

Passed 4/15/08 by East Bay Regional Parks District Board

Resolution against the Light Brown Apple Moth Chemical Program
Submitted by Director Skinner

WHEREAS, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has detected the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) within the State of California, including lands within the jurisdiction of the Park District; and

WHEREAS, CDFA is proposing several methods to eradicate LBAM, of which the aerial spraying of Checkmate LBAM-F is the most controversial; and

WHEREAS, the full environmental review process to determine safety and efficacy of the use of the product Checkmate LBAM-F in aerial application over urban areas has not been conducted due to the suspension of the requirement for a full EIR, and

WHEREAS, the synthetic pheromone that interferes with the LBAM's mating abilities has not been tested for long-term human exposure due to it having only been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use over agricultural lands and not populated areas, and

WHEREAS, it has not yet been demonstrated that aerial spraying of Checkmate LBAM-F will eradicate the apple moth, and

WHEREAS, there may be unintended public health and environmental impacts as a result of proceeding with aerial spraying without first conducting a full environmental review and impact assessment, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District, in keeping with District policy to take all reasonable precautions to protect the environment and the health and safety of its employees and park users from possible ill effects of chemicals, requests that the State place a moratorium on any aerial spraying until the full environmental assessment process has been completed and it can be demonstrated that the proposed chemical program will not negatively impact public health or environmental quality and is proven to be effective at eliminating the threat of LBAM to California's agricultural and native as well as wild plant species.