



Local Land
Services

Pesticide Use Notification Plan

Local Land Services



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More information

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing August 2015. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of Local Land Services or the user's independent adviser.

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Introduction

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009* (the Regulation). The plan sets out how Local Land Services (LLS) will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns or controls.

The aim of the plan is to notify all persons accessing land under the management, control and ownership of LLS across NSW about pesticide applications that are made. The plan provides information to members of the community that enables them to take action to avoid contact with pesticides. LLS manage and control an extensive network of travelling stock reserves (TSRs) and stock watering points (SWPs) (approximately 500,000 hectares) across NSW. Under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, LLS have a statutory responsibility to manage these areas appropriately. Therefore, weed and pest control programs are a management priority for LLS and pesticides are an essential component of these programs.

LLS pest management programs aim to apply best practice, humane and cost effective methods that will have minimal impacts on the environment. Wherever possible an integrated approach is implemented that uses a range of techniques. Biological control is used where effective agents are available, but in most cases bio-control must be supplemented with conventional control techniques including the use of pesticides. For example, Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease (RHD) is a bio control but is only effective when there is a susceptible population. 1080 is the most cost-effective method for the control of rabbits when they are in high numbers or living in scattered harbour where warren destruction is not a viable option.

Herbicides are applied in various ways, and are an essential component of most noxious or environmental weed control programs undertaken by LLS e.g. cutting-and-painting or stem injection of woody weeds, boom-spraying, high volume spot-spraying of foliage and possibly aerial spraying.

LLS use pesticides where necessary to control weeds (noxious and environmental), insects, pest animals and various other organisms in order to protect public lands that are under LLS control or management from pest and invasive weed (noxious and environmental) damage and to protect the uses of public places from nuisance or danger. These uses are managed through the local LLS Management Plans and further information can be obtained from regional LLS offices.

Public Places covered by this plan

LLS propose to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public land that it owns, manages or controls in New South Wales:

- travelling stock reserves
- travelling stock routes
- stock watering places
- travelling and camping reserves

This notification plan will also provide information on how notice will be provided to the community of pesticide use at depots and the interiors of LLS owned buildings or throughout such listed facilities being: offices, workshops, chemical and storage shed amenities and/or any other infrastructure owned/maintained by an LLS.

The majority of pesticide use by the LLS consists of applying herbicides for weed (noxious and environmental) control. Minor uses also include the application of insecticides to control certain insect pests, termiticides to protect buildings and rodenticides to control rats or mice and avicide products to control birds.

LLS estimation of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places is summarised in the following table.

Table One: Users of and level of use on public lands owned, managed or controlled by LLS.

Public places owned, managed or controlled by LLS	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
<p>Travelling stock reserves as defined in Part 6 of the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i> (commonly referred to as travelling stock reserves, any reserve for travelling stock, water reserve, reserve for access or crossing, stock watering place or reserve for travelling stock and camping).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drivers/stock managers • landholders • apiarists • utilities staff (Telstra etc) • recreational users such as bushwalkers, fishermen, bird-watchers, horse riders, bike riders and picnickers. • permitted users such as eg sporting clubs, school groups, social groups. 	<p>HIGH (frequent use by persons and stock)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • broadscale selective herbicides • broadscale non-selective herbicides • broadscale insecticides • pest animal control poison • biological control • fungicides
<p>Isolated and low-use travelling stock reserves (as defined Part 6 of the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>) (commonly referred to as travelling stock reserves, any reserve for travelling stock, water reserve, reserve for access or crossing, stock watering place or reserve for travelling stock and camping).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drivers/stock managers • landholders • apiarists • utilities staff (Telstra etc) • recreational users such as bushwalkers, fishermen, bird-watchers, horse riders, bike riders (not motorised) and picnickers. • permitted users such as eg sporting clubs, school groups, social groups. 	<p>LOW USE AREAS (extremely unlikely / low access to area by stock or persons)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • broadscale selective herbicides • broadscale non-selective herbicides • broadscale insecticides • pest animal control poison • biological control • fungicides
<p>LLS owned, managed or controlled land (depots, around offices, workshops and other LLS owned facilities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ratepayers of the LLS • community members • general public 	<p>HIGH (frequent use by persons and stock)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • spray ant control • bait ant control • spray termiticides • bait termiticides • bait rodenticides • fungicides (usually on garden beds) • biological control

