

Realizing a Vision of Multi-benefit Restoration in the Laguna de Santa Rosa/ Mark West Creek Watershed: Workshop and Tour



A Workshop at the 41st Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference
Santa Rosa, California, March 26-29, 2024

Session Coordinator: Anne Morkill and Clayton Creager, *Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation*

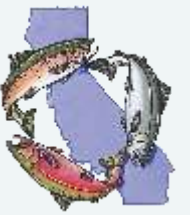


The Laguna de Santa Rosa/ Mark West Creek watershed is the largest sub-watershed of the Russian River, encompassing 254 square miles in the heart of Sonoma County where the majority of people live, work, and play. The Laguna de Santa Rosa is a vital and unique wetland ecosystem that is home to a wide range of plant and animal species, including Coho salmon and steelhead trout. Over the past 150 years, development and landscape modification throughout the watershed have altered flows and increased fine sediment and nutrient supplies, thereby severely impacting habitat conditions for many threatened and endangered species. This workshop will highlight a range of collaborative multibenefit-restoration efforts within the Laguna/Mark West Creek watershed focused on improving conditions for both fish and wildlife and the local community.

This series of presentations and an interactive dialogue that ranged in breadth from landscape scale-restoration planning to site specific project design and implementation. The topics covered included the development of watershed-wide fine sediment and nutrient TMDLs, innovative regulatory and voluntary conservation measures that facilitate large-scale restoration on both private and public lands, and the design and implementation of multi-benefit restoration projects in the watershed. They also shared highlights of the recently completed Laguna de Santa Rosa Restoration Plan that identifies opportunities for re-creating critical habitats within an altered landscape that is vulnerable to continued land uses and climate change. The presentations culminated in an interactive dialogue to build commitment and momentum for realizing our shared vision of an enhanced Laguna de Santa Rosa that supports native fish and wildlife for part or all of their lifecycle in a resilient landscape where people can also thrive.

The workshop was held at the Laguna Environmental Center, featuring 360-degree open views of the watershed, and offers afternoon site visits to see completed and proposed restoration projects along the Laguna de Santa Rosa and tributary creeks. Presenters included the San Francisco Estuary Institute, Sonoma County Water Agency, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, City of Santa Rosa, Sonoma Resource Conservation District, Cal Trout, and invited panelists from the Sonoma County Agricultural and Open Space Preservation District, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, private landowners, and more.

Presentations



- **Water Quality in the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed**
Matt Graves, *North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board*.....Slide 4
- **Investigating Coho Salmon use in the Laguna de Santa Rosa**
Charlie Schneider & John Green, *Redwood Empire Chapter Trout Unlimited*Slide 25
- **Restoration in Lower Laguna Watershed**
Neil Lassetre, Ph.D., *Sonoma Water* and Sean McNeil, *City of Santa Rosa*.....Slide 44
- **Policies in the Lower Laguna Watershed Designed to Support Habitat Restoration**
Neil Lassetre, Ph.D., *Sonoma Water* and Sean McNeil, *City of Santa Rosa*.....Slide 64
- **Streamflow and Beyond: The Multiple Benefits of Small-scale Water Storage and Forbearance Projects**
Jessica Pollitz, P.E., *Sonoma RCD*; Mary Ann King and Troy Cameron, *Trout Unlimited*..... Slide 89
- **Collaboration in the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed: Regulators and the Regulated Community**
Matt Graves, *North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board* and Sean McNeil, *City of Santa Rosa*Slide 115
- **A Look to the Future: Restoration Plan for the Laguna de Santa Rosa**
Scott Dusterhoff, *San Francisco Estuary Institute*.....Slide 149
- **Popups**.....Slide 193

Water Quality in the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed

Realizing a Vision of Multi-Benefit
Restoration in the Laguna de Santa
Rosa/Mark West Creek Watershed
workshop

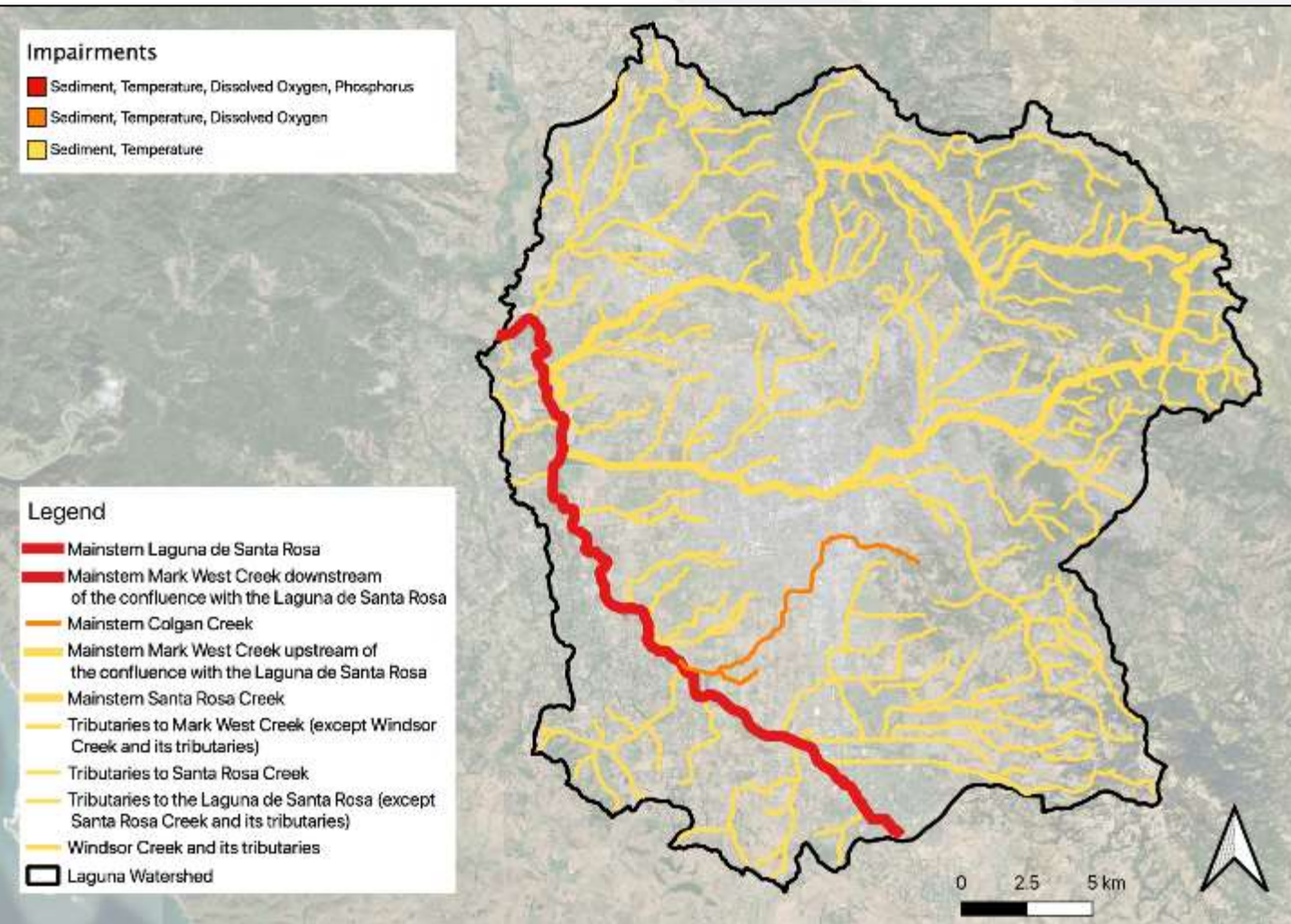


March 27, 2024

Outline

- Fundamental Problem
- Watershed Background
- Pollutant Loads
- Sediment Transport Capacity
- Summary

Fundamental Problem



Pollutants

- Sediment
- Phosphorus
- Temperature
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Nitrogen (not mapped)

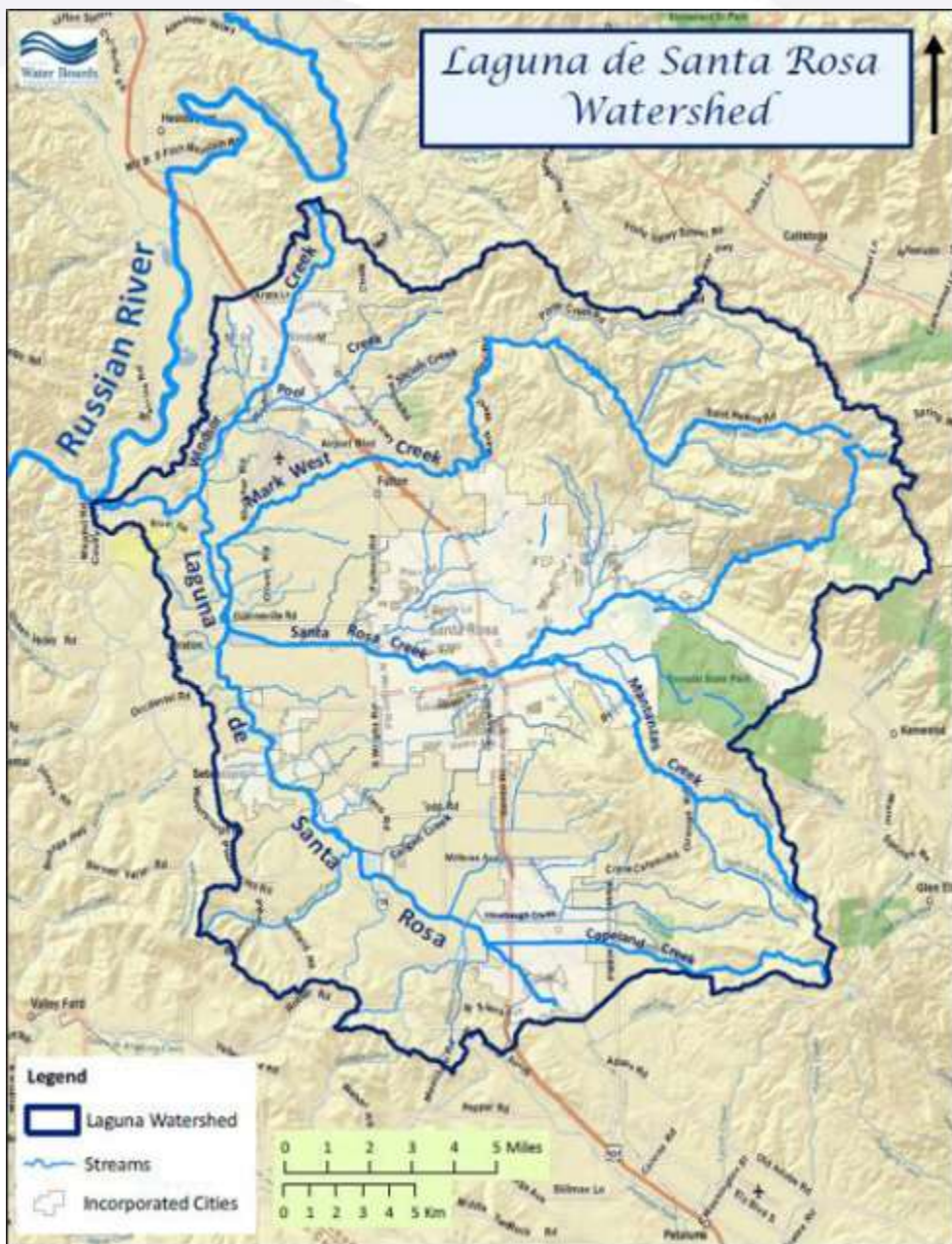
Fundamental Problem

	Sediment (ton/yr)	Phosphorus (kg/yr)	Nitrogen (kg/yr)
Total Load	91, 368	93,734	367,210
Loading Capacity	9,573	17,883	96,919
Reduction Needed	81,796	75,852	270,291
% Reduction Needed	89.5 %	80.9 %	73.6 %

Fundamental Problem

Increased Biostimulation: Impact on Water Quality

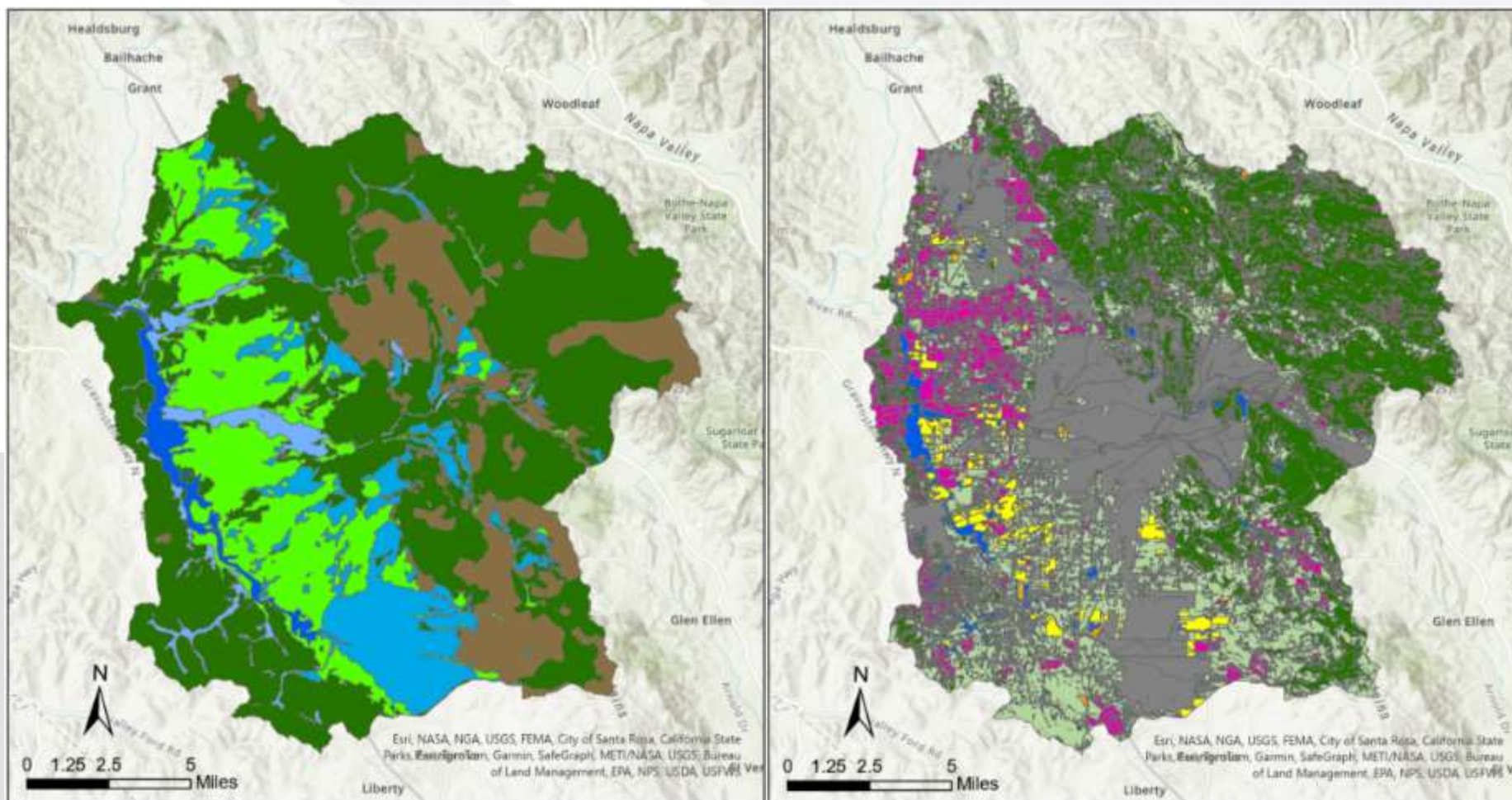
- Loss of assimilative capacity
- Elevated turbidity reduces salmonid growth rates
- Elevated stream temperatures lethal to salmonids
- Anoxic conditions prevent successful spawning and rearing of salmonids



Watershed Background

- 254 mi² watershed
- Population center of North Coast Region
- Largest tributary to the Russian River
- Cities, towns, and tribal lands
 - Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria
 - Windsor
 - Sebastopol
 - Santa Rosa
 - Rohnert Park
 - Cotati
- Designated a Wetland of International Significance by the Ramsar Convention

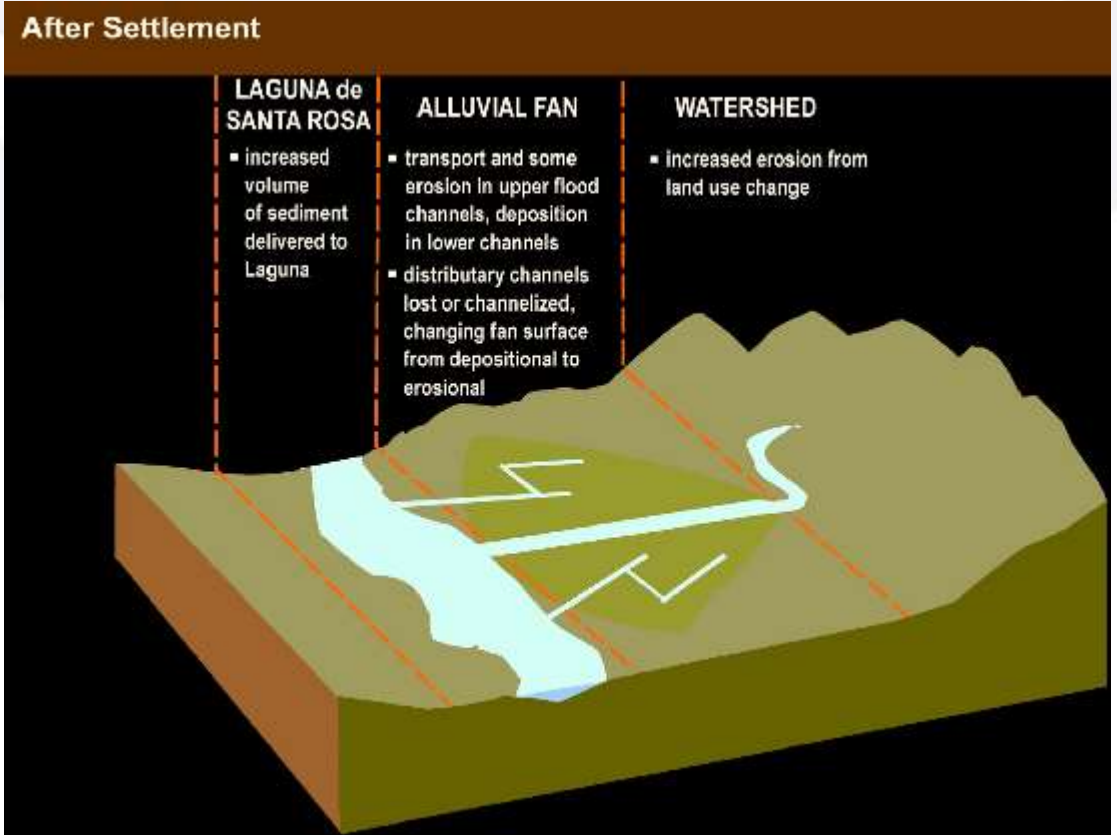
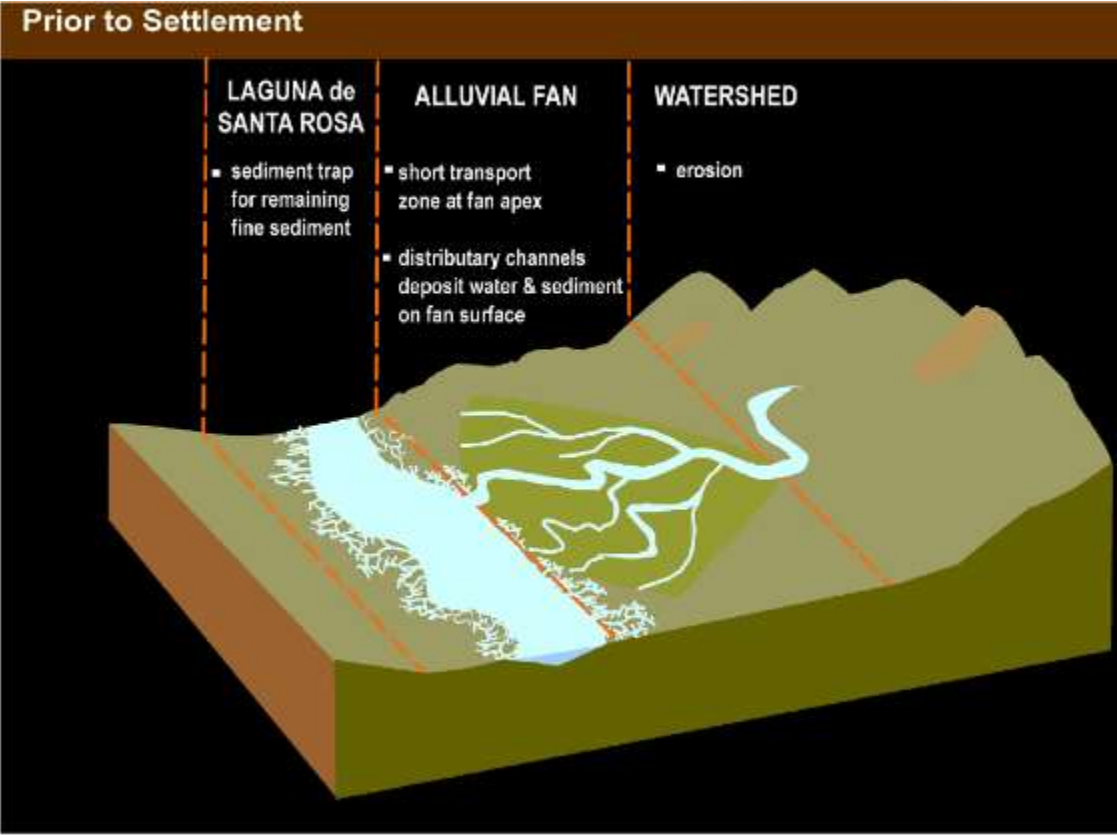
Land Use Change



- Pre-Colonization Land Cover**
- Forest
 - Shrubs & Grasses
 - Oak Savanna & Vernal Pool Complex
 - Riparian Wetland
 - Perennial Wetland
 - Open Water

- Modern Land Cover**
- Developed
 - Barren
 - Cropland
 - Pasture/Hay
 - Shrub
 - Herbaceous
 - Forest
 - Water/Wetland

Broken Hydrology

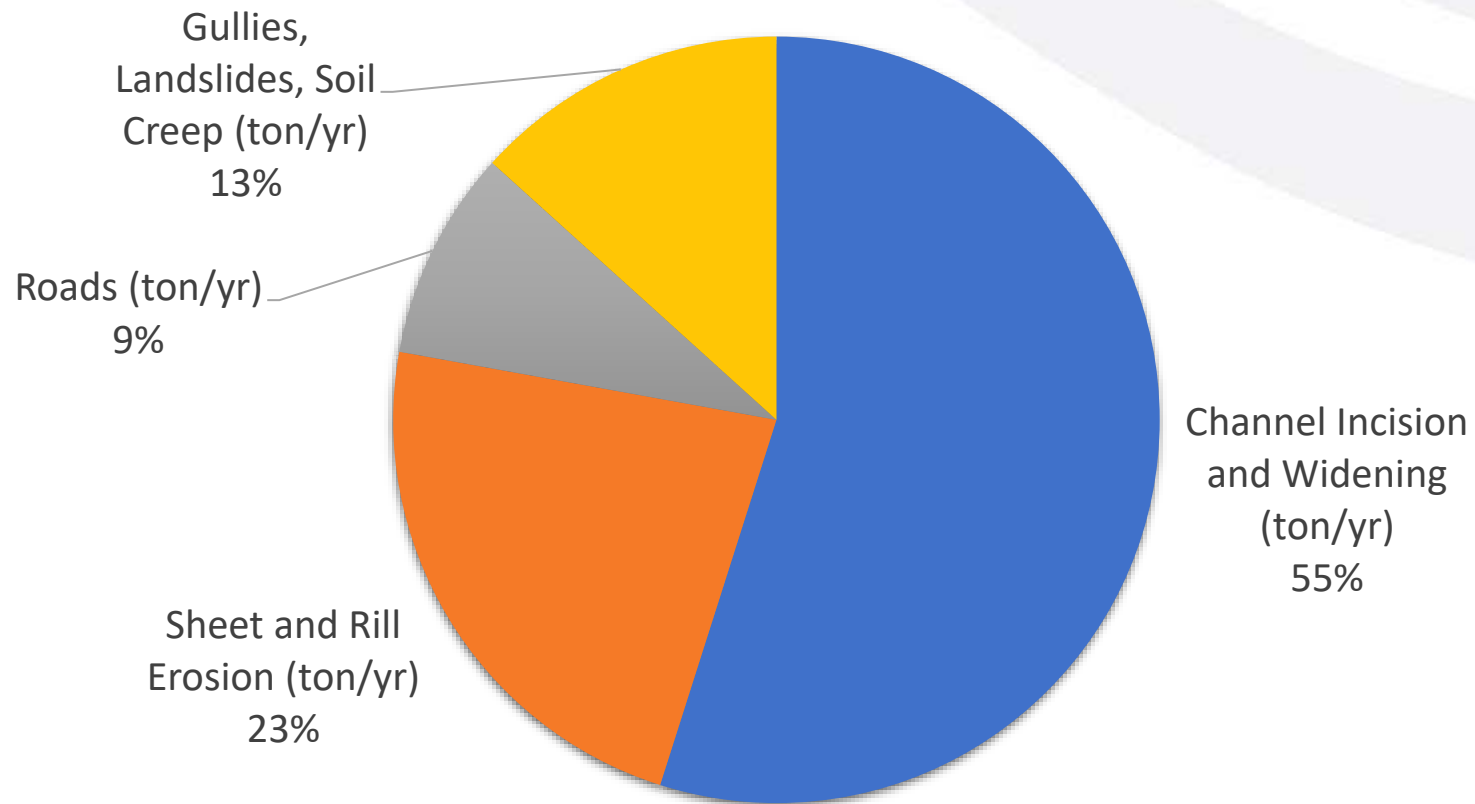


From Sloop et al., 2007

Broken Hydrology

Sediment Loads

Sediment Source Analysis



Total Load	91,368 ton/yr
Loading Capacity	9,573 ton/yr
Reduction Needed	81,796 ton/yr
% Reduction Needed	89.5 %

In-channel Sediment Loads



Kelsey Cody, 2020

In-channel Nutrient cycling



Monitoring for invasive *Ludwigia* spp. in the Laguna de Santa Rosa. Photo: Brenda Grewell.

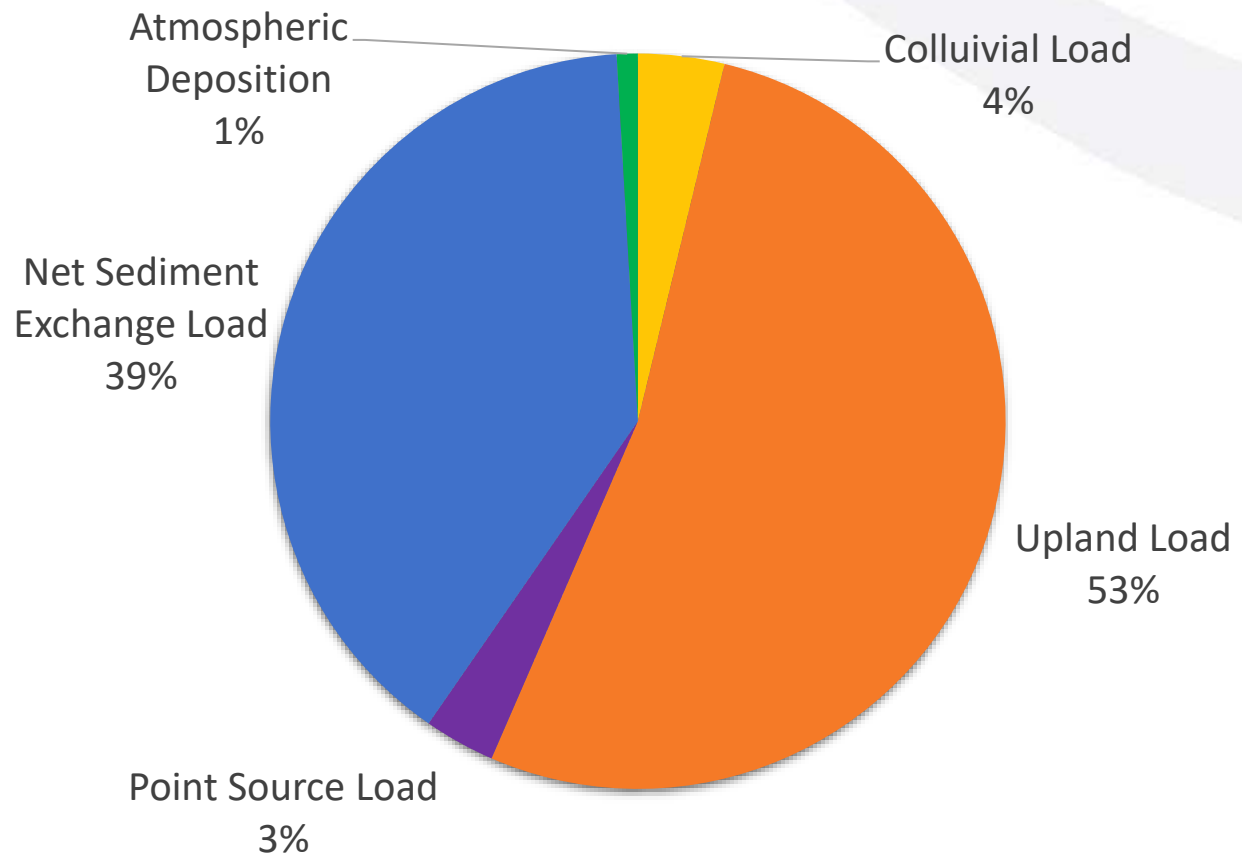
From SFEI-ASC (2020)

Biostimulatory conditions: physical, chemical, and biological conditions interact to promote growth of aquatic primary producers such as algae and aquatic macrophytes

Ludwigia infestation: positive feedback loop

Phosphorus Loads

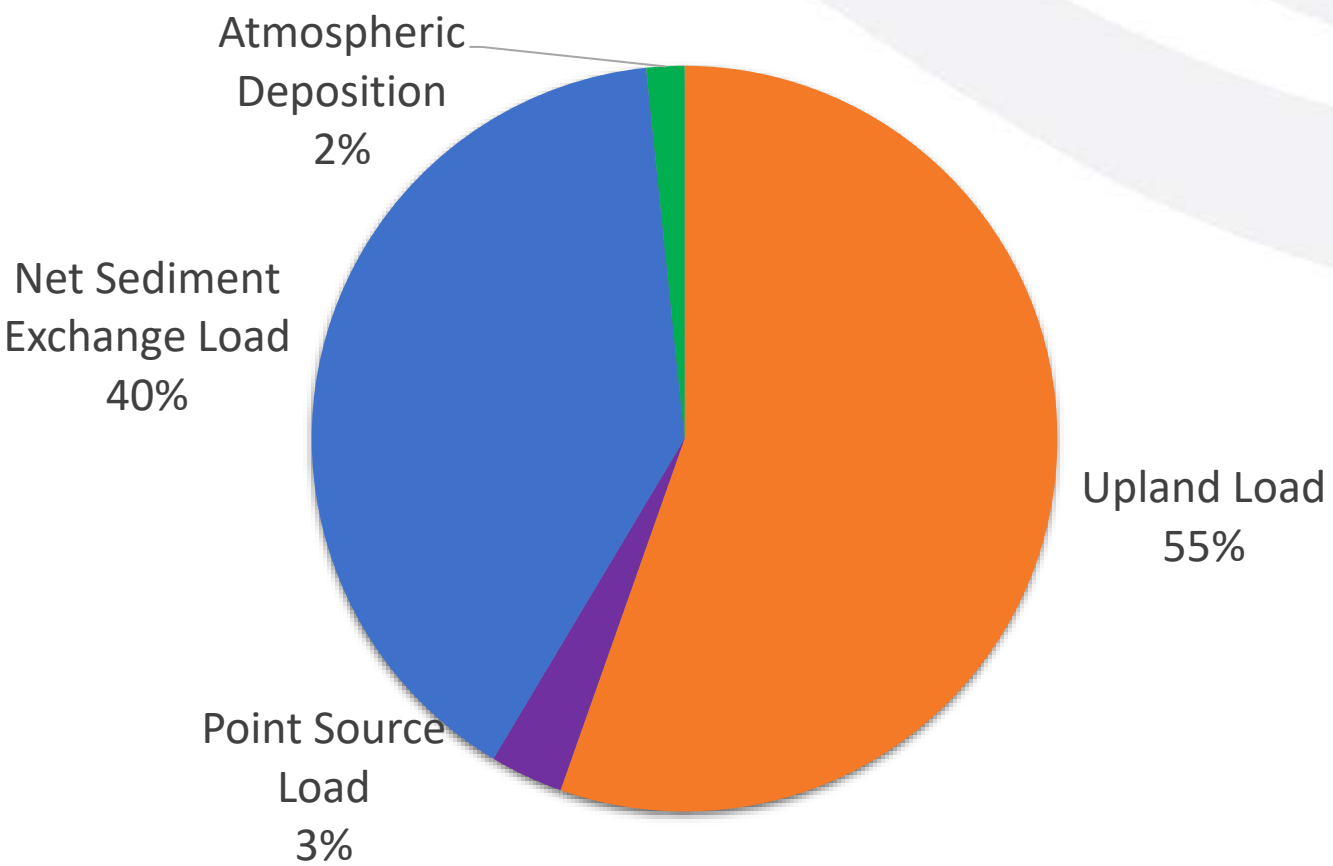
Phosphorus Source Analysis



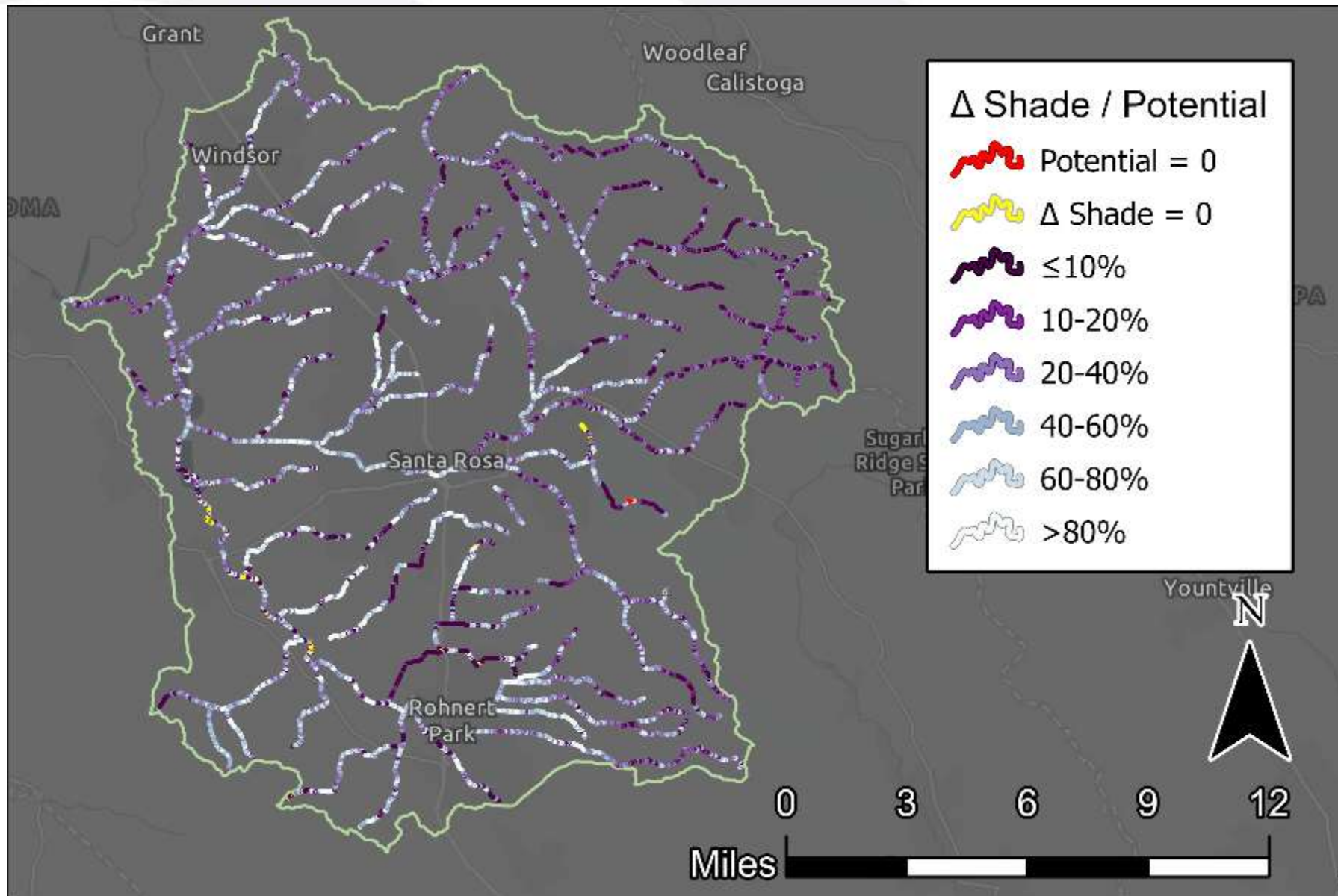
Total Load	93,734 kg/yr
Loading Capacity	17,883 kg/yr
Reduction Needed	75,852 kg/yr
% Reduction Needed	80.9 %

Nitrogen Loads

Nitrogen Source Analysis



Total Load	367,210 kg/yr
Loading Capacity	96,919 kg/yr
Reduction Needed	270,291 kg/yr
% Reduction Needed	73.6 %



Shade

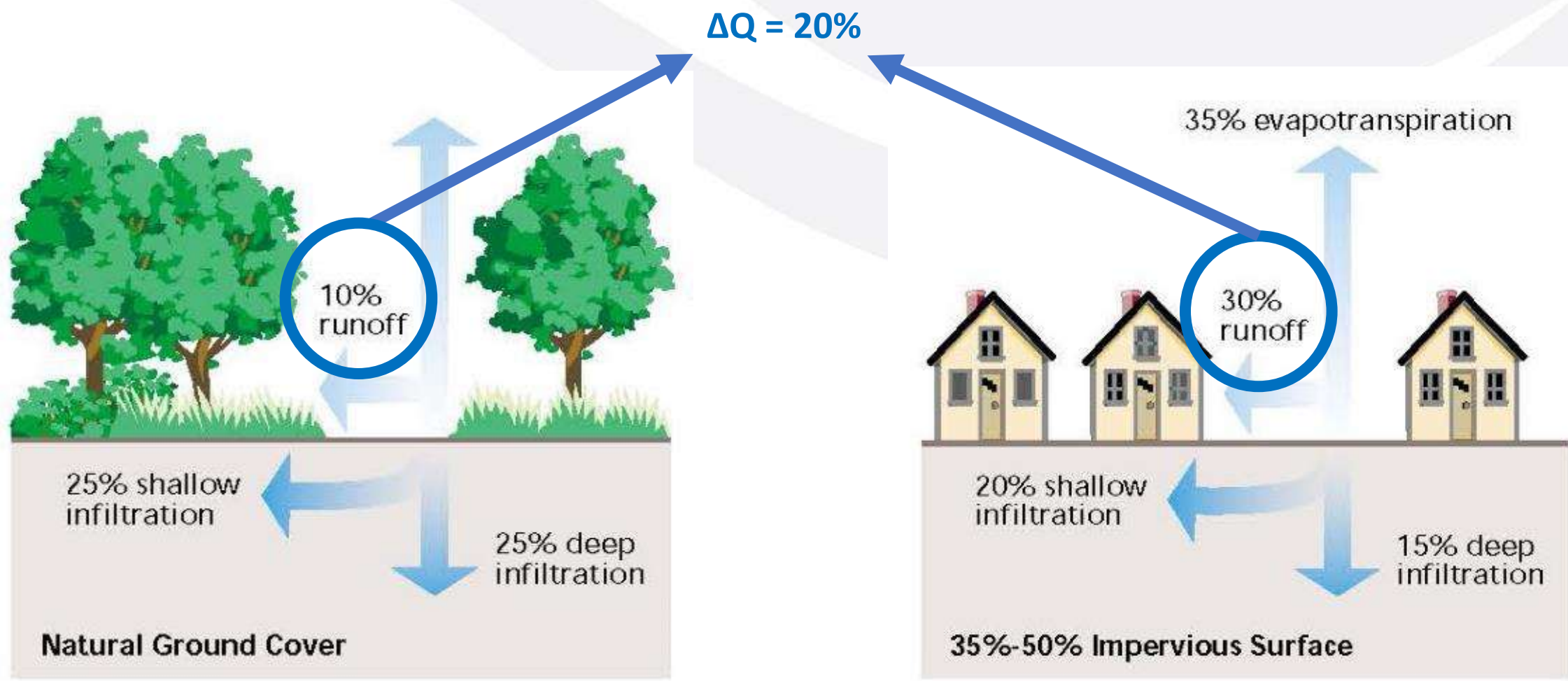
Sediment Transport Capacity

STC = surrogate parameter

US EPA (1998): Report of the Federal Advisory Committee on the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program

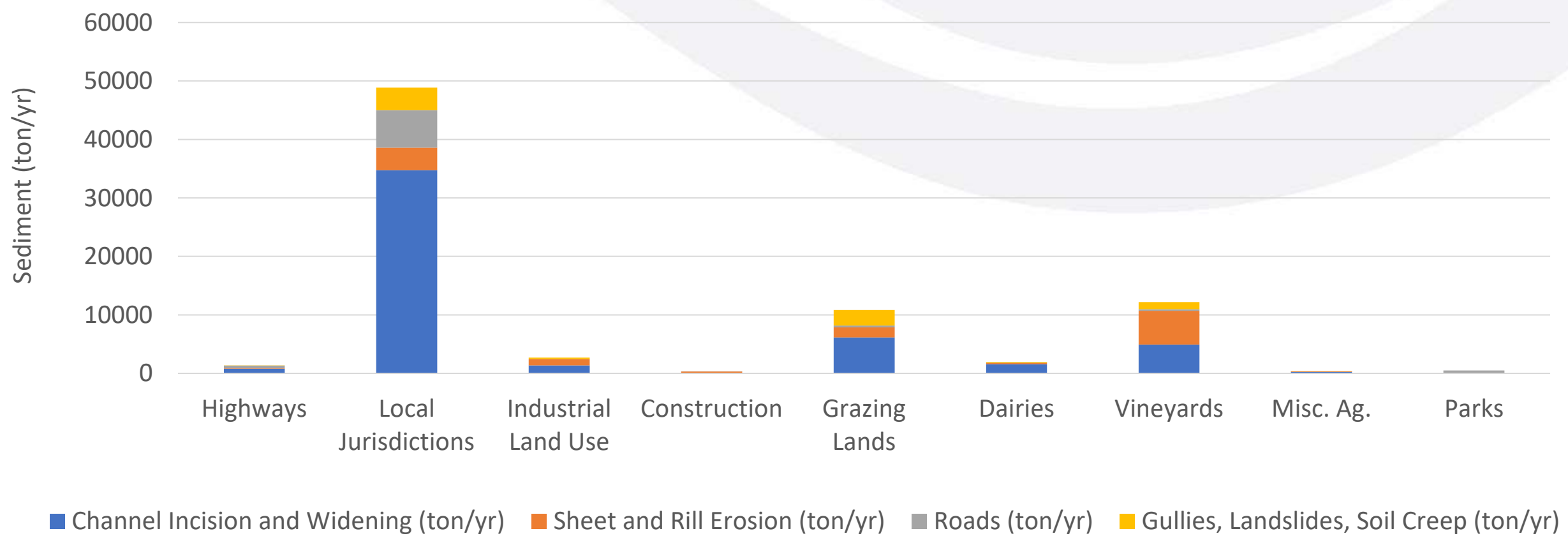
When the impairment is tied to a pollutant for which a numeric criterion is not possible, or where impairment is identified but cannot be attributed to a single traditional pollutant, the state should try to identify another (surrogate) environmental indicator that can be used to develop a quantified TMDL, using numeric analytical techniques where they are available, and best professional judgment (BPJ) where they are not.

