

Taking stock of your land's resources

- Inventory of soil, water, and forage resources
- Monitor
 - Mapping resources
 - Photo Points



Soil Resources

- What is the potential of your soil?
- What are the limiting factors?
- How can management maintain or improve soil productivity?



Water Resources

What is your source of water?

 How much do you need?

What are the costs?



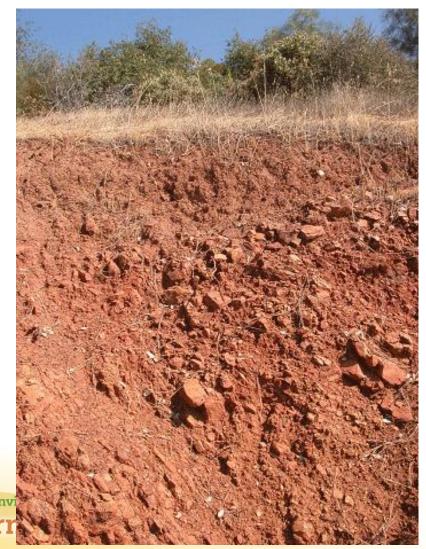
Forage Production

- How much forage will my land provide?
- When should I graze?
- How many animals will it support?
- How does management effect total forage?



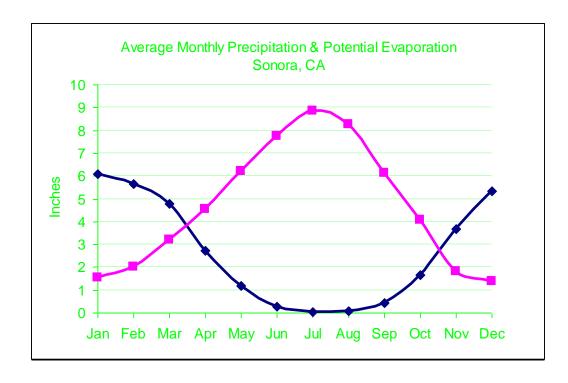
Factors that determine soil productivity

- Rainfall & Temperature
- Topography
- Soil depth
- Texture
- Structure
- Organic matter content



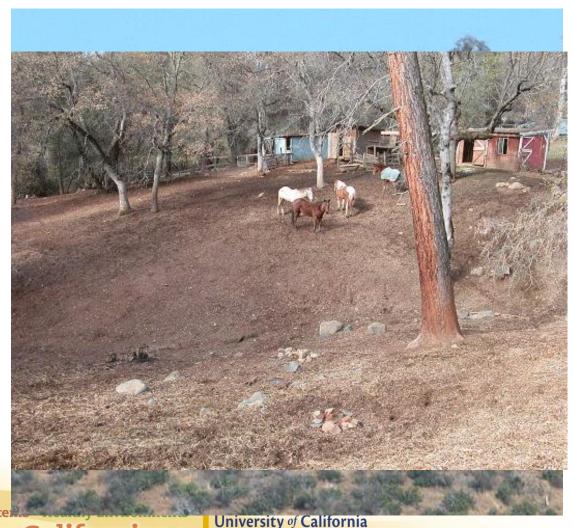
Healthy Communities Healthy Food Systems Healthy Environmental Healthy Californ

- Rainfall & Temperature
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From the Western Regional Climate Center: http://www.wrcc.dri.edu

- Rainfall & Temperature
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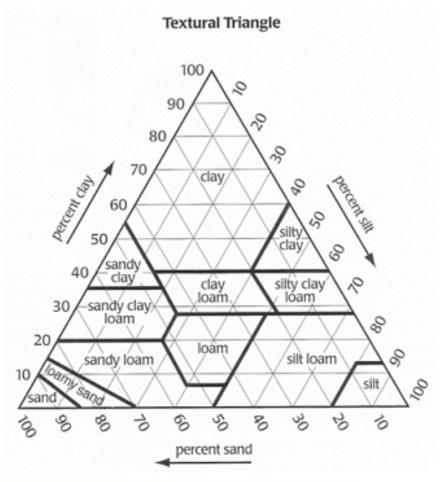


