

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Marion Ashley and Supervisor Kevin Jeffries

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 20, 2015

SUBJECT: Recommendations Regarding the Use of Unprocessed Green Material Applied to Land to address the spreading of the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Request that the Governor of the State of California declare a State of Emergency in order to identify State funding and resources to combat the PSHB; and
2. Direct the Agricultural Commissioner to initiate the process of establishing a quarantine of the PSHB affected area in Western Riverside County; and
3. Consider a ban on the land application of non-composted green waste generated outside of the Riverside County geographical area; and
4. Direct the Department of Environmental Health to contact green waste processing facilities about the impacts of a proposed importation ban. (continued)

Departmental Concurrence

Kevin Jeffries, 1st District Supervisor

Marion Ashley, Chairman

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ Unknown	\$ Unknown	\$ Unknown	\$ Unknown	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$	\$	\$	\$	

SOURCE OF FUNDS:	Budget Adjustment:
	For Fiscal Year:

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- A-30
- Positions Added
- 4/5 Vote
- Change Order

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: All

Agenda Number:

3-61

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FORM 11: Recommendations Regarding the Use of Unprocessed Green Material Applied to Land
to address the spreading of the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB)**

DATE: March 20, 2015

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BACKGROUND: Agriculture is a critical and vital resource in the County of Riverside. Recently, a significant threat that has the potential to severely damage agricultural operations has been identified. The Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB) is an invasive beetle from Southeast Asia that can spread three fungi. Adult females attack a wide variety of host species, tunneling galleries to lay their eggs and grow the fungi. Both adults and larvae feed on this fungus, which spreads from the galleries to attack the tree's vascular tissue. This causes a disease called Fusarium Dieback (FD), which has been found to interrupt the transport of water and nutrients in over 130 species of trees.

Although the PSHB has been present in California since 2003, it was not until 2012 that PSHB, and fungi associated with PSHB, were recognized as potential threats to California avocado growers. Avocado production in Riverside County is valued at approximately \$40 Million dollars per year.

On January 15, 2015, representatives from the California Avocado Commission, Agricultural producers, and the University of California, Riverside, shared their concerns with the Riverside County Local Task Force/Solid Waste Municipal Advisory Council (LTF/SWMAC) regarding the potential ease of transmission of the PSHB through the land application of non-composted green waste. The non-composted green waste can harbor the PSHB that causes FD. The spreading of unprocessed green waste is seen as an immediate threat to not only the avocado industry, but also to more than 180 other types of trees that the PSHB uses for reproduction.

The PSHB beetle is widespread in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, northern avocado growing areas of San Diego County, and in limited areas of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Action is needed now to slow or stop the spread of the PSHB/FD complex. One way to do this is to prohibit the land application of non-composted green waste generated outside of Riverside County until other solutions can be found.

On March 19, 2015, the LTF/SWMAC met again to further discuss the issue of the PSHB beetle and consider actions Riverside County could take to address the problem. The LTF/SWMAC voted and approved the attached recommendations, which are the recommended motions before the Board today.

SUMMARY

This item will begin to address the concerns raised by the Avocado Commission, Wine Growers Association and Farm Bureau regarding the spreading of the PSHB beetle and potential impacts on numerous crops and ornamental trees.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The approval of this item would begin to address the spreading of the PSHB beetle at the local level, which could lead to challenges within the green waste industry attempting to find outlets for the unprocessed green material, with a possible resulting increase of cost to the rate-payer.

Attachment



**Riverside County
Waste Management Department**

Hans W. Kernkamp, General Manager-Chief Engineer

**SUBMITTAL TO THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FROM: Waste Management Department

SUBMITTAL DATE: March 19, 2015

SUBJECT: Pest/Disease Transmission and Environmental Impacts from Land Application of un-composted Material

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Send a letter to the Governor declaring a state of emergency with the beetle infestation
2. Consider a quarantine on current affected area of the County
3. Consider an outright ban on importation of uncomposted greenwaste
4. Direct staff to notify known chip & grind facilities that the County is considering this ban and why

BACKGROUND: On January 15, 2015, representatives from the California Avocado Commission, Agricultural producers, and the University of California, Riverside, shared their concerns with the Riverside County Local Task Force/Solid Waste Municipal Advisory Council (LTF/SWMAC) regarding the potential ease of transmission of the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB) through the land application of non-composted green waste. The non-composted green waste can harbor the PSHB that causes fungus and disease. The spreading of unprocessed green waste is seen as an immediate threat to not only the avocado industry, but also to more than 180 other types of trees that the PSHB uses for reproduction.(continued)

Hans Kernkamp
General Manager-Chief Engineer

MINUTES OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

On the motion of Bob Magee, seconded by Simon Housman, and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: D. Fahrion, B. Magee, R. O'Neill, M. Arciniega, E. Zanowic, F. Riddle, J. Reyes, S. Housman, D. West, C. Cunningham

Nays: None

Absent: E. Campos, R. Schmid, B. Scott, J. Van Wagenen, R. Moran, J. Ehrenkranz, K. Barrows, M. Gardner, C. Showalter, A. Villa

Frances Zamora
Executive Assistant

PD# 172216

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On March 19, 2015, the LTF/SWMAC met again to further discuss the issue of the PSHB beetle and consider actions Riverside County could take to address the problem. The LTF/SWMAC voted and approved the above recommended motion to the Board of Supervisors.