

Update on Sudden Oak Death in Oregon Forests

February 27, 2019

Stream Baiting

- Stream Baiting will resume mid-April with the goal of 50 drainages baited.
- 47 stream baits for 2018 were deployed the first week of May and collected the second week of December 2018 (Figure 1).
 - 15 drainages tested positive in 2018.

Aerial and Ground-based Detection Surveys

- 15 trees remain for ground checking from the 2018 helicopter survey. Trees that remain are in low risk or areas within close proximity to known infestations, but will be ground checked.
- ODF has begun using the new imagery to find brown trees not detected during the aerial surveys. This has resulted in the detection of new infestations in the Cape Sebastian area as well as the redrawing of treatment area boundaries.
- 115 samples have been collected in 2019 by ODF staff, of which 57 are positive for *Phytophthora ramorum*.

Eradication Treatments - 2018 infestations

- In 2018, 43 new infestations were detected at or beyond the GIA (Figure 2).
- All new infestations are well within the new quarantine boundary.
- Assuming a 300 ft treatment buffer, the 2018 treatment areas total approximately:
 - Private – 23 infestations = 335 ac
 - USFS – 3 infestations = 58 ac
 - State – 2 EU1 infestations = 21 ac
 - EU1 – 17 infestations = 577 ac (most acreage is an intensification of 2017 sites)

Eradication Treatments - 2019 infestations

- In 2019, 19 new infestations were detected at or beyond the GIA (Figure 2).
- All new infestations are well within the new quarantine boundary.
- Assuming a 300 ft treatment buffer, the 2018 treatment areas total approximately:
 - Private – 10 infestations = 107 ac (Lineage Results pending for 2019)
 - USFS – 7 infestations = 32 ac
 - State – 2 infestations = 26 ac

Oregon EU1 Infestations (Figure 3)

- **In 2018, 104 confirmed EU1 positive trees. Lineage testing is pending for 13 more infected trees.**
 - Area 684- Treatment completed.
 - Area 676, 680, 681, 660, 703- Burning of piles is almost complete
 - Areas 704, 705- Units are in the process of being burned for first half of treatment acreage.
 - Area 730- Unit has been partially hack and squirted.
 - Areas 709 and 713- Hack and squirted and falling has begun.
 - Areas 738 and 737 have been flagged and treatment will begin in the next few weeks.
 - Rest of the areas were picked up during this year's surveys. Hack and squirt will begin soon after landowner consent is obtained.

SOD Economic Impact Analysis

- The final report for the study is complete and posted to ODF's webpage:
<https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/ForestBenefits/Pages/ForestHealth.aspx>
- The assessment says current efforts are keeping the infestation's spread on average to between 0.5 and 4.5 miles a year. With continued treatment, SOD's spread north of the Rogue River could be delayed until about 2028, according to the assessment. Without any treatment, the disease would most likely arrive north of the Rogue just four years from now and enter Coos County by 2028. Other impacts from discontinuing treatment that could happen as early as 2028 include:
 - Sanctions on southwest Oregon timber exports by China, Japan, and/or Korea
 - Loss of 1,200 jobs related to timber export; \$57.9 million in annual wages
 - Reduction of timber harvest by 15%, with proportional loss of forest products harvest tax revenue, and forest sector jobs and wages
 - Reduced rural residential property value; loss of real estate transaction revenues
 - Decline in recreation and tourism income out of proportion to the extent of SOD infestation if an unfavorable public perception of the region takes hold

Sudden Oak Death Outreach and Education

- OSU Extension Service has recently published a new guide for homeowners, small woodland owners, resource managers, and conservation groups to recognize, prevent, and manage SOD.
- The guide can be downloaded here: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9216>
- SOD Citizen Science Project began in late October with a landowner workshop in Pistol River. OSU Extension, ODF, and USFS staff presented information on SOD diagnosis, treatment options, post-disease plant options, and introduced the two citizen science projects scheduled for this year.
 - Early Detection using bucket and stream baits
 - Identifying resistant tanoaks within the GIA
 - A workshop to train citizen scientists on identifying resistant tanoaks within the GIA using the TreeSnap App (<https://treesnap.org/>) will be held on March 30th in Brookings

SOD Task Force Update

- Senator Merkley has asked Oregon State Representative Caddy McKeown to take over for him as co-convenor of the SOD Task Force and she has graciously accepted.

Senator Merkley's statement:

"It has been enormously gratifying to see partners from a broad swath of governments and industries working together to address the Sudden Oak Death crisis. I have been so pleased to work alongside Rep. David Brock Smith to convene this diverse array of stakeholders, and get information and action items on the table. The \$1 million in federal dollars I was able to get, combined with the \$1 million dedicated from the Oregon State Legislature, is helping to have a significant impact on the spread of the SOD pathogens. I will continue to do everything I can at the federal level to fund research, education and mitigation—because we've made good progress, but the work to eradicate the NA1 and EU1 pathogens has a long way to go."

