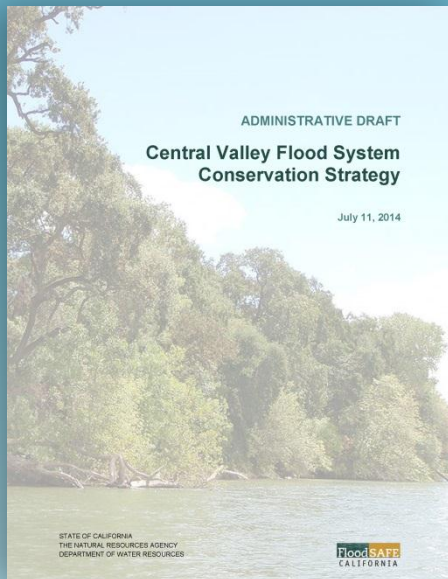


Central Valley Flood System Conservation Strategy Administrative Draft

Central Valley Flood Protection Board
August 22, 2014

Terri Gaines, DWR

FloodSAFE Environmental Stewardship and
Statewide Resources Office



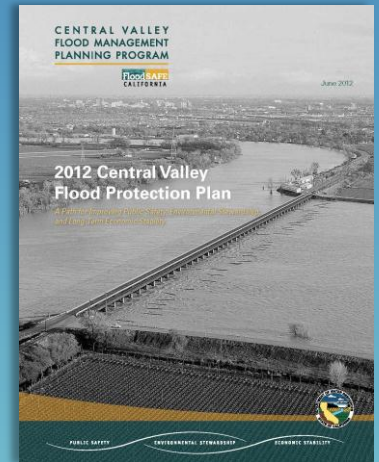
Presentation Outline

- History and Purpose
- Why a Conservation Strategy?
- Scope and Content
- Goals and Objectives
- Challenges
- Initial Feedback on Administrative Draft
- Next Steps

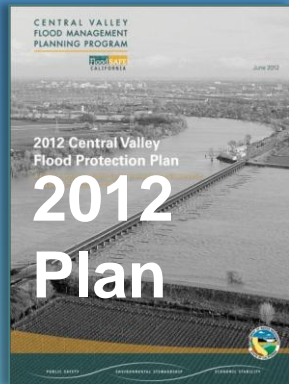


2012 CVFPP and Conservation Framework

- A more sustainable and resilient flood management system, capable of long-term adaptability to changing hydrological and climatic conditions
- Will be updated every 5 years
- Conservation Framework included
 - to achieve the environmental goals and objectives of the Central Valley Flood Protection Act, FloodSAFE, and the CVFPP
 - To implement DWR's Environmental Stewardship policy in the CVFPP

