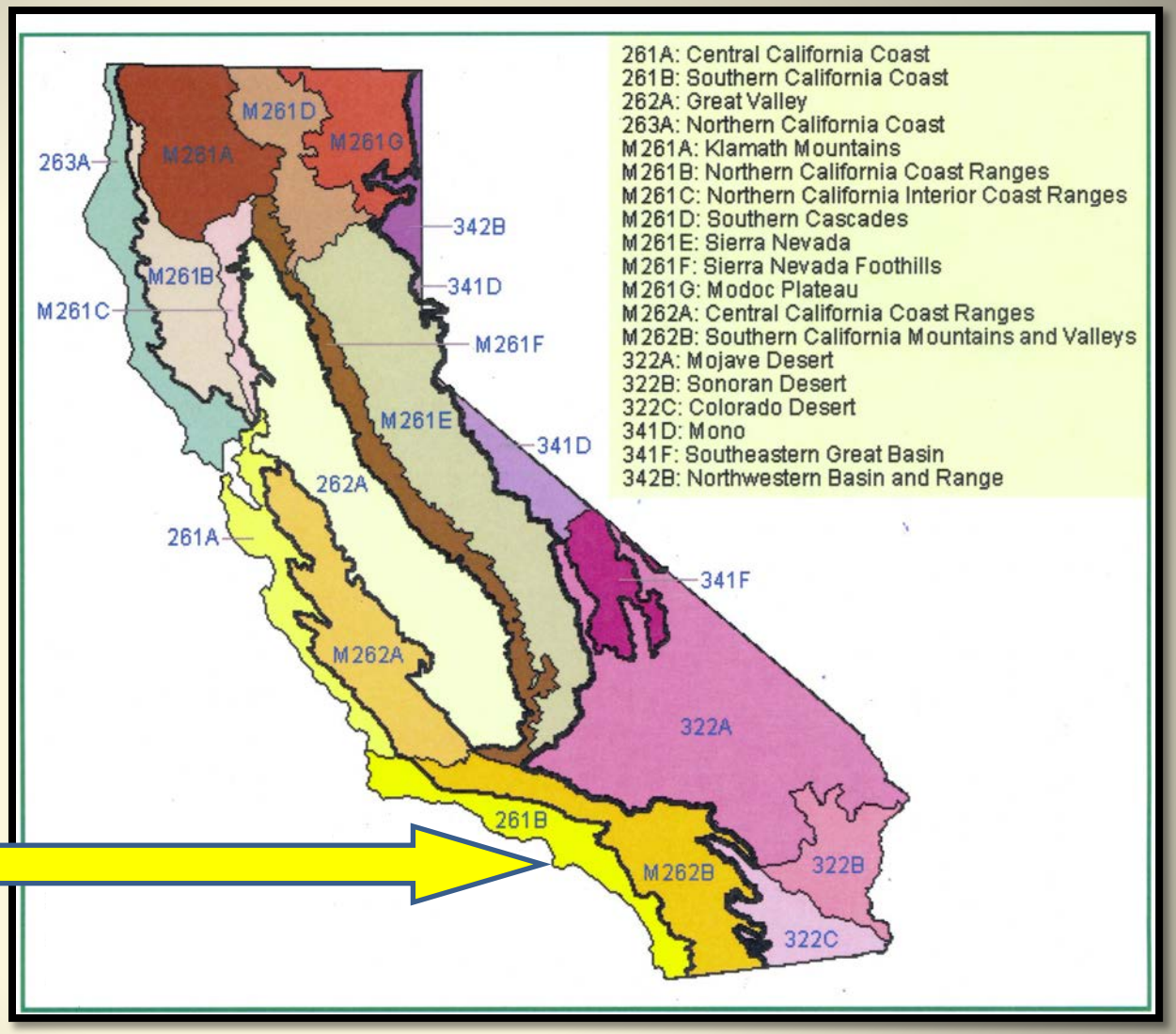
State Wildlife Action Plan 2015 Update

Southern California Mountain and Valleys & South Coast Ecoregions

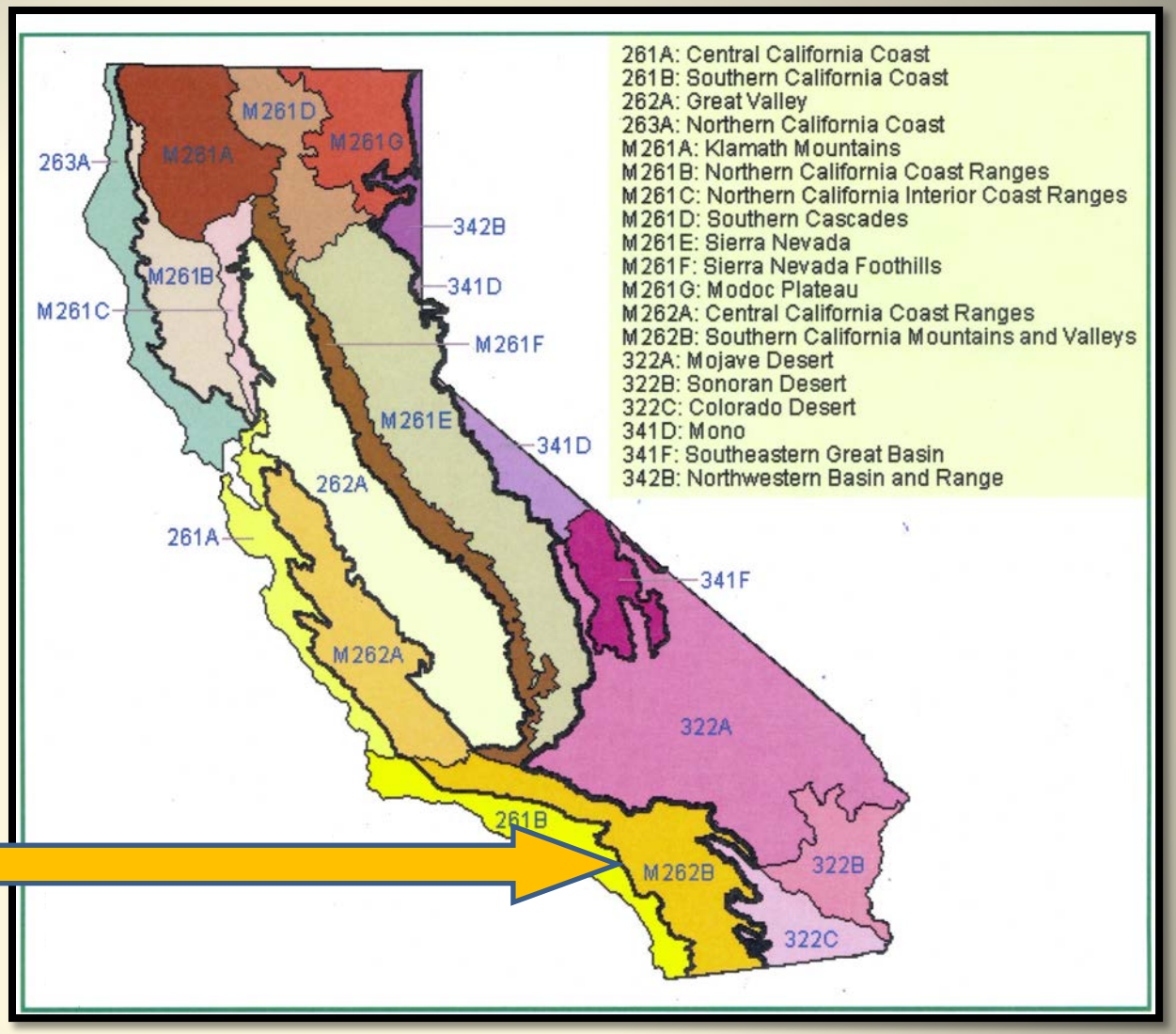
Karen Miner

