



# CONSERVATION STRATEGY UPDATE

A key component of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) that provides system-wide context and direction for DWR's environmental activities related to improvement of flood management in the Central Valley.

## What does the Conservation Strategy provide ?



Improved Science and Planning Information, Specifically for Central Valley Flood System



Programmatic Permitting Strategy for Capital Improvements and System Maintenance



Improved Vegetation Management Approach, Reducing O&M Burdens



Ecological Targets and Measurable Objectives to Track Progress, Facilitate Adaptive Management and Measure Success



Habitat Planning and Implementation Guidance that can Improve Project Delivery, Reduce Costs, and Contribute Towards Ecological Uplift

## What is the purpose ?

- Helps DWR and others plan, design, and implement multiple-benefit flood improvement actions
- Expands public support and funding for flood projects, improves project delivery and reduces long-term costs, and attracts funding from other sources
- Supports CVFPP goals by providing a comprehensive, long-term approach to improving riverine habitat and floodplains consistent with CVFPP implementation

## BACKGROUND

- 2007** — Statewide bonds provided early funding for flood risk management projects in the Central Valley
- 2008** — State legislature passed the Central Valley Flood Protection Act
- 2012** — Conservation Framework was developed as a part of the 2012 CVFPP
- 2016** — Conservation Strategy informed the 2017 CVFPP Update
- 2021** — Conservation Strategy to inform the 2022 CVFPP Update

## How does it support multi-benefit integration ?

- Provides tools, data, approaches, and guidance (e.g., ecological goals and targets) for development of multi-benefit projects
- Informs feasibility studies and Regional Flood Management Plans
- Attracts greater cost-sharing attributable to the broader range of benefits it yields



# CONSERVATION STRATEGY UPDATE

2012 Conservation Framework	2016 Conservation Strategy	Conservation Strategy Update
<p>Consisted of several technical reports covering biological status and trends, ecological flow modeling and analysis of opportunity areas for restoring floodplain habitat, fish passage assessment, and regional permitting approaches and the establishment of advance mitigation projects.</p>	<p>Provided measurable ecological objectives for ecosystem processes, habitats, and species, and for planning and design objectives; it also described the approach for achieving these objectives that includes adaptive management of implementation.</p>	<p>Report on progress toward meeting measurable objectives for improved ecosystem processes, increased habitats, and decreased stressors as part of flood risk reduction projects; describe how climate change may influence ecological conditions and the ability to meet these objectives; and explain how integration with other State and regional efforts can help improve flood system resilience through more effective implementation of multi-benefit projects</p>

## Ecological Goals



### Ecosystem Processes

Improve and Enhance Dynamic Hydrologic and Geomorphic Processes

#### ECOLOGICAL TARGETS:

- Floodplain Inundation
- Riverine Geomorphic Processes

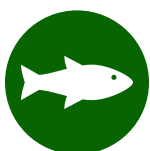


### Species

Contribute to the Recovery and Sustainability of Native Species Populations and Overall Biotic Community Diversity

#### ECOLOGICAL TARGETS:

- Improvements are linked to actions that improve ecosystem processes and habitats



### Habitats

Increase and Improve Quantity, Diversity, and Connectivity of Riverine Aquatic and Floodplain Habitats

#### ECOLOGICAL TARGETS:

- Shaded Riverine Aquatic Habitat and Cover
- Riparian, Marsh (and Other Wetlands)
- Floodplain Agriculture



### Stressors

Reduce Stressors From Development, Operation, and Maintenance of Flood Management System that Negatively Affect At-Risk Species

#### ECOLOGICAL TARGETS:

#### Improvements are linked to actions that reduce

- Revetment (where unnecessary for flood protection)
- Levees (where unnecessary for flood protection, disconnect rivers from floodplains or lack capacity to accommodate vegetation)
- Fish passage barriers
- Invasive plants