

Finding of No Significant Impact
European Cherry Fruit Fly Cooperative Control Program
Niagara County, New York
Environmental Assessment
April 2018

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes alternatives for control of an outbreak of the European cherry fruit fly (ECFF), *Rhagoletis cerasi* (Linnaeus, 1758), an exotic agricultural pest detected at actionable levels in Niagara County, New York. USDA's involvement in an ECFF cooperative control program with New York was triggered in September 2017 with the confirmed detection of ECFF in western Niagara County. The EA is incorporated by reference in this document, and is available from:

USDA-APHIS-PPQ
State Plant Health Director
500 New Karner Road, 2nd Floor
Albany, NY 12205

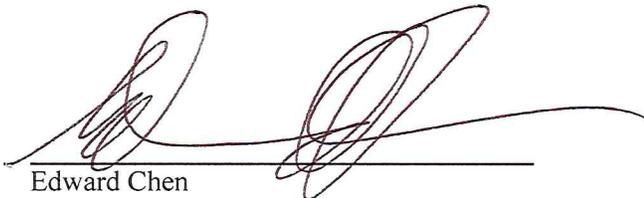
or

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

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

USDA reviewed the program area and determined the proposed action would have no effect on federally listed species in Niagara County. Should the program area expand, or a new species or critical habitat be listed that may occur in the program area, USDA 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 flight corridors, and only minimal impact on 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.



Edward Chen
State Plant Health Director, New York
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture



Date