



FILED ENDORSED
IN THE OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK RECORDER
SAN MATEO COUNTY CALIF

MAR 28 2025

MARK CHURCH, County Clerk
By ~~HENRY SALGADO~~
Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: County Clerk
County of San Mateo

From: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
5050 El Camino Real
Los Altos, CA 94022

Henry Salgado

Project Title: San Francisco Garter Snake Recovery Phase I

Project Location: Cloverdale Ranch Open Space Preserve, Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve, and Mori Point National Recreation Area

City: Pacifica and unincorporated

County: San Mateo

Description of Project: The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) is partnering with the National Park Service - Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) to implement phased recovery actions for San Francisco garter snake (SFGS) to increase the population size and genetic diversity in San Mateo County. Implementation of specific actions towards these goals will be phased over time. Phase I of recovery actions would occur at GGNRA’s Mori Point and the District’s Cloverdale Ranch Open Space Preserve and Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve and would be undertaken in accordance with NPS’s Partnership to Save SFGS Detailed Implementation Plan (Implementation Plan).

Phase I activities would occur over approximately two (2) years, beginning in Spring 2025. USGS and District staff would collect SFGS from Cloverdale Ranch in Spring 2025. A second donor site would be used for collections in Spring 2026 with the site choice dependent upon the most recent population and genetic data. A maximum total of 8 female SFGS would be collected per year for two years and temporarily housed at the San Francisco Zoo for rearing activities. Captured female SFGS would be released back to Cloverdale Ranch following birth of young snakes in fall (2025 and 2026). One-third of the juvenile SFGS would be released in the summer or earlier back to Cloverdale Ranch, and the remaining two-thirds would be split between Mindego Ranch and Mori Point. Population monitoring would be carried out during and after recovery activities to estimate SFGS abundance each year following augmentation.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and National Park Service

Exempt Status: In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project is categorically exempt under the following sections:

Section 15333 – Small Habitat Restoration Projects: Class 33 consists of projects not to exceed five acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife provided that: (a) There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to section 15065; (b) There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed, and; (c) The project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and effects of probable future projects. The proposed project entails recovery actions on land less than five acres in size that would increase the population size and genetic diversity of San Francisco garter snake in San Mateo County. No

hazardous materials are present at the sites where recovery activities would take place, and the project would not result in significant impacts in connection past, current, or probable future projects.

Lead Agency Contact:

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(650) 625-6567

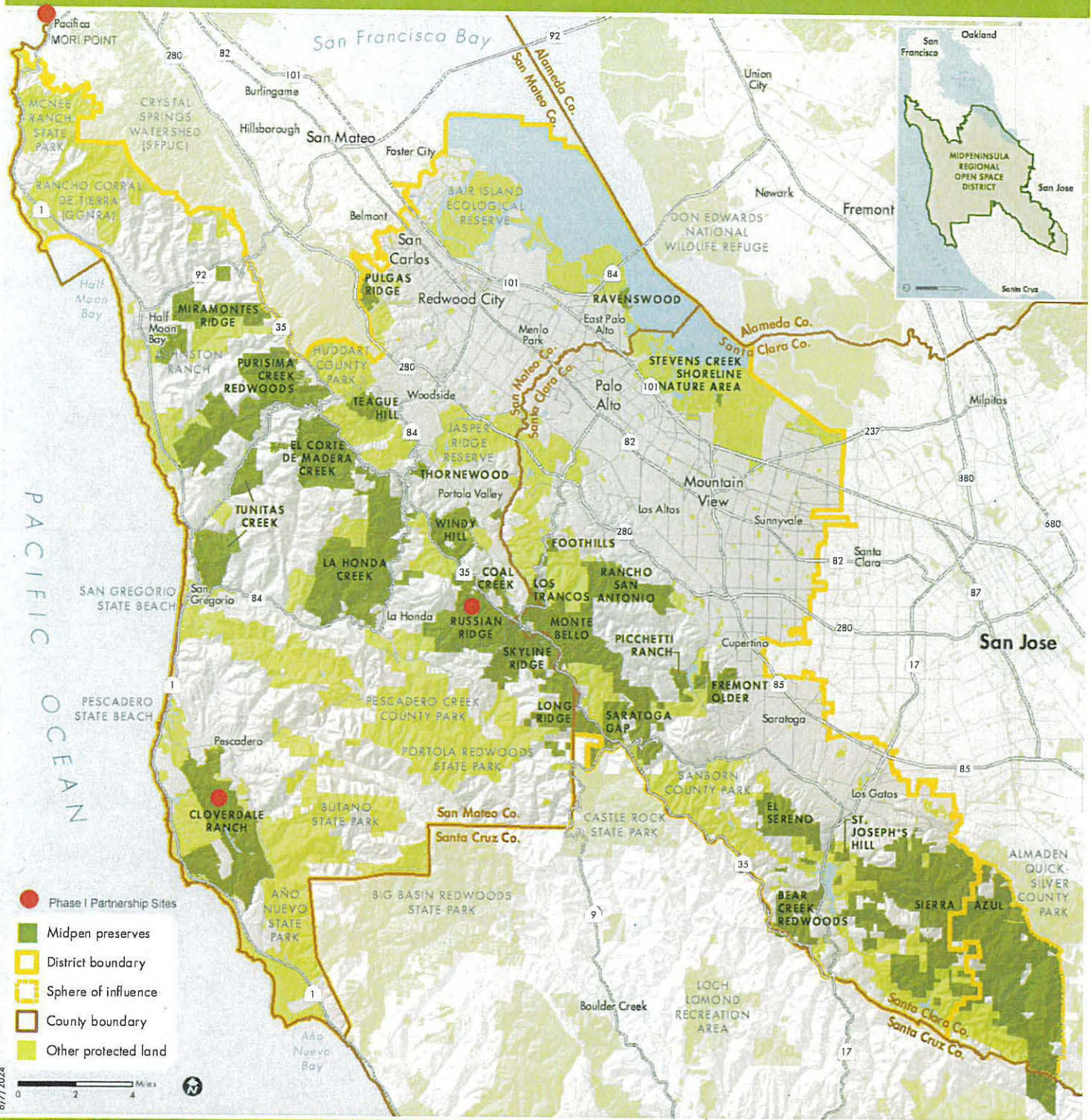
Attachment: Phase I Partnership Sites

Signature:


Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Manager

3/27/2025
Date

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District



Preserve

Protect

Restore

Educate

Enjoy



Midpen mission:

To acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

Coastside mission:

To acquire and preserve in perpetuity open space land and agricultural land of regional significance, protect and restore the natural environment, preserve rural character, encourage viable agricultural use of land resources, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.