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**Forest Service Manual 2100 – Environmental Management
Chapter 2150 - Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination**

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Responsible Staff:

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Digest: Following is an explanation of the changes throughout the directive by section.

2150: Makes technical, formatting, and editorial changes throughout the chapter. Replaces reference to “Forest Pest Management” with “Forest Health Protection” throughout the chapter.

2150.4 through 2150.47: Revises and recodes captions and responsibilities for pesticide use. Establishes codes, captions, and sets forth new responsibilities for training of personnel in pesticide application and use, and for maintaining accurate records on pesticide application and use.

2150.5: Removes the following obsolete or unused terms from the list of definitions: Experimental-Use Permit; Housekeeping-type Pesticide; Minor Use; and Pesticide Approval. Adds definitions for the following terms: Biopesticide; General-Use Pesticide; Household Pesticides; Integrated Pest Management; License; Pesticide; Pesticide Applicator; and Risk Assessment.

2154: Establishes new caption and sets forth direction for pesticide-use recordkeeping and reporting and requires all pesticide-use data on National Forest System lands to be included in the national database of record.

Forest Service Manual 2100 – Environmental Management
Chapter 2150 - Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination
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2155: Establishes caption and recodes to this section direction previously set out in section 2154 on pesticide-use training and certification.

2156: Removes code, caption, and obsolete direction. Recodes direction on safety considerations to section 2153.1.

2157: Removes code, caption, and obsolete direction. Recodes direction on pesticide storage, transportation, spills, and disposal to section 2153.

2158: Removes codes, captions, and obsolete direction.

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2150.1 - Authority

Laws enacted by Congress authorize the Secretary of Agriculture (the Secretary) to issue necessary regulations, to administer the National Forest System and other resources, and to administer a State and Private Forestry program. These same laws authorize the Forest Service to use pesticides as a component of an Integrated Pest Management approach. Therefore, many of these authorities have subsequently been delegated from the Secretary to the Chief of the Forest Service. Accordingly, pesticides, as a component of an Integrated Pest Management approach, are used by the Forest Service to prevent, control, or manage unwanted native plants, animals, and pathogens, and non-native invasive species on all areas of the National Forest System (NFS). Also, the Agency is authorized to assist States and private forest landowners or stewards in the use of pesticides and other pest control substances for the purpose of protecting the health and productivity of trees, forests, and related wood products.

2150.11 - Laws

The principal laws governing the use of pesticides on National Forest System lands or other lands and waters administered by the Forest Service or on lands on which Forest Service assistance is provided are:

1. The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) of 1947 (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.). This Act provides the authority for the registration, distribution, sale, shipment, receipt, and use of pesticides. The Forest Service may only use pesticides registered or otherwise permitted in accordance with this Act. The FIFRA directs the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Administrator of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to implement research, demonstration, and education programs to support adoption of Integrated Pest Management, and to make information on Integrated Pest Management widely available to pesticide users, including Federal agencies. Federal agencies shall use Integrated Pest Management techniques in carrying out pest management activities and shall promote Integrated Pest Management through procurement and regulatory policies and other activities.
2. The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.). This Act authorizes the Forest Service to protect trees and forests and wood products, stored wood, and wood in use from natural and man-made causes directly on the National Forest System and, in cooperation with others, on other lands in the United States. The Act also authorizes the Forest Service to provide technical information, advice, and related assistance in managing and coordinating the use of pesticides applied to trees and other vegetation.
3. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.). This Act establishes a national program, administered through the EPA, to ensure that hazardous wastes, including pesticide wastes, are managed safely from the point of generation to the point of disposal.
4. The Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 1151 et seq.). This Act provides for restoration or maintenance of water quality to meet national standards, including

considerations related to the use of pesticides on or near water. The CWA establishes the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) and a permit system for discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States.

5. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (16 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

This Act requires agencies to:

- a. Analyze the physical, social, and economic effects associated with proposed plans and decisions,
- b. Consider alternatives to the action proposed, and
- c. Document the results of the analysis.

The provisions of NEPA and the implementing regulations apply to pesticide-use management.

6. The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.).

This Act is intended to assure safe and healthful working conditions (including areas where pesticides are used) by:

- a. Authorizing enforcement of developed standards,
- b. Assisting and encouraging the States in their efforts to assure safe and healthful working conditions, and
- c. Providing for research, information, education, and training in the field of occupational safety and health.

7. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The ESA provides for the conservation of threatened and endangered species of plants and animals. The ESA requires Federal agencies to ensure that actions (including pesticide use) they authorize, fund, or carry out are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of the species' critical habitat. The ESA also amended FIFRA to define imminent hazard to include situations involving unreasonable hazard to the survival of a species declared by the Secretary of the Interior to be endangered or threatened.

2150.12 - Regulations and Policies

The principal regulations and policies governing Forest Service use of pesticides on the lands and waters of the National Forest System and other lands and waters administered by the Forest Service are:

1. Departmental Regulation 9500-4. This U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Regulation outlines policy on wildlife, fish, and plant habitat management on National Forest System lands and waters. This Regulation stipulates that the Department will promote the concept and use of integrated pest management practices in carrying out its

responsibilities for pest control, and will seek to alleviate damage by plant and animal pests to farm crops, livestock, poultry, forage, forest and urban trees, wildlife, and their habitats. Departmental agencies, through management and research programs, will develop or assist in developing new techniques and methodologies for the prevention of damage to agricultural or forestry production. Agencies will also attempt to reduce potential depredation through improved management of USDA programs. Appropriate pest control techniques and considerations will be incorporated into management and education programs.

2. Policy on Noxious Weed Management. Departmental Regulation 9500-10 (DR 9500-10) (January 18, 1990). This Regulation establishes USDA policy to manage and coordinate noxious weed activities among USDA agencies in order to improve the quality and ecological conditions of crop and rangeland in the United States.

3. Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 219-Planning. The requirements found in Title 36 CFR 219.15, 219.27(b), and 219.27(c) guide silvicultural practices [including pesticide-use activities].

2150.2 - Objectives

The objectives of this pesticide-use management and coordination policy are to:

1. Provide direction on the appropriate, safe, and effective use of pesticides for Forest Service management and research activities.
2. Include all appropriate pesticide-use activities, including planning, threshold action levels, monitoring, and adaptive management into a program emphasizing integrated pest management (FSM 3400).
3. Minimize pesticide-use risk and operational costs and increase pesticide-use effectiveness by promoting advancements in pesticide chemistry, pesticide-use technology, and pesticide-use training.
4. Articulate authorities and responsibilities, planning and review requirements, pesticide applicator training and certification requirements, and pesticide-use recordkeeping requirements at all levels of the Agency.

Detailed guidance associated with these objectives is found in the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14).

2150.3 - Policy

In managing and coordinating the use of pesticides, it is Forest Service policy to:

1. Conduct all pesticide-use activities using an integrated pest management approach to improve overall treatment effectiveness and to reduce pesticide risk(s) for both humans and the environment.

2. Conduct all Forest Service pesticide-use activities in full compliance with applicable Federal laws, regulations, and other authorities including, but not limited to, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Endangered Species Act. Relevant State and local laws pertaining to the use of pesticides will be followed when not in conflict with Forest Service management authorities and objectives.
3. Require that all pesticide-use activities conducted by non-Forest Service personnel on the National Forest System, or other areas administered by the Forest Service, be in compliance with applicable EPA pesticide label restrictions and other applicable Federal and State laws and regulations including the Federal and State laws and regulations that apply to personnel training and licensing.
4. Require that all Forest Service personnel who use any biopesticide or general-use chemical pesticide (other than household pesticides) on terrestrial or aquatic areas of the National Forest System be trained in the proper, safe, and effective use of the respective pesticides being applied for the management activity. Pesticide-use training and certification for Forest Service employees who use, or directly supervise the use of, restricted-use pesticides will be accomplished through an appropriate EPA-approved State program or a national Forest Service certification program.
5. Incorporate pertinent pesticide-use policy and related handbook guidance into all management activities on the National Forest System and other lands, waters, or facilities administered by the Forest Service; including but not limited to procurement activities, contracts, permits, leases, and agreements to foster the safe and effective use of pesticides.
6. Coordinate Forest Service pesticide-use activities, as appropriate, with Federal, State, Tribal, and local government agencies.
7. Use pesticides as part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program within designated Wilderness, Research Natural Areas, and other special designation areas when necessary to protect native plant and animal populations and habitats, restore significant resource values or functions, or to protect public or private lands bordering these areas. All Forest Service-sponsored pesticide-use activities implemented on private lands bordering designated Wilderness areas require planning, coordination, and written permission from the local landowner(s) prior to application activities.
8. Support pesticide-related research activities on evaluation and improvement of environmental and human safety, develop new and improved pesticide formulations and effective application methods, and transfer associated science and technology.
9. Provide technical assistance, when appropriate, to manufacturers, the EPA, or other agencies in evaluating or registering pesticides determined necessary for forestry, vegetation management, rangeland management, invasive species management, or other resource management activities.

