

# Riding the Invasion Curve: Invasive plant management on Santa Catalina Island

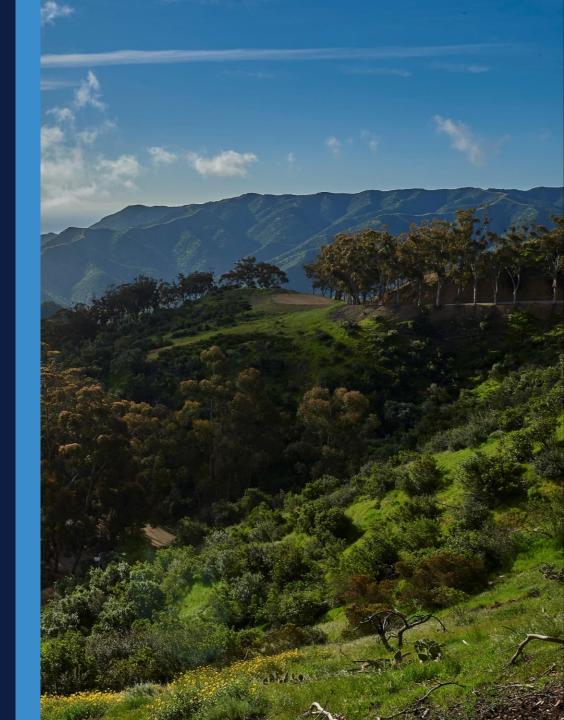
Aaron Kreisberg
Invasive Plant Program Manager
Catalina Island Conservancy



#### Mission:

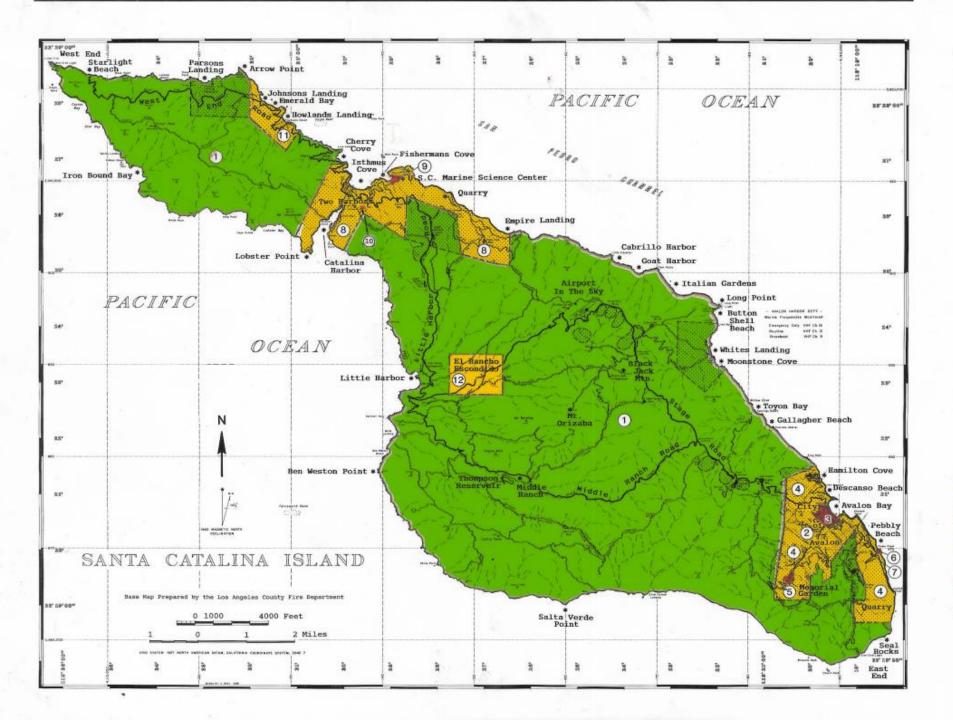
"To be an exemplary steward of Island resources through a balance of conservation, education, and recreation."











#### SANTA CATALINA ISLAND

#### Land Ownership Map

Ownership of Santa Catalina Island 1990

1	Santa Catalina Island Conservancy	42,134.22	
Avalon	& Vicinity:		
Inc	orporated Area (City of Avalon):		
2	Santa Catalina Island Company	695.79	
3	Private Individuals & Municipal	104.81	
Uni	ocorporated Area:		
(4)	Santa Catalina Island Company	1,662.72	
(5)	Wrigley Memorial Garden Found'n	37.85	
0	So. Calif. Edison Co. (Pebbly Bch)	2.88	
0	City of Avalon (sewage plant)	1.54	
Two Ha	rbors & Vicinity (uninc.):		
(3)	Santa Catalina Island Company	2,272.22	
0	University of Southern Calif.	14.26	
10	So. Calif. Edison Co.	1.46	
Eneral	d Bay & Vicinity (uninc.):		
13	Santa Catalina Island Company	418.40	
El Ran	cho Escondido (uninc.):		
12	Santa Catalina Island Company	537.73	
Total	Island Area	47,883.88	



Santa Catalina Island Conservancy 42,134+ acres (88%)



Santa Catalina Island Company 5,587\* acres (11%)



All Other Ownership 163+ acres (1%)



Areas <u>excluded</u> from Los Angeles County Open Space Easement.

