have taken place.
5. The Agriculture and Utilities Foreman, or designate, shall determine the maximum amount of beaver carcasses that will be accepted under this program based on per quarter section of property.

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Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Beaver Harvest Incentive Program

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2002-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2002-01-A

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### POLICY STATEMENT

The County of Minburn is committed to protecting municipal infrastructure from water movement problems related to beaver activity and the reduction of flooding on agricultural property.

### PURPOSE

To provide procedures for the harvest of beavers for the purpose of preventing damage to infrastructure and flooding of agricultural land caused by beavers.

### DEFINITIONS

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Infrastructure** means bridges, culverts, and roads.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture and Municipal Services.

**Ratepayer** means someone who pays taxes to the County.

**Watercourse** means flowing water as defined in the Alberta Environmental Protection Act and the Alberta Water Act.

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. The County of Minburn shall prioritize the harvesting of beavers in the following order:
  - a) Areas that occur on County land and cause operational and/or structural integrity issues to municipal infrastructure.

- b) Areas that occur on County land that is currently or has the potential to cause damage/flooding to private land such as yard sites, crops, and pastureland.
- c) The County shall implement a Beaver Harvest Incentive Program that will pay a bounty of twenty dollars (\$20) for each beaver harvested by a ratepayer or resident within the municipal boundaries of the County in accordance with policy guidelines and only if County Council approves an annual budget for the program. There is no minimum size difference for eligible beavers. Problem wildlife personnel employed, or who are specifically contracted by the County are exempt from this program.
- d) Landowners with beaver issues on private land (i.e. crop and pastureland, yards, etc.) are encouraged to rectify the issue independently.

## **GUIDELINES**

1. The Manager or designate shall work with internal departments and the public on prioritizing the harvesting of beavers in accordance with General Principles, Section 1 of this policy.
2. The Manager or designate shall ensure the delivery of the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program.
3. Beavers harvested under the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program shall be compensated upon a signed declaration of the following:
  - a) The legal land location where the beaver was harvested.
  - b) The date of the harvest.
  - c) The harvest was conducted in a lawful manner, in accordance with current legislation.
  - d) The participant has permission to harvest on said land.
  - e) Trappers must present entire beaver carcass at which time the Manager or his designate will remove one front paw, and eligible paws will be totalled and compensated in accordance with this policy.
4. Disposal of all beavers submitted under the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program shall be the responsibility of the person submitting the carcass after proper submission procedures have taken place.
5. The Manager or designate, shall determine the maximum amount of beaver carcasses that will be accepted under this program based on a per quarter section of property basis.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Equipment Rental Policy ASB 2004-01

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2004-01 is up for review, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was the addition of the updated Collection of Information clause, the addition of definitions, and updated the list of equipment that is rented.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2004-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2004-01

Updated version: Draft ASB 2004-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Equipment Rental/Liability Consent

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 5

**Policy Number:** ASB 2004-01

**Next Review Date:** May 2023

**Approved by Council:** June 12, 1990

**Last Review Date:** May 21, 2019

**Resolution No:** 68-19

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### POLICY STATEMENT

This policy relates to the rental of County agricultural equipment to its ratepayers subject to entering into a formal agreement which makes provisions for a rental fee and liability consent.

### POLICY GUIDELINES

1. Ratepayers wishing to rent agricultural equipment from the County may do so through the Agricultural Service Board office.
2. A formal agreement shall be entered into between the County (Lessor) and the Ratepayer (Lessee) which agreement makes provisions for advance rental payment, return date of equipment and liability consent by the lessee, Safety Training and Operating Instruction Agreement.
3. All ASB rental equipment is made available to County residents only.
4. The equipment will be charged at rates set out in Schedule "A" of Master Rates Bylaw 1281-19. This charge will apply to each full day the equipment is removed from the premises until it is returned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. S.", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Equipment Rental

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2004-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2004-01

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **POLICY STATEMENT**

This policy relates to the rental of County agricultural equipment to its ratepayers subject to entering into a formal agreement which makes provisions for a rental fee and liability consent.

### **PURPOSE**

The County Agriculture Department will have certain types of specialized equipment available for residents/ratepayers to use. This will include the following: Cattle Scale, Cattle Squeeze, Shelterbelt/Tree Insecticide Sprayer, and Trailer Mount Sprayer.

### **DEFINITIONS**

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture and Municipal Services.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. Ratepayers wishing to rent agricultural equipment from the County may do so through the Agricultural Department office.
2. A formal agreement shall be entered into between the County (Lessor) and the Ratepayer (Lessee) which agreement makes provisions for advance rental payment, return date of equipment and liability consent by the lessee, Safety Training and Operating Instruction Agreement.
3. All ASB rental equipment is made available to County residents only.
4. The equipment will be charged at rates set out in the Master Rates Bylaw. This charge will apply to each full day the equipment is removed from the premises until it is returned.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** 4-H Grant Program Policy ASB 2005-02

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2005-02 was approved in 2021, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was removing a personal information and changing the title of the contact person for any work that is completed via this policy.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2005-03.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2005-02

Updated version: Draft Policy ASB 2005-03



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** 4-H Grant Program

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2005-01-A

**Policy Number:** ASB 2005-02

**Next Review Date:** January 2027

**Approved by Council:** October 20, 2014

**Last Review Date:** January 16, 2023

**Resolution No:** 2023-06

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### POLICY STATEMENT

The County of Minburn No. 27 Agricultural Board believes that students involved through 4-H activities should be encouraged and supported.

This program will assist 4-H District Clubs within the County by way of a yearly grant. To be eligible for the grant you must comply with the following requirements noted below:

### POLICY PROCEDURE

1. Must have had representation at the Organizational Meeting of the 4-H District Council and also at two of three remaining meetings.
2. The club must have done at least three of the following:
  - a. had a majority of all members take part in Public Speaking at the club level;
  - b. had a majority of members take part in a community project;
  - c. had club members accompanied by one parent at 50 percent of all 4-H meetings; and
  - d. had a majority of all members complete their 4-H records books.
3. Eligible grant is based on \$30.00 per member.
4. The application must reach the Agriculture and Utilities Foreman by September 1st. Upon approval of the application, the cheque will be sent to the leaders.
5. Mail application to:  
Darwin Ullery  
Agriculture and Utilities Foreman  
P.O. Box 550  
Vegreville, AB T9C 1R6
6. The County Agricultural Service Board will donate trophy/plaque to each category of public competitions at the County/Club level.

Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## 4-H Grant Program

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2005-03

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2005-02

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The County of Minburn No. 27 Agricultural Service Board believes that students involved with 4-H activities should be encouraged and supported.

### **PURPOSE**

This program will assist 4-H District Clubs within the County by way of a yearly grant. To be eligible for the grant you must comply with the following requirements noted in the program application form

### **DEFINITIONS**

**ASB** means Agricultural Service Board.

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. Must have had representation at the Organizational Meeting of the 4-H District Council and also at two of three remaining meetings.
2. The club must have done at least three of the following:
  - a) Had a majority of all members take part in Public Speaking at the club level;
  - b) Had a majority of members take part in a community project;
  - c) Had club members accompanied by one parent at 50 percent of all 4-H meetings; and
  - d) Had a majority of all members complete their 4-H records books.
3. Eligible grant is based on \$30.00 per member.

4. The application must be submitted by September 1st. Upon approval of the application, the cheque for funding will be sent to the leaders.
5. Mail application to:  
County of Minburn No. 27  
Manager, Agriculture & Municipal Services  
P.O. Box 550  
Vegreville, AB T9C 1R6
6. The County Agricultural Service Board will also donate trophy/plaque to each category of public competitions at the County/Club level.



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

To be eligible for this grant you must comply with the following requirements:

- Must have had representation at the Organizational meeting of the 4-H District Council and at two of the three remaining meetings.

As well, your club must have done at least three of the following:

- Had a majority of all members take part in Public Speaking at the club level.
- Had a majority of members take part in a community project.  
State project: \_\_\_\_\_
- Had club members accompanied by one parent at fifty percent (50%) of all 4-H meetings.
- Had a majority of all members complete their 4-H record books.

**Name of Club:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Leader:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Members:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Grant:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$30 per member)

**Mail forms to:** Manager, Agriculture & Municipal Services  
P.O. Box 550, Vegreville, Alberta, T9C 1R6



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Soil Conservation Policy ASB 2006-01-A

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2006-01-A is up for review, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was changing the title of the contact person for any work that is completed via this policy and updating of some of the legal language for compliance with the Soil Conservation Act.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2006-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2006-01-A

Updated version: Draft ASB 2006-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Soil Conservation

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 8

**Policy Number:** ASB 2006-01-A

**Next Review Date:** 2022

**Approved by Council:** July 1, 2000

**Last Review Date:** March 17, 2003

**Resolution No:** 45-03

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### POLICY STATEMENT

The County of Minburn No. 27 may issue Soil Conservation Notices under the guidelines of the *Soil Conservation Act of Alberta*.

### POLICY PROCEDURE:

1. Notices will be issued at the discretion of the Agriculture and Utilities Foreman and/or his designate under the provisions as outlined under the current provincial *Soil Conservation Act*.
2. When a notice is issued and compliance is incomplete, remedial work, including removal of drift dirt from road ditches will be carried out either by County crews or contractor and the charges may be applied against the landowner.
3. Where a notice is issued, and in the judgment of the Agriculture and Utilities Foreman, prosecution in a Court of Law appears to be the only alternative, the matter shall first be reviewed by the Agricultural Service Board before legal action is initiated.
4. The landowner who receives the invoice for the cost of the remedial work will be subject to all penalties and interest charges if the invoice is not paid prior to its due date.
5. Where payment is not received for remedial work, including removal of drift dirt from road ditches within 120 days of original invoice, the matter will be presented to County Council with an administrative recommendation for the invoice to be placed on the tax roll and collected as though it were taxes.

Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Soil Conservation

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**Policy Number:** 2006-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB-2006-01-A

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The County of Minburn No. 27 may issue Soil Conservation Notices under the guidelines of the Soil Conservation Act of Alberta.

### **PURPOSE**

Prevention or control of loss of productivity of agricultural land due to soil degradation (wind or water erosion).

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Agriculture Fieldman** means the individual who is appointed by Council to that position under the Authority of the Alberta ASB Act.

**ASB** means Agricultural Service Board.

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture & Municipal Services.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. Notices will be issued at the discretion of the Agriculture Fieldman and/or his/her designate under the provisions as outlined under the current Alberta Soil Conservation Act.
2. When a notice is issued and compliance is incomplete, remedial work, including removal of drift soil from road ditches will be carried out either by County crews or contractors and the charges may be applied against the landowner.

3. Where a notice is issued, and further legal action appears to be the only alternative, the matter shall first be reviewed by the Agricultural Service Board before legal action is initiated
4. The landowner who receives the invoice for the cost of the remedial work will be subject to all penalties and interest charges if the invoice is not paid prior to its due date.
5. Where payment is not received for remedial work, including removal of drift soil from road ditches within 30 days of original invoice, the matter may be dealt with as per Section 6(3) of the Alberta Soil Conservation Act, where the local authority may add the unpaid expenses to the tax roll as an additional tax against the land in respect of which the expenses were incurred.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Right-of-Way Brushing Policy ASB 2007-01-A

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2007-01-A is up for review, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was the addition of the updated Collection of Information clause, changing the title of the contact person for any work that is completed via this policy and removing use of contractors and the brushing contract from the policy.

### **Recommendation**

That the Agricultural Service Board recommend to Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2007-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2007-01-A

Updated version: Draft ASB 2007-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Right-of-Way Brushing Program

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 9

**Policy Number:** ASB 2007-01-A

**Next Review Date:** 2022

**Approved by Council:** March 20, 2000

**Last Review Date:** February 26, 2006

**Resolution No:** 40-06

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### POLICY STATEMENT

The County of Minburn No.27 may conduct an annual Right-of-Way brushing program to control brush growth and re-growth on County roadways for improved road maintenance and public safety.

The County may provide the Right-of-Way brushing program within the boundaries of the County of Minburn No. 27, following the policy as outlined below.

### POLICY PROCEDURE:

1. County Council shall set a budget and establish Right-of-Way brushing priorities on an annual basis.
2. Roads shall be considered for Right-of-Way brushing on the following basis:
  - a. Emergencies (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Safety)
  - b. Resource roads
  - c. Regular service roads
  - d. School bus turnarounds
  - e. Approaches
  - f. Ratepayer requests
3. Once priorities have been established a tender package or offer proposal may be issued to selected contractors, which includes invitation to tender, brushing contract, project map and project bid list, or the County may choose to award contract outright to a contractor of their choice.
4. If the successful tender/proposal of individual projects exceeds the budget amount, a committee consisting of the ASB Chairperson, Agriculture and Utilities Foreman, Director of Operations and Road Committee Chairperson will select which projects are to be completed that year in accordance with budget guidelines.
5. The Agriculture and Utilities Foreman or his designate will contact only yard site owners to notify them of brushing activity and consider any special concerns or requests.

6. Any requests, which are received for brush mowing of roads or approaches, after the annual priorities are established, shall be considered for the following year.
7. The County may consider leaving brush on roadways under the following circumstances:
  - a. If it is adjacent to a farmstead and forms part of the shelterbelt.
  - b. If an area is prone to soil erosion.

However, one pass of the hydro-axe (8 feet) on each side of the road will be mowed out in these areas.

8. All brush in the County Right-of-Way will be scheduled for herbicide spraying the following season to control re-growth.



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Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Right of Way Brushing Program

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2007-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2007-01-A

**Approved by Council:**

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:**

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The County of Minburn No.27 may conduct an annual Right-of-Way mulching brushing program to control brush growth and re-growth on County roadways for improved road maintenance and public safety.

### **PURPOSE**

Part of a municipalities responsibilities for road maintenance include keeping vegetation in sightlines mowed or brushed (mulched), for purposes of better visibility, faster shoulder drying in the spring, ability for large equipment to move unimpeded along the roadways, and general safety.

### **DEFINITIONS**

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture & Municipal Services.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. Administration shall establish Right-of-Way brushing priorities on an annual basis.
2. Roads shall be considered for Right-of-Way brushing on the following basis:
  - a) Emergencies (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Safety)
  - b) Resource roads
  - c) Regular service roads
  - d) School bus turnarounds
  - e) Approaches
  - f) Ratepayer requests

3. The Manager, or designate, will provide notice of brushing activity to yard site owners and will consider any special concerns or requests raised.
4. Any requests, which are received for brush mowing of roads or approaches, after the annual priorities are established, shall be considered for the following year.
5. The County may consider leaving brush on roadways under the following circumstances:
  - a) If it is adjacent to a farmstead and forms part of the shelterbelt.
  - b) If an area is prone to soil erosion.

However, the slope of the road shoulder on each side of the road will be mulched if necessary for road maintenance and safety purposes.

6. All brush mulched in the County Right-of-Way will be scheduled for herbicide spraying the following season to control re-growth.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Private Land Weed Control Policy ASB 2008-01

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2008-01 is up for review, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was the addition of the updated Collection of Information clause, the addition of definitions, and updated the conditions that allow for provision of private land spraying.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2008-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2008-01

Updated version: Draft ASB 2008-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Private Land Weed Control

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 10

**Policy Number:** ASB 2008-01

**Next Review Date:** 2022

**Approved by Council:** January 28, 1993

**Last Review Date:** November 26, 2007

**Resolution No:** 217-07

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### POLICY STATEMENT

This policy relates to the use of County spraying equipment and manpower resources for the purpose of weed control on private land.

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The County of Minburn No. 27 will only perform vegetation control services on private land in the following two (2) situations.

1. Enforcement of a Weed Control Notice delivered under Section 16, Subsection 2 of the *Weed Control Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 1980.
2. For control of the Agricultural Service Boards' two (2) priority weeds, Scentless Chamomile and Toadflax.

In the case of weed control enforcement, the landowner will be invoiced at a rate comparable with the Alberta Government Guide to farm machinery custom rates plus herbicide costs.

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Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Weed Control on Private Land

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2008-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2008-01

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### POLICY STATEMENT

This policy relates to the use of County spraying equipment and manpower resources, when available, for the purpose of noxious/prohibited noxious weed control on private land for small areas.

### PURPOSE

To aid ratepayers to deal with specific noxious/prohibited noxious weed species on private land.

### DEFINITIONS

**ASB** means the Agricultural Service Board.

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture and Municipal Services.

**Noxious Weed** means an invasive species that is listed as a noxious weed as per the Alberta Weed Control Regulation.

**Prohibited Noxious Weed** means an invasive species that is listed as a prohibited noxious weed as per the Alberta Weed Control Regulation.

