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California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Wildlife Conservation Board
May 28, 2026 Board Meeting
First Floor Auditorium, CNRA Headquarters Building

River Vista Bridge Removal and River Restoration
Credit: San Joaquin River Conservancy

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 1. Roll Call

South Tahoe Basin Wildlife Crossings
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 2. Approval of Agenda

Indian Creek Streamflow Enhancement Planning
Credit: TNC

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 3. Executive Director's Report

Salt Creek Floodplain Restoration Implementation
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 4. Board Member Updates and Reports

Harmon Canyon Preserve Restoration
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 5. Funding Status

Windy Springs Meadow Restoration
Credit: WCB

Proposed Projects

May 28, 2026

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting May 28, 2026 Project Map

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Consent Items 6 - 18

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 9 (Molloy)
Credit: WCB

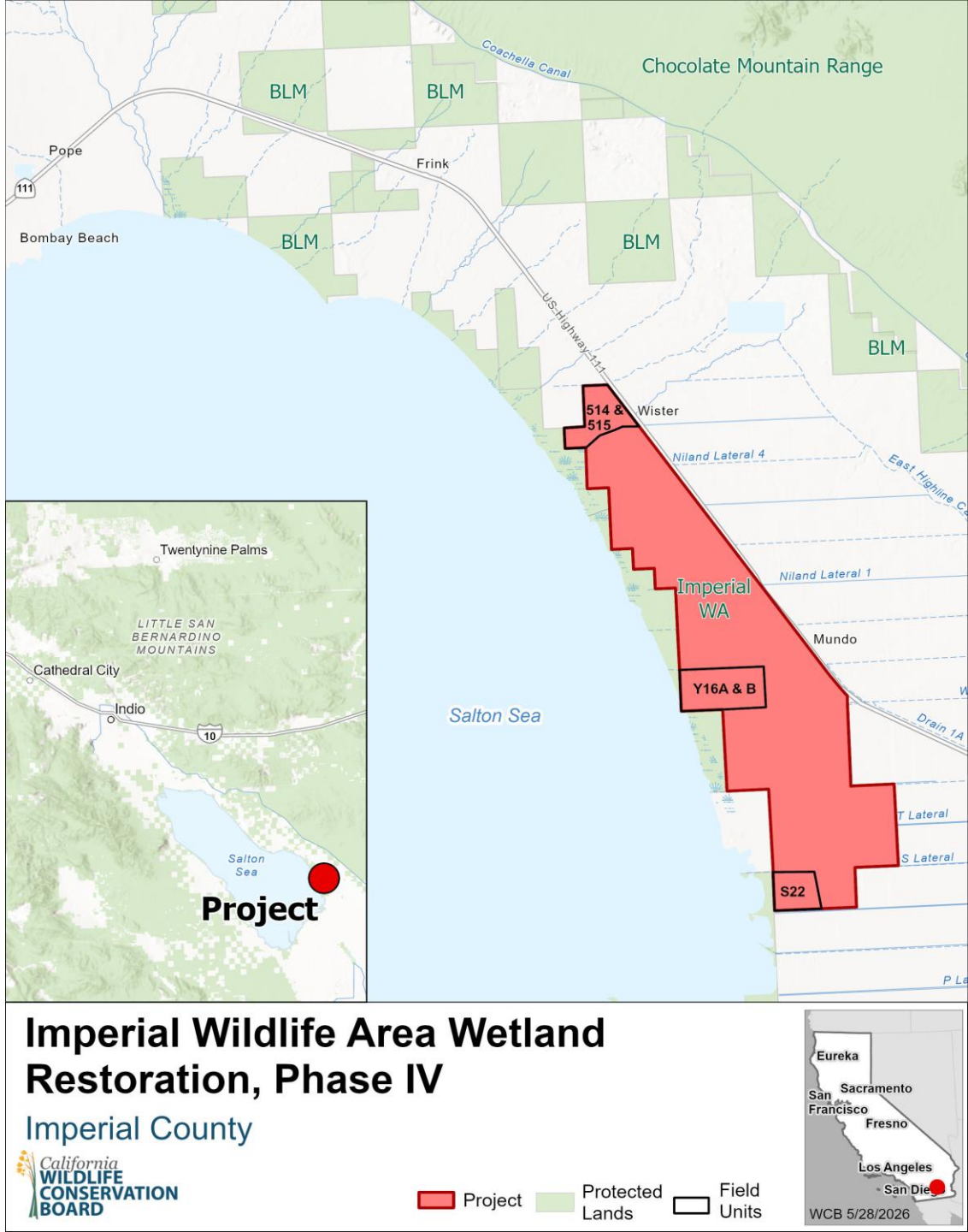
California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 6. Recovery of Funds

Fund Name	Amount
General Fund	$336,818.54
Habitat Conservation Fund	$90.96
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund	$0.00
Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006	$0.00
Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014	$4,155.79
The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018	$574,603.99
Total Recoveries for All Funds	***$915,669.28***

Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase IV

- California Waterfowl Association (applicant)
- WCB request $1,700,000



Credit: WCB

Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase IV

Slide 2

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Seasonal wetland unit at the Imperial Wildlife Area

Flooded wetland unit
Credit: California Waterfowl Association

Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase IV

Slide 3

Water delivery ditch choked with invasive vegetation

Vegetation within canal
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase IV

Slide 4

Water delivery ditch to be replaced with pipe

Canal with invasive plants
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase IV

Slide 5

Water use efficiency and habitat upgrades will be realized through:

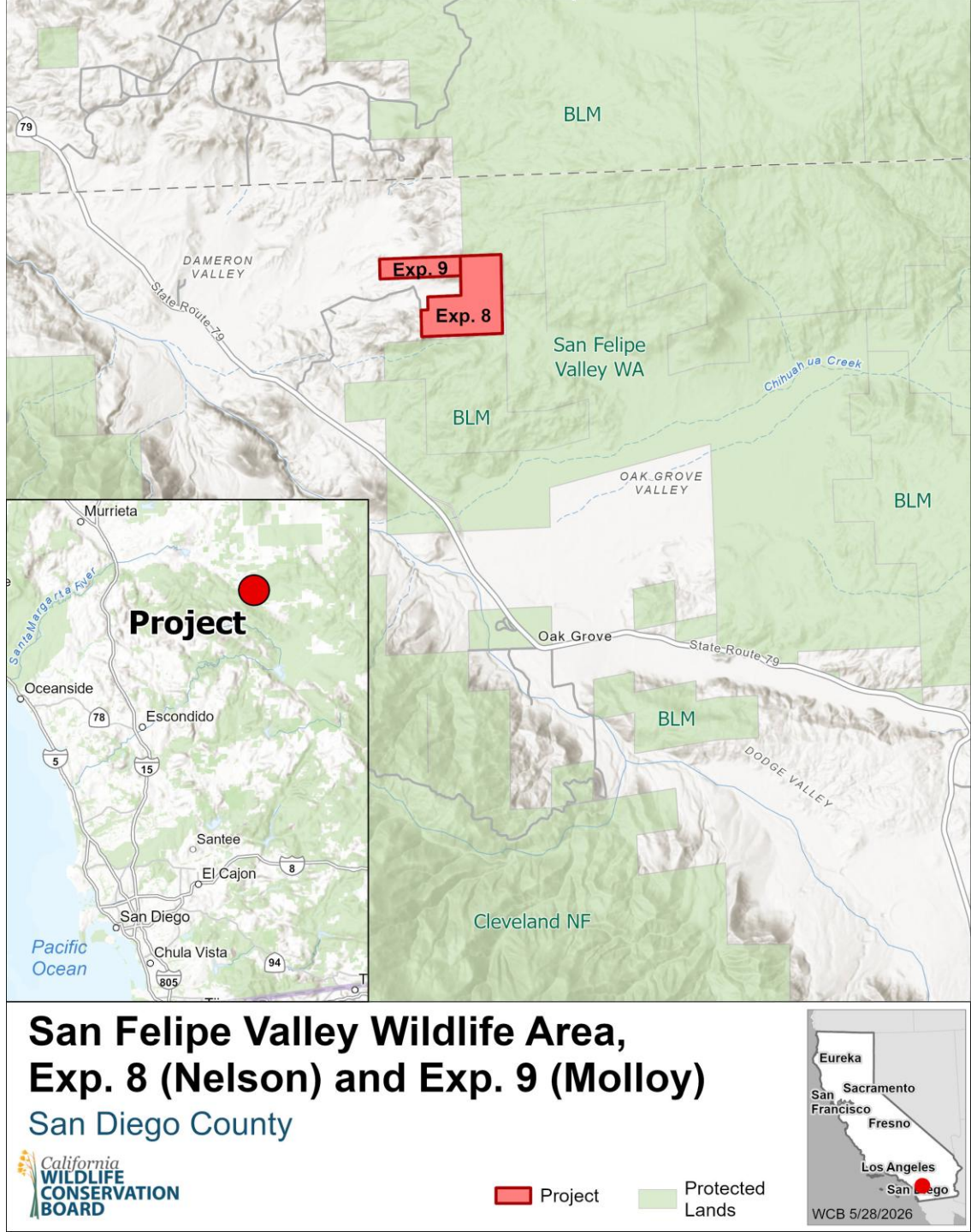
- Invasive salt cedar removal
- Replacement of water control structures
- Regrading wetland units

Left: Heavy equipment use
Right: Water control structure
Bottom: Regraded wetland unit
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 8 (Nelson)

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife acquisition
- 113± acre fee acquisition
- Purchase price $360,000
- WCB request $360,000



Credit: WCB

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 8 (Nelson)

Slide 2

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

View looking west from southern portion of the property toward the road

Credit: WCB

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 8 (Nelson)

Slide 3

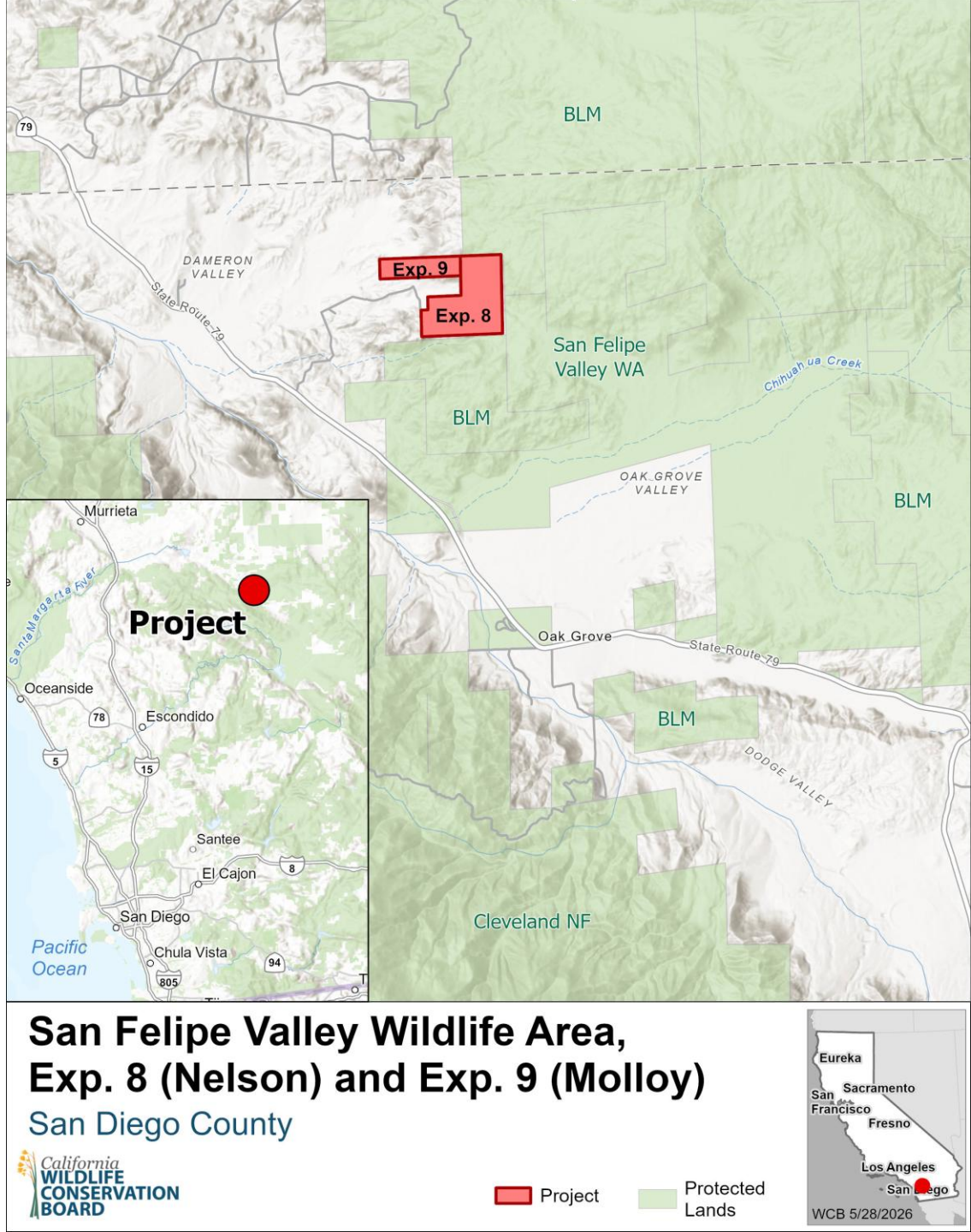
View of easterly slope toward existing San Felipe Valley WA

Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 9 (Molloy)

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife acquisition
- 38± acre fee acquisition
- Purchase price $174,000
- WCB request $174,000



Credit: WCB

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 9 (Molloy)

Slide 2

View looking toward the road and valley on the southern end of the property

Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 9 (Molloy)

Slide 3

View looking north into the property

Credit: WCB

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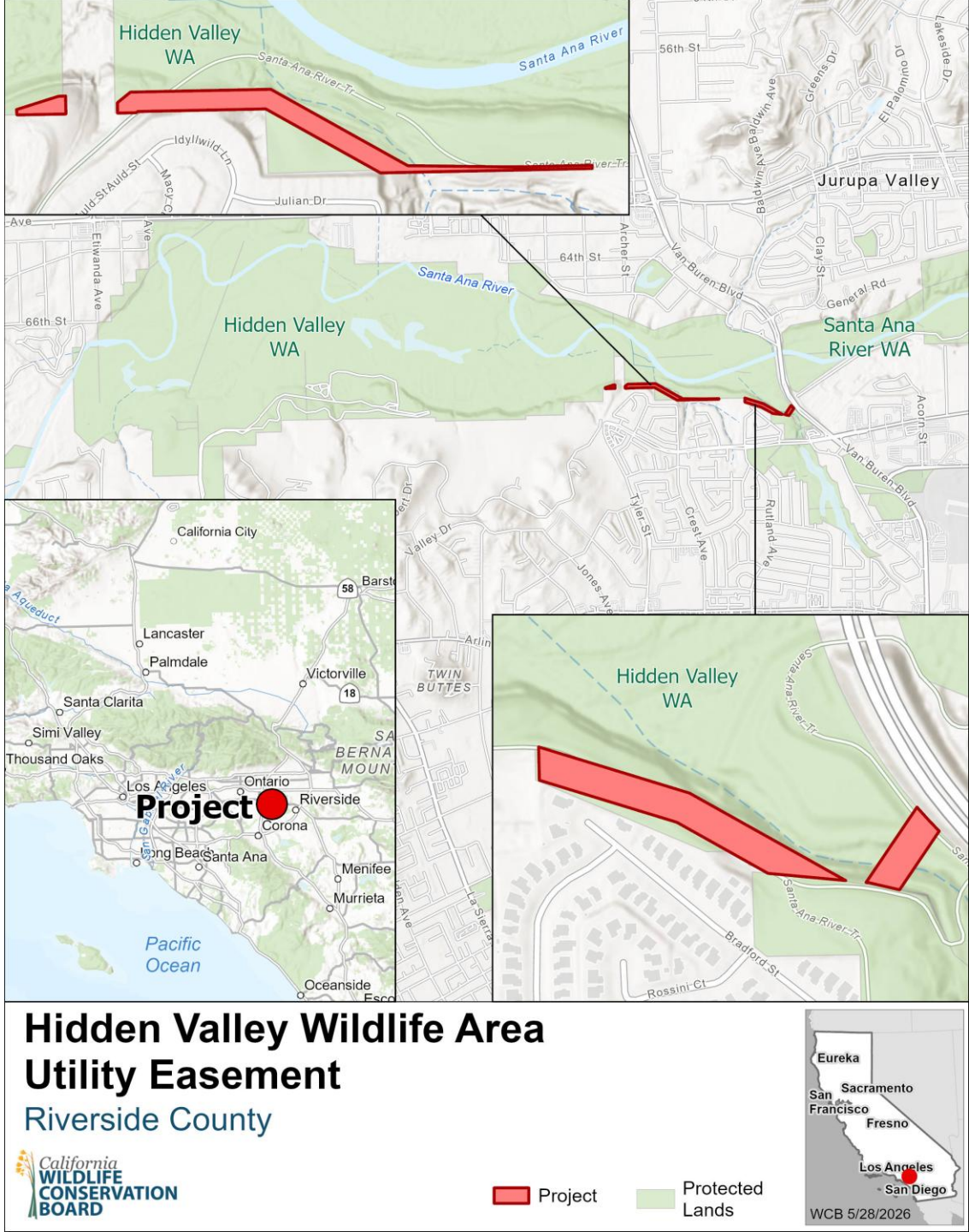
Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Utility Easement

