



Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting

May 25, 2017, 10:00am

State Capitol, Room 112

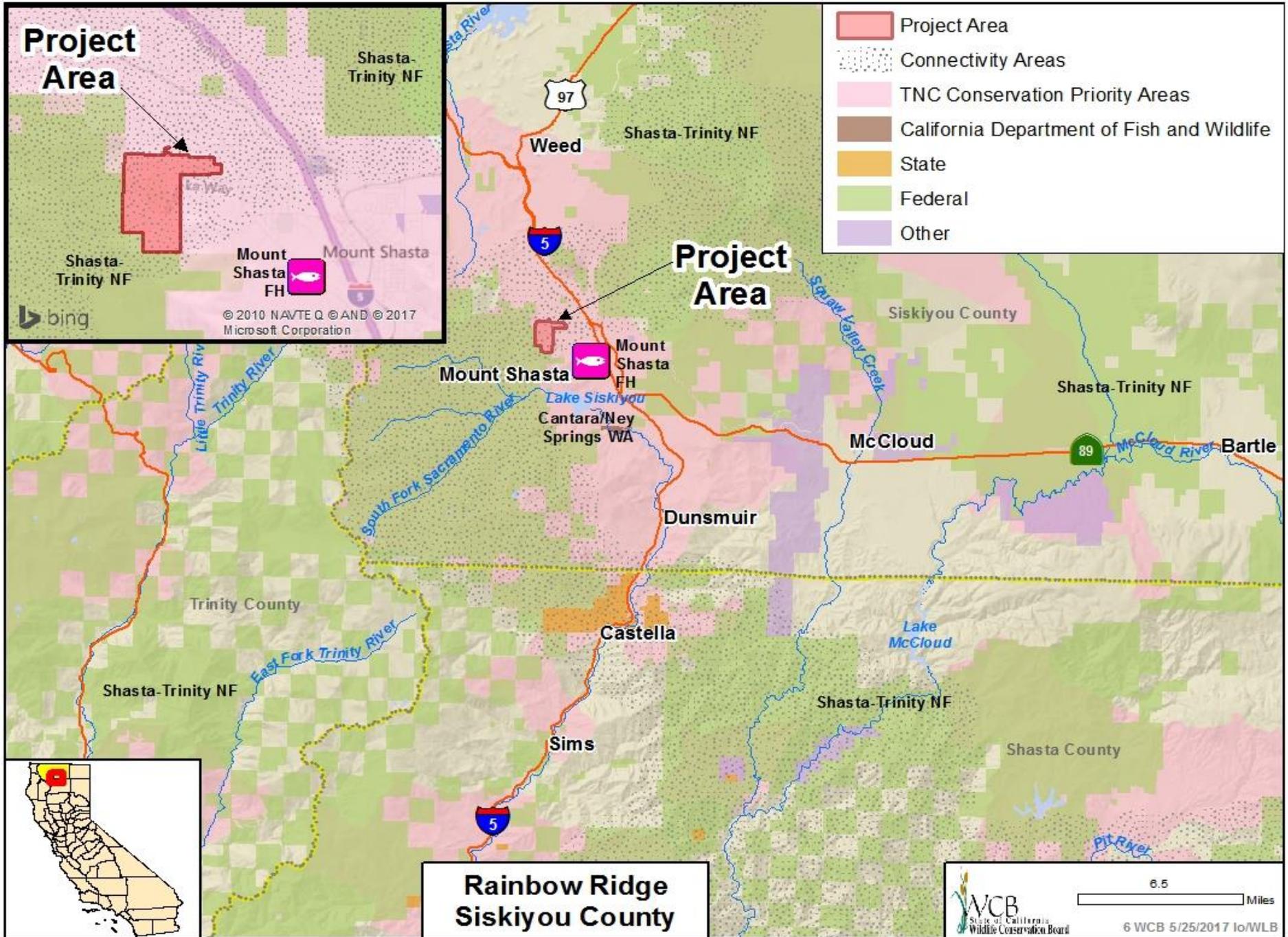
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Area

Shasta-Trinity NF
Mount Shasta FH
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bing

- Project Area
- Connectivity Areas
- TNC Conservation Priority Areas
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- State
- Federal
- Other

Project Area



Rainbow Ridge Siskiyou County

#6. Rainbow Ridge



View of Rainbow Ridge easement area from Old Stage Road

#6. Rainbow Ridge



Mixed Conifer Forest post 2010 storm damage timber harvest

#6. Rainbow Ridge



Typical mixed conifer forest east/northeast aspect. Forest condition post 1939 wildlife and several harvest operations

