



FORESTLAND STEWARDS

WORKING TOGETHER FOR HEALTHY FORESTS

SUMMER 2001

Weed Management Areas offer a cooperative approach to noxious weed control

Weed Management Areas are popping up around California like—uh—weeds. In fact, there is probably one in your county.

While the name may lack pizzazz, Weed Management Areas (WMAs) are exciting to those concerned about the menace of noxious weeds. These are organizations that include private landowners and city, county, state, and federal land managers that meet to coordinate work against invasive weeds. Most WMAs in California have been initiated by the County Agricultural Commissioner's Office or a Federal agency. All but five counties now participate in the WMA program.

Part of the program's success comes from recent legislation that provides funding to WMAs. This money is being used by local groups for a variety of projects including cost-share programs with private landowners, roadside weed management, controlled burns, weed pull days, introduction of biological control agents, mapping, educational programs, demonstration plots and more. The California Department of Food and Agriculture is hiring additional staff to work on weed management area projects.

Why have invasive weeds become such a high priority? Over the last decade or so there has been a growing



Himalaya Berry
Rubus procerus

Dee Vlasak

WMA Support Program Mission Statement

To demonstrate the power of local, cooperative action in protecting our natural and agricultural resources by

1. Eradicating and managing noxious and invasive weeds in an integrated, strategic and prioritized fashion;
2. Stopping the spread of noxious and invasive weeds on public and private lands;
3. Educating people at all levels about the need and opportunities to manage weeds.

awareness of the great damage wrought by invasive species. It has been estimated that competition from invasive species is responsible for the decline in 18% of endangered species. These effects on species decline are second only to direct destruction of habitat.

Invasive weeds are generally non-native species that have escaped the predators and pathogens of their native

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California Dept. of Forestry & Fire Protection
Forest Stewardship Program
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

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You can help

◆ Be aware of the problem of invasive species and learn to identify those found in your area.

◆ Watch for new weed populations as part of your land management activities. Weeds often establish along roads and disturbed rights-of-way and along waterways. Periodically inspect these areas.

◆ Create a weed management plan for your property (see page 10). Discuss your plan with neighbors and consider cooperative projects with them.

◆ Avoid transporting weed seeds stuck on clothing, gear, pets, vehicles, or livestock. Don't clean vehicles in weed-free areas.

◆ Report new infestations of known weeds and those not previously found in the area to the county weed supervisor.

◆ Buy certified weed-free hay, straw, and mulch.

◆ Minimize soil disturbance; bare soil provides an ideal environment for weed establishment.

◆ Reseed disturbed areas with native plants.

◆ Limit use of fertilizers when reseeding; their use may favor weeds over native perennial species.

◆ Join an organization concerned with noxious weed control. Examples include your local Weed Management Area, CalEPPC, California Native Plant Society, The Nature Conservancy, or other local organizations.



English Ivy
Hedera helix

Dee Vlasak

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lands. Without these checks, they are able to reproduce rapidly and displace native species.

As invasives spread, they can greatly alter ecosystems, affecting the chemical composition of the soil, changing fire patterns, affecting soil erosion, and altering wildlife habitat.

Noxious weeds are also responsible for economic losses. They can reduce livestock forage by crowding out palatable species and some are even toxic to livestock. In timberlands, they can aggressively compete with tree regeneration.

Noxious, or invasive, weed species have one or more of the following traits:

- ◆ aggressively invading non-native
- ◆ detrimental to economic crops or native plant communities
- ◆ poisonous to livestock
- ◆ harms the environment

The state has designated lists of alien weeds (<http://pi.cdfa.ca.gov/weedinfo/sortbyrating2.htm>). Placement on list A, B or C depends on extent, seriousness, and control methods for each species.

◆ Type "C" weeds—State endorsed holding action and eradication only when found in a nursery; action to retard spread outside of nurseries at the discretion of the commissioner; reject only when found in a cropseed for planting or at the discretion of the commissioner.

◆ Type "B" weeds—Eradication, containment, control or other holding action at the discretion of the commissioner.

◆ Type "A" weeds—Eradication, containment, rejection, or other holding action at the state-county level.

Quarantine interceptions to be rejected or treated at any point in the state.

Learn more about Weed Management Areas at their website <http://pi.cdfa.ca.gov/wma/>. This site also has a

map that will put you in touch with your local WMA. In addition, there is information on noxious weeds, legislative updates, and a very comprehensive listing of funding sources.

