EAST ALAMEDA COUNTY CONSERVATION STRATEGY:
A BLUEPRINT FOR ACTION

User's Advisory Group

August 20 2009

Agenda

- Steering Committee Report
- Summary of Land Owner Workshop
- Implementation Committee
- Chapter 2 – Questions/Comments
- Conservation Goals and Objectives
- Project Schedule
- Public Comment

Chapter 2

Chapter 2

- Summary of Comments To Date:
  - Definitions of terms.
  - Spend more time linking land use to conservation value.
  - Provide more detail about limitation of the habitat models and the land cover mapping digitizing effort.
  - Provide more detail about land cover categories and justification for land cover descriptions.
  - Put more emphasis on the importance of wildlife linkages.
  - More emphasis on the importance of grassland and other common habitats in the county.

Chapter 2

Notable Changes:

1. Change Riverine land cover from an acreage number to linear miles. Discussion remains in Chapter 2.
2. Changed color gradient on Open Space figure.
3. Changed Alameda whipsnake habitat distribution to a recovery unit based approach.

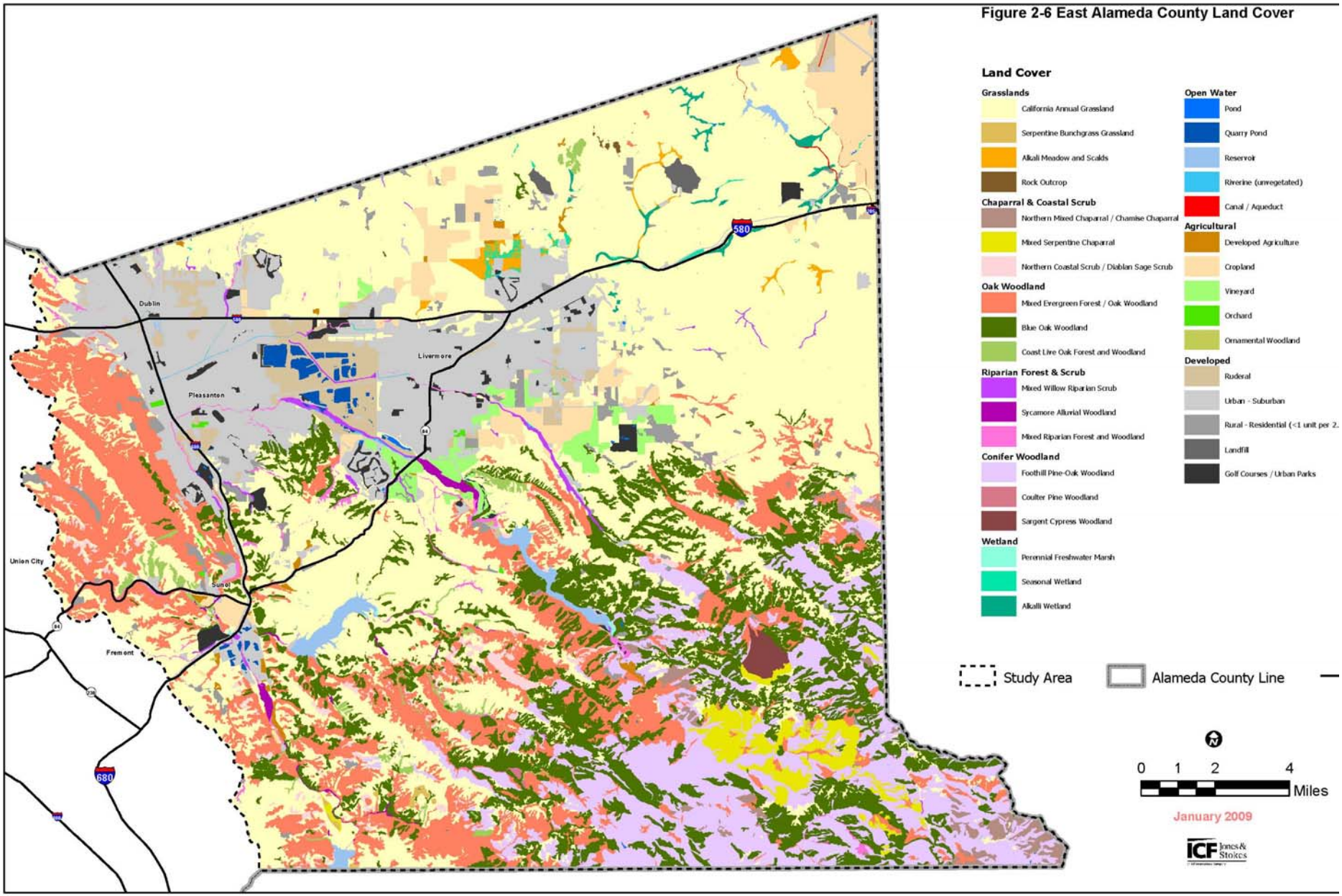
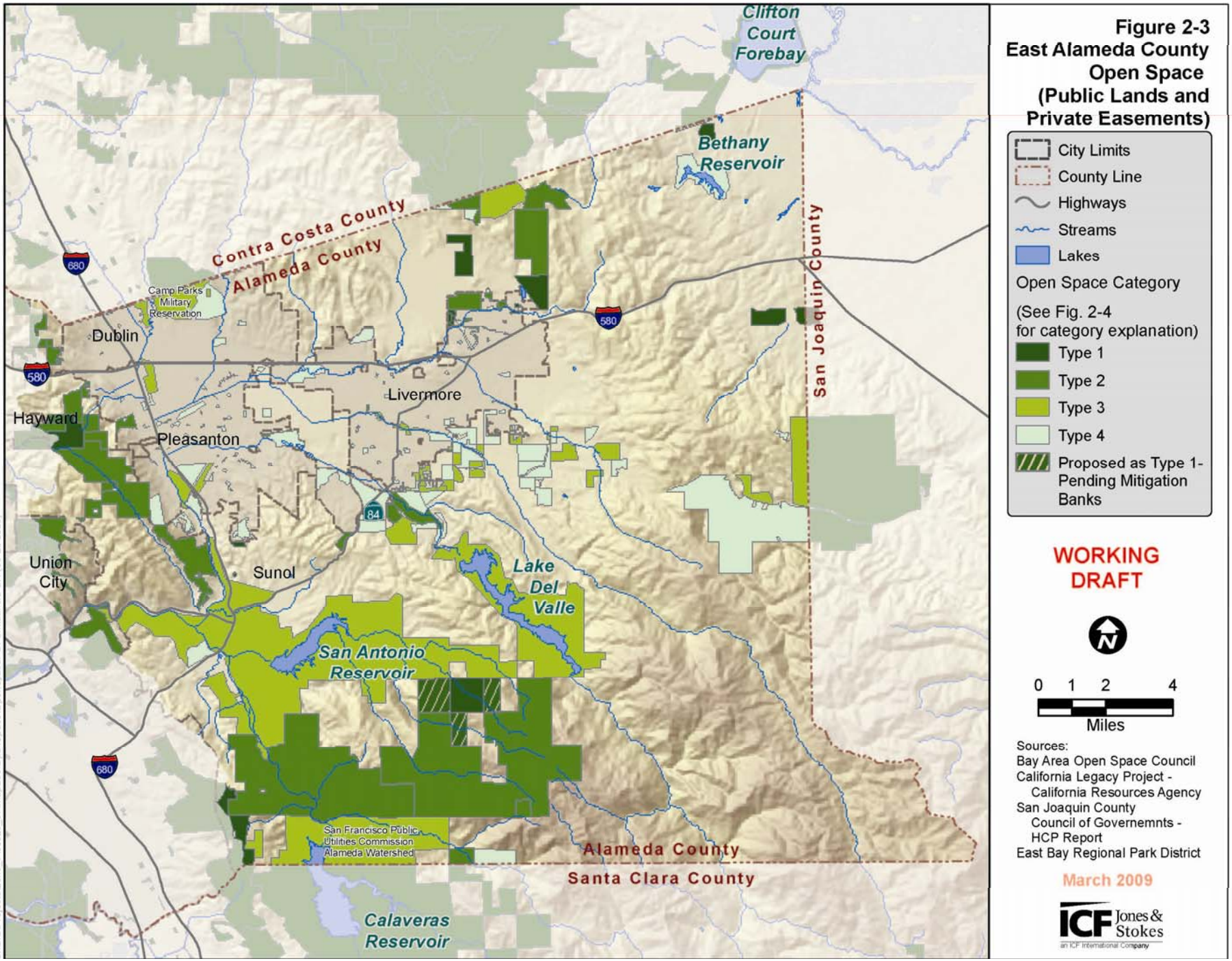


