



**Assisting recovery in the Santa Monica Mountains**

**Joey Algiers**  
**Plant Ecologist**

Photo by Martin Nate Rasmussen

# Recovery



# SAMO



# The National Park Service

## Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Protected Park Land

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



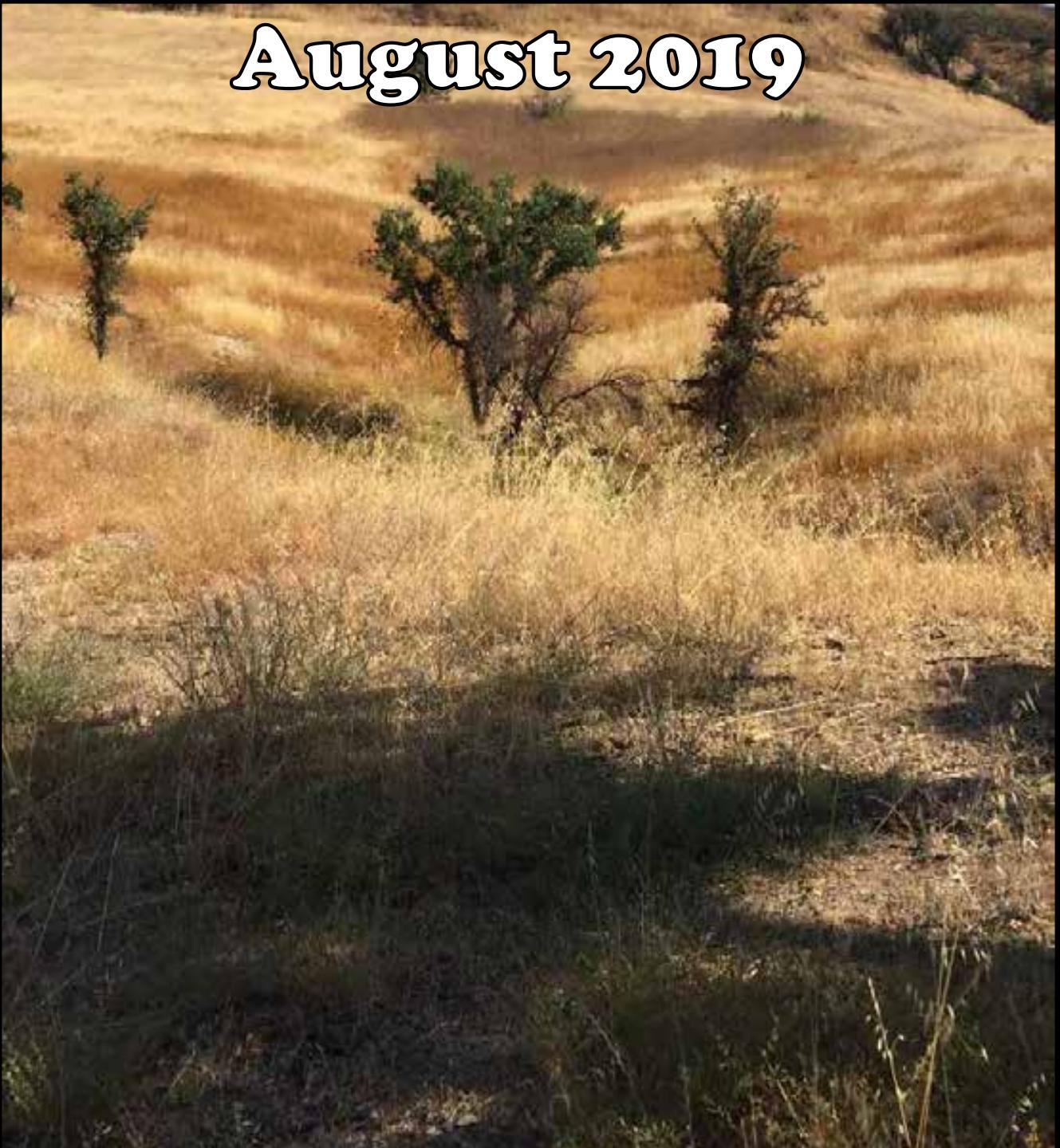


**\*Invasive plant control is the most important component of restoration**

**\*Successful control of Italian thistle, yellow star thistle, and sweet fennel**



# August 2019



A wide-angle photograph of a vast, open field. The foreground is filled with tall, golden-brown stalks of sweet fennel. In the background, a range of mountains is visible under a clear, pale blue sky.

2015  
Sweet Fennel

# Fuels Replacement

- **Timed Mowing**
- **Early Season and Repeated**
- **Encourages passive recovery**
- **High Live Fuel Moisture**
- **Ignition Reduction**
- **Improved Ecology**







2019

An aerial photograph of a large, open green field. The field is mostly grassy with some patches of brown and a few clusters of dark green trees. To the right, there is a residential area with several houses, streets, and a railway line. The year '2023' is overlaid in the upper left corner of the image.

