

Weed Alerts 2019

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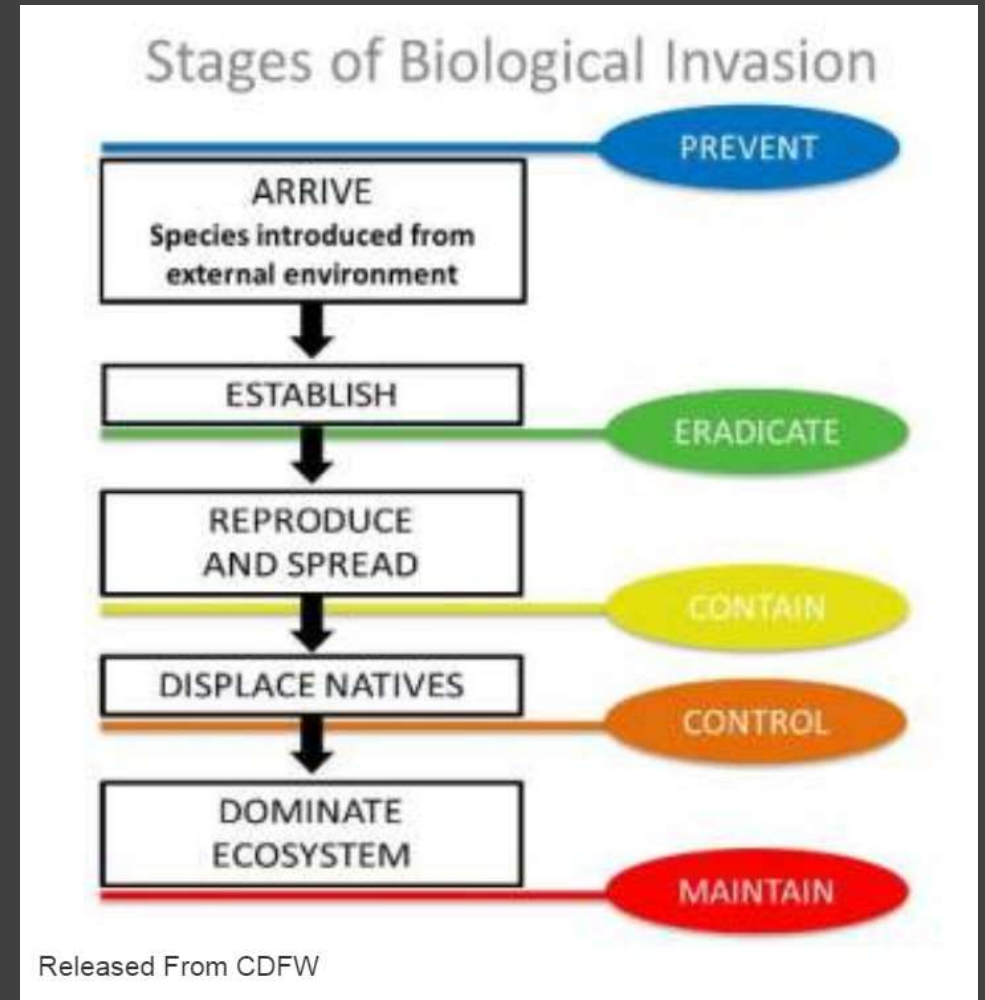
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North African Knapweed, *Centaurea diluta*
Photo: R. Vanderhoff

NEW WEEDS – WHY WORRY?

