



California DRIP Collaborative

Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners (DRIP) Collaborative Meeting

Friday July 18, 2025
California Natural Resources Agency
715 P Street, Sacramento, CA
Room 02-221 A/B/C (Second Floor)

Meeting Information

1. This meeting is being live streamed and recorded.
2. Members of the public are welcome to listen. Public comments will be taken throughout the meeting.
3. Please practice electronics courtesy and turn off or mute your cell phones.
4. All viewpoints are welcome; we look forward to engaging, innovative, thoughtful, and respectful discussions!

Paul Gosselin, CA Department of Water Resources – Deputy Director of Sustainable Water Management

WELCOMING REMARKS

Meeting Objectives

- Objective #1:** Provide opportunities for collective learning about efforts to advance drought and water shortage resiliency.
- Objective #2:** Further the development of proposed 2025 recommendations and DRIP Collaborative inform and complement opportunities.

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome Remarks and Setting Intentions
2. Presentation: Piloting a Modern Approach to Drought Early Warning
3. 2024 Recommendations Updates
4. Pathways to Advancing 2025 DRIP Collaborative Ideas
5. Reducing Ecosystem Impacts of Drought Focus Area
6. 2024 Communication Program Recommendation - An Update
7. LUNCH
8. Presentation: LAFCo and Water System Consolidation
9. Land Use Planning for Drought Resiliency Focus Area
10. Water Infrastructure and Planning Focus Area
11. BREAK
12. Working Session: Alignment Across Ideas
13. Public Comment
14. Closing Comments

DRIP Collaborative (Quorum is 14)

1. **Analise Rivero**, California Trout, Inc.
2. **Anna Naimark**, California Environmental Protection Agency
3. **Anna Schiller**, Environmental Defense Fund
4. **Caitlin Loventhal**, California State Association of Counties
5. **Carolina Hernandez**, Los Angeles County Public Works
6. **Cyril Barmore**, Rural Community Assistance Corporation
7. **Jason Colombini**, Jay Colombini Ranch, Inc.
8. **Joaquin Esquivel**, State Water Resources Control Board
9. **Josue Medellin-Azuara**, University of California Merced
10. **Katie Ruby**, California Urban Water Agencies
11. **Kjia Rivers**, Community Water Center
12. **Laura Ramos**, California Water Institute at Fresno State
13. **Lawrence Grodeska**, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
14. **Nate Ortiz**, California Office of Emergency Services
15. **Paul Gosselin**, California Department of Water Resources

16. **Samantha Arthur**, California Natural Resources Agency
17. **Sierra Ryan**, Santa Cruz County
18. **Suzanne Pecci**, Domestic Well Advisory Group, South American Subbasin
19. **Tami McVay**, Self Help Enterprises
20. **Tim Worley**, California Association of Mutual Water Companies
21. **Virginia Jameson**, California Department of Food and Agriculture

Additional Members:

22. **Brent Hastey**, Plumas Lake Self Storage, Owner
23. **Emiko Burchill**, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
24. **Emily Rooney**, Agricultural Council of California
25. **Joshua Cahill**, Yurok Tribe
26. **Matessa Martin**, Buena Vista Ranchera of the Me-Wuk Indians



DRIP Collaborative Purpose: Facilitate proactive state planning and coordination, both for predrought planning and mitigation, emergency response, and post-drought management, and to develop strategies to enhance collaboration between various fields, for all types of water users. (Water Code §10609.80., subd. (b))

Glen Low, The Earth Genome

RECAP OF MAY MEETING

Year 3: Foundation for impact

Year 1 - Foundation Building

Shared process, initial ideation
(needs, solutions), engagement

2023

Year 2 - Building Muscle

Content work, focused on early
wins and demonstrating success

2024

Year 3 & Beyond – Scaling Impacts

High impact, more difficult work.
System change (as needed)

2025+



May 2025 DRIP Collaborative meeting

In May we discussed problem statements, subtopics and then generated ideas for three focus areas (Reducing Ecosystem Impacts, Land Use Planning, Water Infrastructure and Planning)

Proposed Problem Statement

California's ecosystems - freshwater, terrestrial, aquatic, and coastal - are increasingly degraded due to unsustainable water use, habitat fragmentation, land conversion, and climate-driven stressors. Reduced snowpack, rising temperatures, altered precipitation patterns, and more frequent and severe wildfires have amplified the strain on ecological systems, diminishing their capacity to adapt to or recover from drought. Despite these growing threats, water management and land use decisions often fail to adequately account for ecological health, particularly outside of drought emergencies.

Healthy ecosystems are essential to California's drought resilience. They buffer against extreme events, improve water quality and availability, support biodiversity, reduce wildfire severity, and safeguard public health. However, current policies and investments often overlook the long-term ecological functions that underpin resilience for both people and nature.

Discussion Question:
Does the problem statement generally reflect current challenges and potential opportunities of this focus area?



+

Problem Statement Subtopics

Environmental Flow Protections Most of California's rivers lack formal environmental flow protections. Critical species - such as salmon, smelt, steelhead, and sturgeon - depend on specific flow conditions, yet enforcement of instream flow requirements is limited. Inconsistent agency mandates and a lack of clarity on legal responsibilities hinder coordinated protections.	Habitat Restoration Wetlands, riparian corridors, and other key habitats have been dramatically reduced or degraded. Restoration can enhance drought and fire resilience but faces barriers such as complex permitting and fragmented funding. Tailored restoration strategies are needed that recognize the distinct services of different ecosystem types.	Integrated Planning Ecosystem resilience to drought requires integrating fire management, land use, groundwater-surface water dynamics, and climate projections at the watershed scale. Nature-based solutions are underutilized, and opportunities to center Tribal knowledge and partnerships are often missed.	Existing Tools & Regulations California's legal tools-including the public trust doctrine, water rights enforcement, and instream flow authorities-are often underused. Strengthening agency roles, enforcement, and public awareness can improve ecosystem protections without new legislation.
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Discussion Question:
Do we have the right set of subtopics that can serve as a foundation for developing recommendations?



Selection of 2025 Recommendation Ideas DRIP Collaborative Vote

Ecosystem

1. Prioritize in-stream flow requirements for streams of high ecological function and pick a pilot project (Redgie)
2. Incentives for setting in-stream flows; Landowner coop agreements (Kyle) - COMBINE with #1?
3. Granting and contracting streamlining (Redgie/Samantha)

Land Use

1. Extend support for Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program (MLRP) (Anna)
2. Housing water nexus: RHNA allocation - timing coord w/ water supply (Sierra/Natalie)
3. Assess how plans interact and offer recommendations (GSP, UWMPs, Drought Plans, General Plans) (Sierra/Natalie)

Water Infrast.

1. Identifying planning gaps and solutions for vulnerable communities and explore more funding solutions (Kyle/Carolina)
2. Improve systems and regulatory flexibility (Laura/Katie)
3. GW recharge and NBS be included as new water sources (Kyle/Emily)



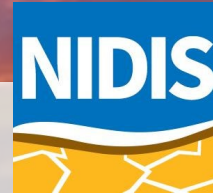
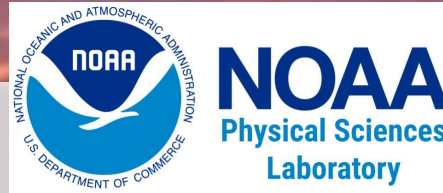
Considerations for selecting recommendation ideas for development:

- ✓ **Impact:** Does the recommendation idea explicitly address the Problem Statement/sub-topics?
- ✓ **Relevance:** Does the recommendation idea align with the DRIP Collaborative purpose?
- ✓ **Capacity:** Is there sufficient interest from members to develop this recommendation idea?

2025 Proposed DRIP Collaborative Timeline



**Note: The timeline for each focus area/workgroup will vary. Voting for 2025 recommendations may extend into 2026.*



Piloting a Modern Approach to Drought Early Warning

Dr. Andrew Hoell

Research Meteorologist, NOAA Physical Sciences Laboratory

In closest partnership with the National Integrated Drought Information System

National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)

Multi-agency partnership that supports proactive approaches to managing drought risks and impacts

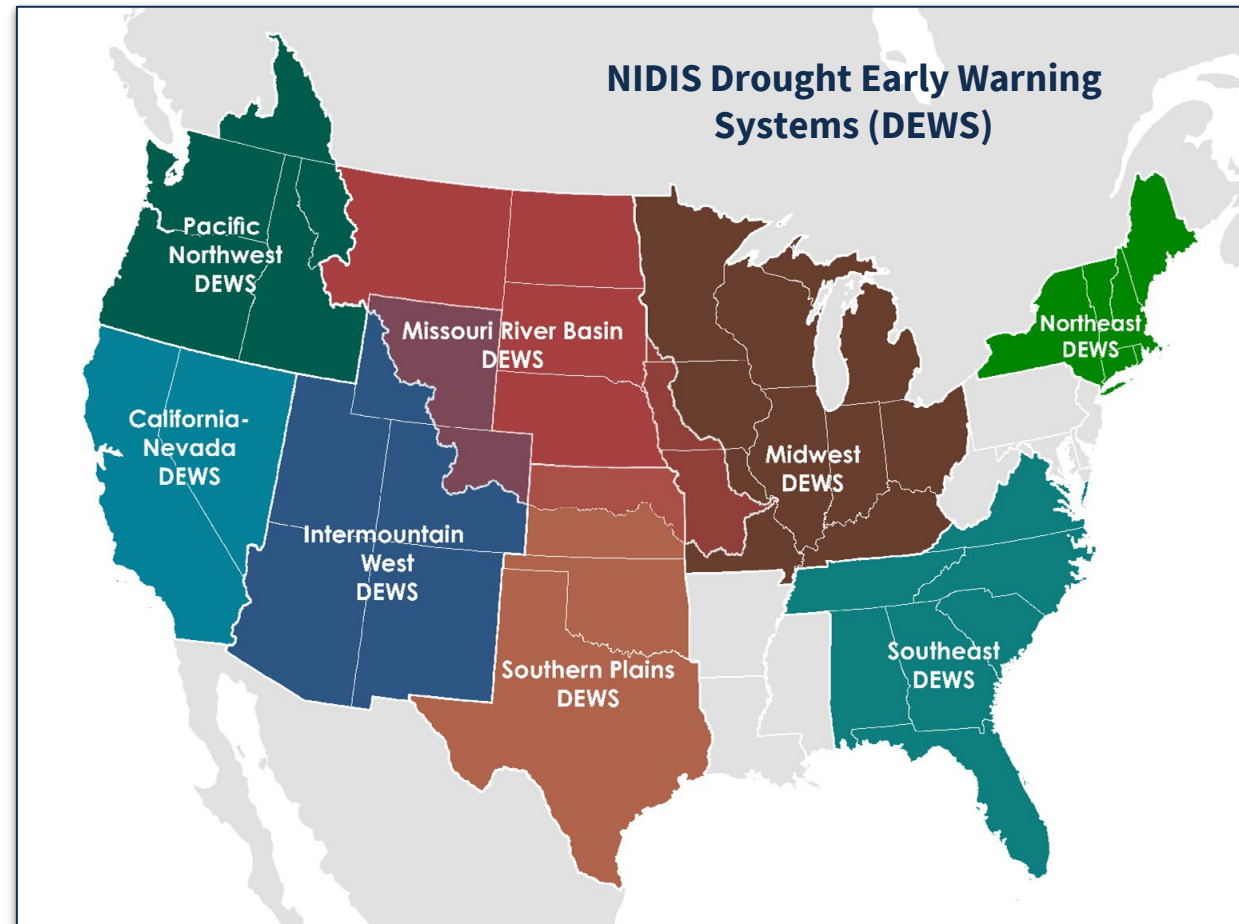
A **Drought Early Warning System**, or DEWS, is a network of partners that share information and coordinate actions to help communities in the region cope with drought. Implementing regional DEWS allows for responsiveness to particular geographic and hydrologic circumstances, as well as value-added information needs specific to stakeholders in the respective areas.

Allows for
early drought detection

Allows for proactive
drought responses

Triggers actions in a
drought plan

Provides decision support

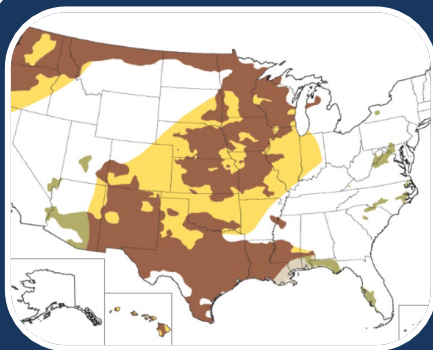


NIDIS Leverages NOAA's Capabilities to Provide Drought Early Warning and Serve Vulnerable Communities

Supports drought resilience through monitoring, forecasting, and service delivery



World-class Earth system monitoring, modeling, and data repository.



Operational drought monitoring and forecasting.



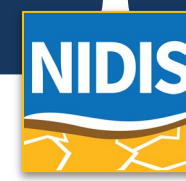
Cutting-edge research on drought, water, climate; interagency lead for coordinating drought research.



Authoritative sources of information from national to local levels.



Lead regional drought networks that integrate science into decision making.



Modernizing Drought Early Warning

Vision

Drought resilience for the Nation's economic sectors.

Mission

Inform early warning decision-making based on co-developed, sector-specific, and evidence-based drought intelligence.

Process

Deliver monthly sector-specific drought scenarios based on integrated and tailored monitoring and forecasting information.

Modernizing Drought Early Warning

Pilot designed to support discovery of the feasibility, opportunities, and barriers, to delivery targeted drought early warning information and determine scalability

Improve sector-specific preparedness and shift users to a more proactive drought response.

Incorporate and evaluate new information, and improve upon the Outlooks in real time.

User centric, modern approach geared towards helping users make decisions and navigate drought progression and extremes.

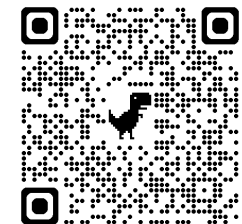
Opportunity to educate users on available data and information through regular communication.

