Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting November 21, 2019, 10:00am Natural Resources Building, First Floor Auditorium 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, California 95814





Example of a pollinator hedgerow planted by Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District to benefit pollinator species.





Narrow leaf milkweed planted as a companion plant with valley oak.

Photo courtesy of Yolo RCD





Resource Conservation Districts routinely work with school groups and community organizations as part of their outreach and educational programs.





Pollinator plants planted by a Resource Conservation District to benefit pollinator species.







In 2019, Xerces Society planted twenty miles of hedgerows for pollinators in the Central Valley including 5 miles with both native milkweed and monarch nectar plants.





Snowy milkweed in a hedgerow along almond orchard in California.

Photo courtesy of Cameron Newell





In 2014, Xerces Society worked with an almond farm in California to restore grassland area that includes milkweed.



Photos courtesy of Kay Cruz





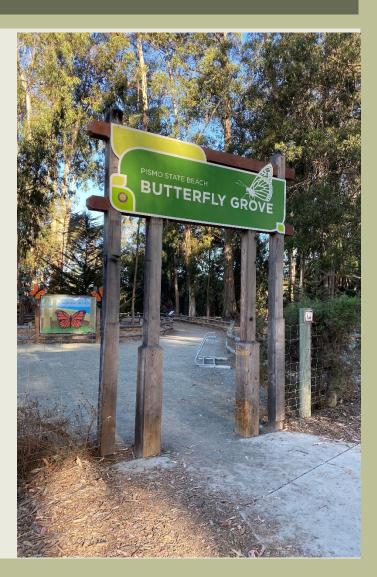
A monarch overwintering site at the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve in Cambria where the Xerces Society proposes working with the Cambria Community Services District to develop and implement a site management plan.







A monarch overwintering site in Pismo State Beach









A cluster of overwintering monarchs

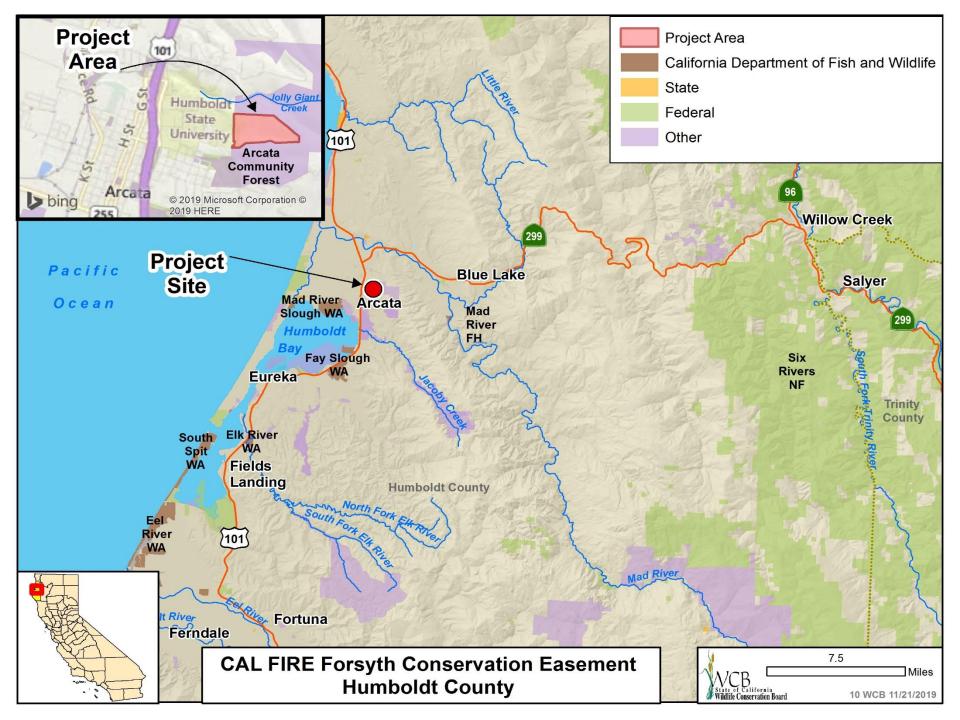


Photos courtesy of Candace Fallon (left) and Celestial Reysner (right)

#10. China Hill, Expansion 4



This item has been withdrawn from consideration at this time.



#11. CAL FIRE Forsyth Conservation Easement





Looking northwest into entrance of Forsyth tract from Arcata Community Forest main road

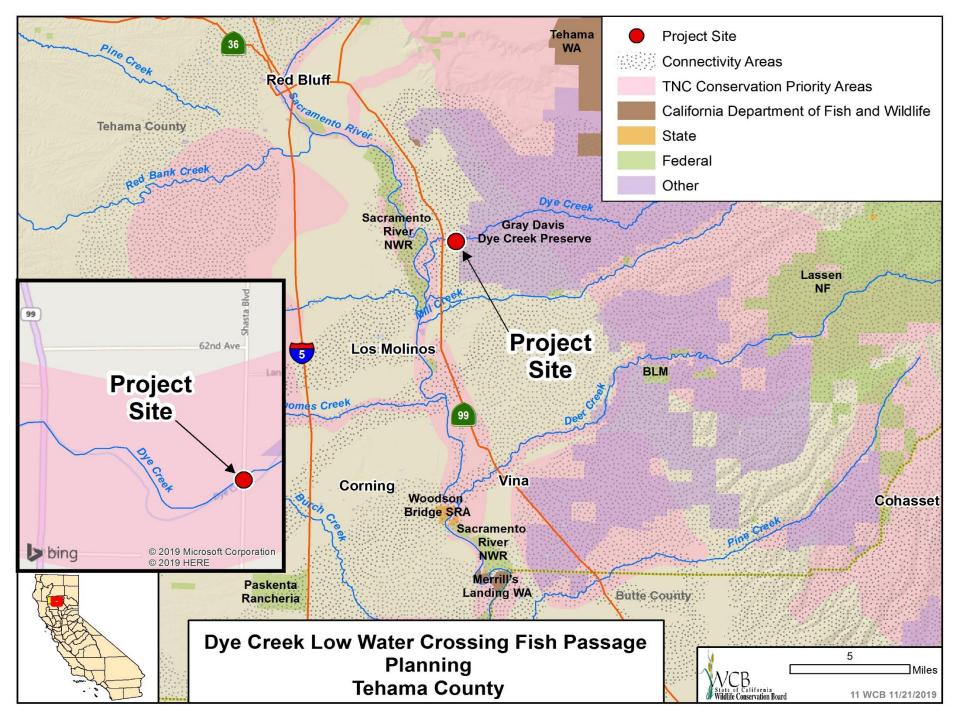
#11. CAL FIRE Forsyth Conservation Easement





Looking southwest at main road intersection (above) and with creek culvert (right).





#12. Dye Creek Low Water Crossing Fish Passage Planning





The current low water crossing with its undersized 12inch diameter culverts has filled with sediment and is impeding fish passage.

#12. Dye Creek Low Water Crossing Fish Passage Planning

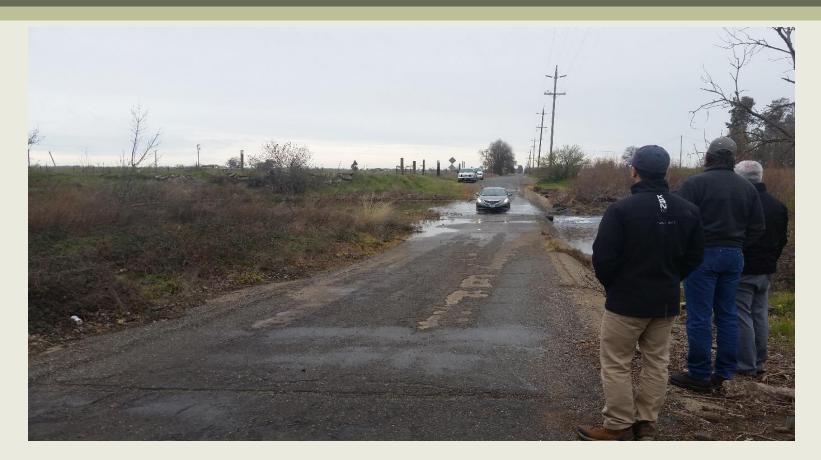




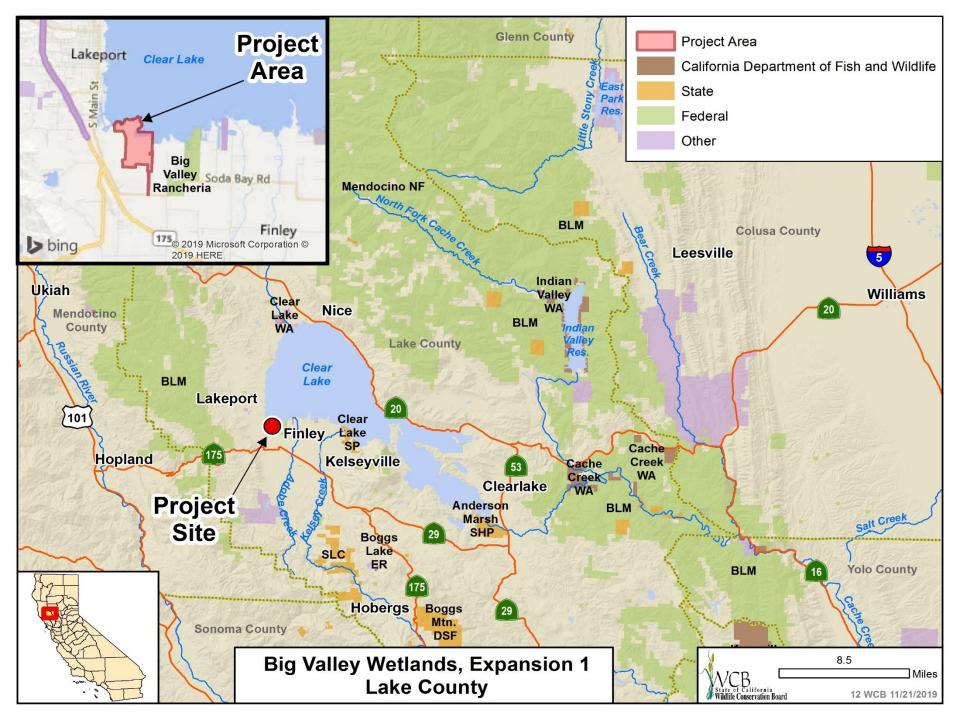
Dye Creek running over Shasta Boulevard after a winter storm event. The current culverts are insufficient to handle the average amount of water flow.

#12. Dye Creek Low Water Crossing Fish Passage Planning





The water overflowing on to Shasta Boulevard can create a hazard for vehicles.







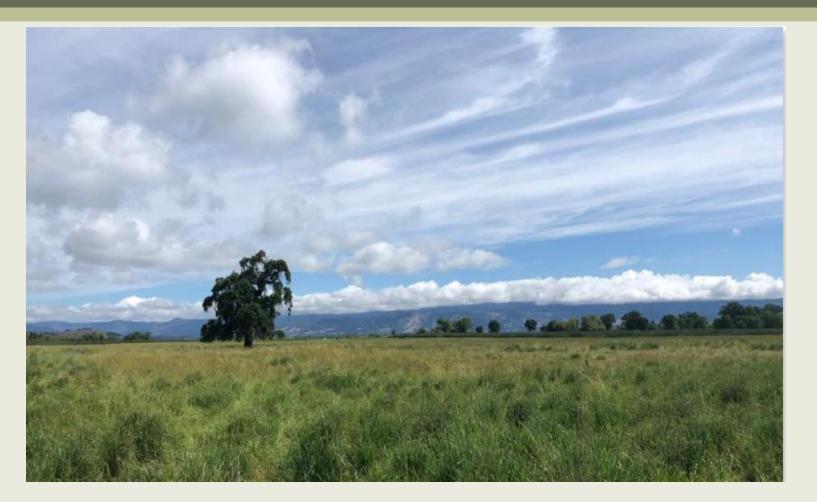
Canal along the eastern edge of the property





Westerly view of the property



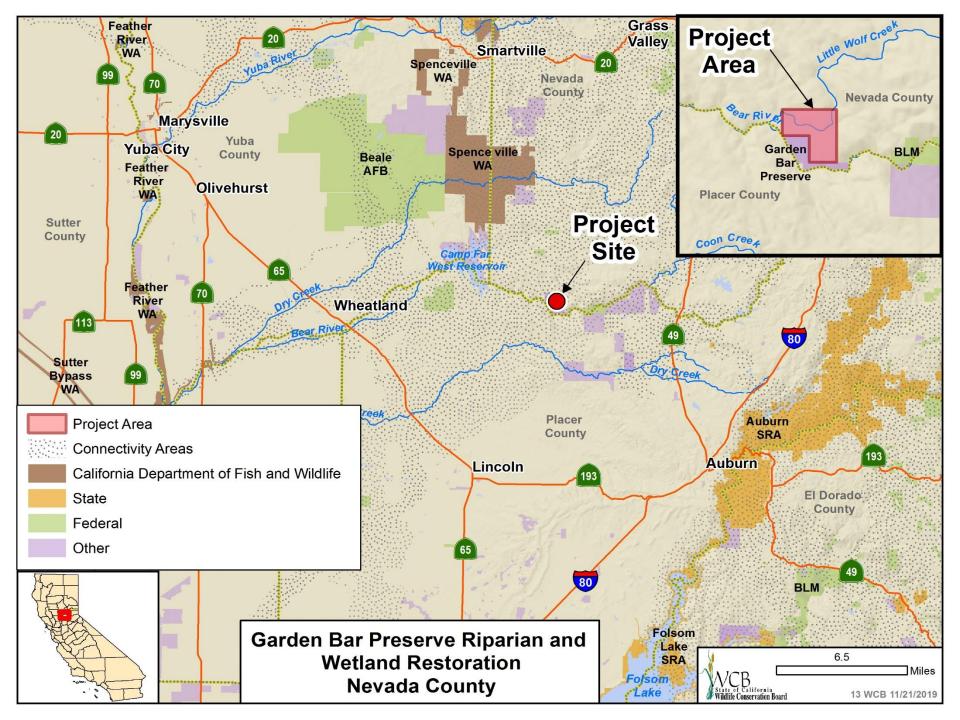


Northerly view of the property





Northeast view of the property







3-acre restoration area in foreground and Little Wolf Creek corridor in background





Looking at 3-acre restoration area with back to Little Wolf Creek





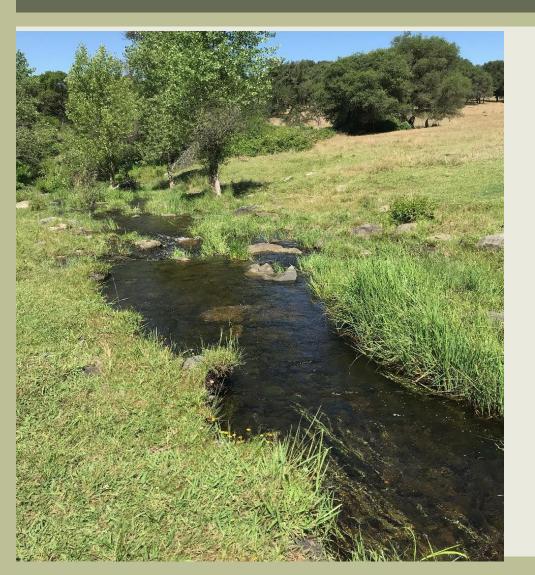
Seasonal tributary at western edge of restoration site





