

IPM Notes

WASO Uses Databases To Keep Parks Posted On Label Changes

By Christine Cassidy

Since 1980, the National Park Service has had a commitment to Integrated Pest Management (IPM). From the start it has been the NPS goal to use the most environmentally acceptable pesticide available when one is needed. The Washington Office is responsible for keeping the parks and the regions informed of the latest laws, regulations, and IPM techniques. This office also reviews pesticide use requests and recommends the most environmentally acceptable pesticides for a particular project.

To assist with management of this program, we developed the Pesticide Use Tracking System (PUTS) in 1983, using dBase III on an IBM personal computer. Stored in this database is pertinent information taken from the pesticide use proposals (10-21A forms) and the yearly pesticide use logs that the individual parks submit. With information from this database, we have tracked pesticide use trends in the Service by pesticide

type, active ingredient, management zone, and other topics.

Last fall, an opportunity to test the capabilities of PUTS and the NPS's COMMON database occurred. The Environmental Protection Agency proposed adding language to pesticide labels to protect threatened and endangered (T&E) species. This label change would affect NPS pest management in some parks where certain pesticides are proposed for use on range, forestry, larval mosquito breeding, or agricultural sites, called cluster groups by the EPA (See Tables 1 and 2). In such cases the parks either must contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) or the state fish and wildlife agency or it must consult range maps produced by either the FWS or state fish and wildlife service before certain chemicals can be used. If the FWS, state fish and wildlife agency, or the range maps indicate that the site where the proposed pesticide is intended to be used is in the range of a T&E species, the park must select another pesticide. As part of our responsibility to keep the regions and parks informed of label changes, we had to find a way to notify regions and parks that could be affected by these proposed label changes.

In the past, we would have had to search through the approximately 1,200 10-21As that are submitted each year and to have the parks and regions search their files. This task would have taken literally months to complete.

Table 1. An Example of Part of a Cluster Group Where Proposed Use of a Specific Pesticide in Specific States and Counties Requires Contacting the FWS or State Fish and Wildlife Agency.

Endangered Species Labeling for Mosquito Larvicides Containing One or More of the Following Active Ingredients:*

Methoprene

Methoxychlor

Pyrethrins

Contact FWS Field Offices at the following numbers:

District of Columbia (Annapolis, MD, 301-269-5448)

Rock Creek Park

Florida (Jacksonville, Florida, 904-791-2580)

Broward, Dade, Glades, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, and Walton

Georgia (Jacksonville, Florida, 904-791-2580)

Caloosa

*United States Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460, *PR Notice 87-4 Notice to Manufacturers, Formulators and Registrants of Pesticides*, May 1, 1987.

Table 2. An Example of Part of a Cluster Group Where Proposed Use of a Pesticide in Specific States and Counties Requires Consultation with T&E Species Range Maps.

Endangered Species Labeling for Range and Pastureland Uses Containing One or More of the Following Active Ingredients:*

Ammonium Sulfamate

Atrazine

Clopyralid

2,4-D

2,4-D (salts and esters)

2,4-DP

Dicamba

Dimethylamine Dicamba

Hexazinone

Minnesota

Cottonwood, Goodhue, Jackson and Renville

Missouri

Christian, Dade and Greene

Nebraska

Cherry, Garden, and Hooker

MCPA, acid

MCPA (salts and amines)

Picloram

Potassium Picloram

Sodium Dicamba

Tebuthiuron

Triethylene Picloram

Triethylene Picloram

*United States Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460, *PR Notice 87-5 Notice to Manufacturers, Formulators and Registrants of Pesticides*, May 1, 1987.

but with the aid of PUTS and COMMON this task took a little over two weeks to complete and required only one person.

To carry out this task, we searched the two most recent years of PUTS data, 1986 and 1987, for the pesticides listed in the four cluster groups and generated a list of NPS projects that had used pesticides listed in the individual cluster groups. The cluster groups, in addition to listing the pesticides that could affect T&E species, also list the states and counties where use of these chemicals could affect T&E species. Our next step, therefore, was to use COMMON to generate a list of all the parks by state and county. The list of projects using

affected pesticides then was compared against the park, state, and county list generated by COMMON and against the pesticide, state and county list for each cluster group. This comparison resulted in a list of parks which, during 1986 and 1987, used chemicals listed in the cluster group developed by EPA (See Table 3). Should the EPA labeling proposal be adopted, if these parks propose to use these pesticides, they would have to contact the FWS, or the state fish and wildlife agency, or consult T&E species range maps. For example, Great Smoky Mountains NP which used glyphosate in Haywood County, NC, would have to contact the USFWS before using that chemical in the future.

