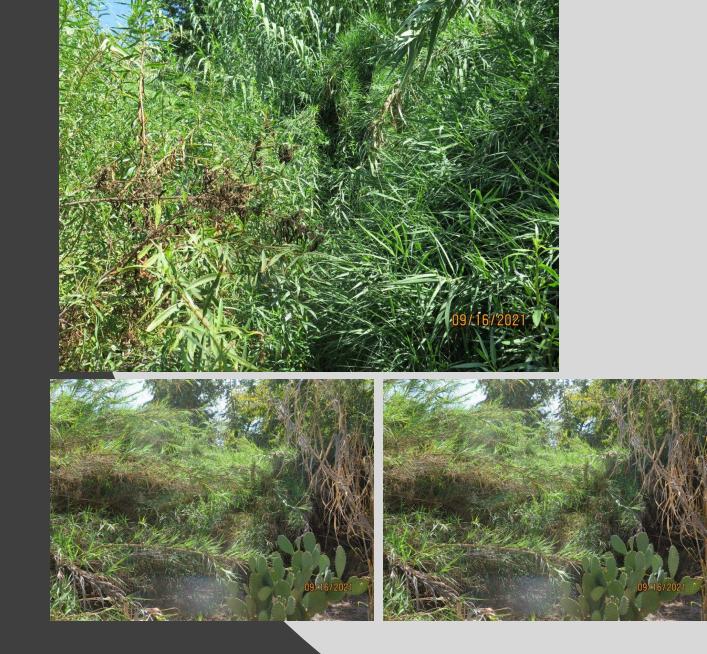
Techniques to Eradicate Giant Reed from Trabuco Creek, Orange County, CA

California Invasive Plant Council Symposium

October 25-28, 2023



Robert Freese and Collin Raff Restoration & Enhancement Program



## Acknowledgements





# Topics

- Removal of arundo stalks: mechanical and manual
- Treatment of re-growth
- Removal of arundo rootballs

# Project Site

- O'Neill Regional Park, Orange County Parks
- 51-acre long-term management area, 34 acres of Arundo
- Perennial segment of creek with numerous secondary channels
- Arundo mixed with sycamore red alder willow riparian forest
- Heavy recreational use
- Scrutiny of herbicide use

# Grinding of Dense Monoculture Stands

 Barko 930 Masticator – directly cuts, grinds Arundo into small fragments, left in place to decompose

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### Selective Manual Removal

- ACOE jurisdictional areas (main and secondary channels)
- Areas intermixed with native riparian vegetation

Stalks manually cut, hauled, piled, and masticated



Mini-excavator to Break Clumps

Hand Crews Cut and Haul

Piles of Cut Stalks

# Before/After



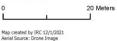
# Before/After



# Before/After Drone Footage



OCWR Trabuco Creek Restoration Site Comparison



OCWR Trabuco Creek Restoration Site Comparison







### Mulch Management



# Rootball Removal for Hydrologic Restoration







#### Managing giant reed re-growth





#### Manual Arundo Removal

