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National Center for Ecological  
Analysis and Synthesis

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla^2 \phi) = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\nabla^2 \psi) - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\nabla^2 \psi) + \nu \nabla^2 (\nabla^2 \psi) + g\alpha \frac{dT}{dx}$$



## NCEAS Project 12378

# Applying population ecology to strategies for eradicating invasive forest insects



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# Bioeconomics of Detection / Eradication



Becky Epanchin-Niell,  
Resources for the Future



## Natural Resource Economics: Optimizing effort & funds

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### ● Detection (trapping)

Goal: to find newly founded populations



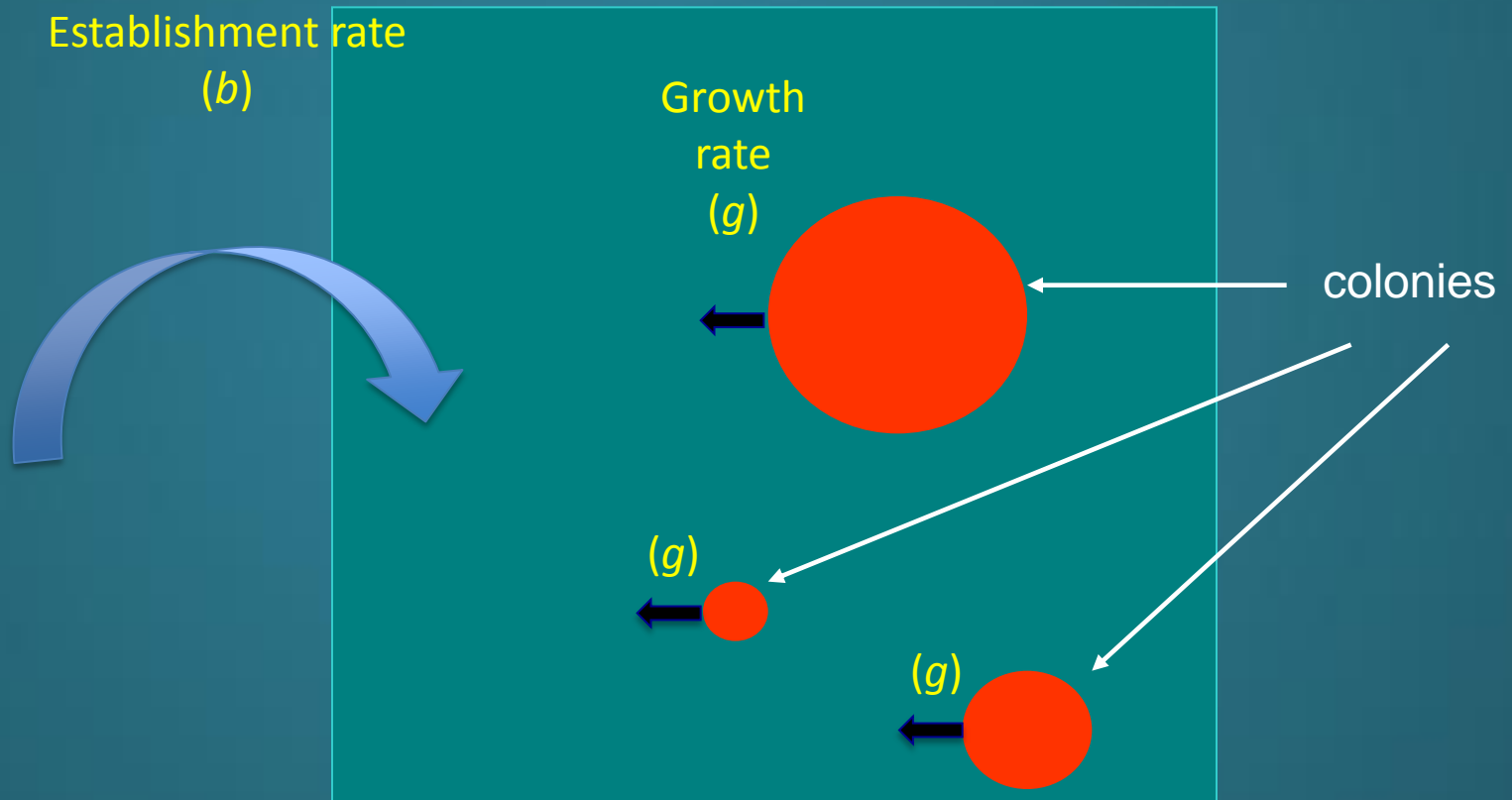
### ● Eradication (i.e., spraying)

