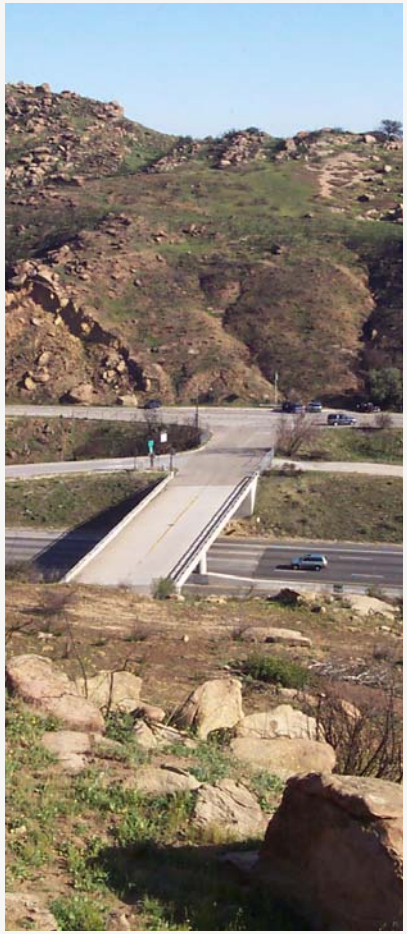


CALIFORNIA ESSENTIAL HABITAT CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

Multidisciplinary Team Meeting One

October 7, 2008

Project Goals

- Produce a statewide assessment of essential habitat connectivity to
  - Comply with Section 6001 of SAFETEA-LU
  - Incorporate natural resources considerations into transportation & land use planning efforts
  - Increase the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of transportation & land use planning
  - Help sustain California's unique natural heritage
  - Provide framework for detailed regional studies

Approach

Caltrans

California Department Fish & Game

The Dangermond Group
Creative Project Planning & Design

Conservation Biology Institute

South Coast Wildlands

Engage Multidisciplinary Team
- evaluate habitat connectivity and prioritization methods
- reach consensus

Team Meeting #1
Introduce Project & Approach

Develop Work Plan with Multidisciplinary Team

Team Meeting #2
Criteria Development, Prioritization, and Consensus Building

Statewide Connectivity Map
- Compare with existing Conservation Plans

18 Month Project
completion anticipated February 2010

Prioritization Analysis

Develop Strategic Plan
- guide future regional connectivity analysis, planning, and implementation

Team Meeting #3
Review Draft Maps/Strategic Plan

Team Meeting #4
Review Final Maps/Strategic Plan

Collaboration

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MARCH 3, 1849

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caltrans

RESOURCES AGENCY CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT FISH&GAME

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS SINCE 1864

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES STATE OF CALIFORNIA

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON

FOREST SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

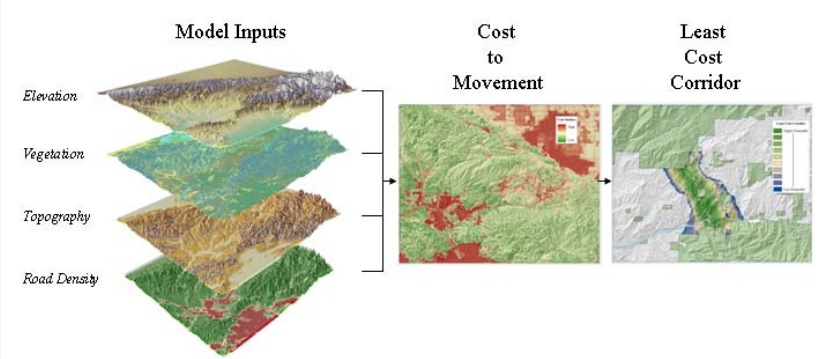
STATE OF CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

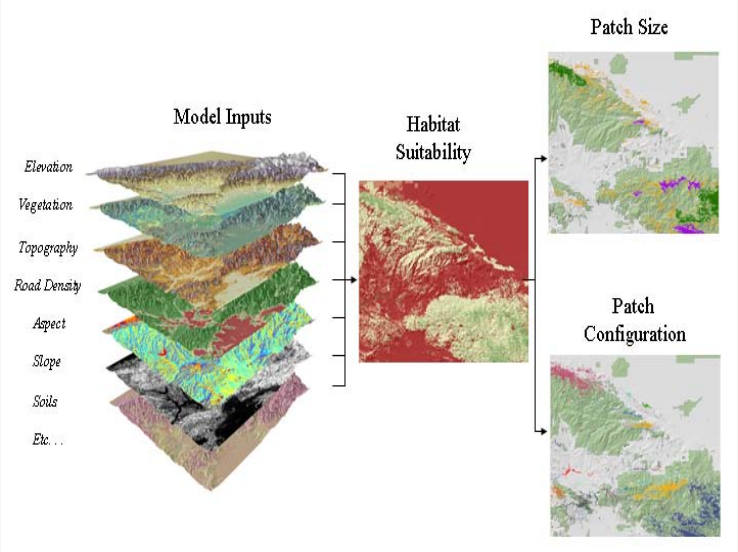
CONTRA COSTA transportation authority

TAMC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Technical Approach

- Build complex GIS datasets from multiple sources, scales, and projections
- Reach consensus on analytical approach for statewide connectivity analysis & prioritization
- Develop transparent, scientifically-defensible, and repeatable procedure





