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2015 California Invasive Species Action Week

Last summer the Department of Fish and Wildlife and our partners put out the first call for action – and we were delighted with the response! Twenty-four organizations from around the state joined us to host 47 events with the goal of increasing public awareness and promoting public participation in invasive species prevention and removal in California. We are again calling on you to join us in taking action during Invasive Species Action Week June 6-14, 2015. This year we have expanded our partnerships and moved Action Week to an earlier date to better coincide with the seasons and school year. We hope you will join us, and make 2015 our best year yet!

Government agencies and non-profit organizations across the state have teamed up to organize activities and events where you can get involved. These events offer something for all ages, interests, and abilities, and include hands-on plant removals, nature walks, lectures, field monitoring and reporting, and more. These are opportunities to learn about invasive species issues and assist with control efforts around the state. Inside this issue you'll find a schedule of events. As we learn of additional events we will post them to the California Invasives Species Action Week web page at www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/ActionWeek.

If these events are not convenient, or you prefer to work independently, there are still plenty of opportunities for you to take action. During last year's Action Week we launched the statewide citizen science quagga/zebra mussel monitoring effort, where you can monitor waterbodies for mussels. Who is a



Volunteers removing invasive plants during the 2014 CISA Week. Photo courtesy of Friends of Five Creeks

citizen scientist you ask? You! And anyone who wants to assist scientists with their scientific efforts. For the quagga/zebra mussel monitoring program all that it takes is going to our website to obtain the data sheet, visiting a waterbody, recording your observations, and reporting your findings online. This year we have expanded our citizen science program to include "Nerodia Watch," an effort to document non-native watersnakes in the state. Our citizen science web page also has links to other efforts you can participate in during Action Week and throughout the year.

Also in this issue of Eye On Invasives we highlight three groups, the Mid Klamath Watershed Council, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and TreePeople, that are offering events during this year's Action Week.

Many thanks go out to all of our partners for helping to make this week possible. We hope to expand the number and diversity of events each successive year, so if you are interested in hosting an event next year, submitting photos from your event, or providing feedback on Action Week, please contact us at invasives@wildlife.ca.gov.

Protecting Wilderness and Building Community Pride

CDFW Staff

The mid-Klamath watershed, the Klamath River and its tributaries (excluding the Shasta, Scott, and Salmon Rivers) between Iron Gate Dam and the Trinity River, is located in Northern California. This area is botanically unique, and home to numerous rare plants found nowhere else on earth. While the remote location of the mid-Klamath has seen less ecosystem destruction than much of the rest of California, its geographic isolation has not prevented non-native plants from establishing populations in the region. These non-native invasive plants directly impact the rare native plants of the region. The good news for those that care about maintaining our natural ecosystems is that a local group has recognized what's at stake in the region, and is taking action.

Founded by a vision to bring the diverse communities of the Klamath Basin together to restore the watershed's resources, the Mid Klamath Watershed Council (MKWC) has been actively planning, coordinating, and implementing restoration projects in the Mid Klamath sub-basin since May 2001. Working closely with its funders, the Salmon River Restoration Council and the Karuk, Yurok, and Hoopa Tribes, MKWC educates the community about the need to protect fish, amphibians, and native plants, and the threat that invasive species pose to the region.



Students pull Dalmatian toadflax *Photo courtesy of the Mid Klamath Watershed Council*

Many of the MKWC's projects have focused on controlling invasive plants in the region, and since 2005 MKWC has been removing non-native invasive plants. MKWC emphasizes an "early detection" approach by focusing on species that are new to the area and determined to be a very significant threat to the Mid Klamath based on their impacts elsewhere. When a new threat is found, the MKWC and its volunteers employ manual removal, mulching, and other non-chemical methods of invasive plant control. Some of MKWC's current projects focus on the inventory, mapping, and removal of isolated and leading edge populations of highly invasive weeds including spotted knapweed, meadow knapweed, oblong spurge, leafy spurge, and Italian thistle. MKWC is also focusing on management of invasive plants impacting the Klamath Wilderness.



