



AGENDA ITEM
Sea Buckthorn, Gull Lake
October 24, 2019

BACKGROUND

At the April 1, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting Council reviewed a report prepared by Administration outlining concerns of the invasive nature Sea Buckthorn was spreading within the County, specifically within the Gull Lake Watershed.

The following recommendation was made at that meeting:

That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report with regard to elevating Sea Buckthorn to a noxious weed status within Lacombe County for presentation at a future Council meeting.

Mr. Timmons presented the Committee of the Whole meeting notes from April 1, 2019 at the regular meeting of Council on April 11, 2019

**C/137/19
Sea Buckthorn
Noxious Weed**

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report with regard to elevating Sea Buckthorn to a noxious weed status within Lacombe County for presentation at a future Council meeting.

Status

Carried Unanimously.

County Administration as per Council direction, presented a report, at the May 23, 2019 Council meeting. Contents of the report included outlining the process to elevate Sea Buckthorn onto a local noxious weed status and the presentation of draft Bylaw No. 1299/19, a bylaw of Lacombe County to designate Sea Buckthorn (*Hippophae Rhamnoides*) as a noxious weed within Lacombe County.

Council proceeded to give first and second reading to the bylaw as presented.

Mr. Tim Timmons as per Council direction, forwarded a letter on May 24, 2019 to Mr. Tim Schultz, Chief of Staff – Minister of Agriculture & Forestry requesting Ministerial consent for Bylaw No. 1299/19.

The Honorable Devin Dreeshen - Minister Agriculture and Forestry forwarded correspondence to Mr. Tim Timmons dated September 11, 2019, approving the elevation of Sea Buckthorn to Lacombe County's noxious weed list.

ANALYSIS

Bylaw No. 1299/19 received first and second reading on May 23, 2019.

The Honorable Devin Dreeshen – Minister, Agriculture and Forestry approved the Bylaw No. 1299/19 on September 11, 2019.

Bylaw 1299/19 requires third and final reading.

Bylaw 1299/19 shall come into full force and effect on the on the date of passing.

(Refer to attached documents.)

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Annual vegetation control programs including herbicide, manpower and equipment is a budgeted activity in the 2020 Agriculture Services Operations Budget.

LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Sea Buckthorn is not listed as a noxious weed under the Alberta Weed Control Act, however, the County has the ability through bylaw to elevate Sea Buckthorn to a noxious weed status within Lacombe County.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The following elements of the County's Strategic Plan are relevant to this issue:

Our Vision

"An attractive, balanced, prosperous and progressive community"

Our Mission

"Building a safe and vibrant community through leadership, innovation and the development of healthy relationships."

Our Key Principles

"Recognizing our history and solid foundation, we approach the role of providing the best possible level of municipal services for our citizens through a collaborative and supportive teamwork."

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Pursuant to Policy AD(40), Roles and Responsibilities – Lacombe County will inform, consult, and engage the public about decisions that affect them. This was completed through repeated meetings with key stakeholders, individual meetings with inquiring public, and consultation with provincial regulatory departments.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the following resolution:

That Council give third and final reading to Bylaw No. 1299/19.

PREPARED BY: Dion Burlock, Manager Agriculture and Environmental Services



REVIEWED BY: Keith Boras, Director of Community Services



REVIEWED BY: Tim Timmons, County Manager

