Vegetation Management on Clark County MSHCP Properties





Curt Deuser

Supervisory Ecologist, National Park Service

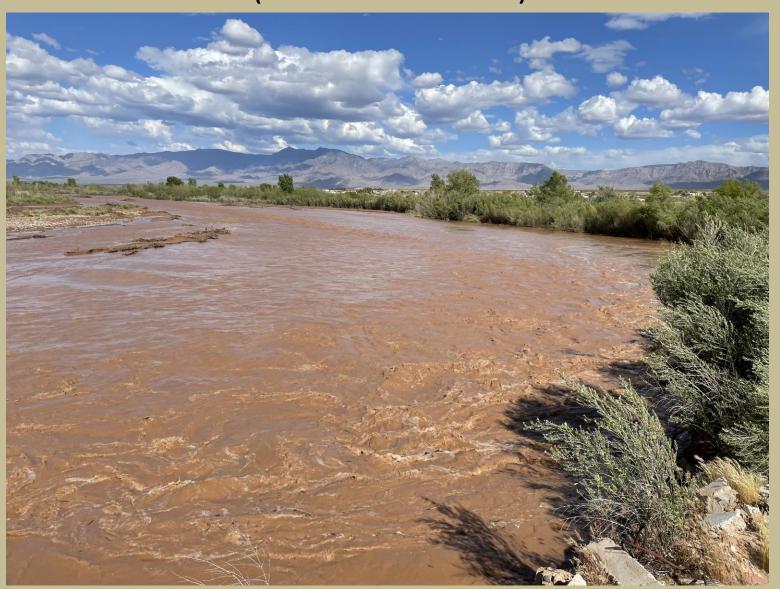
Lake Mead Inter-Regional Invasive Plant Management Team

MSHCP Annual Project Progress Report Symposium

August 23, 2023

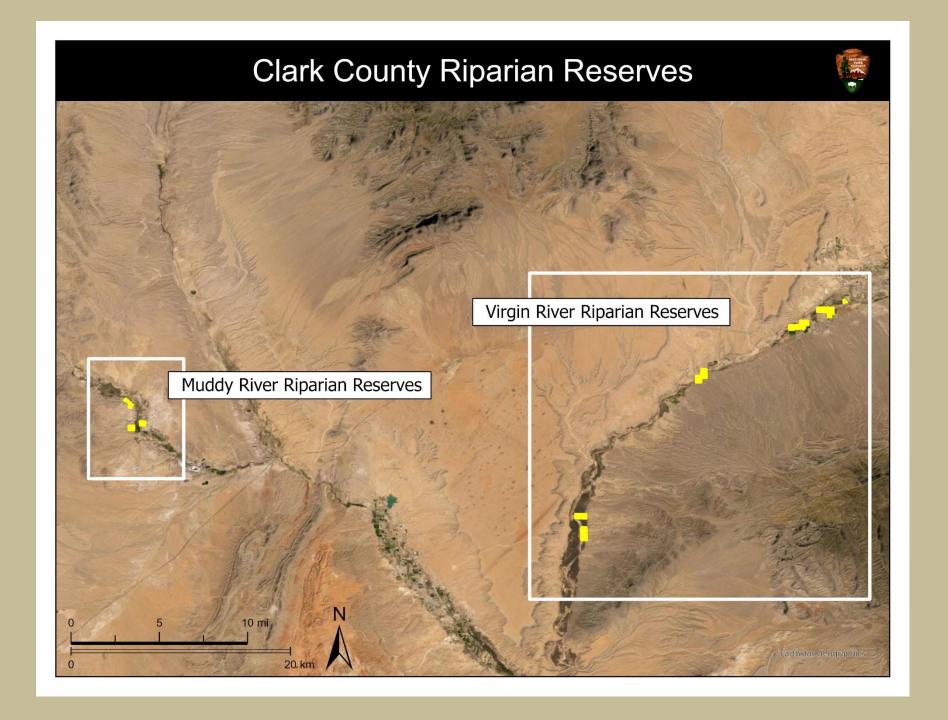
Riparian Reserves Vegetation Management

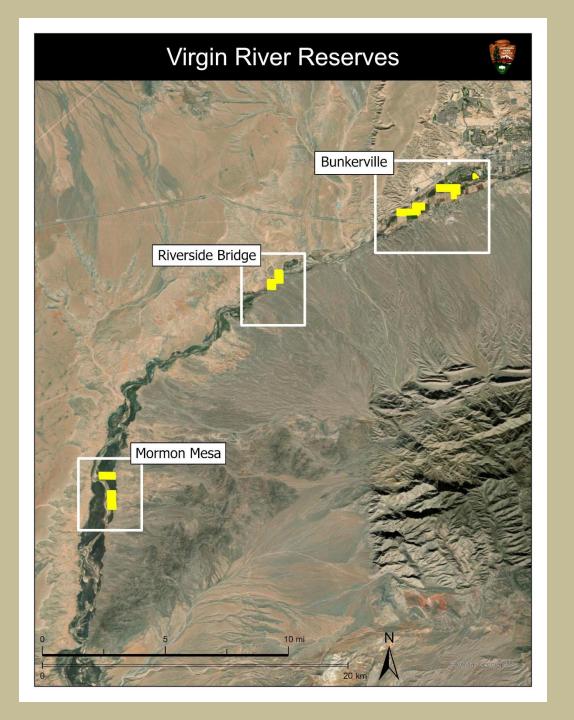
2023 MSHCP Annual Project Progress Symposium (2019-NPS-1910C)



Project Information

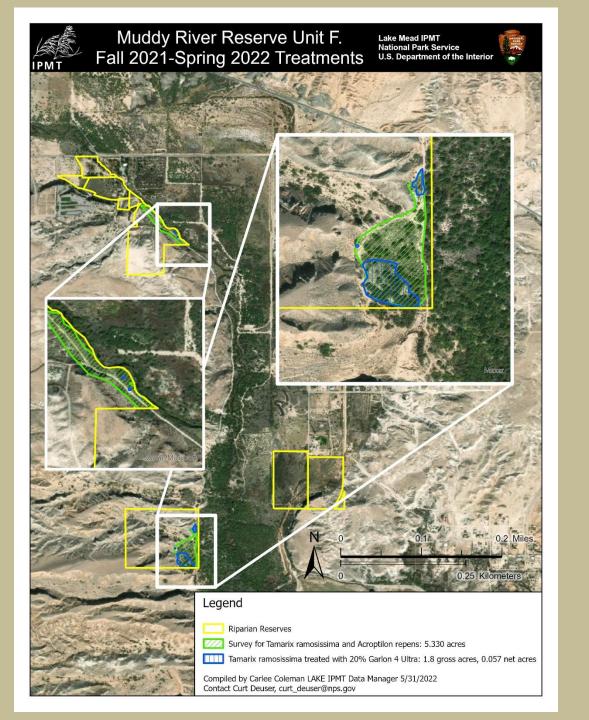
- Awarded late April 2021 through July 2023
- Two year renewal extended from July 2023-July 15, 2025
- Purpose: Conduct inventory and weed treatments of non-native invasive vegetation
- Prioritization: Early detection rapid response
- Prioritize treatments of well establish more widespread species