Figure 2-6 East Alameda County Land Cover
Land Cover
Grasslands
California Annual Grassland
Serpentine Bunchgrass Grassland
Alkali Meadow and Scalds
Rock Outcrop
Chaparral & Coastal Scrub
Northern Mixed Chaparral / Chamise Chaparral
Mixed Serpentine Chaparral
Northern Coastal Scrub / Diablan Sage Scrub
Oak Woodland
Mixed Evergreen Forest / Oak Woodland
Blue Oak Woodland
Coast Live Oak Forest and Woodland
Riparian Forest & Scrub
Mixed Willow Riparian Scrub
Sycamore Alluvial Woodland
Mixed Riparian Forest and Woodland
Conifer Woodland
Foothill Pine-Oak Woodland
Coulter Pine Woodland
Sargent Cypress Woodland
Wetland
Perennial Freshwater Marsh
Seasonal Wetland
Alkalli Wetland
Open Water
Pond
Quarry Pond
Reservoir
Riverine (unvegetated)
Canal / Aqueduct
Agricultural
Developed Agriculture
Cropland
Vineyard
Orchard
Ornamental Woodland
Developed
Ruderal
Urban - Suburban
Rural - Residential (<1 unit per 2.
Landfill
Golf Courses / Urban Parks
Study Area
Alameda County Line
Dublin
Livermore
Pleasanton
Sunol
Union City
Fremont
580
680
84
0 1 2 4
Miles
January 2009
ICF Jones & Stokes


Clifton Court Forebay
Bethany Reservoir
Contra Costa County
Alameda County
San Joaquin County
Camp Parks Military Reservation
Dublin
Livermore
Hayward
Pleasanton
Union City
Sunol
Lake Del Valle
San Antonio Reservoir
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Alameda Watershed
Alameda County
Santa Clara County
Calaveras Reservoir
680
580
84
Figure 2-3
East Alameda County Open Space (Public Lands and Private Easements)
City Limits
County Line
Highways
Streams
Lakes
Open Space Category
(See Fig. 2-4 for category explanation)
Type 1
Type 2
Type 3
Type 4
Proposed as Type 1- Pending Mitigation Banks
WORKING DRAFT
N
0 1 2 4
Miles
Sources:
Bay Area Open Space Council
California Legacy Project - California Resources Agency
San Joaquin County Council of Governemnts - HCP Report
East Bay Regional Park District
March 2009
ICF Jones & Stokes
an ICF International Company

