

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



OCENIC AND ATMOSPY

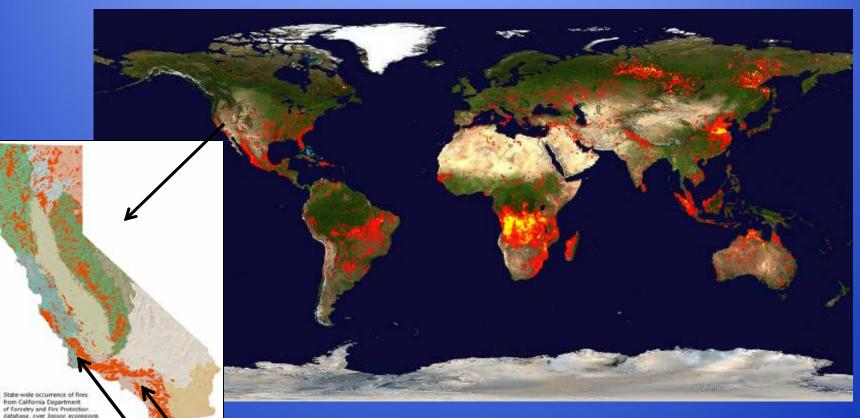
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California Wildfires



World Fire Hotspots

South-Central/Southern California

e Calife



Wildfire Effects on Riverine & Watershed Habitats

Physical

- § Hydrology
- S Erosion/sedimentation
- S Turbidity

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- S Nutrient loading
- S Water Chemistry
- S Water temperature

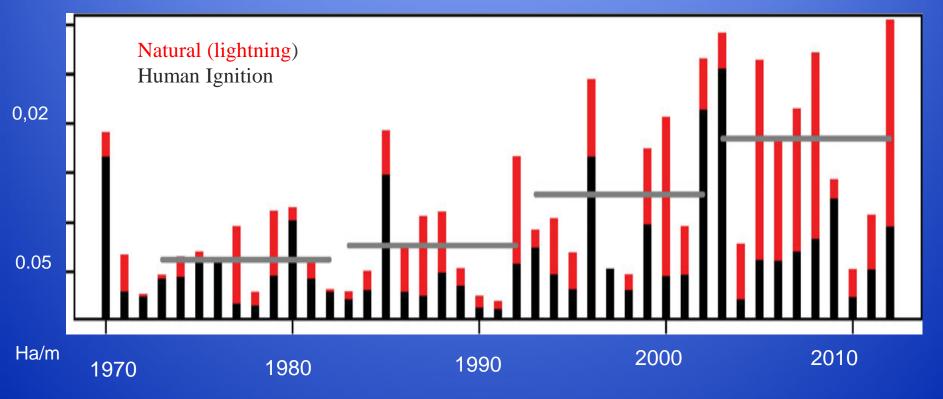
Biological

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



Wester U.S. Wildfires

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

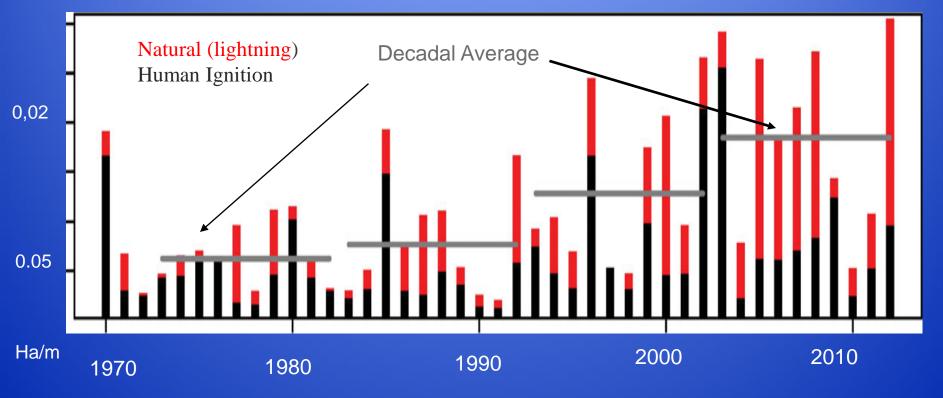


Westerling, A. L. 2016



Wester U.S. Wildfires

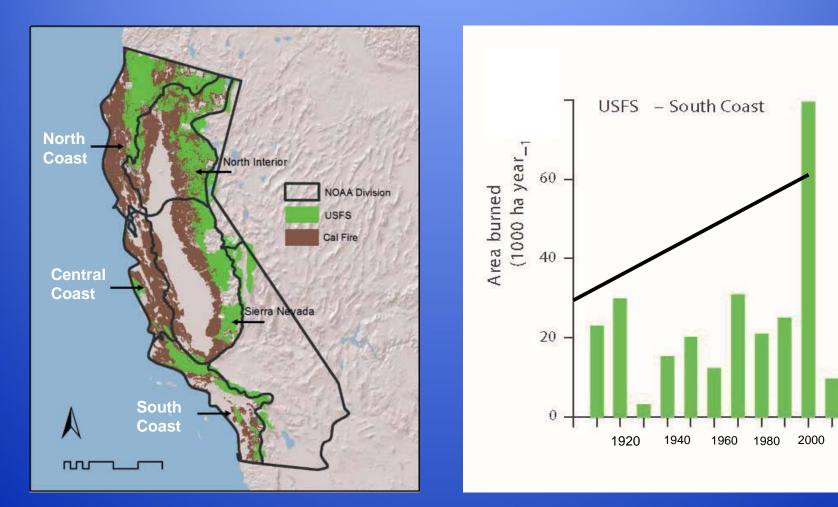
Annual Burned Area in Large (> 400 ha) Grass and Shrubland Fires



Westerling, A. L. 2016



South Coast Wildfires

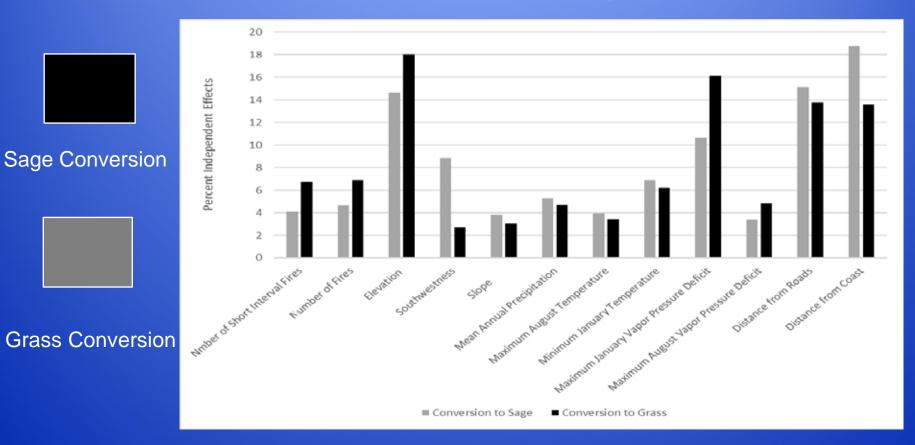


Keeley and Syphard 2017



Vegetation Type Conversion

Chaparral Conversion – Sage Scrub or Grass

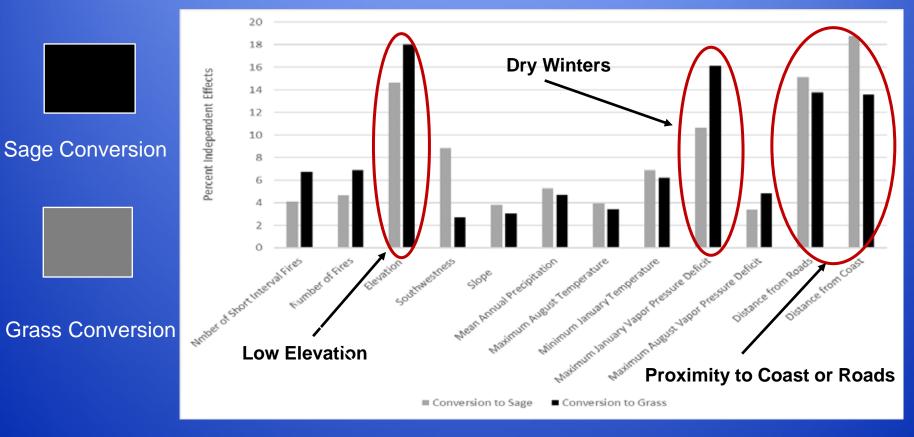


Dewees et al., 2018



Vegetation Type Conversion

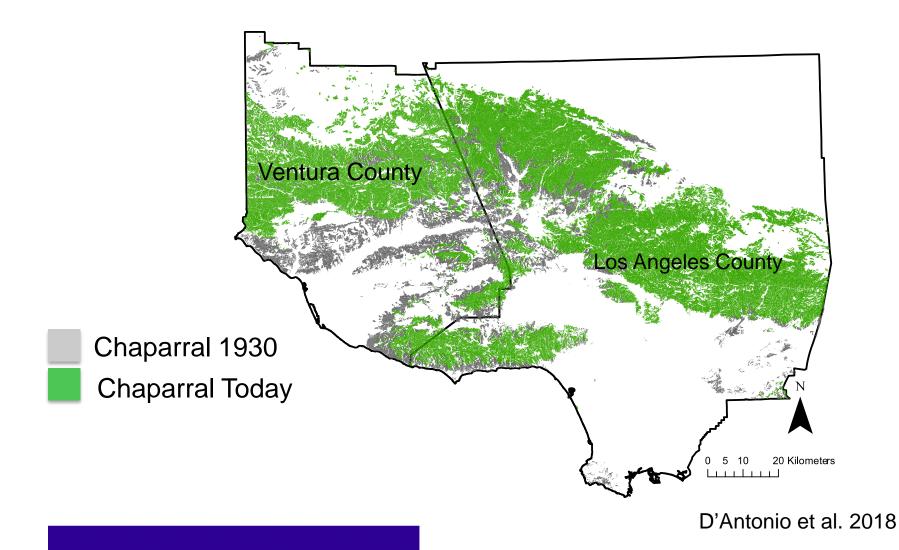
Chaparral Conversion – Sage Scrub or Grass



Dewees et al., 2018



Vegetation Type Conversion





Wildfire Effects on Steelhead Habitats

Day Fire: 162,202 acres.





Sespe Creek 2002 - before fire

2008 - after fire



Wildfire Effects on Steelhead Habitats

Santa Ana River – Harding Creek







2007 - after fire



Wildfire Effects on Steelhead Habitats

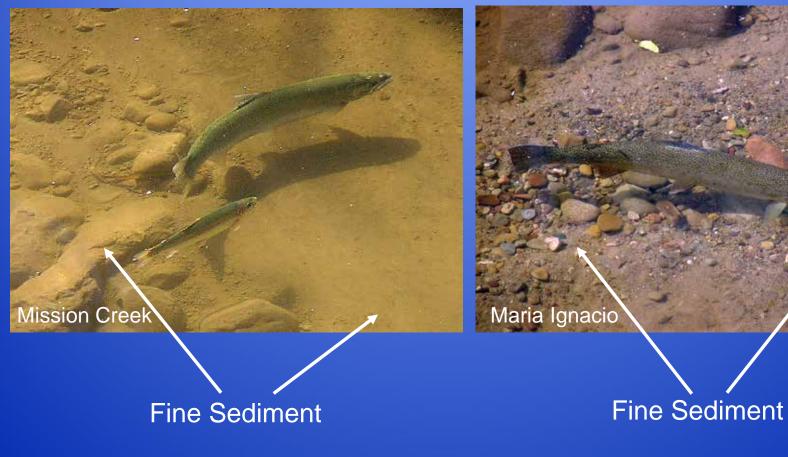


Fine Sediment

Spawning

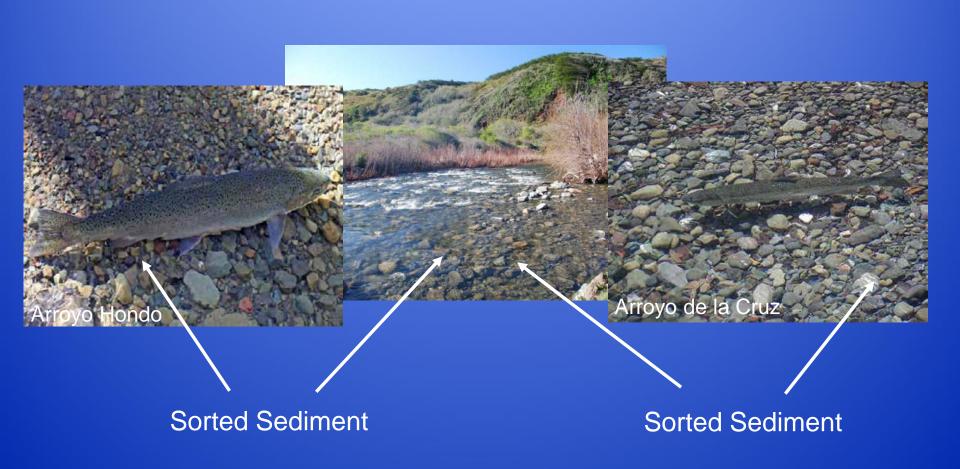


Wildfire Effects on Steelhead Habitats



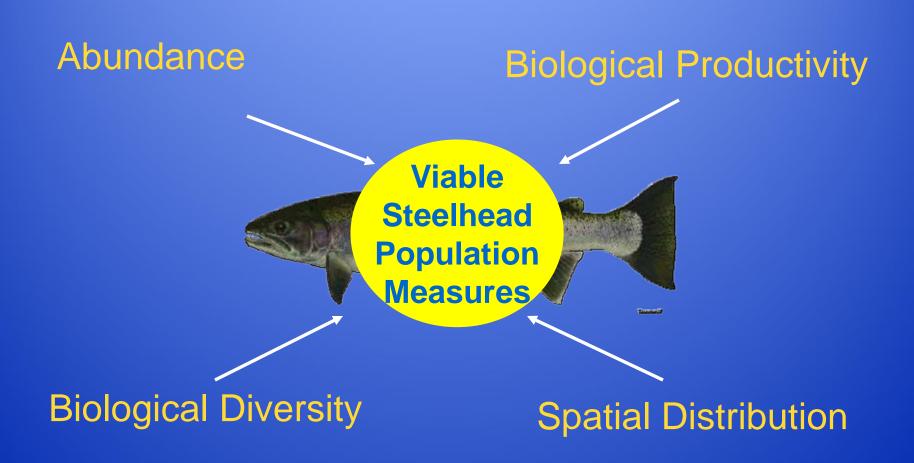


Wildfire Effects on Steelhead Habitat



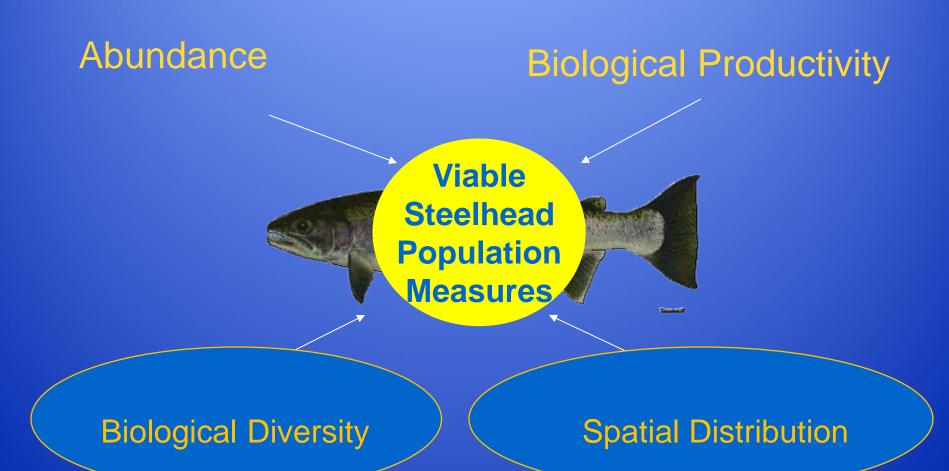


Viable Salmonid Population (VSP)





Viable Salmonid Population (VSP)

