

San Diego Association of Governments
Quarterly Progress Report #11
Reporting Period: Quarter 1 (January 1st to March 31st) 2024
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:

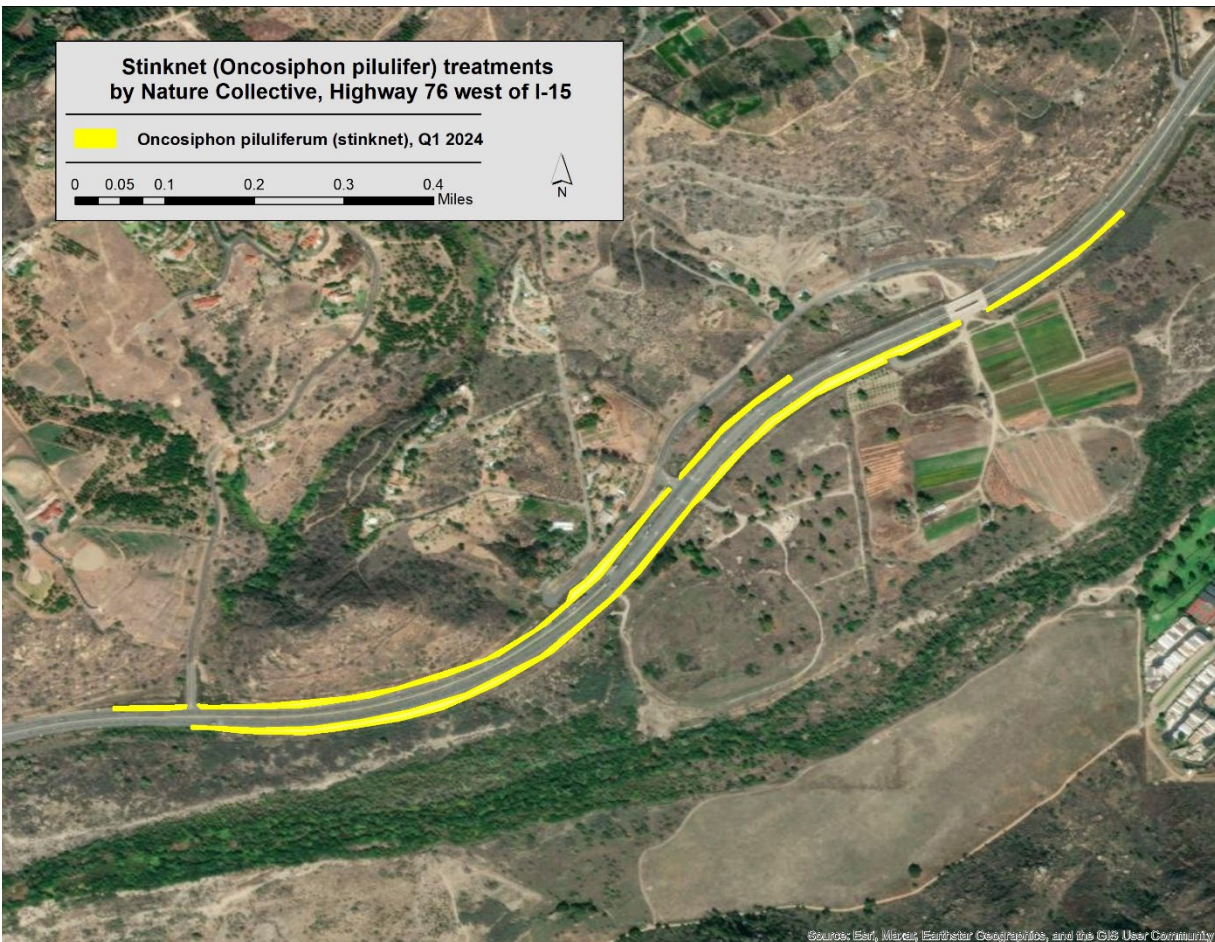
We coordinated with four areas to prepare for stinknet control. We conducted new treatments at: Highway 76 and West of I-15, Lilac Ranch, and the City of Oceanside. We continued with work in the City of Chula Vista and San Elijo Lagoon.