Sediment Transport Capacity

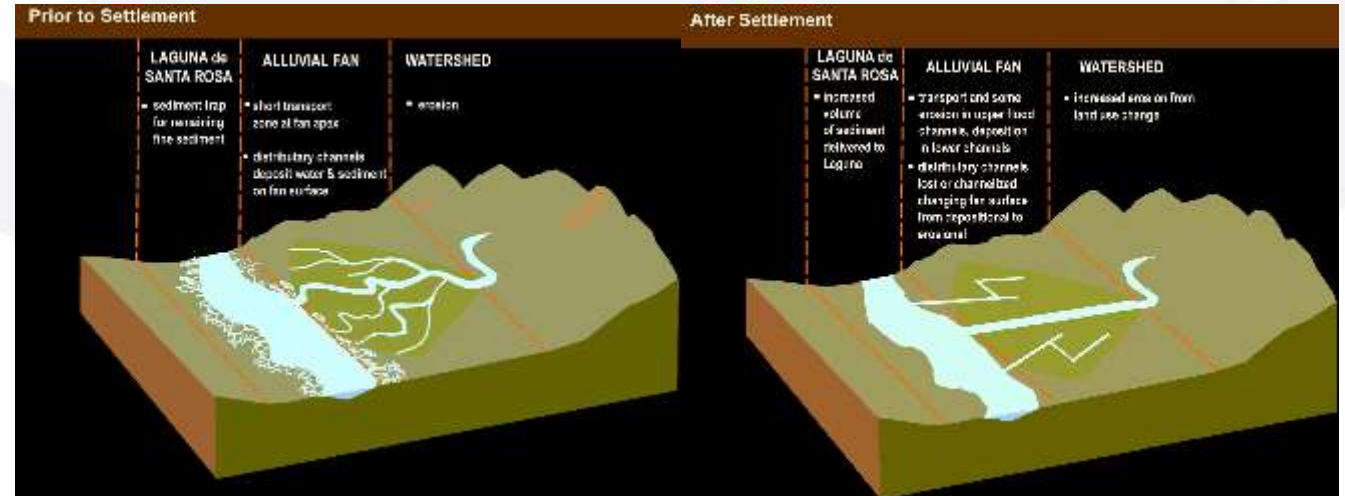
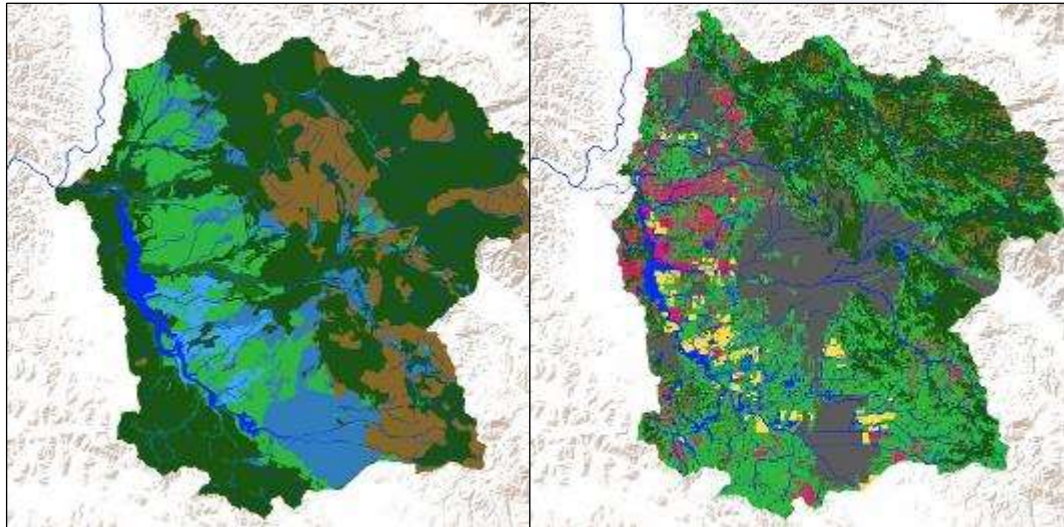


Sediment Loads

Total Sediment Load Refinements by Load Type - Land Use



Summary



	Sediment (ton/yr)	Phosphorus (kg/yr)	Nitrogen (kg/yr)
Total Load	91,368	93,734	367,210
Loading Capacity	9,573	17,883	96,919
Reduction Needed	81,796	75,852	270,291
% Reduction Needed	89.5 %	80.9 %	73.6 %

Timeline

Data Collection and Assessment	2011 – 2022	✓
Early Implementation	2013 – ongoing	
Staff Report Development	Underway	
CEQA Scoping	Spring 2024	
Form TAC	Summer 2024	
Public Review	Summer 2025	
Regional Water Board hearing	Early 2026	

Contact

Matt Graves, Engineering Geologist

Tel: 707-576-2831

Email: matt.graves@waterboards.ca.gov

Email subscriptions

- Visit https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdls/
- Click link under “Stay Informed” section
- Choose the Laguna de Santa Rosa option

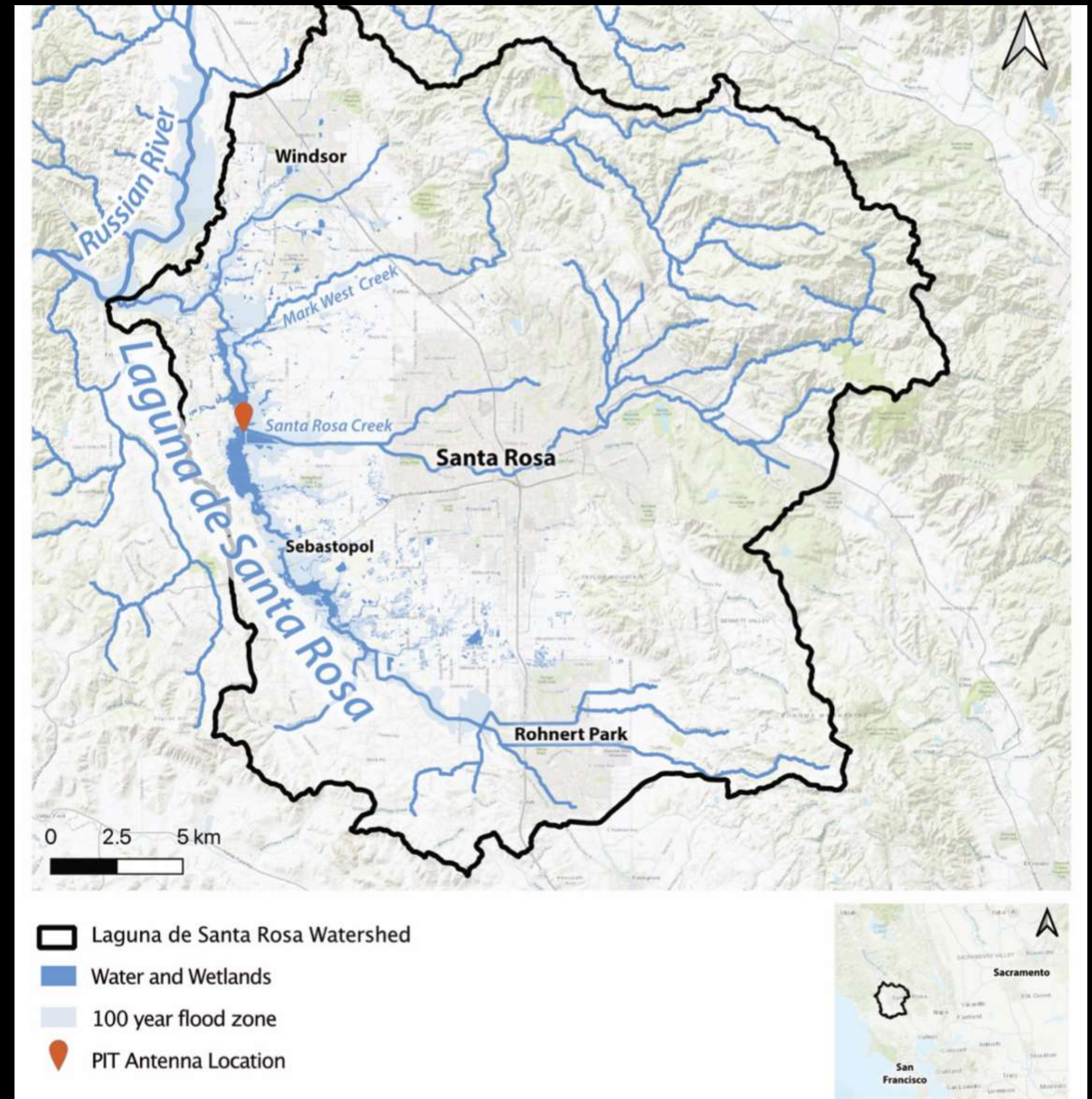
Questions?

Investigating Coho Salmon use in the Laguna de Santa Rosa

Charlie Schneider & John Green - Redwood Empire Chapter Trout Unlimited

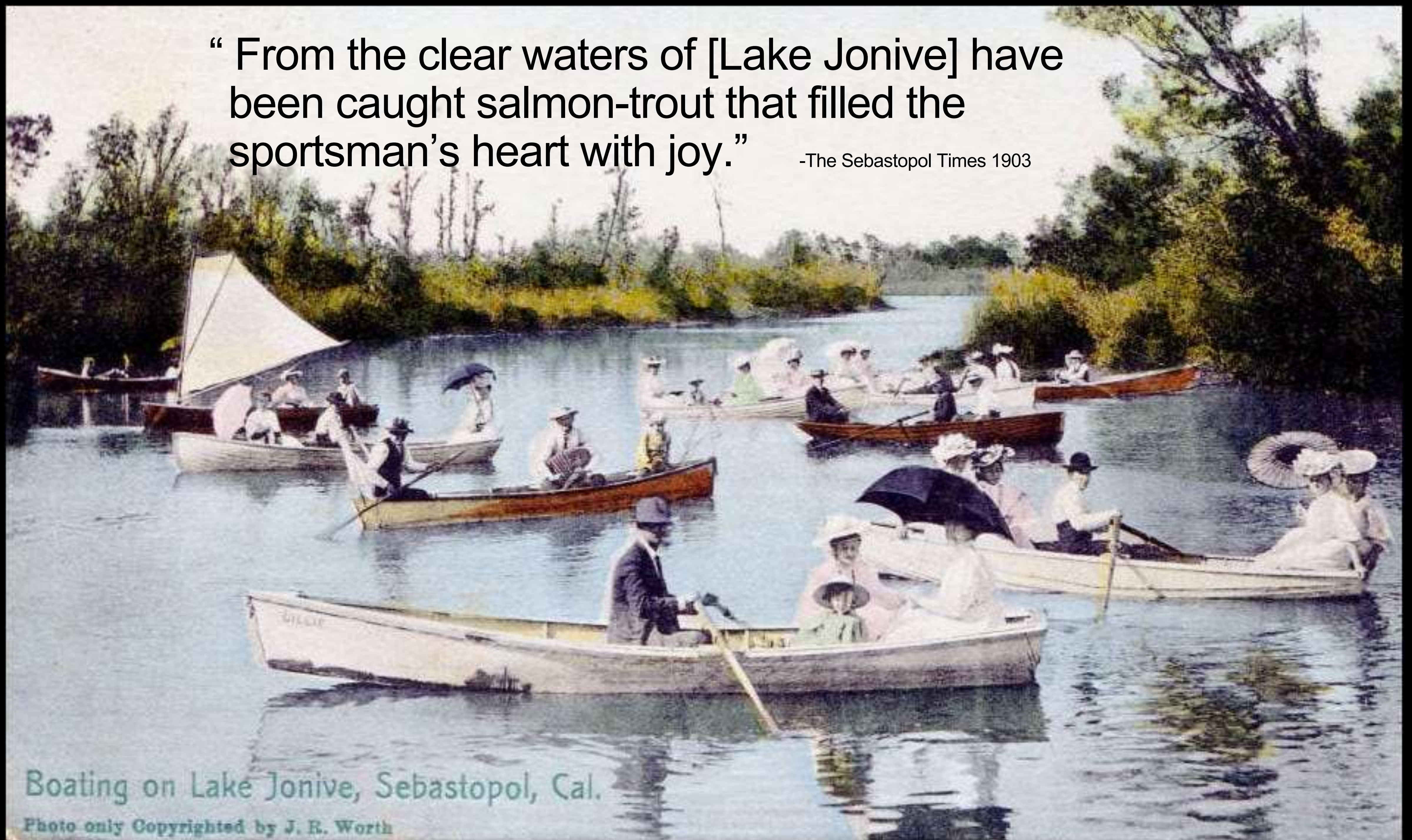
Background

- Coho nearly extirpated in early 2000s
- Broodstock program started
- Coho salmon and steelhead observed in tributary watersheds
- Mark West Creek is broodstock stream
- Steelhead in SR Creek, Copeland Cr.



“ From the clear waters of [Lake Jonive] have been caught salmon-trout that filled the sportsman’s heart with joy.”

-The Sebastopol Times 1903



Boating on Lake Jonive, Sebastopol, Cal.

Photo only Copyrighted by J. R. Worth

Questions

- Do coho salmon use the Laguna?
- If so, when?
- What are water quality conditions?
- Big picture: should we be thinking about salmonids in Laguna management?



Background

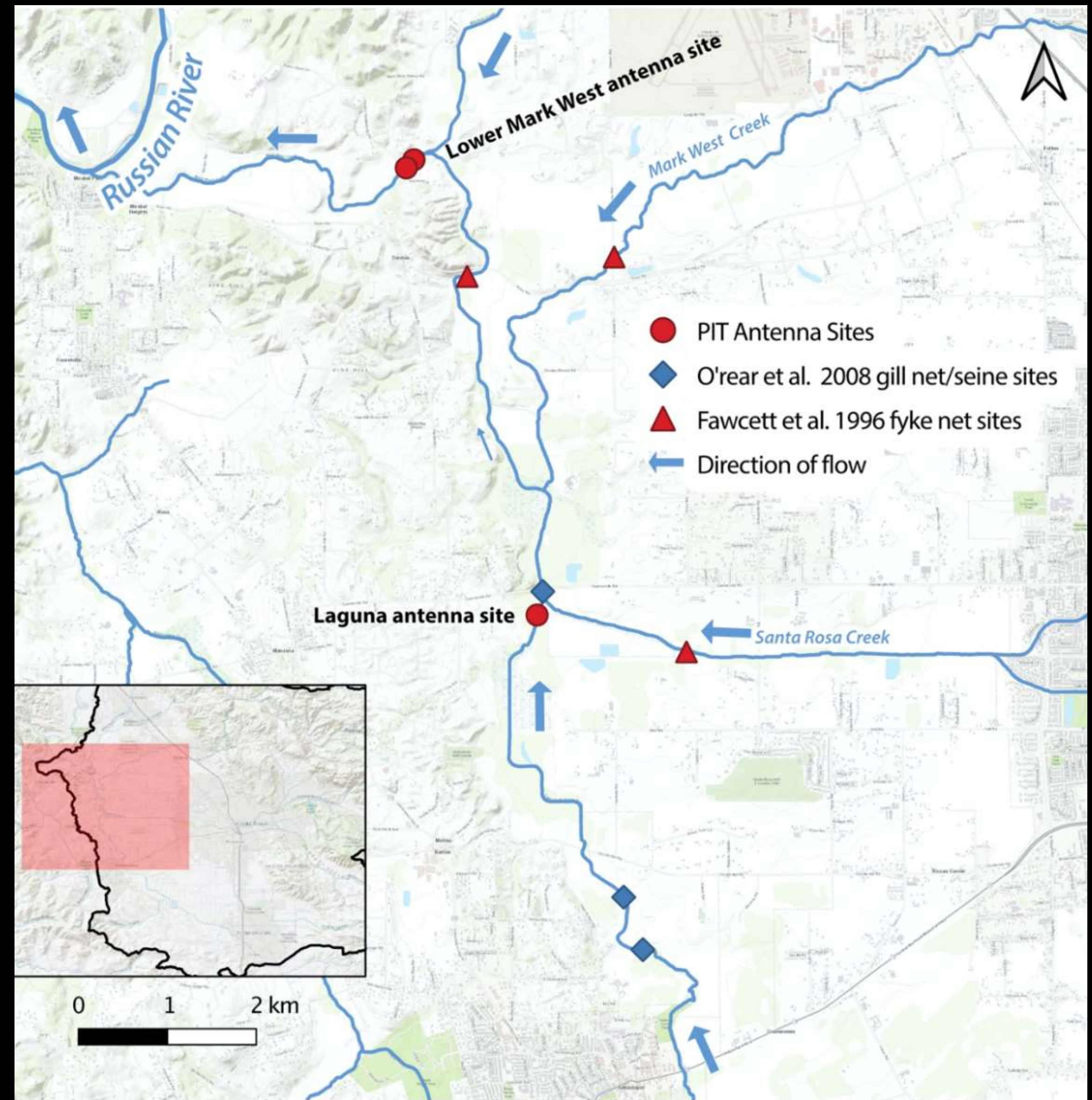
- Fish get fat on floodplains
- Bigger juveniles more likely to come back as adults
- Hard to restore floodplains in the Russian basin



Background

Counting fish in the winter is hard

- Limited aquatic surveys over the last 30 years
- Most during the dry season
- Most downstream of the confluences with Santa Rosa and Mark West Creeks

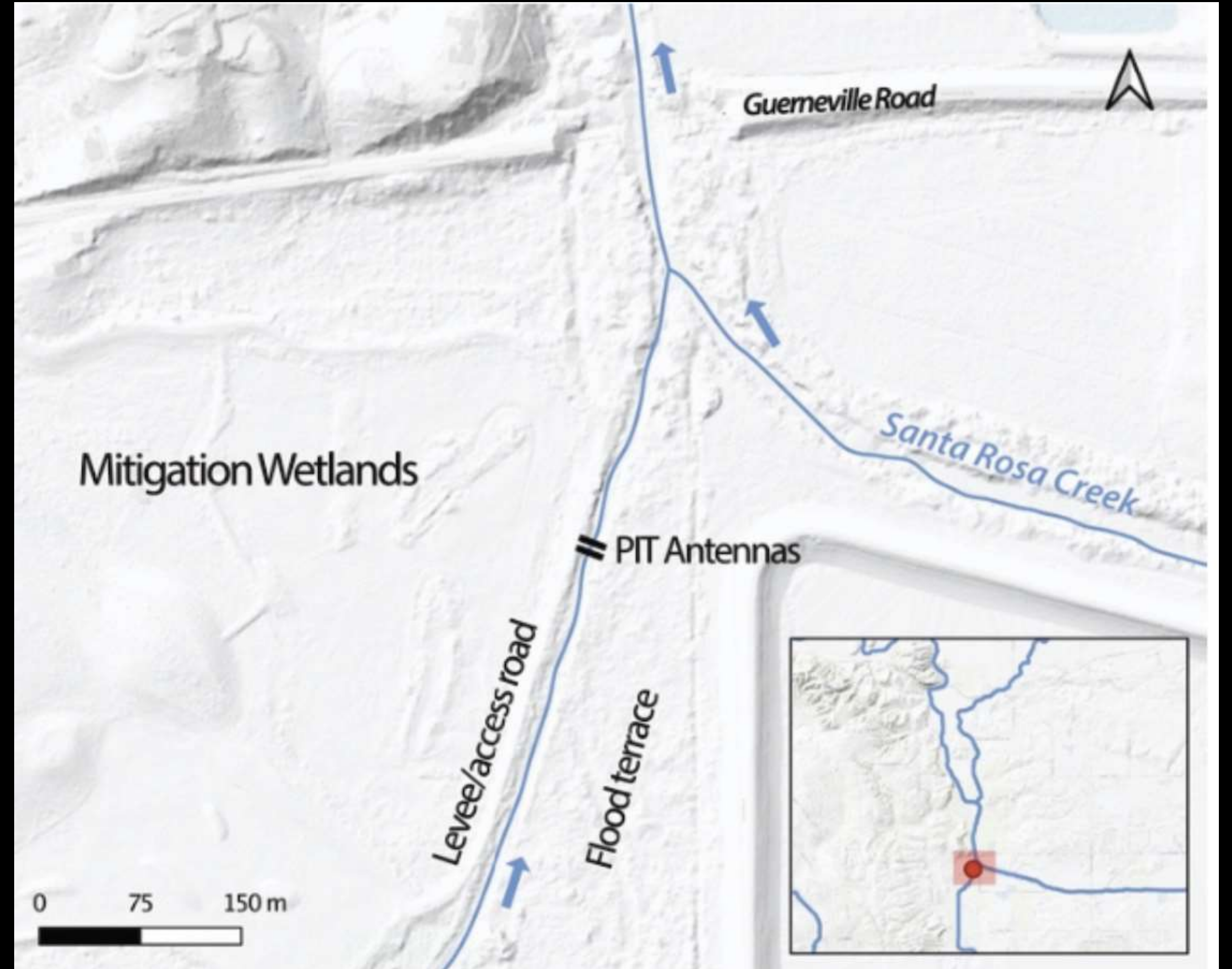


Methods

We have the technology

- Two Two six-meter pass through PIT tag antennas (Biomark)
- 500m upstream of SR Creek confluence
- Installed vertically
- Solar powered





Methods

- 2018/19 Mark West release group totaled 7,135 individuals
- 20% PIT tag rate for a total of ~1,427 tagged individuals (avg. fork length $104\text{mm} \pm 10\text{mm}$, avg. weight $13.9\text{g} \pm 4.1\text{g}$)
- Onset Hobo U-26 DO logger



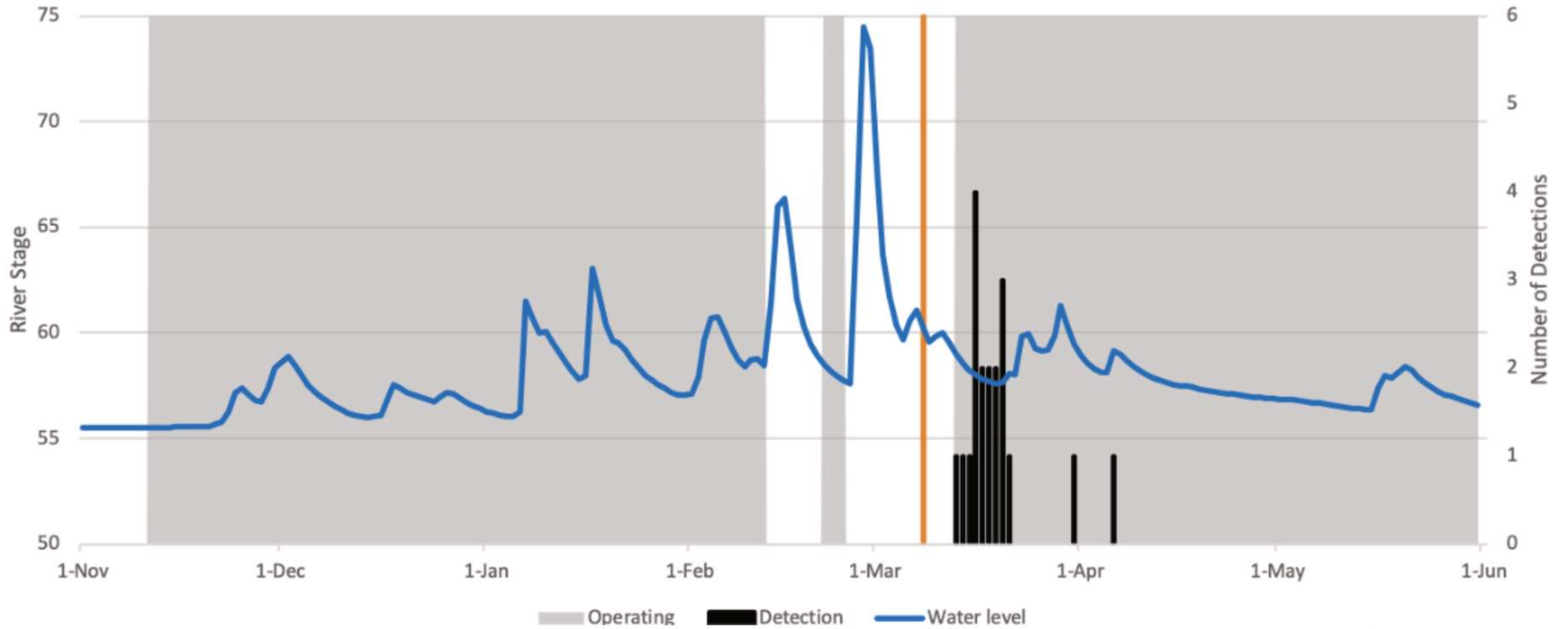
Results

Counting fish in the winter is hard

- 2018/19 winter was a big one!



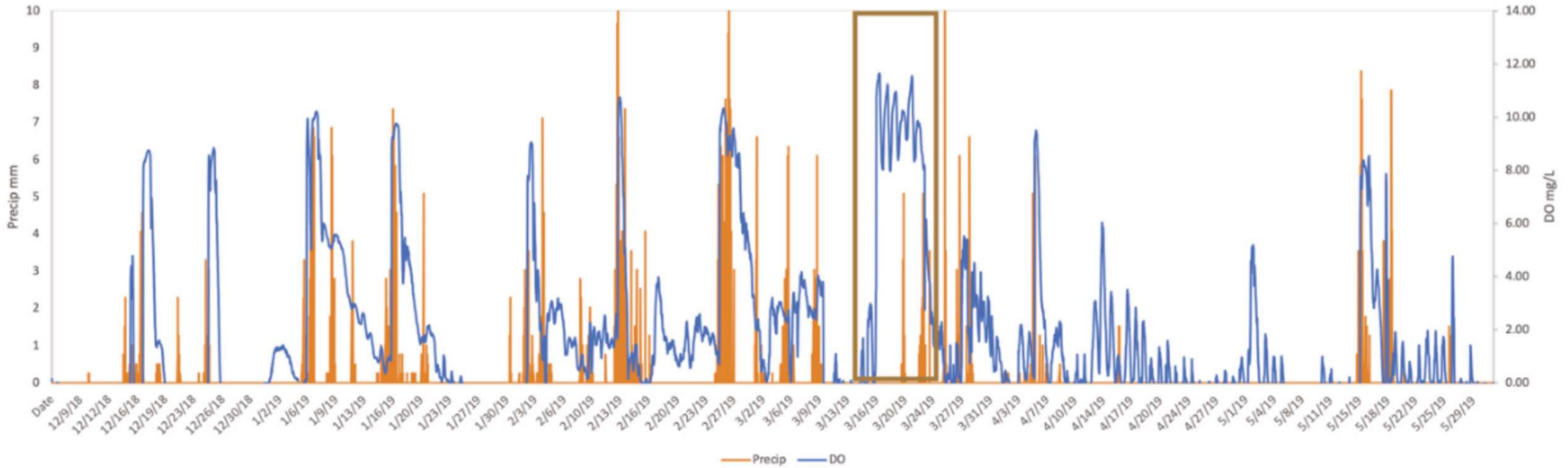
PIT Antenna Coho Salmon Detections 2018/2019



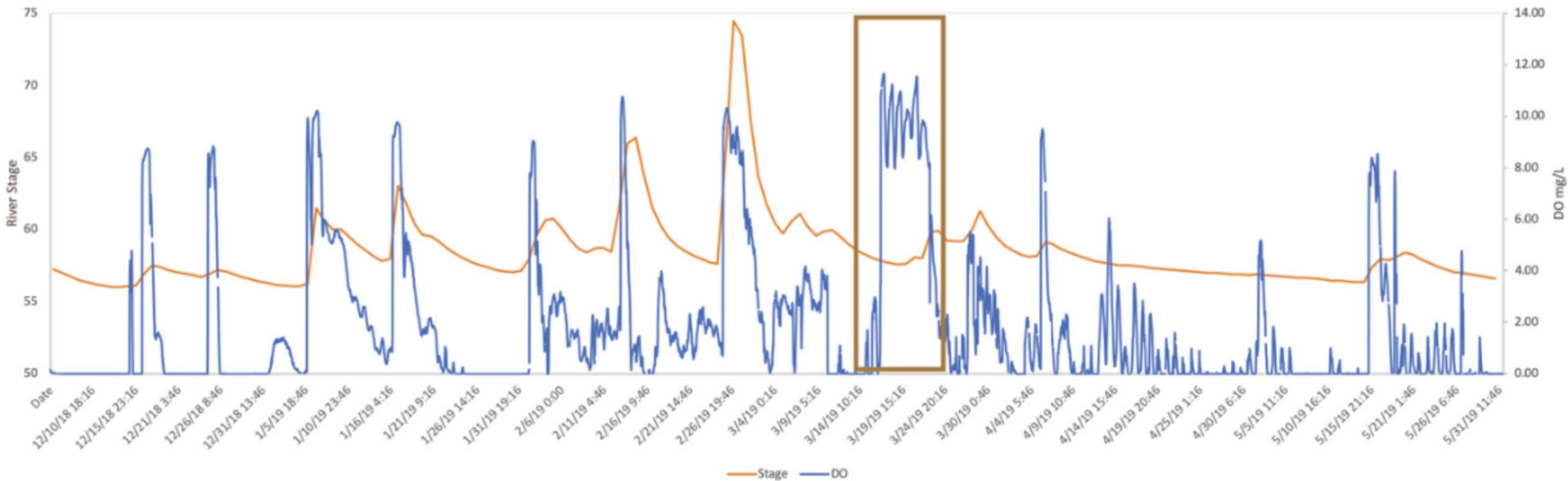
Results/Discussion

- Seven coho salmon were detected at the site between March 13th and April 6th
- Expanded count 35
- Detections correlated with Mark West Creek broodstock release
- One individual was detected at the site 17 days after its initial detection
- Two individuals were detected later moving downstream past the Mark West PIT antennas ~1 month later
- One individual was detected 35 days after first detection

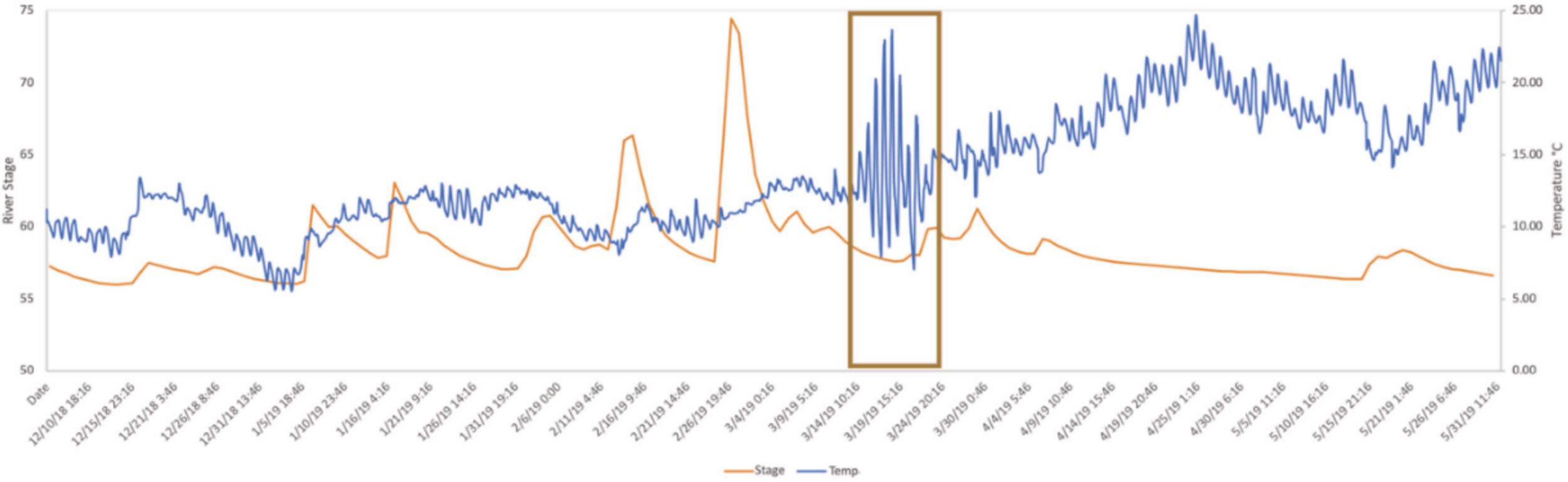
Precip and DO



River Stage and DO



River Stage and Temperature



Results/Discussion

- DO increased with precipitation events but generally in the lethal range for salmonids
- DO likely low while fish were present
- PIT tag detection on 3/31/19 at 22:53, fish was near the upper antenna while DO concentration at the site was 1.60 mg/L (recorded 9 minutes earlier)
- Nearby DO refuge, microhabitats?

Discussion

- But... winter of 2019/20 was dry, no detections



Discussion

More than just salmon!

- Other detections:
 - Sacramento Pikeminnow
 - Hitch
- RR Tule perch
- Lamprey
- Sucker
- Roach



Funders and Partners



**Sonoma County
Fish & Wildlife
Commission**



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**



Projects and Policies in the Lower Laguna Watershed Designed to Support Habitat Restoration

Neil Lassetre, PhD, Sonoma Water and Sean McNeil, City of Santa Rosa



Introduction

- City of Santa Rosa Storm Water and Creeks
- Citywide Creek Masterplan
- City's Restoration Projects
- Sonoma Water Stream Maintenance Program
- Water Quality Trading Projects
- Funding Restoration

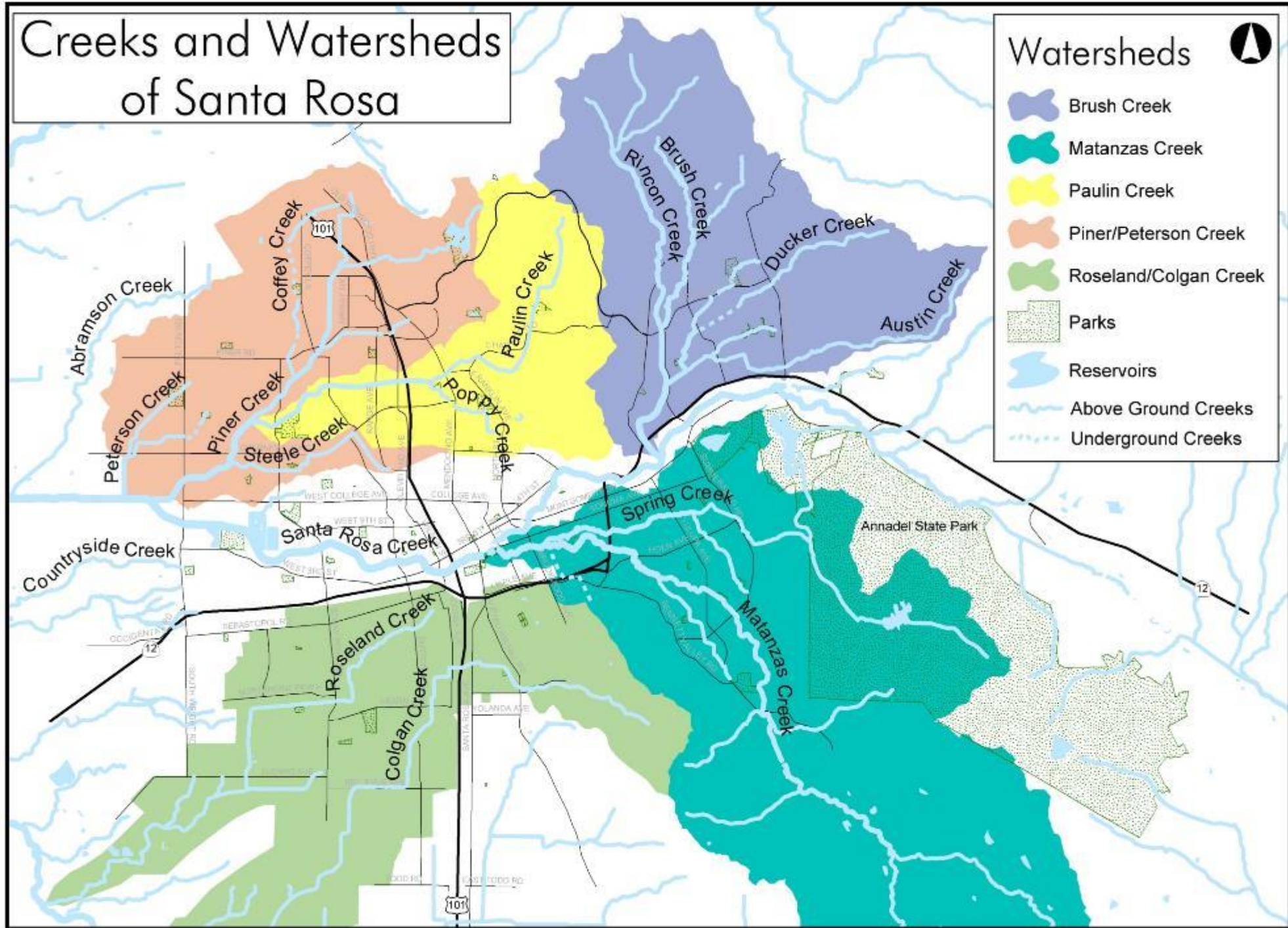


Storm Water & Creeks Mission

“Making Santa Rosa a better place by enhancing creek health through restoration and community involvement, providing biological and engineering services, and managing storm water runoff to preserve and restore water quality and minimize flooding.”

