

# City of San Diego Vernal Pool Habitat Conservation Plan

March 15, 2012  
Public Workshop



# Agenda

- Welcoming Remarks
- VP HCP Planning Agreement
- VP Focal Species
- Status of VP HCP
- Technical White Papers
- Scientific Reviewers
- Vernal Pool HCP Geodatabase
- VP HCP Alternatives
- Questions and Answers



# Planning Agreement - Goals

1. Provide for the conservation and management of species covered by the HCP (Covered Species);
2. Preserve vernal pool resources through conservation partnerships between federal, state, and local agencies;
3. Allow for appropriate and compatible growth and development that is consistent with applicable laws;
4. Provide a basis for permits necessary for lawful incidental take of vernal pool Covered Species;
5. Provide a comprehensive means to coordinate and standardize mitigation and compensation requirements of FESA, CESA, CEQA, and NEPA within the Planning Area;
6. Provide a more efficient project review process which results in greater conservation values than project-by-project, species-by-species review; and
7. Provide clear expectations and regulatory predictability for persons carrying out Covered Activities within the Planning Area.



# Planning Agreement - Objectives

1. Provide for the protection of vernal pool species;
2. Preserve the diversity of vernal pool plant and animal species throughout the Planning Area;
3. Minimize and mitigate the incidental take of proposed vernal pool Covered Species;
4. Identify and designate vernal pool preserve areas;
5. Insure that activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened vernal pool species;
6. Reduce the need to list additional vernal pool species; and
7. Implement species-specific and habitat-based goals and objectives for the protection of vernal pool species identified in the Vernal Pool Monitoring and Management Plan

# Vernal Pool Focal Species

- Otay Mesa mint (*Pogogyne nudiuscula*)
- San Diego Mesa mint (*Pogogyne abramsii*)
- Spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*)
- San Diego button-celery (*Eryngium aristulatum* var. *parishii*)
- California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*)
- Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*)
- San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*)
- ~~Little mousetails (*Myosurus minimus*)~~



# Status of VP HCP

DATE	MILESTONES
January 14, 2011	Public Workshop: VP HCP Kickoff meeting
June 14, 2011	Contract with AECOM finalized to prepare 7 TWPs
July 14, 2011	Range of Alternatives Developed by City and Agencies
October 29, 2011	Selection of Scientific/Expert Advisors to review TWPs
November 12, 2011	Public Workshop: EIR Notice of Preparation
February 24, 2012	Creation of Draft Vernal Pool Geodatabase for Analysis
March 15, 2012	Public Workshop: VP HCP Preserve Alternatives
August 2012	Completion of TWPs 1-6, & 8 and Scientific Review
August 2012	Public Workshops: TWPs 1-6 and TWP 8
February 2013	Draft VP HCP & Draft EIR/EIS for Minimum 60 Day Public Review
April 2013	Public Workshop: Land Use and Housing
July 2013	Final Draft VP HCP & Final EIR/EIS; Begin hearing process



# Technical White Papers (TWP's)

- **TWP 1:** Draft analysis of number and distribution of vernal pools and seven focal species
- **TWP 2:** Draft conservation assessment of seven focal species and vernal pools
- **TWP 3 & 4:** Draft development of adaptive management and monitoring strategy
- **TWP 5:** Draft Property Analysis Record (PAR)
- **TWP 6:** Draft recommendations for conditions of coverage
- **TWP 7:** Draft conservation analysis of Draft HCP
- **TWP 8:** Draft VP HCP Funding Mechanisms



