



Nutria Eradication Project Updates



Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Board Meeting
October 28, 2020

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Nutria Eradication Timeline

- March 2017: Discovery of first nutria
- March 2018: CDFW Incident Command System
- January 2019: Phase One grant executed
- July 2019: CDFW begins transition to dedicated Program
- April 2020: CDFW concludes external contract for field staff
- June 2020: Phase Two grant executed





Nutria Eradication Progress

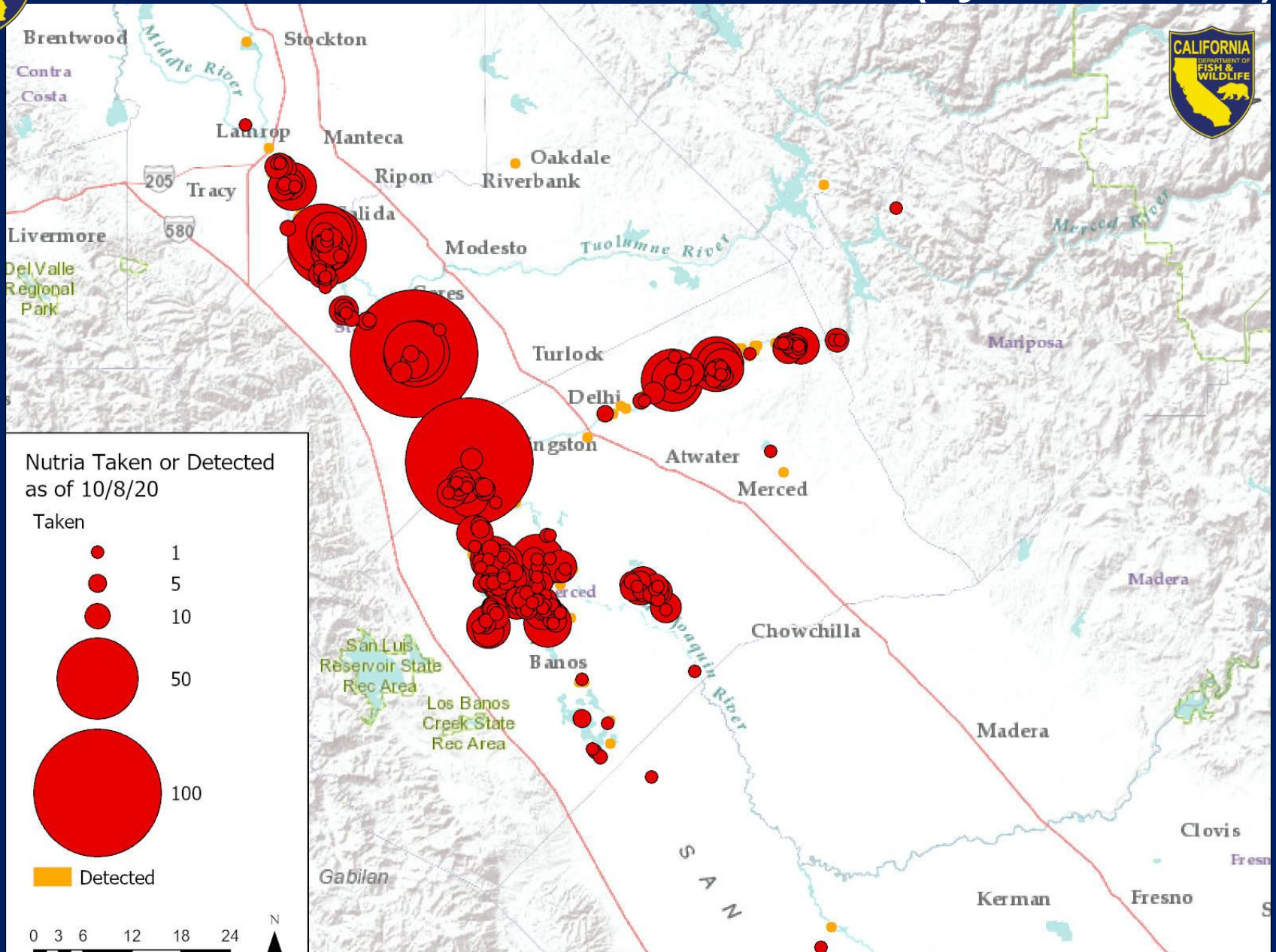
Since implementing the response:

- More than 1 million acres assessed
- More than 3,500 landowner permits
- 2,938 camera stations
 - 19,706 camera checks
- Confirmed nutria in more than 400 [40-acre] cells
- 4,269 trap sets
 - 53,798 trap nights
- 1,901 nutria taken/accounted for
 - ME: 1,238; ST: 546; SJ: 103; MAR: 12; FR: 2; TUO +
 - Over 1,000 nutria taken in 2020



