Agenda

TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

December 13, 2021
9:00 A.M.
1025 Escobar St., Martinez

To slow the spread of COVID-19, in lieu of a public gathering, the Transportation, Water and Infrastructure meetings will be remote until further notice and accessible via link to all members of the public, as permitted by the Governor's Executive Order N29-20.

Supervisor Candace Andersen, Chair
Supervisor Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

Agenda Items:	**Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee** . You are invited to a Zoom meeting Dec 13, 2021 09:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada) Please click the link below to join the meeting: https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/87914047639 Meeting ID: 879 1404 7639 Or via telephone, dial: USA 214 765 0478 US Toll & USA 888 278 0254 US Toll-free Conference code: 198675

1. Introductions

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

3. **Administrative Items, if applicable.** (John Cunningham, Department of Conservation and Development)

4. **REVIEW record of meeting for November 8, 2021, Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee Meeting.** This record was prepared pursuant to the Better Government Ordinance 95-6, Article 25-205 (d) of the Contra Costa County Ordinance Code. Any handouts or printed copies of testimony distributed at the meeting will be attached to this meeting record. (John Cunningham, Department of Conservation and Development)

5. **RECEIVE yearly update on the County's IPM Program from the IPM Coordinator & take ACTION as appropriate.** (Wade Finlinson, Health Services of Contra Costa County)

6. **CONSIDER report on Local, State, Regional, and Federal Transportation Related Legislative Issues and take ACTION as appropriate.** (John Cunningham, Department of Conservation and Development)

7. **RECEIVE Communication, News, Miscellaneous Items of Interest to the Committee and DIRECT staff as appropriate.** (John Cunningham, Department of Conservation and Development)

8. The next meeting is TBA, 2022.

9. Adjourn

The Transportation, Water & Infrastructure Committee (TWIC) will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend TWIC meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the TWIC less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at the County Department of Conservation and Development, 30 Muir Road, Martinez during normal business hours.

Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

John Cunningham, Committee Staff Phone
(925) 655-2915, Fax (925) 655-7250
john.cunningham@dcd.cccounty.us

Glossary of Acronyms, Abbreviations, and other Terms (in alphabetical order): Contra Costa County has a policy of making limited use of acronyms, abbreviations, and industry-specific language in meetings of its Board of Supervisors and Committees. Following is a list of commonly used abbreviations that may appear in presentations and written materials at meetings of the Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee:

AB Assembly Bill
ABAG Association of Bay Area Governments
ACA Assembly Constitutional Amendment
ADA Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
ALUC Airport Land Use Commission
AOB Area of Benefit
BAAQMD Bay Area Air Quality Management District
BART Bay Area Rapid Transit District
BATA Bay Area Toll Authority
BCDC Bay Conservation & Development Commission
BDCP Bay-Delta Conservation Plan
BGO Better Government Ordinance (Contra Costa County)
BOS Board of Supervisors
CALTRANS California Department of Transportation
CalWIN California Works Information Network
CalWORKS California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids
CAER Community Awareness Emergency Response
CAO County Administrative Officer or Office
CCTA Contra Costa Transportation Authority
CCWD Contra Costa Water District
CDBG Community Development Block Grant
CEQA California Environmental Quality Act
CFS Cubic Feet per Second (of water)
CPI Consumer Price Index
CSA County Service Area
CSAC California State Association of Counties
CTC California Transportation Commission
DCC Delta Counties Coalition
DCD Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation & Development
DPC Delta Protection Commission
DSC Delta Stewardship Council
DWR California Department of Water Resources
EBMUD East Bay Municipal Utility District
EIR Environmental Impact Report (a state requirement)
EIS Environmental Impact Statement (a federal requirement)
EPA Environmental Protection Agency
FAA Federal Aviation Administration
FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency
FTE Full Time Equivalent
FY Fiscal Year
GHAD Geologic Hazard Abatement District
GIS Geographic Information System
HBRR Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation
HOT High-Occupancy/Toll
HOV High-Occupancy-Vehicle
HSD Contra Costa County Health Services Department
HUD United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
IPM Integrated Pest Management
ISO Industrial Safety Ordinance
JPA/JEPA Joint (Exercise of) Powers Authority or Agreement
Lamorinda Lafayette-Moraga-Orinda Area
LAFCo Local Agency Formation Commission
LCC League of California Cities
LTMS Long-Term Management Strategy
MAC Municipal Advisory Council
MAF Million Acre Feet (of water)
MBE Minority Business Enterprise
MOA Memorandum of Agreement
MOE Maintenance of Effort
MOU Memorandum of Understanding
MTC Metropolitan Transportation Commission
NACo National Association of Counties
NEPA National Environmental Protection Act
OES-EOC Office of Emergency Services-Emergency Operations Center
PDA Priority Development Area
PWD Contra Costa County Public Works Department
RCRC Regional Council of Rural Counties
RDA Redevelopment Agency or Area
RFI Request For Information
RFP Request For Proposals
RFQ Request For Qualifications
SB Senate Bill
SBE Small Business Enterprise
SR2S Safe Routes to Schools
STIP State Transportation Improvement Program
SWAT Southwest Area Transportation Committee
TRANSPAC Transportation Partnership & Cooperation (Central)
TRANSPLAN Transportation Planning Committee (East County)
TWIC Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee
USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers
WBE Women-Owned Business Enterprise
WCCTAC West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee
WETA Water Emergency Transportation Authority
WRDA Water Resources Development Act

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE **3.**

Meeting Date: 12/13/2021

Subject: Administrative Items, if applicable.

Department: Conservation & Development

Referral No.: N/A

Referral Name: N/A

Presenter: John Cunningham, DCD **Contact:** John Cunningham (925)655-2915

Referral History:

This is an Administrative Item of the Committee.

Referral Update:

Staff will review any items related to the conduct of Committee business.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

CONSIDER Administrative items and Take ACTION as appropriate.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

N/A

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE **4.**

Meeting Date: 12/13/2021

Subject: REVIEW record of meeting for Nvember 8, 2021, Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Meeting.

Submitted For: TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE,

Department: Conservation & Development

Referral No.: N/A

Referral Name: N/A

Presenter: John Cunningham, DCD **Contact:** John Cunningham (925)655-2915

Referral History:

County Ordinance (Better Government Ordinance 95-6, Article 25-205, [d]) requires that each County Body keep a record of its meetings. Though the record need not be verbatim, it must accurately reflect the agenda and the decisions made in the meeting.

Referral Update:

Any handouts or printed copies of testimony distributed at the meeting will be attached to this meeting record. Links to the agenda and minutes will be available at the TWI Committee web page: http://www.cccounty.us/4327/Transportation-Water-Infrastructure

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Staff recommends approval of the attached Record of Action for the November 8, 2021, Committee Meeting with any necessary corrections.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

N/A

Attachments

11-08-21 TWIC Record of Action

DRAFT

TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

RECORD OF ACTION FOR November 8, 2021

Supervisor Candace Andersen, Chair
Supervisor Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

Present: Candace Andersen, Chair
Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

Attendees: Rochelle Johnson, Vicki Kretsinger, Will Halligan, Lisa Vorderbruggen, Jan Warren, Jamar Stamps, Gus Amirzehni, John Kopchik, Alicia Nuchols, Jerry Fahy, Mark Watts, Savannah McCarthy, Will Nelson, Mike Moore, Paul Detjens, Allison Knapp, Jeff Valeros, Anonymous Call In Participant, Craig M. Standafer, Robert Sarmiento, Jody London

1. Introductions

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

   No public comment.

3. CONSIDER Administrative items and Take ACTION as appropriate.

   No administrative items were discussed.

4. Staff recommends approval of the attached Record of Action for the October 11, 2021, Committee Meeting with any necessary corrections.

   The Committee unanimously APPROVED the meeting record.

5. CONSIDER the report, provide COMMENT and DIRECT staff as appropriate.

   The Committee RECEIVED the VMT/SB743 implementation status report and directed staff to check back in every six months. Discussion/questions included a need to determine how consistent the County is with other jurisdictions, how certain carbon reduction approaches had unintended consequences (heavier electric cars increase road maintenance costs), and that CCTA should consider reconvening the Growth Managment Task force to establish an understanding on how other jurisdictions are implementing SB743.

   Lisa Vorderbrueggen (Building Industry Association of the Bay Area) had concerns

with increased costs and how smaller projects that are not adjacent to transit, could be better accommodated.

6. 1) RECEIVE the report on the East Contra Costa Groundwater Sustainability Plan dated October 15, 2021, attached Exhibit “B”; and

   2) CONSIDER recommending the Board of Supervisors, as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for portions of the East Contra Costa Subbasin (DWR Basin 5-22.19), adopt the East Contra Costa Groundwater Sustainability Plan dated October 15, 2021, at a public hearing on December 7, 2021; and

   3) AUTHORIZE the Director of Conservation and Development, or designee, to take such actions as may be reasonably necessary to submit the East Contra Costa Groundwater Sustainability Plan, dated October 15, 2021, to DWR by January 31, 2022.

   The Committee UNANIMOUSLY approved the staff recommendations and directed staff to bring the item to the Board of Supervisors.

   Mike Moore (Sustainability Commission, District 3) urged adoption.

7. RECIEVE and COMMENT on the status report on the street light service coordination effort between PG&E and the County Public Works Department and Cities for street light maintenance.

   The Committee RECEIVED the report and indicated support for the direction of staff.

8. ACCEPT the draft of the Final Vision Zero Report dated October 2021, and DIRECT Public Works staff, on behalf of the County, to incorporate comments and present to the full Board of Supervisors.

   The Committee UNANIMOUSLY approved the staff recommendations.

9. RECEIVE and consider public comments on the Plan, ACCEPT the Plan, and RECOMMEND adoption of the Plan by the Board of Supervisors, as the governing board of the District.

   The Committee unanimously APPROVED the staff recomendations on the draft Flood Control Capital Improvement Plan.

10. CONSIDER report on Local, Regional, State, and Federal Transportation Related Legislative Issues and take ACTION as appropriate.

    The Commitee RECEIVED the report.

11. RECEIVE information and DIRECT staff as appropriate.

12. The next meeting is currently scheduled for Monday, December 13, 2021.

13. Adjourn

For Additional Information Contact:

John Cunningham, Committee Staff Phone
(925) 655-2915, Fax (925) 655-7250
john.cunningham@dcd.cccounty.us

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE **5.**

Meeting Date: 12/13/2021

Subject: RECEIVE yearly update on the County's IPM Program from the IPM Coordinator & take ACTION as appropriate.

Submitted For: TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE,

Department: Conservation & Development

Referral No.: 9

Referral Name: Monitor the implementation of the Integrated Pest Management policy.

Presenter: Wade Finlinson, Health Services of Contra Costa County **Contact:** (925)655-3214

Referral History:

The Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee (TWIC) annually reviews the County's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program and monitors the implementation of the IPM Policy.

Referral Update:

The IPM Coordinator will present the IPM Annual Report (see attached annual report, Pesticide Risk Footprint Tool, Decision Documentation for Vegetation Management at Juvenile Hall, and tracking table of recommendations from the IPM Advisory Committee)

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE the 2021 Annual Report from the Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee and DIRECT staff as appropriate.

Attachments

2021 IPM Annual Report 2021 1213 (PDF)

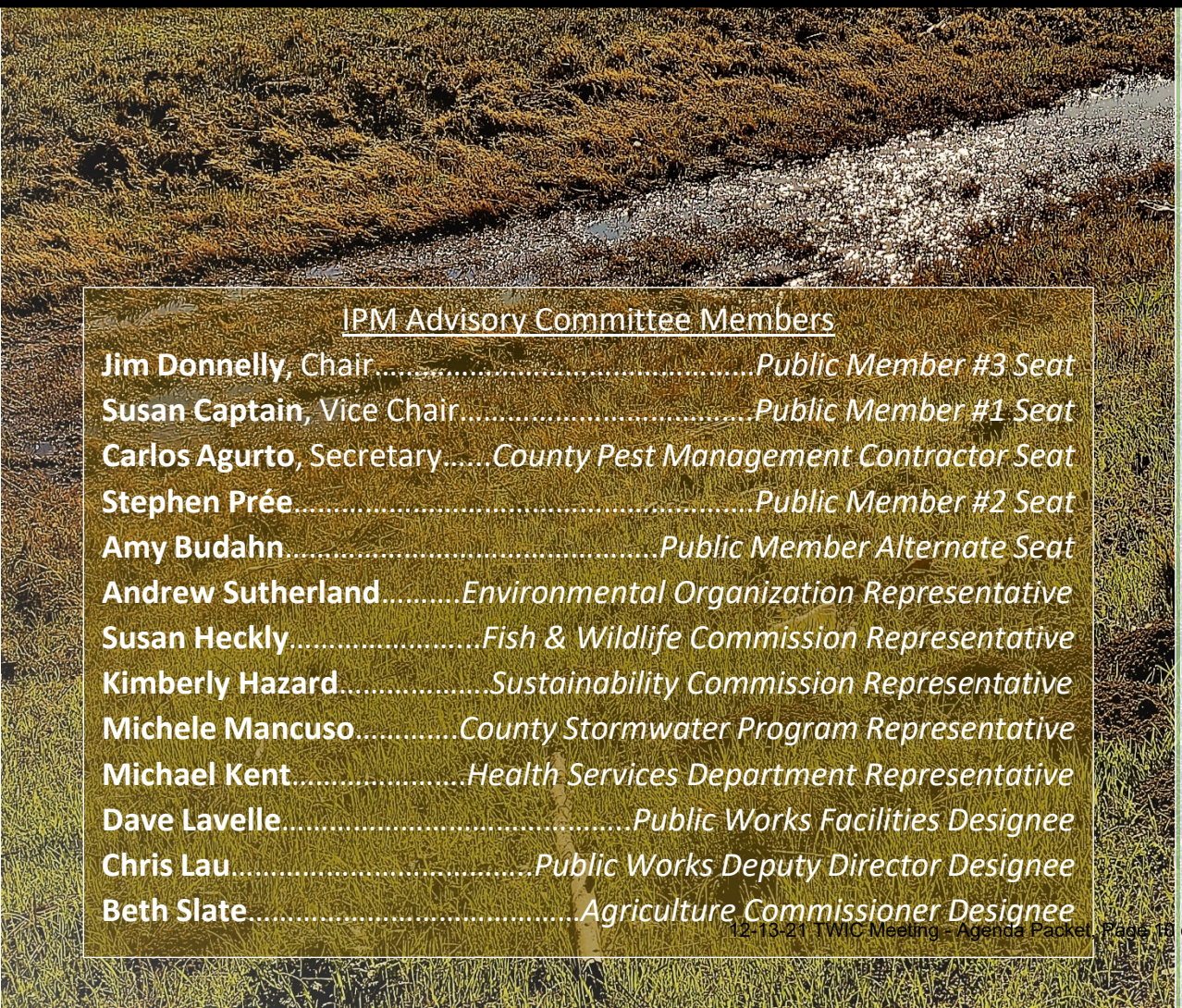
Decision Doc for Vegetation Mgmt at Juv Hall 2021 1118

