

APPENDIX B: Recovery Units, Core Areas, Other Known Occurrences, and Designated Critical Habitat of the CRLF.

Recovery Units

Eight recovery units have been established by USFWS for the CRLF. These areas are considered essential to the recovery of the species, and the status of the CRLF “may be considered within the smaller scale of the recovery units, as opposed to the statewide range” (USFWS 2002). Recovery units reflect areas with similar conservation needs and population statuses, and therefore, similar recovery goals. The eight units described for the CRLF are delineated by watershed boundaries defined by US Geological Survey hydrologic units and are limited to the elevational maximum for the species of 1,500 m above sea level. The eight recovery units for the CRLF are listed in **Table B.1** and shown in **Figure B.1**.

Core Areas

USFWS has designated 35 core areas across the eight recovery units to focus their recovery efforts for the CRLF (see **Figure B.1**). **Table B.1** summarizes the geographical relationship among recovery units, core areas, and designated critical habitat. The core areas, which are distributed throughout portions of the historic and current range of the species, represent areas that allow for long-term viability of existing populations and reestablishment of populations within historic range. These areas were selected because they: 1) contain existing viable populations; or 2) they contribute to the connectivity of other habitat areas (USFWS 2002). Core area protection and enhancement are vital for maintenance and expansion of the CRLF’s distribution and population throughout its range.

For purposes of this assessment, designated critical habitat, currently occupied (post-1985) core areas, and additional known occurrences of the CRLF from the CNDDDB are considered. Historically occupied sections of the core areas are not evaluated as part of this assessment because the USFWS Recovery Plan (USFWS 2002) indicates that CRLFs are extirpated from these areas. A summary of currently and historically occupied core areas is provided in **Table B.1** (currently occupied core areas are bolded). While core areas are considered essential for recovery of the CRLF, core areas are not federally-designated critical habitat, although designated critical habitat is generally contained within these core recovery areas. It should be noted, however, that several critical habitat units are located outside of the core areas, but within the recovery units. The focus of this assessment is currently occupied core areas, designated critical habitat, and other known CNDDDB CRLF occurrences within the recovery units. Federally-designated critical habitat for the CRLF is further explained in Section 2.6.

TABLE B.1. California Red-legged Frog Recovery Units with Overlapping Core Areas and Designated Critical Habitat.

Recovery Unit ¹ (Figure B.1)	Core Areas ^{2,7} (Figure B.1)	Critical Habitat Units ³	Currently Occupied (post-1985) ⁴	Historically Occupied ⁴
Sierra Nevada Foothills and Central Valley (1) (eastern boundary is the 1,500m elevation line)	Cottonwood Creek (partial) (8)	--	✓	
	Feather River (1)	BUT-1A-B	✓	
	Yuba River-S. Fork Feather River (2)	YUB-1	✓	
	--	NEV-1 ⁶		
	Traverse Creek/Middle Fork American River/Rubicon (3)	--	✓	
	Consumnes River (4)	ELD-1	✓	
	S. Fork Calaveras River (5)	--		✓
	Tuolumne River (6)	--		✓
	Piney Creek (7)	--		✓
	East San Francisco Bay (partial)(16)	--	✓	
North Coast Range Foothills and Western Sacramento River Valley (2)	Cottonwood Creek (8)	--	✓	
	Putah Creek-Cache Creek (9)	--		✓
	Jameson Canyon – Lower Napa Valley (partial) (15)	--	✓	
	Belvedere Lagoon (partial) (14)	--	✓	
	Pt. Reyes Peninsula (partial) (13)	--	✓	
North Coast and North San Francisco Bay (3)	Putah Creek-Cache Creek (partial) (9)	--		✓
	Lake Berryessa Tributaries (10)	NAP-1	✓	
	Upper Sonoma Creek (11)	--	✓	
	Petaluma Creek-Sonoma Creek (12)	--	✓	
	Pt. Reyes Peninsula (13)	MRN-1, MRN-2	✓	
	Belvedere Lagoon (14)	--	✓	
	Jameson Canyon-Lower Napa River (15)	SOL-1	✓	
South and East San Francisco Bay (4)	--	CCS-1A ⁶		
	East San Francisco Bay (partial) (16)	ALA-1A, ALA- 1B, STC-1B	✓	
	--	STC-1A ⁶		
	South San Francisco Bay (partial) (18)	SNM-1A	✓	
Central Coast (5)	South San Francisco Bay (partial) (18)	SNM-1A, SNM- 2C, SCZ-1	✓	
	Watsonville Slough- Elkhorn Slough (partial) (19)	SCZ-2 ⁵	✓	
	Carmel River-Santa Lucia (20)	MNT-2	✓	
	Estero Bay (22)	--	✓	