Photo courtesy of the Mid Klamath Watershed Council

The partnerships with the Salmon River Restoration Council and the tribes have brought much needed support to MKWC's efforts, and those efforts are strengthened by MKWC's ability to attract support from the regional community. The removal of invasive plants is a labor intensive operation and the use of community and stakeholder volunteers is critical to MKWC's implementation of practical, hands-on restoration projects. The MKWC seeks to maximize the contribution concerned citizens can make by coordinating community volunteer workdays to identify, map, and remove invasive plant populations from the Mid Klamath corridor and selected upslope sites.

In order to develop the large pool of informed and engaged volunteers necessary for these projects, the MKWC offers volunteers a number of ways to get involved. One of their most popular events is Restoration Fridays, which are weekly volunteer events held throughout much of the year. Many Restoration Fridays focus on increasing resilience of native plant communities and include weeding of invasive species, native seed collection and sowing, and planting and caring for native plant gardens. The MKWC also conducts Restoration Raft Trips where volunteers spend a day on the river and work to eradicate oblong spurge and other weeds. For those interested in this unique opportunity, MKWC's next Restoration Raft Trip is scheduled for June 26th.

The MKWC is also hosting a pair of events to be held during the 2015 California Invasive Species Action Week. On June 6th there will be a native plant walk in the Marble Mountain Wilderness. This event will provide participants an opportunity to learn about native plants, identify invasive plants encountered, and gain an appreciation of what's at stake. For those looking for a more hands on event, on June 13th the MKWC and its volunteers will be removing dyer's woad, a member of the mustard family native to southeastern Russia, from the Trinity Alps. For more information about these events please contact Tonya Chapple at tanya@mkwc.org or visit the Mid Klamath Watershed Council website at www.mkwc.org.

The Golden Gate and a Blue Butterfly

CDFW Staff

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) is an urban national park that is rich with biological diversity due to its unique geology and variety of habitats. The GGNRA is spread along 60 miles of coastal lands in San Mateo, San Francisco, and Marin counties. The GGNRA is smaller organized as a collective of more than three dozen park units and are often referred to as the Golden Gate National Parks. These parks contain beaches, coastal chaparral, low mountains, prairie, live oak woodlands, salt marshes, freshwater wetlands, and redwood forests.



Volunteers in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Photo courtesy of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy was established in 1981 as a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to preserving the Golden Gate National Parks, enhancing the park visitor experience, and building a community dedicated to conserving the parks for the future. To date, the Conservancy has provided over \$300 million in support of site transformations, trail building, habitat restoration, conservation projects, volunteer and youth engagement, and interpretive and educational programs. In 2014 alone, the Conservancy mobilized more than 26,000 volunteers to support their programs.

One of the Conservancy's most important programs, and one that depends heavily on citizen participation, is its Park Stewardship Program (PSP). The PSP works to restore and protect the integrity of the natural and cultural resources throughout the GGNRA. The guiding philosophy of this program is to provide an opportunity for community engagement in the parkland. For over 20 years, the PSP has been mobilizing volunteers for restoration work, trails stewardship, and cultural resource preservation in the GGNRA.

One of the PSP's longest running programs is its work to conserve the mission blue butterfly (*Aricia icarioides missionensis*). Discovered in San Francisco in 1937, the mission blue was one of the first insects added to the federal endangered species list in 1976. Mission blue butterfly habitat consists of coastal grassland or a mix of coastal grassland and scrub where silver lupine (*Lupinus albus* var. *collinus*), summer lupine (*Lupinus formosus*)

or varied lupine (*Lupinus variicolor*) are present. These three species are the only plants that mission blue caterpillars can eat and adult butterflies must lay their eggs on one of these lupines. Therefore, maintaining this habitat is absolutely critical to the mission blue's survival.

Unfortunately, vast portions of mission blue habitat have already been lost to development. The grassland fragments that remain include parts of the GGNRA. These habitat patches are threatened by invasions of non-native trees and other plants and by a lack of natural disturbances such as historic elk grazing and wildfires that would normally prevent scrubland from taking over. French broom, (*Genista monspessulana*), pampasgrass (*Cortaderia jubata* and *C. pampas*), Cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*), and thoroughwort (*Ageratina adenophora*) are some of the invasive plants that commonly threaten mission blue habitat in the GGNRA. Non-native trees such as blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*), Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*), and Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*) also reduce and fragment mission blue habitat.

