



Date: April 2, 2014
To: Regional Planning Committee
From: Laura Thompson and Mark Shorett ABAG staff
Subject: **Priority Conservation Area Program Update**

Summary

Staff is requesting that the RPC recommend that the Executive Board adopt an updated application process and criteria for Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs). This memo and its attachments provide context for the proposed update and introduces new application guidelines and criteria.

Background

The Priority Conservation Area (PCA) program was initiated in 2007 to identify Bay Area open spaces that: 1) provide regionally significant agricultural, natural resource, scenic, recreational, and/or ecological values and ecosystem functions; 2) are in urgent need of protection due to pressure from urban development or other factors; and 3) supported by local consensus. The PCAs were established at the same time as the locally nominated Priority Development Areas (PDAs) through the FOCUS program. Together, the PDAs and PCAs have informed the development of Plan Bay Area and implementation initiatives such as the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG).

The PCA program helped spur collaboration between local governments, public agencies, and nonprofit organizations to nominate more than 100 PCAs. Nominations were reviewed by staff, regional committees, and local governments. The ABAG Executive Board adopted the first set of PCAs on July 17, 2008.

The first PCA projects were funded in 2013 and 2014 through OBAG. OBAG provided \$5 million in funding for a competitive program in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, and Contra Costa counties managed by the Coastal Conservancy. Another \$5 million in OBAG funding was divided between the North Bay county Congestion Management Agencies—each of which managed its own program.

During meetings in 2012 and 2013, the ABAG Regional Planning Committee and Executive Board requested that staff revise the PCA program to provide greater specificity about the qualities and function of different types of PCAs—using an approach more in line with the Place Types utilized to categorize PDAs. In addition, RPC and Executive Board members stressed the importance of urban parks and green spaces. This feedback was formalized in Plan Bay Area, which directs staff to update the program to define the role of different kinds of PCAs and ensure that local jurisdictions are consulted on updates to individual PCAs.

PCA Program Update

As part of the broader Plan Bay Area Implementation effort, over the past six months ABAG staff worked with local jurisdictions, the ABAG administrative committee and stakeholders to develop a proposed PCA program update. The update addresses the Open Space and Farmland implementation area. The attachments to this memo provide more detailed guidelines for PCA nominations, review and adoption. These are summarized below.

Updated PCA Application Process and Requirements (Attachment 2)

The proposed application process requires that PCA nominations include:

- 1) An adopted resolution of support from the jurisdiction(s) in which it is located
- 2) A map and text describing the general area and boundaries of the PCA
- 3) Selection of one or more of the PCA designations described below and text and supporting text and data
- 4) Discussion of the regional and local importance of the PCA

Following feedback from the RPC, staff will provide a revised application form for adoption by the Executive Board and sample resolution to assist applicants.

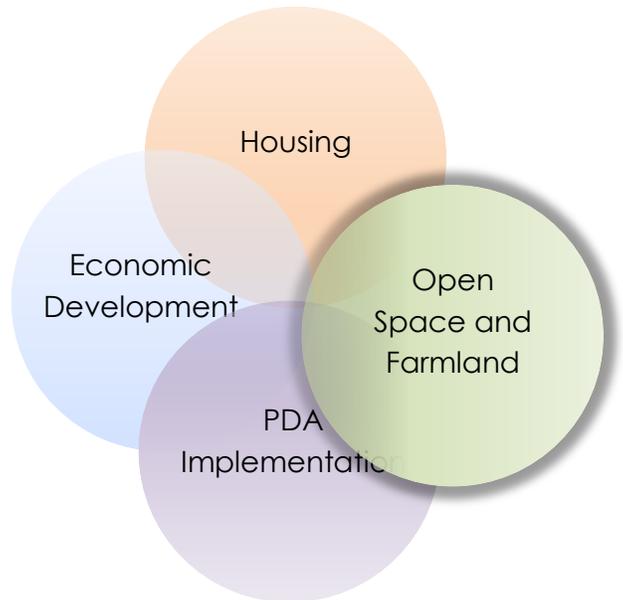
Sponsors of both existing and proposed PCAs are required to complete the application. Sponsors of existing PCAs can reference original applications to meet the first, second, and fourth requirements.

PCA Designations and Criteria (Attachment 3)

The update introduces four categories to recognize the role of different kinds of PCAs in supporting the vitality of the region's natural systems, rural economy and human health:

- **Natural Landscapes**—areas critical to the functioning of wildlife and plant habitats, aquatic ecosystems and the region's water supply and quality. Examples: wetland restoration, riparian corridor protection.
- **Agricultural Lands**—farmland, grazing land and timberland that support the region's agricultural economy and provide additional benefits such as habitat protection and carbon capture. Example: conservation easements.
- **Urban Greening**—existing and potential green spaces in cities that improve community health, capture carbon emissions, address stormwater, and enhance the public realm.

Figure 1. **Plan Bay Area Implementation Focus Areas**



Example: urban portion of riparian corridors, potential sites for parks and community gardens.

- **Regional Recreation**—existing and potential regional parks, trails, and other publicly accessible recreation facilities. Examples: regional trail networks, areas for potential regional park expansion.

Benefits and potential co-benefits are identified for each designation (i.e. wildlife and plant habitat, agricultural economy). Applicants are required to discuss how the PCA provides these benefits—referencing data and maps. ABAG will provide resources (e.g. maps, databases, etc) to assist applicants in this process, drawing upon data published by federal and state sources as well as scientific research.

Timeline for New and Updated PCA Applications

April 2014: PCA Program update—including Application Process and PCA Designations—recommended by the RPC to the Executive Board for adoption.

May 2014: PCA Program update adopted by Executive Board.

June 1, 2014: Beginning of PCA application period. New and existing PCAs must submit application. Existing PCAs can reference portions of previous PCA applications (i.e. adopted resolution of support by local jurisdiction) to meet relevant requirements.

May 30, 2015: Deadline for PCA applications. Existing PCA designations will be removed if no application has been filed.

June 2015: Following staff review, RPC recommends PCA nominations to the Executive Board for adoption

July 2015: Executive Board adopts PCA nominations recommended for adoption by the RPC.

Future funding sources

The PCA update does not address funding. However, the designations are designed to position PCAs for both cross-cutting and targeted funding sources. For example, an urban greening and a regional recreation project might be eligible for different sources of targeted grant funding, but both may be eligible for a broad funding source supporting projects that improve public health while creating green space.

Attachments

Attachment 1: PCA Program Overview

Attachment 2: Updated PCA Application Process and Requirements

Attachment 3: Proposed PCA Designations

ATTACHMENT 1: OVERVIEW OF CURRENT PRIORITY CONSERVATION AREAS

Overview of Current Priority Conservation Areas

There are currently 101 Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) throughout the Bay Area. The PCAs were nominated by jurisdictions, park and open space districts and non-profit organizations. The first 98 were adopted by the ABAG Executive Board in 2008 and three additional PCAs adopted earlier in December 2013 as part of applications for One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) funding.

The intent of the PCA program is to identify Bay Area open spaces that: 1) provide regionally significant agricultural, natural resource, scenic, recreational, and/or ecological values and ecosystem functions; and 2) are in urgent need of protection due to pressure from urban development or other factors; 3) and are supported by local consensus. The PCAs are envisioned as a framework for directing future regional funding for acquiring open space and conservation easements.

Most PCAs were nominated by local jurisdictions, park districts, or open space districts. A handful were nominated by non-profit organizations such as land trusts. The majority are natural resource or regional recreation areas, with a smaller number of agricultural areas and urban greenways and riparian corridors.

