



California Mojave Recovery Implementation Team

West Mojave Workgroup Webinar

Desert Tortoise Recovery Office

June 27, 2012

Goals for RIT Workgroup Webinar



- Introductions among workgroup members
- Improved familiarity among members with SDSS outputs for your workgroup: prioritized broad recovery action types for your areas
- Your suggestions for site-specific recovery actions via the Recovery Action Proposal Tool for use at the in-person RIT meeting → 5-Year Action Plan

West Mojave Workgroup Webinar



Webinar Structure

1. Introductions

2. Updates & Timelines

3. Threats & Recovery Action Rankings

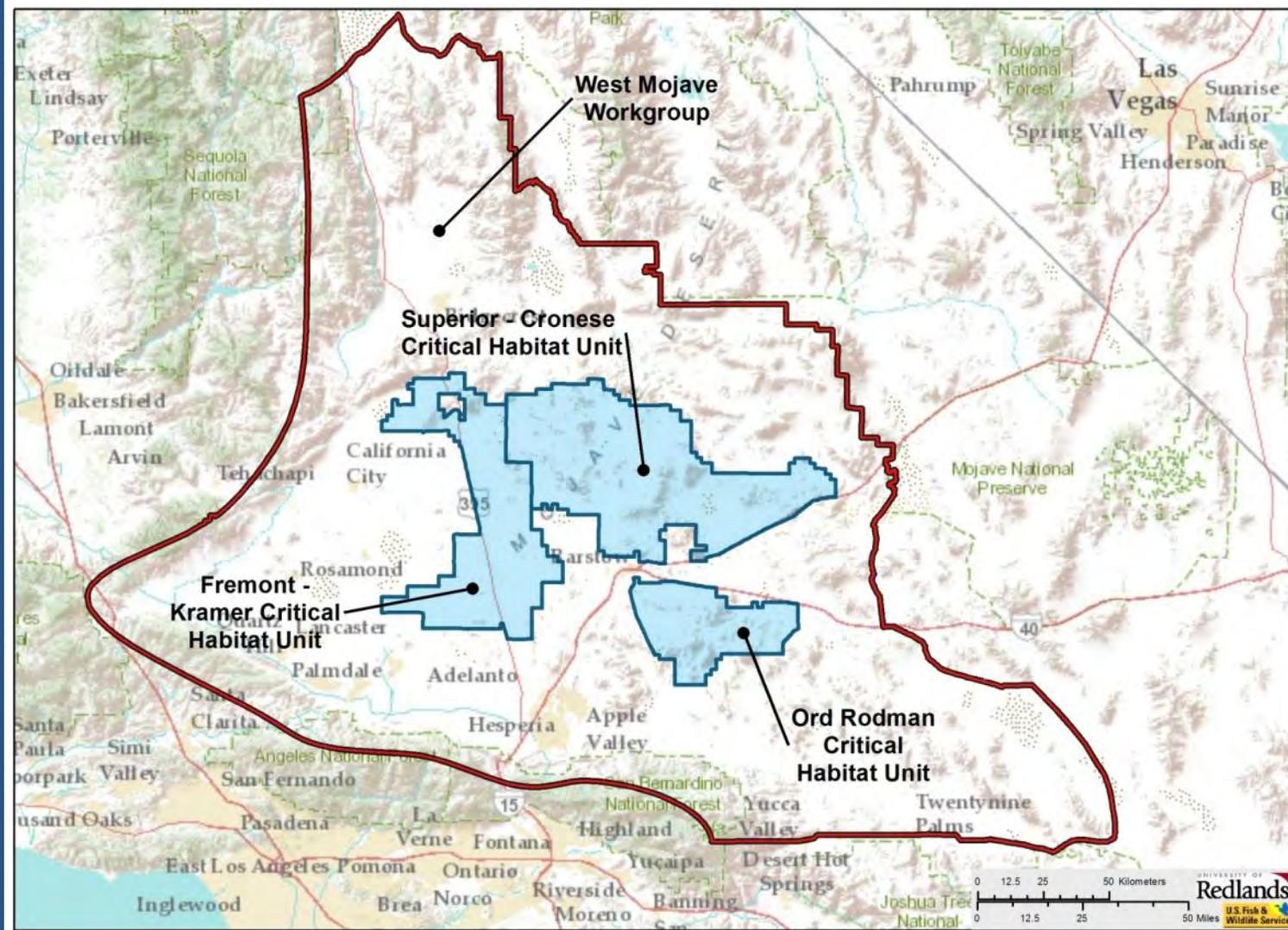
4. Online Recovery Action Proposal Tool

5. Next Steps



Affiliation		Workgroup Members
Land Management	U.S. Army, Fort Irwin	Clarence Everly
Land Management	MCAGCC	vacant
Land Management	U.S. Navy, China Lake, NAWS	vacant
Land Management	U.S. Marine Corps Logistics, Barstow	vacant
Land Management	BLM, Barstow Field Office	Chris Otahal
Land Management	U.S. Air Force, Edwards AFB	Danny Reinke
Wildlife Management	California State Parks	vacant
Wildlife Management	CDFG	
Wildlife Management	USFWS	Ray Bransfield
Tribe	Center for California Native Nations	vacant
County	Inyo County	Joshua Hart
County	Los Angeles County	Shirley Imsand; Joe Decruyenaere
County	Kern County	Lorelei Oviatt
County	San Bernardino County	Gerry Hillier
Conservation Biology	USGS WERC	Kristin Berry
Conservation Organization	The Nature Conservancy	Laura Crane
Resource Use	Sempra Utilities	Chris Sowell
Recreation	CA Assoc. of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs	John Stewart

West Mojave Workgroup Study Area



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Updates



- RITs Orientation Webinars: Late-March
- FAQs from webinars sent out April 17th
- Review by RIT members of SDSS model and data: Model Explorer & Data Explorer (early-May)

*We received a total of 168 comments ;
>30 new GIS datasets; 10 new references*

- Comments & Responses sent out May 31st
- Revisions completed to SDSS & Explorers: June 15th

RIT Terms of Reference



Comments received:

- Representation and voting procedures
- FACA and ESA compliance
- Conflict of interest
- Charter & Terms of Reference consolidation
- Confidentiality and comment attribution
- RIT Scheduling and time commitment
- Recovery Plan implementation & funding
- Role of SDSS

Revised document under development; will be shared prior to in-person meeting

Recovery Implementation Teams



Timeline for 2012

- ✓ Overall Orientation: First Webinar in late-March
- ★ Workgroup-specific: Second Webinar in late-June
 - In-person Meeting late-fall to develop 5-Year Action Plans

CA Mojave RIT: Ontario or Barstow

Recovery Implementation Teams



What happens after the first year?

