



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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Agricultural Commissioner
Department No.: 051
Agenda Date: February 24, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Jose Chang, Agricultural Commissioner
Contact: Stephanie Stark, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Kendra Stites, Administrative Office Professional
SUBJECT: Invasive Shothole Borers (ISHB) Survey Program
Agreement #25-0601-000-SG with the California Department of Food
and Agriculture

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute an agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to receive reimbursement for services related to the Invasive Shothole Borers (ISHB) Survey Program in the County of Santa Barbara for the period of December 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 in the amount of \$21,167.35; and
- b) Determine that the above action involves government funding mechanisms and/or fiscal activities and is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda for the Board of Supervisors to approve and authorize an agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to receive reimbursement for the Invasive Shothole Borers (ISHB) Survey Program. Through this agreement, the CDFA reimburses the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office for the cost associated with the survey, trapping

and outreach activities related to the presence and distribution of ISHB within Santa Barbara County and the State of California.

Discussion:

The activities covered by the agreement are intended to aid in understanding the distribution of ISHB through visual and trapping surveys, collect trapping and mapping data, and to perform outreach activities to bring awareness to the risks associated with ISHB.

Background:

There are three species of ISHB in California: *Euwallacea fornicates*, *Euwallacea kuroshio*, and *Euwallacea interjectus*. Two of the species, *E. fornicates* and *E. kuroshio* are found in Santa Barbara County. These beetles bring a fungus into host trees where they establish galleries. The fungi is a food source for the beetles, promoting reproduction and population growth. High beetle populations block water movement within a tree’s vascular system, leading to plant stress, dieback, and sometimes death. From May 2020 to March 2024, the department conducted ISHB survey and tree removal activities under a separate funding source. The current cooperative agreement with CDFA is limited to surveys and public education and does not involve tree removal. Continuance of this funding is uncertain at this time.

Performance Measure:

The Invasive Shothole Borers (ISHB) Survey Program Agreement reimburses the Department at an hourly rate for survey, trapping and public outreach activities. Reimbursable activities include visual survey of host sites, insect trapping, sample submission, data entry, education and outreach to the public and stakeholders, participation in meetings, and staff training.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY [25/26-FY 26/27]	Total
General Fund		
State	\$21,167.35	\$21,167.35
Federal		
Fees		
Total	\$21,167.35	\$21,167.35

Staffing Impacts:

None. The work required under the Invasive Shothole Borers (ISHB) Survey Program agreement will be completed by existing staff.

Special Instructions:

Please return a minute order and a fully executed signature page for Agreement # 25-0601-000-SG to the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office/ Weights and Measures.

Attachments:

Attachment A – ISHB Survey and Trapping Program Agreement # 25-0601-000-SG

Contact Information:

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