



Western Region Tribal IPM Work Group

What's killing our plants? Tribal Forest Pest Identification Workshop

July 30, 2015

Sycuan Reservation - Sycuan Golf Resort

3007 Dehesa Road, El Cajon, CA

Meeting Review

We had 36 participants join us for the day to learn recognize the damage done by various pests affecting the Southern California Forests. Of the 36 participants, 10 of them were tribes from San Diego, Riverside and Santa Barbara Counties.

Welcome and Opening Prayer – Cody Martinez, Sycuan Tribal President

Welcome and Meeting Overview– Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo



Overview of pest and other wildland management issues for Southern California tribes –

Janice Alexander, UC Cooperative Extension

Resource management for baskets and other cultural objects –

Ana Gloria “Martha” Rodriguez, Sycuan

Collect willow March-November; *Juncus* root, oak bark, elderberry also important materials; baskets, skirts, and jewelry; harder to get certain materials due to urbanization, drought; facing some loss of interest in traditional materials and methods with younger generation



Sycuan native plant management plan – Jim Park, Sycuan

220 native plants identified with Kumeyaay names; 500+ species overall; demonstration village created with native plants and removal of many invasive species; each weed species addressed individually in terms of removal and management; alert elders and gatherers where spraying has and has not occurred to protect human health; would like to go back to old ways (burning) rather than use chemicals as part of an IPM program; landscapers have not traditionally been trained to look holistically at landscape (bee hives, bird nests) so had to introduce those concepts when talking about overall landscape management



Feral pig management– Jeremiah Psiropoulos, USDA APHIS

Goal is eradication of feral pigs from San Diego County; difficulty in that CA F&W manage pigs as a game species and account for 2nd largest source of revenue; *see slides for full details*

Viejas Feral Pig Monitors – Viejas tribe

Following the example of APHIS work on their own lands; large fencing program to funnel pigs into traps for removal; *see photos for examples*



Western Region Tribal IPM Work Group

Review of common forest pests in preparation for field visits – Susan Frankel, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station
See slides for full details

Field stops on the Sycuan golf course

Polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB) – Akif Eskalen, UC Riverside

363 of 1400 total trees on the golf course are infested; 25 mature sycamores have already been removed; 30+ entry holes within 6 inches diameter usually means the infection will be fatal on the tree; insecticide trials ongoing; looking at wasp as a potential biocontrol; pheromone control not possible because females emerge with eggs already fertilized; sycamores and willows are the trees to check when you're back on your land; *see handouts for more details*



Above: PSHB holes on sycamore
Below: Insecticide treatment holes at bottom of sycamore trunk



PSHB-damaged sycamore with epicormic sprouting (new growth on trunk)

Mistletoe— Melody Lardner, US Forest Service

“True” mistletoe affects hardwoods and some conifers; dwarf mistletoe is mostly conifers; dangerous when branches get heavily infested and may fall; can be important for wildlife; true mistletoe can stress a tree especially during drought; dwarf mistletoe is more parasitic and can outright kill trees; use a rating system to decide whether to remove an infested tree; *see pest guides for more details*

Goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) – Tom Coleman, US Forest Service

Latest information is in new handout, including updates on the Orange County infestation and management approach; *see handouts for more details*





Western Region Tribal IPM Work Group



GSOB identification card with D-shaped hole for comparison



Invasive plants – Chris McDonald, UCCE

Weeds to watch out for include palms, tamarisk, pepper, Russian thistle (tumbleweed), castor bean, jimson weed, tree tobacco, and Moroccan/Egyptian knapweed; *see handout for specific management recommendations*





Western Region Tribal IPM Work Group

The Gold Resort has made the effort to keep Polyphagous shot-hole borer and Gold-spotted Oak Borer contained to the resort grounds.

Much appreciation to all of the presenters for their time and energy. Participants learned a little about Kumeyaay culture, about the work the Sycuan Golf Resort has done to list native plants, with their Kumeyaay names found on the Sycuan Reservation and identifying non-natives for removal, and about the feral pig project being conducted by the Viejas Reservation.

All the presentations and information provided at the Workshop can be found on our Work Group website at: <http://westernipm.org/index.cfm/center-projects/project-websites/tribal-work-group/>

Optional visit to Sycuan demonstration village and native plant garden



Native buckwheat at demonstration garden



Ewa structure at demonstration village