Table 1. Uses and Limitations of ACE-II.

ACE-II IS…	ACE-II IS NOT…
an analysis tool that shows broad-scale **patterns of biological richness** (defined by biodiversity, rarity, irreplaceability, and presence of sensitive habitats) across the landscape.	a map of the California Department of Fish and Game's **conservation priorities**.
a **continuous surface** of biological richness based on data and assumptions outlined in this report.	a **hard-line map** delineating the reserve configuration needed to meet specific conservation or management goals, such as ensuring adequate protection of individual focal species or habitats.
a tool that includes biological layers showing **patterns of richness and rarity** based on numbers of species potentially present per hexagon.	a comprehensive analysis of species-specific habitat needs or **critical conservation areas** for individual species.
a **broad-scale analysis** of biological richness based on currently available, statewide data, upon which future analyses can be built. All data were applied to 2.5 square mile (1600 acres) hexagons.	a tool that can be used to assess the biological or conservation value of **specific parcels**. The precision of ACE-II values is limited by the accuracy and scale of source data. The value of any single hexagon should be interpreted with caution.
a **tool displaying biological metrics** of biodiversity, rarity, irreplaceability, and the presence of sensitive habitats within a hexagon.	a **prioritization tool** that incorporates all four facets of a conservation prioritization: complementarity (e.g., current level of protection), irreplaceability, threat, and sustainability (e.g., landscape configuration).
a **dynamic analysis tool** to inform conservation and land acquisition decisions based on specific management questions or project goals. A tool comprised of datasets that will be revised over time as new data become available.	a **definitive, final map**.
an **analysis tool** to facilitate the identification of areas of biological and conservation interest.	a **regulation or a plan** that dictates land use or land acquisition decisions for any public or private entity, nor is it a California Department of Fish and Game response to potential impacts to a habitat or species from a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or federal Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Data Disclaimer

The ACE-II maps display biological and recreational values based on available data and constrained by the limitations of the data. These values do not represent critical conservation areas for individual species or habitats. The values may be influenced by level of survey effort and do not consider current levels of protection for species or habitats. Some areas showing low biological or recreational values may have high conservation value. The ACE-II data represent broad-scale patterns of biological richness, and the value of any single hexagon should be interpreted with caution. ACE-II is a decision-support tool to be used in conjunction with species-specific information and local-scale conservation prioritization analyses. The user accepts sole responsibility for the correct interpretation and use of the ACE-II datasets and report. The ACE-II maps do not replace the need for site-specific evaluation of biological resources and should not be used as the sole measure of conservation priority during planning. No statement or data set shall by itself be considered an official response from a state agency regarding impacts to wildlife resulting from a management action subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).