

Regional Advance Mitigation Planning (RAMP): A Pathway to Achieving 30x30 Goals

Planificación Regional de Mitigación Anticipada (RAMP): Una iniciativa para lograr los objetivos de 30x30

Liz O'Donoghue,
The Nature Conservancy



PATHWAYS TO 30X30 CALIFORNIA

Accelerating Conservation of
California's Nature

APRIL 22, 2022

Support strategic advance mitigation
planning and investments

Institutionalize Advance Mitigation

Transportation projects, new construction, and other types of development often protect habitat or fund conservation focused improvements to mitigate their environmental impacts. Typically, this environmental mitigation occurs on a project-by-project basis on small parcels, close to the project site.

Advance mitigation is an increasingly popular choice for project proponents that takes a more programmatic approach by durably protecting large areas for mitigation that can then be applied to specific projects in the future. Smaller projects are mitigated by using a "credit" or portion of the larger parcel. Advance mitigation properties are required to be durably protected (either in fee or through an easement) and endowed to support long term management and monitoring. Advance mitigation also ensures that the required mitigation is in place before effects on the environment occur. This generally leads to high quality conservation that can meet broad environmental goals for species and habitat.

Advance mitigation may be implemented through a public agency (for example [Caltrans' Advance Mitigation Program](#)) or private efforts such as conservation and mitigation banking.

Interagency groups are in place to help coordinate advance mitigation in California including the Project Delivery Team (PDT) and the Banking Agency Management Team (BAMT). These interagency groups include representatives from the agencies involved in mitigation and conservation banking.* With oversight from the BAMT, the PDT develops

templates and guidance for use in the evaluating and developing advance mitigation projects. In 2021, the PDT finalized an updated multi-agency template for bank-enabling instruments that allows the purchase of credits in advance of obtaining a permit. The PDT has also developed several other templates to facilitate streamlined approvals, including a conservation easement template. Such successful coordination helps contribute to California's 30x30 goals.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and California Natural Resources Agency will work with other state agencies and federal partners to spearhead and institutionalize advance mitigation.

Conservation and Mitigation Banks

In exchange for permanently protecting, managing, and monitoring land and wetlands, the bank sponsor is allowed to sell or transfer habitat credits to permittees who need to satisfy legal requirements and compensate for the environmental impacts of developmental projects.



Grasslands Mitigation Bank, Merced County

Apoyar la planificación y las inversiones
estratégicas de mitigación anticipada



What is Regional Advance Mitigation Planning?

¿Qué es la Planificación Regional Anticipada de Mitigación?



A science-based approach to identify advance mitigation opportunities to support regional conservation priorities and project delivery.

By considering mitigation development early in the planning process prior to design and permitting phases, proponents can identify and invest in higher-quality mitigation opportunities

Un enfoque basado en la ciencia para identificar oportunidades de mitigación anticipada para apoyar las prioridades regionales de conservación y la ejecución de proyectos.

Al considerar el desarrollo de la mitigación al principio del proceso de planificación antes de las fases de diseño y obtención de permisos, los proponentes pueden identificar e invertir en oportunidades de mitigación de mayor calidad.



RAMP Goals and Outcomes

Objetivos y resultados de RAMP

Both/And:

To achieve meaningful conservation outcomes and expedite project delivery

- Saves time and money
- Enables more effective impact avoidance and minimization
- Efficient permitting
- Accelerates conservation investments
- Encourages agency and partner communication and transparency

Ambos y:

Para lograr resultados de conservación significativos y acelerar la entrega del proyecto

