



A Cornerstone for Conservation in Mendocino's Coast Range

ADANAC RANCH CONSERVATION EASEMENT

In 1988, Stu Bewley purchased Adanac Ranch, a vast and rugged expanse of forest and rangeland in Mendocino County, California, that borders over a mile of the Eel River. With a deep respect for the land's natural heritage, Bewley and his family have spent decades restoring its rich biodiversity harmed by over-grazing and intensive logging. Almost half the size of San Francisco, Adanac's 13,405 acres include 104 legal parcels each of which could be sold off separately for ranchettes. Now, the family is working with Pacific Forest Trust to ensure the property stays in-tact with lasting protection—and public benefit—for generations to come by granting a conservation easement.

Mendocino County has been plagued with the break-up of large ranches like Adanac into small properties dotted with houses, pot farms and other dispersed development that fragment habitat, degrade streams, and increase wildfire risk – as well as take land out of active forest and range management so important for the local economy. Instead, if we can take advantage of this rare opportunity to permanently conserve Adanac in one piece as a sustainably-managed cattle ranch, we will secure the missing link in an essential wildlife corridor that crosses the entire county, connecting the Sinkyone Wilderness on the coast to Island Mountain in the interior.

A Stronghold of Biodiversity in a Changing World

Adanac Ranch's biodiversity is rooted in its complex topography, abundant water, and varied soils. These support ten different habitat types including open grasslands, oak savannah, riparian woodlands, and rare upland old-growth Douglas-fir, some of which are Terrestrial Significant Habitats identified by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The ranch ranks highly in statewide analyses for terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity, with notable importance for climate adaptation and species movement. Maintaining Adanac's integrity helps assure lasting connectivity across fragmented landscapes in the North Coast so important for climate adaptation.

This biologically rich landscape lies at the heart of California's North Coast Range—one of the most diverse ecosystems in the western U.S.—and provides homes for an estimated 238 species of wildlife, including seven imperiled species, from foothill yellow-legged frogs to Sonoma tree voles to threatened runs of coho and Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout that breed in Adanac's streams.

Adanac Ranch is within designated Critical Habitat for both the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet that reside on neighboring federal land. Visitors will encounter Roosevelt Elk and watch soaring golden eagles. The Bewleys' careful range and forest management has been key in restoring degraded habitats. The conservation easement will guide future productive management to ensure habitat value is nurtured along with sustainable economic benefits for the county.





A Wealth of Clean Cold Water for People, Farms and Fish

The ranch encompasses more than 50 miles of perennial and seasonal streams, including Blue Rock and Bell Springs Creeks — year-round, spring fed tributaries to the Eel River in which threatened salmon spawn. The Eel River itself forms the eastern boundary of Adanac Ranch and cold, clear water flowing from the property support critical spawning habitat for salmonids and contribute flows that benefit communities, farms and fish across four counties. Numerous wetlands, seeps, and ponds along with shady, intact riparian corridors enrich the ranch's biodiversity.



