

Firewood and Forest Pests Entering California 2011-2013

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California Firewood Task Force**



BACKGROUND

- **Summer 2002.** Interstate movement of firewood implicated in rapid spread of EAB in the northern Midwest.
- **2008.** USFS FHP asks CDFA to monitor firewood for pests at its 16 border stations.
- **July 2010.** Adult and larval EAB intercepted in firewood from a Michigan RV at the Topaz border station (sidebar).
- **December 2010.** CFPC creates the California Firewood Task Force.



DATA

➤ Data from 2011-2013

➤ Border Station
Firewood Data

- Quantity
- Species of wood
- Origin
- Destination
- Vehicle type
- Presence of potential pests

➤ CDFA Pest Detection Reports

- Queried database for PDRs referencing firewood
- Recorded taxon (to family), origin, destination, and wood species (where available)



FIREWOOD SURVEY KEY FINDINGS

- Over 67 million pounds of wood recorded from 2011 -2013

Station	Private Vehicles		
	Count	Pounds	Avg Weight
Redwood Highway	1,314	5,275,042	4,014
Hornbrook	2,042	3,781,714	1,852
Alturas	1,373	3,057,800	2,227
Winterhaven	4,847	1,989,533	410
Smith River	1,996	1,395,955	699
Dorris	420	1,089,363	2,594
Long Valley	1,749	862,555	493
Topaz	1,247	828,138	664
Truckee	1,741	786,532	452
Blythe	1,206	746,495	619
Needles	513	603,483	1,176
Tulelake	879	570,048	649
Benton	354	239,375	676
Yermo	155	115,054	742
Meyers	234	42,457	181
Vidal	407	31,662	78
Totals	20,477	21,415,206	1,046

Station	Commercial Vehicles		
	Count	Pounds	Avg Weight
Hornbrook	1,451	19,757,369	13,616
Yermo	454	12,730,677	28,041
Redwood Highway	430	6,467,750	15,041
Needles	107	3,650,122	34,113
Blythe	49	1,547,359	31,579
Dorris	21	740,381	35,256
Benton	21	535,104	25,481
Topaz	17	215,741	12,691
Smith River	53	165,070	3,115
Tulelake	30	122,645	4,088
Alturas	14	111,380	7,956
Vidal	5	84,108	16,822
Truckee	17	53,193	3,129
Winterhaven	4	51,300	12,825
Long Valley	13	26,519	2,040
Meyers	10	475	48
Totals	2,696	46,259,193	17,158

- Commercial wood 69% of mass
- Wood in private vehicles 88% of individual loads



FIREWOOD SURVEY KEY FINDINGS

commercial and private

- Pine Species = 41% of all firewood, Madrone 14%, True Fir 12%, Oaks 9%, Other 24%
- Wood from 47 states, Canada, and Mexico; 92% coming from OR, UT, BC, CA, AZ
- 91% of all wood bound for a CA destination; 7% of commercial loads bound for Reno, NV
- Commercial firewood expected to travel 188 miles on average from border station; 76 miles in private vehicles
- Wood tended to stay local at Winterhaven and Alturas, while traveling far from Needles, Vidal, Redwood Highway, and Smith River



