

# **Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting**

**May 22, 2019, 10:00am**

**Natural Resources Building,**

**First Floor Auditorium**

**1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, California 95814**



# Programmatic Permitting for Aquatic Habitat Restoration Statewide



# #7. Programmatic Permitting for Aquatic Habitat Restoration



Site 1 before (left) and after (right) treatment. Stadia rods in pre-treatment photo indicate log placement within the site. Photos were taken from the left bank facing across the channel.

# #7. Programmatic Permitting for Aquatic Habitat Restoration



Two sites from a project to enhance spawning of Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, and Steelhead trout in Cahto Creek in the Eel River watershed in Mendocino County completed using the North Coast NMFS Biological Opinion.

# #7. Programmatic Permitting for Aquatic Habitat Restoration



Before



After



A project to restore and enhance habitat for threatened Central Coast Steelhead in Los Osos Creek in San Luis Obispo County completed using the South Coast NMFS Biological Opinion.

Before photos taken on 10/13/16 (A)(B) and After implementation on 01/03/17 (C)(D); Photo point 6 looking downstream (A)(C); Photo point 7 looking upstream (B)(D)

# Resilient Estuaries: Aquatic Species Assessment Tool Statewide



# #8. Resilient Estuaries: Aquatic Species Assessment Tool



San Mateo Creek estuary

Cal Trout will develop a statewide tool

Evaluate estuarine management actions for changes to

- Water Quality
- Habitat characteristics
- Habitat usage

# #8. Resilient Estuaries: Aquatic Species Assessment Tool



The tool will evaluate how fish respond to those management actions.

Rainbow trout

# #8. Resilient Estuaries: Aquatic Species Assessment Tool



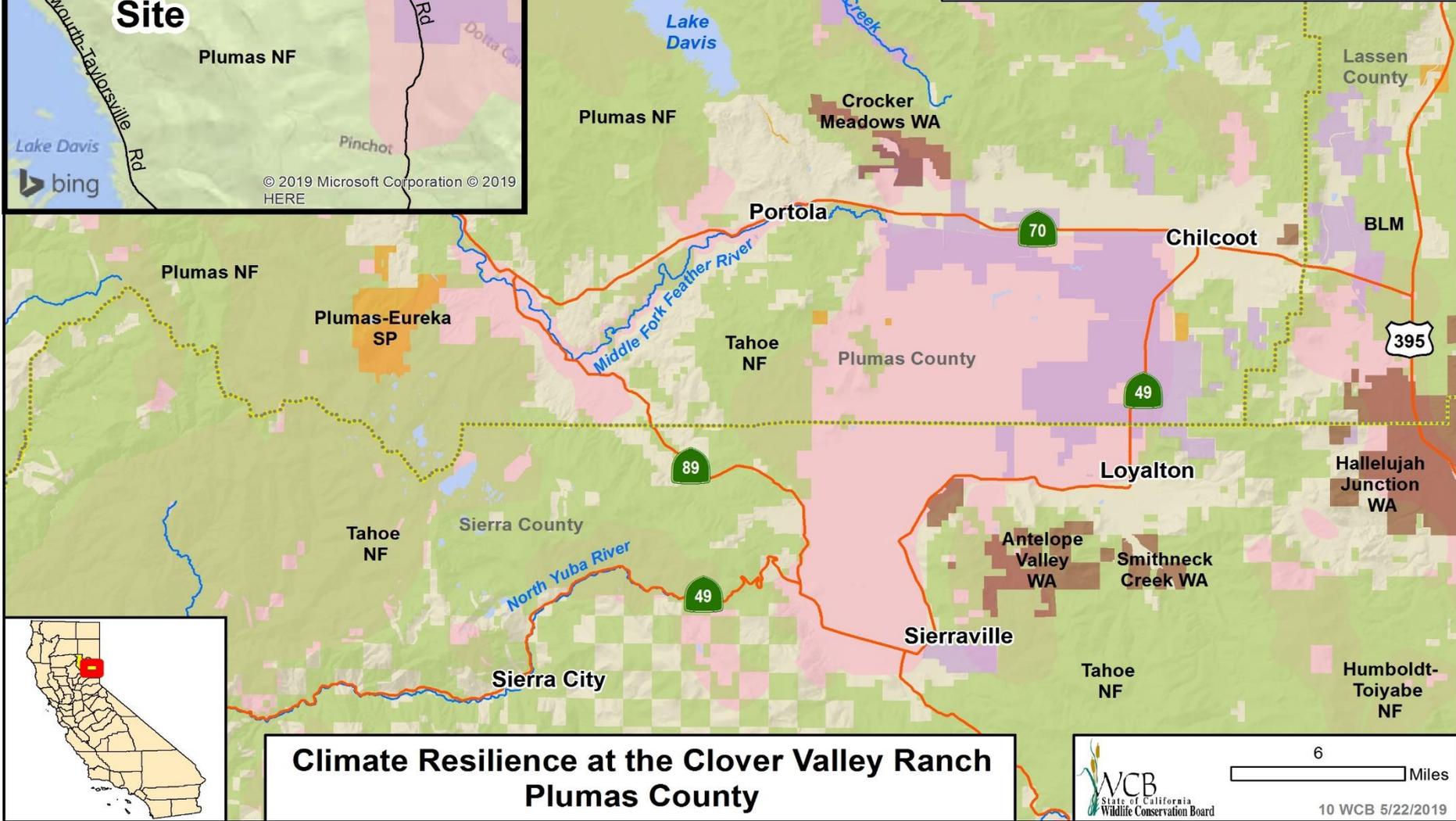
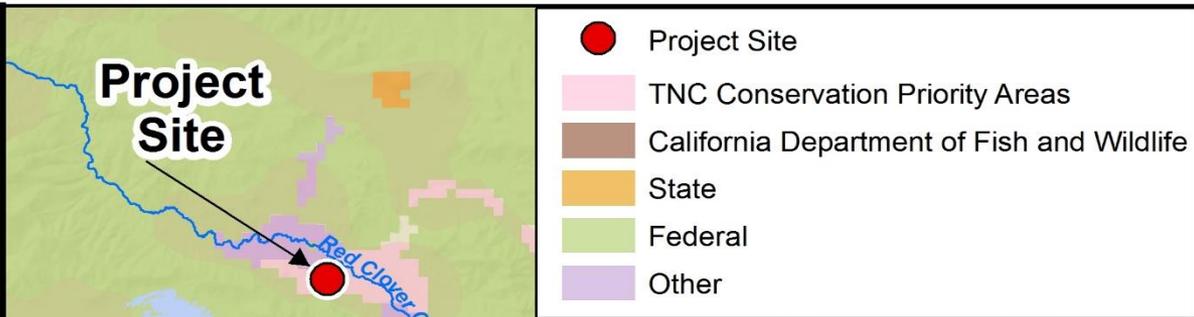
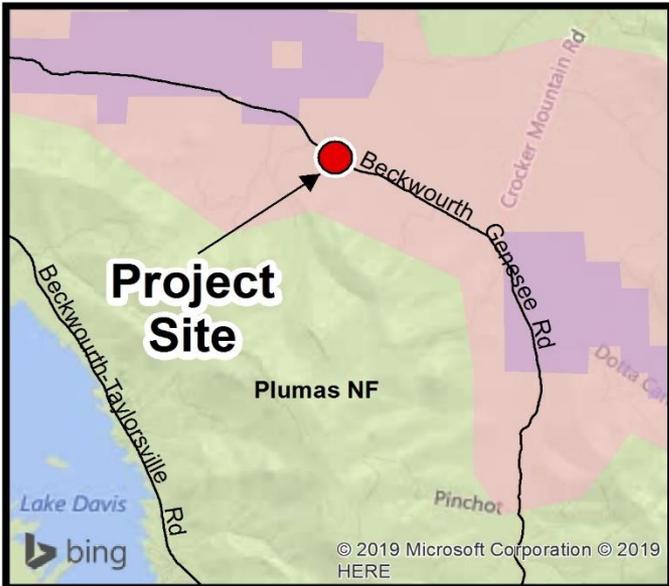
Steelhead

Species included:

- Chinook Salmon
- Steelhead
- Pacific Lamprey
- Tidewater Goby

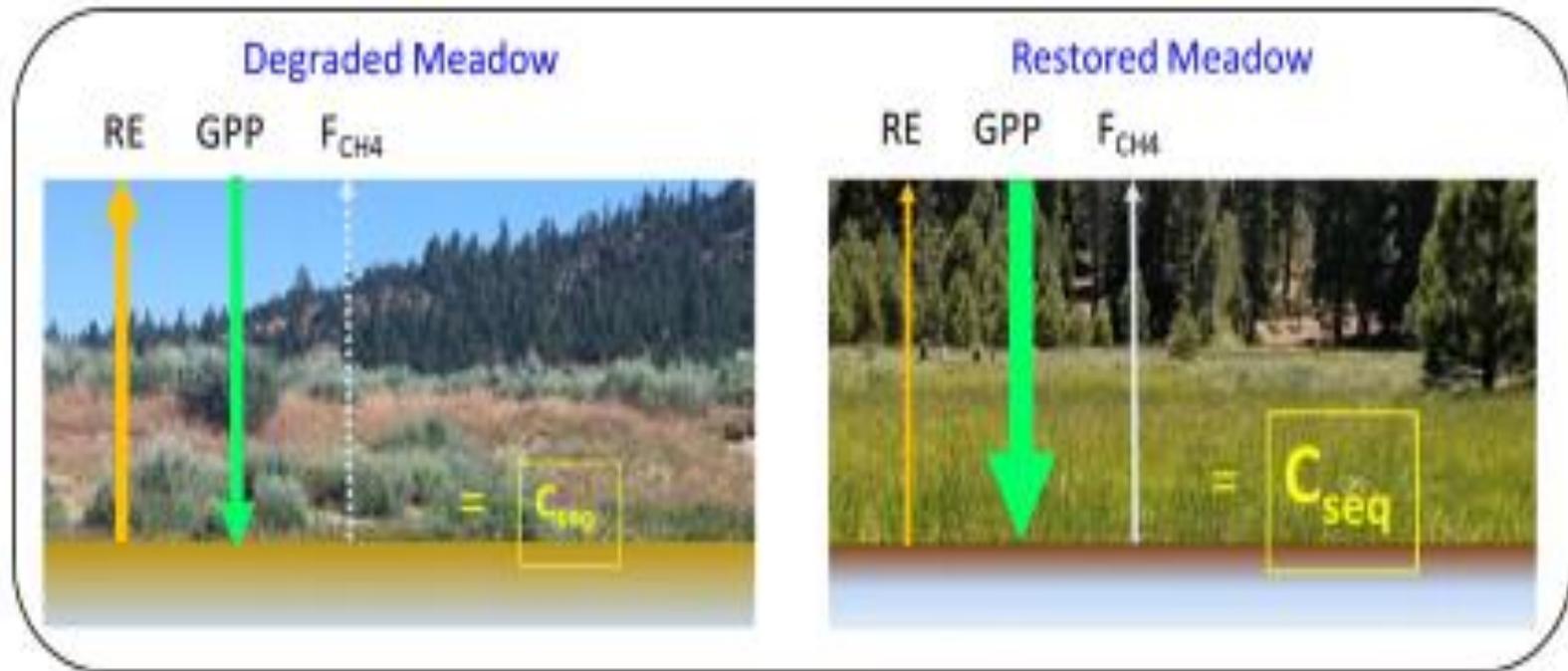
And

Regional species of concern



**Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch  
Plumas County**

# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



GHG Conceptual Model:  $C_{seq}$  is the sequestration of carbon in the meadow ecosystem and soil, GPP is gross primary productivity (ecosystem total photosynthesis), RE is the ecosystem respiration of CO<sub>2</sub> from plants and soil and  $F_{CH_4}$  is the efflux of methane from the soil to the atmosphere.

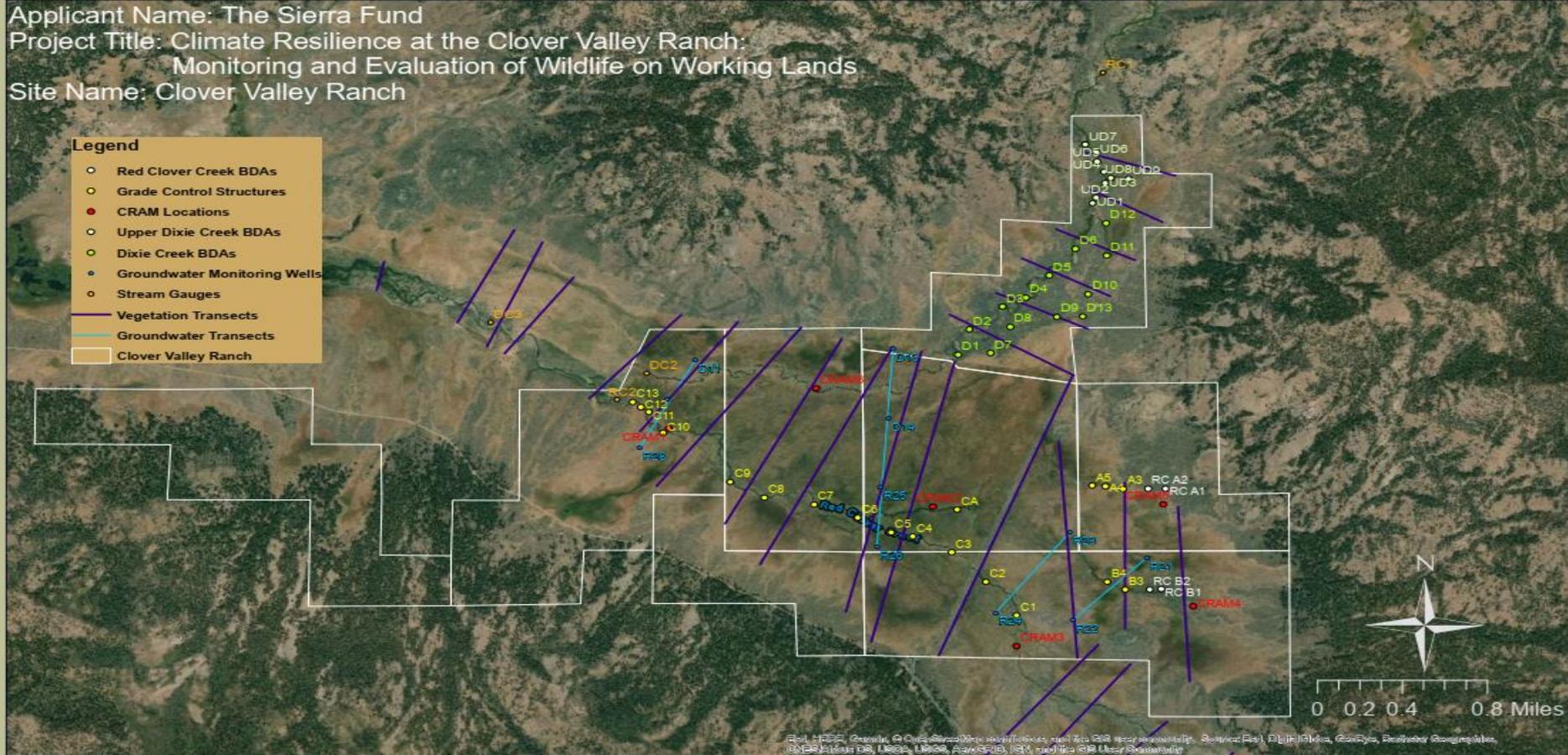
# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



Applicant Name: The Sierra Fund  
Project Title: Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch:  
Monitoring and Evaluation of Wildlife on Working Lands  
Site Name: Clover Valley Ranch

## Legend

- Red Clover Creek BDAs
- Grade Control Structures
- CRAM Locations
- Upper Dixie Creek BDAs
- Dixie Creek BDAs
- Groundwater Monitoring Wells
- Stream Gauges
- Vegetation Transects
- Groundwater Transects
- Clover Valley Ranch

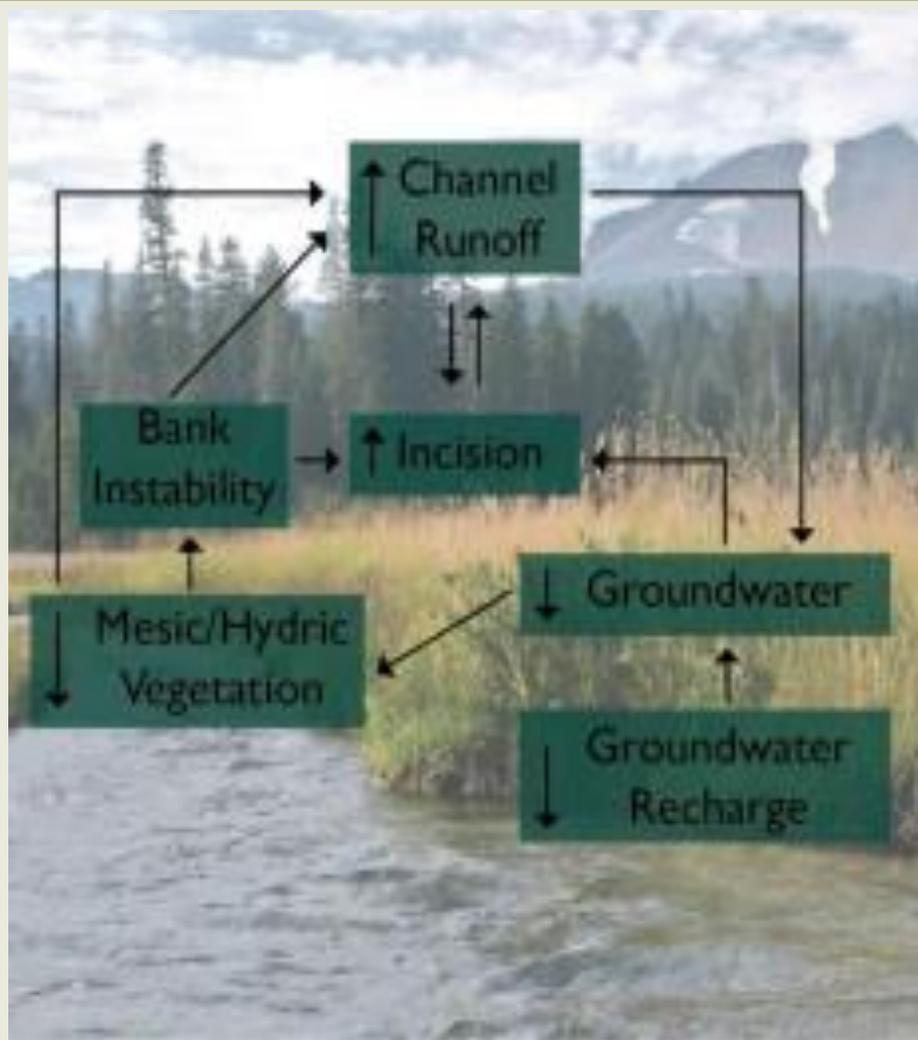


# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



Downcut Channel: (A) the stream channels have downcut from 3 to 11 feet below elevation of the meadow floodplain. (B) As a result infrequent high flows within the downcut channel resulting in bank erosion and the consequent degradation of water quality and habitat. (C) Redoximorphic features are present in soils along the exposed stream bank of Red Clover Creek starting at 12 to 18 inches from the ground, indicating the soils have been saturated in the past.

# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



Conceptual Model  
Degraded Meadow:  
Example of a restored  
meadow overlain with a  
diagram of the negative  
feedback loop of a  
degraded meadow as  
presently exists at the  
Clover Valley Ranch site.

# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



Vegetation Assemblage, Valley: The downcutting of the channel system and consequent lowering of the shallow meadow water table has precipitated conversion to a colex dominated by the big sage ecotone with scattered native grasses and forbs and non-native annuals including bulbous bluegrass.

# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



Cattle Access to Riparian Corridor: The historic grazing regime at the Clover Valley Ranch site has allowed cattle unrestricted access to much of the stream channel, acceleration erosion, contaminating the water, and altering the natural assemblage of vegetation preferred by wildlife.

# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



Native Trout Habitat: Native trout are present in the streams of the Clover Valley Ranch site, and annual fish surveys will be used to evaluate the outcome of cattle exclusion from the riparian corridor on the fish species diversity and abundance.

# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch

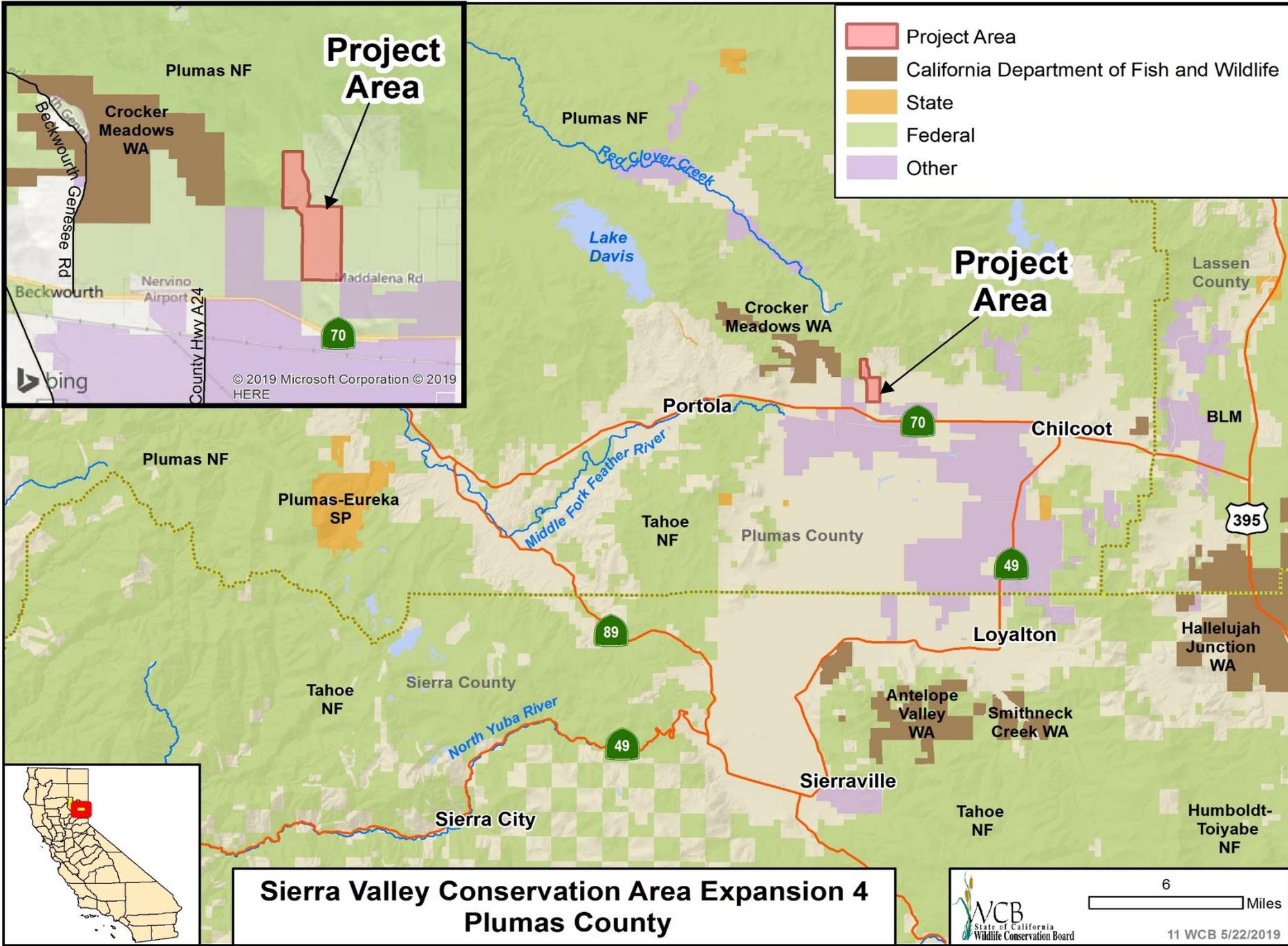


Remnant Habitat: The Clover Valley Ranch project area supports a typical mid-elevation montane wildlife community that includes mule deer, mountain lion, black bear, coyote, marmots, waterfowl, raptors, squirrels, and birds. Remnant riparian habitat like that pictured exists in few places at the site.

# #9. Climate Resilience at the Clover Valley Ranch



Restoring Hydrologic Function: TSF has installed four BDAs at select instream locations between engineered check dam structures on two sub-channels. Additional BDAs will be installed on Dixie Creek in 2019. The combination of these structures will slow the flow of water through the meadow and reconnect the stream to the floodplain, resulting in increased sediment and nutrient deposition, as well as improved habitat for native plant and animal species.



# #10. Sierra Valley Conservation Area, Expansion 4



The “Diamond G” Grashuis Ranch in Sierra Valley is a family-owned cattle and hay ranch, adjacent to federal land on two sides that connects it to the Crocker Meadows Wildlife Area, forming an important corridor for mule deer, black bear, mountain lion, bobcat and other wildlife.

# #10. Sierra Valley Conservation Area, Expansion 4



The property's volcanic rock outcrops and cliffs provide important wildlife habitat with a highly diverse breeding and roosting community of rock and cliff nesting bird species. The rock formations also provide den sites for black bear, mountain lion, ringtails, and a variety of other mammal species, as well as well as snakes.

# #10. Sierra Valley Conservation Area, Expansion 4



Originally homesteaded in the 1850s, the Diamond G/Grashuis Ranch features several beautifully preserved historic buildings.

## #10. Sierra Valley Conservation Area, Expansion 4



Many of the original structures remain, including an old barn, a carriage house, a bunkhouse, a chicken house, and a spring cellar. The ranch is host to 14 special status wildlife species documented to date.

## #10. Sierra Valley Conservation Area, Expansion 4



Mike and Kim Grashuis, owners of Diamond G Ranch in Sierra Valley. The Grashuis family is motivated to preserve their hay/ranching agricultural operation on the historic ranch and to preserve the significant wildlife habitat the ranch offers adjacent to Plumas National Forest and BLM lands, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the Crocker Meadows Wildlife Area.

# #10. Sierra Valley Conservation Area, Expansion 4



The proposed Grashuis Ranch Conservation Easement will preserve and protect in perpetuity the property's grazing use, and natural lands. It will protect open rangelands and native conditions of the property by limiting conversion to non-agricultural use, to more intensive agriculture, and future subdivision of the land.

# Building Climate Resiliency in Central Valley Wetlands Butte/Merced/Tulare/Kern County



# #11. Building Climate Resiliency in Central Valley Wetlands



Wetland fields within the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area.

# #11. Building Climate Resiliency in Central Valley Wetlands



Wetland fields within the Kern National Wildlife Refuge.

# #11. Building Climate Resiliency in Central Valley Wetlands

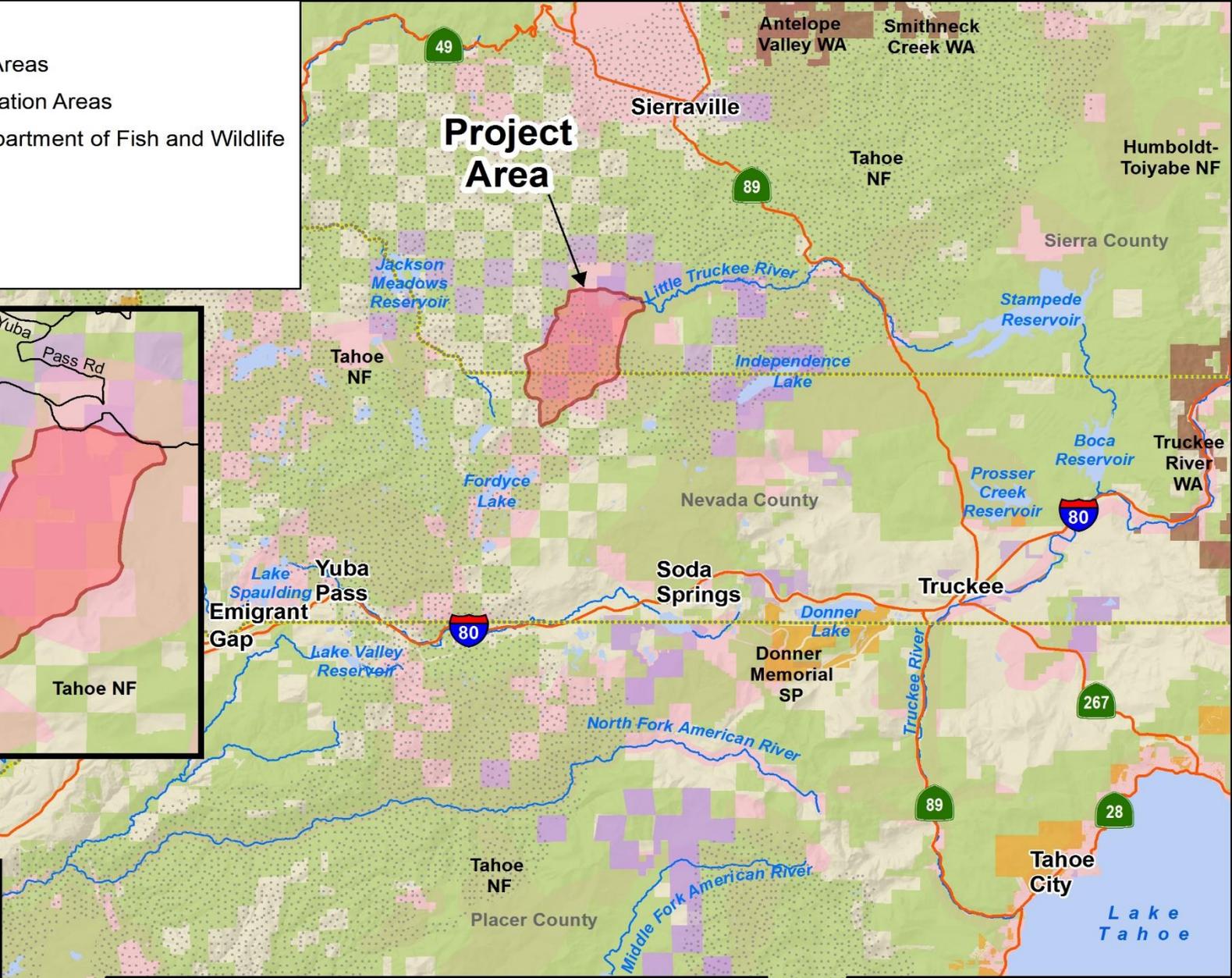
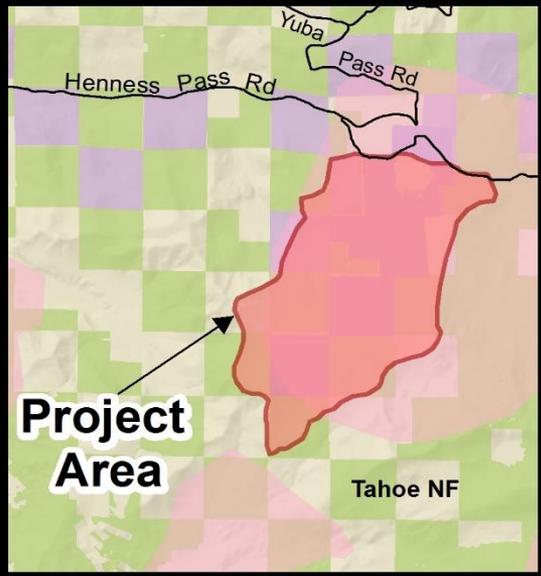


Wetland field showing swale during drawdown, Kern County.

# #11. Building Climate Resiliency in Central Valley Wetlands

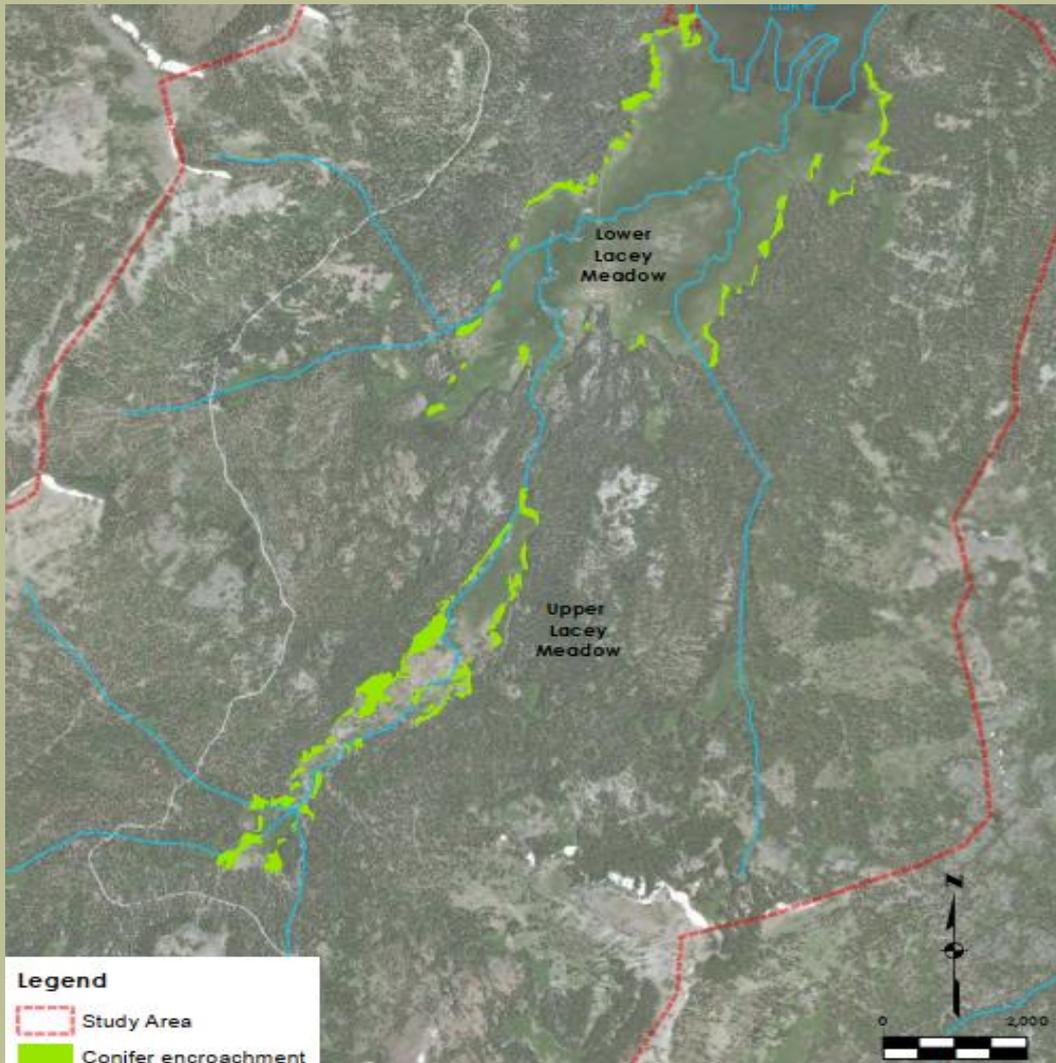


Wetland field within the North Grasslands Wildlife Area.



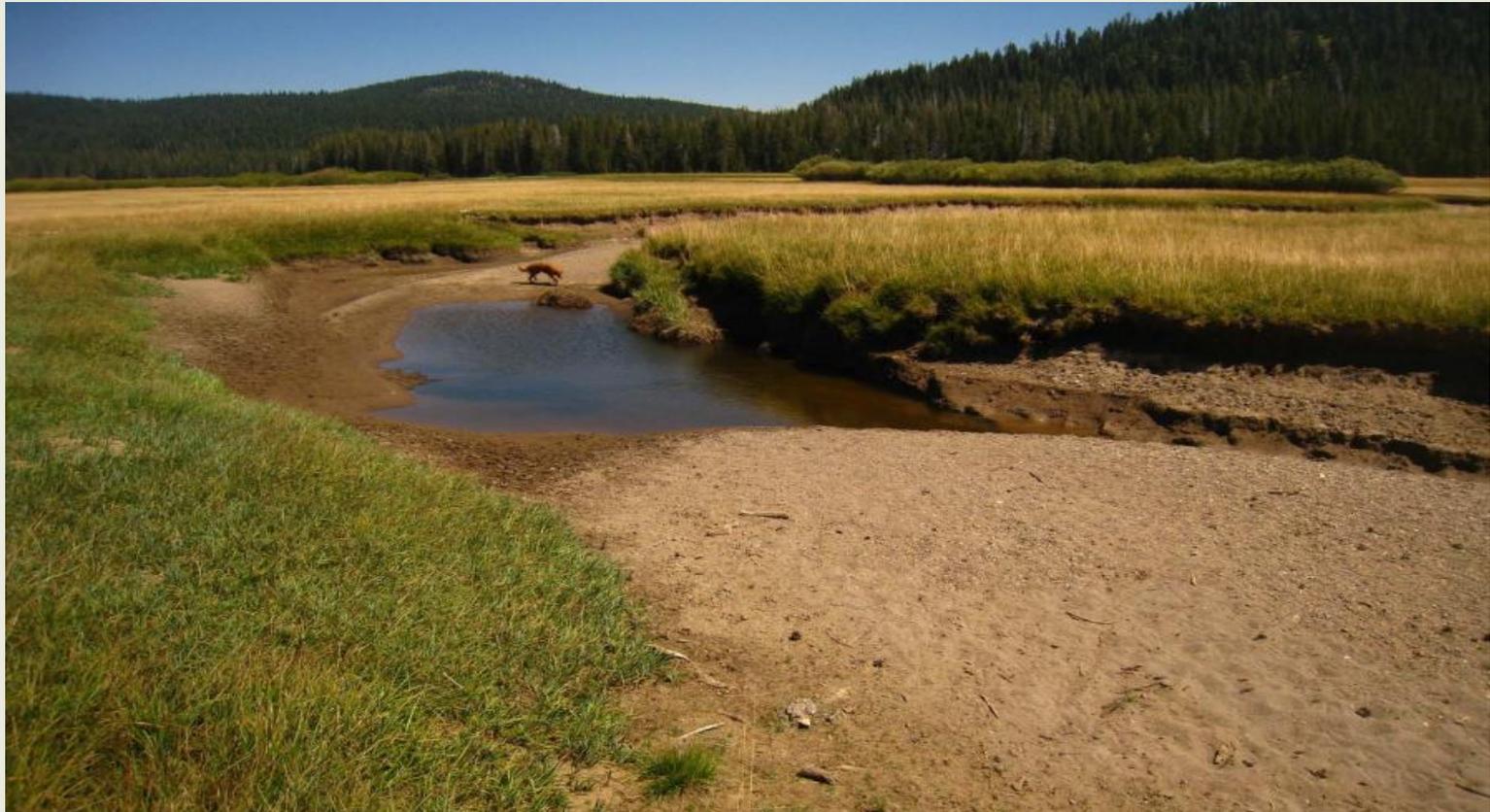
# Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning Sierra County

# #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning



Conifer encroachment  
Lacey Meadows Study  
Area

## #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning



Incision along Lacey Creek through Lower Lacey meadow, caused by lake level fluctuations and excess sediment delivery from adjacent upland sources.

## #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning



Current channel of Lacey Creek in Upper Lacey Meadow showing erosion and floodplain disconnection caused by stream realignment for grazing

## #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning



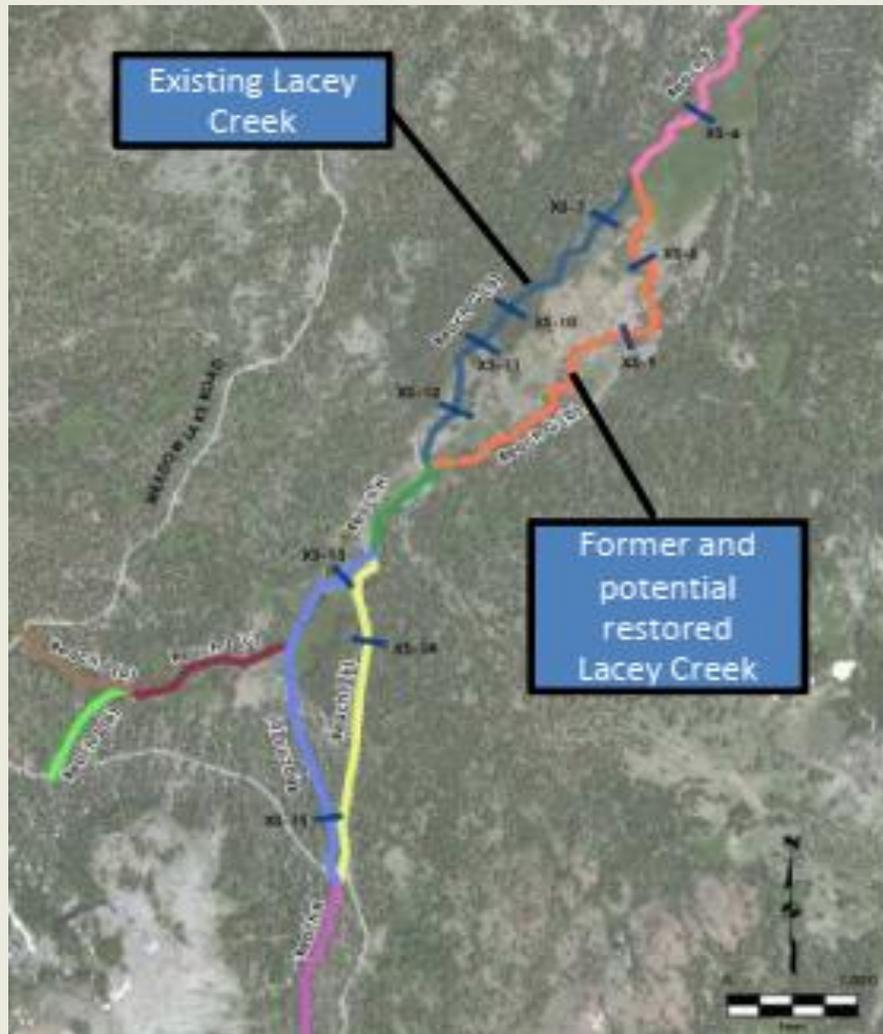
Gravel push-up dam in the historic channel of Lacey Creek through Upper Lacey Meadow, used to divert the stream into the present day unstable channel.

