

Finding of No Significant Impact
Mediterranean Fruit Fly Cooperative Eradication Program
Los Angeles County, California
Environmental Assessment
November 2016

U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prepared an environmental assessment (EA) analyzing alternatives for control of an outbreak of the Mediterranean fruit fly, *Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann) (Medfly), an exotic agricultural pest detected at actionable levels in the region of Arleta, a neighborhood in Los Angeles, California. APHIS' involvement in a Medfly cooperative eradication program with California was triggered in November 2016 with the confirmed detection of multiple adult female wild Medflies, mated and unmated, within 3 miles of one another during a single Medfly life cycle. The EA is incorporated by reference in this document, and is available from:

USDA, APHIS, PPQ
State Plant Health Director
650 Capital Mall, Suite 6400
Sacramento, CA 95814

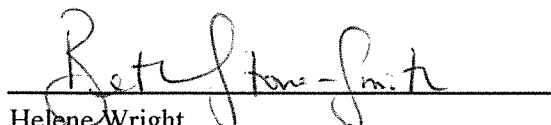
or

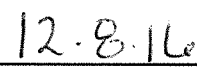
USDA, APHIS, PPQ
Center for Plant Health Science and Technology
1730 Varsity Dr., Suite 400
Raleigh, NC 27606

The EA for this program analyzed three alternatives: (1) no action, (2) quarantine and commodity certification, and (3) eradication. Each of these alternatives is associated with potential environmental consequences. APHIS selected the eradication program using an integrated pest management approach because of its capability to achieve eradication in a way that reduces the overall magnitude of potential environmental consequences.

APHIS reviewed the program area and determined that the proposed action will have no effect on federally listed species or designated critical habitat because none occur within the treatment area. Should the program area expand, or a new species or critical habitat be listed that may occur in the program area, APHIS will consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as necessary. In addition, implementation of the preferred alternative is not expected to have any adverse effect on migratory birds or their flight corridors, and only minimal impact to other nontarget species in the program area because of the application methods used, the favorable toxicity profile of the insecticides, and the limited and targeted use of the program insecticides.

I find implementation of the proposed program will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. I have 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 has fulfilled consultation requirements associated with the human environment (including low-income and minority populations, children, and tribal, cultural, and historical resources). Lastly, because I have not found evidence of significant environmental impacts associated with this proposed program, I find an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared and the program may proceed.

Acting for 
Helene Wright
State Plant Health Director, California
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service


Date