Santa Catalina Island Company Avalon, CA Sept. 1989

#### WEST END ARROW POINT STARLIGHT BIG GEIGER COVE STARBAY LITTLE GEIGER COVE SPRING LANDING RISBON BEACH RIBBON Soils Legend LOBSTER Tongva-Freeboard-Starbright complex Tongva-Pachic Argixerolls-Freeboard complex Beaches-Abaft complex Haploxerepts-Purser-Rock outcrop complex Luff-Haploxerepts-Haploxeralfs complex LONG POINT BUTTON SHELL BEACH Pursor-Luff-complex Dewpoint-Luff-association HEN ROCK WHITES LANDING Pursor-Rock outcrop complex Typic Xerofluvents-Riverwash complex LITTLE HARBOR Typic-Haploxerepts-Typic Xerofluvents-Argixerolls complex Rock outcrop, coastal cliffs-Nauti-Haploxerepts complex Oboship-Nauti-Bosun complex GALLAGHER BEACH Nauti-Flyer-Marpol complex BEN WESTON Express-Flyer-Loadline complex FROG ROCK Flyer-Loadline-Nauti complex BEN WESTON AMILTON COVE Flyer, gullied-Express, gullied-Bosun complex DESCANSO BEACH Masthead-Luff complex AVALON BAY Masthead-Luff complex Dewpoint-Masthead-Coastwise complex EBBLY BEACH Masthead-Coastwise-Dewpoint complex Masthead-Dewpoint-Rock outcrop complex Coastwise-Masthead complex Masthead-Coastwise-Typic Haploxeralfs complex JEWFISH POINT Urban land-Xerorthents, landscaped, association **BALTA VERDE** Nauti-landscaped-Urban land complex Typio-Argixerolls-Urban land Typic Argixerolls-Calic Haploxerolls\_urban land Complex BINNACLE ROCK Typic Xerorthents, fill-Typic Xerorthents, steep fill, association EAST END Gravel Pits Water

#### NRCS Soils Map Catalina Island

This survey was completed in 2007 by the Natural Resources Conservation Service

This survey can be found at the following website: http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/

— Road

----- Hiking trail

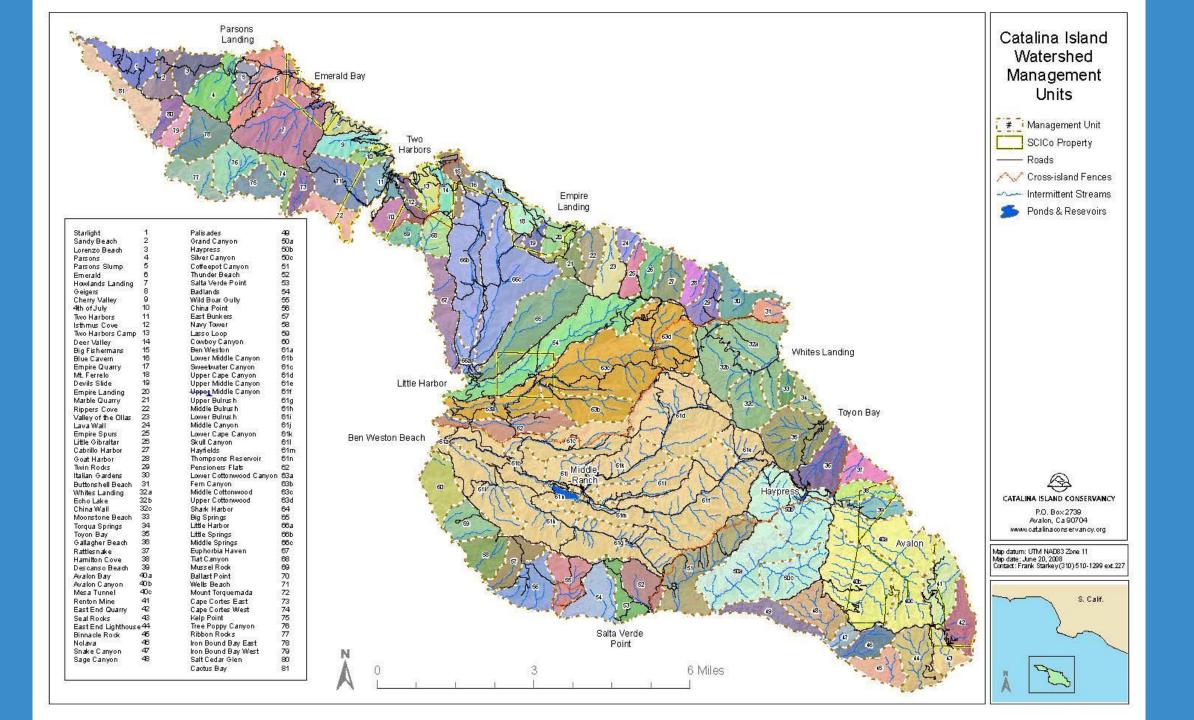


#### CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY

The mission of the
Catalina Island Conservancy
is to be a responsible steward of its
land through a balance of conservation,
education and recreation.

Map datum: UTM NAD83 Zone 11 Map date: May 14, 2010 Contact: Concervation Dept. (310) 510-1288 ext.22





## Ancestral Tongva/Gabrielino Land







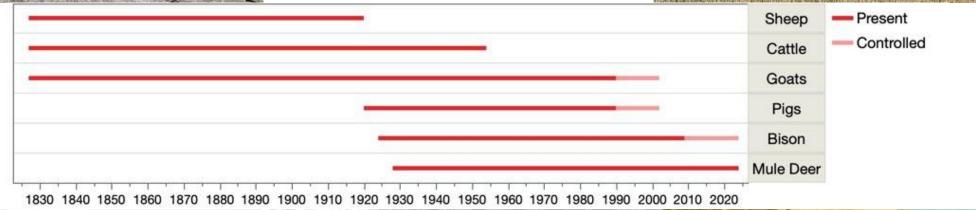
Catalina as "an island utopia in a modern, busy, everyday world. A land where there are neither rich nor poor. A heaven on earth—without a fence around it."

"Eventually, I'll make up the cost by taking the smallest possible profit from an increased number of visitors." -William Wrigley Jr.