- Rainfall & Temperature
- Topography
- Soil depth
- Texture





- Rainfall & Temperature
- Topography
- Soil depth
- Texture
 - Proportions of sand,silt, & clay in soil



Factors you can manage

- Structure
- Organic matter content



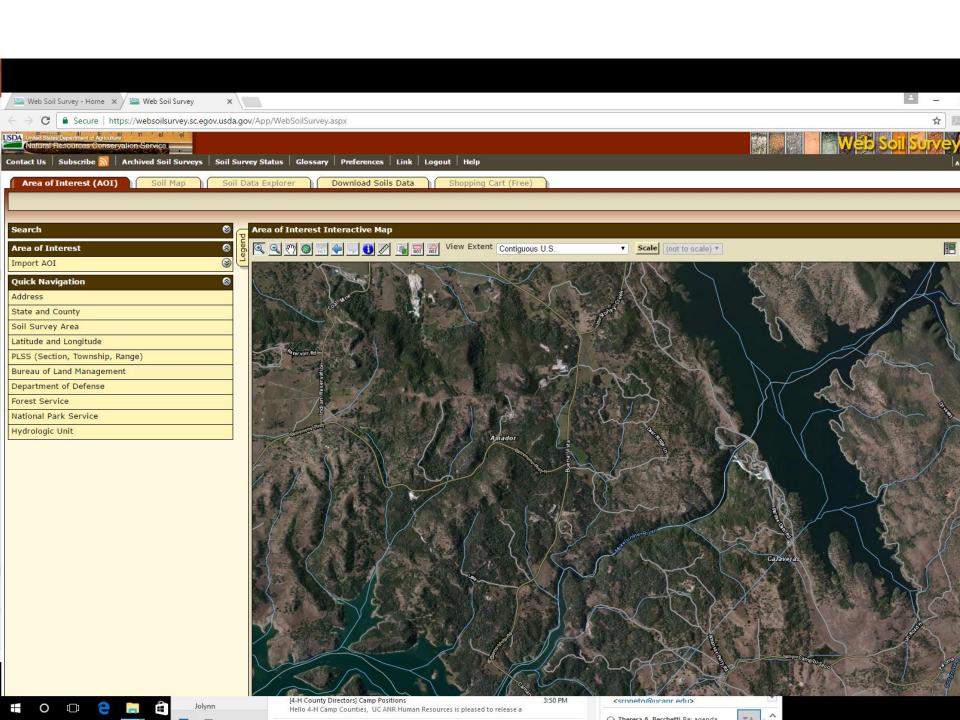
Factors you can manage

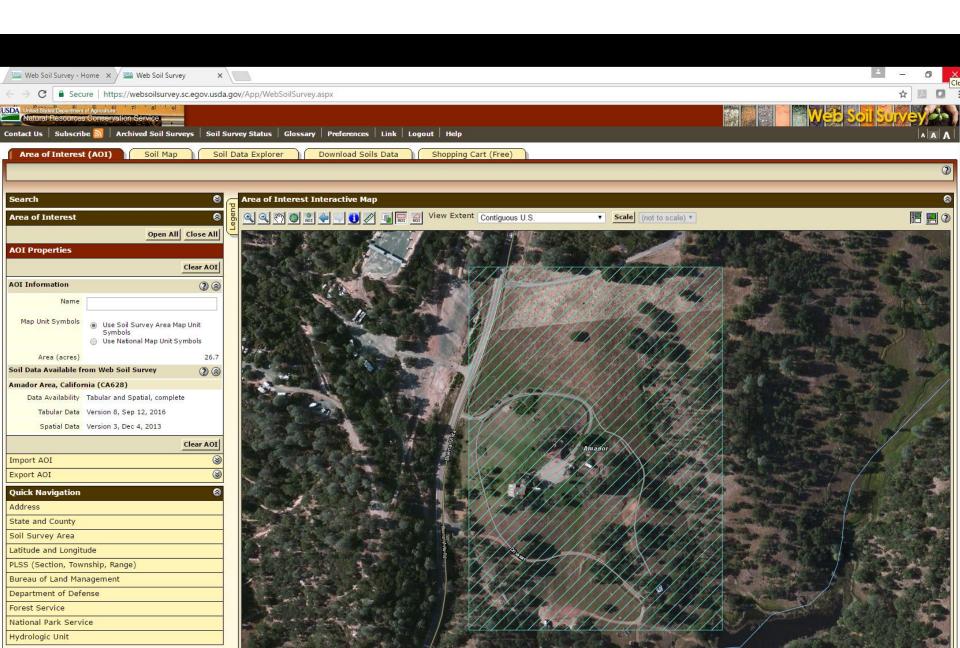
- Structure
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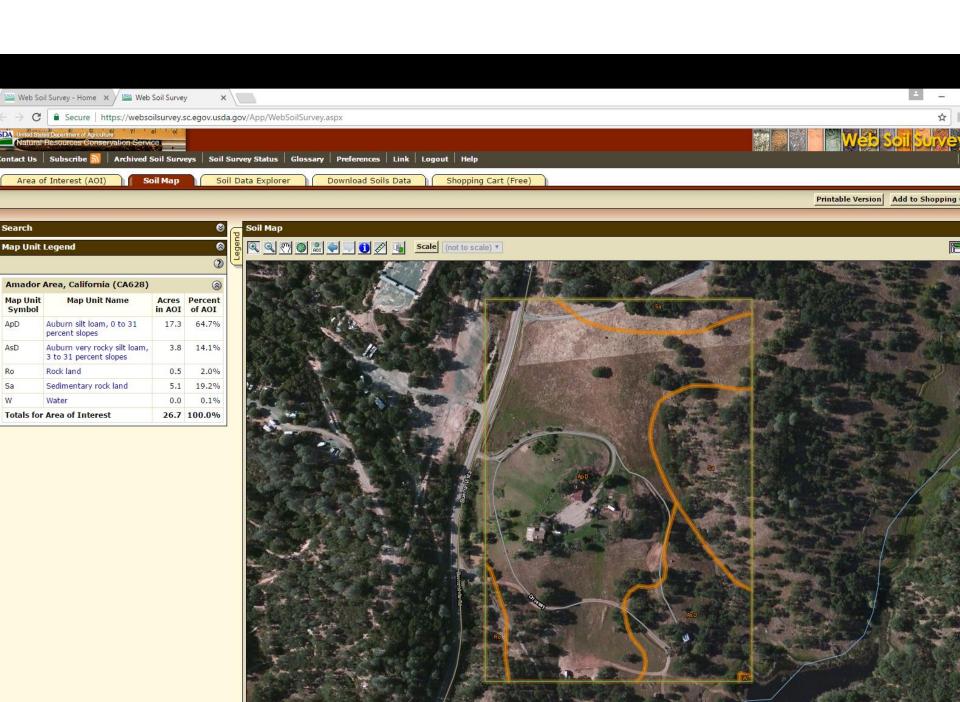


