

IDENTIFICATION, DELINEATION AND LEGAL STATUS OF
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE HABITAT AREAS (ESHA)
IN THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ZONE

1. Defining ESHA (Dr. John Dixon, CCC Staff Ecologist)

2. Determining Rarity of Plant & Animal Species

(Dr. Patrick McIntyre, Lead Scientist, California Natural Diversity Data Base, Biogeographic Data Branch, California Department of Fish and Wildlife)

3. Determining Rarity of Vegetation Communities

(Dr. Todd Keeler-Wolf, Senior Vegetation Ecologist, Vegetation Classification & Mapping Program Biogeographic Data Branch, California Department of Fish and Wildlife)

4. Delineating ESHA (Dr. Jonna Engel, CCC Staff Ecologist)

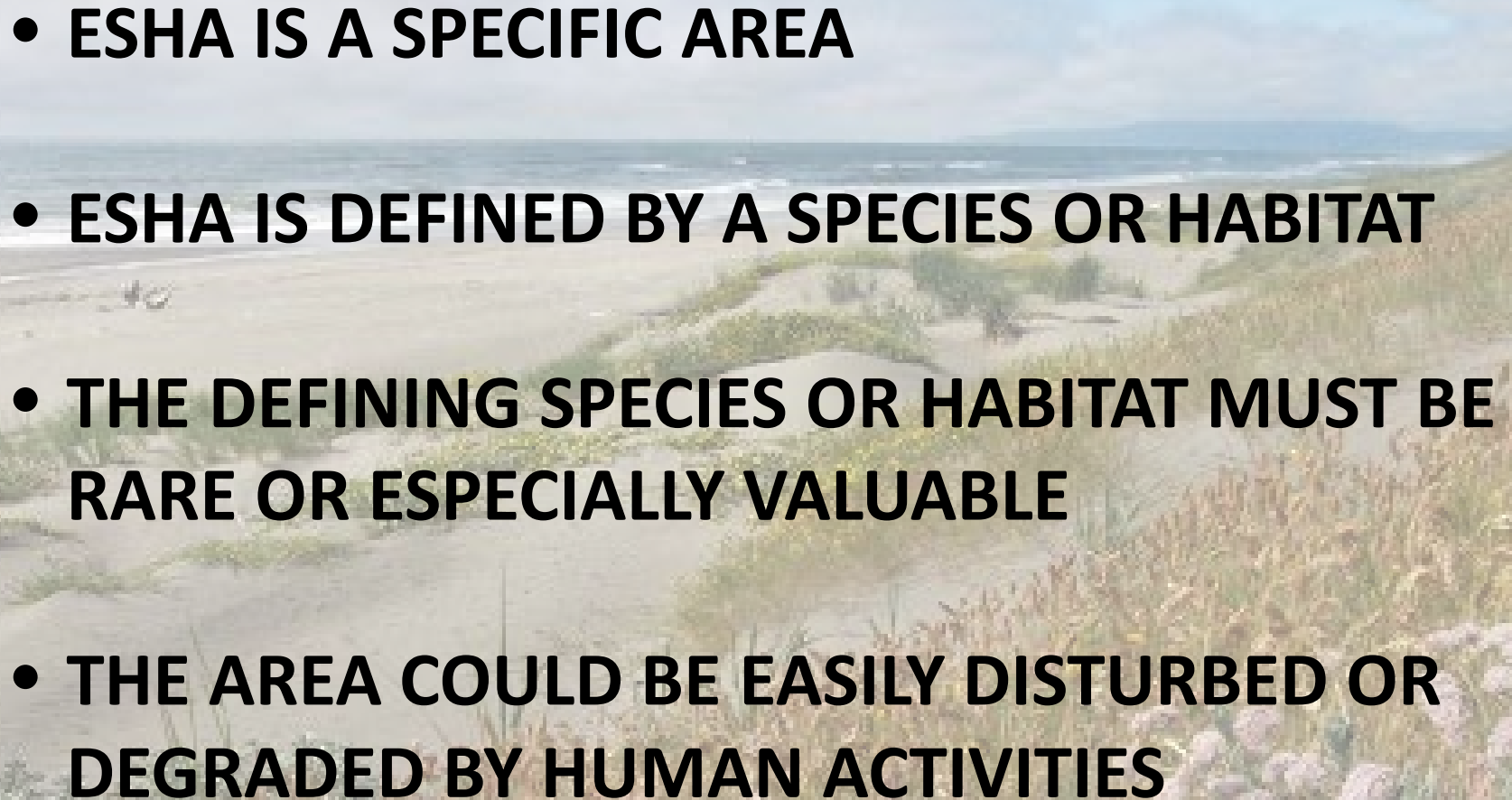
5. Legal Consequences of an ESHA Determination

(Erin Chalmers, Esq., CCC Senior Staff Counsel)



Section 30107.5 Environmentally Sensitive Area

“Environmentally sensitive area” means any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities.”

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- **ESHA IS A SPECIFIC AREA**
 - **ESHA IS DEFINED BY A SPECIES OR HABITAT**
 - **THE DEFINING SPECIES OR HABITAT MUST BE RARE OR ESPECIALLY VALUABLE**
 - **THE AREA COULD BE EASILY DISTURBED OR DEGRADED BY HUMAN ACTIVITIES**



TYPES OF RARITY

- **ABSOLUTELY RARE. FEW IN THE WORLD**
- **LOCALLY RARE, GLOBALLY ABUNDANT**
- **LOCALLY RARE, GLOBALLY ABUNDANT**
- **WIDESPREAD, NOWHERE ABUNDANT**



A dirt path leads into a dense forest. On the right side of the path, a green sign with white text reads "S.F.B. MORSE BOTANICAL RESERVE ENTRANCE". The sign features a small logo of a tree and a leaf on the left. The forest is filled with various plants, including ferns and shrubs, and the ground is covered in fallen leaves and twigs. The lighting is natural, suggesting a sunny day with some shade from the trees.

S.F.B. MORSE
BOTANICAL RESERVE
ENTRANCE





