

Finding of No Significant Impact
Eradication of Isolated Populations of Light Brown Apple Moth in California
Revised Environmental Assessment
June, 2007

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), has prepared a revised environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes potential environmental consequences of eradicating isolated populations of light brown apple moth (*Epiphyas postvittana*) (LBAM) in California. The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available from:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Emergency Management
4700 River Road, Unit 134
Riverdale, MD 20737-1236

The revised EA analyzed alternatives consisting of (1) maintaining the Federal quarantine order without further action by APHIS (no action alternative), and (2) continuation of the Federal quarantine order along with eradication of isolated populations of LBAM in California with the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) and/or LBAM-specific pheromone (treatment alternative). The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts from eradication treatments of small, isolated populations and determined that any potential impacts would be limited. Since the circumstances surrounding each isolated population are unique, each site will be considered in a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) prior to treatment. This FONSI addresses multiple sites within a defined eradication area in Solano County.

In August 2007, three 200 meter radius sites were treated using pheromone dispensers that are attached to trees, shrubs, and other fixtures at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre. Since the initial treatment of these areas four additional male moths were found in the near vicinity and an eradication boundary was defined in November, 2007. Due to additional finds in Vallejo in 2008, the eradication boundary has been extended slightly in the northern and eastern section of the eradication area (See Attachment A).

This FONSI addresses the treatment for LBAM found within the new eradication boundary. When a LBAM is found within the eradication boundary, a 200 meter radius will be defined as a treatment site. This treatment site will be treated with pheromone-impregnated twist ties attached to trees, shrubs, and other fixtures at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre. These twist ties allow for the continual release of pheromone over the course of 120 days. The dispensers will be removed after 2 LBAM life cycles (which could be up to 6 months in certain areas). Certain areas may need to be retreated.

The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts of eradication treatments of small, isolated populations like the ones in Solano County. Due to the nature of the dispenser and the pheromone itself, there will be limited impacts to the human environment including nontargets because the product is contained in dispensers that are tied to fixtures and will be removed after treatment. The pheromone itself has been shown to several native tortricids as well as a pyralid. However, each of these species has a widespread distribution and therefore any impact to these non-targets will be minimal and localized. In addition, there will be no negative cumulative effects from this action in combination with any other actions because the treatments in isolated population areas will not be combined with other LBAM eradication tools. These isolated populations are at least five miles away from any generally infested area.

APHIS conducted an online query of the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office's species lists for the eradication zones including Benica (482C), Cordelia (482B), Cuttings Wharf (483A), and Mare Island (483D) U.S.G.S. 7 ½ minute quadrangles on June 27, 2008 available at http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/spp_lists/auto_list_form.cfm. APHIS has reviewed the eradication boundary and the potential for co-occurrence of listed species and their critical habitat. APHIS has determined the preferred alternative will have no effect on listed species or their critical habitat primarily due to the standards for deployment of the twist ties, the development nature of the site, and the lack of appropriate habitat for listed species.

There are no disproportionate adverse effects to minorities, low-income populations, or children in accordance with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations," and Executive Order 13045, "Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks."

APHIS' finding of no significant impact for these three treatment areas is based upon the expected limited environmental consequences, as analyzed in the EA. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared if implementation of the proposed action may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. I have determined that there would be no significant impact to the human environment from the implementation of the treatment alternative and, therefore, no EIS needs to be prepared.