Virgin River County Parcels

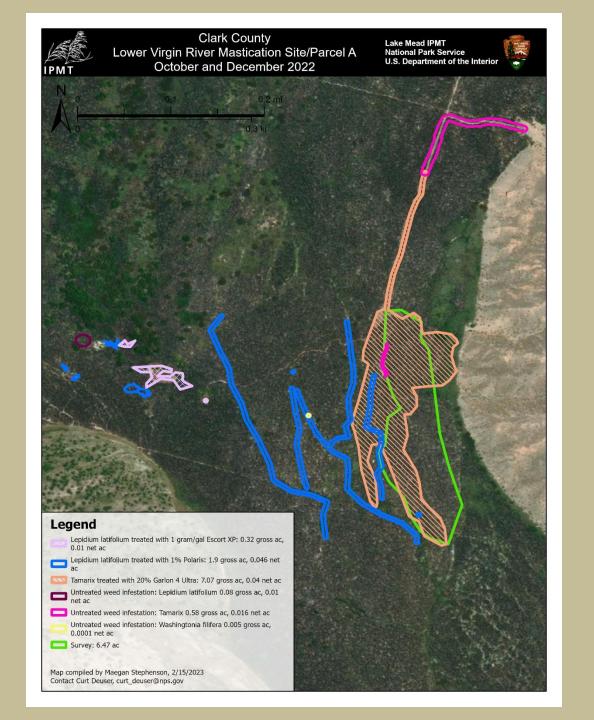




Priority Weeds of Concern

Present

- Tall Whitetop (Lepidium latifolium)
- Camelthorn (Alhagi maurorum)
- Tamarix species (Tamarix aphylla/ramosissima)
- Malta Starthistle (Centaura melitensis)
- Russian Olive (Elaegnus angustifolia)
- Palm trees (date and fan palm)
- Giant Cane Grass (Arundo donax)
- Russian knapweed (Acroptilon repens)





Partner: Clark County

Location: Lower Virgin River Mastication Site/Parcel A

Date(s): October 16, 2022

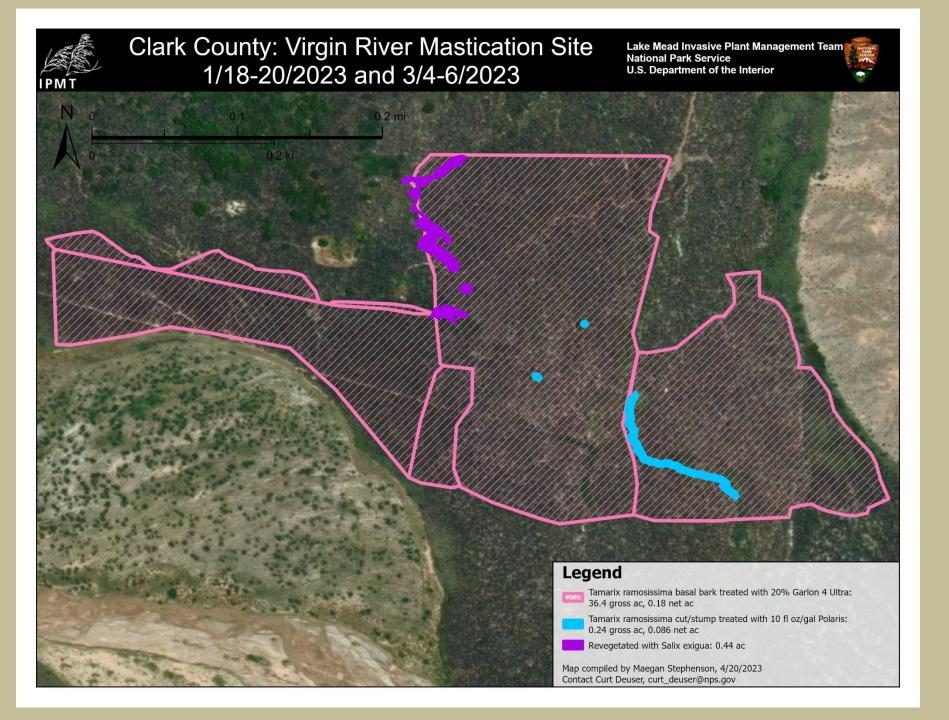
Treatment Method(s): Chemical foliar spot treatment using Escort XP via

backpack sprayers.

Accomplishments				
Species Total Surveyed Acres Gross Infested Acres Infested Acres Treated Acres				
Lepidium latifolium Tall whitetop	6.79	0.32	0.01	0.01

Herbicide Use				
Herbicide	Amount	Mix Rate	Surfactant	Total Mix
Escort XP	4 grams	1 gram/gal	Target Pro Spreader	4 gallons

These definitions are based on the 2019 NISIMS Fields and Domains guide. Please refer to https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/617128 for more information. These definitions can also be found on the back of this report. Compiled by Maegan Stephenson. For questions, please contact Curt Deuser at curt_deuser@nps.gov or (702) 281-8120.





Partner: Clark County

Location: Virgin River Mastication Site

Date(s): 3/5-6/2023

Treatment Method(s): Chemical cut/stump treatment using 10 fl oz/gal Polaris

via backpack sprayers.

Accomplishments				
Species Total Surveyed Acres Gross Infested Acres Infested Acres Treated Treated Acres				
Tamarix ramosissima Salt cedar	0.24	0.24	0.086	0.086

Herbicide Use				
Herbicide Amount Mix Rate Surfactant Total Mix				
Polaris	12 fl oz	10 fl oz/gal	None	1.25 gallons

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Treating Tamarisk Resprouts





Partner: Clark County

Location: Virgin River Mastication Site

Date(s): 1/18-20/2023

Treatment Method(s): Chemical basal bark treatment using 20% Garlon 4 Ultra

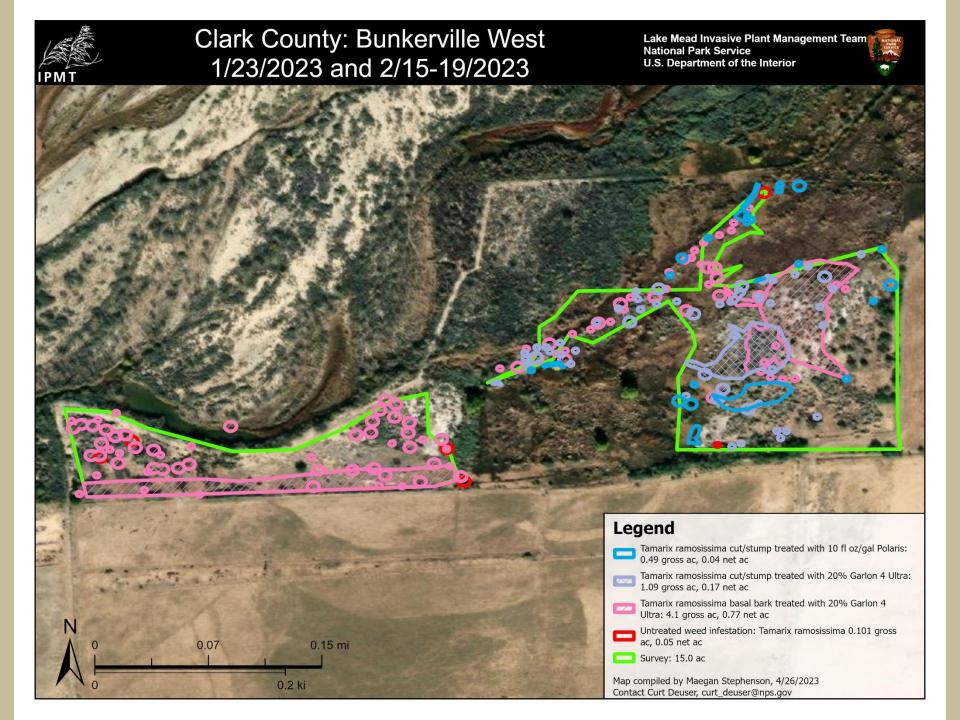
via backpack sprayers.

