



# Conservation as Recreation: *A Unified Vision for an Equitable and Thriving Second Century*

October 28, 2024

Park Advisory Committee

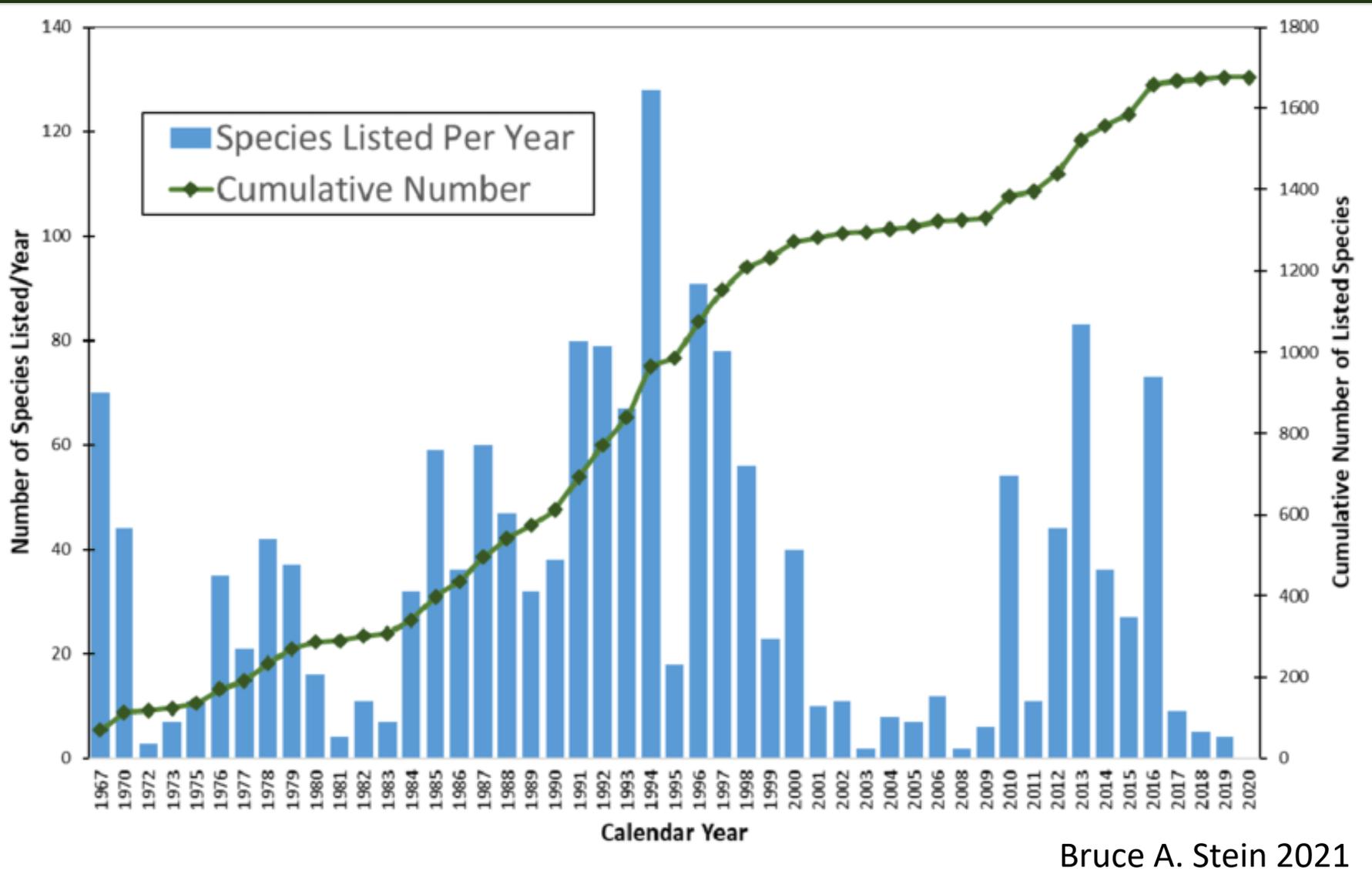
Tammy Lim and Natalie Reeder, Stewardship Wildlife Unit