"The spread of Sudden Oak Death and EU1 could have devastating impacts on our local economy and environment. As the task force enters its next phase, I will continue to be a strong federal partner to Rep. Brock Smith and the new co-convenor Rep. Caddy McKeown, and fight for the resources we need to work collaboratively on more and better solutions to fight these pathogens."

- The next meeting of the SOD Task Force will be held on March 8th from 9:00pm to 11:00pm at Association of Oregon Counties, 1201 Court St. NE Salem, Large conference room 1st Floor
- Meeting Objectives: Introduction of new Co-Convener Rep. Caddy McKeown, review federal and state funding proposals for upcoming fiscal years, review of Economic Analysis, and review of SOD treatments during last year and plans for upcoming year
- If interested in attending, RSVP with AOC- (jboverman@oregoncounties.org)

2018 Funding

- NRCS Oregon has requested up to \$500,000 of funding through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program for SOD treatments to treat up to 200 acres.
 - ODF SOD Foresters are assisting local NRCS staff with high ranked landowners (EU1 infestations) at this time and will then shift to working on the medium ranked landowners (NA1 infestations outside of the GIA).
- Federal funding for the SOD Program is comparable for FY17-18 to previous year. USFS S&P is providing additional funds as they become available.
- House Bill 2365 has been introduced for the current Oregon Legislative Session. It would appropriate \$1.7 million to ODF to combat SOD. From the appropriation, \$50,000 is to be expended to the Association of Oregon Counties to continue operating the SOD Task Force.
 - **Treatment funds total approx. \$2,375,000 for SOD Eradication**

