

# Update on CNLM-Managed Preserves in Carlsbad

Presentations by Preserve Managers: Brooke Prentice-  
Dekker and Kathleen Balazs

# Outline

- Brooke Prentice-Dekker
  - Biomonitoring and Preserve Results
  - Planting
- Kathleen Balazs
  - Restoration at Rancho La Costa
  - Thread-leaved Brodiaea surveys
  - Post-fire monitoring (Poinsettia fire)
  - Cowbirds
  - Effects of heavy rains
  - Volunteer events and newsletter

# San Diego Thornmint

- Rainfall ~20 inches
- Above Average Counts (2nd Highest on Record)
- Rancho La Costa (1454)
  - Uphill Outseed RLC (8)
  - RLC 1 (15), RLC 2 (81), & RLC 3 (13)
- Carlsbad Oaks North (1115)
  - Outseed EFTS (0) & EFTN (7)
  - Uphill Outseed CON (270)
- Seed Collection



# Blochman's Dudleya

- Three quadrats
  - High Vegetative Count 10 occurred in April
  - Total 5 Flowering in June
- Site Flowering total 177
  - 2-27 Flowers/plant



# Coastal Sage Scrub Monitoring

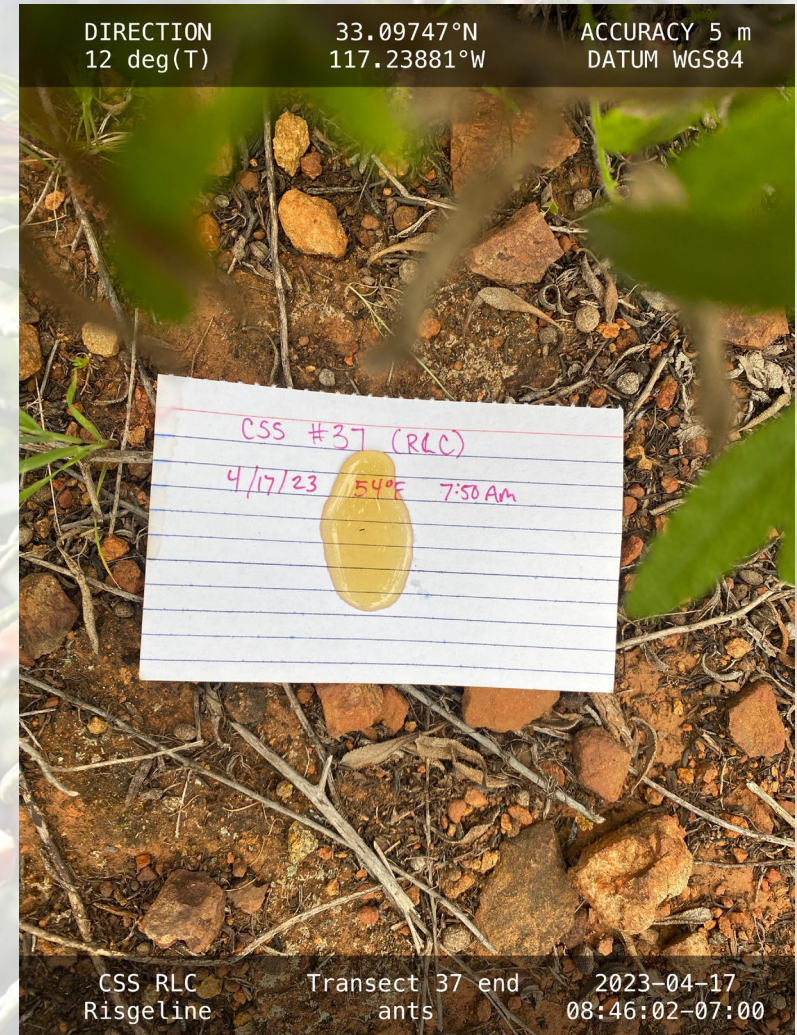


## 19 Total Transects in Carlsbad Results

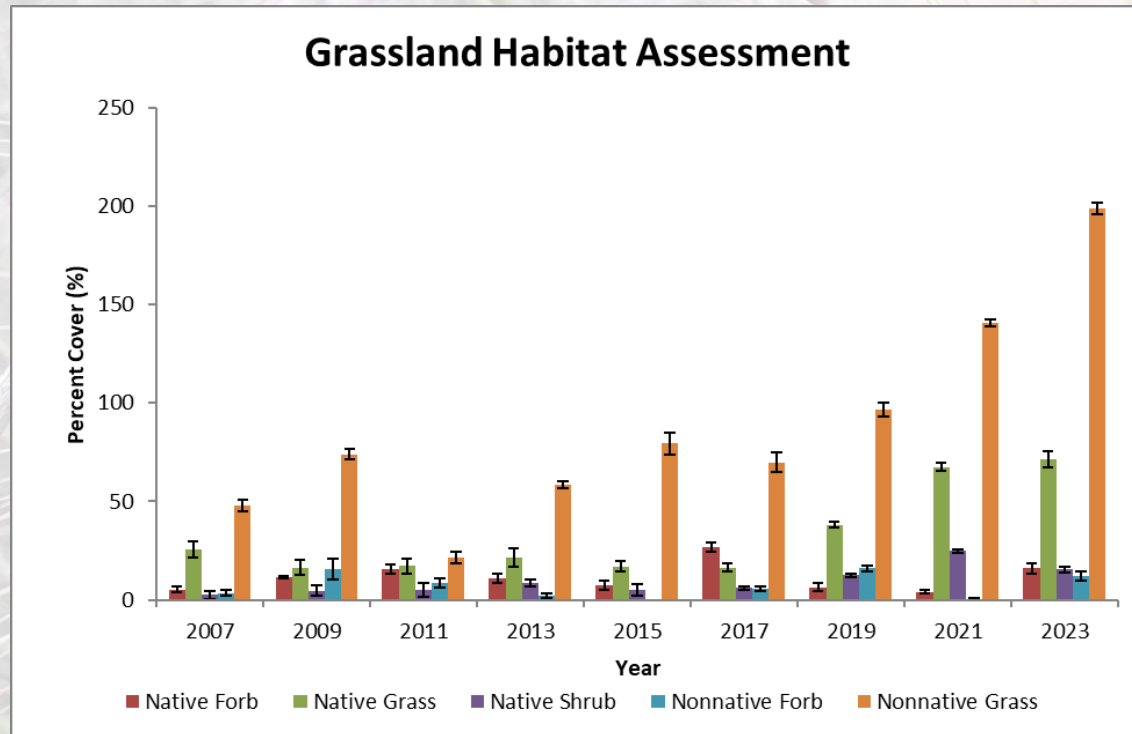
- Increase in Shrub Cover (78.6%)
- Highest native forb cover (43.9%)
