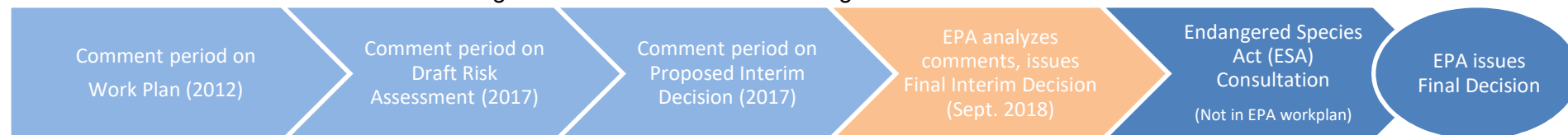


**Pesticide:** **Boric Acid/ Sodium Salts**, such as Sodium Tetraborate Pentahydrate (BioGuard Optimizer, ProTeam Supreme)  
**Use:** Pool chemical (pH stabilizer); EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0306  
**Why we care:** Current labels do not forbid discharging pool/hot tub water with this chemical to natural water bodies, storm drains, and there are no requirements to contact local authorities before discharging to the sewer system.  
**Actions taken:** BACWA and CASQA sent EPA a comment letter on the Proposed Interim Decision in July 2017.  
**Status:** EPA released the Interim Registration Review Decision in August 2018.



**Next steps:** ESA Consultation is required but unlikely to begin before 2022. Then EPA will issue a Final Decision.  
**Recommendation:** No action is needed at this time. Keep on tracking list and watch for future ESA consultation process.

BACWA Comments to EPA	EPA Response	Did EPA incorporate BACWA's comment?
Add these sentences to all labels: <i>"Before draining a treated pool, spa, or hot tub, contact your local sanitary sewer and storm drain authorities and follow their discharge instructions. Do not discharge treated pool or spa water to any location that flows to a gutter or storm drain or natural water body unless discharge is allowed by state and local authorities"</i> , which would make the label consistent with other recently updated labels for pool chemicals. (Previous BACWA comment had suggested slightly different wording, but BACWA, NACWA, and CASQA worked with EPA on revised language that addresses differences in discharge requirements around the nation.)	Despite a request from industry to not prohibit discharge of pool water to landscape and water bodies, EPA agreed with BACWA's comments and added these two sentences to all pool chemical labels that contain boric acid/ sodium salts. EPA also thanked BACWA for its input and support with this process.	YES
BACWA requested that the "Environmental Hazards" statement be applied, regardless of label size, in the manner recently established by EPA for other pool chemicals.	EPA agreed with BACWA's suggestion, despite the borate industry request to not include this label section on smaller containers.	YES