## #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning



Degraded meadow habitat in Upper Lacey Meadow caused by altered hydrology and exacerbated by current grazing practices.

# #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning



Channel Reach map

# #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning

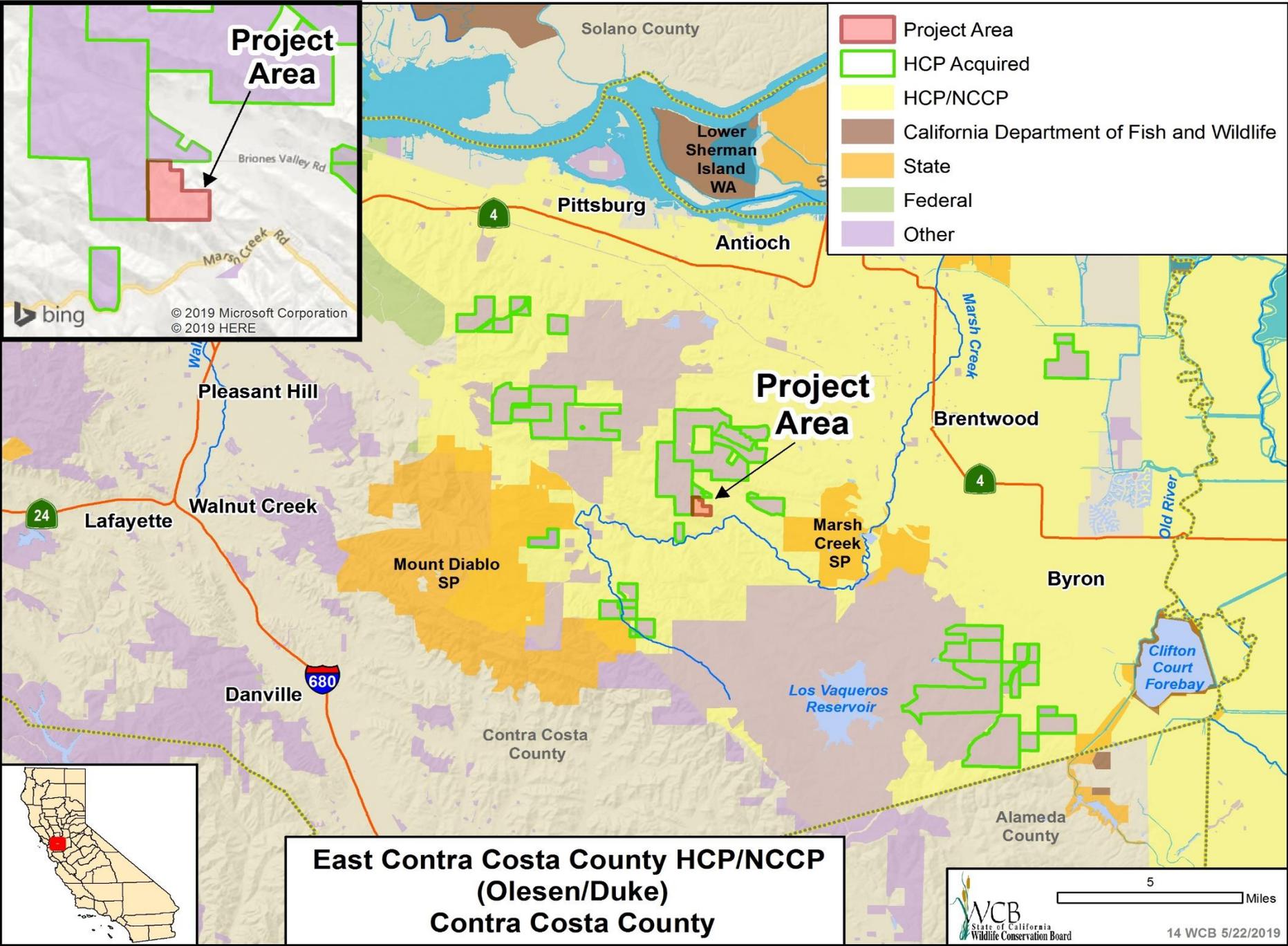


Bank trampling and erosion, Upper Lacey Meadow

# #12. Lacey Meadows Restoration Planning



Lacey Creek  
(Reach C), Lower  
Lacey Meadow



**East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP  
(Olesen/Duke)  
Contra Costa County**

# #13. East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP (Olesen/Duke)



Central portion of the property. Photo taken in April of 2019.

# #13. East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP (Olesen/Duke)



Oak trees located on the north-facing side of the hills.

# #13. East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP (Olesen/Duke)



View from one of the highest accessible areas on the property, looking northeast across the property.

# #13. East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP (Olesen/Duke)

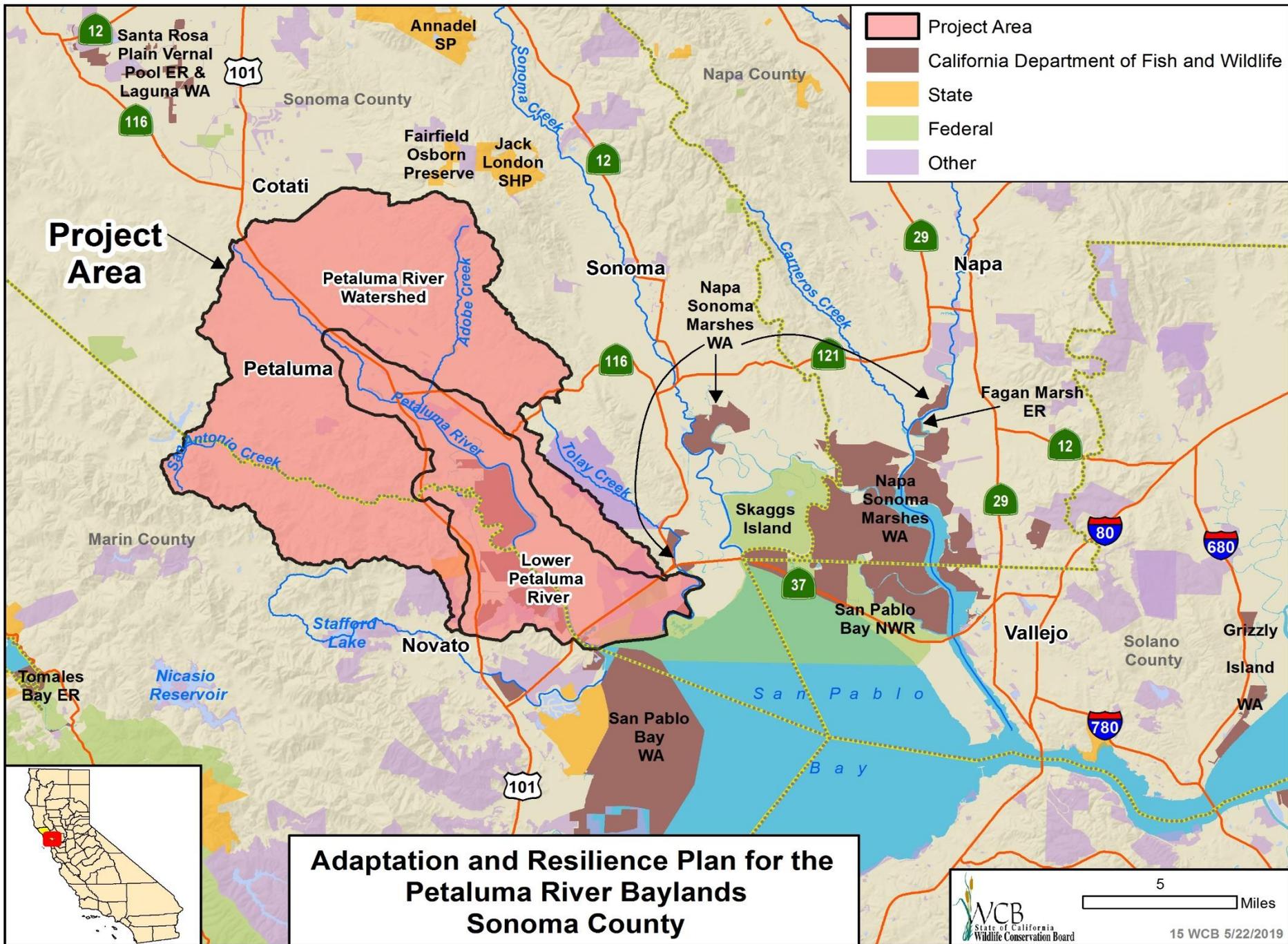


View of the property looking in a southern direction.

# #13. East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP (Olesen/Duke)



Looking northeast toward the ridgeline.



**Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the  
Petaluma River Baylands  
Sonoma County**



# #14. Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the Petaluma River Baylands



View southeast from mouth of the Petaluma River

# #14. Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the Petaluma River Baylands



View southwest into Marin, Mount Tamalpais in the distance, and Petaluma River in the foreground

# #14. Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the Petaluma River Baylands



View southeast across Sonoma Baylands Restoration Project, Petaluma River, and in the foreground, the uplands of Sears Point.

# #14. Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the Petaluma River Baylands



View up the Petaluma River, Port Sonoma, State Highway 37 and the SMART rail line in the foreground.

# #14. Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the Petaluma River Baylands



View east across diked historic baylands and along State Highway 37, Petaluma River in the foreground.

# #14. Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the Petaluma River Baylands



Restored tidal marsh at Sonoma Baylands Restoration Project.



**Project Site**

**Project Site**

**Camp Pollock Site Improvement  
Sacramento County**

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



# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



Entrance to trail complex

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



Location of rain garden at start of trail complex and on the north side of lodge.

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



Location of accessible gathering area behind lodge. Cinder block barbeque will be removed as a decommissioned amenity.

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



Location of gravel parking lot extension (between fence and building).

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



Western side of property and location of accessible trail

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



Northwest corner of property and location of native gardens and accessible trails.

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



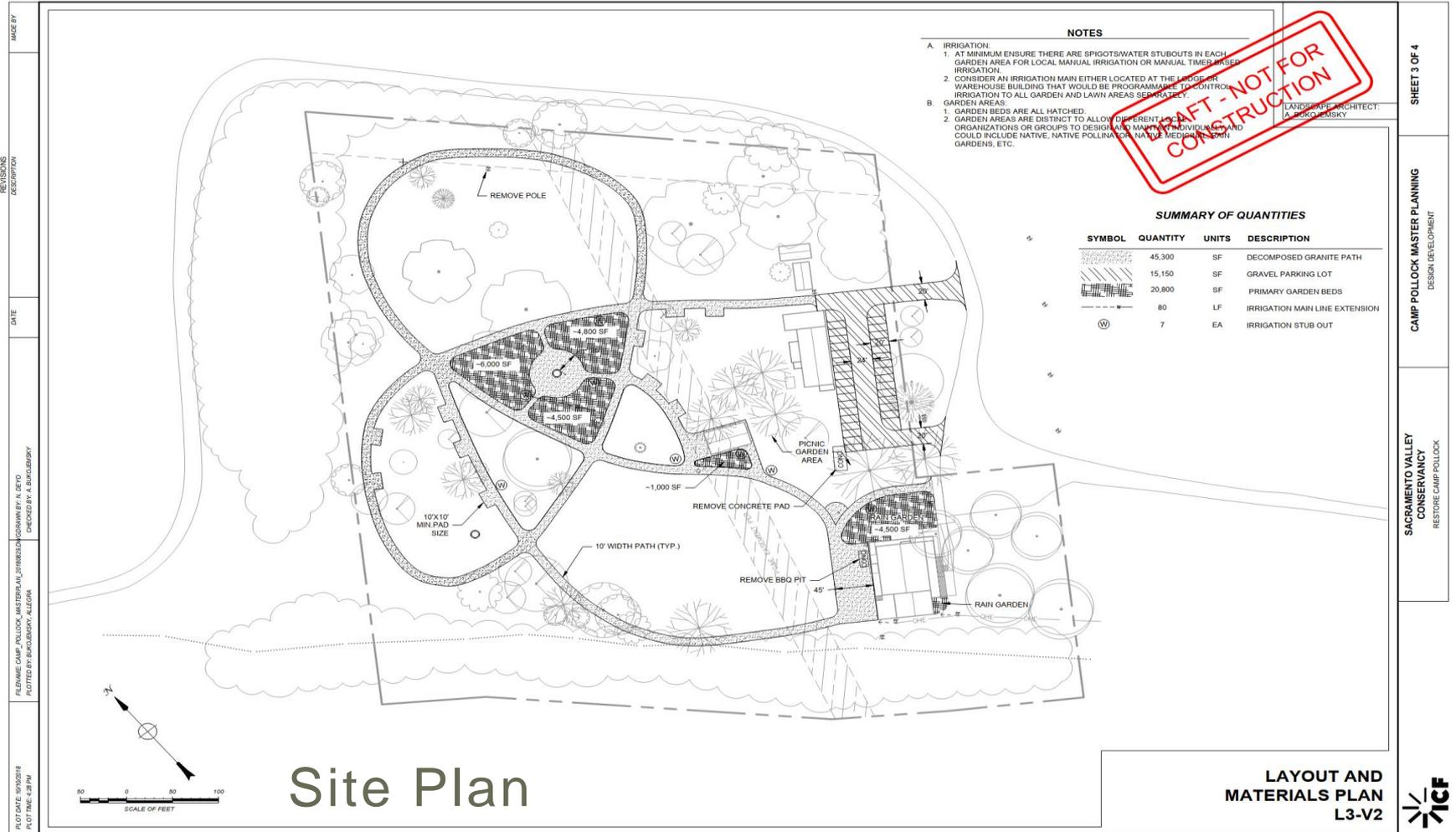
Existing River Walk Trail that will be made accessible and tied into trail network

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement



One of two poles to be removed as a decommissioned amenity.

# #15. Camp Pollock Site Improvement

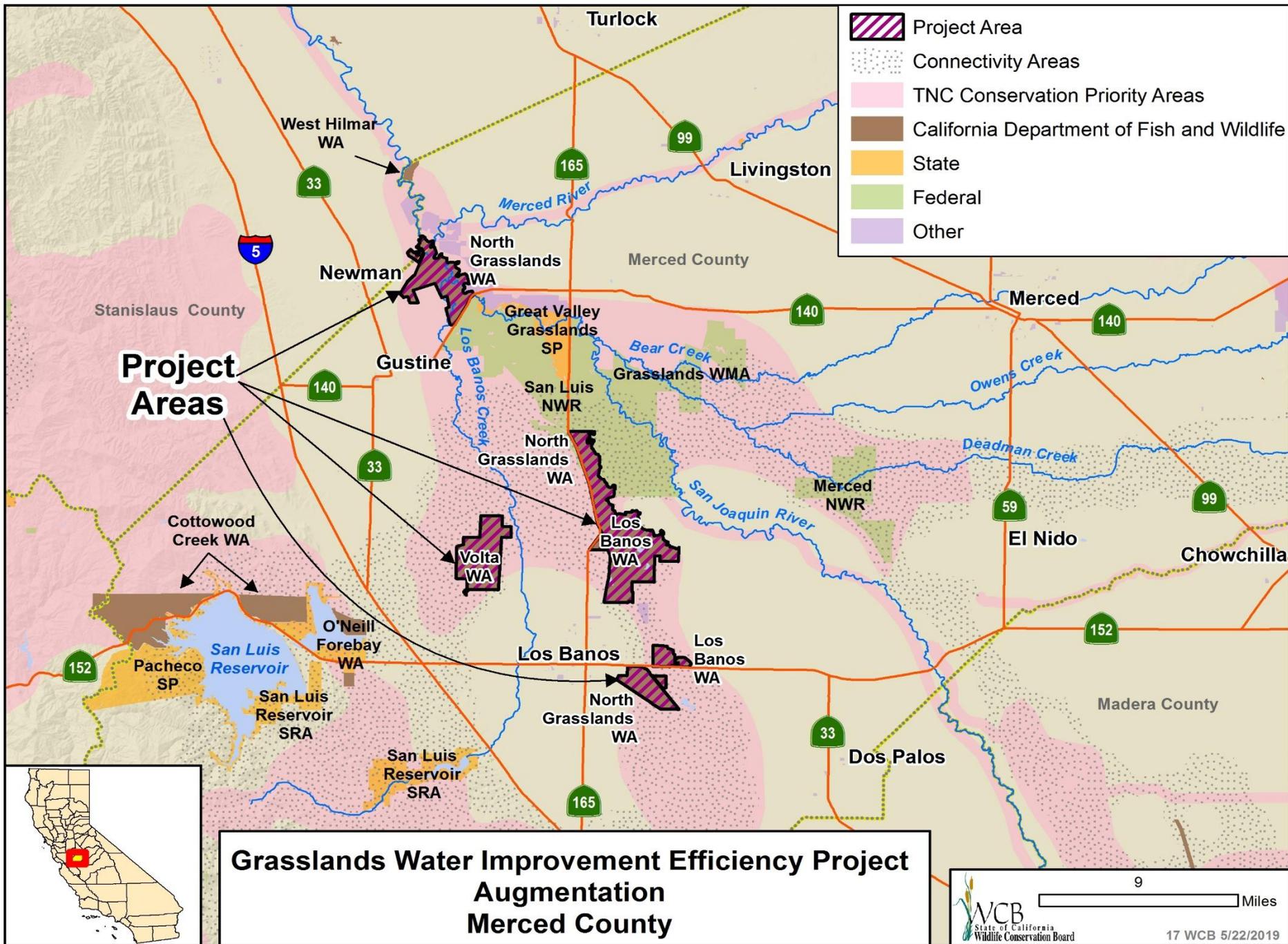


DRAFT - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

REVISIONS  
 MAKE BY  
 DATE  
 DESCRIPTION  
 FILENAME: CAMP\_POLLOCK\_MASTER\_PLAN\_DRRIBBLS130308.DWG BY: N. IEVO  
 CHECKED BY: A. BUDZINSKIY  
 PLOTTED BY: BUDZINSKIY, ALEGRA  
 PLOT DATE: 9/10/2018  
 PLOT TIME: 4:30 PM

SHEET 3 OF 4  
 SACRAMENTO VALLEY CONSERVANCY  
 RESTORE CAMP POLLOCK  
 CAMP POLLOCK MASTER PLANNING  
 DESIGN DEVELOPMENT





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

**Project Areas**

**Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project  
Augmentation  
Merced County**

9 Miles

WCB  
 State of California  
 Wildlife Conservation Board

17 WCB 5/22/2019

# #16. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project Augmentation



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

# #16. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project Augmentation



A functioning broad crested weir

# #16. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project Augmentation



A section of the main delivery ditch bank on the Gadwell 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.

# #16. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project Augmentation



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.

# #16. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project Augmentation



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.