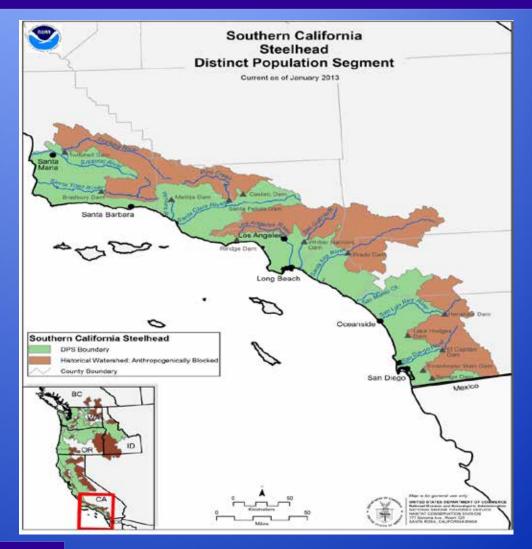




Southern California Steelhead DPS

S Chaparral

- S Oak Woodland
- S Coastal Sage Scrub
- S Native grasses
- S Riparian
- § Wetlands





DPS-Wide Viability

Strategy

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



< 5% extinction risk in 1000 years



Southern California Steelhead DPS

Biogeographic Population Groups





DPS-Wide Viability



S Preserve over-all species diversity (genetic, phenotypic, life-history)

Sector 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

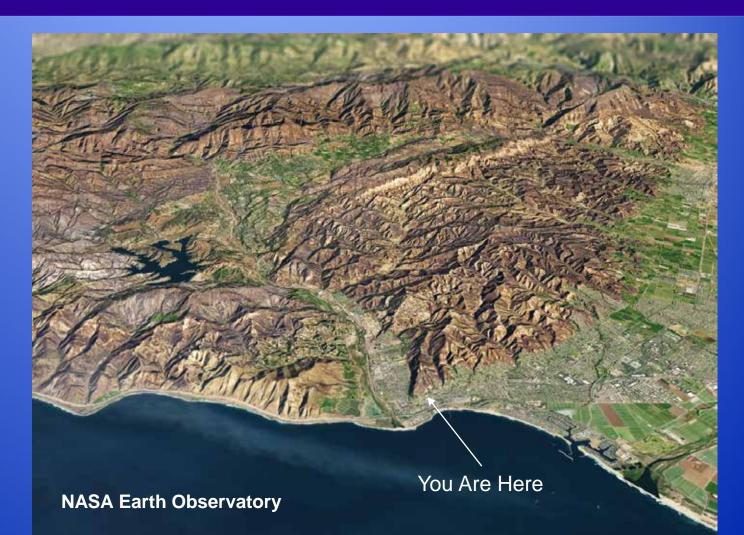






Ventura River

Watershed





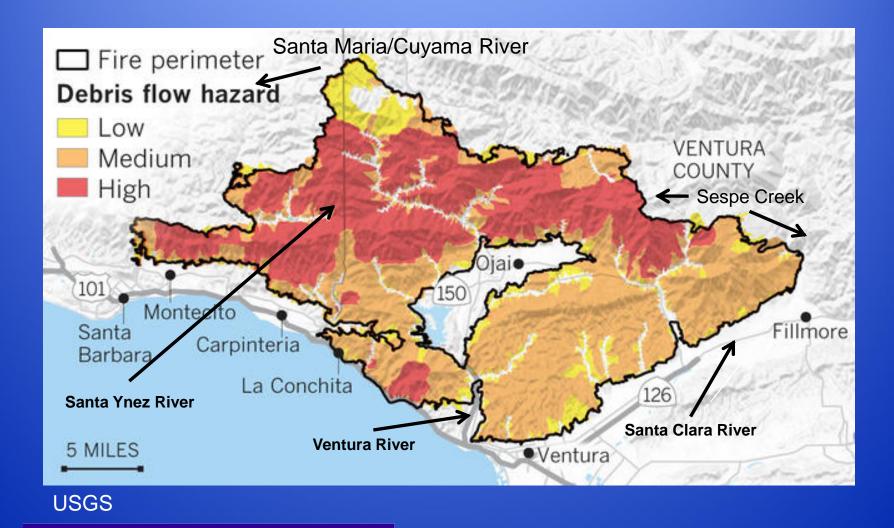
Upper

Ventura River Matilija Creek

Watershed









Matilija Canyon





Matilija Canyon Post Thomas Fire/Rainfall



Debris Flow

Debris Flow



Matilija Canyon Post Thomas Fire/Rainfall





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

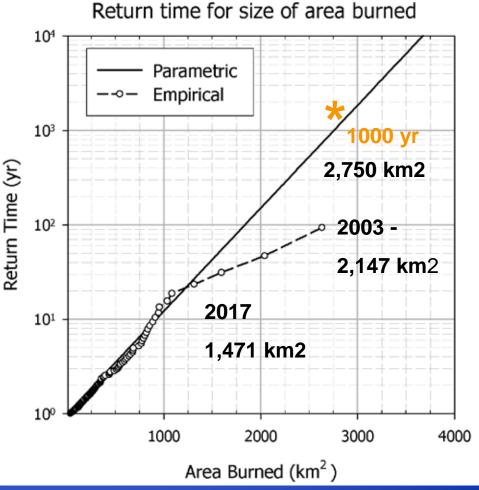
2017: Thomas Fire – 1,141 km2



Southern California Fire Frequency

*Projected Thousand-Year Wildfire Burn Area

Based on 1910 – 2003 Data

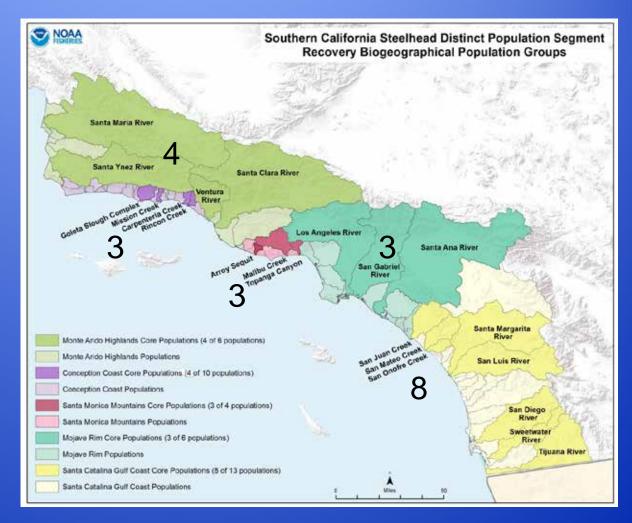


Boughton et al. 2007



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

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Mark H. Capelli Recovery Coordinator



Thready



Effects of the Thomas Fire on *Oncorhynchus mykiss* and stream communities of the Los Padres National Forest Kristie Klose¹, Scott D. Cooper², Jason White³and 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

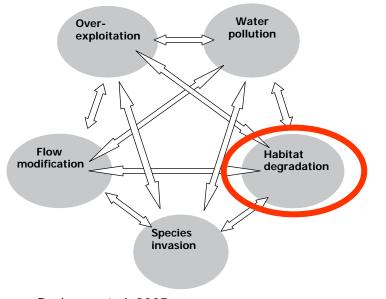
kristieaklose@fs.fed.us



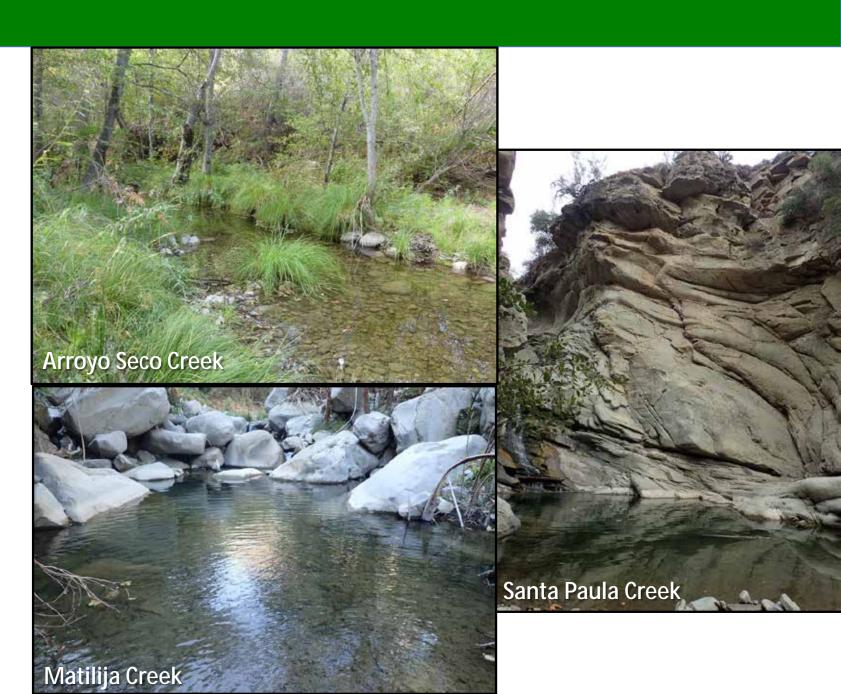


Stream Communities

- 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:



Source: Dudgeon et al. 2005

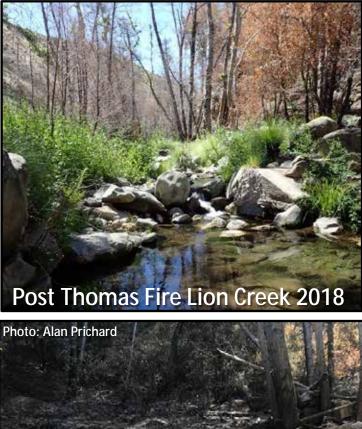


Multiple Fire Effects on Streams

- 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

1923 Fire

Fires

Indian

Creek

Rey Fire (2016)

1923 Fire

Zaca Fire (2007)

Indian Creek – Big Pine Fire (1933)

Ogilvy Fire (1998)

Mono

Creek

Historical Fire Return Interval (FRI) for chaparral and serotinous conifers of So Cal is 30-100 years (Keeley et al. 1999)

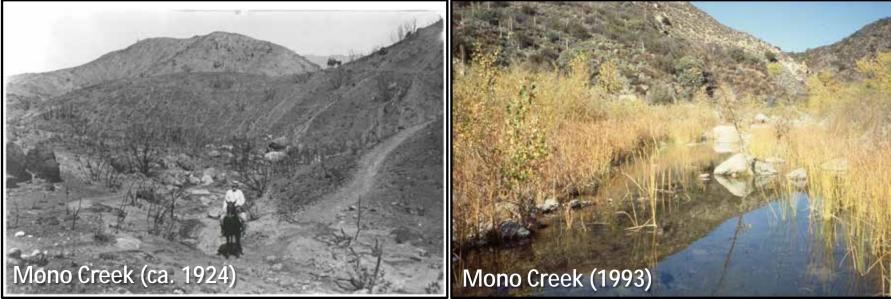
Mean and median FRI affecting Mono and Indian Creek basins is 23 and 9 years, respectively

Copyright 9 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cub

Fire History: Mono Creek

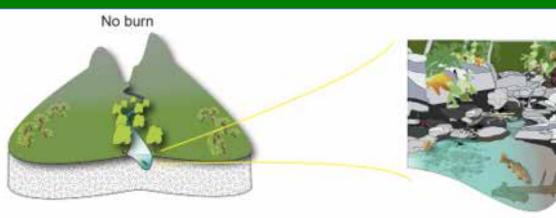
"Before the installation of Gibraltar Dam this stream was stocked naturally by the annual steelhead run. More recently it was planted [with] steelhead. All were destroyed following the 30,000 acre Indian Creek-Big Pine Fire (1933). This fire filled the pools of the creek with sand, mud, and gravel and 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

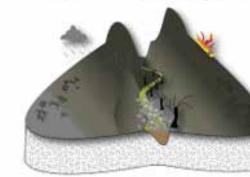


Burned upland vegetation and soils

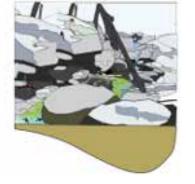
Increased runoff sediment contaminants nutrients



Burned upland and riparian vegetation, soils; debris flow



Decreased leaf litter detritivores





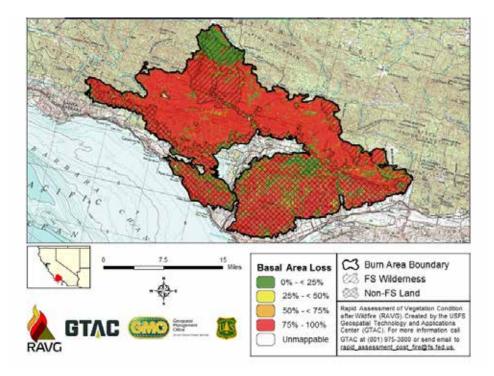




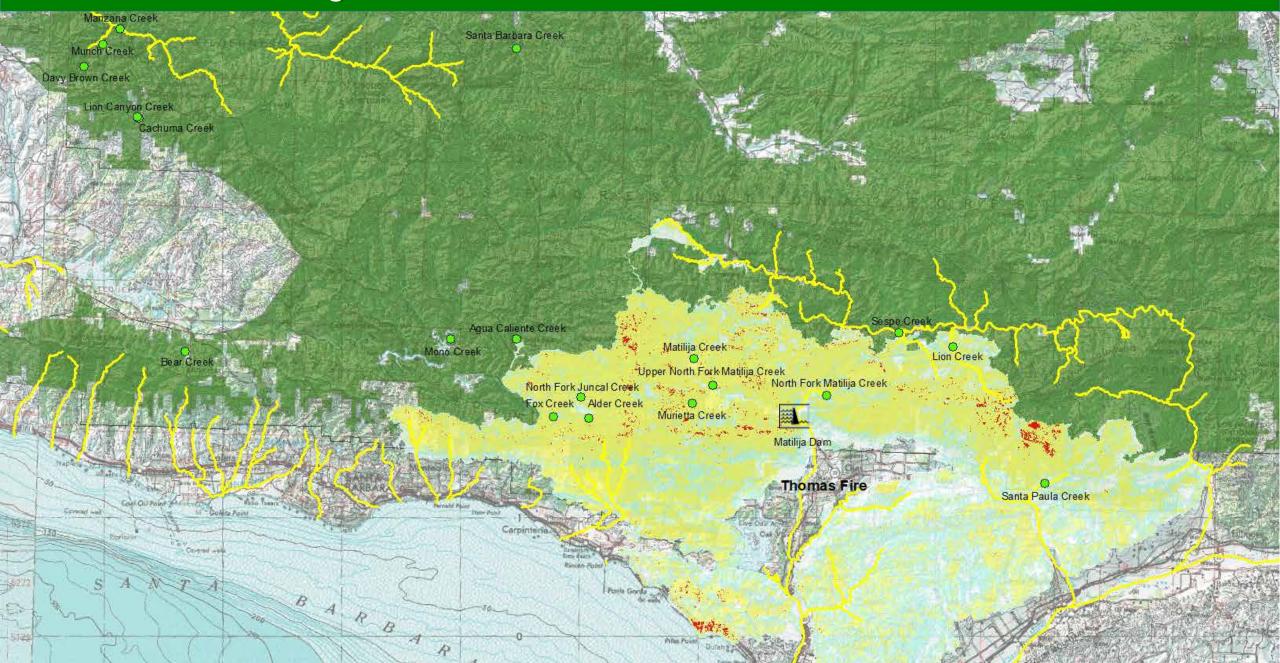
Increased

runoff sediment light temperature contaminants nutrients algae grazing invertebrates

- 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?