**Small Area** means one Hectare (1 Ha) (2.47 Ac) or less.

### GUIDELINES

The County will only perform vegetation control services on private land in the following situations:

1. For control of the ASB's list of priority noxious or prohibited noxious weeds:
  - a) Burdock
  - b) Ox Eye Daisy

- c) Scentless Chamomile
- d) Tansy
- e) Toadflax
- f) White Cockle

2. Any invasive species as determined by the Manager, Agriculture & Municipal Service.
3. Private landowners and occupants who have noxious or prohibited noxious weeds (as defined above) on their property can contact the manager to arrange for spraying of the area infested with the invasive species.
4. The owner or occupant must sign a *Permission to Enter Property Agreement* prior to any work being done.
5. County of Minburn may provide vegetation control services for enforcement of a weed notice, if there is no third-party contractor available to do the work.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Control of Clubroot Policy ASB 2009-01-A

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2009-01-A is up for review, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was changing the title of the contact person for any work that is completed via this policy, and the addition of definitions.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2009-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2009-01-A

Updated version: Draft ASB 2009-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Control of Clubroot Disease

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 12

**Policy Number:** ASB 2009-01-A

**Next Review Date:** April 2023

**Approved by Council:** October 24, 2013

**Last Review Date:** April 15, 2019

**Resolution No:** 57-19

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### POLICY STATEMENT

The County of Minburn No. 27 recognizes that Clubroot of Canola is a serious problem and supports the principle to control the spread of Clubroot which is a pest under the *Agricultural Pests Act*. As well it is the duty of a local authority to prevent the establishment of, or to control or destroy pests in the municipality.

### POLICY PROCEDURES:

1. Clubroot survey will be conducted by the Agriculture and Utilities Foreman and/or his designate or by any other Inspectors appointed by County of Minburn or Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development.
2. Clubroot survey methods and reporting form will follow standard protocols as recommended by the Alberta Clubroot Management Committee.
3. Positive identification of Clubroot shall be obtained by a laboratory test.
4. When land is verified positive for Clubroot the landowner will be sent a letter which will explain standard Industry recommended procedures for managing the infestation. This letter will identify best management practices for Clubroot management and recommend a one (1) in three (3) year rotation and use of a Clubroot resistant variety in the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) year.
5. All fields known to have contained Clubroot will be checked each subsequent year and surveyed. Landowners that choose not to adhere to the one (1) in three (3) year rotation recommended in the original letter and Clubroot is located again, may be issued a Notice under authority of the Pest Control Act of Alberta. Producers not adhering to conditions set out in a Pest Control Act Notice will have their crop destroyed.
6. Adjacent landowners to new Clubroot locations will be notified of the new infestation by letter.

Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Control of Clubroot

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2009-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2009-01

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The County recognizes that Clubroot of Canola is a serious problem and supports the principle of controlling the spread of Clubroot which is a named pest under the Agricultural Pests Act.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines for the prevention, management, and control of Clubroot within the municipality. This policy supports assisting landowners/renters with creating and following management plans for Clubroot in canola following the Best Management Practices found in the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan, and if necessary, enforcement actions under the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act.

### **DEFINITIONS**

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture and Municipal Services.

**Named Pest** means a pest that is listed as a named pest as per the Agricultural Pests Act.

**Province** means the current Ministry responsible for Agriculture in the Province of Alberta.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. Clubroot survey will be conducted by the Manager and/or his designate or by any other Inspectors appointed by County or the Province

2. Clubroot survey methods and reporting will follow standard protocols as recommended by the Alberta Clubroot Management Committee.
3. Positive identification of Clubroot shall be obtained by a laboratory test.
4. When land is verified positive for Clubroot the landowner will be sent a letter which will explain standard Industry recommended procedures for managing the infestation. This letter will identify best management practices for Clubroot management and recommend a one (1) in three (3) year rotation and use of a Clubroot resistant variety in the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) year.
5. All fields known to have contained Clubroot will be checked each subsequent year and surveyed. Landowners that choose not to adhere to the one (1) in three (3) year rotation recommended in the original letter and Clubroot is located again, may be issued a Notice under the authority of the Pest Control Act of Alberta. Producers not adhering to conditions set out in a Pest Control Act Notice may have their crop destroyed.
6. Adjacent landowners to new Clubroot locations will be notified of the new infestation by letter.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Equipment Borrowing Policy ASB 2010-01

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The current version of policy ASB 2010-01 is up for review, and the next review date for the policy is to be scheduled in 2029.

### **Information for the Committee**

The policy was reviewed for content, relevancy, and updated to a new standard. The main change in the policy was the addition of the updated Collection of Information clause, the addition of definitions, updated the list of equipment that is borrowed, and the timelines for how long equipment can be borrowed.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council to approve updated draft policy ASB 2010-02.

### ***Attachment:***

Previous version: ASB 2010-01

Updated version: Draft ASB 2010-02



## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

**Title:** Equipment Borrowing Agreement

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 13

**Policy Number:** ASB 2010-01

**Next Review Date:** 2022

**Approved by Council:** October 19, 2009

**Last Review Date:**

**Resolution No:** 201-09

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### POLICY STATEMENT

This Policy relates to the borrowing of County equipment (Gallagher tag reader, skunk traps, and tree planters).

### POLICY GUIDELINES

1. Residents wishing to borrow the Gallagher tag reader, skunk traps, or tree planters may do so through the Agricultural Service Board office.
2. A formal Agreement (Equipment Borrowing Agreement) shall be entered into between the County and the resident which makes provisions for the protection of County equipment to residents.
3. All equipment will be borrowed to County residents only.
4. Equipment will only be borrowed out to those who agree to all terms and conditions contained in the Equipment Borrowing Agreement.

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Chief Administrative Officer



# Policy

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## Equipment Borrowing

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**Policy Number:** ASB 2010-02

**Supersedes Policy Number:** ASB 2010-01

**Approved by Council:** TBD

**Next Review Date:** December 2029

**Resolution No:** TBD

**Last Review Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **POLICY STATEMENT**

This Policy relates to the borrowing of County ASB specialized equipment that residents may not have available to them.

### **PURPOSE**

The County ASB will have certain types of specialized equipment available for residents/ratepayers to use. This will include the following: Gallagher tag reader, various pest traps (Skunk, Raccoon, and other small pests), Magpie traps, forage probe, scare cannon, grain bag roller, and seedling tree planter).

### **DEFINITIONS**

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Manager** means the Manager, Agriculture and Municipal Services.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. Residents wishing to borrow the Gallagher tag reader, various pest traps (Skunk, Raccoon, and other small pests), Magpie traps, forage probe, scare cannon, grain bag roller, and seedling tree planter) may do so through the Agricultural Department.
2. A formal Agreement (Equipment Borrowing Agreement) shall be entered into between the County and the resident which makes provisions for the protection of County equipment to residents.
3. All equipment will be borrowed to County residents only.
4. Equipment will only be borrowed out to those who agree to all terms and conditions contained in the Equipment Borrowing Agreement.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Wildlife Management Fund Support - Coyote Harvest Incentive Program

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

Local livestock producers have reported increasing incidents of coyote predation, particularly during calving season when newborn calves are highly vulnerable. These losses not only cause direct financial harm but also add stress for producers who are already managing difficult conditions. While coyotes are a natural part of the ecosystem, certain individuals or packs become problem predators when they repeatedly target livestock.

By encouraging targeted removal of problem coyotes that are actively affecting calves, the County's goal is to assist with the immediate, proactive support to producers and reduce the likelihood of uncompensated losses. The intent is to relieve livestock pressure from problem coyotes that are preying too close to farmyards on livestock during critical calving periods. The goal is to balance agricultural needs with responsible wildlife stewardship.

This program is not intended to remove producer responsibility, but rather to provide modest support that helps offset part of the cost associated with predator management such as ammunition and time. By contributing a small incentive, the County can encourage more consistent and timely action against problem coyotes during critical calving periods. The program demonstrates municipal support for agriculture and aims to reduce uncompensated livestock losses.

### **Information for the Committee**

Inquiries have come from members of Council, residents and ratepayers, and local livestock producers for the implementation of a Coyote Incentive Program in the County of Minburn. The introduction of the program would assist in the management of coyote populations, thereby supporting livestock protection and reducing predator-related losses.

There have been discussions between administration as well as the Executive Director of APOS (Alberta Professional Outfitters Society), regarding the APOS Wildlife Management Fund (WMF) to support a coyote harvest incentive program in the County of Minburn like the program used by the County of Two Hills, which is funded through the WMF.

If the ASB is in favour of a Coyote Harvest Incentive Program, Administration will submit an Expression of Interest to APOS indicating the County of Minburn's willingness to enter into a similar agreement to establish a coyote harvest incentive using Wildlife Management Fund support.

**Recommendation**

THAT the Agriculture Service Board recommends to County Council that the implementation of the Coyote Harvest Incentive Program be approved.

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommends to County Council that administration apply for funding for a Coyote Harvest Incentive from the APOS Wildlife Management Fund.

***Attachment:***

Draft Coyote Harvest Incentive Program



# Procedure

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## COYOTE HARVEST INCENTIVE

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**Cross Reference:** Coyote Harvest Incentive Policy

**Effective Date:** **Responsibility:** Operations

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### PURPOSE

To reduce the predation of livestock within the County of Minburn and protect producers' assets.

Effective Dates: Annually November 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>

### DEFINITIONS

**ASB** means Agriculture Service Board.

**County** means the County of Minburn No. 27.

**Non-Resident** means an individual who does not reside within the boundaries of the County of Minburn No.27.

**Resident** means a person who has their primary residence within the County of Minburn boundaries.

### PROCEDURE

The County will pay an incentive of \$15 per coyote during the six months from November 1 to March 31, subject to budget approval.

1. Eligibility
  - a) Participants must reside within County of Minburn boundaries.
  - b) Provide legal land location where animals were harvested.
2. Restrictions
  - a) Animals from outside County boundaries or brought by non-residents will not be accepted.
3. Harvest Limits
  - a) Maximum 20 coyotes per week.
  - b) Maximum 100 coyotes per season per resident/landowner.
  - c) Only one member per resident family household may participate.

4. Carcass Requirements
  - a) Only whole, unskinned animals accepted.
  - b) Pelts are not eligible for payment.
5. Verification & Payment
  - a) Appointments required: Contact ASB staff at 780.632.3715 ext. 3 before bringing carcasses for an incentive payment.
  - b) Coyotes must be brought to the ASB Shop for verification.
  - c) Cover carcasses with a tarp during transport to avoid public display.
6. Identification
  - a) ASB staff will remove the left front foot to mark carcasses as paid.
7. Resident Responsibilities
  - a) Ensure carcasses are accessible for inspection and paw removal.
  - b) The carcass will be returned to the owner who will be responsible for disposing of it properly.
8. Hunting Regulations
  - a) Coyotes may be hunted without a license year-round:
    - By residents with written permission on private lands.
    - By owners/occupants on their own land.
9. Trapping Regulations
  - a) Coyotes may be trapped/snared only with a Resident Trapping License (available from Fish & Wildlife offices).
10. Commercial Trappers
  - a) Must provide Registered or Resident Fur Management License number.
  - b) Carcasses accepted only if trapped on trap lines within County of Minburn boundaries.
11. Wildlife Act Compliance
  - a) Illegal to sell whole or unskinned carcasses to anyone other than a fur buyer.
12. Contact Information for Regulations on Snares:
  - a) Vegreville Fish and Wildlife: 780-632-5410
  - b) St. Paul Fish and Wildlife: 780-656-3559
  - c) Vermilion Fish and Wildlife: 780-753-2433



## COYOTE HARVEST INCENTIVE PAYMENT APPLICATION FORM

Box 550, 4909-50 Street, Vegreville, AB, T9C 1R6 Phone: 780-632-2082

Email: [info@minburncounty.ab.ca](mailto:info@minburncounty.ab.ca)

<https://www.minburncounty.ab.ca>

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

LEGAL LAND LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### **GUIDELINES**

1. The incentive dollar amount is to be determined by the County of Minburn Council. The amount of the incentive can change from time to time.
2. The program comes into effect on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Eligibility of persons wanting to participate in this program is restricted to residents of the County of Minburn.
4. Only coyotes that were terminated in the County of Minburn boundaries will be accepted for the incentive payment.
5. Eligible persons participating in the program shall present the carcasses at the Operations building at 4105-51 Avenue, Vegreville to be eligible for payment.
6. Only whole unskinned coyotes will be accepted for payment. Pelts will not be eligible under the program.
7. The Agricultural Fieldman or assigned Agriculture Services staff will inspect the animals and determine whether the carcass is eligible for payment under the program. Staff have the right to disqualify carcasses if they suspect they do not meet the criteria.
8. The left foot will be docked for identification purposes. Coyotes will be identified by a picture. The remainder of the carcass will be returned to the person receiving the incentive payment.
9. The person delivering the carcass for inspection is responsible for the proper disposal of the animal.
10. Carcasses will be accepted by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**. Please phone the Agriculture Services office at 780.632.3715 ext. 3 to make an appointment.

### **Collection and Use of Personal Information**

Personal information is collected in accordance with Section 4 of the *Protection of Privacy Act (POPA)*. It will be used to process the request. If you have any questions about the collection and use of the information, contact 780.632.2082.

**THIS SECTION FOR PAYMENT TOTALS ONLY**

**Number Coyotes Registered:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

**COYOTES**

**TERMINATION LOCATION**

Shot: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Comments** (condition, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**INCENTIVE PAYMENT:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Approved by County of Minburn**



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Roadside Mowing Program

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

During the past mowing season, members of Council and the public raised concerns regarding the mowing contractor's practices. Specifically, issues arose where crops were growing within the road right-of-way and were not mowed, resulting in areas of vegetation being left uncut. In some cases, producers had not fully harvested their crops, leaving thin strips of crop and weeds that could have been addressed by the contractor but were not.

### **Information for the Committee**

A discussion is required to determine whether the mowing contractor should be responsible for cutting crops within the roadside right-of-way.

Administration's position is that if the contractor can safely operate equipment within the first 15 feet of right-of-way, then any crop present should be mowed to ensure a consistent standard across the County, and that this be advertised prior to seeding in spring 2026.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Services Board endorse a full fifteen-foot cut within the municipal right-of-way, and further directs that any crops growing within this area be mowed where the contractor can safely access with equipment, in order to maintain a consistent roadside standard throughout the County.



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Co-op Agribusiness Grant Program

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

A letter was received from the Innisfree Municipal Seed Cleaning Plant requesting advocacy support for a proposed Cooperative Agribusiness Grant Program – Strengthening Alberta’s Seed Processing Network.

### **Information for the Committee**

The proposed grant program is aimed at sustaining and modernizing Alberta’s network of cooperative seed and grain processing facilities. These farmer-governed co-ops, members of the Alberta Seed Processors (ASP), are vital regional service hubs supporting agricultural production, rural employment, and food security across the province.

The Innisfree Seed Cleaning Plant is seeking support - whether in principle, through public endorsement, or via strategic partnership for the creation of a Co-op Agribusiness Grant Program that would enable:

- Equipment Modernization
- Facility expansion
- Adoption of technology
- Enhancing services

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agricultural Service Board recommend to County Council to send a letter of support to the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation for the creation of the Co-op Agribusiness Grant Program.

### **Attachment:**

Letter of Request from Innisfree Seed Cleaning Plant

**Krystin Cannan**  
Secretary / Treasurer  
Innisfree Municipal Seed Cleaning Plant  
Box 81  
Innisfree, Alberta  
jrcannan2014@gmail.com

**August 19, 2025**

**Eric Anderson**  
Councillor  
County of Minburn  
Box 38 Minburn, Alberta T0B3B0

Dear Eric,

**Re: Request Support for a Co-op Agribusiness Grant Program – Strengthening Alberta’s Seed Processing Network**

I am reaching out to you today to encourage your support for a proposed **grant program aimed at sustaining and modernizing Alberta’s network of cooperative seed and grain processing facilities**. These farmer-governed co-ops—members of **Alberta Seed Processors (ASP)**—are vital regional service hubs supporting agricultural production, rural employment, and food security across the province.

Since 1948, seed cleaning co-ops have been embedded in Alberta’s agricultural fabric. With 67 members operating 68 plants, ASP’s reach is both extensive and deeply rooted in rural communities. These facilities help farmers access high-quality seed, meet regulatory compliance standards (including the Canada Seeds Act), and support markets ranging from local seed growers to global boutique exporters.

