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| | Directive No. 2013-02 | Date May 2013 |
| Subject | Pesticide, Bark Beetle Pheromone and Biological Control Use Guidelines for Forest Pest Management | |
| Purpose | To guide the application and approval process for companies, researchers and/or individuals proposing the use of pesticides, bark beetle pheromones or biological control agents for the purpose of forest pest management on public land managed by Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD). | |
| Policy | <p>In accordance with Section 11 of the <i>Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides</i>, forest management pesticide use is regulated:</p> <p><i>11(2) A project proposal must be submitted to Alberta Sustainable Resource Development for any proposed application of pesticides in a forest.</i></p> <p><i>11(2)a A project proposal and written authorization from Alberta Sustainable Resource Development is not required for the control of noxious weeds in accordance with the Weed Control Act.</i></p> <p><i>11(2)c Proposals for insecticide and fungicide use must be in accordance with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development's policies and guidelines.</i></p> <p><i>11(3) The application of pesticides in a forest is restricted to the location, target area, pesticide, pesticide application method, pesticide application rate, and application time authorized in writing by a designated employee of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.</i></p> <p>For the purpose of this directive the above sections of the <i>Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides</i> are interpreted as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) In addition to pesticides (section 11(2)), insecticides and fungicides (section 11(2)c), written authorization is required for the use of:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ bark beetle pheromones; and➤ biological control agents (including agents to control <i>Noxious</i> and <i>Prohibited Noxious</i> weeds).2) Regarding section 11(2)a, authorization to control <i>Noxious</i> and <i>Prohibited Noxious</i> weeds with herbicides is not required. Authorization to control <i>Noxious</i> and <i>Prohibited Noxious</i> weeds with a biological control agent is required. For authorization to control other vegetation with herbicides for silviculture see the ESRD Forest Mgmt. Herbicide Reference Manual. <p>Written authorization is required for the use of products regulated by this directive for the purpose of forest pest management on any public land managed by ESRD.</p> | |

All pesticide products must be federally registered:

Alberta may not authorize the use of a product that has not been approved under the Federal *Pest Control Product Act* (PCPA), and may not relieve the user of the obligation to comply with conditions, directions and limitations imposed under the PCPA. As such, ESRD will not authorize the use of untested and/or unregistered forest pest control mechanisms or accept any chemical related project proposals without first receiving adequate documentation that proves the product has successfully retained full registration from the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA).

Procedure

1. Consultation

Prior to submitting a proposal, the company/individual should consult with the local ESRD Forest Health Officer or other pest management specialist for advice on pest management strategies and proposal development.

2. Proposal Contents

Based on the pest management categories listed below, the following components should be addressed in proposals.

Bark Beetle Pheromone

1. Objective(s) and justification;
2. Target pest species, proposed pheromone name, chemical component, lure type and pest control product number;
3. Procedures (setup, removal, disposal, timing, sanitation/control action, and data collection);
4. Detailed description of pheromone locations that includes legal location and GPS LAT/LONG coordinates – include maps with access, and forest cover types; and
5. Rationale and information used for selecting the pheromone placement locations.

Biological Control

1. Objective(s);
2. PMRA registration number of biological control agent
3. Target pest species and proposed biological control;
4. Justification – economic/environmental/social impacts of treating vs. not treating (may include pest population survey results);
5. Release protocol – method and timing;
6. Detailed description of release areas including maps with pest populations and release locations, both legal location and GPS LAT/LONG coordinates;
7. Rationale and information used for release area selection;
8. Efficacy monitoring procedures;
9. Adjacent landowner or occupant concerns; and
10. Public notification.

