# Developing a Regional Greenprint for Southern California

SCAG Natural & Farm Lands Working Group

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#### What is a Regional Greenprint?

A greenprint is a strategic conservation plan or assessment tool that reveals the economic and social benefits that parks, open space, and working lands provide to communities.





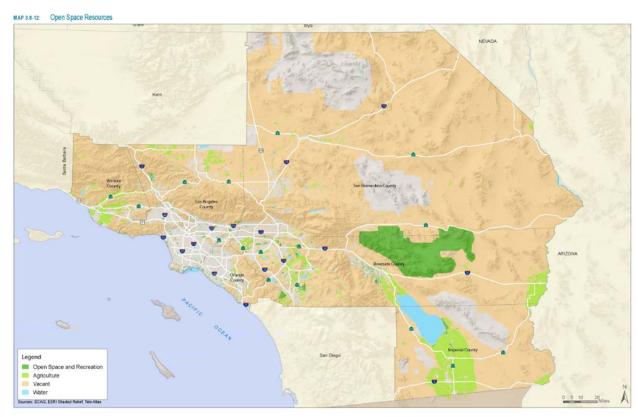


# A Southern California Regional Greenprint for Sustainability and Resilience

- → Goal: custom, web-based, interactive map tool
- → Covers six counties, largest metropolitan region in USA
- → Diversity of geographies, landscapes, communities
- → Based on greenprints created elsewhere in California -Bay Area Greenprint, Pajaro Compass
- → 2-year project, launching January 2020
- → Core team: SCAG, TNC, GreenInfo Network
- → Guided by feedback from potential users
- → Compiling regional data about conservation and growth



# What do Sustainability and Resilience look like in the SCAG Region?



### What do Sustainability and Resilience look like in the SCAG Region?

High Quality Transit Areas (HQTA) 2045 - SCAG Region

Last updated 5 months ago | 1 Records



#### Why do we need a Regional Greenprint?

- Conservation is not considered early enough in the planning process
- Decision-makers and stakeholders have uneven access to natural resource data
- Multi-benefit and landscape-scale planning is uncommon yet desired
- Nature is treated as nice-to-have, not need-to-have - an afterthought
- Urbanization has led to habitat loss through conversion of agricultural and open space lands



#### Why do we need a Regional Greenprint?

- We recognize that nature provides essential services for human health and well-being, economic vitality and resilience.
- A Greenprint can help us identify opportunities to invest in nature in spaces that lack it, like urban areas.
- A Greenprint enables us to plan for and invest in nature and its many benefits, before they are lost forever.



#### What does a Regional Greenprint do?

- Supply planners, decision-makers and community members with a one stop shop of natural resource data and an assessment framework
- Incorporate natural resource data and conservation values earlier in the development process
- Raise awareness about and encourage adoption of progressive policies and multi-benefit projects





- Information on the multiple benefits of open space and agricultural lands
- Integration across sectors
- Themes that organize the information
- Map data layers organized by themes
- Analytical reports and narratives that describe nature's benefits and values
- Specific to local values and needs















Carbon Stock



Climate Change



#### **Project Comparison** Natural resource dashboard **Conservation Assessment** What's the latest pulse of the Bay Area? Commute Time Allow for the comparison of two sites - Visual guide for planning projects and Educate about natural resources Engender pride in county's natural resources avoiding impacts Challenge counties to protect resources

#### Input from Stakeholders who are potential users

- Local governments
- Infrastructure agencies and developers
- Natural resource regulatory agencies
- Environmental justice & equity groups
- Consultants
- Funders
- Land conservation organizations
- Advocates
- Indigenous & Tribal communities





### Demonstration



#### Regional Greenprint - Ways to Participate

- React to periodic updates to this working group
- Represent a sector
  - SCAG members planners and decision-makers
  - NGOs and community groups
  - Tribal communities
  - Transportation agencies
  - Natural Resource experts
- Serve on advisory groups
  - Strategy
  - Technical
  - Steering Committee
- Bring others to the table
  - Who are we missing?



**Scoping** 

**Strategic Outreach** 

**Data Gathering & Tool Development** 

Launch & Evaluation

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1. How could a Greenprint support the work your organizations are doing in Southern California?
- 2. What are some themes / values that should be highlighted in a Southern California Greenprint?
- 3. What are some use cases for a Southern California Greenprint?
- 4. How would you like to participate?

