CalEPPC News

A quarterly publication of the California Exotic Pest Plant Council

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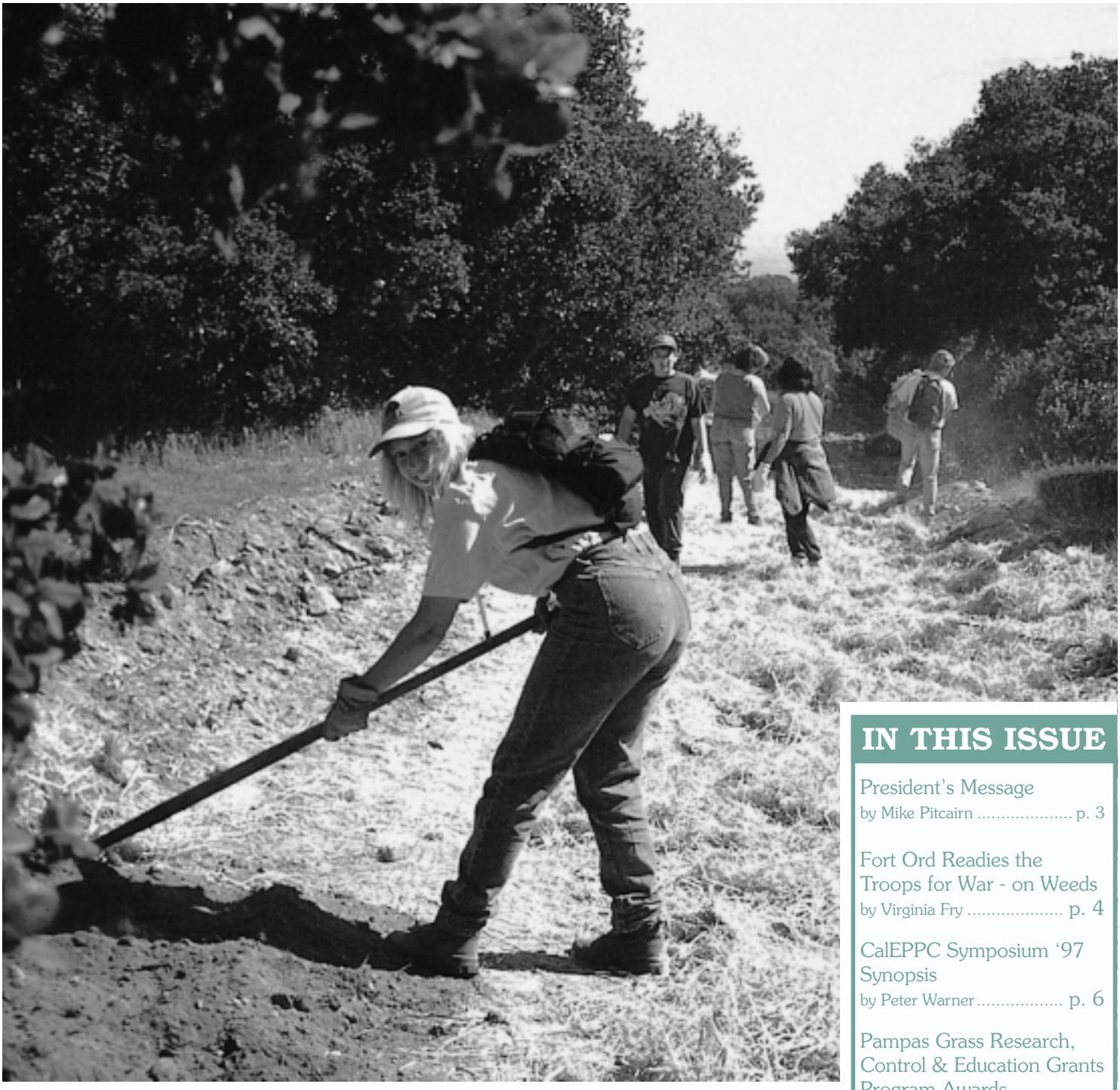

Volunteers fight erosion and exotic weeds at the former Fort Ord.

Photo by Anne Knox.

IN THIS ISSUE

Who We Are

CalEPPC NEWS is published quarterly by the California Exotic Pest Plant Council, a non-profit organization. The objects of the organization are to:

- provide a focus for issues and concerns regarding exotic pest plants in California;
- facilitate communication and the exchange of information regarding all aspects of exotic pest plant control and management;
- provide a forum where all interested parties may participate in meetings and share in the benefits from the information generated by this council;
- promote public understanding regarding exotic pest plants and their control;
- serve as an advisory council regarding funding, research, management and control of exotic pest plants;
- facilitate action campaigns to monitor and control exotic pest plants in California; and
- review incipient and potential pest plant management problems and activities and provide relevant information to interested parties.

Please Note:

The California Exotic Pest Plant Council is a California 501(c)3 non-profit, public benefit corporation organized to provide a focus for issues and concerns regarding exotic pest plants in California, and is recognized under federal and state tax laws a qualified donee for tax deducible charitable contributions.