In 2024 alone, ASP members processed more than **42 million bushels** of seed and grain, with about **two-thirds of Alberta’s cereal and pulse seed** handled through these co-ops. In many municipalities, the seed plant is not only a service provider but also a **job creator and community supporter**, often contributing to local events, agricultural variety performance trials, and youth programs such as 4-H.

However, this network is at a crossroads.

- **Aging infrastructure, increased demand, and rising input costs** are straining the ability of these co-ops to reinvest in essential equipment.
- Co-ops operate conservatively, prioritizing reinvestment over risk—but current inflation, borrowing rates, and cost of capital have made this approach more difficult to sustain.

- Without targeted support, Alberta risks losing a vital component of its agri-food supply chain.

We are seeking your support—either in principle, through public endorsement, or via strategic partnership—in advocating for the creation of a **Co-op Agribusiness Grant Program** that would enable:

- Equipment and processing line modernization;
- Facility expansion or new builds to increase capacity;
- Adoption of technology to improve productivity;
- Enhanced services to meet local and export market needs.

Your voice is vital in this conversation. As a municipal leader or industry partner, your backing can demonstrate the regional importance of this infrastructure to both provincial policymakers and the broader agricultural community.

Sincerely,  
**Krystin Cannan**  
Secretary Treasurer  
Innisfree Municipal Seed Cleaning Plant





## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Heartland Training & Support Hub Financial Request

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

The Heartland Training & Support Hub (formerly Farm Safety Centre) submitted its annual update to the County along with a funding request for 2025.

Heartland's records indicate the County of Minburn's most recent donation was \$3,157 which was received on June 9, 2023.

### **Information for the Committee**

Safety Smarts delivered during the 2024-2025 School year in the County of Minburn included:

- 24 Safety Smarts Presentations
- 674 students reached
- 6 schools visited (School Visits Report attached).

For the 2025-year Heartland is inviting each County/MD to contribute \$4.50 per student within their boundaries in the past school year. For County of Minburn, this amounts to \$3,033.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agriculture Service Board recommend to County Council to donate \$3,033 to the Heartland Training & Support Hub Safety Smarts program.

### **Attachment:**

1. Letter from Heartland Training & Support Hub
2. 2024-2025 School Visits Report



265 East 400 South | Box 291 | Raymond | Alberta | T0K 2S0 | 403 752-4585 | [www.heartlandsupport.ca](http://www.heartlandsupport.ca)

September 9, 2025

Darwin Ullery

**County of Minburn**

Email: [dullery@minburncounty.ab.ca](mailto:dullery@minburncounty.ab.ca)

Dear Darwin,

On behalf of Heartland Training & Support Hub (*formerly Farm Safety Centre*), I am pleased to provide your County/MD with this annual update on the Safety Smarts program, along with our donation request for 2025.

Thanks to the generosity of many Counties, MDs, Agricultural Societies, Hutterite colonies, rural communities, and private donors, we successfully raised the matching funds required to qualify for the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) grant. This allowed us to resume Safety Smarts delivery in October 2024 after a temporary pause.

From October 2024 through June 2025, our team hired and trained new instructors, updated our curriculum, purchased new teaching aids and models, and most importantly, delivered 1,754 farm safety presentations to 37,118 rural elementary students at 405 schools across Alberta.

Every one of our instructors comes from a farm background and understands both the challenges and blessings of farm life. School teachers consistently tell us the program is valuable: 98% reported the presentations engaged their students, 99% said the content was relevant and informative, and 98% want the program again next year.

**Safety Smarts delivery during the 2024–2025 school year within County of Minburn included:**

- 24 Safety Smarts presentations
- 674 students reached
- 6 schools visited

For a more detailed list of each school visit, please see the attached 2024 – 2025 School Visits Report.

**Historical delivery & donation history for County of Minburn:**

- Our records indicate that your most recent donation was \$3,157.00 which we received on June 9, 2023.
- Since 2016, we have delivered 229 Safety Smarts to 5171 rural elementary students at schools within County of Minburn.

This year, we are inviting each County/MD to contribute \$4.50 per student reached within their boundaries in the past school year. For County of Minburn, this amounts to **\$3,033.00**

As a registered charity, all donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt. We will also recognize your support on our website and social media so communities across Alberta can see which counties are sustaining this life-saving program.

## How to Donate:

- E-Transfer to [donations@heartlandsupport.ca](mailto:donations@heartlandsupport.ca)
- Cheque payable to Heartland Training & Support Hub.

**Mailing address:** PO Box 291, Raymond, Alberta T0K 2S0.

## Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Why only rural schools? – We focus on small rural schools outside larger cities, where children are more likely to live or spend time on farms, ride ATVs or horses, or swim in natural bodies of water. With limited funds, we must prioritize the highest-risk communities.

2. Are you government funded? – We are a non-profit and registered charity founded in 1991 by a group of farmers in Southern Alberta. While we occasionally receive government grants, we are not affiliated with government or regulatory bodies.

3. How are presentations scheduled? – We currently have 7 Safety Smarts instructors across the province, each responsible for their own region. They contact schools directly and book classroom presentations.

4. Do students get repeat content? – No. There are 7 unique presentations, one for each grade K–6. Children receive new, age-appropriate content each year. Presentations are delivered in small classroom settings, not in large gymnasiums.

5. How do donations affect delivery? – Limited funds require us to prioritize counties and MDs that support the program annually. Schools in supportive regions are booked first.

Thank you for presenting this request to your Agricultural Service Board. Please reach out directly if you have any questions about the program or the data in this letter. I am also happy to attend ASB meetings, in person or virtually, if invited.

With sincere appreciation,



Jordan Jensen | Executive Director  
Heartland Training & Support Hub  
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[www.heartlandsupport.ca](http://www.heartlandsupport.ca)

## School Visits by County: September 2024 - June 2025

School: County ↑	School: Account Name	Total # Pres	Total # Students	Date
Athabasca County	Grassland Community School	4	56	2025-01-27
	New Pine Colony School	1	22	2025-02-12
	Rochester School	2	20	2025-03-06
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	7	98	
Beaver County	Tofield School	6	110	2024-11-06
	Iron Creek Colony School	1	14	2024-11-27
	Holden Colony School	1	12	2024-11-27
	Viking School	6	125	2024-12-05
	Tofield Colony School	1	14	2024-12-16
	C.W. Sears Elementary School	7	239	2025-01-13
	Viking Colony School	1	21	2025-05-05
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	23	535	
Camrose County	Bawlf School	6	138	2024-10-18
	Hay Lakes School	6	93	2024-10-28
	Rosalind Colony School	1	22	2024-12-11
	Camrose Colony School	1	5	2024-12-16
	Bashaw School & ECS	6	118	2025-01-15
	Sifton School	7	291	2025-04-07
	New Norway School	6	90	2025-04-15
	Cornerstone Christian Academy	3	52	2025-04-17
	Round Hill School	3	75	2025-05-23
Hartland Colony School	1	26	2025-06-24	
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	40	910	
Cardston County	Big Bend Colony School	1	25	2024-12-16
	Blue Ridge Colony School	1	15	2024-12-17
	Crystal Spring Colony School	1	21	2025-01-14
	Huttenville Colony School	2	15	2025-01-21
	Old Elm Spring Colony School	2	19	2025-03-31
	Magrath Elementary School	8	182	2025-05-05
	Magrath Elementary School	9	207	2025-05-06
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	24	484	
Clear Hills County	Hines Creek Composite School	5	54	2025-05-06
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	5	54	
Clearwater County	Ecole Rocky Elementary School	11	206	2024-11-25
	Caroline School	7	171	2024-11-27
	Charlotte Small Elementary School	9	198	2024-12-02
	Rocky Christian School	4	111	2025-05-14
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	31	686	
County of Barrhead	Neerlandia Public Christian School	9	177	2025-04-01
	Dunstable School	4	51	2025-05-27
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	13	228	
County of Forty Mile	Plainview Colony School	1	15	2025-01-27
	Cherry Coulee Christian Academy	3	53	2025-03-03
	Foremost School	4	86	2025-05-20
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	8	154	
County of Grande Prairie	Grandview Colony School	1	12	2024-11-25
	Elmworth School	0	0	2025-01-20
	Valhalla Community School	4	37	2025-04-07

		Robert W. Zahara	9	170	2025-04-28
		Robert W. Zahara	9	180	2025-04-29
		Elmworth School	4	45	2025-05-20
		Hythe Elementary School	8	123	2025-05-27
		Wembley Elementary School	7	106	2025-06-16
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		42	673	
County of Lethbridge		Gold Ridge Colony School (Turin Colony)	2	30	2025-01-28
		Coalhurst Elementary School	8	171	2025-01-29
		Rock Lake Colony School	2	7	2025-01-30
		Shadow Ranch Colony School	1	22	2025-02-03
		St. Joseph's School	7	150	2025-02-25
		St. Joseph's School	5	106	2025-02-26
		Noble Central School	7	160	2025-03-18
		Coalhurst Elementary School	4	90	2025-03-24
		Gold Ridge Colony School (Turin Colony)	1	18	2025-03-27
		Sunnyside School	6	132	2025-04-10
		Coaldale Christian School	7	111	2025-05-02
		St. Catherine School	8	147	2025-05-15
		Chin Lakes Colony School	1	13	2025-06-16
		Chin Lakes Colony School	1	9	2025-06-19
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		60	1166	
County of Minburn		Mannville School	6	90	2024-10-30
		Delnorte School	2	31	2025-01-08
		A.L. Horton Elementary School	6	290	2025-01-20
		St. Martin's Catholic School	8	222	2025-04-04
		Pleasant Ridge Colony School	1	22	2025-06-13
		Creighton Colony School	1	19	2025-06-13
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		24	674	
County of Newell		Spring View Colony School	1	26	2025-05-08
		Springside Colony School	1	12	2025-05-08
		Christ The King Academy	5	121	2025-05-12
		Christ The King Academy	4	122	2025-05-13
		Bassano School	6	126	2025-05-26
		Newell Christian School	4	62	2025-05-27
		Newell Colony School	1	18	2025-06-05
		Lathom Colony School	1	16	2025-06-05
		Griffin Park School	8	133	2025-06-10
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		31	636	
County of Northern Lights		Dixonville School	2	26	2025-04-08
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		2	26	
County of Paintearth		Coronation School	6	88	2025-02-24
		Theresetta Catholic School	4	43	2025-02-27
		Lanes Lake Colony School	1	12	2025-06-20
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		11	143	
County of St. Paul		Glen Avon School	4	61	2025-03-11
		Glen Avon School	5	96	2025-03-12
		Glen Avon School	4	63	2025-03-13
		Ecole du Sommet School	0	0	2025-04-01
		Ecole du Sommet School	7	111	2025-04-01
		Elk Point Elementary School	9	180	2025-04-03
		Ashmont Elementary School	8	161	2025-04-30
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		37	672	
County of Stettler		Donalda School	4	41	2024-12-12
		Big Valley School	4	63	2025-01-22
		Erskine School	6	97	2025-04-28
		Stettler Elementary School	7	262	2025-04-30
		Stettler Elementary School	8	298	2025-05-02
		Erskine Colony School	1	26	2025-05-12
		Botha School	3	42	2025-05-26
		Gadsby Colony School	1	14	2025-06-04
		Byemoor Colony School	2	30	2025-06-05

		Whitesand Colony School	1	4	2025-06-11
		Lone Pine Colony School	1	25	2025-06-11
		Donalda Colony School	1	12	2025-06-16
		Star Ridge Colony School	1	18	2025-06-24
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		40	932	
County of Thorhild		Thorhild Central School	3	92	2025-02-25
		Thorhild Central School	4	87	2025-05-12
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		7	179	
County of Two Hills		Hairy Hill Colony School	1	15	2025-01-28
		Plain Lake Colony School	1	31	2025-02-10
		Two Hills School	6	83	2025-02-11
		New Myrnam School	3	44	2025-03-04
		Two Hills Mennonite School	8	179	2025-03-18
		Two Hills Mennonite School	8	172	2025-03-19
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		27	524	
County of Vermilion River		Hillmond Central School	5	102	2025-02-05
		Vermilion Elementary School	10	241	2025-02-20
		St. Jerome's School	0	0	2025-02-27
		Queen Elizabeth Elementary School	8	182	2025-03-10
		Marwayne Jubilee School	5	101	2025-03-27
		Dewberry School	3	45	2025-05-20
		Kitscoty Elementary School	11	241	2025-05-26
		Marwayne Jubilee School	5	101	2025-05-29
		South Ferriby Colony School	1	27	2025-06-23
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		48	1040	
County of Warner		Delco Colony School	2	30	2024-12-03
		Gold Spring Colony School	1	13	2024-12-05
		Bluegrass Colony School	1	15	2024-12-17
		Fairlane Colony School	2	20	2025-01-15
		Miami Colony School	1	10	2025-01-16
		Prairie Home Colony School	1	25	2025-01-23
		Evergreen Colony School	1	23	2025-02-04
		Hofmann Colony School	2	26	2025-02-05
		Milk River Elementary School	6	98	2025-02-11
		O.K. Colony School	1	12	2025-03-19
		Milford Colony School	1	12	2025-03-19
		Raymond Elementary School	8	171	2025-04-07
		Raymond Elementary School	8	209	2025-04-08
		Raymond Elementary School	8	192	2025-04-09
		Elm Spring Colony School	1	20	2025-06-02
		Raymond Elementary School	0	0	2025-08-25
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		44	876	
County of Wetaskiwin		Silver Creek Colony School	1	17	2024-11-04
		Pine Haven Colony School	1	17	2024-11-04
		Alder Flats Elementary School	4	62	2024-12-02
		Clear Vista School	8	156	2025-01-27
		Clear Vista School	8	165	2025-01-30
		Griffiths-Scott Middle School	8	198	2025-02-05
		Gwynne School	4	75	2025-03-10
		Pipestone School	4	69	2025-03-13
		Winfield School	4	72	2025-04-22
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		42	831	
Cypress County		Seven Persons School	8	150	2025-03-14
		Murray Lake Colony School	1	16	2025-06-11
		Elkwater Colony School	2	22	2025-06-11
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		11	188	
Flagstaff County		Daysland School	7	137	2024-11-29
		Wavy Lake Colony School	1	8	2024-12-11
		Forestburg School	5	87	2025-01-29
		Killam Public	7	94	2025-05-08
		Central High Sedgewick Public School	7	144	2025-05-20

	Lougheed Colony School	1	25	2025-06-16
	South Bend Colony School	1	10	2025-06-20
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	29	505	
Foothills County	Cayley School	4	82	2025-03-18
	Cayley Colony School	1	24	2025-04-16
	MacMillan Colony School	1	17	2025-04-16
	High River Colony School	1	9	2025-04-17
	Blackie School	6	107	2025-04-28
	Turner Valley Elementary School	8	164	2025-05-01
	Longview School	3	53	2025-06-10
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	24	456	
Kneehill County	Trochu Valley School	7	157	2024-11-26
	Three Hills School	8	165	2025-01-13
	Three Hills Colony School	2	31	2025-01-17
	May City Colony School	1	13	2025-01-29
	Dr. Elliott Community School	4	87	2025-01-30
	Carbon School	2	28	2025-02-05
	Valleyview Torrington Colony School	1	14	2025-02-05
	Prairie Christian Academy Elementary School	7	146	2025-03-13
	Huxley Colony School	1	17	2025-05-15
	Britestone Colony School	1	15	2025-06-11
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	34	673	
Lac La Biche County	Ecole Plamondon School	6	134	2025-05-14
	Ecole Plamondon School	2	123	2025-05-27
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	8	257	
Lacombe County	Alix MAC School	4	94	2024-11-18
	Bentley School	1	24	2025-01-09
	Bentley School	8	199	2025-01-10
	Bentley School	0	0	2025-01-13
	Clive School	6	128	2025-02-03
	Ecole Lacombe Upper Elementary School	8	302	2025-04-24
	Alix Colony School	1	19	2025-05-12
	Pleasant Valley Colony School	1	33	2025-06-18
	Bentley Colony School	1	6	2025-06-18
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	30	805	
Lac Ste. Anne County	Rochfort Bridge Colony School	1	22	2024-11-12
	Grasmere School	6	106	2025-02-25
	Onoway Elementary School	8	200	2025-03-06
	Onoway Elementary School	9	198	2025-03-07
	Darwell School	7	122	2025-03-12
	Sangudo Community School	6	100	2025-04-03
	Elmer Elson Elementary School	8	177	2025-04-08
	Elmer Elson Elementary School	6	148	2025-04-09
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	51	1073	
Lamont County	Bruderheim Community School	6	112	2025-03-17
	Lamont Elementary School	14	333	2025-05-15
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	20	445	
Leduc County	Calmar Elementary School	7	206	2024-12-09
	New Sarepta Elementary School	7	213	2025-02-10
	Thorsby Elementary School	7	204	2025-02-12
	Ecole Champs Vallee School	6	247	2025-03-03
	Ecole Champs Vallee School	7	229	2025-03-06
	Warburg School	6	127	2025-04-10
	Saint-Andre Academy	7	259	2025-05-14
	Saint-Andre Academy	0	0	2025-05-16
	Warburg Colony School	1	17	2025-06-17
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	48	1502	
M.D. of Acadia	Meridian Colony School	1	4	2025-06-05
	Acadia Colony School	1	12	2025-06-05
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	2	16	
M.D. of Big Lakes	Bishop Routhier School	4	30	2024-11-06