- Southern California Edison Company (applicant)
- 10± acre fee acquisition
- Purchase price $60,500.00
- WCB request $0



Credit: WCB

Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Utility Easement

Slide 2

- Riverside Transmission Reliability Project
- Jointly Planned by Southern California Edison Company and the City of Riverside's Municipal Utility Department

Left: Private vehicle entrance gate
Right: Project area facing southeast
Bottom: Project area facing east
Credit: Southern California Edison Company

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Utility Easement

Slide 3

- New 220kV transmission line
- Purpose is to maintain reliability for electricity in the city of Riverside

Top: Project area facing east
Bottom: Project area facing southeast
Credit: Southern California Edison Company

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Utility Easement

Slide 4

- Located outside of critical habitat
- Management partnership with CDFW and Riverside county Parks
    - CDFW will coordinate with Riverside County as the operators and managers for the property

Project area facing southeast
Credit: Southern California Edison Company

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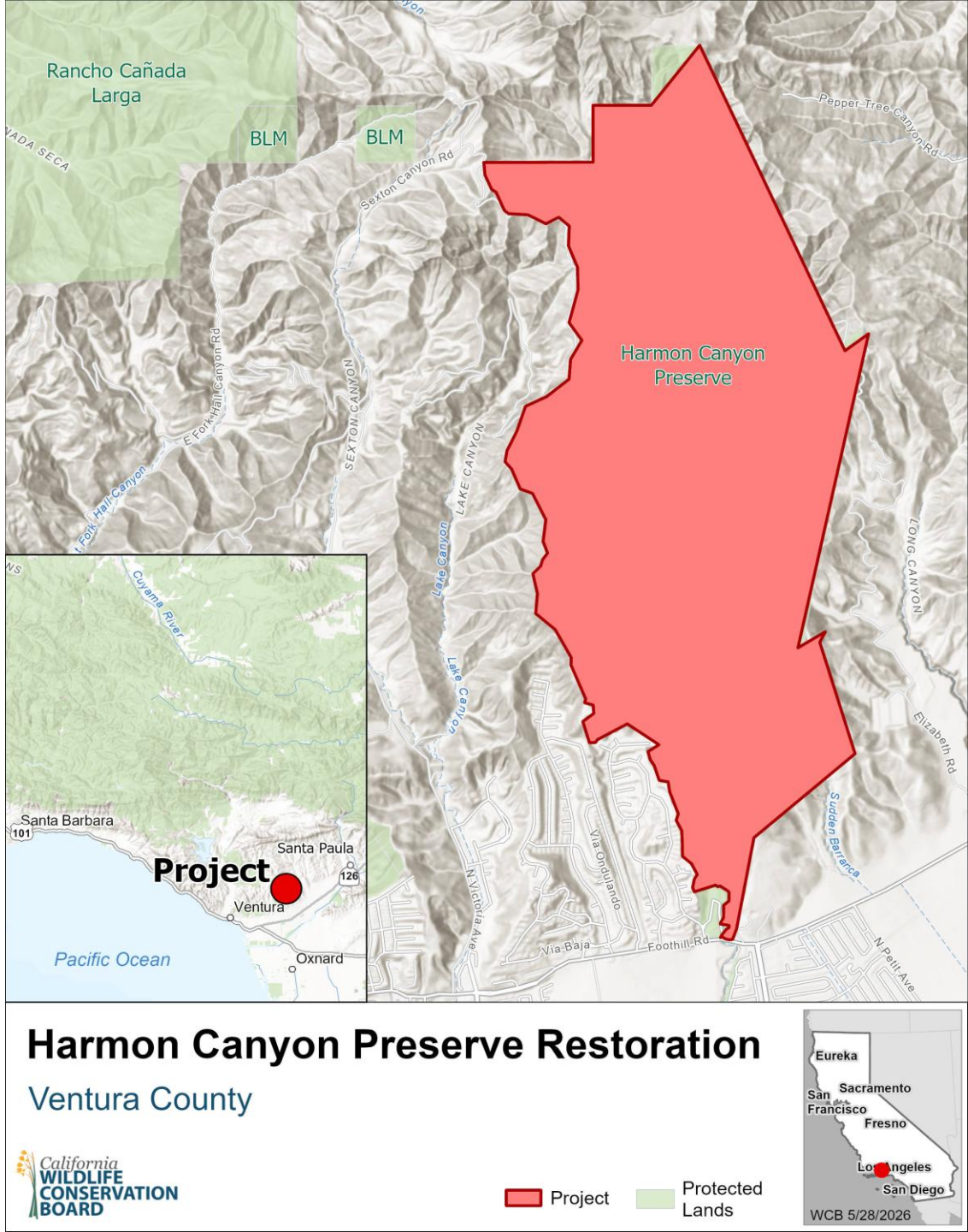
Harmon Canyon Preserve Restoration

- Ventura Land Trust (applicant)
- WCB request $1,225,000 (total project cost $1,433,000)



Credit: WCB

Harmon Canyon Preserve Restoration

Slide 2

Harmon Canyon Preserve:

- Largest permanently protected open space in the Ventura area with public access
- Acquired in 2020 with WCB assistance ($2,991,605)

Credit: Ventura Land Trust

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Harmon Canyon Preserve Restoration

Slide 3

- Over 2000 acres that were historically dominated by coastal sage scrub, coast live oak woodland, and riparian habitats
- Agriculture and ranching has converted most of the lower canyon into invasive dominated thickets

Credit: Ventura Land Trust

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Harmon Canyon Preserve Restoration

Slide 4

Restore 45 acres of coastal sage scrub habitat:

- Potted plants grown with local seed
- Additional seed dispersion
- Irrigation

Eradication of salt cedar from Harmon Creek Watershed.

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Credit: Ventura Land Trust

Windy Springs Meadow Restoration

- Foundation for the Kern Valley Indian Community (applicant)
- WCB request $427,729 (total project cost $754,532)

Credit: WCB

Windy Springs Meadow Restoration

Slide 2

Meadow was altered in the late 1800s and early 1900s:

- Road construction
- Ranching
- Hydrologic alteration of springs
- Channelization of outflows
- Construction of berms
- Conifer and sagebrush encroachment

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Thatch buildup on Windy Springs Meadow
Credit: WCB

Windy Springs Meadow Restoration

Slide 3

- Remove infrastructure from the springs, meadow, and spring outflow channel
- Invasive plant treatment
- Install bever dam analogues/willow fascines to reduce channel incision
- Improve unpaved roads to minimize washouts and road capture
- Revegetate project area with culturally significant plants
- Remove manmade berm structures

Left: Spring
Right: sagebrush and conifer encroachment
Bottom: channel incision in meadow
Credit: WCB

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Windy Springs Meadow Restoration

Slide 4

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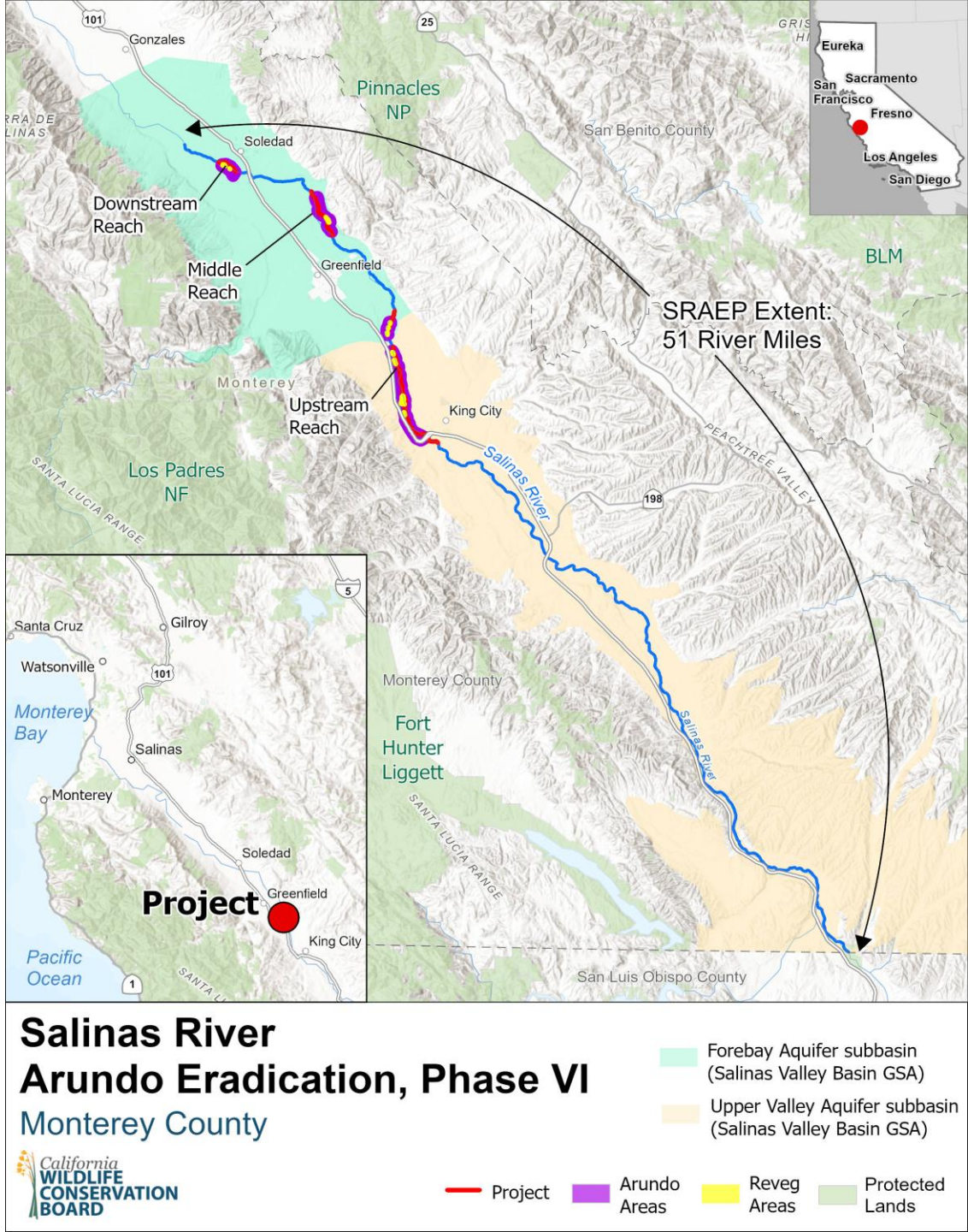
Restoration actions implemented on 3.1 acres will benefit 46 acres of the meadow.

Hydrologic inputs will be allowed to spread across the meadow and will contribute to groundwater storage, fire refugia, and carbon sequestration.

Overview of meadow
Credit: WCB

Salinas River Arundo Eradication, Phase VI

- Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC) (applicant)
- WCB request $1,824,000 (total project cost $2,111,947)



Credit: WCB

Salinas River Arundo Eradication, Phase VI

Slide 2

Proposed work:

- Arundo Control
  - 42 acres in crucial gaps
- Revegetation
  - 21 acres of riparian and pollinator habitat
- Mapping and Permitting
  - Obtain new permits under CDFW's Cutting the Green Tape
  - Update mapping

Existing arundo stands in the Phase VI area
Credit: WCB

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Salinas River Arundo Eradication, Phase VI

Slide 3

Project benefits:

- Improving climate resilience
- Increasing biodiversity
- Restoring ag lands
- Protecting public investments
- Supporting numerous key plans
- Supporting program efficiencies

Top: Native wetland and riparian plants dominate a site 11 years post-treatment
Bottom: Natural recruitment of native vegetation 5 years post-treatment
Credit: RCDMC

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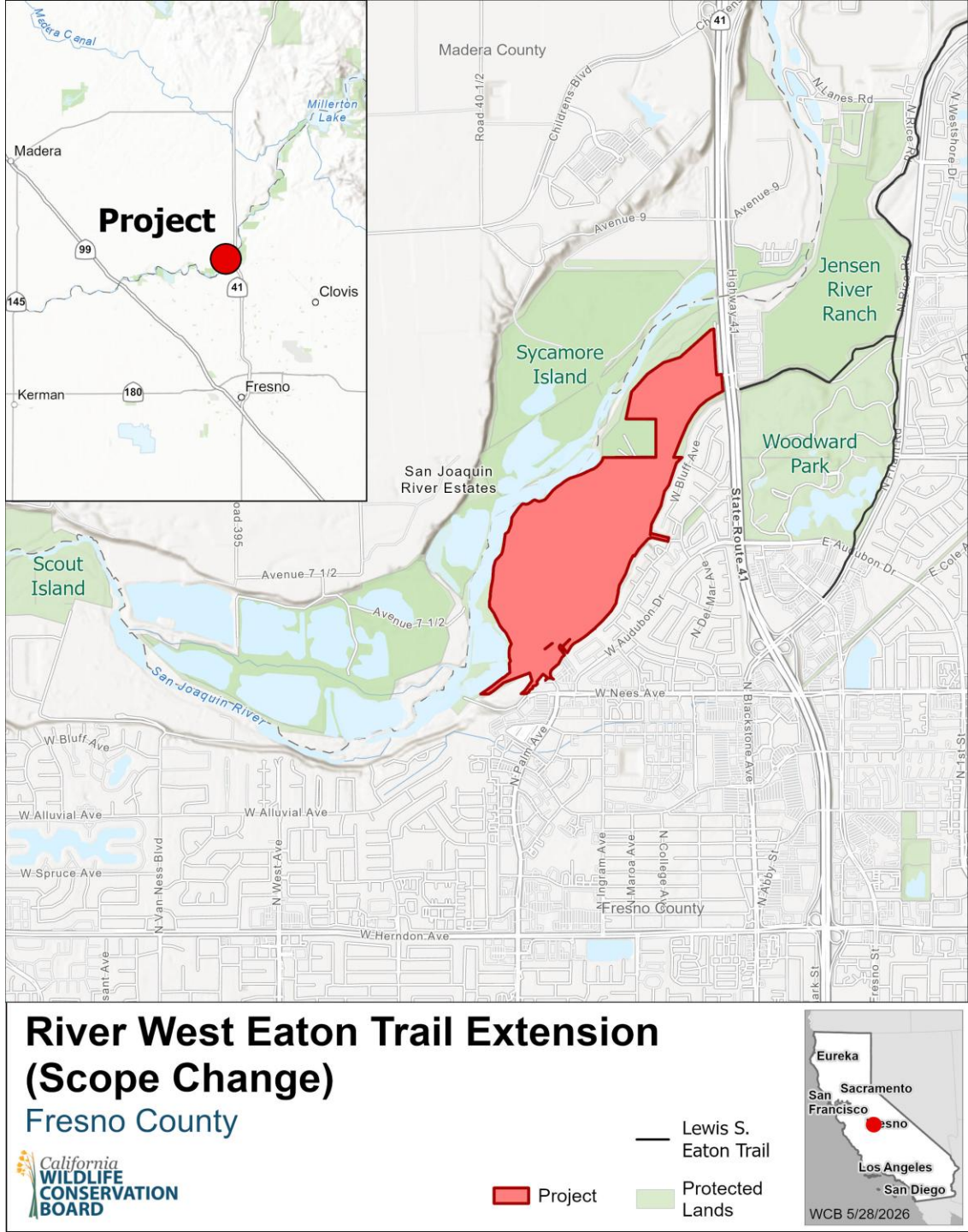
River West Eaton Trail Extension (Scope Change)