Public places owned, managed or controlled by LLS	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
Interiors of certain LLS buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ratepayers of the LLS • community members • general public 	HIGH (frequent use by persons and stock)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot insecticides • spray ant control • bait ant control • spray termiticides • bait termiticides • bait rodenticides • general insect sprays • biological control • fungicides

Note: In public areas where multiple agencies can have their individual responsibility for land management (in this case pesticide application), and where there are no physical or visible boundaries, the agency undertaking the pesticide application will follow their own Pesticide notification Plan. This will include any incidental pesticide applications in areas that are controlled by other agencies (e.g. RMS, LG).

Notification Arrangements

This section of the plan describes how and when LLS will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, any arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice may not be given.

Along TSRs, where large control operations are to be undertaken, signs will be strategically placed in the area of application (treated area) as described in this plan. At smaller or fenced (enclosed) reserves a sign will be placed at main entrances to the area. In certain spraying application circumstances, where the pesticide label does not require specific notification, the pesticide application notification sign may be restricted to the operating vehicle only during the application of the pesticide. Additional pesticide information (if requested) may be available from the regional LLS office (contact number on the sign) responsible for the pesticide application. Signs will be erected immediately prior to pesticide use and will remain in place until the operation is completed (unless the pesticide label or permit requires a longer period of signage). Where foliar spraying occurs, signs will remain at least until the pesticide has dried. Where required, any designated withholding period (WHP) on the pesticide label will be followed. In certain circumstances (low risk areas or where very small quantities of pesticide treatment occurs) notification may not be given and these are described within this plan.

For vertebrate pesticides, notification will be as specified in the relevant [Pesticide Control Order](#) for the notification requirements for 1080, unless the Order does not specify all of the information required by the *Pesticides Regulation 2009*.

For smaller, target specific spot-spraying programs in areas frequently used, signs will be placed at the main entrances to the area to be treated. Additional pesticide information (if requested) may be available from the regional LLS office (contact number on the sign). Signs will be erected immediately prior to pesticide use and will remain in place at least until the pesticide has dried (unless the pesticide label or permit requires a longer period of signage). For spot-spraying areas that are used infrequently, signs will be restricted to the operating vehicle only. Additional pesticide information (if requested) may be available from the regional LLS office (contact number on the sign). In certain circumstances notification will not be given and these are described within this plan.

When using insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, termiticides or avicides around LLS owned or managed infrastructure such as office buildings, workshops and storage sheds, signs will be placed at the main entrances to the area to be treated. Additional pesticide information (if requested) may be

available from the regional LLS office (contact number on the sign). Signs will be erected immediately prior to pesticide use and will remain in place until the operation is completed (unless the pesticide label or permit requires a longer period of signage). Where foliar spraying occurs signs will remain at least until the pesticide has dried.

These notification requirements are based on Local Land Services assessment on:

- The level of usage of the public place where pesticides may be used
- The type of pesticide/herbicide used
- The extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be affected by/or sensitive to pesticides may use an area
- The extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides including:
 - recreational activities where contact may be made with the ground
 - where stock using a TSR may come into contact with a pesticide or herbicide (residues)
 - where non-target animals may come into contact with pesticides.

Notice of pesticide use will be provided by any one or combination of the following in the first instance, being:

- Signs
- Personal phone contact

Notice of pesticide use may be supplemented by the following notification methods in certain circumstances (where signage or personal phone contact has not been or is not possible):

- Information on the particular LLS website
- Letters
- Fax and email
- Print media
- Letterbox drops
- Door knocking
- Personnel contact
- Phone contact
- Newsletters
- Through the rate notice system
- On permits issued (walking, grazing and reserve use) by the individual LLS.

Individual LLS may choose to allow certain persons and/or organisations to nominate to have their details placed on a register which would allow them to be notified of certain types of pesticide use in particular places. These may include, but are not necessarily restricted to apiarists during plague locust campaigns, areas adjoining sensitive crops and persons grazing stock on a TSR or SWP.

Special measures for sensitive places

Clause 18 of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009* defines a sensitive place to be:

- a school, pre-school, kindergarten or childcare centre,
- a hospital, community health centre or nursing home,
- any place declared to be a sensitive place by the EPA by order published in the Gazette.

