Vegetation Community Monitoring Recommendations for the San Diego MSCP Report for Tasks D,E of Local Assistance Grant #P0450009

Prepared by Dr. Douglas Deutschman, Lauren Hierl, Dr. Janet Franklin, and Dr. Helen Regan January 30, 2007

Workshop Agenda

1. Presentation (part 1) 9:10-9:45 am Introduction: The Challenge of Monitoring I. Scope of Work II. III. Monitoring: Theory and Application Presentation (part 2) 9:10-10:30 am 3. Analysis of Existing Data IV. V. Recommendations 4. Break-out sessions 10:40-11:10 am

Outline of this Presentation

- Introduction: The Challenge of Monitoring
- Scope of Work: Deliverables, Atkinson et al. Steps
- Monitoring: Theory and Application
- Analysis of Existing Data
- Recommendations



Legg and Nagy (2006). Why most conservation monitoring is, but need not be, a waste of time.

Journal of Environmental Management 8:194-199. Monitoring seems to be the automatic response to any change that is seen as a potential threat to the environment, *whether or not it is appropriate*.

Recommendations:

- Good Management of Conservation Programs
- Good Design and Field Methods for Monitoring

Legg and Nagy (2006). Why most conservation monitoring is, but need not be, a waste of time. J. Env. Manage. **78**:194-199.

Good Management of Conservation Programs

- Flexible goals, refined objectives
- Locations, objectives and recording protocols detailed in establishment report
- Obtain peer review and statistical review of proposal
- Obtain periodic program evaluation and adjust sampling design and field protocols

Legg and Nagy (2006). Why most conservation monitoring is, but need not be, a waste of time. J. Env. Manage. **78**:194-199.

Good Design and Field Methods for Monitoring

- Select methods appropriate to the objectives and habitat type
- Avoid bias in selection of long-term plots
- Ensure adequate spatial and temporal replication
- Integrate and synthesize theory and empirical work, experiments and observational studies, larger and smaller scale research

Fuller (1999). Environmental surveys over time. J. Ag. Biol. And Env. Statistics **4**:331-335.

Surveys conducted over time are more difficult than a survey conducted only once.

Defining the data elements, implementing data collection in the field, the survey design, data processing, estimation and report preparation are all more difficult.

Fuller (1999). Environmental surveys over time. JABES 4:331-335.

Aphorisms

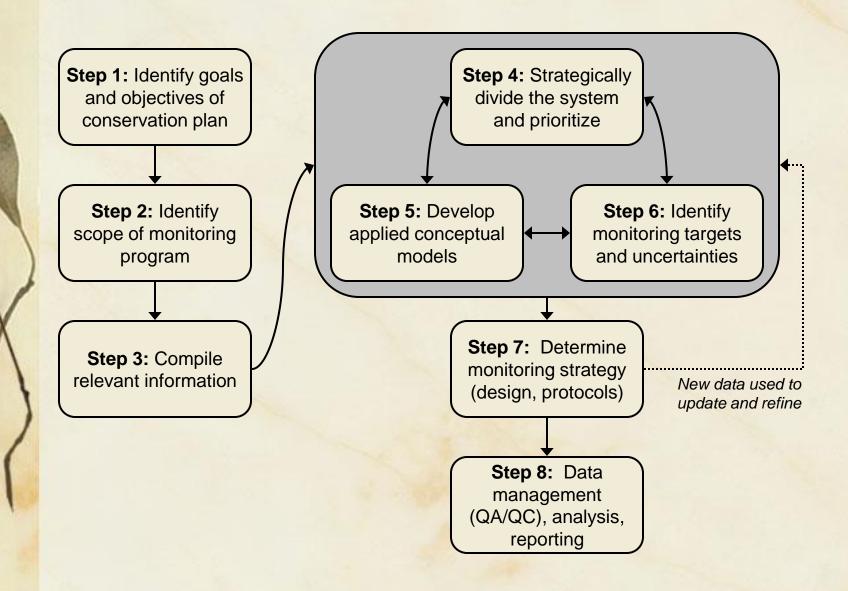
- 1. Every step in the process sounds easier than it is.
- 2. The "good" (*fill in the blank*) isn't all that good. Examples are the baseline data, protocols, data collection instrument, etc.
- 3. Over time. The definition of data elements, the data collection protocols, and the objectives of the survey will change.
- 4. The budget will always be insufficient.(Corollary: The time line is always unrealistic).

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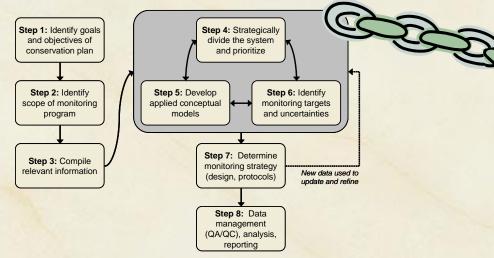


Atkinson et al. – Stepwise Approach



Scope of Work (LAG - P0450009)

Atkinson et al.



Tasks for This Project Using the Atkinson et al. (2004) stepwise approach facilitates the development of a rigorous and transparent monitoring program. These steps were explicitly referenced in our Scope of Work.

Scope of Work (LAG - P0450009)

Atkinson et al.

Tasks for This Project

1. 2. 3.	Identify goals of program. Identify scope of monitoring. Compile existing information.	Task A. (8/05) Assess the implementation of the MSCP monitoring program.
4.	Strategically divide and prioritize species, communities and the system.	Task B1. (1/06) Risk-based prioritization of covered species. Task B2. (7/06) Spatial analysis of plant communities/landscape.
5.	Develop management-oriented conceptual models.	Task C. (12/06) Framework for conceptual models of species, communities, and landscapes.
6. 7.	Identify monitoring recommendations and critical uncertainties. Determine strategy for implementing monitoring.	Task D. (1/07) This presentation and the subsequent final report.

Goals and Objectives



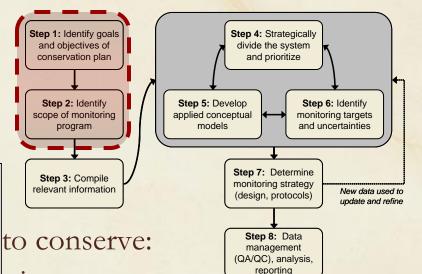
Designing Monitoring Programs in an Adaptive Management Context for Regional Multiple Species Conservation Plans



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ations

d function

nly the covered species does he principles of California's

program that only tracks al communities and processes ower to assess individual

covered species with ntegrity in an effective and

cost-efficient way is a major challenge.



