

First joint meeting of the  
CNPS Ad-Hoc *Phytophthora* Committee (<https://sites.google.com/site/cnpsphytophthoraresources/>)  
& The Phytophthoras in Native Habitats Work Group, (calphytos.org)

Friday, February 2, 2018, 12 noon to 1 pm  
2018 CNPS Conservation Conference, Marriott LAX, Boston Room

Meeting objective: How can we work together? How can we help each other?

What does the CNPS Ad-Hoc *Phytophthora* Committee need from the Phytophthoras in Native Habitats Work Group and vice-versa?

Janice Alexander, UC Cooperative Extension, Marin County started the meeting by requesting short updates, on legislation and the restoration nursery accreditation pilot (AIR)

#### Legislation Update

1) **SB-287 Habitat restoration: invasive species: *Phytophthora* pathogens** – Purpose is to promote use of clean and healthy plants in CA restoration projects; current approach is to require an accreditation program to verify health of restoration stock; Senator Dodd will wait for accreditation before proceeding further. Need to update Senator and supporters of our progress (Steve Goetz will do). One letter of non-support by California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers, and also technical feedback on errors (which have been corrected).

2) **Pilot project on restoration nursery accreditation** - Looking for grower participation. Contact Susan Frankel at [sfrankel@fs.fed.us](mailto:sfrankel@fs.fed.us) if you would like to participate. (To keep costs down, only growers in the greater Bay Area may participate in the pilot.)

#### Introductions

Short overviews were presented as follows:

CNPS Phytophthoras Ad-Hoc Committee – Steve Goetz

Phytophthoras in Native Habitats Work Group – Diana Benner

Golden Gate National Park Conservancy, *Phytophthora* program – Alisa Shor

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, BMPs implementation – Billy Sale

Other meeting participants introduced themselves including: Jon Detka, UC Santa Cruz, Gilbert lab; Julie Garren, AECOM; Matteo Garbelotto, UC Berkeley Forest Pathology and Mycology lab; Janet Nickerman, US Forest Service, Angeles National Forest; Faith Campbell, Center for Invasive Species Prevention; Leia Giambastiani, STRAW/Pt. Blue; Brett Hall, UC Santa Cruz Arboretum; Wolfgang Schweigkofler, NORS-DUC; Mia Ingolia, Jessica Appel, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission; Larry Levine, CNPS Council; Ted Swiecki, Phytosphere Research; Hank Kraus, Moosa Creek Nursery (San Diego County); Vivian Neou, Santa Clara Valley Chapter Nursery; Bill Waycott, President, CNPS SLO Chapter; Janell Hillman, Santa Clara Valley Water District; Susan Frankel, US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station; Janice

Alexander, UC Cooperative Extension, Marin County; Tyler Bourret, UC Davis; Laura Hanson, The Watershed Nursery; others from local CNPS chapters with nurseries, East Bay Regional Park District, consultants, plant pathologists, researchers, native plant nursery growers.

#### Strengths of each group – Janell Hillman

- CNPS Ad-Hoc - Outreach & advocacy through official CNPS policies, useful guidance for CNPS practitioners in the field
- Phytophthoras in Native Habitats WG: Plant pathology and restoration expertise; can provide technical guidance

#### Needs

- Train CNPS nursery volunteers – request for template for training manual
- Easy testing technique to track progress in establishing a nursery clean zone
- Concerned about leakage of pathogens in run-off onto nursery sites
- How to tap into partners and increase funding - reach out to community college horticulture programs
- Affordable soil treatments for small nursery operations
- Engage soil producers for large-scale availability of heat-treated soil
  - coordinate in local areas for consistent demand so viable economically
  - business to pick up and treat soil
  - network with landfills/municipal composters
  - concern about contaminated waddles and mulch, etc.
  - need to consider efficiency and economics
  - create a sub-committee to work on larger scale soil availability

#### Further discussion – needs, issues

- *Phytophthora* testing protocols need to be evaluated for efficacy and reliability
- Issue has a confusing storyline. Need a clearer narrative to explain how issue that started with *P. tentaculata* now talks about many other *Phytophthora* species.
- *Phytophthora* training to get us all up to speed - Matteo Garbelotto UC-B is willing to provide this service in cooperation with the Phytophthoras in Native Habitats WG.

#### Steve Goetz, CNPS *Phytophthora* Ad-Hoc Committee identified the following priority actions and requested assistance to achieve them:

- Practical inspection and testing protocols for CNPS nurseries
- Training CNPS nursery volunteers in BMP implementation
- BMPs for Potting media
- Accreditation program for growers of restoration materials