

Greater Sandhill Crane

Ed Pandolfino



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- Recent work using electronic collision sensors and night vision optics showed that previous studies underestimated collisions by a factor 3 to 4 (2.8-3.7; Murphy et al. 2016a)

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Effectiveness of Bird Diverters varies widely

TABLE 1: Comparison of Study Results for Effectiveness of Bird Diverters on Transmission Lines

Study	Location	Effect ¹ (% reduction)	Species
Barrientos et al. 2012	Spain	9.8%	Various, no cranes
Murphy et al. 2009	Nebraska	50%	Sandhill crane
Ventana Wild. Soc. 2009	Merced Co., CA	30-60% Varied by location	Various, including sandhill crane
Yee 2008	San Joaquin Co., CA	60%	Various, including sandhill crane
Crowder 2000	Indiana	73%	Waterfowl
<u>Janss & Ferrer</u>	Spain	81%	Various, including common crane
Brown & Drewein 1995	Colorado	67% fall; 55% spring	Sandhill crane
Alonzo, et al. 1994	Spain	60%	Various

¹Reduction in collisions or mortality; if more than one device used, results for most effective device shown.

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- Results for Sandhill Crane varied from 50 to 70% effective

Conditions in the Delta increase the risk of collisions

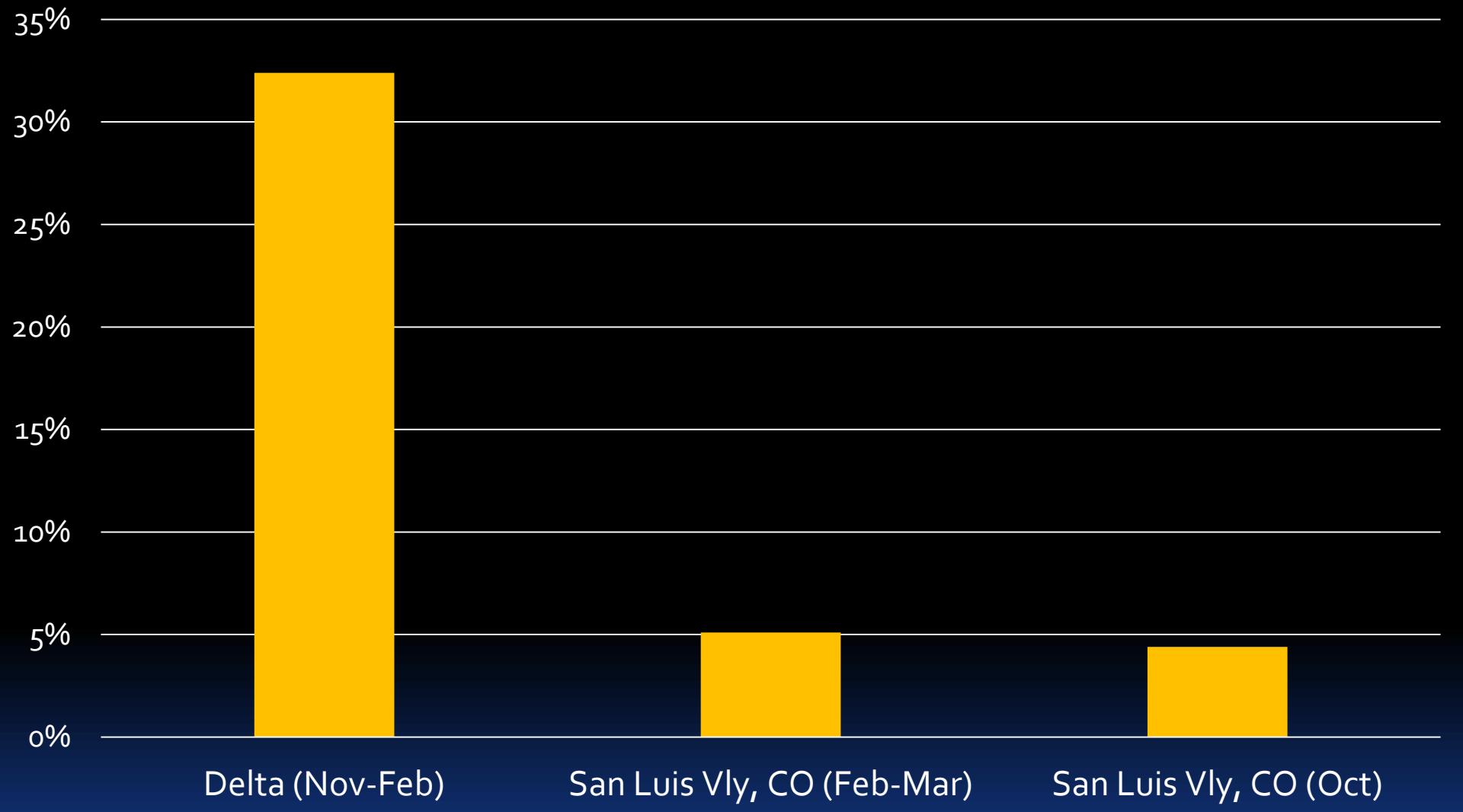
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% days w/significant fog