# Scientific Reviewers

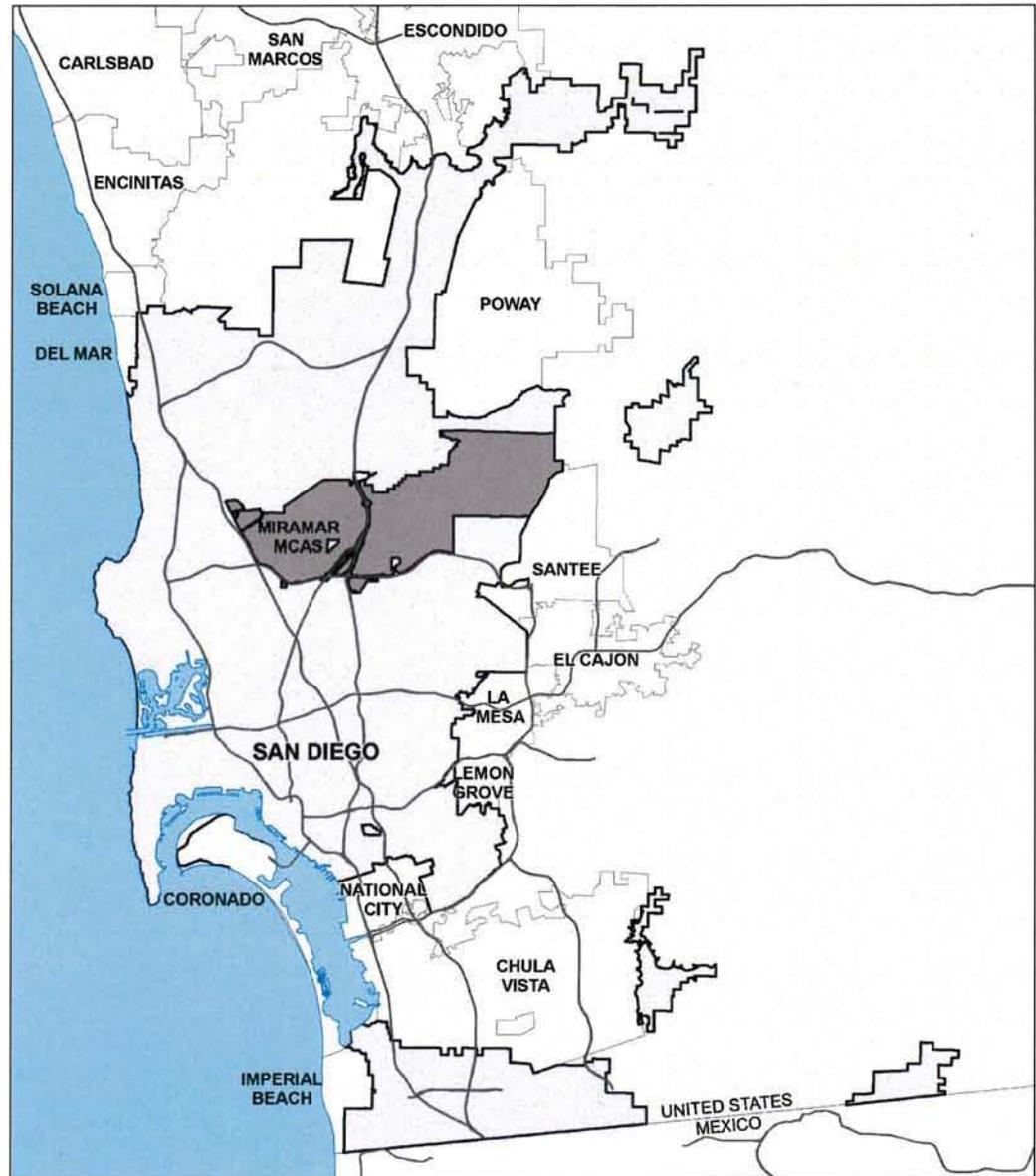
- **Ellen T. Bauder, Ph.D. and Marie Simovich, Ph.D.:**
  - TWP 1
  - TWP 2
- **Mark Doderer, M.S. and Andrew J. Bohonak, Ph.D.:**
  - TWP 3
  - TWP 4
- **Christina M. Schaefer, MLA, M.Sc.:**
  - TWP 5
- **Andrew J. Bohonak, Ph.D. and Paul Fromer, M.S.:**
  - TWP 6
  - TWP 7
  - Draft HCP