# A Unified Mission

*EBRPD... “preserves a rich heritage of natural and cultural resources and provides open space, parks, trails, safe and healthful recreation and environmental education. An environmental ethic guides the District in all of its activities.”*



# Endangered Species



Bruce A. Stein 2021

# Endangered Species

Calherps.com, Western Spadefoot Toad



© Patrick Briggs



Western Burrowing Owl, Mary Malec



Crotch's bumblebee, Xerces



Western Pond Turtle

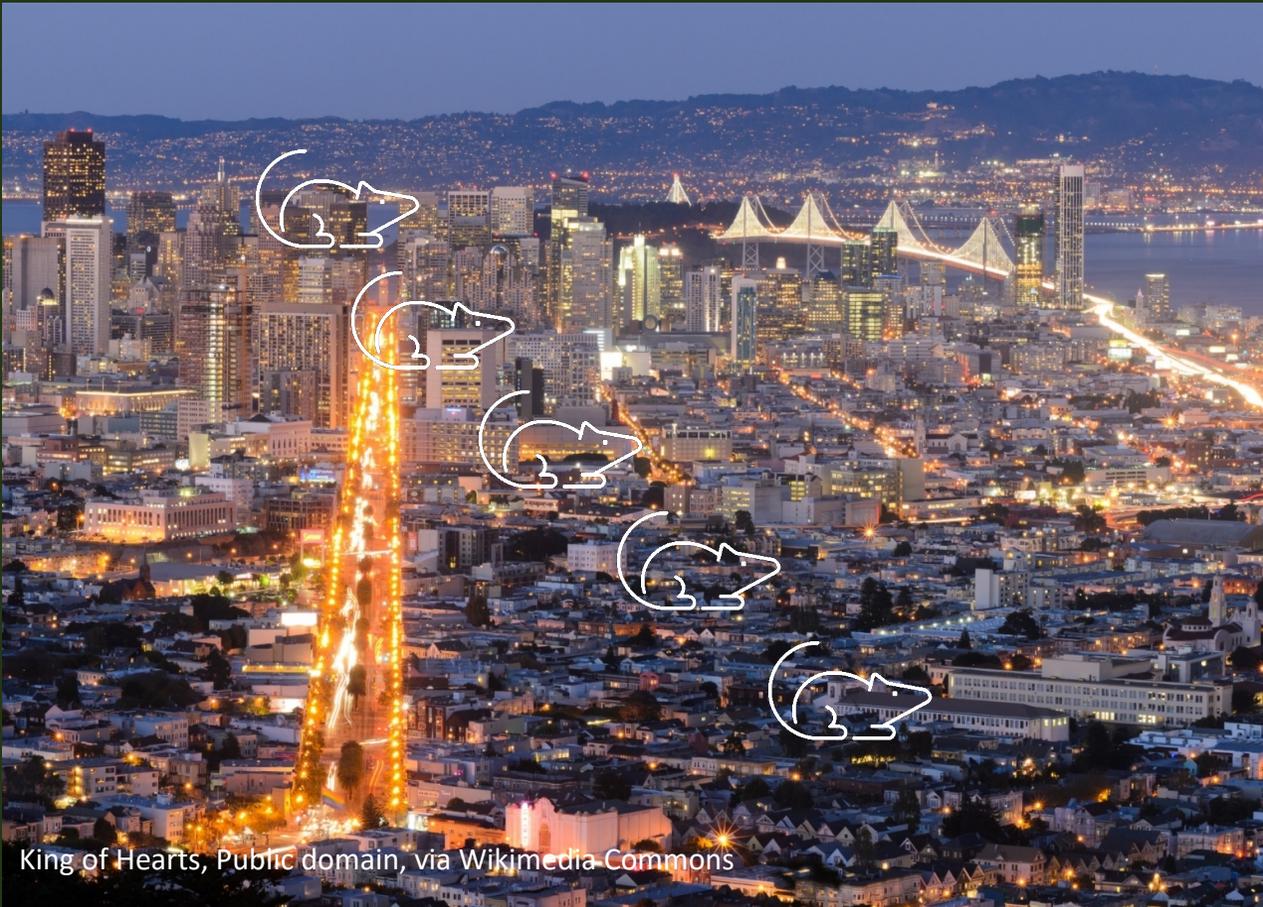


Foothill yellow-legged frog



Mountain lion cubs, Pleasanton Ridge RP

# Urban vs. Wild

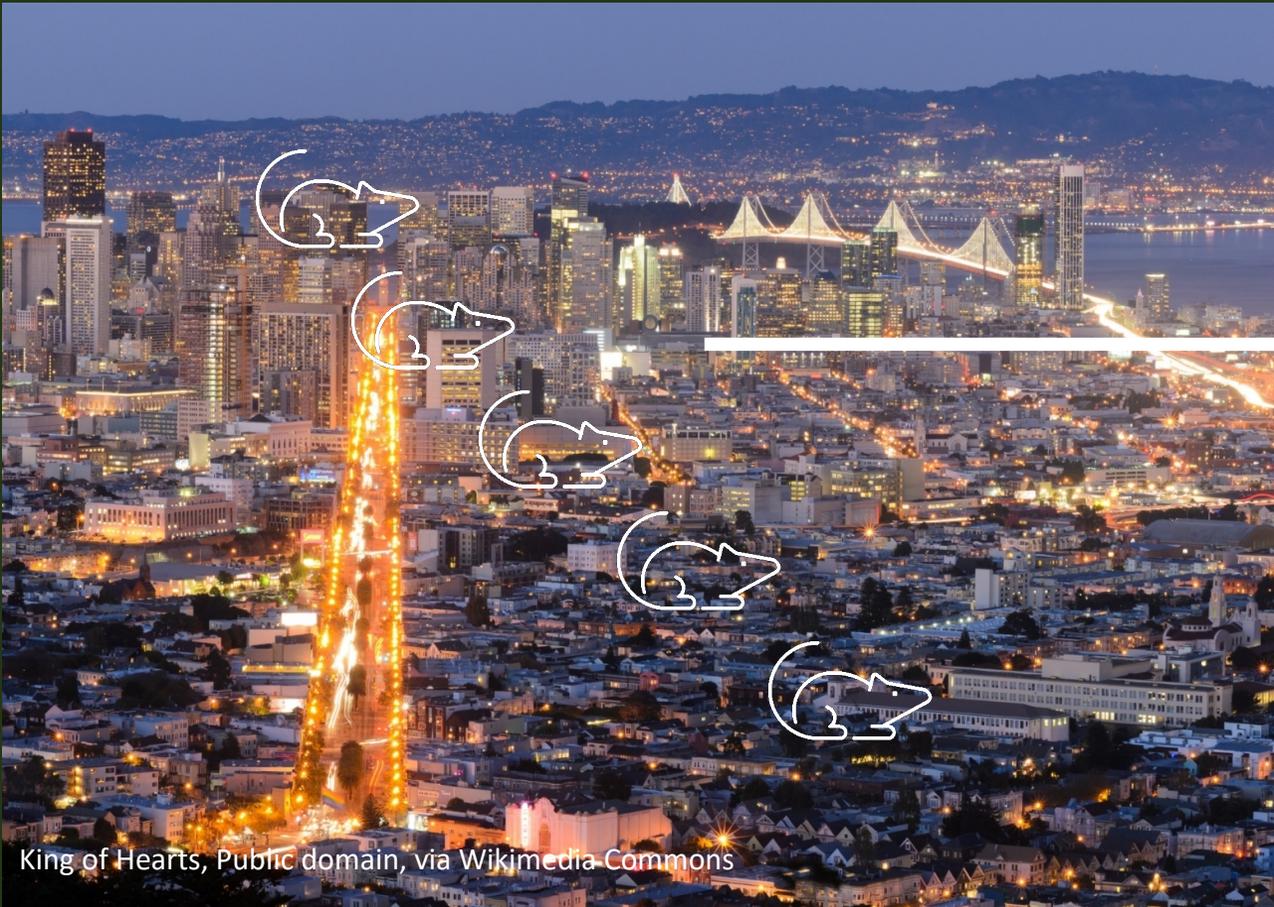


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Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

