

Climate Change and Instream Flow Needs

Afternoon Sessions at the 3rd Steelhead Summit held in Ventura, California on December 3, 2018.

+ Presentations

Drought, Fire, and Floods — Adapting to a New Era of Climate Change

Southern California Steelhead Fire Regime: Landscapes and Life-Cycles, Mark Capelli, PhD, Southern California Steelhead Recovery Coordinator, NOAA Fisheries

Implementing Risk Mitigation Strategies to Protect Vulnerable Native O. mykiss Populations in Southern California, Sandra Jacobson, PhD, CalTrout

Effects of the Thomas Fire on Oncorhynchus mykiss and Stream Communities of the Los Padres National Forest, Kristie Klose, PhD, Forest Fisheries Biologist

Balancing Habitat and Public Safety for Future Conditions, Pam Lindsey, Watershed Ecologist, Ventura County Watershed Protection District

Fire and Flow Forum; A Stakeholder Response to Rise of Climatic Threats in Southern California Watersheds, Stacie Smith, NOAA Restoration Center

Instream Flow Needs for Improving Steelhead Recovery

Environmental Engagement in Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to Protect Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems and Steelhead as Beneficial Users, Candice Meneghin, Friends of Santa Clara River

Creative Water Transactions to Enhance Streamflow, Tom Hicks, JD, Hicks Law

Moving Into Action: Finding Real Solutions for Fisheries and Communities in Ventura County, Regina Hirsch, Watershed Progressive

Restoration in an Era of Climactic Extremes, Mauricio Gomez, South Coast Habitat Restoration

Southern California Steelhead and the Chaparral Fire Regime

National Marine Fisheries Service

3rd Steelhead Summit Conference



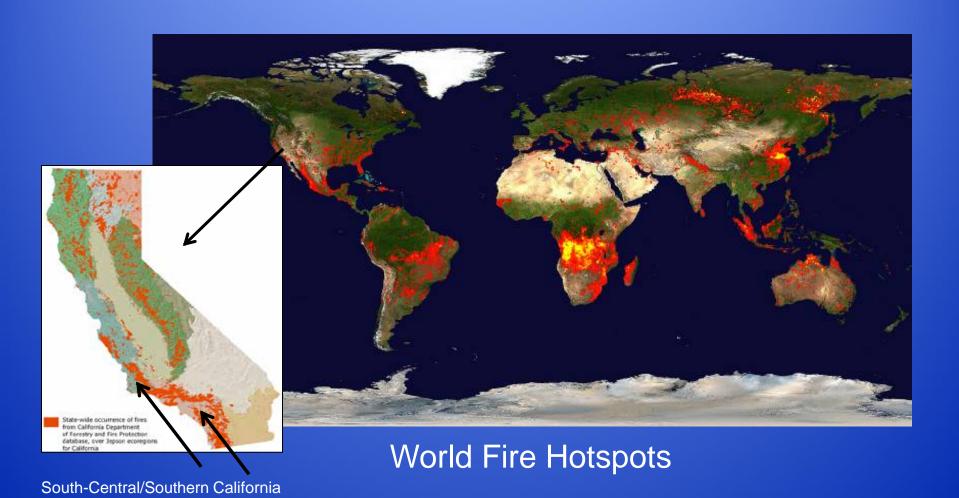
Ventura, CA December 3-5, 2018

Mark H. Capelli Recovery Coordinator





California Wildfires





Wildfire Effects on Riverine & Watershed Habitats

Physical

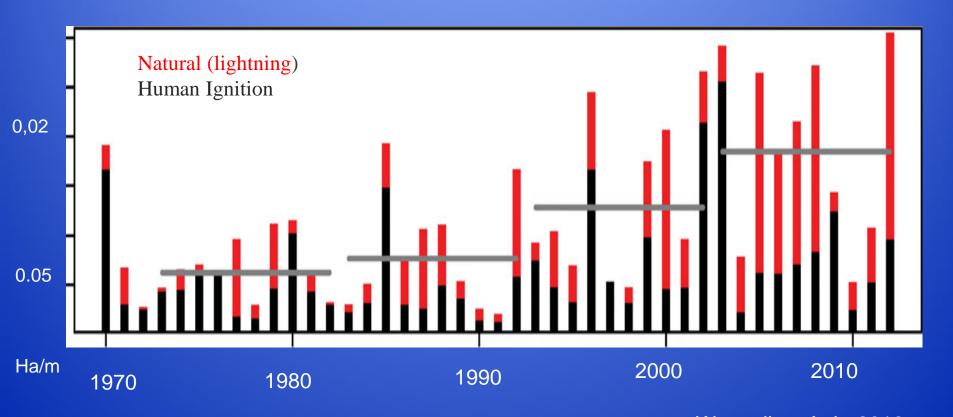
- § Hydrology
- § Erosion/sedimentation
- § Turbidity
- § Nutrient loading
- § Water Chemistry
- § Water temperature

Biological

- § Primary productivity
- § Invertebrate production
- § Riparian cover
- § Community structure
- § Invasive species
- § Vegetation type conversion

Wester U.S. Wildfires

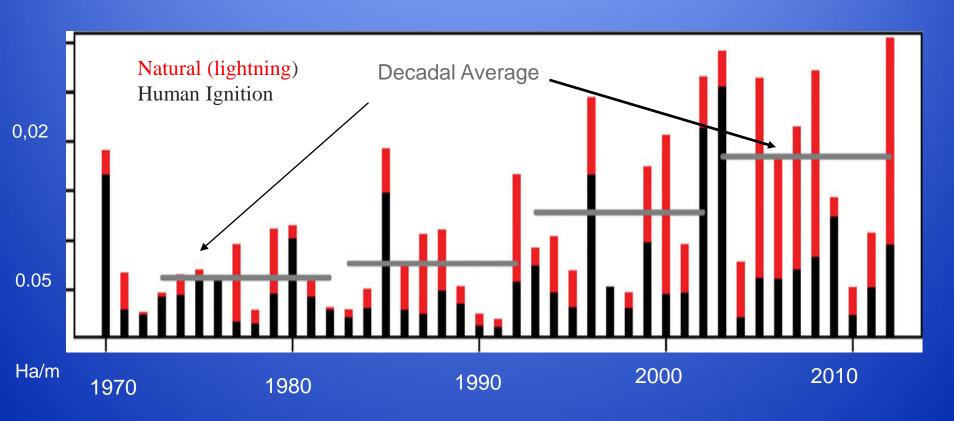
Annual Burned Area in Large (> 400 ha) Grass and Shrubland Fires



Westerling, A. L. 2016

Wester U.S. Wildfires

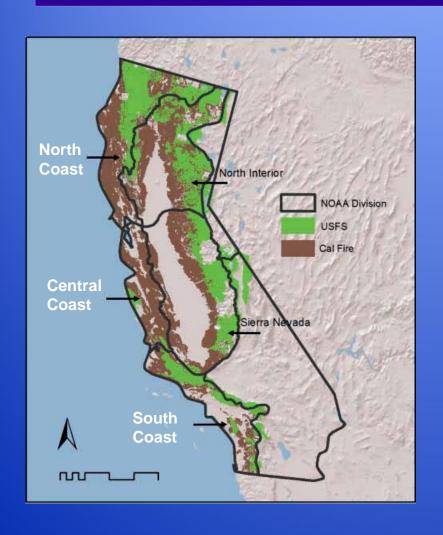
Annual Burned Area in Large (> 400 ha) Grass and Shrubland Fires

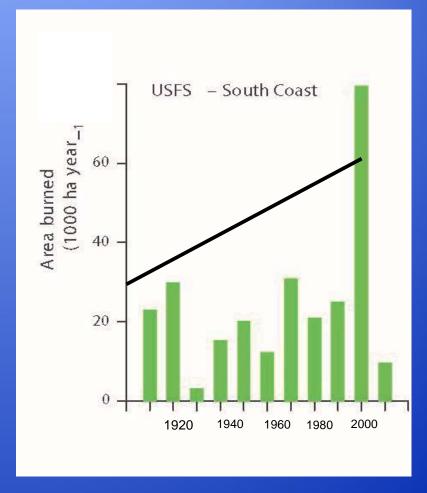


Westerling, A. L. 2016



South Coast Wildfires







Vegetation Type Conversion

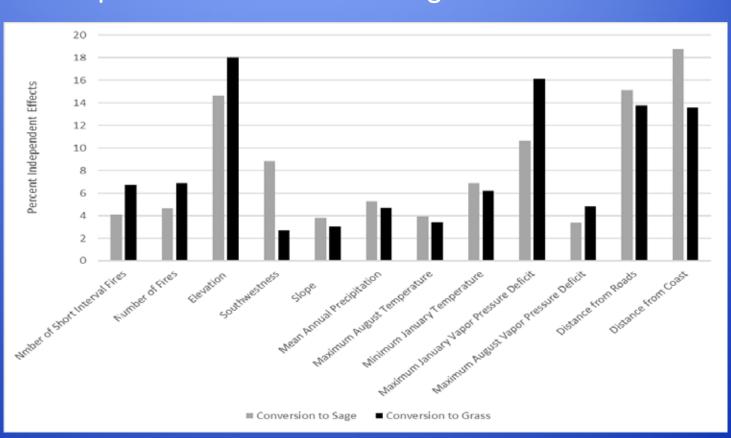
Chaparral Conversion – Sage Scrub or Grass



Sage Conversion



Grass Conversion



Vegetation Type Conversion

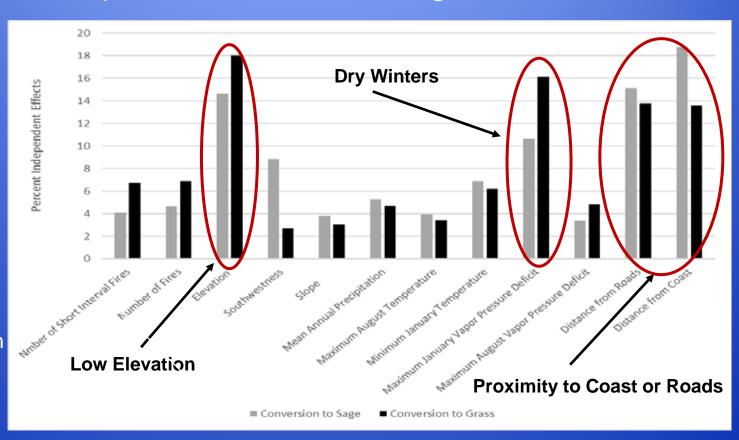
Chaparral Conversion – Sage Scrub or Grass



Sage Conversion

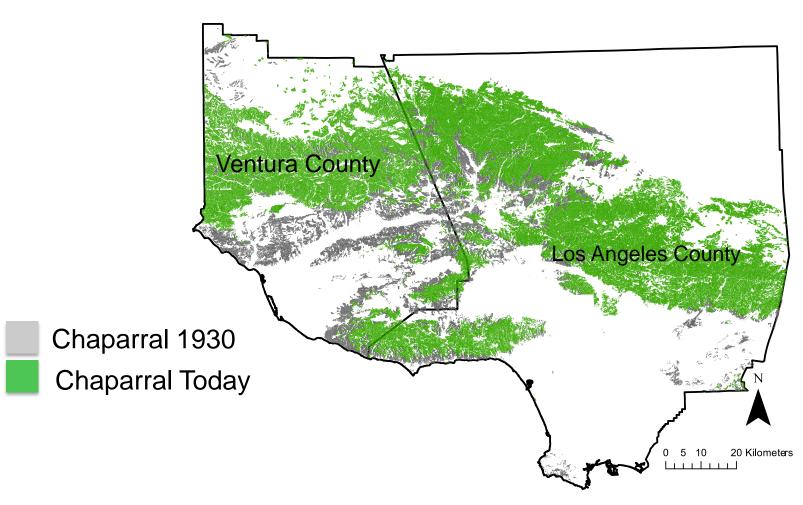


Grass Conversion





Vegetation Type Conversion



Day Fire: 162,202 acres.



Sespe Creek 2002 - before fire



2008 - after fire

Santa Ana River – Harding Creek



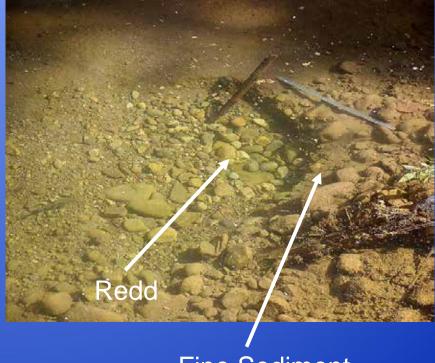
2006 - before fire



2007 - after fire







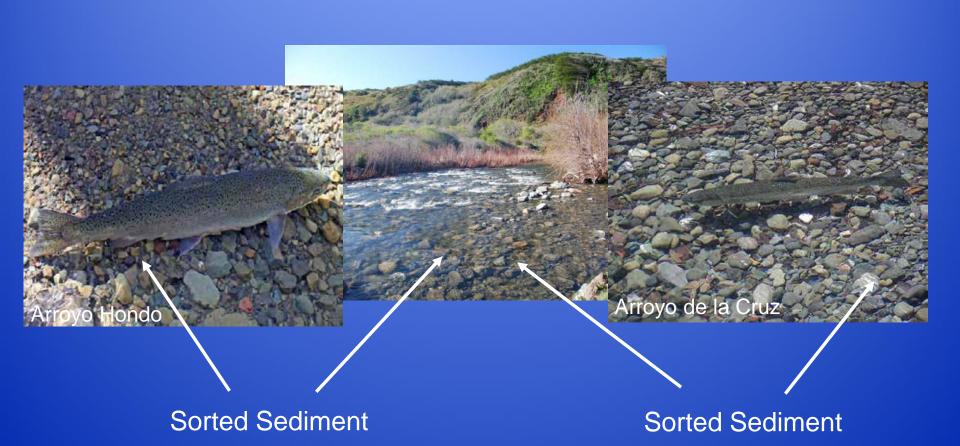
Fine Sediment



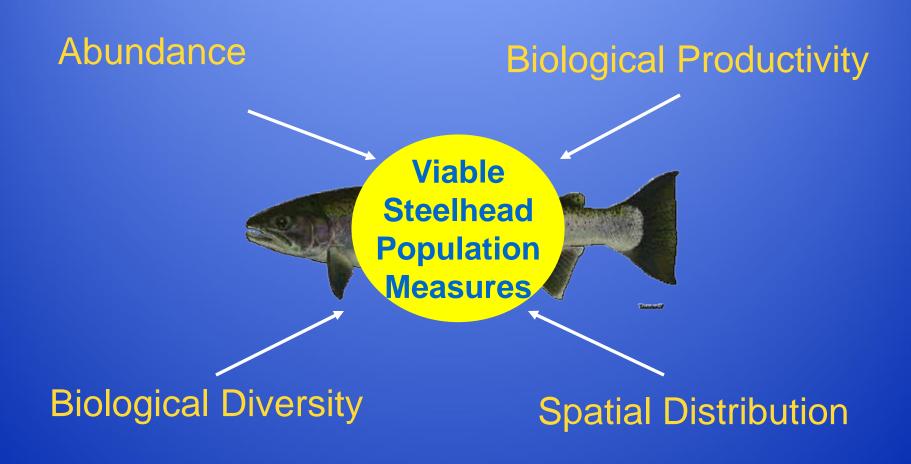




Fine Sediment



Viable Salmonid Population (VSP)



Viable Salmonid Population (VSP)

Abundance

Biological Productivity

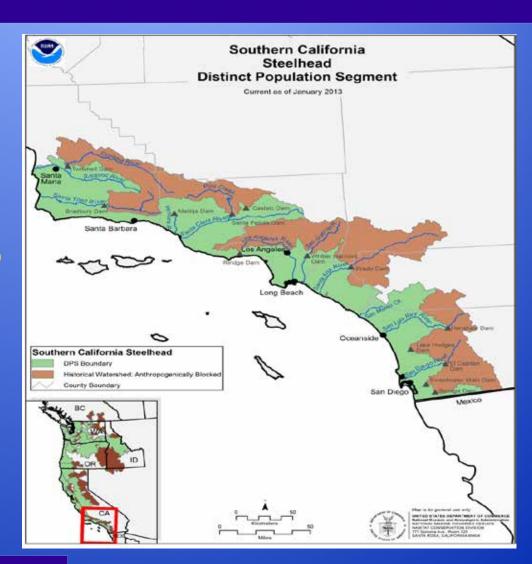


Biological Diversity

Spatial Distribution

Southern California Steelhead DPS

- § Chaparral
- S Oak Woodland
- Secondary Contraction
 Secondary Con
- § Native grasses
- § Riparian
- § Wetlands





DPS-Wide Viability

Strategy

- Minimum number viable in each biogeographic region
- Occupy watersheds with drought refugia
- Minimum geographic separation (wildland fire analysis)
- § Exhibit life history diversity



< 5% extinction risk in 1000 years

Southern California Steelhead DPS

Biogeographic Population Groups





DPS-Wide Viability

Goals

- Preserve over-all species diversity (genetic, phenotypic, life-history)
- Protect species from extinction due to catastrophic disturbance (wildfires, flooding, droughts)

Note: 1000-year time horizon

Southern California Steelhead Recovery Planning

The three most prominent natural disturbances that appear to pose a risk to entire populations are wildfires, droughts, and debris flows . . .

