

# Sudden Oak Death

Pepperwood Preserve November 15, 2014



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Sonoma County

# Topics

- SOD history
- Where it is
- Species it infects
- How it spreads
- Necessary environmental factors
- Management

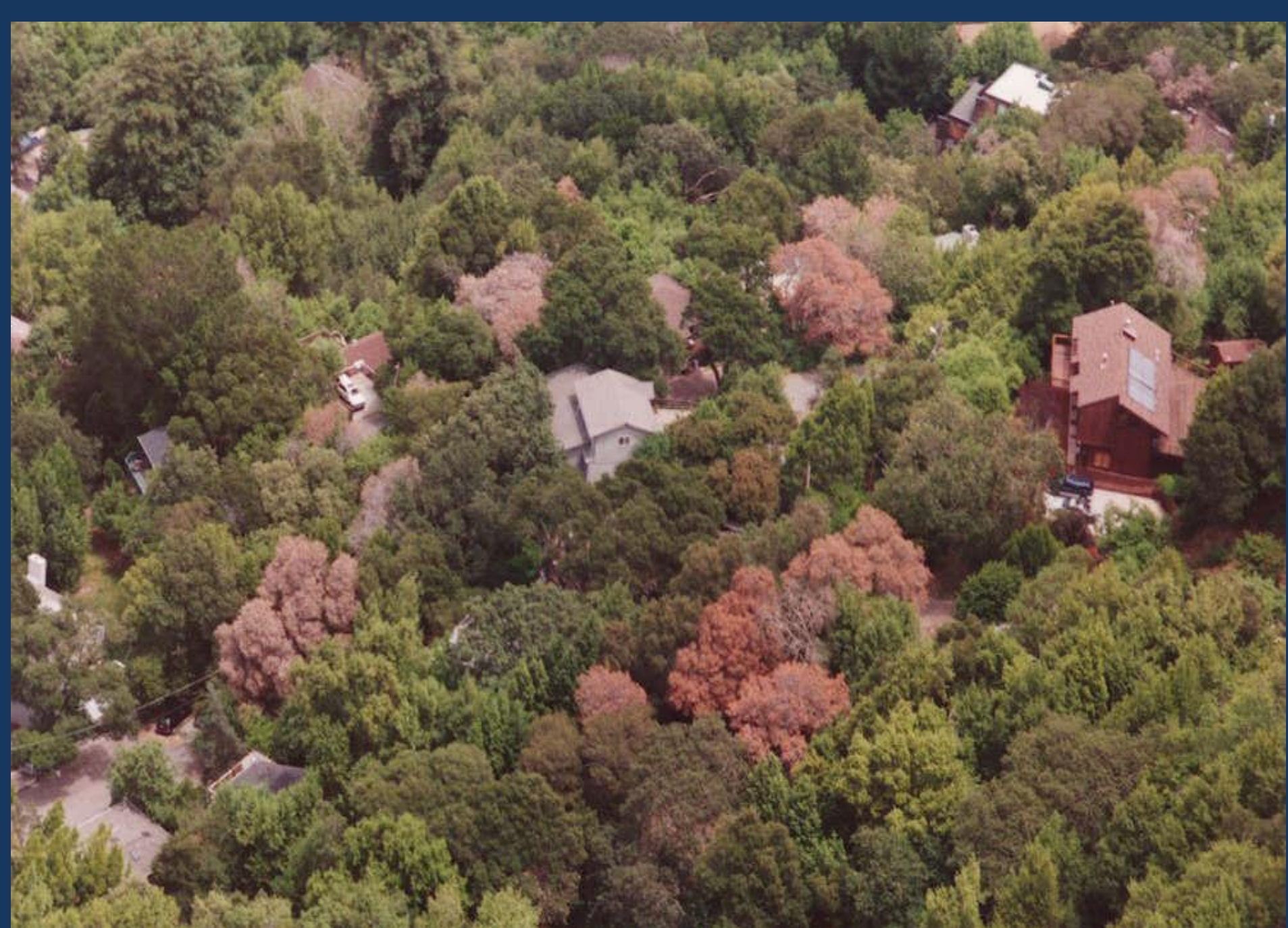
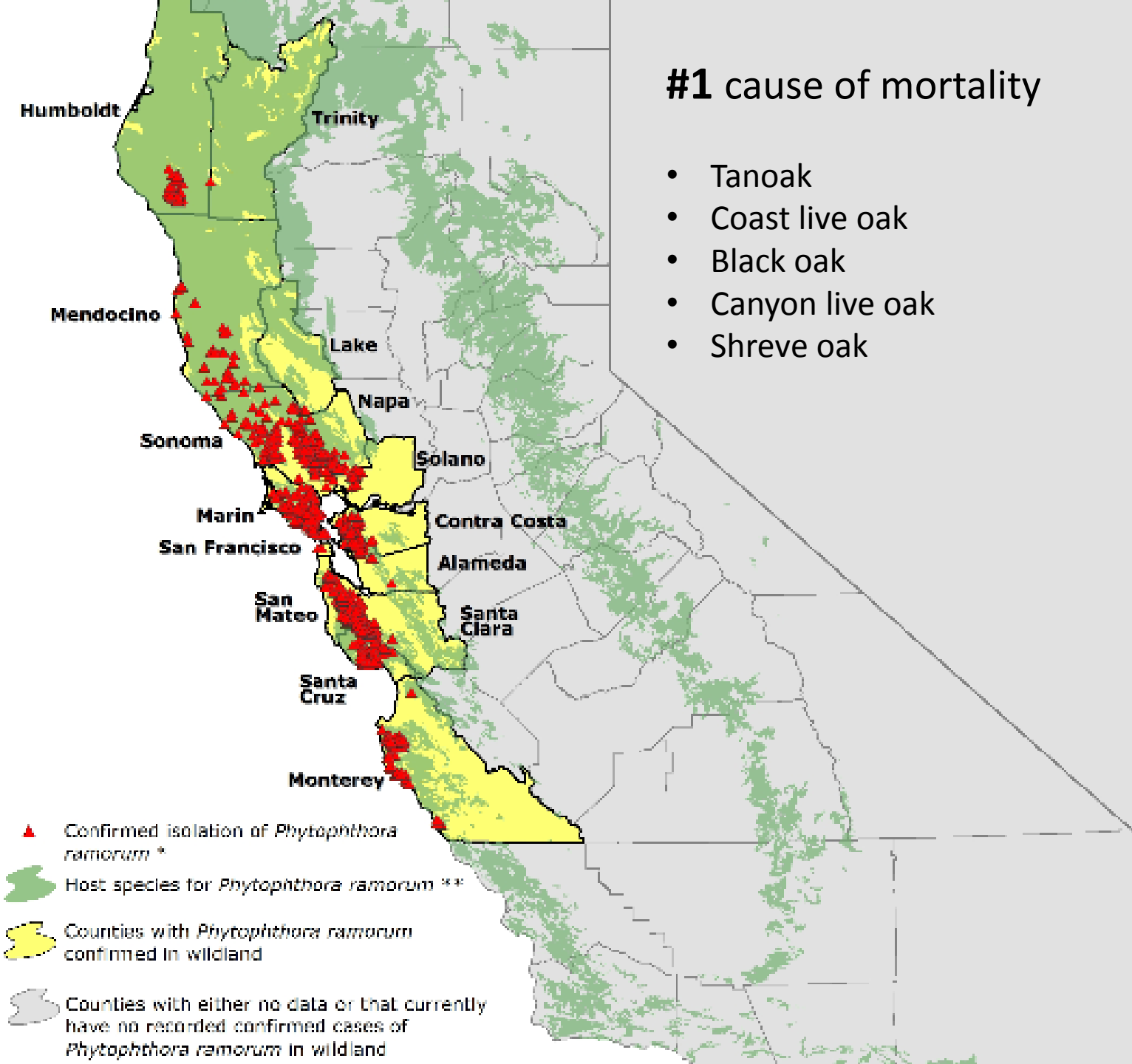


