



*Pacific Gas and  
Electric Company*



**To:**

Diana Poggetto, American River Parkway	Blake Englehart, Eldorado National Forest
Harry McQuiellan, BLM	Vicky Wojcik, Pollinator Partnership
Bob Brenton, Brenton VMS	Mary Maret, Sacramento County Parks
Doug Johnson, CA Invasive Plant Council	Mike Daleo, San Diego Gas & Electric
Doug Gluesenkamp, CA Native Plant Society	Dr. Claudia Luke, Sonoma State University
Mike Powers, Cal Fire	Dr. Chris Nowak, Syracuse University NY
Renee Pasquinelli, California State Parks	Cathy Johnson, U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Jay Harris, California State Parks	Valerie Eviner, UC Davis
John Durand, Consumnes River Project	Josianne Bonneau, Wildlife Habitat Council
Kim Hayes, Elkhorn Slough	Dr. Carolyn Mahan, Penn State University
Erika Brenzovich, Plumas National Forest	Vince Oatis, Southern California Edison
	Joel Trumbo, CA Dept. Fish & Wildlife

**From:** Bob Bell, PG&E  
Steve Hallmark, SMUD  
Phil Charlton, UAA

**RE:** Invitation to Participate

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Fact Sheet describes Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) as “the practice of promoting desirable, stable, low-growing plant communities—that will resist invasion by tall-growing tree species—through the use of appropriate, environmentally sound, and cost-effective control methods. These methods can include a combination of chemical, biological, cultural, mechanical, and/or manual treatments.”

Considerable research has been conducted on the impacts and costs of IVM on rights-of-way in the northeast but little has been done on the unique ecosystems in California. The Utility Arborist Association (UAA) is initiating a project that will study the impacts and costs of IVM on utility rights-of-way in California and other areas of the western United States.

Before the research plan is developed, the UAA, working with the scientific community, would like to engage with a wide-ranging group of stakeholders to provide guidance for the scope and focus of the research. We would like to better understand issues and concerns of regulators, environmental non-governmental organizations, and others. This information will enable the research team to develop a scope of service for this long-term research initiative.

You are invited to be part of this group. If you are unable to participate, please extend this invitation to an appropriate co-worker.



## INVITATION

### **Research into the impacts and costs of IVM for management of vegetation on utility rights-of-way in California**

DATE/TIME: May 16, 2016 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

LOCATION: SMUD's Hedge Training Facility located close to the intersection of S. Watt and Elder Creek Road.

FORMAT: There will be an introductory session that explores the state-of-the-art in vegetation management and related research from other regions of the United States. This will be followed by a facilitated discussion to explore the range of stakeholder interests related to IVM on utility corridors in California.

OUTCOMES: 1) Improved understanding of state-of-the-art vegetation management on utility rights-of-way; 2) Understanding of the nature of stakeholder concerns around utility vegetation management and 3) the development of a framework for long-term scientific research and the establishment of demonstration sites.

COST: Registration, lunch and refreshments are provided compliments of the UAA and host utilities.

TIME COMMITMENT: A small steering committee has been developed to use the results of the meeting to develop a request for proposals and to guide the research initiative into the future. Those attending the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> will be afforded the opportunity to periodically review progress and advise the steering committee but there will not be an ongoing obligation.

TO REGISTER: RSVP to [pcharlton@gotouaa.org](mailto:pcharlton@gotouaa.org)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact Dr. Philip Charlton, [philipcharlton@gmail.com](mailto:philipcharlton@gmail.com), 513.623.1737