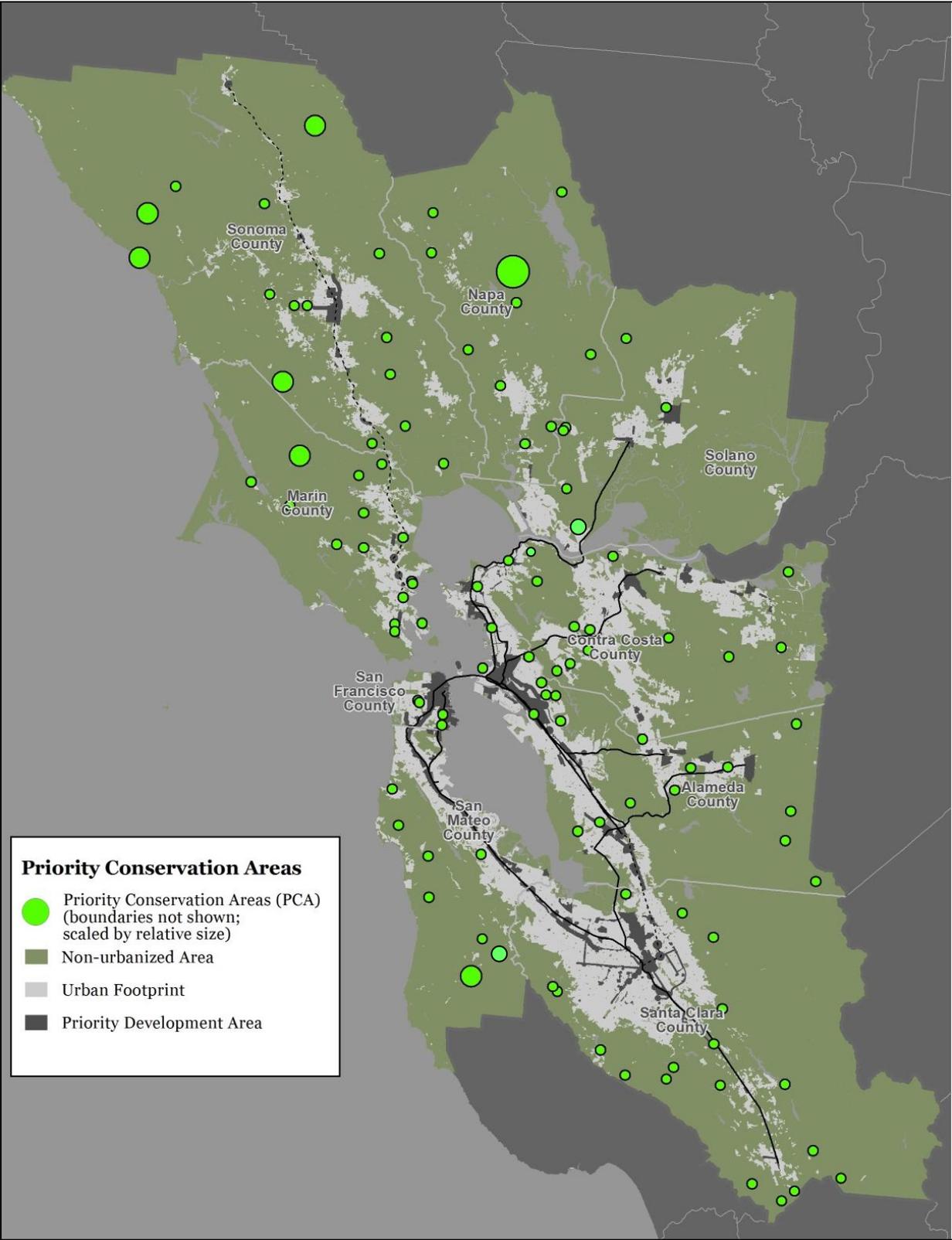
Map 1 shows PCAs throughout the region. The size of the dots representing each PCA reflects its relative size in acres. Table 1 shows the distribution of PCAs by County.

Table 1. Distribution of PCAs by County

County	Number of PCAs
Alameda	16
Contra Costa	13
Marin	14
Napa	9
San Francisco	4
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Map 1. Bay Area Priority Conservation Areas



ATTACHMENT 2: PCA APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

Updated PCA Nomination Process and Requirements

This attachment outlines the steps required for Priority Conservation Area nominations. Following adoption by the RPC, staff will formalize this proposed process into an updated application form for adoption by the Executive Board. The form will be posted to the ABAG website and disseminated to local jurisdictions and stakeholders.

1. Complete Application Form

Each applicant must complete a full application including the following sections:

Area Information

- Proposed Name
- Description
- Location (include map and text description)
- Acreage

Sponsor(s)

- Lead jurisdiction/district/organization and staff contact
- Partner jurisdiction(s)/district(s)/organization(s) and staff contact

Eligibility

- Adopted resolution from City Council or Board of Supervisors of jurisdiction in which PCA is located
- PCA Type Designation
 - Selected Designation (Natural Resource Lands, Agricultural Lands, Urban Greening, or Regional Recreation)
 - Text, data and/or maps demonstrating how the PCA will provide the primary benefit of the relevant designation, as well as any additional co-benefits (*as determined by applicant*)

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- Copy of adopted City Council or Board of Supervisors resolution of support
- If any, support letters from partner agencies and organizations (*not required*)
- If any, additional data, mapping, supportive local policies or other materials documenting eligibility (*not required*)

2. Submit application to ABAG staff for review

Applicants must submit the completed application to ABAG staff for review. Relevant staff will be posted on the ABAG website and noted on the application form. Staff will contact the applicants with any questions or requests for additional information.

3. PCA Adoption

After confirming eligibility, staff will submit a recommendation to the ABAG Executive Board to adopt the PCA.