2150.4 - Responsibility

The Chief of the Forest Service delegates the primary authorities and responsibilities for overall administration of pesticide-use coordination activities for the Forest Service in conformance with applicable Federal law, regulation, and policy to the Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry (S&PF). These delegated coordination responsibilities are reserved to the Deputy Chief, S&PF, except for specific pesticide-use management responsibilities delegated to the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System (NFS), Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Forest/Grassland Supervisors, and/or District Rangers.

2150.41 - Chief

The Chief of the Forest Service shall:

1. Retain overall authority and responsibility for establishing and implementing national policy and guidance associated with Forest Service pesticide-use management and coordination activities.
2. Ensure cooperation, coordination, and integration of pesticide-use management and coordination policy across all Forest Service Deputy Areas and applicable programs.
3. Promote cooperation and coordination with other Federal agencies, State agencies, Tribes, local governments, and other public and private stakeholders on integrated pest management and pesticide-use activities.

2150.42 - Washington Office, Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry

The Washington Office, Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry shall:

1. Administer overall coordination activities for pesticide use in the Forest Service.
2. Serve as the Chief's liaison between the Forest Service, the USDA Secretary of Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other Federal agencies on issues related to Forest Service use of pesticides.
3. Coordinate closely with the Washington Office, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, and the Washington Office, Deputy Chief, Research and Development, on issues and activities associated with pesticide-use and management activities within the National Forest System and Forest Service research units.

2150.43 - Washington Office, Director, Forest Health Protection

The Washington Office, Director of Forest Health Protection (FHP) provides leadership, coordination, consultation, and technical support for Forest Service pesticide-use management. The Director, FHP shall:

1. Recommend national policies, objectives, priorities, standards, and procedures for pesticide use, including direction for training in pesticide safety and certification of applicators.
2. Appoint a National Pesticide-Use Coordinator to coordinate overall Forest Service pesticide-use activities and to provide national oversight, technical support, policy interpretation and guidance, and cross-deputy area coordination of pesticide-use issues.
3. Coordinate the development of national pesticide risk assessments and other analyses as needed and provide representation on national coordination committees and teams for pesticide-use and management.
4. Coordinate the collection and maintenance of complete and accurate records related to Forest Service pesticide-use activities, use corporate information management systems, and prepare summary reports of Forest Service pesticide-use activities when requested. See also Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14).
5. Coordinate with appropriate Forest Service programs (including NFS, R&D, and International programs) to develop National agreements and memorandums of understanding with other Federal and State agencies, non-government organizations, Tribal governments, and other national organizations to address pesticide-use issues.
6. Coordinate with appropriate Forest Service offices, staffs, or research units on the formulation of national research activities associated with pesticides use and management.
7. Serve on Departmental or other Federal agency committees on pest management and pesticides.

2150.44 - Regional Foresters

Regional Foresters shall:

1. Appoint Regional Pesticide-Use Coordinators or Specialists and ensure consistent implementation of Forest Service policy and guidance related to pesticides and pesticide-use activities throughout the Region.
2. Ensure that Forest Service personnel responsible for conducting or directly supervising pesticide applications within the Region, are properly trained and certified consistent with the National pesticide applicator certification program requirements detailed in the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14).

3. Prepare appropriate environmental analyses, assessments, plans, and other documents required under NEPA and the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) for all Regional-level pesticide-use planning efforts and decisions.
4. Review, and approve or disapprove, those Pesticide Use Proposals (PUPs) on NFS lands for which approval authority is retained by the Regional Forester. The Regional Forester shall not delegate authority for PUP approval to other line officers for projects within:
 - a. Designated Wilderness areas, including Wilderness study areas,
 - b. Established or proposed Research Natural Areas, and
 - c. For any use of sodium cyanide in any amount.

These approvals must be made by the Regional Forester through the Pesticide Use Proposal prior to implementation of the proposed activity.

5. Ensure that complete and accurate records of pesticide-use activities occurring on areas or facilities administered by the Forest Service within the Region are collected and maintained as required and provide summary reports on pesticide-use activities when requested.

