

Low Desert Weed Management Area Fall Meeting

Friday, November 15, 2024

11:00am – 1:00pm

Agenda

1. Introductions and Announcements

a. Attendees

- i. Chris McDonald - UCR
- ii. Tony Quiroz – CVCC
- iii. Kristie Warack - CVCC
- iv. Lynn Sweet - UCR
- v. Remy Vincent - UCR
- vi. Jennifer Prado - UCC
- vii. James Dannof-Burg - TLD
- viii. Jacki Baum – CA States Park
- ix. Bill Niel
- x. James Gannon - BLM
- xi. Chris Weber - ACBCI
- xii. Yvonne Franco - CVRCD
- xiii. Brenda Fisher - OLT
- xiv. Cathy Diaz - BLM
- xv. Stefan Awender - USFWS

2. Weed Report Roundtable

a. OLT

- i. Stinknet removal at Prescott Preserve
- ii. Hand removed Russian thistle
- iii. Desert Dunes stinknet removal

b. UCR

- i. Long term monitoring of native plants and animals
- ii. Upcoming publication
- iii. Reports stinknet to landowners and records on iNaturalist

c. TLD

- i. Map invasives on CVMSHCP lands
- ii. Grant proposals for native plant reintroductions on Prescott Preserve
- iii. BLM native plant reintroduction project
- iv. Oasis native plant outreach/30 pollinator gardens

- v. Working with Jeff Lovich at Mesa Windfarm
 - 1. Concern for tortoise population due to invasives
- vi. Volutaria reports
- vii. Working with BLM on San Felipe replanting
- d. BLM
 - i. Working on Dos Palmas, whitewater, little SB mountains
 - ii. Mustard removal in snow creek area
 - iii. Bufflegrass issues in Blythe
- e. CA States Park
 - i. EDRR for Sahara Mustard in Providence Mountain State Recreation Area
 - ii. Stinknet at Lake Perris
- f. UCC
 - i. Palm Canyon Tamarisk removal
 - 1. Observed Tamarisk beetles
 - ii. CDFW Tamarisk and Fountain Grass in Magnesia Canyon, Grapevine Canyon, Horse Portrero
 - iii. USFWS Sahara mustard removal on the CVNWR

Question:

Does Cal-IPC have a plant risk evaluation or plant assessment form for stipa capensis?

<https://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/paf/stipa-capensis-plant-assessment-form/>

3. LDWMA Website

- a. Mission Statement
 - i. To better serve the communities of the Coachella Valley and eastern Riverside County to educate, coordinate, promote, & implement weed management projects.
- b. Linking Plant information
 - i. Plant Risk Evaluation
 - ii. Plan Assessment Forms
- c. Include Invasive Species Flyer created by UCR
- d. Listing all the projects in the area
- e. Maps for current and planned projects
- f. How many people have access to ArcGIS?
 - i. Could create an ArcGis Online org for WMA

4. Funding Opportunities

- a. Prop 4 funding
 - i. \$10 million to CV Mountains Conservancy

- b. CDFA Funding
 - i. \$40k/year for 3 years for each WMA
 - ii. \$120k total
 - iii. Have not specified which weeds are eligible
 - iv. CDFA discussed reducing barriers of species eligibility
 - v. RFP expected in December
 - vi. Proposals due in March
 - vii. Resource Conservation Districts can hold the funds
 - viii. NEPA and CEQA barriers for projects
 - ix. Joint mapping project

5. Upcoming Field Trip

- i. Options:
 - a. Wind farms at Mesa to Whitewater
 - b. Prescott Preserve
 - c. TLD Preserve
 - d. Indian Canyons
 - e. Desert Dunes
- ii. Tony will send out a doodle poll for potential dates/times
- iii. Consensus would like to visit Mesa Wind Farms
 - a. James Gannon will explore the possibility of hiking to Whitewater via the PCT
 - b. Could include visiting the stinknet in Stubbe Cottonwood Canyon Conservation Area