



Wildlife Conservation Board May 23, 2024, Board Meeting First Floor Auditorium, CNRA Headquarters Building

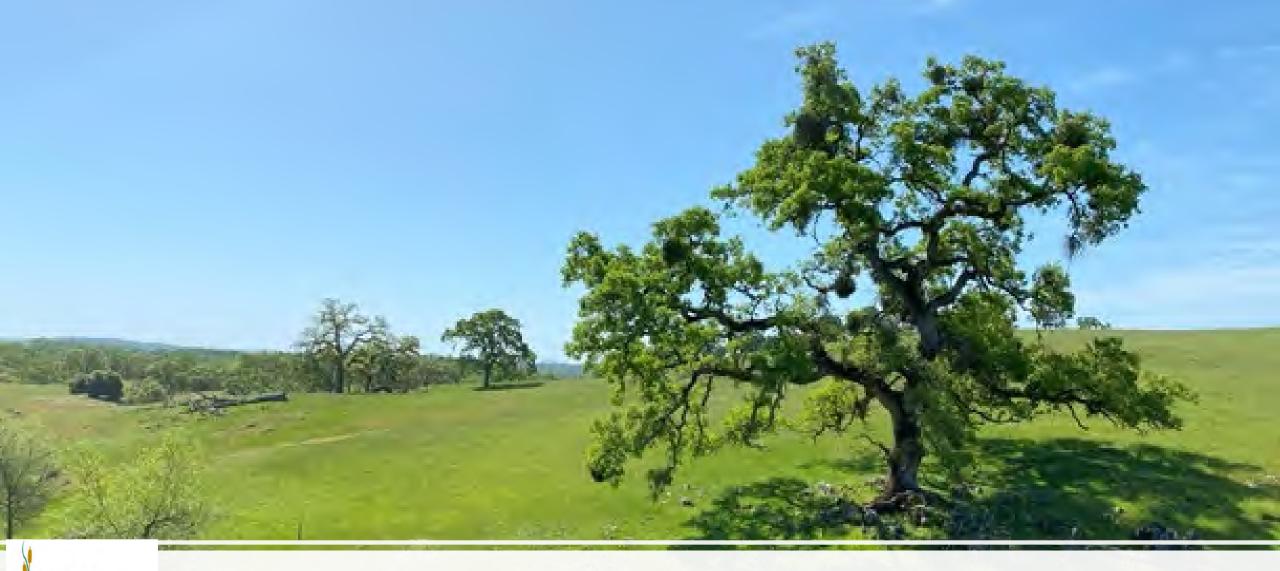






State of California
Wildlife Conservation Roard

Item 3. Executive Director's Report





Item 4. Board Member Updates and Reports



Item 5. Discussion and Election of Board Chair



State of California
Wildlife Conservation Board

Item 6. Funding Status – Informational

Wildlife Conservation Board Proposed Projects May 23, 2024 Fee Title (20) Conservation Easement (3) Restoration/Enhancement (10) Conservation Planning/Study (8) Infrastructure (2) **Total Projects: 43**

Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting May 23, 2024 Project Map





Consent Items 7 – 34



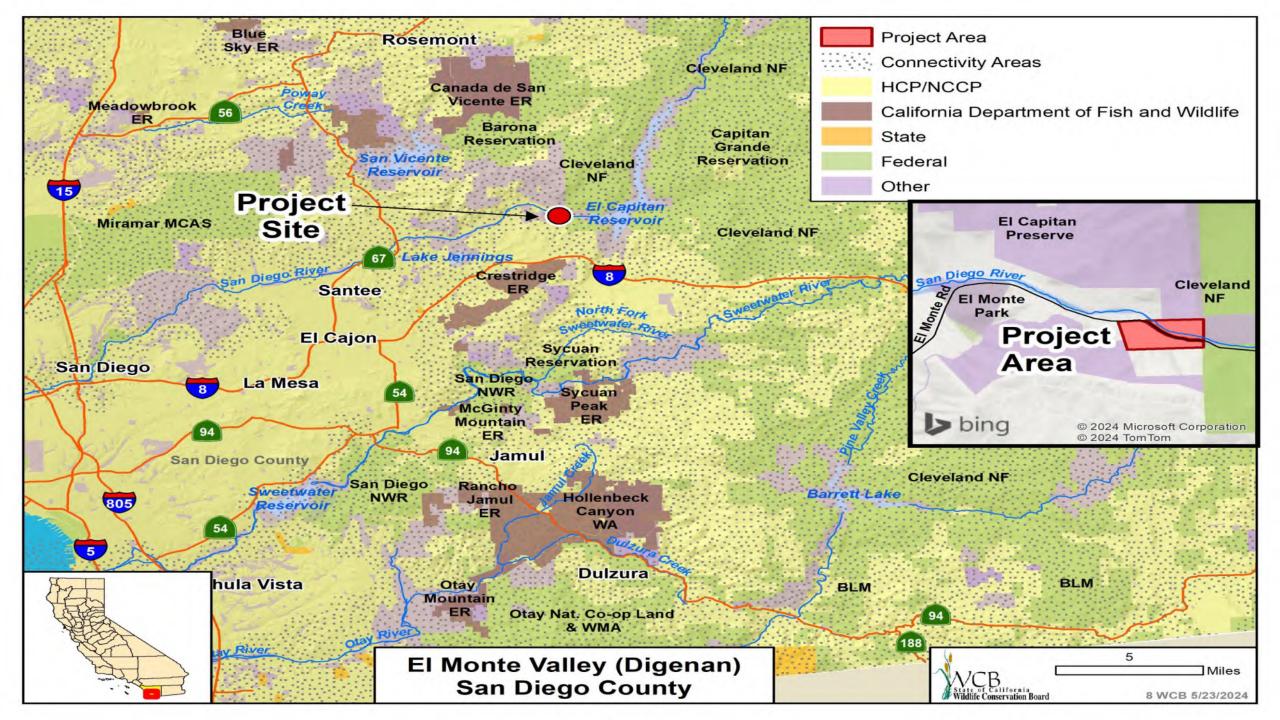






Item 7. Recovery of Funds

Fund Name	Amount
General Fund	\$149,385.00
Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Fund	\$0.00
Habitat Conservation Fund	\$209,732.48
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund	\$98,099.44
California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection	
Fund	\$178.48
Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002	\$87,141.13
Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal	
Protection Fund of 2006	\$83,116.83
Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014	\$6,247.33
The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor	
Access For All Act of 2018	\$2,889,331.49
Total Recoveries for All Funds	\$3,530,232.18



El Monte Valley (Digenan)

San Diego River tributary on the north side of the Property.



El Monte Valley (Digenan)

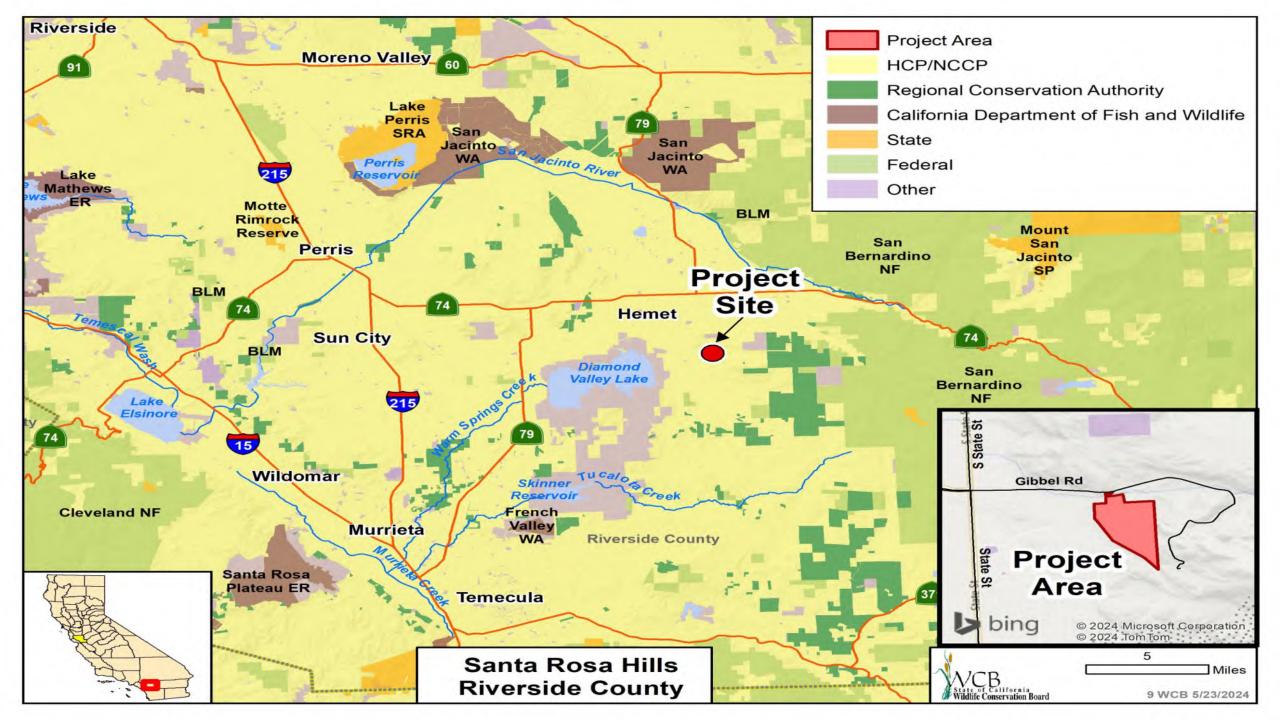
Slide 2

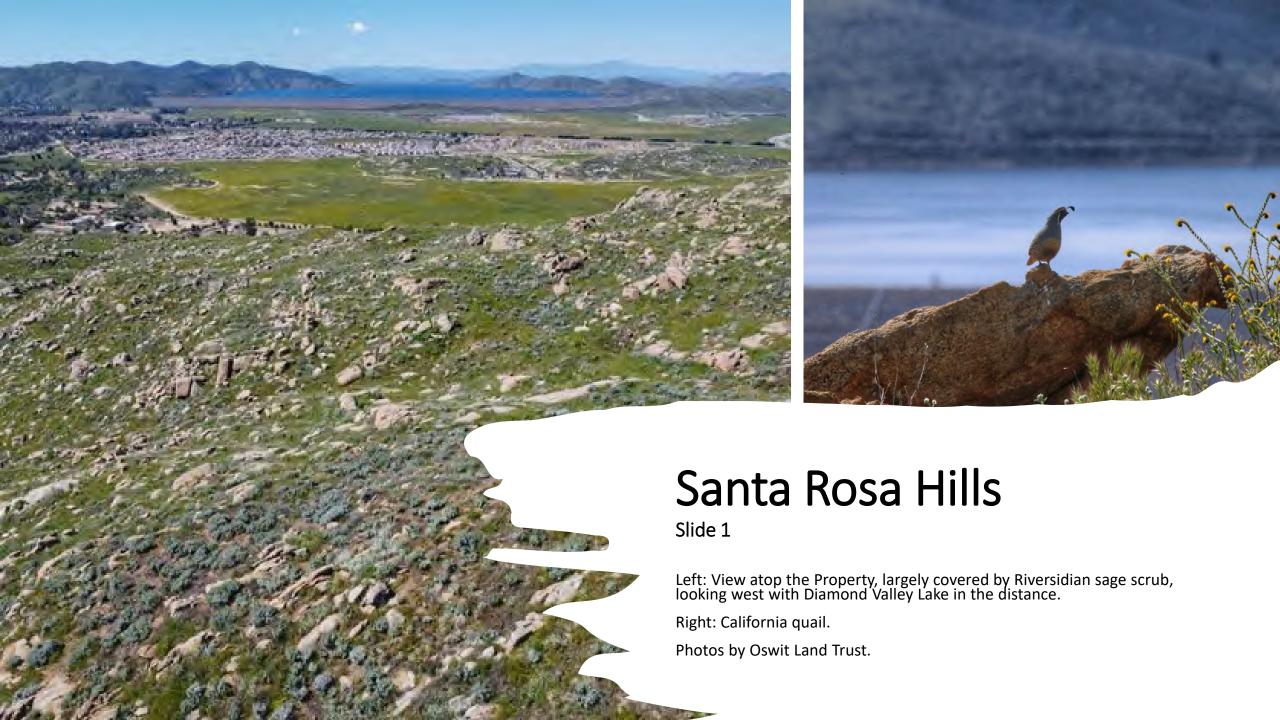
Left: Facing the south side's steep mountainside of coastal sage scrub.

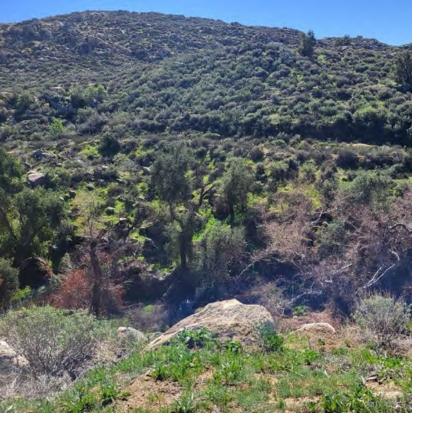
Right: Facing the north side of the Property with El Cajon Mountain in the background left.













Santa Rosa Hills

Slide 2

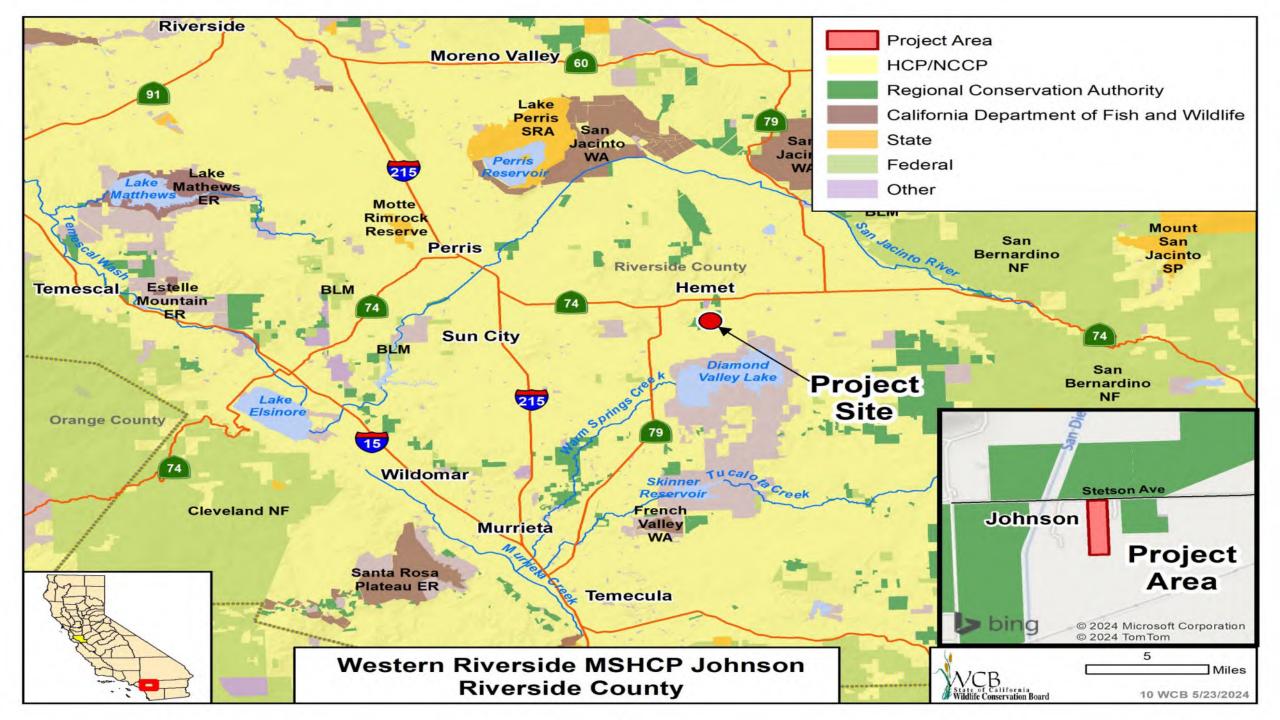
Left: North side of the Property. The lower row of trees run along an intermittent creek.

Center: The southern, rockier side of the Property.

Right: Pair of red-diamond rattlesnakes, a State Species of Special Concern.

Photo by Oswit Land Trust.



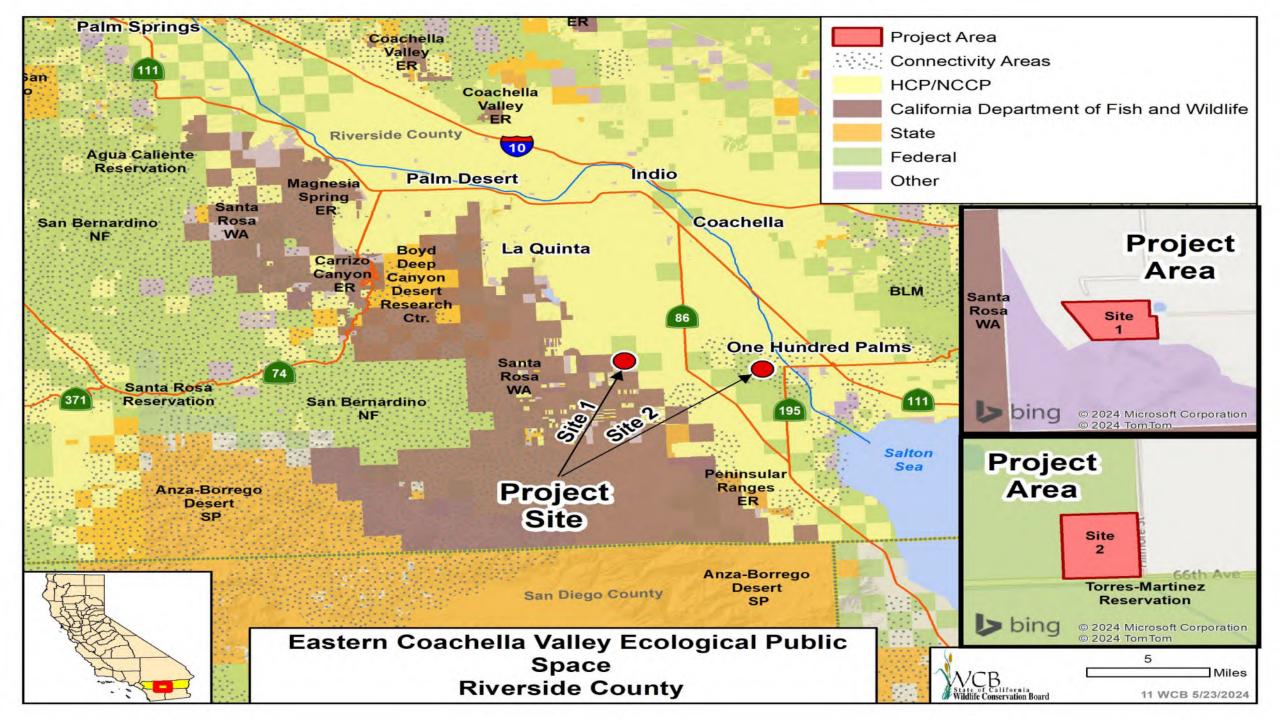


Western Riverside MSHCP Johnson

Slide 1

At the north end of the Property, facing east with dried vernal pool in the foreground.









Eastern Coachella Valley Ecological Public Space

Slide 3

• Site 1- Desert Lake Shore: Conceptual Plan



Materials & Design Precedents







Eastern Coachella Valley Ecological Public Space

Slide 4

• Site 1- Desert Lake Shore: Conceptual Plan



Materials & Design Precedents









Eastern Coachella Valley Ecological Public Space

Slide 6

Project Highlights

DAC/SDAC

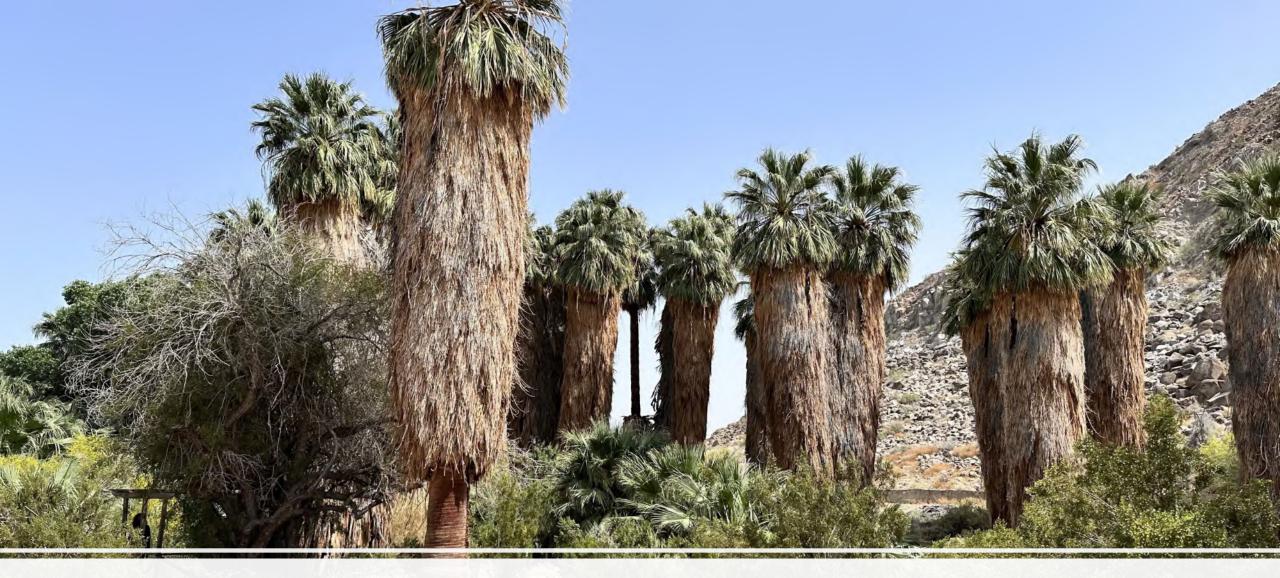
- Only 1 outdoor space dedicated to education around native ecosystems in the ECV Salton Sea State Recreation Area
- Site 2 is a 10-minute walk for approximately 3,500 students

TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT

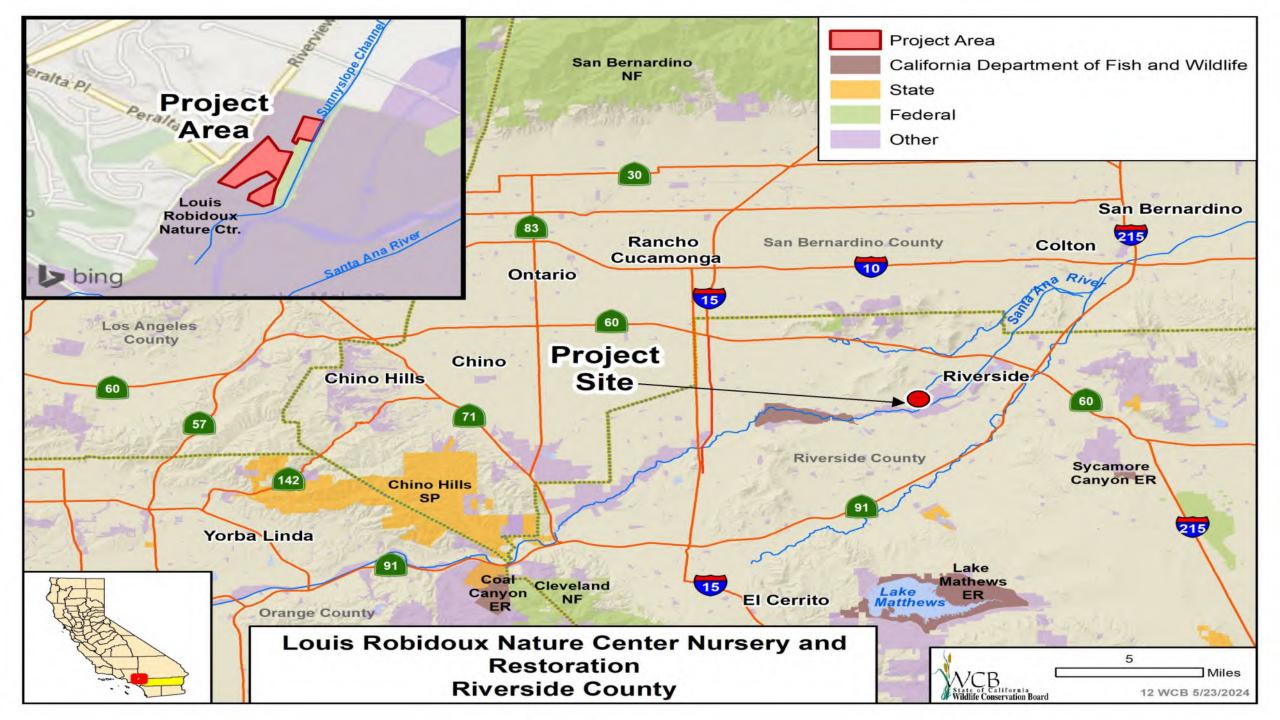
- Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla tribe is key partner
- Project aligns with 30x30 strategy to "protect Native American tribal ancestral lands for cultural practice ceremony, tribal practice" and "incorporating programming, education, outreach, and engagement that is accessible and representative of California's cultural diversity."

HISTORICAL VALUE

- Site 1 is the former shoreline of ancient Lake Cahuilla with remnants of ancient fish traps, ceramic shards, mortars in tufa, and petroglyphs
- The site itself does not appear eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places but the rock art panels, fish traps, and tufa mortars do appear eligible.



Eastern Coachella Valley Ecological Public Space Slide 7



Louis Robidoux Nature Center Nursery and Restoration

Slide 1

Louis Robidoux Nature Center Nursery and Restoration

Slide

Goals of Project

- Construct native plant nursery
- Remove invasive plant species
- Restore approximately 10 acres of native habitat
- Train the Inland Empire
 Urban Conservation Corps
 on ecological restoration
 techniques.