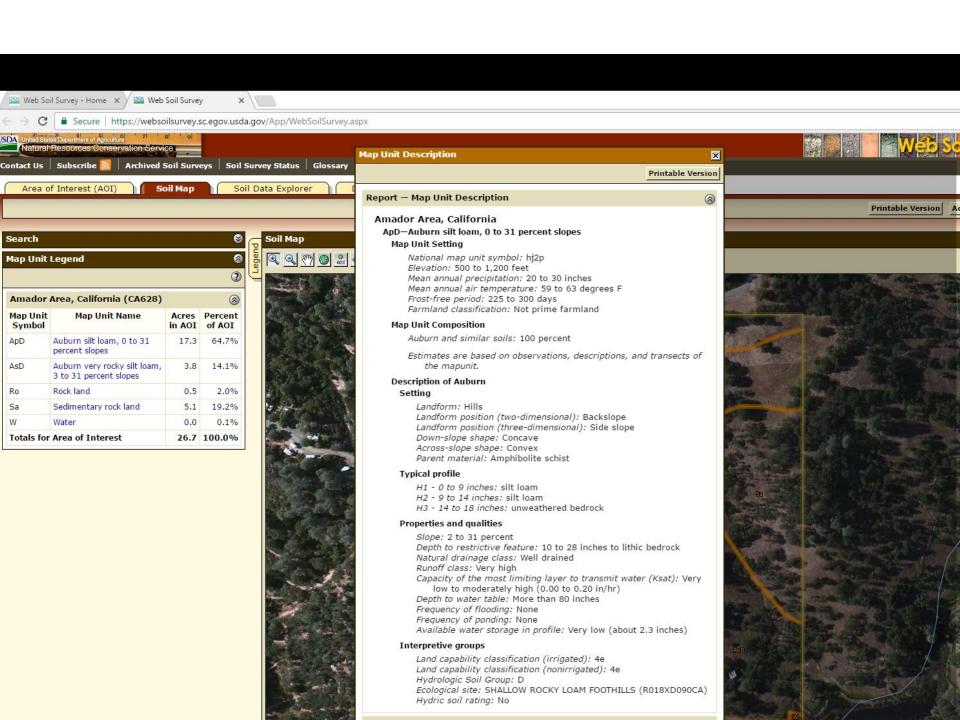
How do I determine my soils?

- Traditionally these books were printed and made available at
 - UC Cooperative Extension
 - USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
 - County library
- Today most counties have data available online
 - https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov

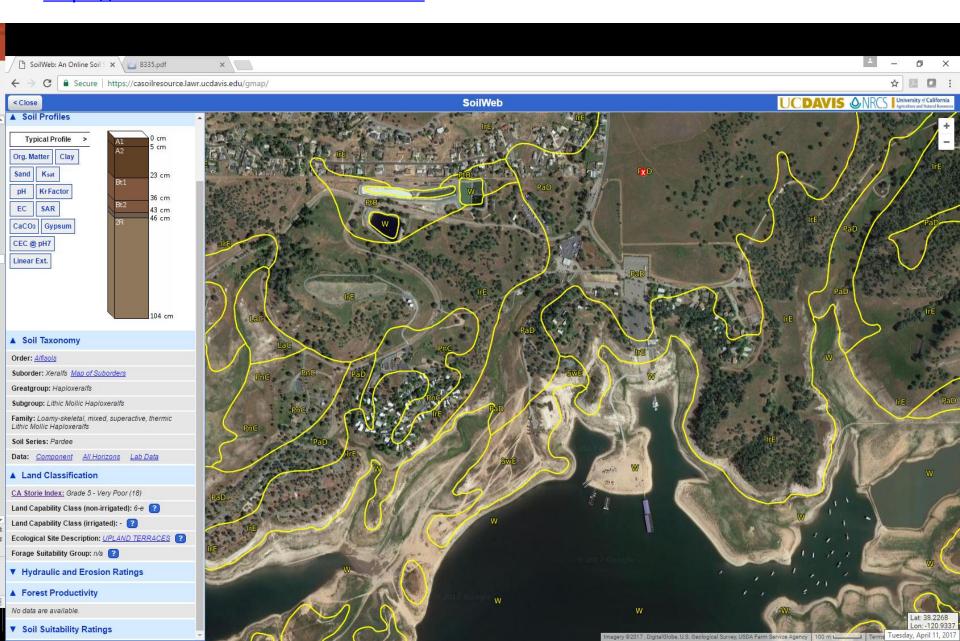




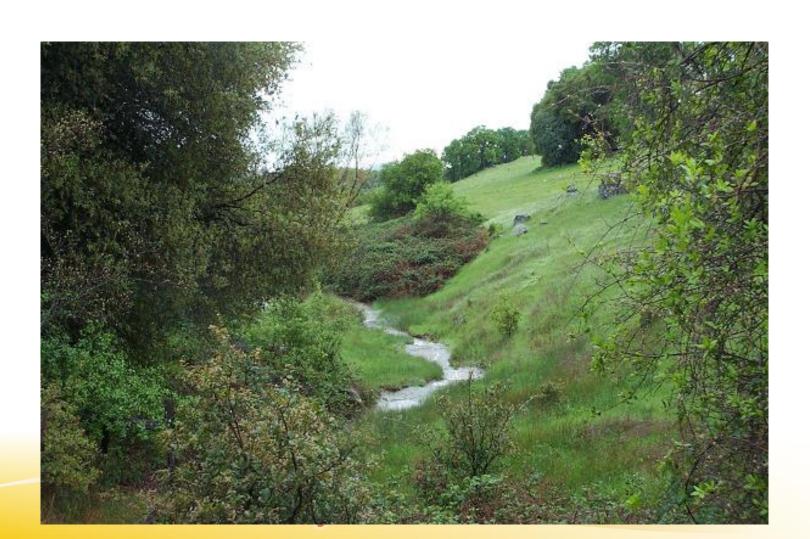




Another online resource: UC Davis California Soil Resource Lab https://casoilresource.lawr.ucdavis.edu