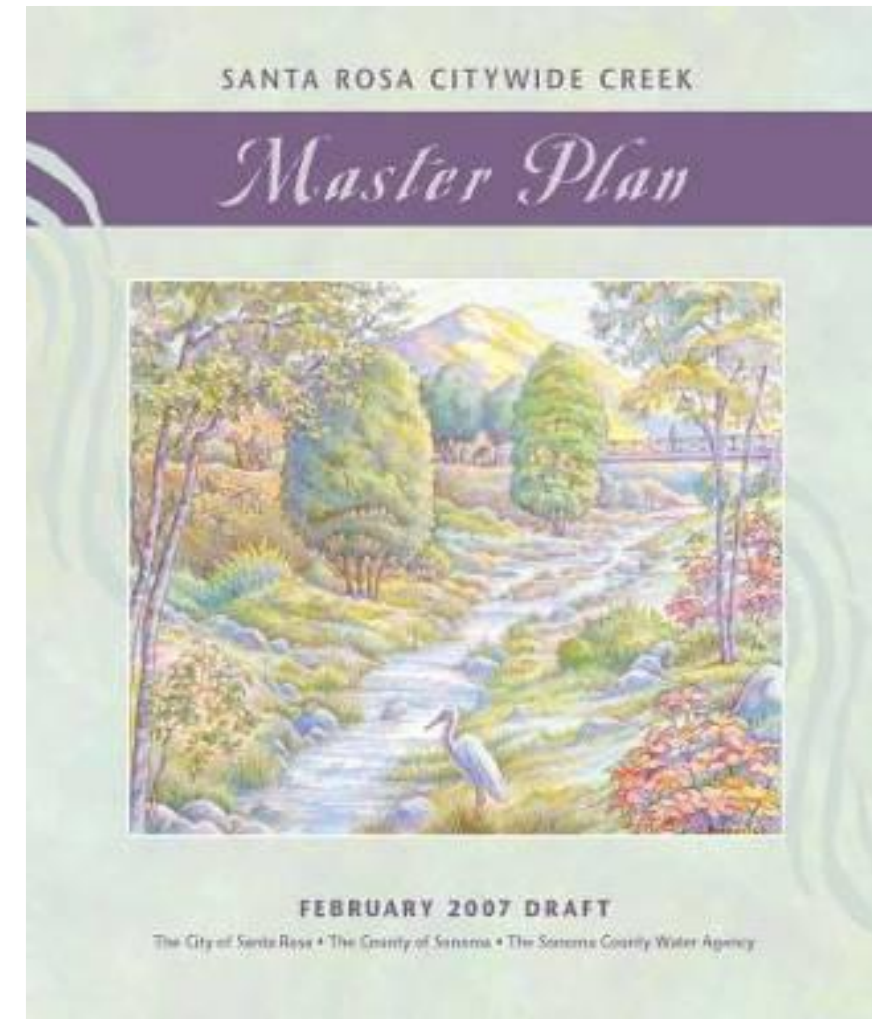


Creeks and Watersheds of Santa Rosa



Citywide Creek Master Plan

- Santa Rosa Creek Masterplan 1993
- Santa Rosa Waterways Plan 1996
- Citywide Creek Masterplan 2007 and 2013
- Assessed habitat of creeks
- Identify restoration potential





Eleven Masterplan Goals

Habitat

Stormwater

Water Quality

Open Space

Recreation

Education

Health and safety

Cultural Resources

Economic

Aesthetics

Private Property

Habitat Goal has Seven Objectives

- Preserve healthy and/or sensitive creek areas
- Enhance creek areas that require remediation
- Restore degraded creeks
- Maintain creeks to support fish and wildlife as well as hydraulic capacity
- Focus restoration on habitat for special status species
- Obtain and comply with regulatory agency permits
- Use best available science

Stormwater and Creeks Enterprise

- 1996 City Council created the enterprise to:
 - Comply with storm water permit (MS4)
 - Creek restoration
- Annual increase is based on Consumer Price Index (CPI)
- Current fees are \$39.98 per equivalent residential unit
- \$3.0 million for 23/24 budget



Implementation of Plan

- Creek Stewardship
- Creek Restoration



Creek Stewardship 2023



- Work with volunteers and students
- Events attendees 9,697
- Volunteer Hours 5,190
- Trash 923 yards

Partnership with Sonoma Water



Creek Enhancements

- Tree and understory plantings
- Invasive species removal
- Restoration plantings
- Re-contour channel and add instream habitat features



Completed Large-Scale Projects

- Prince Memorial Greenway (4 phases)
- Brush Creek Restoration
- Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Phase 1 and 2
- Irwin Creek Restoration (Stone Farm)
- Gravenstein Creek (Brown Farm)



Creek Restoration Project Examples

- Prince Memorial Greenway
- Lower Colgan Creek Restoration



Santa Rosa Creek – Prince Memorial Greenway



Restored in 4 Phases (2000-2005)

3,900 feet long

110 feet wide

Approx. 10 acres

From Concrete Lined Flood Control Channel



To Wildlife Habitat

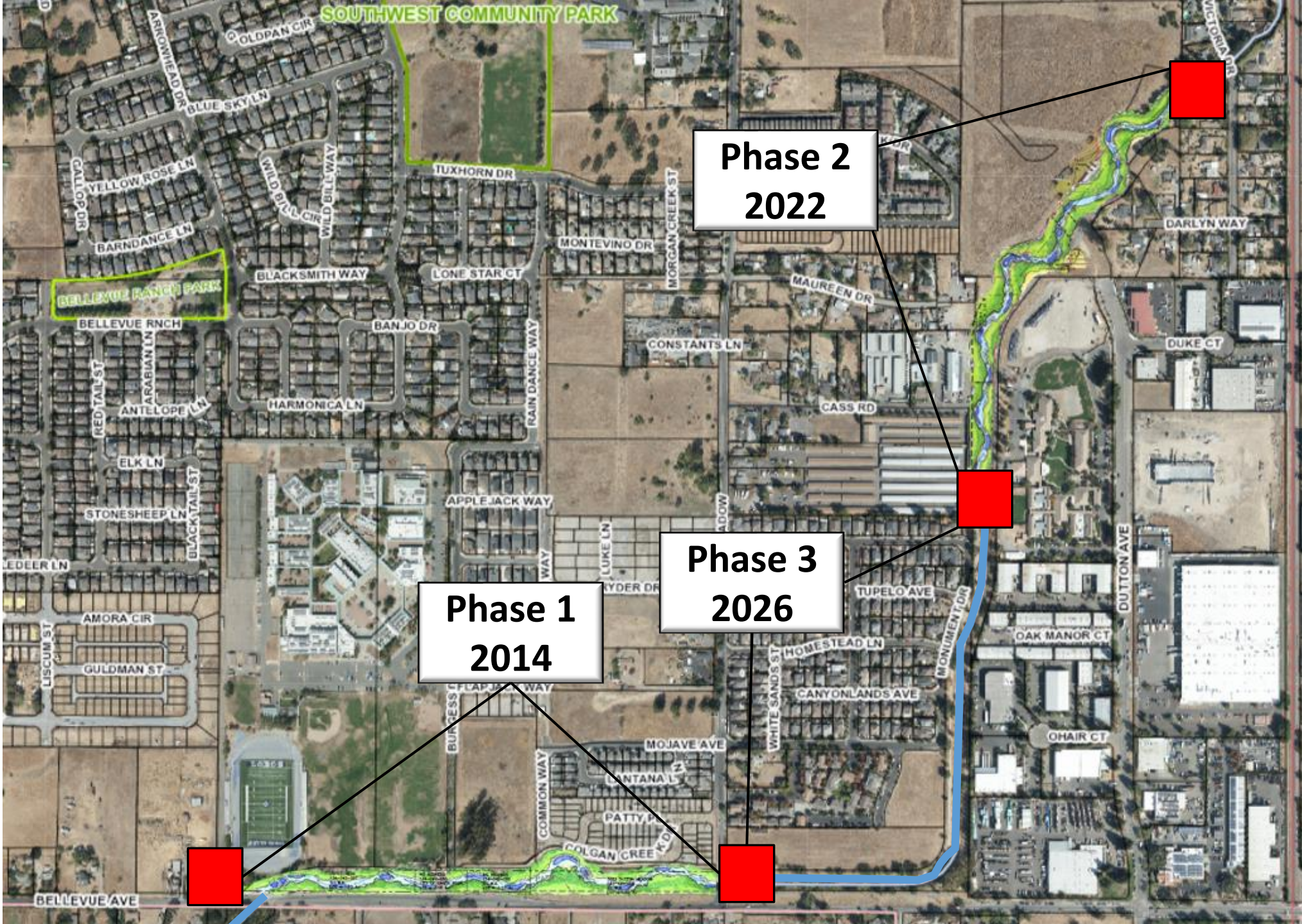




LOWER COLGAN CREEK

RESTORATION PROJECT





**Phase 2
2022**

**Phase 3
2026**

**Phase 1
2014**





 **KAPWING**



Future Projects

- Lower Colgan Creek Phase 3
- Roseland Creek
- Upper Colgan Creek
- Pierson Reach (Santa Rosa Creek)
- E Street Culvert Removal





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Projects and Policies in the Lower Laguna Watershed Designed to Support Habitat Restoration

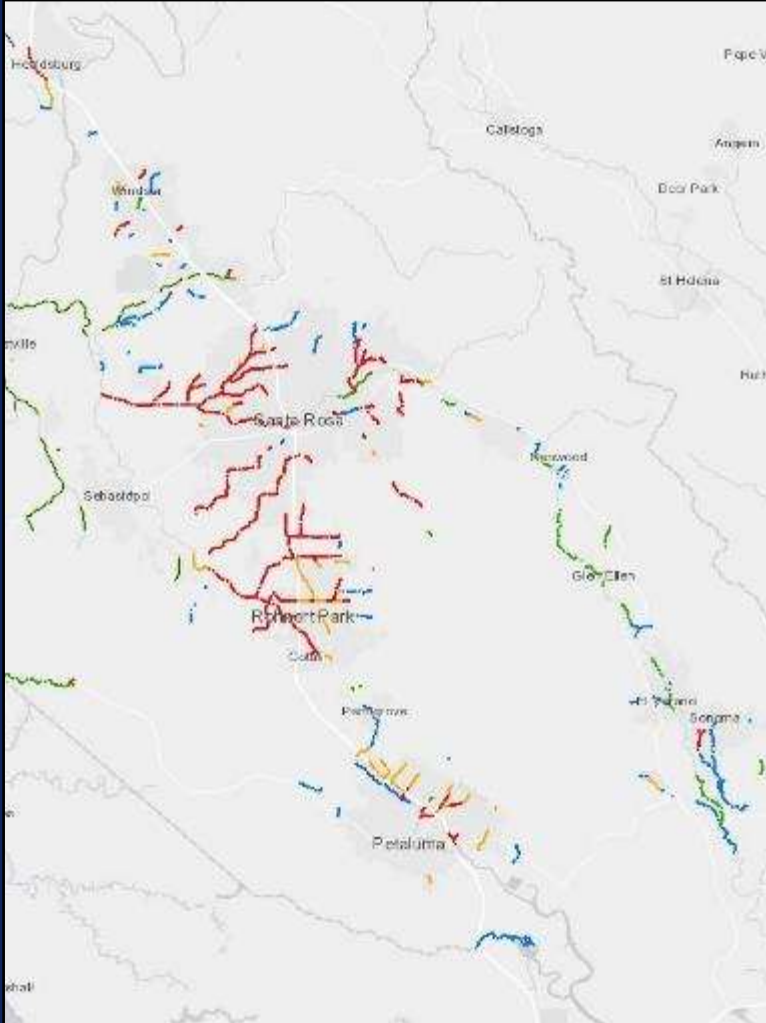
SALMONID RESTORATION FEDERATION
LAGUNA FOUNDATION, HERON HALL
MARCH 27, 2024

Neil Lassetre, PhD, Sonoma Water

Sean McNeil, City of Santa Rosa



Stream Maintenance Program



- **Background**
 - 75 miles of engineered flood control channels
 - easements to conduct flood control work along 100 miles of modified and natural streams
- **Three main activities**
 - vegetation management
 - sediment removal
 - bank repair
- **Program Goals**
 - maintain channel flood capacity
 - maintain and enhance the habitats our channels support

SMP 2023: Sediment Removal

- 17 projects along 13 creeks
- 3 miles of channel
- 33,000 cubic yards removed



SMP 2023: Sediment Removal

Sediment obstructing culverted road crossing



Sediment removed from culverted road crossing



Adobe Creek 2023,
Petaluma



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SMP 2023: Vegetation Management

- 17 projects along 23 creeks
- 2,260 cubic yards removed



Lynch Creek 2023,
Petaluma



Santa Rosa Creek 2023,
Santa Rosa



Lichau Creek 2023,
Penngrove



SMP 2023: Vegetation Management

Vegetation Obstructing Channel



After Vegetation Management



College Creek
2023,
Santa Rosa



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SMP 2023: Mitigation Monitoring

2023 Tier 1 Monitoring

- 473 trees monitored
- 18,200 linear feet
- 76% of initial installs
- 10 out of 15 sites met success criteria (75%)
- Monitoring complete for 4 sites



Water Quality Credit Trading in the Laguna de Santa Rosa

2017

- Sonoma Water proposed sediment removal project in Laguna de Santa Rosa Reaches 1 and 2

- Fund voluntary project by selling nutrient credits to City under Nutrient Offset Program

2019

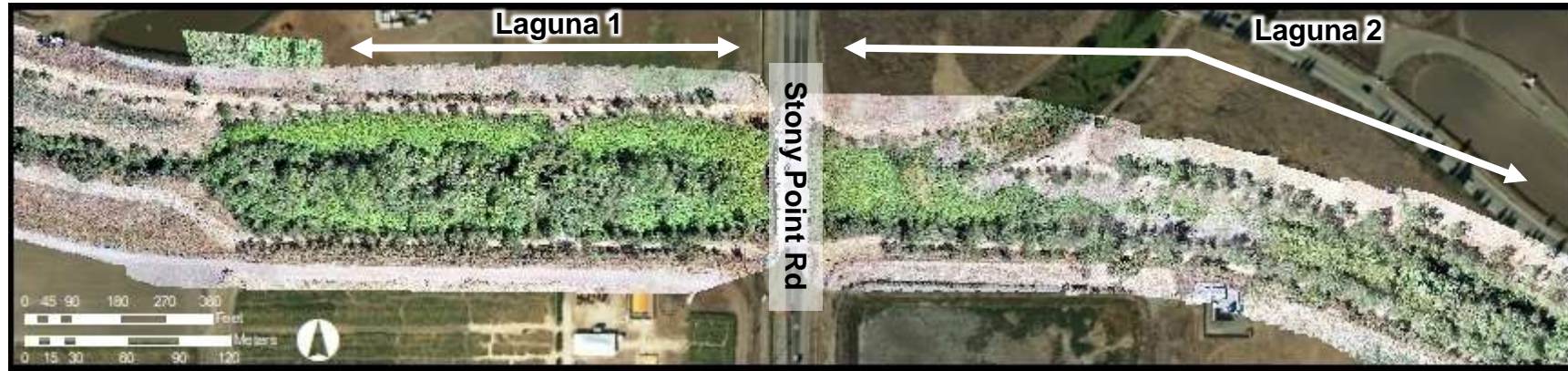
- Sonoma Water implemented project
- Credits approved under Nutrient Offset Program (2008) and Water Quality Credit Trading Framework (2018)
- Portion to Town of Windsor



Laguna de Santa Rosa Reaches 1 and 2

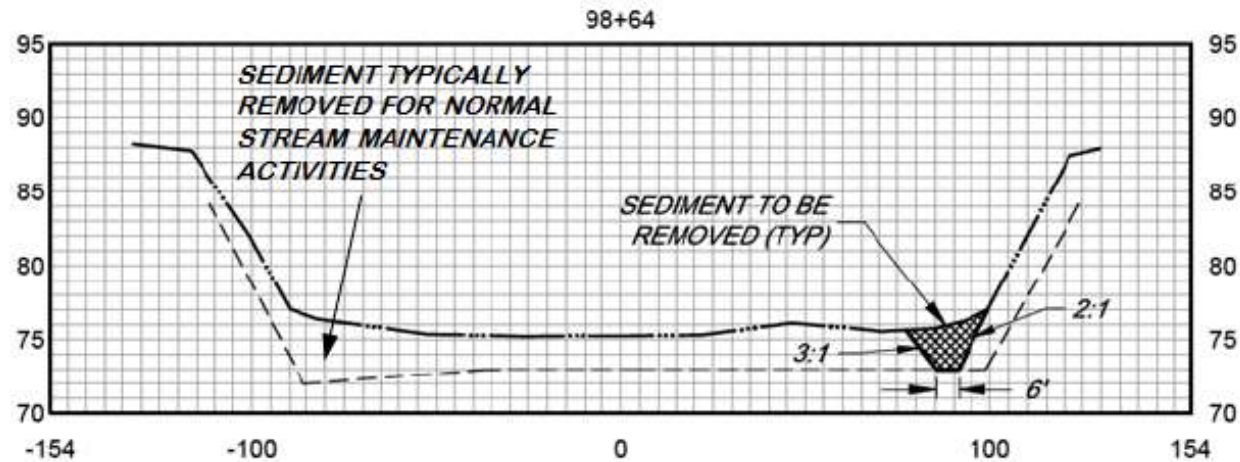


Laguna 1 and 2 WQCT



	Laguna 1	Laguna 2	<u>TOTAL</u>
Length (ft)	1,223	3,053	4,267
Area (ft ²)	29,352	73,272	102,624
Volume (yd ³)	<u>2,174</u>	<u>5,156</u>	<u>7,330</u>

Laguna 1 and 2 WQCT



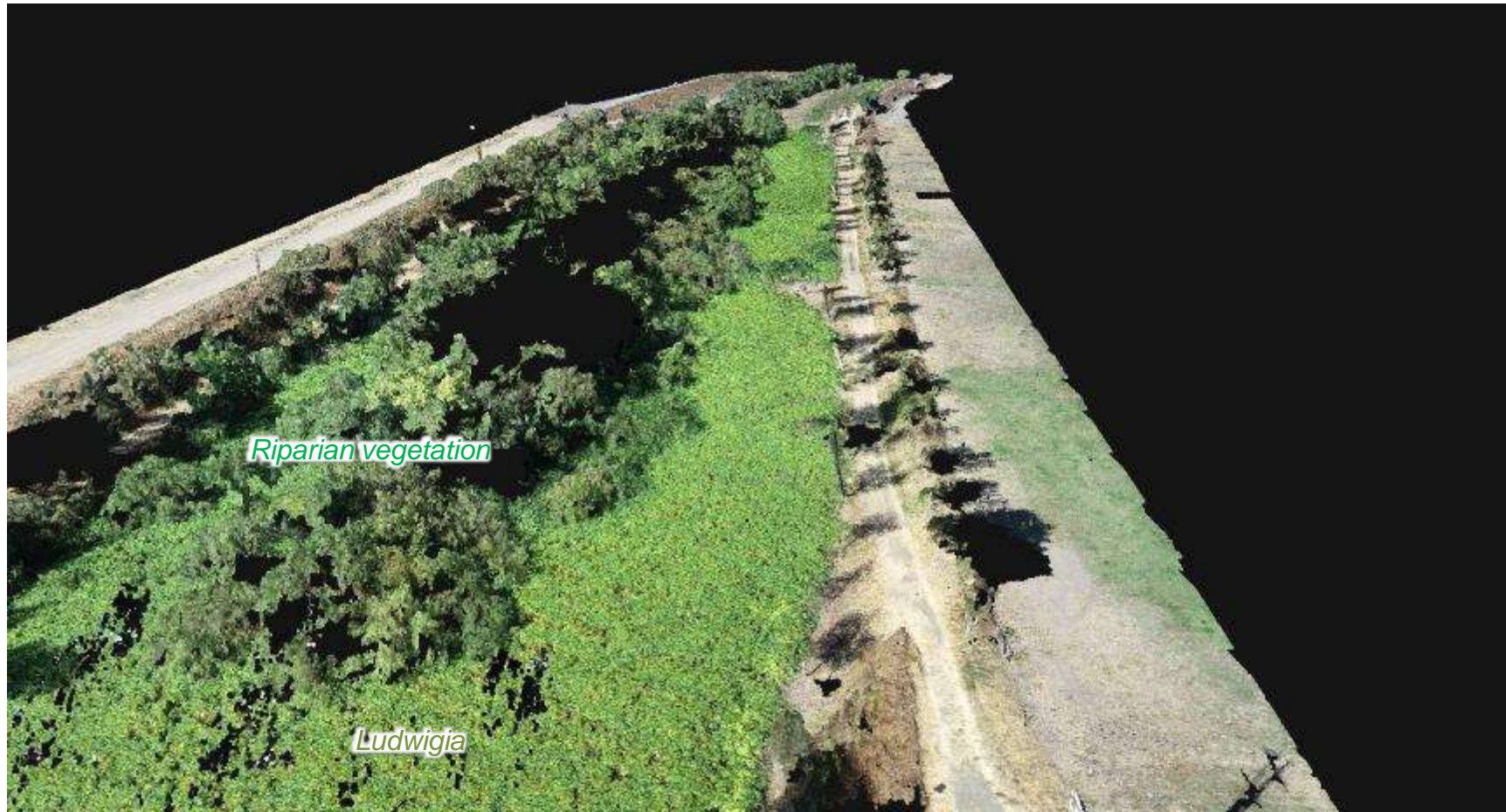
Laguna 1 and 2 WQCT







Laguna 1 Before



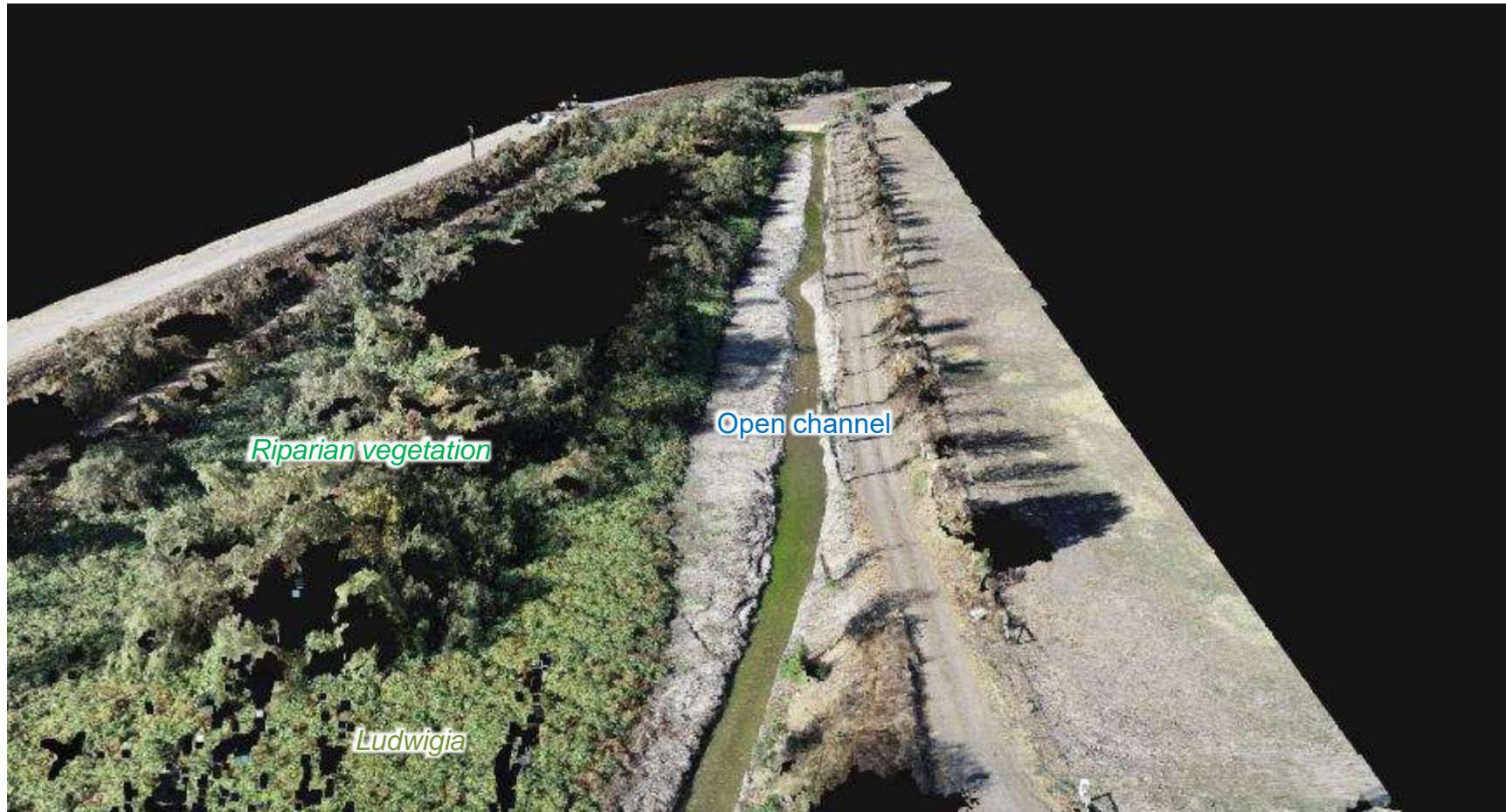
Riparian vegetation

Ludwigia



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Laguna 1 After



Riparian vegetation

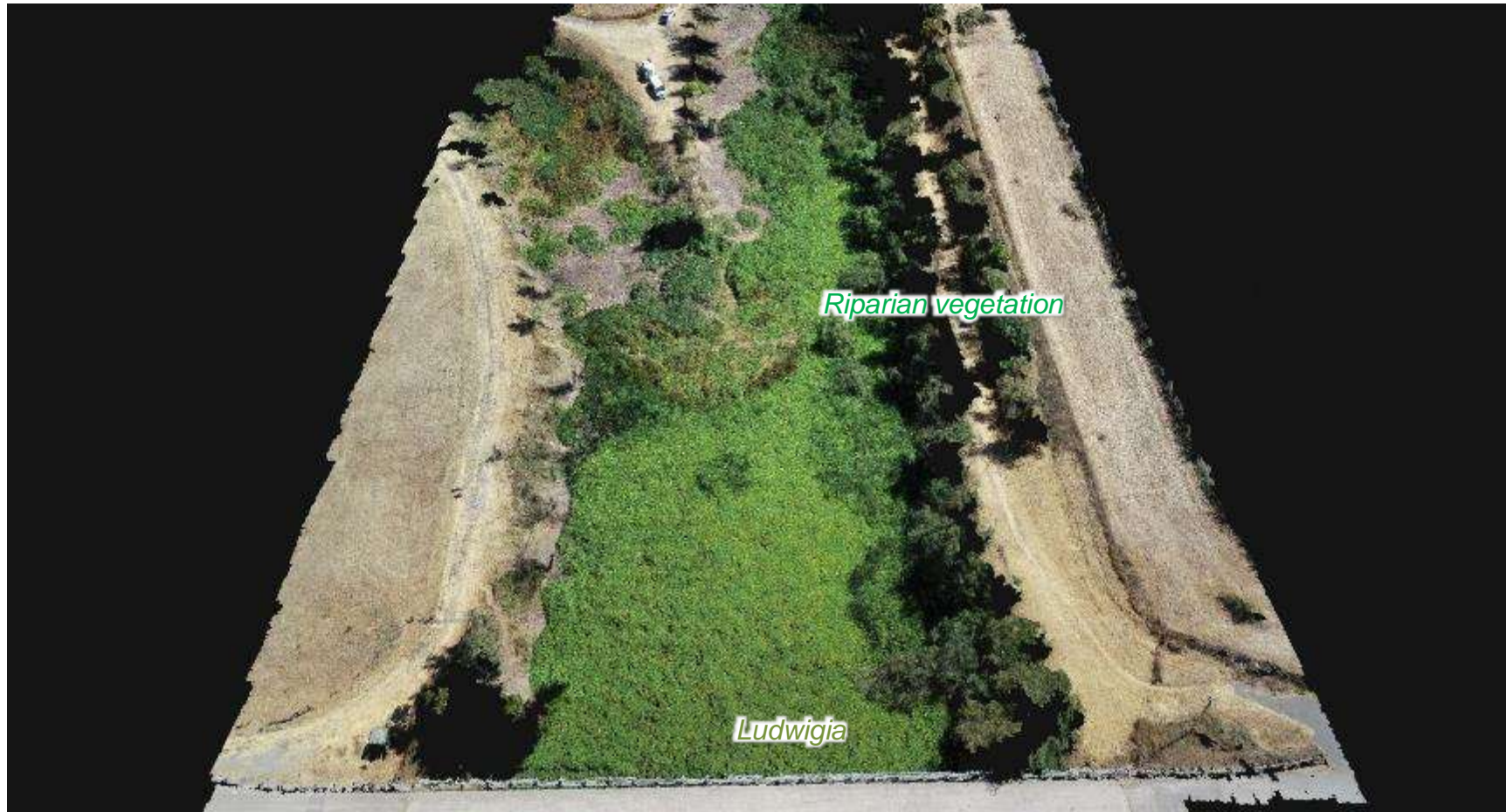
Open channel

Ludwigia

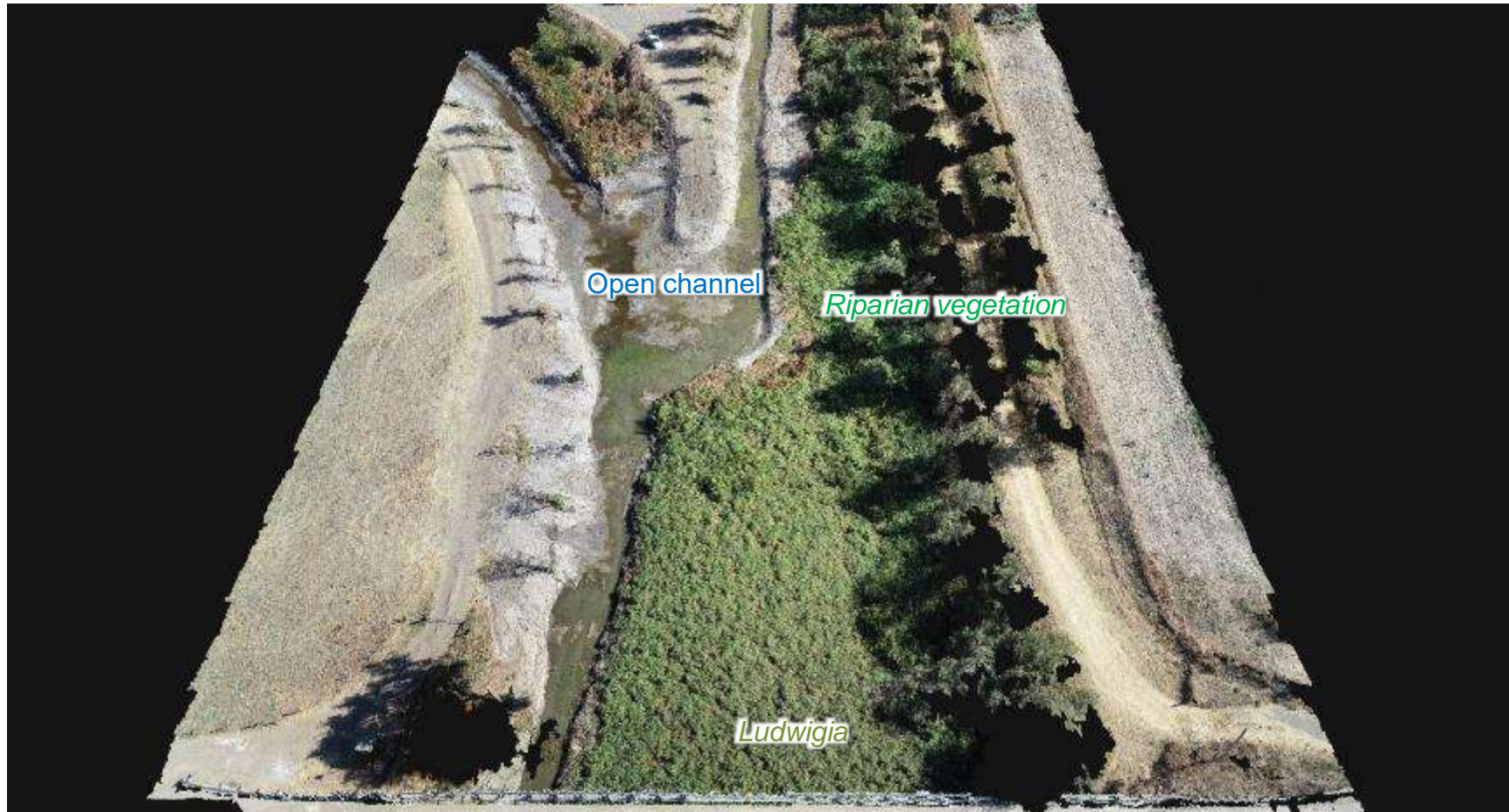


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Laguna 2 Before



Laguna 2 After



Estimated Phosphorus Credits

Quantification Method	Total P Credits total lbs (yrs)
Reduced Internal loading	<u>1,000</u> (10 years)
Direct Removal (estimated)	<u>9,000</u> (3 years)

Testing

eurofins		CalScience		Analytical Report			
Sonoma County Water Agency 404 Aviation Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 94503-9073		Date Received: 05/08/19 Work Order: 19-05-0532 Preparation: N/A Method: SM 4500 P B/E (M) Units: mg/kg		Project: Stream Maintenance Program			
Client Sample Number	Lab Sample Number	Date/Time Collected	Matrix	Instrument	Date Prepared	Date/Time Analyzed	QC Batch ID
1A-19-005	19-05-0532-S-A	05/02/19 08:15	Seawater	UV 7	05/13/19	05/13/19 16:55	J0519TFL3
Comment(s): - Results are reported on a dry weight basis. - Results were evaluated to the MDL (DL), concentrations >= to the MDL (DL) but < RL (LOQ), if found, are qualified with a "J" flag.							
Parameter	Result	DL	MDL	RL	QC	Qualifies	
Phosphorus, Total	4000	1800	360	1000			
1A-19-005	19-05-0532-S-A	05/02/19 08:15	Seawater	UV 7	05/13/19	05/13/19 16:55	J0519TFL3

Verification

SONOMA		RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT	
1221 Farmers Lane, Suite F Santa Rosa, CA 95405		707.569.1448 SonomaRCD.org	
December 10, 2019			
Heather Johnson City of Santa Rosa 4300 Liano Road Santa Rosa, CA 95407			
Re: Verification of Nutrient Offset Credits for Laguna de Santa Rosa Reaches 1 and 2 Project			



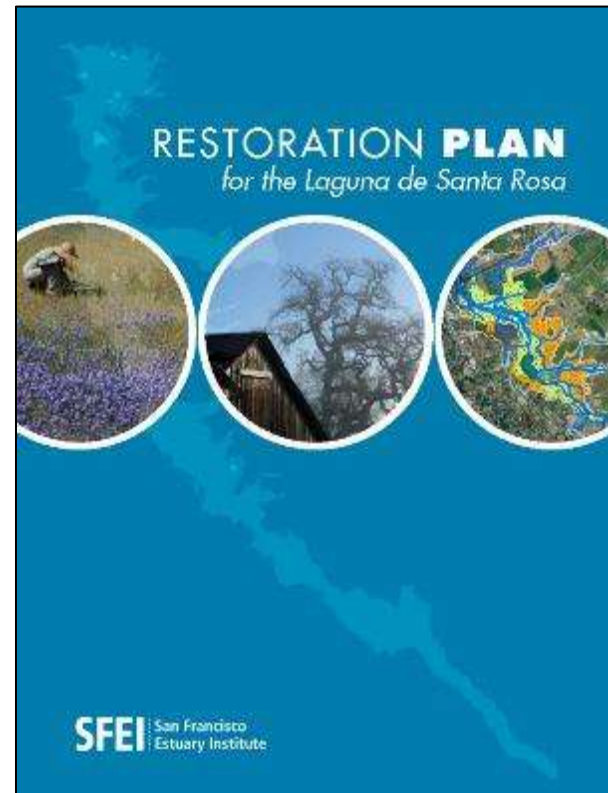
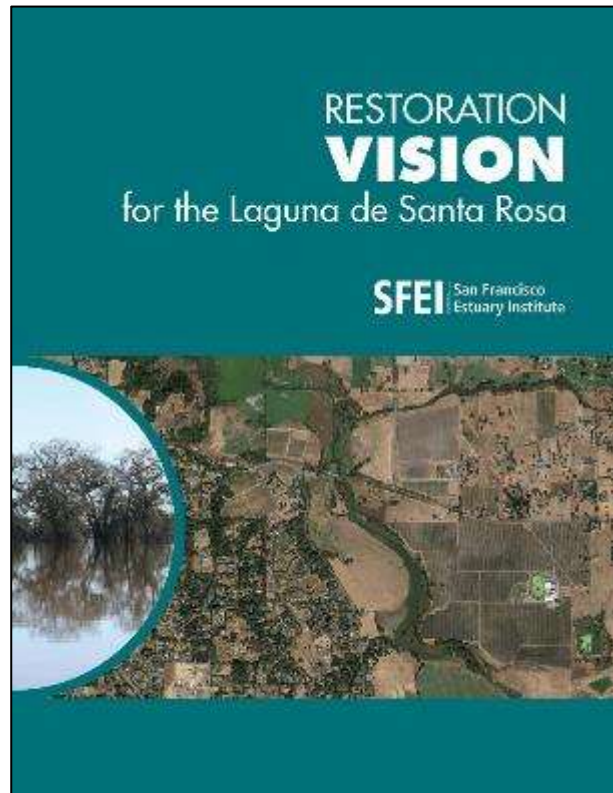
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Verified Phosphorus Credits

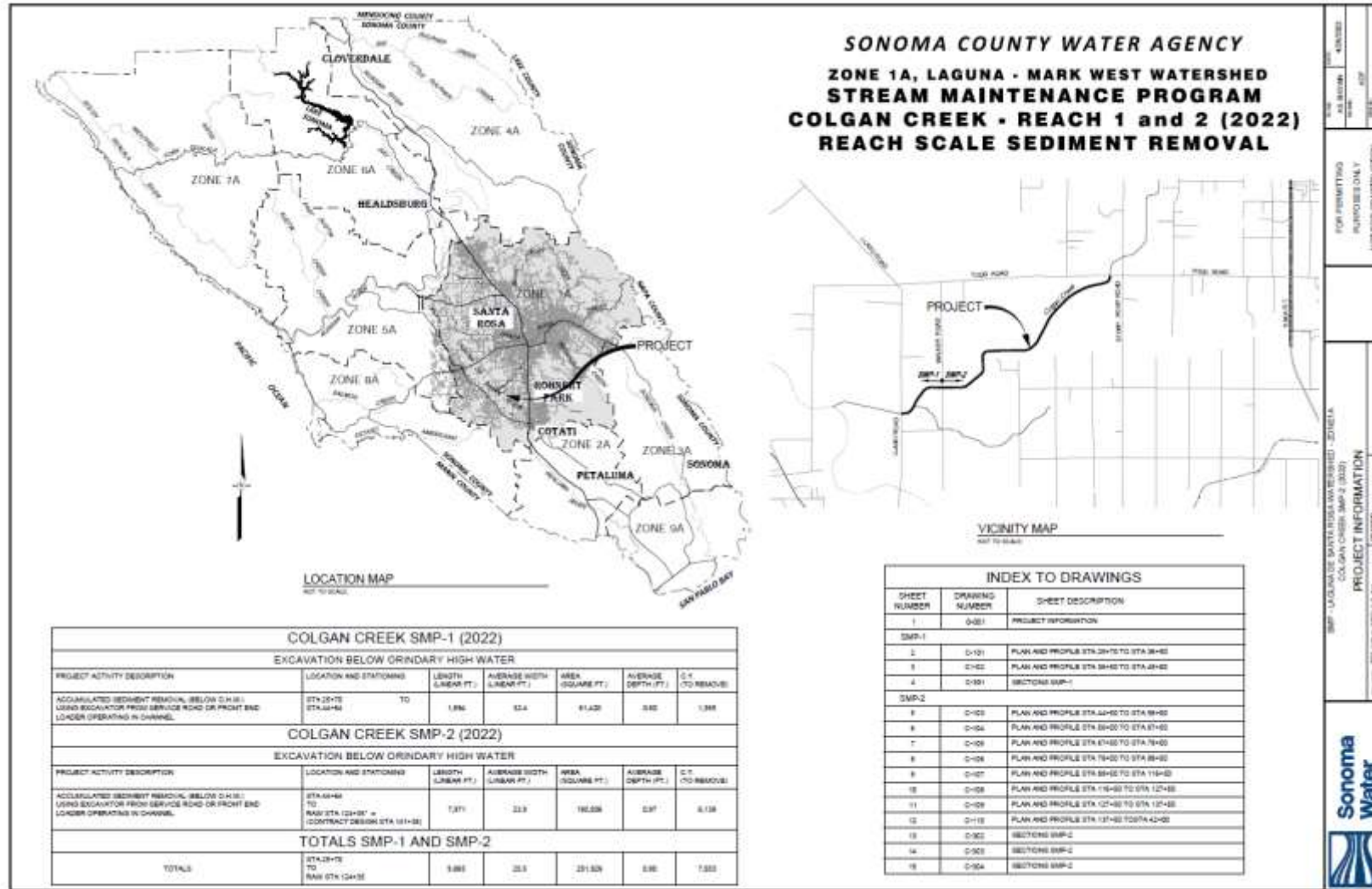
Quantification Method	Total P Credits total lbs (yrs)
Reduced Internal loading	<u>1,000</u> <u>(10 years)</u>
Direct Removal (estimated)	<u>9,000</u> <u>(3 years)</u>
Direct Removal (verified)	<u>14,742</u> <u>(3 years)</u>



