

# **Tipping the Balance: Using Natives to Combat Weeds and Promote Ecologically Resilient Riparian Restoration**

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River Partners



*Creating Wildlife Habitat for the Benefit of People and the Environment*



## Objective

1. Establish ecologically and structurally beneficial wildlife habitat.
2. Design a native plant association that will develop into a sustainable community through ecological succession under current and future conditions.

Planting



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

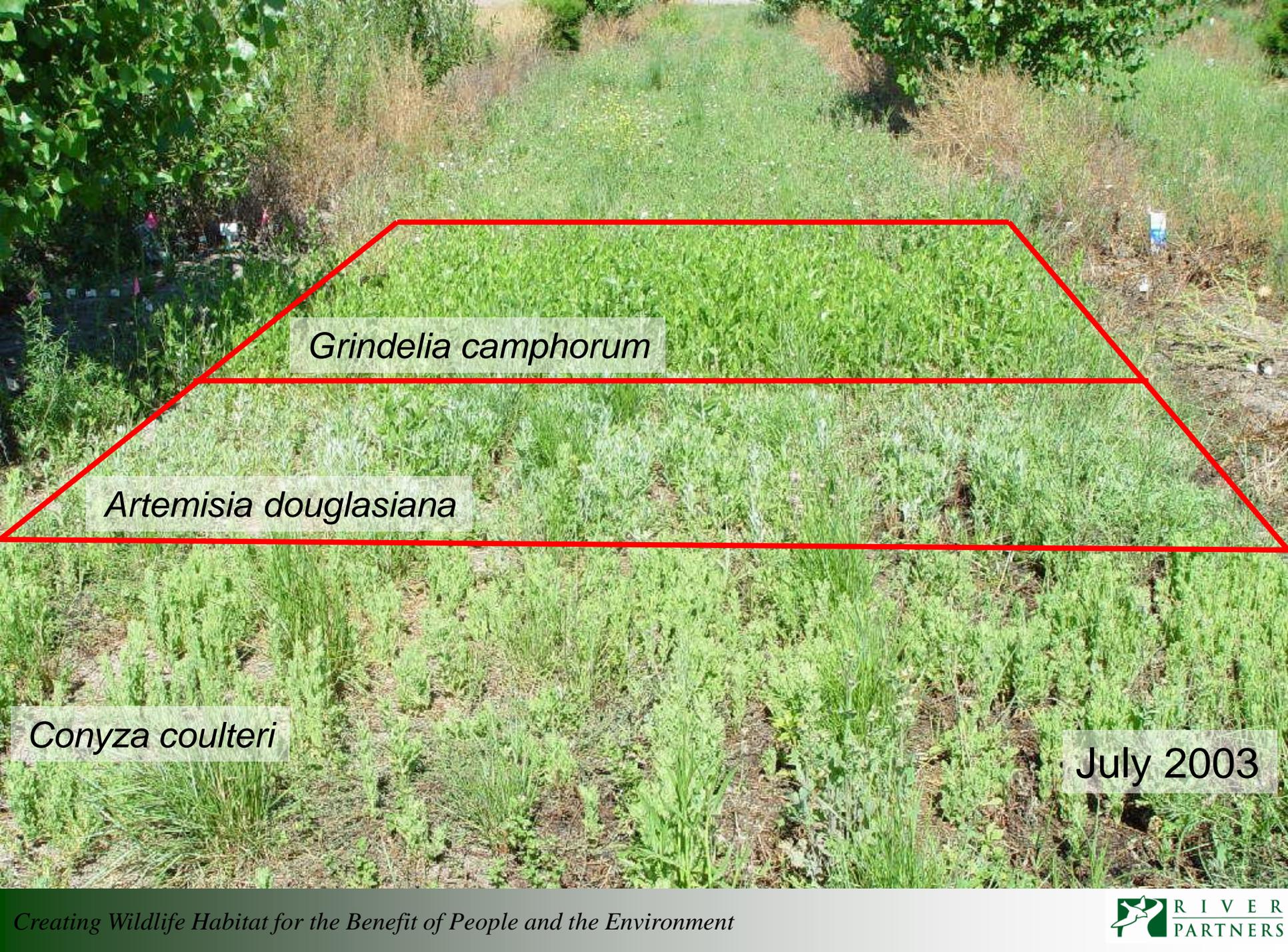


# Native Understory Component

- 1) Can we get them to germinate and grow?
- 2) Will they tolerate our maintenance activities?