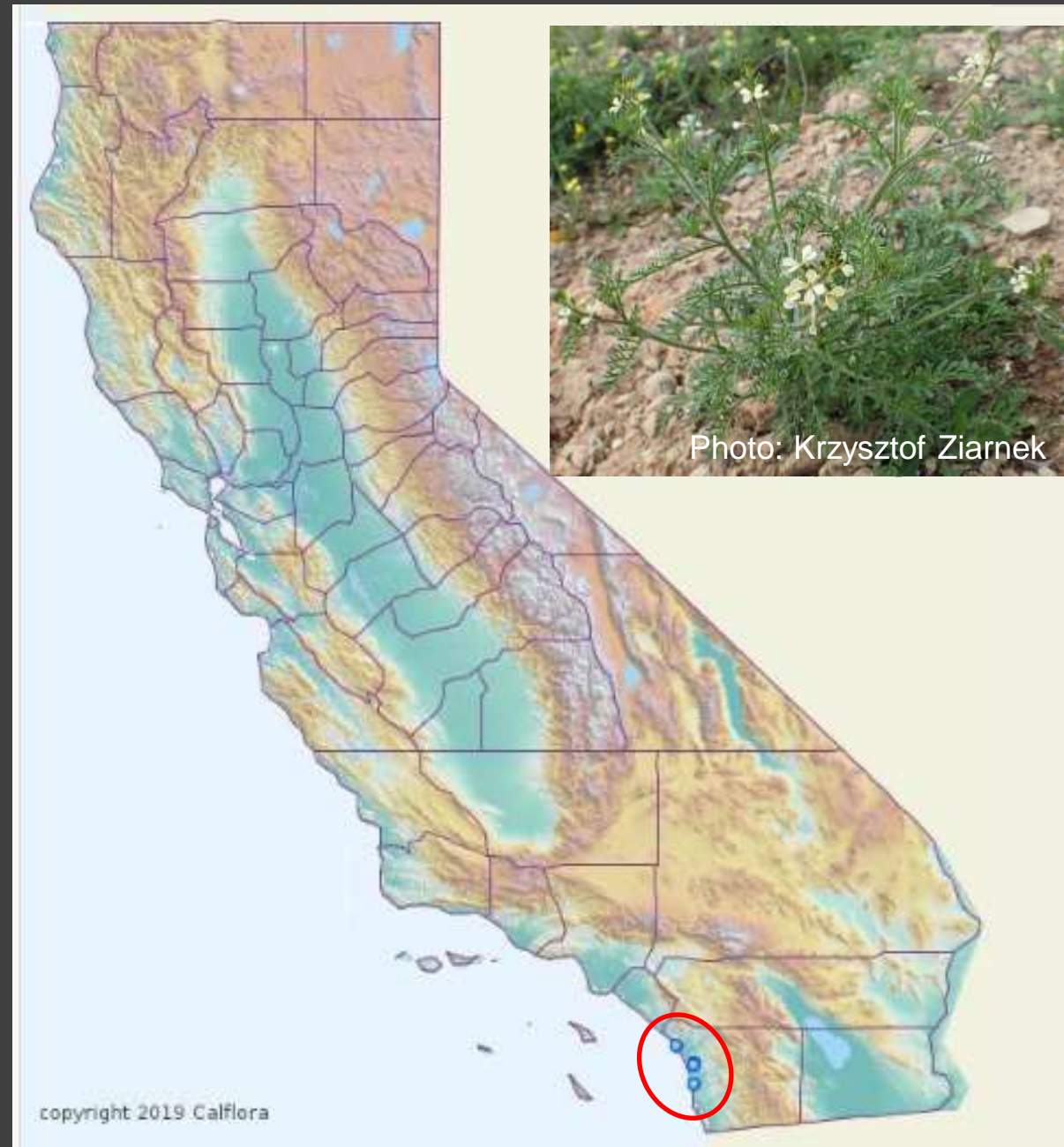
- Many pathways for entry into CA
- Lots of pathways for movement within CA
- Weeds may establish many years before expanding
- Environmental and economic impacts of invasive plants can be massive
- **Early control/eradication is MUCH cheaper than dealing with the problem later**



WARD'S WEED

Carrichtera annua
(Brassicaceae)

- Annual herb native to the Mediterranean region and SW Asia
- Naturalized and invasive in Australia and coastal S California
- Only known location in N. America!
- First recorded in San Diego Co. in 2007
- Has recently expanded in SD County
- CDFA A rated weed
- Cal-IPC Moderate – ALERT rating