Another great source of information is *Noxious Times*, a newsletter produced by the California Interagency Noxious Weed Coordinating Committee. *Noxious Times* can be found on the web at <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/noxioustimes> or contact CDFA, ATTN: Noxious Times, 1220 N St., Room A-357, Sacramento, CA 95814 or noxtimes@cdfa.ca.gov.

—L. L.

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Seasonal Stewardship

Attack your weeds like a wildfire

Awareness of the damage caused by noxious weeds is becoming widespread, but controlling these pests takes more than awareness—it requires constant vigilance and cooperative efforts.

If you want to concentrate your efforts where they will be most effect-

ive, consider this central principle of weed management: **Small infestations can be eradicated, large infestations can only be controlled.**

The usual approach is to attack large areas of weeds first. The rationale is that small patches are not causing any harm now, so they can be ignored

temporarily. But before we know it, the small patches have spread, and we are left with more large weed problems.

We must reverse our priorities and eradicate all small occurrences as quickly as possible. Weed management can be compared to fighting wildfires. Notice the similarities below.

	FIRE:	WEEDS:
1. Build a fireline	One of the first actions taken when fighting a large wildfire is to build a fire line to contain the outbreak within a certain boundary.	Rather than a line on the ground, draw a line on a map delineating the current extent of large weed infestations. Commit to containing the infestation within this boundary.
2. Eliminate spotfires	Any fire that jumps the fireline has top priority and is eliminated as quickly as possible before it has the chance to spread. If allowed to spread, the results can be disastrous: fire fighters may be caught between two outbreaks, two large fires will have to be fought rather than one, and many more resources will be needed.	When weeds escape from the boundary you have drawn, they should become top priority. Think of small isolated occurrences as back country spotfires. If they are located early and attacked aggressively they can be eradicated before they spread; if ignored they will likely become so large they may never be eliminated entirely.
3. Protect critical areas	Critical areas include places where people or structures are located.	Critical areas include pristine natural sites, critical wildlife habitat, productive rangelands, and rare plant and animal habitat.
4. Control the main outbreak.	Often an expensive investment in resources is required. Even with massive control efforts, large fires often are not stopped until the weather changes and rain or snow stops the fire.	Large infestations require long-term control efforts. Even with years of effort, these occurrences may never be completely eliminated. Unfortunately their seed banks may be huge, and their natural controls are rarely available. They may require some level of control forever.

—from *Creating an Integrated Weed Management Plan: A Handbook for Owners and Managers of Lands with Natural Values*. 2000. Colorado Natural Areas Program, Colorado State Parks, Colorado Department of Natural Resources; and Division of Plant Industry, Colorado Department of Agriculture. Denver, Colorado. 349 pages. (see page 10 for more information).



Species Spotlight

Getting a handle on broom: Scotch, French, and Spanish brooms in California

John LeBlanc

UC Cooperative Extension Forestry

Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), French broom (*Genista monspessulana*), and Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*) were introduced to California in the mid-1800s for landscape planting, mine tailings stabilization, and roadside erosion control.

Traits once considered useful are the very attributes that define brooms as an aggressive and invasive noxious weed today. Brooms are invasive due to their tolerance for most soil conditions, their ability to fix nitrogen and grow for most of the year, and their copious production of long-lasting viable seeds. These practical attributes for erosion control also make the plants difficult to manage.

Broom grows rapidly and so densely that wildlife find passage difficult. It is slightly toxic and rarely browsed by wildlife or livestock. The dense stems make regeneration of most other species impossible and create a dangerous fire hazard. As the plants grow, the inner stems die back providing a highly flammable fuel.

The California State Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has declared broom a Class "C" pest species—"troublesome, aggressive, intrusive, detrimental or destructive to agriculture, silviculture, or important native species, and difficult to control or eradicate."

Scotch broom identification

Scotch broom is an upright evergreen shrub that can grow to 12 feet tall but is more commonly 3 to 6 feet high. It reproduces by seeds that germinate mainly in spring and autumn. Young plants usually do not

Identifying characteristics of Scotch, French, and Spanish brooms

	Stem (X-section)	Flowers	Leaves
Scotch broom	5-sided; angular	singular, bright yellow, red markings	singular or in clusters, soft hairs below, often lost in summer
French broom	ridged	clustered on stem	trifoliate, oval, waxy above, slightly hairy below
Spanish broom	round	clustered on stalk, fragrant	nearly leafless



Scotch broom

flower until their third year. Plants live up to 25 years, although 10-15 years is more usual.

Scotch broom stems—are numerous, erect, woody, green to brownish green, prominently ridged, and have five distinct angles. Young stems remain green for about three years and actively photosynthesize.