January 2003





*Grindelia camphorum*

*Artemisia douglasiana*

*Conyza coulteri*

July 2003







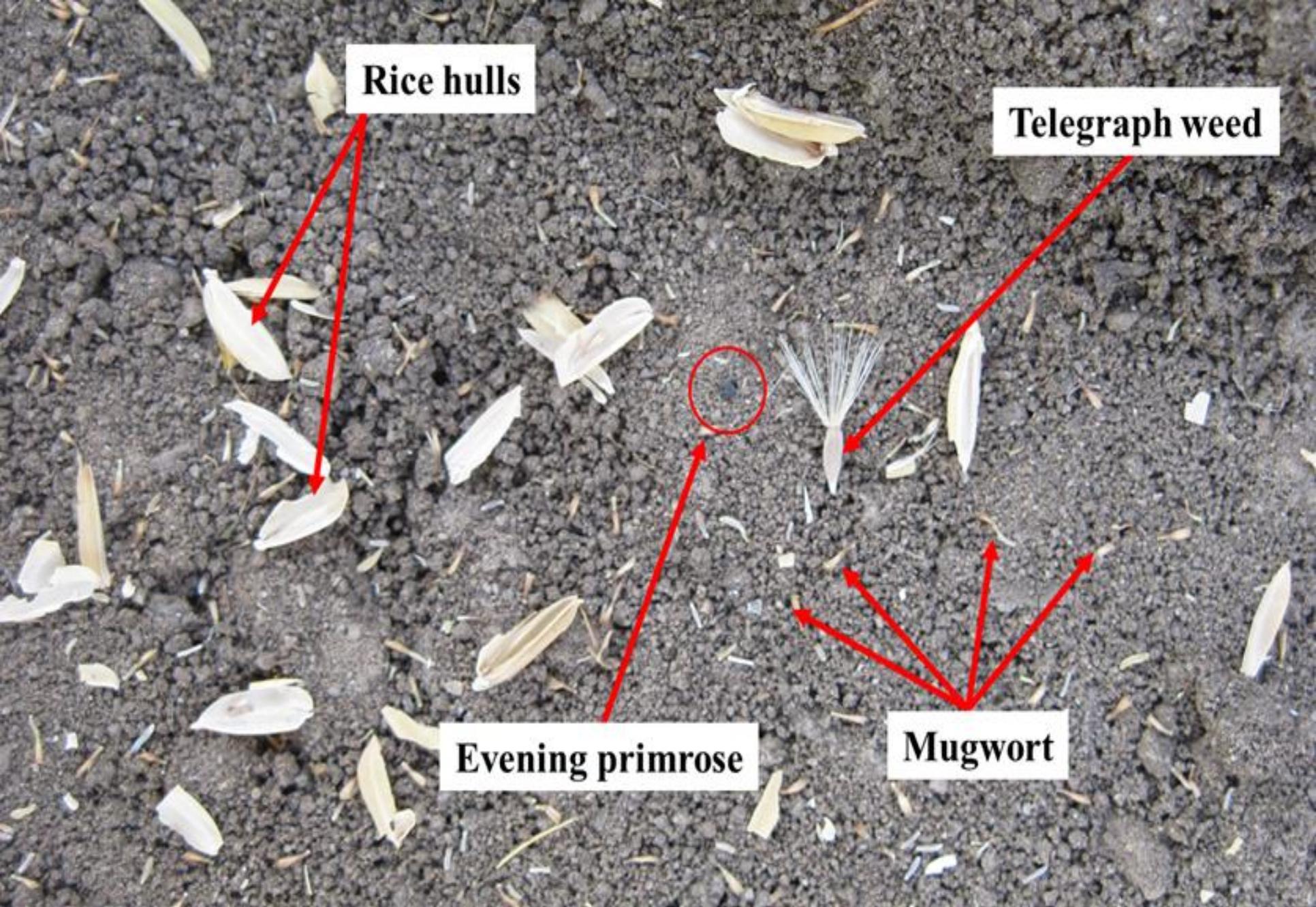






# Sterile Seedbed Approach





**Rice hulls**

**Telegraph weed**

**Evening primrose**

**Mugwort**



May 2004



September 2004

