



Humboldt
Redwood™



Humboldt Redwood Company Habitat Conservation Plan

“When Owls Collide”

Or, what happens when an invasive species
beats up your covered species?

- *Sal Chinnici*, Director of Forest Sciences, Humboldt and Mendocino Redwood Companies

Overview

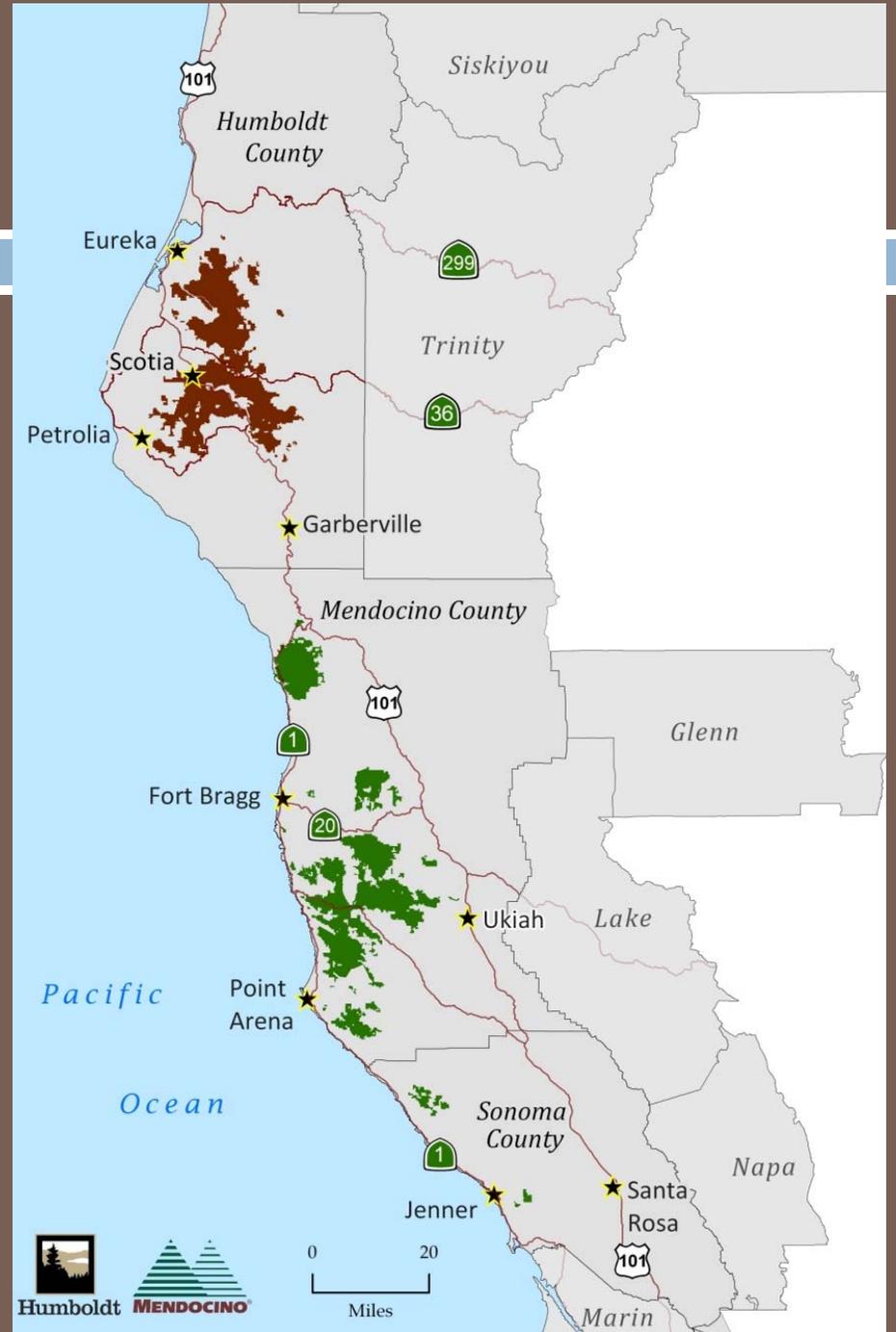
- Review of the Humboldt and Mendocino Redwood Companies
- Humboldt Redwood Company HCP
 - ▣ Northern Spotted Owl Background
 - ▣ The Barred Owl Invasion
 - ▣ HCP Conundrum
 - ▣ What is the resolution?

