

# Biogeographic Data Branch GIS Resources & Tools: CNDDB, BIOS, ACE

Misty Nelson, CNDDB Lead Scientist California GIS Council Meeting June 14, 2018





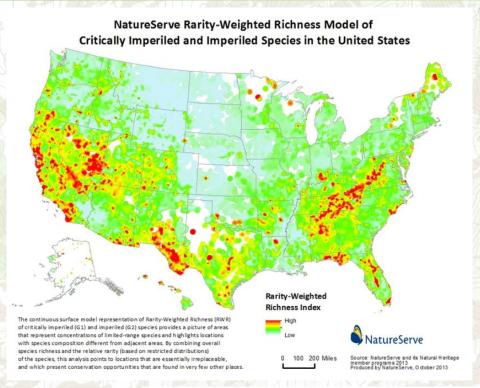






#### Why we do what we do





#### **BDB Mission:**

"...to collaborate with others to collect, manage, analyze, and distribute biogeographic data for effective conservation and management of California's natural resources."

RANK	DIVERSITY	RISK	ENDEMISM	EXTINCTIONS
1	California	Hawaii	California	Hawaii
2	Texas	California	Hawaii	Alabama
3	Arizona	Nevada	Texas	California
4	New Mexico	Alabama	Florida	Texas
5	Alabama	Utah	Utah	Georgia

# How we do what we do









#### What is BIOS



# Biogeographic Information and Observation System BIOS is an internet map-based catalog of biological data.

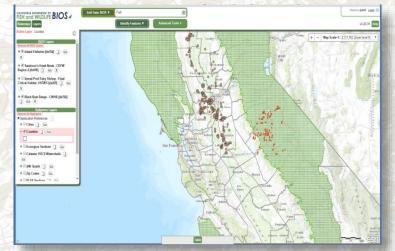
Goal: provide an integrated system to gather, manage, map, and query biological data for use by the Department and its partners.



#### Purpose



- Created in response to mandate to improve management of CDFW data
- Designed as a "GIS-lite" tool for those with minimal GIS experience; doesn't require GIS software
- Primarily a data display, query, and archive tool. Analytical tools continue to evolve
- Multi-agency collaboration (USGS, CalFish, etc.)





#### **Available Data**

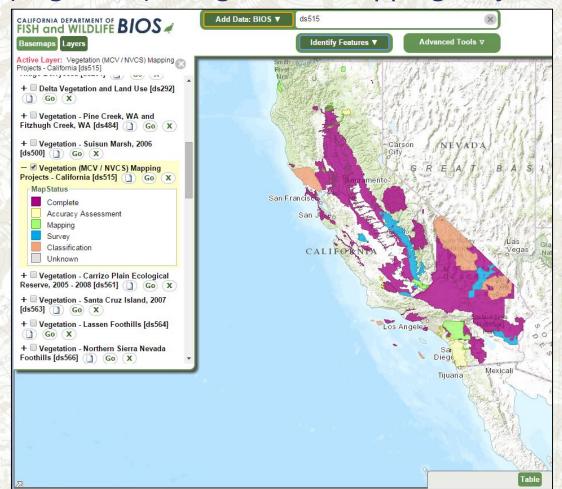


- 2,276 Public Datasets
- 240 Secure Datasets
- Primarily biological datasets, useful for many natural resources management activities including:
  - Sensitive species protection and enhancement
  - Habitat corridor/linkage planning
  - Renewable energy planning
  - Invasive species tracking
- Data sources include CDFW, USFWS, USGS, Consultants, NGOs, etc.
- One-time collections, as well as ongoing work
- Ownership, access, and updates driven by contributor