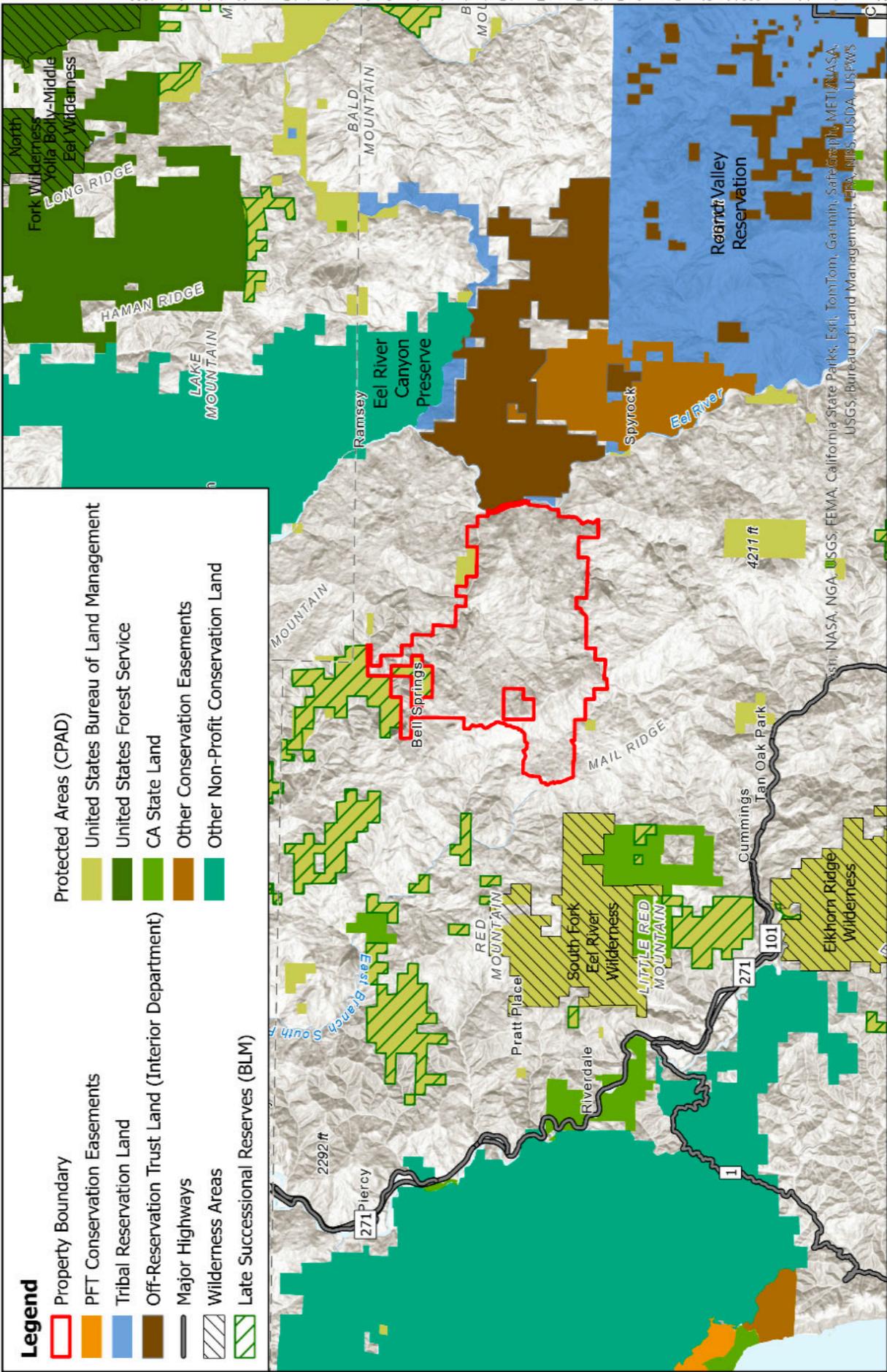
Expanding Public Access to Nature Along the Great Redwood Trail

Adanac Ranch sits within the traditional territory of the Yuki people who still live nearby. With European-American settlement Adanac became a livestock ranch and was extensively logged. When the railroad that ran the length of the North Coast was built along the Eel, the property was the site of Bell Springs Station. The Eel River has long been a way to access the property and still serves as a popular route for water recreation where kayakers can enjoy Adanac's beauty.

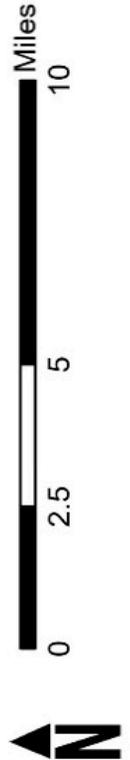
Now the old railroad right of way through Adanac along the river is part of the route of the Great Redwood Trail—a visionary rails-to-trails project that will connect San Francisco Bay to Humboldt Bay. As part of this conservation project the Bewley family would like to provide additional public access and camping facilities to complement the Great Redwood Trail, opening new opportunities for hiking, biking, camping, nature observation, and cultural learning. This future connection will not only offer greater access to Adanac's beauty—it will also introduce the public to a working landscape where ecological stewardship and climate resilience are actively practiced.