#6. Rainbow Ridge

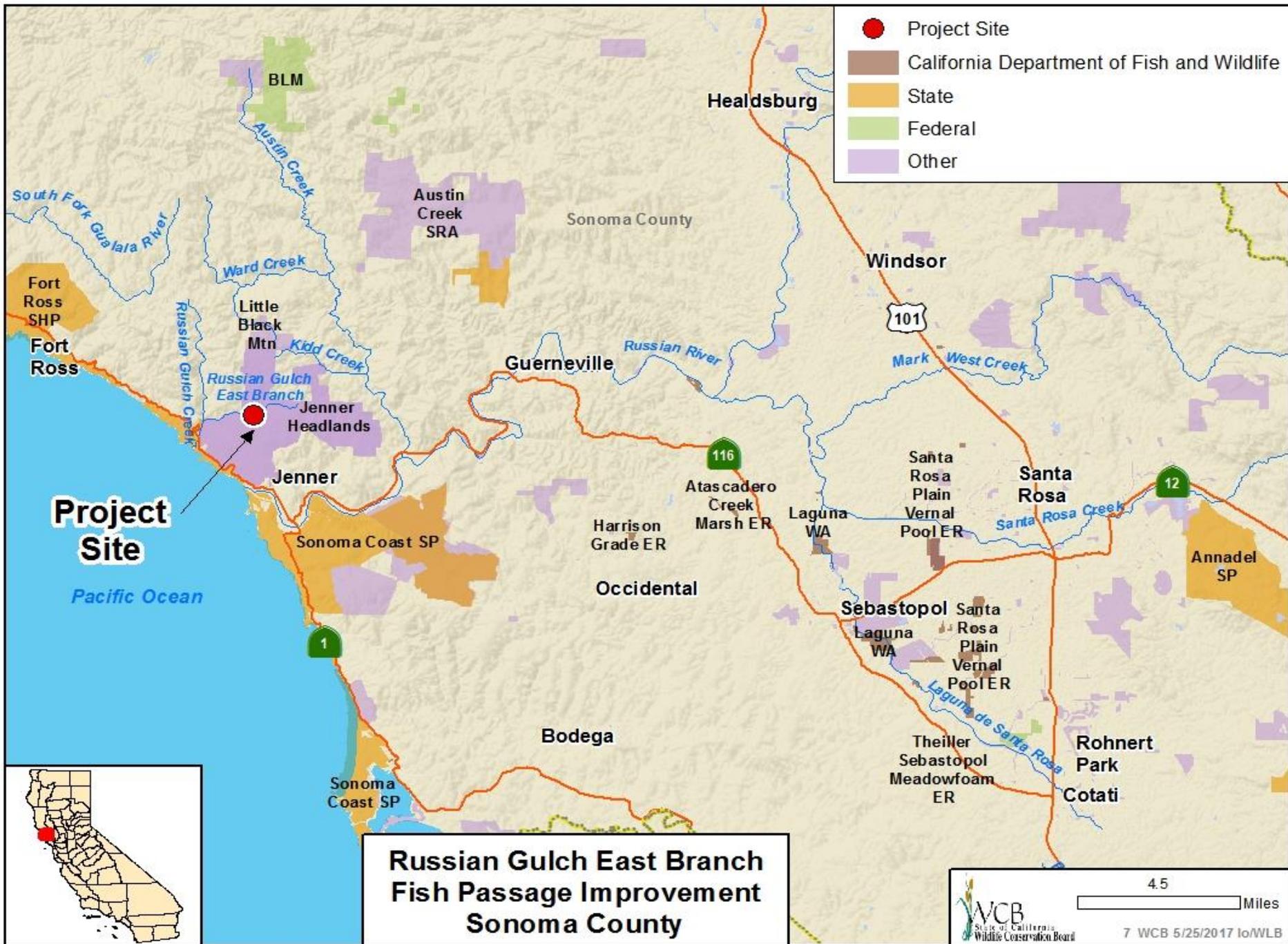


Deciduous trees and
conifer near spring
storage tank and
overflow

#6. Rainbow Ridge



View from Rainbow Ridge



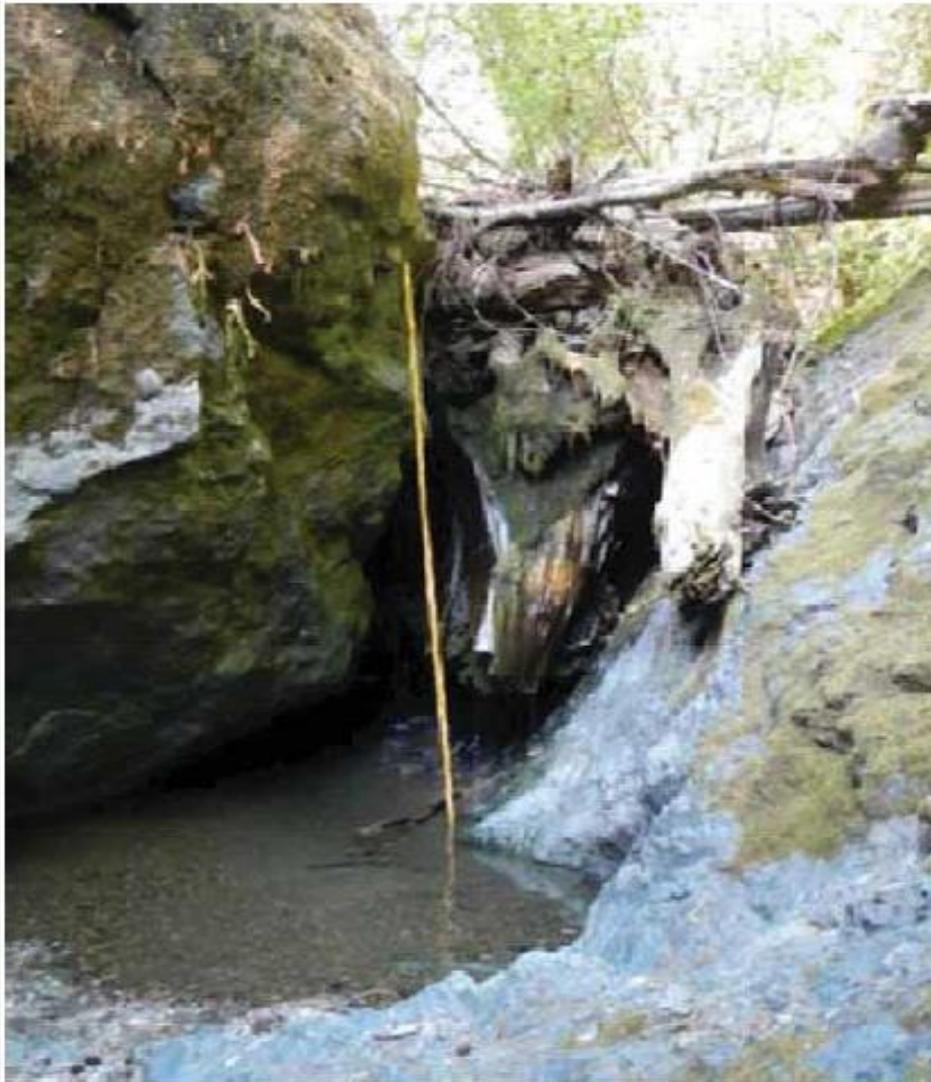
**Russian Gulch East Branch
Fish Passage Improvement
Sonoma County**

#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement



Debris Jam 1a, right side of river, four meter rod for scale.

#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement



Debris Jam 1a, left river side, four meter rod for scale

#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement



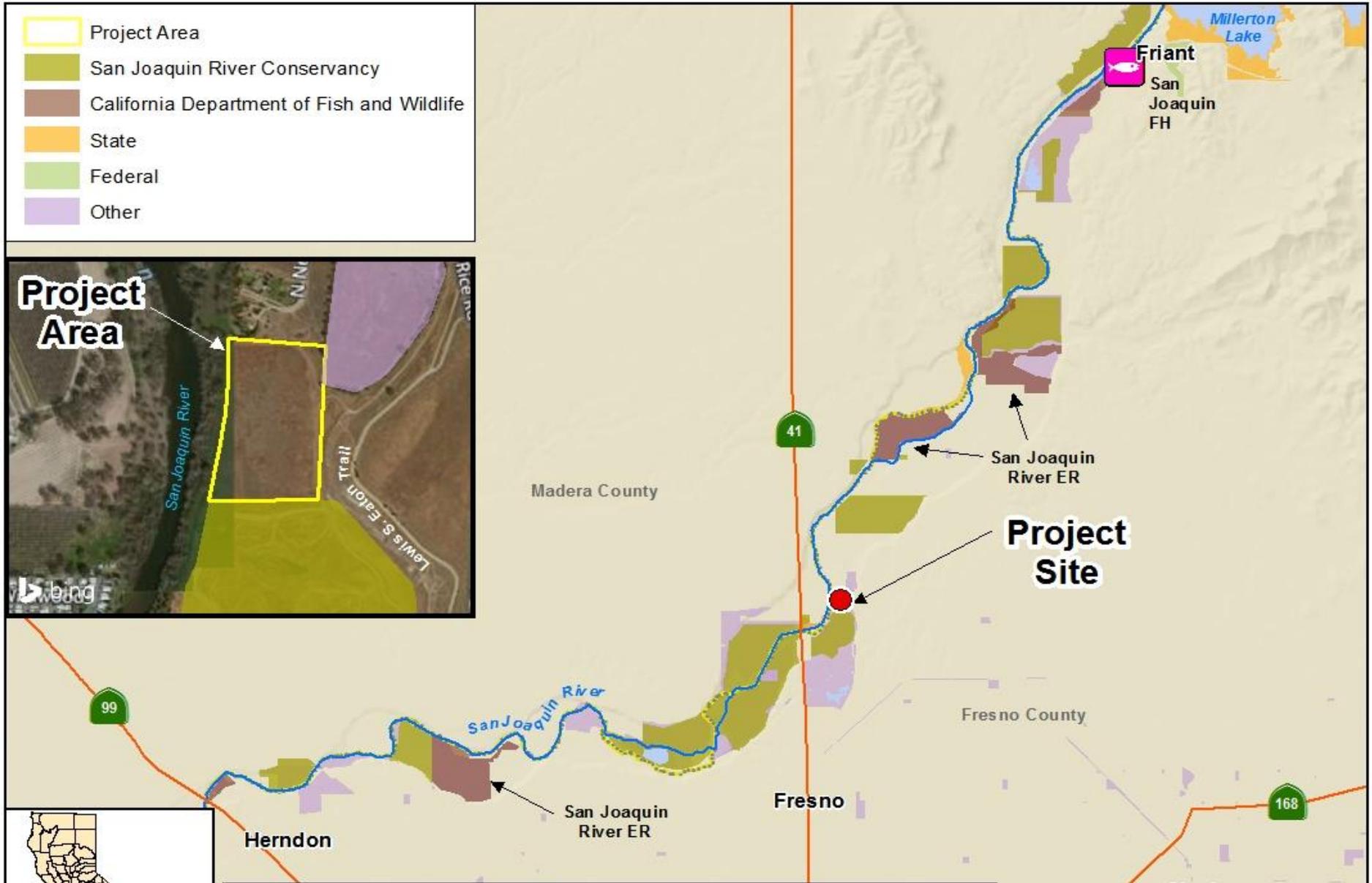
Debris Jam 1b, river left side, looking upstream, four meter rod for scale.

#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement



Debri Jam 3, looking upstream, four meter rod for scale

-  Project Area
-  San Joaquin River Conservancy
-  California Department of Fish and Wildlife
-  State
-  Federal
-  Other



**San Joaquin River Parkway, Jensen River Ranch
Jenco Farms Property Habitat Enhancement Project
Fresno County**



2 Miles

8 WCB 5/25/2017 lo/WLB

#8. San Joaquin River Parkway, Jensen River Ranch Jenco Farms Property Habitat Enhancement



- Existing conditions at Jenco Farms:

- Looking north, a view of the former 20-acre pasture to receive habitat enhancement.



- Edge of the riparian area between the San Joaquin River and the former pasture.

#8. San Joaquin River Parkway, Jensen River Ranch Jenco Farms Property Habitat Enhancement