Photo: Marin County Fire Department

# #1 cause of mortality

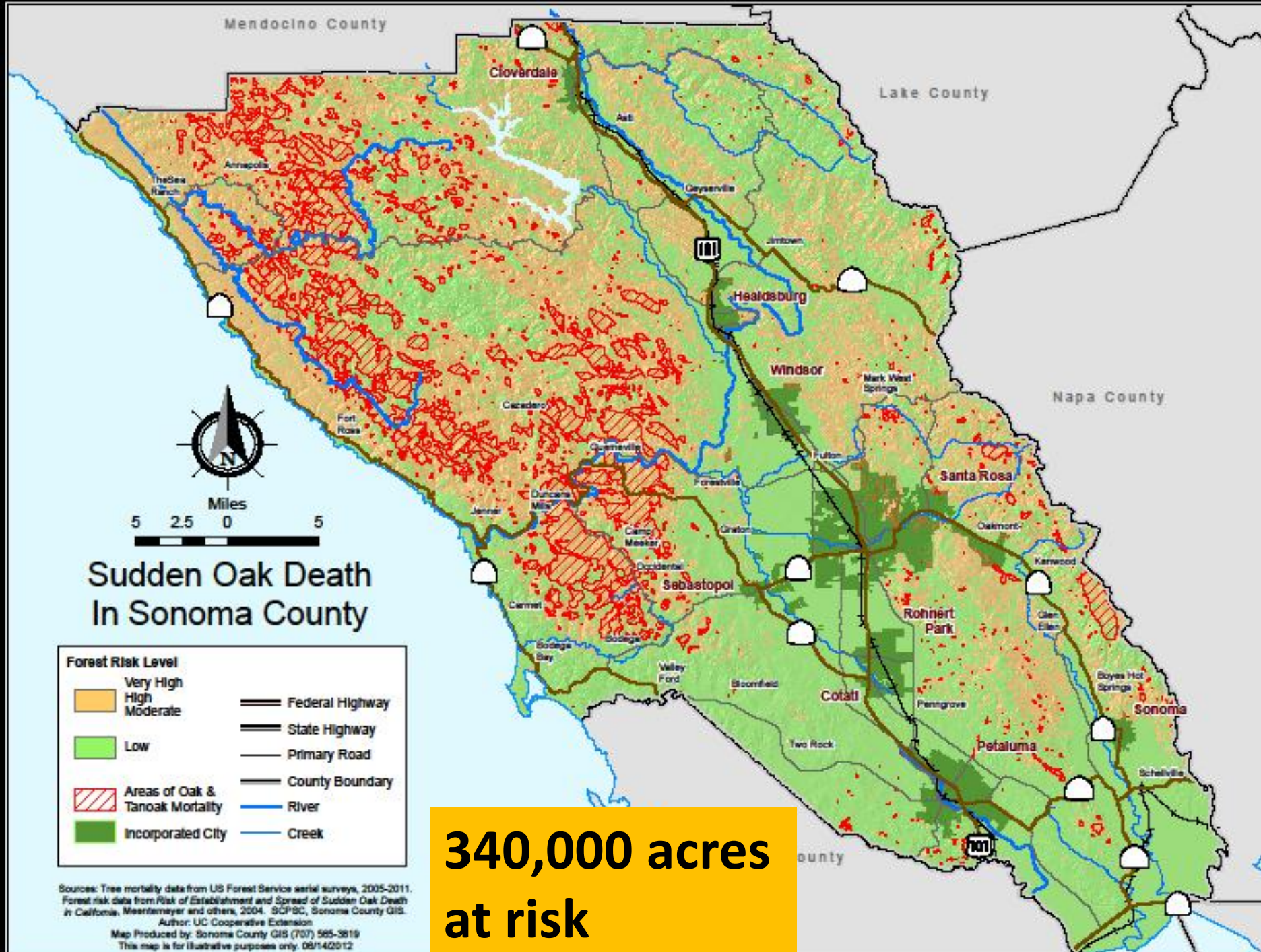
- Tanoak
- Coast live oak
- Black oak
- Canyon live oak
- Shreve oak



# Statewide total acres affected, 2007-2011

| County           | Acres detected with tree mortality attributed to SOD by year. |               |              |            |              | Total affected acres |
|------------------|---|---------------|--------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|
|                  | 2007  | 2008          | 2009         | 2010       | 2011         |                      |
| Lake             | 26  | 6             | 6            | 6          | 0            | 44                   |
| Alameda          | 163   | 0             | 153          | 1          | 14           | 331                  |
| Solano           | 209   | 226           | 91           | 0          | 5            | 531                  |
| Contra Costa     | 663   | 0             | 526          | 2          | 26           | 1,217                |
| Napa             | 451   | 798           | 470          | 54         | 25           | 1,798                |
| Santa Cruz       | 665   | 881           | 269          | 31         | 23           | 1,869                |
| Santa Clara      | 3,379   | 1,717         | 786          | 33         | 54           | 5,969                |
| San Mateo        | 4,674   | 3,101         | 1,109        | 152        | 108          | 9,144                |
| Mendocino        | 5,886   | 2,671         | 575          | 314        | 597          | 10,043               |
| Humboldt         | 6,895   | 2,450         | 345          | 466        | 2,755        | 12,911               |
| Monterey         | 9,588   | 2,633         | 450          | 491        | 193          | 13,355               |
| Marin            | 9,780   | 5,955         | 2,481        | 398        | 219          | 18,833               |
| <b>Sonoma</b>    | <b>48,374</b>   | <b>14,049</b> | <b>2,573</b> | <b>941</b> | <b>3,871</b> | <b>69,808</b>        |
| Statewide total* | 90,753  | 36,495        | 11,843       | 4,899      | 7,890        | 205,880              |