2023

# 2018 Woolsey Fire



Photo courtesy of National Park Service



# RSV Native Plant Nursery

Antonio Sanchez

**\*Since 2018 the SAMO Restoration Program has planted over 200,000 plants.**

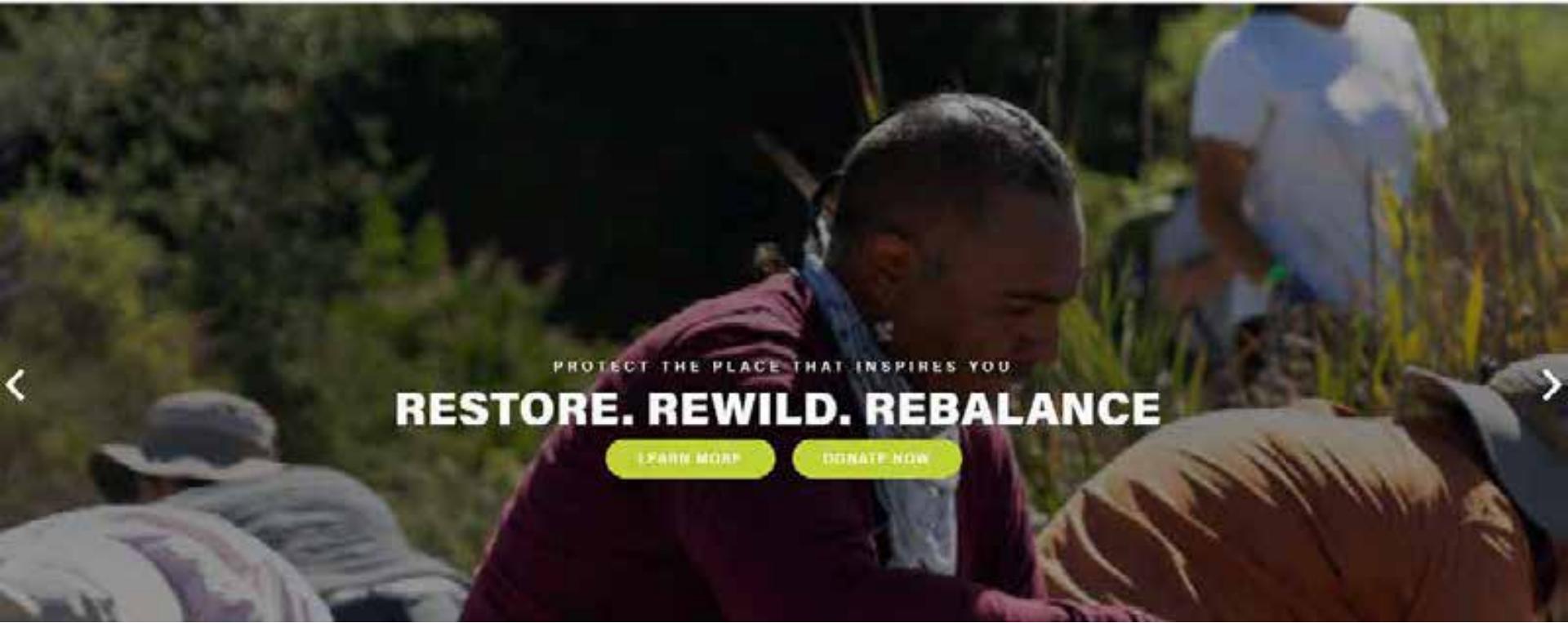


HOME ABOUT US WHAT WE DO GET INVOLVED: SHOP NEWS

[DONATE](#)

