



## Governance Committee

Subject:	Bragg Creek Human-Wildlife Conflicts Update
Date:	March 11, 2025
Presenter:	Mason Austen, Acting Supervisor
Department:	Utility Services

### REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Governance Committee on human-wildlife conflicts in the Bragg Creek area and more specifically the potential for a garbage bylaw in the Bragg Creek Area.

While Administration has engaged with the Bragg Creek Wild group, a larger community and possibly County-wide consultation is needed. Administration will be conducting Community Engagement, starting in the Bragg Creek area to determine the need and interest then using that information to determine the need for County-wide engagement on the issue.

### ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Governance Committee receives the Bragg Creek Human-Wildlife Conflicts Update report for information.

### BACKGROUND

At the July 17, 2024 Public Presentation Committee (PPC), the Bragg Creek Wild group presented on the need for a garbage bylaw to minimize the human/wildlife interactions and conflicts as well as to protect the safety of the public and help wildlife population thrive in the wild. This matter was recommended to Council.

At the September 10, 2024 Council meeting, Council directed Administration to further explore this topic.

*MOVED by Councillor Hanson that the Public Presentation Committee recommends to Council that Administration be directed to explore the potential for a garbage bylaw as discussed during the Bragg Creek Wild Presentation at the July 17, 2024 Public Presentation Committee Meeting.*

### DISCUSSION

Administration has met with the Bragg Creek Wild group regularly since September to understand their perspective on the issue and work collaboratively on a solution. Administration has also met with numerous Municipalities, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Alberta BearSmart, and neighboring BearSmart communities to better understand the issue as whole, which is adverse human/wildlife interactions.

While reviewing existing municipal bylaws, garbage is a factor in avoiding negative human and wildlife interactions but there is a larger list of wildlife attractants that are often included. These can include bird feeders, fruit bearing trees or shrubs, barbecues, proper pet food storage, and feeding wildlife.

## Bragg Creek Garbage Bylaw Update

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The County is investigating all options to reduce wildlife attractants in the area, which could include a bylaw or through partnerships and outreach. The County is also investigating if these bylaws and actions are required only in Bragg Creek, other areas of the County, or County-wide.

Administration is continuing to work collaboratively with the Bragg Creek Wild group on hosting a BearSmart workshop as well as promoting bear safe practices.

Lastly, the Bragg Creek Wild group identified a large need for bear smart practices among the private and commercial businesses. Rocky View County's Waste and Recycling group will work to address the issue as a whole through Goal 2 of the Solid Waste Servicing Strategy where Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) waste produced in Rocky View County will be managed in accordance with the 3Rs Hierarchy.

## **ALTERNATE DIRECTION**

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Administration does not have an alternate direction for the Governance Committee's consideration.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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There are no attachments.