Compile Relevant Information

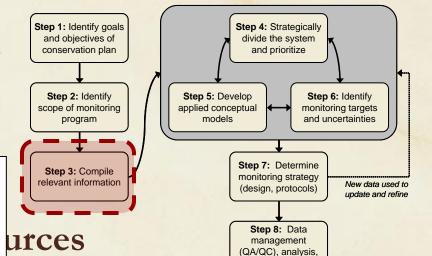


Designing Monitoring Programs in an Adaptive Management Context for Regional Multiple **Species Conservation Plans**



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reporting ential biases and limitations.

nents: conservation plans, ions, USFS plans etc.

hy, vegetation, land use, an boundaries, species ranges, vironmental factors.

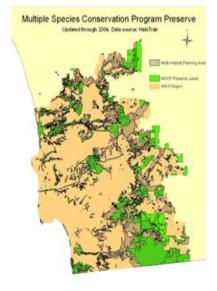
n: books, scientific articles, huseum records.

programs and data sources: r monitoring programs and data sources within and near the plan area.

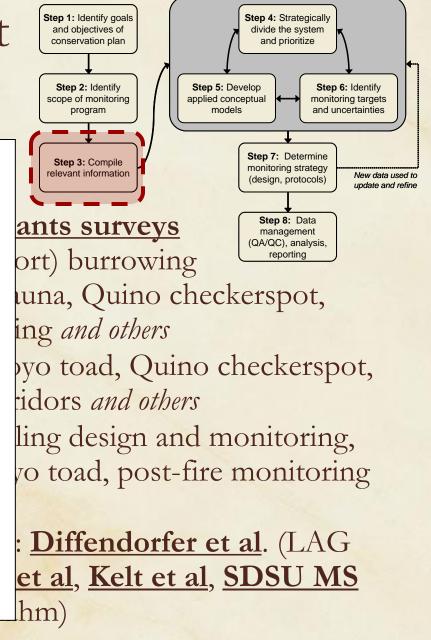
Compile Relevant Information

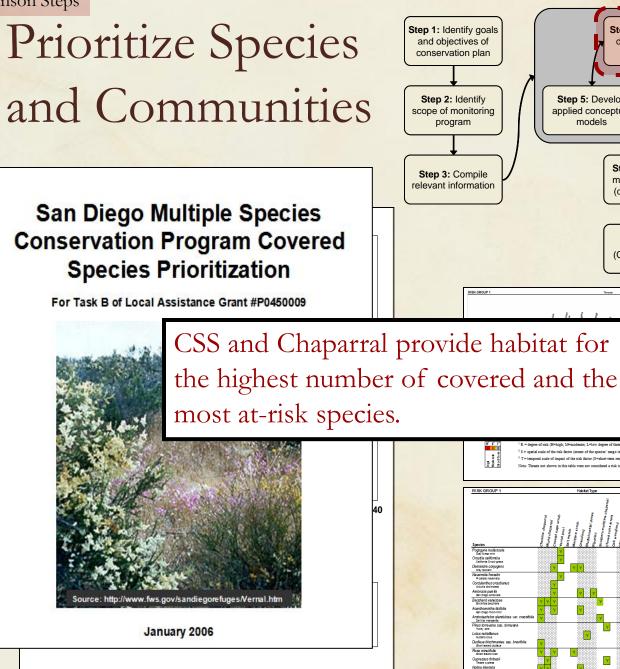
Assessment of the Biological Monitoring Plan for San Diego's Multiple Species Conservation Program

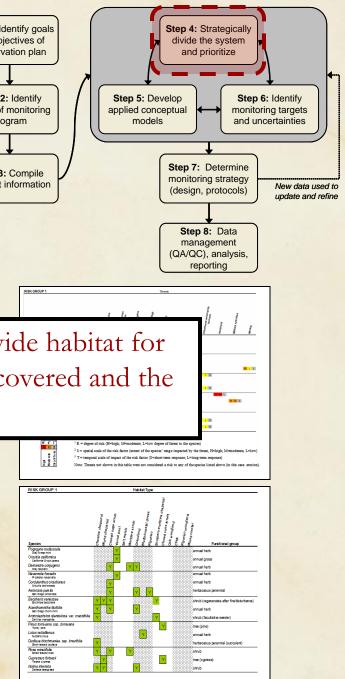
Report for Task A of Local Assistance Grant #P0450009