### **Example Datasets**



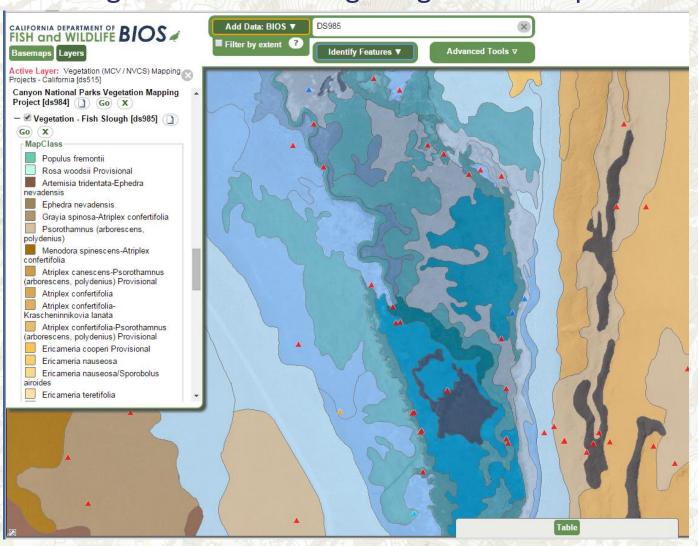
Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program (VegCAMP) – Vegetation Mapping Projects



#### **Example Datasets**



# VegCAMP – Fish Slough Vegetation Map and Plots



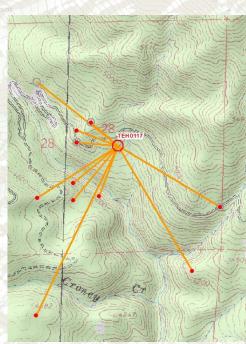


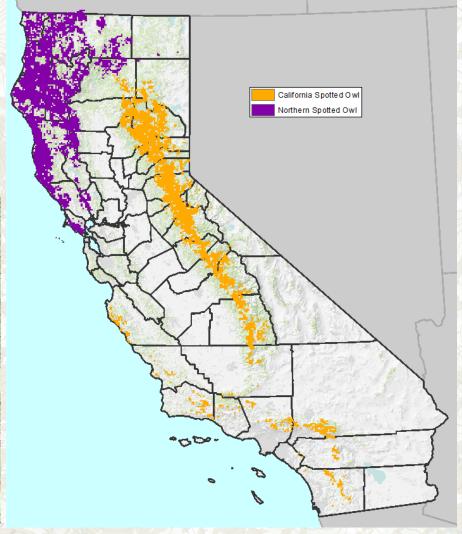
# **Example Datasets**



# Focal taxa data – Spotted Owl Observations Database

- Northern & California Spotted Owls
- Includes positive and negative survey data
- Observations tied to Activity
   Centers when appropriate





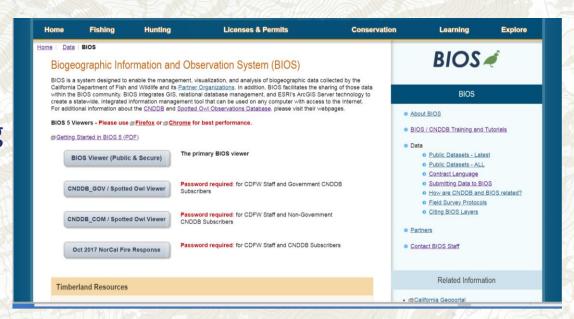
- Positive Observation
- Negative Observation
- Activity Center
- Not Valid Activity Center
- Abandoned

Spider Diagram

#### **BIOS Website**



- Access to the BIOS
   Data Viewer
- Tutorials
- Instructions for data submission, including metadata standards
- List of most recent data updates
- Data downloads
- Survey protocols and standards



www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/BIOS BIOS@wildlife.ca.gov

