

NEW WEEDS IN CALIFORNIA

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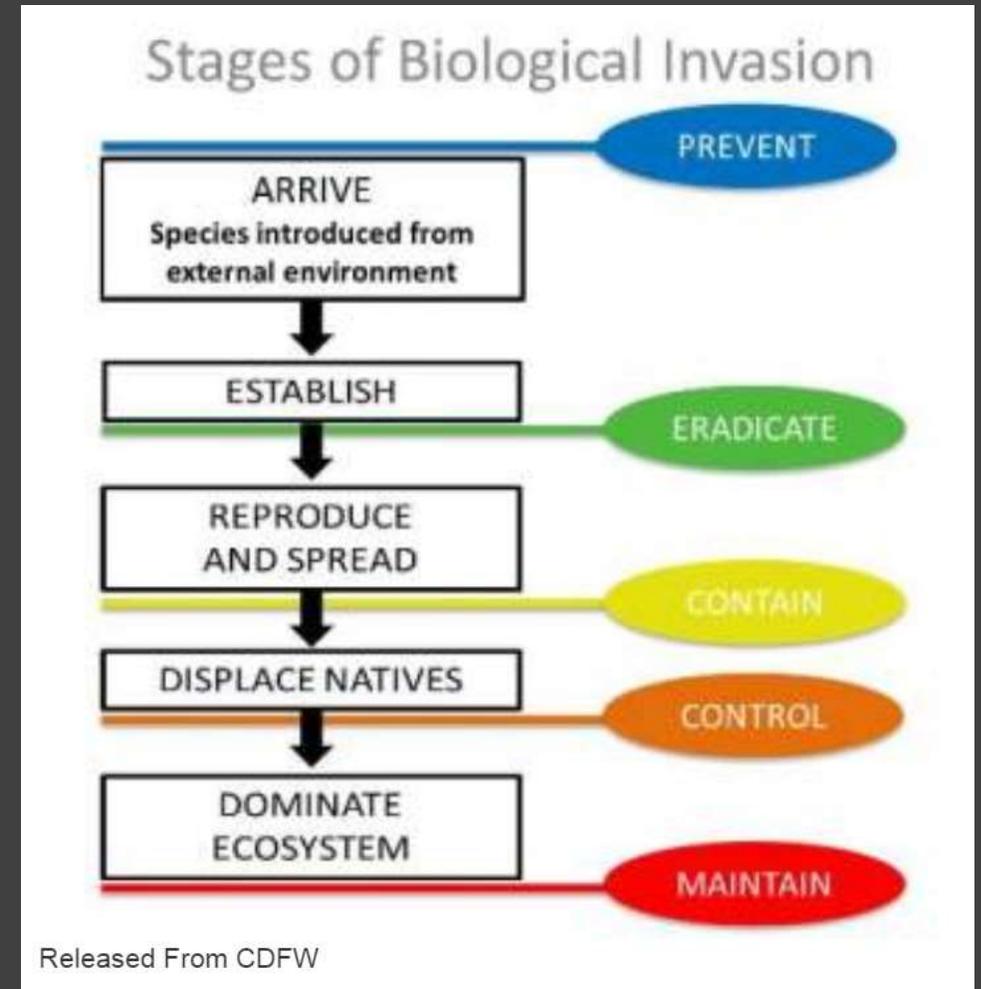
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North African Knapweed, *Centaurea diluta*
Photo: R. Vanderhoff

New Weeds, Why Worry?

- Many pathways for entry and movement through CA
- Weeds may establish many years before expanding
- Environmental and economic impacts of invasive plants can be massive
- **Early control/eradication is MUCH cheaper than dealing with the problem later**



How to Address New Weeds in a Program?

