

EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization



Region 9 Climate Training

January 31, 2024
9:30-11:30 am PST



Purpose

This training will...

- Increase participant understanding of **regional climate risks to contaminated sites and communities at large**
- Identify **climate adaptation and resilience strategies** to consider in planning efforts, including, but not limited to, revitalization and redevelopment
- Raise awareness of **resources and tools** available to help **identify climate risks and incorporate climate adaptation measures into decision-making**



Agenda

Introduction

10 min

Importance of Considering Climate Change in the Brownfield Process

20 min

Wildfire

35 min

Sea Level Rise and Inland Flooding


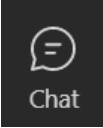
35 min

Reflections and Close

15 min



Housekeeping Rules

- Please mute your microphone 
- To ask a question, type into the chat box 
- Technical issues with Teams or Mural?
 - Chat or email Fiona.Price@icf.com
- Sessions will be recorded
- Closed captions will be available in Spanish

Introductions

EPA R9



Jennifer Tung,
Brownfields Project
Officer



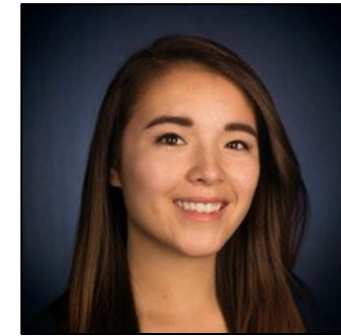
Brooklyn James,
Brownfields Project
Officer



Daniel Moher,
Brownfields Project
Officer



Brenda Dix,
Climate Resilience
Director



Kim Irby,
Senior Climate
Resilience Specialist



Emily Blanton, Senior
Environmental & Urban
Planning Specialist

Case Study Speakers



Jason Muir, PE, GE,
Senior Engineer,
GEOCON



Amy Kesler-Wolfson,
City Planner,
City of Grass Valley

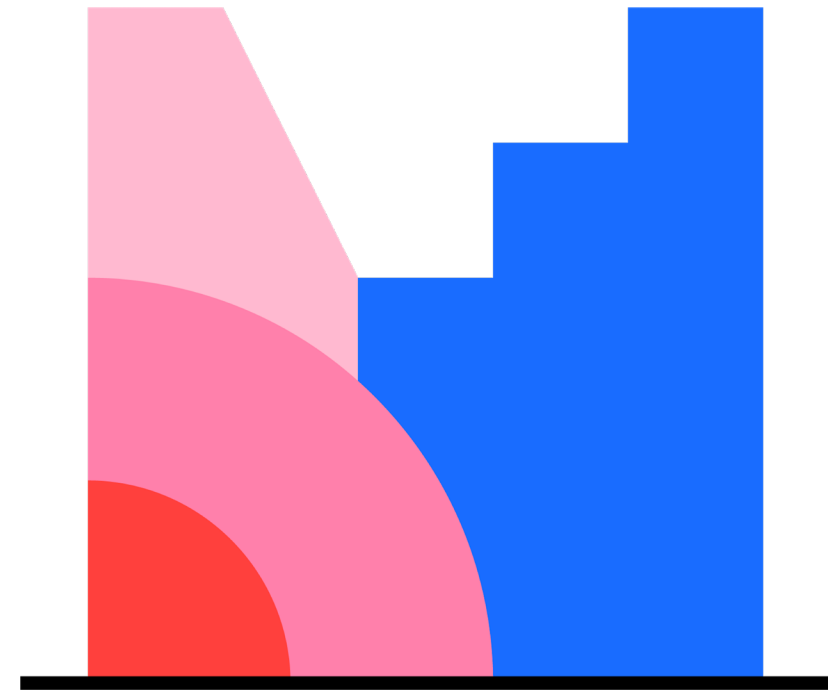


David Froehlich,
Project Manager,
San Francisco
Recreation and Parks



Introductions

- State your organization and role
- What are you hoping to take away from this training?



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Code: 3661 6677





Importance of Considering Climate Change



Brownfields and Climate Change

Climate change impacts pose a significant risk to brownfield sites. Considering climate change during brownfields assessment, clean up, and redevelopment is essential to **reduce climate impacts** and **support climate resilience**.

Brownfield revitalization with climate in mind may **bolster resilience** and **help minimize health, economic, and displacement impacts on residents**.

The first step is identifying potential climate impacts both at individual sites and across your community.



The Cost of Inaction

- If resilience measures are not considered, it's likely the site will become **costlier** to finance, insure, maintain, and sell.
- Climate impacts can leave brownfield sites susceptible to **increased and repeated damage**, which will reduce the long-term protectiveness of the remedy and redevelopment.
- Abandoned and underused brownfield sites already pose **financial risks** to communities because they do not contribute to property or utility taxes.

Benefits of Investing in Climate Resilience



Financial/Economic

- Increase job opportunities (including building new skills) and boost the local economy
- Attract additional green investments
- Increase property values



Environmental

- Increase trees and vegetated community spaces
- Improve water quality associated with reduced runoff from stormwater sources



Infrastructure

- Increase infrastructure resilience and reduce maintenance and repair costs
- Reduce energy demand and material consumption



Health

- Reduce or eliminate exposure to contamination
- Improve air quality; reduce ground-level ozone and particulate pollution
- Reduce the impact of urban heat islands on vulnerable populations
- Reduce or eliminate stagnant water that may support vector-borne disease insects



Community

- Enhance neighborhood walkability, including improving public transportation
- Improve environmental justice and community resilience

Vulnerable Communities & Cumulative Impacts

Most vulnerable include:

- Low-income communities
- Tribal communities
- Small or rural communities
- Communities of color
- Children
- Pregnant people, mothers
- Disabled people
- Elderly people
- People taking certain medications / suffering from chronic disease

Vulnerable communities around a brownfield site are impacted by stressors that impact health outcomes:

- **Chemical stressors:** exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, petroleum
- **Non-chemical stressors:** built environment, safety, social and cultural wellbeing, socio-economic factors (e.g., housing and job stability)
- **Climate risks:** climate disasters, stress associated with the disasters and climate concern

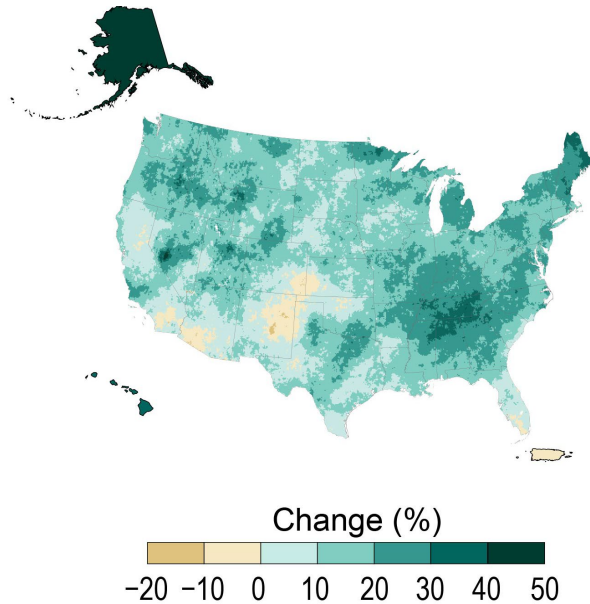
The compounding nature of multiple stressors is called **cumulative impacts**.

Investments in climate resilience and addressing chemical and non-chemical stressors can reduce impacts



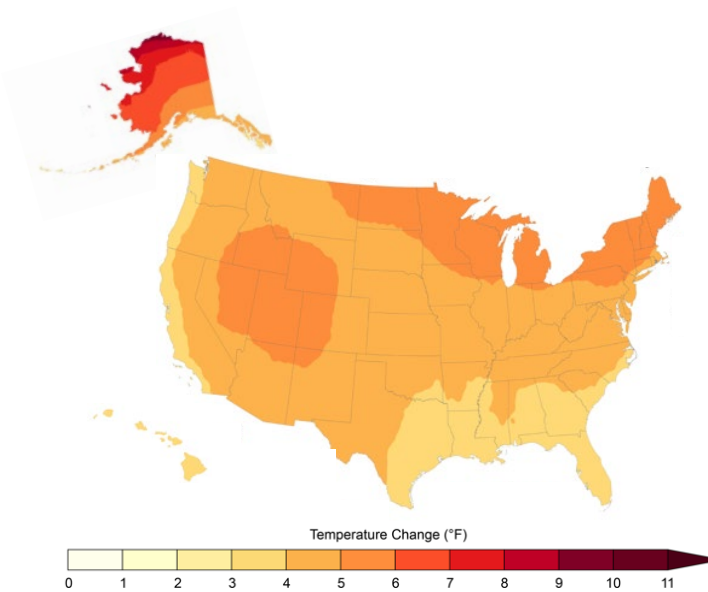
How is the climate changing?

Increasing heavy precipitation and floods



Projected Change (%) in Total Precipitation on the Heaviest 1% of Days under 2.0°C of Global Warming relative to 1991-2020
Source: USGCRP 2023

More extreme heat waves and higher average temperatures



Projected Change in Annual Average Temperature under 2.0°C of Global Warming relative to 1851-1900
Source: USGCRP 2023

Continued sea level rise and increased coastal flooding



Projected flooding at 10ft of sea level rise
Source: NOAA SLR Viewer



Climate Impacts to Brownfield Sites and Communities

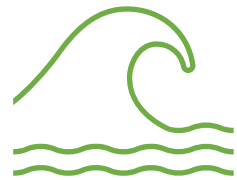
Climate hazards affecting brownfield sites and communities:



Wildfire



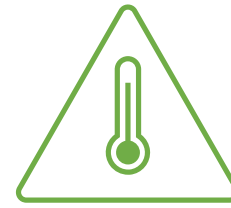
Flooding



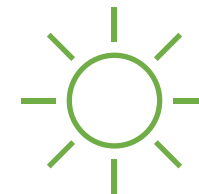
Sea Level
Rise



Tropical
Cyclones

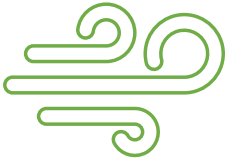


Extreme
Heat

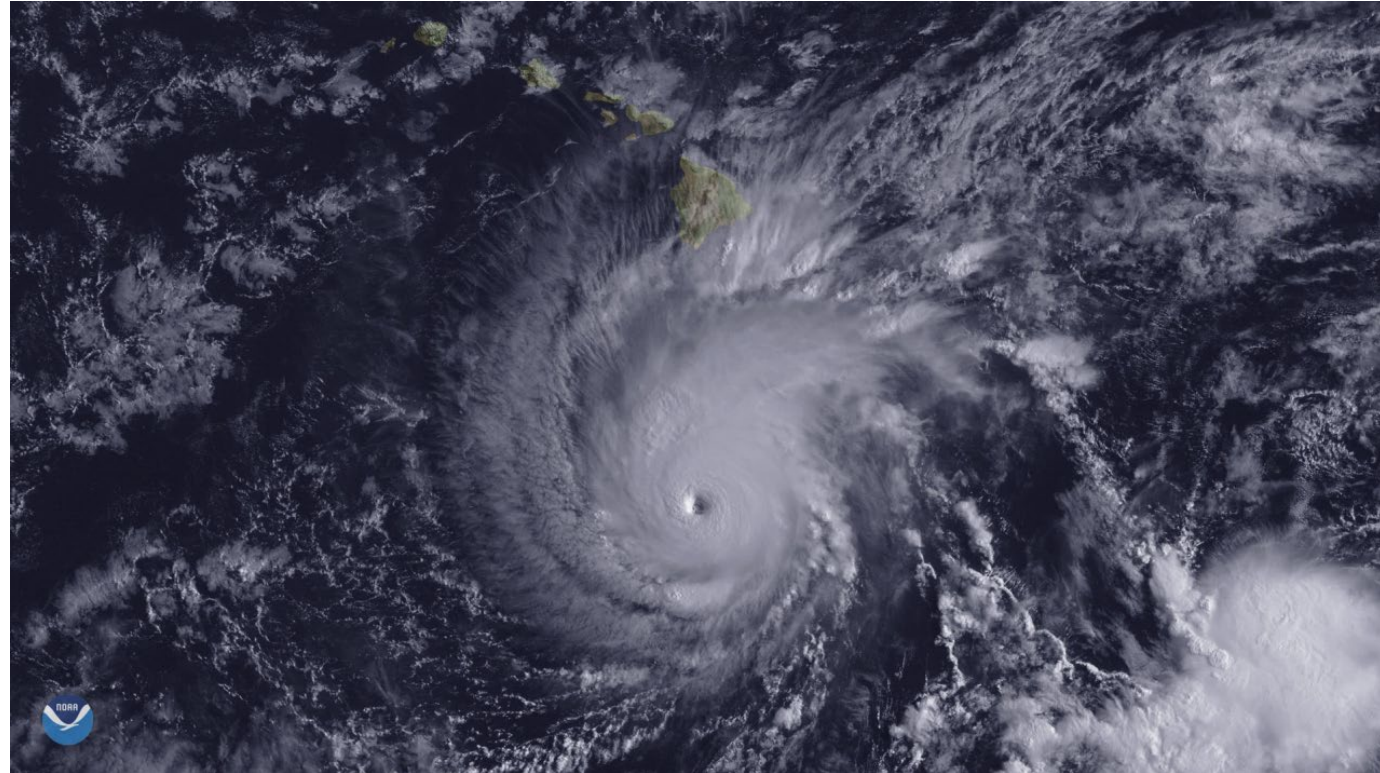


Drought

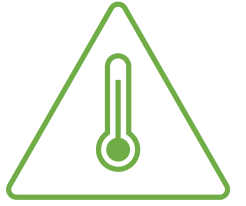
Climate Impacts: Tropical Cyclones



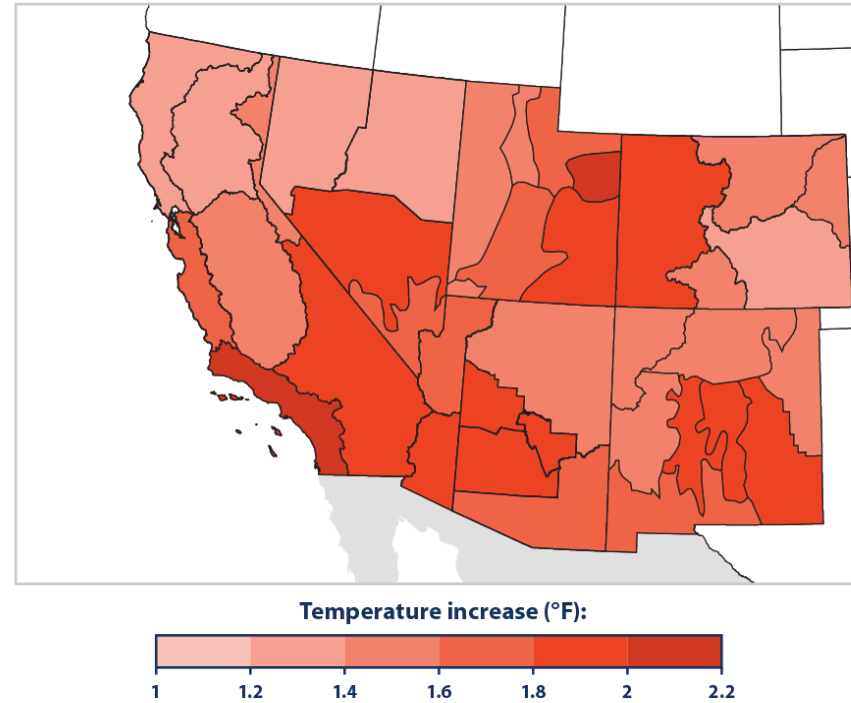
- Throughout Hawai'i and the Pacific Islands, tropical cyclone frequency is expected to decrease
- However, associated **wind speeds, rainfall rates, and storm surge heights** are projected to **increase**
- Tropical cyclones can cause:
 - **Damage to infrastructure and flooding**
 - **Increased food-/water-borne pathogens**
 - **Reduced access to emergency services**
 - **Loss of electricity**



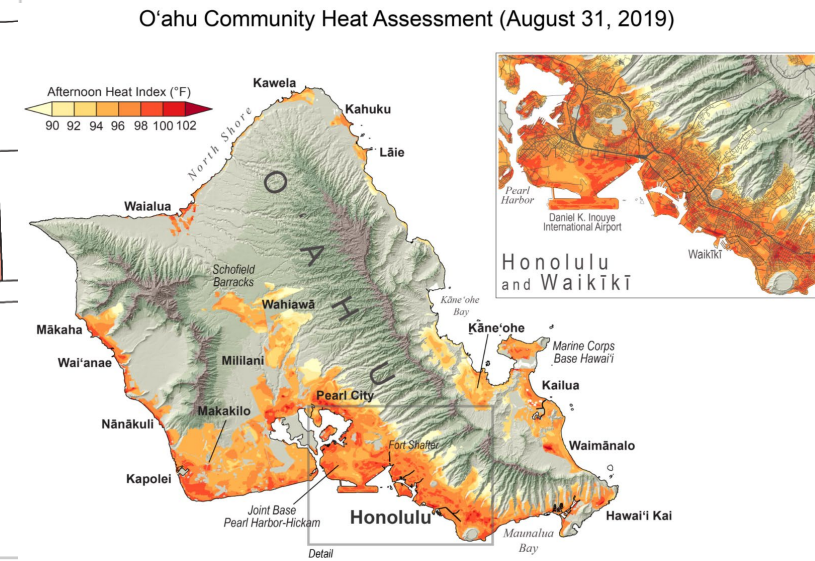
Climate Impacts: Extreme Heat



- Average annual temperatures are increasing
- The number of days above 100°F are increasing
- Heat waves are increasing in length and frequency
- Extreme heat events can worsen the **urban heat island (UHI) effect**, posing various health risks to communities
 - Disadvantaged communities are especially vulnerable to UHI impacts



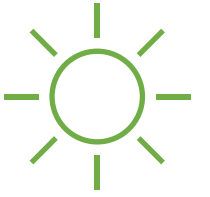
Average Temperatures in the Southwestern United States, 2000-2020 Versus Long-Term Average
Source: NOAA 2021



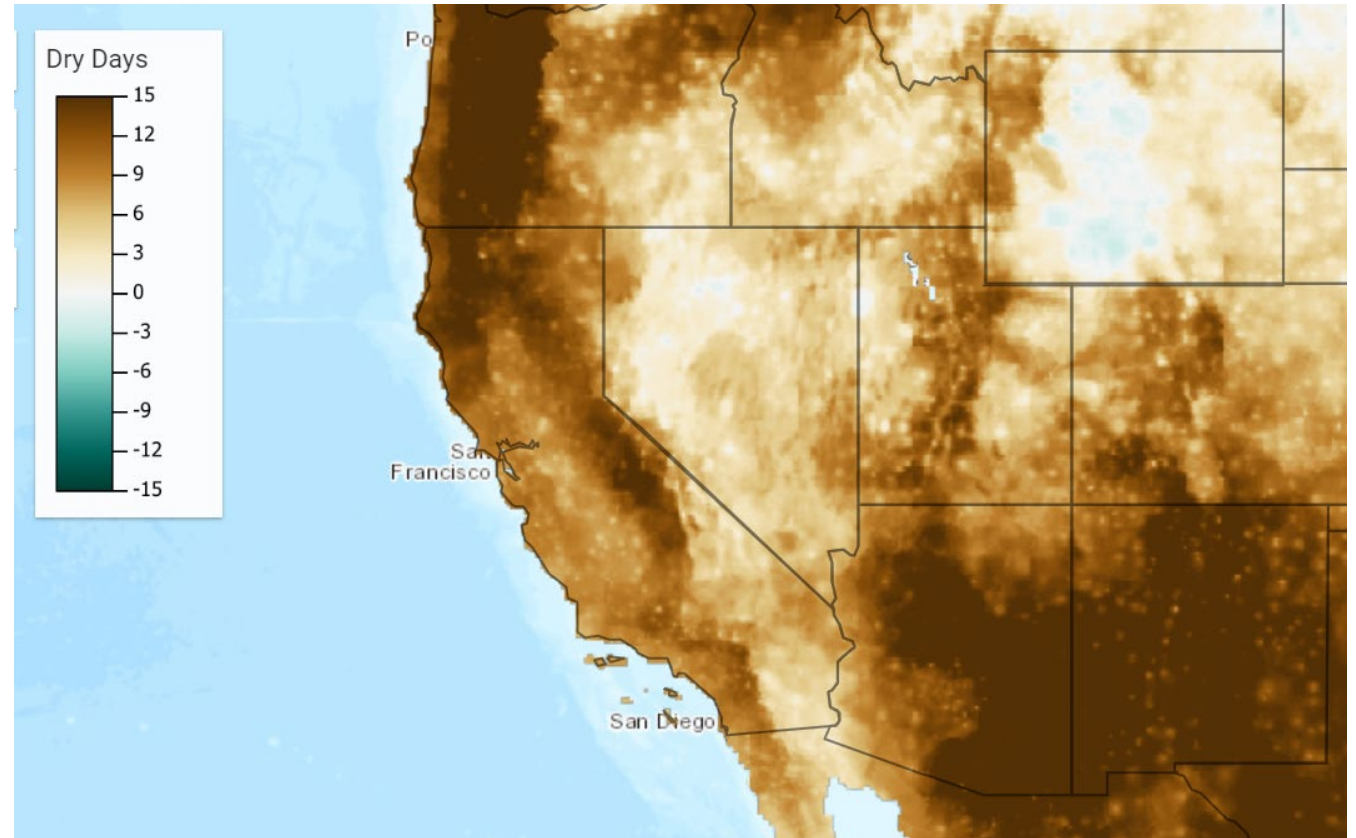
Afternoon Heat Index and Hotspots for O'ahu
Source: USGCRP



Climate Impacts: Drought



- Drought is projected to increase in frequency and severity in the Southwest and Hawai'i
- Some islands (like American Samoa) may see a decrease in drought
- Flash droughts are also projected to increase
- Drought conditions can impact vegetation at a brownfield site; vegetation helps with erosion control, reducing flooding, etc.
- Drought poses a major threat to agricultural yields



Projected Change in the Number of Dry Days by 2090
under a High Emission Scenario
Source: The Climate Explorer



Incorporating Climate Resilience



How can Brownfield Redevelopment support Community Climate Resilience?

