



STERILE INSECT RELEASE PROGRAM

Agenda No: 6.2  
Mtg Date: FEB. 24/14

## OKANAGAN-KOOTENAY STERILE INSECT RELEASE BOARD

1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, BC V1W 3Z4

Tel: 250-469-6187

Fax: 250-762-7011

Toll Free: 1-800-363-6684

Website: [www.oksir.org](http://www.oksir.org)

Email: [sirinfo@oksir.org](mailto:sirinfo@oksir.org)

### SIR BOARD REPORT:

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 7, 2014

##### SIR Board

###### Voting Members:

**Duane Ophus (Chair)**  
Regional District of  
Central Okanagan

**Allan Patton (Vice)**  
Regional District of  
Okanagan Similkameen

**Colin Basran**  
Regional District of  
Central Okanagan

**Shirley Fowler**  
Regional District of North  
Okanagan

**Debbie Cannon**  
Regional District of  
Columbia Shuswap

**Brian Mennell**  
Grower Rep - Zone 1  
(Organic)

**Amarjit Lalli**  
Grower Rep - Zone 2

**Dave Dobernigg**  
Grower Rep - Zone 3

###### Non-voting Members:

**Kenna MacKenzie**  
Agriculture & Agri-Food  
Canada

**Susanna Acheampong**  
BC Ministry of Agriculture  
and Lands

The next regular  
meeting of the SIR  
Board is scheduled for  
9:00 a.m. on May 9,  
2014 at 1450 KLO Rd.,  
Kelowna, BC

For more information  
visit [www.oksir.org](http://www.oksir.org)

##### **SIR Board Chair and Vice-Chair Elected:**

The SIR Board is pleased to announce that Director Duane Ophus, RDCO (West Kelowna) and Director Allan Patton, RDOS (Electoral Area "C" Rural Oliver) were elected on February 7, 2014 as SIR Board Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. All regional district appointments remain the same as 2013.

##### **SIR Board Financial Plan for 2014:**

The SIR Board gave three readings and adopted *Bylaw No. 29, SIR 2014-2018 Five Year Financial Plan* which outlines the Board's \$3.07 million annual budget. The adoption of this budget confirms that there is **no increase in tax requisition to the Regional Districts for 2014** and the **parcel tax rate remains at \$139.26** per acre of planted codling moth host trees. **There has been no increase in tax requisition since 2010.**

##### **2014 SIR Program Plan:**

The operational plan developed by SIR Staff for the 2014 season is largely status quo. Sterile insect release will be delivered in Zone 1 (Summerland, Osoyoos, and Similkameen), and supplemental sterile releases will also be conducted in Zone 2 (Peachland to Kelowna) in some designated high priority orchards. Dual-lure mating disruption will be used in all Zone 2 and Zone 3 (Lake Country to Salmon Arm) orchards. Results from the 2013 season will be mailed to growers in late February. SIR Staff will continue to request grower spray records, offering to work with growers to improve understanding and potentially reduce costs of codling moth control. The contracted SIR IPM Consultant has been assisting growers that are facing difficulty getting high wild populations down to manageable levels. There is limited assistance to growers for pest management from other sources. It is anticipated that SIR will be contracted on a fee for service basis to assist the BCFGa in conducting a survey for Apple Clearwing moth. It is proposed that SIR would install and collect the traps as well as map the results of the data collected.

##### **Research Coordination Meeting and External Review:**

The Government of Canada has approved the hosting of a Research Coordination Meeting with the Joint Food and Agriculture/International Atomic Energy Agency Division by the SIR Program. The meetings will be held June 2-6, 2014 in Kelowna, BC. Meeting rooms have been reserved and planning discussions will now begin. The Deputy Director General of IAEA Department for Nuclear Science and Application has also approved the SIR Board request for assistance for support to conduct a technical review of our Program with external independent experts attending the RCM. They have agreed to extend the stay of selected RCM participants to be part of the review. The review team will consist of 5-6 external experts that should be able to provide our Program with a wide range of balanced advice. The objectives of the Review will be formalized and circulated to the Board for comment and approval. A technical review will provide valuable information for future strategic direction and discussion with stakeholders.

##### **OKSIR Benefit-Cost Review Project:**

Lee Cartier, a Professor at the Okanagan School of Business, Okanagan College, came to the SIR Board as a researcher with a proposal to conduct a benefit-cost analysis of the area wide SIR codling moth management program to measure its effectiveness using each the sterile insect technique, and the mating disruption technique. The benefit-cost analysis is a standard method for allocating resources, a way to rank alternatives to determine which option is the most efficient, and a way to measure benefits. If the Board chooses to proceed with the Research Proposal, an interim report is expected by May 31, 2014 and a final report by July 31, 2014. A decision is expected by February 14, 2014.

*An environmentally sensitive, community based program to control the codling moth.*