

**Finding of No Significant Impact**  
**Eradication of Isolated Populations of Light Brown Apple Moth in California**  
**Revised Environmental Assessment**  
**March, 2008**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), has prepared a revised environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes potential environmental consequences of eradicating isolated populations of light brown apple moth (*Epiphyas postvittana*) (LBAM) in California. The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available at [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/ea/downloads/lbam-ea-07-18-07.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/ea/downloads/lbam-ea-07-18-07.pdf) and from:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Plant Protection and Quarantine  
Emergency and Domestic Programs  
Emergency Management  
4700 River Road, Unit 134  
Riverdale, MD 20737–1236

The revised EA analyzed alternatives consisting of (1) maintaining the Federal quarantine order without further action by APHIS (no action alternative), and (2) continuation of the Federal quarantine order along with eradication of isolated populations of LBAM in California with the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) and/or LBAM-specific pheromone (treatment alternative). The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts from eradication treatments of small, isolated populations and determined that any potential impacts would be limited. Since the circumstances surrounding each isolated population are unique, each site will be considered in a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) prior to treatment. This FONSI addresses the treatment for LBAM in four separate sites within Moraga, Contra Costa County, California (see attachment 1).

### **Treatment in Moraga Eradication Area**

Moraga is located east of Berkley, California and is home to Saint Mary's College. Four male LBAM were found in this area (see attachment 1). Two male moths were found in the residential area near Moraga Common Park. One male moth was found in a rural area to the east of these two finds. The last moth was found north of the other sites in a residential area near Lafayette Community Park. There are no schools in any of the four treatment areas.

The treatment areas will be treated with pheromone-impregnated twist ties which will be attached to trees, shrubs, and other fixtures within the area at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre. The dispensers will be removed at the end of their useful lives. In some cases they may be replaced for a second treatment. When treatments are completed, all dispensers will be removed.

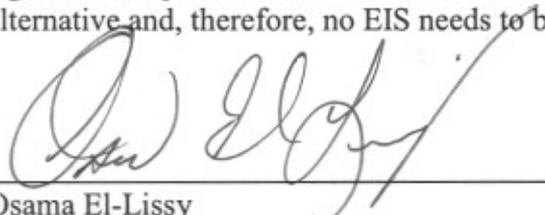
The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts of eradication treatments of small, isolated populations like the ones in Moraga. Due to the nature of the dispenser and the pheromone

itself, there will be no impacts to the human environment including nontarget species because the product is contained in dispensers that are tied to fixtures and will be removed after treatment. In addition, there will be no negative cumulative effects from this action in combination with any other actions because there are no impacts to the human environment including nontarget species. The most likely impact will be the reduction of the LBAM population due to disruption of mating; eventually leading to the eradication of LBAM within the eradication area, and ultimately, within the State of California. This EA was made available to the public. As of today we have received no comments addressing the treatment with pheromone-impregnated twist ties in Moraga, California.

APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) previously discussed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) treatments with LBAM-specific pheromone at various locations. A no effect determination for listed species and critical habitat has been determined because the pheromones will not affect species other than the LBAM, and the dispensers will be tied to trees and other fixtures that will remain in the treatment areas until removal after 3 months.

