Weed
Risk
Assessment &
Prioritization

Gina Darin CA Dept. of Water Resources

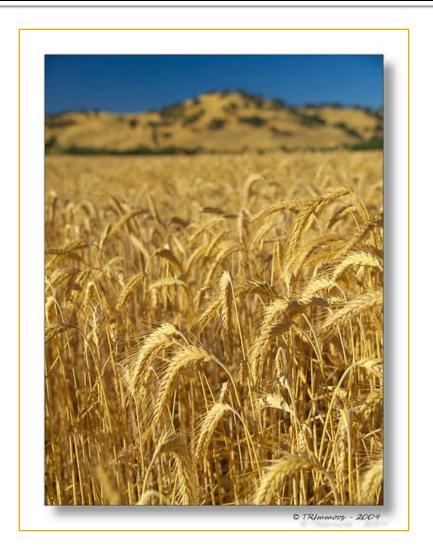




Purposeful Introductions

- Food
- Shelter
- Medicine

- Aesthetic enjoyment
- Cultural Identity



Weed Risk Assessment & Prioritization

WRA: an evaluation of the probability of the entry, establishment, and spread of a plant, and it's potential consequences (harm & impacts)

- What kind of species should we prevent from entering a country or state?
- What kind of new species should we look for and where?
- Which of the detected newcomers should we preferentially control or eradicate?

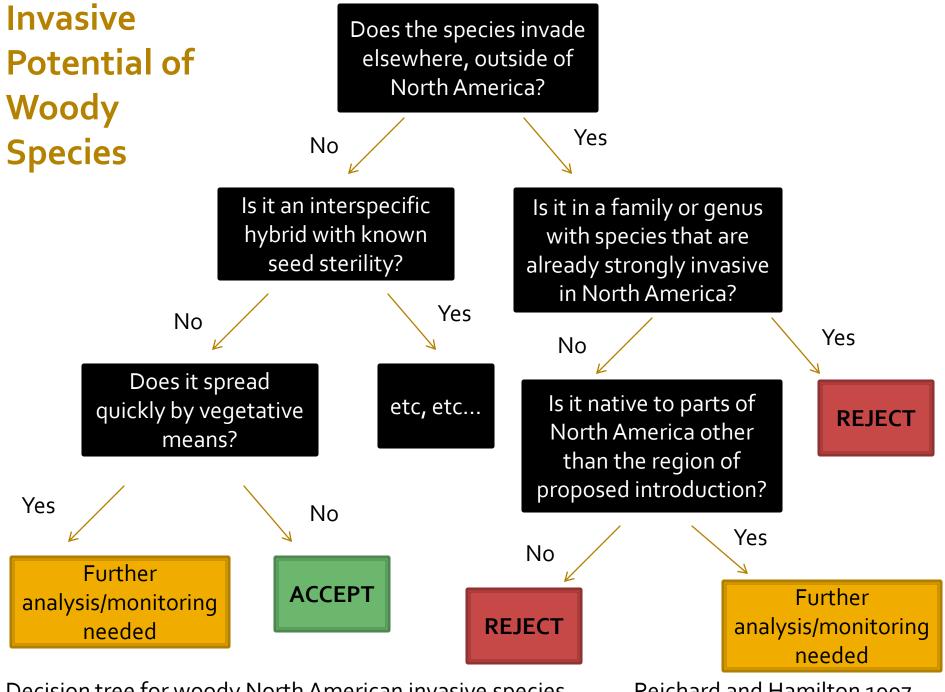


"Arrive, Survive, Thrive!"



What kind of species should we prevent from entering a country or state?

- Biological and ecological information
- Geographic origins of plants
- Previous histories of introduction



Decision tree for woody North American invasive species. Reichard and Hamilton 1997

Pre-border WRA Plants not here... yet

 Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS)



"Permitted"
vs.
"Prohibited"
Lists

Form B - Weed Risk Assessment question sheet

Answer yes (y) or no (n), or don't know (leave blank or ?), unless otherwise indicated

ı		Botanical name:		Outcome:	
ı		Common name:		Score:	
ı		Family name		Your name:	
ı				History/Biogeography	
۱	1	Domestication/	1.01	Is the species highly domesticated. If answer is 'no' got to question 2.01	г
2		cultivation	1.02	Has the species become naturalised where grown	ı
2			1.03	Does the species have weedy races	
ı	2	Climate and	2.01	Species suited to Australian climates (0-low; 1-intermediate; 2-high)	2
ı		Distribution	2.02	Quality of climate match data (0-low; 1-intermediate; 2-high)	2
3			2.03	Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)	ı
3			2.04	Native or naturalised in regions with extended dry periods	ı
ı			2.05	Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural	ı
ı				range	
3	3	Weed	3.01	Naturalised beyond native range	

Australia AQIS

← WEED ELSEWHERE!!!