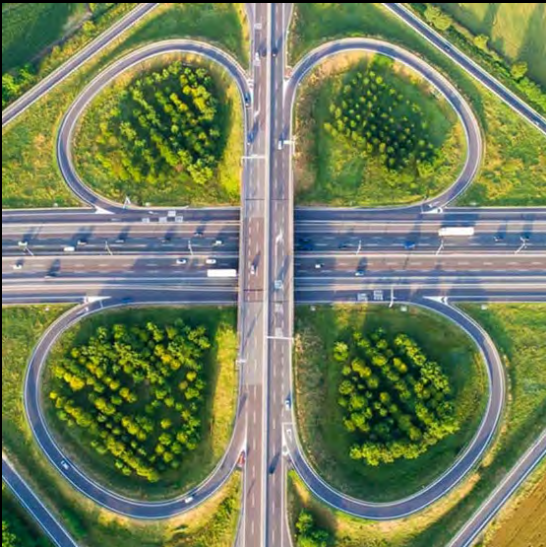
- Ahorra tiempo y dinero
- Permite una evitación y minimización de impactos más eficaces
- Obtiene permisos en forma eficaz
- Acelera las inversiones en conservación
- Fomenta la comunicación y la transparencia entre agencias y socios.



RAMP: A Better Way

RAMP: Una via mejor

Project-by-Project | Proyecto por proyecto



- Habitat loss, species loss
- Permit delays
- High costs

- Pérdida de hábitat, pérdida de especies
- Retrasos en los permisos
- Altos precios



- Expedited permits
- Certainty and lower risk
- Reduced costs

- Permisos acelerados
- Certeza y menor riesgo
- Costos reducidos



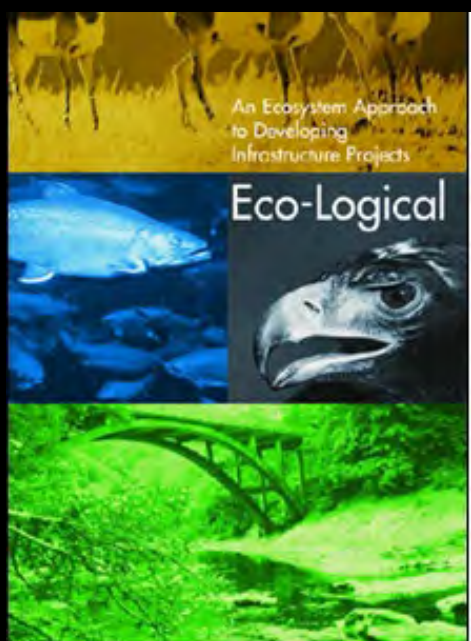
- Conservation Priorities
- Ecosystem and public health
- Reduced costs
- Fewer impacts

- Prioridades de conservación
- Ecosistema y salud pública
- Costos reducidos
- Menos impactos

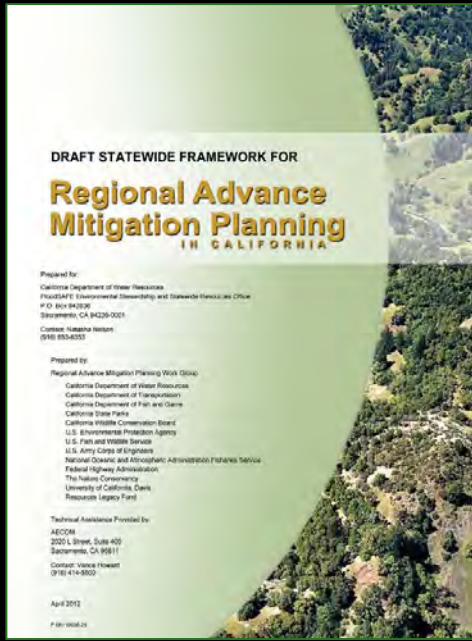


RAMP: A Best Practice

RAMP: Mejores prácticas



Federal Highway
Administration, 2006
Administración Federal de
Carreteras, 2006



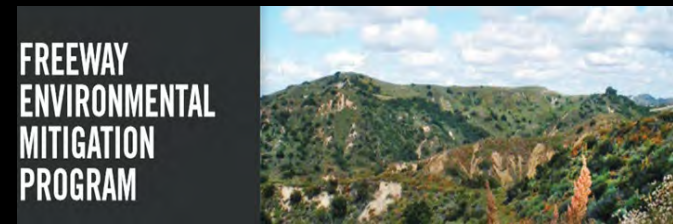
CA State RAMP Workgroup, 2012
Estado de CA RAMP
Trabajo Grupal, 2012



2004



2006



2016



Foundations & Tools

Fundaciones y herramientas



Laws and Regulations – resource protection

- Federal: NEPA, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Magnuson Act, etc.
- State: CEQA, CESA, Coastal Act, LSA, etc.