ROE or MOU work:

We obtained ROEs from: Caltrans, and the Cities of Oceanside and Chula Vista.

Field work:

We conducted control treatments at all sites. Most sites were controlled with a pre- and post-emergent application, as plants were actively growing. We also used granular pre-emergent at some sites. Please see below for maps, descriptions and photos of the work areas.

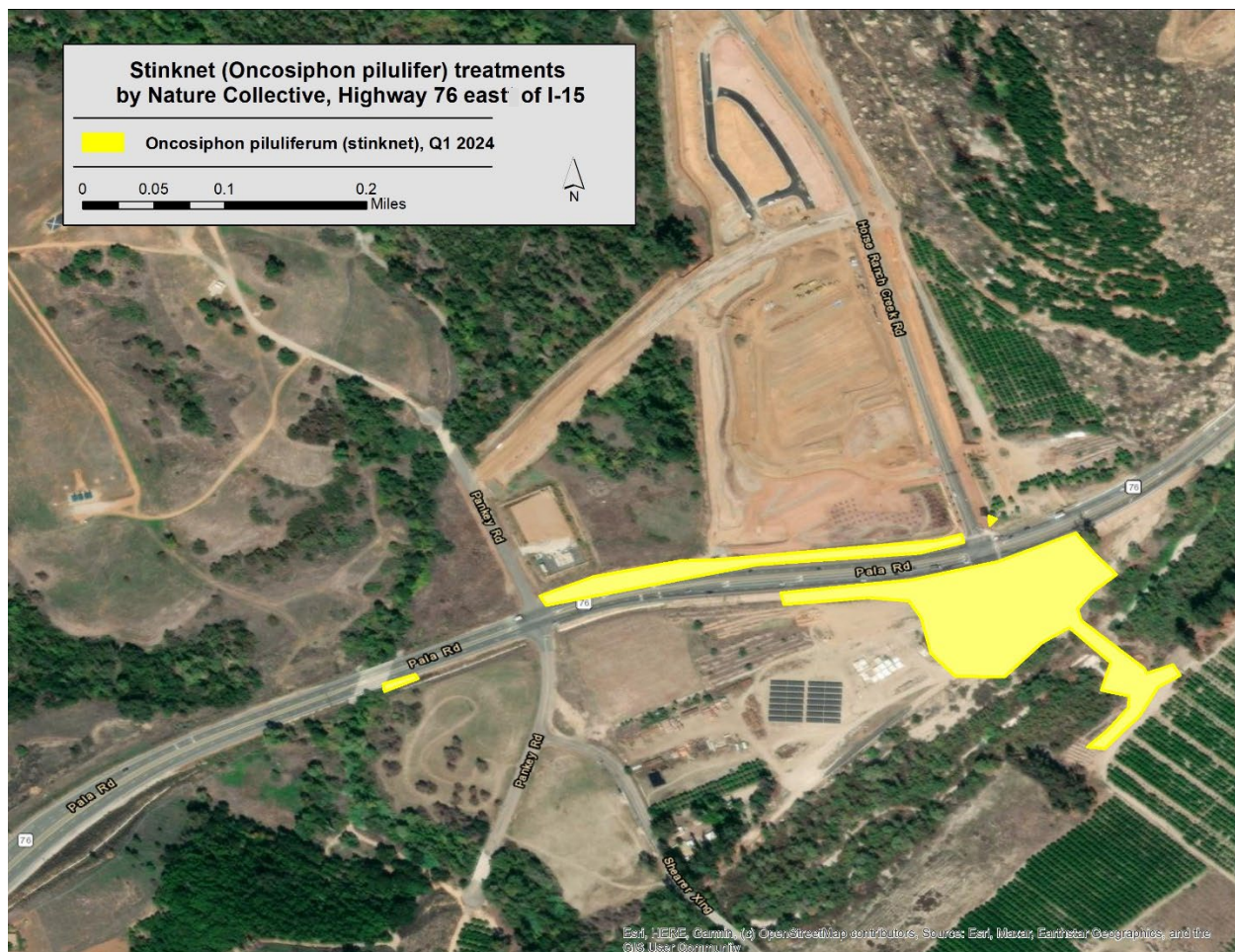


Map 1. Stinknet treatments along Highway 76 west of I-15

We controlled patches of plants on Highway 76 west of I-15, on both the north and south of the highway, we controlled >3,000 plants. Plants were bolting with some developing flowers. Work