Boughton et al. 2007



Thomas Fire 2017



Thomas Fire 2017

Ventura River

Watershed



Thomas Fire 2017

Upper

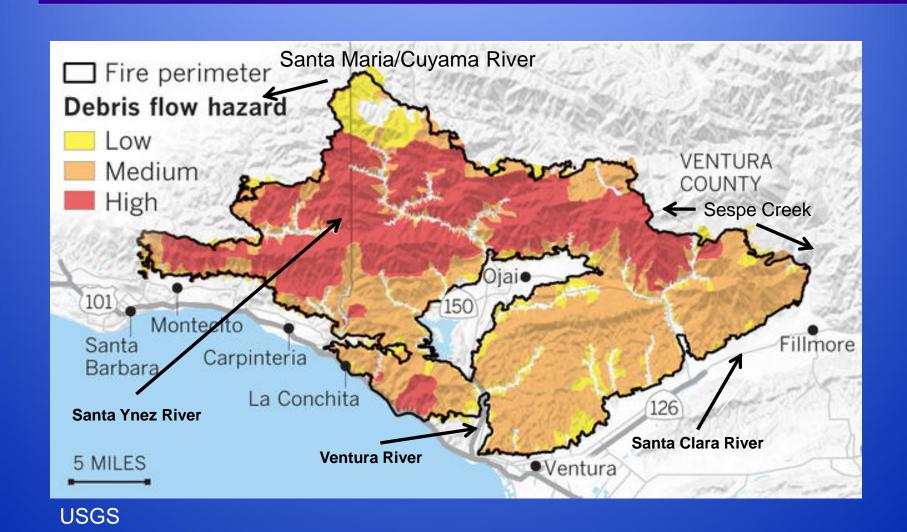
Ventura River

Matilija Creek

Watershed



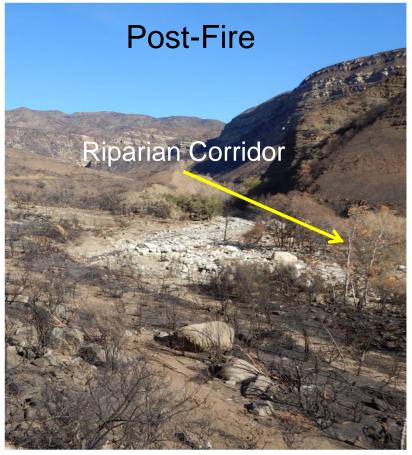
Thomas Fires 2017



Thomas Fire 2017

Matilija Canyon







Thomas Fire 2017

Matilija Canyon Post Thomas Fire/Rainfall





Debris Flow

Debris Flow



Thomas Fire 2017

Matilija Canyon Post Thomas Fire/Rainfall





Thomas Fire 2017

Matilija Canyon Post Thomas Fire/Rainfall



Southern California Steelhead DPS

Largest Recent Southern California Wildfires

2003: Cedar Fire – 1,041 km2

2007: Witch Fire – 801 km²

2007: Zaca Fire – 972 km2

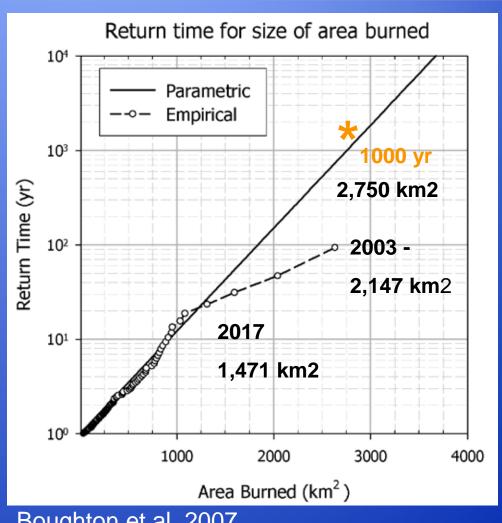
2009: Station Fire – 650 km²

2017: Thomas Fire – 1,141 km²

Southern California Fire Frequency

*Projected Thousand-Year Wildfire Burn Area

Based on 1910 -2003 Data



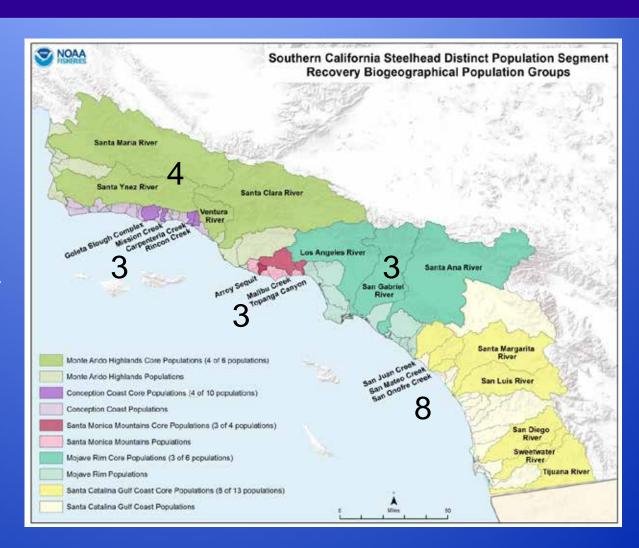
Boughton et al. 2007

Southern California Steelhead DPS

Number of
Populations
Required for
Recovery:

21

Populations



Southern California Steelhead DPS

Threats to Recovery

- * Access to Spawning and Rearing Habitat
- * Degradation of Instream/Riparian Habitat
- * Spread of Non-Native Species
- * Wildfires
- * Loss of Estuarine Habitat

Southern California Steelhead and the Chaparral Fire Regime

National Marine Fisheries Service

3rd Steelhead Summit Conference



Ventura, CA December 3-5, 2018

Mark H. Capelli Recovery Coordinator





Effects of the Thomas Fire on *Oncorhynchus mykiss* and stream communities of the Los Padres National Forest

Kristie Klose¹, Scott D. Cooper², Jason White³ and Erika Eliason²

¹United States Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest ²Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology, University of California – Santa Barbara ³South Coast Habitat Restoration – Earth Island Institute



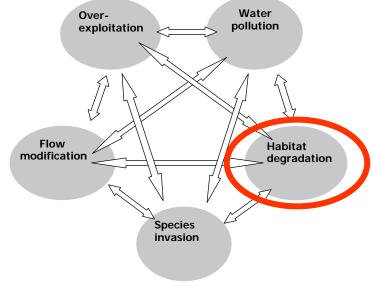




Stream Communities

- Freshwater ecosystems are the most endangered systems worldwide
- Reduced biodiversity is far greater in freshwaters than most terrestrial ecosystems
- The richness of inland waters as habitats makes them vulnerable to anthropogenic and environmental change

Major threats to freshwater biodiversity:







Multiple Fire Effects on Streams

- Increased temperatures
- Reduced riparian cover
- Increased sedimentation
- Decreased pool:riffle ratios
- Habitat fragmentation due to loss of corridors and connectedness
- Reduced species diversity and density, even local extinction

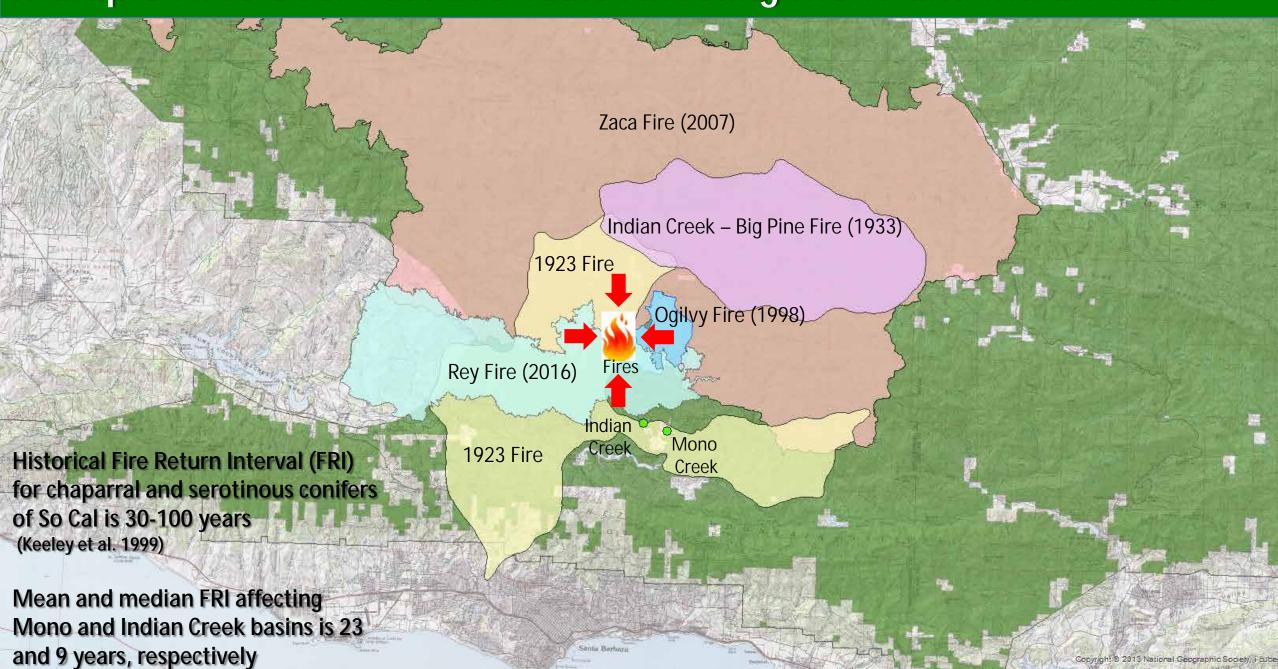








Multiple Fires Over Past 100 Years Affecting Mono and Indian Creeks

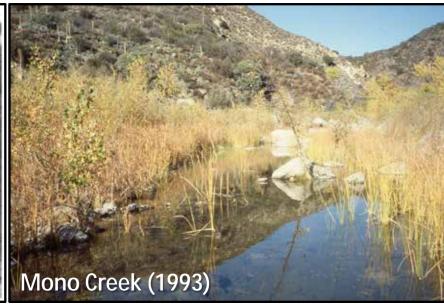


Fire History: Mono Creek

"Before the installation of Gibraltar Dam this stream was stocked naturally by the annual steelhead run. More recently it was planted [with] steelhead. All were destroyed following the 30,000 acre Indian Creek-Big Pine Fire (1933). This fire filled the pools of the creek with sand, mud, and gravel and caused a rise in temperature sufficient to kill all fish. Each rain at present brings down further quantities of silt."

-- California Department of Fish and Game - 1948

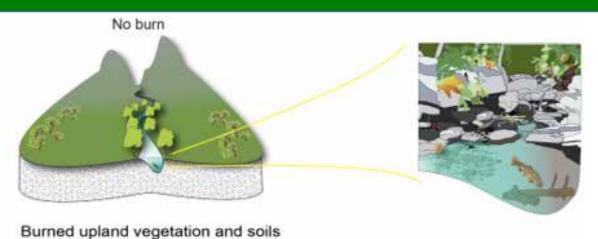




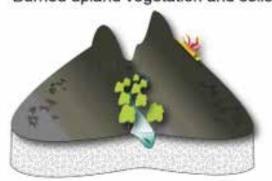




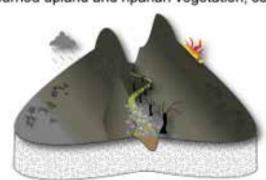
Fire Effects to Streams



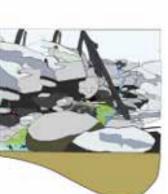
runoff sediment contaminants nutrients



Burned upland and riparian vegetation, soils; debris flow



Decreased leaf litter detritivores









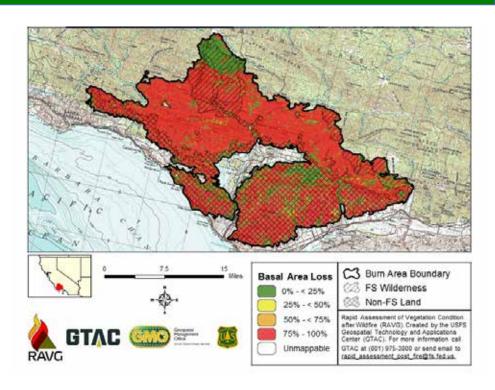
Increased

runoff
sediment
light
temperature
contaminants
nutrients
algae
grazing invertebrates

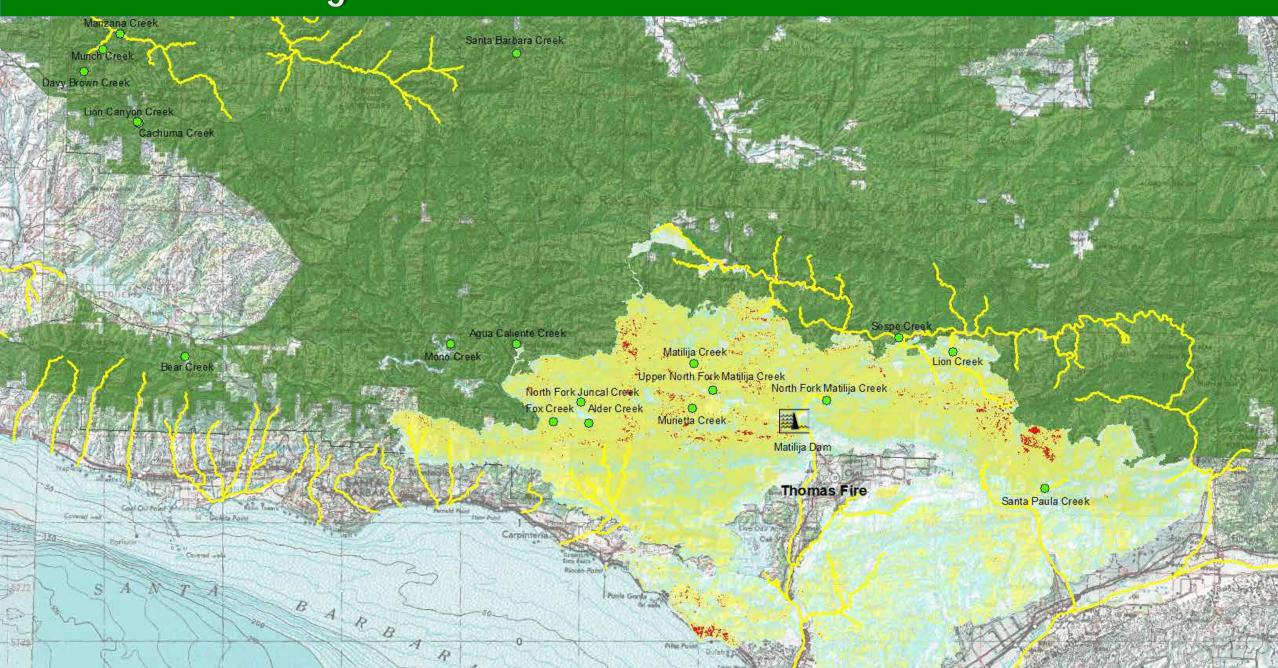


Research Questions

- 1. How did the Thomas Fire and associated debris flows affect trout populations in Los Padres NF?
- 2. How did possible environmental drivers of trout abundance differ between streams in burned and unburned basins?
- 3. How did environmental conditions differ between streams in burned basins where trout persisted versus basins where they were extirpated?
- 4. Are trout populations reduced by the fire likely to recover and how long will this take?

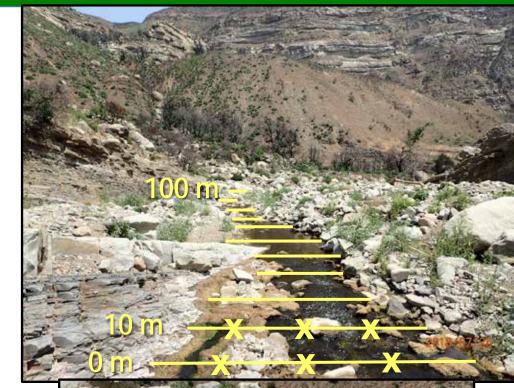


Stream Monitoring Locations – Summer 2018



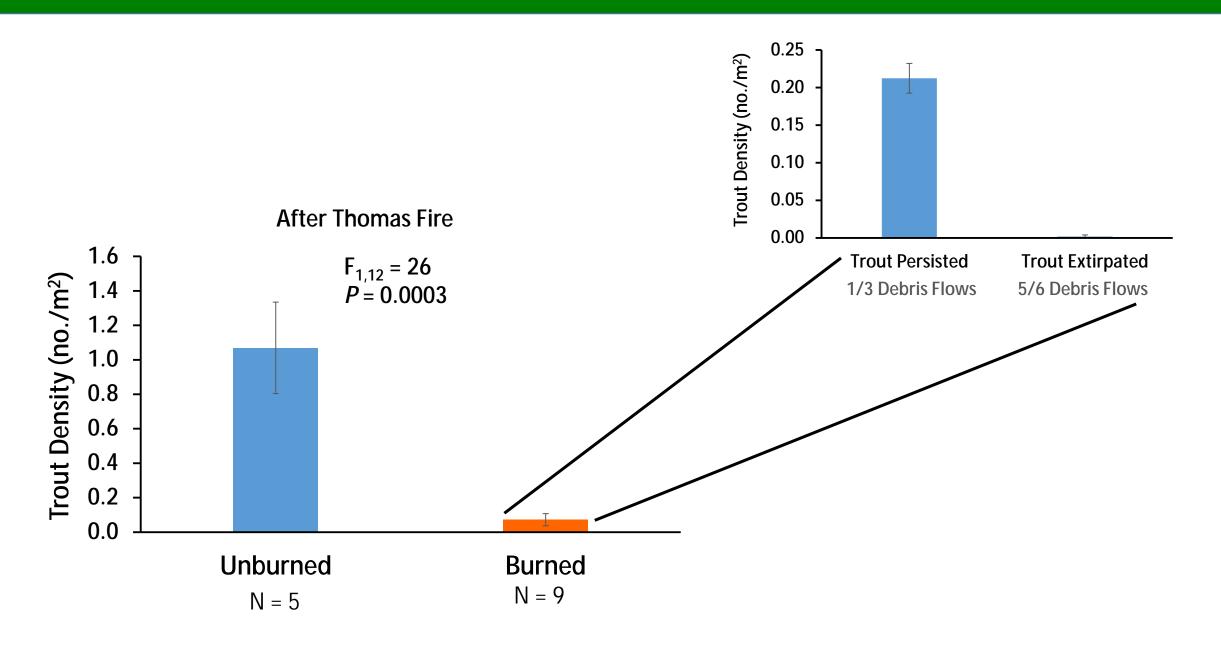
Approach

- Surveyed physical, chemical, and biological parameters at 10 burned (Thomas Fire) and 9 unburned stream sites of the Los Padres NF using SWAMP protocols
 - Established 10 cross-stream transects over 100-m reach
 - Physical measurements (i.e., depth, substratum type, canopy cover, current speed) collected at three equally spaced locations along each cross-stream transect (n = 30 samples per site)
 - Determined benthic and floating algae biomass at each of 30 sampled points/reach
 - DO, specific conductance, pH, and water temperature were measured at the bottom and top of each reach
 - Water samples for NH₄, NO₃, NO₂, and PO₄ concentrations were collected at the top of each reach
- Snorkel surveys were performed in pools for fish abundance and size structure