Working with the National Park Service's Habitat Restoration Team, the PSP and its volunteers have been restoring and protecting mission blue butterfly habitat since the 1980s. These restoration projects have included replacing invasive plants and trees with lupine, the removal of unsanctioned "social trails," and the installation of fencing and signage around sensitive habitat.



The Mission Blue Butterfly. Photo courtesy of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

These projects are labor intensive and rely heavily on the volunteers the Conservancy provides. The PSP is always looking for motivated people to help with their efforts, so if you are interested in helping protect the mission blue butterfly and the other unique resources in the GGNRA, join in one or more of the invasive plant removal projects. Events are scheduled in San Francisco and Marin counties during this year's California Invasive Species Action Week. For more information about these events, please visit: <http://www.parksconservancy.org/get-involved/>.

Restoring the Santa Monica Mountains

CDFW Staff

The Santa Monica Mountains are part of the east-west trending Transverse Ranges of Southern California. Located adjacent to the city of Los Angeles, this area is one of the largest and most significant examples of Mediterranean-type ecosystems in the world. The climate of the Mediterranean ecosystem, characterized by wet winters and warm, dry summers, along with the diverse topography in the Santa Monica Mountains, has created a landscape filled with unique natural resources.



TreePeople volunteers in the Santa Monica Mountains. *Photo courtesy of TreePeople*

These conditions have allowed a tremendous ecological diversity to develop within the Santa Monica Mountains. The mountains are home to over 1,000 plant species making up 26 distinct natural communities. This includes freshwater aquatic habitats and two of the last salt marshes on the Pacific Coast, oak woodlands, valley oak savannas, coastal sage, and chaparral. Numerous mammals, nearly 400 species of birds, and at least 35 species of reptiles and amphibians can be found here. This area also includes more than 50 threatened or endangered plants and animals, which makes it among the highest concentrations of rare species in the United States.

Historically, there were approximately 870 native plant species growing in the Santa Monica Mountains. Since settlers of European descent came to the area, however, over 200 non-native species have become established. The majority of these non-native species are invasive weeds that were introduced by travelers and agricultural activities. Some of the most aggressive invasives were sold in nurseries as ornamental landscape plants. These “escaped exotics” include species such as Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*) and pampasgrass (*Cortaderia jubata*) which have entered the canyons and crept up the sides of the Santa Monica Mountains. Riparian habitat in the mountains is also being degraded as non-native plants like *Arundo donax*, a giant bamboo-like invasive, have spread rampantly in area streams.

There is not one entity that has responsibility for the entire

region, so managing invasive species in the Santa Monica Mountains is a joint effort by a number of jurisdictions. These include federal, state and local government, public and private conservancies, and non-profit organizations. Several of these organizations have volunteer programs that work on restoration projects, including invasive plant removal, in the Santa Monica Mountains. One of the largest and most active is TreePeople, a non-profit organization from Los Angeles.

TreePeople has spent the last 40 years developing its volunteer programs by providing opportunities for the people of LA to come together to plant and care for trees, harvest the rain, and renew depleted landscapes. These programs have involved more than 2 million people in planting and caring for more than 2 million trees. Originally the group was focused on planting trees and protecting soil and local water quality in LA’s urban areas. The group quickly recognized, however, that the mountains surrounding Los Angeles are vital for air and water quality, biodiversity and recreation for the entire region. Through their Mountain Forestry program, their work expanded beyond the urban core and into more natural environments.

TreePeople now has a long history of restoration work in the Santa Monica Mountains near the communities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, and Malibu. Volunteers there help to restore damaged forests and ecosystems by planting native plants and acorns, watering, harvesting seeds, and removing non-native vegetation. Volunteer events occur nearly every weekend and they typically begin at 8:30am, and end at 12pm. All ages and skill levels are welcome and no previous training is necessary.

During this year’s California Invasive Species Action Week, TreePeople will be hosting invasive species removal projects on June 6th, 13th and 14th in the Santa Monica Mountains near Calabasas. For more information about these events and other ways you can get involved, please visit www.treepeople.org.



Removing invasive plants in the Santa Monica Mountains. *Photo courtesy of TreePeople*

Did You Know These Are Invasive?