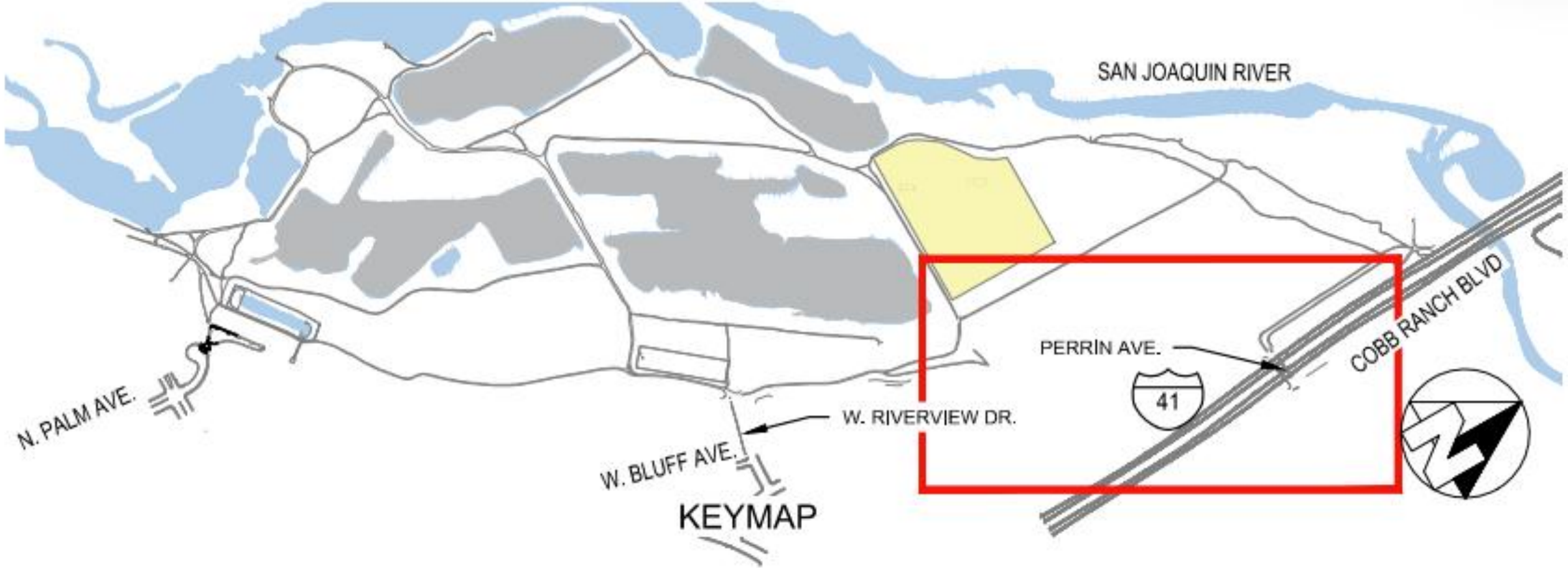
- City of Fresno (applicant)
- WCB request $0 (total project cost $0)



Credit: WCB

River West Fresno Eaton Trail Extension (Scope Change)

Slide 2



Map of Woodward West and State Route 41
Credit: Provost and Prichard

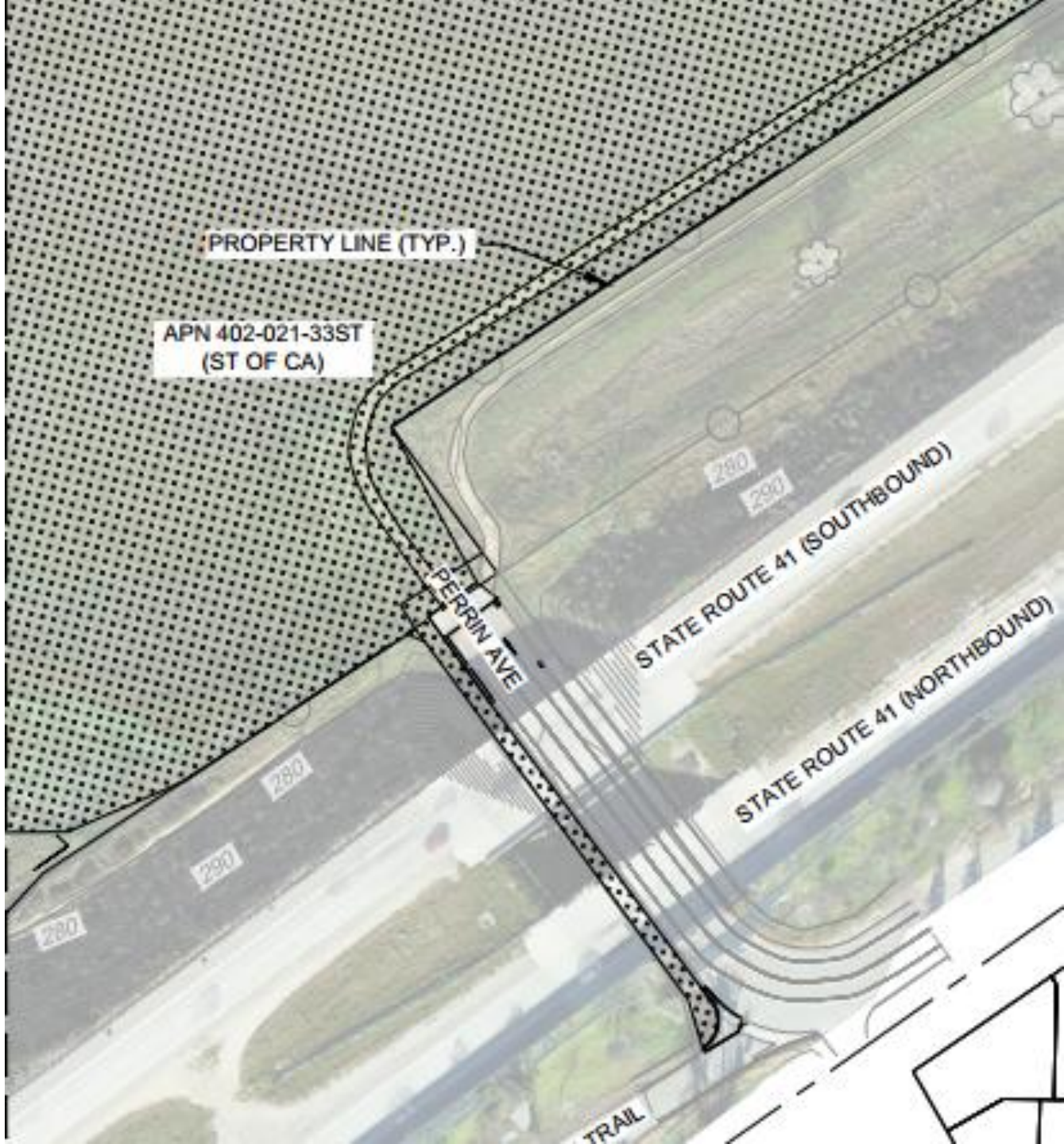
California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

River West Fresno Eaton Trail Extension (Scope Change)

Slide 3

Grantee requested to amend the Agreement scope of work:

- Consistency with EIR Amendment 2 and current designs
- Clarity on work planned at Perrin Ave (Woodward West)
- Supports San Joaquin River Conservancy goal of a contiguous Parkway



Design Plans for River West-Woodward Park Connection
Credit: Provost and Prichard

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South Tahoe Basin Wildlife Crossings Planning

- Wildlife Crossing Fund (applicant)
- WCB request $4,900,000 (total project cost $5,000,000)

Credit: WCB

South Tahoe Basin Wildlife Crossings Planning

Slide 2

Addresses three barriers on CDFW's Wildlife Movement Barriers Priorities list:

- SR 89 and US 50 are both listed as a "Priority Barrier"
- Pioneer Trail Road is listed as a "Barrier"

Wildlife camera monitoring study recorded black bear, bobcat, coyote, mule deer, and porcupine making risky road crossings.

Images from wildlife monitoring study
Credit: Pathways For Wildlife

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South Tahoe Basin Wildlife Crossings Planning

Slide 3

- Majority of road culverts and bridges remain inundated with water year-round
- Brings wildlife into contact with high traffic volumes from tourism within the Tahoe Basin
- Impairs connectivity within Sierra Nevada Range and eastern Carson Range

Credit: Pathways For Wildlife

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

South Tahoe Basin Wildlife Crossings Planning

Slide 4

Project elements:

- Outreach to local stakeholders
- A feasibility study that will develop potential design alternatives for a range of options
- Technical studies
- CEQA and NEPA environmental review
- 65% designs for at least one wildlife crossing structure
- Caltrans documentation

South Tahoe Basin
Credit: USDA Forest Service

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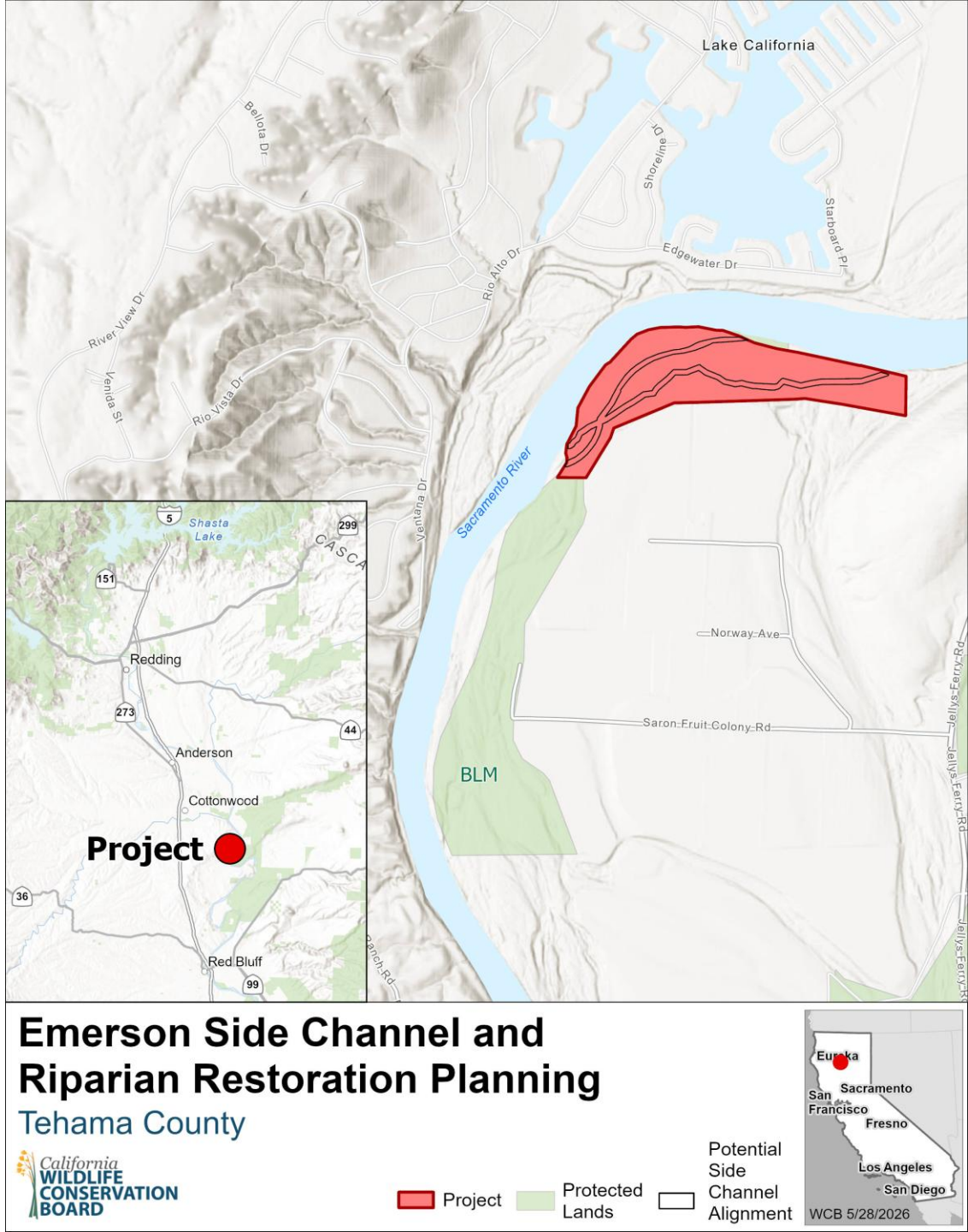
Emerson Side Channel and Riparian Restoration Planning

- Tehama County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) (applicant)

- WCB request $1,904,000 (total project cost $2,118,725)



Credit: WCB

Emerson Side Channel and Riparian Restoration Planning

Slide 2

Located 1.4 miles downstream of the Sacramento River confluence with Battle Creek.

- Completes 90% design plans for a side channel habitat project on 60.8 acres (5,900 linear feet)
- Support recovery of winter-run Chinook salmon, steelhead, and other salmonids

View of general project location
Credit: TCRCD

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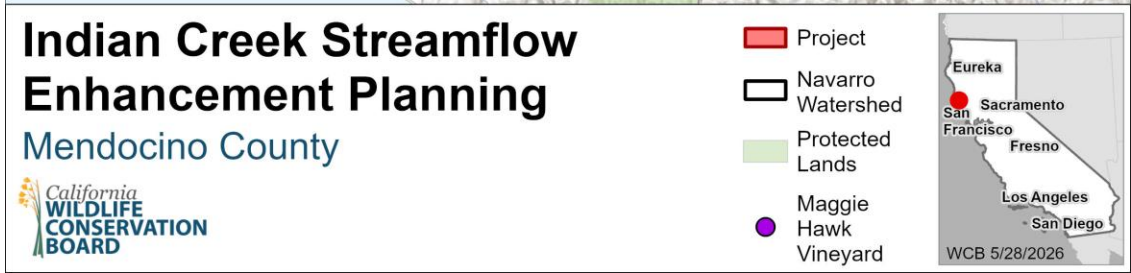
Indian Creek Streamflow Enhancement Planning

- The Nature Conservancy (TNC) (applicant)
- WCB request $940,844 (total project cost $1,144,878)



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Credit: WCB

Indian Creek Streamflow Enhancement Planning

Slide 2

Project includes:

- CWM Plan for watershed
- Maggy Hawk Project 100% designs
  - Two water storage ponds
  - Rainwater catchment system
  - 1707(c) petition, permits submitted
  - Native plantings
- TBD Flow Enhancement Project to 65% designs
- Monitoring: “before” data

Once Implemented:

- +0.08 cfs - (0.1 cfs enough to prevent dewatering)

Indian Creek downstream of Maggy Hawk project site
Credit: TNC

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Chagdud Gonpa Restoration Design

- Hoopa Valley Tribe (applicant)
- Chagdud Gonpa Foundation (landowner)
- WCB request $342,000 (total project cost $412,402)

Credit: WCB

Chagdud Gonpa Restoration Design

Slide 2

Background:

- The Trinity River historically supported large populations of salmonids
  - Coho salmon
  - Chinook salmon
  - Steelhead
- Gold mining impacted hydrology and erosion
- Landslide debris disconnected the river from its floodplain

Mining trenches cut across the project area
Credit: Hoopa Valley Tribe

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Chagdud Gonpa Restoration Design

Slide 3

Purpose:

- Develop plans to use landslide debris to stabilize hydraulic mining damage and fill trenches
- Develop plans to reshape the landslide debris to reconnect the river to its historic floodplain
- Complete environmental and CEQA documents

500,000 cubic yards of landslide debris deposited at the project area
Credit: Hoopa Valley Tribe

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Chagdud Gonpa Restoration Design

Slide 4

Purpose:

- Repair legacy mining damage
- Restore hydrologic function to the landscape
- Create floodplain habitat for migratory salmonids

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Hydrologically disconnect landscape within the project area with limited vegetation
Credit: Hoopa Valley Tribe

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Consent Items 6-18, Motion

San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 8 (Nelson)
Credit: WCB

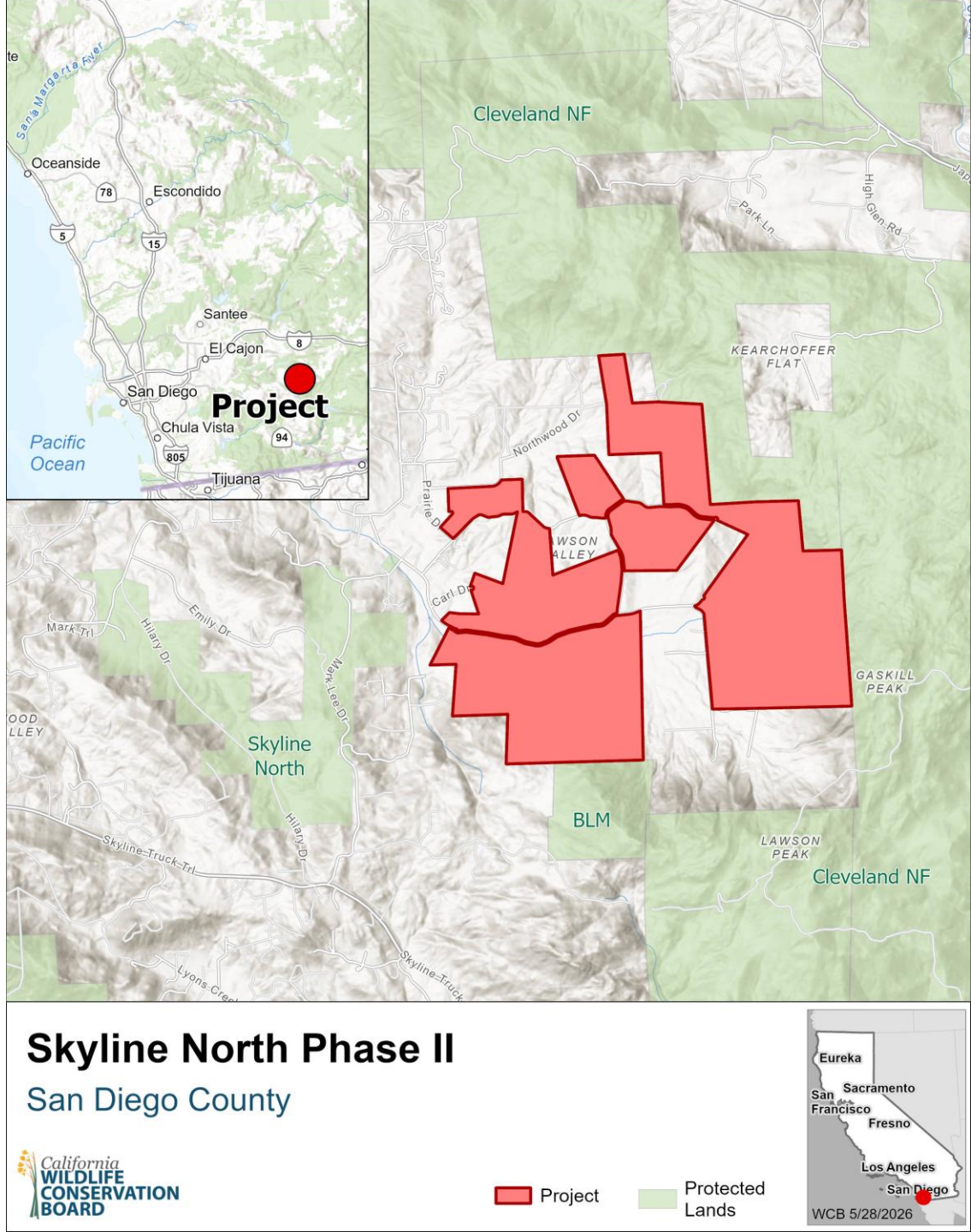
California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Presented Items 19-30

