

A. MSHCP Conservation Area Description



3.3.6 Desert Transition Bioregion

The Desert Transition Bioregion comprises 7% of the Plan Area. It should be noted that 21% percent of the Desert Transition Bioregion is Indian Land (Table 4). Nine of the 11 generalized vegetation types occur in the Desert Transition Bioregion. All of these types occur within areas to be conserved under the MSHCP (Table 10).

**TABLE 10
CONSERVATION OF VEGETATION COMMUNITIES
IN THE DESERT TRANSITION BIOREGION**

Vegetation Community	Additional Reserve Lands and Existing Public/Quasi-Public Lands		Bioregion		Percent Conserved under MSHCP	Change in Relative % Distribution
	Acres	Relative % Distribution	Acres	Relative % Distribution		
Chaparral	26,905	80.4	56,898	64.1	47.3	16.3
Desert Scrubs	2,446	7.3	10,850	12.2	22.5	-4.9
Coastal Sage Scrub	2,059	6.2	2,792	3.1	73.7	3.1
Grassland	1,478	4.4	10,098	11.4	14.6	-7.0
Developed or Disturbed Land	130	0.4	2,030	2.3	6.4	-1.9
Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	124	0.4	378	0.4	32.7	0.0
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	113	0.3	304	0.3	37.2	0.0
Woodlands and Forests	94	0.3	223	0.3	42.2	0.0
Pennisular Juniper Woodland and Scrub	76	0.2	120	0.1	63.0	0.1
Meadows and Marshes	33	0.1	1,258	1.4	2.6	-1.3
Agricultural Land	4	0.0	3,718	4.2	0.1	-4.2
Water	4	0.0	116	0.1	3.4	-0.1
TOTAL	33,467	100.1	88,785	100.0	38%	

Chaparral is the most common vegetation type within the Desert Transition Bioregion, comprising 64% of the cover, with much smaller amounts of desert scrubs (12%), grassland (11%), and coastal sage scrub (3%). Agriculture and developed account for 4% and 2% of the cover, respectively.

Because a substantial percentage of the Bioregion is Indian Land (21%), only 38% of the overall Bioregion would be conserved. Excluding Agriculture and developed, 40% of the Bioregion would be conserved. If Indian Land is excluded from the total, 48% of the Bioregion would be conserved. More than 50% of coastal sage scrub, chaparral, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, woodlands and forests, and juniper woodland would be conserved. Almost 50% of riparian scrub, woodland, and

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forest would be conserved. Only 23% of grassland would be conserved because a large portion of this community occurs on Indian Lands. A relatively low percentage of meadows and marshes would be conserved (25%).

Representativeness of vegetation types in the Desert Transition Bioregion is variable, ranging from moderate under-representation (grassland at -7.0%) to moderate over-representation (chaparral at +16.3%). Again, this is because a large percentage of the Bioregion is Indian Land.

3.3.7 San Bernardino Mountains Bioregion

The San Bernardino Mountains Bioregion accounts for 2% of the Plan Area. Eight of the eleven generalized vegetation types occur in this Bioregion, and all are represented within areas to be conserved under the MSHCP (Table 11). About 29% percent of the Bioregion is Indian Land.

**TABLE 11
CONSERVATION OF VEGETATION COMMUNITIES
IN THE SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS BIOREGION**

Vegetation Community	Additional Reserve Lands and Existing Public/Quasi-Public Lands		Bioregion		Percent Conserved under MSHCP	Change in Relative % Distribution
	Acres	Relative % Distribution	Acres	Relative % Distribution		
Chaparral	6,879	68.8	17,496	60.3	39.3	8.5
Montane Coniferous Forest	1,311	13.1	1,514	5.2	86.6	7.9
Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	621	6.2	926	3.2	67.1	3.0
Grassland	333	3.3	3,820	13.2	8.7	-9.9
Woodlands and Forests	302	3.0	1,051	3.6	28.7	-0.6
Developed or Disturbed Land	244	2.4	1,512	5.2	16.1	-2.8
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	137	1.4	273	0.9	50.2	0.5
Coastal Sage Scrub	71	0.7	1,077	3.7	6.6	-3.0
Agricultural Land	90	0.9	1,254	4.3	7.2	-3.4
Meadows and Marshes	4	0.0	74	0.3	5.4	-0.3
TOTAL	9,992	99.9	28,997	100.0	35%	