- 58 Native Forbs Species (Narrow Leaf Bedstraw, Wild Cucumber, Granny's Hairnet/Fairy Mist)
- 11 Nonnative Forbs (Tocolote)

# Argentine Ant Surveys

- Focused Surveys Argentine Ants
- 19 Bait Cards; 1 Positive
- San Diego Coast Horned Lizard



# Grassland Monitoring



4 Transects at Village H North at Calavera Hills

## Results

- Highest Native and Nonnative Grass Cover on Record
- 4 Native Grass Species (Blue-eyed grass)
- 6 Nonnative Grass Species (Purple False Brome)

# Wildlife Movement

- Wildlife Cameras

- Calavera Hills
- Carlsbad Oaks North
  - Faraday (EW-2-9)
  - Faraday (M7-1)
  - Pond
- Rancho La Costa
  - Copper Creek
  - RLC Greens
- Encinas Creek

Faraday Tunnel Wildlife Movement (EW-2-9)

Year	Bobcat	Coyote	Mule Deer
2010*	0	7	0
2011	1	24	1
2012	31	83	0
2013	105	55	0
2014	18	7	0
2015	21	12	11
2016	74	65	221
2017	52	118	200
2018	15	15	207
2019	2	8	100
2020^	27	36	32
2021+	19	89	150
2022*	20	93	114
2023	22	92	129

Wildlife Detection at CON Pond

Year	Bobcat	Coyote	Mule Deer
2018	4	2	28
2019	3	13	21
2020	22	11	22
2021	31	6	9
2022*	6	7	3
2023**	3	14	39



