



Your Local Partner in Conservation & Agriculture

The Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District is committed to protecting and enhancing natural resources through education, restoration and collaboration with stakeholders.

FALL 2018

Goat Chomping, Chain-sawing and Team Work Got the Job Done!



At Chorro Flats, Cape ivy covered both sides of the entrance road to the property. On the left is the dense ivy, and on the right is the lack of ivy after the goats enjoyed a yummy meal.

This year's effort to eradicate Cape ivy on our Morro Bay wetland* property was a win-win! Chorro Flats is a piece of property the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District owns with the financial support of the State Coastal Conservancy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). It is located off South Bay Boulevard near Quintana and has been restored to aid in capturing sediment before it goes into Morro Bay.

Cape ivy, an [invasive weed](#) brought from South Africa, is a perennial vine that climbs over most vegetation, forming a solid cover that blocks light and smothers other vegetation. When first considering ways to eradicate it, we thought the ivy far too dense to be able to



Cardinal monkey flower at Chorro Flats summer 2018.

Upcoming Events

October 26, noon
Board of Directors Meeting
UCCE Auditorium, SLO

November 30, noon
Board of Directors Meeting
UCCE Auditorium, SLO

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pen goats there. But Beth Reynolds, with The Goat Girls, assured us it could be done. One weekend, before the California Conservation Corps (CCC) crew arrived to assist with eradication efforts, Reynolds brought in her goats and was able to have them penned and chomping on vegetation. The following Monday, when everyone arrived to spend a week hacking through the “jungle,” we were all amazed at the job the goats had done.

The CCC crew, with direction from Reynolds, chain-sawed their way through the ivy and fallen trees and branches, making way for new spots to herd the goats. By the end of the week, we had covered more ground than we had ever before. And...we all fell in love with Beth’s new, future goat-herding puppy, Scout.

Along with thanks to Beth Reynolds and the CCC, we would like to thank the Service folks (Shawn Milar, Mary Martin and Colleen Grant) who came to monitor for red-legged frogs but went above and beyond in helping pull the ivy and using an ‘app’ that helped us define our property boundaries. It’s hard to tell where boundaries are with all the dense growth.

Stay tuned for an article next season about the results!

*under the USDA/Natural Resource Conservation Service’s [Wetland Reserve Program](#)

Chorro Flats Cape Ivy Eradication Crews



California Conservation Corps



Colleen Grant & Scout



Goats found Cape ivy a tasty meal.



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Save the Date

Oceano Community Outreach Event

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, November 17

The Oceano Community Services District, in collaboration with the County of San Luis Obispo, is hosting an "Oceano Community Outreach Event" from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 17, at the Oceano Community Center & Oceano Elementary School.



The community "Open House"-style event will provide information and education on current projects and programs (focusing on water, energy, and infrastructure and planning) within Oceano, and the event will also obtain feedback from the community. Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District will be participating. Please swing by and visit.

[Details coming soon.](#)

Welcome to New CSLRCD Team Member!

Restoration Specialist I Grant Johnson

Grant Johnson grew up in Morro Bay, spending his time exploring the region's diverse coastline. He then migrated south to attend the University of San Diego, where he majored in Biology with a concentration in botany, and minored in Chemistry. For his senior research project, he conducted a study on the bioactivity of native Southern California plants traditionally used for medicinal purposes. After graduating, he worked as a field botanist in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area outside of Las Vegas before joining the CSLRCD team and moving back to his home town. Grant is excited to be back on the Central Coast and working with the CSLRCD team.



Staff

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Joe Murphy
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Seamus Land
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Mark Skinner
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Grant Johnson
Restoration Specialist I

Shelly Rachels
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Conservation Clip List is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts). This link discusses CDFA's Healthy Soils Program in all 10 California RCD regions:

RCD Services

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- Erosion & Stormwater Control
- Conservation Easements
- Conservation Planning
- Permit Coordination
- Watershed & Habitat Restoration



Access road to Chorro Flats flooded in March 2018.