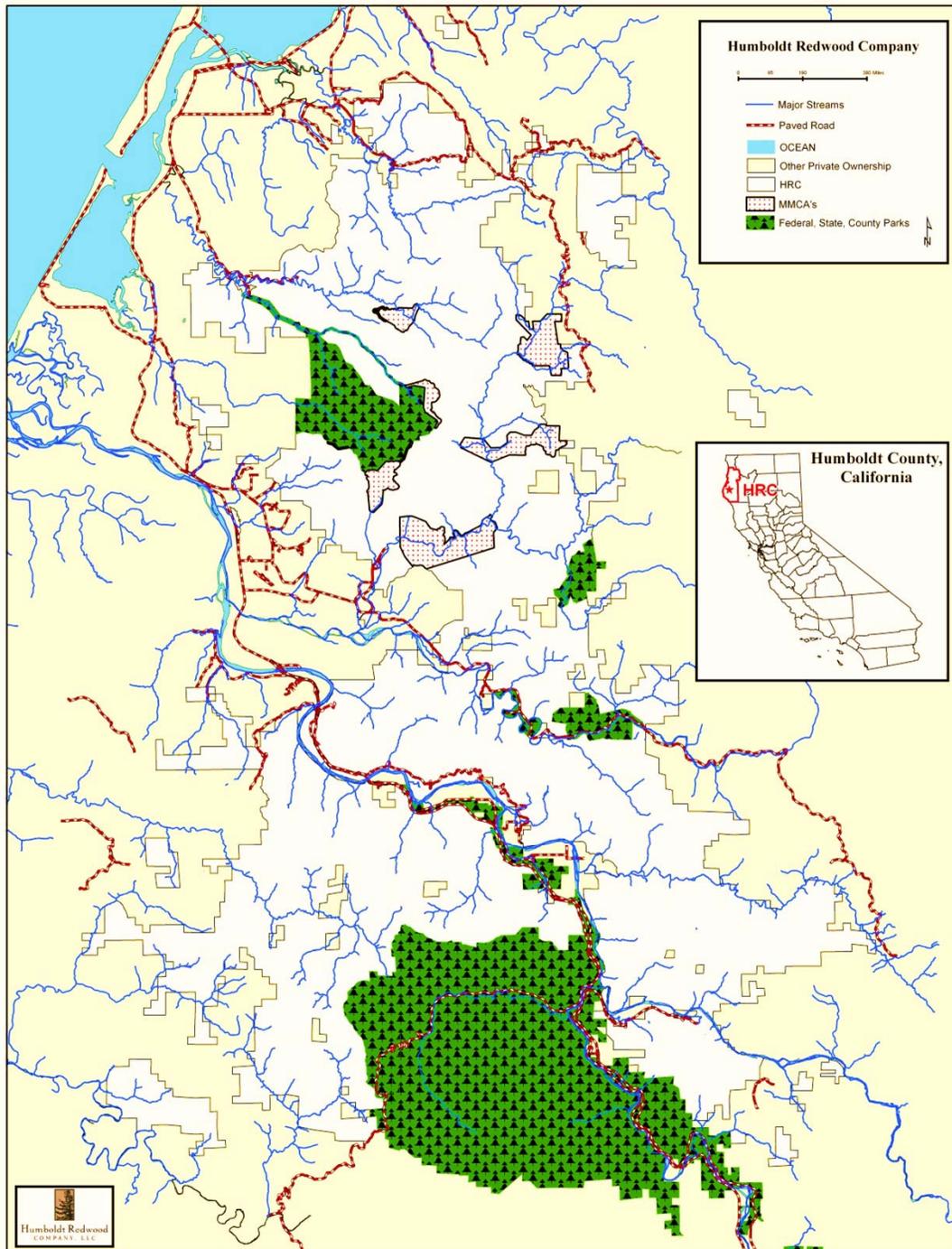
Our Forestlands

- 440,000 acres of Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certified forestlands