Upstream reach of Little Wolf Creek within project area



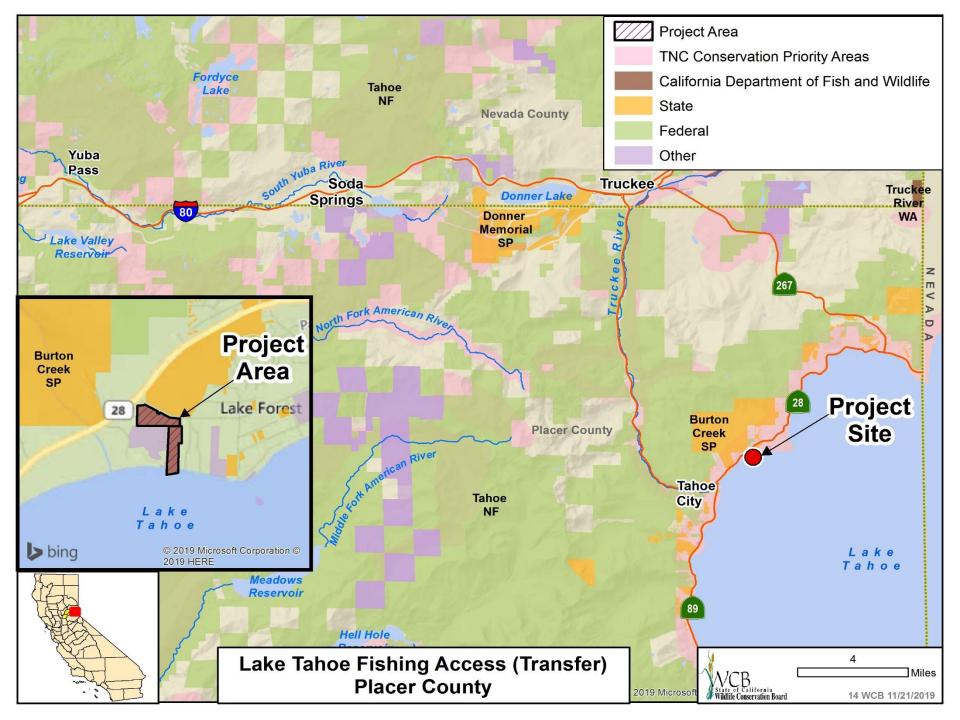


Downstream reach of Little Wolf Creek within project area





Looking at Little Wolf Creek and location of proposed beaver dam analog



#15. Lake Tahoe Fishing Access (Transfer)





Lake Forest project signage

#15. Lake Tahoe Fishing Access (Transfer)





Access to project site off Lake Forest road. Kiosk is to the right of the picture in the background.

#15. Lake Tahoe Fishing Access (Transfer)





Lake Forest Boat Ramp





Looking back to the Lake Forest boat ramp from the end of the dock.





Lake Forest boat ramp parking lot





Boat launch restroom facility in the background





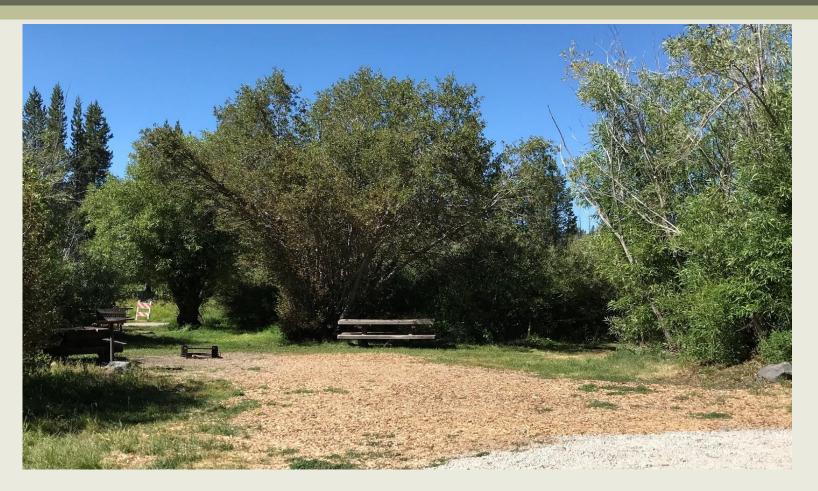
Lake Forest boat ramp kiosk



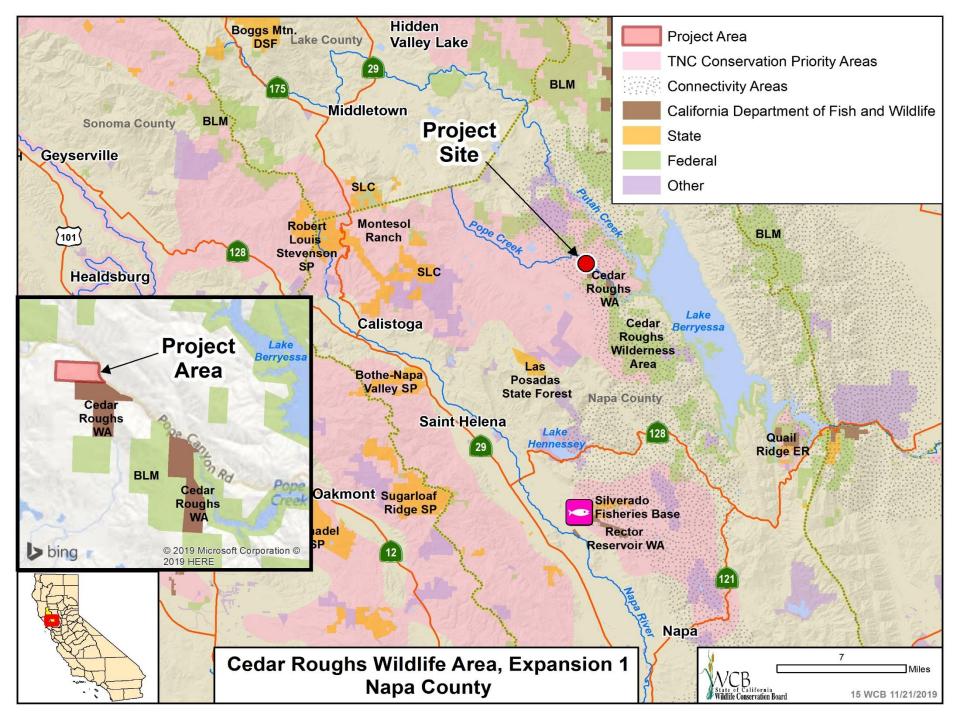


Campground signage





Typical Lake Forest campsite







Northeast view of the property looking down on Pope creek.





Looking west from Pope Canyon Road





Oak grove with gently sloped open area



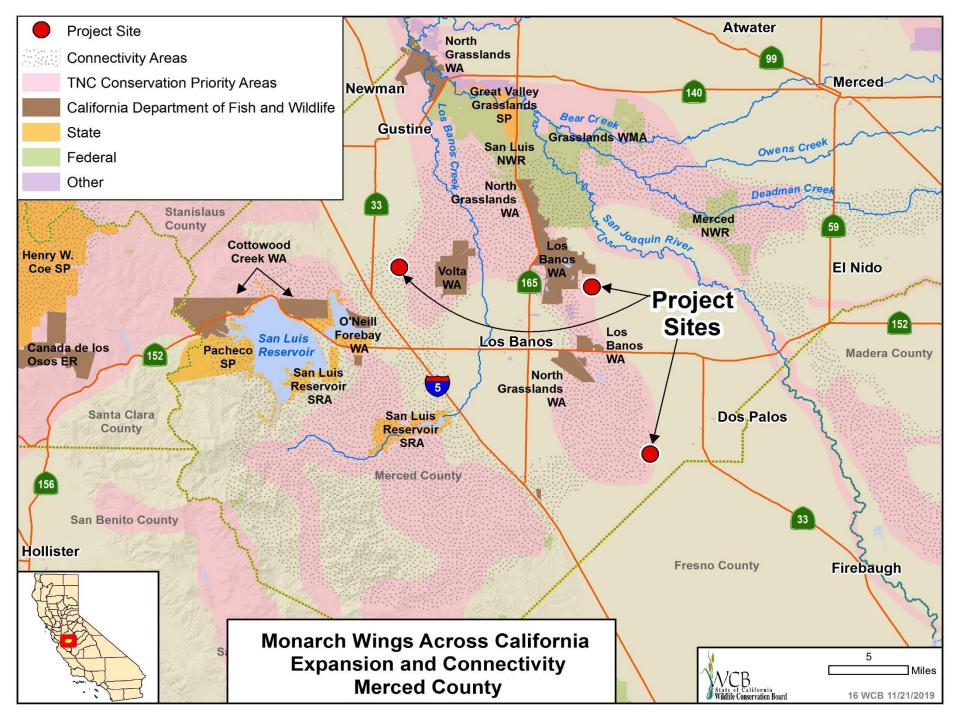


Looking west from southeastern edge of the property





View through oak woodlands to Pope Creek







Pollinator habitat





Pollinator habitat workshop





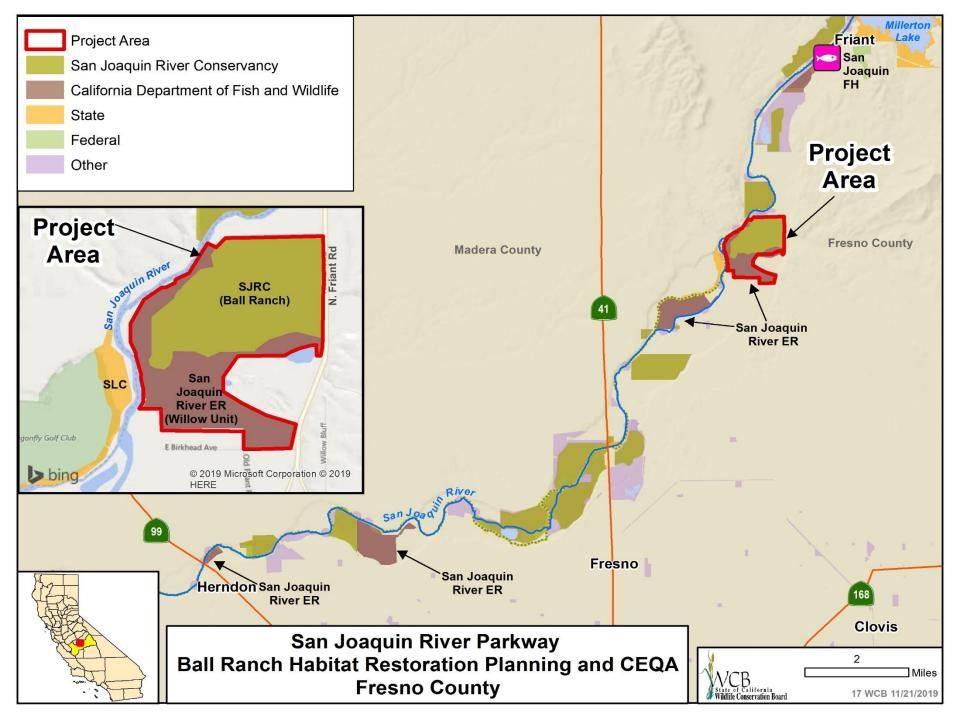
Pollinator identification training

Photo courtesy of Pollinator Partnership





Pollinator habitat site visit







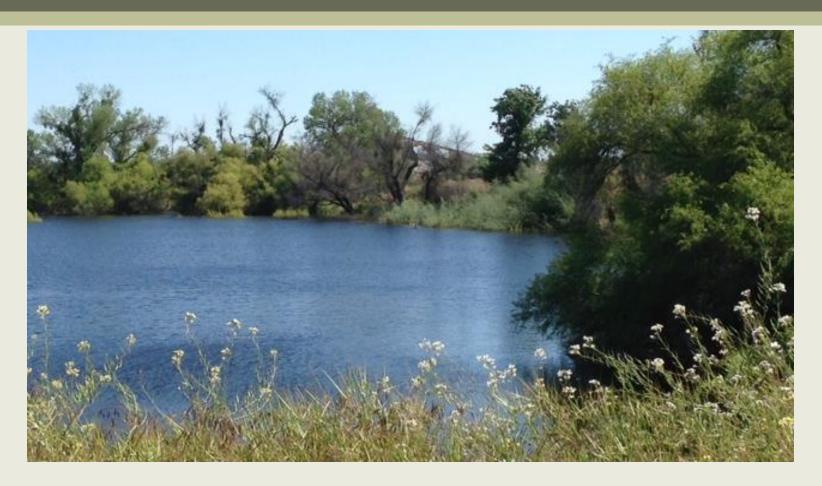
View from the northern border of Ball Ranch looking south at annual grassland and oak woodland in the distance.





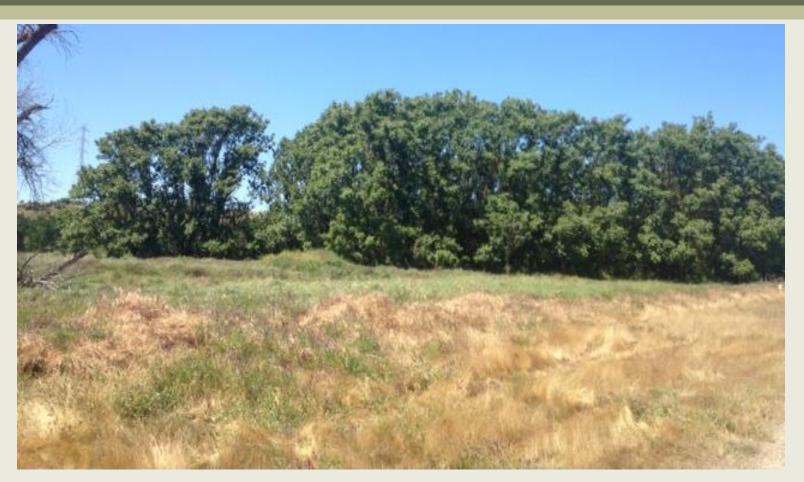
Oak woodland at Ball Ranch



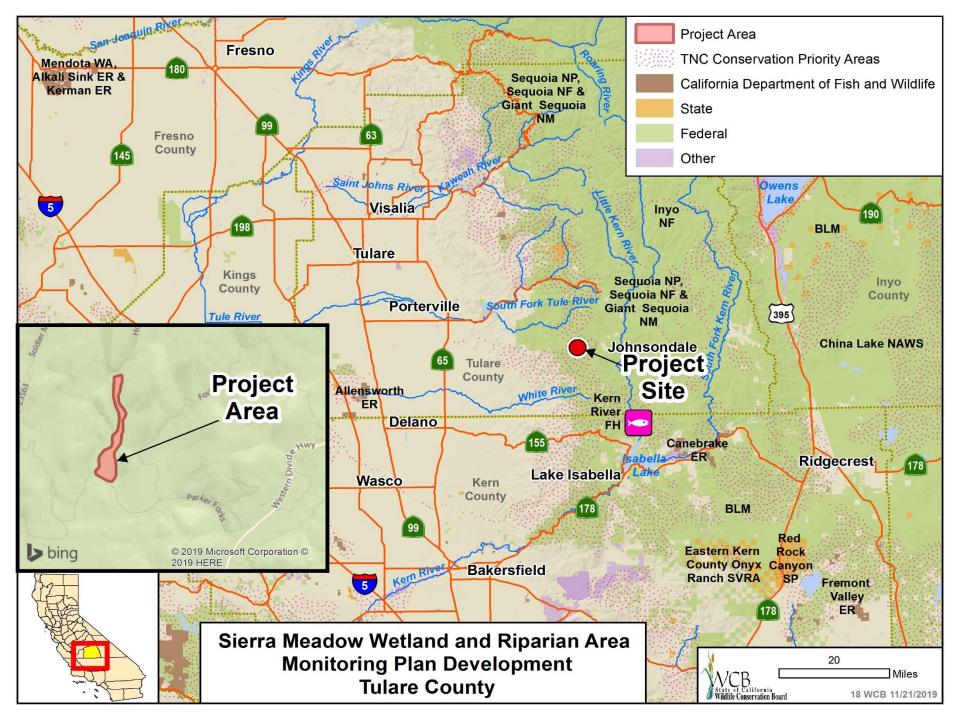


Pond with riparian vegetation at Ball Ranch





Stand of non-native, invasive Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)







