



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 6/17/2025

File #: 25-746

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Agricultural Commissioner

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: 4/5th

SUBJECT:

Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement No. 24-0388-24-SF Sudden Oak Mortality Regulatory Program Contract and Supplemental Budget in the amount of \$5,100 (4/5th Vote Required)

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement No. 24-0388-24-SF known as the Sudden Oak Mortality Regulatory Program contract with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA); and
2. Authorize the Chair to sign the amendment, and direct the Clerk of the Board to return the signed amendment to the Agricultural Commissioner's Office for further processing; and
3. Approve the attached supplemental budget for fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 in the amount of \$5,100 for the Agricultural Commissioner budget (1100-261) for (4/5th Vote Required); and
4. Grant a waiver from the provisions of the Nuclear Free Ordinance.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This action supports the following areas of your Board's Strategic Plan.

Area of Focus: Core Services/Other

Strategic Plan Category: 9999 - Core Services/Other

DISCUSSION:

The Agricultural Commissioner's Office receives annual subventions from CDFA to offset the local costs of enforcing certain state-mandated programs. On Nov. 5, 2024, your Board approved Cooperative Agreement No. 24-0338-24-SF which provides funding to Humboldt County for the Sudden Oak Mortality Regulatory Program. The amendment before your Board today increases the funding provided through Cooperative Agreement No. 24-0388-024-SF by \$5,100. The new total of the agreement is not to exceed \$36,791.49. All other terms and conditions of the original agreement shall remain the same.

Phytophthora ramorum the pathogen that causes the plant disease known as Sudden Oak Death (SOD) has caused widespread die-off of several native tree species (Tan Oak, Coast Live Oak and Black Oak) in California and Oregon since it was first identified in the mid 1990's. Since the discovery of an SOD infestation in the Redway area in 2002, Humboldt County has been subject to federal and state quarantine restrictions on plants and plant parts covered by the quarantine (California Code of Regulations, Division 4, Subchapter 6, Section 3700, & Code of Federal regulations, Section 301.92). Numerous host plants for SOD are important to the wood products and nursery industry. There are currently more than 120 plants regulated as hosts for SOD.

Through the mechanism of compliance agreements between plant products producers and Humboldt County, the SOD program provides a regulatory process that permits the movement of plants and plant products subject to state and federal SOD quarantines. Agriculture Department staff conduct regular surveys of local plant nurseries and collect plant samples for laboratory testing to determine that commercial plant products are free from the SOD pathogen. Through intensive visual inspections of host species and laboratory testing, the SOD program ensures that nursery stock, wood products, green waste and compost produced in Humboldt County are not responsible for artificially spreading the SOD pathogen. The entire scope of work conducted by Humboldt County to ensure producer compliance with SOD quarantines includes quarantine enforcement, eradication, trace-forward/trace-back investigations, communication with industry and training. The additional funding in this amendment was reallocated from unspent funds of other subrecipients contract awards so that more *P. ramorum* activities may be completed.

The request for a waiver from the provisions of the Nuclear Free Ordinance is requested since the State of California will not modify its cooperative agreements to accommodate local ordinances.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

CDFA (1100-261-518020)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures (1100-261)	FY24-25	FY25-26 Projected*
Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$31,691.49</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>
Additional Appropriation Requested	<u>\$5,100</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$36,791.49</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>

**Projected amounts are estimates and are subject to change.*

Funding Sources (1100-261)	FY24-25	FY25-26 Projected*
State/Federal Funds	<u>\$36,791.49</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>
Total Funding Sources	<u>\$36,791.49</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>

**Projected amounts are estimates and are subject to change.*

Narrative Explanation of Financial Impact:

All costs for personnel, mileage and supplies will be reimbursed by the agreement. Amendment No. 1 to cooperative agreement No. 24-0388-024-SF increases the original agreement by \$5,100 for a new total not to exceed \$36,791.49 for agriculture department activities related to the SOD regulatory program from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. The attached supplemental budget reflects the changes in revenue and expenditure accounts in Fund 1100, Budget Unit 261 - Agricultural Commissioner for FY 2024-25. All costs associated with the SOD Regulatory Program are billed to CDFA monthly and payment is made in arrears to Humboldt County.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impact:

Approval of this amendment maintains current staffing levels.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board may choose not to approve the amendment and supplemental budget. However, that is not recommended as the county is reimbursed for costs associated with conducting federal and state-mandated regulatory activities.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Amendment No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement No. 24-0388-024-SF

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2. 1100-261 Supplemental Budget FY 2024-25
3. Executed Cooperative Agreement No. 24-0388-024-SF

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Meeting of: Nov. 5, 2024

File No.: 24-1501