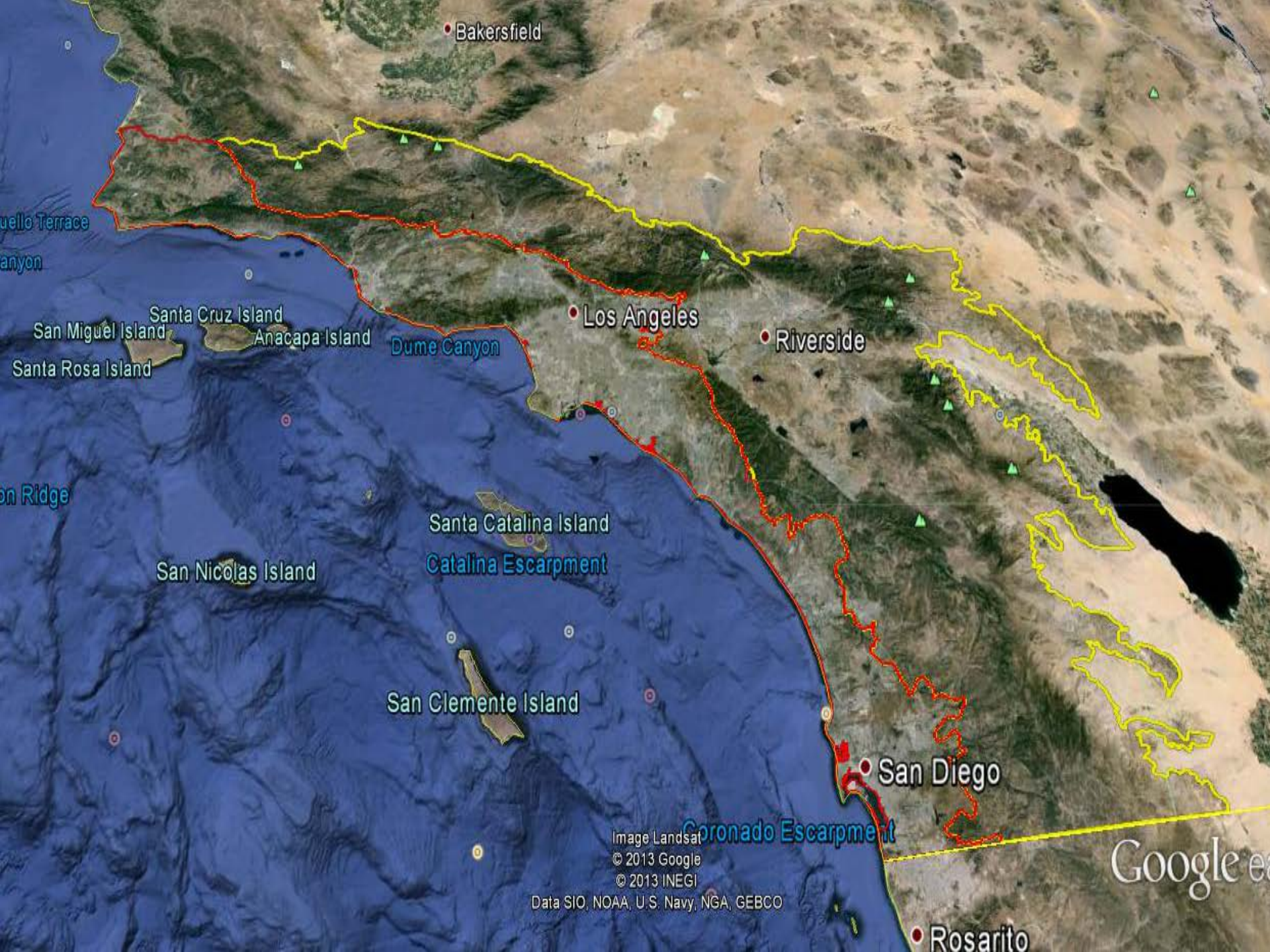
October 15, 2013

South Coast Ecoregion Section



Southern California Mountains and Valleys Ecoregion Section

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San Miguel Island
Anacapa Island
