

San Diego Association of Governments
Quarterly Progress Report #10
Reporting Period: Quarter 4 (October 1st to December 31st) 2023
SANDAG Contract Number: S833005 – Nature Collective Invasive Plant Treatment

Task 1- Project Management, Admin and Meetings

We communicated with SANDAG, partners, contractors, and consultants to ensure compliance with agreements and contracts. Field contractors are under contract and registered under the labor compliance program. We are invoicing and completing quarterly reports to SANDAG. We have reviewed and signed MOUs, ROEs, and other agreements required for this project. We have held meetings, prepared for field work, and continued work on Tasks 2, 3 & 4.

Task 2- Stinknet (*Oncosiphon pilulifer*) Treatment for Priority Species

Co-ordination and planning:

We coordinated with four areas to prepare for stinknet control. City of Chula Vista, where we continued work. San Pasqual Battlefield State Park, where we have expanded work to include the monument area to the west. City of Oceanside, where we are setting up work to occur in Q1 2024. And Caltrans along highway 76, where work will occur in Q1 2024. The Nature Collective contractor has or will complete all work.

ROE or MOU work:

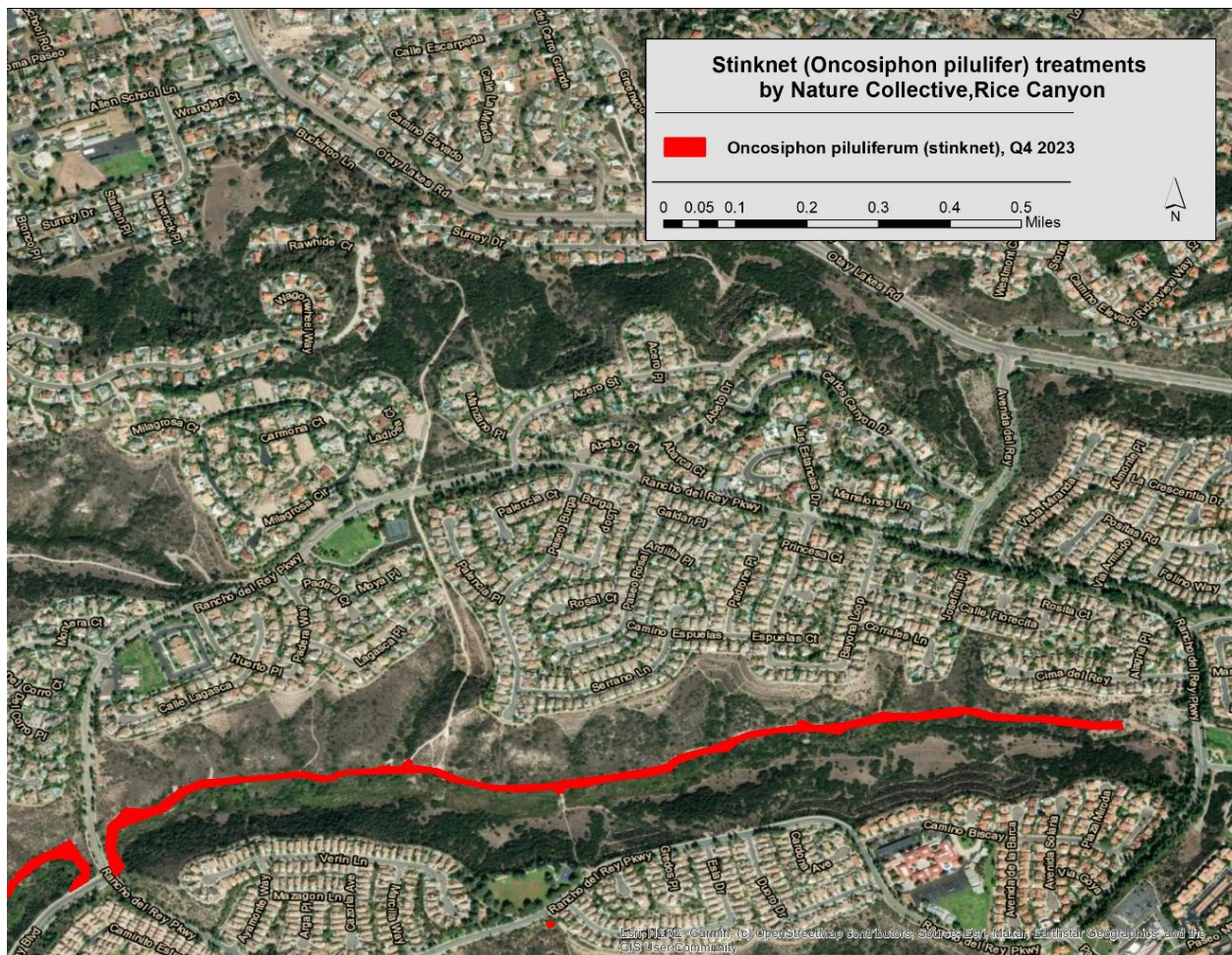
We obtained ROEs for Chula Vista, and permission was granted by State Parks. City of Oceanside is reviewing the City Entry Agreement, the staff is supportive of our work. We will request a Caltrans entry agreement prior to Highway 76 work.