Louis Robidoux Nature Center Nursery and Restoration

Slide 3

Project Highlights

Locally sourced native seed

Restoration for listed bird species and species of special concern

Removing fire prone invasive species from the 40-acre site by hand or with hand tools.

Restoring 10 acres upslope of Sunnyslope Creek

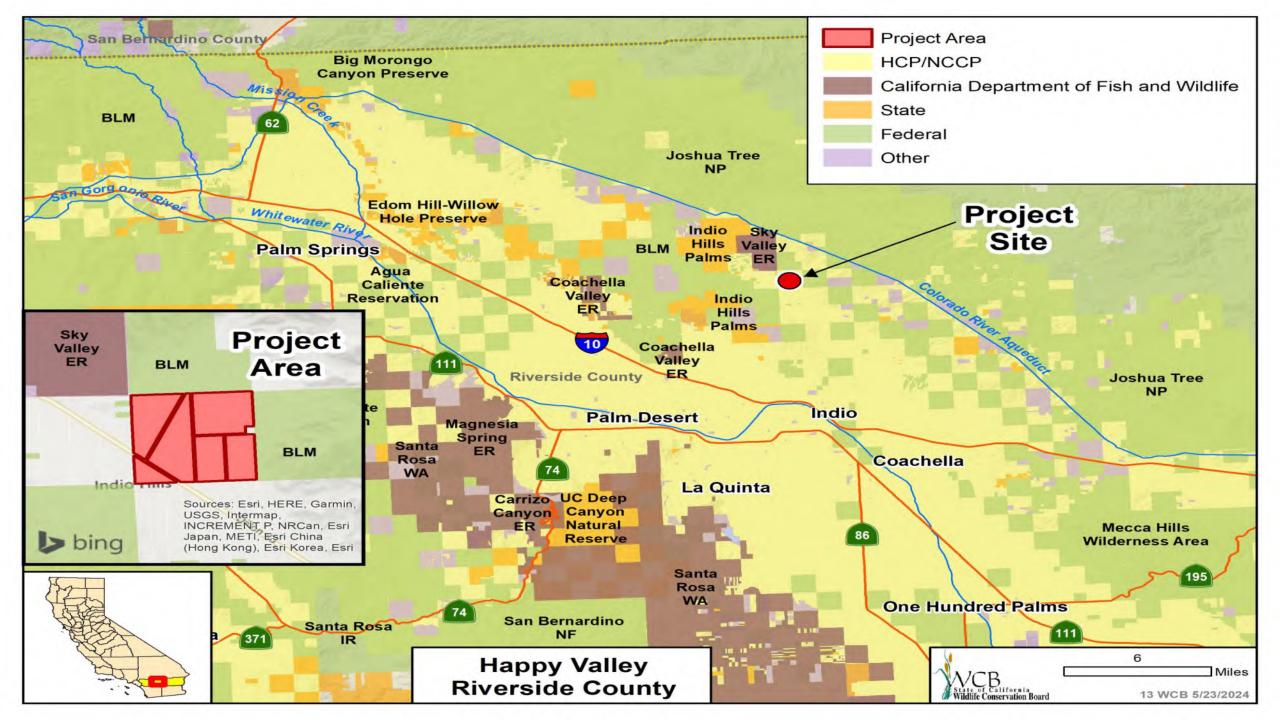
SCMF will hire and train young adults aged 18-26 from local disadvantaged communities to work in the Urban Conservation Corps program.



Louis Robidoux Nature Center Nursery and Restoration

Slide 4







Happy Valley

Slide 1

View of creosote scrub habitat with cheese bush, flowering brittle bush, and assorted annual wildflowers.

Photo Credit: Oswit Land Trust



Happy Valley Slide 2

View of the diverse annual wildflowers, cactus and other perennial vegetation throughout the property.

Photo Credit: Oswit Land Trust

Happy Valley

Slide 3

Juvenile Mojave desert tortoise.

Photo Credit: The Wildlands Conservancy

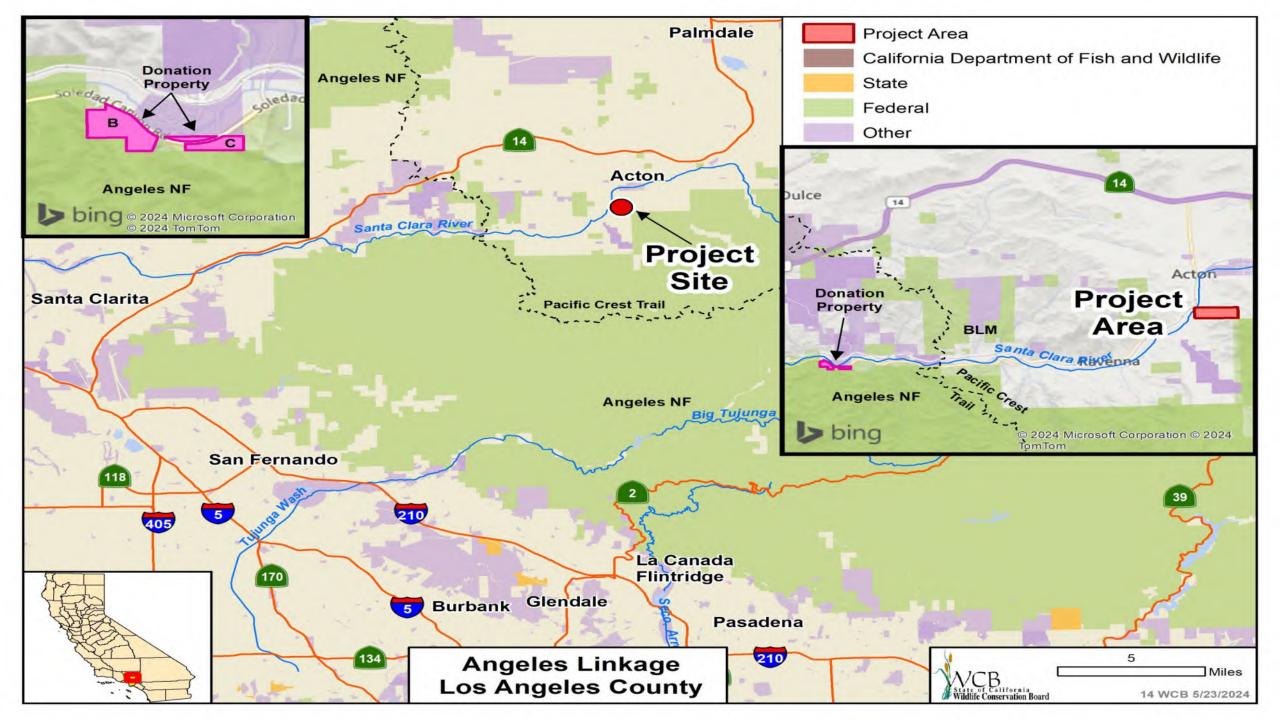




Happy Valley Slide 4

Packrat middens and small burrows are found throughout the property.

Photo Credit: Oswit Land Trust



Angeles Linkage

Slide 1

Vegetation on the Property's lower elevations includes alluvial fan scrub, southern riparian scrub, mulefat scrub, and California sycamore and Fremont cottonwood trees.

The hillslopes support Great Basin sage scrub and California juniper.

Photo by The Trust for Public Land.



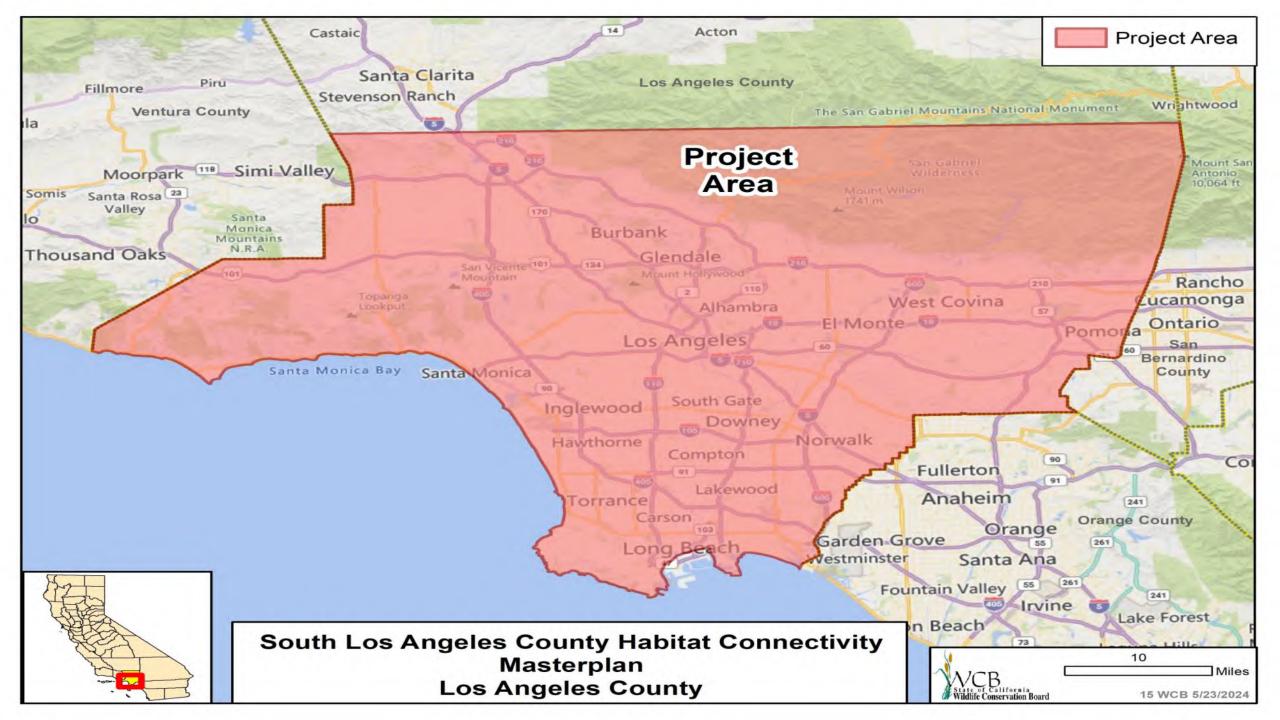


Angeles Linkage

Slide 2

The high-desert Property sits at 2,710 feet of elevation at the base of the San Gabriel Mountain foothills and includes steep terrain that climbs 650 feet.

Photo by The Trust for Public Land.



South Los Angeles County Habitat Connectivity Masterplan Slide 1

Connectivity Master Plan that links and expands upon urban and wildland connectivity initiatives and plans that provide comprehensive statewide and regional strategies and priorities

Species driven analysis

- Up to 10 focal species
- Movement characteristics
- Urban tolerance
- Habitat preferences

Connectivity framework

- Habitat core areas
- Existing land use
- Planned development
- Climate change stressors

Modeled after the California Essential Linkages Project for wildland connectivity

 Finer scale to prioritize connectivity within urban Los Angeles County

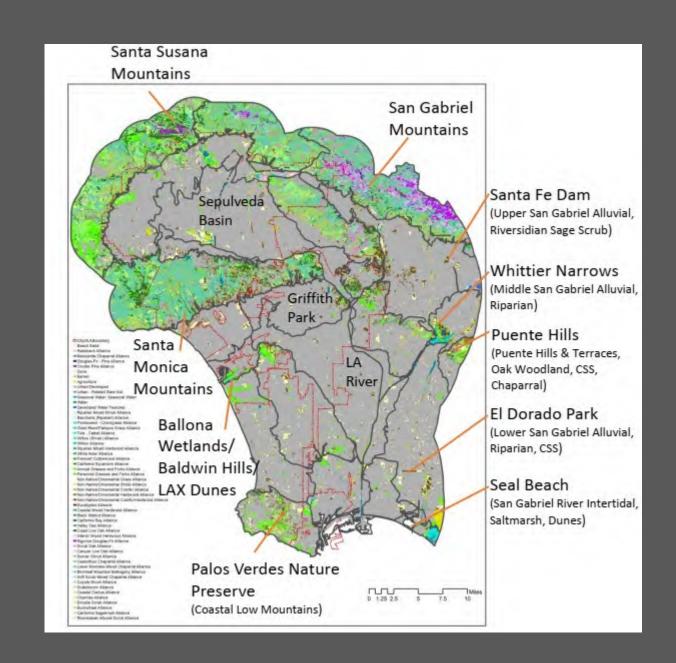


South Los Angeles County Habitat Connectivity Masterplan Slide 2



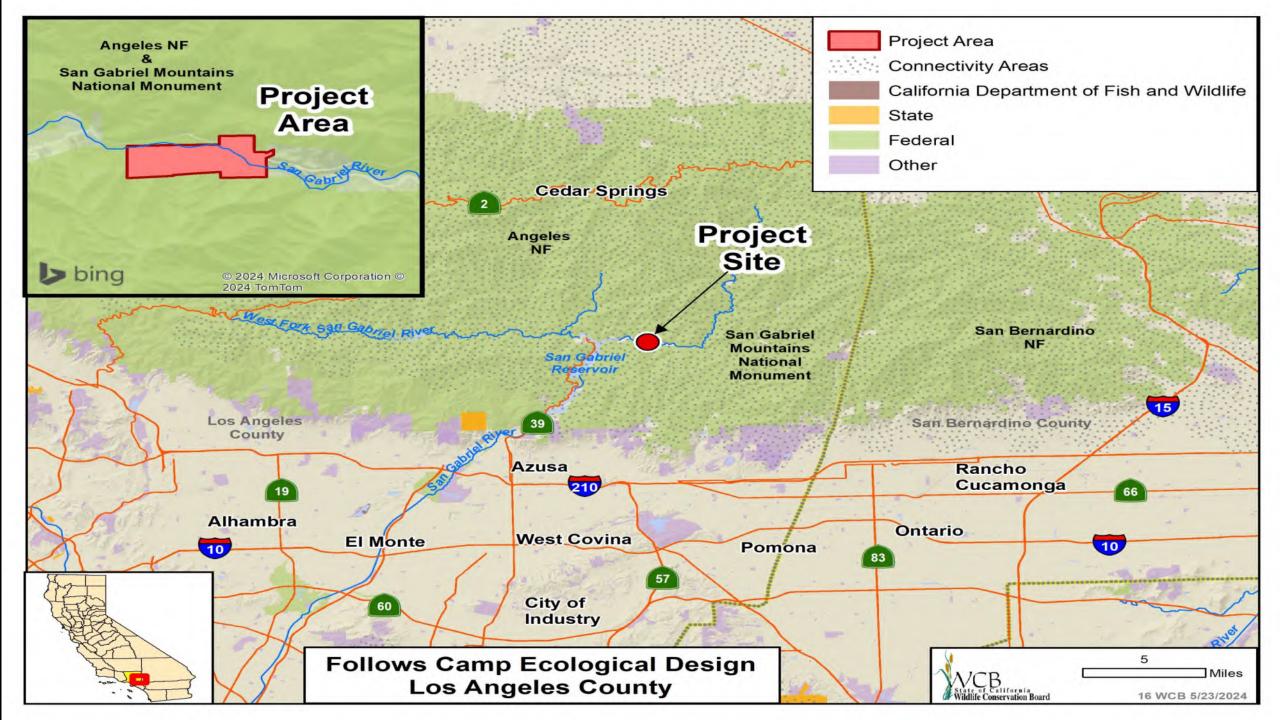
South Los Angeles County Habitat Connectivity Masterplan

- Maps of existing conditions and connectivity priority locations for focal species
- High-resolution physical plan for 6 subregional planning units
- Conceptual design for up to 8 priority projects
- Best practices guidance
 - Zoning, infrastructure improvement, water quality projects, and housing development
- Extensive outreach
 - Tongva, Gabreleño, Kizh, and Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians



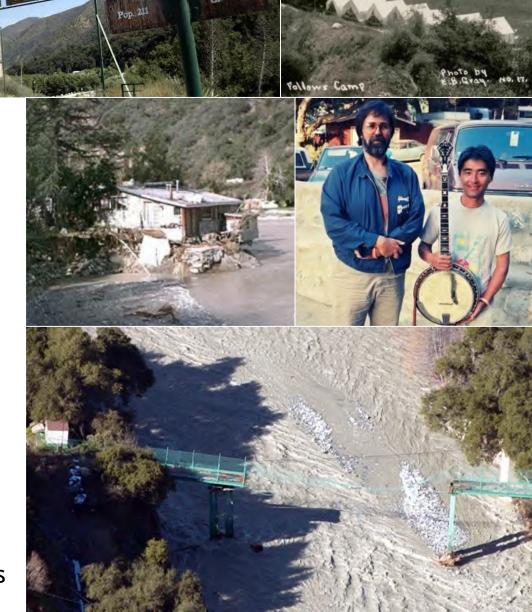
South Los Angeles County Habitat Connectivity Masterplan Slide 4

Preliminary Advisory Group	
Name	Affiliation
Victoria Tang, Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Melanie Gogol-Prokurat, Michael Hardy, Warren Wong	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Sarah Rascon, Brian Baldauf, Paul Edelman	Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy/Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
Los Angeles Biodiversity Expert Council	Convened by Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (includes additional local NGOs, agencies, scholars, professionals, Watershed Conservation Authority, etc.)
Public Stakeholder Group	Convened by Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, LA County, Los Angeles City Council Districts 4 and 5
Senator Henry Stern: Brendan Murphy, Jeremy Wolf	California State Senate District 27
Council Member Nithya Raman: Mashael Majid, Josh Nuni	LA Council District 4
Los Angeles City and County Departments	RPOSD, Rec & Parks, Regional Planning, etc.
Elizabeth Reid-Wainscoat, J.P. Rose, JD	Center for Biological Diversity
Miguel Luna, Director	Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
Justin Suraci, PhD	Conservation Science Partners



Slide 1

- ► Time immemorial Inhabited by Gabrieleño-Tongva Native Americans
- ► 1896 Follows Camp established as a recreational and fishing camp
- ► 1975 Expanded to include cabins and mobile homes for permanent residents
- 2005 Series of storms and floods caused abandonment of property
- ▶ 2011 Purchased by City of Industry



- Habitats:
 - oak woodland, mixed chaparral, riparian
- Aquatic species:
 - Santa Ana sucker, arroyo chub, Rainbow trout, Santa Ana speckled dace
- Terrestrial and bird species:
 - Mountain lion, black bear, desert bighorn sheep, mountain quail, least Bell's vireo, western yellow-billed cuckoo









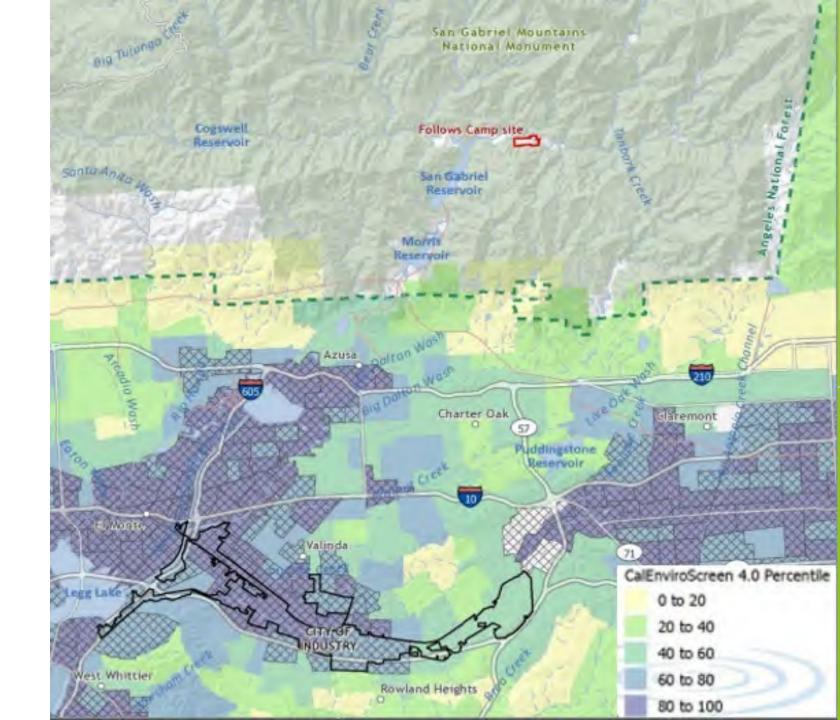




- Top left: Graffiti and litter
- Top right: Graffiti on an abandoned structure
- Bottom left: Lowwater crossing is a barrier to fish migration
- Bottom right: Visitors create dammed swimming holes which impede stream flow

Credit: Stillwater Sciences

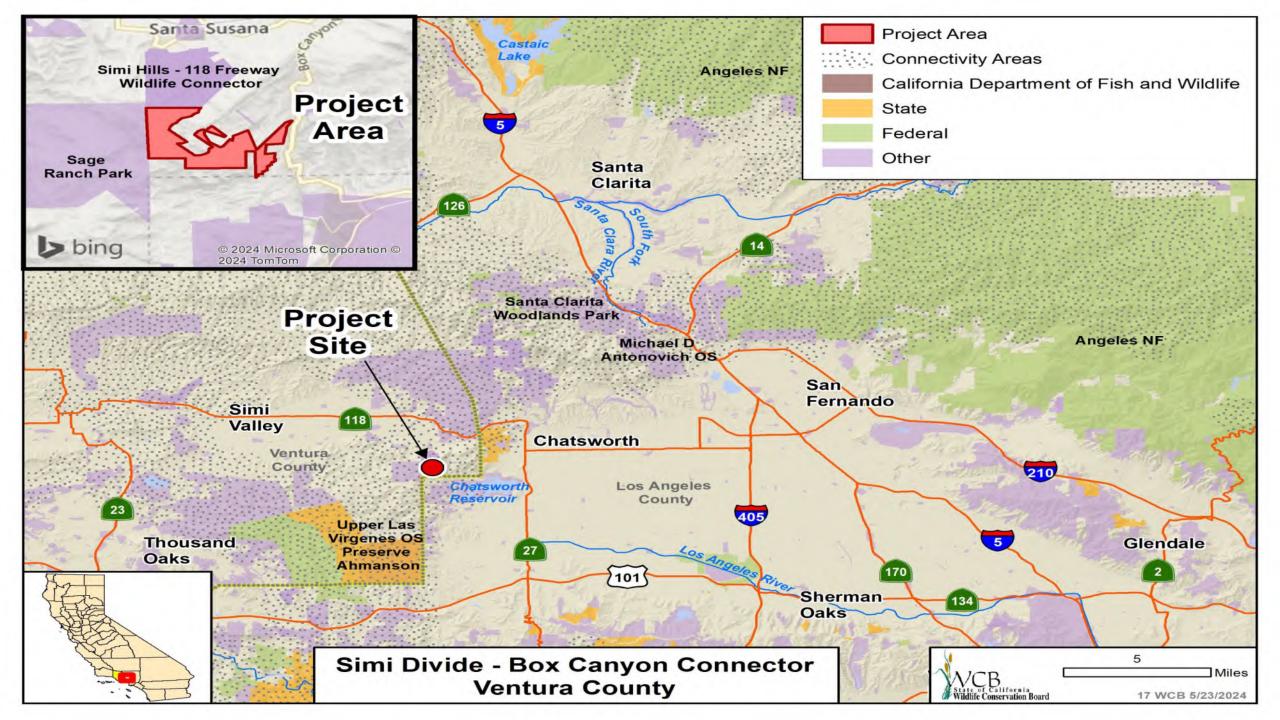
Location of the Project site relative to the City of Industry, and CalEnviroScreen scores for surrounding communities. Credit: Stillwater Sciences





- Site Activation
 - Mobilize community around litter removal and stewardship
 - Install multi-lingual signage
- Restoration Designs
 - ▶ 100% designs for restoring aquatic, riparian and upland habitats
 - ▶ 100% designs for new stream crossings
- Site Master Planning
 - Environmental education and sustainable access
 - Long-term operations and maintenance, site security

Coast live oak woodland on the north bank. Credit: Stillwater Sciences



Simi Divide - Box Canyon Connector

Slide 1

Looking west from edge of subject property across Simi Valley with Santa Susana Mountains in middle distance and Topa Topa Mountains above Santa Paula in the Santa Clara River watershed beyond.





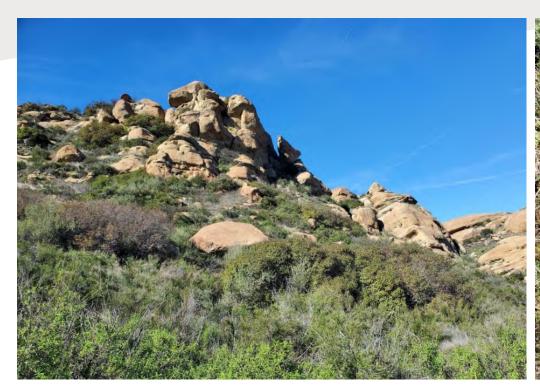
Simi Divide - Box Canyon Connector

Slide 2

Looking northeast with subject property in foreground and 118 Freeway approaching Santa Susana Pass below Rocky Peak with Oat Mountain beyond.

Simi Divide - Box Canyon Connector

Slide 3





Looking north at onsite rock outcrops from existing trail

Onsite occurrence of a California endemic Santa Susana tarplant that is State-listed rare with a California Rare Plant Rank of 1B.2.

Credit: Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority



Simi Divide - Box Canyon Connector

Slide 4

Looking south with subject property in foreground and panoramic view of western extent of San Fernando Valley with Calabasas Highlands and Santa Monica Mountains beyond.