**Humboldt
Redwood™**





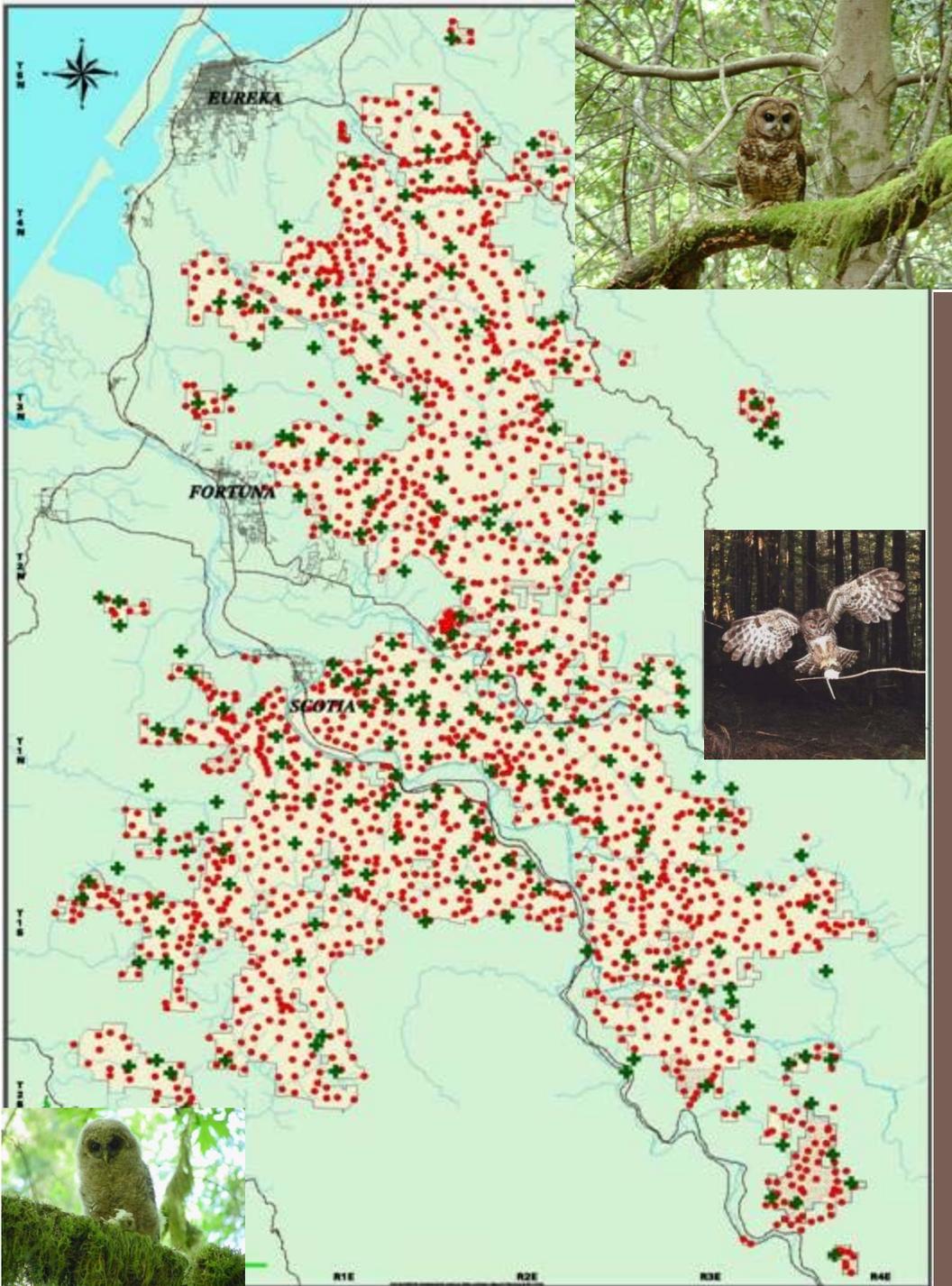
Humboldt Redwood Company Lands

- Primarily Coastal Redwood and Douglas-fir Forests
- Important Habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species
- Operate under a Federal and State MSHCP



**Focus HCP Species:
Northern Spotted Owls**

Northern Spotted Owl Conservation



- 30 years of surveys and monitoring