Field work:

We controlled all City of Chula Vista treatment areas managed by open space division using pre-emergent. This work included Terra Nova Drive (west of Rice Canyon), Rice Canyon, and Snake and H Street Canyons. These areas (except Rice Canyon) were treated with pre-emergent in Q2 2023. It will be exciting to see what sort of suppression is obtained in spring 2024. We may conduct post treatment control of scattered plants and we may re-apply pre-emergent as well.

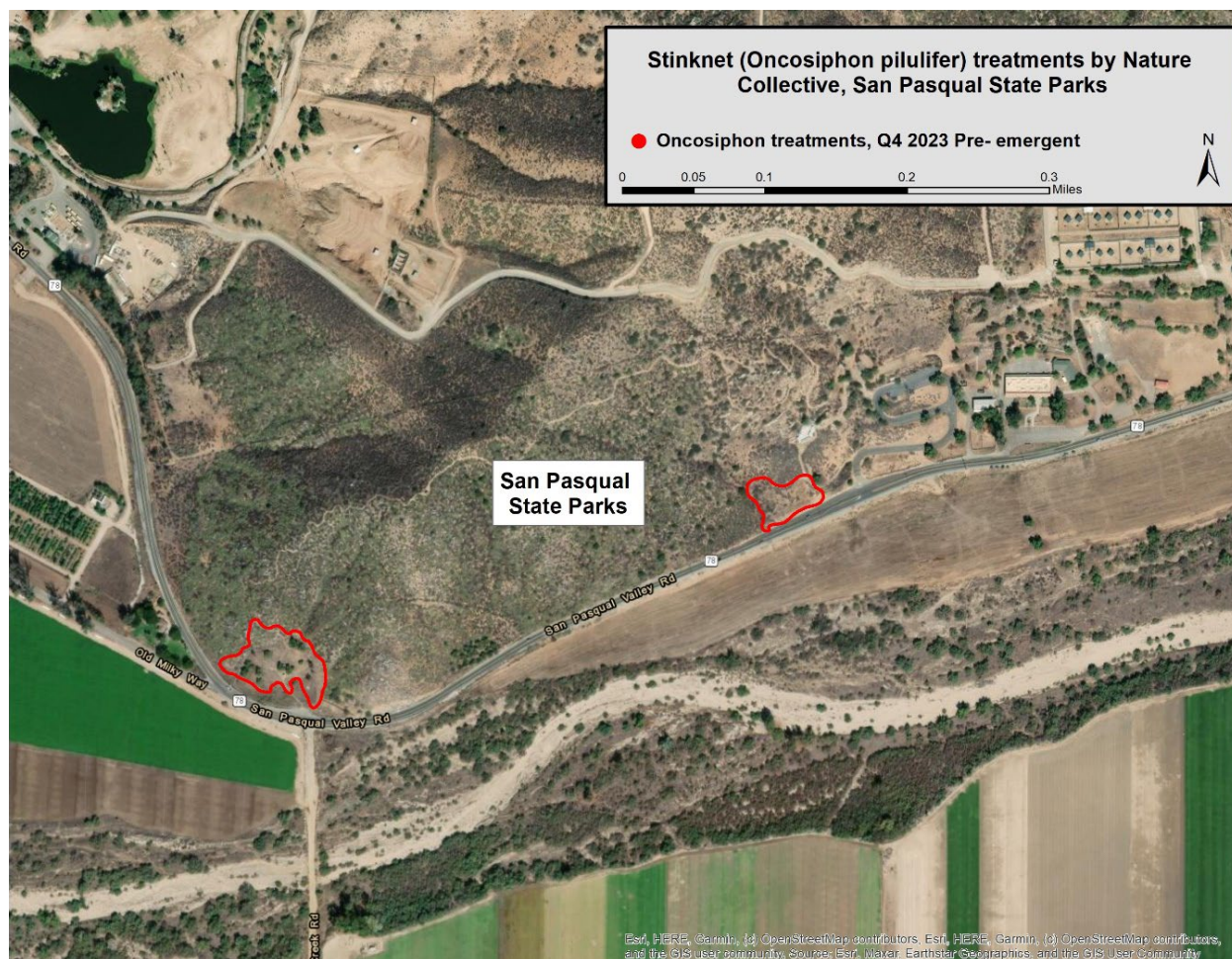


Map 1. Stinknet treatments along Terra Nova Drive



Map 2. Stinknet treatments at Rice Canyon

We have treated San Pasqual Battlefield State Park for the previous two years. During this quarter we applied pre-emergent to a publicly accessed monument area in the west of the park, which had very dense stinknet. Public access and the sites proximity to occupied cactus wren habitat made treatment a priority. We also treated an additional area by the museum with pre-emergent.



Map 4. Stinknet treatments at San Pasqual State Parks



Photo 1. Dense stinknet in monument area of San Pasqual Battlefield State Park.



Photo 2. Dense stinknet in monument area San Pasqual Battlefield State Park.

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Photo 2. Dense stinknet in museum area San Pasqual Battlefield State Park.



Photo 3. Dense stinknet in museum area San Pasqual Battlefield State Park.