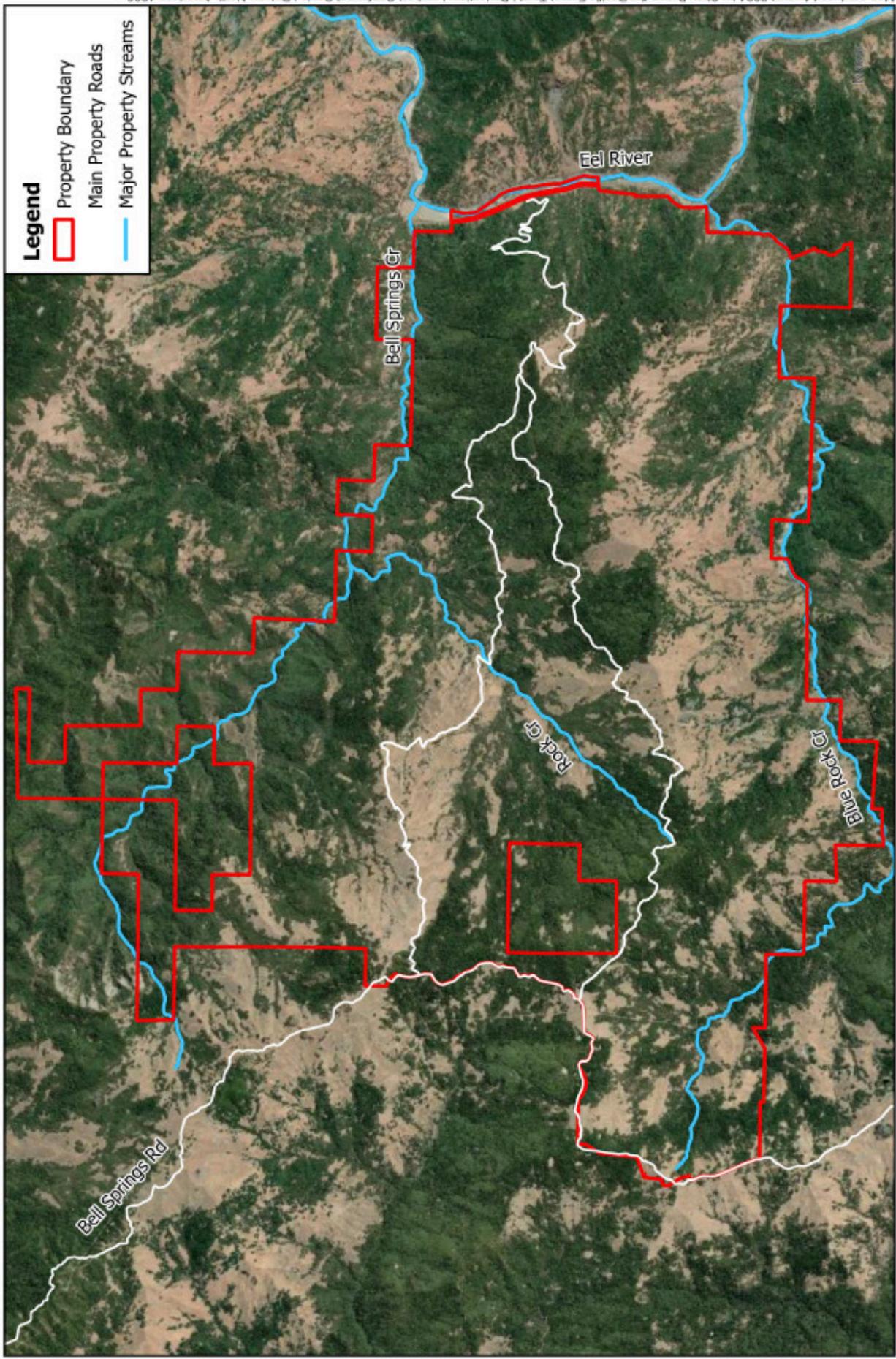
Through this conservation easement, Adanac Ranch will never become another ranchette subdivision, but will remain a productive and ecologically vibrant landscape. Please help Pacific Forest Trust and the Bewley family to safeguard this rare and extraordinary place—a refuge for wildlife, clean water for communities, and people.

Adanac Ranch Location

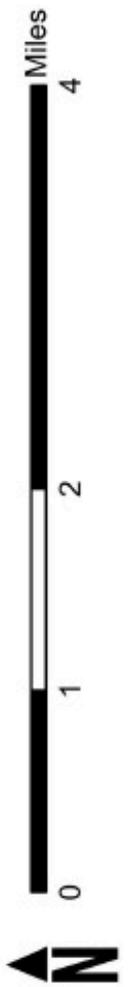


- Legend**
- Property Boundary
 - PFT Conservation Easements
 - Tribal Reservation Land
 - Off-Reservation Trust Land (Interior Department)
 - Major Highways
 - Wilderness Areas
 - Late Successional Reserves (BLM)
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- Protected Areas (CPAD)**
 - United States Bureau of Land Management
 - United States Forest Service
 - CA State Land
 - Other Conservation Easements
 - Other Non-Profit Conservation Land