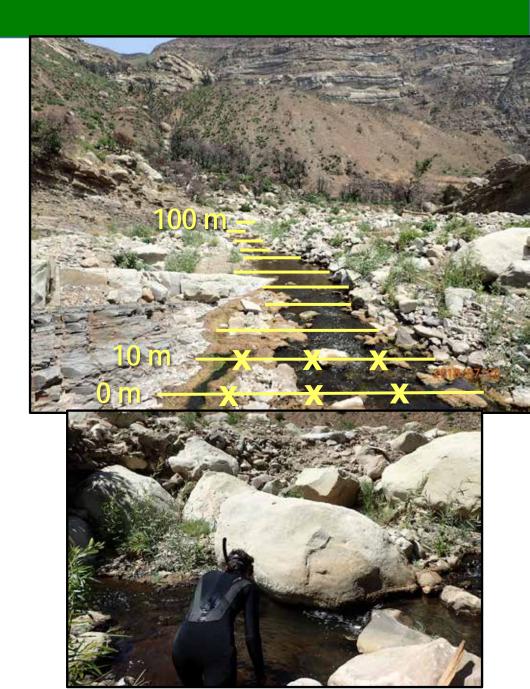


Stream Monitoring Locations – Summer 2018

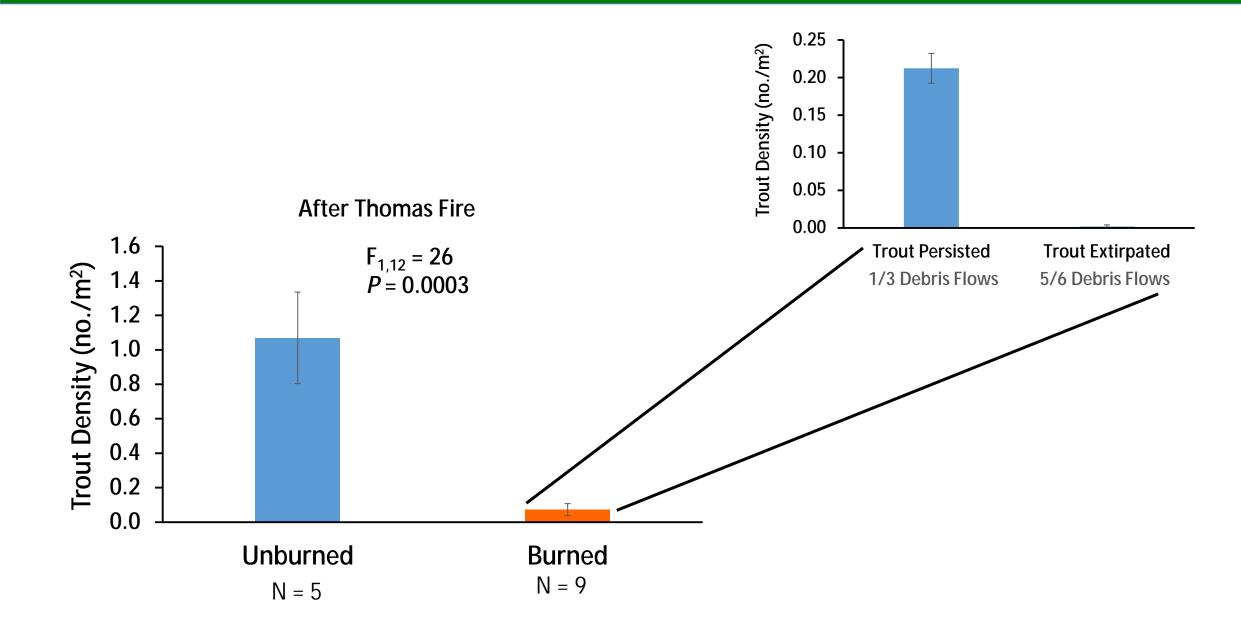


Approach

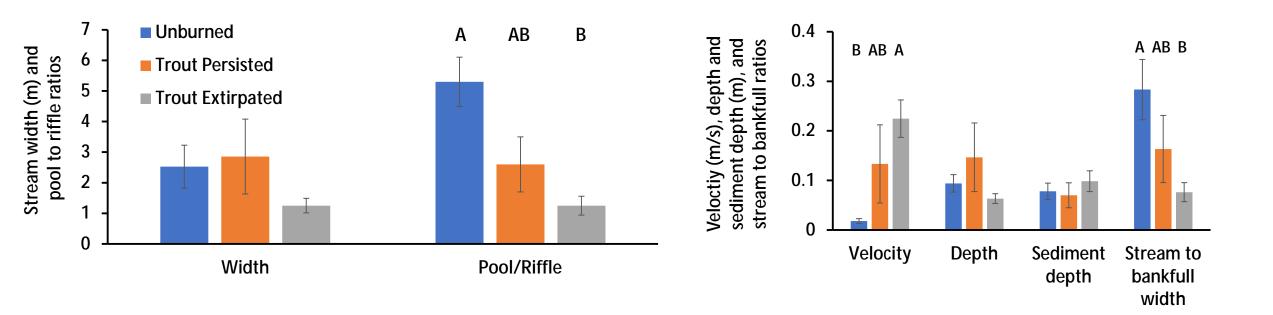
- Surveyed physical, chemical, and biological parameters at 10 burned (Thomas Fire) and 9 unburned stream sites of the Los Padres NF using SWAMP protocols
 - o Established 10 cross-stream transects over 100-m reach
 - Physical measurements (i.e., depth, substratum type, canopy cover, current speed) collected 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



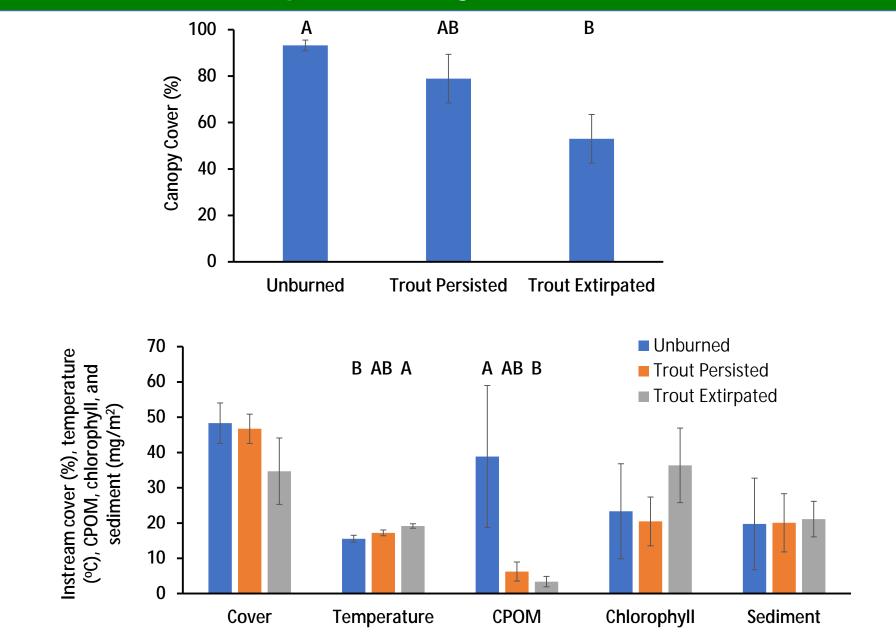
Results – Thomas Fire and Debris Flow Effects on Trout



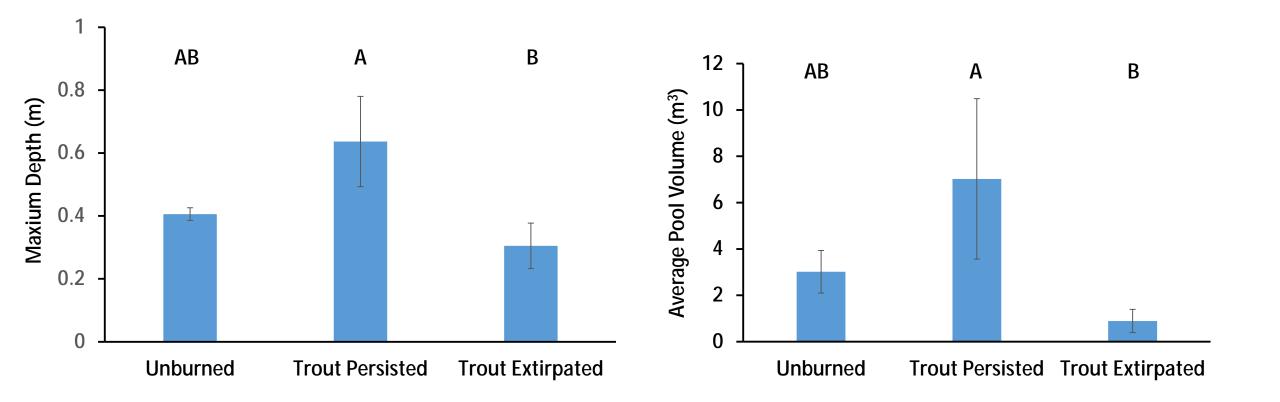
Results – Possible Environmental Drivers of Trout Abundance



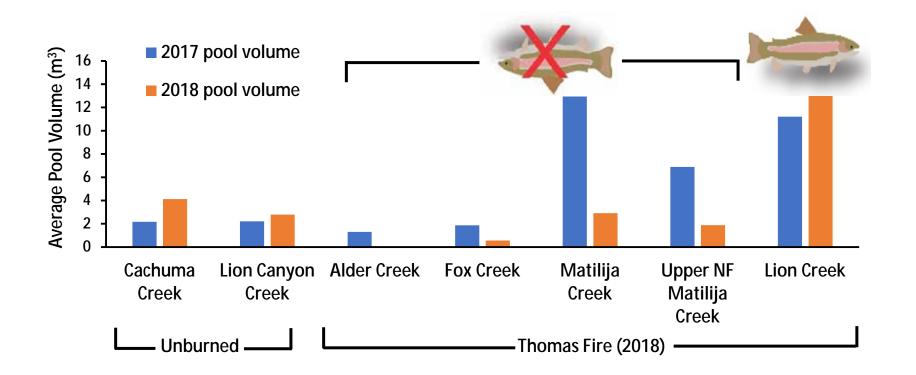
Results – Fire Effects on Riparian Vegetation and Associated Variables



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)
 - 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

Laboratory support:

UCSB Marine Science Institute (MSI) Analytical Lab – George Paradis and Ken Marchus

Field support:

Terra Dressler, Janine Fischer, Morgan Rieck, Trent Rubio, Lance Takata, and Jason White (GIS)

Graphical support:

Sheila Wiseman



Contact information: Kristie Klose, PhD Los Padres National Forest kristieaklose@fs.fed.us

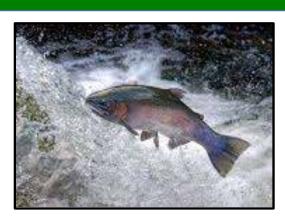
Project collaborators:

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)







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

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

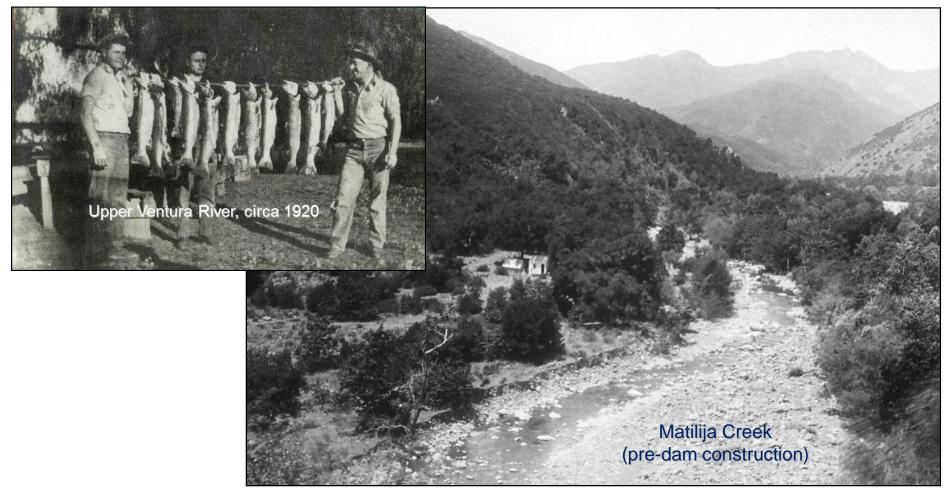




MATILIJA DAM

Π

Matilija Dam Built 1947





Watershed Protection District

Where's the lake?

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



Image Courtesy of Ventura County Museum of History & Art. Original Postcard:Matilija Dam - Popular fishing boating, & water sports area. Near Wheeler Springs & Ojai, CA. Easily accessible from the coast through Ventura. Color Photo by J. R. Horn. Date Unknown





- Matilija Dam serves no useful function.
- Removal is complex and expensive, but attainable.



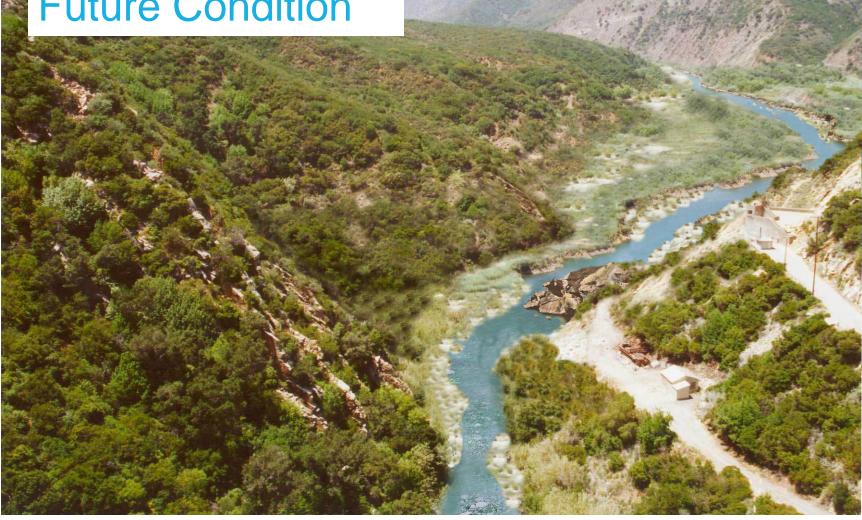
Watershed Protection District





Watershed Protection District



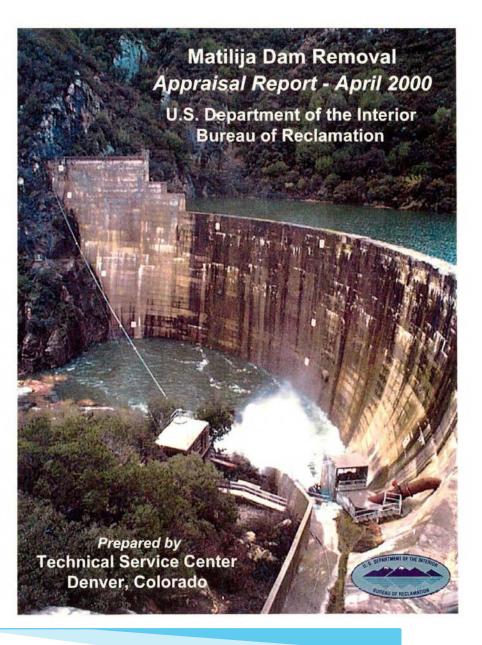




Watershed Protection District

1998-2000 Appraisal Study

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



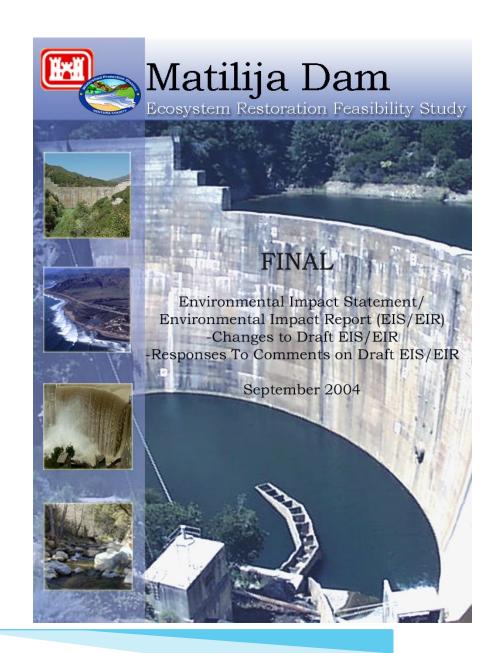


Watershed Protection District

2004 Feasibility Study

Project Objectives:

Improve Native Habitat Restore Sediment Transport Improve Recreation





Watershed Protection District





Habitat Evaluation Procedure

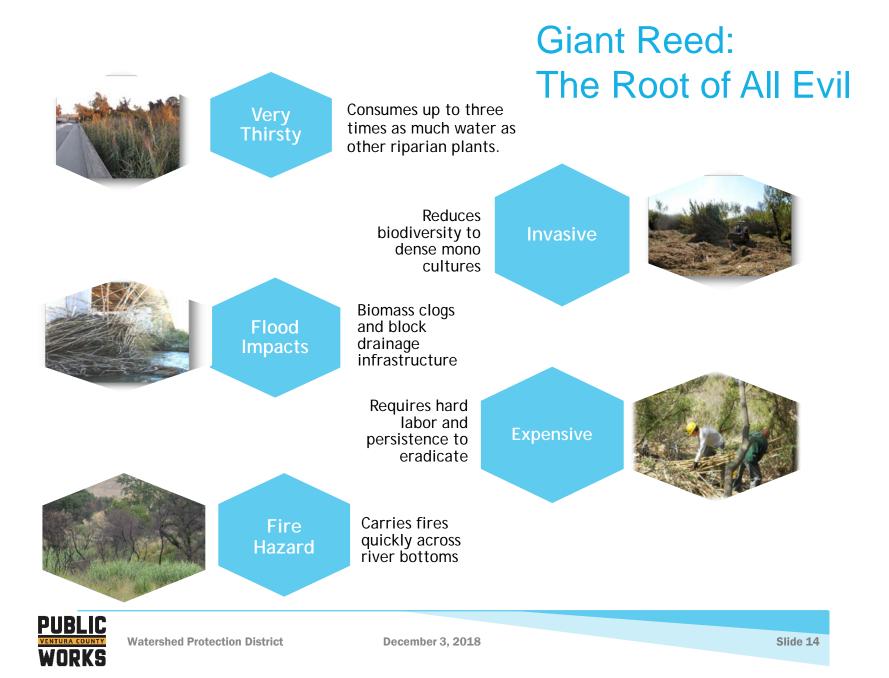
Calculated steelhead, riparian, and natural processes values for with and without project for years 0, 5, 20, and 50 years in the future.

