

PRBO CONSERVATION SCIENCE

Projects Supported by the 2011 Bird-A-Thon



PRBO transforms its bird and ecosystem science into conservation solutions for a healthier future. PRBO is dedicated to reducing the negative impacts of climate change, land use changes and changes in the ocean on birds and ecosystems. The following are samples of PRBO projects;



Southeast Farallon Island

OCEAN CONSERVATION. PRBO supports marine wildlife conservation and healthy marine ecosystems in the California Current. Along with partners from Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary and the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, PRBO created an ocean conservation partnership called ACCESS. Through this partnership PRBO was able to identify a “conservation gap” off the northern California coast between Cape Mendocino and Heceta Bank where additional protection may be needed. For over 43 years PRBO has collected data on seabirds, sharks and marine mammals on the Farallon Islands through a cooperative agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

BIRDS AS INDICATORS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. Sustaining healthy ecosystems is essential to mitigating and adapting to climate change. PRBO’s collaborative research is revealing what these changes might mean, while bringing science-based recommendations directly to public and private resource managers- thus improving conservation outcomes.



Long-billed Curlew

SAN FRANCISCO BAY. PRBO is assessing the effects of sea-level rise and salinity on the San Francisco Bay tidal wetlands. In particular we are analyzing the effects on tidal marsh and other wetland bird populations.



Plumas National Forest

SIERRA NEVADA BIRDS & FOREST MANAGEMENT.

PRBO's Northern Sierra Project is an exciting collaborative effort with the US Forest Service to conserve and effectively manage an entire ecosystem. PRBO field biologists are surveying birds in nine national forests and the Lake Tahoe Basin for indicator species, to help guide habitat management for the US Forest Service.

WHERE DO OUR SONGBIRDS GO? PRBO is studying songbirds at our Palomarin Field and Research Station in Bolinas, California. We are using new geolocator tags to determine migratory destinations of wintering and breeding passerines. The significance is to determine the migration route, stop-over locations, and breeding and wintering destinations to conserve the areas on which migratory birds depend.



Common Yellowthroat

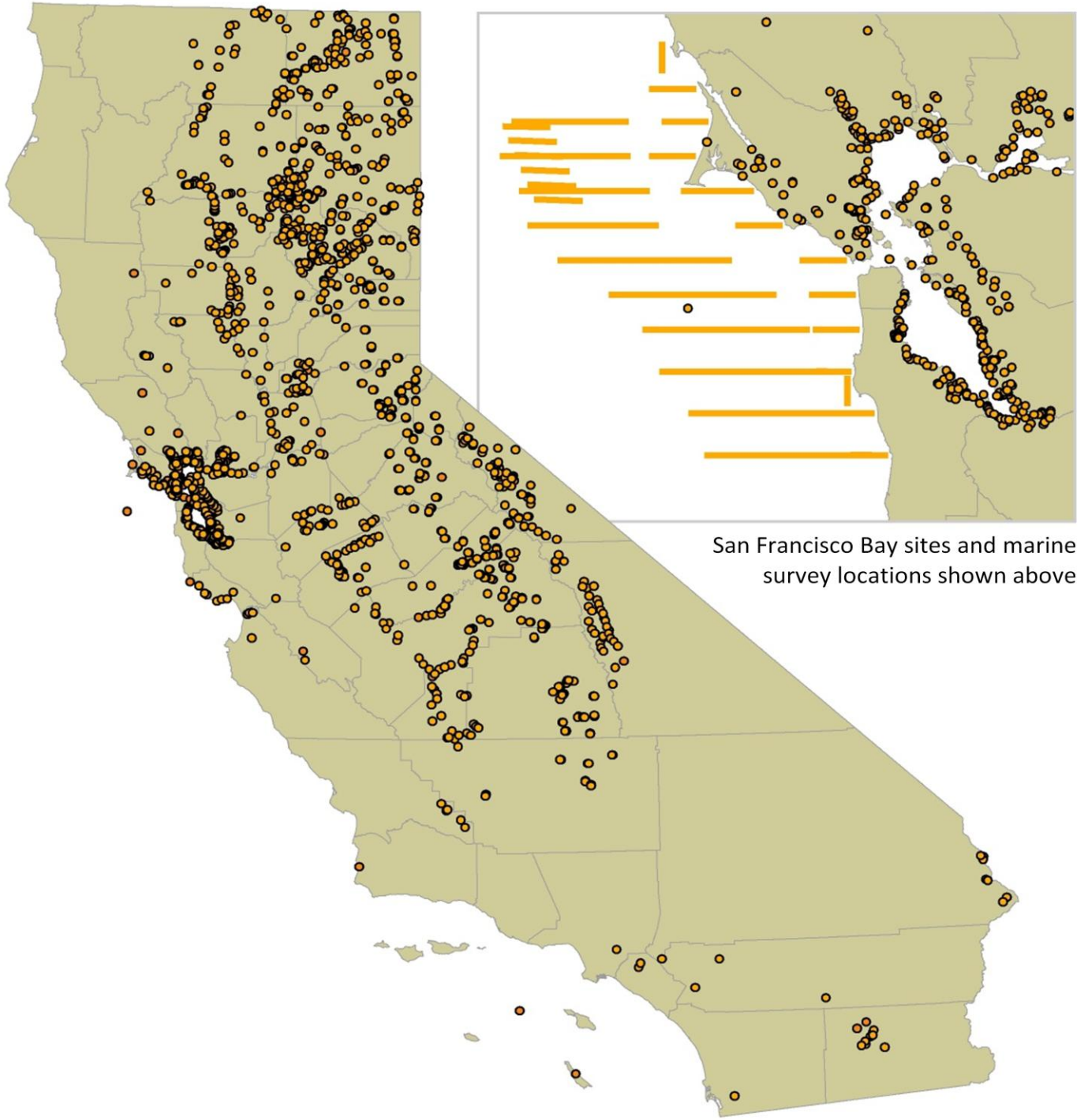
OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS. PRBO's Oil Spill Response Team collects oiled birds, assesses the impact of oil spills on seabird populations, and documents ecological damages for use in legal proceedings. Several PRBO biologists are certified to take part in search and collection efforts in the field as part of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (UC Davis). Currently PRBO biologist Diana Humple has been deployed to assist with the Gulf spill.

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS. PRBO’s K-12 education program uses birds to teach conservation science and responsible environmental stewardship. PRBO offers in-class and after school programs that have reached thousands of children. At PRBO’s Palomarin Field and Research Station in Bolinas budding ornithologists and ecologists from around the world are trained in hands on field research skills through our intern training program.

For more information about PRBO’s Bird-A-Thon, contact Emily Sanborn at 707-781-2555 x320 or ESanborn@PRBO.org
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PRBO Conservation Science California Study Sites



San Francisco Bay sites and marine survey locations shown above