



CARNIVORES AND COMMUNITIES

Deadstock Removal

Technical Guide

Removal of dead livestock (deadstock) from ranches and farms has the potential to reduce human-large carnivore conflicts. The practice of on-farm or land disposal, particularly during the spring calving season, is a significant attractant to grizzly and black bears, wolves, and cougars that live in southwestern Alberta.

In 2003, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) was discovered in Alberta. Previously, rendering companies removed deadstock from farms and ranches for free because carcasses held commercial value. Today, changes in regulations prohibit the use of certain tissues in livestock feed, pet food, and fertilizer. Due to increased costs as a result of these new regulations, rendering companies now charge fees for pickup. These fees are often prohibitive to producers, which has resulted in an increase in land disposal of deadstock.

With support from the municipalities of Ranchland, Willow Creek, Pincher Creek, and Cardston County, Waterton

Biosphere Reserve's Carnivores and Communities Program has brought together landowners and funders to provide free deadstock removal services within high conflict areas of southwestern Alberta. **Landowners that live within the project area (see "orange zone" on map) are eligible for free onsite pickup and use of deadstock bins.**



BEARS HAVE AN EXCELLENT SENSE OF SMELL. HERE, A GRIZZLY BEAR UNEARTHS CONTENTS OF A DEADSTOCK PIT.

PROGRAM AREAS

M.D. of PINCHER CREEK

Deadstock pickup and bins are available for the program area (see map). For mature cattle and horses, call Southern Alberta Processors for pickup. Landowners are not required to pay at pickup; all fees are handled directly between the M.D. and the rendering company. *Please contact the M.D. or AES office every time an animal is dropped off in a bin.*

Landowners interested in using deadstock bins can get an application from the M.D. office.

Contact: Lindsey Davidson (403) 627-3130

M.D. of RANCHLAND

Deadstock pickup is available for the entire M.D. Deadstock bins are not available. Producers should call Alberta Processors for pickup and pay with cash or credit card. For full reimbursement, submit a copy of the receipt to the M.D.

Contact: M.D. Office (403) 646-3131

CARDSTON COUNTY

Deadstock pickup and bins are available for the program area (see map). For mature cattle and horses, call Southern Alberta Processors for pickup and pay with cash or credit card. For full reimbursement, submit a copy of the receipt to the County. Landowners interested in using deadstock bins can get an application from the County office.

Contact: Rod Foggin (403) 653-4977

M.D. of WILLOW CREEK

Deadstock pickup is available for the portion of the M.D. west of Range 29 W4 (see map). Deadstock bins are not available. Producers should call Alberta Processors or Southern Alberta Processors for pickup and pay with cash or credit card. For full reimbursement, submit a copy of the receipt to the M.D.

Contact: Carla Preachuk (403) 625-3351 ext. 229

HOW TO USE DEADSTOCK PICKUP

Deadstock pickup is available in the municipalities of Willow Creek, Ranchland, Pincher Creek, and Cardston. Please refer to the map to see if you live in the project area. **If you live in the "orange zone," you are eligible to participate in the free deadstock pickup program.** Please remember:

- When you call Alberta Processors or Southern Alberta Processors (SAP), you will need to provide them with your name, phone number, location and directions.
- Alberta Processors or SAP charge a minimum pickup fee of \$120.00. Horses are a flat fee of \$250.00. Remaining charges are based on a rate of \$.14/lb.
- Please follow proper procedures for BSE tested cattle.
- **Animals accepted for deadstock pickup:** horses (Cardston County only), mules, bison, and cattle.

- For cattle deposits, each carcass must have a CCIA tag affixed to the ear. Horses, mules, and bison do not require tags. Alberta Processors and SAP will not accept sheep, llamas, or goats.

RENDERING CONTACTS

Once you have verified that you are eligible to participate in the free deadstock pickup program, contact a rendering company based on your land location. If you live:

North of Claresholm or in the M.D. of Ranchland:

Alberta Processors - Calgary Office
(403) 279-4441 or 1-800-391-3881

South of Claresholm or outside the M.D. of Ranchland:

Southern Alberta Processors (SAP) - Lethbridge Office
(403) 328-1336 or 1-800-661-1023

HOW TO USE DEADSTOCK BINS

Deadstock bins are located in the MD of Pincher Creek and Cardston County. Bins are made of 14 gauge steel sheeting with a hinged lid for carcass disposal and a drop end for unloading. **Please refer to the map to see if you live in the project area and are eligible to participate.** Please remember:

- When moving cattle carcasses off-site to deadstock bins, producers must have a valid CFIA Specified Risk Material (SRM) transport permit. These permits are free and issued annually.
- Once you have proper permits, deadstock bins can be used anytime.
- Please follow proper procedures for BSE tested cattle.
- After depositing carcasses, securely latch the bin to ensure bears cannot gain access.
- Complete the log book in the bins. Log books are audited quarterly by CFIA, so proper paperwork is critical. Include name, CFIA permit number, date, and approximate weight. In the MD of Pincher Creek, notify Agricultural Services at 403-627-3130 after dropping off an animal.

- **Animals accepted in deadstock bins:** horses (Cardston County only), mules, bison, and cattle.
- Each cattle deposit must have a CCIA tag affixed to the ear; this includes born-dead calves. Horses, mules, and bison do not require tags. Alberta Processors will not accept sheep, llamas, or goats.



