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Title: Riparian Policy

Policy No: 4007

Approval: County Council

Effective Date: February 28, 2007

Supersedes Policy No: New



**Mountain View**  
COUNTY

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**Policy Statement:** Mountain View County will establish riparian area management guidelines for private and public land within the County.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to develop standards for riparian area management.

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**Principles:**

1. Individual land owners will be responsible for protection of their own land located within a Riparian Area.
2. Municipal Reserves in riparian areas will be protected as conditions warrant.
3. MVC will undertake mitigative measures on County maintained infrastructure within Riparian Areas as conditions warrant.
4. Environmental Reserves in riparian areas serve as natural habitat and will be considered part of the landscape. Therefore, protective measures will be at the discretion of MVC.

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End of Policy:

Approved: February 28, 2007

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1. Definitions

- 1.1 "Infrastructure" Interconnected structural elements such as roads, culverts and bridges.
- 1.2 "Riparian Area" Riparian areas are transition zones between the land and the water. They are areas strongly influenced by water and recognized by the presence of water loving vegetation along rivers, streams, lakes, springs, ponds and seeps. These "green zones", when in a properly functioning or healthy state, are one of the most ecologically diverse ecosystems in the world, sustaining fish and wildlife populations, providing good water quality, forage for livestock and supporting people on the landscape.
- 1.3 "Environmental Reserves" ER's are protected under the Municipal Government Act and must be left in their natural state or used as a public park. Environmental reserves tend to be of a more sensitive nature, (i.e. there is a Riparian Area that needs to be protected). Environmental reserves cannot be sold or re-designated.
- 1.4 "Municipal Reserves" MR's may be used as a park, a recreation area, for school purposes, leased out to a community association or an adjacent landowner for cultivation or grazing purposes. The Municipality has the option to remove a municipal reserve designation and sell at its discretion.

End of Procedure

Approved: February 28, 2007