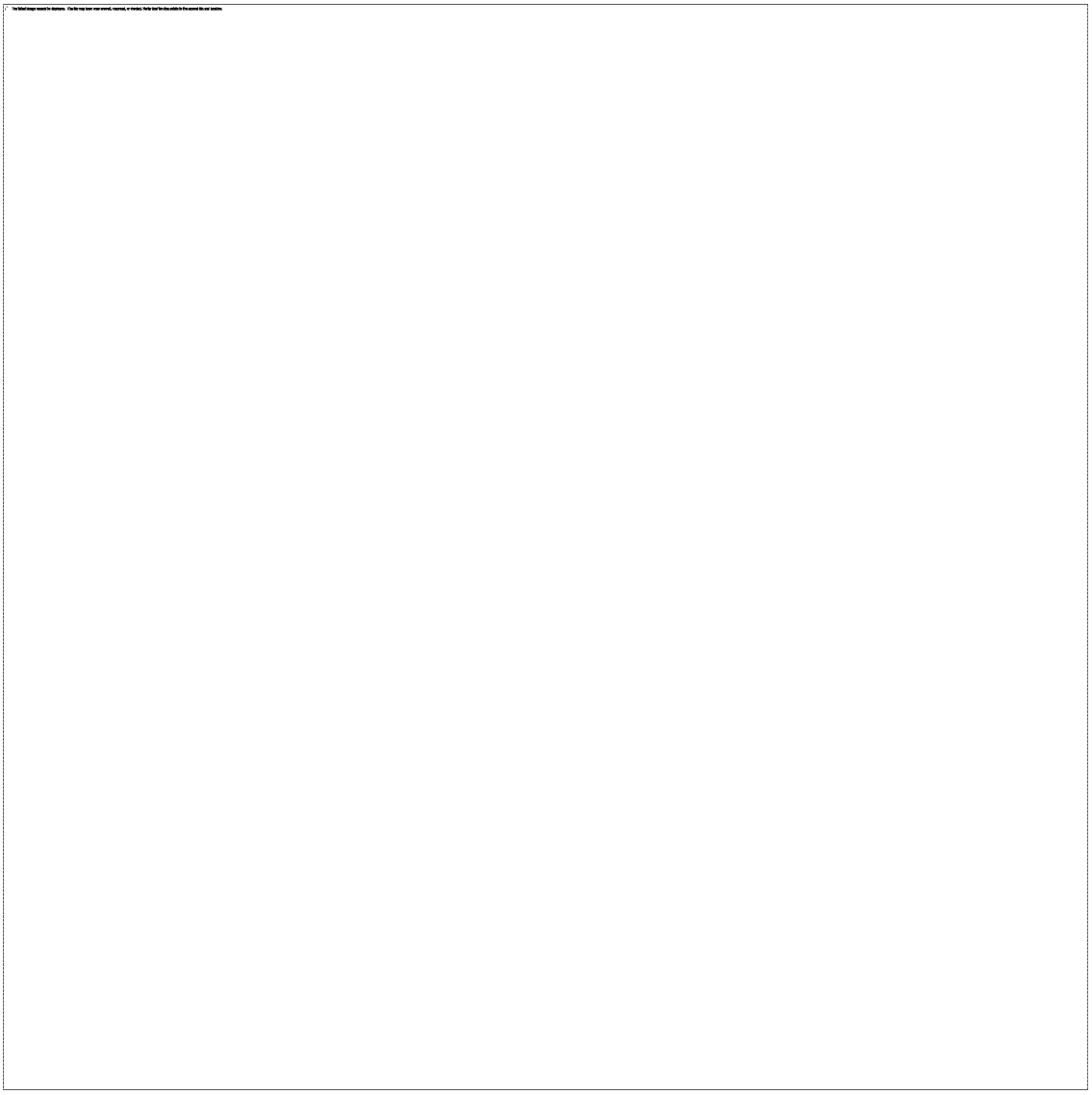
Message

From: Land Veritas Mitigation Banks [bankmanager@landveritas.com]
Sent: 4/28/2020 4:59:36 PM
To: Ziegler, Sam [Ziegler.Sam@epa.gov]
Subject: Land Veritas Mitigation Banks Spring Newsletter

