



## Nevada Natural Heritage Program



Department of Conservation and Natural Resources







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# Mission Statement

Our mission is to help coordinate the resource needs of Nevada's diverse biological heritage with human activities. We do this by serving as a clearinghouse, maintaining an inventory and current databases on the locations, biology, conservation, and management status of all threatened, endangered, sensitive, and atrisk species, in addition to, biological communities, in the state.

### What is a Natural Heritage Program?

- Natural heritage programs comprise the network of NatureServe, a non-profit conservation organization whose mission is to provide scientific basis for effective conservation action.
- Operate in all 50 U.S. states, in 11 provinces and territories of Canada, and in many countries and territories of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- The leading source of information on the precise locations and conditions of at-risk species and threatened ecosystems.

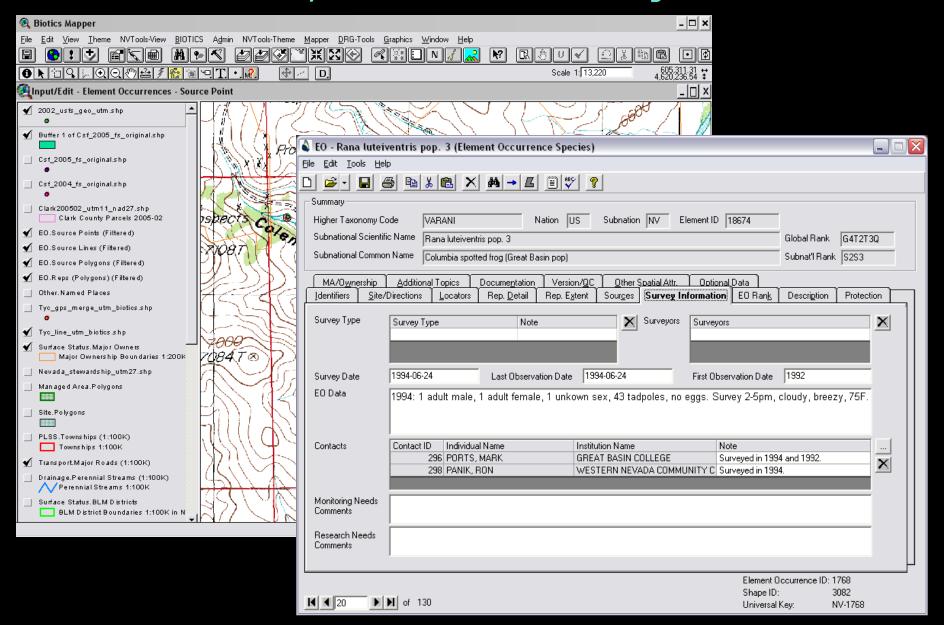
- Allow information from different programs and agencies to be shared and combined regionally, nationally, and internationally, due to consistent standards for collecting and managing data.
- Maintains a sophisticated database (Biotics) that tracks the relative rarity of each species and the location/status of each known population.
- The information compiled by natural heritage programs is a <u>powerful conservation tool</u> for planners, landowners, natural area managers, and others.



# Consistent Methodology Across the Entire NatureServe Network:

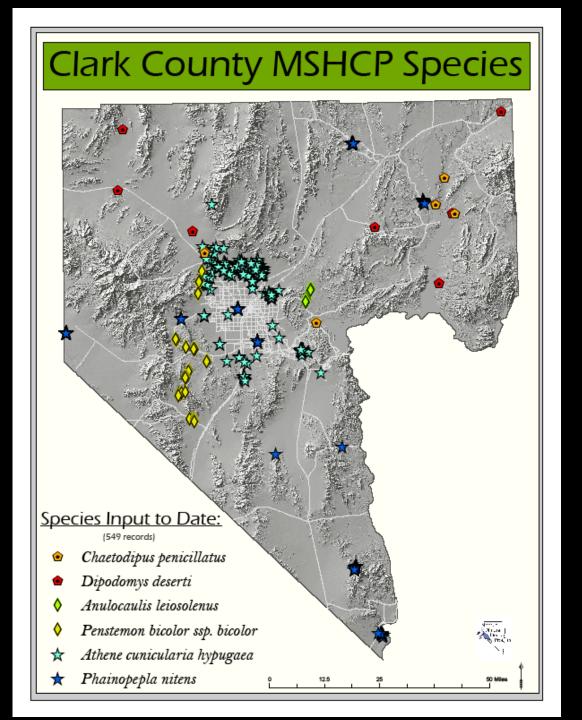
- Every location of an at-risk species is based on a definitive reference.
- National quality control standards.
- Regular data exchanges and review of data by national ecologists, zoologists, and botanists.
- National standards for delineating populations of specific taxa.

Mapping occurrences and evaluating conservation priorities for over 600 kinds of native animals, plants, their habitats, and vegetation communities.



#### MSHCP Species

- Desert pocket mouse
- Desert kangaroo rat
- Sticky ringstem
- Yellow two-tone beardtongue
- Phainopepla
- Western burrowing owl
- Banded Gila monster
- Sticky buckwheat
- Threecorner milkvetch



#### Nevada Rankings April 2002

> 3rd among all states in having the highest percentage of species at risk

Hawaii has 62.7% of all species at risk

California has 28.5% of all species at risk

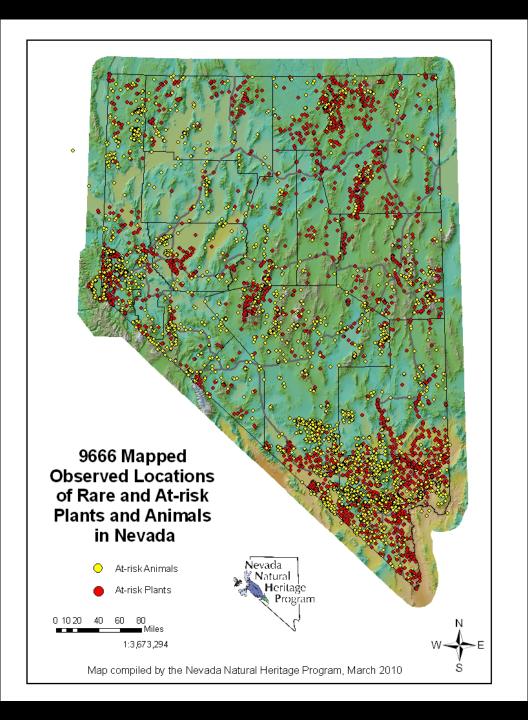
Nevada has 15.8% of all species at risk

#### Nevada Rankings April 2002

- ➤ 11<sup>th</sup> among all states in total species diversity 3,872 total species of plants, vertebrates, and selected invertebrates
- ➤ 6<sup>th</sup> among all states in number of unique species 173 endemic species
- ➤ 10<sup>th</sup> among all states in vascular plant diversity 2,875 species of plants
- > 9<sup>th</sup> among all states in mammal diversity 123 species of mammals

#### Nevada Rankings April 2002

- 4th among all states in having the greatest percentage of plant species at risk 15.7% of all Nevada plants are at risk
- 4<sup>th</sup> among all states in having the greatest percentage of fishes at risk
  56.3% of all Nevada fishes are at risk
- > 3<sup>rd</sup> among all states in having the greatest percentage of amphibians at risk 38.5% of all Nevada amphibians are at risk



#### Goals

- Continue our comprehensive mapping of MSHCP species for Clark County.
- Continue collecting data. (so, psst, psst, any of you out there with data for Clark County MSHCP species...hand it over... please... pretty please).
- Continue moving forward with Clark County.



#### Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

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