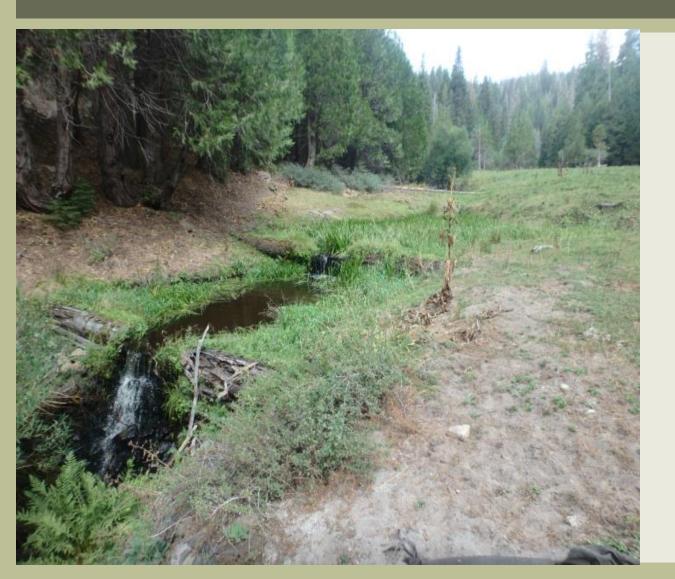
Cattle grazing on Horse Meadow





Horse meadow channel incision





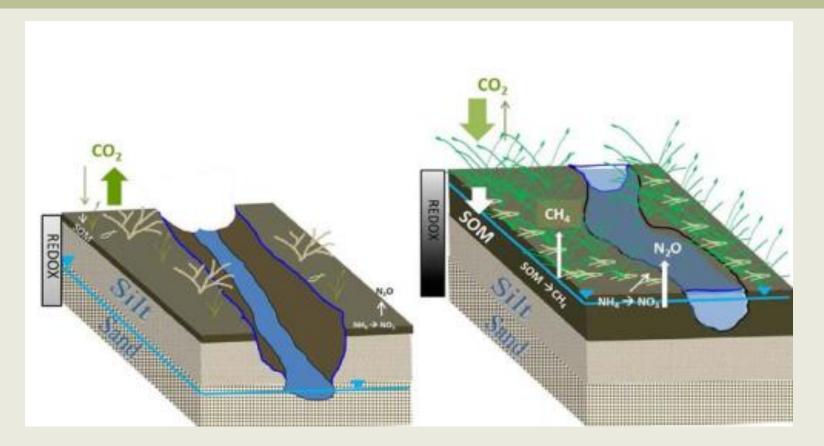
Horse Meadow



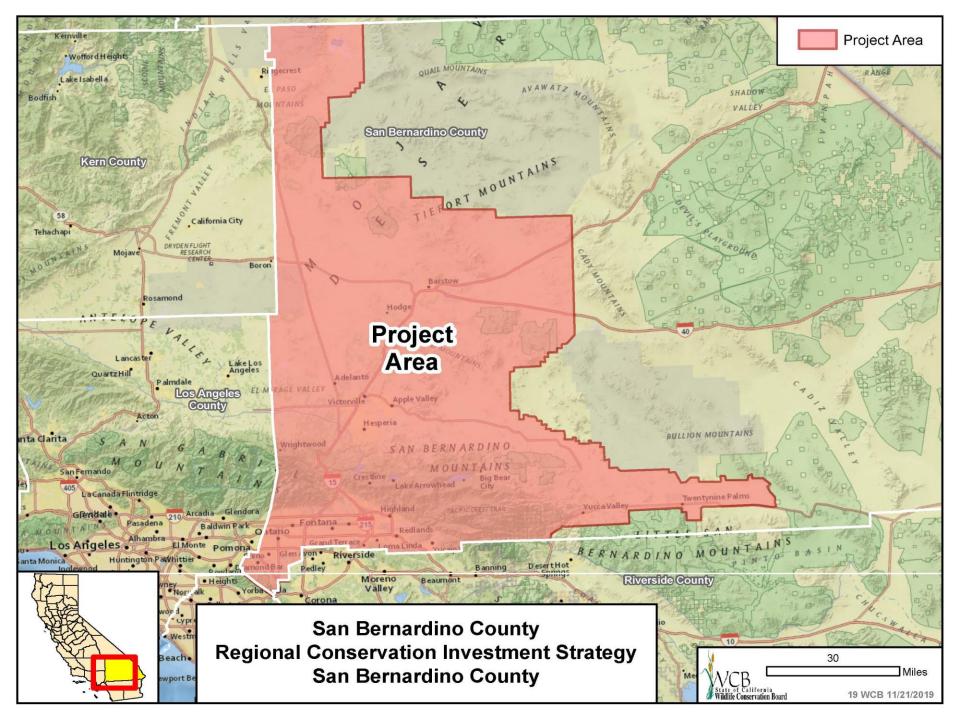


Horse Meadow

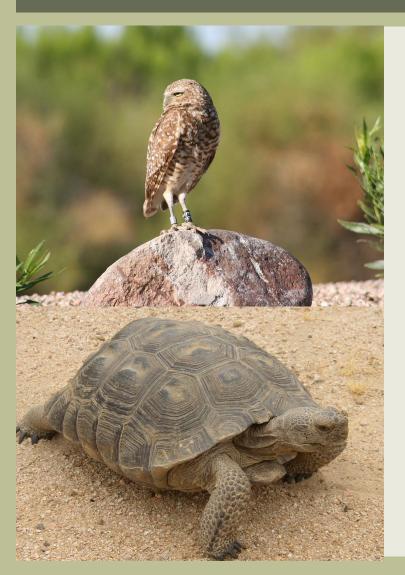




Conceptual model, comparing degraded and restored meadow conditions









Burrowing owl and Desert Tortoise (left) and Santa Ana Sucker (right)





Coastal Scrub

Photo courtesy of Dudek





Joshua Tree

Photo courtesy of Dudek





Upper Santa Ana River

Photo courtesy of Dudek



#21. Carpinteria Salt Marsh Infrastructure Project Augmentation





Aerial photograph of the Estero Road extension looking northward into the Reserve

#21. Carpinteria Salt Marsh Infrastructure Project Augmentation





Photograph taken in 2017 of the existing culvert running underneath the Estero Road extension

#21. Carpinteria Salt Marsh Infrastructure Project Augmentation





Photograph taken in September 2019 showing Estero Road culvert impacted by sediment

#21. Carpinteria Salt Marsh Infrastructure Project Augmentation





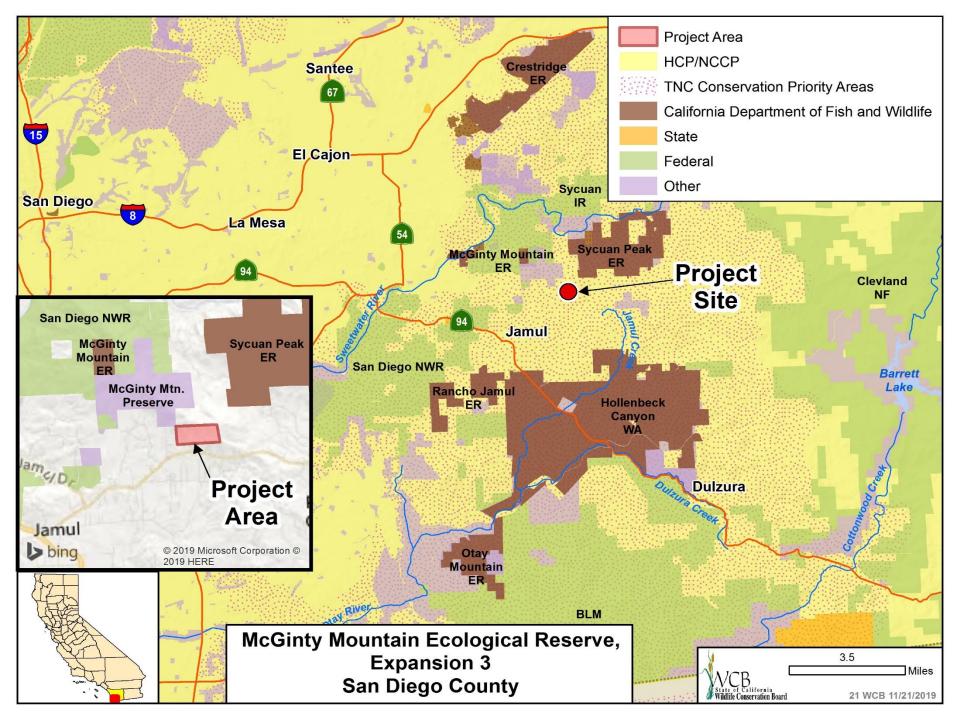
Photograph of Estero Road culvert impacted by sediment and woody debris

#21. Carpinteria Salt Marsh Infrastructure Project Augmentation



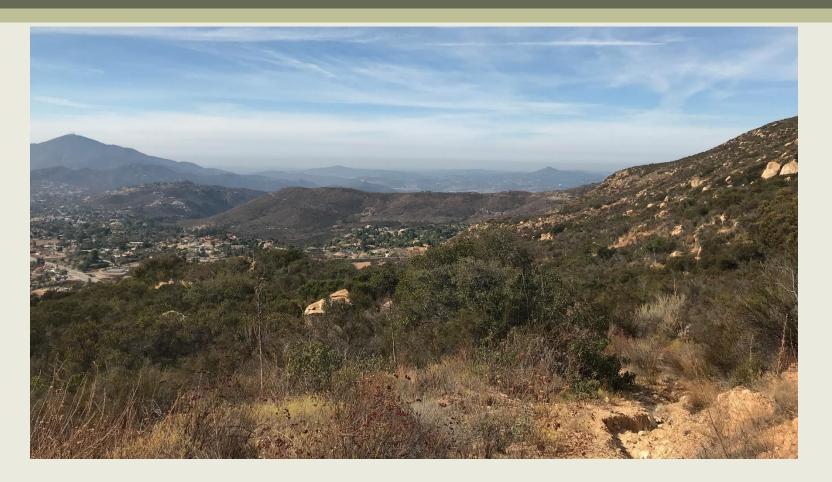


Photograph of an informational sign installed in the adjacent Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park



#22. McGinty Mountain Ecological Reserve, Expansion 3

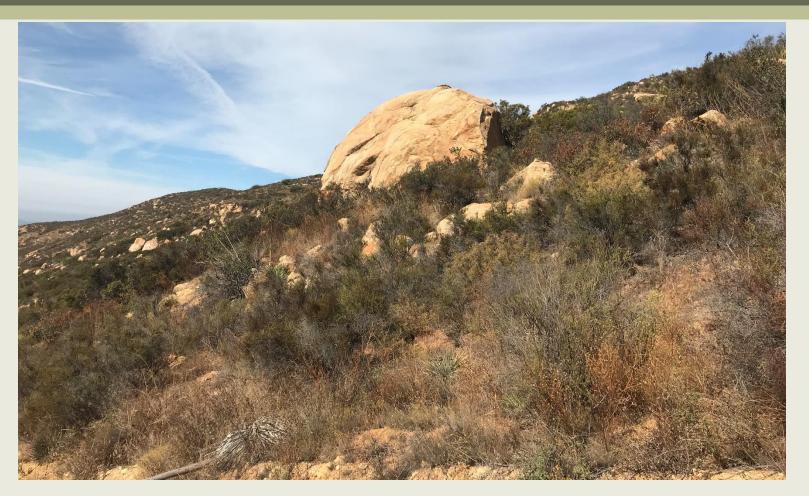




Looking west across the property to the San Diego Bay

#22. McGinty Mountain Ecological Reserve, Expansion 3



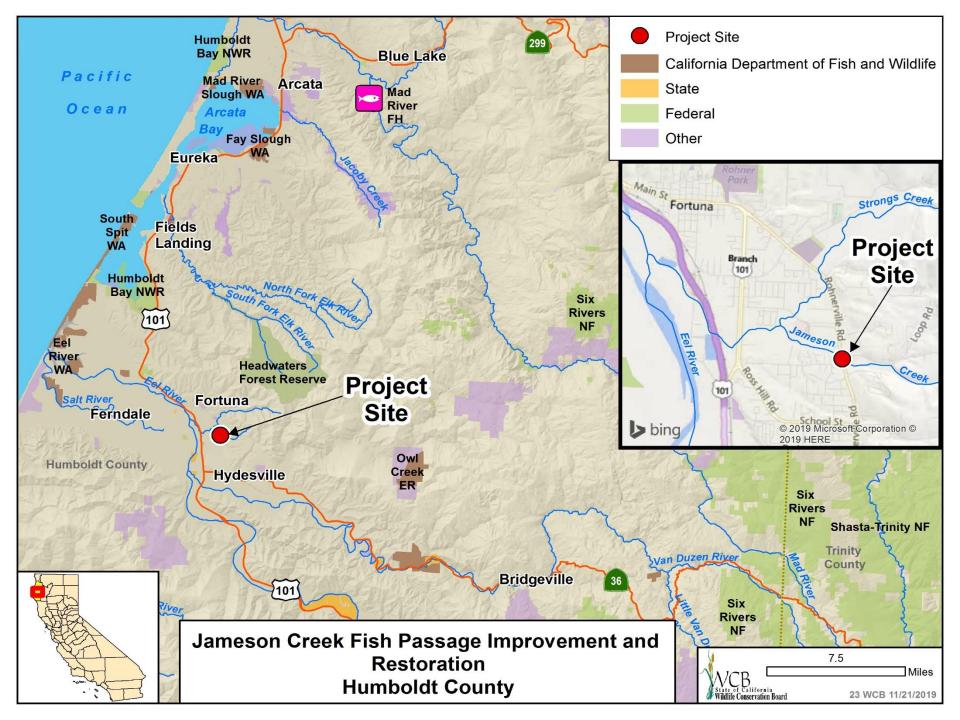


Looking northeast from the interior of the property

#23. Central Valley Monarch Butterfly Habitat Enhancement



This item has been withdrawn from consideration at this time.