2150.45 - Station Directors, Area Director, and Institute Director

Station Directors, the Area Director, and the Institute Director shall:

1. Appoint, as necessary, a Pesticide-Use Coordinator or Specialist and ensure consistent implementation of Forest Service policy and guidance related to pesticides and pesticide-use activities.
2. Ensure that Station, Area, or Institute personnel responsible for conducting or directly supervising pesticide applications are properly trained and, when necessary, certified.
3. Prepare appropriate environmental analyses, assessments, plans, Pesticide-Use Proposals (PUPs), and other documents as required under NEPA and NFMA for all Station or Institute pesticide-use planning efforts and decision-making that will be carried out on NFS or other federally administered lands.
4. Review PUPs submitted by project leaders for use of pesticides that will occur on National Forest System lands. Station Directors, the Area Director, and the Institute Director shall forward all PUPs on which they have concurred to the appropriate Regional Forester or the authorized designee for final approval or disapproval.

5. Ensure that complete and accurate records of pesticide-use activities occurring on areas or facilities administered by the Station or Institute are collected and maintained as required and provide summary reports on pesticide-use activities when requested. Pesticide-use on NFS lands must be entered into the database of record.

2150.46 - Regional and Area Pesticide-Use Coordinators or Specialists

Regional and Area Pesticide-use Coordinators or Specialists shall:

1. Advise and assist Forest Service offices and field units within the Region and Area on the consistent implementation of Federal pesticide-use laws, Executive orders, Departmental directives and regulations, Forest Service policies and guidance, and laws and regulations of State and local governments that are associated with pesticide use.
2. Coordinate with Federal and State agencies and other organizations on issues related to Forest Service pesticide-use activities within the Region or Area.
3. Provide technical support and current information associated with pesticides, pesticide registrations, application techniques, and technology to all Forest Service offices, cooperators, and partners.
4. Provide pesticide-use management expertise, as needed, to ensure successful completion of all pesticide application projects on lands in intermingled ownerships.
5. Provide assistance to Forest Service offices, cooperators, and partners within the Region or Area, as necessary, to properly prepare a Pesticide-Use Proposal (FS-2100-2) for each pesticide application activity proposed for implementation.
6. Advise and assist Forest Service offices, cooperators, and partners in preparing and reviewing environmental analyses, risk assessments, management plans, appeals, and litigation associated with or involving pesticide use.
7. Review all Pesticide-Use Proposals (FS-2100-2) that are under the approval authority of the Regional Forester for pesticide activities, including all those associated with:
 - a. Designated Wilderness areas, including Wilderness study areas,
 - b. Established or proposed Research Natural Areas, and
 - c. For any use of sodium cyanide in any amount.
8. Prepare records, reports, and information summaries associated with pesticide-use activities occurring within the Region or Area, as necessary.
9. Coordinate the training and certification of Forest Service personnel responsible for recommending, conducting, or supervising pesticide applications within the Region or Area.

2150.47 - Forest Supervisors and District Rangers

Forest Supervisors and District Rangers shall:

1. Designate, as necessary, a Pesticide-use Coordinator or Specialist to assist in meeting Forest or District pesticide-use management responsibilities.
2. Ensure compliance with Forest Service pesticide-use management and coordination policy requirements, handbook guidance, and associated laws, regulations, and Executive orders related to pesticide use.
3. Ensure that Forest Service personnel responsible for conducting or directly supervising pesticide applications within the Forest and District are properly trained or certified.
4. Prepare appropriate environmental analyses, assessments, plans, and other documents required under NEPA and NFMA for Forest or District pesticide-use planning efforts and decisions.
5. Ensure that complete and accurate records of pesticide-use activities occurring on areas or facilities administered by the Forest Service within the Forest or District are collected and maintained as required.
6. District Rangers shall coordinate the preparation of Pesticide-Use Proposals (PUPs) for all proposed use of pesticides within the District, including uses by licensees, permittees, grantees, States, and other Federal agencies. District Rangers shall review, and approve or disapprove, those PUPs for which they have been delegated authority. Forest Supervisors shall review, and approve or disapprove, PUPs for which they have authority. District Rangers and Forest Supervisors shall review, consolidate, and forward the remaining PUPs not under their authority to the Regional Forester for review and approval or disapproval.

2150.5 - Definitions

Biopesticide. Types of pesticides derived from such natural materials as animals, plants, bacteria, and certain minerals. Biopesticides fall into three major classes: microbial pesticides consist of a microorganism (for example, a bacterium, fungus, virus or protozoan) as the active ingredient; plant-incorporated protectants (PIPs) are pesticidal substances that plants produce from genetic material that has been added to the plant; and biochemical pesticides, which are naturally occurring substances that control pests by non-toxic mechanisms, including substances such as insect sex pheromones that interfere with mating, as well as various scented plant extracts that attract insect pests to traps.