Accomplishments				
Species Total Surveyed Acres Gross Infested Acres Infested Acres Treated Treated				
Tamarix ramosissima Salt cedar	36.4	36.4	0.18	0.18

Herbicide Use				
Herbicide Amount Mix Rate Surfactant Total Mix				
Garlon 4 Ultra	12.9 gallons	20%	JLB Oil Plus Improved	64.5 gallons

These definitions are based on the 2019 NISIMS Fields and Domains guide. Please refer to https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/617128 for more information. These definitions can also be found on the back of this report. Compiled by Maegan Stephenson. For questions, please contact Curt Deuser at curt deuser@nps.gov or (702) 281-8120.







Partner: Clark County
Location: Bunkerville West
Date(s): 2/15-19/2023

Treatment Method(s): Chemical basal bark treatment using 20% Garlon 4 Ultra

via backpack sprayers.

Accomplishments				
Species	Total Surveyed Acres	Gross Infested Acres Treated	Infested Acres	Treated Acres
Tamarix ramosissima Salt cedar	15.0	4.1	0.77	0.77

Herbicide Use				
Herbicide Amount Mix Rate Surfactant Total Mix				
Garlon 4 Ultra	2.79 gallons	20%	JLB Oil Plus Improved	13.95 gallons

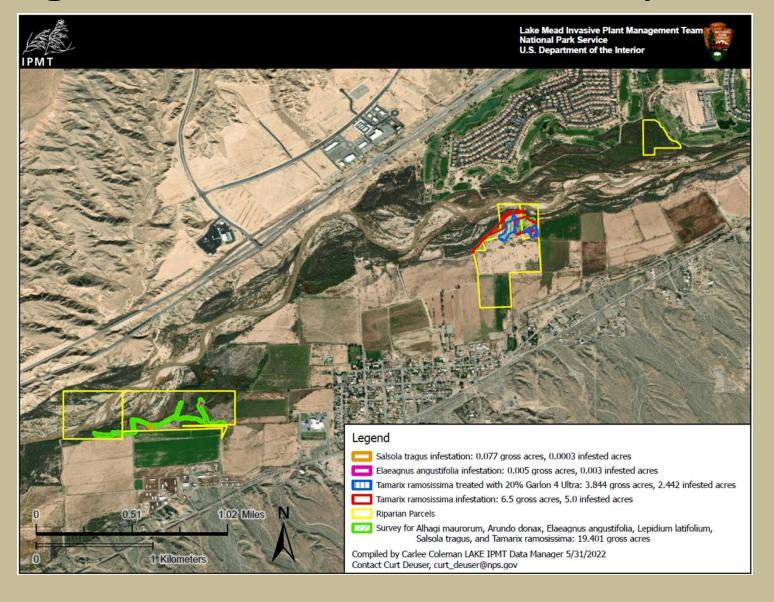
These definitions are based on the 2019 NISIMS Fields and Domains guide. Please refer to https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/637128 for more information. These definitions can also be found on the back of this report. Compiled by Maegan Stephenson. For questions, please contact Curt Deuser at curt_deuser@nps.gov or (702) 281-8120.





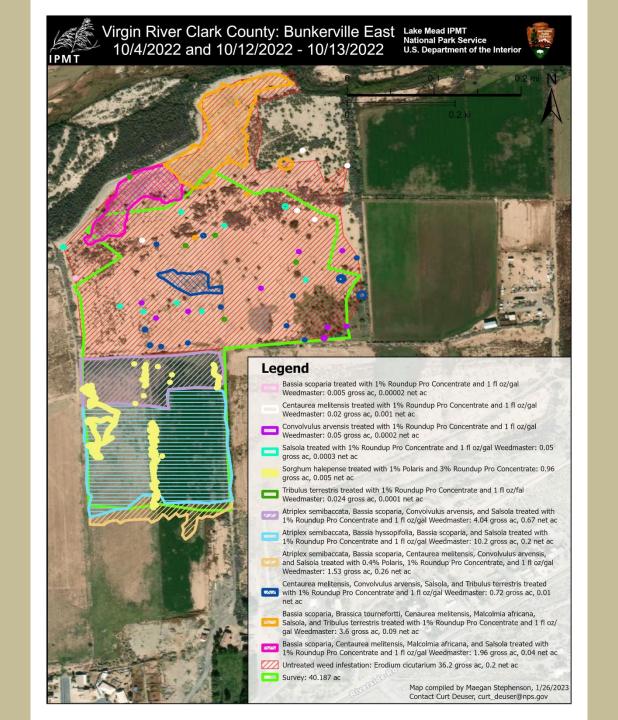


Virgin River Units near Mesquite









Malta Starthistle Centaura melitensis







Partner: Clark County
Location: Bunkerville East

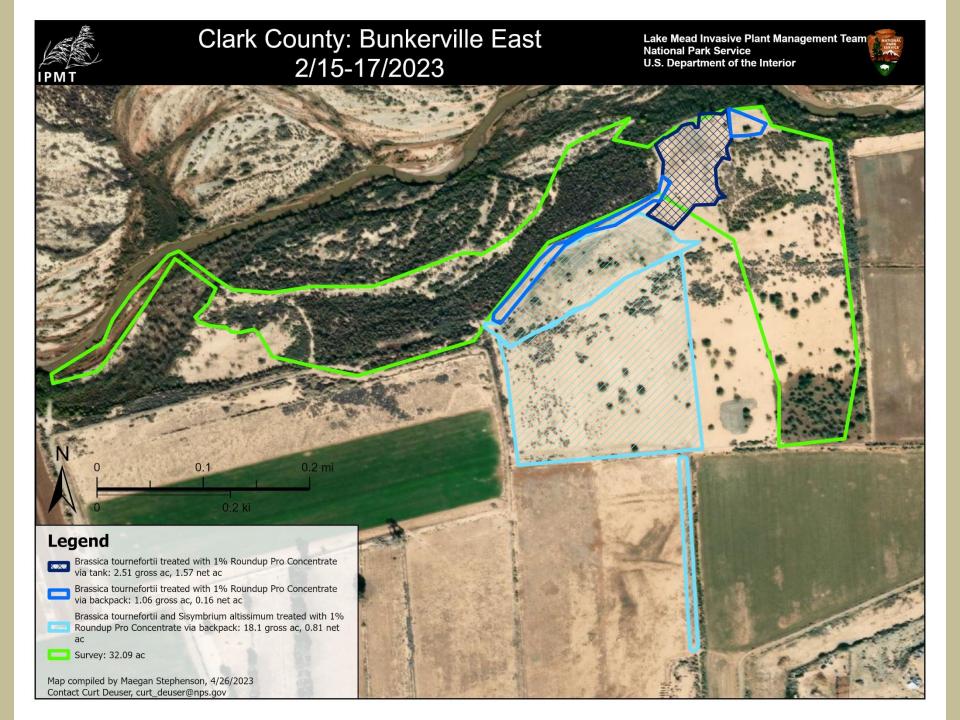
Date(s): 10/4/2022 and 10/12-14/2022

Treatment Method(s): Treating area with chemical mixture of 1% Roundup Pro

Concentrate and 1 oz/gal Weedmaster via backpack

sprayers.

