

# San Joaquin River Basin-Wide Feasibility Study

## Public Workshop

San Luis National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
7376 S. Wolfsen Road  
Los Banos, CA 93635

Friday, May 13, 2016  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.



2017 ROADMAP



# Welcome

C V F P P

2017 ROADMAP



# Workshop Objectives

- Develop shared understanding among San Joaquin River Basin stakeholders regarding:
  - Basin-wide feasibility study (BWFS) planning process
  - Tentative recommended plan
  - Findings/recommendations
- Develop shared understanding of role of San Joaquin River BWFS within the 2017 CVFPP Update
- Collect stakeholder input on tentative recommended plan and findings/recommendations

# Today's Agenda

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks
2. Public Comments
3. 2017 CVFPP Update
4. San Joaquin River Basin-Wide Feasibility Study
5. Break (5 min.)
6. San Joaquin River Basin-Wide Feasibility Study Continued
7. Closing Statements



# Workshop Ground Rules

- Honor the agenda
- Speak to the focus and objectives of workshop
- Everyone is encouraged to participate
- Respectful interaction
- Turn cell phones off/silent

# 2017 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Update

Presented by:

Michael Mierzwa, P.E.  
California Department of Water Resources  
[Michael.Mierzwa@water.ca.gov](mailto:Michael.Mierzwa@water.ca.gov)

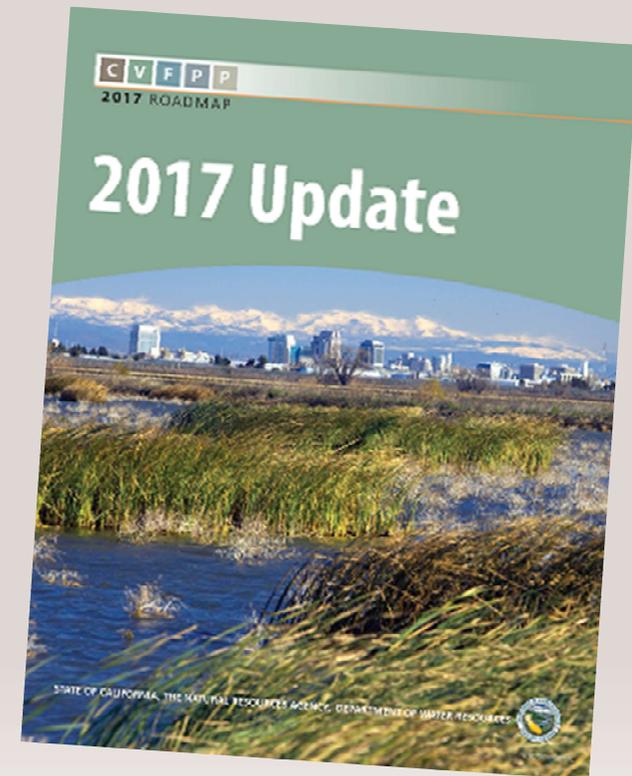


# Presentation Overview

- **2017 CVFPP Update Scope & Content**
- **Project Scale Plans vs. System Scale Plans**
  - Planning an Approach to Effective Implementation
  - Louisiana Coast and Central Valley Planning
- **2017 CVFPP Update Major Supporting Efforts**

# Scope & Content

- Refines and updates the State Systemwide Investment Approach (SSIA) described in 2012 CVFPP
- Additional specificity about recommended near and longer-term investment and financing approach



# Factors for Managing Flood Risk

- **Hazard**

What can cause harm?

- **Performance**

How will the system react?

- **Exposure**

Who and what can be harmed?

- **Vulnerability**

How susceptible to harm?

- **Consequence**

How much harm?