WARD'S WEED

Carrichtera annua
(Brassicaceae)

- Annual
- Flowers yellowish w purple veins
- Finely divided leaves
- Hairs reflexed, bristly
- Fruit has spoon-shaped projection



Photo: J. Giessow



Photo: D. Albrecht

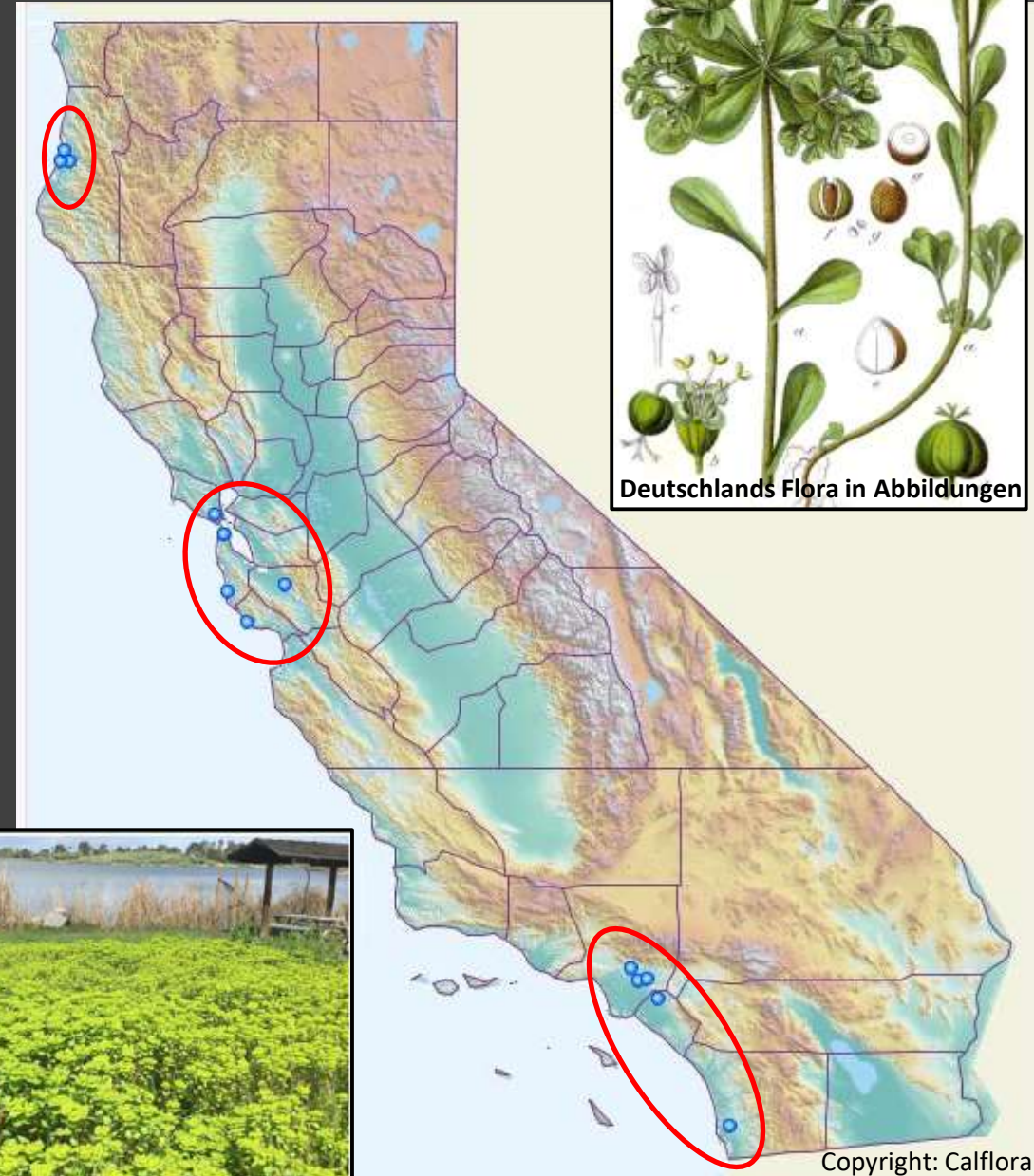


Photo: R. Vanderhoff

SUN SPURGE, WARTWEED

Euphorbia helioscopia
(Euphorbiaceae)