Accomplishments				
Species	Total Surveyed Acres	Gross Infested Acres Treated	Infested Acres	Treated Acres
Atriplex semibaccata Australian saltbush	40.187	14.24	0.07	0.07
Bassia hyssopifolia Five-hook bassia	40.187	10.2	0.05	0.05
Bassia scoparia Kochia	40.187	19.805	0.1	0.1
Brassica tournefortti Sahara mustard	40.187	3.6	0.02	0.02
Centaurea melitensis Malta starthistle	40.187	6.3	0.01	0.01
Convolvulus arvensis Field bindweed	40.187	4.81	0.02	0.02
Malcolmia africana African mustard	40.187	5.56	0.02	0.02
<i>Salsola</i> Russian thistle	40.187	20.57	0.69	0.69
Tribulus terrestris Puncturevine	40.187	4.34	0.02	0.02

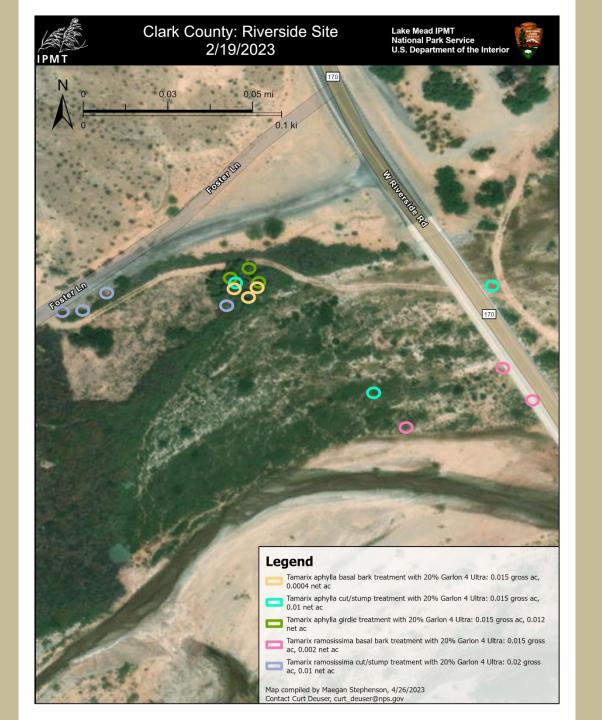






Tamarisk Resprouts After Mastication

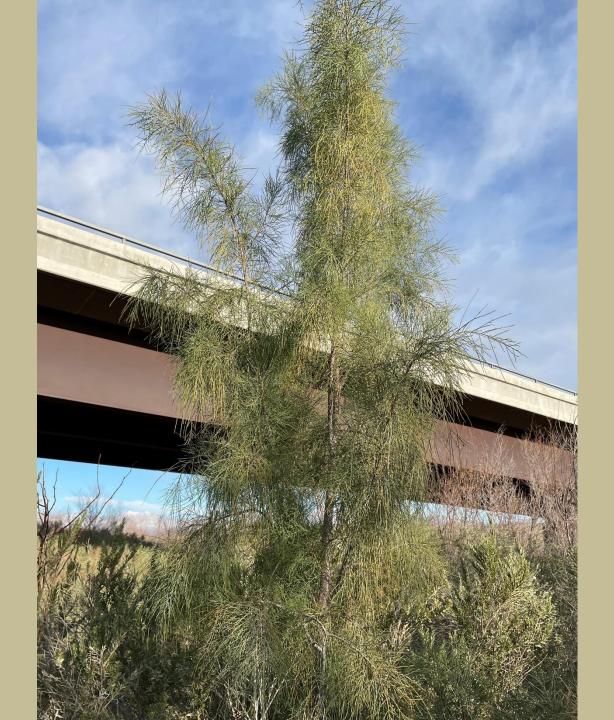




Athel Trees at Riverside Bridge Unit Tamarix aphylla











Tall Whitetop





Tall Whitetop/Perennial Pepperweed Mormon Mesa Unit

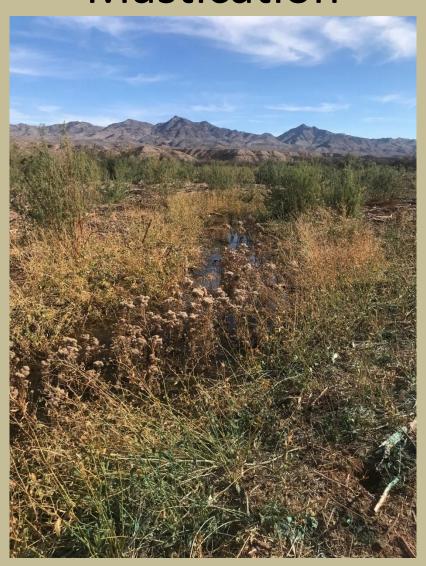


Good Restoration/Habitat





Mormon Mesa Post Tamarisk Mastication



Cattle Impacts

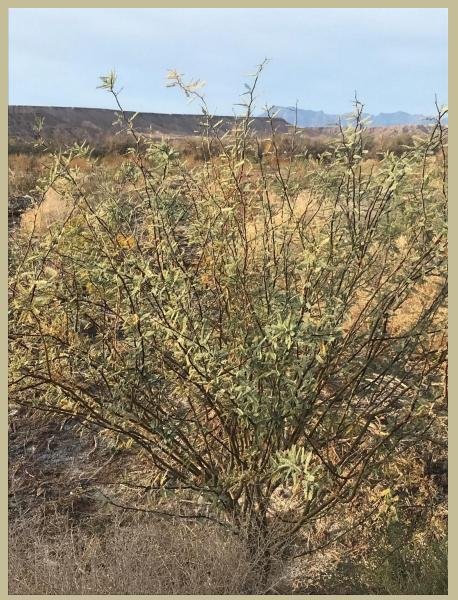


Site Recovery (Atriplex sp)



