

Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy Overview

East Alameda County Conservation Strategy
User Advisory Group Meeting

May 15, 2008

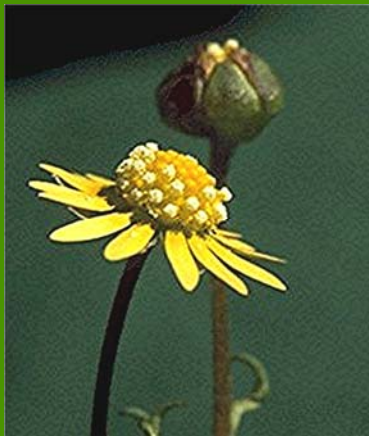
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
California Department of Fish and Game

California Tiger Salamander



Four Listed Plant Species

Burke's goldfield, Sebastopol meadowfoam, Sonoma sunshine,
many-flowered navarretia



Public Input and Peer Review

- Public Meetings May 24, 2004, Sept 12, 2005
- Peer Review input Fall 2004
- Public Meeting and Review of Draft, Sept 2005
- Final Conservation Strategy, Dec 2005
- Programmatic Biological Opinion, Nov 2007
- Local Government Implementation Committee On Going

Web site –

http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/santa_rosa_conservation.html and http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/departments/communitydev/boards/SR_Plain_Conservation/Pages/default.aspx

Team Goals

- Develop a habitat conservation strategy for California tiger salamander and listed plant species
- Identify proposed areas for conservation
- Develop an implementation framework which couples conservation actions with development related impacts
- Establish development process predictability

Conservation Strategy

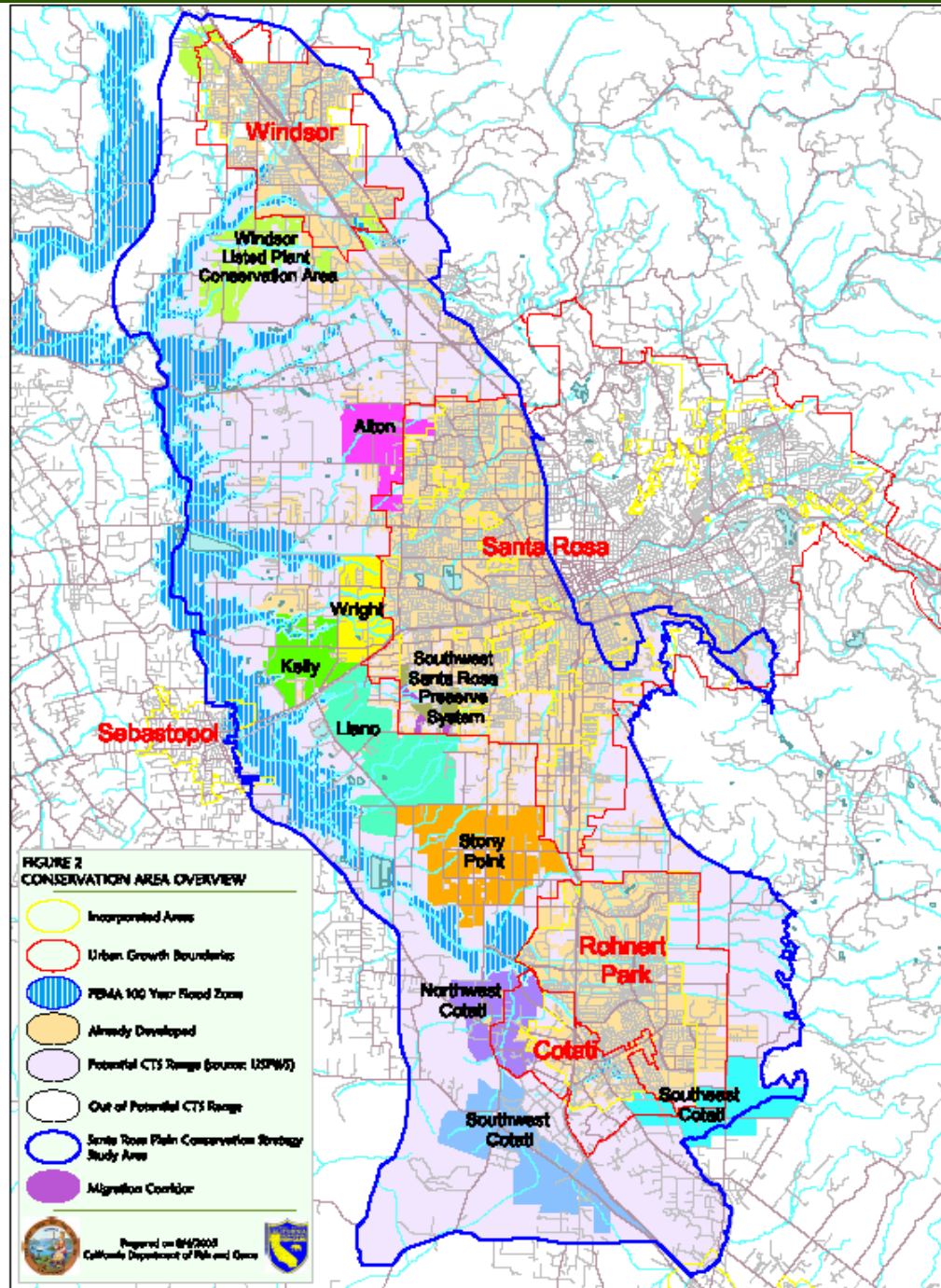
- Biological framework upon which future regulatory actions will be based
- Biological basis for a permitting process for projects in the potential range of listed species
- Provide consistency, timeliness and certainty for permitted activities
- Strategy covers the potential range of species

