



# DIRECTOR REPORT

To: Electoral Area Directors Committee

Report Number: DR-EADC-003

From: Brad Sperling, Director Area C

Date: February 18, 2021

**Subject: Outcome of Provincial Discussions Regarding Charlie Lake**

---

## **PURPOSE / ISSUE:**

To review topics recently discussed with representatives from the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources (FLNRO), PRRD staff and the Electoral Area C Director regarding Charlie Lake and decide on options to address lake weeds, shoreline erosion and domestic water licensing.

## **RECOMMENDATION / ACTION:**

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee receive the report title "Outcome of Provincial Discussions Regarding Charlie Lake DR-EADC-003", which summarizes challenges with increasing lake weeds, and shoreline erosion in Charlie Lake, as well as the possibility of using source water from Charlie Lake for domestic use by residents of Area C, for discussion

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

On January 27, 2021, the Director of Electoral Area C and PRRD staff held a telephone discussion with FLNRO representatives to discuss three topics pertaining to Charlie Lake as summarized below:

### **1. Lake Weeds**

There have been multiple complaints regarding the noticeable rise in weeds protruding 100-200 metres offshore in Charlie Lake. It was highlighted with FLNRO that the installation of both the Charlie Lake Sewer and a 50% lakeshore development limit was to prevent loading on the lake. However, the weed problem is getting worse. When asked how difficult it would be for the PRRD to go in and remove the weeds, FLNRO stated that a business case is required to consider permitting this activity. It was noted that City of Williams Lake recently received limited approval to utilize a lake weed harvester for a similar purpose<sup>1</sup>. FLNRO noted that the Charlie Lake Conservation Society is reviewing historical satellite imagery which can show the rate of expansion of the weeds into the lake. FLNRO confirmed that this data could assist a business case to support an application for weed removal in the lake.

### **2. Shoreline Erosion Due to Boaters**

There was discussion around challenges with boaters coming too close to shore, causing subsequent erosion of the shoreline. FLNRO stated that signage and a buoy system could be established, restricting boaters to <10 km/h within 30 metres of shore on all water bodies in BC<sup>2</sup>, though this is typically not enforced.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mycariboonow.com/67315/city-of-williams-lakes-lake-weed-harvester-receives-limited-permit-for-use/>

<sup>2</sup> Transport Canada's Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations

### 3. Process for Using Charlie Lake Water for Domestic Use

When asked what the process is for getting access to source water from Charlie Lake, FLNRO confirmed that there is a “simple” application process through FrontCounterBC to apply for a permit to draw water. FLNRO stated that a rationale will have to be built in support of such an application.

### STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

### External Links

1. [Water Licenses & Approvals](#)
2. [Water Applicants' Agency Resource Guide](#)