

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN  
BOARD POLICY**

**POLICY:** Abandoned Vehicles

**AUTHORITY:** Board Resolution dated January 21, 2021.

**POLICY STATEMENT**

The Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen will refer complaints about vehicles which have been abandoned on Crown Land, Forest Service Roads, Highways, Trails or Road Rights-of-Way to the authority having jurisdiction.

**PURPOSE**

To clarify the process when calls for service are received by staff or elected officials with respect to abandoned vehicles.

**DEFINITIONS**

*“Derelict Vehicle”* includes a vehicle, except a farm vehicle, that is not displaying a current licence, pursuant to Provincial regulations, and which is not enclosed within a garage or carport;

*“Highway”* includes a street, road, lane, bridge, viaduct or any other way open to public use other than a private right-of-way on private property;

**PROCEDURES**

Determine whether the vehicle is located on private property, Crown Land, Forest Service Road, Highway, Road-right-of-way, Trail or Reserve and process as follows:

Vehicles located on private property:

- Enforcement through Land Use Zoning Bylaws or Untidy and Unsightly Premises Bylaw – enquiries and complaints to be referred to Bylaw Enforcement Services.

Vehicles located on crown land or forest service road:

- If the vehicle has a license plate or Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) the complainant will be referred to the RCMP non-emergency line.
- If the vehicle is on crown land or a forest service road without a VIN or license plate the complainant will be referred to the Province of British Columbia through the RAPP line (Report All Poachers and Polluters) (1-877-952-7277) or the BC Wildlife Federation.

RAPP - The complaint would be under the “Dumping” category which includes illegal dumping of construction debris, industrial/business waste, waste oil and other chemicals, household garbage, sewage, vehicles, furniture, appliances, electronics, batteries or paints.

BC Wildlife Federation – the complaint would be in reference to blocking public access including blocking access to a public road by a vehicle.

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Vehicles located on a highway or road-right-of-way:

The handling of vehicle abandonments under the *Highway Scenic Improvement Act* typically involves co-operation between the RCMP, MoTI and a towing company.

## Process for Dealing with Abandoned Vehicles -- Highway Scenic Improvement Act --

