

California Department of Fish and Wildlife's

NCCP LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Shannon Lucas

Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor

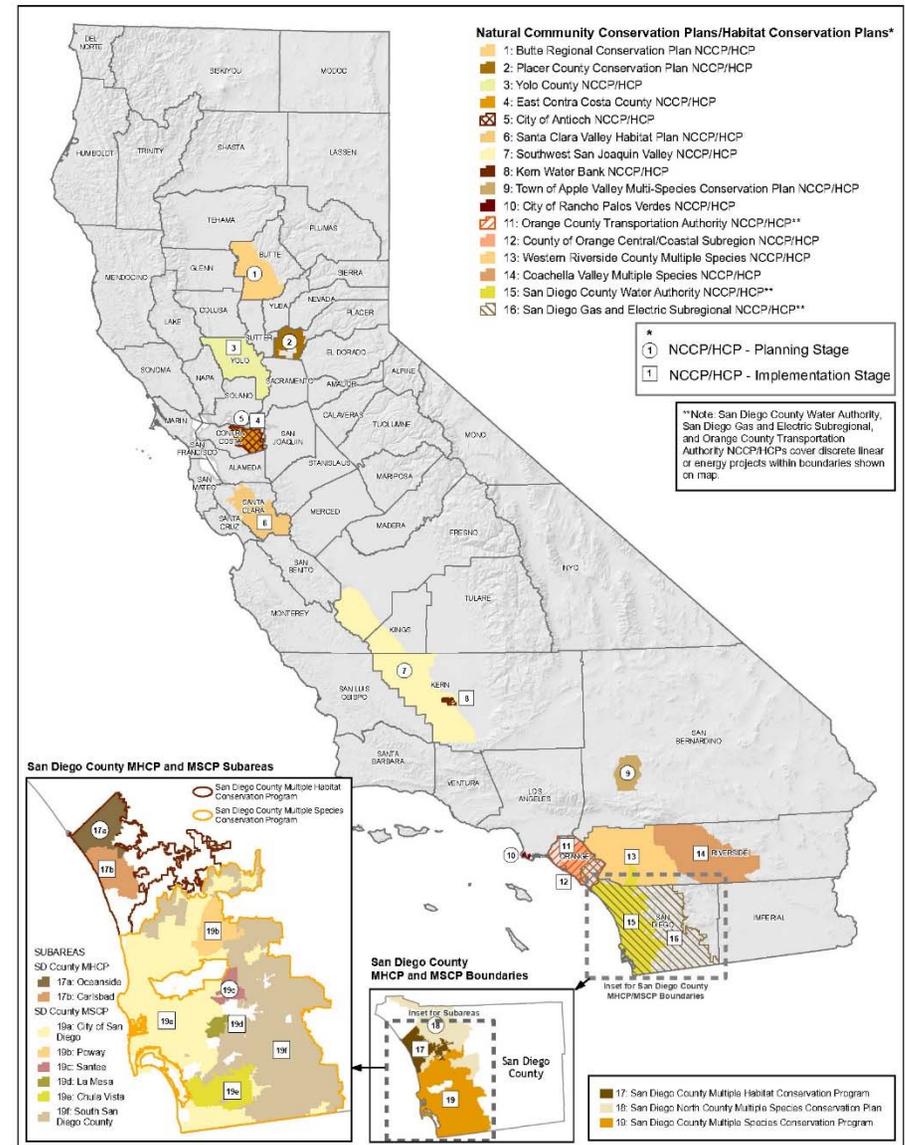


What is an NCCCP?

- Natural Community Conservation Planning Act, established 1991
- California's version of an HCP
- To date, every NCCCP is also an HCP



CALIFORNIA NATURAL COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLANS April 2019



NCCP: Natural Community Conservation Plan (California Fish and Game Code §2800) (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/NCCP>)
 HCP: Habitat Conservation Plan (Federal Endangered Species Act Section 10) (<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/hcp-overview.html>)



Conservation plans may be in various stages of review, and subject to change. In some cases, boundaries have not been submitted by participants, and are **estimated locations**.

Data Sources: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Kern Water Bank, Orange County, Dudek, Orange County Transportation Authority, Contra Costa County, San Diego Association of Governments, Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency, Placer County, Kern County, San Diego County Water Authority, Coachella Valley Association of Governments.