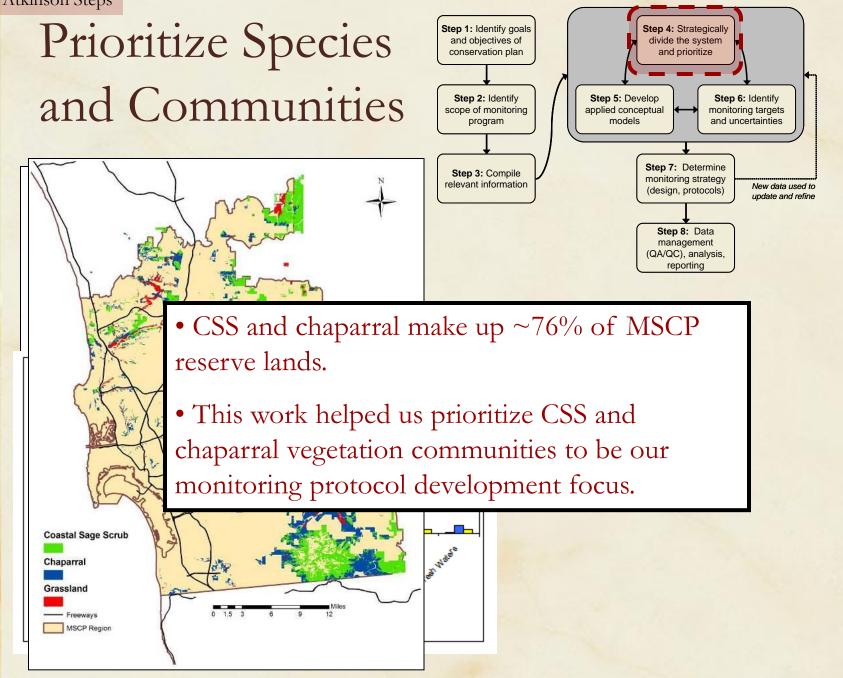


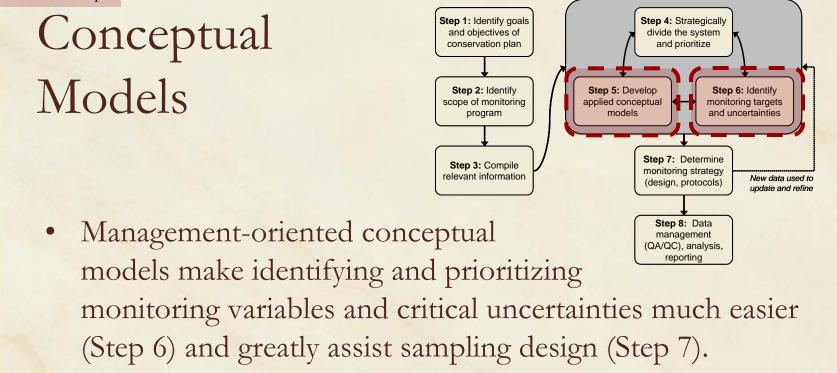
August 2005

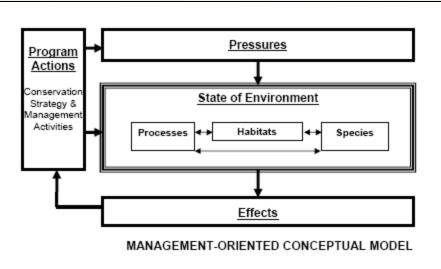










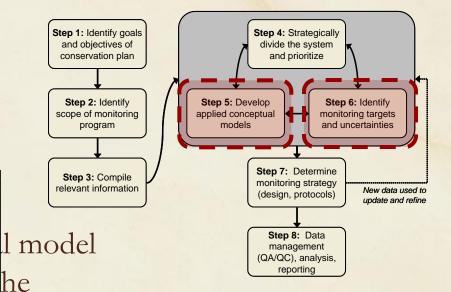


Conceptual Models

DRAFT Developing Conceptual Models to Improve the Biological Monitoring Plan for San Diego's Multiple Species Conservation Program



December 2006

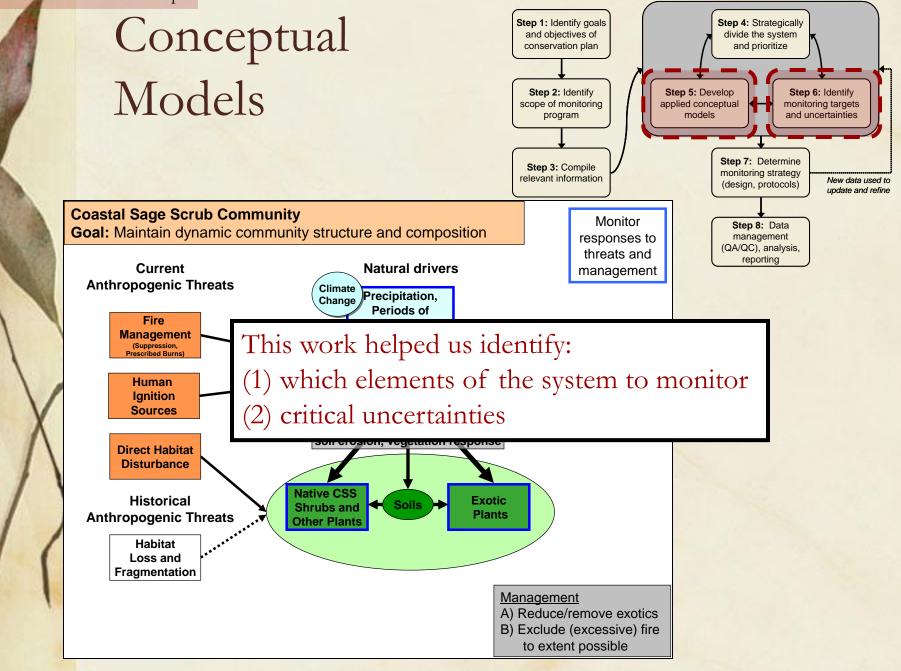


monitored:

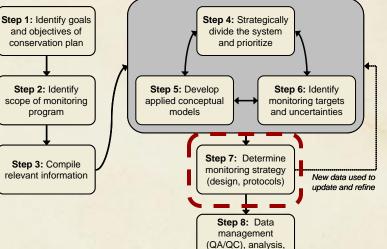
For the species, community, or landscape. historical anthropogenic threats, natural munity parameters that dictate current or

responses.

d on the main parameters that link the to the monitoring goals.







reporting

- Our previous work led us to:
 - focus on developing community monitoring recommendations
 - focus on the CSS and chaparral vegetation communities
 - identified monitoring targets and critical uncertainties
 - these are the focus of the remainder of this
 Presentation and subsequent Report

Outline of this Presentation

- Introduction: The Challenge of Monitoring
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Major Elements of Monitoring

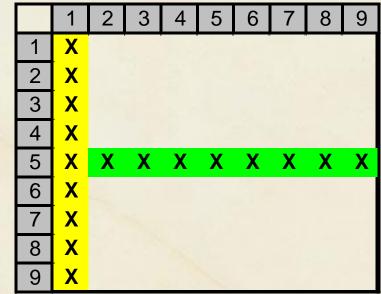
- Sampling Design (Which, Where and When)
 - How many and which sites should be included in the initial sample?
 - Whether and how often sites should be revisited?
 - Should the Sampling Design be allowed to change as more data becomes available?
 - How should the samples at different times be related?
- Response Design (What and How)
 - The response design is often more closely linked to the specific questions being asked.
 - Common response designs for vegetation sampling include visual estimation, quadrats, transect or belt transect or line-intercept.
- Data Design (QA/QC, Database, and Analysis)

Sampling Design

Hypothetical Example:

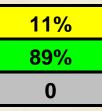
- 9 sites that will be monitored for 9 years
- However, you can only allocate a total of 9 samples over the entire 9year period.
- How should you allocate your effort?