Modernizing Drought Early Warning

Monthly activities and outcomes to support the effort

Activity	Dates					
	11/22/2024	1/13/2025	2/14/2025	3/21/2025	5/12/2025	6/16/2025
Solicitation	11/22/2024	1/13/2025	2/14/2025	3/21/2025	5/12/2025	6/16/2025
Briefing	12/05/2024	1/23/2025	2/27/2025	4/3/2025	5/22/2025	6/26/2025
Summary	12/06/2024	1/24/2025	2/28/2025	4/4/2025	5/23/2025	6/27/2025

Briefing and summary may be found here:



Sector-Specific Drought Briefing Outline

1 Global Perspective

Global conditions relevant to southern California sectors

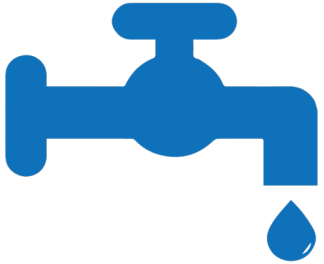
2 Regional Perspective

Southwest U.S. conditions relevant to southern California sectors

3 Sector-Specific Drought Outlook

Public Health, Agriculture, and Water Utilities

Water Utilities Scenario

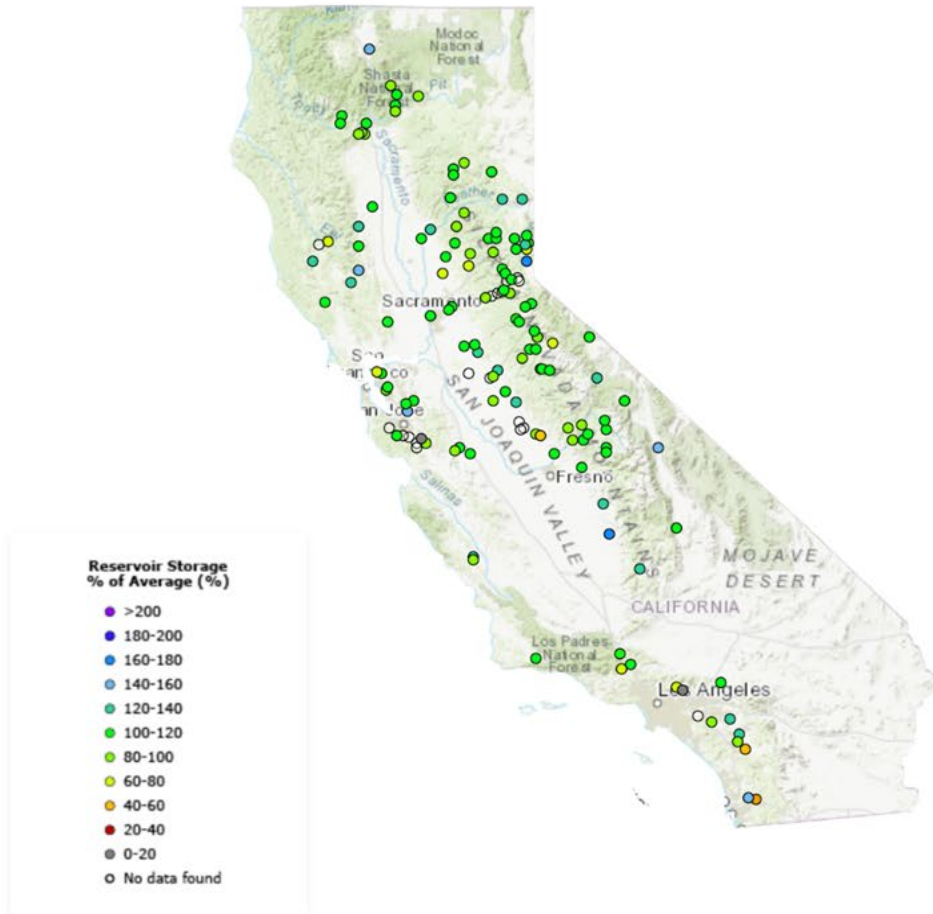


Compared to June 2025, reservoir storage and groundwater levels are expected to be lower in October 2025 (high confidence) and lower in June 2026 (medium confidence).

Supporting Evidence:

- Rapid decline in snowpack throughout the western U.S.
- No indication of substantial replenishment due to above-average precipitation in the 2025-2026 wet season.
- Bureau of Reclamation projections of the next two water years.

Near-Average Reservoir Levels in Southern California



Reservoirs as of 06/24/2025

The map of California shows how reservoir conditions compare to their historical averages for this month. The metrics below are an estimate of the current total statewide reservoir storage.

Estimated Total Statewide Reservoir Storage: 32.20 MAF*

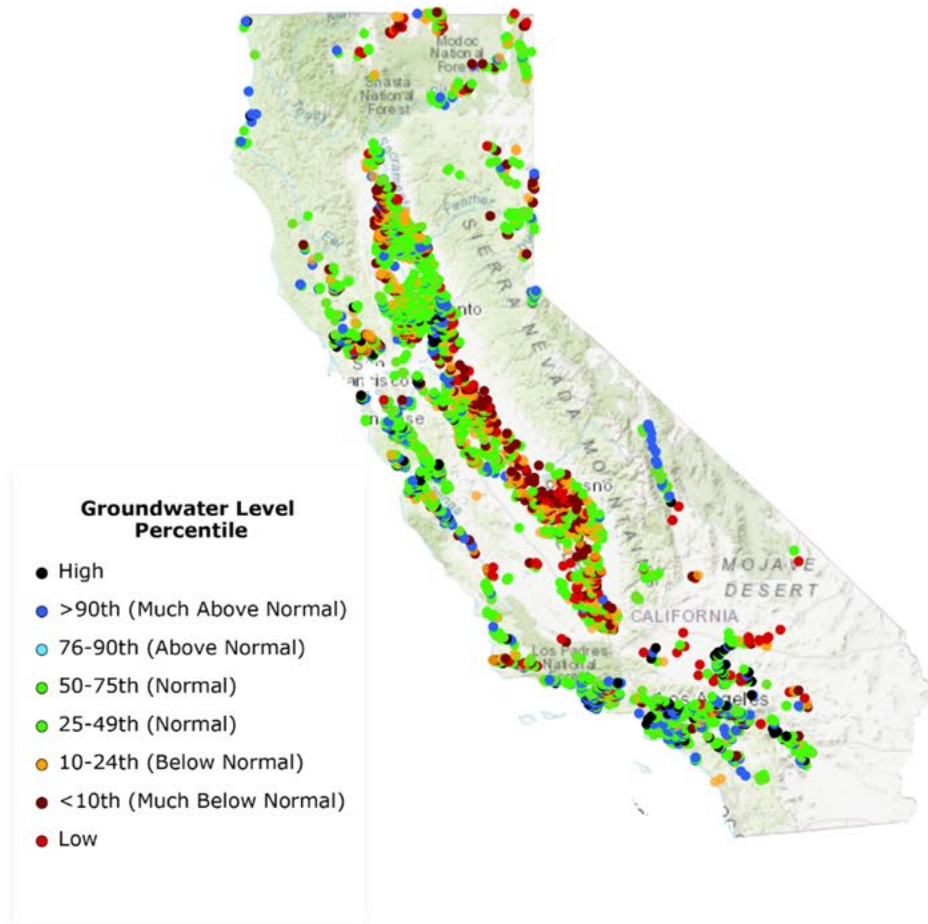
Percent of Historical Average: 114%

*Million Acre Feet (MAF). On average, California receives about 200 million acre-feet of water per year in the form of rain and snow. One acre-foot of water is enough to serve two families of four for a year.

[Get More Data >](#)



Mixed Groundwater Levels



Groundwater as of 06/22/2025

The map of California shows groundwater level conditions across the state by comparing the most recent groundwater level measurement at individual monitoring wells to historical measurements during the same month. For a well to appear on this map, the most recent measurement must have occurred within the last 18 months, and measurements from at least 10 years must exist for that month.

Currently, most monitoring wells are only measured twice a year, in the spring and fall. Few wells have monthly data, however the State and local groundwater monitoring agencies are working to improve and expand groundwater level data collection.

We are collectively learning more than ever before about our groundwater basins from data being collected and reported by local groundwater agencies. These data are the foundation to support future decision-making related to land use and water resource planning.

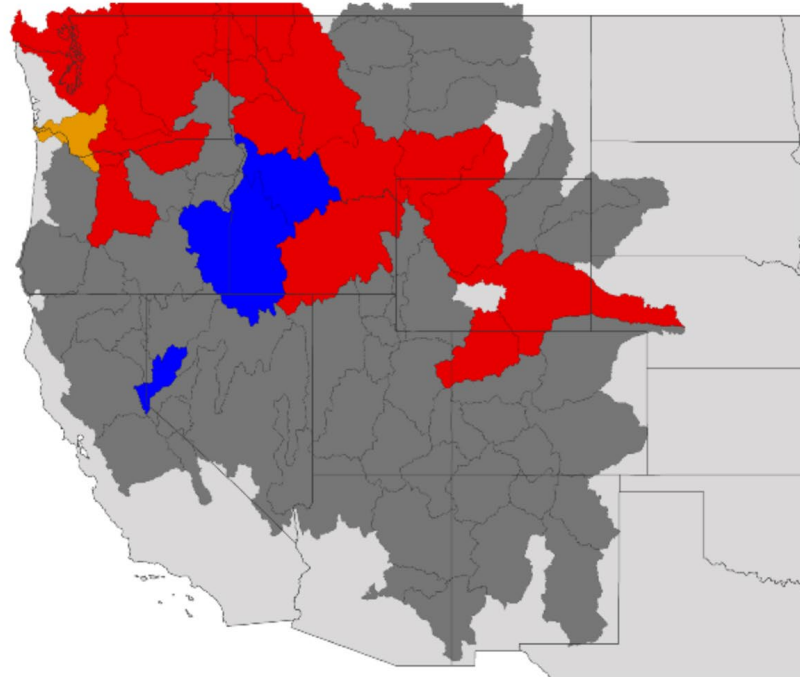
The State and locals will continue monitoring and tracking groundwater conditions and collecting new data allowing locals to better manage water resources including implementing groundwater recharge during average and wet years to ensure groundwater will be available as a buffer for future dry and drought times when it is needed most.

[Get More Data >](#)



Rapid Decline in Snow Water Equivalent Continues

SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent Percent of Median



Percent of Median Snow Water Equivalent



■ No basin value

Source(s): USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Data Valid End of Day: 06/23/25

Drought.gov

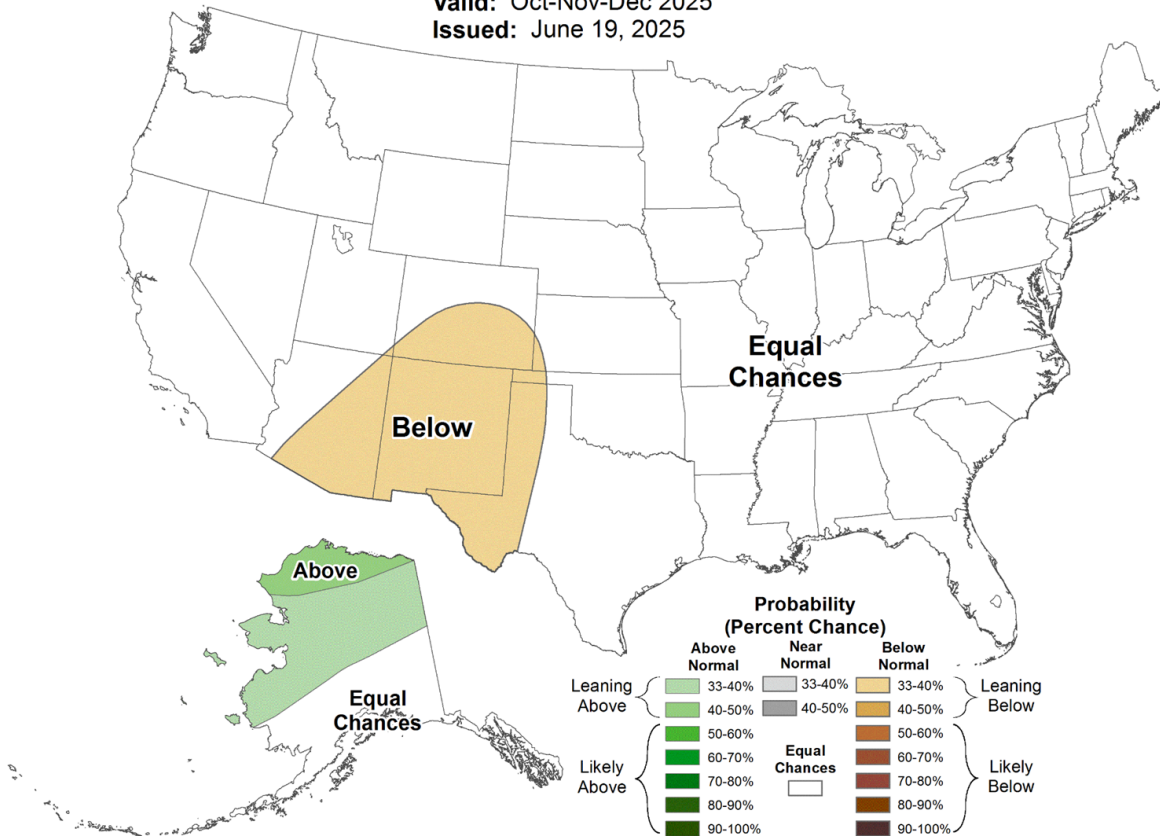


Little Tilt in Odds to Above- or Below-Average Precipitation in the Next Wet Season



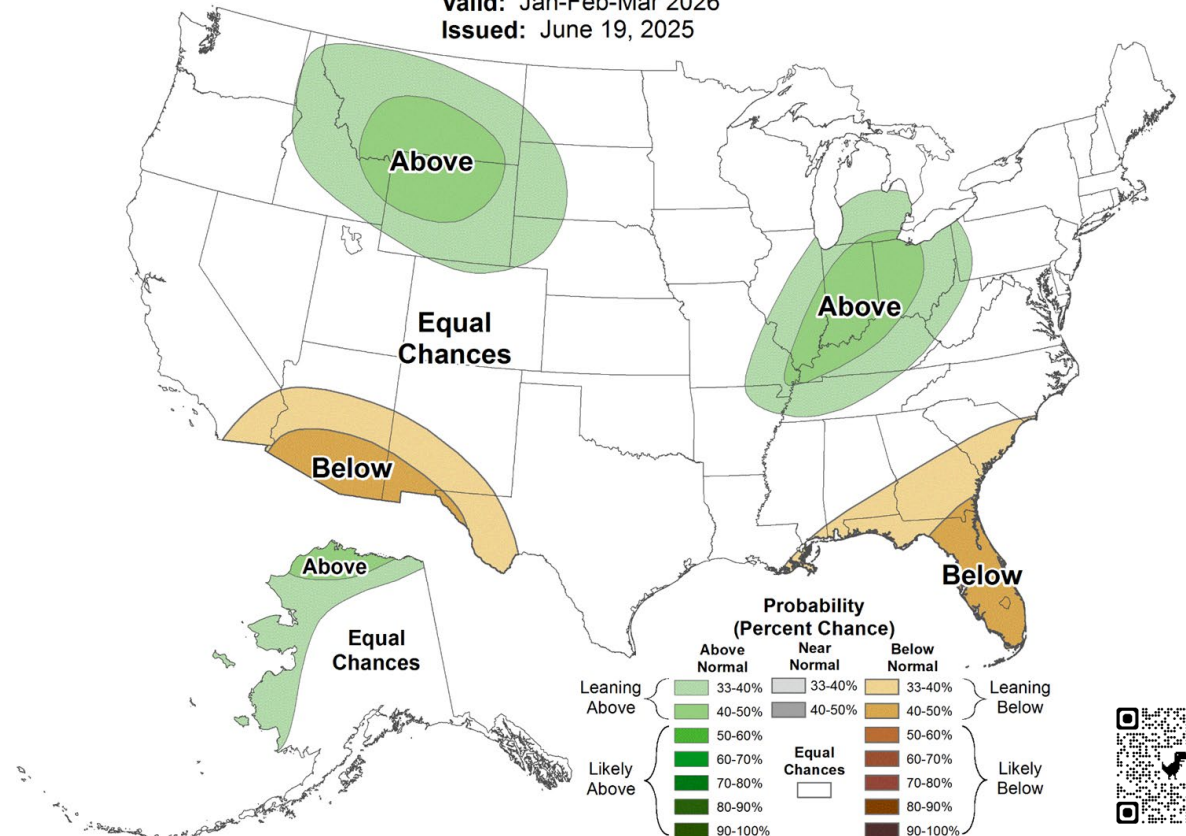
Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2025
Issued: June 19, 2025

