Challenges With Managing Roadside Vegetation preventing weed spread and reducing fuels

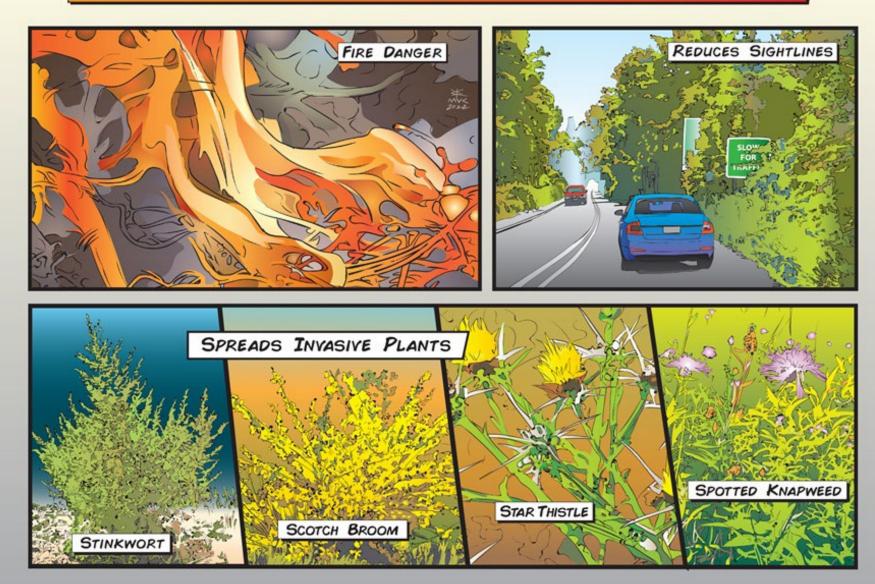
for Cal IPC Symposium

LISA WORTHINGTON, OFFICE CHIEF VEGETATION AND WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT KEVIN GALLO, BRANCH CHIEF CALTRANS HEADQUARTERS, DIVISION OF MAINTENANCE

Overview

- Caltrans Vegetation Management Program & Vegetation Management Plan
- Pesticide Use Program
- Caltrans P-TAC
- DPR vision in 2023 California Roadmap to Sustainable Pest Management
- Pesticide Use Graphs
- AML = public transparency
- How does weed management support the statewide wildfire adaptation effort?
- Caltrans credited with **123,323 acres treated** in the California "Million Acre Strategy"
- Next Steps

PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH UNMANAGED VEGETATION



What's the Problem?

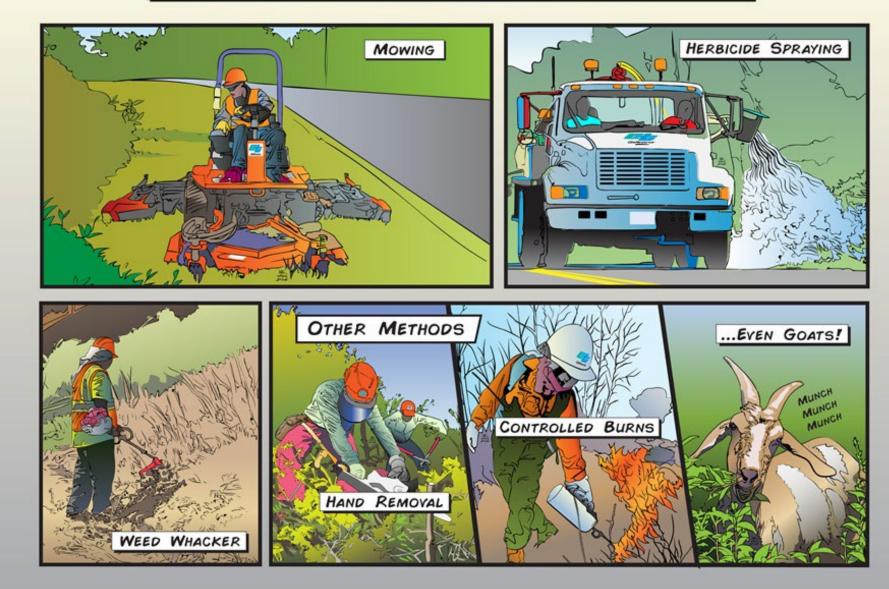
- Spreading Invasive Plants
- Fire Danger
- Safety Issues
- Visibility/Sightline Issues

What's the Plan?