- ~ 2-3 webinars/meetings each year to:
 - Report on implementation
 - Track change in threats
 - Assess what's been learned
 - Re-evaluate action plan as necessary

West Mojave Workgroup Webinar



Questions?



West Mojave Workgroup Webinar



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Goal of 1st In-Person Meeting

Development of 5-Year Action Plan for your Workgroup



- Your workgroup's recommendations for what specific actions should be undertaken for tortoise recovery in the next 5 years
- Provides guidance to agencies in their budgeting and planning processes
- Provides a prioritized menu of possible mitigation options which may be implemented as part of mitigation packages

Goal of 1st In-Person Meeting

Development of 5-Year Action Plan for your Workgroup



BACKGROUND

SDSS

- I. Ranked threats for workgroup's tortoise conservation areas & region
- II. Ranked recovery action types for workgroup's tortoise conservation areas & region

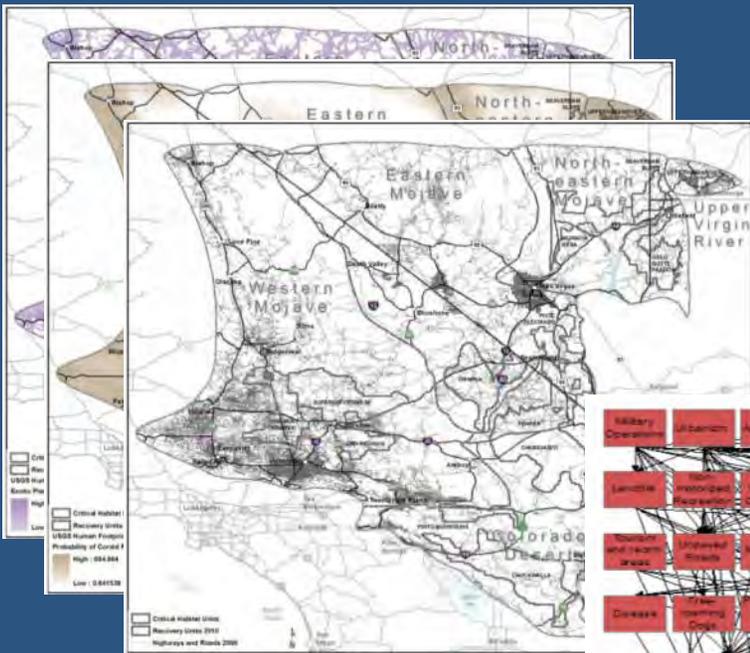
PRIORITIZED ACTION PLAN

- I. Prioritized site-specific recovery actions within ranked broad recovery action types

RITs

TRACKING & MONITORING PLAN

- I. Reporting requirements for recovery action implementation and maintenance
- II. Plan for supporting monitoring and research to assess action effectiveness



