Nathenson Michael Form 4 April 24, 2018

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per 0.5 response...

may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Nathenson Michael

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Middle)

Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc.

(Check all applicable)

[BUFF]

(Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

(Month/Day/Year)

04/24/2018

below) EVP, CFO and Treasurer

C/O BLUE BUFFALO PET PRODUCTS, INC., 11 RIVER ROAD

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

WILTON, CT 06897

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Owned Indirect (I) Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported

(A)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Price (D)

Common Stock

04/24/2018

Code V Amount $D^{(1)}$ 53,571

0 D (2)

D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Restricted Stock Units	<u>(3)</u>	04/24/2018		D <u>(1)</u>	5,467	<u>(4)</u>	<u>(4)</u>	Common Stock	5,467
Restricted Stock Units	(3)	04/24/2018		D <u>(1)</u>	4,994	<u>(6)</u>	(6)	Common Stock	4,994
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 25.57	04/24/2018		D <u>(1)</u>	36,207	<u>(7)</u>	04/01/2026	Common Stock	36,207
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 23	04/24/2018		D <u>(1)</u>	33,318	<u>(9)</u>	03/31/2027	Common Stock	33,318
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 5.6	04/24/2018		D(1)	436,191	(10)	12/18/2022	Common Stock	436,19

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Nathenson Michael

C/O BLUE BUFFALO PET PRODUCTS, INC.

11 RIVER ROAD

WILTON, CT 06897

EVP, CFO and Treasurer

Signatures

/s/ Karen M. McCarthy, as Attorney-in-Fact 04/24/2018

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1)

Reporting Owners 2

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On April 24, 2018, General Mills, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Buyer"), acquired the Issuer pursuant to that certain Agreement and Plan of Merger entered into by and among the Issuer, Buyer and Bravo Merger Corp., a Delaware corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of Buyer ("Merger Sub"), dated as of February 22, 2018 (the "Merger Agreement"). In accordance with the Merger Agreement, Merger Sub merged with and into the Issuer, with the Issuer surviving such merger as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Buyer (the "Merger").

- At the effective time of the Merger (the "Effective Time"), each outstanding share of the Issuer's common stock (other than certain excluded shares) automatically converted into the right to receive \$40.00 in cash, without interest and after giving effect to any required withholding taxes (the "Merger Consideration").
- (3) Each restricted stock unit ("RSU") represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer common stock.
- (4) These RSUs were to vest on April 1, 2019.
- Each RSU, whether vested or unvested, outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time was cancelled and entitled the holder of such RSU to receive, without interest, an amount in cash equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Issuer common stock subject to the RSU multiplied by (ii) the Merger Consideration, less applicable tax withholding.
- (6) These RSUs were to vest on March 31, 2020.
- (7) These options were to vest on April 1, 2019.
- At the Effective Time, each stock option, whether vested or unvested, outstanding immediately before the Effective Time was cancelled and entitled the holder of such option to receive, without interest, an amount in cash equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Issuer common stock subject to the stock option multiplied by (ii) the excess, if any, of the Merger Consideration over the exercise price of such stock option, less applicable tax withholding.
- (9) These options were to vest on March 31, 2020.
- (10) Reflects an initial option grant with respect to 803,300 shares vested in five equal annual installments beginning on December 18, 2013. Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.