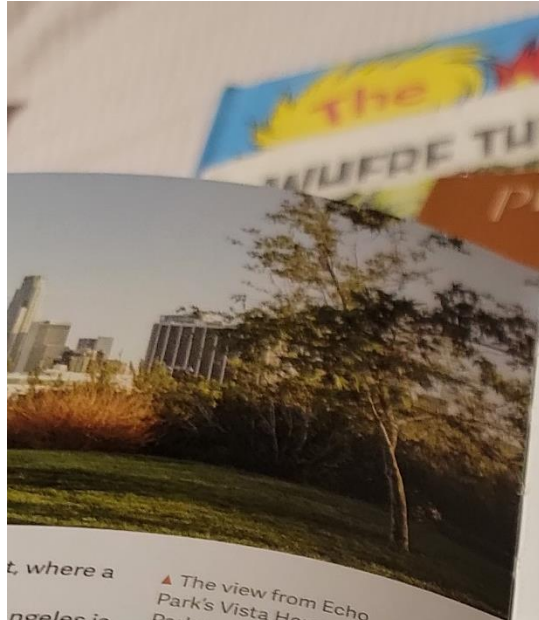


The Future of Los Angeles, or...

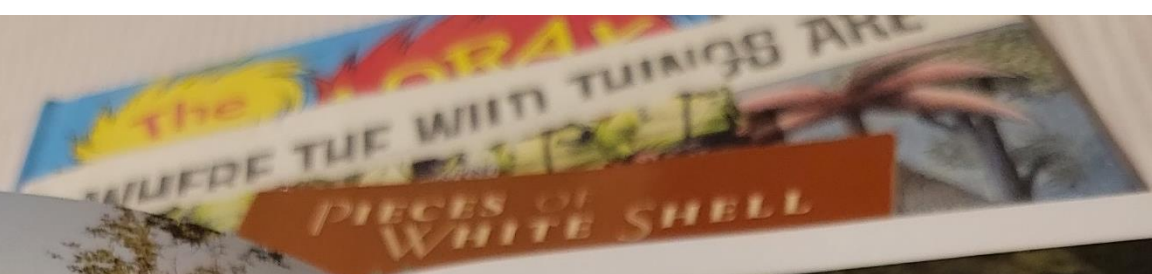


...the Future of Los Angeles?





▲ The view from Echo Park's Vista Hermosa reminds us that in cities, trees and skyscrapers can dot the horizon, and urban wildlife is all around us.



PIECES OF WHITE SHELL

Introduced to our area in the 1930s, black bears can now be found in our mountains and foothills.



WILD LOS ANGELES

Thousands of species of insects live in Los Angeles—estimates vary from approximately four thousand to more than twenty thousand—with many still awaiting discovery and description.

Eastern fox squirrels travel all over the city thanks to an aerial highway system made of telephone and electrical wires that transports them safely above speeding cars and barking dogs.