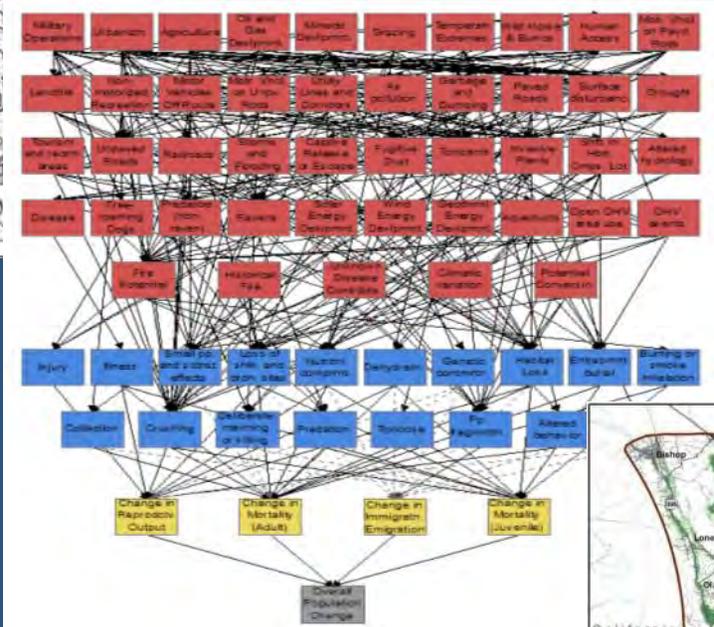
Spatial Threats

$$\int \Sigma x$$

Impact of Threats

$$\int \Sigma x$$

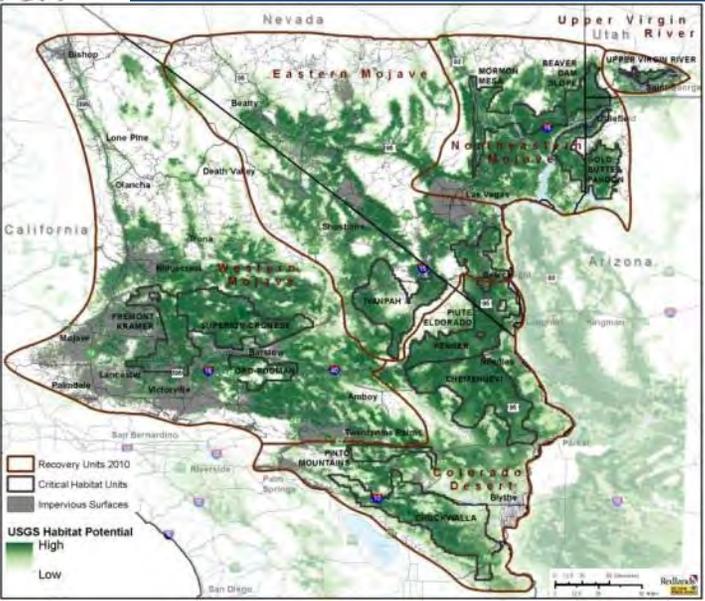
Risk to Population

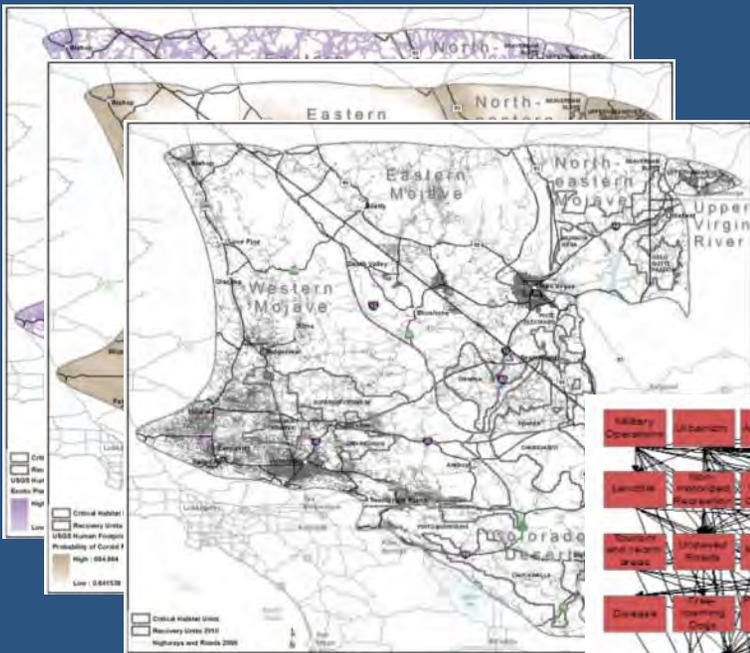


Spatial variation in threats

How threats effect tortoises

Where we expect tortoises to occur





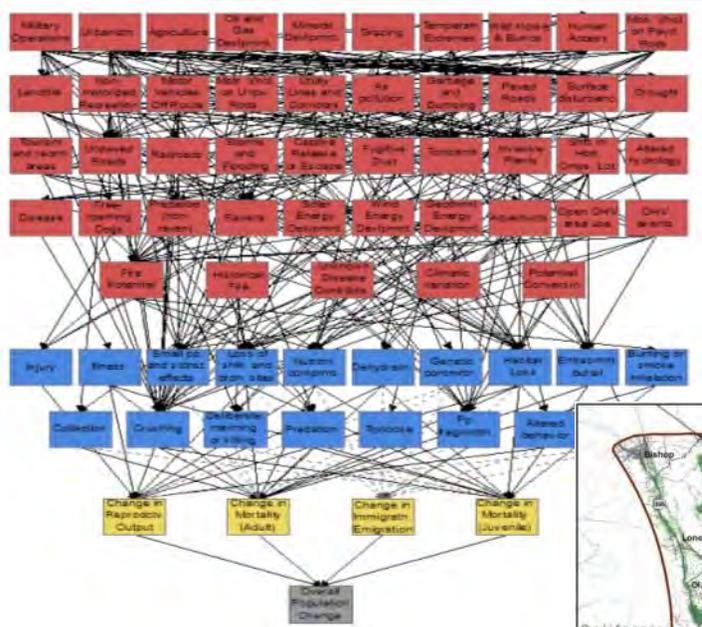
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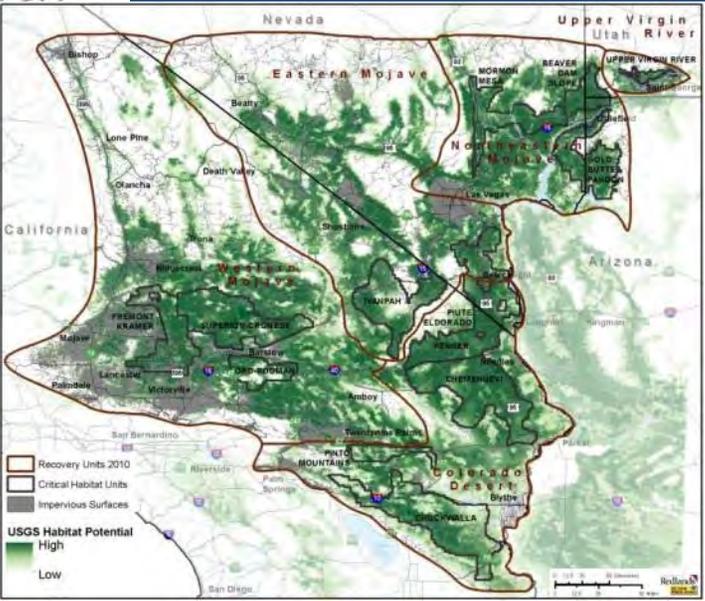
Risk to Population