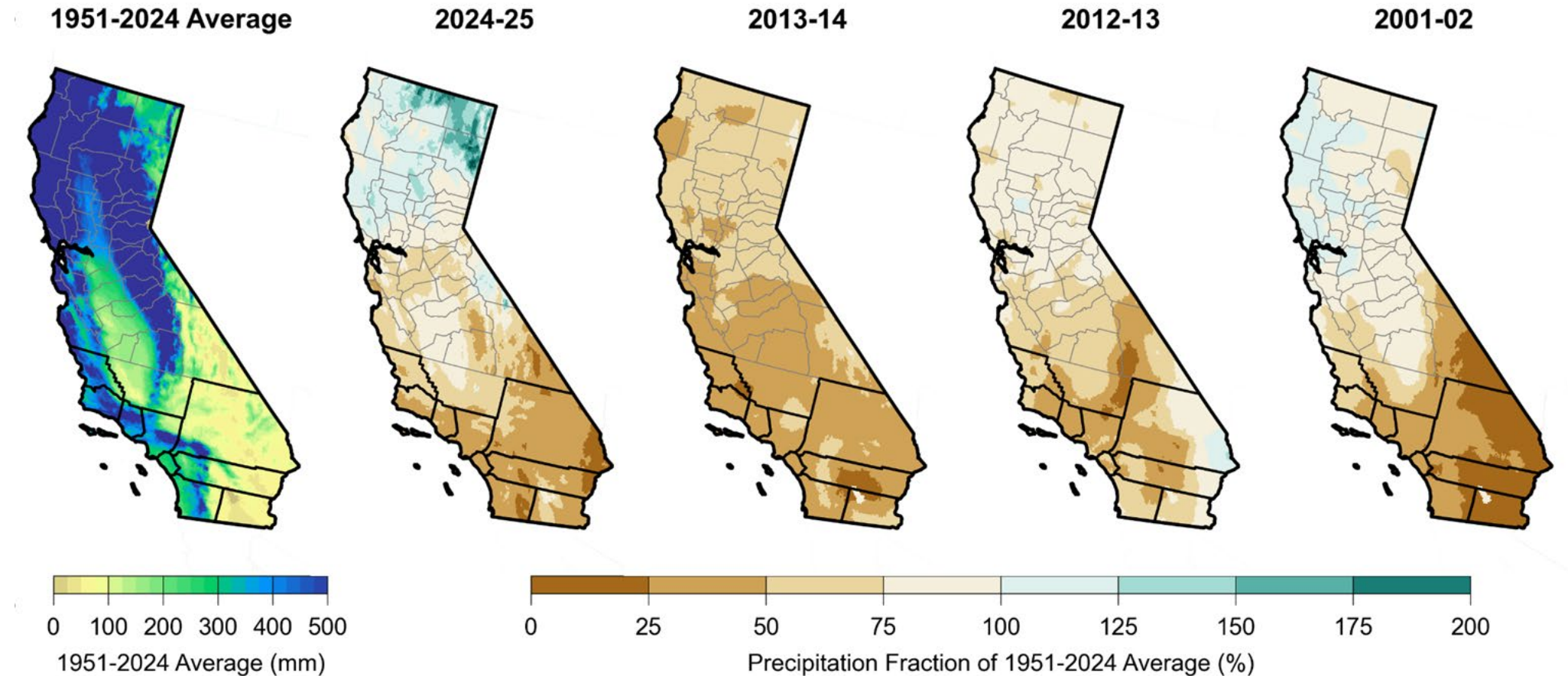


Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

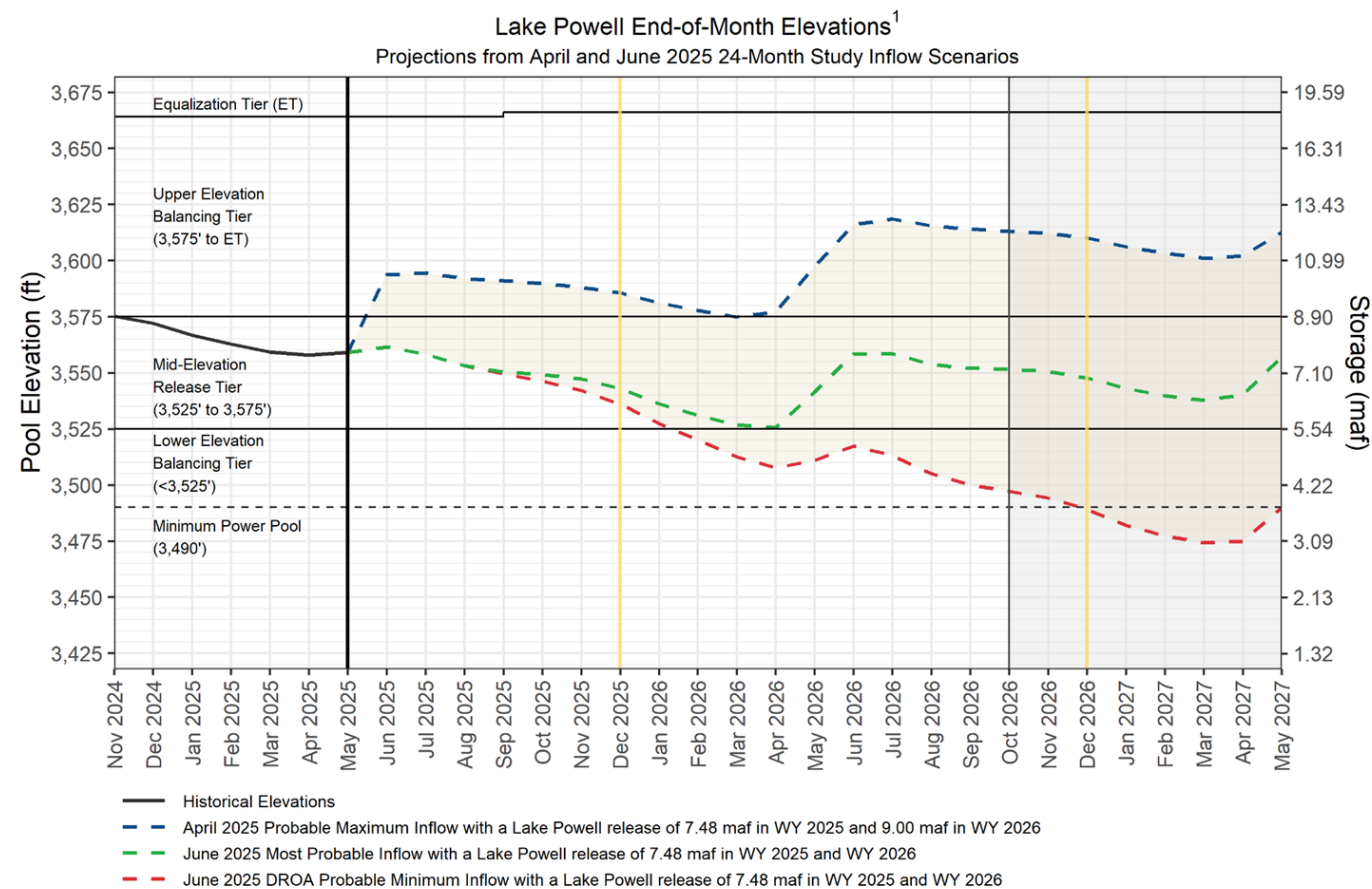
Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2026
Issued: June 19, 2025



Below-Average Water Year Precipitation Related to La Niña-like Conditions Since 2000



Water Availability Forecast to Decrease in Coming Years



The Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) is available online at <https://www.usbr.gov/dcp/finaldocs.html>.

¹For modeling purposes, simulated years beyond 2026 assume a continuation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines including the 2024 Supplement to the 2007 Interim Guidelines (no additional SEIS conservation is assumed to occur after 2026), the 2019 Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans, and Minute 323 including the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan. With the exception of certain provisions related to ICS recovery and Upper Basin Demand management, operations under these agreements are in effect through 2026. Reclamation initiated the process to develop operations for post-2026 in June 2023, and the modeling assumptions describe here are subject to change.



Would You Work With Us?

- 1** What would motivate you to participate in this effort? In what aspects do you find value? How can we provide additional value to what is already available? What else should we be considering?
- 2** What drought scenarios would be helpful to you? What sector-specific monitoring and forecasting information do you currently use? Are there drought indicators you want to learn more about?
- 3** How early is an early warning for you? How and when would you like to receive this information?

Contacts



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NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System

CIRES, University of Colorado Boulder

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Julie Ekstrom, CA Department of Water Resources – Water Justice Office

2024 RECOMMENDATIONS UPDATES

Tracking the 2024 DRIP Collaborative Recommendations

Focus Area	Recommendation	Progress
DROUGHT RELEVANT DATA	1. Drought Indicators and Metrics	 Urban supplier reporting data pilot; NIDIS/NOAA SoCal Pilot Drought Early Warning System
	2. Rapid Inventory of Drought-Related Tools and Resources	 ICARP Climate Services is documenting drought related tools and data; Vulnerable Communities Platform guidance.
DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS FOR DOMESTIC WELLS	3. Empowering County Drought Resilience Planning for DW* and SSWS**	 Continue county assistance program: monthly webinars (year 2); 10 county plans completed; WSV scoring update in progress.
	4. Voluntary Community-Based Well Monitoring Program	 DWR-supported pilot program in development.
	5. Roles and Responsibilities	 SAFER Fund Expenditure Plan draft released.
DEFINITION & NARRATIVE	6. Drought Definitions and Case Studies	 LCI including case studies of community drought experiences, as part of State's Fifth Climate Change Assessment. Soliciting input.

Public Comment

Tracking the 2024 DRIP Collaborative Recommendations

1. In-person participants

2. Virtual participants:

- a) Raise your hand with the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom and you will be asked to unmute and speak.
- b) Send a Zoom chat to the webinar manager if you need technical assistance.
- c) If you are dialing in by phone, dial *9 to raise your hand and dial *6 when it you are called on to speak.

Glen Low, The Earth Genome

PATHWAYS TO 2025 RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPMENT

Updated process for 2025

2024

We solely focused on "ideas" that became recommendations.

Focus Area	Recommendation
DROUGHT RELEVANT DATA	1. Drought Indicators and Metrics
	2. Rapid Inventory of Drought-Related Tools and Resources
DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS FOR DOMESTIC WELLS	3. Empowering County Drought Resilience Planning for DW* and SSWS**
	4. Voluntary Community-Based Well Monitoring Program
	5. Roles and Responsibilities
DEFINITION & NARRATIVE	6. Drought Definitions and Case Studies

2025

We are sorting "ideas" into inform, complement and lead. We'll use DRIP Collaborative time to discuss all three pathways

Inform [INF]: Learning opportunity. Promote information exchange and ensure members have shared understanding.

Complement [COM]: Opportunity for DRIP Collaborative members to build on existing efforts. Contribute actions that fill a targeted gap in current efforts.

Lead [REC]: DRIP Collaborative effort to lead on addressing a portion of the problem statement not addressed today.

Framework for DRIP Collaborative Work

Each of the DRIP Collaborative ideas sorted into three possible pathways: **Inform**, **Complement** or **Lead**

Inform [INF]: Learning opportunity. Promote information exchange and ensure members have shared understanding.

Learn from Subject Matter Experts and fellow DRIP Collaborative members; Not expected to produce a DRIP Collaborative recommendation or action.

Complement [COM]: Opportunity for DRIP Collaborative members to build on existing efforts. Contribute actions that fill a targeted gap in current efforts.

Contribute to ongoing efforts, provide input via DRIP Collaborative members diverse expertise.

→ **Develop an engagement process (no template)**

Lead [REC]: DRIP Collaborative effort to lead on addressing a portion of the problem statement not addressed today.

Develop new DRIP Collaborative recommendations that address needs and identified gaps

→ **Complete a recommendation template**

Today's presentations and discussions:

- What is the most effective pathway for each idea? Ensure DRIP Collaborative is adding the most value on each problem statement
- What additional information is needed to sort into a pathway?

Recommendation Template

Lead [REC]: DRIP Collaborative effort to lead. Only ideas that are designated Lead will require the template.

1. General Description

- Recommendation title
- Description
- Focus area
- Desired outcomes

2. Alignment with Other Initiatives

3. Implementation Considerations

- Implementing parties and partners
- Time frame
- Necessary steps and measuring success
- Potential challenges
- Funding

4. Cross Cutting Themes

- Climate Change Adaptation
- Nature Based Solutions
- Equity and Outreach

Complement – An Engagement Process

For any idea identified as **complement [COM]**, we recommend the following process:

General Description

- ✓ DRIP Collaborative idea to address the Focus Area Problem Statement
- ✓ Related ongoing efforts (what is it, who is working on it, desired outcomes)

Engagement Opportunities

- ✓ How can the DRIP Collaborative engage and support the identified effort?
- ✓ What input is needed from the DRIP Collaborative?

Next Steps

- ✓ Who will participate? Is a workgroup needed or general input from members?
- ✓ Commitments and timeline

2025 DRIP Collaborative Ideas

Ecosystem

- IDEA Eco1.** In-stream Flow Requirements: Prioritization and Incentives
[Redgie Collins](#)
- IDEA Eco2.** Streamlining Grant and Contract Processes for Habitat Restoration
[Redgie Collins](#) and [Samantha Arthur](#)

Land Use

- IDEA Land1.** Elevate regional approaches to proactively and inclusively plan for ag land transitions
[Anna Schiller](#)
- IDEA Land2.** Housing-Water Supply Nexus: Planning for housing needs and water supply
[Natalie Kuffel](#) and [Sierra Ryan](#)
- COM Land3.** Integrated Water Planning: Assess how plans interact and offer recommendations
[Natalie Kuffel](#) and [Sierra Ryan](#)

Water Infrastructure

- IDEA Infra1.** Enhance Support and Collaboration for Vulnerable and Small Water Systems Infrastructure Needs
[Carolina Hernandez](#)
- IDEA Infra2.** Improve System and Regulatory Flexibility for Water Infrastructure Resilience
[Katie Ruby](#) and [Laura Ramos](#)
- IDEA Infra3.** Establish Groundwater Recharge Infrastructure Program for Local Drought Resilience
[Emily Rooney](#)



California

DRIP Collaborative

Note: All ideas above are not yet sorted into I/C/L, except for the complement idea COM Land3

Focus Areas Presentations and Discussion

Co-Leads and SME Presentations

- Summary of workgroup discussion
- Hear from SMEs on related efforts
- Propose an approach to advancing the DRIP Collaborative Idea

DRIP Collaborative Discussion

- Feedback from DRIP members – What pathway should we follow?
- Any concerns about moving forward in developing the proposed idea?