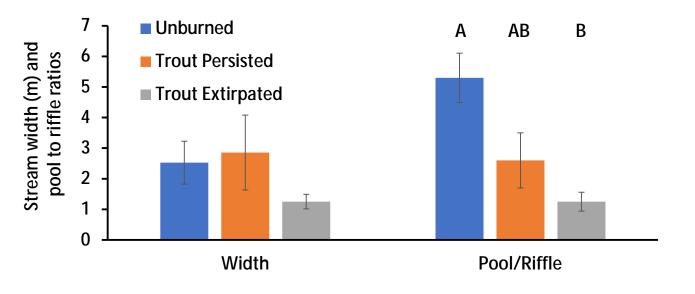


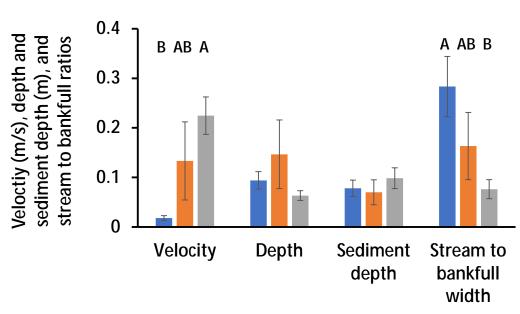


Results – Thomas Fire and Debris Flow Effects on Trout

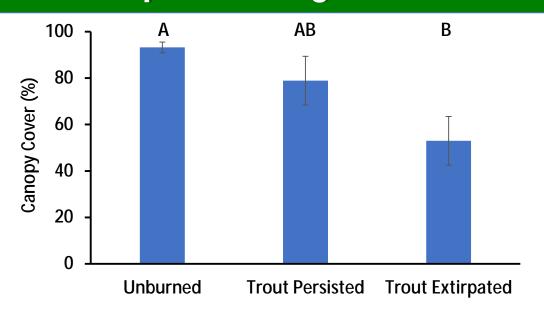


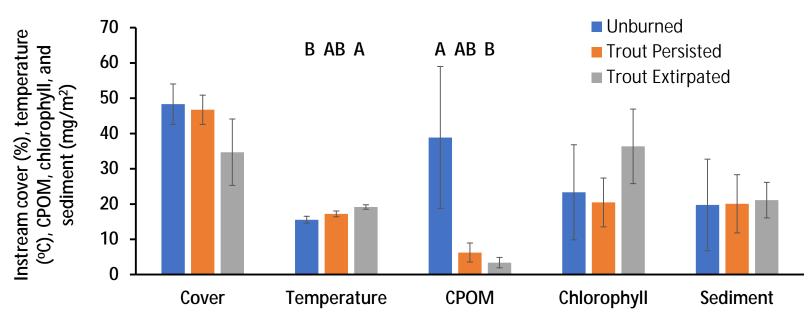
Results – Possible Environmental Drivers of Trout Abundance



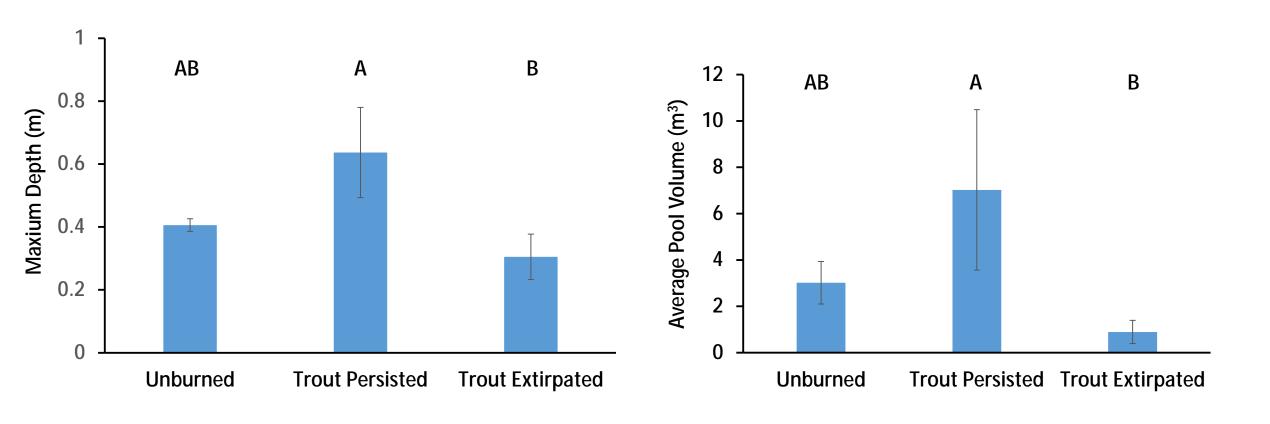


Results – Fire Effects on Riparian Vegetation and Associated Variables

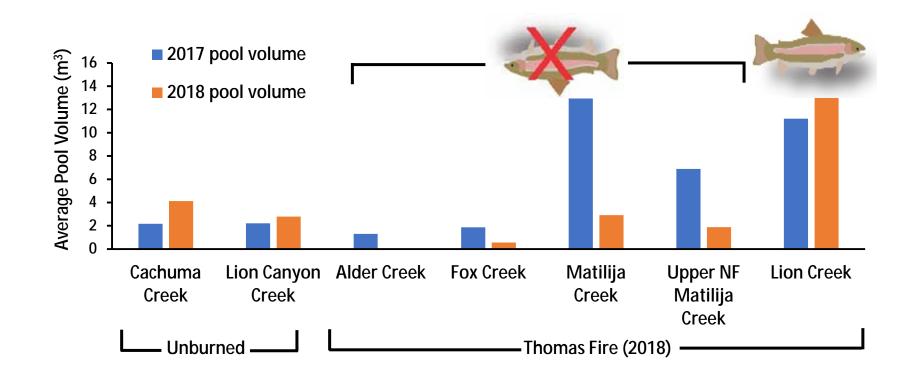




Results – Variable Thomas Fire Effects on Trout Populations



Results – Trout Populations Before and After Thomas Fire



Conclusions and Implications

Are trout populations reduced by the fire likely to recover and how long will this take?

- Stream surveys in Los Padres National Forest in 2016 and 2017
 - Unburned basins: 7 of 9 streams contained trout (average abundance = 0.4 ± 0.13/m²)
 - o Burned basins: 0 of 7 streams contained trout (including 5 primarily affected by Zaca Fire (10 yrs. before), 1 by Rey Fire (1 yr. before), and 1 by Whittier Fire (1 mo. before); trout occurred in all but one of these streams historically)
- Many burned basin results are confounded by drought, because streams in burned basins often dried seasonally
- Finally, trout returning to streams where extirpated will depend on recovery of riparian vegetation and pool geomorphology, as well as trout access to burned sites (i.e., no migration barriers; sufficient instream flows)

Acknowledgements

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Sheila Wiseman



Project collaborators:

UCSB Department of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology – Drs. Scott Cooper and Erika Eliason

Funding provided by:

Joint Challenge Cost Share Agreement between UCSB – Marine Science Institute and Los Padres National Forest, *Evaluating O. mykiss populations and habitat conditions on the LPNF* (16-CS-11050700-007)

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Balancing Habitat and Public Safety for Future Conditions: Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project matilijadam.org

3rd Steelhead Summit
Pam Lindsey
Ventura County Watershed Protection District

Presentation Outline

- Ventura River Setting
- Future Condition: Dam Removal
 - River Benefits and Public Safety
- Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Components
 - Completed to Date
 - Remaining
- Next Steps
 - Final Designs
 - Environmental Analyses
 - Find Funding



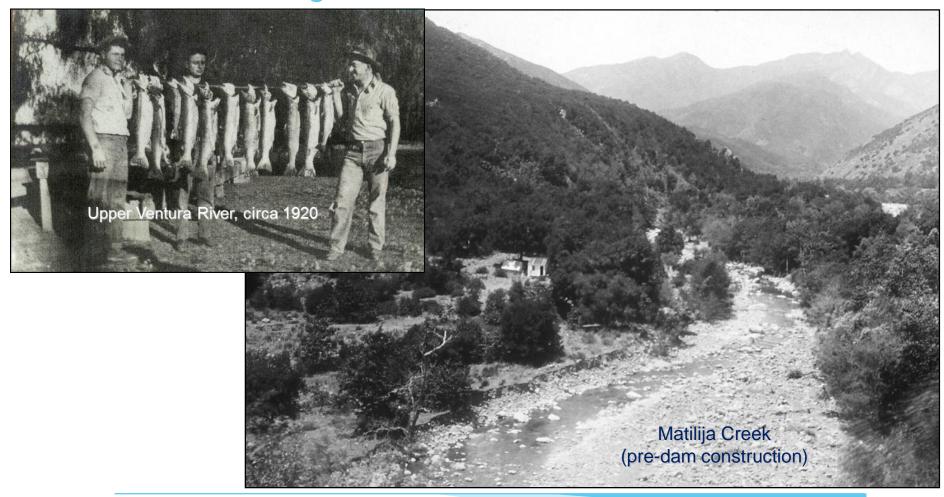
Ventura River Watershed Overview







Matilija Dam Built 1947





Where's the lake?

- ~ 8 million cubic yards trapped behind dam
- only 5% of reservoir capacity remains











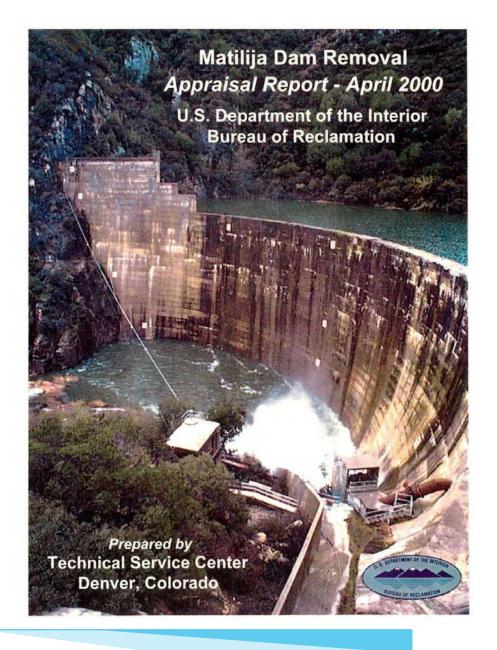






1998-2000 Appraisal Study

- 1997 Steelhead listed as endangered
- Board of Supervisors directs
 District to study dam removal

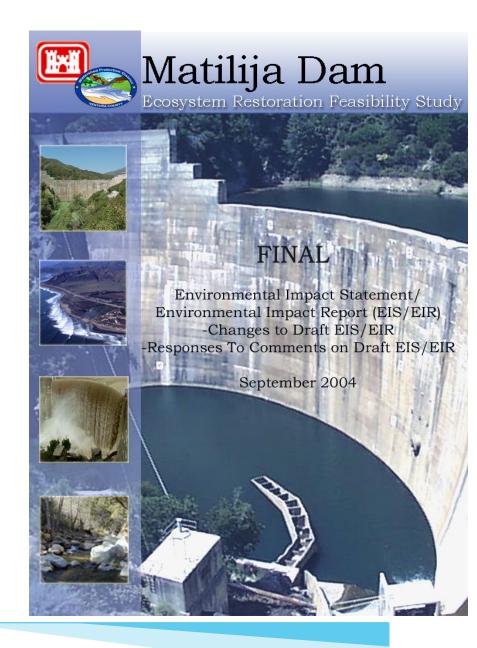




2004 Feasibility Study

Project Objectives:

Improve Native Habitat
Restore Sediment Transport
Improve Recreation









Habitat Evaluation Procedure

Calculated steelhead, riparian, and natural processes values for with and without project for years 0, 5, 20, and 50 years in the future.

- ▶ Dam removal improves natural processes for steelhead habitat downstream of the dam.
- Dam removal opens 17 miles of spawning and rearing habitat to steelhead.
- Habitat values gained by dam removal were cancelled out by giant reed as it spreads in the future.

(Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project Draft EIS/EIR Appendix E)







Very Thirsty

Consumes up to three times as much water as other riparian plants.

Reduces biodiversity to dense mono cultures

Invasive





Flood Impacts Biomass clogs and block drainage infrastructure

Requires hard labor and persistence to eradicate

Expensive





Fire Hazard Carries fires quickly across river bottoms

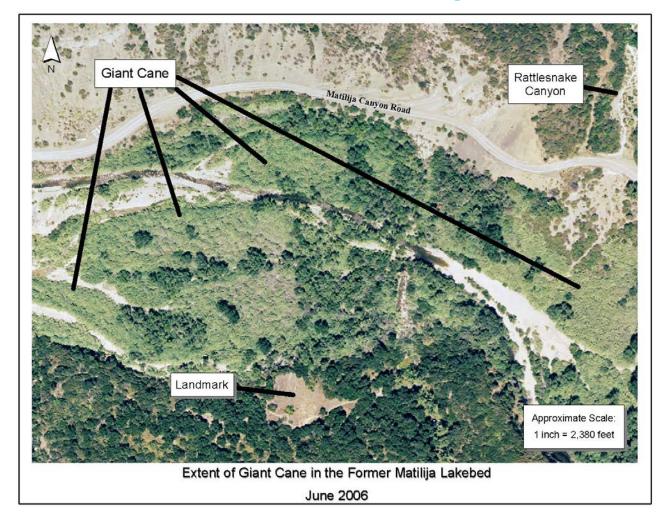


Giant Reed U/S of Matilija Dam 1973





Giant Reed U/S of Matilija Dam 2006





Fall 2007: Began Giant Reed Removal on 1,200 acres with \$3.5m Proposition 40 Consolidated Grant



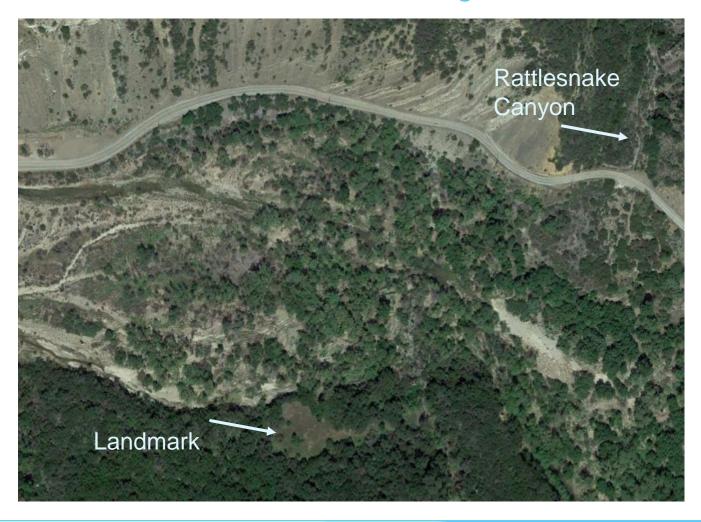




2018: Not dead yet!

- 16 retreatments since 2007
- Reduced to fraction of original cover
- Reduced fire impacts in canyon
- Giant reed removal annually through 2025

Giant Reed U/S of Matilija Dam 2017





January 2018





April 2018





Wells at Foster Park 2009-2010

- \$1.5m Prop 40 Consolidated Grant
- 2 wells installed and tested
- City of Ventura to operate them in the future







Casitas Springs Levee Improvements



2008 Raised levee 4 feet





Property Acquisition 2009

- Properties Impacted by Dam Removal
 - Aggradation
 - Infrastructure
- Purchased Hot Springs with Coastal Conservancy Funds





Trailhead at Highway 150

and Giant Reed Removal





Watershed Protection District

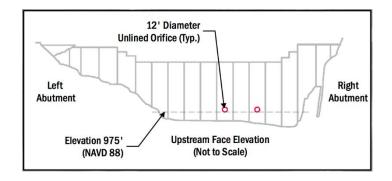
December 3, 2018

2008-2016 Studies

- What to do with all that sediment?
 - Slurry, Stack, Sequester...
 - Upstream, Downstream...
- Where will construction water come from?
- Will sediment ruin water supply wells?
- How long will the sediment affect water quality?



Stakeholder Consensus Project 2016





Timely Implementation

Cost Effective

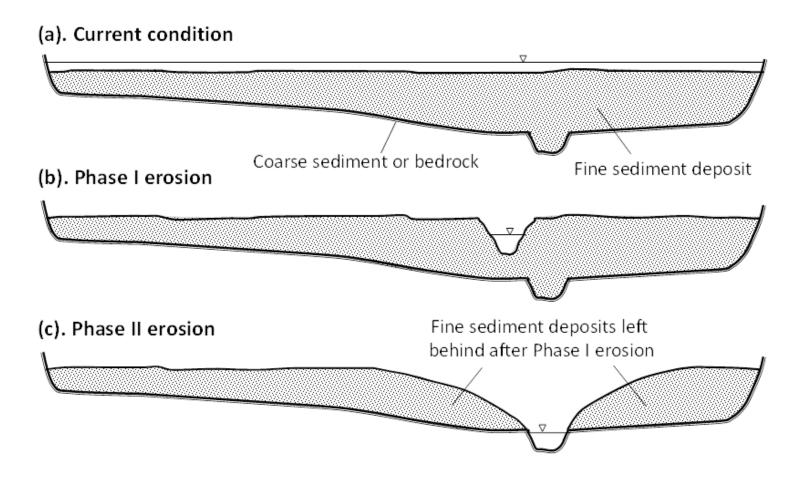
Proven to Work



Condit Dam White Salmon River, WA



Sediment Transport Solved





New Project Design Questions

- Dam Removal Design Details?
- Downstream Public Safety Components
 - Which are still needed?
 - Design Details?
 - Environmental Impacts?
- Where is the funding?
- Who is in Charge?



Current Prop 1 CDFW Grant Tasks \$3.3m State Funds 6/2017-5/2020

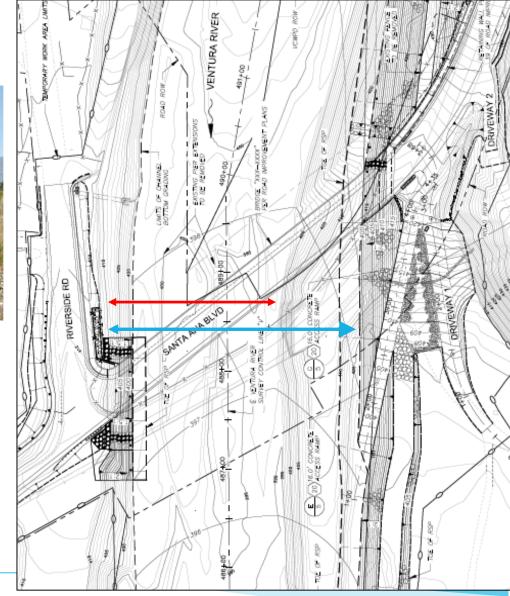
- □ Technical Studies:
- Concrete and Sediment Field Tests
- Dam Structural Evaluation
- Hydraulic Studies to Determine 100 year flows
- ☐ Re-evaluate Downstream Project Components
- Predictability Assessment of Flushing Storm Event
- ☐ 65% Dam Removal Design Plans
- □ Levee Design Plans
- ☐ Real Estate Plan
- □ Project Permitting Plan
- Update the CEQA/NEPA Document
- +Estuarine and Coastal Modeling (NFWF Funded)



Santa Ana Bridge/ River Widening



- Widen river 150 ft to 230 ft
- Improve fish and sediment passage
- Pending Application to CDFW Prop 1 Restoration Grant (Dec. 2018)





December 3, 2018

Camino Cielo Bridge

- Still in early design stages
- New location downstream not yet identified



Meiners Oaks and Live Oak Levees

Upgrade Live Oak Levee



New levee downstream of Robles Diversion to protect floodplain residences.