Advance Mitigation Frameworks

- Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP, NCCP)
- Regional Conservation Investment Strategies and Mitigation Credit Agreements
- Mitigation and Conservation Banks
- In-Lieu Fee programs

Leyes y reglamentos: protección de los recursos

- Federal: NEPA, Ley de Especies en Peligro de Extinción, Ley de Agua Limpia, Ley Magnuson, etc.
- Estado: CEQA, CESA, Ley de Costas, LSA, etc.

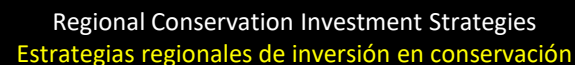
Marcos de mitigación anticipada

- Planes de Conservación de Hábitat (HCP, NCCP)
- Estrategias regionales de inversión en conservación y acuerdos de crédito de mitigación
- Bancos de Mitigación y Conservación
- Programas en lugar de tarifa



ZhuoWen Chen/TNC Photo Contest





Planes de Conservación de Comunidades Naturales/ Planes de Conservación de Hábitat

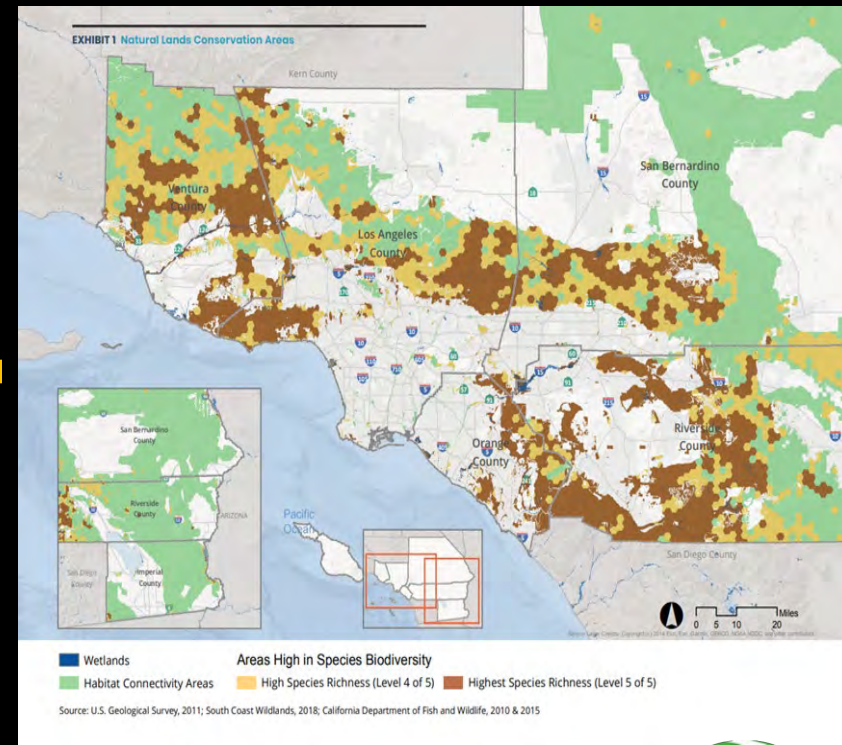
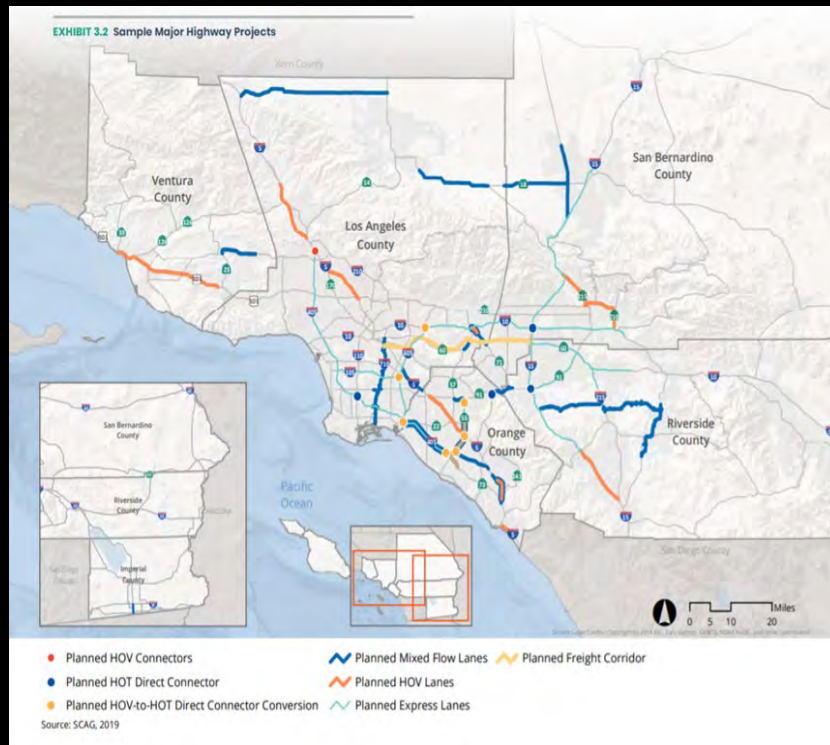


