



California Forest Pest Council

California Forest Pest Council

Dedicated to protecting California's forests since 1951

www.caforestpestcouncil.org

March 15, 2018

The Honorable Timothy S. Grayson
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4164
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 2470 Invasive species: Greenhouse Gas Reduction fund - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Grayson,

The California Forest Pest Council (CFPC) supports Assembly Bill 2470's funding of the Weed Management Area (WMA) program and other programs and research to the extent it focuses on preventing or controlling invasive pests that threaten the health of California's native woodlands and forests, including urban forests. The CFPC is comprised of foresters, forest pest specialists and resource managers with a long track record of protecting California's forests from invasive plants that damage agriculture, water, recreation, and wildlife.

The CFPC has worked in close cooperation with local County Agricultural Commissioners, US Forest Service (USFS) and California Invasive Plant Council to map and control invasive weeds. Many private forest landowners and USFS spend significant resources to control invasive weeds that have spread onto their managed lands from adjacent properties. Assembly Bill 2470 will restore prevention, eradication, research, and Weed Management Area (WMA) funding, which will aid in the state wide efforts to control the spread of invasive plants throughout California forests.

Invasive plants such as star thistle and scotch broom not only impede native forest regeneration, they also create a severe fire hazard. These and many other types of invasive weeds must be controlled in the forest and urban interface to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire. The CFPC recommends that research and outreach activities focus on early detection & treatments to prevent invasive pests including, but not limited to invasive shot hole borers and other pests listed on the attached page, from further infesting California's native oak woodlands and conifer forests. By maintaining healthy native trees, AB 2470 will enhance carbon sequestration which will reduce Greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments and please contact us if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Bob Rynearson
Chairman, California Forest Pest Council
bobr@wmbeaty.com

The California Forest Pest Council was founded in 1951 and is a non-profit educational organization of over 800 public and private forest managers, researchers, foresters, entomologists, pathologists, biologists, and others interested in the health of California's forests and protection from damage caused by animals, diseases, insects, pollution, and weeds.



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CFPC Support letter for AB 2470

ATTACHMENT

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The following is a partial list of high profile invasive pests threatening the health of California's native hardwoods and conifers:

Diseases/Pathogens

Cronartium ribicola (white pine blister rust)
Fusarium circinatum (pitch canker)
Fusarium spp. (associated with invasive shot hole borer)
Ganoderma adspersum
Geosmithia morbida, thousand cankers disease
Phytophthora cinnamomi
Phytophthora lateralis (Port-Orford-Cedar Root Disease)
Phytophthora ramorum (Sudden oak death, ramorum blight)
Phytophthora spp.
Tubakia sp. (Tubakia Dieback)

Insects

Asian gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar asiatica*)
European gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*)
Goldspotted oak borer (*Agrilus auroguttatus*)
Invasive shot hole borers (*Euwallacea* spp.; associated with *Fusarium* spp.)
balsam woolly adelgid (*Adelges piceae*)
walnut twig beetle (*Pityophthorus juglandis*)

The following is a partial list of pathogens and insects of concern within other states, but would be a threat if introduced to California:

Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)
Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)
Laurel wilt (*Raffaelea lauricola*)
Spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*)

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