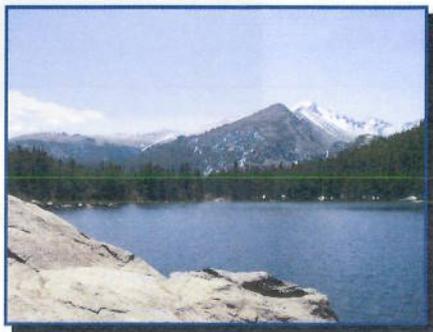


What Does the Pesticide General Permit (PGP) Require Operators to Do?

The EPA PGP requires Operators to:

- minimize discharges of pesticides
- protect water quality
- visually monitor for adverse effects
- report incidents
- document and maintain details of pest control activities

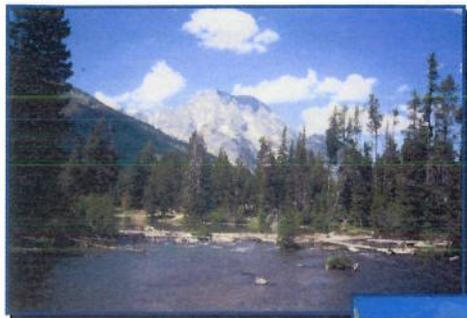
The EPA strongly recommends that all Operators read the PGP to understand the requirements in their entirety.



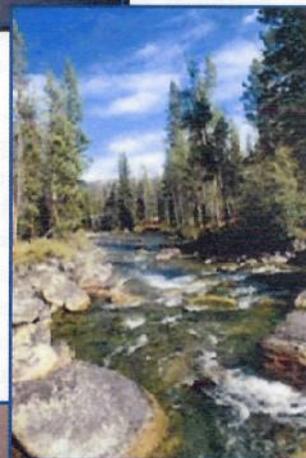
Bear Lake, CO
Melanie Pallman

Who Do I Contact for Additional Information?

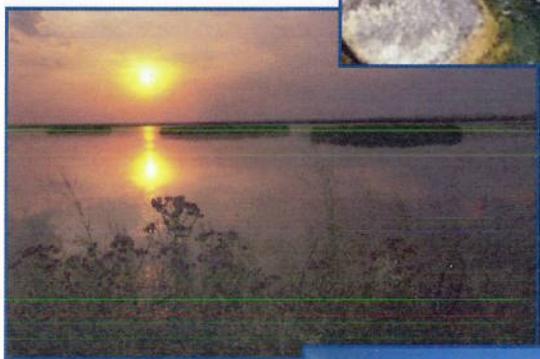
US EPA Region 8
Pesticide General Permit (NPDES)
Coordinator
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
1-800-227-8917 - toll free



String Lake Grand Teton, WY
USFWS



Mountain stream
Eric Vance



Benton Lake Nat. Wildlife
Refuge, MT
USFWS



Trinchera Creek,
Ft. Garland, CO
USDA NRCS



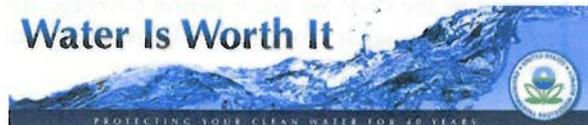
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Pesticide General Permit

Requirements for Pesticide Operators



Blackfoot River, Powell County, MT
USDA NRCS

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129
1-800-227-8917 - toll free



Pesticide Application Activities that Require an NPDES Permit



Why are NPDES permits required for pesticide applications?

Pesticide applications that result in discharges to waters of the United States must be authorized by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act.

The EPA Pesticide General Permit (PGP)

On October 31, 2011, the EPA issued a final NPDES Pesticide General Permit (PGP) applicable in areas where the EPA is the permitting authority for pesticide discharges. The EPA Region 8 is the NPDES permitting authority for:

- Indian country in Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming
- Federal facilities in Colorado

Operators in other areas within Region 8 may need to obtain a permit from the state agency with delegated permitting authority. State contacts can be located at:

www.epa.gov/npdes/pesticides/statecontacts

The PGP and related materials are available on the EPA website at: www.epa.gov/npdes/pesticides

What types of NPDES permits are available for pesticide applications that result in discharges to waters of the United States?

The NPDES program provides for two types of permits:

- general
- individual

If an operator is not eligible or does not want to be covered by the PGP but needs permit coverage, the operator can apply for an NPDES individual permit.

Which pesticide application activities require NPDES permits?

NPDES permits are required for any point source discharge to waters of the United States from the application of biological pesticides and chemical pesticides that leave a residue.

Irrigation return flows and agricultural runoff, regardless of the method of application, type of product, or industry **are exempt from NPDES permit requirements under the Clean Water Act.**

The PGP covers discharges from four pesticide use patterns. These patterns include the majority of pesticide applications that would result in point source discharges to waters of the United States:

- mosquito and other flying insect pest control
- weed and algae pest control
- animal pest control
- forest canopy pest control

An individual permit may be required for applications to high quality or impaired water bodies. Information on these types of excepted waters is available on the EPA PGP website at:

www.epa.gov/npdes/pesticides

The EPA has developed a step-by-step, interactive, online tool to help pesticide operators determine whether they are eligible for coverage under the EPA PGP. The Pesticide Permit Decision tool can be found at:

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/pesticides/prtool.cfm>

Who is Responsible for Obtaining Permit Coverage Under the EPA's PGP?



The NPDES program requires "Operators" of discharges to obtain NPDES permit coverage. The EPA PGP defines "Operator" as any entity associated with the application of pesticides which results in a discharge to waters of the United States that meets either of the following two criteria:

1. any entity who performs the application of a pesticide or who has day-to-day control of the application (i.e., they are authorized to direct workers to carry out those activities); or
2. any entity with control over the decision to perform pesticide applications including the ability to modify those decisions.

For the PGP, the EPA refers to any Operator identified by (1) above as an "applicator" and any Operator identified by (2) above as a "decision-maker." If you believe you are a "decision-maker," please contact the PGP (NPDES) coordinator at the EPA Region 8 office for more information.



Colorado Lake
Uncompahgre National Forest
Gene Alexander, USDA

How Do Operators Obtain Coverage Under the EPA PGP?

Operators that meet the eligibility provisions specified in the permit can be covered under the permit in one of two ways as detailed in the PGP:

- Applicators who are not also decision makers are automatically covered under the permit and are authorized to discharge pesticides immediately.
- Some decision-makers who meet specific criteria for pesticide applications, as identified in the PGP, must file an electronic Notice of Intent (NOI) to obtain coverage under the permit. These operators are generally authorized to discharge pesticides within 10 to 30 days after the EPA receives a complete and accurate NOI and posts the NOI on the EPA website: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/pesticides/enoi.cfm>