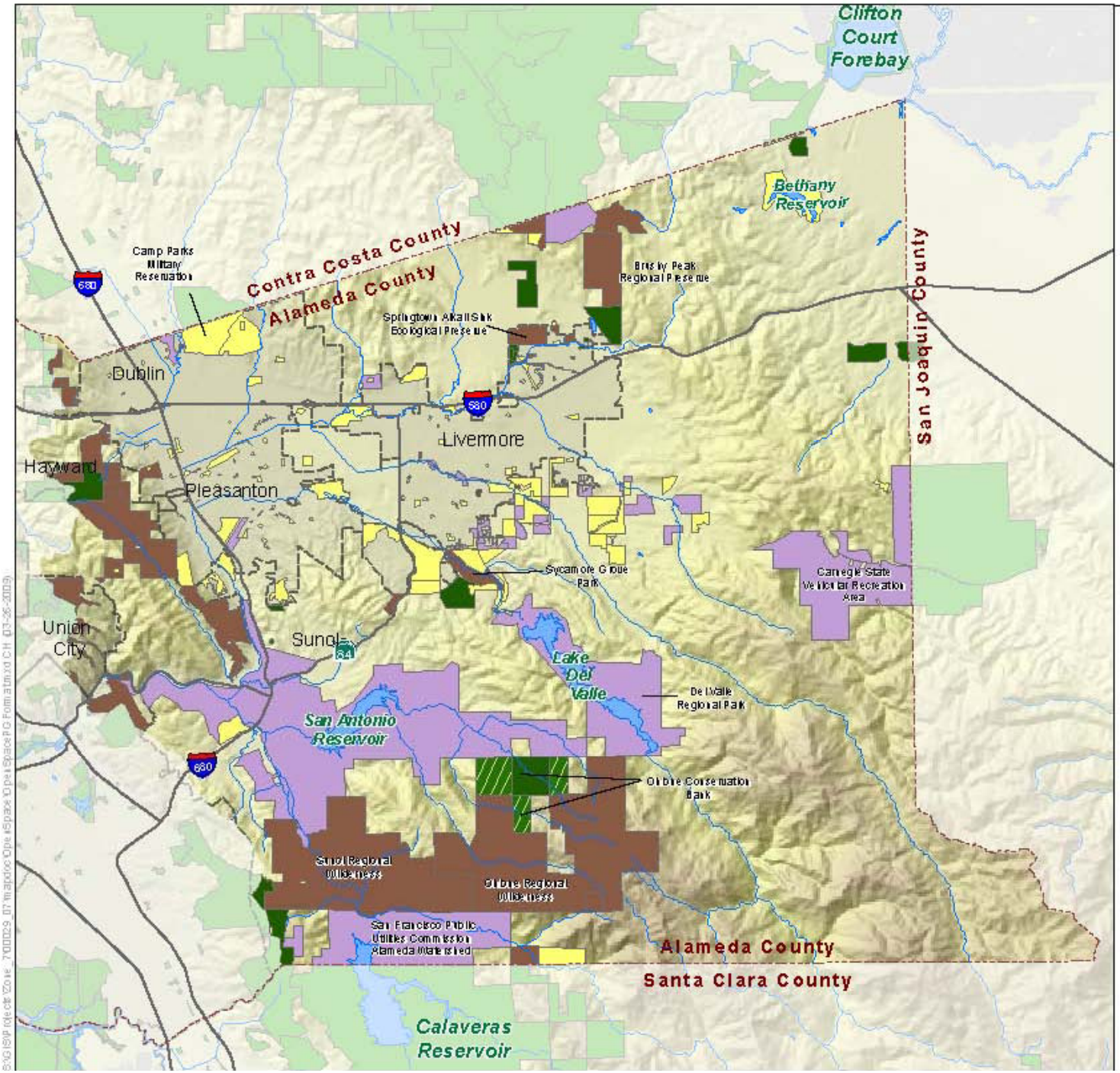


Figure 2-3
East Alameda County Open Space (Public Lands and Private Easements)

City Limits
County Line
Highways
Streams
Lakes

Open Space Category

(See Fig. 2-4 for category explanation)

Type 1
Type 2
Type 3
Type 4
Proposed as Type 1 - Pending Mitigation Banks

WORKING DRAFT

0 1 2 4
Miles

Sources:
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California Legacy Project - California Resources Agency
San Joaquin County Council of Governemnts - HCP Report
East Bay Regional Park District