Spatial variation in threats
Data Explorer

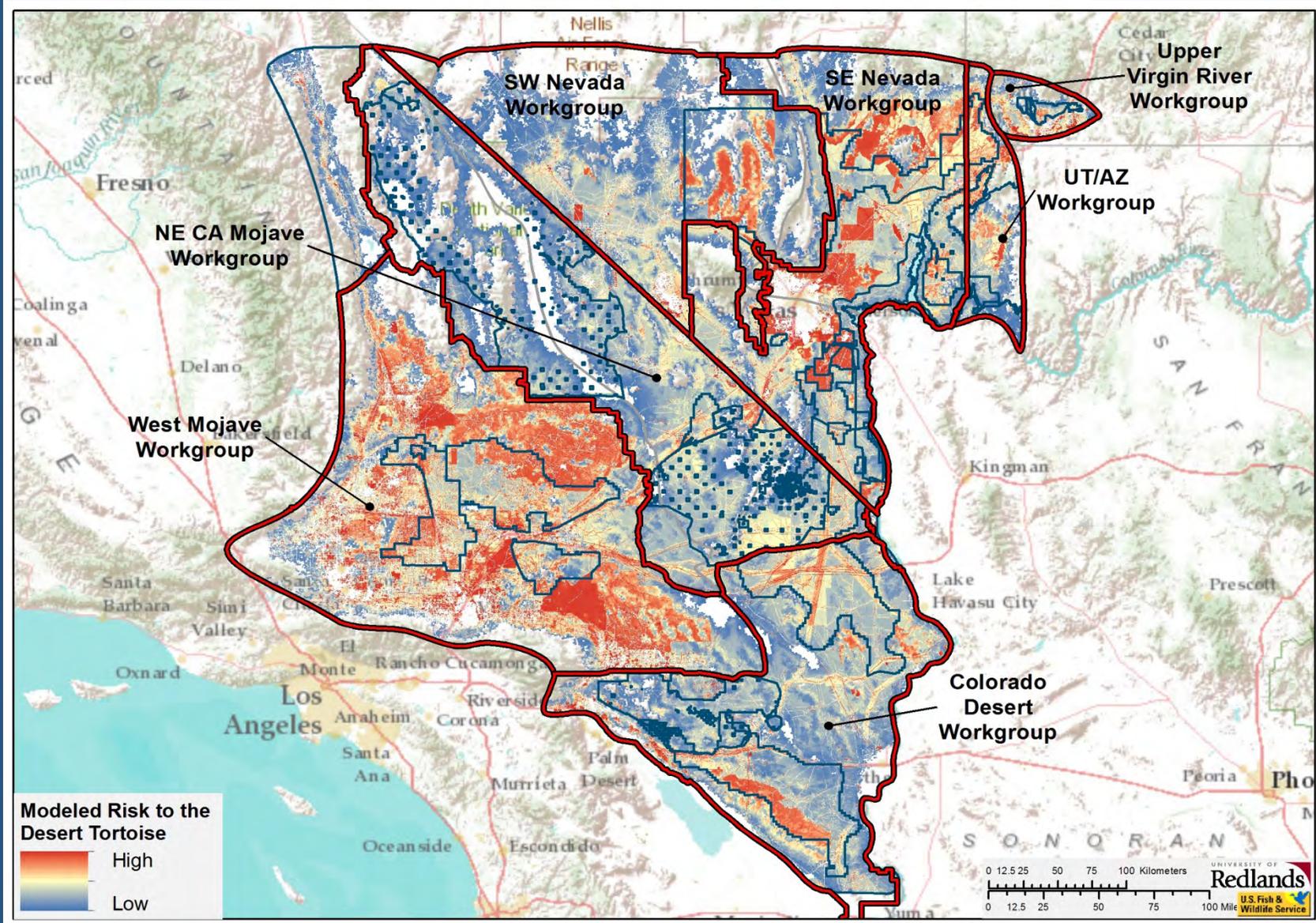
Revised based on RIT review!