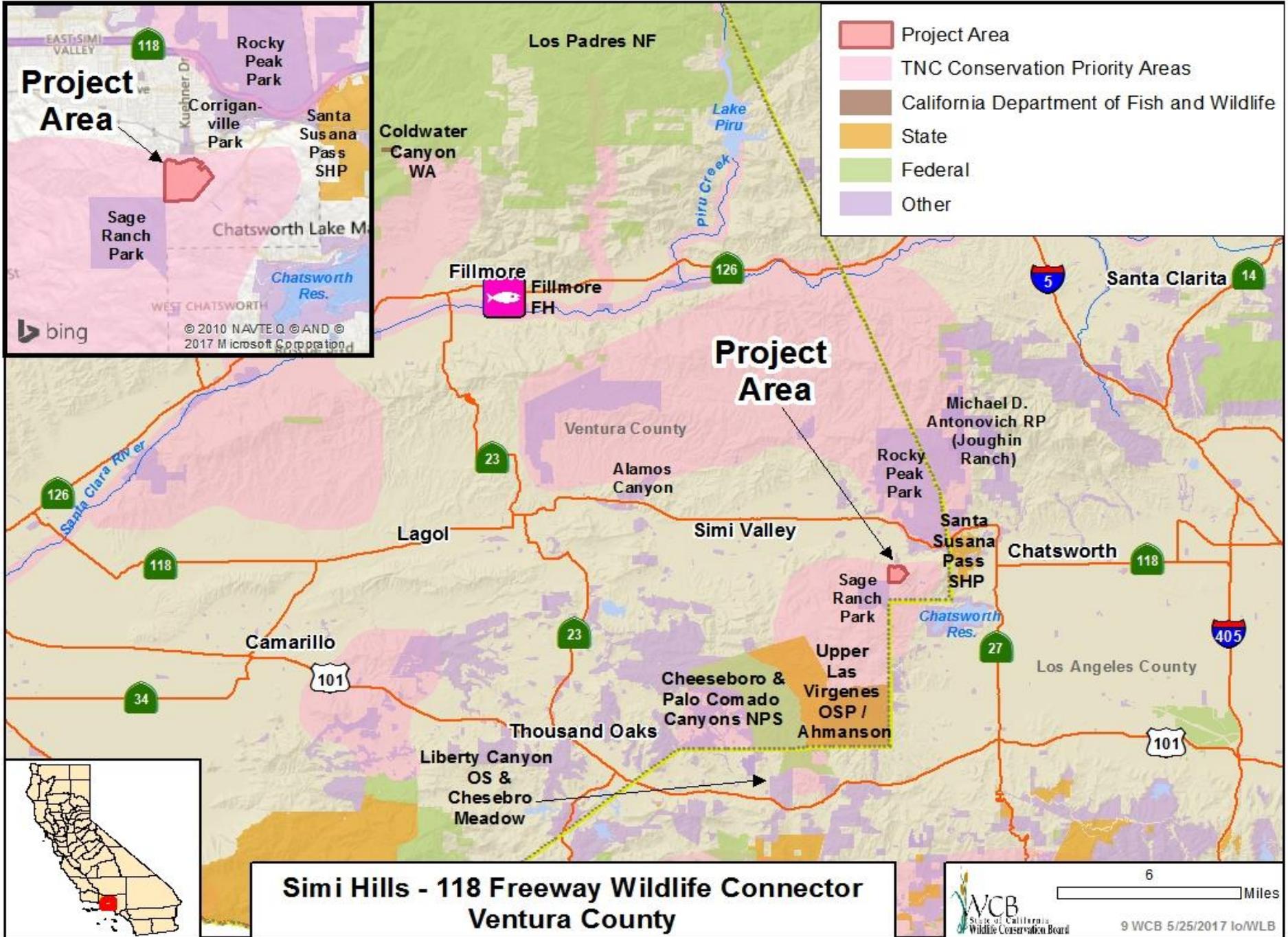


An example of the no-till method for planting trees and shrubs on an adjacent habitat enhancement site at Jensen River Ranch.

#8. San Joaquin River Parkway, Jensen River Ranch Jenco Farms Property Habitat Enhancement



A previous project at Jensen River Ranch exemplifies the tree and shrub growth after approximately 4-5 years.



- Project Area
- TNC Conservation Priority Areas
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- State
- Federal
- Other

Project Area

Project Area

bing
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**Simi Hills - 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector
Ventura County**

#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector



Looking south at the northern part of the property

#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector



Looking south at the access easement from North American Cut Off Road

#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector



Looking east from the property

#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector



Looking west from the property

#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector



Looking north from the property



**North Shore Ranch
Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Area
Riverside County**

9 Miles

WCB
State of California
Wildlife Conservation Board

10 WCB 5/25/2017 Io/WLB

#10. North Shore Ranch – Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Area



Northeast boundary

#10. North Shore Ranch – Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Area



Southeast boundary

#10. North Shore Ranch – Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Area



Canal at the western boundary



- Project Area
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- State
- Federal
- Other

Project Area

**Eel River Wildlife Area
Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design
Humboldt County**

State of California
Wildlife Conservation Board

4.5 Miles

12 WCB 5/25/2017 Io/WLB



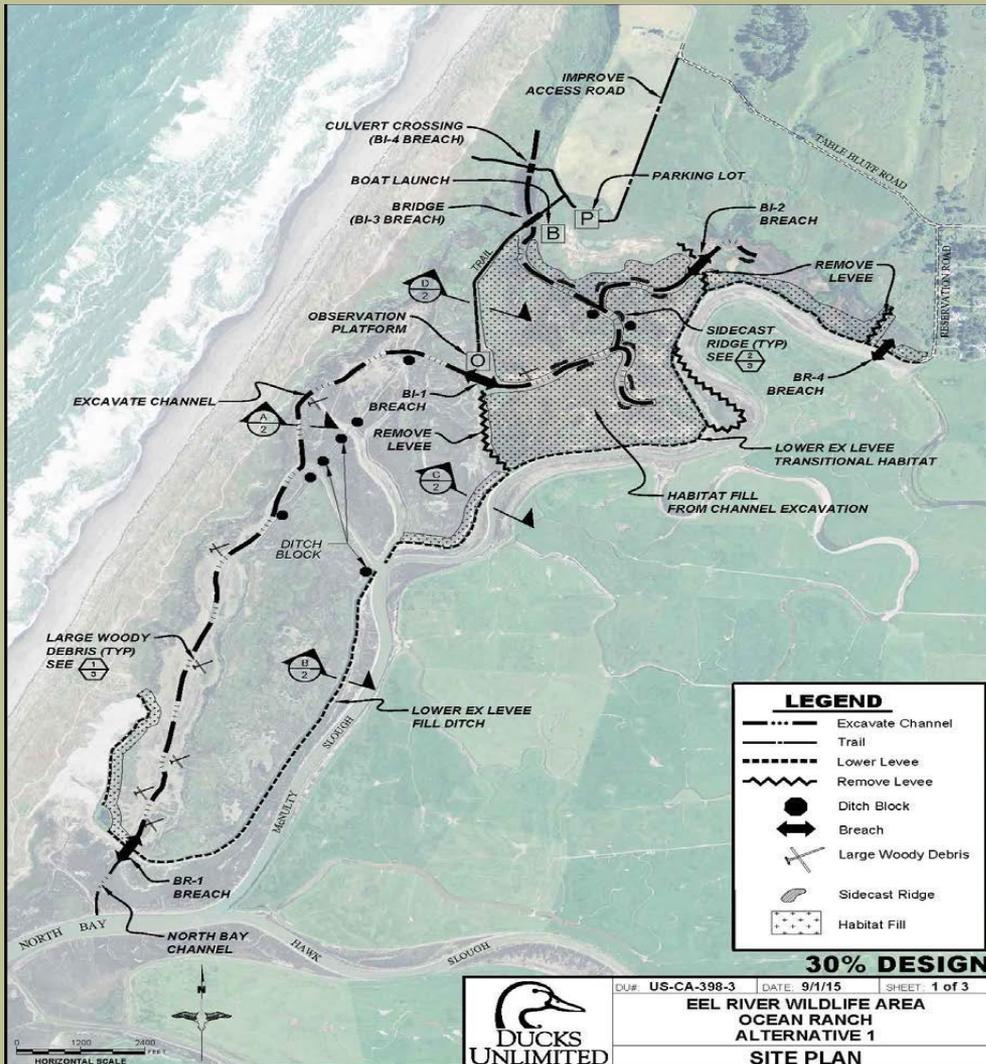
#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design