IPM Advisory Committee Recommendations Tracking Table_2021 1213 (PDF)

Pesticide Risk Footprint Tool_Revised 2021 1004

2021

Integrated Pest Management Annual Report



IPM Advisory Committee Members

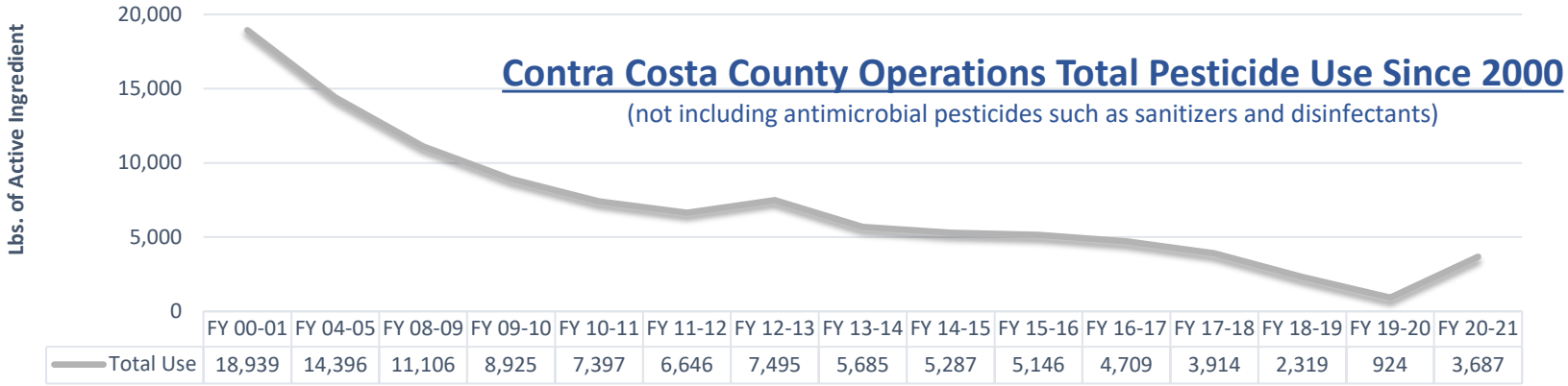
Jim Donnelly, Chair.....*Public Member #3 Seat*
Susan Captain, Vice Chair.....*Public Member #1 Seat*
Carlos Agurto, Secretary.....*County Pest Management Contractor Seat*
Stephen Prée.....*Public Member #2 Seat*
Amy Budahn.....*Public Member Alternate Seat*
Andrew Sutherland.....*Environmental Organization Representative*
Susan Heckly.....*Fish & Wildlife Commission Representative*
Kimberly Hazard.....*Sustainability Commission Representative*
Michele Mancuso.....*County Stormwater Program Representative*
Michael Kent.....*Health Services Department Representative*
Dave Lavelle.....*Public Works Facilities Designee*
Chris Lau.....*Public Works Deputy Director Designee*
Beth Slate.....*Agriculture Commissioner Designee*

12/13/2021

Executive Summary

Pesticide Usage

The amount of pesticides applied by County Departments increased this year for the first time since 2012. The increase is attributed to two divisions within the Public Works Department—Airports and Maintenance. Usage at the two Airport properties will be evaluated by the ongoing work of the IPM Decision-Making Subcommittee who commenced the revision of decision documentation for vegetation management at the airports in August. The Maintenance Division resumed pesticide applications on roadsides and flood control properties in February after pausing the program in November 2018. Usage data for the last three fiscal years are significantly impacted by the pause of the PWD-Maintenance herbicide program as described on pages 2 and 3 of this report.



IPM Advisory Committee

The Committee developed a pesticide risk visualization tool and decision documentation for vegetation management at Juvenile Hall. They received presentations about topics ranging from IPM outreach to organic herbicides & alternatives to glyphosate. The Committee initiated efforts to revise departmental IPM plans and draft an outreach strategy that supports the IPM Policy goal to create public awareness of IPM through education.

In addition to the departmental IPM plan revisions and development of an outreach strategy, the 2022 Work Plan of the Committee will also focus on enhancing departmental IPM training and recordkeeping. The Committee accomplished many of the ambitious activities outlined in the 2021 Work Plan and seeks to further many of them in the coming year.

Personnel

This year also marked a few impactful personnel developments in the Agriculture and Public Works Departments. Deputy Agriculture Commissioner Larry Yost retired after 32 years of public service in the department, and Assistant Agriculture Commissioner Jose Arriaga was appointed as Agriculture Commissioner of Orange County. Two new Deputy Commissioners have been hired along with several key positions within Public Works. The Grounds Division filled five Gardener vacancies and the Maintenance Division brought three new Vegetation Management Technicians on board.

2021 Integrated Pest Management Annual Report

Introduction

All advisory bodies to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) are required to submit an annual report at the end of each calendar year. The Countywide Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy requires the IPM Advisory Committee to include updates on the development and implementation of IPM programs within the Agriculture and Public Works Departments. The pesticide usage component of these reports is compiled by fiscal year (July through June) and the remaining content covers the period from when the previous year's report was approved by the Committee (typically mid-November).

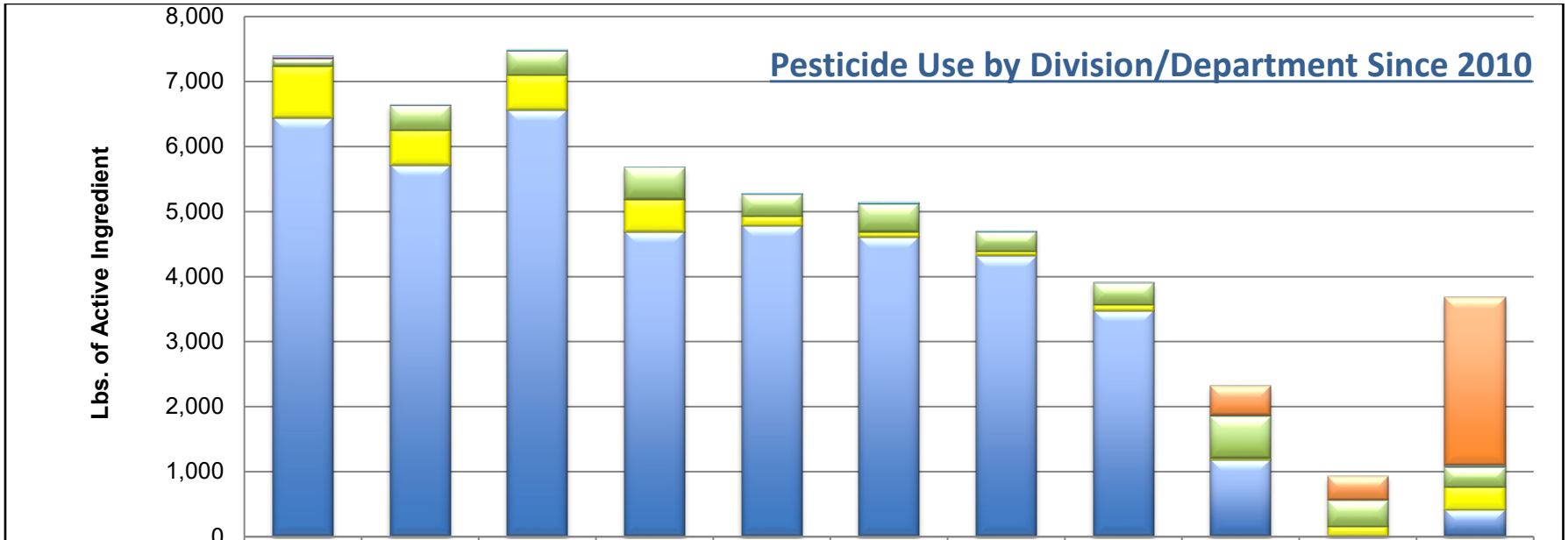
Pesticide Usage

Since 2000, County departments have decreased pesticide usage by 81% (see updated Pesticide Use Summary Comparison). During the same time frame, the use of pesticides deemed bad actors by the Pesticide Action Network have decreased by 74%. There have only been two instances over the last 20 years when usage increased from one year to the next. The first occurred with a 12% increase between fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13. The second happened during this reporting period. This year's usage increased by 399% compared with FY 2019-20, when there was a pause in the PWD-Maintenance herbicide program. The total amount used this year was less than FY 2017-18 when the PWD-Maintenance herbicide program was in place. While additional exploration into the full justification for the increase is warranted; the following findings may provide context:

- PWD-Maintenance performed all herbicide applications at airport properties prior to 2018 under the direction of the Vegetation Management Supervisor. The percentage of herbicide applied to airport properties by PWD-Maintenance personnel before 2018 is unknown.
- The Public Works Maintenance Division (PWD-Maintenance) reconvened their herbicide program in February of this year. Prior to that, they had not applied herbicides on roadsides or Flood Control properties since November of 2018.
- The last person to occupy the Vegetation Management Supervisor position accepted employment with another public agency in 2016.
- Due to several unsuccessful attempts to fill that position—whose salary was comparatively lower and required a higher level of minimum qualifications in comparison with equivalent positions in the region—the Department opted to cancel the position in order to help fund a Training and Staff Development Specialist position in December of 2019. (Additional context available on the Board Order found at this link)
- The 2-year pause of the PWD-Maintenance herbicide program not only created vegetation management backlogs along roadways and on Flood Control properties, but it also placed an unrealistic burden on Public Works Department Airports Division (PWD-Airports) to absorb a complex herbicide application function without the previously high-level of technical expertise available.
- Staff in the Airport Safety Officer series have performed all herbicide applications since 2018.
- The class specification for Airport Safety Officers lists the application of chemicals and other weed control products as typical tasks alongside fire suppression, airport security, regulatory compliance, and equipment maintenance.
- Despite fewer pesticide-specific regulations applying to airports in general and not having a regulatory responsibility to do so, PWD-Airports leadership continues to consult with licensed Pest Control Advisors (PCA's) on the products used to ensure safety conditions mandated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- Herbicide applications at Byron and Buchanan Field Airports accounted for 70% of the total pesticide usage of all County departments in FY 2020-21.

- The IPM Decision-Making Subcommittee initiated the process for revising the decision document for vegetation management at the airports in August and will continue to deliberate on that topic in 2022.

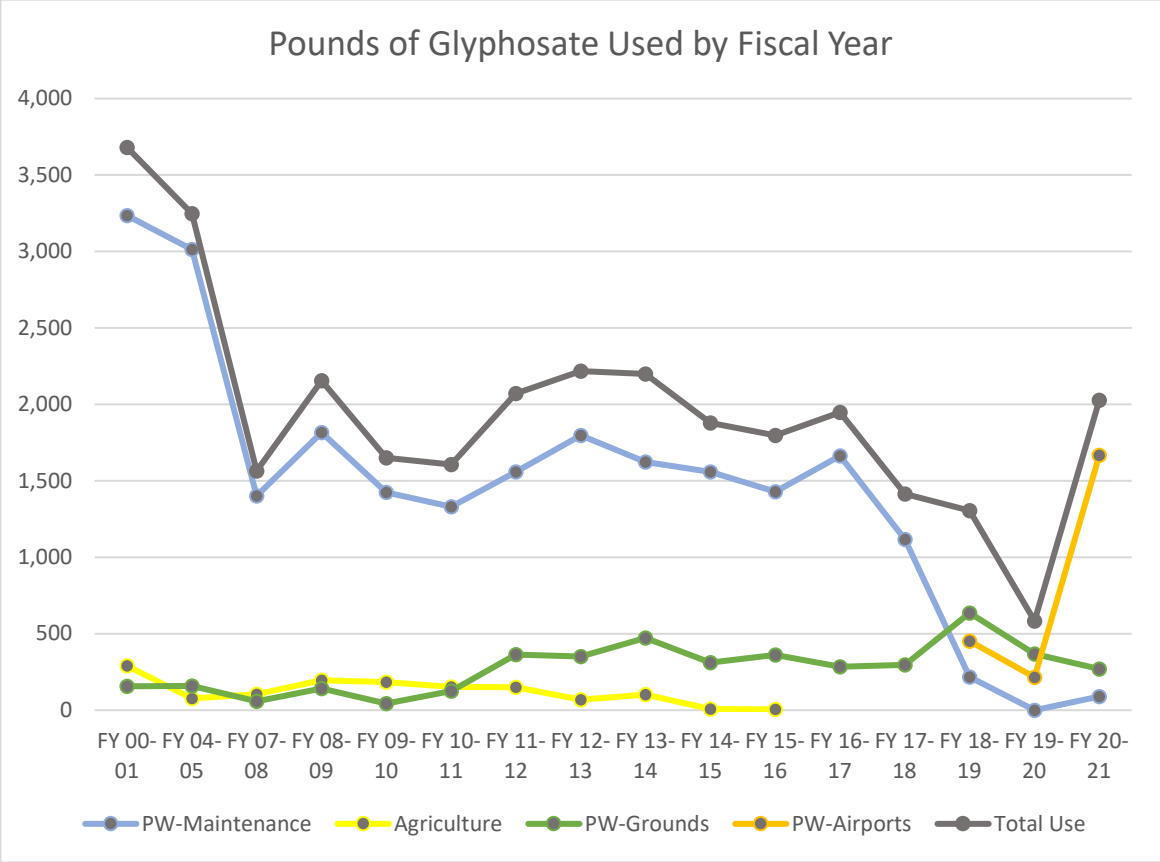
The chart below depicts the total pesticide used between the different Public Works divisions and the Agriculture Department over the last 11 years. The Public Works Facilities Division (PWD-Facilities) and Agriculture saw an overall increase in usage from the previous year. The PWD Grounds Division (PWD-Grounds) nearly matched their 10-year low for herbicide use this year. Usage data for the last three fiscal years are significantly impacted by the pause of the PWD-Maintenance herbicide program as described above. Divisional data from his year and FY 2018-2019 are abnormally low since applications were only conducted during a few months of each year. PWD-Maintenance did not apply herbicides in FY 2019-20.



