



Unite to Fight Invasive Species!

Digital Invasive Species Scavenger Hunt



Before you head out:

- Print the scavenger hunt checklist
- Go to [EDDMapS](#) or download the app on your smartphone and sign up for an account which will enable you to record your findings
- Grab a phone or camera to take photos
- Bring a phone or GPS to mark the location of your findings

Report your findings using EDDMapS Smartphone App or Web Reporting:

- Remember – finding what you’re looking for is the goal, but not finding the plant or animal you’re after is also very important information, so don’t forget to report that as well (this is called a “Negative Report”)
- In the field by using your phone
- At home using your computer or phone

Learn about the plants and animals you’ll be searching for:

- At [The California Department of Fish and Wildlife Invasive Species Program webpage](#), learn what an invasive species is and discover many of the species that are found in our state
- [The California Invasive Plant Council website](#) provides information about invasive plants that are found in California
- [California Herps](#) is where you can learn all about California’s native and invasive snakes, lizards, turtles, frogs, and salamanders
- [The All About Birds website](#) has information about all of the birds around the world

Scavenger Hunt Checklist

The first seven items to find can be found throughout the state. The last three are up to you to follow the clues and find that item (there should be at least a few choices) in your local area.

Item to Find	Name	Clue
	<p>Mute swan</p> <p>Photo Credit: Cathie Vouchilas</p>	<p>There are three white swans that may be found in California. Use this ID sheet to make sure you capture the right one.</p>
	<p>Yellow starthistle</p> <p>Photo Credit: © 2003 George W. Hartwell</p>	<p>This yellow flowered plant with numerous spines often develops impenetrable stands. Grows in most areas that have undergone some sort of disturbance.</p>
	<p>Red eared slider</p> <p>Photo Credit: Anna Ewing CDFW</p>	<p>Medium sized freshwater turtles with thick red stripe behind the eyes. Most of these found in the wild are pet releases/escapees.</p>
	<p>Giant reed</p> <p>Photo Credit: © 2007 Dr. Amadej Trnkoczy</p>	<p>A tall grass that forms dense stands in disturbed areas, dunes, riparian areas and wetlands.</p>
	<p>Brown headed cowbird</p> <p>Photo Credit: CDFW</p>	<p>Part of the blackbird family. 6 to 8 in. in length. Found throughout California. Removes eggs from other bird's nest and replaces with their own eggs, have host bird raise the chicks as their own.</p>
	<p>Black mustard</p> <p>Photo Credit: ©2011 Zoya Akulova</p>	<p>Upright plant about three feet tall with yellow flowers whose petals form a cross.</p>

Item to Find	Name	Clue
	<p>American bullfrog</p> <p>Photo Credit: <i>Kerwin Russell, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District</i></p>	<p>Large frog (can weigh over 2 lbs and reach lengths over 8 inches). Large eardrum (tympanum). Smooth skin – green to brown color on their backs, white/grey/yellow bellies.</p>
<p>?</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>A type of grass that spreads by runners. Common Lawn pest.</p>
<p>?</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Purple flowered plant found throughout California that likes disturbed areas. Many spikes below the purple tufted flowers.</p>
<p>?</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Find an invasive tree in your area.</p>

WE HOPE YOU HAD FUN!!!

Remember – stay united as citizen scientists, continue to look for invasive species in our state and report them in one of these ways: the [EDDMapS App](#), at [Report an Invasive Species Sighting](#), to the [Invasive Species Program email](#) or call the hotline at (866) 440-9530.