- First – Find them!
 - Encourage mapping (e.g., Calflora)
 - Encourage plant expert participation
 - Verify identifications! (send to CDFA, local herbaria)
 - Tell Cal-IPC, CDFA, your fellow WMA members
- Then – Prioritize them!
 - Cal-IPC Inventory, WeedMapper
 - CDFA Noxious Weed Rating
 - Do your own regional prioritization based on local impacts and distribution

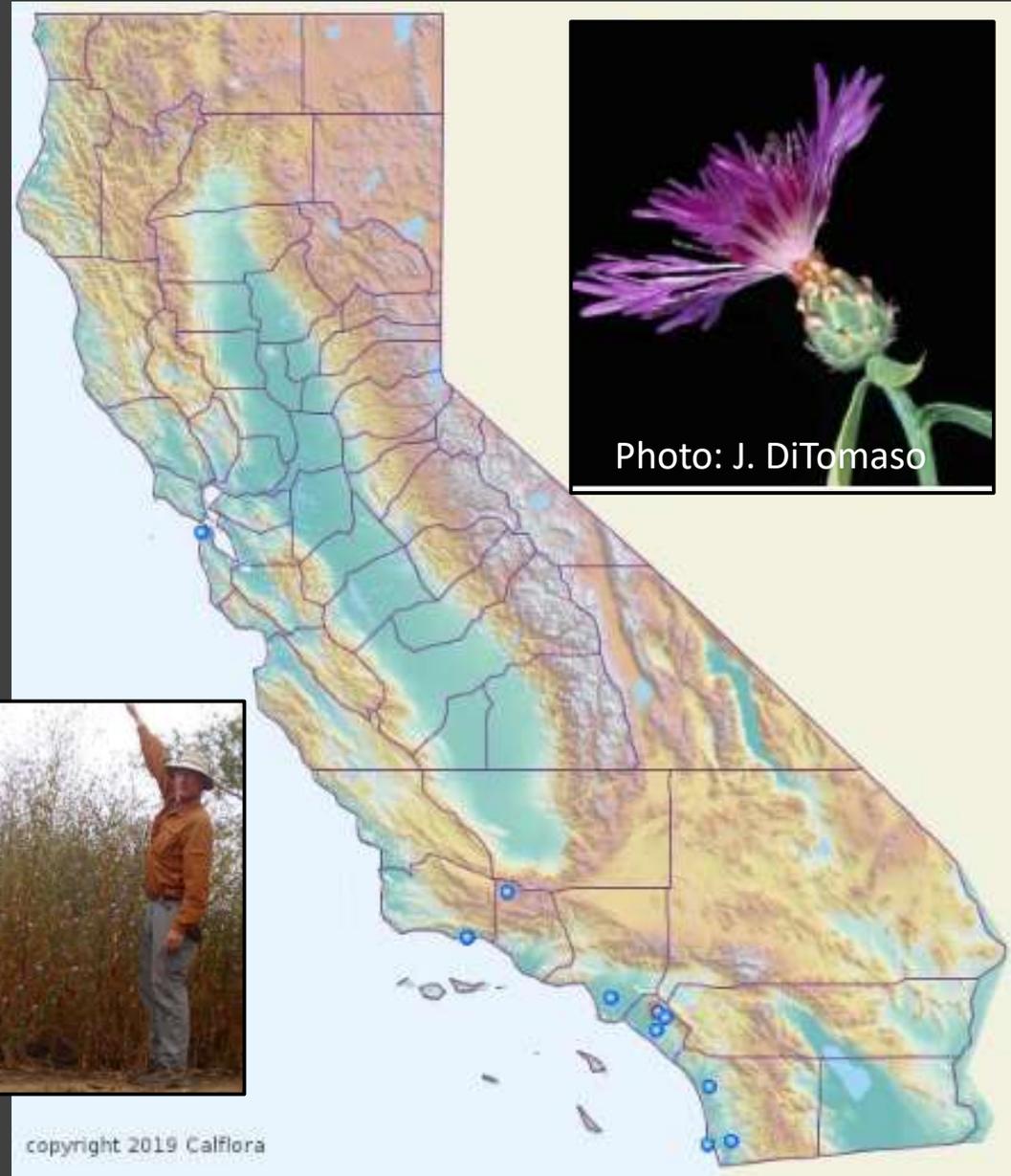


NORTH AFRICAN KNAPWEED

Centaurea diluta (Asteraceae)