Coho Salmon in Eel River Watershed listed as threatened under State and Federal Endangered Species Acts

Coho salmon and other salmonids remain in main stem of the Eel River

Substantial decline in tributaries

Barrier removal identified as a primary recommendation in CDFW Coho Recovery Plan



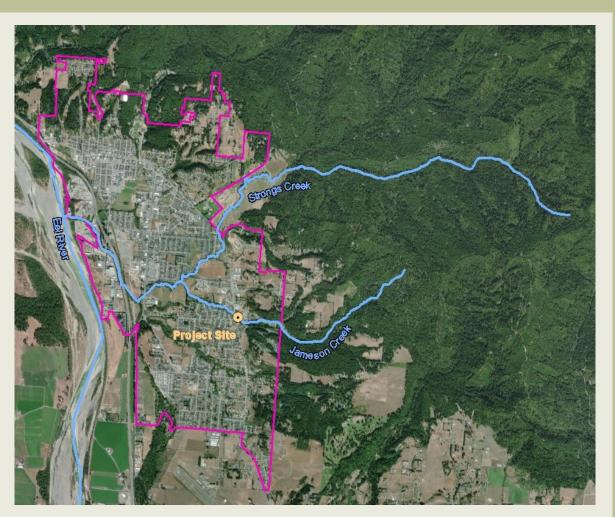
Eel River



2010 CDFW survey found Strongs Creek watershed to be only tributary to the middle Eel River with suitable summer water temperatures for salmonids

2017 CDFW Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) grant to modify a culvert on Strongs Creek

Lower Eel River salmonid access to Jameson creek stops at Rohnerville Road crossing



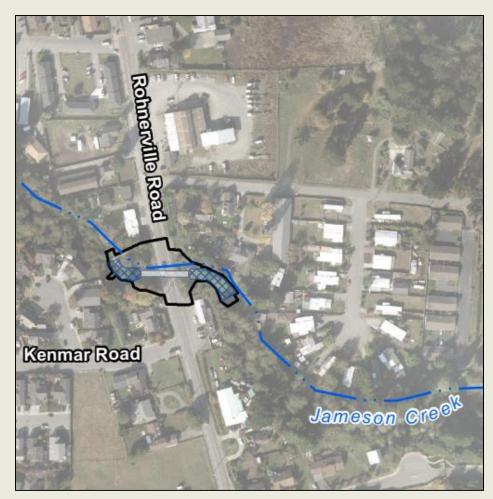




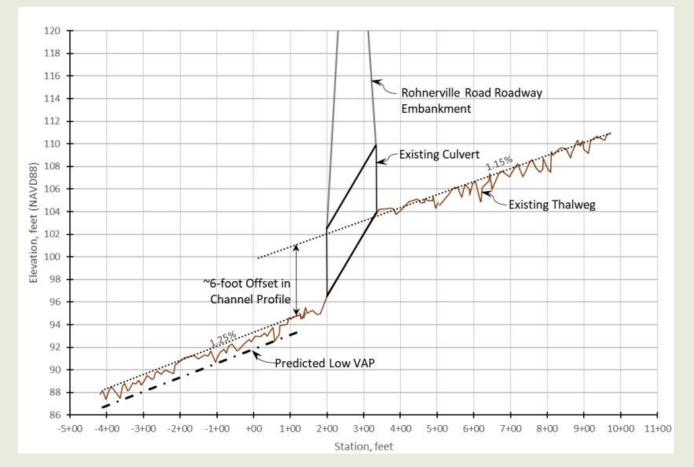
Upstream of Rohnerville Road Crossing



Downstream of Rohnerville Road Crossing



Rohnerville Road Crossing



Jameson Creek Slope at Rohnerville Road Crossing

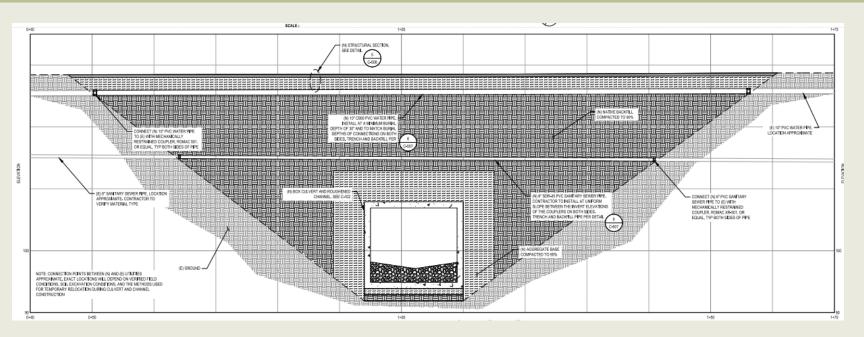
Photo: City of Fortuna

ervation Board





Photo 1: Upstream inlet of culvert Photo 2: Interior of culvert showing damage to corrugated metal pipe Photo 3: Downstream outlet of culvert



- Reinforced concrete box (RCB) culvert, approximately 12'H x 14'W
- The RCB will be set approximately 3' below the stream bed and filled with streambed material to provide a natural stream bottom
- "Chute and pools" design to meet depth, velocity and turbulence criteria

vation Board

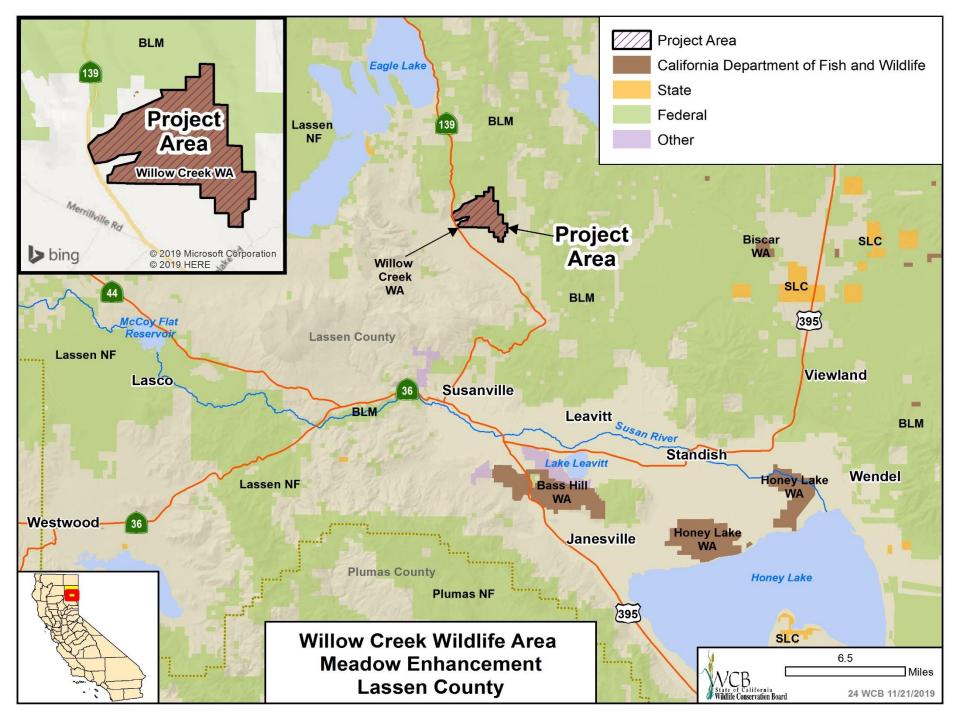


2017 CDFW Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) grant to modify culvert on Strongs Creek

Project design funded by FRGP, was completed and approved by CDFW and NOAA in March 2019.

CDFW Prop.1 program is providing \$1.7m for Rohnerville Road crossing project









Irrigation capabilities for the Willow Creek floodplain and meadow will be improved by the project.





State-threatened greater sandhill cranes nest in the Willow Creek floodplain meadow and associated wetlands.





Emergent wetland at Willow Creek Wildlife Area.





Dilapidated infrastructure at Willow Creek WA





Old corrugated metal half-round risers will be replaced with new cast concrete weirs



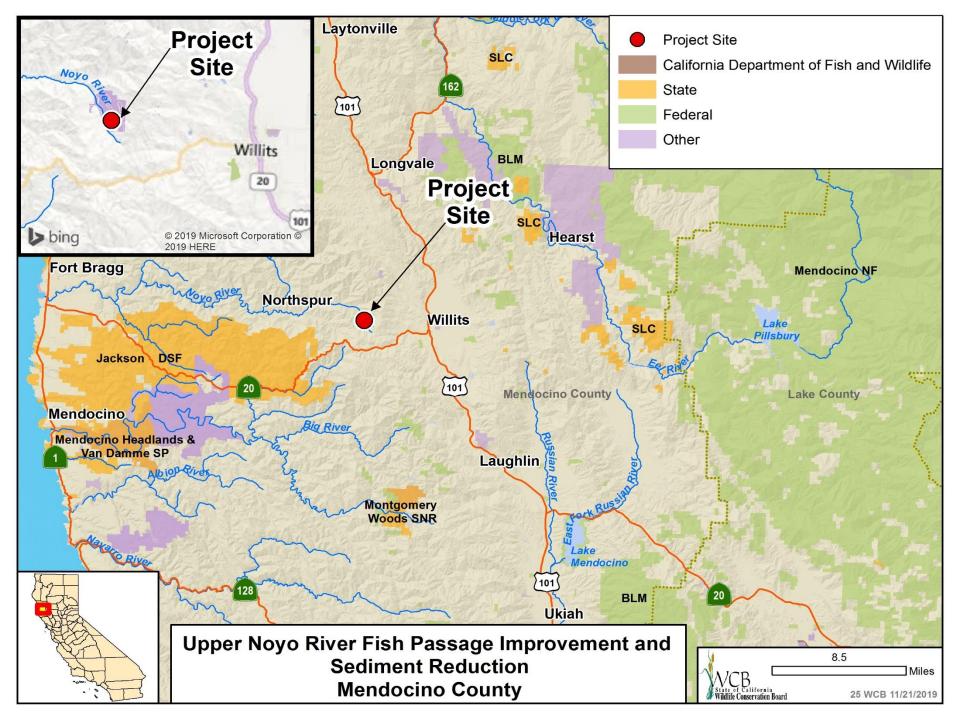


Failing corrugated metal pipe culverts, set at incorrect elevations will be replaced with HDPE pipe





Willow Creek Wildlife Area looking west

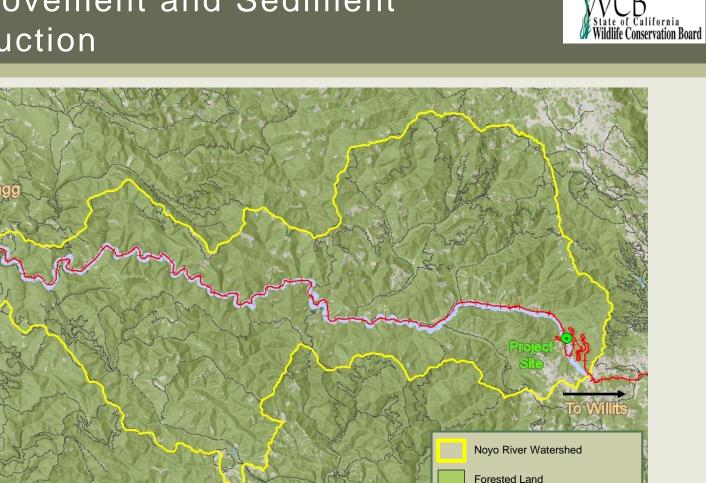




California Western Railway (CWR)

- Built as a logging railroad in 1885
- Commonly referred to as the "Skunk Train", it is now operated as a heritage passenger railroad.
- Runs approximately 40 miles from Fort Bragg to Willits
 - 33 miles along the Noyo River
- Originally required 113 bridges and trestles as it crossed back and forth over the Noyo river channel.
- That number has been reduced to approximately 30 river crossings.





Developed Land

California Western Railway

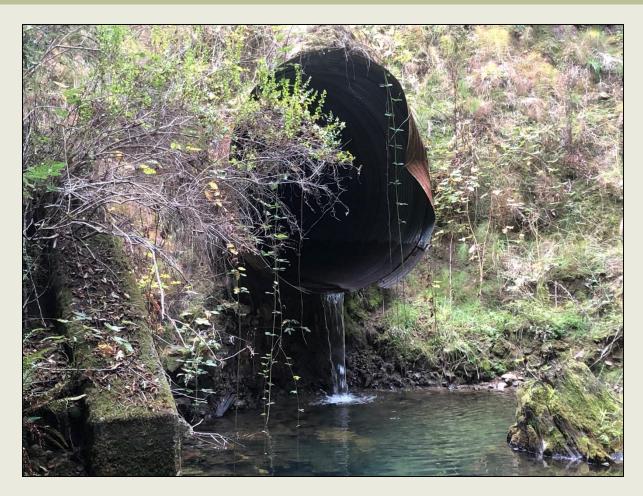
Noyo River

Project Location

- Three species of ESA listed salmonids:
 - Central California Coast Coho Salmon (Endangered)
 - Northern California Steelhead Trout (Threatened)
 - California Coastal Chinook (Threatened)
- The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Coastal Multispecies Plan considers restoring passage at barriers associated with the California Western Railroad a high priority task
- The project site was identified in a CDFW funded 2013 Fish Passage Assessment as inhibiting fish passage.

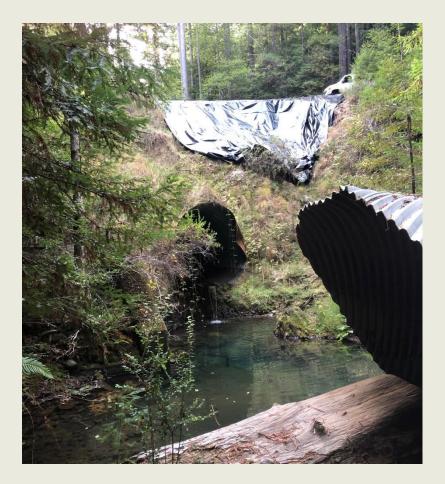






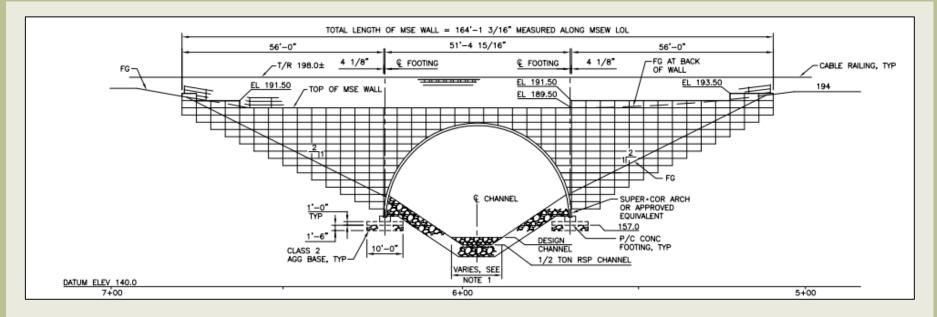
Culvert Outlet







Erosion Issues



- In 2010, Trout Unlimited (TU) received CDFW grant to conduct fish passage assessment of the entire railway
- In 2015, TU received CDFW grant to develop fully-implementable designs
- In 2017, CDFW Senior Hydraulic Engineer approved designs

- Culvert will be replaced by a 50-foot diameter arch
- All CDFW and NMFS criteria for fish passage will be met
- Will be able to convey a 100-yr flood event with associated sediment and large wood.

onservation Board





Coastal tailed frog



Red-bellied newt

Restore access to 1.15 miles of steelhead and salmon habitat and reduce in-stream sediment.