Goal: to force a population into extinction



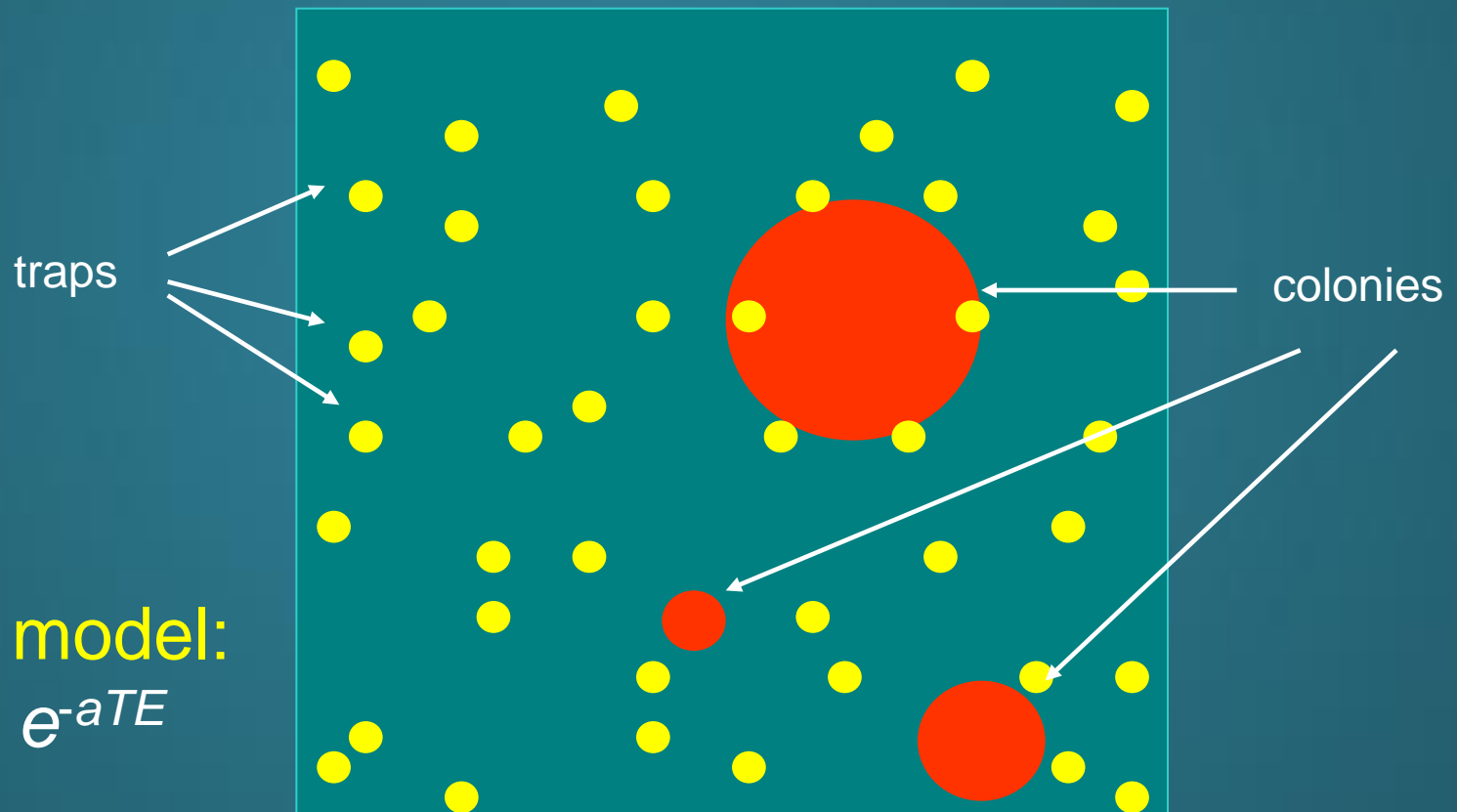
# Invasion process:

- Colonies arrive and establish randomly
- Colony area grows



Probability of detecting a colony depends on:

- Size of colony -  $a$
- Density of traps -  $T$
- Trap sensitivity/effectiveness -  $E$



Poisson model:

$$P = 1 - e^{-aTE}$$

# Bioeconomic model

- Probabilistic size (age) class model  $s \in (1, 2, \dots, S_{max})$ 
  - Establishment rate
  - Detection effort
- Determine optimal equilibrium trap density

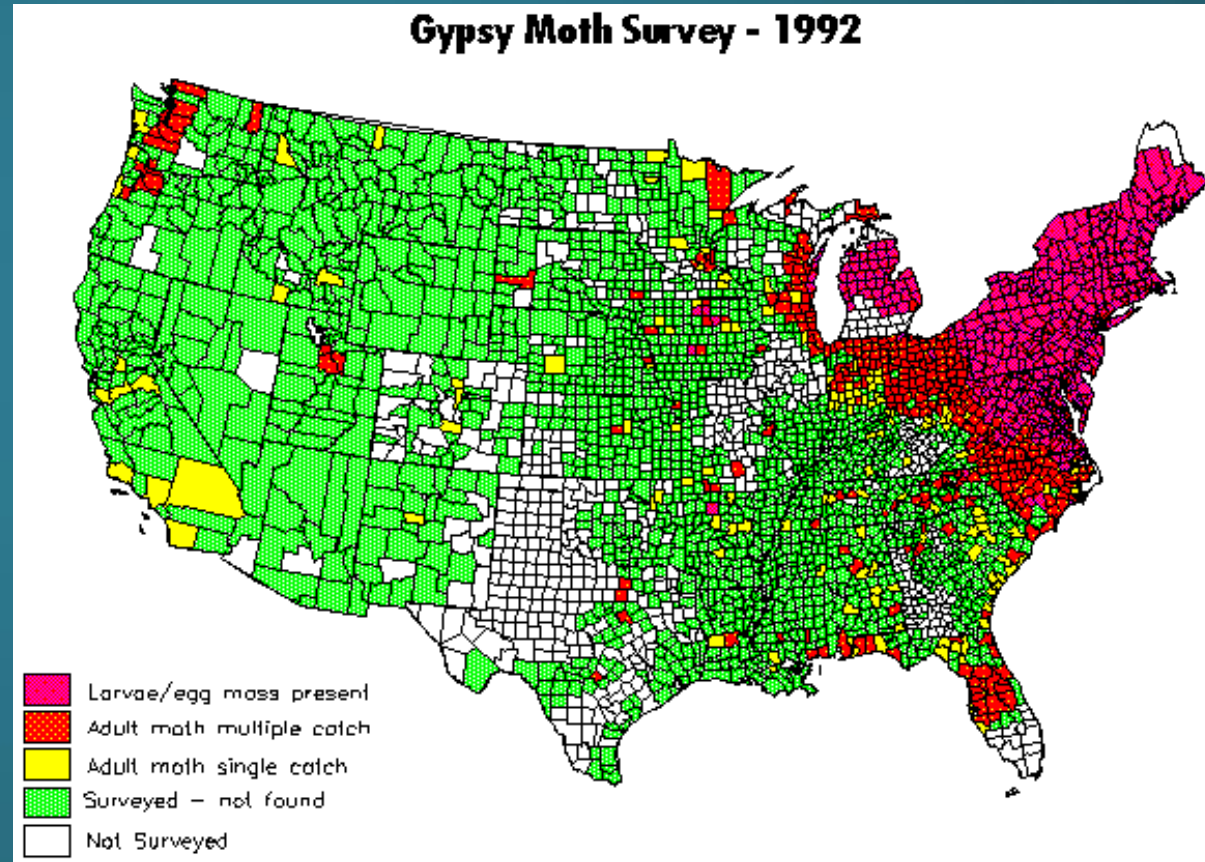
Choose  $T$  to minimize:

$$c_{trap}(T) + \sum_{s=1}^{S_{max}} c_{erad}(s) * E(\text{detections}_s) + c_{big} E(S_{max})$$