Conservation Strategy

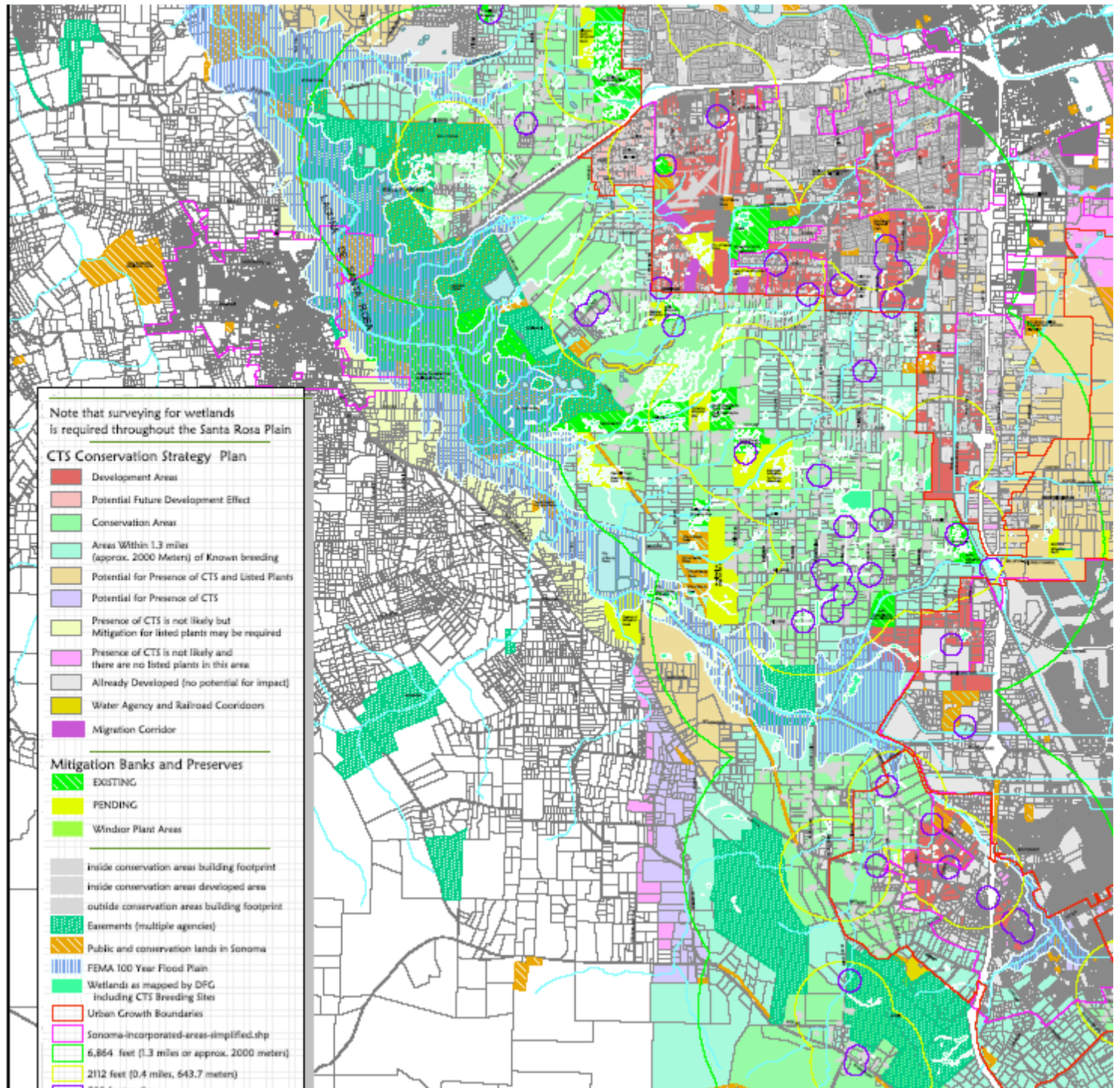
- Establishes interim and long term mitigation requirements
- Designates conservation areas
- Describes how preserves will be established and managed
- Guidelines translocation, adaptive management and funding
- Describes a potential implementation process

Conservation Areas

- Known distribution of species
- Presence of suitable habitat
- Large blocks of suitable or restorable land
- Adjacency to existing preserves