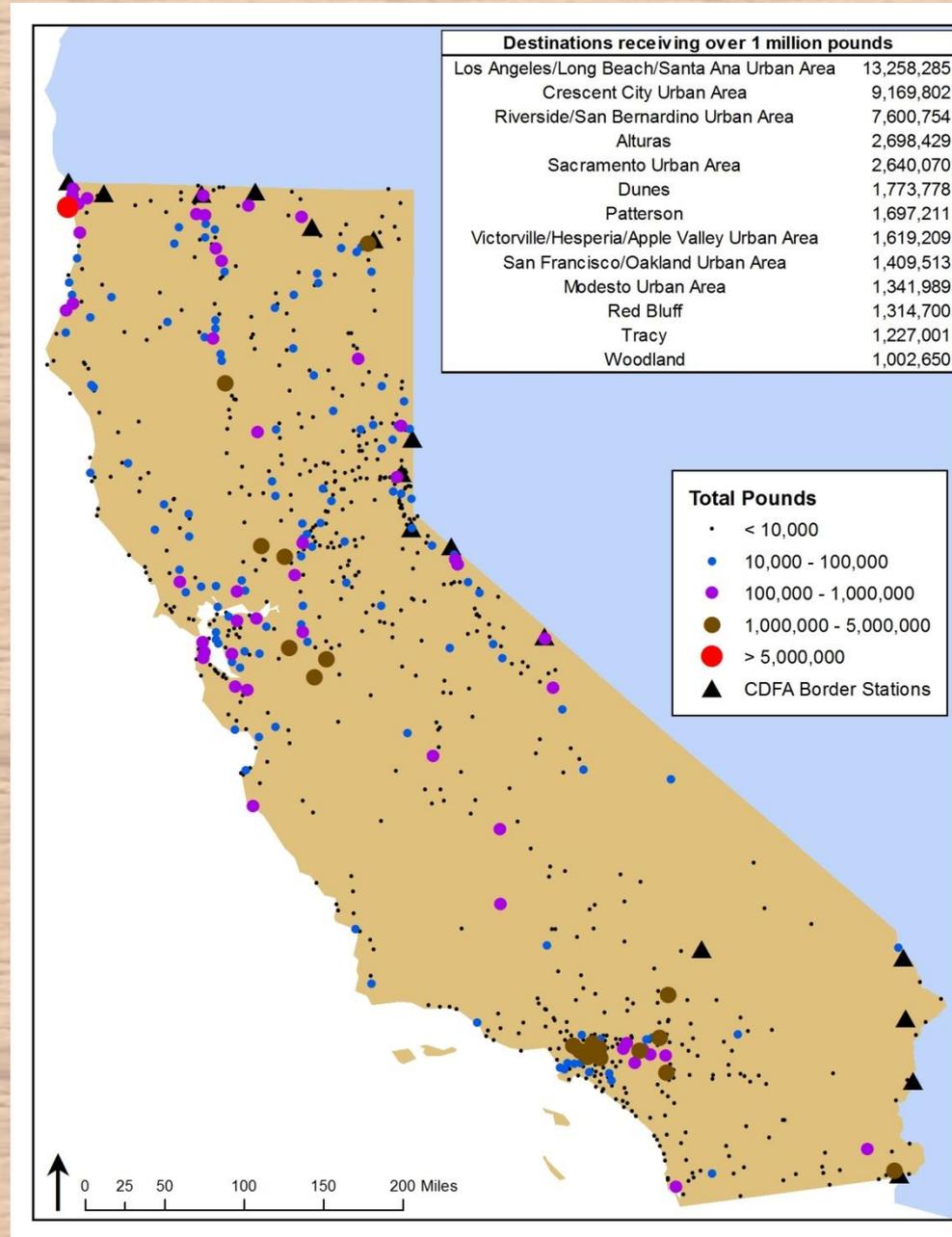
FIREWOOD SURVEY KEY FINDINGS



➤ Over 800 Unique Destinations

➤ Top Destinations

- Major urban areas
- Smaller towns
- Dunes OHV Rec Area



PEST DETECTION REPORT KEY FINDINGS

➤ 610 Forest Pests Intercepted on Firewood 2011-13

Taxon	Number
Coleoptera (Beetles)	573
Cerambycidae (Long-horned borers)	352
Buprestidae (Flatheaded borers)	140
Scolytidae (Bark beetles)	81
Isoptera (Termites)	26
Lepidoptera (Moths)	9
Tortricidae (Leafrollers)	4
Lasiocampidae (Tentworms)	3
Lymantriidae (Gypsy moths)	2
Hymenoptera (Ants, Bees, Wasps)	2
Siricidae (Wood wasps)	2
Total	610

