

## WOLF CREEK CHANNEL MAINTENANCE POLICY

<b>Policy Number:</b>	31/210.01 2025PO
<b>Policy Review:</b>	Every 5 Years or upon Legislative Change
<b>Policy Owner (Dept.):</b>	Operations
<b>Reference(s):</b>	1979 Agreement between Alberta Environment and the Town of Lacombe Water Resources Act Interim License No. 10103

### 1. PURPOSE OF POLICY

- 1.1. To establish a clear and sustainable framework for maintaining the Wolf Creek channel in accordance with the 1979 agreement, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and balancing proactive and responsive maintenance approaches within and outside City limits.

### 2. POLICY STATEMENT

- 2.1. The City of Lacombe's objective is to maintain a proactive approach to Wolf Creek channel maintenance within City limits. Outside of City limits, maintenance will only be scheduled for the following year if a verified complaint confirms that flow is severely restricted.

### 3. APPLICABILITY

- 3.1. This Policy comes into effect upon approval of Council.

### 4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- 4.1. **AEPA** – shall mean Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- 4.2. **DFO** – shall mean Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- 4.3. **TEC** – shall mean Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors

### 5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1. Council
  - 5.1.1. Approve this Policy.
- 5.2. Chief Administrative Officer
  - 5.2.1. Implementation of this Policy.
  - 5.2.2. Prepare funding and resource plans to implement this Policy.
  - 5.2.3. Approve any exceptions to this Policy.
  - 5.2.4. Ensure staff compliance with this Policy.

**COUNCIL POLICY****5.3. Directors and Senior Managers**

5.3.1. To support compliance with the terms of this Policy.

**5.4. Managers and Supervisors**

5.4.1. To support compliance with the terms of this Policy.

**5.5. Employee/s**

5.5.1. Comply with this Policy.

**5.6. Operations Division**

5.6.1. Roads Department shall coordinate Wolf Creek maintenance activities with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC), and/or Lacombe County, as required. Landowners will be notified by the City of Lacombe prior to the commencement of scheduled Wolf Creek channel maintenance operations.