Science-Based, Landscape Scale, Integrated Planning Process

Proceso de planificación integrado, basado en la ciencia, a escala del paisaje

Planned Infrastructure Projects
Proyectos de Infraestructura Planeados

Conservation Information
Información de conservación



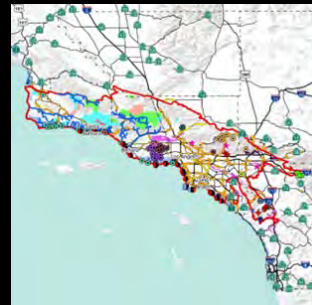
RAMP Planning: A Stepwise Process

Planificación RAMP: Un proceso gradual

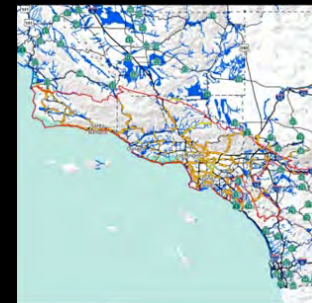
Identify Planned Infrastructure Projects
Identificar proyectos de infraestructura planificados



Assemble Conservation Information
Reunir información de conservación



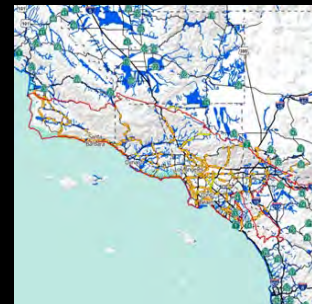
Critical Habitat
Hábitat crítico



Water Resources
Recursos hídricos



Habitat Connectivity
Conectividad del hábitat



Flood Hazard Areas
Áreas de peligro de inundación



Climate Resilience
Resiliencia Climática

Courtesy: Caltrans District 7
