Maintaining Mitigation Sites: The Then and Now of Creating Self Sustaining Habitat

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Habitat mitigation sites established by Reclamation Districts with funding from DWR beginning in the mid 1990’s.

Largely riparian forest and scrub-shrub habitats.

Designed to meet performance standards.

Habitat Maintenance was thought of as “if needed”
Two mitigation sites ("4 acre" and "8 acre") established in 1996 and 1999 on Twitchell Island. How was the "if needed" approach working?
Himalayan Blackberry Control

Multi-Year Approach

1. Remove the Biomass
2. Repeated Herbicide Application
3. Replant Site
Biomass Shredded on Site
4 acre site
Prepare for Planting in Fall 2015

- Johnson’s Grass established within the sites

- Use mowing to control biomass and a combination of grazing and spraying to control
Create a site that facilitates habitat maintenance and is dominated by “native” plants
New Paradigm
Coequal goals – Ecological Value and Cost
Effective Habitat Maintenance
Thank You!