Scotch broom leaves—are found singly or in clusters, on short stalks, with scattered hairs above and soft hairs below the bright green groups of three leaflets. Single leaflets can be found on the growing tips. Each leaflet is oval to lance-shaped, 1/16–5/16" wide. The central leaflet is largest, up to 3/4" long.

New leaves, produced in spring, are often lost during dry periods in summer or other periods of stress. Plants may be leafless for most of the year.

Scotch broom flowers—are pea-like, bright yellow, sometimes with red markings in the center on short stalks. They are singular, about 1/2–1" long. April to June is the peak flowering time but some flowers may appear sporadically throughout the year.

Scotch broom fruits—are flat, brown or black pods. They are green when immature and hairy on the edges, mostly 1–2-1/2" long and 5/16–1/2" wide. Seed pods ripen during summer and burst open to eject the seed. Some



French broom





Spanish broom

Pods curl up after seed is ejected.

The seeds are green to yellowish-brown when ripe. There are 5 to 20 shiny, rounded and flattened seeds 1/8 inches long and 1/16 inches wide per pea-like pod.

French and Spanish broom identification

French and Spanish broom look very similar to Scotch broom at first glance. The plants are about the same size, color, and have similar appearance to the flowers and stems.

French broom has obvious trifoliate leaves. Leaflets are largely oval and about 1/4" long. Leaflets appear waxy above, and slightly hairy below. Spanish broom will often appear nearly leafless especially later in the season.

However, the flowers of both French and Spanish broom are found in clusters. Spanish broom flowers are noticeably fragrant while French broom flowers have a subtle fragrance. French broom stems are ridged but not sharply angled. Spanish broom has round stems.

Uses

Not surprising given the name, brooms have been used historically for sweeping. They have also been used for thatching, fence rows, and cattle fodder. The leaves, bark, and flowers have been gathered for their medicinal properties. The flowers have been used as a hops substitute in beer and the seeds as a coffee substitute. The woody plant was used for tanning leather and very large old stems for veneer. The fiber can be made into cloth.

In the next issue of *Forestland Steward*, we will discuss the ecology and management of the brooms.

A new publication on brooms, written by John LeBlanc, will soon be available from UC Cooperative Extension.

Important message from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



"Conserving energy and fire protection go hand in hand."

Remember: It takes energy to fight fire. Please conserve so that the power will be there if we need it. In addition, wildfires can destroy power lines and stop the flow of electricity to entire communities. Be Fire Safe!

If The Power Goes Out:

- ◆ Traffic lights may go out too. Watch for our emergency response vehicles.
- ◆ Only call 911 if you have a life-threatening emergency.
- ◆ Don't use candles for light unless absolutely necessary. If you do use candles, make sure they are in a sturdy holder, and never leave them unattended.
- ◆ Never use propane, kerosene or charcoal stoves inside a structure. Their fumes can kill.
- ◆ If you use a generator, NEVER plug it into your whole-house circuit without the proper double-pole, double-throw transfer switch. This will ensure that power doesn't back-feed into a line and injure workers trying to repair the line.

See the CDF website at <http://www.fire.ca.gov> for more safety tips.

Flex Your Power and Be Fire Safe California!



RPFs

What is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF)?

The California Licensed Foresters Association provides the following background on Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs). As you can see, RPFs have a lot of responsibility and are required to have an extremely broad range of knowledge and expertise.

A Registered Professional Forester is licensed by the State of California to perform professional services that require the application of forestry principles and techniques to the management of forested landscapes.

RPFs have an understanding of forest growth, development, and regeneration; soils, geology, and hydrology; wildlife and fisheries biology and other forest resources. RPFs are also trained in fire management and, if involved in timber harvesting operations, have expertise in forest road design and application of the various methods used to harvest timber.

RPFs are typically involved in:

- ◆ Preparing forest and land management plans.
- ◆ Monitoring and assessing forest health, and developing management strategies for protecting the forest from insects, disease, and wildfire.
- ◆ Preparing and maintaining inventories of forest resources.
- ◆ Measuring standing timber volume and appraising its market value.
- ◆ Preparing Timber Harvesting Plans (THPs). In California, under current law, if trees are to be harvested for commercial purposes, a RPF must prepare a THP for review and approval by state agencies. Section 757.0 of the Public Resources Code provides for a landowner exemption, which allows a landowner who is a natural person to perform forestry activities on their own property

without being licensed. Landowners should decide for themselves whether or not this exemption applies to them in a given situation. However, except for Conversion THPs, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection will not accept a THP or Conversion Exemption for filing unless it has been prepared by a Registered Professional Forester.]