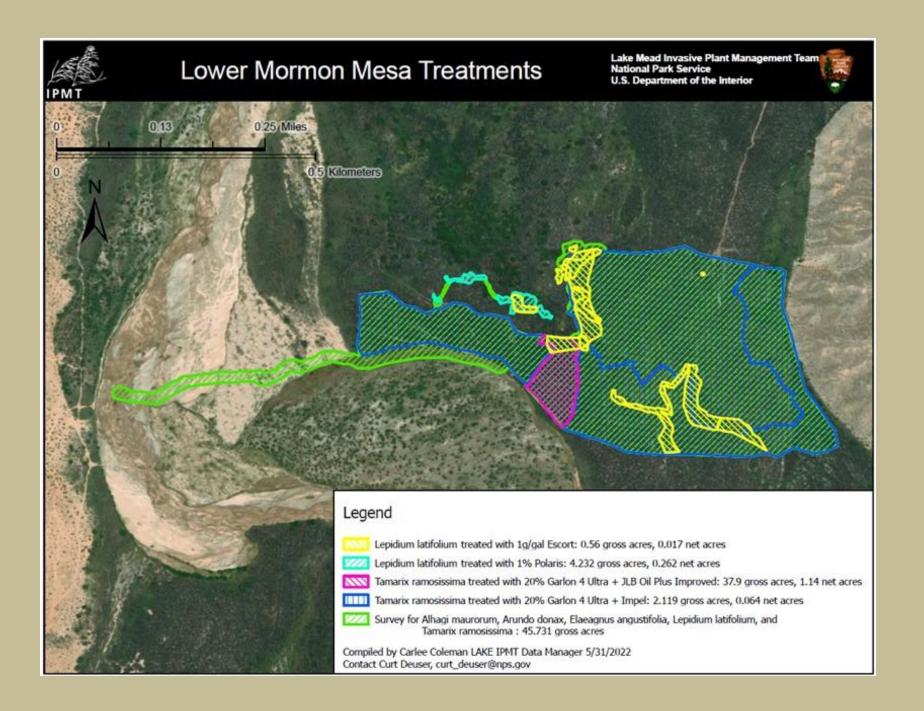


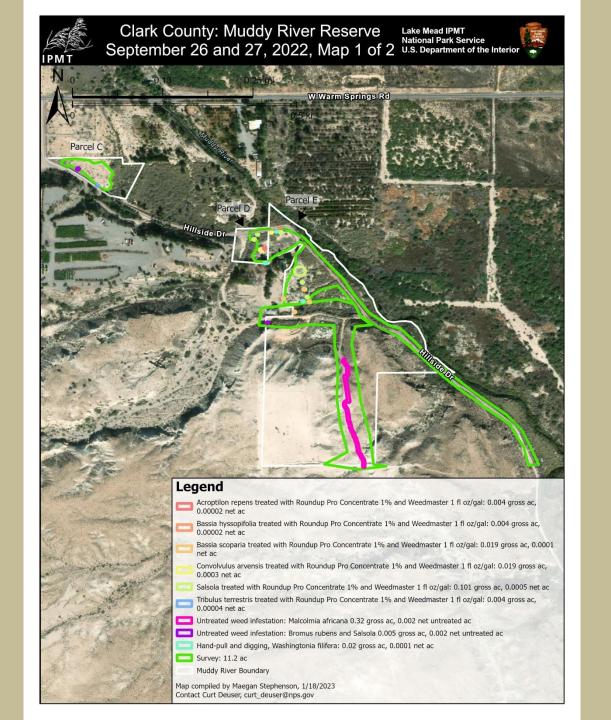
Honey Mesquite Tree Recruitment



Camelthorn









IPMT Invasive Plant Management Team Lake Mead



Invasive Plant Chemical Treatment Report

Partner: Clark County

 Location:
 Muddy River Reserve

 Date(s):
 September 26, 2022

 Treatment Methods:
 Foliar spot with backpack.

Accomplishments						
Species	Total Surveyed Acres	Gross Infested Acres Treated	Infested Acres			
Acroptilon repens Russian knapweed	27.5	0.005	0.00002	0.00002		
Bassia hyssopifolia Five-hook bassia	27.5	0.005	0.00002	0.00002		
Bassia scoparia Kochia	27.5	0.019	0.0001	0.0001		
Convolvulus arvensis Field bindweed	27.5	0.019	0.0003	0.0003		
Salsola Russian thistle	27.5	0.106	0.0006	0.0006		
Tribulus terrestris Puncturevine	27.5	0.005	0.00005	0.00005		

Herbicide Use					
Herbicide	Herbicide Amount Mix Rate		Surfactant	Total Mix	
Roundup Pro Concentrate	0.96 (fl oz)	1%	Activator 90	0.75 gallons	
Weedmaster	0.75 (fl oz)	1 oz/gal	ACTIVATOR SO	0.73 gallons	



Invasive Plant Chemical Treatment Report

Partner: Clark County

Location: Muddy River Reserve, Parcels A and B

Date(s): 4/18 - 19/2023

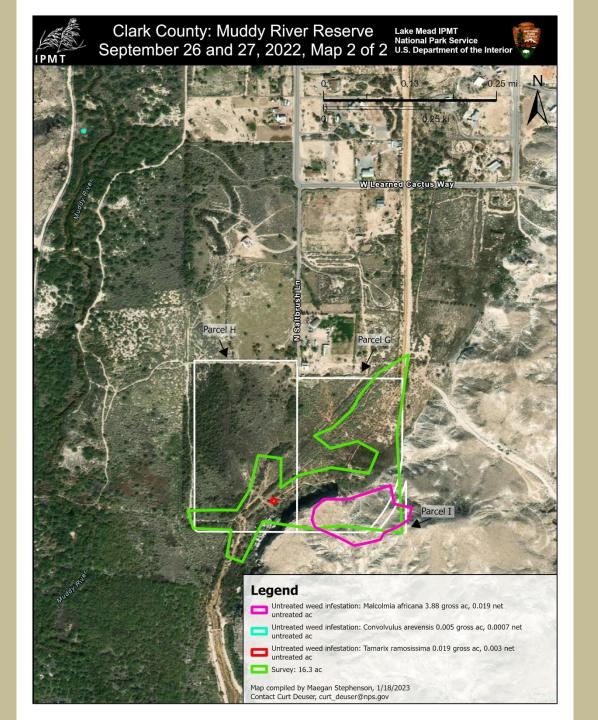
Treatment Method(s): Chemical foliar spot treatment using 1% Roundup Pro

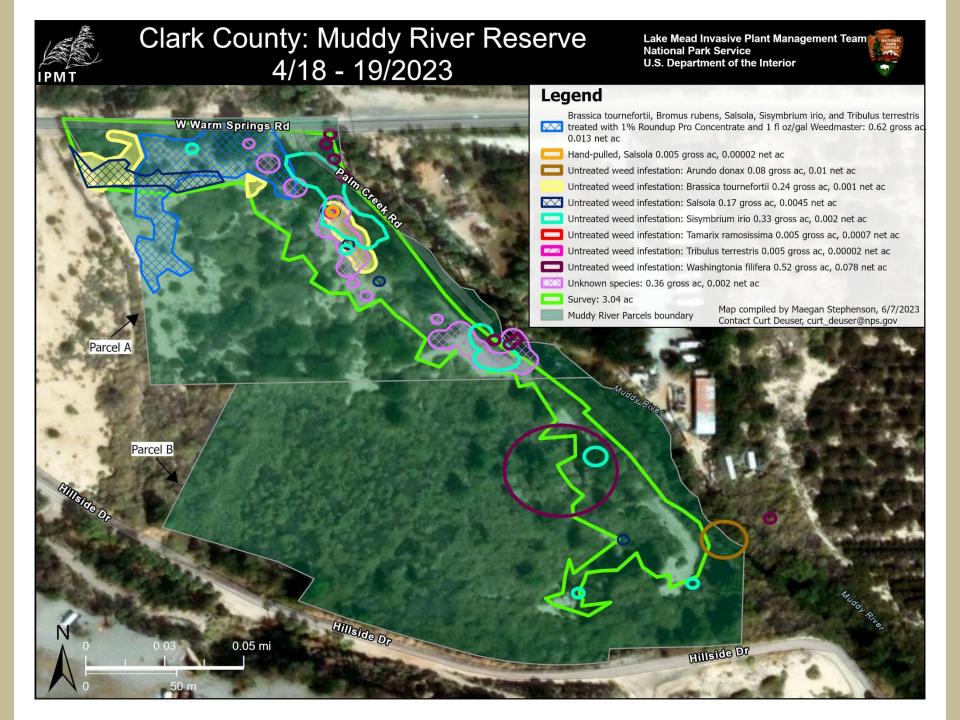
Concentrate and 1 fl oz/gal Weedmaster via backpack sprayers. Treatment in these two parcels was unable to

be completed due to time constraints.