Treatment Methods

- Manual
- Mechanical
- Chemical
- Other

CALTRANS INTEGRATED VEGETATION PLAN



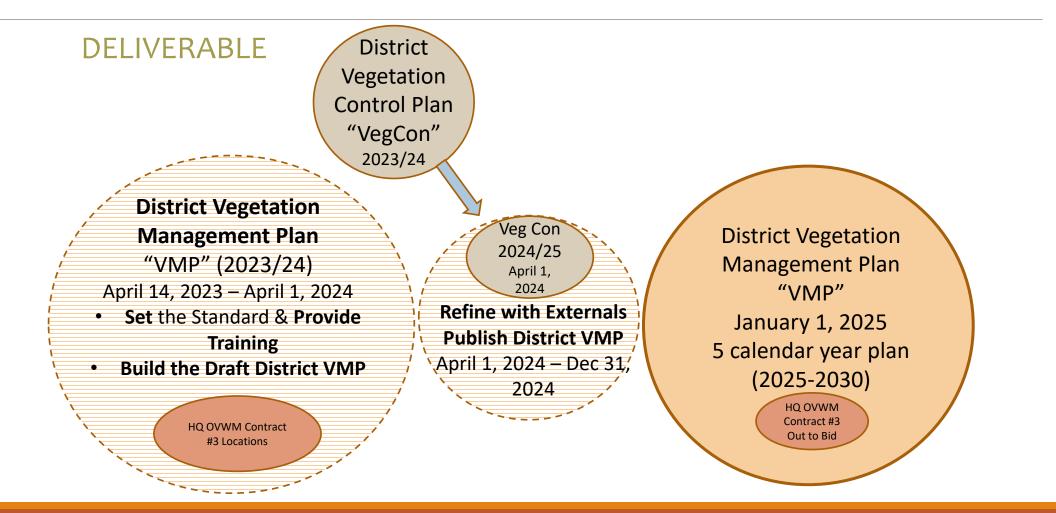
California's Diverse Landscapes

- <u>Coastal Regions</u>: Along California's extensive coastline, the influence of maritime climates creates ideal conditions for a wide range of plant species. Coastal chaparral, with its drought-resistant shrubs and unique biodiversity, is a prime example. Coastal fog and mild temperatures encourage the growth of redwoods and other conifers.
- Mediterranean Climate Zones: Central and southern California experience a Mediterranean climate, characterized by mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. This has given rise to the iconic California oak woodlands and grasslands, as well as Mediterranean-type scrublands known as "chaparral."
- Sierra Nevada Mountains: The Sierra Nevada mountain range, with its elevational gradient, features a diverse mosaic of ecosystems, from alpine meadows to dense coniferous forests. These mountains host unique plant species adapted to varying elevations and soil types.
- <u>Desert Regions</u>: The southeastern part of the state is dominated by deserts, including the Mojave and Sonoran. Here, native plant species like Joshua trees and various cacti have evolved to thrive in extreme arid conditions.

Caltrans Vegetation Management Program

- 350,000 acres of land owned by State Department of Transportation;
- 168,000 acres of "naturally-occurring vegetation"
- 33,000 ac landscape & irrigation (as-builts)
- Transitioning to a Vegetation Management Plan process
 - High level document
 - Corridor level analysis
 - Working with external partners (State & Local agencies)
- Updating Chemical Risk Assessment Methodology
 - Caltrans uses DPR-regulated chemicals (pesticides) and reports use
 - Authorized Materials List (AML) for pesticides

FY 23/24 Vegetation Management Plan



Vegetation Management Activities Totals





Transitioning the Pesticide Use Program - CHADS

CHADS

<u>Caltrans</u> <u>Herbicide</u> <u>Application</u> <u>Data</u> <u>Sheet</u>

What are you applying?