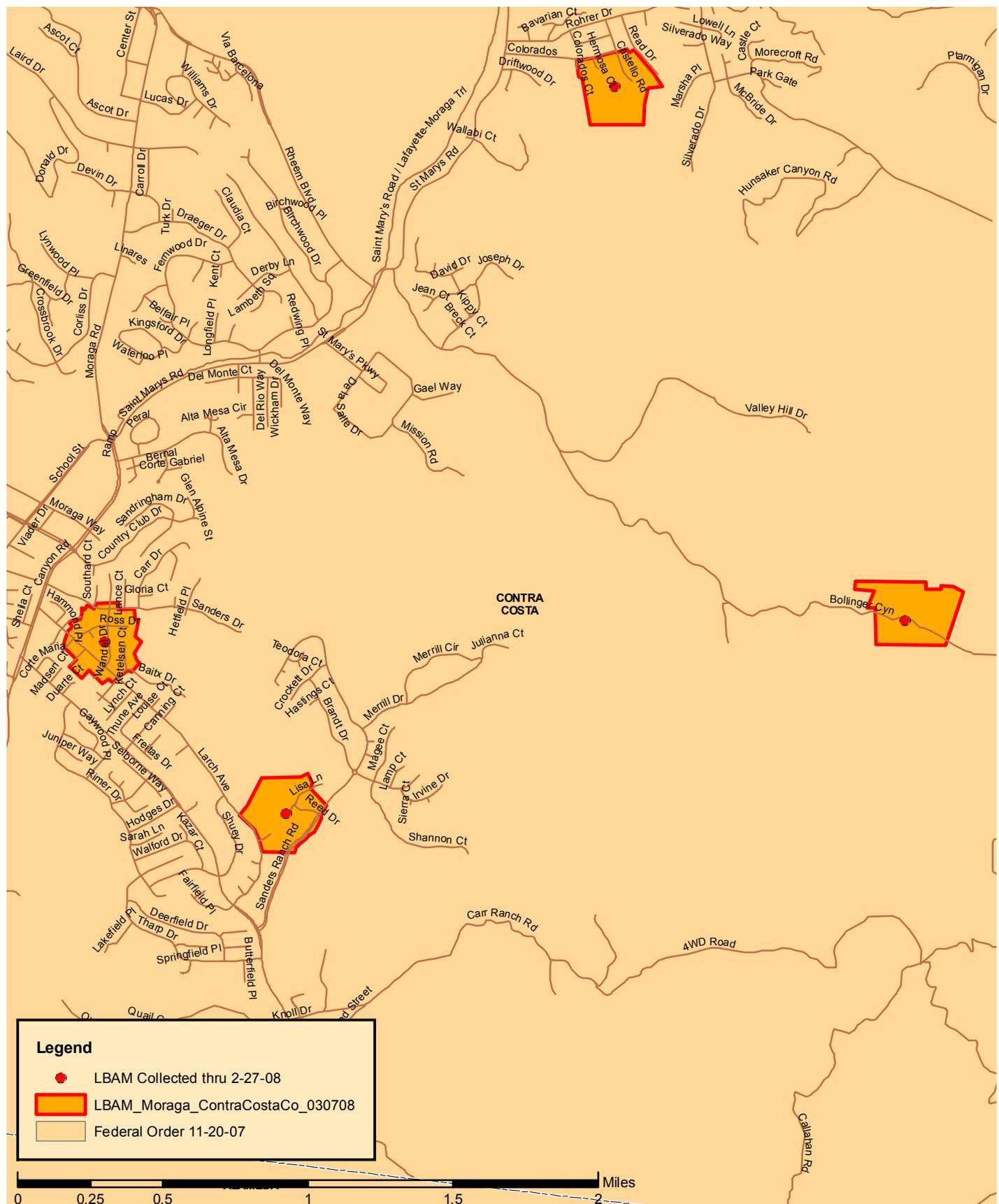
There are no disproportionate adverse effects to minorities, low-income populations, or children in accordance with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations," and Executive Order 13045, "Protection of Children from Environmental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

APHIS' finding of no significant impact for these three treatment areas is based upon the expected limited environmental consequences, as analyzed in the EA. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared if implementation of the proposed action may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. I have determined that there would be no significant impact to the human environment from the implementation of the treatment alternative and, therefore, no EIS needs to be prepared.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Osama El-Lissy  
Emergency and Domestic Programs  
Plant Protection and Quarantine  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency

4/4/08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Eradication Areas for Light Brown Apple Moth Moraga, Contra Costa County, California - 2008



# Eradication Areas for Light Brown Apple Moth Moraga, Contra Costa County, California - 2008

