

MILFOIL CONTROL EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
FULL-TIME PERMANENT

Location: Central/South Okanagan, BC (Preference to Summerland, Peachland, West Kelowna or surrounding area)

Application Deadline: Open until filled

Terms: Full time, permanent starting immediately

Information:

The Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) is seeking a highly motivated individual with excellent teamwork skills to fill the position of **Milfoil Control Equipment Operator**, reporting to the Chief Operating Officer. This position involves operating aquatic weed control machines in the summer and winter seasons throughout the Okanagan Valley. In the spring and fall, the employee works as part of the milfoil crew to maintain and repair the equipment, and to plan the operational cycle for the next season. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, safety-conscious and trustworthy, capable of working under minimal supervision in an isolated environment, with excellent references from prior work experience. Mechanical skills and an ability to trouble-shoot are imperative and must be balanced with a willingness to ask for help, and to take direction from others.

Applicants with previous experience operating heavy equipment or working in a marine/aquatic environment will be given first consideration. Experience operating watercraft, including possession of a Pleasure Craft Operating Card is a requirement. Knowledge of GPS systems and an ability to read maps will be considered an asset.

This position involves working in an isolated environment, conducting repetitive tasks for extended shifts (up to 8 hours). The successful candidate must be able to maintain mental alertness and follow safety procedures identifying and avoiding hazards in the water, and other lake users. The work schedule is based on 40 hours per week and offers some flexibility during the summer months to work a four-on, three-off schedule with 10-hour shifts on an averaging agreement. Except for emergencies, the work schedule does not include overtime.

This position starts at \$33.50 per hour and comes with an attractive benefits package after a probation period, including paid vacation, sick time, life and disability insurance, and a defined benefit pension plan. The OBWB is a local government agency, and we have been managing Okanagan milfoil for more than fifty years. We are looking for a long-term, consistent and reliable full-time employee. For the full job description see below.

Please submit your resume and covering letter to: james.littley@obwb.ca with “**Application for Milfoil Control Position**” in the subject line. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

Additional information about the OBWB milfoil program may be obtained from our website, www.obwb.ca/milfoil

OBWB Job Description



Position Title: Milfoil Control Equipment Operator	Division: Eurasian Watermilfoil Control
Reports To: Chief Operating Officer	Date: June 03, 2026

Job Purpose/Summary:

The Milfoil Control Equipment Operator is responsible for the safe, environmentally responsible, and efficient operation of the milfoil control program. The operator must be trustworthy, accountable and reliable, working alone or with others, under minimal supervision.

Principal Accountabilities:

1. Operate, in accordance with environmental and health and safety regulations and OBWB procedures, the milfoil harvesting machine, rototiller, and shallow water cultivator. Work alone on equipment under a variety of extreme weather conditions in isolated environments.
2. Operate the crane to load and unload machines between the lakes and the trailer.
3. Perform preventative maintenance and repairs, modify and inspect machines and vehicles as required.
4. Troubleshoot machines and equipment while on site and make necessary adjustments. Advise Field Supervisor of necessary changes and equipment performance.
5. Follow call-in procedure while working alone.
6. Assist as needed with public outreach, media inquiries and complaints.
7. Assist Milfoil Supervisor and office staff with:
 - Field and site surveys as required
 - Maintaining work logs and shop-related paperwork
 - Obtaining permits and inspection certifications for machinery, vehicles, and operations.
8. Must be self-motivated and reliable without daily supervision. Adhere to work hours, maintenance, record keeping, and safety.
9. Other Duties as required.

Reporting Relationships:

Direct Reports: none

Dimensions: (Annual/approximate)

of FTE: 1
Employees/Dept: 3.5

Knowledge, Skills & Experience

Required Education and Training:

- Valid BC Class 5 Driver's Licence
- Pleasure Craft Operator Card
- Minimum Grade 12
- WHMIS (preferred)
- Level 1 First Aid (preferred)

Desired Skills and Qualifications:

- Training in/knowledge of hydraulics systems
- Training in/knowledge of electrical systems
- Training in/knowledge of heavy-duty mechanics
- Welding
- Crane operator's certificate
- Class 1 or Class 3 with Air Brake Endorsement considered an asset

Working Conditions:

Physical Effort: Considerable physical effort required for mechanical work and machine repair; physical strain from sitting in one place for lengthy periods of time.

Physical Environment: Occasional exposure to extreme physical environment conditions while operating machines, with exposure to heat and cold temperature extremes for extended periods of time generally in a solitary, isolated environment.

Mental Stress: Moderate mental stress possible during periods of isolation while operating machinery; occasional need for quick decisions and emergency response.

Sensory Attention: Moderate levels of sensory attention required to ensure safe and effective operations of machinery; precision and accuracy required during machine repairs and maintenance.