Certification. The process of testing and certifying pesticide applicators in the use of pesticides through an EPA-approved Federal or State pesticide-use program in accordance with FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.).

Certified Applicator. Any individual trained and certified to use or supervise the use of a restricted-use pesticide in accordance with FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.).

General-Use Pesticide. General-use pesticides are those registered pesticides that do not require a license or other certification for their purchase or use.

Household pesticides. A non-regulatory classification of common non-restricted-use pesticide products that are used in relatively small quantities for household or facility maintenance including, but not limited to, cockroach sprays and baits; insect repellents for personal use; self-contained rodent bait stations; flea and tick sprays; pet collars; and disinfectants and sanitizers for kitchens, laundry, and baths; and products that kill mold and mildew.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM). A pest control strategy based on the determination of an economic, human health, or environmental threshold that indicates when a pest population is approaching the level at which control measures are necessary to prevent the decline in the desired conditions. In principle, IPM is an ecologically based holistic strategy that relies on natural mortality factors, such as natural enemies, weather, and environmental management, and seeks control tactics that disrupt these factors as little as possible. It is the planned and systematic use of detection, evaluation, and monitoring techniques, and all appropriate silvicultural, biological, chemical, genetic, and mechanical tactics needed to prevent or reduce pest-caused damage and losses to levels that are economically, environmentally, and aesthetically acceptable.

License. A tag, card, or certificate that provides proof of permission from a Federal or State agency to apply pesticides.

Pesticide. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for:

1. Preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest; or
2. Use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant (abbreviated definition from 7 U.S.C. 136(u)).

Pesticide Applicator. For purposes of Forest Service employees involved with pesticide-use, a pesticide applicator is anyone who:

1. Qualifies as a pesticide handler under EPA's Worker Protection Standard (40 CFR 170), or
2. Performs any of the following tasks: mixing, loading, transferring, or applying pesticides; assisting with the application of pesticides, including incorporating the pesticide into the soil after the application has occurred; handling opened containers of pesticides; acting as a flagger; cleaning, handling, adjusting, or repairing any part of mixing, loading, or application equipment that might contain pesticide residues; entering a greenhouse or other enclosed area following pesticide application when the permissible inhalation exposure level listed on the product labeling is exceeded or

before one of the Worker Protection Standards for ventilation criteria has been met; or, disposing of pesticides or pesticide containers.

Registration. The process whereby the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the States register pesticides for sale and use under authority of FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.).

Restricted-Use Pesticide (RUP). A restricted-use pesticide is a pesticide that is available for purchase only by certified applicators and must only be used by certified applicators or persons under their direct supervision.

Risk Assessment. A quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the probability that use of a particular pesticide might pose a risk to human health or the environment.

2151 - Planning and Review of Pesticide Use

Forest Service personnel involved with any pesticide-use activity shall:

1. Ensure that only pesticides registered by EPA and allowed for use by applicable State and local laws and regulations will be used on NFS projects after appropriate risk assessments and NEPA analyses.
2. Ensure that Forest Service pesticide-use policies are followed in all agreements involving NFS lands.

2151.1 - Determination of Need for Pesticide Use

Site-specific, or project-specific analyses (including assessments of chemicals, biological evaluations of pest population levels, and biological evaluations of potentially affected target and non-target species) must be prepared as necessary during the project planning phase. The analyses should support NEPA compliance. Guidance on Forest Service pesticide-use planning and approval are provided in the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14).

2151.2 - Pesticide-Use Proposal (FS-2100-2)

A Pesticide-Use Proposal (PUP) (form FS-2100-2) must be completed and reviewed for each pesticide application activity planned for implementation on the National Forest System, and other areas managed by the Forest Service. Pesticides will not be applied on these areas without a:

1. Signed NEPA decision, and
2. Completed and reviewed PUP on file at the respective Forest Service office.

Unless otherwise delegated to the Forest or District level, all PUPs must be reviewed by the Regional or Area Pesticide-use Coordinator (PUC) or Specialist. All PUPs must be reviewed by the District and Forest Pesticide-use Coordinators. The PUP must be reviewed for completeness and accuracy, compliance with pesticide label/application restrictions, applicator health and safety considerations, compliance with applicable law and policy, appropriateness of application technique(s), and effectiveness against the targeted organism(s) prior to applying the identified pesticide(s) on the National Forest System, or other areas administered by the Forest Service.

