

# Goldspotted Oak Borer and Oak Mortality

## Quarterly Situation Report

### January 1 through March 31, 2016

#### Los Angeles County

There has been an intensive response in Los Angeles County since GSOB was discovered there in 2015, including three public meetings and multiple training sessions for various LA County departments (Fire/Forestry, County Ag, Parks, Public Works), personnel from the Angeles National Forest, and other agencies. Two “Buy It Where You Burn It”

roadside signs featuring GSOB have been erected on the two roads leading into the community of Green Valley; LA County is in the process of ordering even more signs.



Far left: LA agency training at Green Valley.

Left: GSOB pre-pupae in pupal chambers observed during field ID training.

The County has also prepared an Incident Action Plan (IAP) called “Operation Live Oak” which is the County’s rapid response to GSOB. In addition to prevention, detection and education/outreach efforts, LA County Fire will be using conservation camp crews to fell GSOB-infested trees and grind the infested bark as a result of the recent expansion of GSOB Zone Of Infestation (ZOI) declaration by the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection in January 2016 which included the Los Angeles and Orange County GSOB infested areas. GSOB-infested trees have also been identified on Angeles National Forest Land at the edge of the Green Valley community; the Forest is formulating its response.

#### Riverside County Update

The total number of known infested trees in Idyllwild/Pine Cove remains at > 100. Surveys for infested trees by trained volunteers and agency personnel will resume when black oak leaf-out occurs in a month or so. Oaks that either fail to leaf out or that produce dwarfed leaves will be closely examined for GSOB.

## San Diego County Update

GSOB infestation has been confirmed in coast live oak trees in the community of Oak Grove near Highway 79 in North San Diego County. That is only 3 miles from the southern boundary of Riverside County where, up to now, there have been no GSOB detected in coast live oaks, only in higher-elevation black oaks in Idyllwild. Surveys will be undertaken to determine the extent and severity of the infestation and to try and determine if the spread into Oak Grove was expedited by importing infested firewood into the community.

### Cuyamaca Rancho State Park – Mike Puzzo CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation

State Parks cut down 55 dying coast live oak and canyon live oak in Green Valley Campground in February and March 2016 as an experiment to determine the rate of re-sprout. Canopy ratings at the time trees were dropped ranged from 2-4. As of last week some had begun to re-sprout. I'll continue to monitor throughout the spring.

The California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection will be visiting the Green Valley site on their May 11 2016 field trip to view GSOB infestation and discuss management alternatives.

### San Diego County Parks

On January 14<sup>th</sup>, Dave Holt, Ramona/Mountains District Manager, hosted a meeting to discuss the 2016 integrated pest management plan for County Parks. Representatives from supporting county agencies, USFS, UCR and others participated.

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

17953 Dos Picos Park Road  
32.998766 -116.941781  
2 trees planted by Dos Picos Staff

#### El Monte

15805 El Monte Road  
32.892602 -116.848137  
Transferred 30 oak seedling to a 1 gallon pot for future plantation

#### Flinn Springs

14787 Old Hwy. 80  
32.84713 -116.86184

No new cases to report. Prepping for spraying that will take place May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Acorns are sprouting; we have dozens of naturalized seedlings coming up in the park that we are putting barriers around to protect them. We hope to do some natural reforestation this way. 13 random interpretations on the GSOB ; 42 people

**Heise**

4945 Heise Park Rd  
33.040089 -116.593588

38 trees planted. Ranger staff participated in a GSOB outreach in which had an attendance of over 100 people at the Julian Library on 3/8/15.

**Lake Morena**

2550 Lake Morena Drive  
32.683034 -116.517852

No new infested trees! No trees planted

**Mountain/Borrego Preserves**

Santa Ysabel and Volcan Preserves

33.1197 -116.65233 (SYE)

4 newly infested trees reported

**Pine Valley**

28810 Old Highway 80  
32.821732 -116.529308

***All 8 remaining Heritage trees in park have GSOB.*** No additional trees infested since last quarter.

**Ramona Preserves**

Ramona, Mt Gower, Grasslands, Boulder Oaks and others

33.03679 -116.95124 (Grasslands)

Winter rains have helped to slow GSOB spread and improve Oak health in all Preserves.  
Nature hike on 2/13, discussed GSOB and how the public can help to stop its spread. 10 Attendees

**March 8 Panel Discussion for the community of Julian.**



Part-time Julian Resident, Jim Madaffer, moderated a program on the GSOB—Gold Spotted Oak Borer Beetle which is infesting and killing Oak trees throughout Southern California.



Representatives from UC Riverside, Cal - Fire, the County Parks Department, a biologist from the County Dept. of Agriculture, and an arborist served on the six-person panel.



Over 100 people attended this very informative program. And we had a nice problem when we ran out of chairs.

I thank all speakers and participants in coordinating this program.