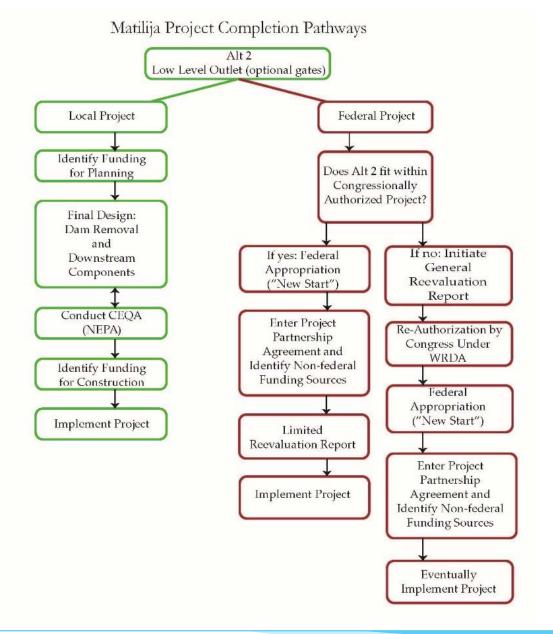




Robles Diversion Modification









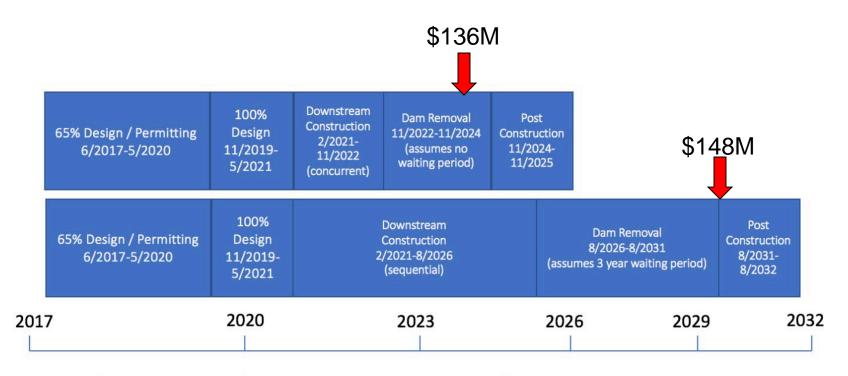


Figure 3: Sequential and Concurrent Implementation Schedules









Why do we need another plan?

Who is the Fire and Flow Forum?

What is the Fire and Flow Forum Strategic Plan?



Where does this plan apply? Where should we focus?

When will the plan be available? When should we use the plan?

How did we create this plan? How do we use the plan?



Why do we need another plan?

- Guide watershed recovery and resiliency building in southern California
- To motivate new projects, support ongoing projects and assist in securing funding by communicating regionally significant priority watershed actions to funders and decision makers
- Compliment/update/inform larger plans with regional focus and regional expertise
- It's been a while since the region developed a stakeholder derived/vetted strategic plan to guide watershed restoration – South Coast Prioritization 2001, NMFS Recovery Plan 2012
- Respond to recent events not captured in previous plans –Thomas and Whittier Fires subsequent debris flows and NOW WOOSLEY



Fire

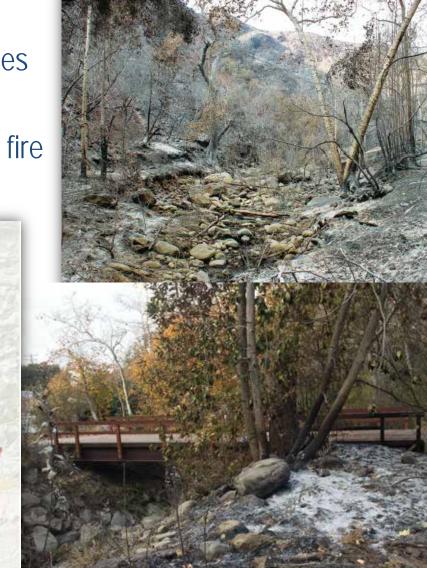
Thomas Fire alone 281,893 acres in Santa Barbara

and Ventura counties

 97k acres from Woosley Fire in Los Angeles county (almost entire BPG)

Thomas Fire already surpassed as largest fire



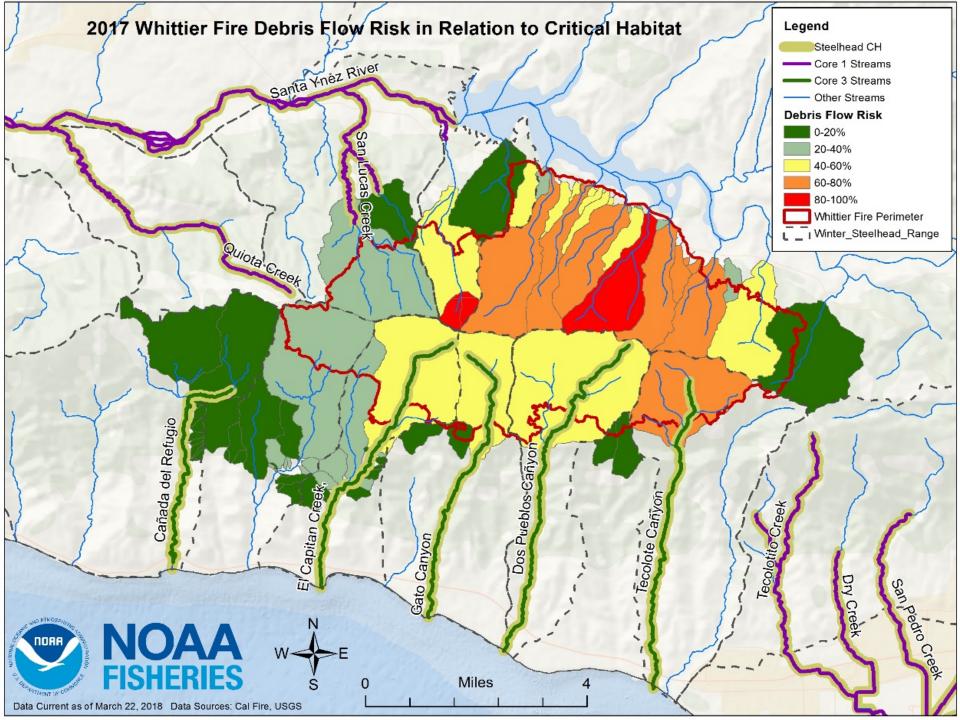


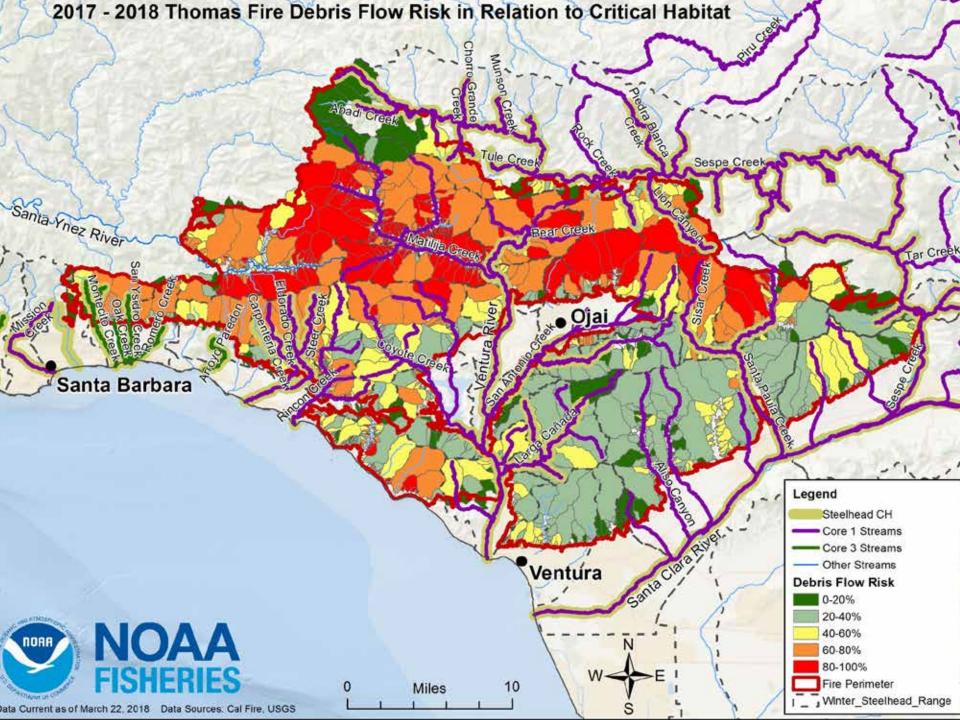
Debris Flows

- Deadly Montecito debris flow kills 23 people
- 101 Freeway closed for 2 weeks
- Large amount of sediment and debris











Why do we need another plan?

- Sensitivity of timing
- Large geographic area
- Varying jurisdictions
- Lots of stakeholders

- Lots to do
- Little time and \$ to do it
- Need to communicate
- Need to prioritize





Why do we need another plan?

- Capitalize on unique energy from recent events that allows for collaboration across traditional boundaries to provide avenues toward recovery, relief, and resiliency
- Wildfires in Southern California are becoming more severe and frequent due to shifting climatic conditions
- New normal? 7/10 of California's most destructive wildfires took place in the last four years
- More significant wildfires and extreme rainfall (California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment, 2018).
- Preparedness for inevitable future events



Who is the Fire and Flow Forum?

- Forum is not an organization, non-profit, or government entity
- No one excluded
- Those who participated had their interests incorporated
- 150+ regional experts representing 50+ organizations



- Local/state/federal gov.,academics, non-profits, local residents, and private interests
- Led by South Coast Habitat Restoration and NOAA Restoration Center



 American Geosciences Institute BEACON Blue Tomorrow Cachuma Operation and Management Board Cachuma Resource Conservation District Cal Poly San Luis Obispo California Conservation Corps California Conservation Corps California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Department of Transportation California Sea GrantCalifornia State Parks California State University Channel Islands Earth Resources Technology Goleta Slough Hicks Law Kear Groundwater La Casa de Maria 	 Legacy Works Group, Devin Los Padres Forest Association National Fish and Wildlife Foundation National Marine Fisheries Service NOAA/CCC Fisheries Veterans Corps NOAA Restoration Center Northstar Engineering Ojai Valley Lands Conservancy Patagonia Resource Conservation District Santa Monica Mountains Santa Barbara Channelkeeper Santa Barbara County Flood Control Santa Barbara County Public Works Santa Barbara Zoo Sierra Watershed Progressive South Coast Habitat Restoration State Coastal Conservancy 	 Center for Watersed Science University of California Santa Barbara University of California Cooperative Extensions University California Natural Reserve System Urban Creeks Council Ventura Land Trust Ventura Watershed Council Ventura Watershed Protection District Watershed Coalition of Ventura County
La Casa de MariaLand Trust Santa Barbara	State Coastal ConservancyStillwater Sciences	Watershed Stewards ProgramWildlife Conservation Board
County	 Surfrider 	

Who is the Fire and Flow Forum?

The Forum participants all share a unified...

MISSION to coordinate and develop environmentally minded priorities that address and prepare for rising climate hazards to take advantage of funding and restoration opportunities.

VISION to redefine environmental mindset and coordination effectiveness to maximize restoration and planning in southern California.



What is the Fire and Flow Forum Strategic Plan?

- 1 Regionally derived/vetted strategic plan to guide watershed restoration
- 9 month stakeholder driven strategic planning effort in response to 2017/2018 Thomas fire and Montecito debris flows
- 4 Meetings Feb-Nov 2018 in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties
- 1 Unified Mission and Vision
- 10 Focus watersheds for Santa Barbara, Ventura, an Los Angeles County
- 5 Priority Focus Areas
- 17 Goals
- 100 SMART objectives (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely)
- 24 High priority objectives
- 10 Focus watersheds for Santa Barbara, Ventura, an Los Angeles County
- 150+ participants representing 50+ organizations



What is the Fire and Flow Forum Strategic Plan?

Purpose:

- Guide watershed recovery and resiliency building in southern California
- To motivate new projects, support ongoing projects and assist in securing funding by communicating regionally significant priority watershed actions to funders and decision makers
- Its broad scope was designed to allow for application by public and private groups with wide-ranging missions, while its specificity provides for practical application



What is the Fire and Flow Forum Strategic Plan?

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS:

Restoration and Infrastructure 4 Goals/ 28 Objectives/6 High Priority Objectives

Research and Monitoring
3 Goals/ 14 Objectives/ 6 High Priority Objectives

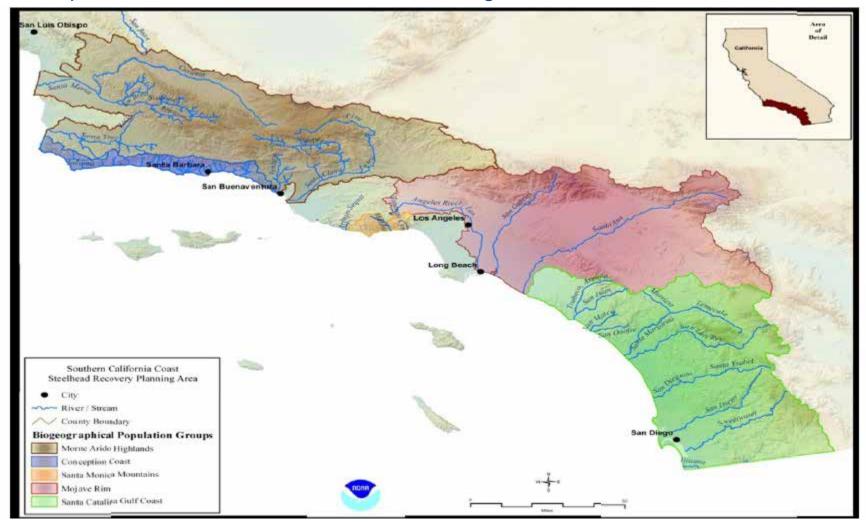
Community Science and Outreach
3 Goals/ 18 Objectives/ 4 High Priority Objectives

Future Management, Preparedness, Resiliency
3 Goals/ 23 Objectives/ 4 High Priority Objectives

Coordination & Prioritization
4 Goals/ 17 Objectives/ 4 High Priority Objectives

Where does this plan apply? Where should we focus?

Plan specific to southern California endangered southern steelhead DPS



Transferable throughout California to landscapes facing climate threats

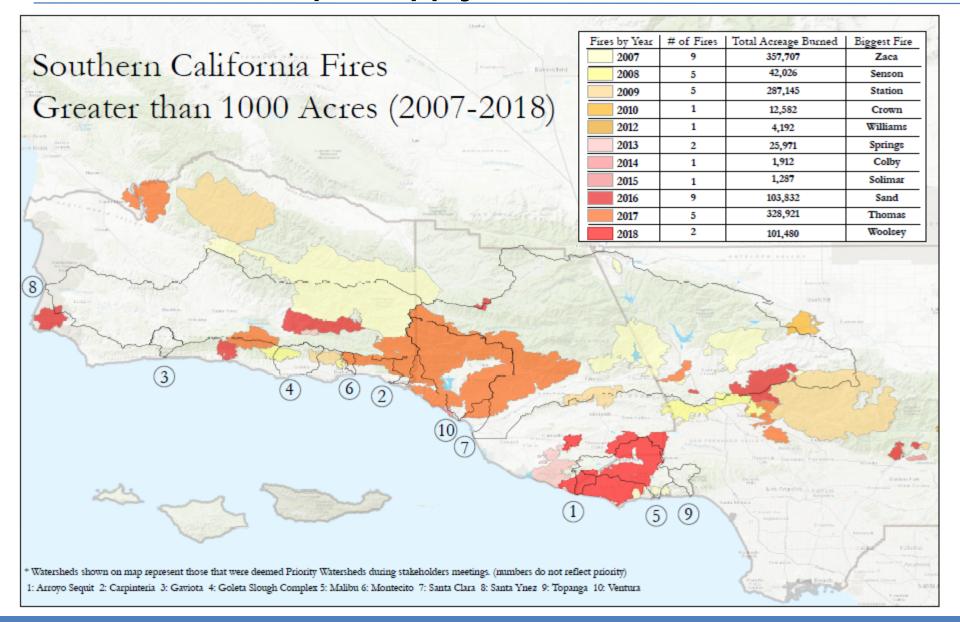


Where does this plan apply? Where should we focus?

- Any watershed impacted or threatened by climatic hazards
- Identified where to prioritize funding and efforts first based on regional expertise and resource knowledge
- Prioritization only included Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles County Streams, but includes all or portions of 4/5 southern steelhead BPGs



Where does this plan apply? Where should we focus?





When will the plan be available? When should we use it?

- Plan is available at http://schabitatrestoration.org/projects/fire-and-flow
- Use the plan immediately for grant submission
 - CDFW Prop 1/68 due 12/18/18
 - NOAA Restoration Center
 Community-based Restoration Program
 Info webinar 12/6 and Pre Proposals due 1/14/19



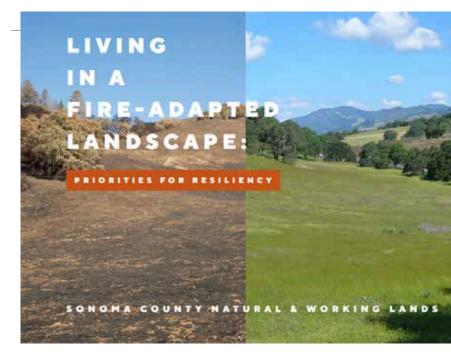
- Use the plan immediately for project development to work with granting organization before proposal period opens
 - CDFW Fisheries Restoration Grant Program Before February
 - Coastal Conservancy Prop 1
 - Wildlife Conservation Board Prop 1



How did we create this plan?

Working from Examples:

- GOAL developing a list of tasks which they felt were critical to the health and resiliency of watersheds
- Actions identified reflect a wide variety of sometimes differing opinions and expertise



 The report was the product of a rapid assessment process that engaged many people during an unprecedented, challenging time and, therefore, is a STARTING point for further robust planning



How did we create this plan?