Accomplishments **Gross Infested Acres** Species Total Surveyed Acres **Gross Infested Acres** Infested Acres Treated Acres Treated Brassica tournefortii 0.62 3.04 0.86 0.004 0.003 Sahara mustard Bromus rubens 0.62 3.04 0.62 0.013 0.013 Red brome Salsola 0.62 3.04 0.79 800.0 0.003 Russian thistle Sisymbrium irio 0.62 3.04 0.95 0.005 0.003 London rocket Tribulus terrestris 0.62 3.04 0.63 0.00302 0.00300 Puncturevine

Herbicide Use					
Herbicide	Amount	Mix Rate	Surfactant	Total Mix	
Roundup Pro Concentrate	6.4 fl oz	1%	Target Pro	5 gallons	
Weedmaster	5 fl oz	1 fl oz/gal	Target Pro	5 gallons	





Riparian Units Future Work

- Survey Mormon Mesa South
- More Survey in Mesquite Unit
- Follow up tamarisk control at Muddy River G/H
- Palm Tree control at Muddy River Unit A
- Re-treat maintain previous treatment areas
- Tall Whitetop monitoring and retreatments
- Camelthorn monitoring and treatments
- Continue Bunkerville East/West tamarisk control
- Additional revegetation? Bunkerville West/Muddy River Unit F



Project Overview

- Inter-local Agreement between Clark County and NPS December 2021 to December 2023 (close out)
- Conduct surveys of routes within the BCCE to detect non-native (exotic) invasive vegetation/weeds
- Conduct targeted weed treatments
- Note native plants observed
- Up to 95 miles of roads, 10 meters on either side of road edge
- Winter and Summer surveys
- Control incipient weeds/early detection rapid response

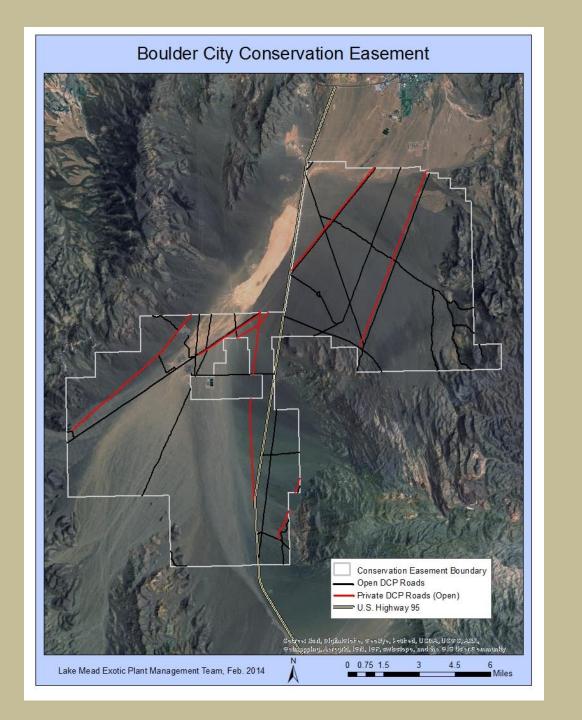
Project Goal

Support vegetation management and maintenance activities in the BCCE to maintain and improve desert tortoise habitat.

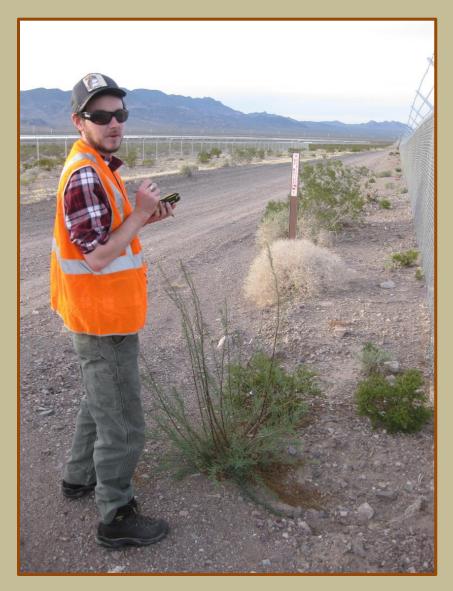




Tortoise photo courtesy of National Park Service



GPS Mapping





Roadside Weed Control





Native Big Galleta Grass Pleuraphis rigida



Native Dune primrose Oenothera deltoides var. deltoides





Tamarisk Leaf Beetle











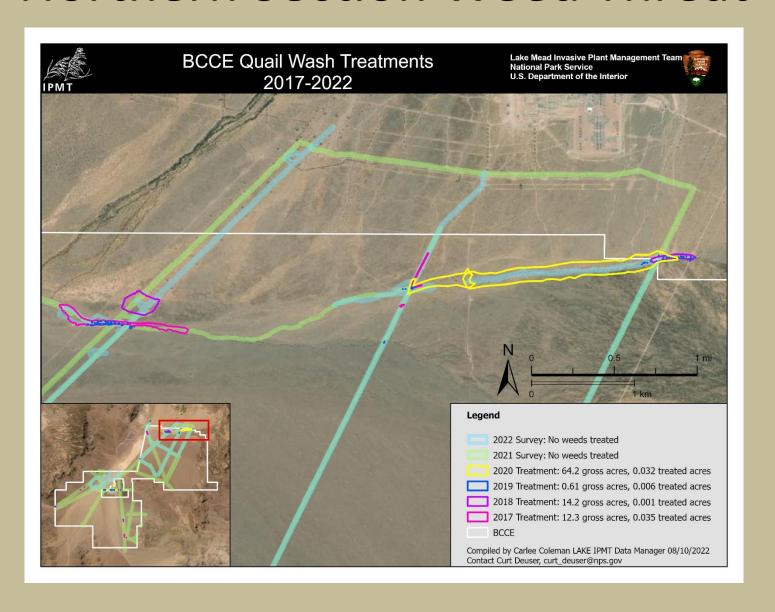


Sahara Mustard *Brassica tournefortii*





Northern Section Weed Threat





Invasive Plant Chemical Treatment Report

Partner: Clark County

Location: Boulder City Conservation Easement

Date(s): February and March 2023

Treatment Method(s): Chemical foliar spot treatment using 1% Roundup Pro

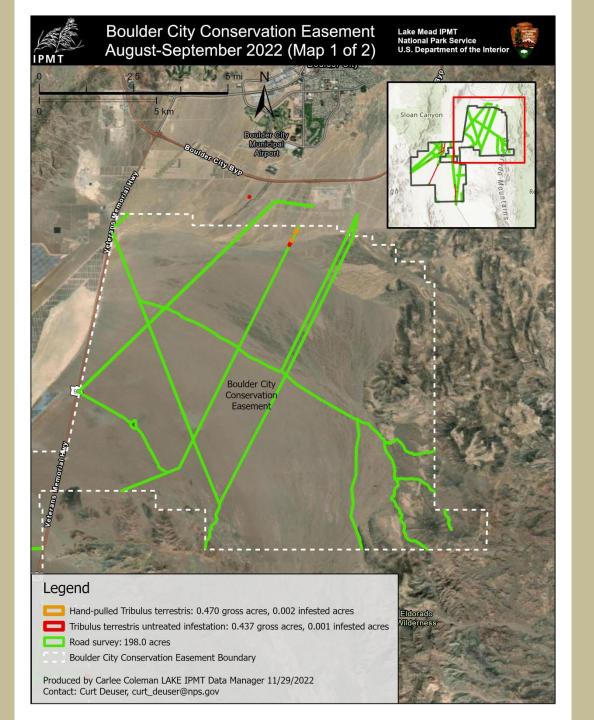
Concentrate and 1 fl oz/gal Weedmaster via backpack

sprayers.