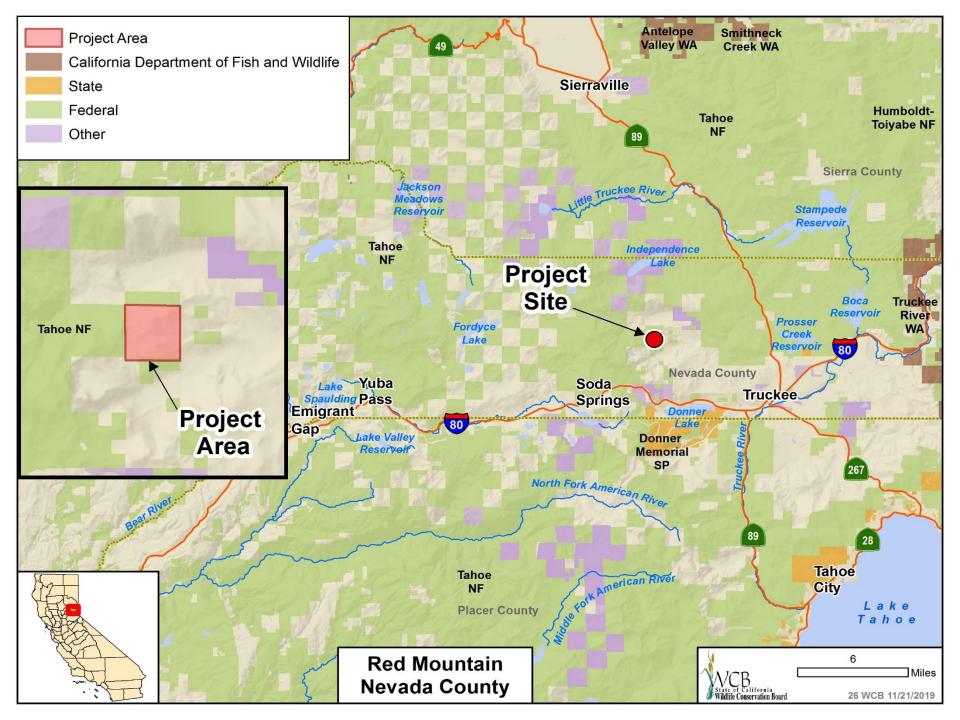
- Central California
 Coast Coho Salmon
- North Coast Steelhead Trout
- California Coastal Chinook



California giant salamander



Foothill yellow-legged frog

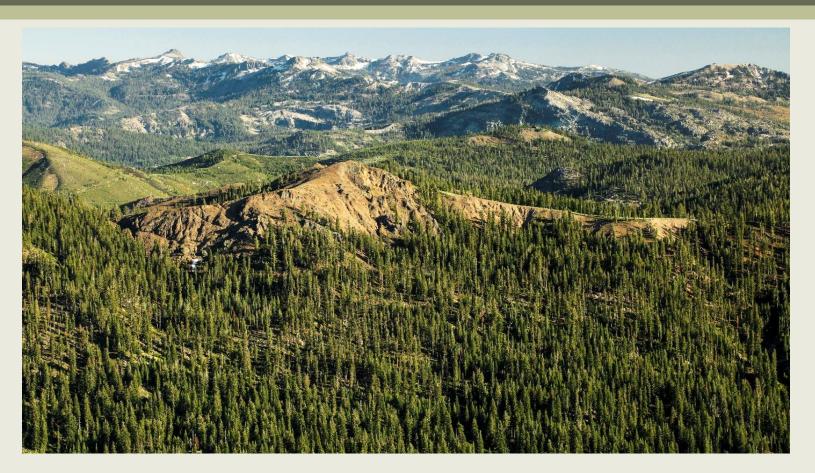






The Campaign to Conserve Frog Lake, Red Mountain, and Carpenter Ridge

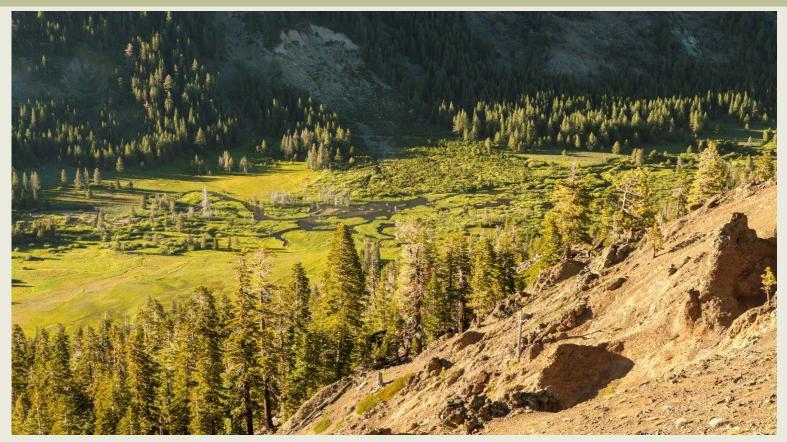




The summit of Red Mountain rises above the highelevation mixed coniferous forests of the Northern Sierra.

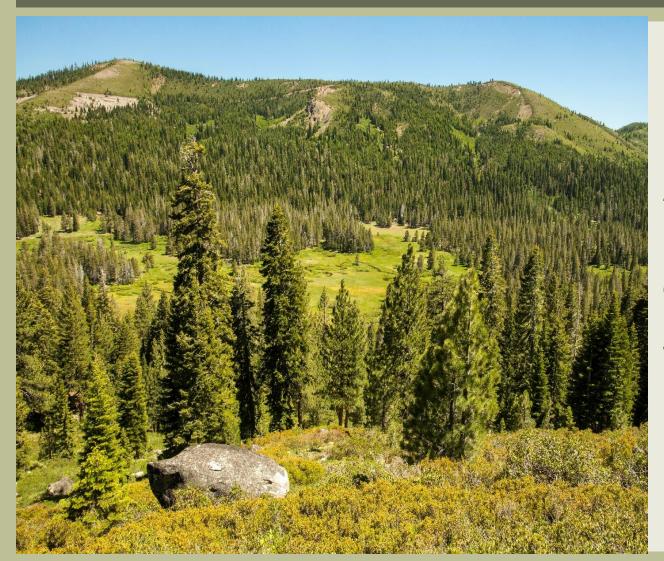
Photo courtesy of Robb Hirsch





The Property's red summit appears in the lower right corner of this photograph with the upper reaches of the magnificent Carpenter Valley beyond.

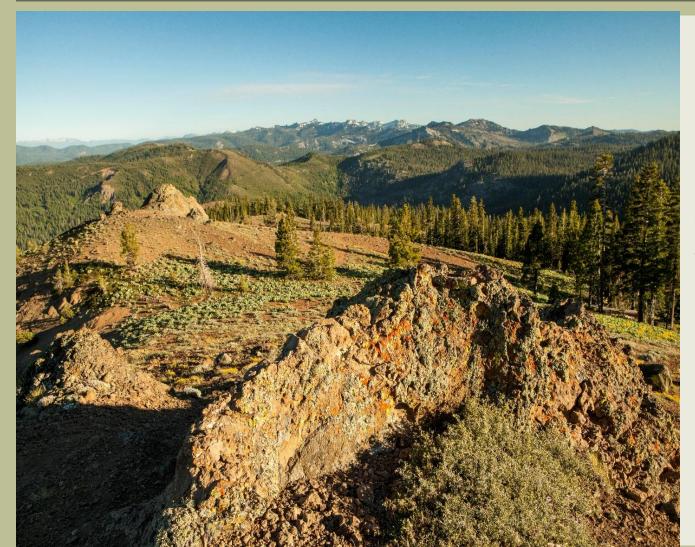




A little more than half of the Red Mountain Property contributes to the Euer Valley watershed.

#27. Red Mountain





Red Mountain contains a variety of habitat types that would contribute to a broad matrix of connected, protected land.

#27. Red Mountain





Sunset at Red Mountain.

Photo courtesy of Robb Hirsch

Forest Conservation Program (2019 solicitation)



California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (**Proposition 68**)

"...protection, restoration, and improvement of **upper watershed lands** in the **Sierra Nevada** and **Cascade Mountains**, including forest lands, meadows, wetlands, chaparral, and riparian habitat, in order to protect and improve water supply and water quality, improve forest health, reduce wildfire danger, mitigate the effects of wildfires on water quality and supply, increase flood protection, or to protect or restore riparian or aquatic resources."

Forest Conservation Program (2019 solicitation)



Proposition 68

- Sierra Nevada and Cascade ecoregions
- \$60 million for upper watershed
- ≤ \$30 million for 2019 solicitation

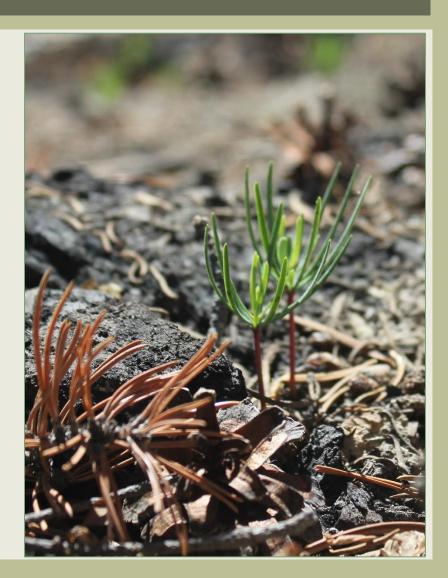


Forest Conservation Program (2019 solicitation)



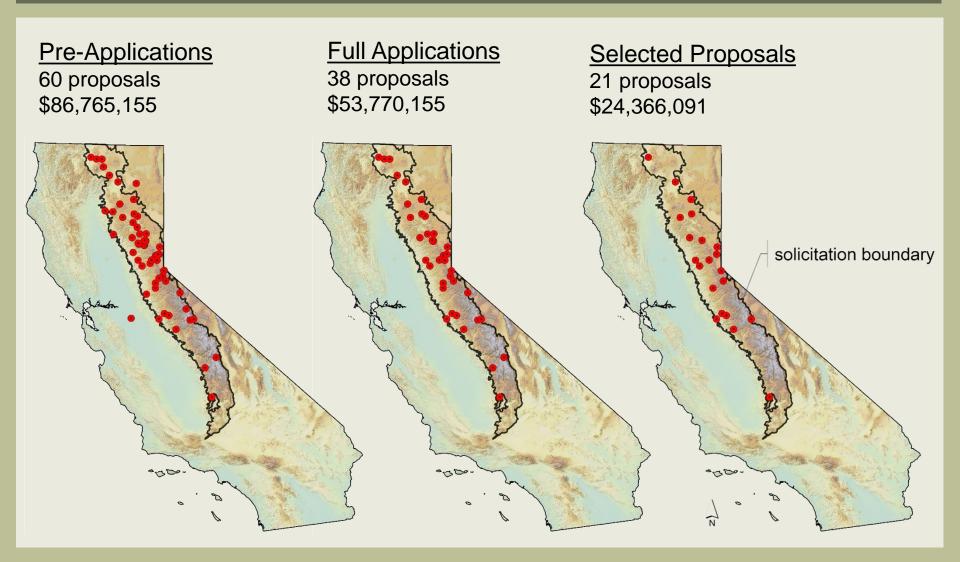
Selection Process

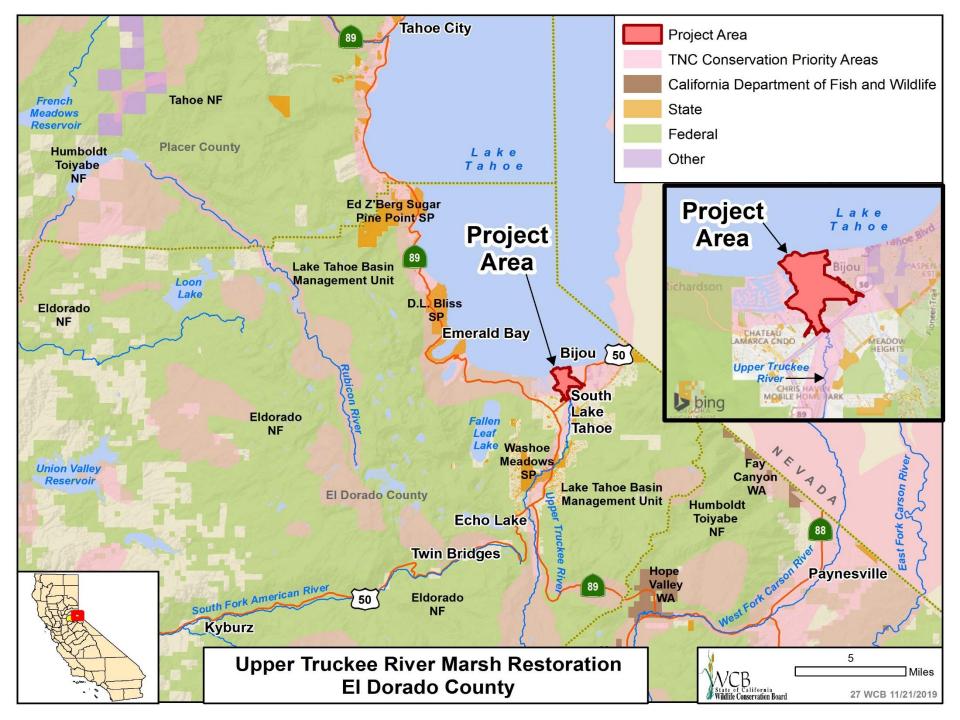
- Pre-Applications
- Full Proposals
- Selection Committee
- Solicitation Priorities
 - Meadows and streams
 - Post-fire recovery
 - Aspen stands



Forest Conservation Program (2019 solicitation)











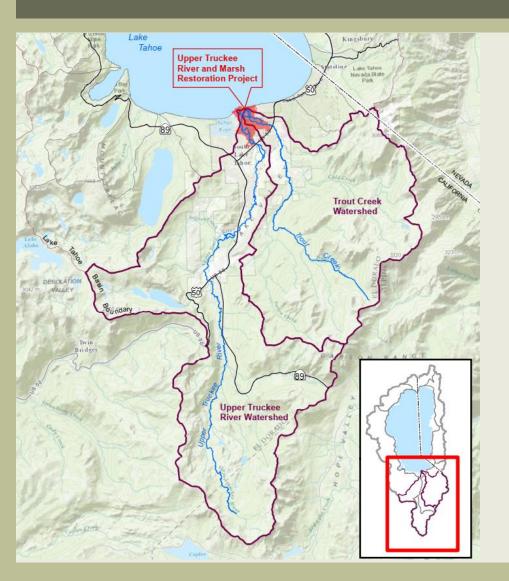


~1930

~1980

Aerial of the Upper Truckee Marsh in 1930 (left) and of Upper Truckee Marsh and Tahoe Keys in the early 1980's (right)