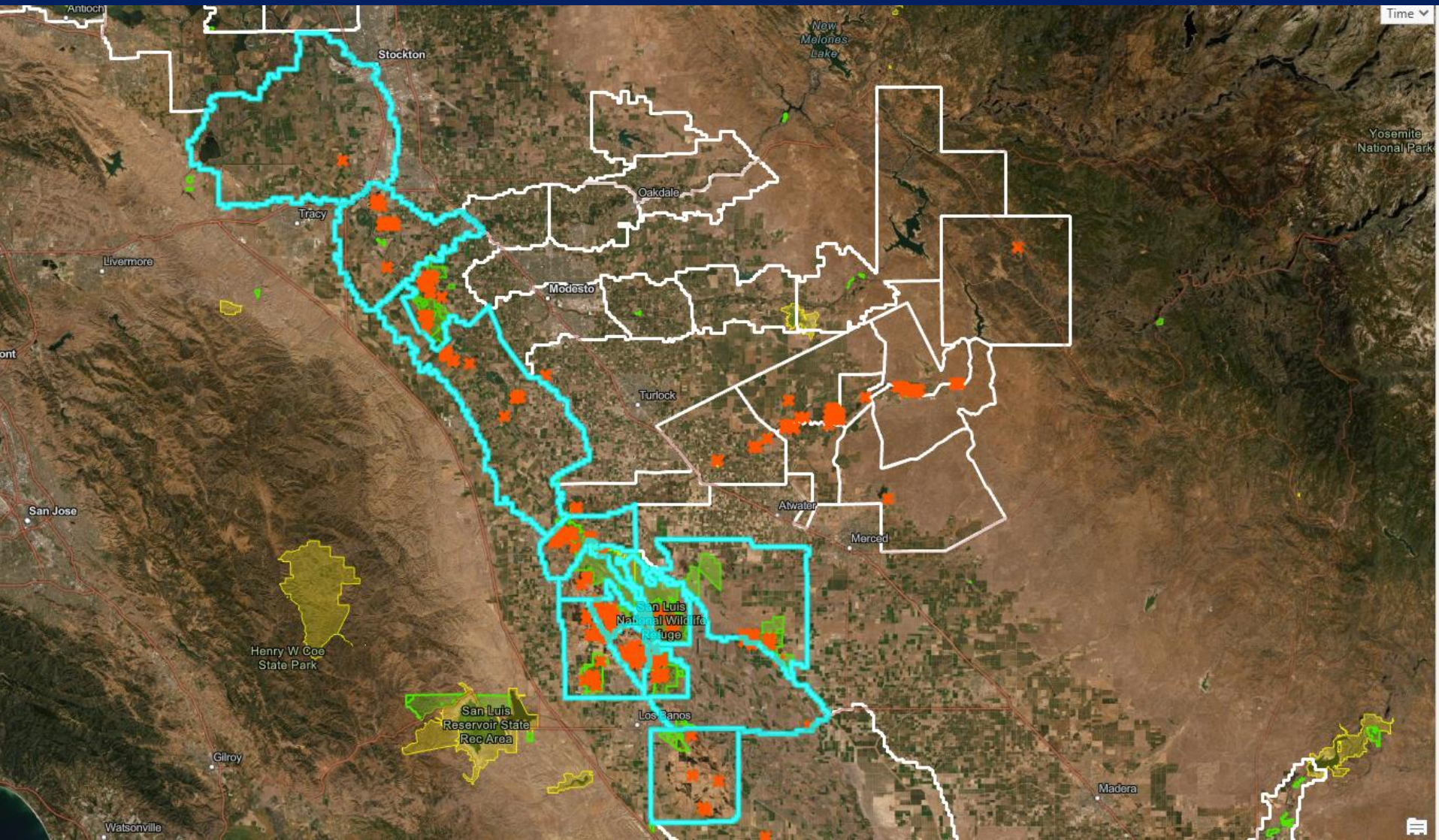


Locations of Nutria Taken or Detected (by 40-acre cell)