April 2009

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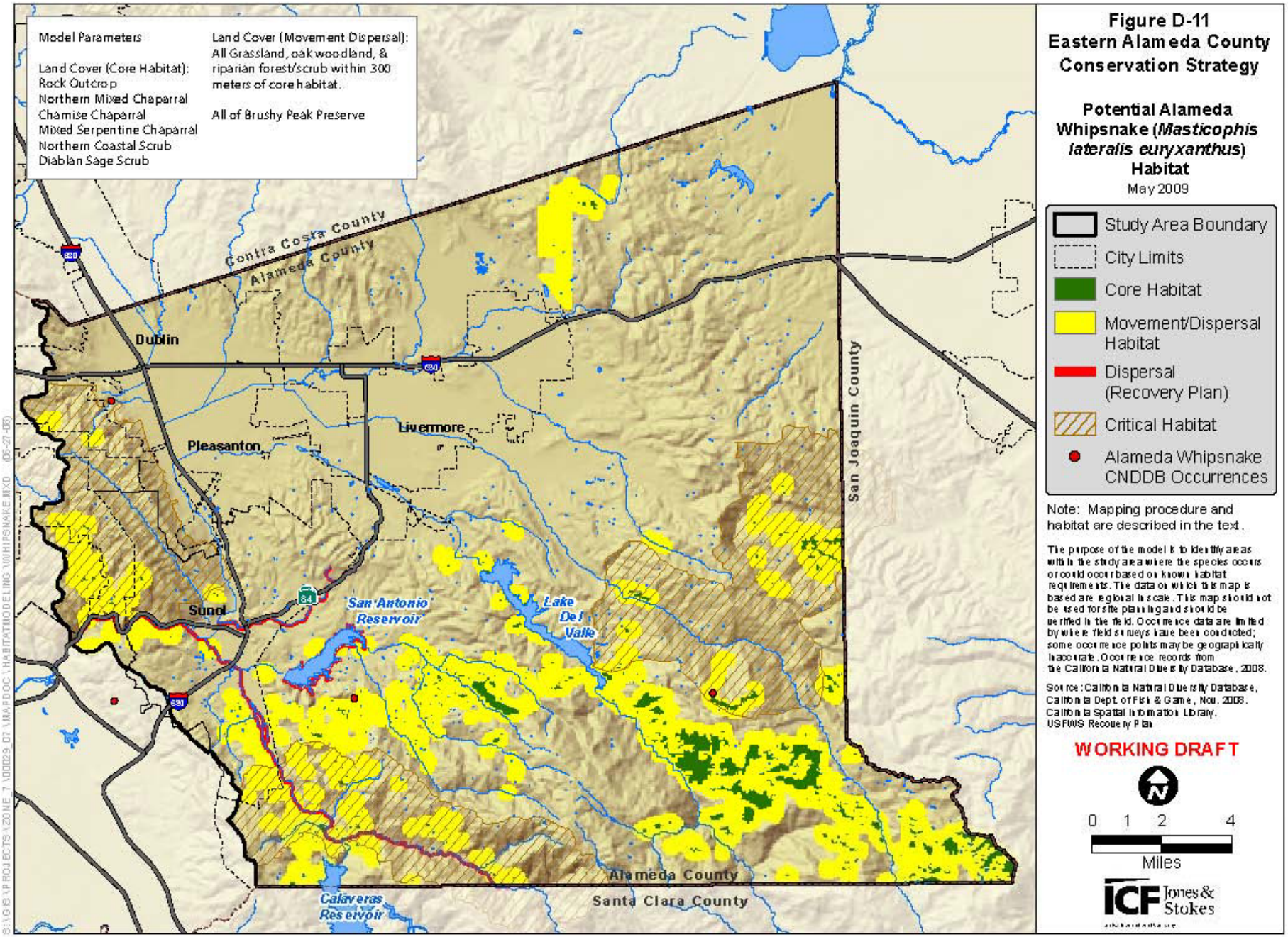
Model Parameters
Land Cover (Core Habitat):
Rock Outcrop
Northern Mixed Chaparral
Chamise Chaparral
Mixed Serpentine Chaparral
Northern Coastal Scrub
Diablan Sage Scrub
Land Cover (Movement Dispersal):
All Grassland, oak woodland, & riparian forest/scrub within 300 meters of core habitat.
All of Brushy Peak Preserve
Contra Costa County
Alameda County
Dublin
Pleasanton
Livermore
Sunol
San Antonio Reservoir
Lake Del Valle
San Joaquin County
Alameda County
Santa Clara County
Calaveras Reservoir
Figure D-11
Eastern Alameda County Conservation Strategy
Potential Alameda Whipsnake (Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus) Habitat
May 2009
Study Area Boundary
City Limits
Core Habitat
Movement/Dispersal Habitat
Dispersal (Recovery Plan)
