Watershed Stewardship

GPS Creek Habitat & Bioasssessment Surveys

Aspen Madrone, Contra Costa County

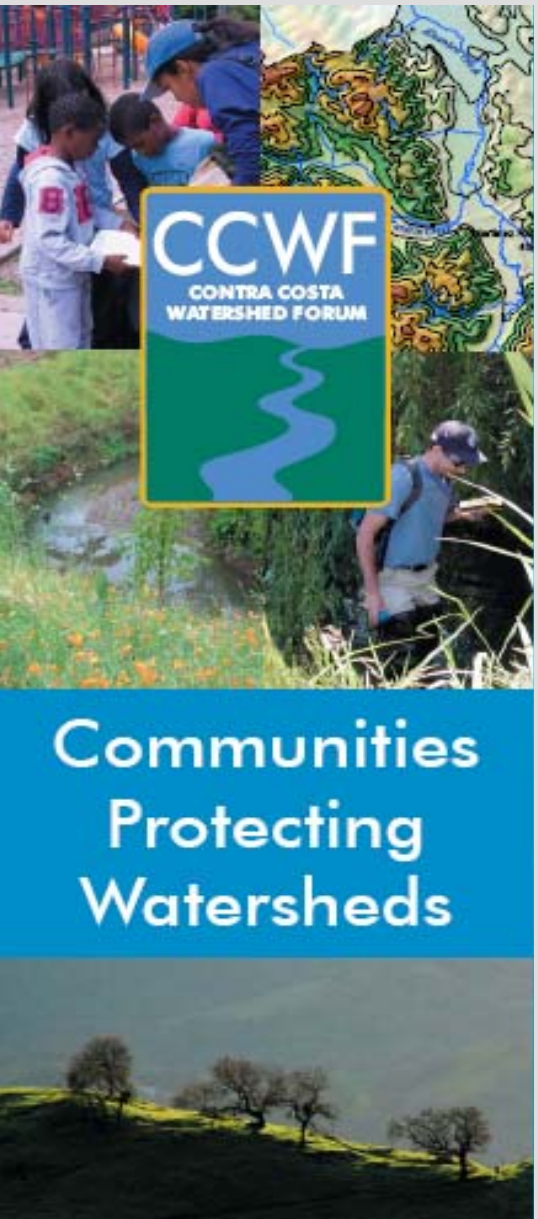
(925) 335-1315 or amadr@cd.cccounty.us

www.cocowaterweb.org

Contra Costa County

- Open Space = ~ 39%
- Agriculture = ~ 31%
- Urban = ~ 26%
- Industrial = ~ 4%

Contra Costa Watershed Forum



Unites Multiple Groups to Facilitate:

- Education
- Collaboration
- Solutions

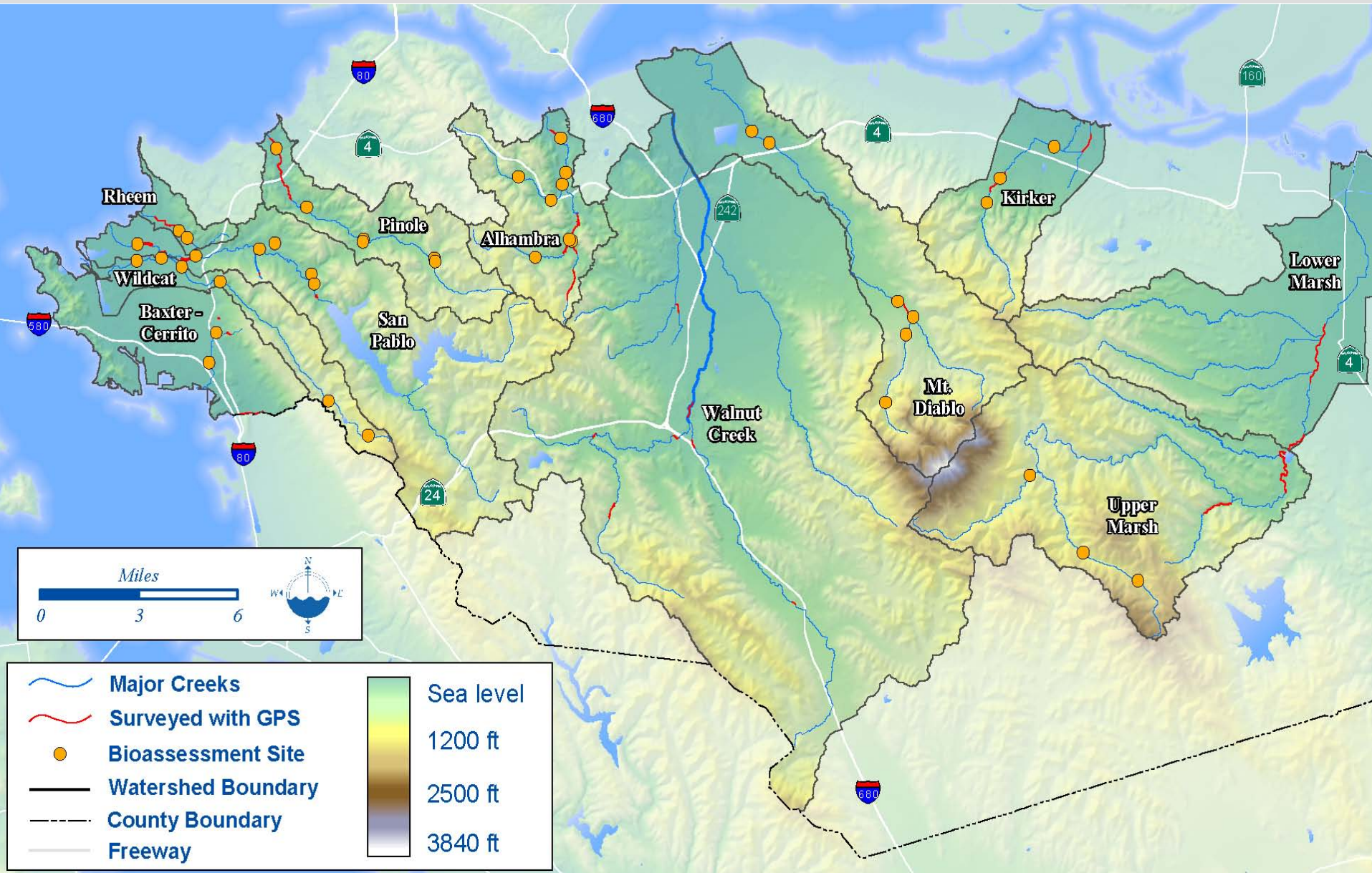
Watershed Stewardship

- Provide tools to volunteers
- Gather baseline WQ data
- Identify impacted areas
- Prioritize restoration efforts

Creek Monitoring Program

GPS Creek Habitat **Bioasssessment** **Assistance Center**

Creek Monitoring Program



Watershed Stewardship

GPS Creek Habitat

- 5,000 hours
- 2001-2005
- 500 volunteers

Bioasssessment

- 1200 hours
- 2005 -2006
- 70 volunteers

Bioassessment

- Utilizes BUGS as indicators of watershed health
- Determine baseline conditions
- Identify areas for future studies and improvement