1998 CalEPPC Officers and Board Members

Officers

President	Mike Pitcairn	CDFA, 3288 Meadowview Road,Sacramento, CA 95832; 916.262.2049; email: <mpitcairn@smpt1.cdfa.ca.gov>
Vice-president	Greg Archbald	GGNPA, Fort Mason, Bldg. 201, San Francisco, CA 94123; 415.561.3034, Ext. 3425; email: <greg_archbald@ggnpa.org>
Secretary	John Randall	TNC Wildland Weeds Mgmt., UC Section of Plant Biology, Davis, CA 95616; 916.754.8890; email: <jarandall@ucdavis.edu>
Treasurer	Sally Davis	31872 Joshua Dr., No. 25D, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679; 714.888.8541; email: <sallydavis@aol.com>
Past-president	Ann Howald	210 Chestnut Ave., Sonoma, CA 95476; 707.939.0775; email: <102062.170@compuserve.com>

Board Members whose terms expire December 31, 1998

Joe Balciunas	USDA Biocontrol, 800 Buchanan St., Albany, CA 94710; 510.559.5975; email: <joebalci@pw.usda.gov>
Carl Bell	UC Coop Ext., 1050 E. Holton Rd., Holtville, CA 92250; 760.352.9474; email: <cebell@ucdavis.edu>
Joe DiTomaso	UC Weed Science Prog., 210 Robbins Hall, Davis, CA 95616; 916.754.8715; email: <ditomaso@vegmail.ucdavis.edu>
Steve Harris	P.O. Box 341, Arcata, CA 95518-0341; 707.443.6943; email: <sharris@igc.org>

Board Members whose terms expire December 31, 1999

Jo Kitz	6223 Lubao Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91367; 818.346.9675; email: <mtnsrt@aol.com>
Anne Knox	BLM, 2135 Butano Dr., Sacramento, CA 95825; 916.978.4645; email: <aknox@ca.blm.gov>
Brenda Ouwerkerk	SLO County Dept. of Agriculture, 2156 Sierra Way, Suite A, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; 805.781.5910; email: <bouwerker@co.slo.ca.us>
Ellie Wagner	909 Oak Ave., Davis, CA 95616; 916.653.8907, email: <ewagner@trmx3.dot.ca.gov>
Peter Warner	P.O. Box 7208, Cotati, CA 94931; 707.792.2822; email: <warner@sonoma.edu>

Working Group Chairpersons

Database	Steve Harris	707.443.6943
Nursery growers/landscape architects liaison	Dan Songster	714.895.8161
Slide Collection	Tony Bomkamp	714.837.0404
Species Management & Control:		
Biocontrol	Mike Pitcairn	916.262.2049
Arundo	Nelroy Jackson	909.279.7787
Brooms	Need chairperson	
German ivy/hoary cress	Dave Chipping	805.528.0362
	and Greg Archbald	415.561.3034, Ext.3425
Lepidium	Joel Trumbo	916.355.0128
Pampas grass	Joe DiTomaso	916.754.8715
Yellow starthistle	Mike Pitcairn	916.262.2049
Tamarisk	Bill Neill	281.287.5246
	and Jeff Lovich	909.787.4719
Volunteers	Mike Kelly	619.566.6489
	and Jo Kitz	818.346.9675

CalEPPC's web site: http://www.caleppc.org

President's Message

Mike Pitcairn

As I was driving back from Symposium '97 in Concord (wasn't it great!) the realization that I was to be the president in 1998 started to sink in. It is, indeed, an honor to serve this organization as president, especially in following our excellent past president, Ann Howald, and I thank you for the opportunity. Then, a another thought occurred to me. Coordinating the activities of CalEPPC will not be business as usual because in 1998 we have a substantial change in the membership of the board of directors. Three long-standing board members, Jeff Lovich, Nelroy Jackson, and Mike Kelly, will not be returning. These three individuals were instrumental in the formation of CalEPPC and setting it on its current course. Much of the success that CalEPPC has achieved was due to the efforts of the early board of directors to which these individuals belonged. On behalf of CalEPPC, I want to say thank you, Jeff, Nelroy, and Mike, for your contributions to CalEPPC these past years.

The flip side of this is that they will be replaced by three enthusiastic, new board members: Ellen Wagner, Peter Warner, and Anne Knox. It will be a pleasure to work with such knowledgeable and dedicated individuals as we wage our war against invasive exotic weeds. These new board members bring new ideas, perspectives, and energy to the business of CalEPPC and I am looking forward to working with them this year.

