

# County Of Sonoma Agenda Item Summary Report

**Clerk of the Board Use Only**  
**Meeting Date**                      **Held Until**  
 /   /    /   /  
**Agenda Item No:**                      **Agenda Item No:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_                                      \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** Agricultural Commissioner

**4/5 Vote Not Required**

**Contact:**  
Cathy V. Neville

**Phone:**  
(707) 565-2371

**Board Date:**  
11/17/2009

**Deadline for Board Action:**

**AGENDA SHORT TITLE:** Skeletonweed and Iberian Starthistle Eradication Agreement.

**REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:** Resolution authorizing the Chair, Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, to sign an agreement between the State of California, Department of Food and Agriculture, and the County of Sonoma for the eradication of Skeletonweed and Iberian Starthistle for the period of January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2011.

## CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

**EXPENDITURES:**

**ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL:**

|   |            |  |            |
|---|------------|--|------------|
| <b>Estimated Cost</b>                                     | <b>\$0</b> | <b>Contingencies<br/>(Fund Name:)</b>      | <b>\$0</b> |
| <b>Amount Budgeted</b>                                    | <b>\$0</b> | <b>Unanticipated Revenue<br/>(Source:)</b> | <b>\$0</b> |
| <b>Other Available Appropriations<br/>(Explain Below)</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>Other Transfers<br/>(Source:)</b>       | <b>\$0</b> |
| <b>Additional Requested</b>                               | <b>\$0</b> | <b>Additional Funds Requested</b>          | <b>\$0</b> |

**Explanation (if required):** New funding available to the state from Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds for weed control on private forested lands; this will impact future fiscal years.

**Prior Board Action:** None.

**Alternatives – Results of Non-Approval:** The county would not be reimbursed \$16,718.00 for eradicating these small pioneer infestations of Skeletonweed and Iberian Starthistle, thus allowing them to spread in size.

**Background:**

Funding for this agreement is through the California Department of Food and Agriculture which applied for a grant from the federal American Reinvestment and Recovery Act stimulus funds, the purpose of which is to create or maintain existing jobs. The purpose of the grant is to provide funding for weed eradication programs on privately owned, forested land. With that, we have identified 2 weed eradication projects that fall under these guidelines and ultimately will maintain 0.1 FTE.

The Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office work will focus on eradicating two specific, A-rated, noxious weeds from Sonoma County; Skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*) and Iberian Starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*). Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner staff will survey known sites and adjacent areas at least twice, and treat and/or manually remove species. A computerized GIS map of the project sites will be created with the locations of detected Skeletonweed and Iberian Starthistle plants/populations and treatment sites. One site of the Skeletonweed eradication takes place on a private forested preserve. This site includes oak woodland, Douglas fir forest and riparian woodland. Several of the Iberian Starthistle sites have oak woodland and/or mixed conifer woodland. Our goal is to ensure these pioneer infestations do not spread, including to forested land, and to eradicate these weeds from Sonoma County.

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**Attachments:** Resolution.

**On File With Clerk:** Agreement No. 09-0559.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY**

**Board Action (If other than “Requested”)**

**Vote:**