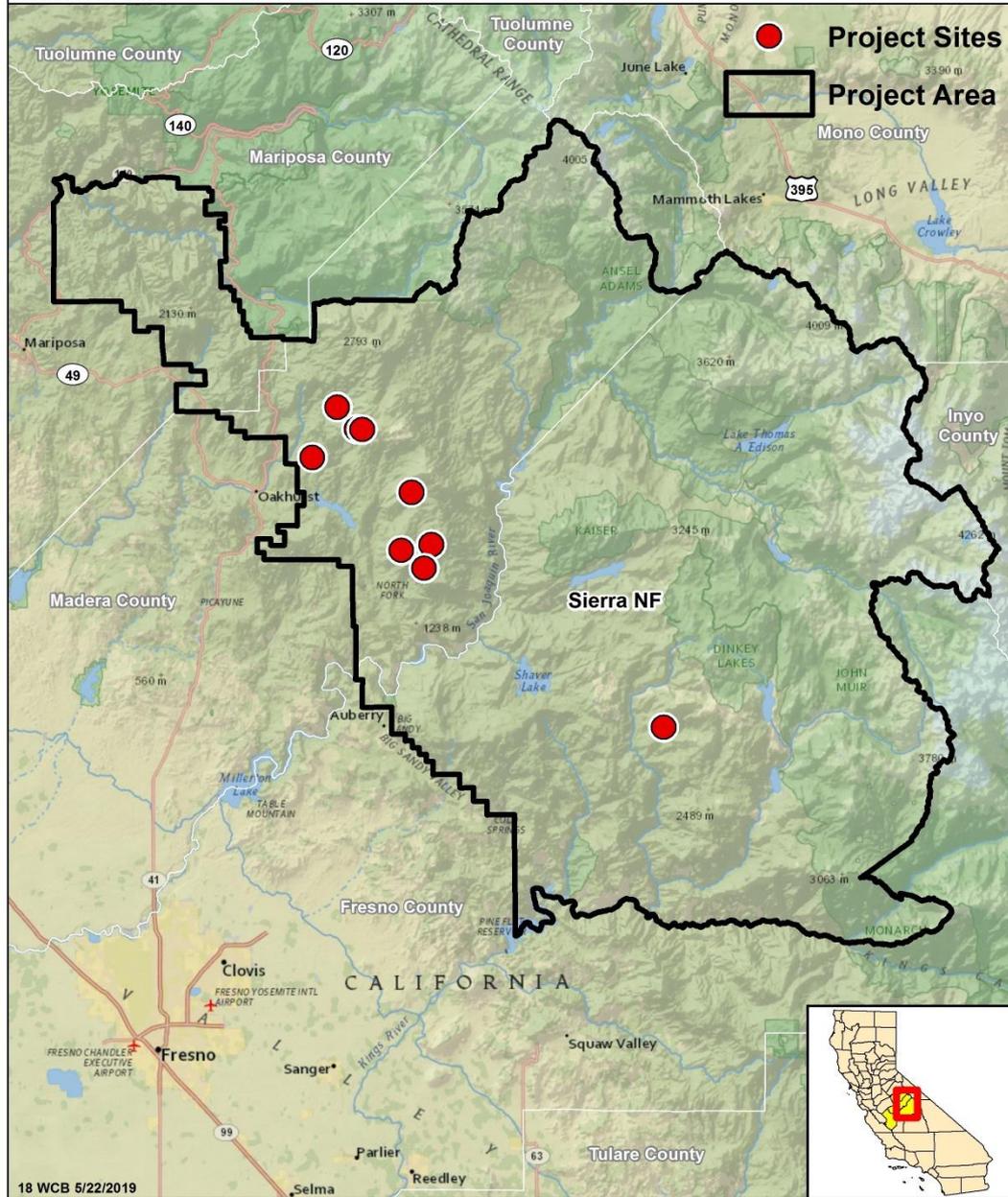
# #16. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project Augmentation



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.



# Sierra National Forest, Meadows Restoration Planning Madera/Fresno County



# #17. Sierra National Forest, Meadows Restoration Planning



Beehive Meadow headcut and streambank sluffing.

# #17. Sierra National Forest, Meadows Restoration Planning



Conifer encroachment at meadow edge.

# #17. Sierra National Forest, Meadows Restoration Planning

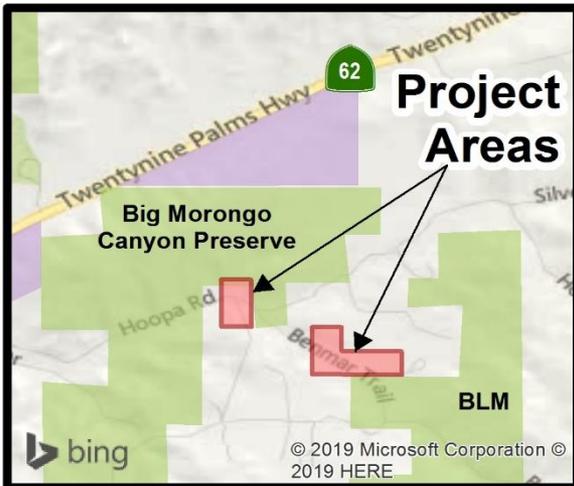


Sinkhole in meadow from diversion piping.

# #17. Sierra National Forest, Meadows Restoration Planning

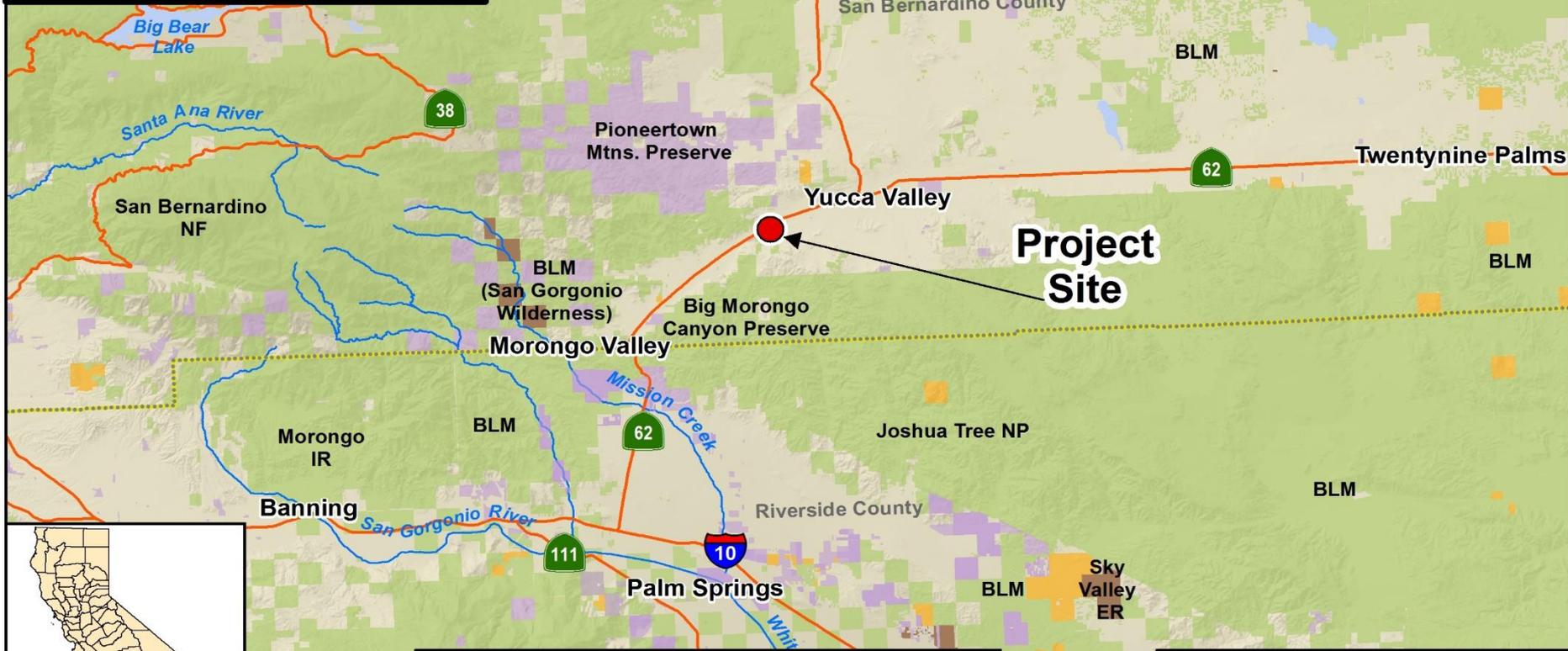


Peckinpah Meadow- sawdust fire recovery



**Legend**

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



**Morongo Basin, Expansion 5  
San Bernardino County**

10 Miles

19 WCB 5/22/2019

# #18. Morongo Basin, Expansion 5



Typical desert habitat found on the Thomas Parcel

# #18. Morongo Basin, Expansion 5

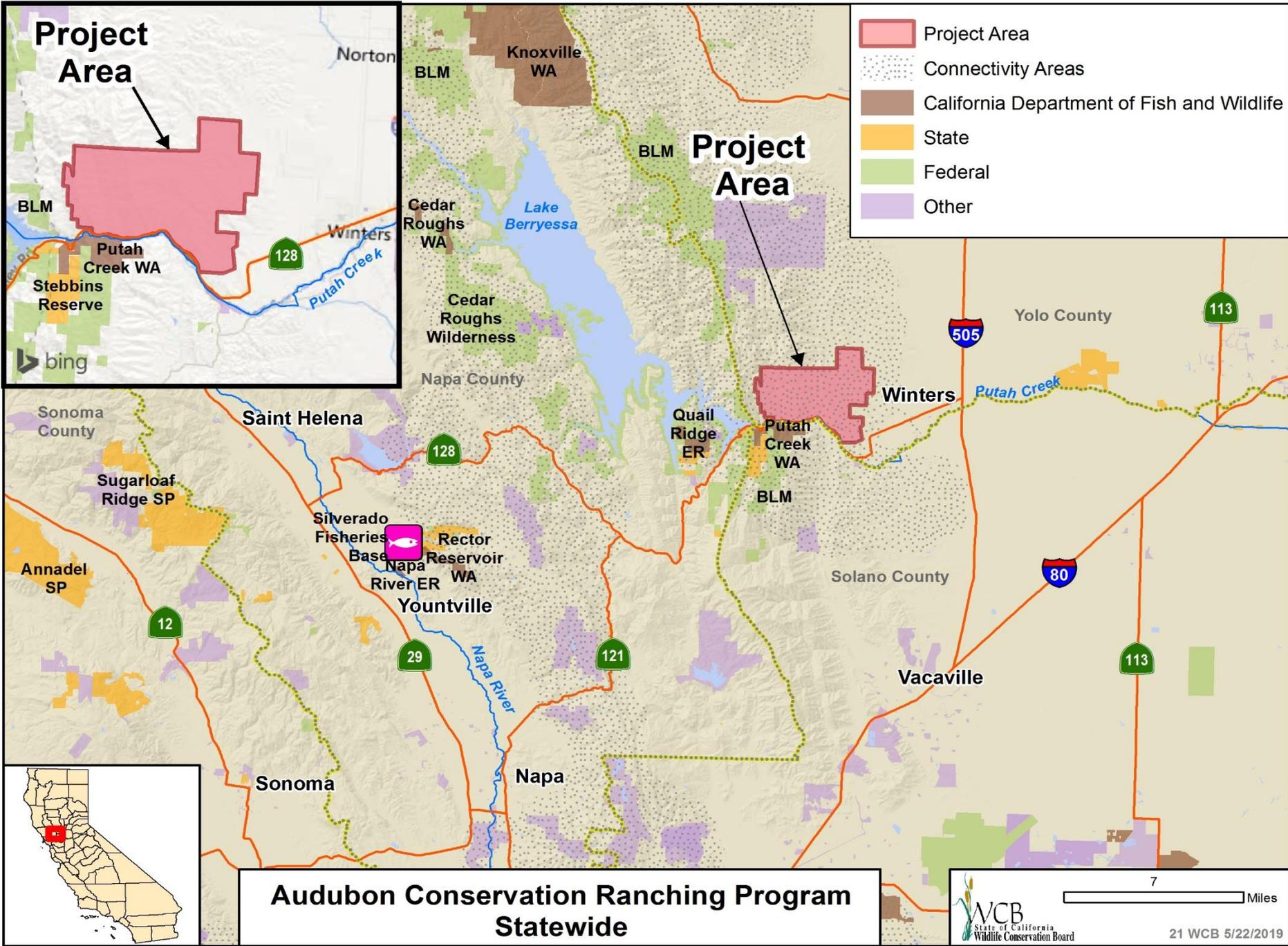


Joshua Tree and creosote bush dominated the plant community on the Thomas Parcel, Morongo Basin Expansion 5

## #20. Otay Mesa Vernal Pool



This item has been withdrawn from consideration at this time.



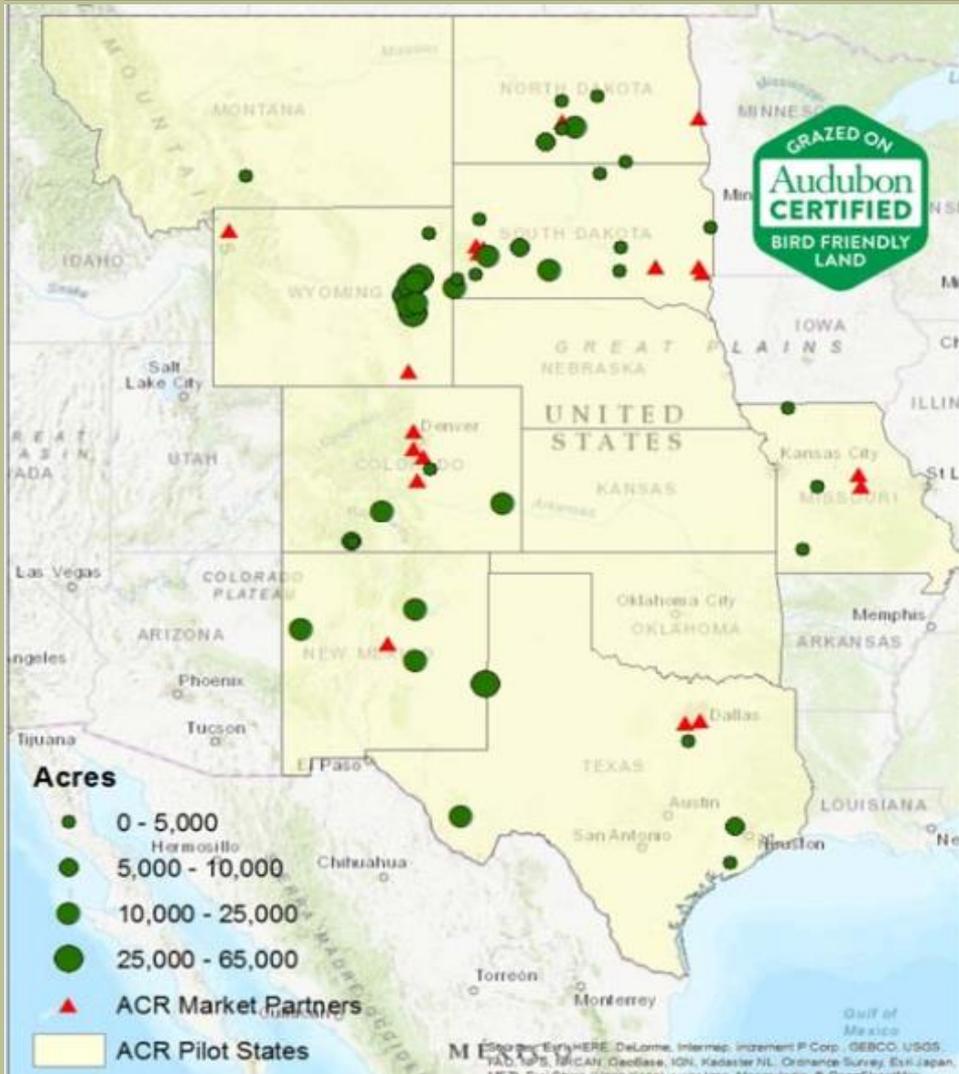
# #20. Audubon Conservation Ranching Program



California's  
rangelands:

- Approx. 41 million acres
- Average 20,000 acres lost annually
- Remaining grasslands are being degraded

# #20. Audubon Conservation Ranching Program

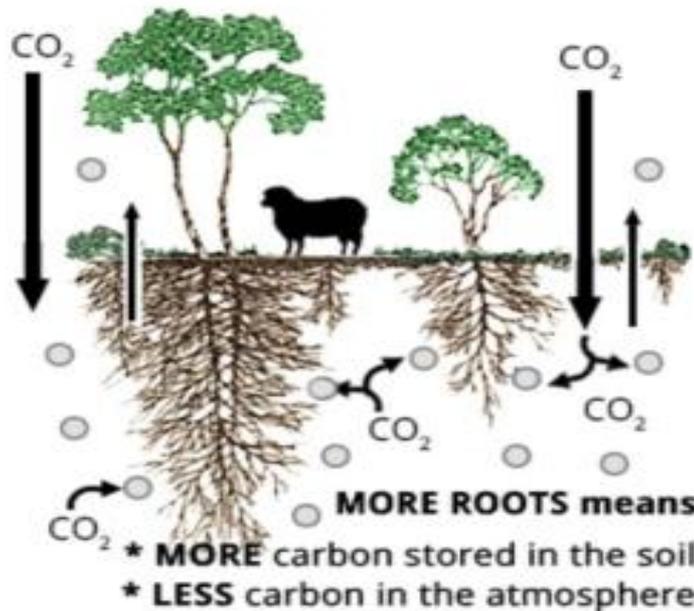


- Audubon Conservation Ranching Program: connecting sustainable ranching with eco-conscious consumers
- Existing participation:
  - 60 ranches enrolled (799,244 acres)
  - Supply chain: 42 restaurants, retailers and institutions
- Overall process:
  - Certification
  - Market opportunities

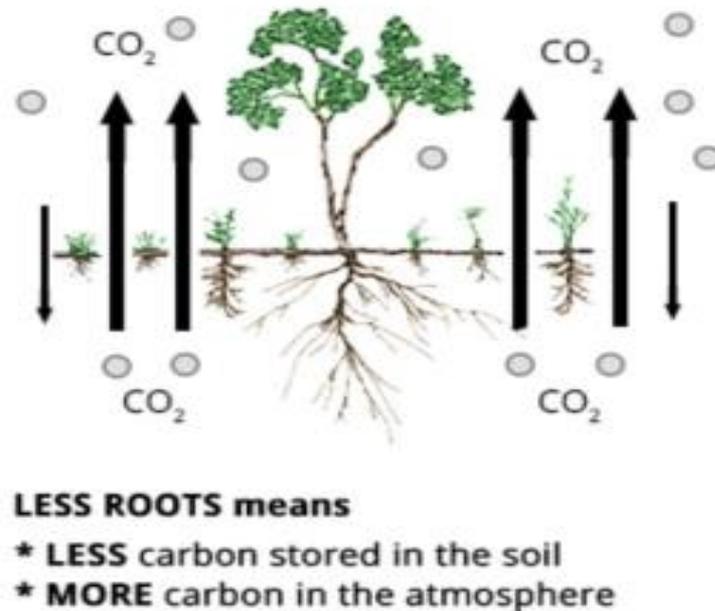
# #20. Audubon Conservation Ranching Program