Bioassessment

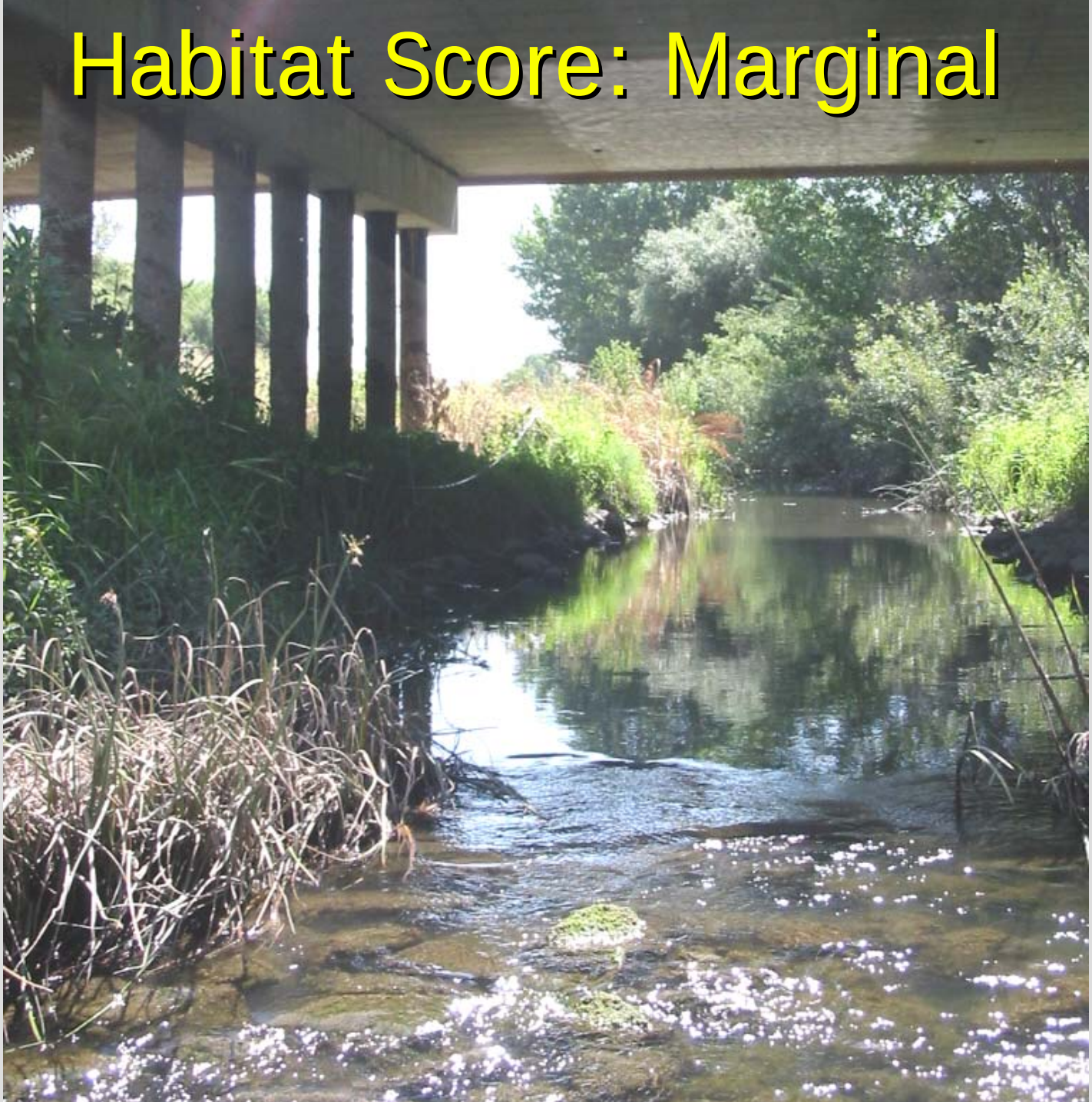
Spring **2005** & **2006**

- 1 Day Training
- Use CSBP
- Volunteers sample
- ~6 Sites per watershed
- Professional ID