Product ingredient chemical information

Gather relevant site and application (aka scenario info) Where? Why? When? How?

Transitioning the Pesticide Use Program - CHADS

The new Risk Assessment Methodology allows Caltrans to:

- Continue practicing sustainable IPM
- Evaluate herbicide use scenarios based on risk assessment concepts
- Assess new chemistries and scenarios
- Feel more confident when recommending pesticides for use

P-TAC

2022 Formed Caltrans Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee (P-TAC)

	Pesticide Technical Advisory Comm	ittee (P-TAC)
	Sergio Aceves	P-TAC Co-Sponsor - Chief, Division of Maintenance
	Tony Dang	P-TAC Co-Sponsor - Deputy Director Sustainability
	Prakash Sah	P-TAC Caltrans Sustainable Pest Management (SPM) Working Group Representative
	Lisa Worthington	P-TAC Caltrans Sustainable Pest Management (SPM) Working Group Representative; Pesticide Use Policy & Reporting
	Derek Longacre	P-TAC Sustainbility Program Manager - Pesticide Use in Facility & Buildings Policy and Contracting
	Kristen Stubblefield	P-TAC Environmental Compliance Lead for Pesticide Program
	Adrian Shum	P-TAC Faciliator & Monthly Meeting Host
	Nominee name	Agency/Division/Specialty
1	Leslie Talpasanu	Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) - Sustainable Pest Management (SPM) Roadmap
2	Saran Wong	Caltrans/Facilities and Office Buildings
3	John Hackett	Caltrans/California Invasive Species Council (CAISC) Representative
4	Devin Bell	Caltrans/NoCal Representative
5	Jay Karl	Caltrans/Coastal Representative
6	Kenny Gonzallez	Caltrans/SoCal Representative
7	Angelo Gross	Caltrans/Maintenance Vegetation Management
8	Stan Roldan	Caltrans/Maintenance Field Support
9	Donelle Lazott	Caltrans/Transportation Related Facilities
10	Mikey Sanders	Caltrans/Stormwater Compliance Maintenance - NPDES permit
11	Mike Ferrara	Caltrans/Construction Standards & Specifications
12	Sandra Rosas	Caltrans/Division of Environmental Analysis - Liaison to MTCE
13	Cesar Alvarado	Caltrans/Environmental Scientist with a Chemistry background
14	Tricia Peller	California Resource Conservation District (CARCD)
15	Jonna Engel	California Coastal Commission (CCC)
16	Dr. Krista Hoff	Calfornia Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
17	Jennifer Moore	Caltrans/METS Product Evaluation Program (PEP)
18	Chris McDonald	University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR)

DPR Coordination

- Monthly data reporting directly submitted to DPR from Caltrans IMMS
- 2022 Caltrans joined a DPR Working Group
- 2022 Caltrans formed the Caltrans Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee (P-TAC) with members of DPR.
- 2023 DPR published the <u>California Roadmap to Sustainable Pest Management</u>

Caltrans Pesticide Program

- 1992 EIR target 80% reduction from a 1993 baseline
- Reporting
- Inventory
- Chemical Usage Charts & Dashboards (various)
- Authorized Materials Lists (AML)
- County COOP Agreements (Siskiyou, Plumas, Shasta, Tehama, Lassen, Modoc, Placer, Nevada, Los Angeles, San Bernardino)
- Wildfire Adaptation
- AB 99

1992 EIR – 25 Pesticides (Herbicides) Approved for Use

.