- Native to Eurasia and N Africa
- Naturalized in open habitats in N America and Argentina and Chile
- First record in 1933!
- Spreading in coastal counties of California



SUN SPURGE, WARTWEED

Euphorbia helioscopia
(Euphorbiaceae)

- Annual with taproot
- Grows 2 ft.
- Flowers March-July
- Prefers sunny locations
- Grows in well-drained soil
- Seed production 300-700/plant
- Seed viability: up to 30 years
- Highly toxic and skin irritant

Nectararies rounded



Leaf edges serrate



Photo: Jennifer Mo

Photo: Luigi Rignanese

TUFTED AND HAIRY WALLABY GRASS

Rytidosperma penicillatum, *R. caespitosum*
(Poaceae)

- *R. caespitosum* is Cal-IPC WATCH, *R. penicillatum* is LIMITED
- Existing populations are expanding
- New locations in S. California
- Likes open meadows
- Possibly spread through grazing
- Builds up flammable thatch
- Can expand quickly after fire



HAIRY WALLABYGRASS (*Rytidospermum penicillatum*)



L: UC Regents; R: Eric Wrubel



Photo: Steve Matson



Photo: Tanya Manzanillo



Photo: E. Wrubel

TUFTED WALLABYGRASS (*Rytidospermum caespitosum*)