## Holistically Managed Land

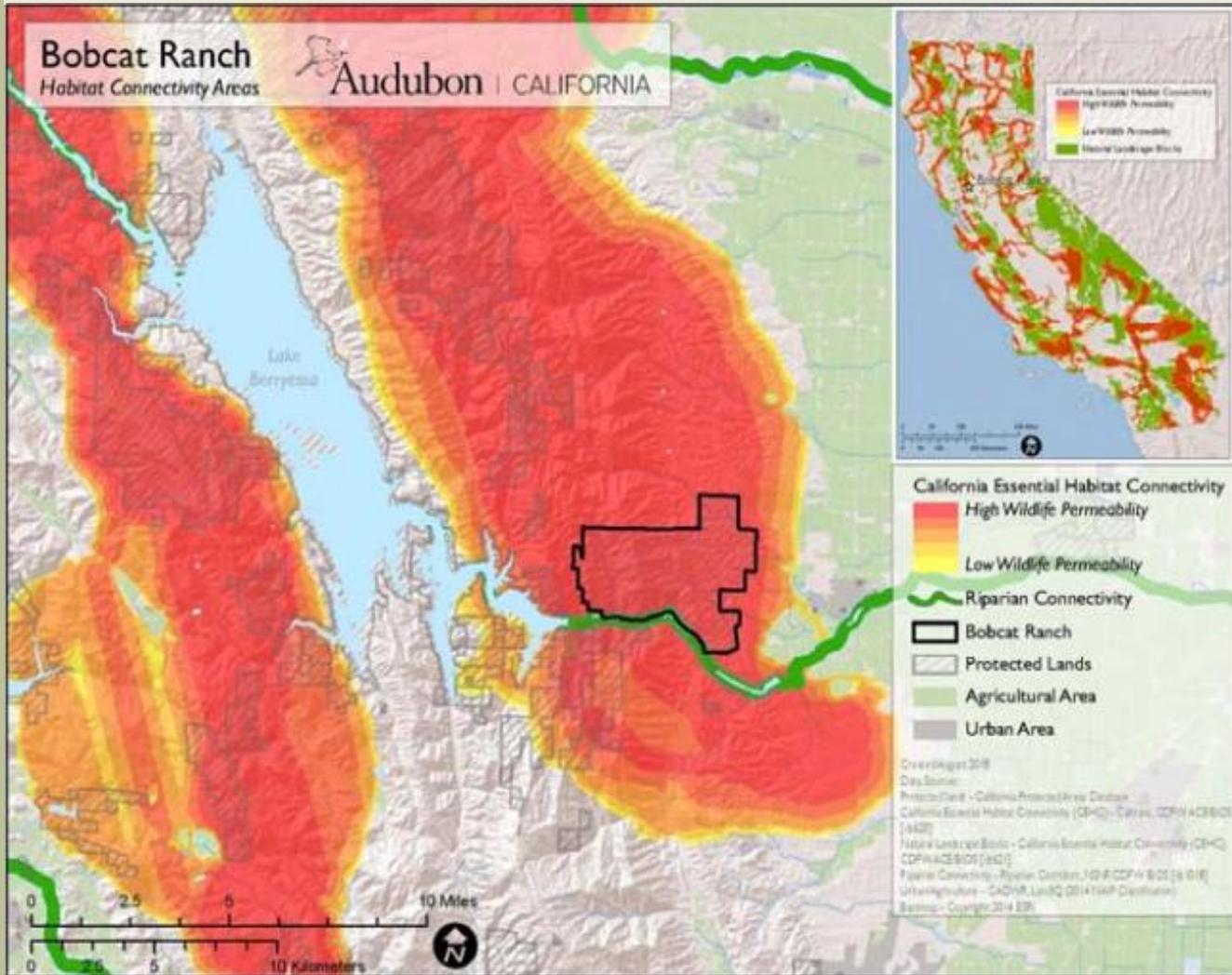


## Conventionally Managed Land



- Habitat Management
- Forage and feeding
- Animal health and welfare
- Environmental sustainability

# #20. Audubon Conservation Ranching Program



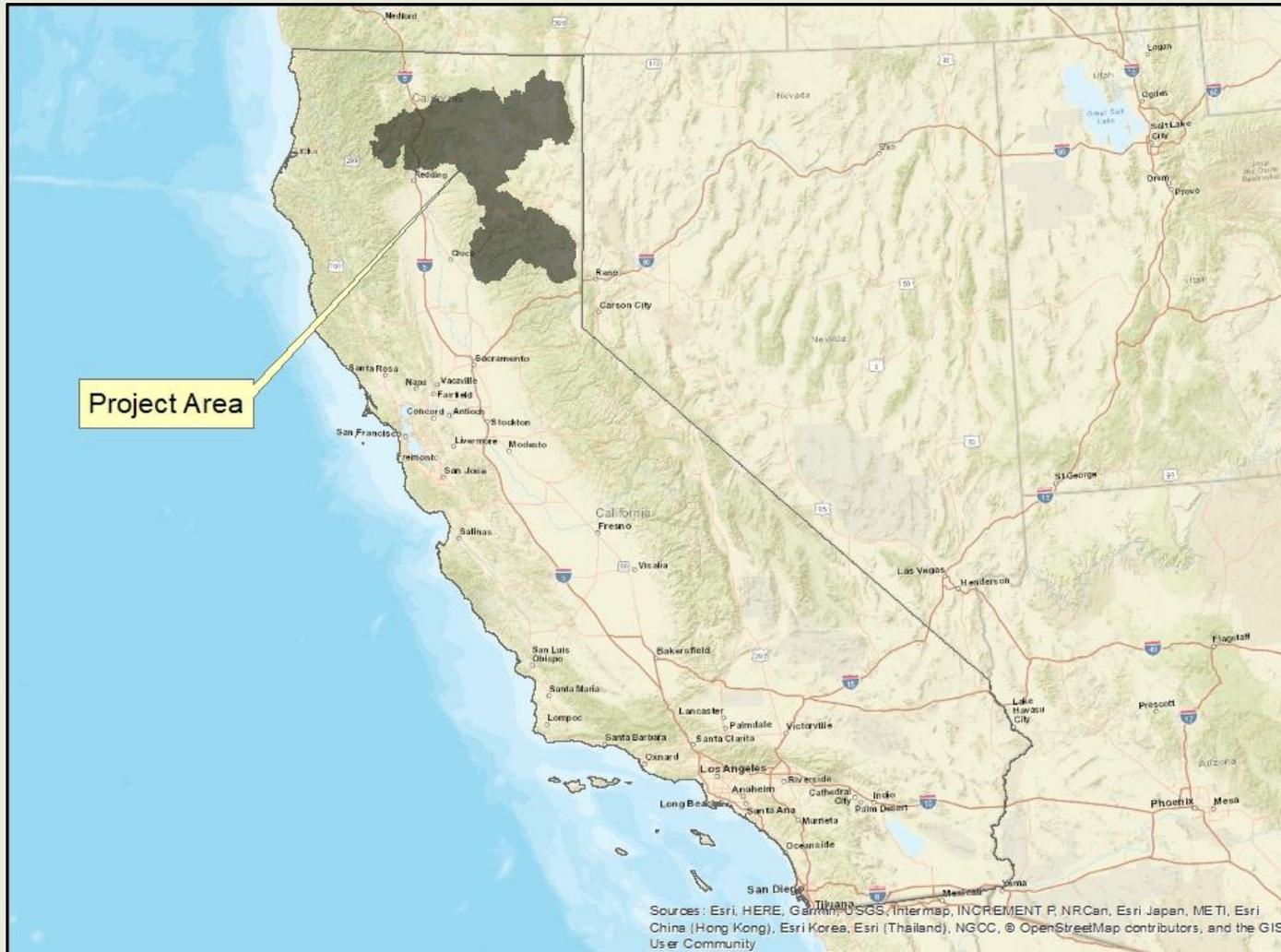


# Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds

## Trinity/Siskiyou/Sierra/Shasta/Plumas/Modoc/Lassen/Butte County

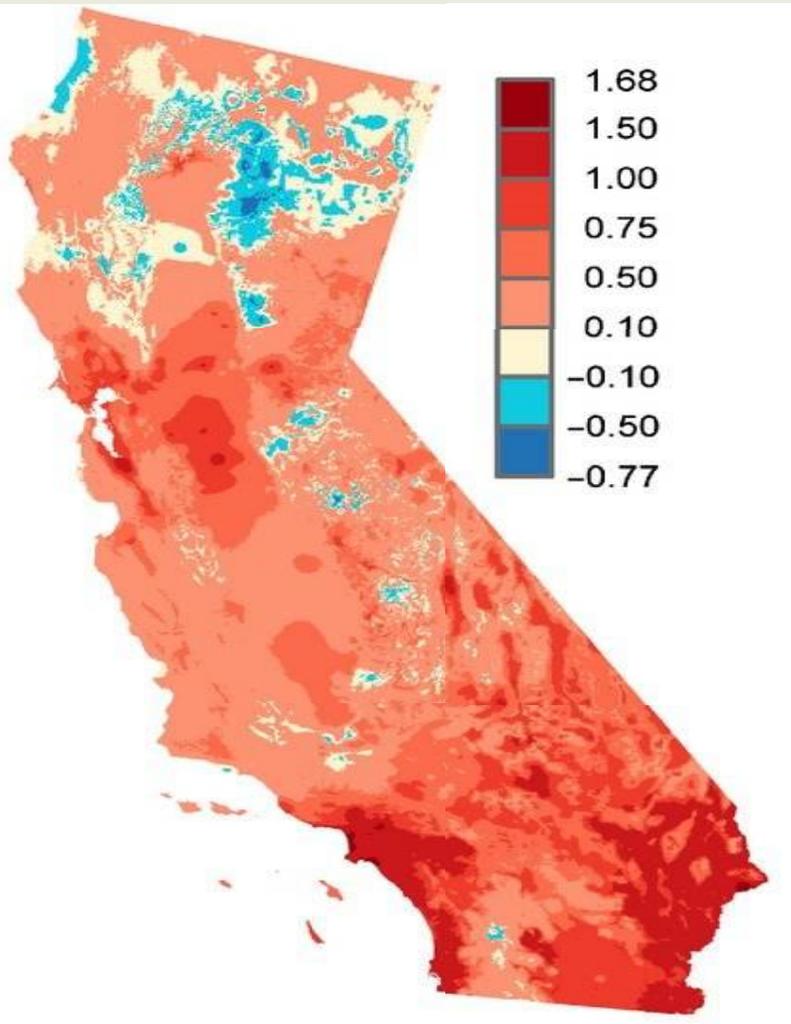


# #21. Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds



- 5 key watersheds
- 7million-acre project area
- water for 28 million Californians

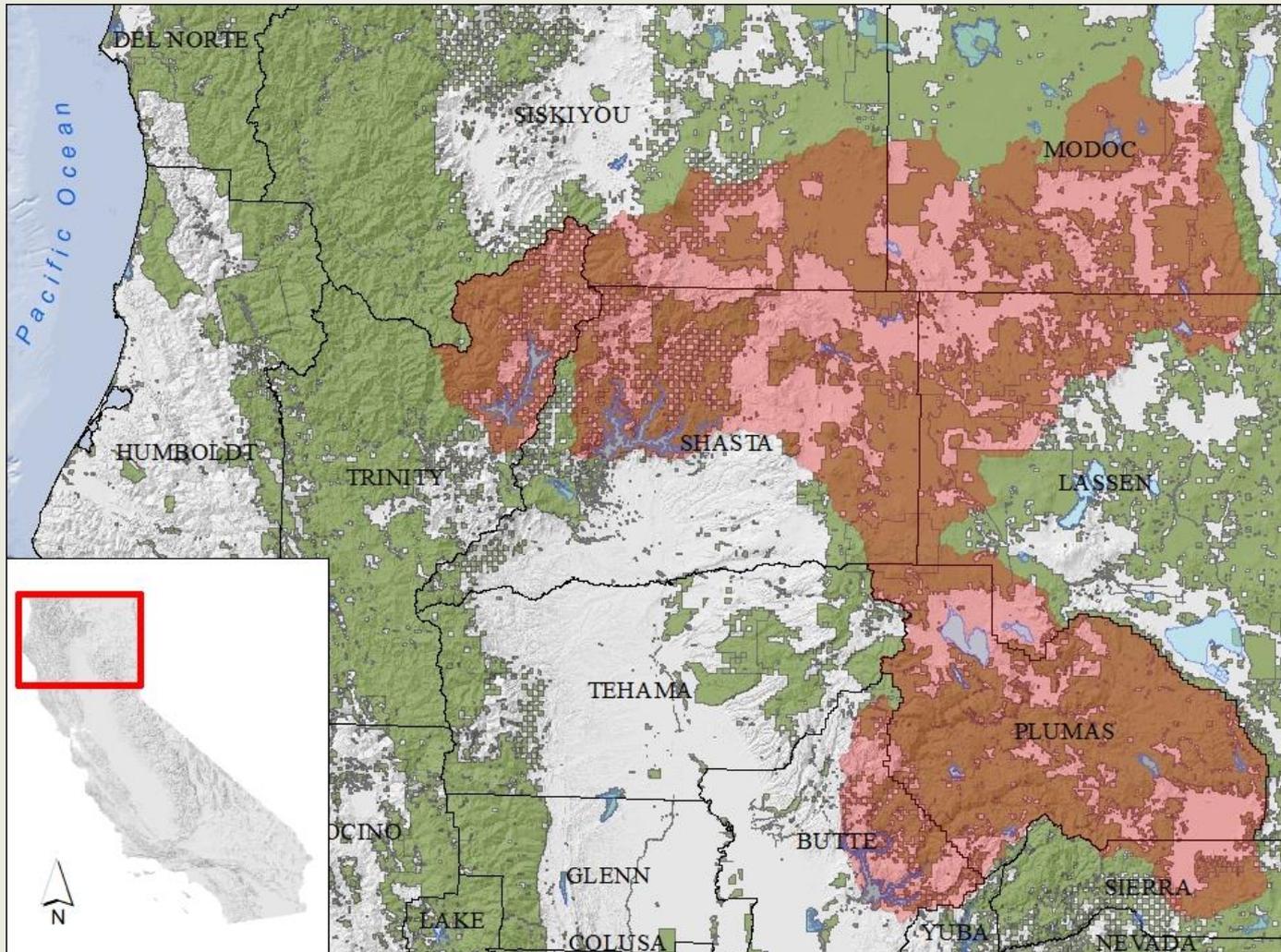
# #21. Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds



## Change in mean annual temp (°C) during the 20<sup>th</sup> century

- Cascade cooler and wetter
- Projected to continue as such

# #21. Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds



- 62% public ownership
- Fragmented
- Degraded habitat:
  - 65% forest
  - 90% meadow (PFT 2017)

# #21. Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds



← grazing impacts  
to stream bank



post-fire →  
sedimentation

# #21. Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds



Stream channel restoration (McCloud River)

# #21. Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds



## Restoration Opportunities

- Forests
- Meadows
- Streams
- Roads
- Connectivity



# Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands

## Stanislaus/Sonoma/Santa Barbara/San Mateo/Napa/Mendocino Marin/Humboldt/Del Norte County



# #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



Agricultural Land in California

## #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



- Soils contain approximately 75% of the land carbon pool
- Increasing soil organic carbon (SOC) storage can significantly reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide



## #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



Agricultural lands interface with wetlands, grasslands, riparian corridors, and aquatic environments

Wildlife friendly agricultural practices:

- Provide food and cover for wildlife
- Enhance wildlife and nesting habitat
- Increase biological diversity
- Improve wildlife migration corridors
- Maintain riparian habitat

# #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



## Resource Conservation Districts (RCD):

- Humboldt County
- Gold Ridge
- Cahuma
- Sonoma
- Mendocino County
- Napa
- Marin
- East Stanislaus
- Del Norte
- San Mateo

## Counties:

- Del Norte
- San Mateo
- Humboldt
- Santa Barbara
- Marin
- Sonoma
- Mendocino
- Stanislaus
- Napa

- Work in cooperation with farmers to identify management practices that will provide multiple long-term ecosystem services
- Conservation Carbon Farm Plans
- Streamflow Enhancement Plans



## #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



### Conservation Carbon Farming Plans (CCFP)

- A CCFP is a guiding document that landowners use to implement conservation practices over the course of multiple years.
- Identifies practices for a farm to implement to increase carbon sequestration and improve wildlife habitat



# #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



Windbreak/Shelterbelt



Hedgerow

- Frequently Recommended Practices
- Hedgerows
  - Riparian Forest Buffer Establishment
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
  - Filter strip
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover
  - Range planting
  - Silvopasture
  - Alley Cropping



Silvopasture



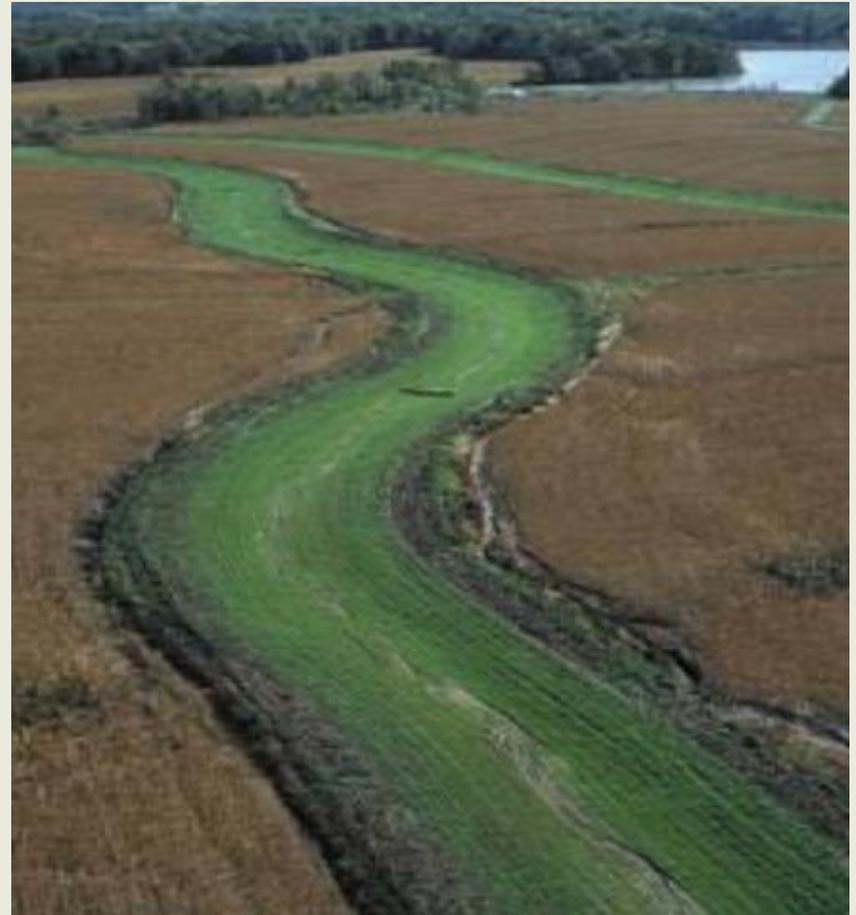
Alley Cropping

## #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



### Streamflow Enhancement Plans (SEP)

- Set of tools to aid voluntary water conservation efforts
- SEPs may include grassy swales, rain gardens, rainwater catchment and streamflow diversion forbearance, and forest management
- Will help compensate for increasingly frequent and prolonged periods of droughts and floods



Grassy Swale

# #22. Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Carbon Sequestration on Working Lands



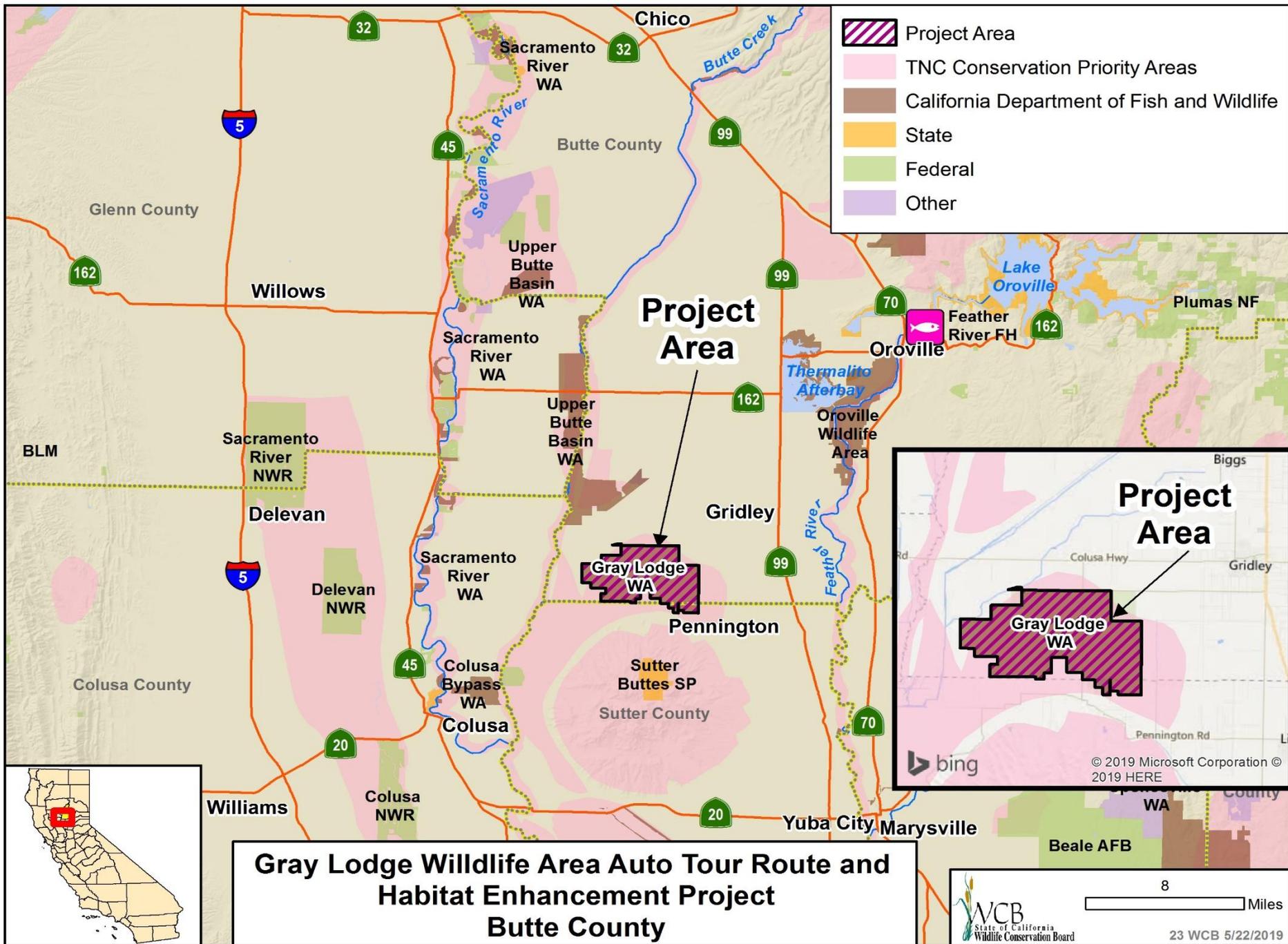
## Agricultural Producer Outreach



Workshops



Farmer to Farmer Field Days



**Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Auto Tour Route and  
Habitat Enhancement Project  
Butte County**



