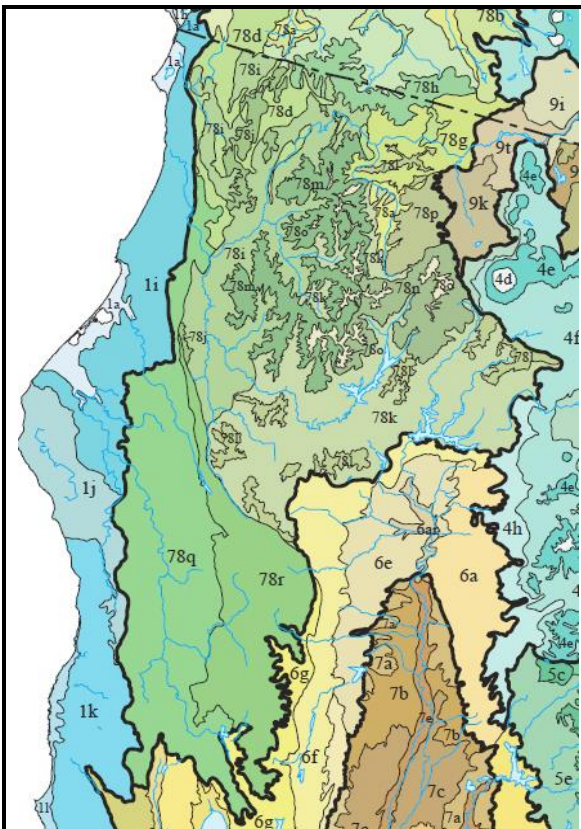


Berryessa Snow Mountain, Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion, and Wildlife Connectivity

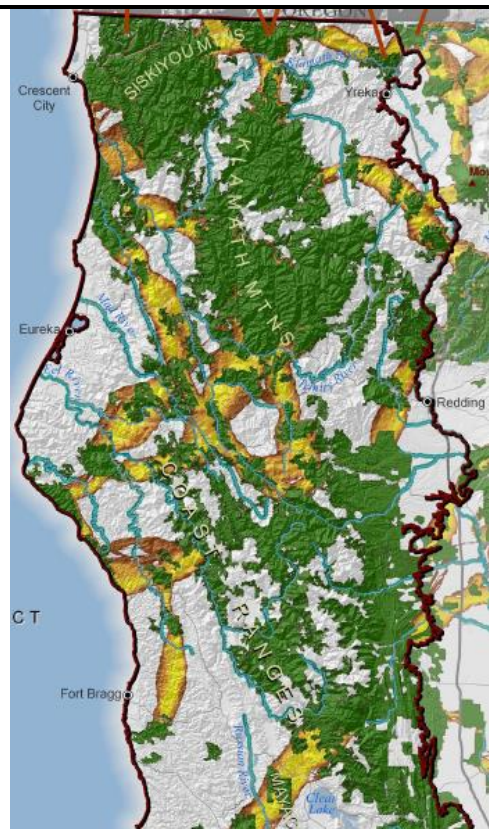
The high-elevation Inner Coast Range region of northern California is ecologically the southern end of the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion, one of the most biologically diverse regions of the state. Located less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, visitors can find California's dazzling wildflower displays, blue oak woodlands, conifer forests, serpentine plants, and the second-largest population of wintering bald eagles; see herds of wild Tule elk; California newts, and catch glimpses of black bears. The Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion stretches from the northern portion of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument (including Snow Mountain, the southernmost outpost of the Klamath Province bioregion) into southwestern Oregon.

In the Klamath Mountains/California High North Coast Range, Omernik/USEPA Ecoregion 78 encompasses the highly-dissected ridges, foothills, and valleys of the Klamath and Siskiyou mountains. It includes the mixed conifer and montane hardwood forests that occur on mostly mesic soils in the North Coast Range mountains. The region includes ultramafic substrates such as serpentinite and mafic lithologies that directly affect vegetation. Most of the region was unglaciated during the Pleistocene epoch, when it likely served as a refuge for northern plant species. The region's diverse flora, a mosaic of both northern Californian and Pacific Northwestern conifers and hardwoods, is rich in endemic and relic species. The mild, subhumid climate of Ecoregion 78 is characterized by a lengthy summer drought.

The map below shows Ecoregion 78 in the left panel. The right panel shows an excerpt from the primary study addressing ecological connectivity in California (**Clear Lake is seen at the bottom of each image**). With few east-west roads, this region offers a largely unbroken landscape, with vital south-to-north ecological connectivity critical to climate-change adaptation. **Tuleyome often includes these elements in our work to illustrate ecological processes in the region, including necessary adaptations to climate change involving enhanced connectivity as well as protection of important natural areas (see Attachment A for a recent example, an excerpt from a presentation at the 2016 Natural Areas Conference in Davis.**



Source: Griffith et al. 2016. Ecoregions of California (post U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2016-1021, with map, scale 1:1,100,000.



Source: Spencer et al. 2010. California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project: A Strategy for Conserving a Connected California. Prepared for California Department of Transportation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Federal Highways Administration.