*'Risk' is the  
likelihood and  
severity of adverse  
consequences.*

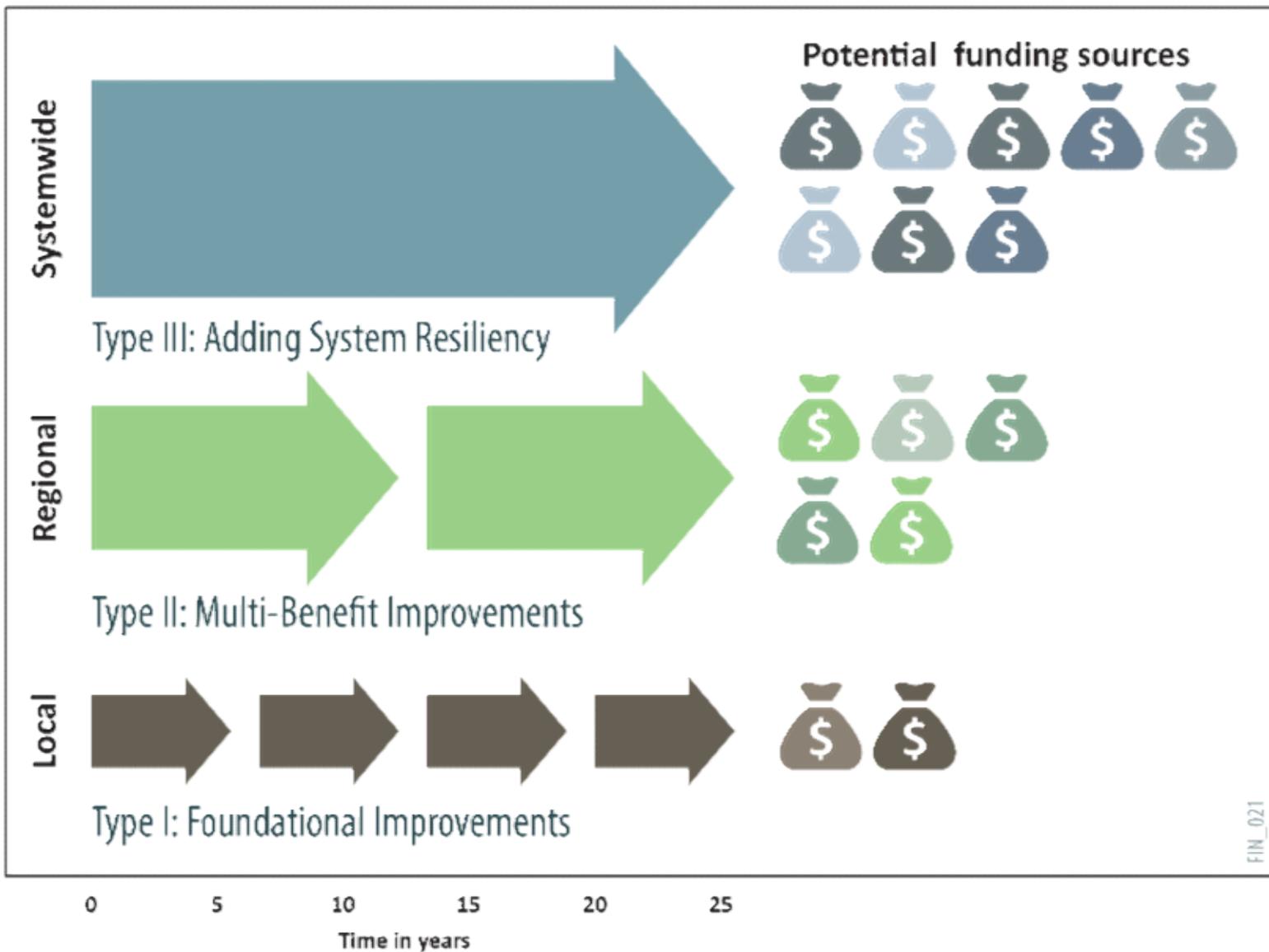
2017 CVFPP Update Chapters	2012 CVFPP Sections
<i>Chapter 1:</i> Setting Context	<i>Section 1:</i> Responding to the Need for Improved Flood Management in the Central Valley
<i>Chapter 2:</i> Converging on Solutions to Improve System Management	<i>Section 1:</i> Responding to the Need for Improved Flood Management in the Central Valley <i>Section 2:</i> Preliminary Approaches
<i>Chapter 3:</i> Outlining Strategies to Improve System Management	<i>Section 2:</i> Preliminary Approaches <i>Section 3:</i> State Systemwide Investment Approach
<i>Chapter 4:</i> CVFPP Implementation	<i>Section 4:</i> Implementing and Managing the State Systemwide Investment Approach
 <i>Chapter 5:</i> Financing and Tracking Outcomes	<i>Section 4.7:</i> Financing Strategy for Implementing the State Systemwide Investment Approach