Trapping costs                      Eradication costs                      Penalty costs



# Case study: Gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) eradication in California



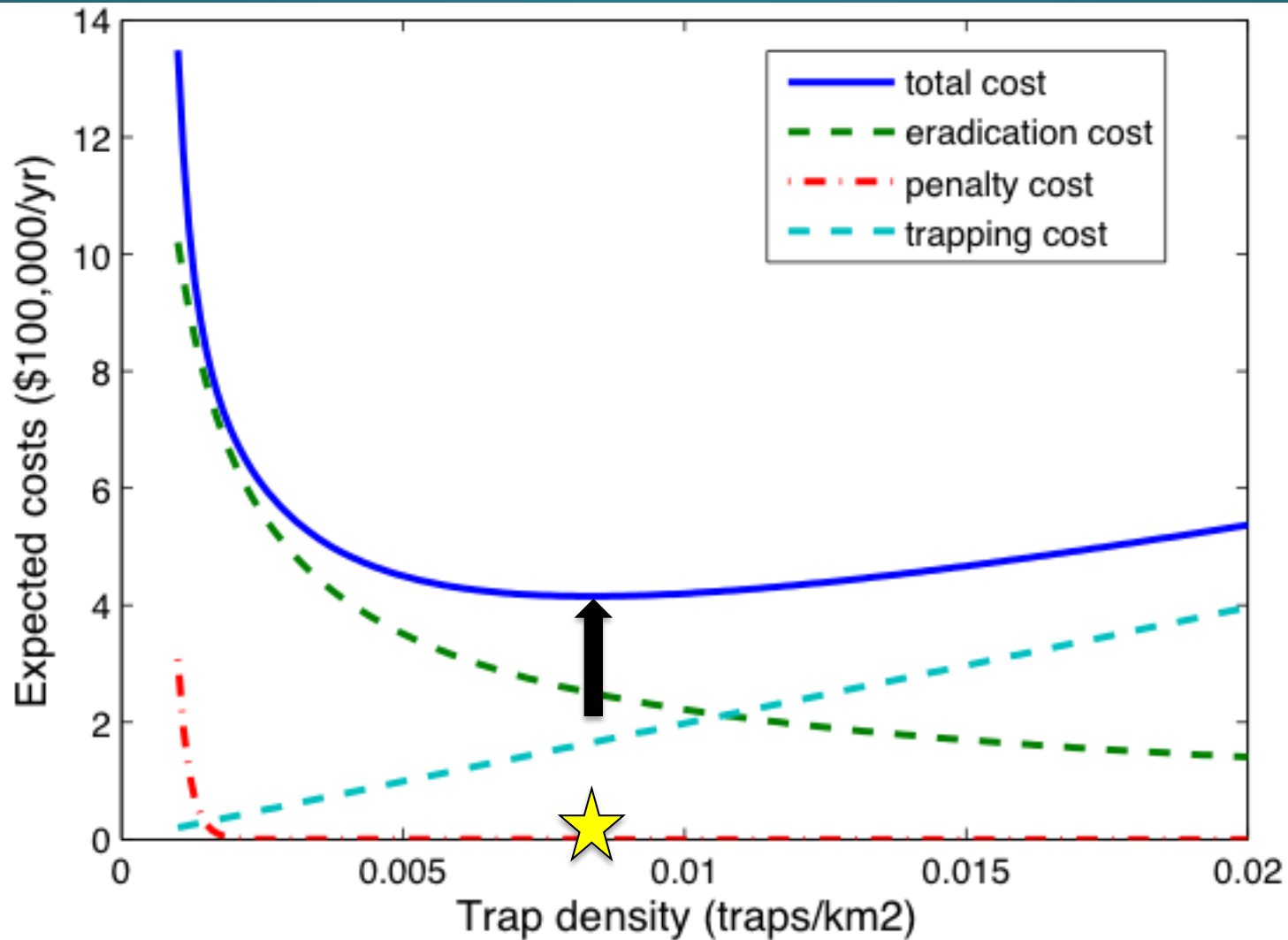
# State and County Specific Parameterization



