



Jordin Althaus/AMC



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EVENTS

May 8, 2014 (Las Palmas, Gran Canaria)
Robert Fisher will speak on kingsnake ecology at the **Seminario Internacional Sobre Gestión de Reptiles Exóticos Invasores** held at the Canary Islands, where the California kingsnake is now an invasive nuisance species.
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/Event.aspx?ID=184>

May 10, 2014 (Santa Ana, CA)
WERC scientists will participate in the **Party for the Planet** conservation outreach fair at the Santa Ana Zoo.
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/Event.aspx?ID=185>

IN THE NEWS



Kevin P. Casey/Los Angeles Times

A Variety of California Kingsnake Is Wreaking Havoc in Canary Islands (*Los Angeles Times*)
Reporter Louis Sahagun interviews **Robert Fisher** about albino California kingsnakes invading Gran Canaria, Spain, and USGS participation in an upcoming conference on this nuisance species issue.
<http://www.latimes.com/science/la-me-kingsnake-20140428,0,2901782.story>

A Partnership to Help the Tallest Residents in Yosemite Park (*New York Times*)
Reporter Carol Pogash interviews **Nate Stephenson** about giant sequoia biology and the Mariposa Grove restoration efforts in Yosemite National Park.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/25/us/in-yosemite-park-a-partnership-to-help-the-tallest-residents.html>

“Mad Men” Provides Reminder of Wildfire Ignition Risks in Southern California

Romantic affairs and office intrigue aren’t the only things heating up this season of *Mad Men*, the American television drama about a fictional advertising company in the 1960’s. Attentive viewers will have noticed that in the first two episodes, the topic of wildfires and human ignitions has been subtly mentioned by the characters on the show. Human ignitions are indeed the major source of wildfires in Southern California—read our latest blogpost to learn why WERC ecologists are studying this topic:
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/outreach.aspx?RecordID=210>

NEW JOURNAL ARTICLES

Wood CL, **KD Lafferty**, G DeLeo, HS Young, PJ Hudson, AM Kuris. 2014. **Does biodiversity protect humans against infectious disease?** *Ecology* 95: 817-832. doi: 10.1890/13-1041.1
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5016>

FROM THE FIELD



Cpl. Derrick K. Trions/USMC

Liz Gallegos represented USGS WERC at this year’s **Earth Day Celebration at Camp Pendleton**, the U.S. Marine Corps Base north of San Diego. WERC was invited to participate in the family outreach event, which raised awareness for the plant and animal communities on base. WERC conducts several research projects on base, monitoring endangered species such as the Pacific pocket mouse and the arroyo toad.
<http://www.pendleton.marines.mil/Photos.aspx?igphoto=2000792602>

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