To make the transition as smooth as possible, it was suggested that we have an orientation for the new board members and provide them with a little history and an update on the current projects and issues being discussed by the board. This gave me a chance to look back on our accomplishments of the last five years, and, you know, we have accomplished a lot! The hope of the early organizers of CalEPPC was that it would provide an avenue to educate the general public on the threat to our native ecosystems from invasive exotic plants and to provide for the exchange of information on how to best control or remove these plants. Certainly that has happened through our newsletter, weed list, annual symposium, and proceedings, which have been some of the strengths of this organization. But the existence of CalEPPC has also provided an opportunity for individuals and organizations to provide funds for actual weed control projects throughout California. Two recent examples are the efforts directed toward Pampas grass and Cape ivy (formerly German ivy). Last year, in response to a request by an anonymous donor, a committee was formed to distribute funding for Pampas grass control, research, and education projects. For this, the committee issued a request for proposals. The result was that over two hundred thousand dollars will be distributed to Pampas grass removal and research projects, and development of an educational brochure and video. Details on the award winners and their projects are provided later in this newsletter. All of us with CalEPPC are grateful to this generous donor for providing the funding for this work and I am pleased that CalEPPC was able to step up and provide the means for this to happen.

The second recent project is the fund raising effort for biological control of Cape ivy in California. This smothering vine covers acres of ground in the drainages of coastal streams from San Diego to Del Norte Counties. A total of $42,000.00 has been raised and an cooperative agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, and CalEPPC has been signed. The money will be used to fund South African scientists to explore and locate natural enemies (insects and diseases) of Cape ivy in its native habitat. Updates on this and other projects will be published in later issues of the newsletter.

"Over two hundred thousand dollars will be distributed to Pampas grass removal and research projects."

So, it looks to be an exciting year. We have so much for which to be proud and thankful and I look forward to serving CalEPPC in 1998.

Fort Ord Readies the Troops for War - on Weeds!

by Virginia Fry, Professor Emeritis, Monterey Peninsula College

As far back as the 1950s or earlier, a unique and fortuitous set of circumstances began influencing attitudes about the value of the local environment among administrators at Fort Ord, a 28,000-acre military base in central coastal California, adjacent to the Monterey Peninsula.

Initially, two influential men and one woman were responsible, in very different ways, for sensitizing Fort Ord Army commandants to the worth of the native landscape; S.F.B. Morse (grandnephew of the inventor of the telegraph), the owner and preserver of much of the 6,000 acre Del Monte Forest, better known as Pebble Beach, and Allen Griffin, founder, owner, publisher, and editor of the then distinguished and nationally respected *Monterey Peninsula Herald*. Both men socialized regularly, over many years, with the commanding generals of Fort Ord.

These two strong community leaders spoke ardently about saving natural landscapes and planting native pines, oaks and cypress trees. Griffin, long before others thought about noxious exotic plants, was impassioned about the eradication of iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) from the Monterey Peninsula's dunes and highways, and French broom (*Genista monspessulana*) from the peninsula's pine forests. And *his* views appeared in *his* newspaper.

In 1964, Beatrice Howitt, retired virologist, published with co-author John Howell, *The Vascular Plants of Monterey County, California* in the Wasman Journal of Biology, University of San Francisco. They listed 1,713 indigenous and introduced species in Monterey County's wildlands, making it one of the most bountiful flora regions in the Northern Hemisphere, with 37 plants identified, at that time, as occurring no where else in the world, "...so that Monterey is remarkably blessed with some of the rarest plants known."

Howitt somehow convinced the Army to let her survey for rare native plants and habitats on Fort Ord's thousands of wild acres. At the same time, she also started a local chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) which, in 1967, negotiated an Administrative Agreement with General Robert G. Fergeson, commandant of Fort Ord, (and friend of Griffin and Morse), to set aside, preserve, and protect small rare Plant Reserves at Fort Ord.

Later in 1972 another commandant, General Harold Moore, stated that he wanted as many trees planted as there were people on Fort Ord, the total of which was approximately 30,000. Jack Massera, who at the time was the Army's Resource Manager, was involved in the massive effort. He recalls, "We planted more than that; maybe 100,000. Most were Monterey pines and cypresses, but some were non-native eucalyptus. Several years later I oversaw thousands more Monterey cypresses planted as a windbreak all along the western perimeter of Fort Ord."

For decades, the community and the Army commandants had been sensitized and educated about the value of preserving the unique natural environments in the Monterey area. The environmental movement was well underway, and more and more biologists were moving to the region. Into that increasingly environmentally aware climate came the first U.S. Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC I). In 1989 Fort Ord was listed among military bases scheduled for possible closure.

The California Native Plant Society, unsure if the Administrative Agreement they had made with the Army to protect rare plants and habitats would be legally binding on future Fort Ord owners, moved successfully to place the preservation conditions of the Plant Reserves in perpetuity in a legal agreement.

Americorps Troops manually attack Pampas grass invading rare marine chapparal.

In 1991, BRAC II closed Fort Ord, the largest military base closure in the United States, after 74 years

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as a military basic training facility. Leon Panetta, then the local region's U.S. Congressman, formed a large, diverse, citizen Task Force to recommend what the 44 square miles of Fort Ord, an area the size of San Francisco, should become. State senator Henry Mello introduced legislation to create a special authority made up of the mayors of the seven small cities surrounding Fort Ord, and three Supervisors from Monterey County [the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA)], to govern and facilitate the transition from military to civilian use.