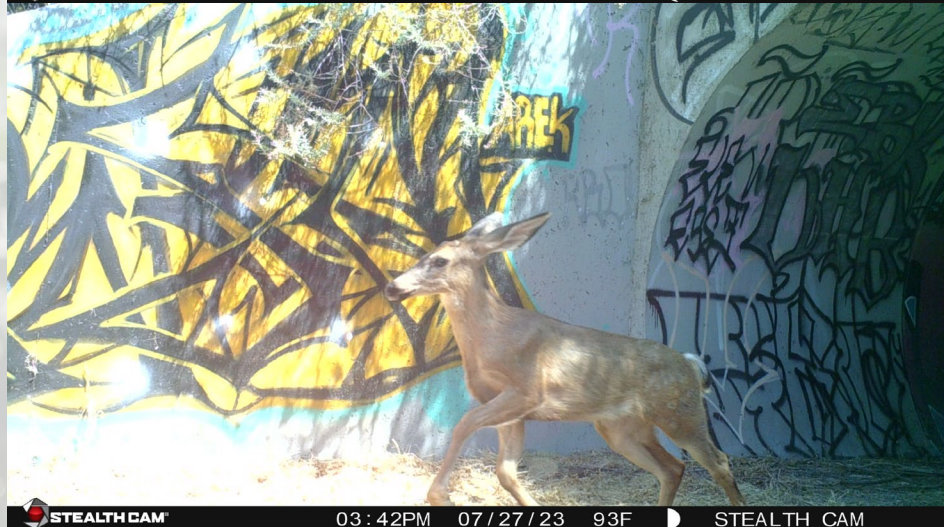
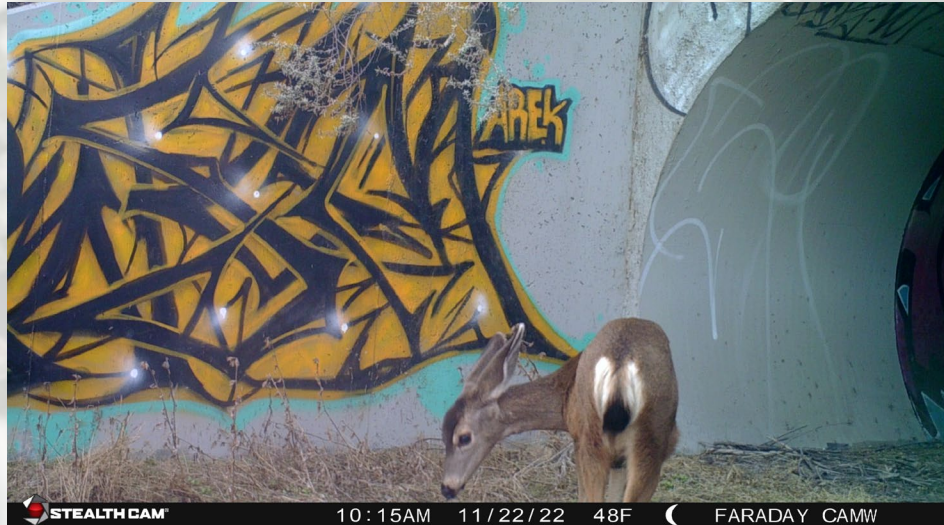
# Wildlife Movement Rancho La Costa



# Wildlife Movement Carlsbad Oaks North Pond



# Wildlife Movement Carlsbad Oaks North M7-1



# Wildlife Movement Carlsbad Oaks North (EW-7-2)



# Orcutt's Hazardia



- Rancho La Costa
  - Counts (135) Slight decrease but stable
- Kelly Ranch
  - Counts (116) Slight increase (first increase since 2012)
  - Three Transects

Year	Orcutt's Hazardia Cover (%)
2010	2.63%
2011	5.26%
2023	5.98%

# California Baja Oat Grass



Photo Credit: Margie Mulligan (2020)

- Rancho La Costa
  - Discovered on Preserve in 2022
  - First year of IMG Monitoring 2023
  - 100's of individuals (largest known population)
- Carlsbad Oaks North
  - Attempted Discovery Survey
  - None detected

# Bats Surveys

Date	Species	Number of Species Passes	Relative Activity (%)
March-April 2023	Mexican free-tailed bat	302	73.7
March-April 2023	Yuma myotis	12	21.1
March-April 2023	Western red bat*	5	5.3

- Buena Vista Creek Ecological Reserve
  - Deploy Anabat in Spring
  - Send Data to SDNHM
  - California Species of Special



Photo Credit: Juan Cortez (@iNaturalist)

# Planting

- Carlsbad Oaks North
  - Added to Restoration Area
- Kelly Ranch
  - Planted in Erosion Area
- Calavera Hills
  - Village H North Grassland
- Rancho La Costa
  - Gibraltar Restoration





# Habitat Restoration – Grassland Restoration at Gibraltar St. (La costa Greens)



# Thread-leaved Brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*)

Approximate flowering totals  
(flowering individuals range from  
0-35% of total population):

- Buena Vista: 450
- Calavera Hills: 60
- Carlsbad Oaks North: 475
- Rancho La Costa: 35,000
- City – Lake Calavera: 30
- New population: 95



# Post-fire monitoring

(2014 Poinsettia Fire)