Photo: John Rawlings



Photo: R. Vanderhoff



Photo: R. Vanderhoff



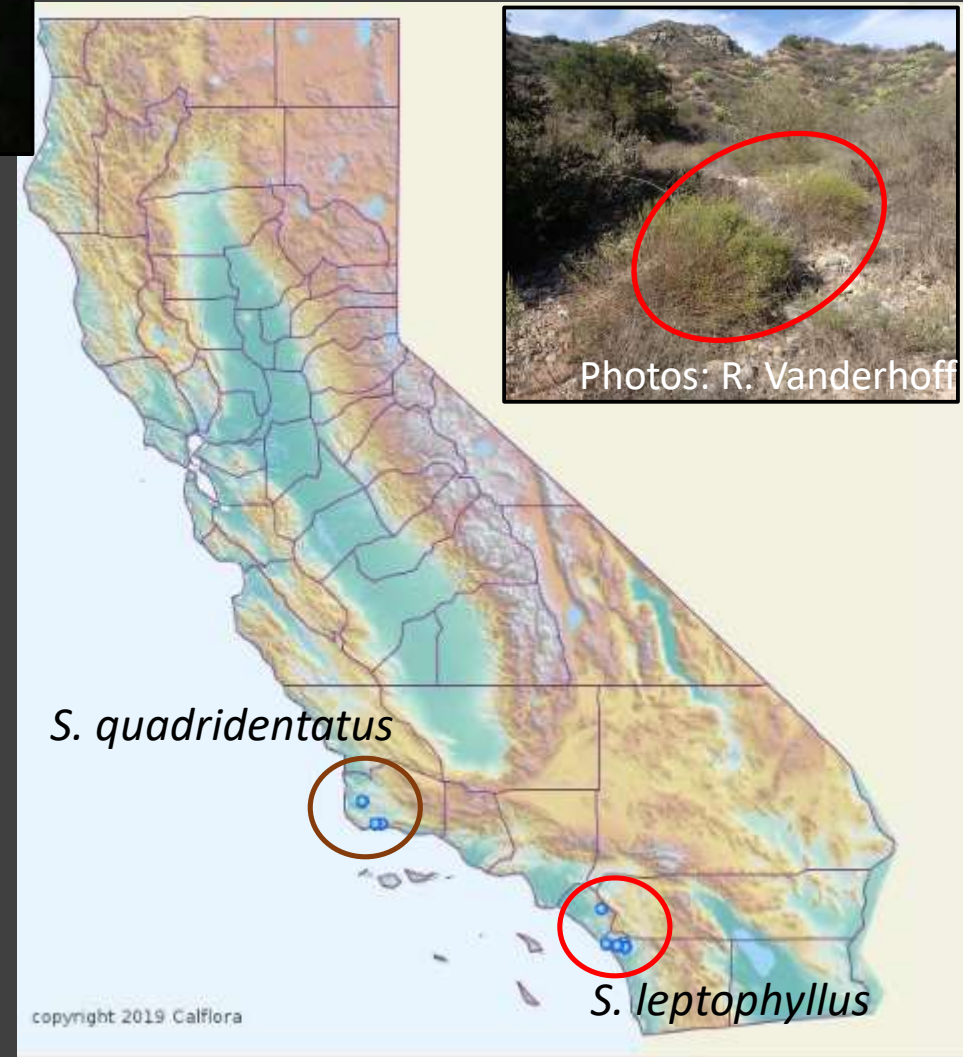
Photo: E. Wrubel

Senecio leptophyllus(?) (Asteraceae)



NEW!

- First North American Record!
- Very similar to *S. quadridentatus* and originally mis-identified as such
- Occupies similar habitats as *S. quadridentatus* (css/dry uplands)
- Has been found in remote and undisturbed sites
- Native to South Africa



Senecio leptophyllus (?)