		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
티	3.04	Environmental weed	
-	3.05	Congeneric weed	
-[Biology/Ecology	
Α	4 Undesirable 4.01	Produces spines, thorns or burrs	
C	traits 4.02	Allelopathic	
C	4.03	Parasitic	
Α	4.04	Unpalatable to grazing animals	
C	4.05	Toxic to animals	
c	4.08	Host for recognised pests and pathogens	
C	4.07	Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans	
Е	4.08	Creates a fire hazard in natural ecosystems	
Εl	4.09	Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle	
ЕΪ	4.10	Grows on infertile soils	
E E	4.11	Climbing or smothering growth habit	
Е	4.12	Forms dense thickets	
Εľ	5 Plant type 5.01	Aquatic	
C	21	Grass	
Е	5.03	Nitrogen fixing woody plant	
С		Geophyte	
c	6 Reproduction 6.01	Evidence of substantial reproductive failure in native habitat	
С	6.02	Produces viable seed	
С	6.03	Hybridises naturally	
С	6.04	Self-fertilisation	
С	6.05	Requires specialist pollinators	
С	6.08	Reproduction by vegetative propagation	
c		Minimum generative time (years)	1
Αľ	7 Dispersal 7.01	Propagules likely to be dispersed unintentionally	
c		Propagules dispersed intentionally by people	
Α	7.03	Propagules likely to disperse as a produce contaminant	
С		Propagules adapted to wind dispersal	
Εľ		Propagules buoyant	
ĒΙ		Propagules bird dispersed	
c		Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)	
С		Propagules dispersed by other animals (internally)	
c		Prolific seed production	
Α	attributes 8.02	Evidence that a persistent propagule bank is formed (>1 yr)	
Α		Well controlled by herbicides	
С		Tolerates or benefits from mutilation, cultivation or fire	
Е		Effective natural enemies present in Australia	
٠	A= agricultural, E = environn	nental. C= combined	



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

Form C - Weed Risk Assessment scoring sheet

		a	b	С	d	е
Sec	ction	Question	Response ¹	Score	N score	Y score
A		1.01	- Comparison		0	-3
-	CC	1.02			-1	1
	č	1.03			-1	1
		2.01		The re	esponse for t	hese
		2.02			lońs is 2 unie	
	С	2.03		umai	e analysis is I 0	done .
	č	2.04			ŏ	1
	_	2.05				· ·
	С	3.01				
	Ε	3.02			Refer	
	A	3.03			looku	
	E	3.04			table	
	EAECCC	3.05				
3	C	4.01 4.02			0	1
	č	4.02			0	1
	Č	4.03			-1	1
	ĉ	4.05			-1	1
	č	4.08			ő	1
	Ċ	4.07			Ö	1
	E	4.08			0	1
	Ē	4.09			Ō	1
	Ε	4.10			0	1
	Ε	4.11			0	1
_	оотопотт	4.12			0	1
С	Ē	5.01			0	5
	č	5.02 5.03			0	1
	-	5.03			0	1
	č	6.01			0	+
	č	6.02			-1	1
	Α	6.03			-1	1
	С	6.04			-1	1
	С	6.05			0	-1
	Α	6.06			-1	1
	С	6.07				4
	Α	7.01			-1	1
	c	7.02			-1	1
	Ā	7.03			-1	1
	5	7.04			-1	1
	СШШС	7.05 7.08			-1 -1	1
	6	7.00			-1	1
	č	7.08			-1	1
	č	8.01			-1	1
	С	8.02			-1	1
	Ă	8.03			1	-1
	Α	8.04			-1	1
	c	8.05			1	-1
		Total scor	e 3			
		Outcome	4		1	
		Agricultura	score		1	
		Environme				

Only score 1.02 and 1.03 if you answered yes to 1.01

				ible f						
Locate value of inputs and lookup output for each question										
	Yes to	que	estio	ns 3.	.01 -	3.05	5			default
Inputs	2.01	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
	2.02	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2
Results	3.01	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
	3.02	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
⊢	3.03	3	2	1	4	3	2	4	4	4
	3.04	3	2	1	4	3	2	4	4	4
	3.05	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
	N	o to	que	estio	ns 3	.01 -	3.0	5		
Input	2.05	?	Ň	Υ						
Results	3.01	-1	0	-2						
3.0	2-3.05	0	0	0						

Procedure for scoring assessment

- Record appropriate responses in column b.
- 2 Look up score in columns d & e and record result in column c.
- Calculate total score.
- 4 Lookup and record recommendation.
- 5 Verify that minimum number of questions from each section are answered.
- 6 Compute Agricultural (A&C) and Environmental (E&C) scores: if either score is less than 1, the outcome pertains to the other sector.

Lookup table for 6.07 years 1 2 4 – score 1 0 -1

Saara	Outcome
Score	
< 1	Accept
1-6	Evaluate
>6	Reject
Section	Minimum#
	questions 5
Α	2
В	2
C	6
Total	10

Australia AQIS



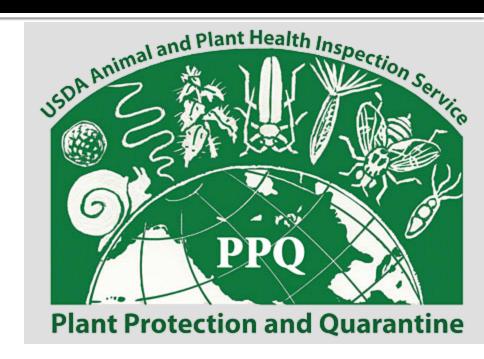
AQIS method used in California

- Nonnative Species and Bioenergy: Are We Cultivating the Next Invader?
 - Barney & DiTomaso 2008
- Switchgrass
 - Accept?
 - Reject?