Cortesía: Distrito 7 de Caltrans

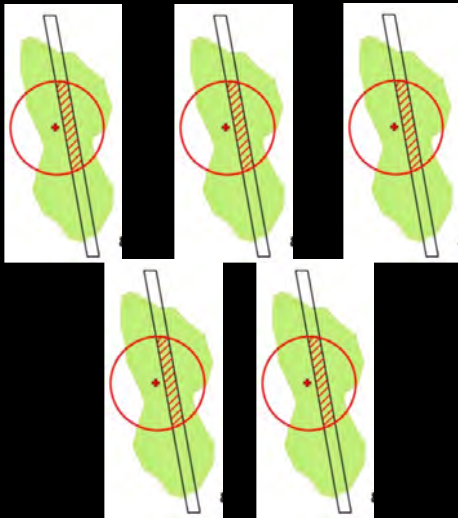


RAMP Planning: A Stepwise Process

Planificación RAMP: Un proceso gradual

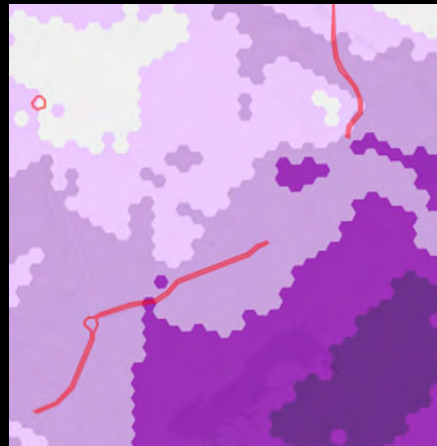
Predict impacts and determine mitigation needs for selected projects

Predecir impactos y determinar las necesidades de mitigación para proyectos seleccionados



Collaborate and identify suitable mitigation sites or existing options that support conservation priorities

Colaborar e identificar sitios de mitigación adecuados u opciones existentes que apoyen las prioridades de conservación



Create mitigation credits by protecting, restoring or enhancing habitat –
Banks or Mitigation Credit Agreements

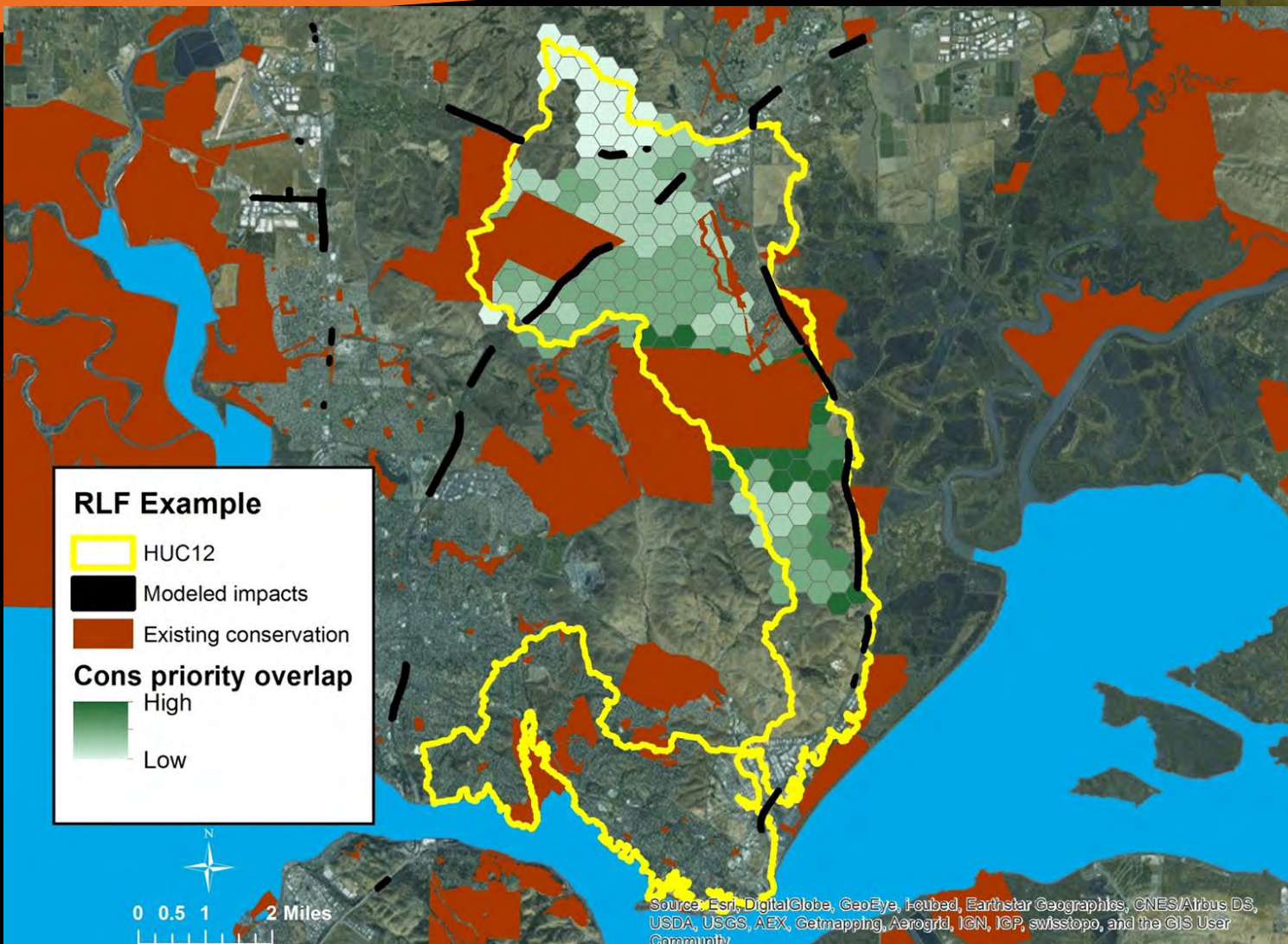
Crear créditos de mitigación protegiendo, restaurando o mejorando el hábitat –
Bancos o Acuerdos de Crédito de Mitigación



