

Minutes
Contra Costa County IPM Advisory Committee
Subcommittee on IPM Decision-Making
October 31, 2019
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Members Present: Larry Yost, Andrew Sutherland (Chair), Jim Donnelly, Susan Captain

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Wade Finlinson

Members of the public: Shirley Shelangoski (PASE), Susan JunFish (PASE), Dave Shoemaker (PASE),

1. Introductions

2. Public comment on items not on the agenda

Susan JunFish referenced Dave Shoemaker's concern about aluminum phosphide in bait storage areas. She shares the concern about staff being exposed to such a high-risk application.

3. Approve minutes of September 26, 2019

A motion was made and seconded (JD/SC) to approve the minutes as written.

Ayes: Captain, Donnelly, Sutherland, Yost

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Pubic Speakers: None

4. Hear report from Agriculture Department regarding the possibility of moving forward with carbon monoxide and other ground squirrel treatment alternatives.

Larry Yost recapped a visit with John Gingrich to speak about his PERC machine, which injects carbon monoxide into ground squirrel burrows. He reviewed various advantages and disadvantages of the machine and indicated that use of this type of mechanism may be limited within current parameters of the Agriculture Department's contractual arrangement with the Public Works Maintenance Division. Public Works paid approximately \$67,000 last year for the Agriculture Department to perform ground squirrel abatement services near flood control channels and along roadsides during the summer

He indicated that roadside worker safety is of particular concern in considering the use of machines such as this. He also reiterated that since carbon monoxide treatments would be most effective on ground squirrels during late-winter and early spring, Agriculture Department personnel are not available during that time of the year due to their focus on regulatory functions.

Larry Yost noted that it is not feasible or cost effective for the Agriculture Department to provide carbon monoxide services for ground squirrel abatement.

Subcommittee members acknowledged that risk is increased on roadsides, but flood-control parcels could act as a suitable venue to conduct a pilot to evaluate the costs by doing a comparative study. In order to further explore potential pilots, the subcommittee would like to engage with personnel from the Public Works Department to better understand the policies and procedures that apply to this type of project. There was general consensus among subcommittee members to support Public Works in this effort and they aim to better understand the capacity of the Department to initiate this and similar pilots. Wade Finlinson agreed to reach out to Public Works to provide additional information in this regard at the next meeting.

The subcommittee also discussed concerns about the primary and secondary poisoning potential of diphacinone. Typically, pre baiting is done on Monday and the treated-grain application is done on Wednesday and Friday. Agriculture Department personnel also perform site surveys on Thursday and Friday. Staff performing these follow up surveys note that there is no residual bait visible within hours of the application, and no signs of off-target poisoning are present.

Public Speaker: Susan JunFish

The speaker thanked Larry Yost for sharing the information and said that if staff has to go a total of four times to treat each site with diphacinone, carbon monoxide treatments would be more efficient since staff would only need to go to the site once or twice. Further clarification was also requested regarding whether or not the County applies diphacinone on private property.

The subcommittee clarified that the reference to private property earlier in the presentation was in the context of potential disadvantages to using a carbon monoxide injection device. Agriculture Department staff noted that ground squirrels from adjacent private properties were frequently observed eating the treated and untreated grain applied within public rights-of-way. It was assumed that this impacts broader ground squirrel populations in a given area more than the carbon monoxide device would, since that would only dispatch squirrels exposed to the gas inside the targeted burrow.

5. Hear an updated report regarding glyphosate usage by County departments and discuss the development of vegetation management decision documents for sites where post-emergent glyphosate use is high

Wade Finlinson presented information contained on the attached slides. The subcommittee agreed to focus on West County Detention Facility first and the IPM coordinator committed to providing an initial draft of the decision document to consider at the next subcommittee meeting.

Public Speakers: Dave Shoemaker, Shirley Shelangoski, and Susan JunFish

Speakers asked about Byron Boys Ranch and exploring the possible use of pest contraceptive strategies for problematic vertebrate species at other sites. The product ContraPest was referenced and the subcommittee and staff were encouraged to reach out to Lisa Owens Viani for input about ContraPest concerns.

6. Discuss priorities for the subcommittee

The committee agreed to focus on the following priorities in 2020:

- Looking closer at post-emergent herbicide use and creating site-specific decision documentation to promote integrated efforts at these locations.
- Carrying out investigations related to ground squirrel recommendations previously submitted by the subcommittee.
- Developing decision documentation for on-call ground squirrel management services.