Table 3. Pesticide Use Projects Which May Be Affected By The EPA Endangered Species Pesticide Labeling Program (12/14/87)

EPA Cluster Group - Range					
Region	Park	Active Ingredients	State	Counties Affected	Park Project Numbers
MW	Wilson's Creek NB	2,4-D	MO	Christian, Greene	87-011/87-015
MW	Wilson's Creek NB	Ammonium Sulfamate	MO	Christian, Greene	86-003
PN	Nez Perce NHP	2,4-D	ID	Idaho	87-001
PN	Nez Perce NHP	MCPA	ID	Idaho	87-004
RM	Curecanti NRA	2,4-D	CO	Montrose	86-002
RM	Pipe Spring NM	Ammonium Sulfamate	AZ	Mohave	86-002/87-002
SE	Stones River NB	Ammonium Sulfamate	TN	Rutherford	86-004
SW	White Sands NM	Picloram/2,4-D	NM	Dona Ana, Otero	86-001
WE	Hawaii Volcanoes NP	Picloram/2,4-D	HI	Hawaii	86-024/86-033 86-035/86-038
EPA Cluster Group - Agricultural					
SE	Natchez Trace PKWY	Atrazine	AL	Colbert, Lauderdale	87-011/87-024
			MS	Clairborne, Hinds, Itawamba	
			TN	Hickman, Lawrence, Maury, Wayne	
		Methomyl	AL	Colbert, Lauderdale	87-018
			MS	Itawamba	
			TN	Hickman, Maury, Wayne	
		Parathion	AL	Colbert, Lauderdale	87-016/87-017
			MS	Itawamba	
			TN	Hickman, Maury, Wayne	
		Trifluralin	AL	Lauderdale	87-014
			MS	Itawamba	
			TN	Hickman, Maury, Wayne	
SE	Shiloh NMP	Carbaryl	TN	Hardin	86-013/86-014 86-018
		Fenvalerate	TN	Hardin	87-012
		Malathion	TN	Hardin	86-011
EPA Cluster Group - Forestry					
MA	Colonial NHP	Glyphosate	VA	James City	87-013
MA	Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania NMP	Ammonium Sulfamate	VA	Caroline	87-001
RM	Canyonlands NP	Glyphosate	UT	Wayne	87-004
RM	Rocky Mountain NP	Carbaryl	CO	Boulder	86-001/87-004
SE	Andersonville NHS	Glyphosate	GA	Sumpter	86-004/87-004
SE	Blue Ridge PKWY	Glyphosate	NC	Avery, Burke, Mitchell, Haywood, Henderson	86-002/86-004
SE	Chickamauga and Chattanooga NMP	Glyphosate	GA	Walker	87-001/87-003
SE	Great Smoky Mountains NP	Ammonium Sulfamate	NC	Haywood	87-001
SE	Great Smoky Mountains NP	Glyphosate	NC	Haywood	86-006/86-011 87-018/87-022
SE	Russell Cave NM	Glyphosate	AL	Jackson	86-001/87-001
EPA Cluster Group - Mosquito Larvae					
SE	Everglades NP	Methoprene	FL	Dade	86-008

Results from our search of the 1986 and 1987 pesticide use data indicate that 7 regions and 19 parks might be affected by the proposed label change. Specifically, in the range cluster group 6 regions and 7 parks are affected, in the agricultural cluster group 1 region and 2 parks are affected, in the forestry cluster group 3 regions and 9 parks are affected. In the mosquito larvicide cluster group only 1 park is affected.

The EPA's endangered species labeling program was originally scheduled to become effective in February, 1988, but implementation has been delayed until after Sept. 15, 1988. EPA plans to start enforcing the label requirements during the 1989 growing season. Implementation has been delayed because, for some parts of this program, additional development and more comments from the public, other government agencies, and the states are needed. However, because we do not anticipate that these refinements will significantly alter the results shown in Table 3, we are developing NPS guidance recommendations to respond to the proposed label changes.

This project is one example of the many ways in which the Washington office can use PUTS and COMMON to keep the parks and regions informed of changes in IPM and pesticide use practices. Eventually, the EPA plans to have a total of 12 cluster groups in the T&E species labeling program, and we expect to be able to use COMMON and PUTS to inform the potentially affected parks and regions of the additional pesticide use constraints as each new cluster group is introduced by the EPA.

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