**Now (2014) 100,000 acres**





**tanoak, coast live oak, black oak, canyon live oak, Shreve oak**



## **Ambrosia Beetle damage**

*Puts the sudden in Sudden Oak Death*





## Annulohypoxyylon (Fungus)

*Trees prone to failure  
even when green.*

Tree failure at  
infection site



| Scientific name   | Common name  |
|---|--|
| <i>Abies concolor</i> <sup>*</sup>                                    | White fir  |
| <i>Abies grandis</i> <sup>*</sup>                                     | Grand fir  |
| <i>Abies magnifica</i> <sup>*</sup>                                   | Red fir  |
| <i>Acer circinatum</i> <sup>*</sup>                                   | Vine maple   |
| <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>  | Bigleaf maple  |
| <i>Adiantum aleuticum</i>   | Western maidenhair fern                                      |
| <i>Adiantum jordanii</i>  | California maidenhair fern                                   |
| <i>Aesculus californica</i>   | California buckeye   |
| <i>Arbutus menziesii</i>  | Pacific madrone  |
| <i>Arctostaphylos columbiana</i> <sup>*</sup>                         | Hairy manzanita  |
| <i>Arctostaphylos manzanita</i>                                       | Whiteleaf manzanita  |
| <i>Berberis diversifolia</i> (= <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i> )           | Oregon-grape   |
| <i>Calycanthus occidentalis</i> <sup>*</sup>                          | Spicebush  |
| <i>Ceanothus thyrsiflorus</i> <sup>*</sup>                            | Blueblossom  |
| <i>Clintonia andrewsiana</i> <sup>*</sup>                             | Andrew's clintonia bead lily                                 |
| <i>Corylus cornuta</i> <sup>*</sup>                                   | California hazelnut  |
| <i>Dryopteris arguta</i> <sup>*</sup>                                 | California wood fern   |
| <i>Frangula californica</i> (= <i>Rhamnus californica</i> )           | California coffeeberry                                       |
| <i>Frangula purshiana</i> (= <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i> )               | Cascara  |
| <i>Fraxinus latifolia</i> <sup>*</sup>                                | Oregon ash   |
| <i>Garrya elliptica</i> <sup>*</sup>                                  | Silk tassel tree, coast silktassel                           |
| <i>Gaultheria shallon</i> <sup>*</sup>                                | Salal, Oregon wintergreen                                    |
| <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>  | Toyon  |
| <i>Lonicera hispidula</i>   | California honeysuckle                                       |
| <i>Mahonia nervosa</i> <sup>*</sup>                                   | Creeping Oregon grape  |
| <i>Maianthemum racemosum</i> (= <i>Smilacina racemosa</i> )           | False Solomon's seal   |
| <i>Osmorhiza berteroi</i> <sup>*</sup>                                | Sweet cicely   |
| <i>Phoradendron serotinum</i> subsp. <i>macrophyllum</i> <sup>†</sup> | Colorado Desert mistletoe                                    |
| <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> var. <i>menziesii</i>                    | Douglas-fir  |
| <i>Rhododendron</i> s pp.   | Rhododendron   |
| <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>  | Wood rose  |
| <i>Rubus spectabilis</i> <sup>*</sup>                                 | Salmonberry  |
| <i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>   | Coast redwood  |
| <i>Taxus brevifolia</i> <sup>*</sup>                                  | Pacific yew  |
| <i>Torreya californica</i> <sup>*</sup>                               | California nutmeg  |
| <i>Toxicodendron diversilobum</i> <sup>*</sup>                        | Poison oak   |
| <i>Orientalis latifolia</i>   | Western starflower   |
| <i>Umbellularia californica</i>                                       | California bay, California laurel, pepperwood, Oregon myrtle |
| <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>   | California huckleberry                                       |
| <i>Vancouveria planipetala</i> <sup>*</sup>                           | Redwood ivy, redwood insideout flower                        |

**Local Flora**  
are hosts for  
***Phytophthora ramorum***

**Madrone**  
**Ceanothus**  
**Honeysuckle**  
**Doug fir**  
**Rhododendron**  
**Redwood**  
**Rose**  
**Huckleberry**  
**Poison Oak**