Please use your discussion worksheet to provide written suggestions. We'll be collecting these after the end of our focus area discussions.

Workgroup Lead: Redgie Collins, CalTrout

Point of Contact: Zoe Kanavas, CA Department of Water Resources

REDUCING ECOSYSTEM IMPACTS OF DROUGHT FOCUS AREA

IDEA Eco1. In-stream Flow Requirements: Prioritization and Incentives for Water Users to avoid Curtailment

IDEA DESCRIPTION: Identify **small, coastal tributaries** in which limited diversion could yield substantial ecological impacts and pilot methods to meet in-stream flow requirements **through voluntary, landowner cooperative solutions**.

RELATED ONGOING OR NEW EFFORTS: Builds upon existing landowner cooperative solutions being piloted in the **Scott and Shasta Rivers**, complements the **California Environmental Flows Framework** to develop flow requirements, and **leverages existing tools** in the State Water Board's authority.

NEXT STEPS: Today, we'll hear from:

- **The Nature Conservancy** on identifying high-ecological function streams that are highly vulnerable to drought impacts; and
- **The State Water Board** on the state's authority around curtailment and what's been learned in the Scott and Shasta Rivers.



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- Which pathway (I/C/L) seems most appropriate for this idea?

Caitrin Chappelle, The Nature Conservancy

IDENTIFYING HIGH-ECOLOGICAL FUNCTION STREAMS THAT ARE HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO DROUGHT IMPACTS

The Nature
Conservancy



Drought Resilience in Coastal Rivers

How flow protections and planning can prepare rivers for drought impacts

CAITRIN CHAPPELLE | ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA WATER PROGRAM

California's rivers...

- 
- A white crane is shown in flight, its wings spread wide, flying over a body of water. The crane has a long neck, a long beak, and a red patch around its eye. The background is a blurred landscape with a body of water and a hazy sky.
- Are highly altered
 - Are relied on by cities, communities, and agriculture
 - Are overallocated with rights to water exceeding available supply



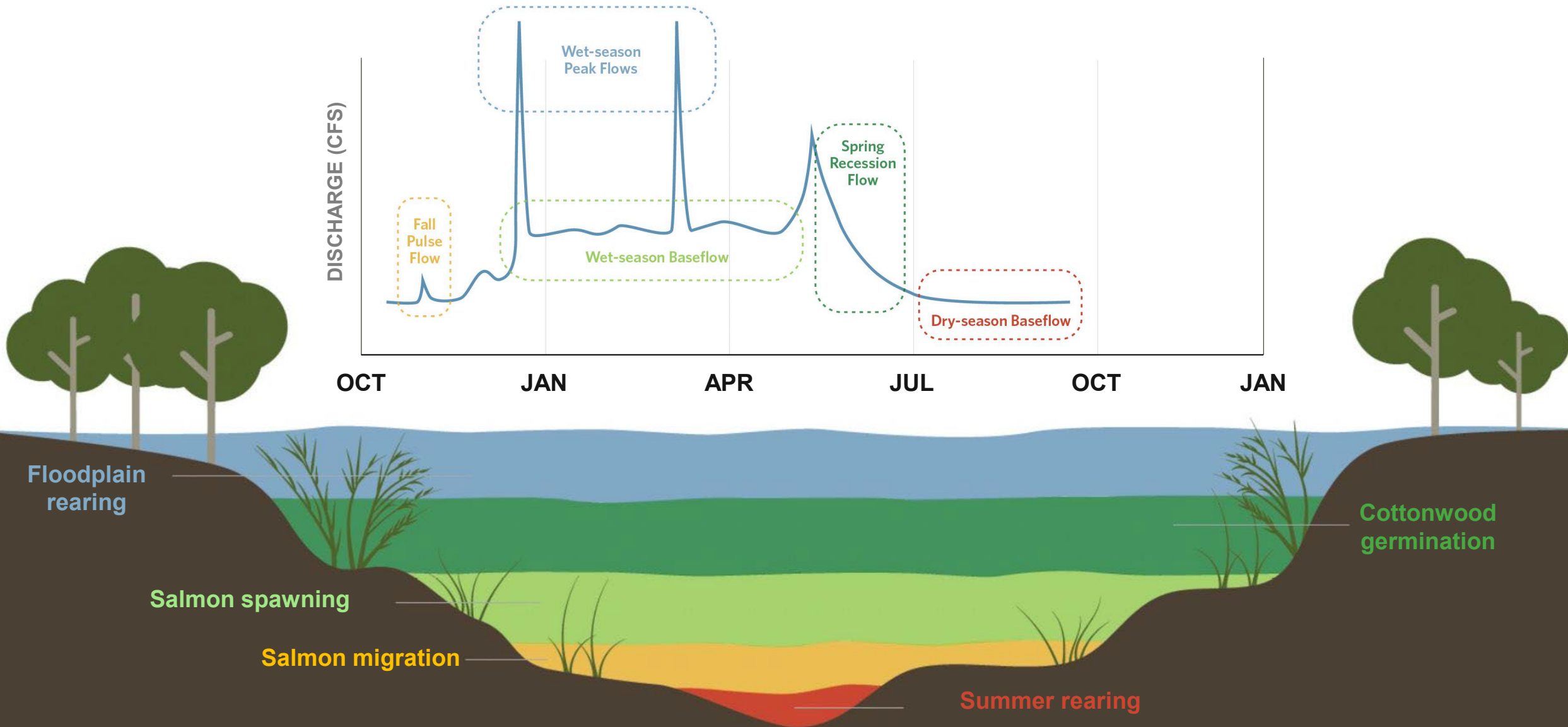
96%
of rivers lack
flow protections



A scenic landscape featuring a river or lake. In the foreground, there is a large, dense patch of green and yellowish aquatic plants. A person wearing a green kayak, a blue snorkel, and a black cap is floating on the water. The background shows a line of trees and distant mountains under a cloudy sky. The text "Focus on the flows nature needs most" is overlaid in the center of the image.

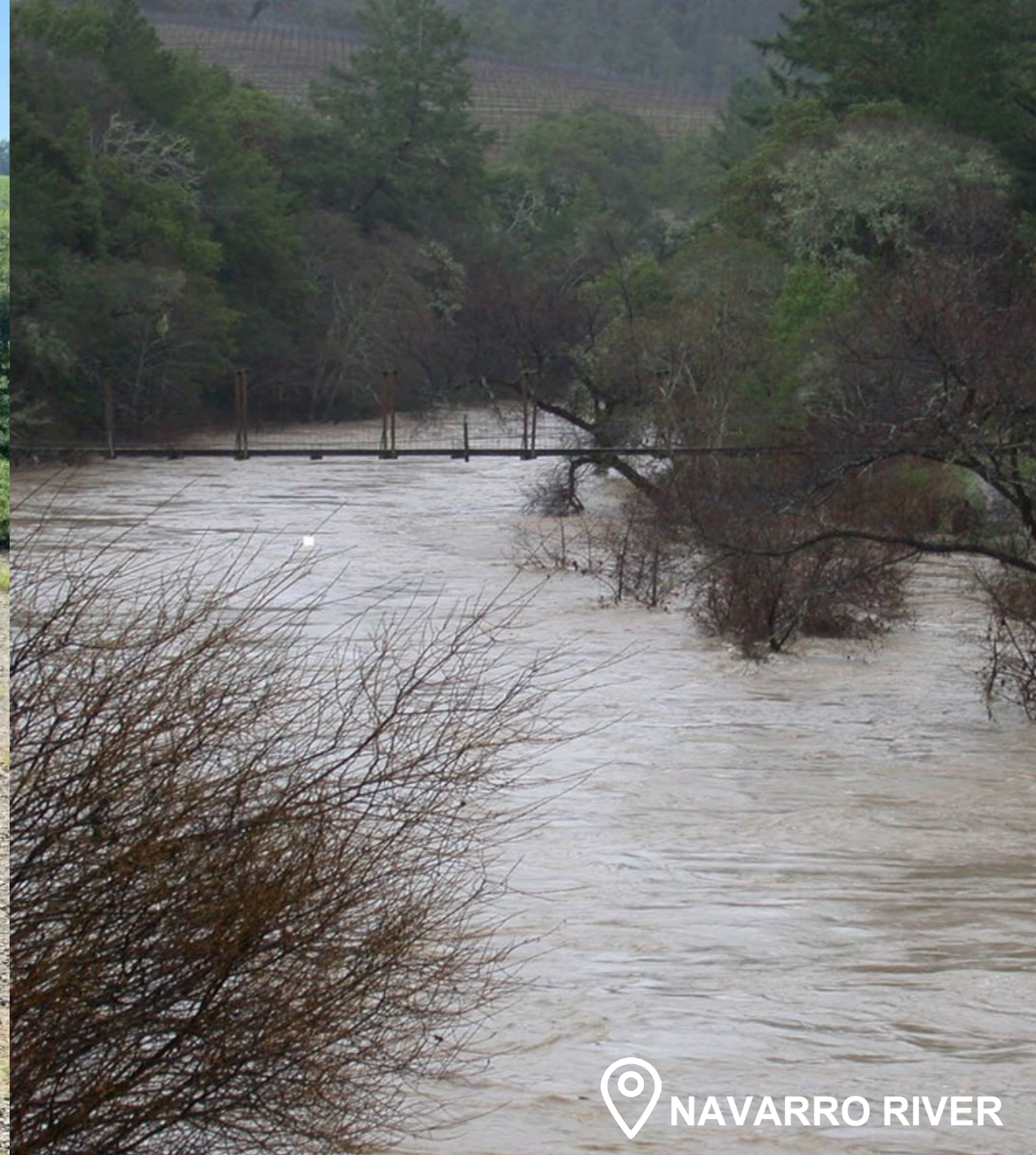
Focus on the flows
nature needs most

FIVE COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONAL FLOWS





NAVARRO RIVER



NAVARRO RIVER

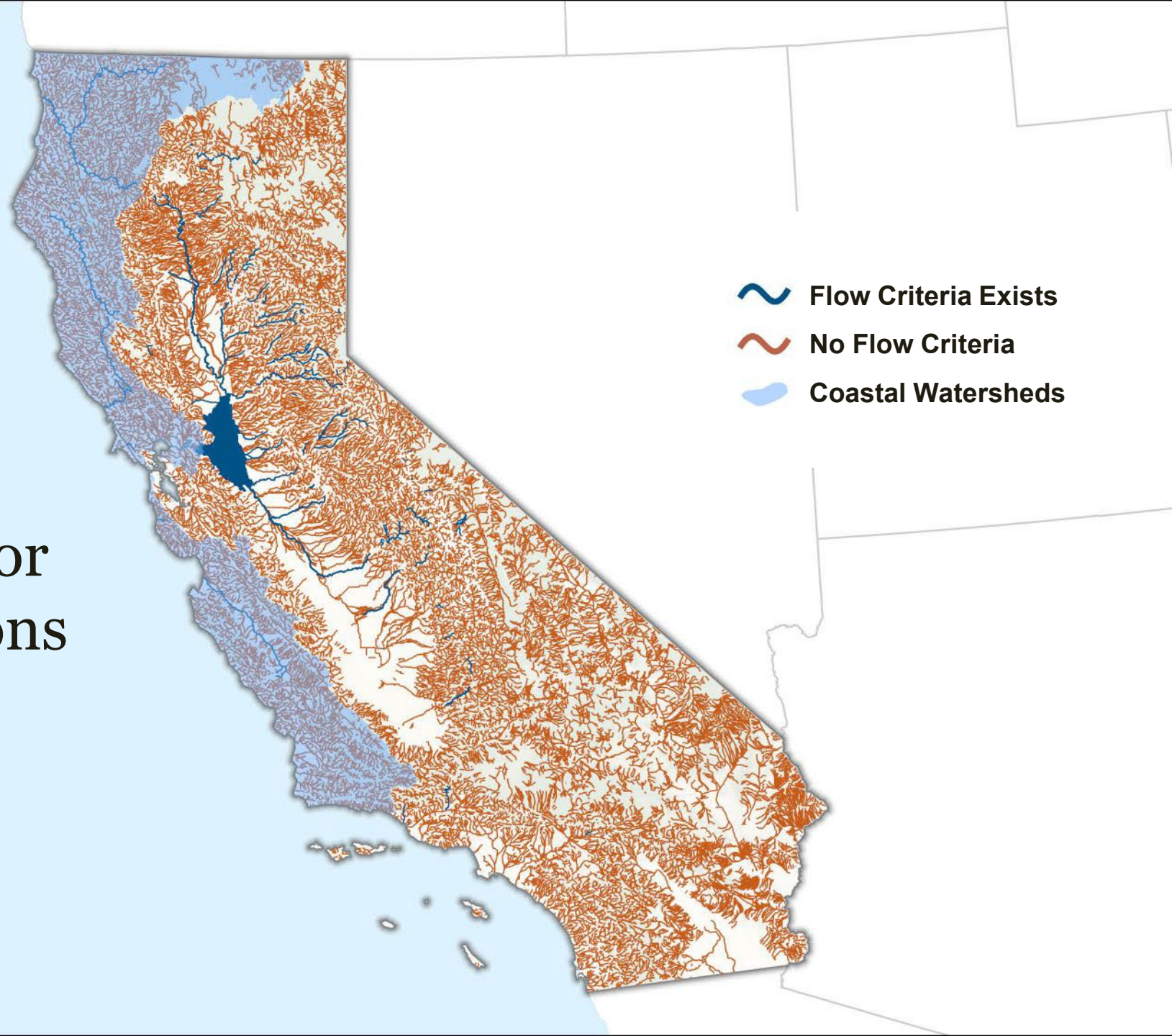
Returning Flows to Navarro River

Annual water needed, acre feet

Annual discharge, acre feet



Using policy and projects, targeting coastal watersheds for scaling flow protections builds California's drought resilience