- ◆ Marketing forest products.
 - ◆ Preparing plans to rehabilitate forests damaged by wildfire or other destructive natural forces.
 - ◆ Managing wildlife habitat.
 - ◆ Analyzing wildfire hazard.
 - ◆ Participating on teams with other natural resource professionals in the development and preparation of environmental assessments, environmental impact reports/statements.
 - ◆ Providing expert testimony during litigation.
 - ◆ Managing community watersheds for water and timber production.
 - ◆ Providing information to forest landowners to increase their knowledge of forest ecology and management.
- In California, a person acting in the capacity of a professional forester or identifying him/herself as a professional forester is required to be licensed by the state. To become a RPF, the following minimum qualifications must be met:
- ◆ Be an individual of good moral character who also possesses a good reputation for honesty and integrity. No firm, company, partnership, or corporation can get a professional foresters license.
 - ◆ Have seven years of experience in forestry work. A person may substi-

tute a Bachelor of Science in Forestry for four years of work experience.

- ◆ Pass a comprehensive examination administered by the Professional Foresters Examining Committee with a score of 75% or greater.

Filing a complaint against a RPF

If you feel that an RPF has failed to perform in a prudent professional manner, you can submit a formal complaint to the Professional Foresters Examining Committee which has a legal mandate to review complaints and make disciplinary recommendations to the State Board of Forestry.

A formal complaint must be in writing with an original signature. Refer to *Policy Number 9 for Professional Foresters Registration* for information and verification required. The complaint should be submitted to: Professional Foresters Registration, PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460.

Information on what constitutes causes of action are found in *Policy Number 7 for Professional Foresters Registration*. A more complete discussion on filing a complaint can be found on the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection website at http://www.fire.ca.gov/BOF/pdfs/FilingComplaint_RPF.pdf.

—For more information on Registered Professional Foresters go to the California Licensed Foresters website at <http://www.cdfa.org> and the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection site at <http://www.fire.ca.gov/BOF/BOF.asp>.



Hiring Experts

How to choose a competent professional

*John W. LeBlanc ,
UC Cooperative Extension*

We all have to hire specialists at one time or another. Either a job is too large, requires special tools or training to do correctly, or we just don't have the time to do it ourselves. In some cases, like preparing a Timber Harvest Plan, laws or regulations require a specialist to perform the work.

So how do you go about choosing the best professional? Whether choosing a logger, a Registered Professional Forester (RPF), wildlife biologist, or tree service, some simple steps will help you choose the best professional for your needs.

Identifying Professionals

The type of professional depends on your particular situation. Your local UC Cooperative Extension office, Resource Conservation District (RCD), or California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) all have lists of resource professionals that work in your area. The county office usually has contact information for professional organizations and regulatory authorities.

Personal recommendations are usually the best way to find a professional. Do you have a friend, neighbor or relative that has had similar work done? Who did they use? Were they happy with the results? What would they have done differently? Many of the most talented and experienced professionals rely solely on word of mouth to gather new business.

Professional organizations and associations will usually supply lists of members that offer consulting services. They often certify members with experience in particular specialties, continuing education, or special training. You might also contact regulatory agencies, like the Board of Forestry, which maintain lists of consultants registered with them.

Many service professionals advertise in the phone book. This will give you an idea of the range of services available.

Rating Services offer advice to consumers on common specialists. Found under "consumer protection organizations" in the phone book, these rate local

**Personal
recommendations
are usually the
best way to find
a professional.**

providers of goods and services. Check policies to see if you are comfortable with the rating system and methods. Some poll users and ask for their level of satisfaction. Others simply charge a fee for companies to be listed.

The internet is a great place to find out all kinds of information. News groups, web searches, and mailing lists all offer ways to locate professionals to meet many of your needs.

Qualifications

Licensing: Many professions have specific licensing requirements. Registered Professional Foresters are licensed by the State Board of Forestry. The Board has set requirements for education, experience, and comprehensive testing. Other professions, like Land Surveying and Pest Control, have similar licensing requirements (see table).

Check with the appropriate agency to see if a professional's license is in good standing. Licensing agencies will usually provide information on violations

reported against an individual professional. The number of outstanding complaints, records of reprimands, fines and other legal actions may be available.

Certification: Boards, agencies and professional societies may offer certificates of specialization or training. For example, the CDF offers a training course in archaeology for Registered Professional Foresters. RPFs that complete the course can make preliminary archaeological checks on private property.

Every professional meets certain qualifications based on education, experience, training, or certification. Participation in continuing education and certification programs is an indicator that the professional is keeping up with new developments in the field.