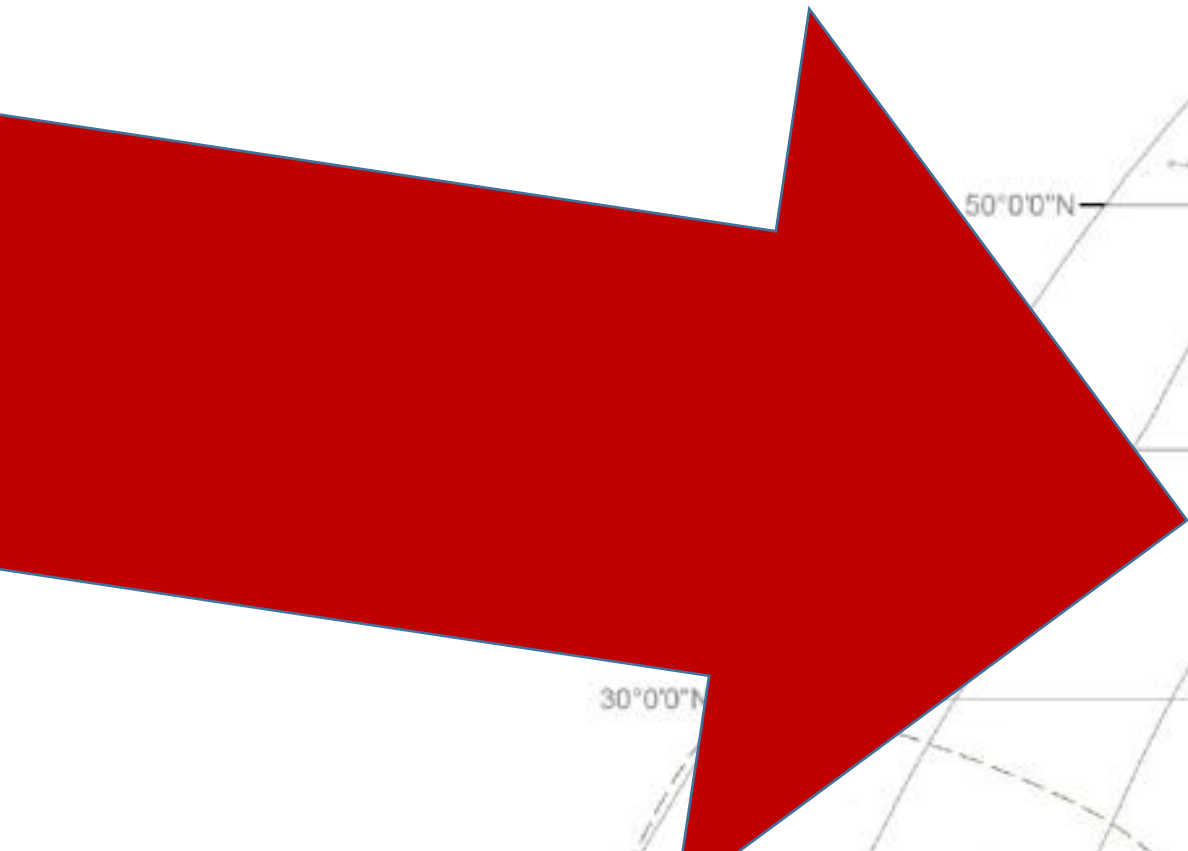
And then there's the most famous furry Angeleno, the mountain lion dubbed P-22, who somehow crossed two of the nation's busiest freeways and survived to settle in Griffith Park.

Many of the animals listed above are relatively easy to see if you put your nature eyes on. Get to Griffith Park around sunset and watch the space where picnic grounds meet the hillsides—coyotes come down on evening adventures to scavenge food left behind from the day's picnics and barbecues. Spend enough time outside and you could run into sphinx moths, horned lizards, parakeets, and even bears or bobcats.

Why Is There So Much Nature in Los Angeles?

The incredible diversity of species in our area results from a combination of factors. First, Los Angeles has always been biologically diverse. Not that long ago, it was home to three species of bears, three species of ground sloths, and five species of big cats (of which the mountain lion was the smallest). Plus, the mastodon and mammoth, plus most