San Joaquin and Tulare Basin Planning, Amendment **Multiple Counties** amento Calaveras County Tonopah County Livermore * Mariposa Stanislaus County County an Jose Merced County **Madera County** Fresno Fresno County Visalia **Tulare County Kings County** Riegecrest Bakersfield Kern County San Luis Obispo Project Area Lompoc. 18 WCB 5/23/2024

San Joaquin and Tulare Basin Planning, Amendment

Slide 1

- Accelerating pace and scale of conservation and restoration in Region
- Critical need to identify longterm stewards
- Need to broaden network of stewards
- Engaging Tribes

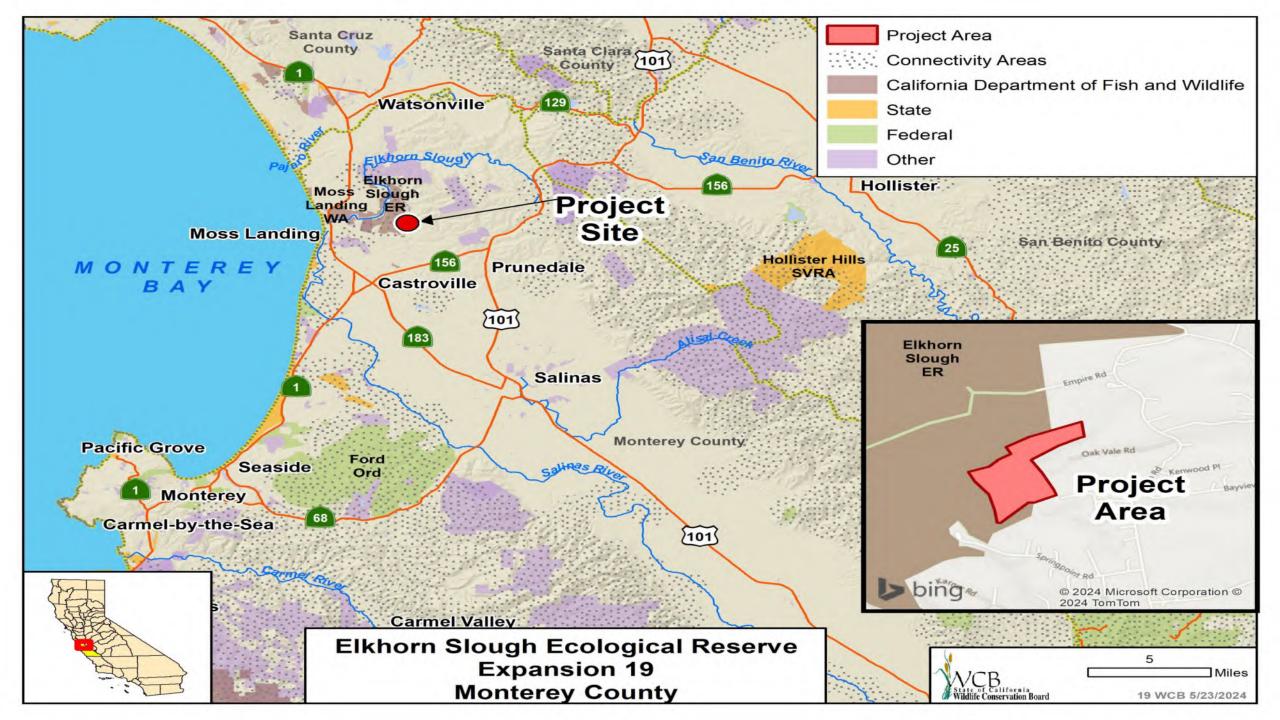


San Joaquin and Tulare Basin Planning, Amendment

Slide 2

- Hire Facilitator to lead Tribal engagement
- Outreach Strategy
- Facilitate meetings with Tribes
- Create content to aid in future stewardship engagement





Elkhorn Slough Ecological Reserve, Expansion 19

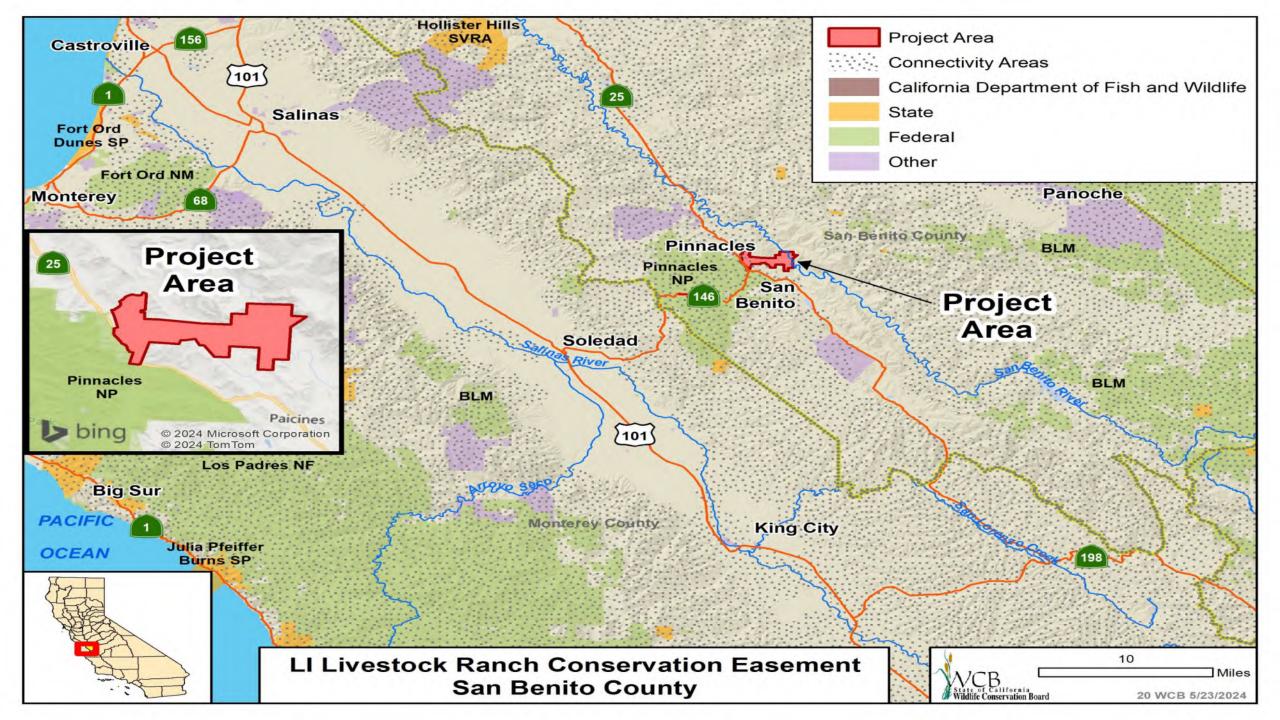
- View to Elkhorn Slough
- Photo courtesy of CDFW



Elkhorn Slough Ecological Reserve, Expansion 19

- Slide 2
- Wet Meadow Wetland
- Photo courtesy of CDFW





Slide 1

Scenic Viewsheds Towards Pinnacles National Park (Credit California Rangeland Trust)



Slide 2

Annual Grassland and Coastal Scrub Habitats (Credit California Rangeland Trust)



Slide 3

California Tiger Salamander in Stock Pond (Credit California Rangeland Trust)



Slide 4

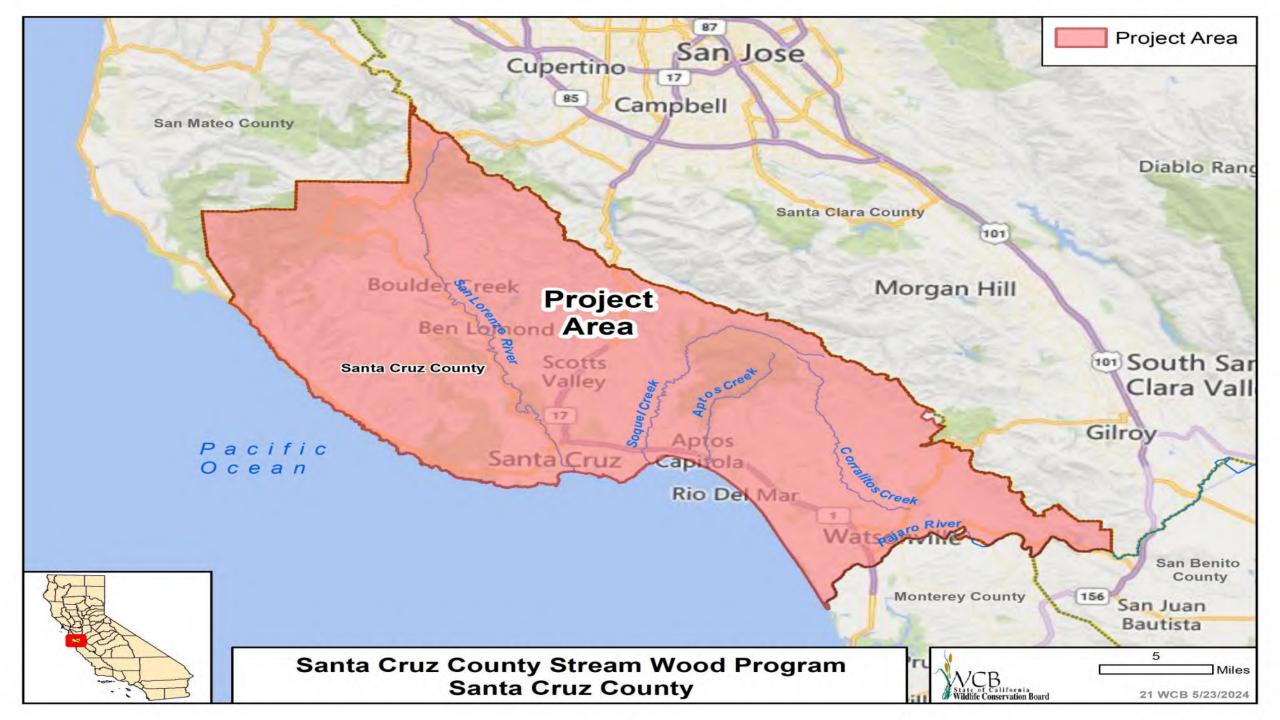
Beneficial Cattle Grazing (Credit California Rangeland Trust)



Slide 5

CDFW and USFWS
Biologists Surveying Ponds
(Credit California
Rangeland Trust)





Santa Cruz County Stream Wood Program Slide 1

Purpose

- Increase capacity of County's Large Woody Material Management Program.
- Program's Purpose: keep large woody debris and log jams in salmonid-bearing streams where feasible for habitat benefits.



Santa Cruz County Stream Wood Program

Slide 2

Need

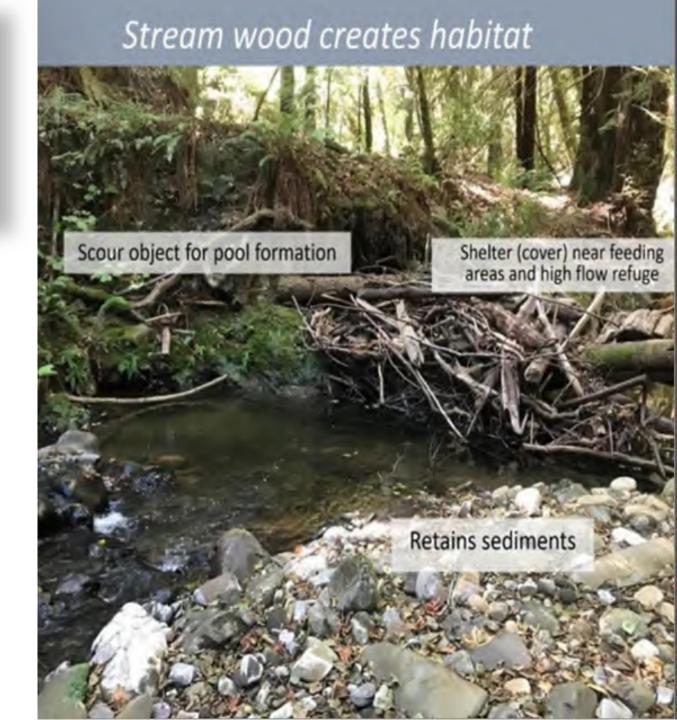
- Infusion of wood from 2023 rainy season has exceeded program's capacity
- Size of trees and number of jams dwarfs the budget for crews.
- Insufficient monitoring system
- Assess challenge areas

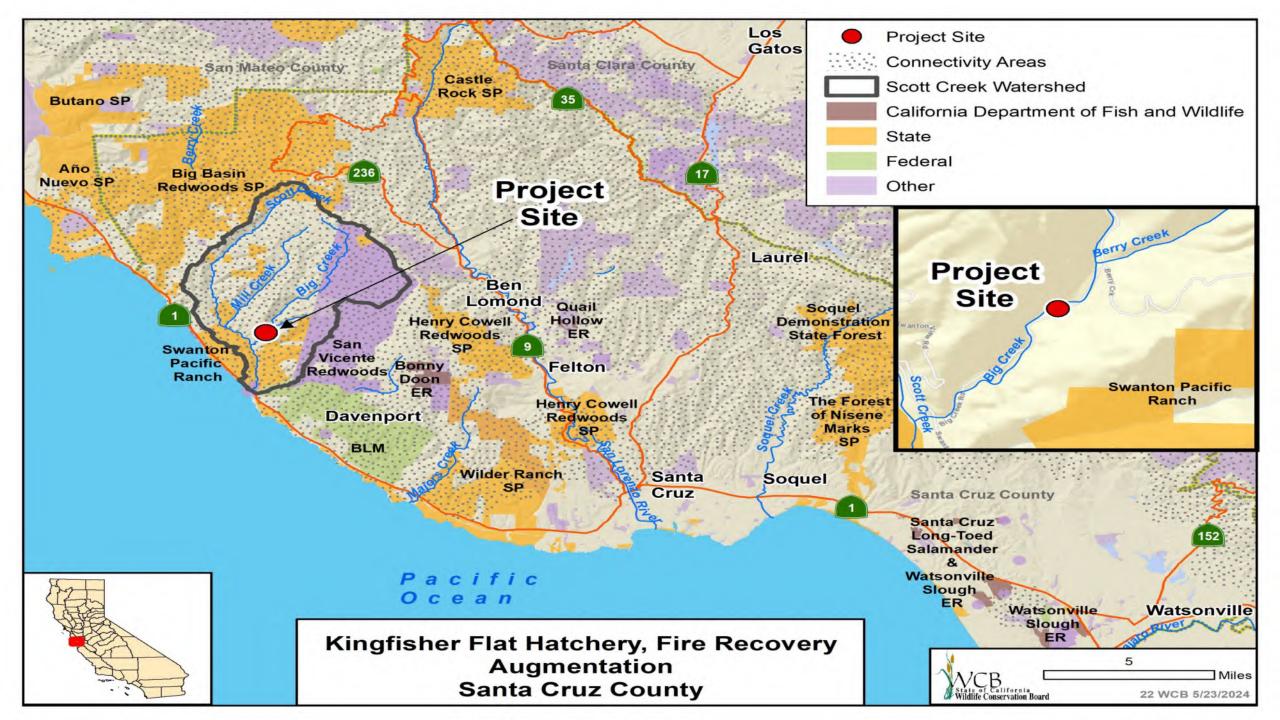


Santa Cruz County Stream Wood Program Slide 3

OBJECTIVES

- Improve technical capacity
- Assess challenge areas for solution
- Update and improve data management and tracking system
- Improve outreach materials and approaches











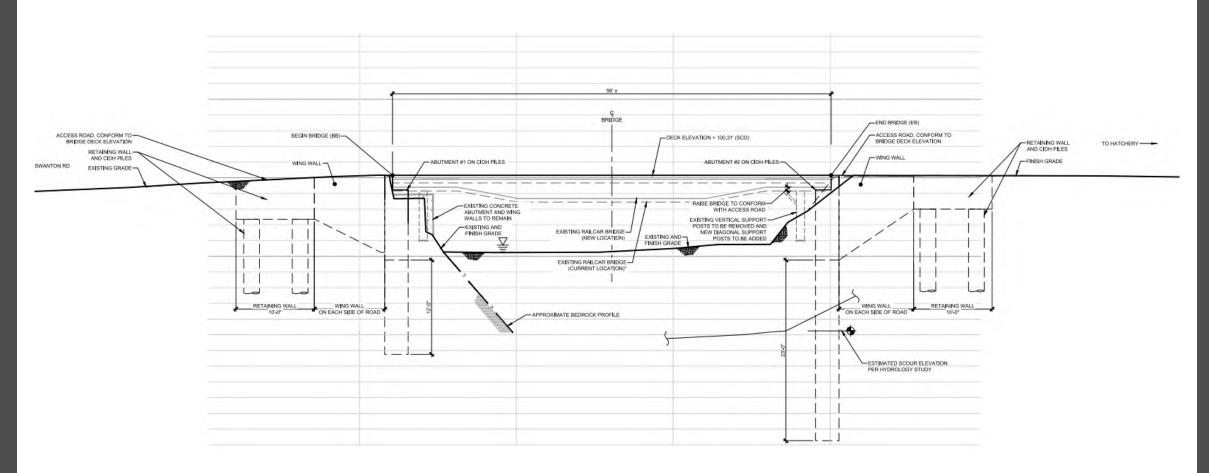
Kingfisher Flat Hatchery, Fire Recovery Augmentation – Slide 2

Augmentation Request

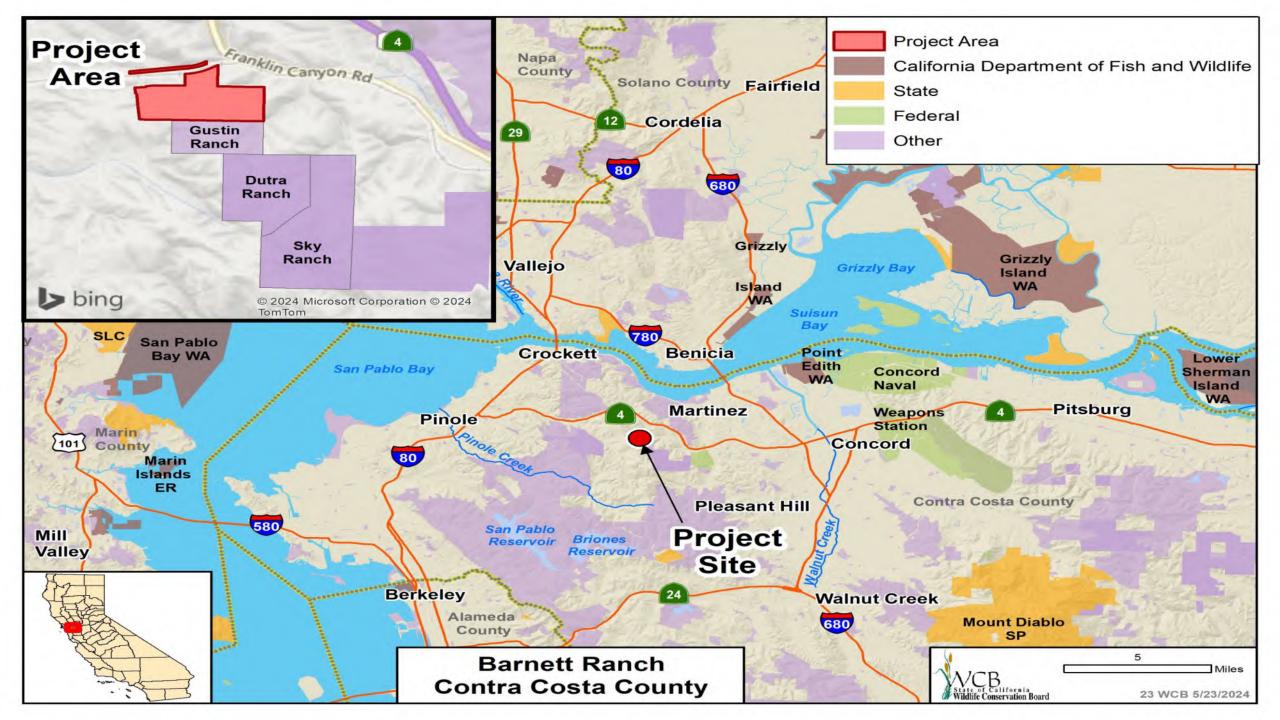
- Construction of new bridge design
- Additional engineer time during construction.
- Additional permit compliance by Santa Cruz County RCD.

Kingfisher Flat Hatchery, Fire Recovery Augmentation – Slide 3



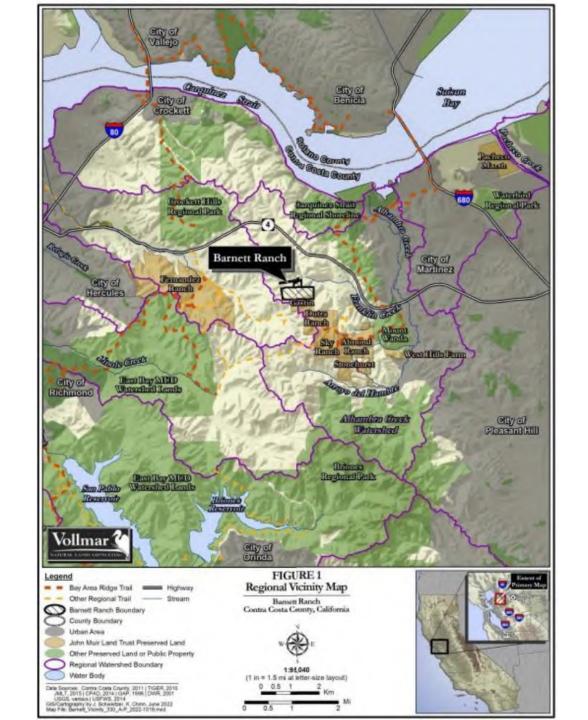


Kingfisher Flat Hatchery, Fire Recovery Augmentation – Slide 4



Slide 1

Regional Vicinity Map





Slide 3

• Corridor map.

Maps - Barnett



 Photo courtesy of John Muir Land Trust



Seasonal stock pond (potential California red-legged frog habitat)
Western portion of the Ranch

Barnett Ranch Slide 5



 Photo courtesy of John Muir Land Trust

Large cavity within coast live oak (potential special-status bat habitat)

Northern-central portion of the Ranch



Coastal Scrub habitat Central portion of the Ranch

Photo courtesy of John Muir Land Trust

Barnett Ranch

Slide 6



Annual Grassland habitat Central portion of the Ranch



Coastal Oak Woodland habitat
Northern-central portion of the Ranch

• Photo courtesy of John Muir Land Trust

Barnett Ranch

Slide 7



Large valley oak tree

Slide 8

 Photo courtesy of John Muir Land Trust







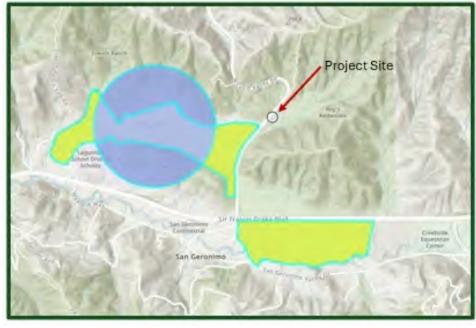
Roy's Redwoods Restoration

Slide 1

Location

- Old growth (part of less than 5% on planet)
- Only publicly accessible no fee grove
- Larsen Creek floodplain
- Adjacent to preserves and WCB investments
- Historically complex network of channels





Roy's Redwoods Restoration

Slide 2

Need

- Limited formal trails
- Social trails = soil compaction, high velocity flow
- Straight channel
- Channel incision

Goals

- Restore healthy soils
- Restore hydrological function
- Manage public access





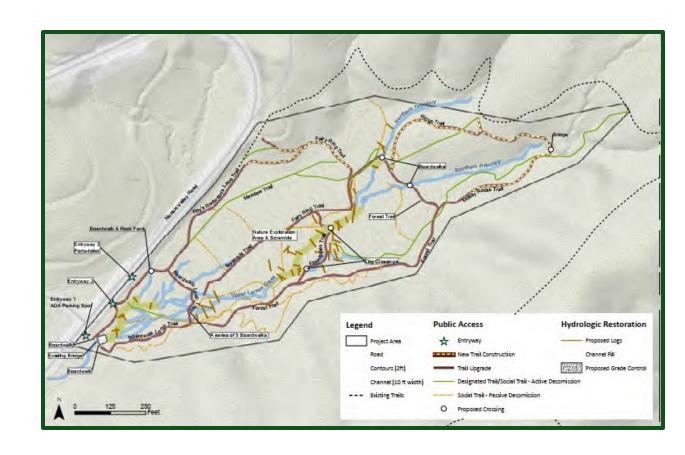


Roy's Redwoods Restoration

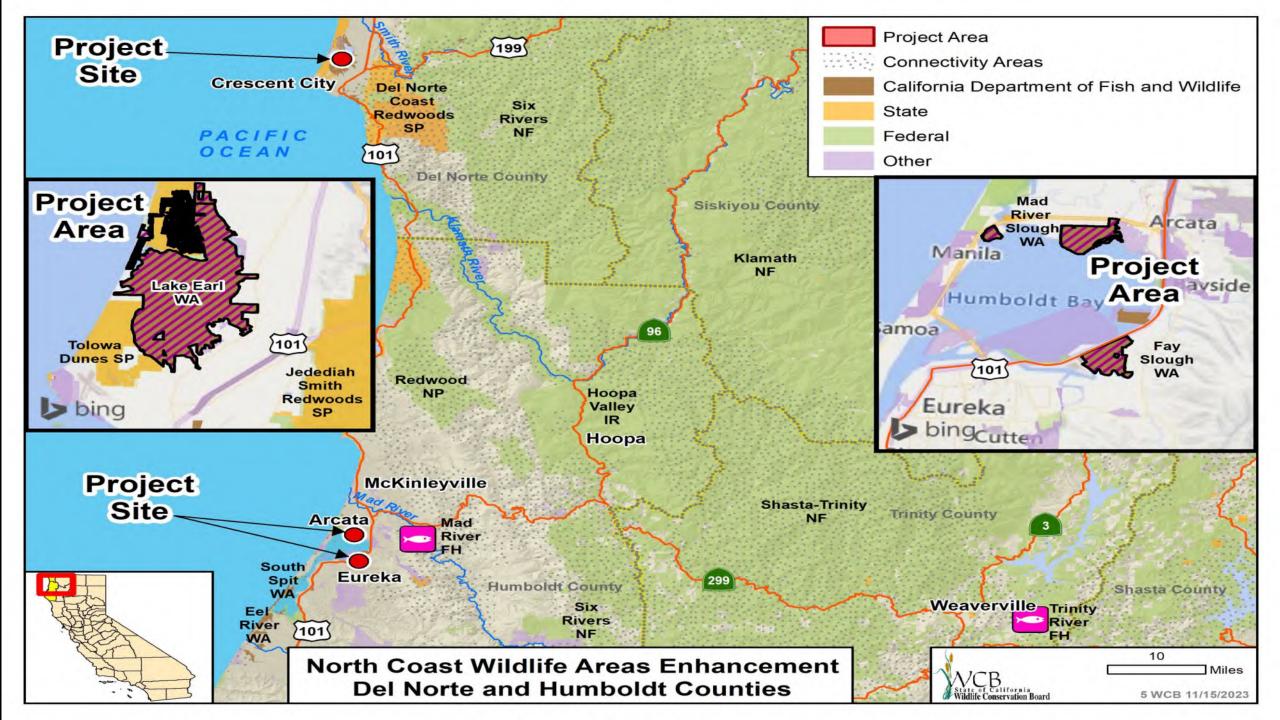
Slide 3

Action

- Restore complex channel network & floodplain
 - Place LWD
 - Prevent erosion
- Revegetate with native plants and remove Himalayan BB
- Establish formal trail system and eliminate social trail use





