

Urban Corps Habitat Services –
Preserve Management Team Perspectives on
Stewardship at the Carlsbad Preserves
Presented at the Annual Public Meeting
March 5, 2024

By Gretchen Cummings, Colin Casey, Claudia Bishop, and Jorge Sanchez



Meet the Current Preserve Management Team

Gretchen Cummings
Preserve Manager/
Biologist



Colin Casey
Preserve Supervisor

Meet the Current Preserve Management Team Preserve Corpsmembers

Arianna Drummond
Claudia Bishop



Tyler Cisneros
Jorge Sanchez

Urban Corps' Stewardship of Preserves

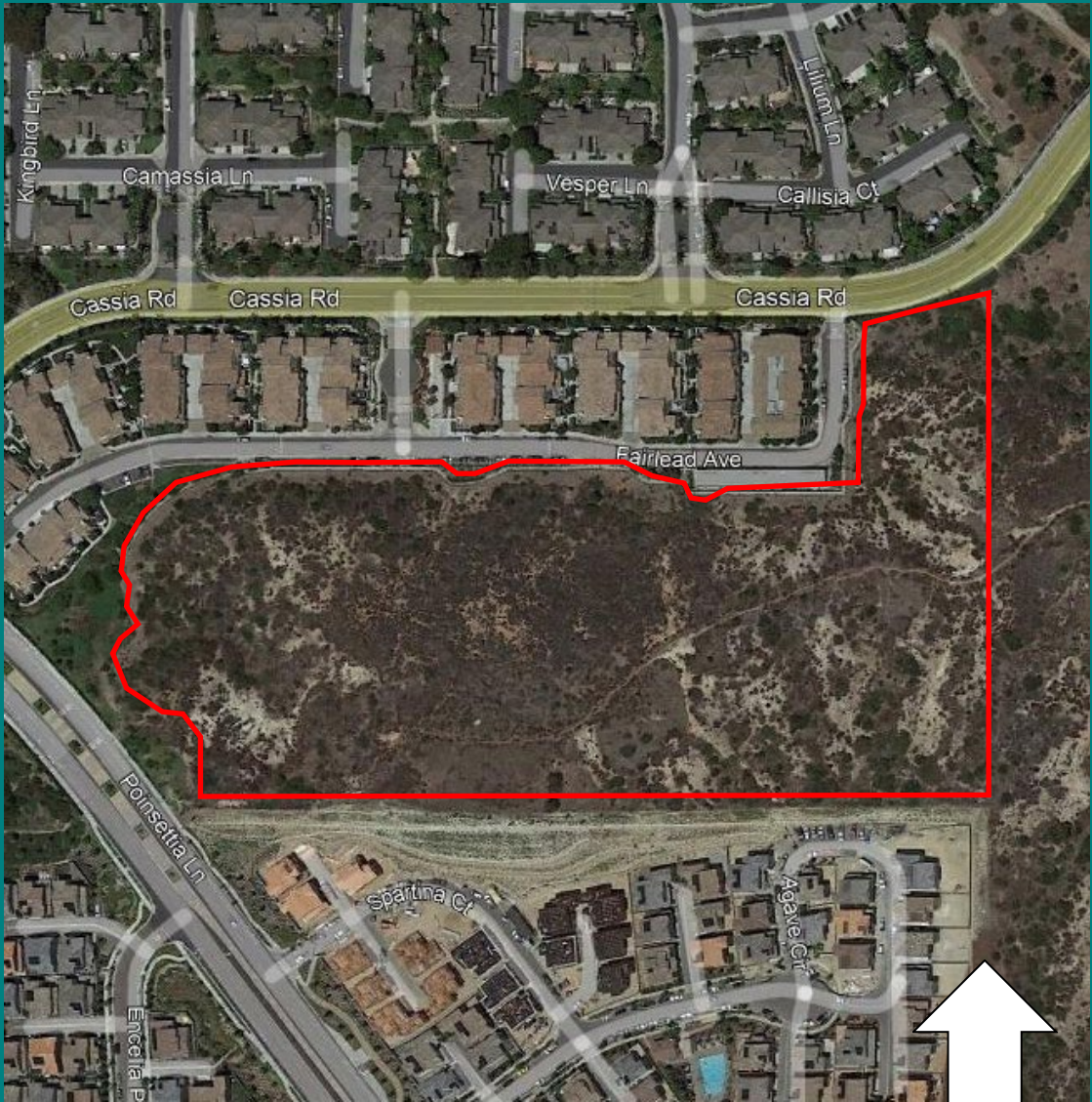