# #23. Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Auto Tour Route and Habitat Enhancement Project



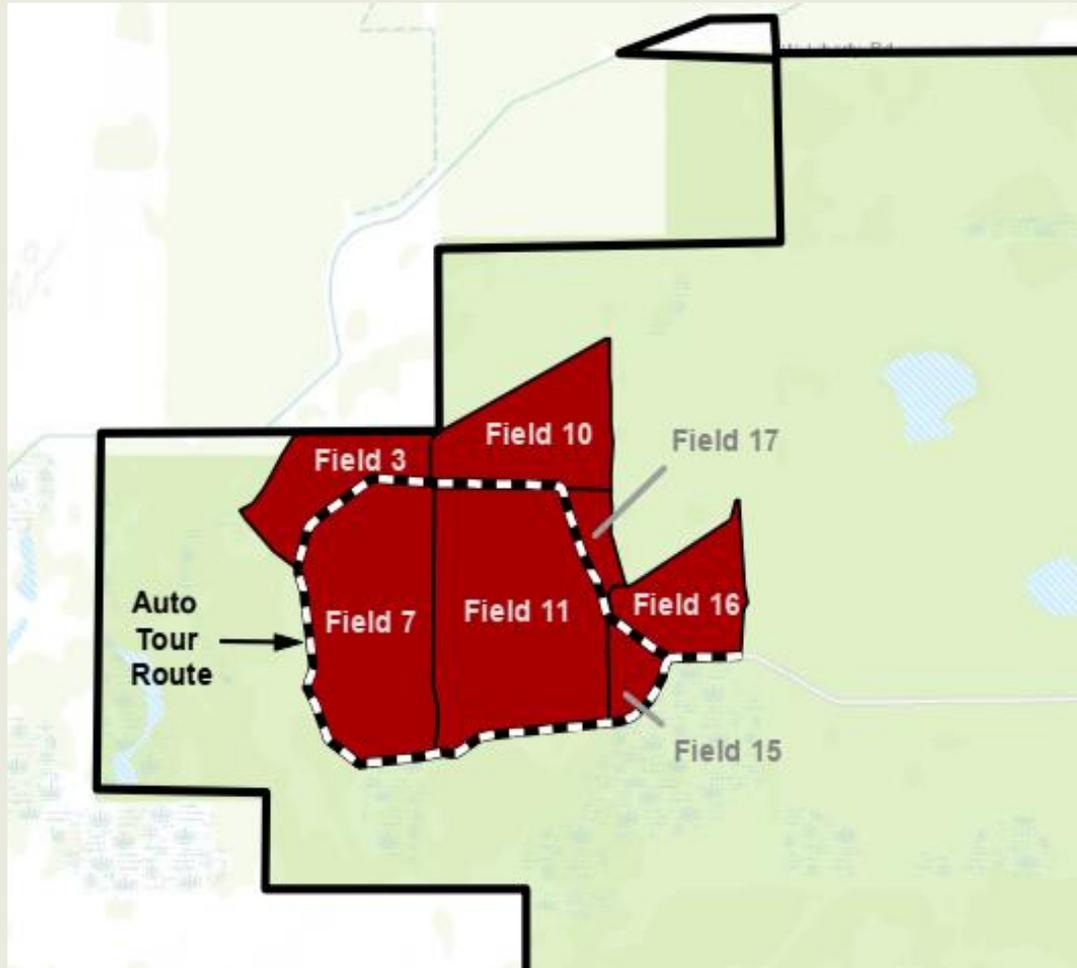
Wetland fields within the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area

# #23. Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Auto Tour Route and Habitat Enhancement Project



Wetland field with low functioning swale system

# #23. Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Auto Tour Route and Habitat Enhancement Project



Map showing the relationship between the project's wetland fields and auto-tour route

# #23. Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Auto Tour Route and Habitat Enhancement Project



Steep levee sides can lead to dangerous driving conditions

# #23. Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Auto Tour Route and Habitat Enhancement Project

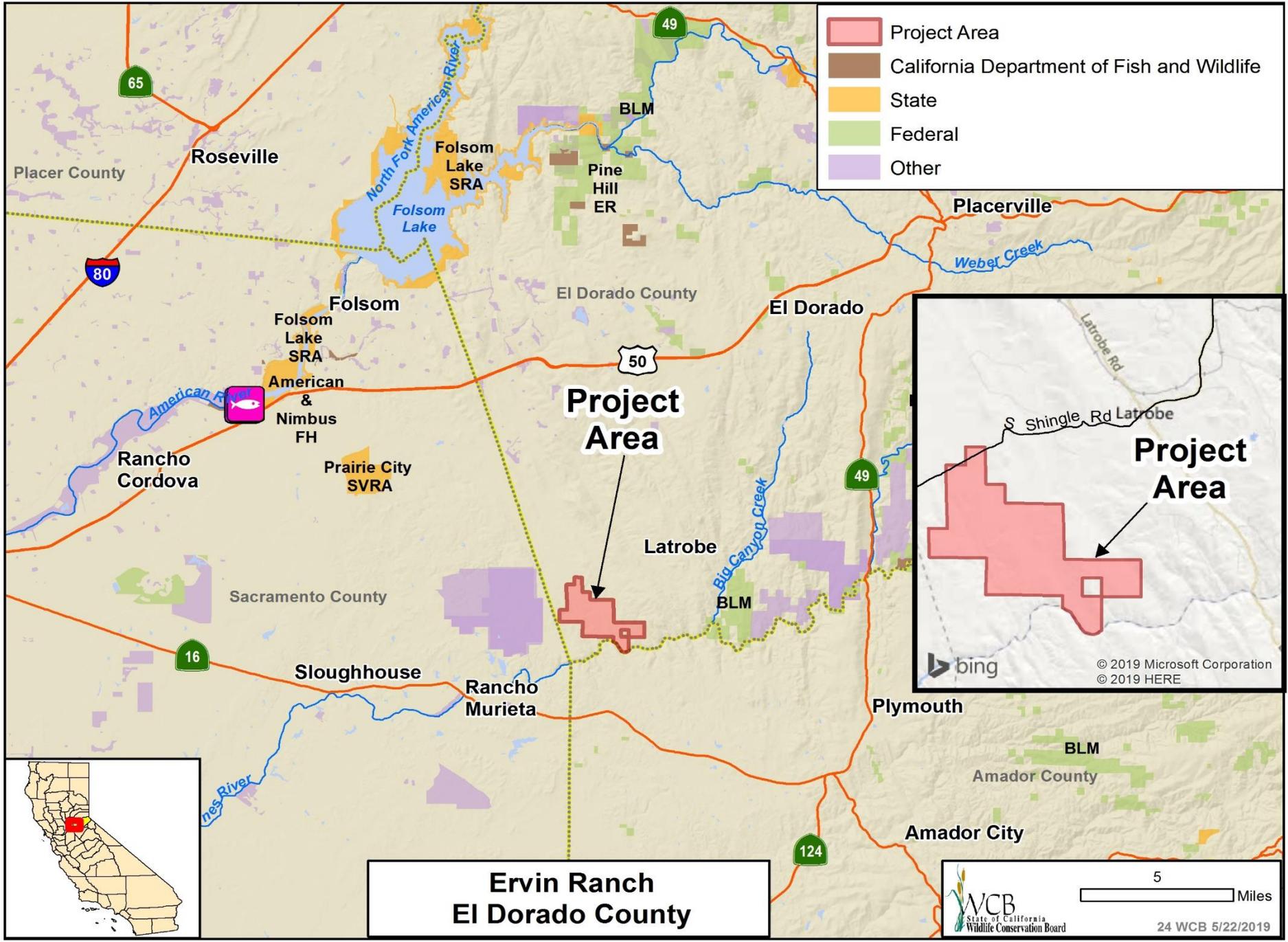


Degraded water control structures will be replaced with new structures to improve water conveyance

# #23. Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Auto Tour Route and Habitat Enhancement Project



Project enhancements will provide benefits to wildlife and improve public recreational opportunities.



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

**Project Area**

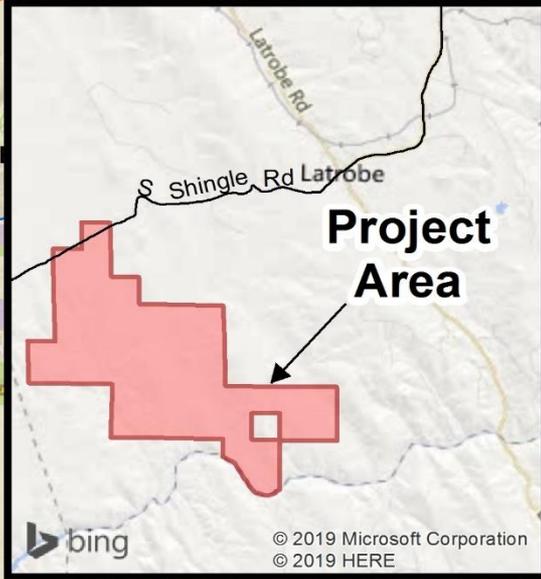
**Project Area**

**Ervin Ranch  
El Dorado County**

5  
Miles

**WCB**  
 State of California  
 Wildlife Conservation Board

24 WCB 5/22/2019



# #24. Ervin Ranch



Cosumnes River on Ervin Ranch, riparian, oak woodland and grassland habitats dominate the ranch.

## #24. Ervin Ranch



Cosumnes River is one of the few rivers in California lacking major dam infrastructure.

## #24. Ervin Ranch



Gray pines are part of the oak woodland habitat type located on the Ervin Ranch.

# #24. Ervin Ranch

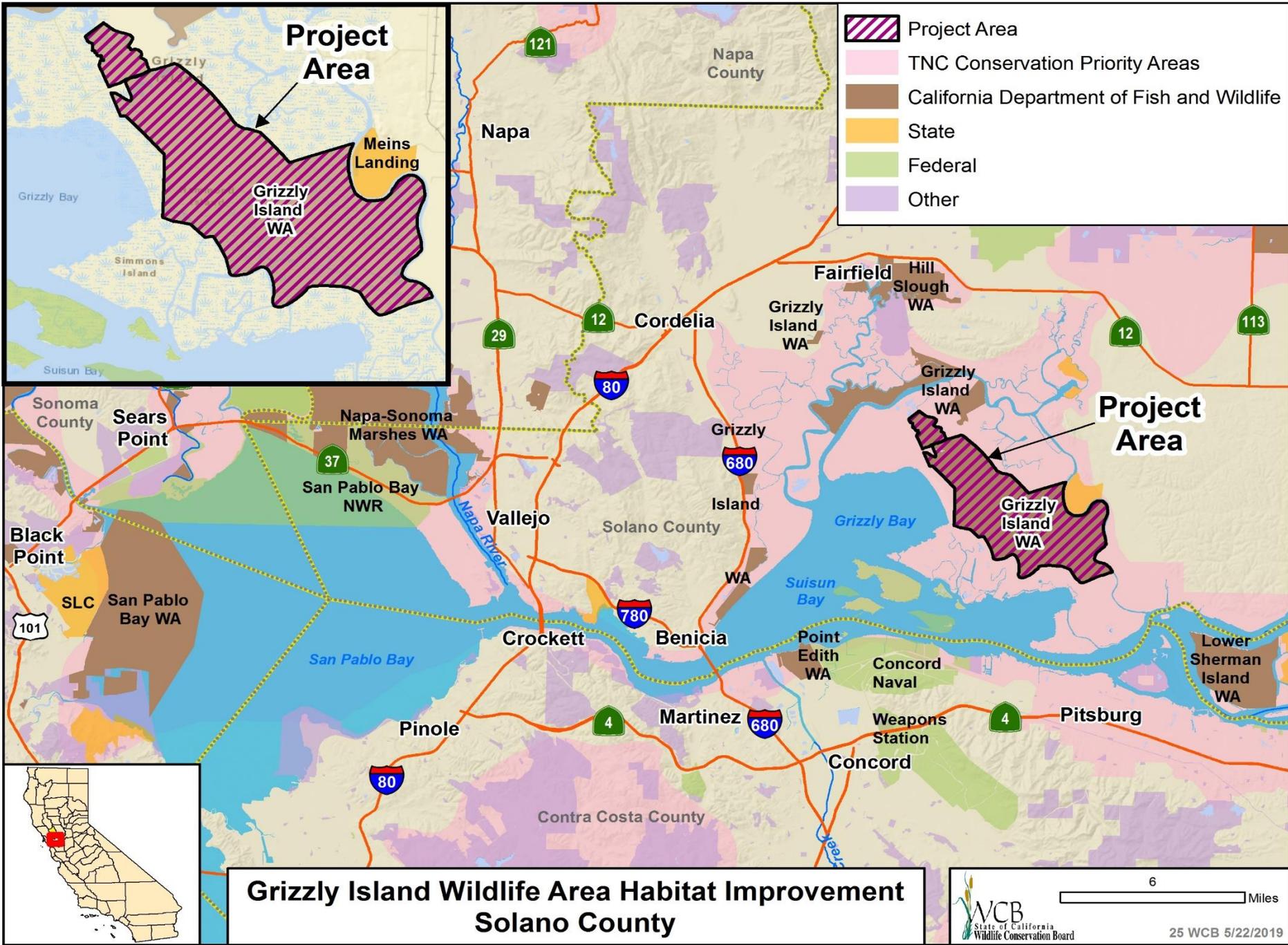


Typical oak woodland and grasslands found on the Ervin Ranch.

## #24. Ervin Ranch



Common Button Bush  
(*Cephalanthus  
Occidentalis*) found  
on Ervin Ranch



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



# #25. Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Habitat Improvement



Waterfowl and waterbird use of flooded wetland field.

# #25. Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Habitat Improvement



Example of phragmites spread, choking out native wetland plants.

# #25. Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Habitat Improvement



Tule reestablishment after phragmites removal by burning at Grizzly Island.

# #25. Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Habitat Improvement



Wetlands within the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area.



Project Area

**Project Area**

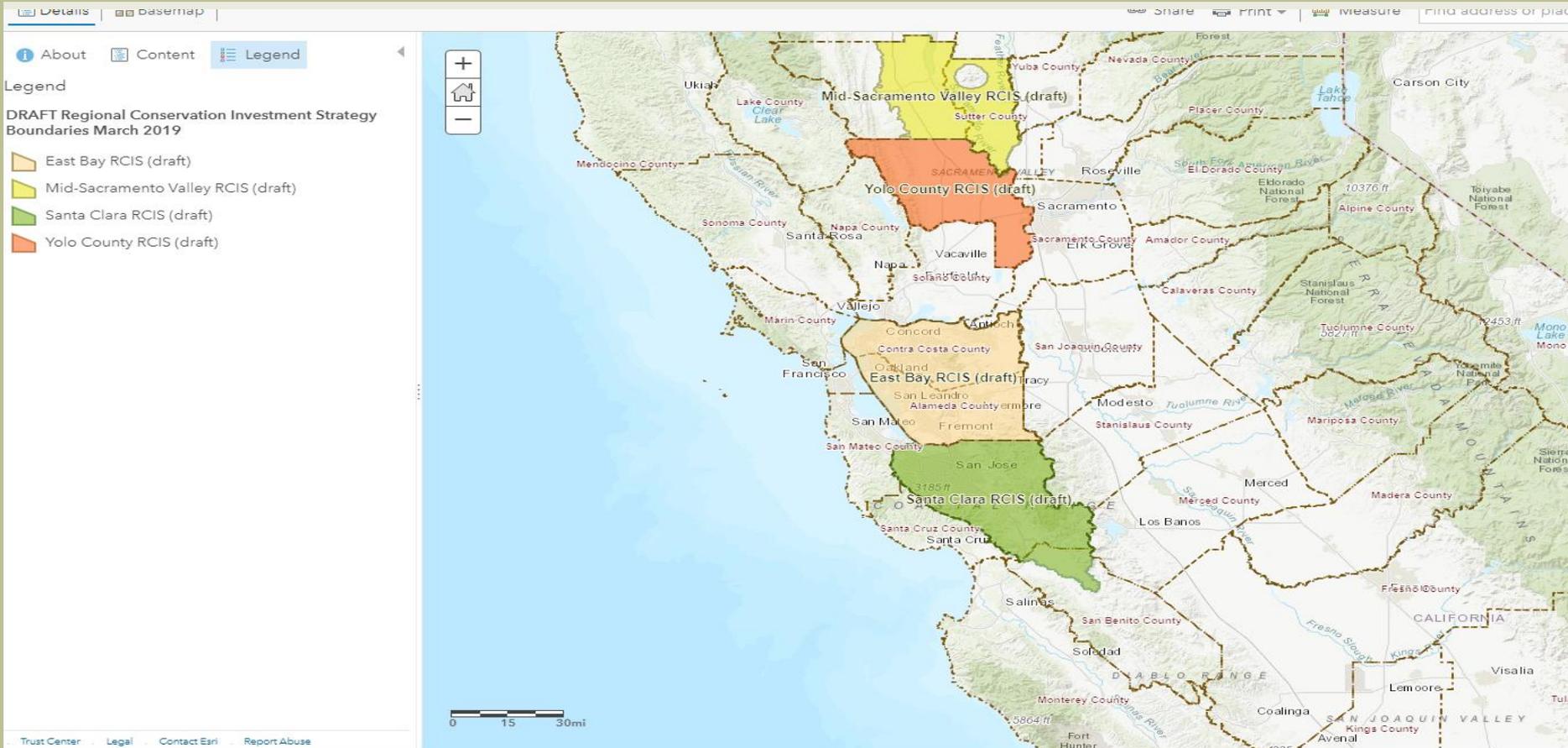
Pacific Ocean

**Santa Cruz County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy  
Santa Cruz County**



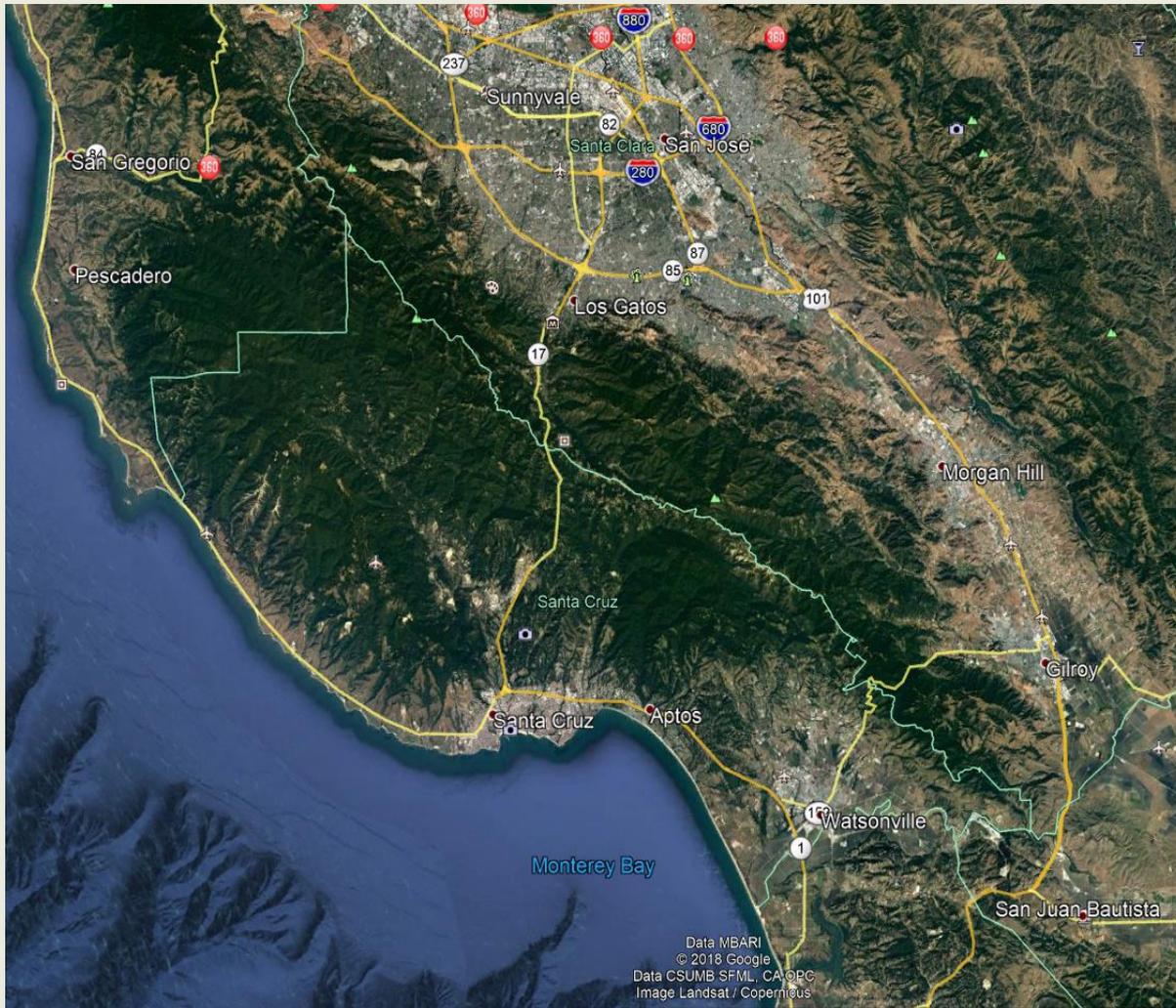
8 Miles

# #26. Santa Cruz County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy



Current Draft Regional Conservation Investment Strategies

# #26. Santa Cruz County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy



Aerial view of Santa Cruz County

# #26. Santa Cruz County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy



Santa Cruz County supports a wealth of native biodiversity. Moore Creek Preserve

# #26. Santa Cruz County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy



Coastal bluffs near Davenport on the left and Santa Cruz Mountains on the right



# #26. Santa Cruz County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy



Top left is the Santa Cruz long-toed salamander, top right is Watsonville slough, bottom left California red-legged frog, and Coho Salmon center.