# Chapter 5: Financing & Tracking Outcomes

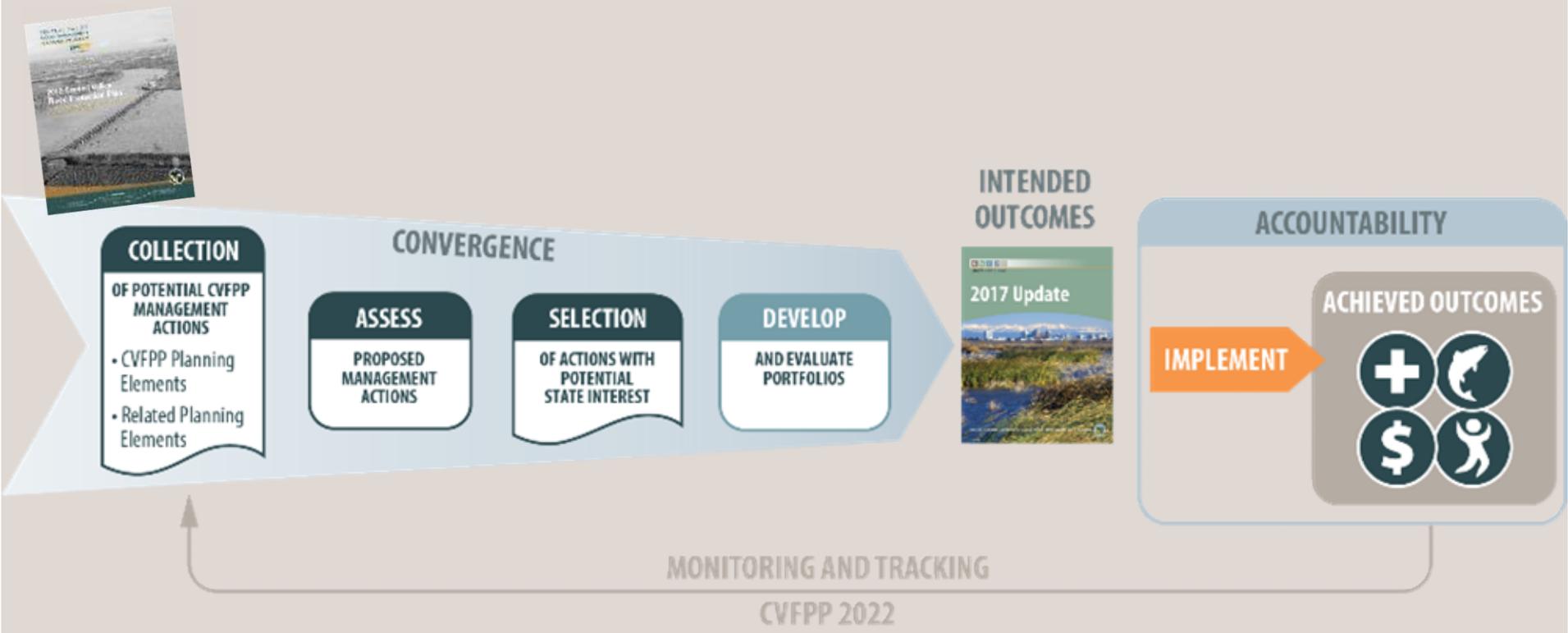
- 1994's "Sharing the Challenge: Floodplain Management Into the 21st Century" (aka Galloway) Report articulated high level "society goals"
- Compare actual outcomes with CVFPP goals and intent (intended outcomes)
- Continual evolution toward more effective investments