Northern Watersnake (*Nerodia sipedon*)

Southern Watersnake (*Nerodia fasciata*)



Adult northern watersnake (*Nerodia sipedon*) from Placer County Photo by Gary Nafis

Though watersnakes are common in the pet trade in some states, their ill temperament and unpleasant smell make them poor pets. As a result, it is likely the pathway of their introductions into California and other non-native environments has been intentional releases by pet owners.

Currently two species of watersnakes have established populations in California. Northern watersnakes (*Nerodia sipedon*) have been established and reproducing in the City of Roseville, Placer County since 2007. Southern watersnakes (*Nerodia fasciata*) have been found in Sacramento and Yolo counties, and have been established in Machado Lake, Los Angeles County, since 2006.

Both northern and southern watersnakes are heavy-bodied, aquatic snakes that can reach up to 5 feet in length. While they are not venomous, when threatened they will strike repeatedly and emit a foul-smelling musk mixed with feces. Both species live

in freshwater habitats such as ditches, ponds, lakes, wetlands, and slow-moving streams and rivers. They are commonly found basking in the sun in shallow water areas on natural and manmade structures. When they aren't basking, the watersnakes can be found hiding under logs and other cover near the water's edge. The watersnakes are also able to leave water, and travel overland in search of food and new habitat.

Neither species of *Nerodia* naturally occur west of the Rocky Mountains. The northern watersnake's native range includes Mississippi and Alabama, through the Carolinas to Maine in the east, and through Kansas and Nebraska to the Great Lakes region in the north. The range of the southern watersnake encompasses the coastal plain from North Carolina to southern Florida, west to Texas, and north into southeastern Missouri and southern Illinois.

Due to the threat *Nerodia* pose to California's native species, in 2008 all species of the genus *Nerodia* were listed as restricted species, and thus cannot be imported, transported, or possessed in the state without a permit. Due to the snakes' fast rate of population growth, ability to disperse overland to new habitat, and close proximity to special status species, including several of California's native garter snakes (genus *Thamnophis*), the populations of *Nerodia* in California are of great concern. If the range of these watersnakes expands, they will likely prey upon and directly compete for resources with native species.

In order to gain a better understanding of the watersnakes' distribution, CDFW's Invasive Species Program developed "Nerodia Watch" using the iNaturalist online social network. Nerodia Watch enables citizen scientists to report sightings of *Nerodia* in California. Information reported to Nerodia Watch will be used by agency staff to map the distribution of *Nerodia*, monitor for new populations, and facilitate rapid response management efforts to control or eradicate *Nerodia* in California. For more information regarding Nerodia Watch and iNaturalist please visit <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/california-nerodia-watch>.



Adult southern watersnake (*Nerodia fasciata*) Photo by Gary Nafis

California Nerodia Watch on iNaturalist

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife needs your help in monitoring invasive *Nerodia* watersnakes in California. Using the iNaturalist framework, citizen scientists can:

- Record and report your sightings of *Nerodia*, include geographic location and pictures
- View other citizen scientists' observations
- Find links to *Nerodia* related resources

For more information about California Nerodia Watch please visit www.inaturalist.org/projects/california-nerodia-watch.

Subscribe

If you would like to receive the "Eye On Invasives" newsletter, you can subscribe by visiting the CDFW [Invasive Species Website](http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/california-nerodia-watch).

**A Sneak Peek into
the next issue of
Eye On Invasives:
Action Week Recap**

California Invasive Species Action Week



2015 Schedule of Events

Week-long/on-going

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
Monterey	Monterey Bay Aquarium	All week	Invasive species education	Visit with the interpretive staff at Monterey Bay Aquarium this week to learn about marine invasive species and how they impact the habitats and plant/animal communities of the Central California Coast.	No
Statewide	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	At your convenience	Quagga/zebra mussel monitoring	Join CDFW's Invasive Species Program in a statewide citizen science effort to monitor for quagga mussels. Visit the citizen science page for instructions, to print data sheets, and to enter the results of your survey. Did you encounter any other aquatic invasive species? Tell us about those too!	No
		Any (fresh)waterbody			
Statewide (special interest in Placer, Sacramento, Yolo, Los Angeles, and the Delta region)	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Any time	California Nerodia Watch iNaturalist Project	Join the California Nerodia Watch project and help the Department of Fish and Wildlife monitor for the spread of existing <i>Nerodia</i> * watersnake populations, prevent the establishment of new populations, and facilitate rapid response management efforts to control or eradicate <i>Nerodia</i> watersnakes in California. * <i>Nerodia</i> are restricted in California, so take their pictures only, please! www.inaturalist.org/projects/california-nerodia-watch	Yes, register at iNaturalist.org or in the free app
		Wetlands, streams, canals, ponds, lakes, rivers			