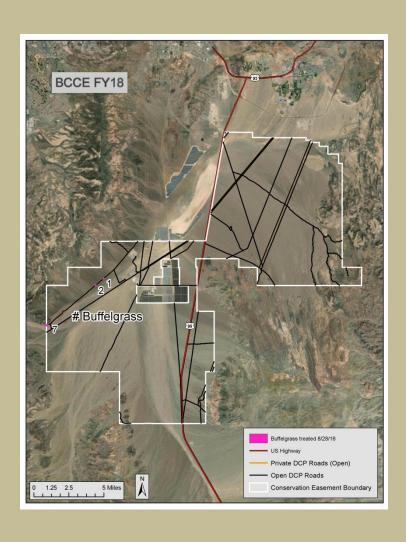
Accomplishments					
Species Total Surveyed Acres		Gross Infested Acres Treated Infested Acres		Treated Acres	
Brassica tournefortii Sahara mustard	333.9	0.96	0.0048	0.0048	

Herbicide Use							
Herbicide	Amount Mix Rate Surfactant Total Mix						
Roundup Pro Concentrate	2.56 fl oz	1%	Target Pro Activator Spreader	2 gallons			
Weedmaster	2 fl oz	1 fl oz/gal	Spreader	r Panons			

These definitions are based on the 2019 NISIMS Fields and Domains guide. Please refer to https://irma.nps.cov/DataStore/DownloadFile/617128 for more information. These definitions can also be found on the back of this report. Compiled by Maegan Stephenson. For questions, please contact Curt Deuser at curt_deuser@nps.gov or (702) 281-8120.



Buffel Grass Detection and Treatments





Buffel Grass Treatment Cenchrus cilare / Pennisetum cilare

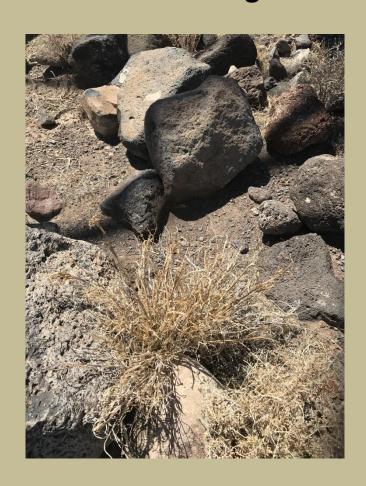




Buffel Grass Control

Before treatment August 2018 After treatment Aug 2019









Boulder City Conservation Easement 2018 - 2019 Lake Mead EPMT Accomplishments



0 0.75 1.5 Compiled by Rachel Skoza 8/27/2019 Contact Curt Deuser curt_deuser@nps.gov

Invasive Plant Survey and Treatment Report

Partner: Clark County Desert Conservation Program

<u>Location:</u> Boulder City Conservation Easement

<u>Dates:</u> August and September 2022

Survey method: Ocular survey from vehicle or on foot

Accomplishments					
Species	Total Surveyed Acres	Gross Infested Acres	Net Infested Acres	Gross Treated Acres	Net Treated Acres
Brassica tournefortii Sahara mustard	463.8	None found	None found	None found	None found
Pennisetum ciliare Buffelgrass	463.8	None found	None found	None found	None found
Salsola spp. Russian thistle	463.8	None found	None found	None found	None found
Tribulus terrestris Puncturevine	463.8	185.7	1.611	145.9	0.73

These definitions are based on the 2019 NISIMS Fields and Domains guide. Please refer to https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/617128 for more information. These definitions can also be found on the back of this report. Produced by Carlee Coleman, LAKE IPMT Data Manager. For questions, please contact Curt Deuser at curt_deuser@nps.gov or (702) 281-8120.



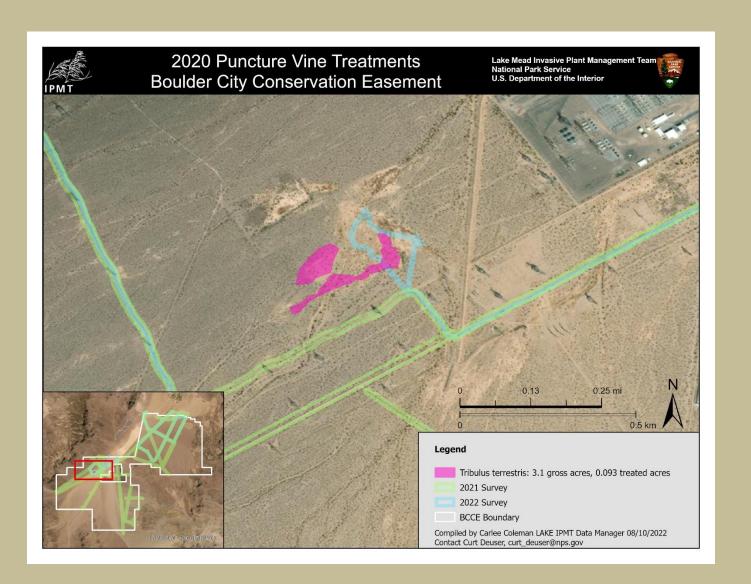
Boulder City Conservation Easement 2018 - 2019 Lake Mead EPMT Accomplishments

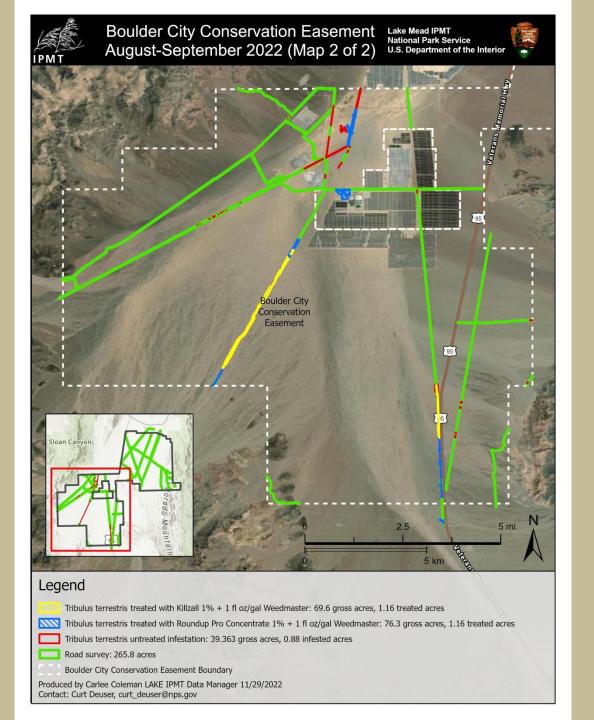


N 0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles

Compiled by Rachel Skoza 8/27/2019 Contact Curt Deuser curt_deuser@nps.gov

Southern Unit Weed threat "Hot Spot"





Puncture Vine





















Invasive Plant Treatment Report

 Partner:
 Clark County Desert Conservation Program

 Location:
 Boulder City Conservation Easement

 Dates:
 09/07-08/22, 09/13-15/22, 09/19-21/22

 Treatment Method:
 Foliar spot spray with backpack

Accomplishments						
Species	Total Surveyed Acres	Infested Acres	Gross Infested Acres Treated	Treated Acres		
Tribulus terrestris Puncturevine	69.6	0.35	69.6	0.35		

Herbicide Use						
Herbicide	Amount	Mix Rate	Surfactant	Total Mix		
Killzəll II	139.52 fl oz	1%	0.5% Activator 90 or 0.5% Target Pro Spreader	109 g∍l		
Weedmaster	109 fl oz	1 fl oz/gal				
Note: N/A.	•					

These definitions are based on the 2019 NISIMS Fields and Domains guide. Please refer to https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Downloadfile/617126 for more information. These definitions can also be found on the back of this report. Produced by Carlee Coleman, LAKE IPMT Data Manager. For questions, please contact Curt Deuser at curt_deuser@nps.gov or (702) 281-8120.

