The challenges facing land stewards in the Big Sur Region are complex: fire, sudden oak death, invasive weeds, and managing human impacts. This 1-day 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

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
Frank Davis, UC Santa Barbara and 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
David Rizzo, UC Davis

11:30 a.m.  SOD: current status of management in Big Sur
Matteo Garbelotto, UC Berkeley

12:00 p.m.  LUNCH BREAK (on your own)
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

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

2:15 p.m.  Session wrap up

2:30 p.m.  Adjourn