

THE GOLDSPOTTED OAK BORER

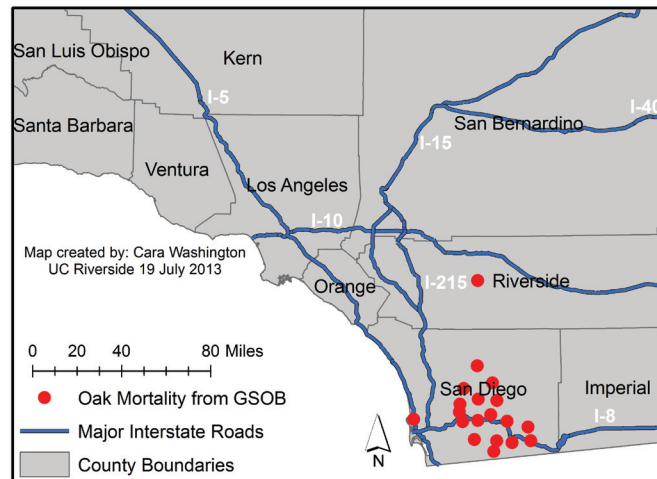


Goldspotted oak borer adults are smaller than a penny. Adults are about 7/16 of an inch (1 cm) in length with six distinguishing orange spots on the wings.



Larvae are legless and white in color. Mature larvae can reach 13/16 of an inch (2 cm) in length. Larvae possess two pincher-like spines at the tip of the abdomen.

CURRENT AREA OF INFESTATION



The distribution of goldspotted oak borer was thought to be confined to portions of San Diego County until the 2012 discovery of GSOB-infested trees in the Idyllwild area of Riverside County. The movement of infested firewood is suspected as the cause for the new infestation.

DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD!



Moving firewood has the potential to introduce this new pest to more California locations.

Please, do not move firewood!

www.firewood.ca.gov

For additional information:

www.GSOB.org



GOLD SPOTTED OAK BORER

A NEW THREAT TO OAKS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



The goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) has killed tens of thousands of mature oak trees in San Diego County. Experts believe this non-native oak pest was introduced into the Descanso area of San Diego County by the transport of infested firewood from southeastern Arizona. GSOB has since been spread to other portions of San Diego County and to Idyllwild in Riverside County. It poses a threat to many more areas of California. Learn to identify GSOB and keep it out of your community.



These agencies are equal opportunity employers.

BEETLE IMPACTS



Feeding galleries of the goldspotted oak borer larvae are often black in color with no specific pattern. Larvae feed under the bark primarily on the wood surface.



High densities of larval galleries can patch kill areas of inner bark and lead to tree death. Patches of dense galleries are often indicated by dark, wet staining on the bark exterior.



Black or red staining on the main stem or larger branches can signify injury from the goldspotted oak borer.

EVIDENCE OF INJURY



Woodpeckers chip away outer bark to forage on goldspotted oak borer larvae. Woodpecker foraging in coast live oak exposes the dark larval galleries and inner bark.



When new adult beetles emerge, they create D-shaped exit holes about 3/16 of an inch (4 mm) in diameter. These exit holes indicate that tree damage is extensive.



Twig die-back and crown thinning can be symptoms of goldspotted oak borer injury.

HOST TREES



Coast live oak is an evergreen species with cupped leaves. Its acorns are slender and sharply pointed.



California black oak is a deciduous species that is found at higher elevations, 5,000-7,000 feet in southern California.



Canyon live oak is an evergreen species. The underside of older leaves appear gray; newer leaves have fine red hairs.