

## Definitions & FAQs

### Invasive Plant Control Program (IPCP) 2016-17

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## Definitions:

### **FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PROGRAM:**

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#### **Primary Claimants:**

- Rural Municipalities (RMs)
- First Nations Bands (FNBs)

#### **Other Stakeholders include:**

- Cities/Towns/Villages
- Producers/Private Land owners
- Other government or not for profit non-government organizations (*Ducks Unlimited, Nature Conservancy, Water Security Agency (formerly SWA), Ministry of Highways, etc*)

#### ***In order to be eligible, Other Stakeholders must:***

- Be part of a defined Cooperative Weed Management Area agreement (ADD Boards or watershed groups may make an excellent core of a CWMA) and submit a Weed Management Plan (WMP) that targets weeds approved under the program and utilizes approved herbicides. A copy of the WMP must be provided at the time of applying for a claim.
- Producers/Private landowners will not have a WMP to submit but must be listed as a priority in the RM's or CWMA's WMP if the RM is submitting a claim.
- Apply to the program through the RM therefore instilling a level of local accountability.
- Include claims with the RM claim packages to ensure RMs are aware of weed control efforts being undertaken within the RM boundaries so they can utilize that information when considering future control efforts.

## **Public Lands**

- Land under RM control such as municipal Right's of Way, or other municipal held land."
- Rural First Nations' Reserve Land

**Public lands within RMs** — includes any lands that are Not-For-Profit but must be part of a CWMA agreement:

- Co-op Pastures (non-profit model)
- Ducks Unlimited
- Nature Conservancy
- Ministry of Highways

**Private Lands** — These claims MUST accompany the RM Claim:

- Producers/Private Land Owners
- Private Leased Crown Land (for profit/commercial gain)
- Rights-of-way for railways and pipelines

## What is the difference: Weed Inspector vs Herbicide Applicator?

**Weed Inspector:** The role of the weed inspector under *The Weed Control Act* is to monitor the municipality for the Prohibited and Noxious weeds to detect new occurrences of those weeds in a timely manner. The weed inspector must also respond to complaints from residents of the municipality for Prohibited, Noxious and Nuisance Weeds.

Weed inspectors are the enforcement agent appointed by municipalities to enforce *The Weed Control Act*. Weed inspectors, whose appointments have been acknowledged by Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, have the power to:

- Enforce *The Weed Control Act*.
- Enter onto private property (except for dwellings) to inspect for Prohibited, and Noxious Weeds, as well as Nuisance Weeds in response to a complaint.
- Issue Agreements or Orders for the Eradication of Prohibited Weeds and isolated Noxious Weeds, or Containment and Integrated Control of established Noxious Weeds as well as Integrated Control measures of Nuisance Weeds.
- Arrange for the appropriate measures to be taken on behalf of the municipality, if Orders or Agreements issued regarding Prohibited, Noxious or Nuisance Weeds, are not complied with in the time required.
- Issue permits for the movement of machinery, domestic animals or other material that may be contaminated with Prohibited or Noxious Weeds under conditions that the weed inspector may allow.

A secondary role of the weed inspector is to co-ordinate overall invasive weed management in a municipality. By working with individuals, businesses, governments and other organizations the weed inspector can ensure that all Prohibited and Noxious Weeds are controlled by all land owners, and no uncontrolled infestations remain. The weed inspector can also contribute to reduced weed problems and costs by raising awareness of Prohibited and Noxious Weeds with residents of the municipality, and coordinating local biological control activities.

**Herbicide Applicator:** Regulated under *The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act, 1995*, all individuals and companies selling and/or applying pesticides to land that is not their own for economic gain or benefit must hold a valid pesticide applicators license. This includes applications such as agricultural, rights of way (e.g. power and pipe lines), landscaping, as well as mosquito control, and structural pest control. Pesticide applicator licenses may be issued by Saskatchewan Agriculture, after successful completion of the training course and testing provided by Saskatchewan Polytechnic. Holders of a valid pesticide applicators license from another province are also acceptable in Saskatchewan.