- 111 currently occupied spotted owl territories
- Among the highest densities of spotted owls known

Northern Spotted Owl Monitoring

Track reproductive rate and pair occupancy over time. Banding information tells us that pairs may occupy same territories for many years.

Occupancy and reproduction have been trending downward, why?



Barred Owl Invasion

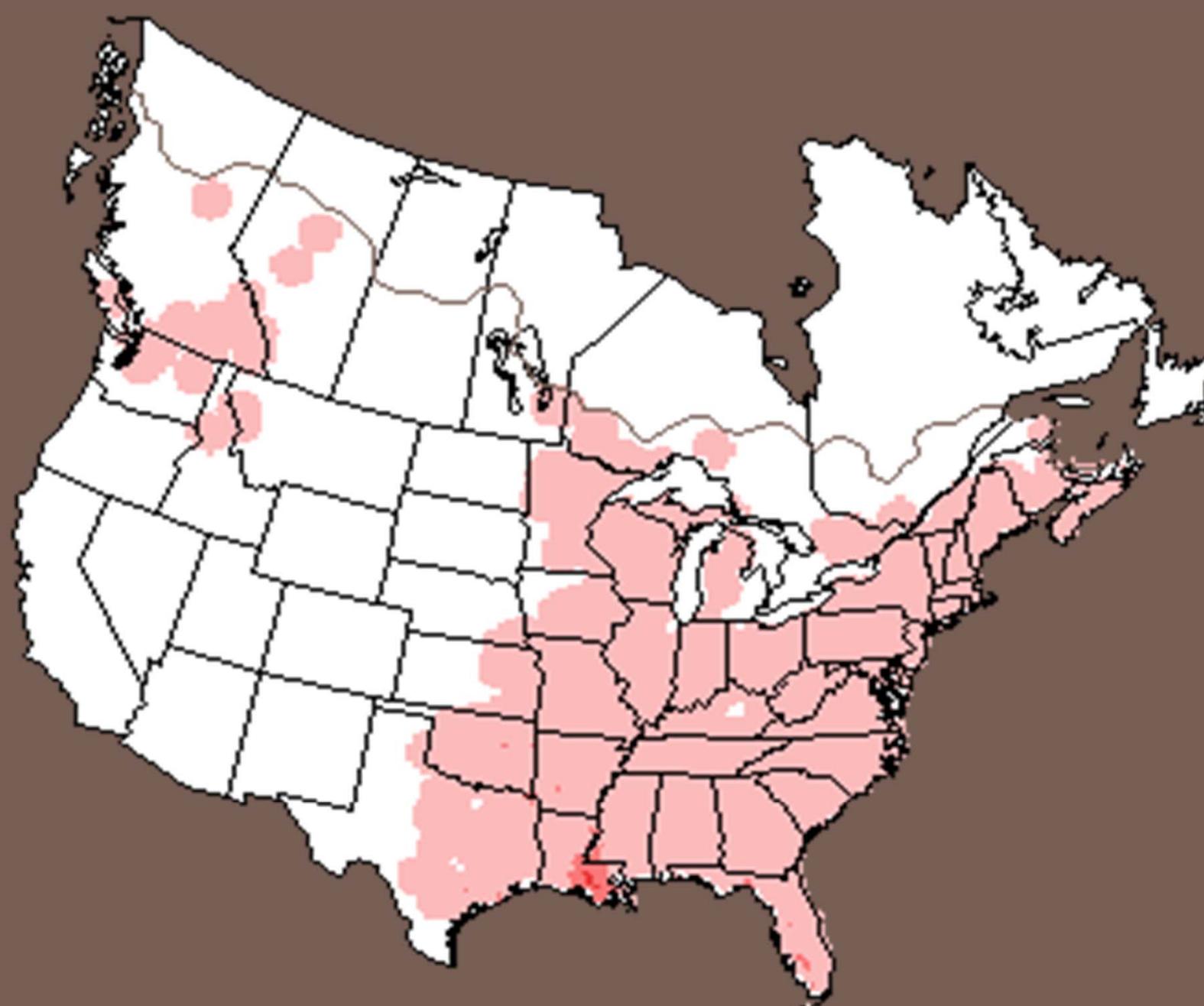
First detected in CA around 1976.

