

Large Landowner Initiative

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Purpose:

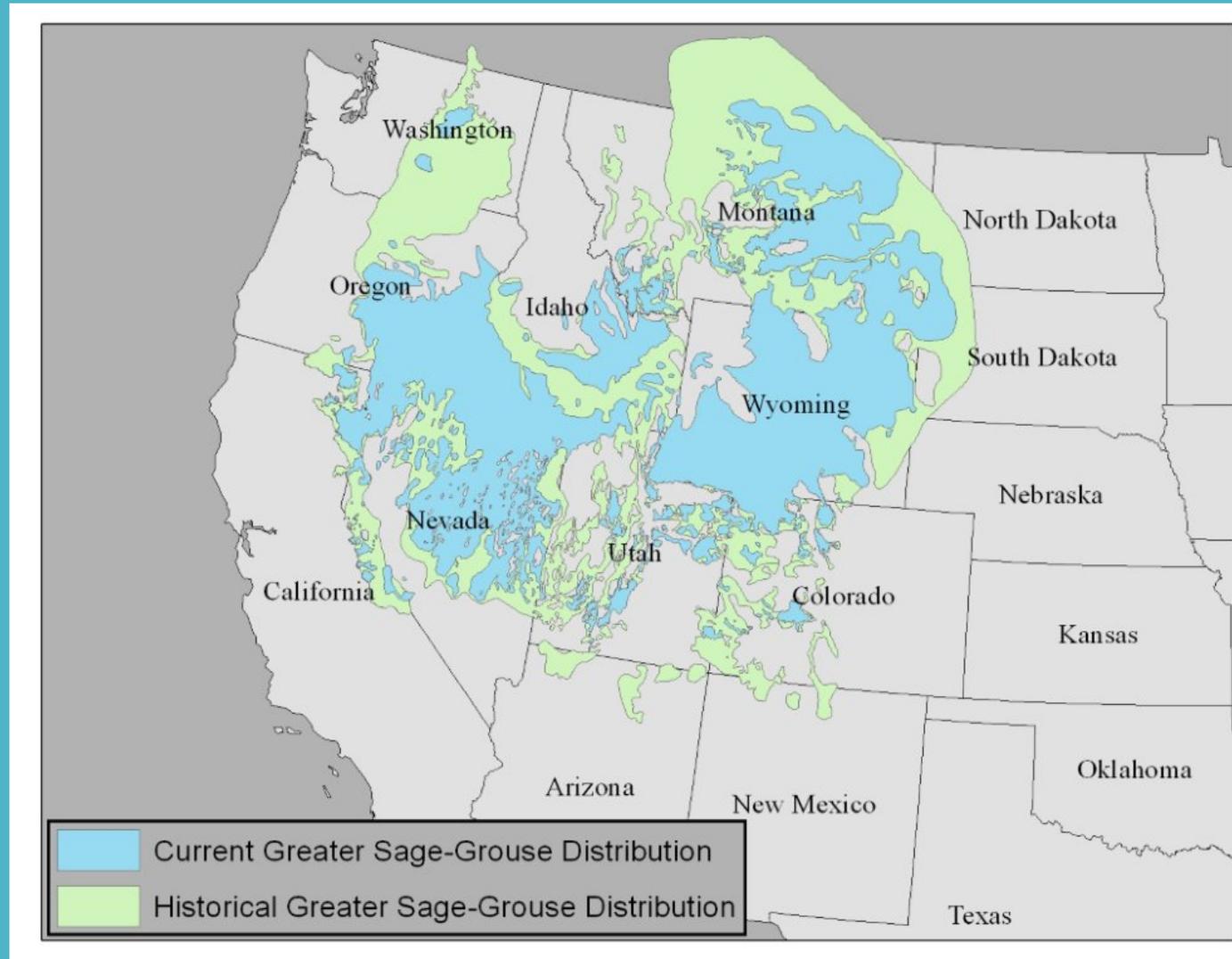
- ❖ Advance knowledge and a research agenda for real estate development, natural resource management, land use planning, environmental review / impact evaluation, policy analysis , and economic impacts.
- ❖ Foster dialogue & collaboration
- ❖ Provide relevant and meaningful research, management practices and business models

