

The logo consists of the letters 'R', 'E', and 'M' in a bold, sans-serif font. The top portion of each letter is dark blue, while the bottom portion is a lighter blue. The letters are positioned above the text 'road ecology meeting'.

REM

road ecology meeting



Successful Control of Invasive Spanish Broom (*Spartium junceum*)

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8/28/15

Spanish Broom - Background

- Shrub in pea family (Fabaceae)
- Bright yellow flowers distinctive in spring-early summer, “broom” stems at other times
- Introduced from Mediterranean for erosion control and “highway beautification;” scattered in coastal Southern California up to ~4,000 feet; also in landscape trade
- Stumps sprout when cut, and plants produce copious seed (viable at least 3 years)
- Displaces native coastal sage and chaparral shrubs such as buckwheat, increases fire risk, proclivity for growing in pavement cracks and steep slopes; wildlife don’t consume
- Calif. Dept. of Food & Agriculture: Class C Pest Species; Cal-IPC: “high” invasiveness
- U.S. Forest Service Cleveland NF, and San Diego Co Public Works also controlling broom

Broom Control on SR-67 in Ramona, San Diego Co.

- About 300 shrubs along and near highway needing control
- Stump cutting / application of herbicide triclopyr (Garlon) by Caltrans Maintenance initially ~95% effective (summer, when active growth). Glyphosate not!
- Little follow up control required in next 3 yrs for stump resprouts and new plants (<1% cover returned)
- Native vegetation replacing broom, such as California buckwheat, forbs, and grasses
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach let natives return
- Similar results observed in efforts by San Diego County and USFS



This was a successful effort that can be applied to other Spanish broom populations, different broom species, and other invasive shrubs. Careful planning, implementation, and multi-year follow up are keys to success!

My article in CAL-IPC News has additional information

http://www.cal-ipc.org/resources/news/pdf/Cal-IPC_News_Fall2013.pdf

Questions?

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Photo credits, field assistance: H.O. James (intern)



07/24/2015 12:26

Other Broom Locations Needing Control
(Riverside, Orange and San Diego Counties)



08/23/2015 12:20



07/24/2015 12:30



Cut Slope on Ortega Hwy

08/23/2015 12:04



SR-79 / Julian



SR-79 near I-8



07/21/2015 13:40
SR-79/Los Terrenitos Rd