

DATE: October 27, 2023
TO: IPM Commission Members
FROM: Jim Chayka, IPM Coordinator
Re: 2023 Third Quarter Exemptions and Violations Summary

MESSAGE:

Exemptions

1. On July 13 2023, an exemption was granted for PT Waspfreeze II for use in parks, picnic areas, and playground areas. Product is on IPM Allowed Products List. The exemption is requested for blanket use of the product with less than 4 days prior notice in emergencies and for public safety (ie. Someone has gotten stung; nest is in vicinity of people or high traffic areas) in areas where pesticide use is otherwise restricted by the IPM policy.
2. On August 17 2023, an exemption was granted for Habitat (active ingredient: Imazapyr) at Hal Brown Creek marsh for the treatment of invasive Spartina sp.

Reason why Restricted: This product is not currently on our allowed products list.

Reason for Need: Since 2003, Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed has received funding from the California State Coastal Conservancy's Invasive Spartina Project (ISP) to work toward eliminating three species of invasive, non-native cordgrasses (Spartina spp.) and their hybrids found in this estuary. These destructive plants alter both the structure and function of tidal mudflats, creeks and marshes, harming native bird, mammal, and fish species. Invasive cordgrasses also clog open channels, increasing flood risk.

Options/Alternatives: The ISP has researched and developed an eradication strategy that uses non-chemical treatment whenever possible. However, because two of the invasive cordgrasses and the hybrids spread by both seeds and underground rhizomes, and digging can spread these plants further, some herbicide was used. Early treatment at Creekside marsh included and continues to include digging where possible, and herbicide.

Requests for accommodations may be made by calling (415) 473-4381, TTY (415) 473-2495, CRS dial 711, email at disabilityaccess@marincounty.org at least five work days in advance. Copies of documents are available in alternative formats, upon request.

Plan to Preclude Future Use: Eliminating this population will prevent the infestation from growing and requiring more intense treatments.

Violations: There were **no violations** of Marin County IPM Policy in the third quarter of 2023.