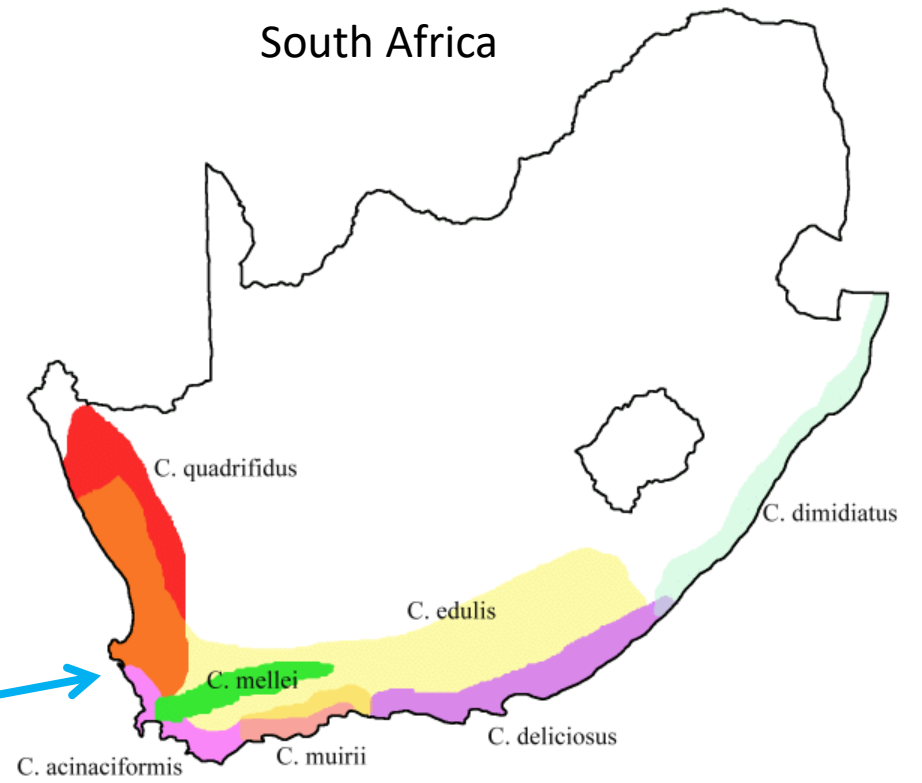


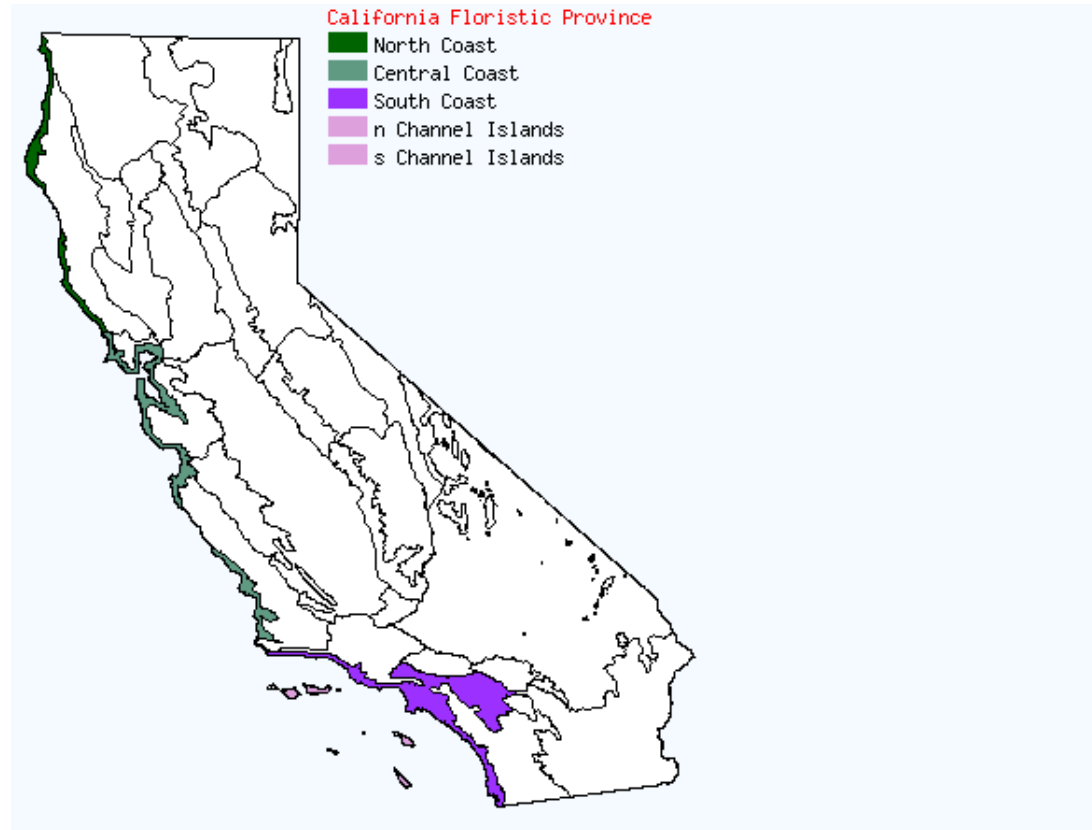
An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline. The ocean is a deep blue, with white-capped waves crashing against dark, layered rock formations. A narrow strip of brown sand is visible where the waves meet the shore. Above the rocks, a wide, flat expanse of land covered in brownish-green vegetation stretches towards the horizon. In the distance, a range of low mountains is visible under a clear sky. The text "South African Ice Plant: Threat or Menace?" is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