## History of Introduced Herbivores 1820 to 2024







Flora of Catalina

Author(s)	Year	# Total Plant Records	# Exotic Plant Records	Percent of Introduced vs. Native Species
Millspaugh & Nuttall	c.1923	455	75	16%
Thorne	c.1967	573	171	30%
Muns	c.1983	618	198	32%
Junak, Guilliams, and Hoefs	c. 2024*	707**	238**	34%

<sup>\*</sup> in publication

<sup>\*\*</sup> Records are not final, so this numbers may shift by publication

## Invasive Plant Project Management Strategies

Catalina Habitat Improvement and Restoration Program (CHIRP) Invasive Plant Project (IPP)

- 1) Prevention
- 2) Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR)
- 3) Eradication
- 4) Control
- 5) No Management (Intentional and Unintentional) (Prioritized species and site led methods)

#### **Quantity of CHIRP Target Species 2003 - 2024**

2005	43	2012	50	2017	47	2021	55
2006	60	2015	50	2018	51	2023	53
2009	39	2016	53	2019	52	2024	57

## CHIRP IPP Prioritization

- Control
- Eradication Natural Areas
- Eradication Island Wide
- Corridors
- Volunteers
- Priority Watershed/Watershed Management Units

4	Α	В	С	D	Е
		2024	2024		
1		Overall	Goal		
	Management Goal	Ran√↑	Ran 🗡	Species Name	Common Name
2	Control	1	1	Genista linifolia	Flax leaf broom
3	Control	2	2	Foeniculum vulgare	Fennel
4					
4	Eradication- Island Wide	3	1	Pennisetum setaceum	Fountain grass
5	Eradication- Island Wide	4	2	Cortaderia selloana	Pampas grass
6	Eradication- Natural Areas	5	1	Cynara cardunculus	Artichoke thistle
7	Control	6	3	Silybum marianum	Milk thistle
8	Eradication- Natural Areas	7	2	Arundo donax	Giant cane
9					
	Eradication- Natural Areas	8	3	Spartium junceum	Spanish broom
10	Control	9	4	Phalaris aquatica	Harding grass
11					
11	Control	10	5	Carduus pycnocephalus	Italian thistle
10					
12	Eradication- Island Wide	11	3	Tamarix ramosissima	Tamarisk
13	Eradication- Island Wide	12	4	Stipa tenuissima	Mexican feathergrass
1/1					

Early Detection	Rapid response, eradication target species
Eradication- Island wide	Eradication of all known populations on the island
Eradication- Natural Areas	Eradication on Conservancy land
Control	Mgmt in high priority watersheds, restoration &/or high use areas & transportation corridors
Corridors	Roadside - 60 meter treatment buffer; Trails - 10 meter buffer *buffer distance relates to one side of corridor

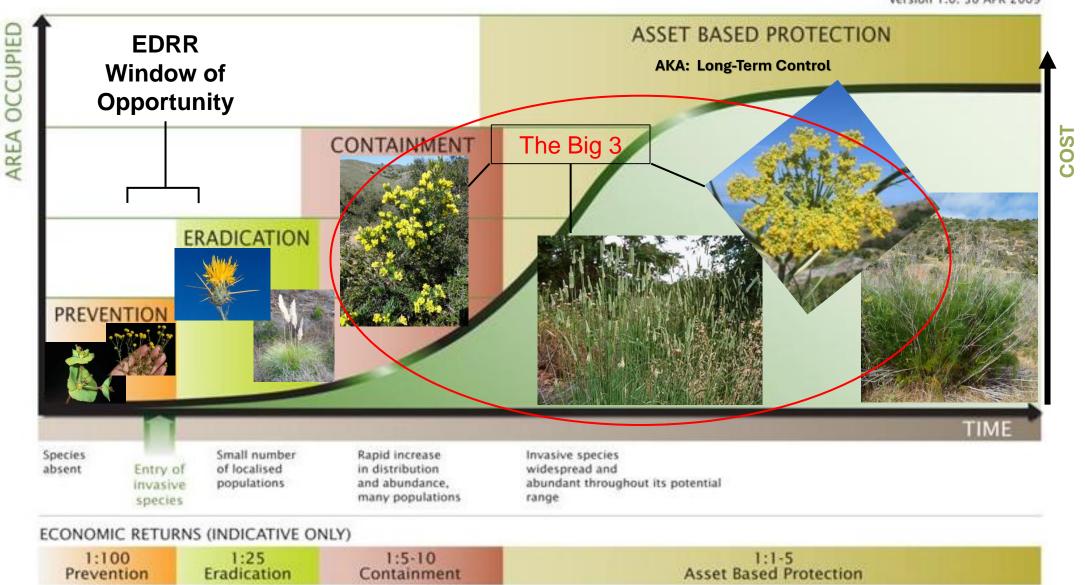
#### **High Priority Watersheds**

1.	Middle Canyon	5. Little Harbor	9. Parson's Landing
2.	Haypress	6. White's Landing	10. Goat Harbor
3.	Cottonwood Canyon	7. Coffeepot	11. Big Springs Canyon
4.	Shark Harbor	8. Emerald	12. Empire's Landing

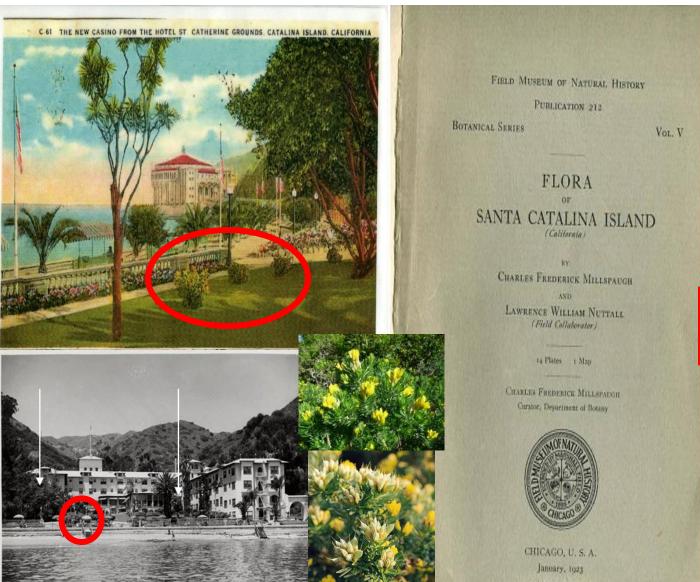
#### **Catalina Habitat Improvement and Restoration Program - Invasive Plant Project**