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- Significant fog is more than 7 times more likely in the Delta than in the San Luis Valley, CO
 - 32% of days are foggy in the Delta when cranes are present
 - only 4-5% of days are foggy in San Luis Valley

Increased activity in the project area may flush cranes, increasing risk from existing power lines

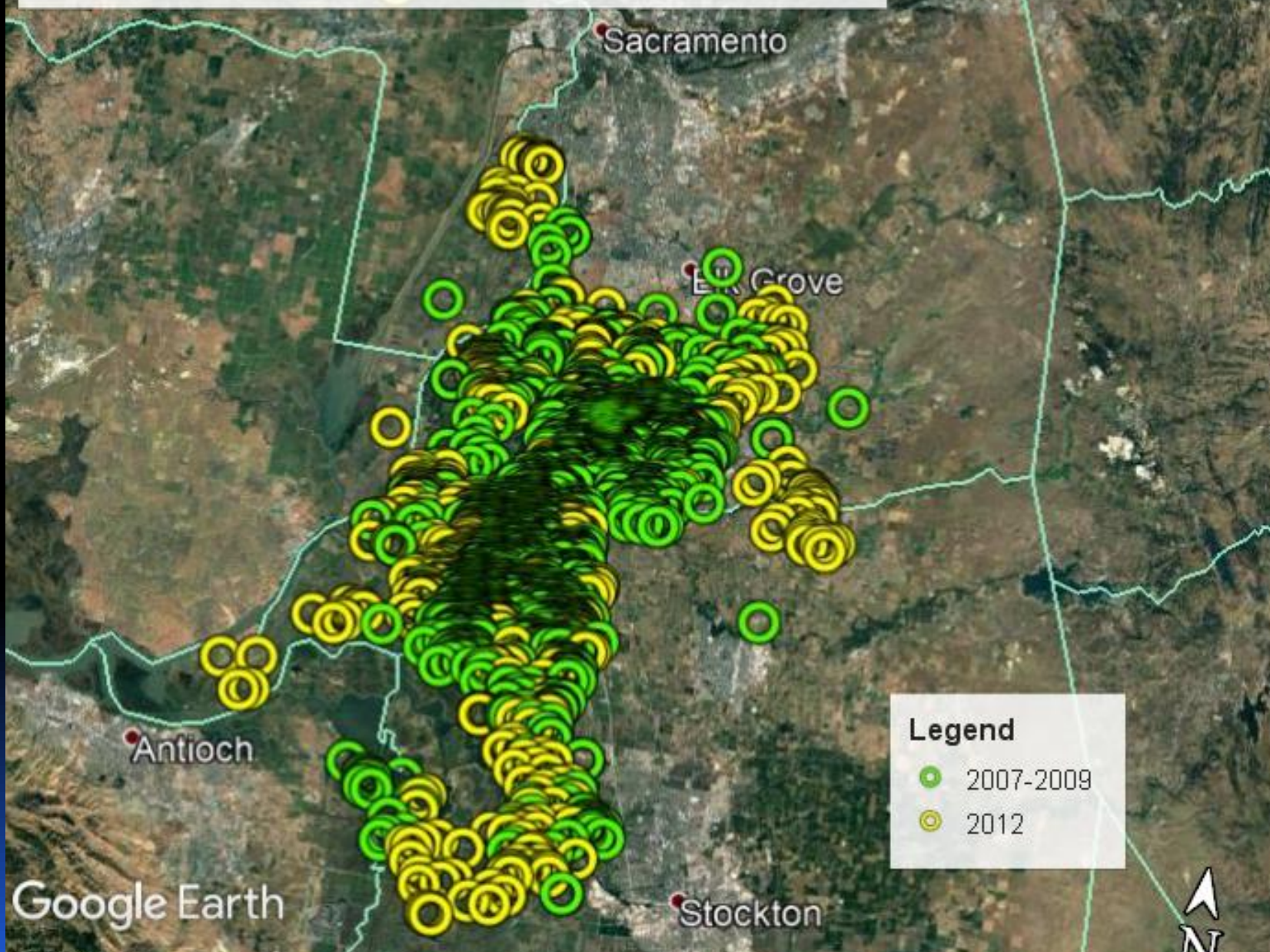
Increased activity in the project area may flush cranes, increasing risk from existing power lines