How threats effect tortoises
Model Explorer



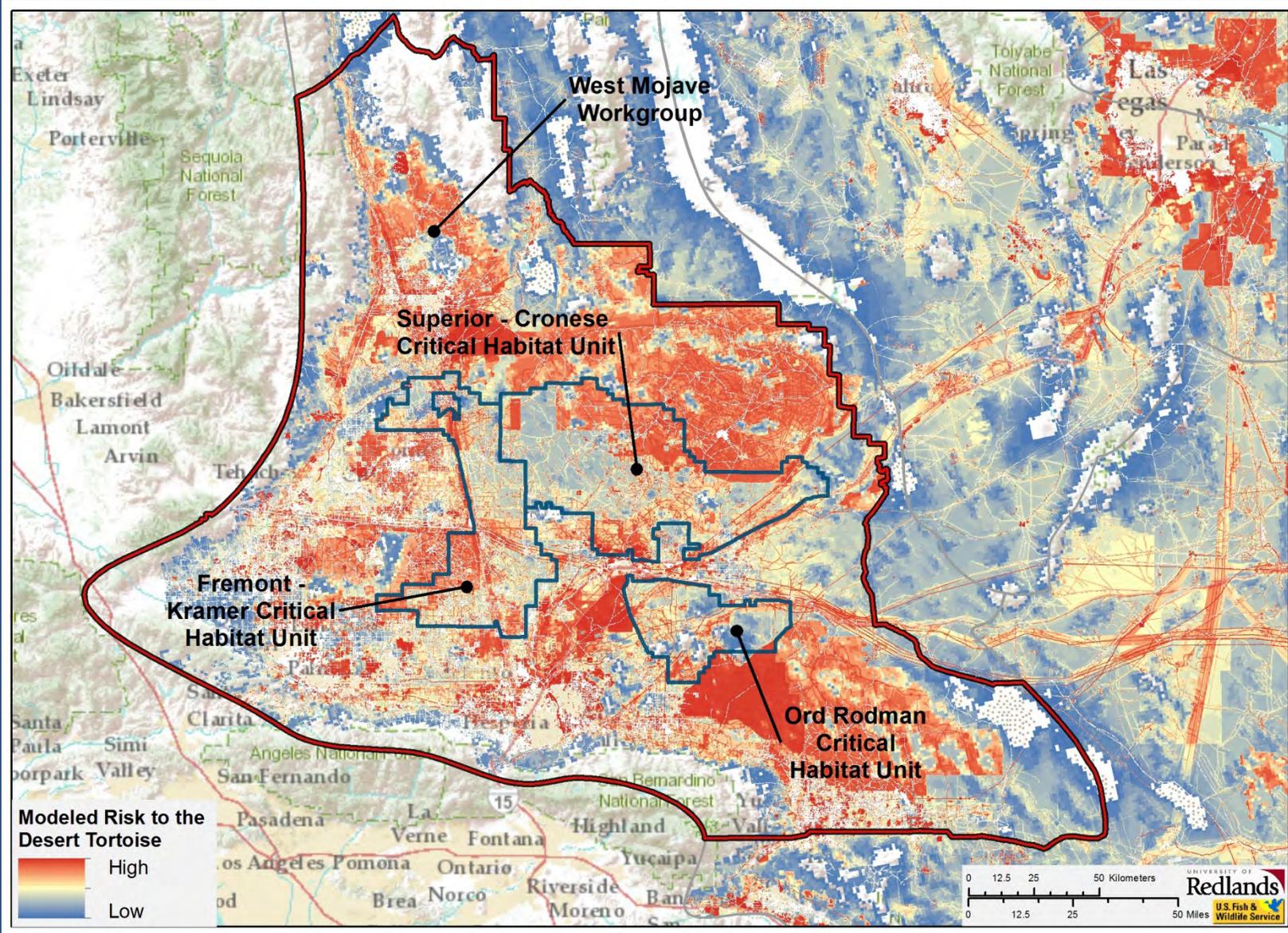
Where we expect tortoises to occur

Aggregate Population Risk to Tortoises

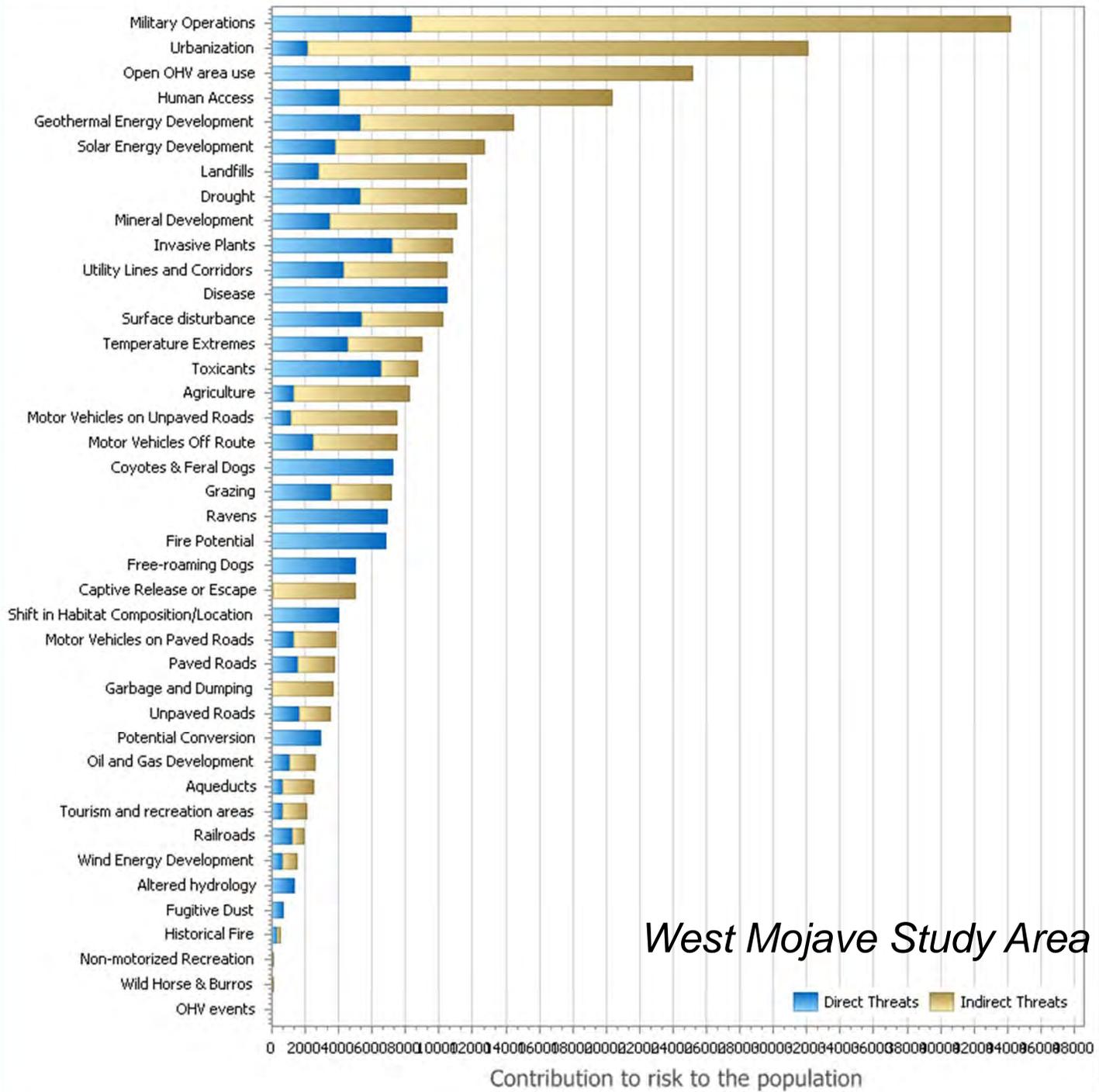


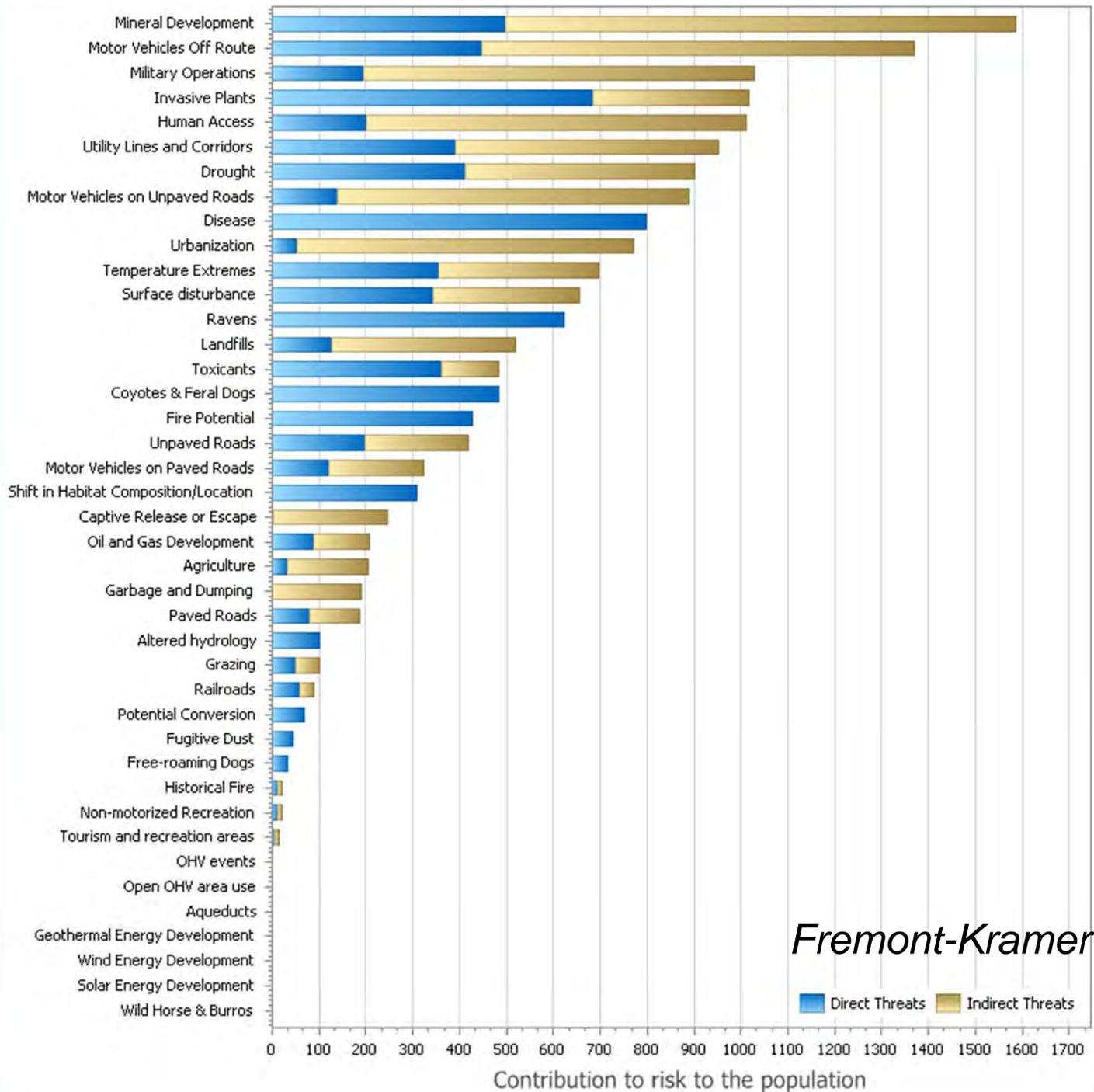
Aggregate contribution from all threats to risk to the tortoise