Table B-1.1. Herbicide Technical Characteristics

	Trade Name (b)	Signal Word (c)	Registrant	EPA Registration Number	Type of	Ingredients			
Common Name (a)					Formulation	Type Name Compositio			
Ammonium sulfate	Ammonium Sulfate	None	J. R. Simplot Company	Not required	Soluble crystals	Active Active Inert	Nitrogen Sulfur	21.0% 24.0% 55.0%	
Bromecil & diuron	Krover I DF	Caution	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc.	352-00505	Dispersible granules	Active Active Inert	Bromacil Diuron	40.0% 40.0% 20.0%	
Cacodylic acid	Montar	Caution	Monterey Chemical Company	9663-00041	Liquid	Active Active Inert	Sodium cacodylate Dimethylarsinic acid	23.4% 4.0% 72.6%	
Chlorsulfuron	Telar	Caution	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc.	352-00404	Dispersible granules	Active Inert	Chlorsulfuron	75.0% 25.0%	
Dicamba	Banvel 4 W-S	Warning	Sandoz Crop Protection Corporation	876-00025	Liquid	Active Inert	Dicamba	50.0% 50.0%	
Dichlobenil	Casoron 4G	Caution	Uniroyal Chemical Company. Inc.	148-00614	Granules	Active Inert	Dichlobenil	4.0%	
	Catoron 10G	Caution	Uniroyal Chemical Company. Inc.	148-00726	Granules	Active Inert	Dichlobenil	10.0%	
	Catoron 50W	Caution	Uniroyal Chemical Company. Inc.	148-00615	Wettable powder	Active Inert	Dichlobenil	50.0% 50.0%	
Diquat dibromide	Diquat	Warning	Valent USA Corporation	239-1663	Liquid	Active Inert	Diquat dibromide	35.3% 64.7%	
Diuron	Karmex 80W	Caution	E. l. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc.	352-00247	Wettable powder	Active	Diuron	80.0% 20.0%	
	Karmex DF	Warning	E. 1. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc.	352-00508	Dry flowable	Active Incrt	Diuron	80.0% 20.0%	
	Diuron 80WP	Caution	Aceto Agricultural Chemical Corporation	2749-00059	Wettable powder	Active Inert	Diuron	80.0% 20.0%	
Fluazifop-butyl	Fusilade 4E	Warning	ICI Americas Inc.	10182-00067	Emulsifiable Concentrate	Active Inert	Flunzifop-butyl	46.5% 53.5%	
	Fusilade 2000	Caution	ICI Americas Inc.	10182-00086	Emulsifiable Concentrate	Active Incrt	Flunzifop-P-butyl	13.0% 87.0%	
Glyphosate	Roundup	Werning	Monsanto Agricultural Company	524-00308	Liquid	Active Inert	Isopropylamine salt of glyphosate	41.0% 59.0%	
	Rodeo	Caution	Monsanto Agricultural Company	524-00343	Liquid	Active Inert	Isopropylamine salt of glyphosate	53.8% 46.2%	
Isoxaben (not yet registered in California)	Gallery	Caution	Elanco Products Company	1471-00159	Dry flowable	Active Inert	Ілохався	75.0% 25.0%	
Magnesium chloride	Magnesium Chloride	Caution	Western Magnesium Corporation	38754-50001	Soluble flakes	Active Incrt	Magnesium chloride hexahydrate	98.0% 2.0%	
Mefluidide	Embark 2S	Caution	3M Agricultural Products	7182-00007	Liquid	Active Inert	Mefluidide	28.0% 72.0%	
Monosodium metha- nearsonate (MSMA)	Daconate	Caution	Fermenta ASC Corporation	50534-00005	Wettable powder	Active Inert	Monosodium metha- nearsonate	48.3%	