#### GENERALISED INVASION CURVE SHOWING ACTIONS APPROPRIATE TO EACH STAGE

Version 1.0: 30 APR 2009



## Case for Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR)— Mediterranean Broom (*Genista linifolia*)



154 FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY-BOTANY, VOL. V.

rels longer than the calyx-tube, calyx dilated, pubescent, particularly on the margin; upper calyx-teeth broadly triangular, acute, lateral pair oblong-lanceolate, and the lowest corraccous, subulate, the three lower teeth equalling the tube, the upper shorter; legume flat, sparingly pubescent, about 8-seeded.

Moiat shady banks or among grasses. January to May. The many flowered, ovate-leaved race: Lyon; Prost; Brondeper (as L. testitus); trait to Summit and in Oberry Camyon, Swills 5,905, 5994; shady, rich banks along Avalon Run, Mülap, 4776; Golf Links Canyon and Big Wash Canyon, Nutrali 72, 1085.

The (nometimes) fewer-flowared, narrow-leaved race: dry stream-bed in open pasture, Middle Ranch, Millap. 46070; ridge between Rock Spring and Rock Falls Canyons, Montey 600; Schoolhouse Ridge and Pebble Beach Canyon, Natiol 45, 805, 676; ridge between Descanso and Hamilton Canyons, Knopf 35, WILD SWEIT PEA.

There are many races of this plant some with more and larger flowers, some with broadly oval to ovate leaves, others with ovate-lanceolate to linear, but all may appear on one stem. These races do not even remain constant as to shady or exposed situations though the broader leaves are more common to shade and the narrower to exposure. The synonomy would be difficult to settle upon except through extended field week, copious notes, ripe fruit, and a goodly series of well prepared specimens. Apparently (at this writing) the following sercies are included in this L. strictus Natt. (this would supplant Alerleidi) and L. rolearus (1) Borberge White; but possibly not L. vestima Natt., L. rolearus Greene, and L. puberulay White. All attempts to properly classify rimes or climbing plants through leaf-forms and sizes; inadequate herbarium material; or worse still by cultivation from seed, in which case claracters can

[Genista linifolia Linn. The European DYERS' GREEN-WOLD grows as a silvery, yellow-flowered bush, four feet high, at the summit of the cable railway on the south hill above Avalon, where it blooms profusely from March to April (Mills), 4836). It has not, so far, shown a tendency to become naturalized.

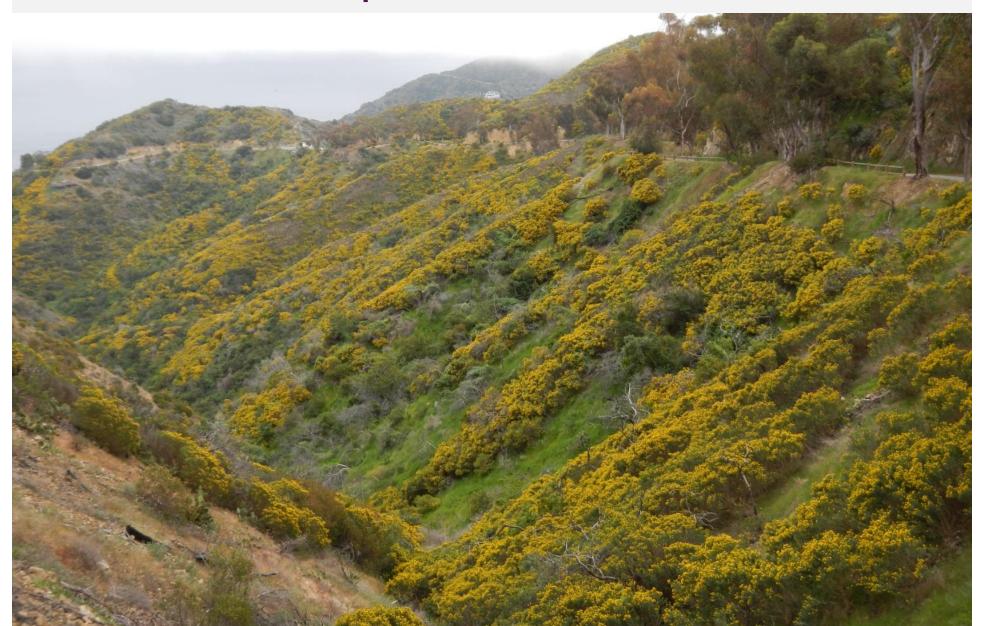
IAcacia and. There have been transplanted to the bill salatore Lover's Cove, several species of Acacia of evident Australian origin (Nuttall 101, 119, 672). They are growing and fruiting huxuriantly but have, so far, shown no tendency to reproduce on the island.]

[Mucuna sp. One of the old fishermen claims to have collected in 1915, "about a dozen sea beans" (Knopf 200) from "a bush growing at the base of a seaside hill in one of the bays of the island shore." He claims to have no positive remembrance of the exact spot, and that they might possibly have been from a vine climbing over the bush. Though he has attempted to guide Mr. Knopf to the locality, no specimen has, as vet, resulted.]