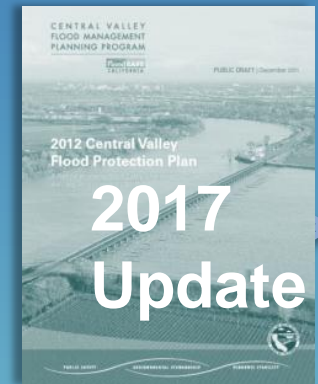


Refining the Investment Approach



Basin-wide Feasibility Studies

Conservation Strategy



Regional Flood Management Plans

2012 / 2013 / 2014 / 2015 / 2016 / 2017

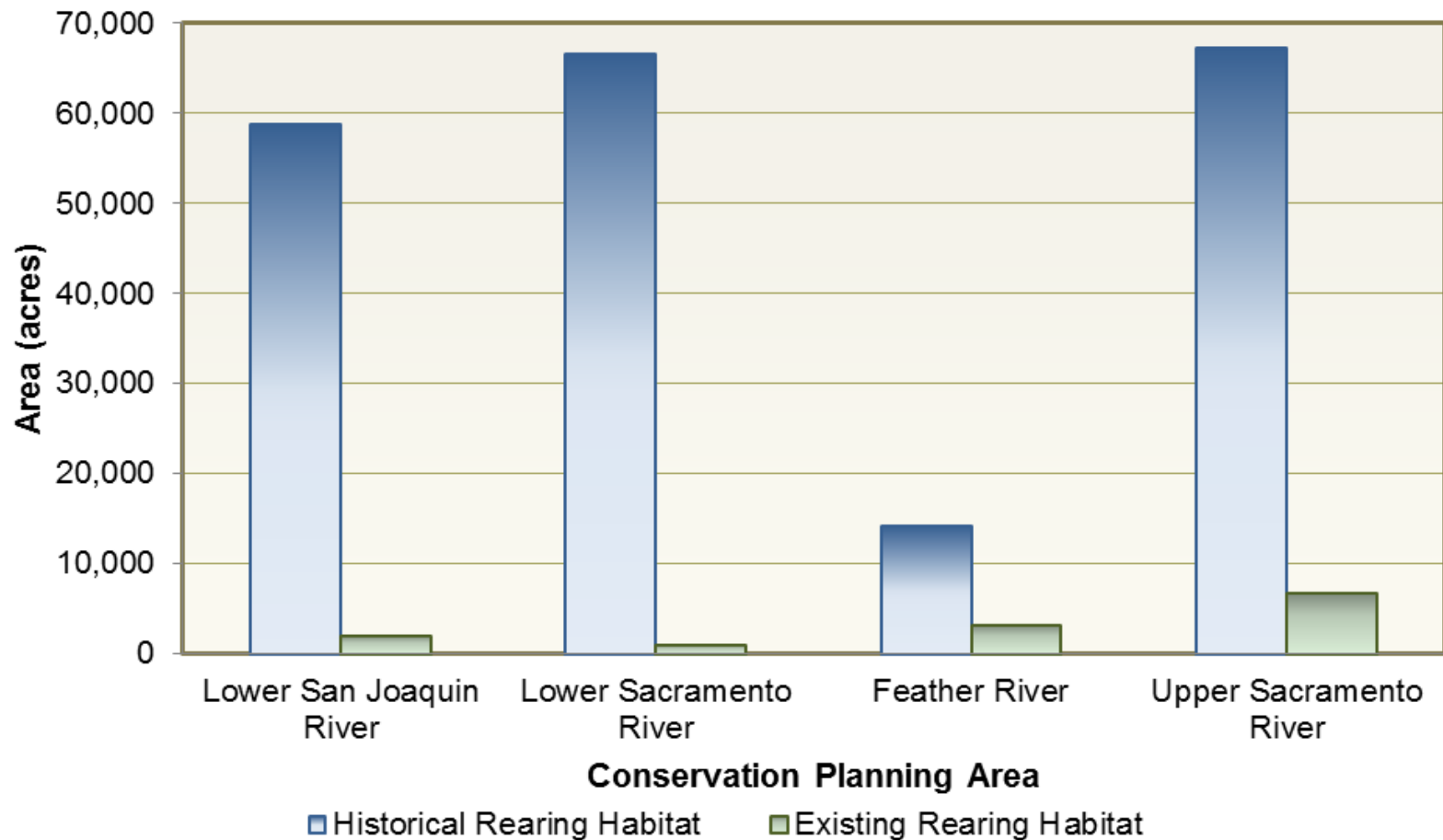


Why a Conservation Strategy?

- Levees Roundtable Framework called for Conservation Strategy
- Reverse trends of declining riverine ecosystems
- Meet CVFP Act objectives and CVFPP goals
- Improve project delivery, public support, and funding



