

**Finding of No Significant Impact**  
**Mediterranean Fruit Fly Cooperative Eradication Program**  
**Cabo Rojo Municipality, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico**  
**Environmental Assessment**  
**April 2015**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prepared an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes alternatives for control of an outbreak of the Mediterranean fruit fly (Medfly), *Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann), an exotic agricultural pest found in the Cabo Rojo Municipality of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. APHIS involvement in a Medfly cooperative eradication program with Puerto Rico was triggered on March 20, 2015, with confirmation of the find of a second wild female adult Medfly less than 1 mile from the initial detection. The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available from—

USDA–APHIS–PPQ  
State Plant Health Director  
654 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 700  
San Juan, PR 00918

or  
USDA–APHIS–PPQ  
Center for Plant Health Science & Tech.  
1730 Varsity Drive, Suite 400  
Raleigh, NC 27606

The EA for this program analyzed alternatives of (1) no action, (2) quarantine and commodity certification, and (3) eradication. Each alternative was determined to have potential environmental consequences. APHIS selected eradication using an integrated pest management approach for the Cabo Rojo program because of its capability to achieve eradication in a way that also reduces the magnitude of those potential environmental consequences.

APHIS determined that the program may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, federally listed species or critical habitat in Cabo Rojo, and submitted a programmatic biological assessment to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. APHIS received a concurrence letter dated March 30, 2015. Should the program area expand beyond Cabo Rojo, or a new species or critical habitat be listed that may occur in the program area, APHIS will revisit this determination and consult with the appropriate agency, as necessary. In addition, implementation of the preferred alternative is not expected to have any adverse effect on migratory birds or their stopover areas or flight corridors, or other nontarget species in the program area.

I find implementation of the proposed program will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. I considered and based my finding of no significant impact on the quantitative and qualitative risk assessments of the proposed pesticides, the analysis in the referenced EA, and on my review of the program's operational characteristics. In addition, I find the program fulfilled consultation requirements associated with the human environment (including tribal, cultural, and historical resources). I find the program adequately considered potential needs of low-income and minority populations, and children. I find the program is not likely to be associated with disproportionately high and adverse impacts to these populations. For these reasons I find an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared and the program may proceed.

LEYINSKA  
WISCOVITCH

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Leyinska U. Wiscovitch  
State Plant Health Director  
Puerto Rico & the U.S. Virgin Islands  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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Date