The large citizen Task Force, with views as diverse as its members, recommended, after much discussion, that more than 16,000 acres of Fort Ord's wildlands be preserved as public parkland and wildlife habitat, and that educational facilities, such as universities, be given development priority on the remaining acres. Congressman Leon Panetta, the Army, and FORA moved to implement the recommendations.

The Army was required (because of the rare nature of the vegetation on Fort Ord and the presence of endangered and threatened species) to prepare a Habitat Management Plan (HMP), and that plan spawned the formation of the Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Team (CRMP) to make the habitat management work.

The three early harbingers of "save the land," Morse, Griffin, and Howitt, were long deceased but their environmental legacy lived on in the community for which they worked so hard and so long, in disparate ways, to protect.

The next series of fortuitous events was the Community Task Force recommended that the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manage 15,000 wildland acres of Fort Ord. Steve Addington, the assistant manager from the BLM Hollister Field Office, was transferred to Fort Ord as the BLM project manager, and Jack Massera, who had worked for 23 years on Fort Ord as the Army's Resource Manager, became the BLM's Resource Advisor.

Within a few years the key players to insure habitat management at former Fort Ord were firmly in place: the BLM, the new California State University of Monterey Bay (CSUMB), and the Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Team (CRMP) made up of representatives from the BLM, FORA, the Army, California Department of Parks and Recreation (who will receive the 886 acres of Fort Ord's coastal dunes), the University of California at Santa Cruz, Monterey County, the City of Marina (all land recipients), and California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and others.

Steve Addington, BLM Project Manager, became the chairman of CRMP and a driving force in its cooperative efforts. Restoration through erosion control, replanting of native plants, monitoring of endangered and threatened species, and noxious exotic plant control became the subjects of collaborative discussions and coordinated action.

CSUMB started a Watershed Institute dedicated to having students and volunteers collects native plant seeds on the site, propagate and nurture them, and then plant the young natives in eroded and disturbed areas of the former Fort Ord. An offshoot of that endeavor was the formation of the Return of the Natives Education Project (RON), the education and outreach arm of the Watershed Institute. RON is a community and school based environmental education program dedicated to involving students (Kindergarten through university level) in native plant and habitat restoration in their schoolyards, parks, and elsewhere. They are partners with the BLM in restoration education efforts and regular volunteer "Planting Days" on the 7,200 acres that so far has been transferred from the Army to the BLM.

More than 2,500 school children and community volunteers have participated in the RON planting events at Fort Ord during the past two years. The local Native Plant Society, still very involved with the environmental direction it pioneered long ago at Fort Ord, continues to monitor the rare Plant Reserves and is actively involved in "Planting Days."

The little known story about Fort Ord is the incredible cooperation that occurs at the rolled-up-sleeves-level of labor among those combating erosion, building trails, restoring habitats, and fighting invasive weeds. The agencies all share staff, shovels, volunteers, bulldozers, ideas, camaraderie, and respect; everything but cash.

The agencies recognized more effort was necessary to successfully eradicate noxious weeds. The BLM had already been combating the worst of the exotics in cooperation with the Army and State Department of Parks and Recreation. Those "weed warriors," with the

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CalEPPC Symposium '97

Peter J. Warner, Milo Baker Chapter, California native Plant Society

More than 300 people attended the California Exotic Pest Plant Council's sixth annual symposium in October, a testament of the mounting awareness concerning the global phenomenon of invasive plant species. Many of the ecological, economic and social issues associated with invasive plants were addressed in two days of oral presentations; the symposium also demonstrated its value as a networking event with poster display sessions and working group meetings affording opportunities for interaction and conversation. On the third day field trips enabled participants to witness the gains made in returning several San Francisco Bay Area habitats from the chokehold of weeds.

"Speakers highlighted the meeting's central themes of reaching out and keeping out with topical seminars."

Presenting from a wide range of perspectives, speakers highlighted the meeting's central themes of "reaching out" and "keeping out" with topical seminars on invasive plants and human initiatives to deal with them. Discussions concerning weed recognition, assessing their ecological impacts, and projects designed to keep weeds at bay were complemented by those which emphasized the importance of community outreach. Clearly, the technical successes of restoration programs can often be accomplished through educating, enlisting and organizing people. Some speakers summarized their strategies for motivating individuals and groups of volunteers while others discussed opportunities for agency cooperation at the federal, state and local levels.

The keynote speaker, Bonnie Harper-Lore of the U.S. Department of Transportation, updated us on the status of the Federal Interagency Committee on Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW). Seventeen federal agencies, including the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Defense and the Interior, have signed a memorandum of understanding in recognition of the need for cooperation in combating both wildland and agricultural weeds. This coalition aims to improve the communication among the branches and agencies of federal government pertaining to invasive species research as well as management and habitat restoration issues.