USDA APHIS PPQ WRAs

- Developed 2010 based on Australian WRA
 - Risk Potential
 - Uncertainty Analysis
 - Geographic Potential
- 103 WRAs completed



Plant Risk Evaluation (PRE) Tool

- Tool for Assessing the Invasive Potential of Ornamental Plants for the Nursery Industry
- Developed at UCD by Christiana Conser

Published 2015, 19 Questions





Post-border Weed Risk Assessment: Assessing what is already here

What kind of new species should we look for and where?

Cal-IPC Inventory and CalWeedMapper



CDFA Pest Plant Rating List



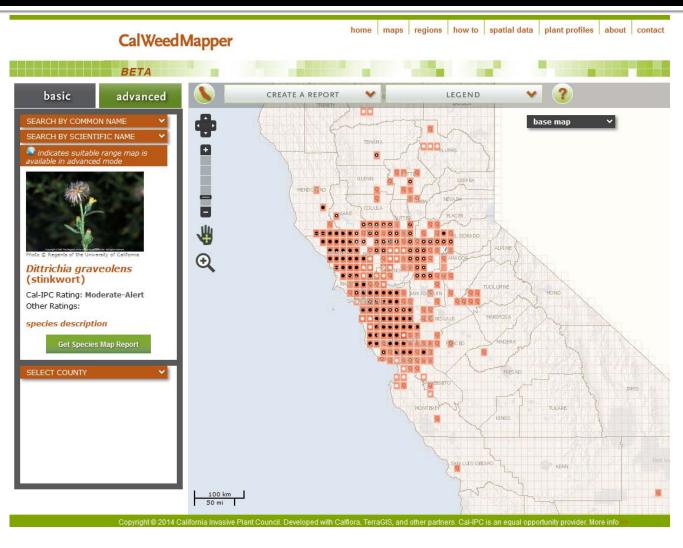




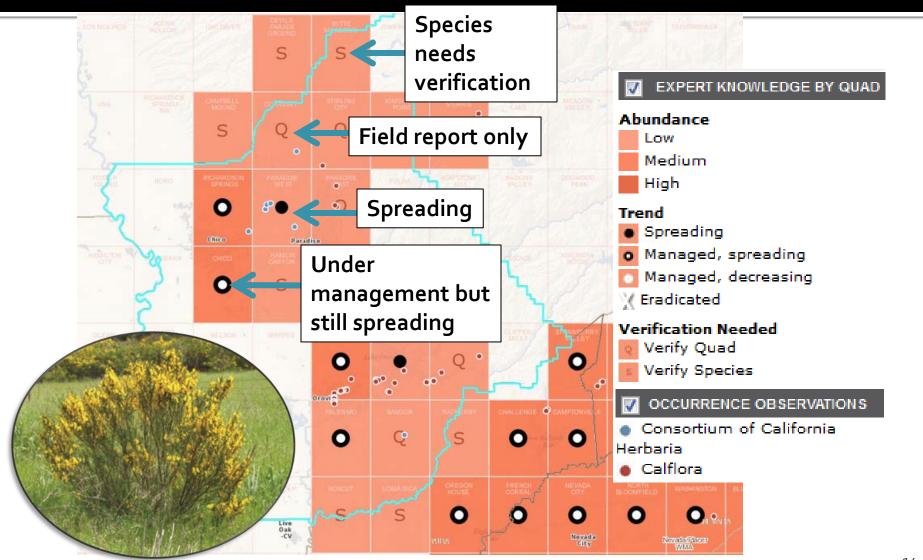


CalWeedMapper calweedmapper.cal-ipc.org

- 1. Data
- Modeling potential spread
- Commenting and updating
- 4. Management opportunities



Data: Field reports + Expert knowledge (by USGS quad)



Regional Management Opportunities

Category based on distribution, priority based on Cal-IPC rating.

Surveillance: Species not present but found within 50 miles – watch for it.

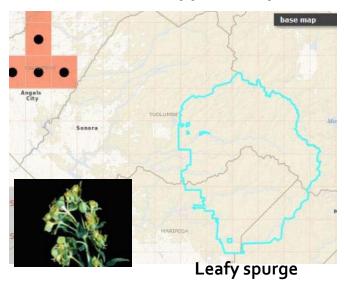
Eradication: Species found only in single isolated quads – eradicate it.

Containment: Species more widespread – contain its spread.

- These suggested opportunities get revised by local expert partners.

- These regional scale, doesn't replace existing local priorities.