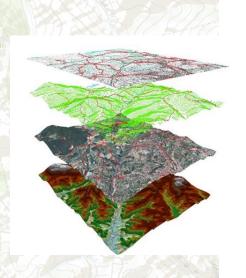


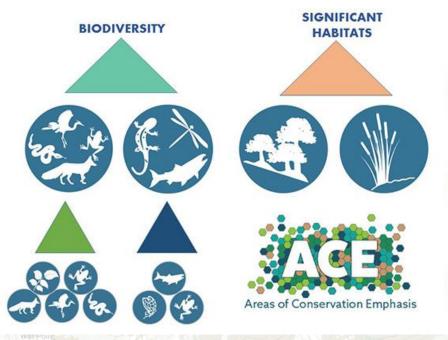
Areas of Conservation Emphasis

#### What is ACE?



# **Areas of Conservation Emphasis**









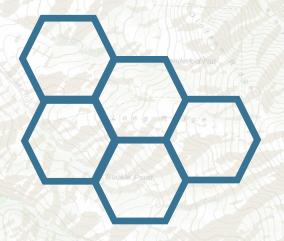


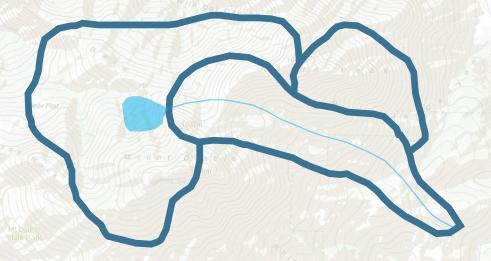
Dan Gook Canyo

#### What is ACE?



# **ACE: ANALYSIS UNITS**





# **Terrestrial**

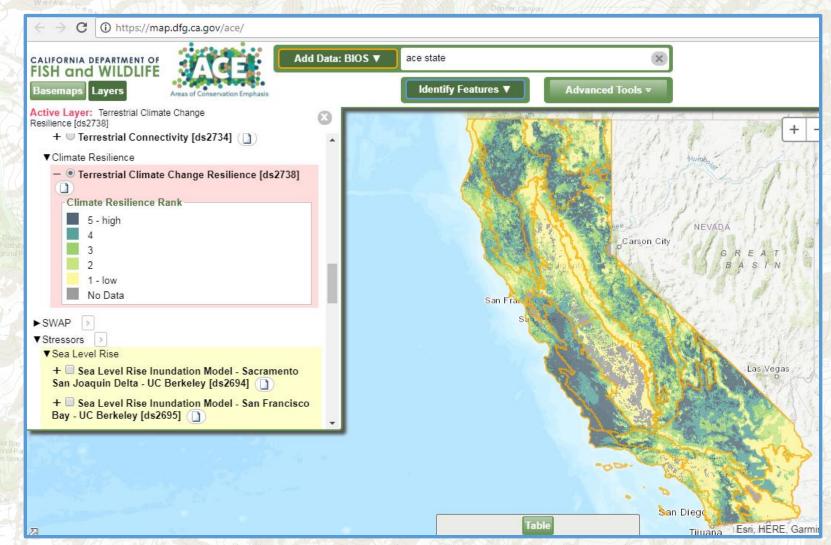
hexagon grid standard size 2.5 miles<sup>2</sup> (1600 acres)

# Aquatic

HUC 12 watersheds variable size 4 - 425 miles<sup>2</sup>

#### What is ACE?





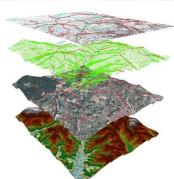
#### **Potential Uses**





Compare relative value between sites

Evaluate location and relative juxtaposition of conservation elements, land ownership, stressors, etc.







#### **ACE** Website



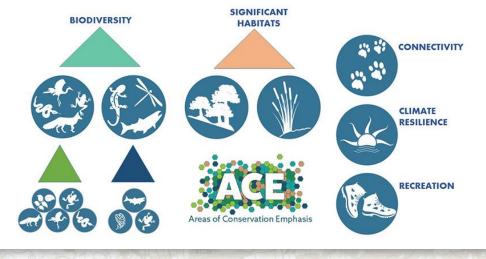
Home | Data | Analysis | ACE

#### Areas of Conservation Emphasis (ACE)

#### What is ACE?

ACE is a CDFW effort to analyze large amounts of map-based data in a targeted, strategic way, and expressed visually, so decisions can be informed around important goals like conservation of biodiversity, habitat connectivity, and climate change resiliency. The ACE maps provide a coarse level view of information for conservation planning purposes, ranging from ecological research and modeling to local land-use planning and conservation decision-making. However, they do not replace the need for site-specific evaluation of biological resources and should not be used for regulatory purposes.

