

Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Downlisting

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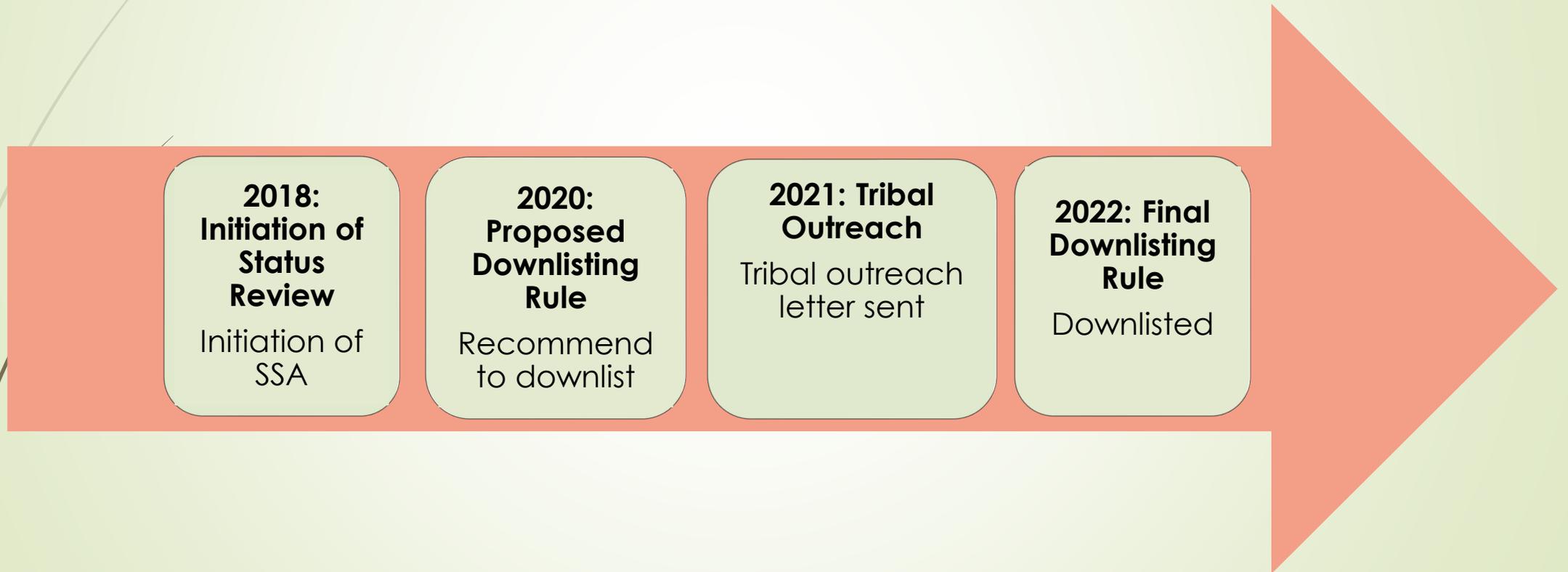
Listing and Recovery Division