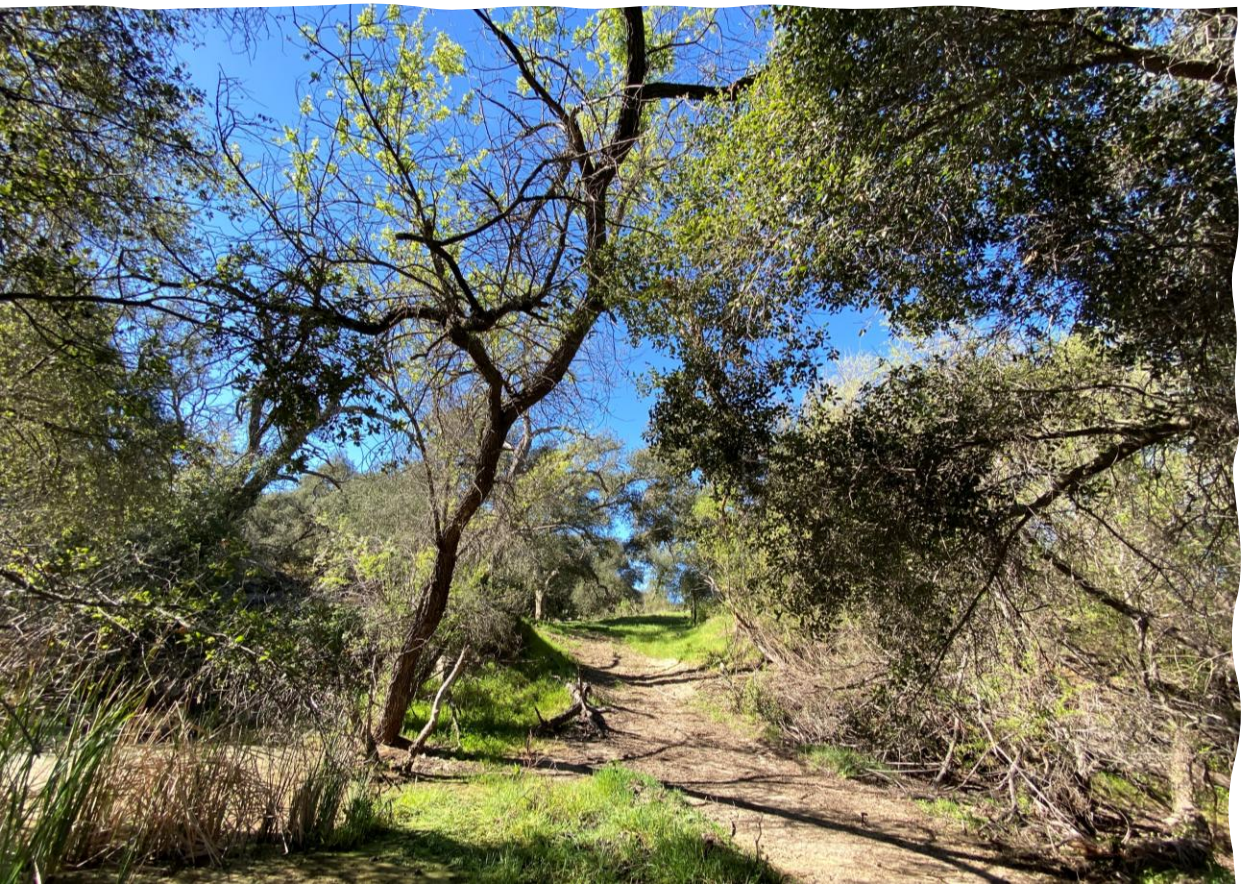
Harmon Canyon Preserve Restoration
Credit: WCB

Skyline North Phase II

- Endangered Habitats Conservancy (applicant)
- 1,226± acre fee acquisition
- Purchase price $5,900,000
- WCB request $5,900,000



Credit: WCB



Skyline North Phase II

Slide 2

Habitat types:

- Chaparral
- Coastal sage scrub
- Oak riparian
- Wetland

Left: Mountain with chaparral-boulder landscape
Right: Creek area
Bottom: Pathway through riparian area near pond
Credit: WCB

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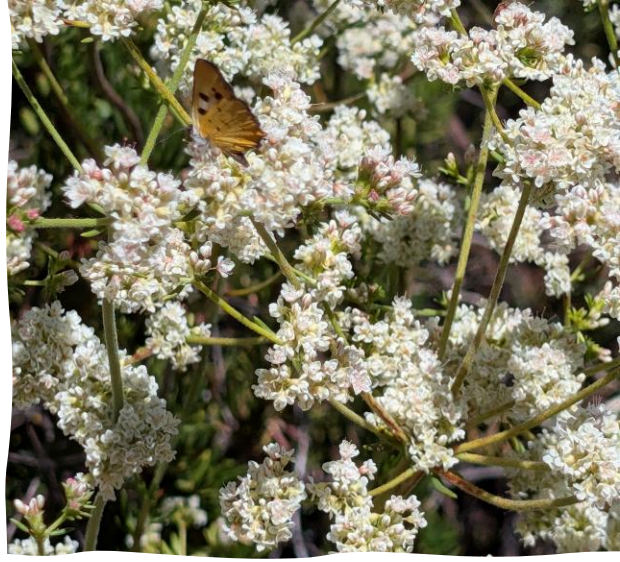
Skyline North Phase II

Slide 3

Refuge for sensitive species:

- Western spadefoot
- Hermes copper butterfly
- Quino checkerspot butterfly
- California red-legged frog
- Southwestern pond turtle



Left: Western spadefoot tadpole
Credit: Dhafir Williams, USGS

Right: Hermes copper butterfly
Credit: Kris Preston, USGS

Bottom: Pond area
Credit: WCB

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Skyline North Phase II

Slide 4

Management and habitat restoration plans

Southwestern portion of property facing northeast
Credit: WCB

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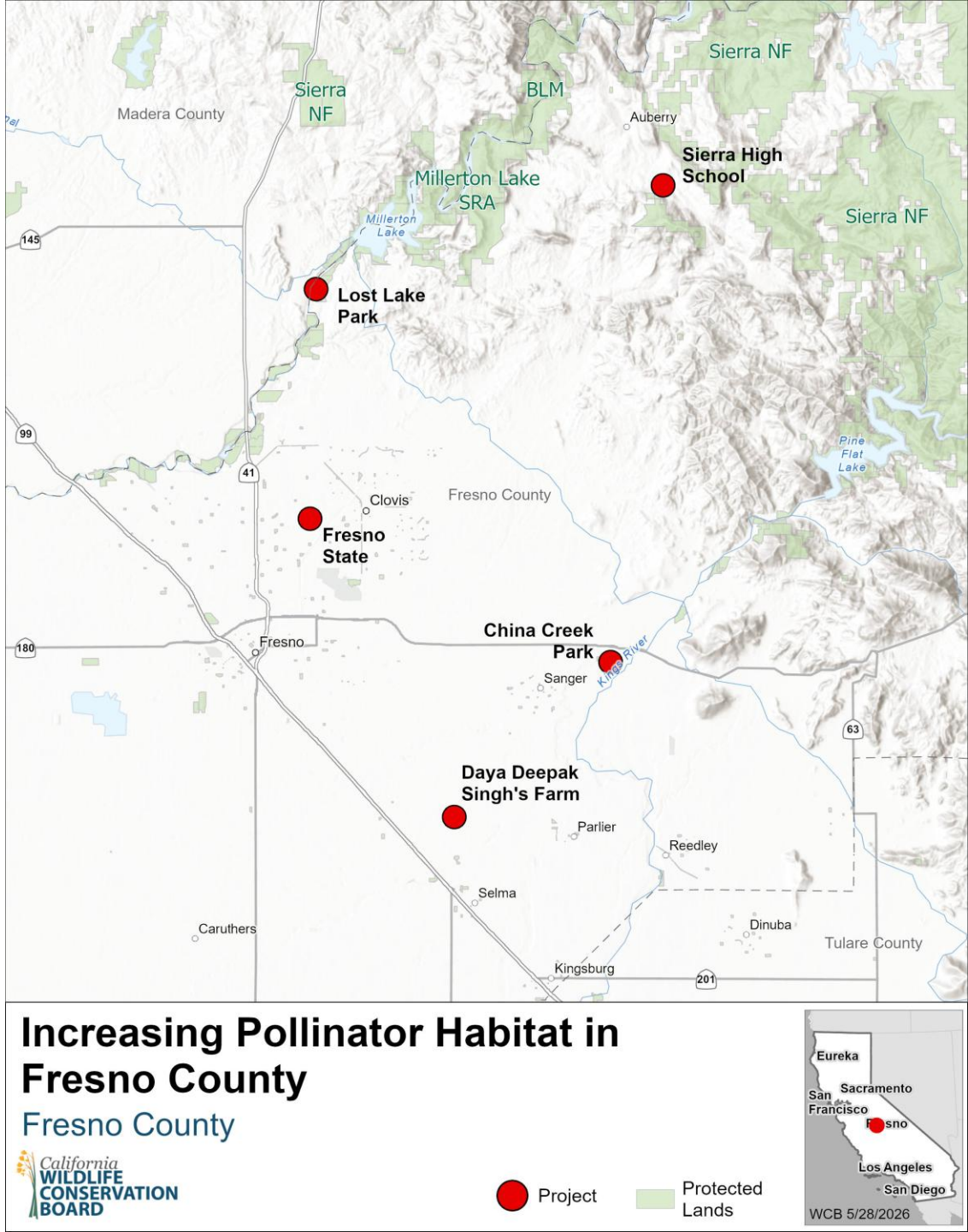
Laguna Coast Wilderness Park Restoration

Withdrawn from consideration at this time

Laguna Coast Wilderness Park Restoration
Credit: WCB

Increasing Pollinator Habitat in Fresno County

- Sierra Resource Conservation District (applicant)
- WCB request $1,872,796 (total project cost $2,281,596)



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Credit: WCB

Increasing Pollinator Habitat in Fresno County

Slide 2

Rapid urbanization and intensive farming has degraded the Central Valley:

- Loss of native habitat
- Lack of pollinator habitat
- Fire suppression has led to over accumulation of dead, downed, and dense vegetation

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Lost Lake Park
Credit: WCB

Increasing Pollinator Habitat in Fresno County

Slide 3

Lost Lake Park and China Creek Park:

- Cultural burns, invasive management, and brush thinning
- Hedgerows
- Pollinator, riparian, and oak plantings
- Oak caging

Left: Grinding rock at Lost Lake Park
Right: China Creek Park
Bottom: Lost Lake Park
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Increasing Pollinator Habitat in Fresno County

Slide 4

California State University, Fresno and Sierra High School:

- Brush thinning and mowing
- Pollinator plantings
- Hedgerows

Top: Nature trail at Sierra High School
Bottom: California State University, Fresno hedgerow location
Credit: Sierra Resource Conservation District

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Increasing Pollinator Habitat in Fresno County

Slide 5

Private farm site:

- Rows of pollinator plantings in between almond trees
- Hedgerows surrounding farm
- Bird boxes

Private farm site
Credit: WCB

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Increasing Pollinator Habitat in Fresno County

Slide 6

Project outcomes:

- 26,400 linear feet of native riparian and pollinator hedgerows
- 100 acres of pollinator and riparian woodland habitat
- 8 bird boxes
- 8 workshops across all project sites
  - Local career pathways for environmental stewardship
  - Teaching sustainable farming practices

Location for demonstration pollinator garden at Lost Lake Park
Credit: WCB

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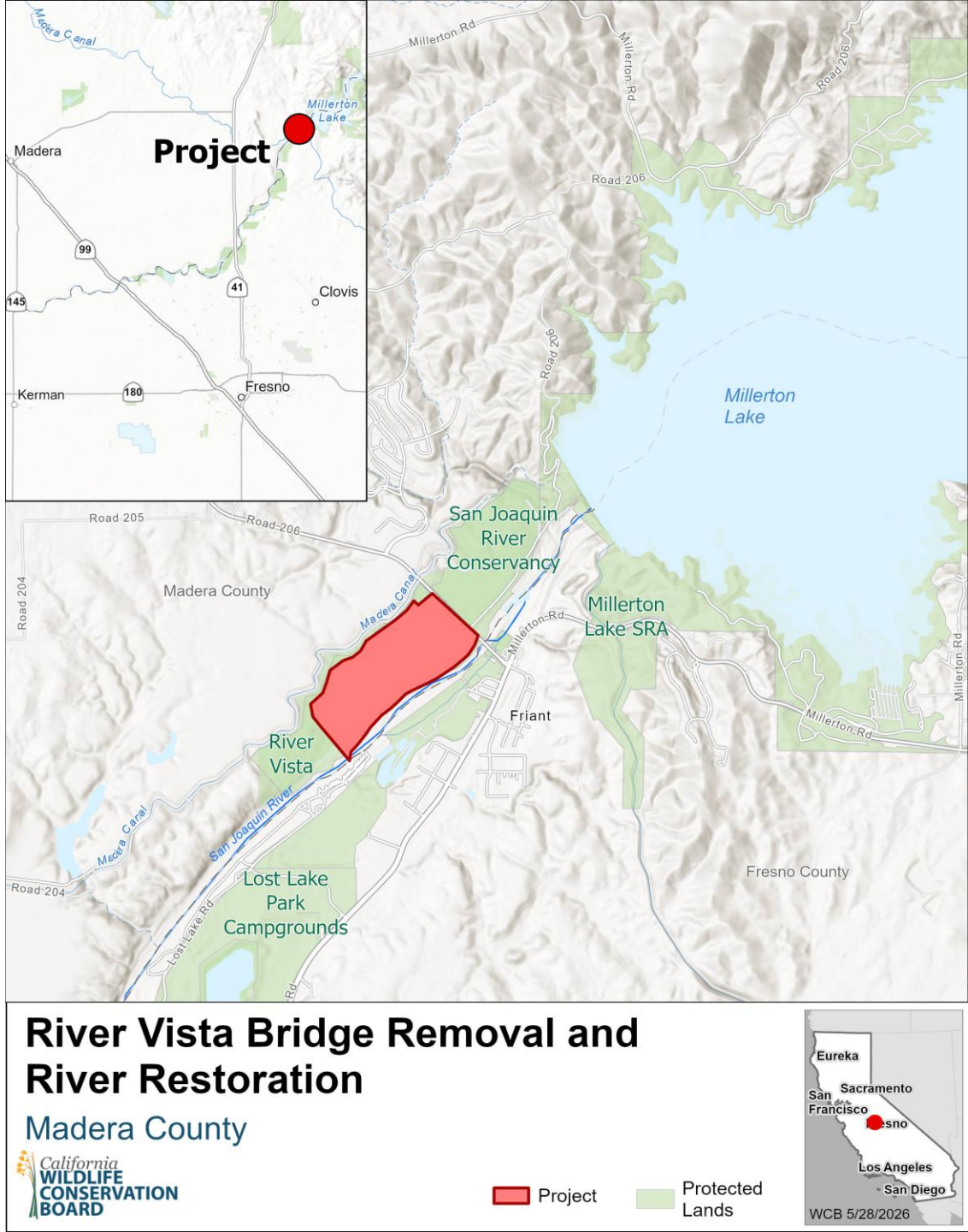
River Vista Bridge Removal and River Restoration

- San Joaquin River Conservancy (SJRC) (applicant)
- WCB request $4,379,541 (total project cost $4,379,541)



Credit: WCB

River Vista Bridge Removal and River Restoration

Slide 2

Background:

- Pollasky Bridge (aka North Fork Bridge)
  - Built in 1906
  - Spanned the San Joaquin River, connecting Madera and Fresno Counties
  - Collapsed during a flood in 1951
- Replacement bridge built in 1952
  - Bridge remnants remain on Madera side of river

Pollasky Bridge (1907)
Credit: San Joaquin Valley Library System

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River Vista Bridge Removal and River Restoration

Slide 3

Pollasky Bridge today:

- Barrier to salmon habitat
  - Threatened Chinook salmon run
  - Concrete causes erosion
  - Loss of gravel for spawning
- Issues with vandalism and trespassing
- Safety hazard

Left: Bridge remnants on land
Right: Vandalized bridge remnants
Bottom: Collapsed bridge in river
Credit: SJRC and WCB

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River Vista Bridge Removal and River Restoration

Slide 4

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Chinook salmon were extirpated (locally extinct) from the San Joaquin River for over 65 years.

