California State Wildlife Action Plan Update 2015

Central California Coast Ecoregion

DRAFT STRATEGY: Riparian Habitat

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE

SWAP California State Wildlife Action Plan

GOALS

1. **By 2025, riparian vegetation is better connected.**

2. **By 2025, fish corridors are improved by better water volume and reduced fish barrier.**

3. **By 2025, flooded plains are connected/reconnected to the watercourse**

4. **By 2025, functional flows in the water system are recovered so that: - fish passage is secured and successional dynamic of riparian vegetation is sustained by the flooding regime**

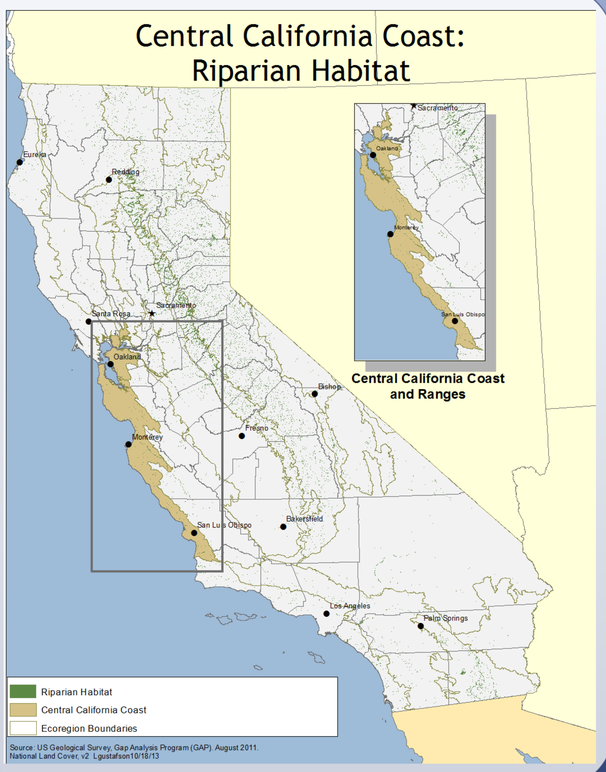
5. **By 2025, native species abundance is increased above baseline**

6. **By 2025, maintain (no net loss) of existing riparian stands of the mature riparian forest in the ecoregion**

7. **By 2025, rivers and watercourse are allowed to migrate within the flood plains.**

8. **By 2025, seasonal and inter-seasonal flooding regimes are recovered in the floodplain when allowed.**

9. **By 2025, see an 11-29% increase in area and extent of riparian habitat in the Central Coast and Ranges ecoregion**

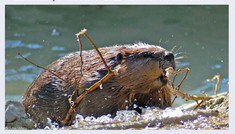


The State Wildlife Action Plan examines the health of wildlife and prescribes actions to conserve wildlife and vital habitat before they become more rare and more costly to protect. The plan also promotes wildlife conservation while furthering responsible development and addressing the needs of a growing human population.

SENSITIVE SPECIES

American beaver
Bank swallow
Bell's vireo
California giant salamander
Foothill yellow-legged frog
Long-eared owl
Long-legged myotis
Purple martin
Salinas ornate shrew
Spotted owl
Tricolored blackbird
Two-striped garter snake
Western pond turtle
Yellow warbler
Yellow-billed cuckoo
Yellow breasted chat
Monterey roach
Pacific lamprey
Ringtail cat
Coast range newt
Bald eagle
Western red bat
Arroyo toad
Willow flycatcher
SF Common yellowthroat
California condor
Coho
Steelhead
California red-legged frog
SF Dusky-footed woodrat
Swainson's thrush


California spotted owl © 2012 Kameron Perensovich


American beaver © 2003 John White


Yellow-legged frog © 2004 Pierre Fidenci

California condor © 2008 Ram Vasudev


Dusky-footed woodrat © 2010 Rob Schell


Western pond turtle © 2003 Pierre Fidenci

ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSES

Changes in annual average temperatures

Changes in temperature extremes

Changes in annual average precipitation

Sea level rise

Changes in sediment erosion-deposition regime

Changes in natural fire regime

Changes extreme events

Change in runoff and river flow

Changes in water levels and hydroperiod

Altered spatial distribution of habitat types

Change in groundwater tables

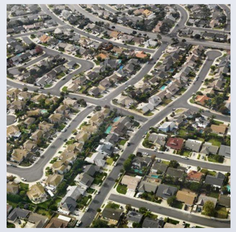
Change in pollutants

Loss or change in biotic interactions (altered community dynamics)

Habitat fragmentation

Changes community structure or composition


Bull thistle. Photo courtesy of Bob Case


Development


OHV use

Railroads

HUMAN RELATED IMPACTS

Annual and perennial non-timber crops

Dams & water management/use

Fire suppression

Greenhouse gas emissions

Housing and urban areas

Inappropriate livestock farming and ranching

Invasive plants/animals

Livestock grazing

Off-road vehicle use

Packstock grazing

Roads & railroads

TEAM

Name	Organization	Role
Bob Stafford	CDFW-R4	Team Member
Rocky Thompson	CDFW-R4	Team Lead
Jeff Cann	CDFW-R4	Team Member
Dave Hacker	CDFW-R4	Team Member
Terris Kasteen	CDFW-R3	Team Member
Krysta Rogers	CDFW_WLB	Team Member

STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Manage invasive species
   a. Objectives
      i. Control or eradicate invasive species by watershed
   b. Activities
      i. Conduct assessment/map invasive species occurrence by watershed
      ii. Develop partnerships with agencies and NGOs
      iii. Identify and apply for funding grant
      iv. Develop plan to prioritize/control invasives
      v. Implement management plan to control invasives
2. Develop grazing BMPs
   a. Objectives
      i. Co-develop BMPs with land management agencies
      ii. Have policies that benefit wildlife and sustain habitats
   b. Activities
      i. Identify and review existing grazing management policies
      ii. Identify partners and stakeholders
      iii. Develop/update BMPs including enforcement policy
      iv. Provide input to land management agencies on grazing policies
      v. Implement BMPs
      vi. Link to education and outreach strategy
      vii. Identify funding sources, apply for funding
3. Develop buffers
   a. Objectives
      i. Create riparian buffers along major rivers and streams
   b. Activities
      i. Identify existing land use policies re ag riparian buffers
      ii. Link to Education and Outreach strategy
      iii. Redesignate buffers as natural resource zones in County general plans
      iv. Identify incentives for landowners
      v. Coordinate and provide input to cities and counties regarding buffer
      vi. Review local agencies ordinances to determine whether buffers zones are adequate
4. Education & Outreach
   a. Objectives
      i. Educate the local agencies and public on the value of the riparian habitats.
      ii. Promote effective conservation strategies for the riparian system.
   b. Activities
      i. Coordinate with stakeholders
      ii. Develop and implement outreach and inreach plan
      iii. Identify funding sources and apply for grants
      iv. Develop outreach and inreach messages
      v. Identify target audience
      vi. Develop training curriculum for riparian ecosystems