Table	B-1 1	Continued
Table	D-1.1.	Continued

		Signal		EPA Registration	Type of		Ingredients	
Common Name (a)	Trade Name (b)	Words	Registrant	Number	Formulation	Type Name Com		
Napropamide	Devrinol 50WP	Caution	ICI Americas Inc.	476-02108	Wettable powder	Active	Napropamide	50.0%
Oryzalin	Surflan AS	Caution	Elanco Products Company	1471-00113	Liquid	Active	Oryzalin	40.4%
Oxadiazon	Ronstar 50WP	Warning	Rhone-Poulenc Agricultural Company	359-00714	Wettable powder	Active	Oxadiazon	50.0%
	Chipeo Ronstar G	Warning	Rhone-Poulene Agricultural Company	359-00659	Granules	Active	Oxadiazon	2.0%
Oxyfluorfen	Gonl 1.6E	Warning	Rohm and Heas Company	707-00174	Emulsifiable Concentrate	Active	Oxyfluorfen	19.4%
Pronemide	Kerb 50W	Caution	Rohm and Heas Company	707-00159	Wettable powder	Active	Pronamide	50.0% 50.0%
Sethoxydim	Poast	Warning	BASF Corporation	7969-00058	Liquid	Active	Sethoxydim	18.0%
Simszine	Princep Cal 90	Caution	Ciba-Geigy Ltd.	100-00603	Dispersible granules	Active	Simazine	90.0% 10.0%
	Princep 80W	Caution	Ciba-Geigy Ltd.	100-00437	Wettable powder	Active	Simazine	80.0% 20.0%
	Simazine 80W	Caution	Aceto Agricultural Chemical Corporation	2749-00163	Wettable powder	Active	Simazine	80.0% 20.0%
-	Princep 4G	Caution	Ciba-Geigy Ltd.	100-00435	Granutes	Active	Simazine	4.0%
Sulfometuron methyl	Oust	Caution	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc.	352-00401	Dispersible granules	Active	Sulfometuron methyl	75.0%
Tebuthiuron	Spike 80W	Caution	Elanco Products Company	1471-00097	Wettable powder	Active	Tebuthiuron	80.0% 20.0%
Triclopyr	Garlon 4	Caution	Dow Chemical Company	464-00554	Liquid	Active	Triclopyr	61.6%
Trifluralin	Trefinn	Caution	Elanco Products Company	11214-00019	Emulsifiable concentrate	Active	Trifluralin	41.2%

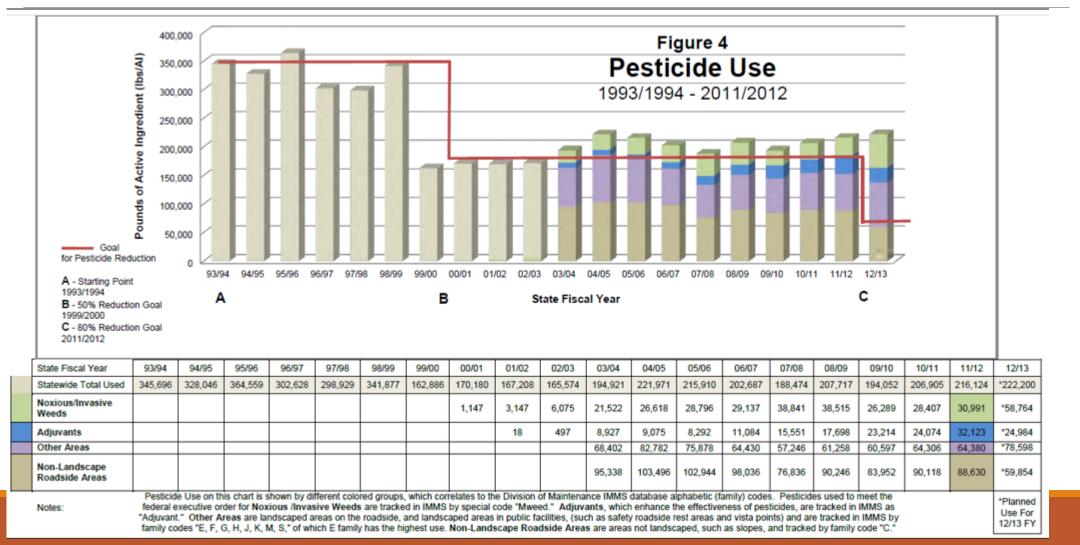
(a) Common names of active ingredients examined in EIR

(b) Trade names of commercial formulations considered for use by Caltrans.