	FY 10-11	FY 11-12	FY 12-13	FY 13-14	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
PW-Airports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	451	345	2587.67
PW-Facilities	5	9	16	6	16	30	17	10	16	19	32
PW Special Dist.	45	7	7	2	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
PW-Grounds	113	378	377	492	338	433	303	337	647	400	304
Agriculture	795	539	529	498	153	76	68	94	26	160	350
PW-Maintenance	6,439	5,713	6,565	4,688	4,780	4,607	4,321	3,473	1,179	0	414

Glyphosate Update

Herbicides containing glyphosate continue to be a controversial topic. In 2017, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) listed glyphosate as a Proposition 65 chemical known to cause cancer. However, there have been no regulatory changes associated with the use of formulations containing glyphosate by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR).



At the request of the IPM Advisory Committee in 2019, the IPM Coordinator conducted an assessment of glyphosate use by County departments. That review revealed the highest use sites to be the detention facilities at West County and Marsh Creek, Juvenile Hall, and the Byron and Buchanan Field Airports. In 2020, the Committee approved vegetation management decision documentation for both detention facilities. The Committee approved similar documentation for Juvenile Hall this year. As noted earlier, vegetation management at the airports is currently being reviewed by the Decision-Making Subcommittee.

The Committee remains interested in assisting County departments navigate this complex subject. The development of the Pesticide Risk Assessment Tool is intended to help departments and applicators in the County to weigh multiple risks associated with certain active ingredients. That tool is described in greater detail later in this report.

In the July meeting of the Committee, Karey Windbiel-Rojas from the University of California Cooperative Extension and Statewide IPM Program presented on organic herbicides and Alternatives to glyphosate. She continues to perform field trials for a variety of post emergent products and closely monitor efficacy of each one. The trials are ongoing and the data she presented were preliminary. Some of the products show promise, but cost implications and heightened acute health risks to applicators are significant limitations. Additionally, the California Department of Food and Agriculture has issued two stop-use-notices in the last year for products claiming to be organic alternatives. In each case, the products claimed to be organic, natural, or glyphosate free but were found to contain glyphosate as well as other synthetic pesticides not included on their respective label.

IPM Advisory Committee

The Committee met five times during the year. The Decision-Making Subcommittee also held five meetings while the Grants & Pilots Subcommittee convened twice. All agendas and approved minutes can be found online at the County's Public Meeting Agenda Center. The Committee made progress on many of the objectives included in the 2021 Work Plan and intends to continue working on them during 2022. The work of the Committee was driven by the four stated goals of the Countywide IPM Policy:

1. Minimize risks to the general public, staff and the environment as a result of pest control activities conducted by County staff and contractors.
2. Create, implement and periodically review written IPM plans in the Agriculture, Health, and Public Works Departments specific to their operational needs and consistent with the UC definition and this policy.
3. Promote availability, public awareness and public input into written county pest management plans and records.
4. Create public awareness of IPM through education.

Some of the activities and accomplishments of the Committee that pertain to each goal are as follows:

Goal #1

- In January, the Committee received a presentation about a new visualization tool initiated by Dr. Paul Jepson and his colleagues at the Oregon IPM Center. They offered input and referred further discussion and development of the tool to the Decision-Making Subcommittee. The Subcommittee worked to modify elements of the tool to better identify the types of risk associated with County operations. They approved the concept of the *Pesticide Risk Footprint Tool* in August and the full Committee approved it in November.
- Completed *Decision Documentation for Vegetation Management at Juvenile Hall* and reviewed vegetation management activities at the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility, the Byron Airport, and Buchanan Field Airport.
- Conducted research into alternative vegetation management tactics, pesticide risk assessment, and potentially applicable grants.
- The July meeting of the Grants & Pilots Subcommittee included a presentation on competitive planting from Dr. Chris McDonald from the University of California Cooperative Extension.

Goal #2

- The Committee reviewed each departmental IPM Plan during the March meeting. Members offered a variety of feedback on the existing plans and gave suggestions for revision. The Committee Chair recommended that a plan template be developed to ensure all departments and divisions within the County are implementing IPM in a uniform manner. The template is under active development and will be discussed in 2022.
- The Committee received a presentation in March regarding an overview of the Healthy Schools Act. The presentation included a summary of which facilities are subject to the legislation as well as the compliance status of each site.

Goal #3

- The Committee supported the formation of a geographic information systems (GIS) technical advisory committee (TAC) to explore the possibilities of improving site-specific pest management data compilation and increasing the transparency of pest management decisions. The TAC will convene in 2022.

Goal #4

- During the March meeting, the Committee received three outreach-related presentations. Michael Kent presented on the efforts of the Outreach Subcommittee that was previously convened in 2017 and 2018. Michele Mancuso gave an overview of the Clean Water Program's coordination with Our Water Our World, and Greg Spurlock detailed the Alternatives Considered format used by Restricted Materials Permitees. Committee members provided input on potential outreach methods. The IPM Coordinator agreed to draft an outreach strategy to be considered by the Committee in 2022.

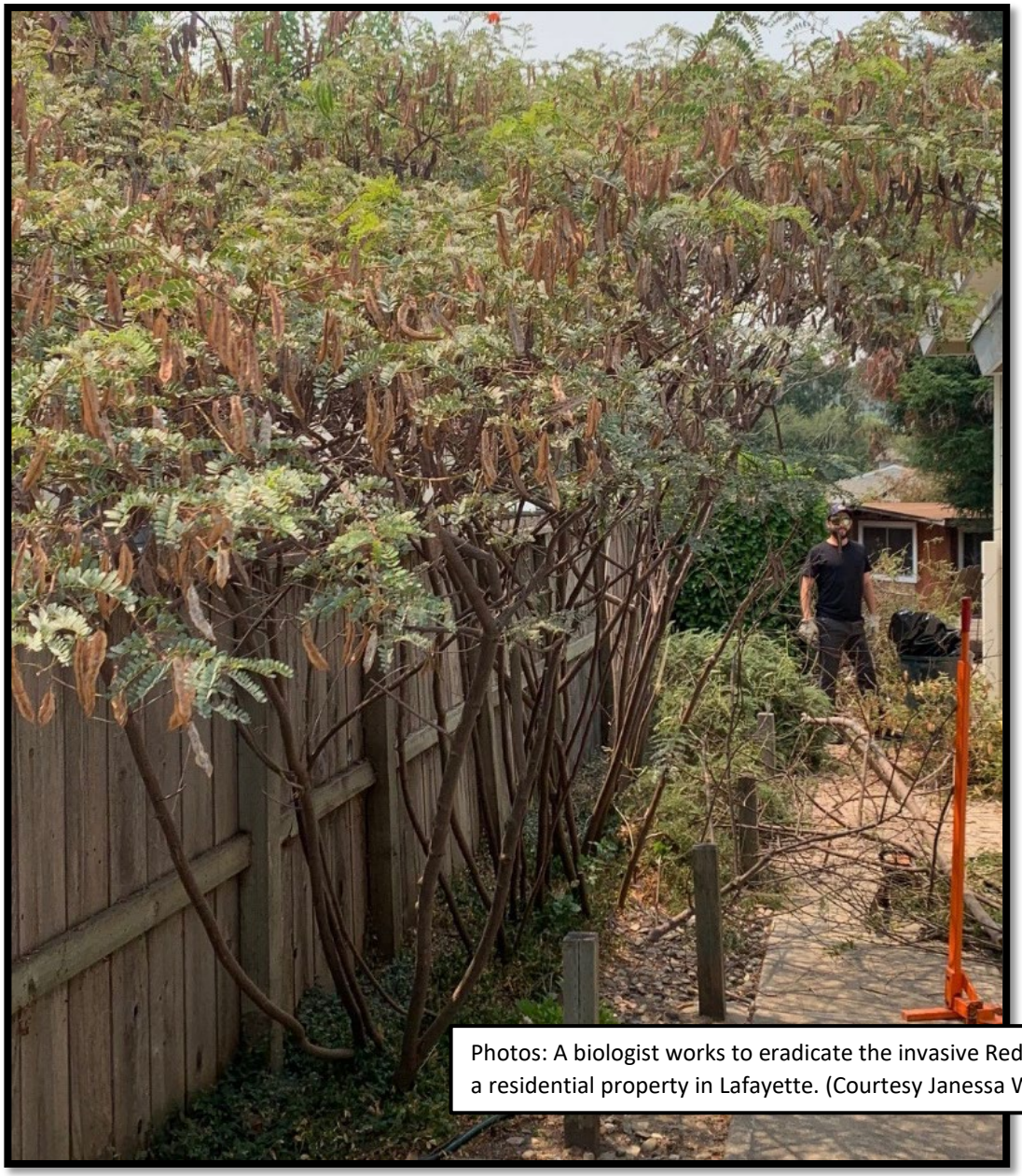
Attendance, Training, and Member Engagement

IPM Advisory Committee Attendance							
2021	1/21	3/18	5/20	7/15	9/16	11/18	Total Absences
Public Member #1	P	P	P	P	9/16 Meeting Canceled	P	0
Public Member #2	P	P	P	P		P	0
Public Member #3	P	P	P	P		P	0
Public Member Alternate		P	P			P	2
Environmental Org. Representative		P		P		P	2
Sustainability Comm. Representative			P	P		P	2
Fish & Wildlife Comm. Representative	P	P	P	P		P	0
Stormwater Program Representative	P		P	P		P	1
Health Services Representative	P	P	P	P		P	0
Ag Commissioner Designee	P	P	P	P			1
PWD-Facilities Designee	P	P	P	P		P	0
PWD Deputy Director Designee	P	P	P	P		P	0
County Pest Mgmt. Contractor	P	P	P	P		P	0
Total Present	10	11	12	10		10	
Voting Members Present	6	7	8	8		8	
Total Members of the Public attending	2	2	1	2		0	

P=Present

- All public members of the Committee are current on Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance Training.
- There have been no unexpected vacancies occur within the reporting period.
- In addition to the meetings of the full Committee, many members also attended subcommittee meetings throughout the year.
- Only one scheduled meeting was canceled this year due to advance notice of several anticipated absences.
- Despite personnel changes in County departments, staff-designated seats were 100% filled at each meeting held by the full Committee.
- Of the public member and contractor seats, three reside in BOS District 1, three in District 2, and one in each of Districts 3, 4, and 5.

Public Works and Agriculture Departments



Photos: A biologist works to eradicate the invasive Red Sesbania from a residential property in Lafayette. (Courtesy Janessa Weingand)

Agriculture

- In August, Larry Yost retired from the County after 32 years in the Department. He was on the Committee for several years and was a valuable member of the Decision-Making Subcommittee.
- Jose Arriaga was appointed Orange County Agriculture Commissioner in September. In March, he gave a presentation to the Contra Costa County Sustainability Exchange on the topic of urban agriculture. The Sustainability Exchange is a quarterly gathering for local government staff in Contra Costa County who collaborate on sustainability issues.
- Erin Herbst and Ivan Godwyn were hired as Deputy Agriculture Commissioners this year. Deputy Commissioner Beth Slate now represents the Department on the Committee and oversees the vertebrate and invasive plant programs.

PWD-Airports

- In August, Airport personnel presented an operational overview of vegetation management at both airports to the Decision-Making Subcommittee. They highlighted a few practices now used at both the Byron and Concord properties. Some include the following:
    - Each site has dedicated mowing and discing implements that primarily stay at each location to reduce vegetal pest pressures from getting established at both airports.
    - The bare-earth areas alongside runways and taxiways have been reduced from an average width of 50 to 75 feet wide to an average width of 15 to 25 feet.
    - Mowing and spraying were eliminated in a portion of the Byron Airport where it would not impact safety and security.

Buchanan Field Airport, Concord

PWD-Grounds

- County gardeners were the first division to adhere to revised posting requirements. 72 applications since February were appropriately noticed on the County IPM website as well as physically at each location with temporary signage. The IPM Committee recommended updates to the posting policy and signage in 2020. The recommended changes—which included 2019 TWIC guidance—have not yet been formally implemented by the Public Works Department. However, the Facilities and Grounds Division are commended for their efforts to transparently communicate information about each pesticide application in areas where the public has permitted access.
- The Division welcomed 5 new gardeners this year: George Earlywine, Omar Walker, Roberto Sedano, Rochelle Garcia, and Tim Thoene.
- The Grounds team updated the landscape surrounding the Brookside Shelter in North Richmond. The installation included palm trees, pathways, and graveled areas that will limit harborage for rodents and other pests.
- New on-call landscaping and weed abatement contracts were awarded to H&N Enterprises and The Landscape Company for three year terms with the option of two one-year extensions. These vendors are used when the demand for landscaping and weed abatement services exceeds staffing levels.

PWD-Special Districts

- The vertebrate pest program completed its fourth year of not using rodenticide on properties managed through the Countywide Landscaping District. The contractor trapped 12 gophers and 1 mole in 2021.

Technician mixing herbicide solution

PWD-Maintenance

- Resumed herbicide applications on roadways and Flood Control properties in February, 2021.
- Hired three Vegetation Management Technicians to increase the total number to four. Emmett Brady, Hannah Clifton, and former Committee member Jim Cartan filled these vacancies.
- In September, the Department renewed its on-call grazing contract with Goats R Us for a one-year term with the option of two one-year extensions.

PWD-Facilities (Pestec)

- The County acquired the former Motel 6 in Pittsburg through a Project Homekey grant in 2020. In June of this year, Pestec began inspecting and treating the 174-room facility that will be used to support residents transition into supportive housing. The County began operating the site early in the pandemic as a shelter where residents could isolate. Pestec continues to provide services to the facility with the goal of getting cockroach and bedbug populations under control and implementing long-term preventative strategies.
- In the spring, Pestec carried out a series of ground squirrel abatement trials using carbon dioxide injection at West County Detention Facility.
- In August, Pestec was awarded a competetively bid contract renewal for a three-year term with the option of two one-year extensions.
- Pestec personnel remained a reliable resource to consult with on numerous occasions that included topics as varied as lice-prevention protocols, urban agriculture gopher control, and civically-engaged rats.

