

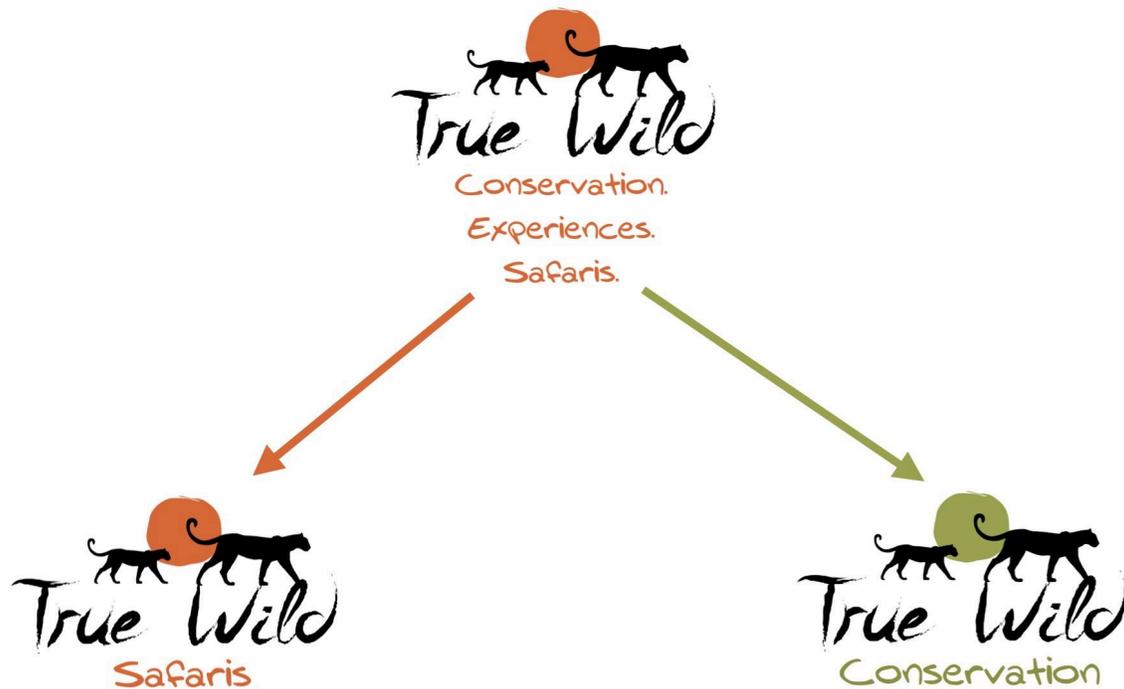


TRUE WILD CONSERVATION MARCH 2026
NEWSLETTER

“The Times They Are A-Changin’”



A True Wild Transition



Greetings! So much has happened since we last sent out a newsletter - here we touch on some of the more significant things over the past few months.

To begin with, True Wild has transitioned into two separate entities - [True Wild Conservation](#) and [True Wild Safaris](#). True Wild Conservation was registered late in 2025 as a conservation 501(3)c nonprofit (Tax ID: 39-5067030), while we will continue our for-profit safari company through True Wild Safaris. We have been, and will continue supporting conservation work, here and abroad, through the specialized tailor-made safaris we offer in Africa.

From here on out, we will be sending you updates in the form of a Newsletter from each separate entity. Feel free to unsubscribe from either one if you are not interested.

NORTH BAY MOUNTAIN LIONS

Exciting news is that P33, the Sonoma mama mountain lion living in the Taylor Mountain/Bennett Valley region has given birth to a litter of kittens on the 23rd January. If you recall, we were tracking P33 with her daughter P50 last year. It was encouraging to see that P50 survived to dispersal age, leaving mom sometime in August last year.

We got a trail camera photo of P50 alive and looking well in November again and hope to catch a glimpse of her sometime soon.

In the meantime, P33 managed to meet up with a male lion (possibly P53), and 3 months later started the incredibly challenging process of rearing mountain lion kittens in an environment where to-date, we have documented very low survival rates for these cats (<25%). Since P50 left her mom, Quinton was on the look out for signs of denning, and in early February, after a period where few GPS points were transmitted from the collar, he picked up signs that looked promising to be a den. Quinton and Liz tried to access the site on the first morning, but a VHF signal in the direction of the site meant mom was closeby. Quinton waited till the afternoon and tried again. Lo and behold, while P33 was out hunting, he found 3 sweet little 10-day old kittens huddled together in a neat den under a large fallen tree.



P33's three kittens photographed on the 2 February (Photo: Quinton Martins/True Wild/All Hands Ecology).

After the first den visit, P33 showed no signs of acknowledging the visit. Remote sensor video footage showed no sign of her smelling the area where Quinton had been, and she remained in the den another 2 days before moving the kittens.



P33 eyeing the camera out while patiently suckling her 3 kittens (Photo: Quinton Martins/True Wild Conservation/All Hands Ecology).