Years



Cum. Sites Visited Revisit Proportion Variance in Effort

Sites



Sampling Design

100%

0%

8

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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	2	Х								
S	3	Х								
Sites	4	Х								
Sit	5	Х								
0)	6	Х								
	7	Х								
	8	Х								
	9	Х								

Cum. Sites Visited Revisit Proportion Variance in Effort

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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6	X						
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Cu	m. S	Sites	s Vis	site	d		
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Cum. Sites Visited Revisit Proportion Variance in Effort

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	8	9
1		
2 X X	Х	
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8 X X	Х	
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Cum. Sites Visited	33%	

Cum. Sites Visited Revisit Proportion Variance in Effort

67%

2

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Variance in Effort



Effort

Surveys (Years)

89

X X X X X

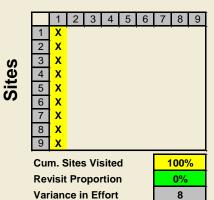
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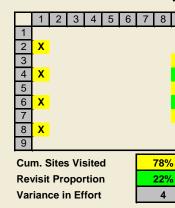
78%

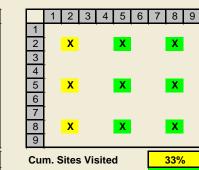
22%

4

Sampling Design





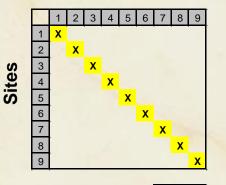


Cum. Sites Visited	
Revisit Proportion	
Variance in Effort	ļ

67%

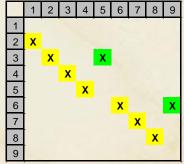
2

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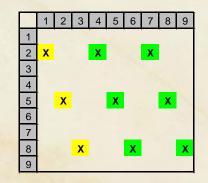


Cum. Sites Visited 100% **Revisit Proportion** Constant Effort (1 per yr)

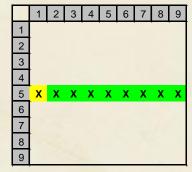
0%



Cum, Sites Visited 78% **Revisit Proportion** 22% Constant Effort (1 per yr)



Cum, Sites Visited 33% **Revisit Proportion** 67% Constant Effort (1 per yr)



11%

89%

Cum. Sites Visited **Revisit Proportion** Constant Effort (1 per yr)

But: space and time are now partially confounded

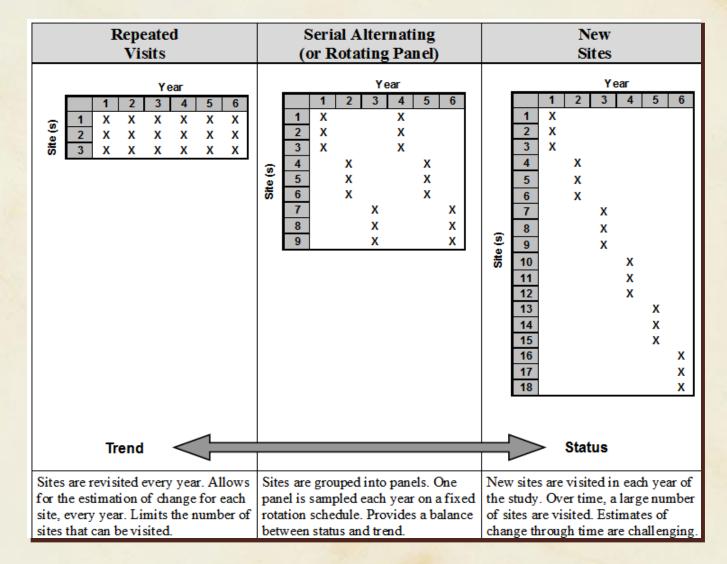
Surveys (Years)

8 9

X X

4

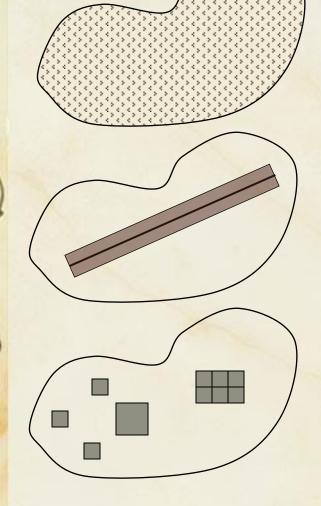
Sampling Design



Sampling Design

Sampling Method	Repeated Visits + Serial Alternating	Repeated Visits + Serial Alternating + New Sites	Serial Alternating + New Sites			
Icon	Year 1 2 3 4 5 6 1 X X X X X X 2 X X X X X X X 3 X X X X X X X 3 X X X X X X X 4 X X X X X X X 5 X X X X X X 6 X X X X X 7 X X X X X 8 X X X X X	Year 1 2 3 4 5 6 1 X X X X X X 2 X X X X X X X 3 X X X X X X 3 X X X X X X 3 X X X X X X 4 X X X X X 5 X X X X 6 X X X X 9 X X X 9 X X X 10 X X X 11 X X 12 X X	(s) etc. (s) et			
Intuition	Some sites (often called sentinel sites) are revisited every year. Some sites are on a two-year rotation. Emphasizes trend.	Includes sentinel sites, sites that are grouped into panels. Allocates some effort to new sites each year. Balances trend and status.	A group of sites are visited on a rotation but new sites are visited in each year of the study. Emphasizes status.			

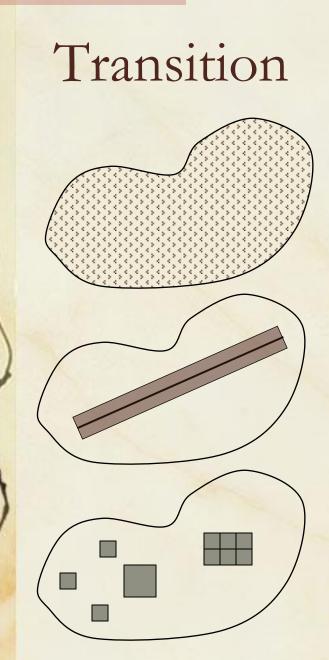
Response Design



Visual Estimate of Cover (Releve or Cover classes)

Transects (Line Intercept or Belt)