Recovery Unit ¹ (Figure B.1)	Core Areas ^{2,7} (Figure B.1)	Critical Habitat Units ³	Currently Occupied (post-1985) ⁴	Historically Occupied ⁴
	--	SLO-8 ⁶		
	Arroyo Grande Creek (23)	--	✓	
	Santa Maria River-Santa Ynez River (24)	--	✓	
Diablo Range and Salinas Valley (6)	East San Francisco Bay (partial) (16)	MER-1A-B, STC-1B	✓	
	--	SNB-1 ⁶ , SNB-2 ⁶		
	Santa Clara Valley (17)	--	✓	
	Watsonville Slough- Elkhorn Slough (partial)(19)	MNT-1	✓	
	Carmel River-Santa Lucia (partial)(20)	--	✓	
	Gablan Range (21)	SNB-3	✓	
	Estrella River (28)	SLO-1A-B	✓	
Northern Transverse Ranges and Tehachapi Mountains (7)	--	SLO-8 ⁶		
	Santa Maria River-Santa Ynez River (24)	STB-4, STB-5, STB-7	✓	
	Sisquoc River (25)	STB-1, STB-3	✓	
	Ventura River-Santa Clara River (26)	VEN-1, VEN-2, VEN-3	✓	
	--	LOS-1 ⁶		
Southern Transverse and Peninsular Ranges (8)	Santa Monica Bay-Ventura Coastal Streams (27)	--	✓	
	San Gabriel Mountain (29)	--		✓
	Forks of the Mojave (30)	--		✓
	Santa Ana Mountain (31)	--		✓
	Santa Rosa Plateau (32)	--	✓	
	San Luis Rey (33)	--		✓
	Sweetwater (34)	--		✓
	Laguna Mountain (35)	--		✓

¹ Recovery units designated by the USFWS (USFWS 2000, pg 49).

² Core areas designated by the USFWS (USFWS 2000, pg 51).

³ Critical habitat units designated by the USFWS on April 13, 2006 (USFWS 2006, 71 FR 19244-19346).

⁴ Currently occupied (post-1985) and historically occupied core areas as designated by the USFWS (USFWS 2002, pg 54).

⁵ Critical habitat unit where identified threats specifically included pesticides or agricultural runoff (USFWS 2002).

⁶ Critical habitat units that are outside of core areas, but within recovery units.

⁷ Currently occupied core areas that are included in this effects determination are bolded.