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Dume Canyon
Los Angeles
Riverside
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Santa Catalina Island
Catalina Escarpment
San Nicolas Island
San Clemente Island
San Diego
Coronado Escarpment
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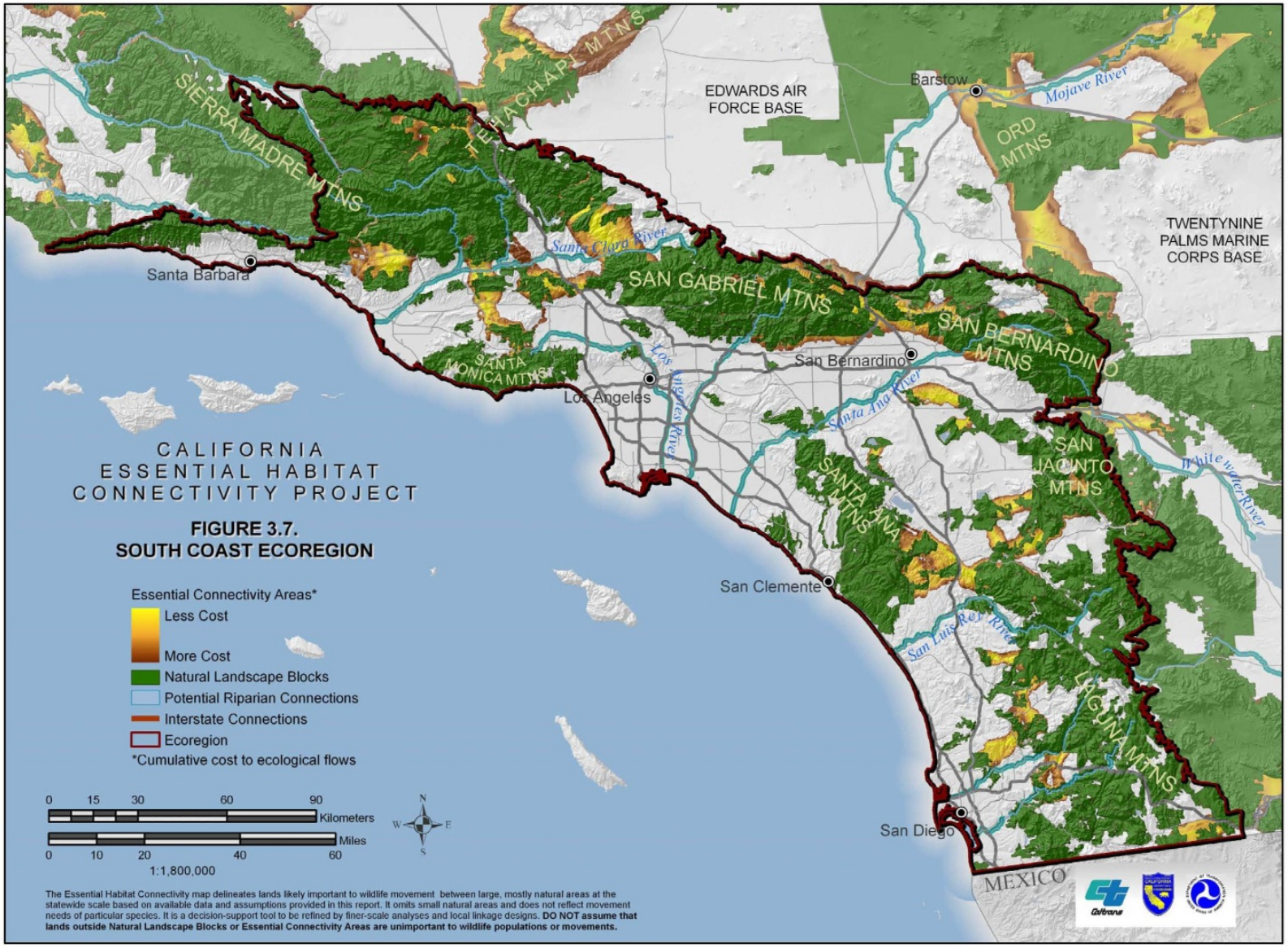
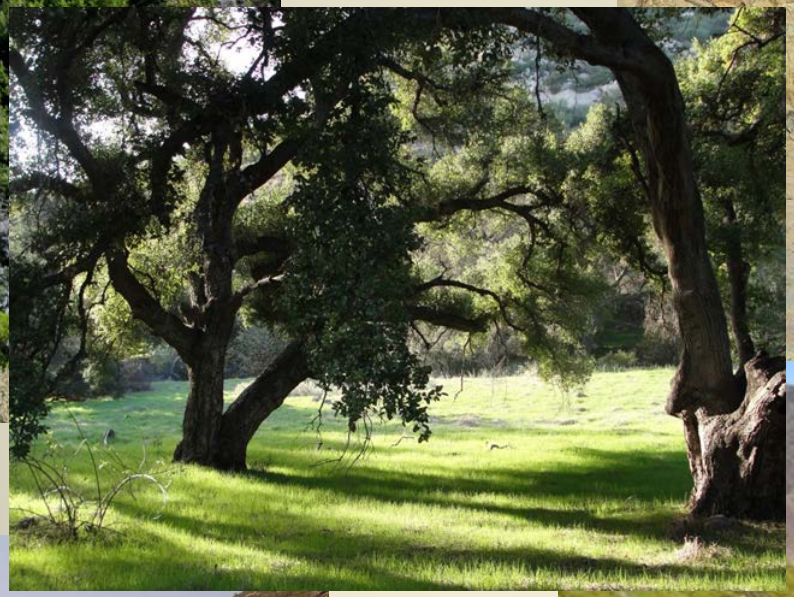
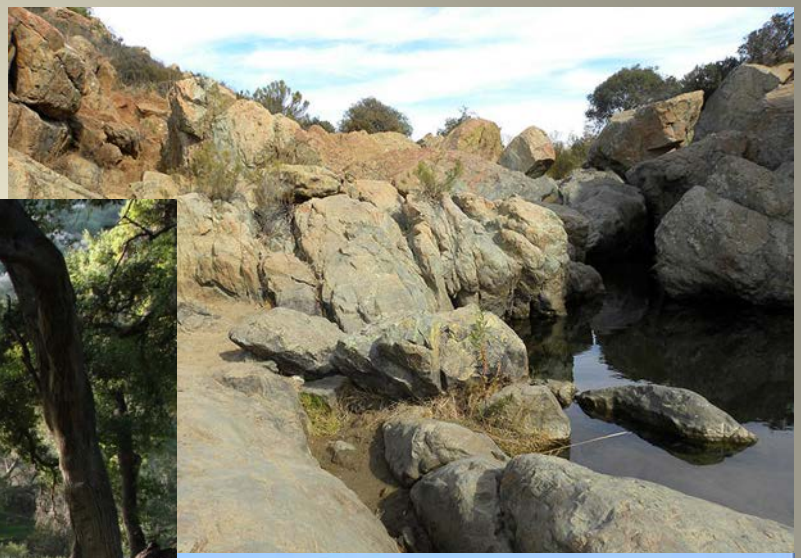