CDFW Prop 1 Grant



Colgan Creek WQCT



Sonoma Water





**Sonoma
Water**

Neil Lassetre, PhD
Principal Environmental Specialist
neil.lassettre@scwa.ca.gov



sonomawater.ca.gov

STREAMFLOW AND BEYOND: THE MULTIPLE BENEFITS OF SMALL- SCALE WATER STORAGE AND FORBEARANCE PROJECTS

Jessica Pollitz, P.E., Sonoma Resource Conservation District

Mary Ann King, Trout Unlimited

Troy Cameron, Trout Unlimited

March 27th, 2024



INTRO



OUTLINE

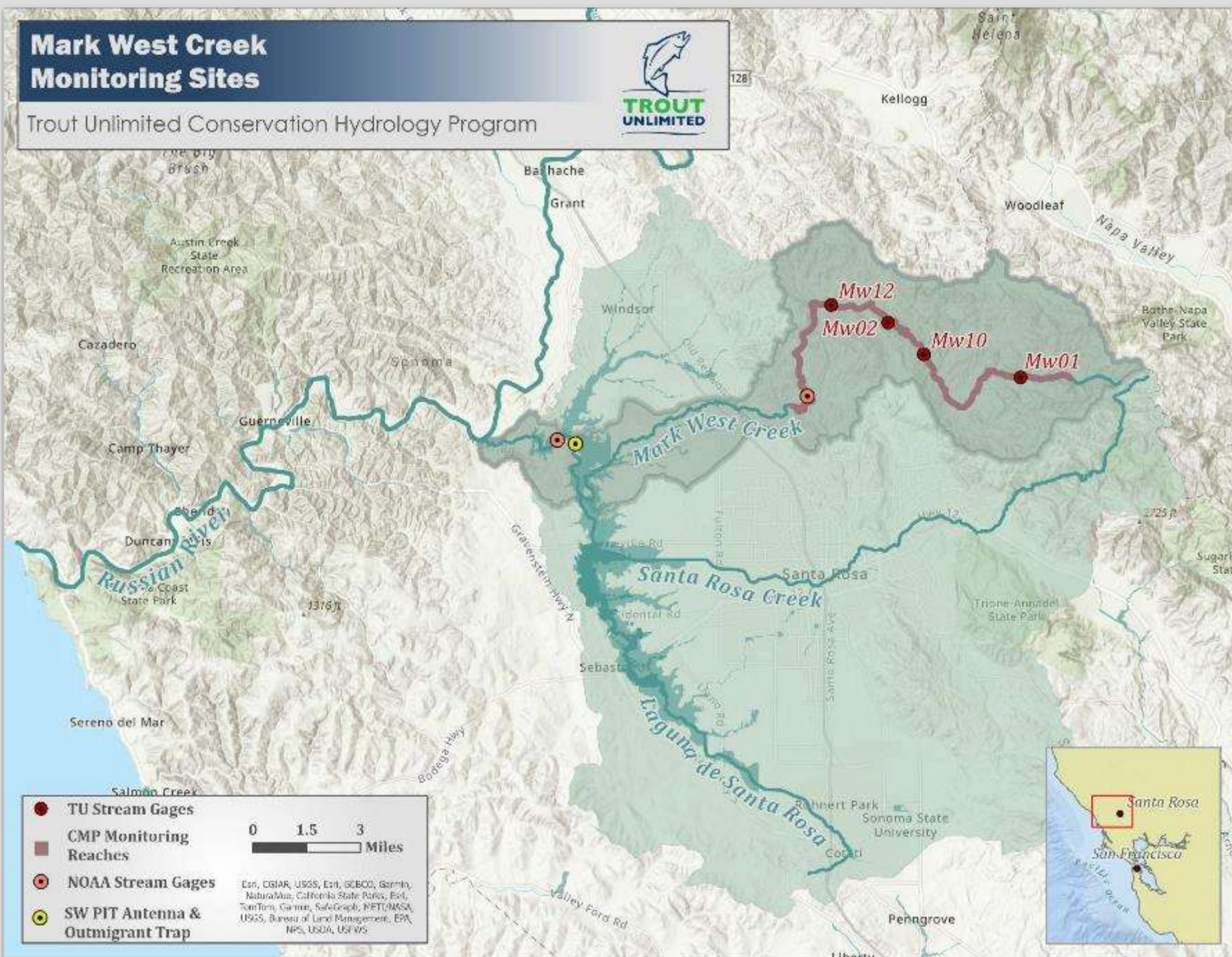
- Fish
- Flow
- Tanks
- Beyond
- Q&A





FISH



Mark West Creek Monitoring Sites

Trout Unlimited Conservation Hydrology Program



-  TU Stream Gages
-  CMP Monitoring Reaches
-  NOAA Stream Gages
-  SW PIT Antenna & Outmigrant Trap

0 1.5 3 Miles

Enr, CGIA, USGS, Enr, GBCO, Garmin, Nabira/Mu, California State Parks, Enr, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, RFT/MASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS



Coho Salmon Stocking



Cohort (Hatch year)	Total coho salmon released in Mark West Creek	Total coho salmon released in the Russian River	Proportion of total coho salmon released
2016	25,211	158,382	15.92%
2017	0	133,849	0%
2018	7,135	133,014	5.36%
2019	32,709	194,039	16.86%
2020	23,721	214,432	11.06%
2021	7,991	133,100*	6%
2022	6,615	85,800*	7.7%

*approximate number of fish



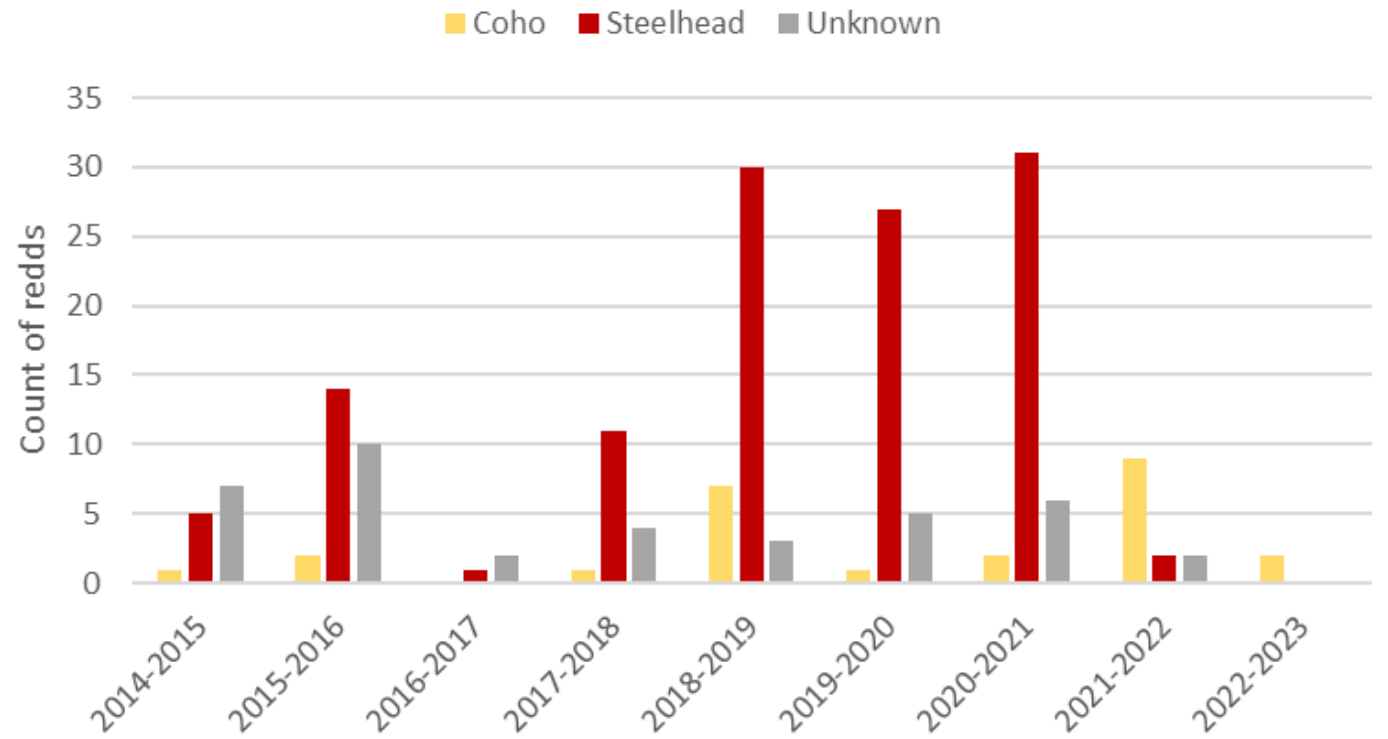
Clean. Reliable. Essential. Every Day

Downstream Migrant Trapping



Adult Spawning

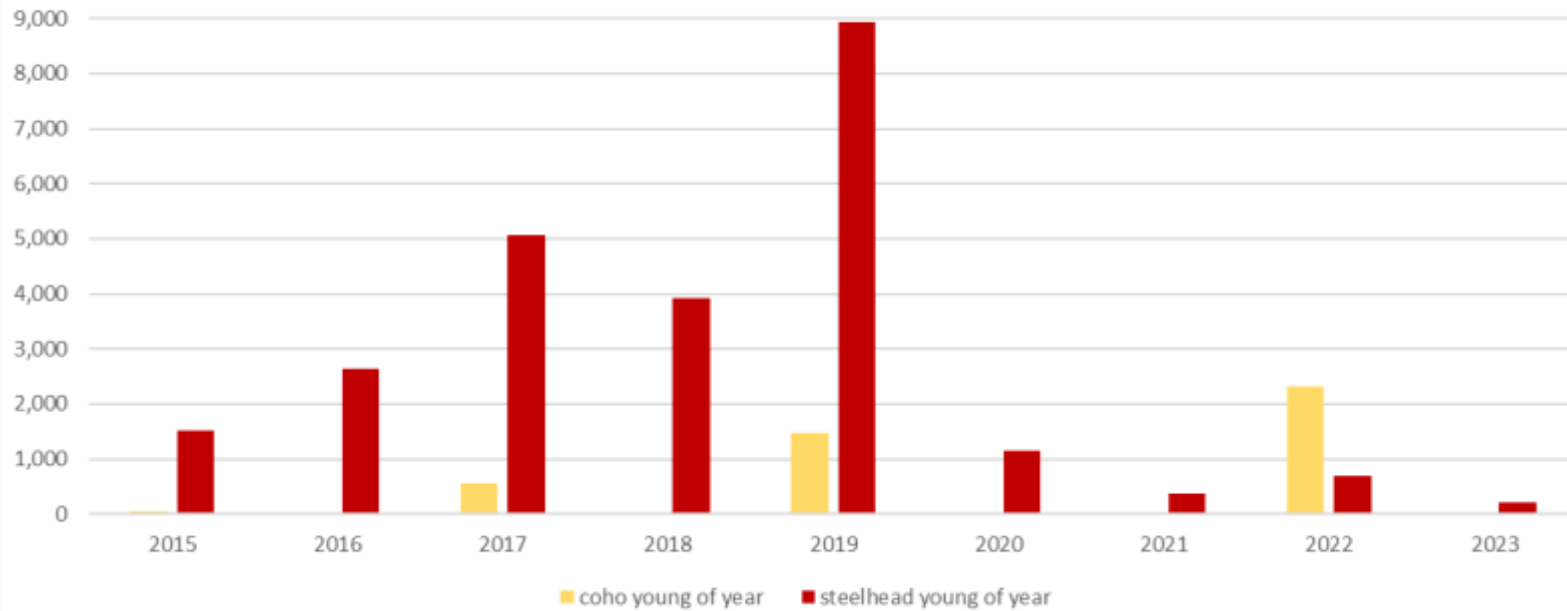
Mark West Creek Salmonid Redds by Year



Juvenile Snorkel Surveys



Mark West Creek Juvenile Salmonid Expanded Counts by Year

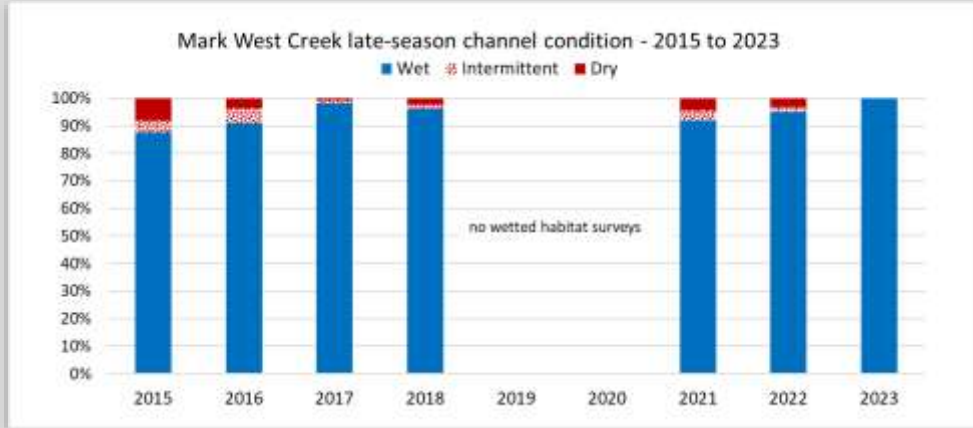
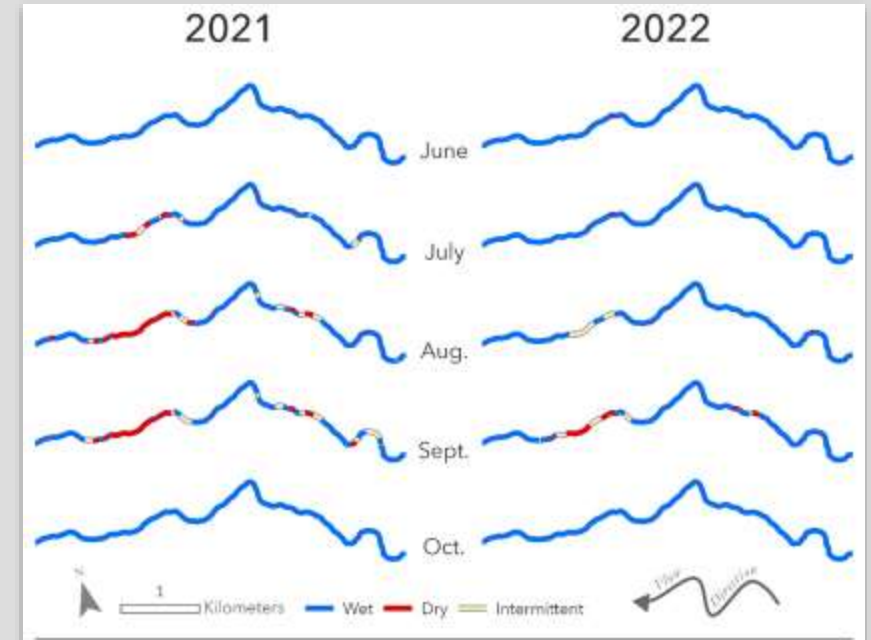


Mark West Creek: September 2021 Wetted Habitat

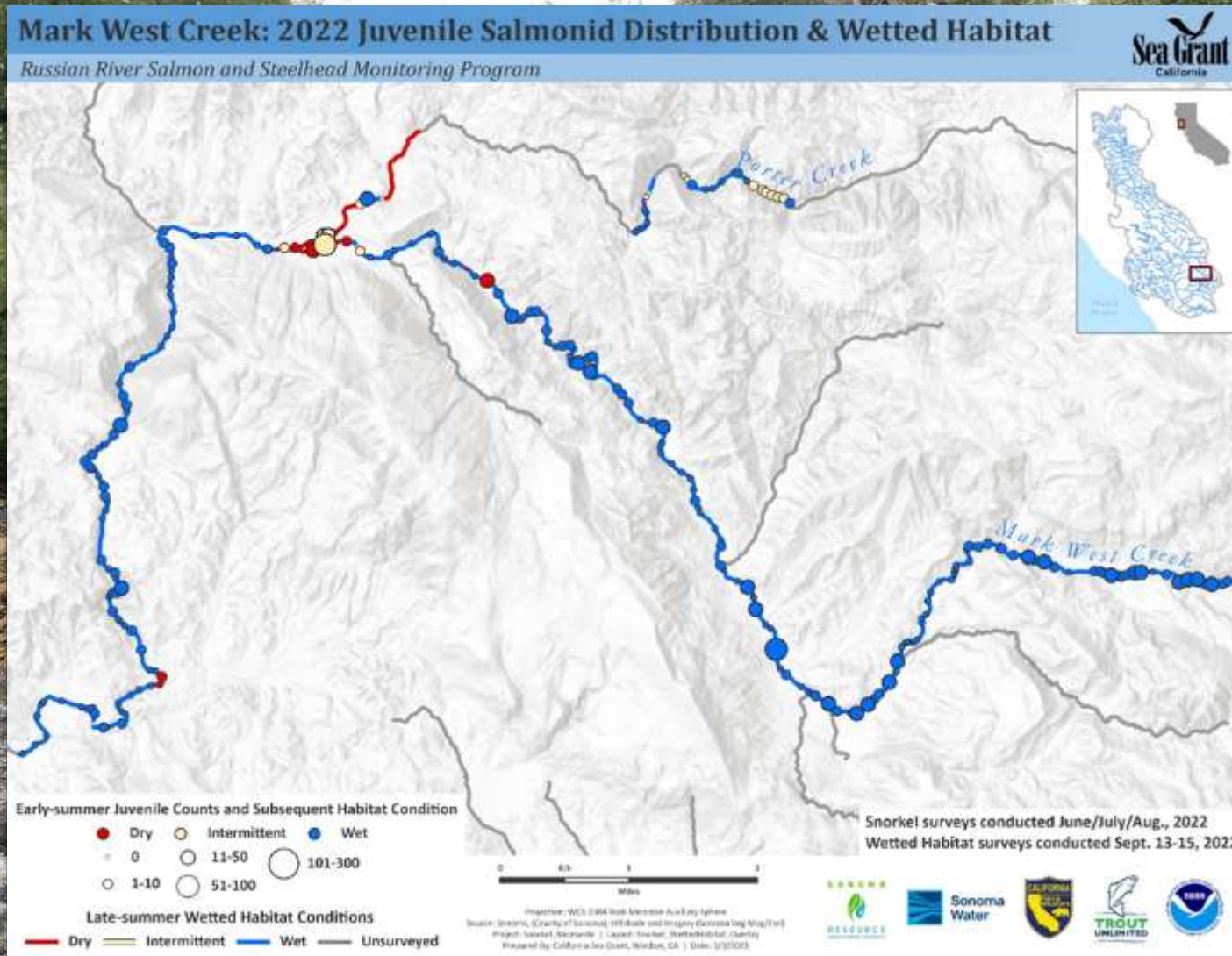
Russian River Salmon and Steelhead Monitoring Program



Wetted Habitat Surveys



Juvenile Salmonids & Wetted Habitat



Water Quality Monitoring



Wetted Habitat by Sample

Use the buttons on the left side to display data on map, zoom in on map to view water quality pool data, click on features in map to display survey date, Pool metrics are discrete samples and shouldn't be used for analysis

Select Year

Clear Selection	2012	2013	
2014	2015	2016	2017
2018	2019	2020	2021
2022	2023		

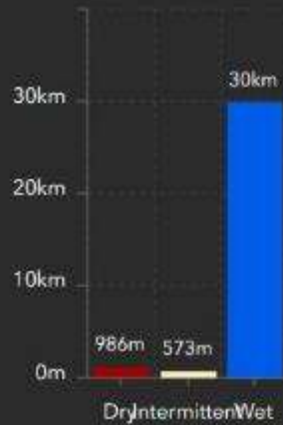
Select Stream

Austin Creek	Bearpen Creek
Crane Creek	
Dead Coyote Creek	Devil Creek
Dutch Bill Creek	
East Austin Creek	Felta Creek
Freezeout Creek	Gilliam Creek

Select Sample Number

Clear Selection	1	2	3	4
5				

Wetted habitat proportions for selected streams



Survey Date

09-13... 09-15...

Pools in map extent

Avg Pool Temp

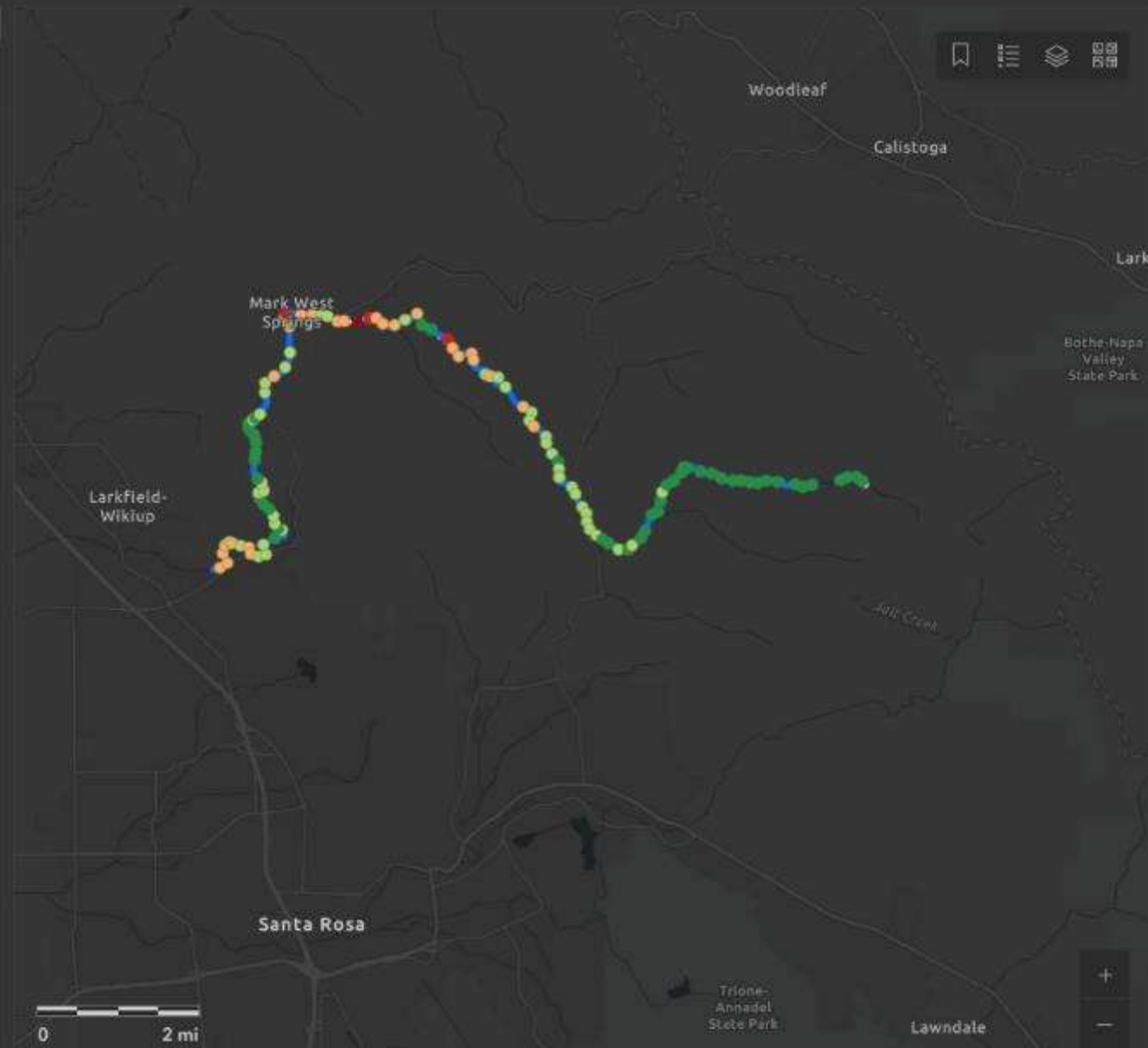
17.2 C

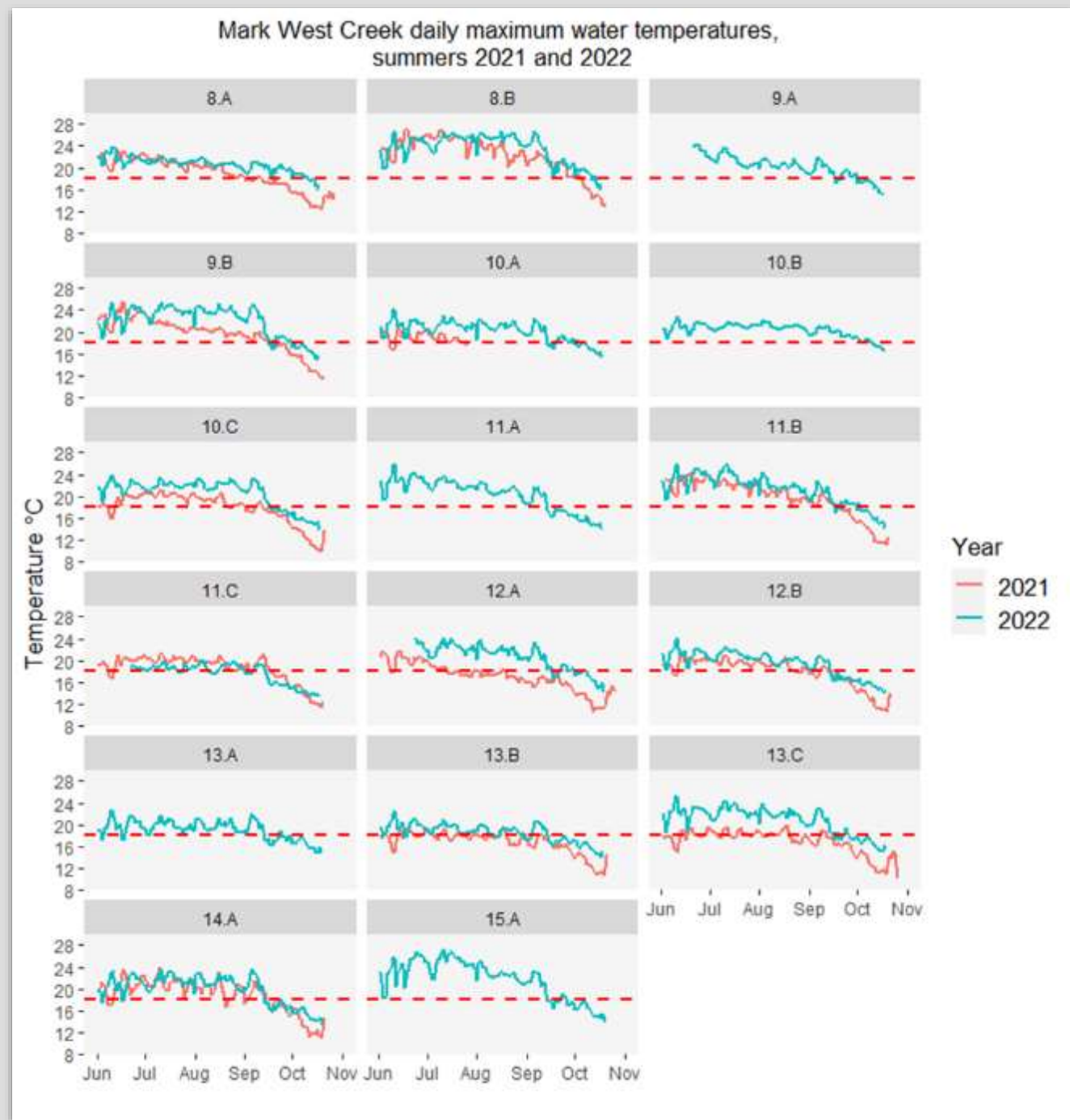
Avg. Pool DO

7.7 mg/L

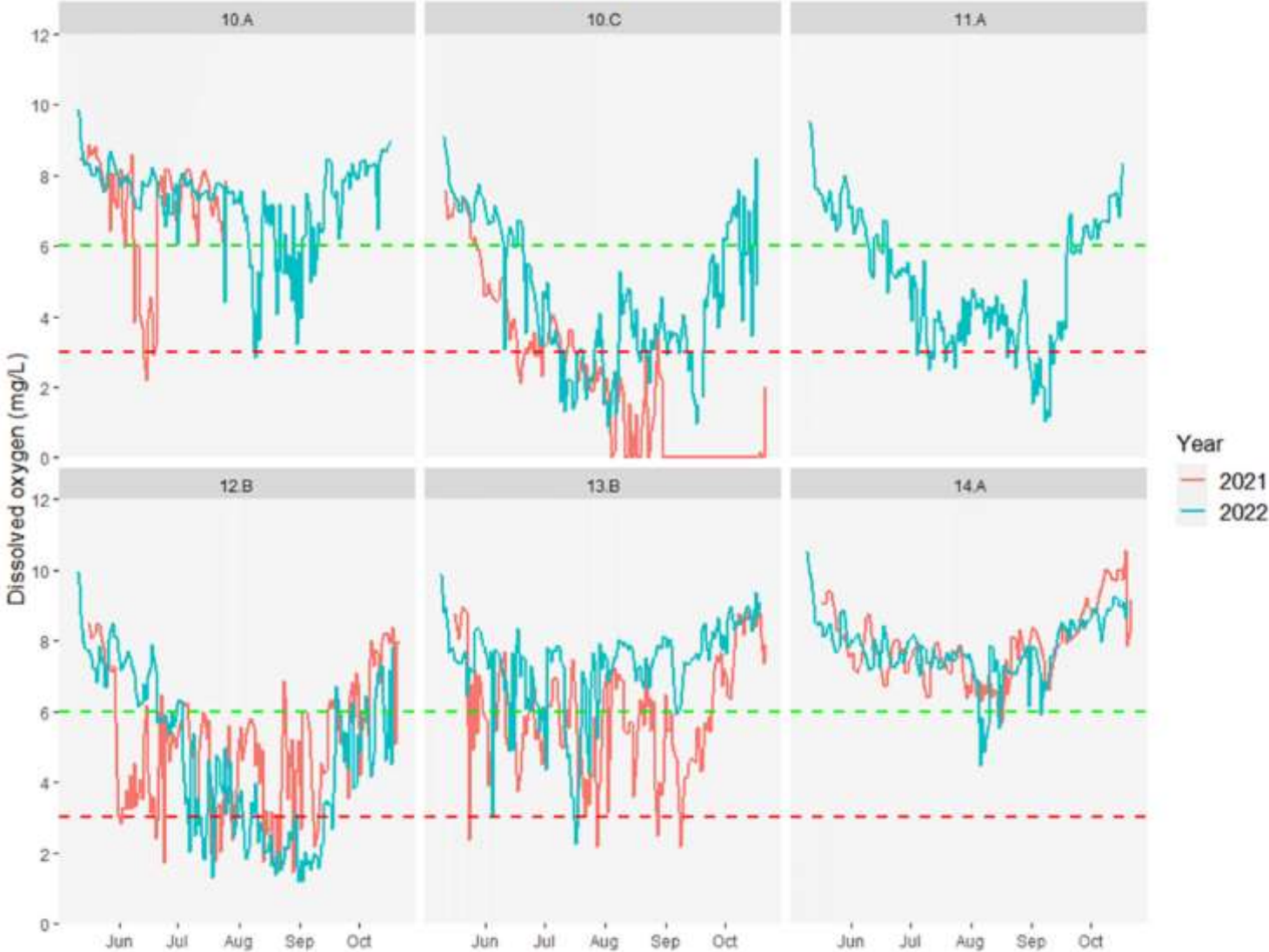
Avg. Pool RCT

0.2 ft

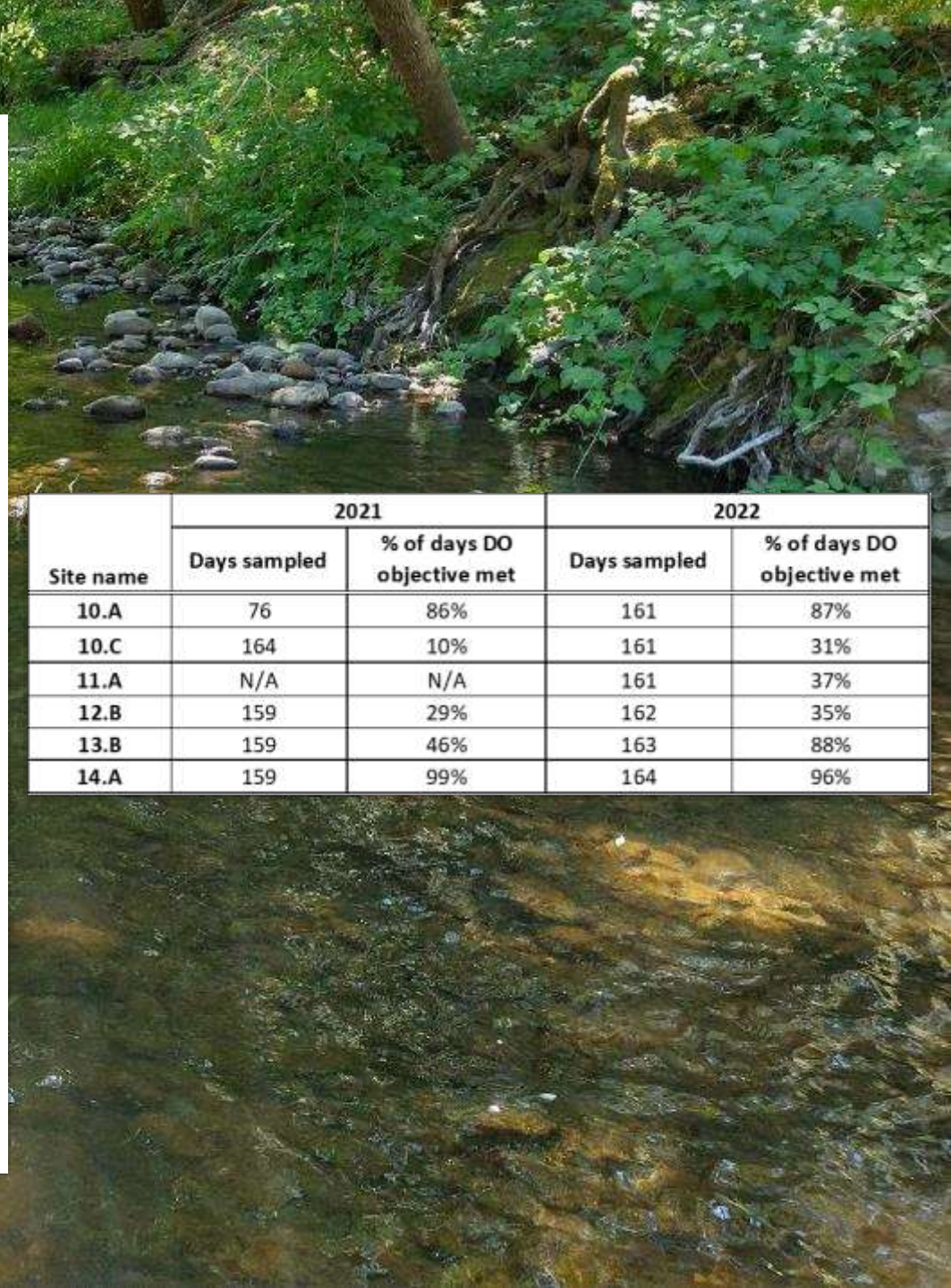




Mark West Creek daily minimum dissolved oxygen concentrations, summers 2021 and 2022



Site name	2021		2022	
	Days sampled	% of days DO objective met	Days sampled	% of days DO objective met
10.A	76	86%	161	87%
10.C	164	10%	161	31%
11.A	N/A	N/A	161	37%
12.B	159	29%	162	35%
13.B	159	46%	163	88%
14.A	159	99%	164	96%