Success relies on flow protections
providing value to communities



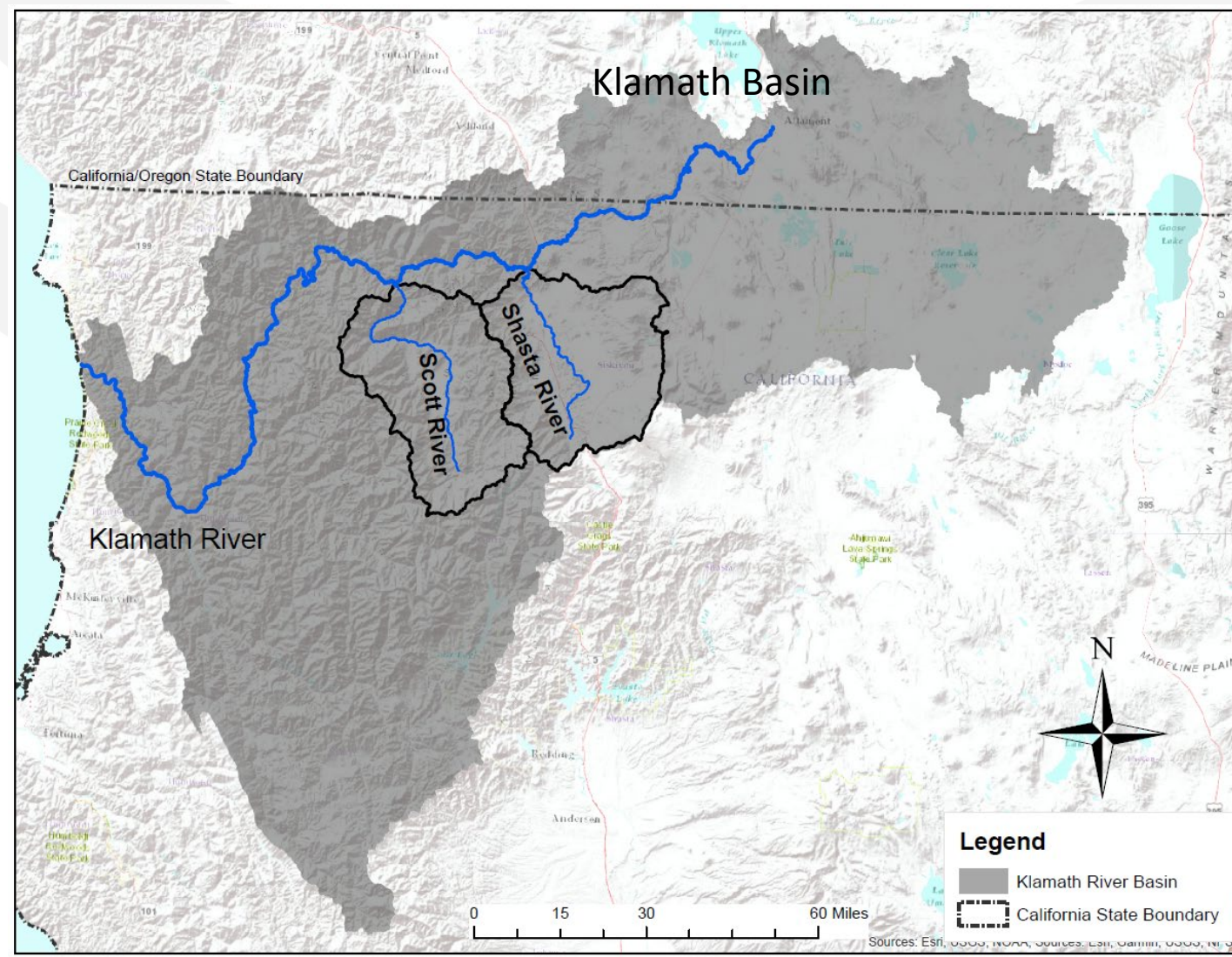


Robert Cervantes, State Water Resources Control Board

STATE'S EXTENT OF CURTAILMENT AUTHORITY AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM SHASTA-SCOTT RIVER

Scott and Shasta River Watersheds – Emergency Drought Response

Robert P. Cervantes, P.E.
Division of Water Rights



Emergency Authority

- Water Code, section 1058.5 allows Board to adopt emergency regulations to address a declared drought emergency
 - May 10, 2021, Governor Newsom declares drought emergency for 41 counties including Siskiyou County
 - March 24, 2023, terminates drought provisions in select watersheds, but explicitly keeps drought fishery protection terms for Klamath River watershed
 - September 4, 2024, terminates drought provisions in select watersheds, but explicitly keeps drought fishery protection terms for Klamath River watershed

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS climate change is intensifying the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and California is in a second consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in drought or near-drought throughout many portions of the State; and

WHEREAS recent warm temperatures and extremely dry soils have further depleted the expected runoff water from the Sierra-Cascade snowpack, resulting in a historic and unanticipated estimated reduction of 500,000 acre feet of water – or the equivalent of supplying water for up to one million households for one year – from reservoirs and stream systems, especially in the Klamath River, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and Tulare Lake Watersheds; and

WHEREAS the extreme drought conditions through much of the State present urgent challenges, including the risk of water shortages in communities, greatly increased wildfire activity, diminished water for agricultural production, degraded habitat for many fish and wildlife species, threat of saltwater contamination of large fresh water supplies conveyed through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and additional water scarcity if drought conditions continue into next year; and

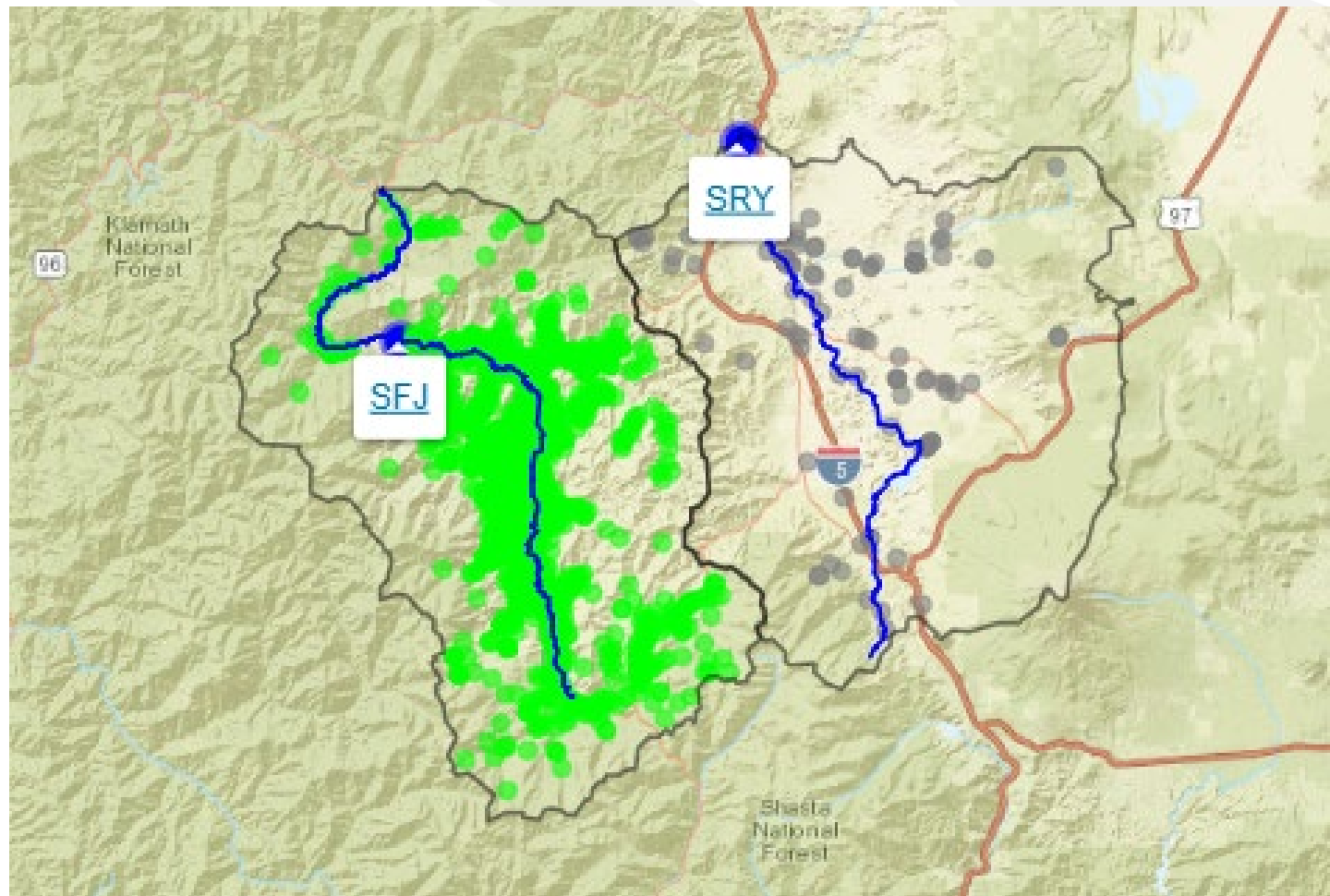
WHEREAS Californians have saved water through conservation efforts, with urban water use approximately 16% below where it was at the start of the last drought years, and I encourage all Californians to undertake actions to further eliminate wasteful water practices and conserve water; and

WHEREAS on April 21, 2021, I issued a proclamation directing state agencies to take immediate action to bolster drought resilience and prepare for impacts on communities, businesses, and ecosystems, and proclaiming a State of Emergency to exist in Mendocino and Sonoma counties due to severe drought conditions in the Russian River Watershed; and

WHEREAS additional expedited actions are now needed in the Klamath River, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and Tulare Lake Watersheds; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to expeditiously mitigate the effects of the drought conditions within the Klamath River Watershed Counties (Del Norte, Humboldt, Modoc, Siskiyou, and Trinity counties), the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed Counties (Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Benito, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba counties), and the Tulare Lake Watershed Counties (Fresno, Kern, Kings, and Tulare counties) to ensure the protection of health, safety, and the environment; and

WHEREAS under Government Code Section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the drought conditions, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and



Curtailments

Scott and Shasta River watersheds

Local Cooperative Solutions (LCS)

Alternative to curtailments

Groundwater LCS

- Best Management Practices
- Graduated Cessation
- Percent reduction

Meters required for each type

- 120 meters installed covering over 10,000 acres

Surface Water LCS

- Rare (only 2 exist)
- Limited to most critical salmonid tributaries
- Overseen predominantly by CDFW

IDEA Eco1. In-stream Flow Requirements: Prioritization and Incentives for Water Users to avoid Curtailment

PATHWAY: Options for how the DRIP Collaborative could support this idea, depending on members' interest:

INFORM: **Host focused sessions** to continue exploring science on ecological flows, legal authority, and incentive models for voluntary landowner conservation actions; or

COMPLEMENT: Track **progress in Scott-Shasta Rivers**, report back successes and lessons learned; or

LEAD: Refine the recommendation draft to advise that the State Water Board and CDFW:

- **Pilot** flow requirements and landowner cooperative solutions in a small, coastal watershed;
- Develop guidelines for **voluntary actions landowners can take to reduce curtailment risk**;
- **Leverage existing funding** to support participation through incentives and technical assistance



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- Which pathway (I/C/L) seems most appropriate for this idea?

IDEA Eco2. Streamlining Grant and Contract Processes for Habitat Restoration

IDEA DESCRIPTION: Streamlining state grant and contract processes for habitat restoration project by expanding proven practices to improve consistency, reduce administrative burden, and accelerate funding and implementation timelines across agencies.

Strategies include:

- Expand rolling solicitations, pre-application consultations, and letters of interest
- Simplify grant guidelines
- Provide internal staff training on new procedures
- Scale comprehensive funding and contracting models
- Share grantmaking best practices

RELATED ONGOING OR NEW EFFORTS: Builds directly on the success of the **Cutting the Green Tape** initiative, which advanced permitting and granting reforms to accelerate restoration, and aligns with **DWR's new contracting authority** to bundle planning, permitting, land acquisition, and implementation into a single contract.

IDEA Eco2. Streamlining Grant and Contract Processes for Habitat Restoration

PROPOSED PATHWAY: INFORM or COMPLEMENT

Inform:

- Learn from subject matter experts across state agencies about their grant and contracting practices
- Hear from grantees, particularly smaller NGOs, Tribes, and community-based organizations, on key pain points
- Synthesize lessons learned for increased awareness and to inform next steps

Complement:

- Identify opportunities to align agency approaches, support knowledge transfer, and fill coordination gaps
- Develop shared guidance for future funding efforts
- Promote effective programs (e.g., **Cutting the Green Tape**) for increased awareness



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- Which pathway (I/C/L) seems most appropriate for this idea?

POTENTIAL IDEA. O&M Considerations for Habitat Restoration Projects

Why Separate the O&M Discussion?

Originally combined with the grant/contract streamlining idea, O&M involves distinct legal, funding, and stewardship considerations that merit their own focus. Separation allows for:

- Deeper exploration of long-term stewardship models (e.g., land tenure, liability, and adaptive management).
- Space to consider funding mechanisms, like contingency reserves and capacity grants.
- Avoid overloading the original streamlining recommendation with a structurally different issue.

Potential next steps to **INFORM** the Collaborative:

- Host a targeted discussion focused on O&M obligations in habitat restoration, inviting perspectives from NGOs, Tribes, state agencies, and land trusts.
- Compile example O&M agreements and stewardship models used by CalTrout, CDFW, Coastal Conservancy, and others to support projects on private and public lands.
- Identify existing funding mechanisms or legal frameworks (e.g., endowments, easements, or third-party stewards) that may serve as replicable models.



Public Comment

Reducing Ecosystem Impacts of Drought Focus Area

1. In-person participants
2. Virtual participants:
 - a) Raise your hand with the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom and you will be asked to unmute and speak.
 - b) Send a Zoom chat to the webinar manager if you need technical assistance.
 - c) If you are dialing in by phone, dial *9 to raise your hand and dial *6 when it you are called on to speak.

Co-Leads: Laura Ramos, California State University, Fresno; Tim Worley, California Association of Mutual Water Companies

Point of Contact: Anthony Navasero, CA Department of Water Resources – Drought Coordinator

2024 COMMUNICATION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION – AN UPDATE

Recommendation Development for a Communication Program - Updated

1. Co-leads have met a few times
 - a) Discussion centered on identifying ideas that are value add
2. Collected communication documents on drought
 - a) Drought documents from different governments
 - 1) Federal - NOAA, National Integrated Drought Information System
 - 2) States - California and Colorado
 - 3) Water agencies - American Water Works Association
 - 4) Think tanks - Public Policy Institute of California
3. Review the collected literature

Public Comment Communication Program

1. In-person participants

2. Virtual participants:

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- b) Send a Zoom chat to the webinar manager if you need technical assistance.
- c) If you are dialing in by phone, dial *9 to raise your hand and dial *6 when it you are called on to speak.

LUNCH BREAK!