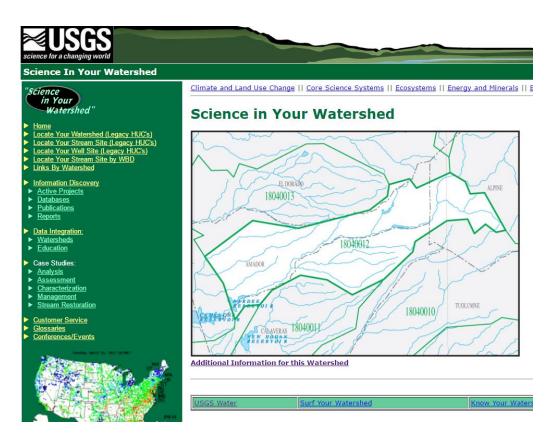


Factors determining how much water you have and how much you need



Determining sources of water

- Wells
- Utilities
- Streams
- Ditches
- Lakes or ponds

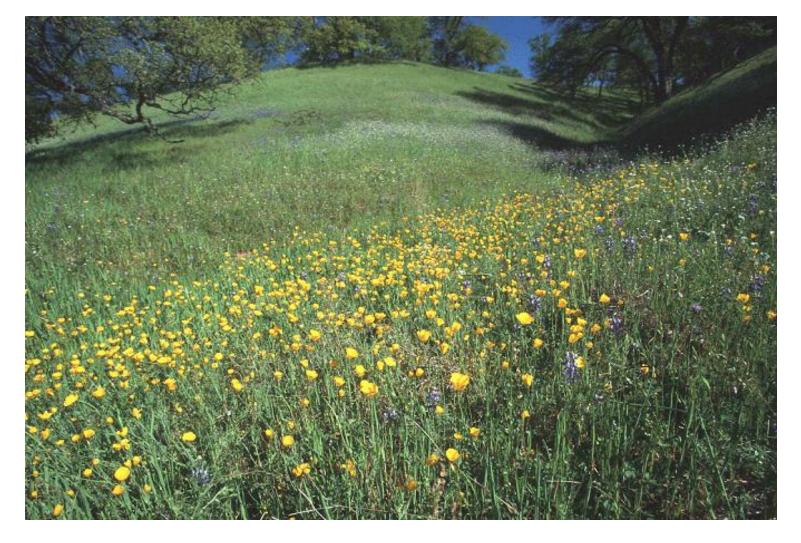


https://water.usgs.gov/wsc/index.html

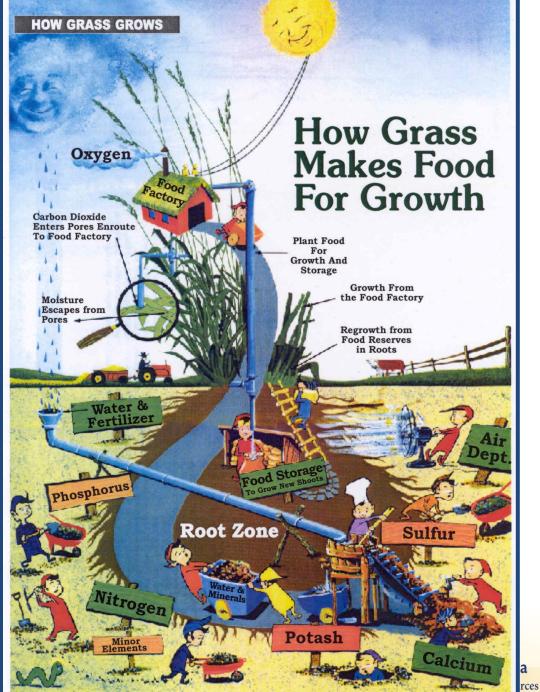
Stock Water Needs

- Large animals drink 8 to 12 gallons of water per day
- Consumption is highest during the summer when many sources are dry
- Water sources can create soil compaction, erosion or damage to stream banks or ponds





Now that you have taken stock of your soil and water resources, the next step is to estimate your forage production potential for animals.



Healthy Commun

AUM – Animal Unit Month

- Animal Unit forage consumption of one 1000pound animal (cow)
- Animal Unit Month amount of forage required for one animal unit for one month (AUM)
- All other animals are compared to one 1000pound animal (cow)

AUM equivalents

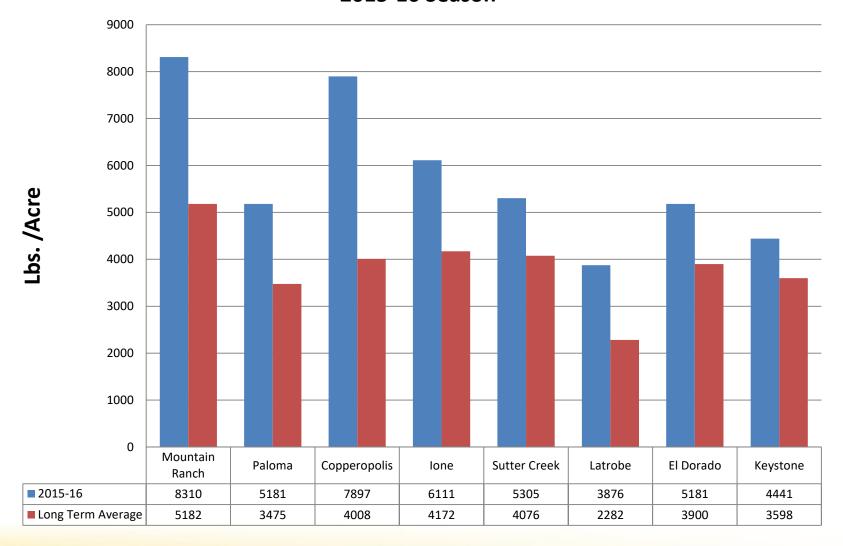
Species	AUM	Species	AUM
Cow	1.00	Sheep	0.20
Bull	1.30	Goat	0.20
Weaned Calf	0.50	Llama	0.30
Mature Horse	1.25	Deer	0.20
Yearling Horse	0.75	Elk	0.50

Range Considerations

Estimates are difficult to make because:

- Extreme variations due to rainfall amount and timing
- Complex relationships due to soil and vegetation types
- Management style and weed infestation
 - i.e. a heavy crop of yellow starthistle can reduce production by 75%.

Sierra Nevada Annual Range Forage Production 2015-16 Season



How much feed do I have?