- 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)



Watershed Protection District



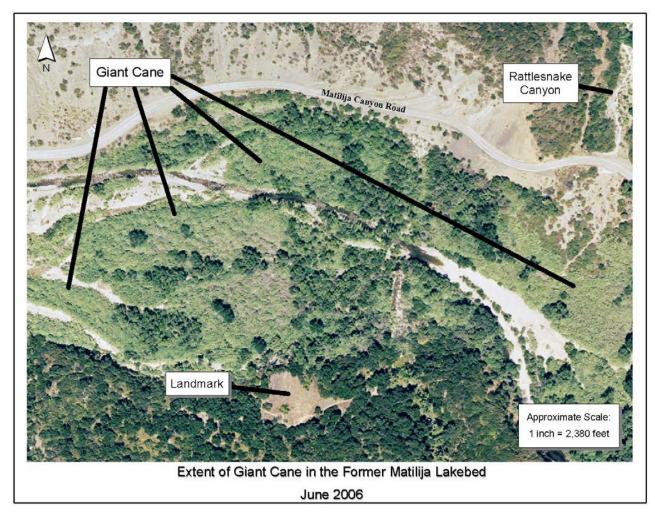
Giant Reed U/S of Matilija Dam 1973





Watershed Protection District

Giant Reed U/S of Matilija Dam 2006





Watershed Protection District

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





Watershed Protection District



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



Watershed Protection District

Giant Reed U/S of Matilija Dam 2017





Watershed Protection District

January 2018





Watershed Protection District

April 2018





Watershed Protection District

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







Watershed Protection District

Casitas Springs Levee Improvements



2008 Raised levee 4 feet





Watershed Protection District

Current design study

for toe down

Property Acquisition 2009

Properties Impacted by Dam Removal

- AggradationInfrastructure
- Purchased Hot Springs with Coastal Conservancy Funds





Trailhead at Highway 150

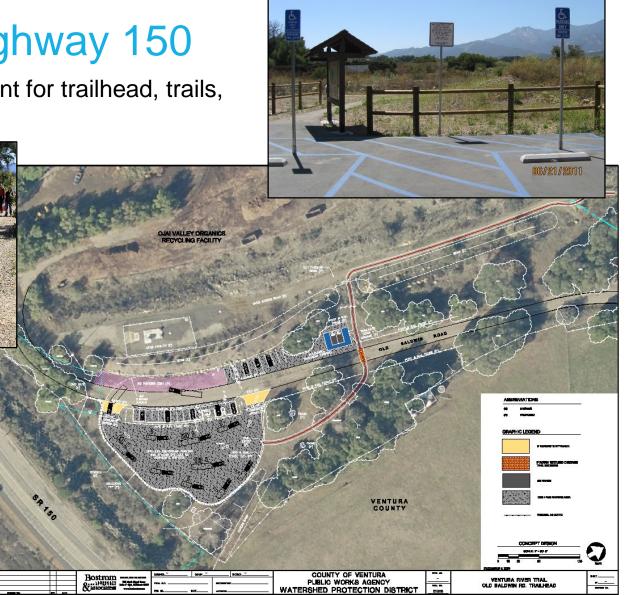
\$1.2m River Parkways Grant for trailhead, trails, and Giant Reed Removal



5/19/2011

OJAI VALLEY LAND CONSERVANCY Ventura River Preserve Old Baldwin Road Trailhead

Spring and Summer Hours Open Every Day from 7:30am - 7:30pm April 1st - October 31st





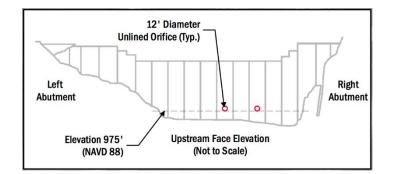
Watershed Protection District

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





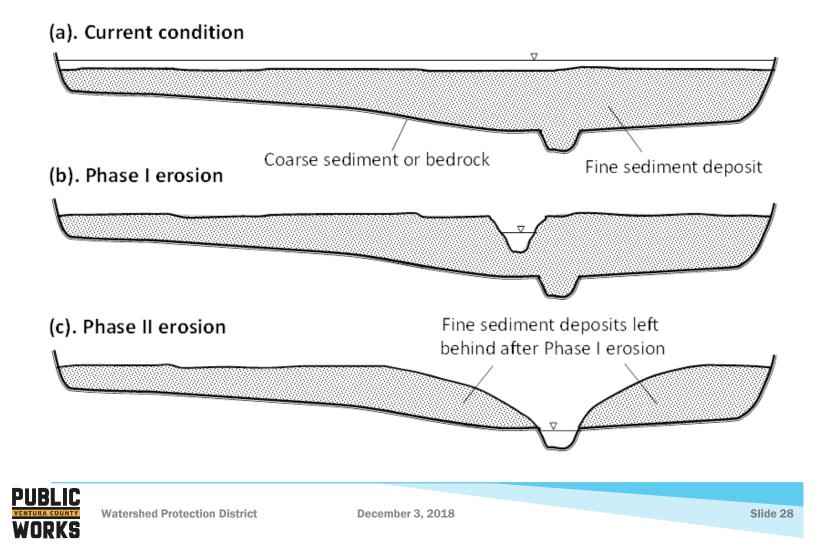
- Controlled Natural Sediment Transport
 - Timely
 - Implementation
 - Cost Effective
- Proven to Work

Condit Dam White Salmon River, WA



Watershed Protection District

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

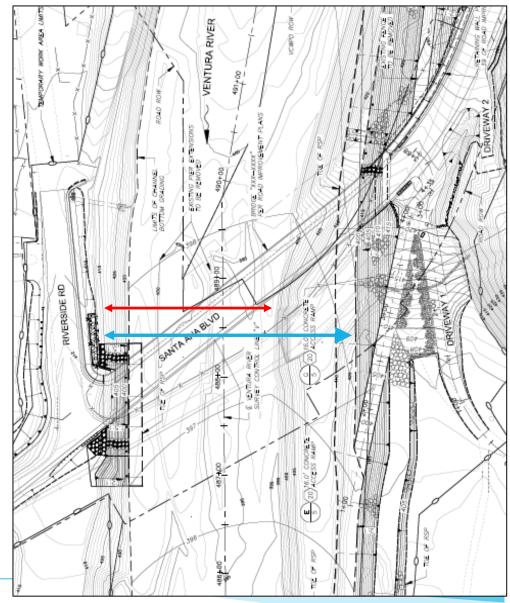
+Estuarine and Coastal Modeling (NFWF Funded)



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)





Camino Cielo Bridge

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





Watershed Protection District

Meiners Oaks and Live Oak Levees

Upgrade Live Oak Levee



New levee downstream of Robles Diversion to protect floodplain residences.





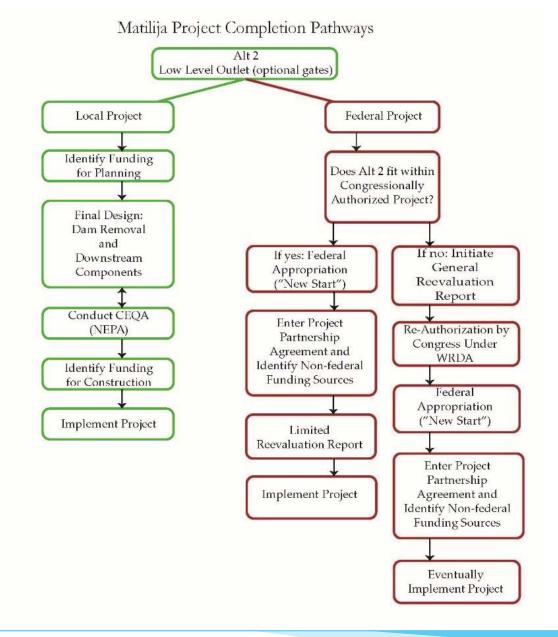
Watershed Protection District

Robles Diversion Modification





Watershed Protection District





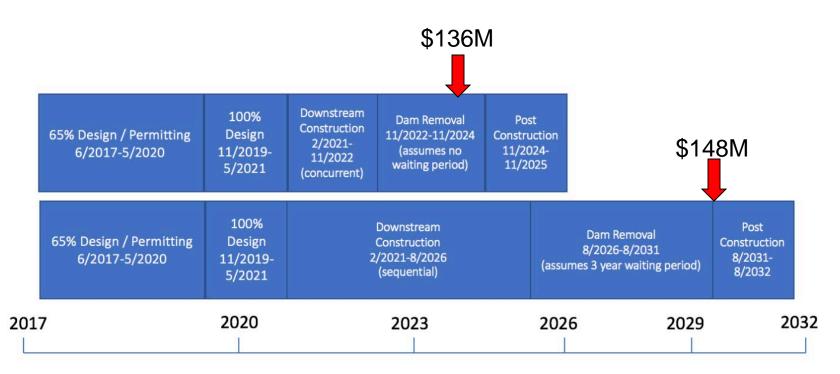
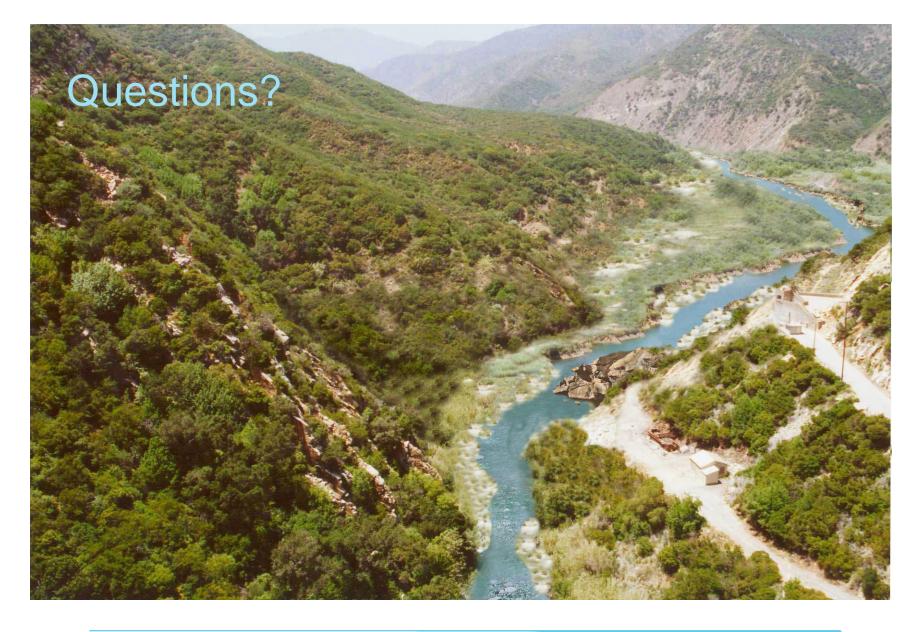


Figure 3: Sequential and Concurrent Implementation Schedules







Watershed Protection District

FIRE AND FLOW FORUM A Stakeholder Response to Rise of Climatic Threats in Southern California Watersheds





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?

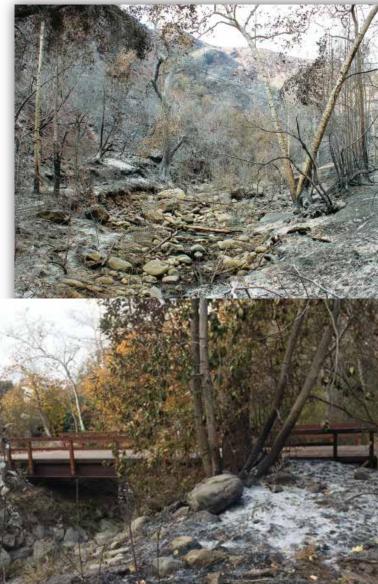
- Guide watershed recovery and resiliency building in southern
 California
- To motivate new projects, support ongoing projects and assist in securing funding by communicating regionally significant priority watershed actions to funders and decision makers
- Compliment/update/inform larger plans with 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