Resilience:

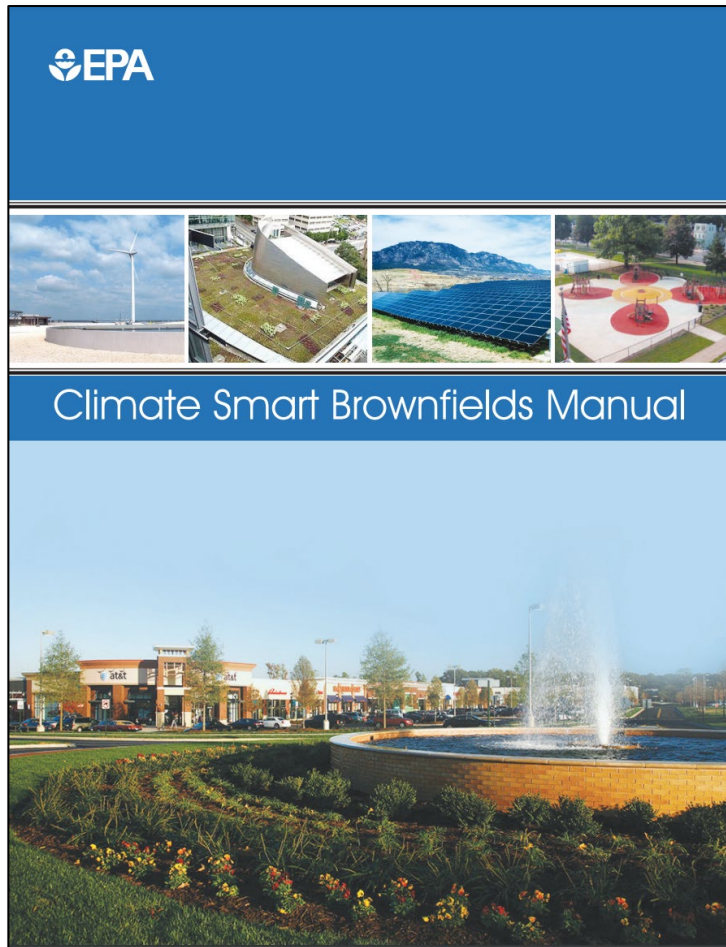
The capability to anticipate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from significant multi-hazard threats with minimum damage to social well-being, the economy, and the environment.

Why consider resilience?

Minimize brownfield cleanup and redevelopment vulnerabilities to climate change and extreme weather

Many members of vulnerable populations live close to brownfields, and brownfield redevelopment creates opportunities to improve the quality of life for these populations while mitigating the impacts of climate change

Climate Smart Brownfields Manual



Goal 1. Help communities think about climate adaptation, mitigation, and resiliency throughout the brownfield redevelopment process

- Consider climate projections when performing assessments, evaluating brownfield cleanup alternatives, and planning for redevelopment
- Reduce emissions through sustainable approaches on brownfield sites throughout cleanup, redevelopment, and reuse of the property

Goal 2. Provide references and tools that brownfield practitioners, community members, and state and local governments can use

Specific examples of how municipalities have used climate smart strategies for brownfield redevelopment are included throughout the manual

Example Strategies to Adapt and Mitigate Climate Impacts (Appendix A)

1 Planning

Strategies for the **planning stage** of a brownfield project:

Strategy	Adaptation	Mitigation
Adopt climate-conscious building codes	✓	
Offer tax incentives/rebates	✓	✓
Zoning ordinances	✓	✓
Update floodplain management plans	✓	✓
Update coastal and wetland management plans	✓	✓
Update hazard mitigation plans	✓	✓
Engage the community in planning	✓	✓

Example Strategies to Adapt and Mitigate Climate Impacts (Appendix A)

Strategies for the **assessment stage** of a brownfield project:

1 Planning

2 Assessment

Strategy	Adaptation	Mitigation
Conduct climate-focused Phase I and II ESAs	✓	✓
Identify interim uses	✓	✓
Evaluate reuse options that are climate conscious	✓	✓
Identify potential risk factors and vulnerabilities	✓	✓
Follow assessment-relevant ASTM Guidelines for Greener Cleanups		✓
Conduct analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA)	✓	✓

Example Strategies to Adapt and Mitigate Climate Impacts (Appendix A)

Strategies for the **demolition stage** of a brownfield project:

Strategy	Adaptation	Mitigation
Identify opportunities for deconstruction		✓
Plan early		✓
Reduce energy use		✓
Reuse/recycle materials		✓

1 Planning

2 Assessment

3 Demolition

Example Strategies to Adapt and Mitigate Climate Impacts (Appendix A)

Strategies for the **cleanup stage** of a brownfield project:

Strategy	Adaptation	Mitigation
Reduce energy use and emissions		✓
Reduce water use and impacts to water sources	✓	✓
Reduce waste and manage materials sustainably		✓
Minimize unnecessary soil and habitat disturbance or destruction	✓	✓
Use native species to support habitat	✓	✓
Select onsite remediation approaches		✓

1 Planning

2 Assessment

3 Demolition

4 Cleanup

Example Strategies to Adapt and Mitigate Climate Impacts (Appendix A)

Strategies for the **redevelopment stage** of a brownfield project:

- 1 Planning
- 2 Assessment
- 3 Demolition
- 4 Cleanup
- 5 Redevelopment**

Strategy	Adaptation	Mitigation
Install green infrastructure	✓	✓
Incorporate renewable energy development	✓	✓
Incorporate green building techniques (e.g., green roofs, energy and lighting efficiency, passive survivability, flood protection)	✓	✓
Complete streets	✓	✓
Incorporate multi-modal transit	✓	✓
Promote accessibility and community social cohesion	✓	✓

Climate Requirements in EPA Brownfields Grants

New

“Describe how the proposed project will **improve local climate adaptation/mitigation capacity and resilience** to protect residents and community investments. If applicable, describe how the reuse of the priority site(s) will **facilitate renewable energy** from wind, solar, or geothermal energy; or will **incorporate energy efficiency** measures.”

Ongoing

In the **Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA)** grant recipients “**must also consider the resilience** of the remedial options to address potential adverse impacts caused by extreme weather events (e.g., sea level rise, increased frequency and intensity of flooding, etc.).”



Wildfire



Climate Impacts: Wildfire

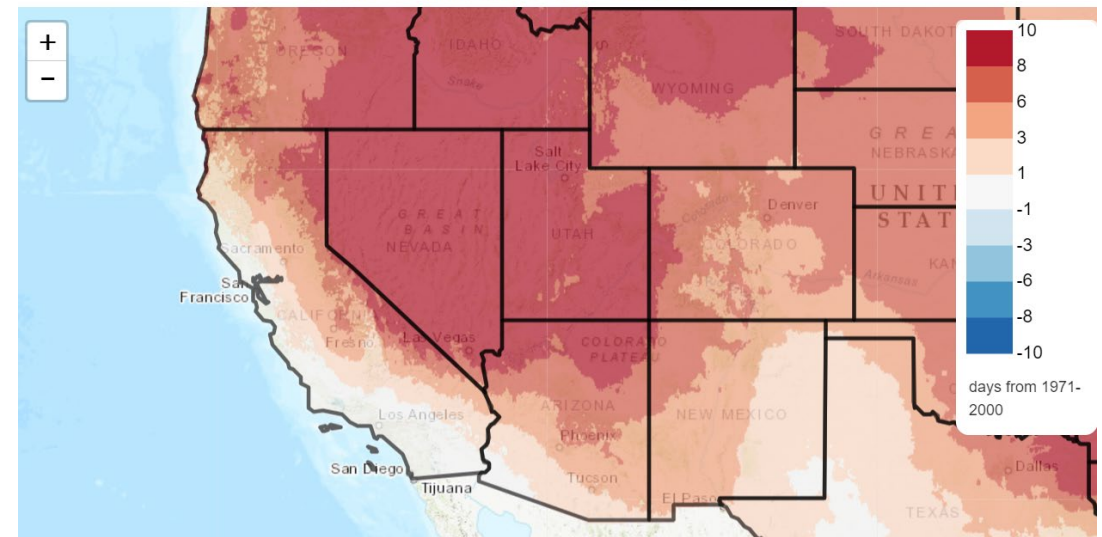


- Wildfires are becoming **more frequent**, with **longer seasons** and **larger burned areas**
- By late-century, the **length of extreme wildfire season** is projected to be **prolonged by over 20 days** for the Southwest
- Wildfires can spread toxic contaminants from brownfield sites, posing various health risks to surrounding communities

Projected Change in "Extreme" Fire Danger Days (100 Hour Fuel Moisture Below 3 Percentile), Summer (Jun-July-Aug)

Higher Emissions (RCP 8.5) 2040-2069 vs. historical simulation 1971-2000, mean change

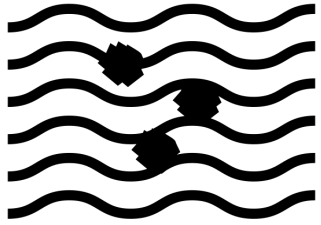
Multi-model mean derived from 18 downscaled CMIP5 models



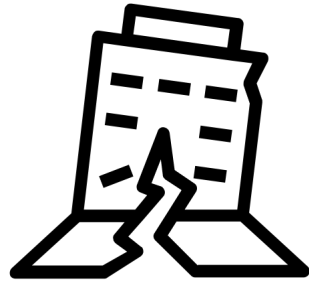
Projected Change in Extreme Fire Danger Days through Late Century under a High Emissions Scenario

Source: Climate Mapper, <https://climatetoolbox.org/tool/climate-mapper>

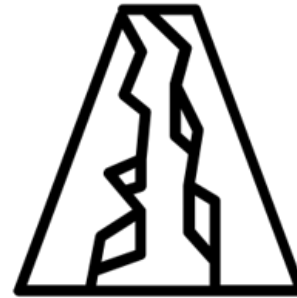
Wildfire Risks to Brownfield Sites and Communities



Reduced air
and water
quality



Damage to
buildings



Damage to
critical
infrastructure



Creation of
new
brownfield
sites

Major Contributors to Wildfire



Increased
Temperatures



Drying
Conditions

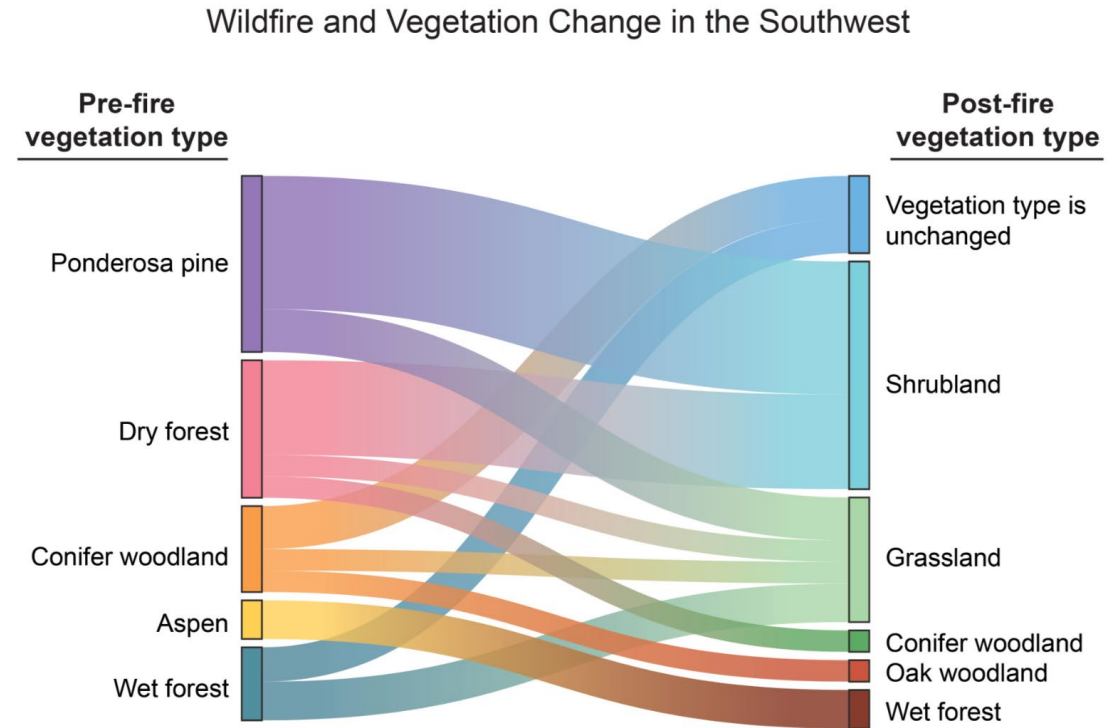


Expansion of
Development

Major Contributors to Wildfire



- Climate change has **caused warming temperatures and drier conditions** with periods of **extended droughts**
 - Reductions in snowpack and summer precipitation also contribute to wildfire risk
- Warm, dry conditions create **more fuel** for wildfires
- **Annual area burned has increased eightfold** in the West since 1985
- **Human infrastructure** can exacerbate wildfire risk (ex: fires caused by electrical transmission lines)



Shifts in Vegetation Patterns Resulting from Larger and Hotter Wildfires
Source: USGCRP 2023

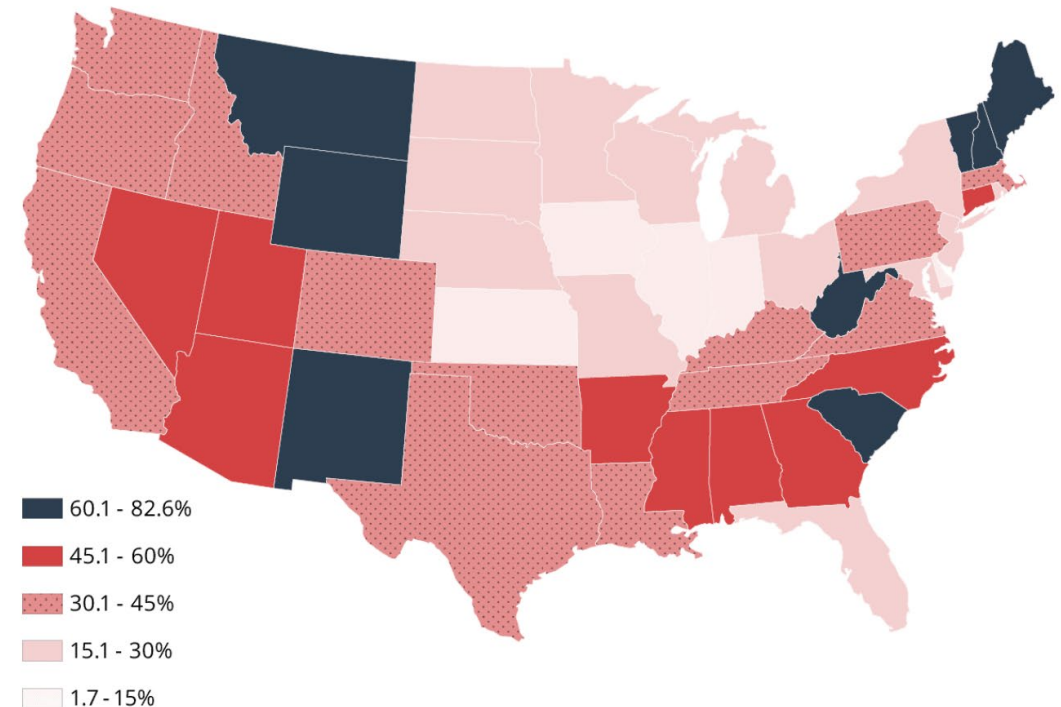


Wildland Urban Interface



- The **Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)**, the zone of transition between undeveloped and developed land, grows by approximately **2 million acres** per year
- Between 2002 and 2016 **over 3,000 structures per year** were lost to wildfires in the WUI across the U.S.
- WUI population has **risen fastest in the Southwest** (where wildfire risk is greatest)

Number of houses in the WUI relative to the total houses in the state* (%)



*For states in the conterminous United States.

Source: U.S. Forest Service



Cal-Adapt



Select indicator, scenario, simulation, and model

Can view data in chart format or map format

EXPLORE DATA **ABOUT THE TOOL** RESOURCES HELP

Map Chart

Decadal Averages Map showing **Modeled Annual Area Burned** over **1960–1969** under a **Medium Emissions (RCP 4.5) Scenario** and Central Population Growth scenario for **CanESM2**

! Locations outside the combined state and federal fire protection responsibility areas were excluded from these wildfire simulations and have no wildfire projections.. These areas are shaded in gray.

SELECT INDICATOR

- Area burned
- Decadal wildfire probability

[Learn More](#)

SELECT SCENARIO

- Medium (RCP 4.5)
- High (RCP 8.5)

[Learn More](#)

SELECT SIMULATION

- Annually
- Monthly

[Learn More](#)

SELECT MODEL

CanESM2 (Average)

[Learn More](#)

SELECT TIME RANGE

1960-1969 1970-1979 1980-1989 1990-1999 2000-2009 2010-2019 2020-2029 2030-2039 2040-2049 2050-2059 2060-2069 2070-2079 2080-2089 2090-2099

Select time range



Climate Mapper: Wildfire Danger Days



[Documentation](#) [Example](#) [Cite Tool](#) [Take To](#)

Climate Mapper

Choose Metrics ▾

Select from the menus below

Time Scale:

Future: Projections (through 2100) ▾

Impact Area:

Fire Danger (Contiguous US) ▾

Variable: ?

"Extreme" Fire Danger Days (100 Hour Fuel ▾

Calendar Time Period: ?

Summer (Jun-July-Aug) ▾

Future Scenario: ?

Historical simulation, 1971-2000 mean ▾

Model: ?

