

Goldspotted Oak Borer and Oak Mortality Situation Report

September 2010, California

Legislation, Coordination and Command

Kathleen Edwards, CAL FIRE

- GSOB Steering Committee – Met August 24 at the CNF – Supervisor’s Office. Agenda items included: received briefing by Tom Scott on the ARRA funds and the status of the hiring executive director, reviewed the draft IAP – only minor edits need to be made (Gloria Silva to handle this detail) and should circulate the final IAP for acceptance in September, and discussed the roles and services of the Oak Mortality Taskforce and the California Forest Pest Council (Mark Stanley and Katie Palmieri). Group also discussed the option of a Board of Forestry Zone of Infestation.

Tom Scott, UCCE/UC Riverside

- Kevin Turner has been named the Goldspotted Oak Borer Executive Coordinator with duties to include the monitoring, coordinating and reporting of GSOB and ARRA grant related activity. He will begin work October 4, 2010.

Regulatory Activities

Survey, Detection, Monitoring

Tom Coleman, USFS FHP

- Ground surveys of oak mortality aerially mapped outside the known infested area have begun (FHP). This activity will continue into October. No new GSOB-associated tree mortality has been found at the moment.

Kathleen Edwards, CAL FIRE

- Shannon Johnson, along with Tom Scott and others, met with private property landowners in the Fallbrook and Escondido area in the later part of August. While oak trees are dead or dying, there is still no evidence of GSOB activity in this northern area of San Diego.

Tom Scott, UCCE/UC Riverside

- Tara Piraneo was hired in August to coordinate the Citizen Scientist and Early Monitoring System program. She is in the process of scheduling 20-minute to 1-hour presentations to local communities on GSOB and promoting this new program to potential volunteers.

Science Activities and Findings

Tom Coleman, USFS FHP

- Insecticide studies for the 2011 field season were initiated to assess the duration of contact insecticide sprays (FHP and SRS).
- Field work continues to re-assess tree health of GSOB-infested oaks at various stages of decline.

Management and Restoration

Utilization, Sanitation, Disposal

Public Outreach, Media Coverage, Technical Assistance

Martin/Nicio Aguilera

- September 25&26 Volcan Mountain Music and Art Festival in Julian, one of the areas suffering from GSOB, gave out information to local residents and visitors. Much discussion was initiated as citizens are still confused but cognizant of physical evidence on their trees and various newspaper articles. Two new exhibits were premiered which were great for getting conversations started. One is a Coast Live Oak round designated with the insects that brought its demise. The other is a fundraiser idea, a GSOB pin sponsored by The Greater Julian Firesafe Council and designed and produced by two of the members of that Council who are local artists. They were working all night the day before the event to make them available to sell. They go for a \$10.00 donation and are available by contacting Martin/Nicio at P.O. Box 1958 Julian CA OR cell phone 760-604-3070. I will send out photo to inquiries.

Jan Gonzales, UC Cooperative Extension, San Diego

- As part of the ARRA grant, UC is collaborating with agency and community organizations to organize eight workshops on oak tree mortality, pests and diseases. The primary target audience for these day-long workshops are government agency and industry professionals. Workshops will be held in six southern California counties from September 2010 through March 2011. As details for each workshop are finalized, information will be posted on the 'Workshops' page at <http://www.gsob.org>.

- GSOB Website Statistics as of August 16, 2010, <http://www.gsob.org>
(September 1, 2009 – September 15, 2010)
 - Hits: 140,341
(13,800 more since last Sit Report)
 - Page Views: 45,490
(2,846 more since last Sit Report)

Online Reports:

- Public GSOB Citing Report – 50 entries
(8 new since last Sit Report)
- GSOB Email Subscriptions - 83 entries

(/ new since last Sit Report)

Contact Information:

This is a multi-agency update of information.

To submit information for this report or if you have questions, contact:

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