Participate in existing plans or purchase mitigation credits from existing banks or MCAs

Participar en planes existentes o comprar créditos de mitigación de bancos o MCA existentes





Funding Sources: Process Conceptual

Fuentes de Financiamiento: Proceso Conceptual

Planning/Admin Capital Stewardship
Planificación/Administración de capital



Funding | Fondos

Federal infrastructure
Funding
Financiamiento federal de
infraestructura

SB1 - CT AMP
SB1- CT AMP

Regional Funding
Financiamiento
regional

County Sales Taxes
Impuestos sobre las
ventas del condado

State infrastructure
funding
Financiamiento de
infraestructura estatal

Private funding?
¿Financiación privada?



Funding Sources: Process Conceptual

Fuentes de Financiamiento: Proceso Conceptual

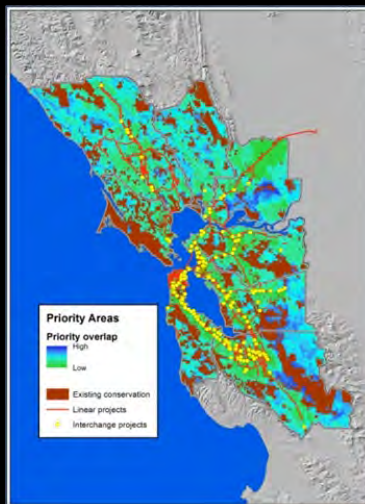
Planning/Admin Capital Stewardship
Planificación/Administración de capital

Funding
Fondos



Examples of mitigation tools:

Mitigation/conservation bank
HCP/NCCPs
Agency sponsored bank
Mitigation Credit Agreement
In Lieu Fee program