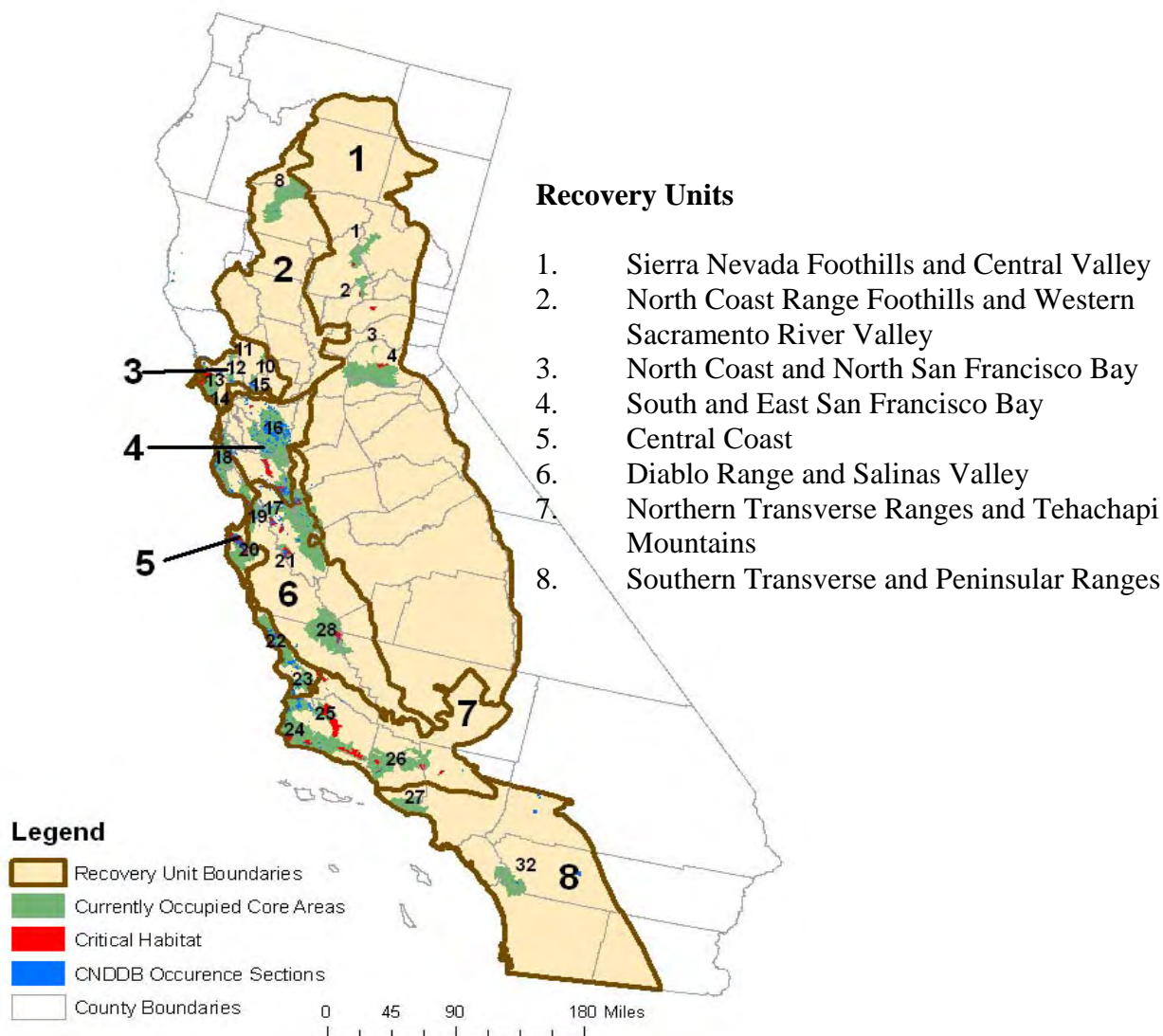


FIGURE B.1. Recovery Unit, Core Area, Critical Habitat, and Occurrence Designations for CRLF

Core Areas

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Feather River | 20. Carmel River – Santa Lucia |
| 2. Yuba River- S. Fork Feather River | 21. Gablan Range |
| 3. Traverse Creek/ Middle Fork/ American R. Rubicon | 22. Estero Bay |
| 4. Cosumnes River | 23. Arroyo Grange River |
| 5. South Fork Calaveras River* | 24. Santa Maria River – Santa Ynez River |
| 6. Tuolumne River* | 25. Sisquoc River |
| 7. Piney Creek* | 26. Ventura River – Santa Clara River |
| 8. Cottonwood Creek | 27. Santa Monica Bay – Venura Coastal Streams |
| 9. Putah Creek – Cache Creek* | 28. Estrella River |
| 10. Lake Berryessa Tributaries | 29. San Gabriel Mountain* |
| 11. Upper Sonoma Creek | 30. Forks of the Mojave* |
| 12. Petaluma Creek – Sonoma Creek | 31. Santa Ana Mountain* |
| 13. Pt. Reyes Peninsula | 32. Santa Rosa Plateau |
| 14. Belvedere Lagoon | 33. San Luis Ray* |
| 15. Jameson Canyon – Lower Napa River | 34. Sweetwater* |
| 16. East San Francisco Bay | 35. Laguna Mountain* |
| 17. Santa Clara Valley | |
| 18. South San Francisco Bay | |
| 19. Watsonville Slough-Elkhorn Slough | |

* Core areas that were historically occupied by the California red-legged frog are not included in the map

Other Known Occurrences from the CNDBB

The CNDDDB provides location and natural history information on species found in California. The CNDDDB serves as a repository for historical and current species location sightings. Information regarding known occurrences of CRLFs outside of the currently occupied core areas and designated critical habitat is considered in defining the current range of the CRLF. See: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/bdb/html/cnddb_info.html for additional information on the CNDDDB.