



Wildlife Survey & Photo Service

2443 Fair Oaks Blvd. # 209 • Sacramento, CA 95825 • (916) 747-8537

REPORT 5899

Nut Tree Mitigation Area

May 29, 2018

To: Rich Marovich

From: Ken W. Davis

Regarding: Nut Tree Mitigation Area - Preserving Some Results

Report

Although the Nut Tree Mitigation Area has been problematic for certain reasons including the 2017 floods, I contend that sections have been successful, although possibly in metrics not used for plant mitigation. A significant number of wildlife species have used the area for hunting, nesting and resting (deer). Per your permission, I have used the area for monitoring nesting birds that are potentially foraging in the nearby Scarification Site.

I understand that Tony Morales wanted the area mowed, but discussions with him confirmed he would have been okay with creative mowing that “outlined” specific plants that appear to be surviving. Unfortunately, someone mowed the entire area, straight down the rows, leaving irrigation materials that will have to be removed. I have briefly discussed this with Melanie Truan and Nicolle Herr and would like to proceed to see if we can salvage some of the areas identified with aerial images on the following pages. I will describe “salvage” after a site visit with Melanie and Nicolle and a plan is developed.



© Ken W. Davis

Bluebirds have been highly successful using the NTMA for three years in a row. In 2017, three pair of Bluebirds triple clutched. Ash-throated Fly catchers also nested in the area as did quail and turkeys.



Row in NTMA (4-25-2018) before the area was mowed.



5-2-2018 after the section was mowed.

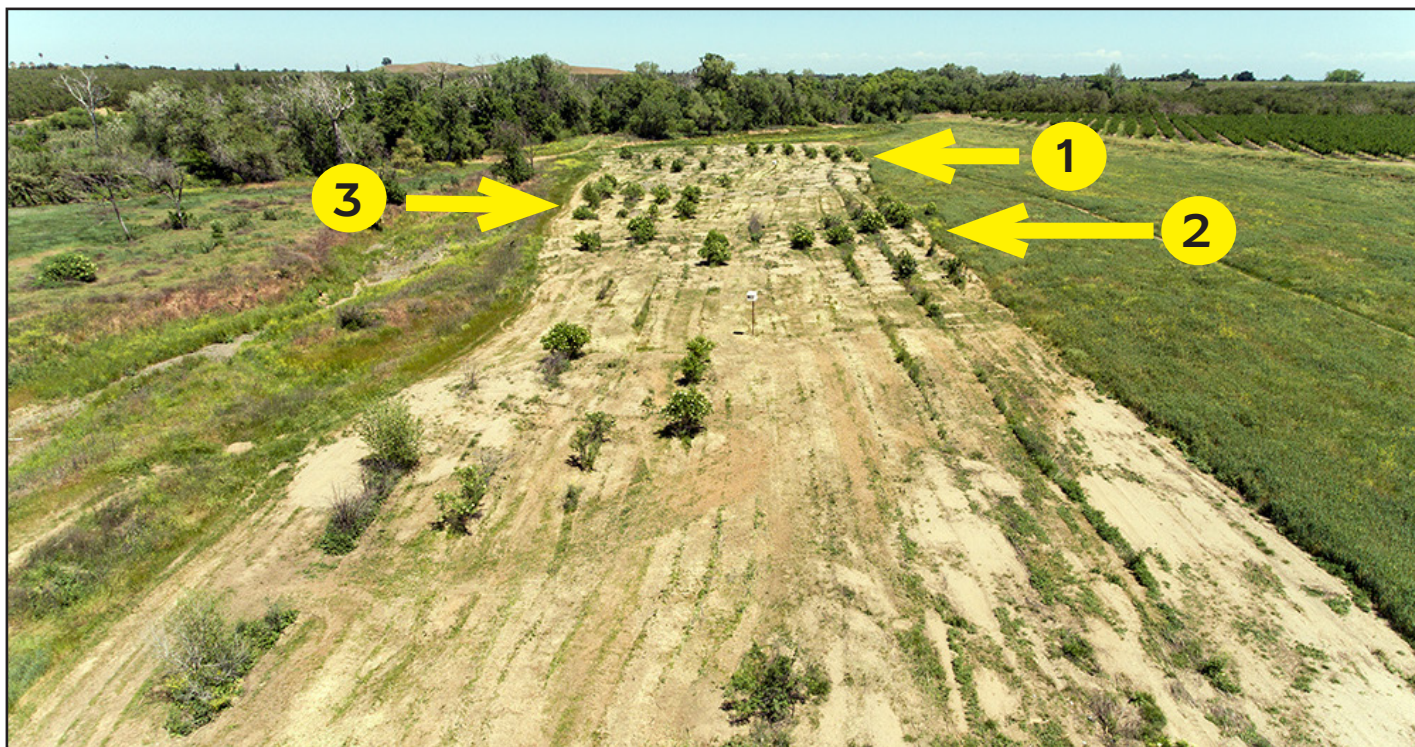


Image 1: Nut Tree Mitigation Area after the site was mowed (5-2-2018). Several areas, prior to row mowing, were potentially ideal for developing mitigated "islands" that appear to be preferred by wildlife. Image looking northeast from the western end.