A properly completed and approved PUP must remain in effect for the duration of the project as long as the pesticide application activities described in the PUP remain consistent with pesticide product registration and label information and a valid NEPA document. It is the responsibility of each pesticide applicator to ensure that PUP information is current for their projects.

2151.3 - Pesticide-Use Safety Planning

Forest Service units shall prepare a safety plan for all pesticide-use activities, except as described in the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14). A Job Hazard Analysis (JHA), form FS-6700-7, must be prepared for pesticide-use activities; refer to the Health and Safety Code Handbook (FSH 6709.11) for instructions on completing a Job Hazard Analysis Form.

2152 - Pesticide-Use Evaluation and Quality Control

2152.1 - Post-Application Evaluation

Forest Service units shall conduct post-application evaluation for projects involving pesticides, except for those pesticide-use activities considered exempt from this requirement. See the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14) for exemptions. The results of treatment monitoring associated with pesticide applications must be appropriately recorded in the Forest Service's corporate database of record.

2152.2 - Quality Control

Establish adequate controls to ensure that application of pesticides is safe and effective, is restricted to the intended target areas and does not result in unacceptable nontarget effects.

2153 - Pesticide Safety, Storage, Transportation, and Disposal

2153.1 - Safety in Pesticide-Use

Pesticide use on National Forest System lands must follow the requirements for handling, applying, storing, or transporting pesticides set forth in the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14) and in the Health and Safety Code Handbook (FSH 6709.11). Non-Forest Service personnel using pesticides on areas administered by the Forest Service shall be in compliance with label health and safety requirements; label requirements for handling, applying, storing, or transporting pesticides; and NEPA-imposed environmental standards and guidelines for project implementation.

2153.2 - Storage, Transportation, Spills, and Disposal

Forest Service and non-Forest Service personnel using pesticides on areas administered by the Forest Service shall avoid unnecessary storage and transportation of pesticides to reduce handling risks, lessen the possibility of accidental spills, prevent unauthorized access to pesticides, and reduce hazardous waste management and pesticide disposal costs incurred by the Forest Service. Guidelines for the storage, transportation, disposal, and containment and clean-up of pesticide spills is provided in the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14,) and the Hazardous Materials Management policy (FSM 2160).

2154 - Pesticide-Use Recordkeeping and Reporting

Records of all Forest Service pesticide-use activities must be maintained through the Forest Service's national database of record.

Where pesticide-use activities are conducted by non-Forest Service personnel on areas administered by the Forest Service, the Forest Service Project Coordinator overseeing those activities shall ensure that all related pesticide-use information for the project are recorded in the Forest Service's national database of record. Pesticide-use recordkeeping protocols and requirements are described in the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14) and in related annual program guidance.

2155 - Pesticide-Use Training and Certification

Forest Service personnel who apply, recommend, or directly supervise the application of pesticide (including both general-use and restricted-use pesticides and biopesticides) on the National Forest System or other areas administered by the Forest Service shall be appropriately trained in the proper, safe, and effective use of the respective pesticides being applied in the management activity. All Forest Service employees who personally apply or supervise the use of restricted-use pesticides shall be certified under an Environmental Protection Agency-approved Federal or State program.

2155.1 - Training

Training for Forest Service personnel may be conducted either for general program-level training or for project-specific training. Training must include, but not be limited to, training necessary to:

1. Qualify employees for application of general-use pesticides. The training must include hazard communication requirements as set forth in 29 CFR 1910.
2. Certify employees as competent to use or to supervise the use of restricted-use pesticides. Such training must meet or exceed minimum Federal standards published at 40 CFR 171. This training must also include hazard communication requirements as set forth in 29 CFR 1910.

Regional and Area Pesticide use Coordinators and Specialists shall coordinate and make available training for Forest Service personnel in their respective Region or the Area and maintain records of all trained and certified Forest Service personnel trained and certified under an EPA approved Federal or State plan. See the Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination Handbook (FSH 2109.14) for guidance.

2155.2 - Certification

Forest Service personnel using or supervising the use of restricted-use pesticides shall be certified and licensed (if locally required) according to the Environmental Protection Agency-approved Federal or State programs which may be taken either through a State program for pesticide licensing or through the Forest Service's Government Agency Plan for certification (USDA Plan for Certification of Forest Service Employees Engaged in Applying or Supervising the Application of Restricted-Use Pesticides) (FSH 2109.14). Certification of Forest Service employees may also be required when stipulated by regulations of a particular State.