Osama El-Lissy
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency

Date

Eradication Area for Light Brown Apple Moth Vallejo, Solano County, CA



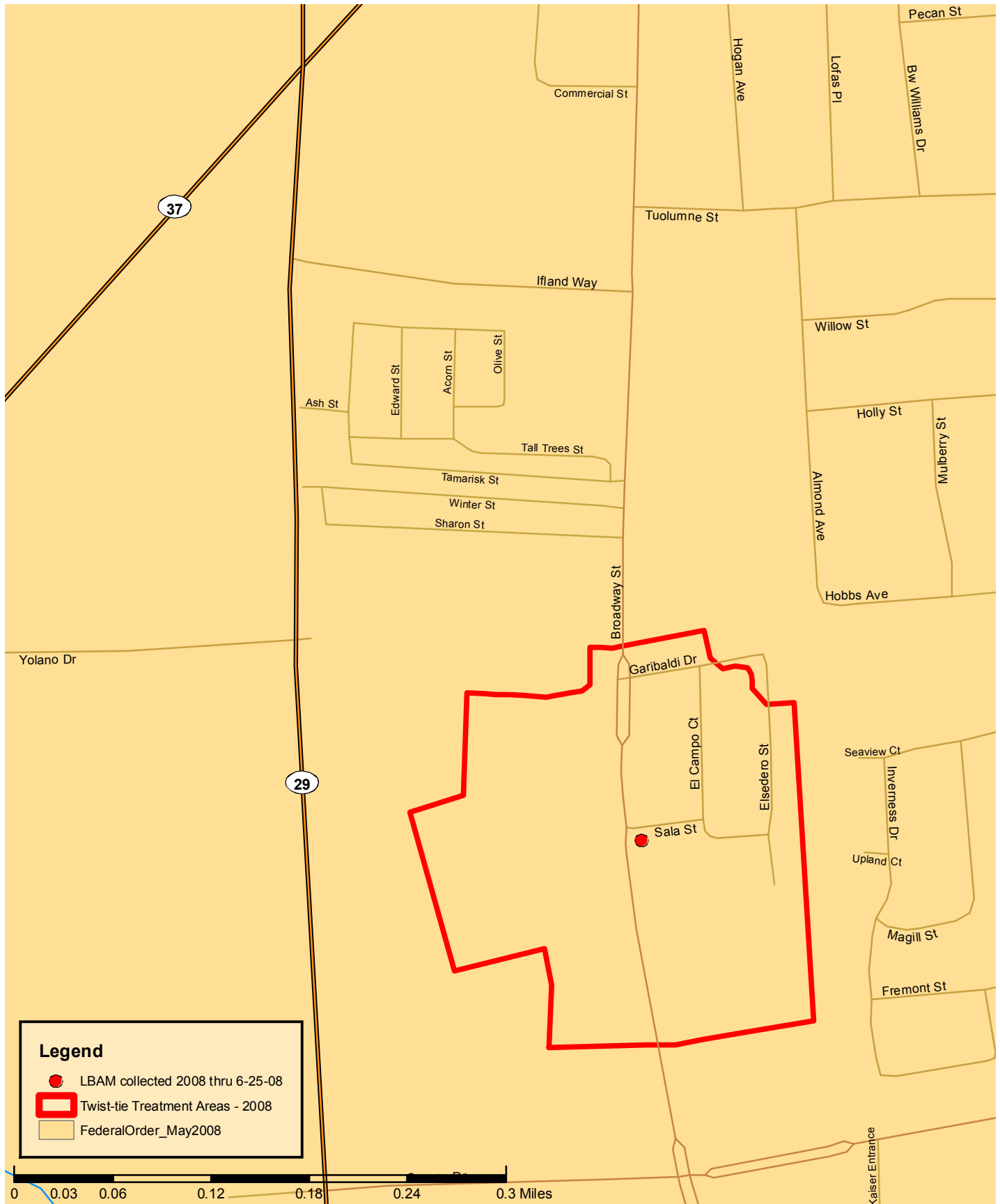
Legend

- LBAM finds 2008 thru 6-30-08
- Twist-tie Treatment Areas - 2008
- Eradication Zone 2007_Solano Co
- Eradication Zone 2008_Solano Co
- FederalOrder_May2008