- Native to southwestern Europe
- Has recently been expanding in S. CA.
- Ecological affinities similar to other *Centaurea*

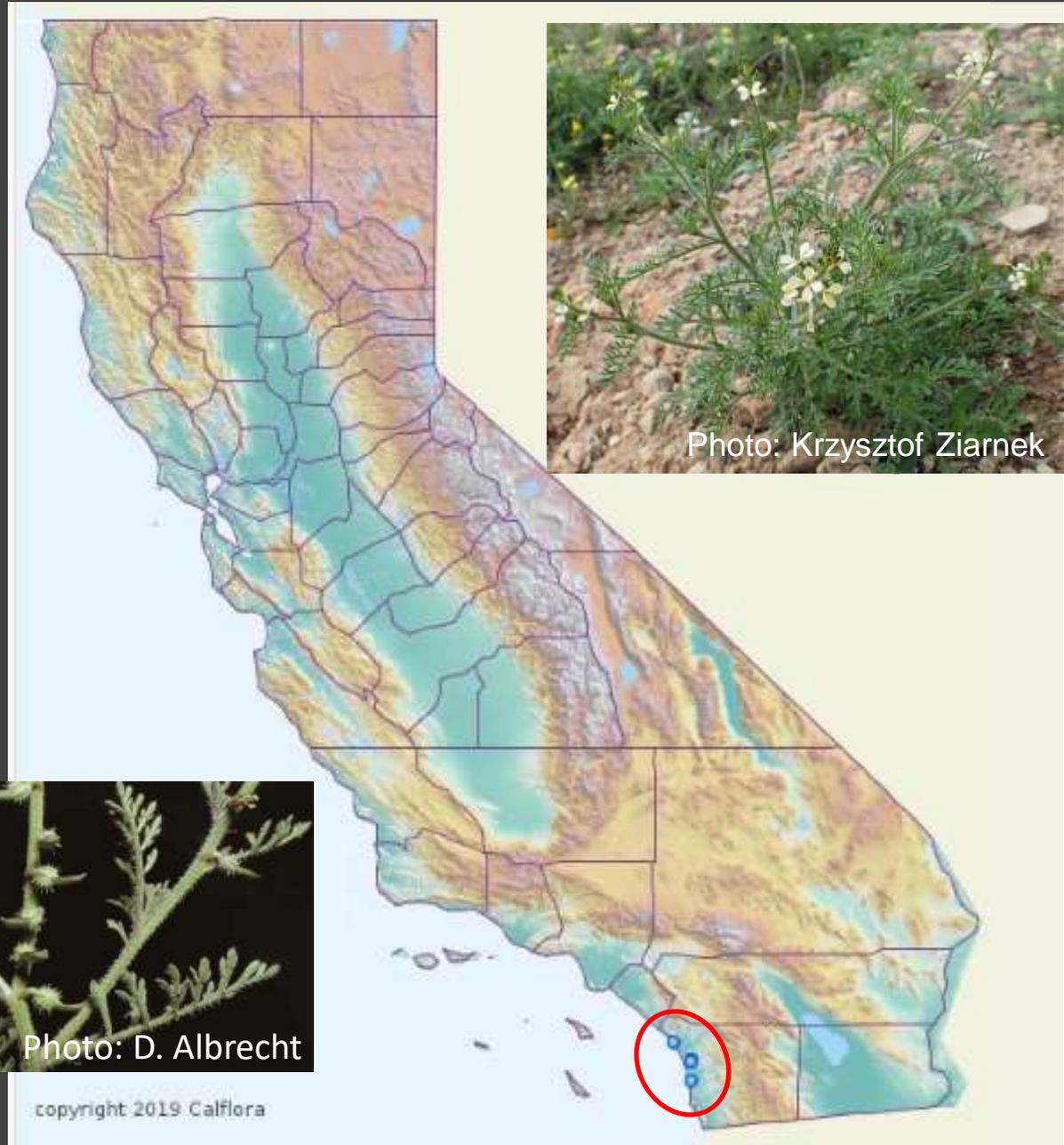
Photos: R. Vanderhoff



WARD'S WEED

Carrichtera annua (Brassicaceae)