occurred on March 6th 2024. There are plants (>1,000) on the Caltrans exFaubus property, this is now County of San Diego property, so AWM will treat those plants.



Photo 1 & 2. Bright green stinknet plants along 76 west of I-15.

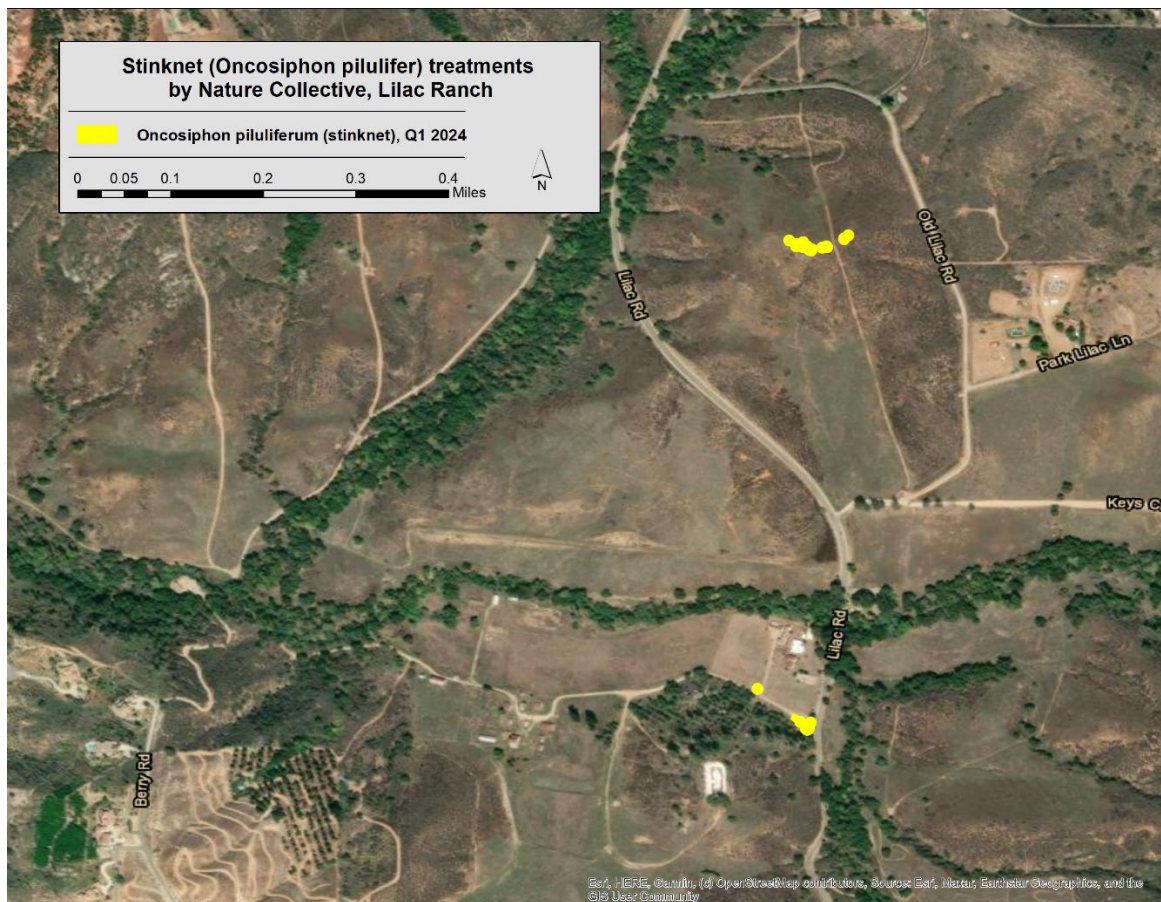


Map 2. Stinknet treatments on Highway 76 east of I-15

We controlled patches of plants on both the north and south side of Highway 76 east of I-15, we controlled >10,000 plants. Plants were bolting with many developing flowers. Work occurred on March 6th (north side) and 22nd (south side) 2024. We need to conduct additional work in the area south of 76, this area will be treated in April.