Parameter	California	Counties
Colony growth ( $\text{km}^2/\text{year}^2$ ), $g$	2	same
Maximum colony age	20	same
Penalty cost	\$50,000,000	same
Trap sensitivity/effectiveness	1	same
Cost of eradication ( $\$/\text{km}^2$ ), $c_e$	5,000	same
Forest area ( $\text{km}^2$ ), $A$	414,633	7,149 (s.d.=8,187)
Cost of search ( $\$/\text{trap}$ ), $c_s$	47.78	43.15 (s.d=68.74)
Colony establishment rate ( $\text{col}/10,000\text{km}^2/\text{yr}$ ), $b$	0.021	0.142 (s.d=0.657)

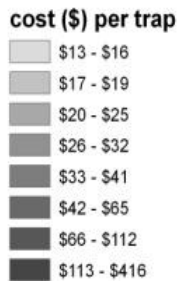
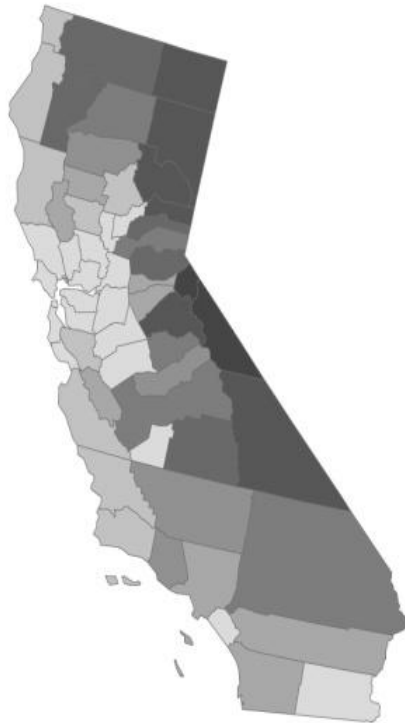


# Expected Management Costs - California -

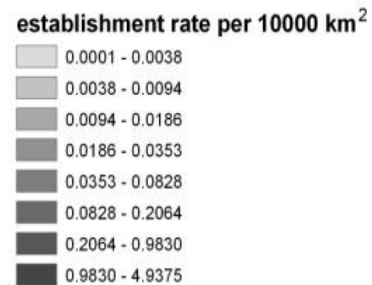
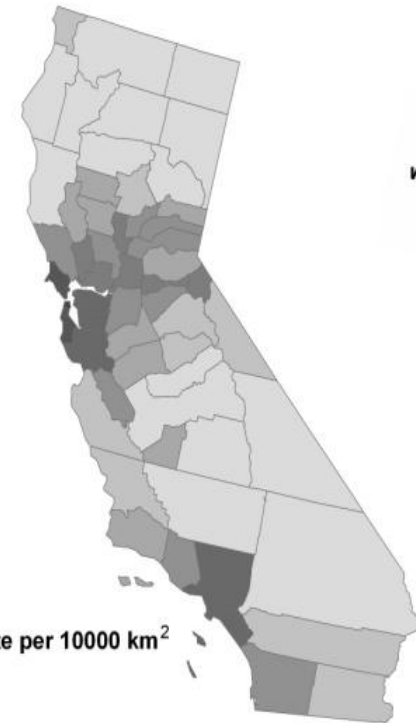


