

Leisure Village Arundo Removal Project Scope of Work

Ventura County Resource Conservation District

VCRCDD project contact: Rachel Ray, Habitat Restoration Coordinator

rachel.ray@vcrdd.org, 805-764-5151

The Ventura County Resource Conservation District is seeking bids from experienced restoration and fuels management contractors for a 5-acre Arundo removal project. A project site visit can be coordinated to aid in your understanding of the project and site conditions. Please reach out to Rachel Ray with any questions or to set up a site visit.

Project Description: The Ventura County Resource Conservation District (VCRCDD) plans to implement a 5-acre invasive species removal project in Conejo Creek within the Calleguas Creek Watershed. The Project site has large dense stands of Arundo donax that cover 65% of the riparian willow habitat. In addition to Arundo, which will be the primary target species, treatment may include other invasives, such as castor bean, tree Tabacco and sweet fennel, as warranted.

This project will use the hand removal method only, "cut and daub" as there are native species such as Salix exigua and Sambucus nigra interspersed in the stands of Arundo. The field crews will cut the Arundo at the base and paint on an aquatic safe herbicide to kill the rhizome. All biomass will be hauled out of the project area and placed in a roll-off bin for disposal. Resprouts will be treated with herbicide following the initial treatment. Initial treatment is planned to take place starting in September 2026 and finishing in March 2027, outside of nesting bird season. With minimization measures in place, daily bird surveys conducted and oversight by an approved designated biologist, retreatments would follow year-round to ensure an effective and timely treatment of resprouts.

VCRCDD has conducted initial surveys and determined the best access points. Field crews will access the site by already established farm roads and a watershed protection district (WPD) levee road. They will start the day at staging areas, located along the farm road and WPD levee and ingress/egress the removal area on foot via an access path. Crews will begin on the southern end of the removal polygon and work north. Crews will move through the work area on foot only and avoid any wetted areas. Preliminary surveys by VCRCDD concluded that no structures will be installed and there is no need for water diversions. All equipment, trucks and roll-off bins will be located only in the designated staging areas.

All removal activities will be accomplished with hand labor using the "cut and daub" method. Equipment needed for this method includes hand tools such as loppers, chainsaws, weed whackers, hand saws and daubers. No heavy machinery will be used. Contractors are expected to supply all tools and materials unless otherwise noted. Herbicides will include a mixture of

glyphosate and an indicator dye. Contractors selected to apply herbicide must have a Qualified Applicator (QAL) on staff and on-site to handle or oversee handling and application of herbicide.

A California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) approved biologist must be present during all work-related activities. Contractors that have a staff biologist(s) will need to submit their qualifications to VCRCD 30 days prior to the start of work so they can be reviewed and approved by CDFW.

Contractors are responsible for mapping and reporting on all removal and retreatment activities on an annual basis. These annual reports shall include a narrative describing activities conducted, applicable removal and retreatment maps, survey documents, and any other associated work product(s). The first report will be due April 15, 2027, and the second, final report, will be due April 15, 2028.

Timeline:

Pre-construction survey	September 8, 2026
Project starts	September 14, 2026
Completion of removal activities by	March 1, 2027
Retreatment activities	March 15, 2027 – March 15, 2028
Progress Report	April 15, 2027
Project Completion	March 15, 2028
Final reports and invoices submitted by	April 15, 2028

All work activities and coordination will occur Monday – Friday during day light hours. Removal and retreatment activities will not occur if there is a rain event.

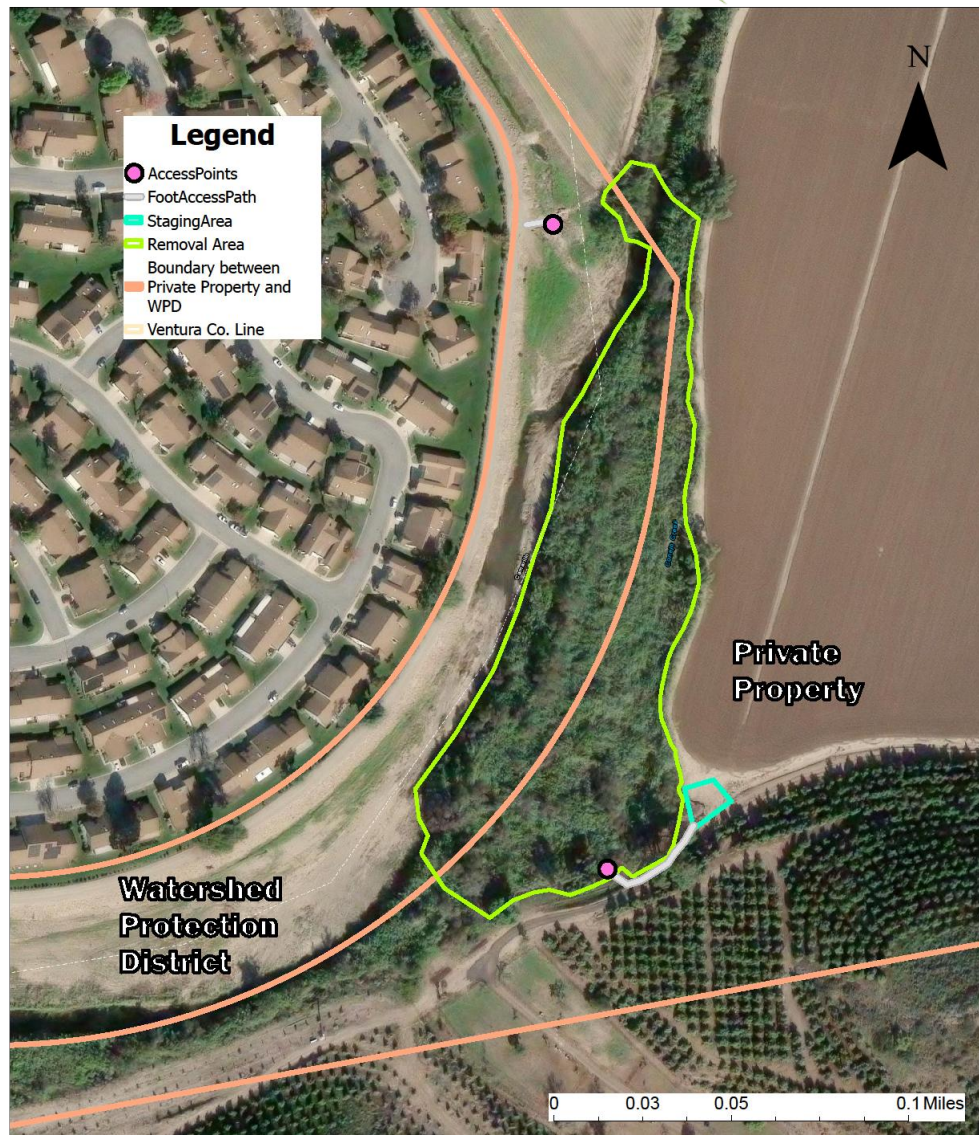
Preference will be given to contractors who can have all biomass removal completed by March 1, 2027, to allow time to complete multiple rounds of retreatments.

Site Maps:



Leisure Village WUI Wildfire Resilience Floodplain Restoration Overview Map

The purpose of this map is to show the overview of the site and both staging areas in the vicinity, one on each side of Conejo Creek.



Leisure Village WUI Wildfire Resilience Floodplain
Restoration Site Map