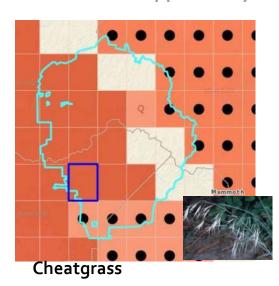
Surveillance opportunity



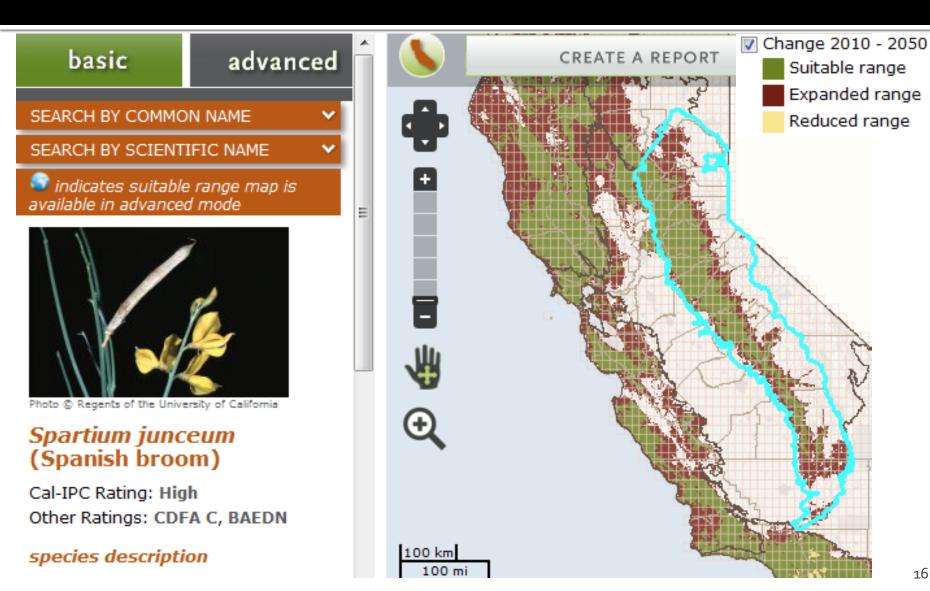
Eradication opportunity



Containment opportunity

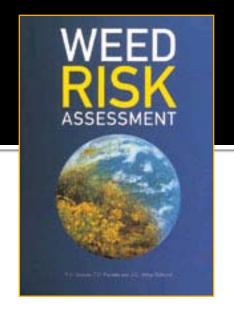


Modeling Potential Spread



How to apply WRA to your program?

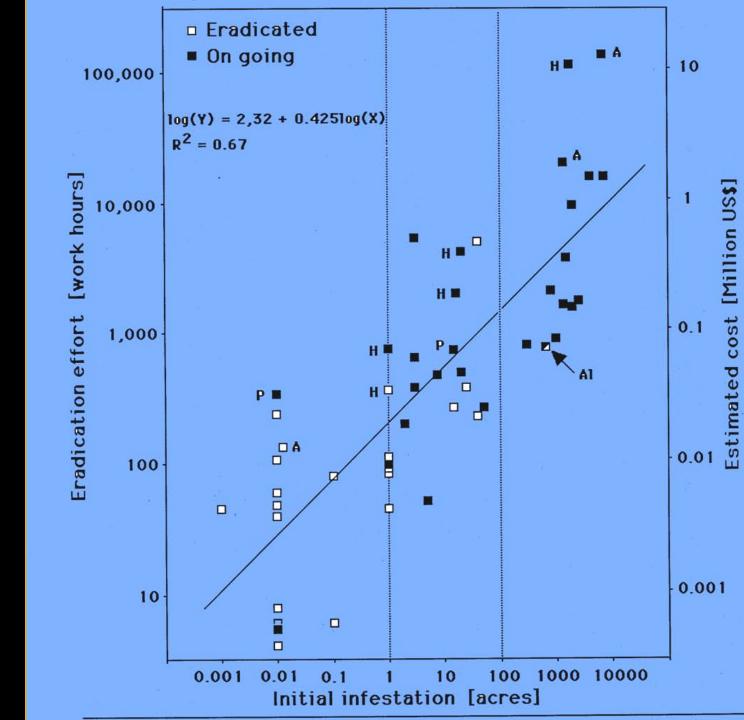
- Prevent new introductions
 - Be aware
 - Contribute to Calflora
 - Use available weed risk assessment tools to inform your management decisions
- International Weed Risk Assessment Workshops
 - www.hear.org/iwraw



Prioritization







Weed Prioritization

Faced with too many weeds and too few resources to address them all, land managers systematically select targets for treatment.



Which of the detected newcomers should we preferentially control or eradicate?

Weed Prioritization

- Determine priorities three ways
 - Choose important species
 - Choose important areas
 - Choose important populations in important areas= firefighting strategy!





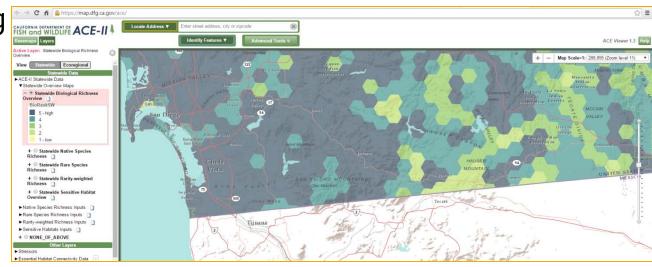


Prioritization Approaches

- Speciesbased
 - Legislative mandate for hydrilla and camelthorn
 - Grant funding for statewide red sesbania

- Site-based
 - County boundary
 - Watershed
 - YST Leading Edge Program

- Asset-based
 - Recreation area
 - High-value crop
 - Rare plant population



Prioritization Tools

- CalWeedMapper
- Cal-IPC Inventory
- Regional Plant Assessment Forms
- CDFA Pest Plant Rating List
- Alien Plant Ranking System
- NatureServe Invasive Spp. Assessment Protocol
- USFWS Spp./Area Inventory
- WHIPPET
- WeedSearch