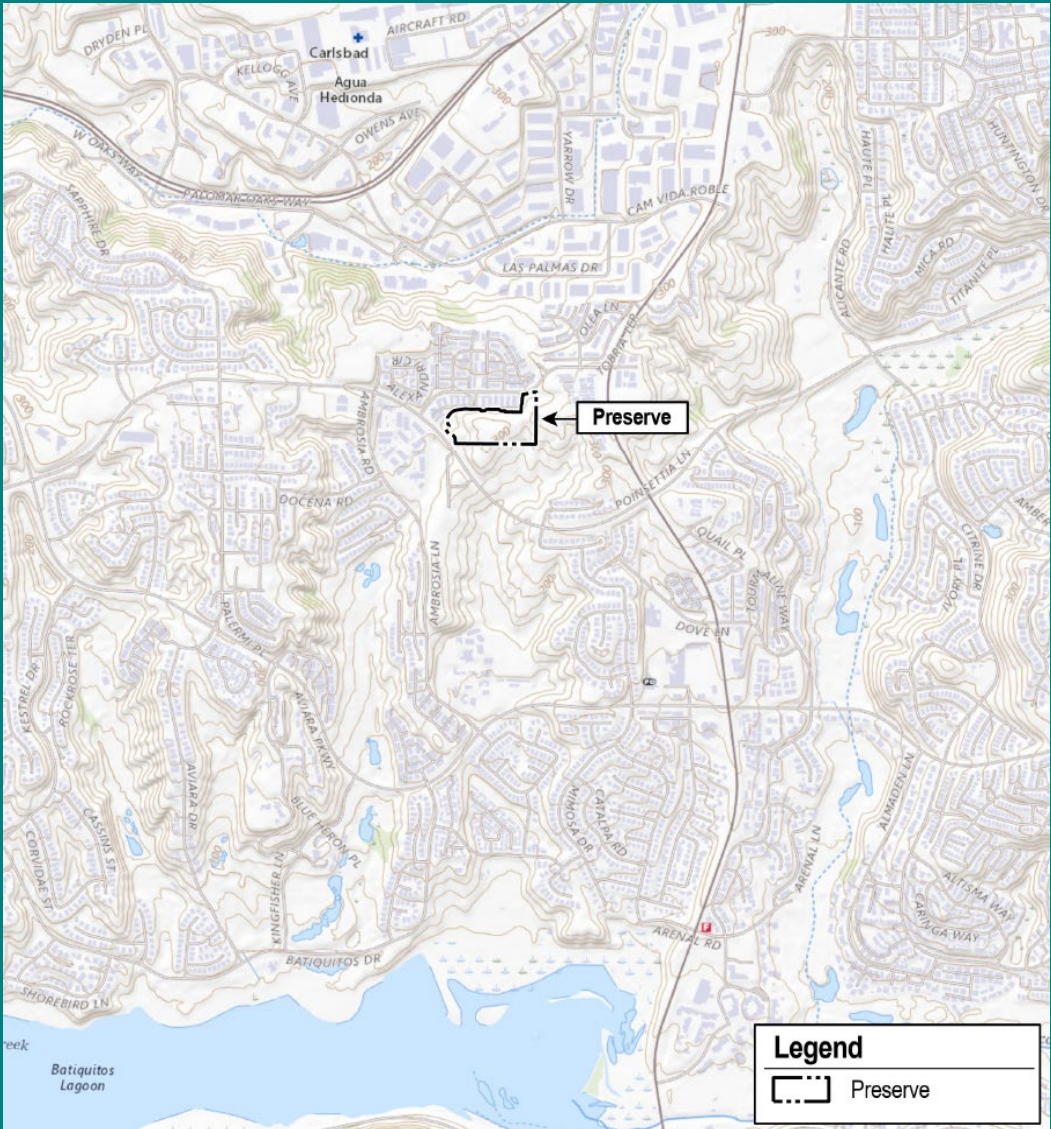
- Stewardship of preserves by the Urban Corps is carried out by a team of stewards consisting of a Preserve Manager/Biologist, a Preserve Supervisor, and Corpsmembers.
- The Preserve Manager/Biologist's duties include biological surveys, training of the Preserve Supervisor and Corpsmembers, scheduling the tasks to be carried out by the Preserve Supervisor and Corpsmembers, managing the budget, and report writing.
- The Preserve Supervisor's duties include overseeing the accuracy and safety of the Corpsmembers work at the preserves, ensuring that sensitive plant and wildlife species are protected, documenting/mapping any issues noted in the field to the Preserve Manager, and establishing goals for maintaining and enhancing the habitats at the preserves.
- The Preserve Supervisor works full-time on the preserves in both the city of Carlsbad and other jurisdictions.
- Corpsmembers go to school 1 day a week and work on projects during the other 4 days. Given this work-school schedule, the core group of 4 Corpsmembers assigned to the Preserve Supervisor work at the preserves on a rotating basis depending upon their academic schedule.