May 19th 2022

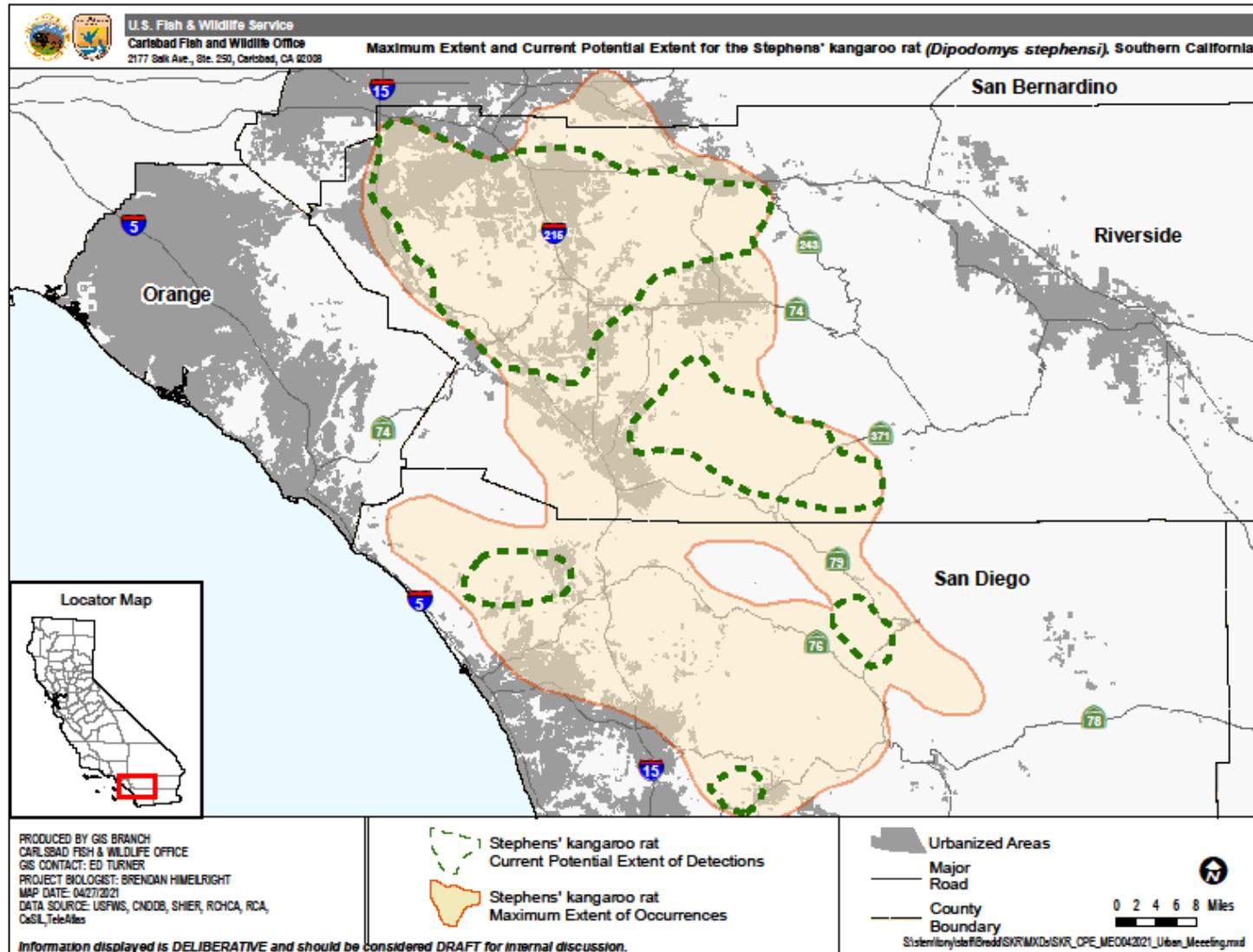




Timeline