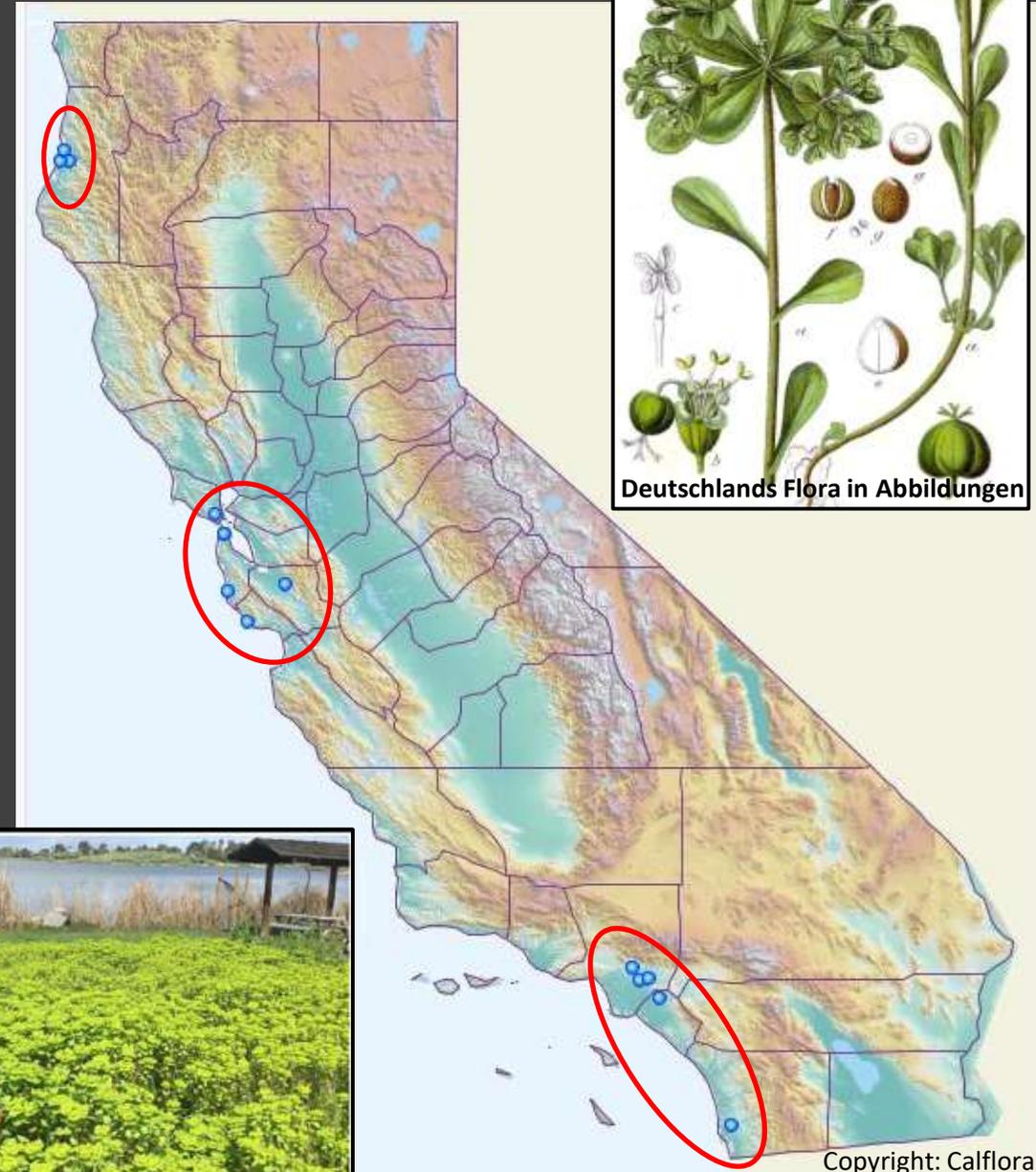
- Annual herb native to the Mediterranean region and SW Asia
- Naturalized and invasive in Australia and coastal S California
- Only known location in N. America!
- First recorded in San Diego Co. in 2007
- Has recently expanded in SD County
- CDFA A rated weed
- Cal-IPC Moderate – ALERT rating



