

To: Mayor and Council
From: Paul Gipps, CAO

Meeting Date: May 20, 2025
Meeting Type: Regular Council Meeting

Prepared by: Philippa Harding, Manager of Corporate Administration
Department: Corporate Services

Title: Wildlife and Vector Attractant Bylaw No. 1280, 2025
Description: To consider a Wildlife and Vector Attractant Bylaw and associated penalties.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Wildlife and Vector Attractant Bylaw No. 1280, 2025 be read a first, second and third time;
AND THAT BNE and MTI Amendment (Wildlife and Vector) Bylaw 1281, 2025 be read a first, second and third time.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

At the July 20, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Council passed a motion directing staff to research and report back on implementing a wildlife and vector bylaw. On January 16, 2024 Council reconfirmed this motion and requested the wildlife and vector information be brought forward to a Strategy Session. Council received a [presentation](#) at the April 16, 2024 Strategy Session.

Staff reviewed and brought forward a number of bylaws from other municipalities that covered a wide variety of topics and options ranging from bees to horses. Also included in the review was the WildSafe BC [“Wildlife Attractant Bylaw Toolkit \(2022\)”](#) which is focused on mitigating bear-human interactions and does not include vectors. These sample bylaws and the toolkit assisted Council in narrowing down the scope of a bylaw for Lake Country. Staff also noted that Kelowna and the Regional District of Central Okanagan have included “managing attractants” in their Solid Waste Bylaw as opposed to a separate wildlife and vector bylaw. This was a recommendation of the Regional Solid Waste Technical Advisory Committee.

The City of Armstrong Wildlife and Vector Bylaw was noted by Council in the 2021 discussion in that it may be an easily transferable bylaw to suit the District’s needs. In the Armstrong bylaw the “Managing Attractants” section is the same as the “Managing Attractants” section in the WildSafe BC Toolkit. Along with the WildSafe BC Managing Attractants, Armstrong also included vectors and an additional section prohibiting fallen fruit from remaining on the ground for more than three days.

During the 2024 strategy session Council reviewed prohibitions in existing District bylaws. This included the Parks Bylaw, Animal & Poultry Bylaw, Solid Waste Bylaw, Highways Bylaw and Nuisance Bylaw. Council determined that the example bylaw best suited for the District of Lake Country needs was the Vancouver Wildlife Feeding Regulation Bylaw.

When adding a regulatory bylaw with the potential of a fine, the District must also amend the Bylaw Notice Enforcement and Municipal Ticket Information Bylaws. This amending bylaw will include new schedules that lay out the penalties for the infractions contained in the Wildlife and Vector Bylaw.

The Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 760 designates the bylaw contraventions that may be dealt with by Bylaw Notice, establishes the amount of the penalty and the period for payment or dispute of the Notice. The bylaw establishes that the District participates in a Bylaw Notice Dispute Adjudication System to resolve disputes in relation to Bylaw Notices and the legislation establishes a maximum penalty amount of \$500. The dispute resolution system is a more cost-effective administrative system for enforcing minor bylaw contraventions.

The Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 753 enables prosecution by the District of minor to medium contraventions of the District bylaws. The bylaw establishes which offences are subject to municipal ticketing, who can issue the ticket and what penalties may be imposed. The current maximum penalty under the *Community Charter Bylaw Enforcement Ticket Regulation* is \$3000 or \$1,000 for young persons. In the case of a continuing offence, the maximum fine may be imposed for each day the offence continues.

In determining fine amounts, staff used comparisons from seven other municipalities. The comparisons included the sample municipalities that Council viewed at the strategy session in 2024. As mentioned, some municipalities have very robust detailed Wildlife and Vector Bylaws while others limited it to one section in their Solid Waste Bylaw. The sample provided a greater scope of penalties to draw from and showed a variety of amounts that are currently being used which enabled staff to determine penalties suitable for the District. A Comparison Table is attached for Council's information.

While the proposed bylaws implement fines and penalties, enforcement of District bylaws is governed by Bylaw Enforcement and Building Compliance Policy 187 that states the primary objective of enforcing bylaws shall be to obtain voluntary compliance through education, information and effective enforcement based on consistency, education and fairness. Enforcement of bylaw contravention is primarily initiated on a complaint basis except as otherwise set out in the policy. Staff do not anticipate any additional enforcement action although the bylaw will provide an opportunity for education and residents, and, where appropriate, penalties can be issued.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

☒ None

COMMUNICATION

Staff will work with the Communications team to provide community information on the new bylaw and associated penalties.

ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. THAT the Wildlife and Vector Attractant Bylaw No. 1280, 2025 be referred back to staff for amendments as identified by Council.

Respectfully Submitted.

Philippa Harding, Manager of Corporate Administration

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Wildlife and Vector Attractant Bylaw No. 1280, 2025.docx
Attachments:	- Fine Comparable Table.pdf - Wildlife and Vector Attractant Bylaw No. 1280, 2025.pdf - BNE and MTI Amendment (Wildlife Vector) Bylaw 1281, 2025.pdf
Final Approval Date:	May 14, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Reyna Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services - May 9, 2025 - 10:00 AM

Greg Price, Manager of Building and Bylaw Services - May 13, 2025 - 12:38 PM

Jeremy Frick, Director of Development Approvals - May 14, 2025 - 8:07 AM

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer - May 14, 2025 - 9:56 AM

Makayla Ablitt, Legislative & FOI Coordinator - May 14, 2025 - 10:55 AM