U.S. Critical Habitat Designations

Lower 48 states



Greater Sage Grouse Habitat



Acres
Estimates:

186 Million Acres
according to
USDA

LPC Current and Historical Occupied Ranges



Lesser Prairie Chicken Habitat

Current Habitat:
19.77 Million Acres

Estimated Historic Habitat:
117 Million Acres

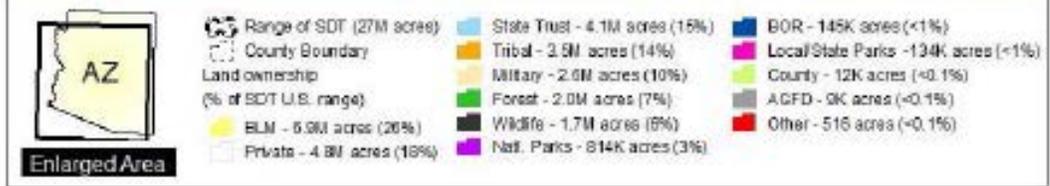
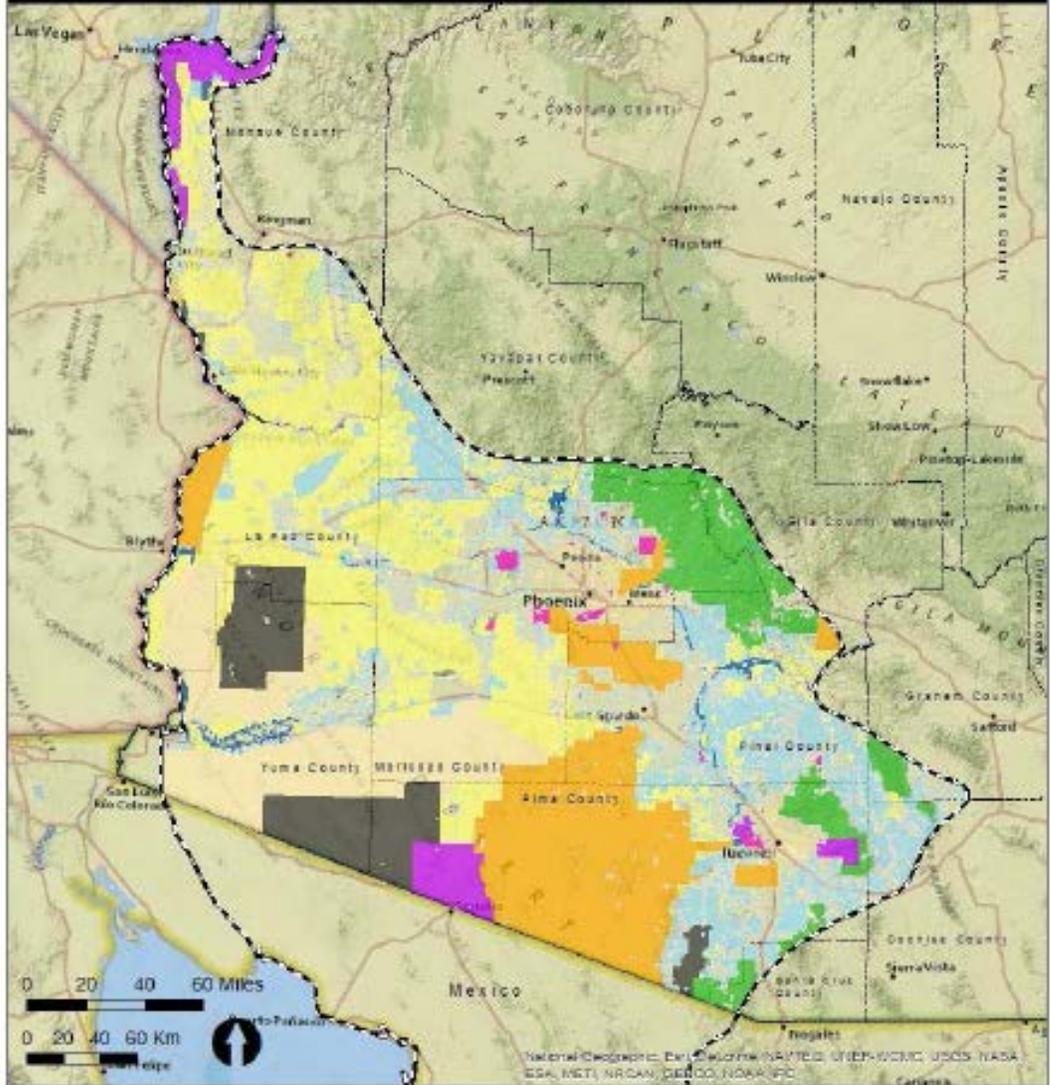
Initiative & Sonoran Desert Tortoise



