



Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: December 3, 2024

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Sam Conant PHONE: 559-684-3355

SUBJECT: Approve an Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture in the amount of \$482,059.94, for the detection and suppression of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) retroactive from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. This agreement is retroactive due to the delay in receiving the proposed agreement from the California Department of Food and Agriculture.
2. Find that the Board had the authority to enter into the proposed Agreement as of July 1, 2024, and that it is in the County's best interest to enter into the Agreement on that date.
3. Authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement.
4. Direct the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer's Office to provide a signed copy of the Agreement to the Clerk of the Board.
5. Find that the activities described in the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter workplan are exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4) Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.
6. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer, or their designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk-Recorder and the appropriate state agency.

SUMMARY:

This Agreement (CDFA Agreement No. 23-0529-048-SF) is intended to subvent costs incurred by the County when providing early detection and suppression of this potentially

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devastating pest. This Agreement will continue Tulare County's efforts to suppress the insect pest through FY 2024/25.

The program is designed to reduce the GWSS population in Tulare County, detect and identify new infestations, and to control existing populations. This is primarily accomplished through insect trapping, visual inspections, and surveys. The program also monitors the presence of Pierce's Disease (*Xyella fastidiosa*) in Tulare County orchards, vineyards, and ornamental plantings, using visual surveys. Pierce's Disease is a potentially devastating plant disease transmitted by the GWSS.

In accordance with CEQA, the County has also determined that a Statutory exemption is applicable to the proposed action: Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4) Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. The County will complete tiering strategy checklists for inspection, trapping, and treatment (if applicable) and ensure all activities follow the CDFA Management Practices and Mitigation Measures.

This agreement deviates from County Contract Protocol in the following ways:

- 1) This Agreement requires mutual liability between the County and the State.
- 2) The County signs the Agreement first.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

This Agreement provides \$482,059.94 for FY 2024/25. The revenues and associated expenditures for this agreement have been included in the Agricultural Commissioner's FY 2024/25 budget. There will be no additional net county costs in performing this program.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Strategic Initiative #2: Economic Well-Being. Approval of this Agreement will promote economic development opportunities, effective growth management and a quality standard of living. The program will provide early detection and suppression of the potentially devastating GWSS insect pest and is consistent with the County's objective of continuing to protect the County's agricultural-based economy.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Sam Conant
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights & Measures

Cc: County Administrative Office

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Attachments: CDFA Agreement NO. 23-0529-048-SF
Notice of Exemption, California Environmental Quality Act