

A scenic landscape featuring large, mature trees with dense foliage in the foreground and midground. The trees have thick, gnarled trunks and branches. The leaves are a mix of green and yellow, suggesting an autumn setting. In the background, a bright green field stretches across the middle ground, bordered by a fence. Beyond the field, there are rolling hills under a clear blue sky. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects

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Why only Acquisitions?

- Initiated now: DFW currently updating LAE/CAPP application
- Simpler: restoration goals require problem/solution evaluation
- Critical need: decisions on acquisitions, which are protected in perpetuity, must come first

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



Support Broad Ecological and Human Concepts

Long-term viability for the most # of species

- Larger acreages
- Climate change resilience

Working lands

Compatible public access

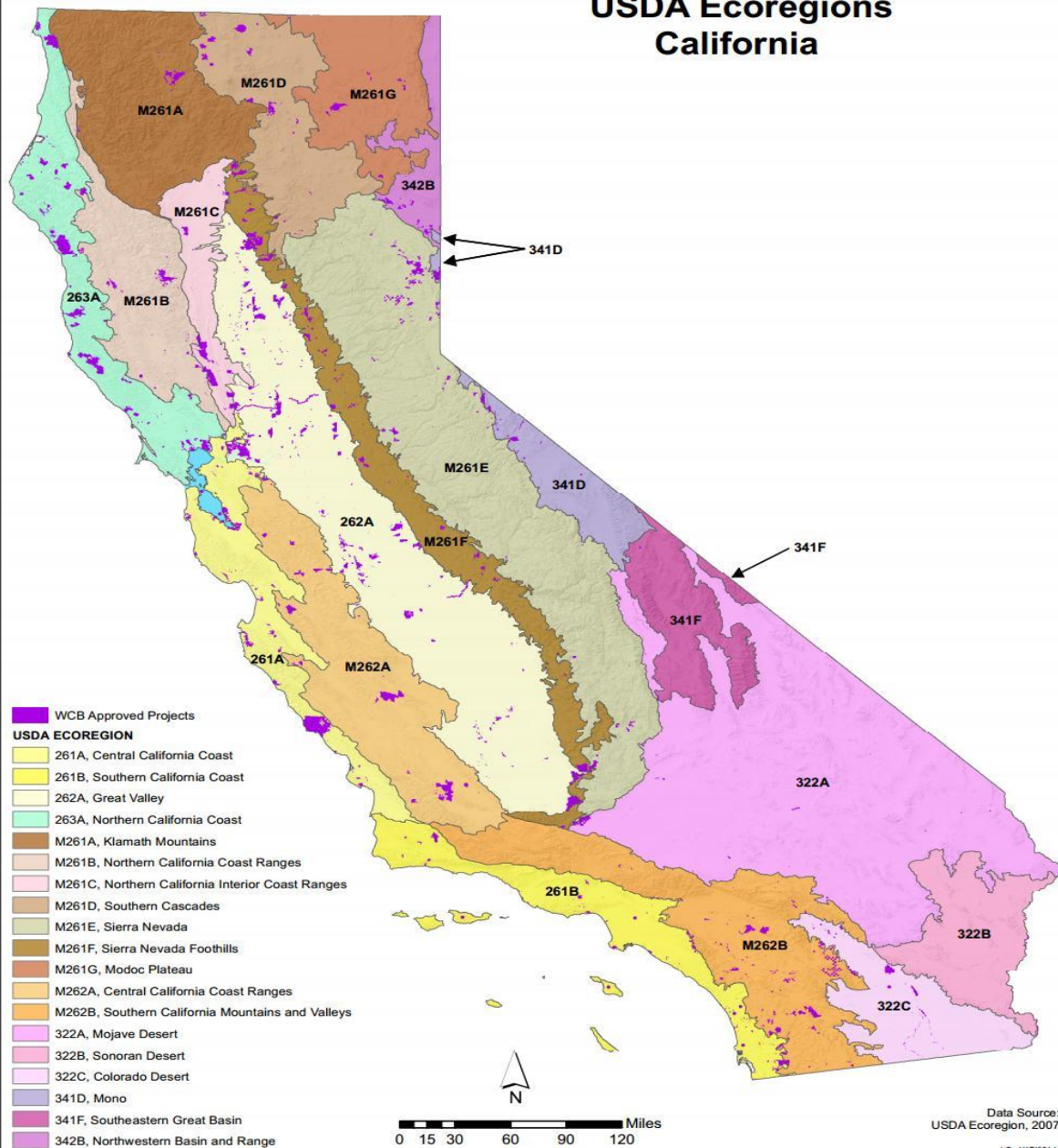
Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



