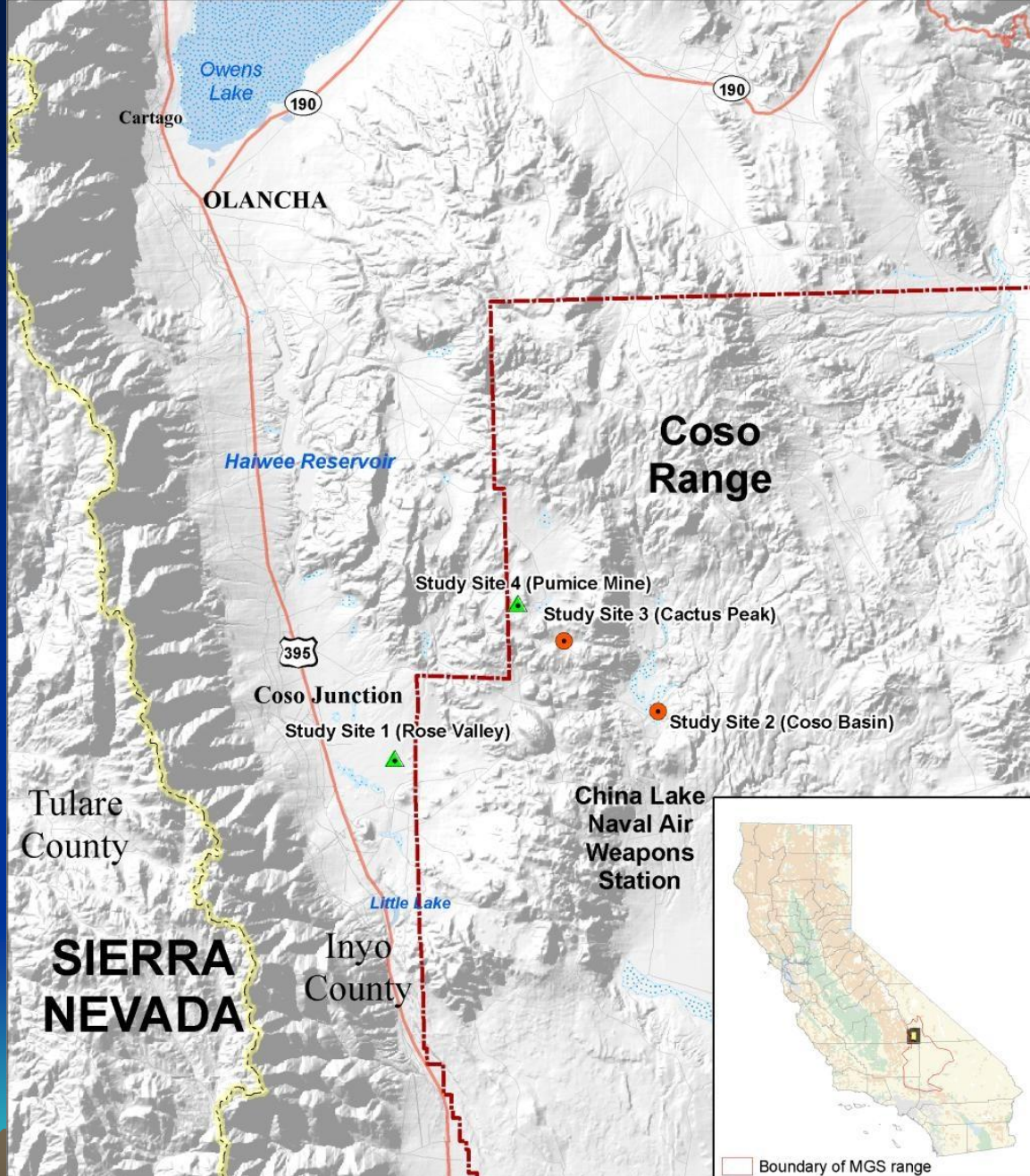


COSO MONITORING 2010

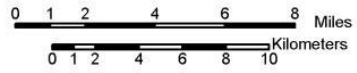
Ten Consecutive Years of Data
2001-2010





Study sites

- Within Coso Grazing Enclosure
- ▲ Outside Coso Grazing Enclosure



Coso 2010

- Original plan was to trap Coso Basin and Cactus Peak grids in late March
- Grids are 500 x 500 m (25 hectares) with 441 traps at 25 m centers
- Two days of pre-baiting and five days of trapping as usual
- BUT -- Navy testing restricted access to Cactus Peak site until May



