



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Agricultural
Commissioner
Department No.: 051
For Agenda Of: January 21, 2014
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Guy Tingos, (805) 681-5600
Director(s)
Contact Info: Kendra Stites or David Chang, (805) 681-5600
SUBJECT: USFS State & Private Forestry Weed Management Agreement 13-0350-SF

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors

a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to receive reimbursement from the U.S. State and Private Forestry Weed Management Agreement for the control of *Euphorbia terracina*, a regulated noxious weed, in Mission Canyon, Santa Barbara County, First District, for the period of September 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015, in the amount of \$29,378.00.

b) Determine that the above project is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15304 Minor Alterations to Land; § 15307 Actions by Regulatory Agency for Protection of Natural Resources; and § 15333 Small Habitat Restoration Projects, and direct staff to file a notice of exemption.

Summary Text:

The United States Forest Service's State and Private Forestry Grant Program is providing money via the California Department of Food and Agriculture to Santa Barbara County to eradicate *Euphorbia terracina*, within Santa Barbara County. *Euphorbia terracina* is a Title 3 California Code of Regulations §4500 listed noxious weed. The infestation targeted for control by this project covers 1.4 acres in the Mission Canyon area (District 1). Contractors and Agricultural Commissioner staff will be utilized to conduct the project.

Background:

The Agricultural Commissioner assists with the protection and conservation of agriculture and habitat by conducting projects to remove noxious weeds. *Euphorbia terracina*, also known as Geraldton carnation weed, or false caper, has infested private and public lands in southern Santa Barbara County. *Euphorbia terracina* is detrimental to habitat and rangeland as it is poisonous to livestock and wildlife and reproduces prolifically. First discovered in Santa Barbara County in 2010, the plant has been reported from Ventura, Los Angeles, San Diego, Contra Costa, and Tulare counties. The goal of the project is to forestall its northward spread into the Los Padres National Forest. The project will be conducted by departmental staff, vendors, and volunteers.

Performance Measure:

The project will treat sites in Mission Canyon in spring 2014 and 2015. A coalition of agencies and non-governmental organizations working to control this weed has been convened to coordinate control activities.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>FY 14-15 Cost</u>
General Fund		
State	\$ 19,008.00	\$ 10,370.00
Federal		
Fees		
Other:		
Total	\$ 19,008.00	\$ 10,370.00

Narrative: Money will be used for departmental cost recovery, which may include the cost of vendor use.

Staffing Impacts:

none

Special Instructions:

Please return a minute order and one fully executed signature page for the subject agreement 13-0350-SF to the Agricultural Commissioner's Office, which will be sent to the California Department of Food and Agriculture for final signature.

Attachments:

USFS State & Private Forestry Weed Management Agreement 13-0350-SF
CEQA Categorical Exemption

Authored by:

David Chang