Critical Habitat
Alameda Whipsnake CNDDB Occurrences
Note: Mapping procedure and habitat are described in the text.
The purpose of the model is to identify areas within the study area where the species occurs or could occur based on known habitat requirements. The data on which this map is based are regional in scale. This map should not be used for site planning and should be verified in the field. Occurrence data are limited by where field surveys have been conducted; some occurrence points may be geographically inaccurate. Occurrence records from the California Natural Diversity Database, 2008.
Source: California Natural Diversity Database, California Dept. of Fish & Game, Nov. 2008. California Spatial Information Library. USFWS Recovery Plan
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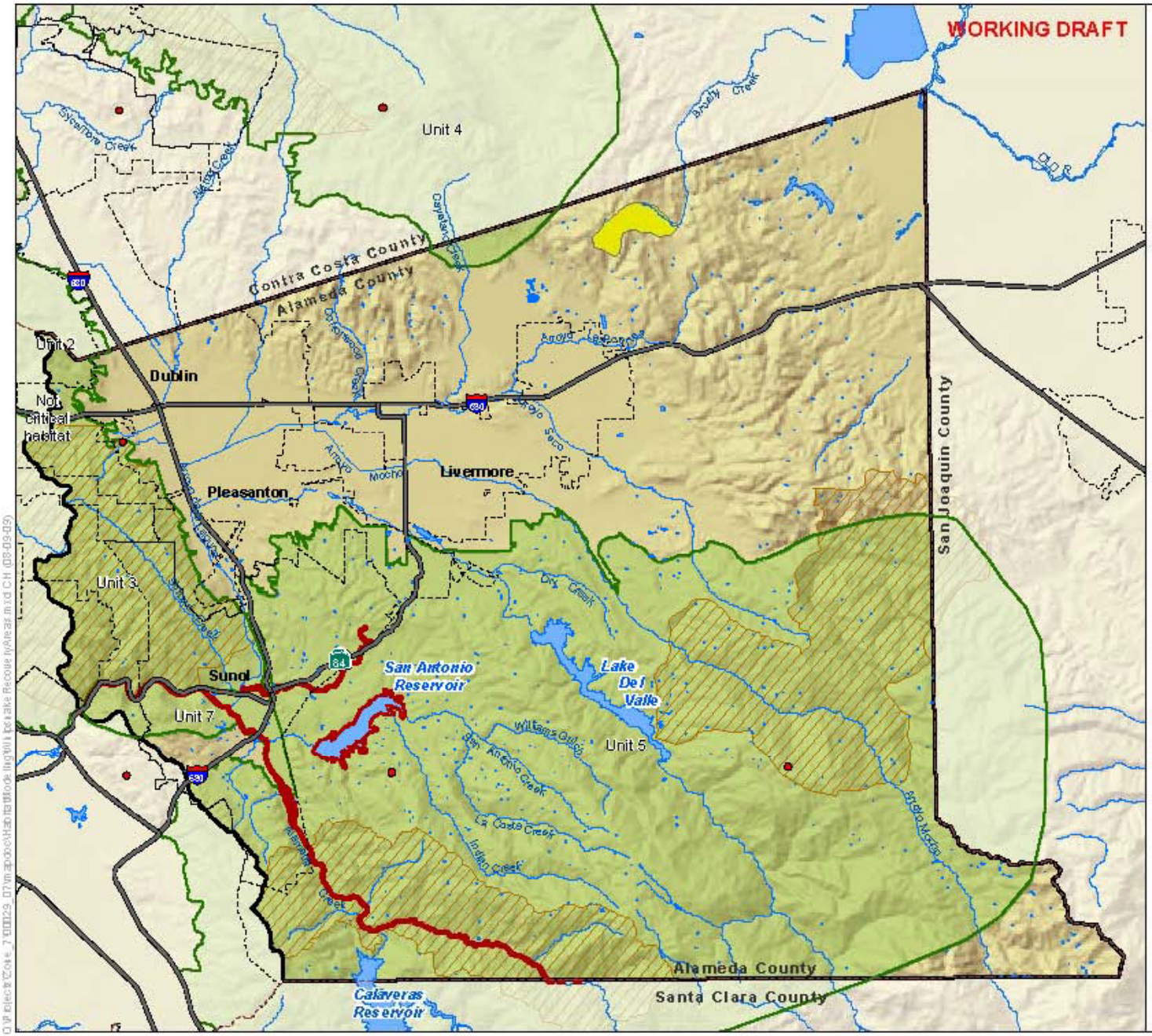

