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| | Title: PESTICIDE USE | Date Approved: October 26, 1999 | |

A. AUTHORIZATION/REFERENCE

THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, ACT 451 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1994, BEING SECTIONS 324.101 TO 324.90106 OF THE MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS ANNOTATED:
PART 5 GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES - MCLA 324.501 TO 324.511
PART 501 FOREST IMPROVEMENTS - MCLA 324.50101 TO 324.50166
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION POLICY NO. 2207 AND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PROCEDURE NO. 2207.7
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION POLICY NO. 2701
RELATED FOREST MANAGEMENT DIVISION POLICY AND PROCEDURES NO. 241, NO. 242 AND NO. 243

B. POLICY

It is the policy of the Forest Management Division to consider pesticides as a management tool for protecting and enhancing the health of Michigan's forest resource. Pesticides will be used in conformance with Department Policy 4603, the 1992 EPA Agricultural Worker Protection Standards (Code Of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 170) and the Michigan Department Of Agriculture, Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division Regulation 636 for Pesticide Applicators. Safety precautions are employed to protect human health, and the environment with special attention to the quality of surface and subsurface water. Biological pesticides are selected if available, economic and effective.

C. EXPLANATION

The term "pesticide" includes but is not limited to insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, and acaricides.

Traditional pesticide uses on state lands include rights-of-way maintenance, site preparation for planting, release of crop trees, control of insects and diseases, and the care and maintenance of tree nurseries and tree improvement centers.

Pesticides often offer the only alternative for protecting or enhancing threatened forest and forest use values. Public concern over the safe, responsible use of pesticides dictates a well documented prescriptive and post-spray evaluative effort demonstrating safety precautions, non-target impacts, resource protection needs, and spray effectiveness.

D. PROCEDURE

Forest Management Division use of pesticides falls under three categories:

1. Research: This category includes all pilot tests and research applications.

2. Right-of-way Maintenance: See Commission Policy 4605 Easements - Part 9 - Right-of-way maintenance. Procedures for this category of application can be found in the Division Policy on Easements.

3. Operational Use: This category includes the majority of the Division use of pesticides for the management of forest, wildlife, and recreational resources. The operational use of pesticides shall be carried out according to the following procedures:

   a. Prescription

All prescriptions for pesticide use are site specific. Forest Treatment Proposals (R-4048) for pesticide applications are generated by the Forest Management Unit or Timber Management Specialist (TMS) except for State Nursery and Tree Improvement Center applications.

Survey information and field observations determine the need for pesticide use. The compartment review process and the timber management program reviews and approves treatment alternatives.

When an approved Forest Treatment Proposal (R-4048) requiring a pesticide application, the TMS completes a Pesticide Application Plan (R-4029). The Pesticide Application Plan (PAP) is attached to the Forest Treatment Proposal (FTP).

Special environmental, natural and wilderness areas will require additional review. Sites are cross-referenced with the Department GIS data. Pesticide Use May Or May Not Be Prohibited if a site is identified as a special management or an environmentally sensitive area. If approved, special restrictions may be placed on the type of pesticides or application methods used.

b. Application and Evaluation

Pesticide applications are accomplished with either Division resources or contracts with private applicators. The most cost effective and environmentally acceptable application method is selected. The availability of Division resources and/or private contractors may influence selection.

Upon completion of a pesticide application, a Forest Treatment Completion form (R-4048-1) and an attached Pesticide Use Evaluation Report (R-4029-1) is completed by the TMS. For herbicide applications Section 8 of the Pesticide Use Evaluation Report (PUER) is completed during the growing season following treatment.

Pesticide use at nurseries and tree improvement centers does not require use of FTP, Forest Treatment Completion forms (R-4048-1), nor the PAP OR PUER forms. Records at these locations are kept in accordance with the 1992 worker protection standards for agricultural pesticides.

c. Certification of Applicators

All state personnel directly involved in the application of pesticides will be certified as pesticide applicators by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Pesticide and Plant Management Division.

d. Storage, Transportation and Disposal of Pesticides

The long-term storage of pesticides is discouraged. Only pesticides needed for the current or next fiscal year will be purchased. The storage and transportation of pesticides shall meet all state and federal guidelines, as indicated on the label. Disposal of unused pesticides is discouraged. All rinsate and residue should be applied on site. If necessary, unused pesticide must be disposed of in a manner consistent with labeling.

e. Public Information and Involvement

The need for public information and involvement is best determined at the local level. Forest Management Units and a TMS will jointly evaluate the need and approaches for public interaction. Labeling contains all information necessary to satisfy right-to-know considerations.

f. Need for public notification:

(1) Applying pesticides on state-owned lands. The need for public notification is determined at the Forest Management Unit and reviewed by the Forest Supervisor. Need is evaluated within each of the following categories:

(a) Public risk. The possibility of adverse exposure to a pesticide.
(b) Public concern. Perceived problems relating to the use and/or exposure to pesticides.
(c) Public relations and education. Used to inform the public of decision criteria and decision-making processes involved; and to involve the public in the decision-making process if appropriate.

If need for public notification is established, notification will consist of one or all of the following:

Signing. Signs (See Figure 1) should include the following information: Re-entry information, pesticide used, date of application, and phone/address of Forest Management Unit. Signs will be posted at time of application and removed at the end of the field season.
News media Used primarily for broad scale aerial applications, and where applications are highly visible.
Personal contacts. Where individuals, organizations or situations warrant extra efforts involved.

(2) Spraying of state-owned rights-of-way. The same procedure as described above applies to rights-of-way herbicide spraying. Sign placement is the responsibility of the lessee. Signs will be provided using the following procedures:

(a) A DNR forester will review the proposed herbicide sites with a representative of the applying company to determine the number and placement of signs. Signs will be provided by the DNR For placement by the applying company.

(b) The following rules will govern sign placement:

1) A permanent-marking pen will be used to complete all signs.

2) The applying company will fill in all information as described under Signing above.

3) All access points to rights-of-way will be signed. It is not necessary to sign at places other than access points where rights-of-ways parallels travel routes.

4) If signs are nailed to trees, aluminum nails will be used, and all nails will be removed with the sign.

**Figure 1. Sign**

NOTICE
This Area was Treated
With_____

On_____

Instructions:
_____

For Information Contact:
_____

Forest Management Division

HISTORICAL NOTES:

1. (DATE UNKNOWN) ORIGINAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES NO. 592-1 THROUGH 592-7 ADOPTED.
2. APRIL, 1994 POLICY AND PROCEDURES NUMBER CHANGED TO NO. 592.
3. OCTOBER 26, 1999, POLICY AND PROCEDURES NO. 592 REVISED TO REFLECT CURRENT STATUTES, POLICIES AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.