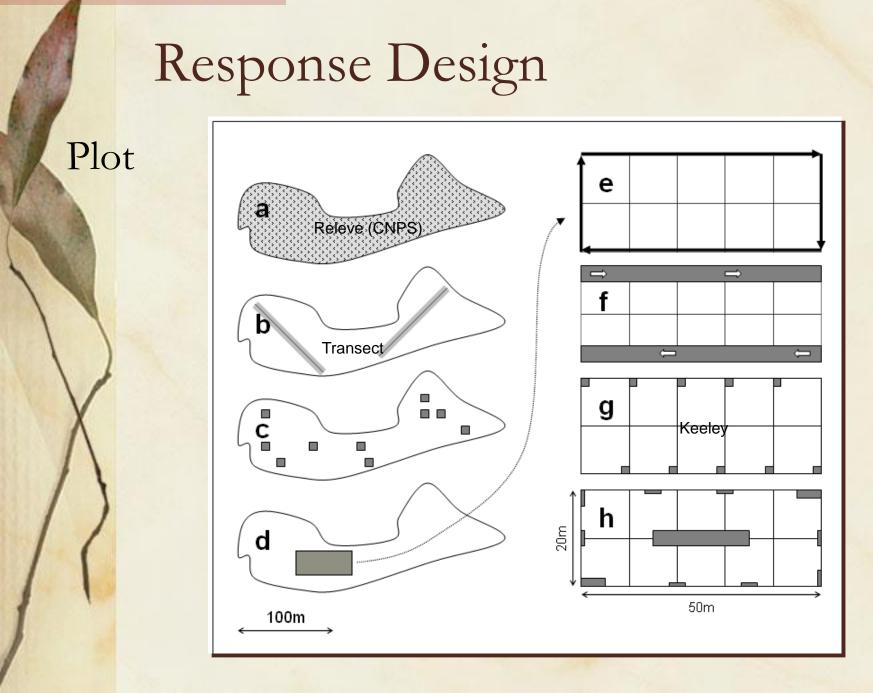
Quadrats (random, systematic, multiscale)



Visual Estimate of Cover (Releve or Cover classes)

Transects (Line Intercept or Belt)

Quadrats (random, systematic, multiscale)



Data Design

Beard et al. (1999). The value of consistent methodology in long term environmental monitoring. Env. Monitoring and Assessment 54:239-258.

- Sources of inconsistency: changes of instrument, personnel, measurement techniques, and analytical methods
- When methods change, the old and the new methods should overlap (allow calibration)
- Correction is more difficult than prevention. In extreme cases no correction is possible.

Vos et al. (2000). A framework for the design of ecological monitoring programs as a tool for environmental and nature management. Env. Monitoring and Assessment 61:317-344.

 The organizational aspects of the monitoring program – responsibility for the data collection, data handling and maintenance – must be considered during the design process.

Data Design

Atkinson et al. (2004) – Appendix J "Quality Assurance Plan"

- 1. Develop good data recording techniques that minimize errors and forgotten fields.
- 2. Have field observers double-check their data, preferably the same day.
- 3. Have a supervisor or data manager check the data regularly for obvious errors
- 4. Maintain information on who collected the data, entered the data in the database, etc (chain of custody).

Data Design

Peet, R.K. 2006. The Carolina Vegetation Survey (Website). The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Biology, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA. http://cvs.bio.unc.edu.

- The Carolina Vegetation Survey data entry tool within Microsoft Access
 - allows data entry in computer forms that mimic the datasheets
 - Quality-control checks are automatically performed

TAXABLES.

(Carolina Vegetation Survey Cover Classes											
1	Trace (<0.1%)	6	10-25%									
2	0-1%	7	25-50%									
3	1-2%	8	50-75%									
4	2-5%	9	75-95%									
5	5-10%	10	95-100%									

					Cover Data: CV			els 3	3 &	4					
Le	ade	<u>c s</u>	Jor	es	Project: 75 Team: 1 Plot: 13	41	1)ate: ^J	UN/02	2 / 20	008	Ares:	10		
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2	3	1	Γ	Γ	Carya cordiformis		4	6							
2	2	2	Γ		Toxicodendron radicans		2	2							
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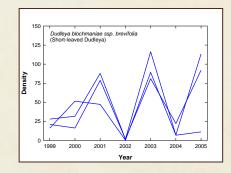


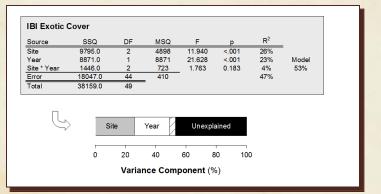
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WOMEN

General Approach

- Analyze existing data using a variance components approach (ANOVA).
- Calculate partial R2 as a metric describing the relative size of spatial and temporal variation.
- Compare and contrast across species and studies using a stacked bar chart.

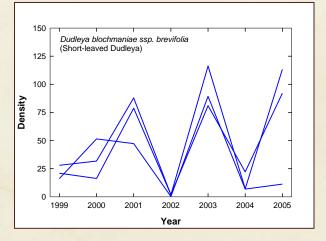




McEachern (Rare Plants LAG)

Dudleya brevifolia (Short-leaved Dudleya) sometimes written as D. blochmaniae ssp. brevifolia

- 3 sites (Carmel Mtn 1, 2 and 3) over a 7-yr period
- Individuals counted on multiple quadrats arranged along multiple transects at each site.



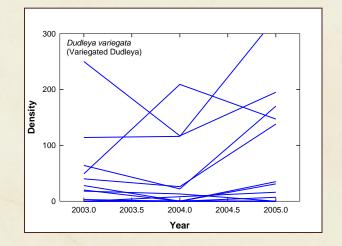
Source	SSQ	df	MSQ	F	Р	R^2
Site	1916	2	958	1.820	0.204	6.1%
Year	22,950	6	3825	7.268	0.002	73.6%
Error	6315	12	526.25			20.3%

Temporal (Interannual)

McEachern (Rare Plants LAG)

Dudleya variegata (Variegated Dudleya)