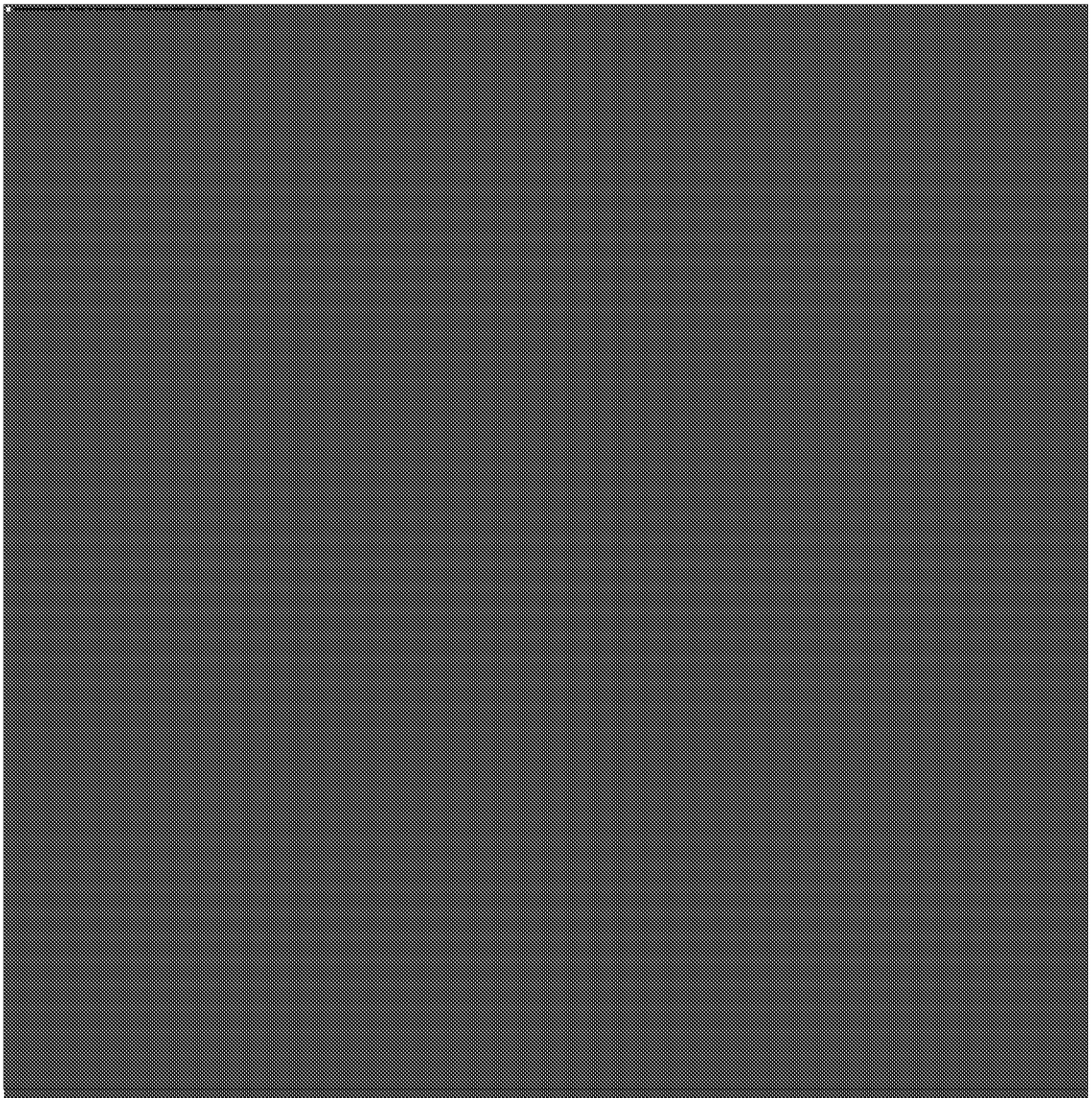
Land Veritas Mitigation Banks Spring Newsletter



Mitigation Banking in the Time of Coronavirus

The safety and health of our community is very important to us and we hope you and your loved ones are all staying safe during this time. Per the Governor's Stay at Home Order in response to the COVID-19 challenge, we are working from home and hope to schedule site tours for later this year. Although tours are currently on hold, mitigation banks are considered an essential business or service within the State of California and our staff remain available to assist with your mitigation needs. Please feel free to reach out to us at any time at bankmanager@landveritas.com.