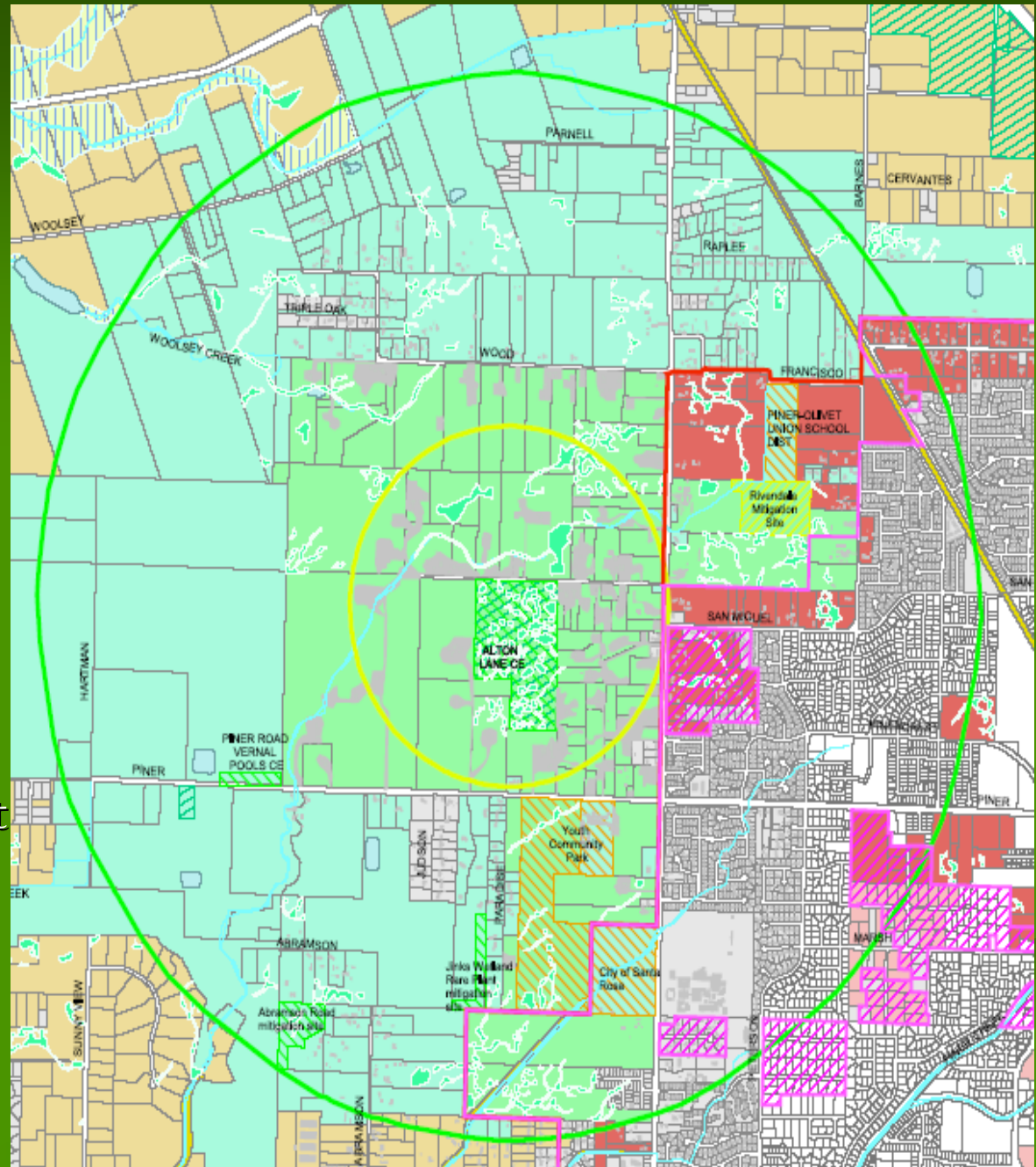


Development of the Strategy, Reliance on GIS



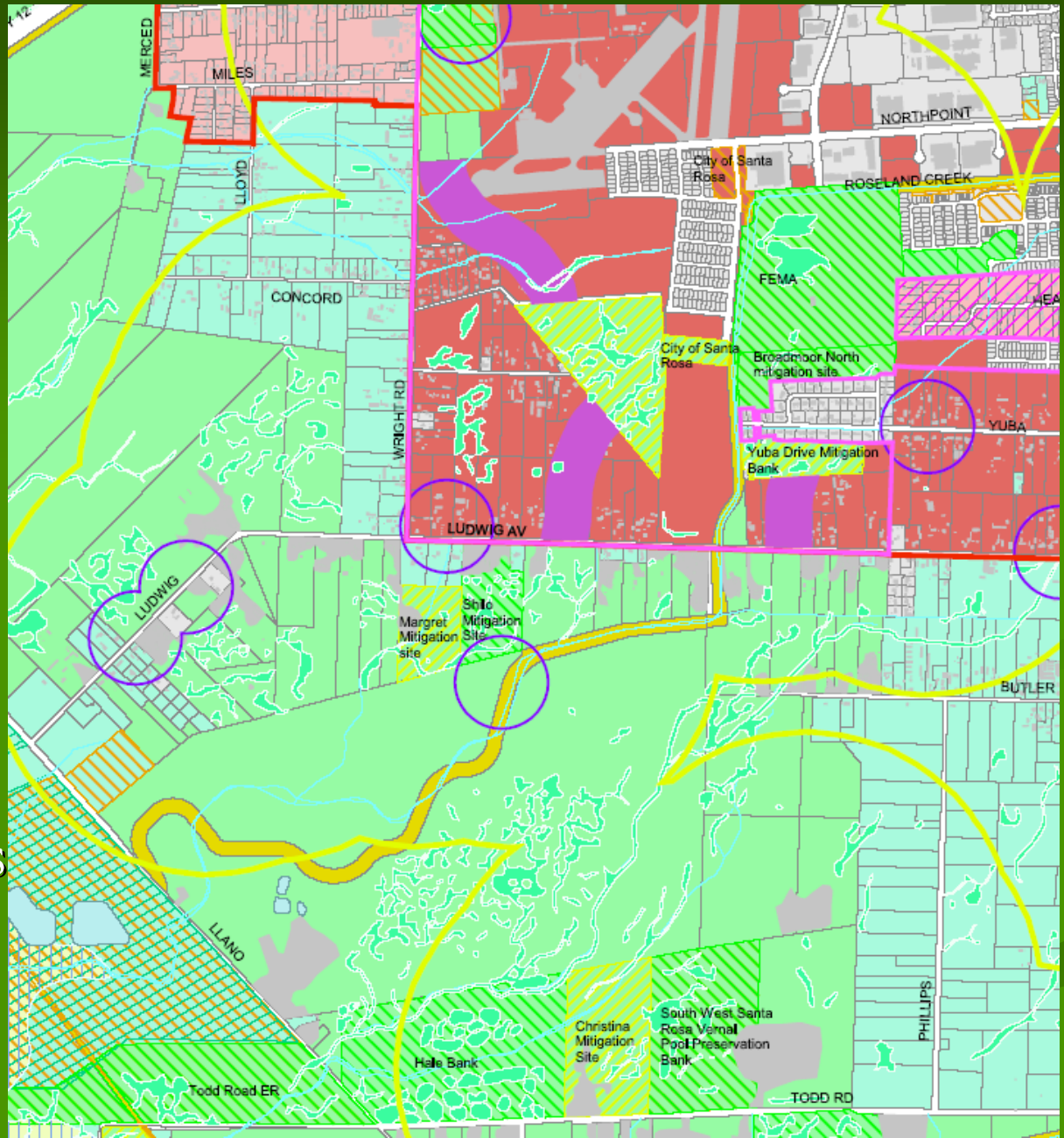
Data Layers

- Biological
 - Wetlands
 - Plants
 - CTS occurrence
- Land use
- Property information
- Existing preserves
- Proposed development
- Infrastructure