Invasive Plant Treatment Report

<u>Partner:</u> Clark County Desert Conservation Program

Location: Boulder City Conservation Easement

Dates: 08/24/22, 08/29-09/01/22, 09/06-07/22, 09/22/22,

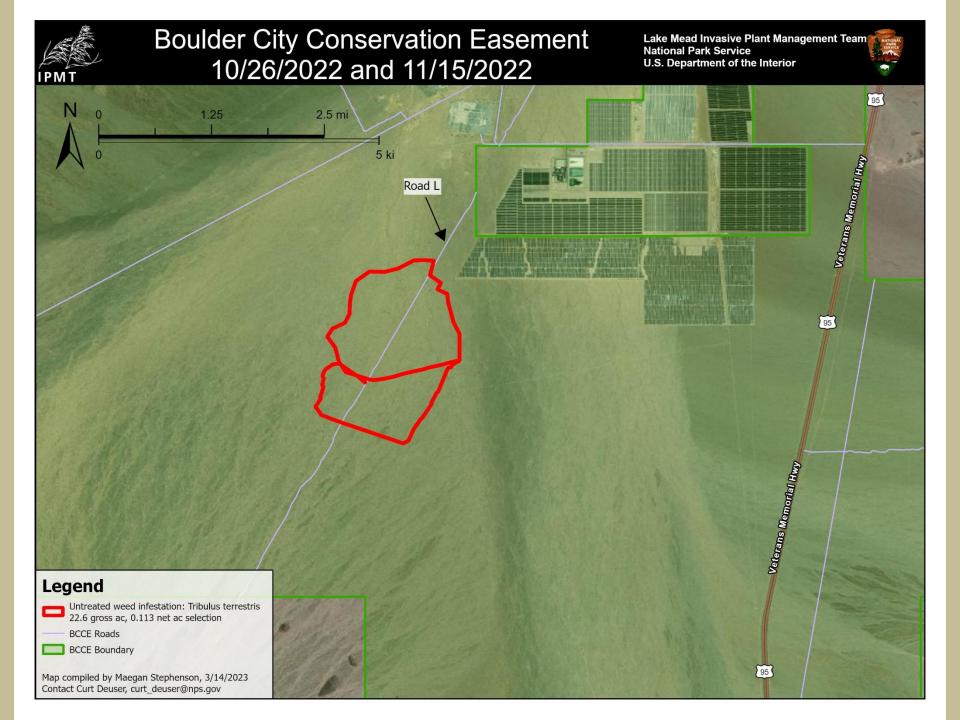
09/28-29/22

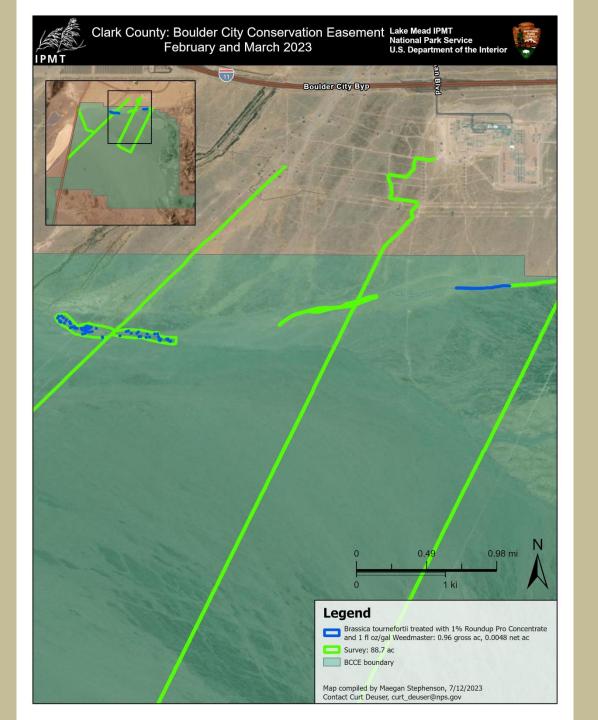
Treatment Method: Foliar spot spray with backpack

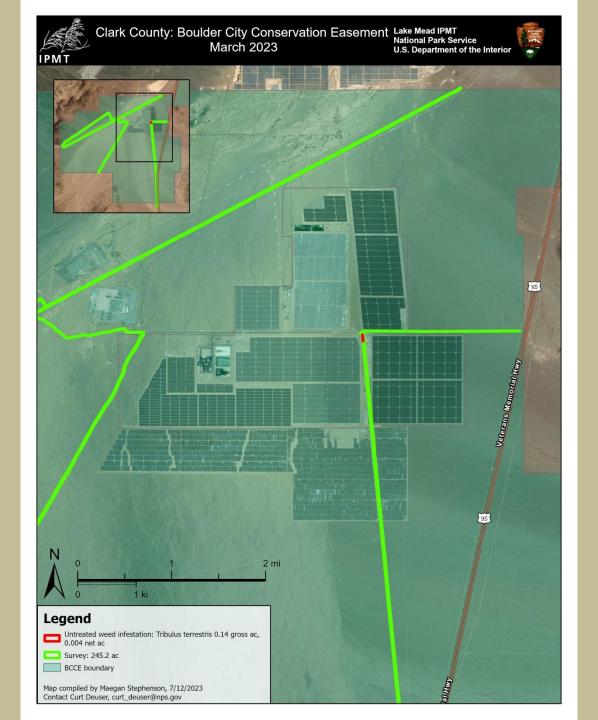
Accomplishments					
Species	Total Surveyed Acres	Infested Acres	Gross Infested Acres Treated	Treated Acres	
Tribulus terrestris Puncturevine	76.3	0.38	76.3	0.38	

Total Mix
444.35 and
144.25 gal
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Near Future Work

- 2023 late summer surveys
- Continue survey intensely over the next few weeks from recent August rains
- Focus on previous buffel grass and puncture vine areas/warm season species
- November/December 2023 annual report and project close out
- New agreement?

Acknowledgements

- This work was supported by the Clark County
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 Section 10, to further implement or develop the
 Clark County Multiple Species Habitat
 Conservation Plan
- Caryn Wright, Stefanie Ferrazzano, Sara Carrizal Clark County Dept of Air Quality/Desert Conservation Program
- NPS IPMT Staff: Corbin Gentzler, James Roberts, Grady Workman, Maegan Stephenson, Tyler Jack, Jacob Pope, Tony Garcia, Riley Gronemeyer, Caleb Dankle, Josh Vogel, Matt Gorentz, Joe Ingram, Abbie Zastawny, Carlee Coleman and others