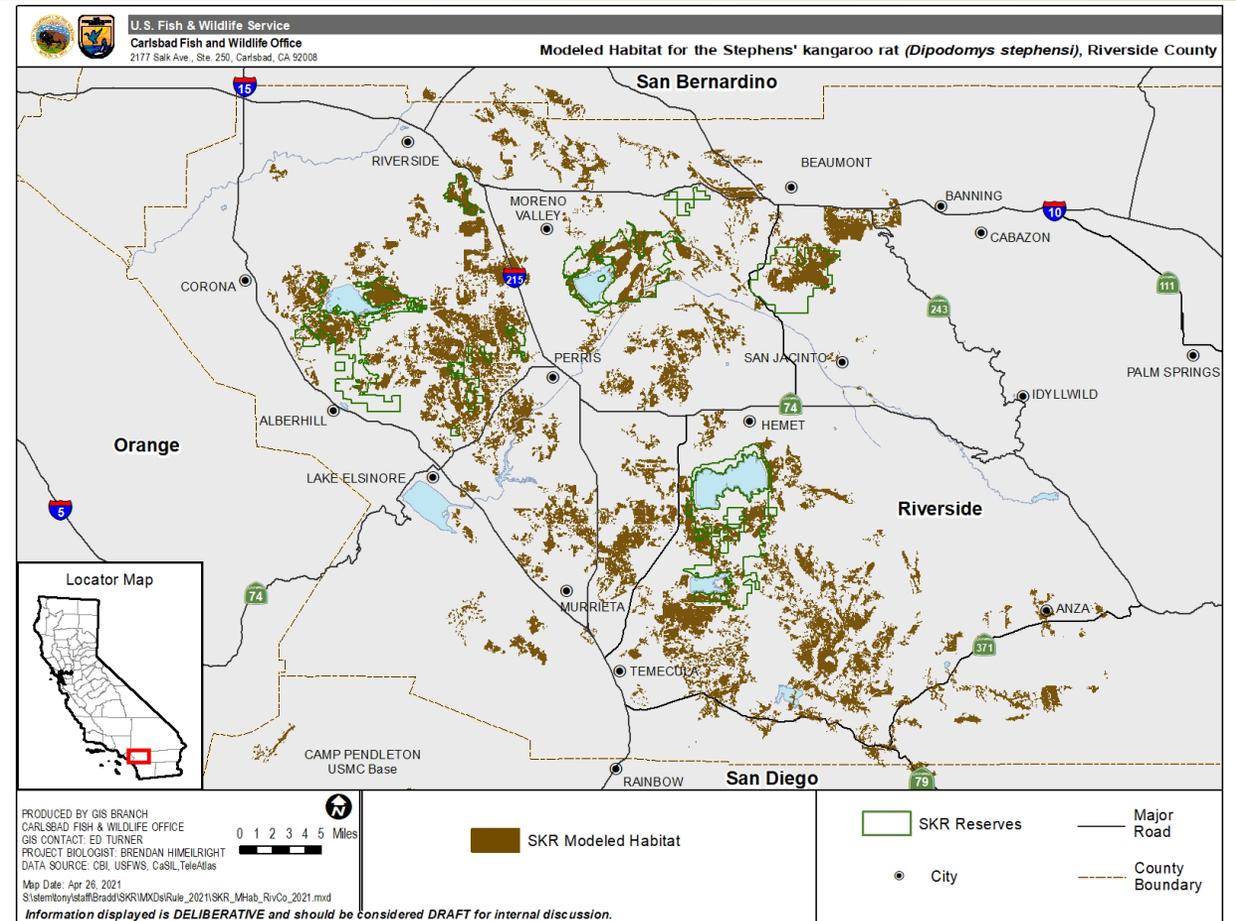
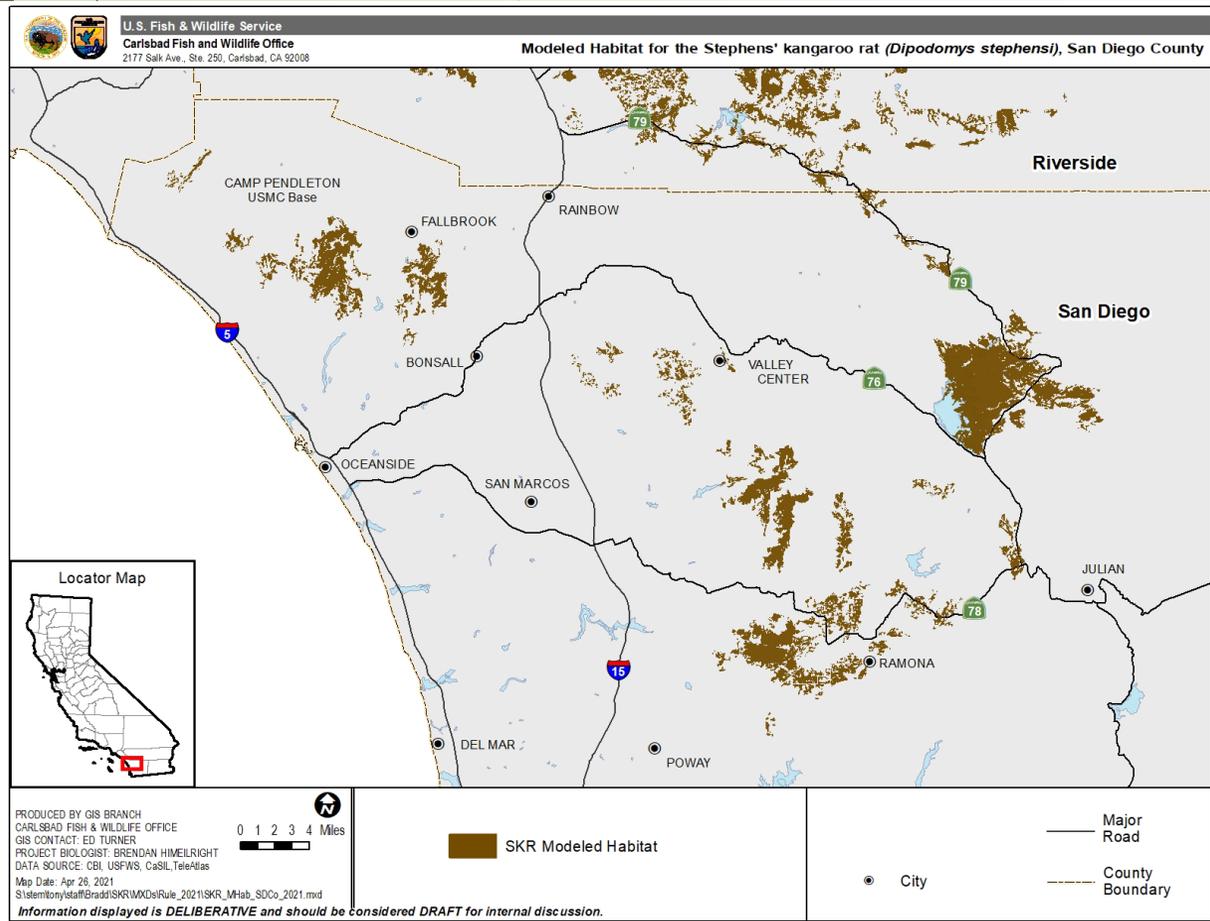