Photo 3 & 4. Stinknet plants on the north side of 76 east of I-15, and south of 76 in the laydown yard

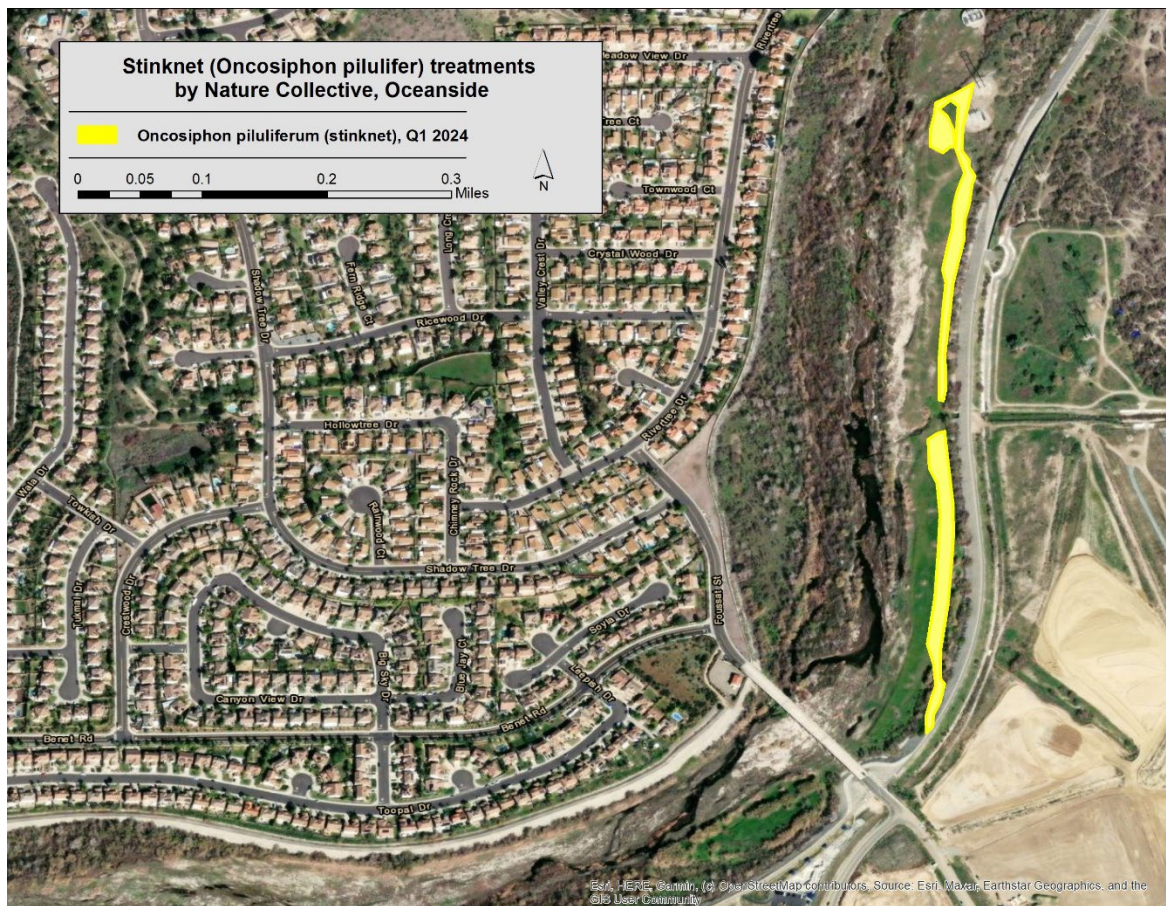


Map 3. Stinknet treatments at Lilac Ranch

We controlled <500 plants on two sites at Caltrans mitigation reserve Lilac Ranch. Plants were bolting with some developing flowers. Work occurred on March 3rd 2024.