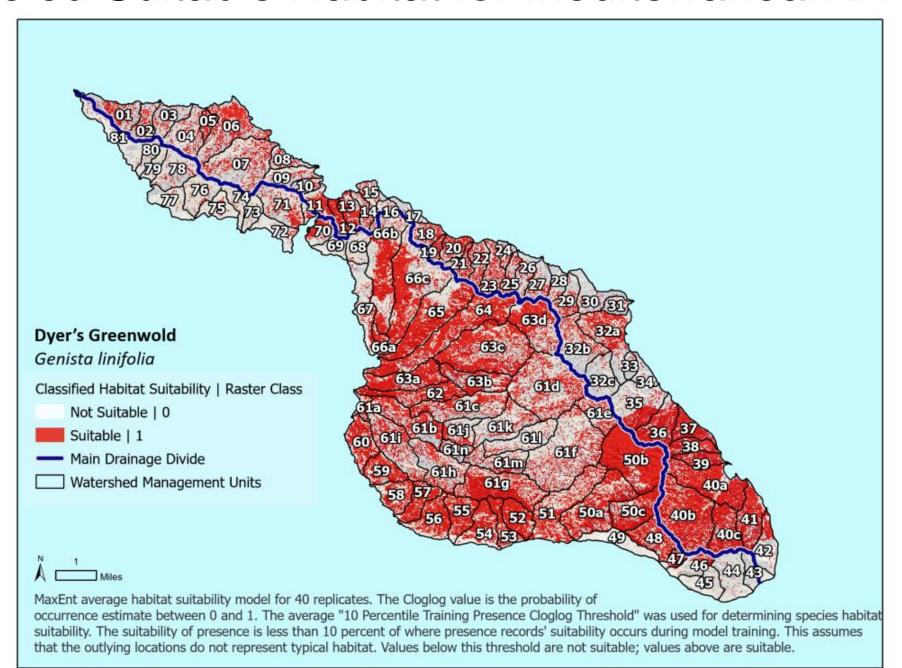
#### Order 10. GERANIALES.

Herbs, shrubs, trees or sometimes succulent or tender plants or woody vines with tissues with or without secreting glands or cells, Leaves various in position and form. Calyx and corolla regular or

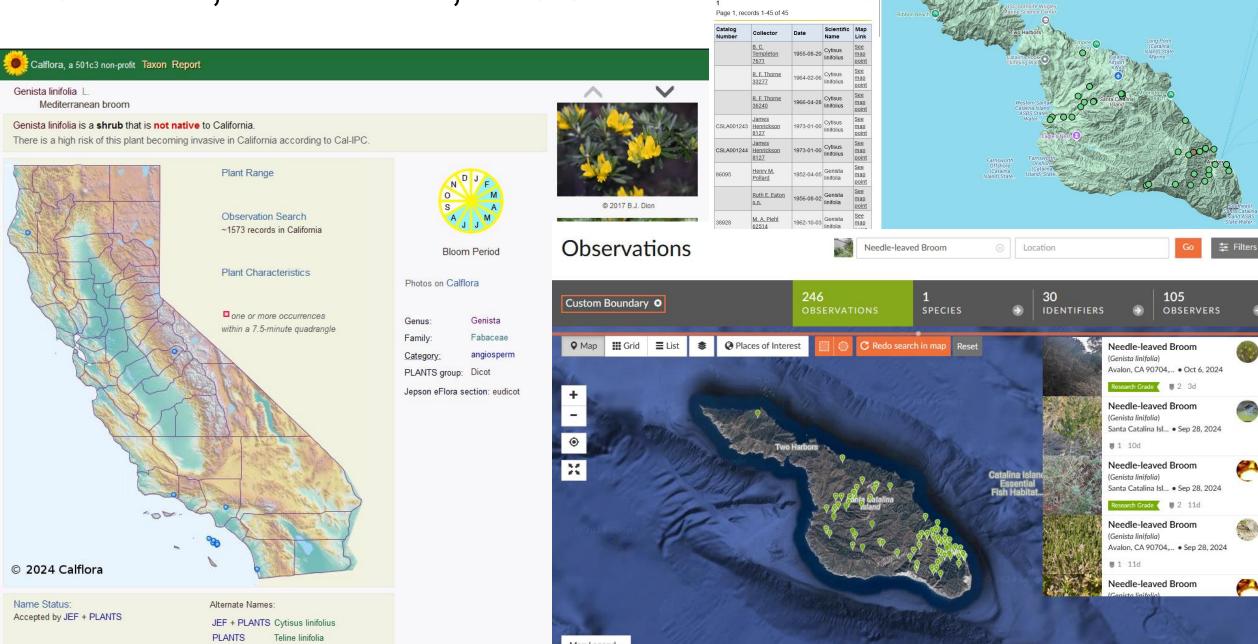
### Lesson Learned-Consequence of No EDRR