WITH CFIA SPECIFIED RISK MATERIAL (SRM) PERMITS, DEADSTOCK BINS CAN BE USED ANYTIME.

PROGRAM CHANGES

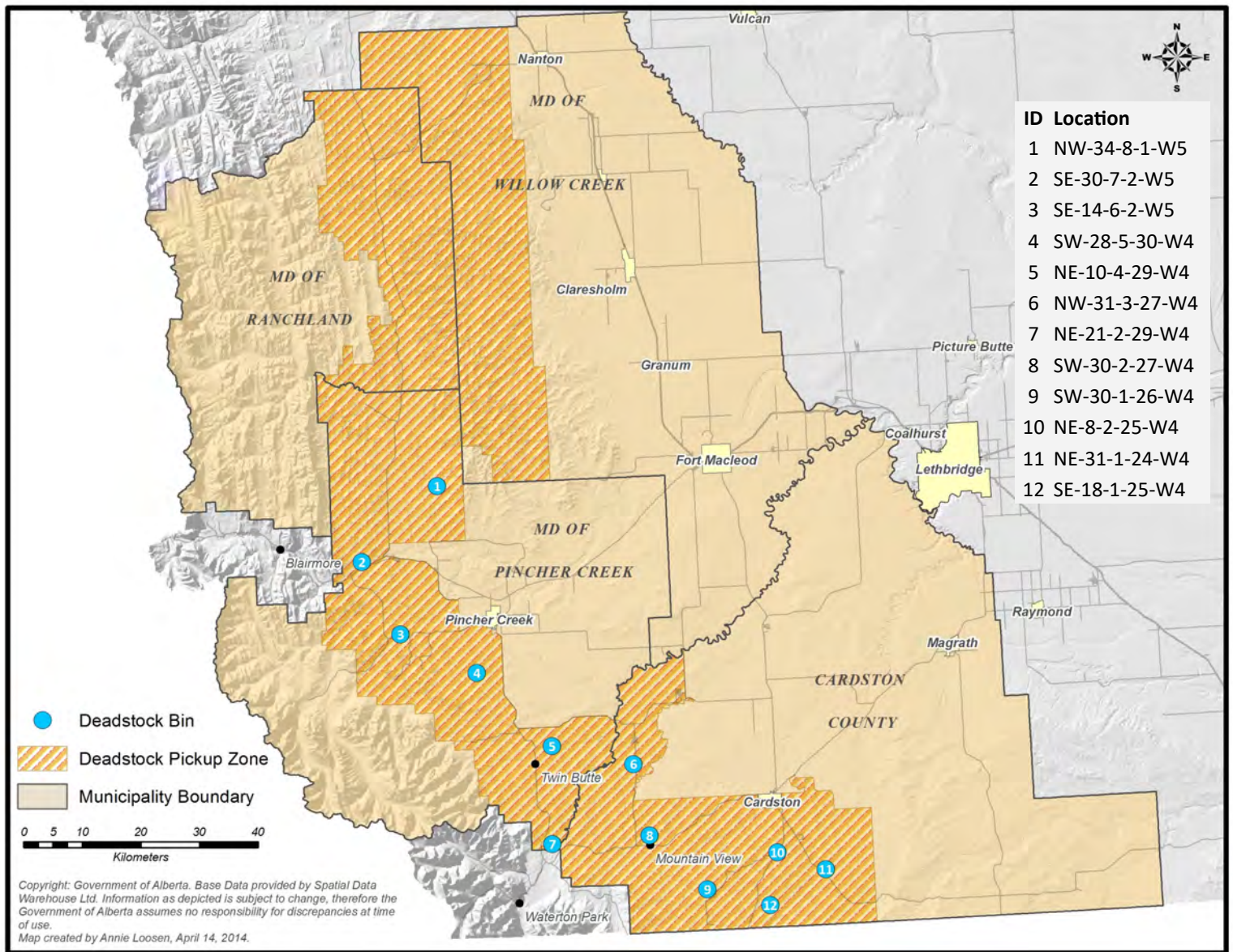
Composting of dead livestock has proven to be a cost effective and efficient way to dispose of deadstock. In 2012, Cardston County partnered with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development and Growing Forward to build a municipal deadstock composting facility; the first in Canada.

Deadstock from within Cardston County's designated pick-up zone, both from deadstock bins and farmyards, was

collected by the county rather than a rendering company. In over 15 months of operation (2013-2014), Cardston County picked up and composted 851 carcasses.

This pilot project was suspended in 2014. As of spring 2015, all deadstock removal, both on-site and bins, will be run through Southern Alberta Processors. Efforts are currently underway to get the municipal compost facility up and running.

DEADSTOCK PICKUP ZONES & BIN LOCATIONS



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you're interested in the deadstock program, contact the M.D. or County representatives on page 1 or email us at info@watertonbiosphere.com. For more information, please visit our website at www.watertonbiosphere.com.

This document is part of a Technical Guide Series created by Waterton Biosphere Reserve, P.O. Box 7, Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada, www.watertonbiosphere.com. We appreciate the support from landowners and partners that has made this work possible.

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