Environmental Context



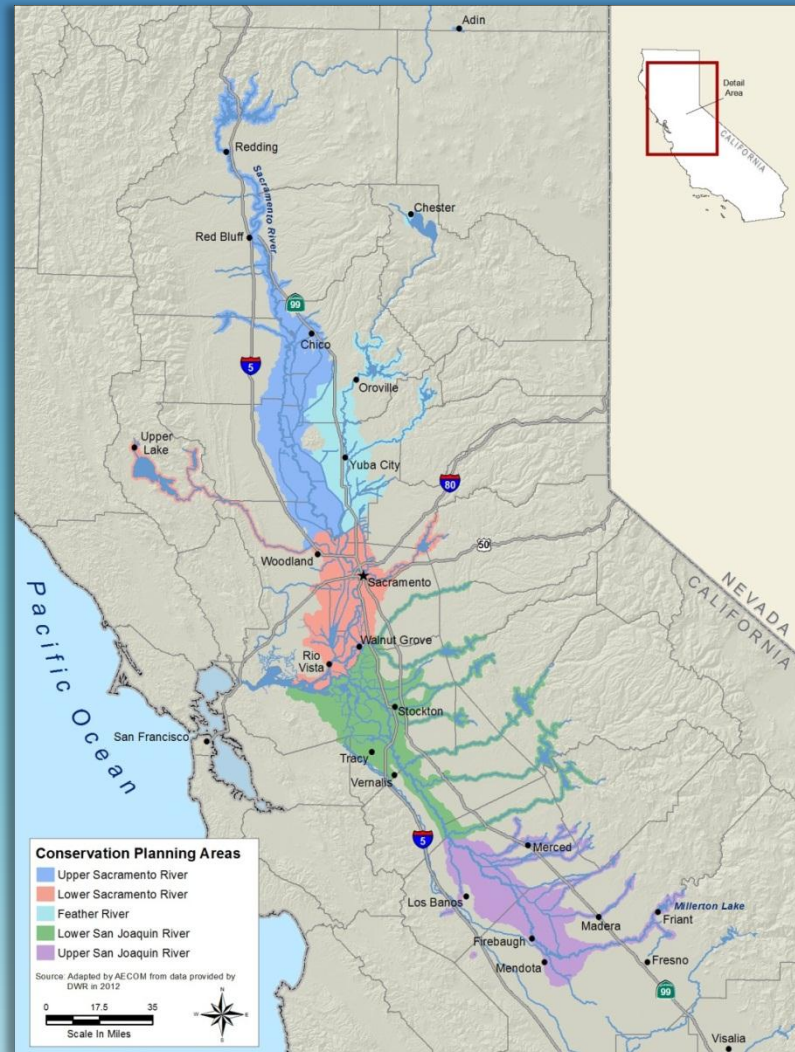
Scope of Conservation Strategy

- Reverse ecological status and trends in the context of the State Plan of Flood Control
- Ecosystem improvement beyond mitigation
- Contribute to the recovery of species



Geographic Scope

Conservation Planning Areas of the Conservation Strategy



Conservation Strategy Contents

- Ecological conditions, problems, and opportunities
- Conservation goals & objectives
- Data and technical environmental analysis ([species needs](#), [important areas](#))
- Adaptive Management



Goals and Objectives

CVFPP Primary Goal Improve Flood Risk Management

CVFPP Supporting Goals

Improve
Operations and
Maintenance

*Improve dynamic
hydrologic (flow) and
geomorphic processes*

Promote
Ecosystem
Functions

*Increase and improve
habitat quantity,
diversity, quality,
and connectivity*

Improve
Institutional
Support

*Contribute to the
recovery and
sustainability of
native species*

Promote
Multi-Benefit
Projects

*Reduce stressors that
negatively affect
at-risk species*



Conservation Strategy Measurable Objectives

Ecological Goals and Targeted Ecosystem Processes, Habitats, Species, and Stressors

| Ecological Goal | Targeted Ecosystem Process, Habitat, Species, or Stressor |
|---|---|
| Ecosystem processes. Improve and enhance dynamic hydrologic and geomorphic processes. | Floodplain inundation |
| | Riverine geomorphic processes |
| Habitats. Increase and improve quantity, diversity, quality, and connectivity of riverine aquatic and floodplain habitats. | SRA cover |
| | Riparian |
| | Marsh (and other wetlands) |
| | Floodplain agriculture |

Key: CVFPP = Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, SRA = shaded riverine aquatic.



Conservation Strategy Measurable Objectives

Ecological Goals and Targeted Ecosystem Processes, Habitats, Species, and Stressors - continued

| Ecological Goal | Targeted Ecosystem Process, Habitat, Species, or Stressor |
|---|---|
| Species. Contribute to the recovery and sustainability of native species populations and overall biotic community diversity. | Targeted species |
| Stressors. Reduce stressors related to the development, operation, and maintenance of the flood risk management system that negatively affect at-risk species. | <i>Revetment</i> * |
| | <i>Levees</i> * |
| | Fish passage barriers |
| | Invasive plants |

Key: CVFPP = Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, SRA = shaded riverine aquatic.