PLEASE RETURN AT:

12:55pm

(so we can start promptly at 1:00pm)

DRIP Collaborative (Quorum is 14)

1. **Analise Rivero**, California Trout, Inc.
2. **Anna Naimark**, California Environmental Protection Agency
3. **Anna Schiller**, Environmental Defense Fund
4. **Caitlin Loventhal**, California State Association of Counties
5. **Carolina Hernandez**, Los Angeles County Public Works
6. **Cyril Barmore**, Rural Community Assistance Corporation
7. **Jason Colombini**, Jay Colombini Ranch, Inc.
8. **Joaquin Esquivel**, State Water Resources Control Board
9. **Josue Medellin-Azuara**, University of California Merced
10. **Katie Ruby**, California Urban Water Agencies
11. **Kjia Rivers**, Community Water Center
12. **Laura Ramos**, California Water Institute at Fresno State
13. **Lawrence Grodeska**, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
14. **Nate Ortiz**, California Office of Emergency Services
15. **Paul Gosselin**, California Department of Water Resources

16. **Samantha Arthur**, California Natural Resources Agency
17. **Sierra Ryan**, Santa Cruz County
18. **Suzanne Pecci**, Domestic Well Advisory Group, South American Subbasin
19. **Tim Worley**, California Association of Mutual Water Companies
20. **Virginia Jameson**, California Department of Food and Agriculture

Additional Members:

21. **Brent Hastey**, Plumas Lake Self Storage, Owner
22. **Emiko Burchill**, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
23. **Emily Rooney**, Agricultural Council of California
24. **Joshua Cahill**, Yurok Tribe
25. **Matessa Martin**, Buena Vista Ranchera of the Me-Wuk Indians
26. **Tami McVay**, Self Help Enterprises

Kristin Dobbin, UC Berkeley

LAFCO AND WATER SYSTEM CONSOLIDATION PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

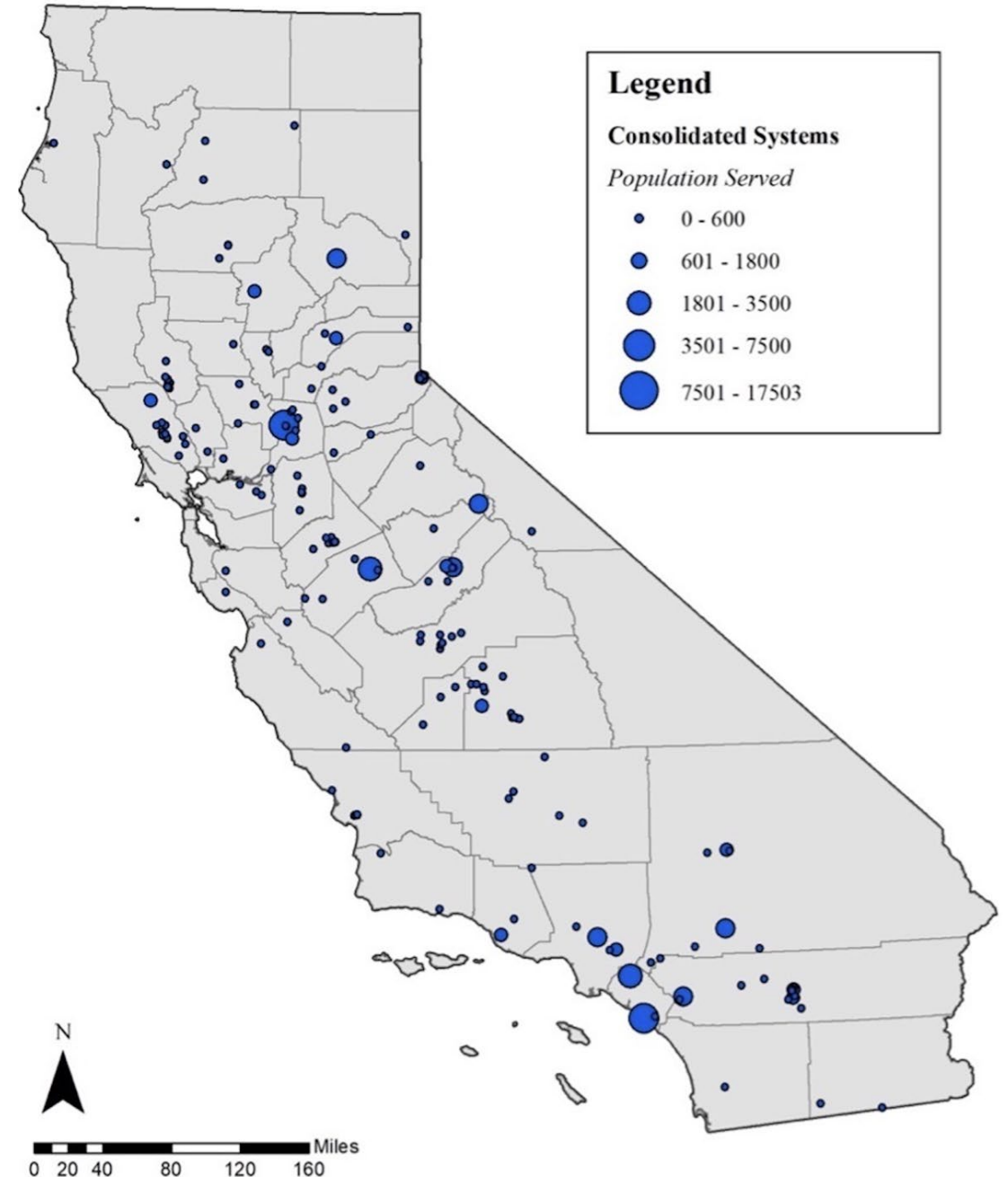
LAFCo and Water System Consolidation

Bridging the gap between local and state regulators
to stop and reverse water system fragmentation

Kristin Dobbin
Assistant Prof. of Cooperative Extension
UC Berkeley, Department of Environmental Science, Policy & Management

Background – Water system consolidations in CA

- Ongoing policy change to promote consolidation
- 200+ projects completed since 2015 with more in progress
- Challenging and resource intensive to implement



Background – LAFCos and consolidation

- LAFCos created in 1963 to manage sprawl, legislative mandates have subsequently increased
- Primary role is to ensure logical service boundaries while protecting open space/agricultural lands
- LAFCO is involved anytime a consolidation involves a public district
- Responsible for developing Municipal Service Reviews that assess and make recommendations for improved services

Report background

- 2021 convenings co-hosted by US Water Alliance and Water Foundation on catalyzing consolidation and partnership in California produced a report identified the need for more information and resources on designing and implementing consolidation projects locally.
- Water foundation funded UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation (Dobbin, McBride & Pierce) to develop a [community guide](#) and [tool kit](#) on designing water system consolidations.
- The important role of LAFCOs and the need for more information and conversation at the land-use/water system consolidation nexus arose out of this work.
- Dobbin & McBride obtained a “mini-grant” from UC Agriculture and Natural Resources to develop report

Report goals & methods

Goals:

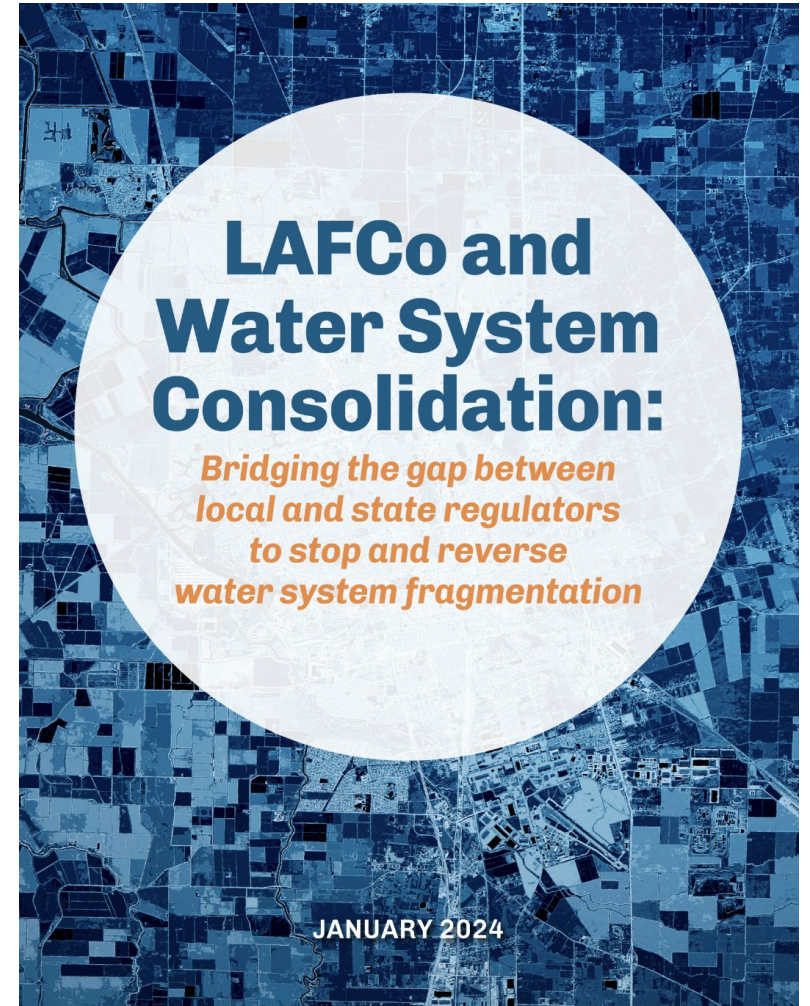
1. Highlight important intersections between LAFCos local planning and regulatory roles and state policies and programs that prioritize water system consolidation
2. Identify challenges at these intersections that limit progress on shared goals
3. Provide recommendations to begin to address these challenges

Methods:

- Interviews with LAFCo EOs and state drinking water regulators (CPUC and SWRCB)
- LAFCo EO survey (23 responses received)
- Conversations with water system Technical Assistance Providers through the consolidations research advisory committee

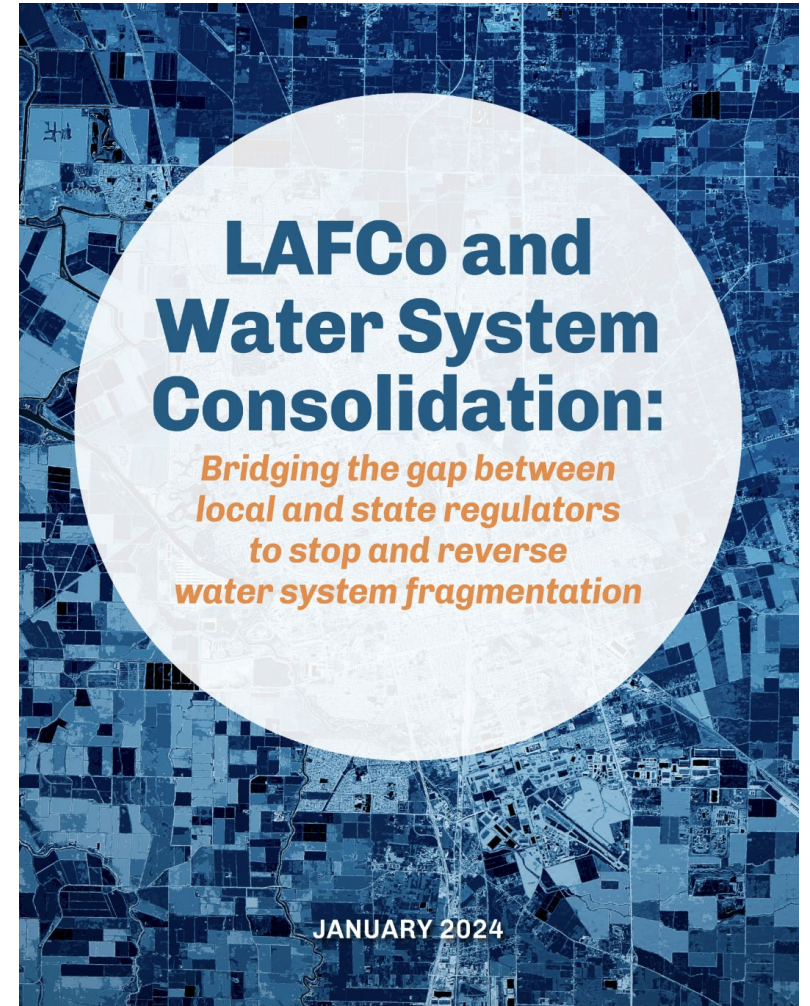
Challenges identified

1. Lack of communication and information sharing between LAFCOs and drinking water regulators
2. Lack of shared language and vision
3. Diversity in local implementation
4. Unclear roles and responsibilities
5. Gaps in relevant authorities
6. Competing local priorities
7. Limited and uneven LAFCo resources



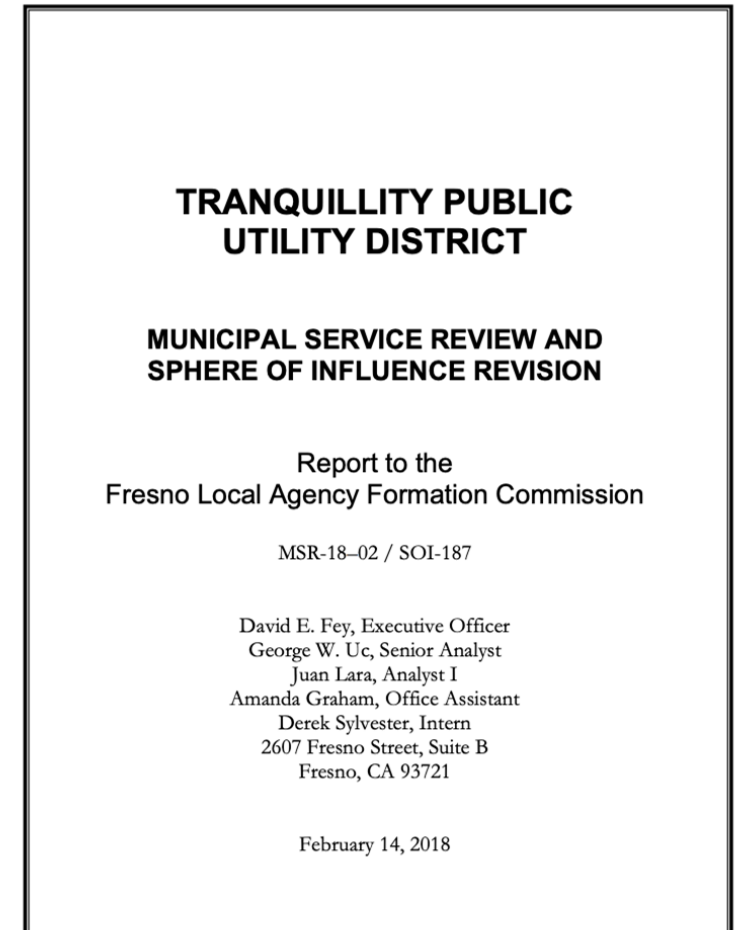
Challenges identified

1. **Lack of communication and information sharing between LAFCOs and drinking water regulators**
2. Lack of shared language and vision
3. Diversity in local implementation
4. **Unclear roles and responsibilities**
5. **Gaps in relevant authorities**
6. Competing local priorities
7. Limited and uneven LAFCo resources



