

May 29, 2026

Good day all. With the spring/summer months approaching we expect some of our transient copper wire thieves to be active again targeting copper wire from farm pivots in our rural areas. Our Southern Alberta Crime Reduction Unit (SAD CRU) arrested three offenders in Vauxhall last night after a theft and are monitoring another habitual offender who was recently released from custody. Last night, our members recovered a large quantity of copper wire and arrested another three active offenders who remain in custody pending a hearing.

We don't often receive reports of copper wire theft, or damaged farm pivots from our rural residents which can make it difficult for us to lay charges unless we can identify the source of the theft and a victim. If I could impose upon WHC and WID to help encourage our rural residents and irrigators to report thefts regardless of the value or believed likelihood of catching an offender. Knowing what volume/length/type of wire that has been stolen is helpful along with identifying where area offenders may be active goes a long way to tracking their activities and catching them in the act as noted above.

Some helpful tips for our rural residents:

- If able, affixing large hose clamps in short intervals on farm pivots can help minimize the damage and scale of the theft. Often this deters offenders as it takes too long to overcome the clamps and reduces the volume they may be able to take.
- Report suspicious activity, particularly if trespassers are detected on properties.
- Report all thefts regardless of value in a timely manner.
- If equipped, please ensure remote trackers on farm pivots which detect malfunctions or failures are checked in a timely manner to identify whether a theft has occurred followed by timely reporting to the police.

As noted, this information can go a long way to identifying a crime series and catching area offenders.

Regards,



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Detachment Commander / Commandant du détachement

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