Spring-run Chinook salmon
Credit: CDFW

River Vista Bridge Removal and River Restoration

Slide 5

Project will restore Chinook salmon spawning and rearing habitat by:

- Removing the Pollasky Bridge remnants in and along the river
- Revegetating the project site
- Addressing erosion control and sediment loss
- Monitoring
- Adaptive management

Existing Road 206 bridge from Friant Cove
Credit: WCB

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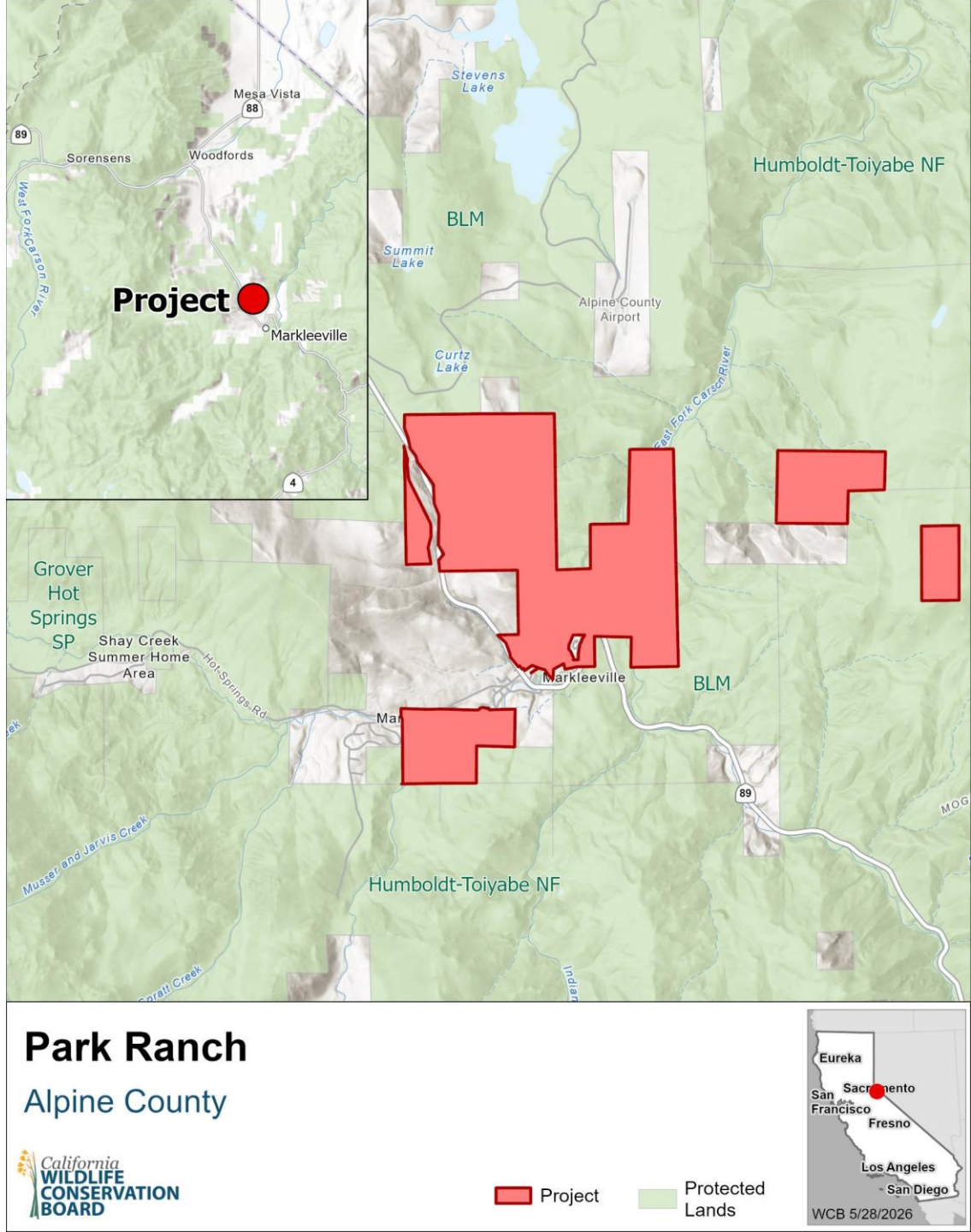
Park Ranch

- County of Alpine (applicant) and Western Rivers Conservancy (applicant)
- 1,688± acre fee acquisition
- Purchase price $8,000,000
- WCB request $8,000,000



Credit: WCB

Park Ranch

Slide 2

Property comprised of wet meadows, riparian, conifer forest, and sage-steppe.

East Fork Carson River
Credit: David Dines, Western Rivers Conservancy

Park Ranch

Slide 3

Key species: Lahontan cutthroat trout, western bumblebee, monarch butterfly, bald eagle, and Sierra Nevada red fox

Angler overlooking East Fork Carson River
Credit: David Dines, Western Rivers Conservancy

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Park Ranch

Slide 4

Year-round public access.

Fishing the East Fork Carson River
Credit: David Dines, Western Rivers Conservancy

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Park Ranch

Slide 5

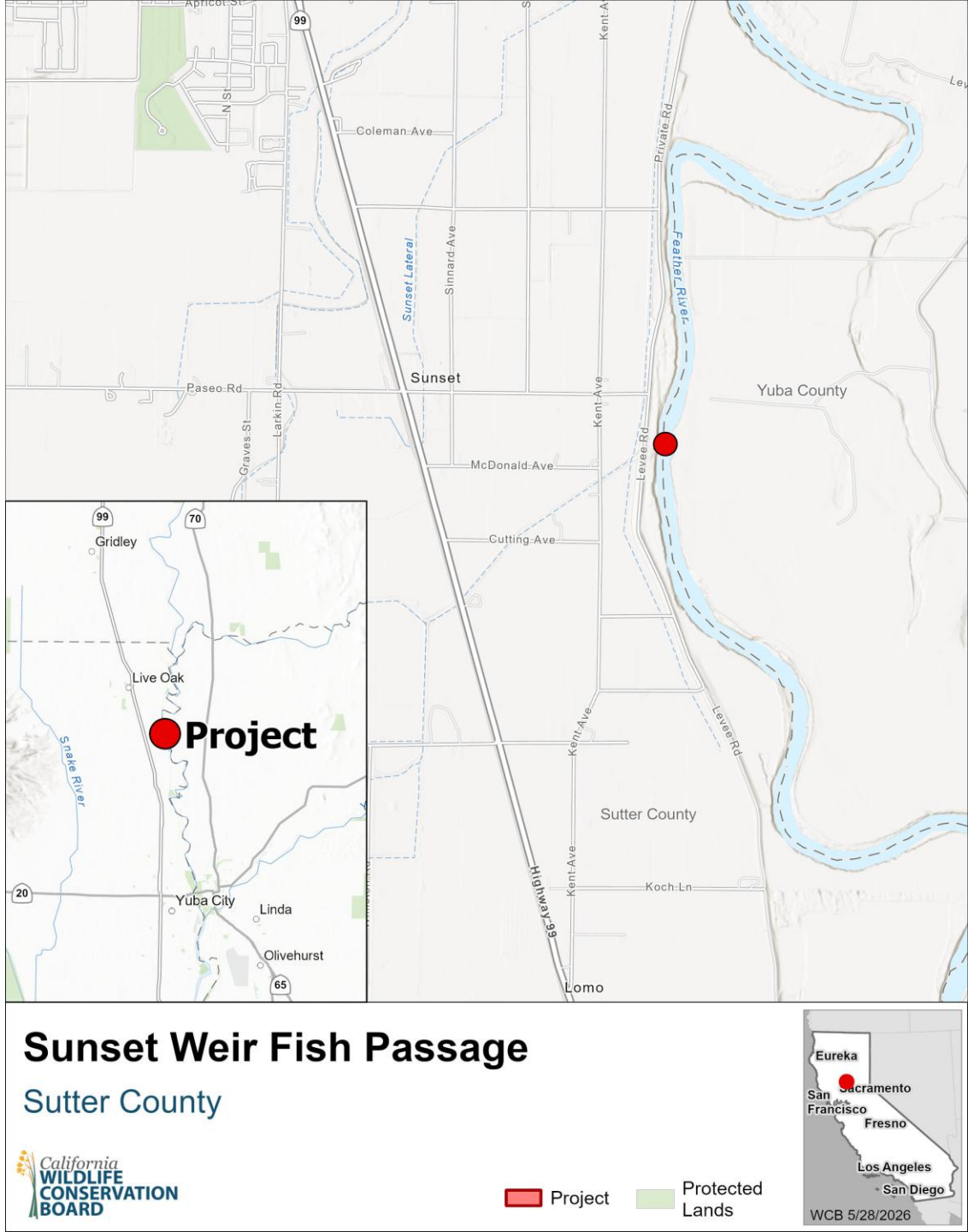
East Fork Carson River

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Credit: David Dines, Western Rivers Conservancy

Sunset Weir Fish Passage

- California Department of Water Resources (applicant)
- WCB request $29,261,887 (total project cost $55,000,887)



Credit: WCB

Sunset Weir Fish Passage

Slide 2

Corrected budget table

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Totals
Project Management	---	$120,000	$120,000
Construction Management	---	$7,165,480	$7,165,480
Project Construction	$29,261,887	$18,453,520	$47,715,407
Total	$29,261,887	$25,739,000	$55,000,887

Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Sunset Weir Fish Passage

Slide 3

Sunset Pumps water diversion facility:

- Provides water for Sutter Extension Water District
- 25,500 acres of agriculture, primarily rice
- Creates 6-mile long backwater

Sunset Pumps pumping station
Credit: WCB

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Sunset Weir Fish Passage

Slide 4

Sunset Weir impedes fish passage:

- Chinook salmon
- Green sturgeon

Left: Chinook salmon fry
Right: Chinook salmon
Bottom: Green sturgeon
Credit: CDFW

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Sunset Weir Fish Passage

Slide 5

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Project activities:

- Remove weir and restore natural channel gradient
- Stabilize left bank
- Install five fish screens and new wet well

Eroded left bank (left), pump station (middle), and Sunset Weir (right)
Credit: WCB

Sunset Weir Fish Passage

Slide 6

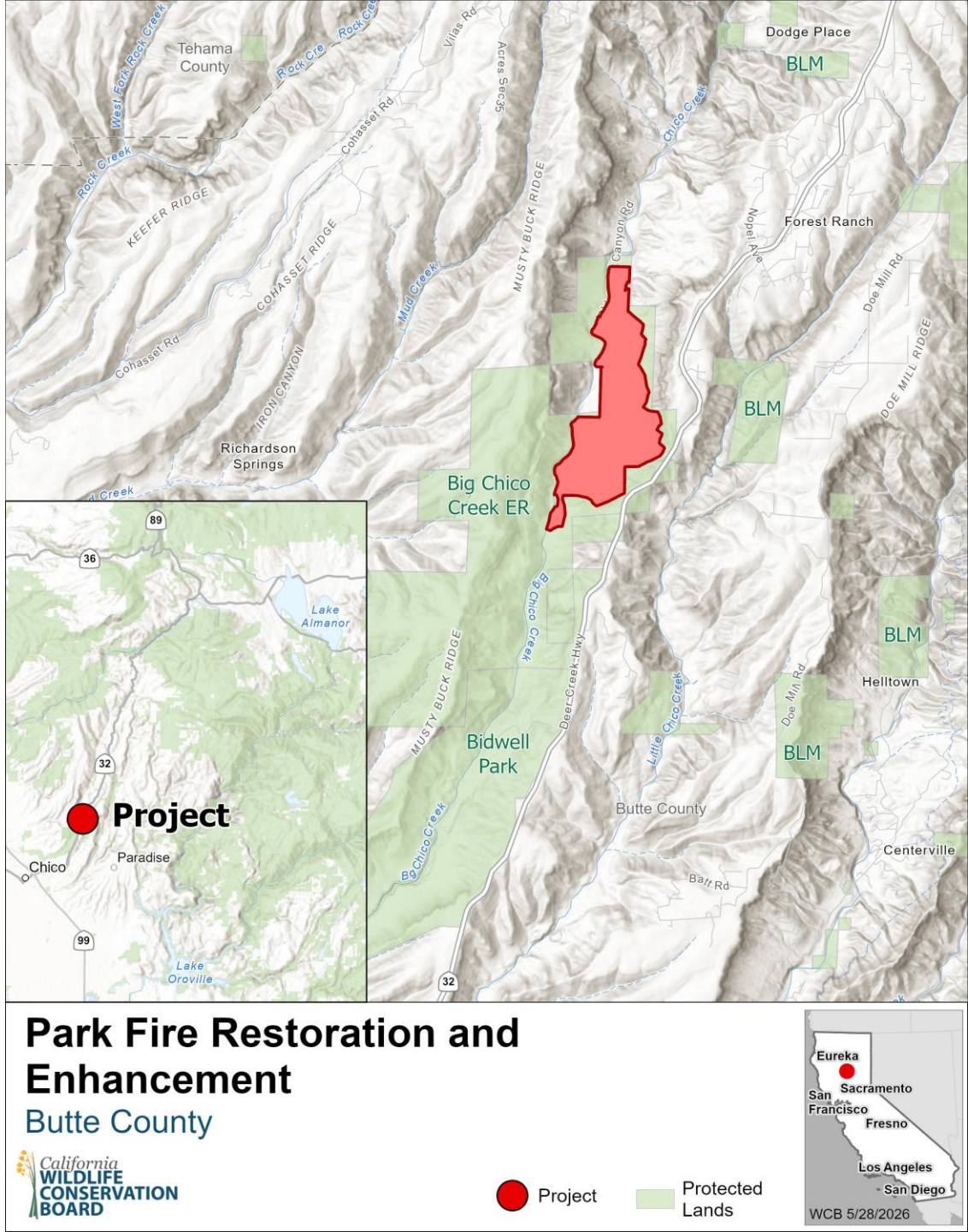
Project will restore fish access to 28.5 miles of the Feather River to spawning and rearing habitat.

Sunset Weir
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Park Fire Restoration and Enhancement

- Chico State Enterprises (applicant)
- WCB request $2,712,000 (total project cost $3,424,224)



Credit: WCB

Park Fire Restoration and Enhancement

Slide 2

2024 Park Fire:

- High severity wildfire across entire Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve (BCCER)
- Significant habitat impacts for Chinook, Pacific fisher, foothill yellow-legged frog, etc.

