# Unmanaged Apple and Pear Tree Outreach Program

- A Cooperative Effort among:
- UC Cooperative Extension, Lake County CA, including Master Gardeners
- Oregon State University Southern OR Experiment Station/Jackson County CE
- UC Kearney Ag Center GIS Unit
- Local Pest Control Advisers and Growers
- Local citizens

To preserve the effectiveness of Mating Disruption



### Basis Of This New Program

- New ordinance passed by the BOS: #2895
- Needed due to large number of unmanaged trees hindering mating disruption programs
- If not controlled, more spraying is necessary
- Ag Commissioner worked with PCAs and Farm Bureau to develop and forward the ordinance
- Previous ordinances specify fire blight and pear psylla, NOT codling moth
- Need for an educational program to minimize regulatory actions: U.A.P.T.O.P.

### WHAT IS AN "UNMANAGED" TREE?

- Within ¼ mile of a commercial pear orchard
- Not pruned at bloom time
- No proof/record of effective pest control
- Not specific to a pest, but mostly pertains to codling moth, fire blight, pear scab, pear psylla, blister mites
- Attention to non-commercial owners (ranchette, backyard)
- includes orchards re-sprouting from rootstock, see picture:



# Educational Program Timeline and Components

- Grant received from Western IPM Center and Pear Pest Management Research Fund for Lake and Jackson Counties (same problem)
- 2 years:

Year 1, map trees/develop materials
Year 2, carry out outreach, evaluate success

- Components:
  - Map trees within ¼ mile of commercial orchard
  - Create interactive, multi-layered (mapping incl.) website
  - Develop (bilingual) outreach materials
  - Incorporate program into Master Gardener activities
  - Hold workshops/demonstrations on IPM techniques

### THE REAL SOLUTION IS TO REMOVE THESE TREES

- MAIN GOAL OF PROGRAM:
  - Encourage REMOVAL of unmanaged apple and pear trees and replace them, if necessary, with either shade or other fruit tree from our "Recommended Low Maintenance Tree List"
    - Working to find sources of 'give-away' trees
    - Lake County Pear Association will provide a box of fruit if a tree is removed; up to 2 boxes
    - 2 community members are willing to help with tree removal

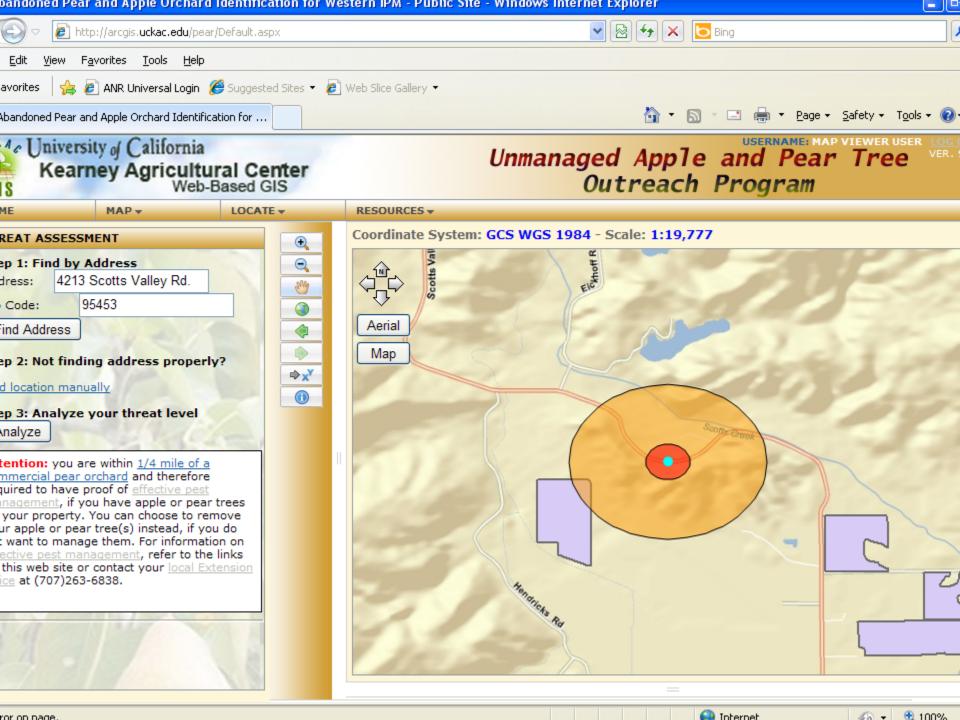
#### ALTERNATIVE TO REMOVAL

- Teach IPM techniques:
  - Proper pruning
  - Fruit thinning
  - Sanitation
  - Monitoring
  - Use of benign materials: granulosis virus, oil
  - Pheromones not applicable for backyard trees
     (4-5 acres min. for it to be effective)