WeedSearch

Weed Eradication Feasibility Analysis

by Oscar Cacho and Paul Pheloung

Recommended Workflow



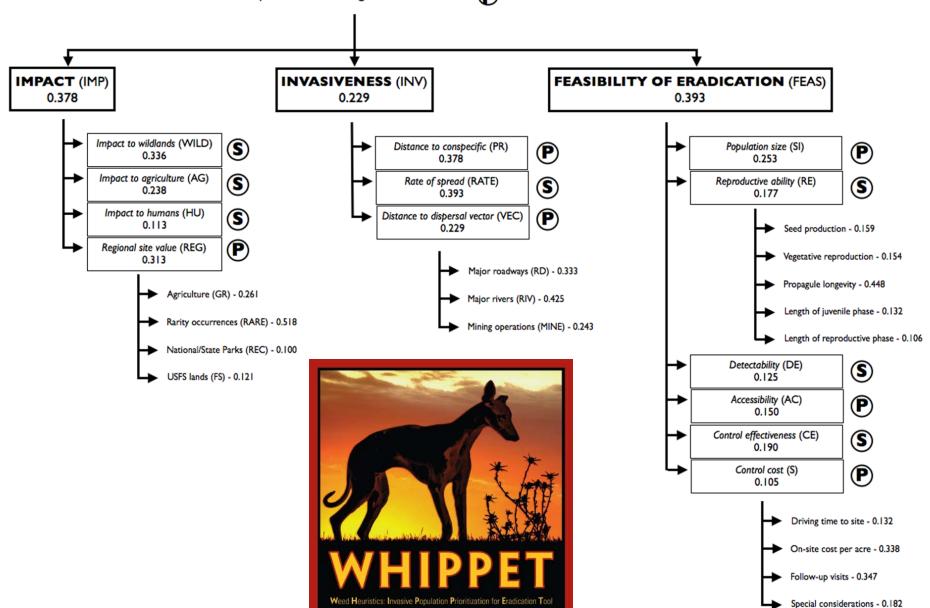
- Identify Conservation Goals
- Prioritize Species Targets and/or Areas
 - Tools: USFWS Spp/Area, CalWeedMapper, Cal-IPC Inventory, CDFA Pest Plant Rating List
- Assess Status of Priority Invasive Species (inventory, EDRR)
- 4. <u>Prioritize</u> Populations and/or Sites
 - Tools: WHIPPET, WeedSearch
- Develop Strategic Invasive Species Management Plan

/HIPPFT

- 1) High Priority species?
 2) Not included in containment zone?
 3) Not a biological control release site?
- 4) Accessible during control season?



Behind the Scenes















WHIPPET helps land managers prioritize invasive plant populations:

- Ranks based on impacts, invasiveness, and feasibility of control.
- Integrates species data with spatial analysis.
- Allows users to select species and area to analyze.
- ✓ Uses data from the Cal-IPC Inventory, Calflora, and other sources.

Start by logging in with your Calflora e-mail address and password.

Calflora e-mail address	gina.darin@water.ca.gov
Calflora password	•••••
	Log In to WHIPPET
	Calflora Sign Up
	Read User Guide
	WHIPPET for Desktop











whippet.cal-ipc.org/pages/view/guide



- 0



WHIPPET

BET

ETA

Online WHIPPET User Guide

Table of contents: Introduction, Steps, Adjust WHIPPET Run Settings, Adjust Population Variables, Run WHIPPET!, Acknowledgments, Additional Information, Appendix A: Generating Custom GIS Scoring Data

Download PDF

Introduction

WHIPPET is the Weed Heuristics: Invasive Population Prioritization for Eradication Tool. It prioritizes weed infestations for eradication based on potential impact, potential spread, and feasibility of control. WHIPPET may help land managers identify a high-priority population of an otherwise lower-priority species, and, conversely, exclude a low-priority population of a high-priority species. This will enhance manager efficiency and provide greater ecological protection. It was originally developed to prioritize populations of California's A-rated noxious weeds at a regional (multi-county) scale (Skurka Darin 2008, Skurka Darin et al. 2011). The original version of WHIPPET required a user to research information on the impacts and spread of each species and score those species based on the WHIPPET criteria. It also required access to ArcGIS software. The California Invasive Plant Council has developed this online version of WHIPPET to make the tool accessible to more users. This version takes advantage of webbased GIS and existing databases of information like the Cal-IPC Inventory. (More customization is possible with the desktop version; contact Gina Darin for more information.)

