

Project: West-of-Bayshore San Francisco Garter Snake Population Estimate

Location: San Mateo Co., CA

Client: LSA, Associates, Inc.

Dates of Performance: April 2007 – April 2017

Swaim Biological, Inc., is conducting a mark-recapture survey of the federally and state-endangered San Francisco garter snake (SFGS) at the West-of-Bayshore property in San Mateo, CA, in order to assess population status over time and detail the effects of management actions on snake activity at the site. Survey methodology involves drift-fence funnel trapping and handling of endangered species by permitted biologists. In 2007, SBI completed the first of three surveys in a ten-year trapping effort, and has generated a baseline population estimate for the site. In addition to informing management actions on the site, data obtained will increase understanding of life history and demography of SFGS, topics identified as lacking in data by the United State Fish and Wildlife Department in both their Recovery Plan for the San Francisco Garter Snake (1985) and the San Francisco Garter Snake Five Year Review (2006). In addition to SFGS, at this site SBI biologists routinely encounter and record data on all life stages of the federally threatened California red legged frog (*Rana draytonii*).