Habitat Score: Optimal

Habitat Score: Sub-optimal

Habitat Score: Marginal



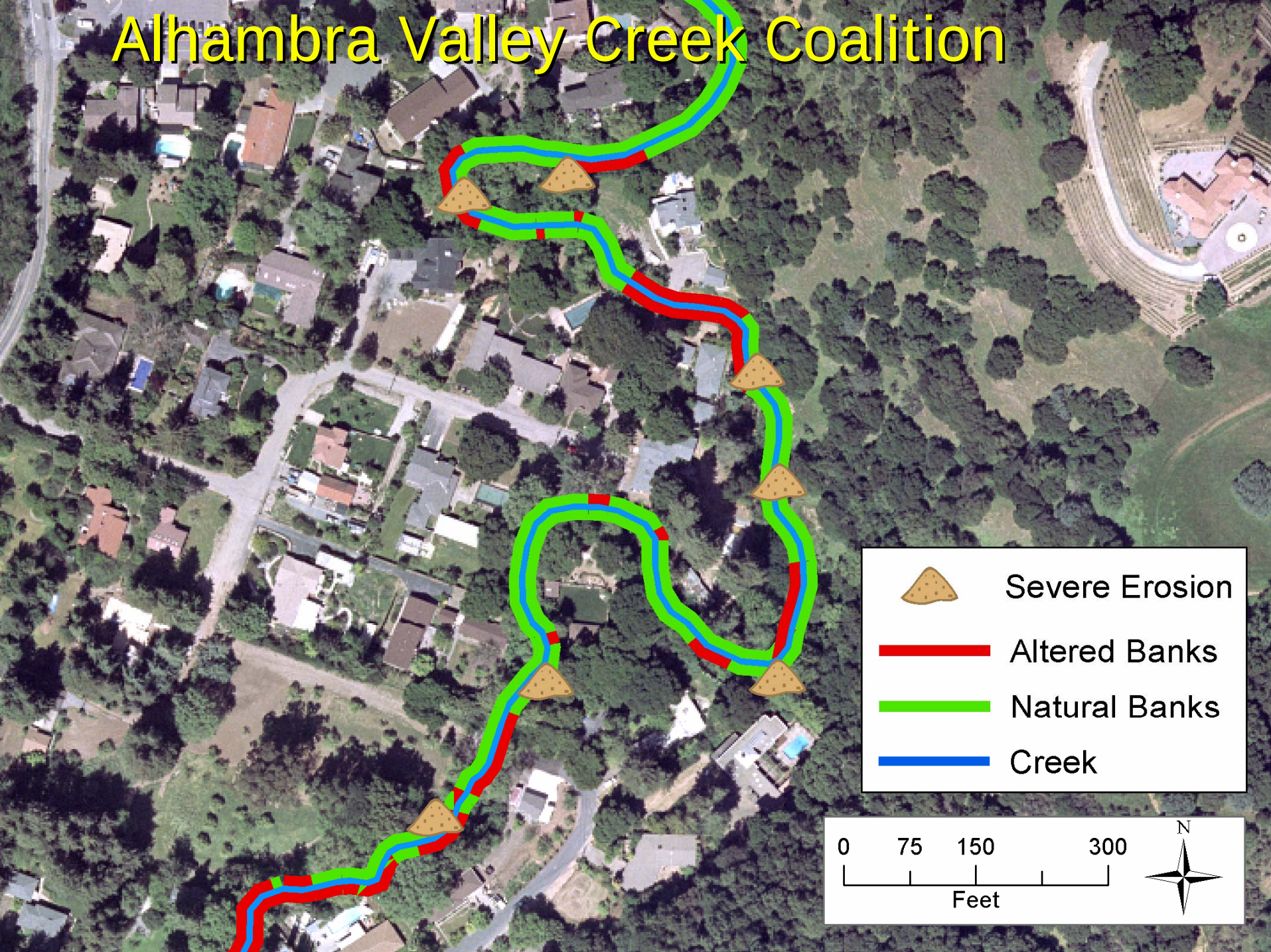
Habitat Score: Poor

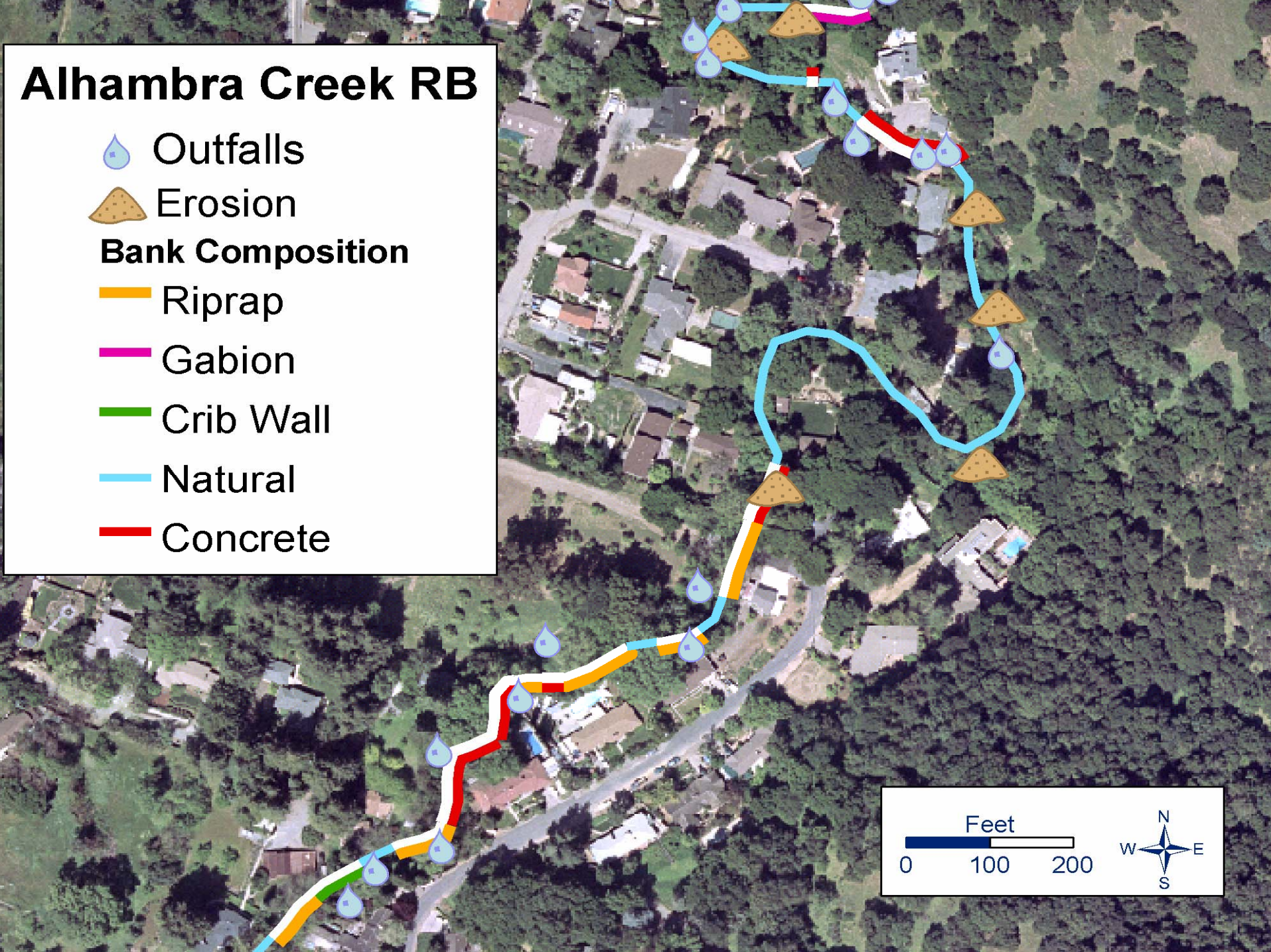
GPS Creek Surveys

Human Influence

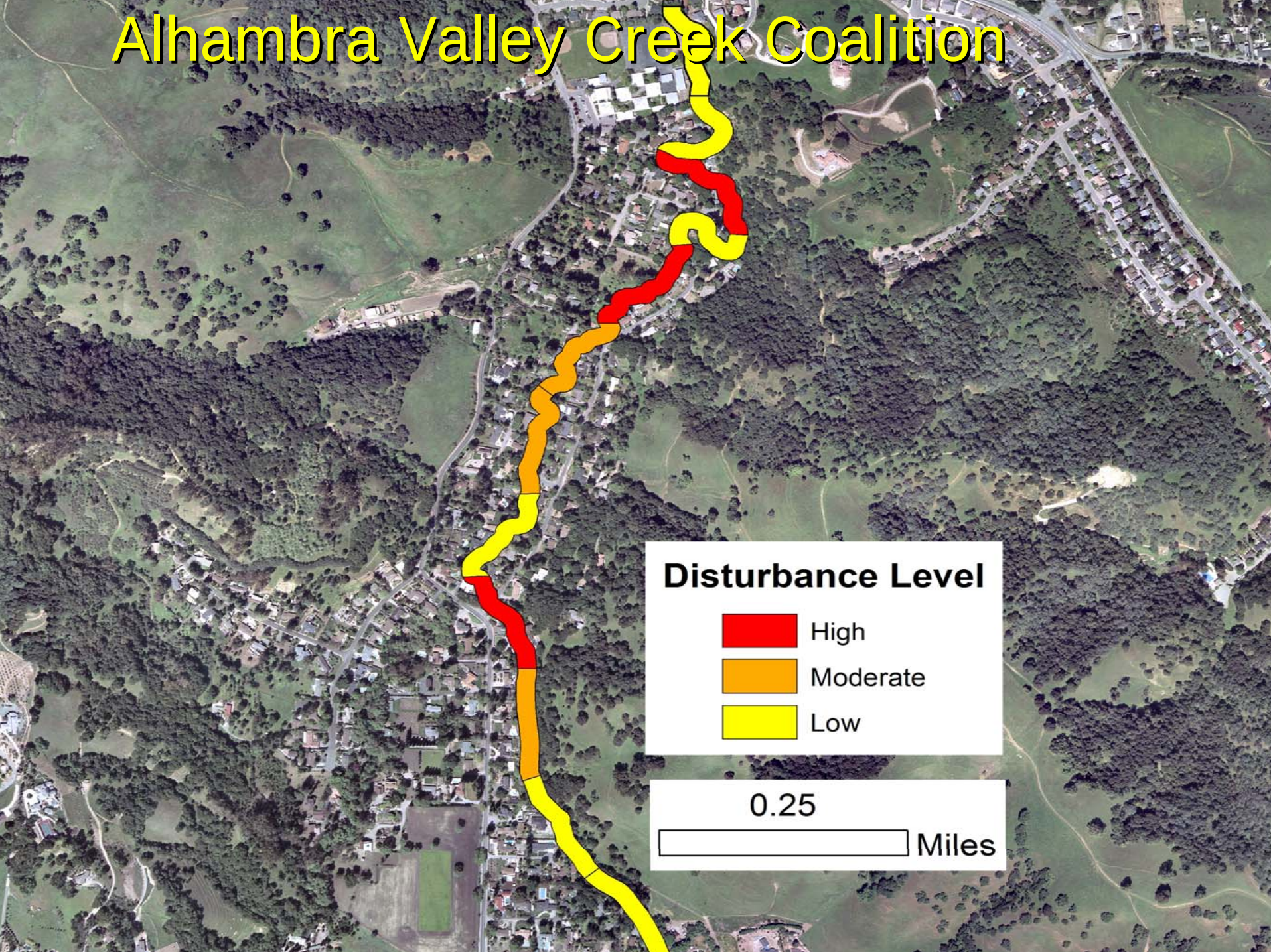
Channel Conditions

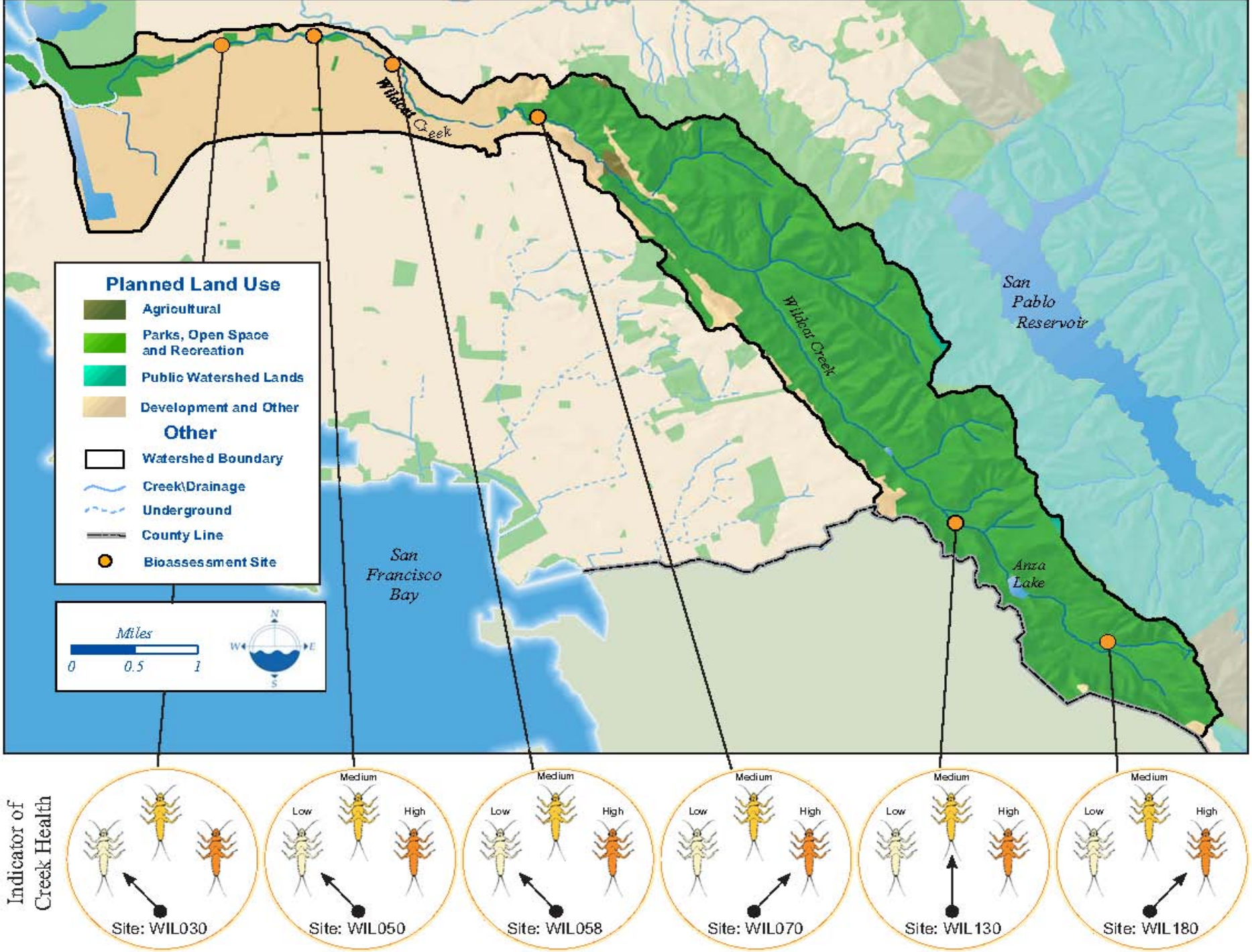
Vegetation


Alhambra Valley Creek Coalition
Severe Erosion
Altered Banks
Natural Banks
Creek
0
75
150
300
Feet
N


Alhambra Creek RB
Outfalls
Erosion
Bank Composition
Riprap
Gabion
Crib Wall
Natural
Concrete
Feet
0
100
200
N
W
E
S

Alhambra Valley Creek Coalition




Planned Land Use
Agricultural
Parks, Open Space and Recreation
Public Watershed Lands
Development and Other
Other
Watershed Boundary
Creek\Drainage
Underground
County Line
Bioassessment Site
Miles
0
0.5
1
N
W
E
S
Wildcat Creek
Wildcat Creek
San Pablo Reservoir
San Francisco Bay
Anza Lake
Indicator of Creek Health
Low
Medium
High
Site: WIL030
Site: WIL050
Site: WIL058
Site: WIL070
Site: WIL130
Site: WIL180

Watershed Stewardship

- Enthusiastic Workers
  - Local Knowledge
  - Vested Interest
- Increase Awareness
- Political Influence

Watershed Stewardship

Thanks Volunteers!

- CA State Water Board
- Friends of Creek Groups
- Contra Costa RCD
- The Watershed Project
- Volunteers

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