

Minutes
Contra Costa County IPM Advisory Committee
Subcommittee on IPM Decision-Making
May 20, 2016

Members present: Andrew Sutherland (chair), Susan Captain, Jim Cartan, Jim Donnelly

Members absent: Larry Yost

Staff present: Tanya Drlik, IPM Coordinator; Jill Ray, Supervisor Andersen's Office

Members of the public present: Christine Steck and Marcia McLean, Parents for a Safer Environment

1. Introductions

2. Public comment on items not on the agenda

Christine Steck noted that Parents for a Safer Environment would like the committee to address herbicide use in the Flood Control District.

Marcia McLean mentioned that rodenticides are a very serious problem for non-target species and that 95% of the animals treated by Wildcare are treated for rodenticide poisoning.

3. Discuss gopher management decision document

The committee reviewed the document and requested that a section for "Recommendations" be added to the form. The committee would like to invite the Special Districts Manager to attend the next meeting to help the committee understand the nature of Special Districts and their funding and to help clarify how the Special Districts' contractor manages gophers.

Susan Captain mentioned that owls are great gopher predators and that Eagle Scouts in Contra Costa are eager to set up owl boxes around the County. She will provide the IPM Coordinator with the contact information.

Public Comment: Marcia McLean mentioned that Santa Clara does only trapping for burrowing rodents and that they trap at night.

4. Hear reports from committee members on contacting vegetation managers in surrounding counties

Andrew Sutherland: San Mateo County

San Mateo has a mow-only program on some of their roads. Andrew will have more information on this later. CalTrans actually manages some of San Mateo's roads and is doing research on Hwy 84. Ray Kwan is the PCA for CalTrans and could possibly come to make a presentation to the committee.

Susan Captain: Santa Clara County

Susan tried to contact Naresh Duggal, the IPM Coordinator in Santa Clara, several times but he has not yet responded. The IPM Coordinator suggested she try contacting the Public Works Department to get the name of the person in charge of vegetation management along the roads.

Jim Cartan: Yolo County

Yolo has 757 miles of County roads which are managed by their public works department. Roadside spraying is done by the Agriculture Department and Jim is in the process of contacting Jim Young, the Solano County Agricultural Commissioner.

Jim Donnelly: Alameda County, and if time allows, Solano

Jim was unable to find much information about IPM in Alameda County on their website. The IPM Coordinator will ask County staff if they know who manages vegetation in Alameda County.

Public Comment: Marcia McLean asked why the committee did not contact Marin County.

The IPM Coordinator responded that she had contacted them in the past and that they have only about half the road miles that Contra Costa has, and the roads are in West Marin where the climate is very different from Contra Costa. Mowing is the only control method they use.

5. Discuss the committee work plan

- The subcommittee will continue to gather information on roadside vegetation management from neighboring counties.
- The subcommittee requested that the IPM Coordinator work on a rat management decision document for the Livorna Park Special District next.
- The subcommittee would like to meet with the Special Districts Manager at the next meeting to better understand the Special Districts.
- The subcommittee would like to review the County IPM Policy, a sample contract for pest management in Special Districts, and the Public Works Landscape Standards.

Public Comment: Marcia McLean asked about how other counties deal with the problems of funding in Special Districts.

The IPM Coordinator will investigate this.

6. Plan next agenda

Next Meeting: June 16, 10:00 am

- Hear reports on vegetation management in neighboring counties
- Hear information on Special Districts from the Special Districts Manager
- Review the Special Districts contract, the IPM Policy, and the pest management section of the Landscape Standards.
- Review the rat decision document