- ❖ Critical proactive planning and management practices associated with the listing determination of the Sonoran Desert Tortoise (SDT).
- ❖ The historical range of the Sonoran Desert Tortoise covers approximately 27 million acres of land in Arizona, 9 million acres of which is comprised of private and state trust land.
- ❖ Hundreds of thousands of acres of the SDT historical range lies in Arizona's critical metropolitan growth areas.
- ❖ Approach listing determination in a systematic and proactive way discussing approaches to maximize asset value, community growth objectives and economic development potential while meeting the legal requirements of the FWS and natural resource management objectives.

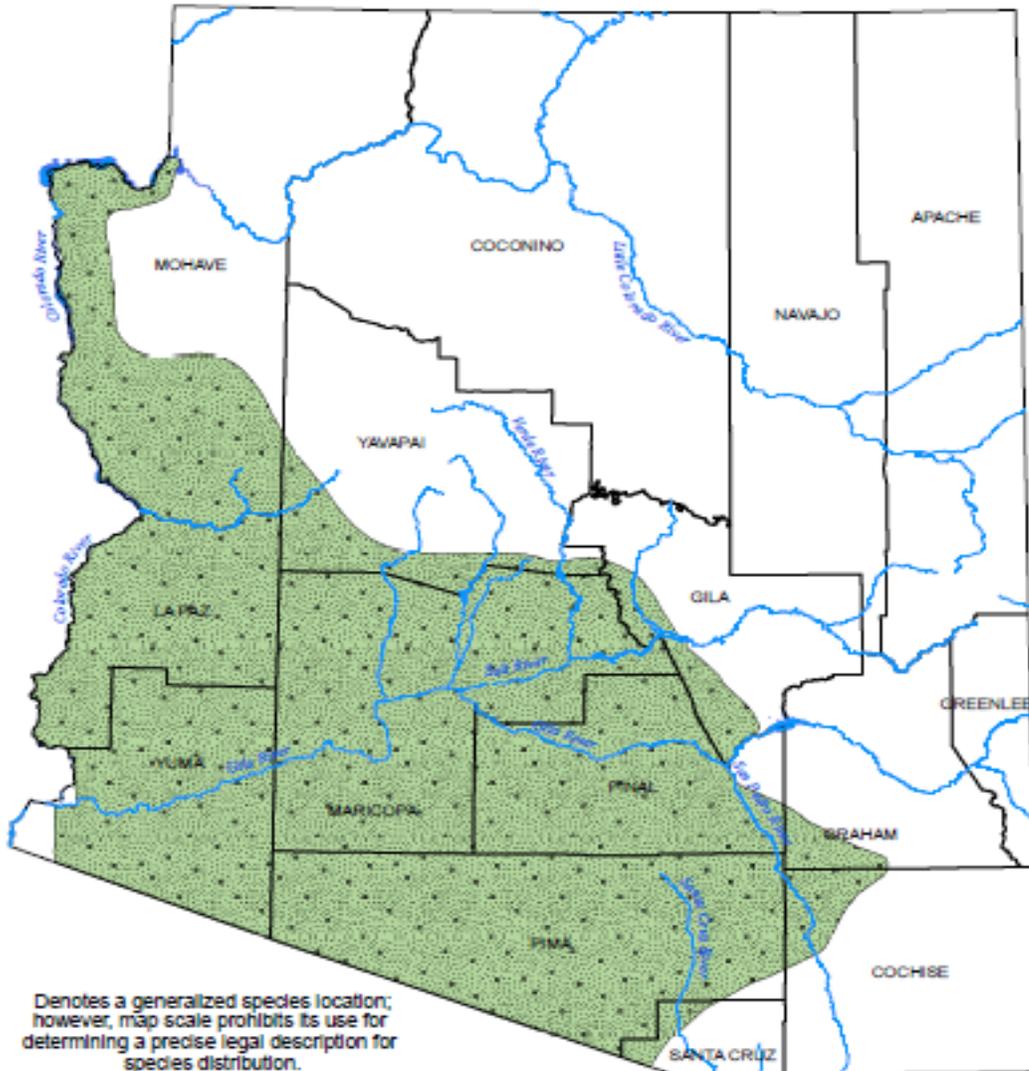


Land Ownership within the U.S. range of Sonoran Desert Tortoise



- ❖ 75 percent of potentially occupied Sonoran desert tortoise habitat occurs within 30 mi or less of a city or town with a human population of 1,000 or more
- ❖ Considering future growth projections, it is likely that 100 percent of occupied tortoise habitat will be affected in the future.
- ❖ Pinal County (Gateway/Superstition Vistas, West Pinal, Red Rock, and Tri-Communities) fall completely within the range of the Sonoran desert tortoise.
- ❖ The loss of 176,000 acres constitutes a loss of 0.7 percent of Sonoran Desert Tortoise habitat in Arizona; range-wide, 0.34 percent.
- ❖ Maricopa County Comprehensive Plan calls for growth areas to the south and east of Chandler and Mesa, Arizona, which are within the range of the Sonoran desert tortoise.