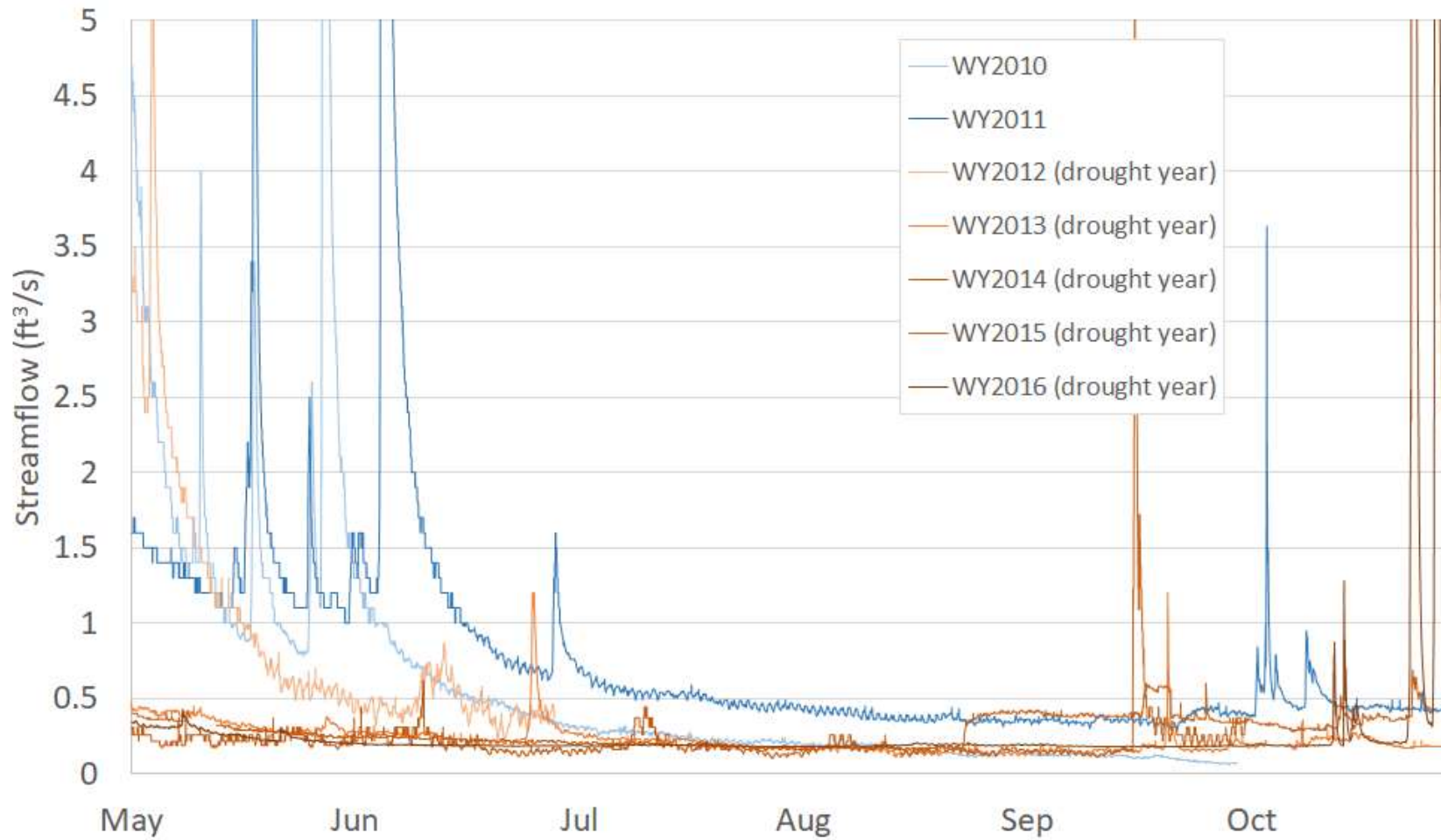
FLOW



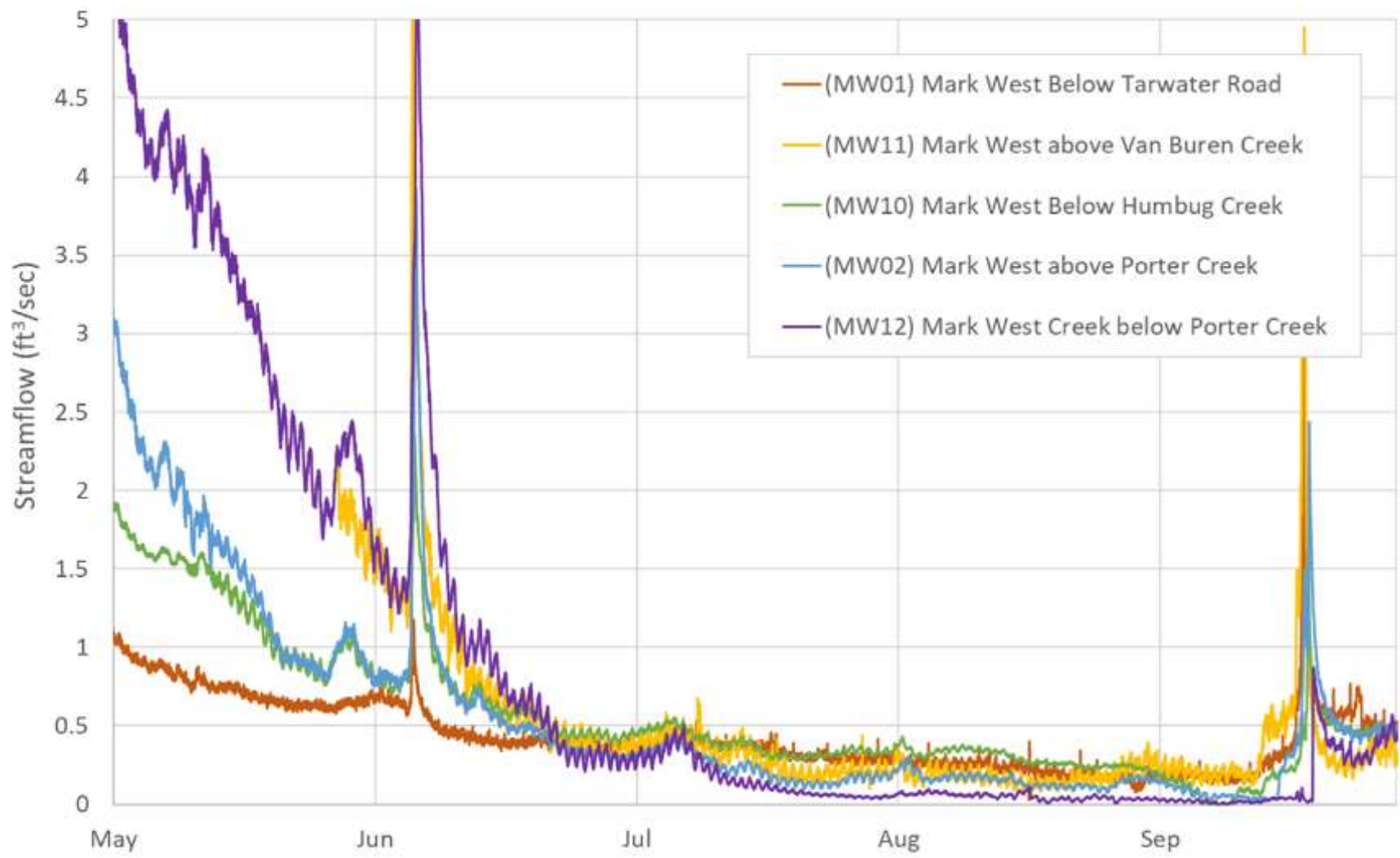
Stream Gage Network



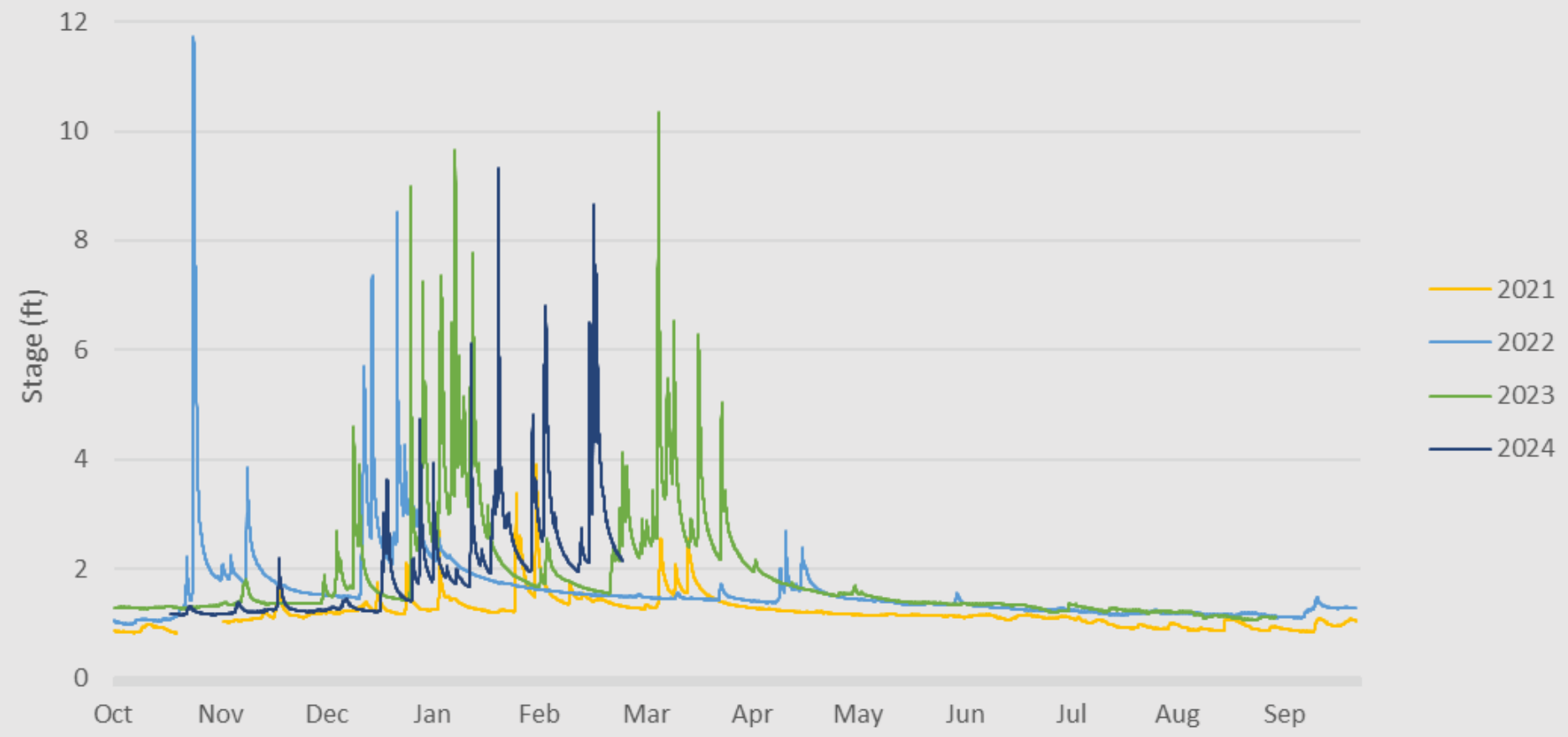
MW01 Streamflow Conditions WY's 2011-2016



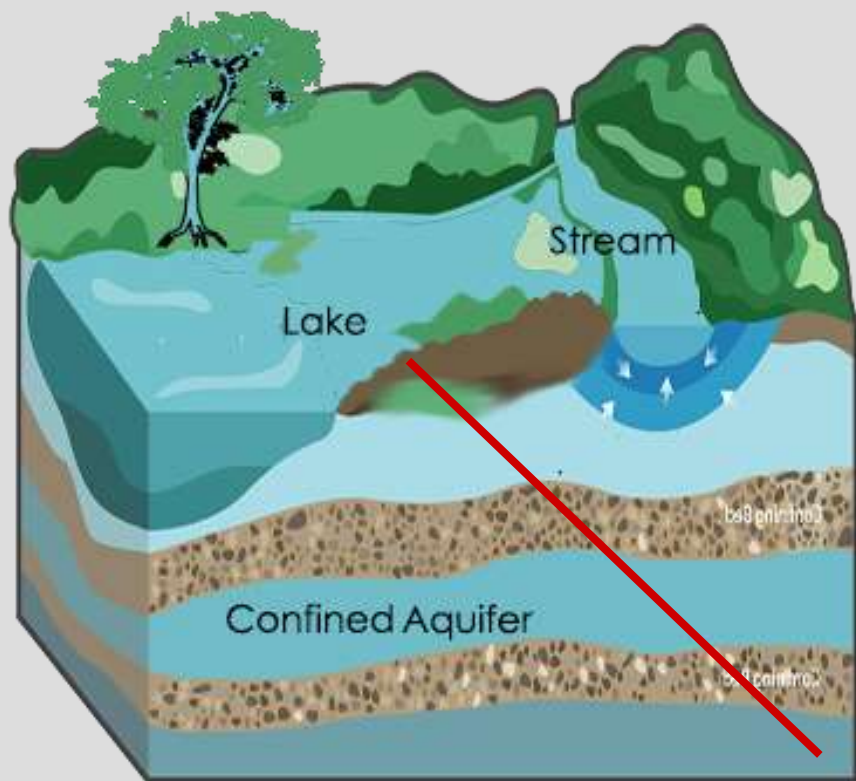
Mark West Creek streamflow WY2022



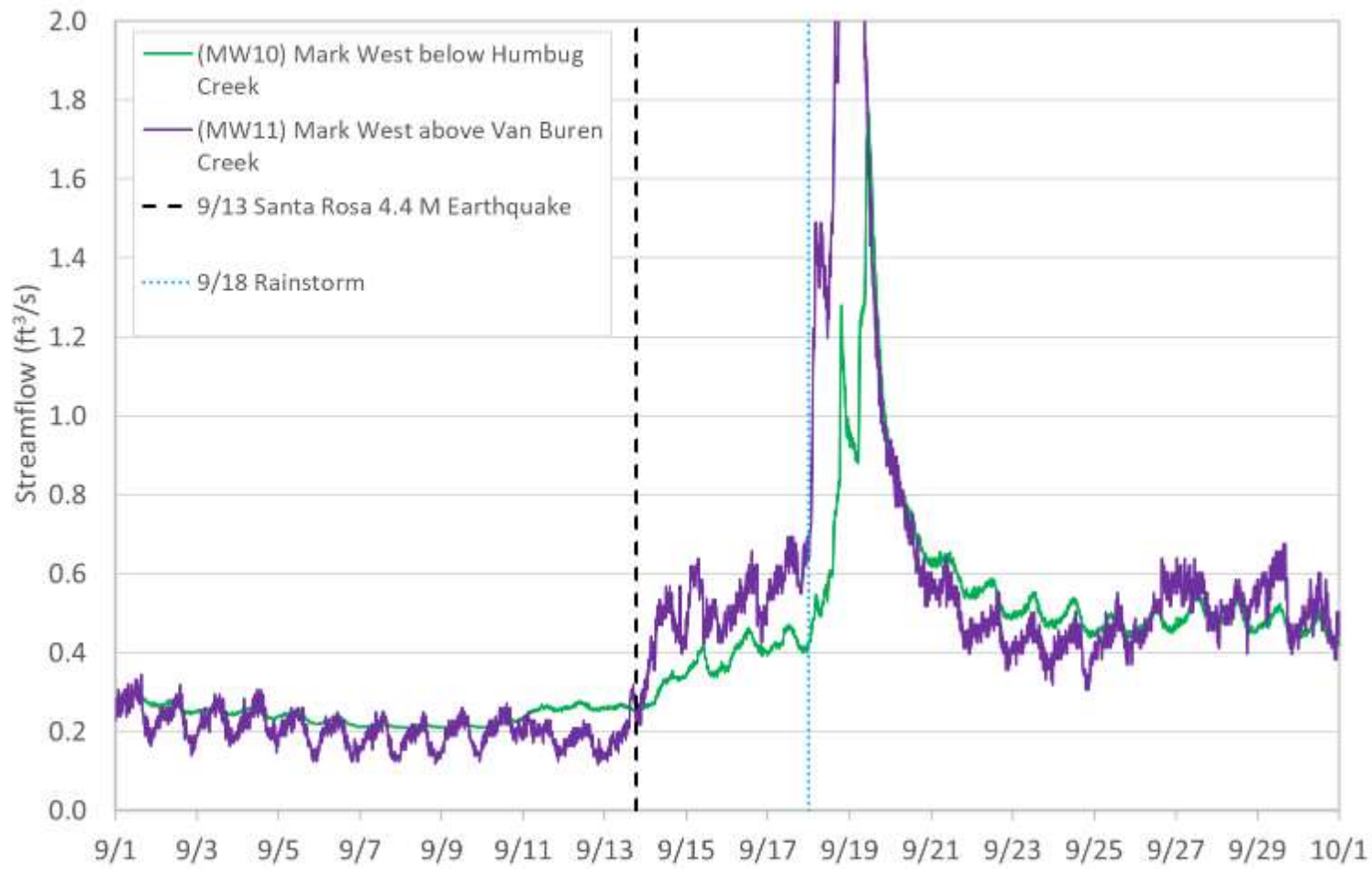
MW02 Stage WY's 2021-2024



Earthquake!



Mark West Creek Streamflow WY2022



TANKS

Gateway to
landowner/manager
engagement



Tank Projects in Mark West

Water Source

- Rainwater
- Well water
- Spring water
- Direct diversion water

Uses

- Non-potable/Potable
- Irrigation
- Fire Protection
- Livestock
- Dust Control
- Misc. Farm Operations

Benefits

- Streamflow Enhancement
- Water security
- Fire protection
- Landowner/manager engagement



Key Projects

Coho Partnership (2009-2022)

- NFWF
- 5 projects
- 125,000 gallons

WCB Streamflow Enhancement Model

- Detailed flow model of upper Mark West
- Identified key Coho habitat reaches

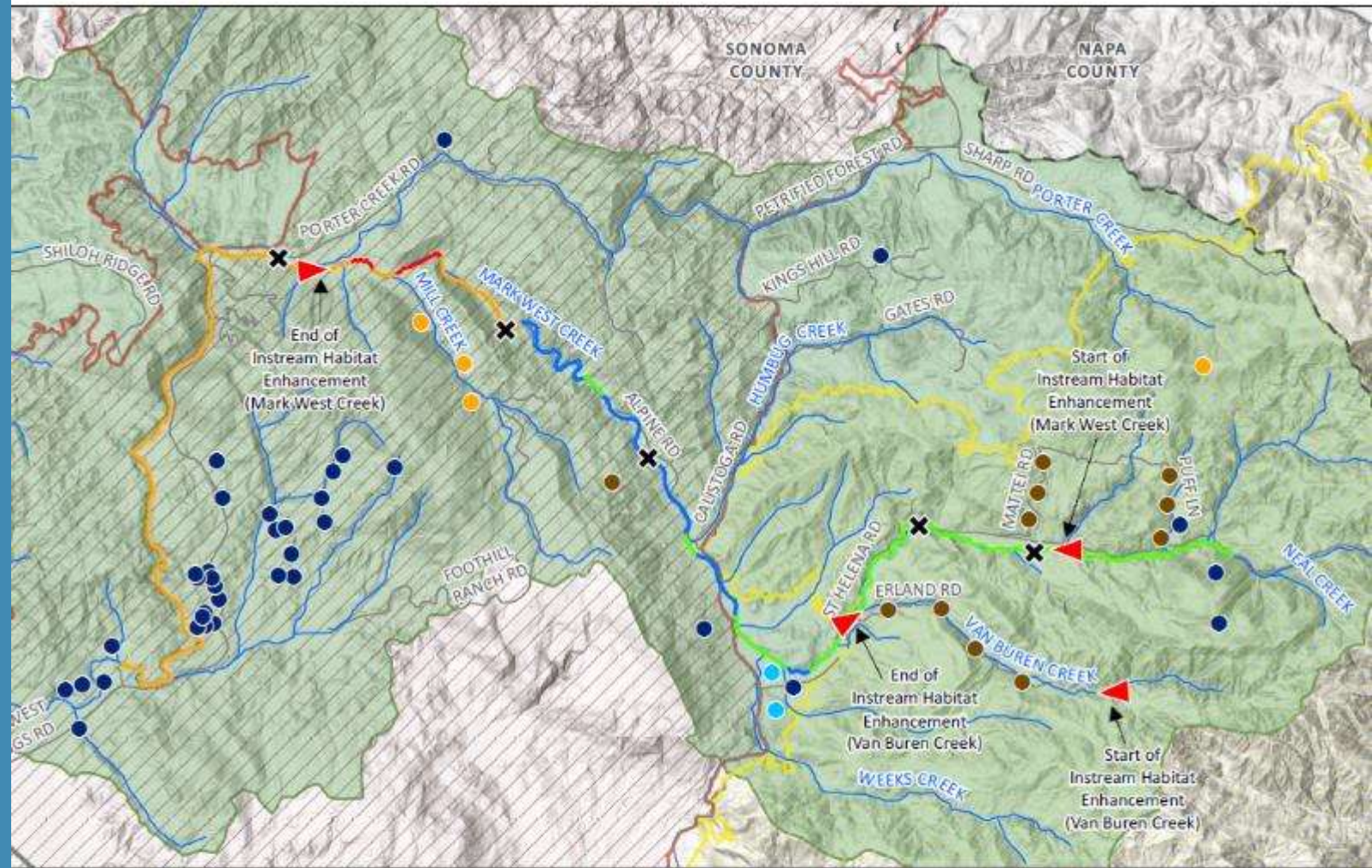
WCB Streamflow Enhancement (2020-2023)

- 7 projects
- 160,000 gallons



BEYOND

- Tanks as a gateway
- Fire - fish - flow
 - Flow enhancement & emergency preparedness
 - Storage & fire resilient landscapes



Mark West Creek Multi-Benefit Map

Project Type

- Fuel Load Reduction/PBR
- Pond Development
- Rainwater Storage
- Sediment Reduction
- Instream Habitat Enhancement (Start/End)

Mark West Creek Reaches

- Flow and Temp. Limited*
- Temp. Limited*
- Flow Limited*
- Most Suitable Habitat*
- Other Reaches

*Based on Sonoma RCD's Mill Creek Watershed Flow Enhancement Study

- N
- SONOMA COUNTY
- Mark West Creek Watershed
- 2017 Tubbs Fire Burn Area
- 2020 Glass Fire Burn Area
- Sonoma County Boundary
- Main Roads
- Trout Unlimited Stream

Map created by SRCD
January 2024

1 in = 1 miles



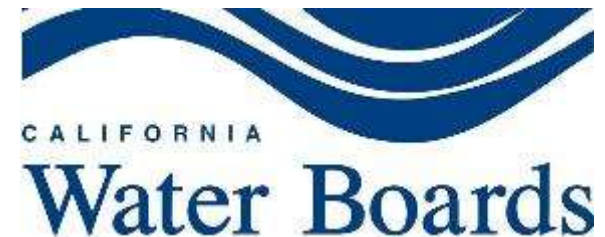


THANK YOU!
Q&A



Collaboration in the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed

Regulators and the Regulated Community



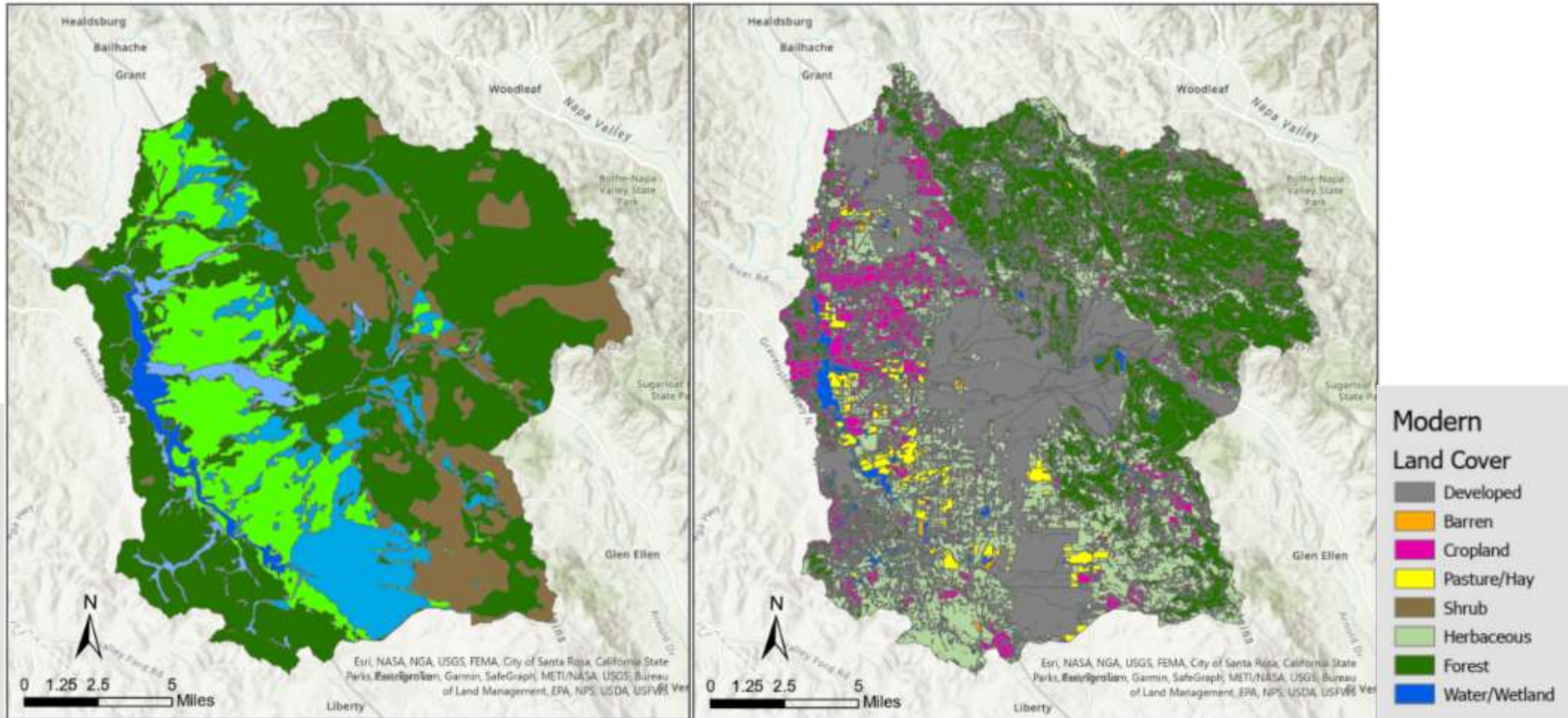
Realizing a Vision of Multi-Benefit Restoration in the Laguna de Santa Rosa/Mark West Creek Watershed workshop

March 27, 2024

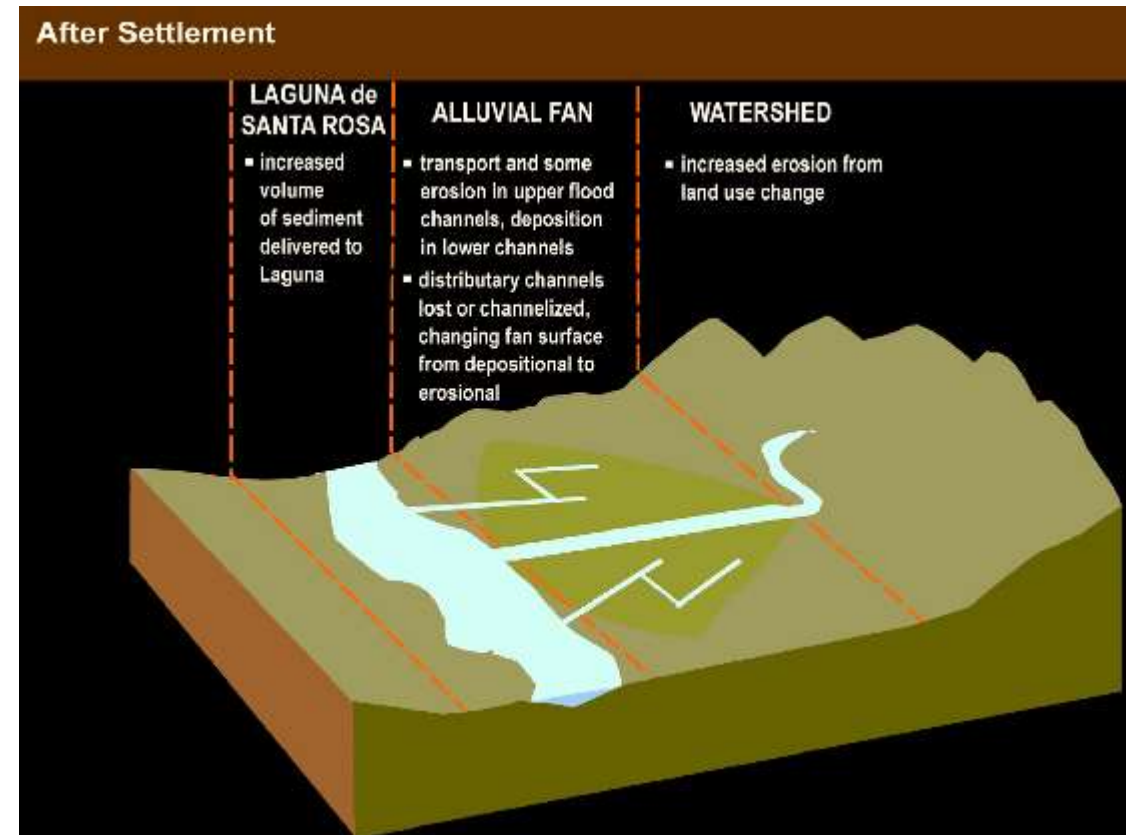
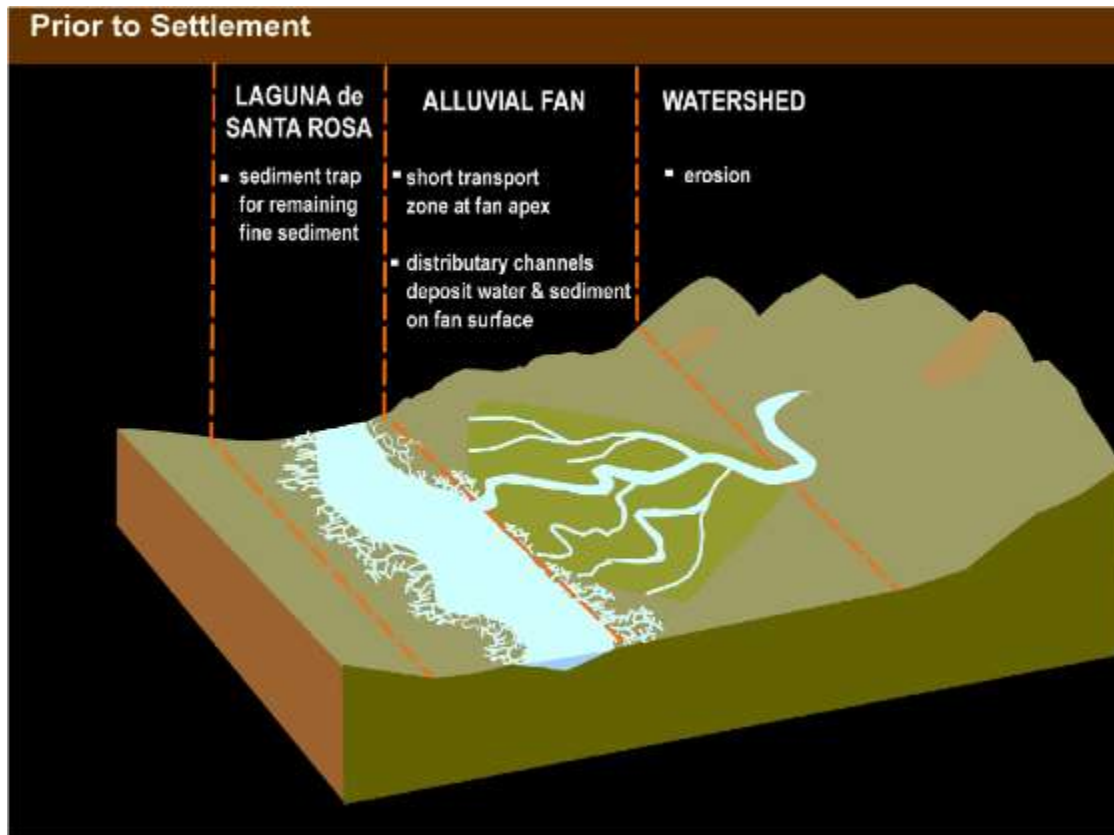
Outline

- Recap of Watershed Impairments
- Water Quality Trading
- Benefits of Credit Trading
- Project Funding
- Collaborative Next Steps

Drivers of Impairment

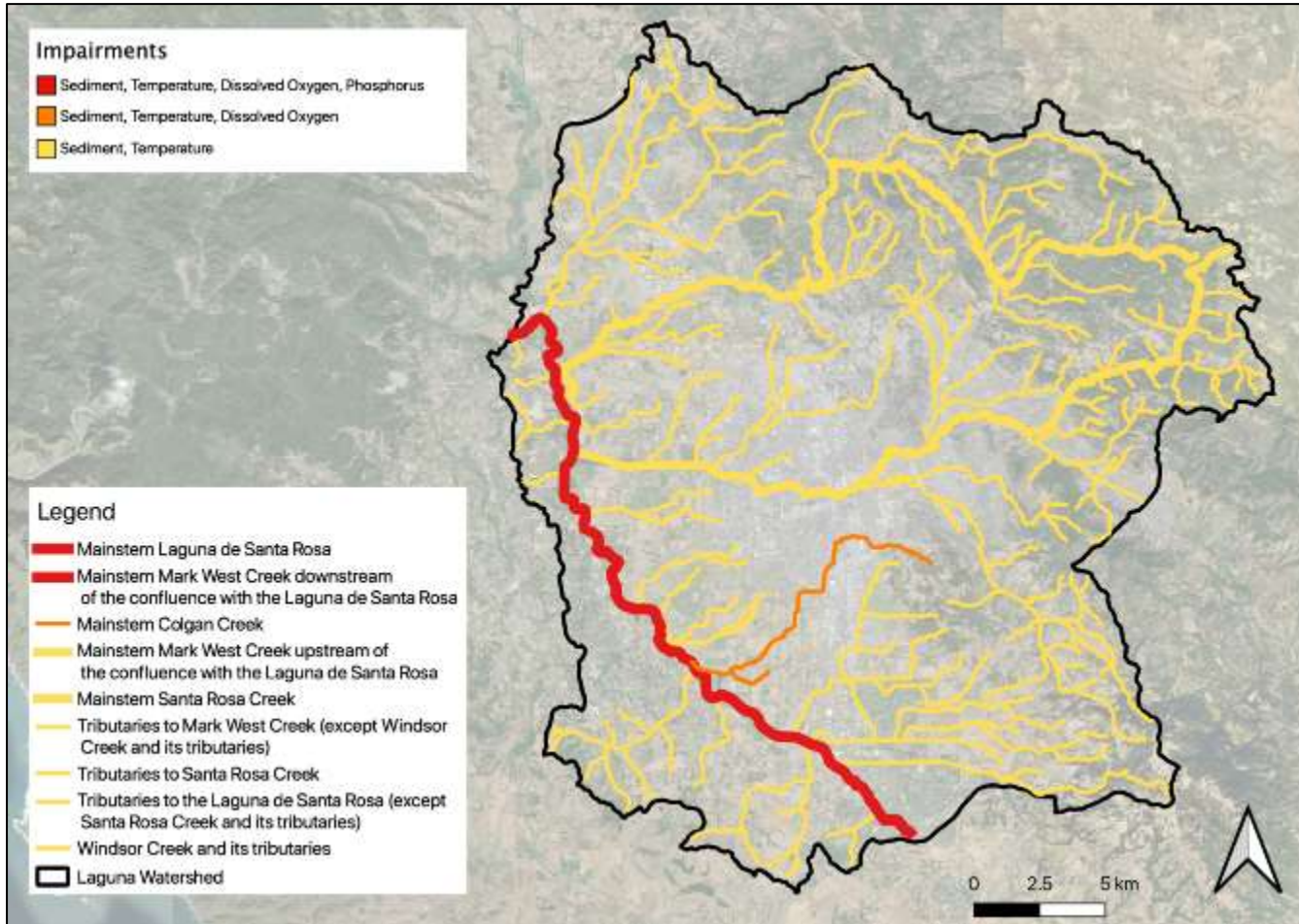


Drivers of Impairment



From Sloop et al., 2007

Scope of Impairment



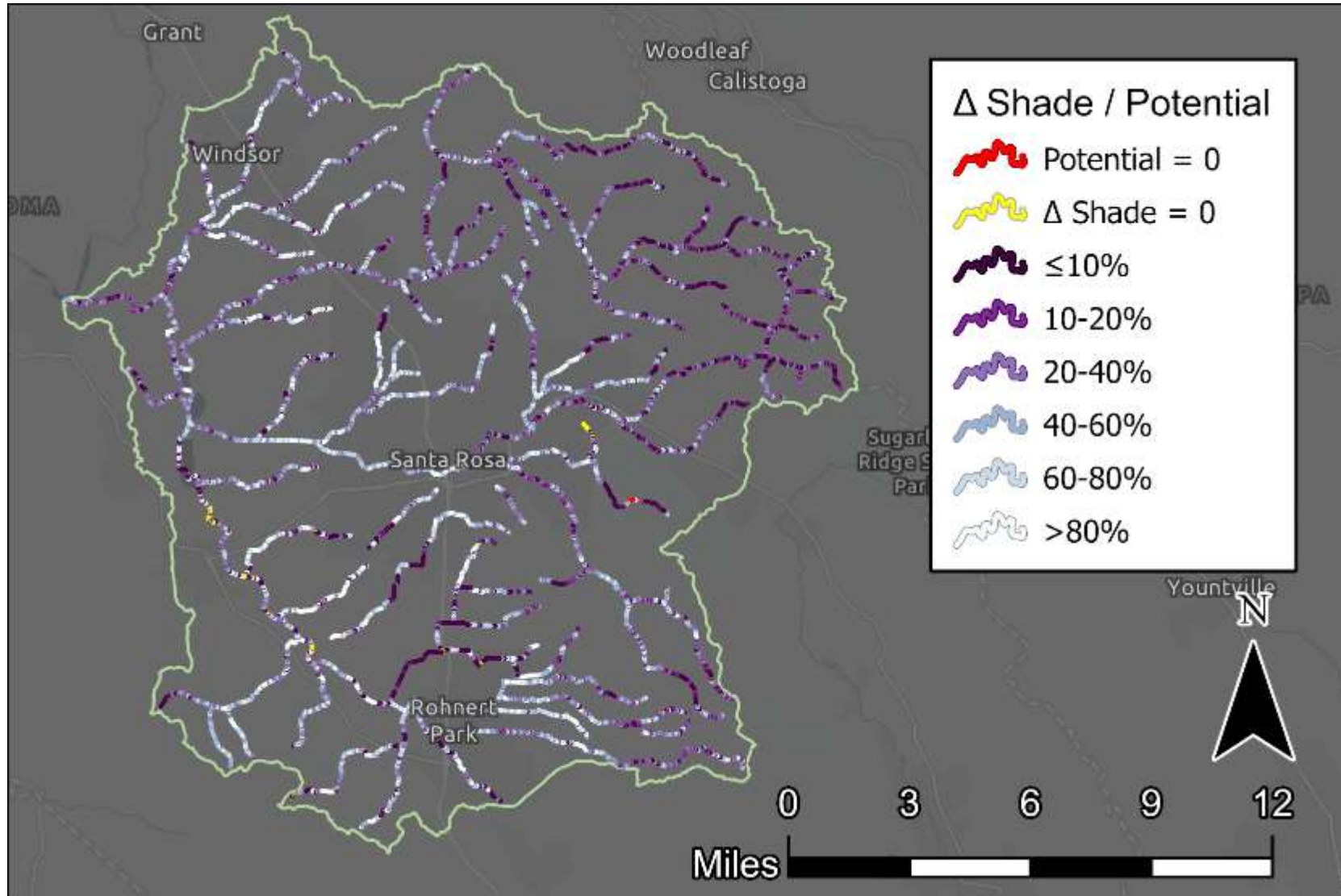
Pollutants

- Sediment
- Phosphorus
- Temperature
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Nitrogen (not mapped)

Scope of Impairment

	Sediment (ton/yr)	Phosphorus (kg/yr)	Nitrogen (kg/yr)
Total Load	91, 368	93,734	367,210
Loading Capacity	9,573	17,883	96,919
Reduction Needed	81,796	75,852	270,291
% Reduction Needed	89.5 %	80.9 %	73.6 %

Shade



Addressing Impairment

Why is a Trading Framework Necessary?