Saturday, June 6th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
Alameda	Save The Bay	9:00am – 12:00pm	Invasive plant removal; mustard, iceplant, thistles	Invasive species often have severe ecological impacts and are a major threat in the San Francisco Bay. According the Nature Conservancy, San Francisco Bay is the most invaded aquatic region in the world! Counteract this staggering fact by helping us to restore native wetland habitat as we remove invasive species at Eden Landing.	Yes; register at www.savesfbay.org/volunteer
		Eden Landing Hayward/Union City			
Humboldt	National Park Service	10:00am – 12:00pm	European beachgrass removal	A project at RNSP used heavy equipment to remove European beachgrass at Freshwater Beach, but like all invasives, follow-up work is necessary to prevent re-introduction. Our volunteer day activity will involve the public in helping us remove new patches of European beachgrass from Freshwater Beach. We will meet at the Thomas H. Kuchel Visitor Center at 9:30 am for refreshments and orientation.	No
		Redwood National and State Parks , Freshwater Beach			
Los Angeles	TreePeople	8:45am – 12:00pm	Removing invasive and tending native plants	We will be caring for native plants and trees and removing invasive species in the Cold Creek Preserve in Calabasas.	Yes; visit www.treepeople.org/calendar to register and receive directions
		Cold Creek Preserve			
Los Angeles	Mountains Restoration Trust	9:00 – 11:00am	Red swamp crayfish removal	We need volunteers to remove invasive crayfish and plants from Medea creek which runs from the top of Oak Park to Malibou Lake. Prepare to get dirty as we wade into the streams to trap crayfish and remove trash. We provide all the equipment necessary for trapping. Please wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty!	Yes; register at Eventbrite.com
		Medea Creek (5399 Bromely Drive, Oak Park)			
San Francisco	Golden Gate Audubon Society	9:00am – 12:00pm	Invasive plant removal	Join Golden Gate Audubon to remove invasive weeds and tend to native plants along the Bay. Wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves and pants, and a hat or sunscreen. Bring a reusable water bottle; we will provide instructions, tools, gloves, snacks, and water. See and hear the birds that depend on this wetland site surrounded by urban industry. Address is 480 Amador St.; turn into the gravel parking lot before the chain link fence.	No, groups of 5 or more need to email NWeeden@goldengateaudubon.org
		Pier 94 San Francisco			

Siskiyou	Mid Klamath Watershed Council	9:00am or 10:30am	All day hike; plant walk	Join us for an all day hike to explore meadows of the western Marble Mountains. Meet at 9:00 am at the Panamnik Building in Orleans (same building as the Post Office, 38150, Hwy 96), or at the Stanshaw Trailhead at 10:30 am. Bring a lunch and water.	Yes; contact Tanya Chapple at (530) 627-3202 or Tanya@mwkc.org
		Haypress Meadows, Marble Mountain Wilderness			
Sonoma	Mussel Dogs	10:00 – 11:00am	Mussel detection dog demonstration	Come to a meet and greet with our mussel dogs. Learn about quagga and zebra mussels, why we want to keep them from spreading, and about Clean, Drain, and Dry. See a demonstration of how the canines work. Find us at the Milt Brandt Visitor Center, 3288 Skaggs Rd., Geyserville.	No
		Milt Brandt Visitor Center			

