

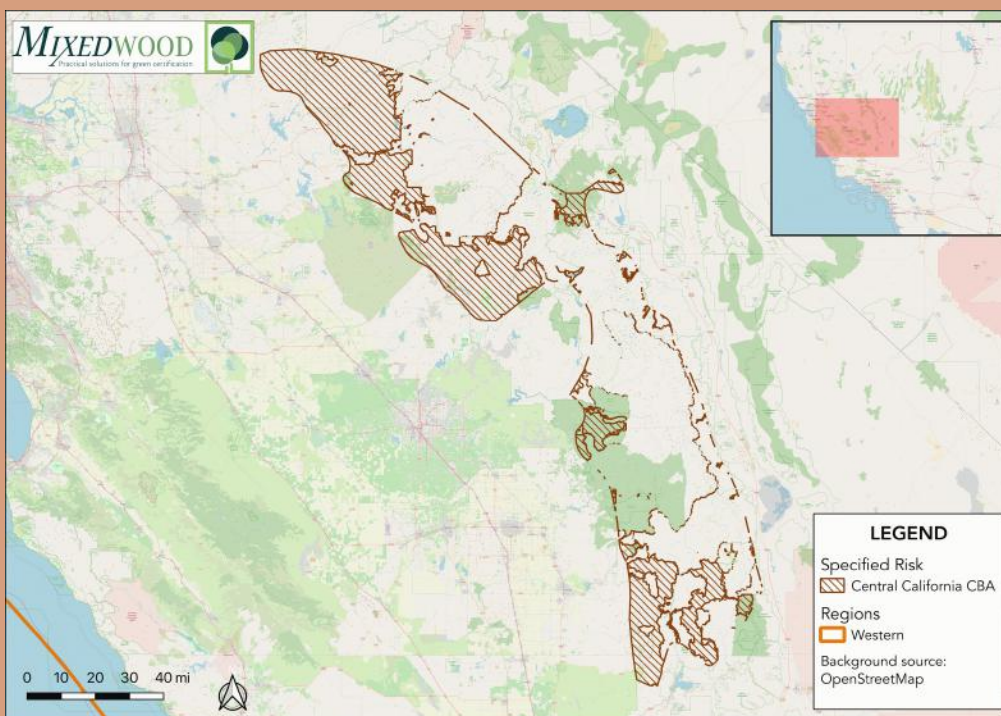
# CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CBA

## Description

The “California Floristic Province” is recognized by many international conservation organizations as a globally significant center of biodiversity. The Sierra Nevada hosts a wide variety of biodiversity including vertebrates, rare species, and endemic plants. Biodiversity in the forested areas of this part of the California Floristic Province is dependent on a diversity of stand types and ages, including tree species diversity, forest openings, and standing and downed woody structure. Forest management has the potential to influence this within stand and between stand diversity.

FSC Controlled Wood  
Specified Risk Fact Sheet

Mixed Conifer Stands and Montane Meadows drive the concentration of biodiversity in this area. The Sierran mixed conifer habitat is a vegetation band ranging 770 to 1230 m (2500 to 4000 ft) in the north to 1230 to 3076 m (4000 to 10,000 ft) in the southern Sierra Nevada and supports a number of rare species. Montane meadows are grassland habitats that occur in higher elevations. They are the most botanically diverse ecosystems in the Sierra Nevada and are also important for wildlife species, especially birds.<sup>1</sup>



FSC US  
Region: Pacific Coast & Rocky Mountains

Type: Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA)

NRA Category: HCV 3.1

Scope: moderate

<sup>1</sup>Forest Stewardship Council. (2018). FSC US Controlled Wood Regional Meeting Report Pacific Coast & Rocky Mountain Regions: Portland, OR. Retrieved from <https://us.fsc.org/download.controlled-wood-regional-meeting-report-pacific-coast-rocky-mountain-regions.a-704.pdf>





## High Conservation Value (HCV)

This CBA is considered an HCV because it contains a high overall species richness, diversity, or uniqueness within a defined area compared to other sites within the same biogeographic area. It was identified using a species richness index originally published by NatureServe and The Nature Conservancy that identifies areas with high concentrations of rare species.<sup>1</sup>

## Recommended Mitigation

- **Avoidance:** verified evidence that wood procurement is not active in the identified area.
- **Education & Outreach:** information sharing with landowners, loggers, wood suppliers.
- **Procurement Policy:** supporting and promoting conservation.

## Mitigation Resources

- **The Wilderness Society** – Sustainability: Sierra Nevada Forests. Links to protecting wild places in Sierra Nevada national forests.
- **Pacific Forest Trust - Support**. Project description & support opportunity.
- **Sierra Nevada Alliance**. Program descriptions, support opportunities, information, and resources.
- **University of California: Agriculture & Natural Resources**. Learn More page. Links to help sustain the resilience of forest ecosystems.

## Information Sources

- **Ecosystems of California Threats & Responses: Supplement for Decision-Making**. Link to PDF.
- **US Forest Service**: Managing Sierra Nevada Forests. Links to PDF and individual table of content topics.
- **Sierra Nevada Meadows Data Clearinghouse - Resources**. Article and report support for National Fish & Wildlife Foundation meadow initiative.