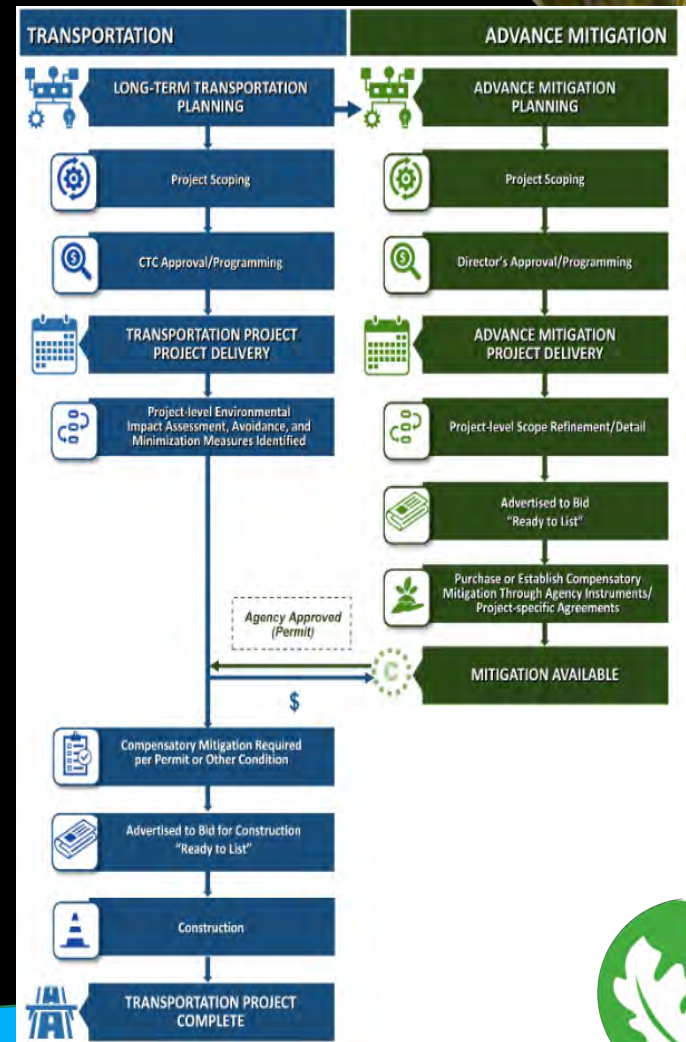
Ejemplos de herramientas de mitigación:

Banco de mitigación/conservación
HCP/NCCP
Banco patrocinado por la agencia
Acuerdo de Crédito de Mitigación
Programa en lugar de tarifa



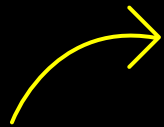
Timing Advance Mitigation with Transportation Project Delivery

Mitigación de avance de tiempo con entrega de proyecto de transporte

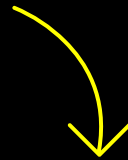


Funding Models

Modelos de financiación

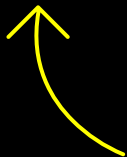


Seed money
capitalizes RAMP
El capital de semilla
capitaliza RAMP



Replenishment of
RAMP fund
Reposición del fondo
RAMP

Advance Mitigation
Actions Occur
Ocurren acciones de
mitigación anticipadas



Project funding for
mitigation available
Financiamiento del
proyecto para la
mitigación disponible

Revolving Fund
Fondo revolvente



Draw Down
Dinero gastado



Co-Benefits and Leveraged Opportunities

Co-Beneficios y Oportunidades Aprovechadas

“Prioritize advance mitigation projects that achieve multiple benefits, improving environmental and biodiversity outcomes often required in mitigation while achieving climate benefits and access goals.”

- Pathways to 30x30 California

“Dar prioridad a proyectos de mitigación anticipada que logren múltiples beneficios, mejorando los resultados ambientales y de biodiversidad que a menudo se requieren en la mitigación mientras se logran los beneficios climáticos y los objetivos de acceso.”

- - Iniciativa 30x30 California



iStock



Three Rivers Levee
Improvement Authority



Ben Jiang/ TNC Photo Contest



Stephen Francis/TNC



Partners & Collaborators

Socias y colaboradoras



They Need Mitigation
Ellos necesitan la mitigación



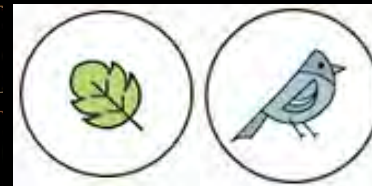
They Approve Mitigation
Ellos aprueban la mitigación



