



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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NEWS RELEASE



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INVASIVE BEETLE DETECTED IN FELTON AREA

The Santa Cruz County Department of Agriculture and the University of California Cooperative Extension are monitoring a confirmed infestation of the non-native invasive shothole borer beetle along Zayante Creek south of Graham Hill Road.

The presence of [invasive shothole borers](#) (ISHB) has been confirmed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Entomology Laboratory. The Department of Agriculture was first alerted to the potential infestation by a Felton resident who noted damage to trees while on a hike near East Zayante Road and Graham Hill Road.

Invasive shothole borers are small beetles that can damage or kill a wide variety of host trees. The presence of invasive shothole borers was also recently confirmed in the Coyote Creek area of San Jose.

The Department of Agriculture and University of California Cooperative Extension are surveying the area to better understand the infestation. While eradication of invasive shothole borers is extraordinarily difficult, members of the public who live in the area can help by checking trees for sign of infestation, which include small holes in trees that are perfectly round and roughly the size of the tip of a ballpoint pen. Other signs can include wet staining, gumming, frass, boring dust and sugary buildup around entry and exit holes.

To identify new potential infestations, first take the [ISHB Detection Assessment](#) to see if your tree is suffering from ISHB damage. To report suspected damage from invasive shothole borers, property owners should call the Santa Cruz County Department of Agriculture at (831) 763-8080.

Resources on the monitoring, detection, and management of ISHB are available at [ISHB.org](#), or by contacting your local [Cooperative Extension Forest Advisor](#).