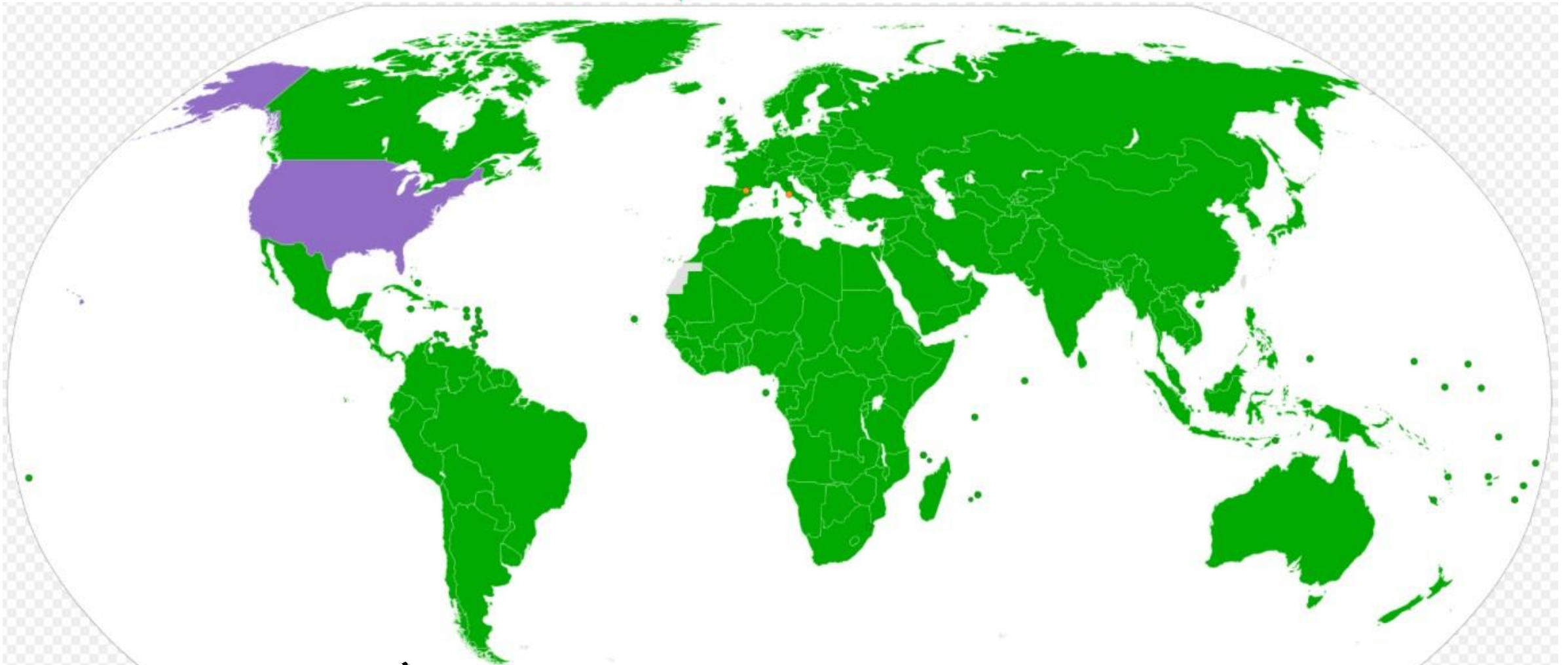
BIOLOGICAL HOTSPOTS



SIDEBAR:



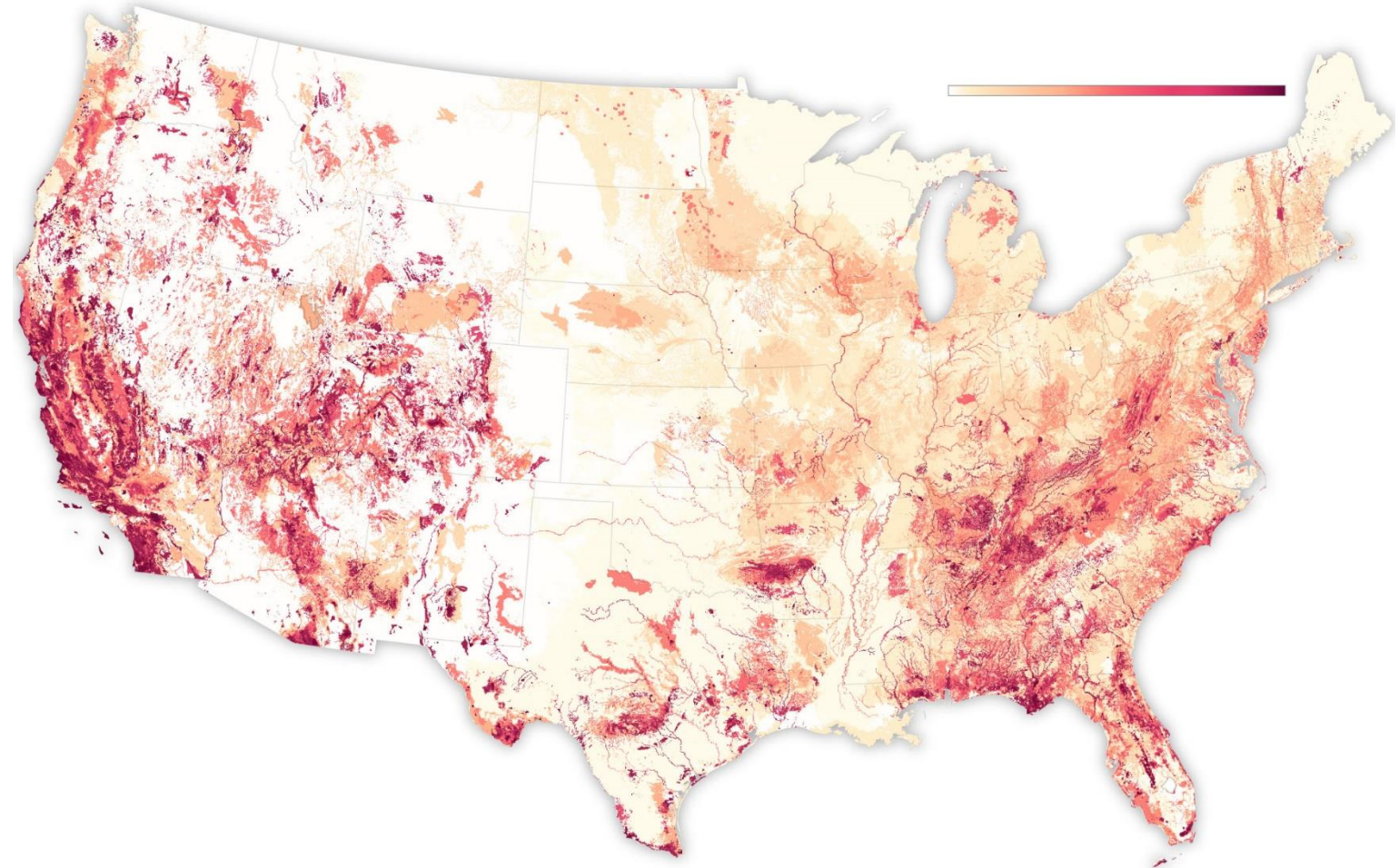
Convention on
Biological Diversity



Only one major country in the world is not
a signatory to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity...

This Map Shows Where Biodiversity Is Most at Risk in America

By [Catrin Einhorn](#) and [Nadja Popovich](#) March 3, 2022



California has the most imperiled biodiversity of any state in the contiguous United States.



CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC





CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC





THE P-22 EFFECT

Alarm over inbreeding after California cougars spotted with crooked tails

Deformities point to unsettling sign of extremely low genetic diversity in isolated population in the Santa Monica mountains



📷 Mountain lion P-81 has a kinked tail shaped like the letter L and only one descended testicle, a condition known as cryptorchidism. Photograph: The Guardian


The mountain lion known as P-61 is struck and killed on 405 Freeway

Mountain lion apparently struck and killed while crossing 101 Fwy in Calabasas

P-39 mountain lion, mother of three kittens, killed by car on 118 Freeway near Chatsworth

Mountain Lion Killed on 5 Freeway Was 1st Male to Move North From Santa Monica Mountains





Two Mountain Lions Die With Rat Poison in Systems

5th large cats to die since July



California



Mountain lion dies of rat poison in Santa Monica Mountains

P-53 and P-30 both were found dead in the Santa Monica Mountains after ingesting anticoagulant rodenticide poisoning. Photos: MNP



Rat poison kills bobcat, mountain lion in mountains

LA City Council's Biodiversity Initiative & Mayor Garcetti's Green New Deal

LASAN Biodiversity Program Background

LASAN Biodiversity Program

- **2017 Biodiversity Council Motion CF#15-0499**
 - Protect and enhance biodiversity
 - Ultimate objective: create a biodiversity index for the City of LA that will measure progress on biodiversity goals
- **2019 Sustainability pLAn (LA's Green New Deal)**
 - Biodiversity and access to nature goals

Urban Ecosystems & Resilience

Target

Achieve and maintain 'no-net loss' of native biodiversity

Baseline: Will be established in 2019 Biodiversity index
Source: City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation



Milestones & Initiatives

2021

Set biodiversity targets and pilot L.A.'s first wildlife corridor

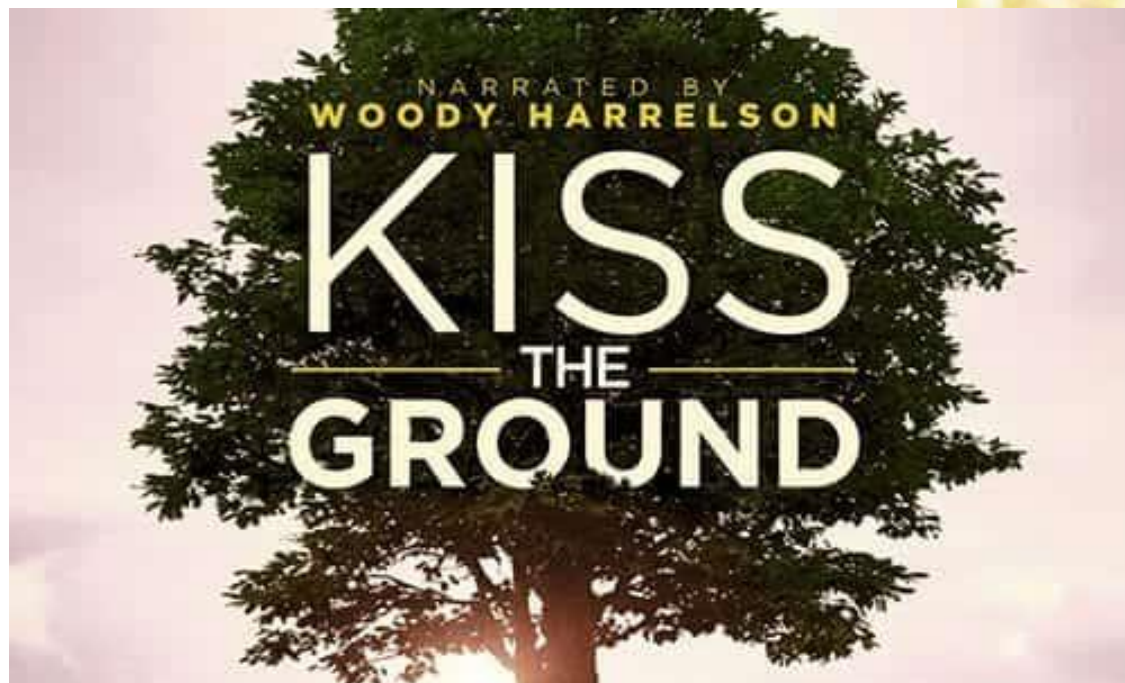
- Complete first biodiversity assessment using L.A.-specific index
- Build up City's biodiversity program to improve internal practices
- Monitor biodiversity and natural areas
- Update watershed protection policies to include enhanced stream protection