P33 has since moved the kittens 4 times. This is typical mountain lion behavior, moving them for safety and as their needs change. One kitten (P59) was sadly found dead a few days after P33 had moved them to the second den. It looked like the kitten was killed by a predator, but we are not 100% sure. We did not get to see the kittens at the 3rd den, but managed a brief glimpse of the two of them still alive at the 4th den on the 25th February.

We are hoping that P33 can manage to keep her remaining 2 kittens alive till dispersal age. There are many challenges they face between now and then. Once they leave mom, they continue to encounter threats from other mountain lions as well as interactions with people (through livestock depredation events and vehicle collisions) that could lead to their demise.



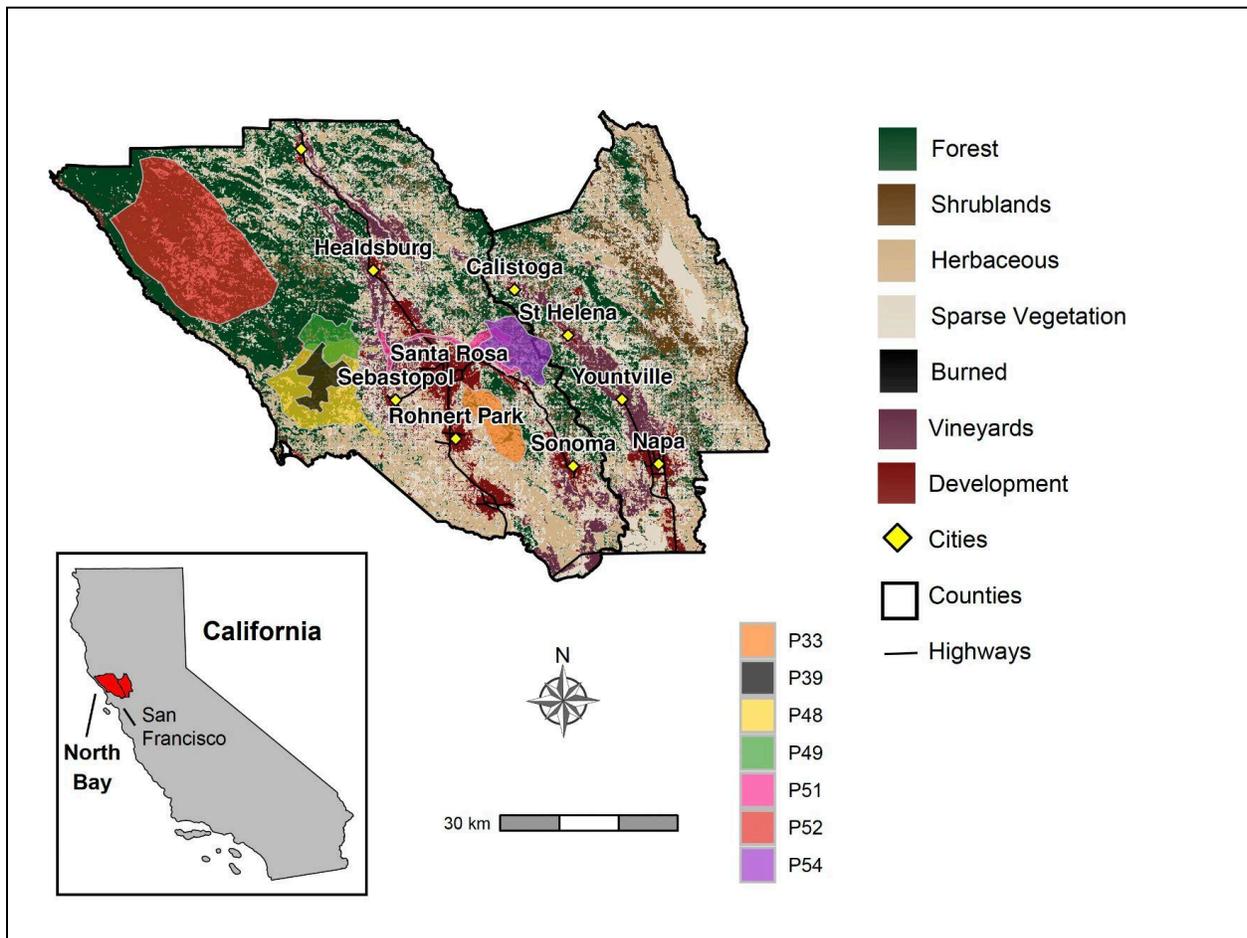
P33's three kittens photographed on the 2 February (Photo: Quinton Martins/True Wild Conservation/All Hands Ecology).



One of the two kittens still alive on the 25th February. (Photo: Quinton Martins/True Wild Conservation/All Hands Ecology)

OTHER MOUNTAIN LION NEWS

Since our last update we have collared 5 new male mountain lions in Sonoma County (P51, P52, P53, P54 & P55). P51, a young dispersing male was killed crossing the HWY12 near Oakmont after managing to trek from Sebastopol over HWY101. P53, was diagnosed with Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) when we captured him. He was recently found to have died of an unknown cause. Tests are being done to see if, like the multiple mortalities we documented in 2024, he too died of FeLV. The other 3 cats seem to be doing well.



Home ranges mapped out for mountain lions in the North Bay in 2025.