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Clarifications

- **Land Use Control.** Adoption of a PCA does not change the zoning, general plan designation, or other land use designation of the geographic area encompassed by the PCA. Local jurisdictions retain full control over land use decisions. ABAG does not have authority over land use.
- **Eligible Applicants.** Non-profit organizations, park districts, open space districts, and other entities can submit a PCA application as long as it includes an adopted resolution from the City Council or Board of Supervisors in which the PCA is located.
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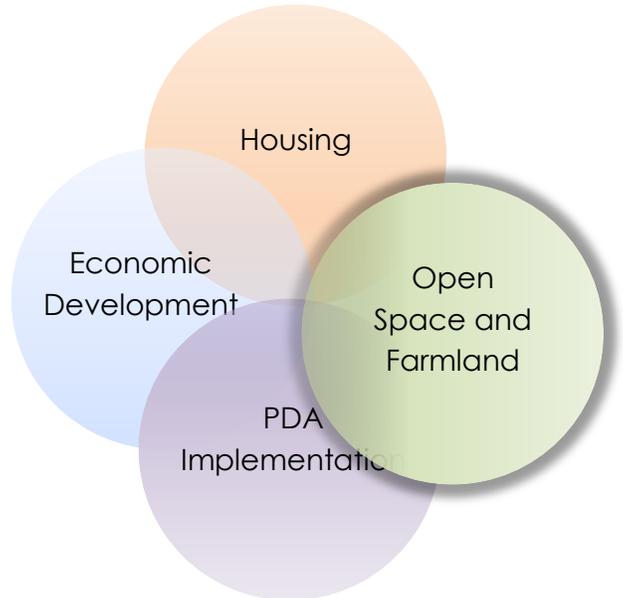
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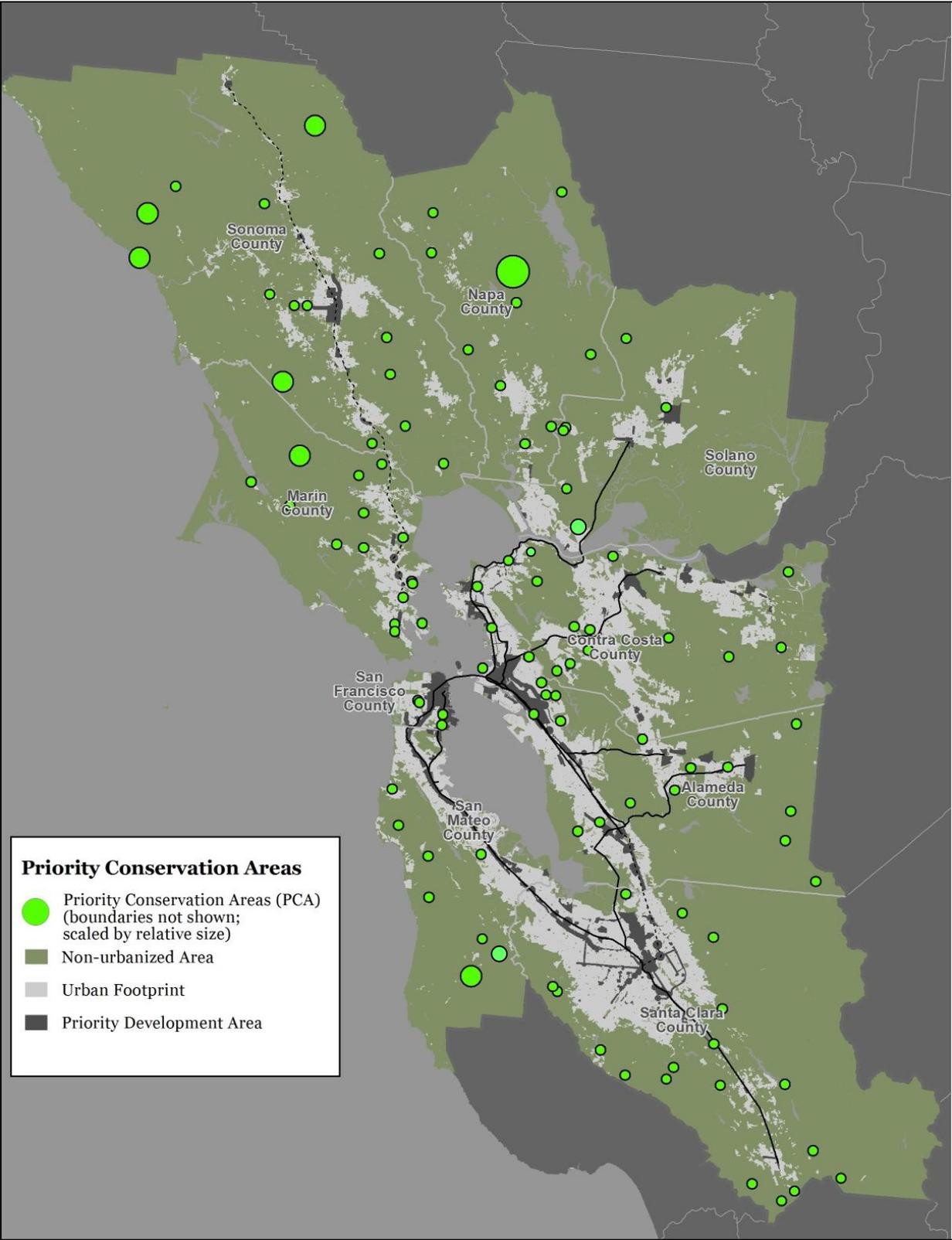
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ATTACHMENT 3: PROPOSED PCA DESIGNATIONS

Priority Conservation Area Designations

This attachment introduces four Priority Conservation Area (PCA) designations and a set of measurable benefits provided by the PCAs.

Designations describe the primary function of a PCA. In some cases, PCAs with different designations include the same geographic area. For example, a riparian corridor designated as a Natural Landscape PCA may cross an Agricultural Lands PCA and Regional Recreation PCA.

Benefits describe specific types of habitats, health outcomes, and other objectives that the designated PCAs support. Each benefit is accompanied by at least one criterion as well as data sources for evaluating whether or not the PCA meets the criterion. Many PCAs will provide additional benefits beyond the primary ones listed for its designation. These are captured as co-benefits. Proposed PCAs are not required to list co-benefits, but these help describe its full impact.

Table 1. Summary of Priority Conservation Area Designations

PCA Designation	Primary Benefit(s)	Potential Co-Benefits	Examples
Natural Landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terrestrial (Land) Ecosystems • Aquatic Ecosystems • Water Supply and Quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate and Resilience • Compact Growth • Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical habitat areas • Wetlands targeted for restoration • Riparian Corridors • Watershed land protection
Agricultural Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Resources • Agricultural Economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat • Water Supply and Quality • Recreation • Climate and Resilience • Compact Growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmland or grazing land • Timberlands
Urban Greening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Health • Recreation • Climate and Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat • Water Supply and Quality • Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential “edible park” sites (park + community garden) • Urban forest areas • Urban portion of riparian corridor

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Regional Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat • Water Supply and Quality • Climate and Resilience • Community Health • Compact Growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional trail network • Potential regional park sites
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Table 2: Priority Conservation Area Benefits and Criteria

Benefit	Criteria Required and (<i>Optional</i>)	Data Sources for Evaluation
Terrestrial (Land) Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protects land within Conservation Lands Network (CLN) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Essential, 2. Important, 3. Fragmented, or 4. For Further Consideration; or • Protects Bay Area Critical Linkage • (<i>Protects Other Critical Habitat</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Lands Network (CLN) http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/ • USFWS Critical Habitat Portal http://ecos.fws.gov/crithab/ • Locally identified data
Aquatic (Water) Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protects wetlands identified in Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals; or • Protects subtidal Habitat identified in Subtidal Habitat Goals; or • Protects stream identified as a Stream Conservation Target in the CLN • (<i>Protects Other Important Features</i>) <i>e.g. Nationally Important Marine Features</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EcoAtlas http://www.ecoatlas.org/regions/coregion/bay-delta • Conservation Lands Network (CLN) http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/ • Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration
Water Supply and Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect urban water supply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reservoir Catchment Area ○ Aquifer recharge zone ○ Critical stream ○ Priority stream; or • Support watershed health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • USFWS Critical Habitat Portal http://ecos.fws.gov/crithab/
Agricultural Resources and Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports agricultural economy/preserves land with soil important for food production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Farmland identified in Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program ○ Grazing Lands identified in FMMP • Supportive of local or state agricultural policy • Completes contiguous area of farm or grazing lands • Supports production on soil with reduced environmental impacts from agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper, CA Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • General Plans/Other Land Use Plans • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Local Data

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Benefit	Criteria Required and (<i>Optional</i>)	Data Sources for Evaluation
Community Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to neighborhood parks in areas with high park need • Increase/complete urban tree canopy • Increase urban tree cover in areas expected to experience urban heat island effect • Supports Local Climate Action Plan/Greening Plan Goals related to Urban Greening • Increase tree canopy, food access, and/or park access in Community of Concern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ParkScore® Index http://parkscore.tpl.org/ • Local Data/Analysis • Local Data (e.g. tree inventories) • Heat Island Effect Source • Local Climate Action Plans • MTC Communities of Concern http://geocommons.com/maps/118675
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Regional Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bay Trail ○ Ridge Trail • Acreage of regional park added • (<i>Local data sources</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/
Climate and Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and/or Increase Areas with Carbon storage potential; or • Address Hazard Risk in Open Spaces (earthquake, flood, sea level rise) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Conservation Lands Network (CLN) http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/ • ABAG Earthquake Mapping Update http://quake.abag.ca.gov/projects/earthquake-mapping-update/ • NOAA Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding Impacts Map http://www.csc.noaa.gov/slr/viewer/#
Compact Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect land with open space benefits with high development pressure and adjacent open spaces; • <i>Support stable urban edges; or</i> • Support adopted open space policy protection measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Local General Plans

Natural Landscapes

Description

Areas critical to the functioning of wildlife and plant habitats, aquatic ecosystems and the region's water supply and quality.