Related to NSO, but larger and more aggressive.

Multiple barred owl territories around single spotted owl territory.

Some private landowners and USFWS conducting experimental removal.



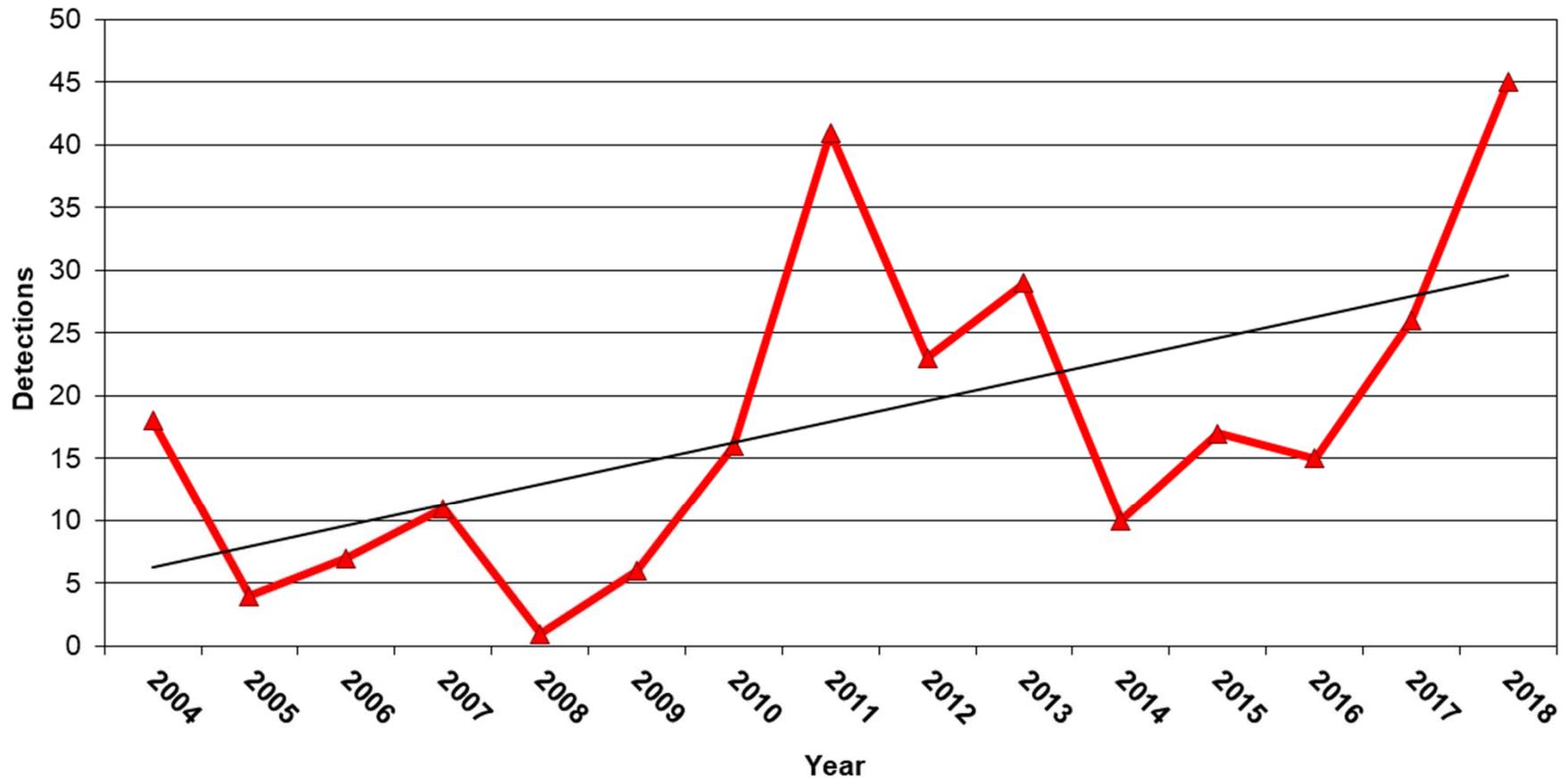


USGS Map, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center



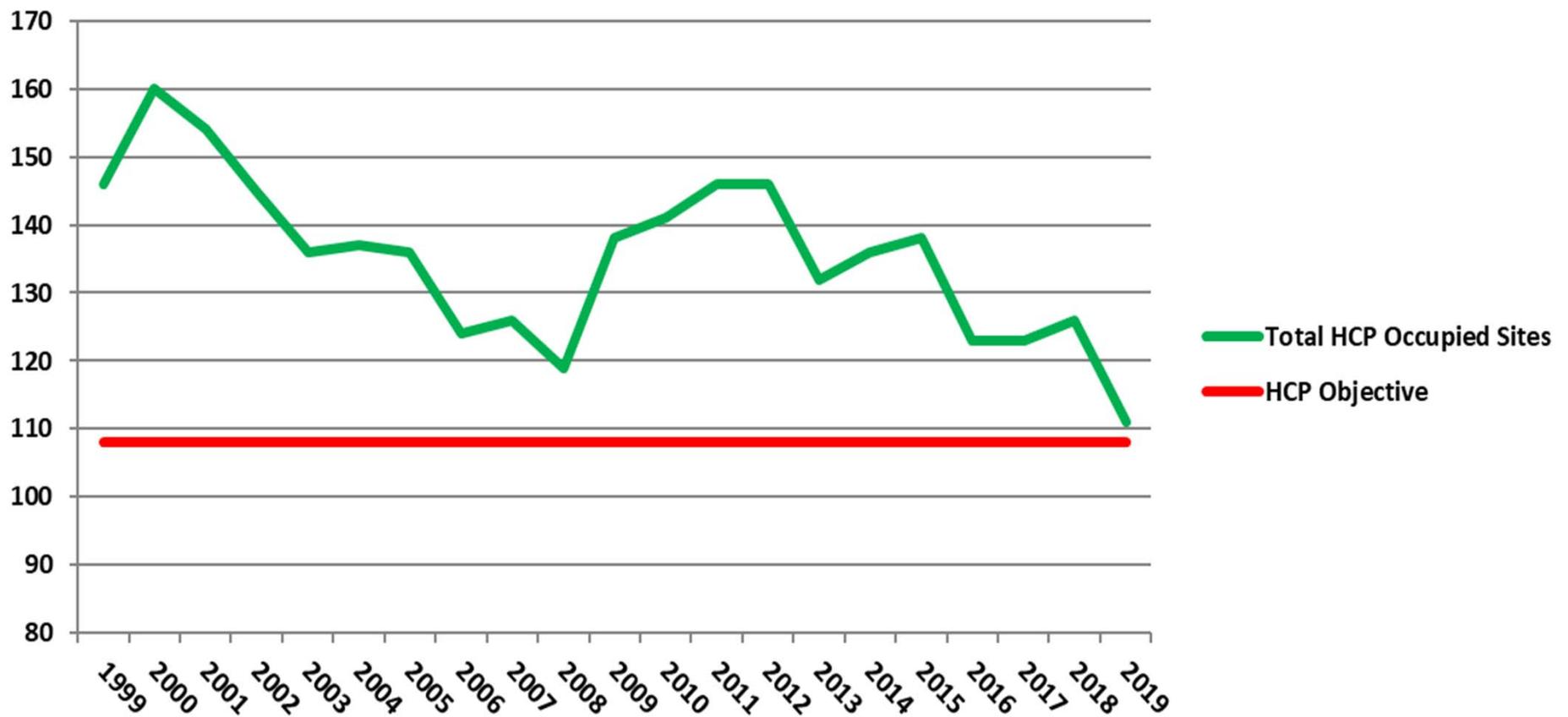
Credit: Smithsonian (2009)

Barred owl detections within 0.5-mile of northern spotted owl territories on HRC Lands