Photo 5. Scattered stinknet plants at the south population at Lilac Ranch.

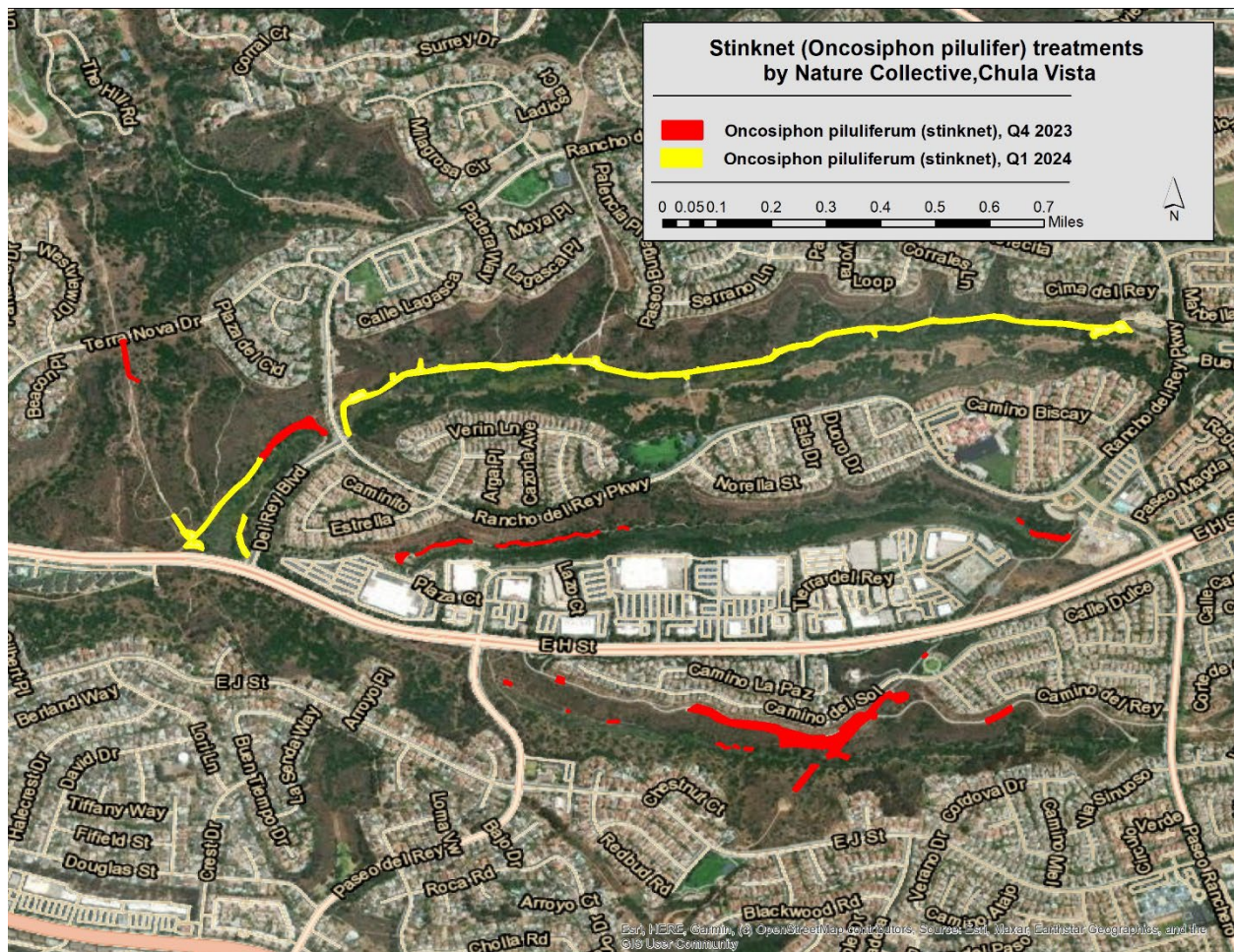


Map 4. Stinknet treatments in City of Oceanside

We controlled stinknet along a dirt haul road to SDG&E power line towers near the San Luis Rey River. Approximately >4000 plants were bolting with some developing flowers. Work occurred on February 27th 2024. There are plants on the Caltrans exFaubus property, this is now County of San Diego property, so AWM will treat those plants.



Photo 6 & 7. Stinknet plants along SDG&E dirt haul road in Oceanside.



Map 5. Stinknet treatments in the City of Chula Vista

We controlled >5,000 plants on the shoulders of a dirt road running down Rice Canyon, patches of plants (>5,000) were controlled. Plants were bolting with some developing flowers. Work occurred on February 26th 2024. We also conducted treatments on an additional area to the west. We surveyed surrounding areas but no plants were observed.



Photo 8. Stinknet plants along edge of road in Rice Canyon



Photo 9. Very effective pre-emergent use on stinknet in Chula Vista, this was the fall/winter treatment



Photo 10. Very effective pre-emergent use on stinknet in Chula Vista, this was the fall/winter treatment



Photo 11. Very effective pre-emergent use on stinknet at San Pasqual State Park monument., this was from the fall/winter treatment



Photo 12. Very effective pre-emergent use on stinknet at San Pasqual State Park monument., this was from the fall/winter treatment



Photo 13. Very effective pre-emergent use on stinknet at San Pasqual State Park west of the museum, this was from the fall/winter treatment

Task 4- EDRR Level 2 Sites

Co-ordination and planning:

We coordinated and planned for treatment of three EDRR targets: Ward's weed, carnation spurge, and desert knapweed. We coordinated with the cities of Carlsbad (Ward's weed), Chula Vista (desert knapweed) and Caltrans (carnation spurge).

Field work:

We conducted treatments at all sites. We controlled most sites with hand-pulling and bagging. At some sites we conducted spot control with pre- and post-emergent. We also used granular pre-emergent at some sites. Please see below for maps, descriptions, and photos of the work areas.



Map 6. Desert knapweed treatment at Rice Canyon, Chula Vista

We controlled approximately 300 plants. This site has been worked on for >8 years by AWM. Plants were pulled or spot treated with pre- and post-emergent. Work occurred on February 26th 2024. The site was visited again in March by the coordinator, no plants were seen in the

