

Directors
Tony Vaccarella, President
Terry Connolly
Arnold Lenk
Mike Lewis
Jim Waters

Associate Directors Dennis Becker Kurt Black Lalo Kwiat H. Kent Hansen Steve Roerden

Directors Emeritus
James Bancroft
Dr. William Coon
Paul Crapuchettes
Timothy Egan
Leland Lehman
Ray Lewis
Gregory Palamountain

Staff Steven Chappell **Executive Director** John Takekawa, PhD Operations Manager Kelli Perez Office Supervisor Tim Edmunds Water Manager/Biologist Jeff Taylor Water Manager/Biologist Phelan McKinney Water Manager/Biologist Jesirae Collins **Biologist** Margue Mouton LII Resident Caretaker

SUISUN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2544 Grizzly Island Road Suisun City, CA 94585-9539 (707) 425-9302 (707) 425-4402 FAX srcd@suisunrcd.org www.suisunrcd.org Subject: 2021 SRCD Phragmites / Pest Weed Control Program

Dear Landowner:

Please read this letter carefully. It contains all the information needed to participate in this year's program. Application deadline is May 28, 2021.

The SRCD is in the process of setting up the 2021 Pest Weed Control Program. This year there is no cost share for this program. The spray program is primarily for the control of *Phragmites*, although other problem vegetation may be considered.

The program will include hand application as well as aerial spraying with a helicopter. SRCD will coordinate aerial spraying for those ownerships that wish to participate. Landowners will be billed for the actual helicopter time used to aerial spray their property and for a portion of the chemical used for the aerial spraying program, along with any chemical ordered for hand application.

Last year we were given advice to add ammonium sulfate to our tank mix, to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the chemical treatment. As it turns out this additive worked well, our treatments worked faster, and achieved a more thorough kill. Ammonium sulfate is a fertilizer, but in this treatment, it is used as a water treatment to bind to any minerals in the water so that they do not bind with the active ingredient in the herbicide and is available to work on the target weed. We will be using ammonium sulfate in the aerial spraying program and it will be available to order for the hand application program.

To facilitate accurate chemical purchase, SRCD needs to know how much chemical landowners need for hand spraying. A good estimate to use is 1 gallon of chemical for every acre to be sprayed. The amount of ammonium sulfate needed is determined by the amount of water used in the spray tank. The ratio to use is 0.1 gallons of ammonium sulfate per gallon of water. So, if you have a 20-gallon spray tank, you will need 2 gallons of ammonium sulfate for each tank you spray. For the aerial spraying program, the estimate of 1 gallon of chemical per acre to be sprayed will be used as well. If you wish to participate in the aerial spray program you must provide SRCD with a detailed map showing Phragmites patch location and an estimate of the total acreage of Phragmites to be aerial sprayed. This can be done by using Google Earth, which has a tool to get patch size in acres. This information is essential to the bulk chemical purchase and the aerial spray program, so if you need assistance, please contact your Water Manager.

Using the form provided, indicate your interest in participating in this year's program and submit your *Phragmites* spray request (list hand vs. aerial spraying acreage separately) by May 28, 2021.

Note: For planning purposes you can estimate \$15 to \$20 per gallon for Gly Star Plus (for terrestrial use only), and \$25 to \$30 per gallon for Roundup Custom (for both aquatic and terrestrial use). And ammonium sulfate \$10 per gallon. The helicopter runs around \$1650 per hour. Gly Star Plus contains a surfactant. Roundup Custom does not contain a surfactant, so if you decide to get Roundup Custom there is an additional cost of surfactant. We use LI 700 at an estimated cost of \$45 per gallon (each gallon will treat 32 acres). The smallest amount of LI 700 you can get is 1 gallon.

HAND APPLICATION: Gly Star Plus or Roundup Custom will be available in 2.5- and 30-gallon containers

Note: For Roundup Custom orders we will ordering the correct amount of LI 700 unless specifically asked not to.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT ITEMS (hand application):

- <u>Chemical delivery:</u> After the chemical is delivered to SRCD, landowners are required to pick up their chemical from the SRCD in a timely manner. You will have 3 weeks to pick up your chemical. You will be billed for your order at the end of the Phragmites program.
- Chemical use reporting: Landowners that purchase chemical through this program are required to report to SRCD the amount of chemical used, and the acreage sprayed each month until the chemical you purchased is exhausted. Three failures to report this information will disqualify you from future participation in this program and jeopardize the future of this program for all Marsh landowners spraying chemical under SRCD's Operator Identification Number. Landowners are responsible for keeping detailed records of the chemical used with EPA number (on chemical label), chemical application date and applicator's name, size and location of areas treated, name of property owner, and commodity treated (wetlands). The records must be kept by the landowner for 2 years after application date (SRCD will provide a form when you pick up your chemical).

