



# Northwest Invasive Plant Council Policies and Procedures

## HERBICIDE TREATMENT WITHIN MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES & RESIDENTIAL AREAS

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| Approved By:      | Board of Directors   |

### PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy addresses herbicide use on non-crown land.

The NWIPC provides invasive plant treatment through contractors. They follow the current provincial government Pest Management Plan (PMP) developed to meet obligations under the Weed Control Act and Forest and Range Practices Act, and in accordance with the Integrated Pest Management Act and its regulations. The PMP applies only to Crown Land.

This Policy & Procedure directs treatment operations on all other lands – non-crown, residential and local government controlled lands. While not strictly required, NWIPC directs their contractors to operate in the spirit of the PMP on all lands.

### POLICY

NWIPC uses an integrated pest management approach that includes public awareness, reporting, inventory, planning, prevention, and biological, cultural, manual, mechanical and herbicide treatments. Treatment includes assessment of a site following the current strategic plan, establishing injury levels and treatment thresholds, and treatment options. All of the contractors and crews have certified pesticide applicators in the Industrial Vegetation category that includes invasive plants. Contractors must follow the herbicide product label as it is a legal document.

### PROCEDURE:

As is stated in the Services section of each Invasive Plant Management Area contract, when a decision has been made to use herbicides, the contractor will notify local area residents of herbicide application if working immediately adjacent to private land. This will include door-to-door written and/or verbal

notification to discuss treatment, as well as any water well and creek locations. This is not a legal requirement, but a courtesy, and is the procedure used to prevent or minimize public complaints about the work done by NWIPC. Before treating a site with herbicides, NWIPC contractors must consider the timing of use of public spaces with unrestricted access as well as the extent of their use.

From time to time there may be inquiries about the invasive plant management program. The contractor will respond courteously to reasonable requests for information. If someone opposes herbicide application at the site and demands that no spraying is done, the contractor will cease spraying, refer that person to the NWIPC Executive Director and, if possible, get the person's contact information for follow-up purposes. The contractor will contact the NWIPC Executive Director as soon as possible. Spraying will not resume until the Executive Director has given the contractor approval.

#### CONSEQUENCES:

Should an incident occur, the NWIPC Executive Director and NWIPC Directors will investigate, mitigate the incident and determine consequences. If the contractor is deemed to be in contravention of their contract, consequences may include; loss of the contract holdback and/or termination of the contract.