Primary Benefits

Terrestrial (Land) Ecosystems, Aquatic (Water) Ecosystems, Water Supply and Quality

Potential Co-Benefits

Climate and Resilience, Compact growth, recreation

Examples

Critical habitat areas, wetlands targeted for restoration, riparian corridors, watershed land protection

Resources

Conservation Lands Network

<http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/>

US Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat Portal

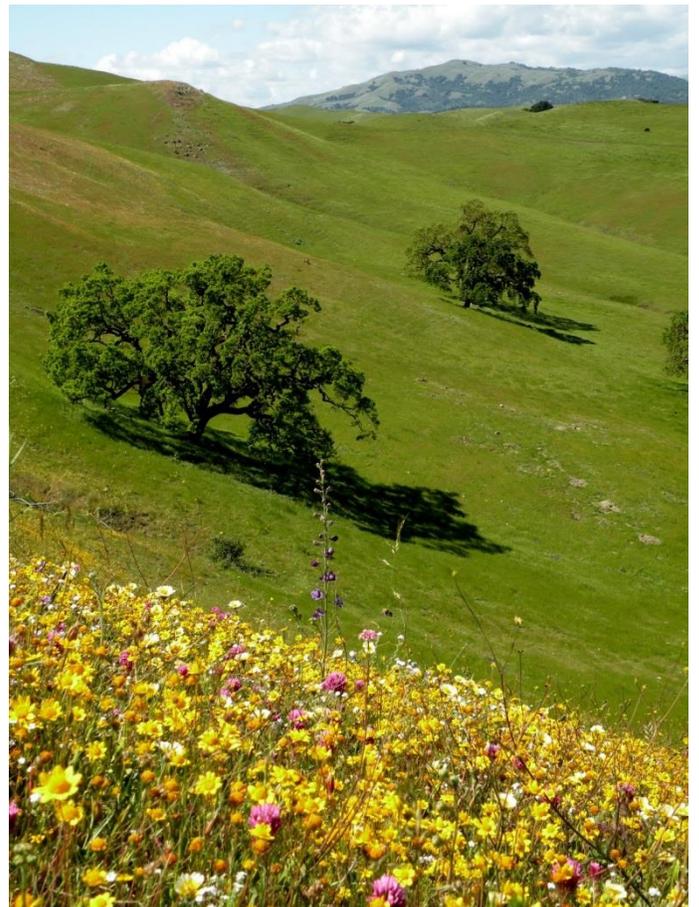
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EcoAtlas

<http://www.ecoatlas.org/regions/ecoregion/bay-delta>

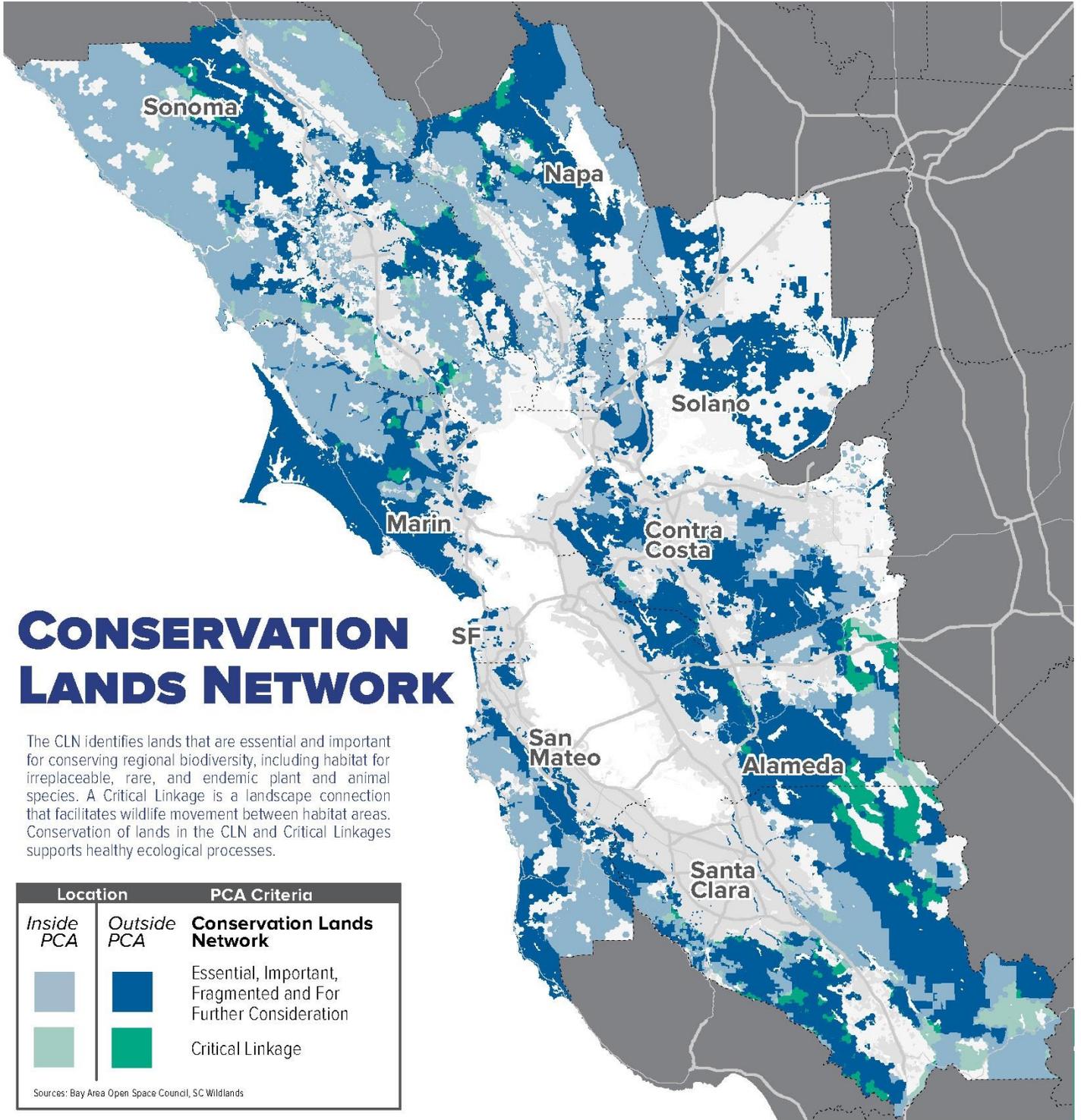


Oak Woodland and Pond, Sunol



Uplands Watershed with Wildflower Field,
San Mateo County

Evaluation Resource: Conservation Lands Network



Agricultural Lands

Description

Farmland, grazing land and timberland that support the region's agricultural economy and provide additional benefits such as habitat protection and carbon capture.

Primary Benefits

Agricultural Resources, Agricultural Economy

Potential Co-Benefits

Wildlife habitat, water supply and quality, recreation, climate and resilience, compact growth