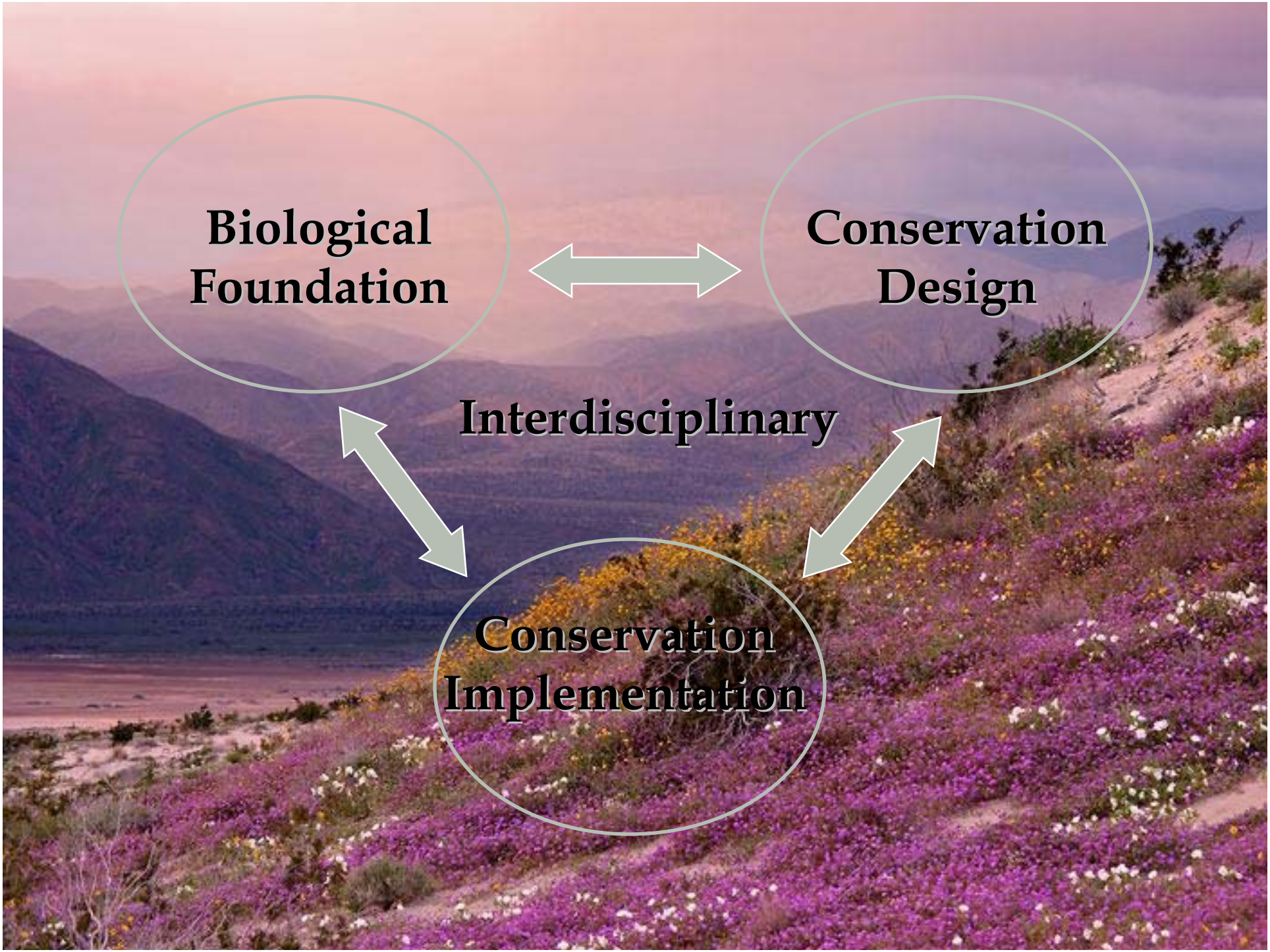
Products

- Statewide Wildlife Habitat Connectivity Map & Model
- Prioritization of Connectivity Areas (likely multi-scalar)
- Strategic plan that will outline the steps necessary to complete regional connectivity analyses

Strategic Planning

Benefits

- Safety
  - **Reduce Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions**
  - **Improve Transportation System**
- Ecological
  - **Identify Landscape Level Connections**
  - **Maintain & Improve Landscape Permeability**
- Land Use & Infrastructure Planning
  - **Streamline Planning Process**
  - **Fiscal Components**


Biological Foundation
Conservation Design
Interdisciplinary
Conservation Implementation

Expectations

- Our expectations for Multidisciplinary Team
  - Provide information
  - Four meetings
    - Policy representatives
      - Meetings 1 + 4
    - Technical representatives
      - Meetings 1, 2, 3, 4
  - Review of products
- Your expectations for us

Survey Results

Conclusions