#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design



#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design

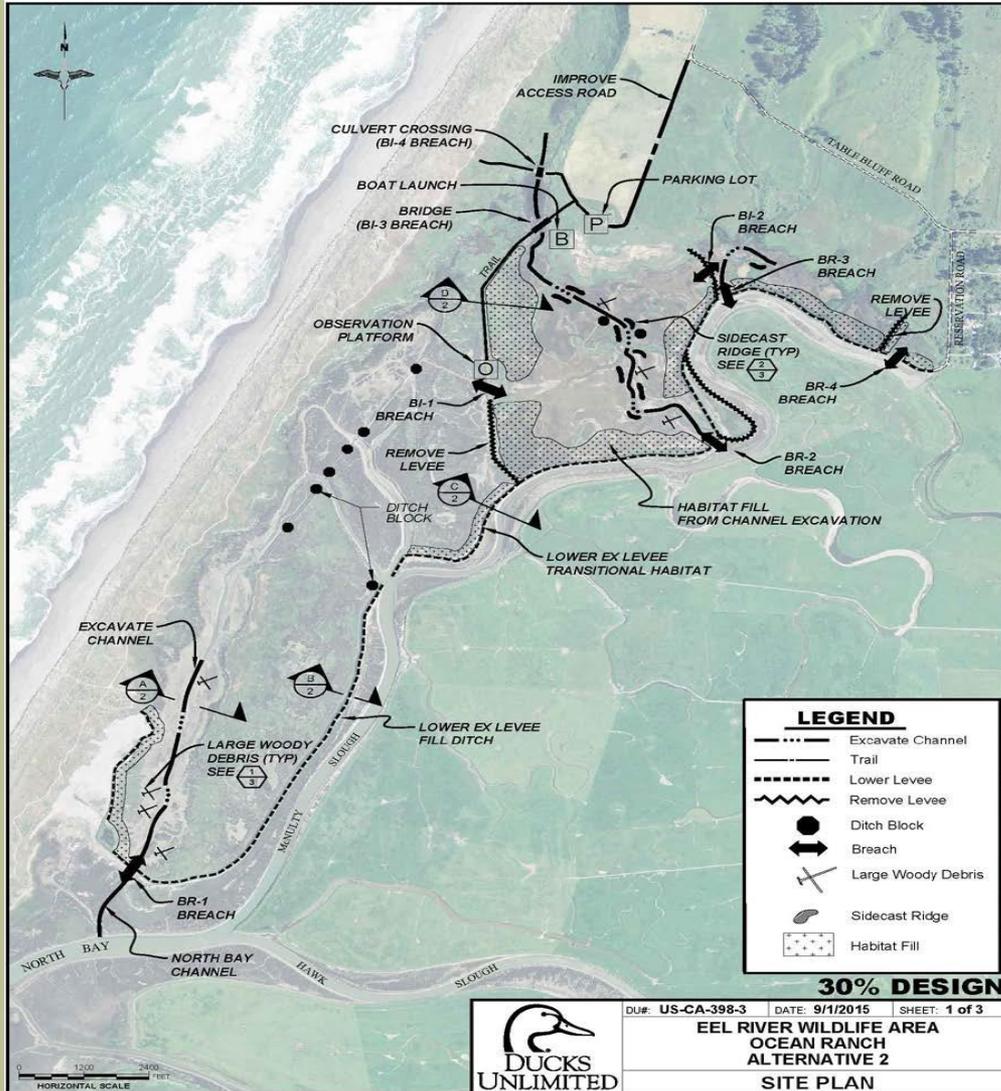


Alternative 1, full tidal restoration



30% DESIGN
 DWF: US-CA-398-3 DATE: 9/1/15 SHEET: 1 of 3
**EEL RIVER WILDLIFE AREA
 OCEAN RANCH
 ALTERNATIVE 1
 SITE PLAN**

#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design



Alternative 2, full tidal restoration with breaches to McNulty Slough

#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design



The current public access road to the Ocean Ranch Unit of the Eel River Wildlife Area. The design of improvements to this access road and other public access features would be a part of this upcoming project phase.

#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design

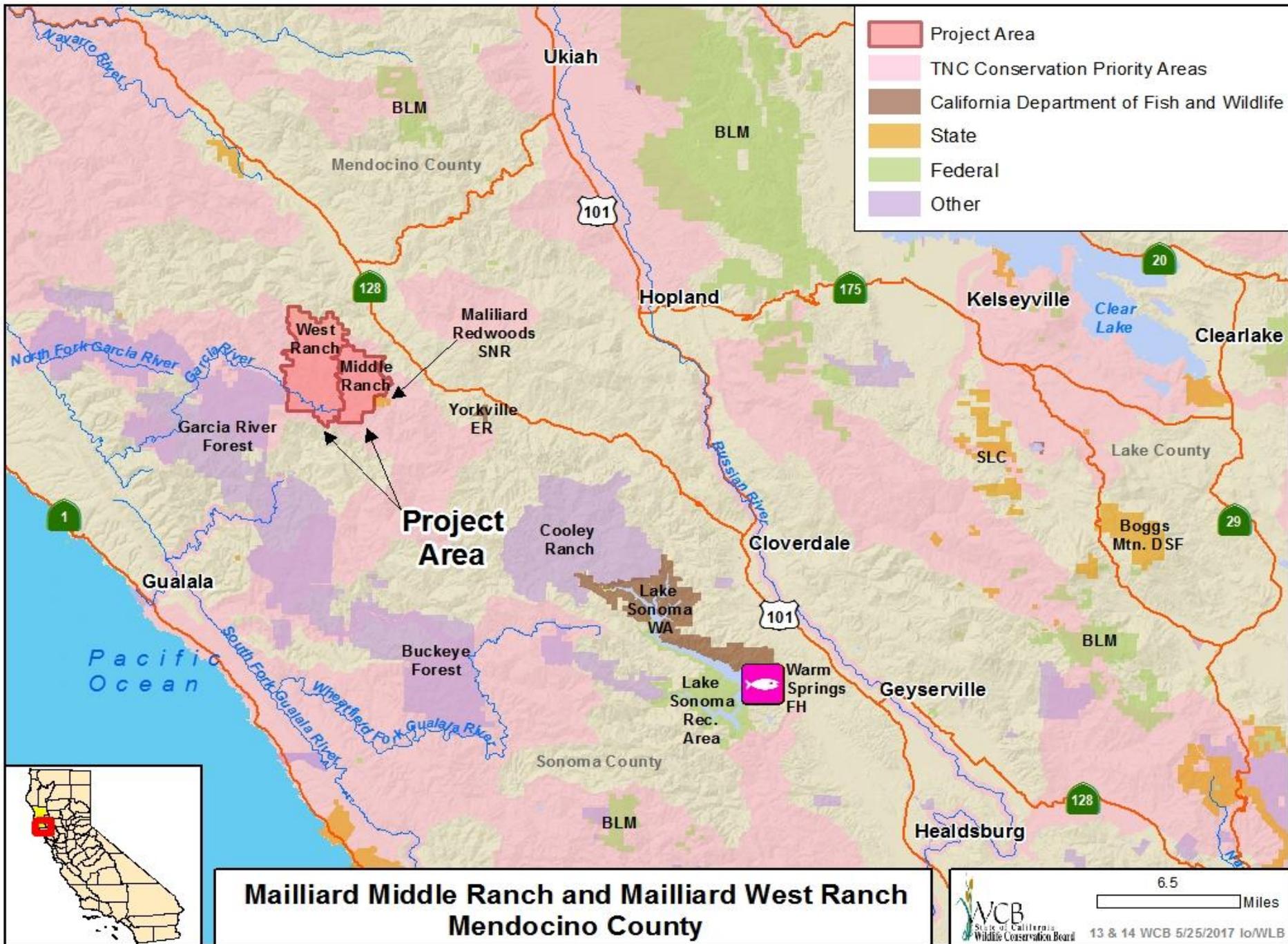


The northeast corner of the tidal restoration area – Area A. This area currently has muted tidal influence and full tidal restoration will be designed in this phase of the project.

#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design

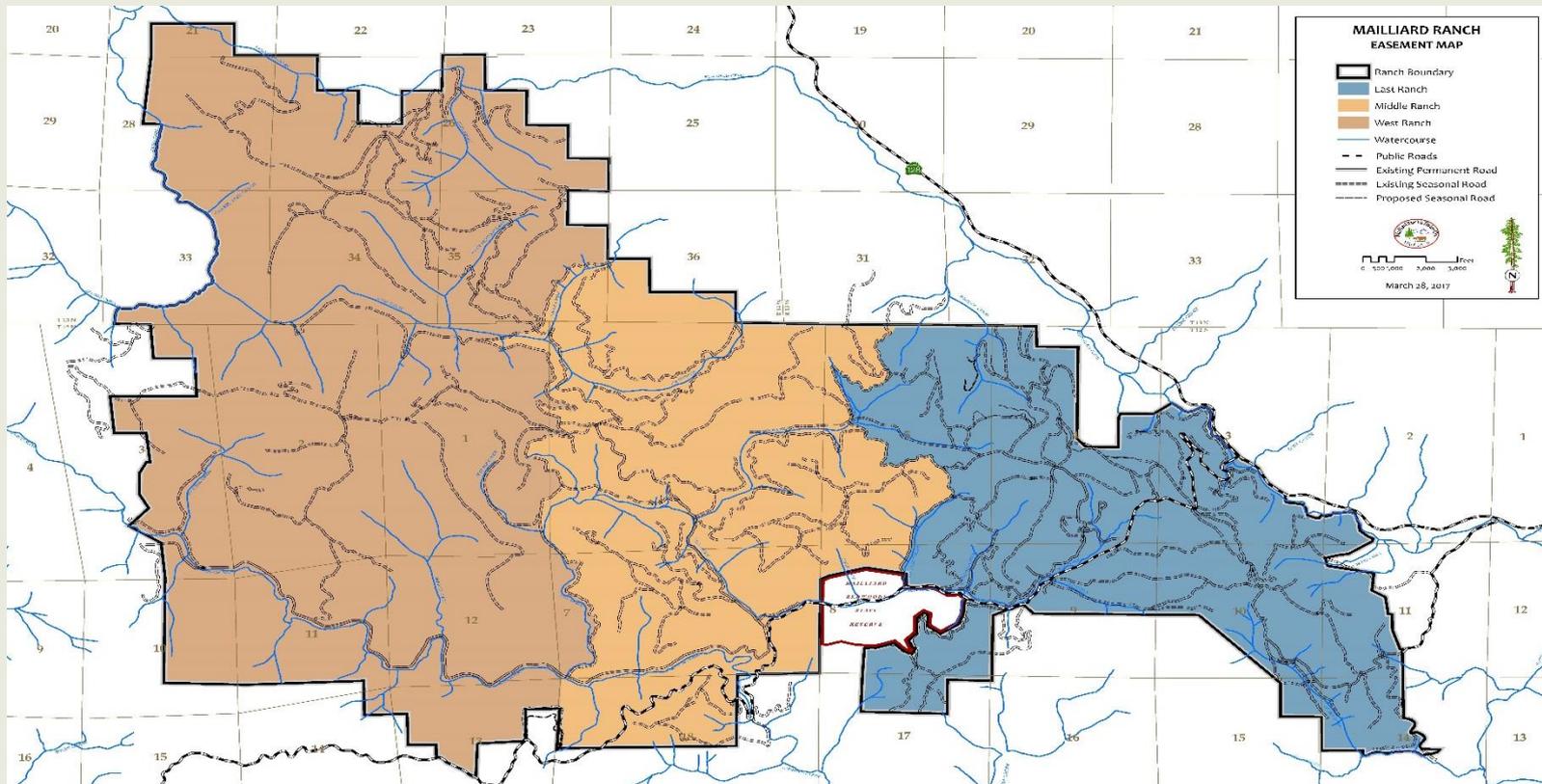


The tidal restoration of Area B will be fully designed and planned through this project phase