OUTDOORS CALENDAR



**SAMOFUND.ORG**

# Volunteers



# Volunteers





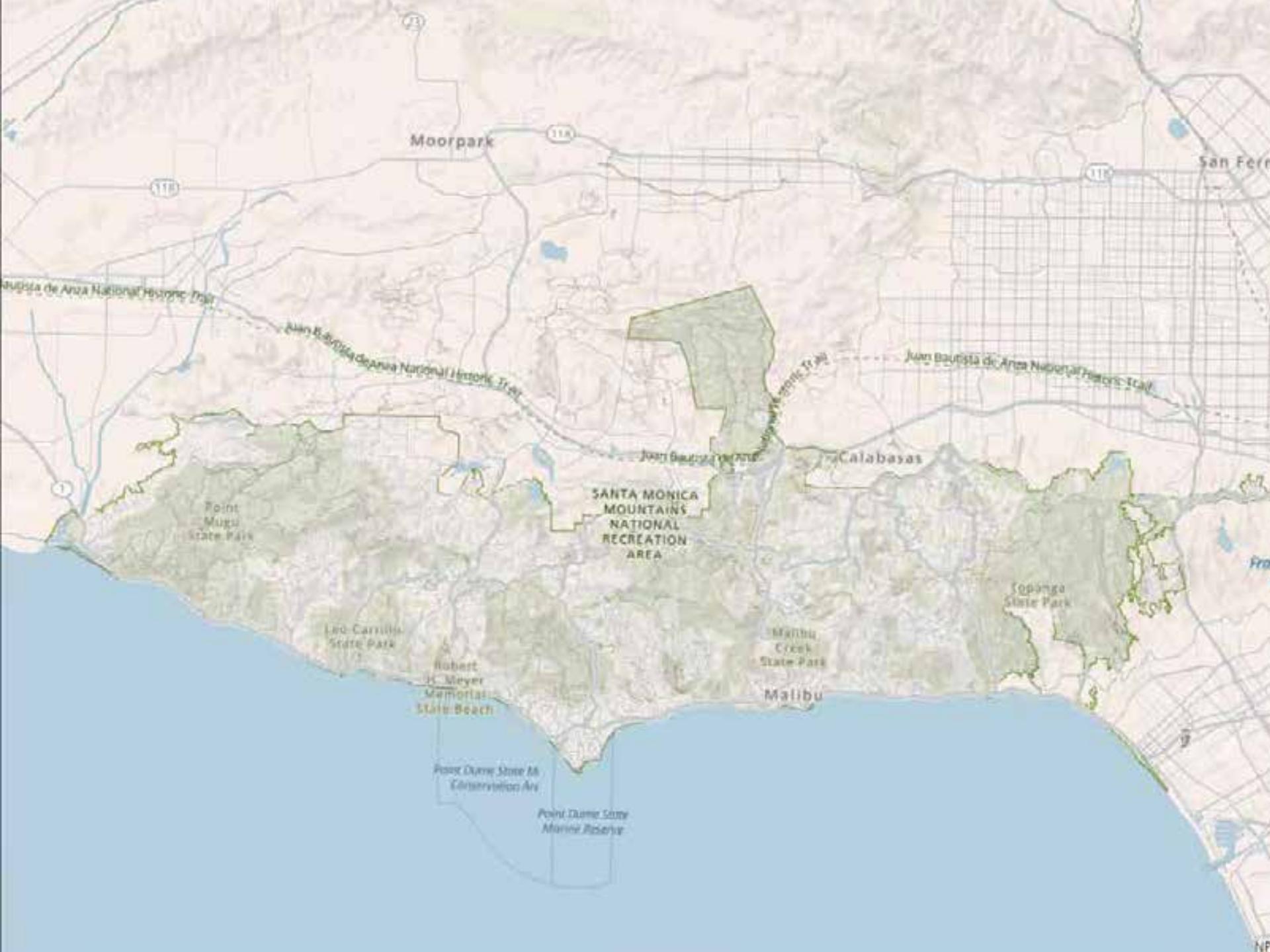


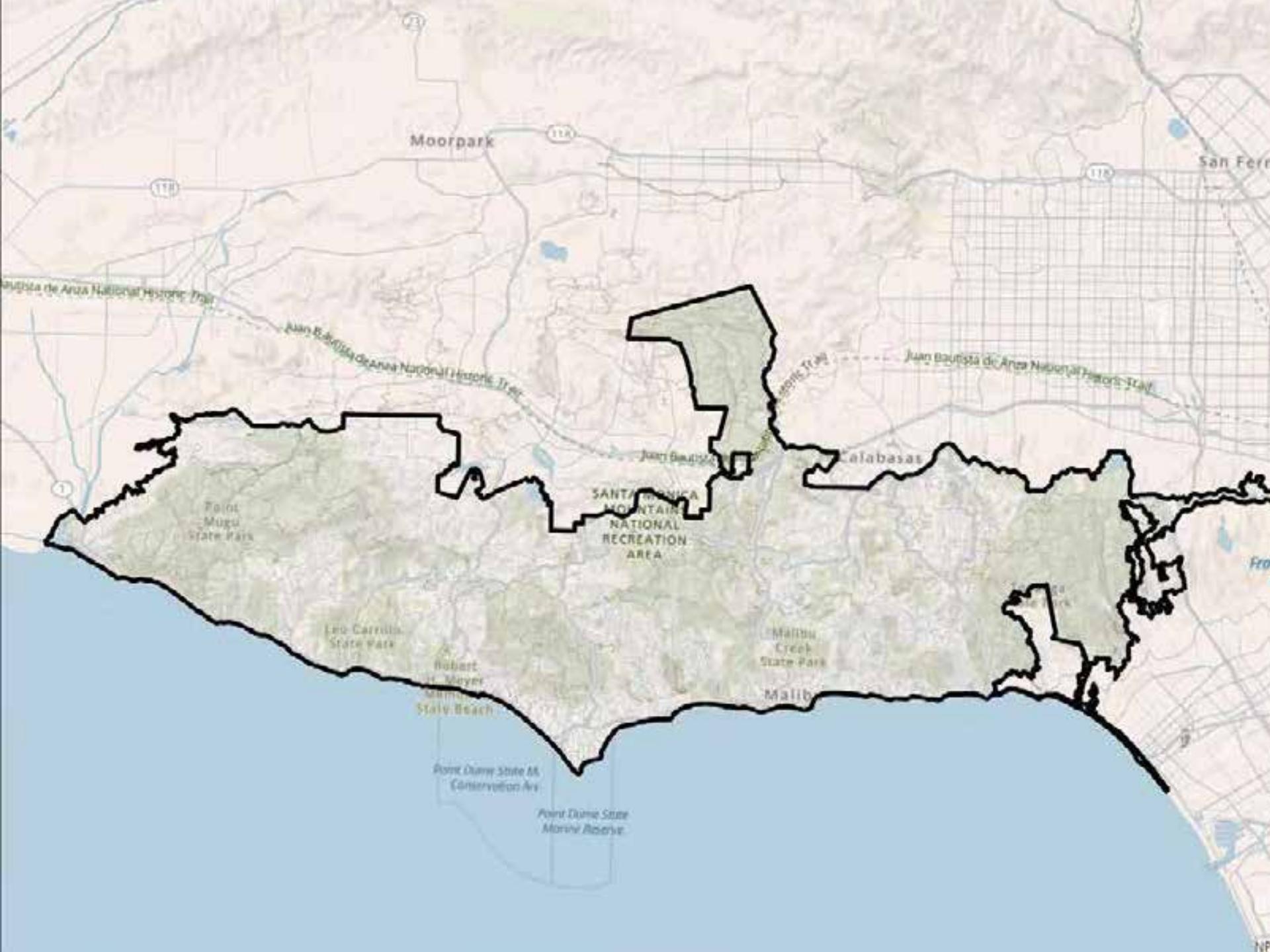
**Matt Wells**

## Unnatural Fire Regime

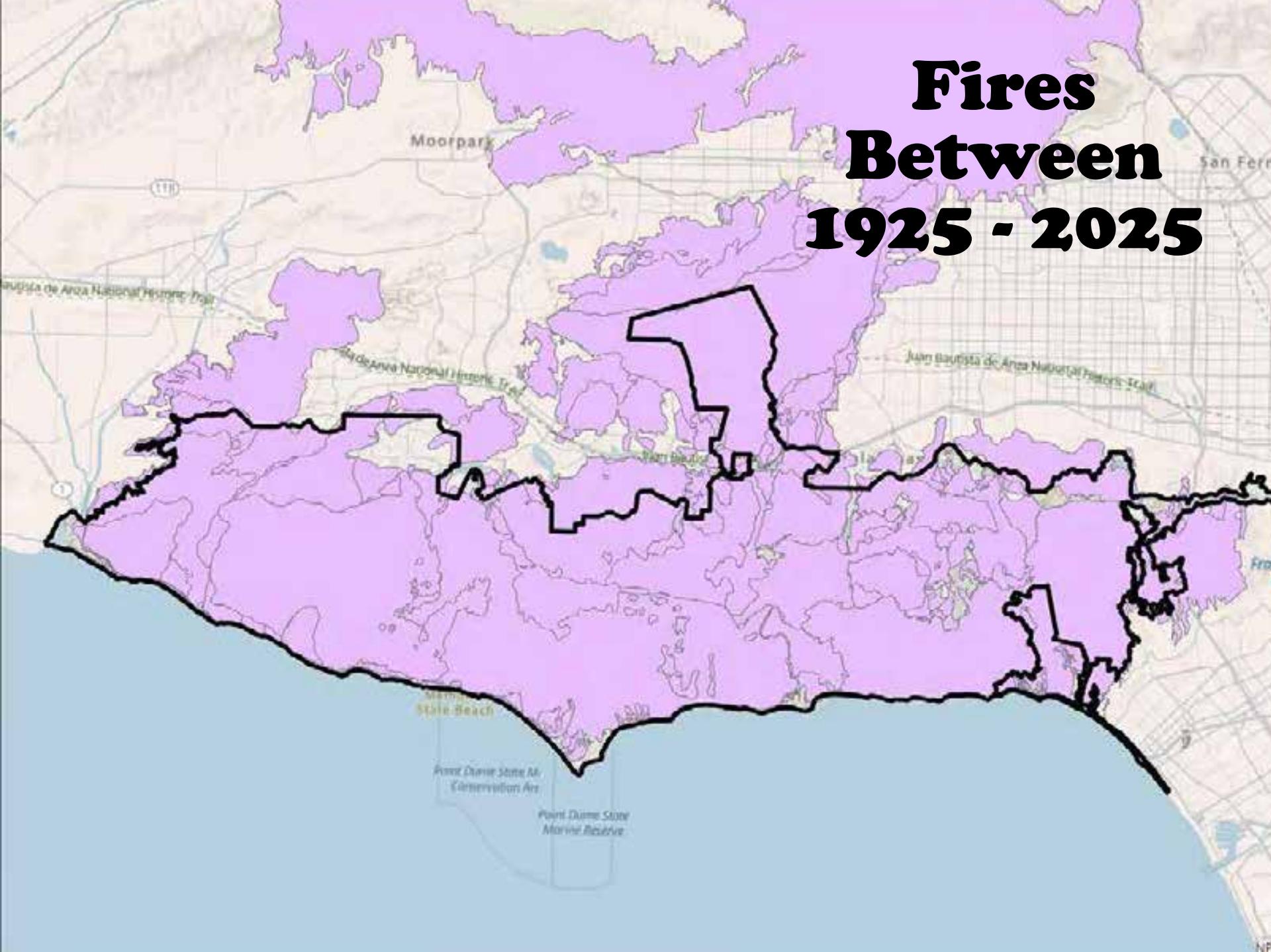
- Higher Intensity
- Frequent
- Santa Ana Winds