# #27. Colton Sand Dunes



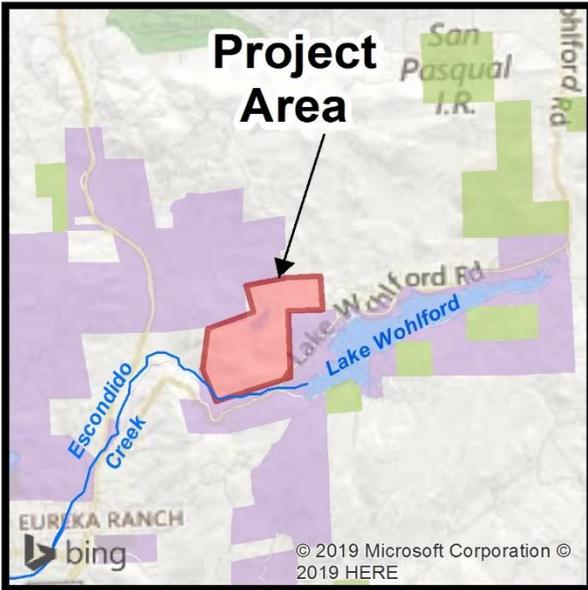
This project has been withdrawn from consideration at this time.

# #28. CDFW Land Management Plans, South Coast Region

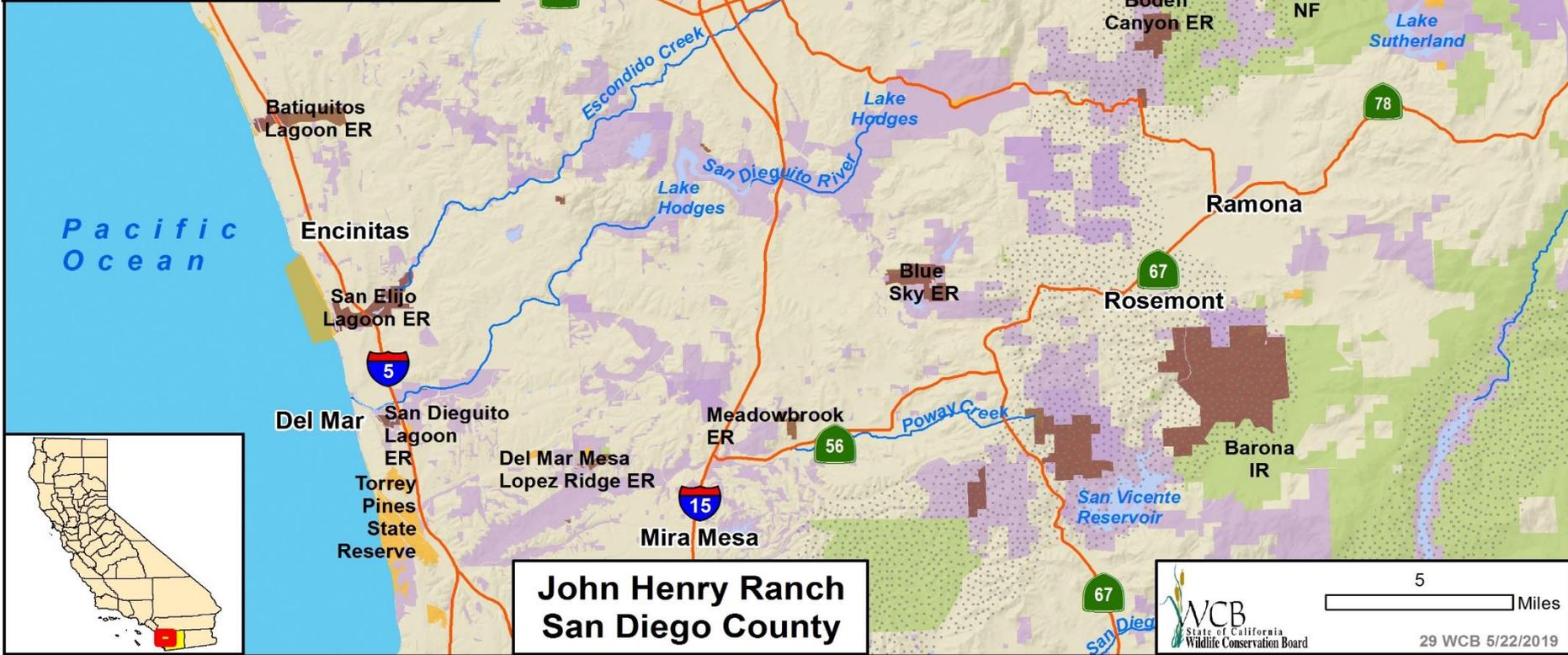
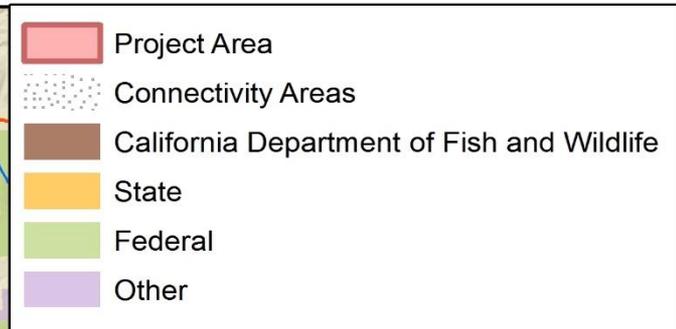


This project has been withdrawn from consideration at this time.

# Project Area



# Project Area



## John Henry Ranch San Diego County



# #29. John Henry Ranch



Endangered Engelmann Oak Woodlands

# #29. John Henry Ranch



Grassland and endangered Engelmann Oak Woodlands.

# #29. John Henry Ranch



Mixed Chaparral

# #29. John Henry Ranch

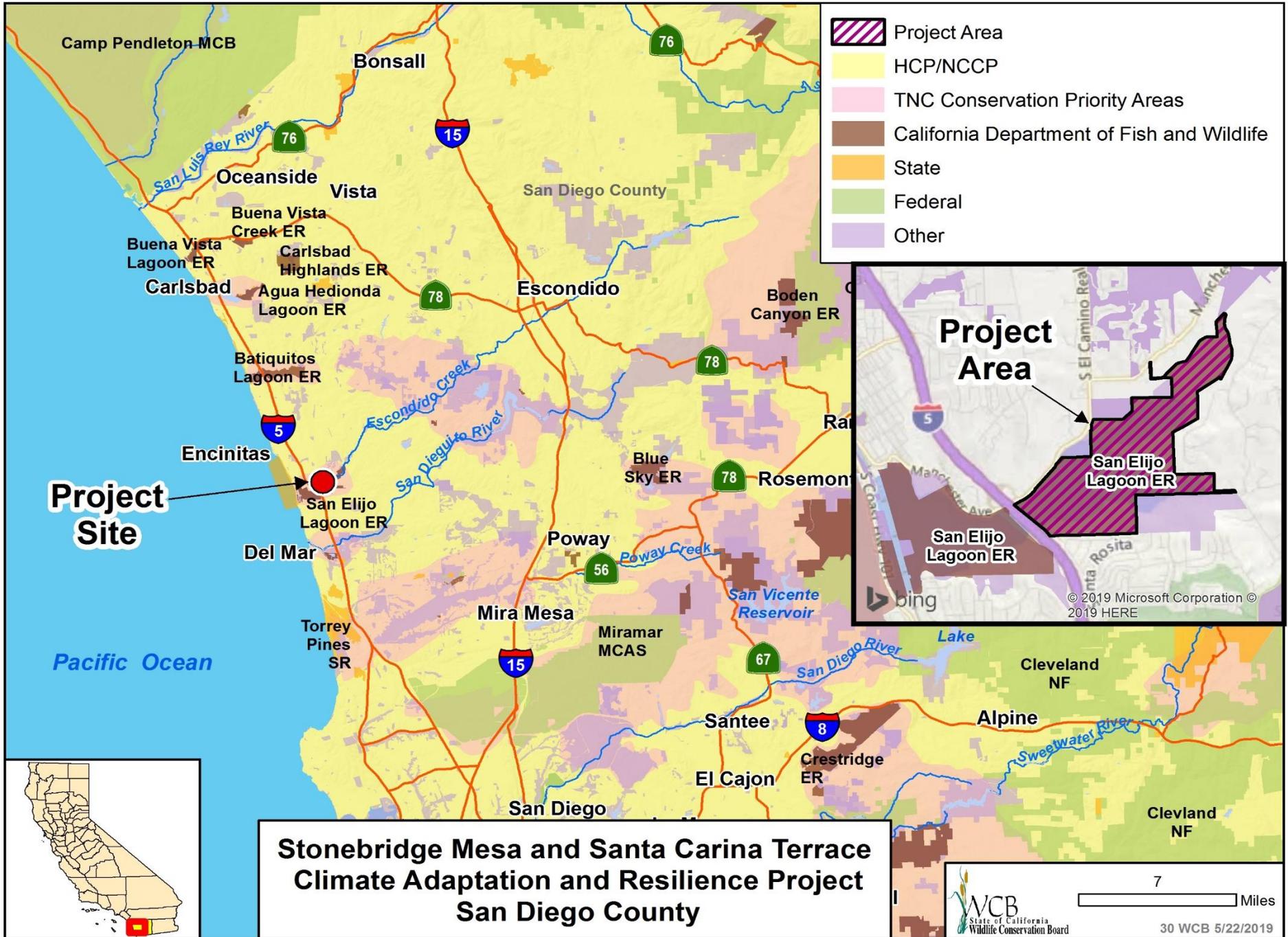


Grasslands along with mixed chaparral and scattered oak trees.

# #29. John Henry Ranch

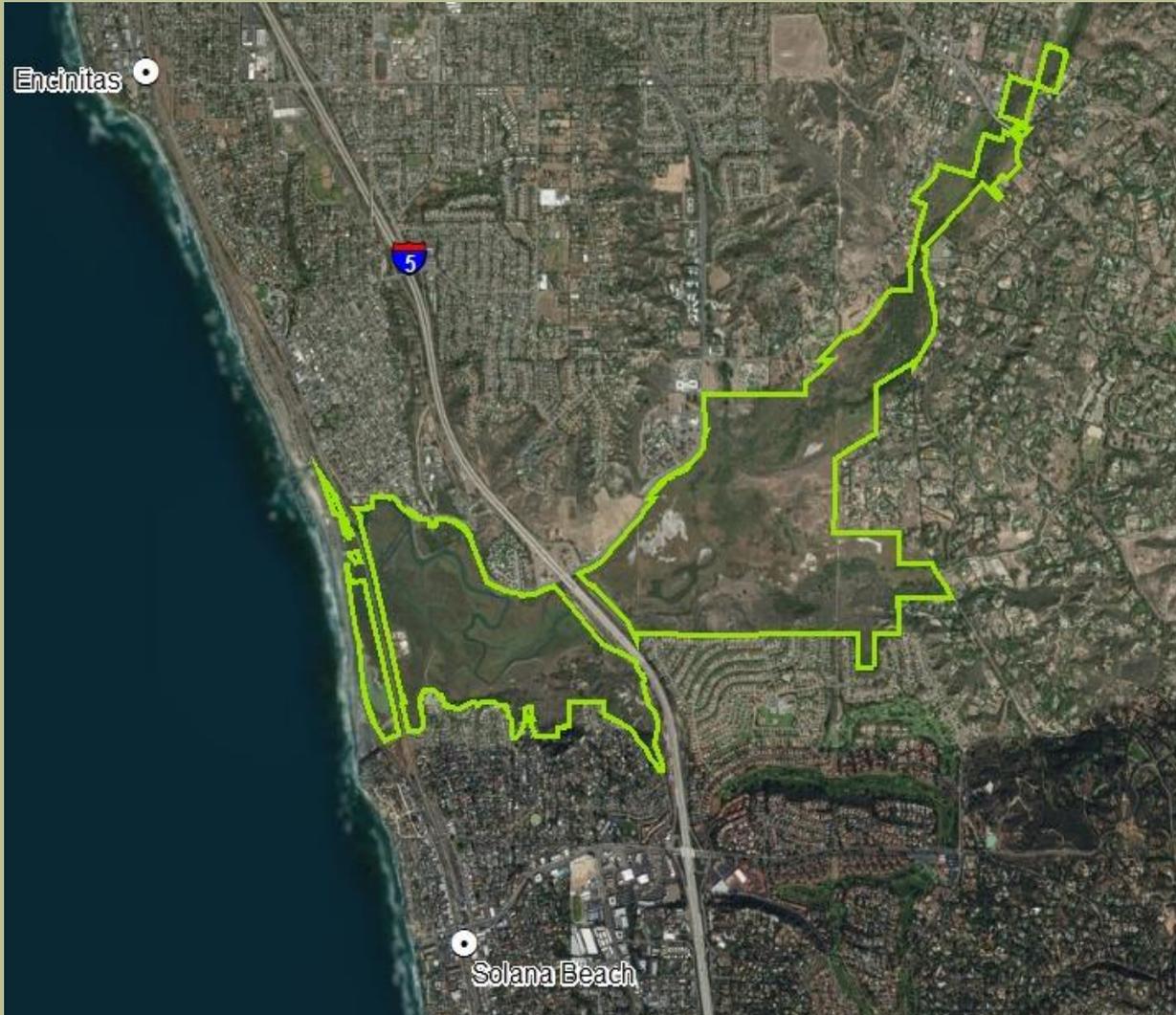


Mixed Chaparral



**Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace  
Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project  
San Diego County**

# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



San Elijo Lagoon  
Ecological  
Reserve (SELER)

# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace

# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



Looking Towards Stonebridge Mesa From Santa Carina Terrace

# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



## Current Site Conditions



Santa Carina Terrace



Stonebridge Mesa

# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



## Restoration Goals



Coastal Sage Scrub:  
25 Acres



Photo: California Native Grasslands Association

California Native Perennial Grasses:  
13 acres

# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



## Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

- New plantings will sequester 2,096 Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Provide high quality habitat for climate vulnerable wildlife species
- Supplement already rare vegetation types that are vulnerable to climate change
- Re-establish ecosystem functions including fog capture, fire resistance, and water infiltration
- Provide migration corridors for species impacted by sea level rise

# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



## Estuary to Upland Habitat Transition



# #30. Stonebridge Mesa and Santa Carina Terrace Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project



Coastal California Gnatcatcher



Orange Throated Whiptail

45 sensitive species occupying the SELER:

- 18 plants
- 7 reptiles
- 3 mammals
- 1 invertebrate
- 16 birds



Photo: Gary Nafis  
© Gary Nafis

Two-Striped Gartersnake



Photo: Calflora

California Adolphin



# STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

WEDNESDAY MAY 22, 2019

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## OUTLINE

- Conducted online survey – 60 full respondents (15-20 partial)
- Survey open through May 31
- Conducted two public meetings with about 75 participants combined
- Currently incorporating input and drafting an update document

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## Overall Pulse Of The Pre-meeting Survey Results

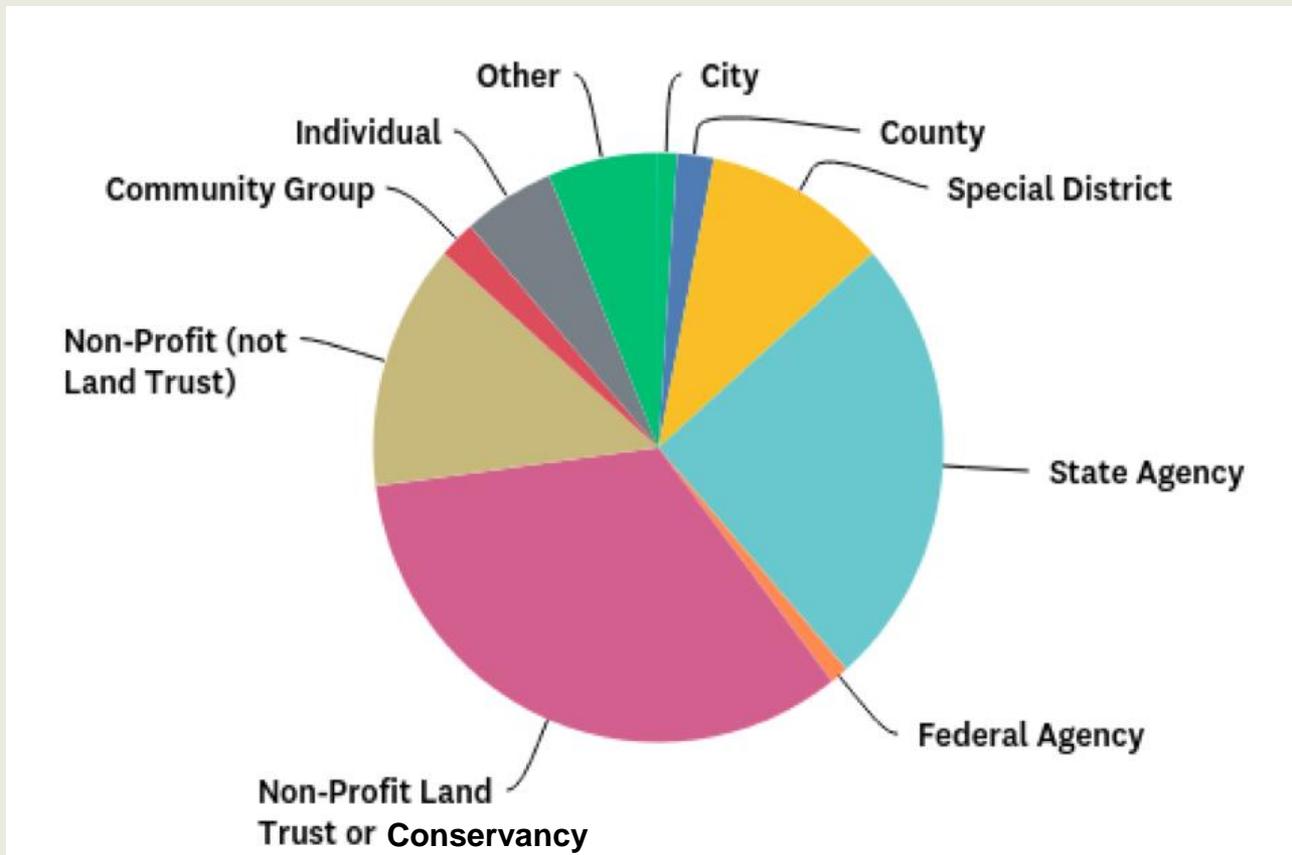
### *KEY THEMES AND TAKE AWAY MESSAGES*

- Climate resiliency including connectivity, corridors, and acquiring or restoring large landscape blocks is a high priority
- Focus on acquisition and restoration across programs
- Continued communication and collaboration, and expanded modes of communication is key to success
- Stay focused on WCB's unique mission