# Variation in trapping cost and establishment rate among counties

Cost per trap

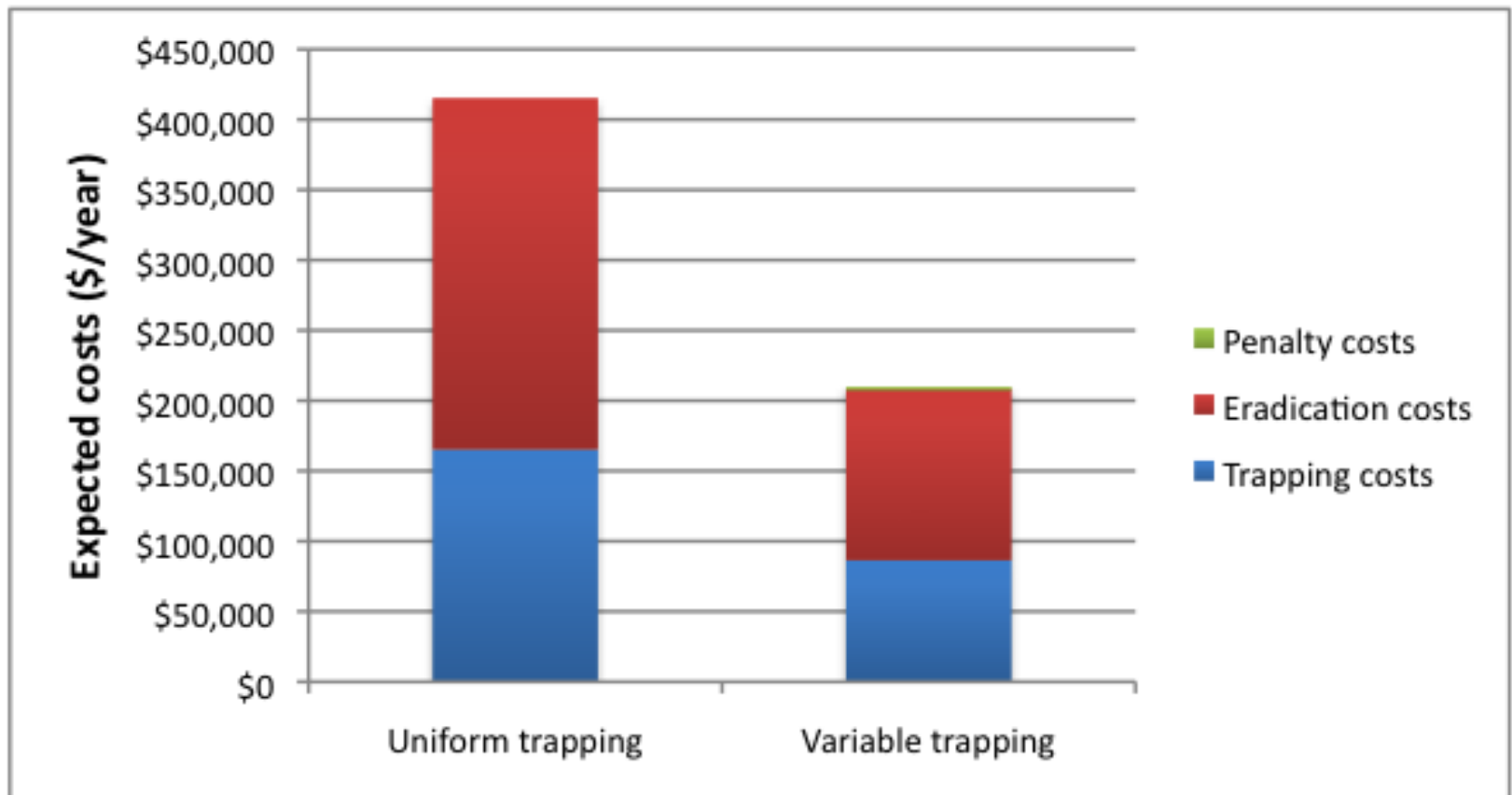


