

# **REGIONAL CONSERVATION INVESTMENT STRATEGIES PROGRAM (AB 2087)**

**California's New Conservation & Advance  
Mitigation Program**

**California Biodiversity Council**

**Fall 2017 Meeting**

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Habitat Conservation Planning Branch**



# HOW CAN WE BEST CONSERVE?

## When California has:

- Over 37,000 native species, many declining
- 39.5 million people and growing
- Climate change, land use, invasive species pressures





# HOW CAN WE BEST CONSERVE?

## and when we need to:

- Conserve vulnerable species
- Enhance species & habitat resilience to climate change
- Guide conservation investments
- Provide project proponents with efficient mitigation
- Help regions that lack funding and resources
- Enable conservation on working lands & public lands



# THE RCIS PROGRAM

- Achieve more strategic, effective conservation
- Promote resilience to climate change
- Support infrastructure & other projects with efficient mitigation delivery
- Require consistency with NCCPs, HCPs, and the Banking Program



# RCIS PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Regional Conservation Assessment (RCA)  
*Purpose: Assess conservation opportunities at an ecoregional scale*
- Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (RCIS)  
*Purpose: Develop a voluntary conservation strategy to inform conservation investments and advance mitigation*
- Mitigation Credit Agreement (MCA)  
*Purpose: Provide an advance mitigation tool for use on public and private lands, to offset CESA, CEQA, LSA, & other impacts*

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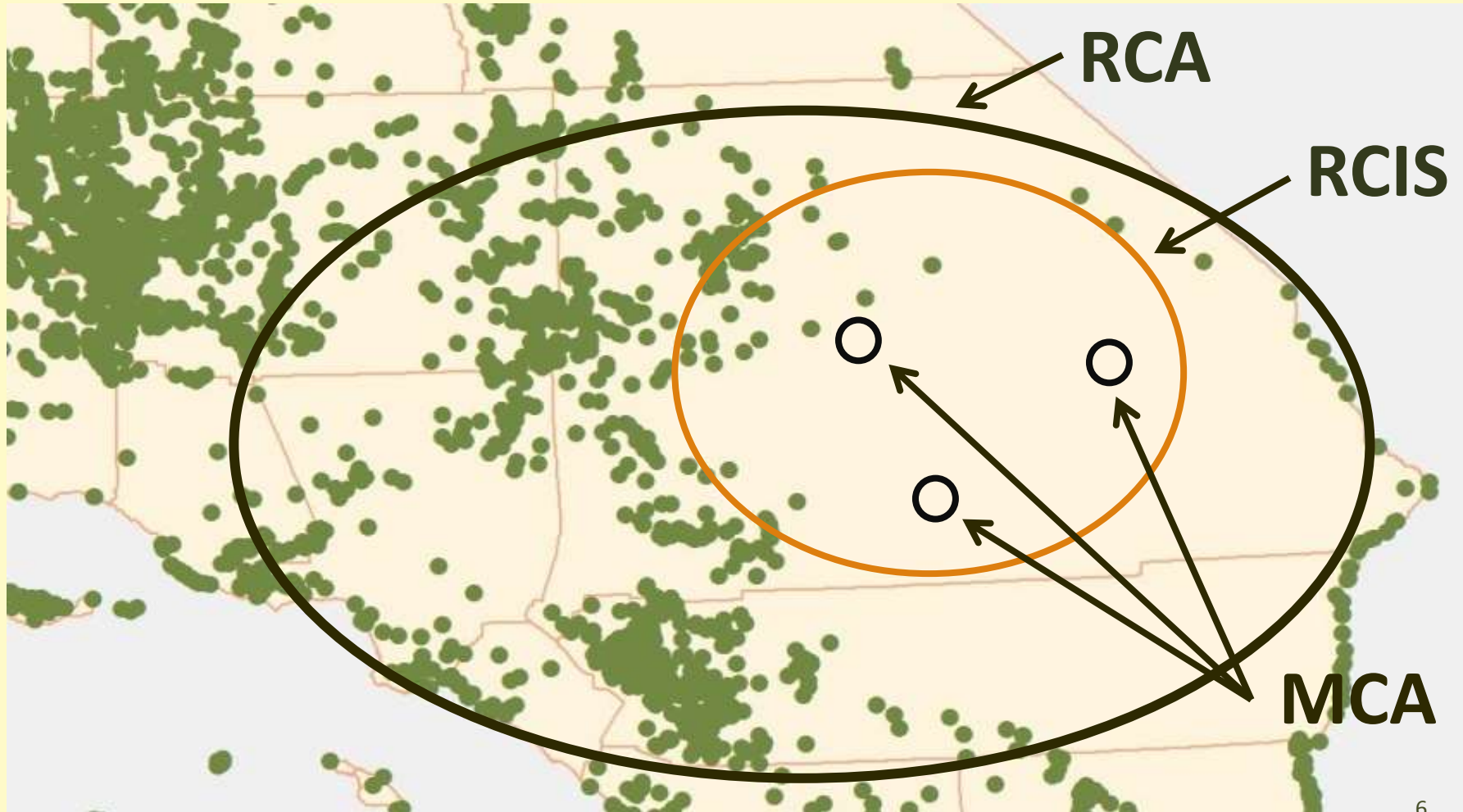
# RCIS OVERVIEW

- Voluntary, non-regulatory
  - Non-binding on land use authorities
  - Proposed by any public agency
  - CDFW can approve eight or more\* RCISs
- \*with support letter from State water or transportation infrastructure agency*





# REGIONAL CONSERVATION SCALES



# POTENTIAL CONSERVATION & ENHANCEMENT ACTIONS

- Acquire and protect land
- Restore creeks and rivers
- Restore habitat on public land
- Install wildlife crossings
- Remove fish barriers
- Create/restore rearing habitat



# POTENTIAL FUNDING AND COLLABORATION

- SB 1 & SB 103 - Transportation & Advance Mitigation funding
- SB 5 - California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, Outdoor Access Act
- Transportation and water agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Local planning agencies
- Philanthropic organizations
- Others



# FOR FURTHER RCIS PROGRAM INFO...

[wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/Regional-Conservation](http://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/Regional-Conservation)

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