

Wildly Successful Restoration & Mitigation: A Contractors Perspective

Objectives

- Identify critical elements to successful restoration
- Demonstrate using a case study
- Utilize the right tools to the right site

Identifying The critical elements of a wildly successful project

- 1. Define the stakeholders?
 - a. Client
 - b. Consultant
 - c. Regulator
 - d. Contractor
- Each may include a client, consultant, regulator and possibly another contractor.

Critical Element 2

- Have a clearly defined goal?
 - Define what success means to the client and in what order.
 - Important questions to consider
 - Is it time until sign off? Is it percent of coverage? Is it 100% eradication?
 - Are the budgets clearly defined?
 - Are the tasks among stakeholders clearly defined?
 - Are cost effective means being utilized for the job?

A new approach – critical element 3

- Contractors historically, are brought in during the final phases of a project. The new approach is to bring Natures Image, during the initial planning process. Many times our expertise assists both the client, consultant, regulator and/or general contractor in reaching the best possible outcome. We offer the bridge between the goals and the execution of construction or maintenance.

Contractors Add Value

- Qualifications
 - Contractors License
 - Pest Control Advisor License
 - Qualified Applicator License
 - SWPPP Certified Managers
 - Certified Arborist
 - CAD capabilities
 - Irrigation Design & Build

By having the above qualifications we bring a breadth and depth of knowledge immediately to the project site.

Case Study

- First Case Study - highlights installed installation of 120 acre coastal sage scrub, that resulted in documentation of the California gnatcatcher within one year.

Tonner Hills Case Study

- Overview
 - Home Builder wants to purchase land in Orange County from an Energy Company to build new homes. The land must be purchased quickly in order for the Home Builder to capitalize on the fast paced housing market. The state regulations mandated that 120 acres of property had to be set aside in order to develop the property. Contingent upon the sale is to have documented utilization of the revegetated areas by the Coastal California Gnatcatcher.

Understanding the Stakeholders

- It was critical to Natures Image to understand all parties involved and what each of their goals was.
 - The Owner (the energy company) wanted to sell their property as quickly as possible and get gnatcatchers on their restoration areas.
 - The Buyer (the Home Builder) would ultimately be the Owner wanted this done as soon as possible.
 - The Consultant wanted to make sure the restoration went in quickly however wanted to ensure the highest quality.
 - Natures Image was a critical part of the team to collectively develop solutions to achieve the aggressive goals.

Working in harmony – critical element 4

- Our ability to understand the stakeholders in each project is imperative to our success.
- Effectively dealing with many stakeholders is quite unique to the landscape contractor industry.
- Lastly communication during all phases of the project ensures that all parties are reaching milestones that are agreed upon and outlined at the outset.

Project Goals Clearly Identified

- Initially the goals were not clearly identified. Due to excellent communications with all stakeholders and a working in harmony approach they were agreed upon collectively.
- This approach allowed the team to choose the best methods with everyone working together to produce a faster, more cost-effective restoration project.

The Solution

- The Contractor being brought in at the early stages of planning allowed our expertise to assist both the owner, buyer, and consultant in reaching the best possible outcome. Budgets were established early on with clear understanding of what each stakeholder was responsible for.
- We offered the bridge between the goals and the execution of construction.

The Results

- Just one year after planting, the gnatcatcher was documented in the revegetated areas.
- The sale of the property was completed in a timely manner and the Home builder was able to capitalize on the housing boom in Orange County.
- In 2006, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service commended Natures Image for their work on the project.

FLOURISHING

In Summary

- By consistently applying these 4 critical elements in Natures Image ensures that every dollar you spend generates maximum environmental benefit and overall project success.

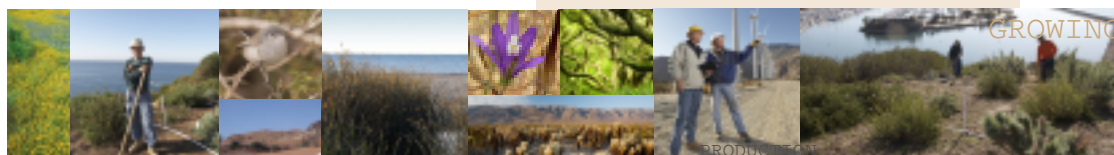
Additional Project Profiles

Invasive Weed Removal Projects

- Santiago, Silverado & Ladd Canyons, Orange County
 - Cutting and grinding of 120 acres of Arundo donax eradication with on-going maintenance spraying
- San Felipe Tamarisk Removal, Anza Borrego
 - Cutting grinding and removal of 98 acres of Tamarisk eradication with on-going spraying
- Artichoke Thistle and Veldt Grass Control, Orange County
 - Eradication of 200 acres including herbicide application and manual weed control of Artichoke Thistle and Veldt Grass
- Temescal Canyon, Riverside
 - Cutting, grinding of 220 acres of Arundo donax and Tamarisk eradication with on-going maintenance spraying

Habitat Restoration Projects

- Forster Ranch, San Clemente
 - 90 acres of coastal sage scrub restoration including seeding, planting, Brodiaea transplanting, design and installation of temporary irrigation system & creation of two acres of wetlands including aquatic planting.
- Big Tujunga Wash Mitigation, Sunland
 - 115 acres of riparian & wetlands enhancement including Arundo removal, Eichhornia removal, aquatic plant pest control, marsh, riparian and wetlands plantings.
- Brawley & Imperial Wetland Restoration, Imperial
 - 29 acres of wetland restoration including emergent and aquatic vegetation species, invasive weed removal and ongoing maintenance.



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