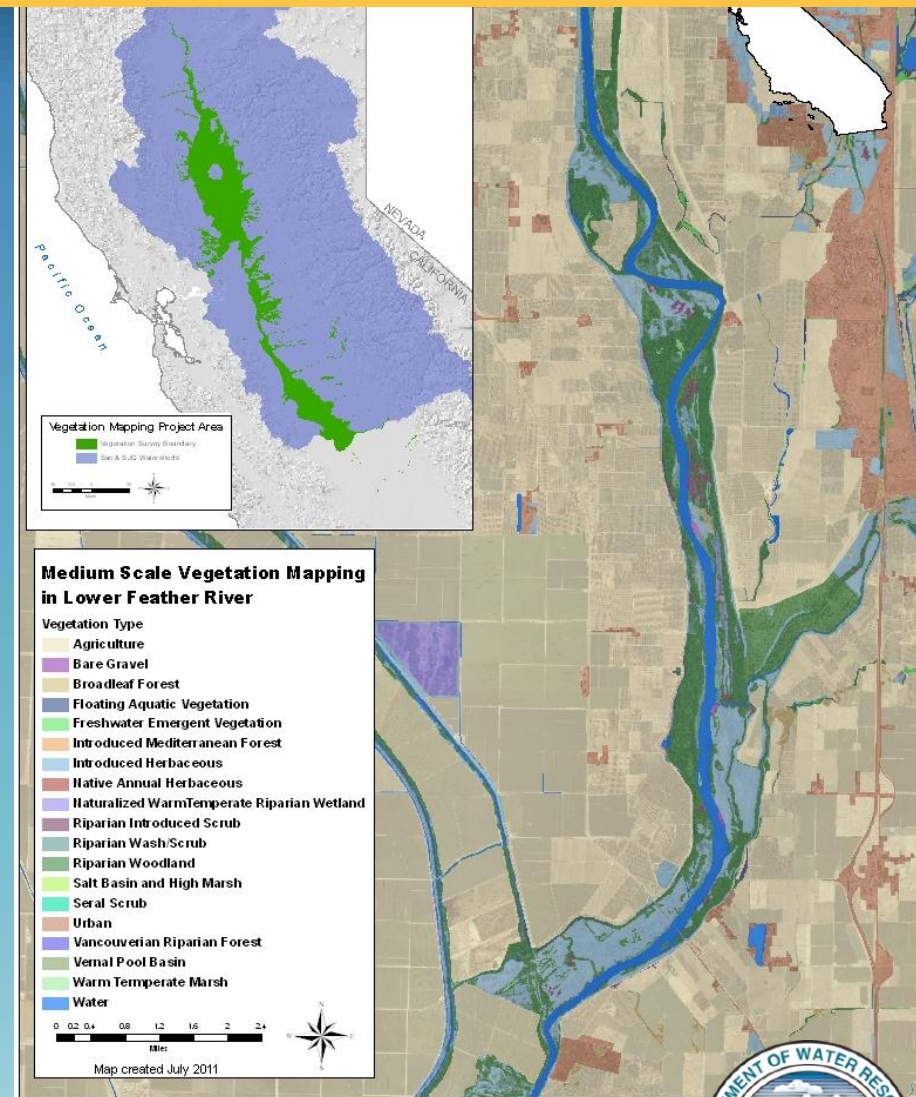
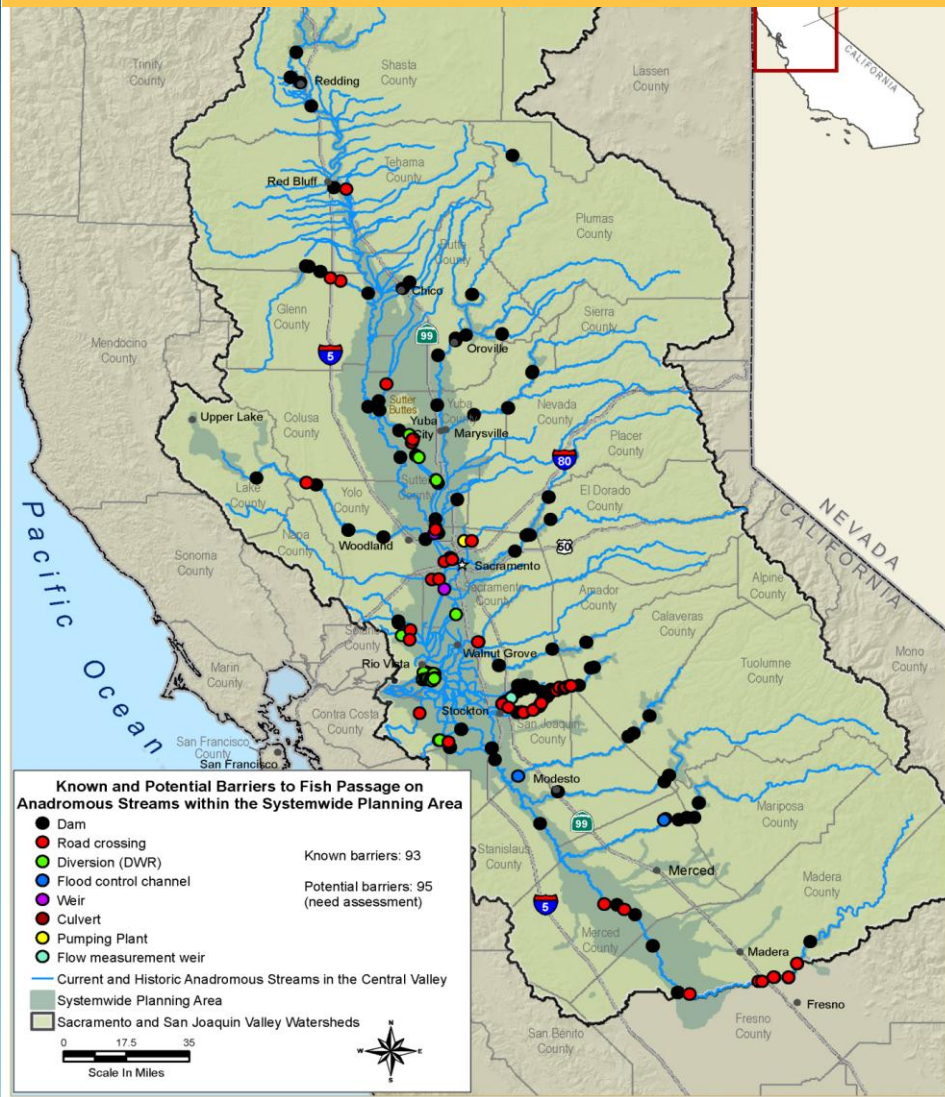
Note:

* where no longer serves its intended purpose and can be safely removed



Fish Passage Barriers

Vegetation Mapping



Activities and Tools to Support CS

- Regional Permitting
 - Pilot Feather River Regional Permitting Program
- Advance mitigation projects
- Vegetation management
 - Levee, channels, invasive species
- Agricultural Land Stewardship (ALS) planning document and tool box of ALS Strategies
 - Wildlife-compatible agriculture



Challenges with Developing Conservation Strategy

- Ecological improvements require actions on both bypasses and rivers
- Expectations of Conservation Strategy
- Quantification of measurable objectives
 - Scientifically sound
 - Relative to Flood System Improvements



Challenges to Implementing CS

- Institutional barriers
 - Federal authorization of SPFC for single purpose
 - Other laws
- Funding
 - Limited
 - Cost-sharing incentives
- Impacts to local land uses
- Coordination with other programs



Outreach and Collaboration

- Two public workshops
- Interagency Advisory Committee
 - Conservation Strategy Development Subcommittee
 - Regional Permitting Subcommittee (FRRPP)
- Liaisons with RFMPs
- Technical support to BWFS
- Outreach to NGOs, Agricultural Community, LMAs, Local Government



Early Feedback on Administrative Draft

- Good data and tools
- A vision, but needs to be stronger to be a Conservation Strategy
- Needs more focus on riverine ecosystems to help RFMPs plan multi-benefit projects
- Lack of quantification is a disappointment
 - Needs quantifiable targets
 - Doesn't provide the detail to support RFMPs
 - Doesn't meet SB5 objectives
- CS does not provide enough specificity to support desired permitting efficiencies



Next Steps **with CVFPB Assistance**

- Receive comments on Administrative Draft
- Release Public Draft (expected Fall 2014)
- **Complete Public Review**
 - **CVFPB Public workshop**
- **Form advisory committee per Resolution 2012-25**
- **Integrate Conservation Strategy into 2017 Update**



Thank You!



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