

Improving Habitat for Native Species

During fiscal year 2005, the Point Reyes National Seashore Vegetation Team made great strides towards removing invasive nonnative species from threatened habitats, improving conditions for the many listed plant species we are responsible for, and managing our range management, fire ecology and fire planning programs. Highlights this year include:

Seashore Restoration and Conservation Programs -
Over 13 acres of initial Cape-ivy removal was accomplished at lower Glenbrook Creek, Dogtown, Chimney Rock, Pierce Point residence site, Nunes Ranch, Niman Ranch, Rift Zone, Randall Spur, RCA Creek, Fern Creek, Home Ranch, Pelican Point, Marshall Beach, Lairds Landing, Muddy Hollow, and portions of the Palomarin sites. Follow up work was conducted on 8.53 acres of last year's initial removal sites. Photomonitoring was done for many of the sites.

OSPR Cape Mohican Oil Spill Sandy Beach Restoration -
Approximately five acres of initial removal of European beachgrass and 16.8 acres of follow up treatment were completed in the areas north and south of the mouth of Abbotts Lagoon. This project will ultimately restore 25 acres of critical dune habitat, and already federally listed species have moved into the restored area and expanded their range. Two plover nests were within the restored area, and several male plovers used the area to rear chicks. In the area restored by heavy equipment, almost 200 lupine and 18 beach layia seedlings were found growing from newly exposed seed.

Habitat Restoration Volunteer Program - Funding was acquired from the Volunteer In Parks program to provide transportation for six groups of high school students to participate in iceplant and European beachgrass removal and learn about coastal dune habitat conservation issues. Financial support was also provided for the 7th Rare-Plant-a-Thon. Four volunteer internships were provided housing and weekly stipends for weed removal and rare plant monitoring. Volunteers contributed 1,725 hours to the vegetation program.

California Exotic Plant Management Team - The California Exotic Plant Management Team (CaEPMT) expanded to four teams, serving 12 parks ranging the entire length of the California coast. The CaEPMT treated 80 species over a 9-month period. Projects ranged from sea level along the shore of Channel Islands National Park, to the high Sierran wilderness in Devil's Postpile National Monument (8,000').



pre (2002) and post treatment (2005) of European beachgrass at Abbotts Lagoon