Lack of communication and information sharing

- LAFCOs, CPUC and SWRCB all collect and maintain distinct information relevant to consolidations
- Lack of communication impedes coordination on identifying, planning and implementing projects



Unclear roles and responsibilities

- Significant barriers to initiating consolidation projects by non-affected agencies
- Disagreement about state versus local roles with respect to consolidation

Gaps in relevant authorities

- SWRCB's mandate is focused on failing systems, regulatory enforcement and public health threats
- LAFCo reviews services and makes recommendations but has limited enforcement/implementation mechanisms
- LAFCo jurisdiction limited to local governments and CPUC jurisdiction limited to IOUs

Recommendation #1

- Leverage local planning as tools to advance consolidations
 - ◆ Ensure robust, regular and comprehensive MSRs for drinking water service providers
 - ◆ Standardize the assessment of consolidation feasibility as part of county planning
 - ◆ Transmit and connect information from counties and the state programs

Local planning can lay the groundwork for solutions

Los Angeles Times

SUBSCRIBE

CALIFORNIA

Must Reads: Abolishing a water district isn't easy — even when it's accused of nepotism, mismanagement and delivering brown water



Residents gather outside the door of the Salina-Los Angeles County Water District office during the special closed-door meeting. They all say they have experienced brown water in their homes. (Rob Gourley / Los Angeles Times)

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santacruzsentinel.com

Frustrations mount over drinking water reliability in Boulder Creek: 'We are at the breaking point'

Hannah Hagemann

OPINION

L.A. Times electoral endorsements for 2024
November election

Best practices for water service reviews

- Conduct countywide regional reviews of water services
- Review all drinking water service providers including private water companies and mobile home parks
- Share completed reviews with all reviewed service providers and division of drinking water
- Follow a regular schedule for MSR updates
- Incorporate deadlines and incentives into recommendations where possible

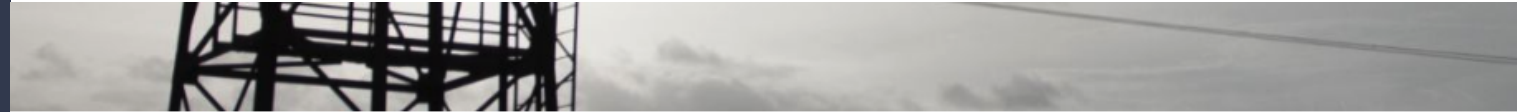
Recommendation #2

- Identify pathways for advancing proactive consolidations
 - ◆ Ensure regular communication between local and state regulators
 - ◆ Clarify roles for identifying and promoting consolidations
 - ◆ Reduce financial and policy impediments to locally-driven consolidations (e.g. Allow LAFCos to initiate annexations)



Thank you!
kbdobbin@berkeley.edu

Consolidation & LAFCo resources



Water system consolidation and partnerships

Based on its potential to address a diverse array of small system challenges from limited capacity, climate-change vulnerabilities, and persistent water system consolidation, or the merging of two or more previously independent water systems, is increasingly a favored solution among national levels. California has been among the states leading the charge when it comes to implementing consolidation. In the last seven years, incentives for larger water systems to consolidate small systems, introduced new powers to mandate consolidation under specific circumstances, permitting new water systems among other policy changes. Similar work is now also underway at the federal level where the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is developing a new water system restructuring rule. Notably, however, there is very little empirical research available to guide these policy interventions.

Learn more:

- [LAFCo and Water System Consolidation](#)
- [Trends in California water system consolidations 2015-2021](#)
- [Designing water system consolidations: Considerations for California Communities](#)
- [Panacea or placebo? The diverse pathways and implications of drinking water system consolidation](#) in Water Resources Research

Workgroup Co-Leads: Sierra Ryan, Santa Cruz County and Virginia Jameson, CA Dept of Food and Agriculture
DWR Point of Contact: Julie Ekstrom, CA Department of Water Resources

LAND USE PLANNING FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCY FOCUS AREA

IDEA Land1. Land Repurposing: Elevate regional approaches to proactively and inclusively plan for ag land transitions

IDEA DESCRIPTION: Aligning ag landscapes with sustainable groundwater use will be extremely challenging. Proactive planning and regional coordination is needed to help avoid haphazard land fallowing and promote strategic land repurposing decisions to create multi-benefit and climate resilient landscapes.

RELATED ONGOING OR NEW EFFORTS: [Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program \(MLRP\)](#) by Dept of Conservation. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. [LandFlex](#) by DWR. Local GSA programs.

PROPOSED PATHWAY: LEAD.

The State can support regional agencies and partners to build regional capacity, taking the best elements of multiple existing programs to encourage planning for farmland transitions in local water and land use planning portfolios.

IDEA Land1. Land Repurposing

PATHWAY: Our proposed approach is a LEAD recommendation

LEAD: Support regional coordination of agricultural land use transitions to mitigate negative impacts and promote beneficial uses

- The State could provide technical and funding support to develop regional capacity to plan for and implement inclusive and thoughtful farmland transitions.
- The specific regional capacity could include the following:
 - Education & engagement, development of inclusive planning teams, regional spatial datasets, suitability of specific land repurposing techniques, benefit prioritization processes, program designs, governance and incentive structures.
- It would emphasize not just water, but also address other key issues such as:
 - Air quality (impacted by fallow land), jobs/economic, renewable energy, pollinator habitat, community health, etc.
- The goal would be to ensure that land repurposing conversations are happening at the necessary scale and with sufficient resources.



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- Are DRIP members comfortable with this being a Lead REC?

IDEA Land2. Housing-Water Supply Nexus:

Planning for housing needs and water supply

PROBLEM: Planning for housing developments and water supplies are disconnected in terms of timelines and coordination. These disconnects between the two sectors increases the risk of building homes that are at higher risk of shortage during dry periods. As climate changes increasing the severity of dry periods and population grows in the future, these disconnects need to be rectified.

RELATED ONGOING OR NEW EFFORTS: How does this idea build on other related efforts?

PROPOSED PATHWAY: LEAD



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- How can we best advance the proposed ideas in a way that align with other existing efforts?

COM Land3. Integrated Water Planning: Assess how plans interact and offer recommendations

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- DRIP Collaborative idea to address the Focus Area Problem Statement
 - Assess how plans interact (or should) and make recommendations
- LCI's General Plan Guidance Update

Idea	Related Ongoing	Complement Opportunity
Water element in general plans	LCI leading GP Guidance will include optional water element	DWR to support LCI process, include DRIP ad-hoc input
Assess how plans interact	Alignment resource supplement to GP Guidance	DWR to develop, include DRIP input

COM Land3. Integrated Water Planning: Assess how plans interact and offer recommendations

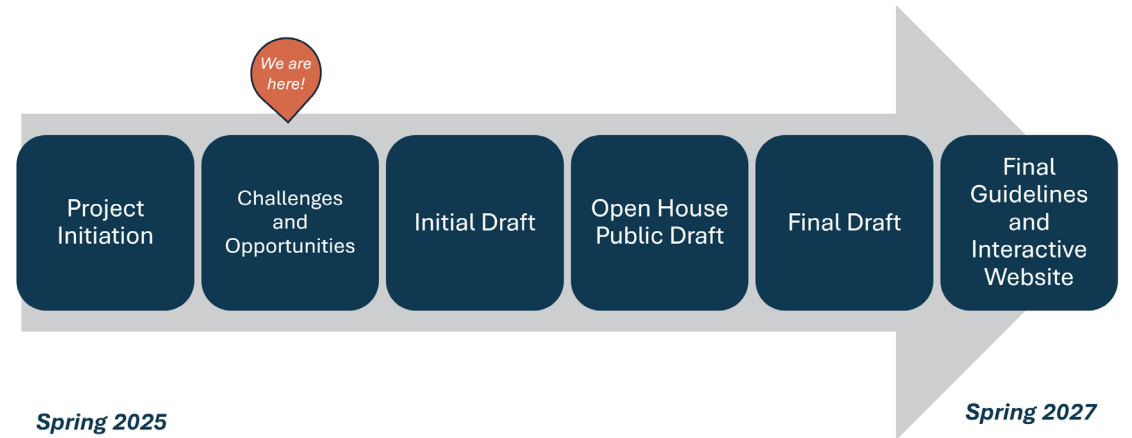
ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Water Advisory Group with LCI, application open now (**planningupdate.lci.ca.gov**)
- DRIP workgroup to support:
 - General Plan Guidance
 - Input on a complementary resource

NEXT STEPS

- Convene a subgroup to support this effort

LCI Planning Guidelines Flow of Work



LCI Planning
Guidelines Update

19

CA Governor's Office of
Land Use and
Climate Innovation



- How will this inform the DRIP Collaborative work?
- Who wants to be part of this effort?

Public Comment

Land Use Planning for Drought Resiliency Focus Area

1. In-person participants
2. Virtual participants:
 - a) Raise your hand with the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom and you will be asked to unmute and speak.
 - b) Send a Zoom chat to the webinar manager if you need technical assistance.
 - c) If you are dialing in by phone, dial *9 to raise your hand and dial *6 when it you are called on to speak.

Workgroup Lead: Emily Rooney, Agricultural Council of California

DWR Point of Contact: Anthony Navasero, CA Department of Water Resources – Drought Coordinator

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

IDEA Infra1. Enhance Support and Collaboration for Vulnerable and Small Water Systems Infrastructure Needs

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- Appears to be a lack in regional coordination which could address smaller more fractured issues on drought resilience
- Establish a coordinated framework/forum to identify and address single point failures and systemic vulnerabilities in small and vulnerable water systems as well as share ideas, successes, and failures
- Similar idea to the One Water LA 2040 Plan where multiple government agencies, water purveyors, and interested parties convene to develop comprehensive regional planning and holistic approaches

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Identify current regional and local coordination efforts to include drought and water supply shortage planning, while seeking to establish such efforts that are missing
- Subject matter experts knowledgeable on ongoing regional and local coordination processes or where there are greater needs

NEXT STEPS

- Include SME on regional coordination efforts to present at next workgroup meeting, TBA

IDEA Infra1. Enhance Support and Collaboration for Vulnerable and Small Water Systems Infrastructure Needs

PATHWAY: Options for how the DRIP Collaborative could support this idea, depending on members' interest and comfort:

INFORM: **Host focused sessions** to continue exploring coordination and potential remaining data gaps for more regional and local water infrastructure needs and learn more about the **state's progress on the implementing and funding for SAFER Program's Fund Expenditure Plan** to hear about successes and lessons learned that can inform on potential recommendations; or

LEAD: Develop draft recommendation focused on more regional and local coordination:

- **Develop forums** for regional and local coordination opportunities across water agencies, regional and local governments, smaller water operators, and interested people – tap similar existing efforts
- **Develop guidelines** for coordination and collaboration of said groups to share knowledge of successful planning and implementation, increase technical skills and training opportunities, and updates on regulation and how to meet new regulation
- **Identify funding** opportunities to support coordination efforts to facilitate and increase participation
- **Tap into existing efforts**, such as LAFCOs, to gather more information and collaboration



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- Which pathway (Inform/Lead) seems most appropriate?

IDEA Infra2. Improve System and Regulatory Flexibility for Water Infrastructure Resilience

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- Challenges exist even in implementing less controversial water infrastructure projects (such as interties, water system networks, and conveyance) that would add flexibility to changing conditions
- Streamline permitting for groundwater recharge and other water supply reliability projects, especially receiving State funding

RELATED ONGOING OR NEW EFFORTS: SB 974 – CEQA exemption for water infrastructure projects

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Identify projects with high local support as early candidates for quicker implementation
- Improve timing and coordination to submit and approve applications when groundwater recharge opportunities arise
- Increase education and awareness for different pathways for permitting/ match permit type to projects' scopes and goals

NEXT STEPS: Include SME to present at next workgroup meeting on the new CEQA exemption, TBA

IDEA Infra2. Improve System and Regulatory Flexibility for Water Infrastructure Resilience

PATHWAY: Options for how the DRIP Collaborative could support this idea, depending on members' interest and comfort:

INFORM: **Host focused sessions** to continue exploring regulatory flexibility and improve and quicken implementation timing and learn more about the **use of the new CEQA exemption for water supply infrastructure projects to benefit DAC**, report back successes and lessons learned; or

LEAD: Develop draft recommendation focused on improvements to system and regulatory flexibility:

- Recognizing this idea is a pairing of two sub-ideas, there are some components:
 - **Develop opportunities to incentivize groundwater recharge and other water reliability projects** by providing funding and technical assistance
 - **Increase education and awareness** of Department technical assistance for projects' early application
 - **Provide financial assistance** such as payment of application fees (perhaps the use of future Prop 4 funds?)
- Assumption: providing technical assistance and funding helps, but other hurdles exist to improving system flexibility
 - Other issues such as meeting regulation and permitting that still need ideas to address them



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- Which pathway (Inform/Lead) seems most appropriate?

IDEA Infra3. Establish Groundwater Recharge Infrastructure Program for Local Drought Resilience

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- Although some increases in managed aquifer recharge have occurred, continued increases is needed
- Based on past programs, continue to develop programs that support water infrastructure for groundwater recharge

RELATED ONGOING OR NEW EFFORTS

- The Department will be publishing a few items that will assist in identifying components to improve groundwater recharge and its infrastructure; California's Groundwater (Bulletin 118) & the Basin Characterization Program
 - **Bulletin 118** - update statewide data and information on the occurrence, nature, use, and conditions of California's groundwater resources and management
 - **Basin Characterization Program** - use the latest AEM data and information to map locations and develop analyses tools to provide 3-D models about California's groundwater basins

NEXT STEPS

- Draft recommendation language which aims to assist and inform local communities and better understand their aquifer systems, so they can self-identify local and statewide groundwater management and recharge projects to support their communities.

IDEA Infra3. Establish Groundwater Recharge Infrastructure Program for Local Drought Resilience

PATHWAY: Options for how the DRIP Collaborative could support this idea, depending on members' interest and comfort:

INFORM: **Host focused sessions** to continue exploring past programs, examples, and new studies that can inform on aspects of a program to support groundwater recharge infrastructure and learn more on **pending recommendations from Bulletin 118**, report back successes and lessons learned; or

LEAD: To drive groundwater recharge activities to meet Water Strategy Goals of 500 TAF of groundwater storage, develop draft recommendation centered on components and actions that support regional and local groundwater recharge infrastructure to meet overall statewide goal:

- **Outreach campaign to highlight local opportunities** which state agencies are willing and able to assist regional and local efforts
- **Increase local understanding of groundwater basin** through tools such as the Bulletin 118, the Basin Characterization Program, and CalGW Live website
- **Inform on matching water available for recharge with infrastructure** to assist in identifying local and regional groundwater infrastructure needs, example San Joaquin Valley Watershed Studies



- What additional information is needed?
- What are the opportunities and barriers to advancing this idea?
- Which pathway (Inform/Lead) seems most appropriate?