For any pesticide use within 150m of a sensitive place listed in Clause 18, LLS will provide prior or concurrent notice of pesticide application by specific means that include: signs and personal contact

with the responsible authority to ensure the information is given and understood. If suitable notice cannot be given pesticide application will be delayed until such notice is given.

Notification of emergency pesticide applications

In cases where emergency pesticide applications are required to deal with plagues (locusts, mice, disease outbreak, etc), biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), signs will be placed “on site” (where feasible). In the case of applying 1080 notification will be as per the relevant [Pesticide Control Order](#). For aerial application of pesticides to control locust plagues notification will be as per the relevant [Standard Operating procedure](#). Additional information will also be available at the regional LLS office and via the contact number on the sign. Signs will be erected immediately where practical, prior to pesticide use and will remain in place until the operation is completed.

Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places

Where a particular LLS uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf it will require a written commitment that they will use signs, and make notification in accordance with the notification requirements of this plan (LLS as an agency is still responsible for ensuring the correct notification is given). LLS may in certain circumstances assist the contractor with the notification process where the LLS knows or has the contact details of those requiring notification. Where persons or organisations hold an existing permit on LLS managed or controlled land (eg long term grazing permit or lease on a SWP) that remains a public place, an LLS will not provide notification of pesticide use on the chemical users behalf, but it will direct the user to carry out such notification in a manner consistent with this plan. A users notification requirement may also be a requirement of the permit issued by the LLS.

Pesticide uses and public places where no notice will be provided

LLS can also from time to time use small quantities of some pesticides or herbicides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes (including home cleaning and gardening). LLS do not intend to provide notice for such pesticide/herbicide applications. This will also apply to minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans and small spot spraying weed control programs using a wand or hand-held spray unit around buildings, pathways, garden edges, etc.

LLS may not provide notification in certain public places (TSRs or SWPs) when pesticides are used in remote areas where there is little likelihood of the public encountering them. Examples of these can include TSRs or SWPs where there is no legal access and/or very low public visitation.

LLS may not provide notification where pesticides are used in small quantities and readily available at retail outlets to the general public. For example, where small quantities (less than 20 litres) of “ready-to-use” spray mix of products containing chemicals, but not exclusively, glyphosate or metsulfuron herbicides are applied by a hand-held applicator, by cut-and-paint or stem injection techniques or when minor control of indoor and outdoor pests using baits or aerosols is conducted.

LLS may also not provide notification where pesticides have been applied and extreme weather conditions, such as floods or fires have eventuated and due to these exceptional circumstances notification was unable to be provided. This notification will then be given as soon as practical.

What information will be provided

In accordance with Clause 20(1)(h) of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009*, notification of pesticides uses will include the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used,
- the purpose for which the pesticide is to be used,
- the dates on which, or the range of dates during which, the pesticide is to be used,
- the places where the pesticide is to be used,
- any warnings about limitations on the subsequent use of or entry onto the land if such warnings are specified on the approved label for the pesticide or in the permit for use of the pesticide,
- a contact telephone number or email address for the officer of the public authority whom the affected persons can contact to discuss the notice

How will the community be informed of this plan

LLS will advise residents of this plan and its contents by:

1. Public exhibition of draft plan
 - making a copy of the plan available for viewing during business hours, free of charge, at its district main office
 - placing a copy of the draft plan on the LLS website www.lls.nsw.gov.au placing a notice in The Land and/or regional papers
2. Final plan
 - placing a copy of the plan on the LLS website www.lls.nsw.gov.au under Livestock, Stock Routes
 - copies of the final notification plan will be available at all LLS offices across NSW.
 - after public consultation a notice will also be placed in the NSW Government Gazette advising that the final plan has been completed.

Future reviews of the plan

The notification plan will be reviewed every five (5) years or when circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

- a report on progress of implementing the plan
- placing the revised draft plan on public exhibition, with any proposed changes and calling for public submissions
- advertising the public submission period in The Land and/or regional papers
- in light of any submissions, making recommendations for alterations (if applicable) to the plan.

Contact details

Anyone wishing to contact Local Land Services to discuss the notification plan or to obtain details of pesticide applications in public places should contact their regional office:

- a) website: www.lls.nsw.gov.au
- b) Phone: 1300 795 299