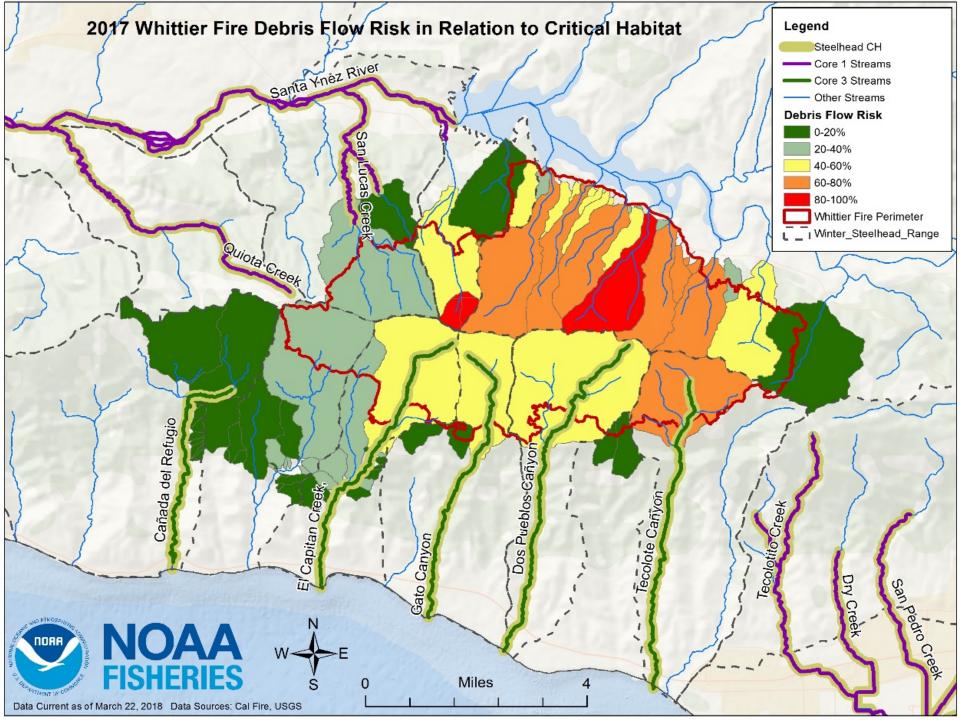


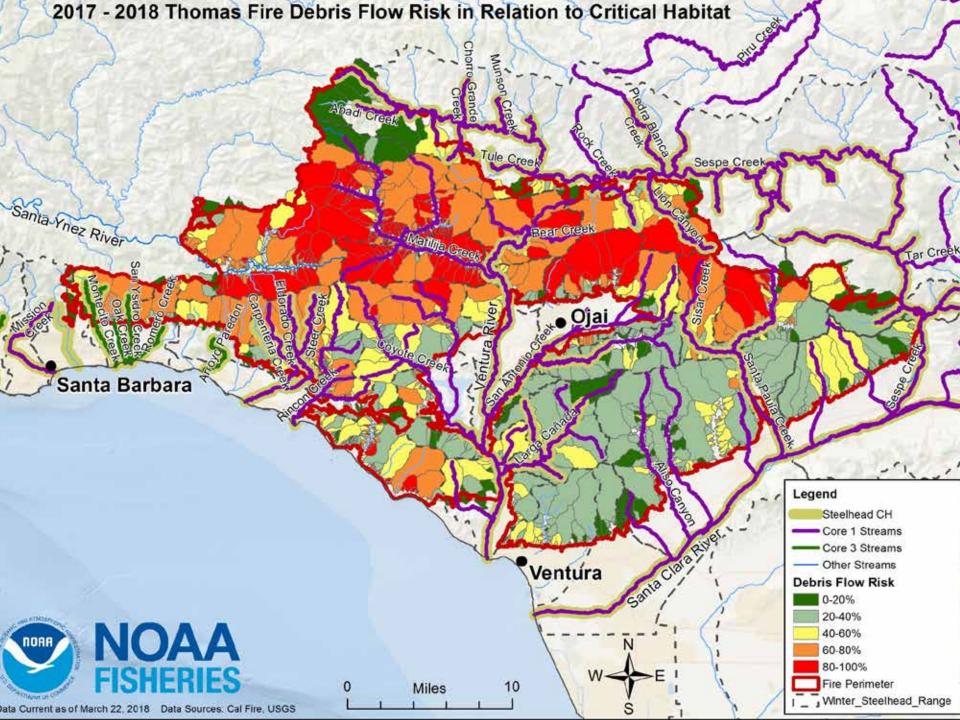
Impacts to Carpinteria Salt Marsh

Drone imagery from 18 January 2018

Slide Andrew Brooks UCNRS, Drone imagery Tom Bell (UCSB/UCLA)









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
- Land Trust Santa Barbara
 County

- 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
- Stillwater Sciences
- Surfrider

- The Nature Conservancy
- Two Trumpets Communications
- United States Fish and Wildlife
 Service
- United States Forest Service
- United Water
- University California Davis -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
 - Watershed Environmental
- Watershed Stewards Program
- Wildlife Conservation Board

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

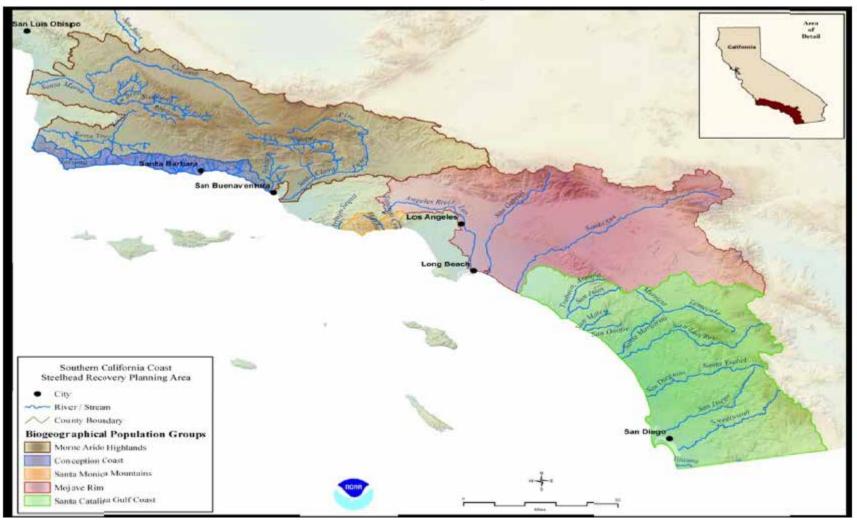
Community Science and Outreach 3 Goals/ 18 Objectives/ 4 High Priority Objectives

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

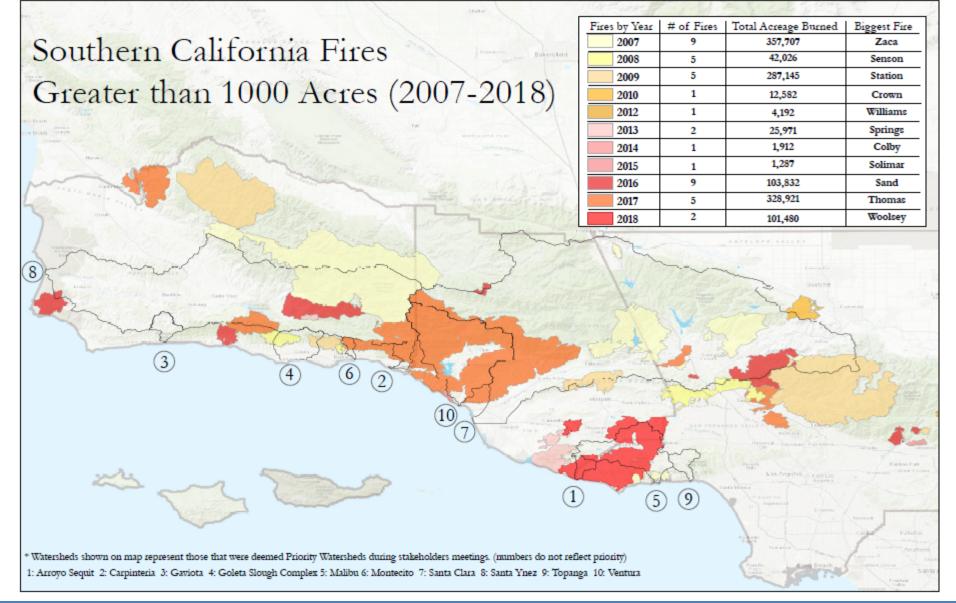


Where does this plan apply? Where should we focus?

- 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 <u>http://schabitatrestoration.org/projects/fire-and-flow</u>
- 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



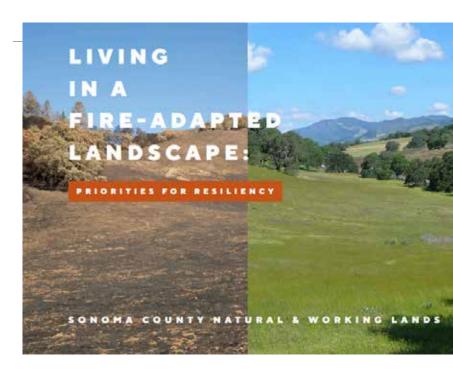
- Use the plan immediately for project development to work with granting organization before proposal period opens
 - CDFW Fisheries Restoration Grant Program Before February
 - Coastal Conservancy Prop 1
 - Wildlife Conservation Board Prop 1



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, nonprofits, 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:

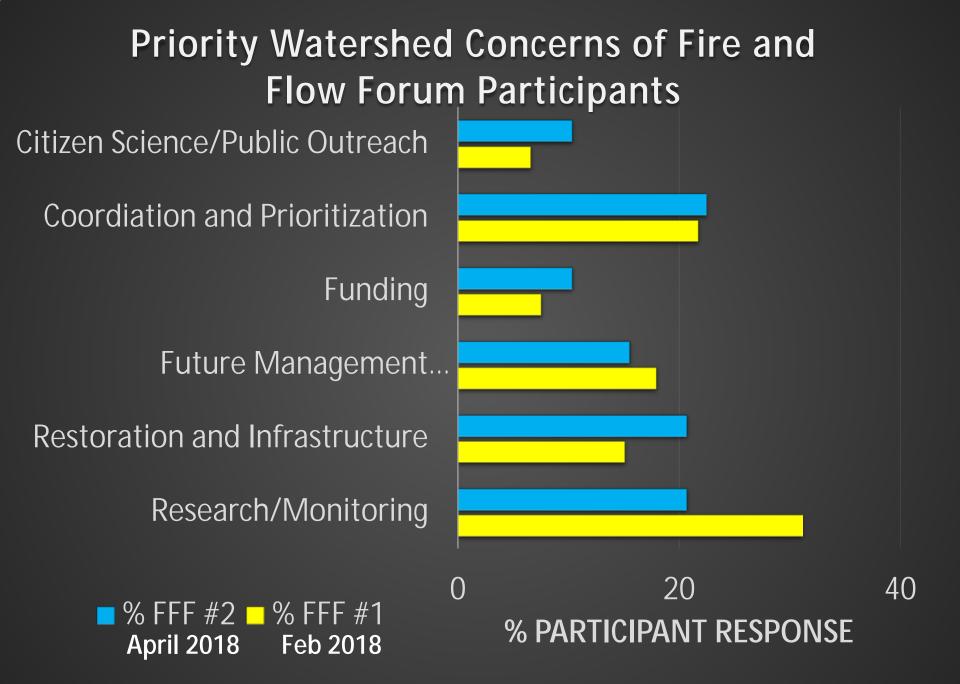
- Attempted to go through watershed by watershed to discuss impacts – very time consuming, not enough information yet
- Trying to solicit priority project list not ready/willing

What Worked:

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







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

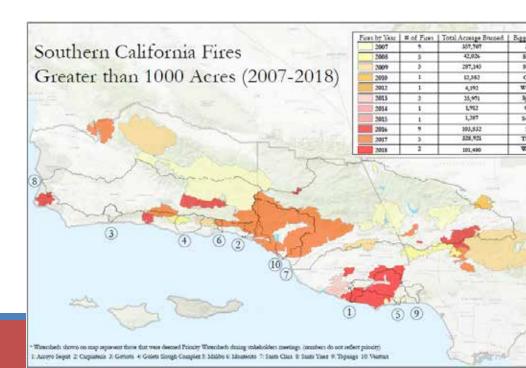
Pink = 3rd Priority = Get to it next/eventually

>>> 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





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

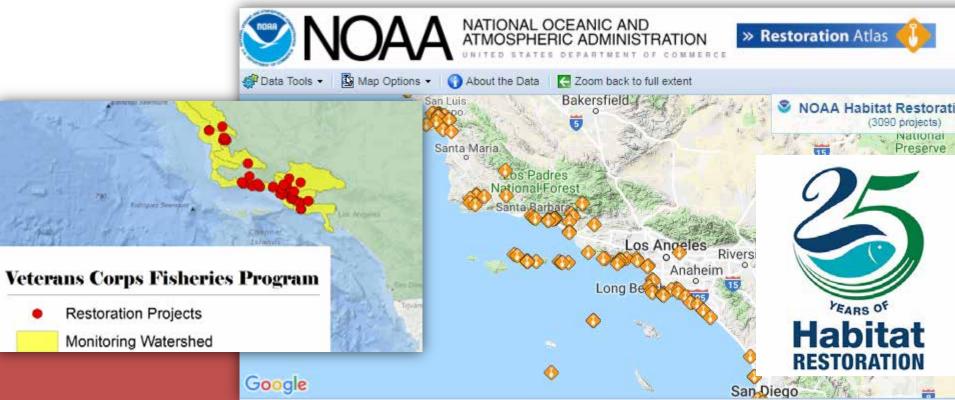
•Need help? Reach out to Forum participants

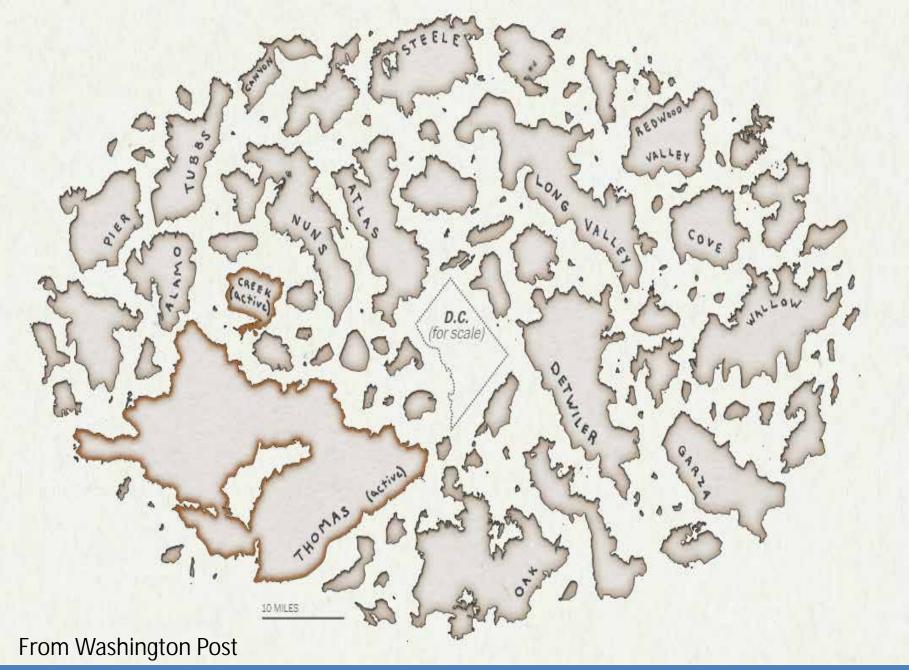


NOAA Restoration Center – Enhancing Ecosystem, Community, and Economic Resilience

Contact Stacie Smith – <u>stacie.smith@noaa.gov</u>, (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







Environmental Engagement in Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to Protect Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems & Steelhead as Beneficial Users

> SRF's 3rd Steelhead Summit Conservation Strategies for Steelhead Recovery Ventura, CA December 3, 2018



Friends of the Santa Clara River

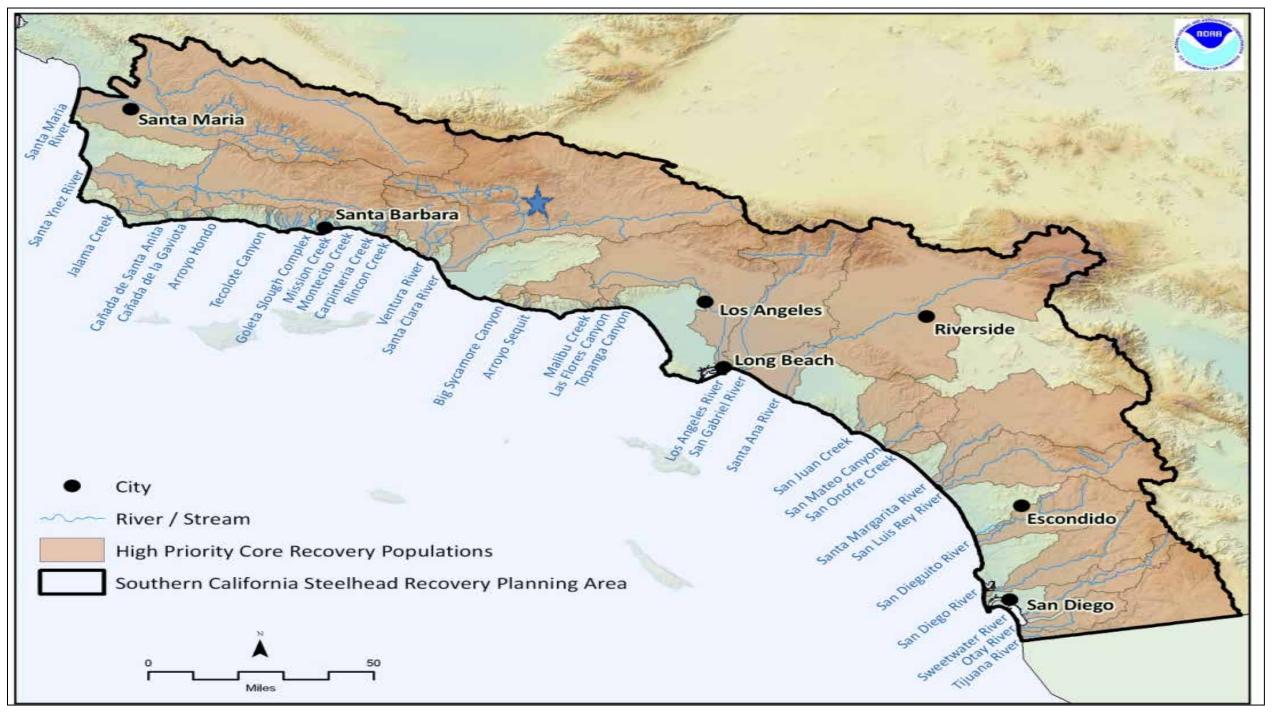
Established in 1993, Friends of the Santa Clara River is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect and preserve the cultural and biological resources of the Santa Clara River Watershed.