Top: Big Chico Creek Canyon looking east
Credit: WCB

Bottom: Deer Creek Highway during Park Fire
Credit: CALFIRE

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Park Fire Restoration and Enhancement

Slide 3

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Project activities:

- Habitat restoration/enhancement using opportunistic post-fire thinning and prescribed fire

BCCER (left), prolific resprouts post-fire (middle), and managed grassland (right)
Credit: WCB

Park Fire Restoration and Enhancement

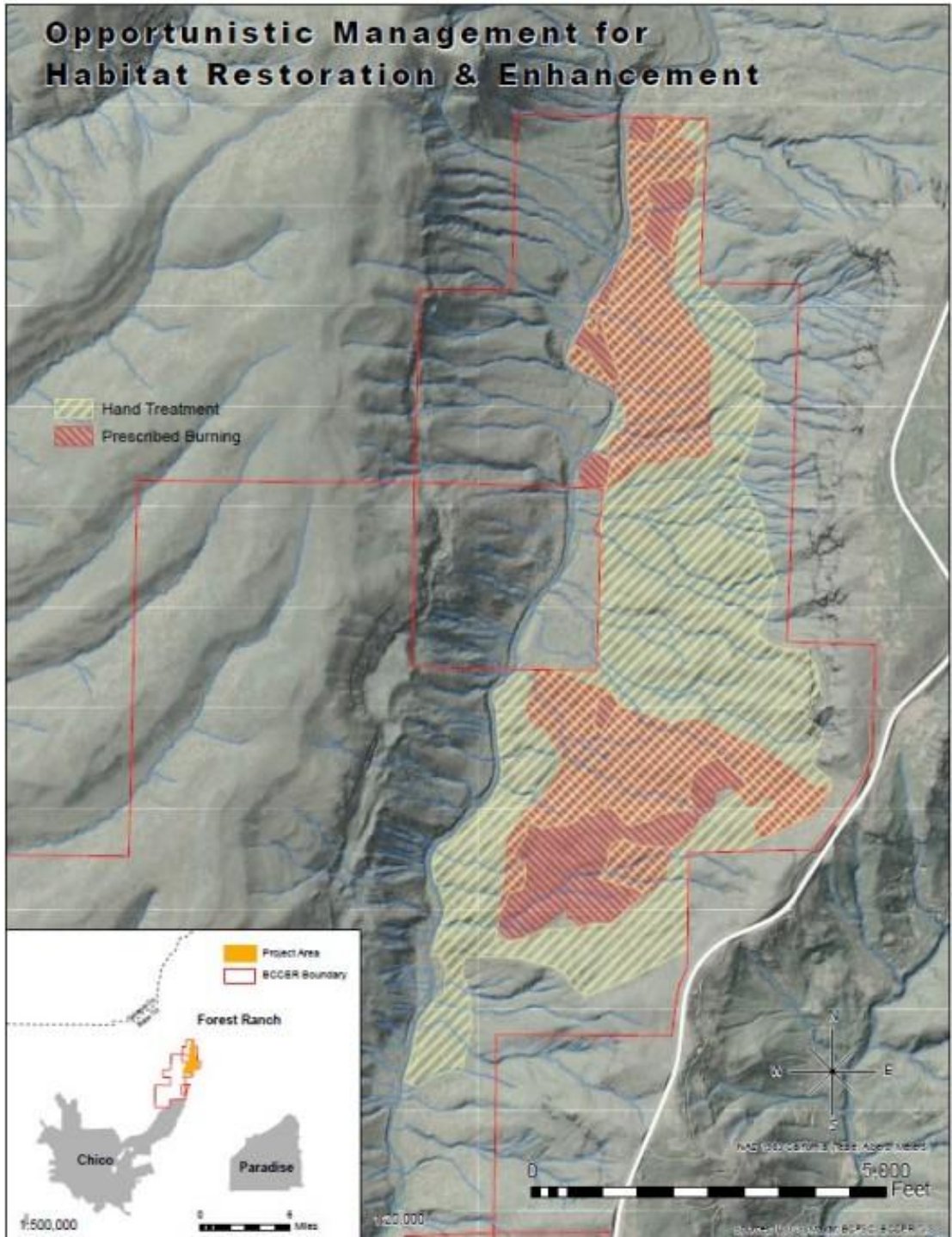
Slide 4

Treatments:

- Thinning (668 acres)
- Prescribed/Cultural Fire (324 acres)
- Data contribution to CALFIRE Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP map)

Key partners:

- Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
- CALFIRE



Treatment Map
Credit: BCCER

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Park Fire Restoration and Enhancement

Slide 5

Project outcomes:

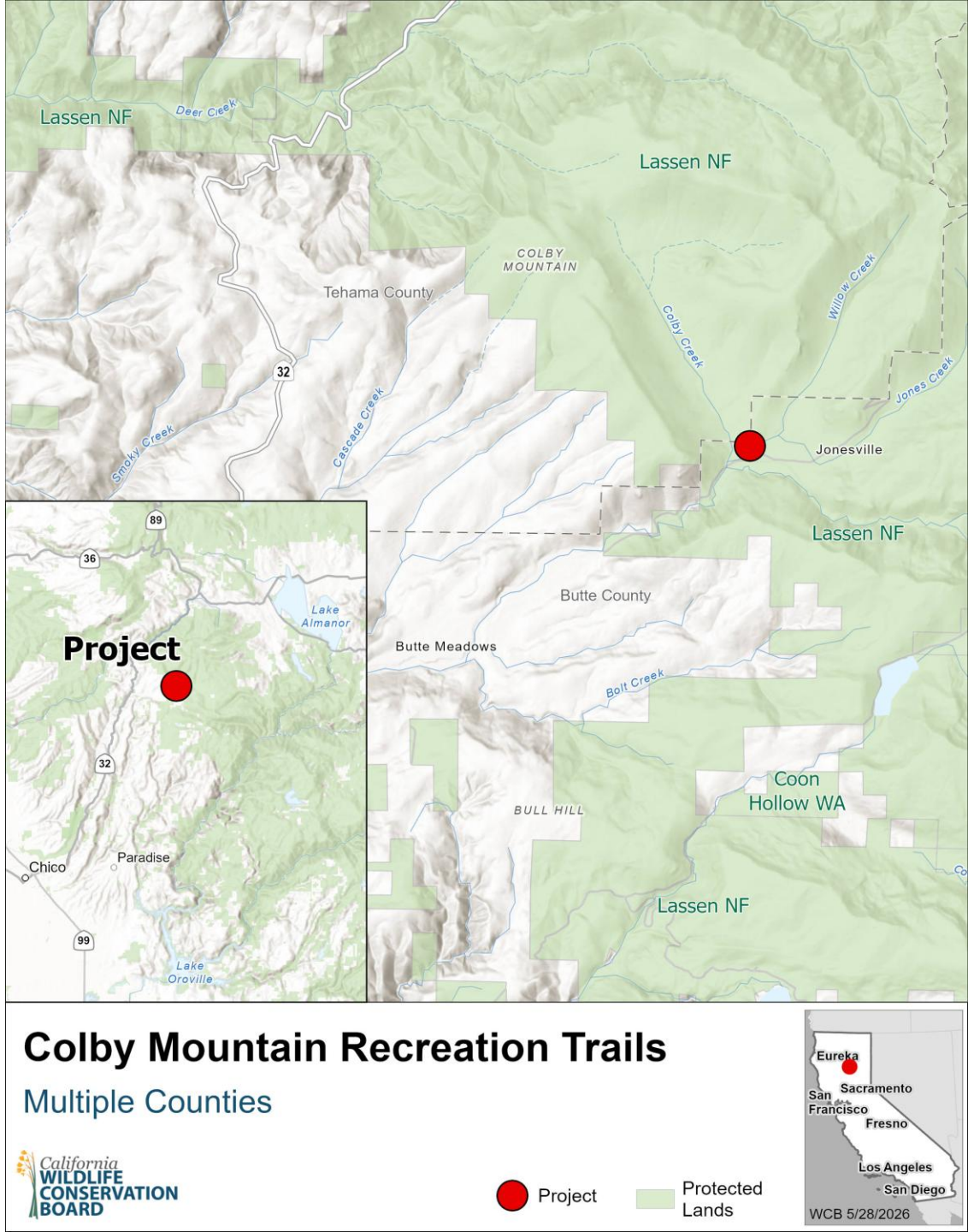
- Restores oak woodland, savanna, and grasslands habitat
- Increases climate resilience
- Supports tribal partnership for land stewardship
- Contributes to statewide efforts to expand the pace and scale of restoration within forested landscapes

Fire resilient oak tree on edge of BCCER grassland
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Colby Mountain Recreation Trails

- Butte County Resource Conservation District (BCRCD) (applicant)
- WCB request $2,670,000 (total project cost $2,925,000)



Credit: WCB

Colby Mountain Recreation Trails

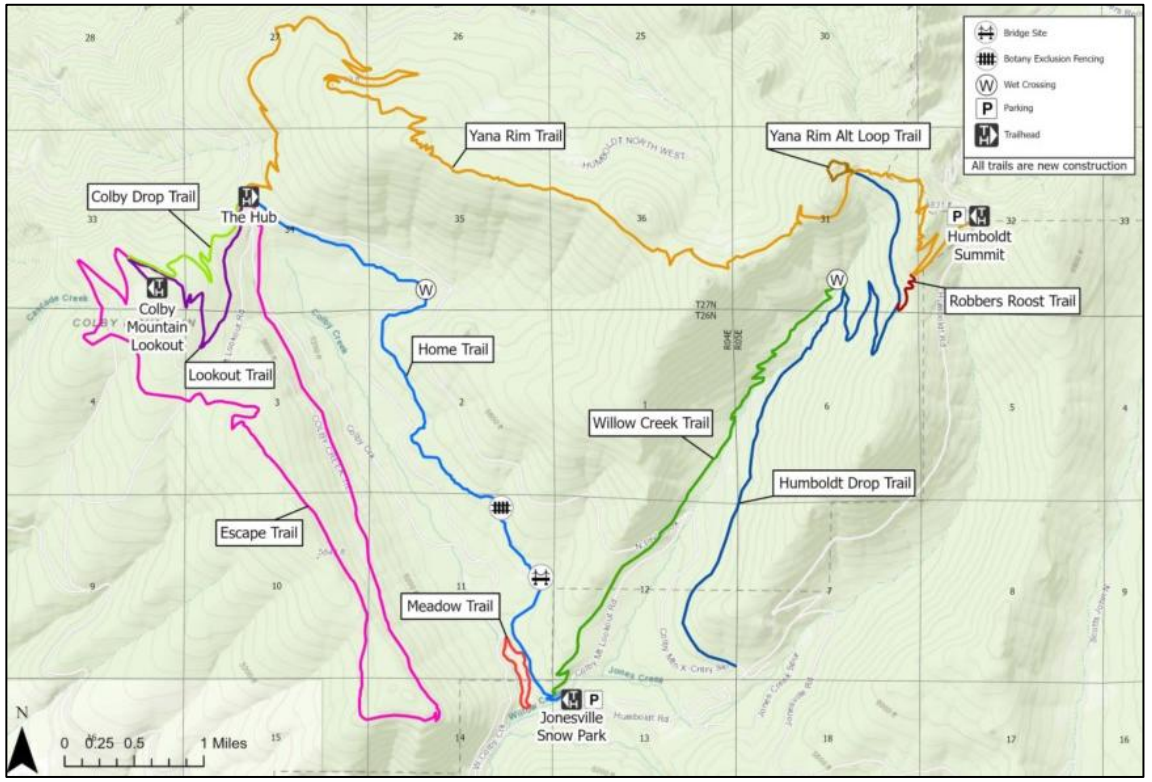
Slide 2

New construction of 36-mile trail network:

- 16 miles designed for adaptive mountain bike (aMTB) compatibility

Trailhead improvements:

- Formalize Humboldt Summit trailhead (access to Pacific Crest Trail)



California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Top: Trail network map
Bottom: aMTB rider on completed trail segment
Credit: BCRCD

Colby Mountain Recreation Trails

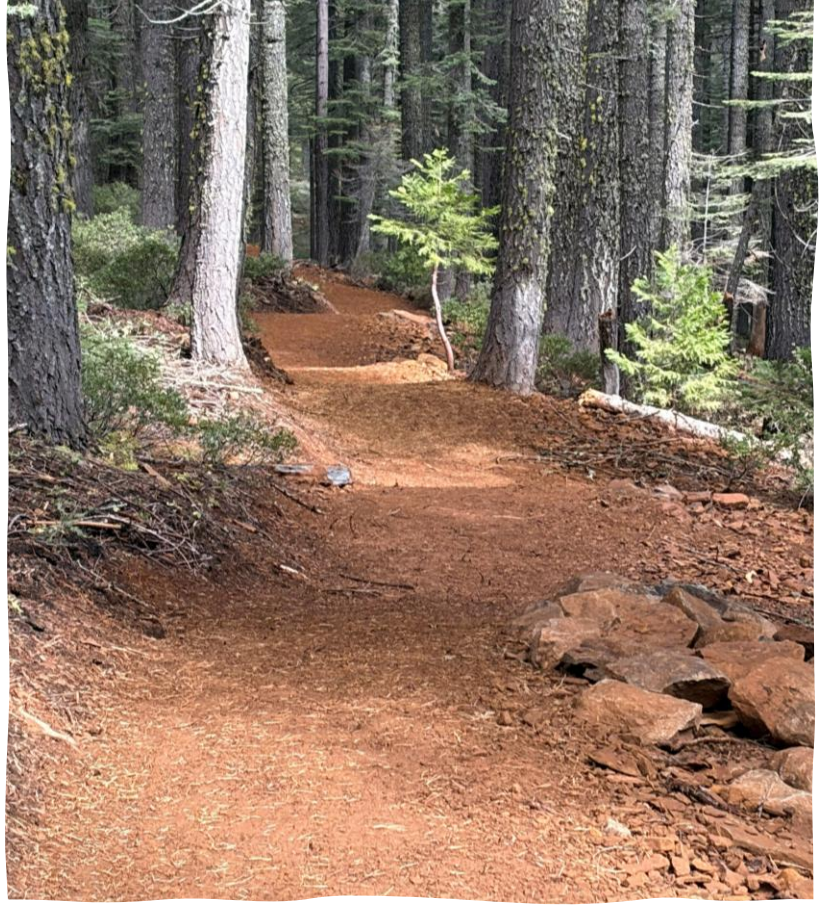
Slide 3

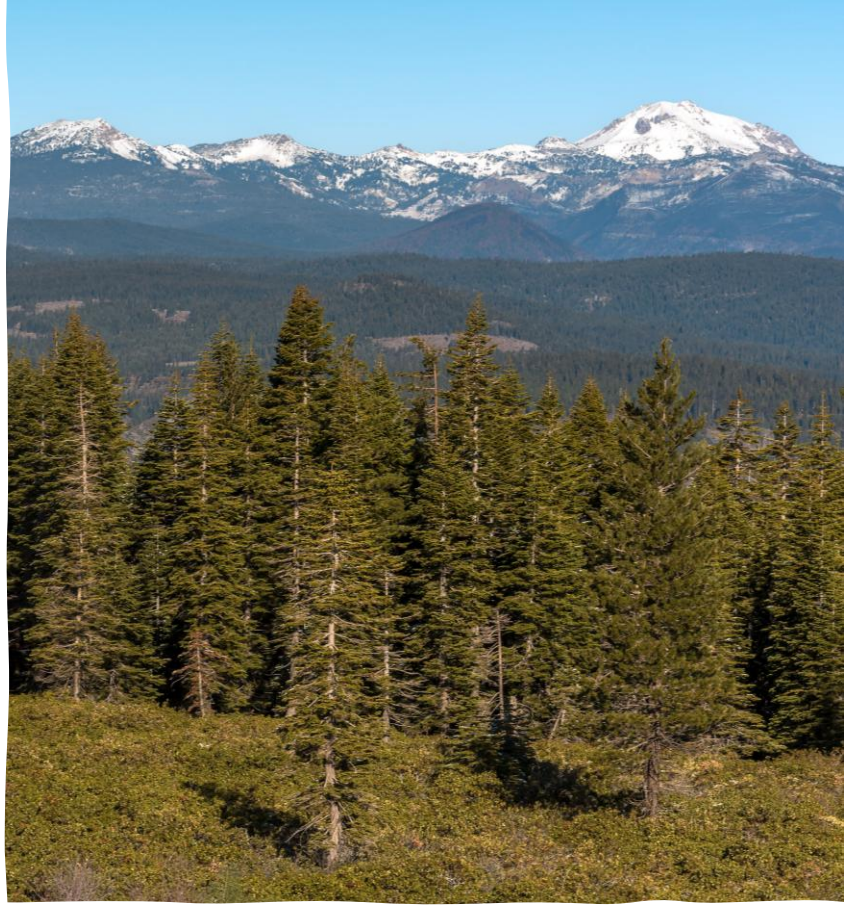
Watershed Health Classroom Trail:

- One-mile loop around Colby Meadow with interpretive panels
- Easily accessible from Jonesville Snow Park trailhead
- Students learn about the importance of healthy meadows, watersheds, and forests

Top: Colby Meadow
Bottom: Pre-project condition, Jonesville Snow Park trailhead
Credit: BCRCD

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD





Colby Mountain Recreation Trails

Slide 4

Left: Fire lookout tower at Colby Mountain
Credit: WCB

Middle: Completed segment of trail
Right: Mountain vistas
Credit: BCRCD

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Salt Creek Floodplain Restoration Implementation

- The Watershed Research and Training Center (applicant)
- Trinity County and two private landowners (landowners)
- WCB request $2,959,000 (total project cost $3,330,317)

Credit: WCB

Salt Creek Floodplain Restoration Implementation

Slide 2

Background:

- The Trinity River and its tributaries historically supported large populations of salmonids
  - Coho salmon
  - Chinook salmon
  - Steelhead
- Gold mining impacted creek morphology
- Increased erosion

Salt Creek and the eroding riprap bank
Credit: Watershed Research and Training Center

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Salt Creek Floodplain Restoration Implementation

Slide 3

Purpose:

- Expand the creek bed
- Reconnect historic floodplain
- Create meander and side channel habitat
- Install boulders and large wood

Salt Creek within the project area
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Salt Creek Floodplain Restoration Implementation