Projects must support one or more of the following:

- Biodiversity
- Resilience to climate change
- Priorities in SWAP
- Working landscapes
- Water dependent habitats
- Compatible public access

Wildlife Conservation Board Projects USDA Ecoregions California



USDA Ecoregions in California

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



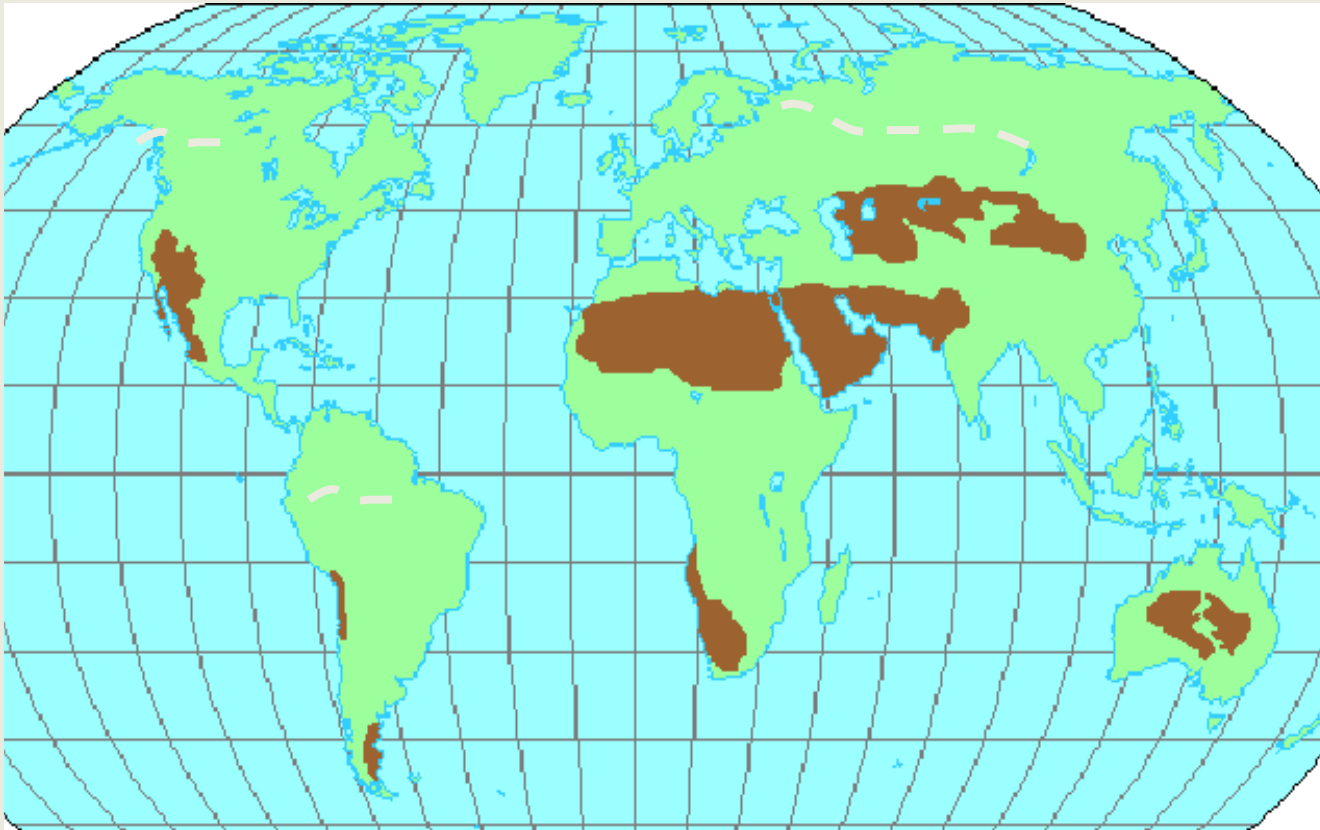
CLASSIFICATION EXAMPLE: SW DESERT VEGETATION