- Diet and exercise
- Provides early implementation opportunities
- Multi-benefit restoration
- Provides ecological uplift
- Potential for cost efficient compliance tool

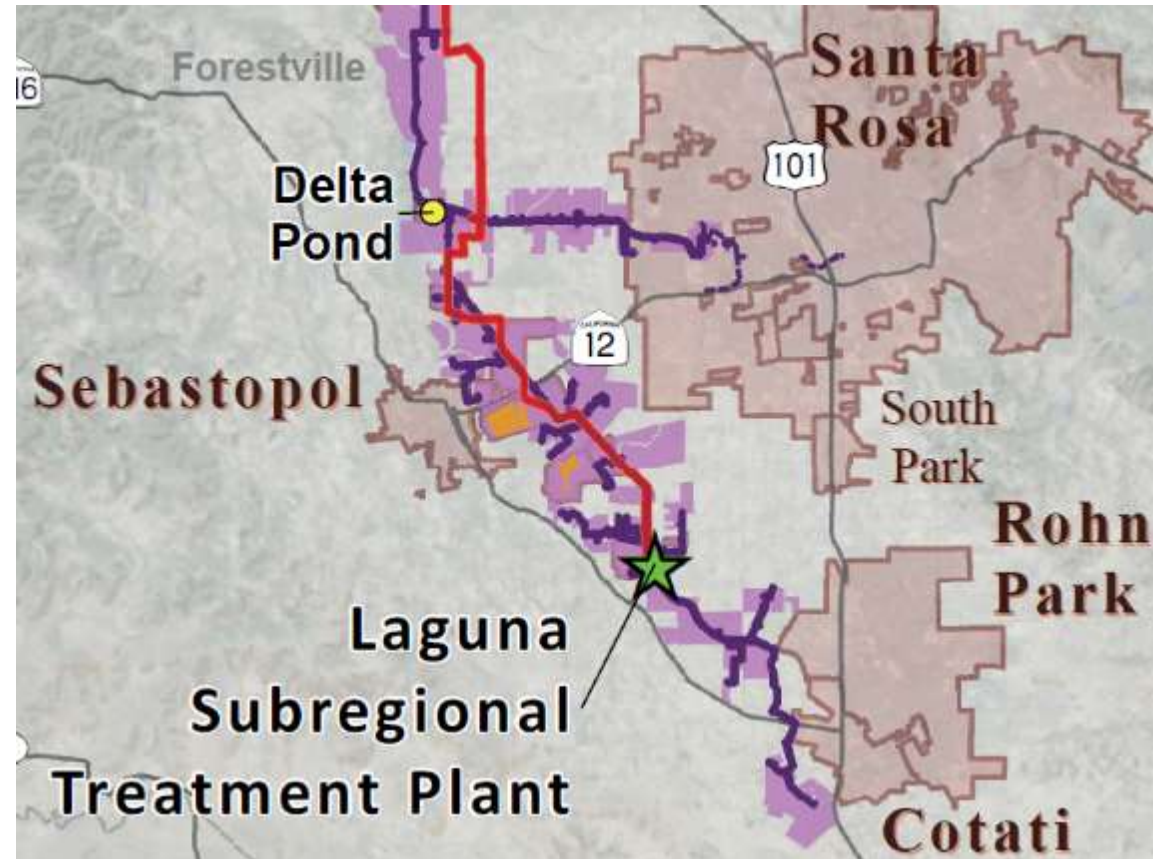
Laguna Treatment Plant

- Generate 6-8 billion gallons of recycled water per year
- Have 1.4 billion gallons of recycled water storage
- Beneficially reuse all created recycled water
- In wet years amount of water needing treatment increases and may necessitate a discharge into the Laguna Watershed



Discharge Compliance Strategy

1. Maximize reuse/minimize discharges
2. Decrease phosphorus in recycled water
3. Offset discharges via water quality trading



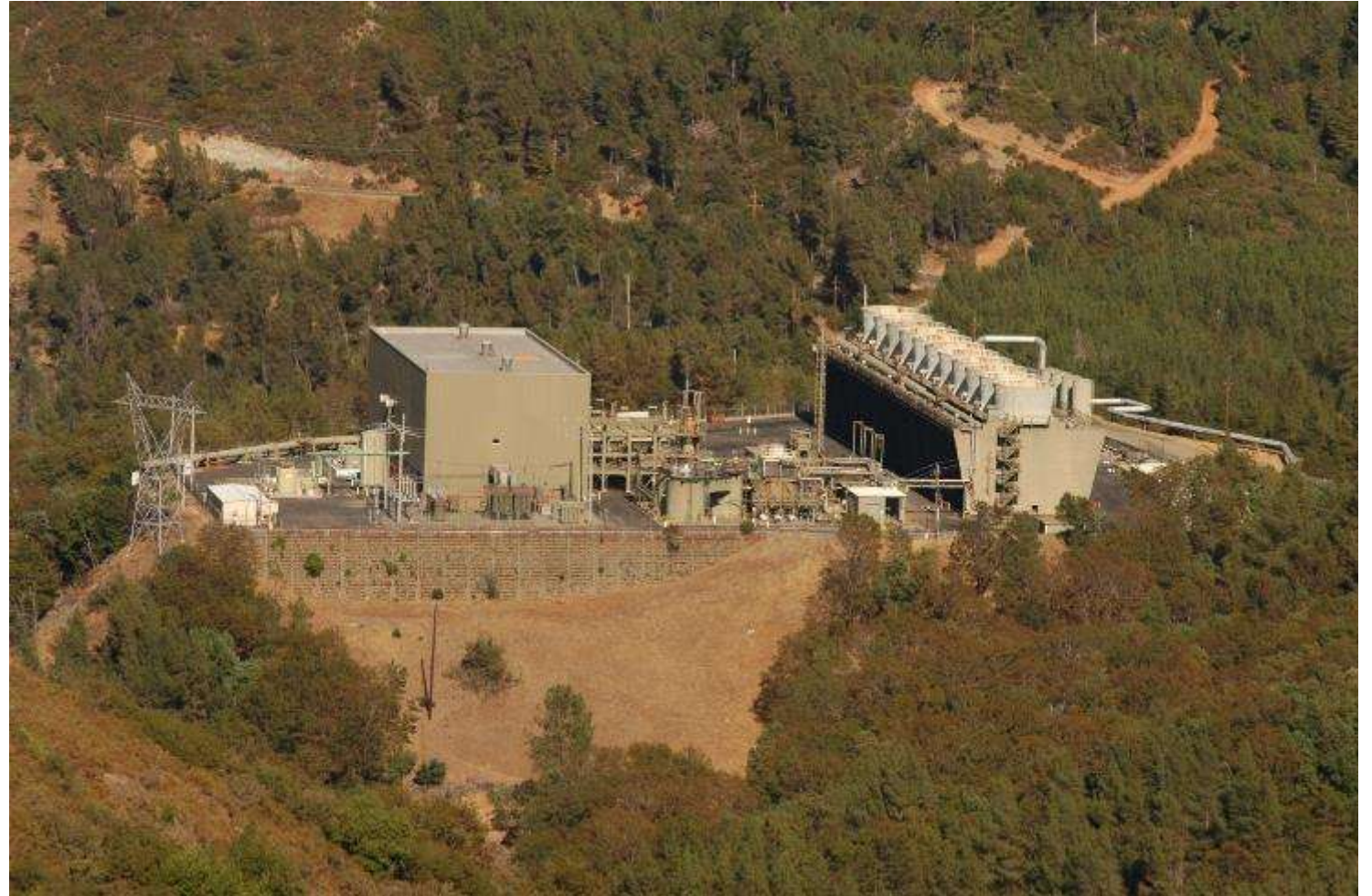
Recycled Water Program

75%: Geysers Steamfields
(All Year)

25%: Irrigation

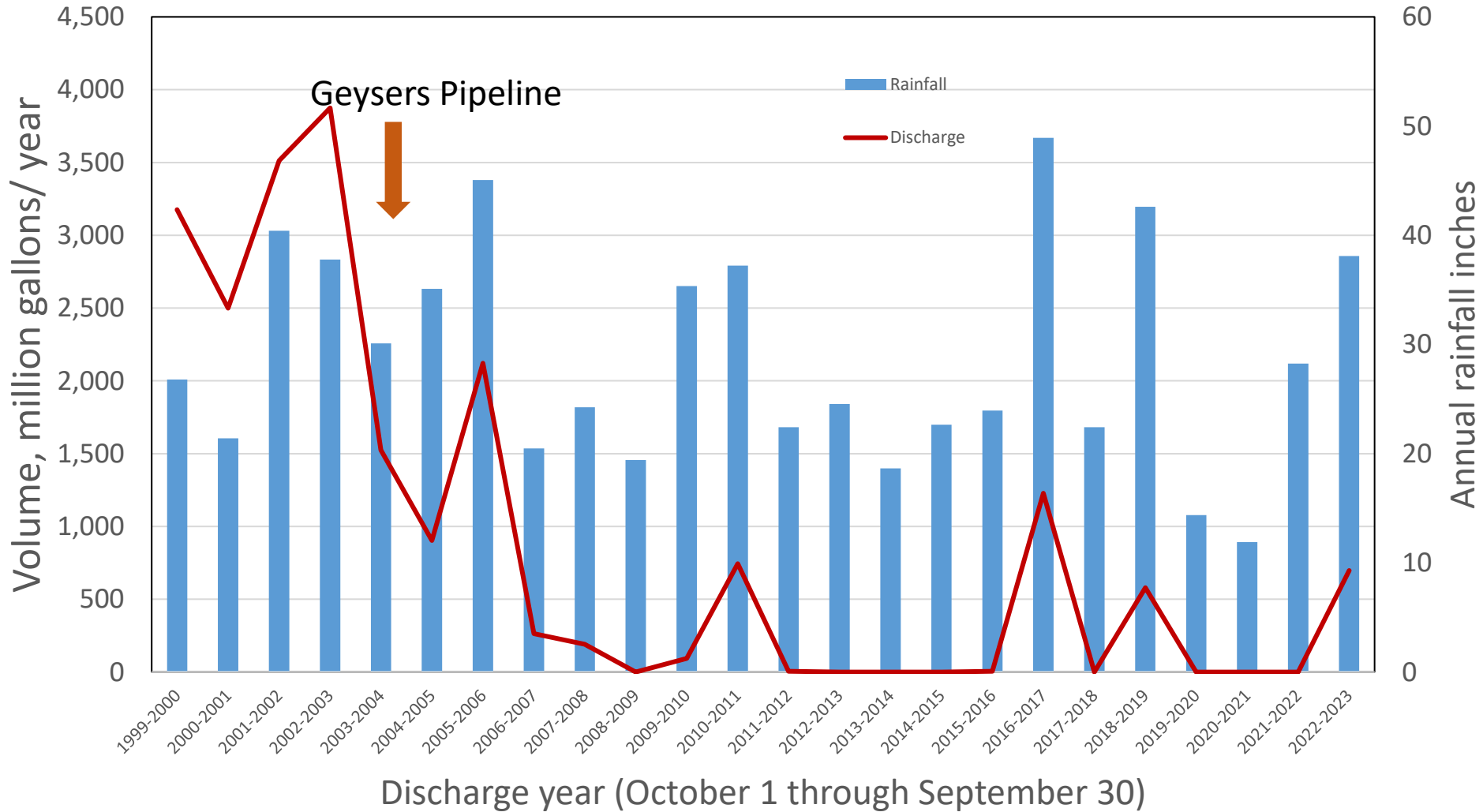
- Agriculture
- Urban
 - ~ Santa Rosa
 - ~ Rohnert Park

(Growing Season)



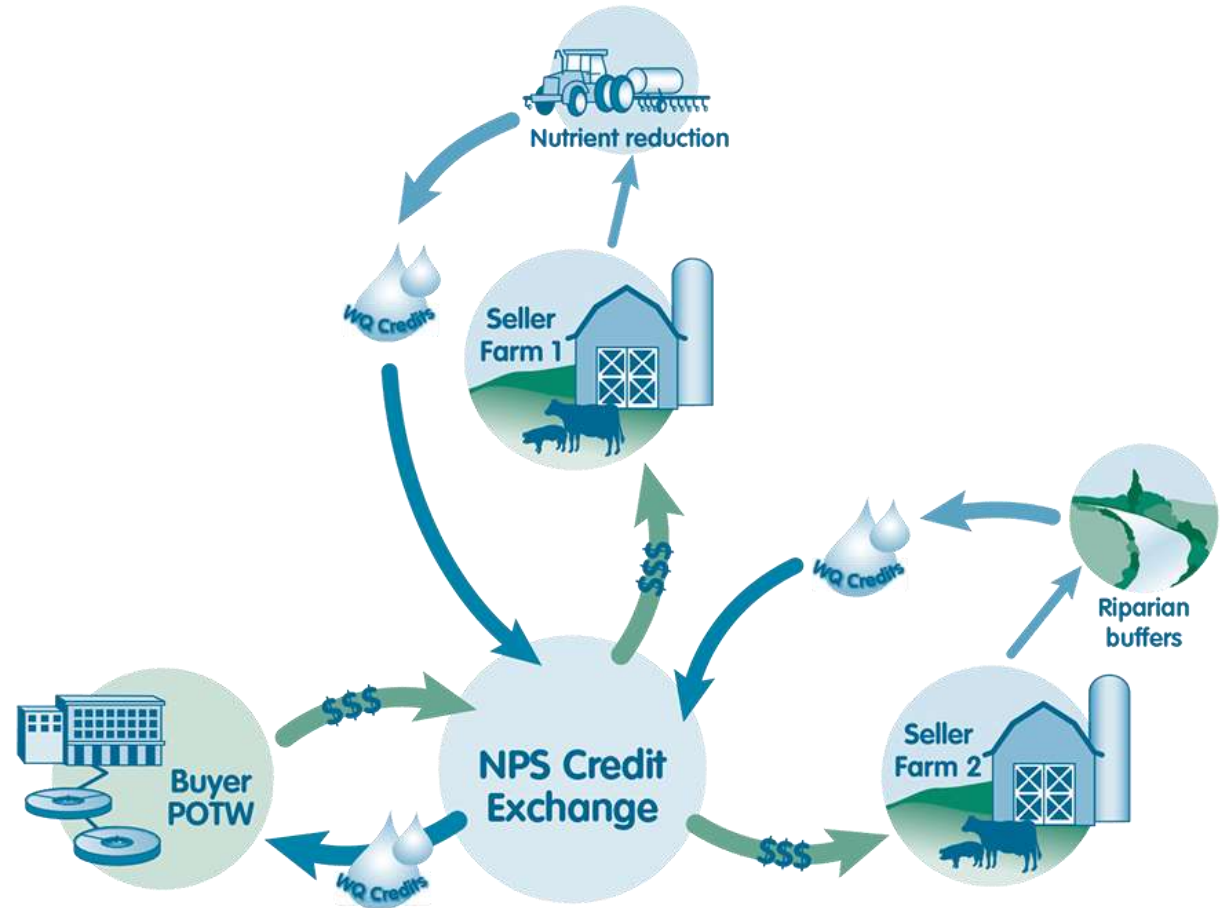
Recycled Water Discharge

Annual Discharge and Rainfall



What Is Water Quality Trading?

- Discharger has limits they cannot meet through process changes
- The discharger executes projects that remove pollutants from other sources “controlled pollutants”
- Compare discharged pollutant loads to controlled pollutant loads
- No-net loading: amount controlled > amount discharged



Nutrient Regulations Water Quality Trading 1.0

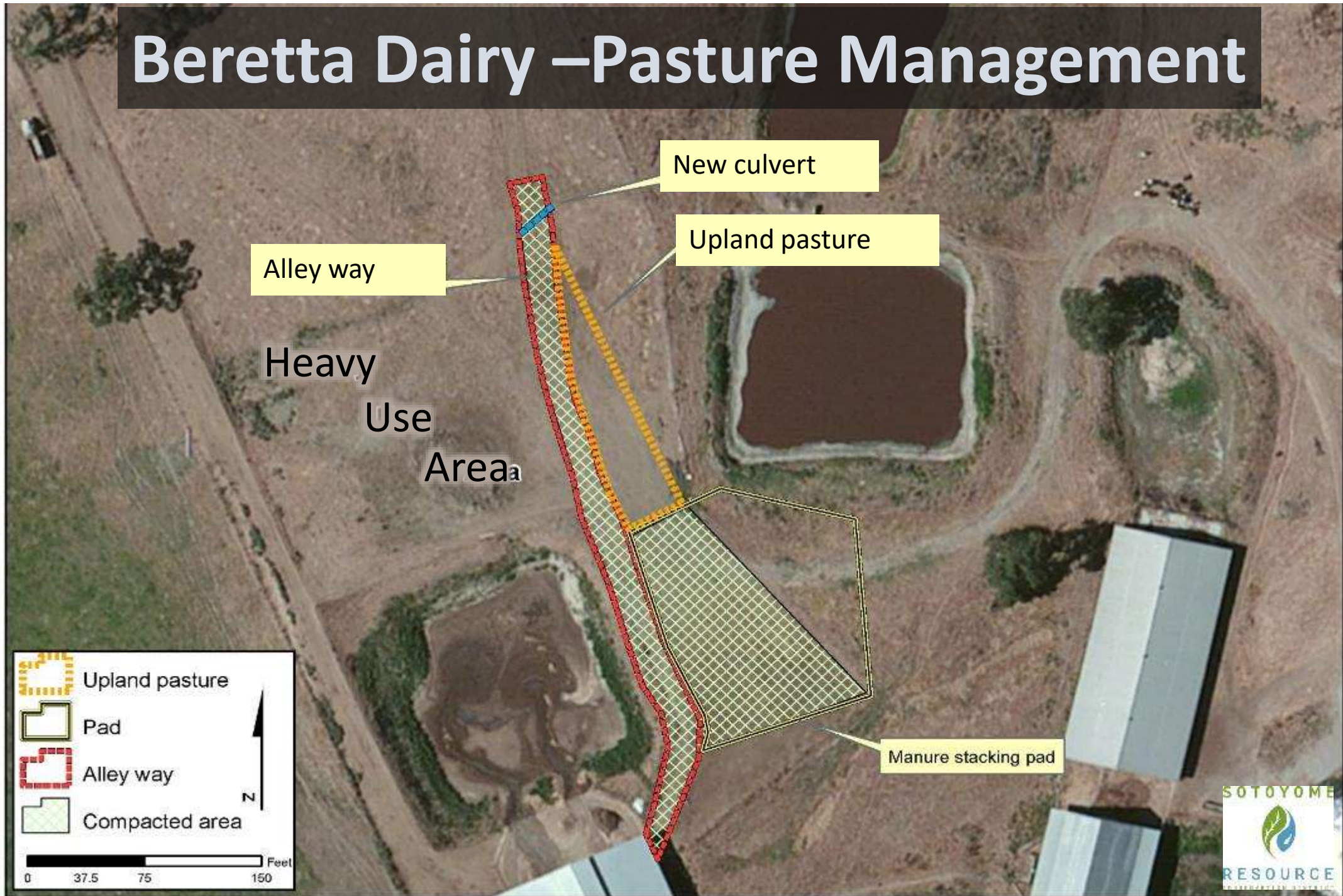
- 2006 NPDES Permit for Wastewater Discharge no net load for Nitrogen and Phosphorus
- 2008 City and Regional Board Developed Nutrient Offset Program



3 Nutrient Offset Projects Implemented

- 1) **Beretta Dairy –**
Manure & Pasture Management
- 2) **Pepperwood Nature Preserve –**
Road & Drainage Improvements
- 3) **Ocean View Dairy –**
Manure Removal & Land Application

Beretta Dairy – Pasture Management



Beretta Dairy – Alley Way

Impairments • WQTF • Next Steps



Pepperwood Preserve – Road & Drainage Improvements



Pepperwood Preserve – Road & Drainage Improvements



Ocean View Dairy - Manure



Costs of WQT 1.0

Project	Cost	Total Phosphorus Credits	Cost per Credit
Beretta	\$508,250	7,600	\$67
Pepperwood	\$512,850	10,964	\$47
Ocean View	\$474,000	23,345	\$20
Overhead	\$375,000	0	NA
Totals	\$1,870,100	41,909	NA

WQT 1.0 Drawbacks

- Program took 3-8 years to develop projects
- Credits last 3 years
- Most small projects (3,000 - 23,000 credits)
- Ecological restoration projects not favored
- *Ludwigia* removal project rejected by Regional Board



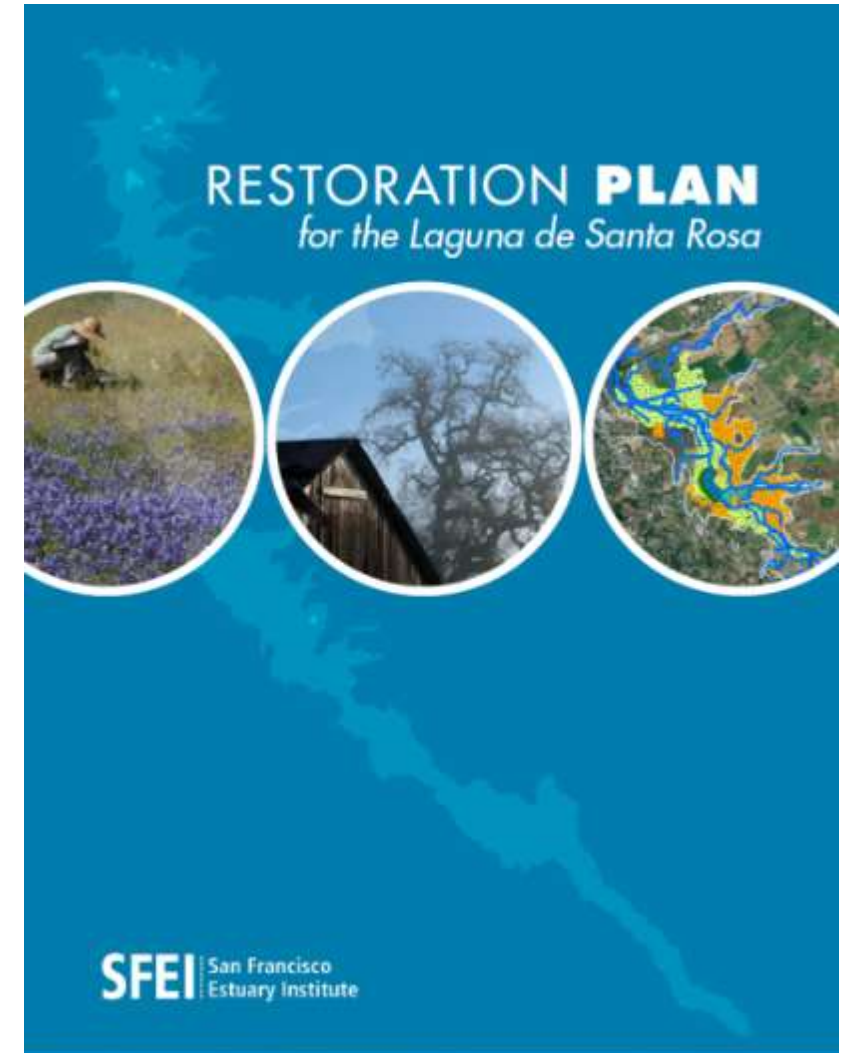
Water Quality Trading Framework WQT 2.0

- Developed in coordination with EPA, Regional Board, and Sonoma RCD
- Streamlined projects by allowing a faster track for projects that already have pre-qualified practices
- Increased potential credit life from 3 to 10 years
- Still limits projects to small or medium size (8,000-25,000 credits)



2020 modifications to WQTF of 2018 WQT 3.0

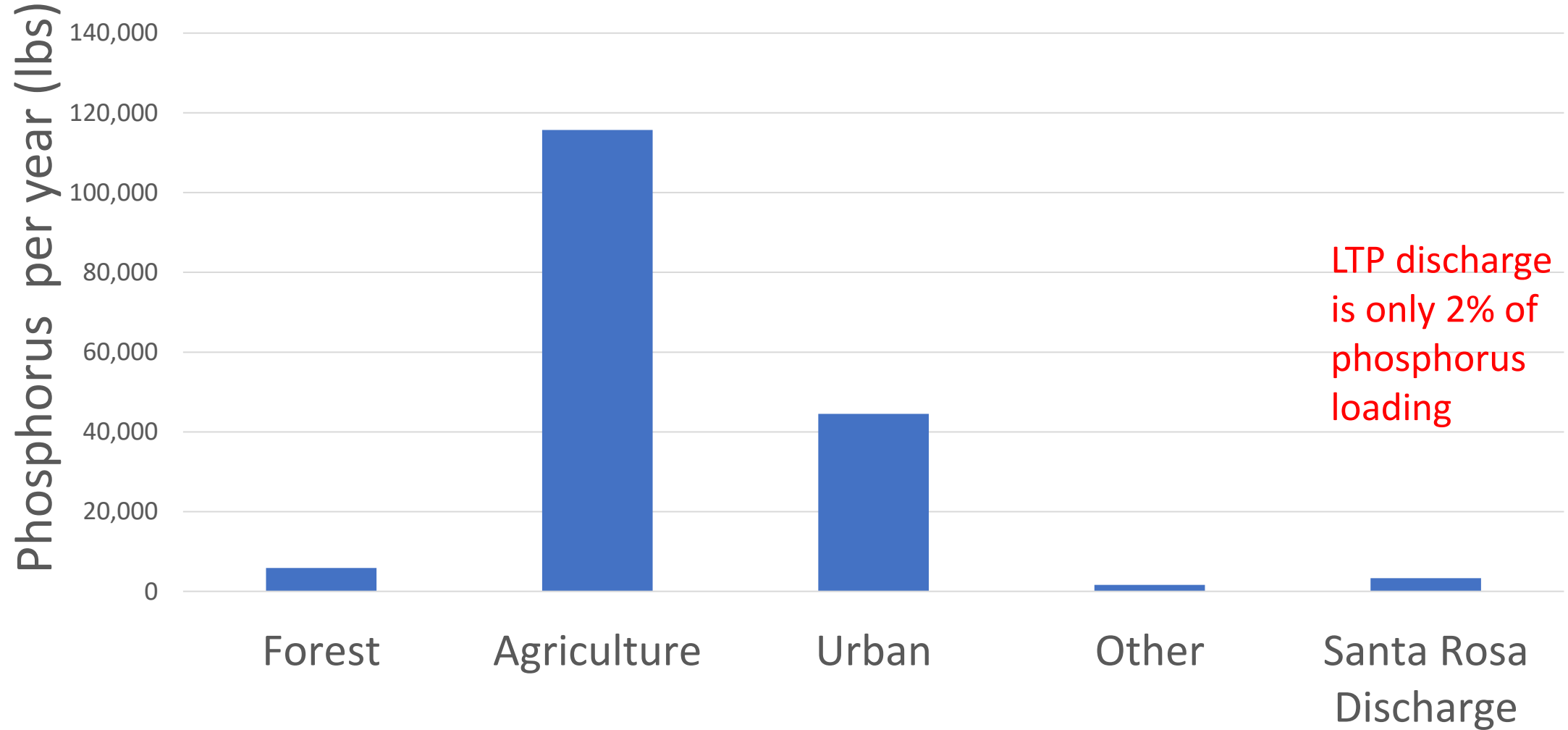
- Developed permanently protected environmental enhancement project category (PPEEP) **Credits last in perpetuity**
- Allows for large scale projects to be developed
- Creates incentives creek restoration on protected lands



Water Quality Trading Program Comparisons

WQT Type	Trading Ratios	Credit Life	Incentive for Restoration
1.0	1:1	3 years	No
2.0	2.5:1	3-10 years	Maybe small projects
3.0	Varies 2.5:1 – 1.5:1	3- in perpetuity	Yes. Long credit lives, reduced trading ratio

Annual Input of Phosphorus to Laguna



Land Use Classification

Collaboration

Evolution of Trading Programs (recap)

1. SRNOP
2. 2018 WQTF
3. 2021 WQTF
4. Upcoming Reconciliation Plan: opportunity for enhanced collaboration

Collaboration

Reconciliation Plan

- Regional Water Board's recovery plan
- Diet and Exercise

Individual Compliance Plan

- Option to focus only on-site
- Primarily diet-focused

Collaborative Compliance Plan (CCP)

- Option to include off-site projects
- Exercise-focused

Collaboration

Key Reconciliation Considerations

- Significant load reductions necessary
- Difficult to meet targets through on-site actions alone
- Collaborative approaches offer best chance for recovery

Pollutant	% Reduction Needed
Sediment	89.5 %
Phosphorus	80.9 %
Nitrogen	73.6 %
Temperature	Site-specific

Collaboration

Current Trading Program

- Project types: Only Phosphorus remediation
- Participants: Only Santa Rosa and Windsor WWTPs

Opportunity for Change

- Project types: Multi-benefit source control and restoration
 - Address Sed, P, N, Temp, DO, hydrology
- Participants: All interested partners

Timeline

Regional Water Board is seeking input from partners

- Level of interest in helping shape a CCP/form TAC
- Existing + potential resources and opportunities

Timeline

- Regional Water Board Reconciliation Plan
 - CEQA scoping: Spring 2024
 - Form TAC: Summer 2024
 - Public review: Summer 2025
 - Regional Water Board hearing: Spring 2026
- City will continue developing projects to meet permit requirements and participate in developing future regulations

Contact Us

Regional Water Board

Matt Graves, Engineering Geologist

Tel: 707-576-2831

Email: matt.graves@waterboards.ca.gov

Email subscriptions: Use “Stay Informed” link on North Coast Water Board’s TMDL page and choose the Laguna option

City of Santa Rosa

Sean McNeil, Deputy Director of Environmental Services

Tel: (707) 543-3938

Email: smcneil@srcity.org



Questions?



Sonoma
Water

SFEI | San Francisco
Estuary Institute

A Look to the Future: Restoration Plan for the Laguna de Santa Rosa

SALMONID RESTORATION FEDERATION
LAGUNA FOUNDATION, HERON HALL
MARCH 27, 2024

Neil Lassette, PhD, Sonoma Water

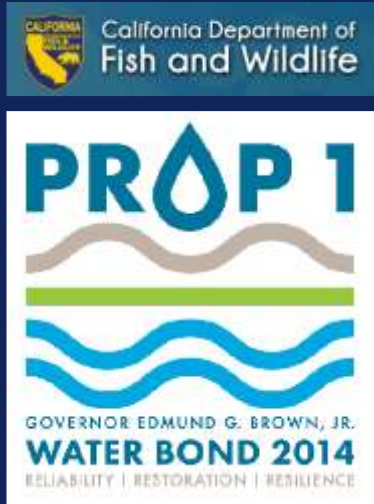
Scott Dusterhoff, San Francisco Estuary
Institute



sonomawater.ca.gov



Project Background



- **Overall Goal**
Improve watershed functioning and restore lost ecological functions
- **Funders**
CDFW Prop 1 Grant (2016) and Sonoma Water funds
- **Partners**
Sonoma Water, San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI), Laguna Foundation
- **Products**
 - 1) Restoration Vision
 - 2) Restoration Plan
 - 3) High Priority Project
 - 4) CEQA documentation

Project timeline

December 2017  July 2020

Description	2017				2018					2019					2020					
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
TAC																				
Public Outreach																				
Preparation for Master Restoration Plan																				
Literature review																				
Historical Ecology Assessment																				
Landscape Change Assessment																				
Restoration Landscape Plan																				
High Priority Project Task																				
Task Report																				
Master Restoration Plan																				
Develop Targets and Priorities																				
Develop Staff and Tool																				
Design Priority Projects																				
Site Investigation and Design																				
Conceptual Designs																				
RFI Designs																				
Basic of Design Report																				
CEQA Compliance																				
Wildlife and plant surveys																				
Wildlife Evaluations																				
CLM Documentation																				
Final Report																				



Project timeline

 December 2021

Description	2019												2020												2021											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Public Outreach																																				
Preparation for Master Reclamation Plan	[Solid grey bar]																																			
Literature Review	[Solid grey bar]																																			
Historical Ecology Assessment	[Solid grey bar]																																			
Landscape Change Assessment	[Solid grey bar]																																			
Feasibility Assessment Study	[Solid grey bar]																																			
High Priority Project List	[Solid grey bar]																																			
Risk Report																																				
Master Restoration Plan	[Solid grey bar]																																			
Develop Targets and Priorities																																				
Develop Staff and Tool																																				
Design Priority Projects																																				
Site Investigation and Designally																																				
Conceptual Designs																																				
ENV Designs																																				
Basic of Design Report																																				
CEQA Compliance	[Solid grey bar]																																			
Wildlife and plant surveys																																				
Wetland Identification																																				
CEQA documentation																																				
Final Report																																				



Project timeline

 August 2023

Description	2021												2022												2023											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
TAC																																				
Public Outreach																																				
Preparation for Master Restoration Plan																																				
Literature review																																				
Historical Ecology Assessment																																				
Landscape Change Assessment																																				
Restored Landscape Vision																																				
High Priority Project List																																				
Wetland Report																																				
Master Restoration Plan																																				
Develop Targets and Priorities																																				
Develop Draft and Final																																				
Design Priority Projects																																				
Site Evaluation and Design Alts																																				
Conceptual Designs																																				
65% Designs																																				
Basis of Design Report																																				
CEQA Compliance																																				
Wildlife and plant surveys																																				
Wetland delineation																																				
CEQA documentation																																				
Permit app																																				





Restoration Planning in the Laguna de Santa Rosa

A science-based partnership between non-profit
agencies and public and private land owners



Laguna Restoration Vision and Plan

Field visit in the Laguna with TAC members. Photo: SFEI.



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

- NMFS
- CSU Stanislaus
- Environmental Science Associates
- USDA and UC Davis
- UC San Diego and CA Sea Grant

Management Advisory Committee (MAC)

- City of Rohnert Park
- City of Santa Rosa
- Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria
- Gold Ridge RCD
- Permit Sonoma
- Sonoma County Ag + Open Space
- Sonoma County Regional Parks
- Sonoma RCD

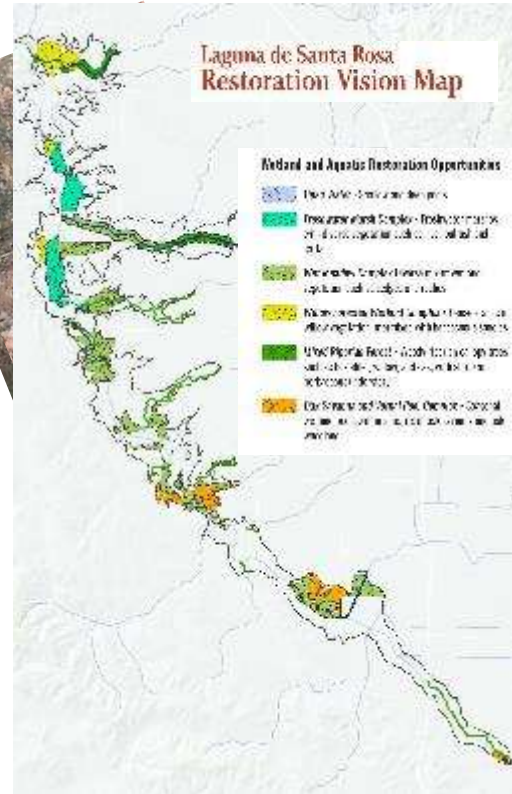
Landowners

- Joe and Val Aggio
- Gene and Heather Amato
- Kathy Denner-Reese
- John Nagle
- David and Joy Koch
- Mindy Marshall
- David and Pat Schoch
- Ken Lafranchi



Laguna Restoration Collaboration

Field visit in the Laguna with TAC members. Photo: SFEI.



PROJECT AREA



Management Goals Addressed

- Improve ecosystem functioning
- Establish a resilient landscape
- Enhance environmental, agricultural, and tribal benefits



Management Plan Objectives

- Enlarge riparian and wetland habitat areas and improve their
- Decrease sediment and nutrient delivery
- Establish conditions for native plants to thrive
- Improve water quality through improved drainage and fine sediment removal



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Historical Ecology &
Landscape Change



Restored Landscape Vision



Master Restoration Plan



Restoration Project Design



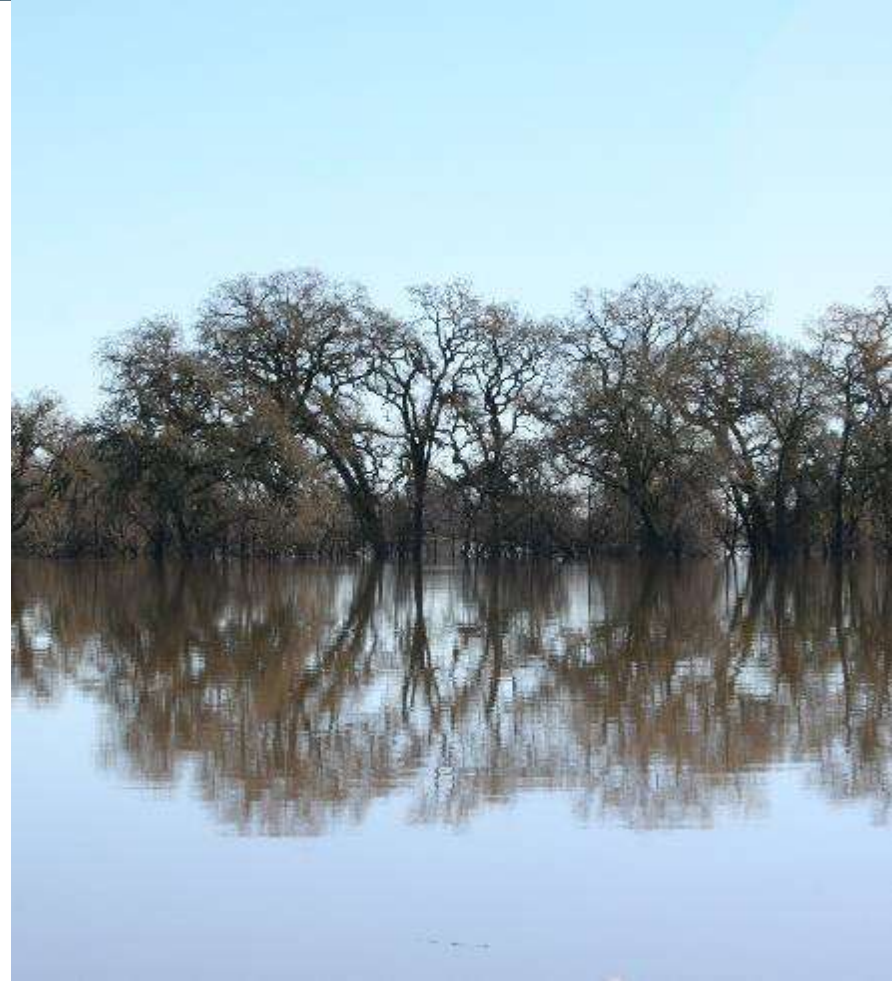
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Historical Ecology &
Landscape Change

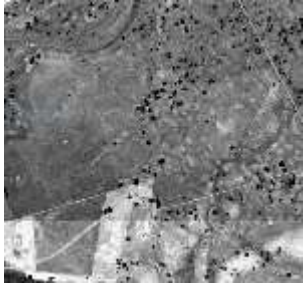
Restored Landscape Vision

Master Restoration Plan

Restoration Project Design



HISTORICAL ECOLOGY & LANDSCAPE CHANGE



Photographs &
Drawings
600



Maps
550



Text sources
200

HISTORICAL HABITAT TYPES



Wet Meadow



Grassland



Oak Woodland



Valley Freshwater Marsh



Willow Forested Wetland



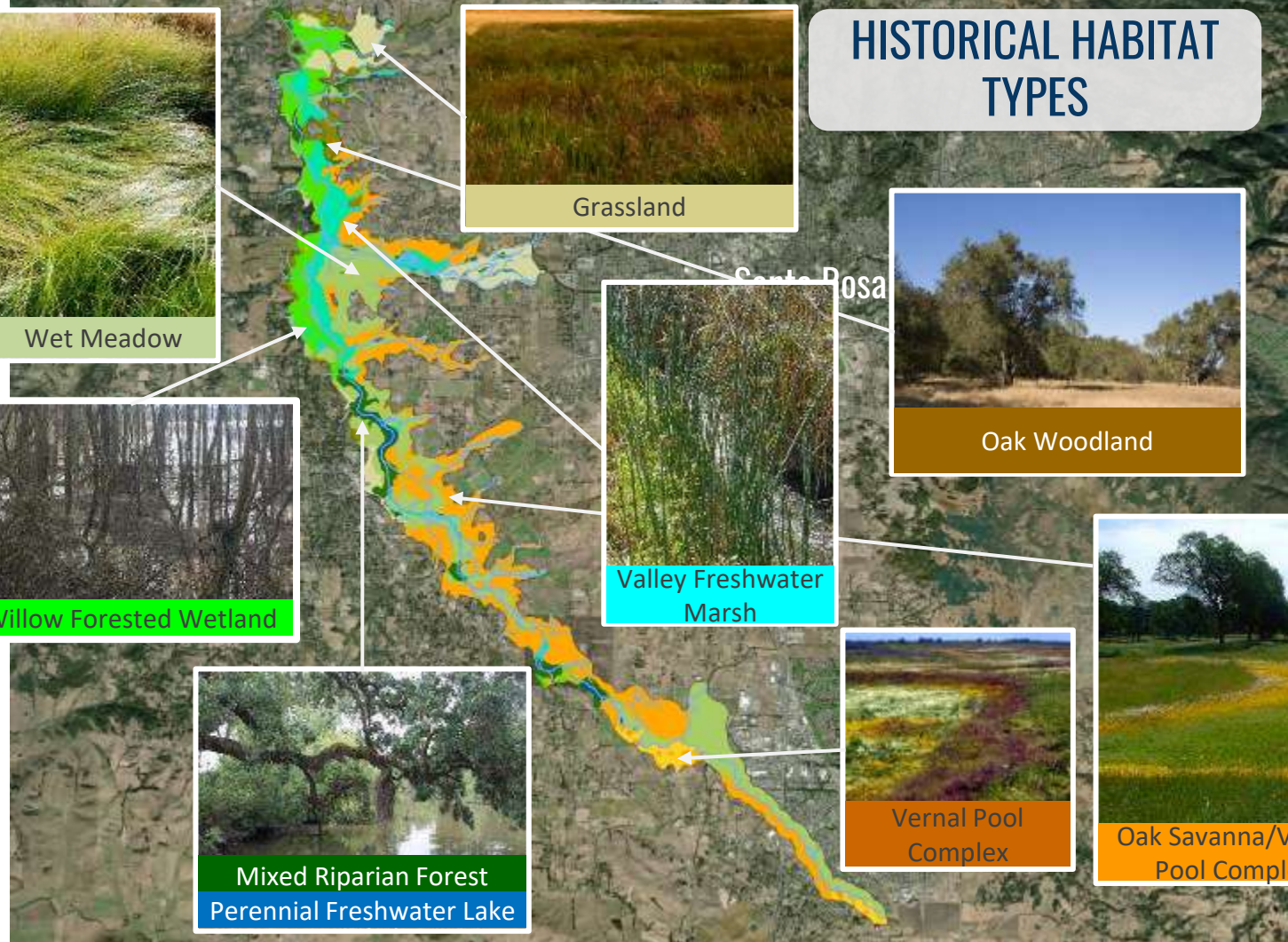
Oak Savanna/Vernal Pool Complex



Vernal Pool Complex



Mixed Riparian Forest
Perennial Freshwater Lake



1859

“A lagoon and a stream with many pools of retained water [*una laguna y una arroyo con muchas posas de agua retenida*]” (Moraga 1810, September)

“Great tulare lakes teeming with beaver [*grandes lagunas tulares, y abunda de castores*]” (Vallejo 1833)



