

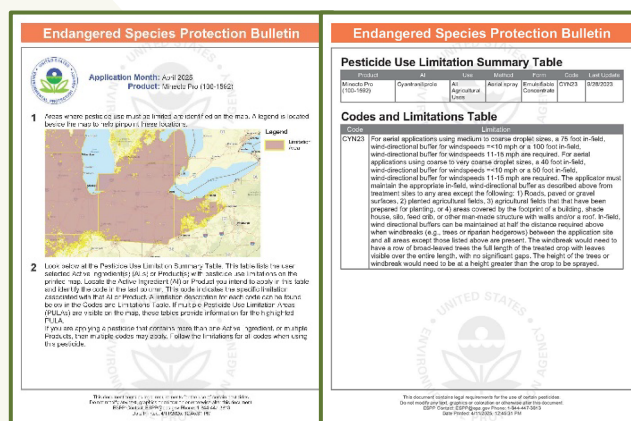
# TRACK: Best Management Practices for Navigating the ESA Process for Pesticides

## TAKE A LOOK AT THE LABEL AND FOLLOW IT - IT'S THE LAW

- Follow all mandatory label language outlining mitigations related to spray drift management and runoff management.
- Determine if the label has specific requirements for endangered and threatened species protections outlined in the Directions for Use Section or in the Endangered and Threatened Species Protection Requirements Section.

## REVIEW BULLETINS LIVE! TWO (BLT) - UP TO 6 MONTHS BEFORE APPLICATION

- If the label contains an endangered species section directing the applicator to BLT, the applicator must proceed to the following website: <https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/bulletins-live-two-view-bulletins>.
- The applicator needs to enter the field location, application month, and the product's EPA registration number.
- If the application site is in a Pesticide Use Limitation Area (PULA), the applicator must follow the use restrictions outlined in the bulletin as these may be more restrictive than the standard label.
- It is good practice to print the bulletin **whether the application site is within a PULA or not**. Record keeping will demonstrate compliance with the label in the case of an audit and mitigation record keeping will earn one relief point for runoff mitigations.



*For example, Minecto Pro in Michigan - If a PULA is found at your location, it is necessary to follow the additional requirement steps listed for aerial applications.*

## ASSESS REQUIRED RUNOFF MITIGATION POINTS/CREDITS

- If points are required, the label will specify the number of mitigation points needed to use the product.
- The applicator must ensure that the mitigation practices for each field and crop meet the necessary point requirements.
- The applicator must visit the EPA's Mitigation Menu Website (<https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/mitigation-menu>) and access either the runoff points calculator or a mobile-friendly web application (EPA's PALM tool, <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/pesticide-app-label-mitigations>) to determine if the field meets the mitigation points required.
- The website will contain information on the points associated with various practices as well as relief points based on geography or field characteristics.
- If the field does not already meet the point requirements, the applicator must decide what other mitigations to use to achieve the necessary points.

## CONFIRM SPRAY DRIFT BUFFER DISTANCE

- The label will specify the downwind buffer required for the use of the product.
- Buffer distances may be decreased by various practices such as nozzle selection, boom height, wind speed, etc.
- The label will list various options for potentially reducing the buffer distance.

## KEEP A RECORD OF THE PROCESS

- Keep detailed records of pesticide applications, PULA bulletins, mitigation measures, and compliance steps.
- This documentation can help demonstrate adherence to ESA requirements and protect against potential regulatory challenges.