



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: May 5, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Cathleen Fisher, Commissioner, 805-681-5600
Director
Contact Info: Stephanie Stark, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, 805-681-5600
SUBJECT: Invasive Shot Hole Borer Block Grants

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A) Adopt a resolution approving an application for funding from the California Food and Agriculture, acting through the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), for “Invasive Shot Hole Borer Block Grants” and appointing the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute and submit all documents necessary for the ISHB grant project.
- B) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute an agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for support and services related to the prevention of the spread of the Invasive Shot Hole Borer (ISHB) in the County of Santa Barbara for the period of June 30, 2020 through June 30, 2022.
- C) Find that the proposed actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15304 (minor alterations to vegetation to improve wildlife resources by protecting them from ISHB), 15307 (actions to protect natural resources), 15308 (actions to protect the environment), and 15061(b)(3)(no possibility of impact on the environment).

Summary Text:

The California State Legislature has enacted the 2019/2020 Budget Act, which provides for use of funds by the State of California and its political subdivisions for treatment of Invasive Shot Hole Borers. The state Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of these funds through a program entitled “Invasive Shot Hole Borer Block Grants” and set up procedures governing application for such funds by local agencies under the program.

Background:

Invasive Shot-Hole Borer (ISHB) include two closed related species of wood-boring beetle that attack dozens of tree species in Southern California, including commercial avocado groves, common landscape trees, and native species in urban and wildland environments. ISHB spreads a disease called Fusarium Dieback (FD), which is caused by pathogenic fungi. Trees that are FD-susceptible may experience branch dieback, canopy loss, and in some cases tree mortality. The infestation threatens to expand north towards the Bay Area through transportation of infested wood/host material. Northern California natural and urban/interface areas and particularly riparian areas could be severely impacted if infested with ISHB. Locally, the infestation is limited to the Montecito area and mainly in riparian areas of urban/rural interface, impacting residents by increasing the fire potential and falling limbs. Natural areas including the Los Padres National Forest are at higher risk for ISHB to increase fire danger and alter natural plant communities.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>2020-2021 FY Cost:</u>	<u>2021-2022 FY Cost:</u>
\$ 6,000.00	\$ 295,479.21	\$ 289,479.21
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Narrative: The total for the grant agreement is \$590,958.42 and the grant period ends on March 30, 2022.

Key Contract Risks:

If funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the Budget Act for purposes of this program, the state shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the State, or offer an agreement amendment to the CAC to reflect the reduced amount.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

Please return (2) fully executed signature pages for Grant Agreement 8GA19417, signed in blue ink, to the Agricultural Commissioner's Office.

Attachments:

Attachment A: County Resolution

Attachment B: Grant Agreement 8GA19417

Authored by:

Stephanie Stark

cc:

N/A