Establishment rate



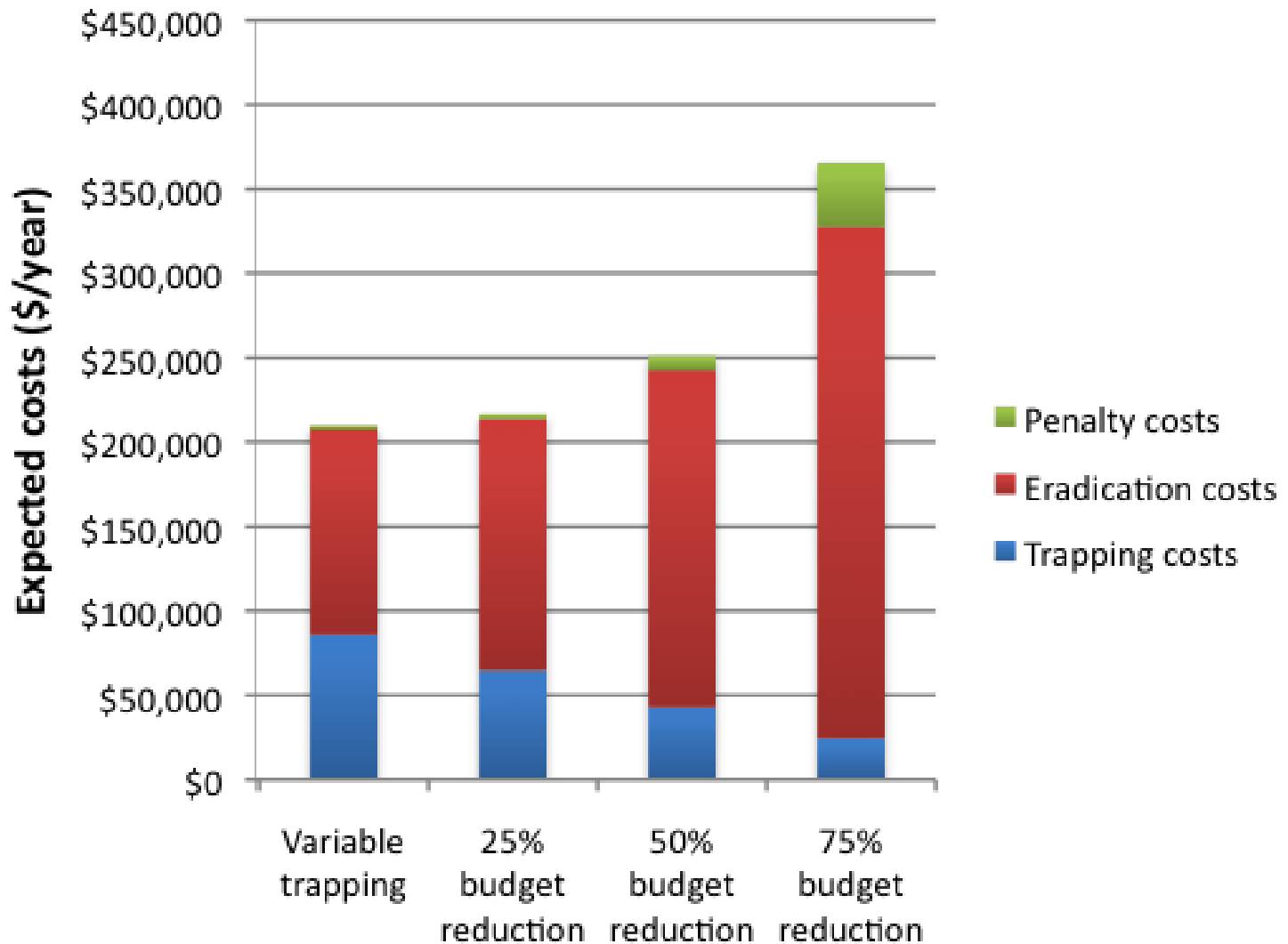
# Optimize trap density across entire state