Aggregate Population Risk to Tortoises



Aggregate contribution from all threats to risk to the tortoise





Fremont-Kramer

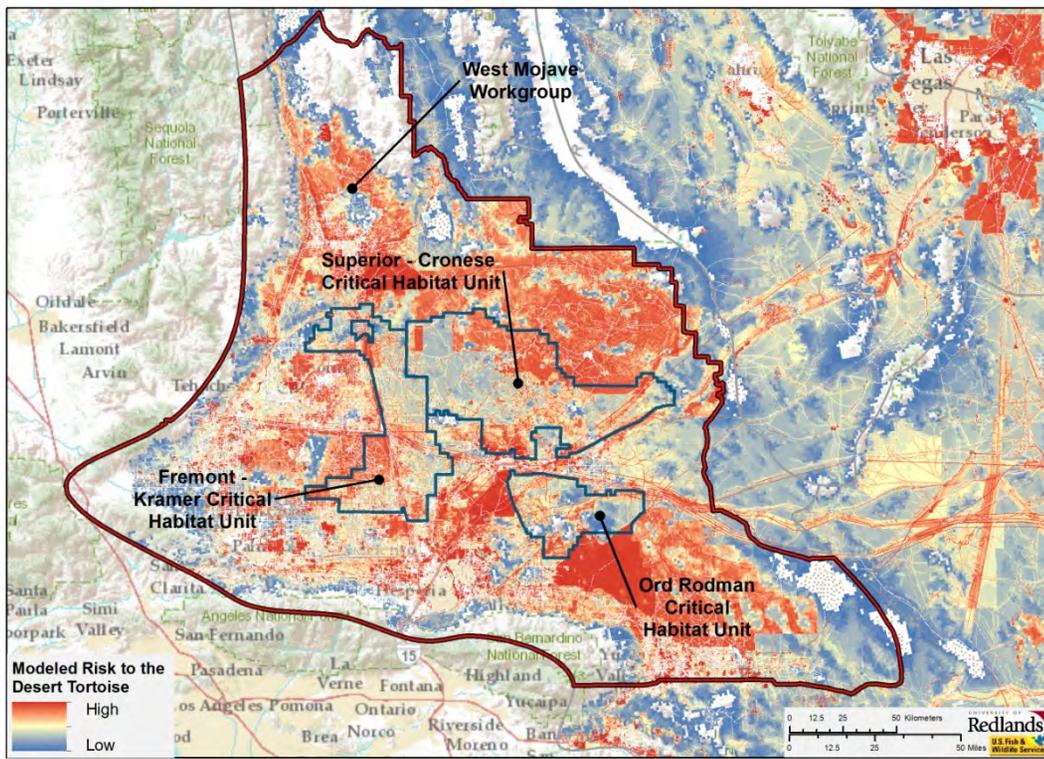
Direct Threats Indirect Threats

Rank	West Mojave	Fremont - Kramer (Critical Habitat Unit)	Ord - Rodman (Critical Habitat Unit)	Superior - Cronese (Critical Habitat Unit)
1	Military Operations	Mineral Development	Utility Lines and Corridors	Military Operations
2	Urbanization	Motor Vehicles Off Route	Mineral Development	Urbanization
3	Open OHV area use	Military Operations	Motor Vehicles Off Route	Human Access
4	Human Access	Invasive Plants	Grazing	Mineral Development
5	Geothermal Energy Development	Human Access	Drought	Drought
6	Solar Energy Development	Utility Lines and Corridors	Human Access	Utility Lines and Corridors
7	Landfills	Drought	Motor Vehicles on Unpaved Roads	Motor Vehicles on Unpaved Roads
8	Drought	Motor Vehicles on Unpaved Roads	Open OHV area use	Disease
9	Mineral Development	Disease	Disease	Motor Vehicles Off Route
10	Invasive Plants	Urbanization	Ravens	Surface disturbance