Figure D-11
Eastern Alameda County Conservation Strategy

Potential Alameda Whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*) Habitat

July 2009

- Study Area Boundary
- City Limits
- Alameda Whipsnake CNDDB Occurrences
- Critical Habitat
- Recovery Units
- Dispersal (Recovery Plan)
- Area of Potential Occurence

Note: Mapping procedure and habitat are described in the text.

The purpose of the map is to identify areas within the study area where the species occurs or could occur based on known habitat requirements. The data on which this map is based are regional in scale. This map should not be used for site planning and should be verified in the field. Occurrence data are limited by where field surveys have been conducted; some occurrence points may be geographically inaccurate. Occurrence records from the California Natural Diversity Database, 2008. Additional occurrences have been recorded in the study area but they are not publicly available and therefore are not displayed on this figure.

Source: California Natural Diversity Database, California Dept. of Fish & Game, Aug. 2008.
California Spatial Information Library.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2002.
USFWS Recovery Plan

0 1 2 4
Miles

ICF Jones & Stokes

Questions/Comments?

Conservation Goals and Objectives

- Conservation goals are typically qualitative
- Conservation objectives - conservation targets that collectively will achieve each goal
  - Tend to be measurable
  - Quantitative when possible
  - Focused and succinct
- Conservation actions support/achieve objectives
- Conservation goals and objectives summarize the entire conservation strategy
- Conservation goals and objectives often habitat-based to address needs of multiple covered species

Conservation Goals and Objectives

- Using hierarchical organization
  - **Landscape** level (e.g., ecosystem processes, wildlife movement, watershed function)
  - **Natural community** level (e.g., stream/riparian, grassland, wetland/pond,)
  - **Focal Species** level (e.g., single species or groups)

Conservation Goals

- **Goal 2.** Maintain and enhance the effective movement and genetic exchange of native organisms within and between natural communities inside the study area.
- **Goal 6.** Protect and enhance functional oak woodland communities (blue oak woodland, valley oak woodland, Coast live oak forest and woodland, mixed evergreen forest/oak woodland) to benefit focal species and promote the level of native biodiversity expected for these land cover types in the study area.
- **Goal 13.** Increase the California tiger salamander population in the study area to a level that allows for long term population stability without human intervention.