versus

Senecio quadridentatus



Photo: J. Rolfe

2015 Weed Alert



Photo: A. Tate

- Perennial shrub
- Stout inflorescence heads
- Clasping leaves



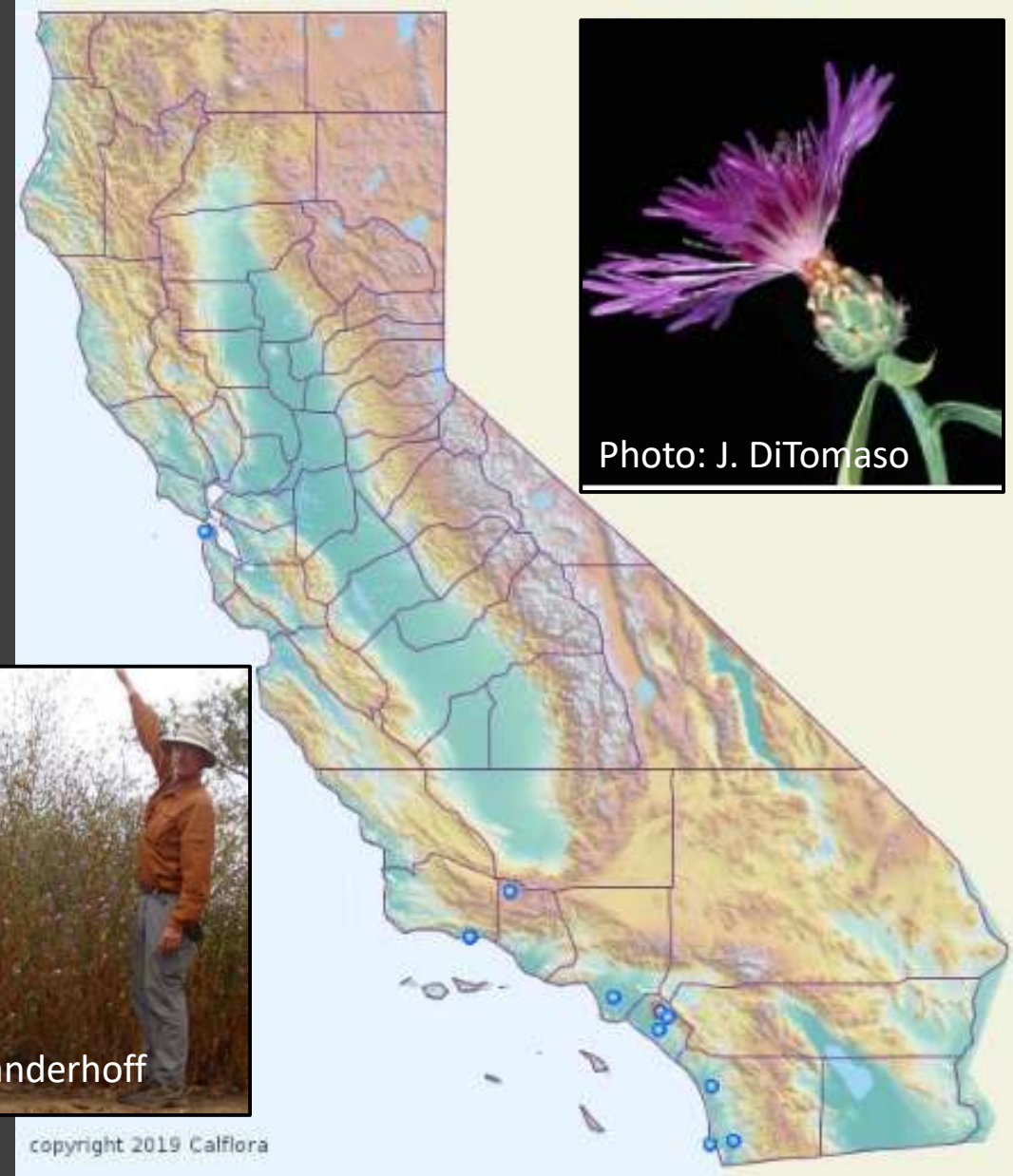
Photo: A. Tate

Photos: R. Vanderhoff

NORTH AFRICAN KNAPWEED

Centaurea diluta (Asteraceae)

- Native to southwestern Europe
- Has recently been expanding in S. CA.
- Ecological affinities similar to other *Centaurea*



NORTH AFRICAN KNAPWEED

Centaurea diluta
(Asteraceae)

- Annual to short-lived perennial
- 1-2m height in flower
- Highly branched
- Coarsely lobed, soft leaves
- Pink/purple flowers, outer ones large
- Phyllaries with short spine and fringes



Photos: R. Vanderhoff

ORANGE HAWKWEED

Pilosella aurantiaca

[syn. *Hieracium aurantiacum*]

Asteraceae

- Naturalized in northern North America, Australia, N. Zealand, E Asia, Chile, Argentina
- Agricultural and wildland weed
- Spreads easily by seed and stolons
- May spread after fire
- Invasive in open habitats in northern California
- Under-reported in Calflora



ORANGE HAWKWEED

Pilosella aurantiaca

[syn. *Hieracium aurantiacum*]

Asteraceae

- Stoloniferous perennial herb
- Distinctive orange inflorescence
- Soft, hairy foliage and stem
- Apomictic fruits



