



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 1/30/2024

File #: 23-1575

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Agricultural Commissioner

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Approval of Standard Agreement No. 23-0234-002-SF, Pest Detection Trapping Contract with the California Department of Food and Agriculture in the amount of \$21,582

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve Standard Agreement No. 23-0234-002-SF, known as the Pest Detection Trapping Program Contract with the California Department of Food and Agriculture;
2. Authorize the Chair to sign the original agreement, one copy of the cover page, and the contractor certification, then return all signed copies to the Agricultural Commissioner's office for further processing; and
3. Grant a waiver from the provisions of the Nuclear Free Ordinance as the contract provides no direct conflict with the intent of Nuclear Free Ordinance.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

DISCUSSION:

The waiver from the provisions of the Nuclear Free Ordinance is requested because the State of California will not modify its "standard agreements" to accommodate local ordinances. The Agricultural Commissioner's Office receives annual subventions from CDFA to offset the local costs associated with enforcing certain state-mandated programs. One of these programs, the Pest Detection Trapping Program, is conducted annually by the Agriculture Department and is intended to identify introductions of specific insect pests that are known to cause serious damage to agriculture or the environment. Humboldt County's detection program is the local component of an annual state-wide effort by counties that target multiple species of known destructive insect pests.

Under the direction of CDFA, standard agreement No. 23-0234-002-SF provides funding for Humboldt County's trapping survey and will focus on two "A-rated" pests, Spongy Moth, and Japanese Beetle. The Spongy Moth *Lymantria dispar* is native to Europe and first identified in the United States in

Massachusetts in 1869. The Spongy Moth is a significant pest because the caterpillars feed on more than 300 species of trees and shrubs. The caterpillars defoliate trees leaving them vulnerable to diseases and other pests which can eventually kill the tree. Established in the eastern United States, early detection of local introductions is essential for preventing their spread.

Japanese beetle was first found in the United States in 1916 in New Jersey. Since then, Japanese beetles have spread throughout most states east of the Mississippi River. The Japanese Beetle is a highly destructive plant pest whose larvae feeds on grass roots damaging lawns, golf courses, and pastures. Japanese beetle adults attack the foliage, flowers, or fruits of more than 300 different ornamental and agricultural plants. Each of these pests has the potential to cause significant damage to Humboldt County’s environment and could, if established, cause quarantine restrictions to be placed on Humboldt County timber and agricultural products. The Agricultural Commissioner’s staff will place and inspect traps located throughout Humboldt County from April-September 2024.

This agreement is coming to your Board for approval after the effective date due to delays in receiving this agreement from CDFA.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures (1100, 261)	FY23-24 Adopted
Budgeted Expenses	\$21,582
Total Expenditures	\$21,582
Funding Sources (1100, 261)	FY23-24 Adopted
State/Federal Funds	\$21,582
Total Funding Sources	\$21,582

**Projected amounts are estimates and are subject to change.*

Narrative Explanation of Financial Impact:

All costs for personnel, mileage, and supplies will be reimbursed by the contract. Standard agreement no. 23-0234-002-SF provides a total of \$21,582 in funding for fiscal year 2023-24 for Agriculture Department activities related to the Pest Detection Trapping Program. No supplemental budget accompanies this request as revenue and expenditure accounts were previously funded in anticipation of this agreement. All costs are billed to CDFA monthly and payment is made in arrears to Humboldt County.

STAFFING IMPACT:

This agreement maintains funding for staffing for the Pest Detection Trapping Program.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

This action supports the following areas of your Board’s Strategic Framework.

Core Roles: Enforce laws and regulations to protect residents

New Initiatives: N/A

Strategic Plan: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

CDFA

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board may choose not to approve standard agreement no. 23-0234-002-SF. However, that is not recommended, as Pest Detection Trapping is a core program to prevent the introduction of invasive insect species detrimental to agriculture and the environment.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Standard Agreement No. 23-0234-002-SF

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A