## WHC CERTIFICATION KIRBY CANYON RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL FACILITY

For more than 30 years, WM has partnered with WHC (Wildlife Habitat Council) to enhance and protect thousands of acres to support sustainability programs, biodiversity initiatives and environmental education. By transforming land into certified wildlife habitats, WM is helping communities thrive. At Kirby Canyon Recycling and Disposal Facility in Morgan Hill, California, employees actively manage conservation projects focused on awareness and engagement, grasslands, invasive species, land conservation agreements, pollinators and species of concern. **The conservation program at Kirby Canyon Recycling and Disposal Facility has been WHC-certified since 2002.** 

## **PRACTICES AND IMPACTS**

- The grassland habitat is part of over 3,800 acres of connected and protected land managed as serpentine grasslands.
- Cattle grazing and invasive species control on the grassland benefits numerous species including the Bay checkerspot butterfly and Tiburon paintbrush plants, both federally endangered species endemic to the greater San Francisco Bay region.
- Habitat protection for the Bay checkerspot butterfly is coordinated through an agreement with the Kirby Canyon Conservation Trust; 250 acres of land are maintained for nectar plants used by the Bay checkerspot.
- Through a partnership with the Creekside Center for Earth Observation, approximately 40,000 Tiburon paintbrush seeds have been planted to bolster the existing population of approximately 1,900 plants.
- Biologists and docents lead employee and community group tours to promote the conservation of native habitats.