Alternative Plan

- Trap Coso Basin and Rose Valley during Mar 23-27
- Rose Valley had been trapped 1988-1996 but no data since then
- Trap Cactus Peak during break in Navy testing May 12-16

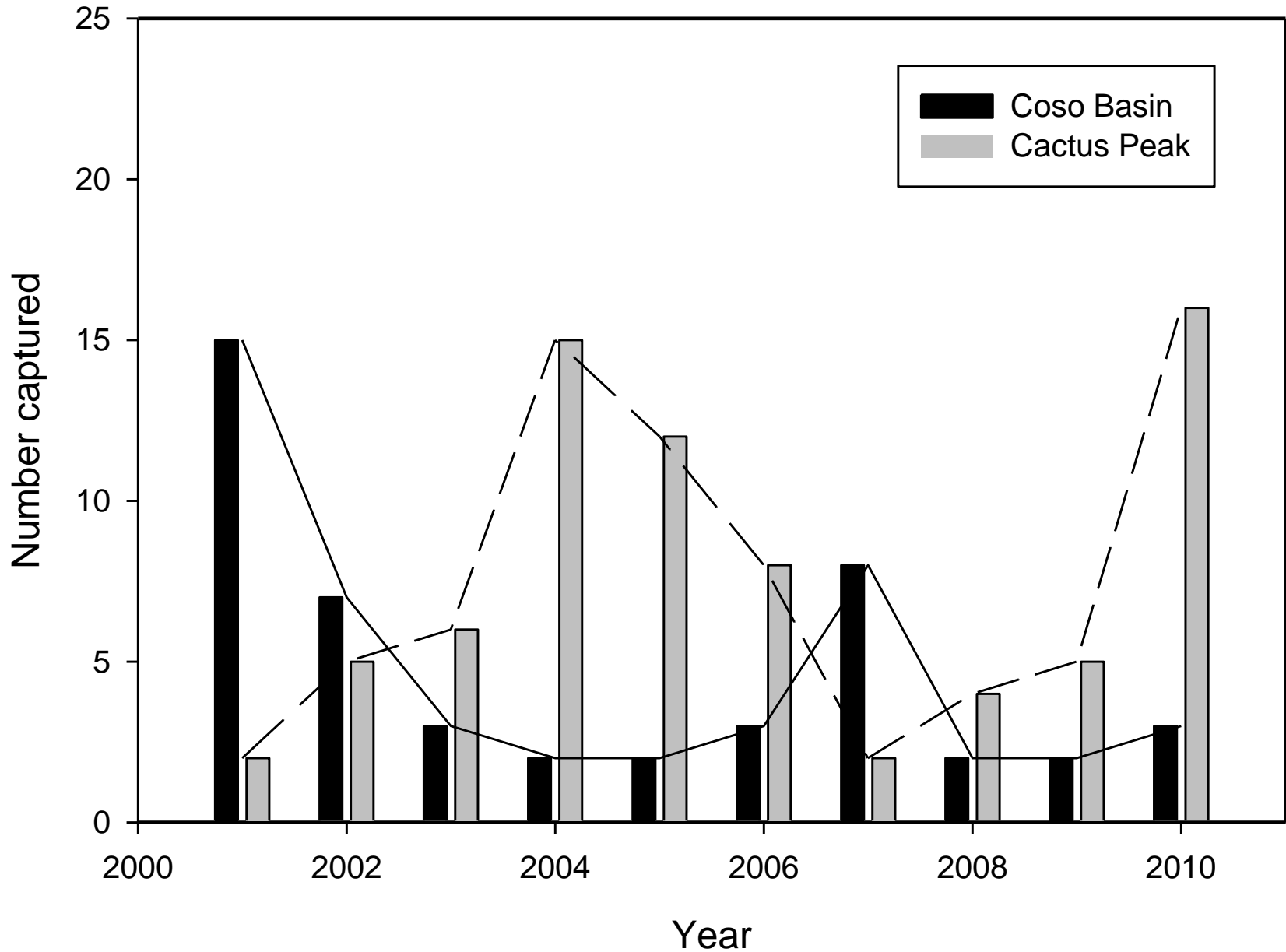


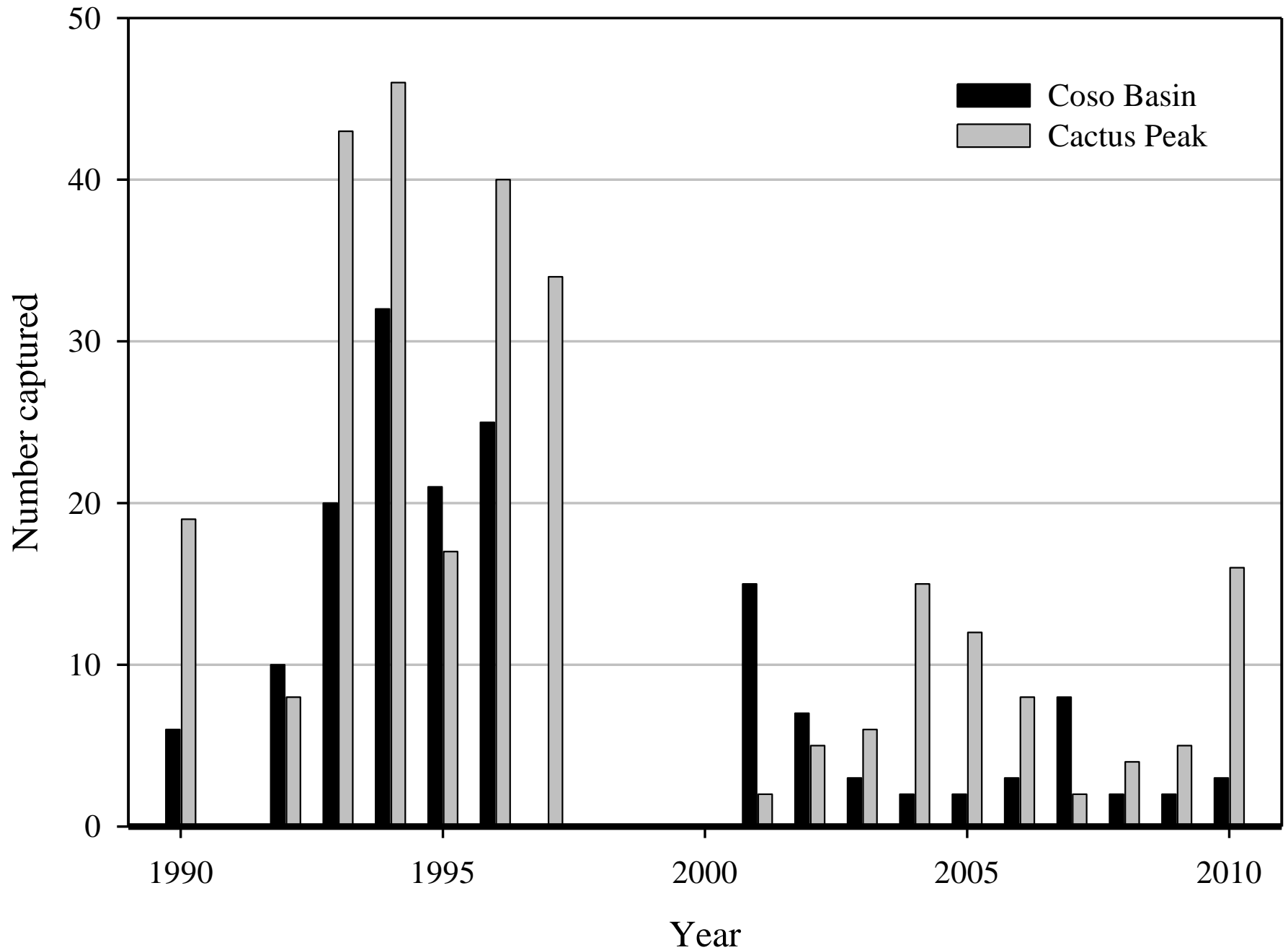
MGS Individual Captures

GRID	MALES	FEMALES	JUVENILES
Coso Basin	1	2	0
Rose Valley	0	0	0
Cactus Peak	3	13	85



Mohave ground squirrel abundance 2001-2010





Explaining the Patterns

- 1990-1996 Drought followed by prolonged El Niño episode
- 2001-2010 Shorter-period variation in winter rainfall; no prolonged El Niño
- Inter-annual differences and differences between Coso Basin and Cactus Peak
 - How many males on study site?
 - Local differences in rainfall?
 - Possible predation pressure?



Conclusions

- In spite of fluctuations in abundance, Coso Basin and Cactus Peak seem to have habitat that can support persistent MGS populations
- Rose Valley is an example of a site where MGS colonization and extinction occur periodically – presumably related to winter precipitation patterns



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- Coso Operating Company for funding 2001 and 2006
- Next year – Coso Operating Company
- 2012 and beyond → Offers accepted

