

Osoyoos Lake Management District Newsletter

2024

LANDOWNERS VOTED TO RENEW THE OSOYOOS LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Osoyoos Lake Management District would like to thank all of the landowners around the lake who voted to renew the Osoyoos Lake Management District for the next 5 years. With funding collected through the Lake Management District's special assessment, we will be able to continue making progress in controlling aggressive, non-native aquatic noxious weeds in our lake. We look forward to continuing to work with all of you to address the challenges that our lake faces moving forward!



Community Information Meeting on July 30th

On July 30th the Osoyoos Lake Management District & the Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board will be hosting a public meeting to provide information about the milfoil & other aquatic noxious weed treatments taking place in Osoyoos Lake in 2024 & beyond, and to provide education on identifying the various aquatic plants (both native & non-native) that can be found in our lake. The meeting will take place in the Oroville Grange Hall, located at 622 Fir St, in Oroville. The meeting will run from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, with a field tour to Osoyoos Lake to follow (for those who are interested in attending). This meeting will be open to the public, and members of the community are encouraged to attend. The meeting will provide beneficial information to anyone who uses the lake at any time during the year. We will be covering a variety of topics during the meeting to ensure landowners have a clear understanding of the goals for aquatic treatments within the lake, and how those herbicide treatments can impact irrigation, swimming, & other recreation.



Zosel Dam to Receive Major Upgrades in 2025

Photo Credit: Washington State Department of Ecology

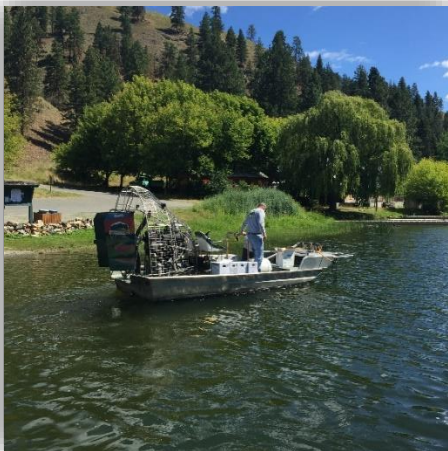


According to a March 19, 2024 article published by the International Joint Commission (IJC), the Washington State Department of Ecology is planning \$5.5 million in improvements to Zosel Dam. Zosel Dam is located on the Okanogan River and is used to help manage water levels in Osoyoos Lake. This project will be the first major upgrades to the dam since 1987. Improvements to the dam include: a spillway gate replacement, new lifting mechanisms, an additional heated gate, a new backup generator and electrical upgrades including energy-efficient lighting. These upgrades will increase the longevity of the dam and improve operations.

The project is currently in the design stages, with a scheduled completion date of June 2025. The Washington State Department of Ecology anticipates work on the project to begin in the first quarter of 2025. The project schedule calls for work to be completed on one gate at a time, allowing for full operation of the other gates during construction.

To read the entire IJC article, please visit: <https://ijc.org/en/zosel-dam-receiving-first-major-upgrades-decades>. Updates on the upcoming dam upgrade project will be posted to the Washington Department of Ecology web page at: <https://ecology.wa.gov>.

Osoyoos Lake 2024 Aquatic Weed Survey Plans



Landowners and lake recreationists should be aware that during the last two weeks of June, 2024, AquaTechnex and Lakeland Restoration will be conducting aquatic noxious weed surveys, ahead of planned milfoil treatments in July. The entire lake will be surveyed, including into the mouth of the Okanogan River. These surveys will help identify infestations that need to be treated, and track the progress of control efforts over the last several years. Each year we strive for cleaner and clearer waters that are safer for recreationists on the lake, while also improving habitat for fish and other wildlife that depend on our lake for their survival.

2024 AQUATIC TREATMENT PLANS ON OSOYOOS LAKE

Due to firefighting efforts for the Eagle Bluff Fire last summer, not all of last year's milfoil treatment funds were utilized, nor did all of the areas that were scheduled to be treated receive treatments. The leftover funds and herbicide that were slated for use in 2023 will carry over to cover additional treatments this year. In 2024, the Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board (OCNWCB) will once again contract with Aquatechnex LLC & Lakeland Restoration LLC to control the Milfoil infestations identified during lake surveys in June. Because of the joint border with Canada, and concerns from Canada regarding potential herbicide drift, all milfoil infestations located within ¼ mile of the border will be treated with ProcellaCOR EC, since ProcellaCOR is the only herbicide approved for use in Canadian waters.

The Lake Management District (LMD) would like to again remind all lake residents and recreationists that LMD funds will not be used to control native plants in Osoyoos Lake.

AquaTechnex 2024 Treatments

AquaTechnex will be treating all infestations of Milfoil in U.S. Waters north of Boundary and Champerty Point using **ProcellaCOR EC**. (Treatment areas highlighted in red at right)

- ProcellaCOR is labeled to control various submerged, floating and emerged aquatic weed species. It is primarily used to target Eurasian, Variable Leaf, & Northern Watermilfoil.
- Landowners should be aware that ProcellaCOR will not control many of the other aquatic plant species which may be of concern to them.

Lakeland Restoration 2024 Treatments

Lakeland Restoration will be treating Milfoil infestations located south of Boundary and Champerty with a combination of:

- Aquathol** provides good control for Leafy Pondweeds.
- Diquat dibromide** is fast-acting with a short half-life, it controls Pondweeds and suppresses Algae.
- Hydrothol 191** is a useful product for treating the pondweeds, watermilfoil, and algae common to Osoyoos Lake.
- Flumigard** is a great general nuisance plant herbicide that controls native and invasive plants and algae. (Treatment areas highlighted in orange at right)