Hierarchy – Natural Vegetation	Example
Upper	
Level 1 – Formation Class	Xeromorphic Scrub and Herb Vegetation
Level 2 – Formation Subclass	Warm Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland
Level 3 - Formation	Warm Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland
Middle	
Level 4 – Division	North American Warm Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland
Level 5 – Macrogroup	Mojavean–Sonoran Desert Scrub
Level 6 – Group	Lower Bajada and Fan Mojavean–Sonoran desert scrub
Lower	
Level 7 – Alliance	Creosote-Burrobush (<i>Larrea tridentata</i> – <i>Ambrosia dumosa</i>)
Level 8 – Association	Creosote-Burrobush-Desert Senna (<i>Larrea tridentata</i> – <i>Ambrosia dumosa</i> – <i>Senna armata</i>)

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COOL AND WARM SEMI-DESERT VEGETATION (EXAMPLE OF
UPPER LEVELS OF CLASSIFICATION)



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NVC HIERARCHY MID-LEVEL (DIVISION, MACROGROUP)

L3. Cool Semi-Desert

L4. North American Cool
Semi-Desert



L4. North American Warm
Semi-Desert

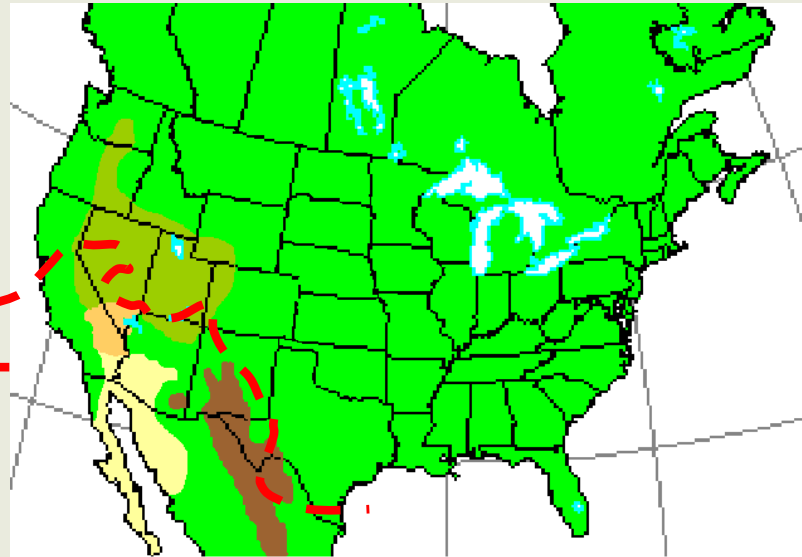
L5. Mojave-Sonoran Semi-Desert MGs



L5. Chihuahuan Semi-Desert MGs



Etc.





Sources: Calfire (2015), CDFW, USGS

Macrogroups

Barren/Lightly Vegetated

- California Foothill and Coastal Rock Outcrop Vegetation
- Northwest Coast Cliff and Outcrop
- Sparsely Vegetated Desert Dune

Wetland/Riparian

- American Southwest Riparian Forest and Woodland
- Brackish (estuarine) submerged aquatic vegetation
- Freshwater Marsh
- Mountain Riparian Scrub and Wet Meadow
- North Coastal and Montane Riparian Forest and Woodland
- Salt Marsh
- Wet Mountain Meadow

Grassland/Scrub

- Alpine Vegetation
- Big Sagebrush Scrub
- California Grassland and Flowerfields
- Chaparral
- Coastal Dune and Bluff Scrub
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Desert Wash Woodland and Scrub
- Great Basin Dwarf Sagebrush Scrub
- Great Basin Upland Scrub
- Mojave and Sonoran Desert Scrub
- Montane Chaparral
- North Coast Deciduous Scrub and Terrace Prairie
- Shadscale-Saltbush Scrub
- Western Upland Grasslands