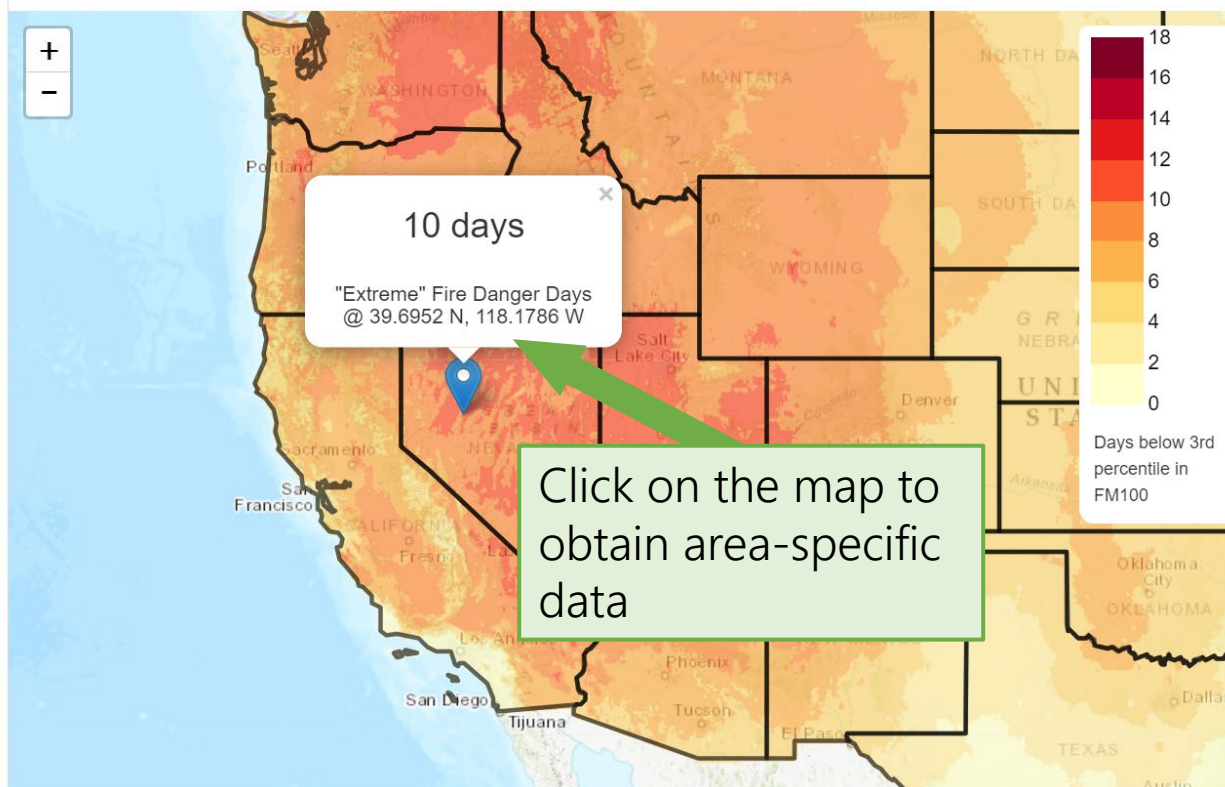
Multi-model mean derived from 18 downscale ▾

Choose a Location ▾

"Extreme" Fire Danger Days (100 Hour Fuel Moisture Below 3 Percentile), Summer (Jun-July-Aug)

Historical simulation, 1971-2000 mean

Multi-model mean derived from 18 downscaled CMIP5 models



Select time scale, impact area, variable, calendar period, scenario, and model



Climate Mapper: Wildfire Danger Days



Model: ?
Multi-model mean derived from 18 downscale

Choose a Location ▾

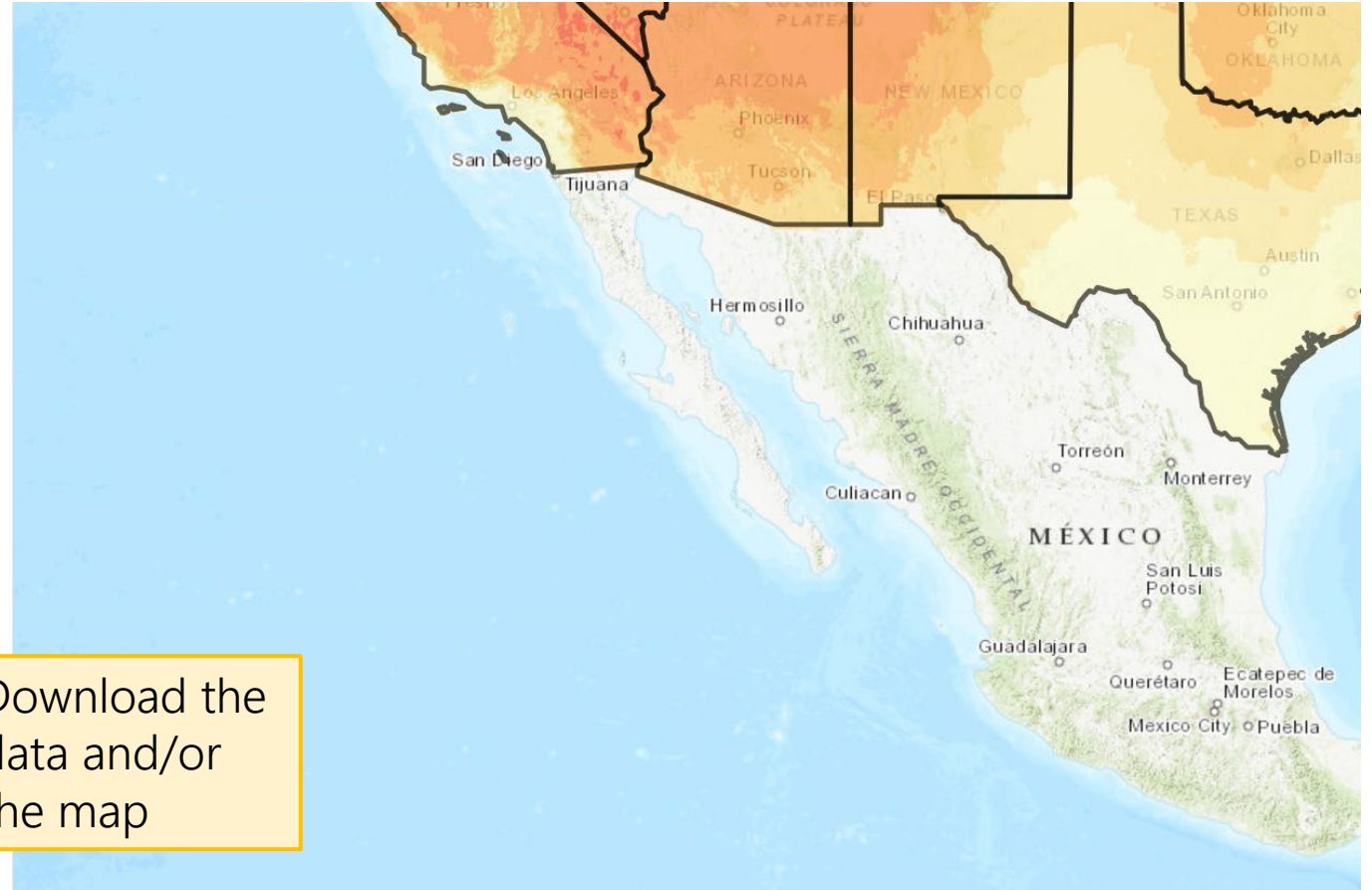
Change Mapping ▾

Add Map Features ▾

Download Data ▾

Download Map ▾

Share Map ▾



Download the data and/or the map

FEMA National Risk Index



Download data here

Enter a county or address

Wildfire (RI) Expected Annual Loss Social Vulnerability Community Resilience

County View Census Tract View Find a county or address

Legend

- Wildfire Risk
 - Very High
 - Relatively High
 - Relatively Moderate
 - Relatively Low
 - Very Low
 - No Rating
 - Not Applicable
 - Insufficient Data
- Expected Annual Loss × Social Vulnerability ÷ Community Resilience = Risk Index

Basemaps

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, USFWS | FEMA, and Losses Dat... Powered by Esri

View by county or census tract

Click a community on the map to select to create a report, or compare multiple communities



FEMA National Risk Index



Click on a county or census tract to create a report

Legend

- Wildfire Risk
 - Very High
 - Relatively High
 - Relatively Moderate
 - Relatively Low
 - Very Low
 - No Rating
 - Not Applicable
 - Insufficient Data

$$\frac{\text{Expected Annual Loss} \times \text{Social Vulnerability}}{\text{Community Resilience}} = \text{Risk Index}$$

Basemaps

Honolulu County

Hawaii

Risk Index

Risk Index is Relatively Moderate

Score **94.05**

National Percentile **94.05**

Percentile Within Hawaii **80.00**

The Risk Index rating is **Relatively Moderate** for **Honolulu County, HI** when compared to the rest of the U.S.

Risk Index Overview

Compared to the rest of the U.S., **Honolulu County, HI's** Risk Index components are:

Expected Annual Loss	Relatively Moderate
Social Vulnerability	Relatively Moderate
Community Resilience	Relatively High

Hazard Type Risk Ratings

Create Report





GRASS VALLEY CLIMATE CHANGE AND BROWNFIELDS USEPA REGION 9 JANUARY 31, 2024



2022 Community-Wide Assessment EPA Brownfield Grant #98T42301



Project Manager



Amy Kesler-Wolfson
City Planner

Funding Agency



Scott Stollman
EPA Project Officer

Lead Regulatory Agency



California Department of
Toxic Substances Control

Meghan Hearne/Lora Jameson
Unit Chiefs

Technical Manager



GEOCON
Jason Muir, PE, GE
Senior Engineer

Community Outreach



Carrie Monohan, PhD
Program Director

Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Community Demographics



CalEnviroScreen 4.0 from OEHHA SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities Map CalEnviroScreen

The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 tool shows cumulative impacts in California communities by census tract.

How to use this map

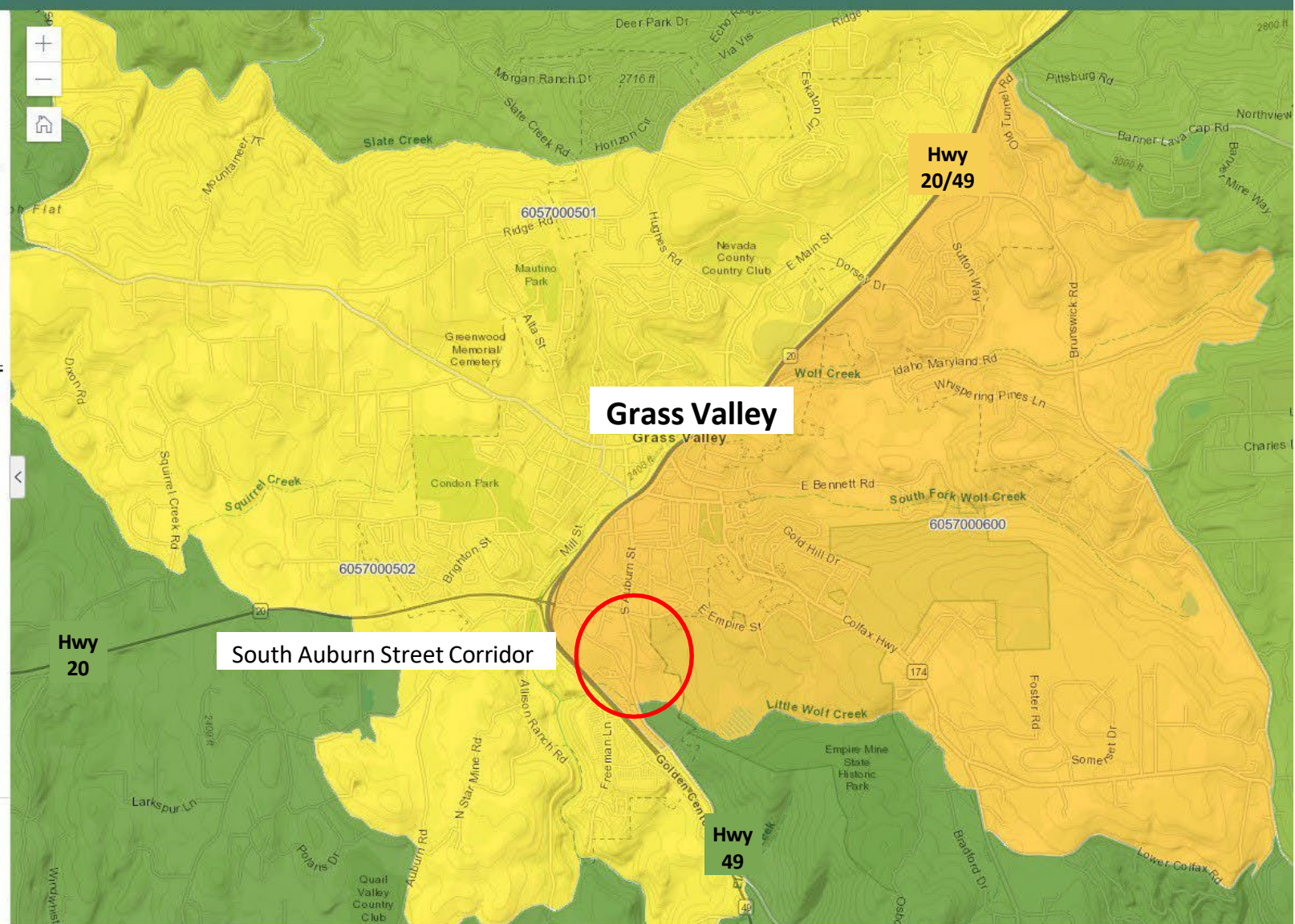
- Use your mouse or touchpad to pan around.
- Zoom in/out with a mouse wheel or the +/- icons.
- Search by location or census tract number with the search icon.
- Click on a census tract to view additional information in the

Overall Percentile

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Results

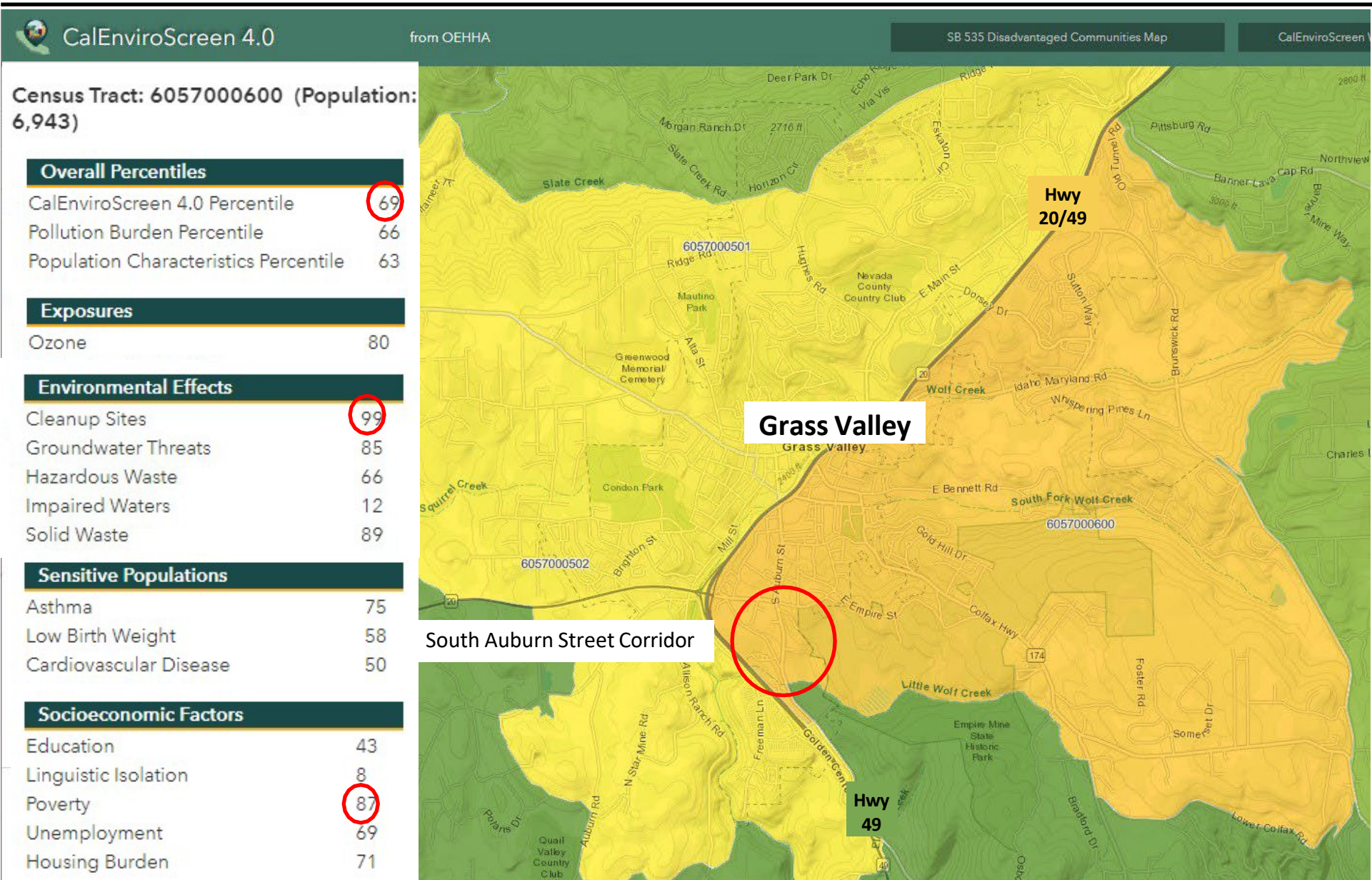
>90 - 100 (Highest Scores)
>80 - 90
>70 - 80
>60 - 70
>50 - 60
>40 - 50
>30 - 40
>20 - 30
>10 - 20
0 - 10 (Lowest Scores)

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 High Pollution, Low Population



Esri; HERE, Garmin; FAO; NOAA; USGS; EPA; NPS | Header: PT, P2, P3, P4, HT, and P5 Tables from U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Public Law 94-171 files; Census Bureau's 2020 Public Law 94-171 files

Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Community Demographics



CalEnviroScreen 4.0 from OEHA

SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities Map CalEnviroScreen

Census Tract: 6057000600 (Population: 6,943)

Overall Percentiles

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Percentile	69
Pollution Burden Percentile	66
Population Characteristics Percentile	63

Exposures

Ozone	80
-------	----

Environmental Effects

Cleanup Sites	99
Groundwater Threats	85
Hazardous Waste	66
Impaired Waters	12
Solid Waste	89

Sensitive Populations

Asthma	75
Low Birth Weight	58
Cardiovascular Disease	50

Socioeconomic Factors

Education	43
Linguistic Isolation	8
Poverty	87
Unemployment	69
Housing Burden	71

Esri; HERE, Garmin; FAO; NOAA; USGS; EPA; NPS | Header: PT, P2, R3, P4, H1, and P5 Tables from U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Public Law 94-171 files; Census Bureau's 2020 Public Law 94-171 files

Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Community Demographics



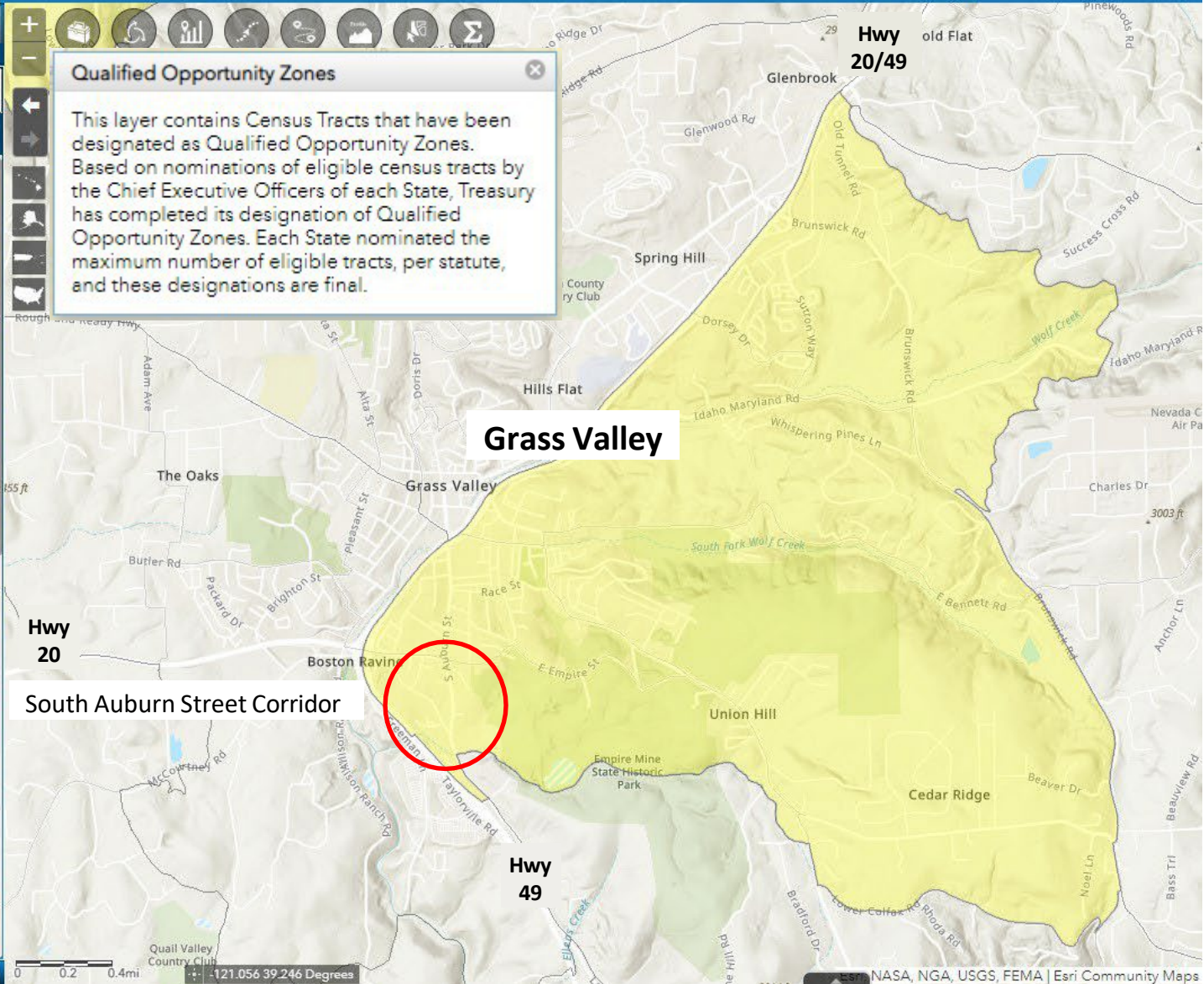
EnviroAtlas Interactive Map

Find address or place

- EnviroAtlas Data
- Search All Layers
- 536 of 536 Maps Expand Hide Icons
- Carbon Storage
 - Crop Productivity
 - Ecosystem Markets
 - Energy Potential
 - Engagement with Outdoors
 - Health and Economic Outcomes
 - Land Cover: Near-Water
 - Land Cover: Type
 - Landscape Pattern
 - Livestock and Poultry Production
 - Near-Road Environments
 - Pollutant Reduction: Air
 - Pollutant Reduction: Water
 - Protected Lands
 - Soils
 - Species: At-Risk and Priority
 - Species: Other
 - Water Supply, Runoff, and Flow
 - Water Use
 - Weather and Climate
 - Wetlands and Lowlands
 - Harmful Algal Blooms
 - Impaired Waters
 - National Air Toxics Assessment
 - Pollutants: Nutrients
 - Pollutants: Other
 - Sites Reporting to EPA
 - Commuting and Walkability
 - Employment
 - Housing and Schools
 - Population Distribution
 - Quality of Life
 - Vacancy
 - Ecological Boundaries
 - Hydrologic Features