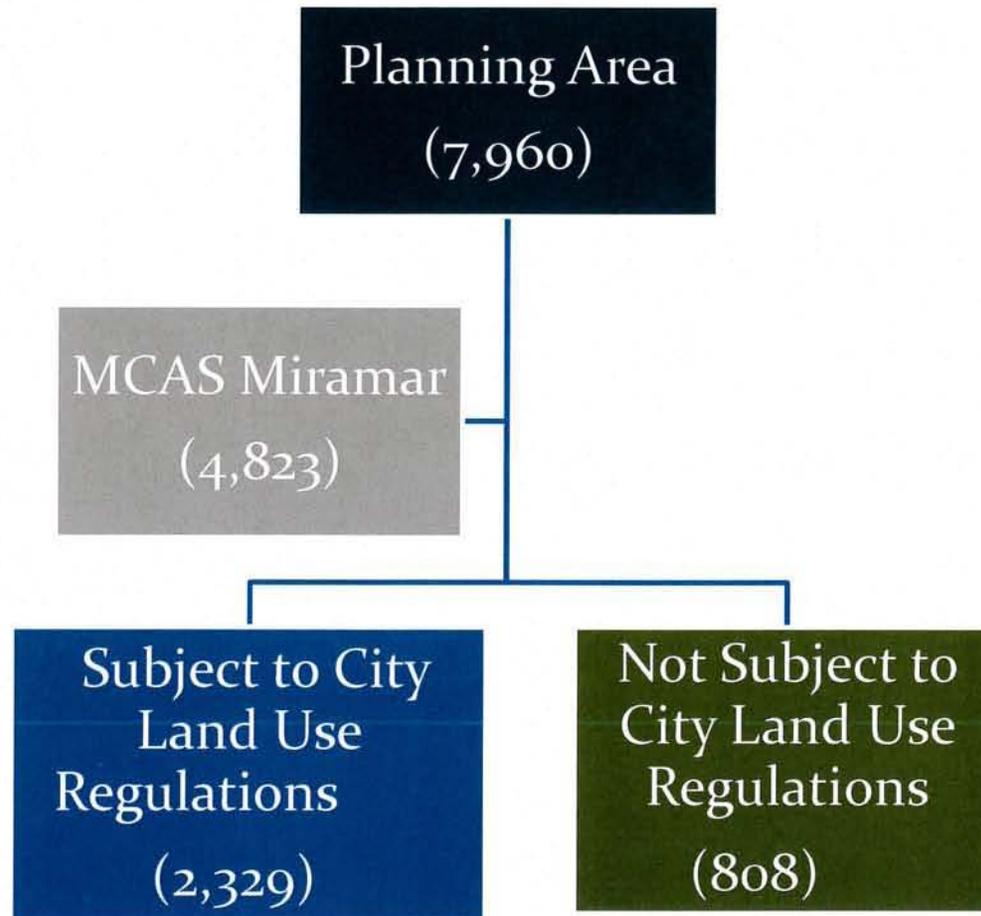
# Geodatabase

- Create GIS database with update information on vernal pool distribution and focal species location
- Using City San Diego 2004 VP Inventory
- Update with new information based on input from Jan. 2011 workshop, USFWS databases and other digital and hardcopy reports.
- 2004 VP Inventory – 2,613 basins in City SD
- 2012 Geodatabase - 3,137 basins in City SD
- Also include focal species locations and source info