Former Motel 6, Pittsburg

2022 Work Plan of the IPM Advisory Committee

The IPM Committee will focus on the following objectives in 2022 that correspond to the four IPM Policy goals:

1. *Minimize risks to the general public, staff and the environment as a result of pest control activities conducted by County staff and contractors.*
    a. **Help refine departmental IPM training to increase awareness to the County IPM Policy, departmental and facility IPM plans, The Pesticide Risk Footprint Tool, and help coordinate annual worker safety training, annual Healthy Schools Act (HSA) training, and continuing education for licensed applicators.**

2. *Create, implement and periodically review written IPM plans in the Agriculture, Health, and Public Works Departments specific to their operational needs and consistent with the UC definition and this policy.*
    a. **Recommend County departments/divisions incorporate a Departmental IPM Plan template approved by the Committee to comply with the Administrative Bulletin 542.**

3. *Promote availability, public awareness and public input into written county pest management plans and records.*
    a. **Investigate the feasibility of standardizing pest management recordkeeping across County Departments and centralizing reporting protocols.**
    b. **Convene the TAC focusing on geographic information systems explore the possibilities of improving site-specific pest management data compilation and increasing the transparency of pest management decisions.**

4. *Create public awareness of IPM through education.*
    a. **Develop an outreach strategy that supports the work of community partners and similarly-engaged public agencies.**
    b. **Review properties leased by and leased to the County to identify areas for IPM-related outreach.**

Contra Costa County
DECISION DOCUMENTATION FOR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AT JUVENILE HALL

Date: 11/18/2021

Departments: Public Works—Grounds Services
Probation Department

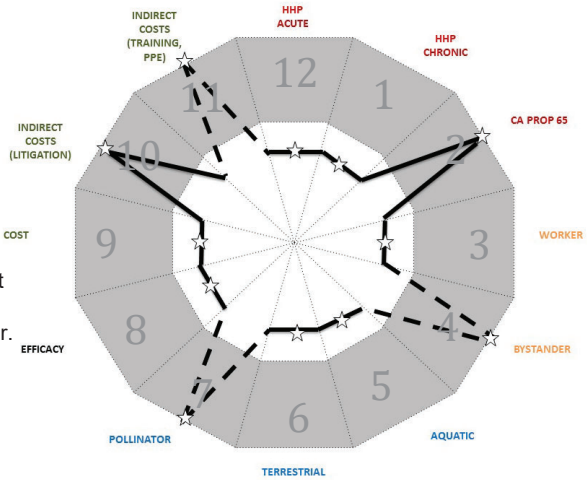
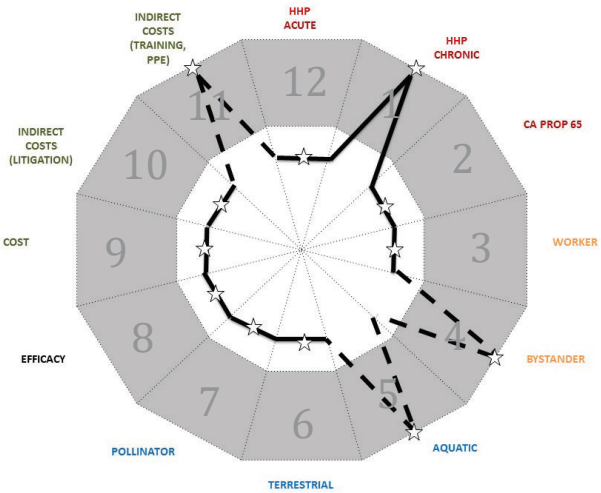
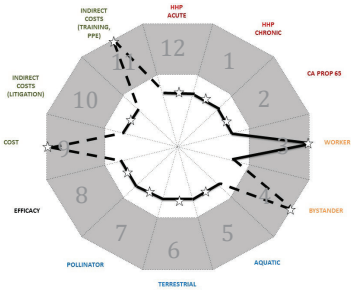
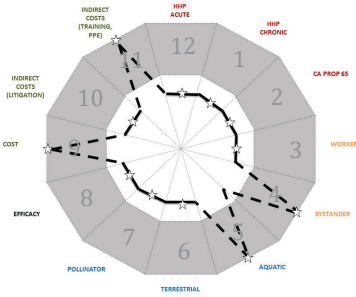
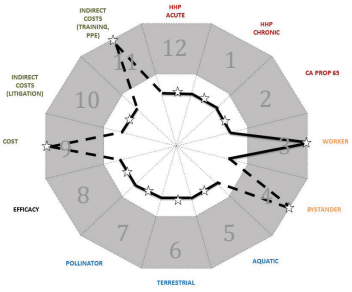
Location: John A. Davis Juvenile Hall, 202 Glacier Dr, Martinez

Situation: Presence of nuisance vegetation throughout property

What vegetation management mandates apply to the site?	<u>Fire Protection Ordinance:</u> Juvenile Hall is subject to the regulations of the Contra Costa Fire Protection District (ConFire). Minimum weed abatement standards can be found at: http://www.cccfpd.org/pdfs/WA-2-minimum-standards-17.pdf Excerpts from the County's fire protection ordinance: Title 7, Division 722, Section 320.4.1 says, "No person who has any ownership or possessory interest in or control of parcel of land shall allow to exist thereon any hazardous rubbish, weeds, trees, or other vegetation that constitutes a fire hazard." Title 7 Division 722, Section 320.4.2.1 says, "The Fire Code Official is authorized to cause areas within 10 feet (3048 mm) on each side of portions of streets which are improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic to be cleared of flammable vegetation and other combustible growth." <u>Contra Costa County Administrative Bulletin #542</u> "The County will provide pest management in and on County maintained properties and facilities using integrated pest management (IPM). The purpose of this policy is to promote the combined use of physical, cultural, biological, and chemical control methods to effectively manage pests with minimal risk to humans and the environment." California Education Code Section17610. (a) "It is the policy of the state that effective least toxic pest management practices should be the preferred method of managing pests at schoolsites and that the state, in order to reduce children's exposure to toxic pesticides…" Full text of the Healthy Schools Act can be found at: https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/schoolipm/school_ipm_law/hsa_final_text.pdf
What are the management goals for the sites?	To be responsible stewards of the site in a manner that reinforces the safety and security of the facility while promoting the restorative beauty of landscape assets. Sustainable strategies are prioritized and are consistent with the stated mission, vision, or responsibilities of each department as follows: *"Public Works employees deliver cost effective, safe, reliable and sustainable projects, programs and quality services with a focus on our communities and provide support services that are competitive, attentive, responsive, efficient and safe to enable County Departments to provide high quality services to the public."* *"A talented Probation team working collaboratively to create opportunities for those we serve to experience a positive outcome that strengthens the individual and makes the community safe."* Responsibilities of the Office of Reentry and Justice include: *"fostering capacity-building and partnership development, leading the procurement process and contract management for community-based reentry and justice service providers,"* and *"identifying and developing new initiatives and funding opportunities."* Vegetation management objectives include the following: 1. Ensure site security through the maintenance of clear sightlines. 2. Proactive vegetation management that promotes the flourishing of regenerative plant species. 3. Provision of job skills training, work experience, and horticultural therapy in multiple areas of vegetation management. 4. To ensure programmatic linkages that provide career pathways within this institution and the community that are accessible for youth who are either 1) at risk, 2) detained, 3) on probation.
How often is the site monitored?	Probation staff are at the site daily but are not directly monitoring for issues relating to vegetation. Grounds personnel typically visit Juvenile Hall on a weekly basis for routine maintenance and to respond to work requests. An effective channel of communication exists between Probation and Grounds that allows for timely reaction to urgent matters.
Weeds have been identified as the following:	Generally, weeds common to landscape plantings[i] in the region are often Vegetation growing throughout the property are considered weeds if they create visual obstructions or are not maintained according to the perceptions of onsite staff. Ornamental plants that impede walkways or otherwise contribute to hazardous conditions are designated as undesirable growth.
Are populations high enough to require control? Explain	There are no predominant plant varieties growing voluntarily onsite in numbers that merit species-specific action. Vegetation in areas where safety and security are concerned must be mitigated.

Is this a sensitive site?	Is this a "highly sensitive site" as defined by PWD Environmental staff? A highly sensitive site contains a known habitat for, or is close to sightings of, endangered or threatened species.	No
	Are any sites under management part of any of the court-ordered injunction?	No, the closest areas subject to injunction-related pesticide use limitation include probable habitat for the salt marsh harvest mouse which is approximately 1.6 miles away and probable habitat for the Alameda whipsnake which is approximately 2.2 miles away.
	Are any of the sites known or potential habitat for any endangered or threatened species?	No
	Are any of the sites on or near an area where people walk or children play?	Yes
	Are any of the sites near a drinking water reservoir?	No, the closest open-air drinking water reservoir is 1.7 miles from this facility.
	Are any of the sites near crops?	No, the closest commercial crop production facility is 1.5 miles from this facility.
	Are any of the sites near desirable trees or landscaping?	Yes
	Are any of the sites on soil that is highly permeable, sandy, or gravelly?	No, site soil is generally classified as clay loam
	Is it within a Groundwater Protection Area?	No, the closest Groundwater Protection Area is approximately 2.3 miles from this facility. There are no major groundwater basins underlying Martinez.
	Is there a well head near the site?	No, the closest well head listed in the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's well inventory database is approximately 3 miles from this facility.
Which cultural controls were considered?	**Enhanced Landscape[ii] Stewardship-** This tactic promotes a reexamination of how to more closely blend site landscape programming with the broader aims of the facility. A central tenet of this strategy is to foster holistic landscape management arrangements through strategic partnerships that maximize land-asset utilization. The Grounds Division would retain primary responsibility for grounds maintenance and would be keystone partners in any proposed cooperative. Clear delineation of partner responsibilities that pertain to the ongoing care of enhanced exterior spaces would be detailed in writing. There are multiple regional programs,[iii] county residents, and local community-based organizations (CBO's)[iv] that could inform the development of mutually beneficial collaborations with mission-aligned partners. Some incorporate career and technical education training programs, while others work to grow food, improve pollinator habitat, or initiate onsite composting programs among other valuable ventures. The Contra Costa Resource Conservation District[v] is the local leader in facilitating the implementation of innovative stewardship practices while prioritizing equity and inclusion. The facility will be drastically impacted by the current state budget that transitions responsibility to local jurisdictions for youth sentenced to facilities operated by the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). This could provoke a reconceptualization of how the property can meet its' potential as a County resource. Existing juvenile justice initiatives[vi] and AB 109[vii] sources may be able to assist in the design and funding of the transition to more closely match the County-stated objectives to "create linkages between at-risk youth and various needed services and community programs."[viii] Further cultivation of existing partnerships with Contra Costa Health Services and Contra Costa County Office of Education may further reveal landscape uses that support the expansion of clinical and educational programs. **Competitive Planting:** The goal of this tactic is to establish desirable plant species to reduce weed coverage. Plant selection in the context of which weed pressures are present is the predominant factor in projecting the success of planting activities. These efforts are generally more successful when integrated weed control methods are employed prior to and after planting. Several elements of this tactic are consistent with the adopted definition of integrated pest management in the Countywide IPM policy as "an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on the long-term prevention of pests…"[ix] Currently, the inner courtyard and various vegetated beds in the parking lot and other locations surrounding the facility use this method. **Mulching:** Wood chip mulch has been extensively applied around Juvenile Hall. Some has broken down and either needs to be replenished or the mulched areas could be transitioned to active gardens. Recent mulch and	

	planting projects around the Probation training facility near the southwest corner of the property will reduce the reliance on chemical controls as the new plants become established. **Artificial Turf Surfacing**: Juvenile Hall transitioned a 30,000 square foot grass recreation field to synthetic surfacing in 2019. **Flaming:** May be effective on certain broadleaf species in smaller ornamental areas and on weeds growing in pavement cracks if timed to coincide with early phenological stages. **Weed Steaming:** There are multiple areas within the property where this tactic could be effective. Some include the mulched areas in the west side access road, around the basketball court, and in pavement cracks. **Soil Solarization:** If areas covered by mulch remain unplanted, this method may be a supplemental tool to keep nuisance vegetation down in areas currently inaccessible to detained youth. **Crack Sealing:** For vegetation growing in cracks, the placement of surface-compatible materials into fractured sections of pavement will prevent weed growth and prolong the life of hardscape elements. **Summary Statement:** Strategies related to enhanced landscape stewardship and competitive planting represent the greatest potential for long-term impact on pest prevention. Conversely, enhanced landscape stewardship requires a complex outreach and engagement process. The organizational bandwidth to appropriately lead such an effort may not exist if realistic outcomes are perceived to be of minimal magnitude. However, trends in juvenile detention have dramatically shifted over the 16 years this facility has been in operation. There is willingness to preliminarily discuss opportunities to recalibrate the landscape design to better support the evidence-based programming for youth detainees. The sparsely-planted beds in the Bosque area (11,800 square feet) and mulched portion of the main recreation yard (10,900 square feet) present the most immediate opportunity to utilize the landscape for fruit and vegetable production, pollinator and avian habitat, or similar pursuits. Portions of the primarily paved recreation yards on the north side of the property have been identified for their potential to incorporate programming related to raised bed gardening. Approximately 16,000 square feet of unplanted, mulched beds adjacent to the west side access road are prime locations for potential competitive planting. Mulching will continue to be prioritized as a preventative tactic. Decomposing chipped wood fosters regenerative soil that is conducive to the long-term establishment of healthy plants. The artificial turf field may become more conducive to weed growth in the coming years, particularly in seams and surface tears. Even minimal concentrations of dust and other wind-blown materials can allow the establishment of weeds that subsequently accelerate surface deterioration. Consult the manufacturer for cleaning guidelines. Weed steaming and crack sealing are promising strategies for this facility and merit further consideration.
Which physical controls were considered?	**String Trimming:** Aside from chemical controls, this is the most common tactic used at this location. **Hand Pulling:** This tactic is used in various ornamental landscapes on the property, but isn't feasible at the scaled needed during seasonal growth of volunteer weeds. **Mowing:** There is little mowing done at Juvenile Hall. **Summary Statement:** String trimming will continue be utilized as the primary physical control method used. Mowing as a weed management tactic is limited at this location primarily due to the compartmentalized nature of this site. In areas that may otherwise be conducive to mowing, successful mulching activities have reduced weed growth.
Which biological controls were considered?	**Grazing:** Conditions at Juvenile Hall are not conducive to grazing. **Summary Statement:** There are no known biological controls suitable for this facility.