All ACE data layers are limited by the accuracy, scale, extent of coverage, and completeness of the input data at the time they were run. We highly recommend reviewing available metadata and ACE Factsheets (found in the folders below) prior to interpreting these data. The ACE data are dynamic and will be updated periodically as new data warrant. A new and improved version, ACE 3.0, was released in February 2018, and we welcome feedback on this latest version.





- BLaunch ACE Viewer
   CDFW map viewers will perform best in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome browsers.
- · Download GIS Data

#### Related Information

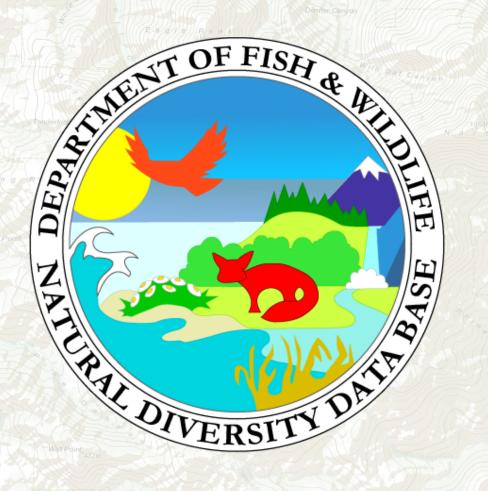
- · BIOS
- California Wildlife Habitat Relationships
- CA Natural Diversity Database
- State Wildlife Action Plan

#### Conservation Data Analysis

- Sierra Nevada Foothills Connectivity Modeling Project
- Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment
- ACE

https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/Analysis/ACE Melanie Gogol-Prokurat: Melanie.Gogol-Prokurat@wildlife.ca.gov





East Bay Regional Park East Bay Open Space Regional Park Open Space

nd Hill\_\_\_\_\_

Windy F



# What is CNDDB?

- An inventory of California's rarest plants and animals
  - Continually updated
  - Location and status information
  - GIS dataset with extensive tabular/text data





# What is CNDDB?



"Last of the least, best of the rest"



# What do we track?

- State and/or Federally listed or candidate species
- CNPS listed taxa (plants only)
- California Species of Special Concern (animals only)
- Species recommended for inclusion on the list by recognized experts
- Special biological "situations"
- Natural communities







# What do we track?

> "Elements"













## **Element Ranks**

- ➤ G1 G5: Worldwide condition of the full species. From extremely rare (G1) to very common (G5).
- > T1 T5: Worldwide condition of the subspecies/variety. From extremely rare (T1) to very common (T5).

> S1 - S5: Statewide condition of the species or subspecies/variety. From

extremely rare (S1) to very common (S5).

Example: Coryphantha vivipara var. rosea, Rank: G5T3S1

G5 – full species is common from Southern Canada through Northern Mexico

T3 – variety only found from far SE California through southern Nevada and into NW Arizona

S1 – Within California, variety is restricted to a handful of sites, all within 25 miles of the Nevada border



### What do we track?

- > Elements
- Element Occurrences ("EOs")

"An area of land and/or water in which a species or natural community is, or was, present" that has "practical conservation value"