CALIFORNIA
ESSENTIAL HABITAT
CONNECTIVITY PROJECT
FIGURE 3.7.
SOUTH COAST ECOREGION
Essential Connectivity Areas*
Less Cost
More Cost
Natural Landscape Blocks
Potential Riparian Connections
Interstate Connections
Ecoregion
*Cumulative cost to ecological flows
0 15 30 60 90
Kilometers
Miles
0 10 20 40 60
1:1,800,000
N
W
E
S
The Essential Habitat Connectivity map delineates lands likely important to wildlife movement between large, mostly natural areas at the statewide scale based on available data and assumptions provided in this report. It omits small natural areas and does not reflect movement needs of particular species. It is a decision-support tool to be refined by finer-scale analyses and local linkage designs. DO NOT assume that lands outside Natural Landscape Blocks or Essential Connectivity Areas are unimportant to wildlife populations or movements.
SIERRA MADRE MTNS
TEHACHAPI MTNS
EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE
Barstow
Mojave River
ORD MTNS
TWENTYNINE PALMS MARINE CORPS BASE
Santa Barbara
Santa Clara River
SAN GABRIEL MTNS
SAN BERNARDINO MTNS
SANTA MONICA MTNS
Los Angeles
Los Angeles River
San Bernardino
Santa Ana River
SAN JACINTO MTNS
White water River
SANTA ANA MTNS
San Clemente
San Luis Rey River
LAGUNA MTNS
San Diego
MEXICO
Caltrans

Coastal Habitats

Lowland and Valley Habitats

Foothill Habitats



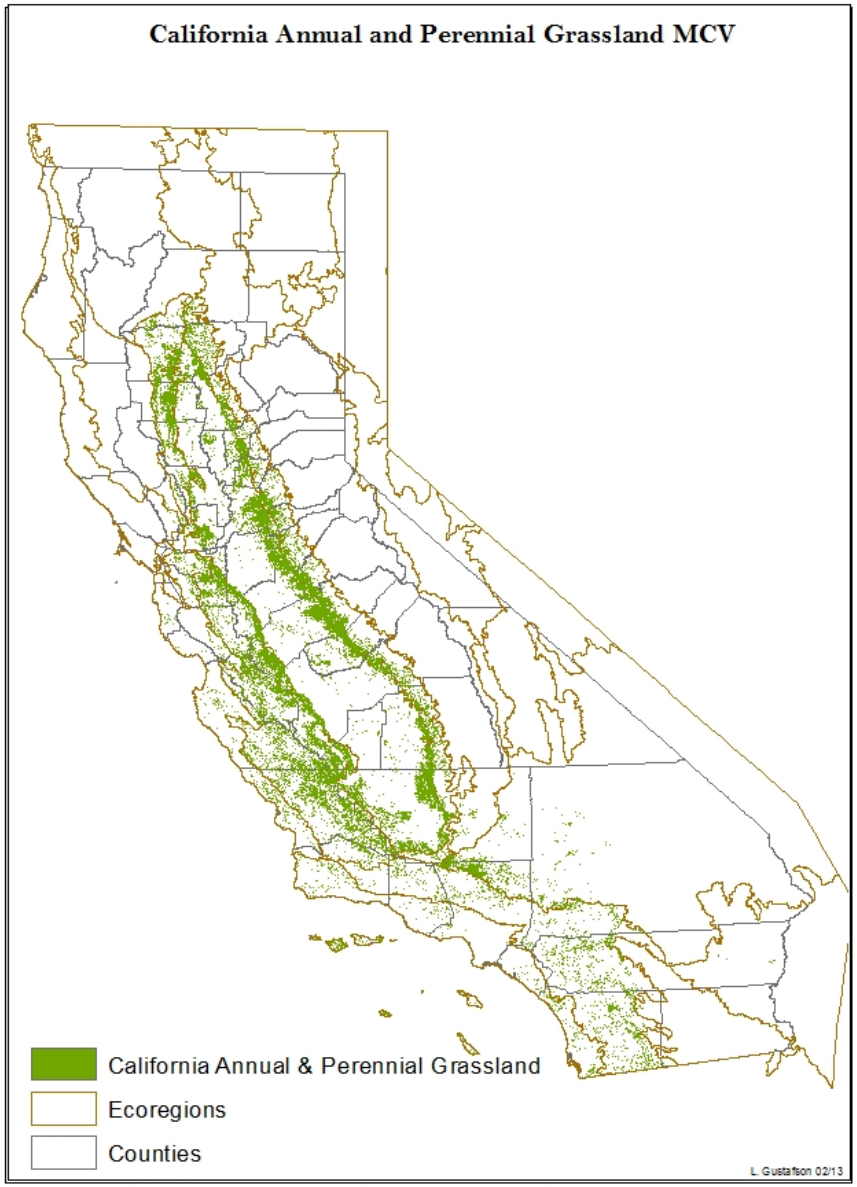


Mountain Habitats

About the Targets

- South Coast Ecoregion
  - Beach dune, saltmarsh, sage scrub, grasslands, vernal pools, oak woodlands, riparian, freshwater marsh
- Southern Cal Mtns & Valleys Ecoregion
  - Sage scrub, grasslands, riparian, forest/woodlands

National Vegetation Standard Macrogroup



Source: US Geological Survey, Gap Analysis Program (GAP). August 2011.
National Land Cover, v2