Which chemical controls were considered? For additional information about the graphics used to illustrate pesticide risks associated with each product, see the *Pesticide Risk Footprint Tool* procedure document.	The following herbicides are occasionally used at Juvenile Hall: **RoundUp Pro Concentrate** Active ingredient: glyphosate Signal word: Caution Product label/SDS Risk Factors / Mitigation Measures **2.** Listed as causing cancer on 7/7/2017 **4.** Spray application **7.** Toxic to honey bee brood **10.** Multiple cases involving litigation **11.** Annual HSA training for all applicators -Avoid drift and strictly enforce 4 hour REI. -Do not apply or allow to drift to flowering plants including weeds. Do not apply to water. -Incorporate HSA training into annual IPM Policy training to keep costs down  **SureGuard Herbicide** Active ingredient: flumioxazin Signal word: Caution Product label/SDS Risk Factors / Mitigation Measures **1.** Listed GHS category 2 for reproductive toxicity **4.** Spray application **5.** Designated by the EPA as slightly toxic to various aquatic species **11.** Annual HSA training required for all applicators -12 hour REI & avoid drift -Do not apply where runoff is likely to occur or when weather conditions favor drift from treated areas -Incorporate HSA training into annual IPM Policy training to keep costs down  The following alternative herbicides are being considered: **Suppress Herbicide** Active ingredient: caprylic and capric acid Signal word: Warning Product label/SDS  **IMOX Herbicide** Active ingredient: ammonium salt of imazamox Signal word: Caution Product label/SDS  **Esplanade 200 SC** Active ingredient: indaziflam Signal word: Caution (label) Warning (SDS) Product label/SDS  **Summary Statement:** The continued reliance on chemical controls at this location is concerning. Herbicides can be an effective part of an integrated program but it appears that despite various cultural and physical controls being utilized, applications remain routine. Grounds personnel coordinate closely with site staff to ensure youth detainees do not enter treated areas until product labeling allows, but further discussion between departments is warranted to gain a broader consensus on this and alternative tactics.

Recommendations from the IPM Advisory Committee:	○ The Probation Department is encouraged to have a dialog with the IPM Coordinator and representatives from Public Works Facilities Services to identify possible areas for refinement as it pertains to vegetation management at Juvenile Hall. ○ That dialog should prioritize how to utilize the land to promote enhanced landscape stewardship as described above. Discussions should identify and include collaboration with mission-aligned partners. ○ The Public Works Grounds Division is encouraged to initiate a year-long pilot at Juvenile Hall that suspends the use of products containing glyphosate and flumioxazin and alternatively incorporates a trial use of other formulations being used by other public agencies in the region. ○ Public Works Facilities Services is encouraged to assess pavement conditions throughout the Juvenile Hall property and initiate repairs to cracks where nuisance vegetation is currently growing or is likely to grow.

[i] See Table 1 on UC IPM Pest Notes Publication 7441 *Weed Management in Landscapes*

[ii] "*Landscape associates people and place. Danish landskab, German landshaft, Dutch landschap, and Old English landscipe combine two roots. "Land" means both a place and the people living there. Skabe and schaffen mean "to shape"; suffixes -skab and -schaft as in the English "-ship," also mean association, partnership*." —Anne Whiston Spirn, *The Language of Landscape* (1998)

[iii]Related Programs in the region: Roots of Success, Math/Science Nucleus @ Tyson Lagoon, Insight Garden Program at San Quentin State Prison, California State Prisons—Solano & California Medical Facility—Solano; Marsh Creek Viticulture & Agriculture Programs, San Francisco County Jail San Bruno Complex—The Garden Project, Federal Correctional Institution—Dublin, Alameda County Juvenile Hall & Camp Sweeney, City View Farm (Alameda County Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League--Dig Deep Farms)

[iv] Nearby community-based organizations include but not limited to: Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, Pollinator Posse, Healthy Hearts Institute, Family Harvest Farm, First Generation Farmers, Urban Tilth-North Richmond Farm, Plating Justice--El Sobrante Farm & Orchard, Pogo Park-Richmond, Groundwork Richmond, The Watershed Project, and Civicorps.

[v] Contra Costa Resource Conservation District

[vi] National Center for Youth Law (Oakland based), Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative,

[vii] The 2011 Public Safety Realignment Act (Assembly Bill 109) placed additional responsibility for Counties to house low level offenders locally, provide post-incarceration supervision, and allocate associated revenues from the state.

[viii] Contra Costa County Reentry System Strategic Plan for 2018-2023. Mission Statement: *The Contra Costa County reentry system serves as a collaborative partnership that aids individuals, families, and their support system, in achieving successful community reintegration by facilitating access to a continuum of quality services and improving systemic practices.* https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/56655/2018-23-Reentry-Strategic-Plan?bidId=

[ix] The County IPM Policy adopts the following University of California Statewide IPM Program definition: "Integrated Pest Management is an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and use of resistant varieties."

Contra Costa County
Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee
2018-2021 Recommendations Tracking Table

Date of IPM Advisory Committee Approval/Rec. #	Recommendation	Responsible Department or Staff	Property or Program Specific?	Status	Additional Information
2021.11.18a	The Probation Department is encouraged to have a dialog with the IPM Coordinator and representatives from Public Works Facilities Services to identify possible areas for refinement as it pertains to vegetation management at Juvenile Hall. That dialog should prioritize how to utilize the land to promote enhanced landscape stewardship as described in *Decision Documentation for Vegetation Management at Juvenile Hall* . Discussions should identify and include collaboration with mission-aligned partners.	PWD, Probation, IPM Coordinator	This pertains to the Juvenile Hall property in Martinez.	Not Started	Public Works Facilities Services and Probation staff indicated an interest in this conversation during the proceeding s of the IPM Decision Making Subcommittee.
2021.11.18b	The Public Works Grounds Division is encouraged to initiate a year-long pilot at Juvenile Hall that suspends the use of products containing glyphosate and alternatively incorporates a trial use of other formulations being used by other public agencies in the region.	PWD	Juvenile Hall	Not Started	The IPM Coordinator will work with the PWD Facilites Services team to identify alternatives for the pilot trial.
2021.11.18c	Public Works Facilities Services is encouraged to assess pavement conditions throughout the Juvenile Hall property and initiate repairs to cracks where nuisance vegetation is currently growing or is likely to grow.	PWD	Juvenile Hall	Not Started	The IPM Coordinator will work with the PWD Facilites Services team to help priortize areas where these efforts will have a greater impact.

Contra Costa County
Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee
2018-2021 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	Redefine vegetation management practices that promote proactive strategies and clarify accountability as it pertains to each site's natural resources. Efforts should include: • 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. • 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. • 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.	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.

Contra Costa County
Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee
2018-2021 Recommendations Tracking Table

Date of IPM Advisory Committee Approval/Rec. #	Recommendation	Responsible Department or Staff	Property or Program Specific?	Status	Additional Information
2020.11.19d	Foster mutually beneficial community partnerships that: •Allow County personnel to provide a higher level of service by focusing on core tasks, and •Maximize balanced cooperation between organized labor, community-based organizations, and employment training enterprises, and •Build on regional models that are financially sustainable and ecologically regenerative. •Facilitate collaborative landscape programming that allows every County-owned acre to be a shining example of a restorative community asset.	BOS/CAO	Countywide	Not Started	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 & racial justice initiatives. The IPM Coordinator is happy to assist as directed by TWIC.
2020.11.19e	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.	IPM Coordinator, BOS, ORJ, PWD, Sheriff, Probation	WCDF, MCDF, Juvenile Hall, Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (OAYRF), Underutilized County Properties, CBO Programs	Not Started	The IPM Coordinator welcomes TWIC guidance on which strategic efforts are encouraged for further pursuit if Supervisors determine it to be worthwhile.
2020.11.19f	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.	Sheriff, IPM Coordinator	MCDF	Not Started	Pending TWIC direction
2020.11.19g	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.	Sheriff, IPM Coordinator	MCDF	Not Started	Pending TWIC direction
2020.09.17a	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.	IPM Coordinator	IPM Website	Initiated	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.
2019.11.21a	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.	PWD, Ag. Dept.	Countywide	In Progress	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 & Pilots Subcommittee is chaired by County personnel and intends to advance several proposed tactics.

Contra Costa County
Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee
2018-2021 Recommendations Tracking Table

Date of IPM Advisory Committee Approval/Rec. #	Recommendation	Responsible Department or Staff	Property or Program Specific?	Status	Additional Information
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.

Revised 12/13/2021

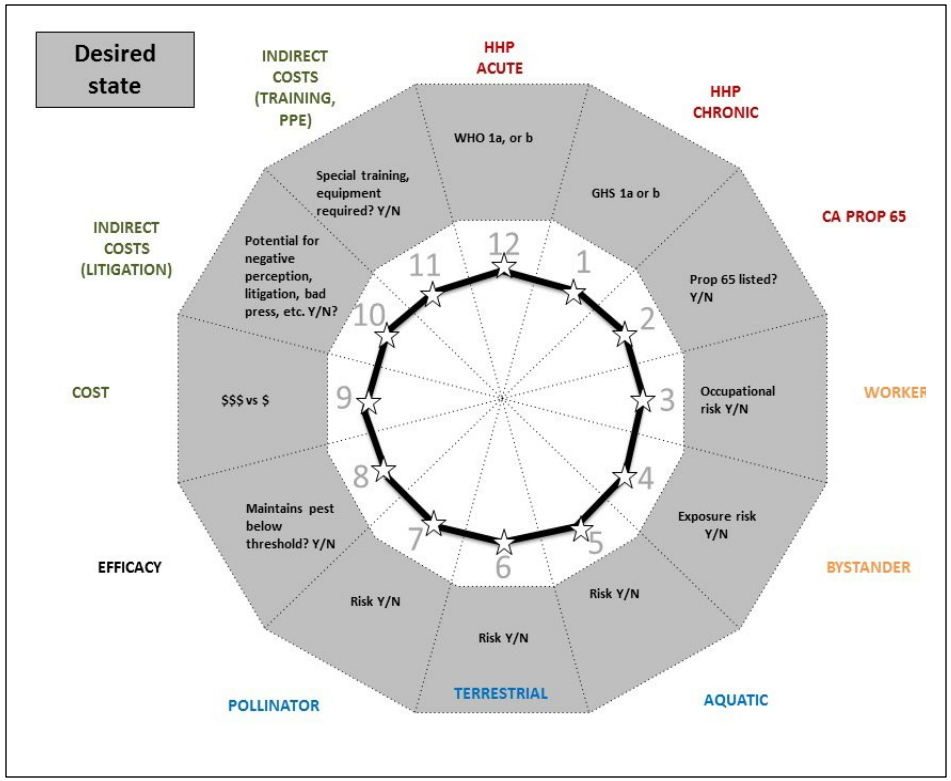
Date of IPM Advisory Committee Approval/Rec. #	Recommendation	Responsible Department or Staff	Property or Program Specific?	Status	Additional Information
2018.11.15d	Investigate posting on flood control channel access roads where people frequently walk, or on other rights-of-way that are frequently used 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.

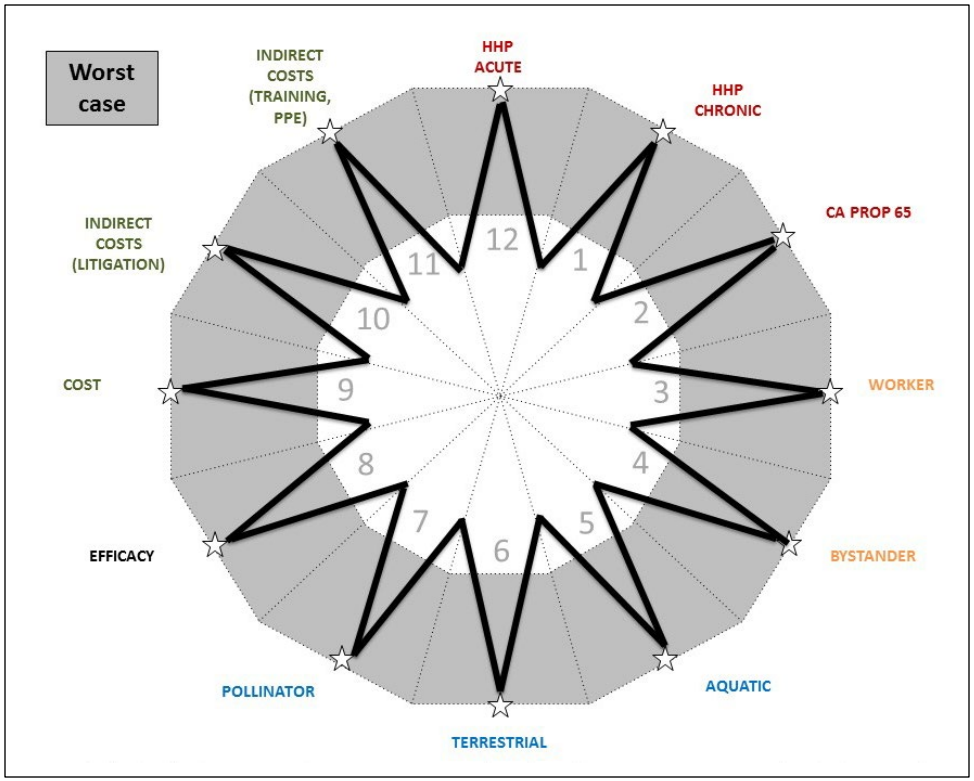
Pesticide Risk Footprint Tool*

Adapted by the Contra Costa County
Integrated Pest Management Program
Contact: Wade.Finlinson@cchealth.org

This tool is intended to assist in the evaluation of risks associated with pesticide products. It is not a comprehensive analysis of all risks. Each of the twelve triangular panels forming a dodecagon represent a certain type of risk. The placement of a star on the inner portion of the panel indicates that the product being reviewed does not meet criteria to be considered high risk as specified on the following page. Star placement on the outside edge constitutes elevated risk as determined by the proposed standards. The stars are then connected to form a footprint. The increased area of the footprint's spiked portions visually depicts heightened risk and helps to prioritize mitigation measures. The use of dashed lines in some footprint spikes represents a risk that can be mitigated. If mitigation measures are not possible or are otherwise unavailable, the associated spike will utilize solid lines.

