



REINTRODUCING CALIFORNIA RED-LEGGED FROGS BACK TO THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS

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Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area



Acknowledgements

bay restoration commission
STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY



Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority





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Red-legged frogs were found in all of the major streams of the Santa Monica Mountains – DeLisle 1987.

Biology, etc.

Largest native frog in the
Western U.S.

Omnivorou

s

Long-lived

Nocturnal

Breeds at 2-3 years old

Reproduction Dec –March

Inspiration for Mark Twain's
"The Celebrated Jumping
Frog of Calaveras County"

California's official state
amphibian



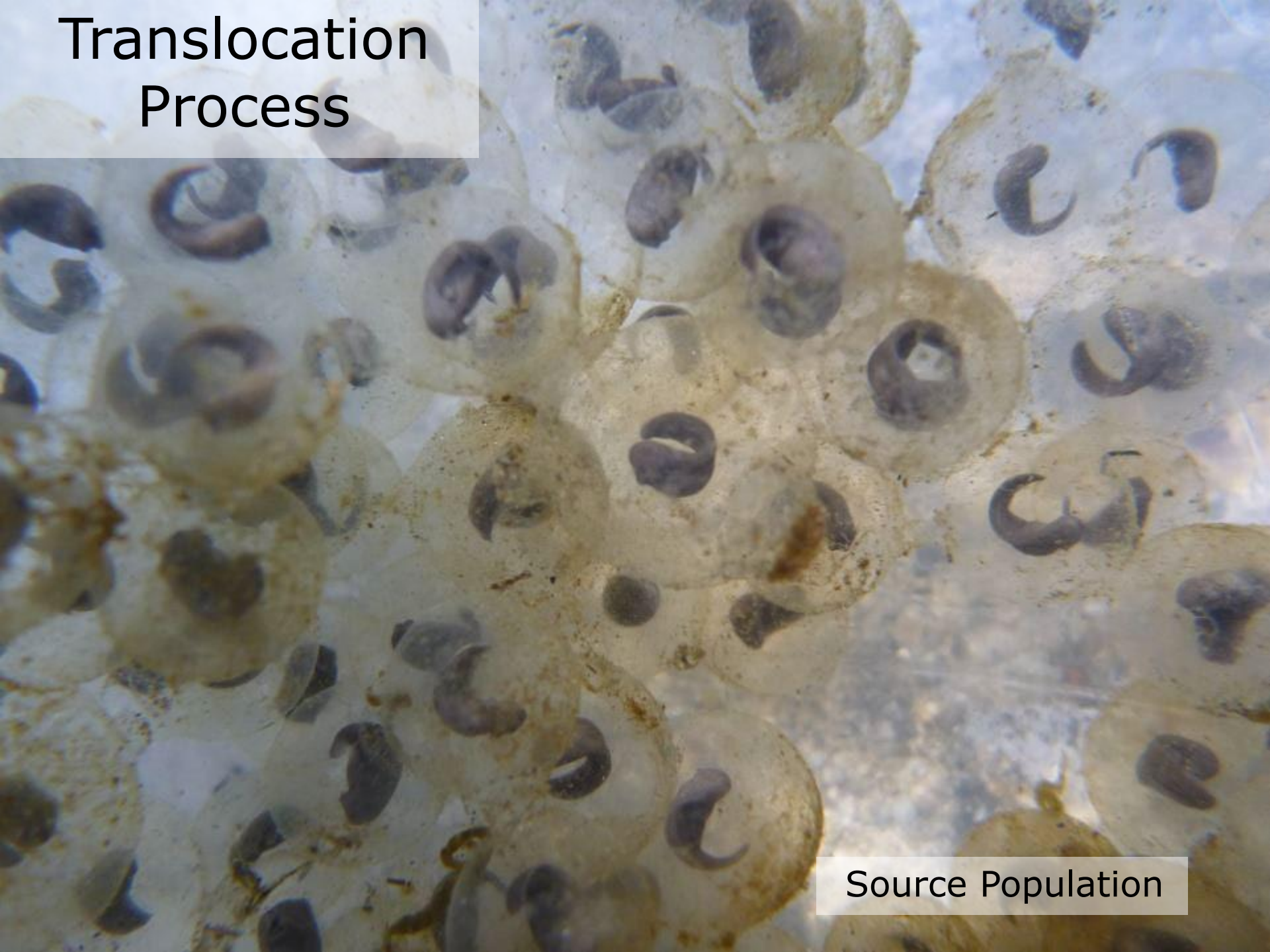


Museum Records & Historical Records

Translocate eggs
Protect them from
predators Raise
tadpoles in-stream
Release them where they've
hatched Keep watching
Repeat