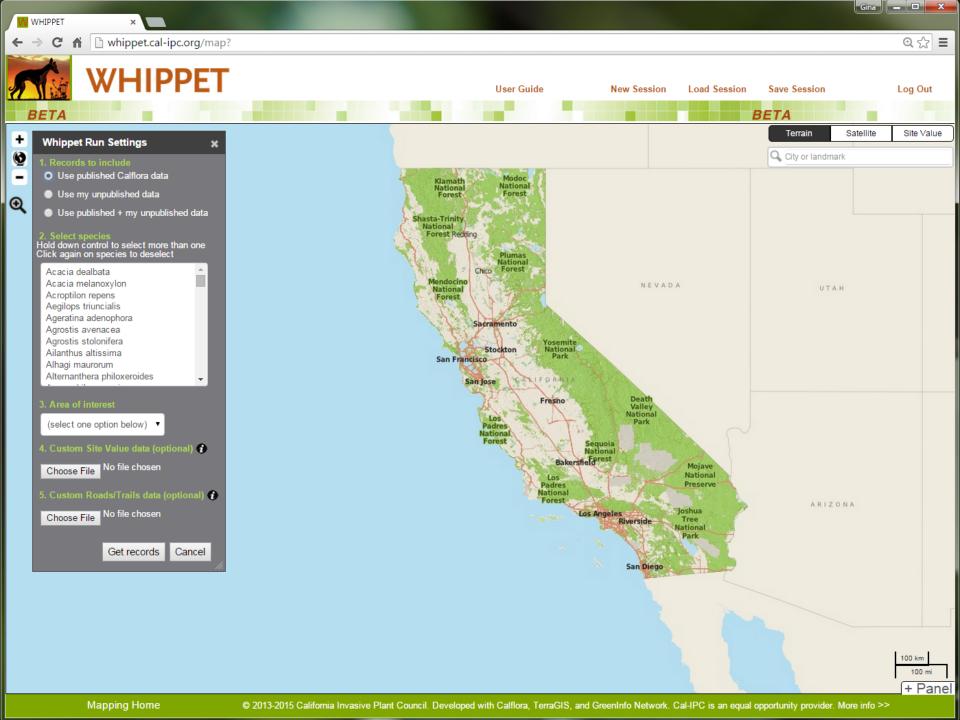
WHIPPET provides results in the form of a ranked list of populations, with rankings based on species and population data. It is based on a set of weighted criteria in three categories (see diagram below). Online WHIPPET draws from a species database with information on 200 invasive plants in California. WHIPPET emphasizes cost-effective eradication of risky populations; therefore, small populations, outliers, and species that are easy to control receive higher scores than large populations, abundant species, or species whose biology makes them difficult to control. For population locations, online WHIPPET relies on data from the Califora database (www.calflora.org). At this time, WHIPPET contains information only for the plants on the California Invasive Plant Council Inventory (www.cal-ipc.org/paf). In the future, with additional funding, we hope to build in the ability for users to include information on additional species.

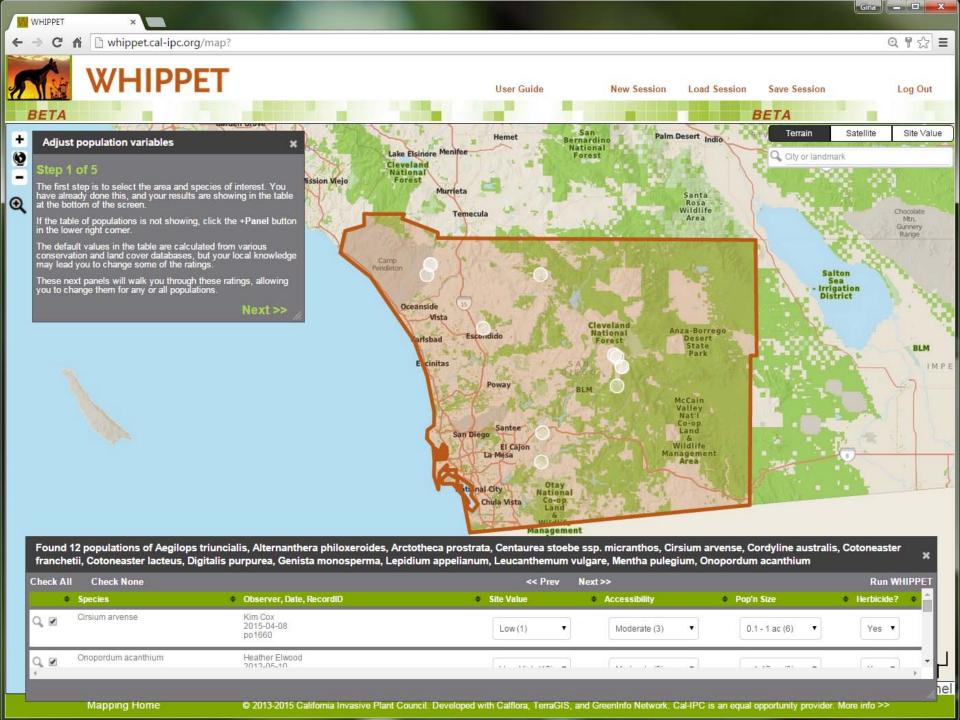
Questions on WHIPPET? Please contact mapping@cal-ipc.org or read these Frequently Asked Questions.