Sonoran Desert Tortoise Candidate Species

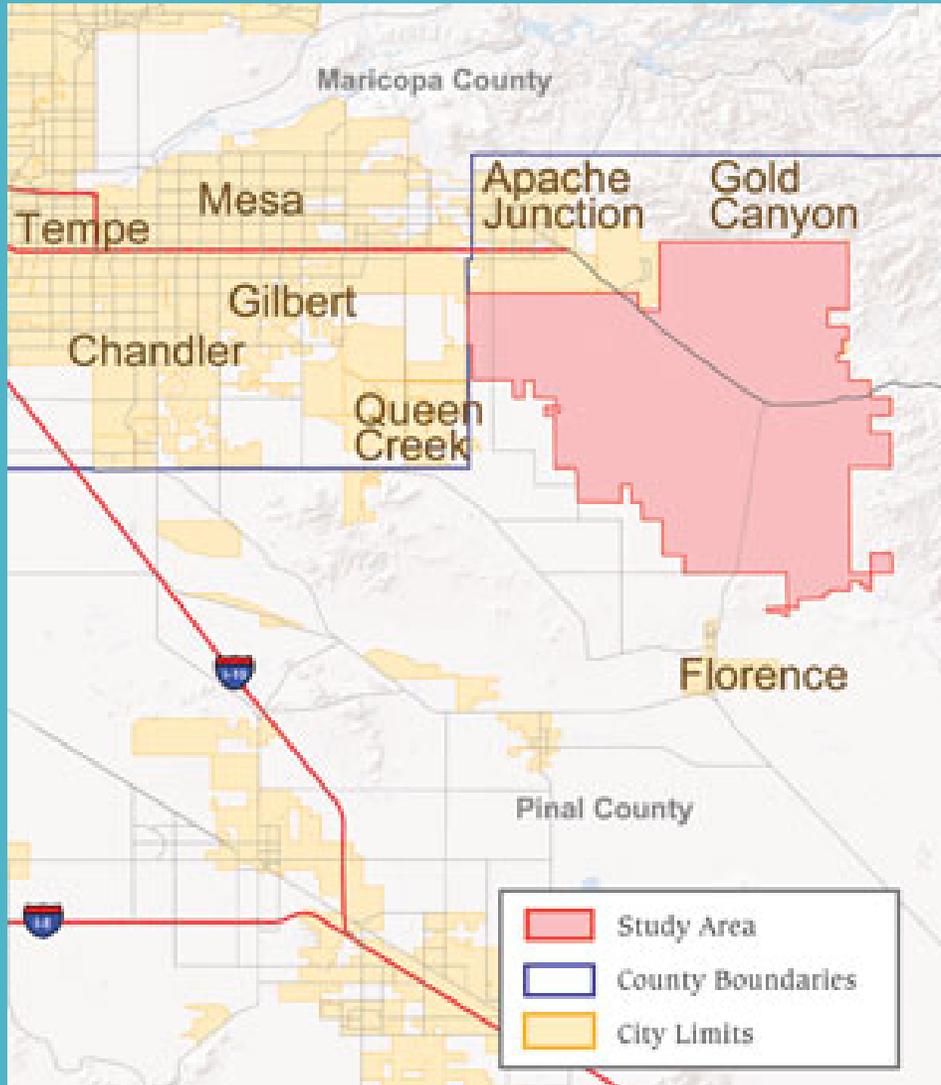


USFWS/AESO 2012

 Species Range

- ❖ Federal Register 2010--U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce a finding that listing as T & E is warranted but precluded.
- ❖ USFWS to develop a proposed rule as priorities allow. That time is now.
- ❖ Stressors:
 - Large scale urban development that leads to cities and counties expansion
 - Development and renewable energy
 - New or existing roads and highways
 - Off-road vehicle use
 - Grazing management practices
 - Livestock related developments
 - Exposure to contaminants from mining operations
 - Illegal immigration
 - Collection as pets and handling
 - Disease and predation
 - Invasive nonnative plant species

Practical Implications



- ❖ Total economic impact of on-going operations at build-out on Arizona economy is estimated at
 - approximately 137,500 jobs;
 - \$4.9 billion of household earnings;
 - Total output of \$16.3 billion.
- ❖ Land value impacts including those related to:
 - Delays
 - Increased costs of project
 - Loss of developable land, which will reduce land values in affected areas.