They Supply Mitigation
Ellos suministran la mitigación

Habitat agencies,
mitigation bankers,
MCA sponsors

Conservancies, land
trusts, open space
districts



Agencias de hábitat, banqueros de
mitigación, patrocinadores de MCA

Conservaciones, fideicomisos de
tierras, distritos de espacios abiertos

Local Governments & Stakeholders
Gobiernos locales y partes interesada





Western Riverside County MSHCP

MSHCP del oeste del condado de Riverside

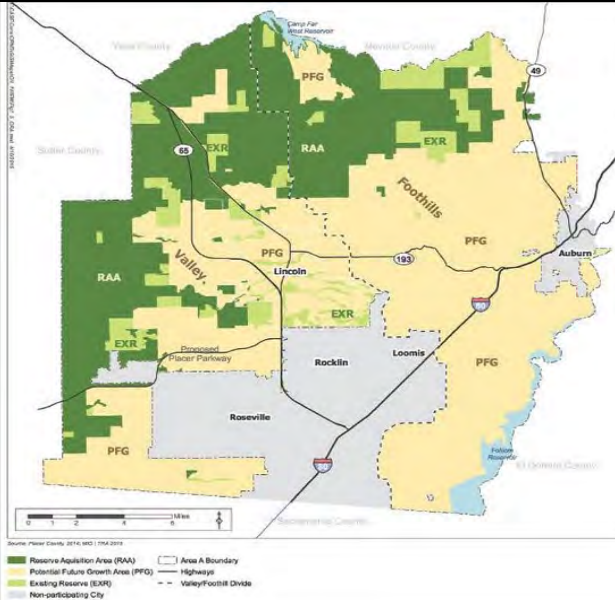
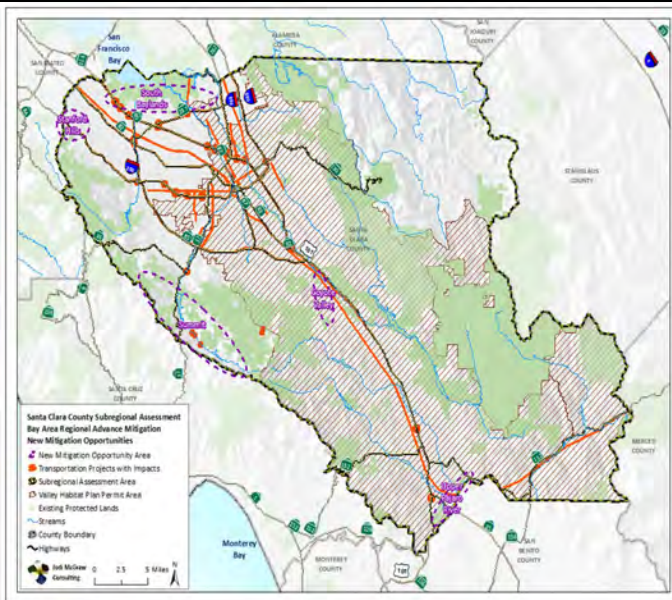
SPECIES PROTECTION

The MSHCP monitors habitat loss and welfare of protected species while managing the conserved lands to help animals and plants thrive.

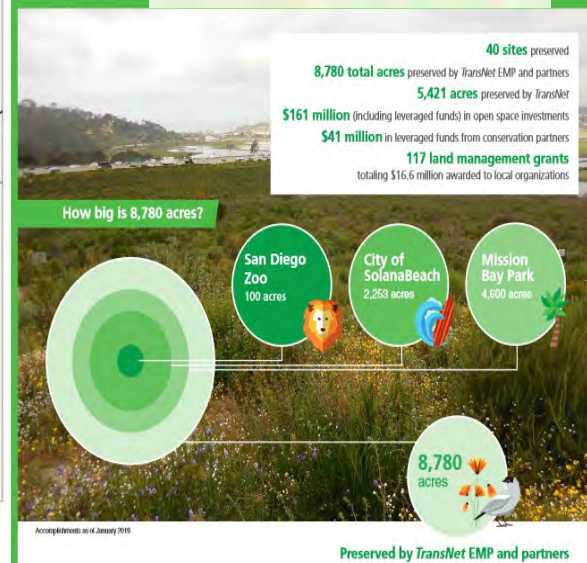


STREAMLINING INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

The MSHCP streamlines infrastructure and development, which leads to cost savings and improved efficiency.



Accomplishments



Santa Clara County RCIS
Subregional Assessment
RCIS del condado de Santa Clara
Evaluación subregional

Placer County Conservation Program
Programa de Conservación del Condado de Placer



Questions?
¿Preguntas?



Thank You!
¡Gracias!

