

The Regional Open Space Strategy for Maricopa

The Case for Action

In 2016, Maricopa County became the fastest growing county in the nation.

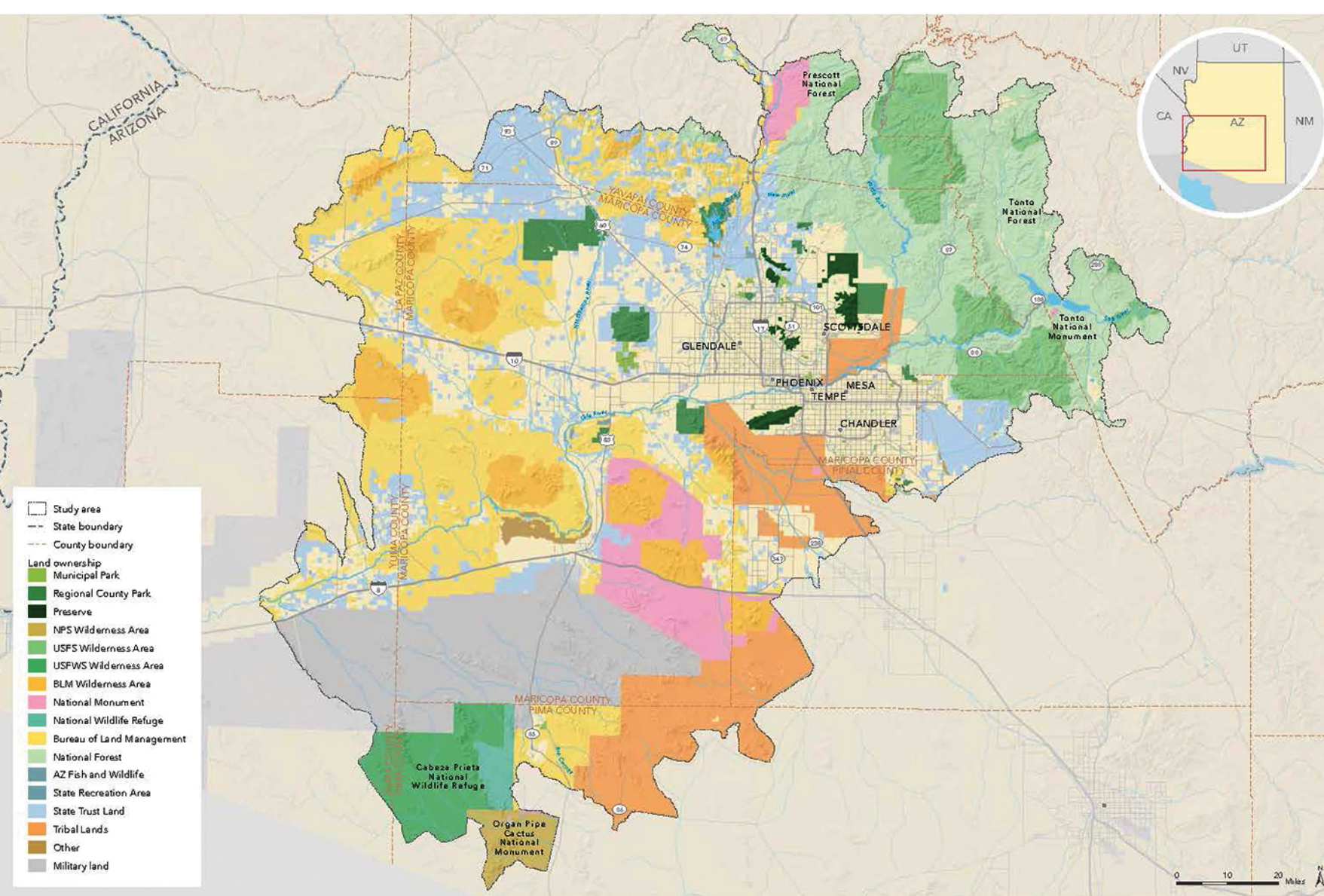
Experts project that from 2015 to 2040, the County's population will nearly double, growing from 4.3 million to 7.1 million people. Over that same period, more than 2 million acres of Sonoran Desert will be converted to urban use.



Methodology

The iterative, stakeholder process took 18 months. Partners included non-profits, municipal governments, academia, the business community, and the public.

- (1) A stakeholder-based planning team determined the initial content of the ROSS.
- (2) A regional advisory committee assisted with adjustments to the content based on feasibility.
- (3) CAZCA collated the results and produced the finalized ROSS.



Resulting Shared Vision

The ROSS encapsulates what will be necessary to protect natural open spaces in the region.

Now, we need help bringing the ROSS to fruition through (1) research needed to carry out the goals, (2) volunteer support for ROSS-related projects, and (3) help raising awareness for this shared vision among the larger community.



1

Protect and Connect

Creating a robust and resilient network of natural areas

2

Sustain & Restore

Taking the best care of what we already have

3

Love & Support

Growing champions for Sonoran Desert conservation

4

Coordinate & Elevate

Amplifying impact through collaboration