There are several categories of pesticide license that may be issued to a qualified applicant. The following license categories are acceptable in their respective areas:

- Agricultural – for applications made to agricultural land,
- Industrial – for applications made to non-agricultural land or for spot control of weeds regulated by *The Weed Control Act* on Agricultural land,
- Landscapes – for applications made to domestic urban lots only.

Those purchasing pesticides or application services, including agricultural producers, are reminded to ensure the applicators they *hire to apply pesticides have the appropriate license for the job at hand*.

## Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)

CWMAs, simply put, are partnerships or agreements. They bring together landowners and land managers to coordinate action and share expertise and resources to manage noxious weeds or invasive plants in a defined area. CWMAs determine the weed control priorities for the stakeholders involved in a specific area and then develop a comprehensive Weed Management Plan (WMP). These agreements can create highly effective continuing partnerships, developing strategies and dealing with long-term invasive species problems.

Characteristics of a CWMA are:

- Defined geographical area distinguished by a common geography, weed problem, community, climate, political boundary, or land use.
- Involvement or representation of the majority of landowners and natural resource managers in the defined area.
- Steering committee.
- Commitment to cooperation.
- Comprehensive plan that addresses the management of prevention of one or more noxious weeds or invasive plants.

**Contributing parties are designated by signing a formal CWMA agreement.**

**For the purpose of the GF2-IPCP - Situations where CWMA agreements may or may not be required:**

- **REQUIRED:** Your RM is already part of a larger group working towards managing invasive species (eg: ADD Board) and you want to include more stakeholders in that effort.
- **REQUIRED:** Cities, towns or villages work with the RM as another stakeholder within the CWMA, with respect to public lands owned by them but that border RM agricultural lands.
- **REQUIRED:** Your RM controls weeds on highway right-of-ways that has been included as part of a WMP, the Ministry of Highways must be a signatory to the CWMA agreement for that area.
- **NOT REQUIRED:** Your RM has an agreement with Ministry of Highways' (MHI) official(s) to control weeds on highway right-of-ways AND the RM is being compensated by MHI for this service (*not eligible for funding under the GF2-IPCP*).

For more information on CWMAs and resources to assist in developing them, visit [http://mipn.org/cwma\\_resources.html](http://mipn.org/cwma_resources.html).

Have more questions regarding CWMA agreements or WMPs – feel free to contact:

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## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

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**1. Q: Who can apply directly to SARM for the IPCP?**

- A:**
- a. First Nations Bands (FNBs) making herbicide applications to rural reserve land - using the claim form designated for FNBs;
  - b. RMs – using the claim forms designated for RMs (digital or manual)
    - Private Producers/Other Stakeholders – using the claim forms designated for RMs
      - An RM does not have to submit a claim under the 2016-17 IPCP for a Producer/Other Stakeholder to apply. However, all claims must be signed by the RM Administrator and submitted to SARM on behalf of the Producer/Other Stakeholder by the deadline in order to be eligible. All grant funds will continue to flow from SARM directly to the RM Offices.

**2. Q: Can an individual apply for a claim if the RM isn't submitting a claim?**

- A:** Yes – Individual applications must be submitted through the RM office and all claim forms are required to have the Administrator's signature. SARM and the Ministry of Agriculture would like to ensure the individual landowner/stakeholder claims are channeled through the RM offices:
- to ensure local accountability,
  - to encourage a more coordinated overall effort to manage invasive weeds,
  - To ensure that the RM is aware of the weed control efforts being conducted within the boundaries of the RM.

**3. Q: Does a producer/stakeholder have to submit a WMP by the July 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline?**

- A:** No – all they have to do is submit their claim and Herbicide Application Records (or iMapInvasives report) to the RM office so that the parcel can be included as part of the RM's overall Municipal Weed Management Plan for the next year.

**4. Q: How far back will herbicide receipts be accepted?**

- A:** All receipts for eligible herbicides under the GF2-IPCP will be accepted if they pertain to the herbicide being used, and claimed for, in the current program year. The price per unit of the herbicide is multiplied by the amount applied to the area treated to determine the amount of the eligible rebate.