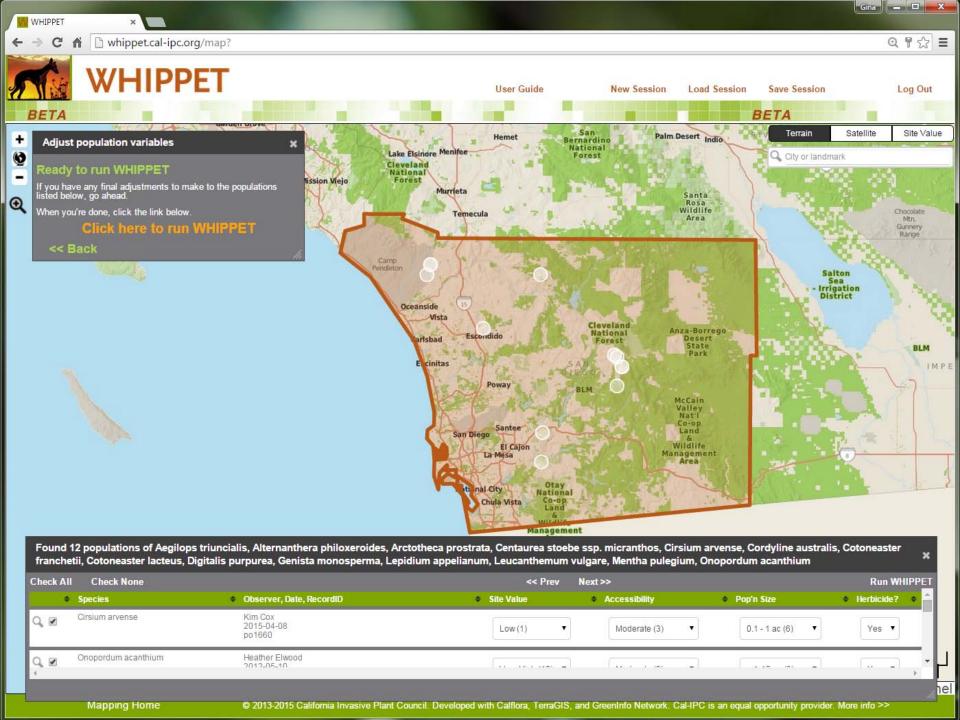
Disclaimer

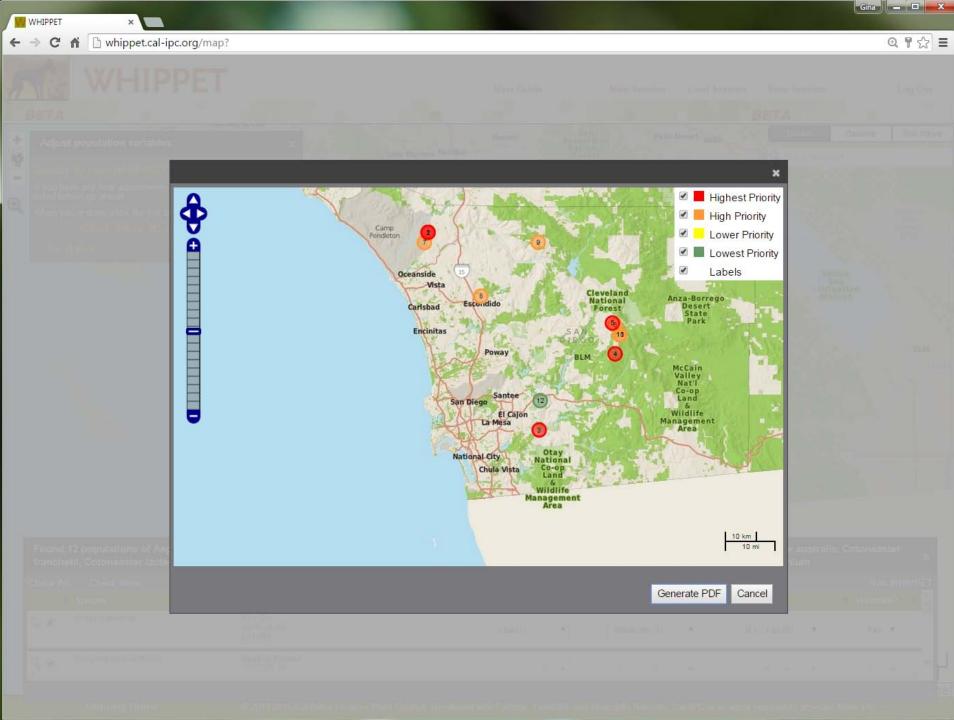
WHIPPET online is for California only (for now). If you're working near the state border, be aware that it will not capture populations on the other side. You may want to consider that in your own post-processing.