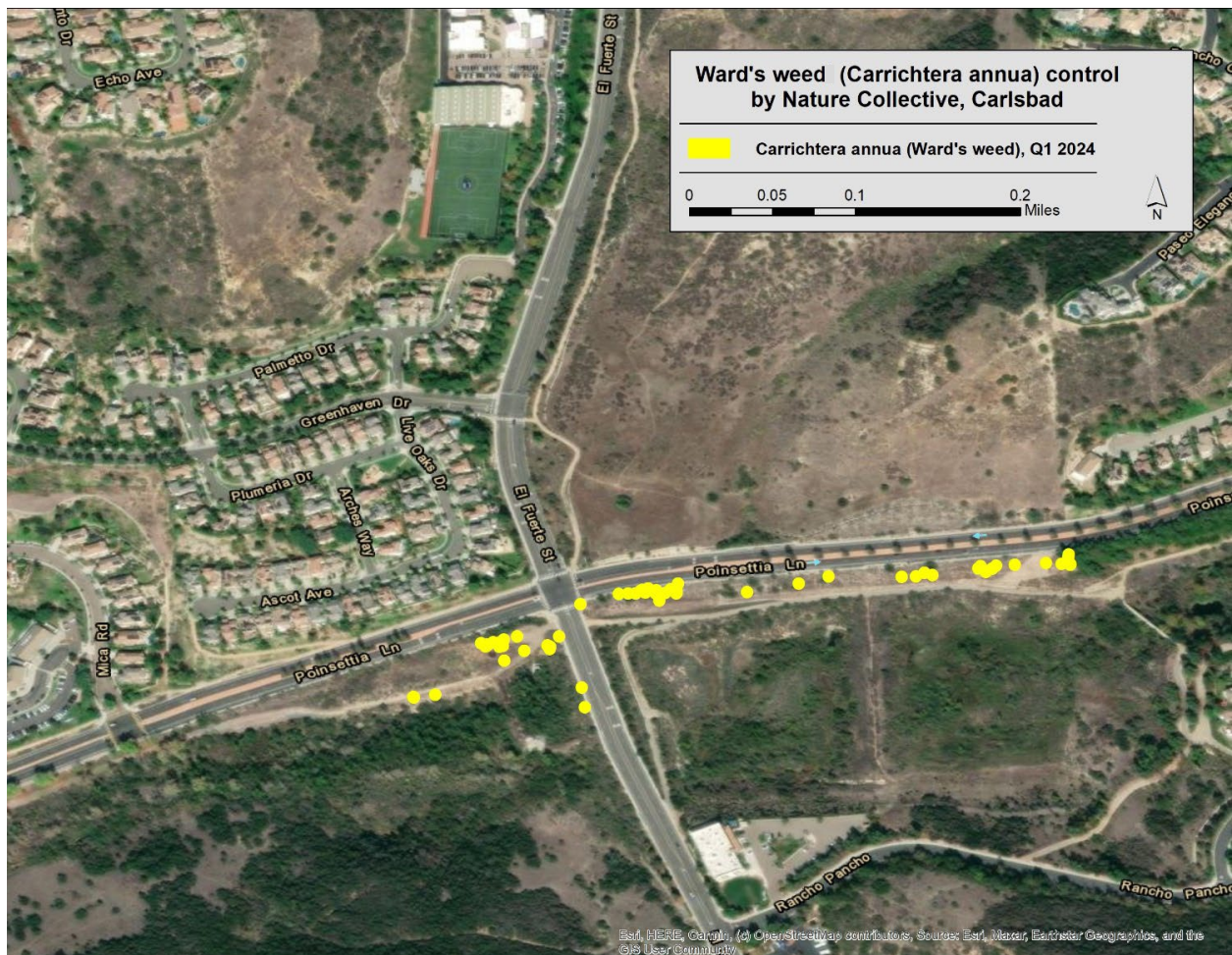
treated areas, but 8 small plants were pulled adjacent to the fuel break by homes (will be reported in the AWM report).



Photo 14 & 15. Rice Canyon: small desert knapweed plants (late germination) above and very large plants below (very early germination- likely summer/fall rain)



Photo 16 & 17. Re-visiting treated desert knapweed areas 3 weeks later (late March)



Map 7. Ward's weed treatments in Carlsbad

We controlled approximately 900 Ward's weed plants along Poinsettia Lane in Carlsbad. This site has been worked on for >8 years by AWM. Plants were hand-pulled and granular pre-emergent spread. Work occurred on March 14th 2024.



Photo 18 & 19. Scattered Ward's weed plants



Map 8. Carnation spurge treatments along Highway 56

We controlled approximately 4,000 carnation spurge plants. This site has been worked on for >8 years by AWM and Nature Collective. Plants were pulled or spot treated with pre-and post-emergent. Work occurred on March 15th 2024. We used an additional pre-emergent to try and increase control rate as plants were dense. The seedbank is well established and previous use of pre-emergent was only marginally effective.



Photo 20 & 21. Heavy carnation spurge cover, the pre-emergent that was used last year worked poorly. A second product was added this year.



Photo 22. Heavy carnation spurge cover, the pre-emergent that was used last year worked poorly. A second product was added this year.

Work Anticipated Next Period: Q2 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. We will finish the area south of Highway 76 and east of I-15. We will treat Carlsbad Oaks, Buena Vista, Otay (Enright and Southwest trailers), and other sites.

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.