		St. Andrew's School	10	200	2024-11-27
		High Prairie Elementary School	12	269	2024-11-28
		Kinuso School	1	15	2024-12-12
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		27	514	
M.D. of Bonnyville		Pine Meadows Colony School	1	14	2025-02-28
		Nelson Heights School	11	267	2025-03-05
		H.E. Bourgoin Middle School	7	140	2025-03-24
		J.F. Dion School	4	47	2025-03-25
		Elizabeth School	6	58	2025-03-26
		Iron River School	4	64	2025-03-31
		Cold Lake Elementary School	10	183	2025-04-28
		Cold Lake Elementary School	8	169	2025-04-29
		Holy Cross Elementary School	10	183	2025-05-05
		Holy Cross Elementary School	9	201	2025-05-06
		North Star Elementary School	0	0	2025-05-07
		Glendon School	0	0	2025-05-08
		Duclos School	16	309	2025-05-28
		Ardmore School	0	0	2025-06-02
		Ecole Dr. Bernard Brosseau Catholic School	14	320	2025-06-19
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		100	1955	
M.D. of Fairview		E.E. Oliver Elementary School	7	120	2025-03-03
		E.E. Oliver Elementary School	7	142	2025-03-04
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		14	262	
M.D. of Greenview		Valleyview Ranch Colony School	1	11	2024-11-14
		Homeland Colony School	1	24	2024-11-14
		St. Stephen's Catholic School	9	172	2025-02-27
		Ridgevalley School	7	94	2025-03-17
		Penson School	5	79	2025-03-24
		Harry Gray Elementary School	6	93	2025-04-16
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		29	473	
M.D. of Lesser Slave River		Smith School	4	37	2025-05-05
		C.J. Schurter Elementary School	9	205	2025-05-06
		C.J. Schurter Elementary School	10	218	2025-05-07
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		23	460	
M.D. of Peace		Grimshaw Public School	0	0	2025-04-07
		Grimshaw Public School	6	84	2025-05-12
		Grimshaw Public School	4	56	2025-06-09
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		10	140	
M.D. of Pincher Creek		St. Michael's School	6	165	2025-02-10
		Waterton Colony School	1	2	2025-02-27
		Livingstone Colony School	2	23	2025-02-27
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		9	190	
M.D. of Provost		Provost Public School	6	125	2025-02-21
		Amisk School	4	73	2025-04-09
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		10	198	
M.D. of Smoky River		Twilight Colony School	2	39	2025-05-26
		Twilight Colony School	1	19	2025-05-26
		Ecole Routhier School	5	86	2025-06-10
		Ecole Routhier School	6	92	2025-06-17
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		14	236	
M.D. of Spirit River		Rycroft School	3	81	2025-06-11
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		3	81	
M.D. of Taber		Enchant Colony School	1	23	2024-12-09
		Hillridge Colony School	2	36	2025-01-08
		Copperfield Colony School	1	35	2025-01-09
		Dr. Hamman School	9	221	2025-01-22
		Vauxhall Elementary School	7	145	2025-02-12
		Oaklane Colony School	2	23	2025-02-13
		Chamberlain School	4	45	2025-03-06
		Taber Christian School	6	119	2025-03-11
		Enchant School	5	79	2025-03-20

		Central Elementary School	5	104	2025-04-14
		Central Elementary School	6	117	2025-04-15
		Taber Christian School	5	105	2025-04-28
		Taber Christian School	4	69	2025-04-29
		Barnwell School	5	87	2025-05-21
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		62	1208	
M.D. Of Wainwright		Blessed Sacrament School	7	404	2024-11-20
		Wainwright Elementary School	7	384	2025-02-18
		Wainwright Elementary School	1	20	2025-02-20
		Edgerton Public School	1	23	2025-03-04
		Edgerton Public School	3	54	2025-03-11
		Irma School	7	162	2025-04-02
		Holt Colony School	1	9	2025-05-05
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		27	1056	
M.D. Of Willow Creek		Ewelme Colony School	2	18	2025-01-13
		Granum School	0	0	2025-02-27
		Clear Lake Colony School	1	24	2025-02-28
		Willow Creek Colony School	1	28	2025-03-05
		Greenwood Colony School	1	21	2025-03-05
		Stavely Elementary School	4	88	2025-03-10
		Granum School	3	57	2025-03-25
		Thompson Colony School	1	10	2025-04-02
		A.B. Daley Community School	6	111	2025-04-17
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		19	357	
Mackenzie County		Buffalo Head Prairie School	7	192	2025-05-05
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		7	192	
Mountain View County		Cremona School	9	211	2024-11-19
		Olds Koinonia Christian School	7	178	2024-11-28
		Reed Ranch School	4	59	2025-01-14
		Carstairs Elementary School	10	206	2025-01-15
		Carstairs Elementary School	10	239	2025-01-16
		Neudorf Colony School	1	11	2025-01-29
		Ecole Olds Elementary School	8	190	2025-02-10
		Ecole Olds Elementary School	8	177	2025-02-11
		Ecole Olds Elementary School	9	192	2025-02-12
		Ross Ford Elementary School	7	167	2025-03-03
		Ross Ford Elementary School	6	143	2025-03-04
		River Valley School	7	177	2025-03-05
		River Valley School	9	234	2025-03-05
		Westglen School	5	139	2025-04-04
		Mountain View Colony School	1	11	2025-05-12
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		101	2334	
Northern Sunrise County		Nampa Public School	4	41	2025-04-14
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		4	41	
Parkland County		Ecole Meridian Heights School	9	218	2024-12-16
		High Park School	11	271	2025-01-24
		Muir Lake Community School	9	190	2025-02-12
		Muir Lake Community School	9	216	2025-02-13
		Duffield School	7	156	2025-02-19
		Entwistle School	4	75	2025-04-15
		Tomahawk School	4	92	2025-06-05
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		53	1218	
Ponoka County		Mecca Glen School	3	61	2024-11-12
		Bluffton School	5	95	2024-11-14
		Ponoka Elementary School	7	274	2025-03-17
		Ponoka Elementary School	7	264	2025-03-20
		Rimbey Elementary School	1	61	2025-05-06
		Rimbey Elementary School	7	257	2025-05-22
		Leedale Colony School	1	15	2025-06-23
		Ferrybank Colony School	1	18	2025-06-23
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		32	1045	

Red Deer County	Delburne Centralized School	8	194	2024-11-18
	Poplar Ridge School	7	171	2024-11-21
	Spruce View School	7	144	2024-12-03
	Rainbow Colony School	1	23	2024-12-10
	Pine Hill Colony School	1	13	2024-12-10
	Bowden Grandview School	7	152	2025-01-10
	Elnora School	4	47	2025-01-14
	Ecole John Wilson Elementary School	8	160	2025-01-23
	Jessie Duncan Elementary School	6	112	2025-01-24
	Jessie Duncan Elementary School	7	162	2025-01-27
	Ecole John Wilson Elementary School	9	193	2025-01-28
	Beacon Hill Elementary School	9	209	2025-03-10
	Beacon Hill Elementary School	7	164	2025-03-11
	Innisfail Middle School	7	152	2025-03-31
	Ecole Steffie Woima Elementary School	8	199	2025-04-02
	Ecole Steffie Woima Elementary School	11	225	2025-04-03
	C.P. Blakely Elementary School	7	187	2025-04-29
	C.P. Blakely Elementary School	7	159	2025-04-30
	Penhold Elementary School	9	213	2025-05-13
	Rainbow Colony School	1	23	2025-06-19
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	131	2902	
Rocky View County	Crossfield Elementary School	4	91	2025-03-21
	Beiseker Community School	6	109	2025-03-25
	Kathryn School	8	132	2025-03-27
	Indus School	7	142	2025-04-01
	Beiseker Colony School	1	16	2025-04-15
	Tschetter Colony School	1	15	2025-04-15
	Fairview Colony School	1	18	2025-04-17
	Banded Peak School	6	119	2025-05-02
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	34	642	
Saddle Hills County	Bay Tree Colony School	1	8	2025-02-18
	Silver Valley Colony School	1	8	2025-02-18
	Doe River Colony School	2	18	2025-02-24
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	4	34	
Smoky Lake County	Vilna School	3	18	2025-05-21
	H.A. Kostash School	6	166	2025-05-22
	Holy Family Catholic School	3	67	2025-06-16
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	12	251	
Special Area 2	Jenner Colony School	1	17	2025-05-06
	Berry Creek Colony School/Stahl Colony	1	9	2025-05-07
	Berry Creek Colony School/Stahl Colony	1	9	2025-05-07
	Hand Hills Colony School	2	23	2025-05-07
	Berry Creek Community School	3	32	2025-06-06
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	8	90	
Special Area 3	Wind River Colony School	1	19	2025-05-06
	Youngstown School	2	31	2025-06-02
	Oyen Public School	5	78	2025-06-03
	Prairie View Colony School	1	6	2025-06-04
	New Brigden School	2	19	2025-06-04
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	11	153	
Special Area 4	Veteran Colony School (Harts Colony School)	2	27	2025-06-19
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum	2	27	
Starland County	Morrin School	3	60	2025-03-12
	Craigmyle Colony School	1	7	2025-05-08
	Cloverleaf Colony School	1	18	2025-05-08
	Starland Colony School	2	22	2025-05-09
	Blue Sky Colony School	1	16	2025-05-09
	East River Colony School	1	10	2025-05-15
	Neu Muehl Colony School	1	5	2025-05-20
	Verdant Valley Colony School	1	15	2025-05-20
	Delia School	3	48	2025-06-02

<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		14	201	
Strathcona County		Castle Colony School	1	28	2025-05-09
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		1	28	
Sturgeon County		Bon Accord Community School	0	0	2025-01-11
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		0	0	
Vulcan County		Little Bow Colony School	1	16	2024-12-04
		Carmangay Colony	1	11	2025-02-03
		Arrowwood Colony School	1	20	2024-12-10
		Wild Rose Colony School	1	4	2024-12-18
		Milo School	4	56	2025-02-06
		Lomond Colony School	1	19	2025-03-04
		Arrowwood Community School	3	43	2025-03-17
		Wild Rose Colony School	1	4	2025-03-26
		Vulcan Prairieview Elementary School	8	177	2025-04-01
		Little Bow Colony School	1	16	2025-06-04
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		22	366	
Wheatland County		Ecole Brentwood Elementary School	7	158	2024-12-09
		Carseland School	5	94	2025-03-07
		George Freeman School	12	276	2025-03-19
		Wheatland Crossing	9	179	2025-03-20
		Rosebud River Colony School	1	9	2025-03-24
		Rosebud Creek Colony School	1	22	2025-03-24
		Trinity Christian Academy	3	77	2025-03-26
		Sayre Colony School	1	24	2025-04-07
		Stahlville/Hines Colony School	2	37	2025-04-07
		Clearview Colony School	1	31	2025-04-08
		Fairville Colony School	1	8	2025-04-08
		Twin Creeks Colony School	1	21	2025-05-05
		Towers Colony School	1	17	2025-05-05
		Midwest Colony School	1	13	2025-05-12
		Greentree School	8	181	2025-05-22
		Greentree School	8	158	2025-05-23
		Crawling Valley Colony School	1	14	2025-05-26
		Wintering Hills Colony School	2	41	2025-05-26
		Rising Sun Colony School	2	25	2025-05-27
		Green Acres Colony School	1	14	2025-05-27
		Sandhills Colony School	1	17	2025-06-11
		Poplar Row Colony School	1	11	2025-06-12
		Glenrose Colony School	1	28	2025-06-12
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		71	1455	
Woodlands County		Ecole St. Mary School	10	210	2025-01-20
		Pat Hardy Elementary School	9	185	2025-04-23
		Pat Hardy Elementary School	7	153	2025-04-24
		Ecole St Anne	7	150	2025-05-13
		Ecole St Anne	7	154	2025-05-14
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		40	852	
Yellowhead County		Fulham School	4	39	2025-01-17
		Yellowhead Koinonia Christian School	4	69	2025-02-21
		Mary Bergeron School	10	211	2025-03-18
		Mary Bergeron School	7	150	2025-03-19
		Wildwood School	4	71	2025-04-15
		Evansview School	5	120	2025-05-09
		Niton Central School	3	56	2025-06-10
<b>Subtotal</b>	Sum		37	716	
<b>Total</b>	Sum		1754	37118	

For more information about this report or our Safety Smarts program please contact:  
Carma Flaig | Safety Smarts Program Manager: [programs@heartlandssupport.ca](mailto:programs@heartlandssupport.ca)



## **AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSION PAPER**

**Topic:** Alternative Land Uses Services (ALUS) Update

**Date:** December 10, 2025

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### **Background**

Previously, Council passed a resolution to participate in the ALUS Canada Program based on information presented by Christine Campbell, Western Hub Coordinator for ALUS Canada. The contractor will be Carmen Zayac, who also provides services for the County of Two Hills. A meeting has been requested with Christine Campbell to finalize a formal agreement between ALUS Canada and the County of Minburn.

### **Information for the Committee**

Once the agreement is signed, the contract coordinator will facilitate the establishment of a local Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) to review, evaluate, and advance proposed projects. A formal contract will be drafted between the County of Minburn and Ms. Zayac. Administration anticipates starting the program in late January or early February 2026, after both the contract and formal agreement have been finalized.

### **Recommendation**

THAT the Agriculture Service Board accept this report as information.

## **Agriculture and Municipal Services Update**

### **August to November 2025**

- Beaver and drainage work was carried out throughout the season, including trapping, unplugging culverts, opening dams, unplugging bridges, and blasting. Work was wrapping up due to weather.
- The Manager of Agriculture & Municipal Services continued to receive and respond to all weed complaints by email, phone, and in-person.
- Staff sprayed and hand-picked various problem locations.
- Staff completed rough-cut mowing, weed eating, and trimming branches in hamlets and on municipal properties.
- Contracted mowing for hamlets and parks went well through the season.
- Roadside mowing began on the west side in early August and progressed eastward, with all roadside mowing completed by September 30, 2025.
- Grasshopper surveys were completed for Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation.
- Roadside seeding was completed for construction projects C25-2-482, C25-3-85, and C25-1-490.
- Sites were reviewed for potential inclusion in the 2025–26 brushing and mulching program.
- The brushing map for winter 2025/26 was finalized, and 210 notification letters were issued to residents.
- Preparations were finalized for the Northeast Agriculture Service Board Regional Conference hosted by the County of Minburn.
- Staff attended the online “Managing Agricultural Plastics Waste Through a Regulatory Approach” sessions on August 12–13.
- ASB policies and procedures were reviewed.



ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF  
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# PRESS RELEASE

## Celebrating Northern Alberta's Farm Families: Awards Program Honours Excellence, Leadership, & Legacy

### Event Press Release:

Northern Alberta  
Farm Family Awards

### Date Release:

September 15, 2025

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS) is proud to announce the return of the Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards, a program dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the outstanding farm families who form the backbone of Northern Alberta's agricultural communities.

This initiative honours families who demonstrate excellence in agricultural production, community leadership, and innovation. Many of these families have stewarded their land and contributed to their communities for generations, with some farms boasting histories of 75 to 100 years or more.

"Farm families are the heart of our rural communities," said Tim Carson, AAAS CEO. "Through these awards, we want to shine a light on the incredible contributions Northern Alberta families make, not just to agriculture, but to community life, rural leadership, and the future of our province."

For many years, programs like the BMO Farm Family Awards have highlighted farm families in Southern and Central Alberta. After a short hiatus, it is once again time to shine the spotlight on the incredible families of Northern Alberta, fostering stronger community pride and awareness of the region's vital role in Alberta agriculture.



### The objectives of the program include:

- Celebrating farming excellence and stewardship.
- Strengthening rural identity and community pride.
- Encouraging youth and new farmers to invest in Northern Alberta's agricultural future.
- Highlighting sustainable practices, innovation, and leadership in farming communities.



ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

Agricultural societies across Northern Alberta in conjunction with local municipalities, will play a central role in coordinating the nomination process, promoting the awards, and engaging local families and communities. Their longstanding presence and trusted leadership make them ideally positioned to identify and honour deserving farm families.

The impact of these awards reaches far beyond recognition. They strengthen the social fabric of rural communities, inspire youth to step into leadership roles, and bring visibility to the families who sustain Alberta's food systems, land stewardship, and rural institutions. By bridging the urban-rural divide, the program also creates opportunities for deeper relationships between rural communities and the provincial government, paving the way for more inclusive policy development.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for organizations wishing to align with this important initiative and demonstrate their commitment to supporting Northern Alberta's agricultural legacy. The Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards will serve as a catalyst for celebrating heritage, encouraging innovation, and investing in the future of agriculture across the province.

**For more information, please contact Tim Carson, CEO of the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies, at [tim@albertaagsocieties.ca](mailto:tim@albertaagsocieties.ca).**

### **About the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS)**

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS) supports and connects over 292 agricultural societies across the province, fostering community growth, leadership, and innovation in rural Alberta.

# Alberta Crop Report

## Crop conditions as of October 14, 2025 - Final Report of 2025 (Abbreviated Report)

This will be the final 2025 Alberta Crop Report of the season as harvest is virtually complete (see Figure 1), with 99 per cent of major crops combined, above the 5- and 10-year averages of 97 and 83 per cent, respectively (see Table 1). Hot, dry weather through late summer and into fall supported a rapid harvest pace. Regionally, harvest is effectively complete in the North West and Peace, with the South, Central, and North East at 99 per cent and expected to finish within a week. Major crops such as spring wheat, barley, dry peas, oats, and canola have reached 99 to 100 per cent completion provincially.

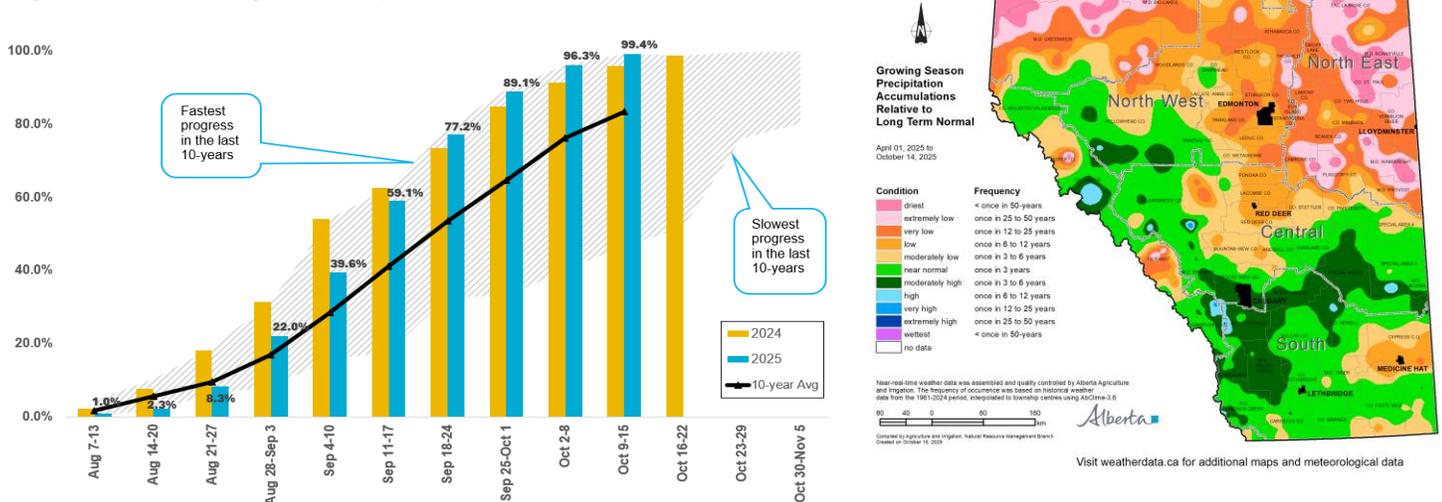
Provincially, fall-seeded crop quality has declined 2 per cent this week to 32 per cent rated good to excellent, below the 5-year average of 54 per cent. Regionally, good to excellent ratings held steady in the South, improved by 4 and 11 per cent each in the North East and North West regions, but declined in the Central region by 14 per cent. Regional fall-seeded crop quality rated good to excellent (5-year average) is 51 (56) per cent in the South Region, 16 (56) per cent in the Central Region, 11 (51) per cent in the North East Region, and 26 (58) per cent in the North West Region. The Peace Region did not report any fall-seeded crops this year.

**Table 1: Harvest Progress (Major Crops) as of October 14, 2025**

	Estimated Per Cent of Major Crops Combined					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	99.8%	99.8%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%
Barley	99.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%
Oats	99.4%	98.7%	99.6%	100.0%	99.5%	99.6%
Canola	98.4%	96.7%	98.5%	99.9%	99.4%	98.5%
Dry Peas	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Major Crops, October 14	99.4%	98.9%	99.4%	100.0%	99.7%	99.4%
Major Crops, October 7	95.9%	95.4%	96.4%	96.7%	97.9%	96.3%
5-year (2020-2024) Avg	99.5%	97.7%	96.4%	94.3%	94.8%	97.0%
10-year (2015-2024) Avg	93.6%	81.3%	80.8%	75.5%	80.8%	83.4%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

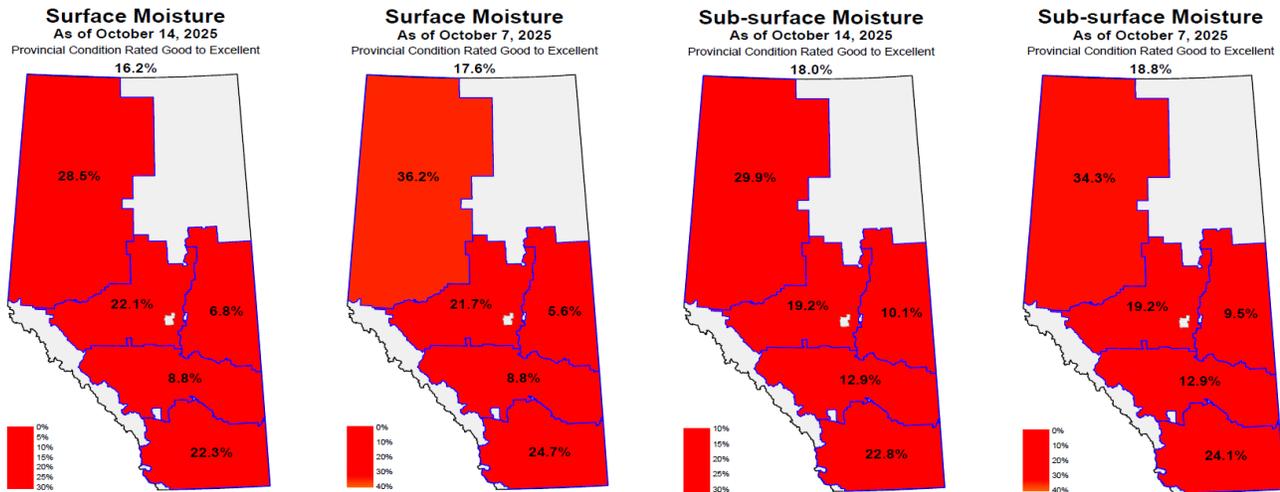
**Figure 1: Harvest Progress of Major Crops as of October 14, 2025**



Sporadic rainfall and light snow across parts of the province were insufficient to improve soil moisture, which continues to decline in most regions (see Figure 2). Provincially, surface moisture conditions declined slightly to 16 per cent good to excellent, below the 5-year average of 40 per cent (see Table 2). Regionally, surface moisture conditions rated good to excellent (5-year average) are at 22 (22) per cent in the South, 9 (46) per cent in the Central, 7 (39) per cent in the North East, 22 (55) per cent in the North West, and 29 (61) per cent in the Peace. Similarly, provincial sub-surface moisture conditions

rated good to excellent remain relatively stable at 18 per cent, below the 5-year average of 37 per cent. Regional good to excellent ratings for sub-surface soil moisture (5-year average) is at 23 (19) per cent in the South, 13 (37) per cent in the Central, 10 (42) per cent in the North East, 19 (56) per cent in the North West, and 30 (60) per cent in the Peace. Most parts of the province are entering winter with dry soil conditions. Average or higher winter snowfall as well as spring precipitation will be needed to replenish soil moisture and support crop and forage growth in the coming season.

**Figure 2: Surface and Sub-Surface Soil Moisture Conditions, October 7 and 14, 2025**



**Table 2: Alberta Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of October 14, 2025**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	34.9%	42.8%	22.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Central	57.0%	34.2%	7.5%	1.3%	0.0%
North East	51.2%	42.0%	6.8%	0.0%	0.0%
North West	48.1%	29.8%	20.4%	1.7%	0.0%
Peace	12.8%	58.8%	28.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Alberta	43.3%	40.5%	15.7%	0.6%	0.0%
5-year (2020-2024) Avg	26.4%	33.5%	33.6%	6.0%	0.5%
10-year (2015-2024) Avg	16.2%	26.6%	40.2%	15.0%	1.9%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Pasture conditions continue to decline due to early frosts and dry soils, which have caused damage in some regions. Most producers had already begun moving cattle off pastures and feeding livestock at home. Provincial pasture with good to excellent growth conditions decreased by 2 per cent to 15 per cent, below the 5-year average of 29 per cent (see Table 3). Regional good to excellent pasture conditions (5-year average) are at 29 (24) per cent in the South, 5 (35) per cent in the Central, 1 (20) per cent in the North East, 14 (32) per cent in the North West, and 27 (40) per cent in the Peace. Feed supply is mostly adequate, with some livestock producers having surplus. Provincially, forage reserves are still rated at 10 per cent deficit, 19 per cent possible shortfall, 62 per cent adequate, and 9 per cent surplus. The feed grain reserves are rated at 3 per cent deficit, 9 per cent possible shortfall, 76 per cent adequate, and 12 per cent surplus.

**Table 3: Pasture Growth Conditions as of October 14, 2025**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
South	20.7%	50.7%	28.0%	0.7%
Central	50.9%	44.5%	4.6%	0.0%
North East	69.2%	29.5%	1.3%	0.0%
North West	56.2%	29.9%	13.9%	0.0%
Peace	22.9%	50.1%	27.0%	0.0%
Alberta	41.9%	43.3%	14.6%	0.2%
5-year (2020-2024) Avg	33.9%	37.4%	27.3%	1.4%
10-year (2015-2024) Avg	29.2%	36.5%	31.0%	3.3%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

## Regional Assessments:

### Region One: South (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)

- Harvest is nearly complete, with 99 per cent of major crops combined. All major crops have been harvested except for canola and oats, which are 98 and 99 per cent complete, respectively.
- Cooler temperatures and dry soils may limit early growth of fall-seeded crops. Fall-seeded crops are rated at 6 per cent poor, 43 per cent fair, 48 per cent good, and 3 per cent excellent.
- Soil moisture levels remain low, despite recent light rainfall in some areas. Sub-surface soil moisture is rated 26 per cent poor, 51 per cent fair, 23 per cent good, 0 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated 21 per cent poor, 51 per cent fair, 28 per cent good, and 1 per cent excellent.
- Forage and feed grain reserves are rated 78 per cent and 88 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively.

### Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)

- At 99 per cent of major crops combined, harvest is virtually complete. Canola is slightly behind at 97 per cent.
- Fall-seeded crops are rated as 1 per cent poor, 83 per cent fair, 16 per cent good, and 0 per cent excellent.
- Despite a good growing season, soil moisture remains low heading into winter. Sub-surface soil moisture is rated 44 per cent poor, 43 per cent fair, 12 per cent good, 1 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated 51 per cent poor, 45 per cent fair, 5 per cent good, and 0 per cent excellent.
- Forage and feed grain reserves are rated 96 per cent and 98 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively.

### Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)

- Harvest for major crops is 99 per cent complete. A few remaining canola fields bring canola to 99 per cent combined.
- Dry soils and repeated frosts raise concerns about the successful establishment of fall-seeded crops. Fall-seeded crops are rated at 51 per cent poor, 38 per cent fair, 11 per cent good, and 0 per cent excellent.
- Sub-surface soil moisture is rated at 48 per cent poor, 42 per cent fair, 10 per cent good, 0 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated at 69 per cent poor, 30 per cent fair, 1 per cent good, and 0 per cent excellent.
- Forage and feed grain reserves are rated 41 per cent and 84 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively.

### Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)

- Harvest for major crops is complete across the North West Region.
- Dry conditions and frequent frosts may affect fall-seeded crop growth and pasture regeneration. Fall-seeded crops are rated as 11 per cent poor, 64 per cent fair, 26 per cent good, and 0 per cent excellent.
- Soil moisture remains low for both surface and sub-surface levels. Sub-surface soil moisture is rated 52 per cent poor, 29 per cent fair, 19 per cent good, 0 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated 56 per cent poor, 30 per cent fair, 14 per cent good, and 0 per cent excellent.
- Forage and feed grain reserves are rated 62 per cent and 92 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively.

### Region Five: Peace (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)

- Harvest of major crops is virtually complete despite light snow over the weekend.
- Cold and dry weather continues, with no significant moisture added from recent precipitation events.
- Sub-surface soil moisture is rated at 12 per cent poor, 59 per cent fair, 30 per cent good, 0 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated at 23 per cent poor, 50 per cent fair, 27 per cent good, and 0 per cent excellent.
- Forage and feed grain reserves are rated 69 per cent and 76 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively.

## Contact

Agriculture and Irrigation  
Trade, Economics and Data Analytics Branch  
Statistics and Data Development Section

Samuel Ampomah  
Crop Statistician  
Email: TEDA-Branch@gov.ab.ca

Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen and AFSC staff for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program. Agriculture and Irrigation compiles the climate map.

Note to Users: The contents of this document may not be used or reproduced without properly accrediting AFSC and the Government of Alberta. Percentage totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

# Agricultural Moisture Situation Update

## October 1, 2025

### 14-Day Synopsis

#### Precipitation

Over the past two weeks, most of Alberta's agricultural regions received very little precipitation (**Maps 1 and 2**). While scattered showers brought between 3 to 10 mm of precipitation to isolated areas, overall rainfall remained well below the long-term accumulation for this time of the year (**Map 3**).

In the South and Central Regions, light showers delivered between 2 and 10 mm of rain to parts of Clearwater, Pincher Creek, Ranchlands and Cypress counties (**Maps 1 and 2**).

Across the North East and eastern half of the North West Regions, precipitation was close to seasonal norms, with most areas receiving less than 10 mm, primarily during the past 7 days (**Maps 1, 2 and 3**).

The Peace Region and the west side of the North West Region saw the highest rainfall totals over the past two weeks (**Map 1 and 2**). Some areas within in the counties of Grande Prairie, Greenview, Big Lakes, Mackenzie, Brazeau, Yellowhead, and Woodlands received being 10 to 25 mm of precipitation, an amount more typical for this time of the year (**Map 3**).

However, areas stretching from the county of Saddle Hills to Smoky River and northward to Northern Lights received less than 10 mm, which is well below the long-term average of 20 to 20 mm (**Maps 1, 2 and 3**).

#### Temperature

Over the past two weeks, average daily mean temperatures across Alberta varied. Conditions ranged from moderately warm in the southern Peace and western North West Regions to extremely warm and warmest (once in more than 50 years) across the eastern half of the province.

These high temperatures extend from Pincher Creek northward to Wood Buffalo and east to the Saskatchewan border. The warmer weather has helped to hasten crop harvest and increases soil moisture evaporation.

#### Growing Season Trends

Limited rainfall over the past two weeks has reduced growing season precipitation accumulations across Alberta's Agricultural regions, relative to the long-term normal (**Map 5**). While much of the South and parts of the Central, and North West Regions remain near normal, areas that previously showed moderately high growing season precipitation have seen a noticeable decline, with some nearly losing their above-average status.

In the South Region, the extent of the moderately low to low growing season precipitation has increased, particularly in Forty Mile, Cypress, Newell, Warner and Taber Counties (**Map 5**). Most of the region has received 70% to 90% of the long-term average, with large portions of Cypress County receiving 50% to 70% (**Map 6**).

In northern Alberta, growing season precipitation remains moderately to extremely low (**Map 5**). The boundary between near-normal and moderately low precipitation has remained largely unchanged since the previous report. It stretches through Special Area No. 4, into the Counties of Paintearth, Stettler, Red Deer, Kneehill, Mountain View and continues north through Clearwater into Wetaskiwin, Brazeau, and westward into Yellowhead and the M.D. of Greenview. Most of these areas have received only 50% to 90% of their long-term average (**Map 6**).

