

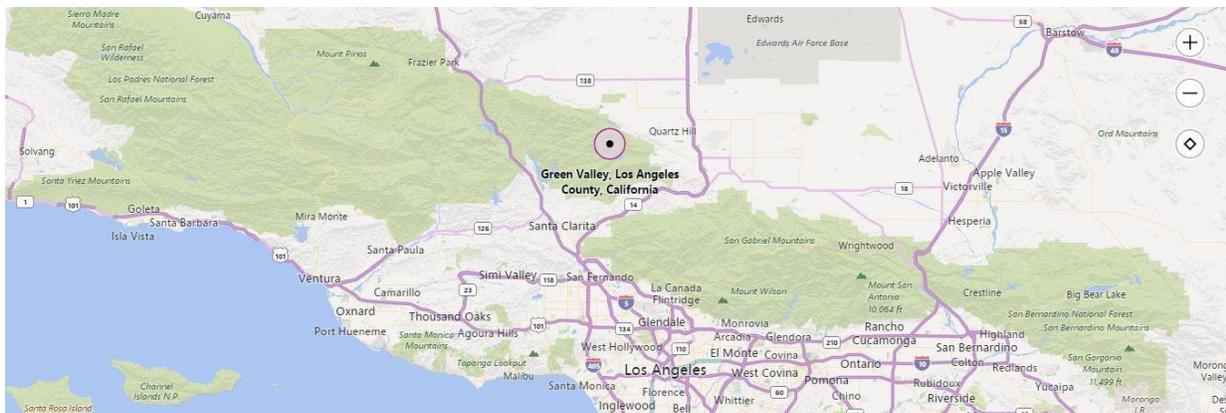
# Goldspotted Oak Borer and Oak Mortality

## Quarterly Situation Report

### July 1 through September 30, 2015

#### Goldspotted Oak Borer in Los Angeles County

In August 2015, a GSOB infestation was confirmed in the small unincorporated community of Green Valley, located 40 miles north of the City of LA, 15 miles west of Palmdale and within the Angeles National Forest boundary. The suspect trees were initially discovered by Southern California Edison personnel during line-clearing surveys; SCE personnel had received GSOB ID training in Idyllwild following the 2012 discovery of GSOB in that Riverside County community. CAL FIRE, LA County Fire – Forestry Division and the LA County Agricultural Commissioner collaborated to make a site inspection and found several infested trees. Larvae collected were sent to UCR for DNA testing; these GSOB are the same haplotype as the San Diego County population. Subsequent surveys by LA County Fire Department foresters have identified more than 25 infested trees.



Why did GSOB show up in this isolated woodland community? Apparently, many property owners utilize wood heat in the winter, but sources of wood are not readily available from nearby national forest or private land for those that like to cut their own wood. It is unlikely that GSOB-infested wood has been shipped out of the Riverside County or Orange County infestations. Therefore, it is probable that infested wood was imported from San Diego County, a distance of approximately 150 miles.

After the discovery of GSOB inside the community, Dr. Tom Coleman, USFS Forest Health Protection, surveyed the surrounding Angeles National Forest land near the community, but found no GSOB-infested trees. Of interest, the boundary with the Los Padres National Forest is just 20 miles to the west of this LA infestation.



*Telltale D-shaped exit holes and GSOB larvae and larval galleries under the bark surface.*



The response plan for the Green Valley - LA County infestation is still being formulated, including what can be done with highly-infested trees on private property. A public meeting will be scheduled and may include recruitment for a few local volunteer GSOB surveyors. However, the most immediate task at hand is to prevent GSOB-infested wood from leaving Green Valley and being taken to other parts of LA County or elsewhere in California. Other LA communities and woodlands should also be on the lookout for signs of GSOB infestation.

### **San Diego County Update**

San Diego County is being severely impacted by GSOB in 2015. With the relatively recent discoveries of GSOB north of Escondido and Mount Palomar, a majority of the county's oak woodlands and parks are impacted. Some cities and residential property owners with oaks are also heavily impacted. We've been able to provide quick follow-up on most reports of suspected GSOB due to excellent cooperation between UC and partner county, state and federal agencies.