California hazelnut



Redwood



Western starflower

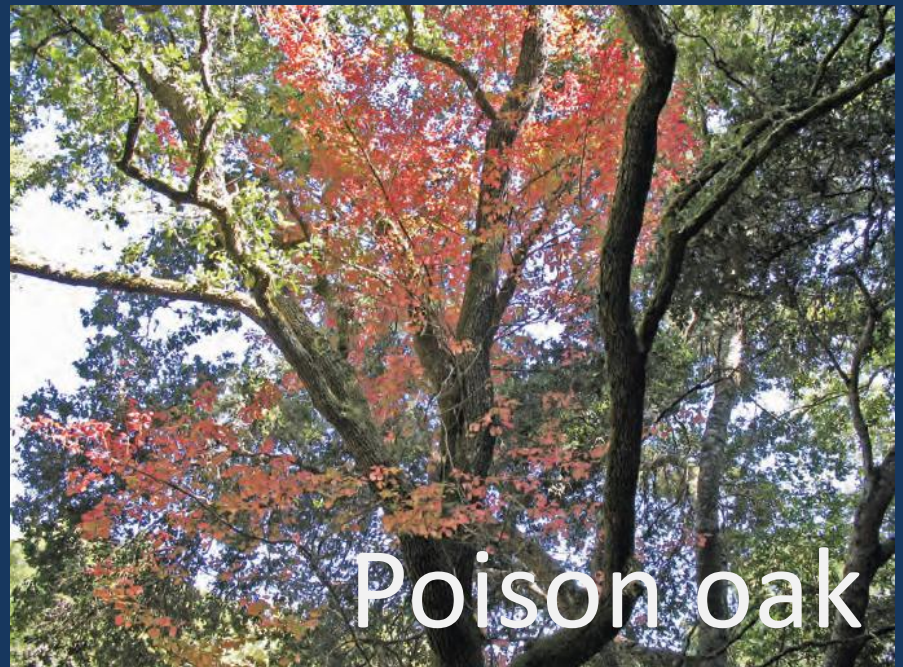


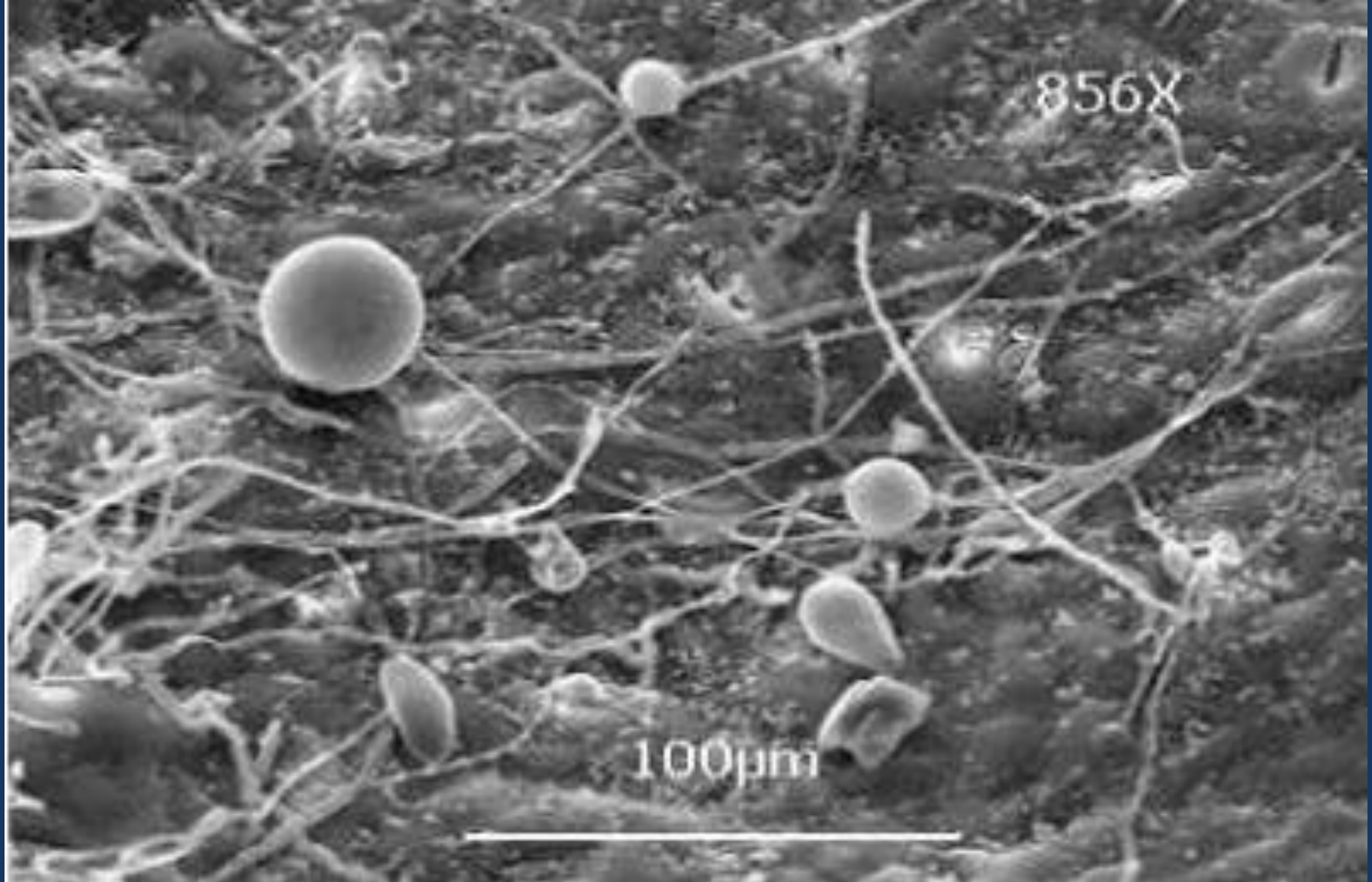
Douglas fir



**Leaf spots, small branch damage**

# Sporulating Hosts





***Phytophthora ramorum*** infection on bay leaf  
hyphae, sporangia, chlamydospore

# Tanoak

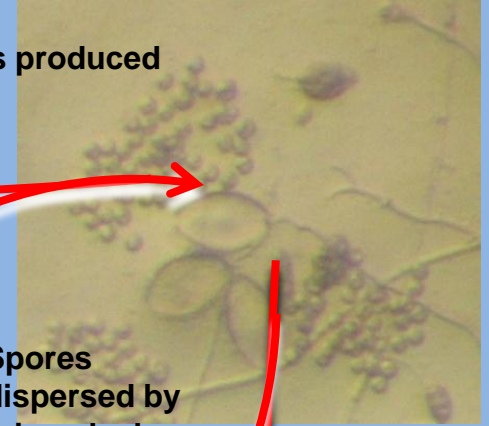
DRY  
SEASON

*Phytophthora ramorum*  
survives in infected twigs on  
overstory and understory  
tanoaks



WET  
SEASON

Sporangia and zoospores produced  
on infected tanoak twigs



Spores  
dispersed by  
rain splash  
infect more  
tanoak leaves  
and twigs



Spores  
splashed from  
twigs onto  
trunk initiate  
cankers



*Phytophthora  
ramorum* does not  
spread from trunk  
cankers on tanoaks







# Susceptibility in Tanoak

- No resistance known
- Usually die within 3 years
- Sometimes - no bleeding trunk
- Infection on leaf, twig, trunk
- Sporulating host



# Oak/bay forest

DRY  
SEASON

*P. ramorum* survives in  
infected bay leaves on trees



Many infected bay  
leaves senesce and  
drop over dry  
season

*P. ramorum* can survive  
in fallen leaves and soil

WET  
SEASON

sporangia and zoospores  
on bay dispersed by rain



*P. ramorum*  
does not  
spread from  
cankers on  
oaks



Spores infect  
oak trunks

Oak trunk



# Individual oak tree susceptibility

- Large cankers
  - Rapidly expanding cankers
  - Beetles, fungus appear within 2 yrs
- Small cankers
  - < 10 cm, stay small
  - Inactive 1-2 years after bleeding
  - No secondary agents
- Intermediate reaction
  - > 10 cm
  - Stop growing, become inactive
  - Callus tissue may develop
  - Bark dries and cracks
  - Secondary agents may be present



**Beetle  
activity**



**Dead wood,  
hypoxylon**



**Full  
canopy**



# Small canker

- < 10 cm, stay small
- Inactive after 1-2 years
- No secondary agents



# Intermediate reaction

- >10 cm
- Stop growing, become inactive
- Callus tissue may develop
- Bark dries and cracks
- Secondary agents may be present