Examples

Farmland, grazing land, timberlands

Resources

Greenbelt Mapper

<http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/>

Local General Plans

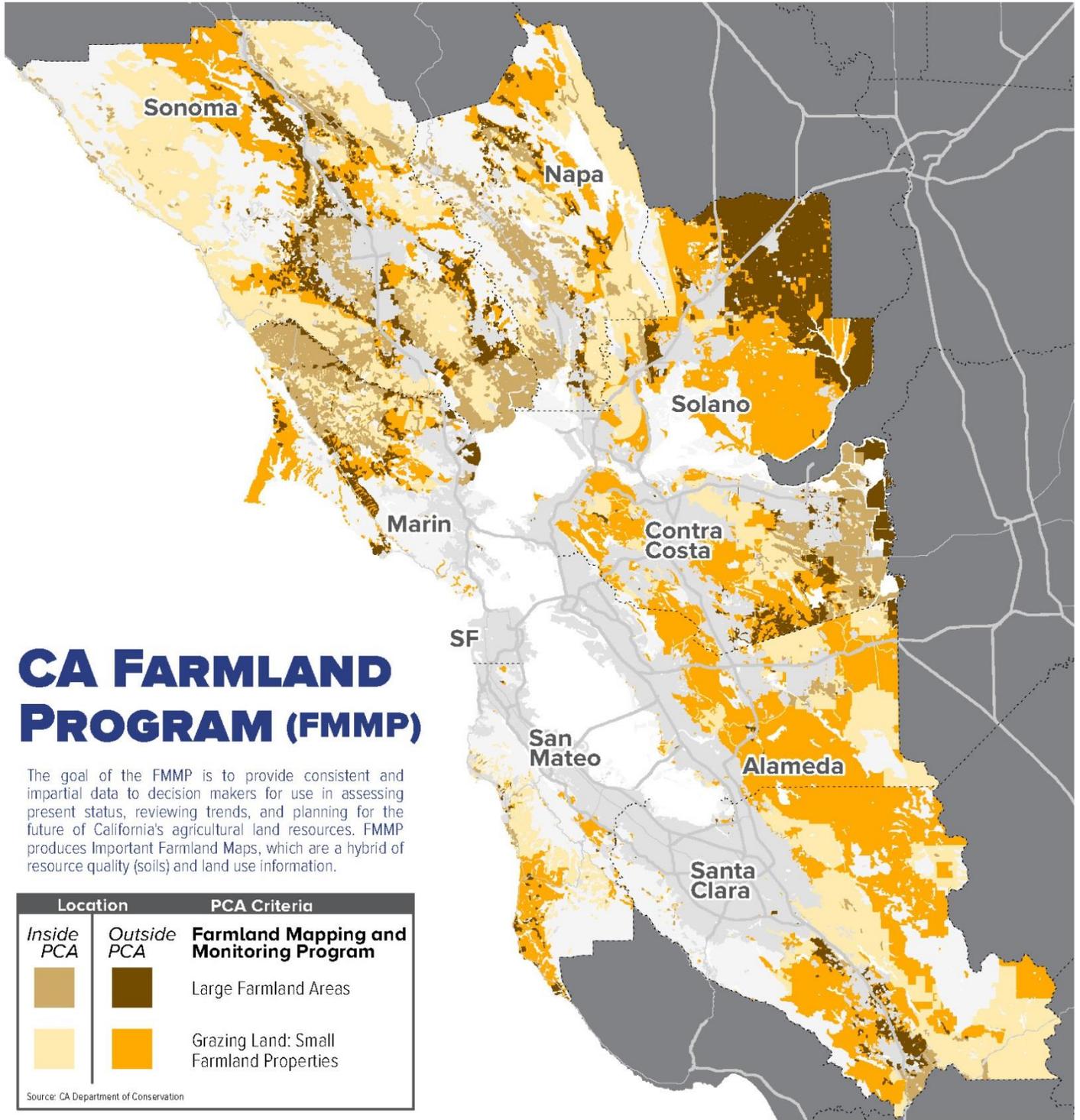


Grazing Land, Sunol



Chiala Farms, Morgan Hill

Evaluation Resource: CA Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program



Urban Greening

Description

Existing and potential green spaces in cities that improve community health, capture carbon emissions, address stormwater, and enhance the public realm.

Primary Benefits

Community Health, Recreation, Climate and Resilience

Potential Co-Benefits

Water supply and quality, wildlife habitat, recreation

Examples

Urban portion of riparian corridors, potential sites for parks and community gardens, urban forest and green street networks

Resources

ParkScore Index

<http://parkscore.tpl.org/>

Local Climate Action and Urban Greening Plans



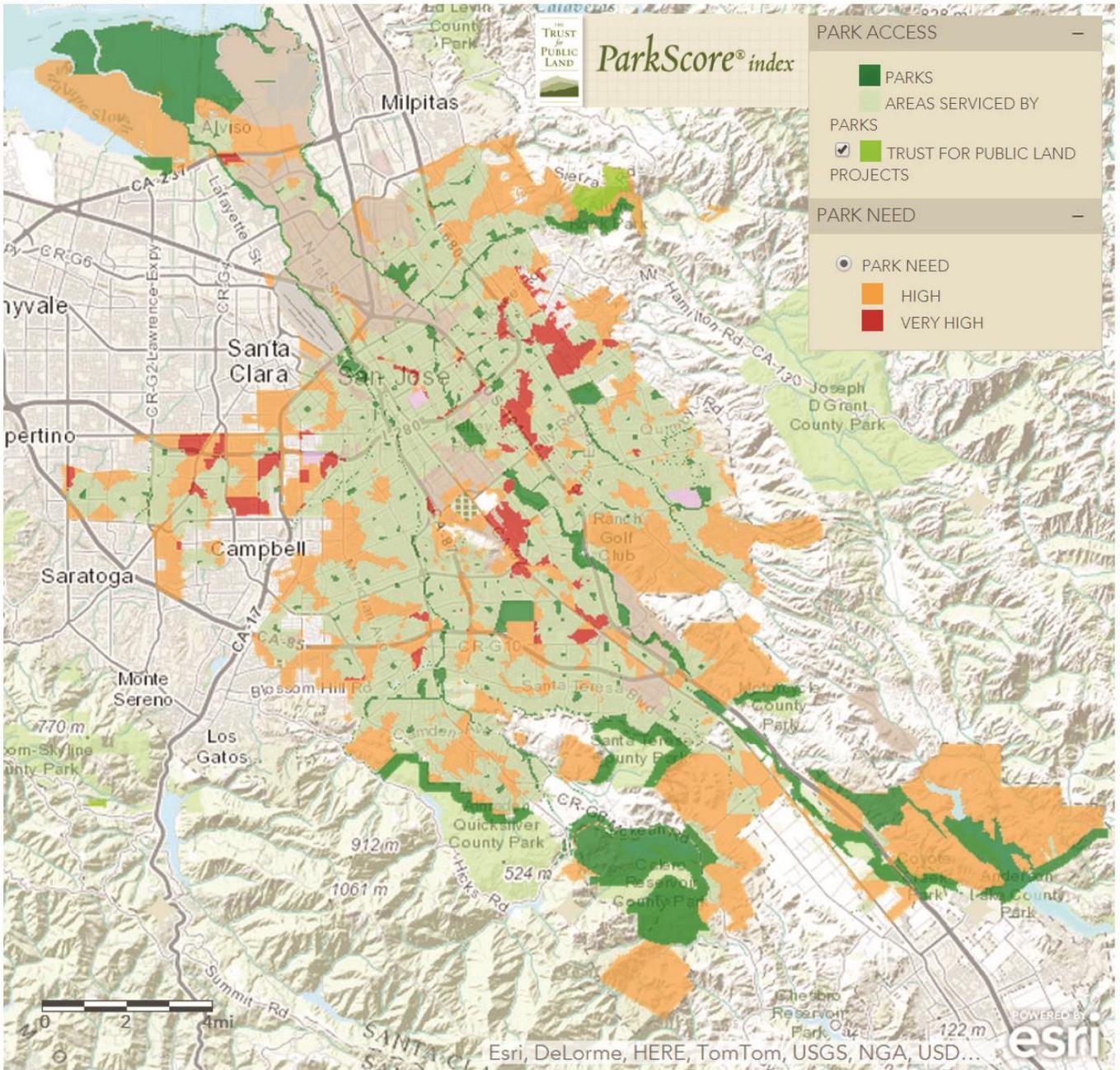
Urban Forest Expansion
San Francisco



7th Street Mural, Garden and Play Area
People's Grocery, Oakland

Evaluation Resource: Trust for Public Land Park Score Index

Park Need in San Jose Trust for Public Land



Regional Recreation

Description

Existing and potential regional parks, trails, and other publicly accessible recreation facilities.

Primary Benefit

Recreation

Potential Co-Benefits

Wildlife habitat, water supply and quality, climate and resilience, community health, compact growth

Examples

Regional trail networks, areas for potential regional park expansion.