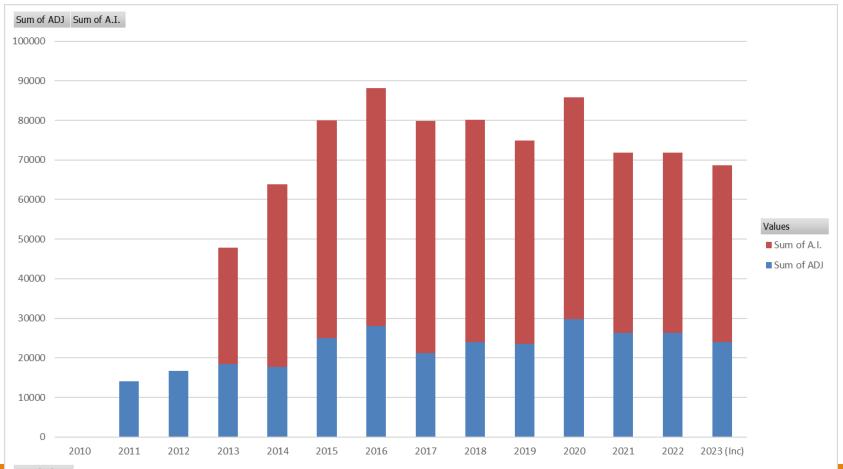
(c) For an explanation of signal words, see Appendix D.

Source: Labels of products registered by EPA.

Pesticide Use – first 20 years (1992-2012)