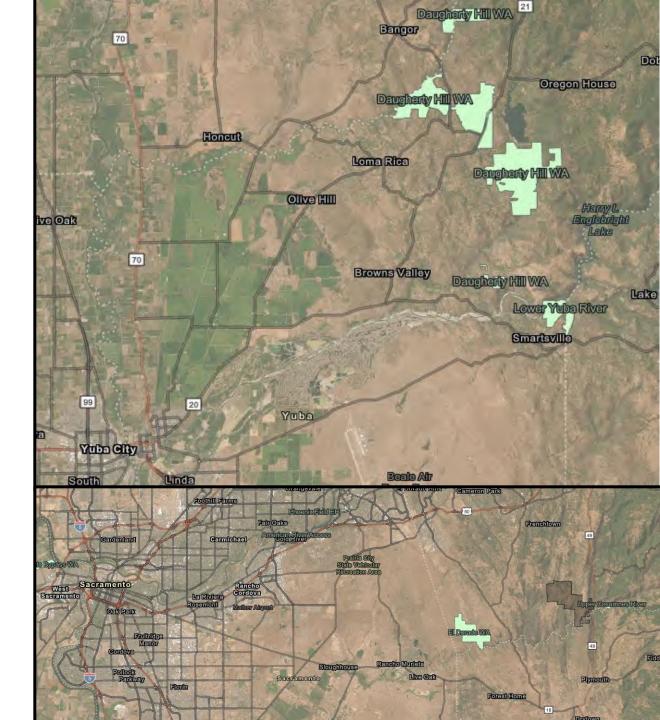


El Dorado and Daugherty Hill Land Management Plans

Top: Overview of the Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area

Bottom: Overview of the proposed El Dorado

Wildlife Area







El Dorado and Daugherty Hill Land Management Plans

Slide 2

Left: Ervin Ranch Unit at the El Dorado Wildlife Area

Right: Typical Landscape in the Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area





El Dorado and Daugherty Hill Land Management Plans Slide 3

Left: Proposed El Dorado Wildlife Area

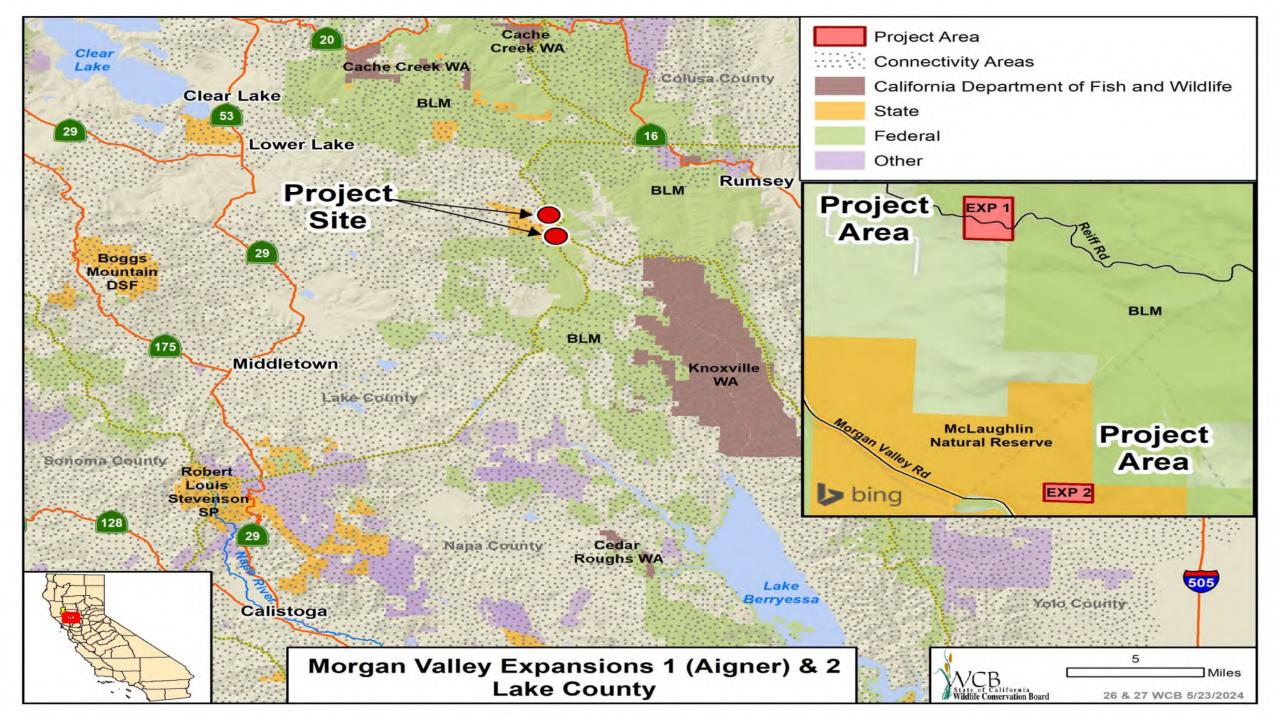
Right: Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area

El Dorado and Daugherty Hill Land Management Plans

Slide 4

Typical landscape in the Ervin Ranch Unit of the proposed El Dorado Wildlife Area.





Morgan Valley 1 & 2

Slide 1

View of Morgan Valley 1

Photo credit: WCB



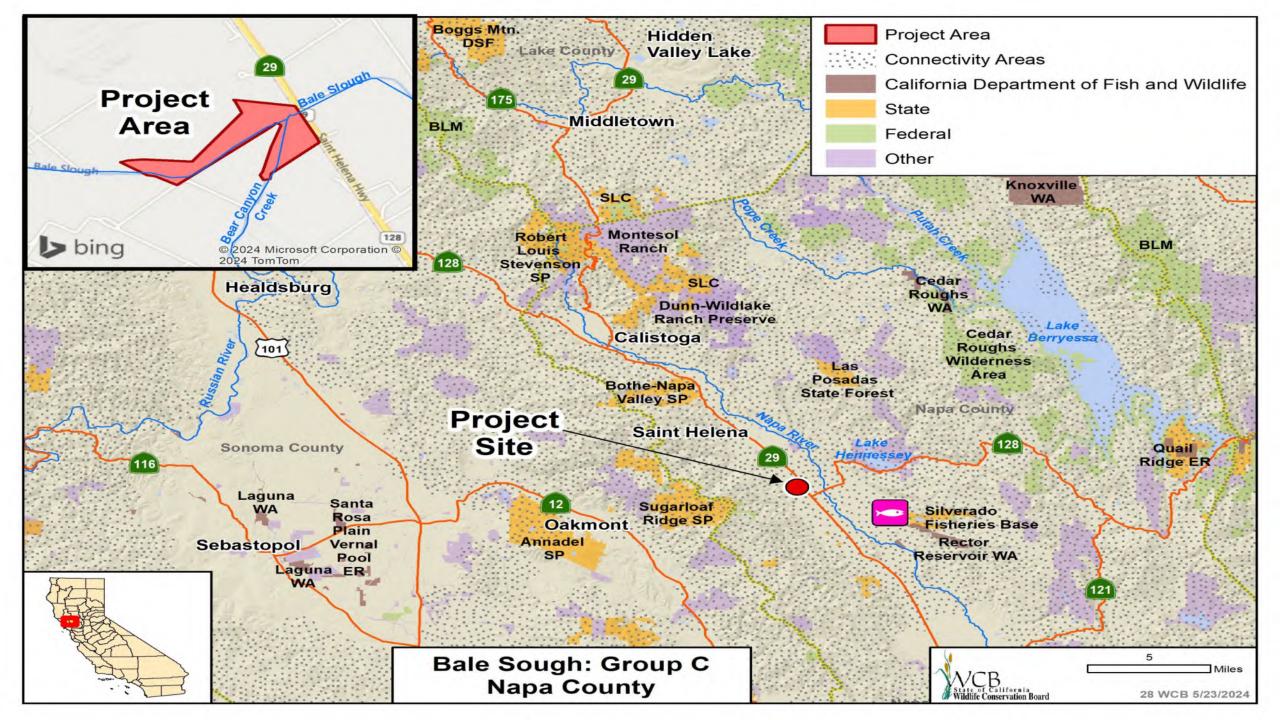
Morgan Valley 1 & 2

Slide 2

View of Morgan Valley 2

Photo credit: WCB



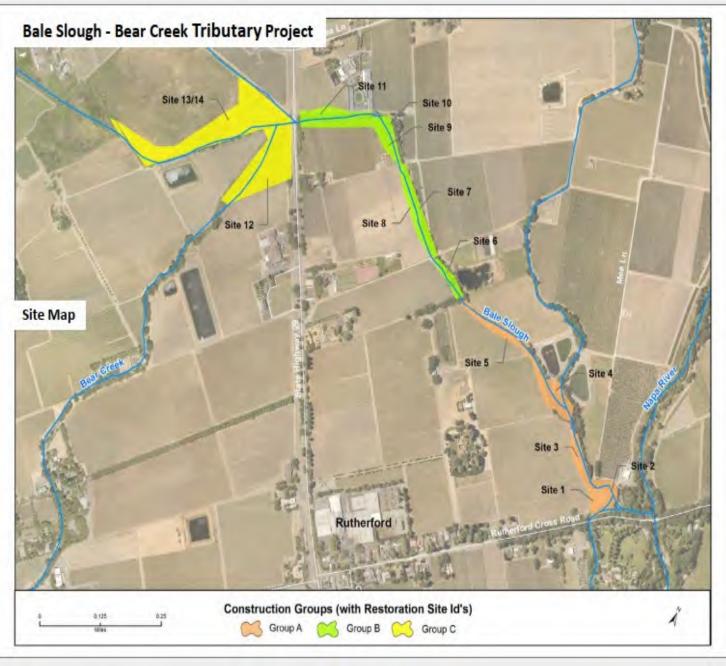




Bale Slough Restoration: Group C

Bale Slough Restoration: Group C





Bale Slough Restoration: Group C

Slide 3

Bale Slough showing eroded and incised stream channel



Bale Slough Restoration: Group C

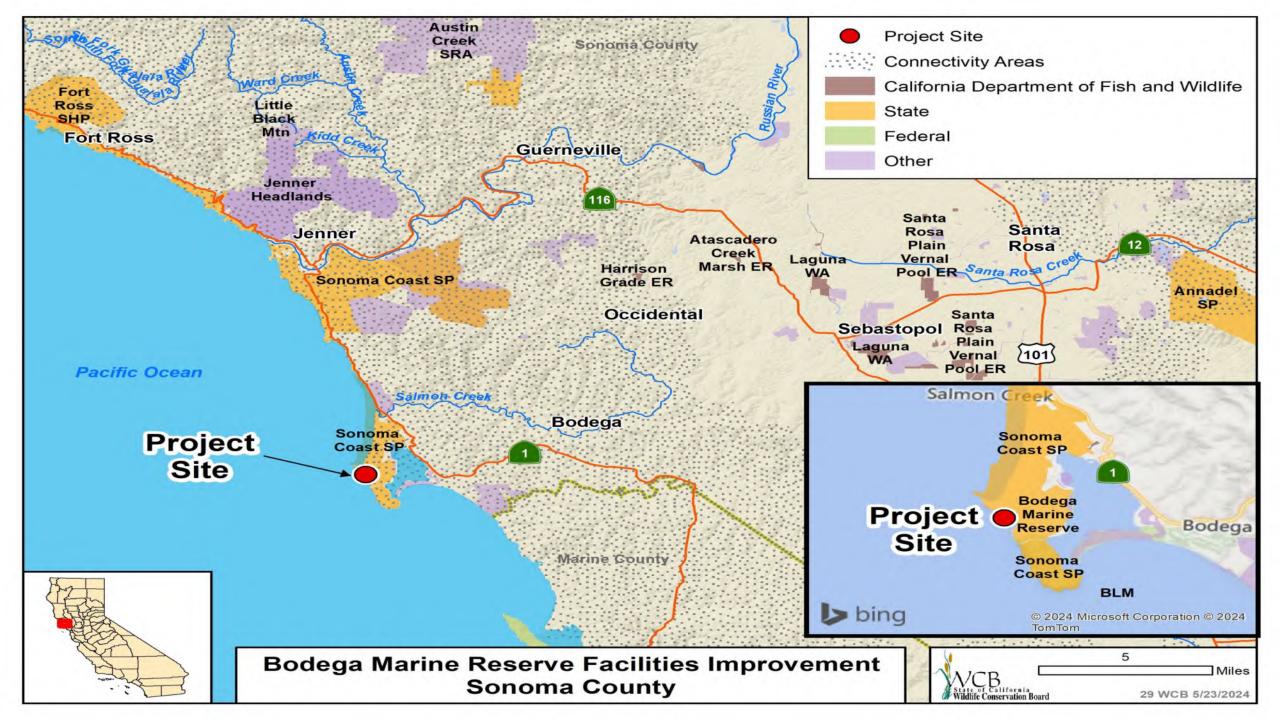
Slide 4

Bale Slough showing a straightened channel with reduced complexity









Bodega Marine Reserve Facilities Improvement

Map of the four tasks proposed in this Project.







Bodega Marine Reserve Facilities Improvement

Slide 2

Left: Inoperable louvered ceiling panels in the greenhouse that were broken during high wind events. As a part of this Project, this will be repaired, in addition to repairing and replacing other components of the greenhouse.

Right: Bodega Marine Reserve's (BMR) terrestrial greenhouse which is used for experimental manipulations, propagating plants for field projects, and processing samples.

Bodega Marine Reserve Facilities Improvement Slide 3 Left: Broken fence line along the BMR entrance road.

Right: Monterey cypress limbs that are at risk of dropping onto the Reserve's entrance gate. These will be pruned as a part of this project.











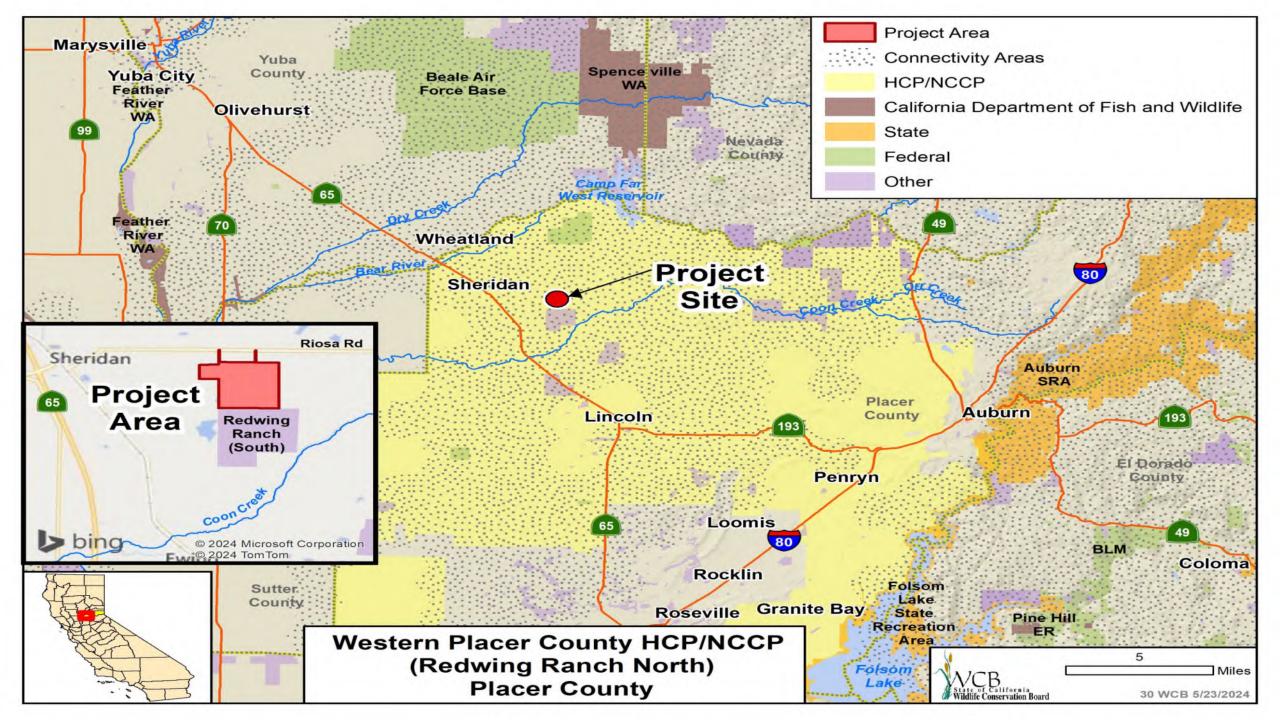
Bodega Marine Reserve Facilities Improvement

Slide 4

Left: View of bluffs from BMR.

Middle: An oceanographic instrument buoy will be deployed as a part of this project which will provide real-time data and allow scientists to track ocean conditions over the long term.

Right: Aerial view of Bodega Marine Laboratory and BMR.



Western Placer County HCP/NCCP (Redwing Ranch North)

Slide 1

View of the property facing west

Photo credit: WCB



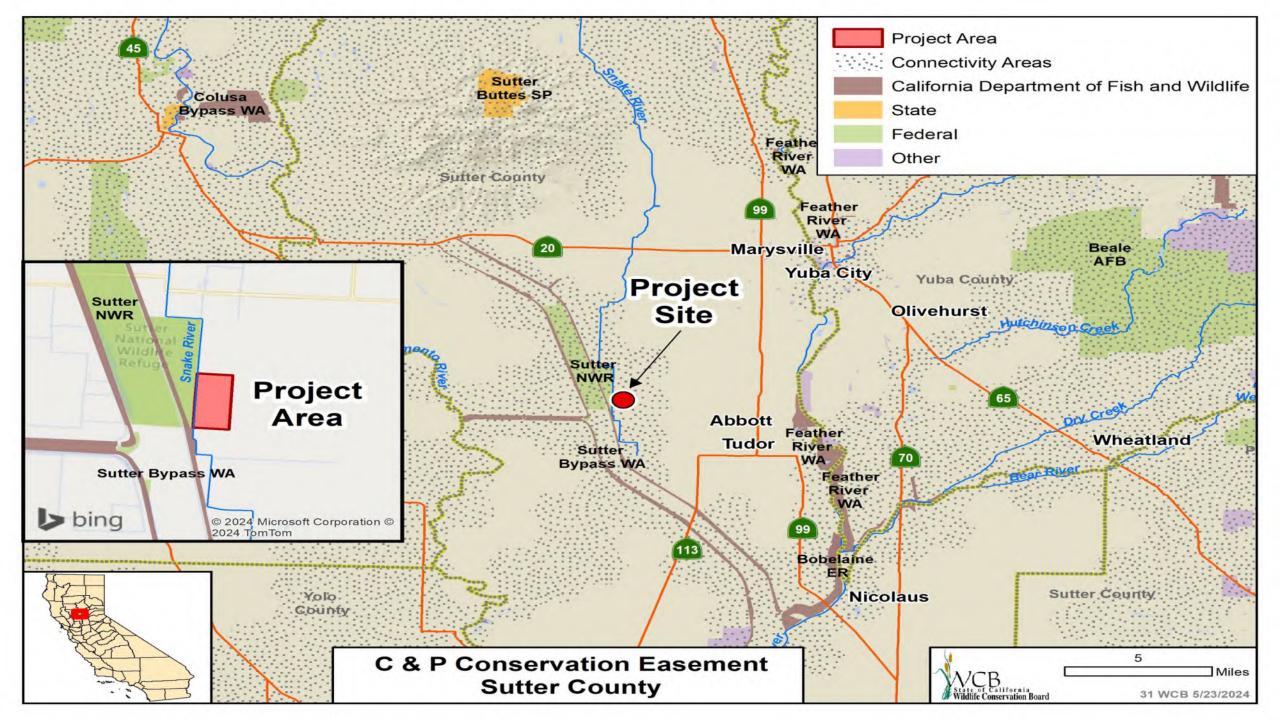
Western Placer County HCP/NCCP (Redwing Ranch North)

Slide 2

Shrimp in a vernal pool

Photo credit: Sadie Caldas





C & P Conservation Easement

The 313-acre C & P conservation easement is in Sutter County near Sutter National Wildlife Refuge and is an important area to wintering

migratory birds.

Slide 1

The project is part of a landscape scale land protection effort supporting migratory birds and the Giant Garter Snake a threated species due to habitat loss.



Figure 1. C & P Property in Relation to Other Protected Lands and Yuba City Sphere of Influence.

C & P Conservation Easement

Slide 2

This property is primarily characterized by laser-levelled agricultural production.

Rice is grown here, and it is an important crop that makes up much of the energetic needs of wintering migratory birds.

Project will provide an agricultural buffer to wetlands on the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge.

Project will expand connectivity outside the confines of the Sutter Bypass.