# Providing Resiliency through Parallel Efforts Focused on Implementation

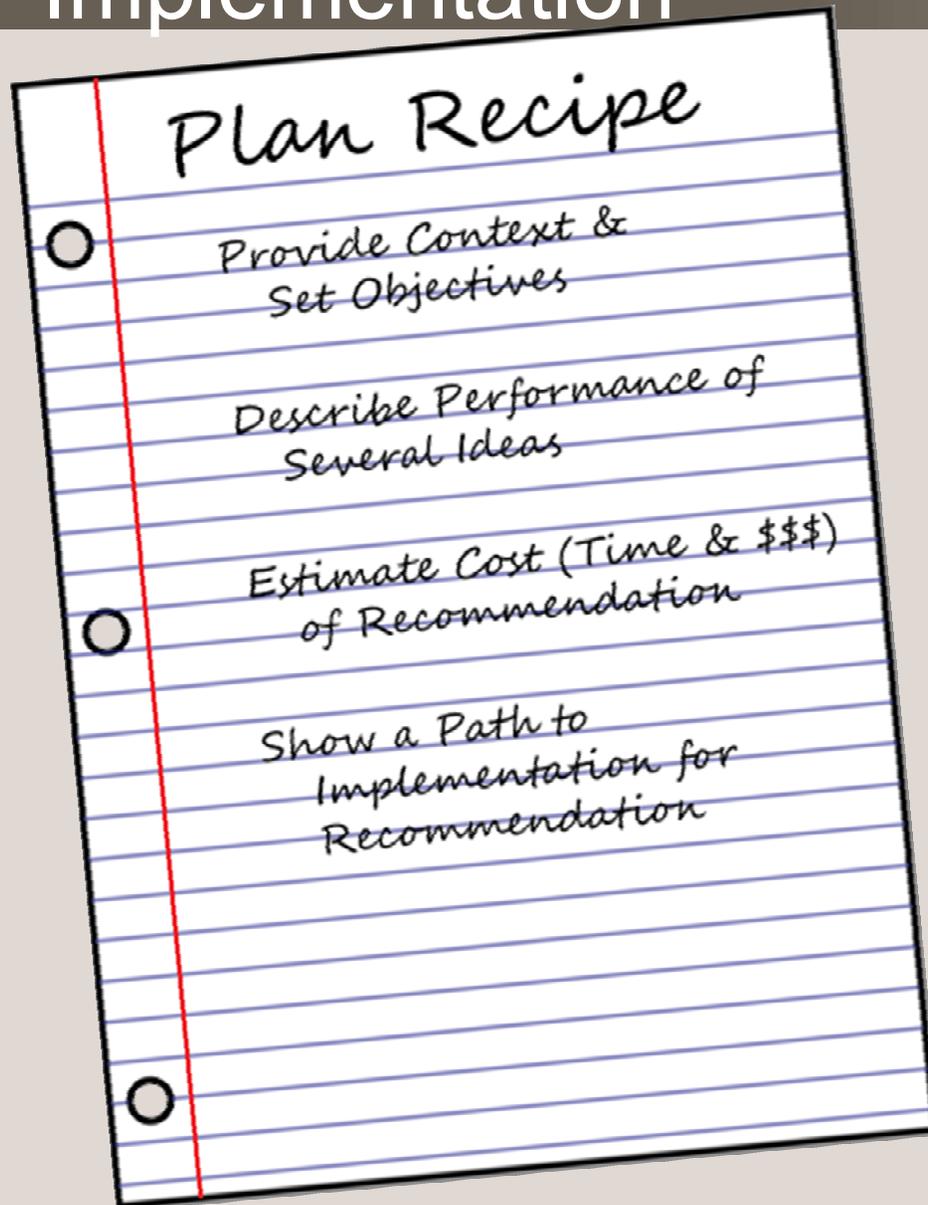


# Converging on Solutions for Improving Flood Management



CHAPTER 2    CHAPTER 3    CHAPTER 4    CHAPTER 5