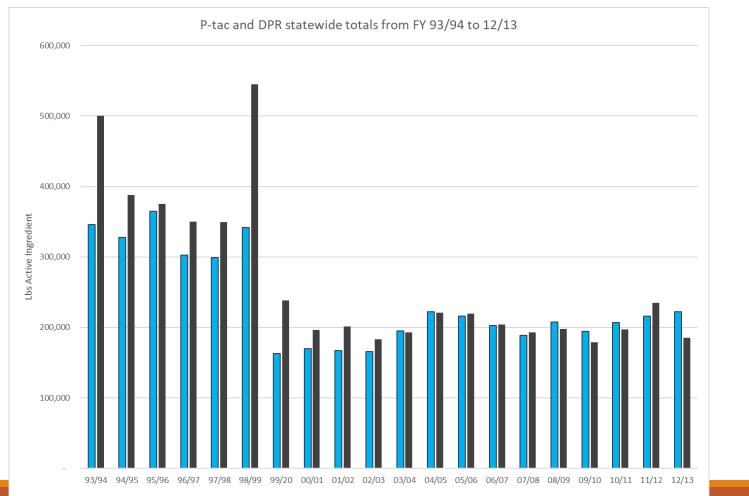


Pesticide Use



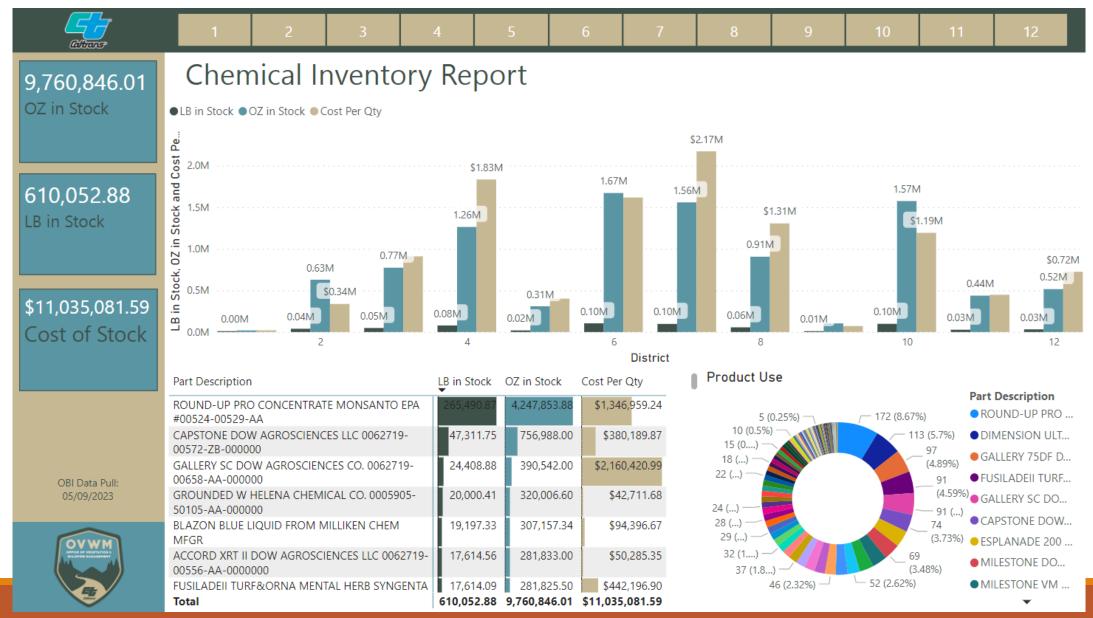
Year (FY) 🔹

Pesticide Use



P-Tac DPR

Inventory (IMMS) - \$11 M



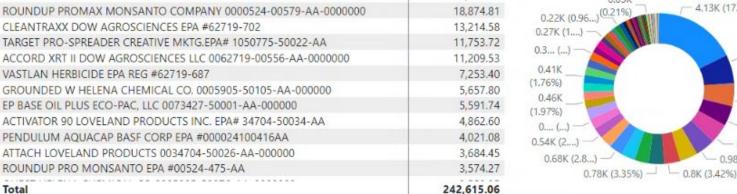
Chemical Usage Report = 242,615 lbs. Al



OBI Data Pull:



Total



(6.13%) • FUSILADEII TURF ...

(4.93%) ESPLANADE 200 ...

- 1.... (...) GALLERY SC DO...

1.15K

0.98K (4.2%)

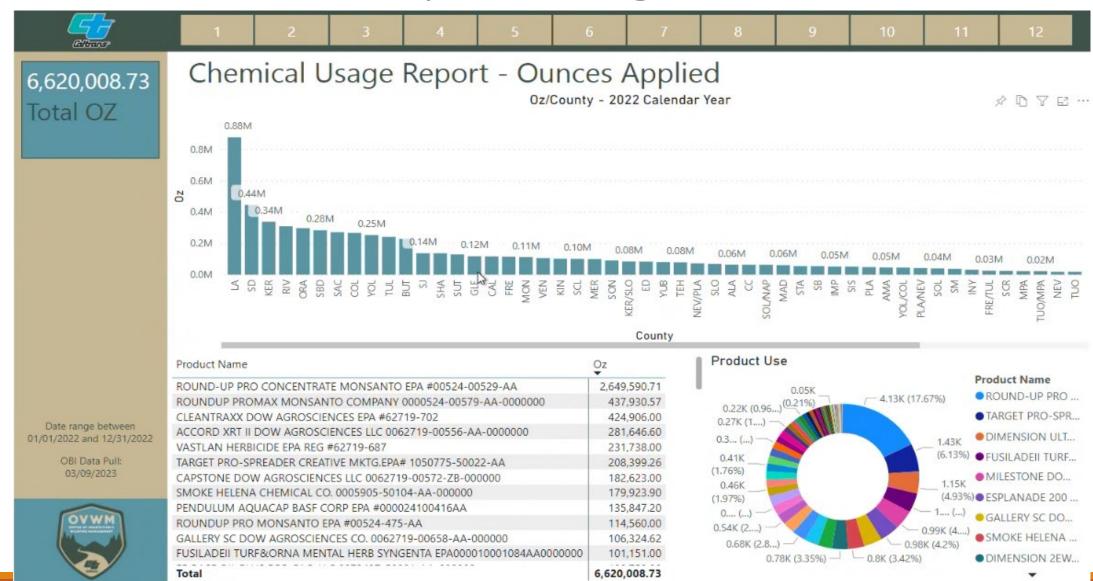
MILESTONE DO...

SMOKE HELENA ...

DIMENSION 2EW...

-

County – LA highest



2022 AML – 66 Pesticides; 22 Adjuvants

Cleon		About Caltrans C	Contact Us	ADA Certification	Request ADA Compliant Documents	Settings	Translate
Strans	Travel	Work with C	Caltrans	Program	ns Caltrans Near Me	s	Q earch

Home Programs Engineering Services (DES) Authorized Materials Lists (AML)

Authorized Materials Lists (AML)

Authorized Material Lists are specified in Caltrans specifications and are primarily a proactive measure used in conjunction with other acceptance activities as outlined in Department standards and guidance documents. The materials included on these lists are authorized for use on Caltrans construction projects. Use of AMLs alone without other corresponding measures may not assure compliance to state and federal regulations. Actual performance of the material will be the responsibility of the vendor and the user.