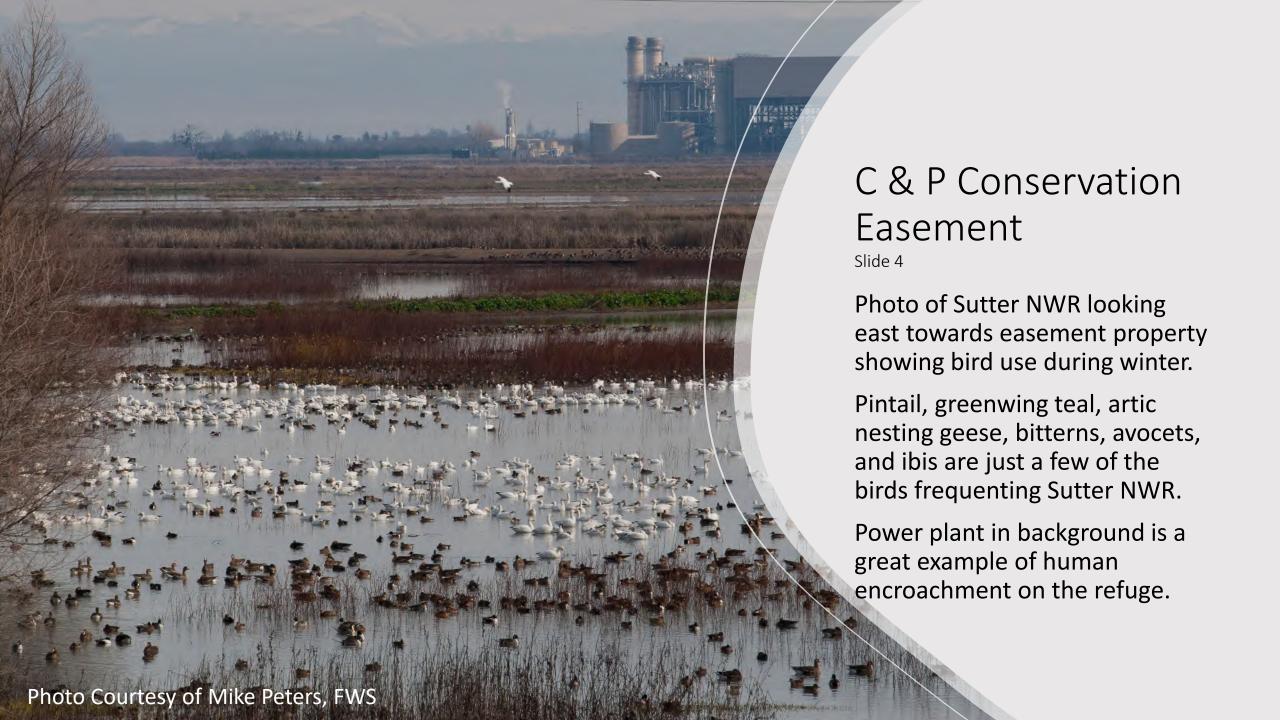


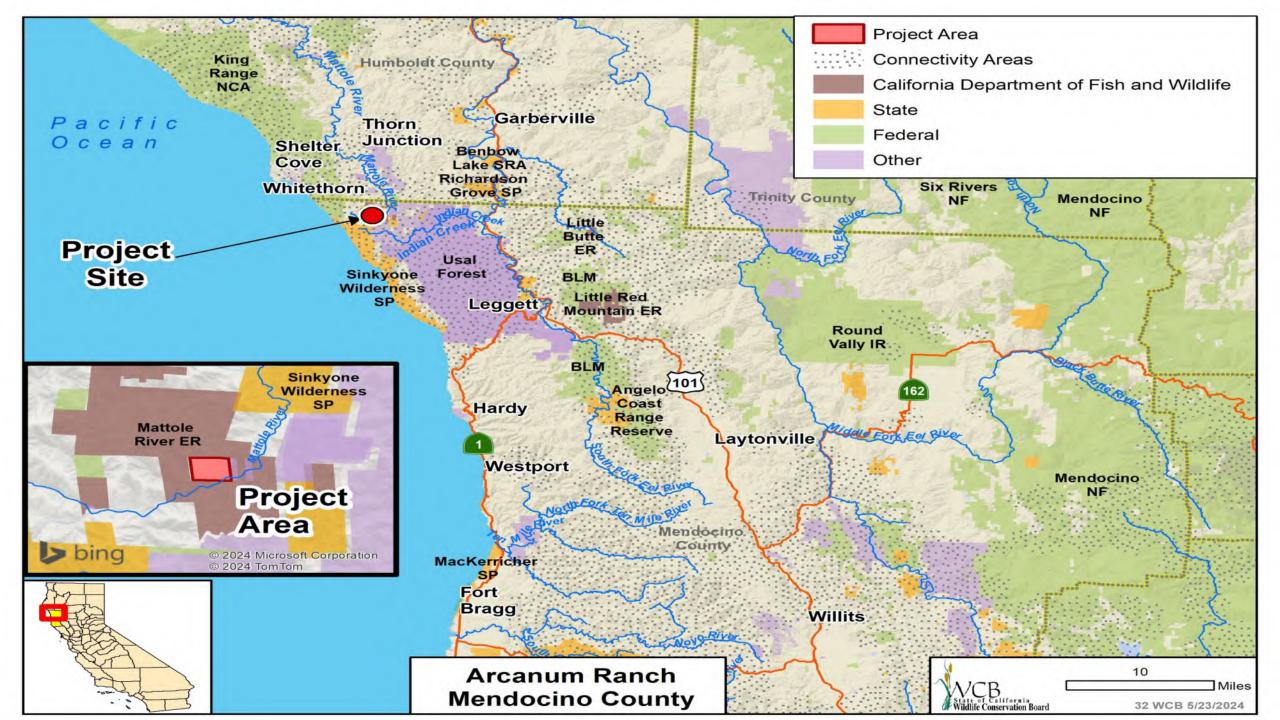
C&P Conservation Easement

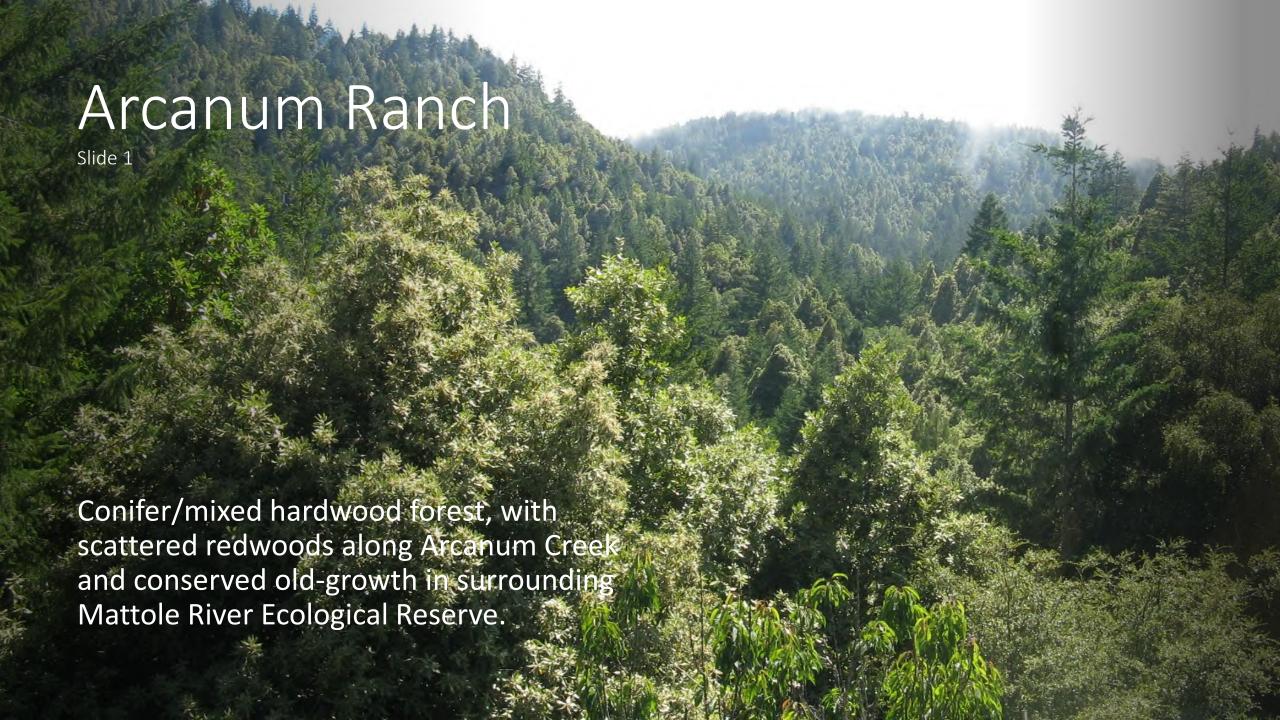
Slide 3

Conservation Easement will require:

- Winter flooding for bird habitat
- Only the production of small grains like rice and other bird friendly crops
- Allow for property to be converted to wetlands in the future
- Prevent future subdivision in an area expanding north from Sacramento and south from Yuba City
- Limit the property's water use to on site uses, CE will not allow the separation of water right







Arcanum Ranch

Slide 2

Headwaters Mattole River

Left: Anchored wood structures from 2015 project.

Right: Log jam at southern property edge.









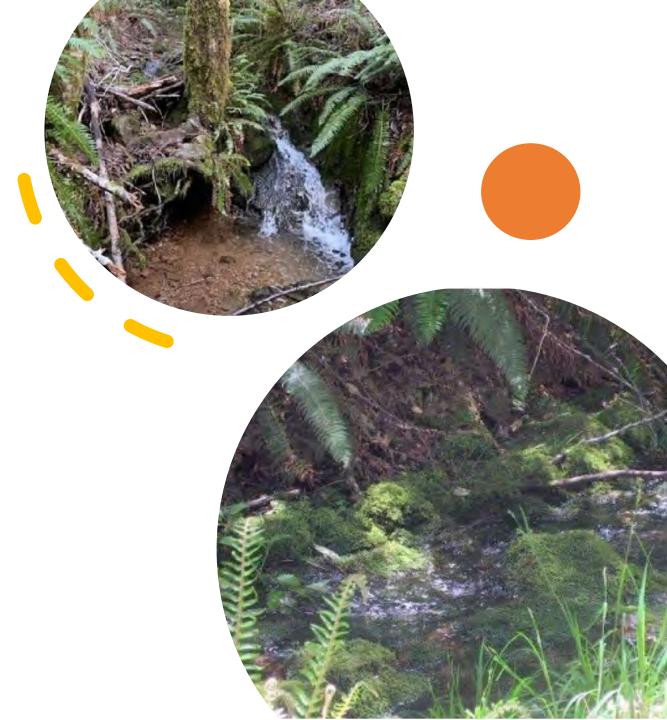
Arcanum Ranch

Slide 4

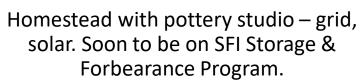
Arcanum Creek

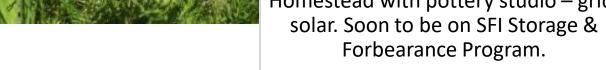
- Coldwater source to headwaters of Mattole River.
- Mattole headwaters- refuge for 3 threatened salmonids:

SONCC coho, Chinook, and steelhead trout.



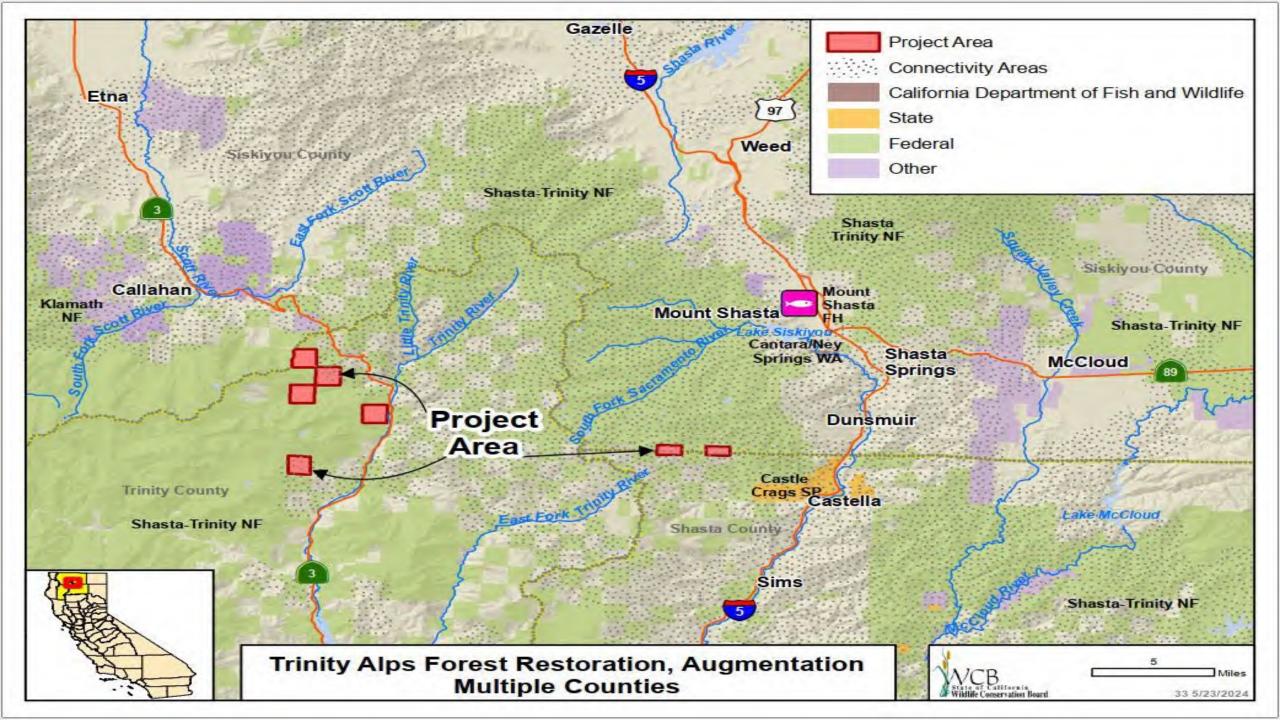












Trinity Alps Forest Restoration Augmentation Slide 1

Originally funded project:

November 2022 Board meeting \$1,835,000 3,500 acres on Sierra Pacific Land & Timber property

Primarily road decommissioning, daylighting stream crossings, and restoration of hydrologic connectivity for riparian and wetland areas.

Restored land to be transferred to U. S. Forest Service.



Right: Mixed conifer stand in Project area

Trinity Alps Forest Restoration Augmentation

Slide 2

What happened:

Unanticipated monitoring costs
Changes in labor and material costs since
project inception
USFS requirements for changes in erosion
control materials

What has been completed/what is remaining:

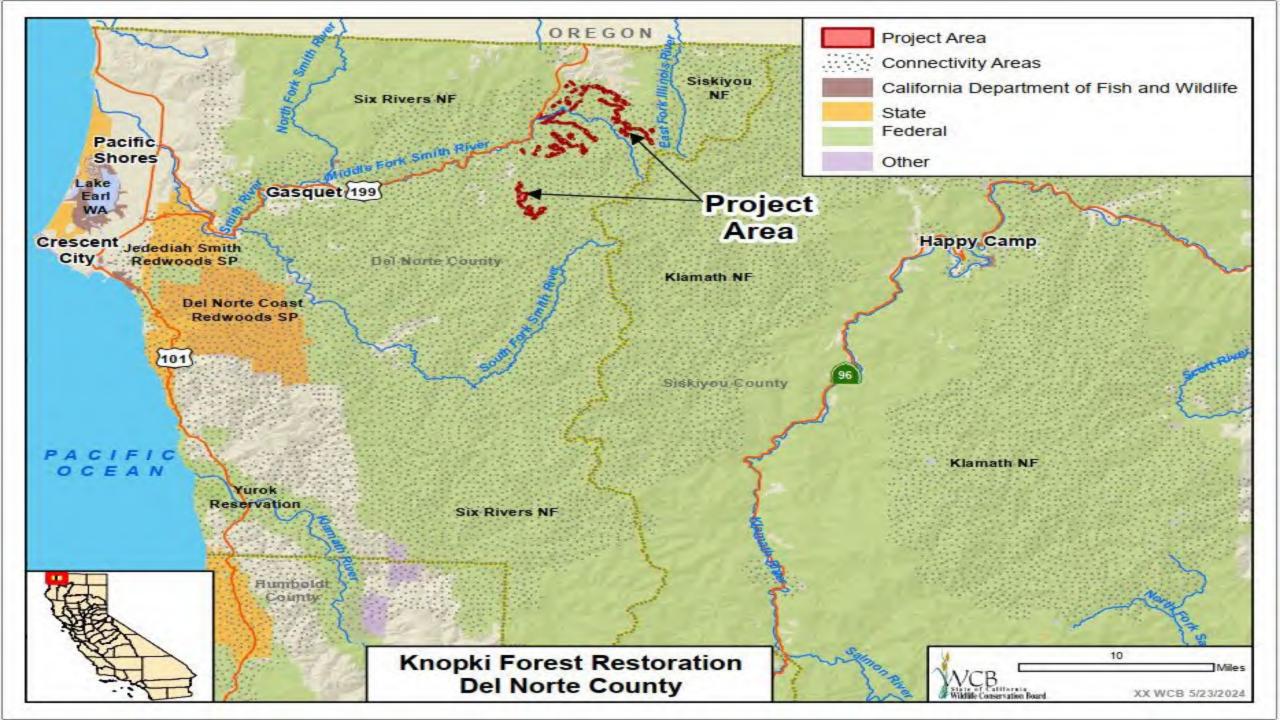
Completed: 2,954 acres

Castle Crags parcels remain; approx. 371 acres

Additional funding requested: \$450,000



Above: Trinity River adjacent to Project site.



Knopki Forest Restoration

Slide 1

Existing Conditions

- Mixed veg types including formerly logged conifer plantations and oak woodlands
- Wildfire impacts

Slater fire 2020 Multiple burns 1917-1932

- Special Status species:
- U.S. Forest Service Land open to public recreation



Above: Dense conifer unit dominated by small diameter post-logging regrowth.

Knopki Forest Restoration

Slide 2

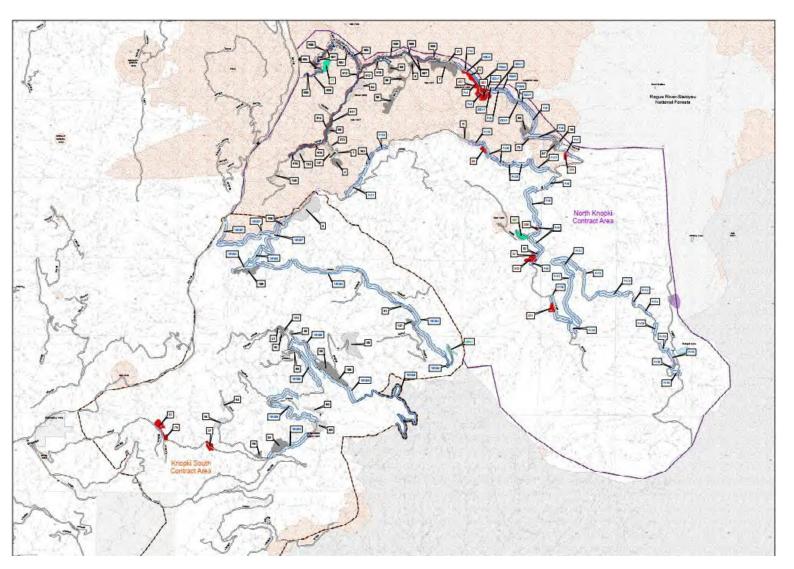
Project Tasks:

313 acres roadside shaded fuel breaks

18 acres timber stand improvement

6 acres oak woodland restoration

14 acres beargrass restoration



Above: Treatment map Knopki Forest Restoration

Conifer stand on Tahoe Forest Gateway property.

Knopki Forest Restoration

Slide 3

Project Outcomes

Increased forest health and resilience.

Management of project area to promote late-seral forest characteristics that are essential habitat.

Implementation of project activities identified by local tribes to enhance culturally significant plant populations (Beargrass & Oak Woodlands).

Application of broadcast burning as a management tool to enhance fire-adapted ecosystems.



Above: Beargrass in wildfire impacted unit.

Advancing Equity and Biodiversity in Southern California Multiple Counties



- Environmental Equity and Tribal Entities historically not benefited from conservation resources
- Focus on disadvantaged communities in Southern California Counties
- Outreach, technical assistance and project support

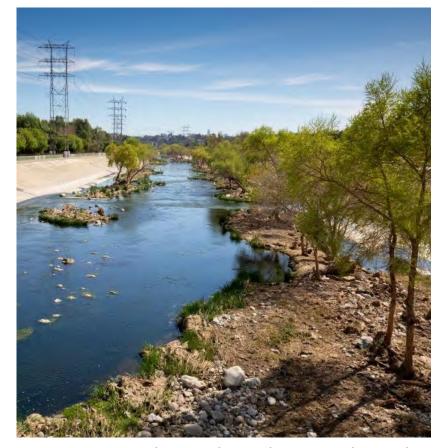


Photo Credit: Ian Shive / @TandemStock

Outreach

- Outreach to Prospective Grantees: Community Based Organizations and Technical Assistance Providers
- Workshops and Meetings
- Regional Communications Program with Social Media Products
- Baseline and Follow-up Survey



Photo Credit: Resources Legacy Fund

Technical Assistance

- Grantee and Project Selection Criteria
- Evaluation Rubric for Project Objectives and Conditions
- Prioritization and Selection of Viable Projects



Photo Credit: Resources Legacy Fund

Block Grant Mechanism

- Solicit and Evaluate Project Proposals
- Execute Grant Agreements
- Ongoing Support to Grantees
- Guidance on Final Deliverables



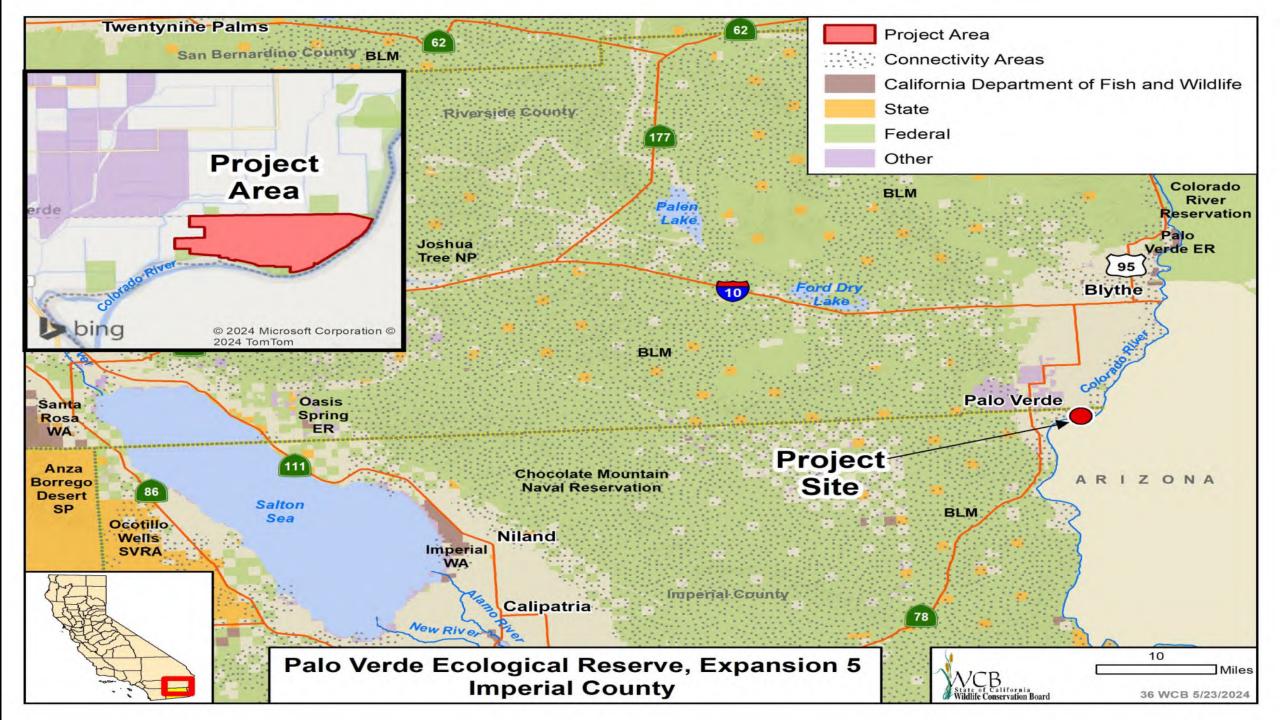
Photo Credit: Resources Legacy Fund

Main Outcomes

- Engage with a minimum of 6 Community Organizations
- Minimum of 18 Grants
- Minimum 3 Planning Projects Submitted for Funding



Photo Credit: Resources Legacy Fund







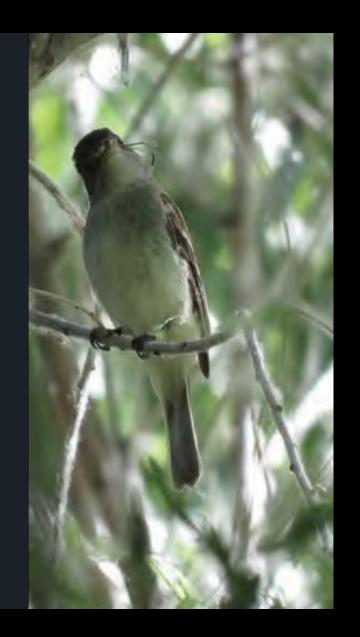


Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, Expansion 5

Left: Great Egret

Right: Southwestern Willow

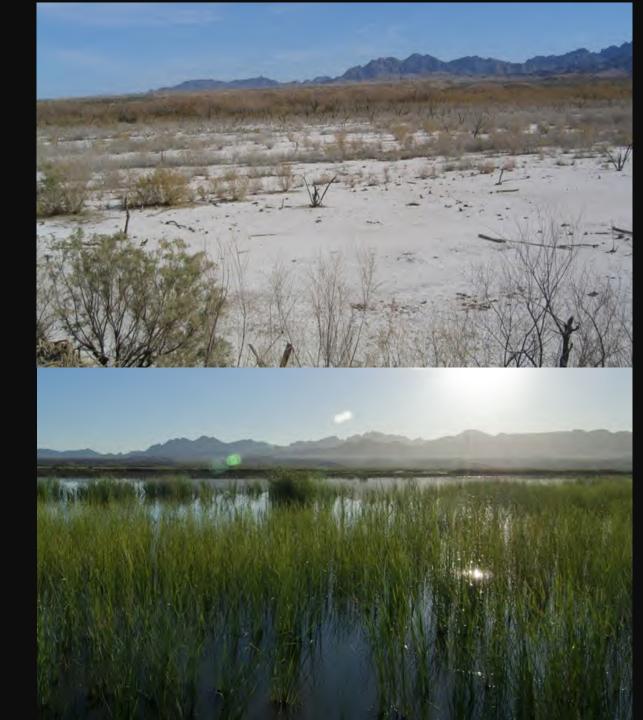
Flycatcher



Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, Expansion 5

Example of restored marsh.

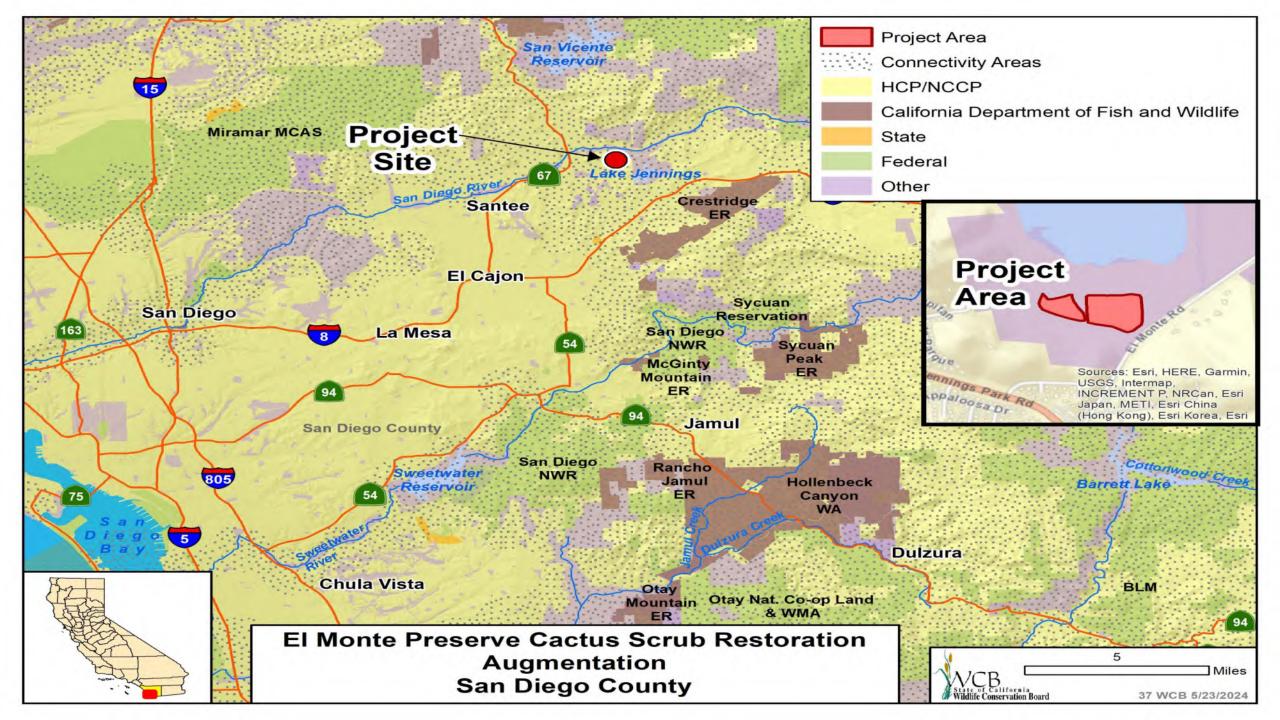
Hart Mine Marsh before and after photos.

