

Contra Costa County  
Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee  
2018-2020 Recommendations Tracking Table

Date of IPM Advisory Committee Approval/Rec. #	Recommendation	Responsible Department or Staff	Property or Program Specific?	Status	Additional Information
2020.11.19a	<p>Redefine vegetation management practices that promote proactive strategies and clarify accountability as it pertains to each site's natural resources. Efforts should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjusting how funds pertaining to grounds maintenance are allocated. Proactive and regenerative maintenance practices should be prioritized over corrective maintenance requests. Personnel from the Office of the Sheriff and the Public Works Department should engage in a dialog with the IPM Coordinator to determine what alterations could be immediately implemented that would refine the business relationship as it pertains to vegetation management.</li> <li>• Incorporating a vegetation monitoring protocol that documents periodic status updates from onsite personnel to the Grounds Division. This may include sharing still photographs and/or video from the security system on a routine basis that keeps applicable County staff aware of current vegetation conditions.</li> <li>• Provision of supplemental training modules for all personnel, inmates, or volunteers who may be involved with vegetation management decisions that cover the County Integrated Pest Management Policy, these recommendations, and general safety guidelines.</li> </ul>	PWD, Sheriff, IPM Coordinator	This pertains to the properties that contain the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) and Marsh Creek Range and Detention Facility (MCDF)	Initiated	Public Works Facilities Services leadership and command staff at each location have indicated an interest in continuing this conversation. The IPM Coordinator will follow up with all parties to prioritize which endeavors best support the IPM Policy.
2020.11.19b	Initiate a dialog with adjacent property owners such as East Bay Regional Parks regarding both properties and Save Mount Diablo at the Marsh Creek property to explore formal partnerships that strengthen the mission of each agency. Also consider contracting for vegetation management services in a manner consistent with the County IPM Policy.	PWD, Sheriff, IPM Coordinator	MCDF	Not Started	The IPM Coordinator frequently works with representatives of the stewardship teams from both organizations. With TWIC consent, he will gladly commence preliminary discussions with the Office of the Sheriff, Public Works Real Property/Facilities Services, and both external partners to identify potential arrangements that are palatable and mutually beneficial to each entity.
2020.11.19c	Where chemical controls are required to maintain bare-earth objectives, prioritize applications to reduce glyphosate dependence and continue to explore the feasibility of implementing alternative tactics such as steam weeding, mulching, and competitive planting.	PWD, Sheriff, IPM Coordinator	WCDF & MCDF	Initiated	This will be included in the ongoing discussions referenced in 2020.11.19a as well as other recommendations as guided by TWIC.

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2020.11.19d	<p>Foster mutually beneficial community partnerships that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Allow County personnel to provide a higher level of service by focusing on core tasks, and</li> <li>•Maximize balanced cooperation between organized labor, community-based organizations, and employment training enterprises, and</li> <li>•Build on regional models that are financially sustainable and ecologically regenerative.</li> <li>•Facilitate collaborative landscape programming that allows every County-owned acre to be a shining example of a restorative community asset.</li> </ul>	BOS/CAO	Countywide	Not Started	<p>The County owns hundreds of acres of underutilized property. The programming that occurs on portions of these parcels will require the perpetual interest of County operations. The segments of each property that are not central to the principle function of respective programs tend to be neglected from a stewardship standpoint. By reimagining how these peripheral lands are managed, alternative site programming strategies will be revealed. There are multiple development opportunities that concurrently support the IPM Policy, the recent Declaration of a Climate Emergency in Contra Costa County, as well as other related social &amp; racial justice initiatives. The IPM Coordinator is happy to assist as directed by TWIC.</p>
2020.11.19e	<p>The IPM Coordinator is encouraged to play an active role continuing this dialog with other stakeholders in the County. These findings and additional site stewardship revelations at similar rehabilitation properties in the County should be presented to the appropriate body or program for further consideration. That may include the Office of Reentry and Justice, The Public Protection Committee, The Community Corrections Partnership and its associated committees, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, or other relevant programs.</p>	IPM Coordinator, BOS, ORJ, PWD, Sheriff, Probation	WCDF, MCDF, Juvenile Hall, Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (OAYRF), Underutilized County Properties, CBO Programs	Not Started	<p>The IPM Coordinator welcomes TWIC guidance on which strategic efforts are encouraged for further pursuit if Supervisors determine it to be worthwhile.</p>
2020.11.19f	<p>At the Marsh Creek Property, consider establishing a site stewardship fund that receives a portion of fees charged to agencies for range usage or consider supporting the development of a partner foundation to solicit supplemental vegetation management funding and to coordinate volunteer efforts.</p>	Sheriff, IPM Coordinator	MCDF	Not Started	Pending TWIC direction
2020.11.19g	<p>The Marsh Creek facility is encouraged to work with the IPM Coordinator to set up product demonstrations of steam weeding systems, remote control slope mowers, and other related machinery to prioritize which equipment procurements would be appropriate to incorporate into the existing operation.</p>	Sheriff, IPM Coordinator	MCDF	Not Started	Pending TWIC direction
2020.09.17a	<p>Improve the IPM Website so that it provides as much information as possible. That may include a link to the Prop 65 list or other databases that contain information on chronic hazards of certain pesticides.</p>	IPM Coordinator	IPM Website	Initiated	<p>This is a top priority of the IPM Coordinator in 2021. Additionally, a group of regional IPM Coordinators from multiple jurisdictions are collectively pursuing clarity on how to best classify the risks of both chemical and non-chemical pest management tactics.</p>
2019.11.21a	<p>Encourage County operations to continue to evaluate new and existing weed and ground squirrel management tactics, considering site requirements, efficacy, cost, impacts to the environment, and impacts to the community.</p>	PWD, Ag. Dept.	Countywide	In Progress	<p>Staff participation in IPM meetings from the Public Works and Agriculture Departments has been commendable in 2020. That interaction--particularly at the subcommittee level--has helped depict a clearer picture of operational constraints. The newly-formed Grants &amp; Pilots Subcommittee is chaired by County personnel and intends to advance several proposed tactics.</p>