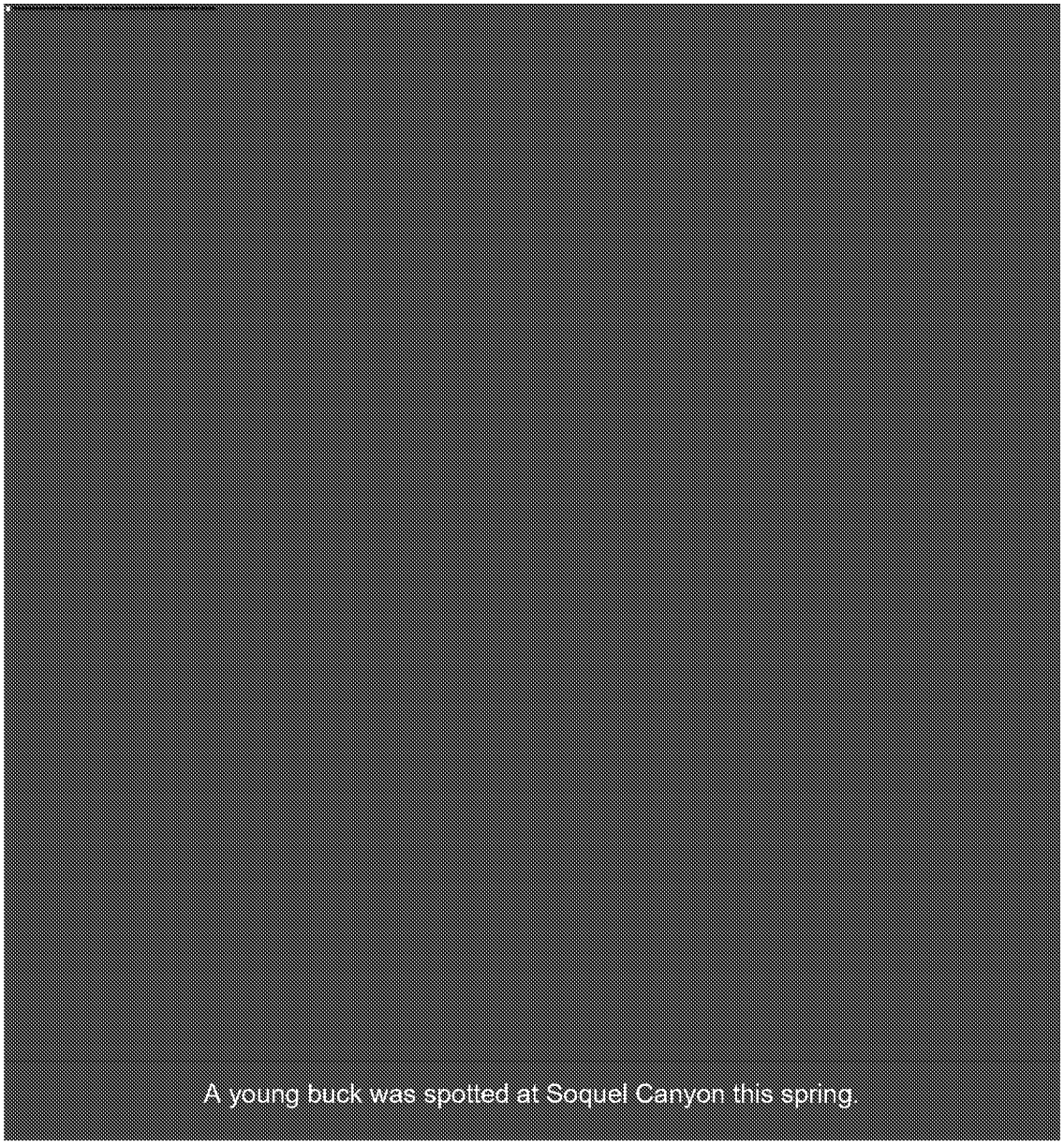
Annual Monitoring at the Banks!



Success indicators at Soquel Canyon Mitigation Bank. On the left are newly discovered wetland recruits and on the right are juvenile walnuts.

It's that time of year again – annual performance monitoring at the Banks! Every year we monitor our Banks' restored and enhanced habitats to ensure they are meeting annual physical, hydrological, and biological performance standards. 2020 marks Year 5 of performance monitoring at Soquel Canyon Mitigation Bank, an important milestone for the Bank. While completing the final delineation

at Soquel Canyon this spring, we discovered a brand-new wetland as well as some new walnut recruits (pictured above).



A young buck was spotted at Soquel Canyon this spring.

As a bonus, while finishing all the required spring monitoring tasks last week, WRA biologists captured this young buck grazing in the Bank Property as well! Monitoring staff are always thrilled to see wildlife utilize the Bank's habitats, and we're proud to provide a safe environment for young animals to rear. Both the plant recruits and wildlife sightings are indicators of the Bank's success, and illustrate how the Bank is thriving and providing safe, healthy habitat to wildlife.

Wracking, Shelving, and Scouring

Small scale (left) and large scale (right) evidence of the alluvial fan's active hydrology.

Over at Petersen Ranch, hydrology and sediment transport monitoring was completed at the alluvial fan and Petersen Stream this spring. This important monitoring effort allows us to understand how much the alluvial fan and braided stream systems continue to develop over time. Monitoring includes using a

UAV to take landscape level photos of the Munz Canyon alluvial fan, as shown on the left. Our wetland specialists also hike the site to observe and document flow indicators, such as sediment sorting, wracking, shelving, and scour, that can be seen in the photo on the right. How many indicators can you find?

Devil's Gate Enters First Year of Monitoring

Left: Live stakes immediately after planting. Right (top and bottom): recent photos of live stakes taken this past fall.

The 30+ acre turnkey restoration project, performed to satisfy off-site mitigation needs for a sediment management project at the Devil's Gate Dam in Pasadena, was completed last year in April. Restoration included planting over 10,000 wetland and riparian live stakes to restore willow and mulefat habitats surrounding one of the ponds at the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank. This year kicks off the project's five-year performance monitoring period, where the success of the restoration will be monitored annually. As you can see from the photos above, the live stakes are doing extremely well and demonstrate the success of the restoration!

Thank you for your continued support and take care!

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