Preserve Manager + Preserve Supervisor + Corpsmembers = Preserve Management Team

Preserve Management

- Urban Corps Habitat Services Currently Manages 25 Preserves Totaling 816-acres within 8 Jurisdictions (Imperial County, County of San Diego, City of Carlsbad, City of Oceanside, City of Escondido, City of Imperial Beach, City of Santee, and City of San Marcos)
- 6 of the 25 Preserves are in the City of Carlsbad
 - Poinsettia Place Preserve (11.5-acres)
 - City Ventures Preserve (8.3-acres)
 - New Crest Preserve (0.04-acre)
 - Southern Preserve (55.2-acres)
 - Paseo Del Norte Preserve (1.4-acres)
 - Morning Ridge (20-acres)

Poinsettia Place Preserve – 11.5 Acres



No Scale

Poinsettia Place Preserve – Invasive Plant Removal



To the left is a map of the area within the preserve that we targeted for weed removal in 2023. Weeds removed included Crown Daisy (*Glebionis coronaria*), Tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*), Short-pod Mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), and Acacia species (*Acacia* spp.).

Poinsettia Place Preserve – Corpsmembers at Work



Before



After



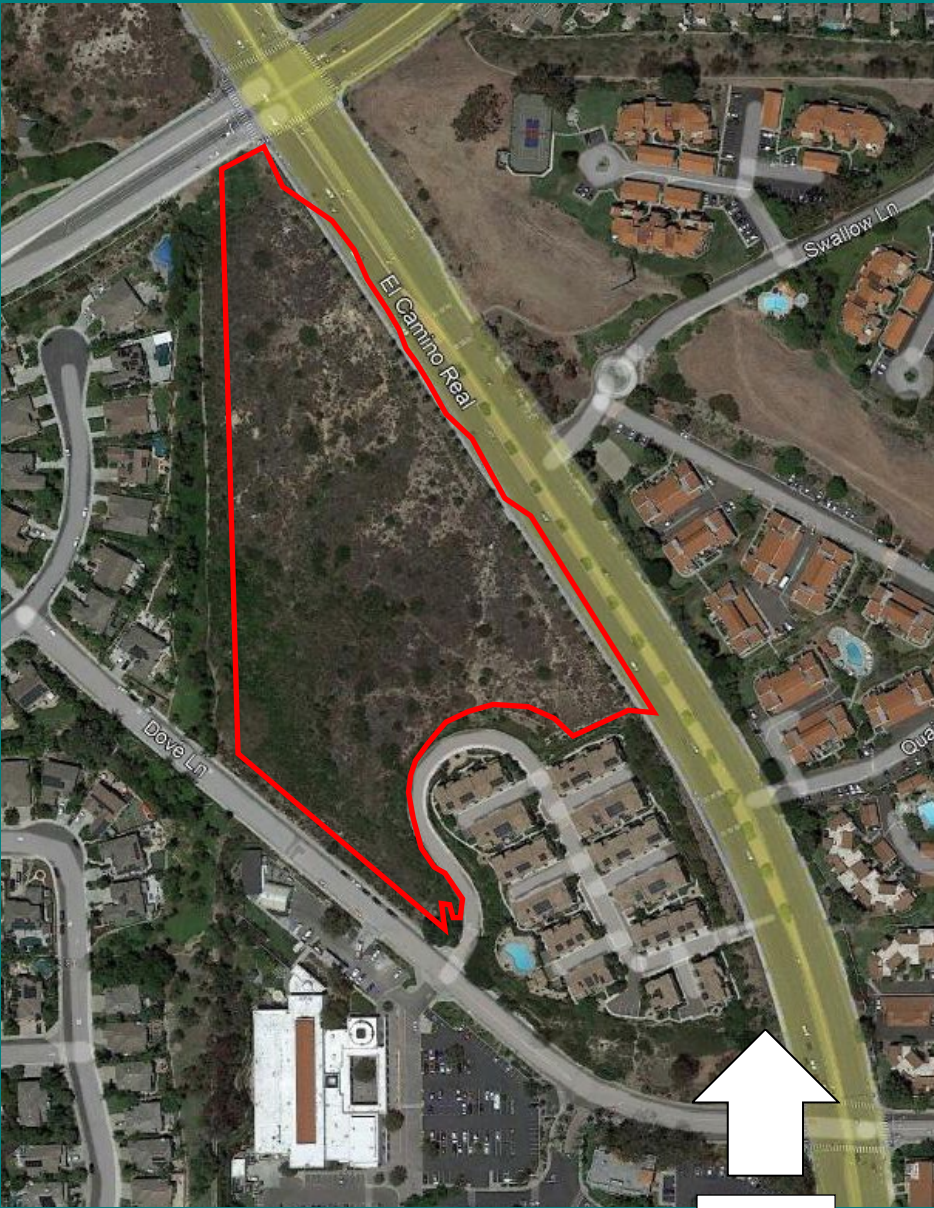
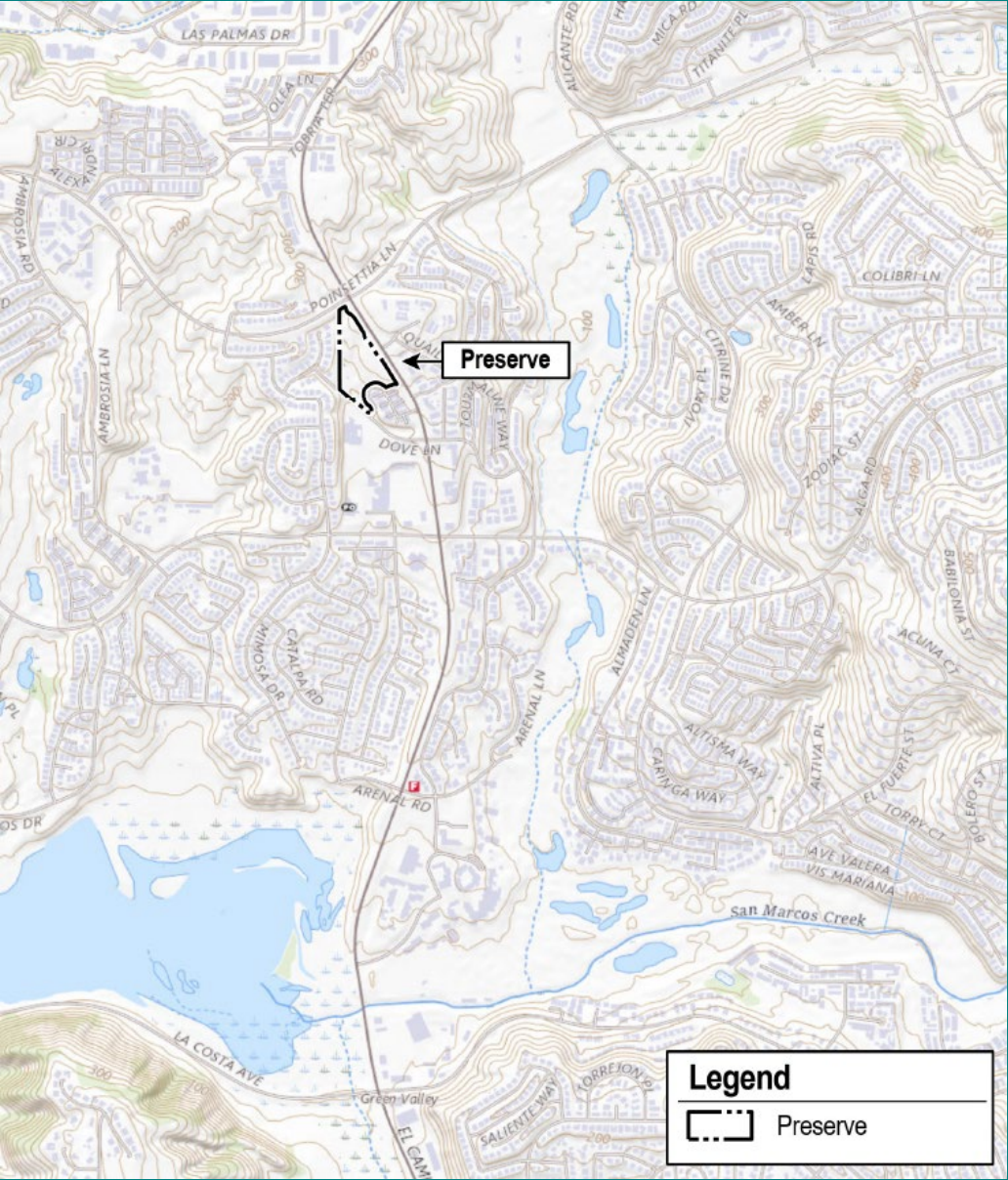
Before



