

1077-92-585

**Heather Johnston\*** (hjohnston09@wou.edu), **Dr. May Boggess** and **Dr. Jay Walton**.

*Oregon Blackberry Invasion Analyzed by Spatial Stochastic Modeling.*

Nonnative species are disruptive to natural ecosystems. The Himalayan Blackberry in Western Oregon is of particular concern due to the massive barriers the plant creates and its stubbornness of eradication. A spatially stochastic model is used to predict the spread of the blackberry in Oregon, taking into account factors such as elevation, annual rainfall, temperature, urban sprawl and black bear ranges. This presentation covers individual research in mathematical ecology done at the Texas A&M Math REU 2011. (Received September 07, 2011)