

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

MCFA ESA Workshop: May 24 & 25, 2011

- Sponsored and Funded By Minor Crop Farmer Alliance
 - MCFA – Founded 1989
 - Endangered Species Act/Pesticides Implementation Process Needs Improvement
 - Need for Open, Transparent Science-based Risk Assessment and Management Process with Grower Involvement
- Planning Committee Included Growers, EPA, NMFS, USFWS, USDA and Registrants

Workshop Goals

- Provide Grower Representatives an Understanding of the Processes and Analysis Leading to Identification of Risk and Mitigation Options by each Agency
- Identification of Grower Level Data that Would Enhance the Risk Identification and Risk Mitigation Decision Process
- Initiate Discussions on the Mechanisms to Provide such Data

Specific Questions Raised

1. Is there grower level information that is of value in the risk assessment and mitigation step development process at EPA? Or with the Services during specific consultations?
2. If grower information is useful --
 - What information is most desirable?
 - How is it collected?
 - How is it entered in the process?
 - Who screens the data for completeness and accuracy?
3. What are the appropriate points of entry for grower and producer group's data in the EPA or Services endangered species risk determination and risk mitigation processes?

Desired Outcomes

- Determine how important grower information can be collected and used to inform the regulatory process.
- Provide an overview of how EPA, NMFS, USFWS and USDA can use grower developed data in the process.
- Determine the best places in the biological review process where growers can engage with EPA, NMFS, USFWS and USDA to determine effective and practical risk mitigation practices when necessary.

Registration Review Matrix

- Attached as Appendix 3 to Workshop Summary
- Includes Both Formal and Informal Discussions Between the Growers, EPA NMFS, and USFWS
- Supported by Direct Involvement of USDA

Other Action Items from the Workshop

- Develop and Distribute Workshop Summary
- Continue Dialogue and Broaden Participation from the Grower Community
- Develop a More Comprehensive Understanding of the BIOP Process During ESA Consultation
- Review and Participate in Data Collection, Review and Analysis During ESA Actions