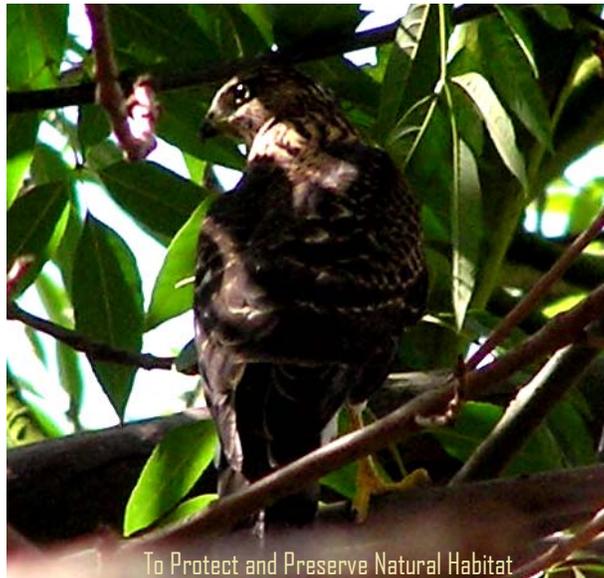




CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION



To Protect and Preserve Natural Habitat

**POTRERO CANYON PARK
“DIRTY DOZEN” WEEDS IDENTIFICATION**

THIS BOOKLET WAS CREATED TO ASSIST DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARK STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMATIC WEEDS. THE NAME “*DIRTY DOZEN*” WAS GIVEN TO THE TWELVE PLANTS THAT PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIVE FLORA DUE TO THEIR HIGH REPRODUCTIVE RATE AND ACCELERATED GROWTH. THE “*DIRTY DOZEN*” ARE IDENTIFIED, ILLUSTRATED, AND LISTED IN THE ORDER THAT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE NATURAL ECOSYSTEM OF **POTRERO CANYON PARK**.

MAIN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS BOOKLET

- 1) Support and restore the natural ecosystem found in **Potrero Canyon Park** through the management and control of invasive plants.
- 2) To establish an Integrated Pest Management Program specific to **Potrero Canyon Park**.
- 3) Build valuable resources for Department of Recreation and Parks staff and the public.

Some exotic plants, as well as native vegetation, with aggressive qualities may be considered a weed if it adversely affect the sustainability of the natural areas and encroaches into developed landscapes. Weed problems can be largely avoided by careful landscape design, soil preparation before planting, and adequately scheduled irrigation and mulching. Weed control can be achieved through a combination of the following five control methods:

PREVENTIVE: Preventive method is defined as keeping the weeds from entering or becoming established in the area. Monitoring the area for early detection of unwanted plants is crucial for the preventative methods to work. If a new weed is discovered, immediate actions need to be taken in order to prevent seed production and establishment.

CULTURAL: Cultural method is defined as maintenance practices that will make it difficult for weeds to grow or become established, (i.e., select proper plants for the location, irrigation management, and pruning).

BIOLOGICAL: Biological method is defined as the usage of living organisms for weeds control. Some of the organisms used for biological control include fungus, bacteria, nematodes, and beneficial insects. When available, biological methods are very effective in weed control.

CHEMICAL: Chemical method is defined as the usage of a synthetic or natural toxic product called herbicide for weed control. Selective herbicides are designed to control a specific group of plant. Non-selective herbicides such as 'Round Up' will control all plants. When using a chemical herbicide, it is mandatory to read and always follow what the label instructs.

MECHANICAL: Mechanical method is defined as the usage of physical force to injure, remove, and control weeds. Mechanical methods can be achieved through the usage of mowers, hand-pulling, hoeing, and burning.

POTRERO CANYON PARK
“DIRTY DOZEN”

Here is a list of the 12 weeds that have been determined to be of concern at **POTRERO CANYON PARK**. It was prepared as an aid for anyone who will become involved in the preservation of the native flora within the Park.

