

The Corporation of the County of Bruce

By-law 2025-035

A by-law to provide for the removal of nuisance beavers in the County of Bruce

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By-law Number 2025-035

A by-law to provide for the removal of nuisance beavers in the County of Bruce

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997, c.41, as amended, and O.Reg 665/98 municipalities may hire a licensed trapper or hunter to hunt or trap furbearing mammals within the boundaries of the municipality; and

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 11 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, an upper-tier municipality may pass by-laws respecting matters within its sphere of jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS municipalities may develop by-laws to address the causes of human-wildlife conflict and may manage the control of beavers on public and private property with the permission of the landowner; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the County of Bruce deems it desirable to enact such regulations and to provide for valuable consideration, for the control and management of nuisance beavers.

NOW THEREFORE the Council for the Corporation of the County of Bruce enacts as follows:

1. The County of Bruce shall provide payment to a licensed trapper for each beaver that has been found damaging or destroying a landowner's property subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) the removal and destruction of the beaver shall occur by means of trapping or shooting in methods sanctioned by the Ministry of Natural Resources;
 - (b) the trapper shall be currently licensed by the Ministry of Natural Resources;
 - (c) the trapper shall be a permanent resident of the County of Bruce unless otherwise granted advance written authorization by the Director of Transportation and Environmental Services, or their designate, in a form and manner to be prescribed by the Director;
 - (d) the trapper shall have, at the time of trapping or shooting, on his or her person, written authority from the landowner and Director (if applicable), to act as his or her agent;
 - (e) in the presence of the Clerk or designate of the local municipality in which the trapping occurs, the trapper shall present and mark the tail of the beaver. The municipality shall retain the tail.
 - (f) The Clerk shall provide certification to the County that such marking has occurred; and

- (g) The local municipal authorization and the landowner authorization shall be submitted to the County with a request for payment.
- 2. The landowner authorization and the certification of the local Clerk shall be on forms prescribed by the Clerk of the County of Bruce from time to time, which forms shall contain among other things the following information:
 - (a) The landowner's full name and address;
 - (b) The location of the beaver problem;
 - (c) A description of the problem;
 - (d) The full name, permanent address and license number of the trapper who is acting as the landowner's agent;
 - (e) The verification of the marking of the tail by the Clerk.
- 3. The records pertaining to any and all payments authorized by this by-law, including all forms referred to in this by-law, shall be retained in accordance with the County's approved records retention schedule. Such records shall be made available to authorized conservation officers upon request.
- 4. The payment to any licensed trapper, who has met the regulations and satisfied the requirement of this by-law shall not exceed a maximum of \$50.00 of lawful Canadian currency per beaver.
- 5. By-law 2020-035 is hereby repealed.
- 6. That this by-law shall come into force and effect on the date it is passed by Council.

ENACTED and PASSED this 4th day of September, 2025.

Original Signed by

Luke Charbonneau
Warden

Original Signed by

Linda White
Clerk