Across the North East and Peace Regions, growing season precipitation continues to fall short of long-term normal (**Map 5**). Many areas now report very low to extremely low levels, with most receiving 50% to 70% of the long-term average (**Map 6**). Zones with precipitation departures of 30% to 50% of normal have expanded within the counties of Lac La Biche, Grande Prairie, Spirit River, Birch Hills, Smoky River, Big Lakes, Greenview, Saddle Hills, Clear Hills, Fairview, Peace, Northern Sunrise, Northern Lights and Mackenzie.

#### Soil Moisture Reserves

Lower precipitation over the past two weeks has continued to reduce soil moisture reserves across much of Alberta's agricultural regions, relative to long-term normal (**Map 7**).

Near-normal soil moisture reserves are now confined to select areas, including parts of Yellowhead, Greenview, Lesser Slave River, Rocky View, Foothills, Wheatland, Willow Creek, Pincher Creek, Vulcan, Special Areas No. 2 and No. 3, Acadia Valley, and Cypress Counties (**Map 7**). In these zones, plant-available water is estimated to range from 20 to 60 mm (**Map 8**), with moisture departures of -15 to 15 mm compared to normal (**Map 9**).

Across the remainder of the province, estimated soil reserves are now rated as moderately low to driest, once in more than 50-year lows, relative to long-term normal (**Map 7**). The extent of the very low to driest conditions has expanded across the Central, North West, North East, and Peace Regions, indicating a deterioration from the previous report.

In these severely affected areas, plant-available water is estimated to be less than 20 mm (**Map 8**), with moisture deficits ranging from 25 to 75 mm below normal (**Map 9**).

## Perspective

As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, the area receiving near-normal growing season precipitation, relative to long-term averages has declined. The near-normal growing season precipitation zone lies south of a line running through Special Area No. 4, the counties of Paintearth, Stettler, Red Deer, Kneehill, Mountain View, and continuing north through Clearwater into Wetaskiwin, Brazeau, and westward into Yellowhead County.

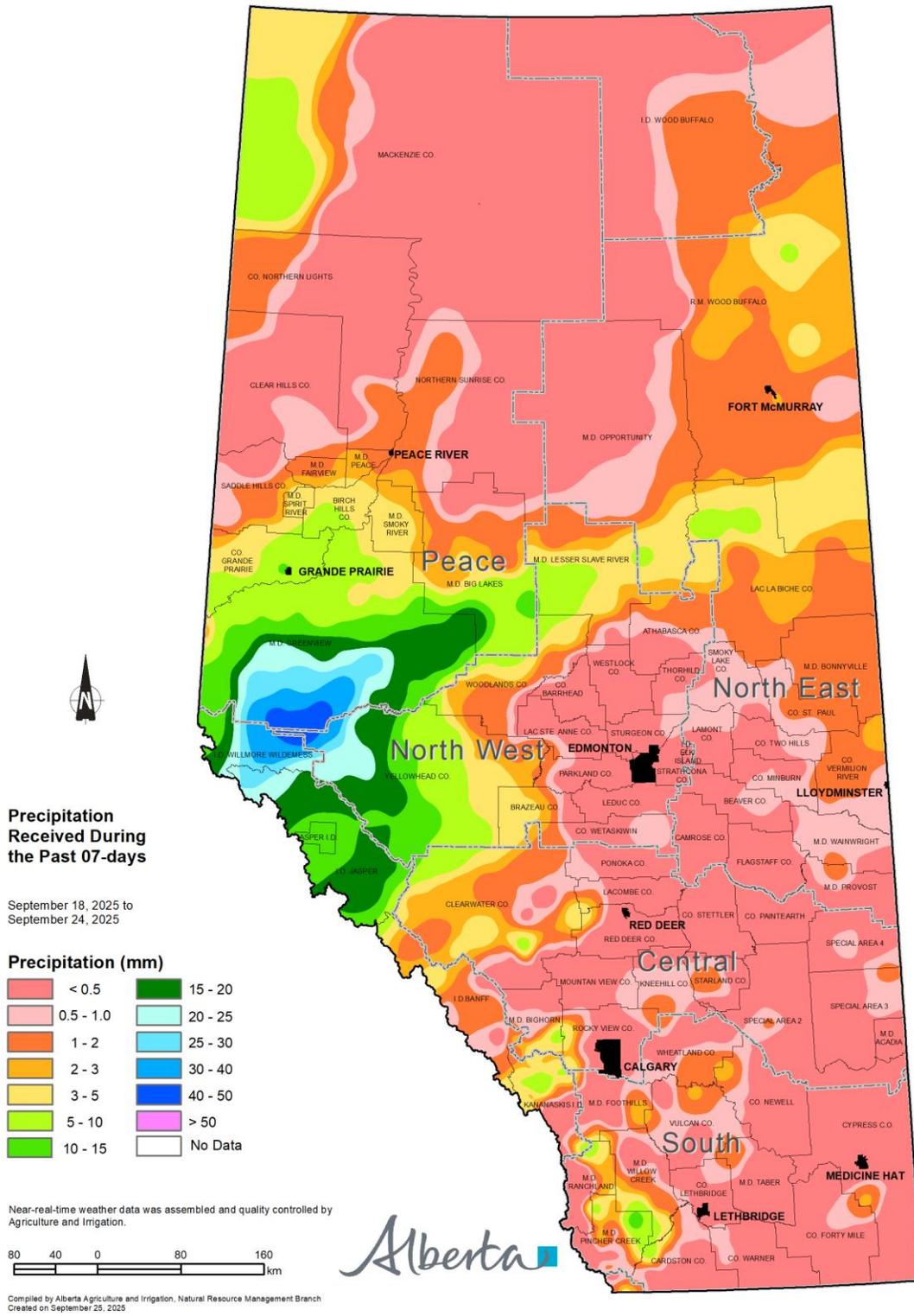
However, exceptions remain in portions of Cypress County, where growing season precipitation continues to be moderately low to low relative to long-term normal.

In contrast to areas south of the near-normal precipitation boundary, municipalities north of the line are experiencing moderately to extremely low growing season precipitation, relative to long-term normal.

Across Alberta the average daily mean temperature for the growing season have been warm to very warm, relative to long-term normal (**Map 10**). If warm temperatures persist and with harvest near complete and the ground cover largely removed, soil evaporation will continue at a higher than usual rate.

Additional fall precipitation will be critical to begin replenishing soil moisture reserves. This will benefit fall-seeded crops, support perennials plant health, and aid early growth in the 2026 season.

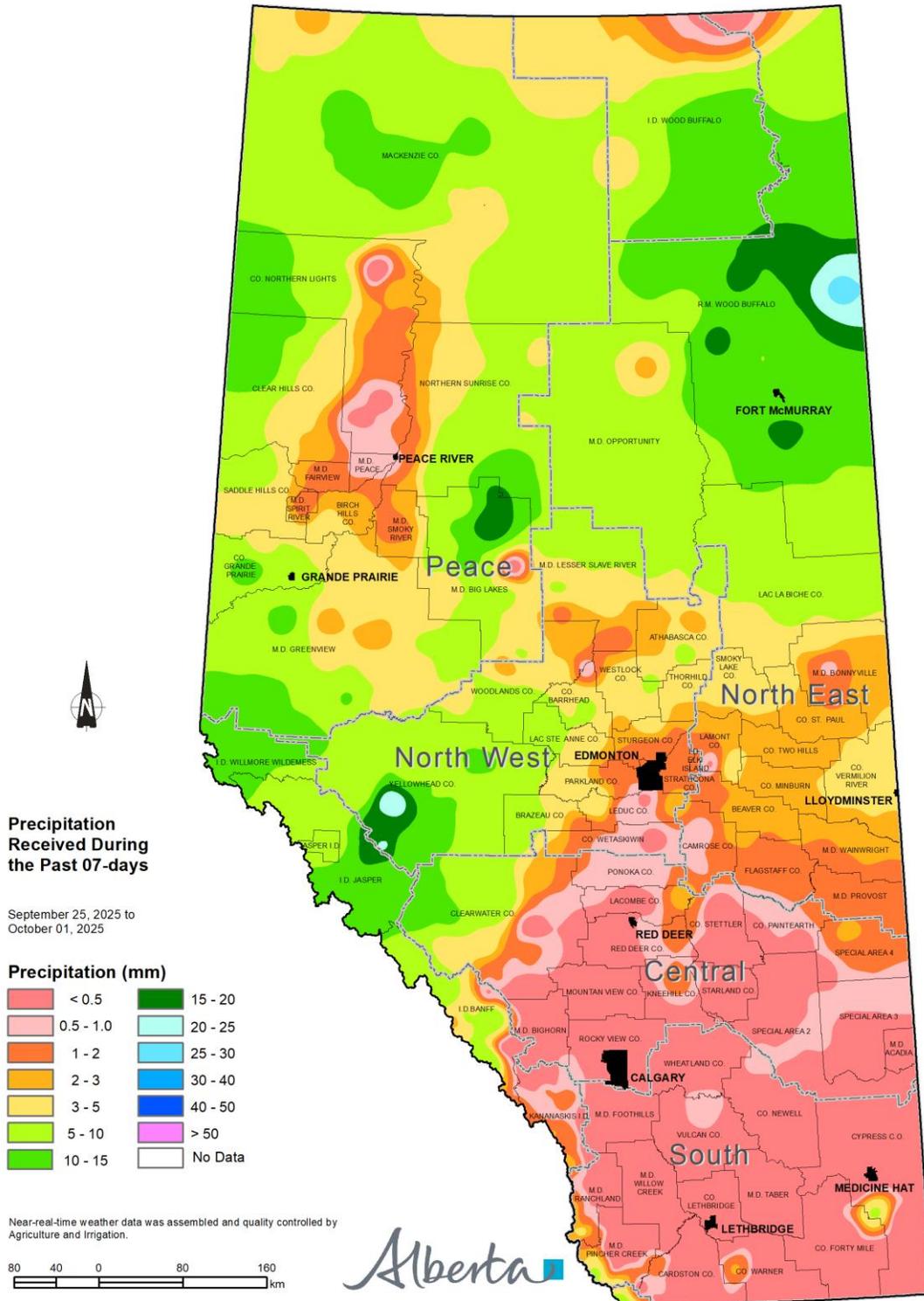
# Map 1



Visit [weatherdata.ca](https://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

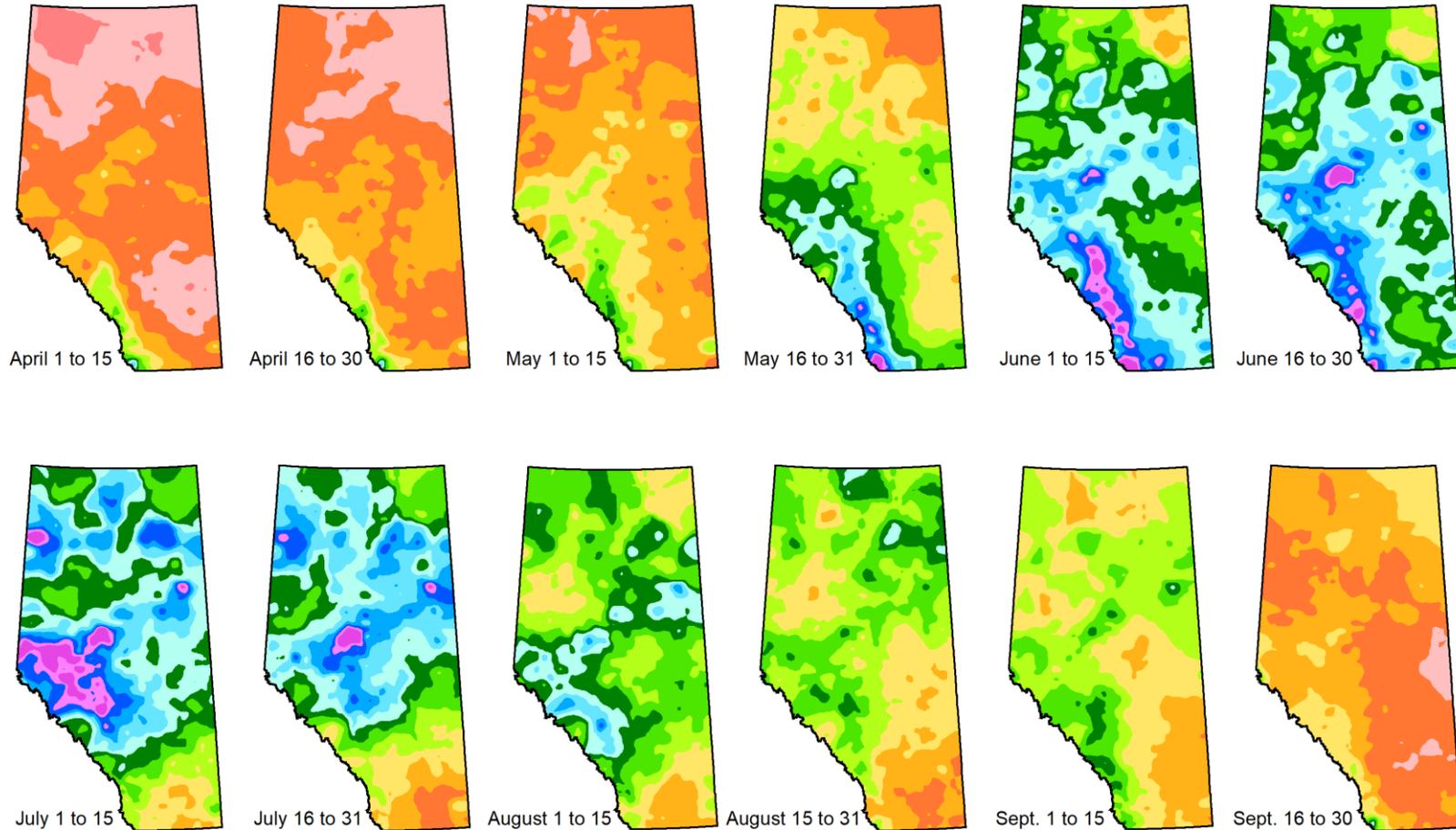


# Map 2



Visit [weatherdata.ca](https://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

# Map 3



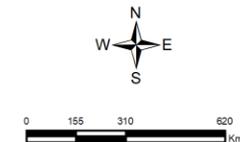
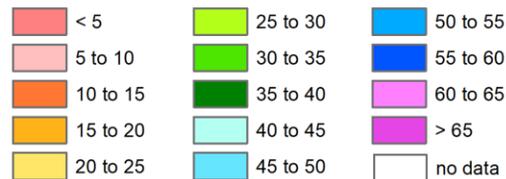
## Average Semi-Monthly Growing Season Precipitation Accumulations