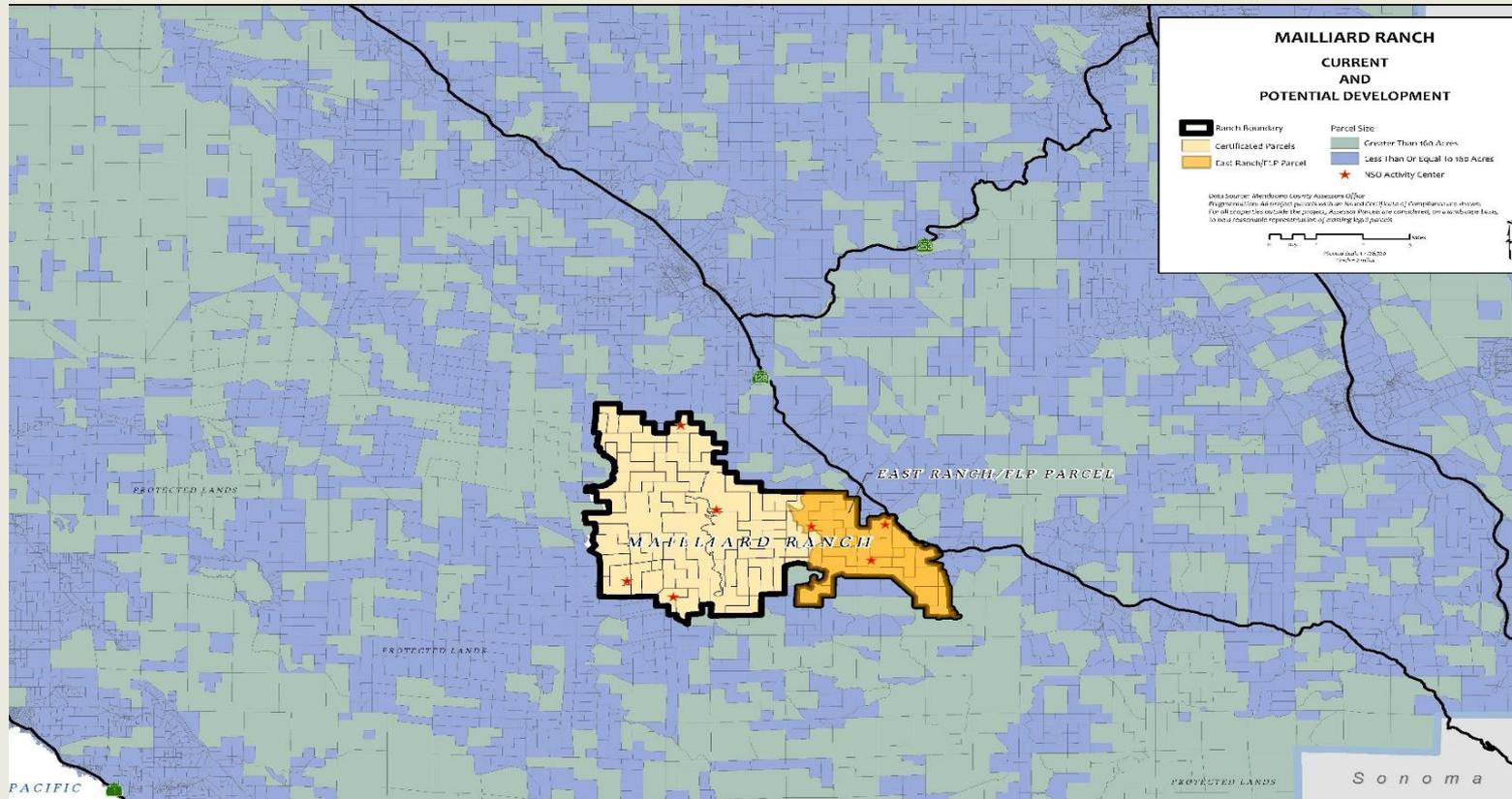
**Mailliard Middle Ranch and Mailliard West Ranch
Mendocino County**

#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches



Picture showing the West, Middle, and Eastern Mailliard Ranches – WCB is proposing Conservation Easements on the West and Middle Ranches

#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches



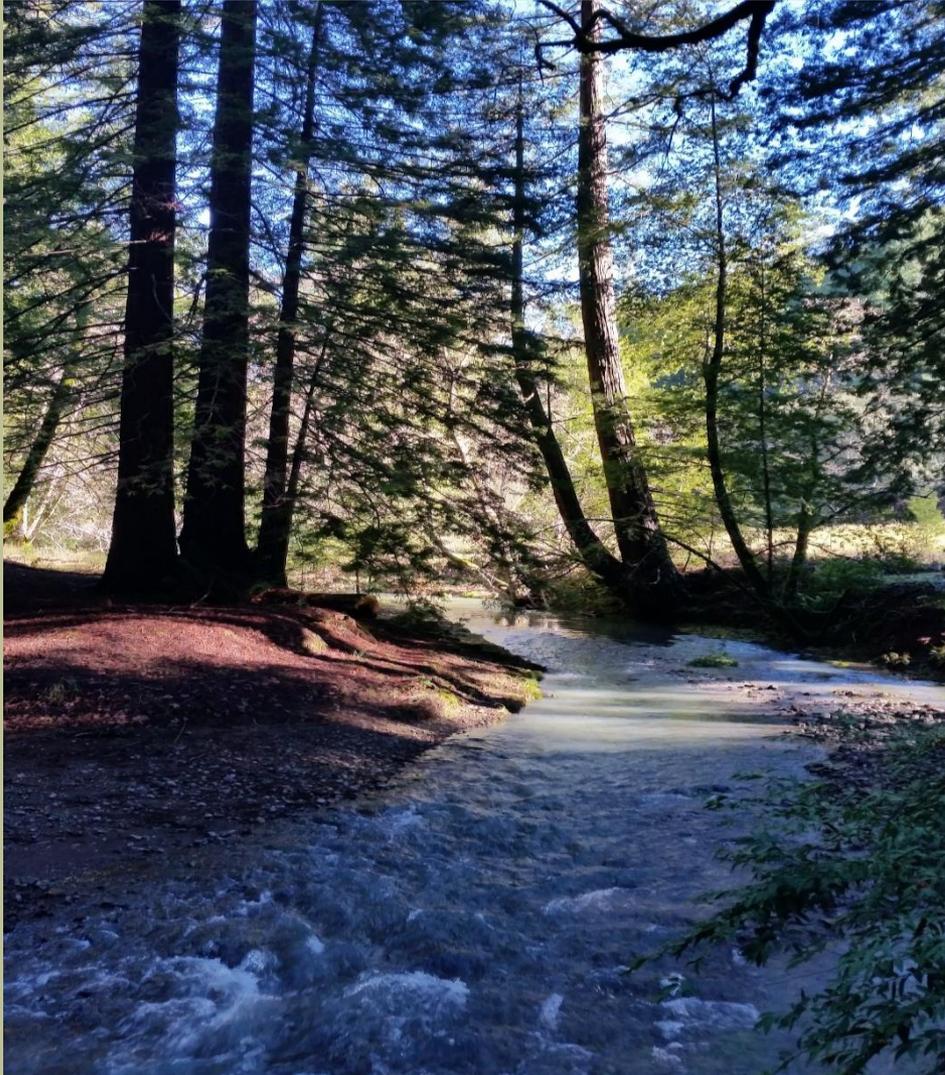
Map showing potential development threats. The area in blue are parcels that have been subdivided into parcels less than 160-acre in size. The red dots indicate areas where the northern spotted owl have been spotted.