Resources

Greenbelt Mapper (Regional Trails)

<http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/>

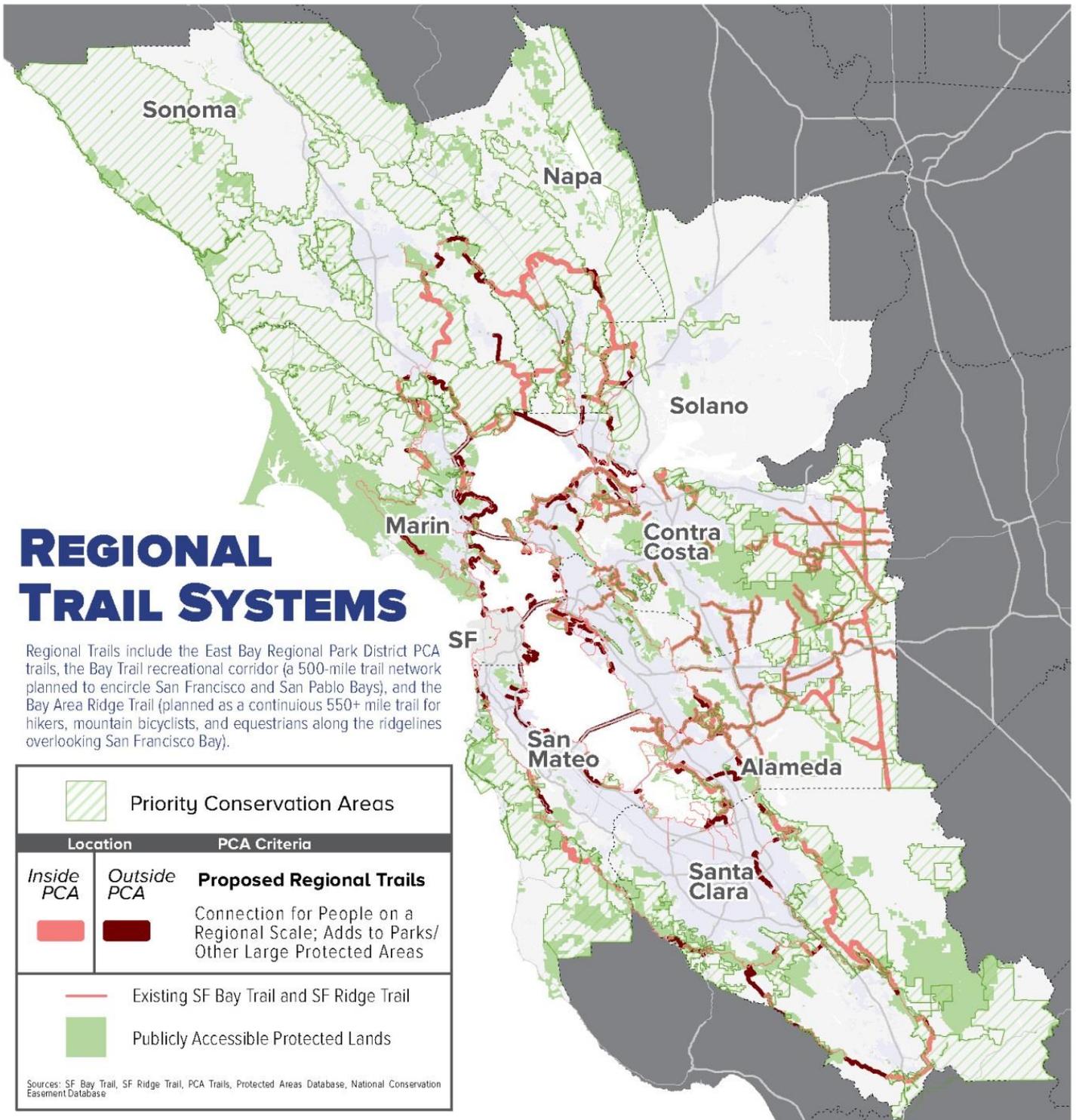


Bay Trail, Tiburon



Bay Area Water Trail

Evaluation Tool: Existing and Proposed Regional Trail Network (Greenbelt Mapper)



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This attachment introduces four Priority Conservation Area (PCA) designations and a set of measurable benefits provided by the PCAs.

Designations describe the primary function of a PCA. In some cases, PCAs with different designations include the same geographic area. For example, a riparian corridor designated as a Natural Landscape PCA may cross an Agricultural Lands PCA and Regional Recreation PCA.

Benefits describe specific types of habitats, health outcomes, and other objectives that the designated PCAs support. Each benefit is accompanied by at least one criterion as well as data sources for evaluating whether or not the PCA meets the criterion. Many PCAs will provide additional benefits beyond the primary ones listed for its designation. These are captured as co-benefits. Proposed PCAs are not required to list co-benefits, but these help describe its full impact.

Table 1. Summary of Priority Conservation Area Designations

PCA Designation	Primary Benefit(s)	Potential Co-Benefits	Examples
Natural Landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terrestrial (Land) Ecosystems • Aquatic Ecosystems • Water Supply and Quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate and Resilience • Compact Growth • Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical habitat areas • Wetlands targeted for restoration • Riparian Corridors • Watershed land protection
Agricultural Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Resources • Agricultural Economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat • Water Supply and Quality • Recreation • Climate and Resilience • Compact Growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmland or grazing land • Timberlands
Urban Greening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Health • Recreation • Climate and Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat • Water Supply and Quality • Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential “edible park” sites (park + community garden) • Urban forest areas • Urban portion of riparian corridor

ATTACHMENT 3: PROPOSED PCA DESIGNATIONS

Regional Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat • Water Supply and Quality • Climate and Resilience • Community Health • Compact Growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional trail network • Potential regional park sites
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Table 2: Priority Conservation Area Benefits and Criteria

Benefit	Criteria Required and (<i>Optional</i>)	Data Sources for Evaluation
Terrestrial (Land) Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protects land within Conservation Lands Network (CLN) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Essential, 2. Important, 3. Fragmented, or 4. For Further Consideration; or • Protects Bay Area Critical Linkage • (<i>Protects Other Critical Habitat</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Lands Network (CLN) http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/ • USFWS Critical Habitat Portal http://ecos.fws.gov/crithab/ • Locally identified data
Aquatic (Water) Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protects wetlands identified in Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals; or • Protects subtidal Habitat identified in Subtidal Habitat Goals; or • Protects stream identified as a Stream Conservation Target in the CLN • (<i>Protects Other Important Features</i>) <i>e.g. Nationally Important Marine Features</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EcoAtlas http://www.ecoatlas.org/regions/coregion/bay-delta • Conservation Lands Network (CLN) http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/ • Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration
Water Supply and Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect urban water supply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reservoir Catchment Area ○ Aquifer recharge zone ○ Critical stream ○ Priority stream; or • Support watershed health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • USFWS Critical Habitat Portal http://ecos.fws.gov/crithab/
Agricultural Resources and Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports agricultural economy/preserves land with soil important for food production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Farmland identified in Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program ○ Grazing Lands identified in FMMP • Supportive of local or state agricultural policy • Completes contiguous area of farm or grazing lands • Supports production on soil with reduced environmental impacts from agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper, CA Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • General Plans/Other Land Use Plans • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Local Data

ATTACHMENT 3: PROPOSED PCA DESIGNATIONS

Table 2: Priority Conservation Area Benefits and Criteria

Benefit	Criteria Required and (<i>Optional</i>)	Data Sources for Evaluation
Community Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to neighborhood parks in areas with high park need • Increase/complete urban tree canopy • Increase urban tree cover in areas expected to experience urban heat island effect • Supports Local Climate Action Plan/Greening Plan Goals related to Urban Greening • Increase tree canopy, food access, and/or park access in Community of Concern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ParkScore® Index http://parkscore.tpl.org/ • Local Data/Analysis • Local Data (e.g. tree inventories) • Heat Island Effect Source • Local Climate Action Plans • MTC Communities of Concern http://geocommons.com/maps/118675
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Regional Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bay Trail ○ Ridge Trail • Acreage of regional park added • (<i>Local data sources</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/
Climate and Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and/or Increase Areas with Carbon storage potential; or • Address Hazard Risk in Open Spaces (earthquake, flood, sea level rise) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Conservation Lands Network (CLN) http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/ • ABAG Earthquake Mapping Update http://quake.abag.ca.gov/projects/earthquake-mapping-update/ • NOAA Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding Impacts Map http://www.csc.noaa.gov/slr/viewer/#
Compact Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect land with open space benefits with high development pressure and adjacent open spaces; • <i>Support stable urban edges; or</i> • Support adopted open space policy protection measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Greenbelt Mapper http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/ • Local General Plans

Natural Landscapes

Description

Areas critical to the functioning of wildlife and plant habitats, aquatic ecosystems and the region's water supply and quality.