Projection: Teale Albers, units in meters, NAD83. D.Mastali 2018/04/20

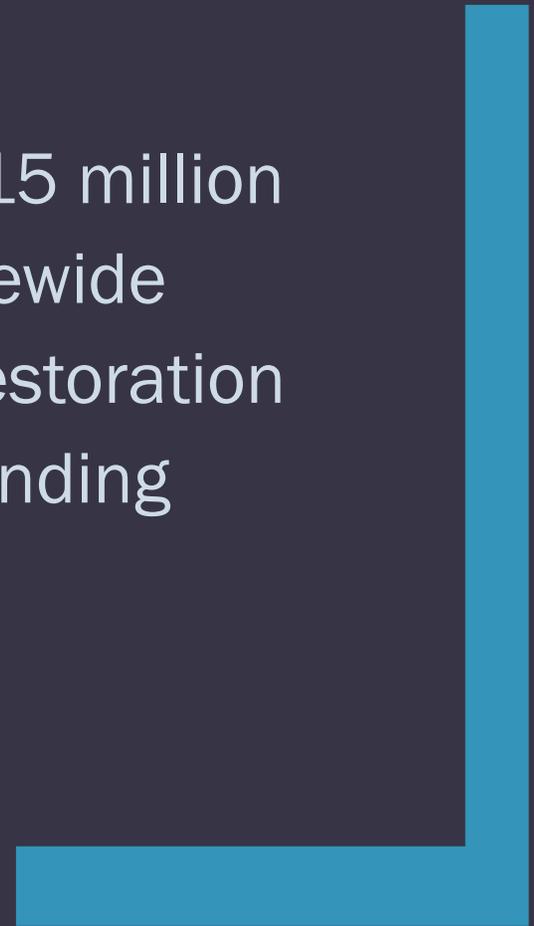
“It is the intent of the Legislature to acquire a fee or less than fee interest in lands consistent with approved natural community conservation plans and

to provide assistance with the implementation of those plans.”

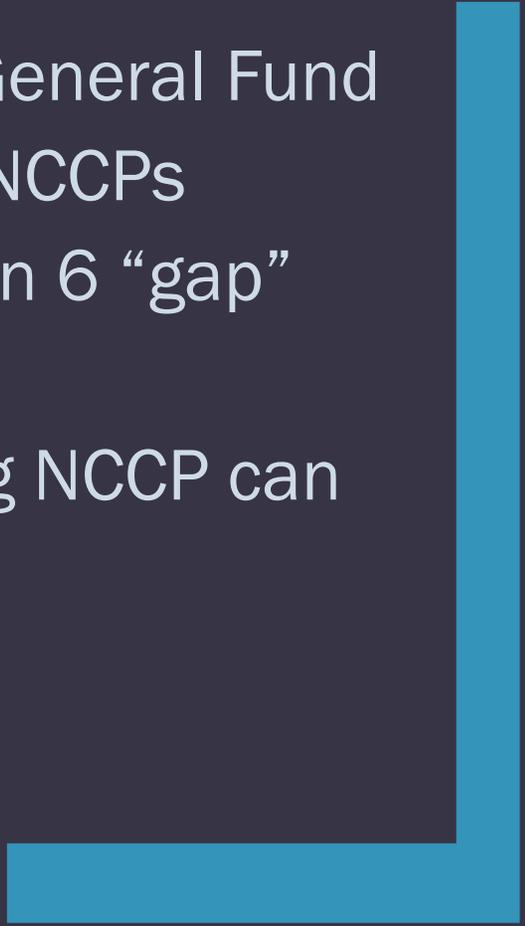
- CA Fish and Game Code § 2802

LAG Program History

- Program started in 1996
- Over 200 projects totaling over \$15 million
- Currently \$576,000 annually statewide
- New infusion of \$1.5 million for restoration projects from State Proposition funding



LAG Program Unique Aspects

- Annual appropriation from State General Fund
 - For Implementation of permitted NCCPs
 - Flexible project types – fills Section 6 “gap”
 - No match requirement
 - Any entity helping to implementing NCCP can apply (except private)
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LAG Program Grantees

- Local Government & Implementing Entities
 - Non-profits, including
 - *Conservation Biology Institute*
 - *The Nature Conservancy*
 - Research institutions, including
 - *San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research*
 - *US Geological Survey*
 - *UC Davis Wildlife Health Center*
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LAG Program Uses

- Activities to help “jump start” plans
 - *Organizational projects*
 - *Management Plans*
 - *Land acquisition*



Panoramic view of Willow Foothill, Siskiyou County, CA CDFW photo by Mitch Soto.

LAG Program Uses

- Used frequently to fill data gaps and make plan progress
 - *Surveys*
 - *Monitoring*
 - *Testing experimental methods*
 - *Habitat management*



Burrowing owl. CDFW photo by Stuart Itoga.



Tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*).
CDFW photo by Matt Elyash.



Platanus racemosa leaves and achenes
Photo by Eugene Zelenko

LAG Program Uses

- More recent uses help multiple plans or regions, advance scientific understanding
 - *Recreation effects*
 - *Habitat connectivity analyses*
 - *Regional genetic sampling*



Irvine Ranch Conservancy



Bobcat, CDFW File Photo



CDFW photo by Dave Feliz.

Lone Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) ram atop a cliff in the Marble Mountains. CDFW photo by Regina Abella..

NCCP LAG take-aways

- A little bit of money can go a long way!
- Sponsoring research projects to implement your plan can do more by contributing to
 - *Broader regional ecological knowledge*
 - *Species-specific science*

FOR FURTHER PROGRAM INFORMATION,

Please visit

[http://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/NCCP/
Grants](http://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/NCCP/Grants)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Landscape Conservation Planning Program
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch