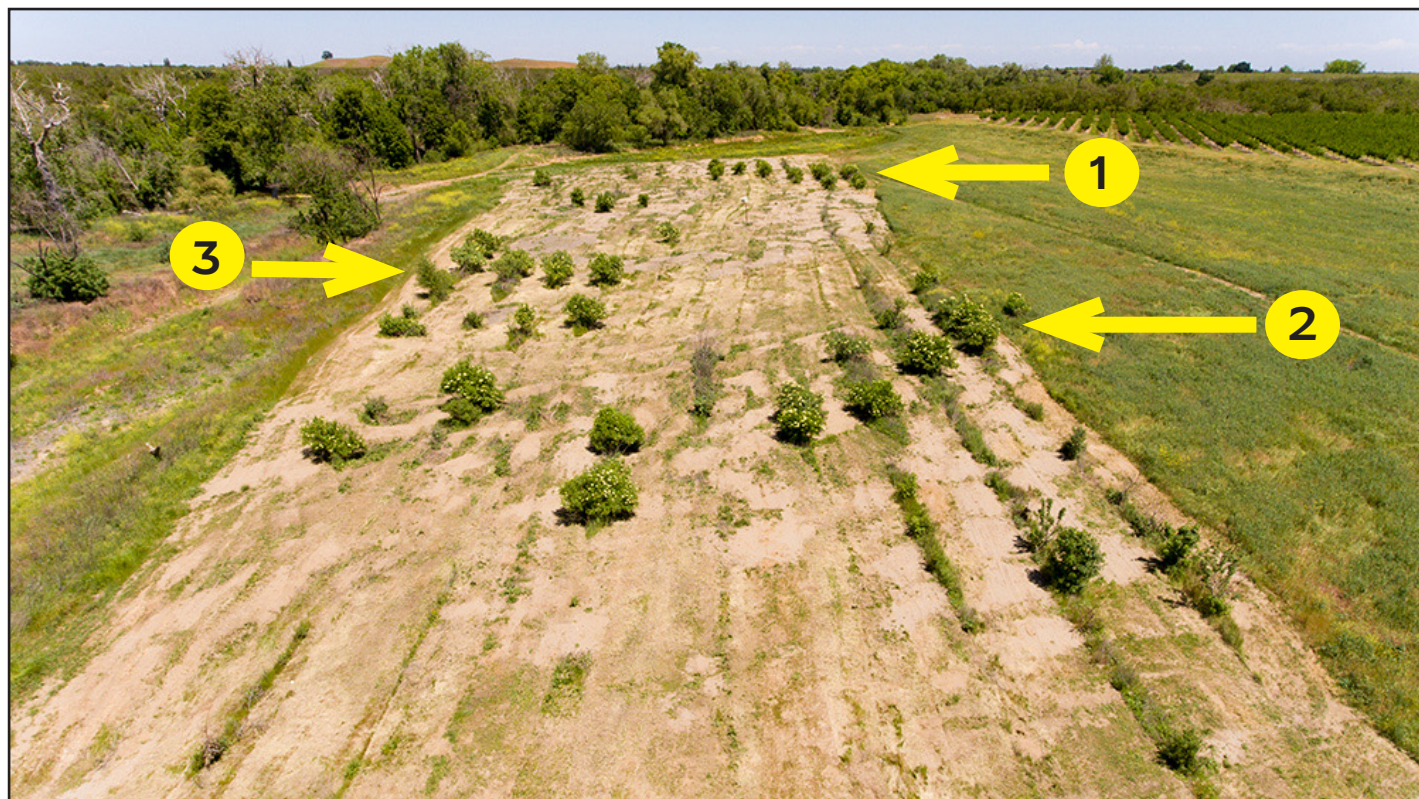


Image 2: Nut Tree Mitigation Area aerial image (5-2-2018) as the drone moved northeast at a constant elevation.



