

San Diego Association of Governments
Quarterly Progress Report
Reporting Period: Quarter 4 (October 1st, 2021 – December 31st) 2021
SANDAG Contract Number: S833005 – Nature Collective Invasive Plant Treatment

Work Performed This Period:

Task 1- Project Management, Admin and Meetings

Communications occurred with SANDAG, partners, contractors, and consultants to ensure compliance with agreements and contracts. Field contractor is under contract and registered under the labor compliance program. Invoicing and Quarterly reporting to SANDAG is occurring. MOUs, ROEs, and other agreements required for project reviewed and signed. Meetings, preparation for field work, and initiation of work on tasks 2-4 occurred.

Task 2- Oncosiphon Treatment for Priority Species

Co-ordination and planning:

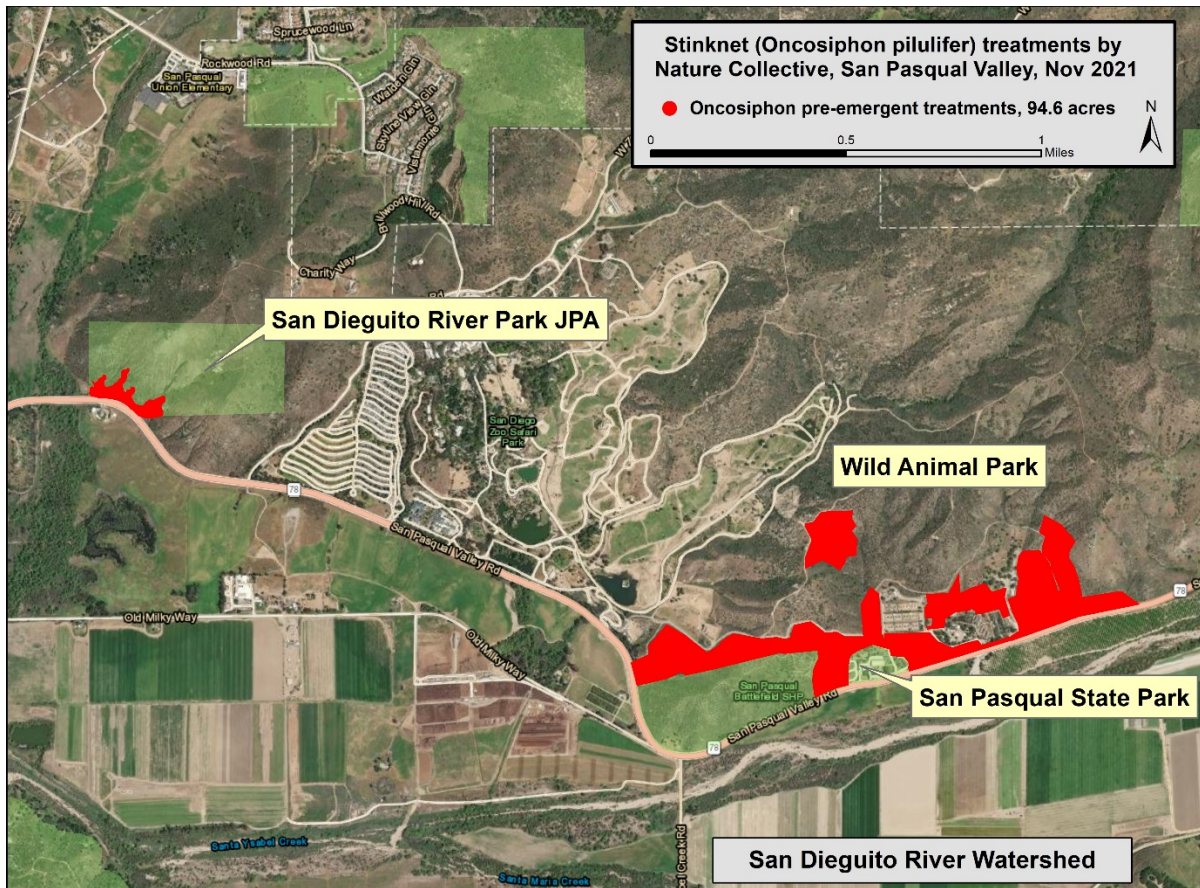
Communication occurred with SDMMP staff, including selection of initial work areas for pre-emergent application. Very early heavy rains (October and November) accelerated the field work schedule. The project was able to meet the demand of the accelerated field work initiation. The initial area selected was San Pasqual Valley in San Dieguito River Watershed. This required close work with San Dieguito JPA, State Parks and the Wild Animal Park.

ROE or MOU work:

ROE/MOUs were secured for City of San Diego, San Dieguito JPA and State Parks.

Field work:

Pre-emergent was applied to 94.6 acres over several weeks of field application. Gallery pre-emergent was applied using handheld power sprayers. Gallery does not affect woody plants, cacti, or grasses. It suppresses forb seedling growth very effectively. Field visits post treatment indicate over 99% control/suppression of stinknet (*Oncosiphon pilulifer*).



No pre-emergent (Gallery)

Note old stems, lush cover
of stinknet (*Oncosiphon
pilulifer*) seedlings

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley



No pre-emergent (Gallery)

Close up

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley



Pre-emergent (Gallery)

Note old stems, no seedlings

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley



Pre-emergent (Gallery)

Close up

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley



Pre-emergent (Gallery)

One stinknet plant (left)

One Erodium seedling (right)

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley



Pre-emergent (Gallery)

A few forb seedlings, but none stinknet

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley



Pre-emergent (Gallery)

**Dense old dead stinknet
plants, no seedlings**

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley



Pre-emergent (Gallery)

**Perennial plants and
grasses were not
impacted**

1-27-2022

San Pasqual Valley

Task 3- Arundo Re-treatment

Co-ordination and planning:

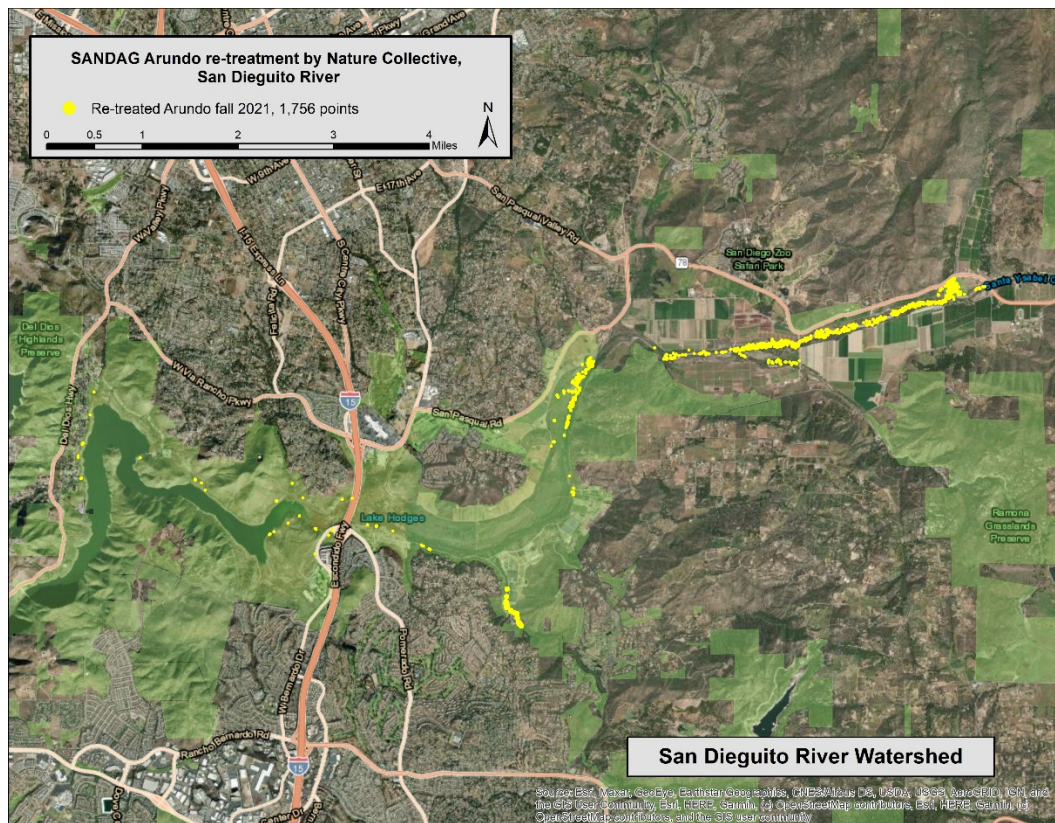
Extensive preparation for Arundo re-treatments on five watersheds that have completed large scale Arundo control occurred. Each watershed lead has signed an MOU with Nature Collective. Each watershed partner has active regulatory permits allowing work to occur. These permits were checked to verify they are active and that crews can follow methods and procedures. All properties owners have signed ROEs with either the partner organization or Nature Collective itself. Each watershed partner has staff that work with Nature Collective and project consultants and contractors.