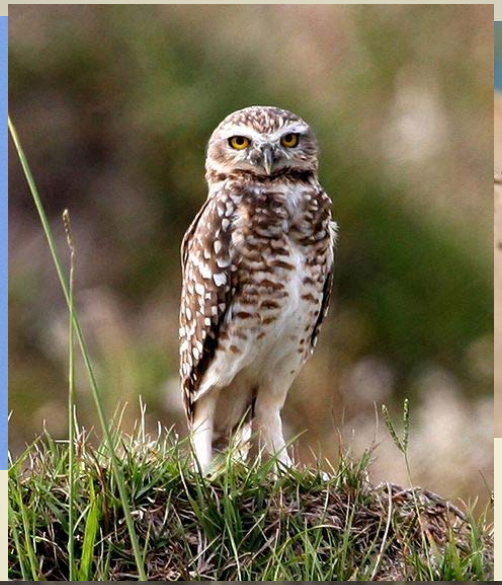
1a

Source: US Geological Survey, Gap Analysis Program (GAP). August 2011.
National Land Cover, v2

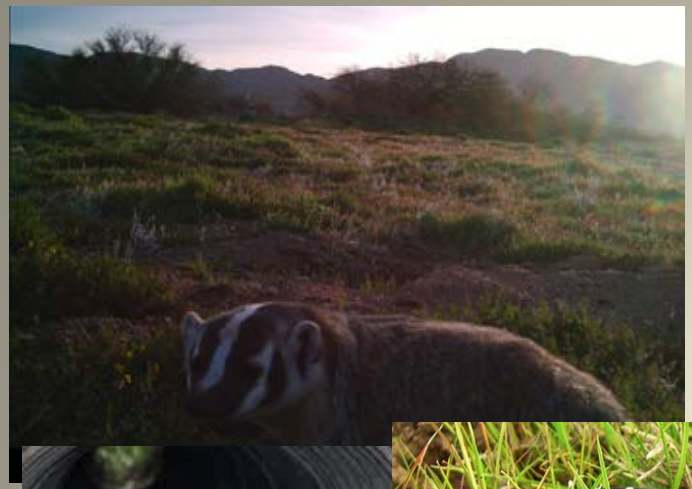
California Annual and Perennial Grasslands

Native Forbs

25 SGCNs Associated with Grasslands



More Grassland species



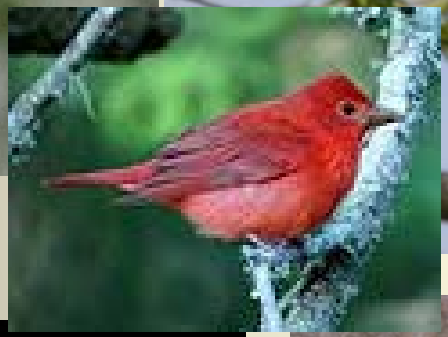
Threats to Grasslands

Strategies for Grassland

- Acquisition / Conservation Easements – with eye towards management needs.
- Provide Input on Local Planning – future NCCPs, zoning for development and crop establishment (particularly vineyards).
- Invasives Management –a strategic plan to effectively control invasive plants where do most good for SGCN and ecosystem function.
- Partner for Joint Advocacy - monetary incentives for conservation on working lands and control of rodenticide use
- Data Gathering and Analysis – distribution of SGCNs relative to threats and habitat needs to inform the other strategies.

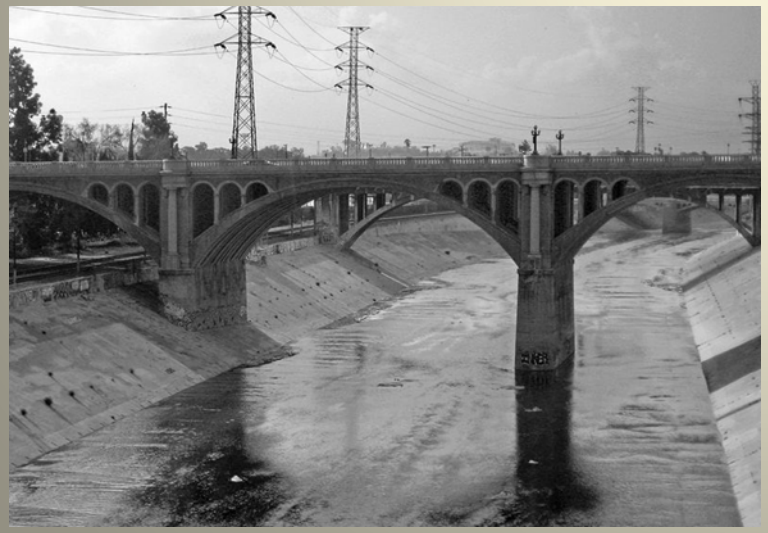
Southwestern North American Riparian Forest