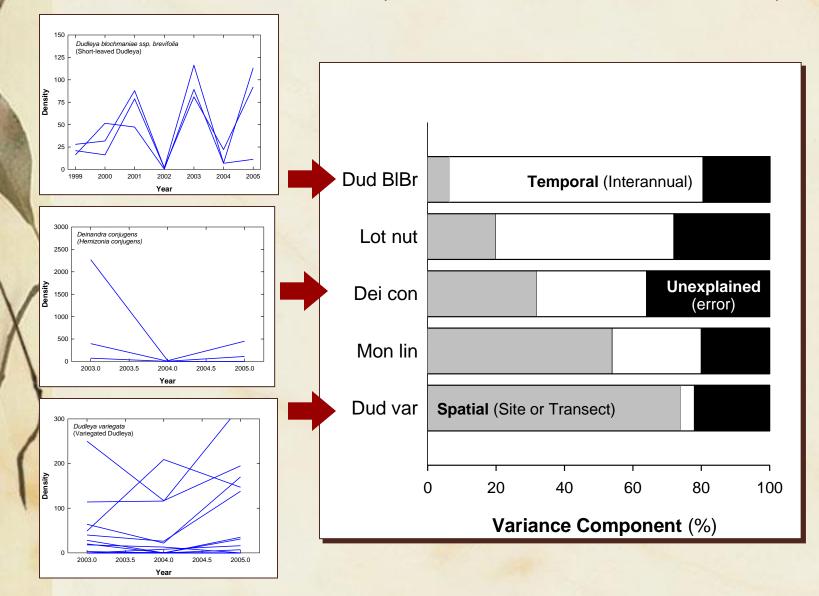
- 16 transects (all at Otay Lakes) over a 3-yr period
- Individuals counted on 1m belt transects averaging 300m in length.



Source	SSQ	DF	MSQ	F	р	R^2
Transect	204.1	15	14	6.599	<.001	74%
Year	11.4	2	6	2.752	0.079	4%
Error	61.9	30	2			22%
Total	277.3	47	1000			

Spatial (Site or Transect)

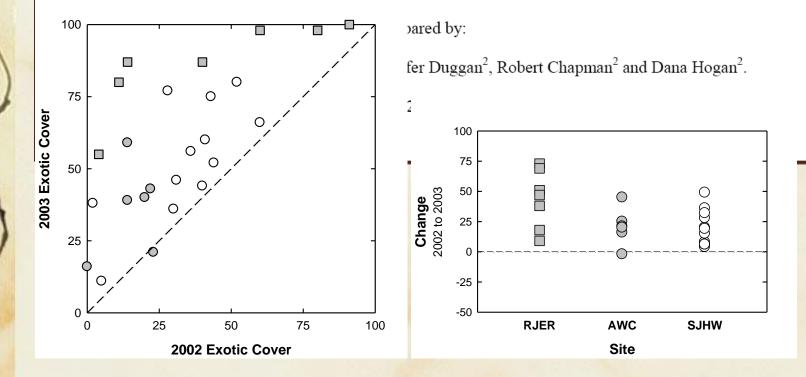
McEachern (Rare Plants LAG)



Diffendorfer et al. (2004)

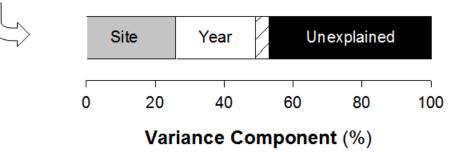
Final Report for "Creating and Index of Biological Integrity for Coastal Sage Scrub: A tool for habitat quality assessment and monitoring."

Cover of Exotic Plants



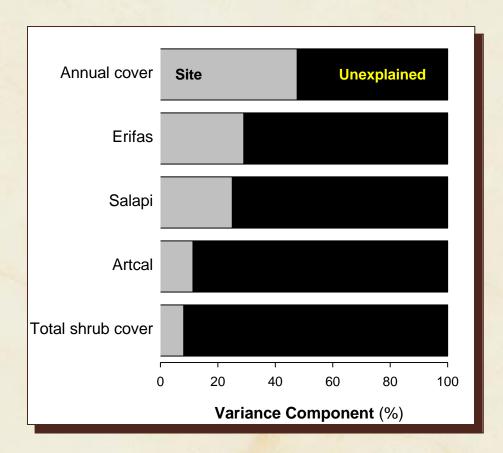
Diffendorfer et al. (2004)

IBI Exotic (Cover						
Source	SSQ	DF	MSQ	F	р	R^2	_
Site	9795.0	2	4898	11.940	<.001	26%	-
Year	8871.0	1	8871	21.628	<.001	23%	Model
Site * Year	1446.0	2	723	1.763	0.183	4%	53%
Error	18047.0	44	410	-		47%	
Total	38159.0	49	-				



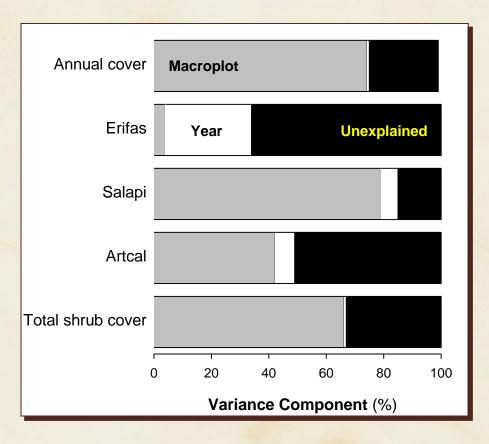
Chalekian and Strahm

Shipley and RJER (2003)



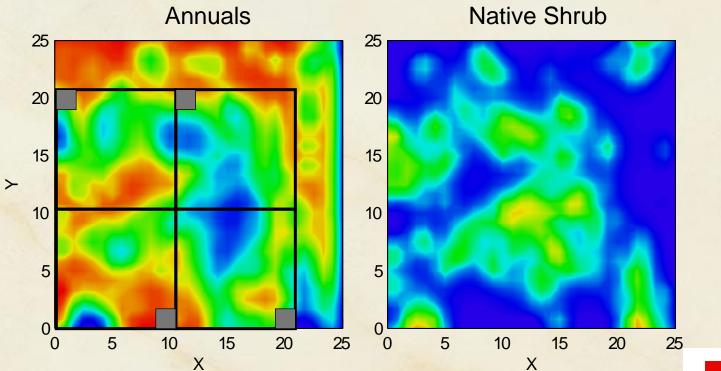
Chalekian and Strahm

Shipley (1999 and 2003, by Macroplot)

