

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



**WATER ENTERPRISE
NATURAL RESOURCES AND LANDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

1145 Market Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103 ♦ Tel: (415) 554-3271 ♦ Fax: (415) 934-5770

November 17, 2008

GAVIN NEWSOM
MAYOR

ANN MOLLER CAEN
PRESIDENT

F.X. CROWLEY
VICE PRESIDENT

FRANCESCA VIOTOR
COMMISSIONER

ED HARRINGTON
GENERAL MANAGER

Field Supervisor
Attention: Revised Critical Habitat, California Red-legged Frog
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA. 95825

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) owns and manages 23,000 acres of land in San Mateo County and 36,000 acres spanning Alameda and Santa Clara Counties. Much of the SFPUC-owned land that would be newly designated as critical habitat under this revision is known to support California red-legged frogs (*Rana aurora draytonii*). The SFPUC generally supports the decision by the Service to expand critical habitat for this species and looks forward to continued work with the USFWS on endangered species issues.

We are addressing opportunities for conservation of these federally listed frogs and many other species in our Peninsula and Alameda Creek watershed Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) being prepared for submittal to the Service pursuant to Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act. These HCPs will address the effects of our operations, maintenance, and conservation activities in these watersheds. Operational impacts are also evaluated and mitigated by Environmental Impact Reports associated with Peninsula and Alameda Watershed Management Plans. We are addressing impacts of new SFPUC projects through section 7 consultations and CEQA review through improvements and enhancements on SFPUC-owned land.

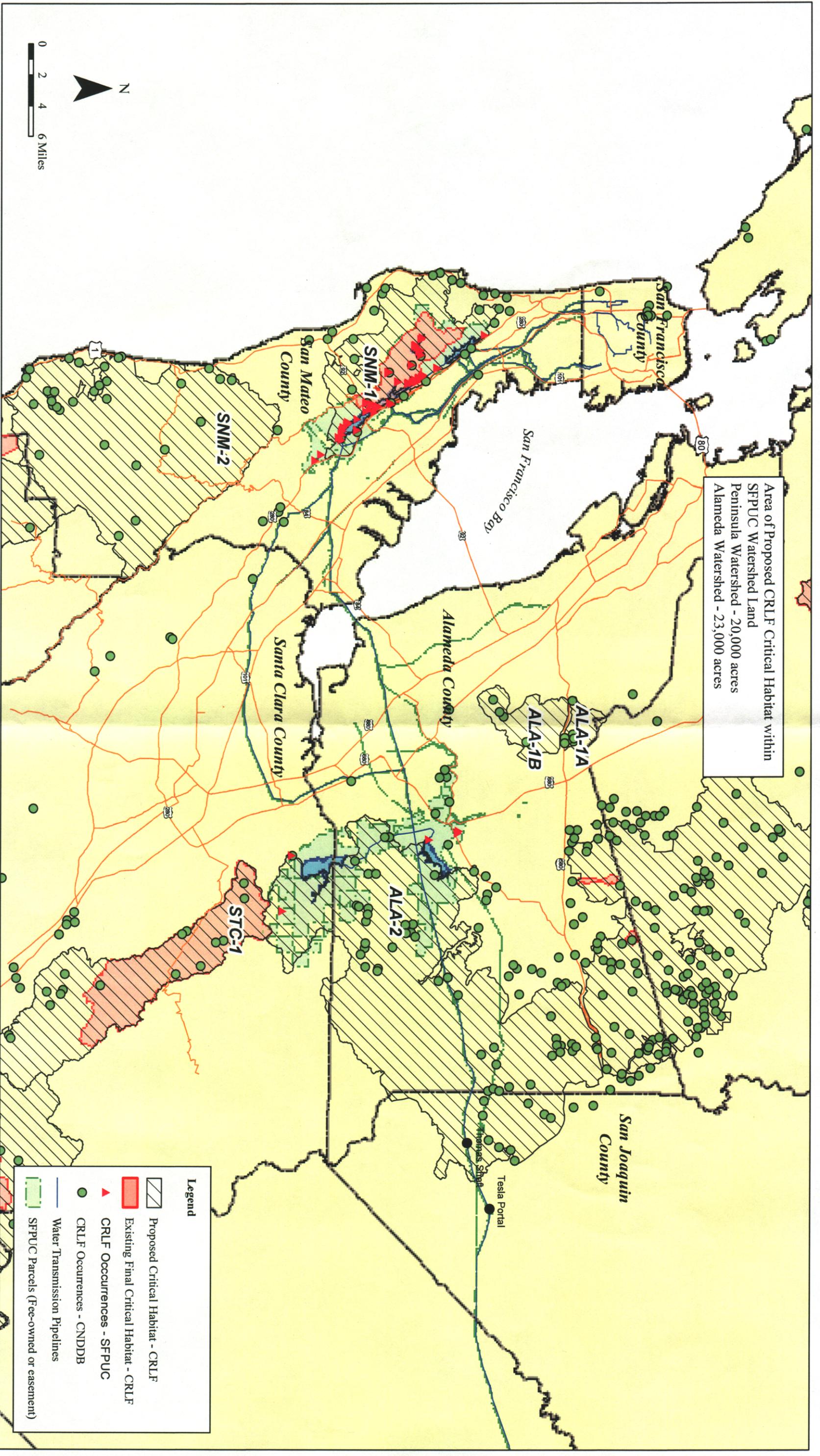
The SFPUC continues to collect information about our lands, including endangered species occurrences. For your information, we are including a map with preliminary survey data that will be submitted to the Service as soon as the reports are finalized.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the revised critical habitat designation. Please let us know if you have any questions about our monitoring or restoration activities. We will be happy to provide further details.

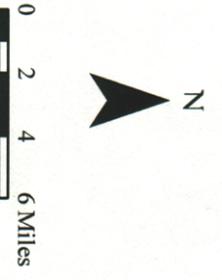
Sincerely,

Tim Ramirez, Manager
Natural Resources and Lands Management Division
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
1145 Market Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 554-3265

Area of Proposed CRLF Critical Habitat within
 SFPUC Watershed Land
 Peninsula Watershed - 20,000 acres
 Alameda Watershed - 23,000 acres



- Legend**
- Proposed Critical Habitat - CRLF
 - Existing Final Critical Habitat - CRLF
 - CRLF Occurrences - SFPUC
 - CRLF Occurrences - CNDDB
 - Water Transmission Pipelines
 - SFPUC Parcels (Fee-owned or easement)



San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
 Natural Resources Division

Author: J.Jenkins Date: 11/13/08 File: ProposedCritHab_rlfog_occurrence_11x17.mxd

Data Source: Proposed CRLF Critical Habitat from USFWS shapefile as declared in the Federal Register 9/16/08.
 Existing Critical Habitat 4/13/06 from USFWS shapefile.
 SFPUC Occurrences from various SFPUC and consultant surveys and CA Natural Diversity Database from CA Dept. of Fish & Game

DRAFT

San Francisco Bay Area
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 Proposed Critical Habitat
 CA red - legged frog