# Urban *is* Wild



King of Hearts, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



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# A Continuum

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# Urban Ecology



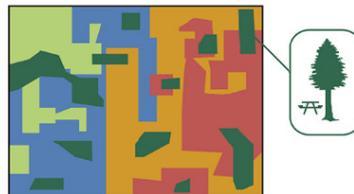
*rick lewis*



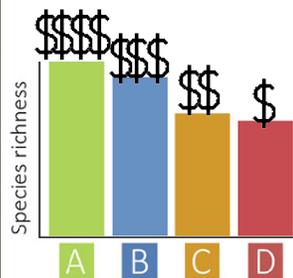
# An Equity Issue

## More Equitable City

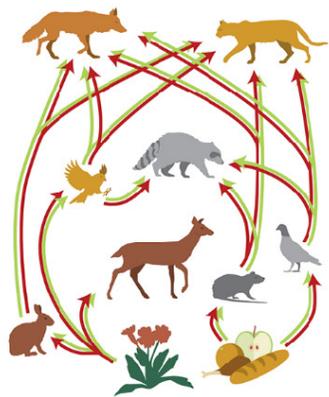
Green space more evenly spread



More species in all areas

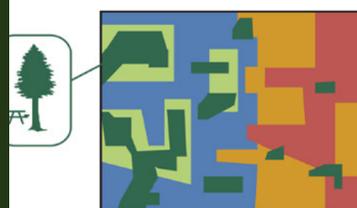


More intact and functional ecosystems for all!



## Less Equitable City

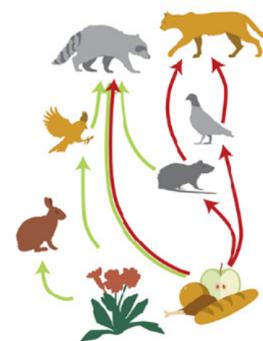
Green space mostly in affluent neighborhoods



Fewer species in lower income areas



Degraded/less functional ecosystems for all

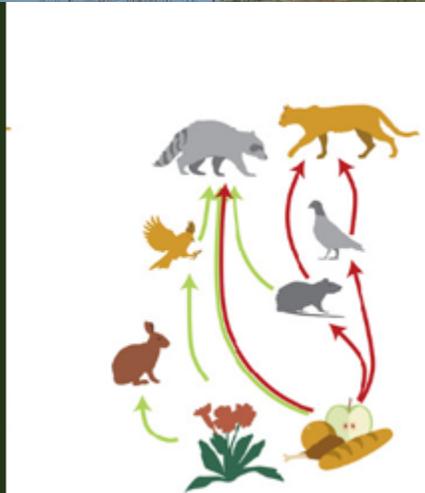
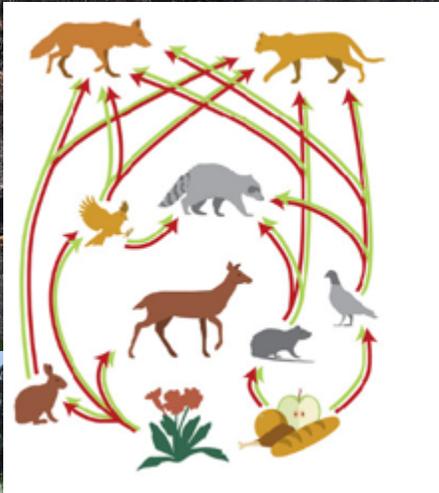


# Park Restoration



2022

2024



to invest in our area, and so I try to let my more optimistic self imagine the possibilities the future holds for this portion of parkland... we, out here in our little community at the edge of the county, **have a reason to be hopeful.**— Lindsey Pannell, *Crockett Signal*



