

Reclamation Manual

Directives and Standards

Subject:	Public Notification of Aerial Applications of Pesticides on Lands Managed Directly by the Bureau of Reclamation
Purpose:	To provide requirements for Reclamation personnel involved in aerial applications of pesticides to lands managed directly by Reclamation. The benefit of this Directive and Standard (D&S) is to provide requirements necessary to fulfill Reclamation's responsibility to notify the public when there is going to be an aerial application of pesticides.
Authority:	Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934, as amended; Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) of 1947, as amended; Carlson-Foley Act of 1968, as amended; Executive Order (EO) 13112, EO 13751, 517 Departmental Manual (DM)1, 524 DM 1, Reclamation Manual (RM) Delegations of Authority, Paragraph 4.F.(5).
Approving Official:	Director, Mission Assurance and Protection Organization (MAPO)
Contact:	Environmental Compliance Division (84-53000)

1. **Introduction.** When implementing Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Reclamation has the responsibility to ensure aerial applications of pesticides on lands under its direct management are conducted in a manner that takes into consideration: environmental impacts, public health and safety concerns, contractual obligations, and liability issues. When aerial applications occur on lands managed directly by Reclamation, appropriate public notification is required.
2. **Applicability.** This D&S applies to all Reclamation personnel who work on IPM and invasive species issues on lands managed directly by Reclamation. These include acquired, withdrawn, and easements for which Reclamation has not entered into a specific agreement or contract.
3. **Scale of Public Notification.**
 - A. When aerial applications of pesticides are to occur on lands managed directly by Reclamation, the appropriate level of public notification prior to the pesticide treatment will take place.
 - B. The level and complexity of public notification will be determined by and coordinated through the area office, the regional IPM/invasive species coordinator and the appropriate Reclamation public affairs representative.
 - C. The types of notification shall take into consideration the level of public use projected to occur on the areas to be treated. Selection of application dates will be considered to

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minimize impacts to the public while maximizing the efficacy of the pesticide application.

- (1) *For example:* If there is potential for public exposure to pesticides during the application, public announcements to the appropriate media services and/or signage of the area prior to treatment would be necessary to provide adequate public safety.
- (2) In contrast, where the potential for public exposure to pesticides is unlikely- public notification might consist of simple information signs on field gates or fence lines.

4. Approval of Public Notification of Aerial Pesticide Application.

- A. The scope and scale of the aerial pesticide application as well as the plan of notification will be documented in the IPM Plan, see RM D&S ENV 01-01.
- B. If the IPM Plan does not list aerial application for the specified pesticide or it does not describe the notification plan for the aerial application of the pesticide, this information will be documented on a completed Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) Form No. 7-2680 (04-2020) (see also RM D&S ENV 01-01).
- C. IPM Plans and PUPs are approved by the regional director or the appropriate delegated signatory per Paragraph 4.F.(5) of the RM Delegations of Authority.
- D. If an IPM Plan has not been completed for the area where the aerial application is to take place, the treatment cannot go forward until an IPM plan is in place.

5. Definitions.

- A. **Aerial Application of Pesticides.** Application of pesticides specific to aircraft application.
- B. **Aircraft.** A device that is used, or intended to be used, for flight in the air.
- C. **Integrated Pest Management.** A sustainable approach to managing pests by combining prevention, biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks. Examples of tools listed in the IPM definition include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (1) prevention tools - education, using a weed barrier, planning;
 - (2) biological tools - predators, parasites, and pathogens;
 - (3) cultural tools - crop rotation, alterations in planting dates, and sanitation;

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- (4) physical tools - barriers, traps, hand-pulling, hoeing, mowing, and tilling;
- (5) chemical tools - pesticides, such as herbicides, insecticides, or fungicides.

D. Pesticide. FIFRA Section 2(u) defines a “pesticide” as:

- (1) Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- (2) Any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.
- (3) Any nitrogen stabilizer.

6. Review Period. The originating office will review this release every 4 years.

RECLAMATION MANUAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Effective Date: _____

Release No. _____

Ensure all employees needing this information are provided a copy of this release.

Reclamation Manual Release Number and Subject

Summary of Changes

NOTE: This Reclamation Manual release applies to all Reclamation employees. When an exclusive bargaining unit exists, changes to this release may be subject to the provisions of collective bargaining agreements.

Filing instructions

Remove Sheets

Insert Sheets

All Reclamation Manual releases are available at <http://www.usbr.gov/recman/>

Filed by: _____

Date: _____