#### ELEMENT OCCURRENCE DATA STANDARD

February 6, 2002

#### **NatureServe**

in cooperation with the

Network of Natural Heritage Programs
and Conservation Data Centers



# What do we track?

- > Elements
- > Element Occurrences

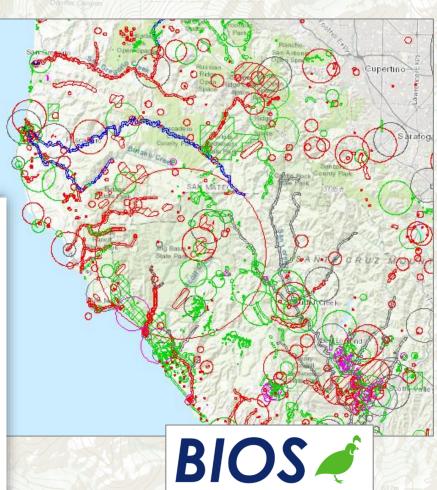
# 2001-04-14

**RareFind** 

GREENHOUSE, J. - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR ULAEOPSIS MASONII 2001-04-14 ARD, A. - HOWARD #39 UC #1261904 1977-08-24 LAKE, D. - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR LATHYRUS JEPSONII VAR. JEPSONII 1992-04-26 MALLOCH, B. - NOTES AND MAP OF ANTIOCH QUAD WITH POPULATION OF LILAEOPSIS MASONII. 1979-05-XX

Government Version -- Dated March, 5 2013 -- Biogeographic Data Branch Report Printed on Tuesday, March 26, 2013

Occurrence Report California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database





# Symbology

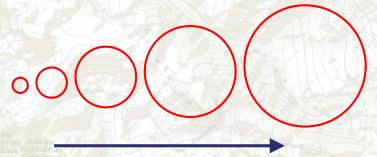
80 meter radius circle (point)



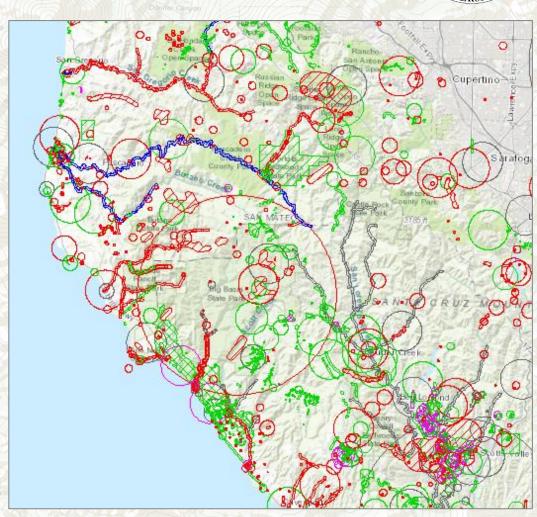
Specific bounded area



Non-specific bounded area



Increasing spatial uncertainty



Plants Animals Terrestrial Communities Aquatic Communities Multiple EOs



# Occurrence Rank







B= Good



C = Fair



D = Poor



X = Extirpated

?

U = Unknown



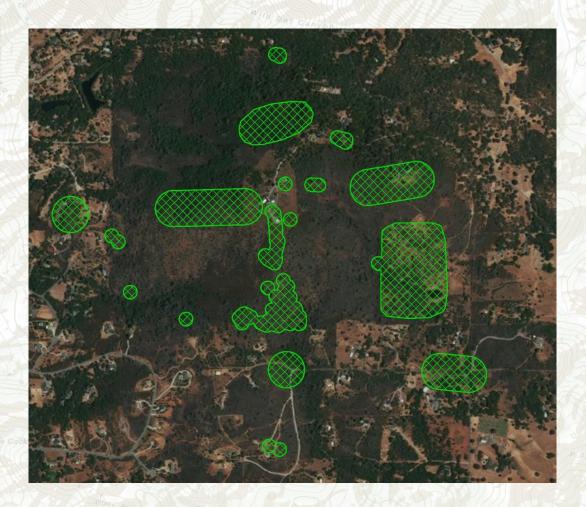
#### Element:



© 2006 Stan Shebs

Pine Hill Flannelbush (Fremontodendron decumbens)