Primary Benefits

Terrestrial (Land) Ecosystems, Aquatic (Water) Ecosystems, Water Supply and Quality

Potential Co-Benefits

Climate and Resilience, Compact growth, recreation

Examples

Critical habitat areas, wetlands targeted for restoration, riparian corridors, watershed land protection

Resources

Conservation Lands Network

<http://www.bayarealands.org/explorer/>

US Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat Portal

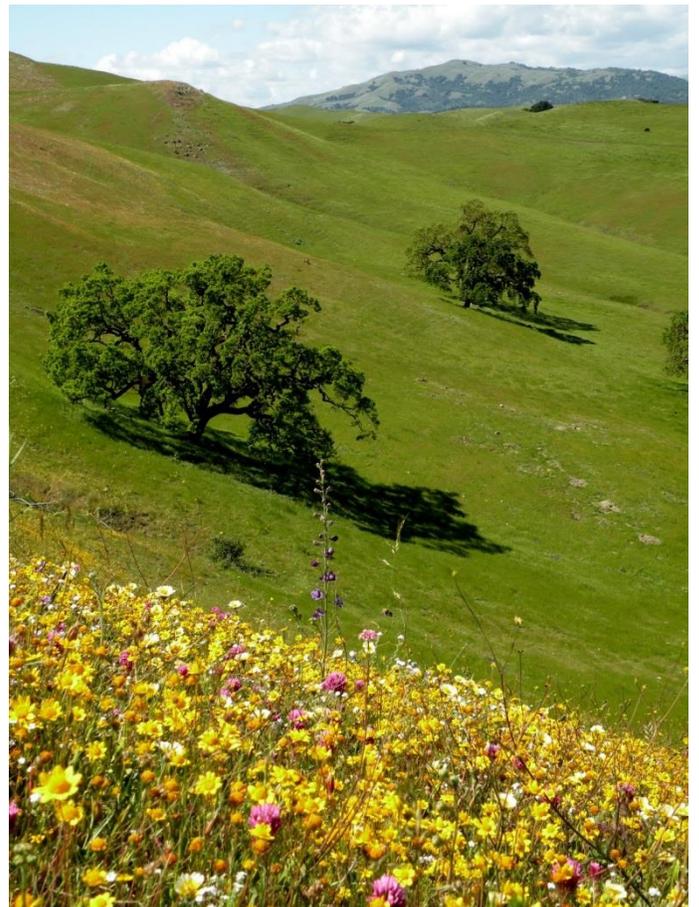
<http://ecos.fws.gov/crithab/>

EcoAtlas

<http://www.ecoatlas.org/regions/ecoregion/bay-delta>

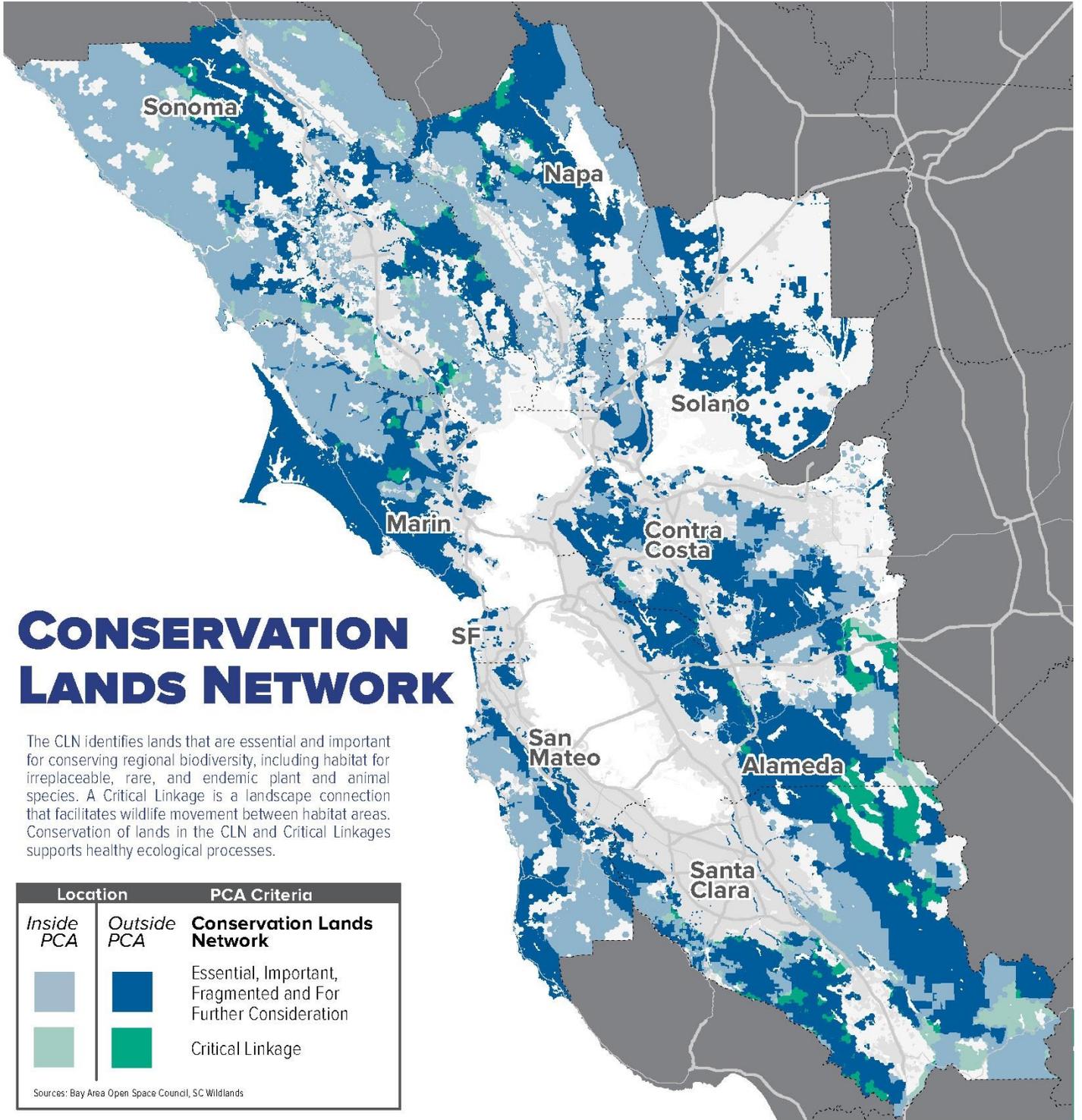


Oak Woodland and Pond, Sunol



Uplands Watershed with Wildflower Field, San Mateo County

Evaluation Resource: Conservation Lands Network



Agricultural Lands

Description

Farmland, grazing land and timberland that support the region's agricultural economy and provide additional benefits such as habitat protection and carbon capture.

Primary Benefits

Agricultural Resources, Agricultural Economy

Potential Co-Benefits

Wildlife habitat, water supply and quality, recreation, climate and resilience, compact growth