Forest/Woodland

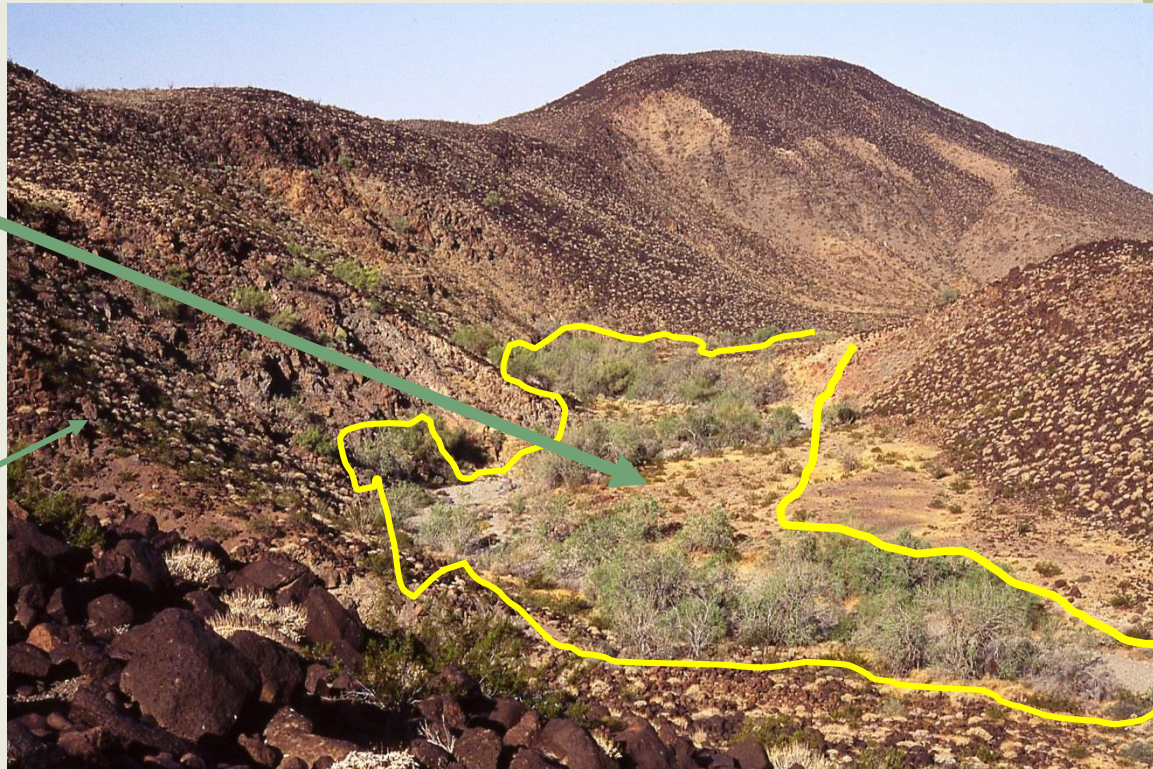
- California Foothill and Valley Forests and Woodlands
- Great Basin Pinyon-Juniper Woodland
- North Coastal Mixed Evergreen and Montane Conifer Forests
- Pacific Northwest Conifer Forests
- Pacific Northwest Subalpine Forest
- Subalpine Aspen Forests and Pine Woodlands

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



TWO MACROGROUPS OF MOJAVE AND SONORAN DESERTS; EQUIVALENT TO WILDLIFE HABITAT

- Warm Semi-Desert Wash Woodland/Scrub
 - WHR equivalent: Desert Wash
- Mojavean–Sonoran Desert Scrub
 - WHR equivalent: Desert Scrub



Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



Examples of Macrogroups, Biodiversity and Land Facets in Coastal Monterey County

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



Measureable Goal 1, Biodiversity

50% of all projects accomplish one or more of following:

- Protect 3 or more macrogroups
- Directly benefit Species of Greatest Conservation Need
- Contain at least one rare vegetation habitat type

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Measurable Goal 2, Climate Change Resiliency and Connectivity

50% of projects accomplish one or more of the following:

- Connect habitat totaling 25,000 acres or more
- Protect area of 10,000 acres or more
- Directly benefit species vulnerable to climate change
- Protect habitats highly vulnerable to climate change
- Protect climate change refugia
- Protect land facets that support biodiversity

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



- Measurable Goal 3, 75% of projects protect priority macrogroups identified in SWAP
- Measurable Goal 4, 25% of projects protect working landscapes
- Measurable Goal 5, 50% of projects contain water dependent habitats

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



Measurable Goal 6, Provide compatible public access

Public access broadly defined, includes anything from regular guided tours to full access

- 50% of projects provide public access
- 25% of all projects provide public access that will benefit disadvantaged communities

Measurable Goals for WCB Acquisition Projects



Overarching Criteria:

Every project must satisfy at least one of above goals

Projects that provide multiple benefits rank higher

Ecological values are identified in LAE/CAPP proposal form and can be ranked

Proposed goals easily monitored over time

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