#### Modeled Suitable Habitat for Mediterranean Broom

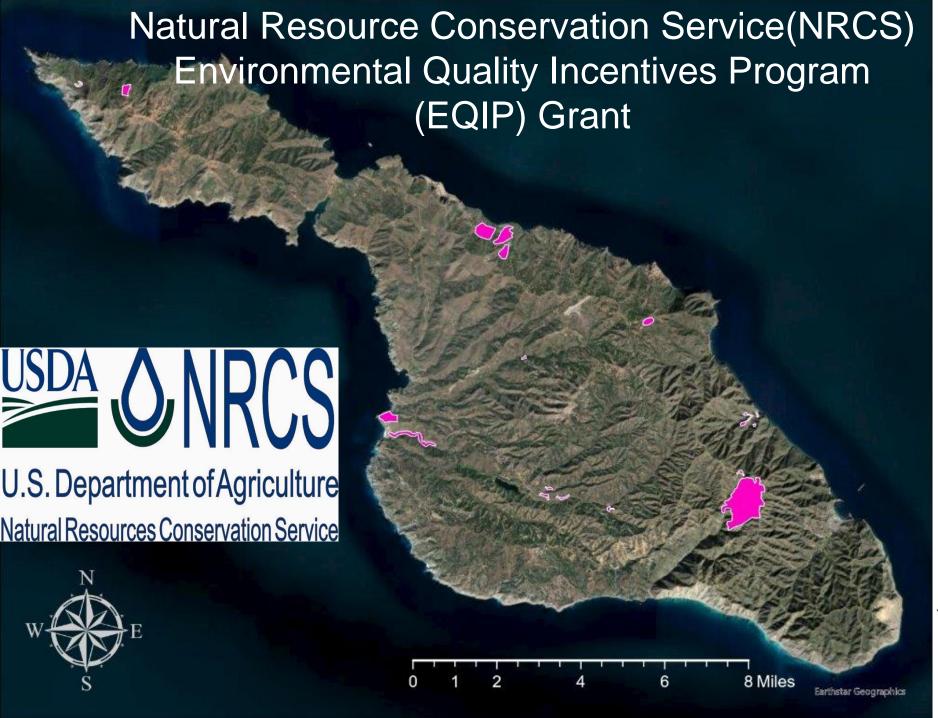


#### Calflora, iNaturalist, & CCH2



Records and Taxa

Collections Taxa List



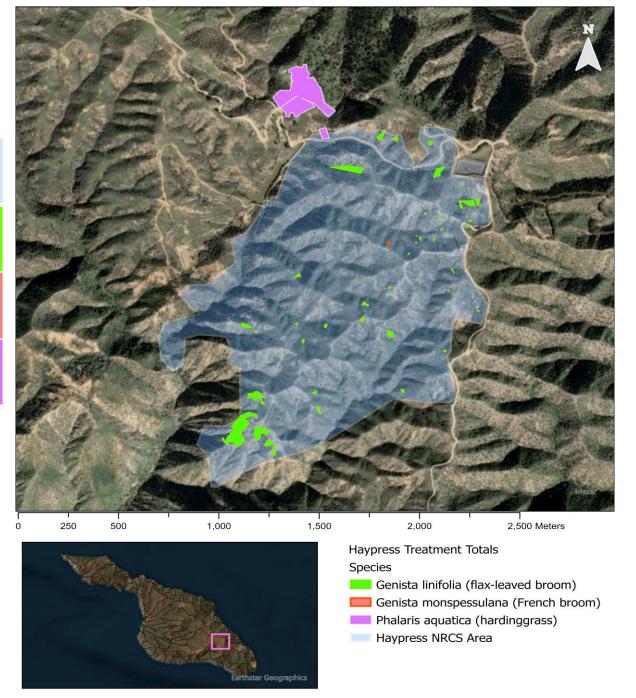
- Covers 2023-2025
- 8 treatment "fields" containing 19 polygons across 621 acres
- Primary treatments
   conducted by the California
   Institute of Environmental
   Studies (CIES) from March
   through June
- Primary target species:
  - Mediterranean Broom (Genista linifolia)-GELI
  - Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*)-FOVU
  - Harding Grass (Phalaris aquatica)-PHAQ
  - Artichoke thistle (Cynara cardunculus)-CYCA
  - Milk Thistle (Silybum marianum)-SIMA

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE
OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

## Haypress Field 28 and 32

<u>Species</u>	<u>Species</u> <u>Count</u>	<u>Treatment</u> <u>Area (Acres)</u>
Genista Iinifolia	9718	5.9
Genista monspessulana	56	0.02
Phalaris aquatica	7194	8.0