38 SGCNs Associated with Riparian

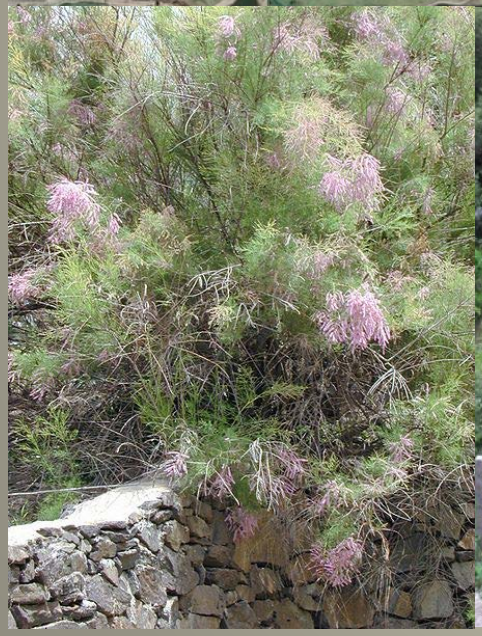


Land and Water

Threats to Riparian



Threats to Riparian



DISTRIBUTION OF ARUNDO DONAX IN COASTAL WATERSHEDS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: AS OF October 2004

This map and accompanying text descriptions of distribution data are available at: http://smslrwma.org