Colleen Baker

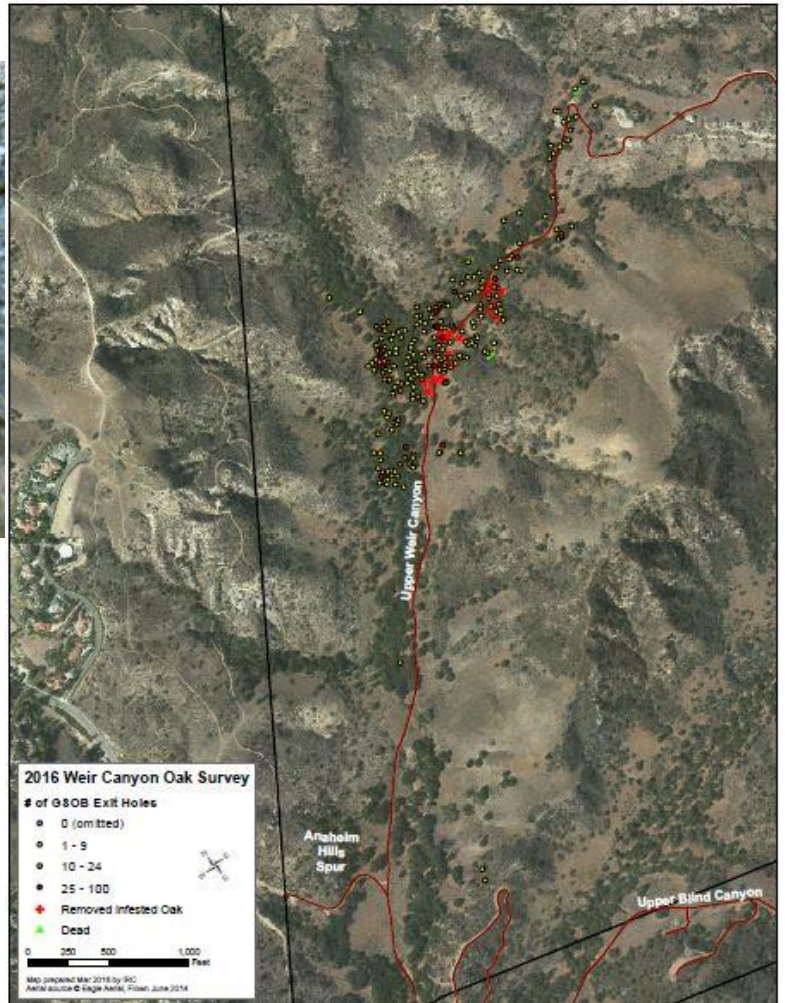
Julian Branch Manager



## Orange County Update



Additional survey work done this quarter have identified additional infested trees within the Weir Canyon infestation. By the end of March, all GSOB observed in trees were in the pre-pupa form (folded in half in pupal chambers just under the cortex of the bark). Working with cooperators, Orange County Parks is continuing with their Integrated Pest Management plan in an effort to save the remaining oaks in Weir Canyon. To date, there are still no other known infestations within OC and OC County Parks continues to be the only land manager/owner to be impacted. Unfortunately for them, they are also being impacted by PSHB/fusarium.



Tagging infested trees and marking GSOB exit holes with paint can be used to track what is going on with the infestation and the effectiveness of any treatments used. Different colors can denote each year of emergence that occurs. The red ribbon around this tree denotes that this tree has reached a threshold level for removal and disposal under the GSOB IPM plan.

## Collaborative Tools Calendar

### Events Undertaken for GSOB Outreach, Education and Management

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Event Date	Event Name	Location
3/31/2016	LA County Personnel GSOB Field Training	Green Valley LA County
3/9/2016	Operation Snapshot Customs Border Protection	Tecate Port of Entry
3/8/2016	GSOB PANEL DISCUSSION IN JULIAN	Julian Library
3/3/2016	Green Valley Community Meeting (LA)	Green Valley Community Center
2/25/2016	SoCal Committee Mtg. CFPC	South Ops - Riverside CA
2/18/2016	Urban and Wildland Forests: Tree Pests and Diseases Workshop	Hunting Gardens in LA County
1/28/2016	Fostering Sprouting after GSOB Attack	Fallbrook Community Center
1/14/2016	SD County Parks GSOB IPM Meeting	LUEG-CR, DPR Oak Room
1/12/2016	LA County Parks GSOB/SHB ID training	LA Arboretum

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

- Participated on panel and presented on GSOB education and outreach program at the Julian Community GSOB Information meeting, March 8, 2016. There were ~100 residents in attendance. Other presenters/speakers were Tom Scott and Kevin Turner (UCR), David Moniz (CoSD DPR), Tracy Ellis (CoSD AWM), Eric Just (Cal Fire), Tom Launder (local arborist) and Jim Madaffer (Julian resident, former San Diego City Councilman).
- Coordinated GSOB/PSHB tabletop display use with collaborators for outreach at the Deer Spring Fire Safe Council Community Meeting (1/30/16), the Urban and Wildland Tree Pest Workshop (San Marino, 2/18/16) and the GSOB Community Meeting (Julian, 3/8/16).
- Coordinated internal UC training with project team for GSOB online mapping tools.
- Collaborated with Santa Barbara County Ag to organize upcoming workshop scheduled for 5/6/16. Provided CEU application information, set up registration and announcements.
- Responded to 9 phone calls, online survey reports and/or email public inquiries about GSOB.
- Participated in 6 GSOB meetings/conference calls with the GSOB Education and Outreach Committee and 1 with the CFPC-southern California Forest Pest Committee.
- Maintained the [www.GSOB.org](http://www.GSOB.org) website.
- Coordinated with Los Angeles County Ag Department on GSOB ID card order.
- Distributed GSOB handout materials:
  - 1,380 GSOB trifold brochures (English)
  - 400 UC IPM GSOB Pestnote
  - 400 GSOB Forest Insect and Disease Leaflet (USFS IPM)
  - 5,375 GSOB ID cards (750-Professional; 4,625-General Public)
  - 350 GSOB and Firewood Management pamphlets
  - 350 *Buy It Where You Burn It* firewood awareness postcards

**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.**