Natural Community Objectives

- ***Objective 6.1.*** Ground truth the EACCS land cover map of oak woodland stands and create a refined map that reflects oak species composition.
- ***Objective 6.2.*** Avoid or minimize direct impacts to oak woodland communities during project construction and indirect impacts that result from post-project activities by implementing avoidance measures and best management practices outlined in Tables 5-AA and 5-BB.
- ***Objective 6.3.*** To ensure the full range of oak woodland associations persist in the study area at levels that will sustain the natural processes and native species diversity typically found in this natural community, guarantee the management (through permanent protection or written assurances) on 75% (~15,574 acres) of blue oak woodland stands, 75% (~311 acres) of coast live oak forest and woodland stands, 75% (~16,633 acres) of mixed evergreen forest/oak woodland stands, and 90% (total acreage unknown) of valley oak woodland stands for ecosystem function expected within the study area.
- ***Objective 6.4.*** Enhance all stands of oak woodland in the study area which are being managed for ecosystem function by promoting regeneration and recruitment of native species and when necessary, mimicking natural processes which are typically found in oak woodlands in eastern Alameda County.

Natural Community Objectives

- ***Objective 6.1.*** Ground truth the EACCS land cover map of oak woodland stands and create a refined map that reflects oak species composition, habitat quality, and restoration opportunities.

- **Conservation Action OAK-1:** During project-level analysis of parcels with oak woodlands, applicants will provide information on oak woodland stand size, species composition and restoration potential, to authorizing land use jurisdiction as part of the permit process for inclusion into the EACCS database.
- **Conservation Action OAK-2:** During assessment of lands for mitigation the land owner will provide information on oak woodland stand size and species composition to the authorizing land use jurisdiction for inclusion into the EACCS database.
- **Conservation Action OAK-3:** Provide funding to map oak woodland stand size, species composition, and restoration potential on all Open Space (Type 1-3) in the study area for inclusion in the EACCS database.

Natural Community Objectives

- *Objective 6.3.* To ensure the full range of oak woodland associations persist in the study area at levels that will sustain the natural processes and native species diversity typically found in this natural community, guarantee the management (through permanent protection or written assurances) on 75% (~15,574 acres) of blue oak woodland stands…..

- **Conservation Action OAK-4:** Mitigate for the loss of oak woodland habitats using the guidelines described in Table 5-XX, Mitigation Guidelines for Natural Communities in Eastern Alameda County.
- **Conservation Action OAK-5:** Acquire parcels, with stands of oak woodland, through fee title purchase or conservation easement which meet the Conservation Land Selection Criteria outlined in Table 5-ZZ.
- **Conservation Action OAK-6:** Establish an incentive program for private land owners to guarantee the management of oak woodland land cover types on private lands which will promote regeneration and recruitment of native species and support the natural processes which are typically found in this natural community.

Focal Species Objectives

- ***Objective 13.1.*** Avoid and minimize direct impacts to California tiger salamander (mortality of individuals and loss of occupied aquatic or upland habitat) during project construction and indirect impacts that result from post-project activities by implementing avoidance measures and best management practices outlined in Tables 5-AA and 5-BB.
- ***Objective 13.2.*** Protect existing California tiger salamander populations and allow for expansion of metapopulations.
- ***Objective 13.3.*** Enhance suitable California tiger salamander habitat on public and private lands in the study area through implementation of California tiger salamander-specific measures in management plans.

Important Points

- Goals are truly visionary.
- Objective should seem attainable.
- Conservation Actions are very tangible.
- Conservation Actions Support the Objectives and the Objective Support the Goals.
- A single Conservation Action could help achieve Goals and Objectives at every level of the hierarchy.
- Goals and Objectives will be achieved through mitigation for projects as well as other types of conservation.

Questions?

Public Comment

- Weblink: www.eastalco-conservation.org

- EACCS Coordinator

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