- Murphy et al. (2016a) noted that cranes were at particular risk of collision with lines when flushed

Elimination of transmission lines on Staten Island (Alt 4A) is helpful, but crane movements outside of this site significant

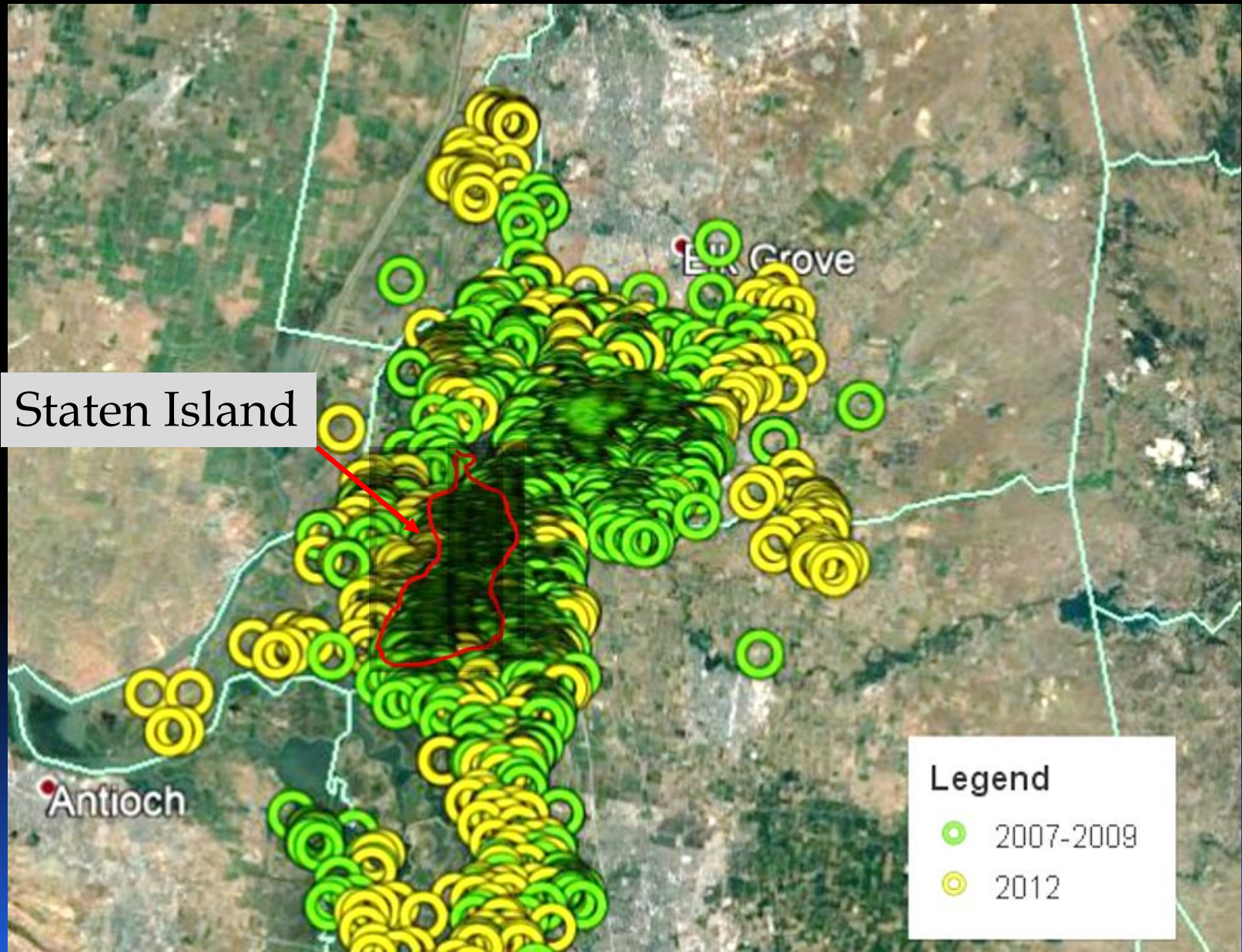
Delta Sandhill Crane Flock Distribution

Write a description for your map.



