

Minutes
Contra Costa County IPM Advisory Committee
Subcommittee on IPM Decision-Making
November 6, 2018

Members Present: Susan Captain, Jim Donnelly, Andrew Sutherland (Chair, arrived late), Larry Yost

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Tanya Drlik, IPM Coordinator

Members of the public: Susan JunFish, Parents for a Safer Environment

Vice chair Jim Donnelly chaired the meeting until Andrew Sutherland arrived.

1. Introductions

2. Public comment on items not on the agenda

There was none.

3. Approve minutes of September 6, 2018

Susan JunFish asked to have “peer-reviewed trials” in her public comment changed to “pilot studies”.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. (LY/SC)

Ayes: Captain, Donnelly, Yost

Noes: None

Abstain:

Absent: Sutherland

4. Review ground squirrel decision document

The committee made several changes to the document.

Larry Yost listed the ground squirrel management techniques that the Department has tried:

1. Gas cartridges—these are a serious fire danger and can only be used in wet winter. Staff are not available at that time because they are engaged in other duties.
2. Aluminum phosphide
3. Live trapping—ground squirrels are not difficult to trap. Trapping works better where there are on-site personnel to pay attention to the traps. Traps can't be left unattended and the Department must have a way to euthanize the animals.

Larry also noted the following:

- The Department does ground squirrel management as a service to the Public Works Department
- He feels that with all the scrutiny that ground squirrel management gets, the Department is the best equipped to perform the tasks effectively and safely.
- If the Department were not allowed to use diphacinone bait anymore, they would not be able to manage grounds squirrels for Public Works.

Public Comment

Susan JunFish said she would send the IPM Coordinator information on using raised ground as a deterrent to ground squirrels and on other counties using carbon monoxide in large areas.

Andrew Sutherland asked that everyone read the Ventura County raptor perch study for discussion next meeting.

5. Plan next meeting agenda

The next meeting will be January 8, 2019, 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm.

- Discuss the ground squirrel decision document
- Discuss Ventura study
- Set goals for 2019