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.

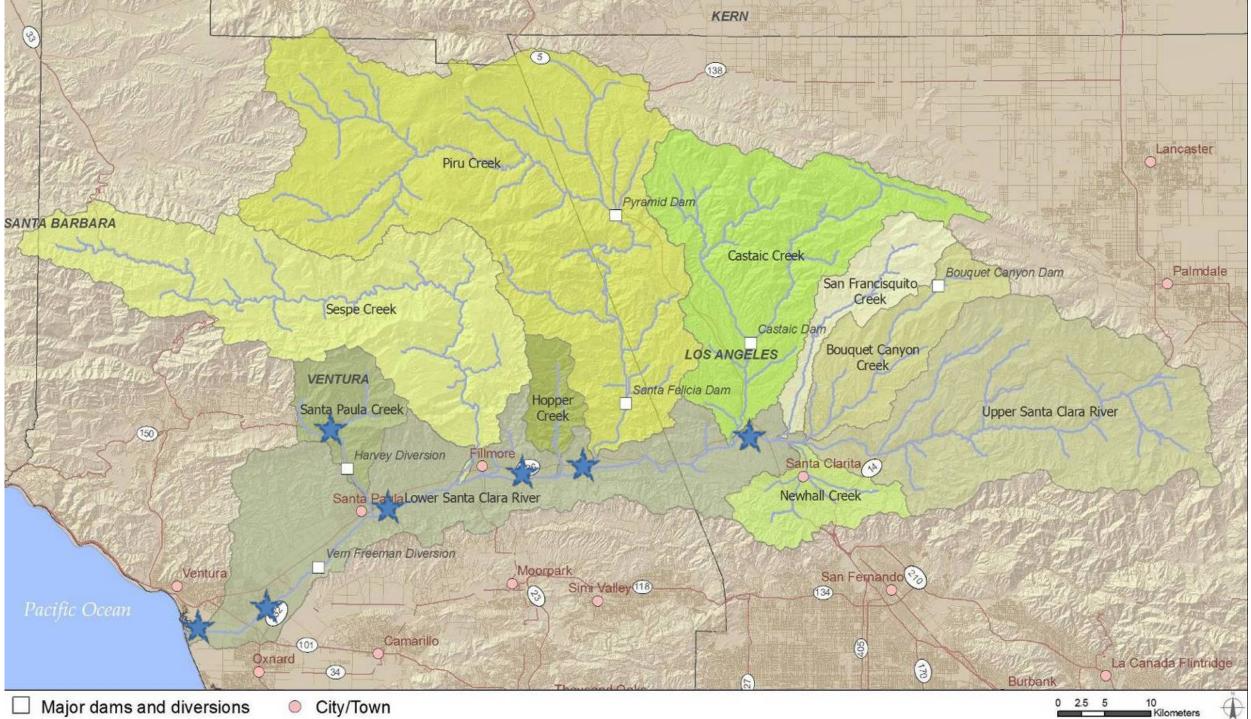
Members include:





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

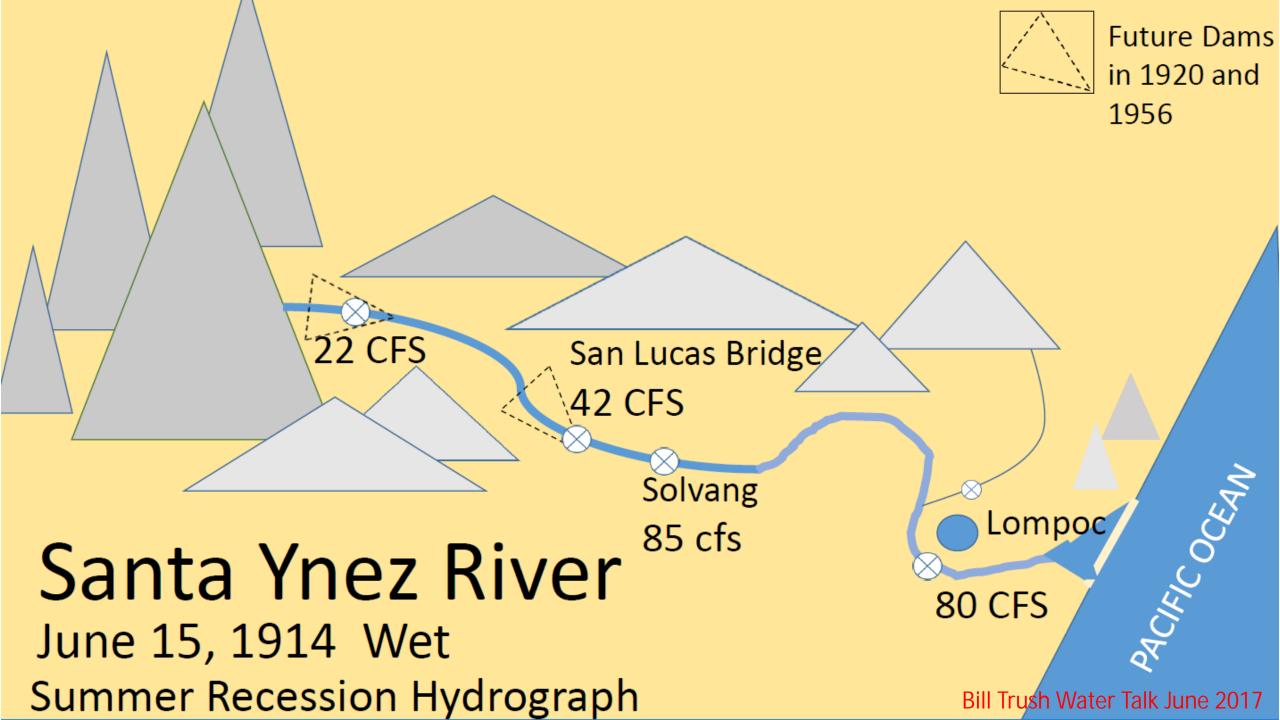


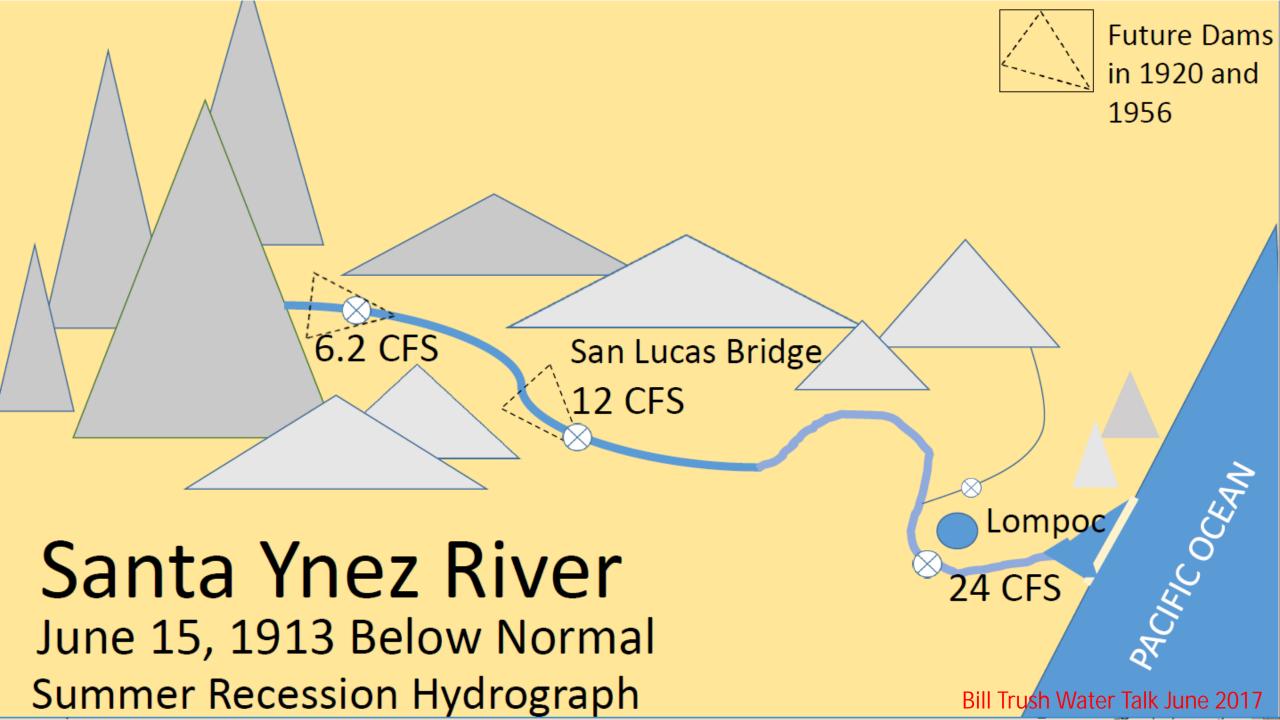
Ensuring species and environmental communities are identified as beneficial users in the basin.

- 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



Click to explore the online version of CalTrout's beautifully due





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.



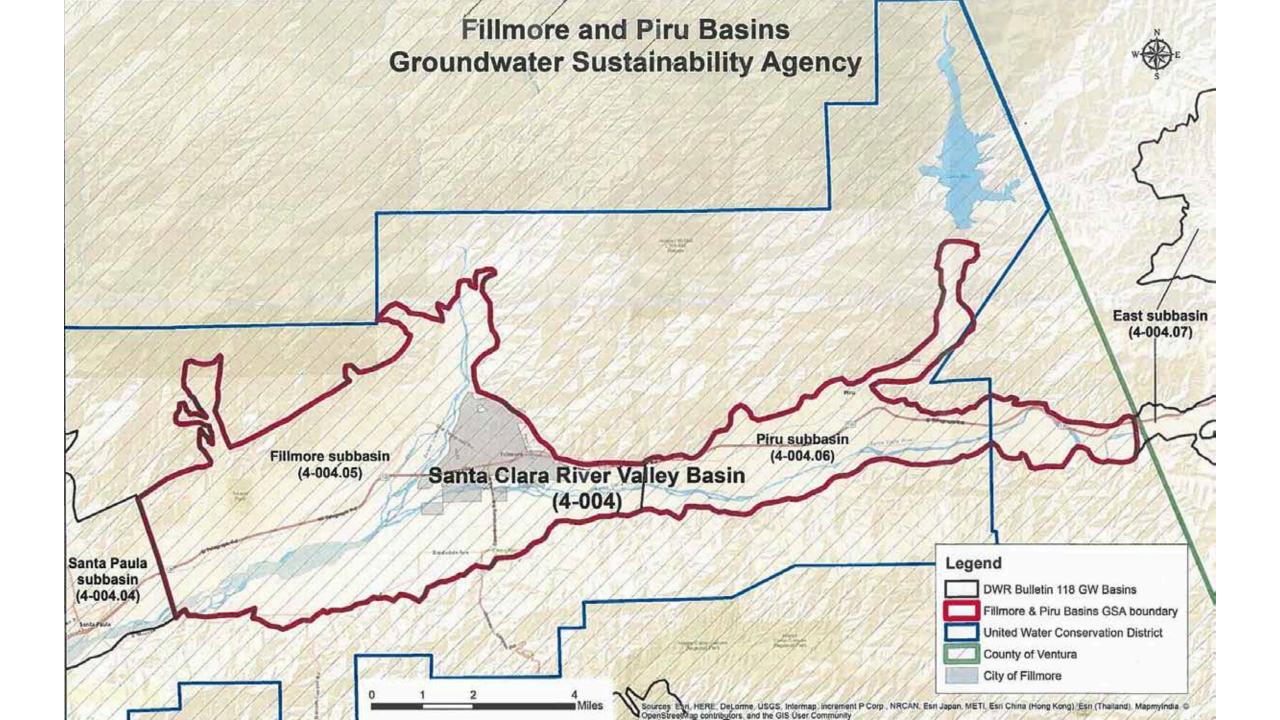


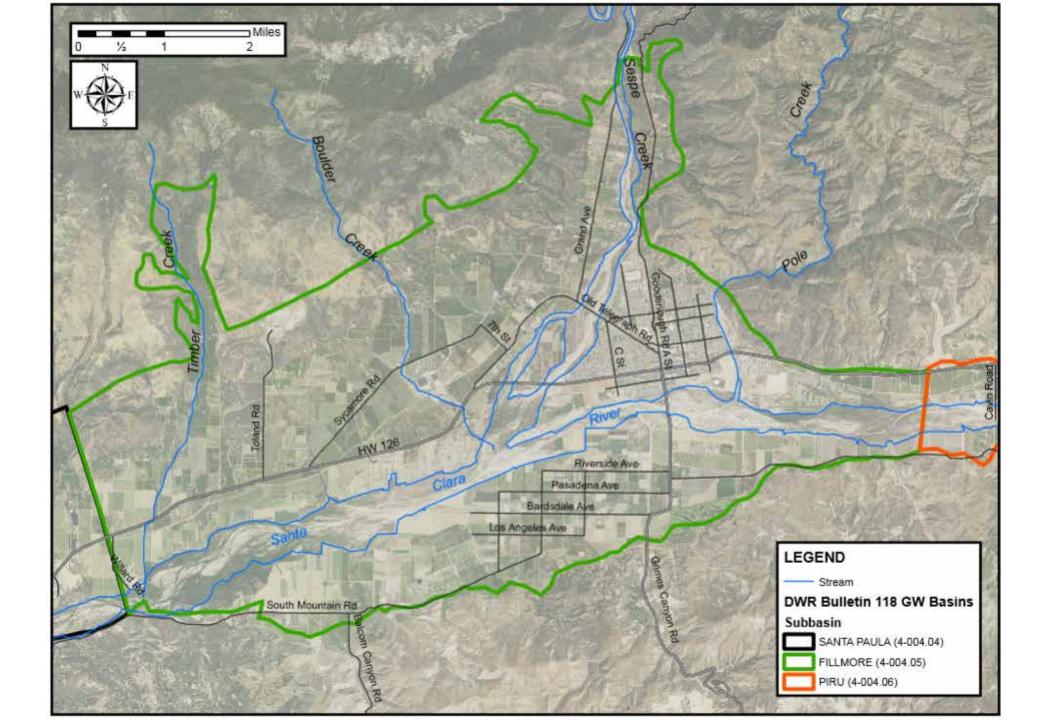


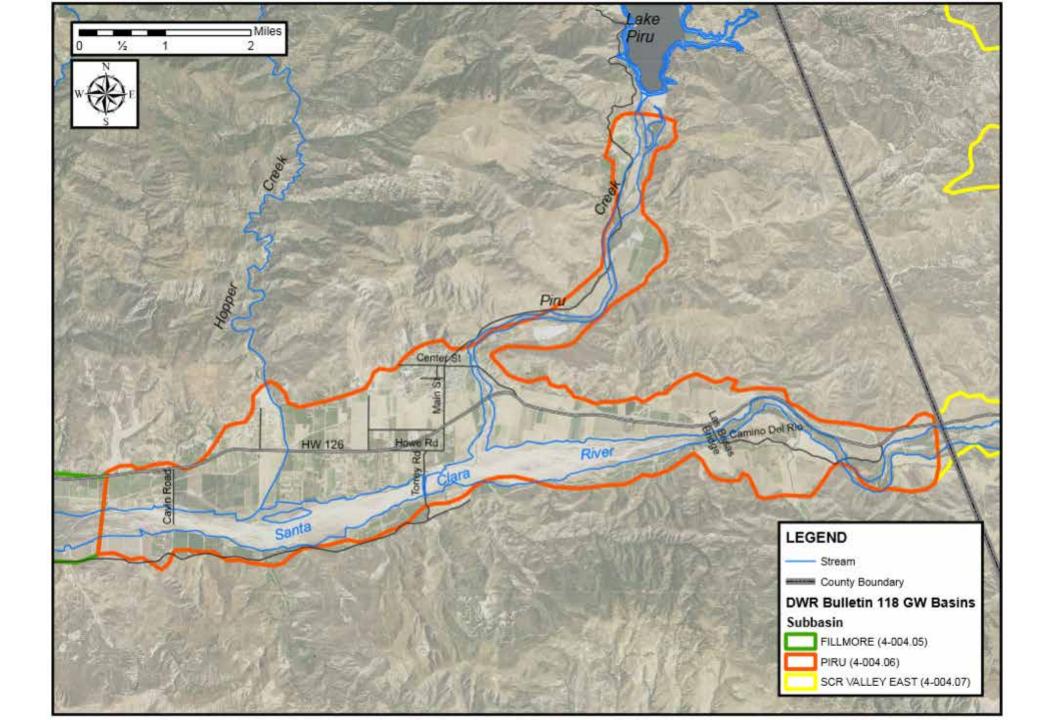




- Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association
- Piru Basin Pumpers Association
- Santa Clara River Environmental Groundwater Committee



