



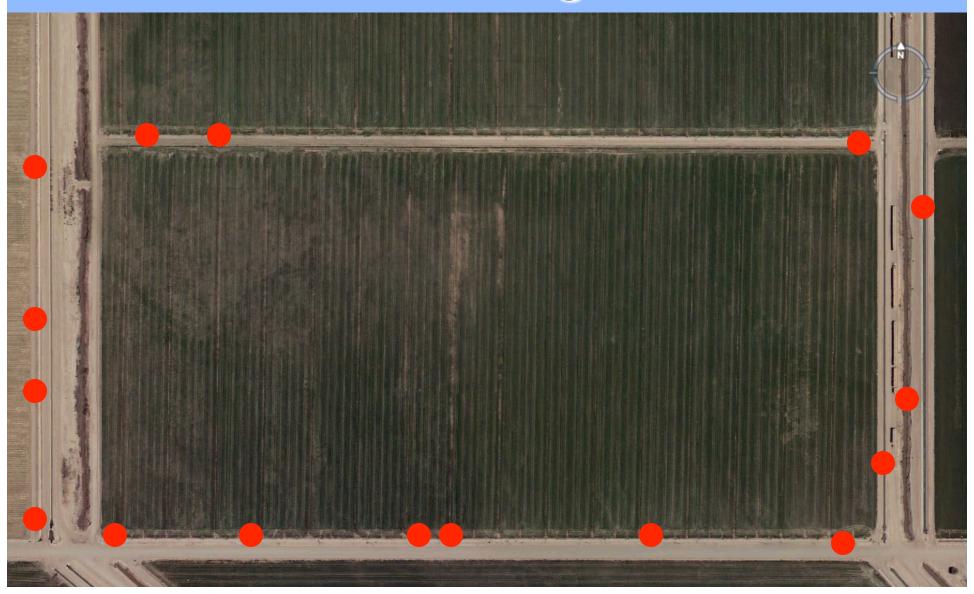




They don't live in the farm fields



They live around the perimeters of the fields and along the ditches



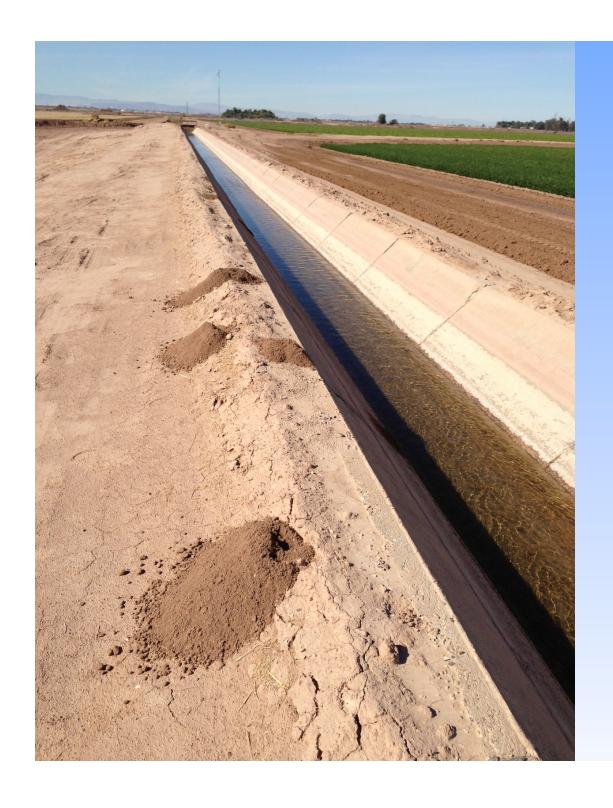




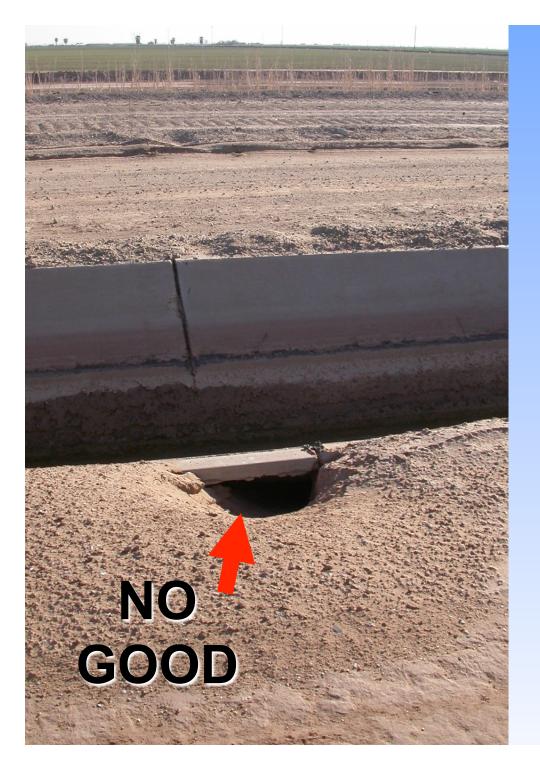
Pocket Gopher



Round-tailed Ground Squirrel



Pocket Gopher holes next to a concrete lined ditch



Farmers #1 PROBLEM

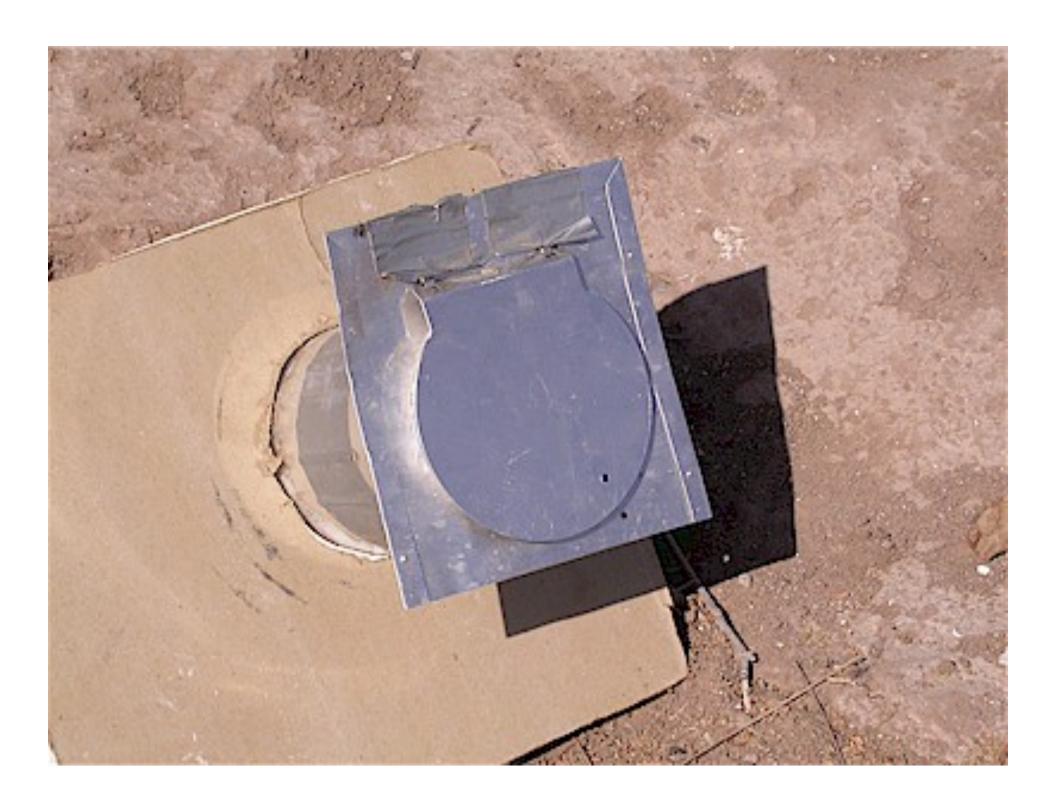
Burrows on the wrong side of an irrigation ditch create hazards for irrigators

- Employee injuries
- Compensation claims
- Harm to the owl

















FARMER'S BIGGEST FEAR

1. BURROWING OWL BEING LISTED AS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

- Restriction on the crops that can be grown
- Restrictions on the use of pesticides
- Restrictions for harvesting
- •Is Safe Harbors really that safe?
- No consideration for social or economic hardship
- Gross distortion of science is possible

2. FARMING ADJACENT TO PROPERTY ENROLLED IN BURROWING OWL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

- •Will original owner of easement sell off to the government to operate? (Flip it for a profit)
- •Can the property be managed as burrowing owl habitat? Most productive ground already being farmed. Farming Restrictions prevent certain crops from being grown.
- •Will the property harbor weeds and insects that will spread to neighboring farm fields?

3. SOLAR INSTALLATIONS

- •Thousands of acres that once fed the nation are being taken out of production for installation of solar farms.
- No water will be applied to this ground meaning no insects will be produced = no food for burrowing owls
- Because of the size of the project what will that do to burrowing owl populations in these areas?
- Can the loss of this habitat be properly mitigated?
- Will this trigger a push to list the burrowing owl as endangered?

We have farmed next to the burrowing owl for over 112 years with no problems.

If farmers are left alone we can farm peacefully next to the burrowing owl for another 112 years.