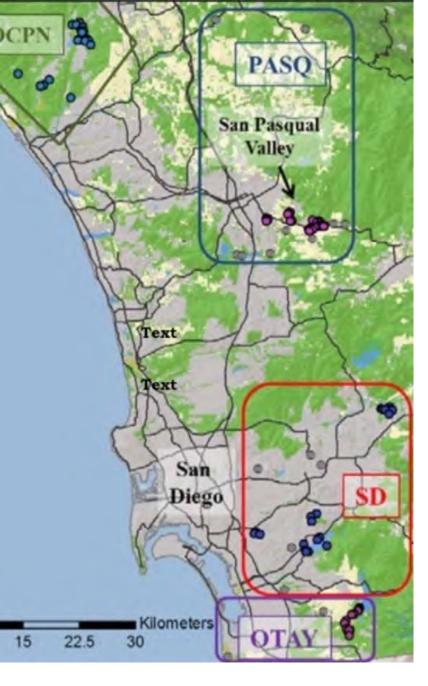




Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, Expansion 5

Yuma East Wetlands: LCR MSCP Conservation Area and Reconnection of the Floodplain to the Colorado River





El Monte Preserve Cactus Scrub Restoration Augmentation Slide 1

Purpose: Develop 15 acres of habitat critical for the coastal cactus wren, a species prioritized for conservation





Images courtesy of Earth Discovery Institute, CDFW



El Monte Preserve Cactus Scrub Restoration Augmentation Slide 2 Project site and potential for habitat connectivity: Proximity to several existing habitat areas with nesting cactus wrens







El Monte Preserve Cactus Scrub Restoration Augmentation Slide 3

Left: Project area conditions before restoration

Middle: Post-treatment: Maintenance crew trimming

cactus islands

Right: Close-up, cactus islands

El Monte Preserve Cactus Scrub Restoration Augmentation Slide 4 Invasive weed outbreaks from unexpected high rains:

• Left: Brassica tournefortii

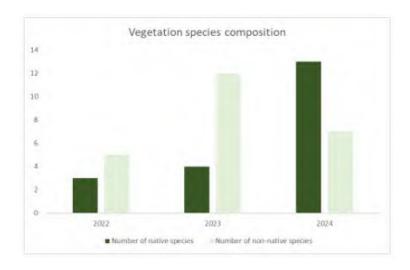
• Center: Brachypopdium

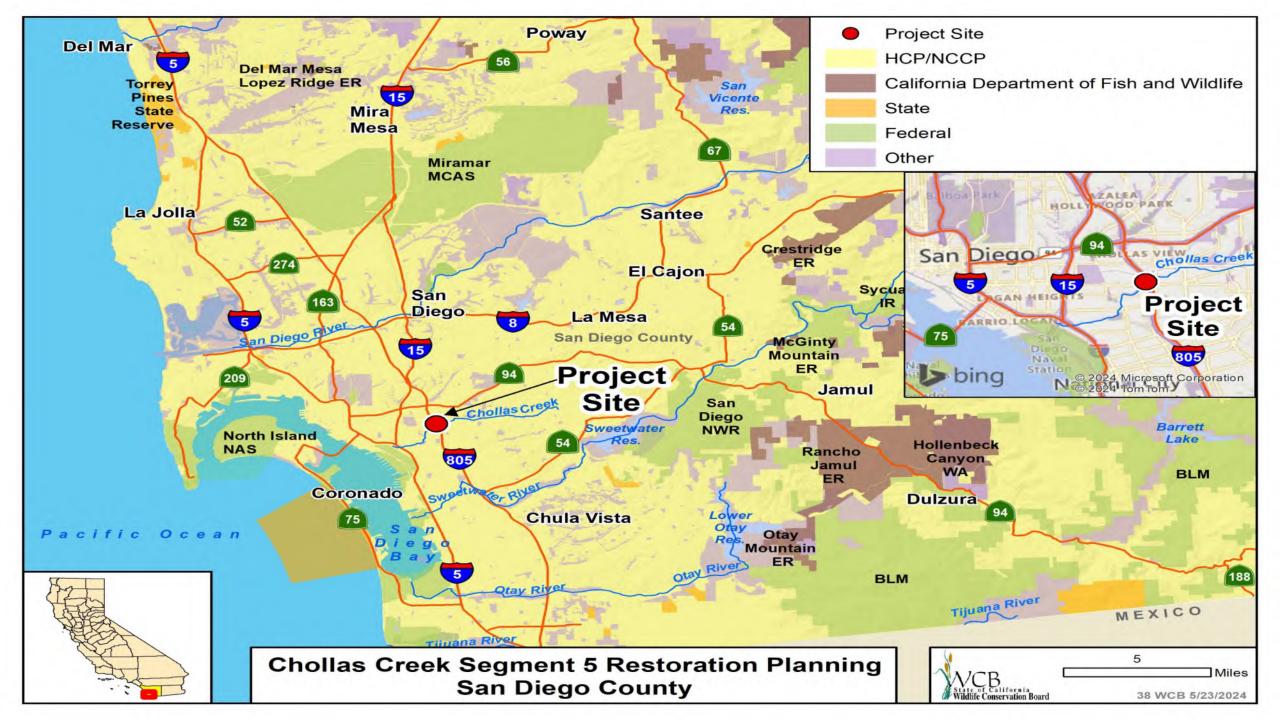
• Right: Vegetation species composition monitoring results,

2022-2024









Chollas Creek Segment 5 Restoration Planning Slide 1

1/4 mile segment of Chollas Creek

 Adjacent to Jackie Robinson Family YMCA

Community of Southeastern San Diego

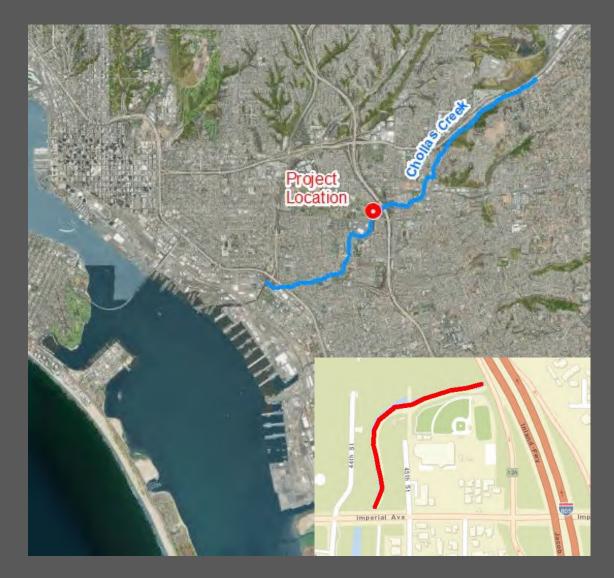
- CalEnviroScreen: 87.9 percentile
- Within DWR DAC adjacent to DWR SDAC

AB 93 - Budget Act of 2015

• \$6,000,000 for the restoration of Chollas Creek

Chollas Creek Riparian Restoration - Planning Project

- Approved June 2, 2016
- Did not provide final designs



Project Location

Chollas Creek Segment 5 Restoration Planning





Looking West Looking North

Chollas Creek Segment 5 Restoration Planning



Current Project Site Condition

Chollas Creek Segment 5 Restoration Planning Slide 4

Objectives

Habitat Restoration

- Stream Channel
- Riparian
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Least Bell's Vireo and California
 Gnatcatcher

Water Quality and Flood Control

Pedestrian Trail

- Upstream to a planned trail passing under the I-805 freeway
- Downstream to the Bayshore Bikeway, and downtown



Chollas Creek Segment 5 Restoration Planning Slide 5

Project Elements

- Develop final designs
- Conduct public outreach
- Supplemental technical studies
- Finalize and certify a CEQA addendum
- Finalize City of San Diego permits
- Submit applications for regulatory agency permits



Chollas Creek

Prescott Preserve Ecological Restoration

Withdrawn from consideration at this time.



Topanga Creek

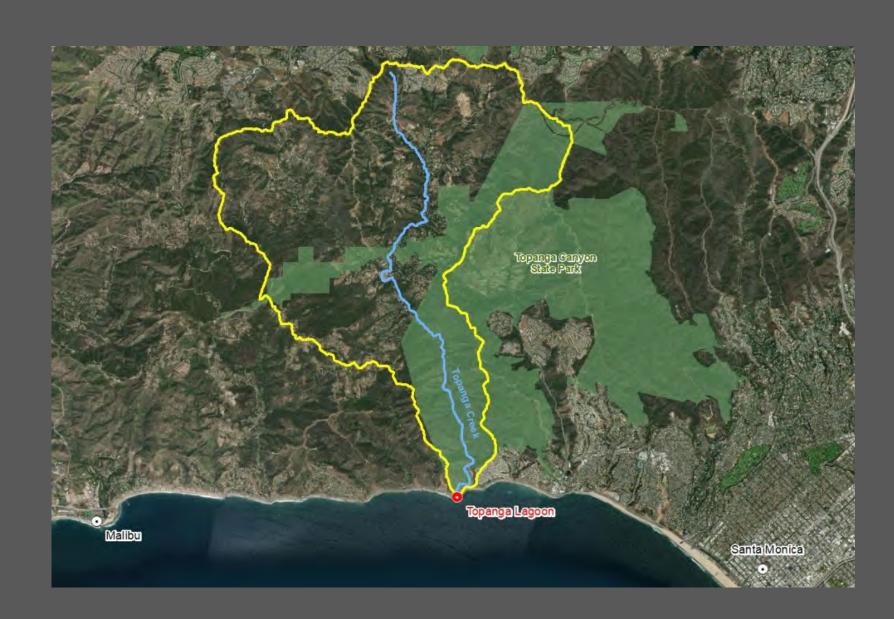
 Supports three native fish species, over 20 native amphibians and reptiles

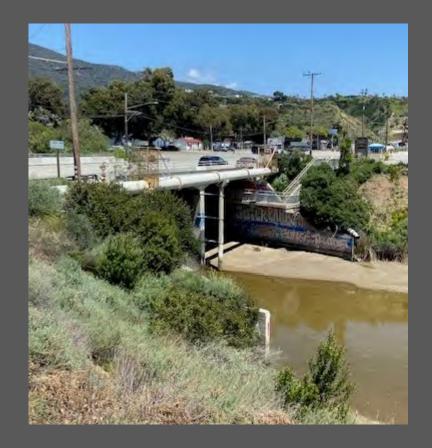
18-square mile watershed

 12,000 acres of public open space in Topanga State Park

Only watershed left in the Santa Monica Bay that supports southern steelhead

Topanga Lagoon begins where Topanga Creeks crosses under the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) Bridge









Topanga Lagoon

Southern California Steelhead

- Federally Endangered
- National Marine Fisheries
 Service recovery plan Core 1
 population

Pacific Coast Highway bridge constrains flood flows

- Localized flooding due to obstructions
- Velocity barrier

Federally listed tidewater goby

- Relies upon brackish habitat
- PCH bridge project reduced lagoon size



Southern Steelhead Trout



Tidewater Goby

Photos: CDFW



Pacific Coast Highway Bridge at Topanga Lagoon

Budget act of 2022 allocated \$15,000,000 for recovery of southern steelhead trout in the Santa Monica Mountains

Topanga Lagoon Restoration Planning, Phase 1

- Approved February 2023
- 30% designs and CEQA

Phase 2 Elements

Road and Bridge replacement designs to 90%

Public Outreach

Preferred project must meet agency standards

- Caltrans
- State Parks
- LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors needs

Project Goals

Expanding the lagoon from 0.56 acres to between 7-10 acres

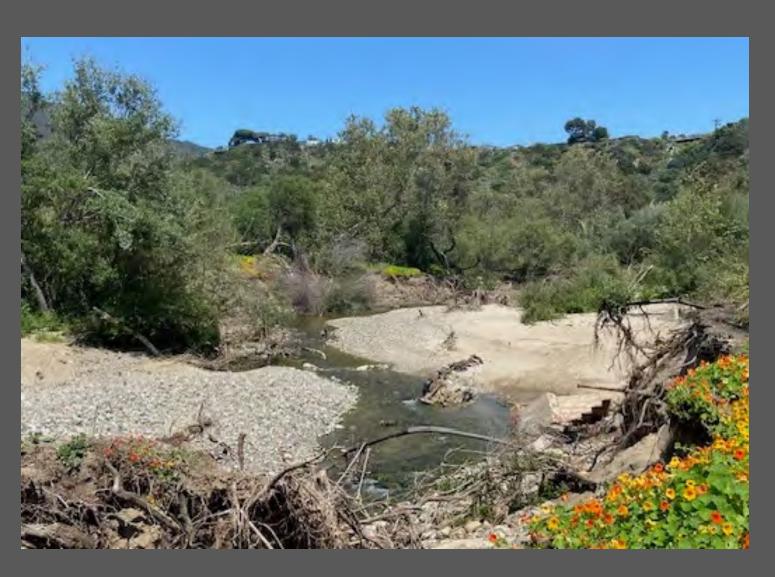
- Replacing the 79 ft long PCH culvert bridge
- Removing legacy fill placed in the Lagoon

Restoring and enlarging the floodplain/beach area from 29 degraded acres to 35-36 restored acres

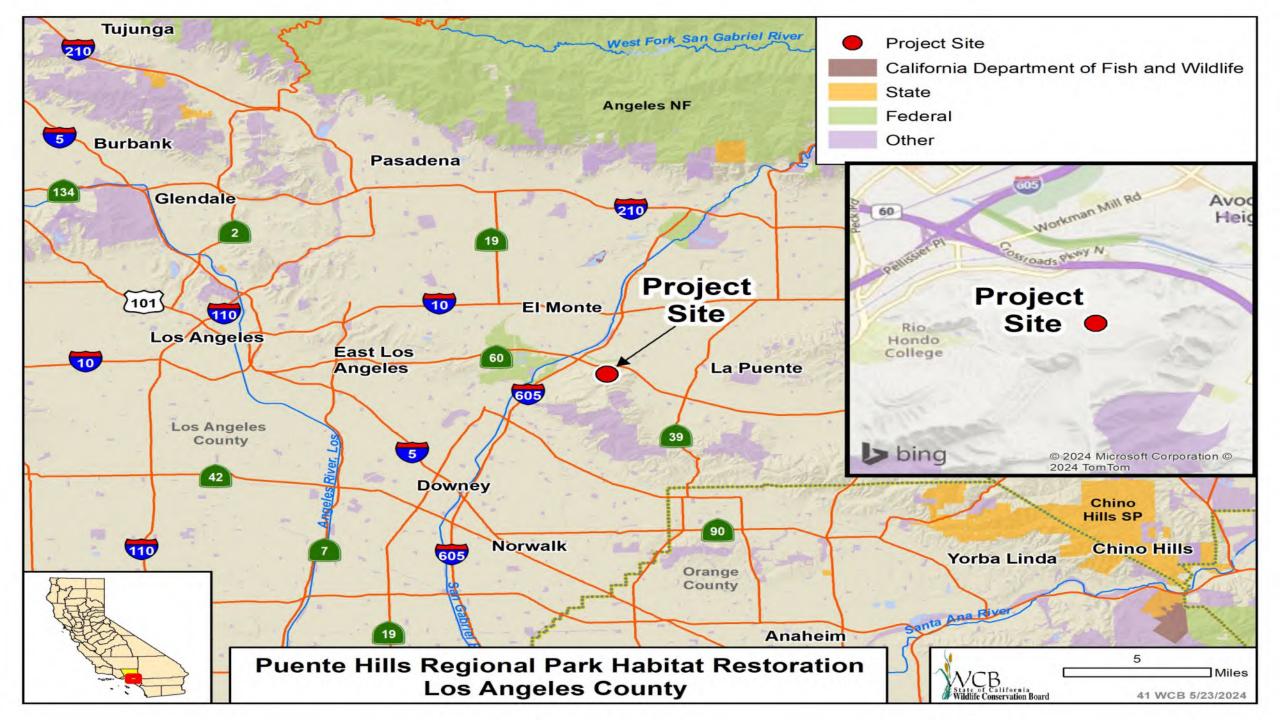
Improved water quality

Increased resiliency to sea level rise

Improved visitor and emergency services



Steelhead Habitat in Topanga Creek Upstream of Topanga Lagoon



Slide 1

Located at the former Puente Hills Landfill within the San Gabriel Valley region

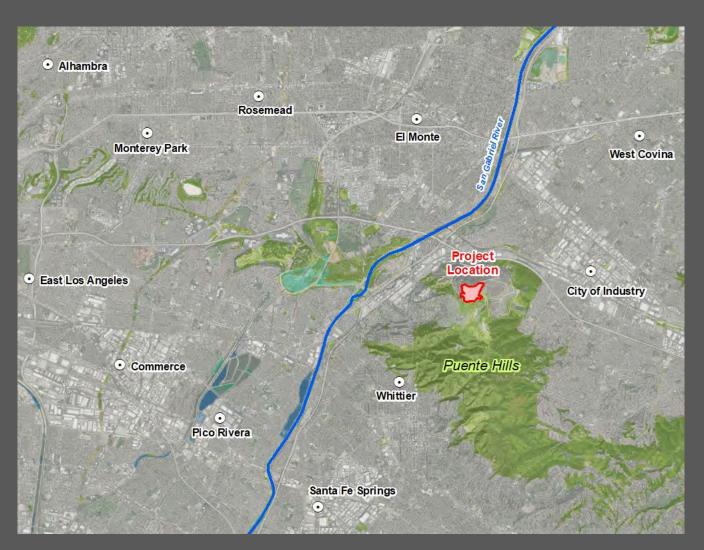
- Nearly 60 years of operations
- Once the second largest landfill in the country

Conversion to the Puente Hills Regional Park

- Los Angeles County's first new regional park in three decades
- Will serve residents of the Inland Empire and Los Angeles County

25-mile service radius

- Majority of the County's park-poor communities
- Fewer than one acre of parkland per 1,000 residents
- Well below the Countywide average of 3.3 acres



Project Location

Slide 2



Current Site Condition

Historical Habitat

- Oak-woodland
- Coastal sage scrub
- Chaparral

Tip of the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor

• Extends over 30 miles from Project site to Cleveland National Forest

Significant Ecological Area (SEA)

 Area identified for biological value and need for special management

Slide 3

Restoration Goals

- 3.6 acres of native grassland
- 19 acres of coastal sage scrub
- 1 acre of white sage scrub
- 8 acres of cactus sage scrub
- 8 acres of chaparral
- Up to 200 large coastal live oak trees



Slide 4



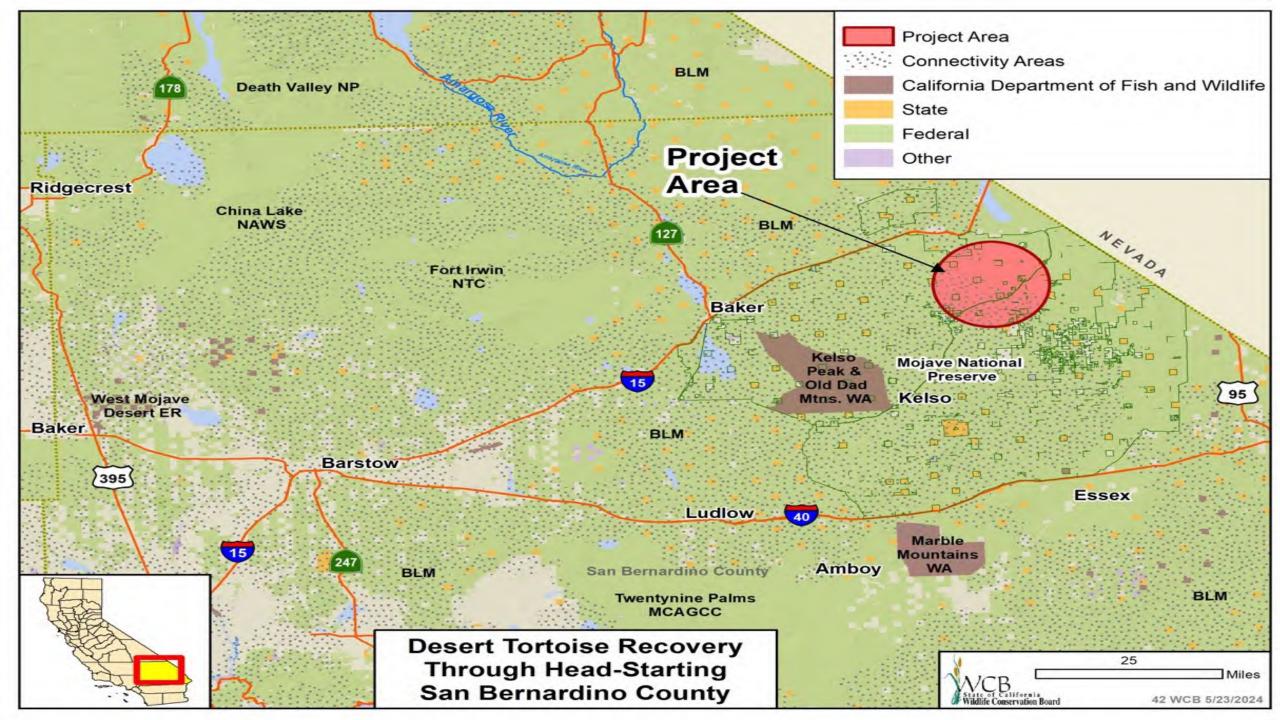
Completed Restoration Conceptual Drawing







Recreational Opportunities Conceptual Drawings



Desert Tortoise Recovery Through Head-Starting



Desert Tortoise Recovery Through Head-Starting

Slide 2

Goal of Recovery Actions and Effectiveness
Monitoring

- Increase populations in core habitats
- Evaluating the
 effectiveness of
 population
 augmentation actions
 relative to a control site



Desert Tortoise Recovery Through Head-Starting

Reasons for Decline..





Desert Tortoise Recovery Through Head-Starting Slide 4 **Head Starting**

Picture showing (L to R):

Hatchling, 1-year old outdoor head-started tortoise, 1-year old indoor head-started tortoise

Desert Tortoise Recovery Through Head-Starting

Study Areas

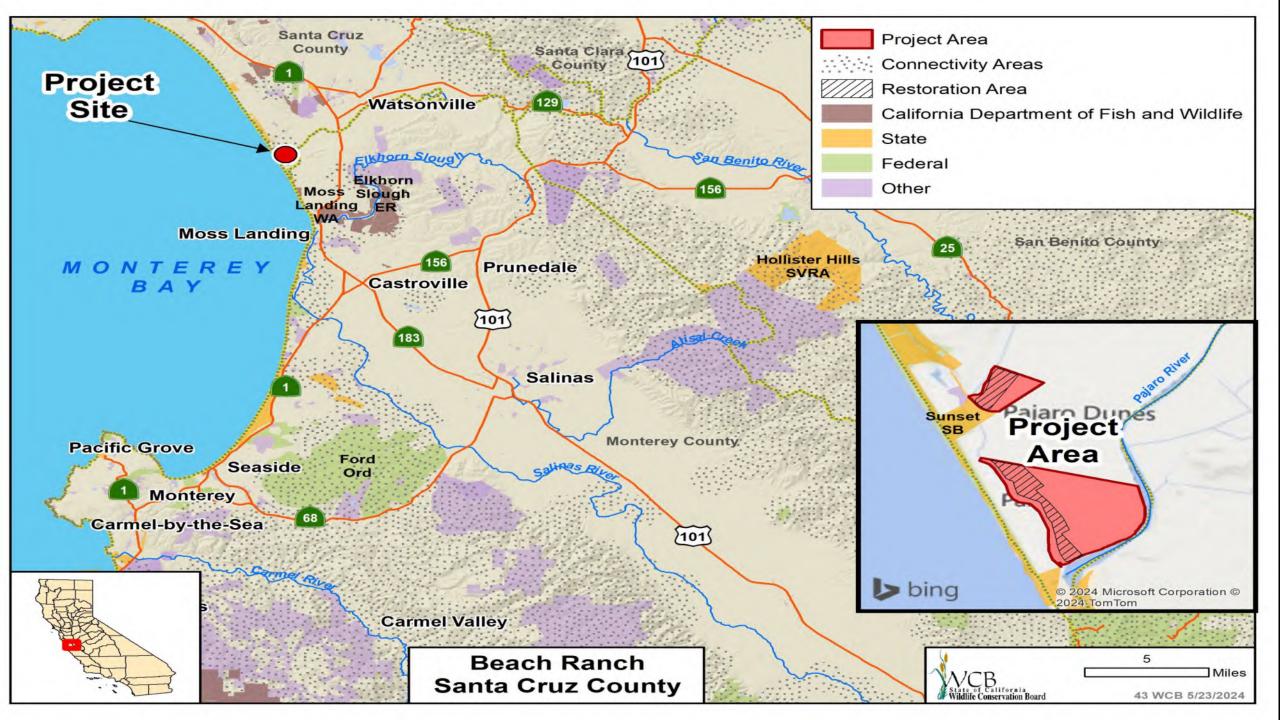
- Control Area
- Wildfire –affected area undergoing restoration
- Higher elevation climate refugia
- Restored habitat with tortoise fencing



Desert Tortoise Recovery Through Head-Starting Slide 6

Questions?







Beach Ranch

Aerial View of Beach Ranch (left), Pajaro River Estuary (top), Lower Watsonvile Slough (center), and Pajaro Dunes (right)







Beach Ranch
Slide 2

Maps showing Flood Extent and Sea Level Rise Scenarios. Data Sources: CoreLogic 2020 (property boundaries), USGS CoSMoS (flood extent), NAIP 2020 (imagery). Maps prepared by The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County.



View of flooded farmland on Beach Ranch parcels during winter storms in January 2023. Flood areas are proposed for restoration to estuarine and floodplain habitat. Photo courtesy of The Land Trust of Santa Cruz.

