

# SFIREG Endangered Species Strategy Implementation (ESI) Committee Update

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# Purpose of Committee

- Formal platform with EPA to resolve issues facing states as a result of EPA's strategies to support ESA compliance
- Significant changes to label requirements led to need for a formal process to work with EPA on SLA needs

## SFIREG ESI Committee Members

- Kevin Kern (Chair), Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development
- Harris Walters, Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
- Kathryn Rifenburg, Oregon Department of Agriculture – Pesticide Program
- Craig Romary, Nebraska Department of Agriculture
- Beth Dittman, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Ryan King, Ohio Department of Agriculture
- Stephanie Ende, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Tom Gere, South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Daleena Blair, Washington Department of Agriculture
- Daniel Duer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
- Polo Moreno, California Department of Pesticide Regulation

# ESI Focus

- 4 priority areas
  - Bulletins Live! Two (BLT)
  - Clarity and complexity of ESA-related changes
  - Communication of ESA-related changes
  - Education & training efforts related to ESA

# Current Issues

- Communication of Bulletins Live! Two Changes/Updates
  - Simple, clear and timely notification process for stakeholders to receive information
- Improvements to Mobile-Friendly Runoff & Spray Drift Calculators
  - Simplification of language, changes to potential breaks in logic

# Current Issues

- Conservation Program/External Party Evaluation Process
  - Comments drafted on EPA proposed process (released 1/5/26) to approve conservation programs and external parties to qualify for runoff mitigation points
- ESA Seed Tag Label Language
  - Discussion on applicability and enforceability on proposed language being considered to be included on treated seed tag labels.

# Current Issues

- Consistency in Terms / Definitions
  - Discussion on concerns regarding inconsistencies in terms between the mitigation menu website and bulletins, product labels, calculation tools and other resources.
- Compliance / Enforcement
  - Guidance developed through PIRT workshop will be finalized through consultation with EPA.

# Additional Topics

- Developing a defined process for SLAs to obtain answers for technical questions
- Mitigation point scale and value discrepancies between USFWS and NMFS
- EPA ESA Educational Resources Toolbox refinements
- Improvements / Simplification to accessing historical BLT information

# Into the Future...

- Continued conversations and collaboration on priority areas
- Compliance / enforcement challenges...
- Training & Education!