

Southern California's Worst Ocean Invader: Asian Seaweed, *Sargassum horneri*

Referred to by some as the 'Devil' Weed



Fern-like
branches

Elongated
reproductive
receptacles and
air bladders

Help Reduce its Spread

The islands and reefs off Southern California are facing the worst recorded saltwater invasion! These areas are being changed as the invader spreads. Help keep the invader from reaching new areas and impacting the plants, animals, people and businesses that enjoy and rely on these treasured areas.

Boaters: Avoid navigating through areas where this seaweed is present. If you need to do so, consider these areas *no wake zones* to minimize the spread of the seaweed.

If you anchor in an area with the seaweed, **remove the seaweed** from your anchor before transiting to a new location.

Divers: Plan your dives – always dive at *uninfested sites first*.

Brush off yourself and gear after a dive to ensure there are no 'hitch-hiking' seaweed fragments. Pay particular attention to fin straps, regulator hoses and BC clips, straps and pockets.

