

The following habitat descriptions are provided to assist pesticide applicators applying RUP dicamba products in areas identified by the Bulletins referenced on the label, in identifying habitat areas that require a no-spray zone or setback buffer.

If you determine your field is inside a pink protection zone at <http://www.epa.gov/espp/>, an Endangered Species Protection Bulletin has been developed, and it may take several attempts to get the correct bulletin to generate on the Bulletins Live! Two website.

After determining your application site is within a protection area identified on the Protection Bulletin, use the corresponding description and scouting to determine if endangered species habitat is adjacent to your application site.

Custer County - Blowout Penstemon habitat

Blowout penstemon is found only in open sand habitats, called blowouts, in the Sandhills of north-central Nebraska and the Great Divide Basin in Wyoming. Blowouts are wind-excavated depressions on dune tops and often on northwestern exposures. Heavy livestock grazing, fire or drought, singly or in combination, can remove the protective grass cover from dunes. Historically, lightning- and Native American-set fires frequently burned through the Sandhills. Large bison herds also grazed the region. Both fire and grazing removes grass cover and exposes the sand to winds. When sand is exposed to wind, blowouts form leaving large, barren depressions.



Buffalo, Kearney, and Phelps Counties - Whooping crane habitat

Whooping cranes prefer shallow braided riverine habitats, wetlands, and farm ponds for roosting. Nebraska is one of the only places where a considerable amount of time is spent in rivers. Major prerequisites of suitable stopover locations appear to be resting areas with shallow water (standing or flowing), good horizontal and overhead visibility, close proximity to feeding sites, and reasonable isolation from human developments and/or disturbances.



Lancaster and Saunders Counties - Salt Creek tiger beetle habitat

The entire life cycle of the Salt Creek tiger beetle is linked to exposed mud flats of saline wetlands and mud banks of streams that drain these wetland complexes. The species is adapted to periods of high water and highly saline conditions. Adults are confined to the wetter muddy areas within a few yards of wetland and stream edges. Larval burrows occur within a few inches of the water's edge. Larvae will plug their burrows and retreat inside during periods of high water, very hot weather, or very dry conditions. For the most part larvae remain active until cold weather, when they plug their burrows and hibernate. Saline wetlands are characterized by saline soils and salt tolerant plant species such as spearscale, inland salt grass, sea blite, prairie bulrush and the state endangered saltwort.



References used to create this document include:

Nebraska Rare Species – Education for Conservation. Nebraska Game & Parks Commission. <http://rarespecies.nebraska.gov/>

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Section 2, Nebraska Field Office Technical Guide, Endangered and Threatened Species. <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/#/>

[City of Lincoln Parks & Recreation Saline Wetlands](#)

Bulletins Live! Two and Endangered Species Protection Bulletins. <http://www.epa.gov/espp/>

Additional useful links can be found at the NDA Pesticide Program's Endangered Species Protection page: <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/pesticide/endangered.html>