

A. MSHCP Conservation Area Description



Discrete Habitat patches were defined by separations between natural Vegetation Communities by major roadways (as described above), urban and disturbed land covers, and intensive agricultural (dairies, intensive row crops and orchards). There was no minimum connection width or length between patches that defined the patches as separate; *i.e.*, all continuous Habitat polygons were considered a single patch.

3.5.2 Results of the Habitat Patch Analysis

The MSHCP Conservation Area, including Additional Reserve Lands and existing Public/Quasi-Public Lands, is composed of approximately 575 patches of intact vegetation. The spatial character of the Conservation Area is complex, with a large number of small, spatially disjunct patches and a relatively small number of large connected patches (*Table 13*). (This may seem to be a trivial result, because one could logically assume there would only be a few large Habitat patches without doing the analysis. However, quantifying the distribution of patch sizes is useful, because one could conceive of a MSHCP Conservation Area that is comprised of a large number of small patches and no large patches).

**TABLE 13
NUMBER AND ACREAGE OF NATURAL VEGETATION PATCHES
WITHIN THE MSHCP CONSERVATION AREA**

Size Class Intervals (Acres)	Number of Patches	% of Patches	Number of Acres	% of Acres
<1	189	33%	56	0.01%
1 to 10	187	32%	714	0.2%
11 to 100	116	20%	3,881	0.8%
101 to 1,000	55	10%	21,975	4.6%
1,001 to 10,000	21	4%	79,354	16.5%
> 10,000	7	1%	373,628	77.9%
TOTAL	575	100%	479,608	100%