Formula for determining potential production per acre:

- 1,000 lbs. of forage will carry one animal unit for one month (AUM)
- 75% of forage is available for livestock use
- Proper management dictates that 600 lbs. of feed must be left at the end of season per acre (this is called residual dry matter RDM)

For Paloma: forage production is estimated to be 3,500 pounds per acre

The management unit's average forage production is 3,500 lbs./acre (with 2,625 lbs./acre available to livestock) and RDM needs to be 600 lbs./acre.

2,625 lbs./acre-600 lbs. RDM/acre

1,000 lbs./AUM = 2 AUM/acre

Annual production of forage

- Acres of pasture
- AUMs of forage per acre
- Total forage production

Balancing feed and forage using AUMs

- Determine whether your animals' feed and forage requirements balance with your land's production
- Forage is what your animals consume by grazing
- Feed is defined as hay you provide an animal

Monitoring

- Use observations and common sense
- If there isn't enough feed in your pasture, you are overstocked regardless of what the calculations said





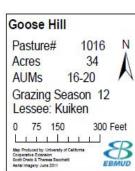
Monitoring made easy

Develop a ranch map

- Show resource inventory (soils, roads, ponds, streams, barns, crops, fences, etc.)
- Shows property layout and gives an accurate measure of productive and non-productive areas
- Manage land more effectively

RDM Mapping 2014 Woody Cover 0-20% Slope >20% Slope 0-20 5-50 (500; 1):750 (750; 1):1000 50-75 (500; 1):750 (500; 1):750 150-15 (500; 1):750 (500; 1):750 150-16 (500; 1):750 (500; 1):750 150-16 (500; 1):750 (500; 1):750

Leg	end
(3)	Photo Point
	Pasture
•	Troughs
	Native Grasses
RDM	Level
	Burn
::::	Below
///	Target
	Above
Weed	
	Barb goatgrass
	Fiddleneck
	French broom
	Horehound
	Italian thistle
	Medusahead
	Milk thistle
	Oblong spurge
	Skeletonweed
	Stinkwort
	Tocalote
	Yellow starthistle





RDM Mapping 2015 0 - 25 25 - 50 <750; T; >1000 <500; T; >750 <750; T; >1000 50 - 75 <500; T; >750 <500; T; >750 75 - 300 <500; T; >750 <500; T; >750 *Kited at Below, Target and High resident by Patter HEMI Massard in Brushe Legend Ponds

Troughs Water Tanks ▲ Spring Boxes Photo Point === Roads Pasture , ", Native Grasses Barb goatgrass Fiddleneck French broom Horehound Italian thistle Medusahead

Milk thistle Oblong spurge Skeletonweed

Stinkwort

Tocalote

Yellow starthistle

RDM Level

Burn Below

/// Target

Above

Goose Hill

Pasture# 1016 34 Acres 16-20 **AUMs** Grazing Season 12 Lessee: Kuiken

0 75 150 300 Feet

Map Produced by: University of California
Cooperative Extension
Scott Onato 6 Therese Seacheds
RDM Wheel Searching conducted: SeptiA, 10, 15, 16
EBMUD
Andel Imageny: June 2011





Goose Hill

Pasture# 1016 N Acres 34 AUMs 16-20 Grazing Season 12 Lessee: Kuiken

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Scott Chesto & Theresa Sections
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RDM / Wiede amoning conducted: Sept-4, 10, 15, 10
EBMUD
Aedai Imagery: June 2011



Monitoring made easy

- Develop Photo Points
- "A photo point is a location from which a specific field of view can be relocated and rephotographed repeatedly"
 - Uses
 - Monitor growth and change of vegetation over time
 - Time lapse of ranch
 - Materials needed
 - Record book or data form
 - Camera
 - Compass



Goose Hill

Photo Point 2 ph pt established, taken from post with boundary marker looking S

2014



Photo Point 2—est. 2014 ph pt established, taken from post with boundary marker looking S

