Staff Report

for the Maintenance and Resources Committee Meeting of February 25, 2020

TO: Maintenance and Resources Committee

FROM: Jacqueline Longshore *H*

DATE: February 19, 2020

SUBJECT: Standing Item – Vegetation Management Update

MAINTENANCE

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an informational update on the status of the Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) Program Phase 3 Study.

BACKGROUND:

In the District's continued efforts to research and investigate new and innovative vegetation control tools and techniques, the District has implemented the Phase 3 Study that expands trials of alternative herbicides identified during the Phase 2 Study.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

No budgetary impact

JSL

Attachment (1):

NID IVM Phase 3 Update Presentation

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT INTEGRATED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

PHASE 3 STUDY



Maintenance and Resource Committee Meeting February 25, 2020

BACKGROUND

□ In 2017, NID initiated the Phase 1 Study

- □ Phase 1 Study evaluated alternatives along District canals:
 - Organic herbicides (A.D.I.O.S., Axxe, Avenger, Weed-A-Way, Weed Zap, Finalsan, Suppress, Opportune and Marrone)
 - Goat Grazing
 - Weedwacker
 - Abrasion Weeder

Phase 1 Study results informed the focus of the Phase 2 Study

□ In 2018, NID initiated the Phase 2 Study that evaluated:

- Organic herbicides (Axxe, Avenger, Finalsan, Suppress, Opportune, Marrone, Scythe, Weed Slayer and Phydura)
- Mechanical Equipment (Steamer, Flamer, Weedwacker and Abrasion Weeder)
- Native Vegetation Plantings









BACKGROUND

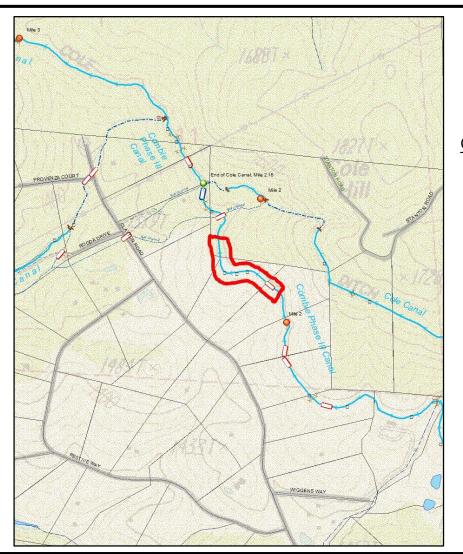
□ Results of the Phase 2 Study included:

- Opportune and Weed Slayer top performing alternatives
- Opportune and Weed Slayer along longer canal segments
- Continued monitoring and data collection
- Fabrication of steamer boom device for canals
- Cost study of glyphosate elimination
- Self-propelled flail mower
- Flamer unit at waterline

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PHASE 3 STUDY - LOCATION



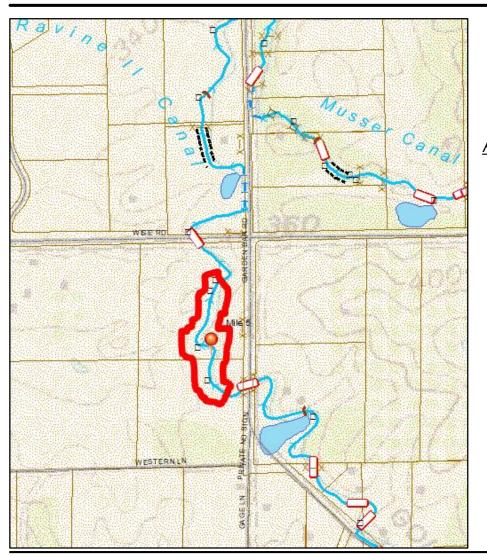
Combie Phase III Canal Placer County 1,280' Elevation 660'L x 8'W Plot

Grassland





PHASE 3 STUDY - LOCATION



Auburn Ravine II Canal Placer County 340' Elevation 660'L x 8'W Plot Grassland





PHASE 3 STUDY – APPLICATIONS & MONITORING

Application Schedule

- Application #1: Pre-Emergent prior to forecasted rain; Opportune + Weedslayer
- Application #2: First post-emergent 4-6 weeks after pre-emergent application; Opportune + Weedslayer
- Application #3: Second post-emergent 8-10 weeks after first post-emergent application; Scythe

Monitoring Schedule

7-days, 14-days, 28-days, 45-days, and 60-days after last application



PHASE 3 STUDY – APPLICATIONS & MONITORING

Monitoring Evaluation Criteria

Percent (%) Control	Observed Effect (Symptomology)
0%	No effect.
10%	Minor plant stunting or curling of leaves and stems.
20%	Stunting or curling is more pronounced and plant is still mostly green.
30%	Leaf margin or chlorosis increase to approximately 1/3 of plant surface.
40%	Symptoms have increased with more severe leaf chlorosis but affecting less
1070	than 50% of plant surface or population in the treatment area.
50%	Approximately half of the weeds present in the treatment area display stunting,
3070	curling, chlorosis and/or necrosis on 50 percent of the plant leaves or stems.
60%	Slightly more than half of the weed population present in the treatment area
0070	display severe chlorosis or necrosis.
70%	Chlorosis and/or necrosis symptoms now present on most plants but still about
7070	30% of plant tissue is green.
80%	Symptoms have expanded or increased to a majority of plants present but some
0070	still show functioning tissue.
90%	A majority of plants in the treatment zone are displaying compete mortality but
50%	remaining is a few that have not been completely killed.
100%	All plants in the treatment area are completely effected by the treatment and
100%	are dead.

Categories for range of control:

- E = Excellent control (generally >95%)
- G = Good control (80 95%)
- F = Fair control (50 80%)
- P = Poor control (below 50%)

PHASE 3 STUDY – APPLICATIONS & MONITORING

AUBURN RAVINE II CANAL APPLICATION & MONITORING EVENTS

DATE

<u>ACTIVITY</u>

12/5/2019 Application #1: Opportune + Weed Slayer 12/11/2019 Monitoring Event #1 12/19/2019 Monitoring Event #2 1/6/2020 Monitoring Event #3 1/10/2020 Application #2: Opportune + Weed Slayer 1/21/2020 Monitoring Event #4 **TBD (3/6-3/20)** Application #3: Scythe

COMBIE PHASE III CANAL APPLICATION & MONITORING EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>

ΑCTIVITY

12/5/2019 Application #1: Opportune + Weed Slayer 12/11/2019 Monitoring Event #1 12/19/2019 Monitoring Event #2 1/6/2020 Monitoring Event #3 1/10/2020 Application #2: Opportune + Weed Slayer 1/21/2020 Monitoring Event #4A (plots 1-4) 1/22/2020 Monitoring Event #4B (plots 5-15) **TBD (3/6-3/20)** Application #3: Scythe







NEXT STEPS

- □ Phase 3 Final Application (3/6-3/20/2020)
- Phase 3 Final Monitoring Events
- Phase 3 Reporting
 - NID Maintenance and Resources Committee Meetings
 - NID Website \rightarrow <u>https://nidwater.com/water-service/irrigation-water/vegetation-control/</u>
- □ California Department of Pesticide Regulations Alliance Grant Application
 - Mobile Weed Steamer and Fabrication of Boom for Application inside Canal Prism
- Native Vegetation Plantings Continued Monitoring
- □ Continuous Search and Investigation of New Tools and Methods



Questions?