Most professions have an organization that represents members. These organizations will usually confirm if an individual is a member and has met their requirements. Check on requirements for certification. Some only require a warm body and a cleared check. Others require very strict testing and continuing education.

References

Any professional you are considering hiring will provide recent references. Avoid those that promise to provide a list, but never seem to get around to it. You should check references. People are surprisingly candid when asked their opinion. Prepare some questions ahead of time and be ready to take notes. The first phone call will be the most difficult.

If you are nervous about calling a stranger, you might prepare a script to help get started. Remember that you share something with this person you are calling. They recently went through an experience you are preparing for. How would you feel if someone called asking

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similar questions about a professional you had hired?

A suggested script follows. Add specific questions for the type of professional you are checking on and any other questions specific to your needs.

“Hello my name is _____. I am considering hiring _____ who provided you as a reference. Do you have a few minutes to answer a couple of questions?” (If not, ask for a more convenient time to call.)

◆ Were you satisfied with the services that < your professional > provided? Why or why not?

◆ Did < your professional > respond to your questions in a professional manner?

◆ Would you hire < your professional > again? Why or why not?

◆ What would you have done differently?

◆ Are there any questions you should have asked but didn't?

◆ Were there any surprises I should avoid?

◆ If I have any more questions, would it be okay to call again?

Since you might get an answering machine, be prepared to leave a message and include a good time to return your call. You might also offer to accept collect calls.

Lawsuits

Another place to check the reputation of a professional is the county courthouse

where you can find out if that person is a party to any lawsuits. If they have a number of lawsuits pending, that could be a sign of trouble.

Insurance

Ask for proof of insurance. When you hire someone to work on your property, you can be held liable for any injuries or damage they cause unless they have liability and workers' comp insurance.

Addresses and Phone Numbers

The California Forest Stewardship Helpline has names of agencies and professional organizations. 1-800-738-8733.

—from *Working in the Woods: A guide for California's forest landowners.* (Copyright 1998 UC Regents.)

Profession	License	Regulatory Board	Organizations
Registered Professional Forester	License required Experience and education comprehensive test	California Board of Forestry Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection 1416 - Ninth St.; PO Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 944244-2460 916-445-9920	Society of American Foresters California Licensed Foresters Association Association of Consulting Foresters
Wildlife Biologist	No License Required Certification by the Wildlife Society		The Wildlife Society
Archaeologist	No License Required Certification by Soc. Calif.Archeology		Society for Calif. Archaeology Business Office Dept. of Anthropology CSU Fresno, 5245 N. Backer Ave. Fresno, CA 93740-0016 kroper@ix.netcom.com
Licensed Timber Operator Limited Timber Operator License	License for timber or logging firms and individuals. Approved timber operator education program required	CA Dept. Forestry & Fire Protection 1416 - Ninth St. PO Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 944244-2460 916-445-9920	Associated California Loggers 555 Capitol Mall Sacramento, CA 95814-4504 916-441-7940
Land Surveyor	Education, experience and test required	Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors	
Pest Control Advisor Qualified Applicator License Qualified Applicator Certificate	License required for any person who recommends or applies registered pesticides Education, experience, laws and regulations test and specialty test required	Required Continuing Education Pesticide Regulation Dept. of Pesticide Enforcement 1020 N Street, Rm. 300 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 445-4038 or County Ag. Commissioner's	



Training

Watershed training for resource managers

Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs) are licensed by the State of California on the basis of education, experience, and testing. Watershed science has always been an important part of forestry education. However, increased state and federal regulations and response to public concerns regarding natural resource management impacts on watersheds has created a tremendous need for these professionals to further their education in this field.

RPFs are required to adequately address the issues associated with anadromous fish, cumulative impacts and water quality protection. The knowledge demands placed on RPFs have increased dramatically in the past decade, particularly due to the listing of anadromous fish as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

Many of the technical issues that need to be addressed today could not have been anticipated even a few years ago. For example, RPFs are expected to know how to estimate the “bankful” width of streams in their management areas, are supposed to be proficient in the measurement of riparian canopy and must be able to anticipate the amount of sediment produced from operations. On the coast, RPFs need to be able to identify the quality of anadromous fish habitat in the streams they manage.

In the winter newsletter we ran an article about streamside forests and their ecological importance. For those interested, check out the extensive report on large woody debris in streams by Neil Lassetre, which will soon be available on the CDF FRAP website at <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/>.