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



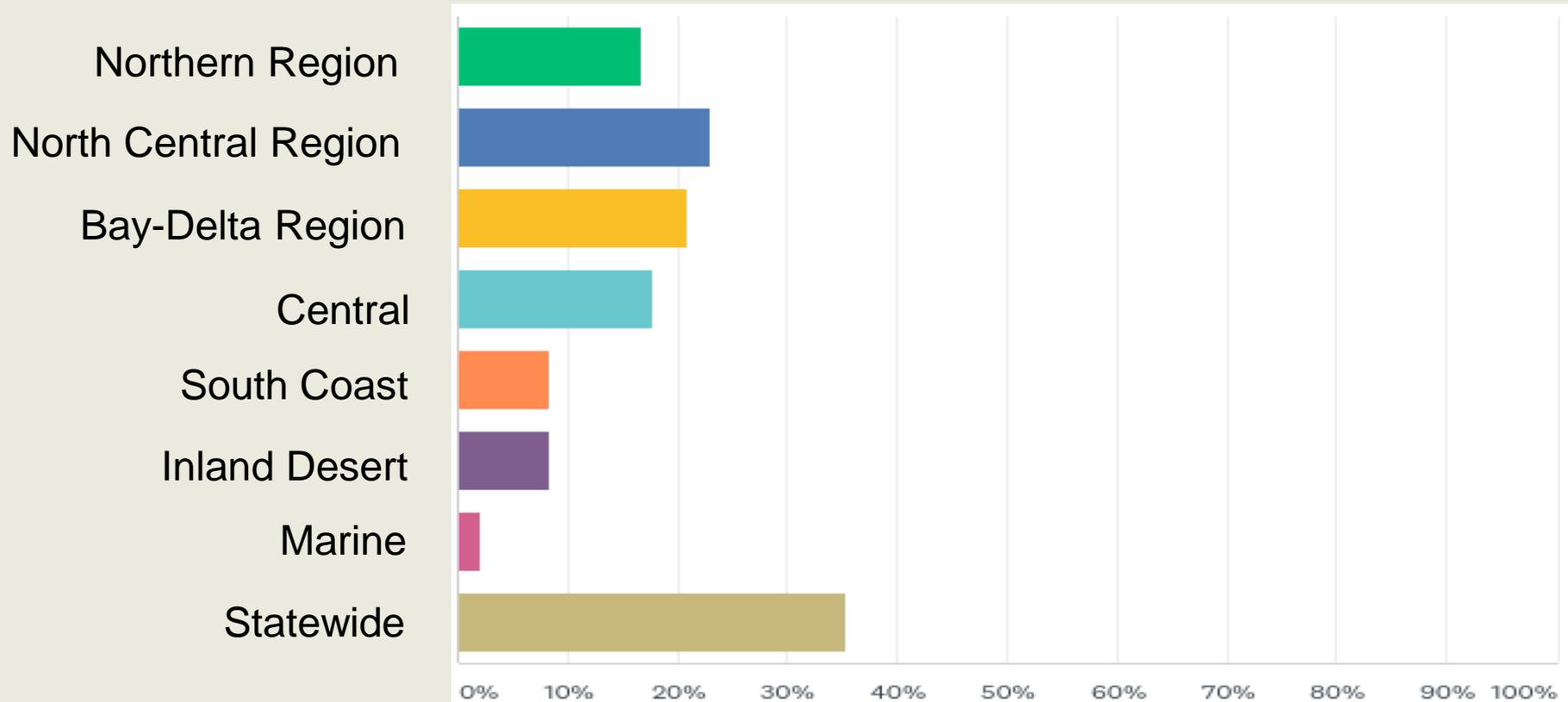
## Q1: Survey Respondents By Organization Type



# #31. Strategic Plan Update



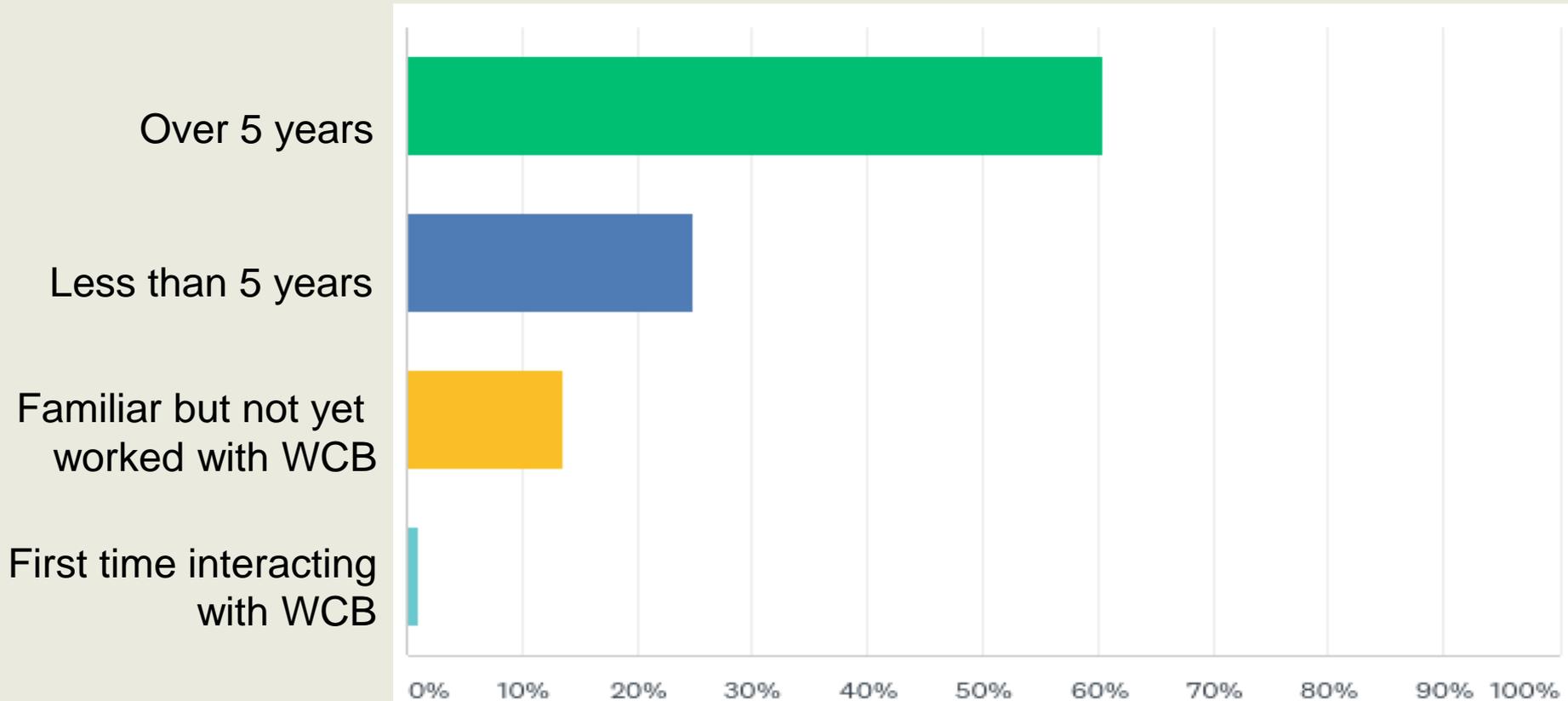
**Q2: In Which California Department of Fish and Wildlife Region or Regions do you have existing or proposed projects?**



# #31. Strategic Plan Update



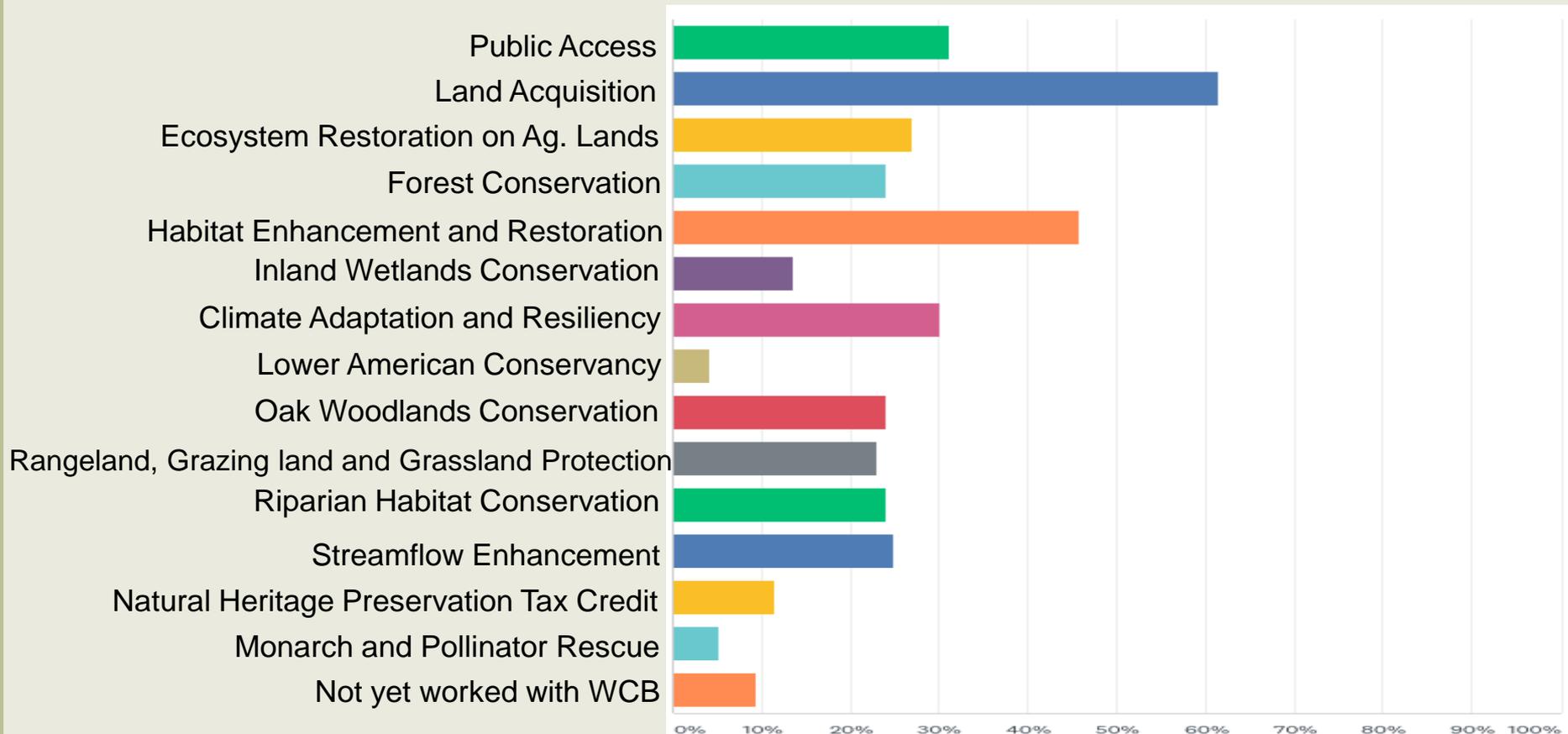
**Q3: How long have you interacted with the wildlife conservation board (WCB) as a partner, grant recipient or in other roles?**



# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## Q4: Which WCB programs have been the focus of your interactions?



# #31. Strategic Plan Update

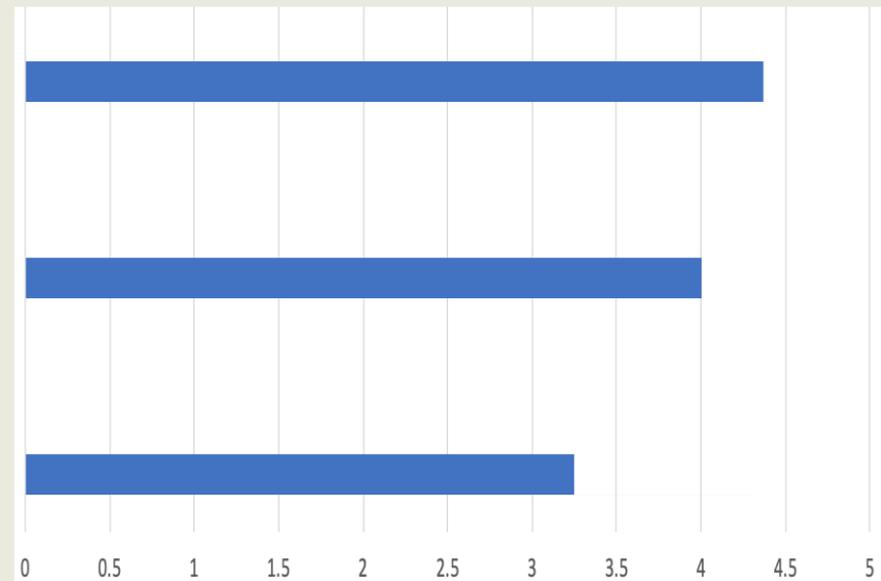


**Q5: Where WCB has been most successful**  
*Top 3 scores by weighted average among all respondents*

Environmental *protection and conservation* (acquisition)

Environmental *restoration and enhancement* (restoration)

Creating effective organizational structures and garnering sufficient resources to function efficiently



# #31. Strategic Plan Update

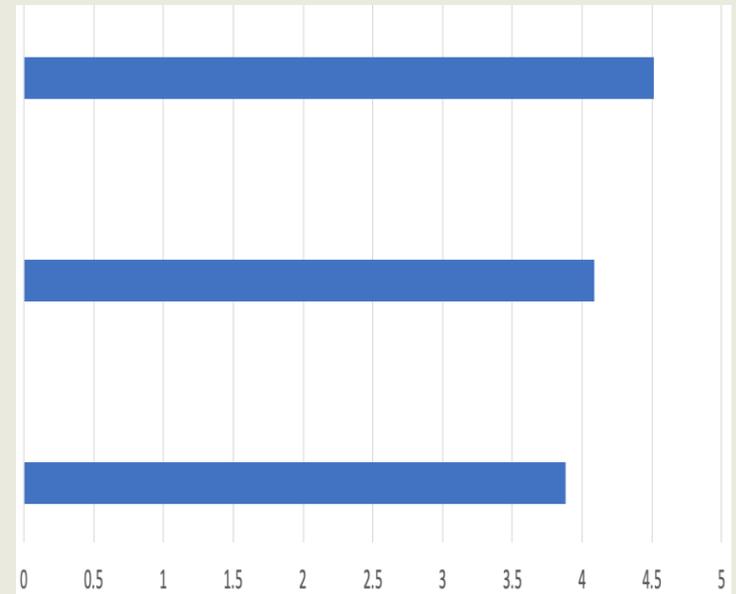


## Q6: Most important elements of the plan update *Top 3 scores by weighted average among all respondents*

Projects that provide long-term climate adaptation (connectivity, corridors) and mitigation (carbon sequestration) benefits

Projects that support regional efforts aimed at resiliency in response to extreme events such as fire, drought, flood

Refinement of Plan objectives, and priorities to better align with current habitat, species, and geographic conservation priorities



# #31. Strategic Plan Update

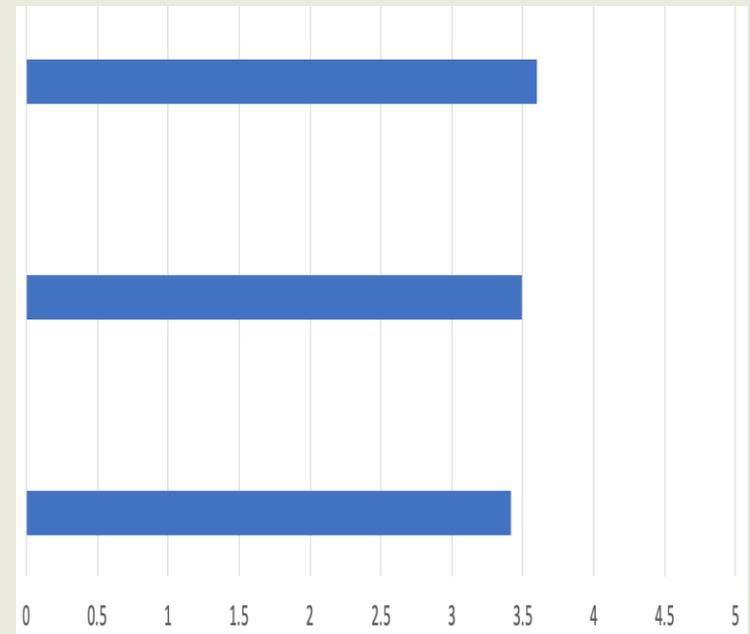


## Q7: Most important WCB process objectives *Top 3 scores by weighted average amongst all respondents*

Coordinate acquisition application processes to promote WCB project evaluation unification across programs

Modify the grant application process to further highlight the importance of extreme weather events, water quality and quantity, and compatible public use and access

Improve transparency and efficiency of WCB and CDFW project evaluation and recommendations



# #31. Strategic Plan Update



**Q8: In the next 5 years, what do you think the top programmatic or organizational WCB priorities should be?**

## *SURVEY THEMES*

- Climate change adaptation and resiliency (including corridors)
- Continued land acquisition and restoration
- Regional partnerships and improved collaboration
- Addressing declining and vulnerable species

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



**Q9: In the next 5 years, what will be your organization's top 3 priorities as they relate to WCB programs and strategic objectives?**

## *SURVEY THEMES*

- Climate change adaptation and resiliency (including corridors)
- Acquisition and protection of habitats (including streamflow enhancement)
- Public access
- Public outreach and engagement

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## Q10: List at least 2 ways WCB could improve how it works to accomplish projects

### *MOST COMMON RESPONSES*

- Improved grant processes (e.g. application, appraisals, transparency, etc.)
- Better communication with applicants and public
- Increased guidance to project proponents (e.g. standards for monitoring)

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## Q11: List at least 2 things WCB does well and should continue to do and build upon

### *MOST COMMON RESPONSES*

- Coordination with project proponents
- Funding projects that might not be otherwise funded
- Collaboration with partners
- Professional and responsive staff

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## Conclusion: Overall Pulse of the Pre-meeting Survey Results

### *KEY THEMES AND TAKE AWAY MESSAGES*

- Climate resiliency including connectivity, corridors, and acquiring or restoring large landscape blocks is a high priority
- Focus on acquisition and restoration across programs
- Continued communication and collaboration, and expanded modes of communication is key to success
- Stay focused on WCB's unique mission

# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## May 9 Public Meeting – Los Angeles

### ENTITIES IN ATTENDANCE

City of LA Mayor's office

City of Los Angeles (3 different sections)

County of Los Angeles

National Wildlife Refuge Association

UCLA – Sustainable LA Grand Challenges

Cal State Los Angeles

Claremont Wildlands Conservancy

Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

Catalina Island Conservancy

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust

Bolsa Chica Land Trust

Endangered Habitats League

Audubon

Trust for Public Land

River LA

Hills for Everyone

Nature for All

From Lot to Spot



# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## MAY 15 PUBLIC MEETING – SACRAMENTO

### ENTITIES IN ATTENDANCE

Strategic Growth Council

The Nature Conservancy

Trust for Public Land

Rangeland Trust

Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee

Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust

Truckee River Watershed Council

Yolo Habitat Conservancy

City of Fresno Parks, After School, Recreation and

Community Services Department

Natural Resources Group

Conservation Strategy Group

Laguna Greenbelt Inc.

GEI Consultants



# #31. Strategic Plan Update



## NEXT STEPS

- Develop full draft of update – mid June
- Meet with Subcommittee
- Post Draft to website for 30 days
- Finalize update
- Present to Board in August

# Elkhorn Slough – Hester Marsh Restoration