Beach Ranch

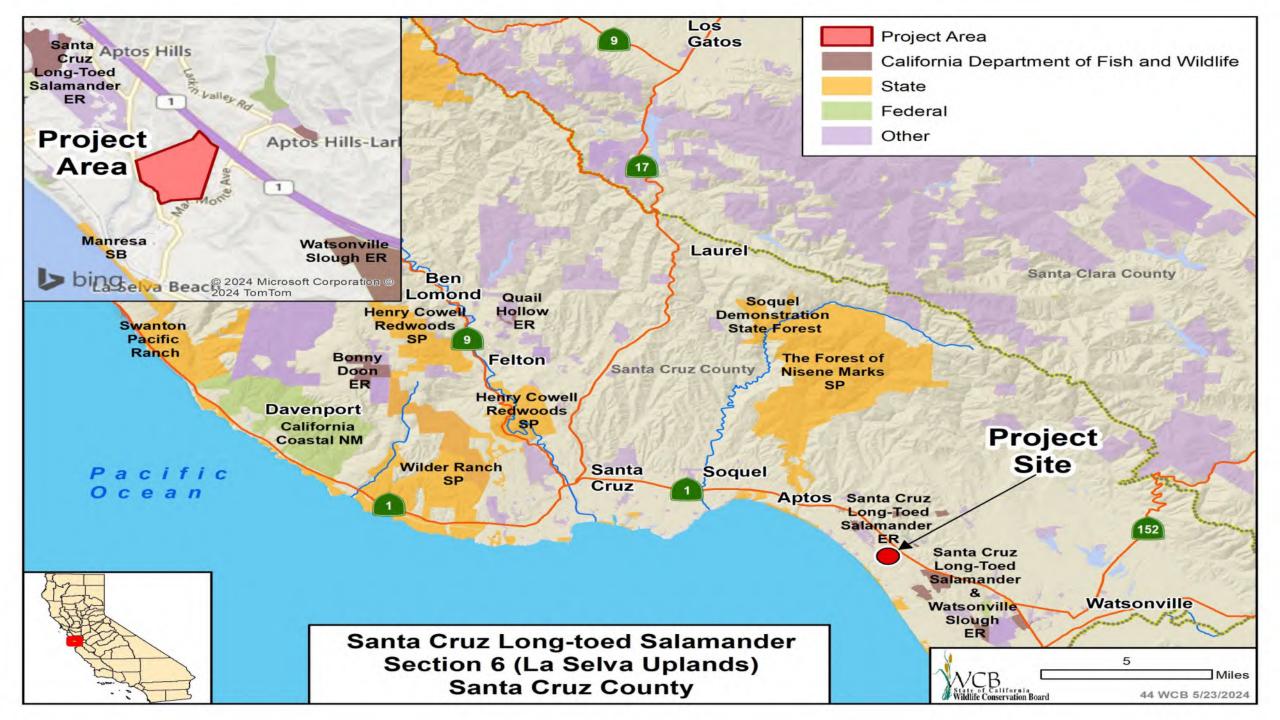
Slide 4

Top: View of the Pajaro with the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in the background. Photo courtesy of State Coastal Conservancy.

Bottom: View from the Pajaro River of Beach Ranch (left) during high water (Winter 2023). Photo courtesy of State Coastal Conservancy.











Scrub and coastal prairie habitat

Credit: The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County

Santa Cruz Longtoed Salamander Section 6 (La Selva Uplands)

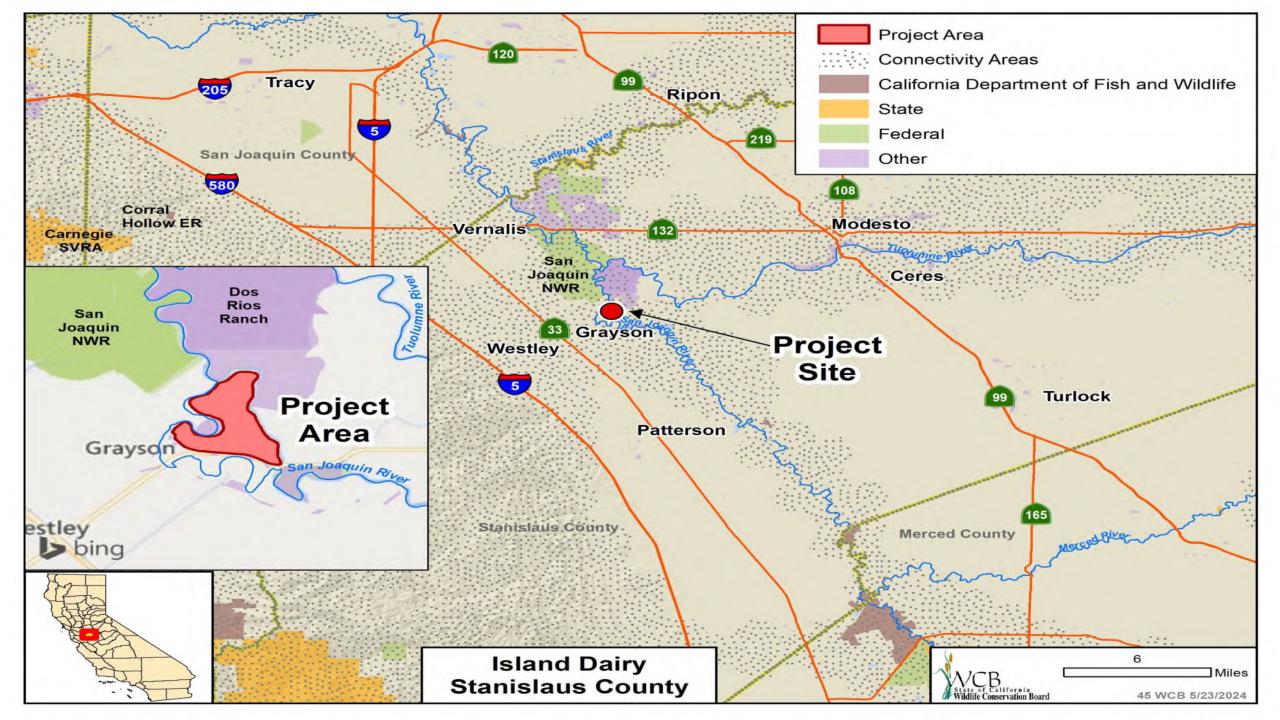
Slide 3

Seasonal creek through wet meadow in northern valley

Credit: The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County







Island Dairy

Slide 1

The 482-acre Island Dairy property is in Stanislaus County surrounded almost entirely by water, with the historic San Joaquin River channel to the west and Laird Slough to the east.

Located at the nexus of over 10,000 acres of conserved lands known as the Dos Rios Ranch and San Joaquin National Wildlife Refuge at the confluence of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin Rivers.



Island Dairy

Slide 2

This property is primarily utilized for crop production and dairying operations.

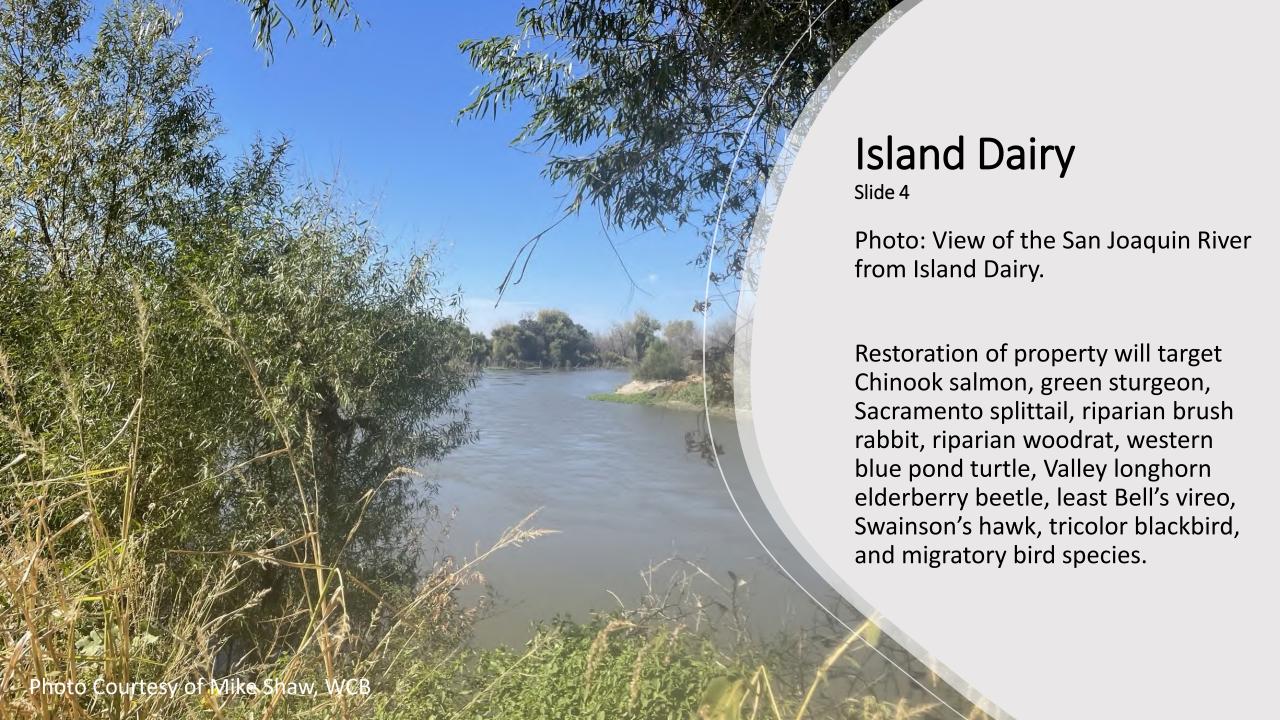
Upon restoration the property will be comprised of upland, riparian, and floodplain habitat types that consists of wetlands, native grasslands, vernal pools, and riparian forests.



Island Dairy

Slide 3

Property will contribute significantly to habitat connectivity in the San Joaquin Valley due to its location adjacent to the San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge, Hidden Valley Dairy and Dos Rios Ranch. With the potential transition of Dos Rios Ranch to State Parks management.





Slide 1

- Connectivity and trail map.
- Property identified in orange.



Detail map

TIBURON RIDGE, MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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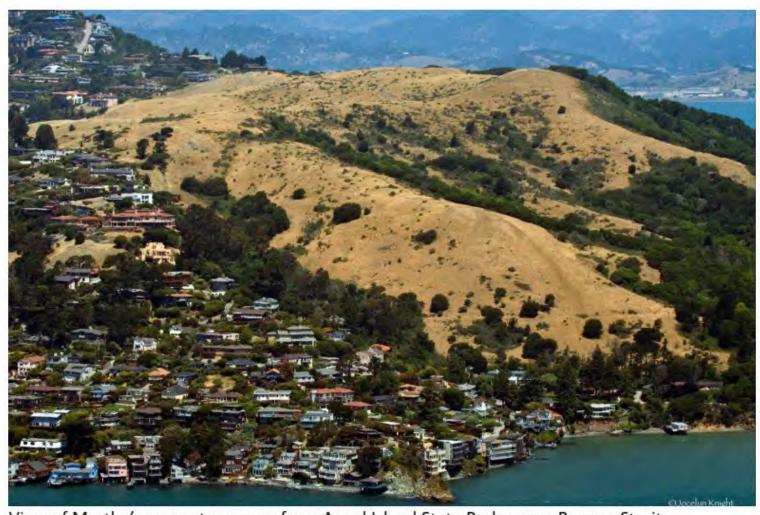


Slide 2



Looking southeast from the extension of Ridge Trail on the property.

Slide 3



View of Martha's property as seen from Angel Island State Park across Racoon Strait.

Slide 4



Looking south towards Angel Island State Park with the City of San Francisco in the background.

Slide 5

- Aerial view of Property
- Photo courtesy of Trust for Public Land



The 110-acre Martha Property is located on the North Bay at the southern end of the Tiburon Peninsula.

Slide 6

- Oak Woodlands
- Photo courtesy of Jocelyn Knight



Looking north toward the high point of St. Hilary Preserve. Oak woodland in foreground.

Slide 7

Photo courtesy of Jocelyn Knight



Looking southward towards Angel Island over Keil Cove (far left) and the "Lands of Keil" (middle right). San Francisco is to the right of the frame. The East Bay is to the left of the frame.

Slide 8

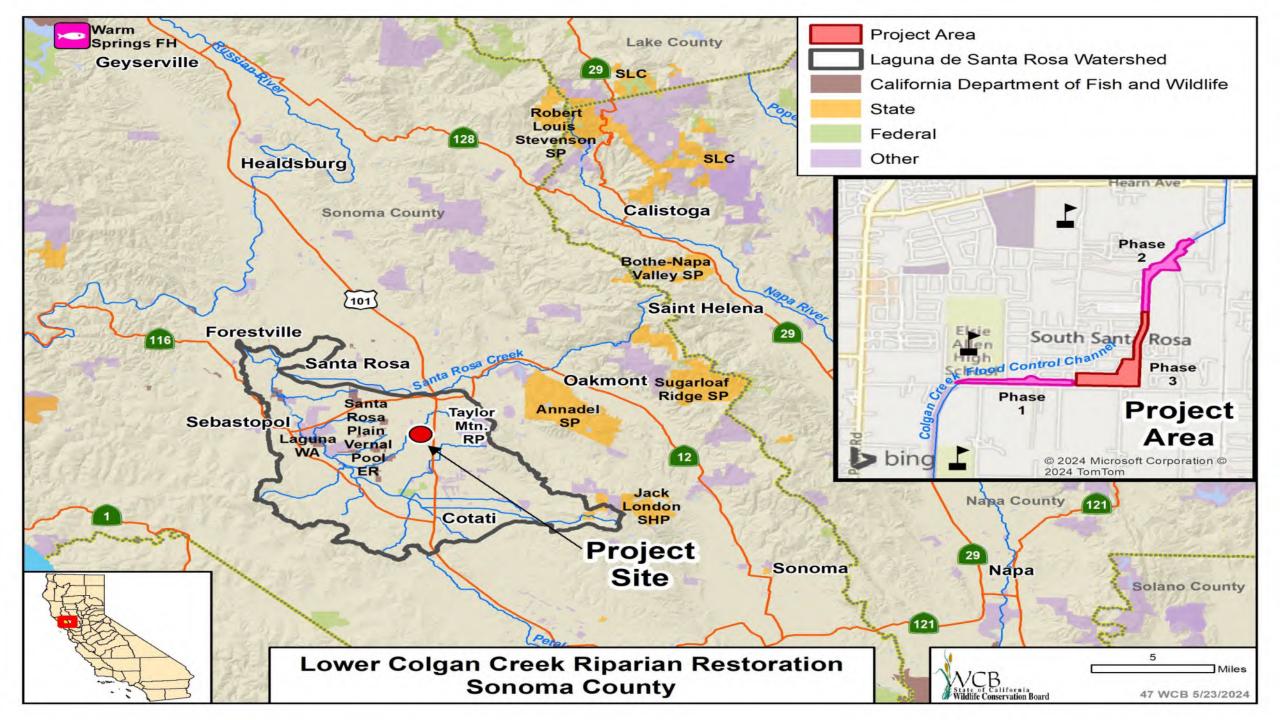


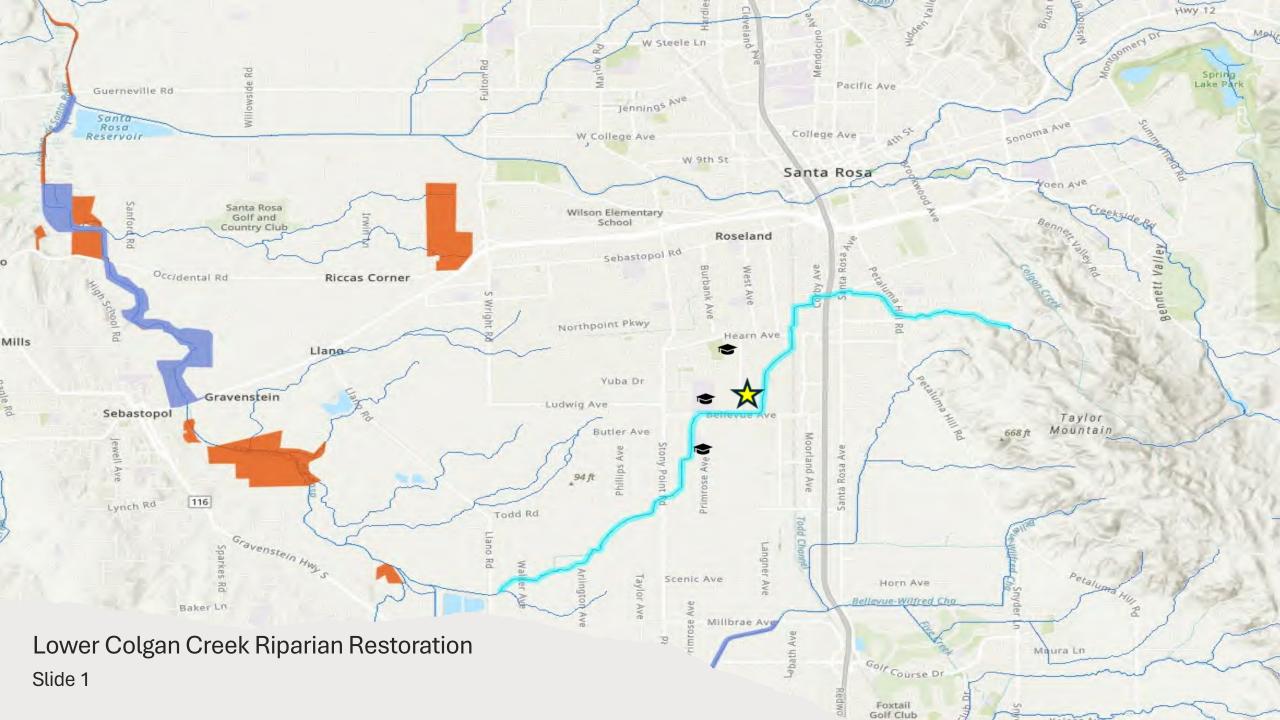
Looking southwest from Old St. Hilary Preserve towards San Francisco and Golden Gate Bridge.

Slide 9



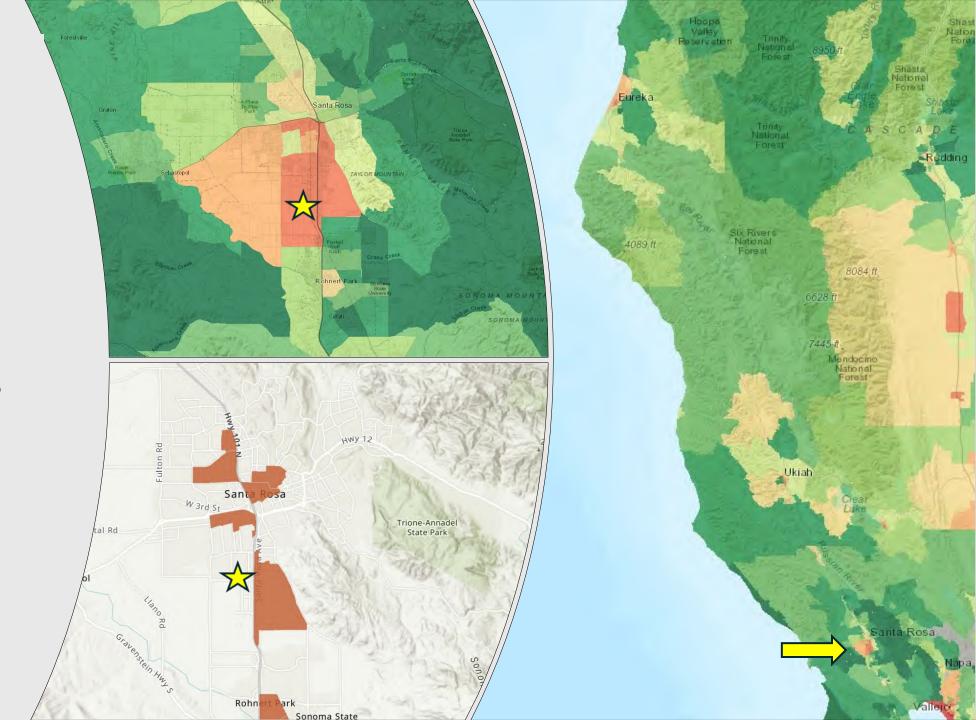
Looking south across the Bay from the southwestern end of the property.





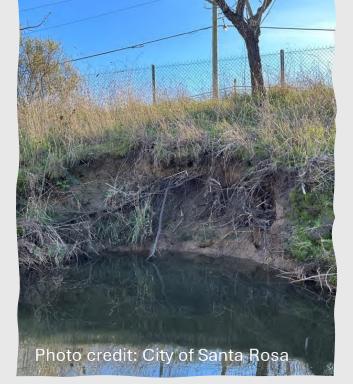
Lower Colgan Creek Riparian Restoration Slide 2

Underserved Communities











Lower Colgan Creek Riparian Restoration Slide 3

Project Need

- Impaired waterway
- Marginal stream functions
- Limited flood capacity
- Poor riparian habitat
- Limited public access
- Poor aesthetics

Lower Colgan Creek Riparian Restoration Slide 4

Create 6.5 acres of riparian

of monarch meadows

Reconnect creek to floodplain

Create 2 acres

Plant basketry plants on floodplain terraces

> Build 28 instream habitat structures

Increase flood capacity to 100-year storms

Increase stream canopy

Sequester more carbon via more trees + better soils

Provide Climate Resilience

Hire youth conservation corps for plantings

Install 4-6 wildlifethemed art pieces

Install 3 multi-lingual interpretive panels

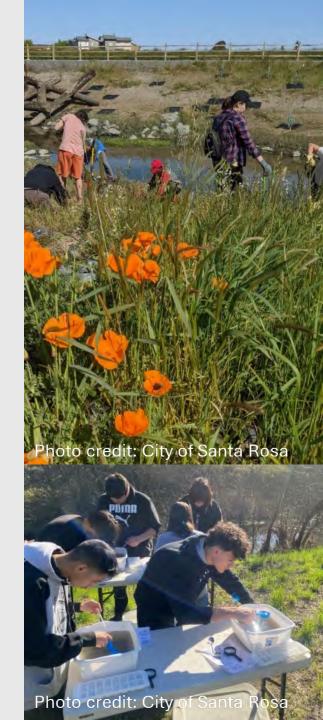
Build pedestrian bridge

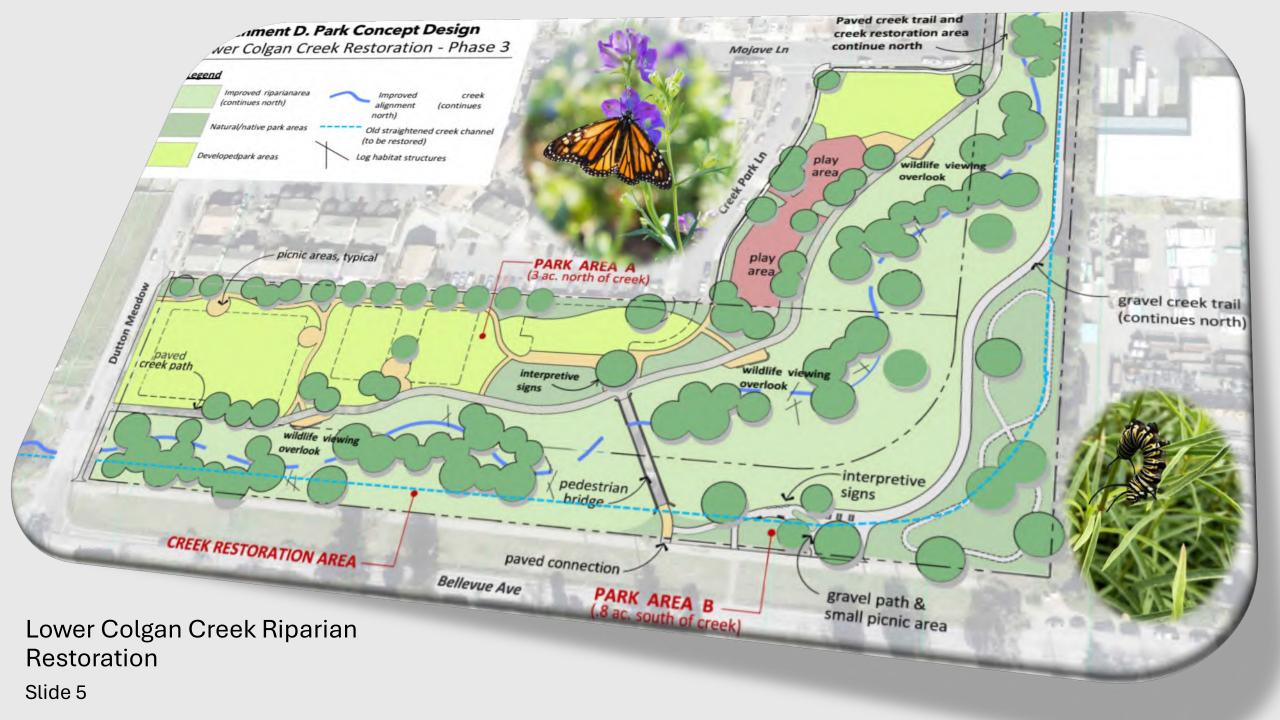
Install 2,270 ft of ADA creek trail

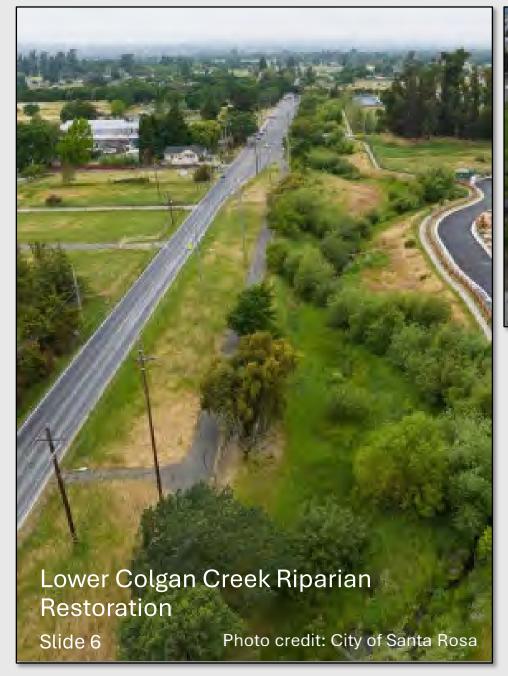
Improve Access to Nature Construct 2-3 wildlife viewing platforms

Host 8 educational events at creek



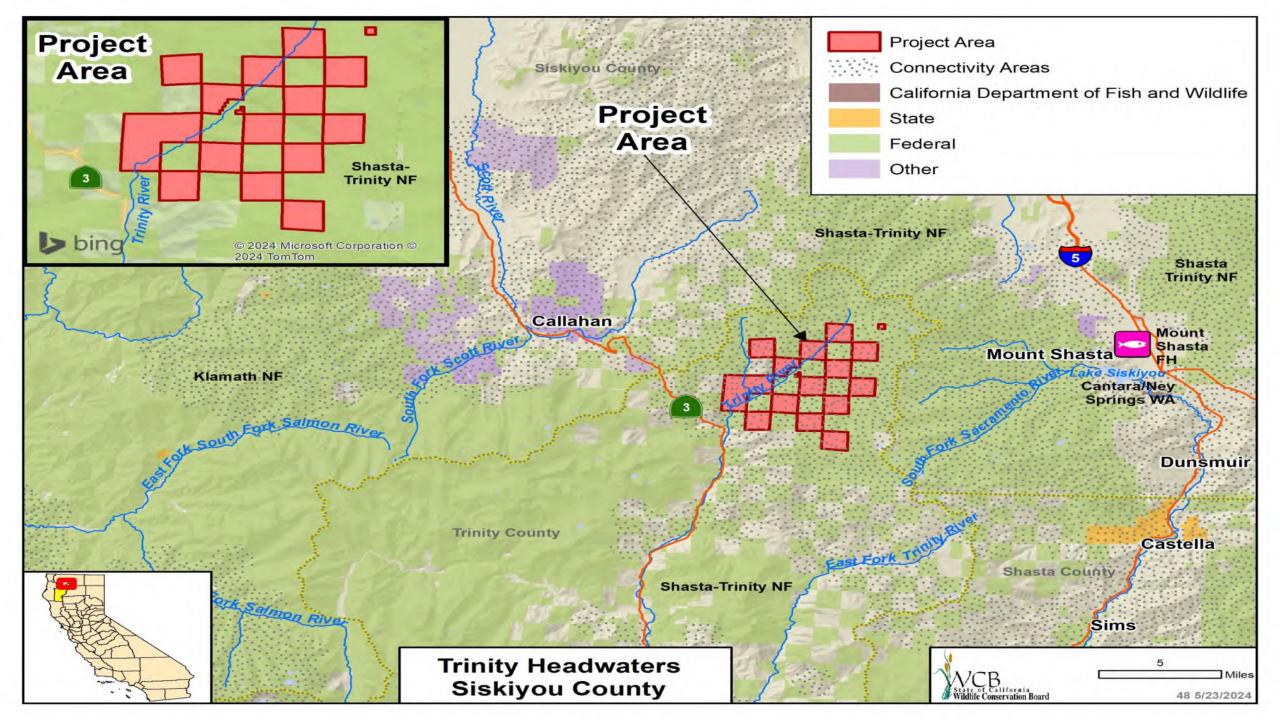












Trinity Headwaters

Slide 1

The 10,700+-acre Trinity Headwaters property is in Trinity County 10-20 miles west of Weed and Mount Shasta, directly south of Mount Eddy at the intersection between Siskiyou and Trinity counties where the Klamath Mountains join the Southern Cascades surrounded by the Shasta Trinity National Forest.



