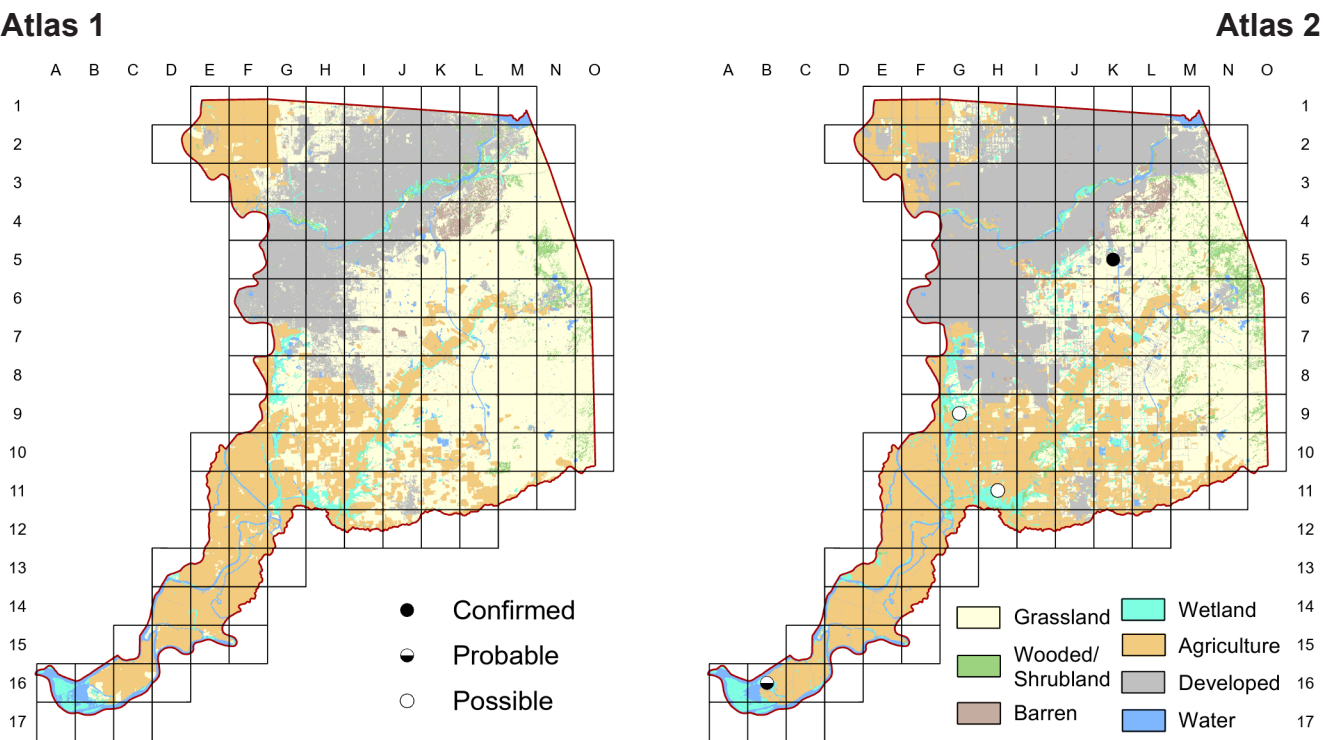


Least Bittern

Ixobrychus exilis



The Least Bittern was first detected in the county in the mid-1990s, between the atlases, and peaked before Atlas 2 began. A lack of summer water is likely an important limiting factor. The secretive nature of the species and lack of access to survey habitat, especially in the Delta, leave a lot of questions unanswered. A fuller discussion can be found in Chapter Four.

Breeding Bird Survey Trend (1966–2019)

California	Rangewide ¹
No Data	–0.11% / year ⁿ

¹North America; ⁿnonsignificant; Source: Sauer et al. 2020

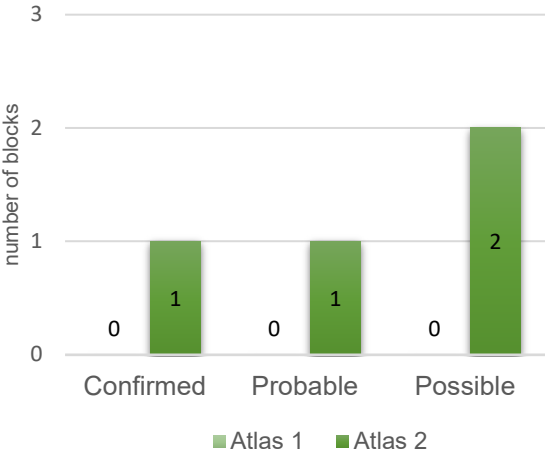
Breeding Habitat

Wetland with tall emergent vegetation

Nest Type

Platform of vegetation bent down above water

Comparison of Atlas Results



12 May 2015

Block K-5

One was “singing” in the tules on the west side, where the path along the lakeside willows ends. It was very close but completely hidden. A second individual answered.