#### **San Diego County Parks Report:**

San Diego County Department of Parks and Recreation is proactive in working towards a solution regarding the impact of the Gold Spotted Oak Borer. Along with removal of infested trees, DPR is actively planting new trees to make up for the lost trees. With the assistance of the Department of Agricultural Weights and Measures, DPR is completing an alternative treatment program in many of the units that are infested. DPR is also working with the County's GIS to improve tracking methods.

**Dos Picos Park**  
**17953 Dos Picos Park Road**  
**32.998766 -116.941781**

26 new GSOB infested trees detected. 4 trees planted. Dos Picos is working with the CCC, Cal Fire, private contractors and Cub Scouts (Planting trees). Dos Picos is part of the heritage tree and alternative treatment programs.

**El Monte Park**  
No report received.

**Flinn Springs Park**  
**14787 Old Hwy. 80**  
**32.84713 -116.86184**

2 new GSOB infested trees detected. 15 Coast Live Oaks have been planted. Flinn is working with the Sheriff's crew and is part of the alternative treatment program mentioned.

**Heise Park**  
**4945 Heise Park Rd**  
**33.040089 -116.593588**

No new GSOB infested trees. Heise is part of the alternative treatment program mentioned.

**Lake Morena Park**  
**2550 Lake Morena Drive**  
**32.683034 -116.517852**

17 new GSOB infected trees detected. Campo Stone Store has 4 new infestations with one heritage tree removal. Lake Morena is part of the alternative treatment program mentioned. The Campo Stone Store was not included in treatment program.

**Mountain/Borrego Preserves**  
**Santa Ysabel and Volcan Preserves**  
**33.1197 -116.65233 (SYE)**

2 news trees GSOB infested trees detected on Volcan Mtn.

**Pine Valley Park**  
**28810 Old Highway 80**  
**32.821732 -116.529308**

8 new trees GSOB infested trees detected. 1 healthy heritage tree.

**Potrero Park**  
**24800 Potrero Park Drive**  
**32.615222 -116.607263**

4 new tees GSOB infested trees detected in the day use area.

**Ramona Preserves**  
**Ramona, Mt Gower, Grasslands, Boulder Oaks and others**  
**33.03679 -116.95124 (Grasslands)**

10 new GSOB infested trees detected at the Grasslands & 4 new GSOB trees at Boulder Oaks.

**Stelzer Park**  
No report received.

## Riverside County Update

GSOB-infested trees were discovered for the first time on San Bernardino National Forest lands during this quarter. Approximately 16 infested trees were identified by Tom Coleman following initial reports by made by the Riverside County road department, Cal Fire foresters and UCCE personnel. All of the trees are in close proximity to known infested areas within the community of Idyllwild. The San Jacinto Ranger District is considering management options.

There has been a significant increase in the amount of GSOB trees within the community with the current count now exceeding 100 California black oak trees. The volunteer tree surveyors from the Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council have grown very proficient in identifying infested trees, thanks to lots of practice (which is unfortunate).



*GSOB tree on San Bernardino National Forest land*

## Orange County Update

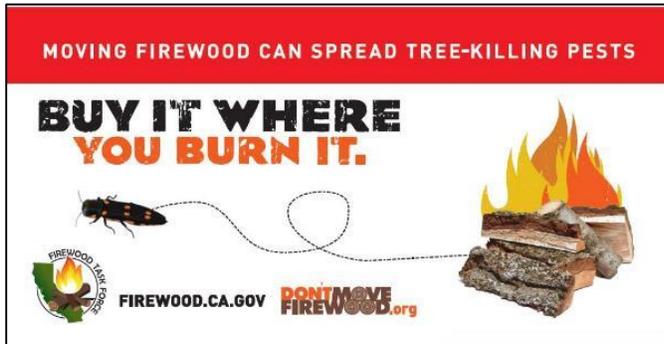
The Weir Canyon infestation continues to be the only known infestation within Orange County. However, the total number of infested trees in this area have increased to approximately 147, as the initial survey perimeter has been expanded in the Weir Canyon area. UCCE, agencies and volunteer groups continue to monitor other parts of the county.