Pesticide

1. Objective(s);
2. Target pest species, proposed product, active ingredient, trade name and pest control product number;
3. Application method;
4. Justification – economic/environmental/social, impacts of treating vs. not treating;
5. Detailed description of treatment area - include maps showing treatment blocks/locations, forest cover types, environmentally sensitive and protected areas, open bodies of water and watercourses (within 1.6 km for ground application and within 10 km for aerial application). Must include legal location and GPS LAT/LONG coordinates.
6. Rationale for treatment area selection – include pest population survey results and other information used for prioritization;
7. Treatment details: Application rates (active ingredient in the product), type of equipment, mixing and loading site(s), and water source(s);
8. Applicator(s) – name of potential or selected company/individual, pesticide service registration number and applicator certificate number(s), and verification of insurance;
9. Operational and logistic details – proposed dates of application, manpower, equipment and operations base, and the name and location of airport in the case of aerial application;
10. Efficacy monitoring procedures;
11. Safety plan – including emergency response procedures and equipment for spills and other accidents;
12. Environmental impact assessment and impact monitoring procedures (if requested);
13. Adjacent landowner or occupant concerns and notification.
14. Public notification;
15. For proposed aerial pesticide applications, consultation with ESRD prior to submission is essential. Applicants should also refer to aerial application procedures/standards/guidelines in the ESRD Spruce Budworm Management Guide, Volume 1A. For additional aerial application information refer to the ESRD Forest Management Herbicide Reference Manual.

3. Submission and Approval

Proposals are to be submitted to the Senior Manager, Forest Health Section. The Forest Health Manager will consult with the Forest Health Officer for the land in which the pest management activity is planned. The Senior Manager, Forest Health Section is delegated the authority to provide written authorization to the applicant where appropriate.

ESRD will provide feedback or written authorization to the applicant within 3 months of receiving a proposal. The authorization should specify details such as the approved treatment area, product/agent, application/introduction method, rate, and timing.

The proposal will not be approved if:

- the application has not been completed in full
- the pest management product or methods are not in accordance with the *Pest Control Products Act* (Federal) and the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* (Provincial) and their associated Regulations and Codes of Practice; and
- the environmental, social and/or economic impacts of the pest management activity are greater than the impacts of the pest.

The applicant may be requested to consult the general public and/or stakeholders prior to the approval of an aerial application proposal.

4. FRIAA Mountain Pine Beetle Projects

Pesticide, pheromone, and /or biological control agent use associated with project submissions to the Forest Resources Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) Program should be approved by ESRD prior to the submission of MPB project proposals to FRIAA. Approval of the MPB project proposal by FRIAA does not imply approval by ESRD for the use of pesticides, pheromones or biological control agents regulated by this directive. If prior written approval is not gained by ESRD prior to submitting a MPB project proposal to FRIAA, written approval must be gained prior to commencing the pest management activity.

Definitions

Bark Beetle Pheromone – natural or synthesized biochemical substance produced to influence the behaviour or physiological response of organisms of any given bark beetle species in the genus *Dendroctonus*.

Biological Control Agent – any live enemy of a pest deliberately introduced as a means for directly or indirectly controlling, preventing, destroying or mitigating the pest.

Forest Pest Management – conduct of activities to protect forest resources and products from unacceptable damage or loss due to activities of any insect, fungus, bacterial organism, or virus.

Noxious and Prohibited Noxious Weeds – plants listed in schedule 1 of the *Weed Control Act – Weed Regulation*.

Pesticide – any product, device, organism, substance or thing that is manufactured, represented, sold or used as a means for directly or indirectly controlling, preventing, destroying, mitigating, attracting or repelling any pest.

Public Land – land of the Crown in right of Alberta.

Authorities

Forests Act, Section 10 - Forest Growth
Forests Act, Forest Management Agreement - Forest Protection

**Cross-
Reference**

ESRD, Forest Management Herbicide Reference Manual
Forest Management Policy Directive 2013-03 – Forest Pest Management
Product Development Guidelines
Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticide
Pesticide (Ministerial) Regulation
Pesticide Sales, Handling, Use and Application Regulation
Weed Control Act
Weed Regulation
Pest Control Products Act (Federal)

Contacts

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Approved



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