➤ 94% were Beetles

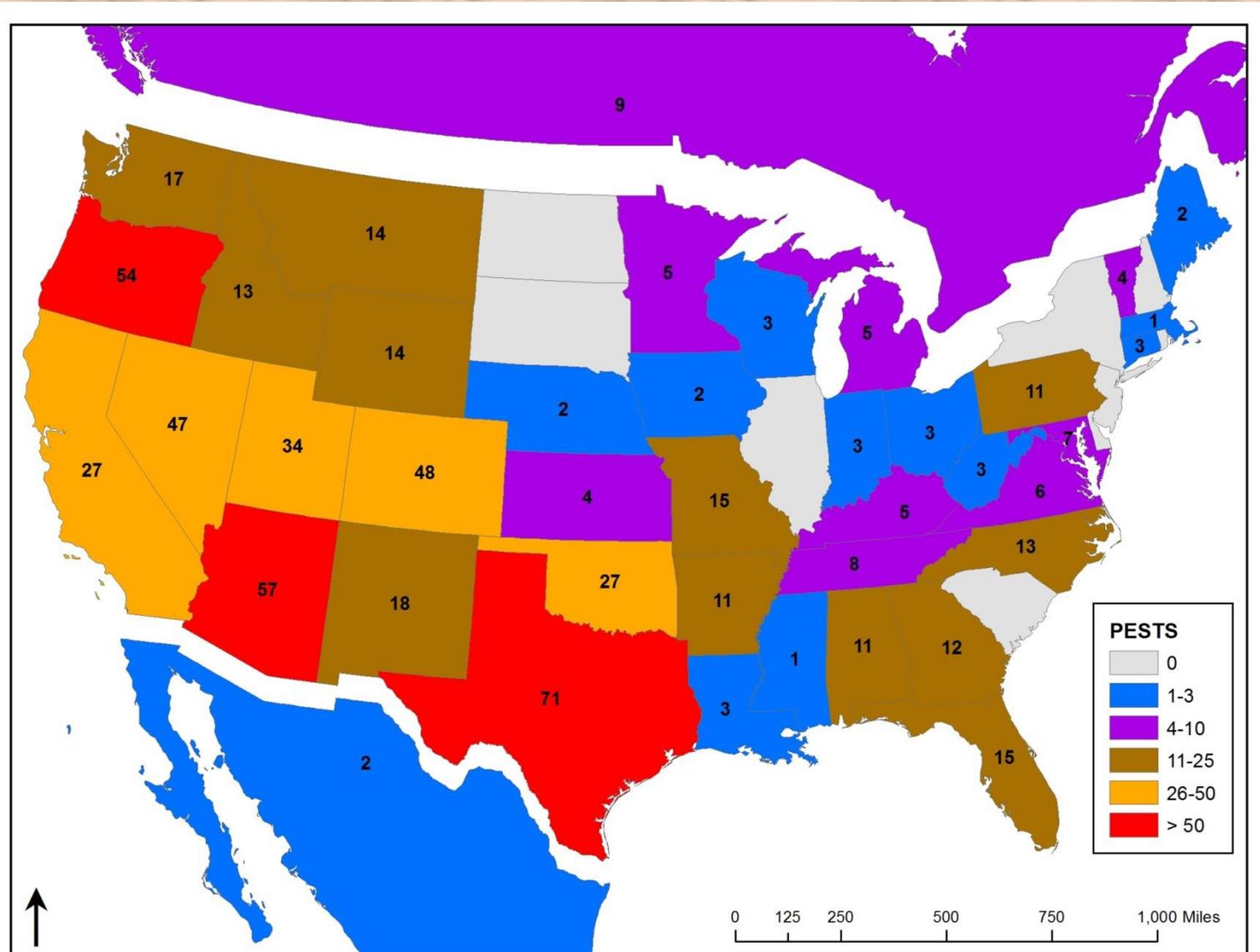
➤ Almost 50% of Pests Intercepted at Needles or Meyers

➤ 97% of Pests from Private Vehicles

Station	Private	Commercial	Total
Needles	220	9	229
Meyers	71		71
Truckee	49		49
Redwood Highway	48		48
Benton	43		43
Vidal	29		29
Yermo	23	2	25
Topaz	22		22
Alturas	14	3	17
Hornbrook	14	1	15
Long Valley	15		15
Tulelake	13		13
Smith River	13		13
Blythe	10	2	12
Dorris	9		9
Winterhaven			0
Totals	593	17	610