#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches



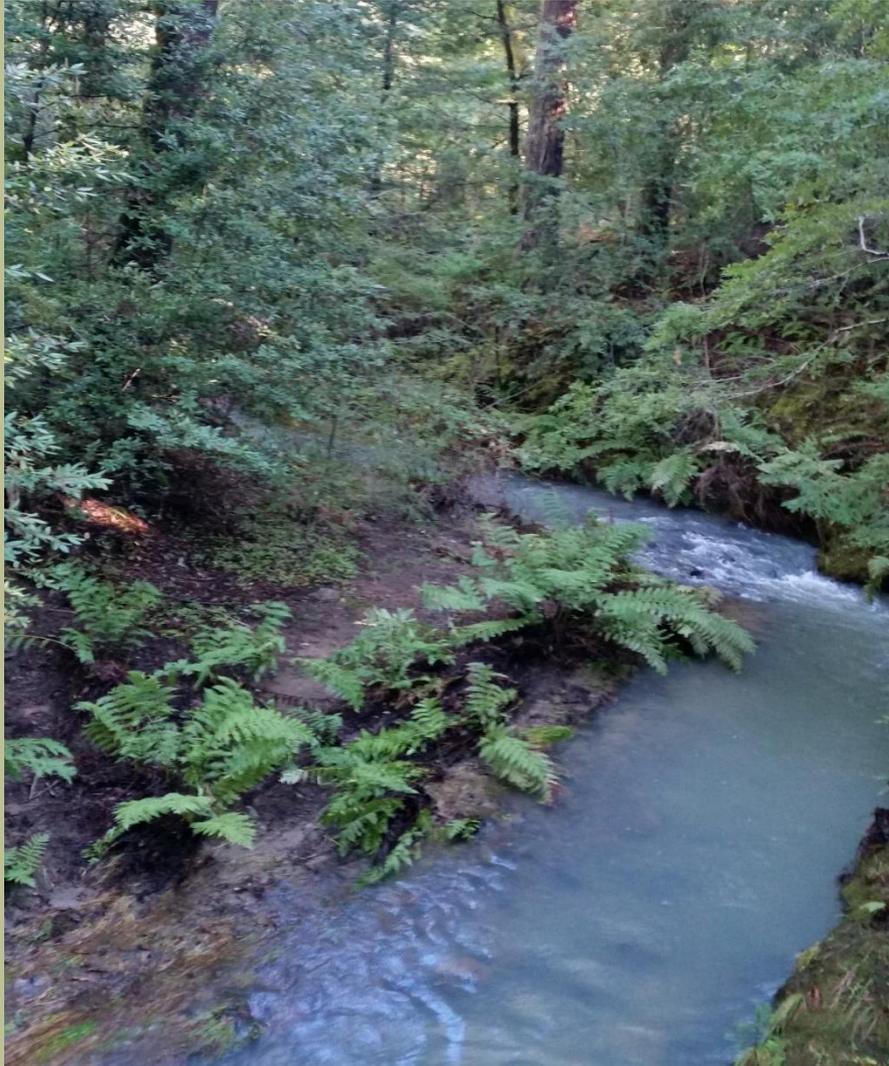
Miles of forest and old growth redwood found on both Middle and West Ranch – this picture taken on the border between the Middle and East Ranches.

#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches



Beautiful streams found on both Ranches – this picture captured on the Middle Ranch

#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches



Another fish-bearing stream that flows in the Garcia River watershed. This picture also taken on the Middle Ranch.

#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches



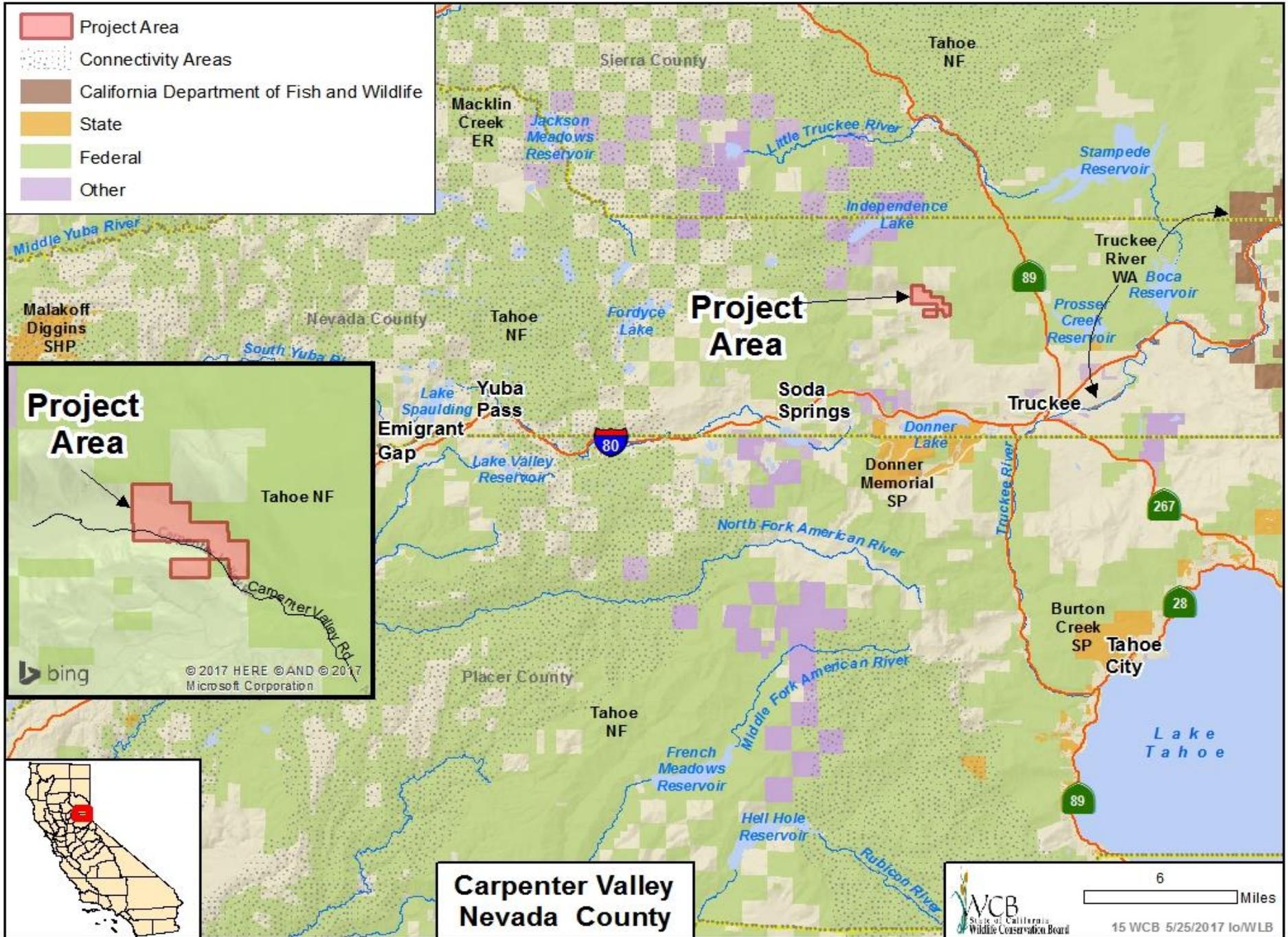
Overlooking the Middle ranch from the south

#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches



Overlook from the top of the West Ranch overlooking the entire Mailliard Ranch from the south

- Project Area
- Connectivity Areas
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- State
- Federal
- Other



**Carpenter Valley
Nevada County**

#15. Carpenter Valley



A healthy stream and meadow: The North Fork Prosser Creek meanders through Carpenter Valley

#15. Carpenter Valley



Summer wildflowers in Carpenter Valley

#15. Carpenter Valley



Carpenter Valley from above: Lower meadow is the 600 acres to be acquired by WCB funds. Castle Peak towers above the valley.

#15. Carpenter Valley



Summer wildflowers in Carpenter Valley

#15. Carpenter Valley



North Fork Prosser Creek

#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange



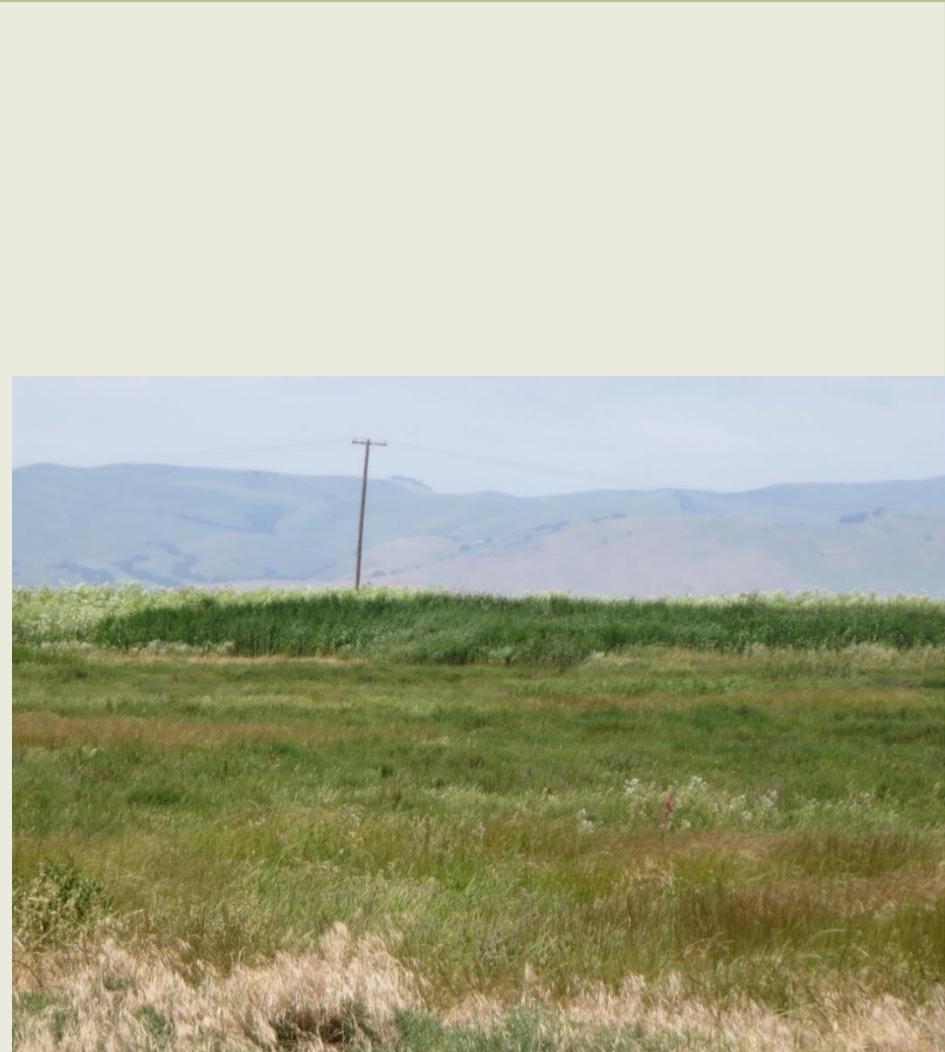
View looking to the north
east and west of Mendoza
Duck Club



