

Minutes
Contra Costa County IPM Advisory Committee
Subcommittee on IPM Decision-Making
October 12, 2017

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

Members absent: Jim Donnelly

Staff present: Tanya Drlik, IPM Coordinator

Members of the public present: Susan JunFish, Shirley Shelangoski, and Karolina Park, Parents for a Safer Environment

1. Introductions

2. Public comment on items not on the agenda

Karolina Park of Parents for a Safer Environment read a statement (see attached). Shirley Shelangoski commented that there has been a lot of progress in the County and the IPM Committee seems to be more environmentally friendly.

3. Approve minutes from September 14, 2017

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 14, 2017 minutes (SC/LY).

The motion carried:

Ayes: Yost, Captain, Sutherland

Noes: None

Abstentions: Cartan

Absent: Donnelly

4. Review the flood control decision document

The committee suggested several more changes/additions to the document. The IPM Coordinator will incorporate the revisions for the next meeting. The committee added a recommendation section to the document saying that the subcommittee recommends that the County continue to review all vegetation management methods available for roadsides and rights-of-way considering efficacy, cost, impacts to the environment, and to the community. A second recommendation is to encourage investigation and experimentation with new methods. A third recommendation was to review the documents every 3 years, given the ongoing development of alternate management methods, changing environmental conditions and needs, and potential changes to budgets.

Members asked that the final decision documents be posted on the IPM website with a note saying that for further information people can contact the IPM Coordinator.

A motion was made (and later withdrawn) by Andrew Sutherland to approve the decision document with the changes and additions discussed today that will be applied by the IPM Coordinator.

Discussion ensued. Some of the points made are as follows:

- The County does not spray trail margins, but it does treat near the trails. (LY)
- What is the definition of an “established trail”? (all)
- There is no legal requirement to post pesticide treatments. The County’s posting policy is something that it imposed on itself. (LY)
- Should there be posting on flood control channels? (SC, JC, AS)
- The committee needs a representative from Public Works to answer questions about the decision document at the next meeting.

Public comment

Pesticides are being applied where there are trails. People use the flood control access roads as trails and those access roads are treated without any signage (S.Shelangoski, S. JunFish)

On Pinole Creek there are no signs, no gates, and the access roads look like regular trails. Kids are walking to and from school on the road. (S. JunFish)

What about drift? (K. Park)

Susan JunFish read a written statement (see attached).

5. Review ground squirrel decision document

This item was postponed till the next meeting.

6. Review final report from the subcommittee including flow charts

The committee did not have time to discuss this item, but agreed that Andrew Sutherland will create a list of specific recommendations from the work of the committee to add to the report.

7. Plan next agenda

The next meeting will be November 2, 2017, 10:00 am to noon

- Review the flood control decision document with a representative from Public Works (60 minutes)
- Begin the review of the ground squirrel decision document (20 minutes)
- Review the final report from the subcommittee including the pest management flow charts (20 minutes)
- Other business (20 minutes)