# Planning is an Approach to Effective Implementation



## Types of Plans

### Policy Recommendations

- Governance (Roles/Responsibilities)
- Regulatory

### Strategic

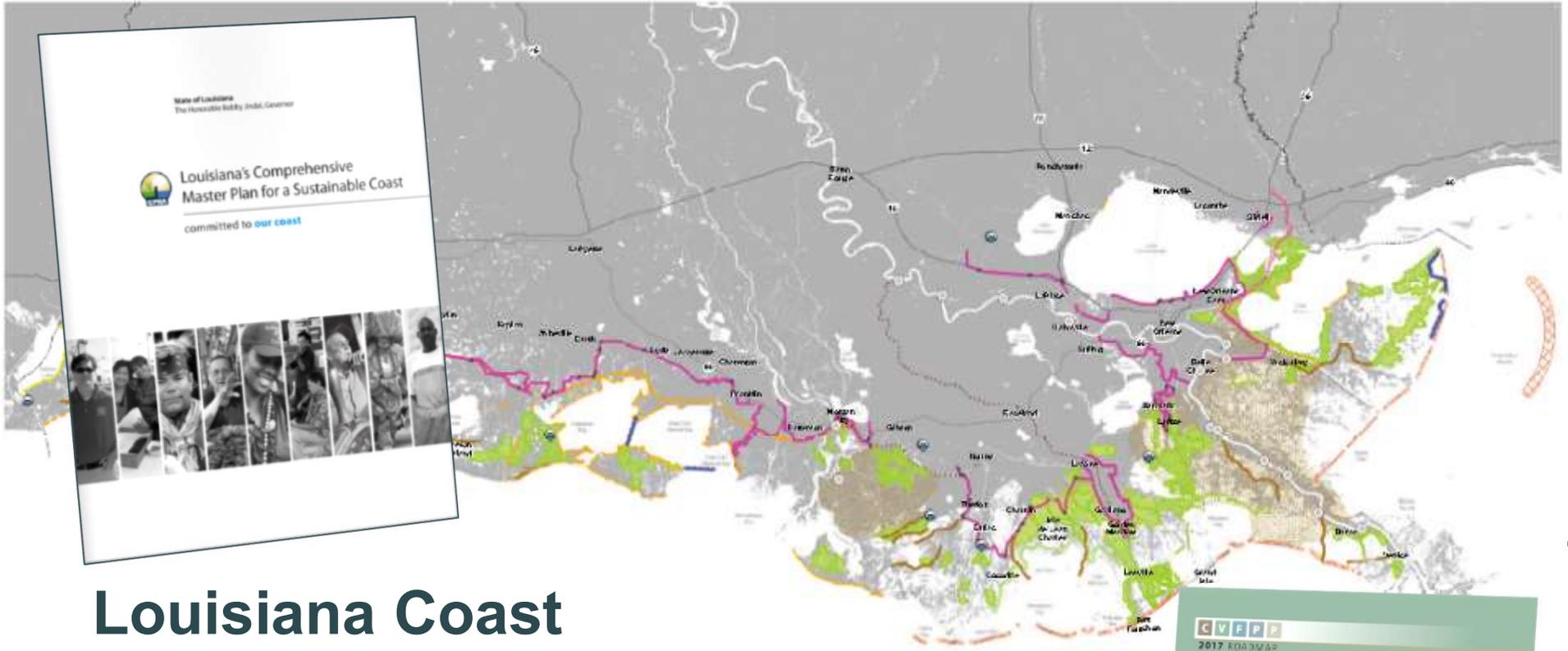
- Resource Prioritization (Budget/Staff)
- System Investment