The mission of the County IPM Policy is to *effectively manage pests with minimal risk to humans and the environment*. County applicators and personnel responsible for the procurement and application of pesticides should consider the tool when determining whether a certain product is compatible with the broader IPM program. Since site characteristics and application methods vary widely across County operations, the footprint for a given product should be analyzed specifically in the context for which it is used. One application may use a backpack sprayer for a spot treatment of herbicide at a childcare facility. Another situation could involve the same product being applied near an airport runway with a boom sprayer. These and other scenarios present important circumstantial factors that merit separate considerations.





*Jepson, P.C., Murray, M.K.Y. (unpublished) Pesticide cost—benefit trade-off tool. For further information contact Paul.c.jepson@gmail.com

Risk Category	Source Justification or Rationale for Designation
1. Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHP)—Chronic	Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) category 1A or 1B for carcinogenicity, mutagenicity/genotoxicity, or reproductive toxicity. Indicated on Table 1 (pages 7-10) of the supplementary index of Jepson PC, Murray K, Bach O, Bonilla MA, Neumeister L. Selection of pesticides to reduce human and environmental health risks: a global guideline and minimum pesticides list. *Lancet Planet Health* 2019: 3: e56–63.
2. CA Prop 65 Listed	The Proposition 65 List is maintained by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.
3. Occupational Risk (Worker)	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) acute toxicity category 1 (danger), category 2 (warning), or World Health Organization (WHO) class II (moderately hazardous). WHO class II pesticides are available on Table 3 (pages 27-40) of the document available for download at https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240005662
4. Exposure Risk (bystander, site patron, etc.)	Panel is marked on the outer edge if the restricted entry interval (REI) is greater than four hours as specified on the product label in the applicable use requirements section. Application methods & site characteristics may justify star placement on the outer edge in many circumstances as determined by the IPM Coordinator or staff supervisors.
5. Risk to Aquatic Species	Panel is marked on the outer edge if active ingredient deemed as an intermediate (I), high (H), or extra high (X) potential pesticide hazard to fish in queries made to the University of California Statewide IPM Program's WaterTox database OR if the product safety data sheet (SDS) references the EPA designation as moderately toxic or highly toxic to freshwater fish, freshwater invertebrates, estuarine/marine fish, or estuarine/marine invertebrates.
6. Risk to Terrestrial Species	Panel is marked on the outer edge if the product safety data sheet (SDS) references the EPA designation as moderately toxic or highly toxic to mammalian and avian wildlife.
7. Risk to Pollinators	Panel is marked on the outer edge if active ingredient is rated I (toxic to honey bees and other bee species) or II (toxic to honey bee brood) in the Bee Precaution Pesticide Ratings tool as maintained by the University of California Statewide IPM Program.
8. Efficacy	Subjectively determined by the IPM Coordinator after consulting with departmental staff members, outside agency personnel who work in similar microclimatic conditions, academic product trials, etc.
9. Cost	Subjectively determined by the IPM Coordinator after reviewing baseline cost data, historic and projected quantities of product purchased, relative scale and frequency of application(s), actual staff/contractor labor costs, etc.
10. Indirect Costs (Litigation, public perception)	Subjectively determined by the IPM Coordinator after considering public scrutiny of pesticide-related trends and other applicable current events.
11. Indirect Costs (Training, PPE, Equipment, etc.)	Subjectively determined by the IPM Coordinator after evaluating fiscal elements that may include site/program-specific training costs, supplemental personal protective equipment in addition to what the State's minimal requirements, specialized equipment acquisition/maintenance/transporting, and other cost considerations.
12. Highly Hazardous Pesticide (HHP)—Acute	World Health Organization (WHO) class 1A (extremely hazardous) or 1B (highly hazardous). Indicated on Table 1 (pages 7-10) of the supplementary index of Jepson PC, Murray K, Bach O, Bonilla MA, Neumeister L. Selection of pesticides to reduce human and environmental health risks: a global guideline and minimum pesticides list. *Lancet Planet Health* 2019: 3: e56–63.

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE **6.**

Meeting Date:	12/13/2021
Subject:	CONSIDER report: Local, Regional, State, and Federal Transportation Issues: Legislation, Studies, Miscellaneous Updates, take ACTION as Appropriate
Submitted For:	TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE,
Department:	Conservation & Development
Referral No.:	1
Referral Name:	REVIEW legislative matters on transportation, water, and infrastructure.
Presenter:	John Cunningham, DCD
Contact:	John Cunningham (925)655-2915

Referral History:

This is a standing item on the Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee referral list and meeting agenda.

Referral Update:

In developing transportation related issues and proposals to bring forward for consideration by TWIC, staff receives input from the Board of Supervisors (BOS), references the County's adopted Legislative Platforms, coordinates with our legislative advocates, partner agencies and organizations, and consults with the Committee itself.

This report includes four sections, 1: LOCAL, 2: REGIONAL, 3: STATE, and 4: FEDERAL.

1. LOCAL

No report in December.

2. REGIONAL

No report in December.

3. STATE Update

The County's legislative advocate will be in attendance at the December meeting.

4. FEDERAL No report in December.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

CONSIDER report on Local, Regional, State, and Federal Transportation Related Legislative Issues and take ACTION as appropriate.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

There is no fiscal impact.

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE **7.**

Meeting Date:	12/13/2021
Subject:	REVIEW Communication, News, Miscellaneous Items of Interest to the Committee and DIRECT staff as appropriate.
Submitted For:	TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE,
Department:	Conservation & Development
Referral No.:	N/A
Referral Name:	N/A
Presenter:	John Cunningham, DCD
Contact:	John Cunningham (925)655-2915

Referral History:

This is a standing item on the TWIC agenda.

Referral Update:

Communication Received:

11-9-2021 email from Leland Frayseth (county resident) Los Vaqueros Expansion public record request "Disposal of fish at Contractor's option" is that legal?

News Clippings:

12-1-2021: Mercury News: *California drought: State Water Project will deliver no water to most communities next year Newsom may impose mandatory conservation rules, state water officials say.*

12-7-2021: San Francisco Chronicle: *Sea level rise could flood toxic sites along the Bay Area's shore. This city (Richmond) has 21 facilities at risk*

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE information and DIRECT staff as appropriate.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

N/A

Attachments

11-8-2021 Leland Frayseth email

News Clipping: Drought

News Clipping: Sea level rise...

John Cunningham

From: Leland Frayseth <leland.frayseth@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 8:40 PM
To: Samantha.Arthur@cwc.ca.gov; Alexandre.Makler@cwc.ca.gov; daniel.curtin@cwc.ca.gov; Teresa.Alvarado@cwc.ca.gov; Matthew.Swanson@cwc.ca.gov; Kimberly.Gallagher@cwc.ca.gov; fern.steiner@cwc.ca.gov; jose.solorio@cwc.ca.gov; cwc@water.ca.gov; Shoemaker, Brianna@DWR; amy.young@water.ca.gov; Cambra, Paul@CWC; Yun, Joseph@DWR; Klopfenstein, Rachael@DeltaCouncil; erik.erreca@deltacouncil.ca.gov; John Cunningham; spalmer@zone7water.com; john@goldenstatesalmon.org; Bob Wright; Obegi, Doug; Daniel Bacher; Scott Anderson; Rachel Murphy; Kennedy, Kellye J; Jennifer Allen
Subject: Los Vaqueros Expansion public record request "Disposal of fish at Contractor's option" is that legal?

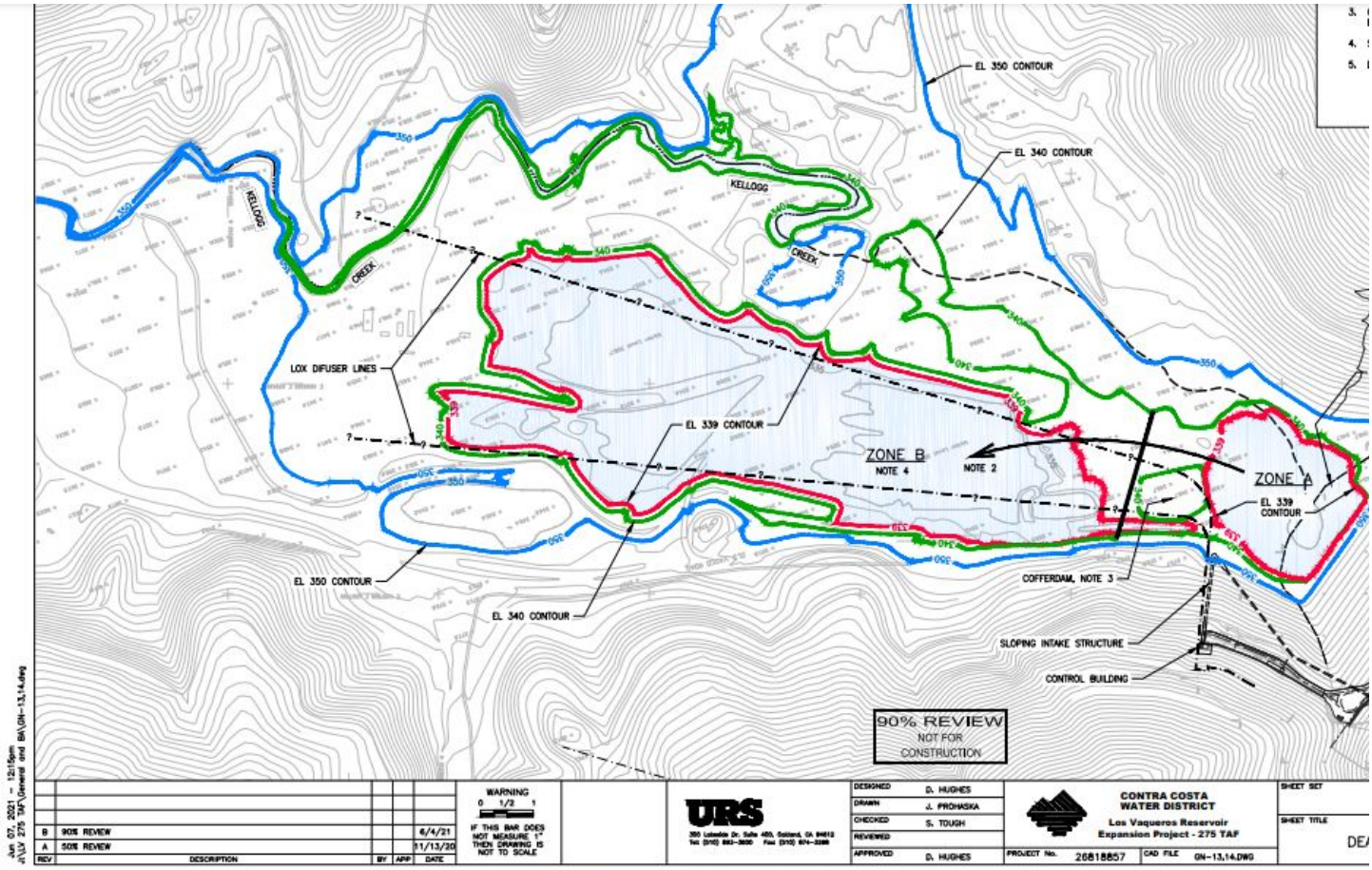
Subject: Los Vaqueros Expansion public record request "Disposal of fish at Contractor's option" is that legal?

Dear Commissioners, Staff and the Public,

This is my 43rd letter to the California Water Commission (CWC). Please add this comment to the 17 Nov 2021 meeting agenda item 4 Approval of 20 Oct 2021 meeting minutes item 9 Approval of Los Vaqueros Expansion continuing eligibility. https://cwc.ca.gov/-/media/CWC-Website/Files/Documents/2021/11_November/November2021_Item_4_DraftOctMinutes.pdf Information used by the Commissioners to make their determination was not available to the public, specifically me.

I have initiated public records requests with both Contra Costa Water District (CCWD), Los Vaqueros Expansion applicant, and the Department of Water Resources (DWR). CCWD responded with a partial release, DWR responded they have records and will try to respond by 4 Feb 2022. As I read the Brown and Open Meeting Act you need to roll back the Commissioners approval until the public, specifically me, has a chance to read and digest the same information that was provided to the Commissioners.

Contained in the partial public records release to me from CCWD is the following drawing note "Disposal of fish at Contractor's option", is that legal? If it is legal how would that look on the front page of the New York Times? That was the test I was taught during ethics training.


EL 350 CONTOUR
EL 340 CONTOUR
KELLOGG
CREEK
LOX DIFUSER LINES
EL 339 CONTOUR
ZONE B
NOTE 4
NOTE 2
ZONE A
EL 339 CONTOUR
COFFERDAM, NOTE 3
SLOPING INTAKE STRUCTURE
CONTROL BUILDING
90% REVIEW
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION
WARNING
0 1/2 1
IF THIS BAR DOES NOT MEASURE 1" THEN DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE
URS
DESIGNED D. HUGHES
DRAWN J. PROHASKA
CHECKED S. TOUGH
REVIEWED
APPROVED D. HUGHES
CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT
Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project - 275 TAF
PROJECT No. 26818857
CAD FILE GN-13,14.DWG
SHEET SET
SHEET TITLE
B 90% REVIEW 6/4/21
A 50% REVIEW 11/13/20
REV DESCRIPTION BY APP DATE

ESTIMATED QUANTITIES	
ELEV (FT)	VOLUME BELOW (AF)
350	2,000
340	580
339	500 (50 A) (450 B)

NOTES:

1. DISCHARGE STORAGE DOWN TO EL 339± THROUGH PROTS ON SLPOING INTAKE. DISCHARGE PORTS AT CONTRACTORS OPTION.
2. DISCHARGE STORAGE BELOW EL 339± ZONE A INTO ZONE B.
3. CONSTRUCT 2FT HIGH COFFERDAM AS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN SEPARATIO BETWEEN ZONES A & B BELOW EL 339±.
4. STORAGE IN ZONE B SHALL BE LEFT TO EVAPORATE.
5. DISPOSAL OF FISH AT CONTRACTORS OPTION.