San Dieguito Watershed:

Work areas were selected, these were basically the same areas as re-treated under SANDAG funding in 2016 and 2017. A total of 1,756 points were treated and 15.1 miles of river/creeks were treated. A mapped Arundo point may have one to many canes. Most treatment points had 5 to 30 canes. A field visit on January 27th 2022 indicated that treatments were very effective.

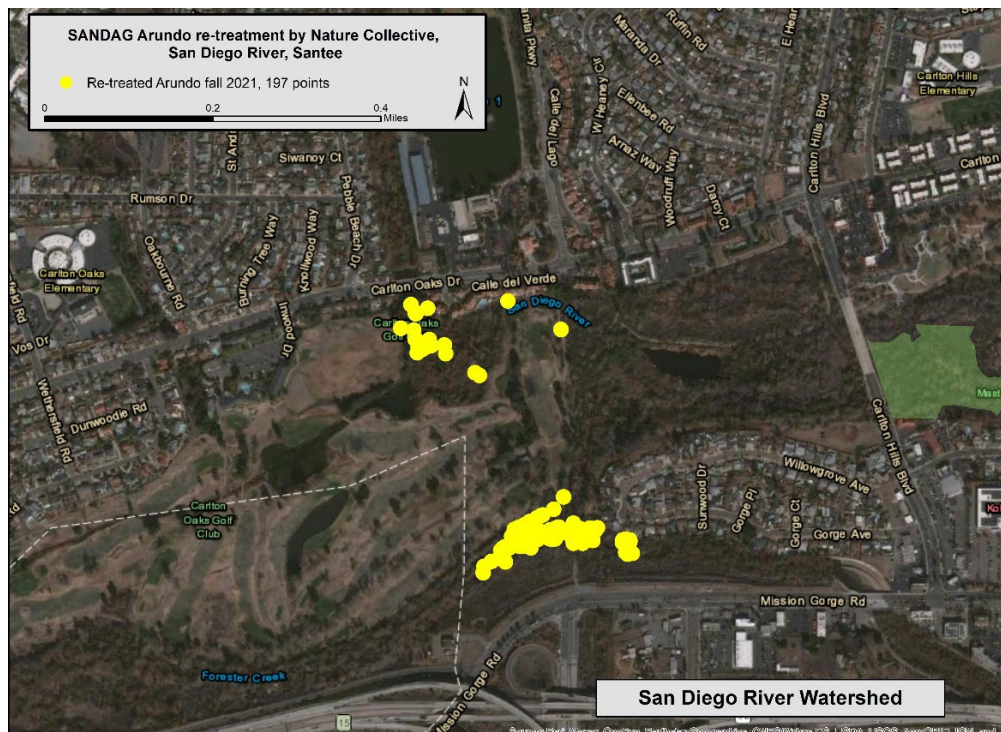
The project will try to re-treat County of San Diego land in Fall 2022 between the dam and Crosby Estate.





San Diego Watershed:

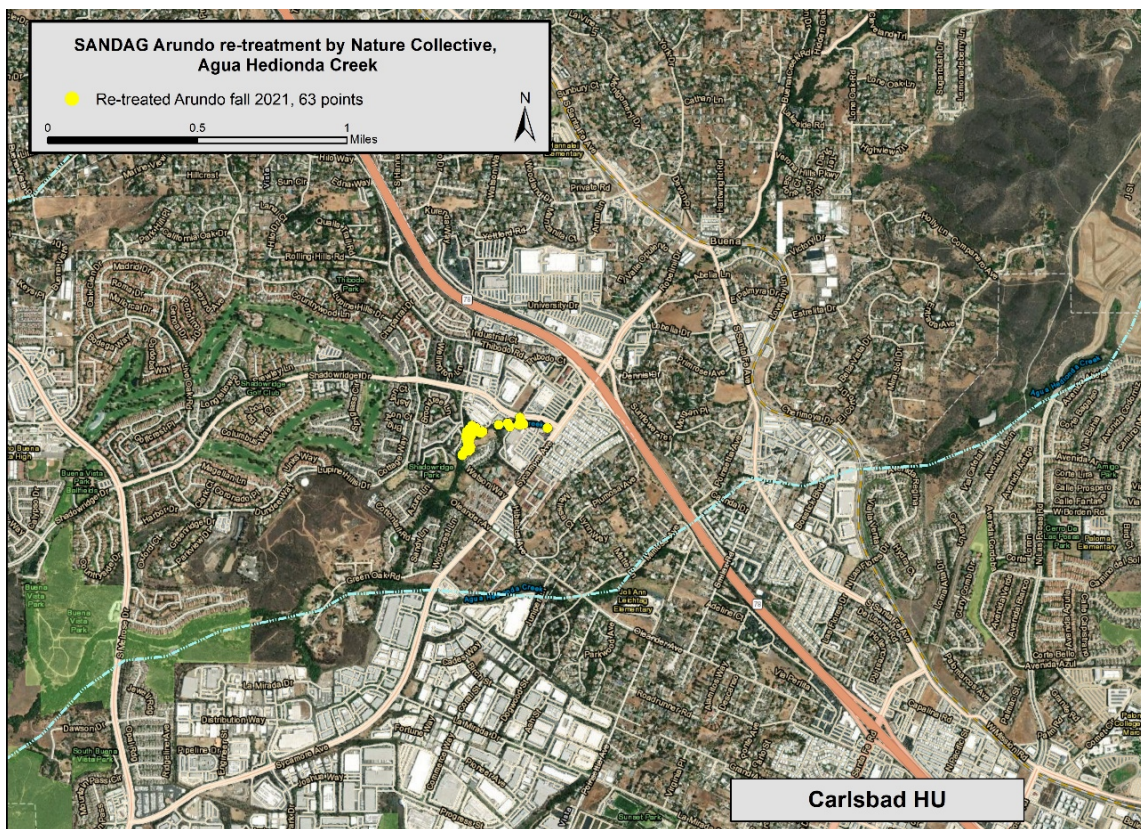
The re-treatment areas were in Santee which was initially controlled about 10 years ago. San Diego River Conservancy and the City of San Diego were contacted to determine what areas should not be re-treated. At this time no areas are being excluded from re-treatment. Re-treatments occurred in December 2021. There were 197 treatment points. These treatment locations frequently had extensive Arundo re-growth with 200 to 500 (or more) canes and tall stand height (>25'). Extensive stand preparation occurred, bending Arundo or trimming natives, to ensure only Arundo was treated. Cold weather ended the re-treatments, as the Arundo entered dormancy. Additional work will occur in this area in fall 2022.





Carlsbad Watershed:

Two work areas were treated in fall 2021; these areas were initially controlled about 10 years ago. The first area was on Buena Vista Creek, 10 treatment points were treated. The second area was on a tributary to Agua Hedionda Creek, 63 points were treated.



San Luis Rey and Santa Margarita Watersheds:

A small portion of San Luis Rey River was re-treated. Mission RCD has a current SANDAG EMP for Arundo re-treatment, but treatments funds were fully expended in the fall 2021 season. This work area still needed re-treatment, the Caltrans ex Morrison property, so it was re-treated with Nature Collective project funding. There were 117 re-treatment points.



Task 4- EDRR Level 2 sites

Co-ordination and planning:

Specific sites are being assessed and selected. These sites are typically either challenging sites (poison oak, heavy woody plant cover, steep terrain, etc.) or have complicated access (challenges obtaining ROEs). Work has begun setting up these EDRR sites, they are presented by species.

Red sesbania, site at Tecolote Canyon, City of San Diego: ROE is complete. The site is ready to be treated. Work should occur in Q1 2022.

Ward's Weed, site at Encinitas Ranch. Property owners were contacted by mail, no response. Follow up in person or phone is occurring. Work should occur on a portion of the site in Q1 2022.

Canary Island St. John's Wort, one site in Mission Valley and one site on Escondido Creek. Property owners were contacted, the Mission Trails site will be treated, the Escondido Creek site owner is still being worked with.

Field work:

No field work this quarter.

Work Anticipated Next Period:

Task 1- Project Management, Admin and Meetings

Work will continue on this task.

Task 2- Oncosiphon Treatment for Priority Species

Areas will be selected for post emergent control with SDMMP. This will likely include a portion of the State Parks site in San Pasqual Valley, a City of San Diego site, and a few small satellite sites. Field work will occur Q1 2022.

Task 3- Arundo Re-treatment

San Diego River: a portion of Carlton Oaks Golf course may be cut and chipped as it is along a road and fairway.

CWN HU: a few additional small sites in Caltrans right of ways may be treated.

Task 4- EDRR Level 2 sites

Sesbania: field work will occur in Q1 2022.

Canary Island St. John's Wort: a large site will be controlled in Mission Valley; the Escondido site will be followed up on for a ROE.

Additional sites are being identified. These may include: purple loosestrife, Limonium sites, and other complicated access/work situations.