

Policy Manual	Authority: Approved by Council	Type: Environment
	Effective date: June 8, 2016	Revised date: June 11, 2020
	Policy No. 400-4 - Weed Management Plan	

R.M. of Browning No. 34

Policy No. 600-2 Weed Management Plan

June 11, 2020

Weed Management Plan

OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the Weed Management Program will be to prevent the establishment of new Invasive Alien Plants (IAPs) and the containment and control of those that are now in the area. This is essential if the R.M. of Browning No. 34 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 Browning No. 34.
1. **Legal land locations included in this Plan are:**
Townships 4, 5 and 6, Ranges 4, 5 and 6, all West of the Second Meridian (4-4, 4-5, 4-6 W2M, 5-4, 5-5, 5-6 W2M and 6-4, 6-5 and 6-6 W2M).
 2. **General Description of the Area:**
 - Included in the area are the Town of Lampman, the Hamlets of Browning, Willmar, and Steelman, a CN rail line, and Highway 361.
 - The area is a mix of crop land and pasture land with some organic farms as well as several oil well sites.
 - The crop production areas have different weed management priorities than the pasture areas. Herbicides for crop production areas may be different than those required for use in pastures.
 - Traffic corridors also require extra surveillance to control weeds that may contaminate roadsides as they are a main route of spread. Monitoring of these corridors will be the responsibility of the municipality and the Weed Inspector, but the CNR and the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure will be asked to assist with the costs of weed control on their rights-of-way.

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- 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 absinth control operation within the municipality. It involves manual mapping and the use of the herbicide Restore II to give long term control. If not controlled, given time, absinth could completely infest the municipality. Wild parsnip is also fairly extensive within the R.M. of Browning No. 34. Treatment of wild parsnip involves a combination of Clearview, Sightline, and Reclaim II. Also, within our boundaries are small infestations of leafy spurge, scentless chamomile, and field bindweed. 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 - Absinthe
- Wild Parsnip | Medium Priority: - Leafy Spurge
- Scentless Chamomile
- Field Bindweed |
|---|---|

Absinthe and wild parsnip are high priority weeds because there are larger holds within the municipality. Leafy spurge, scentless chamomile, and field bindweed are medium priority because there are isolated patches of these weeds that if left untreated can also infest all the land in the R.M. of Browning No. 34.

BUDGET

Proposed Annual Budget for Invasive Plant Management Activities:

COST	BUDGET(\$)
Herbicides/Labour	\$40,000.00
Total Invasive Plant Control Budget	\$40,000.00

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNED CONTROL ACTIVITIES:

Control of High Priority Weeds:

- Also, within our boundaries are very small infestations of leafy spurge and scentless chamomile
- These weeds can be eradicated with the use of registered herbicides.

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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 to 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 supply documentation to ratepayers as required.
- All noxious weed sites that are presently documented with manual documentation and by a vegetation control company 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 applications 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 to apply herbicides within fifty (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 of Council.

Reeve

Administrator

DATED: June 11, 2020

Document Title	Revision Date	Approved By
Policy No. 400-4 - Weed Management Plan	June 8, 2016	Council
Policy No. 400-4 - Weed Management Plan	June 7, 2017	Council
Policy No. 400-4 - Weed Management Plan	June 11, 2020	Council