Plus training for forestland owners

UC Cooperative Extension offers workshops and seminars in locations throughout the state on topics such as forest stewardship, estate planning, and roads. To be placed on the list for notification of workshops in your area contact Sherry Cooper at (530) 224-4902 or shcooper@ucdavis.edu.

In addition, UC Cooperative Extension produces many publications of interest. For example, “Recovering from Wildfire” was

recently excerpted in this newsletter and a brochure on the control of brooms is expected to be available in a few months. To order publications (some have a price) contact your local UC Cooperative Extension office or order online at anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu or call 800-994-8849.

Other training opportunities are in the development stages including an updated version of Working in the Woods CD and new workshops. We’ll keep you posted in this newsletter.

The educational needs of RPFs in watershed sciences have been recognized for some time. In the late 1990s the California Department of Fish and Game, along with the University of California, offered an intensive training session called the “Watershed Academy.” Some of the week-long sessions were specifically earmarked for RPFs. The sessions covered many topics, including hydrology, anadromous fish biology, riparian zone management and slope stability. They included both classroom and field exercises. Other courses and training in these topics have been offered by the California Licensed Foresters’ Association and other professional societies.

To help RPFs address the new changes (temporary and permanent) in state regulations and the likelihood of more changes on the horizon, the University of California Forest Ecosystems and Communities Work Group (a group comprised of campus and Cooperative Extension faculty) has been developing a program of training

in watershed-related issues. Last year, a workshop on measuring riparian canopy (tree canopy cover) was held in the northern Sierra Nevada. It was attended by a wide variety of regulatory personnel.

This year, in September, a two-day workshop on riparian management is planned for the UC Forestry Camp in Plumas County. The topics to be covered will include riparian zone ecology and functions, measuring riparian canopy, estimating and managing for inputs of large woody debris to streams and options for enhancing stream and watershed conditions. The training is designed for resource managers of all kinds, not limited to RPFs. Plans are in the works to provide a similar training in the California north coastal region.

If you or your professional manager would like to obtain information on the upcoming workshop or other similar training in the future, contact Sherry Cooper at (530) 224-4902 or shcooper@ucdavis.edu.

—Richard Harris



Resources

Develop an Integrated Weed Management Plan

Creating an Integrated Weed Management Plan: A Handbook for Owners and Managers of Lands with Natural Values. 2000. *Colorado Natural Areas Program, Colorado State Parks, Colorado Department of Natural Resources; and Division of Plant Industry, Colorado Department of Agriculture. Denver, Colorado. 349 pages.*

An Integrated Weed Management (IWM) Plan is the framework for tackling noxious weeds on your property.

The Colorado Natural Areas Program has developed a handbook that takes you step-by-step through the process of preparing your own individual plan. While designed for Colorado, most of the guide is applicable to California landowners as well.

This handbook is very comprehensive—it covers all aspects of an IWM Plan including: property description, weed inventory, goals and objectives, weed management priorities, management actions, and monitoring. The

discussion of the various weed management techniques is excellent.

The handbook is available on the web in its entirety at http://www.cnaps.state.co.us/IWM_handbook/IWM_index.htm or you can obtain a free hard copy by sending **postage** in the amount of \$2.20 (stamps only, please—no cash or checks!) and a completed mailing label for each copy requested to Colorado State Parks, 1313 Sherman, Room 618, Denver, CO 80203.

Technical Assistance Resources

Many agencies are available to provide technical assistance, referrals, information, education, land management plan assistance, and advice.

California Stewardship Helpline 1-800-738-TREE; ncsaf@mcn.org

California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

Forest Landowner Assistance Programs
Jeffrey Calvert
(916) 653-8286
jeffrey_calvert@fire.ca.gov

Forestry Assistance Specialists
Jill Butler (Santa Rosa)
(707) 576-2935

Rich Eliot (Fortuna)
(707) 946-1960

Tess Albin-Smith (Fort Bragg)
(707) 961-1531

Adam Wyman (Red Bluff)
(530) 529-8548

Chris Anthony (Camino)
(530) 644-2345 x292

vacant (Fresno)
(559) 243-4108

Glenn Barley (Riverside)
(909) 320-6120

California Resources Agency:

California Environmental Resources
Evaluation System (CERES)
Deanne DiPietro
(916) 653-8614
deanne@ceres.ca.gov

California Association of RCDs

Thomas Wehri
(916) 447-7237
carcd@ns.net

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Jerry Reioux
(530) 792-5655
jerry.reioux@ca.usda.gov

Farm Service Agency

Larry Plumb
(530) 792-5520

California Dept of Fish & Game

Marty Berbach
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mberbach@dfg.ca.gov