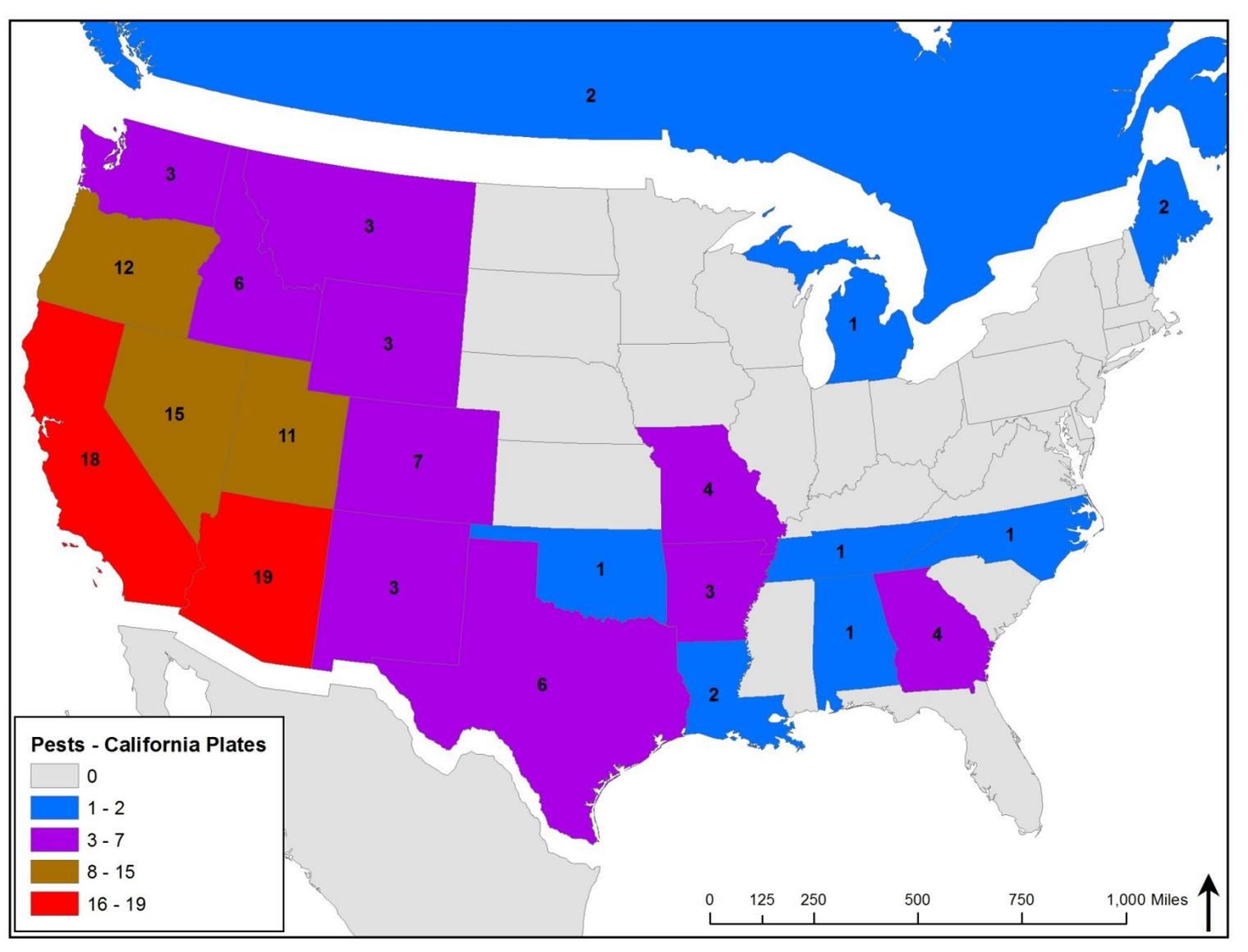
PEST DETECTION REPORT KEY FINDINGS

Forest pests came from 38 other states, CA, Canada, and Mexico.



PEST DETECTION REPORT KEY FINDINGS

Over 1/5 of intercepted pests were in vehicles with CA plates.

