

Environmental assessment of the eradication of Japanese beetle from NW Portland

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (Plant Protection and Conservation Programs, Insect Pest Prevention and Management Program) is proposing an eradication project for the Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica* Newman) in Northwest Portland. A single application of Acelepryn®G will be applied in April or May 2017 to turf, grasses, and lawns within a proposed 8000 acre treatment area.

This is an informal environmental assessment of the effects of the treatment program to eradicate the Japanese beetle from Northwest Portland. A formal environmental assessment is not legally required for this project. This assessment is focusing on any T & E (Threatened and Endangered) species that may occur in the area, and any other species that may be affected by the treatment.

The potential effects on humans is being addressed by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and questions about human health are answered in this website or can be directed to OHA: <http://public.health.oregon.gov/HealthyEnvironments/HealthyNeighborhoods/Pesticides/Pages/Chlorantraniliprole-and-Your-Health-FAQs.aspx>

Ecological Impacts

The active ingredient in Acelepryn®G is Chlorantraniliprole. When the product is used as directed, it does not pose a hazard to humans or domestic animals. However, it is toxic to aquatic invertebrates, oysters, and shrimp. It will not be applied directly to water in this treatment and buffers will be created to prevent any drift or runoff to adjacent creeks (e.g., Willow Creek). Ponds and wetland areas will not be treated.

Target pests affected by Acelepryn®G include white grubs (including *Aphoditus* spp., Asiatic garden beetle, black turfgrass ataenius, European chafer, green June beetle, Japanese beetle, May/June beetles (*Phyllophaga* spp.), northern masked chafer, oriental beetle, and southern masked chafer. It is also effective against billbugs, European crane fly, and turf caterpillars, including armyworms, cutworms, and sod worms.

Nontarget species (e.g., birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and other insects) should not be affected by the proposed Acelepryn®G treatment. Chlorantraniliprole (Acelepryn), represents a relatively new class of insecticides called anthranilic diamides. It does not adversely affect bee colonies even when the workers forage on flowering clover that has been directly sprayed. Any aquatic species, including frogs, should not be affected since all areas with water will not be sprayed. Adult frogs can be in more terrestrial settings, but are usually close to a water source where egg laying and development occur. Butterflies and moths should not be affected by the treatment, as it is applied to the ground and only affects ground-dwelling immature insects.

Reports from the US Fish & Wildlife Service indicate that this proposed treatment area is outside of any critical habitats for Northern spotted owl, streaked horned lark, and Fender's

blue butterfly. Migratory bird species should not be affected at all, and those feeding on the ground should not exceed a LOC (Level of Concern), as determined by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency).

A report from the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center indicates that only one listed species, the Pacific lamprey, may potentially occur in Bronson Creek in the northwest corner of the proposed treatment area. The lamprey is assigned the number 2, which means it is threatened or endangered in Oregon, but it is more common elsewhere. This proposed treatment will not affect any water habitats and will not harm any lamprey or fish that may be in the creek.