



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

DIVERSE NATURAL AREAS FACE GROWTH CHALLENGE

The home of Silicon Valley was originally known for its agricultural abundance. That heritage remains in Gilroy's famed garlic harvest and the 3888,000 acres of rangeland that define the Santa Clara County's landscape, along with urban creek corridors and oak woodlands. The county is the Bay Area's fastest-growing and is an economic engine for the state—protecting its natural areas is key to maintaining its appeal.

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Create an interconnected system of open spaces** to enable wildlife migration, trail connections, and continued farming.
- **Increase public access to open space**, especially near fast-growing areas, to help Santa Clara County continue to attract a talented workforce and ensure that all communities benefit.
- **Protect watershed lands** to safeguard the county's water supply for a growing population.

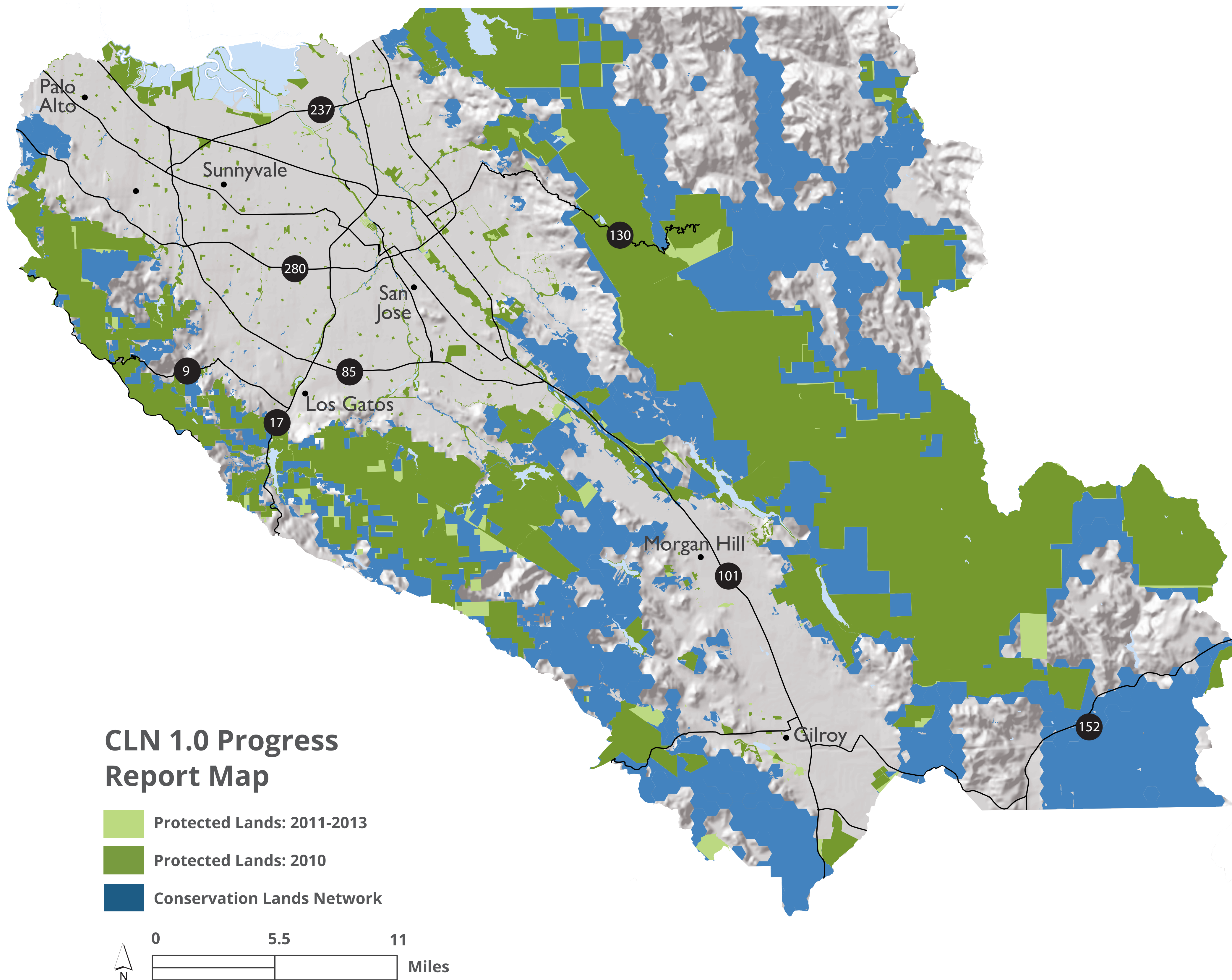
CONSERVATION IN ACTION

The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project—the largest tidal restoration on the West Coast, totaling 15,100 acres—will bring back wildlife, provide flood protection, and enhance access to San Francisco Bay.

OF NOTE

Santa Clara County contains 31 of California's 61 habitat types, from coastal scrub to redwood forests to blue oak woodlands.

COUNTY PROFILE FROM "GOLDEN LANDS, GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES."





Protected Lands



Biodiversity and Habitat



Water Resources



People and Conservation

30% of total land in county is **PROTECTED**

PROGRESS: FEE & EASEMENT PROTECTED AREAS 2010-2013 6,666

246,401 PROTECTED ACRES 2013¹

PROTECTED ACRES 2010² 239,734

ACRES IN THE 202,341 CONSERVATION LANDS NETWORK³

1,788,393 POPULATION⁴

COUNTY REPRESENTS 18% OF REGIONALLY PROTECTED LANDS

FIVE LARGEST OWNERS¹ OF PROTECTED LAND IN COUNTY (ACRES, FEE & EASEMENT)

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS 61,047

SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT 45,253

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY (TNC) 40,818

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT (MROSD) 28,999

SF PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (SFPUC) 13,851

TOTAL COUNTY SIZE (ACRES) 831,659

MORE ACRES 1,109 ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC SINCE 2010¹

PROGRESS: PRIORITY 1 & 2 STREAMS PROTECTED MILES 2010-2013 8.6

240.3 PROTECTED MILES 2013¹

PROTECTED MILES 2010² 231.7

¹BPAD 2013
²BPAD 2010
³CLN 1.0 Progress Report Updated Basemap (2014)
⁴American Community Survey 2012 5 year summary file