# A Continuum



Disturbance



Noise



Dogs

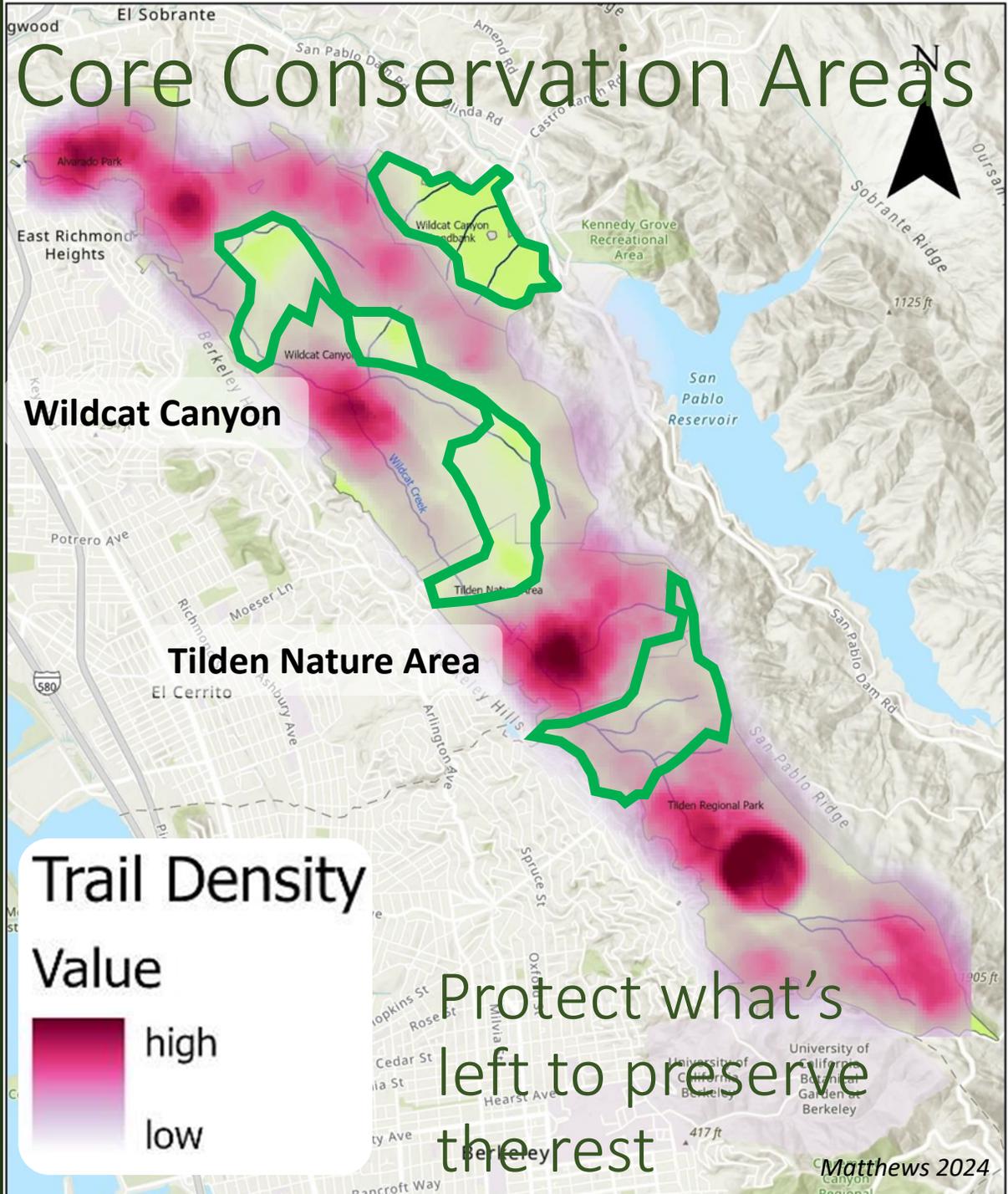


Presence



ILLUSTRATION BY SHEA COONS

# Core Conservation Areas



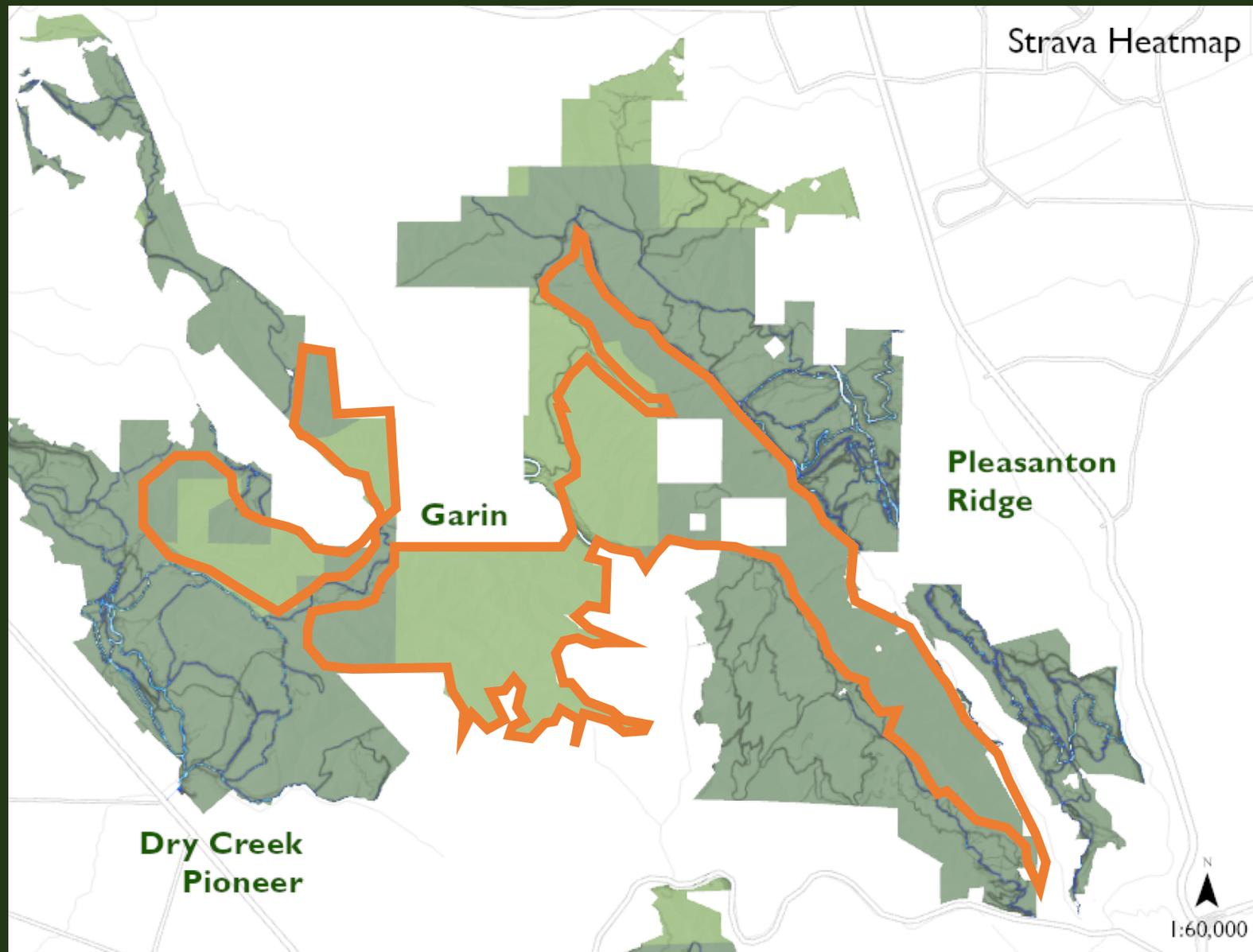


# Core Conservation Areas

Connectivity

Sanctuary

Insurance



# How? - Partnerships



East Bay Stewardship Network

EBMUD CCWD

San Francisco Water Power Sewer EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

ALAMEDA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONTRA COSTA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DAVIS