Successful Strategic Planning

- 1) Unified Vision and Mission
- 2) Goal Setting Show up, provide input, and represent interests with willingness to collaborate
- 3) Develop SMART objectives identify HOW you can meet your goals
- 4) Prioritize WHERE and WHEN to focus limited resources to implement your plan
- 5) Carry out the plan progressing SMART objectives after the meetings ends

^{*}Learn as you go and be adaptive to your stakeholder needs throughout the process



Fire and Flow Forum 1.0

- 75+ people representing local/state/federal gov., academics, non-profits, local residents, and private interests
- Shared photos, current and developing monitoring
- Attempted to go through each watershed impacted by Thomas and Whittier Fire
- Asked "What is YOUR #1 TOP watershed concern as a response to fires and flows"



Learning and Adapting the Process

What Didn't Work:

 Attempted to go through watershed by watershed to discuss impacts – very time consuming, not enough information yet



Trying to solicit priority project list – not ready/willing

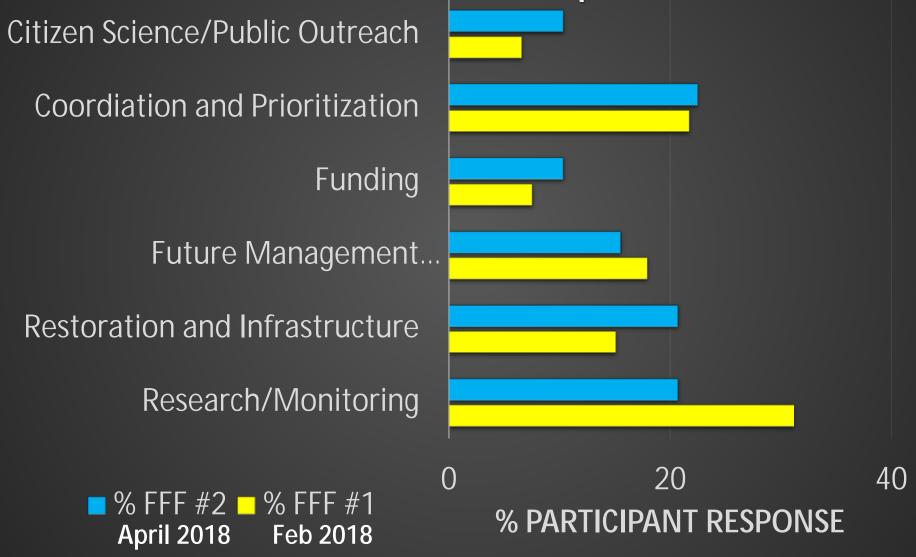
What Worked:

- People showed up
- People participated and provided their top priorities
- Developed focus areas





Priority Watershed Concerns of Fire and Flow Forum Participants



1. Unified Vision and Mission

Developed mission and vision statements at FFF 2.0

- Mission short, clear and powerful.
- Vision define your organization's purpose, but they focus on its goals and aspirations.
- Mission statement describes WHAT we want to do NOW, a vision statement outlines WHAT we want to be in the FUTURE.
- Address the commitment the group has to its key stakeholders, communities, partners, and agencies
- Communicate the message in clear, simple and precise language
- Develop buy-in and support internally and externally



2. Goal Setting – Show up, provide input, and represent interests with willingness to collaborate

- Used focus areas to guide goal development
- Funding internalized into all focus areas
- 4 meetings (Feb-Nov 2018), google docs, and working group calls
- Goals are where you want to be

Goals are broad and generally long-term





3) Develop SMART objectives – Identify HOW you can meet your goals

- Objectives are how you achieve your goals short-term
- Meeting #2 and #3 focused on goal and objective development
- Utilized google doc and working group calls to allow additional objective development (June – August)
- 5 Focus Areas > 22 Goals >> 139 "SMART" Objectives
- Meeting #4 further refinement: 5 Focus Areas > 17 Goals >> 100 "SMART"
 Objectives>>> 24 High Priorities



4. Prioritize – WHERE and WHEN to focus limited resources to implement your plan

WHERE: Sticker Dot Prioritization:

Pick the 6 watersheds you are most interested in

Green = Top Priority = Immediate Need

Orange = 2nd Priority = Need to get done soon

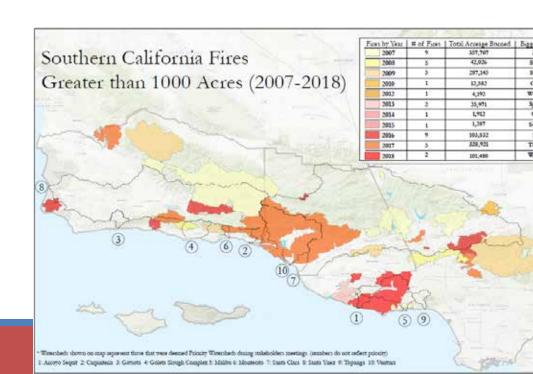
Pink = 3rd Priority = Get to it next/eventually

>>> 10 Priority Watersheds

WHEN: Highlighter + Workbook:

- Independent review
- Group discussion
- Long-term vs. Short-term

>>> 24 High Priority Objectives



How did we create this plan?

Successful Strategic Planning

- 1) Unified Vision and Mission
- 2) Goal Setting Show up, provide input, and represent interests with willingness to collaborate
- 3) Develop SMART objectives identify HOW you can meet your goals
- 4) Prioritize WHERE and WHEN to focus limited resources to implement your plan
- 5) Carry out the plan progressing SMART objectives after the meetings ends

^{*}Learn as you go and be adaptive to your stakeholder needs throughout the process





HOW TO USE THIS PLAN:

STEP 1: Identify high priority objectives that meet YOUR organization's goals and objectives

> STEP 2: Identify partners by considering both Fire and Flow participant and others who can help achieve those goals.

STEP 3: Communicate alignment of Fire and Flow Forum Strategic Plan priorities with other critical local state/federal plans to funders/decision makers

STEP 4: Carry out objectives and share your success

STEP 5: REPEAT to work towards watershed resiliency across Southern California



How do we use the plan?

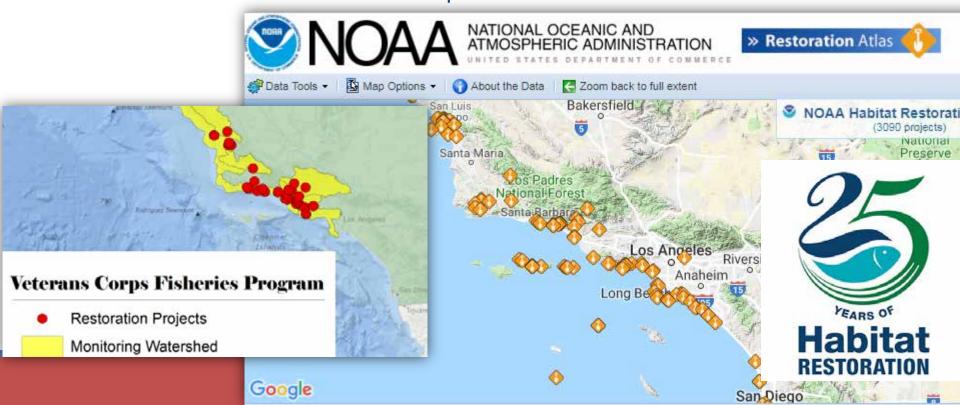
- Introduce Fire and Flow Forum Strategic Plan to your email lists
- Include the Strategic Plan in your next meeting presentation
- Share "YOUR" objective with others— COLLABORATE
- Consider currently open and upcoming annual funding opportunities
- Connect through other meeting opportunities and group to continue to move objectives forward
- Need help? Reach out to Forum participants

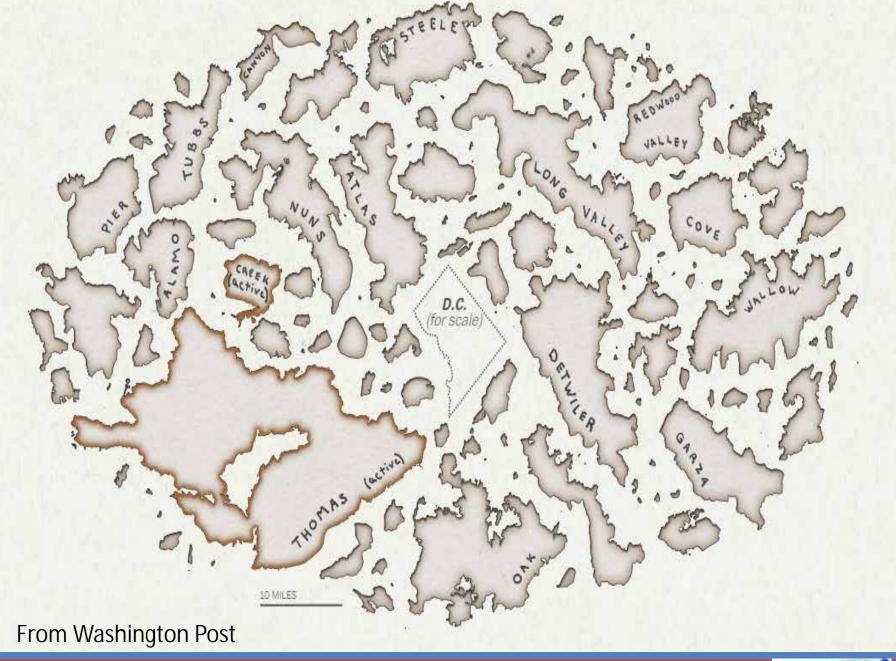


NOAA Restoration Center – Enhancing Ecosystem, Community, and Economic Resilience

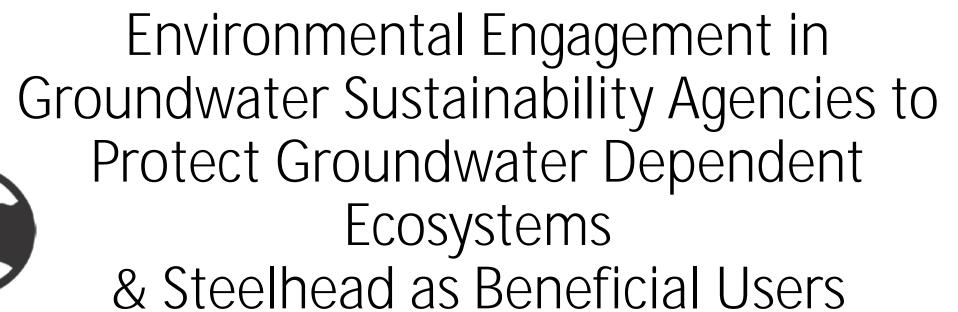
Contact Stacie Smith – stacie.smith@noaa.gov, (562)400-3456

- S. CA Programmatic Biological Opinion 12-23-2015
- Consistency Determination with California Coastal Commission (Coastal Zone Development Permit) – 2016
- NOAA/CCC Fisheries VetCorps Camarillo and Los Padres since 2014















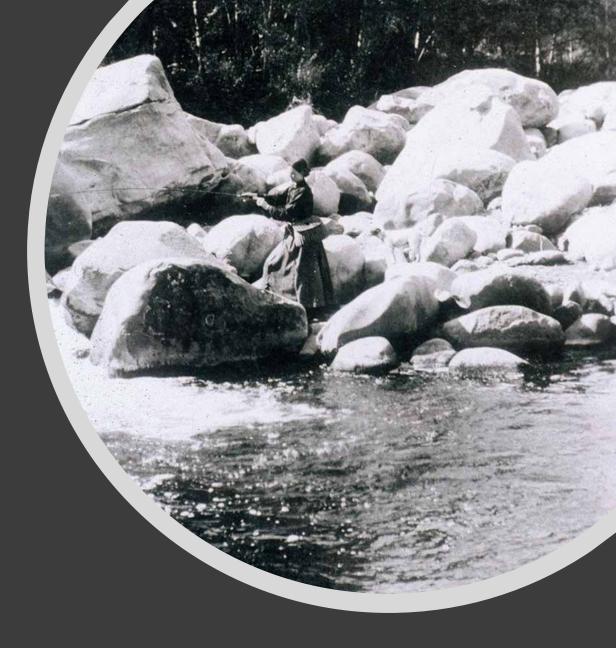
Friends of the Santa Clara River

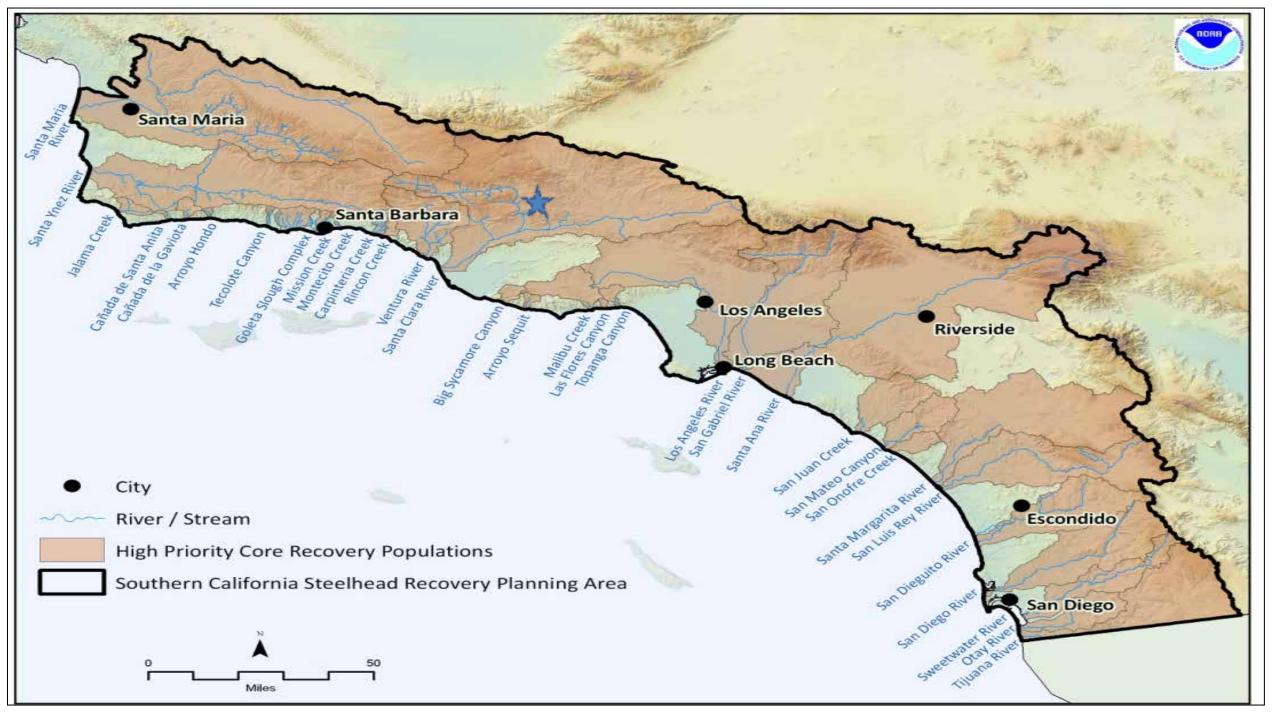
Established in 1993, Friends of the Santa Clara River is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect and preserve the cultural and biological resources of the Santa Clara River Watershed.

We achieve this goal by balancing the needs of people and the environment through outreach and education, wildlife and habitat restoration, and protection through advocacy and litigation.

Southern California steelhead

- 100 years ago, Southern California was famous for its steelhead runs
- Santa Ynez River ~ 11,000 adult fish
- Santa Clara River -~ 9,000 adult fish
- Ventura River ~ 5,000 adult fish
- Steelhead fishing in the region was enormously popular with men, women and children
- Annual steelhead runs in Southern California have declined precipitously from 32,000-46,000 returning adults to less than ~500.







Founder Member of the Santa Clara River Steelhead Coalition

The Coalition is focused on endangered Southern California steelhead recovery in the Santa Clara River Watershed, which straddles Ventura and Los Angeles Counties.

Members include:





















Coalition Participants include:

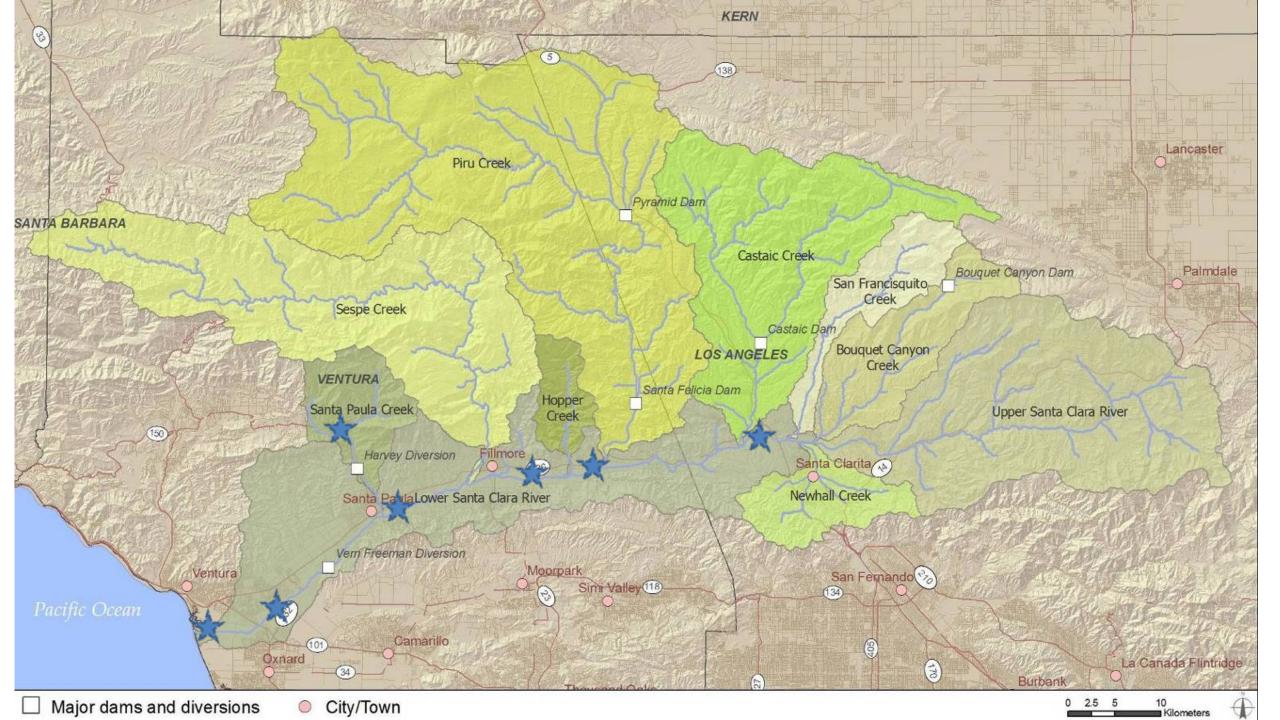












The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (2014)

- Goal of SGMA is bringing California's medium and high priority groundwater basins into sustainability
- Authorizes management to local agencies. 265 GSAs formed across the state
- Tasked with developing GSP's by 2020/2022
- GSPs roadmap to groundwater sustainability within 20 years of implementation
- Recognizing groundwater management is best accomplished locally, supported by a stakeholder driven process
- To avoid the following undesirable results:



- Groundwater Resources Association of California hosted the first annual Western Groundwater Congress in Sacramento on September 25-27, 2018
- Topics on funding groundwater improvement, lessons learnt in the groundwater management across the western states, water quality, data collection, recharge strategies, SGMA planning, identifying groundwater dependent ecosystems under SGMA, groundwater law, and modeling.
- The Non-Governmental Organizations Groundwater Collaborative's annual Groundwater Convening on October 17-18, 2018.
- The NGO Groundwater Collaborative is a group of non-governmental organizations, tribes and individuals that share information and resources to aid NGO participation in the development and implementation of groundwater sustainability plans around the state.
- A concern raised by participants at both forums was one of representative stakeholder engagement
 particularly for disadvantaged communities, small family farmers, and environmental interests.