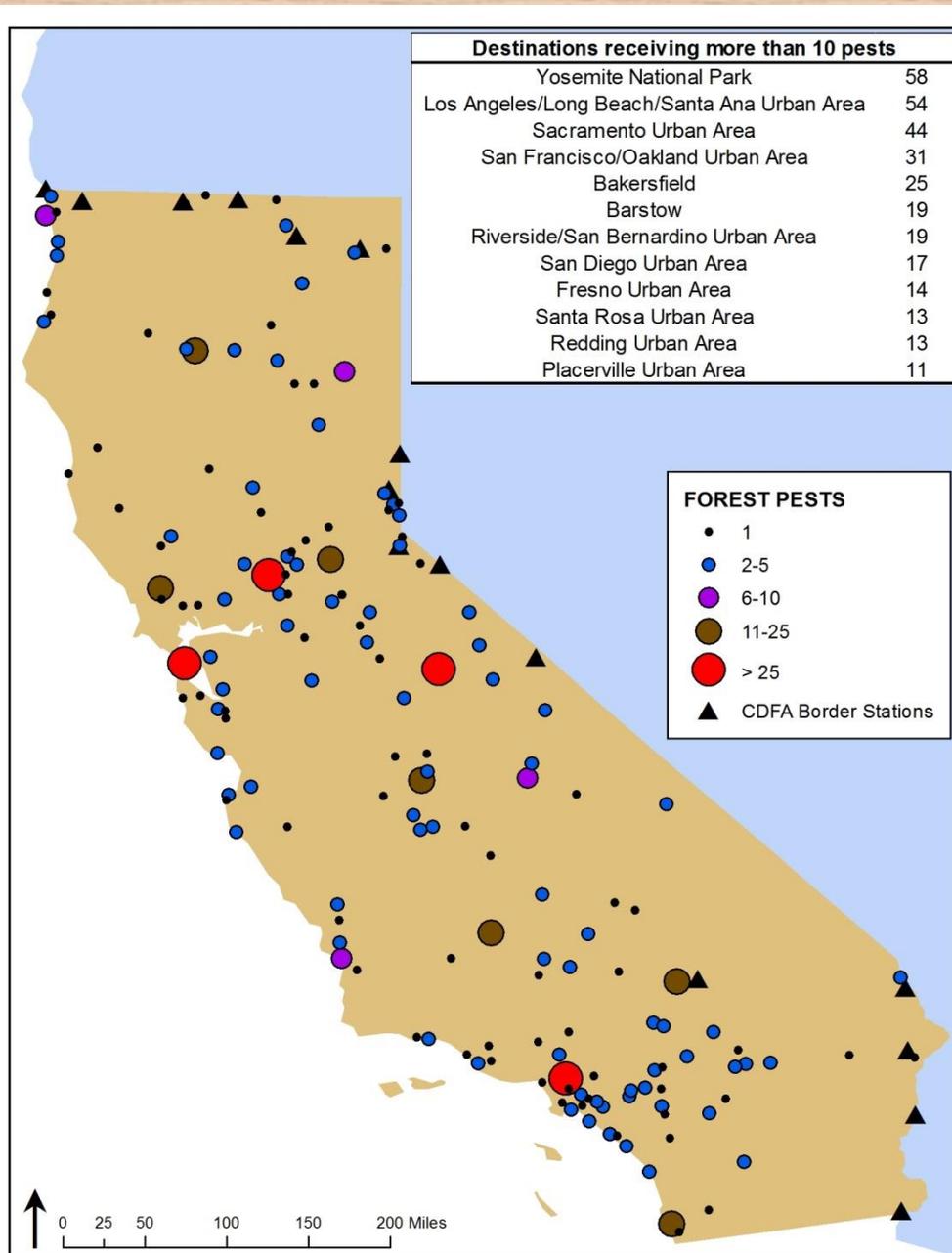


PEST DETECTION REPORT KEY FINDINGS



➤ Firewood with forest pests was traveling to over 170 different intended destinations

- Top Destinations
- Yosemite NP
 - Most of the largest CA urban areas



WHO IS BRINGING FOREST PESTS TO CA?