From CCWD's website these are the current Los Vaqueros fish records. Based on this information it would seem the fish in the "Dead Pool" need to be identified and counted by certified biologists to be in compliance with a California Department of Fish and Wildlife incidental take permit prior to a Contractor disposing of the fish. There are a lot of raptors in that Altamont Pass so the biologist will need to be a quick counter before a fish flies off in a raptor's talons.

Home › Los Vaqueros › Fishing › Fishing Records

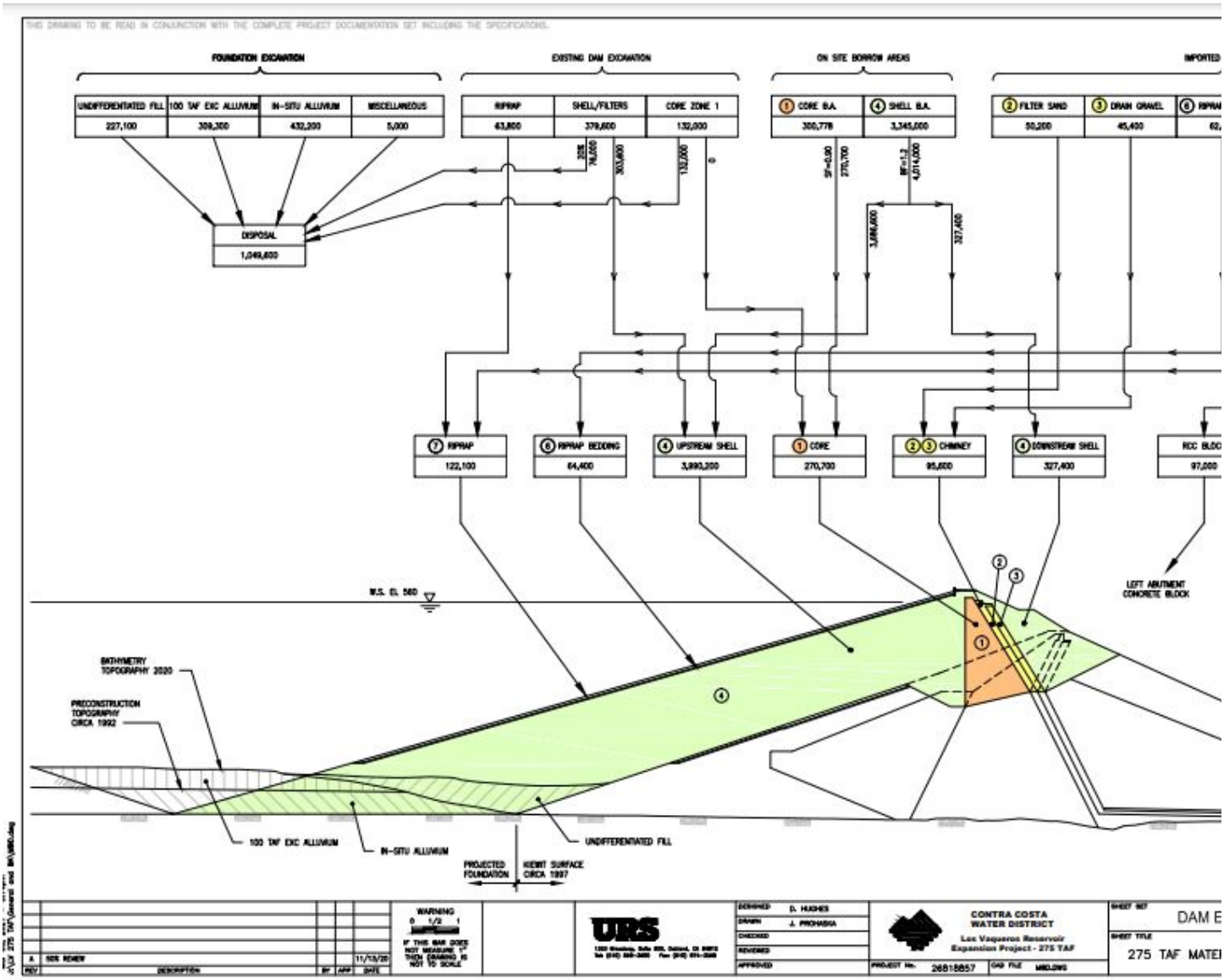
FISHING RECORDS

Current Los Vaqueros Fishing Records

Fish Species	Weight	Lure	Location*	Date
Largemouth Bass	12 pounds	Rapala X-Rap Shad	Peninsula Cove	5/29/2008
Striped Bass	45.2 pounds	Large Rapalla	Middle of reservoir while trolling	4/17/2009
King Salmon**	6.2 pounds	Kastmaster	Cowboy Cove	2/28/2010
Catfish	30.31 pounds	Anchovies	South of boat docks (during expansion)	8/22/2011
Rainbow Trout	16.42 pounds	Kastmaster	South Cove	1/24/2015

The wasting of 2,000 AF of water in a drought is disquieting. The 10 year schedule taking an existing 160,000 AF reservoir offline from now to 2030 during a drought is disquieting.

As a 37 year CCWD customer and ratepayer, paying for 100,000 AF and 160,000 AF Los Vaqueros Reservoir makes me livid. The 275,000 AF plan is to remove the top 101 feet of the existing dam with longitudinal cracking and haul 1,049,600 cubic yards of dam shell, core, concrete and rebar to an on site disposal area while I continue to pay off the 100,000 AF and 160,000 AF bonds from now to 2030.



I think the Commission needs to roll back their approval of Los Vaqueros Expansion continuing eligibility until we are all on the same page and it all makes sense. This snafu could have been avoided had CCWD Board President Lisa Borba worked collegially with her customers, fisherwomen, fishermen and the fish. Lisa Borba is a bad leader and very much in need of a 360 degree review and feedback from customers, managers, peers and subordinates.

Thank you for reading my comments. I will continue to track this project and provide public comment.

Leland Frayseth

NEWS > ENVIRONMENT • News

California drought: State Water Project will deliver no water to most communities next year

Newsom may impose mandatory conservation rules, state water officials say

After two historically dry years, Lake Oroville in Butte County, the second-largest reservoir in California, was at low levels on October 28, 2021. The reservoir was just 30% full on Dec. 1, 2021. (Photo: State Department of Water Resources)

By PAUL ROGERS | progers@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group

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In a stark indicator of California's worsening drought, the Newsom administration announced Wednesday that cities and farms should expect to receive virtually no water next year from the State Water Project, a massive system of dams, pipes and canals that typically provides water to 27 million people from Silicon Valley to San Diego.

The unprecedented announcement — with only small amounts of emergency supplies possible for some urban areas — means that unless this winter brings significant rainfall, more stringent conservation measures are likely in San Jose, parts of the East Bay and other communities across the state in 2022, including strict limits on landscape watering.

"We're coming off an historic set of conditions," said Karla Nemeth, director of the state Department of Water Resources.

Nemeth also said that if significant rainfall does not occur this winter, Gov. Gavin Newsom is likely to impose mandatory urban water conservation targets, similar to those put in place by former Gov. Jerry Brown during California's last drought from 2012-16.

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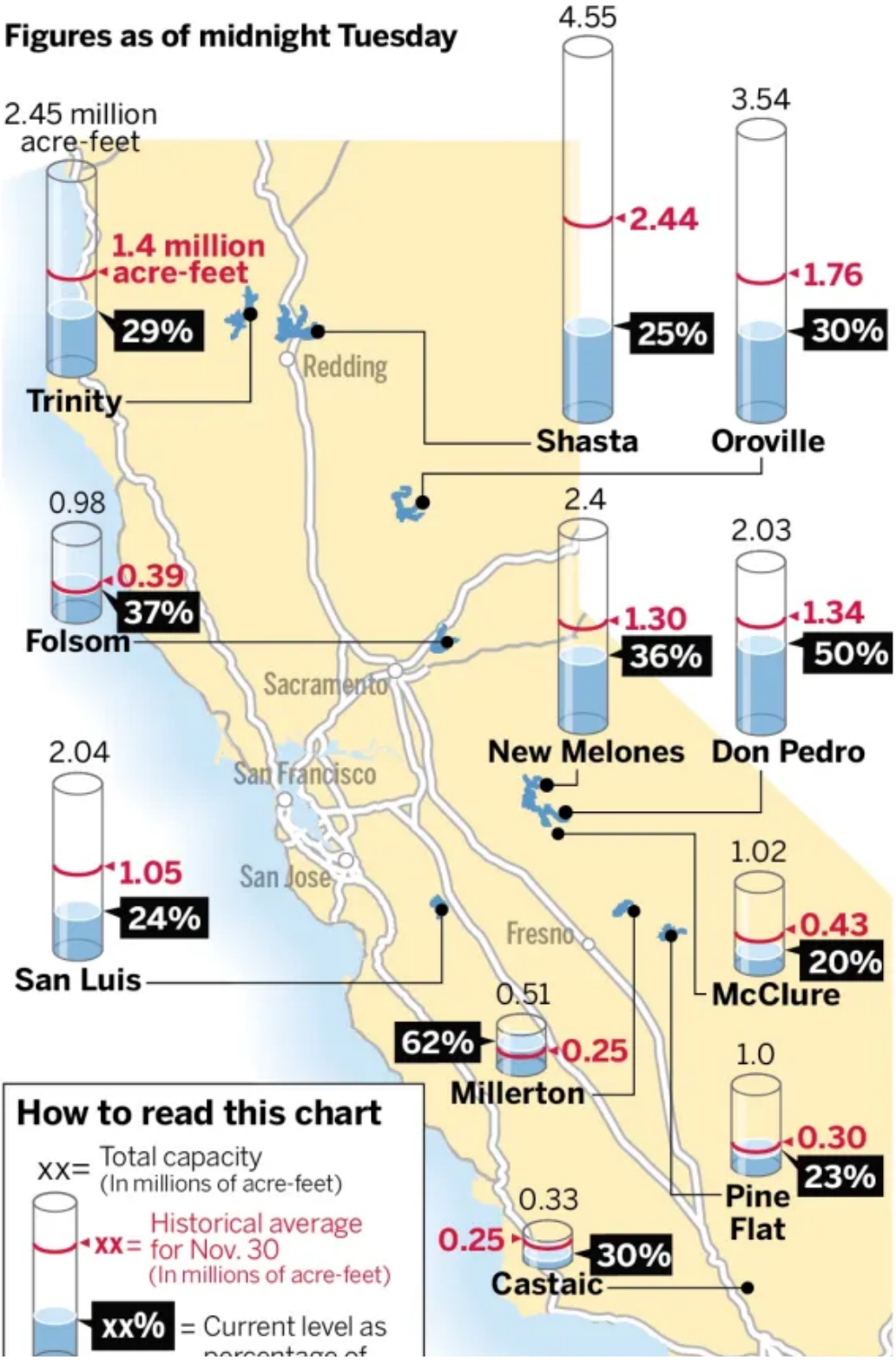
RESERVOIR LEVELS

Here are the current levels of major reservoirs around California and their historic average for Nov. 30.

Figures as of midnight Tuesday



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Source: California Department of Water Resources BAY AREA NEWS GROUP

"We'll see that probably late winter, early spring if these dry conditions persist," she said.

This summer, Newsom asked California residents and businesses to reduce urban water use by 15% from last year's levels. But they are falling far short, cutting by only 3.9% in September.

The past two years have been the driest back-to-back years in Northern California since 1976-77, leaving major reservoirs at record-low levels. Lake Oroville, in Butte County, the second-largest reservoir in the state and the largest in the State Water Project, was just 30% full Wednesday.

Even though Northern California received heavy rain in October, much of it soaked into the dry ground instead of running off into reservoirs. Since then, very little rain has fallen.

The State Water Project, approved by voters in 1960 and a key legacy of former Gov. Pat Brown, moves water from Northern California to the south. It takes melting snow from the Sierra Nevada and transports it from Lake Oroville through the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta all the way to the Los Angeles Basin. In normal times, it supplies drinking water to two out of three Californians — and irrigates about 750,000 acres of farmland.

Nemeth said her department is in discussions with seven of the 29 urban and agricultural agencies that contract to receive State Water Project water for them to receive "very modest" amounts of "health and safety" water next summer for fire fighting, hospitals and some indoor uses, including drinking water, toilets, showers and clothes washing, but not for landscape irrigation.

That amount will be 55 gallons per person per day, she said. The state could provide the difference if local water agencies cannot meet that amount, she added. The total the state expects to deliver of such "health and safety" water is 340,000 acre-feet. By comparison, all cities and farm districts have state contracts for 4.2 million acre-feet.

Wednesday's announcement is the first time since January 2014, during the depths of the last drought, for a 0% allotment, and the first time ever that such an announcement was made in December, at the beginning of winter.

Among the agencies affected by Wednesday's news are the Santa Clara Valley Water District, in San Jose, which provides drinking water to 2 million South Bay residents. Also hit: Alameda County Water District, which provides water to 360,000 people in Fremont, Newark and Union City; and Zone 7 Water Agency, which serves Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

The news does not affect customers of the East Bay Municipal Utility District, Contra Costa Water District, Marin Municipal Water District or San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, who receive their water from other sources and projects.

Urban areas such as San Jose, Fremont and Livermore, along with Los Angeles and Napa, will have to find other water sources, including local reservoirs, groundwater, more conservation and purchases from farm agencies to get through next year. And many farmers will have to pump more groundwater or fallow fields.

"With the conditions we've been seeing, and the reservoir levels where they are, I don't think we are surprised," said Aaron Baker, a chief operating officer with the Santa Clara Valley Water District. "It is symbolic of the dry, warmer conditions we are in."

Baker said the Santa Clara Valley Water District will use local groundwater, conservation and purchases from farm agencies in the Sacramento Valley with senior water rights to avoid severe shortages. Its 10 local reservoirs are only 11% full now.

This summer, the district asked Santa Clara County residents to cut water use 15% from 2019 levels to preserve supplies. So far, they have reduced by only 7%.

Baker said that if it doesn't rain significantly this winter, Santa Clara County residents should expect more stringent water conservation rules next summer.