A similar hub for information on the state level was introduced by Steve Schoenig of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Created by the California Interagency Noxious Weed Coordinating Committee, with grant assistance from the Bureau of Land Management, a keyword-searchable Internet database on noxious weed control projects and methods will be implemented pending the accumulation of statewide project information. Anne Knox of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) stressed the importance of a collaborative strategy for the funding of weed control projects. Sixteen state and federal agencies have signed a memorandum of understanding (http://www.ca.blm.gov/weeds) for the control of noxious weeds in California. The local formation of Weed Management Areas that involve the co-signing agencies of the MOU may provide an opportunity for grant awards through the "Partners Against Weeds" action plan of the BLM (see page 9 for details).

Paul Jones of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reviewed the current status of "Team Arundo del Norte," a Bay Area group committed to controlling and eradicating infestations of giant reed (*Arundo donax*) and other invasive plants along riparian corridors. Team Arundo will work with local watershed management programs to address a suite of critical ecological issues including erosion, pollution, and invasive plant species through public education, research and policy formulation.

Several speakers enthusiastically promoted educational opportunities, volunteerism and community involvement as invaluable social components of invasive plant eradication and habitat restoration programs. Brian O'Neill, the General Superintendent of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), summarized the park's ambitious volunteer programs which have enabled citizens to recognize themselves as vital components of the urban social community. Sharon Farrell, GGNRA's plant ecologist, expanded on the structure and effectiveness of the park's stewardship programs which involves thousands of volunteers in a myriad of restoration and plant-propagation projects every year. Carl Grimm of the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG) reinforced the message that environmental work can be an invaluable resource for enhancing individual self-esteem by relating his personal experiences of working with inner-city youth in top-to-bottom sustainable agriculture,

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gardening and restoration projects. Lisa Vittori, formerly of the California Conservation Corps, humorously provided an insider's slant on how to achieve the maximum benefits possible from working with the CCC or inmate crews in restoration work, stressing the importance of educating the labor forces, and providing work breaks and refreshments for those engaging in hand-to-hand combat with invasive plants.

Michael Swezy of the Marin Municipal Water District emphasized the necessity of creating a multi-faceted bureaucracy to address such needs as equipment purchasing and labor, while also engaging public support. Linda Miller, the Humboldt Project Manager for the Center for Natural Lands Management, outlined the diversification of outreach necessary in sparsely populated areas in order to access the essential manual labor for restoration projects. All potential sources (schools, civic and environmental organizations, and inmate labor) need to be explored to accomplish the work. Festive social gatherings with refreshments and entertainment are always well received.

David Boyd of the California Department of Parks & Recreation impressed the attendants with a slide presentation on the reduction of the *Eucalyptus globulus* population on Angel Island State Park. Despite the difficulties of promoting the removal of these well-established trees to the public sector, David reported that the media was quite fair in presenting opposing viewpoints on this large-scale project and the citizens were enlightened about the positive ramifications of habitat restoration in the process. In a somewhat less controversial project, Andrea Pickart of The Nature Conservancy summarized the three primary methods that have been employed in the removal of European beach grass from the Lanphere-Christensen Dunes Preserve in Humboldt County. Comparing the results of manual removal with those of both herbicide and heavy equipment use, Andrea cautioned that the effectiveness of the latter two methods often depends on intense follow-up manual labor.

Joe DiTomaso, the non-crop weed specialist with the University of California Cooperative Extension, provided a summary of potential ecological effects resulting from various weed reduction or elimination treatments. Dr. DiTomaso asserted that in choosing among weed management alternatives, assessments should incorporate weighing the possible risks to all physical and biotic components of ecosystems as a element of conscientious planning.

Similarly, in restoration planning both the practical efficacy of revegetation techniques as well as the often less apparent impacts on ecosystems, component species, and genetic diversity should be considered. Eric Knapp of the Department of Agronomy and Range Science at UC Davis detailed the results of studies, conducted in collaboration with Kevin Rice, on the genetic variability among populations of two native perennial grasses, purple needlegrass and blue wild-rye, which are used extensively in grassland restoration projects. Each exhibits substantial within-species genetic differences among populations that grow in different regions or environments. Introduction of non-local seed may also negatively impact the fitness of local populations of the same species by genetic contamination, especially in cross-pollinating species where large quantities of non-local plants are introduced into a habitat supporting an existing native population. When restoring habitat, using the most local seed source possible for each species may not only produce better practical results, but will also have less impact on the ecology and evolution of those plants.

One alternative for the control of exotic weed species is the introduction of biological agents (e.g., insects) which are the natural predators of specific plant species. Joe Balciunas of the Agricultural Research Service of the USDA discussed the required procedures prior to the release of these biocontrol agents. In order to avoid the exacerbation of ecological problems through the introduction of ineffective or invasive insect species, extensive study of the pertinent ecological relationships is necessary. The requisite field and laboratory research demands both time and financing, and unfortunately, funding for this work has been slashed in recent years. Public education and political lobbying is essential in order to restore such funding without which reliance on other methods of weed control will need to be increased.

