



Service Review- Noxious Weed Control

April 3, 2025

Purpose: To conduct a Service Review of the Regional District of Central Okanagan Noxious Weed Control Program.

Statements of Fact

State the service being reviewed:

Noxious Weed Control Program

How was the service established?

The Regional District of Central Okanagan adopted the Regional District of Central Okanagan Weed Control Extended Service Establishment Bylaw No. 671, 1996 as amended by Bylaw No. 1333. The Regional District of Central Okanagan Noxious Weed Control Bylaw No. 179, 1979 was repealed and cited as the Regional District of Central Okanagan Noxious Weed Control Bylaw No. 1544, on March 28, 2024.

Date of the last service review:

The Noxious Weed Control program was formally reviewed by the Board in 2013.

State the reason the service is being reviewed and include any documentation:

Regional Board's Service Establishment Bylaw Review Schedule, approved Jan 16, 2014

Certain amendments to the Noxious Weed Control Bylaw No. 1544 to be considered:

- Schedule A and B require updating to include new invasive plants with aggressive growth that can cause reductions in crop yield, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss. Summarizing into one list while referencing the amended Weed Control Act, Schedule A, Part I – Provincial Weeds and Part II – Regional Weeds, the Provincial Priority Invasive Species BC Inter-Ministry Invasive Species Working Group list and the Invasive Species Council of BC will elevate clarity for compliance and enforcement.
- Remove the line in Sec. 8 "Work done by the Regional District of Central Okanagan will not include herbicide treatment." This will allow the use of an herbicide treatment for the removal of Tree of Heaven. Mechanical methods have not been successful. Chemical control is recommended as the best management practise by the Invasive Species Council of BC. Application will be carried out following a confirmed Pest Management Plan by a certified pesticide applicator with a license issued by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.
- General housekeeping amendments include prohibiting businesses from selling or distributing invasive species and prohibit the public to sow, plant, cultivate, release or allow to accumulate or spread an invasive species on any real property.



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April 3, 2025

Identify all recipients of the service:

All Residents of Central Okanagan West and Central Okanagan East Electoral Areas, City of Kelowna, District of Lake Country and District of Peachland ratepayers as an extended service. City of West Kelowna withdrew from the weeds (and insect) service in 2013.

Identify all local government participants in the service:

City of Kelowna

District of Lake Country

District of Peachland

Electoral Area East

Electoral Area West

Provide a summary of how the service is funded (attach a copy of the most current approved budget and/or agreement):

Ratepayers from Central Okanagan West and Central Okanagan East Electoral Areas, City of Kelowna, District of Lake Country and District of Peachland fund the Noxious Weed Control service through tax requisition and property owners are billed directly for enforcement actions.

An Invasive Plant Grant from the Ministry of Forests provides funding for education and outreach programs offered to School District 23 and participation at community events held in the Central Okanagan.

Potential Additional Assessments

Financial audit/value for money:

In the event of property owner non compliance, the cost for a third party service to bring the property into compliance, is recovered from the property owner.

Feedback from recipients of the service:

Increased service requests from the public regarding noxious weed complaints

Feedback from local government participants in the service:

No concerns have been brought forward from participating municipalities



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Any shifts in legislation impacting the service:

British Columbia Weed Control Act was last amended March 30, 2022 and consolidated to March 11, 2025

Any shifts that increase or decrease the requirements for the service:

Increased public complaints regarding noxious weeds, resulting in increased opportunities for education, compliance, and when all other avenues exhausted, enforcement.