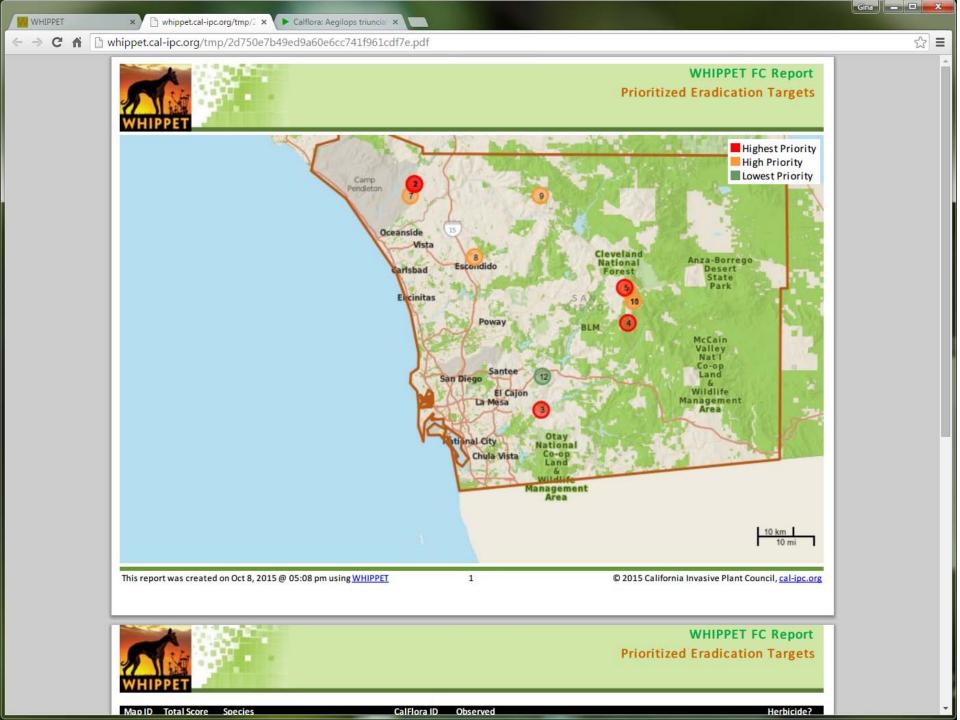
You may have factors in your project area that are not included in the WHIPPET calculations. You need to look at the WHIPPET results and decide if they make sense. WHIPPET offers suggestions, but is not a prescription.

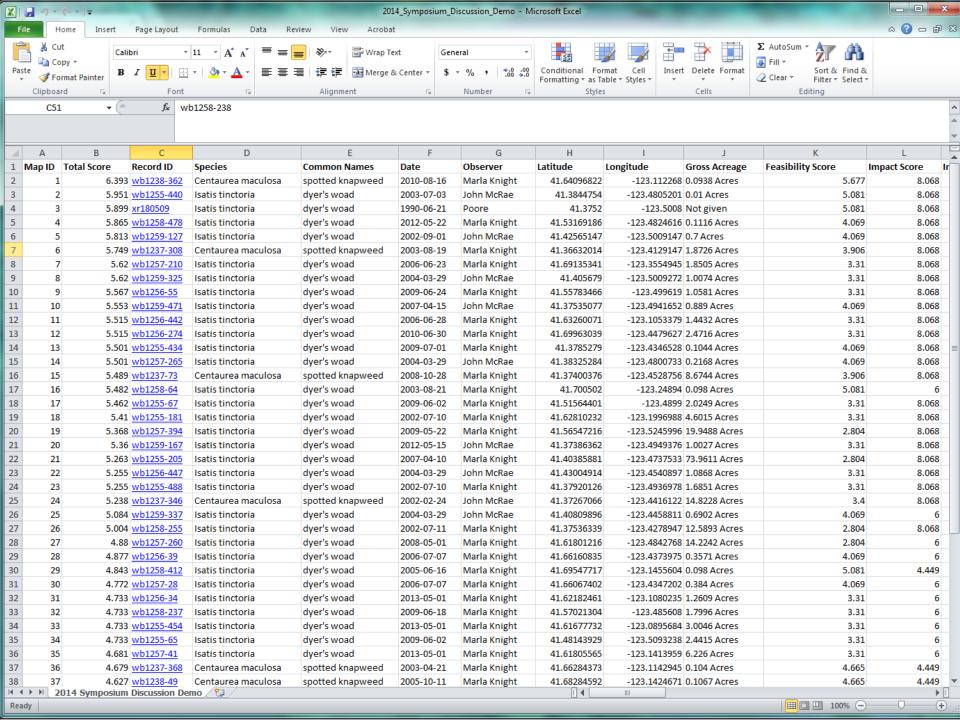






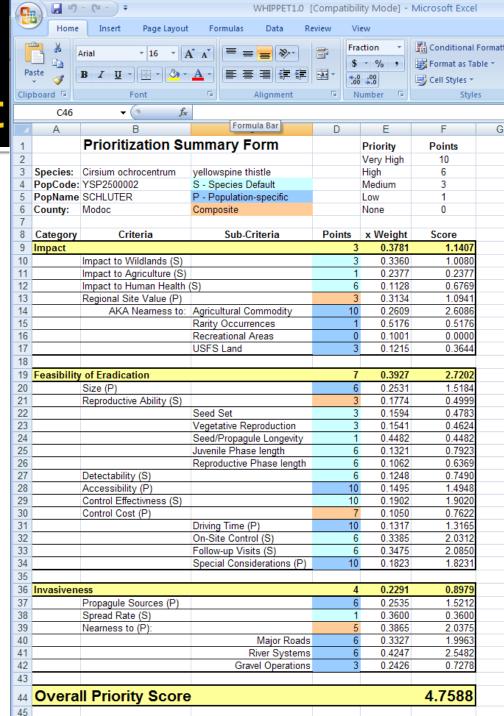






Calculate Priority and Review Output

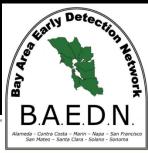
- WHIPPET Excel
 Scoresheet
 calculates overall
 priority rank
- You need to consider external circumstances
- Use WeedSearch tool to estimate project cost



Apply Prioritization

- Overabundance of weeds and decrease in available funding
- Consistent, transparent, defensible

- Weediness elsewhere?
- Tools are available to you!

















Thank you for your attention!