#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange



View looking to the west of
Mendoza Duck Club



#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange



View looking to the north and east of Bent Barrel Duck Club



#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange



View looking to the north east of Bent Barrel Duck Club with a view of the WCB funded Grizzly Ranch in background

#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange



View looking to the east of
Garibaldi property

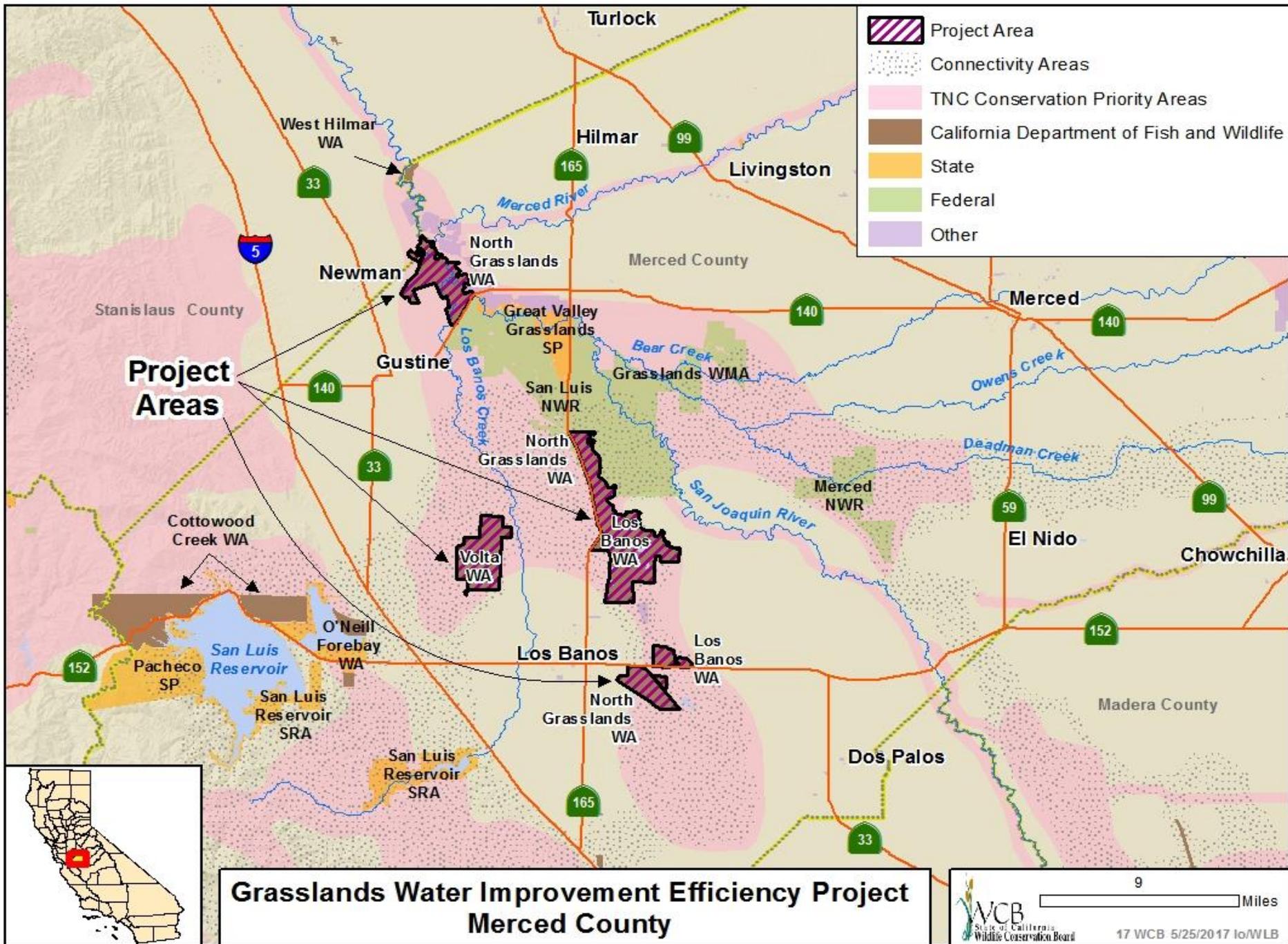


#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange



View looking to the west and south of the Garibaldi property





-  Project Area
-  Connectivity Areas
-  TNC Conservation Priority Areas
-  California Department of Fish and Wildlife
-  State
-  Federal
-  Other

Project Areas

**Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project
Merced County**


9 Miles
 State of California
 Wildlife Conservation Board
 17 WCB 5/25/2017 lo/WLB

#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project



A broad crested weir (BCW) being built. BCW's will be installed to increase the accuracy of measuring how much water 3 state wildlife areas are receiving.

#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project



A functioning broad crested weir

#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project



A section of the main delivery ditch bank on the Gadwall Unit will be built up to allow the wildlife area staff to build up head pressure to push water into adjacent units. Currently, water almost floods over the existing ditch bank (left side of picture) when building up head pressure.

#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project



Ditch bank refurbishing on Gadwall Unit will be done with dirt generated from swale excavation in nearby units. The unit pictured will have swales excavated from inlet to outlet.

#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project



The current drainage structure at Buttonwillow Lakes Dam on Los Banos Wildlife Area. We will rebuild the dam to allow for a dropdown gate to be installed.

#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project



The Buttonwillow Lakes Dam on Los Banos Wildlife Area where the new dropdown gate is to be installed. The new structure will allow 50 CFS to be released and will help meet specific time windows when water needs to be released

#18. Los Angeles River – Taylor Yard G2



This item has been removed for consideration at this time

#19. Red Hill Bay Shallow Water Habitat, Augmentation



This item has been removed for consideration at
this time

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



**Public Access
Competitive Grant Program**

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



■ **Targeted Populations:**

- Youth/Next generation
- Disadvantaged communities
- Urban residents

■ **Barriers to accessing wildlife-oriented recreation**

- Affordable transportation
- Lack of mentors/leaders
- Insufficient infrastructure/access points

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



Technical Review Criteria

Category	Criteria
2017 Solicitation Priorities	<p>The application is responsive to this 2017 solicitation priorities. Maximum points will be reachable to those projects that demonstrate how barriers to accessing wildlife-oriented recreation are or will be addressed in a way that provides the strongest correlation to the proposed project, and clearly provides enhanced access to nature and wildlife-oriented activities for the three target populations (youth/next generation, disadvantaged communities, and urban-focused communities). Examples include demonstrating a free or discounted transportation option for the target population to the site, or working with educational programs to provide target populations free or discounted use of the facility for the project purpose.</p>

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



Technical Review Criteria

Category	Criteria
Purpose, Need, and Project Description	The proposal includes a detailed project purpose and need, description, primary objectives, and project location. Proposal must demonstrate the proposed project is supported by an existing wildlife-oriented public access or demonstrated need in the area.
ADA	The project provides ADA accessibility to an existing project that does not currently have ADA access.
Project Readiness	The project has demonstrated project readiness; environmental compliance, permitting, planning, engineering design or other necessary preparations are sufficient for prompt project implementation.
Scope, Schedule, Budget	The extent to which the proposed scope, schedule, and budget are complete, appropriate to the work proposed, cost effective, and sufficiently detailed to use as a work plan.

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



Technical Review Criteria

Category	Criteria
Durability of Investment	Proposal identifies durability of investment. Design accounts for a long-term project life, with minimal repairs, maintenance and upkeep required. Necessary considerations like climate change, maintenance needs, and remoteness were taken into account.
Leverages Funds	The extent to which the proposal leverages other funds.
Project Team Qualifications	The proposal clearly demonstrates that the applicant and their project team has the qualifications, experience, and capacity to perform the proposed tasks.
Support and Collaboration	The extent to which the project has demonstrated a broad-based public and institutional support. Projects will be reviewed and must be supported by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



Technical Review Criteria

Category	Criteria
Multiple Wildlife-Oriented Uses	Extent to which project design considers accommodation of multiple wildlife-oriented public access uses in a single project.
Feasibility	The extent to which the proposed project is technically feasible and the project description is sufficiently detailed to serve as a statement of work for a grant agreement.
Hours of Operation	The proposal includes clear hours of operation for improvements that will be open to the public during normal operation hours. In most cases this will be daylight hours, sunrise to sunset.
Compatibility with Plans and Policies	The extent to which the proposed project identified compatibility and consistency with existing relevant local, State, Federal, or regional plans or policies and the WCB Strategic Plan.