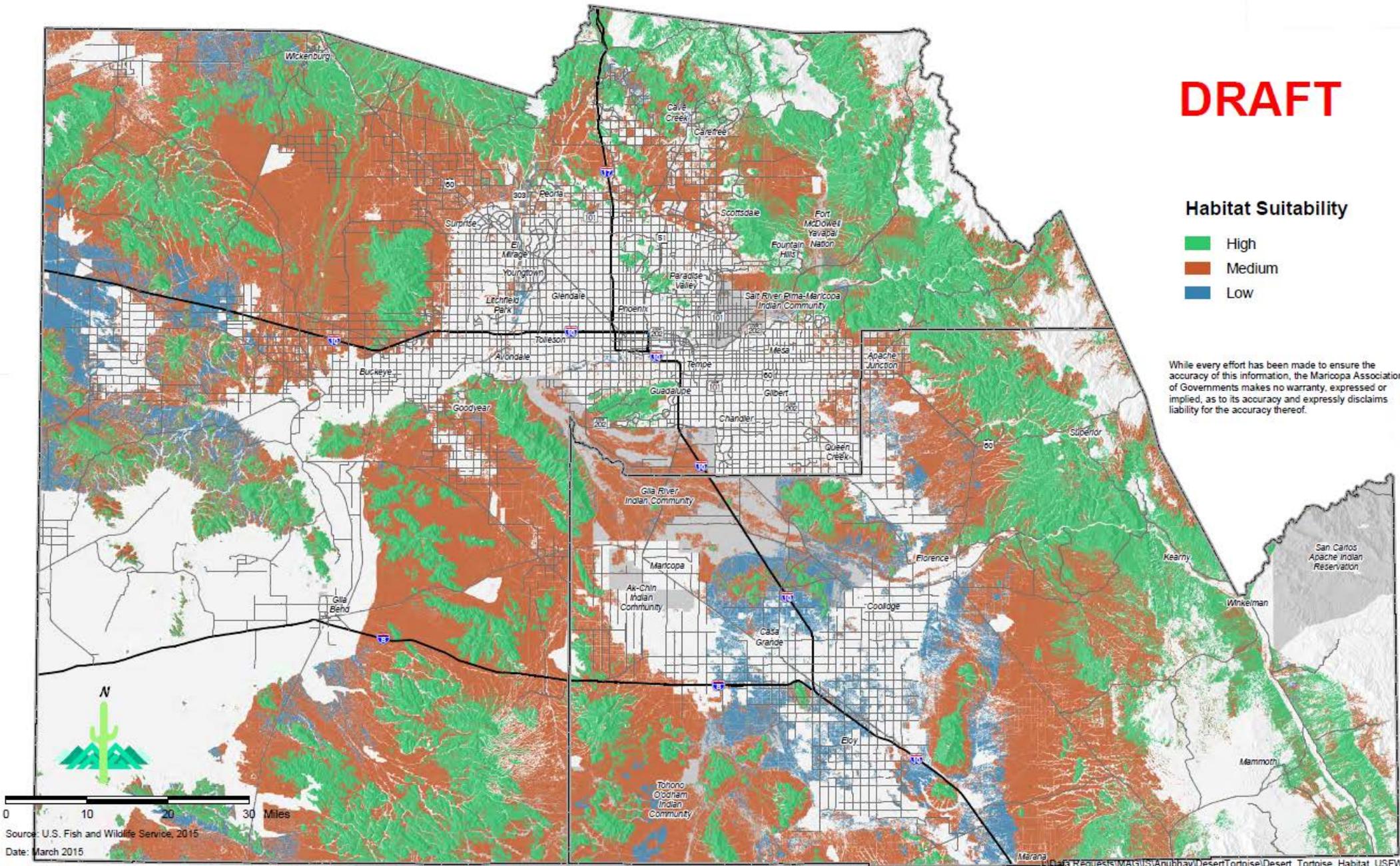
Desert Tortoise Habitat Suitability, Maricopa and Pinal Counties, Arizona

DRAFT

Habitat Suitability

- High
- Medium
- Low

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the Maricopa Association of Governments makes no warranty, expressed or implied, as to its accuracy and expressly disclaims liability for the accuracy thereof.



Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2015
Date: March 2015

Projected Growth 2014 to 2035 & Tortoise Habitat

Habitat Rank	County	Population Change	% of Total Pop Change	Employment Change	% of Total Emp Change
HIGH	Maricopa	73,570	4.0%	12,570	1.2%
MED	Maricopa	436,670	23.6%	159,320	15.5%
LOW	Maricopa	24,960	1.3%	11,570	1.1%
NONE	Maricopa	1,318,510	71.1%	842,860	82.1%
TOTAL	Maricopa	1,853,710	100.0%	1,026,320	100.0%
HIGH	Pinal*	6,070	2.6%	1,330	1.4%
MED	Pinal *	57,510	24.4%	23,190	24.0%
LOW	Pinal *	18,540	7.9%	6,240	6.5%
NONE	Pinal *	153,190	65.1%	65,850	68.2%
TOTAL	Pinal *	235,310	100.0%	96,610	100.0%

All numbers rounded to nearest 10

Population totals include seasonal population

* only includes Pinal County areas within the MAG planning boundary

** projected population from 2012/13 official projections (not controlled to 2014 estimate)

Collaborative / Proactive Solutions

- ❖ Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances
- ❖ Meetings with Stakeholders, USFWS, AZGFD
- ❖ Review / Analyze existing CCAA documents in Western US to identify opportunities and lessons learned
- ❖ Review Existing General Plans / Comp Plans / Regional Trail Systems / Ordinances
- ❖ Map Data and Compare with Land Uses, Growth Projections, Growth Areas, Conservation Areas
- ❖ Identify Costs Associated with Permit
- ❖ Meetings with County Representatives and Stakeholders to identify and facilitate cooperative solution



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