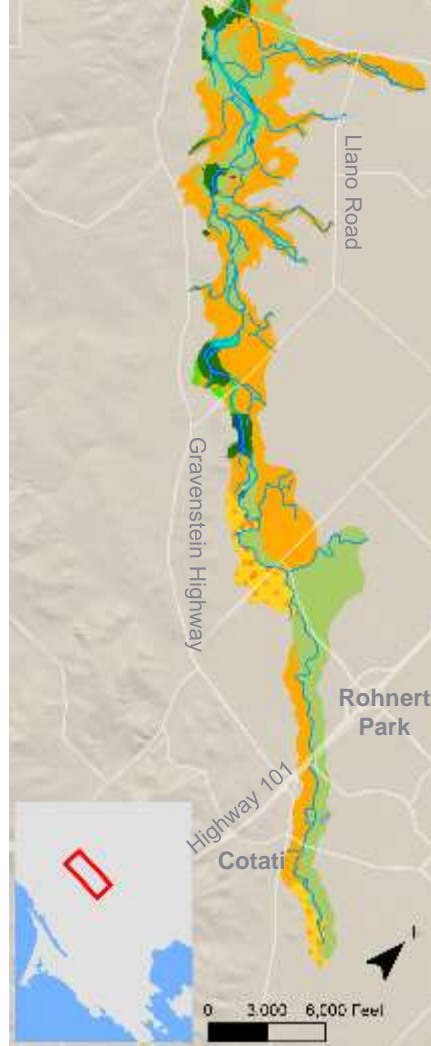
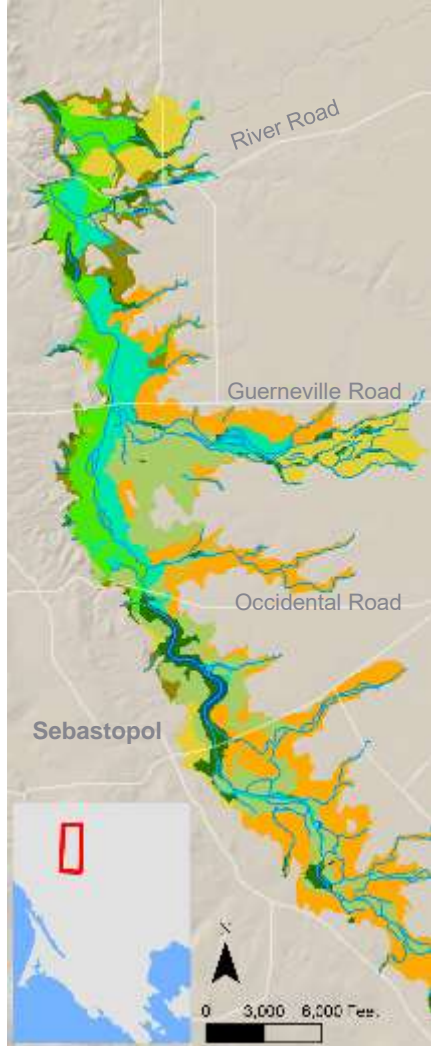
Llano de Santa Rosa (E-131)
Courtesy of The Bancroft Library

1840



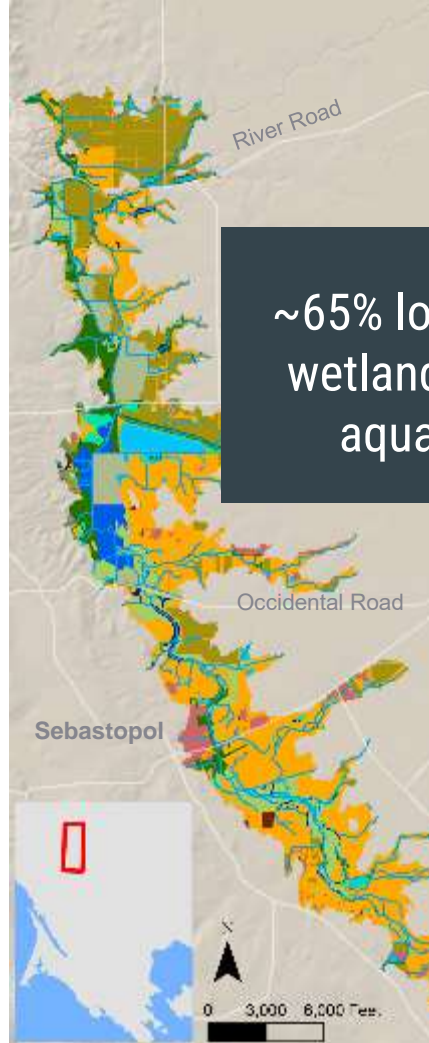
USDC ca. 1840, Rancho Llano de Santa Rosa (B-128)
Courtesy of The Bancroft Library

HISTORICAL HABITAT

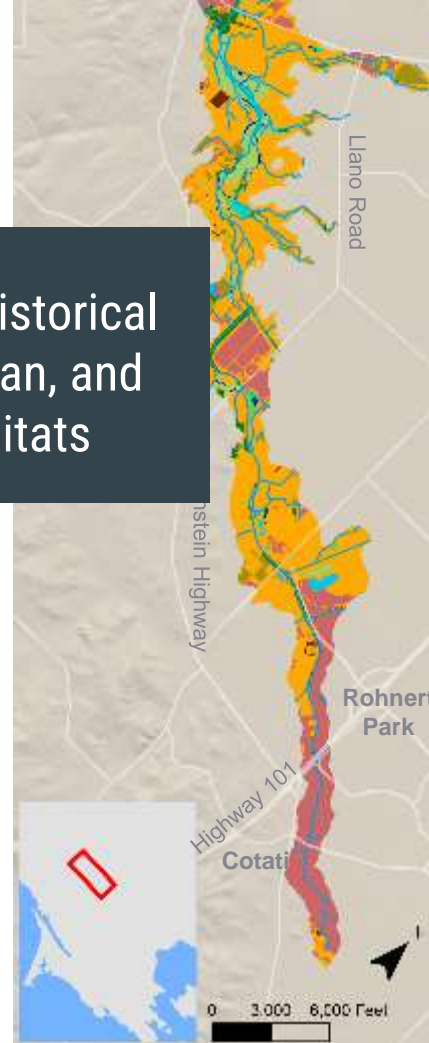


- Grassland
- Oak Savanna
- Vernal Pool Complex
- Oak Savanna/Vernal Pool Complex
- Seasonal Lake
- Perennial Freshwater Lake/Pond
- Wet Meadow
- Valley Freshwater Marsh
- Willow Forested Wetland
- Mixed Riparian Forest

MODERN HABITAT



~65% loss of historical wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitats



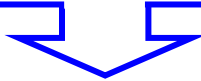
- Open Water/Aquatic Vegetation
- Storage Pond
- Farmed Wetland
- Developed/Disturbed
- Agriculture
- Other Upland
- Perennial Freshwater Lake/Pond
- Oak Savanna, Woodland, Grassland, Vernal Pool Complex
- Wet Meadow
- Valley Freshwater Marsh
- Forested Wetland and Riparian Forest/Scrub

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Historical Ecology &
Landscape Change



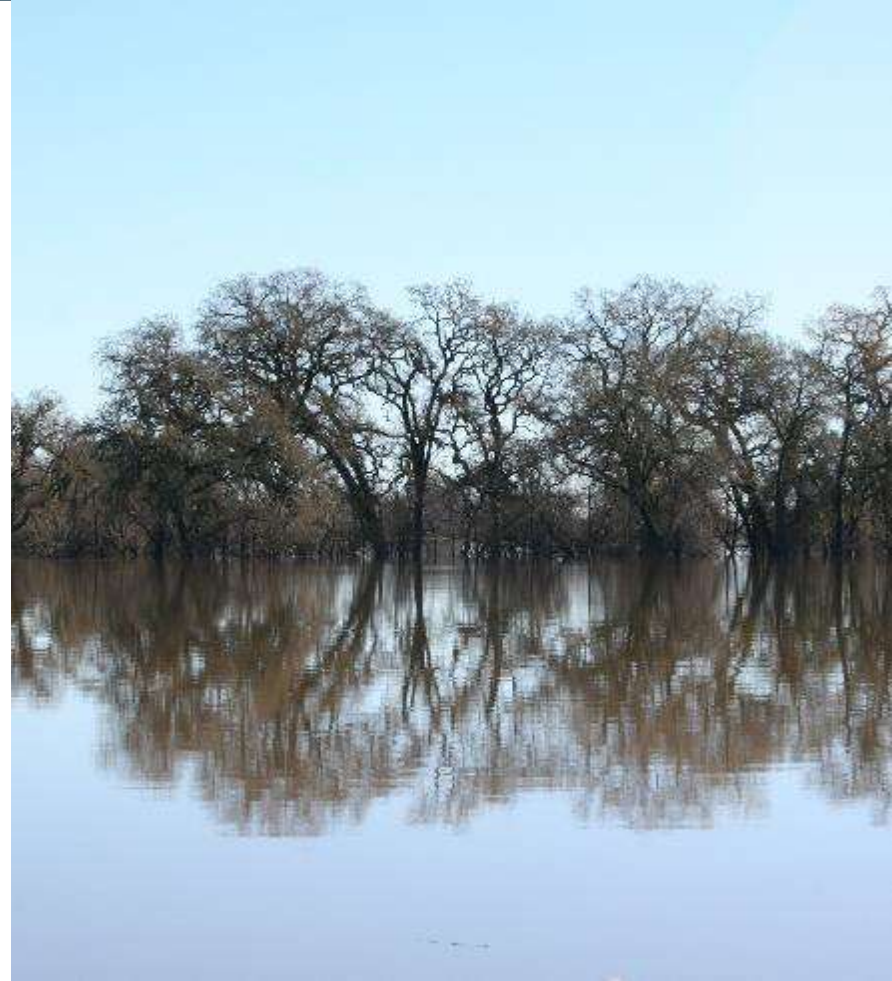
Restored Landscape Vision



Master Restoration Plan



Restoration Project Design



RESTORED LANDSCAPE VISION





Wetland and Aquatic Restoration Opportunities

-  Open Water
-  Freshwater Marsh Complex
-  Wet Meadow Complex
-  Willow Forested Wetland Complex
-  Mixed Riparian Forest
-  Oak Savanna and Vernal Pool Complex • Seasonal

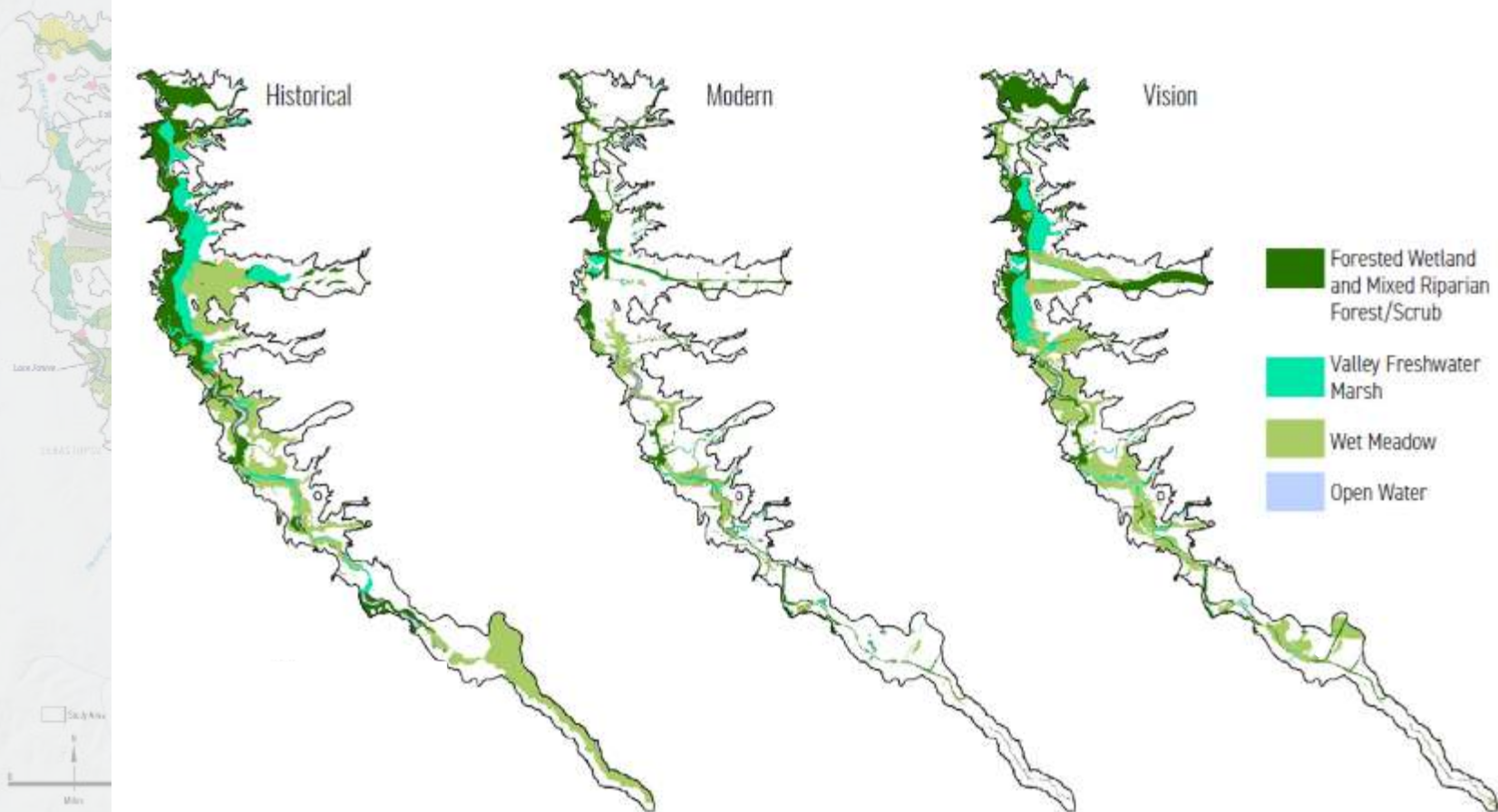
Riparian Management Opportunities

-  Channel and Levee Realignment
-  Riparian Enhancement

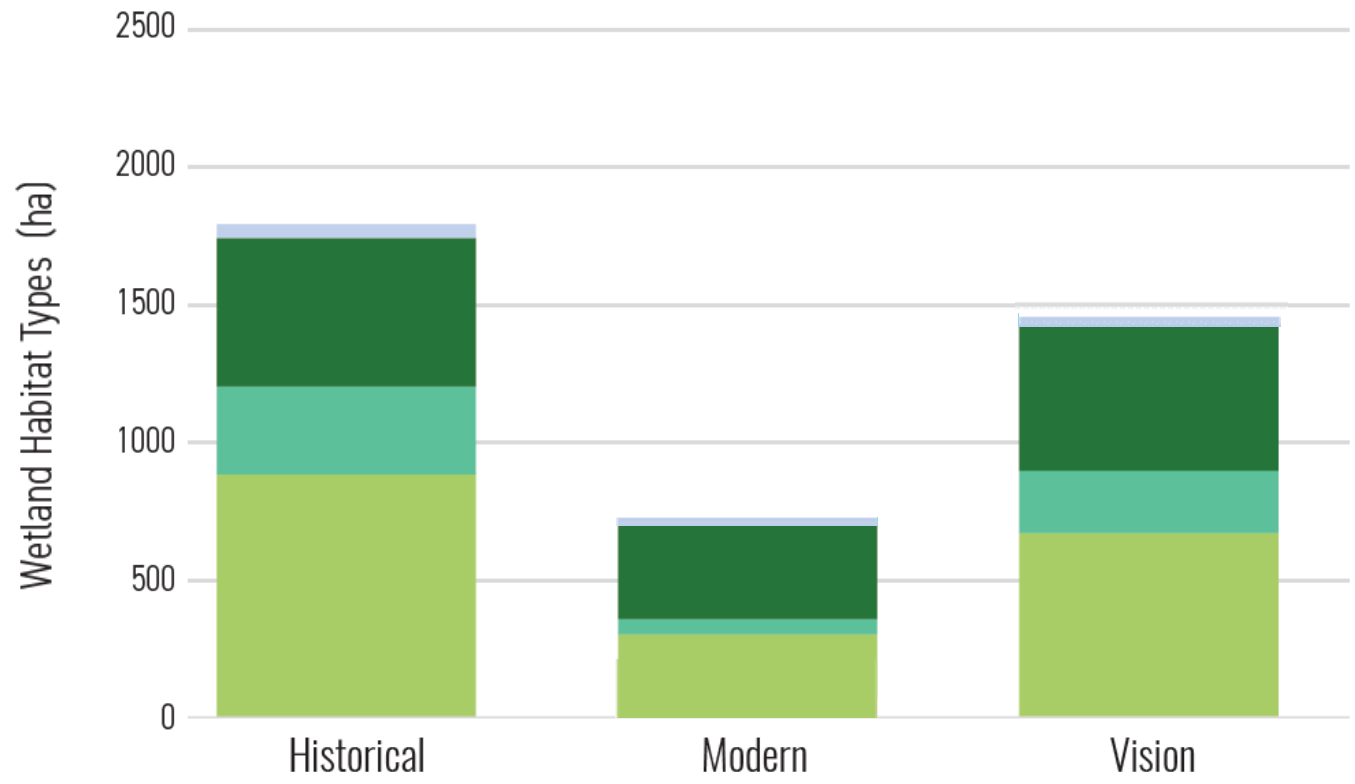
Additional Management Actions

-  Bridge Crossings
-  Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure

HISTORICAL, MODERN, and VISION WETLAND COVER



HISTORICAL, MODERN, and VISION WETLAND COVER



ities

nt

structure

PROJECT OVERVIEW

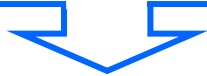
Historical Ecology &
Landscape Change



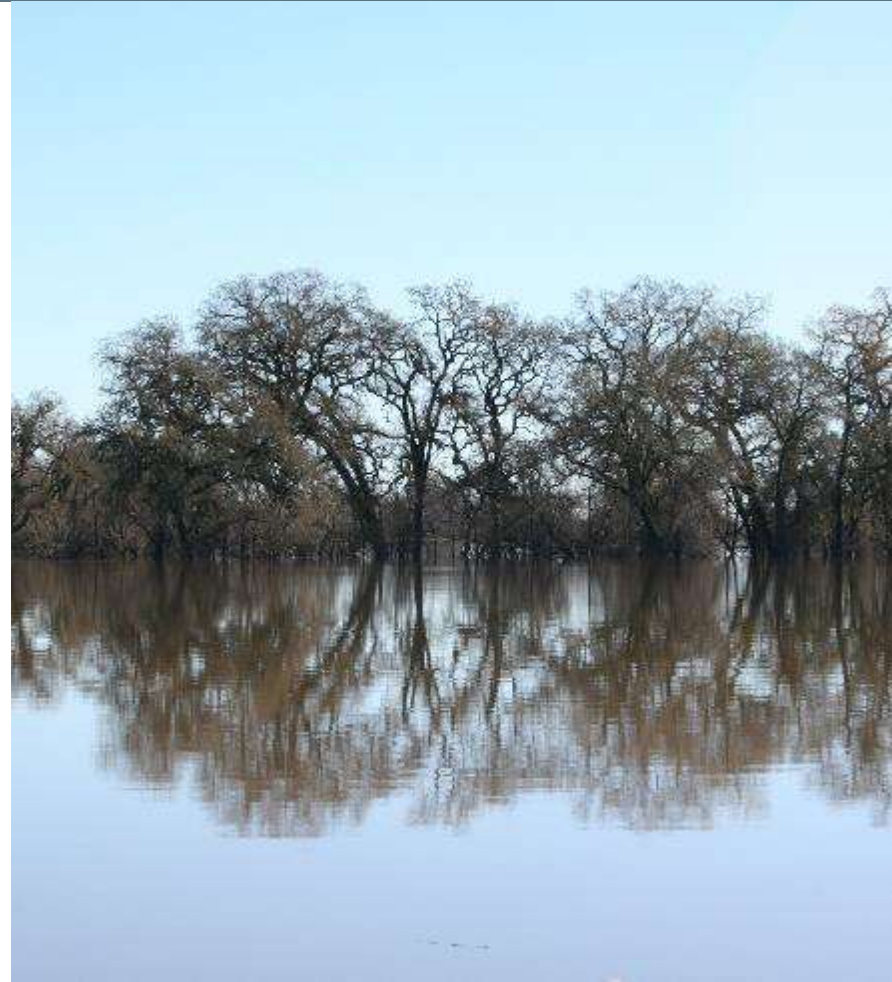
Restored Landscape Vision



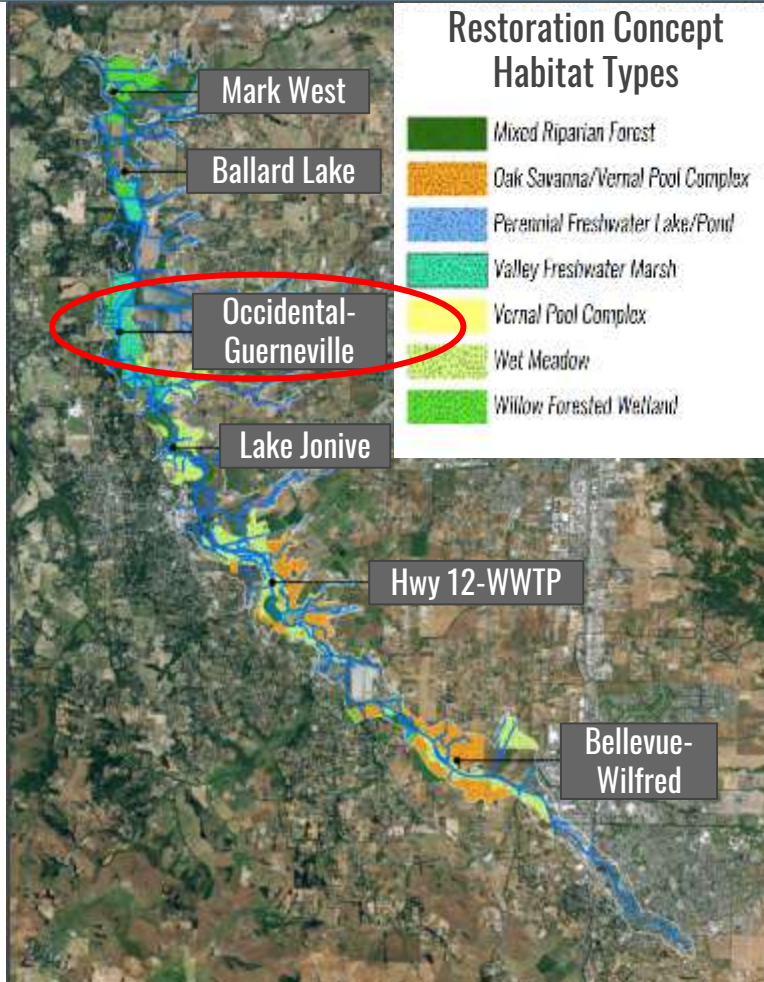
Master Restoration Plan



Restoration Project Design



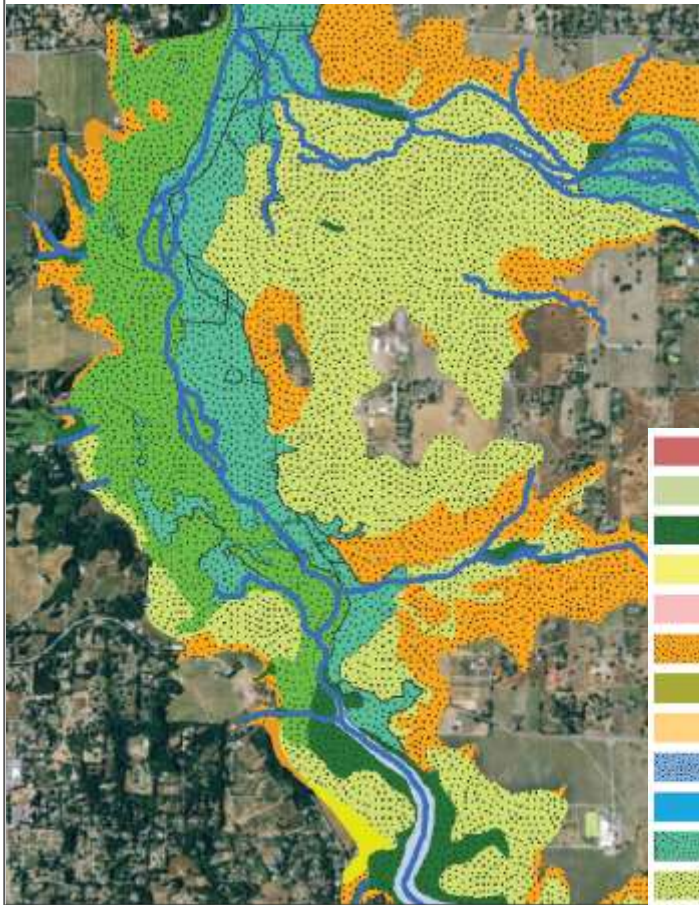
MASTER RESTORATION PLAN



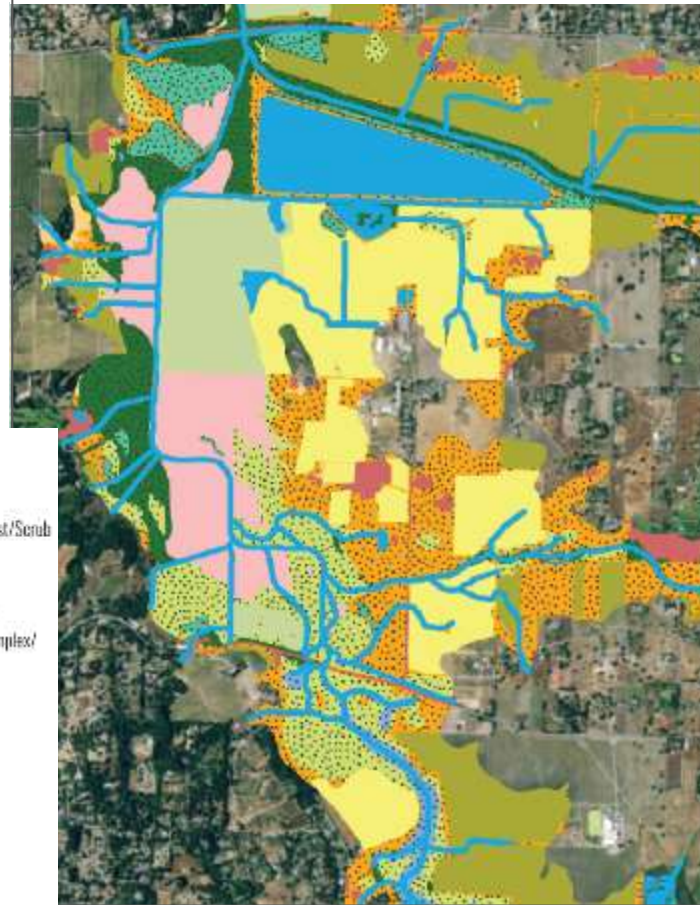
Restoration Concept Elements

- Detailed maps of historical and modern habitat
- Restored habitat maps and conceptual designs
- Overview of ecosystem benefits
- Key considerations

HISTORICAL HABITAT

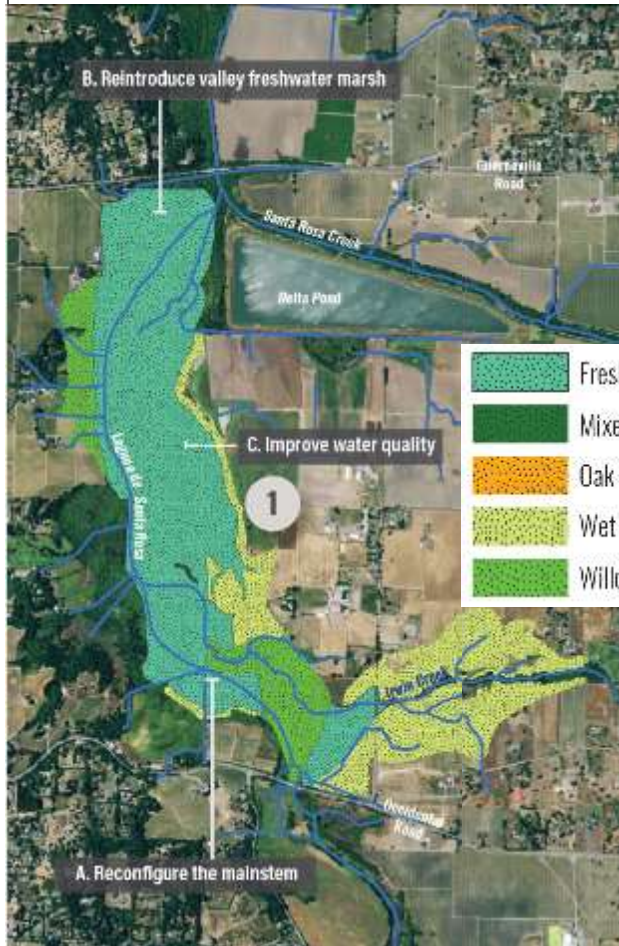


MODERN HABITAT



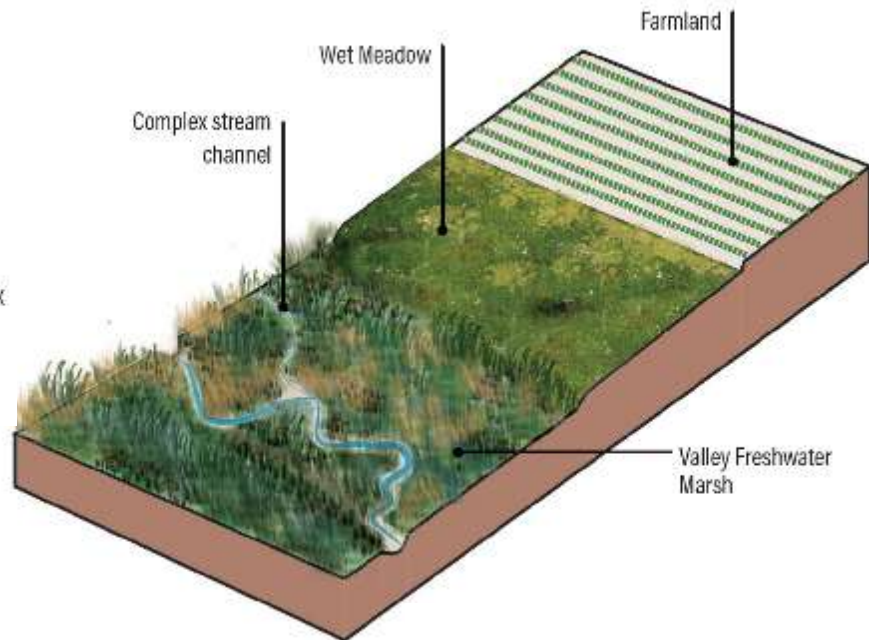
- Developed/Disturbed
- Farmed Wetland
- Forested Wetland and Mixed Riparian Forest/Scrub
- Hayfield/Pasture/Vernal Pool Complex
- Non-native Aquatic/Emergent Vegetation
- Oak Savanna or Woodland/Vernal Pool Complex/Valley Grassland
- Other Agriculture
- Other Upland
- Perennial Freshwater Lake/Pond
- Storage Pond
- Valley Freshwater Marsh
- Wet Meadow

RESTORED HABITAT

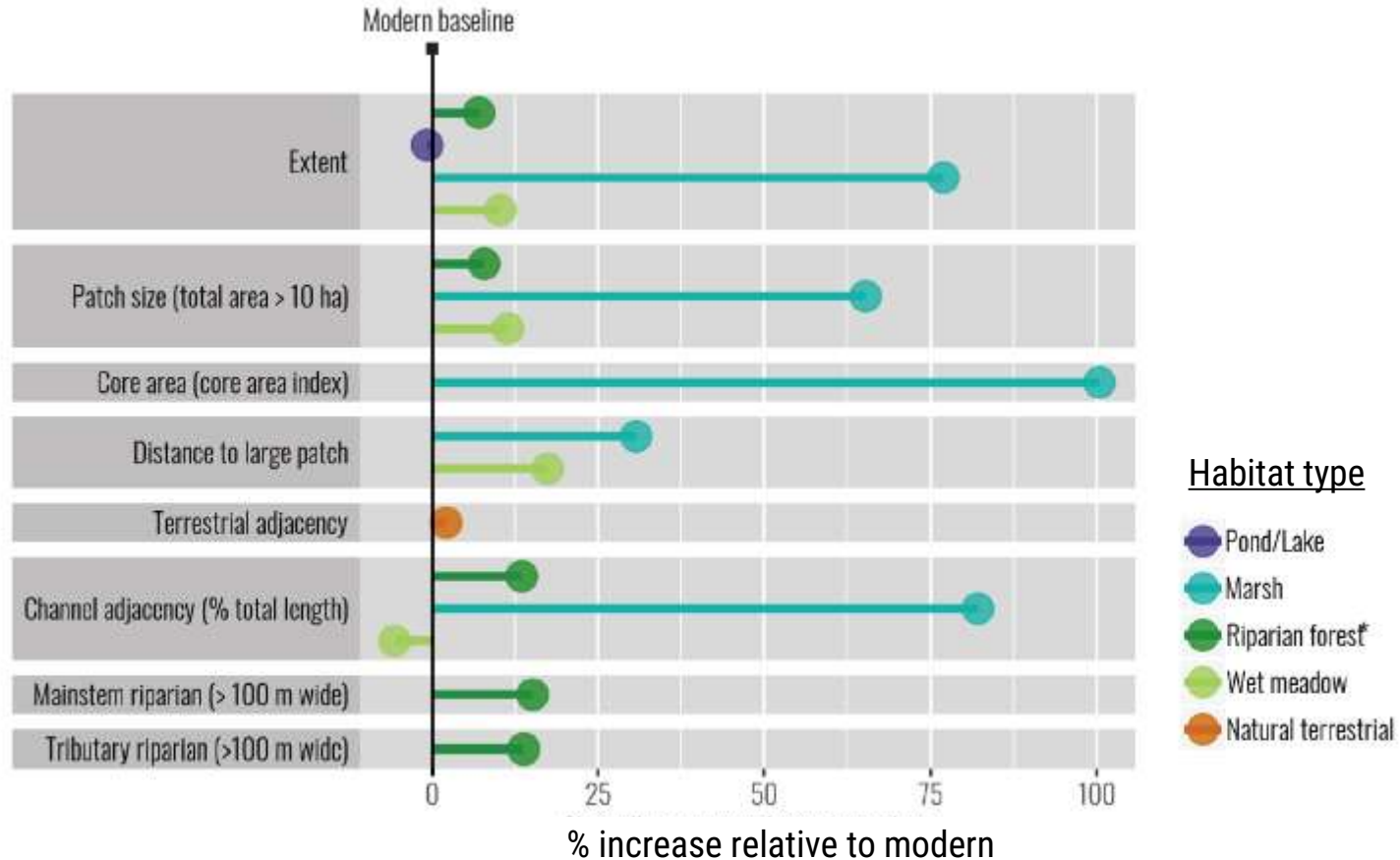


1

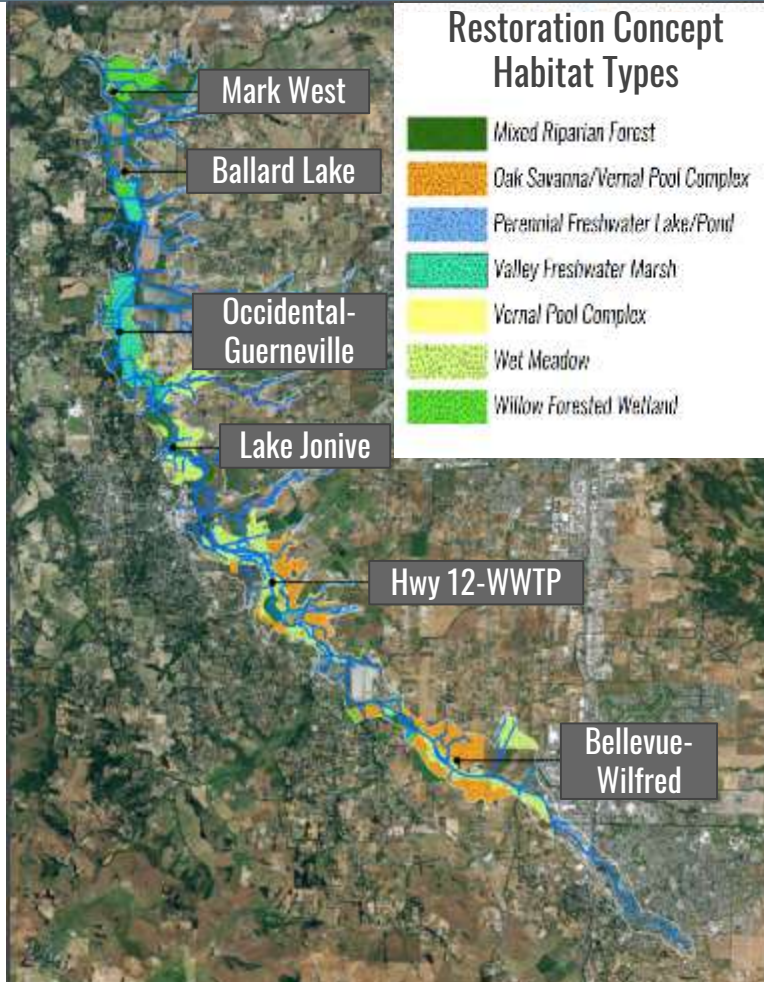
Example habitat gradient within the restoration project concept



Ecosystem Benefits

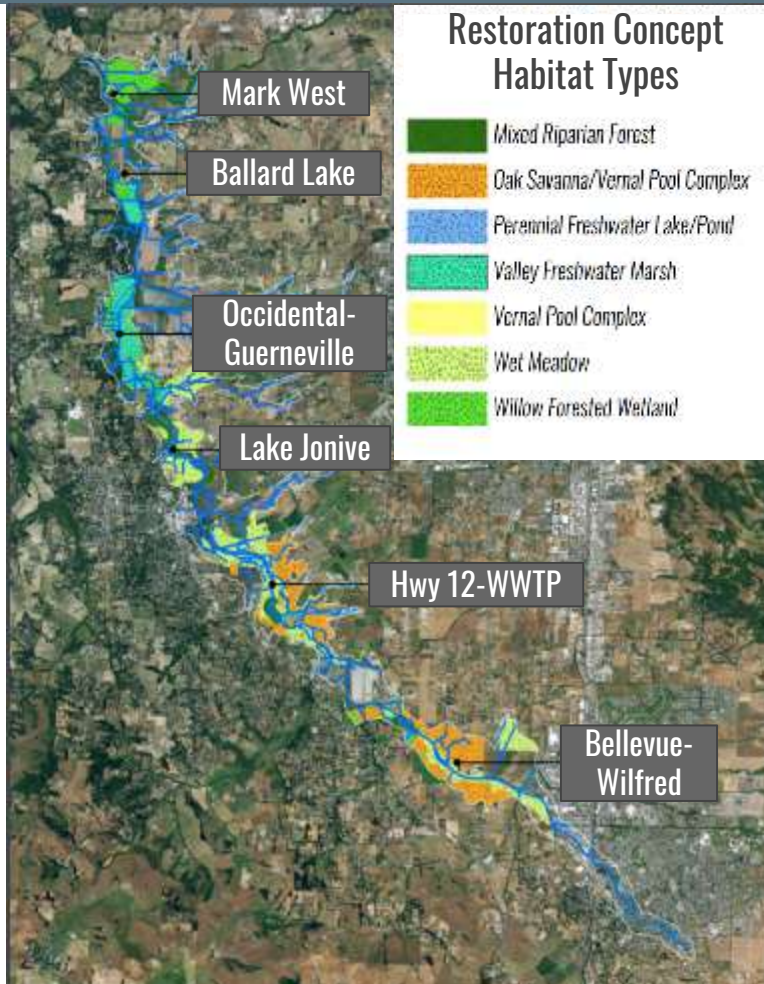


MASTER RESTORATION PLAN



Prioritization & Sequencing Considerations
(i.e., what should go first?)

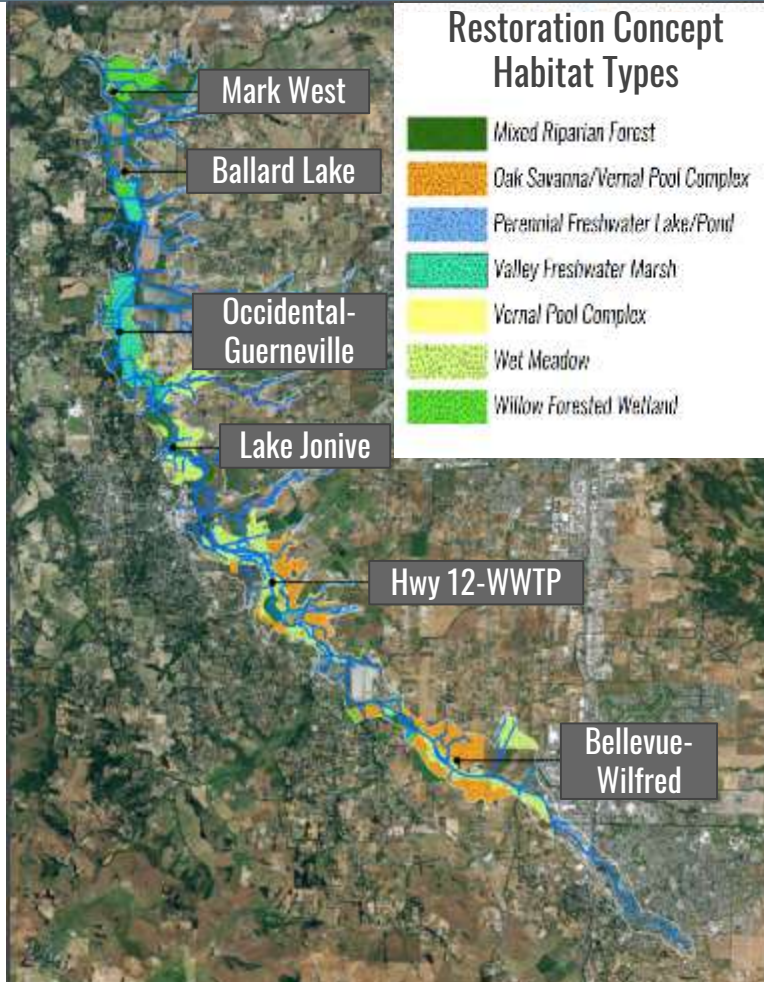
MASTER RESTORATION PLAN



Prioritization & Sequencing Considerations (i.e., what should go first?)

