

Alluvial Fans:

An Ecological Perspective

Alluvial Fan Task Force
Plenary Meeting 1

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Alluvial Fan Issues

From an Ecological Perspective

- **Climate change – providing critical connectivity between lowlands and uplands**
- **Habitat for sensitive species**
- **Ecosystem processes and services:**
 - sand delivery for dunes and beaches**
 - aquifer recharge**
 - flood control**
 - nutrient and sediment transport for riparian habitats**
- **Cultural resources**
- **Recreation – trails and open space**
- **Sand and gravel**

.....as habitat for, and perhaps a last refuge for sensitive plants and animals....



Santa Ana River Woolly Star



Quino Checkerspot



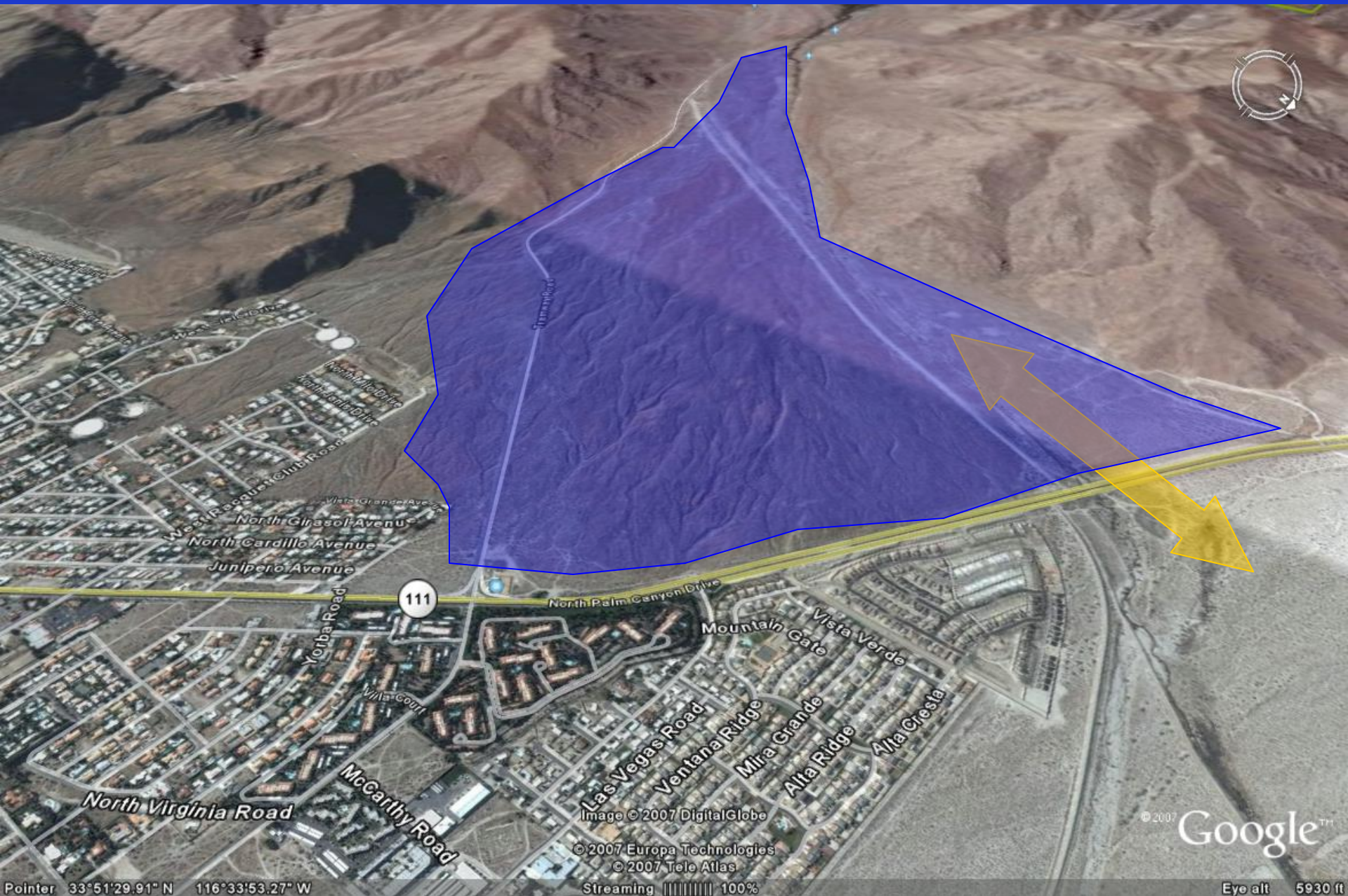
Burrowing Owl



Coast Horned Lizard

...critical inputs
for habitat
creation and
maintenance
downstream and
down wind.....





Pointer 33°51'29.91" N 116°33'53.27" W

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Streaming 100%

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Eye alt 5930 ft

Solutions and Opportunities?

- Not all alluvial fans are equal
- Conservation needs can be addressed within the context of an alluvial fan's ecological function
- Protected alluvial fans can be viewed as assets to local and regional communities – from both a human and an ecological perspective