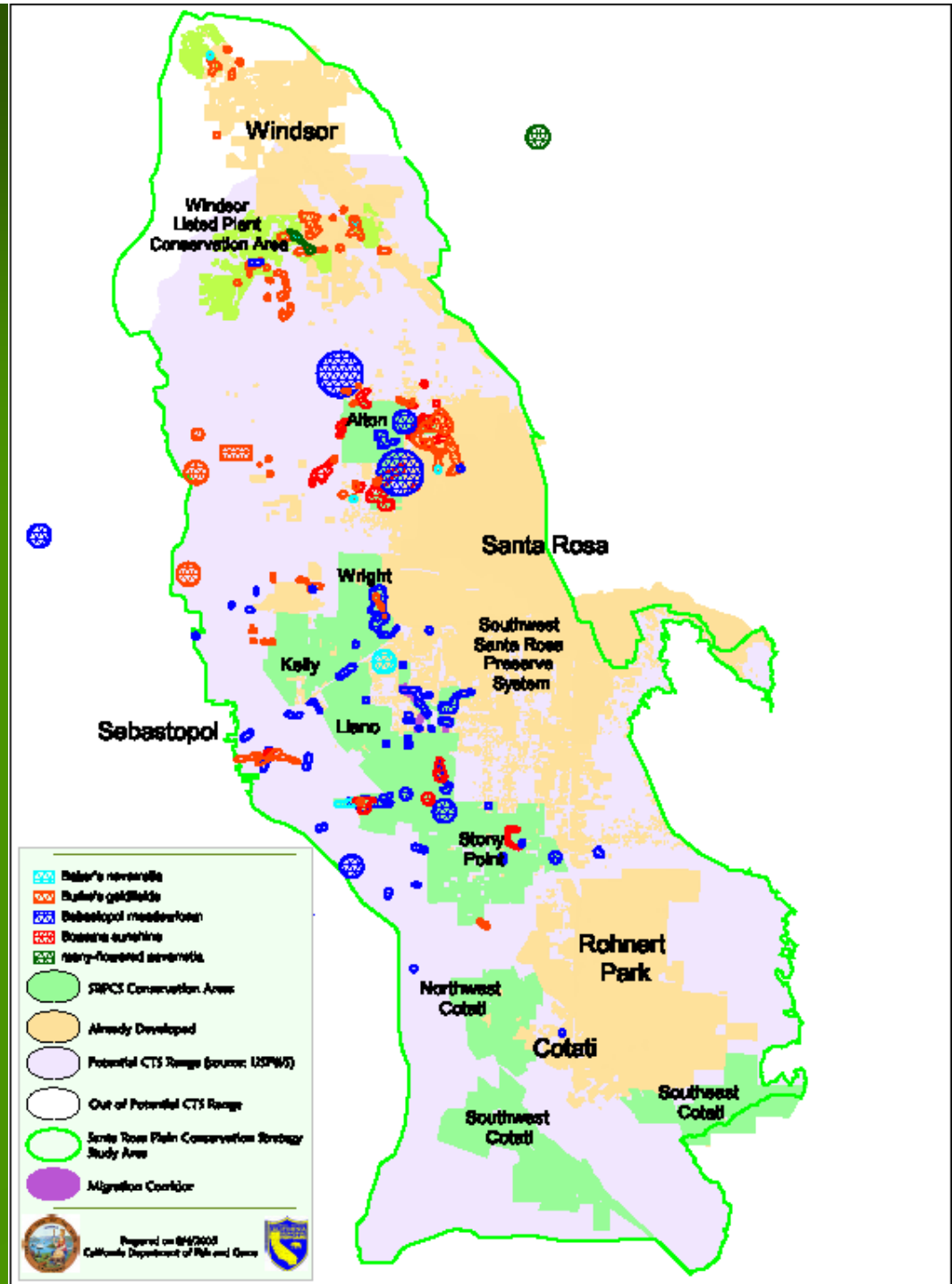


Preserve Design

- Constraints
- Corridors
- Future Development
- Land use
- Existing preserves
- Where the habitat is
- Where the species are



Plant Distribution Data used in Developing the Conservation Strategy



Preserve Establishment

- Preserve Evaluation Criteria
- Mitigation Banks
- Translocation
- Habitat Improvement
- Management Plans
- Preserve Funding
- Monitoring & Adaptive Management

Mitigation

- Minimization Measures
- Mitigation Ratios
- Species Fund
- Not Likely To Affect
- Linear Projects
- Interim Guidelines

The Santa Rosa Conservation Strategy is a collaborative planning document intended to facilitate the regulatory process and ensure meaningful resource conservation.

Lessons Learned

- Expedite time frame and improve efficiency with use of consultants and a jurisdiction/agency team approach
- All jurisdictions represented in development of strategy
- Open Stakeholder process improves strategy development
- More public input throughout the development of the Strategy

EACCS Benefits

- Regional approach to conservation
- Better conservation for listed and special status species (no longer piecemeal)
- Efficiency in management and acquisition of preserves
- Streamlined permitting process
- Open dialogue between jurisdictions, stakeholders, and regulatory agencies