Qualified Opportunity Zones

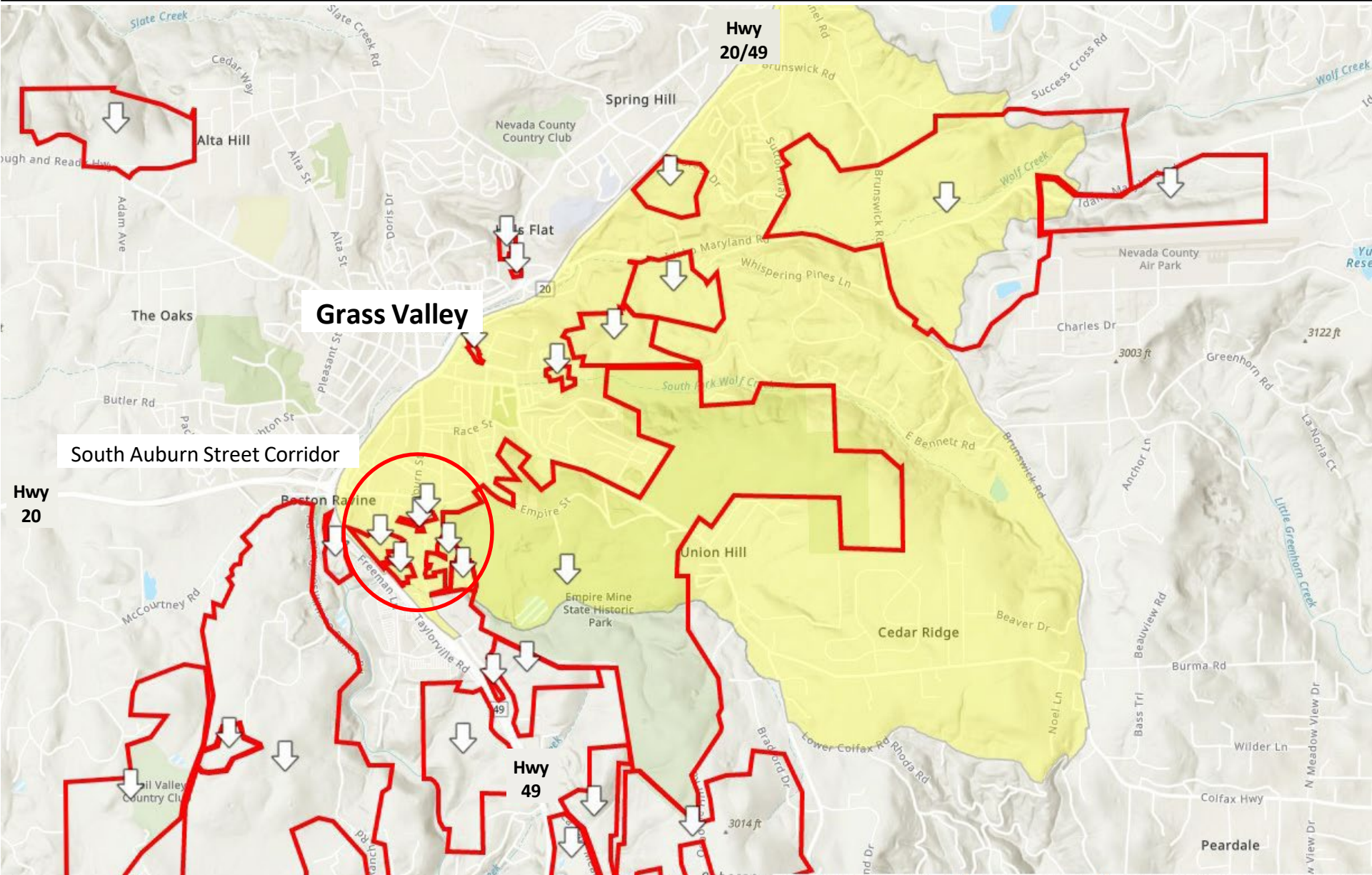
This layer contains Census Tracts that have been designated as Qualified Opportunity Zones. Based on nominations of eligible census tracts by the Chief Executive Officers of each State, Treasury has completed its designation of Qualified Opportunity Zones. Each State nominated the maximum number of eligible tracts, per statute, and these designations are final.



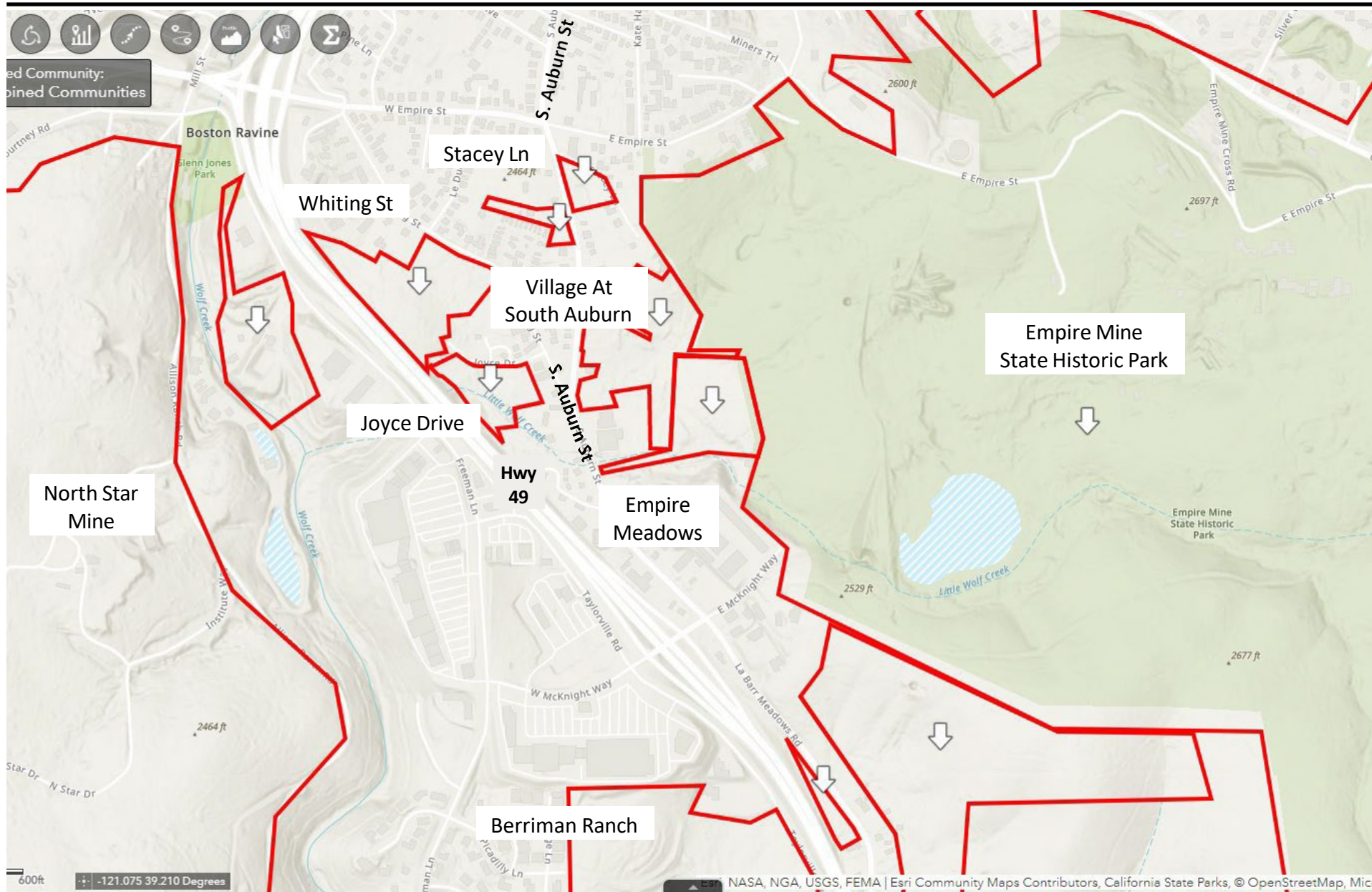
Grass Valley

South Auburn Street Corridor

Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Cleanup Sites



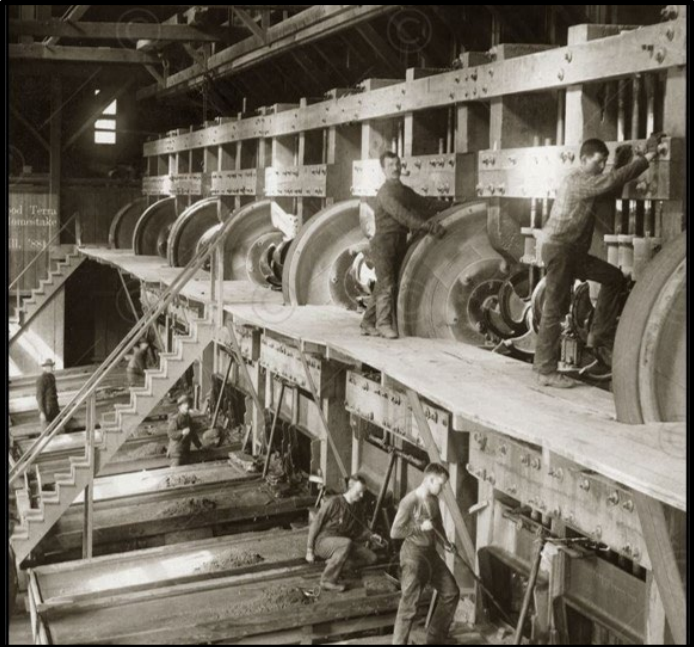
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Cleanup Sites



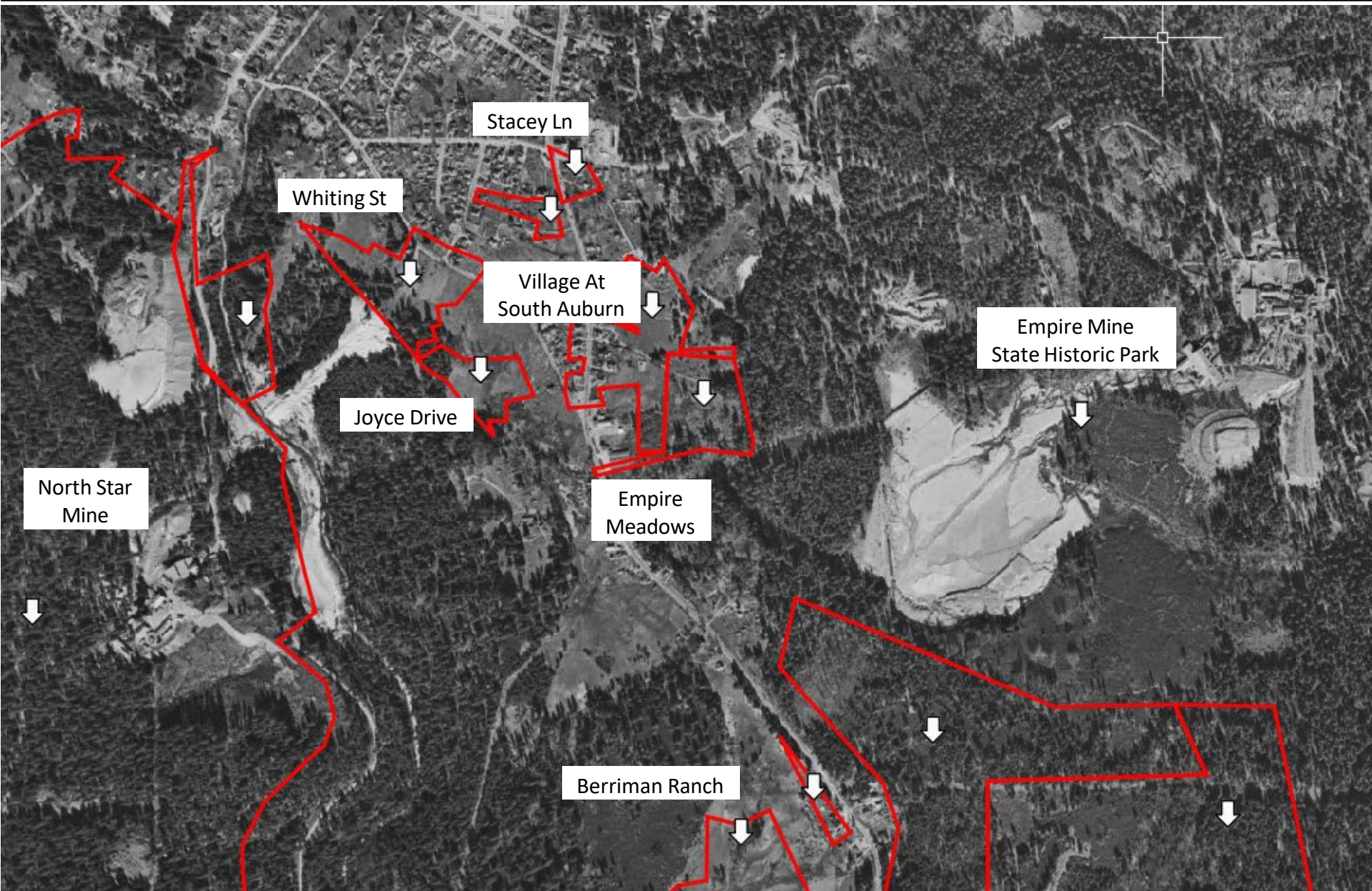
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



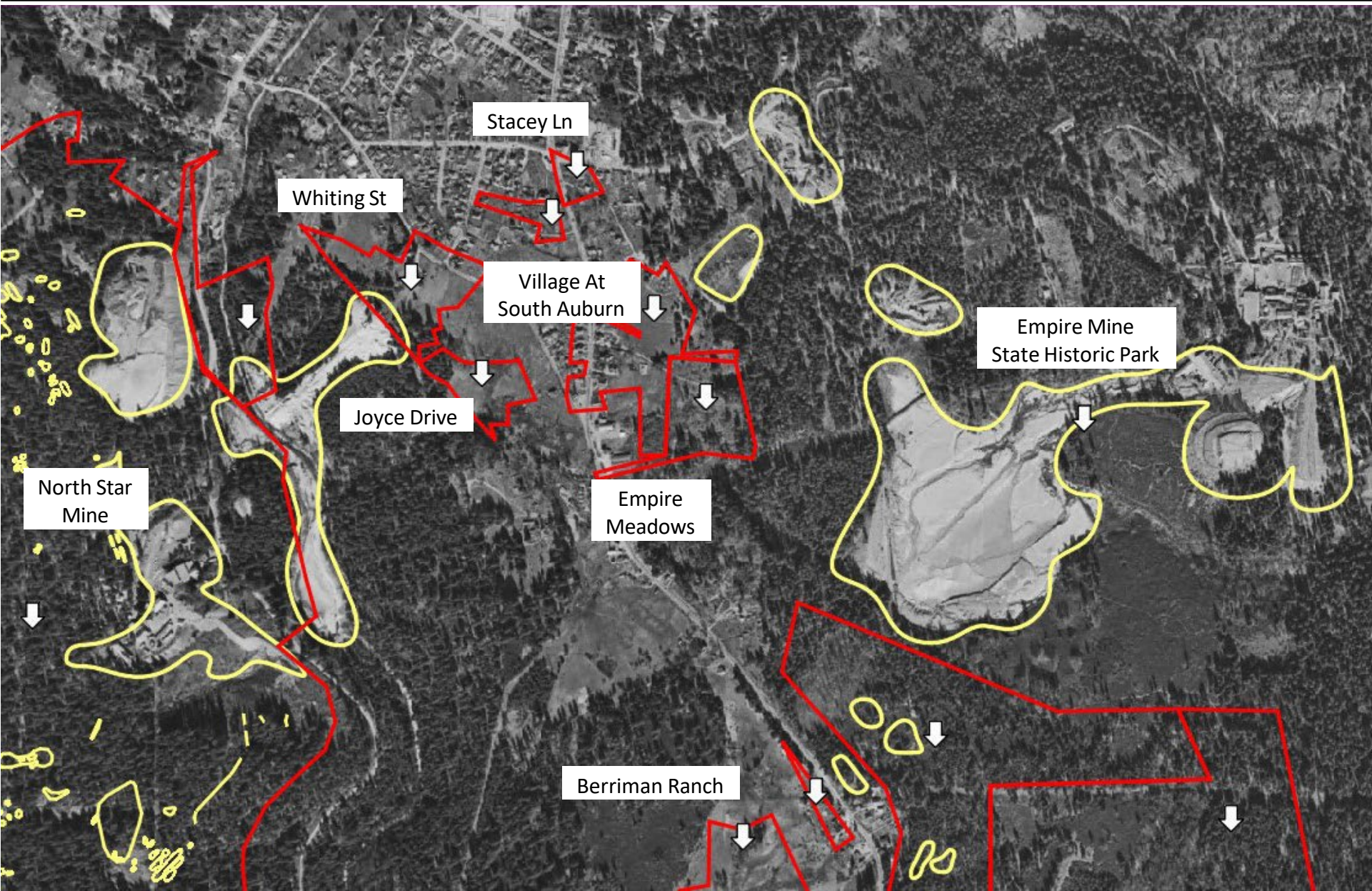
Idaho-Maryland Mine
Loading ore cars at 30 Winze on 2000 Level



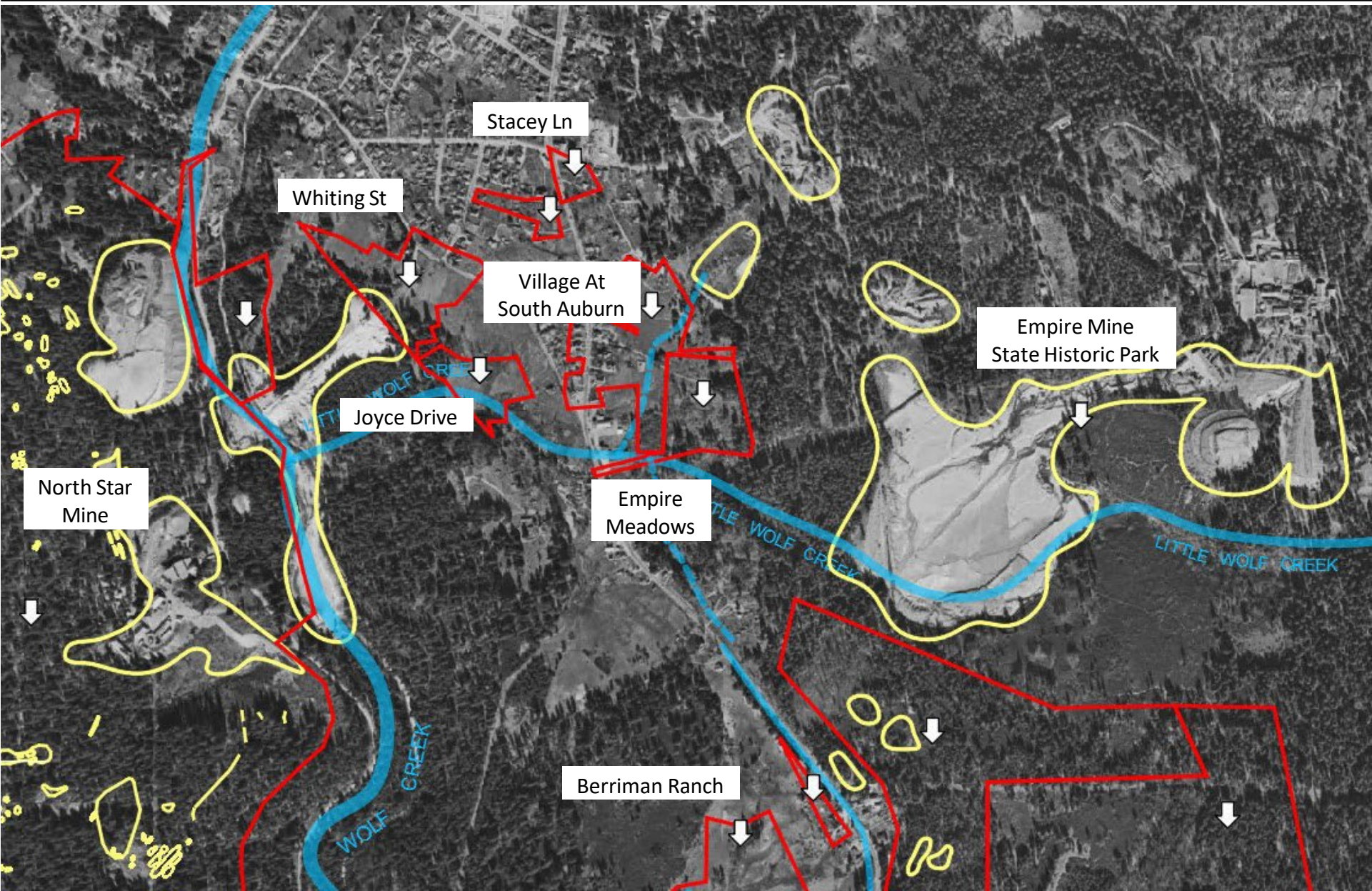
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



