# Pollinator response to giant reed (*Arundo donax*) removal in a southern California riparian system











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## Early Findings

- 250 bee specimens have been collected and identified
- 4 families, 13 genera and 22 species of bees
- The top 5 species collected comprise 83% of all specimens
- The top 3 species collected comprise 73% of all specimens



#### Total number of specimens collected at each field site by family



#### Genus composition at each field site by municipality



## Final Thoughts

- Comparative analysis and specimen processing is ongoing and continued pollinator surveys are planned to begin again shortly
- As Arundo donax is removed and "openness" in the landscape is maintained, we see a potential increase in pollinator abundance and diversity
- Monitoring for pollinators can be a time-consuming and an intensive process, especially when collecting, preserving and identifying specimens, so it is important to have a simple and streamlined protocol
- Baseline datasets for pollinators are lacking in many areas, and when combined with ongoing, long-term vegetation monitoring they can be an important aspect when determining the efficacy and overall ecological impacts of invasive plant removal and restoration efforts

Additional Resources:

- https://symbiota.ccber.ucsb.edu/checklists/checklist.php?cl=6
- https://www.discoverlife.org/
- https://bugguide.net/node/view/15740

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