Sunday, June 7th

Marin	Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy; Habitat Restoration Team	9:30am – 2:30pm	Invasive plant removal	Meet where Dipsea Trail crosses Panoramic Highway near Marin State Parks. Map Link We'll return to these coastal prairies to remove more broom, Helichrysum, and thoroughwart. Come help us restore these beautiful areas!	No, but encouraged; register HERE
		White Gate & Dipsea Knoll, Stinson Region			
Mendocino	Mussel Dogs	10:00 – 11:00am	Mussel detection dog demonstration	Come to a meet and greet with our mussel dogs. Learn about quagga and zebra mussels, why we want to keep them from spreading, and about Clean, Drain, and Dry. See a demonstration of how the canines work. Find us at the north boat ramp off Highway 20.	No
		Lake Mendocino; north boat ramp			
Orange	Bolsa Chica Land Trust	9:00am – 12:00pm	Iceplant removal	We meet at the North lot (off of Warner Ave. and Pacific Coast Highway in Huntington Beach) and walk to the site. We ask all volunteers to wear long pants and closed-toed shoes that can get dirty along with sunscreen because we will be in the sun the whole morning. Please try to carpool if possible because our parking lot is very small. We will be weeding invasive plants and watering the native plants. We will supply the tools/equipment, water, and snacks.	No
		Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve			
Shasta	California Department of State Parks	3:00pm	Jr. Rangers Youth Program	Join State Parks' Interpretive Specialists at the Campfire Center. This week's Jr. Ranger program will be about invasive species and will cover species such as yellow starthistle, common mullein, and American bullfrogs!	No
		McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park			

Monday, June 8th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
Contra Costa	Friends of Five Creeks	9:00am – 11:00am	French broom removal	Friends of Five Creeks and Prospect-Sierra students bash invasive, fire-prone French broom in the El Cerrito Hillside Natural Area. Long pants, long sleeves, and closed-toed shoes recommended. Email f5creeks@gmail.com for directions.	Yes; email f5creeks@gmail.com
		El Cerrito Hillside Natural Area			
Humboldt	Mattole Restoration Council	9:00am – 4:00pm (or as you please)	Tansy (ragwort) Termination Days	Spend time with the Mattole Restoration Council pulling “Stinking Willie” in the beautiful and scenic Lost Coast. Meet at the Mattole Valley Community Center in Petrolia at 9:00am sharp. Gloves, tools, refreshments, and snacks will be provided. Please wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty! Help us save our coastal prairies!	Yes; email John@mattole.org
		Prosper Ridge in the King Range			

Tuesday, June 9th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
Alameda	Friends of Five Creeks	10:00am – 12:00pm	Perennial pepperweed and Salsola removal	Friends of Five Creeks' Weekday Weed Warriors will tackle invasive perennial pepperweed and Salsola on the Berkeley Bay shore. Email f5creeks@gmail.com for information and directions.	Yes; email f5creeks@gmail.com
		Berkeley Bay Shore			
Contra Costa	East Bay Regional Parks District	8:30am – 12:30pm	Eucalyptus sprout and invasive plant removal	Your regional parks need your help! Assist staff with the removal of eucalyptus sprouts and other invasive plants to create habitat for listed species. Meet at the front entrance, 5551 Giant Hwy, Richmond. Please bring a refillable water bottle and a hat.	Yes; email volunteers@ebparks.org or call 510-544-2515
		Point Pinole Regional Shoreline			
Humboldt	Mattole Restoration Council	9:00am – 4:00pm (or as you please)	Tansy (ragwort) Termination Days	Spend time with the Mattole Restoration Council pulling “Stinking Willie” in the beautiful and scenic Lost Coast. Meet at the Mattole Valley Community Center in Petrolia at 9:00am sharp. Gloves, tools, refreshments, and snacks will be provided. Please wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty! Help us save our coastal prairies!	Yes; email John@mattole.org
		Prosper Ridge in the King Range			

Shasta	California Department of State Parks	8:00pm	Campfire Program	Join State Parks' Interpretive Specialists for their evening Campfire Program to learn about local invasive species such as yellow starthistle, common mullein, and American bullfrogs!	No
		McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park			