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(510) 642-2360
rrharris@nature.berkeley.edu

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gmnakamura@ucdavis.edu

USDA Forest Service

Sandra Stone
(707) 562-8918
sstone01@fs.fed.us

More on weeds

The Nature Conservancy has a website called “Weeds on the Web...protecting the native biodiversity of our lands from harmful invaders.” Among other resources, it contains an interactive map of the worst invaders, a discussion of weed control methods, a list of tools proven effective in the fight against weeds, an invasives listserv, and much more. Find them at <http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/>

Also at that site, get the **Weed Control Methods Handbook: Tools and Techniques for Use in Natural Areas** by Mandy Tu, Callie Hurd, and John M. Randall. Produced by the Wildland Invasive Species Program, The Nature Conservancy, April 2001. <http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/handbook.html>

The Wildlands Restoration Team has an excellent booklet called “A Plague of Plants” available online at <http://www.wildwork.org>

California Exotic Pest Plant Council (CalEPPC)
<http://www.caleppc.org/>

California Native Plant Society
<http://www.cnps.org/conservation/exotics.htm>



Calendar

August 24, 2001

Maintaining Forest & Ranch Roads
Meadow Valley, CA
UC Cooperative Extension
Sherry Cooper 530-224-4902
shcooper@ucdavis.edu
\$30; Space is limited, so reserve early

August 24–25, 2001

N. California SAF's Summer Field Meeting: Has the Sierra Nevada Framework Derailed the Quincy Library Group?
Meadow Valley UC Forestry Camp
N. Calif. Society of American Foresters
Bill Branham 530-964-2184
bbranham@fs.fed.us
\$20-\$35 late fees after 8/10/01

August 25, 2001

Maintaining Forest & Ranch Roads
Nevada City, CA
UC Cooperative Extension
Sherry Cooper 530-224-4902
shcooper@ucdavis.edu
\$5 without Roads Handbook; Space is limited, so reserve early

August 30, 2001 9–4

Wetlands Regulation and Mitigation
Davis, CA
UC Davis Extension
800-752-0881, fax 530-757-8558; \$480
www.universityextension.ucdavis.edu
Section 011NAT220

September 5, 2001

Endangered Species Act Conference
Sacramento, CA
UC Davis Extension
800-752-0881, fax 530-757-8558; \$225
www.universityextension.ucdavis.edu
Section 011NAT600

September 8–11, 2001

Back to the Land, Back to Our Roots
Hoopa, CA
National Network of Forest Practitioners
Wendy Gerlitz 503-449-0009
wgerlitz@nnfp.org

September 10–14, 2001

Western International Forest Disease Work Conference
Carmel, CA
Western Intl Forest Disease Work Conf

Katy Marshall 541-858-6124
kmarshall01@fs.fed.us
Field trip will visit areas impacted with Sudden Oak Death and Pitch Canker.
Sessions on forest pathogens

September 11–13, 2001 9 a.m.

Board of Forestry
Sacramento
California Dept. of Forestry
916-653-8007; fax 916-653-0989

September 20–21, 2001

Riparian Forest Management
Meadow Valley, CA
UC Cooperative Extension
Sherry Cooper 530-224-4902
shcooper@ucdavis.edu; Program: Mike De Lasaux 530-283-6125
mjdelasaux@ucdavis.edu
\$30-\$65 (w/lodging & meals)
<http://ucce-plumas-sierra.ucdavis.edu/>

September 24, 2001

Practical Visual Aesthetics in Timber Harvesting: Design Theory and Case Histories
Olympia, WA
Western Forestry Association
Richard Zabel 503-226-4562
richard@westernforestry.org
\$165 before 9/20; \$200 after
<http://www.westernforestry.org/pvath/pracvis aesth.htm>

September 25–29, 2001

Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society
Reno, NV
The Wildlife Society
301-897-9770, rmrs_twsreno@fs.fed.us or sjuarez@water.ca.gov
<http://www.wildlife.org/2001.html>

October 2–4, 2001 9 a.m.

Board of Forestry
Sacramento
California Dept. of Forestry
916-653-8007; fax 916-653-0989

October 4–6, 2001

Forest Landowners of California Fall Conference: Theme TBA
Ukiah, CA
Forest Landowners of California
Dan Weldon 916-972-0273
dweldon@forestlandowners.org
www.forestlandowners.org

October 5–7, 2001

Annual California Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium: "Achievements and Challenges in Weed Management."
San Diego, CA
US Geological Service
Joe DiTomaso,
ditomaso@vegmail.ucdavis.edu
www.caleppc.org

October 10–13, 2001

California's 2001 Wildfire Conference and Public Events: Ten Years After the 1991 East Bay Hills Fire
Oakland, CA
CDF, Diablo Fire Safe Council, OES, Office of State Fire Marshall, Statewide Fire Safe Council, and others
800-752-0881 530-757-8777; \$295-\$325
www.universityextension.ucdavis.edu

October 23–25, 2001

Oaks in California's Changing Landscape
San Diego, CA
Integrated Hardwood Range Mgmt. Prog
Joni Rippee 510-642-0095
ripee@nature.berkeley.edu; \$250-\$325
<http://danr.ucop.edu/ihrmp/symposium.html>

October 26, 2001

CLFA Fall Conference: Cumulative Impacts Assessment and CEQA Compliance
Sacramento, CA
California Licensed Foresters Assn.
Hazel Jackson 209-293-7323, fax 209-293-7544
mailto:clfa@volcano.net
<http://www.clfa.org/>

For more information on these calendar items, call the number given or the Forest Stewardship Helpline, 1-800-738-TREE. To submit an event or to receive this calendar by email, contact Sherry Cooper, 530-224-4902; shcooper@ucdavis.edu.

ONLINE CALENDAR!

Find a more comprehensive calendar, updated monthly, at the California Forest Stewardship website:
<http://ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward>



SOD Update

Steps being taken to isolate Sudden Oak Death

As the list of infected species continues to grow, the state recently stepped in to help control the Sudden Oak Death infestation.

Sudden Oak Death was the name given to a new disease that was identified in 1995 and seemed to kill tanoaks and coast live oaks suddenly, within a matter of weeks. The cause of the disease has since been traced to a new *Phytophthora* species, a fungus in the same group as that which caused the Irish potato famine.

While our understanding of sudden oak death remains limited, there is great concern due to the potential of a disease like this to change whole ecosystems. An example often cited is the loss of the American chestnut, a tree that once dominated the forests in the eastern part of the country. In some areas of Marin County, where sudden oak death was first observed, 90% of susceptible trees are infected.

Until recently, infected trees were found only within 30 miles of the coast. A recent discovery of diseased trees in

a drier area has raised fears about its ability to move inland. The loss of huge numbers of oaks from the California landscape would have far-reaching effects on plant and animal communities as well as the aesthetics of California.

In April of this year, the Director of CDF declared and the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection approved a "Zone of Infestation" which included seven counties: Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz and Sonoma. In July, the county of Mendocino was added to the Zone of Infestation. The California Department of Food and Agriculture initiated regulations in these same counties that restricts the movement of wood, mulch, dried or preserved wreaths, bark chips, or any other product that has not been processed.

These actions help increase public awareness of the problem and may make resources available for tree removal which is important because of the fire danger associated with large numbers of dead trees.

Infected Species

The following trees and shrubs have been found infected with the *Phytophthora* fungus that causes Sudden Oak Death.

Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*)
 Tanoak (*Lithocarpus densiflorus*)
 Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*)
 Shreve's Oak (*Quercus parvula*)
 Buckeye (*Aesculus californica*)
 Madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*)
 Bay Laurel (*Umbellularia californica*)
 Huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*)
 Arrowwood (*Viburnum bodnantense*)
 Rhododendron (*Rhododendron* sp.)

Currently, CDF and the California Oak Mortality Task Force recommends the following common-sense actions to avoid the spread of Sudden Oak Death into uninfested counties:

- ◆ Do not collect and transport plant material from infested plants (see list above).
- ◆ Do not transport soil or firewood.
- ◆ Avoid driving or parking vehicles in areas where they may become contaminated with soil or mud.
- ◆ Avoid damp soil or mud when hiking, biking, or horseback riding in infested areas
- ◆ Before returning to an area that is free of the disease, do the best you can to remove or wash off accumulations of soil and mud from shoes, mountain bikes, pet's feet, vehicles, etc.

For more information on this issue, consult the California Oak Mortality Task Force website at <http://www.suddenoakdeath.org>. This website contains information on the disease, its symptoms, treatment, current research, and other news. In addition, there is a mapping project that is collecting the locations of diseased trees throughout the state.

How can the *Forestland Steward* newsletter help you?

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City, Zip _____ Phone _____

e-mail _____

Forestland Steward is also available on the internet. Would you like to receive an email alert of each new issue instead of a hard copy?

Send to CDF, Forestry Assistance, P.O. Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460.
 Phone: (916) 653-8286; Fax: (916) 653-8957; email: jeffrey_calvert@fire.ca.gov