Finding of No Significant Impact
Oriental Fruit Fly Cooperative Eradication Program
Miami-Dade County, Florida
Environmental Assessment
July 2018

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA) prepared an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes alternatives for control of an outbreak of the oriental fruit fly (OFF), Bactrocera dorsalis (Hendel), an exotic agricultural pest detected at actionable levels in the Redland region of Miami-Dade County, Florida. USDA’s involvement in an OFF cooperative eradication program with Florida was initiated in June 2018 after the positive identification of three male adult OFF collected from Jackson traps in avocado, almond, and sapote trees. The EA is incorporated by reference in this document, and is available from:

USDA–APHIS–PPQ
State Plant Health Director
8100 NW 15th Place
Gainesville, FL 32606

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: (A) no action, (B) quarantine and commodity certification, and (C) eradication using an adaptive management approach. Each of these alternatives is associated with potential environmental consequences. USDA selected eradication using an adaptive management approach as the preferred alternative.

APHIS reviewed the program area and determined the proposed use of delimitation trapping, surveys and male annihilation technique with spinosad will have no effect on any listed species or critical habitat. Should the program activities change, the program area expand, 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 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 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 previously fulfilled consultation requirements associated with historical resources, and there are no new requirements that need to be met. I find the program fulfilled the analytic requirements and appropriately considered the needs of low-income and minority populations, children, and Tribal and cultural resources during the development of the program alternatives. 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.

James W. Walker
Acting State Plant Health Director, Florida
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date