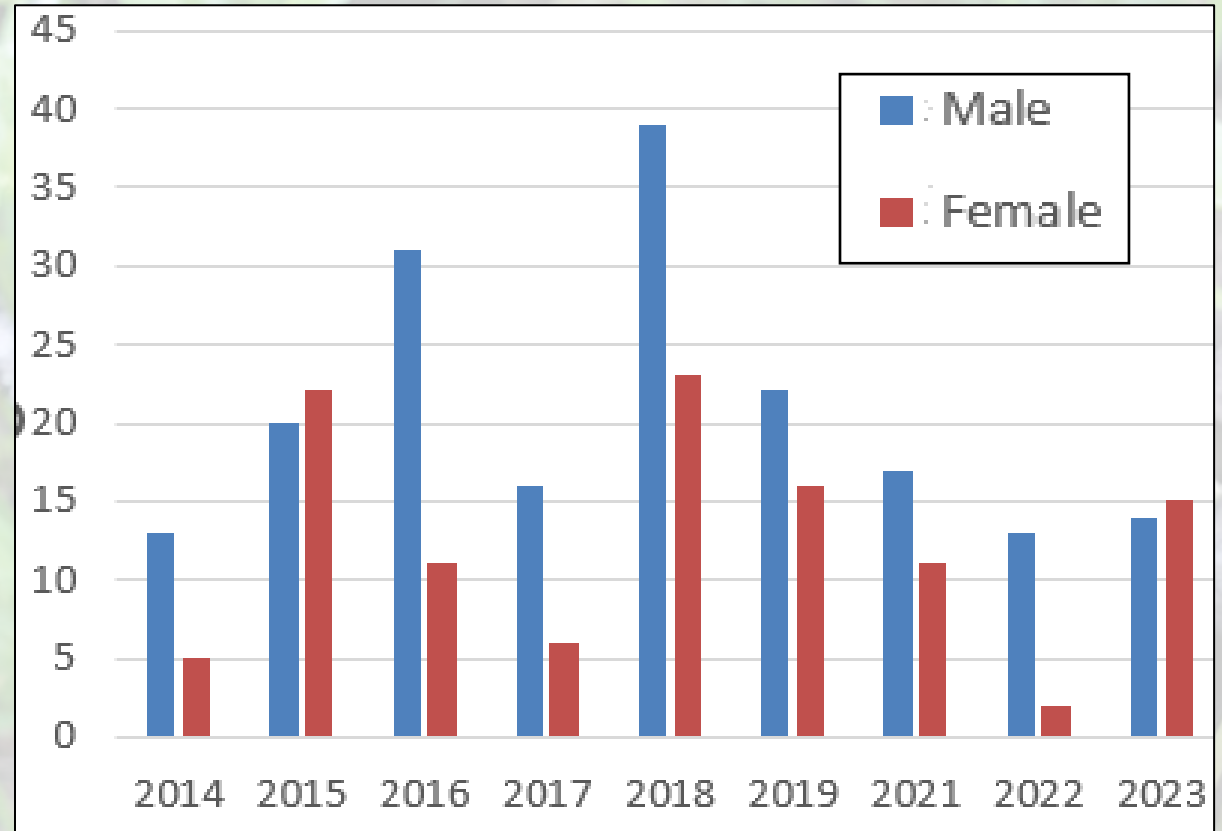
- Rancho La Costa “Greens”
- Increase in cover and diversity!

transect	percent cover					
Category	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2023
bare ground	70%	81%	78%	43%	81%	70%
litter	9%	8%	21%	27%	16%	29%
native annual forb	3%	3%	9%	10%	25%	30%
native annual grass						18%
native perennial forb	6%	11%	35%	24%	33%	13%
native perennial grass						3%
native shrub	3%	13%	20%	19%	23%	27%
non-native annual forb	3%				3%	7%
non-native annual grass	3%				7%	23%
non-native perennial grass						7%



# Cowbirds

- Cowbirds are brood parasites on sensitive species such as least Bell's vireo and coastal California gnatcatcher
- Live traps deployed April 1-May 31
- 2 locations at The Crossings Golf Course



# Heavy Rains!

- Erosion control
- Flooding
- Weed control



# Volunteer Events and Newsletter Development



Center for  
Natural Lands  
Management

**SAN DIEGO  
VOLUNTEERS**

## First Friday Volunteer Events

Find out more and sign up for our volunteer  
newsletter here:



[https://www.cnlm.org/  
san-diego-volunteer-sign-up/](https://www.cnlm.org/san-diego-volunteer-sign-up/)

Email: [sdvolunteers@cnlm.org](mailto:sdvolunteers@cnlm.org)



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# Future Plans

- Invasive Species Removal
- Continued SDTM Enhancement
- Restoration via Planting
- Coastal Sage Scrub Monitoring
- Bat Surveys
- Vegetation Mapping
- Pollinations Studies
- San Diego Horned Lizard and Ant Surveys
- Wildlife Movement Studies