# Infection



## Water and Temperature

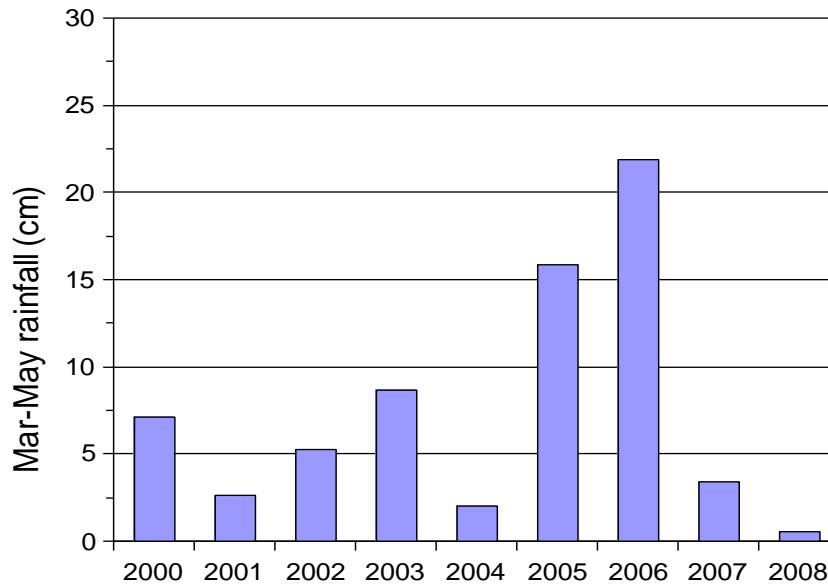
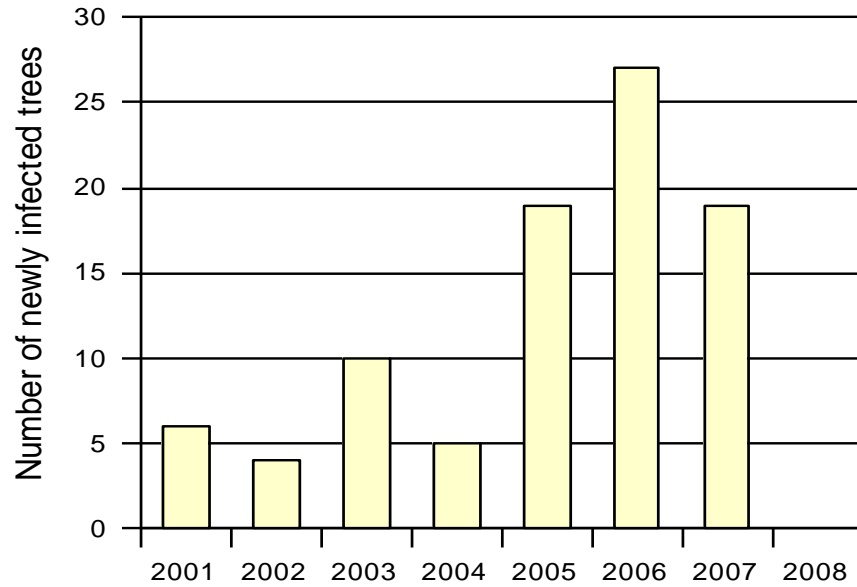
6 to 12 hours continuous wetness