Non Toxic Los Angeles



Developing **Integrated Pest Management Strategies** to
End the use of herbicides, pesticides, and rodenticides



Launching RegenerateLA – Los Angeles' New Strategy to Give Back to Mother Nature



Photo Courtesy: LA Compost



Courtesy: LA County Arboretum

Urban Ecologist in Planning Dept.
(Kat Superfisky)



Courtesy: Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

LA's 1st City Forest Officer
(Rachel Malarich)



Photo by Peter Bohler, Courtesy: UCLA Newsroom

Senior Ecologist in Bureau of Sanitation
(Isaac Brown)



Study Area

- Located in the Santa Monica Mountains between the 405 and 101 freeways
- Pilot area will serve to test potential regulations that could be adapted for future Protection Areas for Wildlife (PAWs)
- The Pilot Area contains a mix of primarily low density residential lots with large undeveloped public open spaces. The area is zoned for varying types of single-family residential uses, ranging from smaller suburban residential lots to larger residential estates and rural agricultural lots.

CF#14-0518



Proposed Regulations for Wildlife



Graphic credit: Cal Poly Pomona's Urban Ecology Studio, Prof. Kat Superfisky, 2019

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION 30 BY 30 PLAN

CONSERVING 30% OF THE NATION'S LAND AND WATERS BY 2030



Governor Newsom Launches Innovative Strategies to Use California Land to Fight Climate Change, Conserve Biodiversity and Boost Climate Resilience