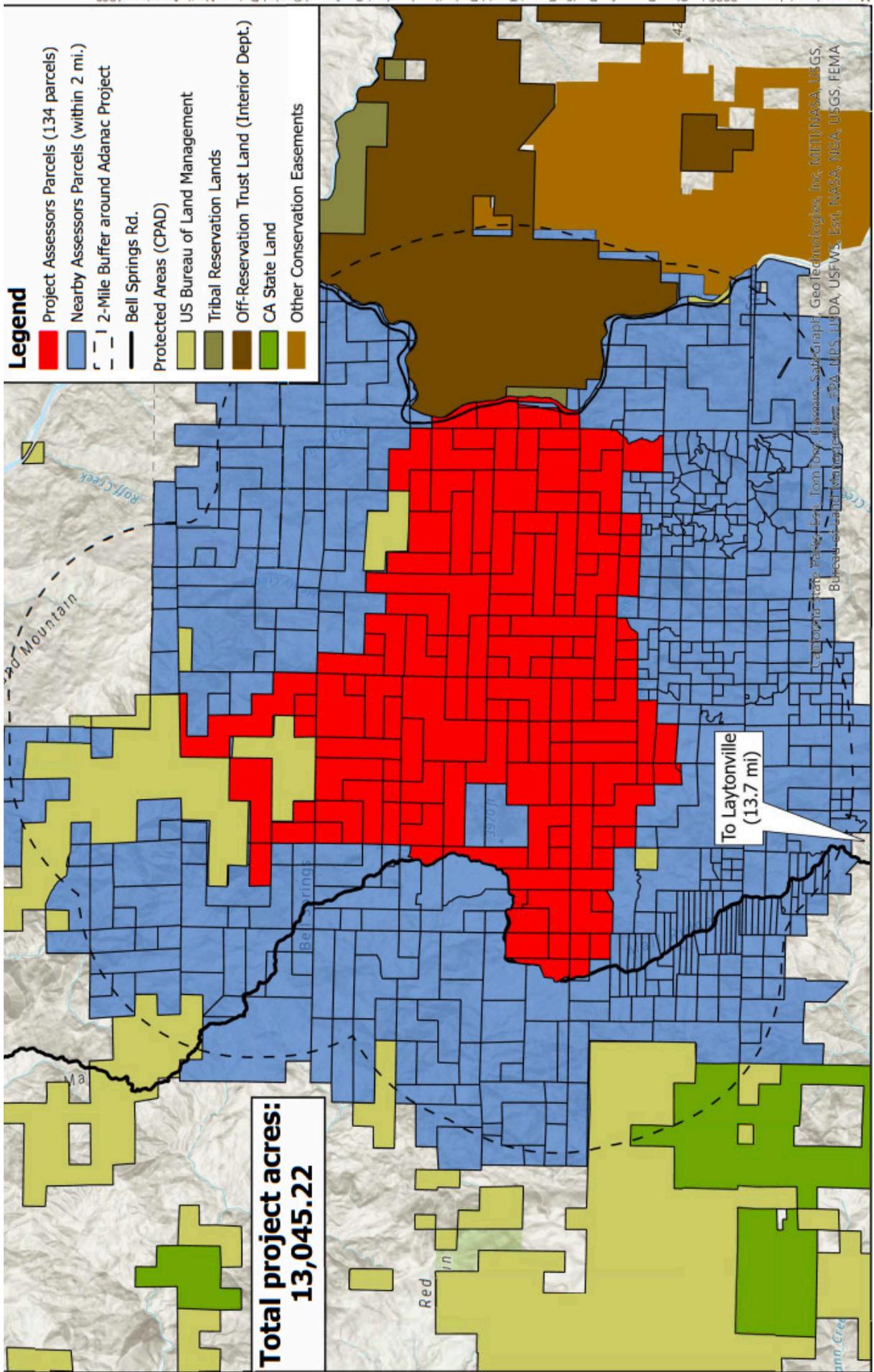


Adanac Ranch Aerial Imagery



- Legend**
- Property Boundary
 - Main Property Roads
 - Major Property Streams

Map produced August 2024 by Shay Brown for Pacific Forest Trust | Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic | Datum: North American 1983.