**6. POLICY DETAILS****6.1. Background Information**

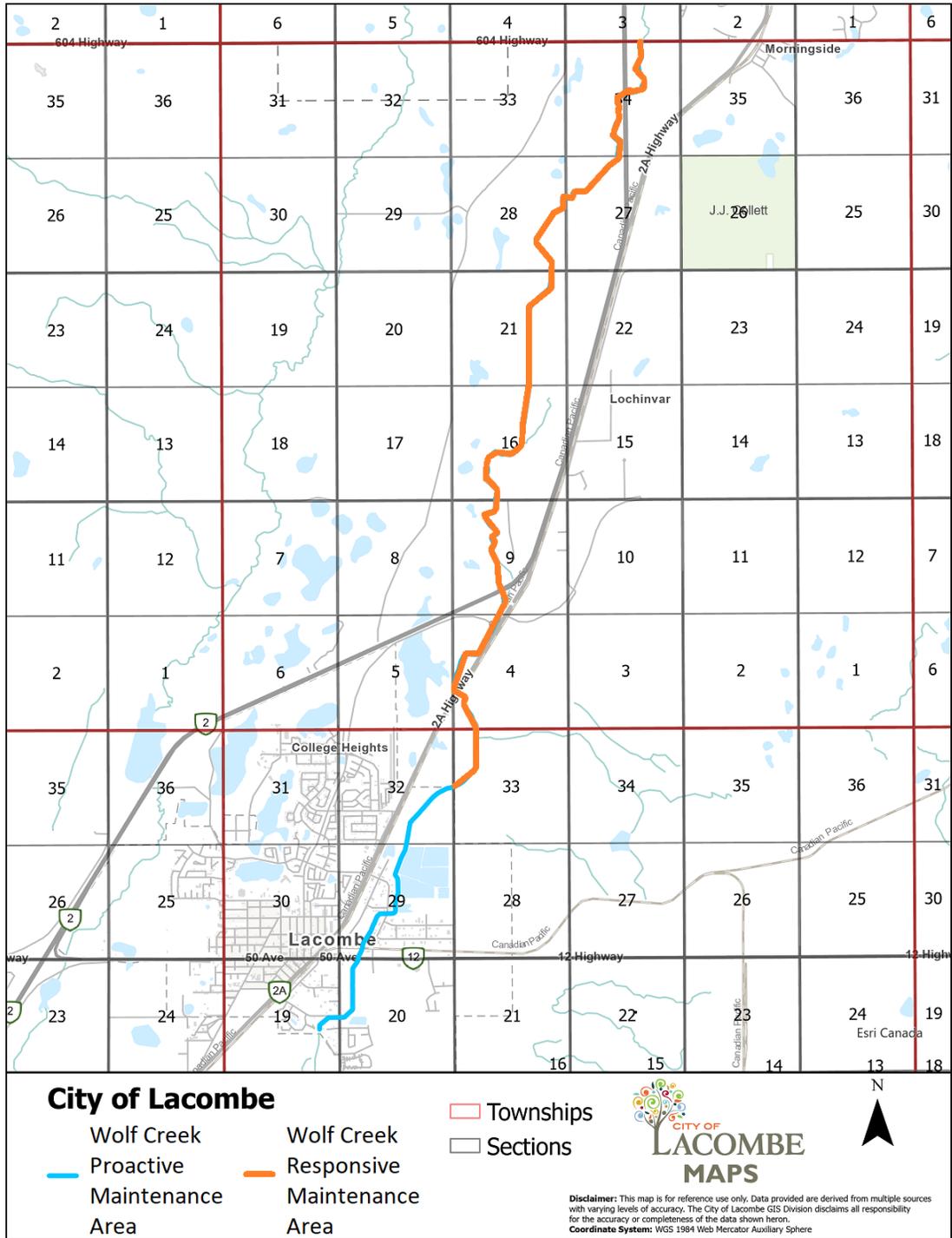
The Town of Lacombe entered into an agreement with the Government of Alberta's Department of the Environment in November 1979 to construct a formalized channel as part of the Wolf Creek Flood Control Project. The original agreement required that the work be completed on or before March 31, 1982. Upon completion of the channelization, Section 2 of the agreement stated:

*"The Local Authority will arrange for, construct, operate and maintain the Project in accordance with any Interim License or Permit issued to it under the Water Resources Act and in accordance with the plans approved by the Controller of Water Resources."*

Easement agreements with landowners were established at the time between the Town of Lacombe and property owners in Townships 40, 41, and 42, Range 26, W4, along the Wolf Creek watercourse. These easements formed part of the Town's commitment to the project.

As of 2025, Interim License No. 10103 remains valid until January 1, 2039 according to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA). This license carries an ongoing responsibility to maintain the relevant sections of Wolf Creek outlined in the 1979 agreement—from the creek's headwaters at the southern edge of the City to the Highway 604 overpass on Highway 2. Approximately 4.5 km of Wolf Creek lies within City limits, with an additional 13.5 km located outside City limits.

6.2. Below is a drawing illustrating the two-tiered channel maintenance service level approach for the 18 km section of Wolf Creek.



## COUNCIL POLICY



- 6.3. Approvals and notifications will be processed in early fall in preparation for scheduled creek channel maintenance. Maintenance activities will begin in late fall, once frost depth is sufficient to support excavation equipment, and will continue through late winter to early spring.
- 6.4. All creek maintenance operations will conform to the guidelines set forth in the AEPA and DFO work agreements.

### 7. END OF POLICY

Original Signed

Original Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Mayor

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Signature of CAO

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Approved by Council August 11, 2025

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Approved by Council August 11, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### POLICY RECORD

#### Approval and Amendment History

Date of Council Meeting	Council Motion Number	Description
August 11, 2025		Replaced policy 31/210.01 2012PO

#### Review History

Date of Policy Owner's Review	Description/Action Taken or Required
August 2025- September 2024	Reviewed service levels required and updated policy