### Tactical

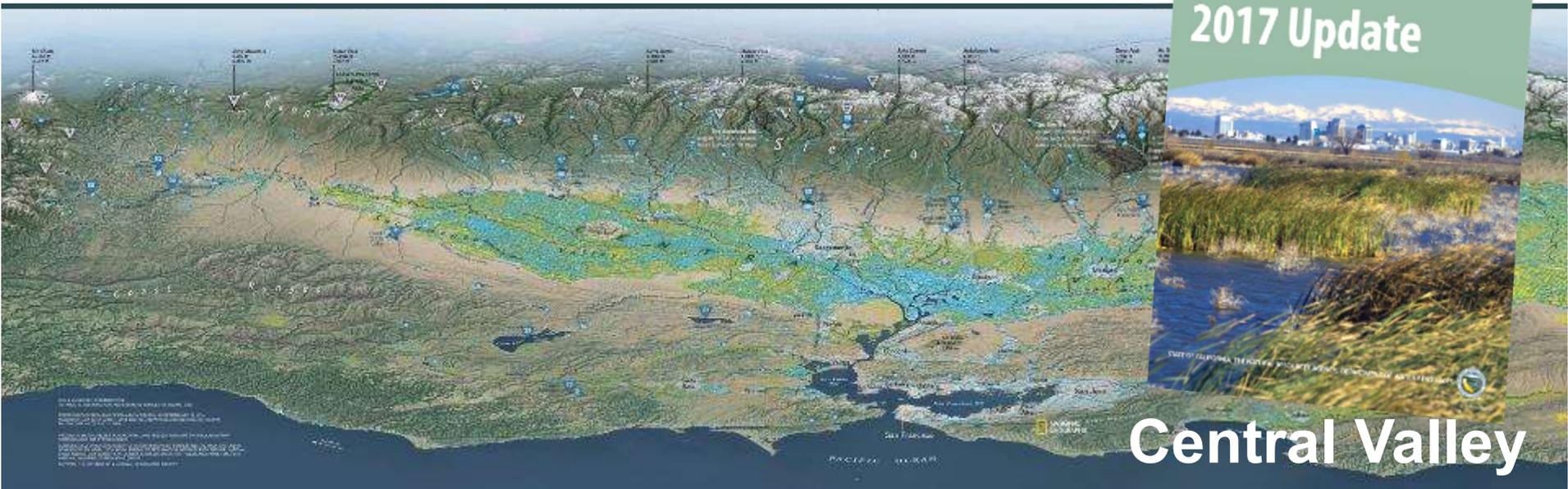
- Project Investment
- Engagement

### Technical

- Meeting Facilitation



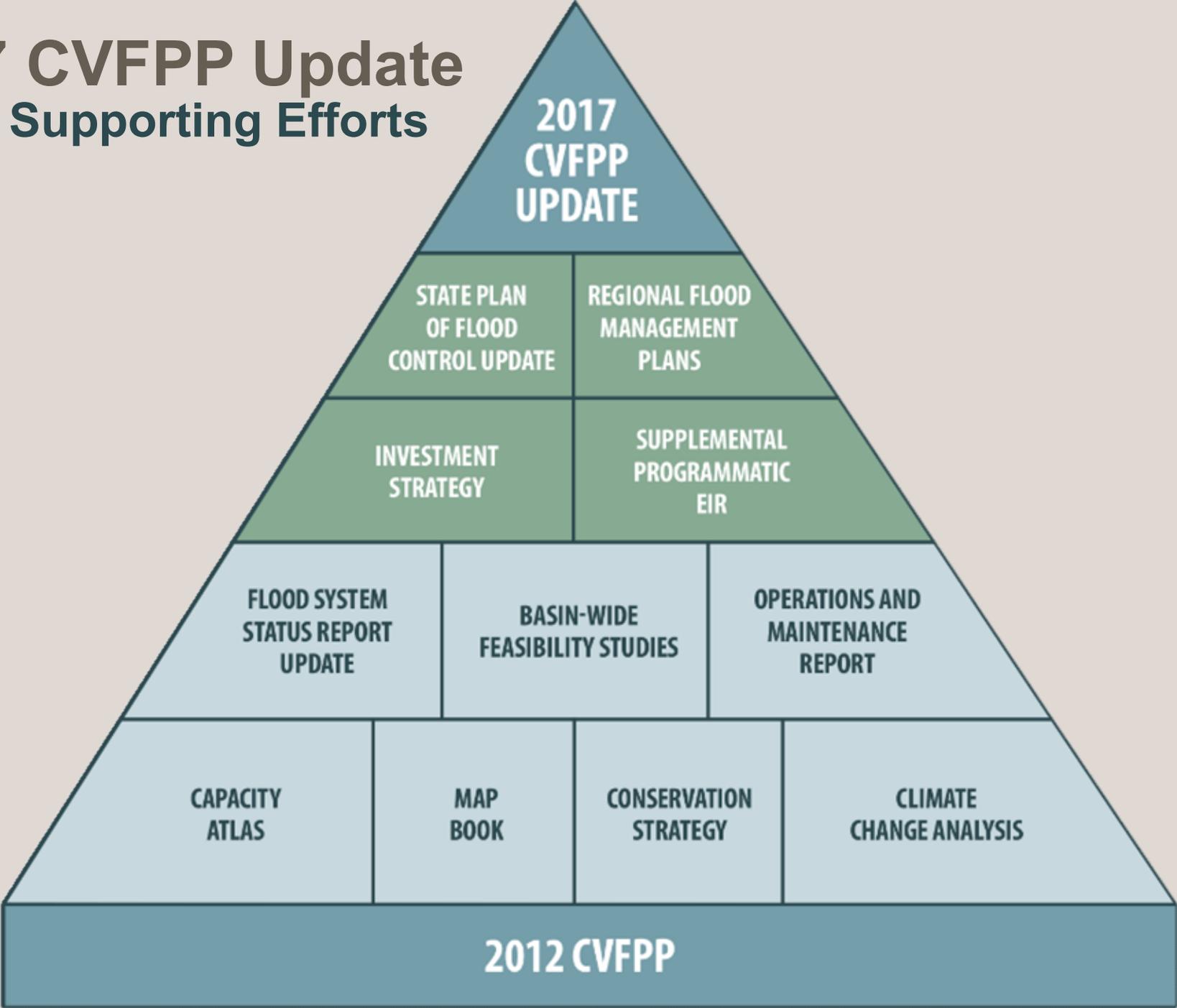
# Louisiana Coast



# Central Valley

# 2017 CVFPP Update

## Major Supporting Efforts



**“The principles of floodplain management are now well known. **There’s no silver bullet.** What you need is people willing to come to grips with the problem honestly.”**