Upper Truckee River and Trout Creek Watersheds

Map courtesy of California Tahoe Conservancy





Tahoe Keys



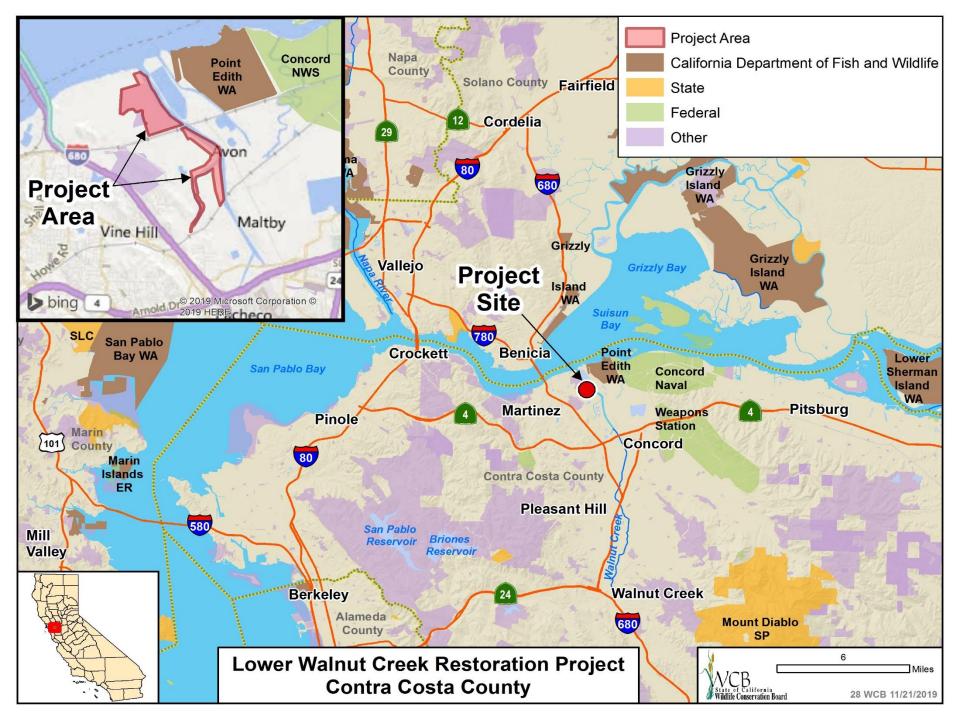


Sailing Lagoon

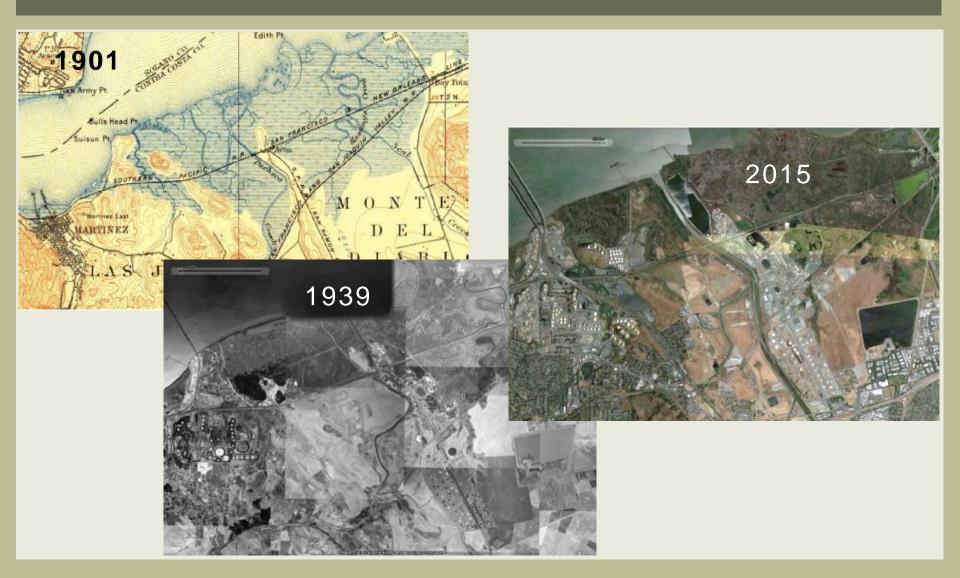




Upper Truckee River Marsh















Main channel, Lower Walnut Creek. Habitat has developed on accreted sediments, but with reduced flood capacity.









This project: excavation and grading to re-establish tidal connectivity and create new tidal marsh and adjacent upland habitat.

- North reach
- Middle reach (later phase)
- South reach





Northern reach (near mouth of Walnut Ck), facing south, with Mt. Diablo in background.



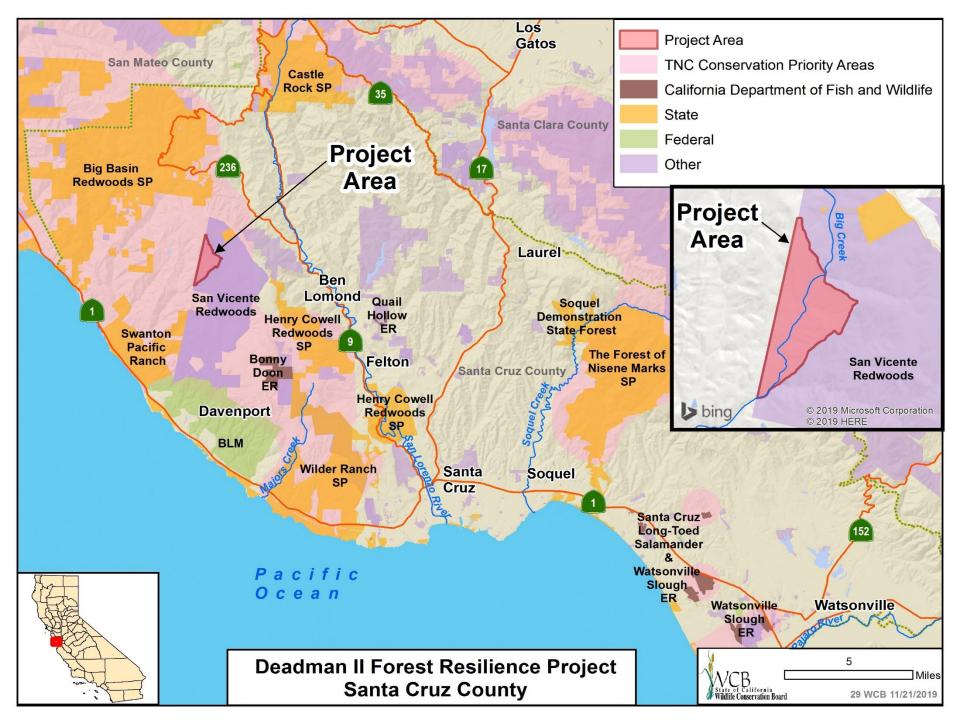


Walnut Creek, southern reach, facing northeast.





Walnut Creek, southern reach, facing west.







Deadman Gulch Restoration Reserve within San Vincente Redwoods

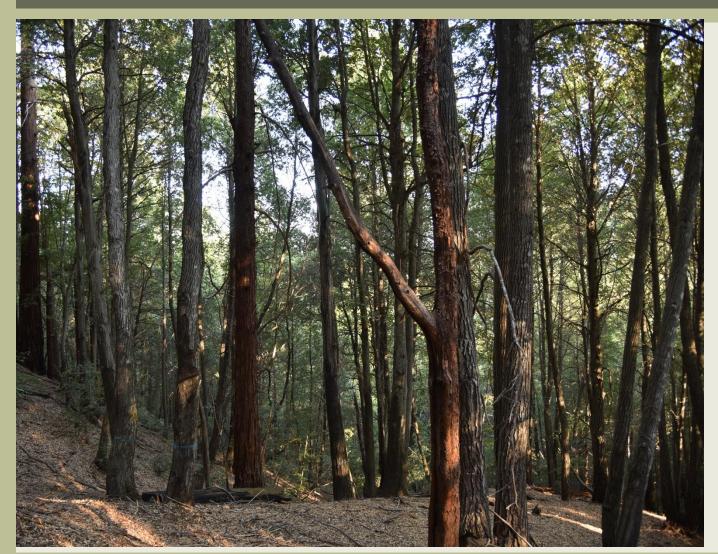
Photo Courtesy of Save the Redwods League





Dense regrowth following clear cut





Dense tanoak regrowth competes with conifers

Photo Courtesy of Save the Redwods League

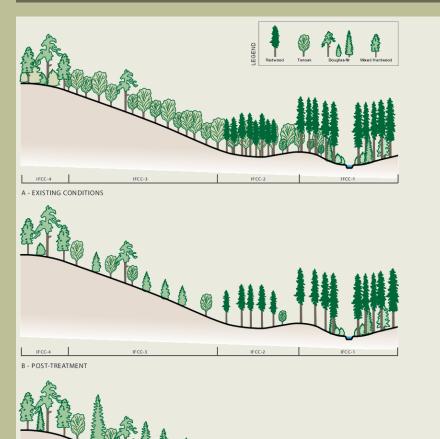


Selective thinning



NOT TO SCALE



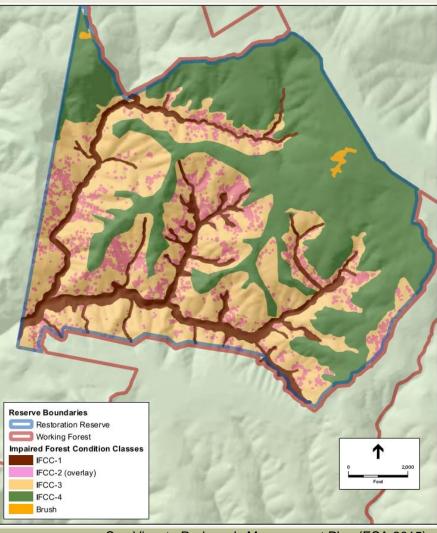


IFCC-2

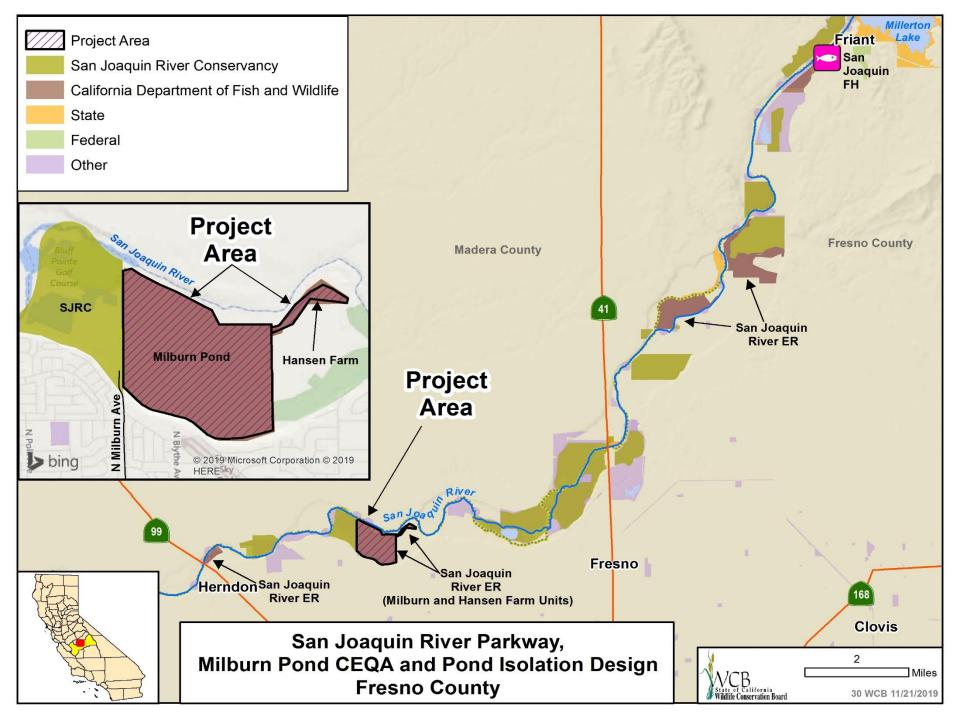
IFCC-3

IFCC-4

C - FUTURE CONDITION

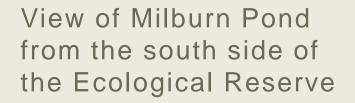


San Vicente Redwoods Management Plan (ESA 2015)

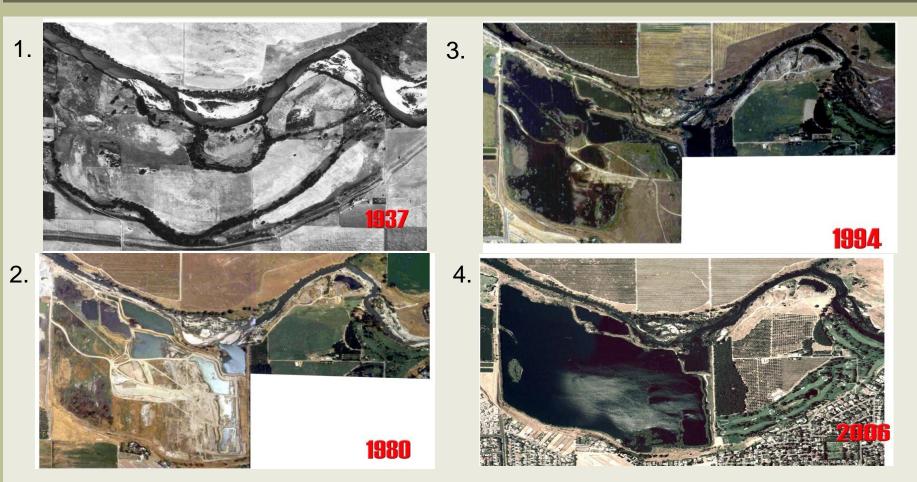


View of the Hansen Property from the north side of the river









Time sequence illustrating the creation of Milburn Pond

Photos courtesy of the DWR

California onservation Board





Main berm breach between the pond and the river at low flow in 2017.



Downstream connection between the pond and river at high river flows in 2017.



Pond berm drilling and substrate sampling in 2017 during preliminary study phase

nservation Board







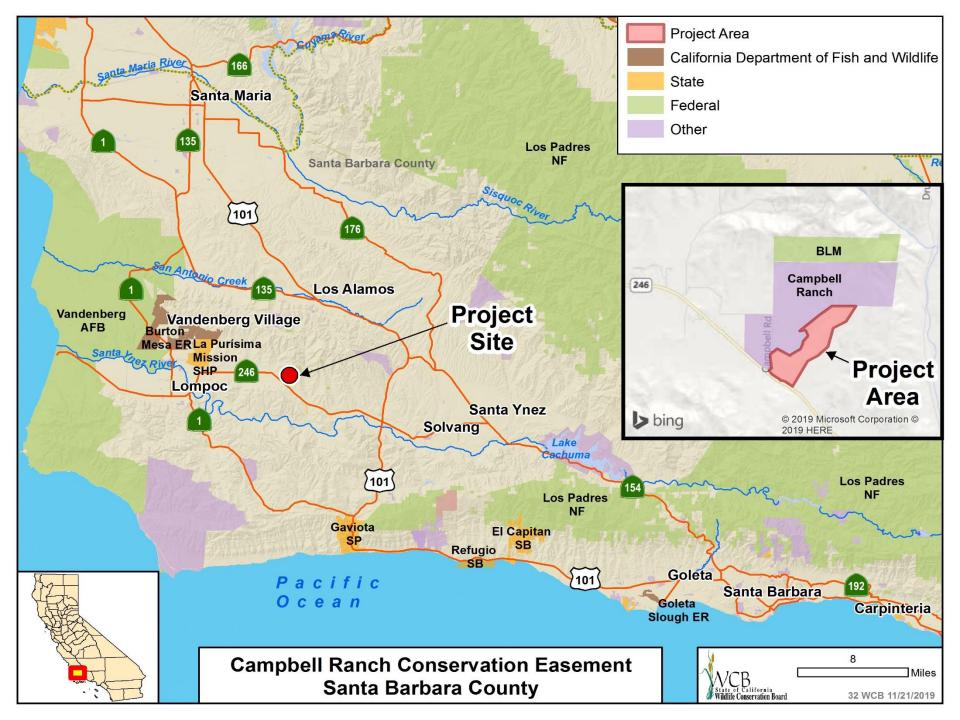
Project goals:

- Improve river flows
- Restore habitat and a functioning floodplain
- Protect reintroduced salmon
- Address potential future public access improvements at Milburn Pond

#32. Tricolored Blackbird Wetland Habitat Enhancement



This item has been withdrawn from consideration at this time.