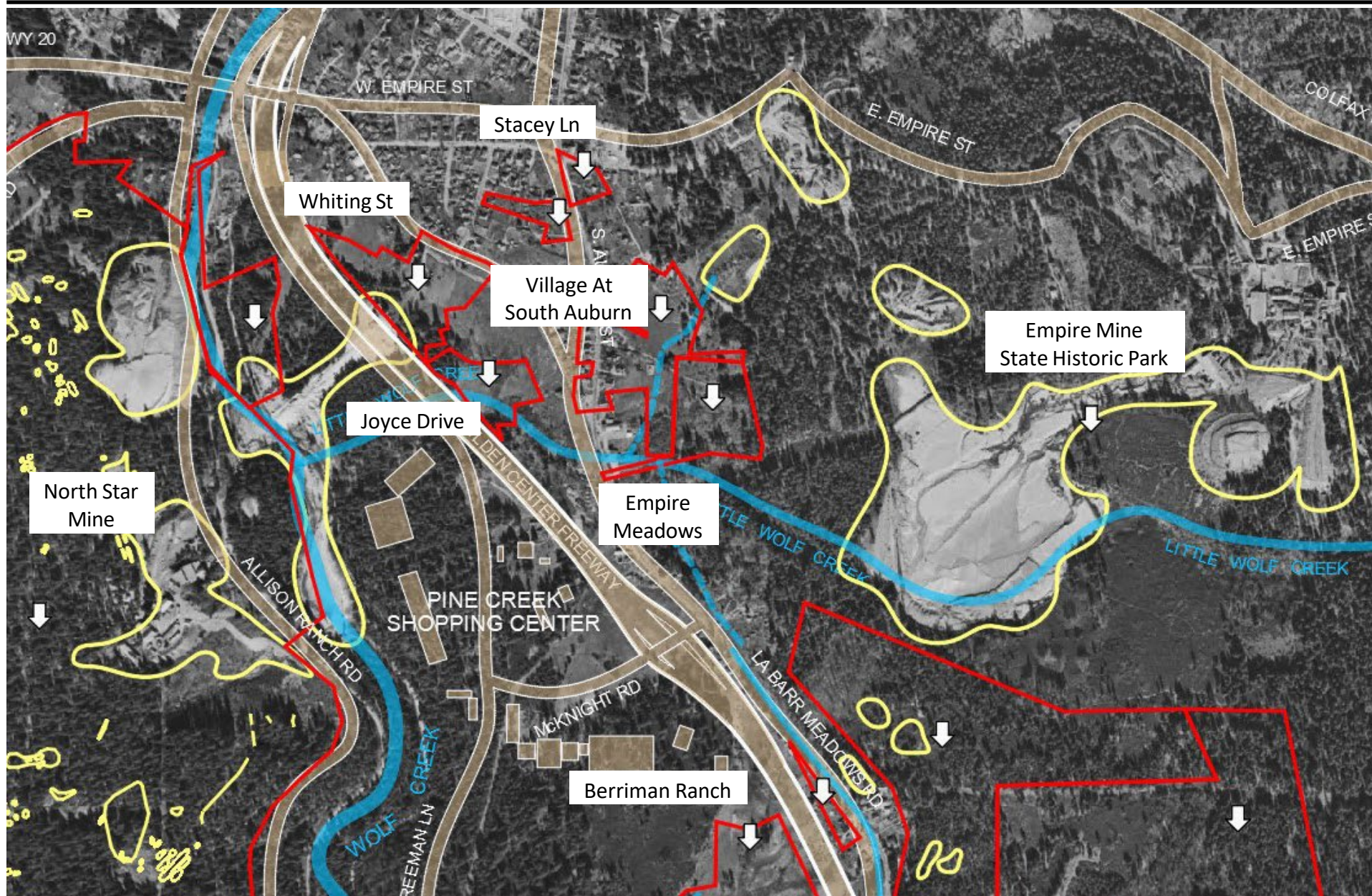
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



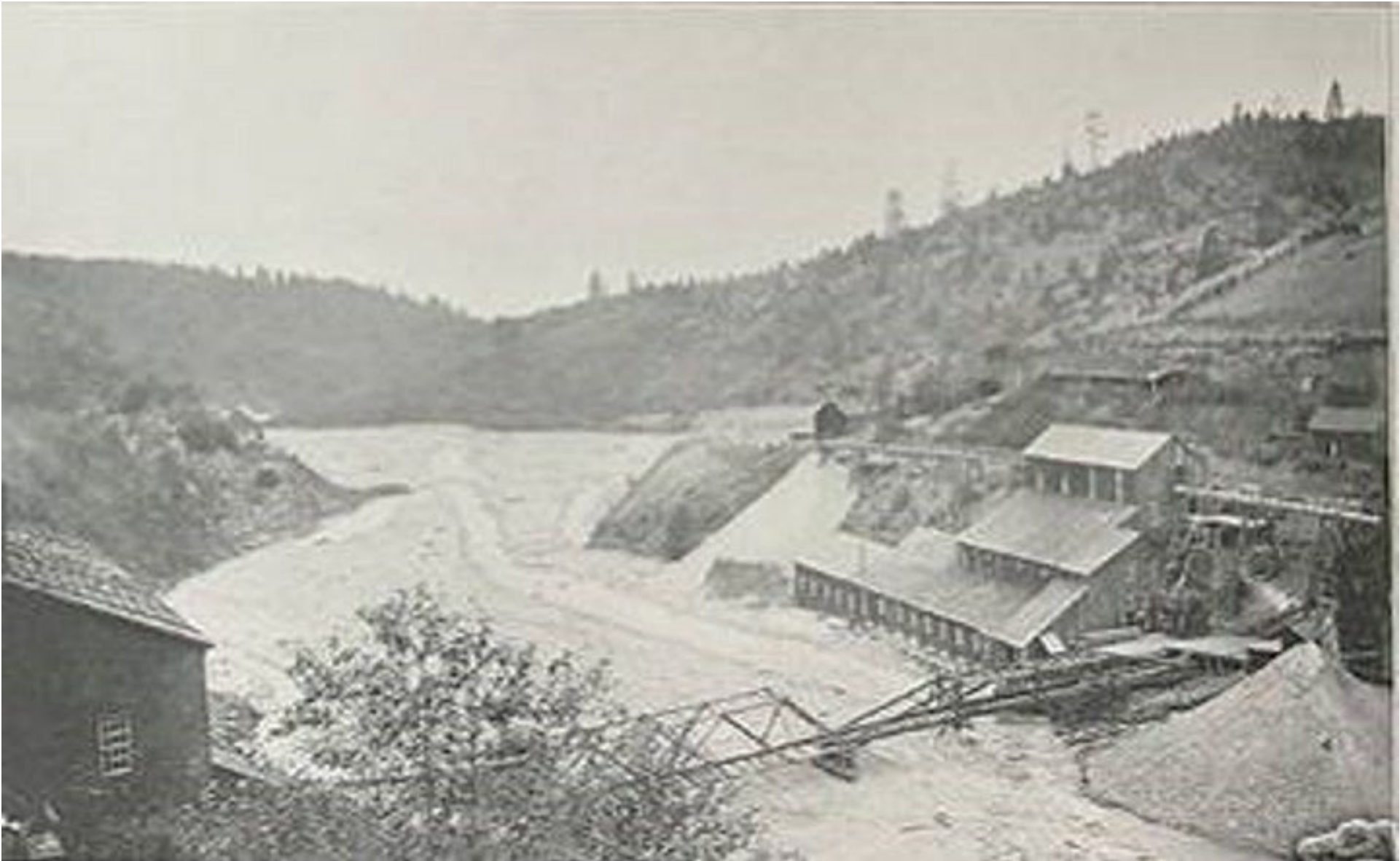
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Historical Gold Mining



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Site Assessment



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Site Assessment



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Site Assessment



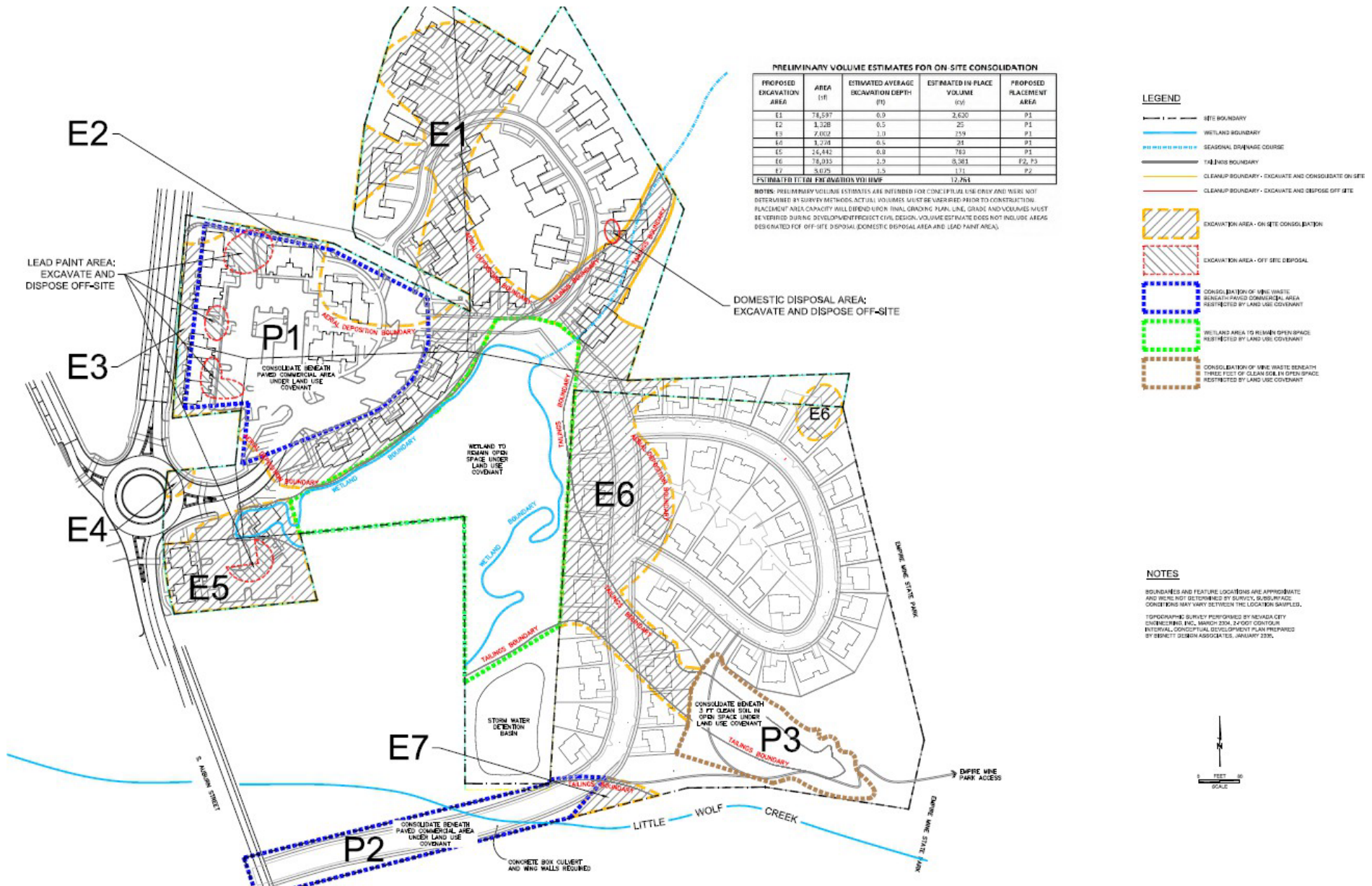
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Site Assessment



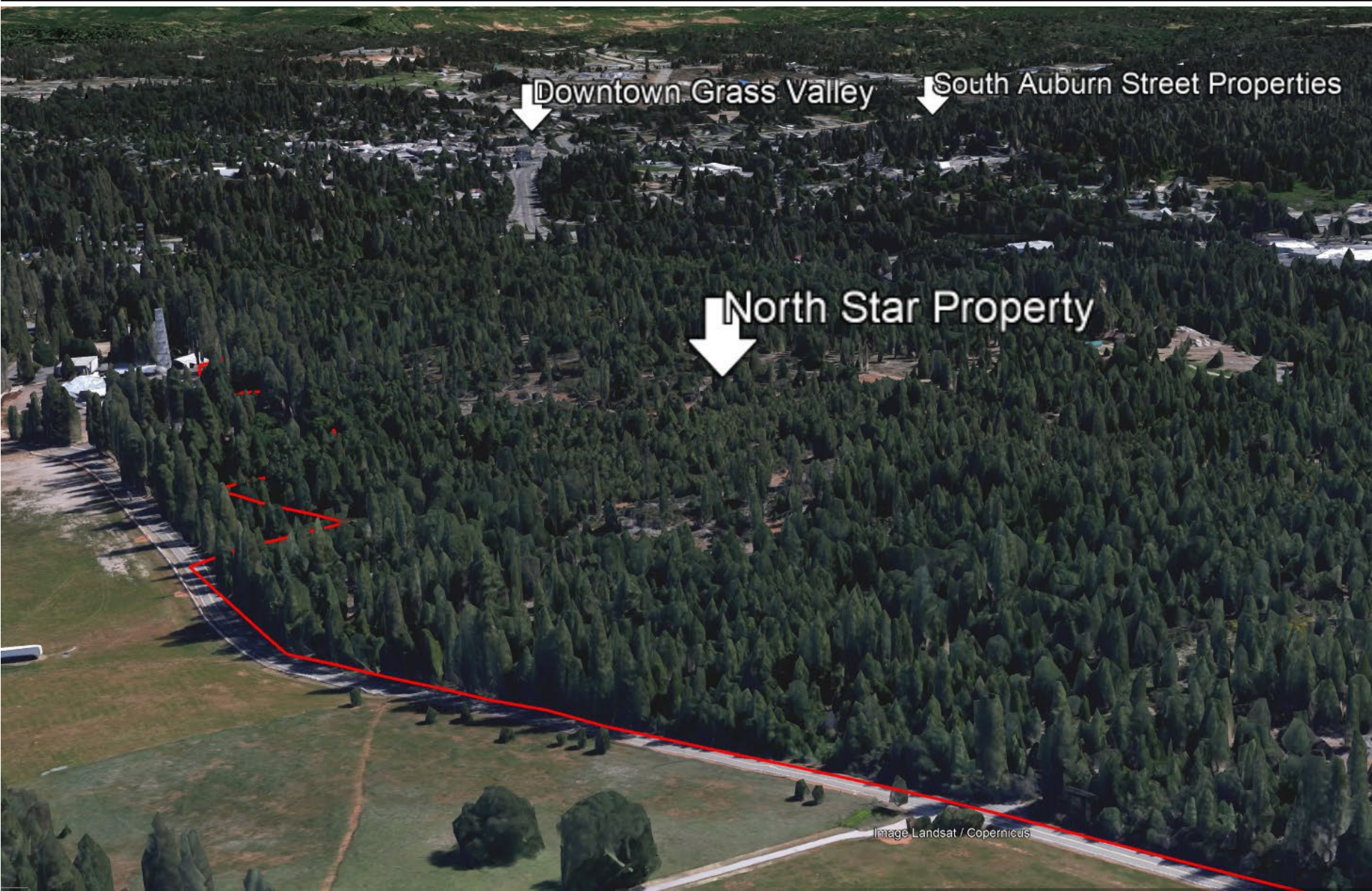
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Current Conditions – South Auburn Street



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Conceptual Revitalization



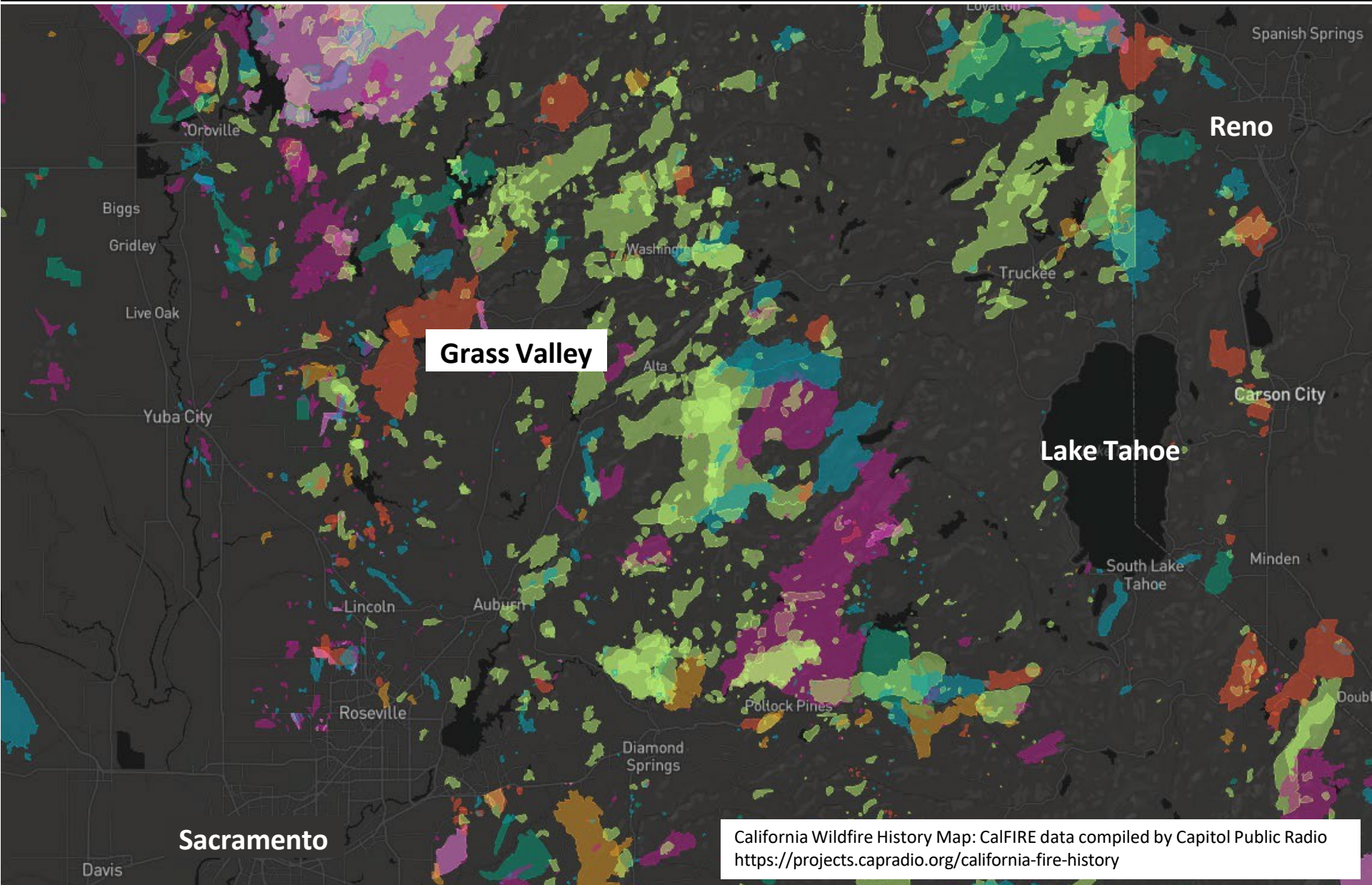
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Current Conditions – North Star Mine