**5. Q: Do private land owners have to use a licensed applicator to be a successful applicant under GF2-IPCP?**

- A:** No – a private landowner is able to apply pesticides to his/her own land, or rented land that he/she actively farms, without a license unless the pesticide has a "Restricted Use." None of the herbicides listed as eligible in the GF2-IPCP program are considered "Restricted Use." If the private landowner hires a third party to apply the eligible herbicide, that party must hold a valid pesticide applicator license and that license number must be submitted with the claim.

*The Saskatchewan Pest Control Products Regulations* indicates the situations that a person **does not** need a license to apply non-restricted pesticides are as follows:

(2) An individual may do all or any of the following without holding a pesticide applicator licence:

(a) use or apply pesticides on land:

- (i) that the individual or a member of his or her immediate family owns or rents; or
- (ii) that is owned or rented by a corporation in which the individual or a member of his or her immediate family owns a majority of shares;

- (b) use or apply pesticides as part of his or her duties as an employee of a farm operation or a research or pesticide development organization;
- (c) without charge (exchange of money), provide a service involving the use or application of pesticides on neighbouring land or premises in the ordinary exchange of labour and services among farmers;
- (d) use or apply pesticides under the direct supervision of a holder of a pesticide applicator licence, acting within the terms of that licence\*\*;

(e) use or apply:

- (i) disinfectants;
- (ii) swimming pool bactericides;
- (iii) cleansers, deodorizers, laundry additives, soaps or sanitizers;
- (iv) bactericides used in cutting oils and fuels;
- (v) algacides used in industrial cooling systems; or
- (vi) wood preservatives.

- Every other use of a pesticide requires a licensed applicator.

**\*\* Note:** Direct supervision requires that the licensed applicator be within direct earshot and eyeshot of the application being made by an unlicensed applicator.

**6. Q: What is the purpose for the Herbicide Application Record and who completes it?**

**A:** If you are the one physically applying herbicides to be claimed under the Invasive Plant Control Program, you must complete the Herbicide Application Record in the absence of iMapInvasives.

This includes licensed applicators as well as private landowners, other stakeholders and FNBs. This ensures consistent reporting and data capture necessary for funding through *Growing Forward 2*.

The application record indicates the application was made. If there is no application record the RM could be spending money for no return.

These forms are available, free of charge, through the SARM Trading Services. Contact Amanda Kozak at 306.761.3722 or email to [akozak@sarm.ca](mailto:akozak@sarm.ca).

**7. Q: Why is the herbicide I used, or want to use, not on the approved herbicide list?**

**A:** The GF2-IPCP fund only supports the use of products that are currently registered (AKA target weeds appear on the label for **control** of the target weed). Products that claim top growth control (of perennials) or suppression are not approved under the GF2-IPCP since we want to ensure that there is significant activity on perennial plants, and are not spending money year after year to burn the top off a plant to have it grow back as if nothing had happened in the year following the last application.

Herbicide labels are legal documents as extensions of the federal *Pest Control Products Act*. Because of this legal restriction, we cannot approve uses of a herbicide where the target eligible weed is not listed on the label. Manufacturers that make claims that their product is more effective than what their label says, may provide the Pest Management Regulatory Agency of Health Canada with documentation to support that claim and apply to have the weed listed as controlled on the product label. Once the label change is made, the product will immediately be added to the list of approved products.

**8. Q: Why are all noxious weeds, like Scentless Chamomile, not included in this program?**

**A:** Scentless Chamomile is an example of a noxious weed that is too wide spread for this program to impact the existing population. The program is therefore targeting noxious weeds that are less wide-spread and that are difficult to control without herbicides. The designated noxious weeds are persistent weeds that are more difficult and costly to control, placing a bigger burden on RMs and land owners to control them. The approved herbicides control these weeds effectively but are typically very expensive. The program is intended to remove high herbicide costs as a barrier to addressing these weeds. By focusing on a limited number of noxious weeds of high concern that aren't wide spread yet, the limited funds available through the IPCP will have a more significant impact leading to visible results and a decrease in infested acres and spread. It will increase the productive grazing area for livestock or wildlife and thus the economic or ecological potential of those lands.

