



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

July 9, 2017

Greetings from the OC CNPS Emergent Invasive Plant Program!

This is our second of regular email update about non-native invasive plants in and around the Orange County area. We anticipate that these communications will happen about every month or two and will include new detections, changes in the status of known invasive populations and other invasive plant news that you may find interesting.

For more information about Emergent Invasive Plants in Orange County, click "Invasives" at www.occnps.org. See the current status these species, printable invasive plant profiles, identification details and other information.

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, headquartered in Sacramento. It has about 10,000 members in 34 Chapters statewide. Membership is open to all.

cnps.org

CNPS is dedicated to celebrating California's native plant heritage and preserving it for future generations.

The Orange County Chapter of CNPS focuses that dedication on the native plants and natural vegetation of Orange County and adjacent Southern California.

occnps.org

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Canary Island St John's Wort (*Hypericum canariense*):

Detected in Laguna Canyon on May 18th and reported through the Emergent Invasive Program. (http://www.calflora.org/cgi-bin/noccdetail.cgi?seq_num=po36358).

This species was detected previously in Laguna Canyon and has been under management for the past couple of years. However, the prior detection was on the opposite side of Hwy 133, near the Laguna Beach Transit yard. This new detection is considerably larger. The Laguna Canyon Foundation may become the lead organization in the management of these much larger colonies. More information about this infestation can be seen here (<https://www.occnps.org/invasives/locations-and-status-updates.html>).



Perennial veldtgrass (*Ehrharta calycina*):

Despite many years of management in the Bommer Ridge area of The Laguna Coast Wilderness, surveys this spring by the Natural Communities Coalition have detected a significant expansion. **Volunteer Opportunity:** Familiarize yourself with the subtle distinctions between our three *Ehrharta* species and report any detections of this species that are away from known colonies. <http://www.calflora.org/entry/observ.html#srch=t&taxon=Ehrharta+calycina&cols=b&cc=ORA&cch=t&inat=r>

Long flowered veldtgrass (*Ehrharta longifolia*):

Fred Roberts detected a small colony of this invasive in late April in the Bonita Canyon area of City of Irvine, a first record for OC. Management is pending. OC CNPS volunteer Jesse Rorabaugh also recently detected this species in the Hacienda Heights area, just across the OC border in Los Angeles County. Please report any new OC detections of this or the prior species to invasives@occnps.org.

Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*):

An undetermined number of plants were reported in March or April in San Diego Creek Channel directly adjacent to the Audubon House and Duck Club in Irvine. OC CNPS field checked this site, but the plants could not be re-located. **Volunteer Opportunity:** If you are birding, hiking or exploring in this area, please look for this species and report any detections immediately to invasives@occnps.org.

Yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*):

A small colony in Coal Canyon, Chino Hills State Park was treated by The Nature Conservancy with State Parks. A colony adjacent to the 241 Toll Plaza was partially removed by Irvine Ranch Conservancy in collaboration with CalTrans. A population in Gypsum Canyon was treated by Irvine Ranch Conservancy.

OC CNPS, in cooperation with the Trabuco District of The Cleveland National Forest, is currently completing its third year of management of this species in Upper Silverado Canyon, past the big USFS gate. In June this year, 181 plants were removed by OC CNPS. During 2016 we removed 123 plants and in 2015 another 167. **Volunteer Opportunity:** If you are hiking, biking or even driving in this portion of upper Silverado Canyon during the next couple of months please look for yellow star thistle along the roadside and report the location and details to invasives@occnps.org.



The colonies and details are here:

<http://www.calflora.org/entry/observ.html#srch=t&taxon=Centaurea+solstitialis&cols=b&cc=ORA&cch=t&inat=r>.

OC CNPS is in the middle of its fourth year of management of this species along Hwy. 74 (Ortega Hwy.). This year so far, 1716 plants have been removed. In 2016 we removed 2543, in 2015 we removed 1895 plants and in 2014 we removed 1556 plants. Based on the seedbank lifespan we believe we will begin seeing reductions of plants in the near future.

Santa Maria Feverfew (*Parthenium hysterophorus*):

Last fall, two plants of this new highly invasive annual were detected by OC CNPS volunteer Barbara Boethling in the San Diego Creek Channel between the Audubon House-Duck Club driveway and 300 meters N, on the west side of the drainage. A field check by OC CNPS on July 9 of this year turned up five additional plants, one in flower, but not yet reproductive. All were removed.

Another population of this species was detected recently by an independent party on 17th Street and Lincoln in Santa Ana in 2015. It was treated in 2016 by the County Agricultural Commissioner. On June 4 of this year, OC CNPS revisited the site and manually removed approximately 20 flowering plants. Further visits will be necessary to eliminate this population.



Volunteer Opportunity: We need volunteers to learn this plant and search for additional plants throughout this area, from the Culver bridge to Michelson Drive. The locations of any detections should be plotted and immediately reported to invasives@occnps.org.

For detection information and more see:

<http://www.calflora.org/entry/observ.html#srch=t&taxon=Parthenium+hysterophorus&cols=b&cc=ORA&cch=t&inat=r>

Cape Ivy (*Delairea odorata*):

This OC Emergent species continues to expand, especially in the South coast/Laguna Beach area. Five additional detections came in during June.

Non Toxic Communities:

We are monitoring several of the “non-toxic” efforts in various OC communities. We are concerned about losing herbicides as a critical tool in the management of invasive plants in wildland areas. An excellent article explaining our position and the use of Integrated Weed Management can be seen in our most recent chapter newsletter: <https://www.occnps.org/PDF/Newsletters/2017/JulAug2017.pdf>.

Volunteer Opportunity: If your community has an agenda item on the public works, parks & recreation or city council agenda about this issue please notify our committee, so that we can provide scientific input and include invasive plant management concerns in any decision.

Cal-IPC Symposium:

The Cal-IPC annual symposium will be Oct. 24-27 in Palm Springs and will feature many presentations on invasive plant management and research. The OC CNPS Invasive Committee is preparing new posters and handouts to display on their sponsor table. This will outline steps for other groups to establish their own Early Detection – Rapid Response (EDRR) program.

At the Cal-IPC symposium, Ron Vanderhoff will be presenting as part of a Volutaria session, discussing the Newport Bay detection, infestation and management.

Coastal NCCP Invasive Plant Survey:

The Natural Communities Coalition has nearly completed its first ever spring weed survey of approximately 150 miles of trails throughout the coastal area, including lands within and beyond the Coastal zone of the Central-Coastal Natural Communities Conservation Plan, spanning OC Parks, CA State Parks, City of Irvine and Newport Beach properties. James Bailey of Hamilton Biological is conducting the surveys and has been reporting on a specific list of priority invasive plants as well as other non-native species new to the region.

Orange County Chapter, CA Native Plant Society

Invasive Plant Committee

Emergent Invasive Plant Program

invasives@occnps.org

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