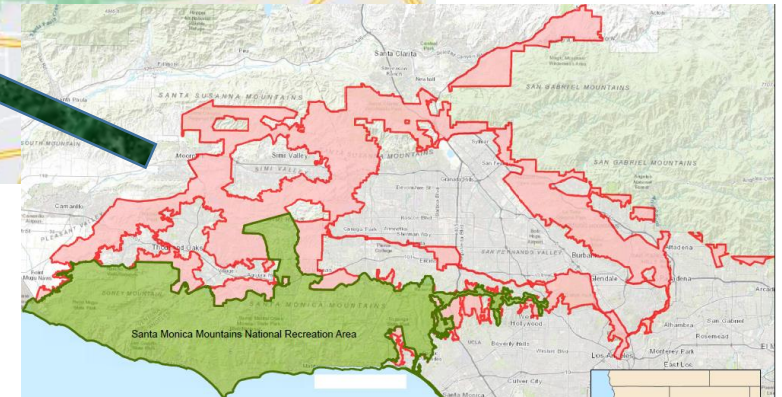
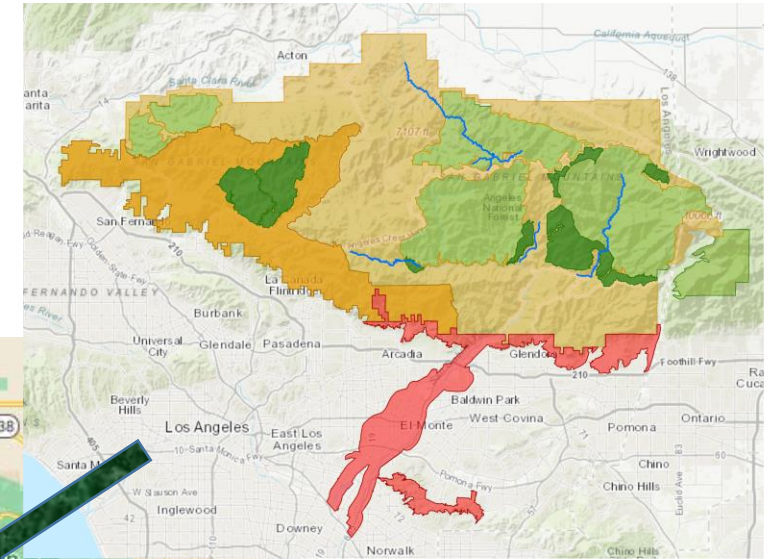
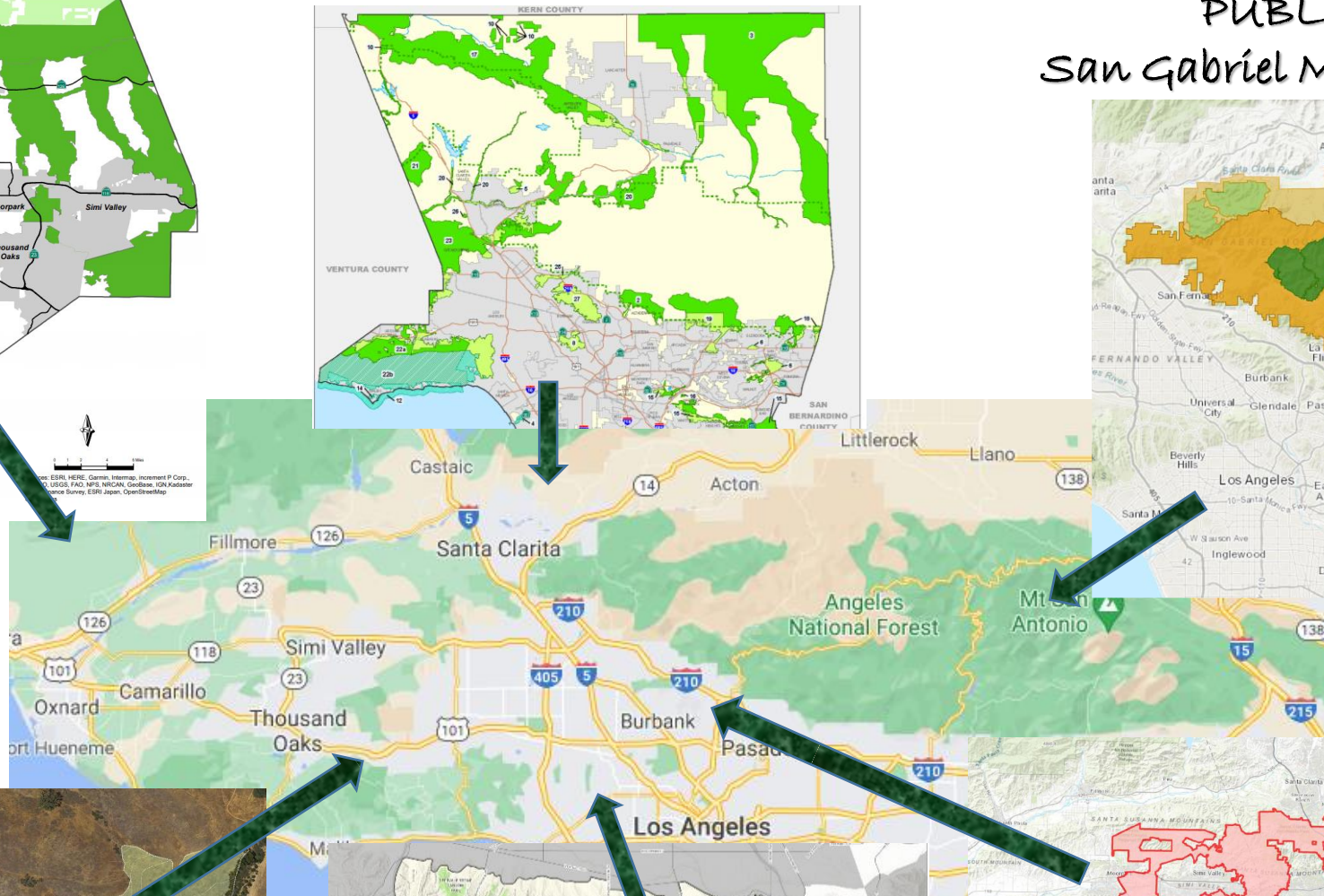
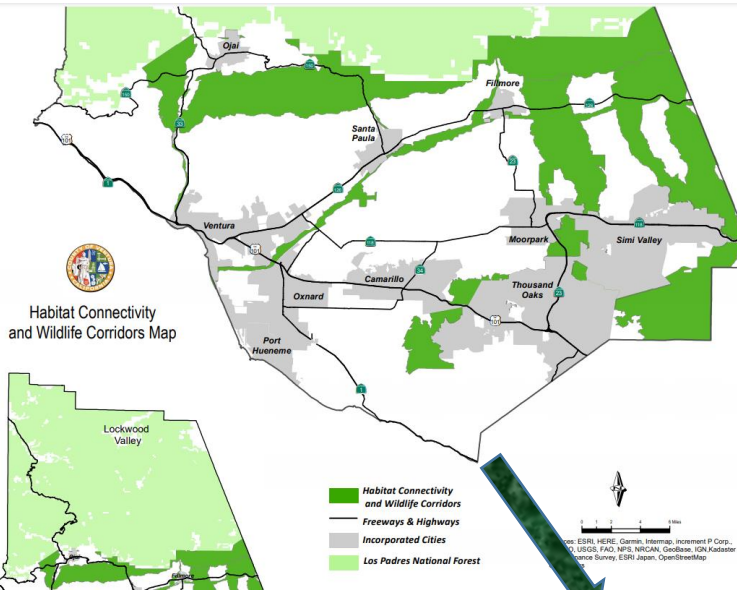
California is first in nation to commit to protecting 30% of our lands and waters by 2030.