Eradication Area for Light Brown Apple Moth

Sala St, Solano County, CA - 2008



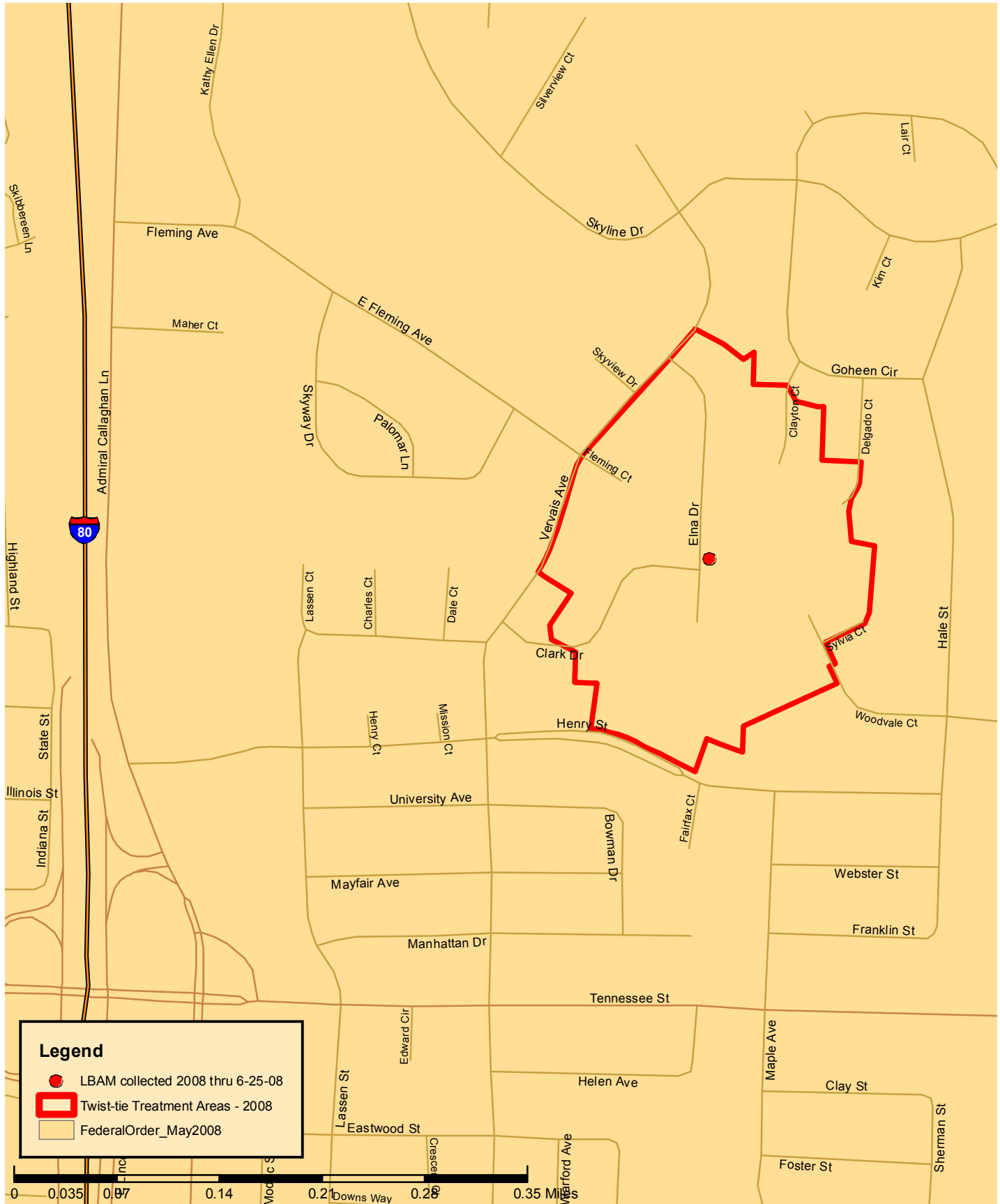
Legend

- LBAM collected 2008 thru 6-25-08
- Twist-tie Treatment Areas - 2008
- FederalOrder_May2008