After



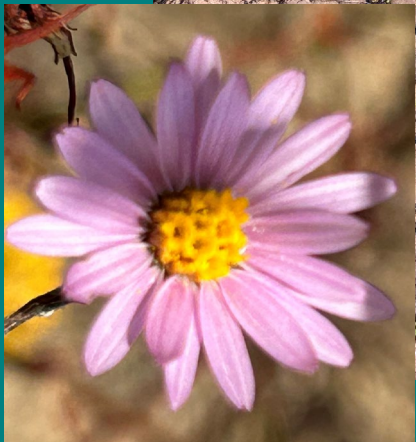
City Ventures Preserve – 8.3 Acres



No Scale

City Ventures Preserve

Fountain Grass Removal to Protect Del Mar Mesa Sand Aster



The Del Mar Mesa Sand Aster (*Corethrogyne filaginifolia* var. *linifolia*) is a perennial herb in the sunflower family. It is considered a sensitive plant by the California Native Plant Society with a California Rare Plant Rank of 1B.1. This plant is found locally in North County on sandy soils within Coastal Bluff Scrub, Chaparral, and Coastal Sage Scrub.

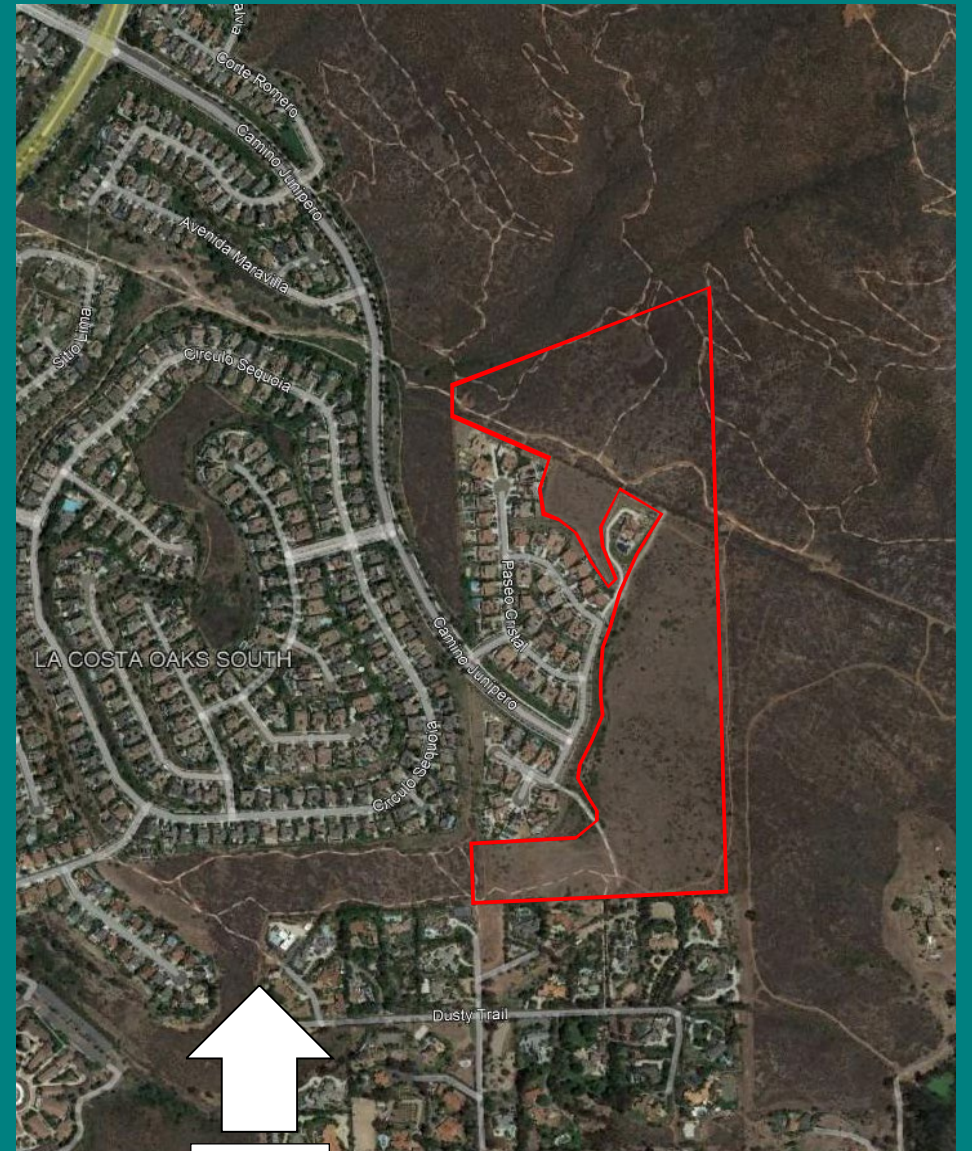
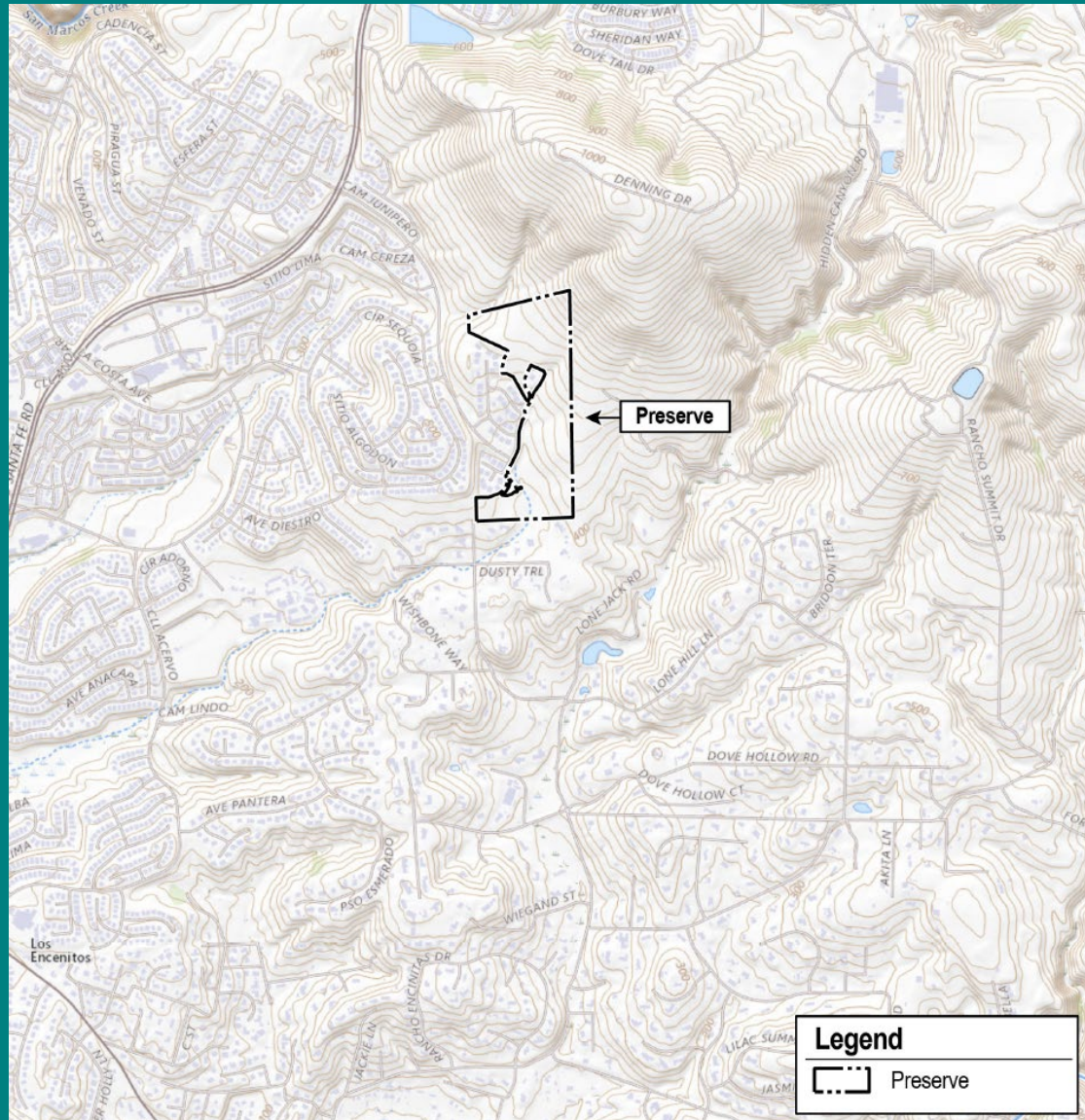
City Ventures Preserve Fountain Grass Removal – Before and After Removal



City Ventures Preserve Fountain Grass Removal by Preserve Corpsmembers



Southern Preserve – 55.2 Acres



No Scale



Southern Preserve

Invasive Plant Removal

Thank you!

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