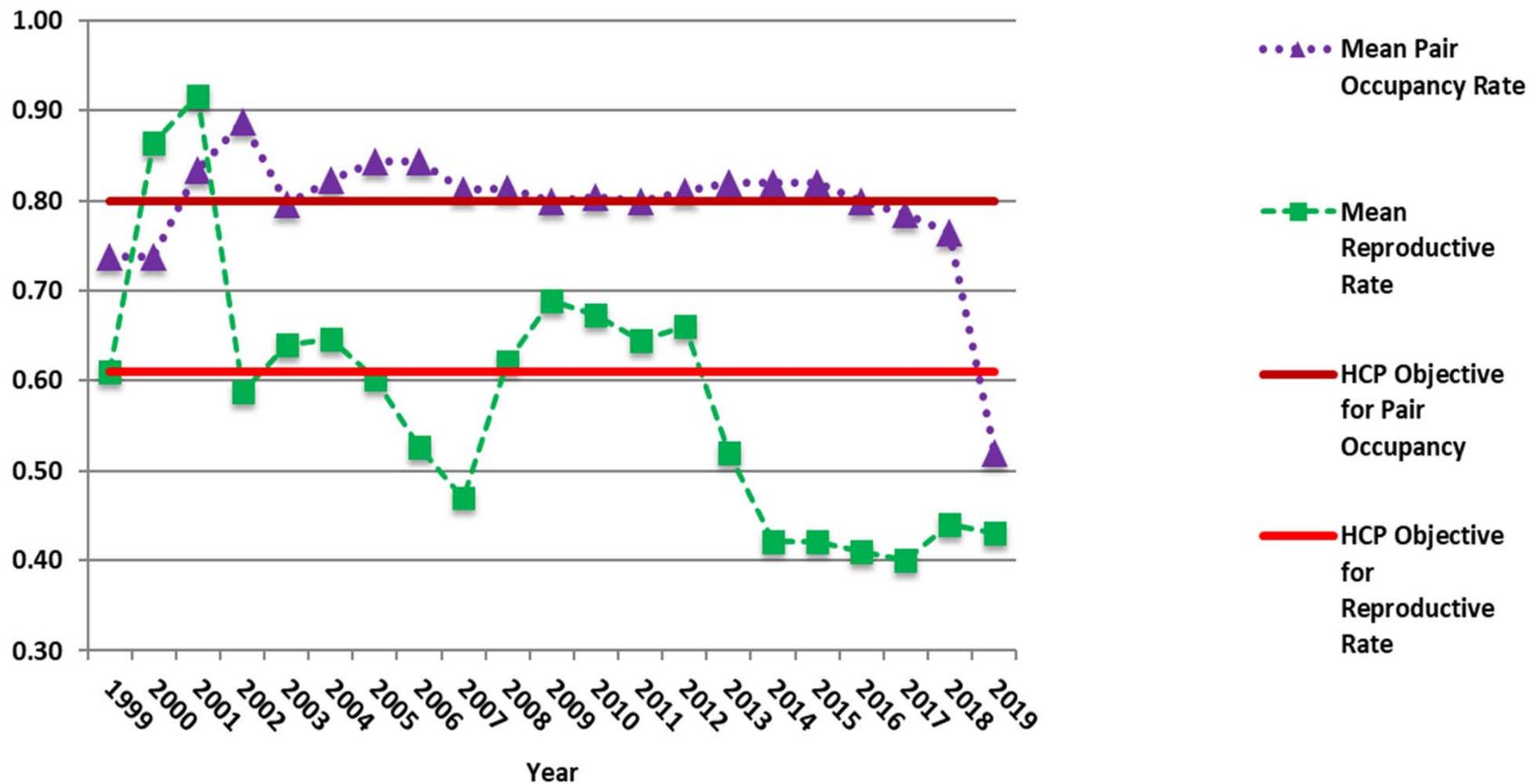


What's happening to HCP Objectives?

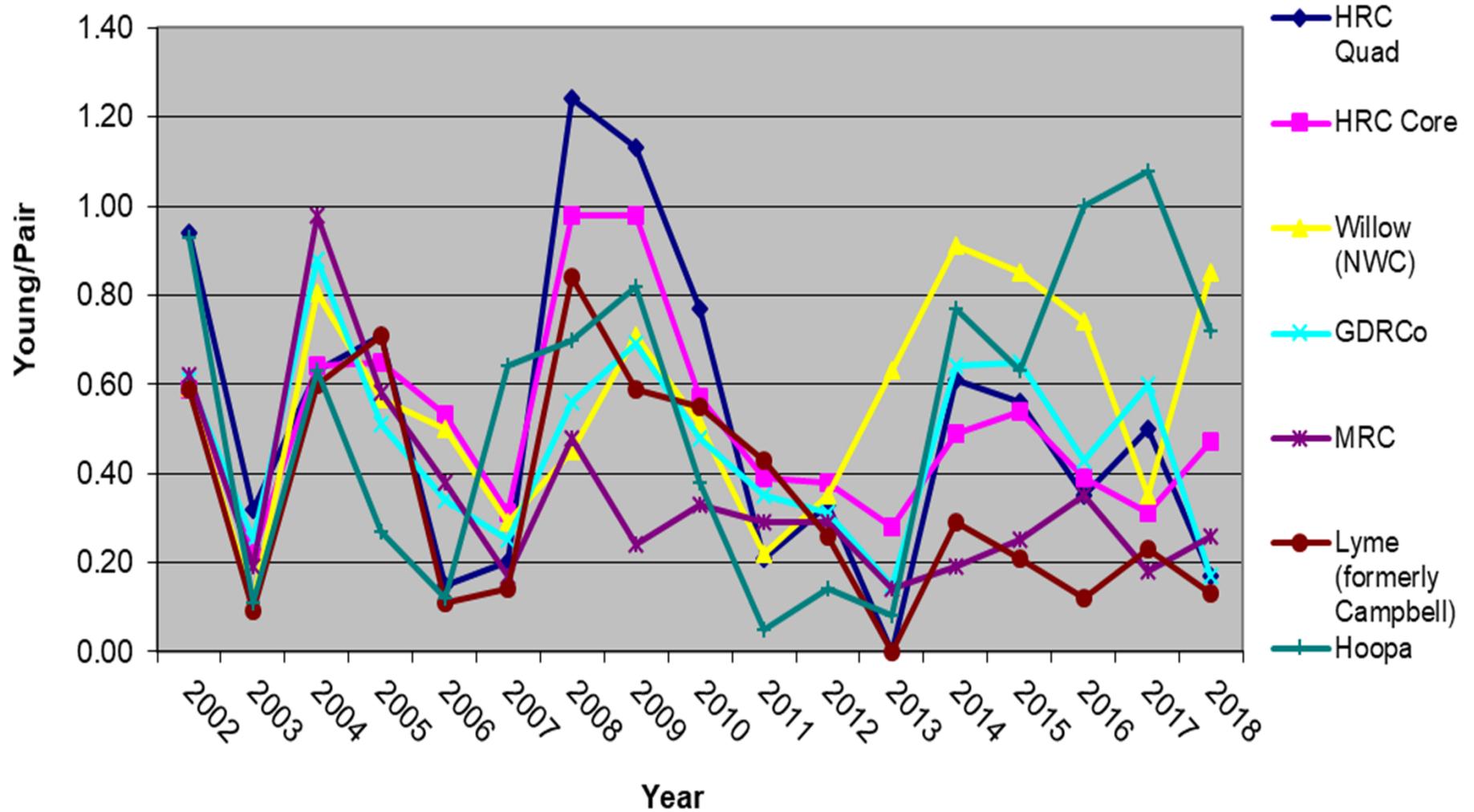
Total Northern Spotted Owl Occupied Sites



