

Managing CA Ground Squirrels and their Habitat: A Valued Species and Pest

CCRC Spring 2024 Meeting

Thursday Apr 17, 2024

Martial Cottle Park, Edwards Picnic Area

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

The California Ground Squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) is a beneficial species and a pest on rangelands. While conservation of California Ground Squirrels is important on rangelands where their ecological roles are valued, control measures may be necessary where their activities cause significant economic or ecological harm. At this workshop we will consider the role of ground squirrels on our natural working lands.

We will learn about decisions landowners and resource managers make for conservation versus control. We will hear about efforts to enhance ground squirrel habitat and thresholds for controlling ground squirrels to manage pest impact. We will also consider the efficacy of ground squirrel control methods including a) regulations covering ground squirrel control, b) integrated pest management, and c) future options

4.0 CE credits for pest management.

Agenda

8:30	Registration and Coffee
9:00	Welcome to the Meeting and Martial Cottle Park
	Small Group Introductions
9:20	<i>Ground Squirrels as Valued Species and Pest</i>
	Doug Bell, East Bay Regional Park District
	Devii Rao, UCCE
	Sheila Barry, UCCE
10:30	<i>Resource Manager Panel:</i>
	Greg Meamber, Valley Water District
	Jaclyn Lim, East Bay Regional Park District
	Cassie Bednar, Santa Clara County Parks
11:00	<i>Thresholds of Control and Control Options</i>
	Roger Baldwin, UC Davis
12:00	Small Group Discussion
12:30	Lunch
1:15	Burrow blocker demo - field demonstration
1:45	<i>Regulations and Control Efforts on Rangelands</i>
	Ed Daurte, Alameda County Ag Department
2:15	<i>IPM control program</i>
	Carolyn Whitesall, UCCE
2:45	Squirrel colony- Valley Water District, Habitat/ Damage Assessment
3:15	Demo of trapping, fumigation and exclosure - field demonstration
	Small Group Discussion
4:00	End program