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA

CU

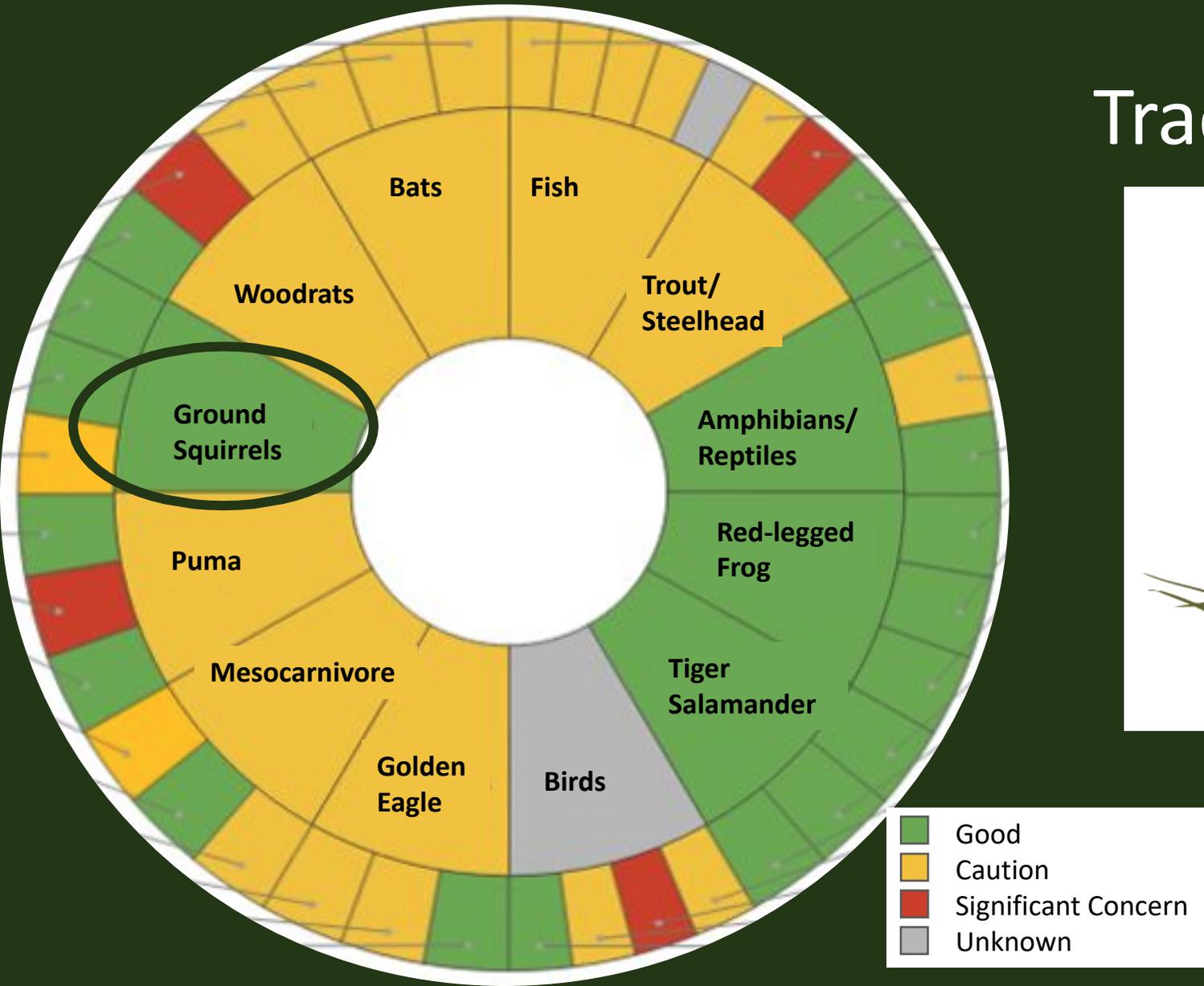
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