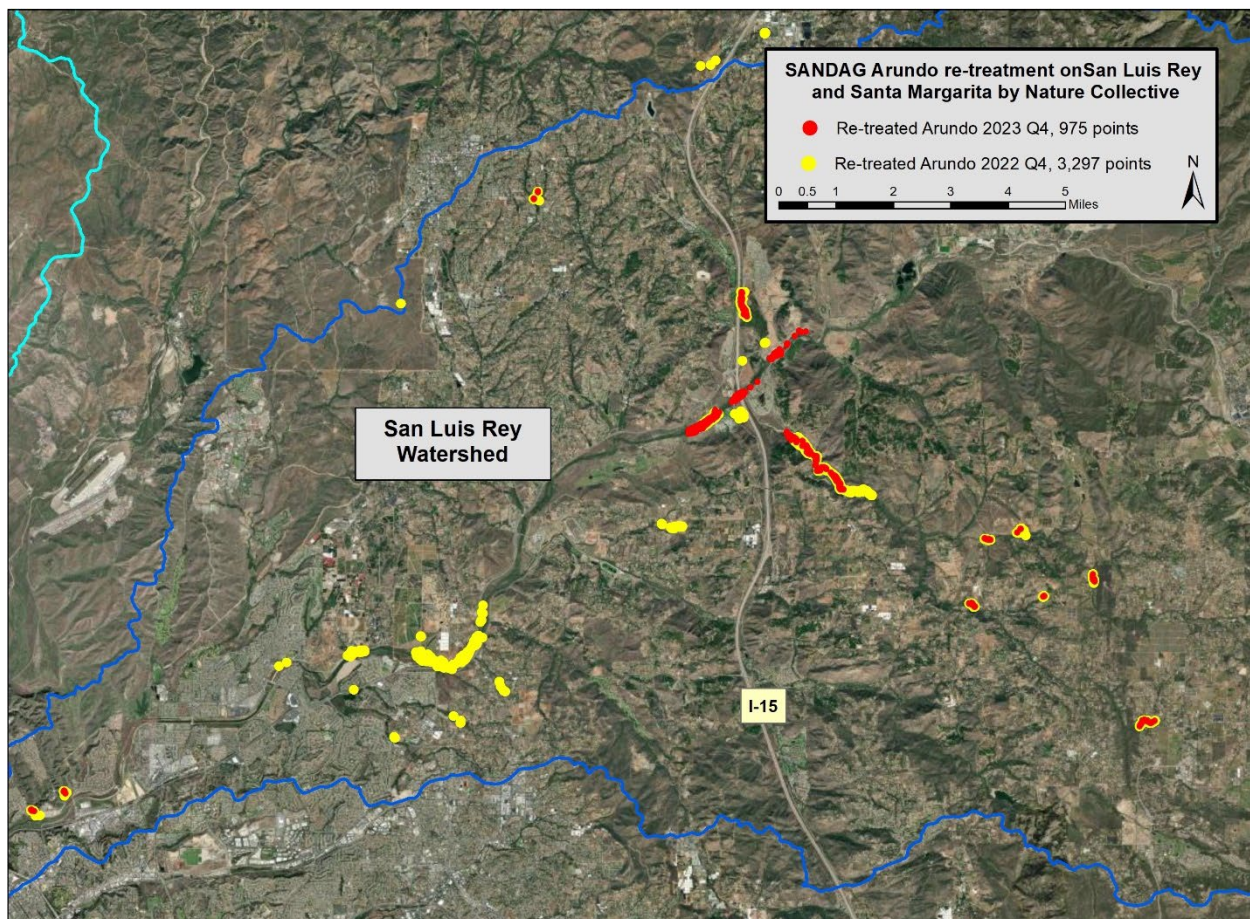
Task 3- Arundo (*Arundo donax*) Re-treatments

Co-ordination and planning:

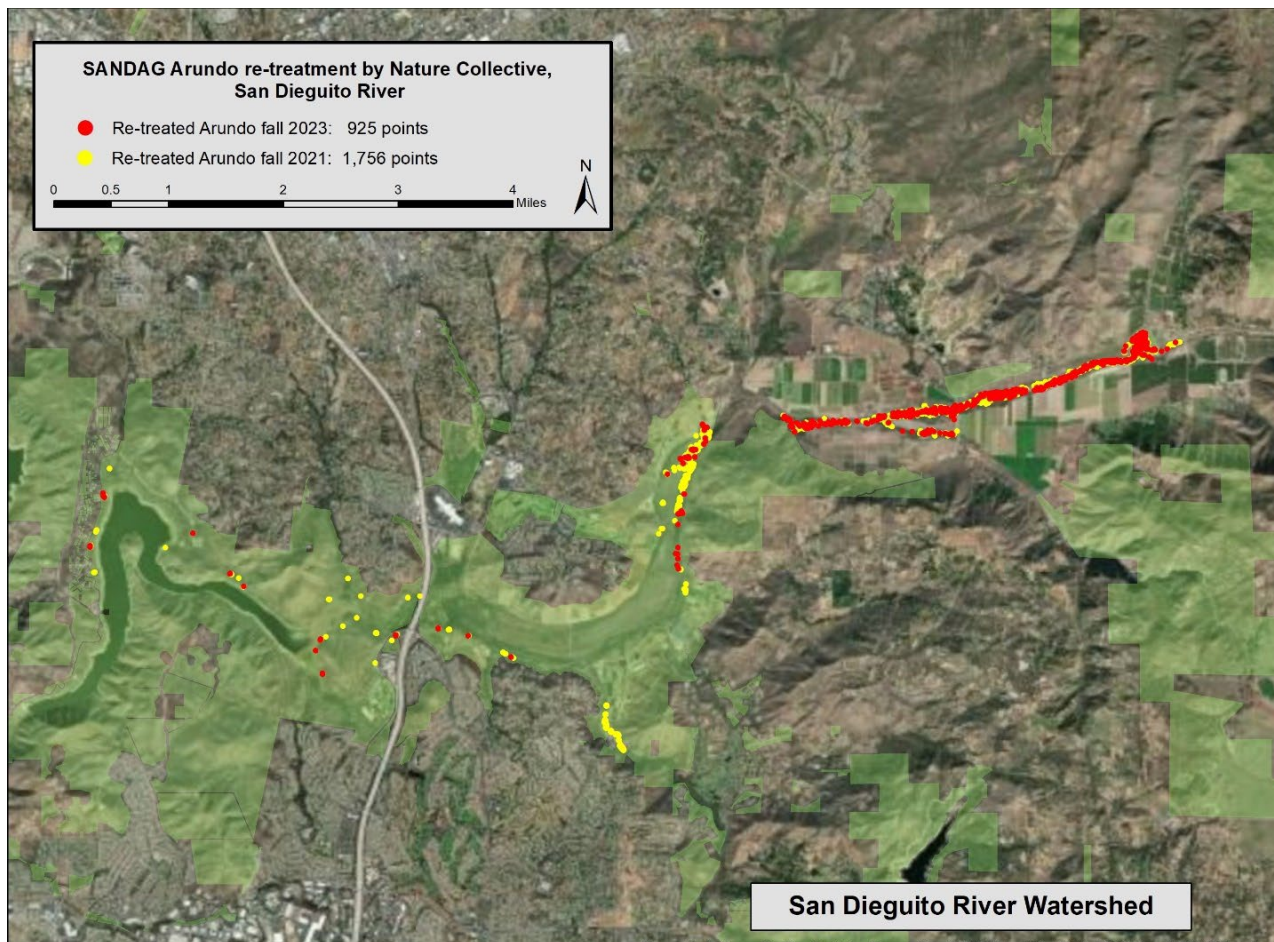
We have discussed fall Arundo re-treatments with the three watershed leads. The three watersheds outside Nature Collectives Carlsbad HU, which are: San Luis Rey (Mission RCD), San Dieguito (San Dieguito JPA), and San Diego River (San Diego River Conservancy).

Field work:

