Public Notice

Notification of Aerial and Ground Herbicide Application for the Control of Invasive Phragmites within the Long Point Region

As part of ongoing efforts to control Phragmites, an invasive plant in the Long Point region, the Nature Conservancy of Canada along with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ontario Parks, and Environment and Climate Change Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service, will work with several partners to treat lands at the Long Point Crown Marsh, Long Point Provincial Park, the tip of Long Point, Long Point and Big Creek National Wildlife Areas and private lands within the area. Plants in selected areas will be treated with an herbicide (glyphosate) to control the growth and limit the spread of Phragmites.

Herbicide application will be completed under appropriate weather conditions and has commenced in remote areas of Long Point beginning on August 17th 2020 and will be completed prior to October 31, 2020. Ground treatment of Phragmites in the Long Point Crown Marsh and Long Point Provincial Park is planned to commence on September 8, 2020. Aerial and ground herbicide applications at Long Point and Big Creek National Wildlife Areas is planned to commence in mid September and be completed by mid-October.

The agencies will provide regular updates on proposed treatment dates on the Long Point Phragmites Action Alliance website at www.longpointphragmites.ca. These updates will also be available at the Environment and Climate Change Canada- Canadian Wildlife Service office at Big Creek National Wildlife Area, and Long Point Provincial Park.

As a precautionary measure, during treatment dates, the agencies ask that all residences using a surface water system (for example: directly taking water from the boating channel or inner Long Point Bay) shut down their water system and avoid consumption of the water (drinking, cooking, or for preparative uses such as baby food/infant formula) for a minimum of 48 hours following herbicide application and then flush their systems for at least 20 minutes before consuming again.

Updates including the start and completion of herbicide application and the resumption of using surface water systems will be provided at www.longpointphragmites.ca or by contacting the Project Supervisors below. Bottled water will be available free of charge at Long Point Provincial Park for those who require it. Residents or businesses in need of water may pick it up on Tuesday September 8, 2020 or call 519-586-2133, ext. 223.

PLEASE NOTE: there is NO RESTRICTION on the USE OF WATER for RECREATION OR DOMESTIC PURPOSES (i.e. toilets, showers, etc.) following direct application of the herbicide.

For additional information regarding this project, please contact:

Project Supervisor – Ground Herbicide Application on private lands: Nature Conservancy of Canada, 226-231-8213, or by email at eric.cleland@natureconservancy.ca

Project Supervisor – Ground Herbicide Application on provincial lands:

Long Point Provincial Park, Park Superintendent - Phone: 519-426-7138 ext. 227, or by email at jeffrey.pickersgill@ontario.ca

Long Point Crown Marsh, Resources Management Coordinator - Aylmer District Office, Phone: 548-588-1486, or by email at dave.depuydt@ontario.ca

Project Supervisor – Herbicide Application on National Wildlife Areas: Environment and Climate Change Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service, 416-937-7664, or by email at heather.braun@canada.ca