

Science for Managing the Big Sur Ecosystem

Big Sur Lodge Conference Room

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The challenges facing land stewards in the Big Sur Region are complex: fire, sudden oak death, invasive weeds, and managing human impacts. This seminar will present overviews of research findings relevant to natural resource issues in Big Sur with the aim of supporting land managers in their work on the ground. A panel of land managers will then share their challenges and approaches, followed by an interdisciplinary panel discussion addressing key management issues.

Session Agenda

- 9 a.m. Session opens; coffee and light refreshments

- 9:30 a.m. Welcome
 Janice Alexander, UC Cooperative Extension/California Oak
 Mortality Task Force

- 9:40 a.m. Introduction to the Big Sur Ecosystem
 Mark Borchert, USDA-Forest Service

- 10:10 a.m. The role of fire in Big Sur and coastal areas
 Max Moritz, UC Berkeley

- 10:30 p.m. Invasive species in coastal ecosystems/grasslands
 Mark Stromberg, Hastings Reserve

- 10:50 a.m. BREAK

- 11:10 a.m. Current Status of Sudden Oak Death in Big Sur
 Dave Rizzo, UC Davis

- 11:30 a.m. SOD: current status of management in Big Sur
 Doug Schmidt, UC Berkeley

Sponsored by: USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station and Pacific Southwest Region, Forest Health Protection; California Oak Mortality Task Force; UC Cooperative Extension and UC-Davis

12:00 p.m. LUNCH BREAK (on your own; local lunch options listed below)

- **The Big Sur Deli** has sandwiches and burritos and a few prepared food items. Go left (south) out of the State Park, up the hill, past the Ranger Station on your left. The Deli will be on your right (west) shortly after the Big Sur Ranger Station in the same parking lot as the Post Office.
- **Big Sur Burrito** Go right (north) out of the State Park to the River Inn parking lot, which will be on your left (west). The Burrito bar is in the mini-mart just south of River Inn, but in the same Parking Lot as the River Inn Restaurant.
- **Fernwood's Redwood Grill** is just north of the Big Sur State Park. Go right out of the State Park and Fernwood will shortly be on your left (west).
- **Ripplewood** is a sit-down restaurant but usually has a quick turnaround. It is diner style with a variety of menu items. Go right (north) out of the State Park and it will be on your right (east). There is a gas station there and Glen Oaks Motel nearby.

12:45 p.m. Panel of nature reserve/land trusts/state parks managers
Moderator: Susan Frankel, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station

Confirmed Panelists

Mark Stromberg, Hastings
Mark Readdie, Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve
Jeff Frey, California State Parks
Jeff Kwasny, USDA-Forest Service
Cheryl McCormick, Santa Lucia Preserve
Jeff Cann, CA Dept. Fish and Game
Cammy Chambre, Big Sur Land Trust

Preliminary questions for panelists:

- What are the land management goals of your organization?
- In the absence of SOD (and with adequate funding), what would be your forest management goals? What is your vision for plant communities across the Big Sur landscape?

1:45 p.m. All-panel Q&A and interdisciplinary discussion

2:30 p.m. Adjourn

Sponsored by: USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station and Pacific Southwest Region, Forest Health Protection; California Oak Mortality Task Force; UC Cooperative Extension and UC-Davis