Public Speaker: Dave Shoemaker

The speaker reiterated a concern about aluminum phosphide use in storage areas and thinks that dangers are understated in the associated literature. It appears the practice is used in maritime shipments, and the speaker has not heard of other operations that are using the strategy on land but will continue to research. He also said that alternatives to the practice are mentioned in published literature.

7. Plan next meeting agenda

The next meeting will be January 30th, 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM.

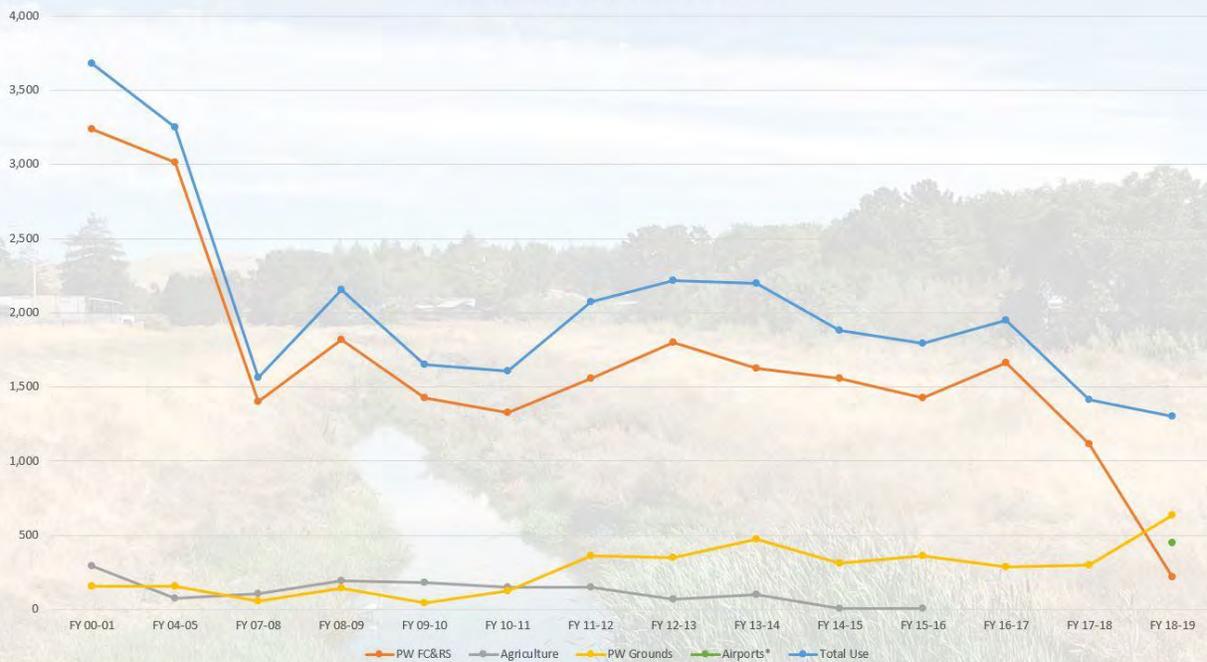
- Public Works contracting staff member, 40 minutes
- Draft decision document, 30 minutes
- Standing items 20 minutes

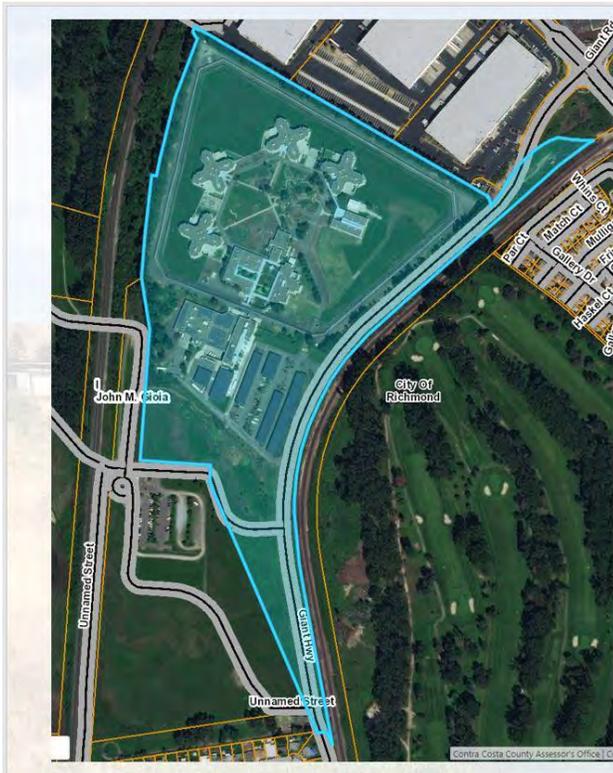
Review of Glyphosate and Other Herbicide Use at the Following County Facilities:

- West County Detention Facility
- Marsh Creek Range
- Juvenile Hall
- Byron and Buchanan Field Airports

Contra Costa County Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee
 Decision-Making Subcommittee
 October 31, 2019

Pounds of Glyphosate Used by Fiscal Year





West County Detention Facility 5555 Giant Road, Richmond

- Parcel size: 47.36 acres
- Glyphosate applied FY 2018-19:
 - RoundUp Pro: **386.85 lbs a.i.**
- Other Herbicides applied FY 18-19:
 - Payload (Flumioxazin): **3.25 lbs a.i.**
 - Dithiopyr 40 WSB: **2 lbs a.i.**
 - Sureguard (Flumioxazin): **.021 lbs a.i.**
- Grounds Labor Hours Allotted:
 - **2.9** hours per week or **154** per year

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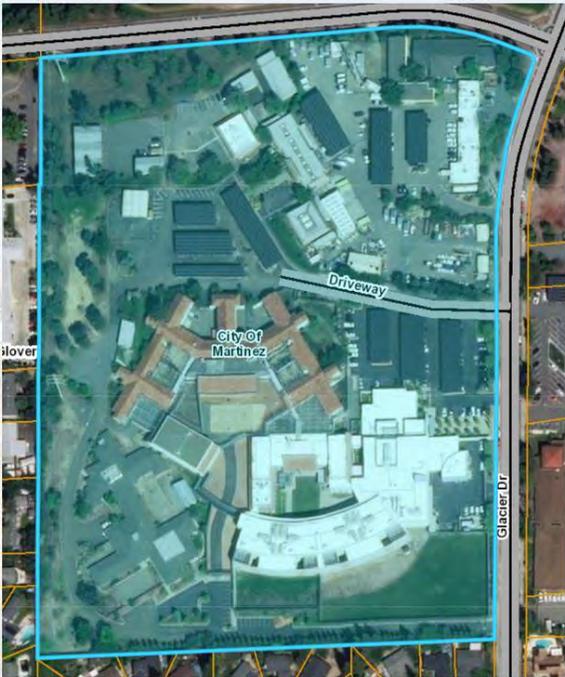
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Marsh Creek Range and Detention Facility 12000 Marsh Creek Rd, Clayton

- Parcel size: 154 acres
- Glyphosate applied FY 2018-19:
 - RoundUp Pro: **101.29 lbs a.i.**
- Other Herbicides applied FY 18-19:
 - Payload (Flumioxazin): **.924 lbs a.i.**
- Grounds Labor Hours Allotted:
 - By request only—no regular service







Juvenile Hall 202 Glacier Drive, Martinez

- Parcel size: 22.33 acres
- Glyphosate applied FY 2018-19:
 - RoundUp Pro: **12.46 lbs a.i.**
- Other Herbicides applied FY 18-19:
 - Sureguard (Flumioxazin): **.186 lbs a.i.**
- Grounds Labor Hours Allotted:
 - **23.3** hours per week or 1212 per year





Buchanan Field Airport
550 Sally Ride Drive, Concord
&
Byron Airport
550 Eagle Court, Byron

- Parcel size:
 - Buchanan: 482.84 acres
 - Byron: 1269.9 acres
- Glyphosate applied FY 2018-19:
 - RoundUp Pro: approximately **17.67 lbs a.i.**





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County Sites with the Highest Glyphosate Use Fiscal Year 2018-2019

Location	Herbicide	Total a.i.		Total Oz.	July	August	Sept.	October	Nov.	Dec.	January	February	March	April	May	June
		(lb)	T Gal/#													
West County DF	RoundUp Pro Concentrate	386.8468	77.15625	9876	576	5696	384			20						3200
	Payload Herbicide	3.25125	6.375	102	6	54	24									18
	Dithiopyr 40 WSB	2	5	80						80						
	Sureguard	0.021038	0.04125	0.66						0.66						
Marsh Creek	RoundUp Pro Concentrate	101.2946	20.20313	2586			576							410	1280	320
	Payload Herbicide	0.924375	1.8125	29			12							5	12	
Juvenile Hall	RoundUp Pro Concentrate	12.45619	2.484375	318	127	128								18		45
	Sureguard	0.185831	0.364375	5.83	4.33	1.5										
Airports*	RoundUp Pro Concentrate	17.66585	3.523438	451												

*approximate

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