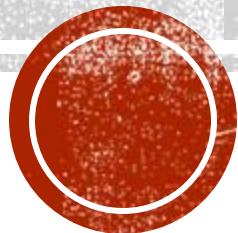


VERNAL POOL TADPOLE SHRIMP

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WHAT IS A VERNAL POOL TADPOLE SHRIMP

- The Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp is a type of small fish that lives in temporary pools of water formed by runoff seasonal rainwater.
- It has a large, shield like shell on their back that covers most of their body.
- The size of these animals can range from 1.5-8.4cm.
- They lay eggs in the mud under the water from one to three times a year and leave them in the mud while they move to another area with more water. The eggs rely on rain to flow back into the same place and create a body of water to they can hatch.



WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT

- Although the Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp contribute little to humans, they provide food to different birds and frogs living near the bodies of water. They are easy prey because they have no way to defend themselves.
- They also consume organic detritus in sediment and live prey such as amphibian larvae and other freshwater organisms.



HARMFUL HUMAN BEHAVIOR

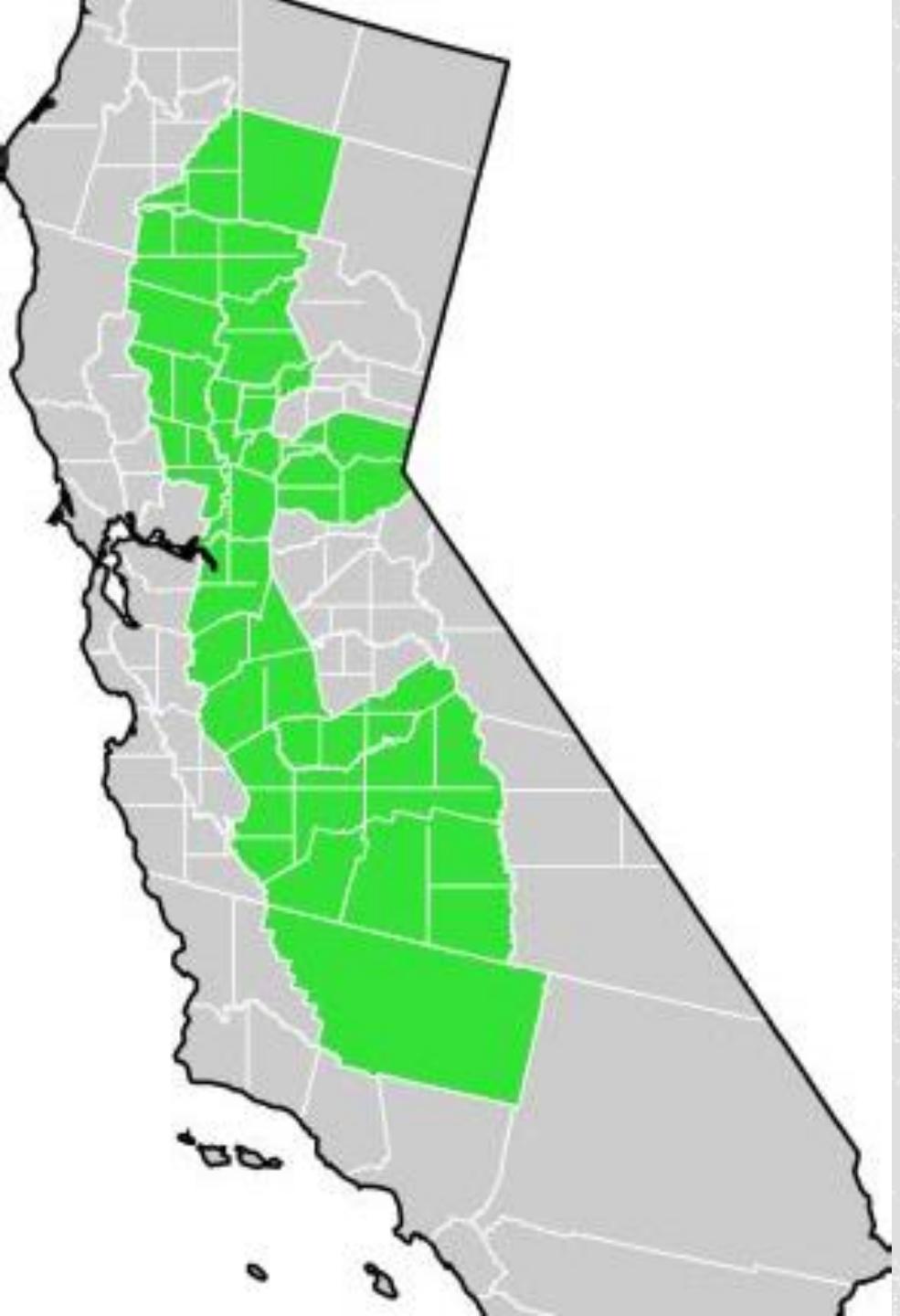
- One reason that vernal pool tadpole shrimp are endangered is because of urban development and the expansion of cities and towns has led to loss of habitat for this particular shrimp. This is deadly because if the shrimp have no water, they will not be able to survive.



OFF OF THE ENDANGERED LIST

- It would not be difficult to get the vernal pool tadpole shrimp off the endangered list
- The shrimp would most likely thrive if they were over looked in the area that they live. This would be easy to do because most of the Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp are in one area in Central California. It seems that it would be effective to leave them alone and let them reproduce without being killed off as quickly. It may be difficult to monitor such a large area, but the people who want to build inside the area could see someone to get their project approved to make sure no harm is done.
- We can also take part in other actions such as doing more research to understand them better as well as making attempts to restore their habitat.





RECOVERY PLAN

- We believe that the recovery plan would take up to ten years. It might take a year or so to get everybody on board with the plan to make sure they are not being destroyed by urban development. Afterwards, it would take multiple years to allow the Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp numbers grow. The shrimp lay many eggs at once, so if we simply leave them alone, the amount of them would grow quickly and take them off the endangered list.
- The shrimp is restricted to the Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay area. It occurs only in certain vernal pools. Due to its very limited range and the continuing loss of vernal pools due to new development and agriculture, Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp are on the downside when it comes to good living environments.



RECOVERY PLAN

- Since these shrimp have very specific living requirements, it is difficult for them to sustain a balanced population. However, through a dedicated watch over these environments and balancing urban development, these shrimp have potential to reproduce quickly enough to save their species from extinction
- The recovery plan would be expensive. It would most likely cost around \$700,000. Most of the money would be spent on transportation and paying individuals to overlook the area.



WORKS CITED

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