The Emerging Tree Pests of Orange County (ETPOC) interagency group continues to work on a response plan that incorporates both GSOB and PSHB (and potentially any new tree-killing pests that may be introduced).

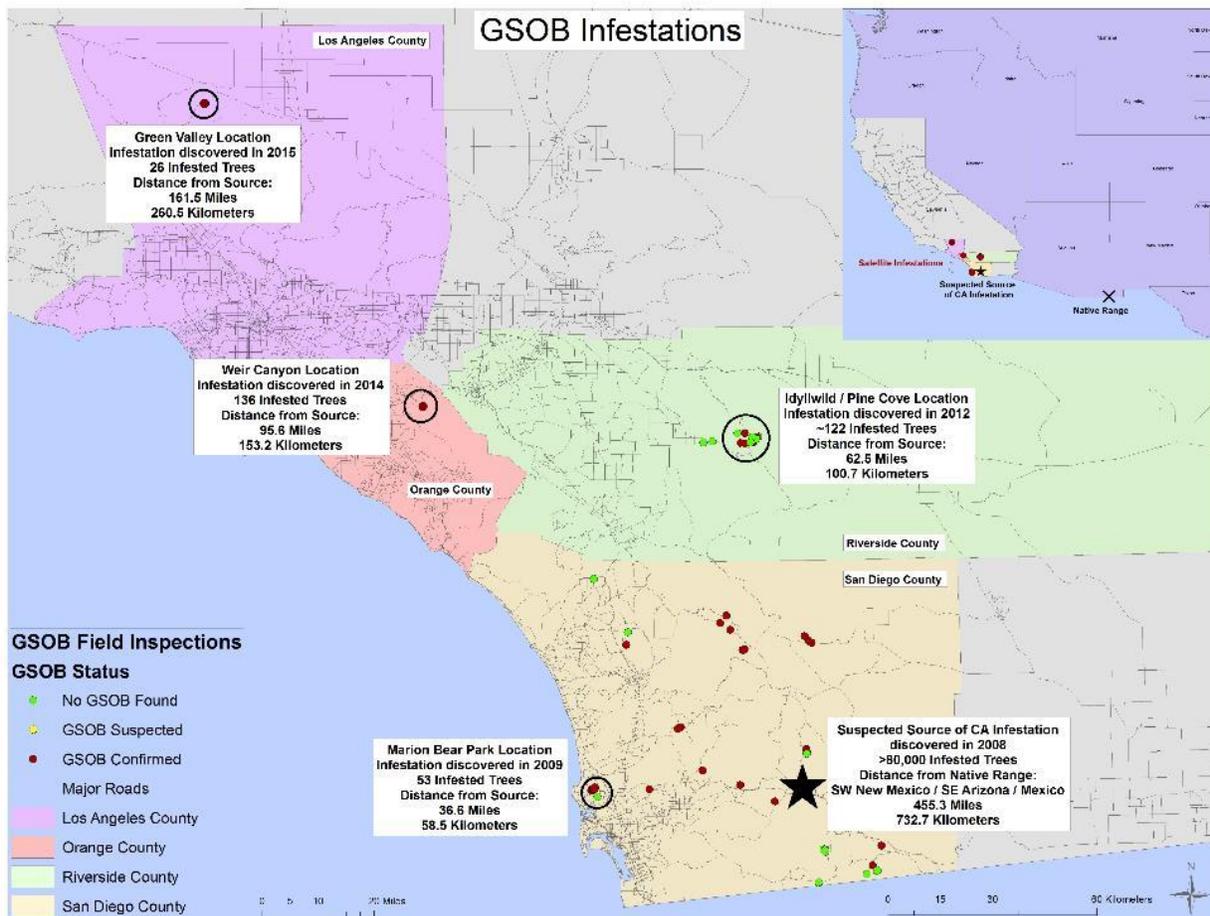
## GSOB Task Force

The implementation a GSOB task force was discussed at the Southern California Committee Meeting of the California Forest Pest Council (CFPC) at a recent meeting. A proposal by the So Cal Committee on how to move forward will be presented to the full CFPC at their annual meeting in Sacramento on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Roadside Signs:** The final design of the 2015 roadside firewood signs has been completed and orders can be placed. The 2015/16 signs are all 4' x 8'. Single-sided signs (consisting of a long-lasting decal on .04" aluminum sheet) are \$235 Double-sided signs are \$515 (they use .09" aluminum sheet since there is no plywood backboard) are good for locations which can be seen by both directions of traffic. Redwood sign frames like the one pictured can be made for either single or double-sided signs and cost \$300. An alternative mounting system involves attaching the aluminum sheet onto a plywood backing and using posts; it costs \$135 for a kit consisting of two posts, a plywood sheet and mounting hardware. Contact Kevin Turner [kevint@ucr.edu](mailto:kevint@ucr.edu) if you want more information on these signs.



Left: 2015 sign graphics  
Below: redwood sign frame



## **Goldspotted Oak Borer Education and Outreach Jan Gonzales UCCE San Diego**

- Delivered GSOB update presentation at the CAPCA training held in Carlsbad, August 19, 2015; 68 in attendance.
- Collaborated and participated in the Western IPM Pest workshop for Tribal communities held at Sycuan, July 30, 2015; other UC ANR presenters were Chris McDonald and Akif Eskalen (UCR); approximately 30 representatives from local tribes and agency stakeholders participated.
- Participated in GSOB introduction and detection training in Hidden Meadows community with local Cal Fire staff and Fire Safe Council representatives; collaborating to organize a larger community workshop and training later this year.
- Coordinated and hosted GSOB Steering Committee meeting, September 17, 2015.
- Completed, printed and distributed new tabletop displays, combining GSOB and PSHB information.
- Coordinated GSOB tabletop display use with collaborators for outreach with CoSD AWM at Insect Fair (July), Sycuan (July), County MSCP Workshop (August).
- Continued collaborative work with representatives from local tribes to develop new handout addressing GSOB impacts to Native American tribal communities.
- Responded to 11 phone calls, online survey reports and/or email public inquiries about GSOB.
- Distributed handout materials:
  - 100 GSOB trifold brochures (English)
  - 30 UC IPM GSOB Pestnote
  - 115 GSOB Forest Insect and Disease Leaflet (USFS IPM)
  - 25 GSOB San Diego pamphlet
  - 2,115 GSOB ID cards (0-Professional; 2115-General Public)
  - 25 GSOB and Firewood Management pamphlet
  - 100 *Buy It Where You Burn It* firewood awareness postcards
- Participated in 4 GSOB Education and Outreach Committee meetings/conference calls.
- Continued work on update of the GSOB Advisory for firewood vendors.
- Maintained the [www.GSOB.org](http://www.GSOB.org) website.

## GSOB Collaborative Tools Calendar

9/17/2015	GSOB Steering Committee Meeting	San Diego	Kevin Turner
9/9/2015	Riverside County Mountain Area Safety Task Force	Idyllwild in Riverside County	Kevin Turner
9/8/2015	Deer Springs Meeting at Hidden Meadows	Escondido/Hidden Meadows	Kevin Turner
8/21/2015	Professional Tree Care Association	San Diego	Tracy Ellis
8/19/2015	CAPCA Training-Carlsbad	Carlsbad, CA	Jan Gonzales
8/14/2015	Weights and Measures Inspectors	County Operations Center	Tracy Ellis
8/11/2015	Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Workshop	SD County Operations Center, SD CA	Anabele Cornejo
7/30/2015	Western IPM Forest Pest Workshop for Tribes	Sycuan, El Cajon, CA	Jan Gonzales
7/25/2015 - 7/26/2015	San Diego County Insect Fair	San Diego Botanical Gardens	Jan Gonzales

Please direct any corrections, questions or comments about the quarterly report to Kevin Turner at [kevint@ucr.edu](mailto:kevint@ucr.edu) . We welcome your future contributions to the report for any activities or information related to GSOB. A reminder will be sent out through Collaborative Tools at the end of the next quarter.