John Randall of The Nature Conservancy's Wildland Weeds Management and Research program discussed about 20 non-native species that have recently established themselves in the California flora. Dr. Randall stressed the importance of monitoring these species and of establishing eradication activities for those that do become invasive. Susan Donaldson of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension provided an overview of the vulnerability of riparian systems to invasive plants. She reviewed how some non-natives have capitalized on their abilities to reproduce vegetatively along the

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CalEPPC Symposium '97 (cont'd)

Truckee River since the January 1997 floods. Saltcedar, whitetop, purple loosestrife and Eurasian milfoil disrupt ecosystem functioning through such mechanisms as increased erosion and reduced water quality.

Thomas Van Devender addressed some of the ecological impacts of alien grasses on Sonoran Desert ecosystems. *Bromus rubens* and *Pennisetum ciliare* are threatening the natural diversity of desert plant communities. Both of these species out-compete native plants for soil moisture and nutrients, and both are fire-adapted species that have been implicated in promoting the increased incidence of fire in desert ecosystems, re-occupying burned sites more rapidly than the majority of native species.

Discussing the impacts of another invasive plant species on desert ecosystems, Jeffrey Lovich of the U.S. Geological Survey, reviewed the ecological implications of saltcedar (*Tamarix* sp.) invasions into wetlands and riparian corridors of the southwest. Supporting his contention that concerns for individual native bird species (e.g., the Southwestern willow flycatcher) must not undermine the greater goal of preserving habitat for the full assemblage of native species, Dr. Lovich emphasized that the overwhelming dominance of saltcedar is jeopardizing the structure of entire ecosystems. Efforts to restore habitat and the functioning of ecosystems should be accorded the highest priority for the benefit of *all* native species.

Maria Alvarez of GGNRA summarized the results of her research on the effects of Cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*) [formerly known as German ivy (*Senecio mikanioides*)], on riparian and coastal scrub habitats. The explosive growth rate and smothering vine-like morphology of this species contributes to its success in reducing diversity in native plant communities. Given its rapid rate of encroachment and displacement of native species, park ecologists have targeted this plant for the unequivocal management technique of removal. Research on the ecology of Cape ivy and effective control methods (including the potential for biocontrol), will require continued support in order to prevent this pest plant from becoming "California's kudzu."

In a fascinating presentation that connected agricultural land use history with the biology of an invasive species, John Gerlach of the UC Davis Department of Agronomy and Range Science provided us with a data-supported account of how yellow starthistle was introduced into the western United States. By tracing the entry of starthistle into California as a coincidental component of the alfalfa crop system, Dr. Gerlach delivered a compelling story that explains how this weed rapidly became so widely established. His presentation provoked thought about the deep impacts humans have had on other species and how much we have yet to learn about living within the functional confines of the ecosystems that we rely upon for our collective survival and prosperity.

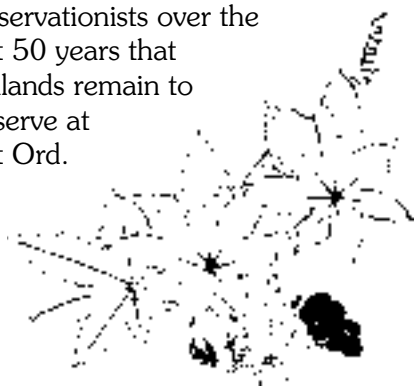
Proceedings of the CalEPPC Symposium '97 are available for $10 (delivery in Summer 1998). Submit requests to: CalEPPC, c/o Sally Davis, 31872 Joshua Drive, Apt. 25D, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679-3112.

Fort Ord (cont'd)

help of the Americorps, the California Conservation Corps, and volunteers, began a manual assault on iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) on the dunes, and French broom (*Genista monspessulana*), Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), and Pampas grass (*Cortaderia jubata*) in disturbed soil along trails, firebreaks, and road sides.

It quickly became obvious that the manual removal of non-natives was not up to the task at Fort Ord. Of the 886 coastal dune acres, 376 acres are covered with iceplant. On the 7,200 acres currently under BLM management, and the approximate 8,000 acres slated for future transferral to the BLM, iceplant covers a probable 500 acres. An estimated 400 acres of pampas grass infests those current and future public lands, and French and Scotch broom, in various patches, covers about 50 acres.

On former Fort Ord's public lands the degree of "noxicity" is determined by the existing coverage of the exotics the second annual War on Weeds Symposium at former Fort Ord for November 1998. A field trip is planned so participants can view cooperative weed eradication projects and the thousands of acres of rare habitats that the "weed warriors" are attempting to preserve. We owe a debt to the Army and the conservationists over the past 50 years that wildlands remain to preserve at Fort Ord.



War on Weeds Mini-Grant

A Request for Proposals by the Bureau of Land Mangement, California

The War on Weeds mini-grant initiative will provide funding opportunities on a competitive basis for weed projects within California. A total of $15,000 is available for 1998. This year ALL projects must provide at least a 1:1 match. In order of priority, the categories are:

1. Educational projects that will have statewide benefits.

2. Research projects that will develop new technology or approaches that will be useful for on-the-ground projects.

3. Cooperative weed projects that involve Federal agencies, State & County agencies, non-profit groups, and private landowners (i.e. Weed Management Areas)

* Only proposals that are submitted or endorsed by one or more of the signatory agencies of the California Noxious Weed MOU (http://www.ca.blm.gov/weeds) will be considered. Proposals cannot be submitted by BLM, although the involvement or support of BLM will result in a higher priority.