SCIENTIFIC NAME

COMMON NAME

Salsola iberica

Russian thistle

Ricinus communis

castor bean

Nicotiana glauca

tree tobacco

Brassica spp.

wild mustards

Cortaderia selloana

pampas grass

Avena fatua

wild oats

Conyza bonariensis

hairy fleabane

Ipomea purpurea

tall morning glory

Sonchus oleraceus

annual sowthistle

Foeniculum vulgare

sweet fennel

Lactuca serriola

prickly lettuce

Malva neglecta

common mallow

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Salsola iberica*
COMMON NAME: Russian thistle

Common Russian thistle
Oregon State University



Common Russian thistle
Photo by: Brother Alfred Brousseau



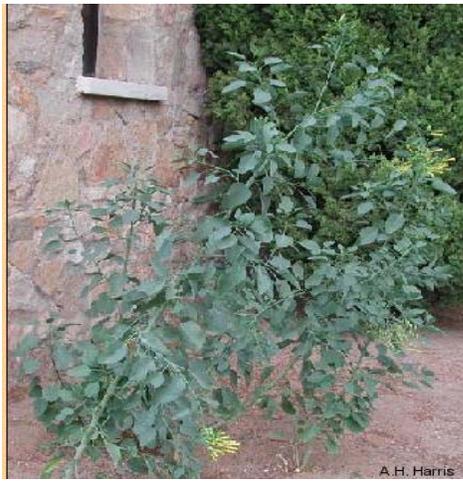
NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ricinus communis*
COMMON NAME: castor bean



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Nicotiana glauca*
COMMON NAME: tree tobacco



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Brassica* spp.
COMMON NAME: wild mustards



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cortaderia selloana*
COMMON NAME: pampas grass



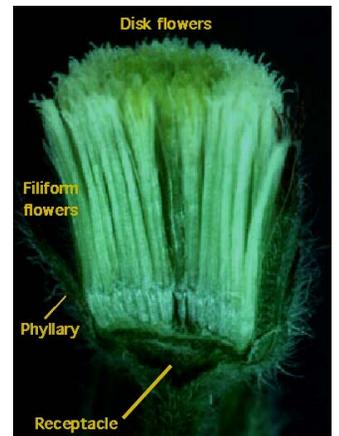
NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Avena fatua*
COMMON NAME: wild oats



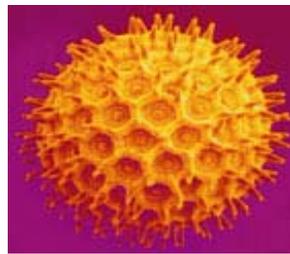
NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Conyza bonariensis*
COMMON NAME: hairy fleabane



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ipomea purpurea*
COMMON NAME: tall morningglory



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Sonchus oleraceus*
COMMON NAME: annual sowthistle



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Foeniculum vulgare*
COMMON NAME: sweet fennel



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Lactuca serriola*
COMMON NAME: prickly lettuce



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Malva neglecta*
COMMON NAME: common mallow



NOTES:

POTRERO CANYON PARK HISTORY OF THE PARK

Under the Ballona creek watershed path, Potrero Canyon is located at the tip end of the Santa Monica Mountains, virtually ending at the coastal side, facing the Pacific Ocean.

With a plant species inventory that make it fall into the Coastal Sage Scrub category, Potrero Canyon Park has typical slopes above the beach area where the marine layer penetrates to clime up the foothills and slopes.

Shrubs here are not the completely woody shrubs of chaparral and are adapted to long dry summers, remaining dormant to the dry season; also, they are not as densely spaced or as rigid as those of true chaparral, and their leaves are not thick, tough sclerophyllus and drought tolerant as those of chaparral.

With a few species of invasive/unwanted vegetation, and considering the small acreage that form the park, Potrero Canyon would be the perfect candidate for the initiation of the Integrated Pest Management program.

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Photos downloaded from University of California Berkeley website at:

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