

Weed/Insect/Disease/Animal Damage Tour

July 13 and 14, 2011

Day 1, Wednesday, July 13

- 7:00 to 7:45 am Registration and Continental Breakfast, Murphys Suites
- 7:45 to 8:00 am Load Bus
- 8:00 to 9:15 am Travel from Murphys to Stop 1
Hazard Communication Video (1/2 hour) “Notifying your neighbors”. Produced by Dow Agro Sciences (Each bus has a DVD player)
- Stop 1** **Spur 5, Forest Creek Plantation (USFS)**
- 9:15 to 9:35 am Jim Junette USFS, Calaveras Resource Management Program Area Leader, Stanislaus National Forest
History of Forest Creek Plantation, including burning, harvesting, planting and herbicide/IPM usage.
- 9:35 to 9:55 am Beverly Bulaon USFS, Forest Entomologist and Martin MacKenzie USFS, Forest Pathologist
Western Pine Beetle Activity. Discussion will focus on the PP stand being overstocked, which led to beetle-caused mortality. 2010 thinning treatments should improve residual tree resilience by altering stand microclimate and beetle ecology (such as pheromone plume stability, wind speed, bark temperature, etc).
- 9:55 to 10:15 am Chris Fettig, Invasives and Threats Team, Ecosystem Function and Health Program, Pacific Southwest Research Station, USDA Forest Service
Review 3-year study on insecticide tree injection and the peer-reviewed paper “Effectiveness of two systemic insecticides for protecting western conifers from mortality due to bark beetle attack”.
- 10:15 to 10:30 am Travel to Stop 2
Hazard Communication Video (1/2 hour) “Notifying your neighbors”. Produced by Dow Agro
- Stop 2** **Spur 1, Giant Sequoia Plantation (SPI)**
- 10:30 to 11:00 am Rob York, Blodgett Forest Research Stations Manager and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Forestry

Establishment and management of giant sequoia. Giant sequoia sensitivity to herbicides and how to mitigate any effects.
Discussion on giant sequoia release, ash substrate effects on growth after 10 years and stocking effects on growth.

11:00 to 11:15 am Travel to Stop 3
Video-(1/2 hour) “Pesticide Mixing and application” produced by CDPR (Laws & Regs)

Stop 3 **Spur 3, Winton Road Co-Op Fuel Break, Site Prep Unit (SPI)**

11:15 to 11:30 am Steve Kafka, Sierra Pacific Industries, Forester
Fuel Hazard Reduction, Emergency Notice
As part of the Winton Road Co-Op Fuel Break, 115 acres was mechanically treated to reduce ladder fuels, and space conifer crowns to reduce fire spread. Discussion of how to treat the in-growth of saplings and brush with prescribed fire and the use of herbicides.

11:30 to 12:00 pm Craig Ostergaard, Sierra Pacific Industries, Forester
George Severson, Helena Chemical Company
2010 tractor site prep pile, rip, and burn. Application of Velpar L (6 qts/ac) on half the unit, and Velossa (4.8 qts/ac) on the other half of the unit. Planted spring 2011. Discussion of these two products on Sugar Pine, Incense-cedar, and Giant Sequoia. Discussion of foliar applications of Velpar L and Velossa as a release application.

12:00 to 12:15 pm Travel to Hermit Springs Cal Fire Station
Video-(1/2 hour)“Pesticide Mixing and Application” (Laws & Regs)

12:15 to 12:30 pm **Lunch, Hermit Springs Cal Fire Station**

12:30 to 1:15 pm Kevin Wright, Calaveras County Agriculture Department, (Laws and Regs.)
Mock on site applicator inspection by the Calaveras County Ag Department, including record taking and use reports.

1:15 to 1:30 pm Travel to Stop 4
Video (1/2 hour)-“Pesticide Handling Safety” Produced by CDPR (Laws & Regs)

Stop 4 **Cuneo THP, Sierra Pacific Industries**

1:30 to 2:00 pm Craig Ostergaard, Forester, Sierra Pacific Industries

Discussion of high elevation multi-species plantation management. Discussion of 2% Chopper, 3% Syl-tac and 2% Glyphosate herbicide pre-treatment prior to logging. Discussion of excavator site prep piling, pile burning, two fall plantings, and two strychnine gopher baiting projects. Discussion of 5% glyphosate release application.

2:00 to 2:30 pm Travel to Stop 5
Video (1/2/ hour)-“Pesticide Handling Safety” Produced by CDPR (Laws & Regs)

Stop 5 **USFS Failed Plantation at global warming test plots, Off Site Seed Source.**

2:30 to 3:00 pm Bruce Boom USFS, Placerville Nursery Manager
Use of off-site seedlings in California Region “Climate change Test Plots” within selected plantations on forests throughout the state.

3:00 to 3:15 pm Travel to Stop 6

Stop 6 **Hwy 4 Scenic Strip, USFS. Utility Line Maint. PG&E**

3:15 to 4:15 pm Hwy 4 Scenic Strip
Jim Junette, USFS & Nelsen Money, NRM, Vegetation Management Specialist
Utility Right of Way Vegetative Management on Private lands. Series of herbicide application plots that represent cut stump, basal and foliar applications. The discussion will cover Integrated Vegetation Management tools, manual, mechanical, biological, cultural and chemical, used to create sustainable low growing plant communities. Also techniques of hazard tree evaluations, *Heterobasidium annosum* (annosus root disease) concerns and fungicide treatments.
DuPont will also demonstrate new chemistry that has been registered by EPA and should be CA-registered by the time of the Forest Pest Tour.

