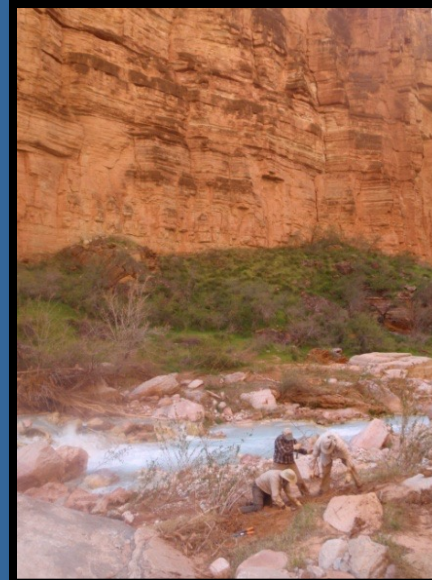




Inner Canyon Vegetation Program

What do we do?

- Monitor and remove exotic plants
 - River corridor: ravenna, Russian olive, Siberian elm
 - Side canyons: tamarisk, pampas grass
- Vegetation monitoring in campsites
- New and Exciting!
 - Pilot program removing Russian thistle and camelthorn from camps





Camps

Russian thistle

- Eminence
- Buckfarm
- Trinity
- Fern Glen

Camelthorn

- Unkar
- Crystal
- 110 Mile
- Diabase
- Cove
- Whitmore



Camelthorn (*Alhagi maurorum*)

- 1915 as a contaminant in alfalfa
- Extensive underground root system~ 45 ft deep and 24 ft wide!
- Steals nutrients and water from native vegetation
- Notorious for taking over Grand Canyon's beaches
- Manual removal by clipping at the root node



110 mile camp- 2011





Russian thistle (tumbleweed) (*Salsola tragus*)

- 1873 as a contaminate in flaxseed
- Dominates disturbed soil esp. in drought
- Crowds out native species
- Impacts recreation, overtaking prized beaches
- Manual removal of plants by pulling before they produce seeds



River Mile 70- 2007



Photo courtesy of Amy Draut

River Mile 70- 2010

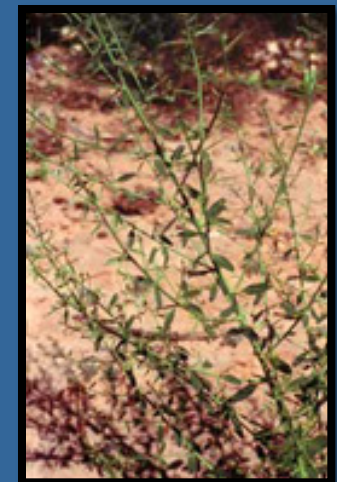


Photo courtesy of Amy Draut



What you can do!

- Sign up for a camp
- Pick up gloves and nippers
- Visit your site at least 2x's year to pull weeds!
- 5-30 minutes will make a HUGE difference
- Record the data
- Return the postcard!
- Give me feedback



A scenic view of a river flowing through a canyon. In the foreground, a large agave plant with a tall, reddish-brown flower stalk stands prominently. The river is brown and flows through the center of the canyon. The canyon walls are rocky and layered, with some sparse vegetation. The sky is clear and blue.

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Grand Canyon National Park

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service





The perpetrators