



Japanese Dodder (*Cuscuta japonica*)

Eradication Effort in Santa Barbara County
Channel Islands Restoration

NOXIOUS WEED

- Native to Asia
- Parasitic Annual
- Parasitizes Farm Crops (Trees & Shrubs), and Native Willows and Oaks
- Looks like Yellow Spaghetti
- Stems Round and Twining around host plants
- Capable of Photosynthesis but gets most of its energy from host plants
- Continually re-attaches to host plant and can spread from one host to another nearby
- Spreads by small detached pieces distributed by animals including humans pruning, composting or inadequate disposal



Location



- First observed in 2011 in a small creek channel in willow riparian forest in Lompoc.
- Only known Santa Barbara County location.
- Original Infestation: 0.69 acre



Treatment & Monitoring

- Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner
 - 2011 – 2016: Other Contractor
 - 4 Treatments: Roundup Promax on host plants and Garlon on poison oak
 - 2017 – 2020: Channel Islands Restoration



At the project site in August 2017

Monitoring

August 1 – August 10

40% increase in coverage!

Treatment

- ✓ Cut the host branches
- ✓ Treated dodder on the branches on the ground: Roundup Custom + Surfactant + Dye
- ✓ Returned 1 week later and found it dead.
- ✓ Wrapped them up in plastic burritos, covered in burlap and took to landfill







Follow-Up Monitoring & Treatment

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • August 2017 | Treatment |
| • October 2017 | Treatment |
| • February 2018 | Treatment |
| • Quarterly Monitoring 2018 | None Observed |
| • Quarterly Monitoring 2019 | None Observed |
| • Quarterly Monitoring 2020 | None Observed through October |

October 2020





Thank You

State of California Wildlife Conservation Board

Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner

Cachuma Resource Conservation District