1991-2020

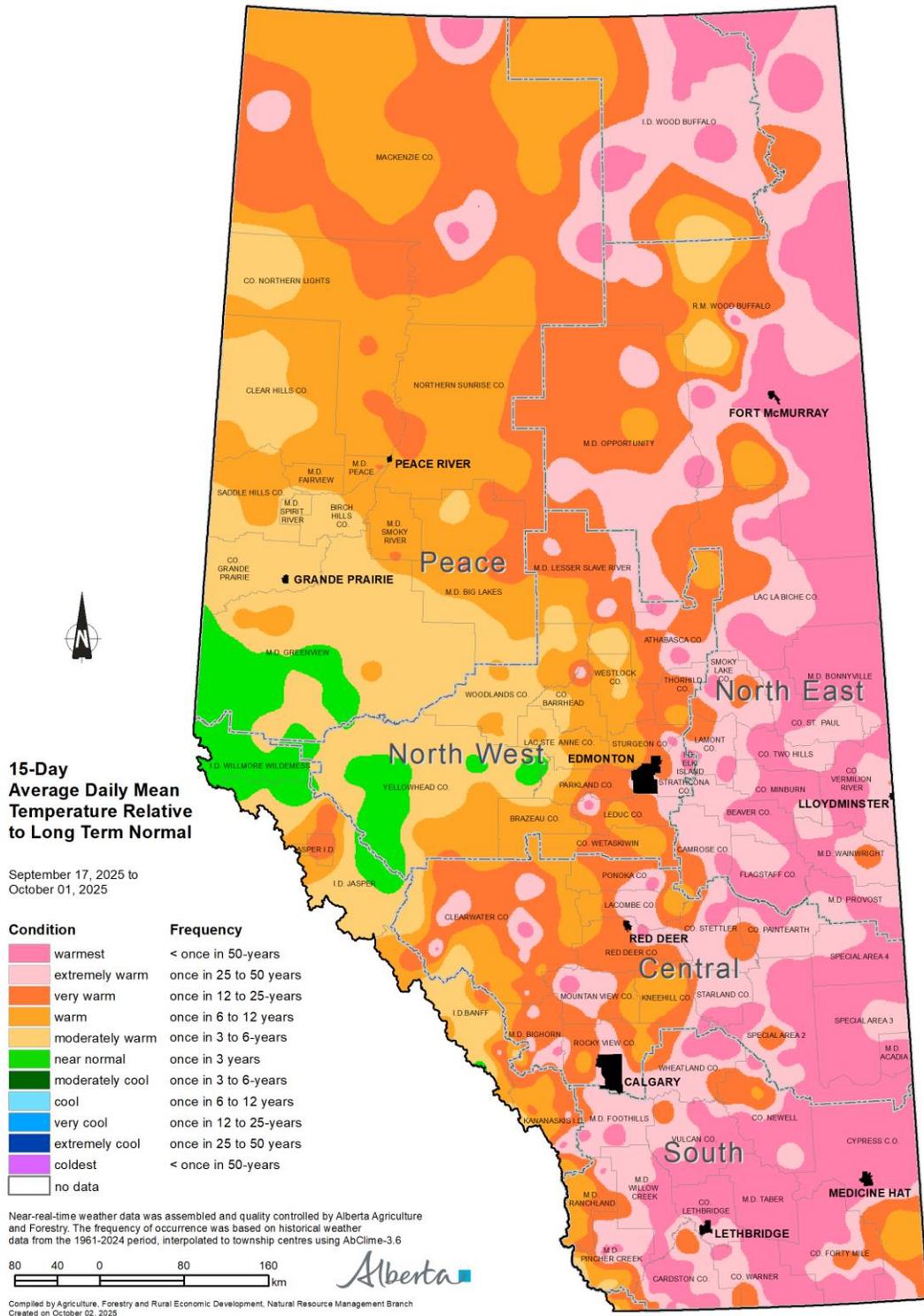
Weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Agriculture and Irrigation then interpolated to township centres using AbClimate-3.6

Compiled by Agriculture and Irrigation, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on January 15, 2025

### Precipitation (mm)

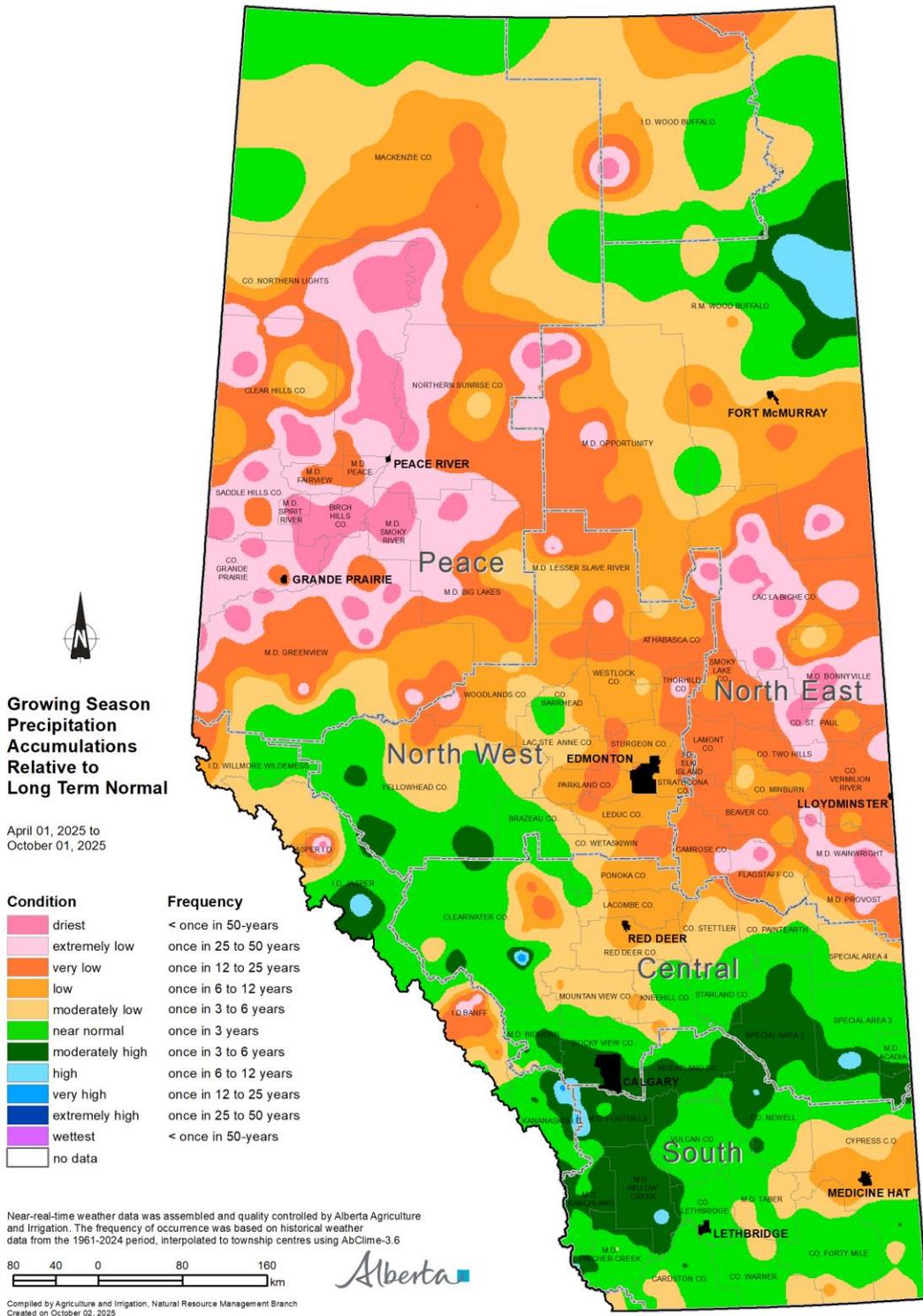


# Map 4



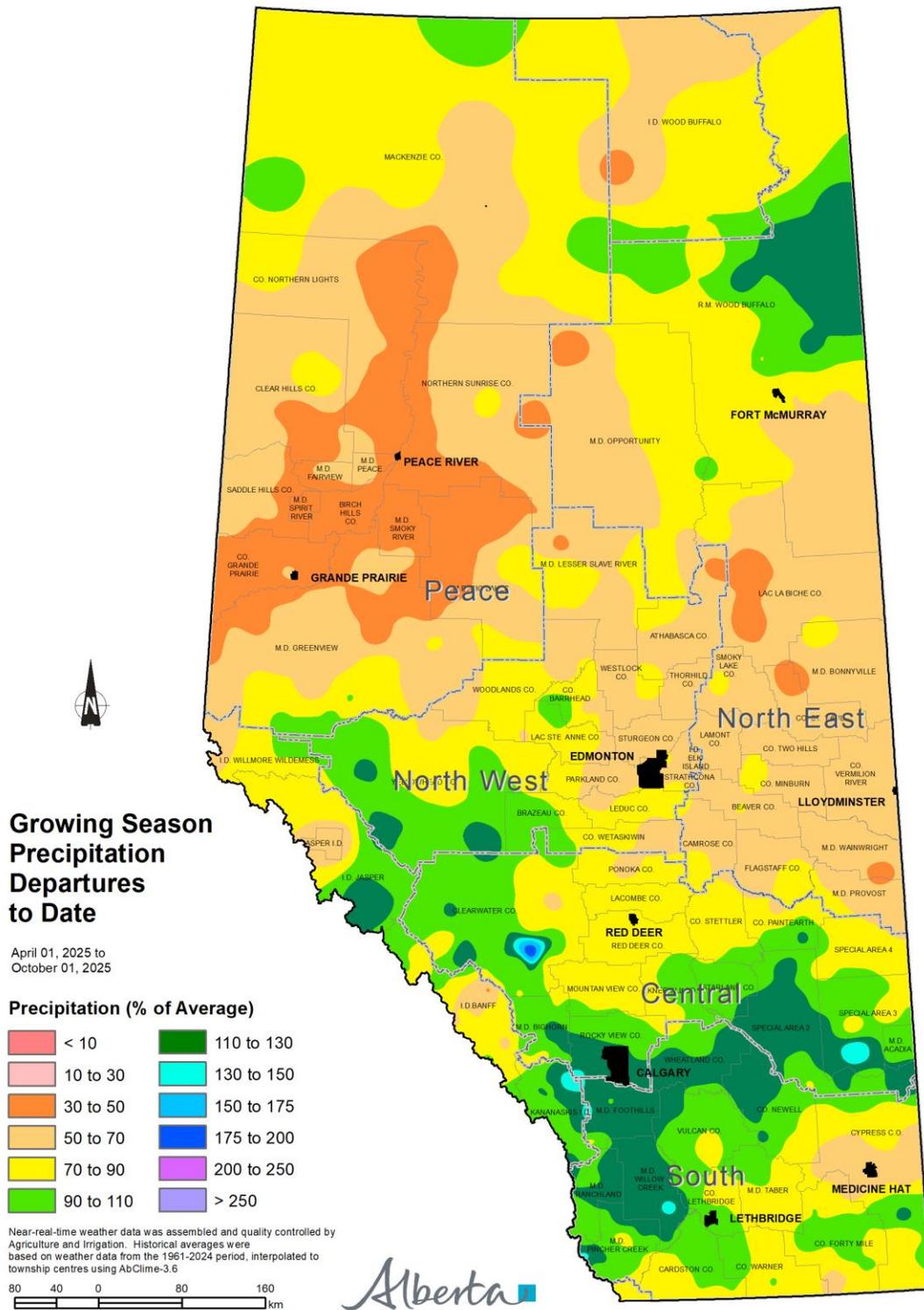
Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

# Map 5



Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

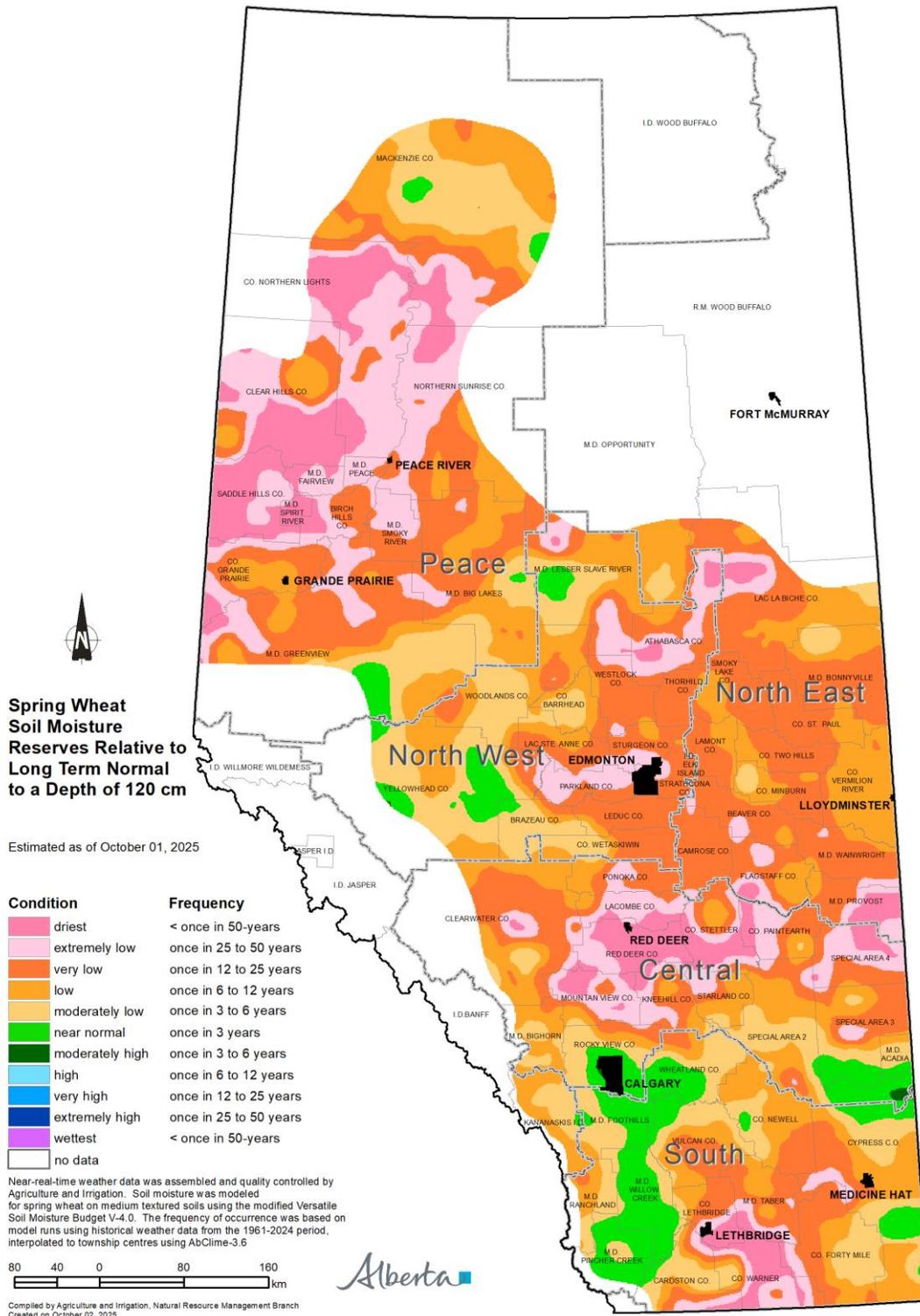
# Map 6



Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Natural Resource Management Branch  
Created on October 02, 2025

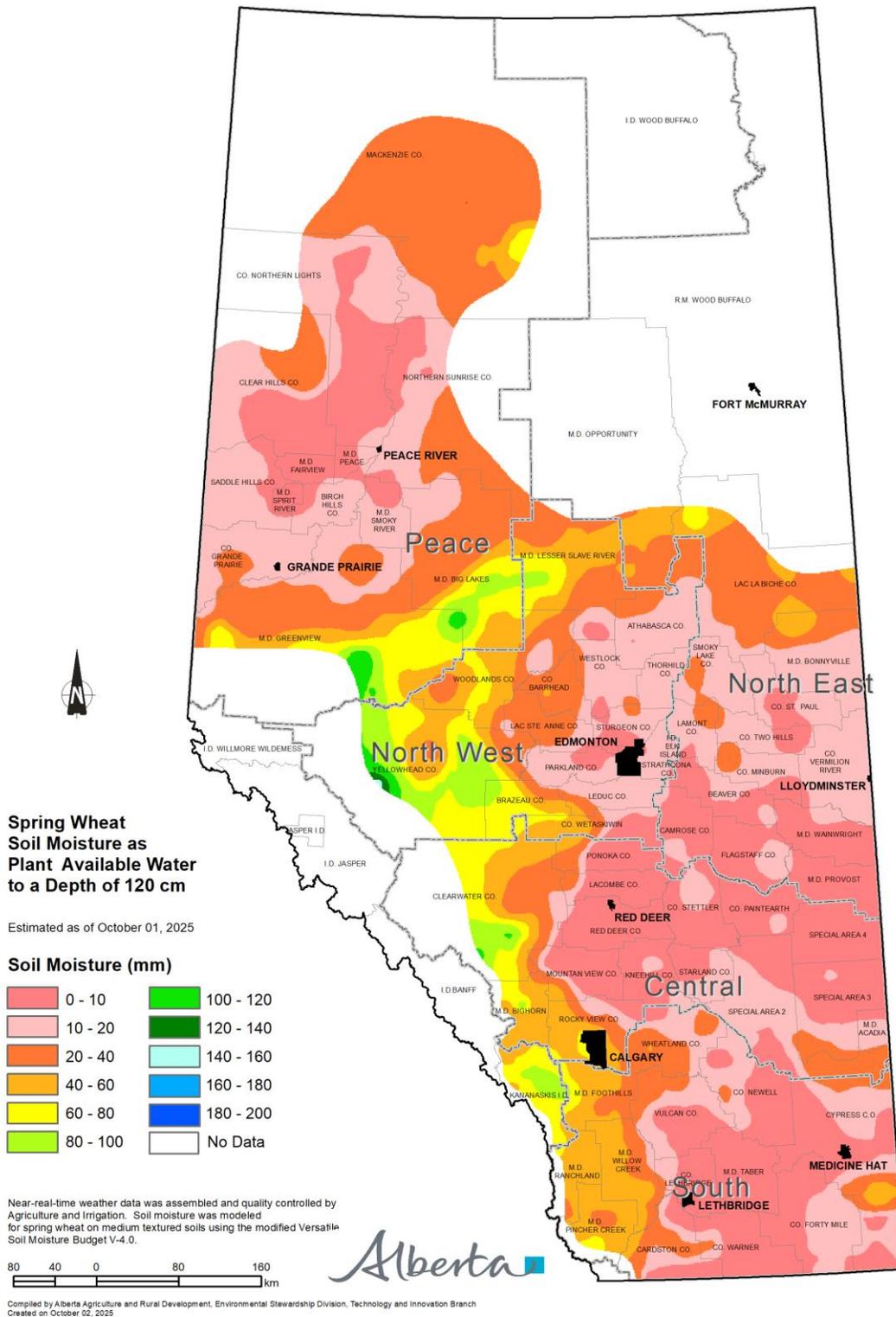
Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