Current and Historical Range



San Diego County

Riverside County



Modeled habitat was excluded on tribal lands

Conservation Efforts



- ▶ Two large-scale habitat conservation plans in Riverside County
 - ▶ Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP (implemented by Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency)
 - ▶ Western Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (implemented by Regional Conservation Authority)
- ▶ Three military installations in San Diego County
 - ▶ Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton
 - ▶ Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Fallbrook
 - ▶ Naval Base Coronado Remote Training Site Warner Springs

★ **Habitat Loss Reduced (primary threat at listing)**



(draft) Recovery Plan Criteria Met

- ▶ **Criterion 1-** Met criteria with **>22,000 ac** with **8 core reserves** within western Riverside County
 - ▶ Met Criteria with four largest reserves- 17,118 ac
- ▶ **Criterion 2-** Met criteria intent with **1 ecosystem-based reserve** in western San Diego County
 - ▶ MCB Pendleton, Detachment Fallbrook complex

Why Downlist?

- ▶ Threats addressed; most threats low magnitude
- ▶ Over 180,000 ac suitable habitat
- ▶ Nearly 70,000 ac conserved
- ▶ Met all Recovery Plan Criteria
 - ▶ Habitat focused
- ▶ Downlisted to Threatened





4(d) Exempted Activities Language

- ▶ Exempts incidental take for activities covered in approved plans that further SKR recovery:
 - ▶ These may be undertaken by land management entities or private landowners
 - ▶ Included in formal land management conservation plans developed in coordination with the Service,
 - ▶ And the overall conservation benefit contributes to long-term species viability and reduces the likelihood of the species becoming endangered in the future.

4(d): Activities exempted from take

- ▶ Activities in approved plans are exempted from take prohibitions when providing recovery benefit for SKR:
 - ▶ Research
 - ▶ Genetics
 - ▶ Translocation
 - ▶ Management
 - ▶ Cattle grazing in the course of habitat management and restoration
 - ▶ Wildfire management activities (prevention and suppression)
 - ▶ Nonnative, invasive, or noxious plant removal
 - ▶ Habitat restoration activities
 - ▶ Survey and monitoring work
 - ▶ Control of unauthorized public access (signage, fencing, gates)



Regulatory Relief

- ▶ 4d reduces regulatory burden by streamlining consultation
- ▶ Exclusion of tribal trust lands from habitat modeling analysis should have similar effect for all activities on trust lands

Questions?