## Haypress Genista Treatment

Cut-stump-50% triclopyr

**Before** 



After

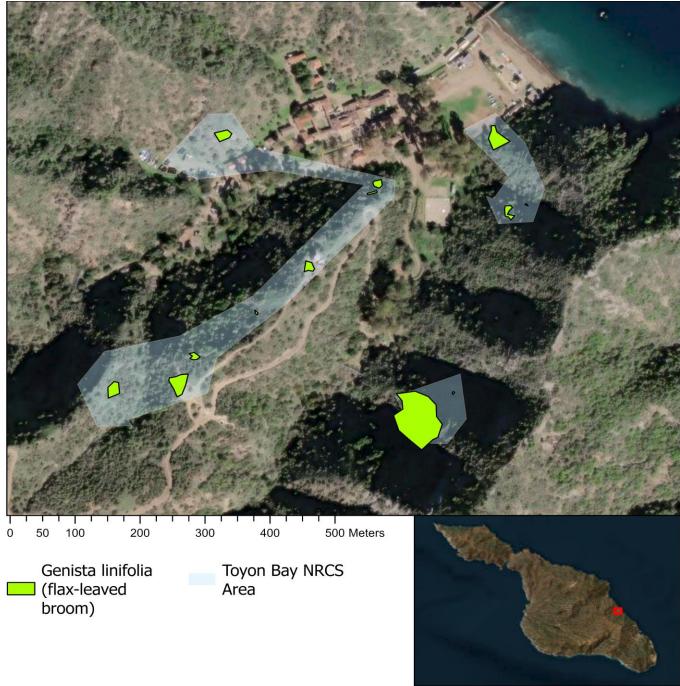


## Toyon Bay

Field 31

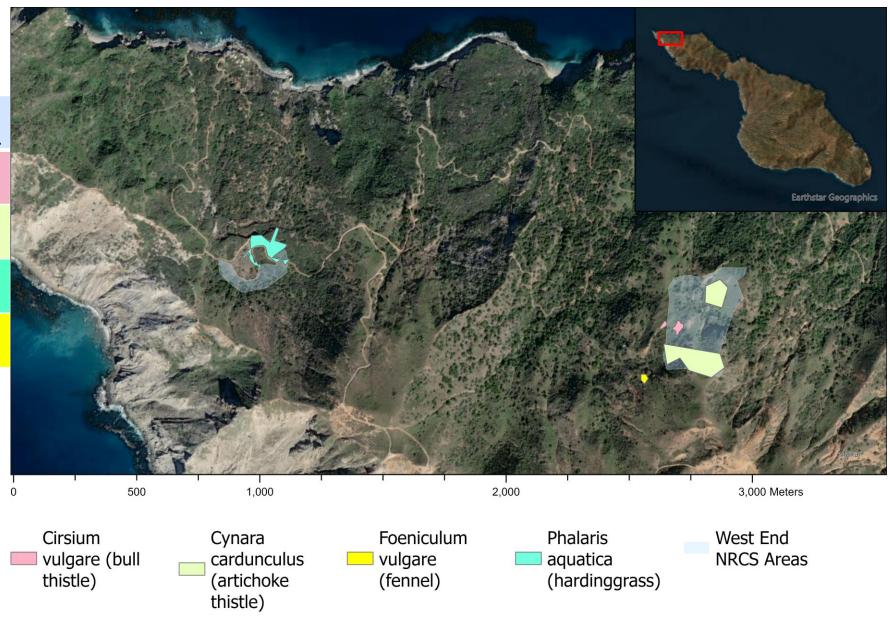
<u>Species</u>	Species Count	Treatment Area (Acres)
Genista linifolia	4393	1.3





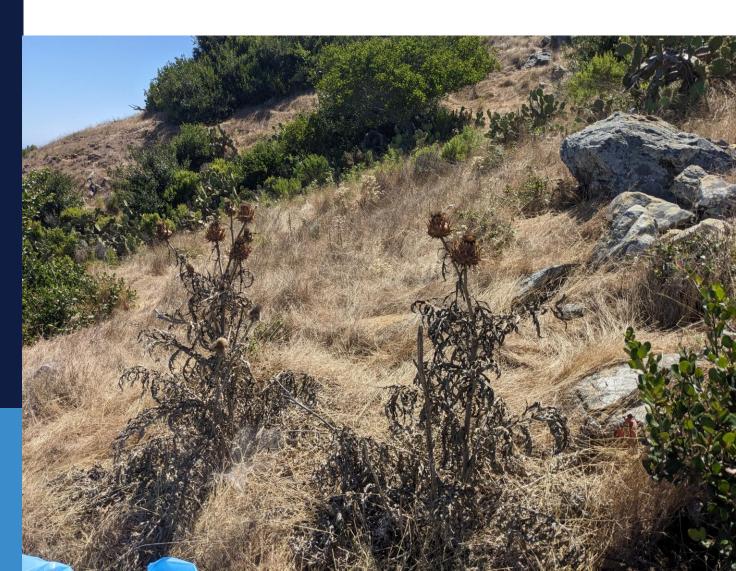
## West End

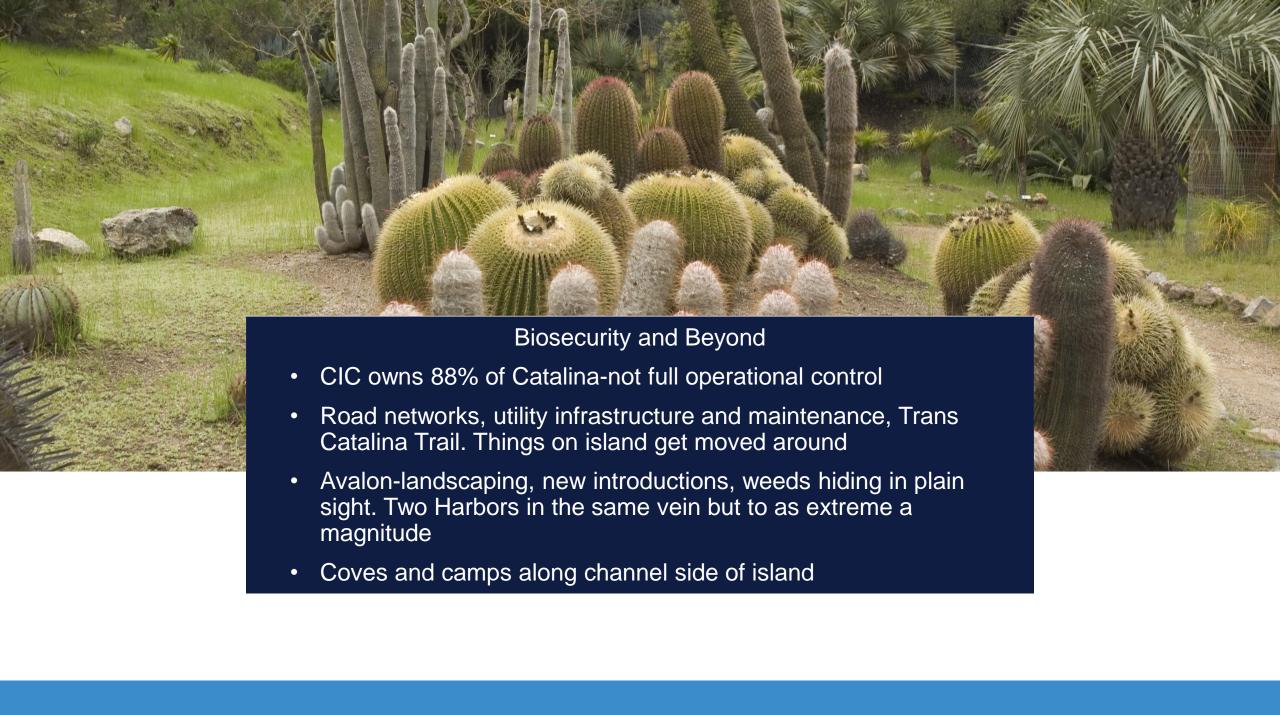
<u>Species</u>	Species Count	Treatment Area (Acres)
Cirsium vulgare	534	0.5
Cyanara cardunculus	227	6.6
Phalaris aquatica	305	2.4
Foeniculm vulgare	169	0.2

