

EPA has settled the Goby 11 Lawsuit

Goby 11 is Law Interim Pesticide Use Limitations

EPA had settled the "Goby 11" lawsuit with the Center for Biological Diversity and now interim pesticide use limitations are in effect while EPA reviews the registrations of pesticides containing any of 75 pesticide active ingredients for their potential effects to 1 or more of 11 federally-listed threatened or endangered species in the eight counties surrounding the San Francisco Bay including Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma.

The list of pesticide active ingredients and endangered species impacted by this court case can be found here:

<http://www.epa.gov/espp/litstatus/factsheet.html>

The interim protective measures are no-use buffer zones adjacent to certain features within certain geographic areas in the eight counties.

These buffer zones are different depending on the species at issue and the pesticide being used.

The timeline for EPA review of the listed pesticide active ingredients can be found in the Stipulated Injunction at:

<http://www.epa.gov/espp/litstatus/order-stip.pdf>

GCSAA, the California GCSA and several golf course superintendents in the eight counties submitted comments to EPA a year ago talking about the specific negative impacts the interim restrictions would have on golf courses. See attached comments.

It is important that golf facilities in the eight counties comply with the use limitations outlined in the Stipulated Injunction. Here is a link to an important page on the EPA website that should help all golf facilities comply with the settlement agreement:

<http://www.epa.gov/espp/litstatus/use-limitation.html>

If you plan to use any of the pesticides subject to the Stipulated Injunction in any of these eight counties, EPA says you should first read the "Background" and "Exceptions and Modifications" information on the web page above and then check for specific limitations on the San Francisco Bay Area - Interim Pesticide Use Limitations interactive map ("SFB interactive map"). Pesticide users are urged to check the SFB interactive map before, but close to the time of application of the pesticide, since the interim limitations may change or become unnecessary as EPA continues its review of the pesticides subject to the Stipulated Injunction.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

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GCSANC's "Thru the Green" July August contained a good article by member Mike Blankenship, of Blankenship & Associates, Inc., Agricultural & Environmental Science & Engineering:

http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/intheloopgolf/thruthegreen_20100708/#/10

In addition to the GCSAA-provided links, a simple Yes or No binary tool to assist in knowing whether this injunction applies to you can be found on Blankenship & Associates web site:

See <http://www.h2osci.com/goby11-p0.html>

A Thank You From Benevolent Fund Recipient

Dear Northern Cal. GCSAA and Southern Cal. GCSAA

I am so touched by the caring and generous nature of GCSAA and their chapters. You all have given Mark so much honor and recognition. He loved his industry because the people involved were top notch. He was so proud to be a Superintendent. I was extremely impressed when I would meet other Supers or go to any meetings be it local or national. I was impressed at how everyone seemed to be such a class act and could clearly see why this industry was such a good fit for Mark because he was a class act and conducted his life with honesty and dignity. These are all traits that I have seen thru out this wonderful industry of golf course superintendents.

You all are the unsung heroes of the golf world. Without the work, dedication and love of the Superintendents there would not be great golf courses to golf. Without the dedication to education and furthering knowledge of turf, trees, weed control, fertilizer, water regiments, etc. the golf course would be so much less than the level that the Superintendents are able and willing to take it to.

Mark Livingston, former superintendent, Ridge Creek Golf Club, suffered a sudden heart attack and died. The two associations made financial contributions from Benevolent Funds to help defray costs associated with his premature death.

Now with his loss, I am personally experiencing how truly wonderful you all are. I know that he would not be surprised by all that you have done because his industry was a perfect fit for him. Class, dedication, education, honor, dignity, integrity, and caring were at the core of him and the GCSAA is a direct reflection of the same traits. Thanks again for all that you have done for him, our family and me.

I have been in the hospital with my pregnancy since 7/7 and had an emergency c-section on 7/29. Baby Izaak Mark Livingston is 10 weeks early, weighs 3.9 lbs and is doing great. It is just a matter of time before I can bring him home.

Please forward my thanks to anyone else involved in helping my family and me. It really does touch us deeply to know how much you care.

Sincerely, Kris Livingston