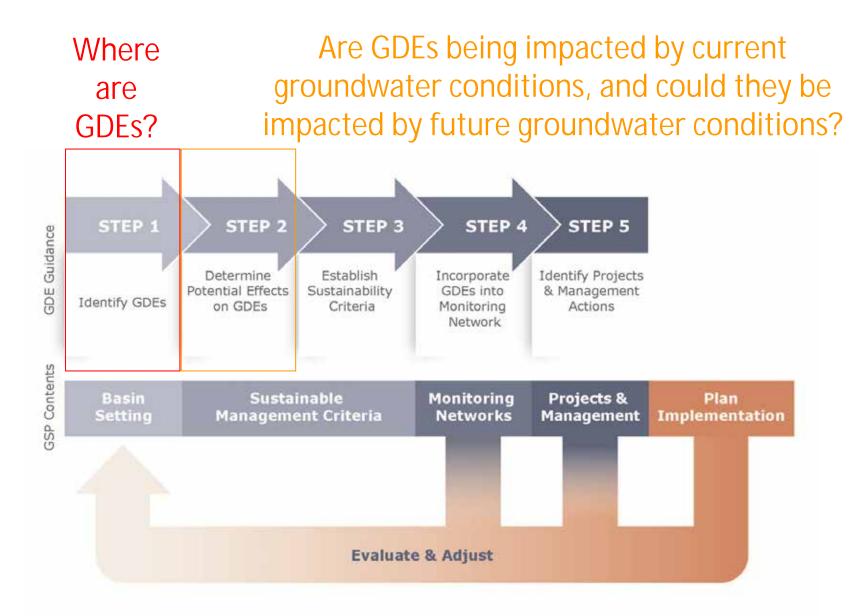




Identifying and Considering GDEs under SGMA

under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act GUIDANCE FOR PREPARING GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS The Nature Conservancy

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems

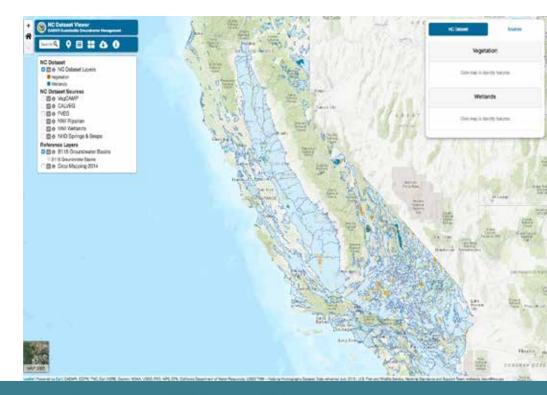


GDE Mapping and Guidance Tools

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

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

> GUIDANCE FOR PREPARING GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS



Groundwater Exchange

Sharing ideas and resources for successful implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.





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

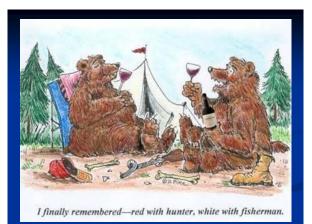
Water Bond Prop One WCB Projects that Enhance Stream Flow

2018 SRF Steelhead Summit

December 3-5, 2018 Ventura, California

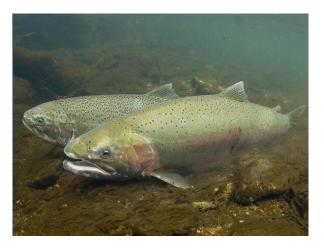


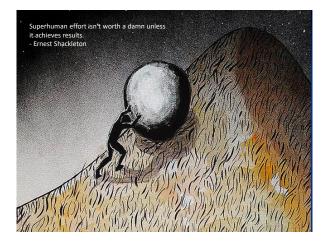
TOM HICKS ATTORNEY AT LAW



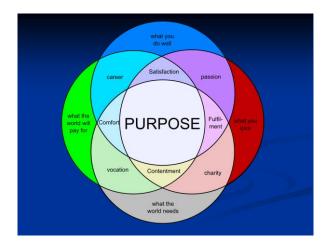
Who is in the Audience?

- Land and water conservation professionals?
- Land owners? Ranch managers?
- Conservation attorneys?
- Board members?
- State or federal agencies?
- Concerned citizens?
- Others?









Author, Layperson's Guide to Water Rights Law

The 28-page, recognized as the most thorough explanation of California water rights law available to non-lawyers, traces the authority for water flowing in a stream or reservoir, from a faucet or into an irrigation ditch through the complex web of California water rights.



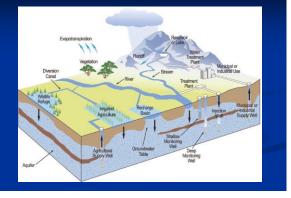
Water Rights Law

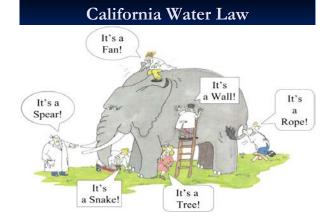
- It includes historical information on the development of water rights law, sections on surface water rights and groundwater rights, a description of the different agencies involve in water rights, and a section on the issues not only shaped by water rights decisions but that are also driving changes in water rights. Includes chronology of landmark cases and legislation
- http://www.watereducation.org/publication/laypersons-guide-water-rights-

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!

Water Law in the Watershed

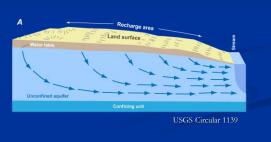




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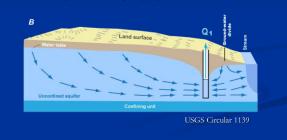
Integrated Surface-Groundwater

- Normal Groundwater Flow
 - No groundwater pumping



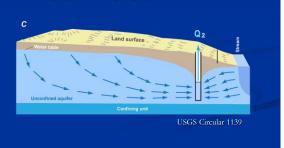
Integrated Surface-Groundwater

- Groundwater Flow
- With low groundwater pumping



Integrated Surface-Groundwater

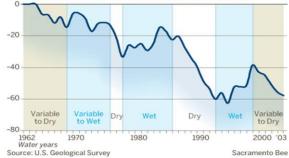
Groundwater FlowWith high groundwater pumping



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



HICKS LAW PROP ONE PROJECTS

- 1. 2018 Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Prop One: Marshall Ranch Flow Enhancement Design
- 2. 2018 WCB Lower Battle Creek Scoping Study
- 3. 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
- 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



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

Tuolumne River Trust Dos Rios Section 1707 Project



Dos Rios and Hidden Valley Ranches



Location of Dos Rios Ranch and former Hidden Valley Dairy, Stanislaus Cou Picodplain Expansion and Ecosystem Restoration at Dos Ros Ranch Rowr Partners

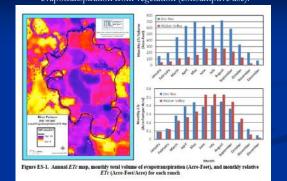


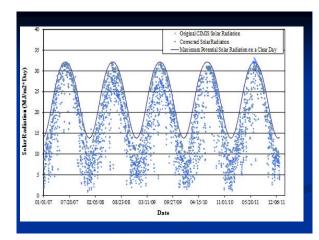
Consumptive Use Report

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).



The study used an ITRC Mapping EvapoTranspiration process to collect data from the LandSAT 5, 7, and 8 missions to compute 2009 evapotranspiration from vegetation (consumptive use).















Spencer Ranch Conservation Project Siskiyou County

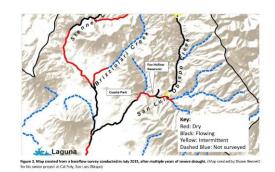


















View inside cistern owned by the City of San Luis Obispo. Estimated capacity of 2,000,000 gallons winter storage







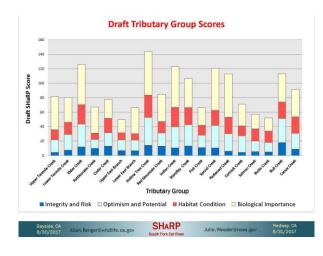




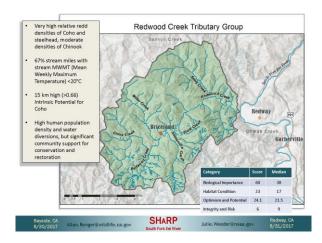




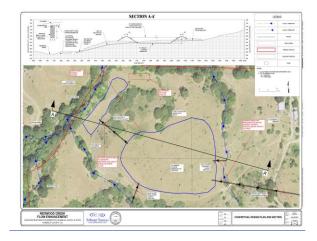




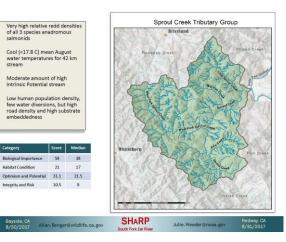




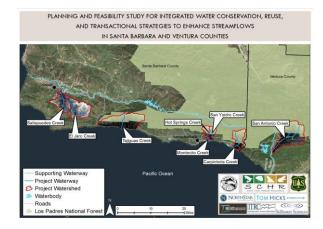










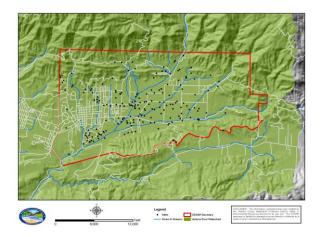










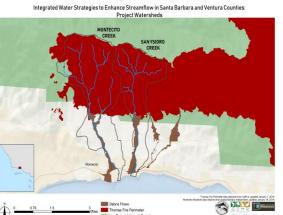




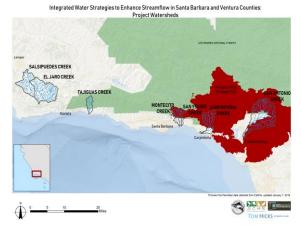


























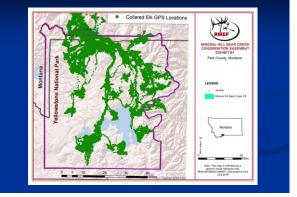




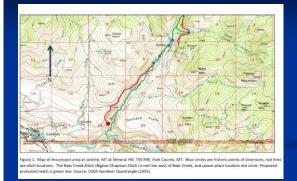
Donated Entire Interest: National Precedent

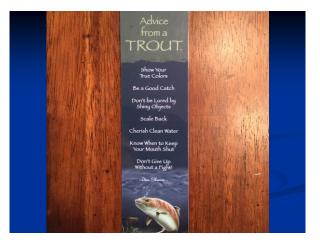


Donated Entire Interest: National Precedent



Donated Entire Interest: National Precedent





Water Bond Prop One WCB Projects that Enhance Stream Flow



415.309.2098 tdh@tomhickslaw.com

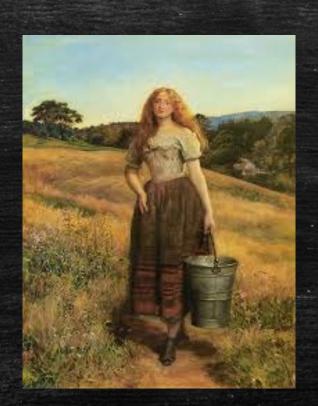
Moving Into Action: Finding Real Solutions for Communities in Ventura County

Steelhead Summit, Ventura, Ca

Regina Hirsch, Watershed Progressive



welcome



Common ground

93% of all Climate impacts are related to water

LOCALIZING CALIFORNIA WATERS

RIVERSTYX

COWA

CONNECTING ONSITE WATERS FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

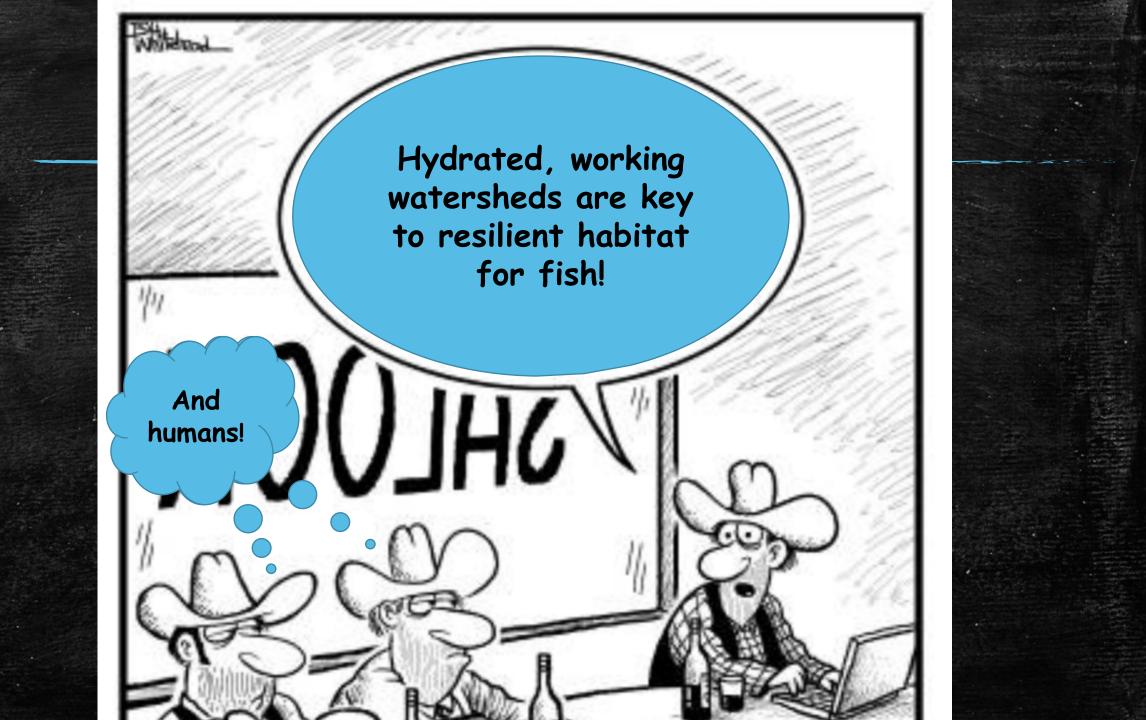
2018

STATE OF PLAN

WET

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?



