

California Exotic Plant Management Team (CaEPMT)

In 2007, three CaEPMT teams treated over 70 different species at more than 110 different sites throughout the state. After six years they have successfully contained a major Himalayan blackberry infestation in Yosemite National Park's Mirror Lake basin. Working with the park, they have reduced the 30 gross infested acres in 2002 to 11 gross infested acres in 2007. At John Muir NHS, the yellow starthistle population dropped from 82 gross infested acres in 2002, to 1.4 gross infested acres in 2007. At Whiskeytown NRA, the team discovered a small infestation of diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*), an A-rated highly invasive species not previously found in the park. The park's prompt follow-up reporting to the California Department of Food and Agriculture led to this population being controlled, and has sparked a keen interest in this population and a budding partnership between the agencies.

This year services were expanded by establishing contract projects with adjacent stakeholders to knock back adjacent infestations. The CaEPMT worked with Sierra National Forest (adjacent to Yosemite National Park) and the Presidio Trust and Mount Tamalpais State Park (adjacent to Golden Gate NRA). As in past years, they sponsored and trained two Student Conservation Association Exotic Plant Management Teams. The strategic use of intern teams on a more local level has reduced travel time associated with covering such a large territory resulting in more dedicated hours of field work to the parks.



Weed wrench removing plants in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

Bay Area Fire Ecology and Fire Effects Program

The Fire Effects Monitoring crew completed 180 plots at six parks (Point Reyes NS, Golden Gate NRA, Santa Monica Mountains NP, Channel Islands NP, Pinnacles NM and Crater Lake NP) as well as three off-park fire assignments.

The Fire Ecologist completed the Resource Advisor Guide as well as the Fire Effects

Monitoring Plan. The Fire Ecology Program also managed a contract which resulted in guidelines for the management of Marin manzanita.

The Fire Ecology program secured several grants for Sudden Oak Death work including funds for the treatment of high value trees with AgriFos and funds to develop a public outreach program for the disease.