#### Element Occurrence #14146:

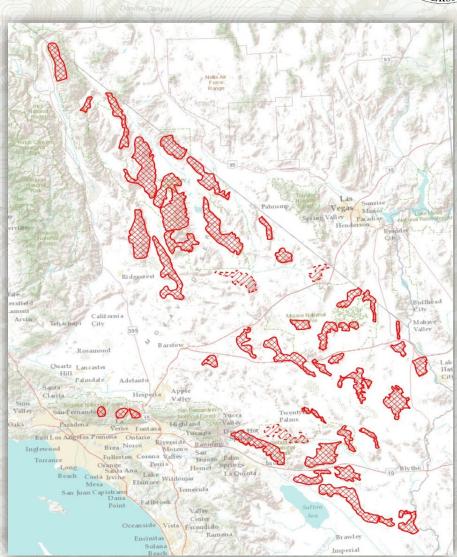








Bighorn Sheep (Ovis canadensis)







Giant Garter Snake (Thamnophis gigas)







# Where do we get our data?

- **Direct Submissions** 
  - Survey forms
  - Scientific permit data
  - **Environmental Impact Surveys**
- **Specimens**
- Published reports & manuscripts
- Review of data repositories



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIO























Native Plant Society

California





**■USGS** 





# What do we not track?



**Anecdotal information** 



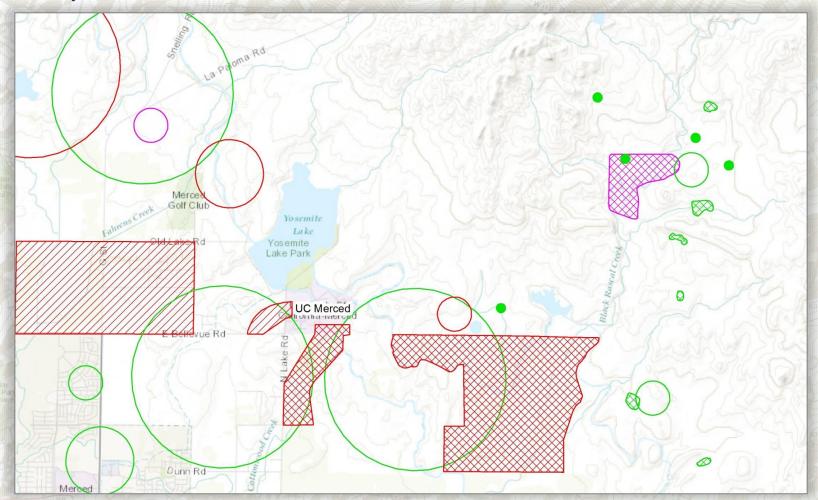
Soaring/transient birds

# **NO DATA** ≠ **NOT THERE**

Negative data

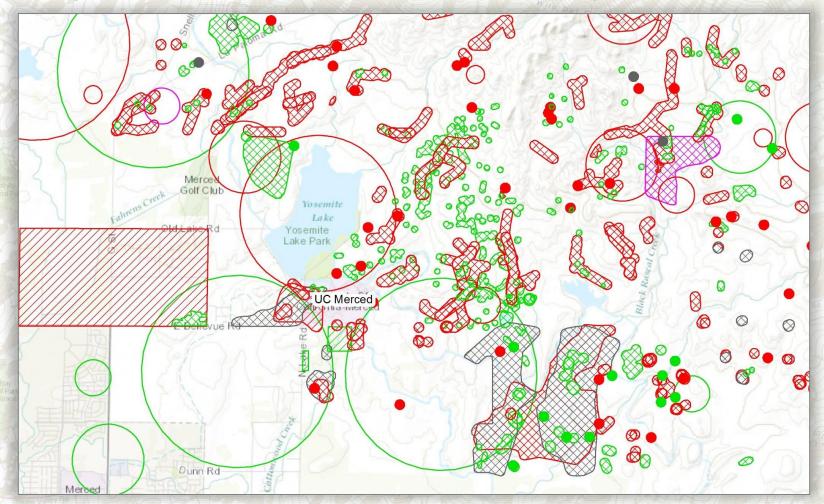


# Example: CNDDB data from 2000, near UC Merced





# Example: 2013 CNDDB data, after surveys





# CNDDB is a **POSITIVE DETECTION** database

- > We do not predict where species might occur
- We do not report negative (absence) data Exception: extirpation of previously-mapped occurrence

