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TRA THOMAS REID ASSOCIATES ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Thomas S. Reid

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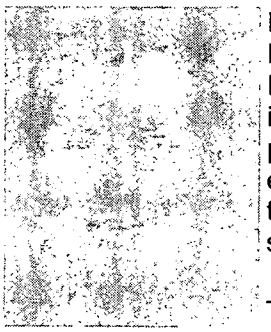
Mr. Reid has directed his firm and participated in much of its technical work since its inception in 1972. Although the firm retains its full-service in environmental assessment, Mr. Reid has made conservation planning his principal professional focus.



Mr. Reid was the first consultant to become involved in habitat conservation planning under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and has been involved in many of the habitat conservation plans (HCP) proposed in the state of California. His scientific expertise and presentation and negotiation skills support the consensus-building process that has resulted in a successful outcome for numerous plans.

TRA prepared the first HCP 1981-82 for the County of San Mateo. The San Bruno Mountain HCP was permitted in 1983. This plan was based on a two-year, large scale, endangered species survey of the 3600 acre San Bruno Mountain, conducted by TRA under Mr. Reid's direction. The San Bruno Mountain HCP resulted in the addition of Section 10(a) to the newly-reauthorized ESA. This addition to the ESA allowed, for the first time, legal take of an endangered species for other than scientific purposes, if take was demonstrated to be mitigated by an approved HCP that demonstrated a net benefit to the endangered species. In addition, under his direction, TRA firm has been responsible for implementing the enhancement program of the San Bruno Mountain HCP since its adoption.

Other conservation plans and planning studies under Mr. Reid's direction include: Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard HCP in Riverside County, the South San Joaquin Valley Ecosystems Protection Program for the California Energy Commission, the Marina Dunes HCP, Metropolitan Bakersfield HCP, the Morro Bay Kangaroo Rat HCP (interim), Kirby Canyon Conservation Plan, the Seascape Uplands (long-toed salamander) HCP, the San Benito County HCP (interim), the Natomas Basin HCP (II).

Mr. Reid served the State of California Department of Fish and Game as the primary facilitator for the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub NCCP, the state's first Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP). Mr. Reid worked with the scientific review panel and with various federal, state and private participants involved in this process. Aimed at ecosystem conservation, the NCCP program was the first program of its kind. The program encompasses 6000 square miles of coastal sage scrub community in five counties of southern California. Through Mr. Reid's efforts, the participants, including the state and federal governments, have been able to agree on workable process guidelines that govern the long-term protection of the coastal sage scrub ecosystem for the foreseeable future.

In 1996 he assisted the State of California Resources Agency with the conservation planning effort for the Headwaters Forest (Pacific Lumber Company) in Humboldt County, CA. The Headwaters Forest HCP was

permitted in 1999. He is currently assisting Placer County with the preparation of a County-wide HCP/NCCP.

Mr. Reid is well versed in the technical aspects of environmental analysis and conservation planning. His skills include aerial photo interpretation, geographic information systems (GIS), mapping, data processing and interpretation, biostatistics, and computer assisted environmental modeling. TRA was responsible for the GIS analysis in the South San Joaquin Valley Ecosystems Protection Program, the Pacific Lumber Headwaters negotiations, and the Placer County Conservation Plan.

Educational Background and Honors

B.S. Chemistry, Yale University, New Haven, CT
Graduate study in Biology, Stanford University, Stanford, CA
National Science Foundation graduate fellowship

« *TRA Staff*

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