OAKLAND ZOO

SAN FRANCISCO ZOO & GARDENS

# How? – Science-Based Management

Track, Assess, Respond



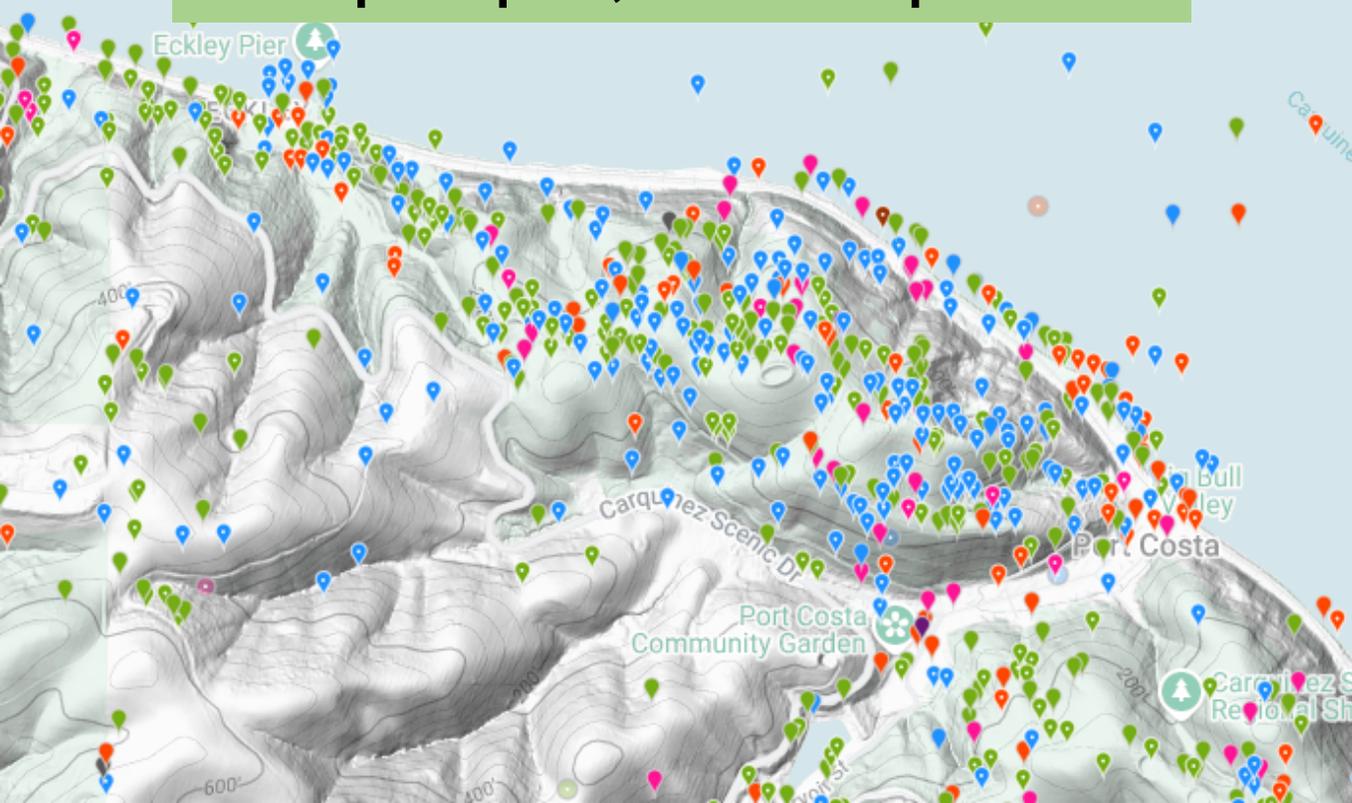
# How? Conservation *is* Recreation

**iNaturalist**

**1.1 million observations**  
47k people, 13k+ species

**eBird**

Over **6 million** observations!



# How? – Community Engagement



## Community Science

- Fill in data gaps (inverts!)
- Promote use of iNaturalist (RPF grant)
- Education and fun!



## Environmental Ethic

- Inform on living with wildlife
- Lead by example - tread lightly
- Understanding why closed conservation areas are needed

## Engaged Restoration

- Identify restoration projects places people love
- Bring back the plants and wildlife that are everyone's natural heritage
- Prioritize tribal priorities
- Center our environmental ethic

# A Unified Mission for the Second Century

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THANK YOU