4:15 to 4:30 pm Travel to Calaveras Big Trees State Park

Stop 7 **Insect Diversity and Niche Specialization in Giant Sequoias**

4:30 to 5:00 pm Dr. Peter Kerr, Insect biosystematist, CDFA & Patricia Raggio, Environmental Scientist, California State Parks
Canopy inventory and study at Calaveras Big Trees State Park comparing diversity levels and identifying niche specialization along the vertical gradient of a forest habitat. Study results in

discovery of rare and new insect taxa and documented differences between insect assemblages in the forest understory and giant sequoia canopy. Continued gaps in knowledge of resident fauna restricts our capacity to understand common ecological interactions at a fine level and may result in an under-appreciation of preservation areas.

- 5:00 to 5:15 pm **Cattle Grazing update in the Sierra Nevada**
Terri Arington, Cattle Rancher and Dick Geyser, Cattle Rancher and Forest Permittee
- 5:15 to 6:00 pm Explore North Grove Trail
- 6:00 to 7:00 pm BBQ Dinner featuring Terri Arington (Continuation of topic above-1 hour “other” CE C requested-biological weed control)
- 7:15 to 7:30 pm Business Meeting
- 7:30 to 8:00 pm Travel to Murphys; End 2011 Tour

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Day 2, Thursday, July 14

- 7:00 to 7:45 pm Continental Breakfast, Murphys Suite’s
- 7:45 to 8:00 am Load Bus
- 8:00 to 8:30 am Travel from Murphys to Stop 1
Video (1/2 hour)-“Pesticide Operations, Maintenance, Transportation, Storage, and Disposal” produced by CDPR (Laws & Regs)

Stop 1 **Old Gulch Fire, Hathaway Pines heliport.**
Stanislaus National Forest

8:30 to 9:00 am Jim Junette, USFS, Calaveras Resource Management Program
Area Leader, Stanislaus National Forest

Hand, mechanical, and chemical treatments for competing vegetation management in plantation. Hand and chemical treatments versus non-treatment for yellow star thistle noxious weed management.

9:00 to 9:30 am Travel to Stop 2
Video-(1/2 hour)-“Pesticide Operations, Maintenance, Transportation, Storage, and Disposal” produced by CDPR (Laws & Regs)

Stop 2 **Save-The-Redwoods-League-Acquisition: Biomass Pilot**
Project

9:30 to 10:45 Charlie Holthaus, Forester, Western Timber Services, Inc., Mike
Albrecht, Sierra Resource Management & Patricia Raggio,
Environmental Scientist, California State Parks.

Pilot project by Save-The-Redwoods-League for Calaveras Big Trees State Park property acquisition. Pest and disease control and maintenance of stand health through forest thinning, fuel hazard reduction, Forest Fire Prevention Exemption. 35 Acres mechanically treated in 2010 to reduce ladder fuels, and space conifer crowns to reduce wildfire risk. Discussion of how to treat the in-growth of saplings and brush with prescribed fire and alternatives to the use of herbicides.

10:45 to 11:00 Travel to Stop 3
Video-(1/2 hour) “Pesticide Law of Pesticide and You” Produced by CDPR (Laws & Regs)

Stop 3 **Forest Road 5N78**

11:00 to 12:00 pm Ken Fleming, Sierra Pacific Industries, Forester

Aerial conifer release application of Transline over the top of seedling conifers to control Bull Thistle, and reduce pocket gopher populations by habitat modification. (1 hour Aerial requested)

12:00 to 12:15 pm Travel to lunch area
Video-“Pesticide Law of Pesticides and You” Produced by CDPR (Laws & Regs)

- 12:15 to 12:30 pm Lunch, Sourgrass Picnic Area
- 12:30 to 1:30 pm Tuolumne County Agriculture Department, Paul Rainey (Laws & Regs) California DPR updates on current Pesticide Laws & Regs on “Rodenticides”.
- 1:30 to 2:00 pm Jim Junette, USFS, Calaveras Resource Management Program Area Leader, Stanislaus National Forest and Jim Behm, District Culturist, Calaveras District USFS
WakaLuu Hep Yoo Campground Development: USFS Conifer forest to oak woodland site conversion, *Heterobasidium annosum* (annosus root disease) & mistletoe treatments with mechanical and chemical treatments. Hand, chemical and non-treatment of noxious weeds on site. Contractor pesticide training, documentation and reporting.

2:15 to 2:30 pm Travel to Stop 4

Stop 4 Sourgrass Slide Area, Hwy 4

- 2:30 to 3:00 pm Ken Fleming, Sierra Pacific Industries, Forester
Slide treatments.
1997, Planted with PP, SP, WF, and GS
2005, Release, hand application (2, 4-D at 2%; glyphosate at 2%; Syl-Tac at .00125%)
2006, PCT, target TPA was 140

3:00 to 3:30 pm Travel to Stop 5

Stop 5 Big Meadow highway 4

- 3:30 to 4:00 pm Barbara Balen, Calaveras District Archeologist, USFS Stanislaus National Forest
Aspen Treatments. Hand and mechanical removal of competing conifers to promote aspen regeneration. Fungicide treatments to limit spread of *Heterobasidium annosum* (annosus root disease) to high value campground trees.

4:00 to 5:00 pm Travel to Murphys, End of Tour