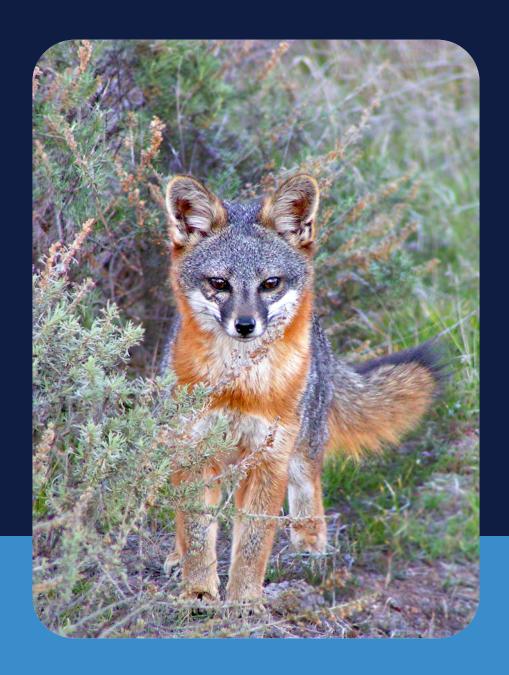




- Artichoke thistle present in natural areas in one population on the far West End of Catalina
  - 0.3% Aminopyralid







## Lessons Learned

- 1. All of the above approach
  - Staff, contractors, partners, volunteers
  - No one size fits all approach
- 2. EDRR absolutely imperative
  - Effective program is easier said then done
  - Training and informational materials critical
- 3. Be realistic and strategic
  - Dedicate as much resource as possible to surveying and EDRR
    - Problematic weeds on mainland SoCal that have not made it to Catalina, and problematic weeds that have yet to make it beyond Avalon
- 4. Losing a season or more of treatment is very problematic
  - No treatment in 2020
- Work with and utilize collective wisdom of the wider community of invasive plant management practitioners
  - Cal-IPC, Weed Management Areas, Islands of the California Botanical Collaborative, California Native Plant Society, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, California Botanic Garden

## Past, Present, & Future of Catalina Invasive Plant Management





# Catalina Island Restoration Project



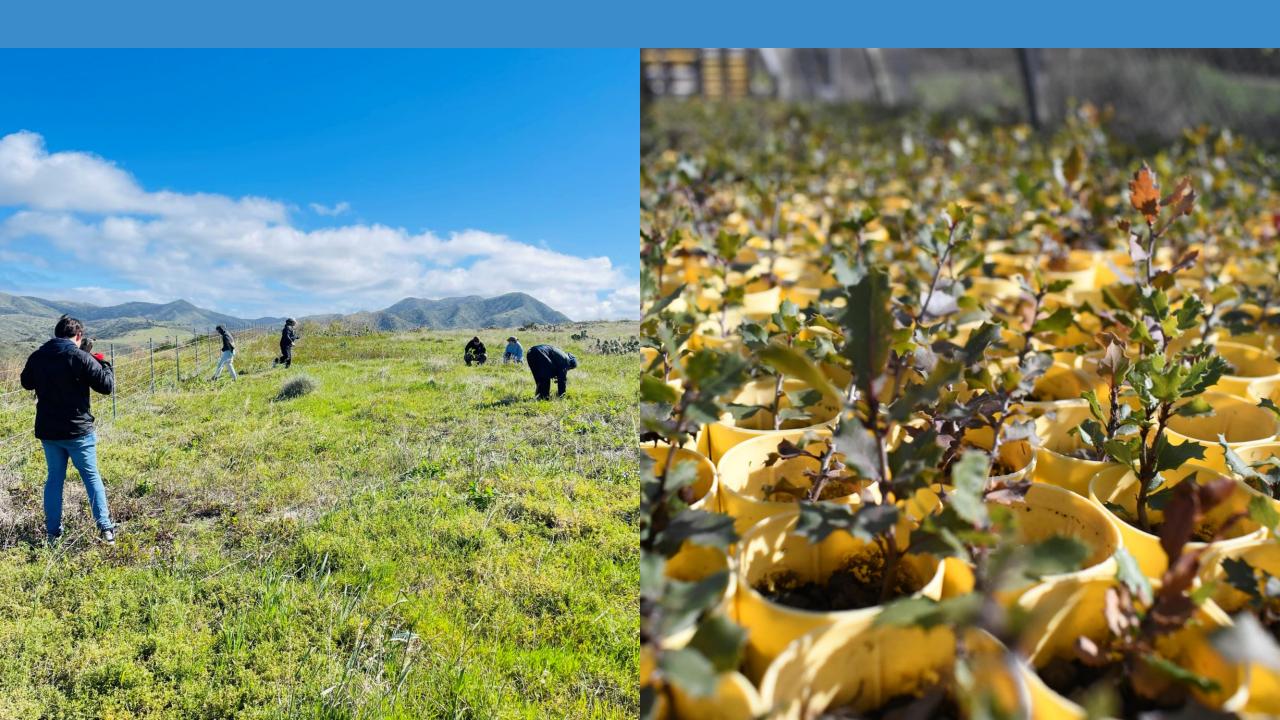
Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Plan



Plant Restoration and Seed Farm Development



Species Management



## Come Out and Visit!

- Volunteer Opportunities
- Nice, accessible place to visit and recreate
- Please report sightings to Calflora and iNaturalist!
- Clean your boots and check your gear for seeds!
- Avalon is great, but there is a whole island out there





