# JOB HAZARD ASSESSMENT

United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
**Activity:** Invasive Species: Invasive plant control with Herbicides

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**
- Electrical
- Eye/face
- Foot
- Hand
- Leg
- Body/other

**QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, OR TRAINING REQUIRED:**
Staff and volunteers mixing or applying herbicides must understand the MSDS and comply with the label for the herbicide product to be applied. All applicators will be trained to properly apply pesticides. Training will be accomplished through an EPA approved certification program or the duty station comprehensive hazard communication program. Restricted Use herbicides require that a Licensed Applicator be directly involved in the application. An approved FWS Pesticide Use Proposal is required for all applications, and the label and MSDS must be on file.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BASIC JOB STEPS</th>
<th>HAZARDS</th>
<th>SAFE JOB PROCEDURE</th>
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<td>Break down work to basic elements (such as remove, lift, carry, stop, start, apply, return, squeeze, cut, weld, saw, hold grind, place, etc.). Describe what is done—not how it is done.</td>
<td>For each job step, state what accident could occur and/or what hazard is present. To determine this, ask yourself, Can this person fall; overexert; be exposed to burns, fumes, rays, gas, etc.; hit against, be struck by; come in contact with; be caught in, on, or between?</td>
<td>State how each element of work should be performed to prevent the accident or avoid the hazard. What should the person do or not do? Be specific. What precautions should be taken? Ask yourself, What can I do to eliminate, modify, guard, identify, or protect against the potential hazard or accident, including such things as how worker stands, holds, uses, carries, dresses, etc?</td>
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1) Herbicide acquisition and storage.

2) Prepare application equipment and inspect emergency eye wash stations, showers and portable decontamination gear.

3) Mixing and handling herbicide.

1) Spillage of product and resulting contamination of transportation conveyance and/or personnel and/or storage area and/or environment.

2) Equipment may leak or be out of calibration. Plant infestation could be spread inadvertently by seed or plant parts on equipment. Emergency wash stations may not be serviceable.

3) Spillage of product and contamination of spill area or release into sanitary sewer or septic, equipment and personnel. The primary hazards involve concentrated product during the mixing process. Access to emergency eye wash and shower will provide for decontamination in case of an incident involving concentrate.

1) Any vehicle hauling herbicide off site or in any highway situation must also carry a spill kit and the product label(s). Storage areas must be secure, provide containment, identified with signage and provide Material Safety Data Sheets.

2) Pressure test and calibrate all application equipment with water at least once each season prior to use and document calibration. Clean seeds and plant parts off of equipment that may spread a plant infestation when warranted.

3) All personnel handling herbicide will wear the PPE recommended on the label of the product being used. Separate clothing, including appropriate footwear consistent with label recommendations, will be designated and maintained for use only in mixing, applications and cleanup of herbicides.
### JOB HAZARD ASSESSMENT (Continuation Sheet)

**Activity:** Invasive plant control with Herbicides  
**Date Prepared:** _________________

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<td>3) continued.</td>
<td>Co-workers, radio traffic or cellular telephones may provide a distraction that could lead to a spill, contamination, or losing track of the concentration of your tank mix. Corrective glasses alone may not provide adequate protection from spills or splashes, resulting in the need to irrigate the eyes for a prolonged period, a trip to the doctor or emergency room, and possible eye damage.</td>
<td>3) continued - Any clothing or PPE contaminated with concentrated product will be removed immediately. Follow the label recommendations for first aid and cleaning or reuse of PPE after exposure/contamination with concentrate. Mixing will be done at a location with adequate containment to hold the volume being mixed. Protective eyewear (including over-the-glass goggles or shields) will be worn when mixing concentrate. Focus on the task at hand - this is not the time to multitask or get distracted. Ensure that sinks used with mixing/rinsing of containers, etc. have an anti-siphon device to prevent accidental release of pesticide.</td>
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<td>4) Apply herbicide.</td>
<td>Incorrect application, drift, non-target effects. Reviewing the label, MSDS and PUP will help prevent making preventable mistakes and ensure that the correct product is being applied at the appropriate rate and in the right location.</td>
<td>4) Understand and follow the product label and the Pesticide Use Proposal. Check and record the weather and scout your application site for any issues that might affect your application. Notify the public (if required) in accordance with state law. Know the restricted entry interval (REI) and notify staff and others appropriately.</td>
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<td>5) Clean application equipment and clothing.</td>
<td>Equipment may become fouled by exposure to chemical residues, compromising calibration and serviceability. Contamination of the environment if rinsate is not disposed of properly. Plant infestations may be spread. Fixing any leaks or other problems at this point while they are fresh on your mind will avoid problems later.</td>
<td>5) Mix only the pesticide that you will use each day and allow time for cleanup and record keeping after the application. Wear PPE as if making an application. Follow the procedures on the label for cleaning out the tank, applying the rinsate in the same manner as the application - do not dump rinsate! Clean seeds and plant parts off equipment. Clean PPE - launder application clothing separately at your station.</td>
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<td>6) Stow equipment, secure the product and generate and maintain good records - finish the job professionally! Know your REI and follow your Monitoring Plan to better evaluate your IPM program.</td>
<td>Potential noncompliance with laws and policy. Good record keeping habits will ensure compliance with State laws and agency policy, enabling you to report uses accurately and evaluate the effectiveness of the application after follow-up monitoring of the site (noting the REI).</td>
<td>6) Stow PPE properly - put all equipment and products away and secure them. Any product or tank mixes that are stored must be labeled. Record your application in accordance with State law, including mapping, to maintain station records and compile data for annual use report. Maintain a copy of the label on file for 30 years.</td>
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