Slide 4

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

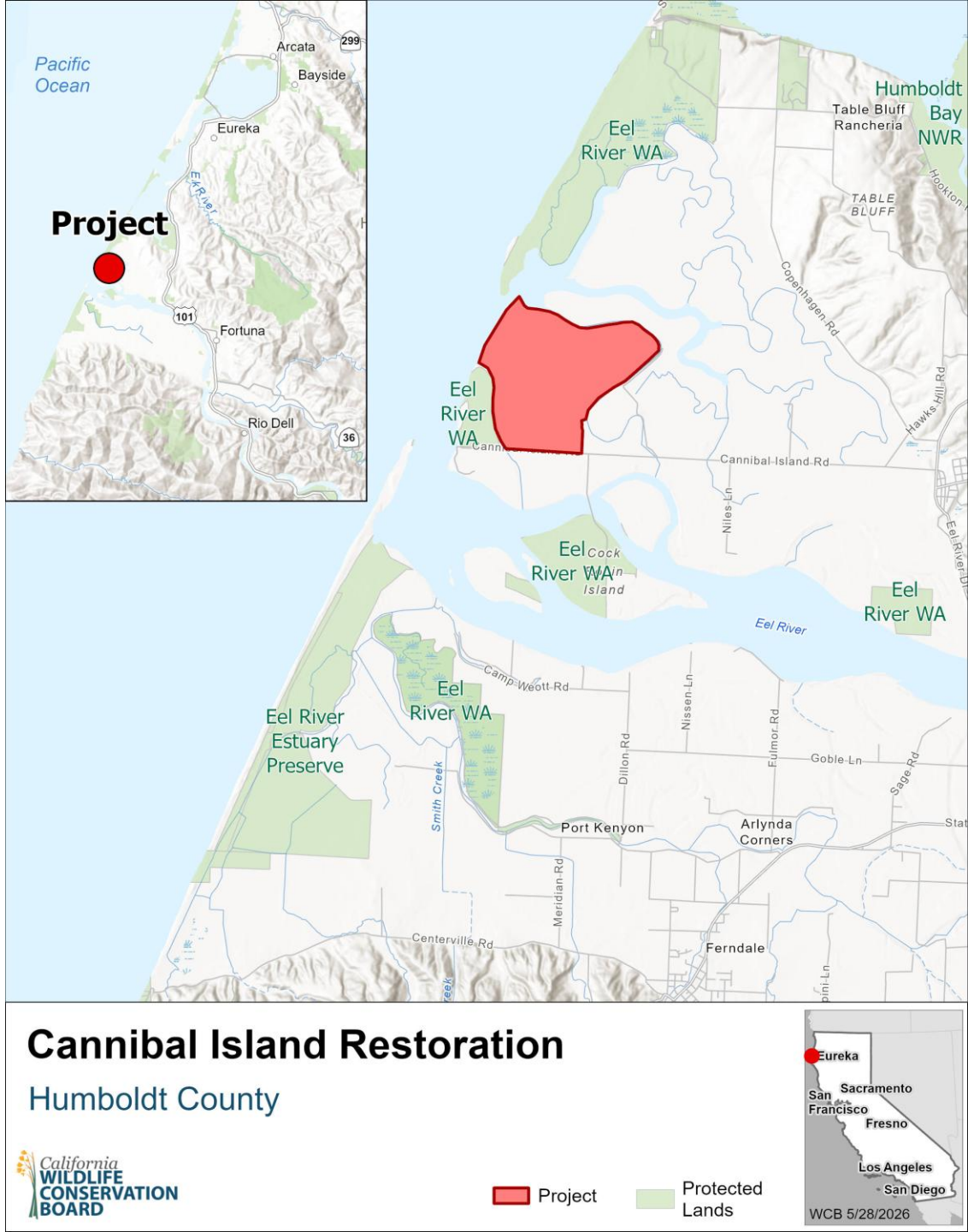
Purpose:

- Increase habitat complexity
- Improve groundwater recharge
- Reduce erosion

Native lupines growing along the bank of Salt Creek within the project area
Credit: WCB

Cannibal Island Restoration

- California Trout, Inc. (applicant)
- WCB request $4,000,000 (total project cost $6,125,000)



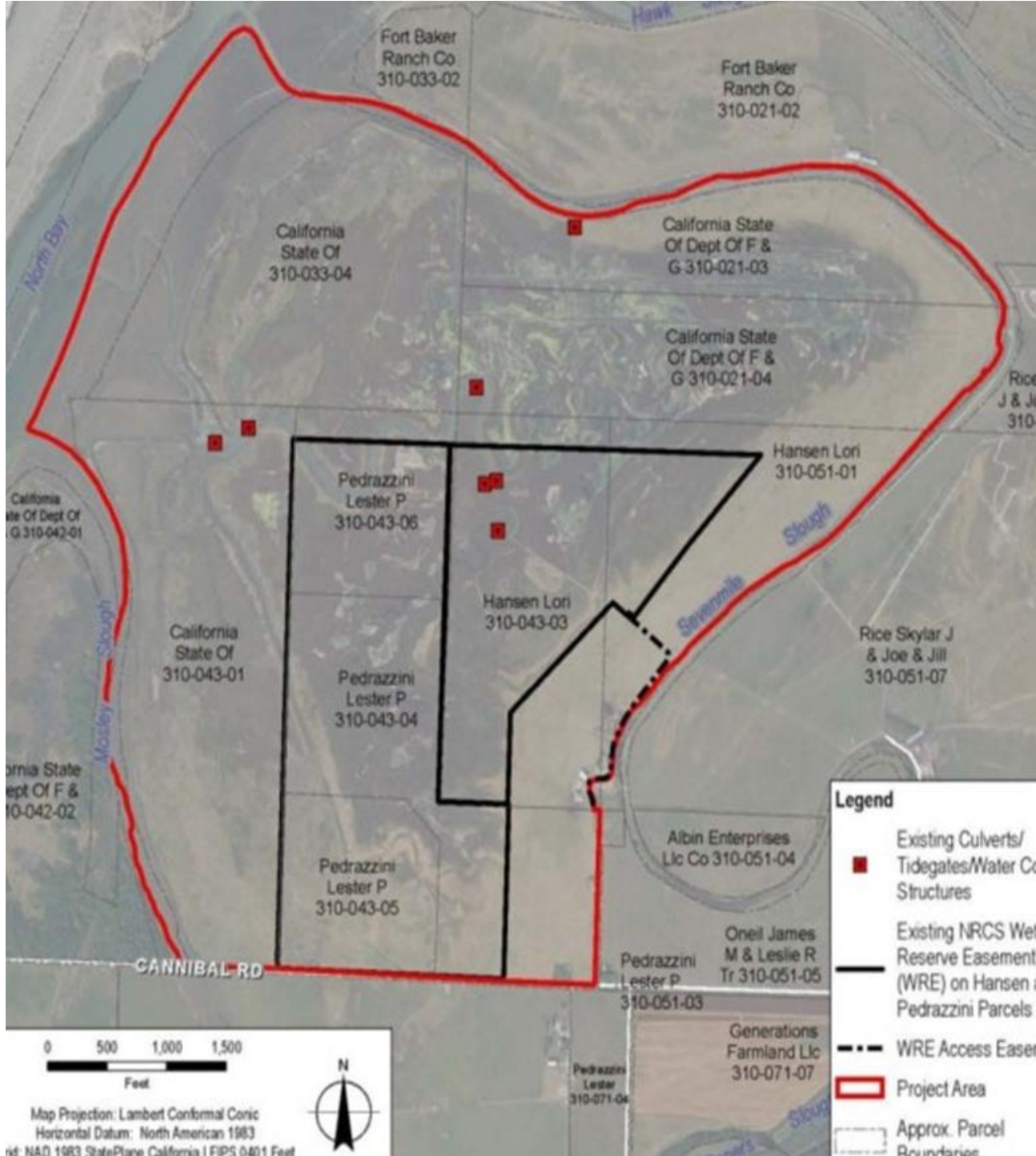
Credit: WCB

Cannibal Island Restoration

Slide 2

Project area map:

- Cannibal Island Unit, Eel River Wildlife Area
  - Newly added parcels
    - Pedrazzinni Parcel
    - Hansen Parcel



Project area map
Credit: California Trout, Inc.

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Cannibal Island Restoration

Slide 3

Current conditions within project area:

- Isolated from natural hydrology
- Non-functioning water control structures
- Land subsidence
- Invasive plants

Left: Blocked culvert
Right: Failed levee
Bottom: Aerial view of the project area
Credit: CDFW

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Cannibal Island Restoration

Slide 4

Project activities:

- Restore natural hydrology
- Enhance tidal marsh
- Remove derelict buildings and relict water control structures

Tidal slough
Credit: CDFW

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Cannibal Island Restoration

Slide 5

Expected outcomes:

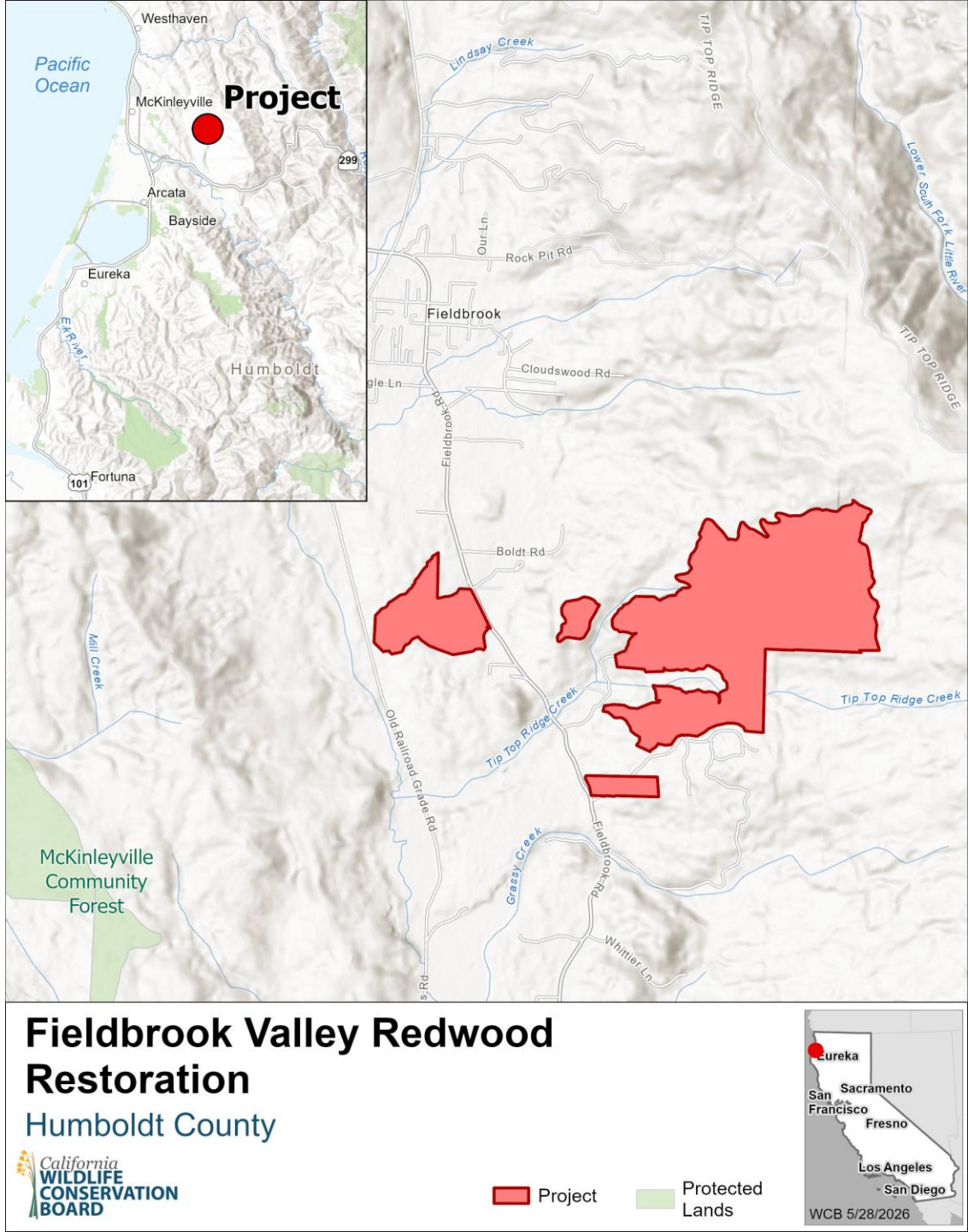
- Biodiversity protection
- Sensitive species conservation
- Wildlife corridor enhancement
- New public access
- Cultural benefits

Left: Salmon fry
Right: Dunlin shorebird
Bottom: Pickleweed
Credit: CDFW

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Fieldbrook Valley Redwood Restoration

- Pacific Forest Trust (PFT) (applicant)
- WCB request $1,991,000 (total project cost $2,236,000)



Credit: WCB

Fieldbrook Valley Redwood Restoration

Slide 2

Current conditions:

- Historic logging, land clearing, and fire exclusion/fire suppression
- Reduced complexity and increased receptive fuels
- Coho salmon, northern spotted owl, and Pacific fisher

Stewardship/Partners:

- 20 years of thinning by PFT
- Partnering with tribal practitioners for burning

Top: Current conditions
Bottom: Invasive plants
Credit: WCB

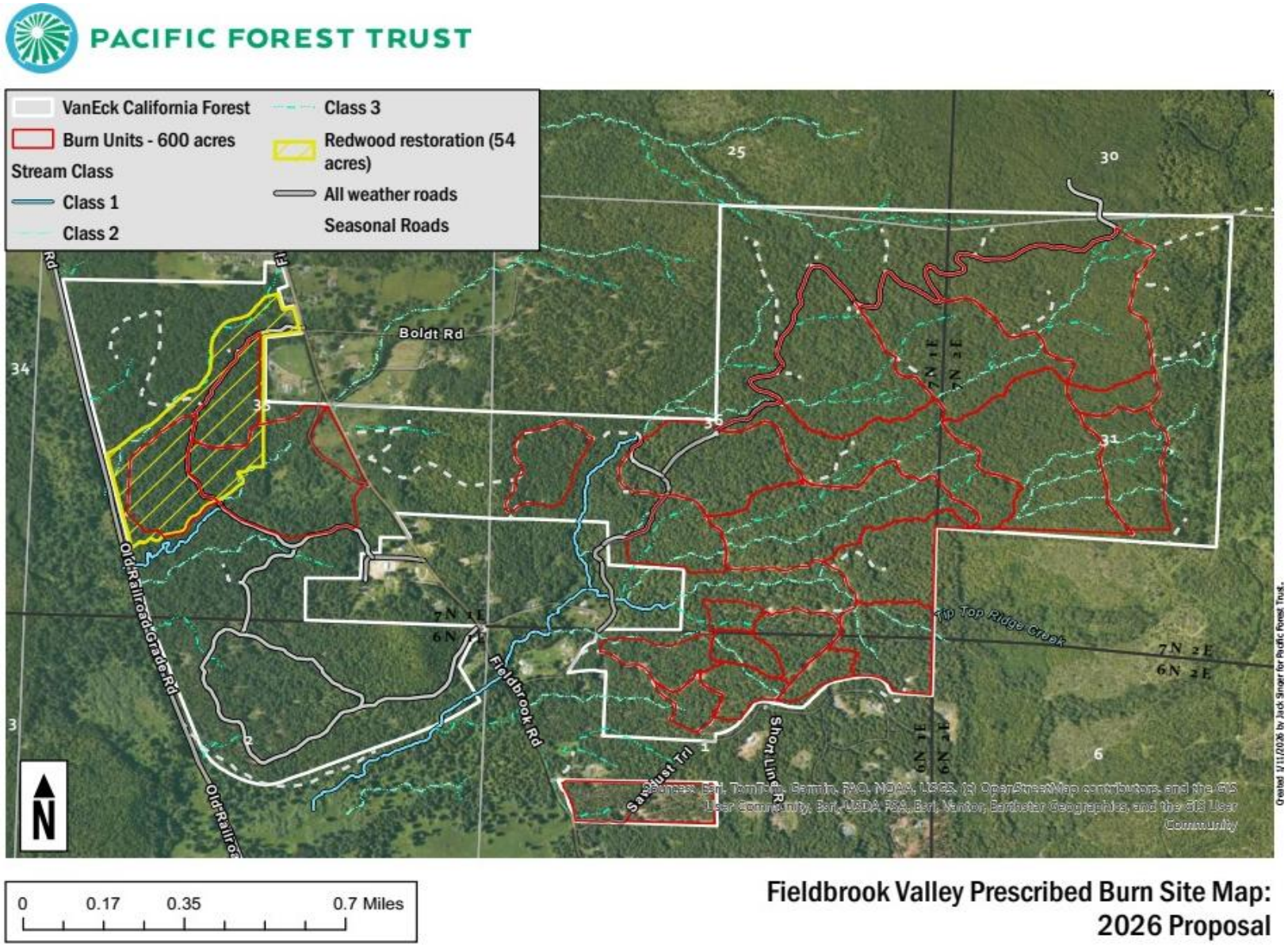
California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Fieldbrook Valley Redwood Restoration

Slide 3

Treatments (554 acres):

- Forest thinning (54 acres)
- Ten one-acre plots of redwood reforestation (10 acres)
- Prescribed fire (500 acres)
- Invasive plant treatment



Treatment map
Credit: PFT

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Fieldbrook Valley Redwood Restoration