AERIAL SPRAY: The aerial spray program will be initiated in July/August depending on *Phragmites* growth stage and suitable weather conditions. SRCD will coordinate a helicopter spray program for areas that are too large to be effectively sprayed by hand. Roundup Custom will be applied by aerial spraying even though there will be **NO aerial spraying over water, the managed wetland must be dry.** SRCD will oversee the program by coordinating helicopter time and flight paths between participants. This coordination will assist in reducing the cost of aerial spraying.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT ITEMS (aerial spray):

- <u>Phragmites</u> patch location: The longer the pilot must fly to find patches, the higher the cost. Patches must be accurately mapped. Please send an accurate, detailed map indicating *Phragmites* patch location and estimated total acreage of patches. Accurate estimates are critical for the purchase of chemical and we will only treat the acreage total you request even if there is additional acreage on the property.
- <u>Landowner acreage estimates</u>: The pilot will record flight time and the amount of herbicide used on each property for accurate billing.
- <u>Landowner consent</u>: Landowners wishing to participate in the aerial spray program shall authorize SRCD to conduct the spraying on their property. This form requests the landowner state the maximum amount he is willing to pay. SRCD will attempt to cap

expenses when the maximum amount is reached, but SRCD cannot determine all program expenses until treatment is complete at multiple sites. If SRCD determines that we are approaching this financial limit spraying for that site will be terminated, even if the application is incomplete.

• SRCD recommends that you spray *Phragmites* when the plants are seeding out. Although SRCD cannot guarantee the results of spraying on each individual property, choosing the proper time to spray will increase the likelihood of success.

If you wish to participate in the program this year, please fill out and return the enclosed form to the **SRCD office by May 28, 2021**. An original map must be sent in if you plan on participating in the aerial spray program. Faxed maps will not be accepted.

After chemicals are ordered, no late requests will be accepted. If you do not respond by May 28, 2021, you will not be included as a participant in this year's program. Thank you for your continued interest in this program. If you have any questions, please contact SRCD at (707) 425-9302 or Tim Edmunds, Program Coordinator at (707) 426-2431 ext. 302.

Sincerely,

Steven Chappell Executive Director

Suisun Resource Conservation District

Enclosures (2)

Yes, I would like to participate in the 2021 SRCD Pest Weed Control Program and agree to pay for the chemicals I requested to be purchased on my behalf. I understand my cost will be the total cost for chemicals and/or aerial spraying for my property.

<u>NOTE</u>: SRCD reserves the right to reduce requests to a level that is appropriate with the acreage to be sprayed.

Landowner Name Club Name and Number Phone Number Signature

The following are my estimates of chemical needed/acreage to be sprayed:

<u>HAND APPLICATION PROGRAM</u> – Roundup Custom is required for spraying over water; Gly Star Plus may be used on dry land. Roundup Custom requires the purchase of surfactant as well. Please use the following equation to calculate your chemical needs:

_____Total Acreage to be Hand Sprayed

Acres to be hand sprayed / 1 gal. of Gly Star Plus per acre = gal. of Gly Star Plus needed gal. of Gly Star Plus needed / 2.5 gal. per container = # of 2.5 gal. containers needed

- I wish to purchase _____ 2.5 gal. containers of Gly Star Plus
- I wish to purchase _____ 30 gal. containers of Gly Star Plus
- I wish to purchase _____ 2.5 gal. containers of Ammonium sulfate

Acres to be hand sprayed / 1 gal. of Roundup Custom per acre = gal. of Roundup Custom needed gal. of Roundup Custom needed / 2.5 gal. per container = # of 2.5 gal. containers needed

- I wish to purchase _____ 2.5 gal. containers of Roundup Custom
- I wish to purchase _____ 30 gal. containers of Roundup Custom
- I wish to purchase 2.5 gal. containers of Ammonium sulfate

Example: 10 acres spraying X 1 gal. Roundup Custom per acre = 10 gal.

10 gal. / 2.5 gal. per container = 4 containers

I wish to purchase 4 2.5 gal. containers of Roundup Custom

Example: 25 gallon spray tank X .1 gal. Ammonium sulfate = 2.5 gal.

20 gallon spray tank X .1 gal. Ammonium sulfate = 2 gal.

15 gallon spray tank X .1 gal. Ammonium sulfate = 1.5 gal

Club Name and Number Total Acres to be Aerial Sprayed I hereby give permission to Suisun Resource Conservation District to coordinate aerial spraying of Roundup Custom and LI 700 on my property. I agree to pay the cost of chemical used and aerial spray time based upon pilot calculations obtained from on-board helicopter instruments. My targeted maximum financial commitment to this aerial spray program will be \$_____, I understand that actual treatment cost may exceed this amount and I agree to reimburse SRCD for all actual costs to treat my propoerty (Landowner will be charged their portion of the chemical cost for the program, plus aircraft application time and a portion of the ferry cost). Name Date Address Work Phone Number Home Phone Number E-mail address

* Add detailed map and return to SRCD

Signature

AERIAL SPRAY PROGRAM * Please sign below*