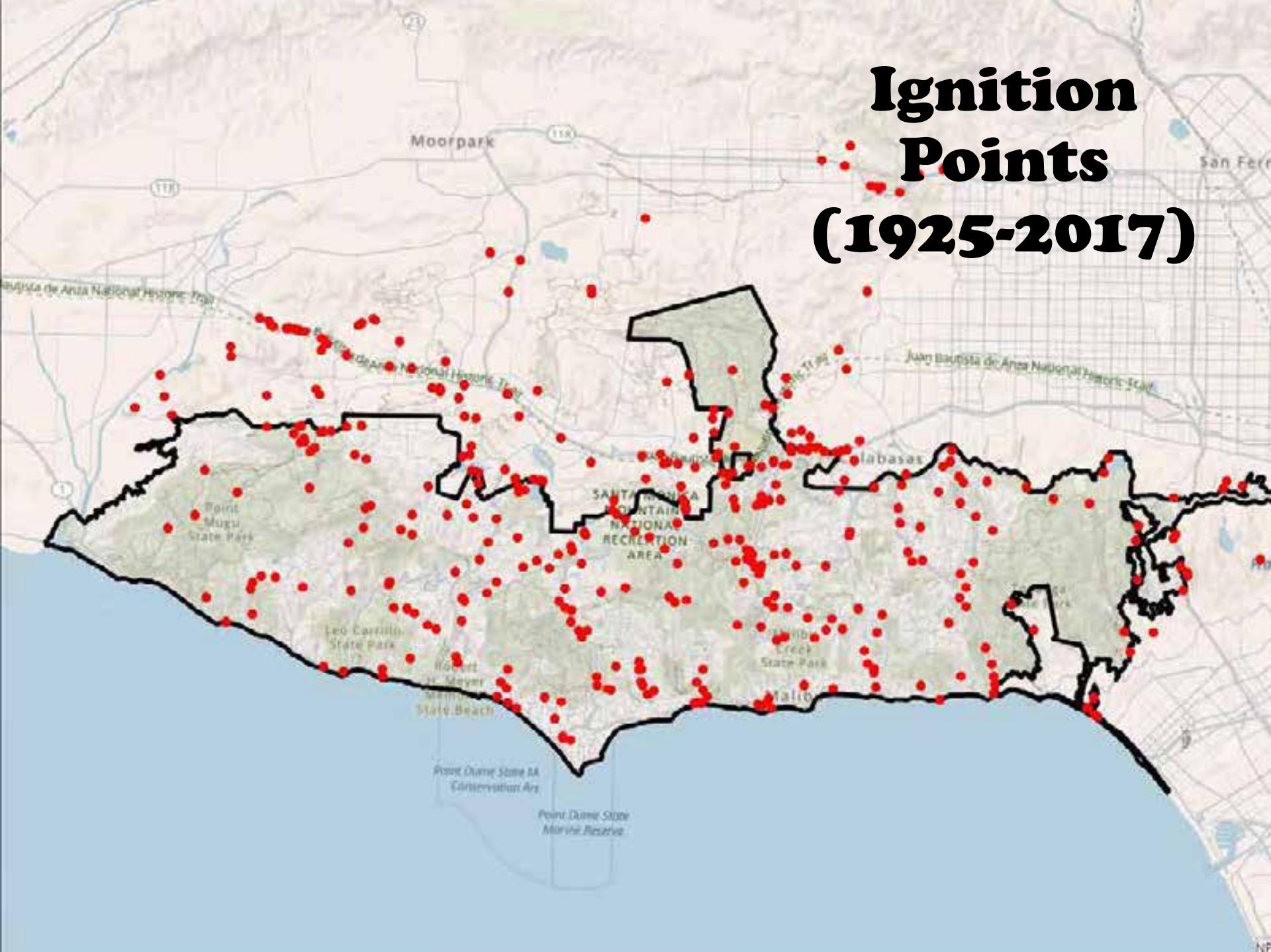
# Fires Between 1925 - 2025



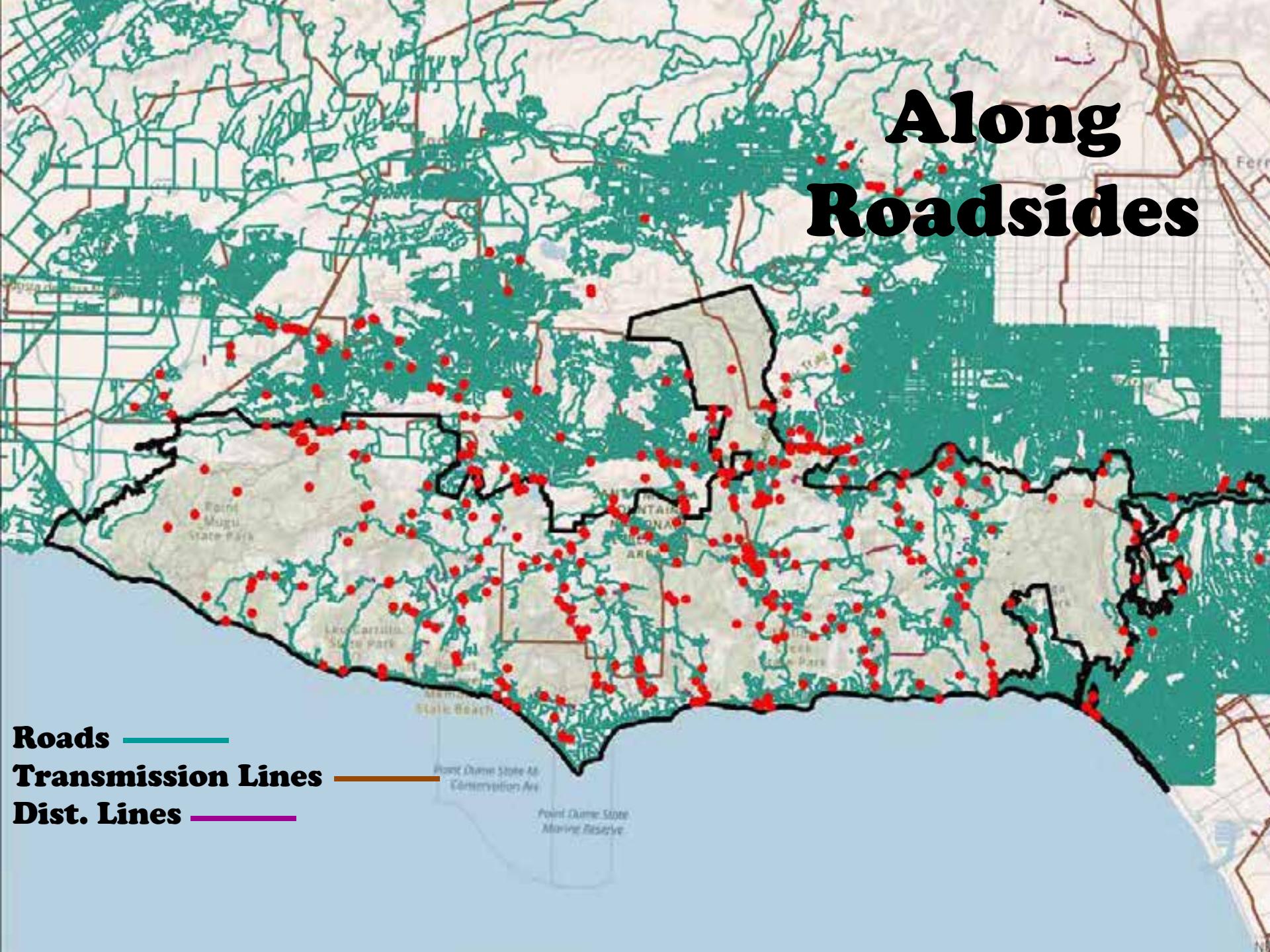
# Fires Between 2007 - 2025

**>70%**

# Ignition Points (1925-2017)



# Along Roadsides



# Human Caused Ignitions

- Mechanical Equipment
- Vehicles
- Powerlines
- Arson
- Illegal campfires





2011/06/30

- Promote fire
- Dry out earlier
- Increase fire frequency, unpredictability, and intensity
- Shorten fire return intervals
- Change fire regimes

2011/ 8/ 1 13:12

16:44:44  
11:33:33  
8:16:16



**\*Native seed is the only practical way to accomplish large-scale restoration**

**\*Large-scale response to future wildfires and other disturbances**



**Tak Chipman**

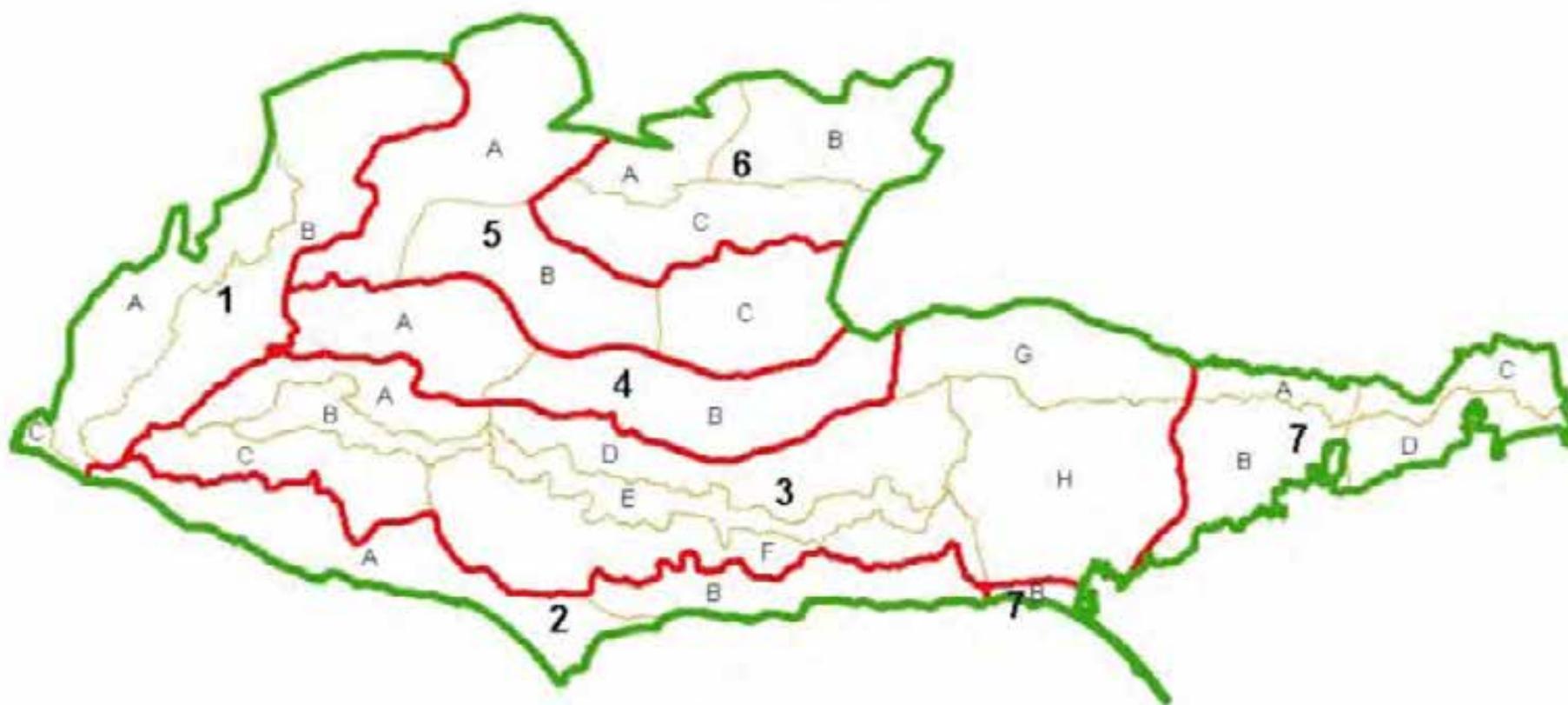


**Ben Vizcarra-Barton**



**Thu Tat**

## Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Regions and Subregions



### Region-Subregion Names

1. The Western Fog Zone	3. Upper Elevation Zone	4. Lower Elevation Inland Zone	6. Simi Hills Inland Zone
A. Western Slope Area	A. Western Regional North Slope Area	A. Western Area	A. Regional North Slope Western Area
B. Eastern Slope Area	B. Western Regional Crest Area	B. Eastern Area	B. Regional Northeast Rocky Area
C. Mugu Marshland Area	C. Western Regional South Slope Area	5. Inland Dry Zone	C. Regional South Slope Area
2. Immediate Coastal Zone	D. Central Regional North Slope Area	A. Northern Urban Area	7. Eastern Urban Zone
A. Western Area	E. Central Regional Crest Area	B. Central Urban Area	A. Western North Slope Area
B. Eastern Area	F. Central Regional South Slope Area	C. Eastern Grasslands Area	B. Western South Slope Area
	G. Eastern Regional North Slope Area		C. Eastern North Slope Area
	H. Eastern Regional South Slope Area		D. Simi Hills Area