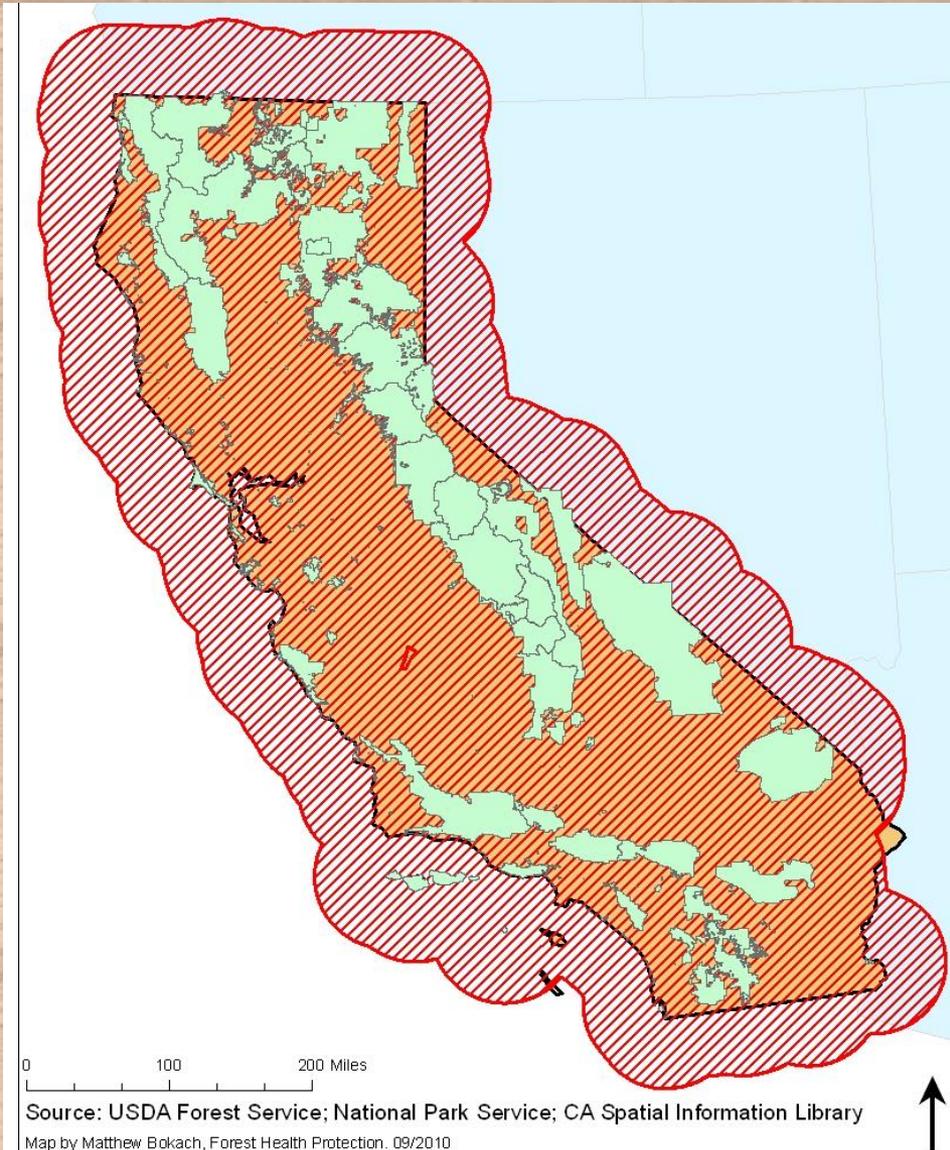
- Over 20% of pests were in vehicles with CA plates
- Forest pests 11x more likely to be intercepted in firewood from non-adjacent state
- Average weight of a pest-bearing firewood load in a private vehicle: 153 lbs. Average weight of a pest-free load: 1,063
- No clear correlation between number of pests intercepted at a given station and amount of firewood recorded, or annual amount of traffic
- These facts suggest that it is vacationers coming to (or back to) CA that are unknowingly transporting forest pests.



THREAT TO CA FORESTS & PARKS FROM PESTS TRANSPORTED ON FIREWOOD

99.8% of California's land area is within 50 miles of a National or State Park or Forest.

Any forest pest that enters the state is a potential threat to our parks and forests!



QUESTIONS?

**Please feel free to email Matthew Bokach (currently on detail to the Lassen NF) at:
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