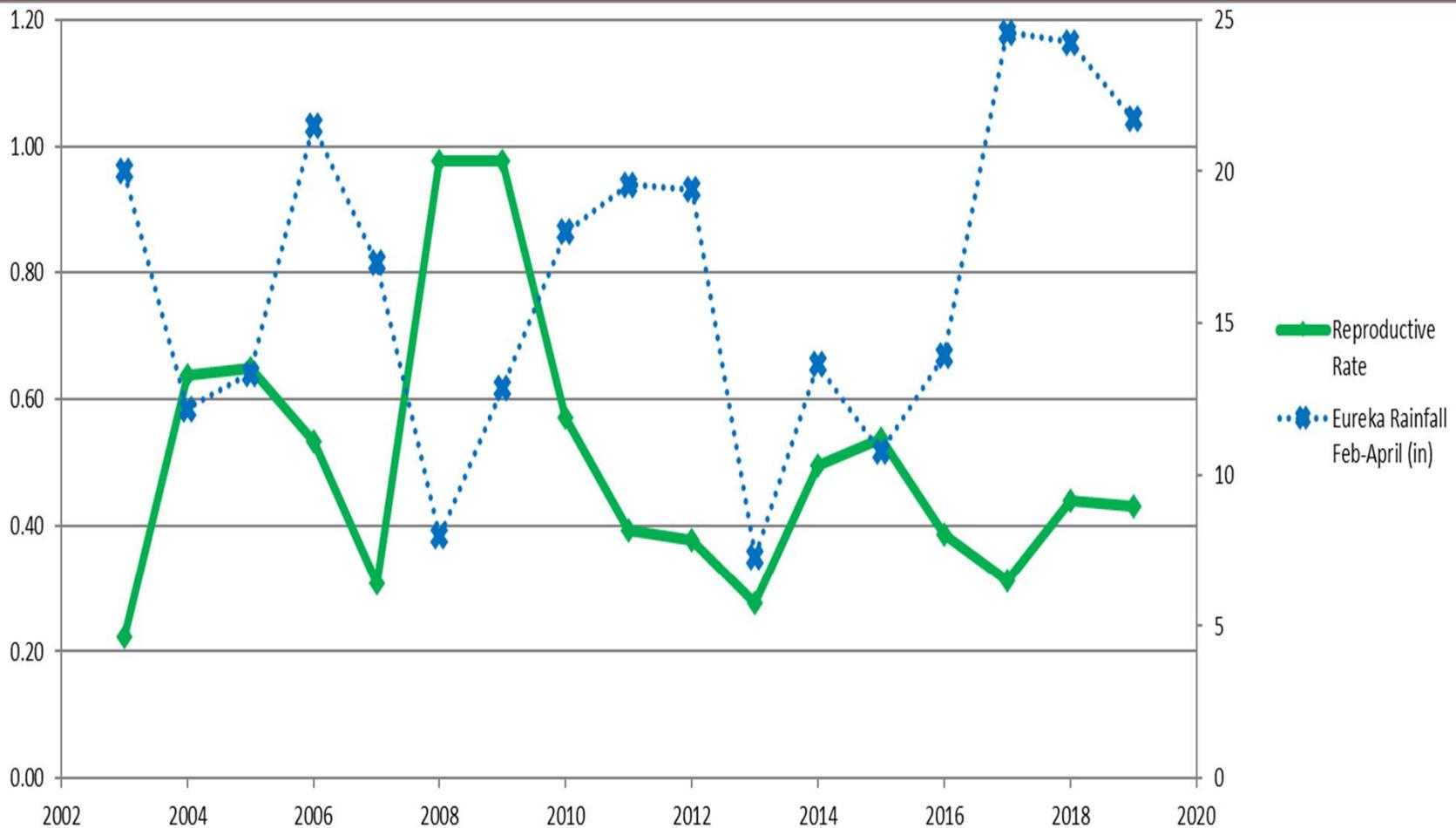
Monitoring Results for Spotted Owl HCP Objectives