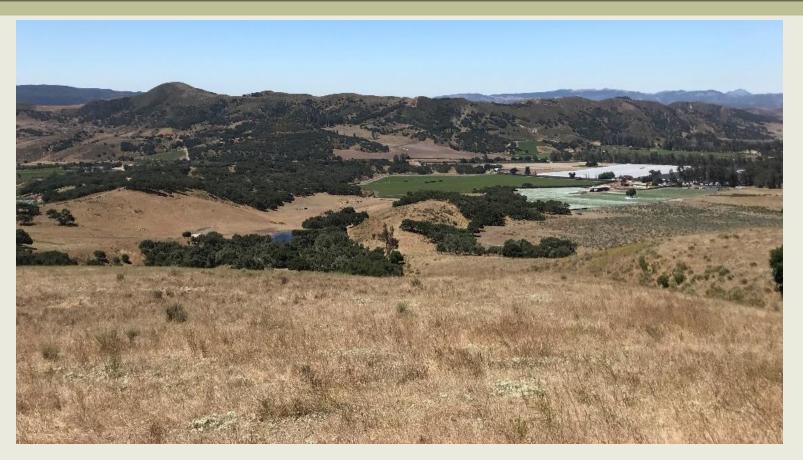
#33. Campbell Ranch Conservation Easement





Typical grasslands and oak woodlands located on the Campbell Ranch





The Campbell Ranch looking southwest towards Lompoc





Campbell Ranch California Tiger Salamander habitat with known populations of CTS



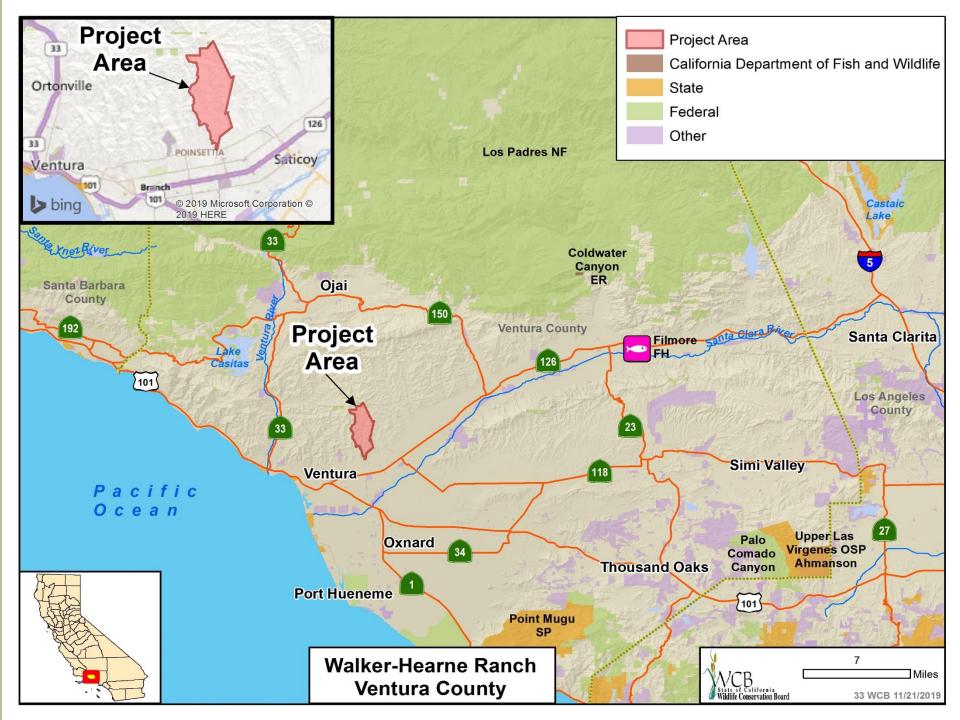


Stock ponds on the property provide CTS habitat

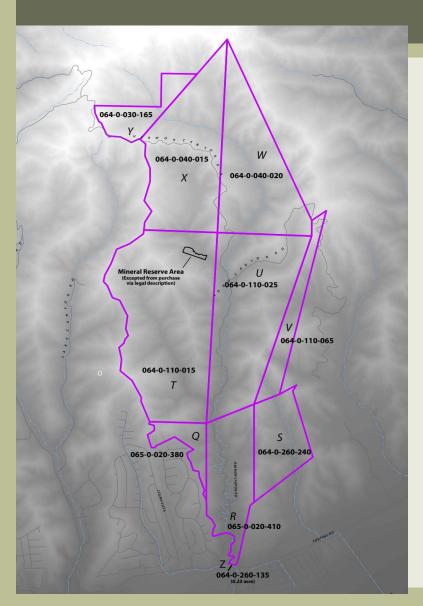




Threats to the Campbell Ranch habitat includes conversion to agricultural production, this vineyard is located directly adjacent to the property.

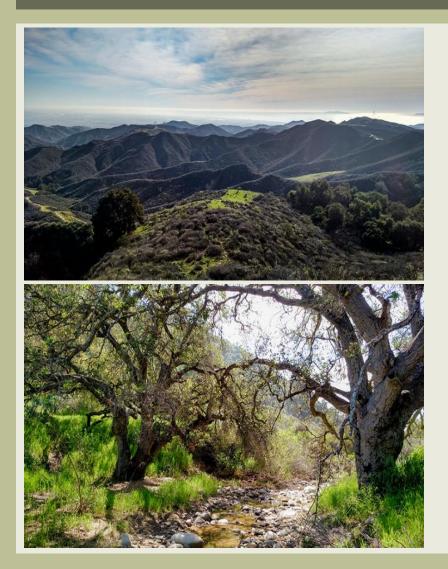






Walker-Hearne Ranch Parcels







Channel Islands view from east overlook (top left), Harmon Ridge (top right) and Harmon Oak Creek (bottom)





Perennial Springs



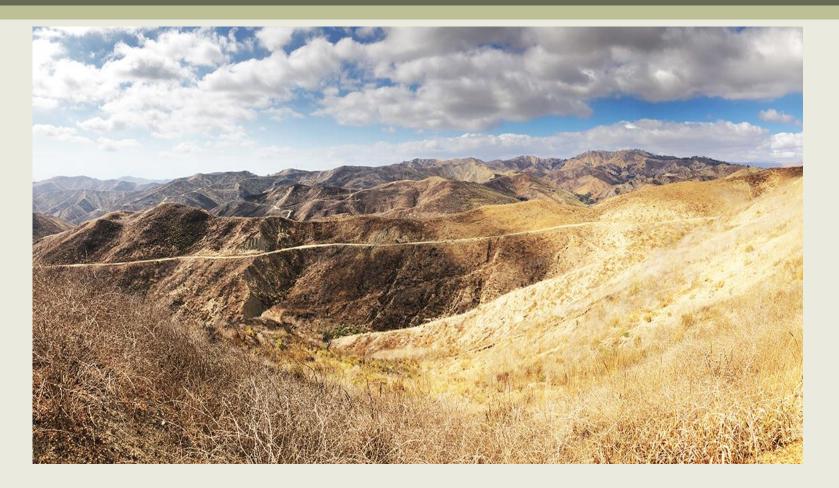




Mountain lion and mule deer imprints (top left), bobcat (right) and Baja California tree frog (bottom right)

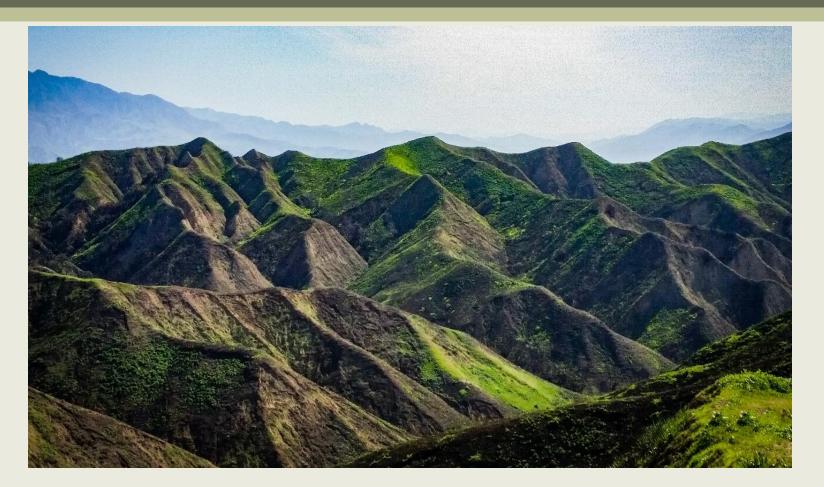
Photo courtesy of Jessica West (imprints), Derek Poultney (bobcat) and Kate Furlong (frog)





Existing roads on property



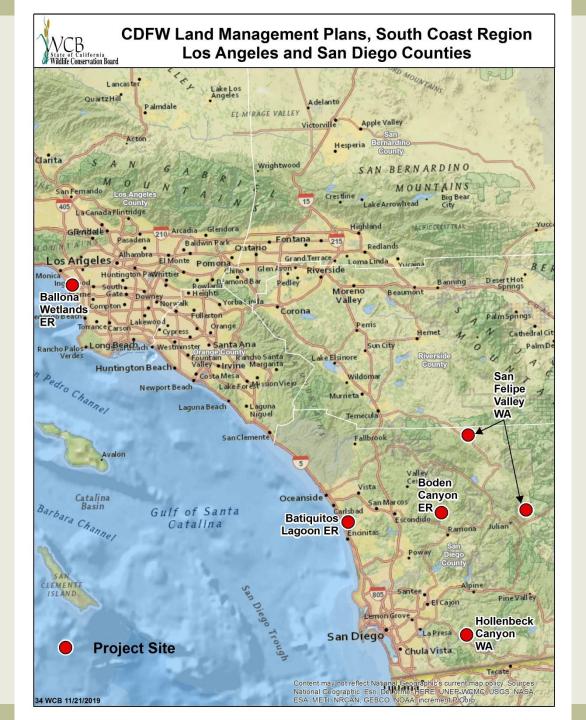


Harmon – view from top

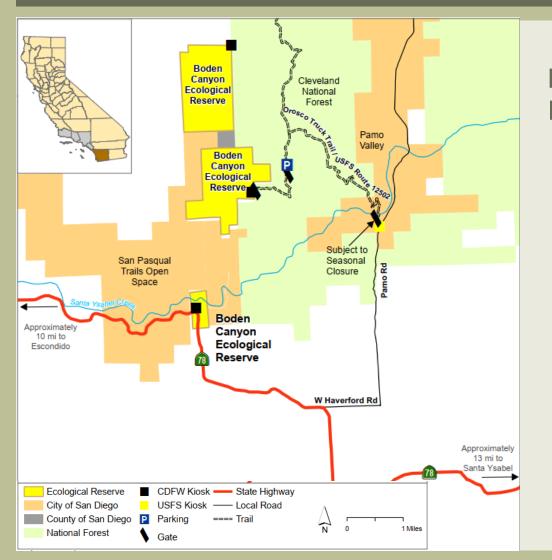




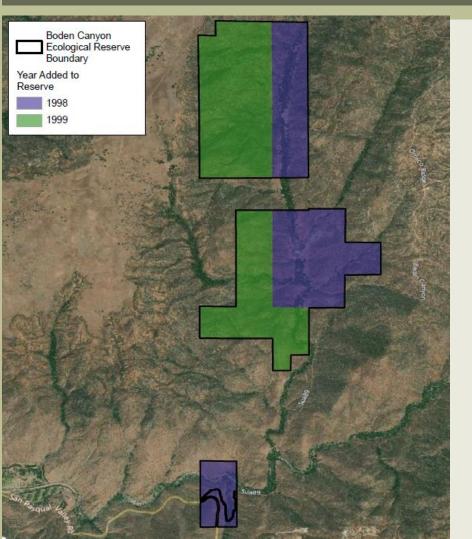
Top ridge of Harmon Canyon Preserve





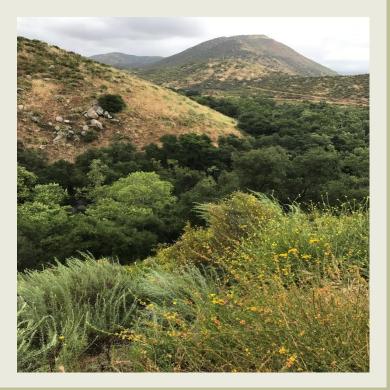


Boden Canyon Ecological Reserve.