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

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

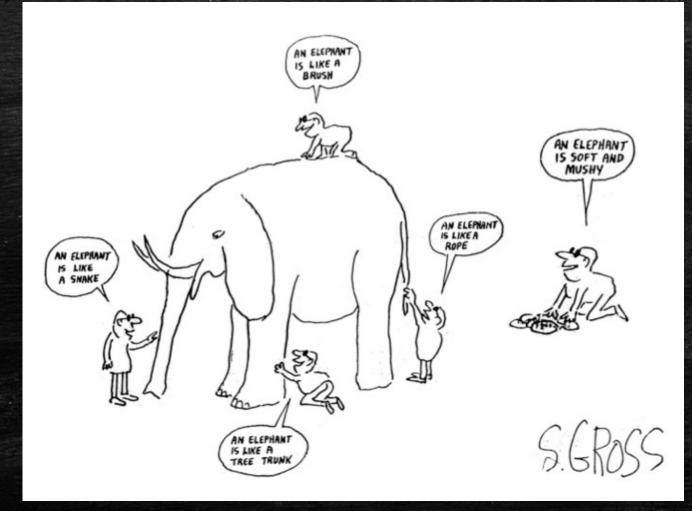
SPACE AGE TECHNOLOGY VOLUNTARY WATER TRANSFERS WATER POLICY CHANGES WATERSHED EDUCATION GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT LOCAL WATER BUDGETS WATER REUSE LOCAL MANAGEMENT STATE MANAGEMENT LAND USE POLICY CHANGES TRADITIONAL METHODS HYDROLOGICAL DATA WATER MASTERS

CREATIVITY. AND IT TAKES PRACTICE

-Felicia Marcus

Framing: Have we failed?

CHANGING the FRAME



Creating the Network



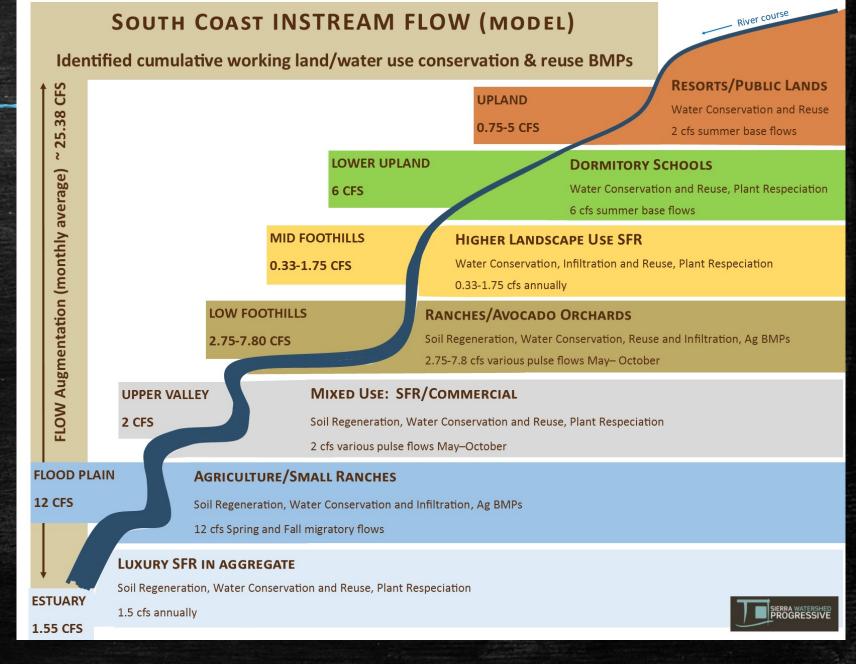
Connecting toward Healthy Resilient Communities

1. Grassroots: Agency

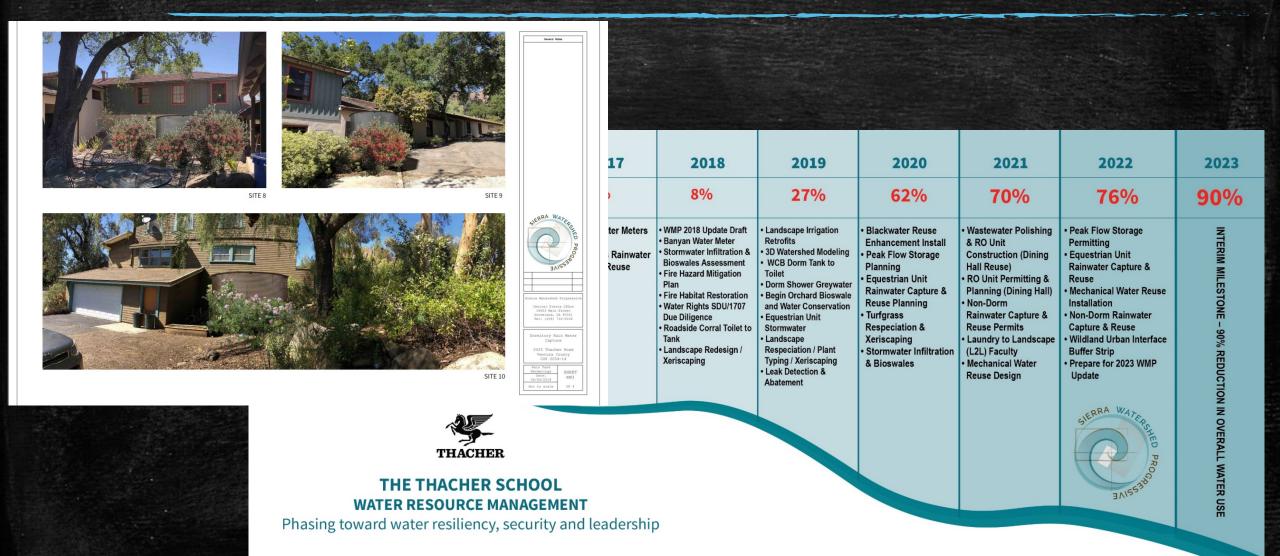
- 2. Source Managers: End User
- 3. Decentralized: Centralized
- 4. Watershed Stewards: Infrastructure Managers
- 5. Landuse Managers: Water Managers
- 6. Recharge: Efficiencies
- 7. Traditional Methods: New BMPs

Intersecting water management and instream flow:

Diverse Portfolio of Users and Aggregated Actions



The Thacher School

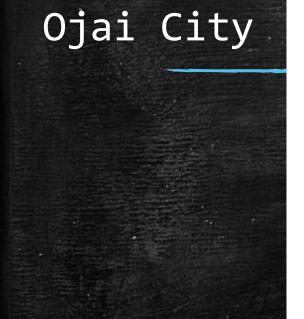


PLANNING AND FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR INTEGRATED WATER CONSERVATION, REUSE, AND TRANSACTIONAL STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE STREAMFLOWS IN SANTA BARBARA AND VENTURA COUNTIES

IWS

WCB Planning Grant 2017-2019





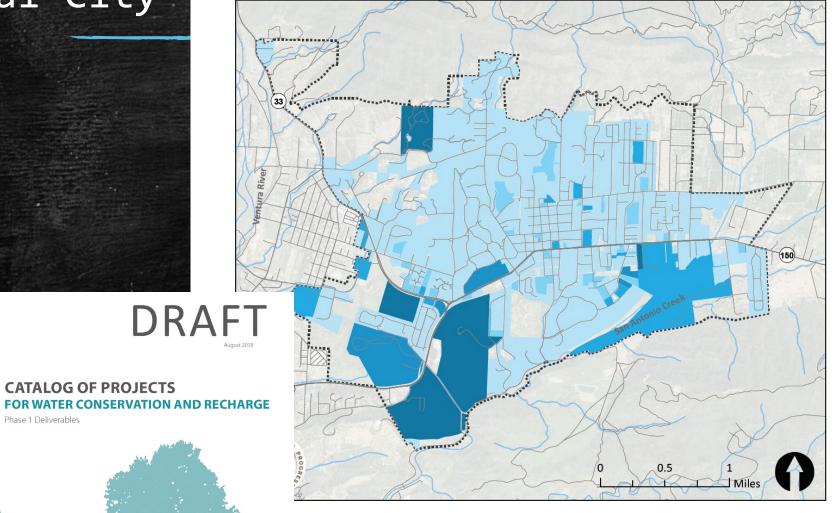
CATALOG OF PROJECTS

Phase 1 Deliverables

CITY OF OJA

4. IDENTIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITIES

RAINWATER HARVESTING POTENTIAL



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.

Rainwater Harvesting (/ 0.0 - 0.5 0.6 - 1.0 1.1 - 2.0 2.1 - 3.0 >3 Sphere of Influence	
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

٠ . • ٠ ٠ \bigcirc • . . . 500 1.000 Feet

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



Senior Canyon Mutual Water Company



WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

2018

senior canyon mutual water company

A PATH TO WATER SUSTAINABILITY, RESILIENCY, AND LEADERSHIP

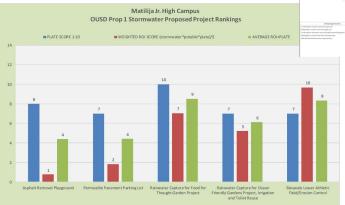
Watershed Progressive November 2018

Ojai Unified School District

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.





PROPOSED Project Catalog

OUSD Stormwater LID Project

1)

1)



WATER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR INSTREAM FLOW ENHANCEMENT & WATER RESILIENCY

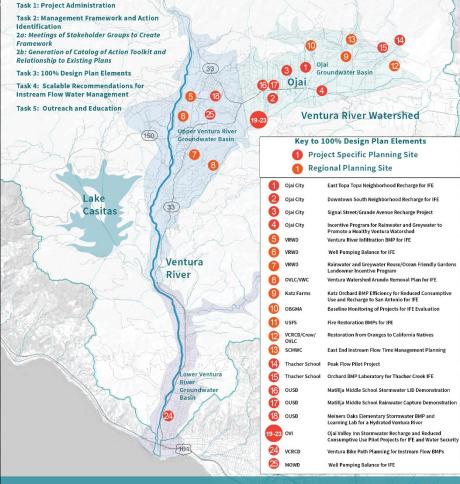
PRE-IDENTIFIED KEY ACTIONS READY FOR PLANNING TO 100% WCB INSTREAM FLOW GRANT 2018

This project will coalesce disconnected instream flow enhancement (IFE) and water resiliency planning initiatives throughout Ventura River Watershed (VRW) into a framework that uses best available science and stakeholder involvement to maximize connected water resources. Key water agencies and stakeholders will utilize this framework approach through identification of collaborative conjunctive use opportunities. This project will support benefits beyond instream flow by supporting recharge of three aquifers, critical to community health, hazard mitigation and water security. An outcome of developing this regional framework will extend beyond the VRW; the efforts of this project will act as a template that models instream flow targets for other watersheds.

6

BIG PICTUR

PROJECT TASKS



Ventura River Water District

We Serve Water

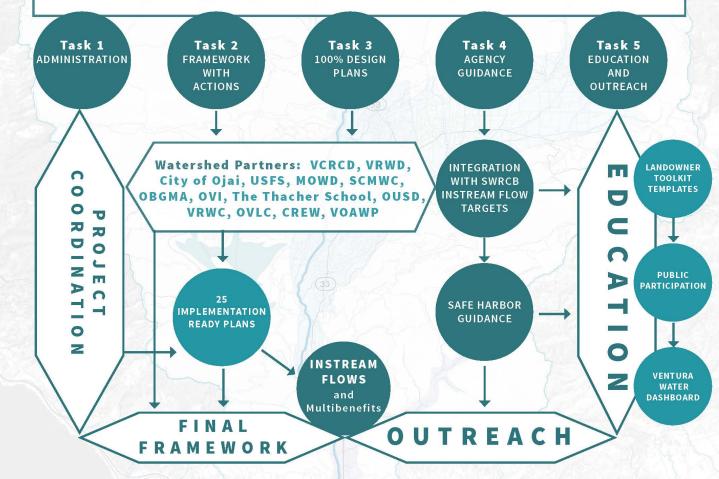
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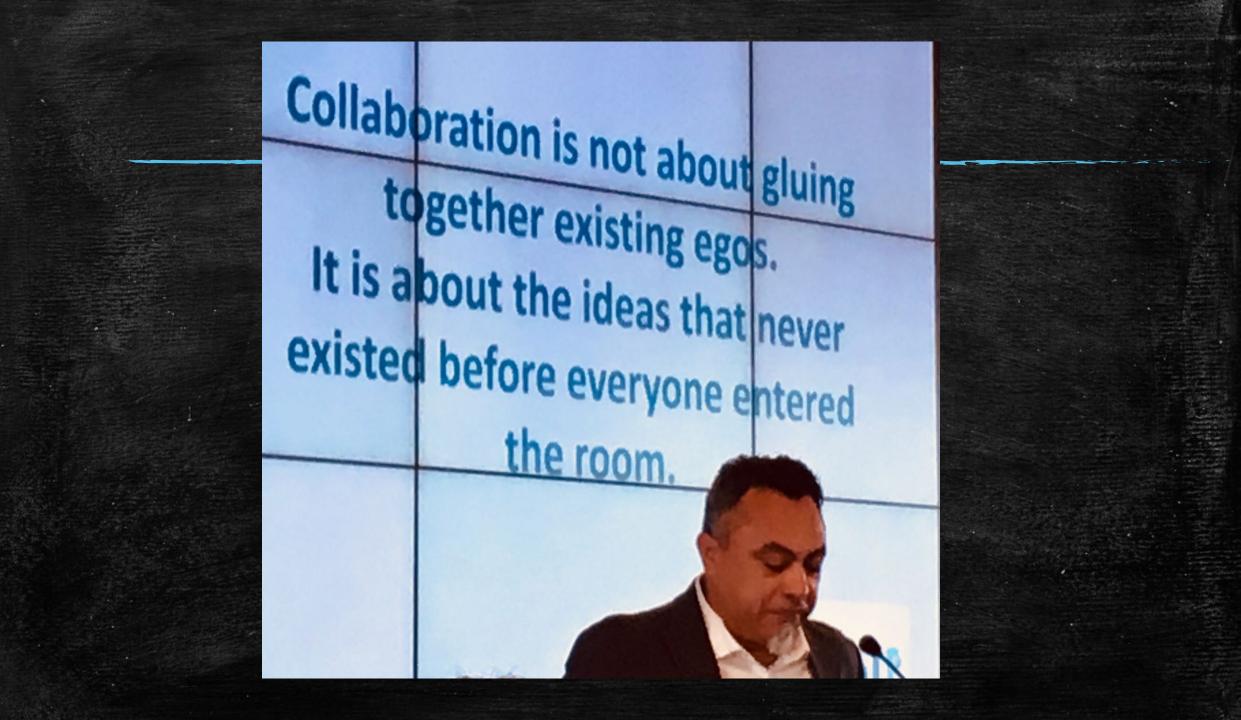
VENTURA WATERSHED INSTREAM FLOW ENHANCEMENT AND WATER RESILIENCY REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

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?



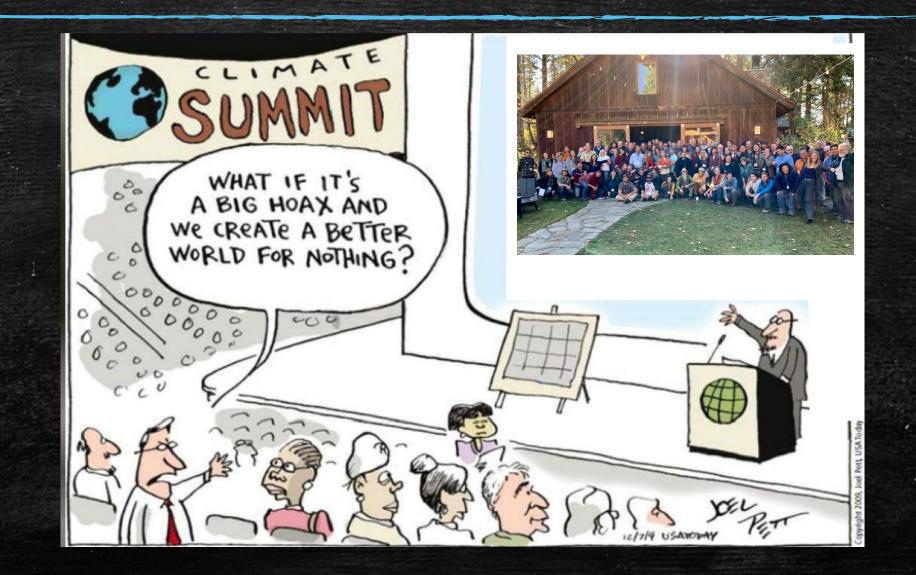
Invite your collaborators to the river...



Have fun..



and find common ground at the same time.





WATERSHED PROGRESSIVE



Central Sierra Office 18653 Main Street Groveland, CA 95321 209 732 0018 www.watershedprogressive.com