Photo Courtesy of Mike Shaw, WCB

Trinity Headwaters

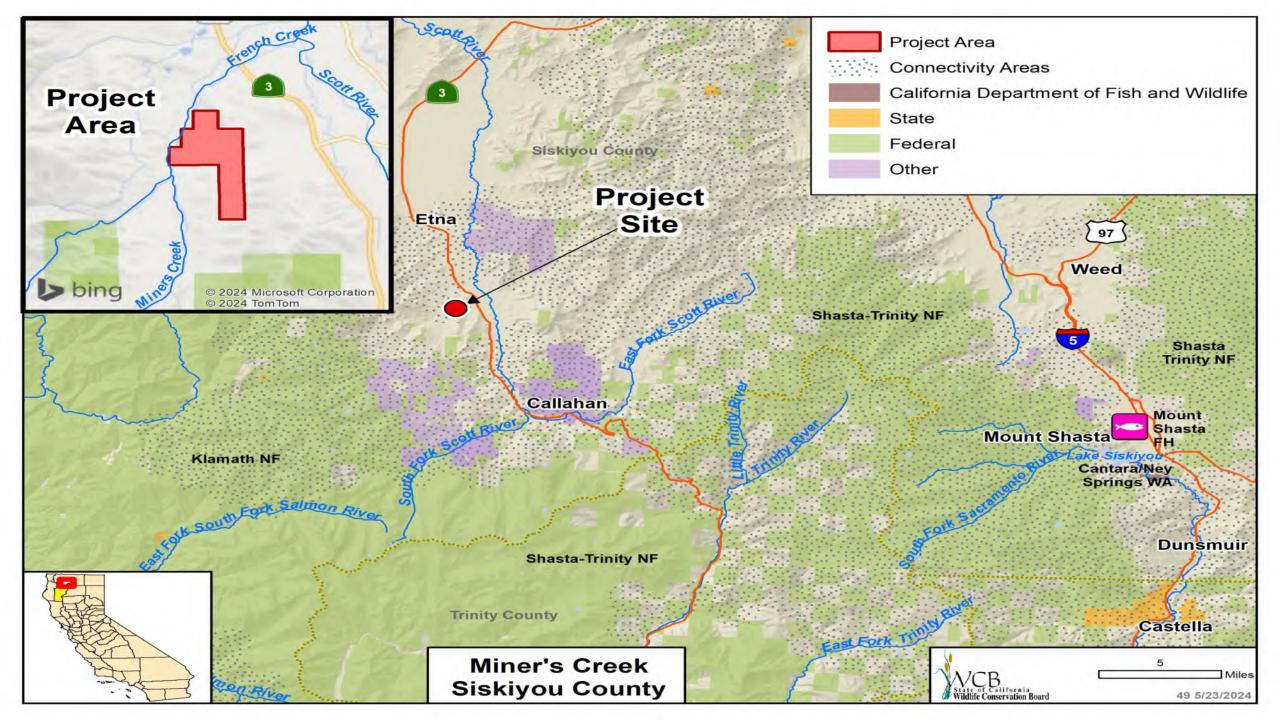
Slide 2

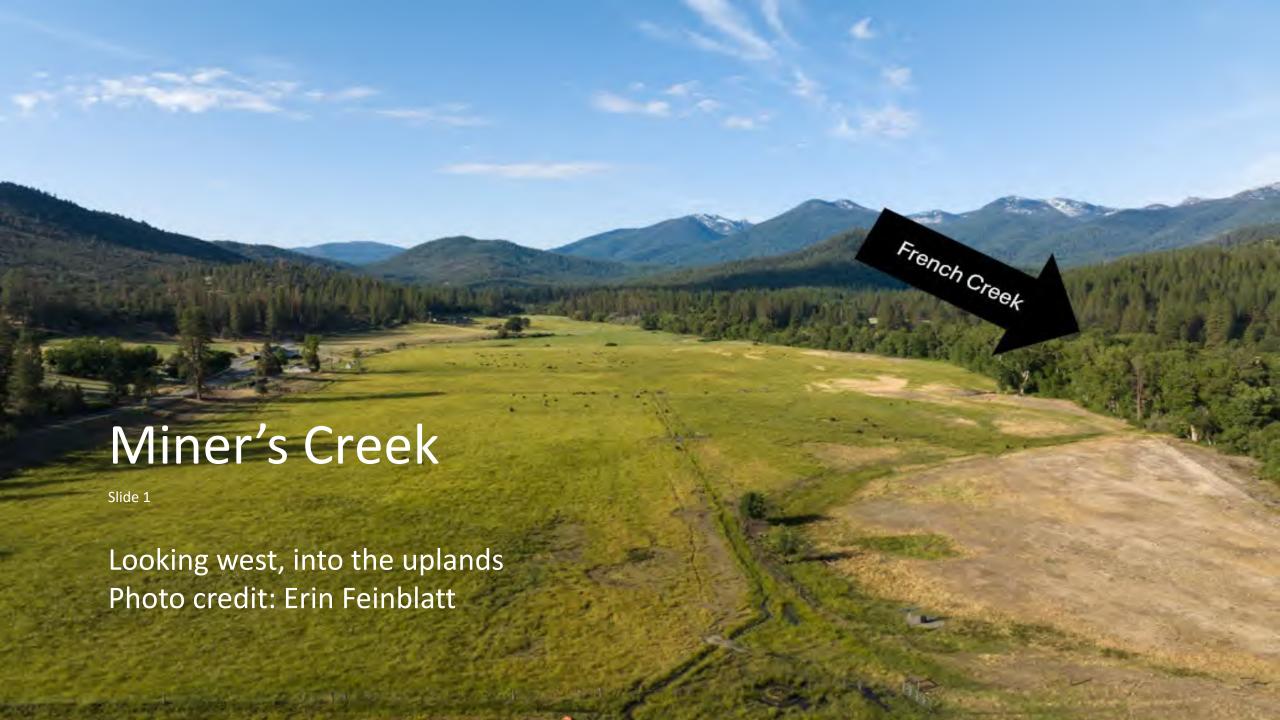
Property supports an estimated 233 terrestrial wildlife species and 9 aquatic fish and amphibian species, including 44 special status species that are rare or threatened, such as the Pacific marten, fisher, California wolverine, Cascades frog, and the Sierra Nevada red fox. The property's cold water flows also support Chinook salmon.









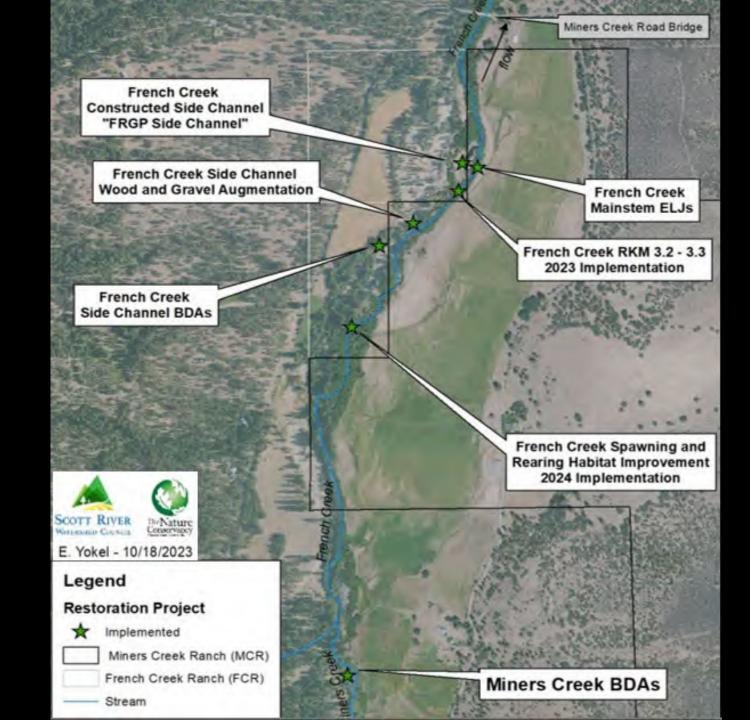




Miner's Creek

Slide 3

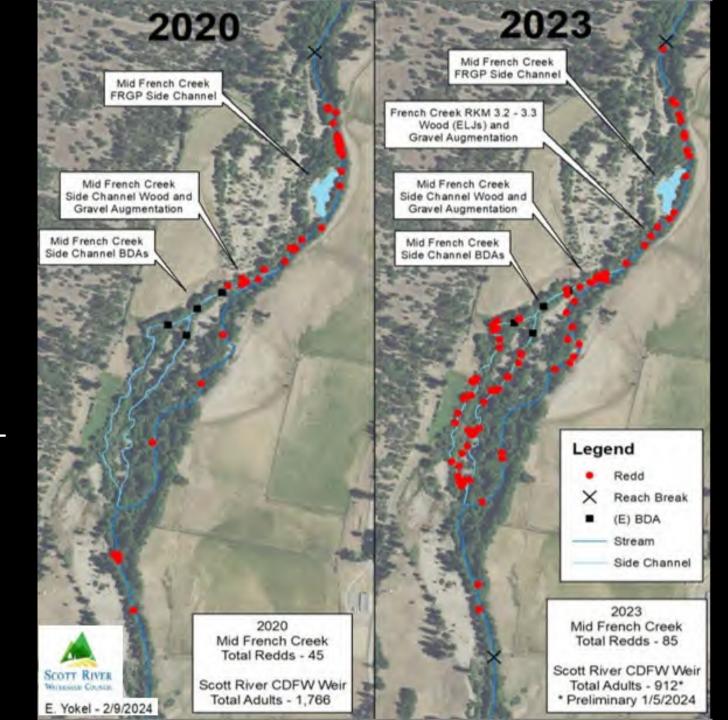
Transforming French Creek for Coho Salmon (and Beaver)
Existing Restoration Projects

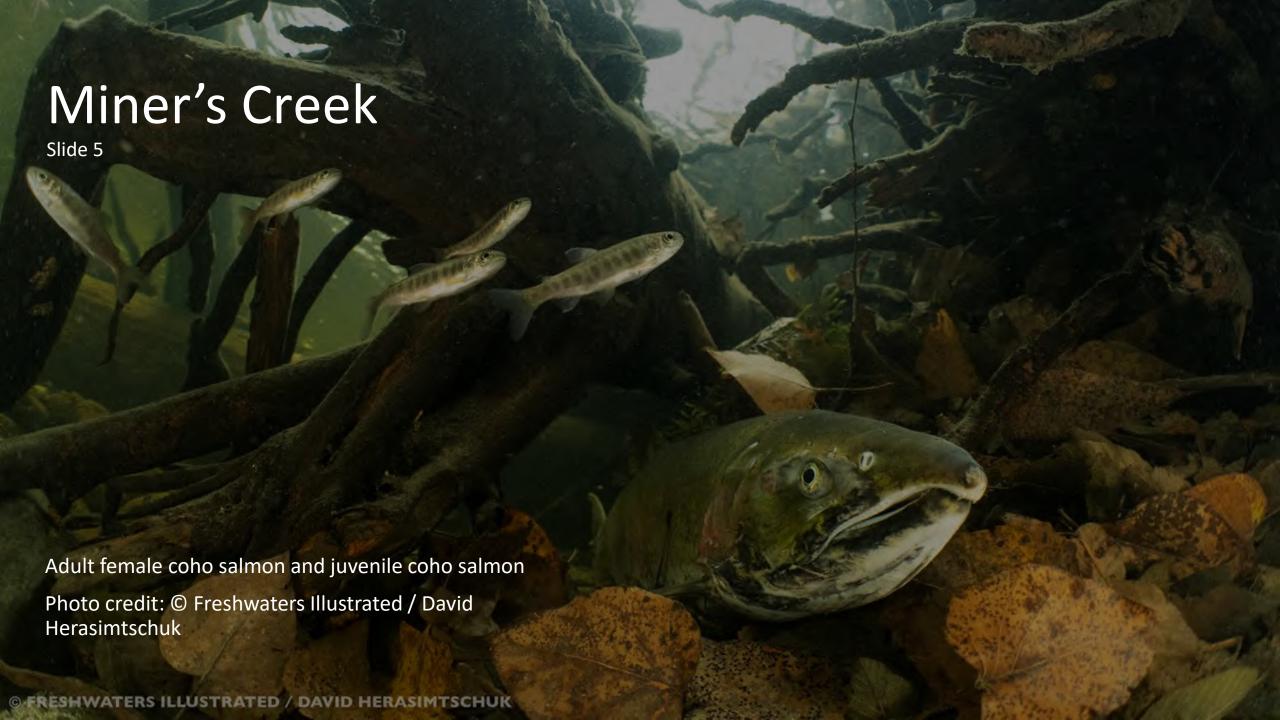


Miner's Creek

Slide 4

Mid French Creek – Coho Spawning Ground Survey Coho Salmon Redds – 2020 and 2023

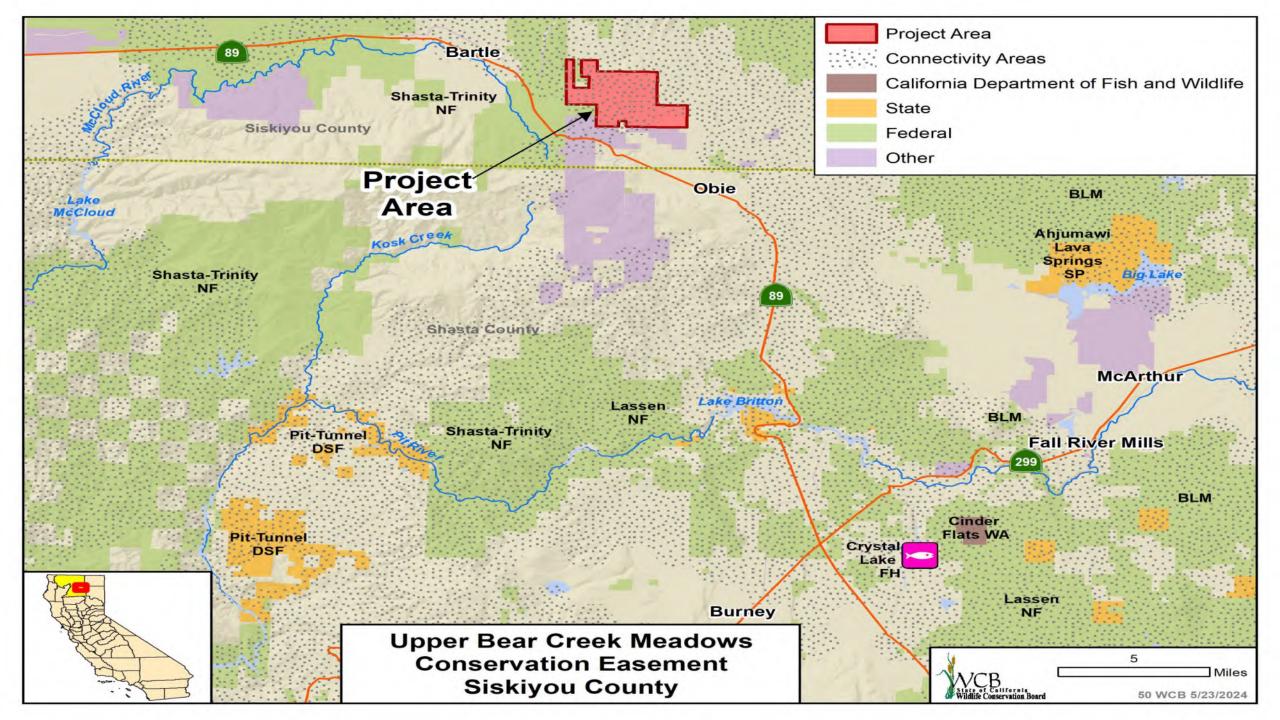




Miner's Creek

Slide 6





Upper Bear Creek Meadows Conservation Easement

Slide 1

View of Mt. Shasta from Upper Bear Creek

Photo credit: FWS Forestry Services, LLC





Upper Bear Creek Meadows Conservation Easement Slide 3

Wet Meadow

Photo credit: FWS Forestry

Services, LLC





Upper Bear Creek Meadows Conservation Easement Slide 4

The property contains wet and dry meadows which form key habitat for Rocky Mountain Elk.

Photo credit: FWS Forestry Services, LLC

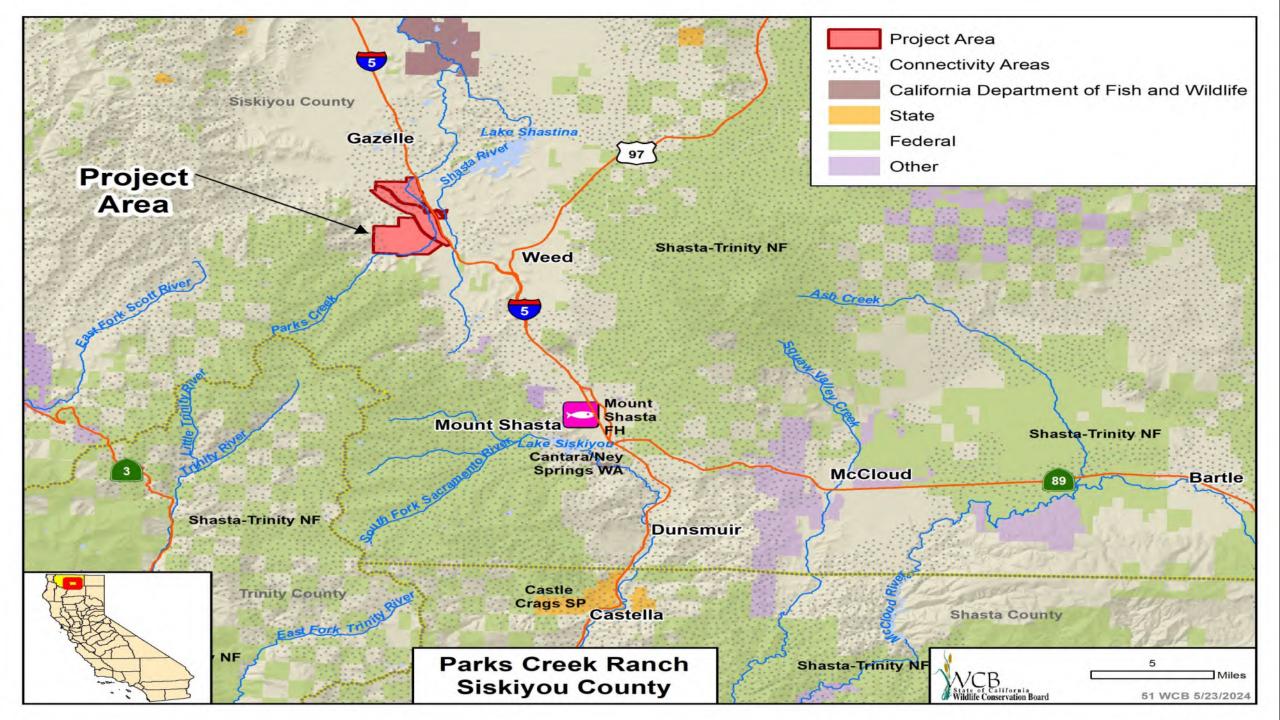
Upper Bear Creek Meadows Conservation Easement Slide 5

Top: Mature Forest Reserve

Bottom: Tom Young Flat Meadow Elk Management Area

Photo credits: FWS Forestry Services, LLC





Parks Creek Ranch

Slide 1

View of Mt. Shasta from hilltop overlooking ranch.

Photo courtesy of Chris Bell, appraiser.









Parks Creek Ranch Slide 2

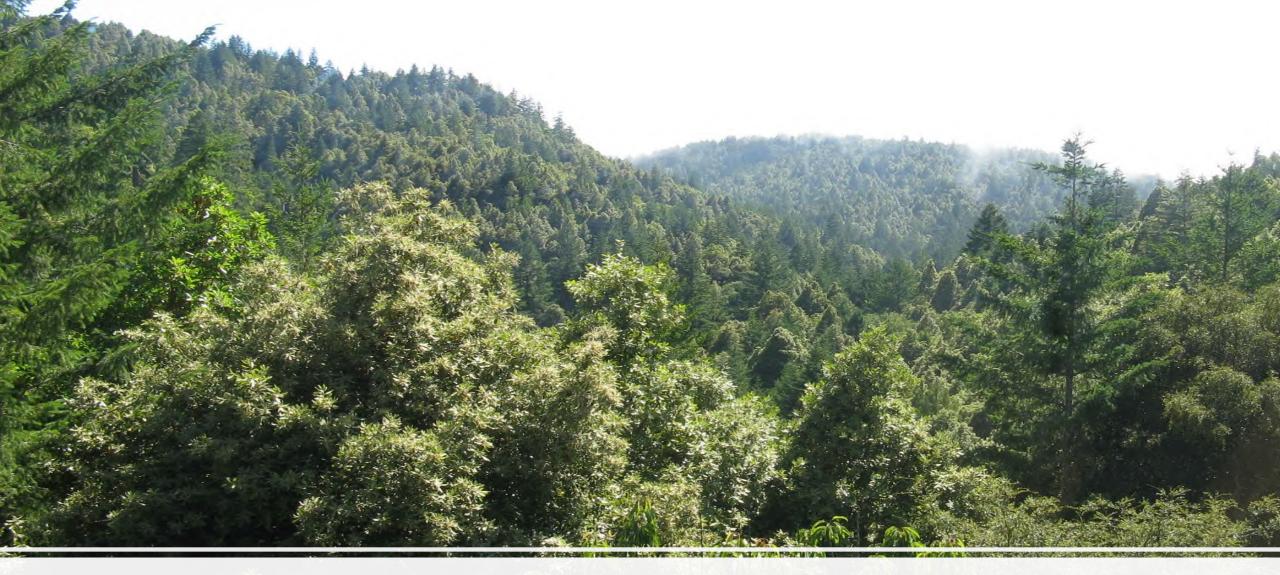
Three photographs of Parks Creek as it flows through the Ranch.

Photos courtesy of The Nature Conservancy.

- Protection of 7 miles of Parks Creek
- Reduced irrigation, increased cold water flows, and water rights dedication
- Restoration and Enhancement of riparian habitat
- Grazing management changes compatible with fish and wildlife habitat

Photo: Restored area on lower Parks Creek on Cardoza Ranch. Similar restoration could occur on Parks Creek Ranch.





Item 52. Public Forum for Items not on the Agenda



Next Board Meeting, August 22, 2024