The executive order directs the California Natural Resources Agency to form a [California Biodiversity Collaborative](#) to bring together experts, leaders and communities to pursue a *unified approach* to protecting biodiversity and develop strategies to support the 30 by 30 goal.

LA County Significant Ecological Areas

PUBLIC LANDS ACT: San Gabriel Mts. National Monument



Rim of the valley

Ventura County
Habitat Connectivity
and
Wildlife Corridors

Liberty Canyon
Wildlife Crossing

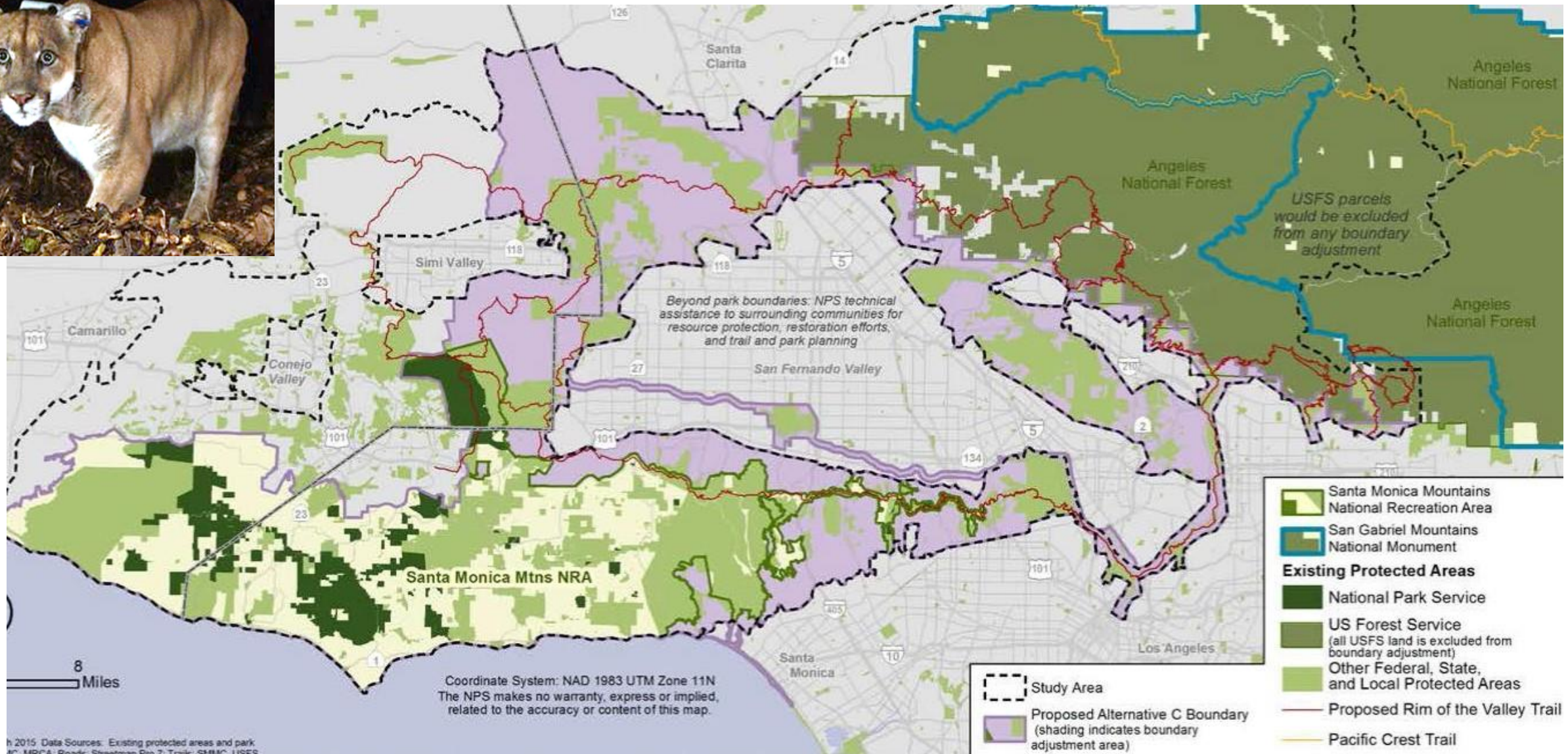
LA City: PAWS
(Protected Areas for Wildlife)

