

Information presented to the 2003 Santa Cruz Tarplant Recovery Workshop 8/20/03
 Re: the Porter HOMA population (the "Elkhorn Unit" of critical habitat designation)
 By Kim Hayes of the Elkhorn Slough Foundation

Name of Easement: Porter Tarplant Easement	Location of Easement: Porter Ranch- north of intersection of Elkhorn Rd. & Hall Rd. (Watsonville, CA)
Easement Recorded: 6/4/98	Property Owner/Manager: Elkhorn Slough Foundation P.O. Box 267 Moss Landing, CA 95039 831/728.5939
Total Easement Acreage: 40.38	
Easement Holder: Wildlife Conservation Board 1807 13 th Street, Suite 103 Sacramento, CA 95814	Supplemental Management: The easement area and surrounding ranch lands are grazed by the T.O. Cattle Co. T. O. Cattle Company San Juan Bautista, CA 831/623.2933
Property APN#: 119-011-024 Zoning: Resource Conservation, Coastal Zone	Existing Rare Species Habitat: Santa Cruz tarplant (<i>Holocarpha macradenia</i>): Fed. T/ State E/ CNPS 1B, Artist's popcorn-flower (<i>Plagiobothrys chorisianus</i>): CNPS 1B
Purpose of Easement: To protect and preserve the significant relatively natural habitats on the property, including, but not limited to, habitat for the Santa Cruz tarplant (<i>Holocarpha macradenia</i>).	
Existing Vegetation and Land Use: Annual and perennial grasses and forbs (both native and non-native) managed by controlled grazing regime. In addition to grazing, some invasive plant species abatement is performed by manual, mechanical, and/or chemical means.	

Grazing Regime:

Porter Ranch has nine (9) pastures. Of these, the Tarplant Easement area is the largest. The number of cattle on the property range from ~20-55. Cattle graze the tarplant pasture 4-5 times per year as follows:
 6 days- January, March, April (may be all 3 months depending on grass production), and
 12 days- May then again in November/December

Population estimation for *Holocarpha macradenia* (data taken by Sue Bainbridge):

Y2001 45, 625
 Y2002 43, 413

Questions:

- 1) What relationship does HOMA have with soil moisture and slope?
- 2) What proportion of the HOMA seedbank germinates annually? What strategies can a land manager employ to manage for the protection of the seedbank?