Overview of Property 1, Boden Canyon Ecological Reserve.

f California Conservation Board





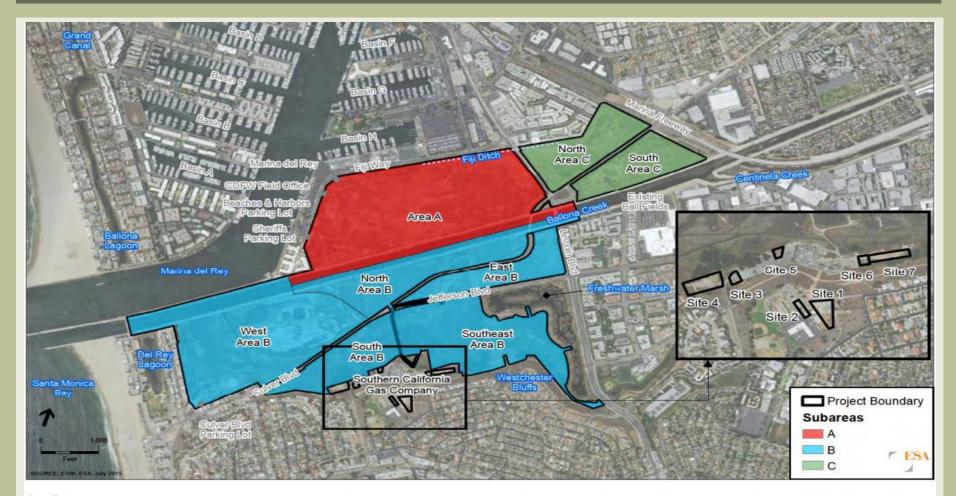




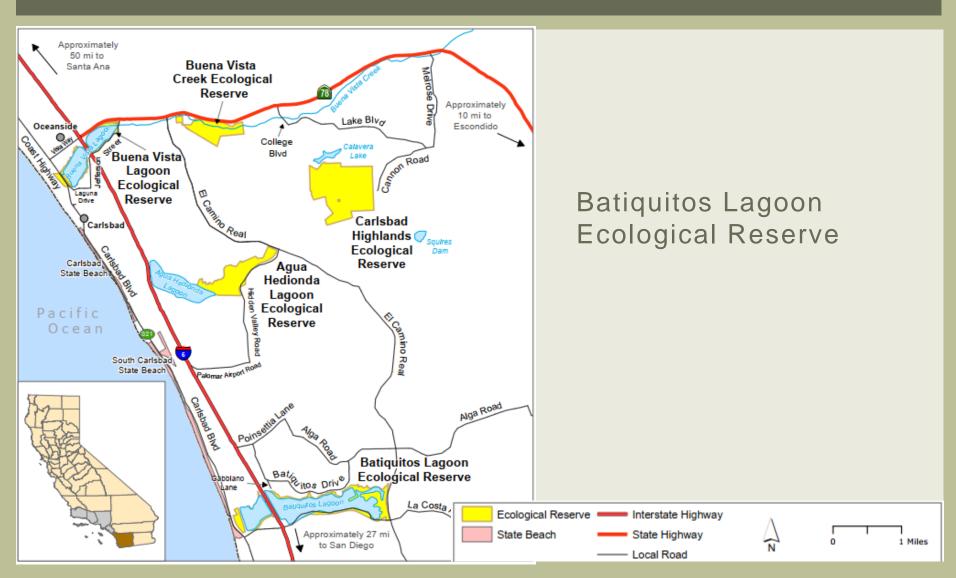
Figure ES-2 Project Site



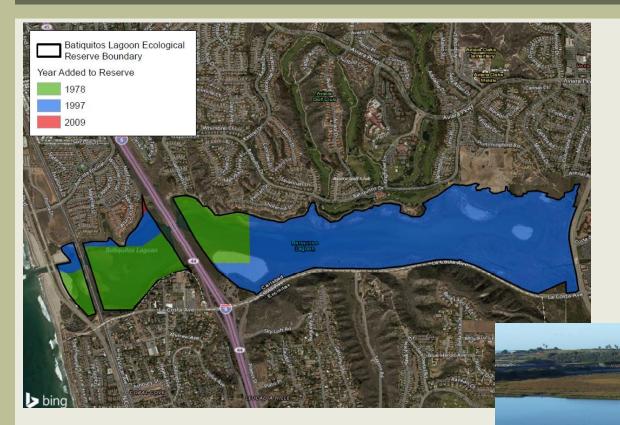


Overview of Property 2, Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.



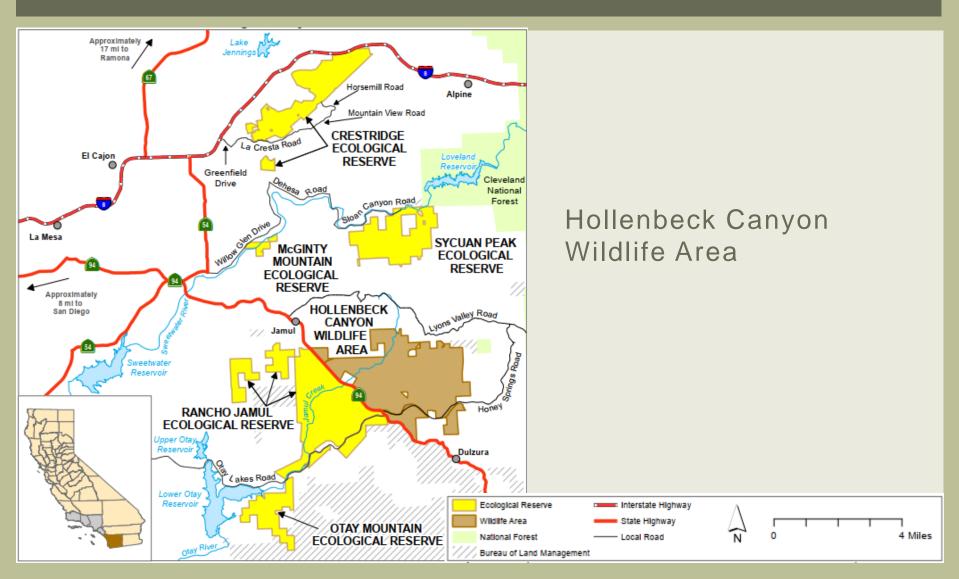




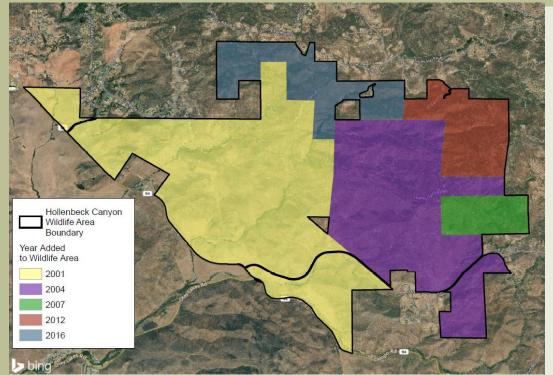


Overview of Property 3, Batiquitos Lagoon Ecological Reserve









Overview of Property 4, Hollenbeck Canyon Wildlife Area.

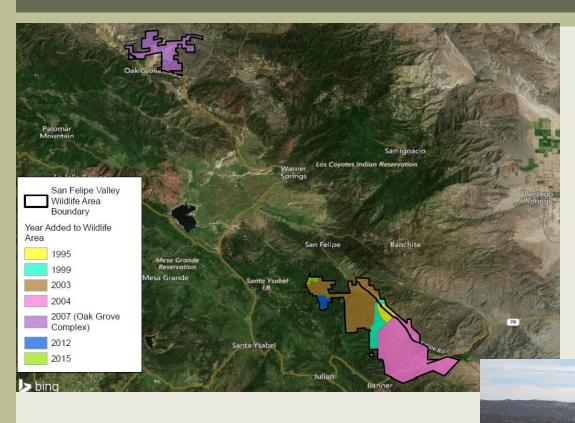




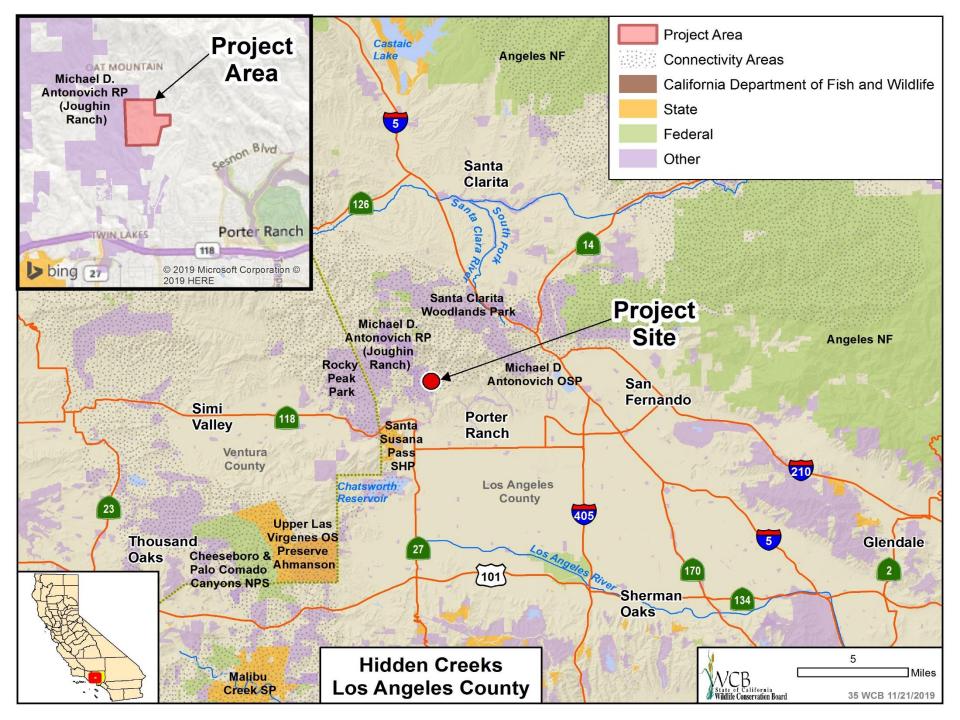
4 Miles



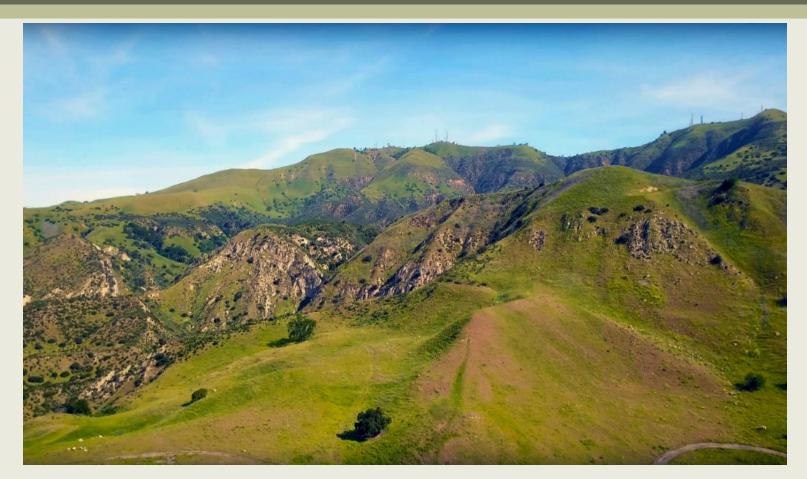




Overview of Property 5, Oak Grove Unit of the San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area Complex.







Looking northwest at Santa Susana Mountains





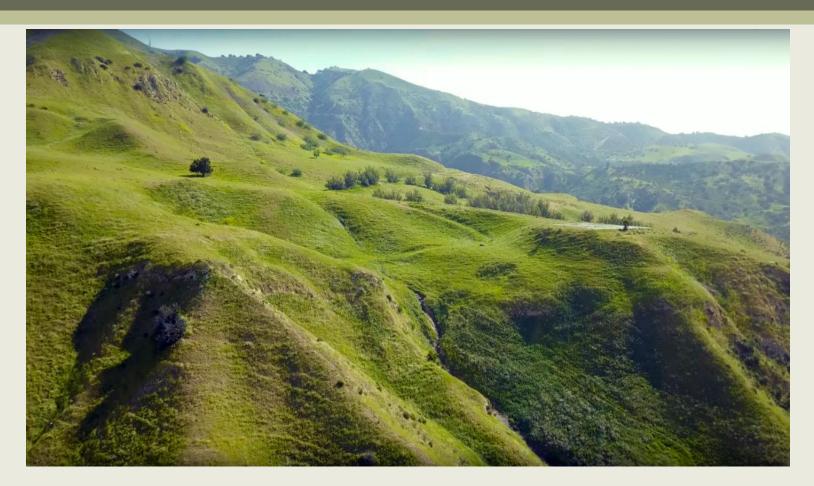
Eastern boundary of the property





Property will provide great public access to the Santa Susana Mountains





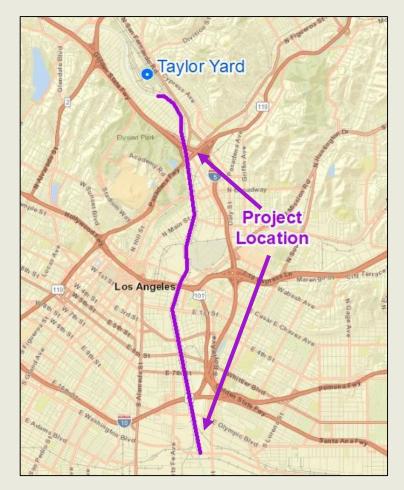
Looking east from riparian area





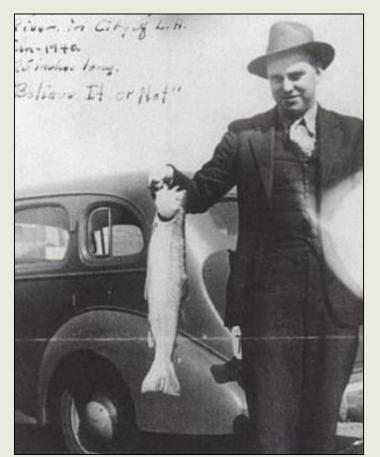






Project Location





25-in. steelhead caught in LA River, January 1940

Southern Steelhead Trout

- Historical range spans from San Luis Obispo County to the U.S./Mexico border
- Once abundant in the Los Angeles River
- Population drop is attributable to the dense urbanization that occurred in the south coast region
- The river channelization and installation of transportation and flood control infrastructure created fish passage barriers
- Steelhead are now prevented from reaching spawning and rearing areas.
- Listed as endangered by the National Marine Fisheries Service in 1997.





- Low to medium flow periods that occur during more than 95% of the year provide no habitat for aquatic species
- Even low flows have a velocity of 5 to 6 ft/s, which is above the cruising speed of southern steelhead trout

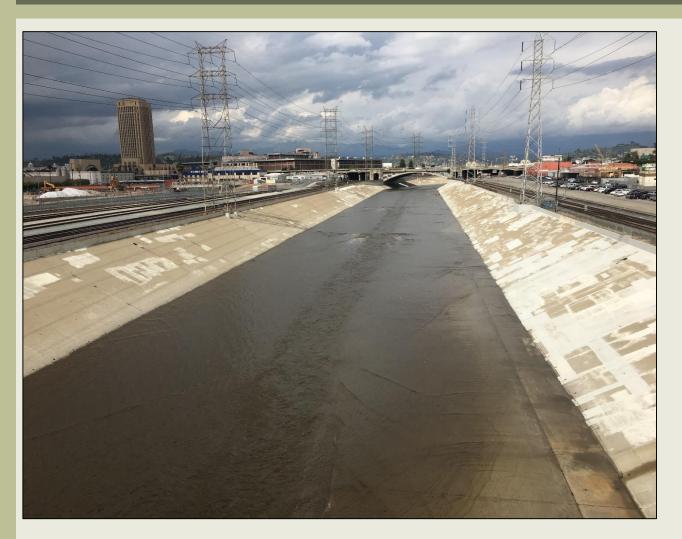
Photo: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



Project Goals

- Converting a single purpose (runoff conveyance) waterway to a multipurpose (flood control, habitat, aesthetics, and recreation) feature of the urban landscape
- Enhance access of migratory anadromous southern steelhead trout to upstream spawning and juvenile rearing habitat in key tributaries, such as Arroyo Seco
- Provide better access to perennial reaches and more diverse habitats that can serve as refugia for steelhead trout and other native fishes during stressful events such as drought or floods
- Improve population resilience to climate change by increasing local population size over a wider spatial distribution





Looking North Along the Existing Channel Section above 1st Street in Downtown Los Angles





Conceptual Design of Channel and Native Plants Within a Restored Riparian Corridor

Photo: Wendy Katagi, Stillwater Sciences



- Preliminary design and 60% design levels for passage and habitat structure designs
- Permits:
 - USACE Section 408 permit application,
 - USACE Section 404 permit application,
 - CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement 1600 permit application
 - RWQCB 401 Water Quality permit application.
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study