# South African Ice Plant: Threat or Menace?

# Native to South Africa



# Invasive in California



# Native flora vs. South African ice plant



# Ecological Characteristics

## Native Plants

- Non-invasive
- High diversity: >10 species
- Supports local animals, including pollinators
- Deep roots to hold bluff soils in place
- Thin, light-weight leaves do not weigh down bluffs

## South African Ice Plant

- Invasive
- Low diversity: one species
- Does not support diversity of local animals
- Shallow roots do not hold soils in place
- Heavy, water-logged leaves weigh down bluffs

# Proponents for So. African Ice Plant Removal

## Government Agencies

- Bureau of Land Management
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California State Parks
- National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Sanctuaries
- University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (Extension)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

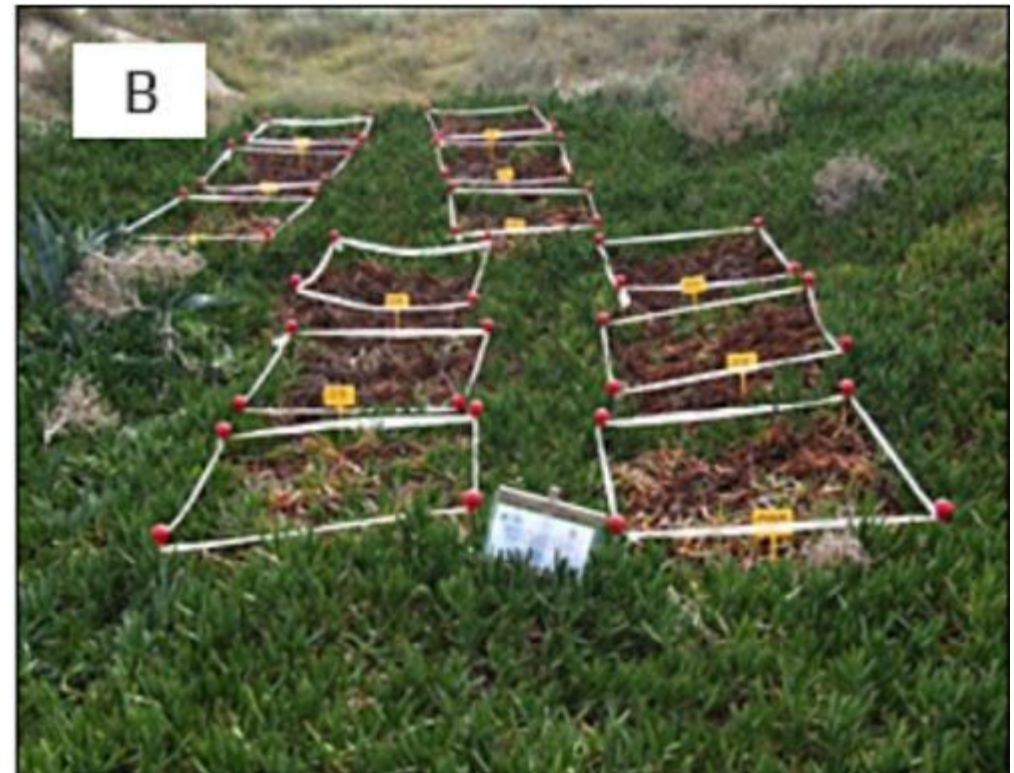
## Non-Profit Organizations

- California Invasive Plant Council
- California Native Plant Society
- Central Coast State Parks Association
- Morro Bay National Estuary Program
- The Bay Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy

# Methods for Removing South African ice plant

## Chemical:

- Spray with herbicides
- Might be necessary for very large-scale invasions
- Potentially exposes public to herbicides
- Not advised at coast or near waterways
- Economical



# Methods for Removing South African ice plant

## **Solarization:**

- Cover with layer of weighted plastic sheeting for months
- No chemical use or hauling away dead plants
- Unsightly for months; requires extensive public education to prevent vandalism
- Volunteer labor makes it economical





# Methods for Removing South African ice plant

## **Mechanical:**

- Fun volunteer project
- Must be repeated or will regrow
- Hauling is expensive: ~\$10,000 per semi-truck load of ice plant





# Lampton Cliffs Park