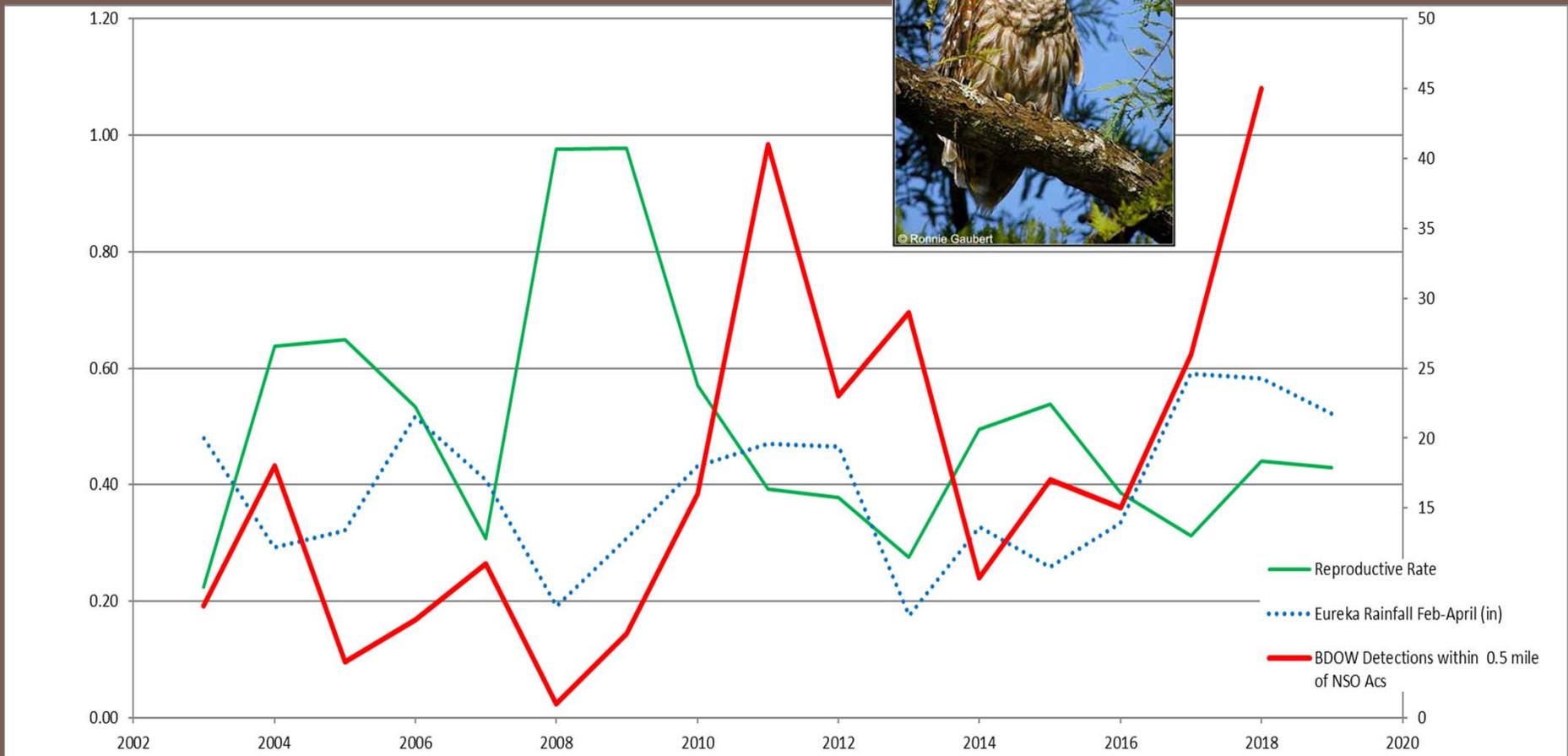
Regional Comparison of Reproductive Rates



Northern spotted owl reproductive results are strongly correlated with climate (Franklin 1997)



Barred owls can have a significant impact on occupancy and breeding of spotted owls (Dugger et al. 2016)



HCP Conundrum: Federal vs State

- Federal HCP Wildlife Agency (US Fish and Wildlife Service)
 - Provides “*No Surprises Rule*”
 - Barred owl is considered to be an *Unforeseen Circumstance*
 - “*As long as HCP being properly implemented, will not require any additional land or money from permittee in the event of unforeseen circumstances*”

HCP Conundrum: Federal vs State

- State Wildlife Agency (California Department of Fish and Wildlife)
 - ▣ Court ruling since HCP was approved removed “*No Surprises*” including “*unforeseen circumstances*” (*EPIC v CDF 2008*)
 - ▣ Department of Fish and Wildlife *may* require additional measures for northern spotted owl
 - ▣ Has discussed possibility of barred owl removal

What is the resolution?

Currently unknown and to be determined...



Credit: HRC



Credit: Verlin Birds

Thank you!

- Humboldt Redwood Company

- GetRedwood.com

- HRCLLC.com



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