On Wednesday, the Marin Municipal Water District, which serves 190,000 people in Marin County, prohibited all outdoor landscape watering seven days a week, with fines for violators. Healdsburg, in Sonoma County, has had similar rules in place for months.

"We need local leaders to step up and make those decisions," Nemeth said. "If they won't, the state will."

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Tags: **Bay Area Weather**, **California Drought**, **California Weather**, **Disaster**, **Farming**, **PM Report**, **Regional**, **Water**

Author **Paul Rogers** | Natural resources and environment reporter

Paul Rogers has covered a wide range of issues for The Mercury News since 1989, including water, oceans, energy, logging, parks, endangered species, toxics and climate change. He also has worked as managing editor of the Science team at KQED, the PBS and NPR station in San Francisco, and has taught science writing at UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz.

progers@bayareanewsgroup.com

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By Comparisons.org

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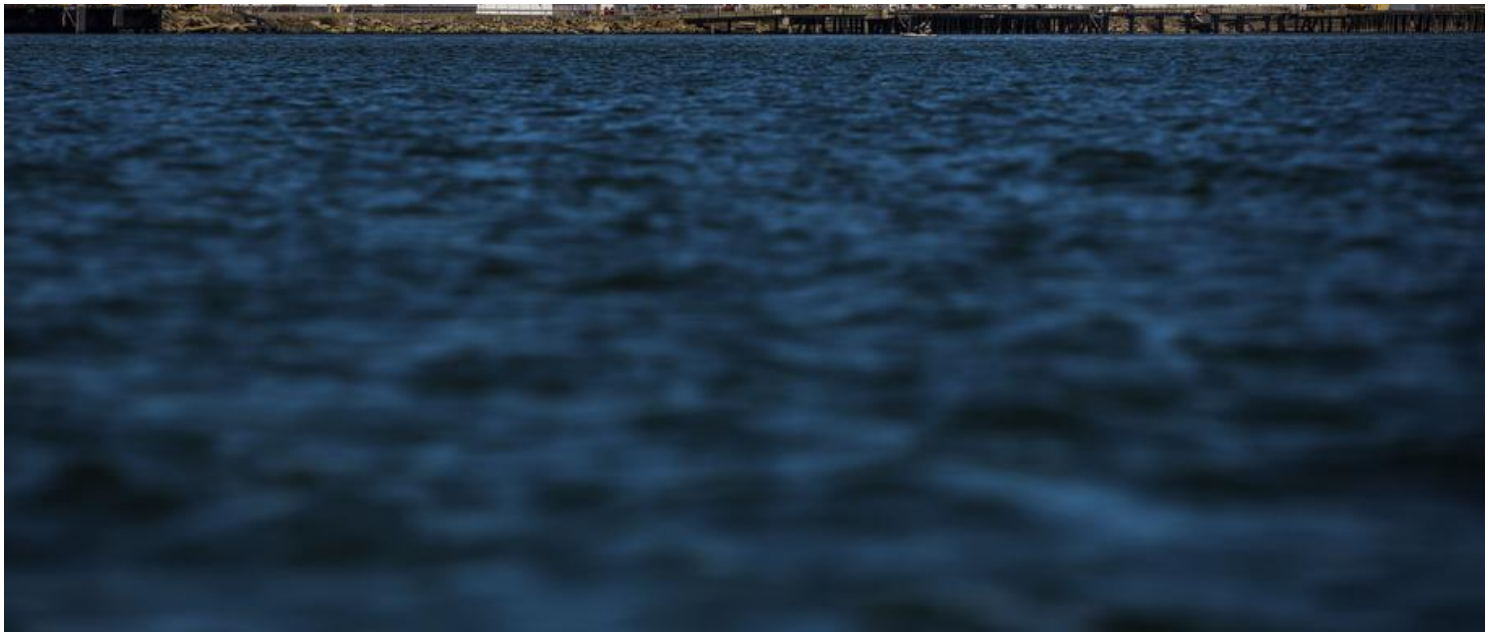
BAY AREA

Sea level rise could flood toxic sites along the Bay Area's shore. This city has 21 facilities at risk

Julie Johnson

Dec. 7, 2021



1 of 2

Richmond's shoreline is dotted with 32 miles of heavy industry, including the Chevron oil refinery, shown here.
Yalonda M. James / The Chronicle

Richmond boasts the longest shoreline of any Bay Area city, 32 miles dotted with heavy industry such as chemical plants, factories and the Chevron oil refinery. It's also vulnerable to rising seas predicted to increase regular flooding in the Bay Area by the end of the century.

Researchers say that combination threatens to spread toxic materials from an industrial shoreline into mostly working-class neighborhoods, placing immigrants and people of color at greater risk of exposure to pollutants.

That is true for Richmond, home to a combined majority of Black, Latino and Asian residents and with high rates of poverty in neighborhoods near its industrial shoreline.

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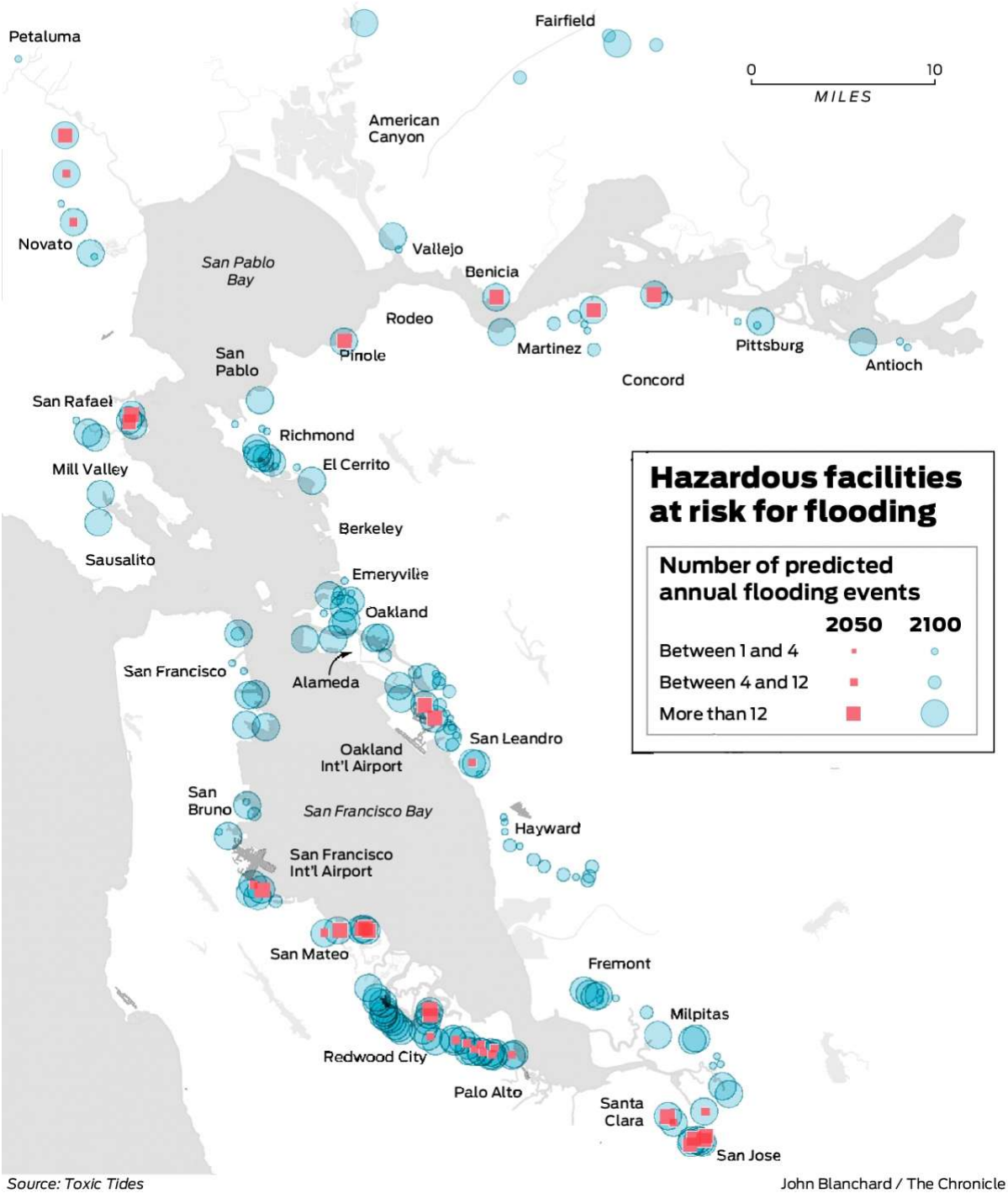
Researchers at the University of California at Berkeley and Los Angeles and New Jersey-based research nonprofit Climate Central overlaid on maps demographic data and sea level rise predictions with the location of landfills, refineries, hazardous waste sites and other toxic facilities. The project underscores how climate change will only worsen inequality and long-standing environmental justice issues.

"People think of Malibu or the Palisades when they think of sea level rise, but in reality there's a lot of long-term industry and toxic sites in coastal areas," said Rachel Morello-Frosch, lead researcher and environmental health science professor at UC Berkeley's school of public health. "That could pose threats to communities that live nearby. Many are located in poor communities and communities of color."

Across California, 400 hazardous facilities in low-lying areas are likely to experience regular flooding by the end of the century, according to the report dubbed "Toxic Tides." Most facilities are clustered in just five counties, including

Contra Costa, Alameda and San Mateo in Northern California and Los Angeles and Orange counties in the south.



Source: Toxic Tides John Blanchard / The Chronicle

People living in disadvantaged communities, such as those in Richmond and Alameda County, are five times more likely to suffer from flooding by 2050, researchers found.

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The research looked only at surface flooding and doesn't include other potential impacts of sea level rise, such as groundwater infiltration.

Percentage of low-lying facilities in California facing flood risk

Facility type	2050	2100
Sewage treatment	9.6%	18.4%
Refineries	7.7%	23.1%
Ports and terminals	7.6%	19.7%
Hazardous waste	5...	14.5%
Power plants	5...	11.4%
Cleanup sites	4.4%	10.3%
Landfills and incinerators	3.4%	5...
Animal operations	2.4%	2.4%
Industrial	1.7%	5...
Oil and gas wells	0.1%	2.0%

Researchers spotlighted Richmond, where they found 350 toxic facilities, including 21 sites at risk from repeat flooding annually by 2100 as sea levels rise. Demographic data shows these facilities are located near neighborhoods with higher-than-average poverty rates compared to other low-lying areas of California.

Morello-Frosch and her fellow researchers hope the project will be a tool for local governments and environmental justice groups pushing to reduce the impact of pollution on disadvantaged communities.

Amee Raval, policy and research director with the Asian Pacific Environmental Network, said her organization and others helped researchers shape the demographic factors used in the maps and inform their plans to bring the information to grassroots groups and policymakers. They also helped researchers learn more about Richmond's rich history of environmental activism among its immigrant communities.

"In Richmond there is a whole suite of toxic facilities of hazardous sites that range across industrial sectors," Raval said. "Working-class communities of color are on the front lines of historic health burdens like pollution but also the climate crisis."

One Richmond site, a fossil fuel port on the Santa Fe Channel, is at risk of 114 floods annually by the year 2100, according to the map. An asphalt paving material factory in Richmond is at risk of 127 floods annually by the end of the century.

Richmond City Councilwoman Gayle McLaughlin, whose district includes the city's southeastern shore, said the council is discussing ways to protect its shoreline through projects like wetland restoration, but they need to do more.

"We need to protect our communities very close to our shoreline and especially the southeast side," McLaughlin said.

There is growing acknowledgment in Sacramento that rising seas are expected to add burdens to already vulnerable communities. Last year, the Legislative Analyst's Office estimated if water levels increased four feet, that could cause daily flooding for nearly 28,000 socially vulnerable Bay Area residents.

Demographic comparison between California census blocks with at-risk facilities vs. without

Among blocks near low-lying areas vulnerable to sea level rise

Chart: Yoohyun Jung / The Chronicle · Source: Toxic Tides

Demographic data is based on the 2017 American Community Survey

In September, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 1 to allocate $100 million each year to help local governments prepare for sea level rise.

Mike Futrell, city manager for South San Francisco, said city officials are concerned about low-lying areas, especially the old Oyster Point landfill on the bay. It was closed and capped in the 1960s, but could still pose serious threats to health and

safety if, without intervention, sea level rise inevitably thwarts the systems in place to ensure hazardous materials don't escape. If water inundates the old landfill, "that could lead to catastrophic results," Futrell said.

Drought Map

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The city has transformed the old Oyster Point landfill into a park. But sea level rise projections put its future in doubt. The city council is currently discussing how to protect the old landfill from rising waters.

Futrell said he hoped cities and other government agencies along the bay can band together to share the significant costs coming with such a monumental change to

the state's shorelines.

The maps are designed as resources for communities and public agencies to illustrate the threat, but they are not intended as the final arbiter of what areas are at risk, Morello-Frosch said.

The map, published Nov. 30, stirred controversy in Richmond because it did not include a toxic site slated for a housing project. The project is tied up in court as activists try to argue partial cleanup of the site is not sufficient to protect future residents from the pollutants left behind from its 120-year industrial history.

The shoreline property is on higher ground, and it wasn't listed as at risk from sea level rise on the Toxic Tides map. Morello-Frosch said they added language to their website explaining that they only mapped surface flooding projections and didn't analyze sea level impact on groundwater systems — a much more complex analysis.

Morello-Frosch said the issue underscores the vast impacts of climate change and how local governments must undertake site-specific studies along shorelines to understand specific risks.

"In many ways, we're underestimating the extent of risk," Morello-Frosch said.

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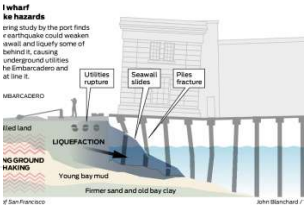

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Julie Johnson covers the changing climate, sea level rise and strategies to stem California's wildfire crisis. Before joining The Chronicle, she spent 11 years as a staff writer at the Santa Rosa Press Democrat, where she had a leading role on the breaking news team awarded the 2018 Pulitzer for coverage of the 2017 Wine Country fires. Julie has covered murderous pot deals, police corruption and marijuana's rocky path from a black-market trade to a legitimate industry.

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