*– Brig. Gen. Gerald Galloway , USACE*

# Key Flood System Stressors

- Hydrologic Variability (Upstream Timing and Duration, Downstream Backwater / Tide)
- Population Density / Exposure and Population Growth
- Land Use (Subsidence, Agricultural Activities – Irrigation and Drainage)
- Sedimentation & Erosion
- Financing Constraints (Ability to Pay, Willingness to Pay)

# Relationship Between CVFPP & Basin-Wide Feasibility Studies

- 2017 CVFPP Update will include a portfolio of management actions with potential to deliver measureable benefits
  - Rooted in an “outcome-based” planning approach
  - Informed by the Basin-Wide Feasibility Studies, regional flood management plans, Conservation Strategy
    - For example: recommended actions in San Joaquin BWFS will help identify larger system-scale actions included in portfolio

# Key Points

- System best managed when a balanced portfolio of actions is used to achieve results
- Complex system-scale planning relies on a layered approach of planning and design work to refine potential actions
- The San Joaquin River Basin-Wide Feasibility Study is just one of many efforts underway to inform the 2017 CVFPP Update

# San Joaquin River Basin-Wide Feasibility Study

Presented by:

Eric Tsai

California Department of Water Resources

[Eric.Tsai@water.ca.gov](mailto:Eric.Tsai@water.ca.gov)

Anna Fock

California Department of Water Resources

[Anna.Fock@water.ca.gov](mailto:Anna.Fock@water.ca.gov)



2017 ROADMAP

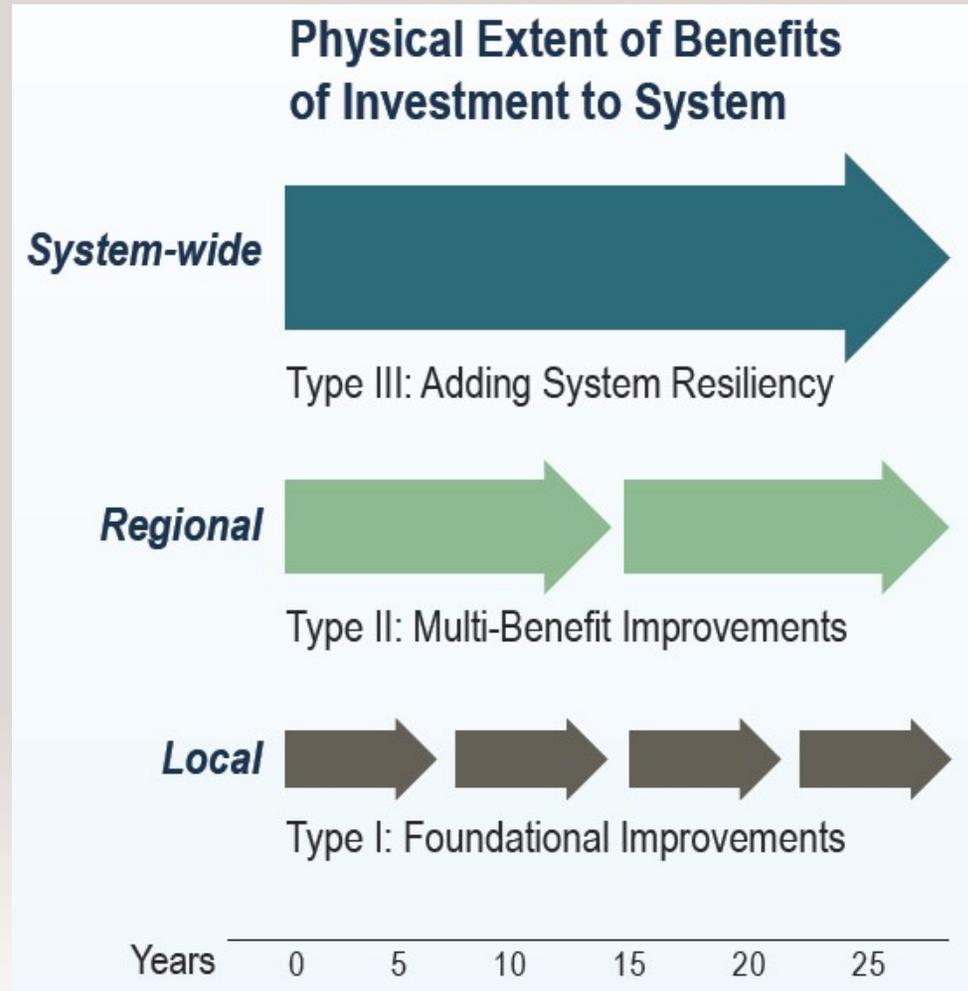


# BWFS Presentation Overview

- **BWFS Overview**
  - Purpose and Scope, Problems and Objectives
  - Planning Process
- **Elements Studied**
  - Element Performance Findings
  - Conceptual System Configurations and Findings
- **Tentative Recommended Plan**
- **Stakeholder Engagement**
- **Key Findings**
- **Next Steps**

