

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 1 4 2015

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Gary Frazer Assistant Director for Endangered Species U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1849 C Street NW Washington, D.C. 20204

Dear Mr. Frazer:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) respectfully submits this letter to note that EPA has changed its June 27, 2013, May Affect determination to a No Effect determination with respect to the potential effects of products containing the active ingredient tralomethrin with respect to the potential direct and indirect effects to the federally threatened bay checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha bayensis) (BCB), valley elderberry longhorn beetle (Desmocerus californicus dimorphus) (VELB), California tiger salamander Central California Distinct Population Segment (Ambystoma californiense) (CTS-CC), and delta smelt (Hypomesus transpacificus) (DS), and the federally endangered California tiger salamander, the Sonoma County Distinct Population Segment (CTS-SC) and Santa Barbara County Distinct Population Segment (CTS-SB), California clapper rail (Rallus longirostris obsoletus) (CCR), California freshwater shrimp (Syncaris pacifica) (CFWS), San Francisco garter snake (Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia) (SFGS), and tidewater goby (Eucyclogobius newberryi) (TG). This change similarly applies to the May Affect determination that was made for critical habitat modification for the BCB, VELB, CTS-CC, CTS-SB, DS, and TG. Because EPA has now made No Effect determinations for these pesticides and species, EPA is no longer requesting consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service on our June 27, 2013 May Affect determination for these products.

These No Effect determinations address potential risk to the San Francisco Bay species for which tralomethrin was alleged to be of concern in a complaint made by the Center for Biological Diversity against EPA under the Endangered Species Act (CIV. No07-2794-JCS). As a result, these No Effect determinations focus only on the species noted above.

These No Effect determinations are based on the cancellation of tralomethrin products, effective February 25, 2011, July 8, 2011 and February 15, 2012. Any production of these products for U.S. use therefore ceased over three years ago and none of the cancellation orders for these products allowed registrants to distribute any remaining stocks of these cancelled products after December 15, 2014. These cancellation orders ultimately eliminate any risk posed by tralomethrin to the listed species noted above. Given that use of tralomethrin products were

being cancelled, EPA did not conduct a quantitative risk assessment in June 2013 to evaluate the extent of the very limited future risk to listed species that may exist from exposures to tralomethrin. Given the dates of these cancellations and the fact that no existing stocks of tralomethrin products may be sold and/or distributed by the registrant after December 15, 2014, EPA expects No Effects to the assessed listed species and associated designated critical habitat.

Please contact me at (703) 305-7092 or <u>brady.donald@epa.gov</u> if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Donald Brady, Director

Environmental Fate and Effects Division

Office of Pesticide Programs

cc: Richard Keigwin, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Anita Pease, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Mark Dyner, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Gina Schultz, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Craig Aubrey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service