Wednesday, June 10th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
Humboldt	Mattole Restoration Council	9:00am – 4:00pm (or as you please)	Tansy (ragwort) Termination Days	Spend time with the Mattole Restoration Council pulling “Stinking Willie” in the beautiful and scenic Lost Coast. Meet at the Mattole Valley Community Center in Petrolia at 9:00am sharp. Gloves, tools, refreshments, and snacks will be provided. Please wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty! Help us save our coastal prairies!	Yes; email John@mattole.org
		Prosper Ridge in the King Range			
Marin	Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Invasive Plant Patrol	10:00am – 2:30pm	Invasive plant removal	Invasive Plant Patrol volunteers find new invasions of exotics and remove localized infestations before they get out of control. This program is great for those that love to hike in the park and want to get to know new trail systems. You'll learn to identify plants, both native and invasive while enjoying scenic landscapes. Meet at the Tennessee Valley parking lot; get directions . We'll hike the Miwok and Rodeo Valley Trails to pull French broom and ox-eye daisy from coastal prairies that support Mission Blue butterflies.	Yes; register HERE or visit the GGNPC-IPP webpage
		Tennessee Valley			
Marin	Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Park Stewardship Marin	1:00pm – 4:00pm	Invasive plant removal	Help restore sensitive habitat at Muir Beach in Marin County. We will be protecting Coho salmon habitat by pulling invasive plants along a riparian corridor. Volunteer days include a combination of hands-on service and short natural and cultural history lessons. Come out and lend a hand! Ages 10 and up are welcome. Meet at Muir Beach parking lot by the picnic tables.	Yes; register HERE or visit the GGNPC-PSM webpage
		Muir Beach			

Thursday, June 11th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
El Dorado	League to Save Lake Tahoe/Tahoe Resource Conservation District	5:00pm – 8:00pm	Aquatic invasive plant removal/survey – Eyes on the Lake Program	We will be hosting FREE Eyes on the Lake trainings throughout the summer, one of which is on May 30 th as part of Native Species Festival at the USFS Taylor Creek visitor center. In partnership with the Tahoe RCD, trained EOL volunteers will be removing and surveying for aquatic invasive species at Taylor and Tallac Creeks on USFS land.	Yes; register for an EOL volunteer training to join
		Taylor and Tallac Creeks, Lake Tahoe Basin			
Sacramento	California departments of Fish and Wildlife and State Parks	10:00am – 2:00pm	Invasive plant removal by kayak	Join Department of Fish and Wildlife staff in volunteering with State Parks to hand-remove water hyacinth and Eurasian watermilfoil from the Willow Creek cove of Lake Natoma in Folsom. Volunteers will wade in the shallow waters, use kayaks (provided) in deeper waters, or can remove yellow starthistle along the trails. Bring sunscreen, water, and pack a lunch; bring your kayak and life vest too, if you have them. Grill and picnic facilities are on site.	No, but encouraged; email Invasives@wildlife.ca.gov
		Willow Creek, Lake Natoma			
San Francisco	Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Park Stewardship San Francisco	1:00pm – 4:00pm	Invasive annual grass removal	Become a Park Steward and help restore unique San Francisco coastal habitat at Lands End, Fort Funston, and along the Presidio coastal bluffs. Come work beside the shimmering Pacific Ocean and majestic Golden Gate Bridge. Meet at the commuter parking lot at Storey and Lincoln Ave. All ages welcome.	Yes; register HERE or visit the GGNPC-PSSF webpage
		Presidio Coastal Bluffs			

Friday, June 12th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
Siskiyou	Mid Klamath Watershed Council	9:00am	Dyer's woad removal	Help us keep the invasive dyer's woad out of the Trinity Alps by removing the invasive plant from the trailhead. Meet at the Panamnik Building in Orleans (same building as the Post Office, 38150, Hwy 96) at 9:00 am to carpool to the trailhead.	Yes; contact Tanya Chapple at (530) 627-3202 or Tanya@mwkc.org
		High Point Trailhead, Trinity Alps Wilderness			