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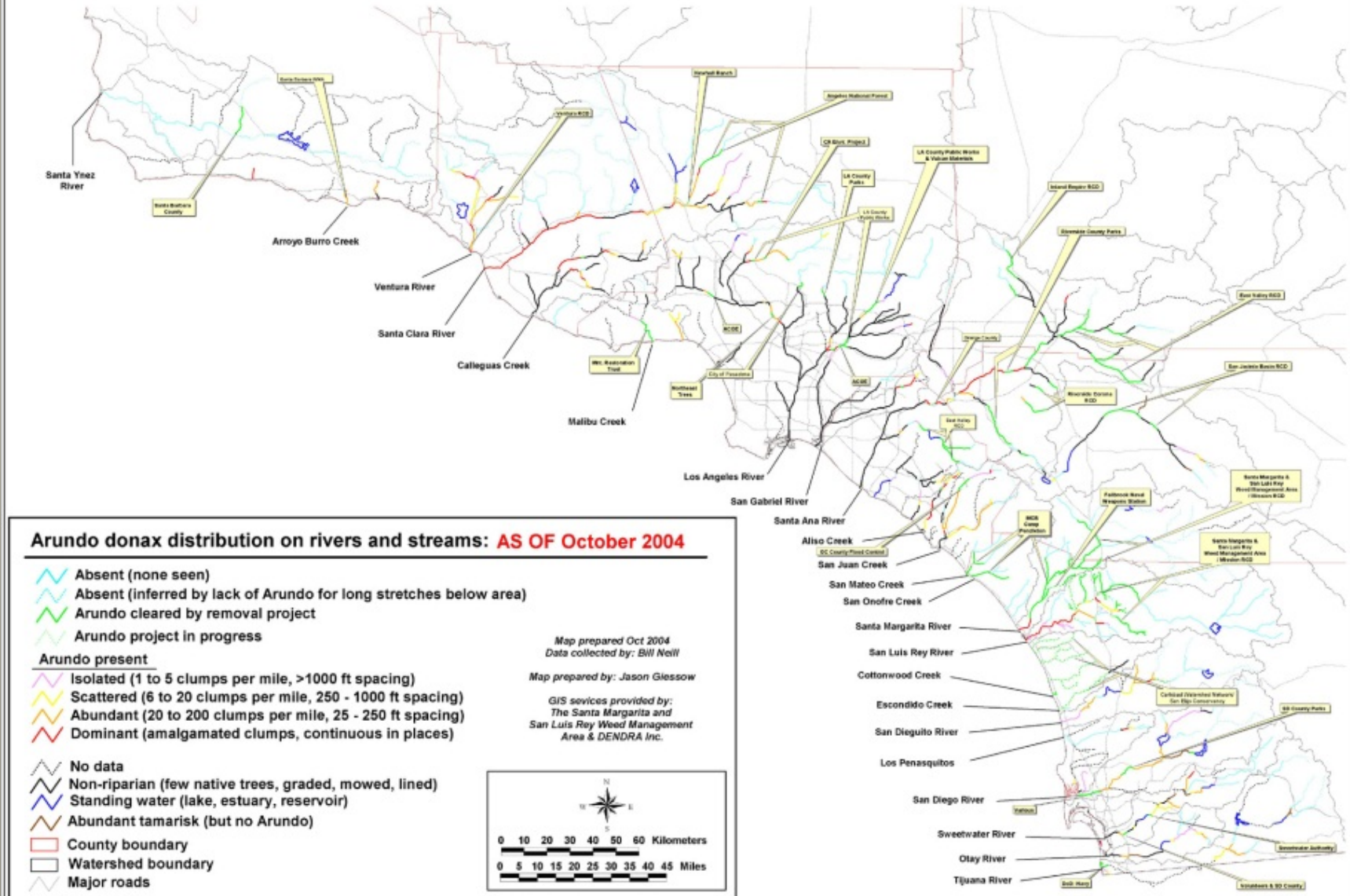
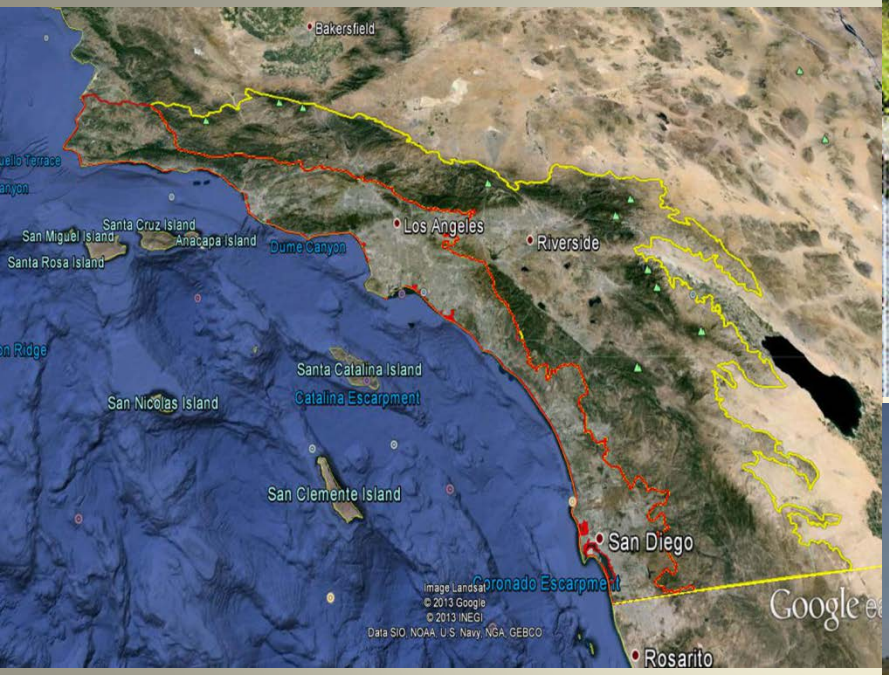
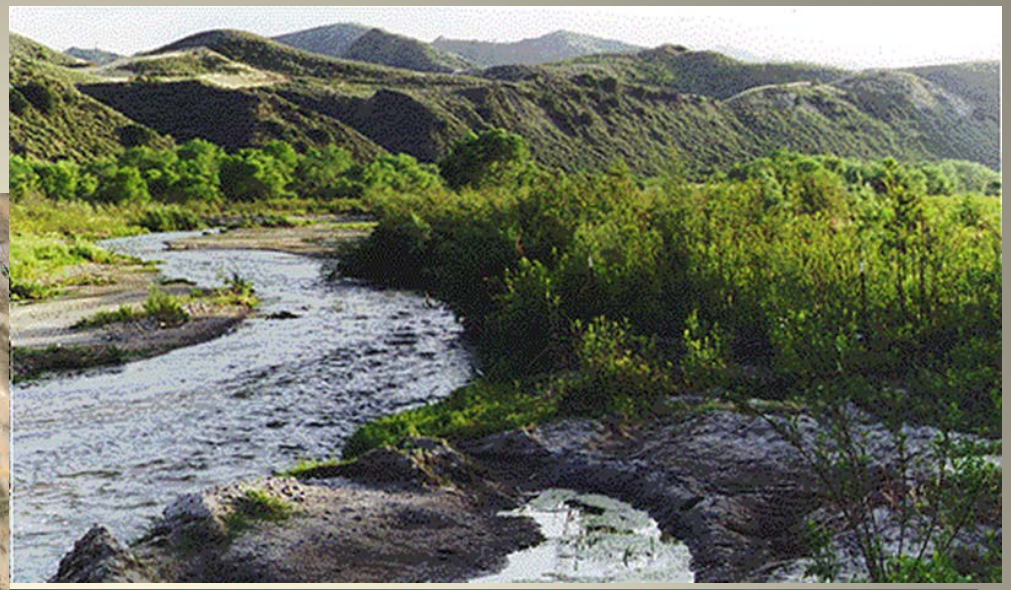
Jason Giessow
Santa Margarita and San Luis Rey Weed Management Area
& DENDRA Inc.
phone: 760-943-6924
email: wma@smslrwma.org or
jgiessow@cox.net



Strategies for Riparian

- Acquisition / Conservation Easements - areas that can support riparian habitat
- Provide Input on Local Planning - engage in local planning to encourage the use of bio(soft) engineering for flood control, retention of functional floodplains, deterrence and capture of waste and pollution
- Advocate for Effective Enforcement of Laws - enforcement of existing laws for water quality, homeless encampments, dumping, marijuana grows, etc. in priority areas
- Invasive Plant Management – identify priority areas for treatment, facilitate permit streamlining for riparian restoration projects, investigate a plant tax for problem species
- Provide Education and Outreach - efforts targeted at specific groups, communities, resource users, policy makers, stakeholders and/or the public to improve awareness and change knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors
- Data Gathering and Analysis – distribution of SGCNs relative to threats and habitat needs to inform the other strategies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