# Native Seed Farm



# Native Seed Farm



# Native Seed Farm





# Gumplant

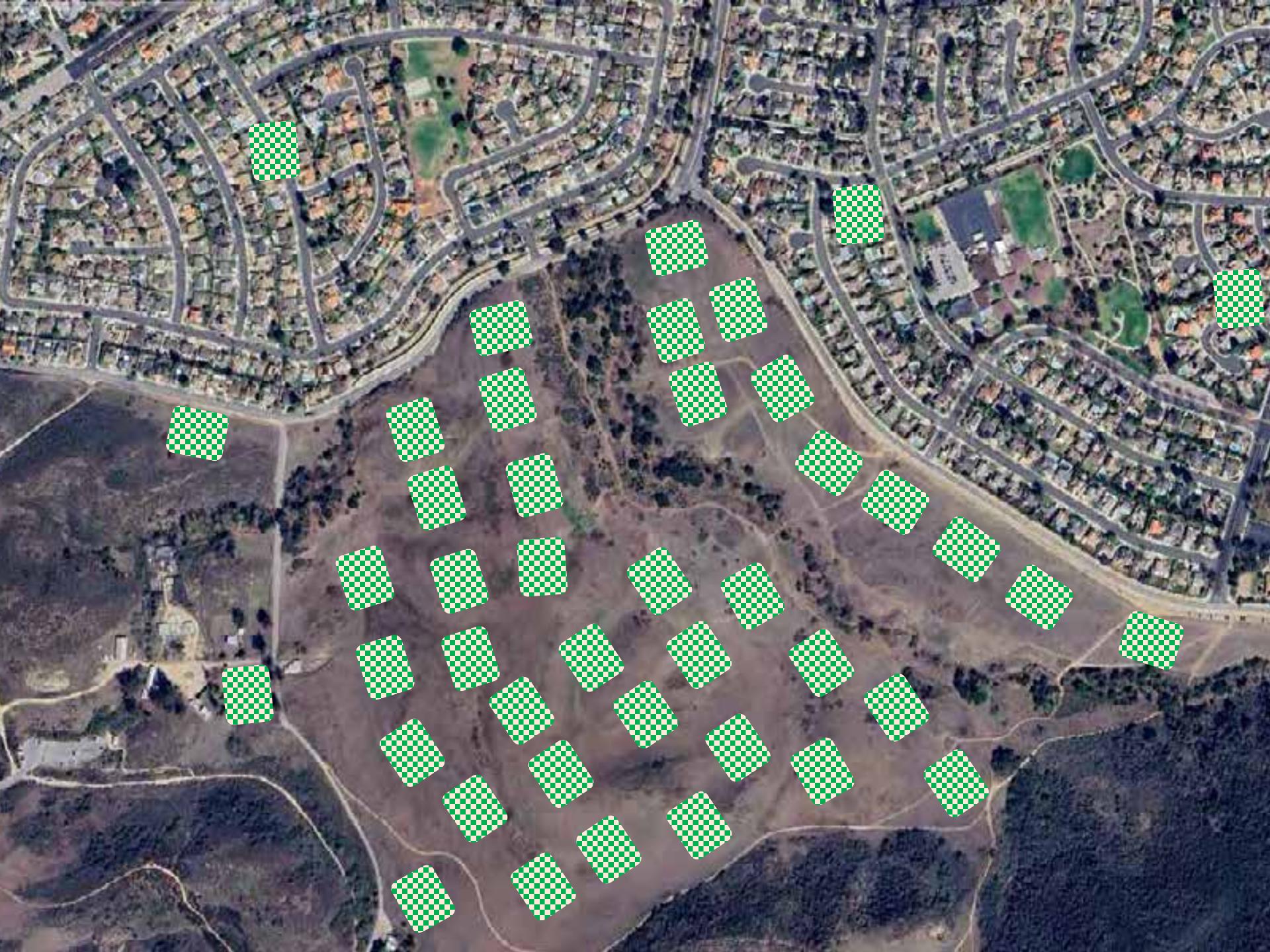
2024 wild collections = 3 gallons

2025 seed farm collections = 150 gallons

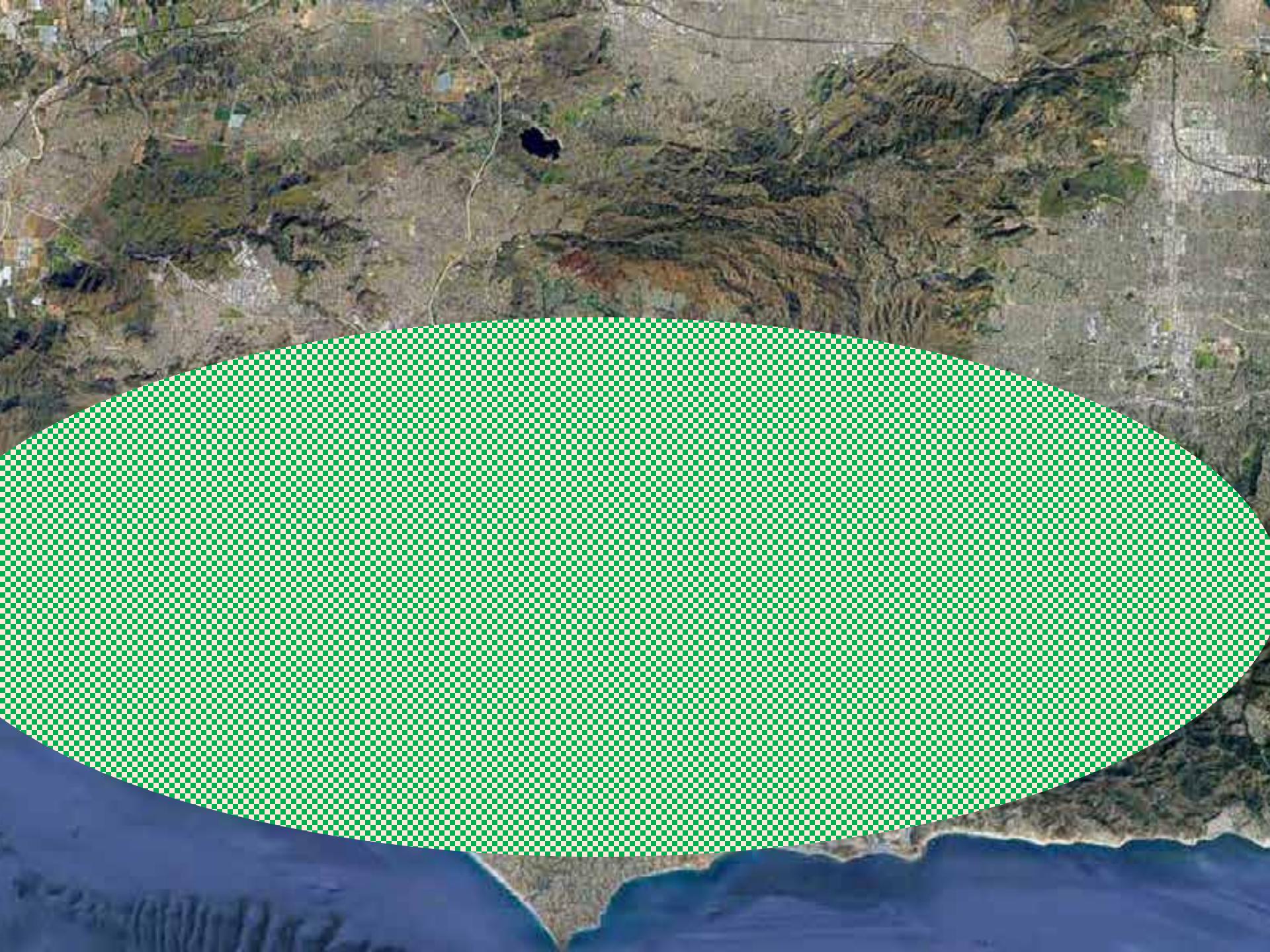
50 times as much seed!!!

