



# State Wildlife Action Plan 2015 Update

Sierra Nevada Ecoregion

High Elevation Wet Meadows

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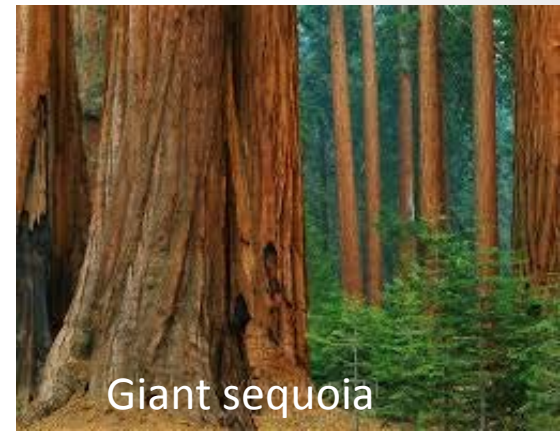
November 7, 2013

# Sierra Nevada Ecoregion

- Bounded by Lake Almanor in the north, Tehachapi Pass in the south
- 12 million acres, >20K mi<sup>2</sup>
- 3500 species, 400 endemics, 55 SGCNs
- 8 National Forests ,3 National Parks
- Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks, Lake Tahoe, and Mount Whitney



# Conservation Unit



# Conservation Unit (cont.)



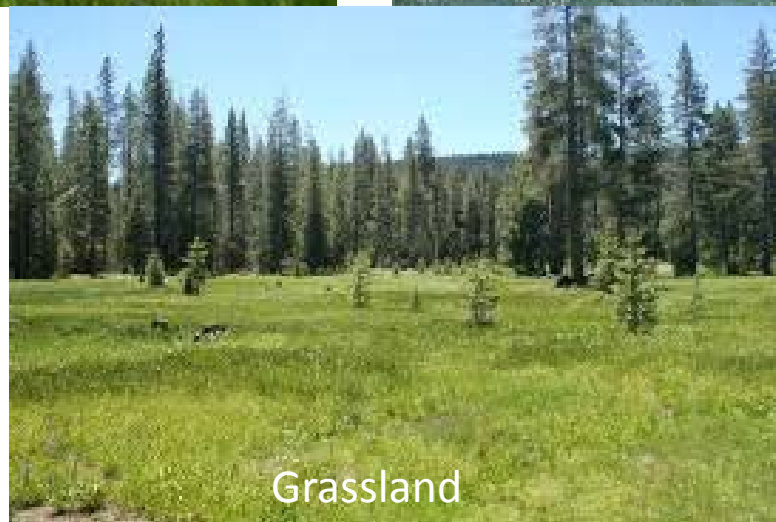
Montane riparian



Wet meadow



# Conservation Unit (cont.)



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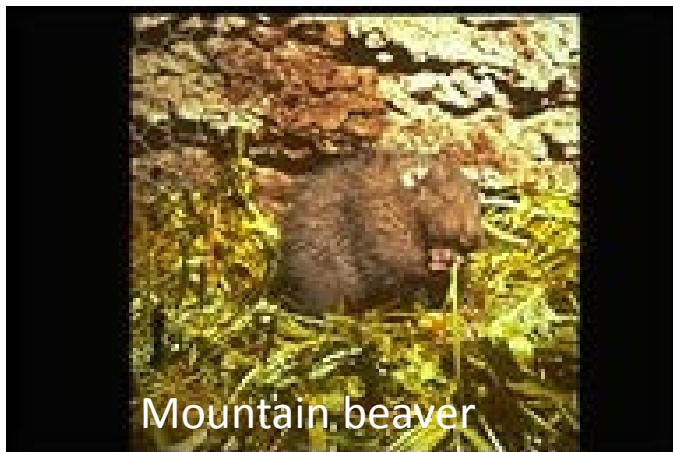
Wet meadow

# About the Target Habitat

- Meadow systems contribute a high proportion of the forage and cover for wildlife populations and help to filter sediments from waters of surrounding slopes
- Examples: Sierra Valley, Perazzo Meadow Complex, Sagehen, Hope/Charity Valleys, and Markwood/ Poison Meadow,
- Other high priorities: Mixed conifer, mixed chaparral, montane riparian



# Species of Concern





# Species of Concern (cont.)

- Numerous bats, owls, reptiles, frogs, birds, and a wolverine



# Environmental Stresses

- Change in annual average precipitation
- Change in snow pack (amount and duration)
- Change in sediment erosion-deposition regime
- Change in natural fire regime
- Change in soil moisture
- Change in groundwater tables



# Natural and Human-caused Threats

- Problematic native species
- Fire and fire suppression
- Inappropriate livestock farming and ranching
- Annual and perennial non-timber crops
- Roads & railroads
- Recreational activities



# Strategies

- **Protect land through acquisition or Conservation Easements.**
- Objectives:
  - Restore and protect degraded wet meadow habitat,
  - Conserve high quality wet meadow habitat



# Strategies (cont.)

- **Provide input on grazing management plans.**
- Objectives:
  - Reduce negative impacts from allotment grazing practices;
  - Improve enforcement of grazing lease conditions;
  - Permanently retire problematic grazing allotments





# Strategies (cont.)

- Implement grazing practices that benefit meadow ecosystems.
- Objectives:
  - Reduce grazing impacts to wet meadow function and structure;
  - Implement practices to reduce cattle use of meadows