Saturday, June 13th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
Contra Costa	East Bay Regional Parks District	8:30am – 1:00pm	Yellow starthistle removal	Your regional parks need your help! Join us to help remove one of the most destructive invasive species in California and help to restore our grasslands. Meet at the Bear Creek Staging Area (16 Bear Creek Rd., Lafayette). Please bring a refillable water bottle and a hat.	Yes; email volunteers@ebparks.org or call 510-544-2515
		Briones Regional Park			
Los Angeles	TreePeople	8:45am – 12:00pm	Removing invasive and tending native plants	We will be caring for native plants and trees and removing invasive species.	Yes; visit www.treepeople.org/calendar to register and receive directions
		Malibu Creek State Park, Calabasas			
Los Angeles	Mountains Restoration Trust	9:00am – 11:00am	Red swamp crayfish removal	We need volunteers to remove invasive crayfish and plants from Medea creek which runs from the top of Oak Park to Malibou Lake. Prepare to get dirty as we wade into the streams to trap crayfish and remove trash. We provide all the equipment necessary for trapping. Please wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty! Meeting location: 5399 Bromely Drive, Oak Park	Yes; register at Eventbrite.com
		Medea Creek			
Los Angeles	Friends of Madrona Marsh	10:00am – 12:00pm	Invasive species educational workshop	Dr. Connie Vadheim will talk about invasive species in your yard and around your home, how to identify them, and how to get rid of them for good. All attendees will take home a native plant, which then can replace an invasive one in their own yard.	Yes; call Madrona Marsh Nature Center at (310) 782-3989
		Madrona Marsh Nature Center and Preserve			
Marin	Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Park Stewardship Marin	10:00am – 1:00pm	Invasive plant removal	Help restore sensitive habitat at Muir Beach in Marin County. We will be protecting Coho salmon habitat by pulling invasive plants along a riparian corridor. Volunteer days include a combination of hands-on service and short natural and cultural history lessons. Come out and lend a hand! Ages 10 and up are welcome. Meet at Muir Beach parking lot by the picnic tables.	Yes; register HERE or visit the GGNPC-PSM webpage
		Muir Beach			
Marin	Marin Audubon Society	10:00am – 1:00pm	Invasive plant removal	Removal of invasive plants from the Bahia Wetlands. Marin Audubon provides all gloves and tools and supplies snacks and instruction. Meet at the intersection of Topaz Dr. & Orient Dr. , Novato.	Yes; email volunteercoordinator@marinaudubon.org
		Bahia Wetlands, Novato			

Sacramento	Cosumnes River Preserve	9:00am – 3:30pm	American pokeberry removal	Join the Habitat Restoration Team to remove American pokeberry; exposure to Himalayan blackberry is certain, and poison oak is likely, but avoidable. MUST wear closed-toed shoes, long-sleeved shirt, long pants, a hat, work gloves (if you have them) and layered clothing. Bring water and some snacks and a lunch. Ages 10 and up.	No
		Meet at The Barn (6500 Desmond Rd)			
San Francisco	Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Park Stewardship San Francisco	1:00pm – 4:00pm	Invasive annual grass removal	Become a Park Steward and help restore unique San Francisco coastal habitat at Lands End, Fort Funston, and along the Presidio coastal bluffs. Come work beside the shimmering Pacific Ocean and majestic Golden Gate Bridge. All ages welcome. Meet at the commuter parking lot at Storey and Lincoln Ave.	Yes; register HERE or visit the GGNPC-PSSF webpage
		Lands End			

Sunday, June 14th

County	Organization	Time/Location	Project	Details	Registration required?
El Dorado	California Department of State Parks	9:30 – 12:30	Cheatgrass (and others) removal	Come learn about invasive species, their effect on the ecosystems of Lake Tahoe and help CA State Parks limit invasive species spread by pulling them for an hour or two. We are looking for 10-15 volunteers to help us reduce invasive species pressure on the native plant community – aka, pull weeds, specifically cheatgrass! Bring a hat, gloves, sunscreen, water and a lunch if you want to have a picnic on the beach after the event. Free parking at Sugar Pine State Park will be provided for the day.	Yes; to RSVP, or for questions, contact Svetlana.Yegorova@parks.ca.gov or (530) 525-1221
		Sugar Pine Point State Park			
Los Angeles	TreePeople	8:45am – 12:00pm	Weed War	TreePeople's Cody Chappel and the Mountains Restoration Trust will be back in Malibu on a Weed War mission and they need your help! The Weed War removes non-native invasive plant species (weeds) where a native plant community is most threatened, along a trail, by a stream, or in a grassland. Join us!	Yes; visit www.treepeople.org/calendar to register and receive directions
		White Oak Farm, Calabasas			
Marin	Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy; Habitat Restoration Team	9:30am - 2:30pm	Invasive plant removal	Help restore and monitor critical natural areas in the Marin Headlands. Meet at the parking lot across from the Presidio Stables on Bunker Road. Pulling broom and plucking daisies is fun, especially when there are fewer each year! Come help us keep this trend going in these majestic sites.	Yes; register HERE
		Presidio Stables & Rifle Range, Marin Headlands			