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



Staff recommends releasing the Public Access Program Guidelines and Solicitation

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



■ **Comprehensive Program Review Recommendations**

- Retain all existing WCB Programs
- Program overlap:
 - Non-specific Programs (Land Acquisition, HERP, Tax Credit)
 - Specific Programs (IWCP, CRHCP, ERAL)
- Continue to work with other State funding programs
- Increase flexibility of Rangeland and ERAL Programs

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



Measurable Goals for Acquisition Projects

Why only Acquisitions?

- Can be initiated now: All goals are identified in LAE/CAPP proposal form
- Simpler: restoration monitoring requires problem/solution evaluation
- Critical need: decisions on acquisitions, which are protected in perpetuity, must come first

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



Support Broad Ecological and Human Concepts

- Larger acreages
- Climate change
- State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)
- Working lands
- Compatible public access

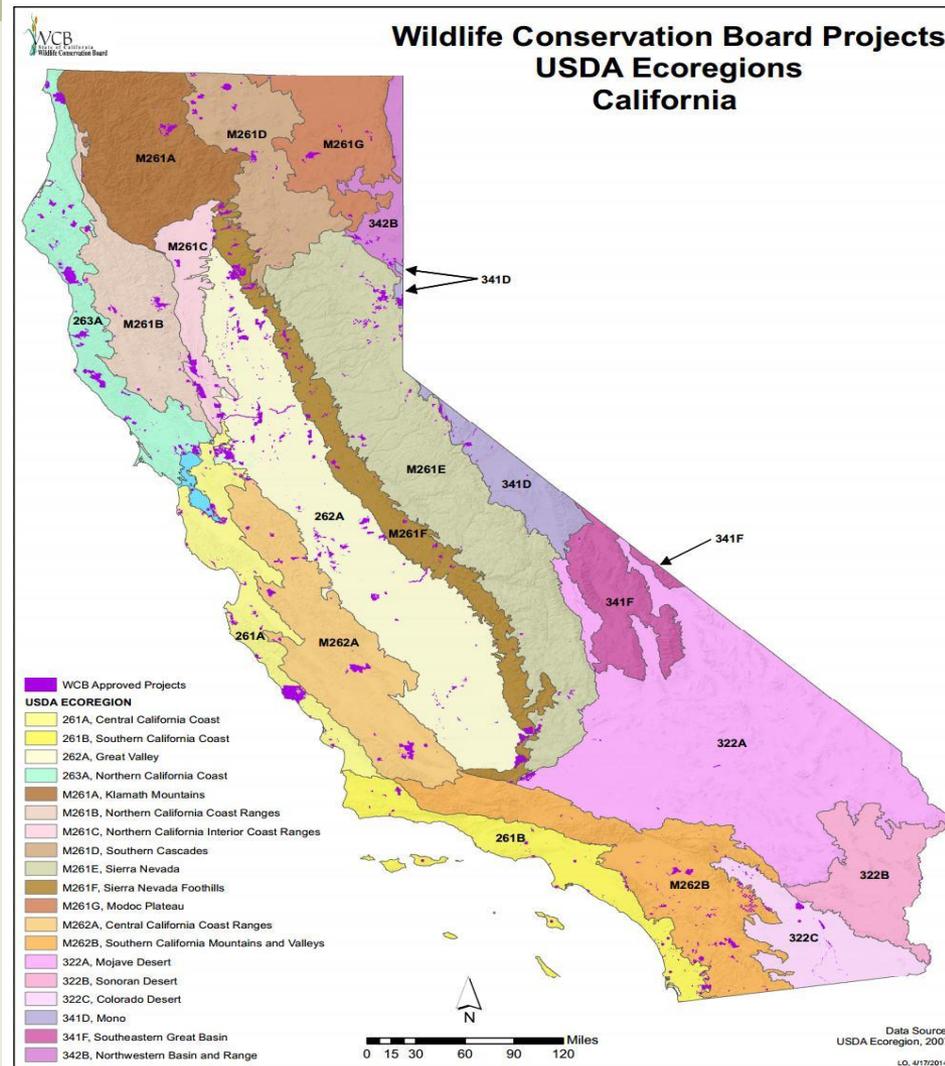
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Projects must support one or more of the following:

- Biodiversity
- Resilience to climate change
- Support of priorities in SWAP
- Protection of working landscapes
- Protection of water dependent habitats
- Provide for compatible public access

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



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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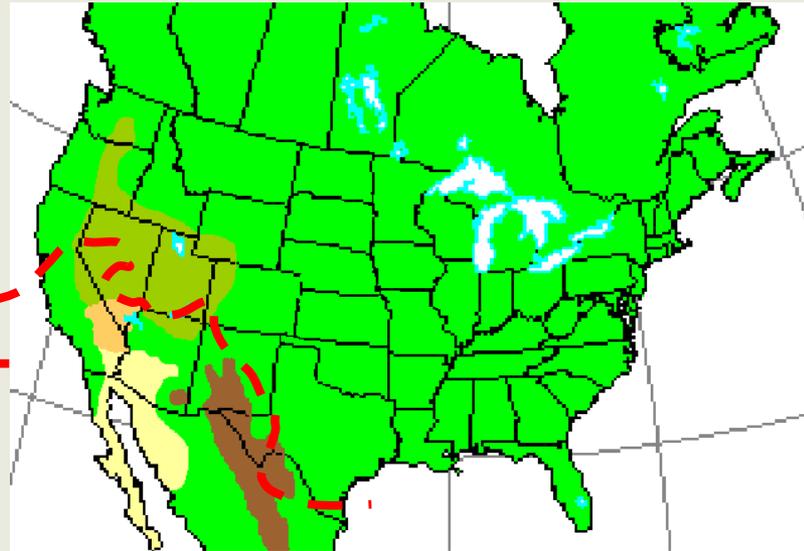
NVC HIERARCHY MID-LEVEL (DIVISION, MACROGROUP)

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.



USGS Anderson Agriculture and Urban

- Agricultural land
- Urban or built-up land

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

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



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



Example of California Biodiversity Within a Small Area of Coastal Monterey County

Coast Live oak Woodland alliance represents the California Forest and Woodland Macrogroup

A mix of non-native and native herbs and grasses comprise the California Annual and Perennial Grassland Macrogroup



Coast Redwood Forest Alliance Represents the Pacific Northwest Temperate Rain- Forest Macrogroup

Locally telescoped, but regionally broad vegetation categories occur in canyons of the Santa Lucia Mtns. of the Central Coast. The outlined areas are representative of 3 different macrogroups which are represented by 3 different alliances. They have their ecological and evolutionary origins in different parts of North America, but are regularly juxtaposed locally in central California.

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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 at Alliance level

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Measurable Goal 2, Climate Change Resiliency and Connectivity

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

- Connect habitat totalling 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

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- 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

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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

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Overarching Criteria:

Every project must satisfy at least one of above goals

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

Projects that provide multiple benefits rank higher

Proposed goals easily monitored over time

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational



#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



GRANT FUNDING

- Enhance stream flows

- Water Action Plan:
 - Reliability
 - Restoration
 - Resilience

#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



SOLICITATION PRIORITY

- Funds granted by WCB under SFEP will be focused on enhancing flow in streams that provide one or more of the following:
 - Support for anadromous fish;
 - Support for special status, threatened, endangered or at risk species;
 - Provide resilience to climate change

#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



FY 17/18 Funds Available

Scoping and Scientific Research

\$5,000,000

Implementation and Acquisition

\$73,938,695

#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



■ **Planning and Scientific Studies**

- revised to support scoping or research leading to future stream flow enhancement opportunities.

■ Renamed Scoping and Scientific Studies.

- \$5,000,000 reserved for funding proposals under this category.

#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



Implementation project category

- expanded to include planning, design and CEQA for specified future implementation projects.

- Implementation divided into two categories.
 - Category 1 will fund planning, permitting and design necessary to get to, and complete, construction.
 - Category 2 will fund construction.

#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



Acquisition projects

- may combine Acquisition and Planning, or Acquisition and Implementation

***the proposed project should have a completed CEQA analysis

#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



- General Modifications
 - Defined limiting factor
 - Flow conditions that limit the growth, abundance, or distribution of a target organism or a population of organisms in a stream.
 - Refined the stream flow enhancement scoring criteria

#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18



Deliverable	Date
Draft Proposal Solicitation Notice (Solicitation) released for public review	May 12, 2017
Revisions of Solicitation based on public comments and input	May 12-May 22, 2017
WCB seeks approval of Solicitation to be released on July 1, 2017	May 22, 2017
WCB staff available for proposal consultation	March 19- June 30, 2017
Public Workshop	June 12, 2017
FY 2017/18 Solicitation open period begins	July 1, 2017
FY 2017/18 Solicitation period closed	August 31, 2017