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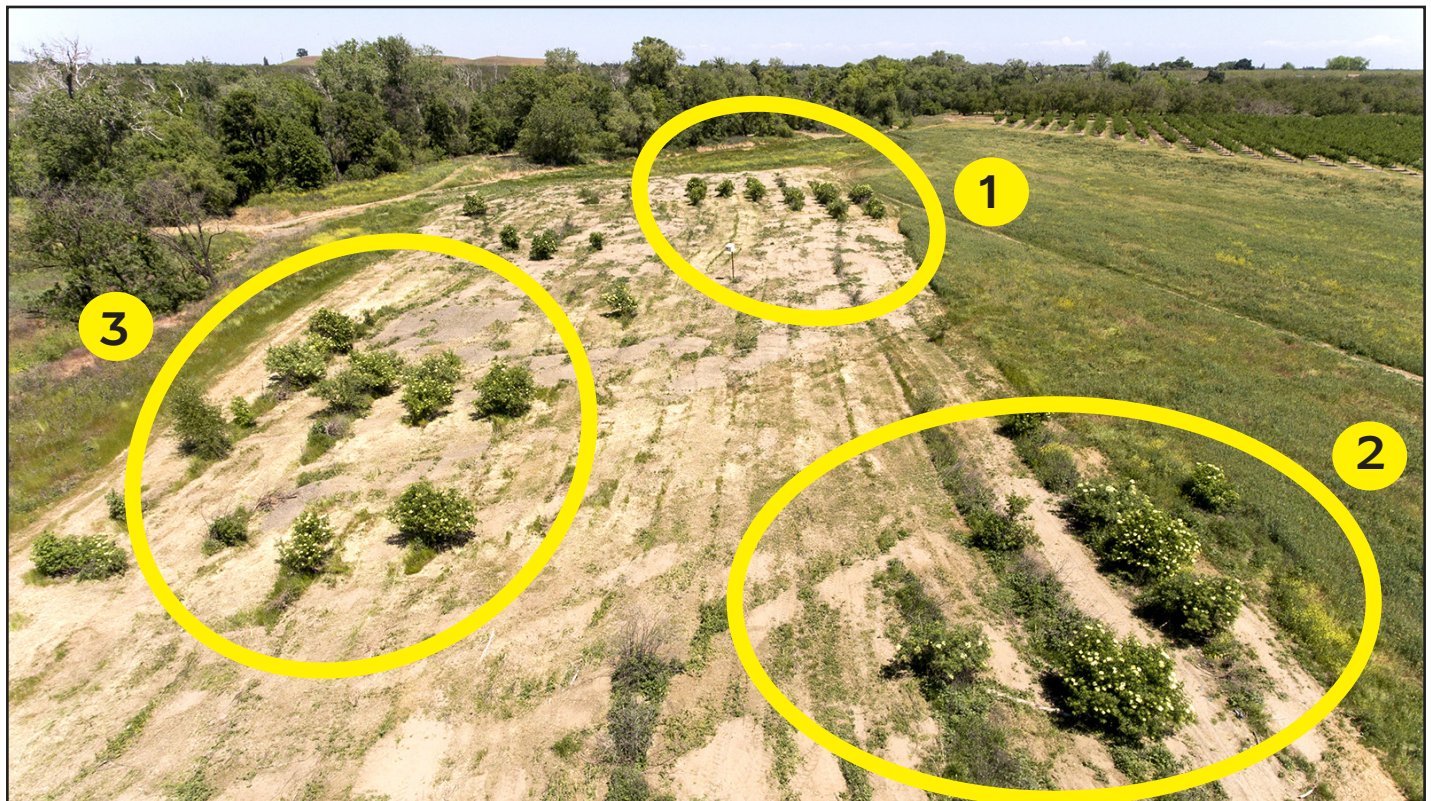
Nut Tree Mitigation Area



Bluebirds have been highly successful using the NTMA for three years in a row in the area within the oval above. In 2017, three pair of Bluebirds triple clutched. Ash-throated Fly catchers also nested in the area as did quail and turkeys.



Image: Taken after the mowing and in the area outlined above - 5-2-2018. See arrow for photo site.



Aerial Image (5-2-2108): Blue birds have nested (nest boxes) in all three sections in the last three years. Ash-throated flycatchers have also nested nearby.



Image: Section 3 before mowing (4-25-2018)



Image: Section three before mowing (4-25-2018)



Image taken 4-25-2017 after the Glory Hole breached. The sand in some areas of the Nut Tree Mitigation Area is three feet deep.



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Submitted via e-mail on May 29, 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken W. Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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