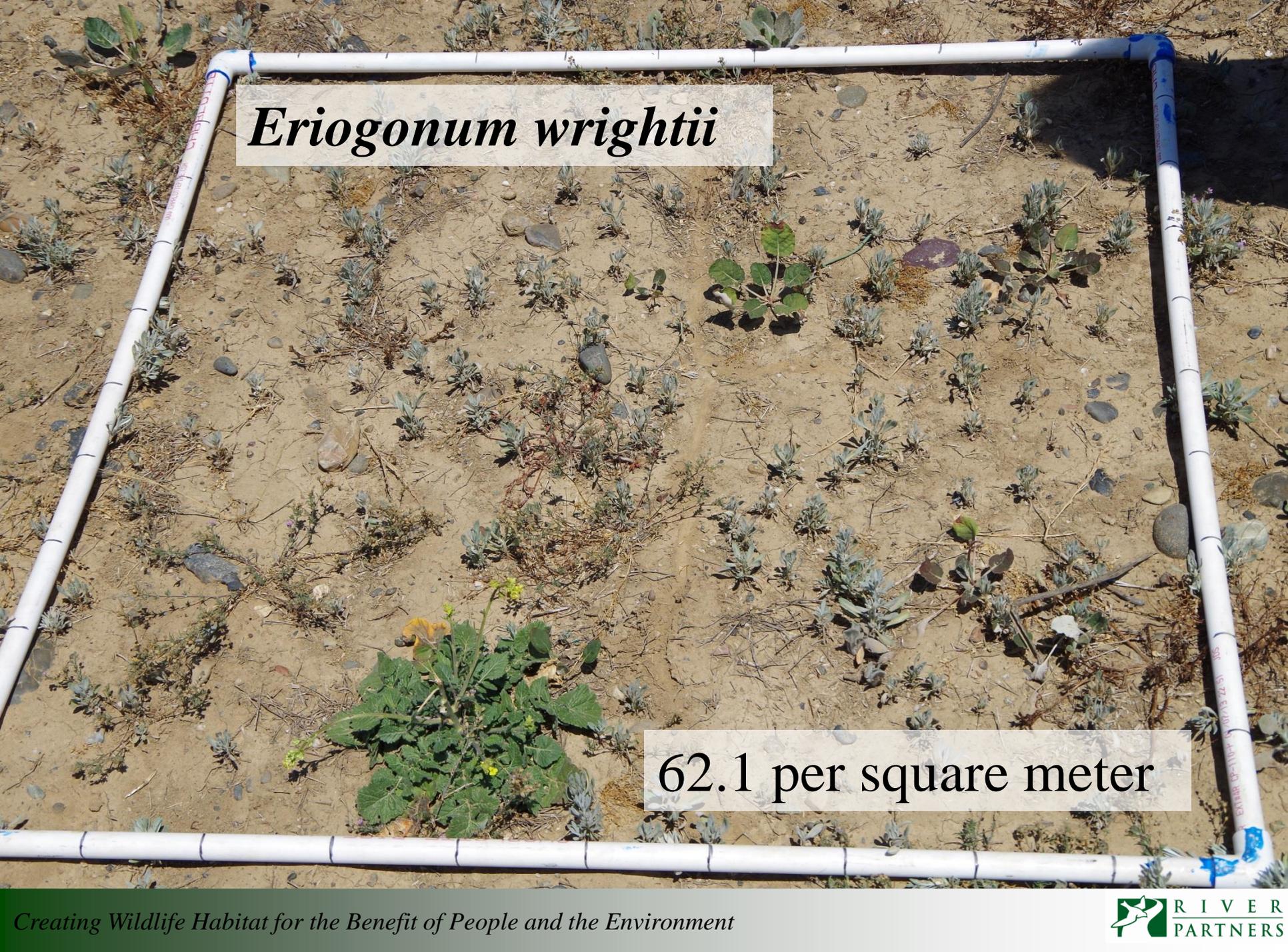


September 2005

# Parting the *Mugwort Sea...*

August 2005





*Eriogonum wrightii*

62.1 per square meter



*Hemizonia fitchii*

1.3 per square meter





*Urtica dioica*



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**Gum-Plant**



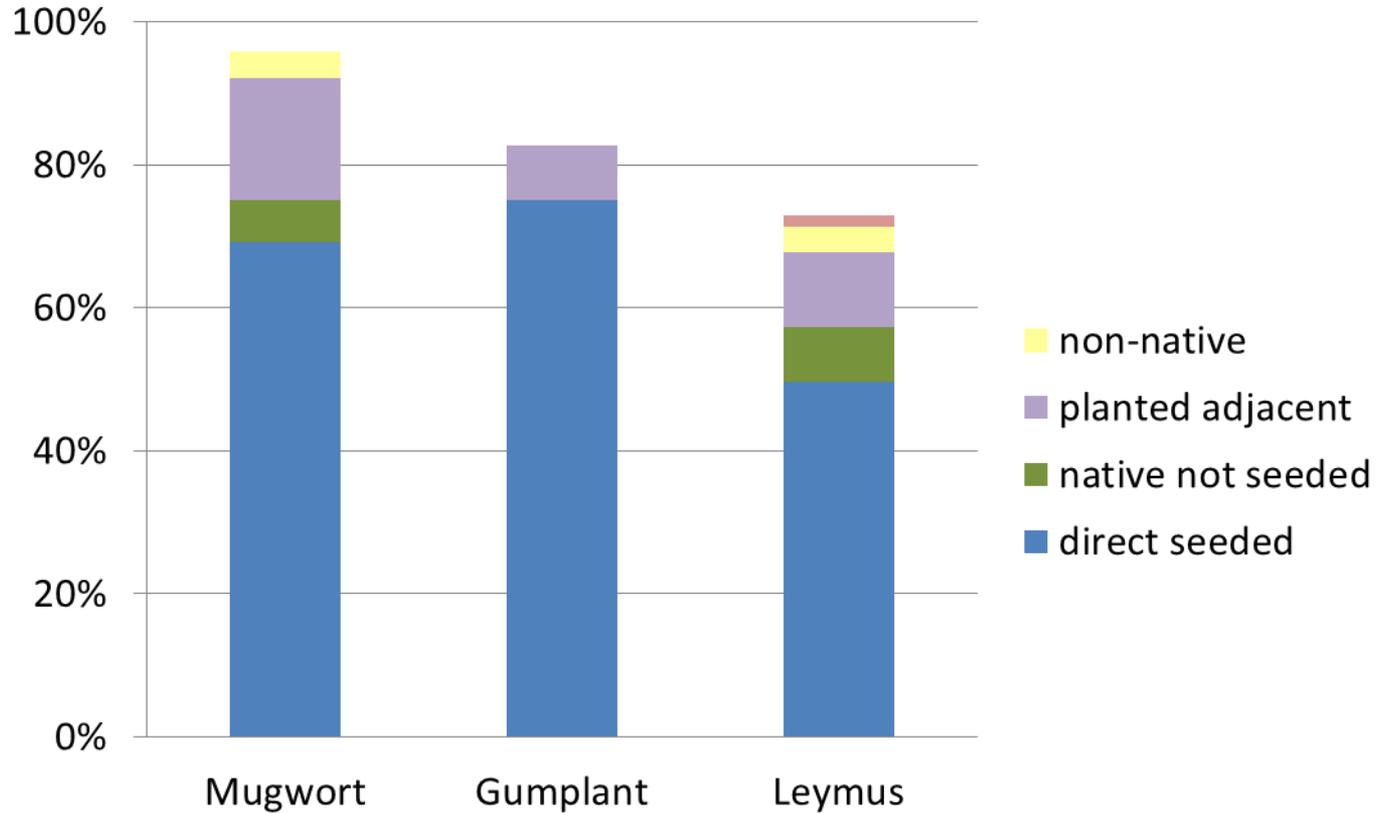
**Mugwort**

**Creeping Rye Grass**





## Absolute Cover 2010



# CONCLUSIONS

1. Rapid-growing native herbaceous species can be managed to replace invasive exotics.
2. Future monitoring will continue to describe the long-term effectiveness of these plantings.



**Thank You!**