Historical Ecology of Wetlands in North Monterey County

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Introduction - definitions

- What is historical ecology?
- Why use <u>historical ecology?</u>
 - Past and current conditions
 - Landscape-level linkages and functions
 - Potential to protect/restore land and water
 - NOT a template from which to re-create the past
- (adapted from San Francisco Estuary Institute)











































In past, extensive interconnected wetlands, from tidal estuaries to rivers and streams to freshwater lakes, ponds and marshes

- Today the string of lakes between Salinas and Castroville has been mostly drained
- Diking/water control structures limit the amount of connectivity between waterways/wetlands now

Maps and aerials you can use at home

Aerial photos from 1930s – 1970s
 Lou Hare's lake maps from early 1900s

⊙More...

















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 Files available at <u>elkhornslough.org/habitat-restoration/historical-ecology-</u> <u>tools.htm</u>