Slide 4

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

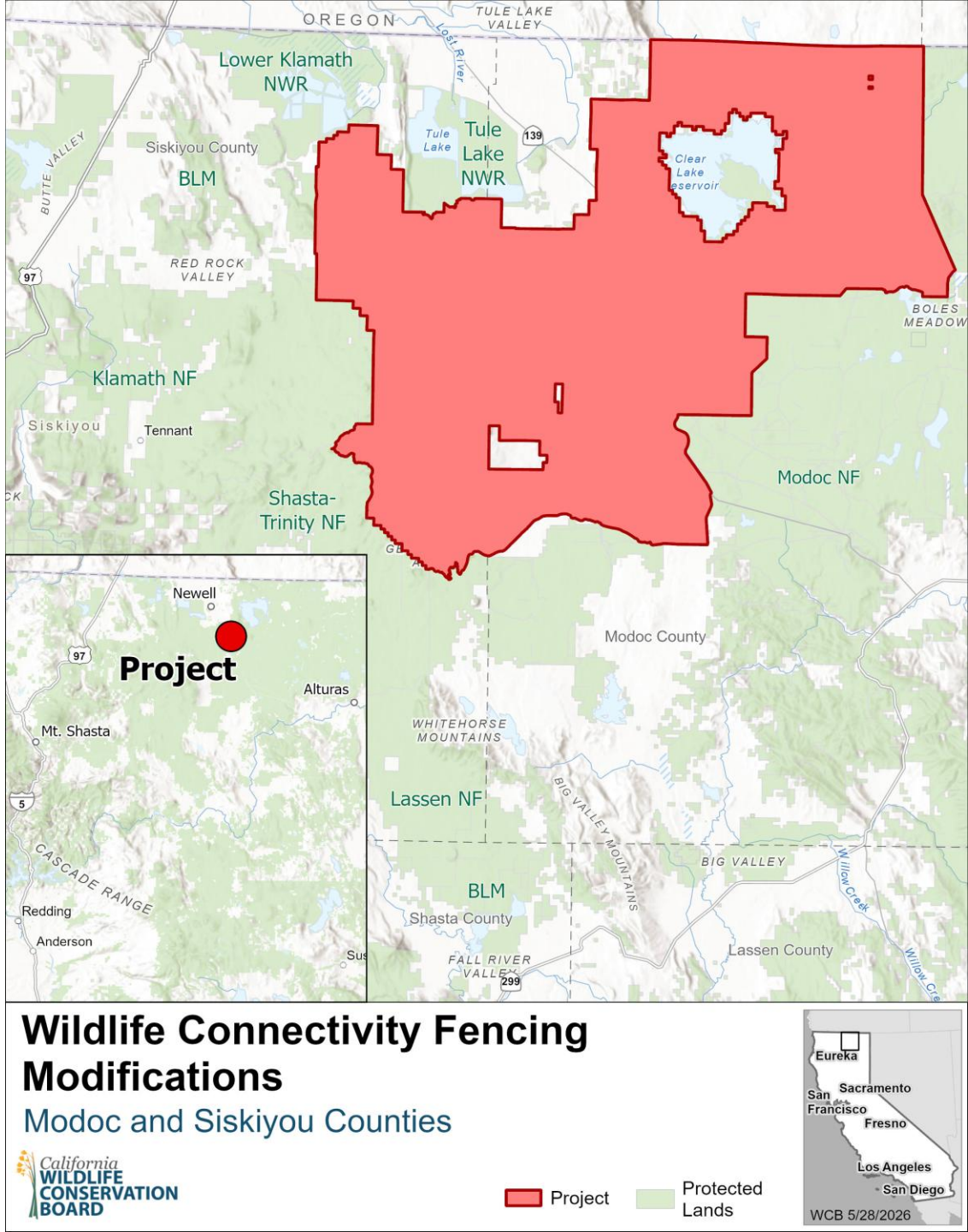
Project outcomes:

- Return of beneficial fire
- Increased climate and wildfire resilience
- Increased habitat quality for special status wildlife

Pre-treatment forest (left), reforestation gap (middle), and prescribed fire burn unit (right)
Credit: WCB

Wildlife Connectivity Fencing Modifications

- Mule Deer Foundation (applicant)
- WCB request $2,907,000 (total project cost $3,103,000)



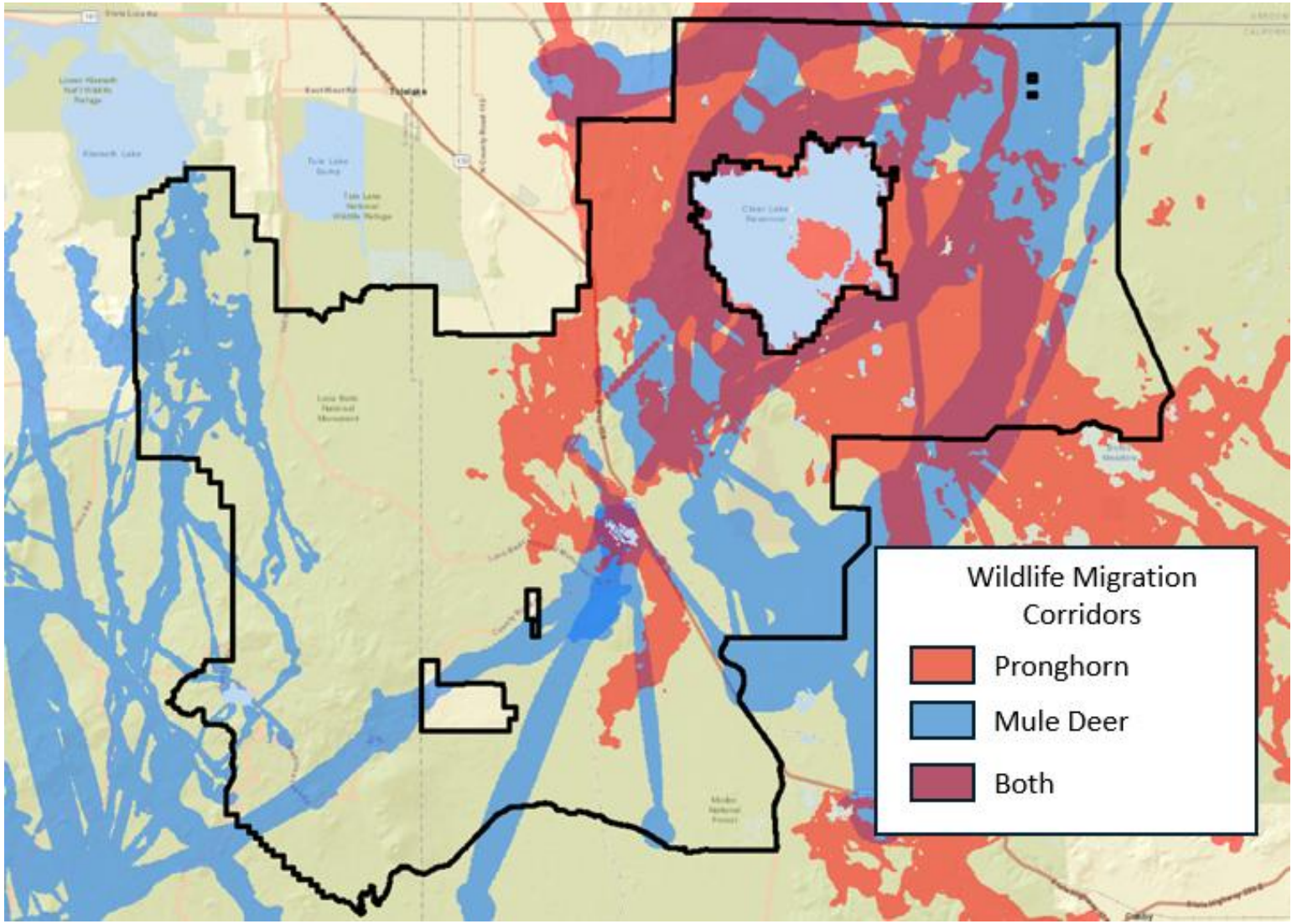
Credit: WCB

Wildlife Connectivity Fencing Modifications

Slide 2

Doublehead Ranger District of the Modoc National Forest:

- Spans over 1.2 million acres
- Over 55 percent of the land area within mapped migration corridors
- More than 500 miles of fencing



Doublehead Ranger District of the Modoc National Forest
Credit: CDFW

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Wildlife Connectivity Fencing Modifications

Slide 3

Restricted access to seasonal forage and water:

- Delays migration timing
- Reduces habitat connectivity

Direct mortality risk:

- One ungulate fatally entangled per 2.5 miles of fence

Fencing within the Doublehead Ranger District of the Modoc National Forest
Credit: WCB

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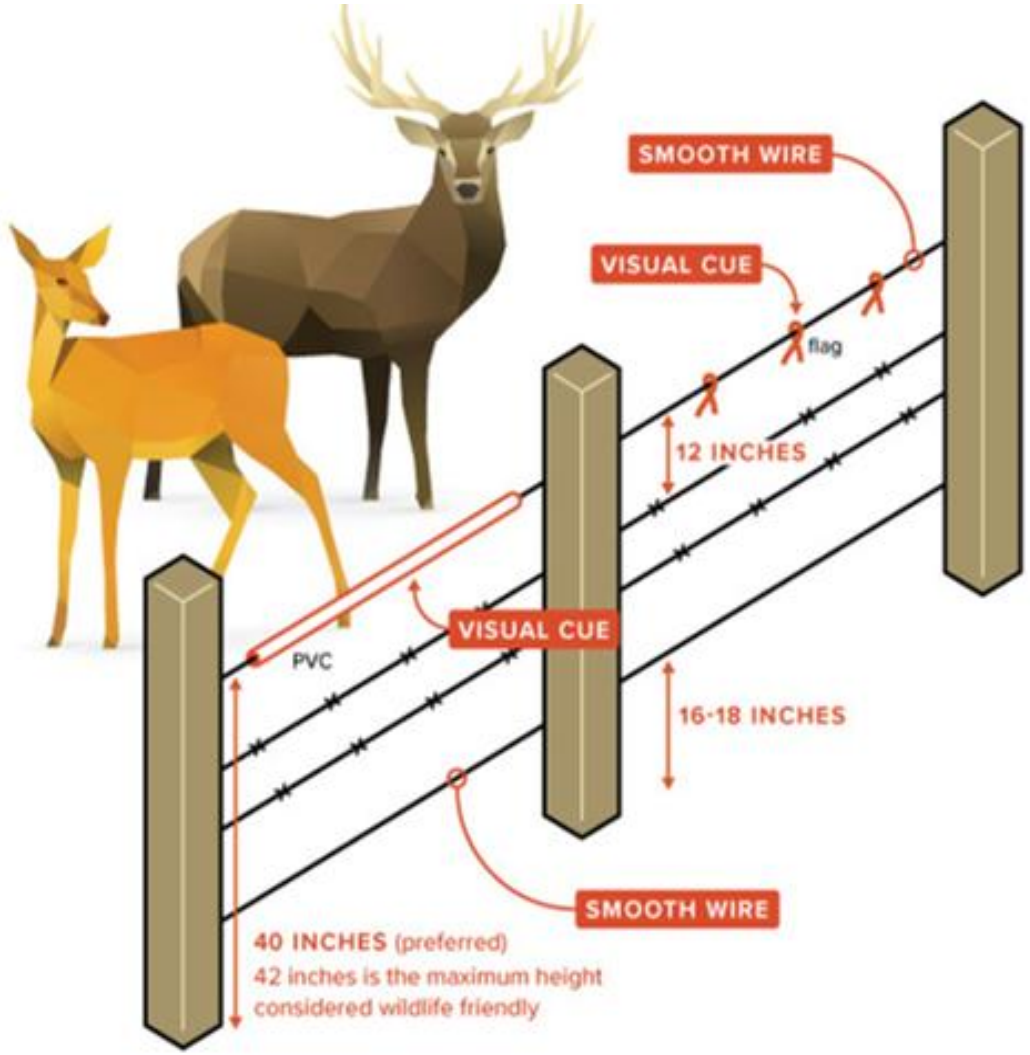


Wildlife Connectivity Fencing Modifications

Slide 4

Project elements:

- Prioritization of fence segments using telemetry data
- Removal of woven-wire fencing (12 miles)
- Modification of existing barbed wire fencing to wildlife-friendly design (51 miles)
- Public engagement through volunteer events

Credit: Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Wildlife Connectivity Fencing Modifications

Slide 5

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Pronghorn using wildlife friendly fencing
Credit: USFWS

Wildlife Connectivity Fencing Modifications

Slide 6

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Deer jumping over wildlife friendly fencing
Credit: Philip White USFWS

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 31. Project Monitoring Program Presentation

Vernal Pool Complex
Credit: WCB

WCB Monitoring Programs

Slide 1

- Why do we monitor?
- Program elements
  - Compliance monitoring
  - Conservation Easement annual monitoring

Oak woodland and grassland habitats
Credit: WCB

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

WCB Monitoring Programs

Slide 2

Compliance monitoring – 2024/2025 results:

- 97 projects were monitored
  - 96% found to be in good condition
  - Technical violations of grant terms

Conservation easement monitoring – 2025 results:

- 170 conservation easement monitoring reports
  - 96% found to be in compliance

Left: Riparian and oak woodland habitats
Right: Managed wetlands
Bottom: Fishing pier
Credit: WCB

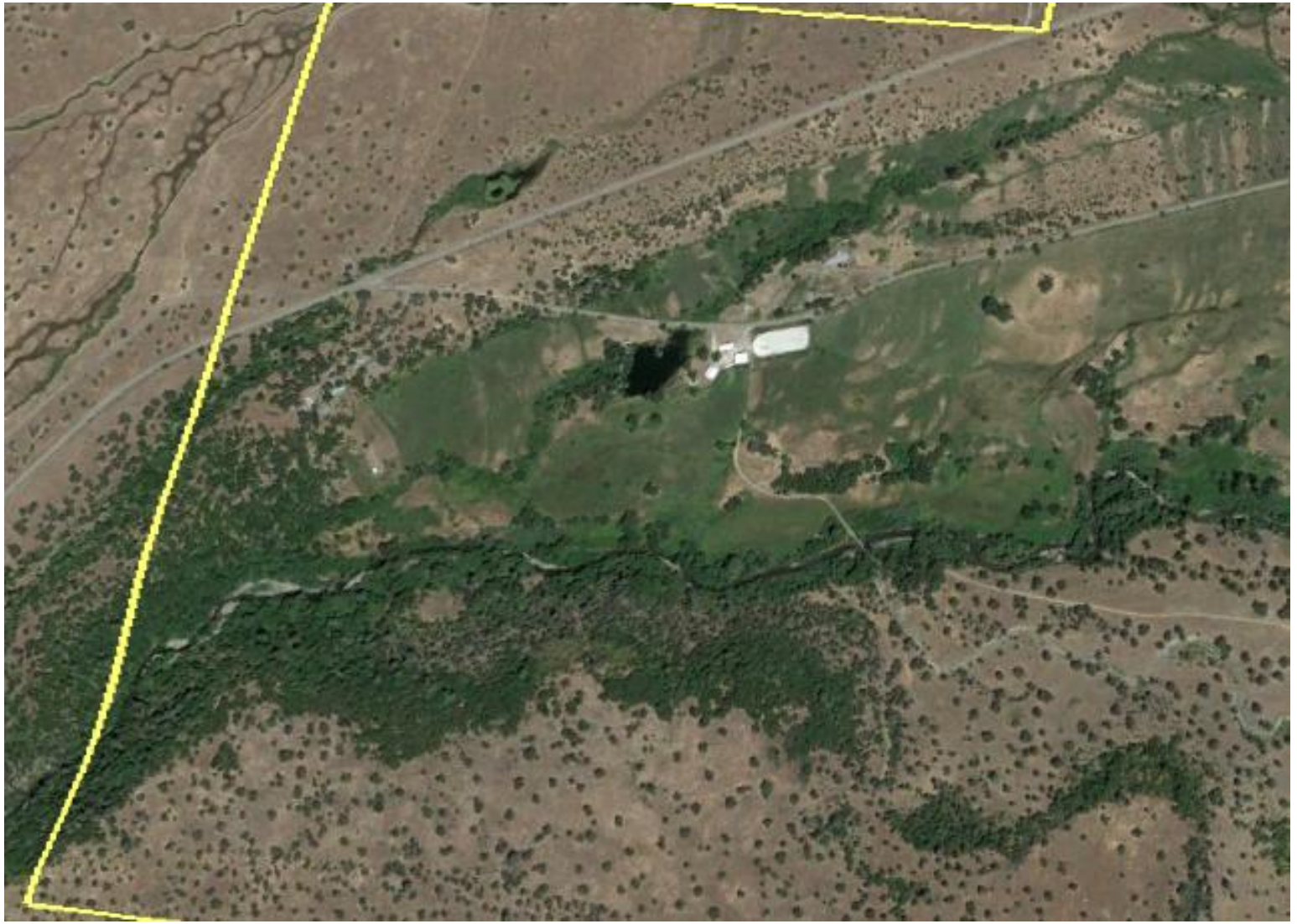
California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

WCB Monitoring Programs

Slide 3

New program elements:

- Fee Title annual monitoring
- Remote monitoring – pilot
- Improved coordination with partner agencies



Aerial image, portion of a conserved property
Credit: Google Earth

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Item 32. Public Forum for Items not on the Agenda

Indian Creek Streamflow Enhancement Planning
Credit:TNC

California WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Meeting Adjourned
Next Board Meeting, August 27, 2026

Windy Springs Meadow Restoration
Credit: WCB