SUN SPURGE, WARTWEED

Euphorbia helioscopia
(Euphorbiaceae)

- Native to Eurasia and N Africa
- Naturalized in open habitats in N America and Argentina and Chile
- First record in 1933!
- Spreading in coastal counties of California



SUN SPURGE, WARTWEED

Euphorbia helioscopia
(Euphorbiaceae)

- Annual with taproot
- Grows 2 ft.
- Flowers March-July
- Prefers sunny locations
- Grows in well-drained soil
- Seed production 300-700/plant
- Seed viability: up to 30 years
- Highly toxic and skin irritant

Nectararies rounded



Leaf edges serrate



Photo: Jennifer Mo

Photo: Luigi Rignanese

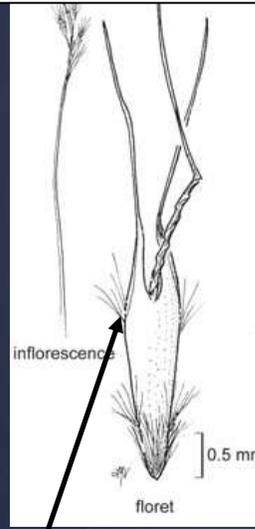
TUFTED AND HAIRY WALLABY GRASS

Rytidosperma penicillatum, *R. caespitosum*
(Poaceae)

- *R. caespitosum* is Cal-IPC WATCH, *R. penicillatum* is LIMITED
- Existing populations are expanding
- New locations in S. California
- Likes open meadows
- Possibly spread through grazing
- Builds up flammable thatch
- Can expand quickly after fire



HAIRY WALLABYGRASS (*Rytidospermum penicillatum*)



L: UC Regents; R.:Eric Wrubel



Photo: Steve Matson



Photo: E. Wrubel

TUFTED WALLABYGRASS (*Rytidospermum caespitosum*)



Photo: John Rawlings



Photo: R. Vanderhoff



Photo: R. Vanderhoff



Photo: E. Wrubel

Senecio leptophyllus(?) (Asteraceae)

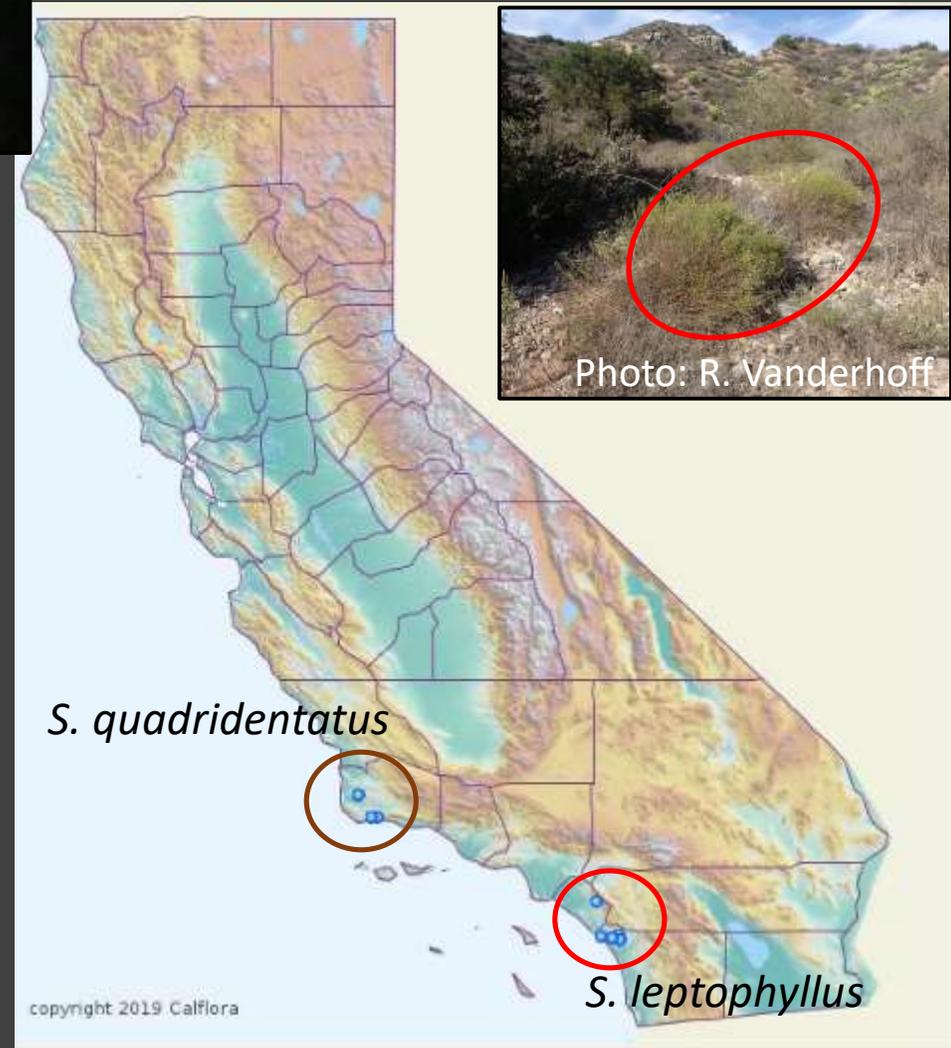


NEW!

- First North American Record!
- Very similar to *S. quadridentatus* and originally mis-identified as such
- Occupies similar habitats as *S. quadridentatus* (css/dry uplands)
- Has been found in remote and undisturbed sites
- Native to South Africa



Photo: R. Vanderhoff



ORANGE HAWKWEED

Pilosella aurantiaca

[syn. *Hieracium aurantiacum*]

Asteraceae

- Naturalized in northern North America, Australia, N. Zealand, E Asia, Chile, Argentina
- Agricultural and wildland weed
- Spreads easily by seed and stolons
- May spread after fire
- Invasive in open habitats in northern California
- Under-reported in Calflora