Examples

Farmland, grazing land, timberlands

Resources

Greenbelt Mapper

<http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/>

Local General Plans

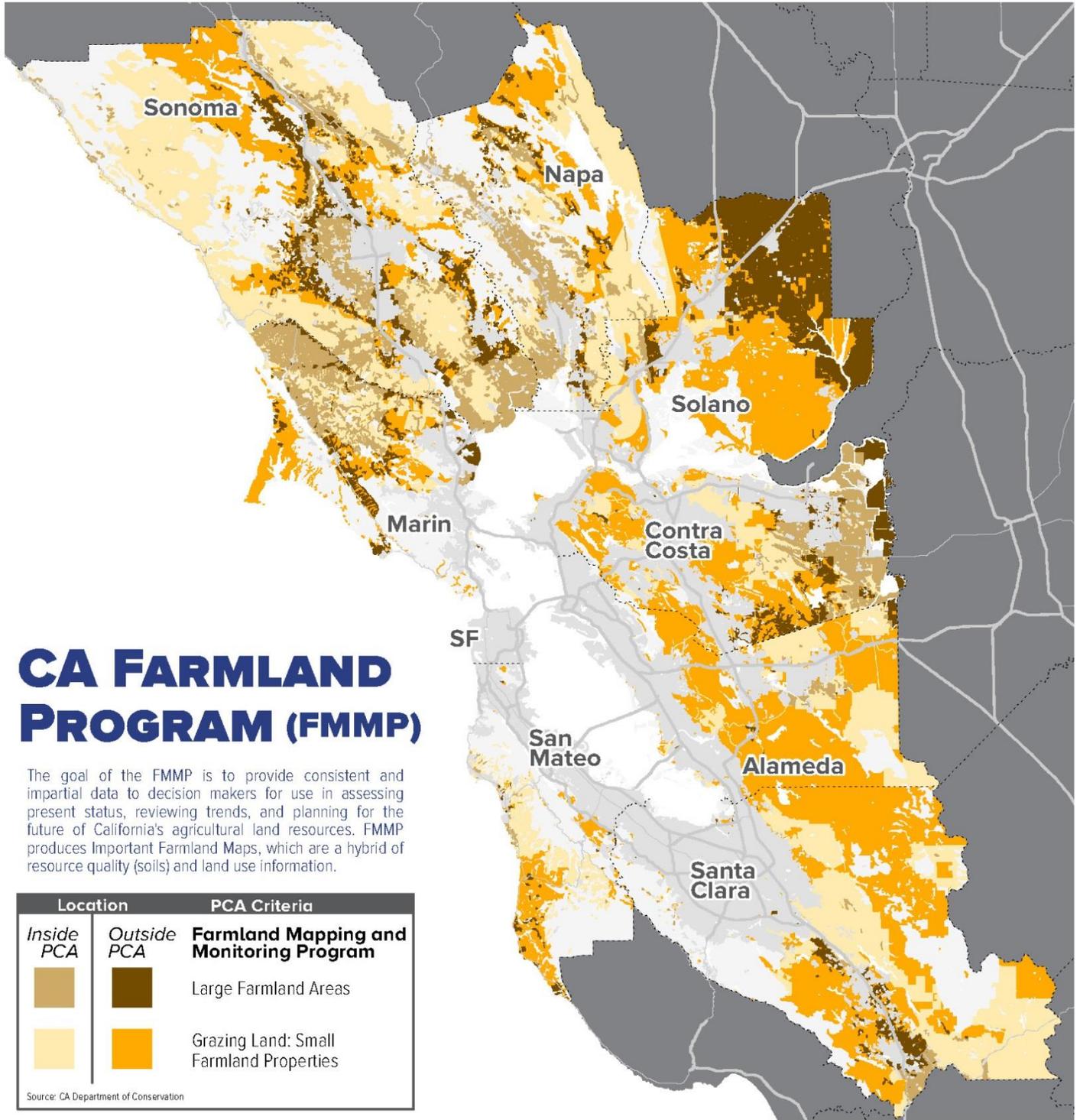


Grazing Land, Sunol



Chiala Farms, Morgan Hill

Evaluation Resource: CA Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program



Urban Greening

Description

Existing and potential green spaces in cities that improve community health, capture carbon emissions, address stormwater, and enhance the public realm.

Primary Benefits

Community Health, Recreation, Climate and Resilience

Potential Co-Benefits

Water supply and quality, wildlife habitat, recreation

Examples

Urban portion of riparian corridors, potential sites for parks and community gardens, urban forest and green street networks

Resources

ParkScore Index

<http://parkscore.tpl.org/>

Local Climate Action and Urban Greening Plans



Urban Forest Expansion
San Francisco

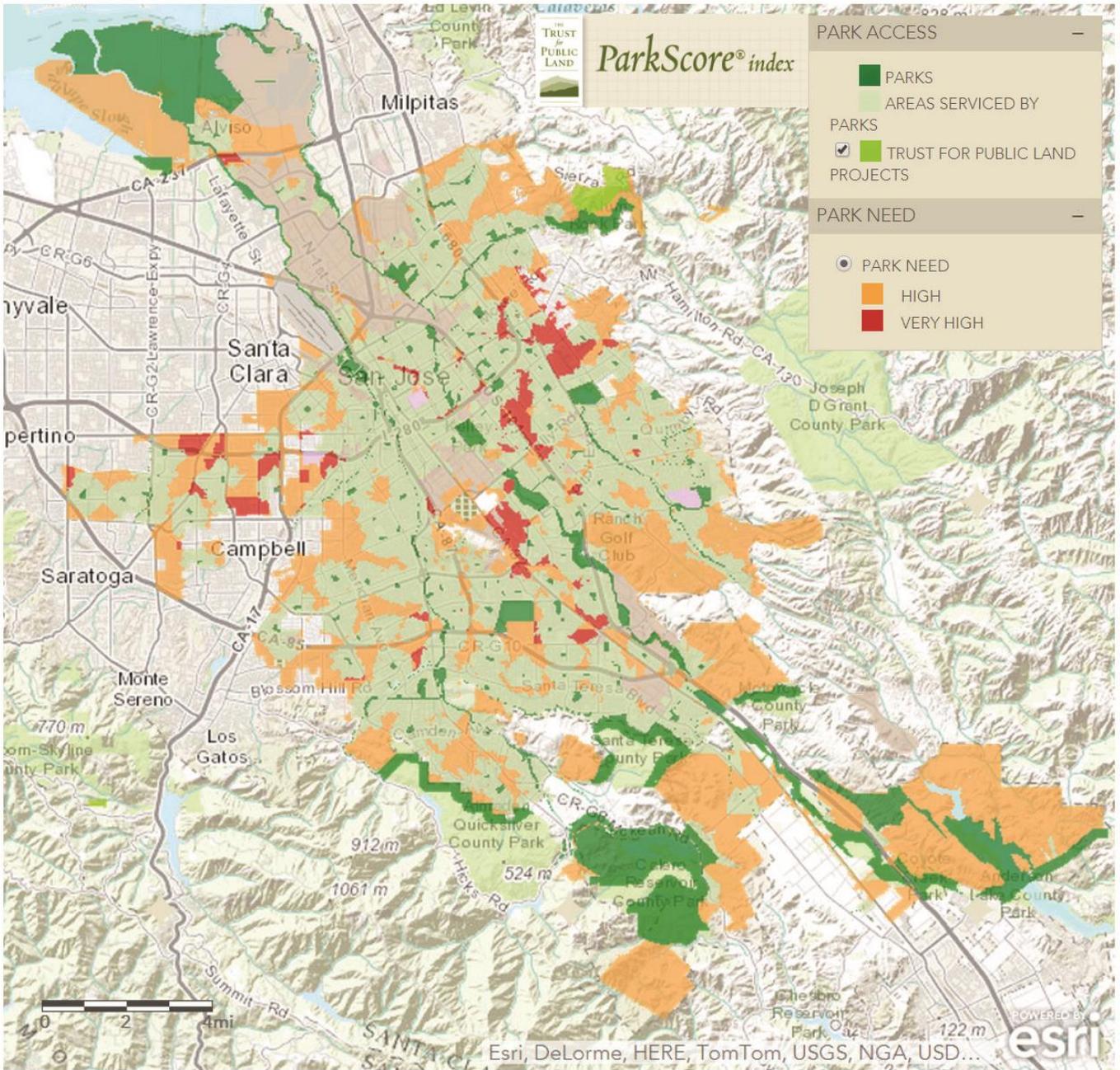


7th Street Mural, Garden and Play Area
People's Grocery, Oakland

Evaluation Resource: Trust for Public Land Park Score Index

Park Need in San Jose

Trust for Public Land



Regional Recreation

Description

Existing and potential regional parks, trails, and other publicly accessible recreation facilities.

Primary Benefit

Recreation

Potential Co-Benefits

Wildlife habitat, water supply and quality, climate and resilience, community health, compact growth

Examples

Regional trail networks, areas for potential regional park expansion.

Resources

Greenbelt Mapper (Regional Trails)

<http://www.greenbelt.org/greenbelt-mapper/>



Bay Trail, Tiburon



Bay Area Water Trail

Evaluation Tool: Existing and Proposed Regional Trail Network (Greenbelt Mapper)