Public Comment

Water Infrastructure and Planning

1. In-person participants

2. Virtual participants:

- a) Raise your hand with the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom and you will be asked to unmute and speak.
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BREAK!

**PLEASE RETURN AT:
3:45 pm**

Orit Kalman

SORTING IDEAS INTO PATHWAYS (I/C/L)

A BREAKOUT SESSION

2025 DRIP Collaborative Ideas

Ecosystem

IDEA Eco1. In-stream Flow Requirements: Prioritization and Incentives **(I, C, L)**

Redgie Collins

IDEA Eco2. Streamlining Grant and Contract Processes for Habitat Restoration **(I, C)**

Redgie Collins and Samantha Arthur

IDEA Eco3. O&M Considerations for Habitat Restoration Projects **(Inform)**

Land Use

IDEA Land1. Elevate regional approaches to proactively and inclusively plan for ag land transitions **(Lead)**

Anna Schiller

IDEA Land2. Housing-Water Supply Nexus: Planning for housing needs and water supply **(Lead)**

Natalie Kuffel and Sierra Ryan

COM Land3. Integrated Water Planning: Assess how plans interact and offer recommendations **(Com)**

Natalie Kuffel and Sierra Ryan

Water Infrastructure

IDEA Infra1. Enhance Support and Collaboration for Vulnerable and Small Water Systems Infrastructure Needs **(I, L)**

Carolina Hernandez

IDEA Infra2. Improve System and Regulatory Flexibility for Water Infrastructure Resilience **(I, L)**

Katie Ruby and Laura Ramos

IDEA Infra3. Establish Groundwater Recharge Infrastructure Program for Local Drought Resilience **(I, L)**

Emily Rooney

Breakout Session Instructions

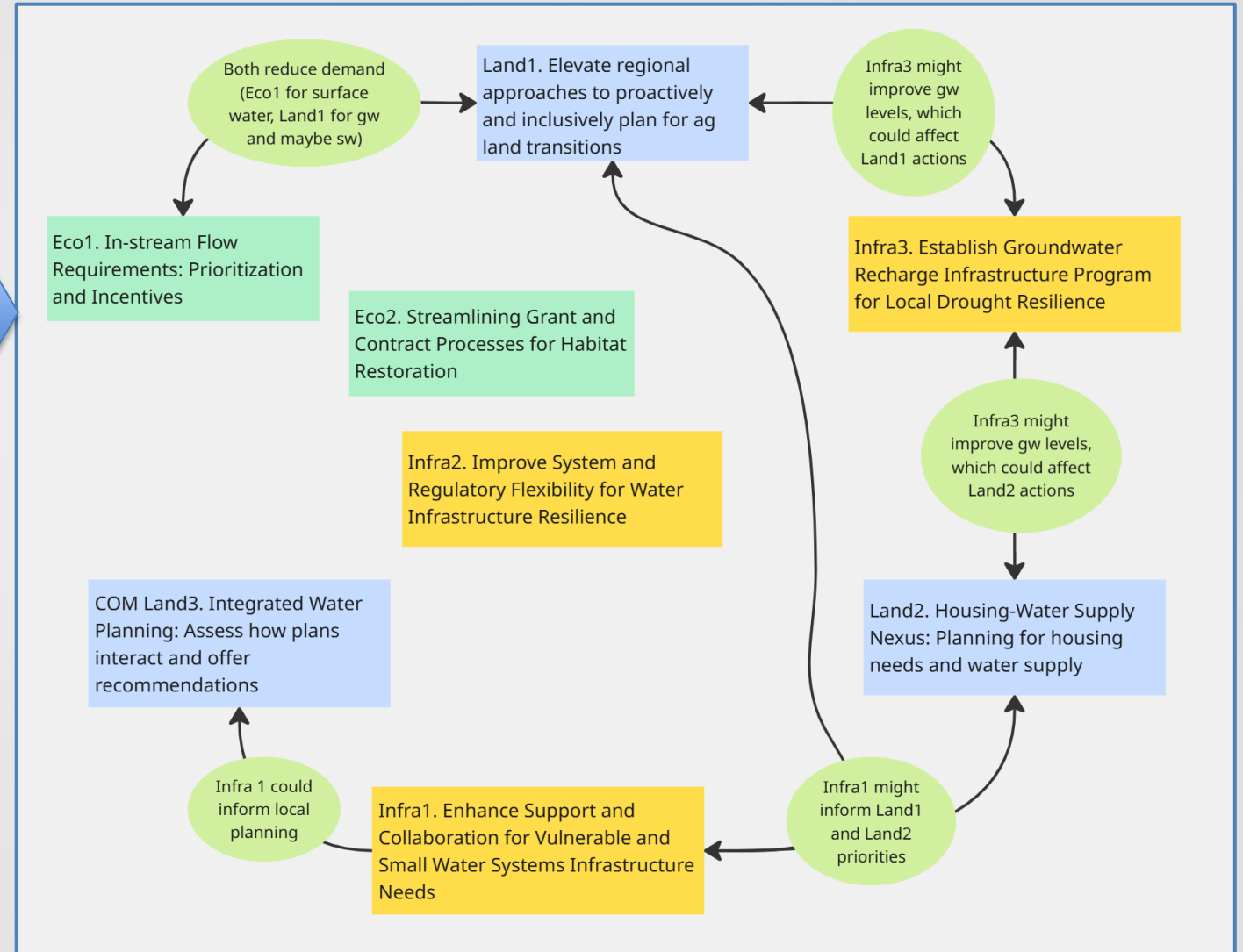
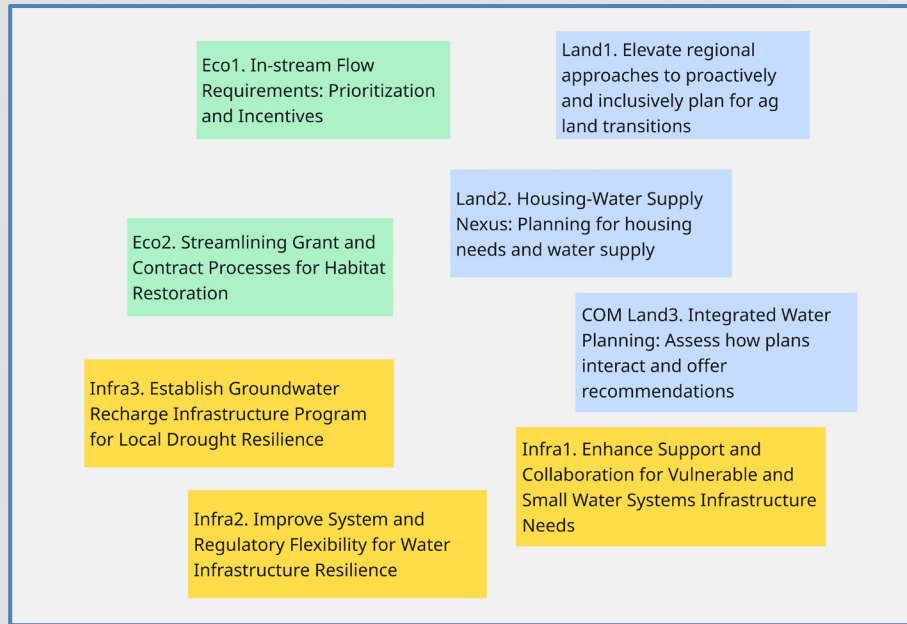
Desired outcome: Reflect on the 8+ ideas from today to ensure we can appropriately focus the August workgroup discussions. Key topics: Which ideas are clear recommendations? Complements? Inform?

LEAD (REC): Which ideas do you feel strongly should be developed as recommendations?

COM: Which ideas are likely best served as a complement opportunity? Is the DRIP value add role clear on how to influence the ongoing efforts?

INF: Which ideas are best as inform? Of those, which ones should we set time aside for (in 2025) for greater learning (virtual meetings or October in-person meeting)?

Connecting Ideas



DGIS SERV
Jordan Junior
916-207-0063

IDEA ECO1.
In-Stream Flow
Requirements

IDEA ECO3.
O&M Considerations
for Habitat Restoration
Projects

COM Land3.
Integrated
Water Planning

IDEA Land1.
Regional Approaches
for Agriculture
Land Transitions

IDEA Land2.
Housing-Water
Supply Nexus

IDEA Infra1.
Vulnerable SWS
Infrastructure Needs

IDEA Infra3.
Groundwater
Recharge Infrastructure

Recharge
IDEA Infra2.
System and
Regulatory
Flexibility

IDEA ECO2.
Streamlining Grant &
Contract Processes

* Learn about
water rights
- Implications
Unintended consequences
- 5 elements of functional flows

Cutting green tape
Restoration

Address account
Well established
Incentives/address

can bring new
ideas work to support
that SWB
is doing

ing G.
barriers

IDEA ECO3.

O&M Considerations
for Habitat Restoration
Projects

IDEA Infra3.

Groundwater
Recharge
Infrastructure

INFORM

MAYBE LEARN
VALUE ADD → COM?

IDEA ECO2.

Streamlining Grant
& Contract Processes

IDEA Infra2.

System and
Regulatory
Flexibility

LEARN AND MAYBE
MOVE TO COM?

LEARN WATER
RIGHTS, ETC.
MOVE TO COM?

COMPLEMENT

COM Land3.

Integrated
Water Planning

IDEA ECO1.

In-Stream Flow
Requirements

TNC AND OTHERS
ARE DOING PILOTS?
BUT STATEWIDE?
MOVE TO LEAD?

LEAD

IDEA Land1.

Regional Approaches
for Agricultural
Land Transitions

MAYBE COM?

IDEA Land2.

Water-Housing
Supply Nexus

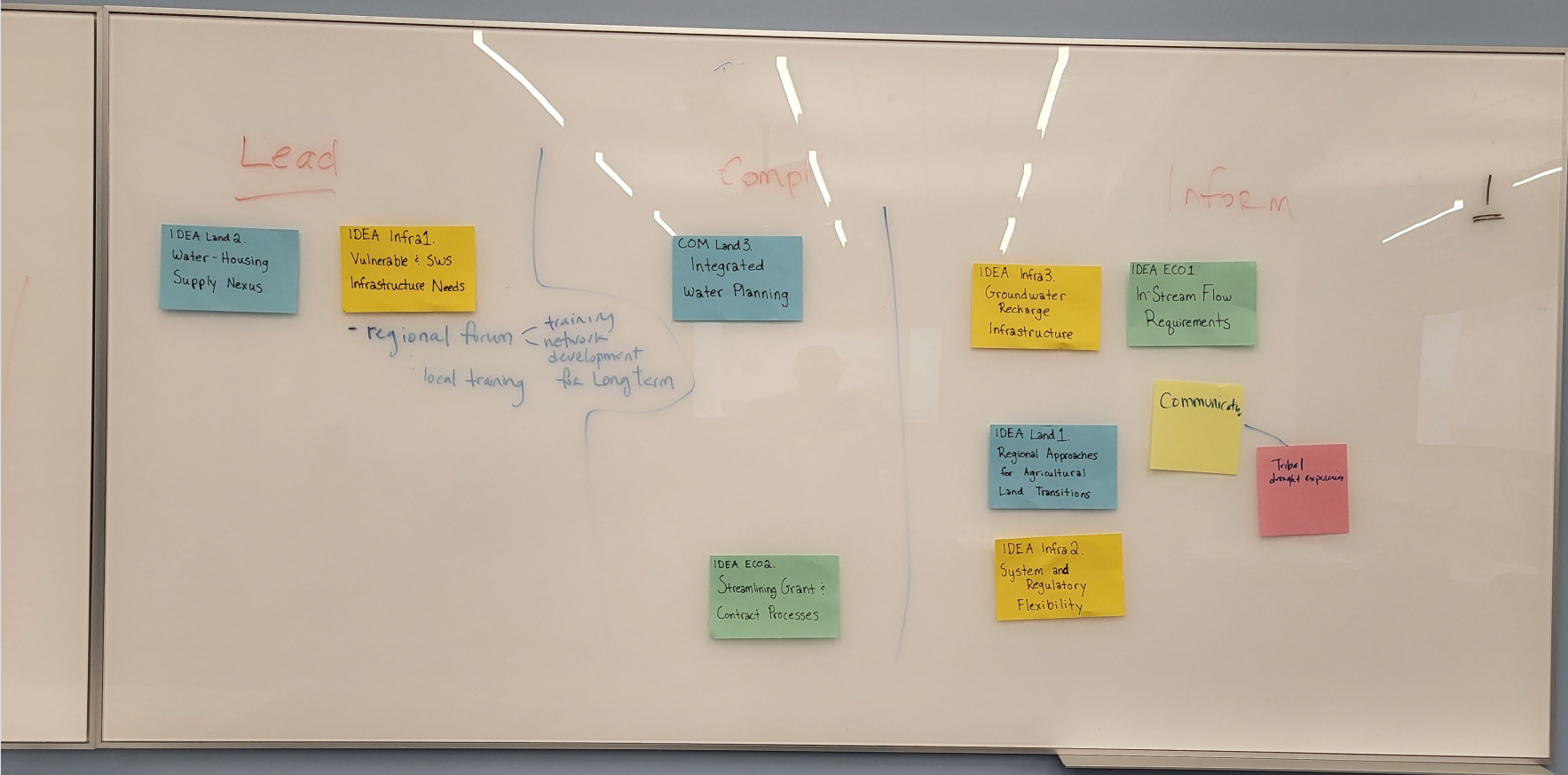
IDEA Infra1.

Vulnerable & SWS
Infrastructure Needs

CONNECTIONS/LINKAGES

- LACK OF RESOURCES
- REGIONAL COLLABOR
ACROSS MANY PARTIES
- MULTI BENEFIT
- ROLES + RESP
(LEAD?)

LOTS?
DE?
AD?



EXIT ROUTE



ASSISTIVE LISTENING
SYSTEM AVAILABLE

Report Out

Which ideas go into the inform, complement, and lead pathways? Why?

Public Comment

Recommendation Ideas Report Out

1. In-person participants:

- a) Submit a comment card before or during the break.

2. Virtual participants:

- a) Raise your hand with the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom and you will be asked to unmute and speak.
- b) Send a Zoom chat to the webinar manager if you need technical assistance.
- c) If you are dialing in by phone, dial *9 to raise your hand and dial *6 when it you are called on to speak.

Please share your availability!!



<https://whenisgood.net/32fyzhj>

- ✓ July 18 meeting summary will be done in next 1-2 weeks
- ✓ Schedule Focus Area meetings in August to work on the recommendations
- ✓ Continue to use the updated Recommendation Template to prepare draft recommendations to be shared at the DRIP Collaborative October meeting

NEXT STEPS

2025 Proposed DRIP Collaborative Timeline



**Note: The timeline for each focus area/workgroup will vary. Voting for 2025 recommendations may extend into 2026.*

Public Comment

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Paul Gosselin, CA Department of Water Resources – Deputy Director of Sustainable Water Management

CLOSING COMMENTS



California
DRIP Collaborative

Adjourn

Thank you!