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem

Groundwater dependent ecosystems are plants, animals, and ecological communities that are dependent on groundwater emerging from aquifers or on groundwater occurring near the ground surface

Interconnected Surface Water

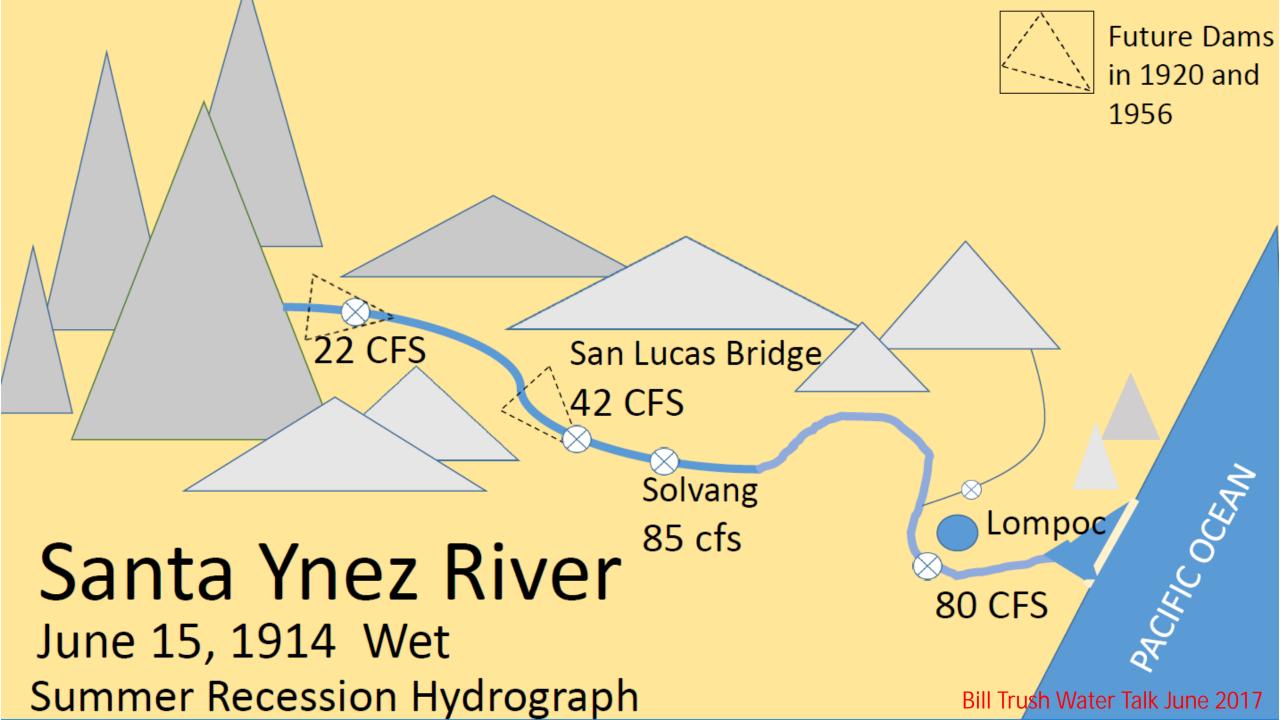
Surface water that is hydraulically connected at any point by a continuous saturated zone to the underlying aquifer and the overlying surface water is not completely depleted

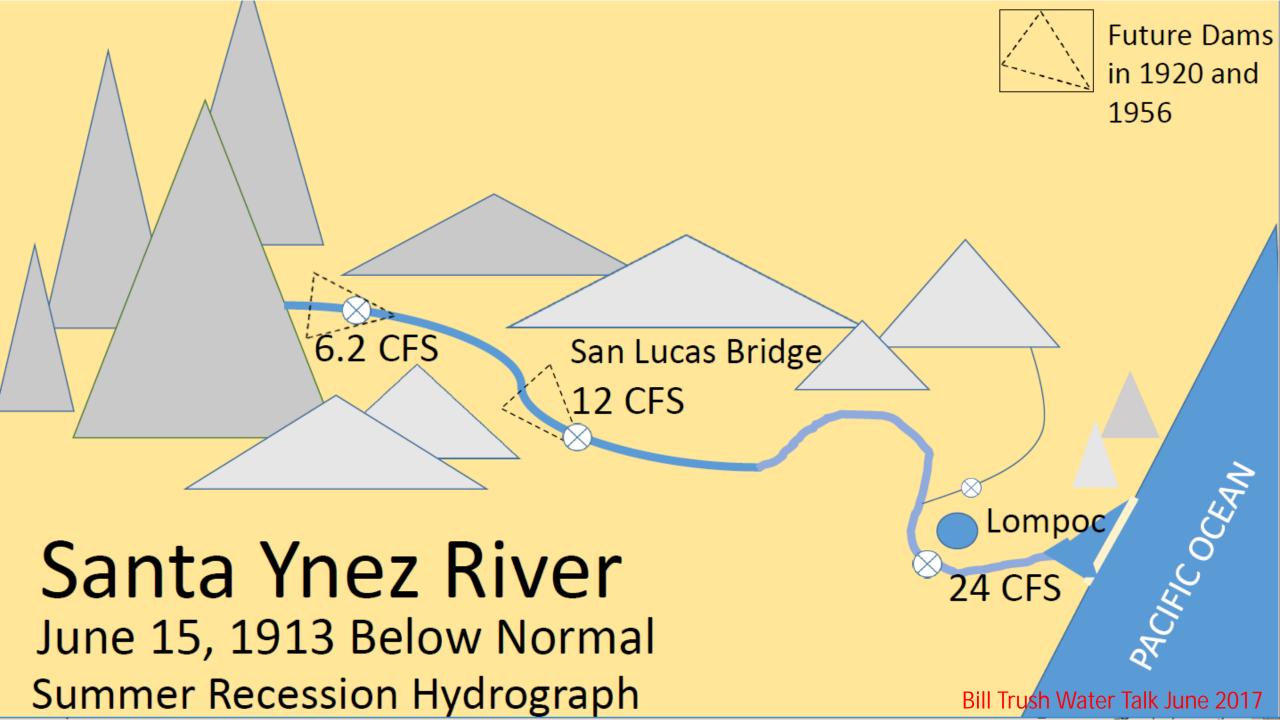


Ensuring species and environmental communities are identified as beneficial users in the basin.

- Southern California steelhead
- Tidewater Goby
- Santa Ana Sucker
- Least Bell's Vireo
- Southwestern Willow Flycatcher
- Pacific Lamprey
- Western Pond Turtle
- Two-striped Garter Snake
- Yellow Warbler
- Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo
- Yellow-breasted chat







Formed the Santa Clara River Environmental Groundwater Committee in Apr 2017

The purpose of this organizational structure is to ensure that groundwater dependent ecosystems, their beneficial uses and users are adequately considered in the GSP planning process.

Members include:

























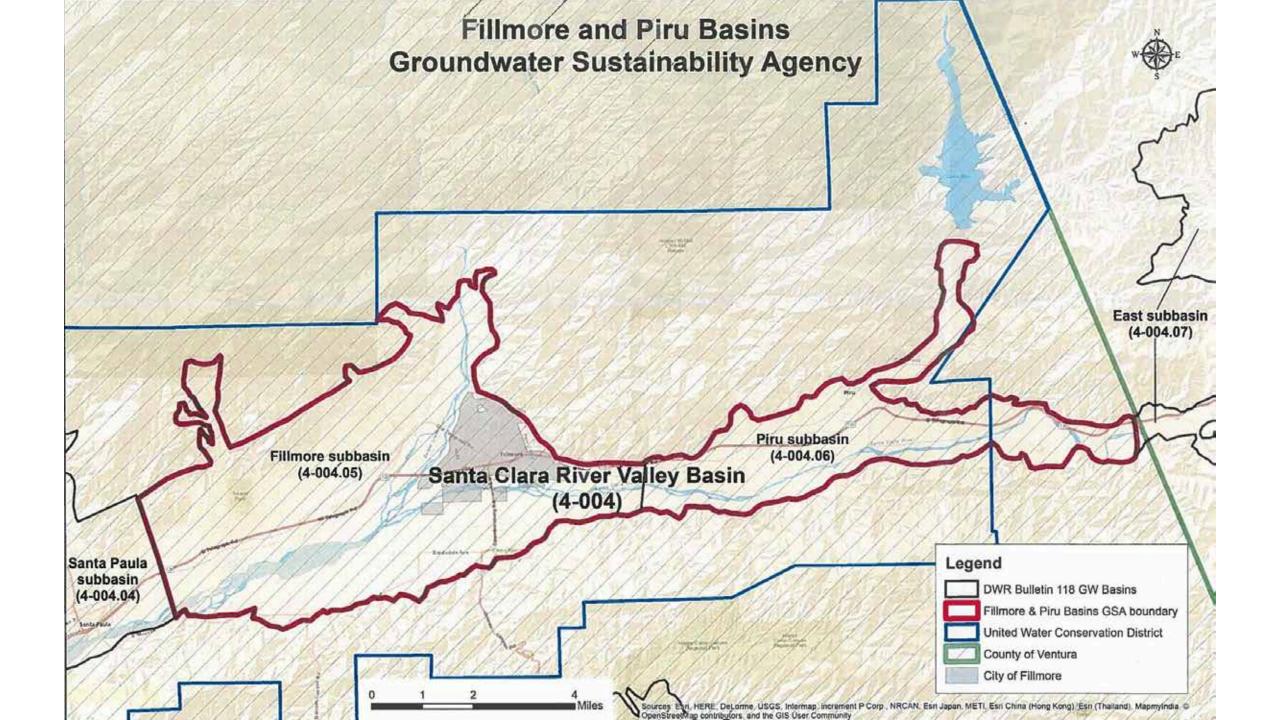


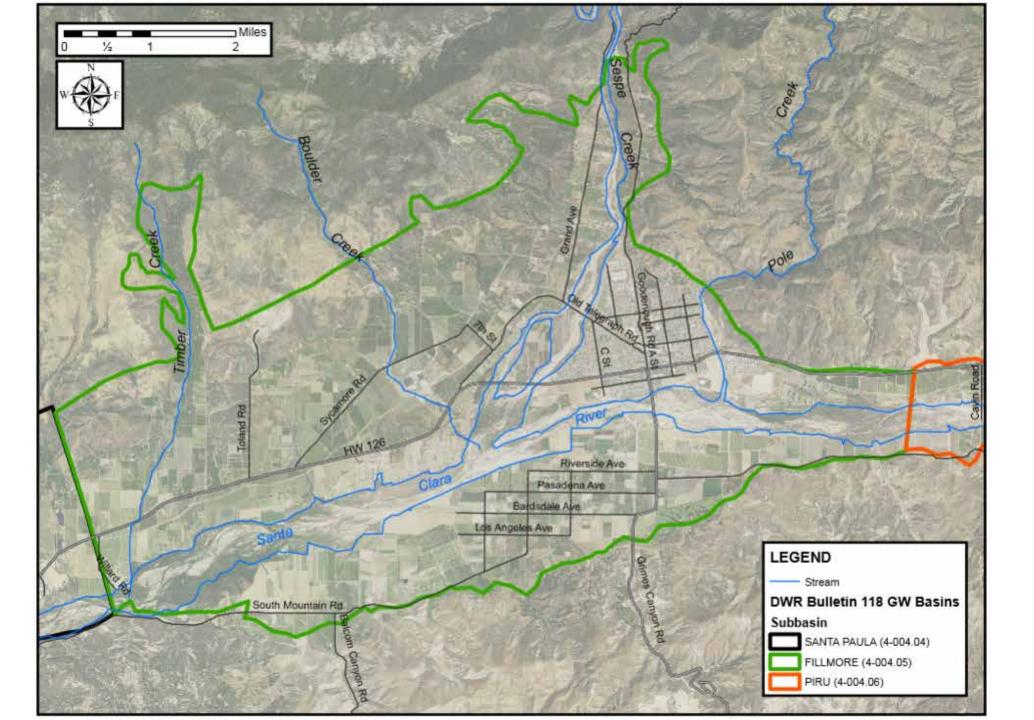


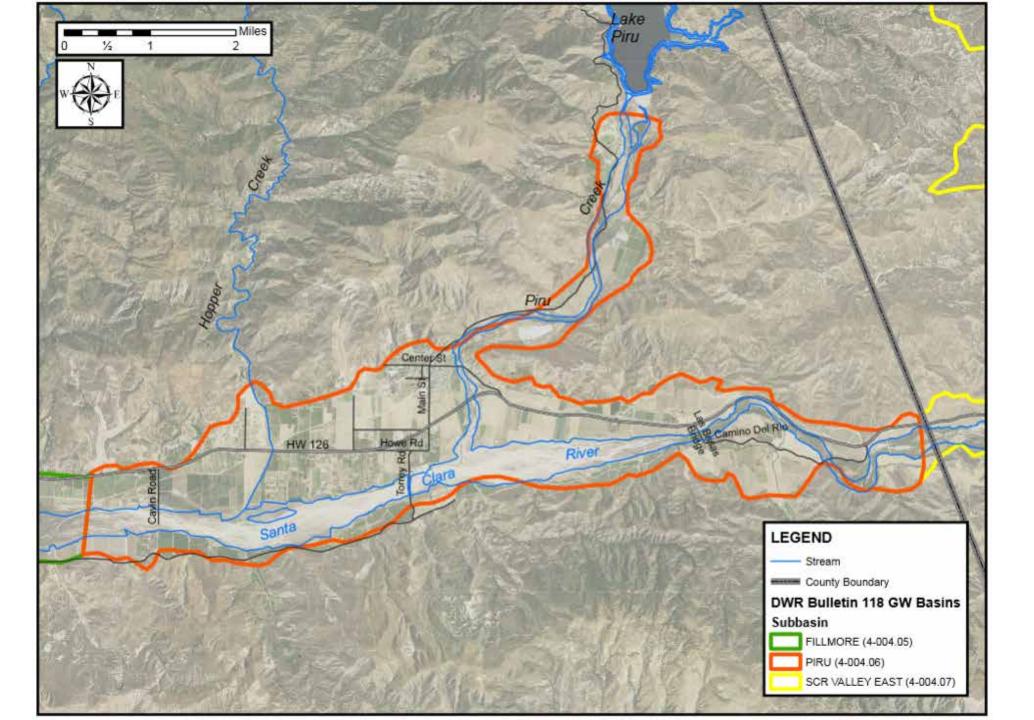




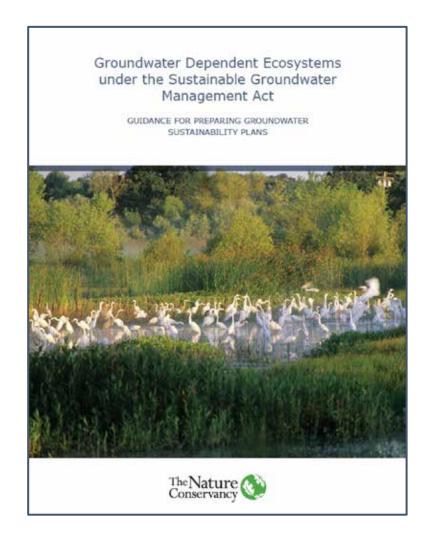
- Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association
- Piru Basin Pumpers Association
- Santa Clara River Environmental Groundwater Committee

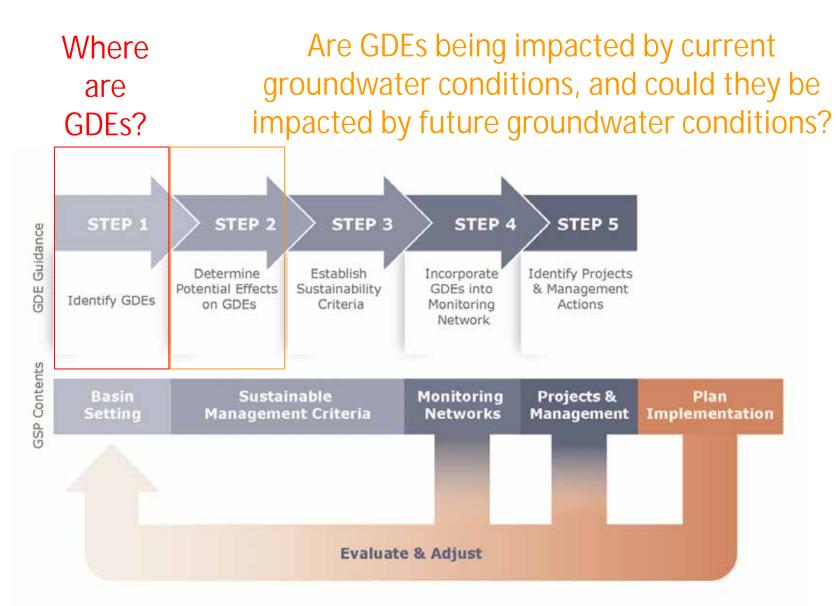






Identifying and Considering GDEs under SGMA



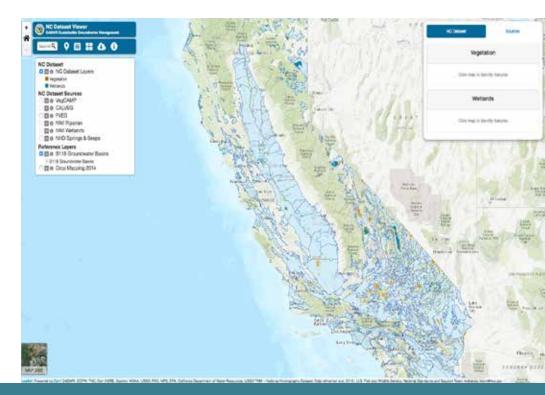


GDE Mapping and Guidance Tools

- DWR's SGMA website https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/
- NGO Groundwater Collaborative http://cagroundwater.org/
- Maven's Notebook <u>www.groundwaterexchange.org</u>

under the Sustainable Groundwater
Management Act
GUEDANCE FOR PREPARING GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY PLANS

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems









Thank You!