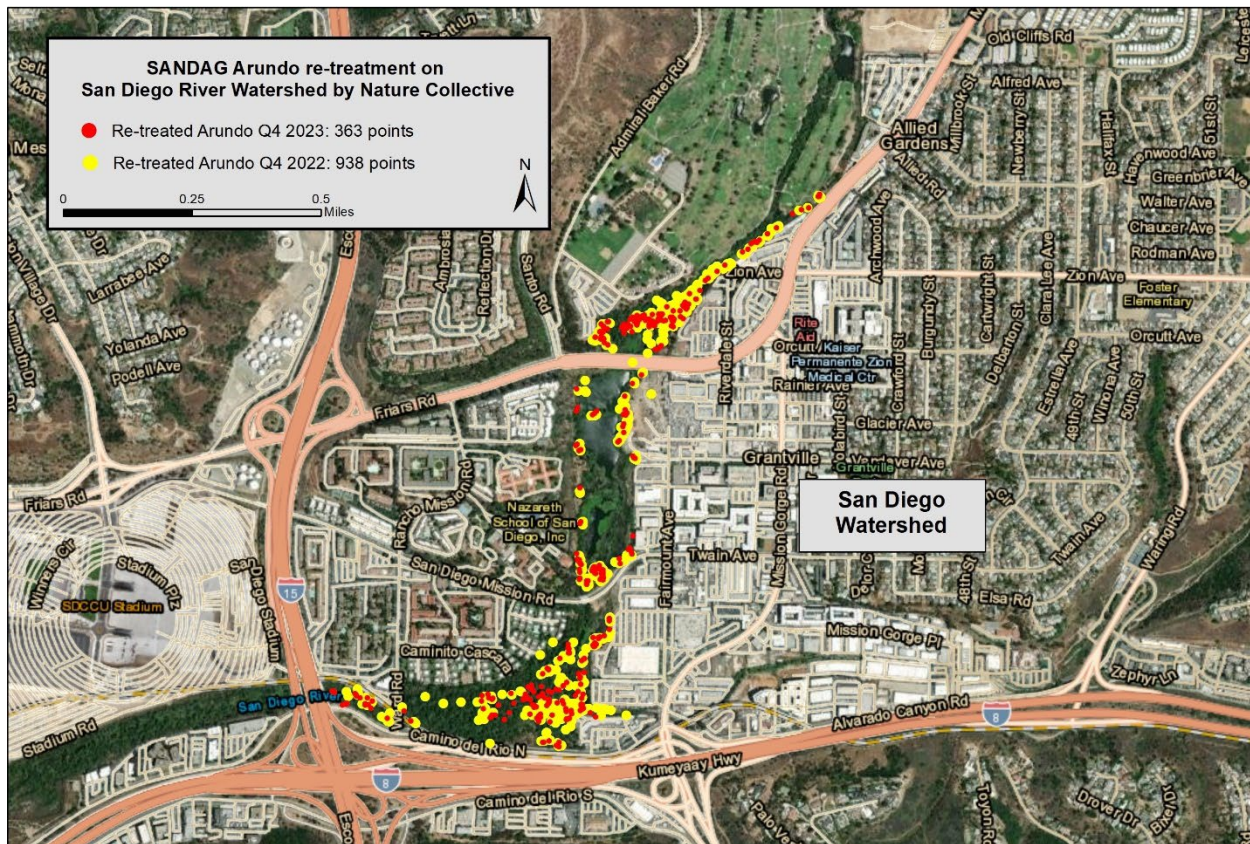
We began work on San Dieguito Watershed in Q3, and we completed this work in Q4 2023. We retreated the other two work areas in Q4 2023. On San Luis Rey Watershed, our re-treatment points dropped from 3,297 in 2022 to 975 points in 2023. However, the re-treatment areas were different spatially, so this is not a good indication of re-treatment efficacy. San Dieguito has 1,756 points in 2021 and 925 in 2023. This was the same re-treatment area, and it included an 'off year', we can be certain this shows progress. San Diego River re-treatment areas were also the same spatial area and they dropped significantly, from 938 points to 363.



Map 5. Arundo re-treatments in San Luis Rey Watershed



Map 6. Arundo re-treatments in San Dieguito River Watershed



Map 7. Arundo Re-treatments in San Diego Watershed

Additionally, we cut-stump treated five patches of Arundo at Batiquitos Lagoon. We were provided a dumpster for removal by the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation.



Photo 4. Arundo at Batiquitos Lagoon prior to treatments



Photo 5. After cut-stump treatments of Arundo at Batiquitos Lagoon

Task 4- EDRR Level 2 Sites

Co-ordination and planning:

We visited the Limonium treatment site at Ocean Terrace again to finish off a day.

Field work:

We retreated the Algerian sea lavender at Ocean Terrace in Carlsbad. This site had good initial control (>90%) and a second re-treatment in Q3 occurred (75 recorded points, about 1,000 plants) were re-treated. During our Q4 2023 re-treatment we found plants in 17 areas.



Map 8. Algerian sea lavender treatments at Ocean Terrace

Work Anticipated Next Period: Q1 2024

Task 1- Project Management, Admin and Meetings

We will continue on this task.

Task 2- Oncosiphon Treatment for Priority Species

We will apply pre-and post-emergent to selected sites. City of Oceanside and highway 76 are the top priority sites, but we will visit a range of sites including Chula Vista.

Task 3- Arundo Re-treatment

No work planned.

Task 4- EDRR Level 2 sites

We will work at several sites and species: Ward's weed, Canary Island Saint John's wort, red sesbania, carnation spurge, and sea lavender sites.