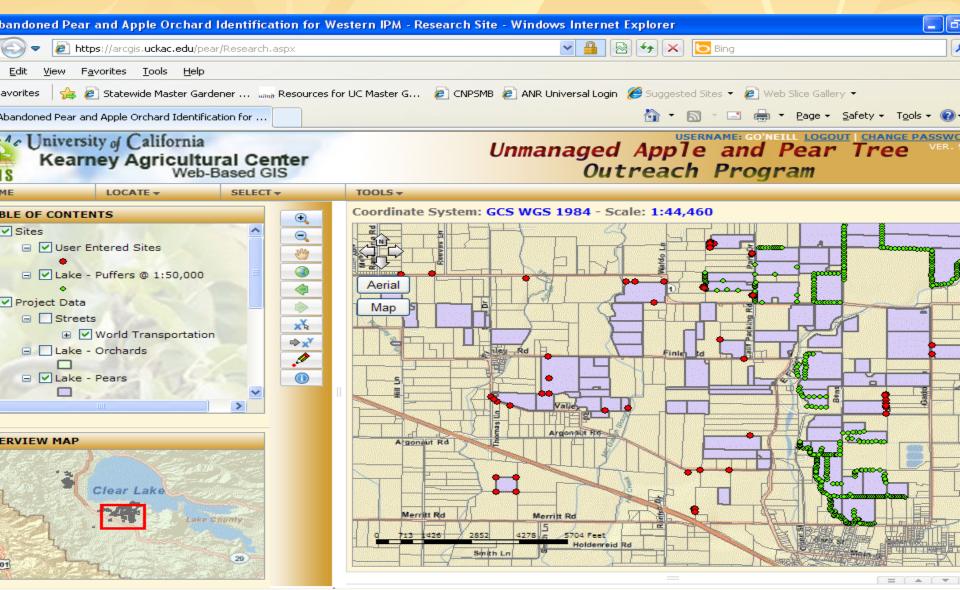
#### WHAT WE TELL GROWERS

- Help us locate trees
- Educate neighbors about how much sprays have been reduced by using pheromones
- Ask them if they would be willing to remove trees they are not taking care of (there is a chipping program, and you can tell them about the boxes of fruit provided by Lake County Pear Association)
- Pass out the leaflet we have created
- NOT TO BE SHY! IT'S THEIR LIVELIHOOD! THEY HAVE THE ORDINANCE TO BACK THEM UP!





### unmanaged trees / orchards marked with red dots, puffers marked with green dots



U.A.P.T.O.P. - themed Master Gardener Fair Booth



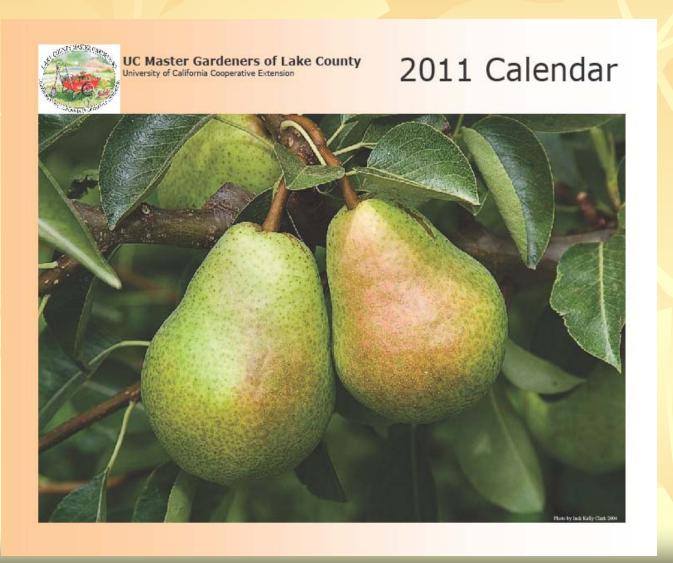


Including a real unmanaged pear tree, decorated with "pest" ornaments

### U.A.P.T.O.P. Powerpoint continuously running at Master Gardener Booth (next to IPM Kiosk)



## The 2011 UCCE Lake County Master Gardener Calendar is U.A.P.T.O.P. – themed (and sold at Farmers' Markets, Feed Stores, Nurseries, Fairs, Public Events)



#### Results of Postcard Survey so far:

Attached to every 2011 Calendar we sell is a brief survey on a self-addressed, pre-stamped envelope (the **return rate** for survey postcards so far is **close to 10%**):

1. Have you been aware of the problem that unmanaged apple and pear trees pose to commercial pear orchards in Lake County prior to purchasing this calendar? Yes: 50 % No: 50 %

2. If yes, where did you hear about it:

a) in the paper: 25 % b) from MGs: 33.3 % c) other: 8.3 %

3. Was the calendar helpful in explaining the issue?

Yes: 91.6 % No: 0 % N/A: 8.3 %

4. Did the information presented influence your own decision about managing or eliminating apple or pear trees you might have in your back yard?

Yes: 41.6 % No: 16.6 % N/A: 41.6 %

5. If yes, did you

a) decide to take your apple/pear tree out: 0 %

b) decide to properly manage it: 25 %

c) decide **not to buy** apple or pear trees **16.6 %** 

d) other (not within ¼ mile) 8.3 %

c) N/A (don't have apple / pear trees) 50 %