Grant Application Deadline: July 7, 1998 *Grant Award Date: July 15, 1998*

For more information please call Anne Knox (916) 978-4645. Send proposals to Anne Knox, Bureau of Land Management, 2135 Butano Drive, Sacramento, CA 95825. If you do not have a proposal, but wish to potentially contribute matching funds to worthy projects, please provide contact information and the type of project you wish to support.

Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California

The California Exotic Pest Plant Council will be revising our list, *Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California*, later this year. Please send new information on plants currently listed or plants being proposed as additions to the list to: Ann Howald, 210 Chestnut Avenue, Sonoma, CA 95476. Please send your information on the "Request for Information" form provided in the August 1996 edition of the list. If you have sent in changes in the past, there is no need to resubmit. *The deadline for submitting new information is June 1, 1998.* If you do not have a copy of the August 1996 edition of the list, please contact Sally Davis at 714.888.8347, email: <sallydavis@aol.com> and provide your name and address for a copy.

ERRATUM

In Vol. 5 No. 4, *Battling the Kudzu of the West*, "Cape ivy" was referred to as "cape ivy." Cape ivy is the convention used by the Australians, from whom we have taken inspiration and with whom we need to keep faith on this to get a uniform usage.

Tuolumne/Calaveras Partnership Against Weeds

Tuolumne/Calaveras counties have recently formed a group geared towards educating the public on noxious weed. Our group is made up of several government agencies (CAC, USFS, CDFG, NRCS, Farm Advisor, etc.) and private parties who have a common goal of seeing a control or slow down to invasive weeds in the central Sierra. Our main focus is to educate the public on what are noxious or invasive weeds. The group has identified 12 weeds of local importance: yellow starthistle, spotted knapweed, Russian thistle, medusahead, puncture vine, Italian thistle, klamath weed, tarweed, brooms, and cocklebur.

If you can give us any assistance or comments on getting started it will be greatly appreciated. Our first goal is to publish a pamphlet of the 12 weeds to at least get the public informed on what we are focusing on. Please contact Marian Chambers, email: <tuolag@molde.com>or 2 S. Green St. Sonora, CA 95370, 209-533-5691

Pampas Grass Research, Control and Education Grants Program

John M. Randall, Ph.D, TNC Weed Program

The California Exotic Pest Plant Council's Pampas Grass Research, Control and Education Grants Program has selected the following proposals for funding under the program:

YEAR 1

1. Management of jubata grass (*Cortaderia jubata*): germination biology, seedling establishment, control & site restoration [research project] Joe DiTomaso, Jennifer Drewitz & Alison Tschol (U. California, Davis). $30,000

2. Wildland Restoration Team's focus on pampas grass: education, control, and sharing information Wildlands Restoration Team (contact, Ken Moore). $7,000

3. Pampas grass control within the Big Sur Management Area. (GIS mapping project) Jeff Kwasny (Los Padres National Forest). $4,000

4. Pampas grass control demonstration project, Goleta Slough Management Area, Santa Barbara County, CA. Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. (contact, Darlene Chirman). $18,975

5. Pampas grass control: an instructional video and outreach campaign. Leif Joslyn (Xenobiota Control, Ltd.). $28,950

6. Development of a Jubata Grass (*Cortaderia jubata*) and Pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) brochure. Joe DiTomaso and Evelyn Healy (University of California, Davis). $9,000

7. Arana Gulch pampas grass eradication program (Santa Cruz, CA) Natural Resources and Employment Program, Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. (contact: Tom Helman). $17,935

YEAR 2

1. Management of jubata grass (*Cortaderia jubata*): germination biology, seedling establishment, control & site restoration [research project] Joe DiTomaso, Jennifer Drewitz & Alison Tschol (U. California, Davis). $30,000

2. Wildland Restoration Team's focus on pampas grass: education, control, and sharing information Wildlands Restoration Team (contact, Ken Moore). $7,000

3. Pampas grass control demonstration project, Goleta Slough Management Area, Santa Barbara County, CA. Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. (contact, Darlene Chirman). $21,835

YEAR 3

1. Management of jubata grass (*Cortaderia jubata*): germination biology, seedling establishment, control & site restoration [research project] Joe DiTomaso, Jennifer Drewitz & Alison Tschol (University of California, Davis). $30,000

2. Wildland Restoration Team's focus on pampas grass: education, control, and sharing information Wildlands Restoration Team (contact, Ken Moore). $7,000

3. Pampas grass control demonstration project, Goleta Slough Management Area, Santa Barbara County, CA. Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. (contact, Darlene Chirman). $13,305

CalEPPC New Members

CalEPPC would like to welcome the following people who have joined CalEPPC in the months from November 1997 through February 1998:

Regular Members
Jeanne Dickey
Mitch English
Valerie Eviner
Phyllis Faber
Philip Hoehn
Lawrence Janeway
Kathy Kramer
Marcia Mann
Denis Philbin
John Robles
Edward Smith
Daniel Tolson
Linda Willis
David Wimpfheimer

Contributing Members
Martha Blane
Elkhorn Native Plant Nursery
Mitch English
Robert Gilbert
Rosemary Jones
Mary Platter-Rieger
Peter Slattery

Sustaining Members
Arthur Morley
William McCoy
Nancy Brownfield

Lifetime Member
Elizabeth Crispin

CalEPPC Sponsors

USGS Biological Service
Monsanto Company
AgriChemical & Supply
CA State Parks, Sacramento
Circuit Riders Production
City of Palm Desert
Golden Gate National Park Association
Huntington Library
Nature's Image
Ocean Trails Management
Pestmaster Services, Bishop
Redwood National Park
Riverside Co. Regional Parks & Open Space
Smith & Reynolds Erosion Control
Strybing Arboretum
Target Speciality Products
Tom Dodson & Associates
US Fish & Wildlife Service, Honolulu

Jepson Herbarium Classes

For information contact: Susan D'Alcamo, Jepson Herbarium, 510.643.7008, email:<carkhuff@uclink.berkeley.edu>

May 1 - 3 **Ecological Habitat Restoration**, Pam Muick, Solano County
Examine wetlands on Suisun Marsh and vernal pools at Jepson Prairie, was well as grasslands and oak wood lands, comparing different restoration techniques.

May 2 - 3 **Poaceae**, Travis Columbus
Understand the state's secondmost diverse plant family (after Compositae). Time will be spent learning to use the identification keys in the *Jepson Manual*, with special attention to difficult couplets and taxa.

May 15 - 17 **Northern Dune Ecology**, Bruce Pavlic, Eastern California
Desert sand dune ecology begins in Bishop, then on to Panamint and Death Valleys, and culminate with a camp-out in Eureka Valley.

May 23 - 24 **Compositae**, Bruce Baldwin and John Strother
Topis will include overviews of characters used in circumscription, classification, and identification of composites at tribal, subtribal, and generic ranks.

June 12 - 14 **Southern Sierra Flora and Ecology**, Jim Shevock, Sequoia/Kings Canyon
Field excursions will focus on the diversity of plant communities and numerous geological formations which provide the backdrop for an evaluation of the flora.

June 19 - 21 **Boraginaceae**, Ron Kelley, Sierra Nevada Field Campus, Yuba Pass
This weekend workshop will focus on montane and Great Basin members of the family with field ` identification of genera and species flowering in the vicinity of the station and montane areas of California.

1998 CalEPPC Membership Form

If you would like to join CalEPPC, please remit your calendar dues using the form provided below. All members will receive the CalEPPC newsletter, be eligible to join CalEPPC working groups, be invited to the annual symposium and participate in selecting future board members. Your personal involvement and financial support are the key to success. Additional contributions by present members are welcomed!

❑ Status	Individual	Institutional
❑ Retired/Student*	$15.00	N/A
❑ Regular	$25.00	$100.00
❑ Contributing	$50.00	$250.00
❑ Sustaining	$250.00	$1000.00
❑ Lifetime	$1000.00	N/A

Please make your check payable to **CalEPPC** and mail with this application form to:

CalEPPC Membership
c/o Sally Davis
31872 Joshua Drive, #25D
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679-3112

Name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Office Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Fax _____

email _____

** Students, please include current registration and/or class schedule*

Calendar of Events

May 17 - 22 ***3rd Annual Short Course on Constructed Wetlands for Water Quality Improvement***, Arcata, CA. Sponsored by Humboldt State University Environmental Resources Eng. Dept. Contact: Barbara Smith, 707.826.3619, fax 707.826.3616, email: <smithb@laurel.humboldt.edu> or <http://www.humboldt1.com/~water>

May 27 -30 ***Specialty Conference on Rangeland Management & Water Resources***, Reno, NV. Sponsored by American Water Resources Assoc. and the Society for Range Management. Contact: Don Potts, 406.243.6622, email: <awrahq@aol.com> or <http://www.uwin.siu.edu/~awra/meetings/reno98/reno98.html>

June 17 **Arundo and Tamarisk Workshop**, Ontario, CA. Sponsored by CalEPPC. Contact: Nelroy Jackson, 909.279.7787, email: <nejack@monsanto.com>

July 5 - 9 ***Balancing Resource Issues: Land, Water, People***, San Diego, CA. Sponsored by the Soil & Water Conservation Society. Contact: Sue Ballantine, 515.289.2331, ext. 16, email: <sueb@swcs.org>

October 2 - 4 ***Working Smart, Working Together. CalEPPC Symposium '98***, Ontario, CA. Contact: Sally Davis, 714.888.8541, email: <sallydavis@aol.com>

CALIFORNIA EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL

31872 Joshua Drive, #25D
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679-3112

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