Implementing
President Biden &
Governor Newsom's
30 x 30 Plans



Data Source: California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project (2010), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (2015), & Los Angeles County GIS Data Portal (2015)

Regional Wildlife Habitat Interconnectivity Master Plan



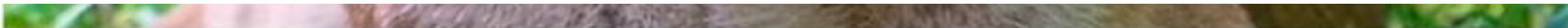
The Goals:

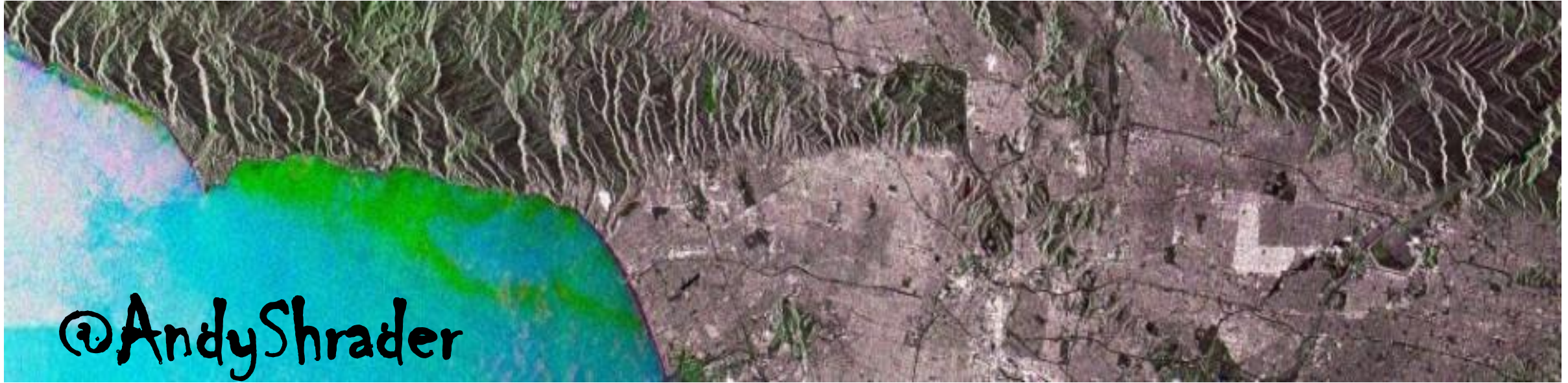
- 1) To implement 30 x 30 by standardizing **biological protections** throughout the entire interconnected regional project.
- 2) To build wildlife crossings to protect both animals and Angelenos from collisions. **And create jobs.**
- 3) To model best regional cooperative practices for the United Nations COP-15 Biological Diversity Conference of Parties, encourage the U.S. to join future COPs, **and influence global action on biodiversity protection.**



Mountain lions get endangered species protections in parts of California

Fish and Game Commission vote moves cougars one step closer to being added to state endangered species list





Andy Shrader

*Executive Director of Environmental Affairs,
Water Policy & Sustainability*

Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz

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