50-86° F (range) - optimum 60-70 ° F

Spore production and survival



## Coast live oak



# Oak infections

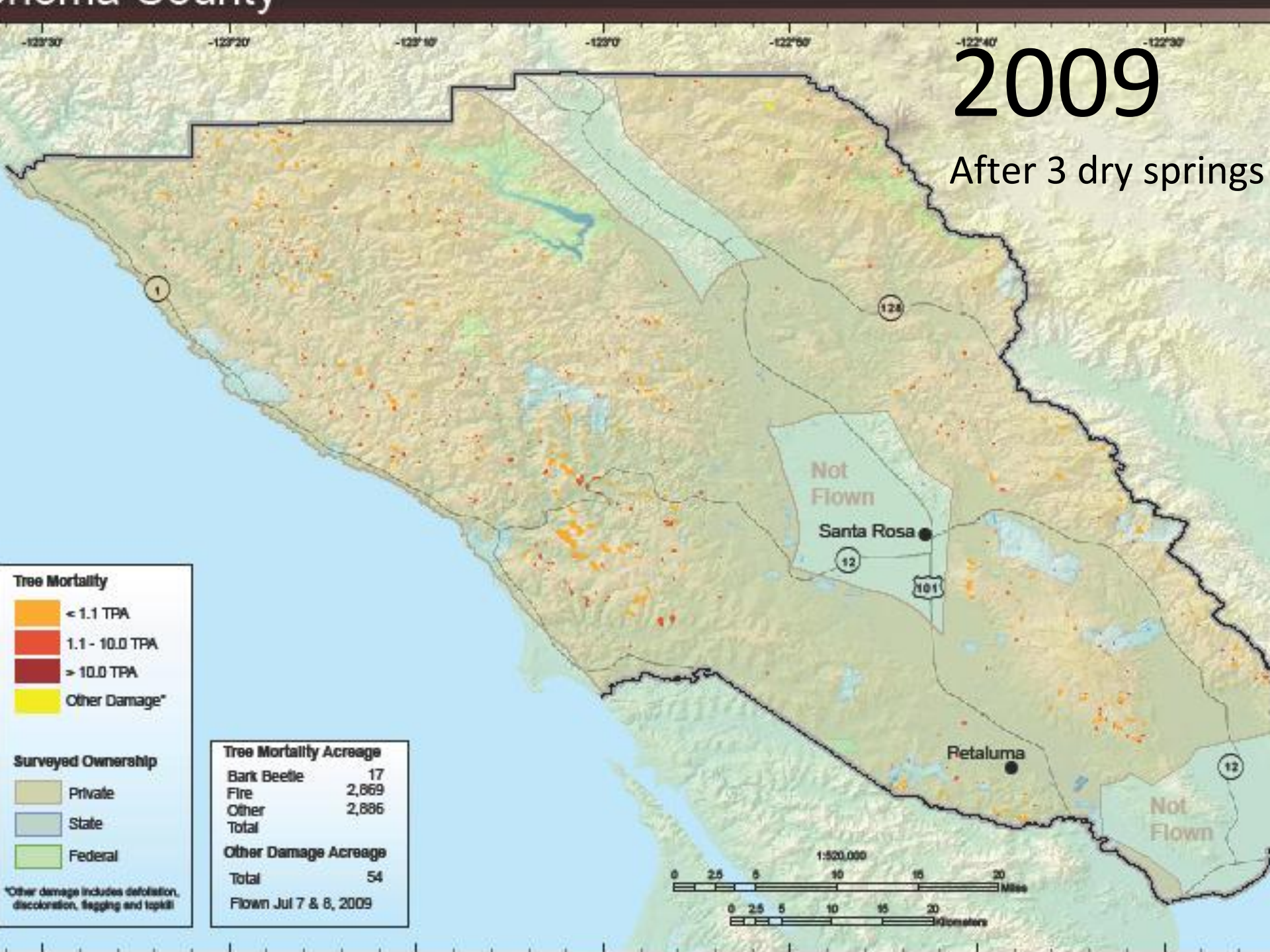
# Rainfall

# Annual Aerial Survey maps Hardwood Mortality

Differences between  
wet springs and dry springs

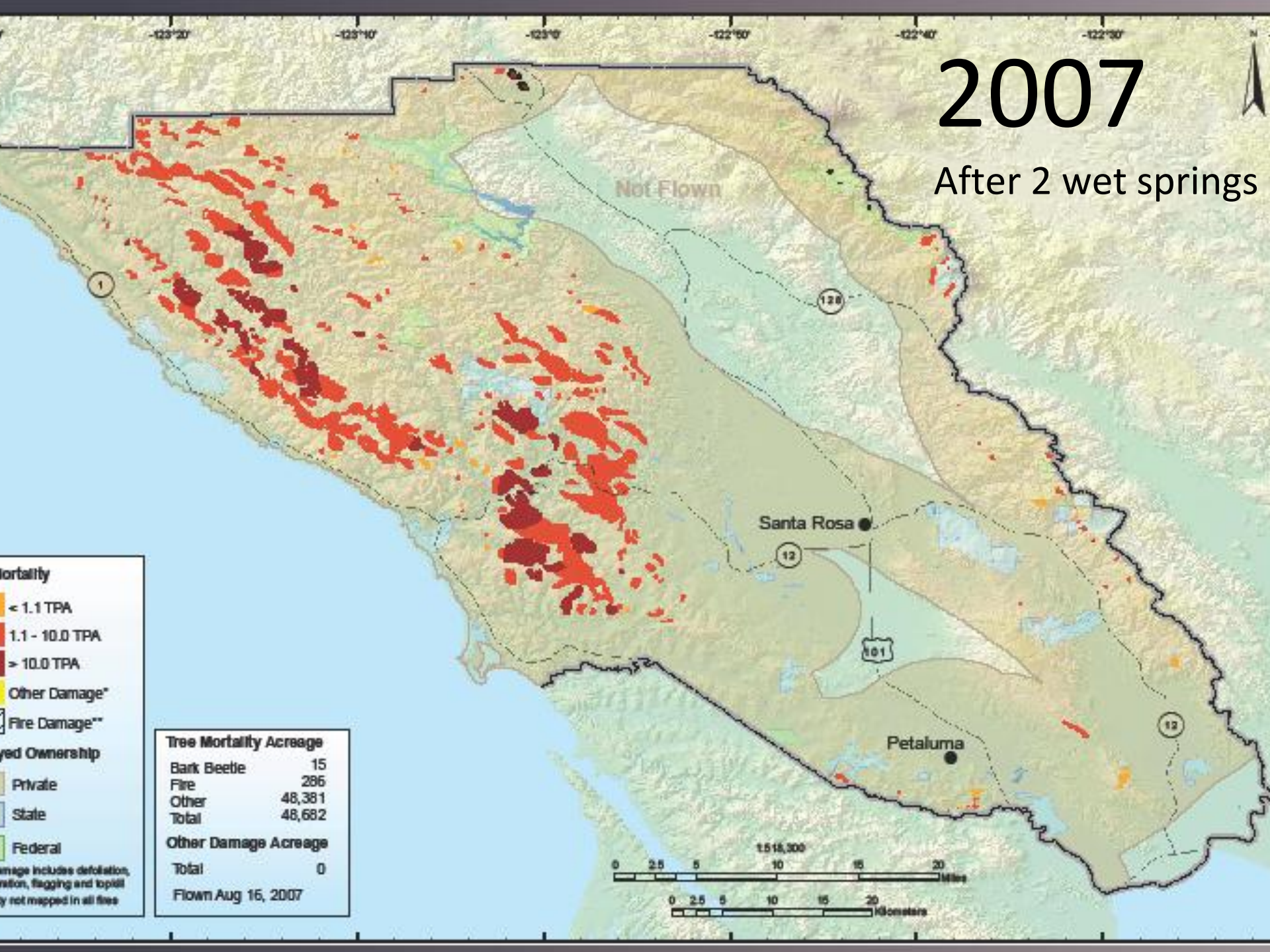
# 2009

After 3 dry springs



# 2007

After 2 wet springs



# Hardwood Mortality

USDA Forest Service aerial survey

|                | 2005   | 2006    | 2007    | 2008   | 2009  | 2010 | 2011   | 2012    | 2013    |
|----------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|-------|------|--------|---------|---------|
| Acres affected | 22,788 | 28,914  | 48,360  | 14,055 | 2,574 | 482  | 3,880  | 22,709  | 19,619  |
| Dead trees     | 76,512 | 184,409 | 491,881 | 30,642 | 3,314 | 734  | 13,520 | 136,918 | 113,899 |

# Testing individual trees



## SOD BLITZ Monitoring

- ID symptoms
- Collect bay leaves
- Sent to UC Berkeley lab
- Results posted on Google Earth map
- Follow-up trainings/results workshop

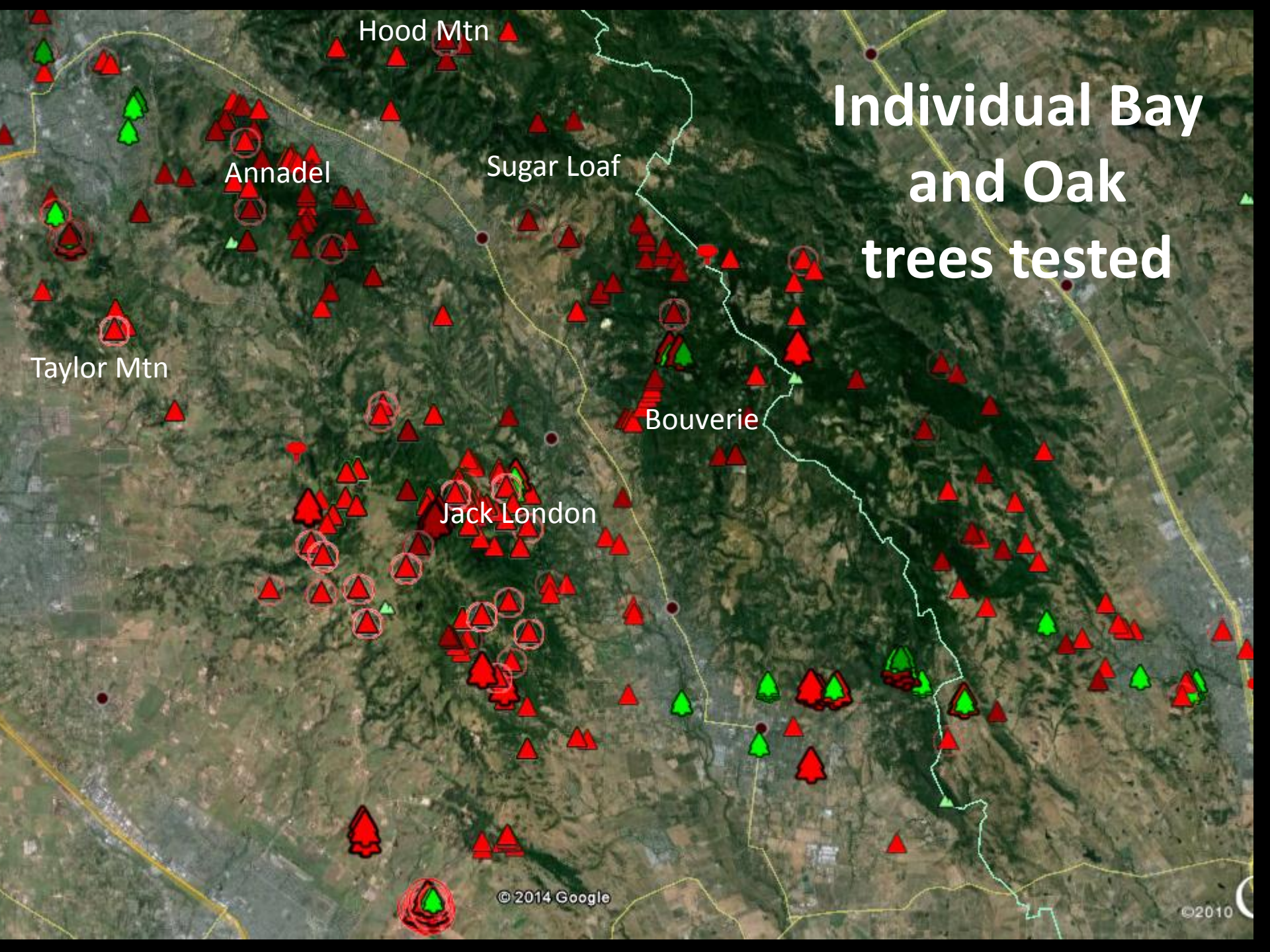


Healdsburg, CA Healdsburg

Healdsburg Ave

Healdsburg

# Individual Bay and Oak trees tested



Taylor Mtn

Annadel

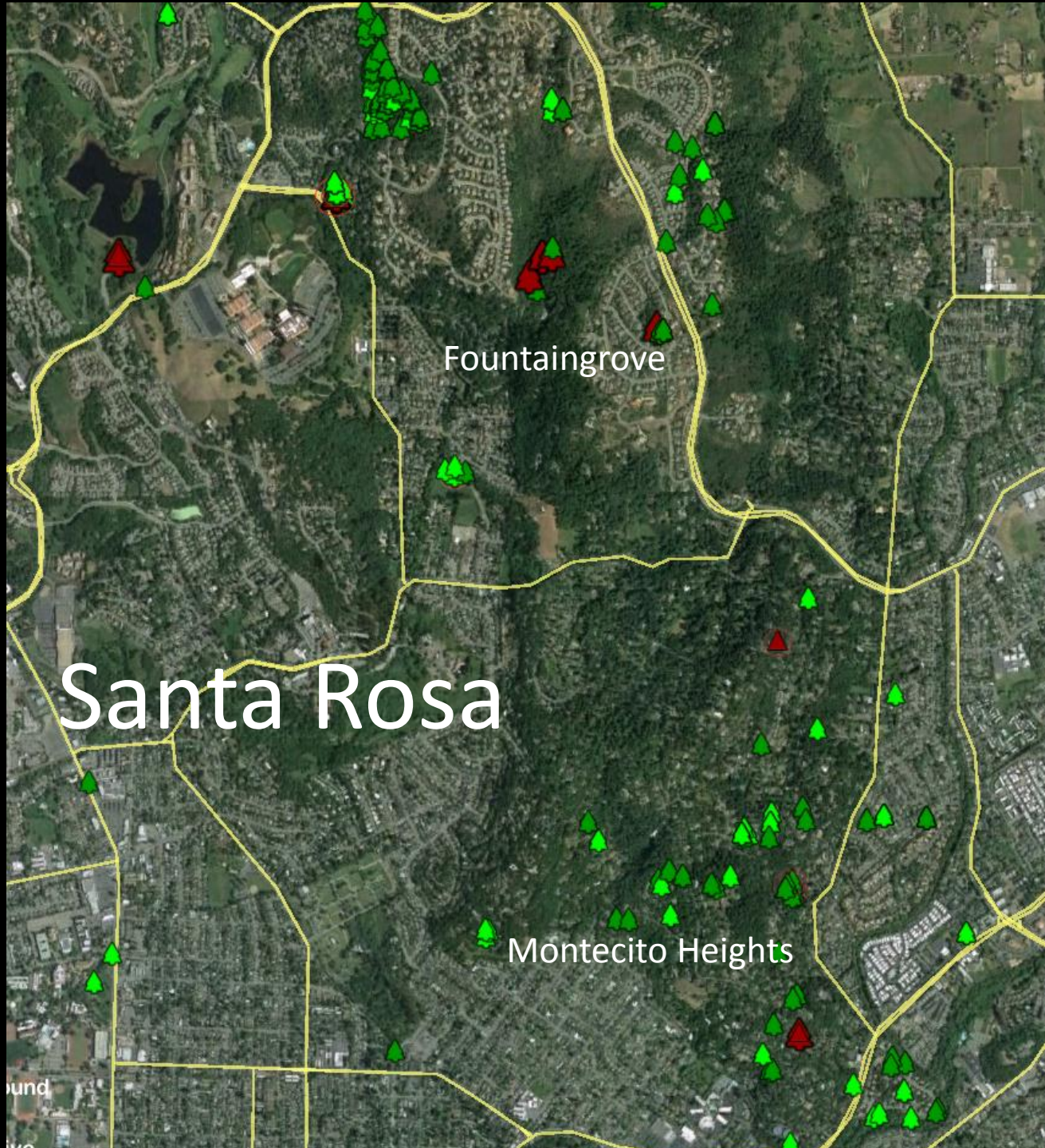
Hood Mtn

Sugar Loaf

Bouverie

Jack London



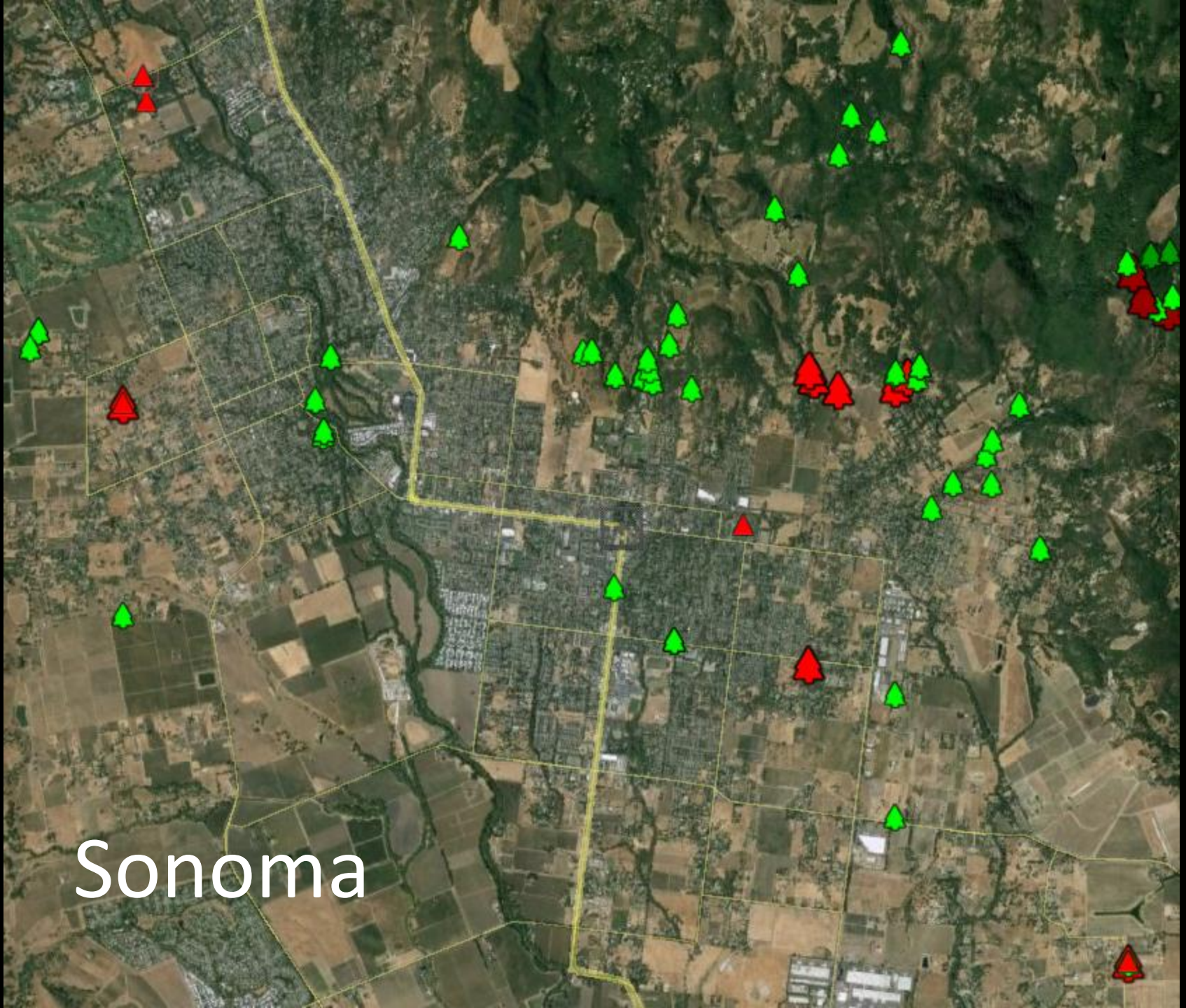


Santa Rosa

Fountaingrove

Montecito Heights

ound



Sonoma

# Spread by people

- Initially spread from nursery plants
  - Mud on shoes and bike tires
- Plant material on tools and machinery

Knock mud off tires, shoes, machinery  
Watch nursery plants



United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service

Pacific Southwest  
Research Station

General Technical  
Report  
PSW-GTR-242

December 2013

# A Reference Manual for Managing Sudden Oak Death in California

Tedmund J. Swiecki and Elizabeth A. Bernhardt



# Management Actions Need Management Plans

Prevent introduction (sanitation)

Reduce spore load: host removal (**bay**)

Avoid pruning **oaks** during wet season

Don't get rid of oaks (just because they are infected)

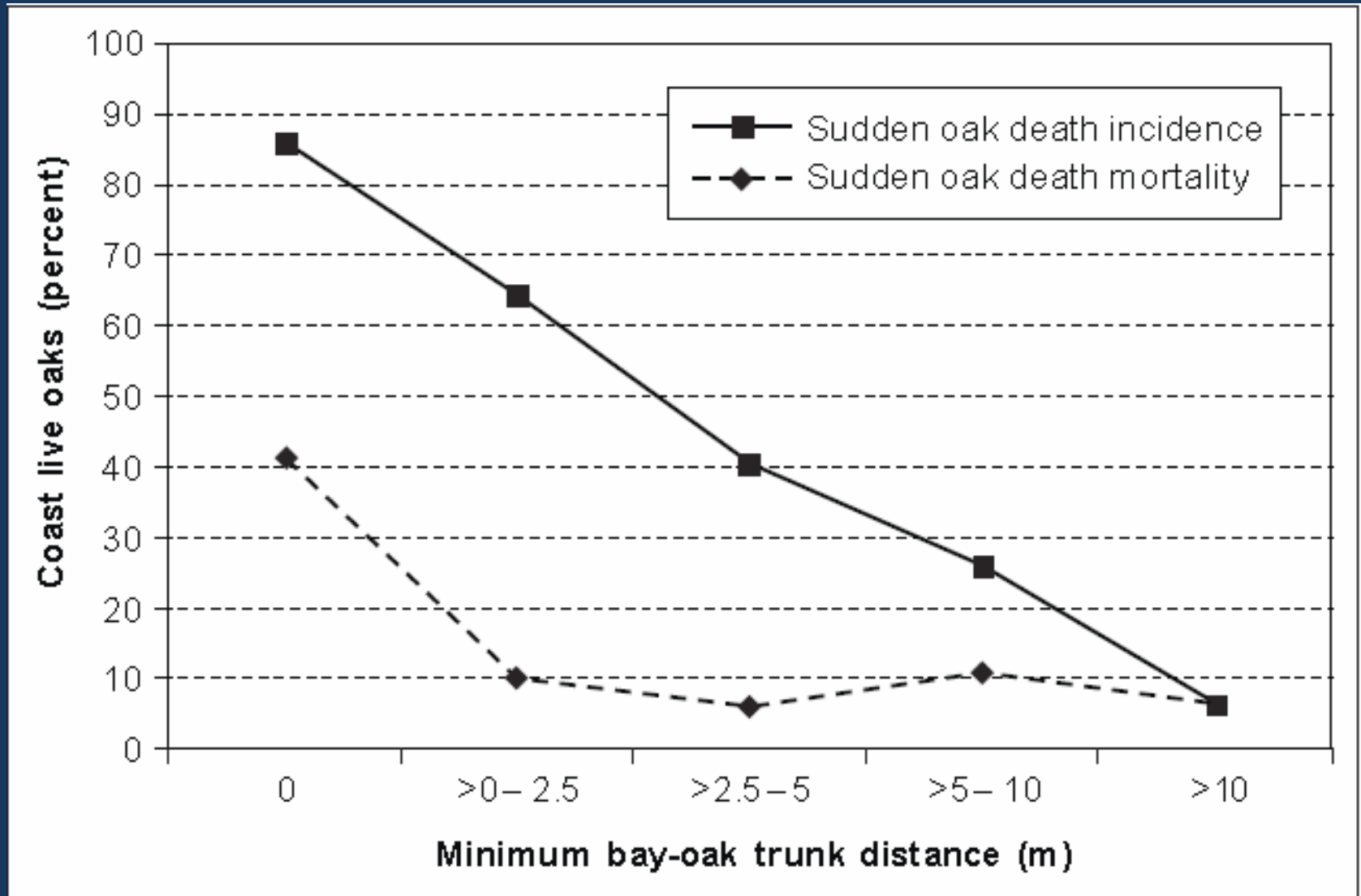
Watch for fire or falling hazards, and act

Keep it on property: burn, chip, lop & scatter

Phosphonate application

**Plant** or replant with non-susceptible hosts

# Bays nears oaks kill oaks









# For oak tree huggers

- Management manual by Swiecki
  - Pest and diseases
    - Urban oaks

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*Thanks to the USDA Forest Service for funding the Sonoma County Sudden Oak Death Education Program.*



**UC Cooperative Extension**

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