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Conceptual Revitalization

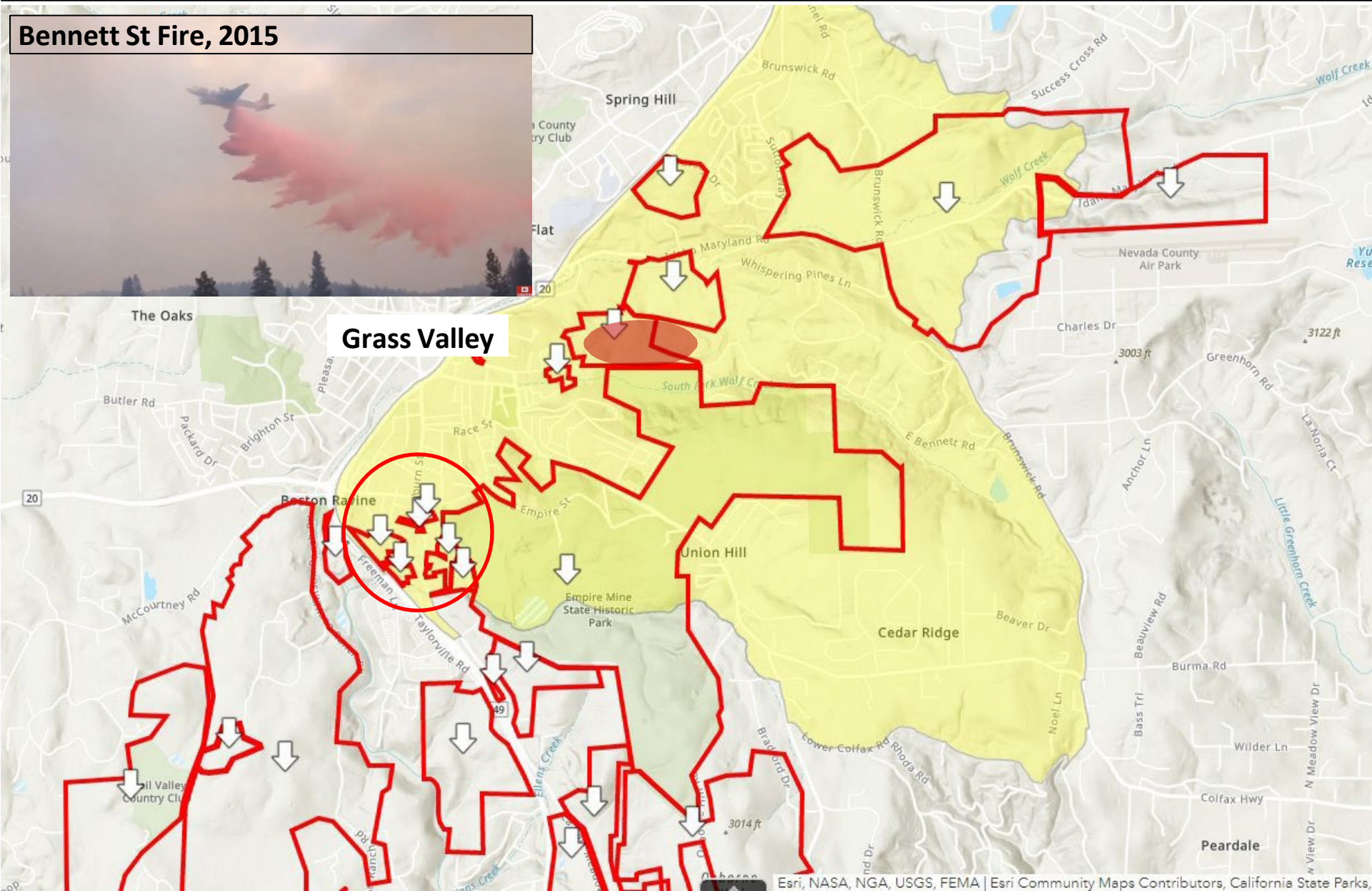


Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Regional Wildfire History

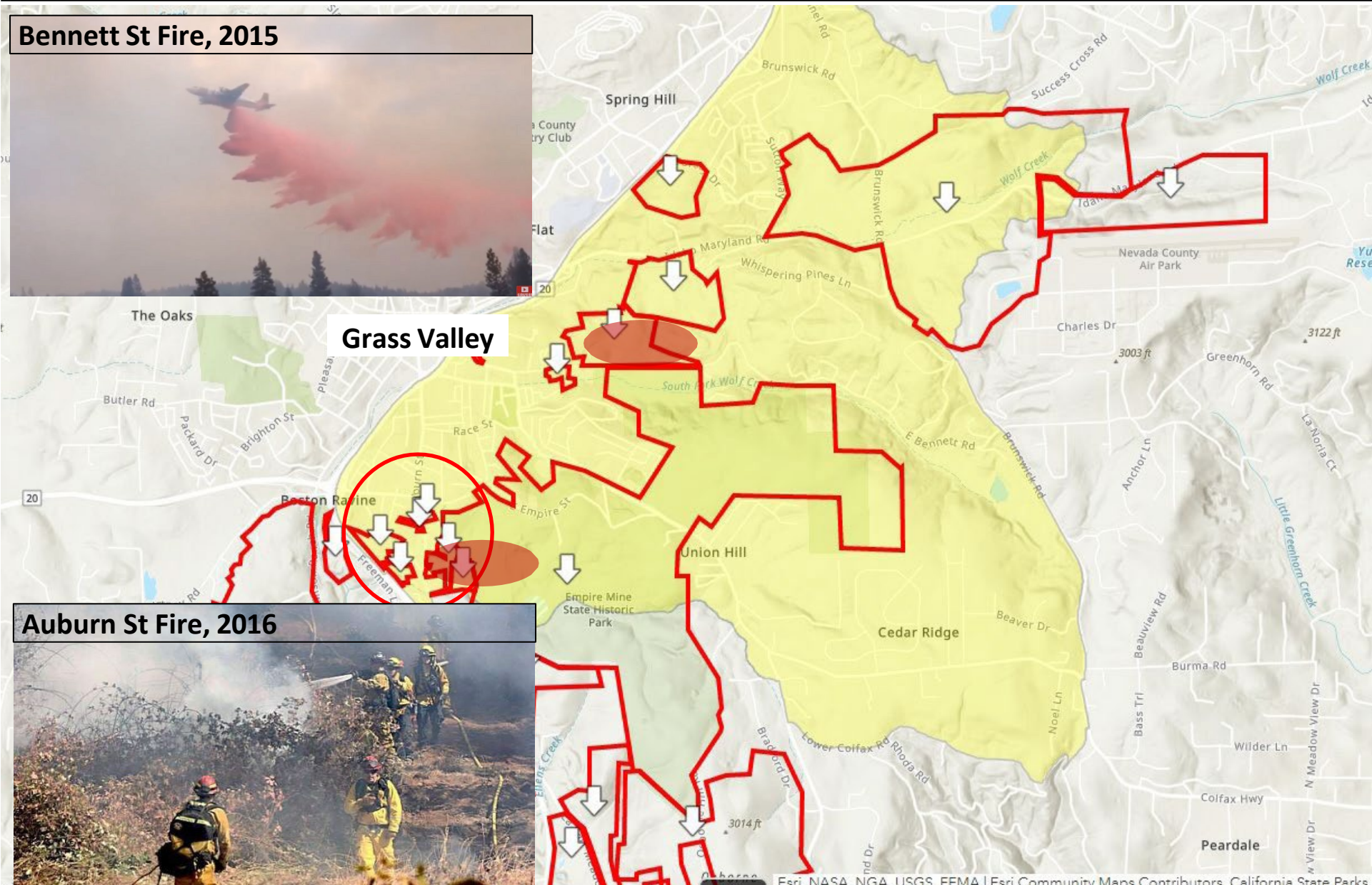


California Wildfire History Map: CalFIRE data compiled by Capitol Public Radio
<https://projects.caprado.org/california-fire-history>

Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Recent Local Wildfires



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Recent Local Wildfires



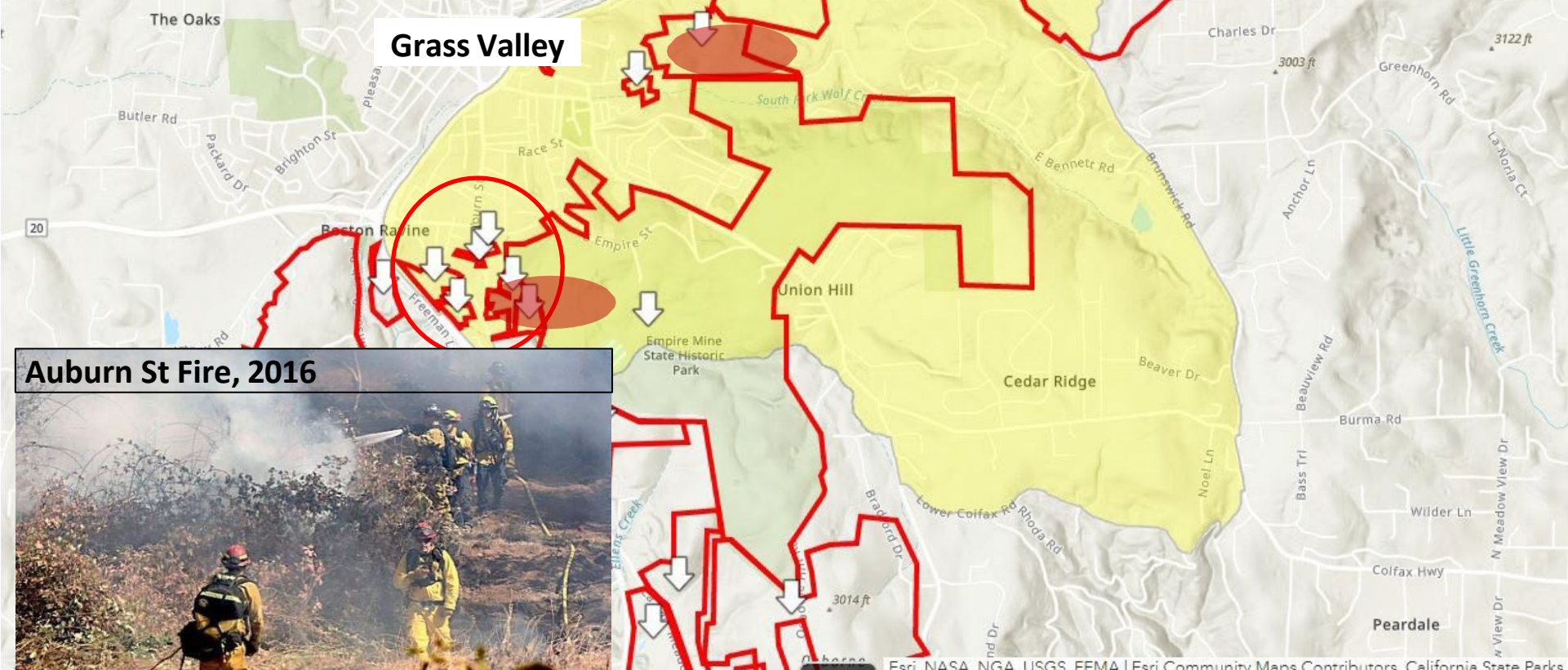
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Recent Local Wildfires



Bennett St Fire, 2015



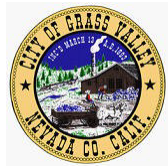
Dorsey Fire, 2019



Auburn St Fire, 2016



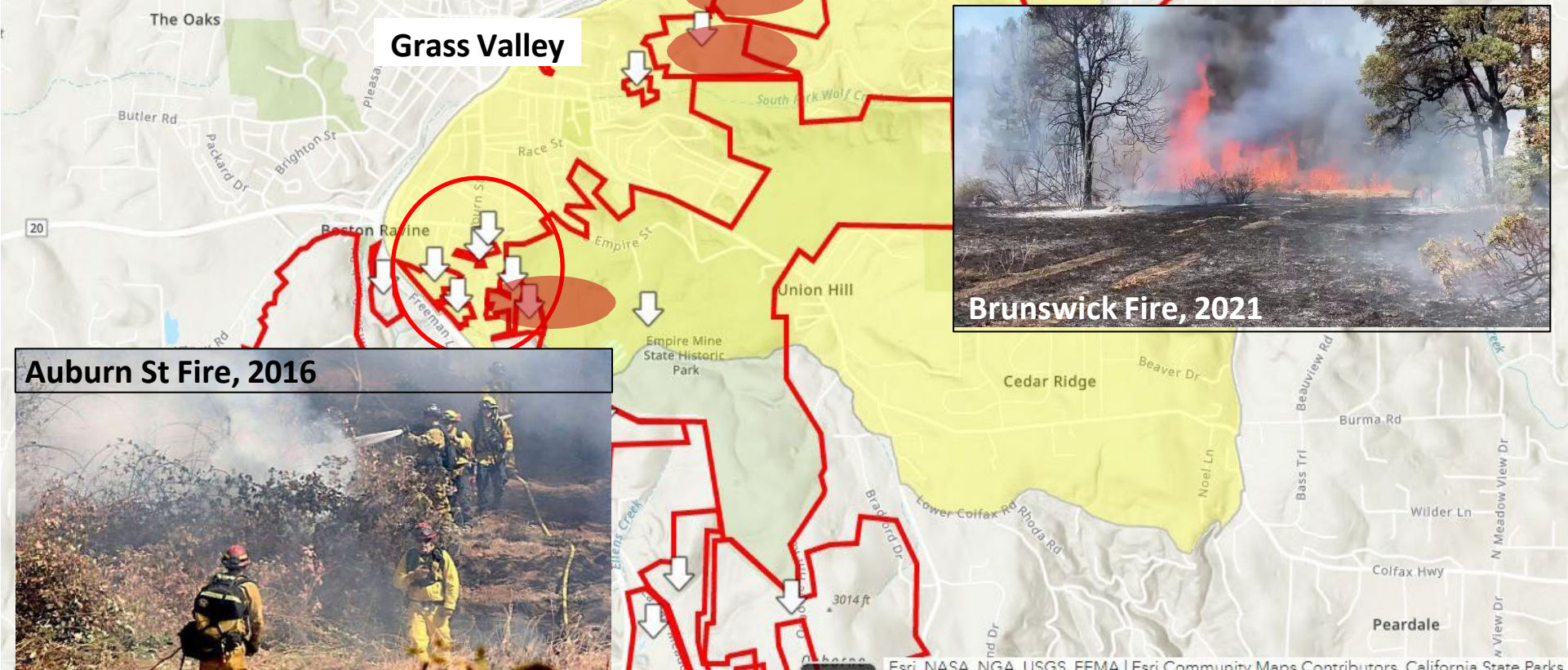
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Recent Local Wildfires



Bennett St Fire, 2015



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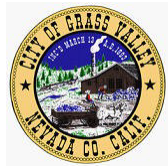


Brunswick Fire, 2021

Auburn St Fire, 2016



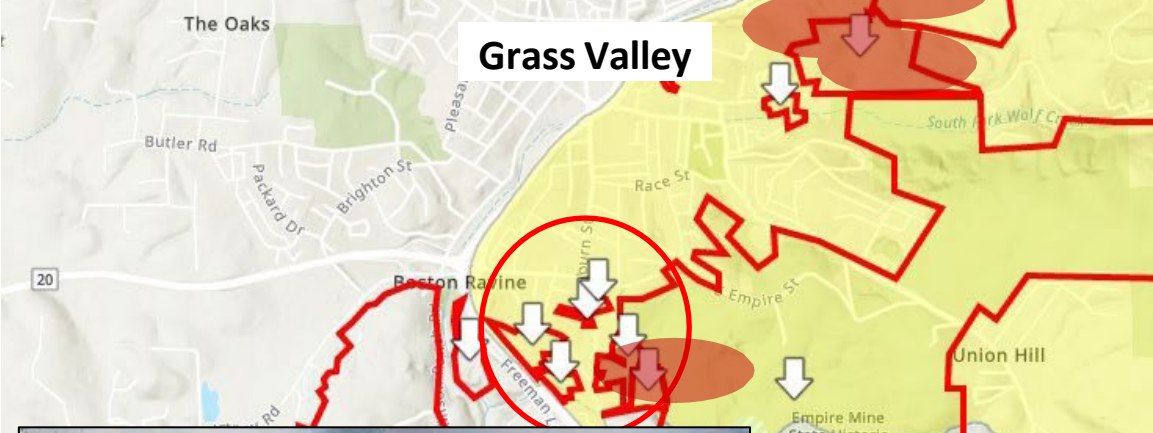
Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Recent Local Wildfires



Bennett St Fire, 2015



Dorsey Fire, 2019



Brunswick Fire, 2021

Auburn St Fire, 2016



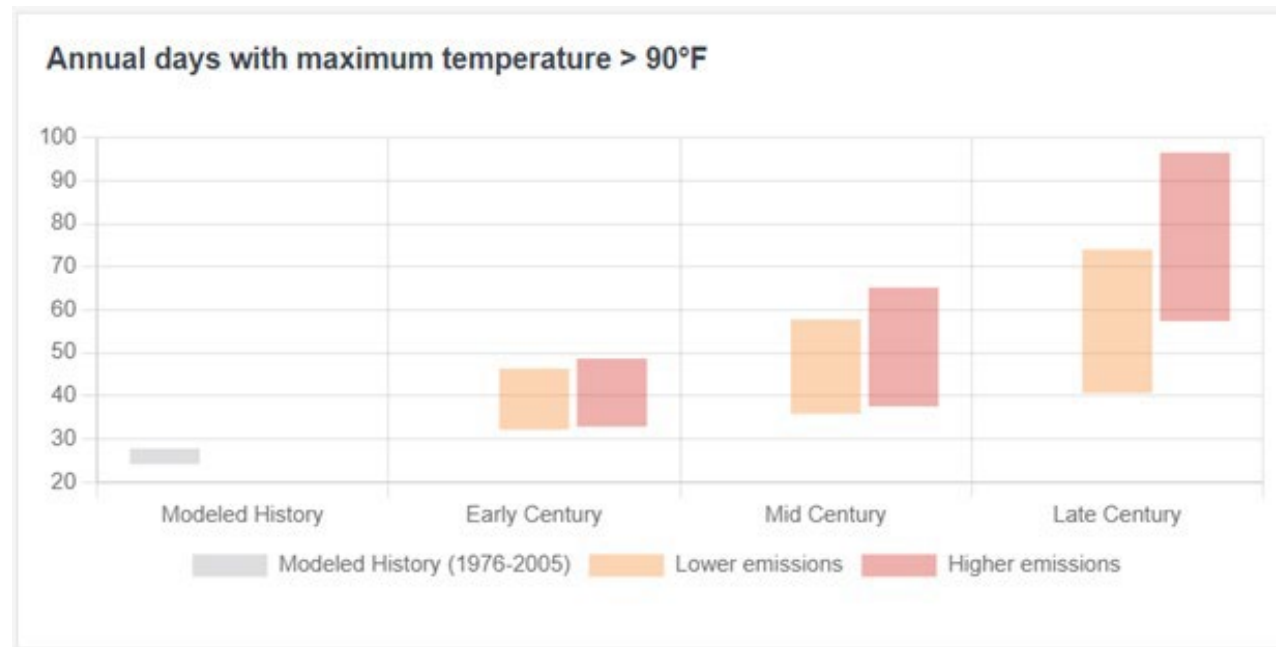
Bennett Fire, 2021



Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields Climate Change



- Dry Summers: we typically have 250 days without rain. No significant changes are predicted for rainfall distribution.
- Hotter Temperatures: Historically, temperatures exceeded 90°F only 20 to 28 days per year. By the late century, models that assume higher GHG emissions predict that 90°F will be exceeded 60 to 95 days per year.





Cleaning up mine-scarred land:

- Reduces toxic exposures,
- Facilitates redevelopment including affordable housing, parks, commercial development, and renewable (solar) energy, and
- Reduces wildfire risk by promoting land reuse and stewardship.

In our densely forested community, brownfield cleanup and wildfire mitigation go hand-in-hand.

With housing shortages and climate change, the need for both is increasing.

Grass Valley Climate Change and Brownfields For More Information



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530-274-4711, awolfson@cityofgrassvalley.com

Jason Muir, PE, GE, Geocon
530-913-5996, muir@geoconinc.com

**FUNDED BY THE
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**



EPA BROWNFIELDS GRANT #98T42301

Example Wildfire Adaptation Strategies



- Reduce hazardous fuels at the site by:
 - Thinning out existing vegetation around structures at the site
 - Replacing highly flammable vegetation with lower growing, less flammable species, and
 - Establishing regular maintenance of vegetation.
- Use non-combustible materials for both construction and landscape design, especially within the 5-foot perimeter surrounding structures.
- Ensure there is sufficient spacing between flammable structures (including trees).
- Use features such as retaining walls, paths, open areas, and fencing to reduce the vulnerability of the site.
- Use wire mesh to cover vents or other openings into structures that embers could get into.



Exercise

Develop a list of strategies to reduce wildfire risk through brownfield redevelopment.