Translocation Process



Source Population



Translocation Site







508



First wild egg mass detected 3/17/17
3/17/17



Egg Masses Detected

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Source	27	36	42	89	64
SMM site 1	-	-	0	12	13
SMM site 2	-	-	0	0	7

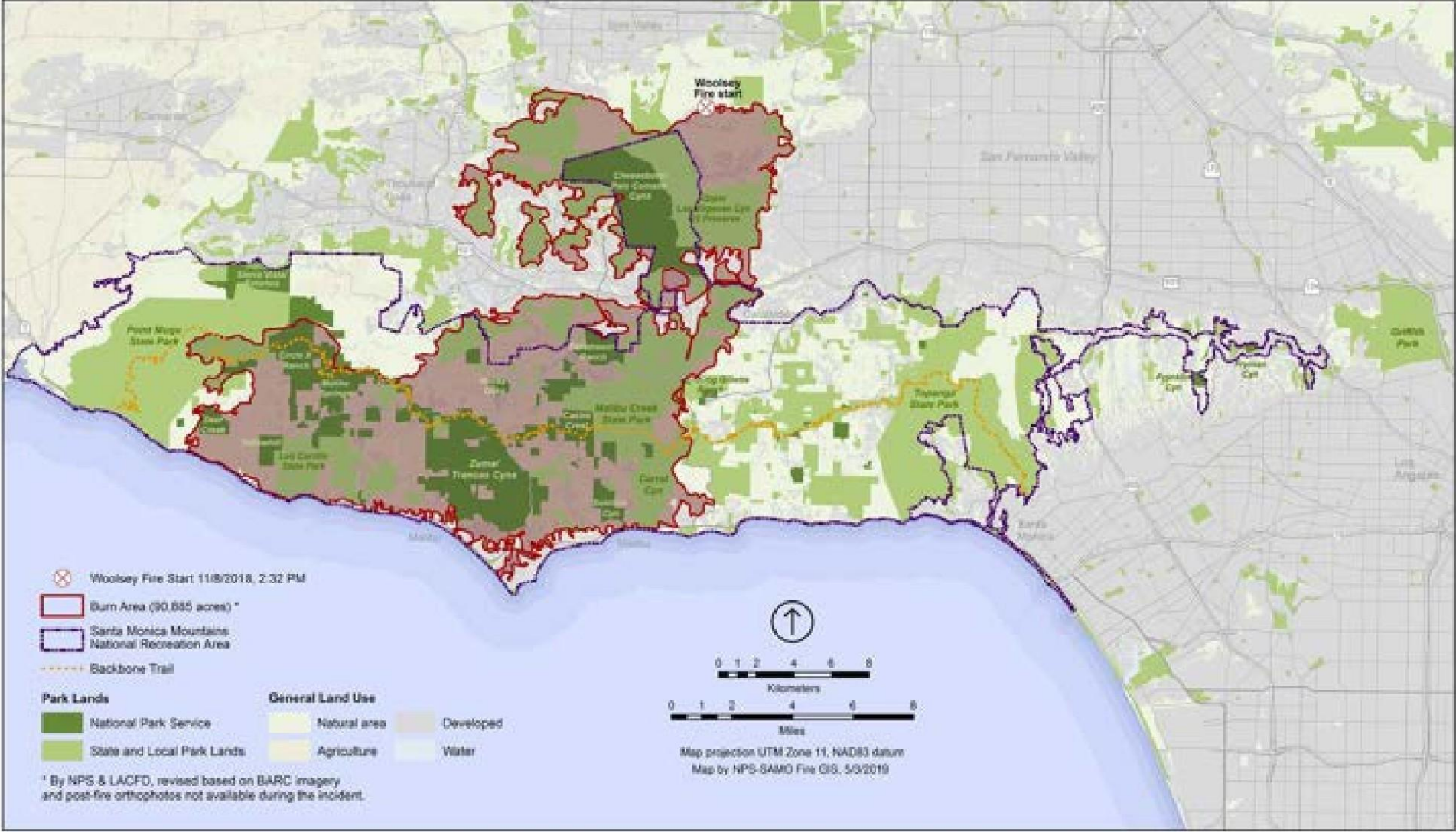


Woolsey Fire November
2018

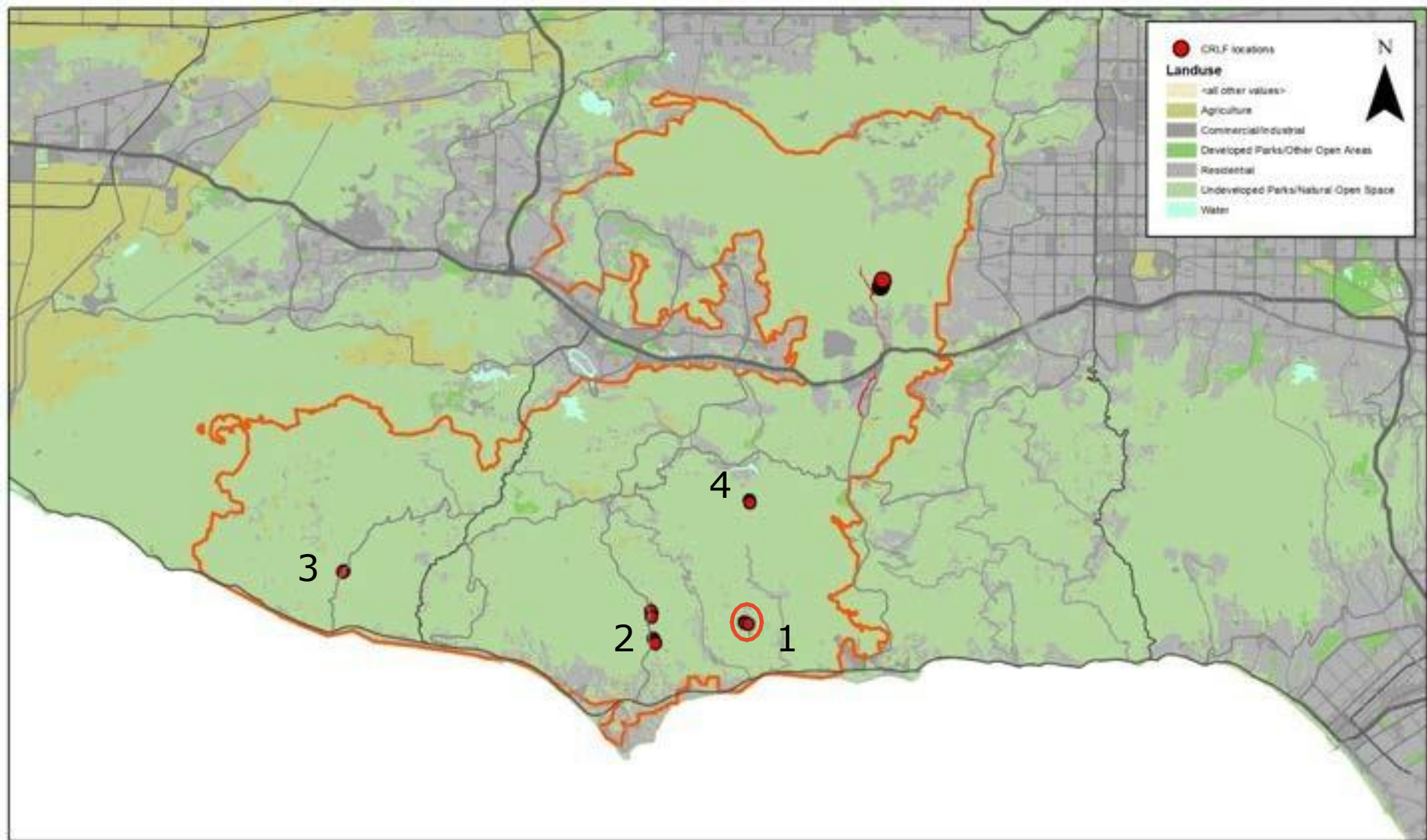


Woolsey Fire

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area



* By NPS & LACFD, revised based on BARC imagery and post-fire orthophotos not available during the incident.





13 Nov
18



13 Nov
18

Source



Source Population



Feb-March 2019 – Breeding normally

Translocation Sites



Recovery – Site
1



Site 3 - Spring
2018



Site 3 - December
2018

Translocation Status

Post-fire adjustments – translocation when and where we can, cooperate with Santa Barbara Zoo to have tadpoles raised off-site, adapt in a very rainy year (2023).

Site 2 Site 4



2021 – Site 1
only

Fire Caused Direct Mortality

Night surveys

1 survey per reintroduction site

PIT tagging

Results:

Reintroduced adult/subadult frogs detected



	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Site 1	18	11	5	7	7	10*
Site 2	23	6	1	1	0	-**
Site 3	6	5	0	2	0	-**
Site 4	6	3	2	3	2	-

*more in an extended survey

**1 daytime detection

Egg Masses Detected

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Source	27	36	42	89	64	84	55	59	47	77
Site 1	-	-	0	12	13	4	11	8	7	4
Site 2	-	-	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Site 3						0	0	1	0	0
Site 4						0	0	3	0	0



Thank
you!