Eradication Area for Light Brown Apple Moth

Elna Dr, Solano County, CA - 2008

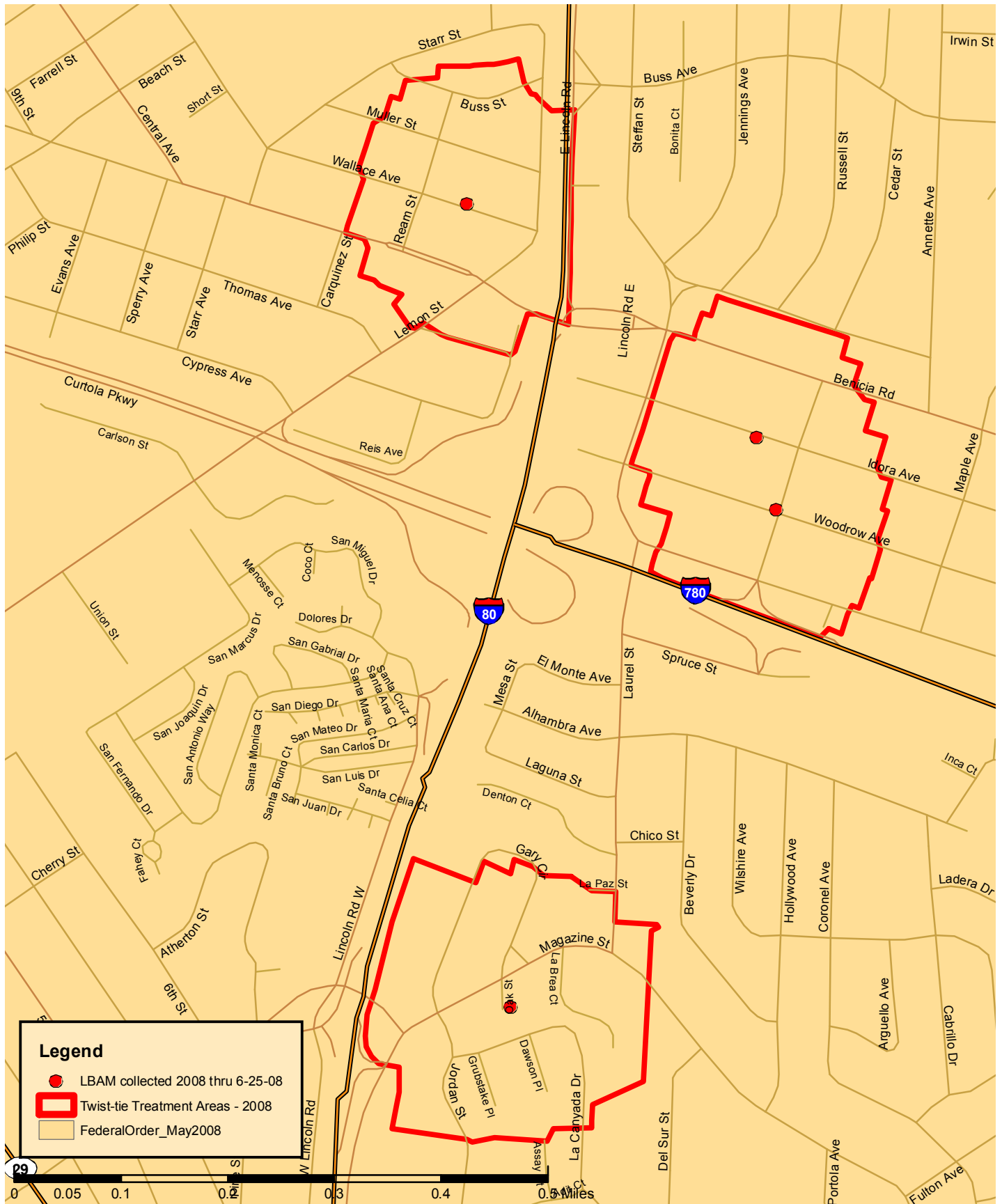


Legend

- LBAM collected 2008 thru 6-25-08
- Twist-tie Treatment Areas - 2008
- FederalOrder_May2008



Eradication Area for Light Brown Apple Moth Southern Solano County, CA - 2008



Legend

- LBAM collected 2008 thru 6-25-08
- Twist-tie Treatment Areas - 2008
- FederalOrder_May2008

