

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

August 22, 2023

FROM

BRADY GERGOVICH, Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer, Department of Agriculture / Weights & Measures

SUBJECT

Revenue Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture for the 2023 Noxious Weed Program

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Approve **Revenue Agreement No. 23-878** with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (State Agreement No. 23-0303-000-SA) for the Department of Agriculture / Weights & Measures to procure weed control services for the abatement of the noxious weed Garlic Mustard, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025, for a maximum reimbursement of \$42,400. (Presenter: Brady Gergovich, Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer, 387-2115)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Operate in a Fiscally-Responsible and Business-Like Manner.

Pursue County Goals and Objectives by Working with Other Agencies and Stakeholders.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This item will not result in the use of Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost). The revenue agreement, for a maximum reimbursement of \$42,400 is funded by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Sufficient appropriation and revenue have been included in the Department of Agriculture / Weights & Measures (AWM) 2023-24 budget and will be included in the 2024-25 recommended budget. Services, per the revenue agreement, will be procured from an outside vendor by AWM through a competitive bid process until the revenue agreement is exhausted.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This revenue agreement with the CDFA, Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services (PHPPS)/Integrated Pest Control Branch, will reimburse AWM for the procurement of weed control services from an outside vendor, for a maximum reimbursement of \$42,400 from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025.

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is a noxious weed known to invade eastern North America and the Pacific Northwest that is found in San Bernardino County; this is the first known infestation in California. Garlic Mustard grows in very dense patches, with the potential to harm wildlife and reduce biodiversity. As it can harm the environment, and this is the only known infestation in California, early detection and rapid response techniques is used to contain and potentially eradicate this species from the region.

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After the prioritization of Garlic Mustard, CDFA weeds designated as A or Q-rated and noxious weeds listed on California Code of Regulations Section 4500 that occur in the project area would then be prioritized for treatment if funding and resources permit.

The grant funds will be used for to remove all second year (adult and flowering) garlic mustard plants from the project area during each growing season. The procured services from a vendor will include:

- Stopping removal work when seeds begin to be released from mature plants; submitting a California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption and obtain any necessary permits or clearance from the United States Forest Service (USFS), if required.
- Obtaining the necessary Right of Entry from private property owners or will work with AWM Staff to ensure access to the property (previous surveys have been completed along 2.5 miles of Hook Creek - during the growing season, the vendor will map and photograph all known locations/polygons and enter polygon/population and location data into CalFlora.org).
- Surveying for additional locations upstream and downstream of known Garlic Mustard locations in Hook Creek.
- Working with project partners to help plan and implement field work including AWM, USFS, the local Weed Management Area (WMA), and/or UC Cooperative Extension.

Previously developed flyers will be distributed to local homeowners, and project outreach with the local WMA will continue.

On July 21, 2023, AWM received the State revenue agreement in the amount of \$42,400 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025. This item is being presented to the Board at this time as this is the first date available for presentation following the required operational, fiscal, and legal reviews.

This revenue agreement aligns with the County and Chief Executive Officer's goals and objectives by working with other agencies to preserve the County's wildlands by abating the noxious weed Garlic Mustard.

PROCUREMENT

AWM will procure weed control services from an outside vendor through a competitive bid process.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Daniel Pasek, Deputy County Counsel, 387-5455) on July 27, 2023; Purchasing (Michelle Churchill, Supervising Buyer, 387-2070) on August 1, 2023; Finance (Elias Duenas, Administrative Analyst, 387-4052) on July 31, 2023; and County Finance and Administration (Valerie Clay, Deputy Executive Officer, 387-5423) on August 2, 2023.

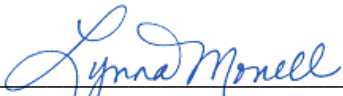
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Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County

APPROVED (CONSENT CALENDAR)

Moved: Joe Baca, Jr. Seconded: Curt Hagman
Ayes: Jesse Armendarez, Dawn Rowe, Curt Hagman, Joe Baca, Jr.
Absent: Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Lynna Monell, CLERK OF THE BOARD

BY 
DATED: August 22, 2023



cc: A/W&M - Gergovich w/agree for sign
Contractor - c/o A/W&M w/agree
File - w/agree
CCM 08/24/2023