Fifteen Years

What did we want and what did we get?

Mike Kelly
Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve
San Diego, Calif. mkellysd@aol.com
It all starts with questions

How do I protect San Diego thornmint from artichoke thistle?
Artichoke thistle
(*Cynara cardunculus*)
My 2006 questions
2006 Questions
2006 questions
2006: Vector question
2006: French broom questions & answers
Prophylactic management
Early Detection/Rapid Response

Caulerpa taxifolia

- Unusual rapid response when detected-model
- Credit Regional Water Quality Control Board
- >$3 million cost cheap compared w. inaction or late action

*Caulerpa taxifolia*, the Mediterranean’s “killer algae,” was found in two southern California harbor sites
Management Lesson: the politics of eucalyptus
Goal isn’t killing weeds.
It’s conserving & restoring natives

Least bell’s vireo story
Biological Control Research
Gap between research & management: When in doubt, do it yourself!

- Gather data.
- Design your own simple experiments:
  - Drill & kill eucs, palms
  - Basal bark ailanthus
  - Ambrosia pumila & herbicide use
  - Drilling & killing W. robusta, P. Canariense: what does it take?
Public education

- Walks & Talks
- Media coverage
- Education at the point of plant sale
- Del Mar Fair participation
- Local legislation
An increasing number of citizens are concerned about the impacts of wildland weeds and are getting involved in local restoration projects.

Volunteers control weeds in projects every week throughout San Diego County. Check with your local conservancy.