**9. Q: Why do we have to provide area treated?**

**A:** Growing Forward 2 (GF2) requires that performance measures be provided to the federal government to demonstrate the benefits provided by each project under GF2. The benefit in the case of the IPCP is the reclamation of infested land and the prevention of spread to more land, thereby requiring more herbicide application. If the area applied was large, the reclamation rationale can be used; if the area sprayed was a small patch, the prevention of spread rationale can be used. This information is also helpful for the IPCP Technical Committee to determine if correct rates of herbicides are being applied in your invasive weed management efforts and therefore ensure that RMs are receiving the best benefit of the program.

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture's [2016 GUIDE TO CROP PROTECTION](#) provides a handy Imperial-Metric Measure [Conversion Chart](#), on Page 9, that will aid in any area conversions you may require while completing the IPCP claim package. There are also many free metric conversion internet pages, apps or freeware downloads that are very helpful and easy to use.

**10. Q: Our RM has been running our own invasive plant control program; cost sharing pesticide costs with our ratepayers – How will it work with this program?**

**A:** We have heard from a number of RMs that are currently running their own weed control programs where the RM is sharing a portion of the costs of the herbicide applied on private land for invasive plant management and the RM may also be providing for the application of these herbicides on private land.

- As in any other situation, the RM would apply to receive 100% of the cost of eligible herbicides used to treat eligible weeds on RM or other public lands and private individuals would receive 100% for applications to prohibited weeds and 50% of the cost of eligible herbicides applied to land they own or rent through the IPCP.
- It would then be up to the individual RM to determine how to integrate this into their existing cost sharing program.
- *Where the RM makes the herbicide application, the RM would make the claim for the eligible herbicide.*

**11. Q: Our RM is a member of a Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA). How do we apply for the program?**

**A:** Applications for funding would still come from individual RMs for funding under the GF2-IPCP.

- The Weed Management Plan for the CWMA may be used in place of a weed management plan for the individual RM.
- The RM should include a copy of their CWMA agreement to document they are a part of the larger group.

- While GF2-IPCP program funding applications are still required to be submitted under the name of individual RMs, the CWMA can certainly provide assistance in completing the WMP and Claim forms.
- SARM will make the claim payments to RMs only. The RM and the CWMA can determine how that rebate will be disbursed.

*NOTE: If your RM is already part of a CWMA agreement, but it's named differently, you do not have to redo the agreement to rename it. Simply submit a copy of that agreement as requested.*

**12. Q: Can another party contribute to other costs of the application other than the herbicide?**

**A:** Yes. The IPCP rebates for costs incurred related to the purchase of eligible herbicides only. There is no relevance to this program if another party contributes to your application costs, applicator time or equipment or other non-herbicide expenses.

**13. Q: Is it up to the RMs to notify their ratepayers about the GF2-IPCP?**

**A:** RMs are encouraged to promote the program to their ratepayers. This site (<http://sarm.ca/programs/administered-programs/invasive-plant>) is available to SARM Members and the public in general, however, the RMs are asked to ensure all interested parties have access to and are aware of this valuable information if requested.

**14. Q: How will claims be rated in the event the IPCP is oversubscribed?**

**A: Claims will be processed as follows** – according to weed species indicated on *Schedule A*:

- 1<sup>st</sup> priority - any prohibited weeds
- 2<sup>nd</sup> priority - any isolated noxious weeds (less than 5 ha/quarter section)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> priority - established noxious weeds (greater than 5 ha/quarter section)
  - *If requests exceed available funding, containment made in conjunction with Integrated Weed Management efforts on these weeds will be considered before blanket herbicide applications over large areas.*

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*As part of the Growing Forward 2 funding agreement, all records, information, databases, audit and evaluation reports and other documents relating to this program **must be retained by the RM until March 31, 2024.***

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For more information on the Invasive Plant Control Program, please visit <http://sarm.ca/programs/administered-programs/invasive-plant> or contact:

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