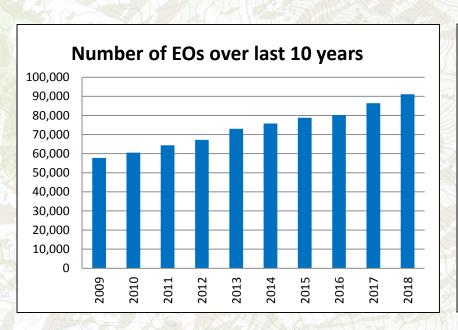


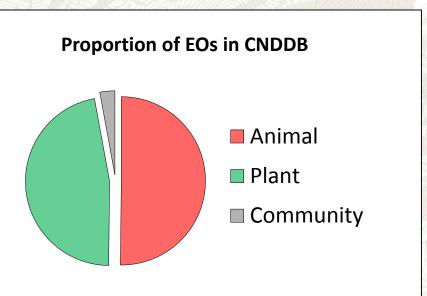






# As of May 2018: >92,000 EOs using 220,000+ sources





#### Each month:

1000+ new sources received 600-800 Element Occurrences added/updated



## **CNDDB Data Uses**

- Environmental review CEQA
- Regional conservation planning
- State and Federal Endangered Species acts
- Research
- Emergency response planning?





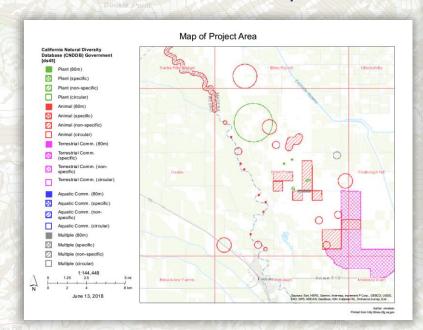
Page 1 of 36

Information Expires 12/1/2018

# How do you access CNDDB?

# Subscription services

- Map overlays/text reports
  - Individual USGS 7.5' quads



#### Occurrence Report California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database Query Criteria: BIOS selection 27262 13361 EO Index: ABNKC19070 2000-01-27 USFWS BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern RREEDS IN GRASSI ANDS WITH SCATTERED TREES. ILINIPER-SAGE RECUIRES AD JACENT SUITARI E FORAGING AREAS SUICH AS FLATS, RIPARIAN AREAS, SAVANNAHS, & AGRICULTURAL OR RANCH LANDS WITH GROVES OR LINES OF TREES. Occurrence Type: Natural/Native occurrence UNKNOWN Presumed Extant SAN JOAOLIIN RIVER 0.2 MIJ E NORTH OF BEHYMER AVENUE NORTH OF FIREBALIGH Ecological: Threats: DFG SWHA #FR001, ADULT BIRDS OBSERVED IN 1979 AND 1981, BUT NO NEST WAS LOCATED, NO BIRDS WERE FOUND DURING A SURVEY ON PLSS: T12S, R14E, Sec. 17, SE (M) Latitude/Longitude: 36.88327 / -120.45962 Freeno Madera CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME - SWAINSON'S HAWK NEST RECORDS FROM DFG NONGAME BIRDS & MAMMALS SECTION (WILDLIFE BRANCH); MISSING. 1984-10-XX DEG - NONGAME BIRDS & MAMMALS - TABLE OF SWAINSON'S HAWK NEST RECORDS THROUGH 1994 1994-XX-XX

