

How to Leverage People, Technology, and Urban Forest Management Practices to Cope with the Invasive Shot Hole Borer/Fusarium Dieback Complex

Date/Time/Session: **TUESDAY, 4.30.2019, 4:30:00 PM, in the GENERAL session**

Presentation Length: **45 minutes**

Presented by: **Jessika Mitchell**

Co-Presenter (if scheduled): **Rhonda Wood**

Overview of Presentation:

Invasive pests have unfortunately become a fact of life in Southern California and beyond! However, urban forest managers do not have to tackle a devastating pest alone. This in-depth presentation will demonstrate how strong partnerships amongst land managers, researchers, and environmental consultants can help combat an emerging destructive pest, such as the Invasive Shot Hole Borers/Fusarium Dieback Complex. It's a small world after all! Attendees will gain an understanding of how to use early detection, collaboration, technology, and monitoring to mitigate the impacts of invasive pests.

Presenter Bio:

Jessika Mitchell is passionate about engaging, educating and inspiring community members to participate in understanding and sustainability of the urban forest in which they live. She earned her BA in History from University of California, Los Angeles and earned a Certificate in Horticulture and Gardening from UCLA Extension. Jessika is a certified arborist and tree risk assessment qualified through the International Society of Arboriculture. She is currently working on developing and refining strategies to help land managers monitor Invasive Shot Hole Borer populations throughout Southern California.



Rhonda Wood is the Urban Forester for the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California. Rhonda oversees the management and forest planning for the 18,000 trees on property, including how to comprehensively manage invasive pests and persistent diseases. She is an ISA Certified Arborist, Certified Tree Worker Climber Specialist, and a Qualified Tree Risk Assessor. Rhonda is also a past president of the Western Chapter ISA. She has a background in climbing competitively for the Chapter and currently is one of the instructors for the annual Western Chapter ISA Women in Arboriculture Climbing Workshop.