

### Final Critical Habitat for Santa Cruz Tarplant



### Life History

- ❖ Annual species in the aster family
- ❖ Needs open ground to germinate
- ❖ Summer-blooming
- ❖ Produces 2 kinds of seeds



### Coastal Terrace Prairie Habitat



### Threats to the Species



- ❖ Loss of prairie habitat
- ❖ Development
- ❖ Competition with non-native species
- ❖ Lack of management to reduce thatch
  - ❖ Needs bare ground to germinate

### Primary Constituent Elements

- ❖ Soils native to coastal prairie habitat in Monterey Bay area
- ❖ Associated native grassland community
- ❖ Local hydrology that maintains seasonally saturated soils



### Location of Units

- 1 unit in Contra Costa County
- 9 units in Santa Cruz County
- 1 unit in Monterey County



## Acreage by Landowner Type

Unit Name	State	Private	County/ City	Total
A. Mezue	0	0	130	130
B. Graham Hill	0	30	0	30
C. De Laveaga	5	0	0	5
D. Arana Gulch	0	0	64	64
E. Twin Lakes	26	0	0	26
F. Rodeo Gulch	0	25	0	25
G. Soquel	0	45	55	100
H. Porter Gulch	0	35	0	35
I. Watsonville	56	840	309	1,205
J. Casserly	0	1,112	0	1,112
K. Elkhorn	0	168	0	168
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2,256</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>2901</b>

## Comparison of Proposed and Final Designations

### Proposed

- ❖ 11 units
- ❖ 3,360 acres

### Final

- ❖ 11 units
- ❖ 2,902 acres
- ❖ 7 units unchanged
- ❖ 3 units with minor reduction in acreage
- ❖ 1 unit with 430-acre reduction

## Comments Received

- ❖ 4 Peer reviewers (2 from SEI)
  - ❖ All supported the designation
  - ❖ Affirmed the importance of: maintaining northern gene stock; appropriate management; offsite hydrology; allowing for population fluctuations
- ❖ Agencies, academic, public (13 comments)
  - ❖ Most comments were in favor
  - ❖ Academics submitted numerous technical comments
  - ❖ 4 requests for exclusion

## Issues of Concern

- ❖ Fulfills lawsuit settlement
- ❖ Federal National Guard requested an exclusion for Armory lands
- ❖ City of Watsonville requested an exclusion for city-owned lands
- ❖ Pajaro School District requested an exclusion for New Millennium High School
- ❖ CalTrans requested an exclusion for their right-of-ways

## Coordination with other Agencies

- ❖ We coordinated with CANG regarding their request for exclusion of the Armory
- ❖ We coordinated with CalTrans regarding their request for exclusion
- ❖ CDFG provided us information for the proposed rule, but did not submit comments due to workload


## Graham Hill unit

- Private lands under development  
30 ac
- Includes 17 ac conservation easement for tarplant



**De Laveaga unit**

Unit C De Laveaga  
Santa Cruz Tarplant




State (CANG)  
 5 ac  
 surrounded by  
 city park  
 (active tarplant  
 mgmt)

AirPhotoUSA

**Watsonville unit**

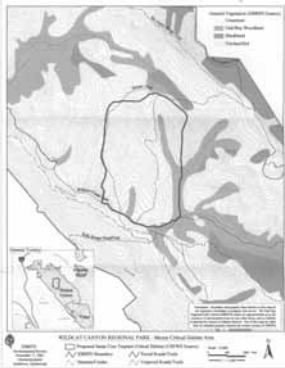
Unit I Watsonville  
Santa Cruz Tarplant



Private	840
City	309
State	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,205</b>


**Mezue unit**

East Bay Regional  
 Parks District  
 130 ac  
 Active tarplant  
 mgmt



**Arana Gulch unit**


Unit D Arana Gulch  
Santa Cruz Tarplant



City of Santa Cruz  
 open space  
 (active tarplant  
 mgmt)  
 64 ac

**Twin Lakes unit**

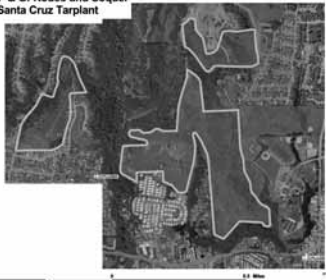
Unit E Twin Lakes  
Santa Cruz Tarplant



State  
 Parks  
 26 ac  
 (active  
 tarplant  
 mgmt)

**Rodeo Gulch and Soquel units**

Units F & G: Rodeo and Soquel  
Santa Cruz Tarplant



<b>Rodeo</b>	
Private lands with approved development proposal	26 ac
<b>Soquel</b>	
Private lands	45 ac
County park	55 ac (active tarplant mgmt)

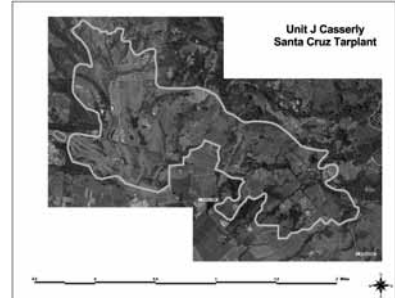
### Porter Gulch unit

Private lands with rural development  
15 ac  
(includes CA for tarplant)  
Land Trust of Santa Cruz County  
20 ac



### Casserly unit

Private lands (ranchlands, rural development, golf course)  
1,112 ac



### Elkhorn unit

Private land (Elkhorn Slough Foundation)  
168 ac  
(active tarplant mgmt)

