From: <u>Katie Palmieri</u>
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Subject: NEWS ADVISORY: "Visualizing Sudden Oak Death" Through an Interactive E-Conference

**Date:** Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:39:59 PM

## California Oak Mortality Task Force

# **News Advisory**

# "Visualizing Sudden Oak Death" Through an Interactive E-Conference

Date: February 6, 2014

Contact: Katie Palmieri Public Information Officer

(510) 847-5482

BERKELEY—"Visualizing Sudden Oak Death," will be held online from February 10 - 21, 2014. Media, professionals, and the public are invited to participate in the E-Conference and "see" the effects Sudden Oak Death (SOD) is having on millions of trees in susceptible forests. Through the eyes of experts and artists over the two-week event, participants can learn about the status of SOD from videos, images, an informative webinar, a Google+Hangout discussion, and a SOD forum. There will also be a SOD-Interpretation art gallery, the fourth Art of Saving Oaks art show, and more.

What: Visualizing Sudden Oak Death E-Conference

When: Monday, February 10 - Friday, February 21, 2014

Where: <a href="http://www.suddenoakdeath.org/news-and-events/visualizing-sudden-oak-">http://www.suddenoakdeath.org/news-and-events/visualizing-sudden-oak-</a>

death/

Cost: FREE

Forest pathologists from Oregon, California, and the UK will review the progress and challenges faced in containing *Phytophthora ramorum* (the invasive, exotic quarantine plant pathogen that causes SOD) during the hour-long webinar, and the Google+Hangout will offer an opportunity to hear from a panel of experts who will be discussing audience-generated questions. The online forum will provide an opportunity for participants to review keynote addresses on the thought-provoking topics of "Treatments in Challenging Terrain," "The Origins of *P. ramorum*," "Plant Imports and Global Trade," and "Sanitation and Mitigation" and to post comments, generating further discussion.

The fourth "Art of Saving Oaks" art exhibit will be available online throughout the two week event and will feature landscape and interpretive pieces from nine Bay Area artists, including botanical art and photographs of oak habitats threatened by SOD. The first "Art of Saving Oaks" was held in 2002 in Sausalito, with additional shows in Woodside (2003) and Santa Cruz (2004). The show uses art to educate and inspire people about SOD, which has killed over 3 million trees in 14 coastal California counties since its discovery in 2000.

The conference is presented by the California Oak Mortality Task Force and the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station.

For more information on the e-conference or P. ramorum and SOD, contact Katie Palmieri at

(510) 847-5482 or <a href="mailto:kpalmieri@berkeley.edu">kpalmieri@berkeley.edu</a>. For conference updates, follow us on Twitter @SodComtf.

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## Schedule of Events

### **Caption Contest**

Submit your caption for a SOD photo! February 10, 2014 – February 14, 2014 Winner Announced February 14, 2014

#### **Forum**

Online discussions surrounding keynote addresses on 4 challenging SOD-related issues. February 10, 2014 – February 14, 2014 (posting open to all) February 18, 2014 – February 21, 2014 (available for review only)

#### Webinar

Phytophthora ramorum vs. Homo Sapiens Where do we stand in our battle against the SOD pathogen? Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. PST

## Google+Hangout

Thursday, February 13, 2014 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. PST

## Fourth Art of Saving Oaks

Monday, February 10, 2014 – Friday, February 21, 2014

### **SOD Art Gallery**

Monday, February 10, 2014 – Friday, February 21, 2014