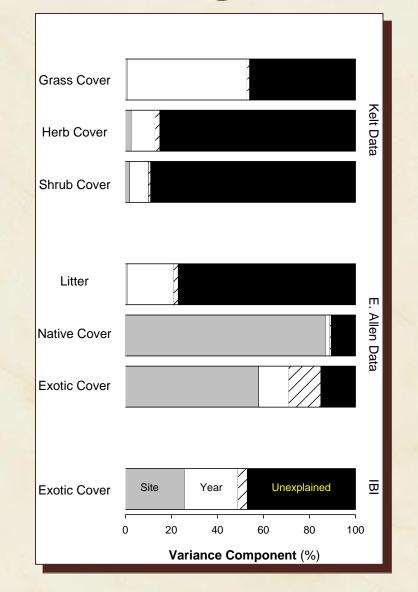


Analysis of Existing Data

Chalekian and Strahm

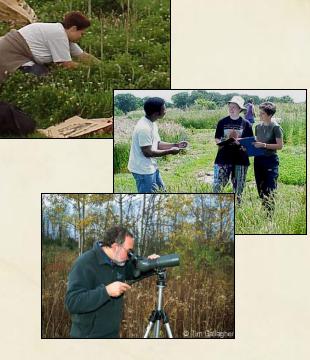


Other CSS Vegetation Data



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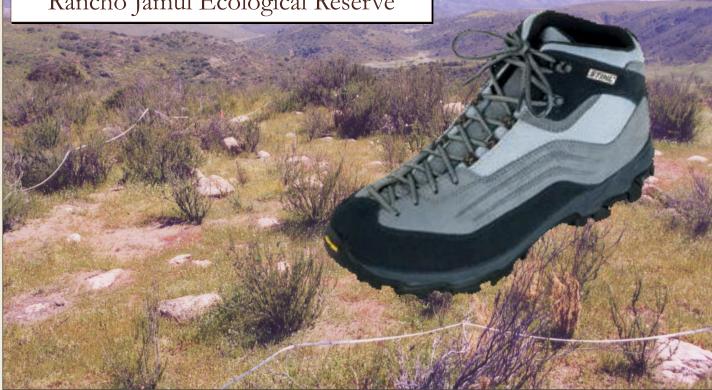
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Recommendations



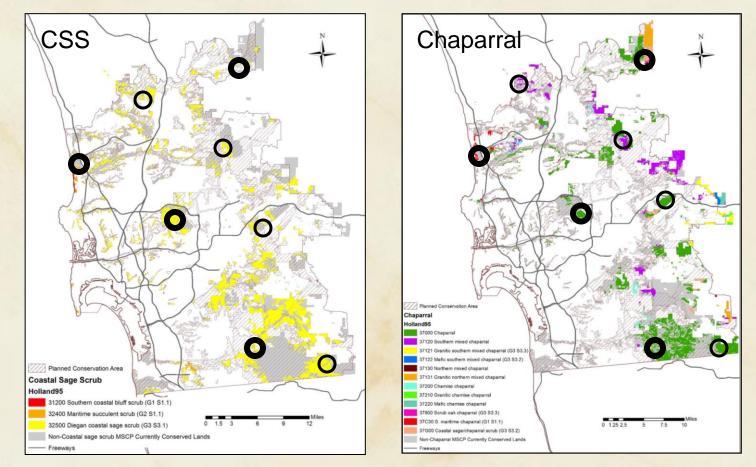




- Much of current data is restricted in coverage (reserve, years, species sampled, and methods).
- Existing data is not comprehensive enough to evaluate alternative designs (calculate power, evaluate bias etc)
- We propose that a broad-scale sampling program be implemented to collect and analyze data that will provide concrete guidance on design, cost and power.

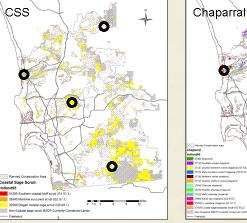


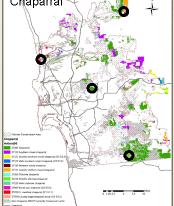
• Initially, a multi-scale, hierarchical design is needed since there is significant variation at several scales (intra- and inter-reserve, inter-annual)





• Initially, all of the major sites would be visited annually.





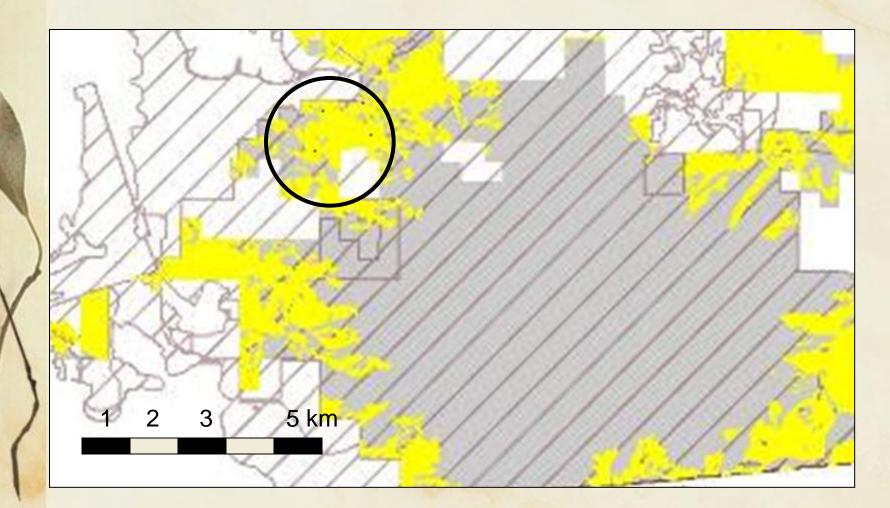
Sage Scrub

		Year		
Sites	1	2	3	
CSS ₁	х	х	Х	
CSS ₂	х	x	х	
CSS ₃	х	x	х	
CSS_4	х	x	х	
CSS ₅				l
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Chaparral

×.,		Year	
Sites	1	2	3
Chap ₁	х	х	Х
Chap ₂	х	x	х
Chap ₃	х	x	х
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Chap ₁₁			
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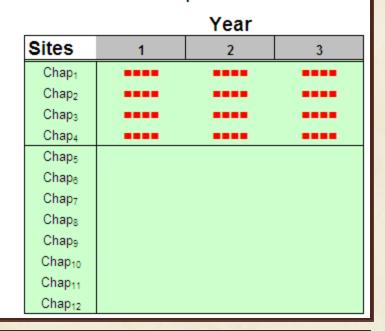




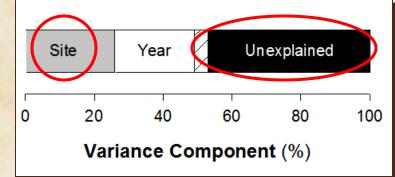
Sage Scrub

		Year	
Sites	1	2	3
CSS ₁			
CSS ₂			
CSS₃			
CSS₄			
CSS5			
CSS₀			
CSS7			
CSS ₈			
CSS9			
CSS ₁₀			
CSS ₁₁			
CSS ₁₂			

Chaparral



This nested design will allow us to estimate spatial variance components.