Government Version -- Dated June, 1 2018 -- Biogeographic Data Branch

Report Printed on Wednesday, June 13, 2018

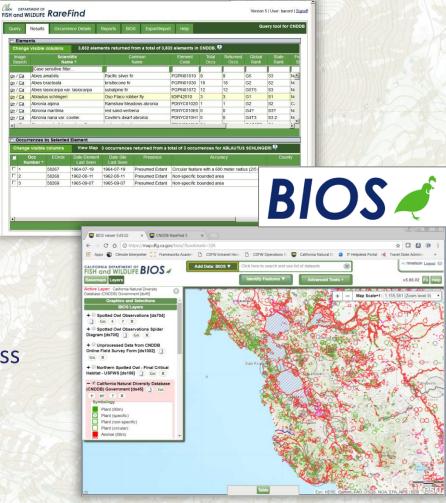


# How do you access CNDDB?

# RareFind

# Subscription services

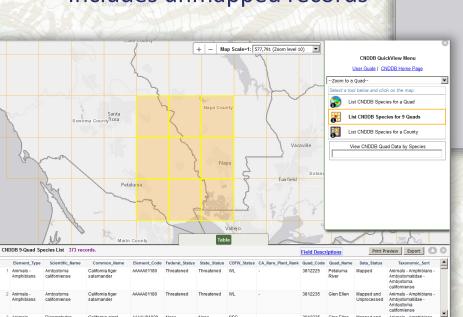
- Map overlays/text reports
- Annual Subscription
  - CNDDB in BIOS
  - RareFind 5
  - GIS dataset
  - Includes Spotted Owl
     Observations Database access
  - Government or Commercial





# Free & publicly available:

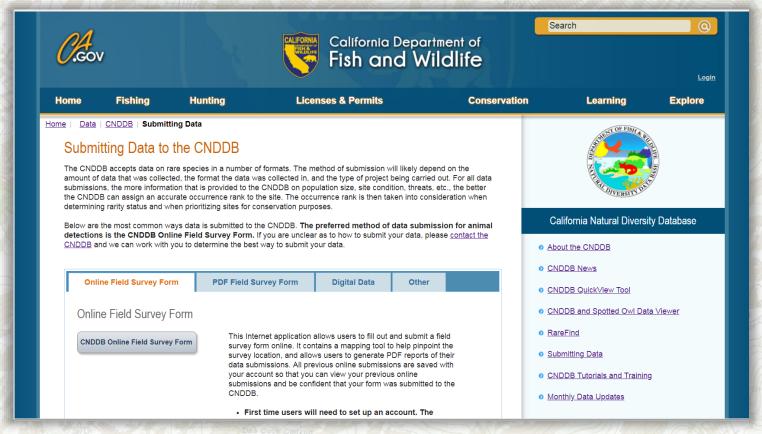
- QuickView Tool in BIOS
  - Summarized to county or USGS 7.5' quad
  - Quad data by species
  - Includes unmapped records







# Submitting data to CNDDB



www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data











Home | Explore | Organization | BDB

#### Biogeographic Data Branch

Good management of scientific data is a critical issue for the Department. The Biogeographic Data Branch (BDB) performs a leadership, policy and standards setting role for biological and geographic data management activities for the entire Department, its contractors, and partner organizations.

BDB provides GIS support for all CDFW branches. This structure facilitates inter-branch teamwork and GIS workload balancing as changing conditions warrant.

BDB contains biological data development programs that are especially dependent and closely linked with GIS and emerging related technologies. These data development activities include vegetation mapping, rare species tracking, species range mapping, aggregation of existing incongruent data sources and decision support systems.

Biogeographic Data Branch (BDB) Programs

#### Conservation Analysis Unit (CAU) Projects:

- ACE: Areas of Conservation Emphasis
- <u>Climate Change</u>: Climate Change Vulnerability of Rare Plants
- · CWHR: California Wildlife Habitat Relationships

BIOS: Biogeographic Information and Observation System online mapping tool

CNDDB: California Natural Diversity Database

<u>VegCAMP</u>: Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program

GIS: Geographic Information Systems services and support

www.wildlife.ca.gov/Explore/Organization/BDB