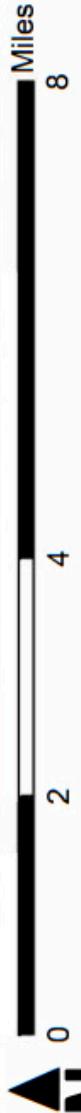


Legend

- Project Assessors Parcels (134 parcels)
- Nearby Assessors Parcels (within 2 mi.)
- - - 2-Mile Buffer around Adanac Project
- Bell Springs Rd.
- Protected Areas (CPAD)
 - US Bureau of Land Management
 - Tribal Reservation Lands
 - Off-Reservation Trust Land (Interior Dept.)
 - CA State Land
 - Other Conservation Easements

**Total project acres:
13,045.22**

To Laytonville
(13.7 mi)



Adanac Ranch Project

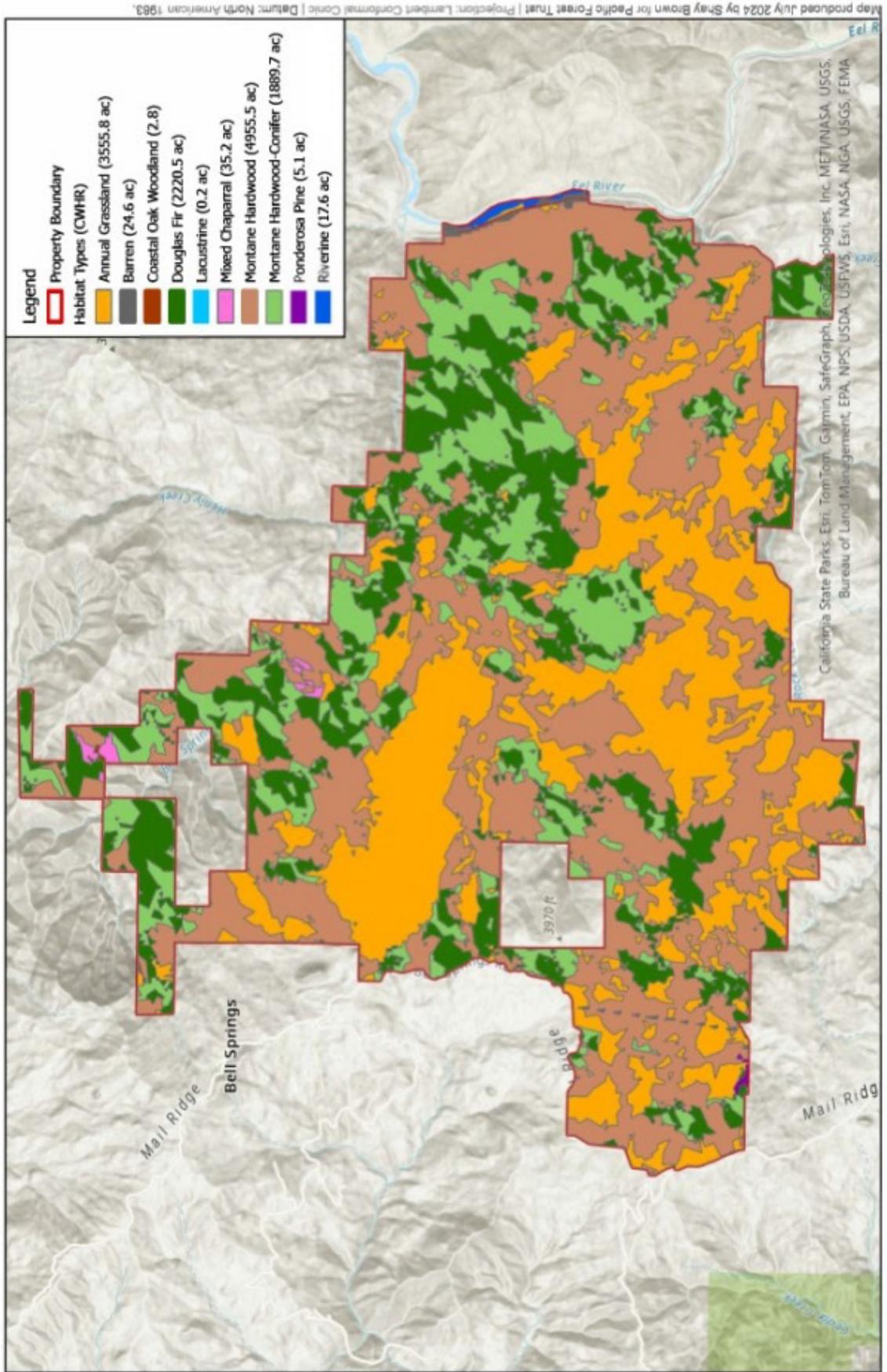
Parcelization & Development Pressure



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Adanac Ranch CWHR Habitat Types