# Map 7



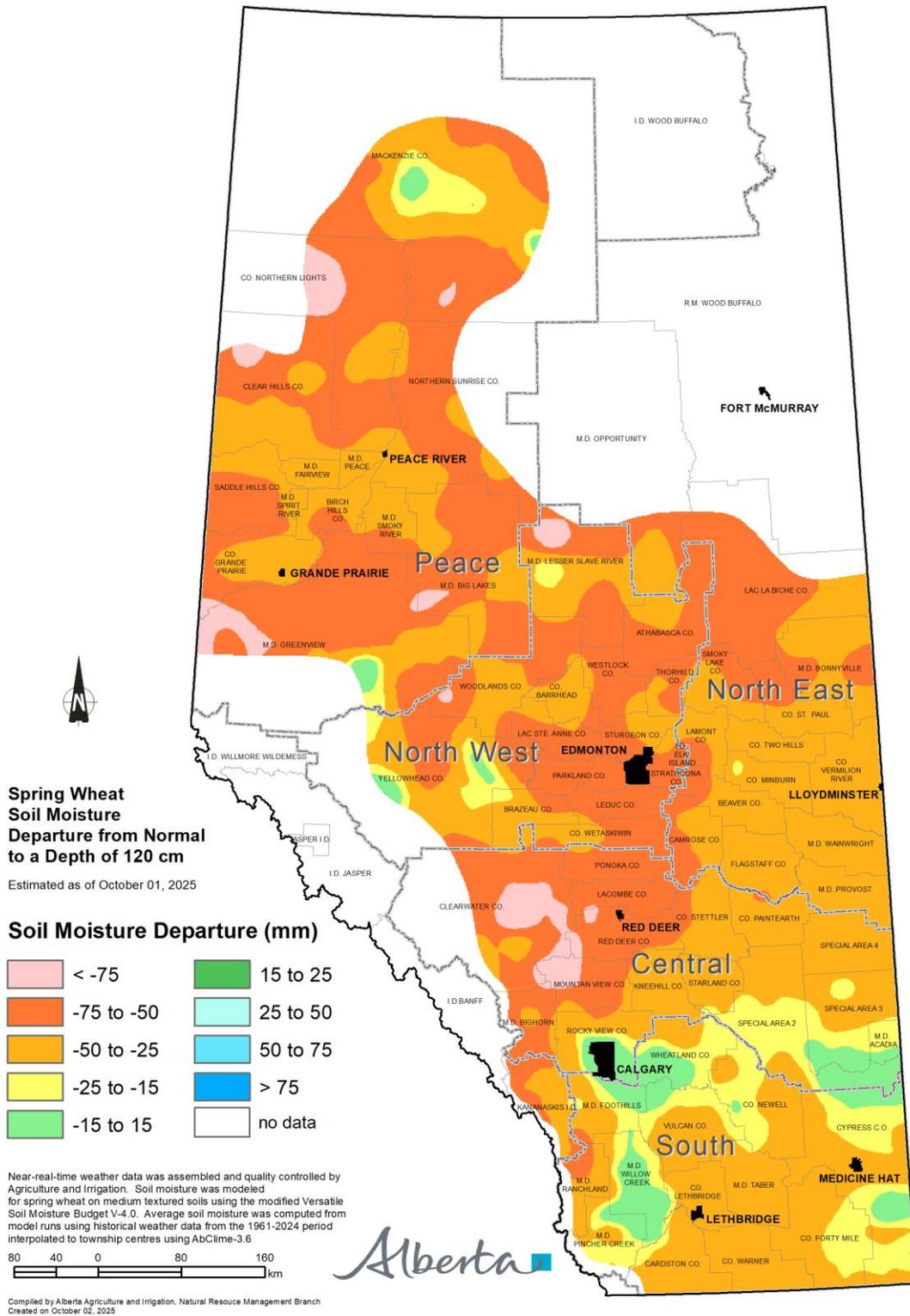
Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

# Map 8

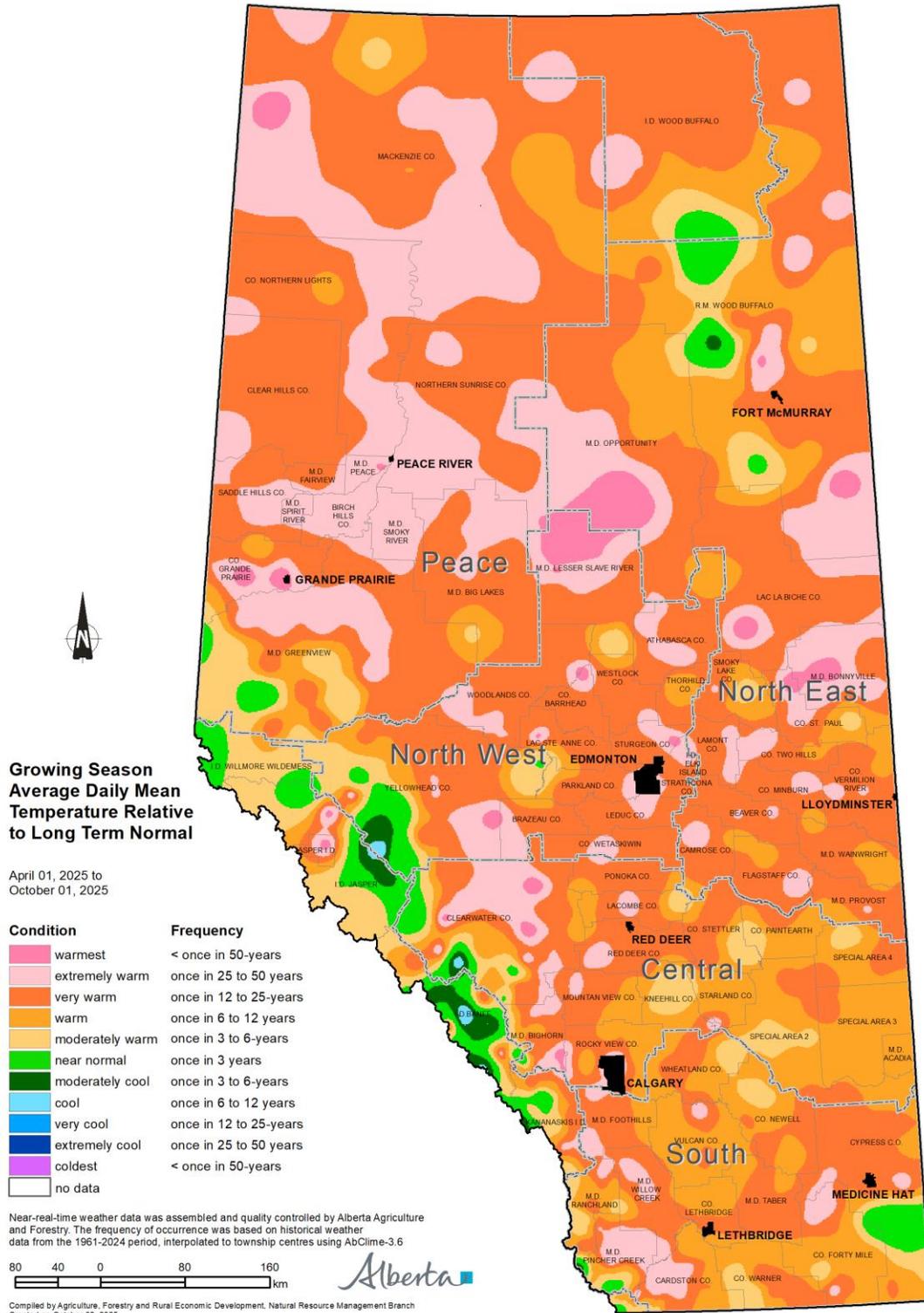


Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

# Map 9



# Map 10



Visit [weatherdata.ca](https://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data



## **ASB Update on AgKnow - June 27, 2025**

Thank you for your continued support of and advocacy for AgKnow. Many ASBs and other sponsors have been financially helping out AgKnow. Although limited finances over the past few months have curtailed AgKnow daily operations, this financial support has enabled us to continue to contract Linda Hunt on a part-time basis. We are grateful for Linda's leadership and passion in making a significant positive impact in assisting farmers and ranchers in need.

We are grateful for the strong ongoing support and advocacy that ASBs have been providing.

Some recent developments are giving us a sense that we may be turning the corner on getting new financing in place. These include:

- Sponsorship funds continue to come in from multiple sources including ASBs
- We have received approval for a 3-year S-CAP grant
- We are awaiting approval of a second 3-year S-CAP grant, and it will hopefully be approved soon
- We are negotiating an arrangement with a mental health charity foundation that when finalized will open the door to attract significant charity funds to support AgKnow
- We have retained the services of a professional fundraising organization in developing our fund-raising campaign. The grants require matching funding and some of the costs of AgKnow are not an eligible use of grant funds. Hence a concerted effort on fund raising is a must do.

Through these five things happening on the fundraising front, we are cautiously optimistic that we will secure much improved financial stability over the next three years and beyond. Once these are in place, we anticipate that later this summer we will be contracting additional staff to help Linda with AgKnow.

We are in the process of transferring our group of AgKnow farm informed counsellors to Counselling Alberta and will be working with Counselling Alberta to ensure smooth transition of these services that AgKnow previously provided. AgKnow in the past with strong sponsorship funding support, has provided approximately 300 individual counselling sessions to individual



producers. The farm informed counselling program with Counselling Alberta has secured significant new funding to continue this service for the coming year.

We are putting in place a strong AgKnow Growth and Sustainability Committee whose members will be a mix of influential experts drawn from the agricultural and mental health communities. This group will help Linda and ARECA through:

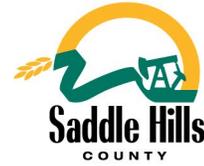
- Define and oversee AgKnow's long term strategic direction
- Determine where AgKnow best delivers value to producers in Alberta's mental health ecosystem
- Define and oversee AgKnow's fundraising and advocacy initiatives
- Provide direction and oversight to scale services in a resilient, sustainable manner
- Provide direction and financial oversight to drive AgKnow operational excellence

We feel we are turning the corner to better days ahead for AgKnow.

Although we do not yet have final decisions on all these efforts yet, we are careful not to "count our chickens" until these finances are in place.

With kind regards

Alan Hall, Executive Director ARECA



2025-11-18

Hon. R.J. Sigurdson  
Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – 7000 113 Street  
Edmonton, AB.  
T6H 5T6

sent via email to: [310farm@gov.ab.ca](mailto:310farm@gov.ab.ca)

**RE: On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) Licence Amendments**

Dear Minister Sigurdson,

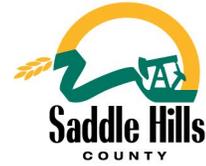
On behalf of Saddle Hills County, I would like to express our concerns with the recent proposed changes to the On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) Licence program.

Many producers in Saddle Hills County, and throughout the Peace Region, rely on the OFSO program for the viability of their operations, investing large sums of money and time into creating infrastructure to support these on-farm businesses. The previously proposed slaughter limit of 5,000lb per year, would have made the OFSO licence an unviable option for many producers, seemingly going against what the program was created for – to improve local food availability in communities and provide options to consumers.

While many producers completed the Government's subsequent survey on the program, there are concerns among licence-holders that the issues faced by producers may not be accurately captured by the questions asked.

We echo these concerns. Saddle Hills County is committed to supporting local food systems and the programs that ensure that rural farmers are able to continue their operations in a stable economic environment and, as such, would ask that the Government of Alberta meet directly with OFSO licence-holders and working groups to discuss any further changes before implementation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any further questions, please reach out to CAO Cary Merritt, at [cmerritt@saddlehills.ab.ca](mailto:cmerritt@saddlehills.ab.ca).



Sincerely,

Gerry Richard  
Reeve

cc. Hon. Joseph Schow, Minister of Jobs, Economy, Trade, and Immigration  
[Cardston.Siksika@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:Cardston.Siksika@assembly.ab.ca)  
Hon. Danielle Smith, Premier [premier@gov.ab.ca](mailto:premier@gov.ab.ca)  
ASB Provincial Committee [ASBPC\\_EA@agriculturalserviceboards.com](mailto:ASBPC_EA@agriculturalserviceboards.com)



November 26, 2025

Honourable RJ Sigurdson  
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation  
131 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

**RE: Continued Support for Unlimited On-Farm Slaughter Sales in Alberta**

The Northern Sunrise County Agricultural Service Board supports the letter written by the County of Minburn for the continuation of unlimited on-farm slaughter sales in Alberta. We echo the appreciation for the pause to the limits on annual sales per farm that went into effect on July 2, 2025.

We believe the proposed slaughter-weight limits and the associated restrictions on the number of animals that could be processed under on-farm slaughter sales are both unnecessary and overly restrictive, especially given Alberta's already robust regulations governing meat processing and distribution. Such limits would disproportionately impact small and mid-sized livestock producers, reduce their ability to market directly to consumers, and create additional barriers to maintaining viable operations.

These restrictions would also diminish consumer access to locally sourced meat, particularly in rural and remote communities that rely heavily on on-farm slaughter to support their local food systems and economies. Limiting on-farm slaughter sales would therefore place unnecessary hurdles in front of Alberta's livestock industry without providing meaningful improvements to food safety or public health.

We appreciate the Government of Alberta for pausing and reconsidering the proposed slaughter-weight and sales limits, and for recognizing the strong food-safety requirements that already govern on-farm slaughter in the province.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Millar, Chief Administrative Officer  
Agricultural Service Board  
Northern Sunrise County

CC: Claude Rodrigue, Reeve  
Alberta Agricultural Service Boards  
Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen





November 26, 2025

Honourable Rebecca Schulz  
Minister of Environment and Protected Areas  
204 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Honourable RJ Sigurdson  
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation  
131 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

**RE: Farmer Pesticide Certification Program**

The Northern Sunrise County Agricultural Service Board supports the letters written by Kneehill County and the Municipal District of Greenview No.16 Agricultural Service Boards about concerns regarding the Farmer Pesticide Certificate Program and updates to the registration of Sodium Monofluoroacetate (Compound 1080). We share the concerns outlined in both letters regarding the outdated course material, limited resources, and gaps in the administration of the program.

Pesticide application training is important, however, restricted accessibility to the program due to limited resources and qualified facilitators highlights a shortfall in the currently proposed regulatory framework. A core requirement for producers wanting to use Compound 1080 as a last-resort method for livestock protection from predation is that they must hold the Farmer Pesticide Certification. This is the only pesticide certification program in Alberta not overseen by Lakeland College and instead depends on municipal delivery.

To offer the program, a municipality must have an Agricultural Fieldman with at least five years of experience and a valid Pesticide Applicators License to serve as a certified trainer. However, high staff turnover in recent years, particularly in the Peace Region, has left few municipalities with personnel who meet these requirements. Consequently, the burden falls on a limited number of qualified municipalities, further restricting training availability across the region.

Producers seeking certification to use Compound 1080 should not be hindered by limited training availability. Expanding access through Lakeland College, along with offering online delivery options, would help ensure the Farmer Pesticide Certification program is more accessible and consistent across the province.

We respectfully request an update to course materials and a review of the program administration, as well as the creation of a more accessible platform for individuals seeking to obtain this certification.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Millar, Chief Administrative Officer  
Agricultural Service Board  
Northern Sunrise County





CC: Claude Rodrigue, Reeve  
Alberta Agricultural Service Boards  
Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen





## **M.D. OF RANCLAND No. 66**

PO BOX 1060 • NANTON, AB • TOL 1R0 • 403-646-3131 • MDRANCLAND.CA

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](mailto:rdavis@ranchland66.com)

Cc: John Barlow, Member of Parliament – 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**