Photo: P. Dziuk



Photo: K. Chayka



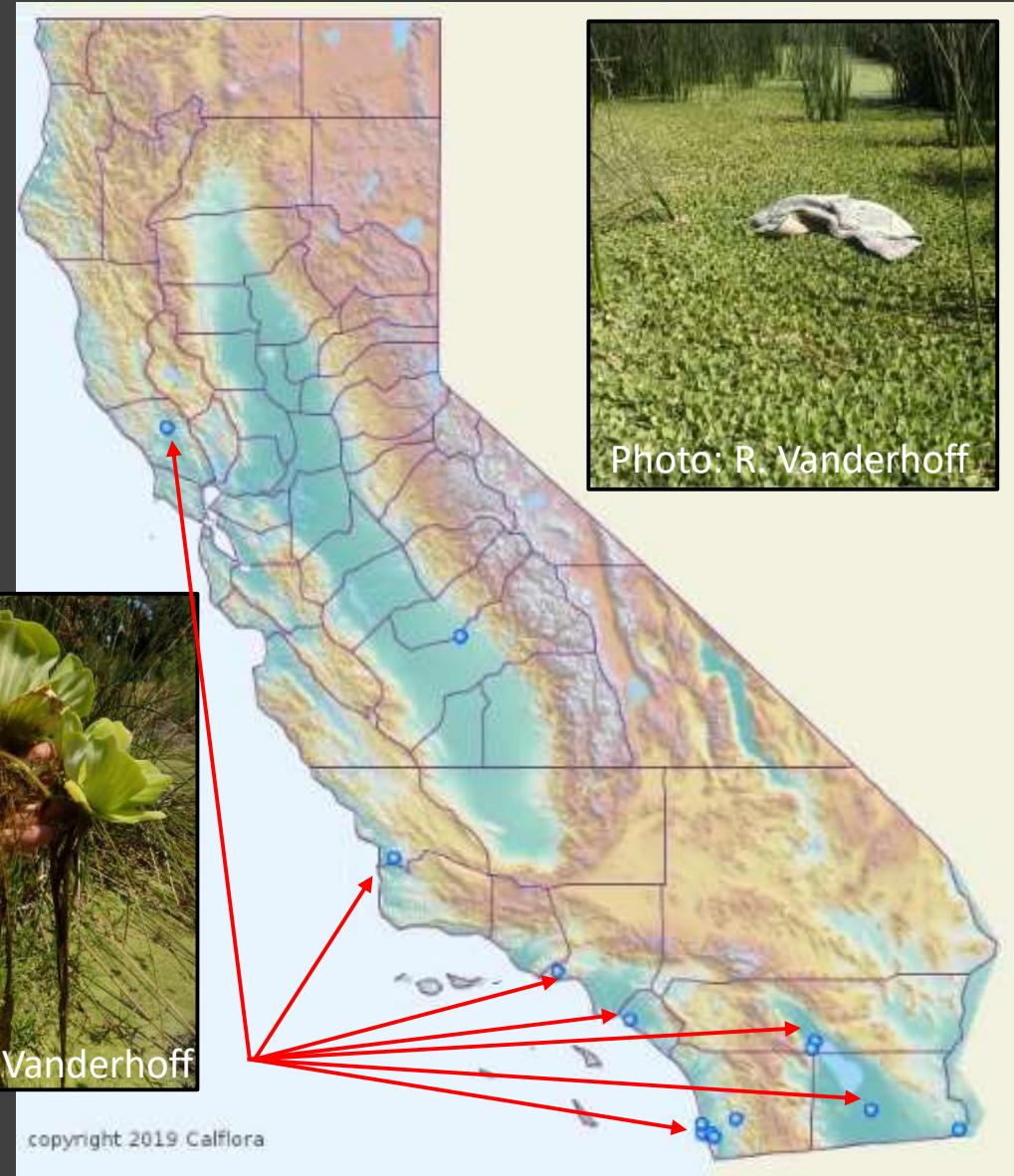
Photo: P. Dziuk

WATER LETTUCE

Pistia stratiotes

ARACEAE

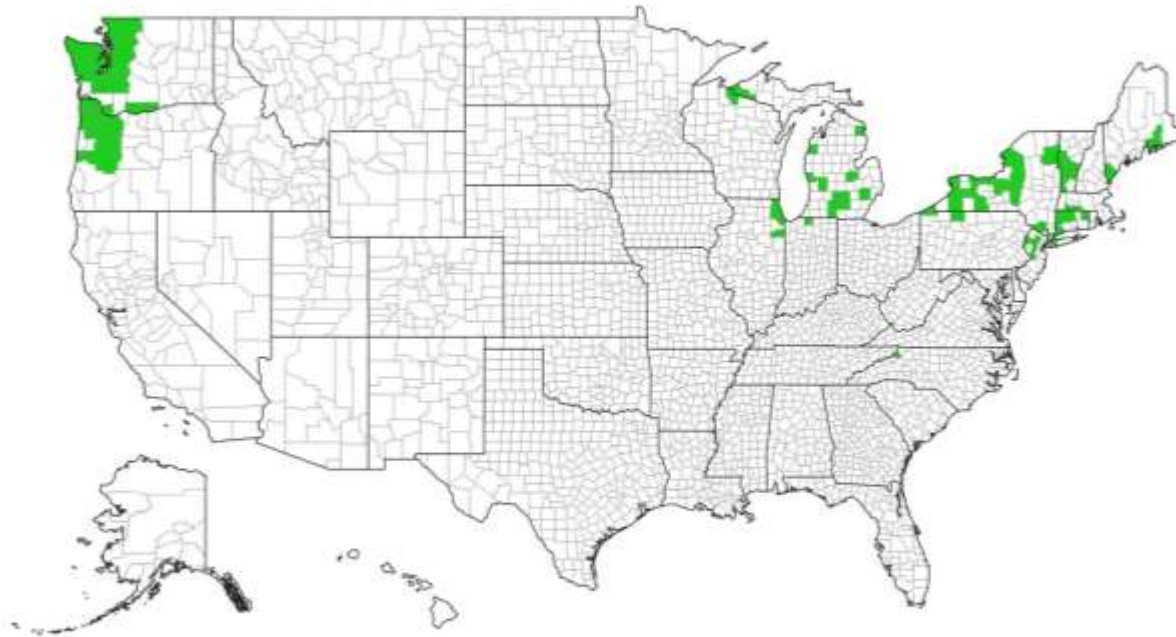
- Horticultural aquarium escape
- Widely distributed in tropical and subtropical regions of the world
- Listed by Florida as noxious weed
- Has recently expanded in southern CA ponds
- Not cold tolerant (>15C)
- Can completely cover pools, channels





Pistia stratiotes, Water
lettuce, Araceae

- Floating aquatic perennial herb
- Looks like large lettuce head
- Long, feathery roots
- Inconspicuous flowers
- CDFA B rated



source: EDDMapS. 2019. Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System.
University of Georgia - Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health.
<http://www.eddmaps.org/>

Legend
No Data
Species Reported

created: 8/28/2019

GIANT HOGWEED

Heracleum mantegazzianum
Apiaceae

- Federal noxious weed, “A” rated by California; invasive in open, mesic habitats
- Native to Eurasia, naturalized in eastern U.S. & Canada, + Pacific region
- Not yet in N California, but be on the lookout

GIANT HOGWEED

Heracleum mantegazzianum

Apiaceae

- Herbaceous perennial
- Very large plant (up to 15-20 feet tall)
- Resin ducts on seed have broad tips
- Leaves are more divided than Cow parsnip
- Contact with the sap of the plant causes dangerous skin burns after UV exposure



Photo: USDA APHIS PPQ; Bugwood.org



Photo: Huhu Uet



Photo: USDA APHIS PPQ, Oxford, NC, Bugwood.com



Photo: L. Mehrhoff, Univ. of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

ON THE MOVE: JAPANESE KNOTWEED AND FRIENDS

Fallopia japonica et al.

POLYGONACEAE

- Riparian shrub
- Spreads via rhizomes and seed along waterways
- Other relatives *F. x bohemica*, *F. sachalinensis*
- CDFA A rated
- Cal-IPC Moderate – ALERT



Photo: A. Trnkoczy

NEW AND DISTURBING SPECIES TO REPORT?

Contact us!!!

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Robert Price robert.price@cdfa.ca.gov

Send close-ups, whole-plant and plant-in-setting photos

Map on Calflora or iNaturalist

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!