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Risk to Population

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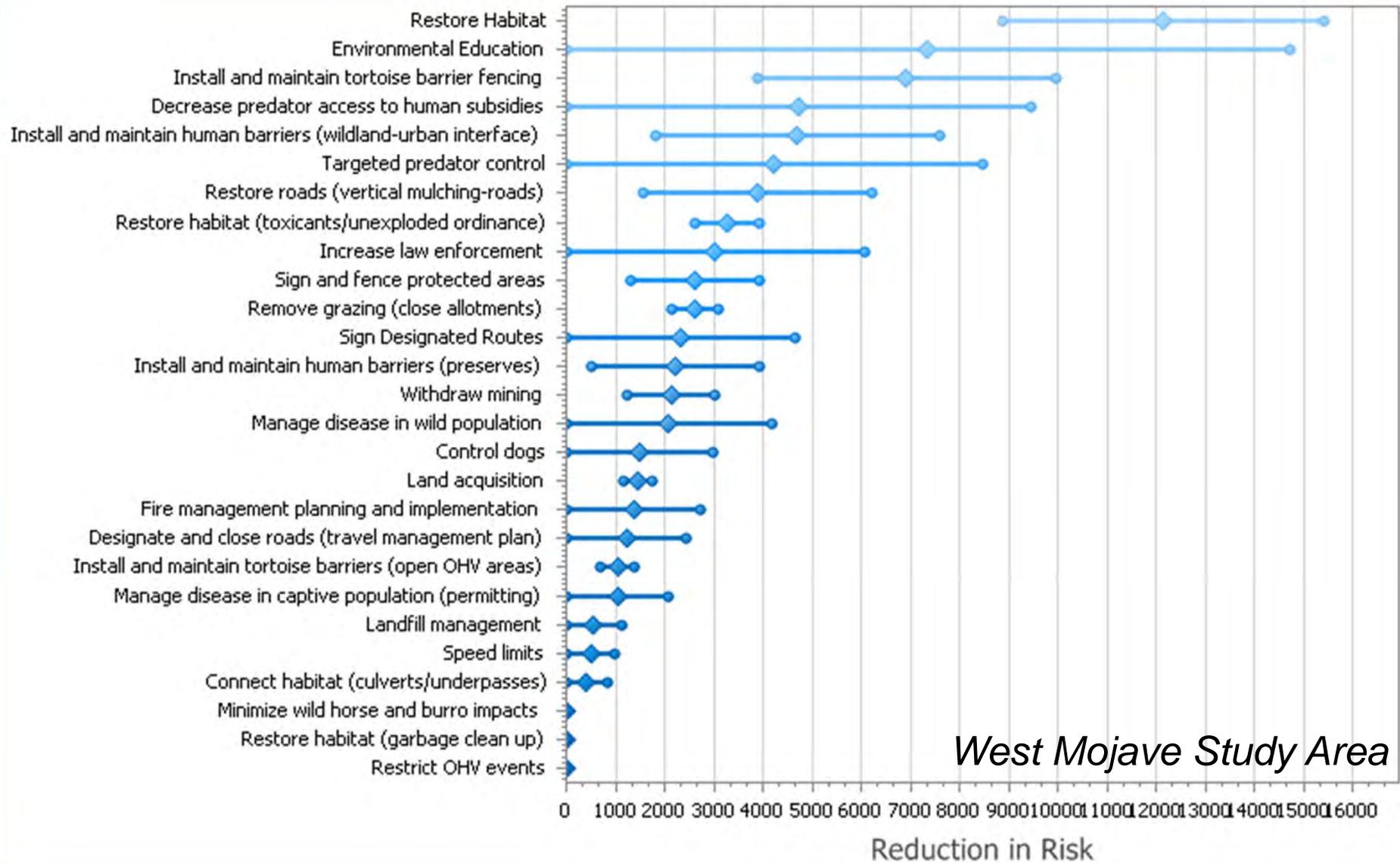


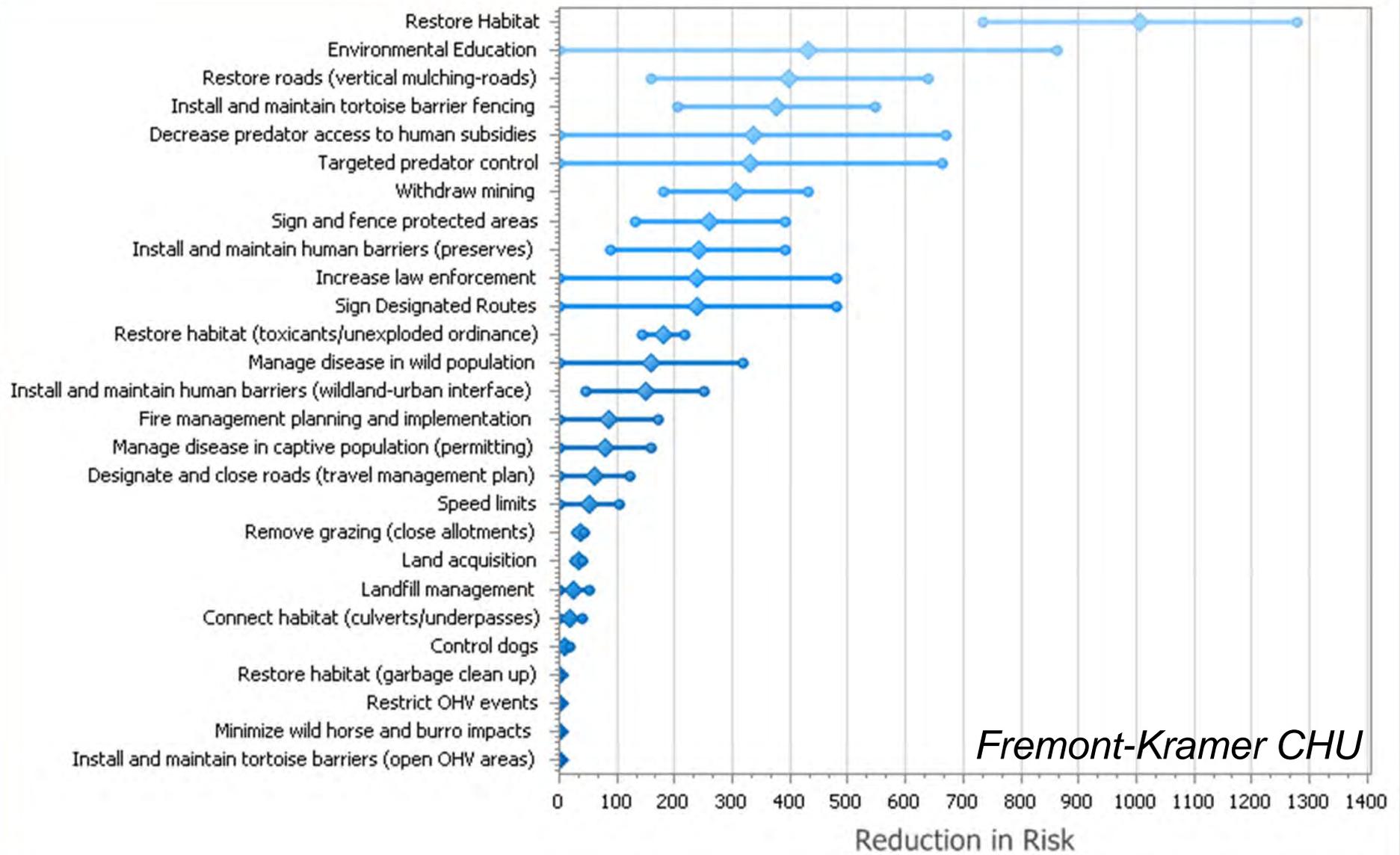
Action Effectiveness

Aggregate Population Risk

Recovery Action Types/ Threat–Stress	Predation– Ravens	Crushing–Cars on Paved Roads	Collection– Human access	Nutritional comp–Invasive Plants
Designate & Close Routes	0	0	3	0
Install & Maintain Tortoise fencing	0	5	0	0
Environmental Education	1	2	3	0
Decrease Predator Access to Subsidies	3	0	0	0
Increase Law enforcement	0	2	2	0
Habitat Restoration	0	0	0	4