# VP HCP Planning Area



# Geodatabase

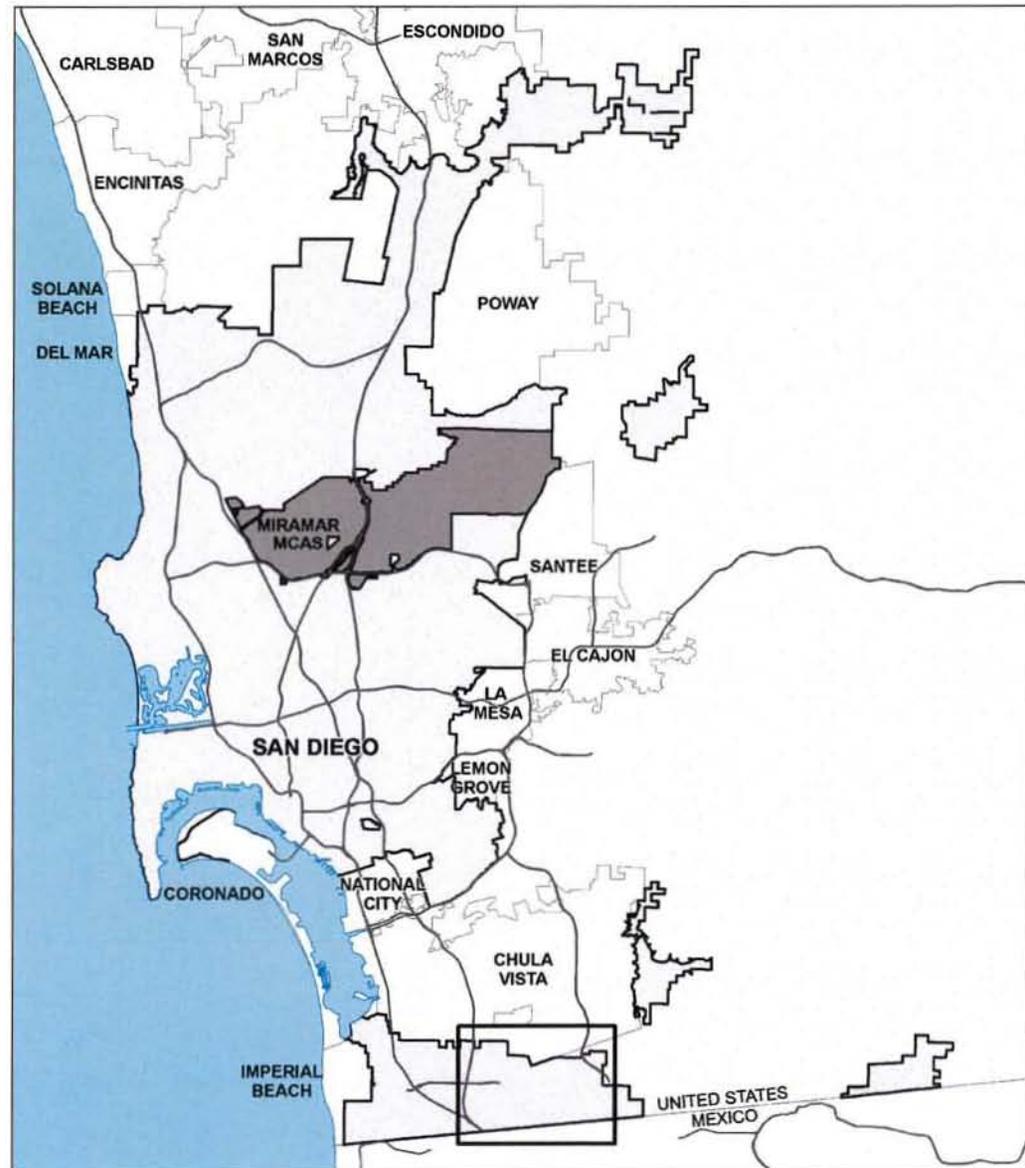




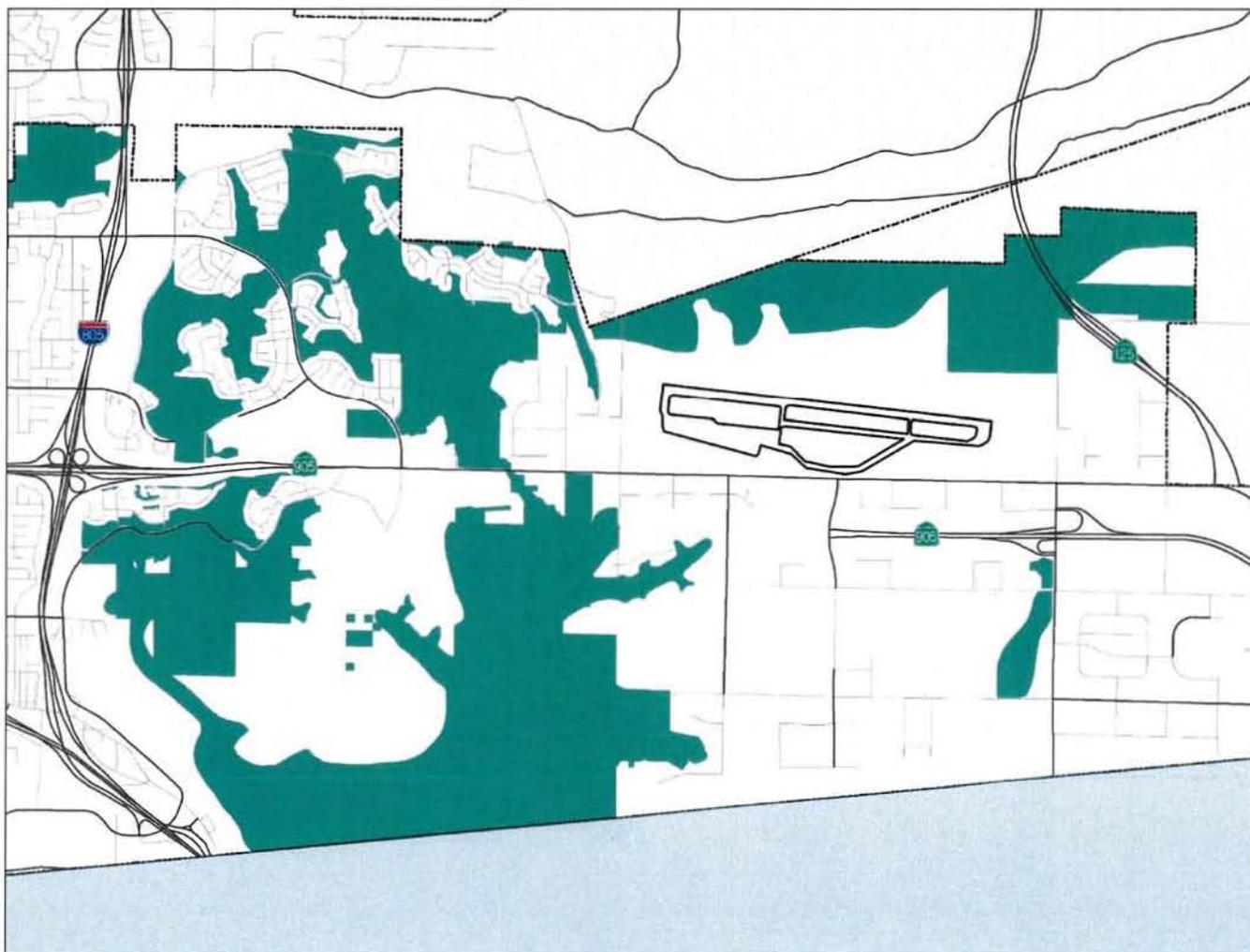
# VP HCP Alternatives

- Three Alternative Preserves Proposed
  - **Alternative 1:** Existing City MSCP Preserve with increased management of vernal pools
  - **Alternative 2:** Alternative 1 plus additional land to increase vernal pool conservation
  - **Alternative 3:** Alternative 2 plus additional land to increase vernal pool conservation and critical habitat
- Proposed “Project” is Alternative 2

