

Finding of No Significant Impact

Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle in Guam Programmatic Environmental Assessment February 2012

In December 2011, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), prepared an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzed potential environmental consequences of eradicating the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB), *Oryctes rhinoceros*. The CRB, which was introduced into Guam in 2007, is one of the most damaging insect pests to coconut and oil palms. Currently APHIS is working cooperatively with the Guam Department of Agriculture and the University of Guam to implement an effective eradication program. The EA which analyzed the potential impacts of this program is incorporated by reference in this document, and is available from:

Guam/USDA Plant Inspection Facility
CRB Eradication Program Incident Commander, Guam
Guam Department of Agriculture
17-3306 Neptune Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/ea/crb.shtml

The EA analyzed alternatives consisting of (1) continuation of regulatory control (quarantine restrictions), delimitation, mass trapping, survey, CRB sinks, and sanitation throughout Guam and (2) APHIS would support activities identified in the no action alternative and would add insecticide treatments using cypermethrin, pyriproxyfen, and the entomopathogen *Metarhizium majus* as tools to eradicate CRB (preferred alternative).

The EA analyzed the impacts of adding cypermethrin, pyriproxyfen, and the entomopathogen *Metarhizium majus* to the CRB eradication program in Guam. Treatments would occur to tree crowns, stumps and larval breeding sites. Cypermethrin treatments could occur to tree crowns, stumps or larval breeding sites while pyriproxyfen would be used as a treatment for tree stumps and larval breeding sites. The entomopathogen, *Metarhizium majus*, would be used in treating larval breeding sites where cypermethrin and pyriproxyfen are not used.

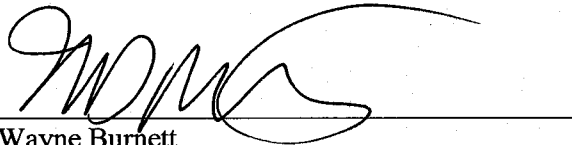
APHIS has completed consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) which has concurred on effects determinations for listed species that could occur in proximity to CRB eradication activities discussed in this EA. Concurrence was received for effects determinations to the federally endangered Mariana swiftlet (*Aerodramus bartschi*), Mariana crow (*Corvus kubaryi*), Mariana common moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus guami*), hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricate*) or the threatened Mariana fruit bat (*Pteropus mariannus mariannus*), or green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). APHIS also received concurrence on no adverse modification to designated critical habitat for the Mariana fruit bat and crow, or the Mariana kingfisher (*Halcyon cinnamomina cinnamomina*).

There are no disproportionate adverse effects to minorities, low-income populations, or children, in accordance with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations," and Executive Order 13045, "Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks." Pursuant to Section 106 of the

National Historic Preservation Act APHIS is working cooperatively with the Guam Department of Parks and Recreation to avoid adverse impacts to cultural or historical properties.

This EA was made available for a 30-day public comment period that ended on January 31, 2012. No comments regarding the EA have been received to date.

I find that 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 analysis contained within the EA and my review of the program's operational characteristics. Lastly, because I have not found evidence of significant environmental impact associated with the proposed program, I further find that no additional environmental documentation needs to be prepared and that the program may proceed.



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Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency

02/16/2012
Date