

NISIMS

Evaluations, Monitoring, Surveys

recorded: August, 2009

Kenny Keever

Thanks, Mark. And now we're going to go over how to do an evaluation in the NISIMS system.

Adding an Evaluation Event: Evaluations are basically just updating information about the treatments that you've made in the past. So to conduct an evaluation, the first would be to click the little 'E' icon on the BLM NISIMS toolbar. Then you will select your infestation, so your treatment –

Evaluation Form - Treatment Tab: and you'll come up with the selection screen similar to your treatment screens where you'll have a possible list of several different types of treatment. And then you'll need to select one that you're wanting to evaluate here, and hit OK.

Evaluation Form - Evaluation Tab: That will bring you to the Evaluation screen where you'll again fill in the 'Date', the 'Percent Cover', the 'Retreatment Date', if you decide to recommend a date that you re-treat the area. 'Efficacy Rate', which is an estimate of how well your treatment did in controlling the target plant and any other comments in the 'Vegetation Effects' that you think might be pertinent to this evaluation.

And, with that, I'll turn it over to Donna Degner, and she'll talk some about the monitoring.

Donna Degner

Thank you, Kenny. I am now going to go over what monitoring is and how to collect it.

Adding a Monitoring Event: Monitoring, as we've described in the task is the re-collection of an infestation over time. So we have infestations that we have already collected. Now we want to monitor those infestations if we've done treatments over time or whatever.

To add a monitoring event, you would click on this 'M' over here where this red box is. There are two ways to collect a monitoring event. One would be to just simply click on the existing infestation saying that it really hasn't changed shape over time. However, if it has changed shape over time, a person would want to create a new polygon to show what the shape of that infestation currently is, and I'll go into that a little bit more here.

Monitoring Info - Infestation: So once you've clicked on this 'Infestation', then it will bring up this screen that shows if that is indeed the infestation that you are currently wanting to monitor or perform the monitoring event on. If it is, then you would go ahead and select it and then go on to the 'Info' tab, which is the next tab.

Monitoring Info - Info Tab: This information here would be all the same that is what you collected when you collected the information for the invasion to begin with. Species Code and the Species Common Name - it will not allow you to change that because an infestation, as was defined by the business rules, is simply a specific species and cannot change over time or it becomes a new infestation with a different species.

When you've got all of this information collected, you get down to where you go through the 'Observation Method' and then the 'Percent Covered'. And then the next thing here on the very bottom right-hand corner it says 'Geometry', and it offers you this chance to say it's a new geometry. Or, if I had just clicked on the infestation and wanted to retain the old geometry because it really hadn't changed shape, I would say use the existing.

Monitoring Info - Land Use Tab: Then I also have the opportunity on this 'Land Use' [tab] to add additional land uses as are currently active on that piece of property.

And that concludes a monitoring event. Next up will be Kenny showing you how to collect survey information.

Kenny Keever

Thanks, Donna. Now we're going to go about using NISIMS to document a survey. And the big point we want to illustrate here is –

Adding a Survey Area: The survey area is the actual ground you cover to document separate or a bunch of infestations. In layman's terms, this is the actual area you covered to find the infestations, and it means it's the area you report in MIS as acres inventory or BS.

So to do a survey area, you'll click the 'SA' button, which is the last button on the right-hand side of the BLM NISIMS toolbar, and then you'll either use your stylus to hand digitize and draw the area, or you'll use the GPS function to actually walk around the area that you surveyed for noxious weeds or invasive species. Once you have defined your polygon, you need to click the green arrow that's at the bottom of the screen, and this will bring up the form.

Survey Info Form: It's a pretty simple form. It'll give you the survey ID, which is generated by the system. It will give you a start and completion date much similar to the treatment information you had before, and it will default to the date that you're actually collecting this data or putting it into the system.

You need to enter your 'Name', the 'Office', and the 'Survey Method' on how you observed the infestation.

With that, I'll turn it back over to Donna to talk about uploading data, once you get your information collected in the field.

< END >

00:05:38