Prepared by Sarah Navarro, Oregon Department of Forestry

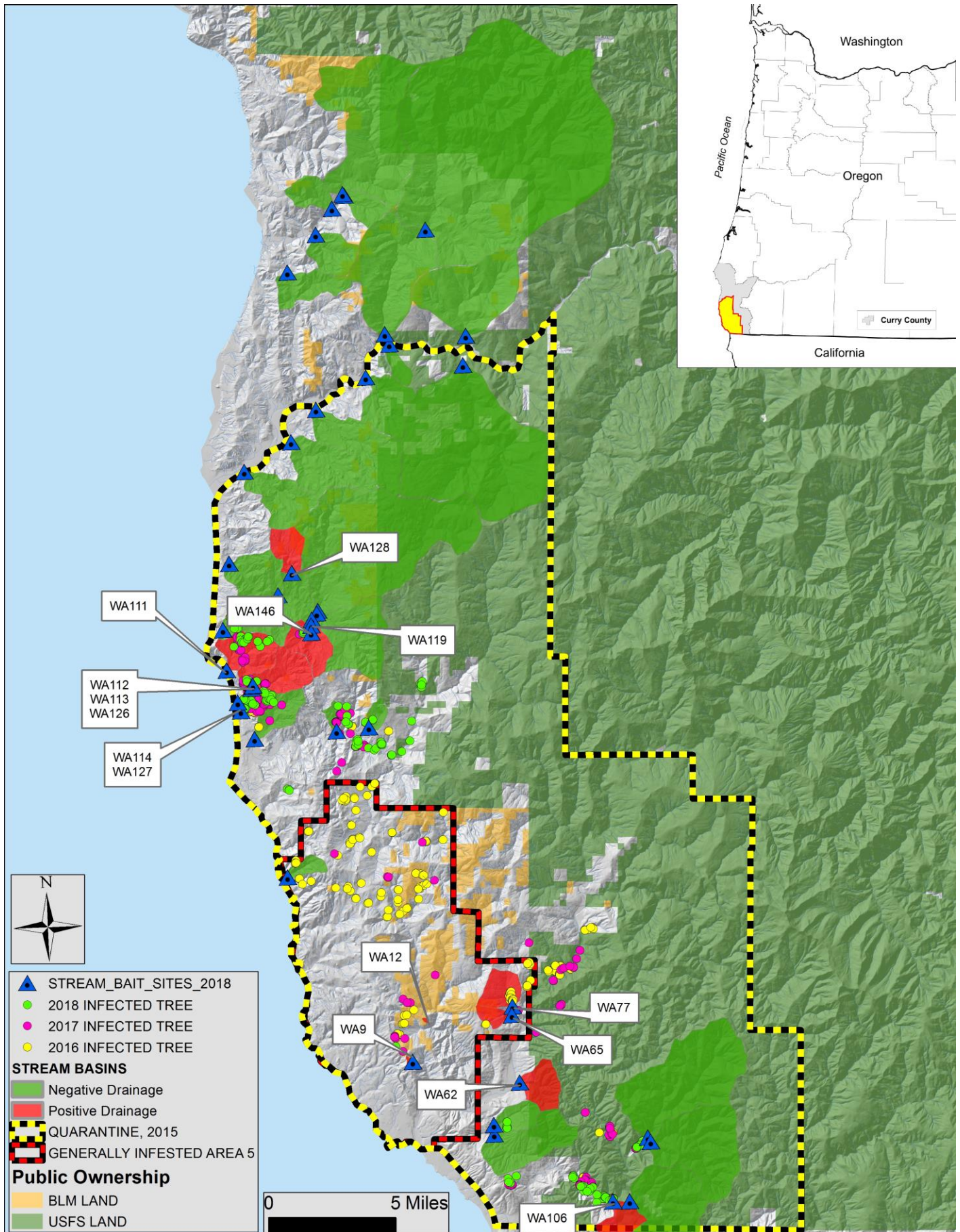


Figure 1. 2018 Stream baiting drainages (47 total). Green or red drainages indicate negative or positive for *P. ramorum*, respectively. Fifteen drainages have tested positive in 2018.

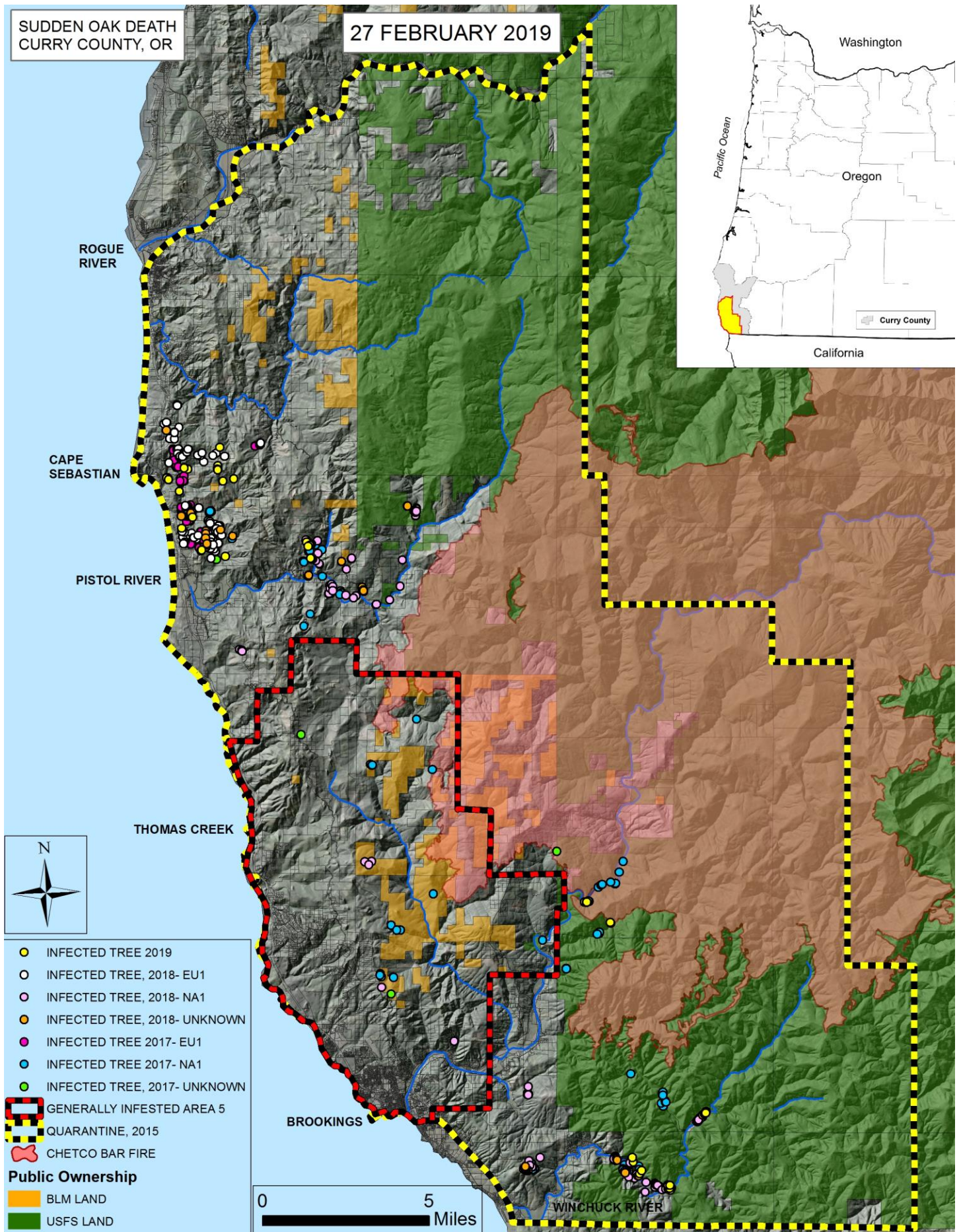


Figure 2. Location of sites infested with *Phytophthora ramorum* in southwest Oregon that were discovered in 2017-2019.