Estimates how individual recovery actions effect threat–stress links





Fremont-Kramer CHU

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1	Restore Habitat	Restore Habitat	Restore Habitat	Restore Habitat
2	Environmental Ed	Environmental Ed	Environmental Ed	Environmental Ed
3	Install and maintain tortoise barrier fencing	Restore roads (vertical mulching-roads)	Decrease predator access to subsidies	Restore roads (vertical mulching-roads)
4	Decrease predator access to subsidies	Install and maintain tortoise barrier fencing	Targeted predator control	Decrease predator access to subsidies
5	Install and maintain human barriers (WUI)	Decrease predator access to subsidies	Remove grazing (close allotments)	Targeted predator control
6	Targeted predator control	Targeted predator control	Restore roads (vertical mulching-roads)	Install and maintain tortoise barrier fencing
7	Restore roads (vertical mulching-roads)	Withdraw mining	Install and maintain tortoise barrier fencing	Increase law enforcement
8	Restore habitat (toxicants/unexploded ordinance)	Sign and fence protected areas	Increase law enforcement	Install and maintain human barriers (WUI)
9	Increase law enforcement	Install and maintain human barriers (preserves)	Withdraw mining	Restore habitat (toxicants/unexploded ordinance)
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Goal of 1st In-Person Meeting



Development of 5-Year Action Plan for your Workgroup

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Questions?



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Online Recovery Action Proposal Tool



Recovery Action Proposal Tool - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Recovery Action Proposal Tool

www.spatial.redlands.edu/dtro/rit/ProposalTool.aspx?wg=1

data explorer model explorer

Welcome cat_darst@fws.gov | [Logout](#)

Desert Tortoise Recovery RA Proposal Tool

Welcome to the Recovery Action Proposal Tool. Use this site to propose specific actions that you think should be implemented for desert tortoise recovery in the next five years. Actions are submitted under the associated recovery action type, which are listed in order of expected benefit to tortoise recovery. Please spend more of your effort developing proposals for highly ranked action types, also considering the range of effectiveness indicated in the chart associated with each planning area. Although less effective action types are accessible here, due to the low return estimated for these actions, it is not expected that they will be adopted by the workgroup without particular justification, such as being important preconditions for future implementation of higher priority recovery actions. For each proposed action, please provide the specific location, area, and/or number of activities. Please provide enough detail about what should be implemented and where, so that all proposals can be easily assessed by your workgroup during the prioritization process.

You are a member of multiple workgroups. Please select a workgroup:

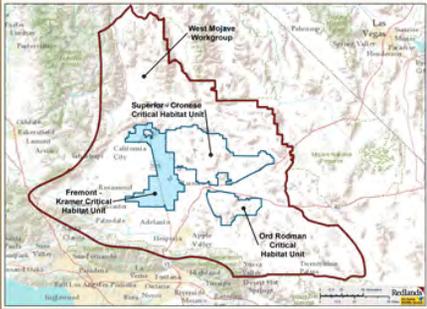
West Mojave Upper Virgin River Northeast California Mojave Utah/Arizona Southwest Nevada Colorado Desert Southeast Nevada

Workgroup: West Mojave

[Click here to see a table comparing top ranked threats and recovery action types](#)

Select an area:

- ▶ **Fremont - Kramer (Critical Habitat Unit)**
- Ord - Rodman (Critical Habitat Unit)
- Superior - Cronese (Critical Habitat Unit)
- West Mojave



Ranked recovery action types for Fremont - Kramer (Critical Habitat Unit)

Recovery action types below are ranked based on their expected ability to decrease risk to the tortoise in Fremont - Kramer (Critical Habitat Unit). Please type your specific proposals for actions within this tortoise conservation area below the action type, one action at a time. For each proposed action, please provide details to describe location, area, and/or number of activities.

[Click here to see the chart of ranked threats and recovery action types for this area](#)

- 1) Restore Habitat (2 proposed actions)
- 2) Environmental Education (no proposed actions)
- 3) Restore roads (vertical mulching-roads) (no proposed actions)

<http://www.spatial.redlands.edu/dtro/rit/proposaltool.aspx>

Online Recovery Action Proposal Tool



Examples of the necessary specificity for proposed recovery actions in the RA Proposal Tool

- 1.) **Habitat Restoration:** Removal of invasive weeds or non-native plant species in the north-east triangle of highways 395 and 58 within five 40-acre plants; create "fertile islands" to act as seed banks from which native plants can disperse.
- 2.) **Install & Maintain Tortoise Barrier Fencing:** Install ~20 miles of desert tortoise barrier fencing along each side of Highway 247 between the Mojave National Preserve's Barstow Office and the Lucerne Valley Cutoff Road
- 3.) **Increase Law Enforcement:** Fund two dedicated law enforcement officers to patrol the Gold Butte Pakoona ACEC
- 4.) **Restore roads:** Identify and close all unauthorized (i.e., not designated as "open" on BLMs travel management plan) routes within the Ivanpah DWMA through use of vertical mulching or vehicle barriers (~50 miles)
- 5.) **Remove grazing:** Purchase the base property for the Lazy Daisy allotment (~310,000 acres) and retire the allotment's grazing permit

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Next Steps



- **Deadline:** August 10th → when workgroup members need to have actions submitted to RA Proposal Tool
- Chris & Cat are available if you have questions as you enter specific actions in the RA Proposal Tool
- In-person Meeting: Late-Fall → options: end of October or beginning of December
- Look for follow-up email from us with doodle poll for in-person meeting dates!