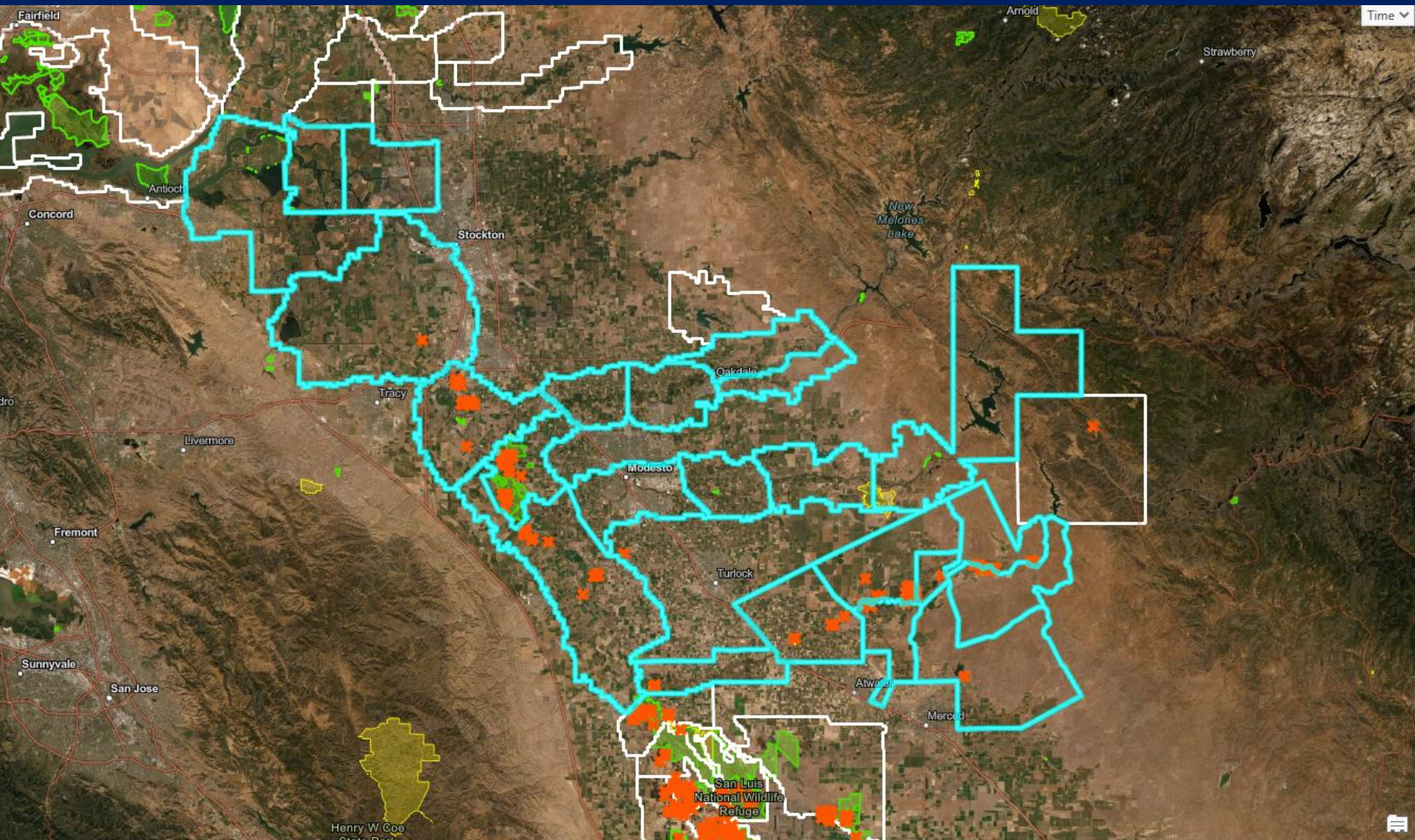


Management Unit Assignments (Spring/Summer 2020)





Current Management Unit Assignments (Fall/Winter)





Judas Nutria

- Collared, sterilized nutria
 - Social behavior makes them valuable tool in seeking out other nutria
- 5 initial collars (first prototype)
- 9 surgeries = 4 releases (June 2020)
 - Poor collar performance
 - Low survival rate in nutria
- New collar prototype
- Stepwise elimination of stressors
- Next releases





Judas Nutria



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Nutria Scat-Detection Dogs

- Dog teams/trainer, two visits to evaluate tool in CA
 - Visits scheduled in spring/fall 2020, delayed by COVID
 - Tentatively rescheduled for 2021
 - Funded by Phase One grant (exp. August 2021)
- Development of dog program
 - Contingent upon field trials/evaluation
 - Delayed due to COVID
 - Funded by Phase Two grant (exp. June 2023)





Next Steps

- Continued expansion of efforts
 - Staff, Judas nutria, detector dogs
- 2021: Insight into Program efficacy
- Current request for modification (Phase One)
 - Extend funding end date
 - Shift contractual funding to personnel
- Potential modification needs in future
 - COVID delays to dog evaluation/program development
- HR 3399 – Nutria Eradication and Control Act reauthorization