Photo: M. Shephard,
USDA Forest Service,
Bugwood.org



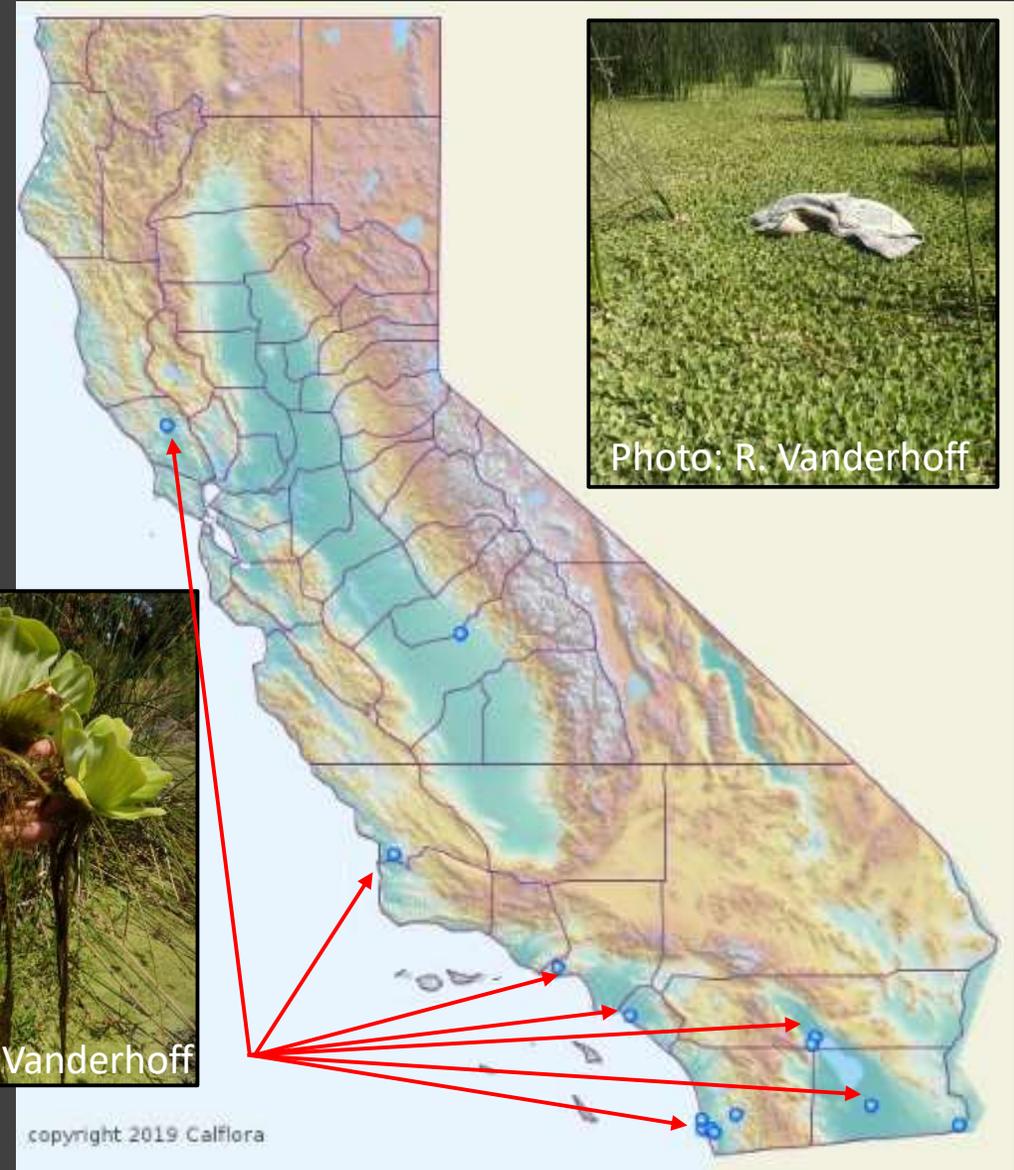
Photo: P. Dziuk

WATER LETTUCE

Pistia stratiotes

ARACEAE

- Horticultural aquarium escape
- Widely distributed in tropical and subtropical regions of the world
- Listed by Florida as noxious weed
- Has recently expanded in southern CA ponds
- Not cold tolerant (>15C)
- Can completely cover pools, channels
- CDFA B rated



ON THE MOVE: JAPANESE KNOTWEED AND FRIENDS

Fallopia japonica et al.

POLYGONACEAE

- Riparian shrub
- Spreads via rhizomes and seed along waterways
- Other relatives *F. x bohemica*, *F. sachalinensis*
- CDFA B rated
- Cal-IPC Moderate – ALERT



NEW AND DISTURBING SPECIES TO REPORT?

Contact us!!!

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Send close-ups, whole-plant and plant-in-setting photos

Map on Calflora or iNaturalist