

**San Diego Association of Governments
MISSION TRAILS SAN DIEGO THORN MINT
RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT
Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation
Year 2 Quarterly Progress Report 2
Reporting Period: January 1, 2025-March 31, 2025
Submission Date: April 24, 2025
SANDAG Contract Number: S1125506**

Work Performed this Period:

1. Task 2- Vegetation Monitoring

None

Percent Complete 0%

2. Task 3-Photo Monitoring

None

Percent Complete 0%

3. Task 6-Weed Treatment

After light rains occurred in late January and February the project biologist visited the restoration sites on February 8 and again on February 24, 2025 to check for germination of non-natives and for possible thornmint germination. Storksbill (*Erodium* spp.) and non-native grasses were the primary weeds that had germinated from the light rains.

On March 5, 2025 the Habitat West crew visited the four sites to spray non-natives. The crew began spraying at Site 4 and then visited the other sites as the day progressed. The crew focused on spraying outside of the caged thornmint seeding locations at each site. San Diego thornmint seedlings were observed within many of the caged seeding sites on March 5, 2025.

Percent Complete 13%

4. Task 7-Seed Collection and Redistribution

None

Percent Complete 34%

5. Task 8- Focused San Diego Thornmint Survey

None

Percent Complete 0%

6. Task 9-Reporting

Preparation of the Year 2 First Quarterly Report including project photographs was done on the following dates January 7-8 and 14, 2025. The Year 2 First Quarterly Report was submitted to the Mission Trails Foundation staff on January 15, 2025.

Percent Complete 21%

EMP Land Management Grants

Year 2 Quarterly Progress Report 1

7. Task 10-Misc Consultant Expenses

Expenses included herbicide costs from spraying in March 2025.

Percent Complete 3%

Work Anticipated Next Period

More substantial rains occurred later in March after the initial spraying effort was implemented. It is anticipated that weed treatment will continue during the next quarter. Weed control efforts will include a combination of hand weeding and spraying of herbicide. Monitoring will include vegetation, photo monitoring and focused thornmint surveys. Seed collection is also anticipated, depending on when native seeds ripen and how much seed is available.

Issues to Note

Rainfall in January and February 2025 was well below normal. January totaled 0.28 of an inch and February totaled 1.37 inches, for a combined January-February total of 1.65 inches. The normal rainfall at Montgomery Field Airport (the closest reporting station) is 2.30 inches in January and 2.65 inches in February for a combined total of 5.30 inches. The total deficit for January and February 2025 was 3.65 inches. March 2025 was the first month that recorded above normal rainfall since early 2024, with a total of 2.93 inches recorded. Normal rainfall for March is 1.63 inches, so March 2025 was 1.30 inches above normal.

Additional non-natives and thornmint seedlings germinated between February and the end of March. The herbicide spraying effort that occurred March 5 was intended to control the flush of weed species that germinated from prior rains. Heavier rain occurred later in March after the initial spraying effort was completed.

Photographs & Figures

Five photographs are provided and include examples of the non-native and native plant growth and maintenance activities.

Photographs are provided in Attachment 1.

Performance Measures

Please see the attached Project's Performance Measures Excel spreadsheet updated through Year 1 of the project.