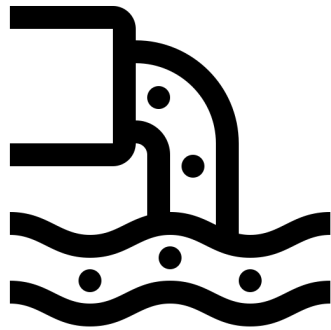
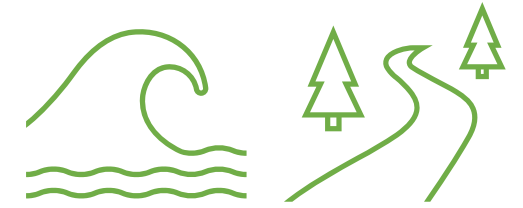




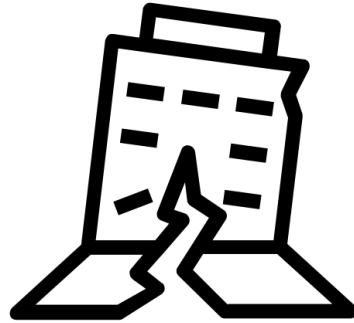
Sea Level Rise & Inland Flooding



Coastal & Inland Flooding Risks to Brownfield Sites



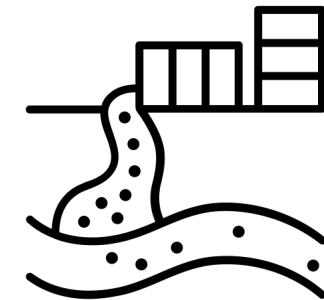
Impeded stormwater drainage



Damage to buildings



Damage to critical infrastructure

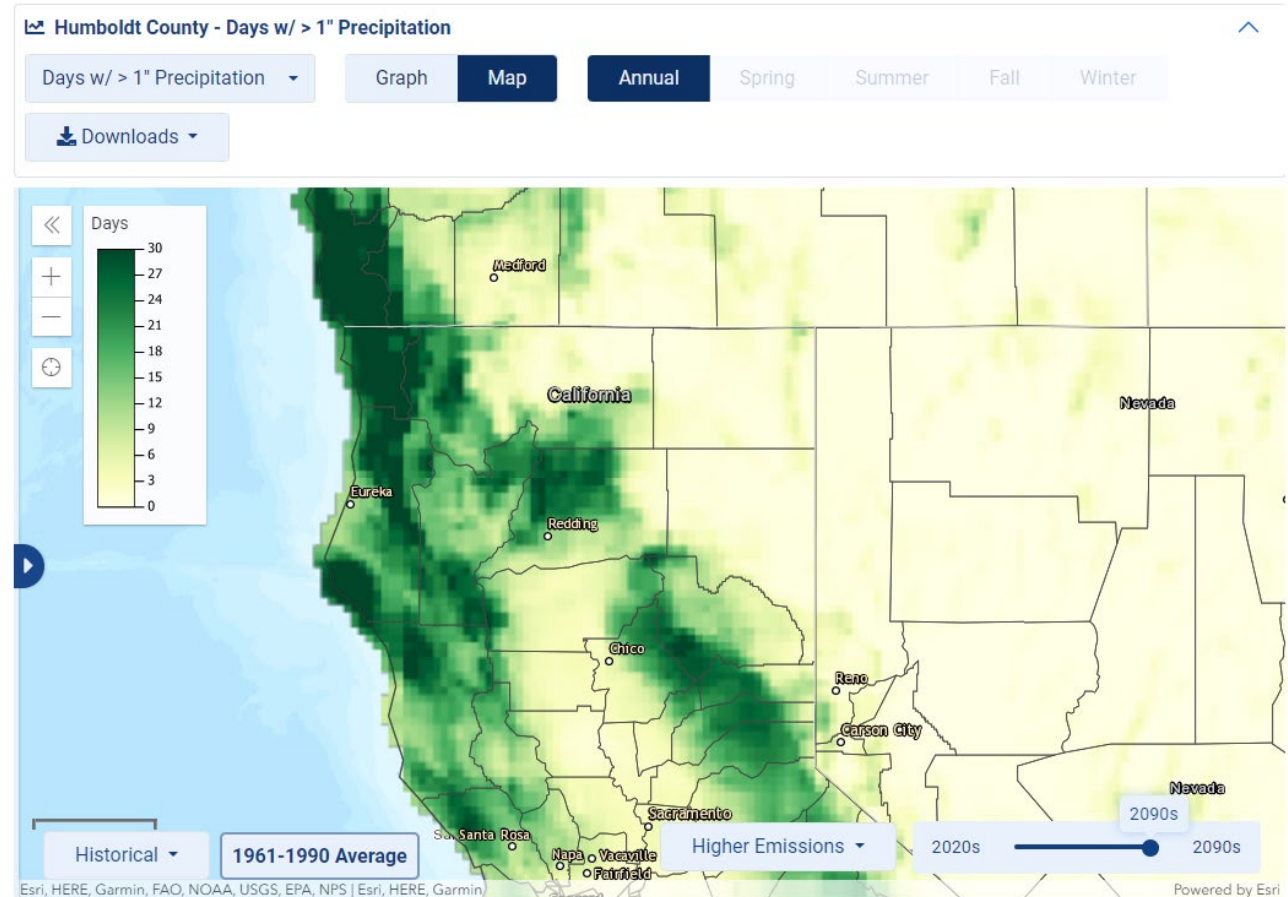


Spread debris and contaminants from site to community

Increased Precipitation



- Extreme precipitation events are **increasing in frequency and intensity** due to climate change
- Precipitation patterns are also becoming **more variable** (e.g., longer dry periods between heavy rainfall events)
- Despite aridity in the region, extreme precipitation events and snowmelt conditions are **increasing the risk of flooding**



Projected Change in Number of Days Per Year with >1 inch of Precipitation through late century under a high emissions scenario

Source: Climate Explorer, <https://crt-climate-explorer.nemac.org/>



Impervious Surfaces



Development of urban centers and infrastructure



Increased impervious surface area

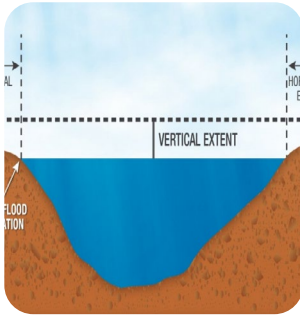


Increased runoff and localized flood risk



Source: EPA 2022

Inland Flooding: Understanding FEMA Resources and Guidance



Federal Flood Risk Management Standard



Flood Maps

Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)



- Established under executive Order 11988, *Floodplain Management* (1977) **to push federal agencies to manage current and future flood risks**
 - Revoked then reinstated through EO 14030, *Climate-Related Financial Risk*
- Federally funded buildings and projects are required to use one of three approaches for project siting, design, and construction:

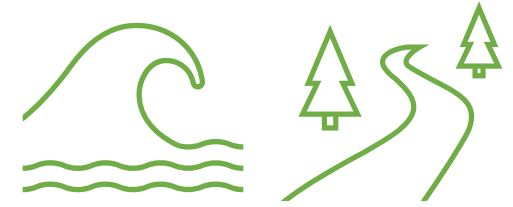
Climate Informed
Science Approach
(CISA)

Freeboard Value
Approach (FVA)

500-Year
Floodplain



FEMA Flood Maps

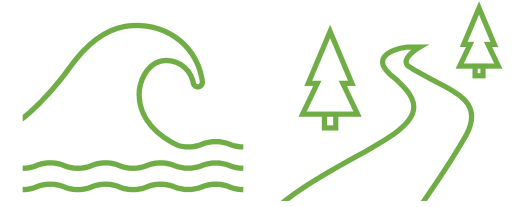


The **FEMA Flood Map Service Center** is the official public source for flood hazard information.

The maps are **flood insurance rate maps**.

- Not forward looking; only reflect past flooding conditions.
- Helpful but not meant to provide complete picture of flood risk.
- Capture river and coastal flooding, not urban and flash flooding from short but high-intensity rainfall events.

Accessing FEMA Flood Maps




1 Access maps through [Address Search](#)

FEMA Flood Map Service Center: Search By Address

Enter an address, place, or coordinates: ?

Enter an address, place, or coordinates

 Whether you are in a high risk zone or not, you may need [flood insurance](#) because most homeowners insurance doesn't cover flood damage. If you live in an area with low or moderate flood risk, you are 5 times more likely to experience flood than a fire in your home over the next 30 years. For many, a National Flood Insurance Program's flood insurance policy could cost less than \$400 per year. Call your insurance agent today and protect what you've built.

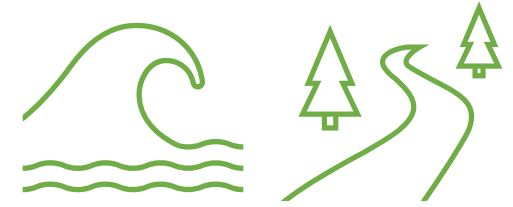
Learn more about [steps you can take](#) to reduce flood risk damage.



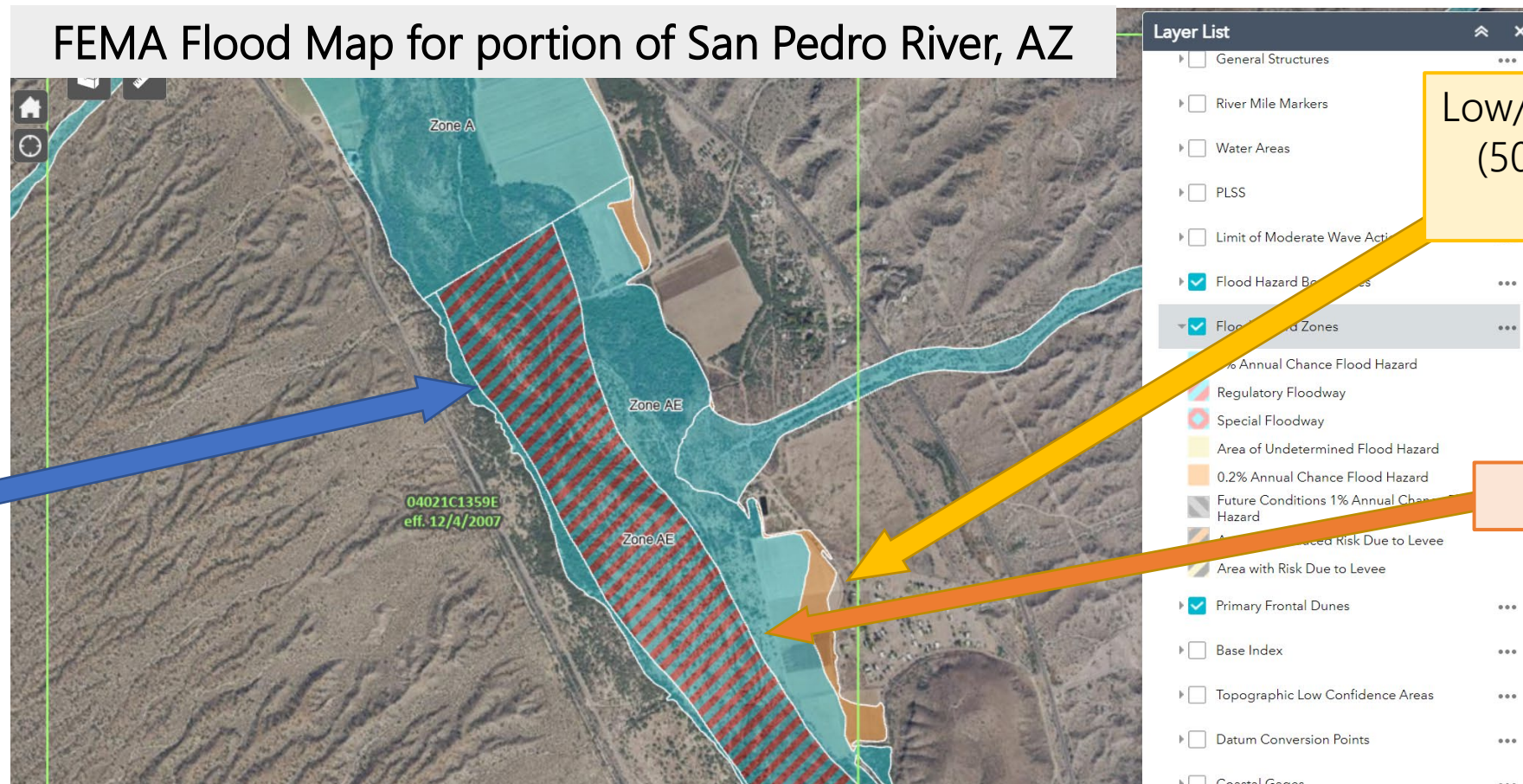
USGS The National Map. Orthoimagery. Data refreshed December, 2021. **esri** POWERED BY

Enter an address, place, or coordinates, and press search

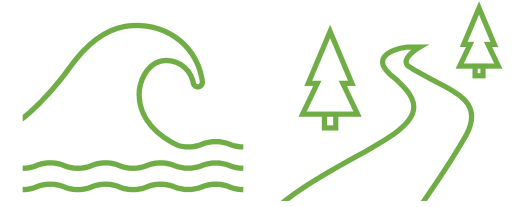
Accessing FEMA Flood Maps



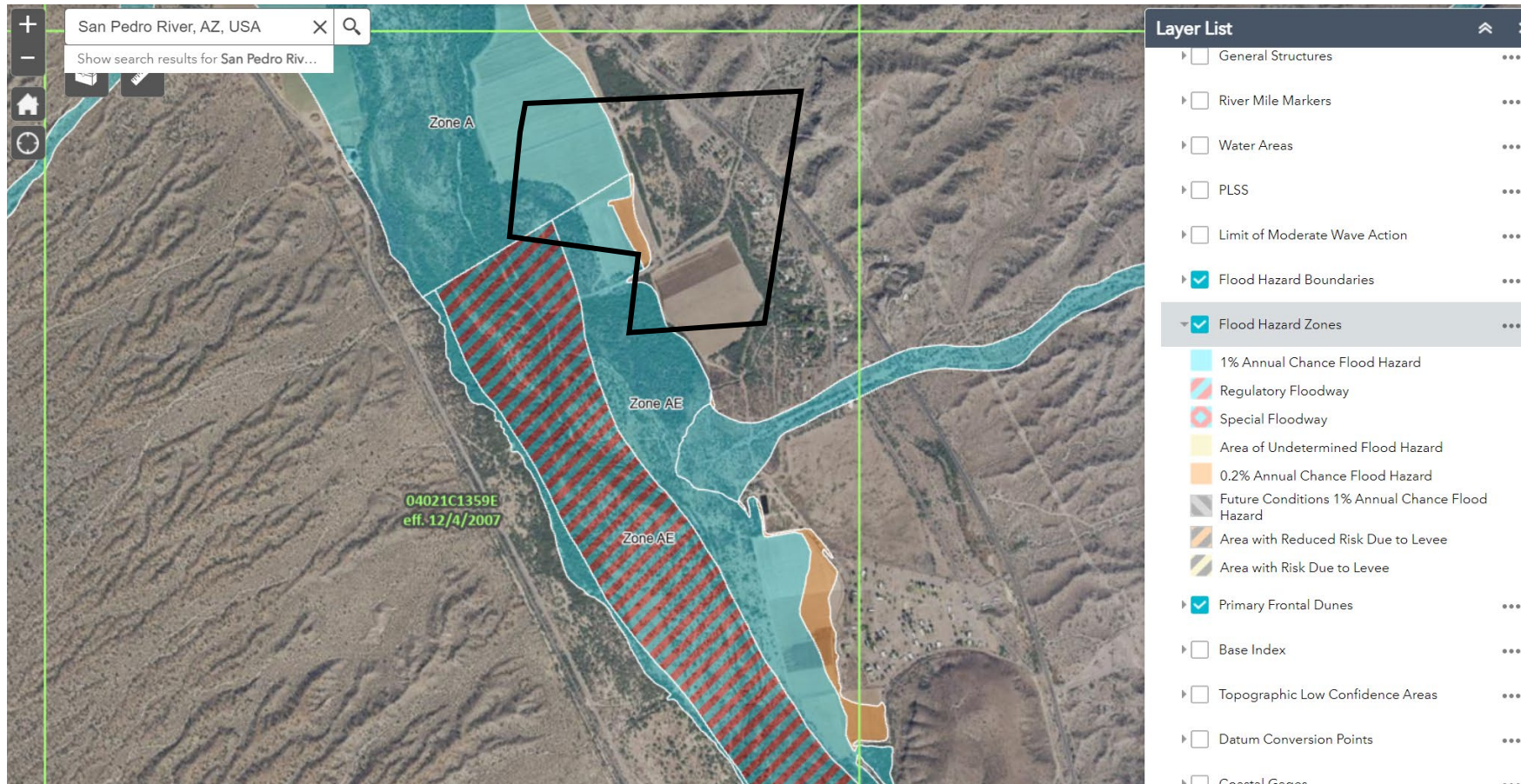
- 2 Flood maps can be viewed in the **National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) Viewer**, where the user can view, download, and print current flood hazard data in an ArcGIS map.



Accessing FEMA Flood Maps



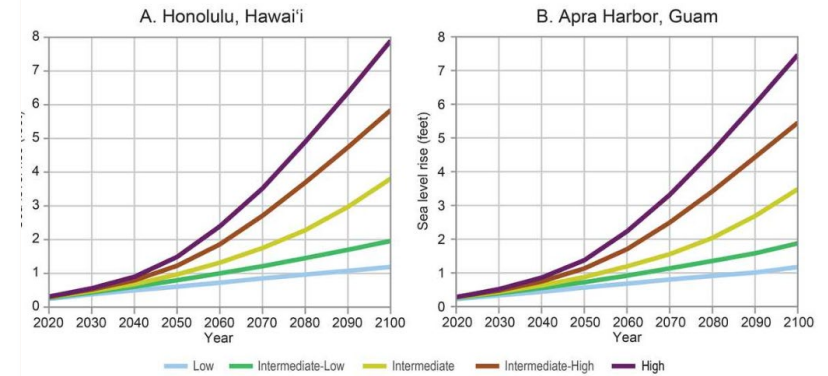
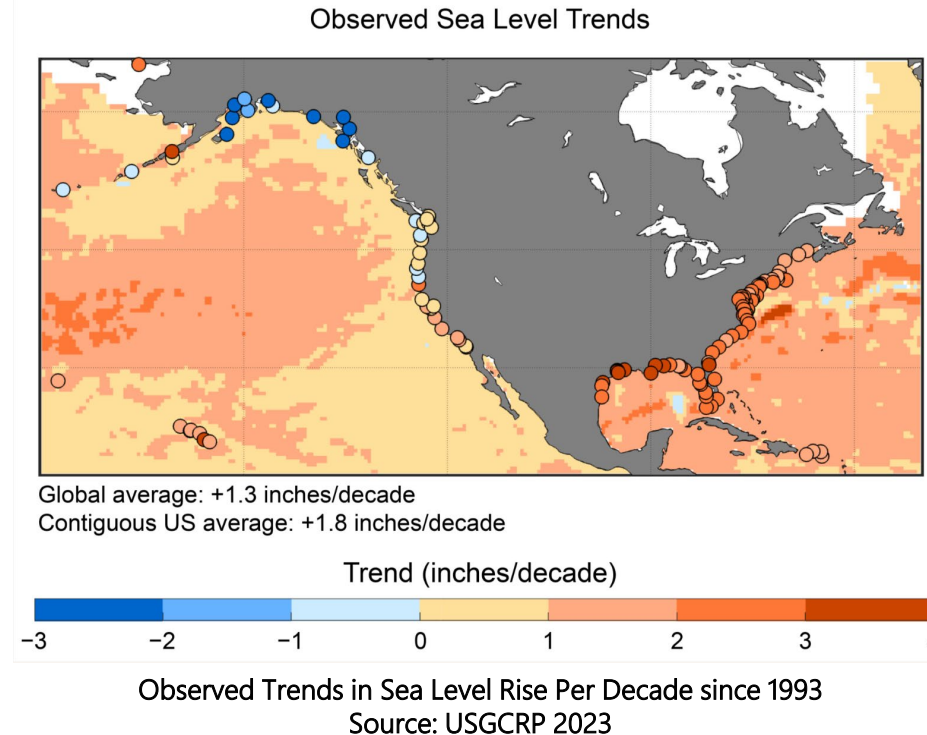
- 3 Users can overlay the brownfield site and the FEMA flood hazard maps in GIS to see if the site is in the 100- or 500-year floodplain



Climate Impacts: Sea Level Rise

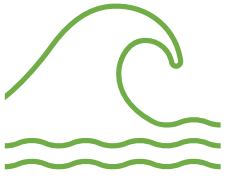


- Average rates of sea level rise have intensified since 1992
- Sea level rise is projected to accelerate throughout the century
- Sea level rise can damage coastal infrastructure and cause saltwater intrusion

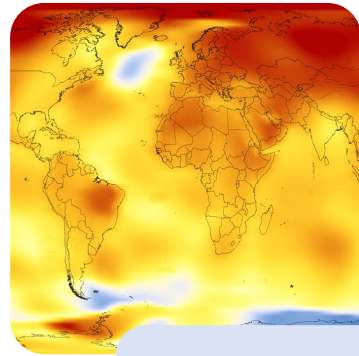


Sea Level Rise Projections for Hawai'i and Guam
Source: USGCRP 2023

Sea Level Rise Process



Increased global greenhouse gas emissions



Warmer atmospheric temperatures



Increased polar ice melt and thermal expansion



Regional subsidence/ uplift

Global Sea Level Rise

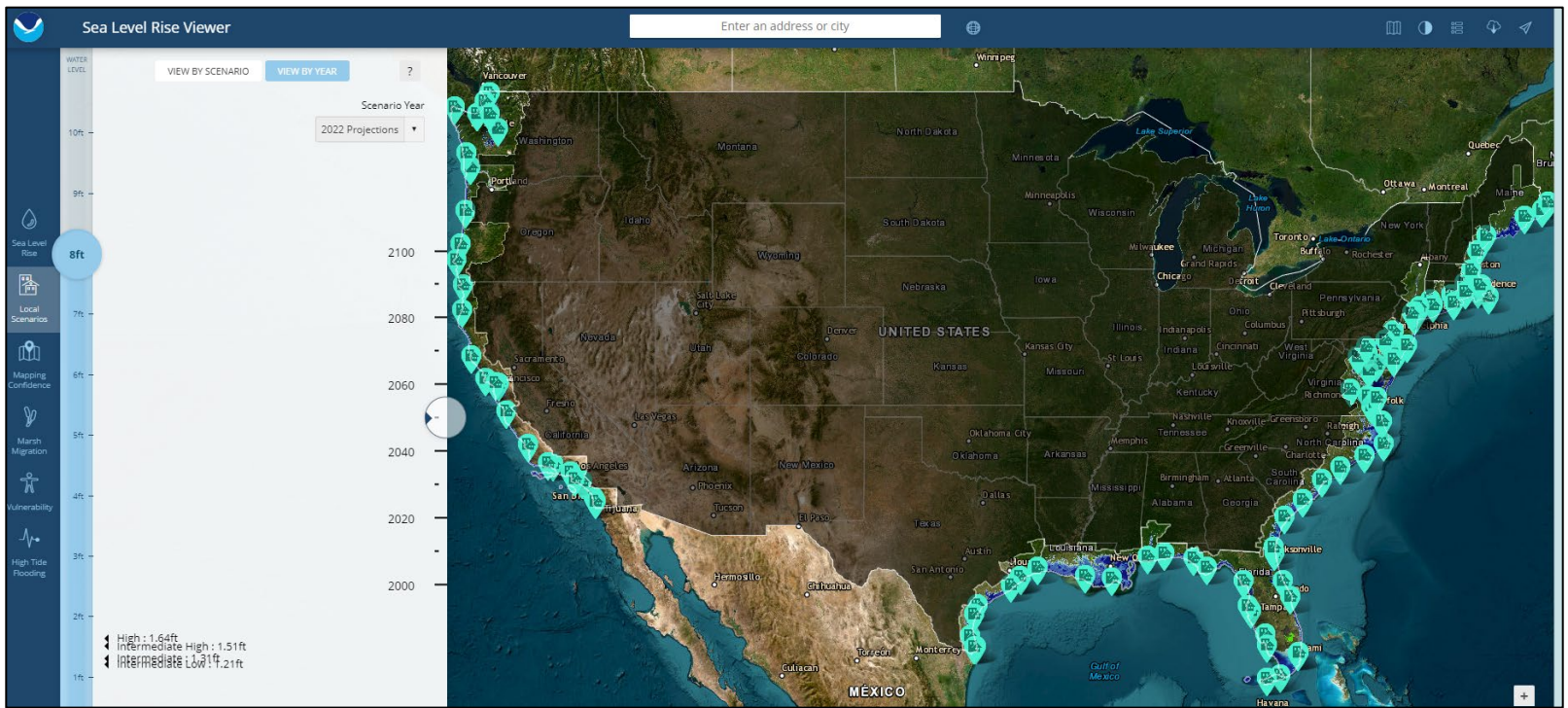
Regional Sea Level Rise

NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer



Web mapping tool that shows community-level impacts from coastal flooding or sea level rise, with a **Local Scenarios** option that allows users to see SLR projections at specific future years.

