

NISIMS

Collecting Field Data: Infestations

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Okay, I'd like to take and start talking to you about actually taking and collecting the field data, and we're going to have it broken down in the different datasets that we are going to be taking and collecting. And the one I'm going to speak to is collecting the infestation.

Collecting Field Data: I want to give you a little bit of background as far as when and how we were taking and making the overall NISIMS database. We ended up taking and having all of the subject matter experts together telling us how to be able to take and do their overall business. But when we actually ended up taking and making the module for the field collection, we ended up getting to the point where we were getting the bare minimum of the datasets that needed to be collected and identifying those required data fields as being the only thing that we would have within the application for field collection.

So although we have taken and modeled out the overall business processes in the weeds program, what we're going to talk to and what you're going to see here are really pretty simplistic data entry screens, because that's all the information that was needed to paste and generate the report and bring the information in for them to be able to take and do analysis.

The other thing that we've really tried to do is take and get to the point where most all of the data entry is done with drop-downs so that we keep a consistent answer being filled in and that allows us to be able to then do queries off this information and not have very many open-entry fields.

Adding an Infestation Manually: So with infestation, we're going to have to take and start up your ArcPad, and you have to take and make sure that the BLM toolbar is active. And then, once you get the toolbar active, you're going to take and browse for the actual datasets. You're going to take and pull up the data, and you want to be able to take and add all of the layers that you have moved over. Now Donna had talked to us previously about that you first take and pull them from the national perspective down to your state and then prepare it for the ArcPad. You've taken and moved all that over to your ArcPad application, and now you want to take and make all of those data layers available to you. So by taking and clicking on each one of them, it ends up taking and making those available, and ends up taking and adding those in for us to be able to take and use.

The collection is based on historic information, helping you know where you already have infestation so you already have treatment. So what will happen is, when you add that dataset in, everything that has happened in that geographic area will be brought up on your ArcPad application.

And now what you're able to do is to take and put in either your points, lines, or polygons. Now if you remember back to where we were talking about the overall business rules, it told you what size you could take and do for a point, how a line would be treated and making it into a polygon by buffering it and also taking and working with polygons. You are able to take and do this in ArcPad, taking and doing the manual digitizing, or you can end up taking and doing it using the GPS. What we're doing here is just being able to take and show you how to do it manually on putting in the multiple points. So the lesson, you would end up taking and using is the icon that has the 'I' - the 'I' with the points or 'I' with the line or 'I' with the polygon.

Here, in the example, it's showing you putting in a polygon so what we did was, we sparked numerous points, and we just went from one point to the next point to the next point. And then we ended up taking and then coming all the way down to this arrow. And, on the arrow, that ends up saying, "Okay, I've collected all the points that I need,

and now that's going to take and close off and make that overall infestation a polygon.”

Infestation Data Entry: So now that we have the geographic representation of that infestation, we have to take and then put the bare minimum information in, to take and identify and know the information about it. You always have to be able to take and put in who you are and what office you represent and what role you represent. A user can have multiple roles, depending on the different aspects of the work here. In this case, we're showing that Kenny Keever is coming in the role of an employee, and his observation method can be any one of the individual things that I've listed here.

Let's look at the screen for a minute. All the down arrows are just showing you that, in fact, there is a drop-down so you can take and do a selection off of those drop-downs. You also always end up having to take and have us put in all of the names that currently exist or are going to be using this application. So all of our weed specialists, our range specialists, all of your cooperators, any of those individuals' names are going to take and be put into the database so that when they go out into the field and try to site this information, their name is there, they use the drop-down, they select it. You have to put in the date observed as well, and there's a small square on the left-hand part. If you put that, that in fact, takes that date as it's listed there.

Now you'll see that in the infestation ID, it is not set up for you to put any information in. That's automatically generated, and that will be brought in when you bring it up to the national. So the only information you did was, you clicked on Date Observed. You put the last name in, first name in, office, employee role, and observation.

Now up on the top it says Info 1, Info- 2. If you click on Info 2, it will bring you to the next screen.

Infestation Data Entry: And Info 2 starts us out by putting in the species code. The species code is based on the NRCS plants database, and we also have the option that, if you put in the common name, it would put in the scientific name. But please be

forewarned that some of those common names may be different than what you're used to calling them as your common name. After we've put in the species, then we need to take and put the percent cover - the percent cover of the weed species. And it must always use the default value of 100.

Then we are to say, because on this example here, we're taking and doing an infestation point. It's asking us the **size estimation**. And remember we had the three different categories, and, based on this, it will end up taking and making a buffer around that point that you've put in and storing it as a polygon. After you've done the size estimation, then you end up having to take and choose your **land use**. You can have up to five different land uses for any given point, line, or polygon, but you have to take and choose them from the drop-down menu.

Now what we had just showed you here was how to be able to take and what fields were available to you when you put in a point. There are a couple different things that you have to do on a line or a polygon, but not very much at all. Not very much is different. On a line, you're going to be able to take and tell it whether you need it to buffer from the left to the right or if it's down the center when it's making that polygon. And, if in fact, you're doing the polygon, it's going to be just as I had showed you at the very beginning, where, in fact, you go from point to point to point and then close off an overall polygon.

Now once we have infestations collected, we end up going then to the treatment module. Any treatment needs to have an infestation, although you are able to take and go back and forth between these two options.

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