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**WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
for  
**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCHMAN BUTTE NO. 501**

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**OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the Weed Management Program for Rural Municipality of Frenchman Butte No. 501 will be to prevent the establishment of new Invasive Alien Plants (IAPs), eradication of small isolated infestations of prohibited and isolated noxious weeds and the containment and control of those established noxious weeds that are now in the area. This is essential if this municipality is to continue to use its land base to its fullest extent, whether it is for crop production, livestock production or recreation.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND(S) AFFECTED BY THE PLAN:**

- The areas covered in this plan are those within the municipality of Frenchman Butte No. 501.
  
- 1. Legal land locations included in this plan are:** Townships 50-55 and Ranges 22-27 which include portions north of the North Saskatchewan River.
  
- 2. General Description of the area:**
  - Included in the area are the Town of St. Walburg and Village of Paradise Hill, a CN/CP rail line, highway # 3, highway # 26, and highway # 21.
  - The area is a mix of crop land, pasture land with some organic farms.
  - The crop production areas have different weed management priorities than the pasture areas. Herbicides for crop production areas may require different than those for use in pastures.
  - Traffic corridors also require extra surveillance to immediately address weeds that may contaminate roadsides as they are a primary pathway and allow weeds to spread quickly. Monitoring of these corridors will be the responsibility of the municipality and the Weed Inspector but the CNR/CPR and the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure will be asked to assist with the costs of weed control on their rights-of-way.
  - Farmers that are registered as organic producers must not lose their certification because of the off-target movement of herbicide during the spraying of weeds within or near their lands however, organic producers, are responsible for the creation of their own buffer zones to municipal right-of-ways.

**WEED MANAGEMENT HISTORY/BACKGROUND**

At present there is a fairly extensive common tansy control operation within the municipality. It involves GPS mapping and the use of the herbicide (Milestone/Clearview/Navius /Truvist, Tardon 22K, etc.), to give long term control. Common tansy, if not controlled, could given time completely infest the pasture land in the municipality. Areas along the river may require weeds to be pulled by hand.

At present there is a fairly extensive scentless chamomile operation within the municipality. It involves GPS mapping and the use of the herbicide (Grazon, etc.), to give long term control. Scentless chamomile, if not controlled, could, given time completely infest the cultivated and pasture land in the municipality.



Also within our boundaries are very small infestations of leafy spurge and yellow toadflax. These weeds can be controlled or eradicated with the use of the appropriate herbicides.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT INVASIVE ALIEN PLANT SPECIES IN THE AREA:**

Weed species of concern in this area are prioritized as follows –

- High Priority\*** – Common Tansy
- Yellow Toadflax (isolated populations)
- Scentless Chamomile
- Leafy Spurge

Yellow toadflax is a high priority weed because it is only in isolated patches currently but can become a problem weed in seeded forage and hay fields and can be difficult to control or eradicate.

Common tansy is a high priority weed because it is more widespread along the river in the municipality. It is also a potential danger to the productivity of pasture land in the municipality and may be toxic to livestock. Management of common tansy will be a long-term objective.

Scentless Chamomile is a high priority weed because it is more isolated in the municipality. It is also a potential danger to the productivity of cultivated land in the municipality. Management of Scentless Chamomile will be a long-term objective.

Leafy Spurge is a high priority weed because it is in isolated patches in the municipality. It is also a potential danger to the productivity of cultivated and pasture land in the municipality. Management of Leafy Spurge will be a long-term objective.

**BUDGET**

**Proposed budget for 2018 Invasive Plant Management Activities:**

<b>COST</b>	<b>BUDGET (\$)</b>
<b>Labour</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Herbicides</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Equipment (purchase or rental)</b>	
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
<b>Total Invasive Plant Control Budget</b>	<b>\$13,500</b>



## DESCRIPTION OF PLANNED CONTROL ACTIVITIES:

### Control of High Priority weeds:

- Also within our boundaries are very small infestations of scentless chamomile, yellow toadflax and Leafy Spurge.
- These weeds can be eradicated with the use of registered herbicides.
- Common tansy is well established in areas along the river and there are also small infestations scattered around the municipality.
- Every effort must be made to eradicate the small isolated infestations by spraying with Tordon 22K and monitoring these sites every year.
  - Milestone/Clearview/Navius /Truvist use near waterways could be controversial due to its long life in soil and tendency to move with water. Use of alternatives will be used in these sensitive areas. Areas along river will be removed by hand.
- Larger infested areas must also be sprayed in an effort to isolate and control these sites.
- When biological agents are approved in Canada a biological control program will be undertaken where common tansy occupies large contiguous block or is not accessible for spraying.
- Where common tansy is found in forage fields or roadsides the municipality will work with landholders to restrict the cutting and movement of hay to prevent the spread of this weed.

### Other Control Activities:

- In order to prevent the introduction and establishment of new Prohibited or Noxious Weeds or other invasive plants, it is important for area residents be able to identify species of immediate concern and report them to the Weed Inspector so that they may be eradicated quickly with the use of herbicides or hand pulling.
- These sites must be documented, retained in a central file and closely monitored. In order to accomplish this, a public awareness program may be required. The municipality will use the internet record keeping database <http://login.imapinvasives.org/skimi/login/?next=/skimi/> to document Prohibited and Noxious weed infestations and records of management activities including herbicide applications, biocontrol releases, manual efforts, tillage, etc.
- All noxious weed sites that are presently documented with GPS must be monitored as to the effectiveness of the control measures that were taken. A record will be kept of each site, that include information such as size, weed density, site topography, soil type and control measures used.
- All herbicide application will be conducted by a licensed applicator using herbicides with the least risk of secondary impact to the environment and non-target plants, animals or fish.
- Where required, permits will be acquired from Saskatchewan Environment for to apply herbicides within 50 metres of water bodies.
- Safe work procedures will be developed in accordance with *The Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OH&S) for potentially dangerous activities conducted by the weed inspector and for herbicide




applications conducted by municipal applicators or if sprayers are contracted, they must demonstrate that they have developed their own safe work procedures under OH&S.


- This plan and weed management actions taken will be reviewed on a yearly basis and updated or modified where required.

**Municipal Authority:**

This Weed Management Plan is authorized by Resolution # 2018-06-13-027

Signed:

  
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Bonnie Mills-Midgley  
Municipal Reeve

  
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Rita Rogers  
Chief Administrative Officer

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Date June 13, 2018