Candice Meneghin

Friends of the Santa Clara River

(805) 628-2250 or (310) 890-2834

contact@fscr.org



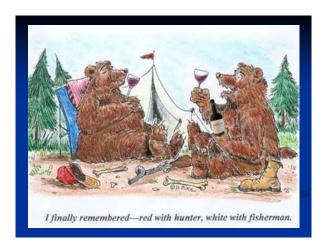
@FriendsOfTheSCR

Friends of the Santa Clara River

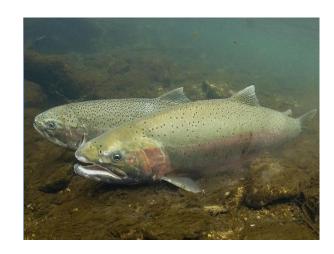
Friends_of_Santa_Clara_River

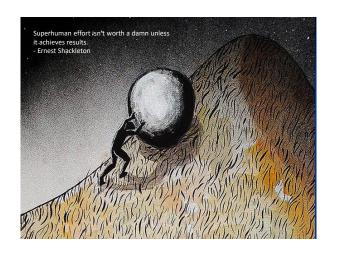
www.fscr.org



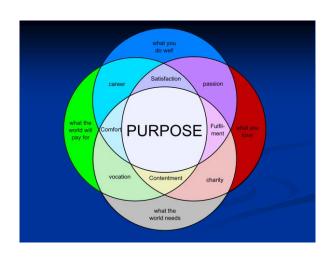


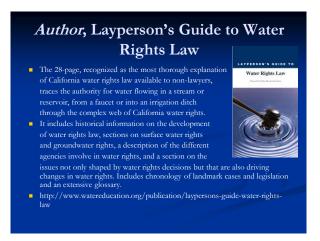
Who is in the Audience? Land and water conservation professionals? Land owners? Ranch managers? Conservation attorneys? Board members? State or federal agencies? Concerned citizens? Others?



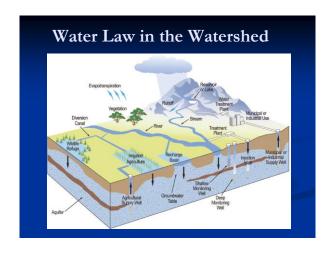


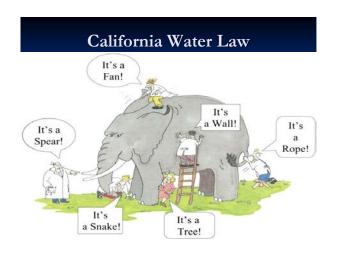




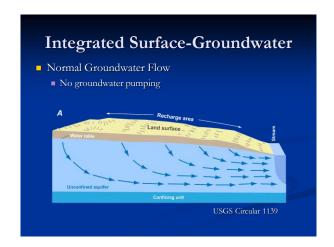


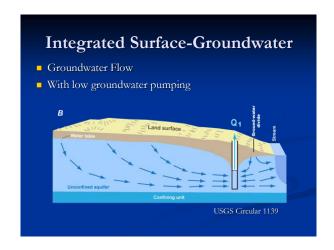
California Water Law Many Legal Definitions & Issues: Appropriative water rights Riparian water rights Groundwater rights Beneficial use Public Trust Doctrine Property rights Environmental law Federal water law authorities Hydropower development Disclaimer: More than can be covered in 20 minutes!

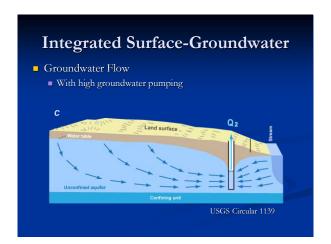












GROUNDWATER LOSS Groundwater levels in the Central Valley from 1962 to 2003 during wet and dry years. Change in groundwater storage, in millions of acre-feet -40 -60 Dry to Dry 1962 1970 Water years Source: U.S. Geological Survey 1980 1990

HICKS LAW PROP ONE PROJECTS 2018 Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Prop One: Marshall Ranch Flow Enhancement Design 2. 2018 WCB Lower Battle Creek Scoping Study 2018 WCB Santa Rosa Creek Flow Enhancement Pilot Project 4. 2018 WCB San Luis Obispo Creek Flow Enhancement 5. 2017 WCB Integrated Water Strategies to Enhance Flows in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties 6. 2017 WCB San Ysidro Flow Enhancement and Water Conservation 7. 2016 WCB Dos Rios Section 1707 Project 8. 2016 WCB The Thacher School Instream Flow Resiliency and **Dormitory Conservation Project** 9. 2016 WCB Baseflow Monitoring for Stream Flow Enhancement Project Planning and Evaluation in San Luis Obispo County 10. 2016 WCB Spencer Ranch Permanent Instream Water Dedication and Conservation Easement



2000 '03

Sacramento Bee

Hicks Law Conservation Easement Projects

- 1. 2017 DFW Prop One (Water Bond) Watershed Restoration Grant Program: Marshall Ranch Conservation Easement – 2016
- 2. 2018 Department of Conservation, Strategic Growth Council Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program ("SALC Program"): Marshall Ranch Conservation Easement
- 3. 2018 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE), California Climate Investments -Forest Health Grant Program: Marshall Ranch Conservation Easement

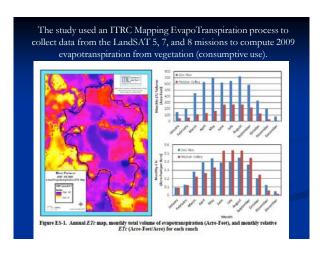


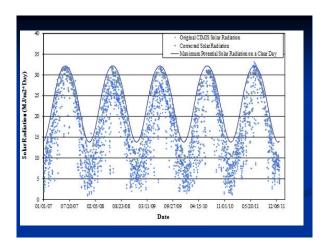


Location of Dos Rios Ranch and former Hidden Valley Dairy, Stanislaus County, CA. Floodplain Expansion and Ecosystem Restoration at Dos Rios Rench



River Partners hired
Irrigation Training and
Research Center (California
Polytechnic State
University) to produce a
consumptive use report for
Dos Rios and Hidden Valley
Ranches to determine
riparian water rights
(completed: January, 2016).











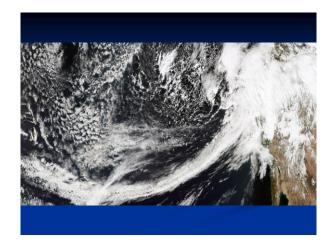






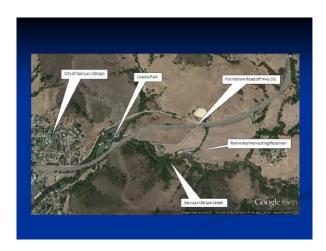






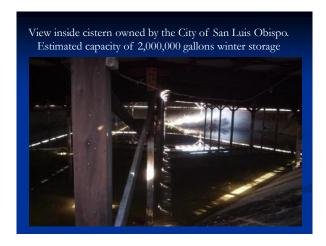
























South Fork Eel River
Watershed

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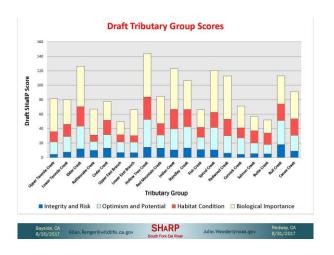
South Fork Eel River

South Fork Eel River

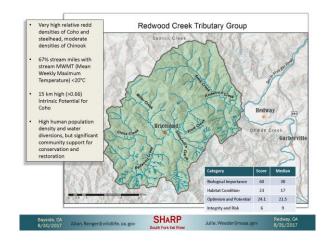
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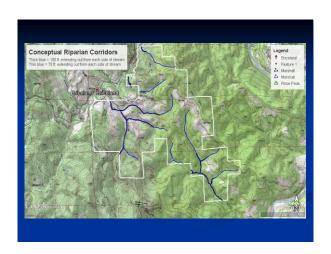
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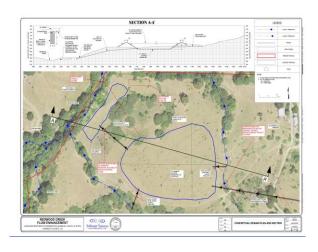
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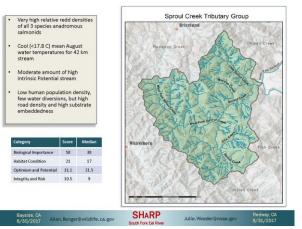




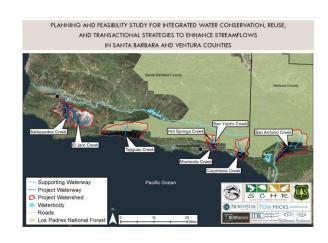




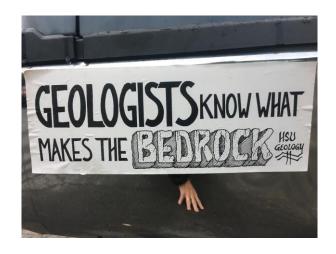










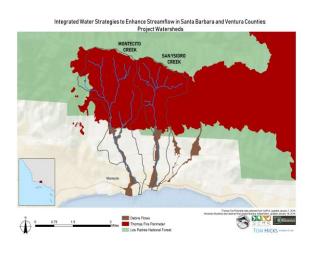
























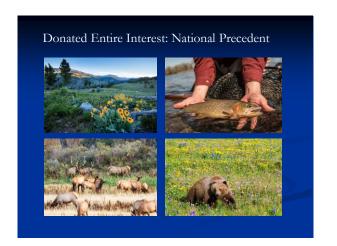


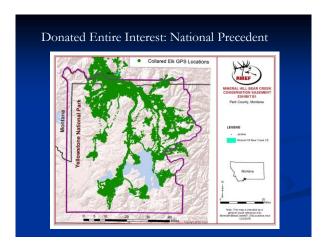


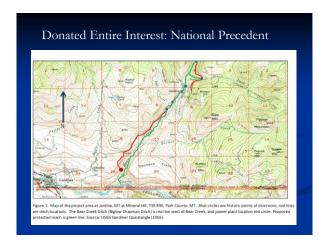












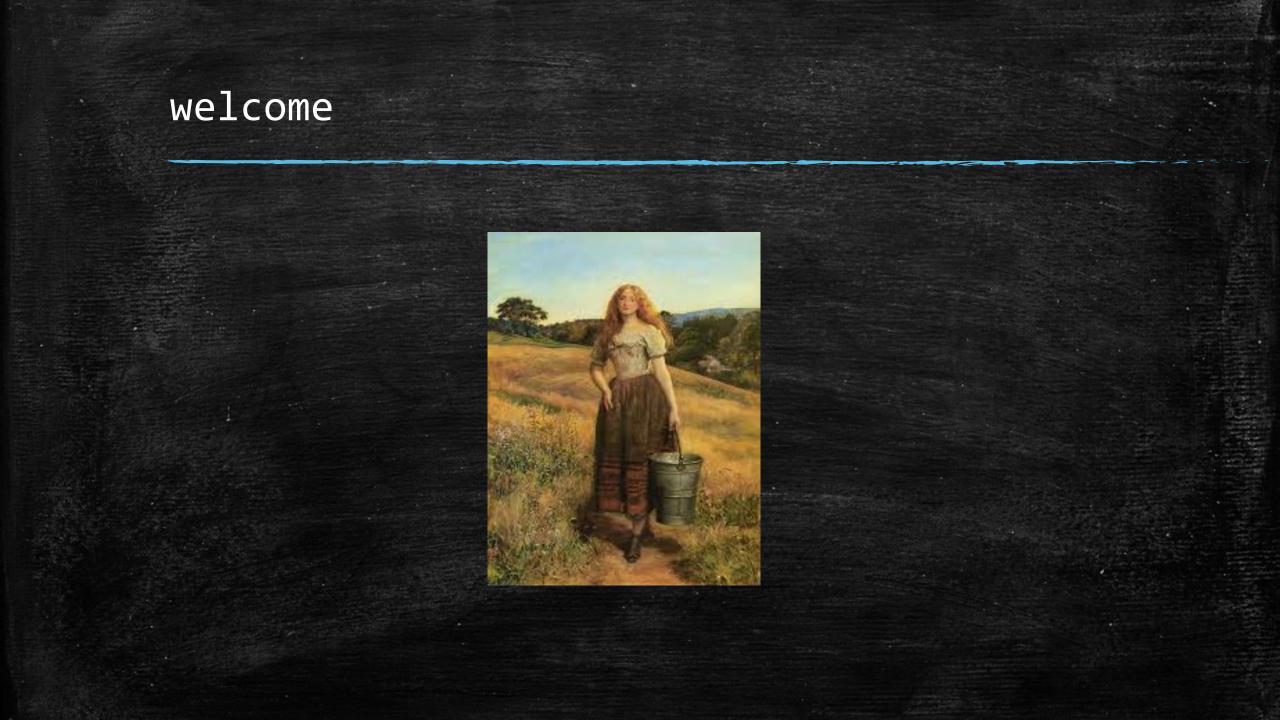




Moving Into Action: Finding Real Solutions for Communities in Ventura County

Steelhead Summit, Ventura, Ca Regina Hirsch, Watershed Progressive





Common ground

93% of all Climate impacts are related to water

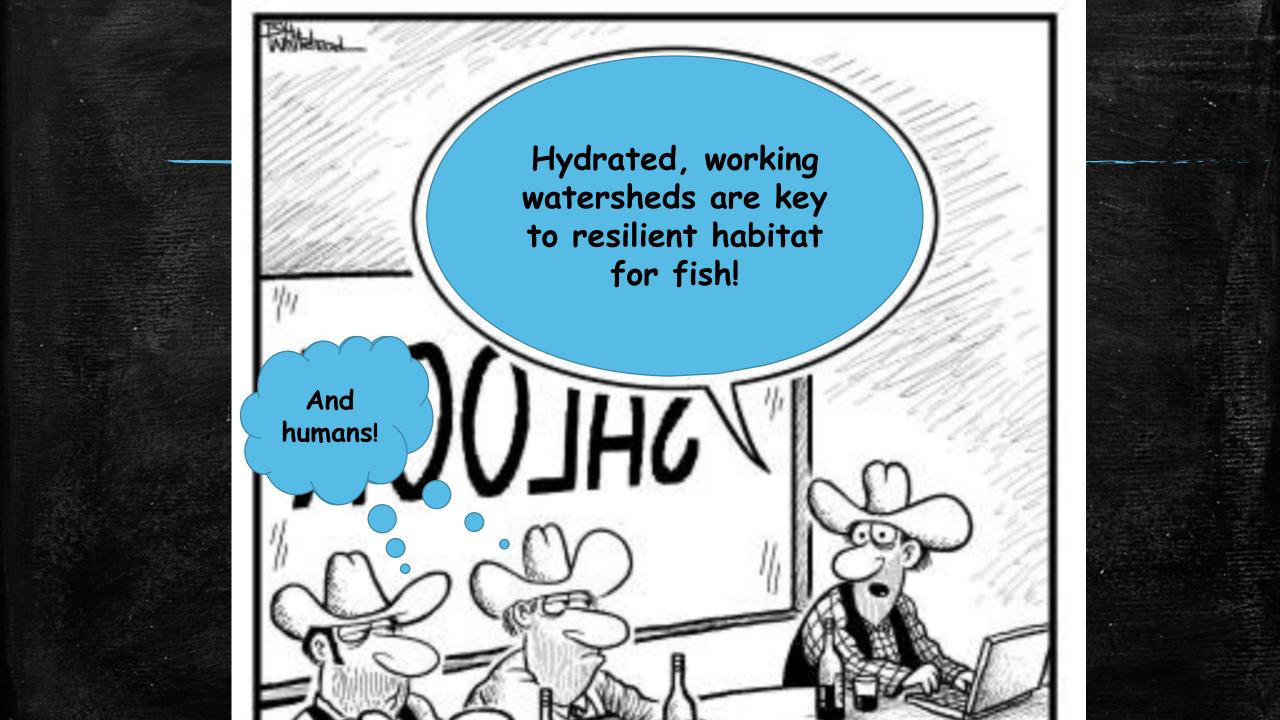
LOCALIZING CALIFORNIA WATERS



CONNECTING ONSITE WATERS FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

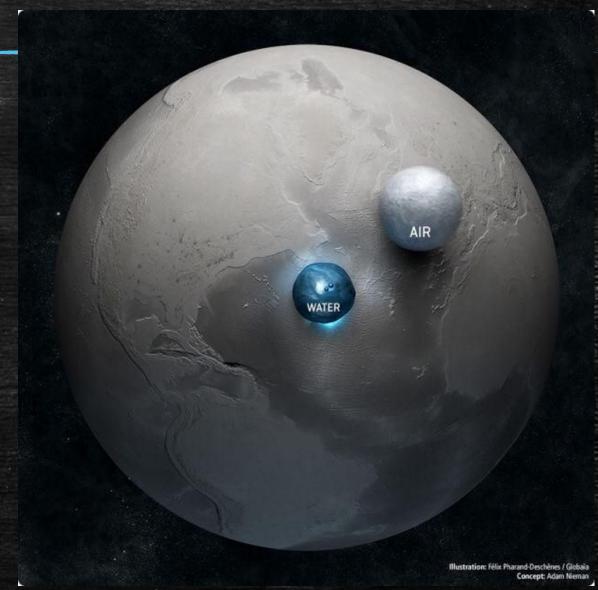
Common ground





True or False: Humans have enough water to sustain their own

habitats?



True or False: Humans have enough water to sustain their own habitats?

HOW?

What tools will be most crucial to create watershed resiliency and water security?