- Developed prioritization criteria to evaluate how each concept helps meet the Restoration Objectives

MASTER RESTORATION PLAN



Prioritization & Sequencing Considerations (i.e., what should go first?)

- Developed prioritization criteria to evaluate how each concept helps meet the Restoration Objectives
- Identified key considerations that will drive concept sequencing
 - Tribal cultural uses
 - Ecological benefits
 - Benefits to/connections with other concepts
 - Feasibility
 - Experimental and learning opportunities

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Historical Ecology &
Landscape Change



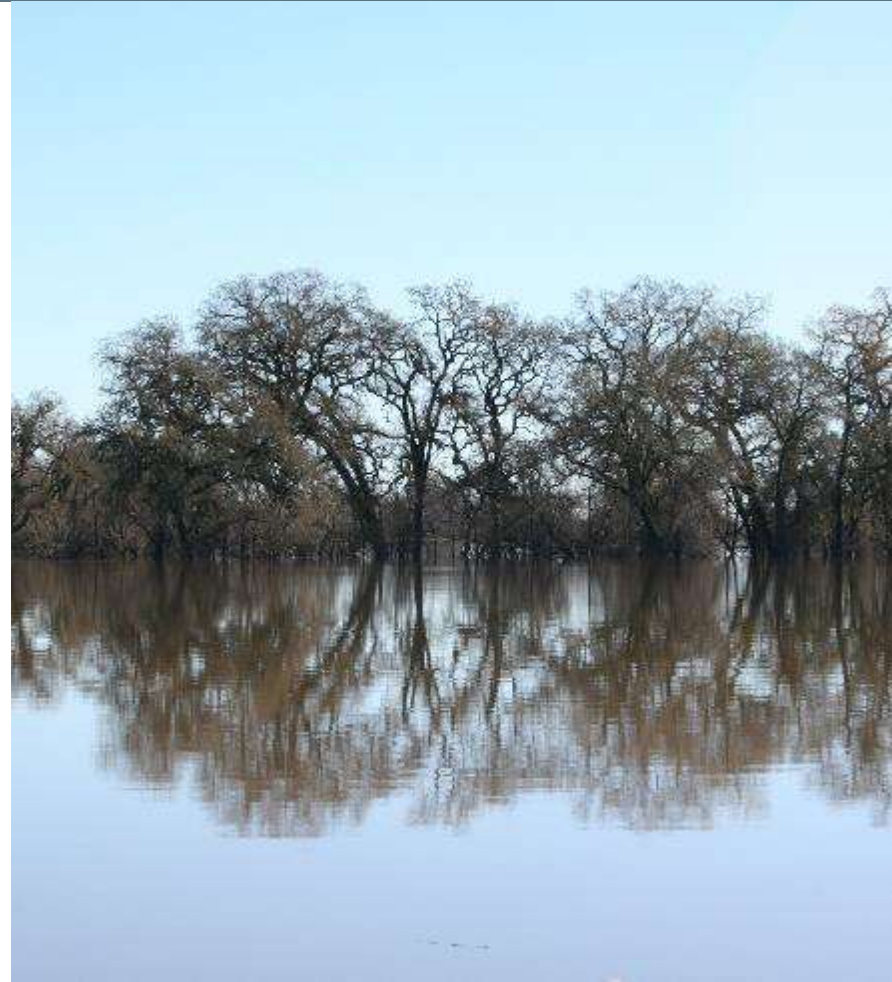
Restored Landscape Vision



Master Restoration Plan

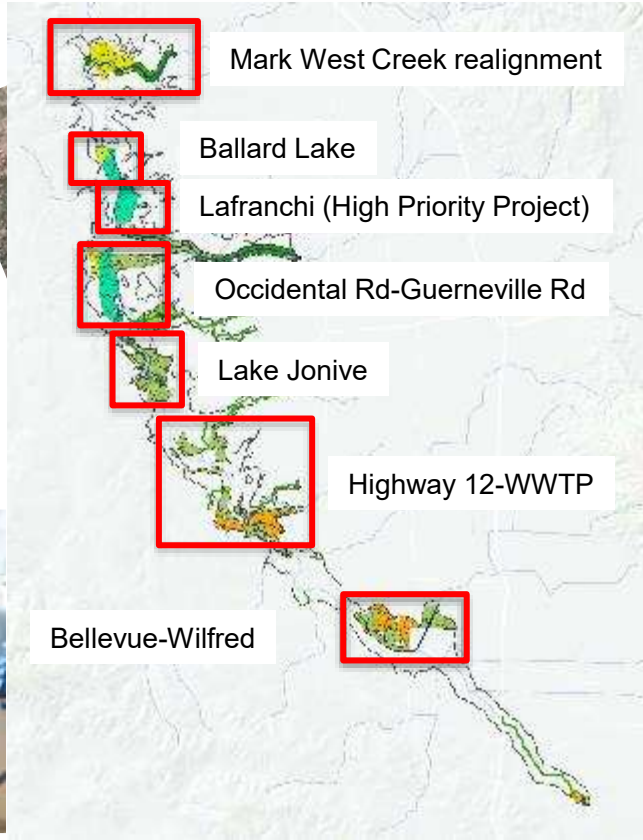


Restoration Project Design



Laguna High Priority Project

Field visit in the Laguna with TAC members. Photo: SFEI.





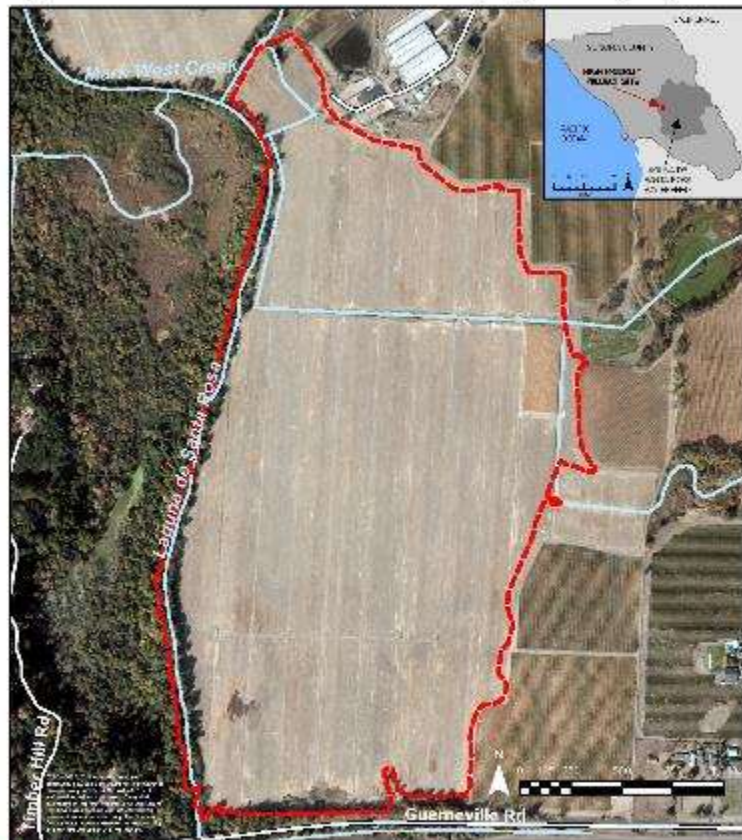
Report for Sonoma County Water Agency
**Laguna de Santa Rosa - Final Site
Evaluation & Design Alternatives**
April 20, 2020



1624 Franklin Street Suite 901
Oakland, California
510.454.9378
flowwest.com



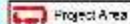
Laguna-Mark West Master Restoration Plan, High Priority Project Site



SONOMA
WATER



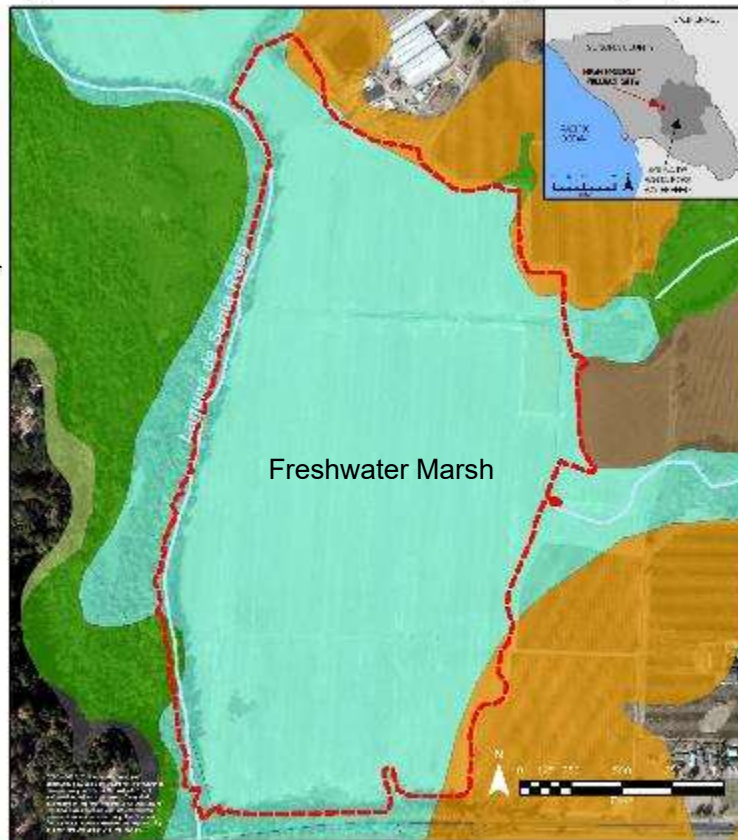
Sonoma
Water



Project Area

Laguna-Mark West Master Restoration Plan, High Priority Project Site

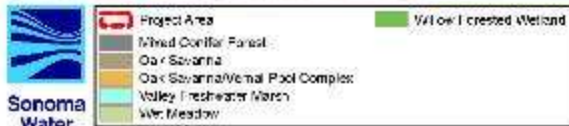
Willow
Forested
Wetland
and
Wet Meadow



Oak
Savannah



Oak Savannah/
Vernal Pool
Complex



Sonoma
Water

Laguna-Mark West Master Restoration Plan, High Priority Project Site

Forested Wetland and Riparian Forest Scrub and Wet Meadow

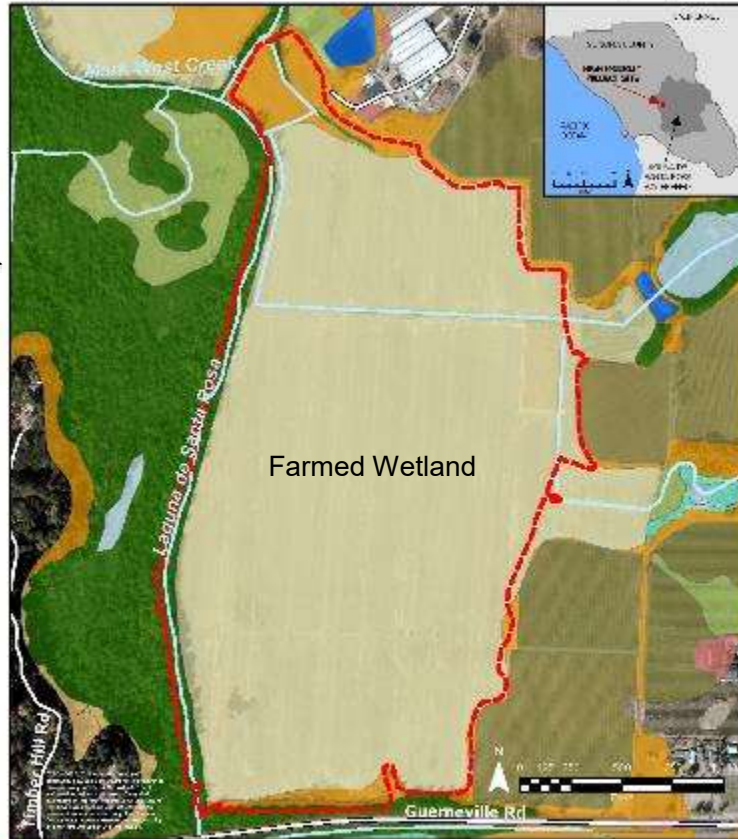


Agriculture



Farmed Wetland

Oak Savannah/
Vernal Pool
Complex
and
Freshwater
Marsh

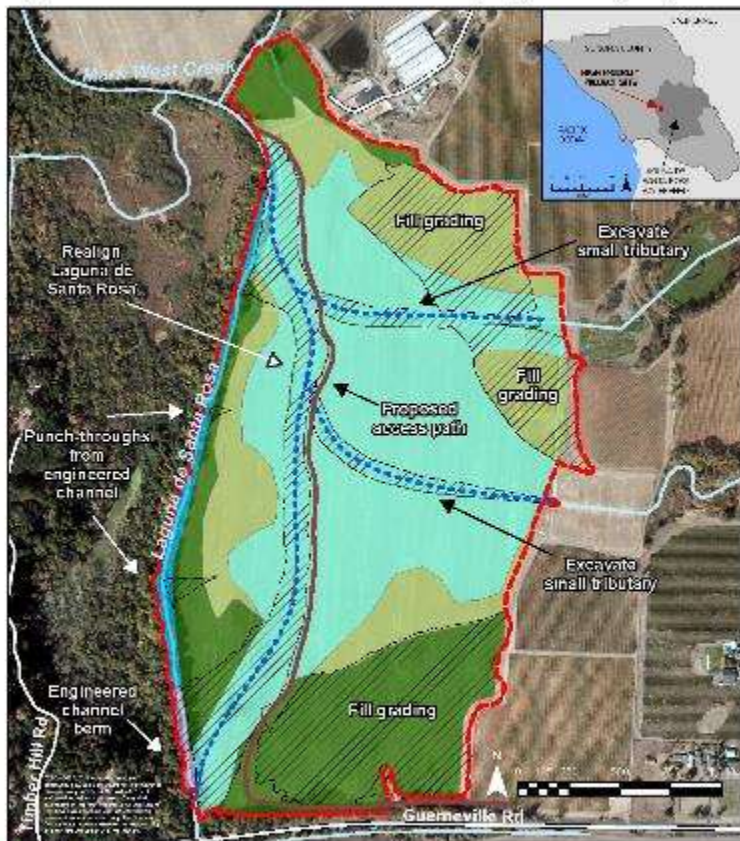


Sonoma Water

Project Area	Other Upland
Agriculture	Perennial Freshwater Lake/Pond
Deciduous/Grassland	Storage Pond
Farmed Wetland	Vernal Freshwater Marsh
Forested Wetland and Riparian Forest/Scrub	Wet Meadow
Oak Savannah/Vernal Pool Complex/Grassland	



Laguna-Mark West Master Restoration Plan, High Priority Project Site



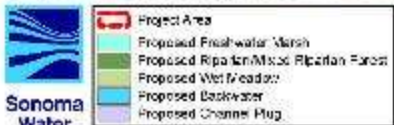
Wet Meadow



Freshwater Marsh

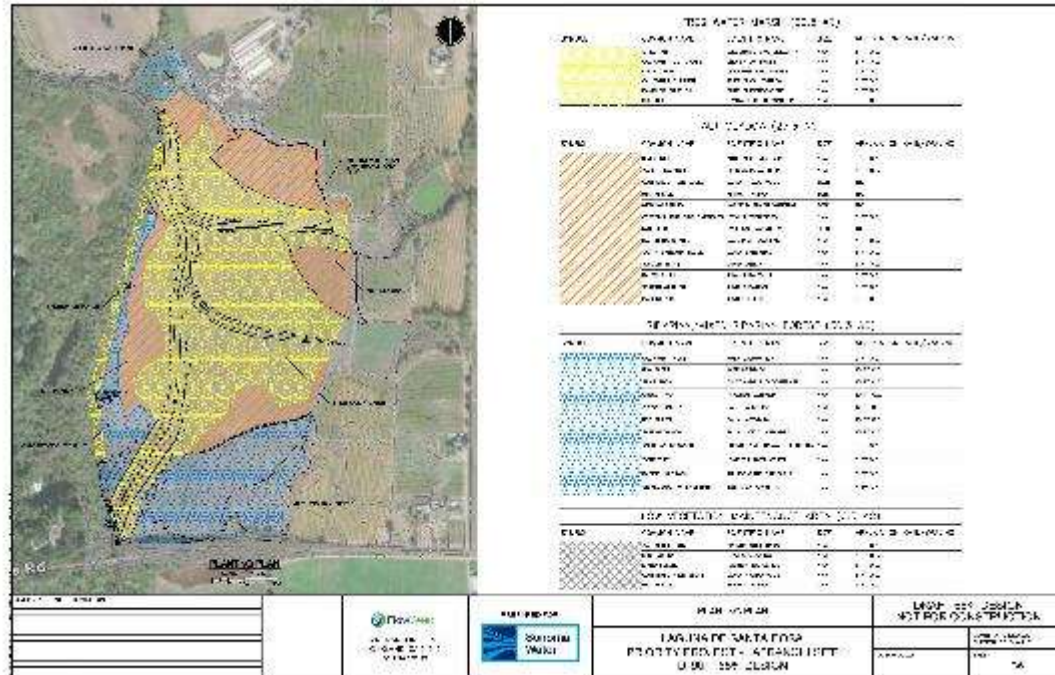


Mixed Riparian Forest



Sonoma Water

Laguna High Priority Project





Headquarters Office
1000 Lincoln Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Office Hours
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday - Friday

Phone Calls
707-522-3270

LAGUNA-MARK WEST CREEK WATERSHED MASTER RESTORATION PLANNING PROJECT - HIGH PRIORITY PROJECT

FINAL INITIAL STUDY AND MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



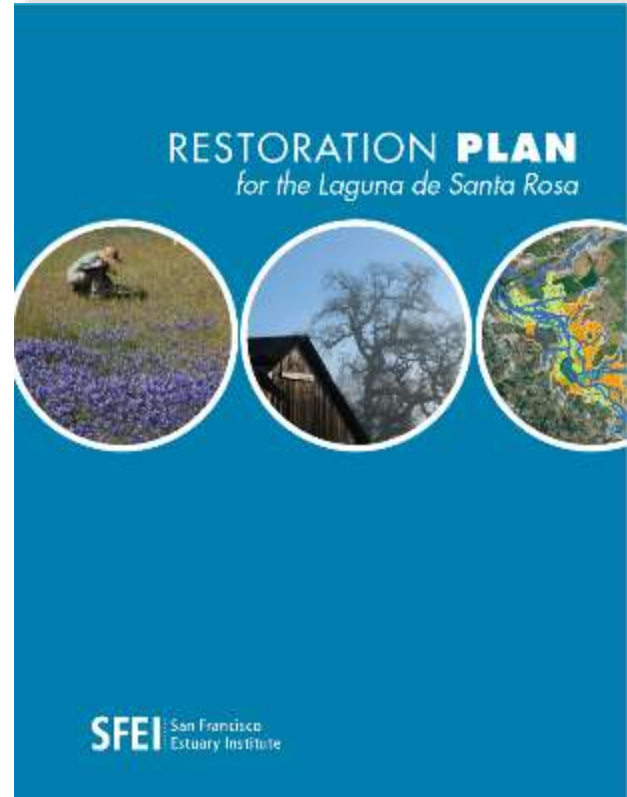
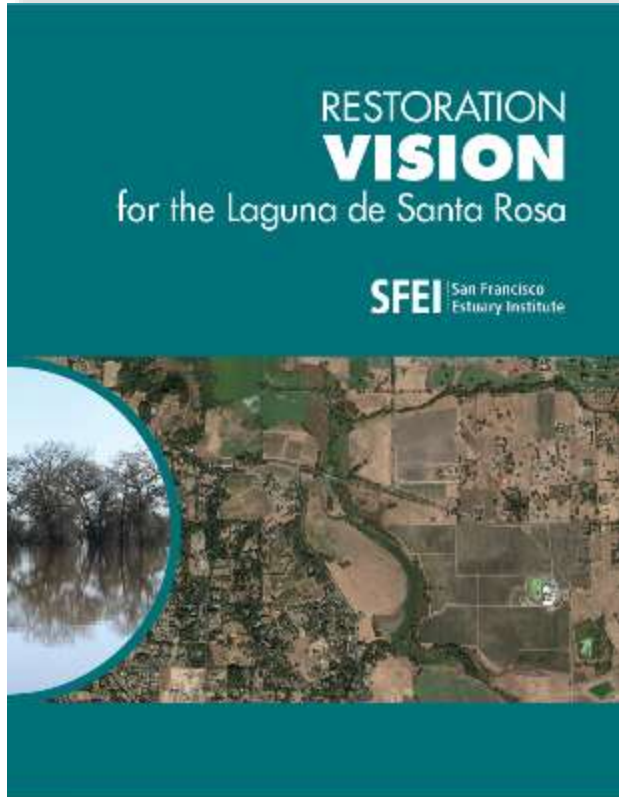
Lead Agency:
Sonoma County Water Agency
404 Alexander Boulevard
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Contact: David Cook, David.Cook@scwa.ca.gov

Posted: February 23, 2023
Review Period: 32 days
State Clearhouse Number: 202302053



Reports available at sfei.org



QUESTIONS?

Thank You!



**Sonoma
Water**

SFEI

**AQUATIC
SCIENCE
CENTER**

Table 3-1. Effectiveness of each Restoration Project at addressing one of nine prioritization criteria. These criteria are tied to the management objectives introduced at the beginning of this document.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	Prioritization Criteria (Ecosystem improvements that help meet Management Objectives)*	Restoration Project Concept Rating								
		Mark West A	Mark West B	Mark West C	Mark West D	Ballard Lake	Occidental - Guerneville	Lake Jonive	HWY12-WWTP	Bellevue-Wilfred
Enlarge riparian and wetland habitat patches and improve their connectedness	A. Expands valley freshwater marsh and/or enhances connectivity	None	None	None	None	Medium	High	None	Medium	Low
	B. Expands forested wetland and mixed riparian and/or enhances connectivity	High	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	High	Medium	Low
	C. Expands wet meadow and/or enhances connectivity	None	None	None	None	None	Low	Medium	High	High
Decrease sediment and nutrient delivery to the Laguna, especially at areas of high deposition/accumulation rates. Move sediment from accumulation areas where appropriate	D. Improves water quality through biological uptake of nutrients (in habitats with high assimilative capacity)	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Low
	E. Improves water quality through reduction of sediment in the main channel through natural floodplain deposition	Medium	Low	Low	Low	High	High	Low	Medium	Low
	F. Improves water quality by removal of sediment through active management (dredging)	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	High	Medium	Medium
Control the extent of invasive plant species, and encourage conditions that enable native species	G. Increases shade and canopy cover through riparian enhancement	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	High	Low	None
	H. Increases competition with invasive <i>Ludwigia</i> spp. via native habitat types (wet meadow and bulrush)	None	None	None	None	Medium	High	Medium	High	High
	I. Decreases invasive <i>Ludwigia</i> spp. opportunities by increasing water depth	None	None	None	None	High	None	High	Medium	Medium
Improve late spring/summer water quality through improved drainage and flow conveyance	J. Decreases perennial shallow slow moving water	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	None	Medium	None	None	None
	K. Relieves flow constrictions and impeded flow due to channel alignment	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Low	Low	Low
	L. Expands seasonally inundated habitats while reducing late-season or perennial shallow water inundation	High	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High	Medium	High	High

Laguna High Priority Project: summary

Criteria	MWC	BL	Laf	O-G	LJ	WWTP	B-W
Landowner willingness			X				
Flood control	X		X	X	X	X	
Assimilative capacity		X	X	X	X	X	X
Recreation					X	X	
Ecological priority	X		X	X			
Restoration opportunity	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Learning opportunity			X			X	X
Cost		X	X	X	X	X	X
Implementability	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



Criteria	Description
Landowner willingness	Willingness to at least allow project design to 65% and CEQA documentation for eventual implementation
Flood control	Anticipated increase in flood conveyance and reduction in water surface elevation and inundated area during floods
Assimilative capacity	Anticipated increase in nutrient removed via biological uptake or in nutrient removal via mechanical means (physical removal)
Recreation	Project would create or enhance recreational opportunities, including (but not limited to) boating, hiking, hunting, and birding
Ecological priority	Based upon historical and current ecology, project should occur before other projects. Current condition of project site may limit function and success of future projects
Restoration opportunity	Project is an opportunity to restore a lost habitat (habitat type that historically occurred) or create new habitat area where there is currently none. Includes removal or eradication of <i>Ludwigia</i>
Learning opportunity	Project presents opportunity for experimentation and learning beyond adaptively managing a project.
Cost	Project could be funded through CDFW implementation grant funds or through water quality credit trading
Implementability	Project could be implemented in one construction season (June 15 to October 15)

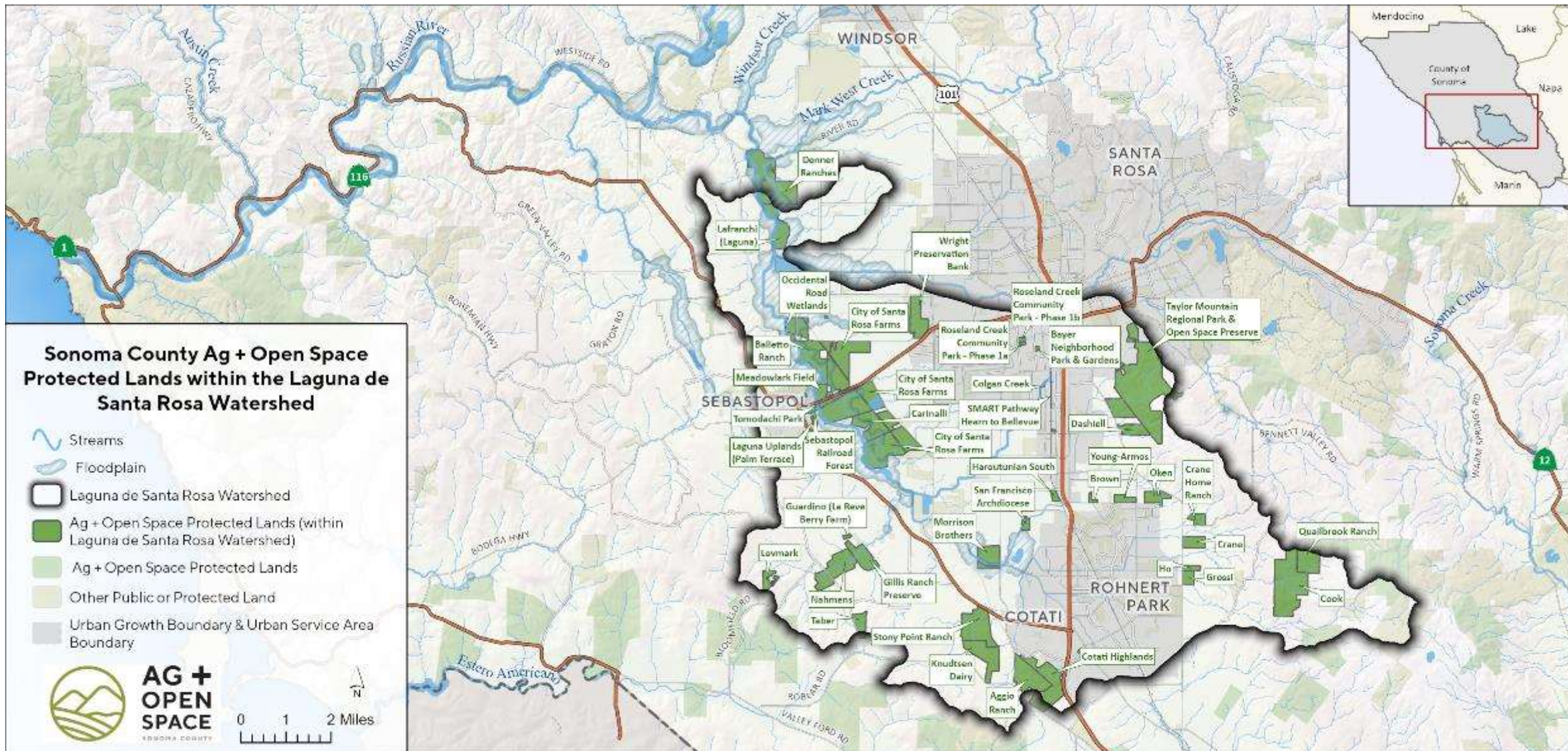


Sonoma County Ag + Open Space Conservation in the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed

Jen Kuszmar | Acquisition Manager



**AG +
OPEN
SPACE**
SONOMA COUNTY





Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed

Sonoma

Santa Rosa

Petaluma

Napa

Napa

Vallejo

Marin

San Rafael

Yolo

Woodland

Davis

Vacaville

Fairfield

Solano

Antioch

Concord

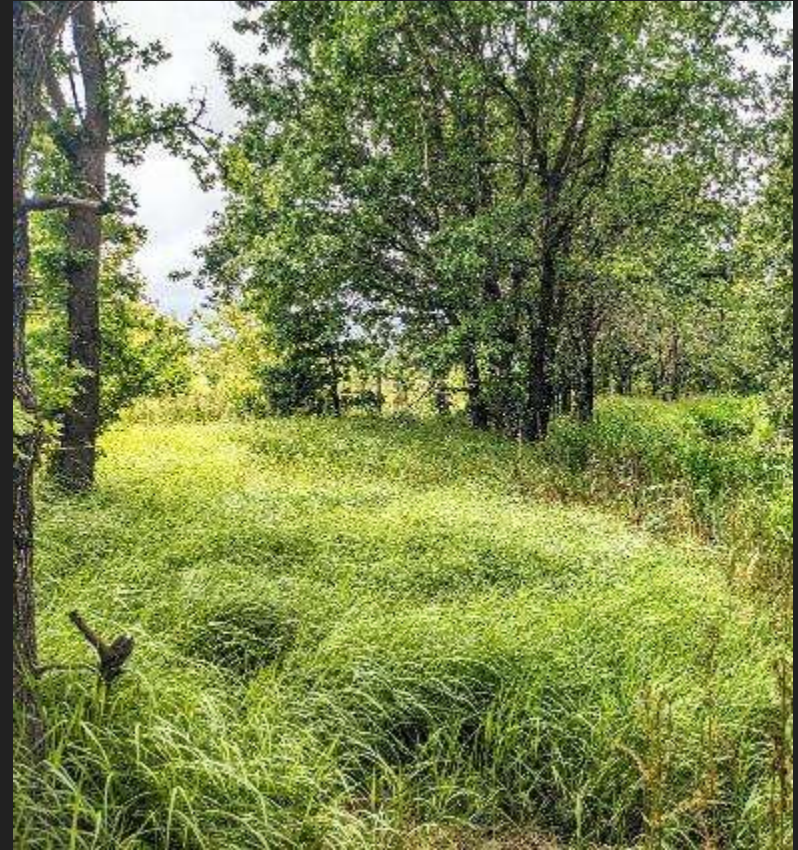
Contra Costa

Oakland

Conservation and Restoration in the Laguna de Santa Rosa's Watershed



Riparian Corridors - Enhancing and Connecting Fragmented Habitats



Conservation of Unique and Rare Habitats - Vernal Pools



CLEAN Native Plant Nursery

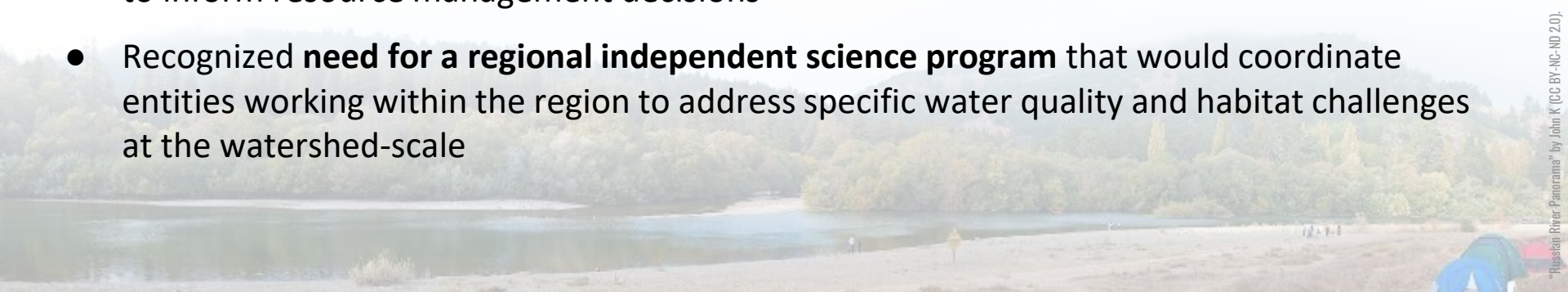


Russian River Regional Monitoring Program Update

www.r3mp.org

MOTIVATION FOR THE R3MP

- **Watershed-scale challenges need to be addressed in a coordinated way**, which is increasingly apparent with rapid changes due to climate change
- **Monitoring activities are not well coordinated** and resulting data are not readily available, standardized, or broadly used to support decision-making
- **Need to understand baseline ecological conditions and trends** in overall watershed health to inform resource management decisions
- Recognized **need for a regional independent science program** that would coordinate entities working within the region to address specific water quality and habitat challenges at the watershed-scale



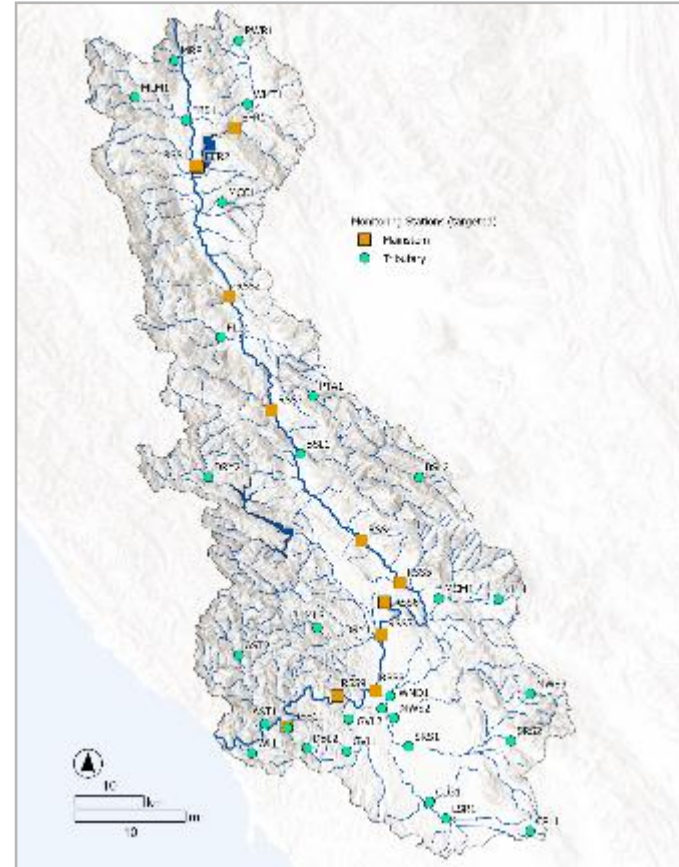
"Russian River Panorama" by John K. (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0).

Initial Monitoring Plan – Summary of survey design

To address the initial monitoring questions 1 and 3:
“What is the status of and where is there evidence of excessive biostimulation and poor stream habitat?”

Two kinds of monitoring proposed:

- **Targeted stations** to track change over time in the long term and identify areas of concern
- **Probabilistic stations** for inferring overall ecological stream conditions (with a known level of confidence) using statistical approach



Current R3MP efforts

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

- Sign up for the R3MP email list
- Attend a Steering Committee meeting
- Participate in the Mapping Workgroup

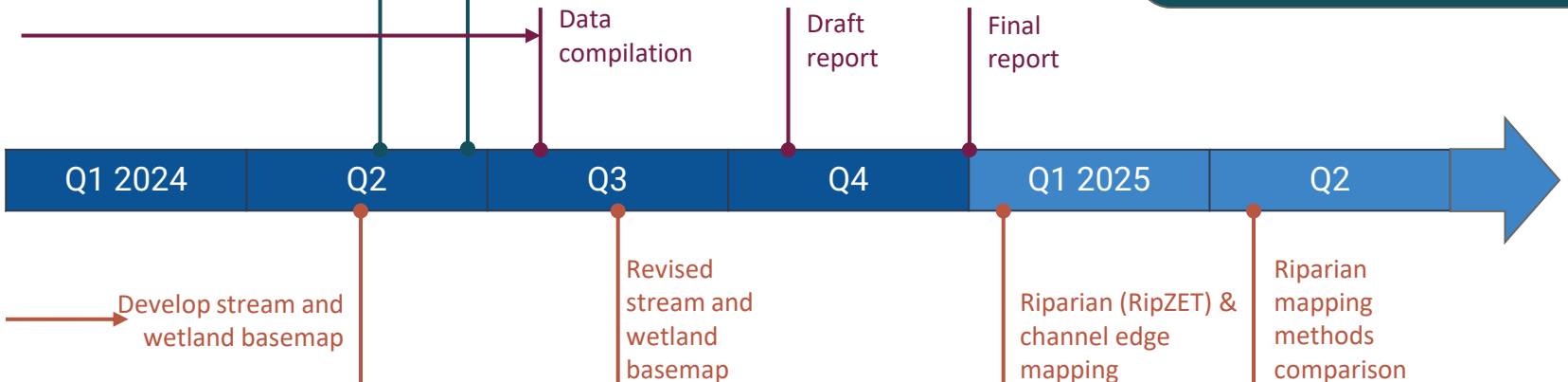
Email: Alison Whipple (alison@sfei.org)

- Program Development Support

Initial Coordinated 5-yr
Monitoring Plan & Data
Management Processes - SC
approval

Criteria for implementing entity
Program cost estimates

- R3MP Status and Trends Assessment



Note: Need to secure funding to implement the Monitoring Plan, manage data, report findings, and administer the R3MP

- US EPA Russian River Mapping Grant



Project Funding Opportunities

~ ~ ~

Jemma Williams

~ ~ ~

March 27, 2024

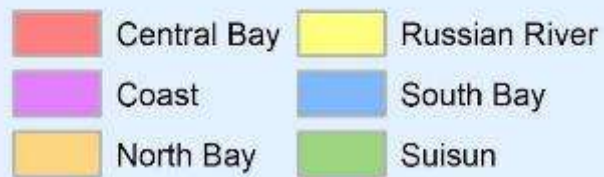


Mission: to protect, restore, and enhance habitats throughout the San Francisco Bay Area for the benefits of birds, other wildlife, and people.

Led by a 25-member management board (US EPA, USFWS, NOAA, CDFW, WCB, Save the Bay and others).

Five Committees:
Conservation, Science, Policy,
Regional Communications,
Equity/Diversity/Inclusion (EDI)

San Francisco Bay Joint Venture Boundary Map



Data Sources:
- Baylands from SFEI-ASC EcoAtlas, other protected lands from the Bay Area Open Space Council and GreenInfo Network



Regional Funding Opportunities

- Funding Working Group Virtual Meetings: 3PM - 4PM; 2nd Thursday of every other month
- Scan for SFBJV Funding Page
View Available Funding button → takes you to the spreadsheet which tracks current funding opps in the restoration, EJ, climate resilience space.



SCAN ME

Grant Opportunities

- RFP/LOI for the US Fish and Wildlife Service's National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program —> The SCC would provide some or all of match for protection and/or restoration of coastal wetlands
- Community Project Funding:
 - Specific projects that benefit the community they represent. [See our new website post](#) on our website on: *How to request money from the Federal Government: Programmatic Appropriations & Community Project Funding*
- Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) - rolling window, Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) - current proposal window open until April 18, 2024 at 3:00pm

Thank You!



www.SFBayJV.org



Kelli McCune, Coordinator : kmccune@sfbayjv.org

Jemma Williams, Conservation Coordinator: jwilliams@sfbayjv.org

Nikki Roach, Policy & Communications Coordinator: nroach@sfbayjv.org