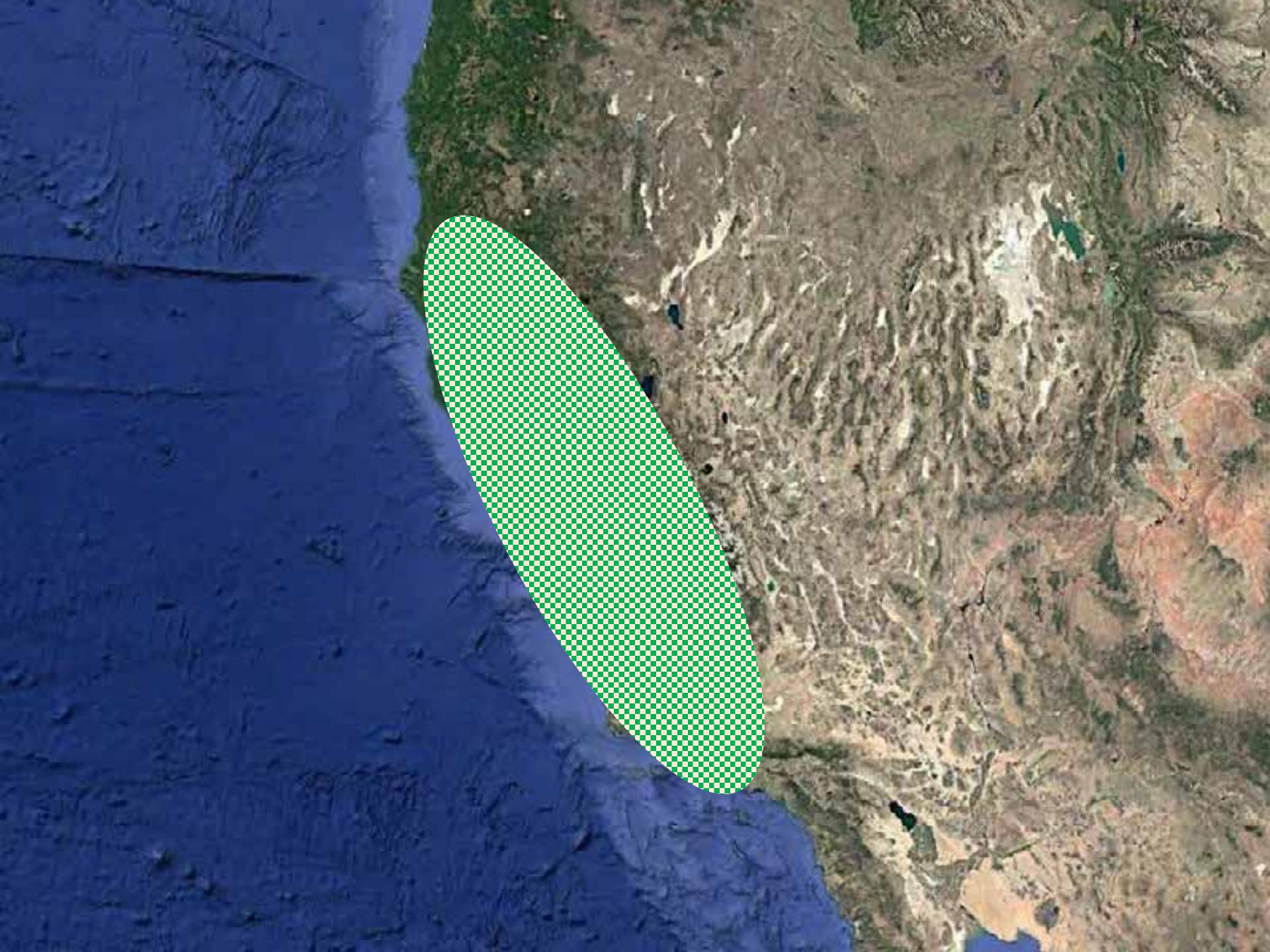


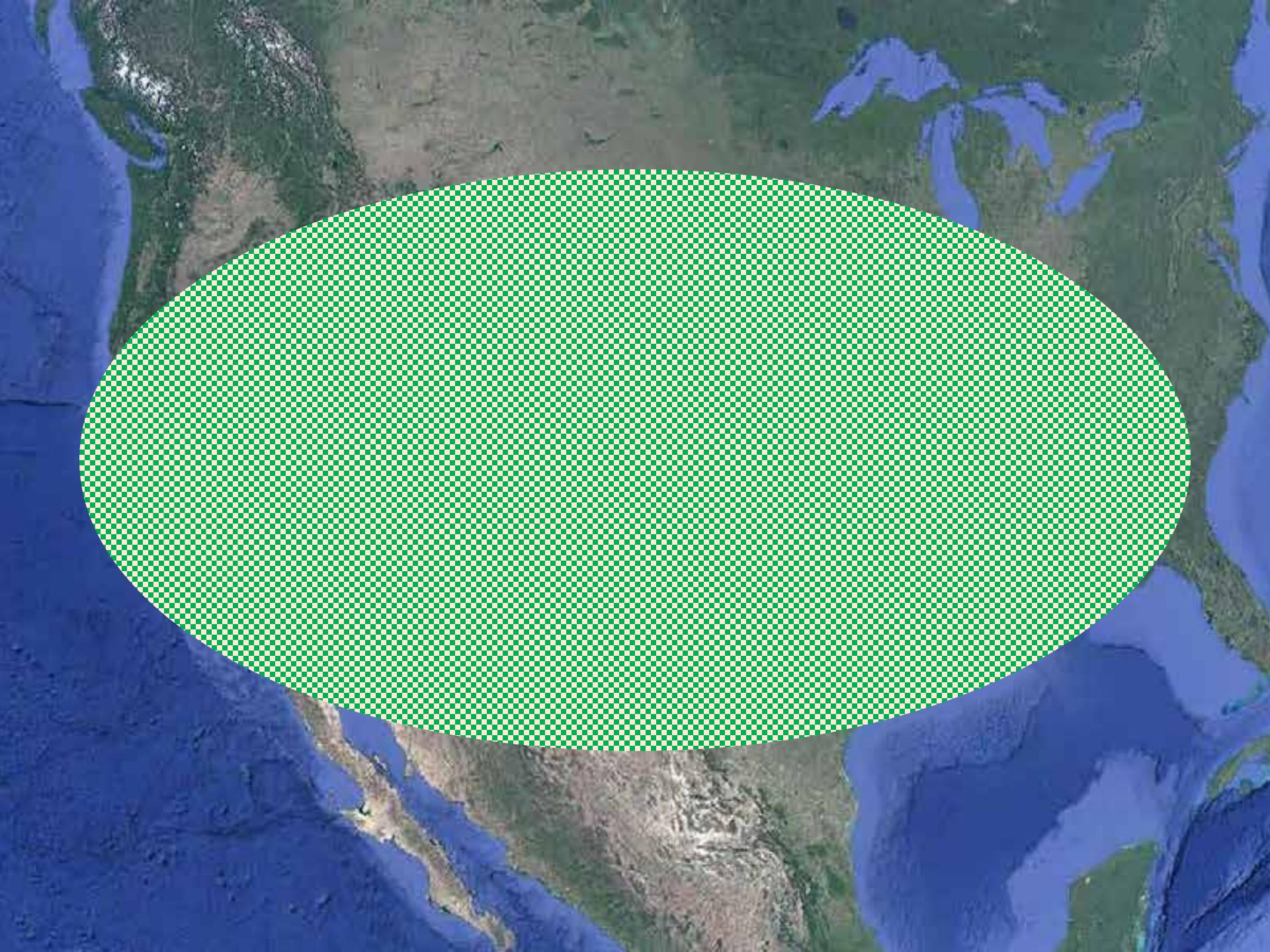


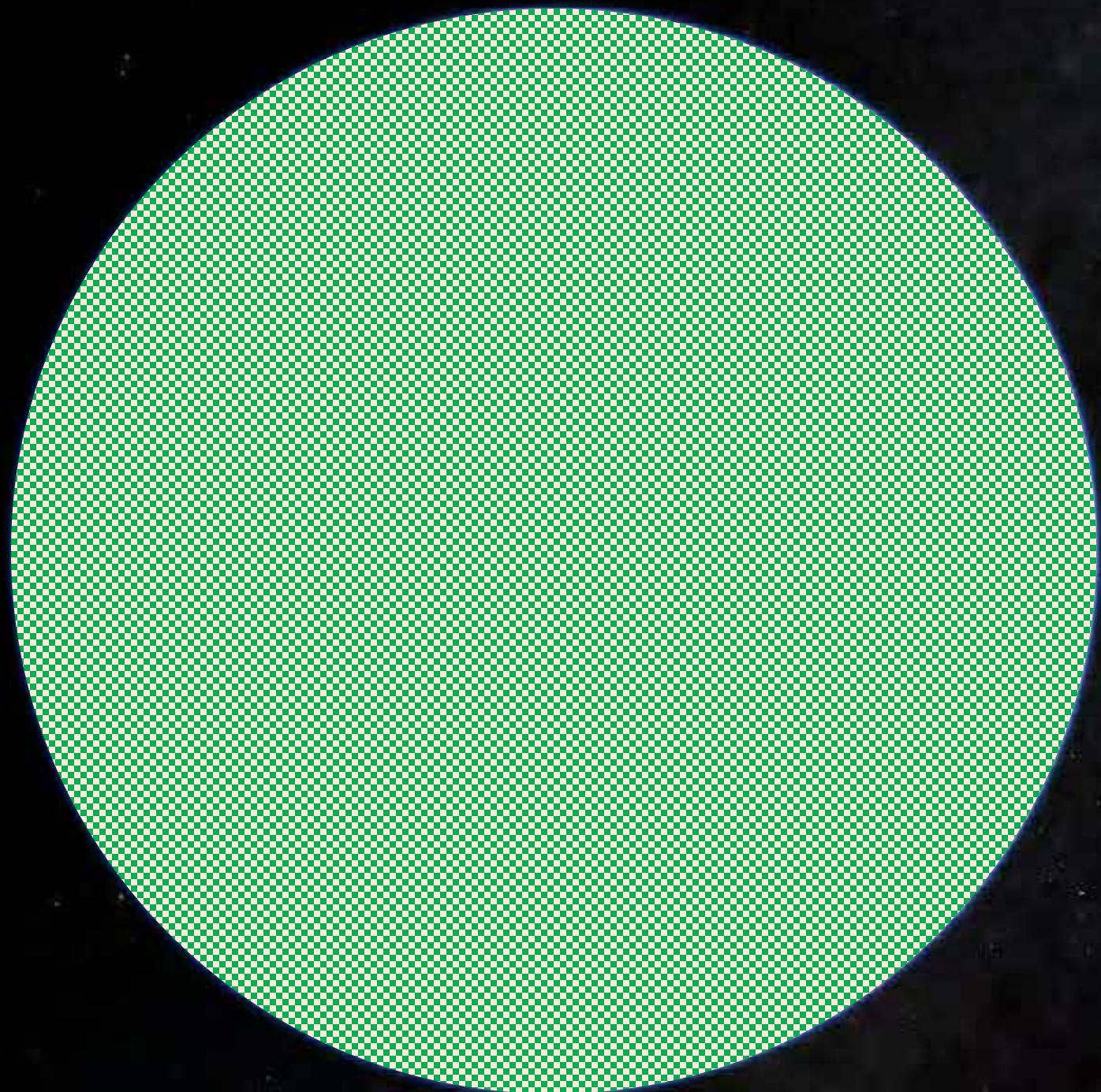














**Thank You!**  
**jalgiers@gmail.com**

**Acknowledgements**

**Burn Area Emergency Rehabilitation**

**Jen Gibson, Nelson Sieffkin, Jack Oelfke, Molly  
Boyter, Elizabeth Hale, Maren Watkins**

**National Park Service**

**John Tiszler, Mark Mendelsohn**

**Matt Wells, Steve Buckley**

**Santa Monica Mountains Fund**

**Deanna Armbruster, Antonio Sanchez, Tak  
Chipman, Thu Tat, Ben Vizcarra-Barton, Brian  
Gonzalez, Christina Jimenez, Carter Rosato, Oscar  
Ochoa, Isabel Ventura, Krishna Parekh, Jocelyn  
Adao, Lonic Brown, Lani Magana, Noah  
Spickelmier, Timothy Turley, Emily Dion-Staebell,  
Kaydee Inouye, Emily Alvarez**