For products that meet established AML authorization criteria, please submit your request using the Authorized Material List Submittal Form TL 9502

For AMLs with authorization criteria that are under development, please submit your request for addition to the respective AML using the New Product Evaluation Submittal Form TL950

Vegetation Management

Adjuvants

Pesticides

- Authorization Criteria for Adjuvants
- Authorization Criteria for Pesticides

What changed?

- 2022 AML public-facing for transparency
- 2023 Program Review funded & implemented
 <u>Result?</u>
- Toxicology Training April 2023 (60 staff goal)
- Caltrans has minimized liability
- Practitioner resistance due to less autonomy and fewer choices

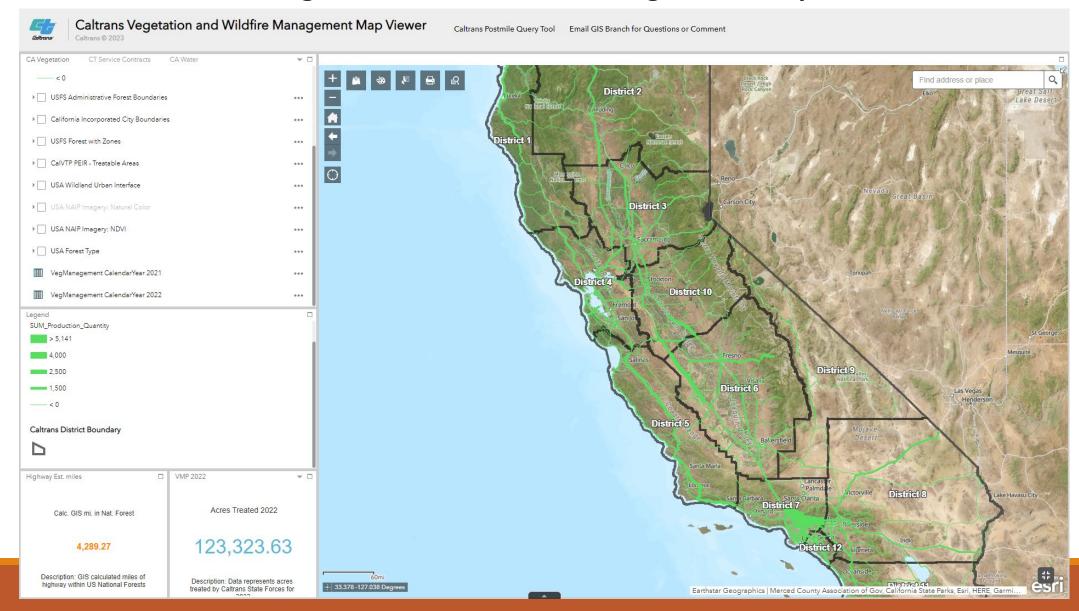
Now?

- Practitioners must calculate human health and ecological risk and sign documentation
- Supports "safe and less toxic option selected" prior to field application

Align **pesticide use** as a maintenance treatment within Wildfire Preparedness Activities

- Local wildfire intelligence informs Caltrans where fuel reduction activities can reduce wildfire ignition probability (by vehicles)
- <u>Caltrans Vegetation and Wildfire Management Map Viewer</u> is public facing and greatly assists with communication during planning
- Pesticide use acreage counts toward Million Acre Strategy

Vegetation Management Treatment Totals Caltrans Vegetation & Wildfire Management Map Viewer



CAL FIRE Weed Abatement Alternative on State Highways

Prescribed Fire CALFIRE + Kern County Fire SR 223 99 acres 7 miles Caltrans EP



Next Steps

FY 23-24 & Beyond

- Caltrans Districts to develop new VMPs
- Implement changes to the Pesticide Program
 - Build CHADS Library
 - Train 40 more practitioners in Pesticide Risk Assessment Methodology
- Monitor AB 99 24 hr advanced Public Notification requirement
- P-TAC to develop Caltrans Pesticide Use Charter in alignment with SPM
- Prepare an update of the 1992 EIR