- 1 Access maps through address search bar or zoom in to area of interest

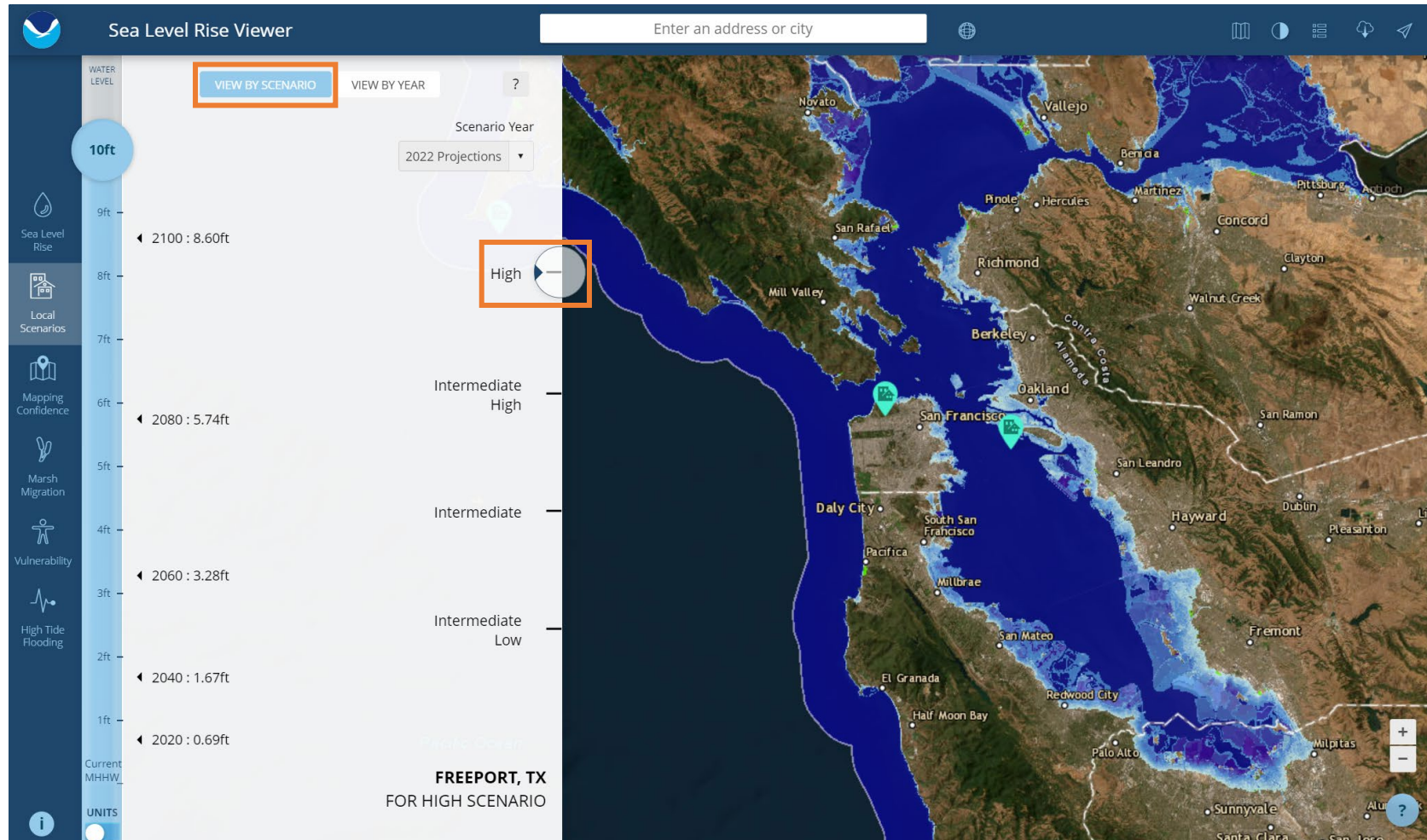


NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer



2

Users can view relative sea level rise for different scenarios or years.

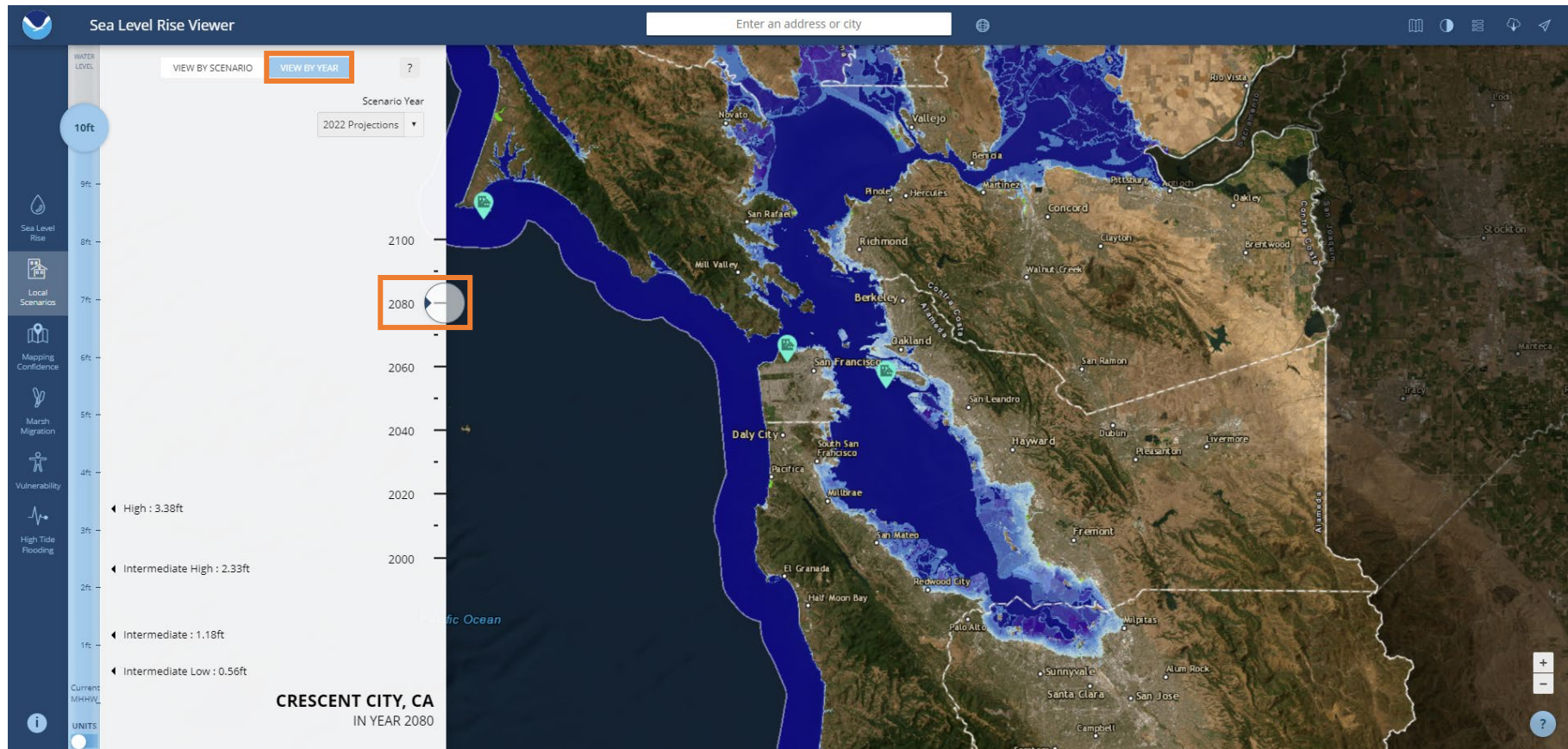


NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer



2

Users can view relative sea level rise for different scenarios or years.

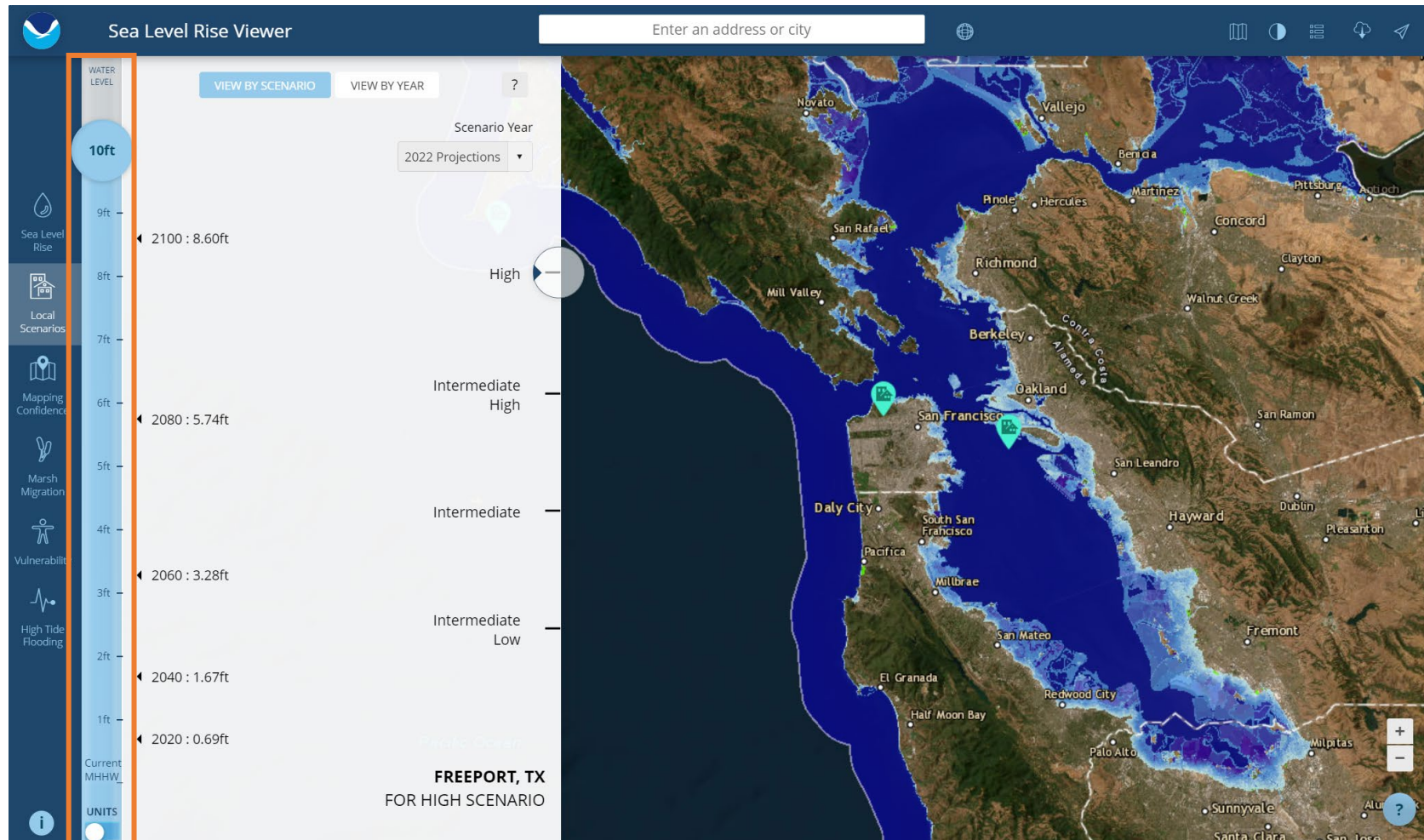


NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer



3

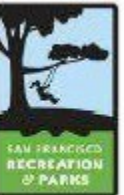
Slide the water level bar to visualize the different sea level rise amounts





900 INNES & INDIA BASIN SHORELINE PARK

San Francisco, California



Site Location – San Francisco, California



IBSP + 900 Innes = India Basin Waterfront Park





- **OVERALL CLEANUP APPROACH/GOALS**
- Compatible with park/public use
- Remedy provides a high level of health protection
- Remove surface soil (on land) and sediments (in water) across entire site
- Replace surface with clean fill material
- Backfill prevents exposure to underlying native soil

REMEDIATION

REMEDIATION SCOPE

- Demolition of abandoned structures
- Removal of contaminated soil & sediments to depths defined by investigations
- Backfill to eliminate potential exposure pathways / thin 6" offshore cap to facilitate benthic recovery
- Abate Cottage in preparation for restoration to SOI standards

REMEDIATION SCHEDULE

- 9 months

REMEDIATION BUDGET

- \$7,099,700

EPA GRANTS

- Brownfields Parcels 1 and 2
- Brownfields Parcels 3A and 3B
- SFBWQIF

900 Innes Pre-remediation



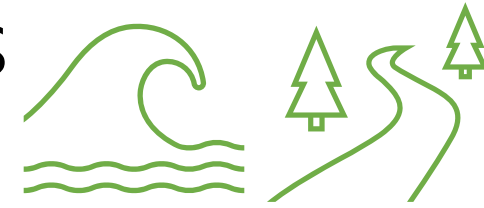








Example Strategies to Reduce Flood Impacts Through Brownfield Redevelopment

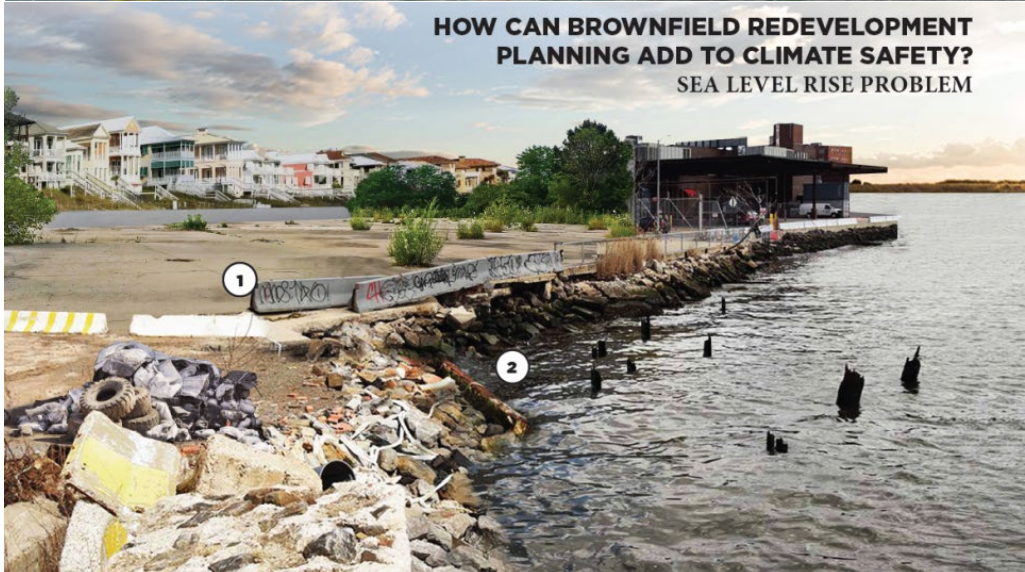


- Use **nature-based solutions** to increase flood water storage capacity (e.g., widen natural flood plains, protect and expand wetlands, restore streambank vegetation).
- **Strengthen** shorelines by installing structures to stabilize sediment and prevent erosion.
 - Can use plants, sand, or rock to create a **"living shoreline"** and stabilize the shoreline naturally
- **Relocate** sites and/or **elevate** structures out of floodplains.
- Install **floodable parks**, a type of sustainable urban drainage system which control flood levels.



Exercise

Develop a list of strategies to reduce inland & coastal flooding through brownfield redevelopment.



**HOW CAN BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT
PLANNING ADD TO CLIMATE SAFETY?
FLOODING SOLUTION**



**HOW CAN BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT
PLANNING ADD TO CLIMATE SAFETY?
SEA LEVEL RISE SOLUTION**





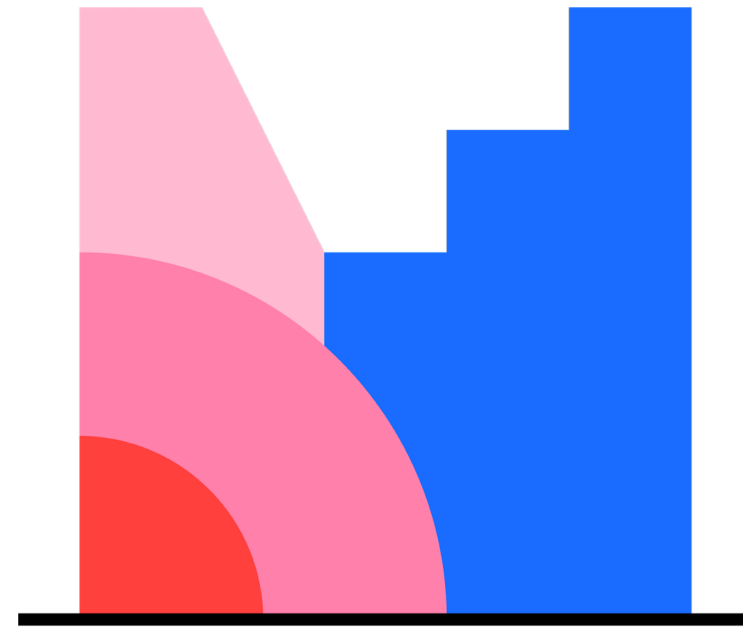
Resources and Needs



Reflections and Closing Remarks

Poll questions:

- What are you going to take away from this training?
- What adaptation strategies are you most excited to implement?
- What topics would you like to see future trainings on?



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Code: 3661 6677

Q&A



Put your questions in the chat!

EPA Redevelopment Resources

- [Climate Smart Brownfields Manual](#)
- [2021 Brownfields Federal Programs Guide](#)
- [Brownfield Revitalization in Climate-Vulnerable Areas](#)
- [Types of EPA Brownfield Grant Funding](#)
- [EPA Cleanup Technology Site](#)
- [Implementing Stormwater Infiltration Practices at Vacant Parcels and Brownfield Sites](#)
- [EPA Climate Adaptation Website](#)
- [EPA Smart Growth: Flood Resilience Checklist](#)
- [EPA Green Infrastructure Wizard \(GIWIZ\)](#)
- [Plan for Brownfields Redevelopment Success: Climate-Smart Brownfields Planning Factsheet](#)
- [EPA Re-Powering Training](#)
- [Re-Powering America's Land Initiative: Program Overview](#)



Where Can I Find More Information on Climate Risks?

Overarching:

- [Fifth National Climate Assessment](#)
- [The Climate Explorer](#)
- [Climate Mapper](#)
- [Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation \(CMRA\)](#)

Environmental Justice:

- [Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool \(CEJST\)](#)
- [EPA EJ Screen](#)
- [EPA EnviroAtlas](#)

Wildfire:

- [Cal-Adapt](#)
- [Climate Mapper: Wildfire Danger](#)
- [FEMA National Risk Index: Wildfire Risk](#)

Inland / Coastal Flooding:

- [FEMA Flood Maps](#)
- [NOAA SLR Viewer](#)
- [NASA SLR Tools](#)

Extreme Heat / Drought:

- [Heat.gov](#)
- [U.S. Drought Monitor](#)



Hawai'i and Pacific Island Resources

Overarching:

- [Fifth National Climate Assessment](#)
- [Climate Explorer](#)
- [Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation \(CMRA\)](#)

Environmental Justice:

- [Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool \(CEJST\)](#)
- [EPA EJ Screen](#)
- [EPA EnviroAtlas](#)

Wildfire:

- [Hawaii Statewide GIS Program Fire Risk Areas](#)
- [Hawai'i Wildfire Data](#)
- [The Pacific Fire Exchange](#)

Inland/Coastal Flooding:

- [State of Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Viewer](#)
- [American Samoa Sea Level Rise Viewer](#)
- [Hawaii Flood Hazard Assessment Tool](#)

Extreme Heat/Drought:

- [Heat.gov](#)
- [U.S. Drought Monitor](#)



Thank you!

Questions? Please contact:

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