# VP HCP Alternatives: Planning Area

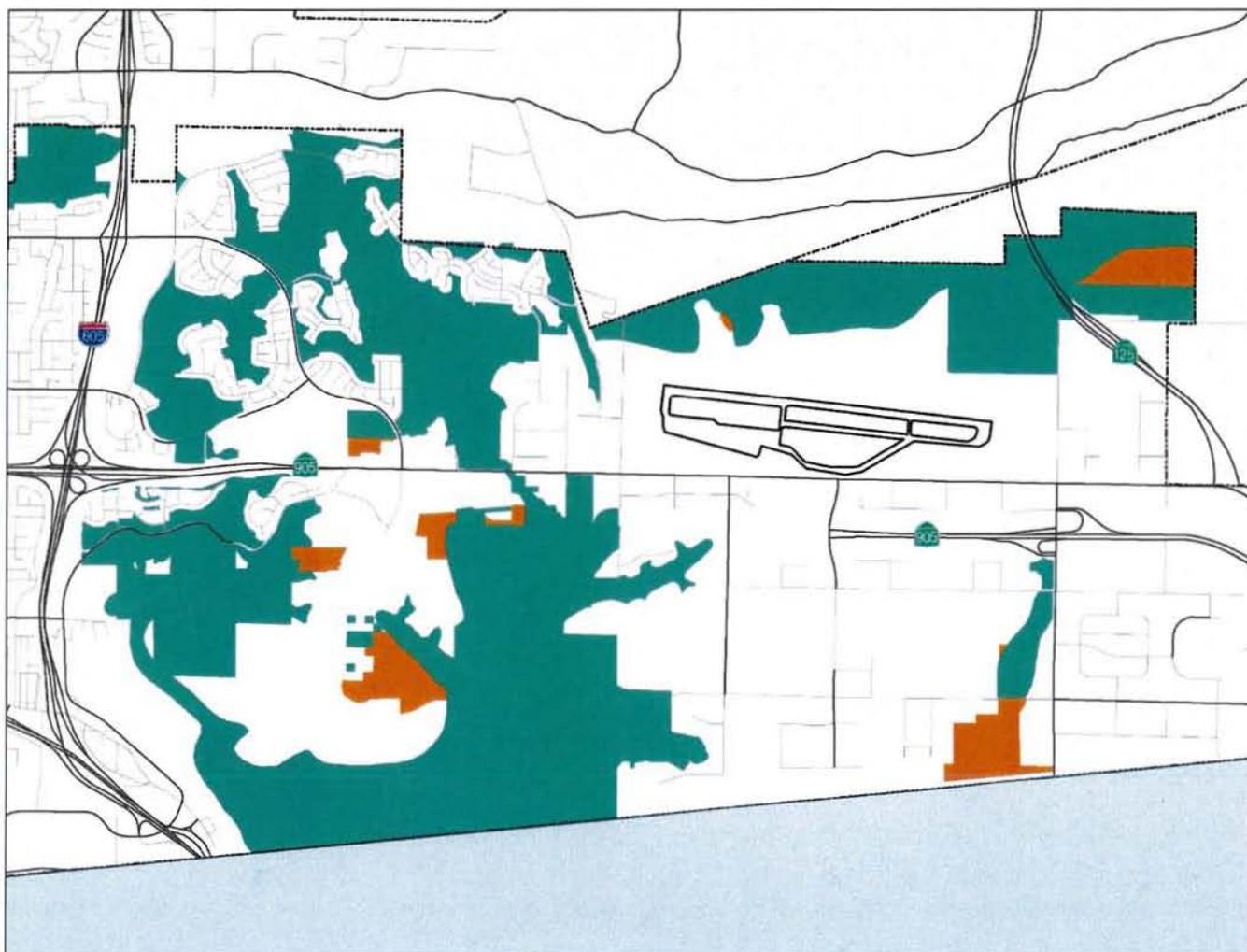


# VP HCP Alternatives – Alternative 1



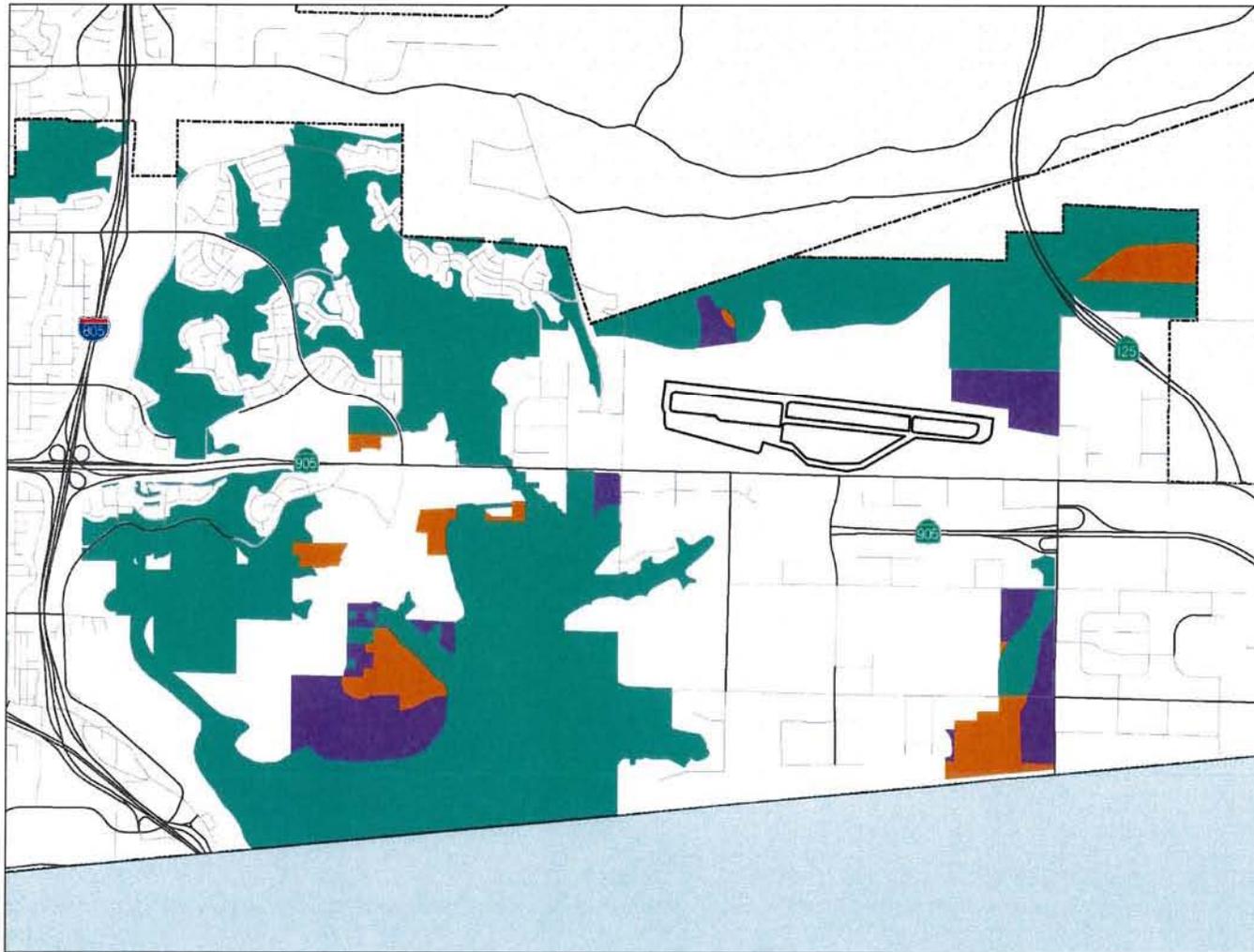
BASELINE ALTERNATIVE

# VP HCP Alternatives – Alternative 2



PROJECT ALTERNATIVE

# VP HCP Alternatives – Alternative 3

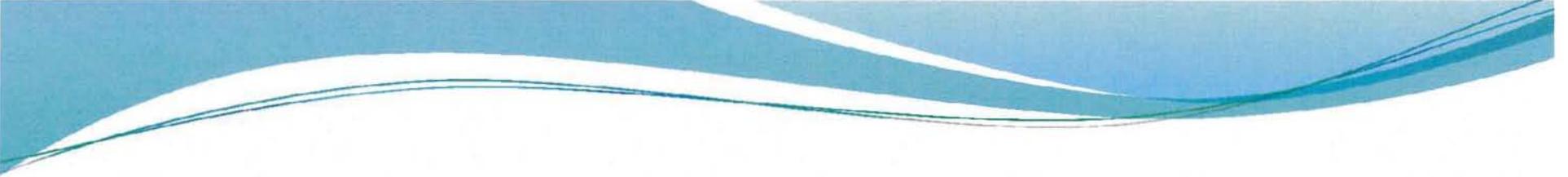


EXPANDED CONSERVATION ALTERNATIVE



# Next Steps

- Property Owners Meeting: North, Central and South (Spring 2012)
- Completion of TWPs 1-6 & 8 and Scientific Review (August 2012)
- Public Workshop on TWPs 1-6 & 8 (August 2012)
- Draft VP HCP and Draft EIR/EIS for Minimum 60 Day Public (February 2013)
- Land Use & Housing Workshop (April 2013)
- Final Draft VP HCP and Final EIR/EIS; Begin Hearing Process (July 2013)



# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS