



ALASKA RAILROAD

Track & Yard Vegetation Management: Chemical Weed Control Application

Experienced, Licensed Contractor

- The Alaska Railroad is coordinating with a nationwide leader in railroad vegetation management to carry out the application of chemical weed killers on Alaska Railroad property. The DeAngelo Brothers, Inc. (DBI) is a licensed contractor with more than 30 years of experience in developing and executing integrated vegetation management programs for railroads across the United States.
- DBI will use state-of-the-art equipment to apply chemical weed control products in the most environmentally responsible way possible. DBI uses special vehicles equipped to travel on rails. These vehicles are outfitted with low-volume, low-pressure ground-directed attachments that are designed to minimize the potential for wind to carry herbicides away from the target areas.
- In addition to the vehicle application, there may be additional spot application by licensed contractors using hand-operated pump spray tools. **Aerial spraying will not be used.**

Environmentally-focused Application

- The contractor will use a surfactant (AgriDex®) to evenly spread the herbicide (AquaMaster®; glyphosate). When applying weed control products near waterways, the Railroad will adhere to 100-foot buffer distances as specified in the permit, which exceeds the buffers prescribed by the product manufacturer and government agencies. These precautions are taken even though AquaMaster® is specifically designed for safe use in and around water. Applied according to manufacturer directions and in prescribed concentrations, glyphosate breaks down rapidly when contacting soil and poses no unreasonable threat to fish, wildlife and humans.
- Before and after application, the Alaska Railroad will post notices at road crossings and other areas where the public could come close to the Railroad's right-of-way. The railroad's right-of-way (tracks plus land that is within 100 feet on either side of the track centerline) is already closed to the public for safety reasons.



Low-volume, low-pressure application is a hallmark of DBI's vegetation management.



Weed control chemicals are directed at the tracks' ballast.