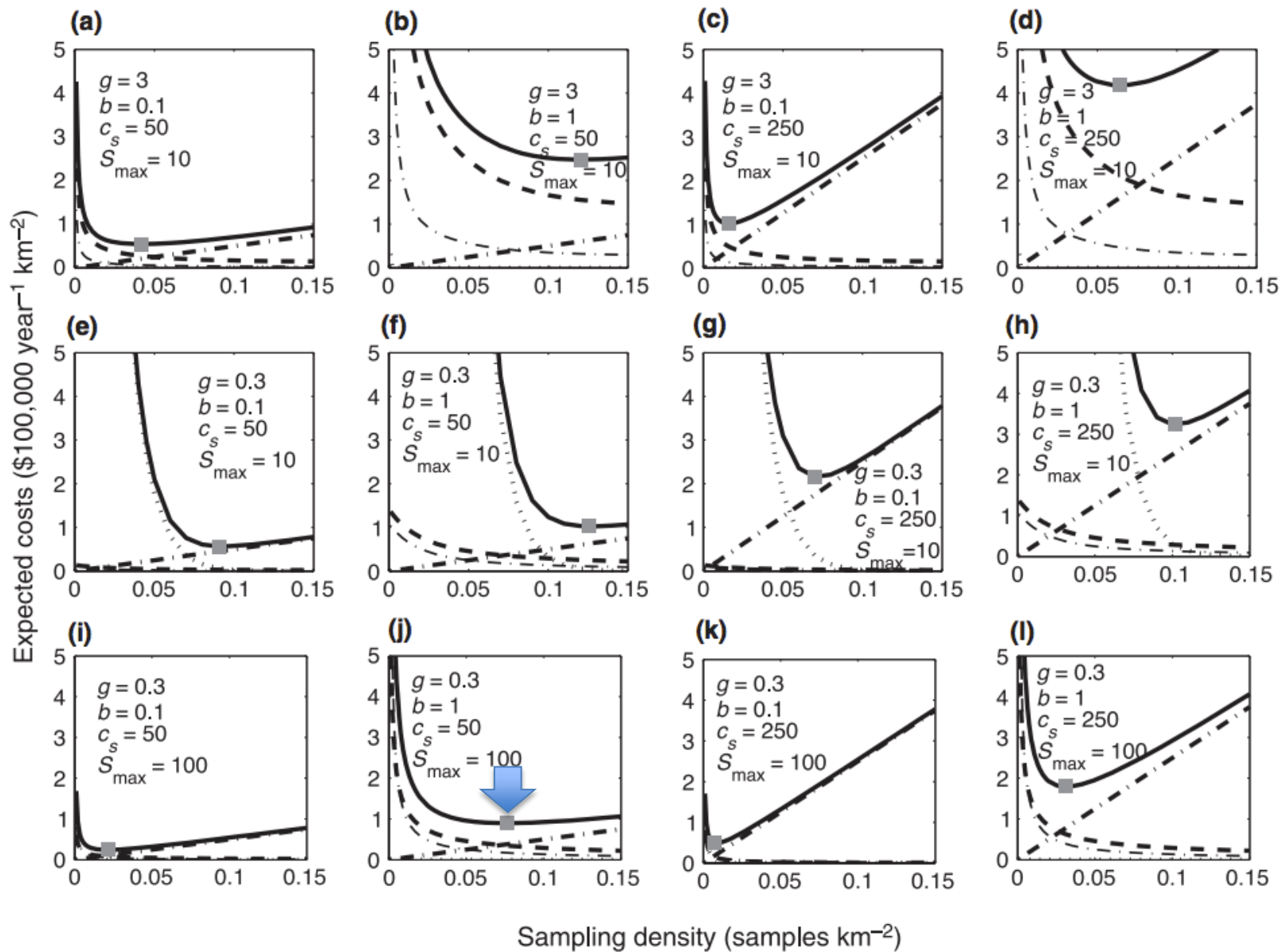
- Uniform trap density across state
- Allow varying trap densities by county





# Budget constraints on trapping





# Summary

- Bioeconomic modeling can help inform improved surveillance and eradication
- Specific findings:
  - Allowing for variable trap densities that accommodate heterogeneity in trapping costs and establishment rates increases efficiency
  - Budget constraint on detection increases overall costs
  - Too few traps is worse than too many traps



READ ALL ABOUT IT:

Rebecca Epanchin-Neill, Robert Haight, Ludek Berez, John Kean, & Andrew Liebhold 2012.

Optimal surveillance and eradication of invasive species in heterogeneous landscapes

Ecology Letters 15: 803-812

More good stuff to  
come from Becky  
and Sandy!!!