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2019.11.21b	Direct departments to annually propose and prioritize potential research projects associated with emerging and innovative strategies and tactics that will improve the County's IPM program.	BOS/PWD, Ag. Dept.	Countywide	Complete	Operational departments have been supportive of initial efforts to seek external funding. This and the following two recommendations were codified in Resolution 2020/326, adopted on December 8, 2020.
2019.11.21c	Encourage County departments to seek outside funding sources for these IPM research projects.	BOS	Countywide	Complete	See additional information regarding 2019.11.21b above. Also, the IPM Advisory Committee has ranked this as the #1 initiative in 2021 (pg. 18 of the Annual Report).
2019.11.21d	Consider establishing funding to internally support such research projects.	PWD/Ag. Dept.	Countywide	Complete	See additional information regarding 2019.11.21b above.
2019.11.21e	Allocate additional funding or establish alternative procedures whereby they may procure a contractor to provide carbon monoxide fumigation services for ground squirrels along levees, irrigation canals, and flood-control channels during the spring.	PWD Maintenance Division	Flood Control properties	In Progress	There has been substantive progress on this recommendation in 2020. The Decision-Making Subcommittee referred further exploration and implementation to the Grants & Pilots Subcommittee. The latter has effectively engaged various subject matter experts and will continue to move this and other alternative tactics forward.
2019.11.21f	Conduct detailed evaluations of the vegetation management programs along County rights-of-way during the period October 2018 to present, given that no herbicides were applied. Have they met the control mandates set forth? Have they saved funds that may be used to evaluate and implement alternatives to herbicide applications along roadsides and flood control channels?	PWD Maintenance Division	Flood Control properties, roadsides,	Complete	The third paragraph on page 12 of the 2020 Annual Report summarizes this impact. During the period in question, the increased amount of mowing to meet mandates has diverted resources away from other important efforts such as sign clearance, tree trimming, pothole repair, illegal dumping mitigation, encampment cleanups, and responding to citizen requests. Costs have increased while the total acreage treated has decreased. The Department has indicated that the requested level of detailed evaluations is not feasible under current staffing constraints.
2018.11.15a	Have County Departments include the Pest Management Flow Chart created by Public Works staff and the IPM Coordinator within all annual IPM and pesticide safety training programs for County staff	PWD, Ag. Dept.	Countywide	In Progress	The IPM Advisory Committee has ranked this as the #2 IPM Coordinator initiative in 2021 (See page 18 of the Annual Report).
2018.11.15b	Allocate funding to the departmental IPM programs to enable pilot testing and evaluation of emerging and innovative pest management strategies and tactics.	PWD, Ag. Dept.	Countywide	In Progress	See note for 2019.11.21e above.
2018.11.15c	Revise the County's Pesticide Use Posting and Notification Policy and signage	PWD	All land and facilities owned by—and under the control of—the County	Nearly Complete	The Posting Task Force of the IPM Advisory Committee reconvened in 2020 to incorporate TWIC and PWD feedback in addition to other relevant revisions. The IPM Committee unanimously approved the revised policy and signage and forwarded them to the Public Works Director for final revision and adoption. Public Works has not indicated the status of the finalized policy.

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2018.11.15d	Investigate posting on flood control channel access roads where people frequently walk, or on other rights-of-way that are frequently used as walking paths	PWD	Flood Control access roads not intended for public use	Complete	TWIC clearly articulated in the November 2019 meeting that these sites are not intended or maintained for public access and it would be inappropriate to send mixed messages by posting pesticide applications. That sentiment was captured in the revised policy. The Department confirmed that they would continue to post application signs on trails designated for public use and would also explore mapping solutions that help educate the community in identifying designated trails. The IPM Advisory Committee is interested in forming a technical advisory committee to expand geographic information systems (GIS) capacity as it pertains to Countywide pest management (See Objective 3.2 & Strategic Activity 3.2 on page 20 of the Annual Report).
2018.11.15e	Investigate the feasibility of erecting permanent signs and determine the most useful placement for those signs	PWD	County-maintained trails	Complete	TWIC expressed a preference for temporary signage on County right-of-way. That sentiment was included in the proposed Policy revision.
2018.11.15f	Investigate a way for people to make a complaint online about pesticide use	PWD	Countywide	Complete	Since the November 2019 TWIC meeting, Public Works has rolled out Mobile Citizen, a mobile application that allows citizens to report non-emergency conditions. Additionally, the IPM Coordinator aims to incorporate a tool on the IPM website as an alternative way for citizens to report pest management-related concerns to be forwarded to the appropriate department or jurisdiction.
2018.11.15g	Investigate a way for pesticide treatment notifications to be sent to people who sign up for email notices	PWD	Countywide	Complete	Public Works personnel reviewed this recommendation and determined that their current system seems to be working. They continue to evaluate methods that promote access to pesticide application for all citizens. 2021 initiatives that involve IPM website upgrades and the GIS Technical Advisory Committee will review ways of making all pesticide treatments more transparent and accessible.