Sage Scrub							
Year							
Sites	1	2	3				
CSS1	C=C=	C=C=					
CSS ₂	∎0∎0	C=C=					
CSS ₃	∎0∎0	O					
CSS4	■ ○ ■O	C					
CSS5		0					
CSS ₆		O					
CSS7							
CSS ₈							
CSS ₉							
CSS ₁₀							
CSS ₁₁							
CSS ₁₂							

Chaparral								
	Year							
Sites	1	2	3					
Chap ₁	■O■O	∎0∎0						
Chap ₂	■ ○ ■O	CBC						
Chap ₃	■ ○ ■O	C						
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Chap₅		O						
Chap₀		O						
Chap ₇								
Chap ₈								
Chap ₉								
Chap ₁₀								
Chap ₁₁								
Chap ₁₂								



Site 9795.0 2 4898 11.940 <.001 26% Year 8871.0 1 8871 21.628 <.001 23% Model Site Year 1446.0 2 723 1.763 0.183 4% 53% Error 18047.0 44 410 47% Total 38159.0 49 Site Year Unexplained 0 20 40 60 80 100 Variance Component (%) 15	Source	SSQ	DF	MSQ	F	р	R ²	=	
$\frac{\text{Site } ^{4} \text{Year}}{\text{Error} 18047.0 44} \frac{1410}{410} 1.763 0.183 4\% 53\%}{47\%}$			2						
			1						
Total 38159.0 49 Site Year Unexplained 0 20 40 60 80 100 Variance Component (%)					1.763	0.183		53%	
Site Year Unexplained 0 20 40 60 80 100 Variance Component (%)				= 410			47 /0		
		0)		

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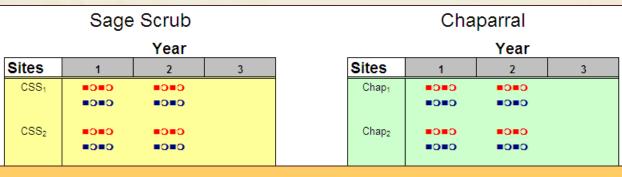
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15

20

Nested subsamples will be drawn from the large plots in order to estimate (bootstrap) the relationship between effort and precision.





Sites will be surveyed by multiple teams. This will allow us to estimate observer bias and variability (across protocols).

CSS ₈	
CSS ₉	
CSS ₁₀	
CSS ₁₁	
CSS ₁₂	







Sage Scrub

		Year	
Sites	1	2	3
CSS ₁	CECE	CO	
	CECE	∎O∎O	
CSS2	CECE	CECE	
	CECE	∎O∎O	
CSS₃	CECE	= 0	
	CECE	∎O	
CSS₄	CECE	= 0	
	CECE	∎O	
CSS5			
CSS ₆			
CSS7			
CSS ₈			
CSS ₉			
CSS ₁₀			
CSS ₁₁			

Chaparral

		Year	
Sites	1	2	3
Chap ₁	=0=0	=0=0	
	EOEO		
Chap ₂	=0=0	■ ○ ■○	
	∎0∎0		
Chap ₃	EOEO	= 0	
	CECE	■O	
Chap ₄	00	O	
	∎0∎0	O	
Chap ₅			
Chap ₈			
Chap ₇			
Chap ₈			
Chap ₉			
Chap ₁₀			
Chap ₁₁			
Chap ₁₂			

Transition from baseline data, testing and power calculations to established (sustainable) long-term monitoring

Workshop Agenda

1. Presentation (part 1) 9:10-9:45 am Introduction: The Challenge of Monitoring I. Scope of Work II. III. Monitoring: Theory and Application Presentation (part 2) 9:10-10:30 am 3. Analysis of Existing Data IV. V. Recommendations 4. Break-out sessions 10:40-11:10 am

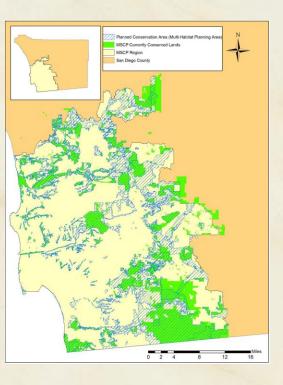




Us



Activity



COSTS (hr)		Your				
Travel		Estimate				
Travel to Sites	2					
Travel among plots	0.5					

Plot Establishment

Locating (all)	2	
Setup - Transects	1	
Setup - Releve	2	
Setup - Keeley	3	

Plot Sampling (major taxonomic groups)

Transects	3	
Releve	1	
Keeley	4	

Species Inventory

2	
2	
2	

Missing Ste	eps
if any	
Fask	Time

Data Entry, Qa/Qc

Transects

Releve Keeley

Transects Releve Keeley

2	
1	
2	

Activity

Major	ajor			Ye	ear		Major Y					Ye	Year		
Sites		1	2	3	4	5	6	Sites		1	2	3	4	5	6
	CSS ₁	6	6	6	6	6	6		Chap ₁	6	6	6	6	6	6
	CSS ₂	6	6	6	6	6	6		Chap ₂	6	6	6	6	6	6
	CSS₃	3			3				Chap ₃	3			3		
	CSS_4	3			3				Chap ₄	3			3		
	CSS_5		3			3			Chap₅		3			3	
	CSS_6		3			3			Chap ₆		3			3	
	CSS ₇			3			3		Chap ₇			3			3
	CSS ₈			3			3		Chap ₈			3			3
	CSS ₉								Chap ₉						
	CSS ₁₀								Chap ₁₀						
	CSS ₁₁								Chap ₁₁						
	CSS ₁₂								Chap ₁₂						
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