Google Earth

While Staten Island has the highest concentration of cranes, crane movement occurs well beyond that site



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- Because most collisions occurred at night (Murphy et al. 2016a), glow-in-the-dark or lighted diverters should be tested.
- To reduce increased risk from existing lines, those lines should also be marked with the most effective diverters.



California Black Rail

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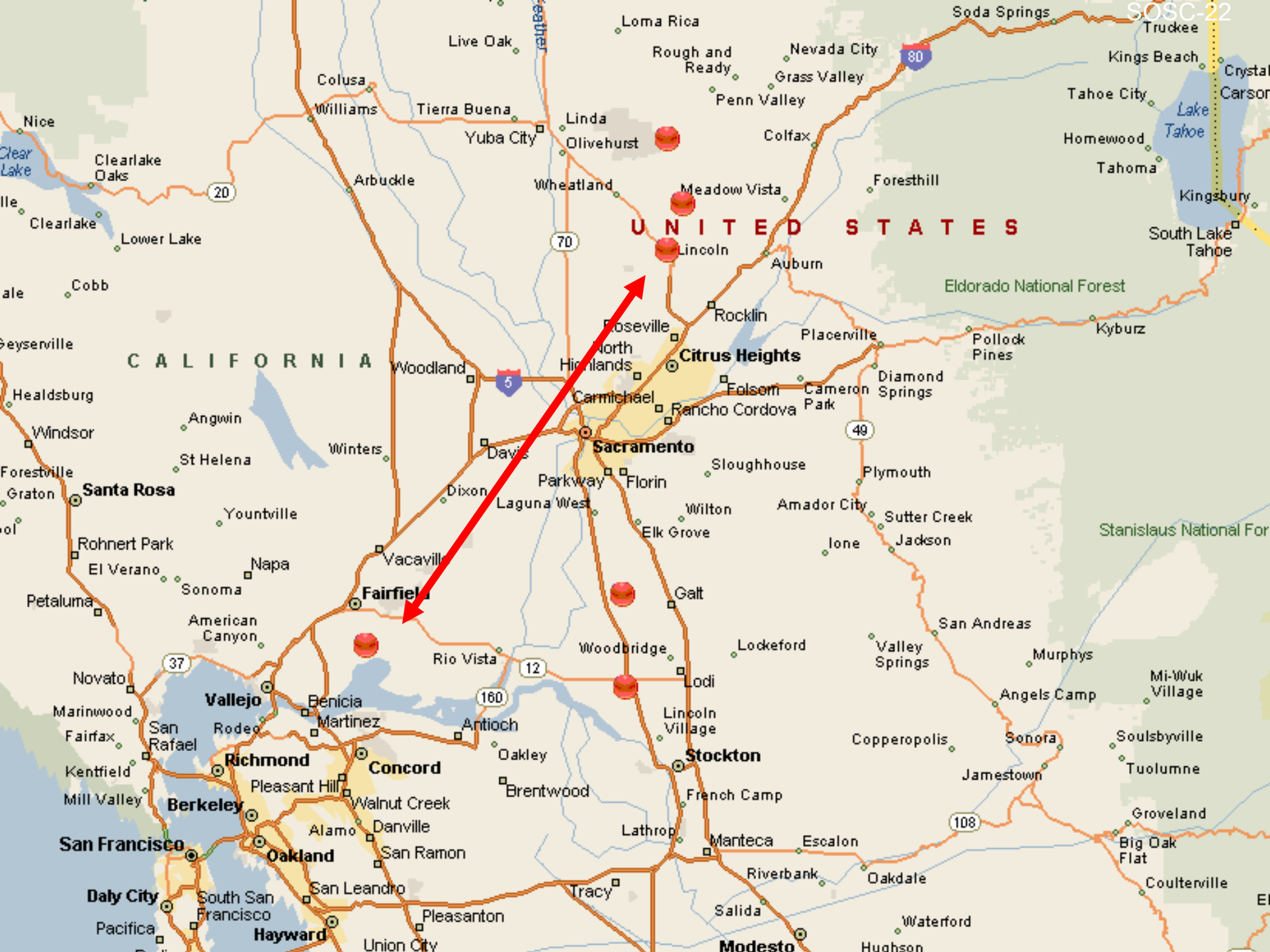
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- Recent work shows that there is migration between the Bay/Delta CA Black Rail population and the Sierra Foothills population (Girard et al. 2010).



UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

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Sacramento

Fairfield

Vallejo

Richmond

Concord

Stockton

Berkeley

Oakland

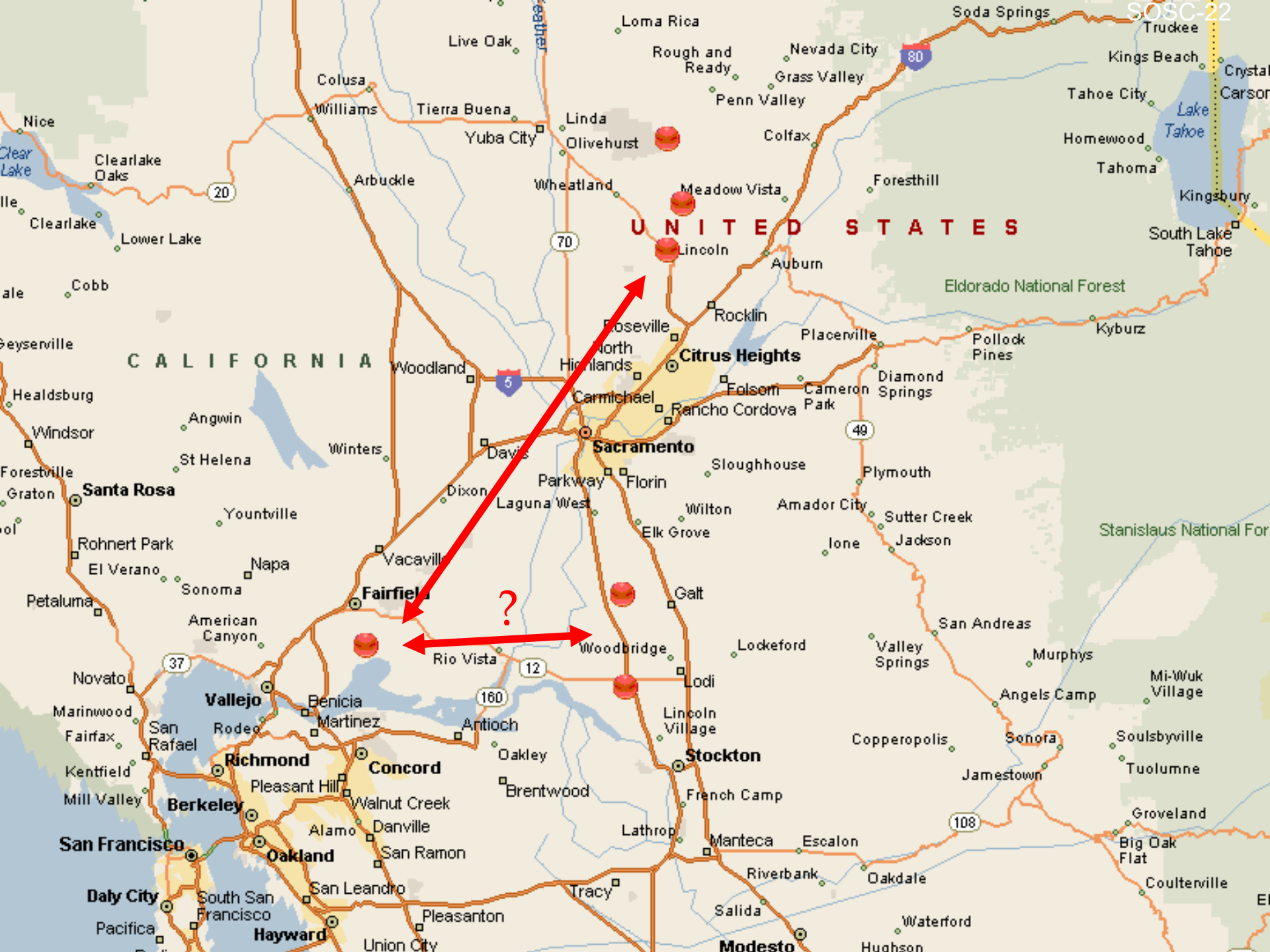
Modesto

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- Black Rails have been shown to move between the south SF Bay and north SF Bay (Trulio & Evens 2000).

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White-tailed Kite

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 - WT Kite is relatively sedentary and needs foraging habitat near nest sites.

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- The Project must specify how ag land will be maintained as high-quality habitat long term.
- To ensure effective mitigation, habitats must be acquired **BEFORE** the Project begins and high-quality habitat needs to be acquired within 1 km of WT Kite nesting habitat.