BACKGROUND

Sudden Oak Death (SOD), caused by the non-native pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*, kills highly susceptible tree species such as tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*) and California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) by causing lesions on the trunk.

The pathogen can survive for months or years in soil or plant parts. The disease also can be spread by humans moving infected plants or infested soil.

**SOD CONTROL IN OREGON**

Eradiation treatment of an infested site consists of cutting, piling and burning all infected plant material and nearby host plant material. This is done within a specified radius (aka treatment buffer) surrounding infected plants. Monitoring studies have shown that treatment within a 300-foot buffer conducted promptly following detection can successfully eliminate the pathogen from a newly infected site and slow its spread.
Sudden Oak Death

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS

Spread of *P. ramorum* on state, private, and federal lands is managed by designating a SOD quarantine area under the authorities of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (Figure 3, ORS 603-052-1230). The quarantine requires infested sites to undergo eradication treatment, prohibits the movement of infected material outside of the quarantine area, specifies the best practices to apply when moving non-bole host plant material from infested sites and sets forth requirements for disease-free certification when moving uninfected host material to areas outside the quarantine. In 2012, the program designated a Generally Infested Area where no treatment is required. Since 2001 the quarantine area has expanded seven times. In 2015, the quarantine area was expanded to 515-square miles. Quarantine boundaries are subject to change. Please visit ODA’s website for current boundaries (www.oregon.gov/oda).

CURRENT SLOW THE SPREAD PROGRAM

Early detection is critical to the current slow-the-spread program. The program uses a three-pronged approach of aerial detection, water sampling, and ground-based surveys. Oregon and our federal partners continue to slow the spread of SOD by cutting and burning infected trees and plants in the surrounding area. The program places highest priority on treating outlying new sites to slow the outward spread of the SOD pathogen. An example is a site identified in 2021 on national forest land in Curry County just north of the existing quarantine area. Treatment to eradicate was planned there for spring 2021 shortly after SOD was discovered.

References & further reading:

- OSU Extension Sudden Oak Death Guide: [https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9216](https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9216)
- OAR 603-052-1230
  - [http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_600/oar_603/603_052.html](http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_600/oar_603/603_052.html)

More Information:

- Oregon Dept. of Forestry
  - Forest Health Unit
  - 2600 State St. Bldg. D, Salem, OR 97310, 503-945-7200
  - [http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/ForestBenefits/Pages/ForestHealth.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/ForestBenefits/Pages/ForestHealth.aspx)