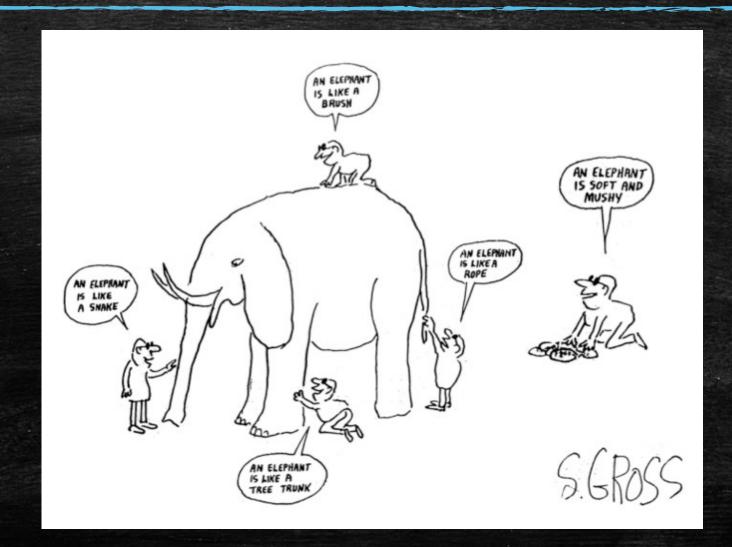
https://answergarden.ch/829940 choose TOP 3

SPACE AGE TECHNOLOGY **VOLUNTARY WATER TRANSFERS** WATER POLICY CHANGES WATERSHED EDUCATION GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT LOCAL WATER BUDGETS WATER REUSE LOCAL MANAGEMENT STATE MANAGEMENT LAND USE POLICY CHANGES TRADITIONAL METHODS HYDROLOGICAL DATA WATER MASTERS

CREATIVITY. AND IT TAKES PRACTICE

Framing: Have we failed?

CHANGING the FRAME



Creating the Network

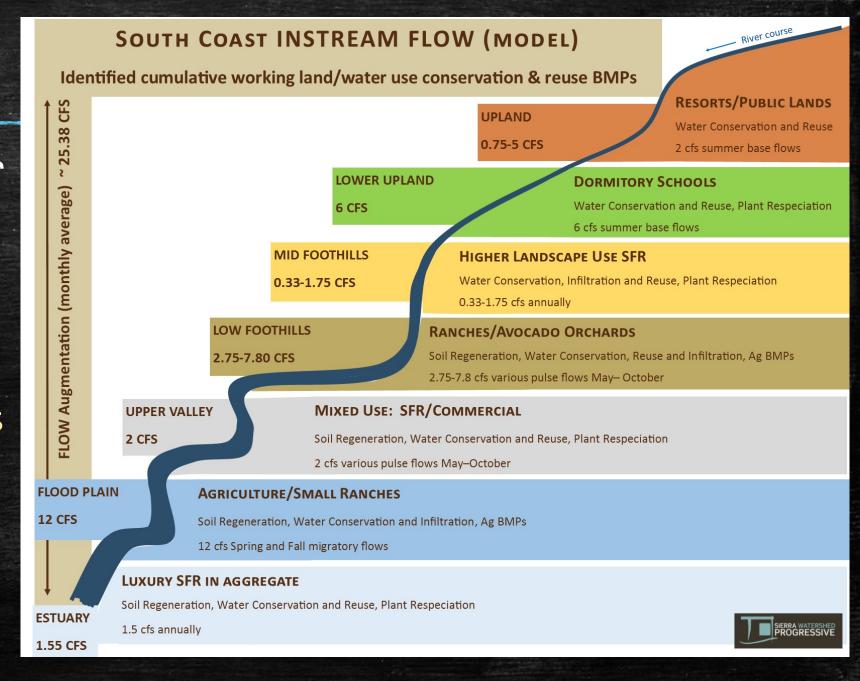


Connecting toward Healthy Resilient Communities

- 1. Grassroots: Agency
- 2. Source Managers: End User
- 3. Decentralized: Centralized
- 4. Watershed Stewards: Infrastructure Managers
- Landuse Managers: Water Managers
- 6. Recharge: Efficiencies
- 7. Traditional Methods: New BMPs

Intersecting water management and instream flow:

Diverse Portfolio of Users and Aggregated Actions



The Thacher School







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• Fire Habitat Restoration

Water Rights SDU/1707

Landscape Redesign /

Roadside Corral Toilet to

Due Diligence

Xeriscaping

Tank

17	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	202:
)	8%	27%	62%	70%	76%	90%
ter Meters Rainwater Reuse	WMP 2018 Update Draft Banyan Water Meter Stormwater Infiltration & Bioswales Assessment Fire Hazard Mitigation	Landscape Irrigation Retrofits 3D Watershed Modeling WCB Dorm Tank to Toilet Does Shower Connector	Blackwater Reuse Enhancement Install Peak Flow Storage Planning Equestrian Unit	Wastewater Polishing & RO Unit Construction (Dining Hall Reuse) RO Unit Permitting &	Peak Flow Storage Permitting Equestrian Unit Rainwater Capture & Reuse	INTERIM MILI

Rainwater Capture &

Stormwater Infiltration

Reuse Planning

Respeciation &

Xeriscaping

& Bioswales

Turfgrass

· Begin Orchard Bioswale

and Water Conservation

Equestrian Unit

Respeciation / Plant

Typing / Xeriscaping

· Leak Detection &

Stormwater

Landscape

Abatement

Planning (Dining Hall)

Rainwater Capture &

Laundry to Landscape

Non-Dorm

Reuse Permits

(L2L) Faculty

Reuse Design

Mechanical Water



THE THACHER SCHOOL WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Phasing toward water resiliency, security and leadership



Mechanical Water Reuse

Non-Dorm Rainwater

Prepare for 2023 WMP

Capture & Reuse Wildland Urban Interface

Installation

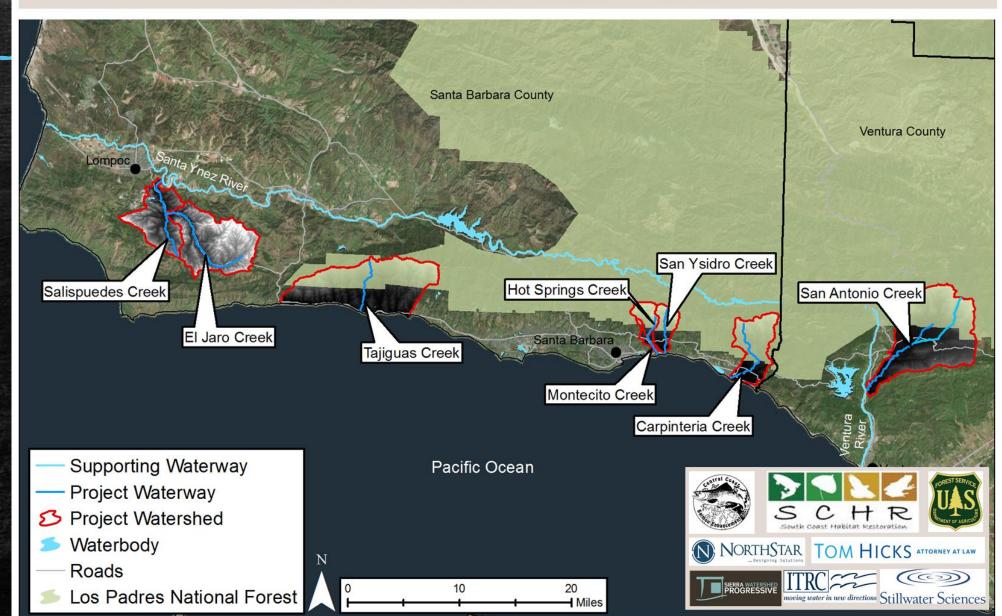
Buffer Strip

Update

IWS

WCB Planning Grant 2017-2019

PLANNING AND FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR INTEGRATED WATER CONSERVATION, REUSE, AND TRANSACTIONAL STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE STREAMFLOWS IN SANTA BARBARA AND VENTURA COUNTIES

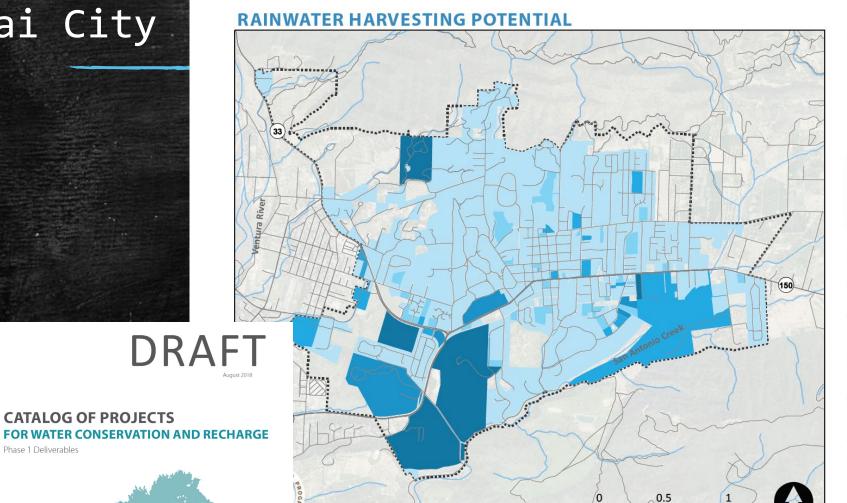


4. IDENTIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITIES

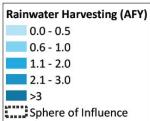
Ojai City

CATALOG OF PROJECTS

Phase 1 Deliverables



data inputs, assumptions, and the estimated potential benefit identified in the spatial opportunities under review, and additional error analysis and ground truthing of this data is expected.



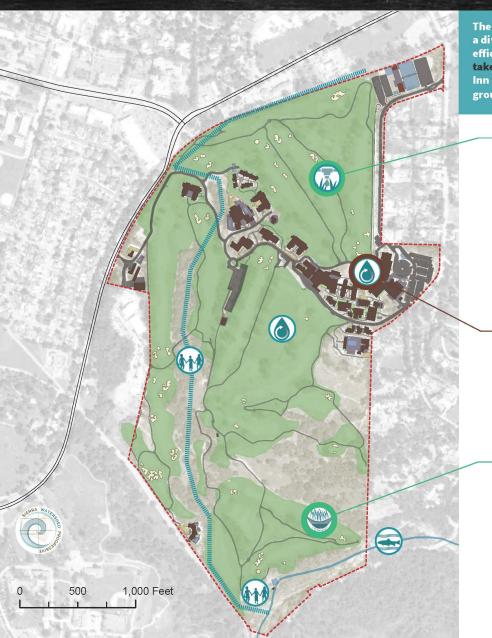


LAND USE TYPE	Water Conservation Potential (acre feet per year, AFY)
Residential	350
Schools	25
Public Facilities	10
Commercial/ Industrial	70
City-Owned	2
Total	457

Water conservation and recharge estimates for rainwater harvesting in the City of Ojai are based on assumptions described in Chapter 3.

- A total of 2,912 buildings in the City of Ojai were identified for rainwater harvesting;
- 100% of the average annual rainfall (21.49") upon the identified buildings' roof area is diverted to storage and available for reuse; and
- There is no overflow from the rainwater storage cisterns.

Ojai Valley Inn



The Ojai Valley Inn's commitment to environmental stewardship is realized through developing a diverse portfolio of sustainable water supply alternatives that demonstrate innovative, energy efficient best management practices and water-conserving techniques. These measures are taken with the objective of reducing water use by 50% within 10 years; by meeting this target the Inn will become a leader in re-hydrating the local watershed to sustain a healthy environment, groundwater basin, and community in the valley for future generations.



LANDSCAPE RETROFITS Reduced Consumptive Use Groundwater Recharge Enhance Instream Flows

Demonstration and Education

- Golf Course Redesign and Alternative Water Sourcing
- Landscape Enhancements and Alternative Water Sourcing
- Road / Entrance / Parking Lot Redesign
- Stormwater Capture/Detention/ Retention
- · Invasive Tree Removal
- Trail / Habitat / Pollinator Corridor
- · Low Impact Design (LID) Demonstration
- Educational signage and learning lab stations



ALTERNATIVE SOURCING Reduced Consumptive Use

Enhance Instream Flows

Demonstration and Education

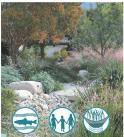
- · Water Reuse: Greywater/Blackwater
- · Water Reuse: Mechanical Water
- · Brackish Water
- Stormwater
- Rainwater



STORMWATER/RAINWATER Groundwater Recharge Enhance Instream Flows

Demonstration and Education

- · Capture/Detention/ Retention
- Drywells









Reduced Consumptive Use



Enhance Instream Flows



Groundwater Recharge



Demonstration and Education

Senior Canyon Mutual Water Company



WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
2018
senior canyon mutual
water company

A PATH TO WATER SUSTAINABILITY, RESILIENCY, AND LEADERSHIP

Watershed Progressive

November 2018

Ojai Unified School District

PROPOSED Project Catalog

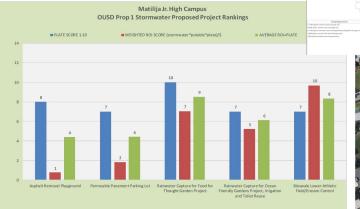
OUSD Stormwater LID Project

1)

Matilija Jr. High

OUSD Stormwater LID Project

- Graphs visual ranking system, showing PLATE SCORE (count of benefits achieved 1-10), as well as simplest ROI (water savings/\$). GREEN AVERAGE bars represent aggregated average of both scores.
- This quick ranking system is to guide decision making and inform on multi-beneficial uses of implemented solutions.
- Matilija has a myriad of flooding concerns and asphalt undercutting that can be addressed through simple measures listed here. Additionally it is a prime location for resource science-based demonstration projects.











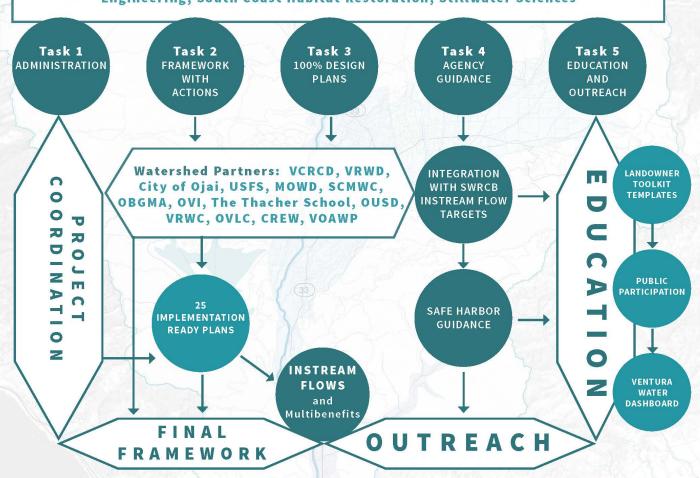


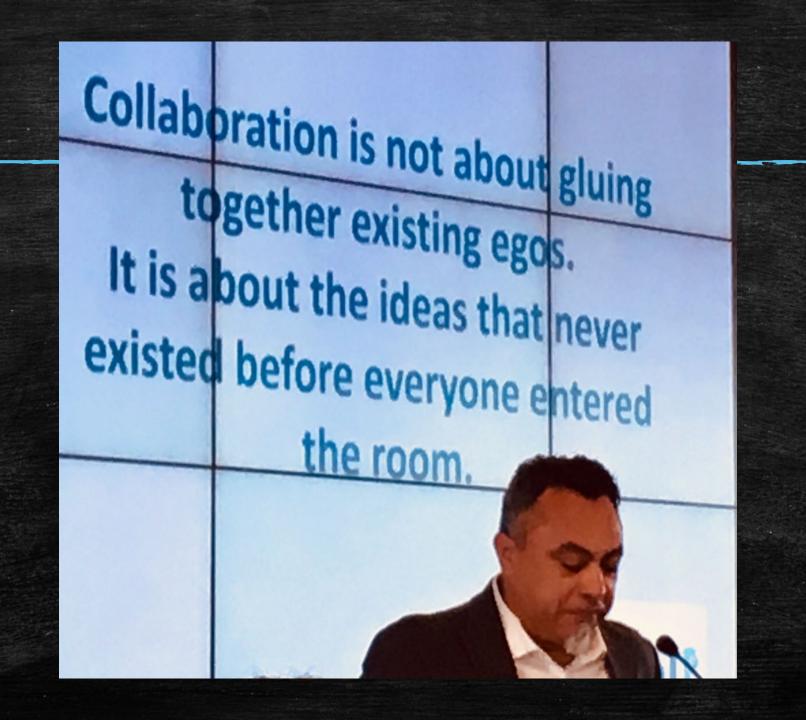
VENTURA WATERSHED INSTREAM FLOW ENHANCEMENT AND WATER RESILIENCY REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

VENTURA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PROJECT TEAM

VCRCD, Watershed Partners, Ventura River Watershed Council, Kear Groundwater, Watershed Progressive, Hicks Law, Trout Unlimited, Flip Labs, Eagle Aerial, Northstar Engineering, South Coast Habitat Restoration, Stillwater Sciences





What tools will be most crucial to create watershed resiliency and water security?

https://answergarden.ch/829940 choose TOP 3

SPACE AGE TECHNOLOGY **VOLUNTARY WATER TRANSFERS** DESALINISATION FORESTRY MANAGEMENT WATER POLICY CHANGES WATERSHED EDUCATION GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT LOCAL WATER BUDGETS WATER REUSE LOCAL MANAGEMENT STATE MANAGEMENT LAND USE POLICY CHANGES

TRADITIONAL METHODS

HYDROLOGICAL DATA

So the answer to get past this image is?



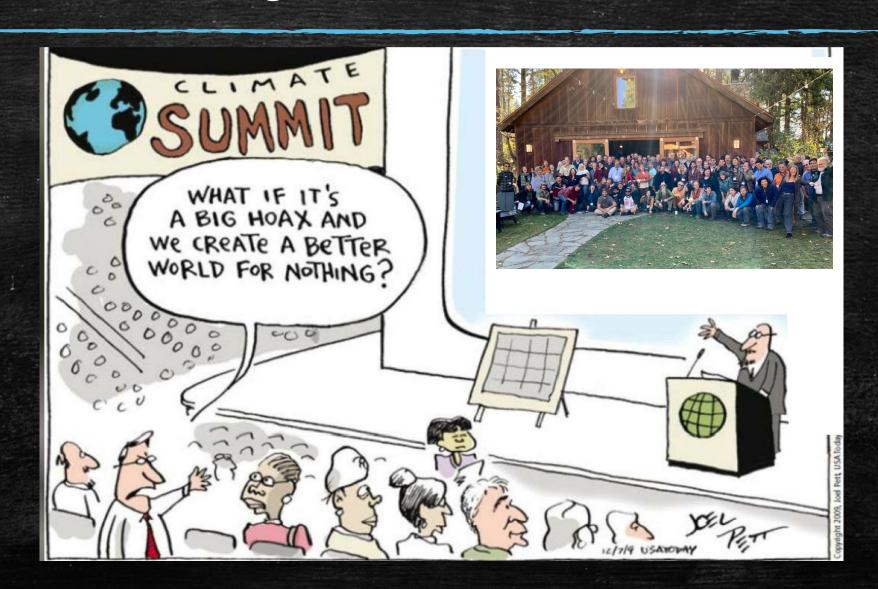




Have fun..



and find common ground at the same time.



Thank you



Regina Hirsch Executive Director

Regina@h2oprogressive.com 209 206 2234

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