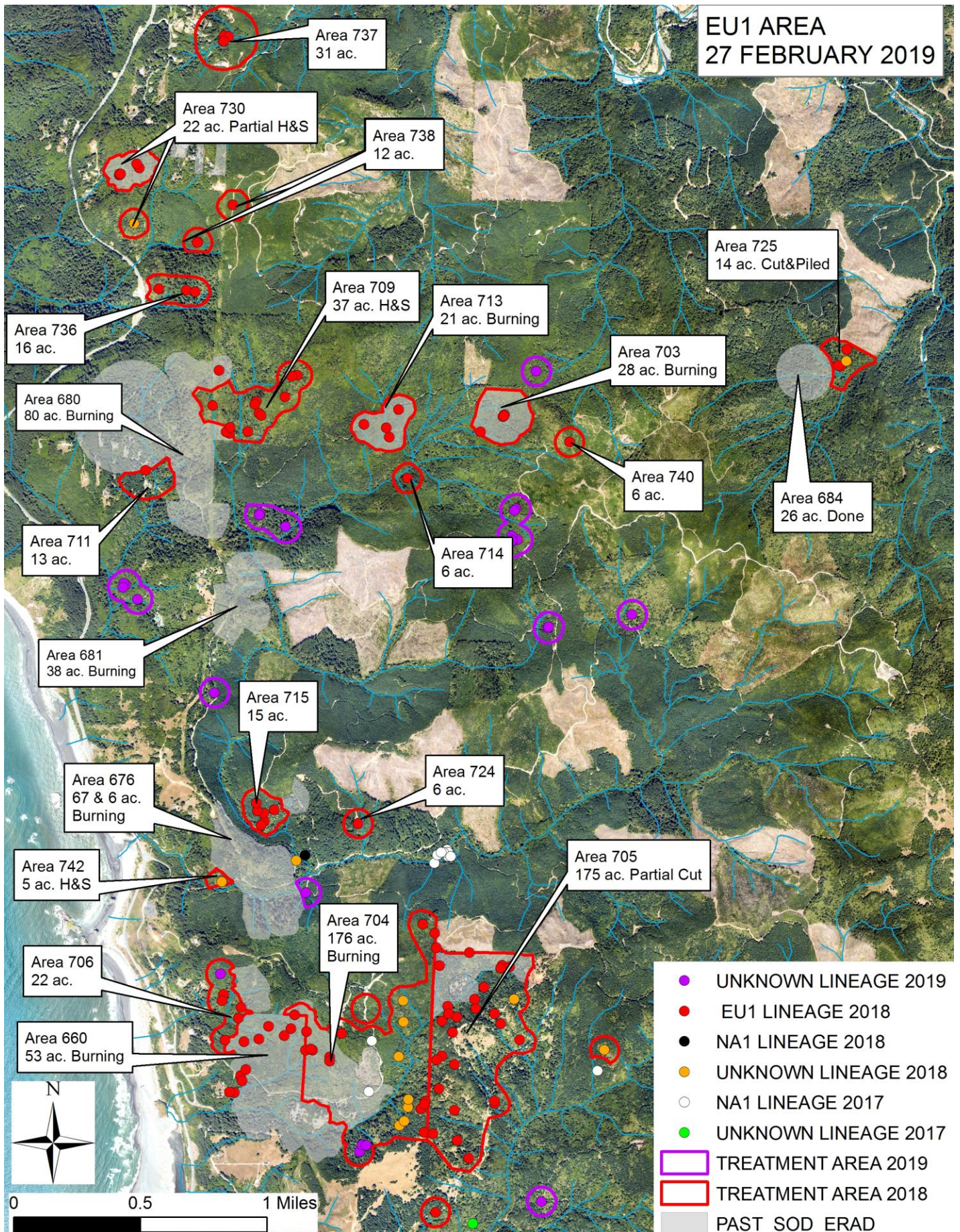


Figure 3. Location of EU1 infestations in Curry County as of February 2019. Lineage testing for 2018 and 2019 infected trees is ongoing and could increase the treatment acreage for EU1 infestations