# BWFS Purpose and Planning Principles

- Refine scale and location of major system elements
- Inform potential State interest in regional-scale elements
- Integrate environmental conservation

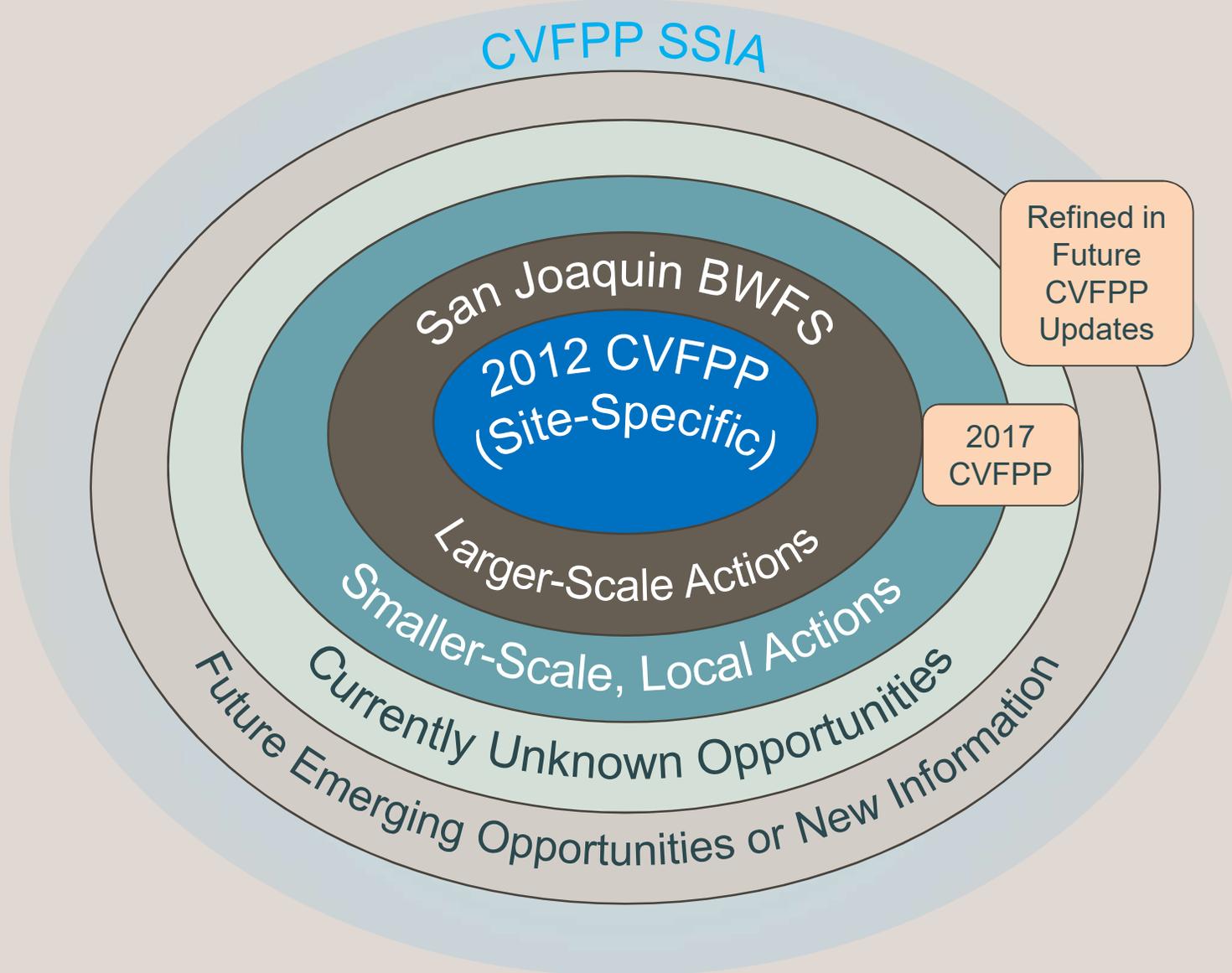




# 2012 CVFPP SSIA and CVFPP Updates



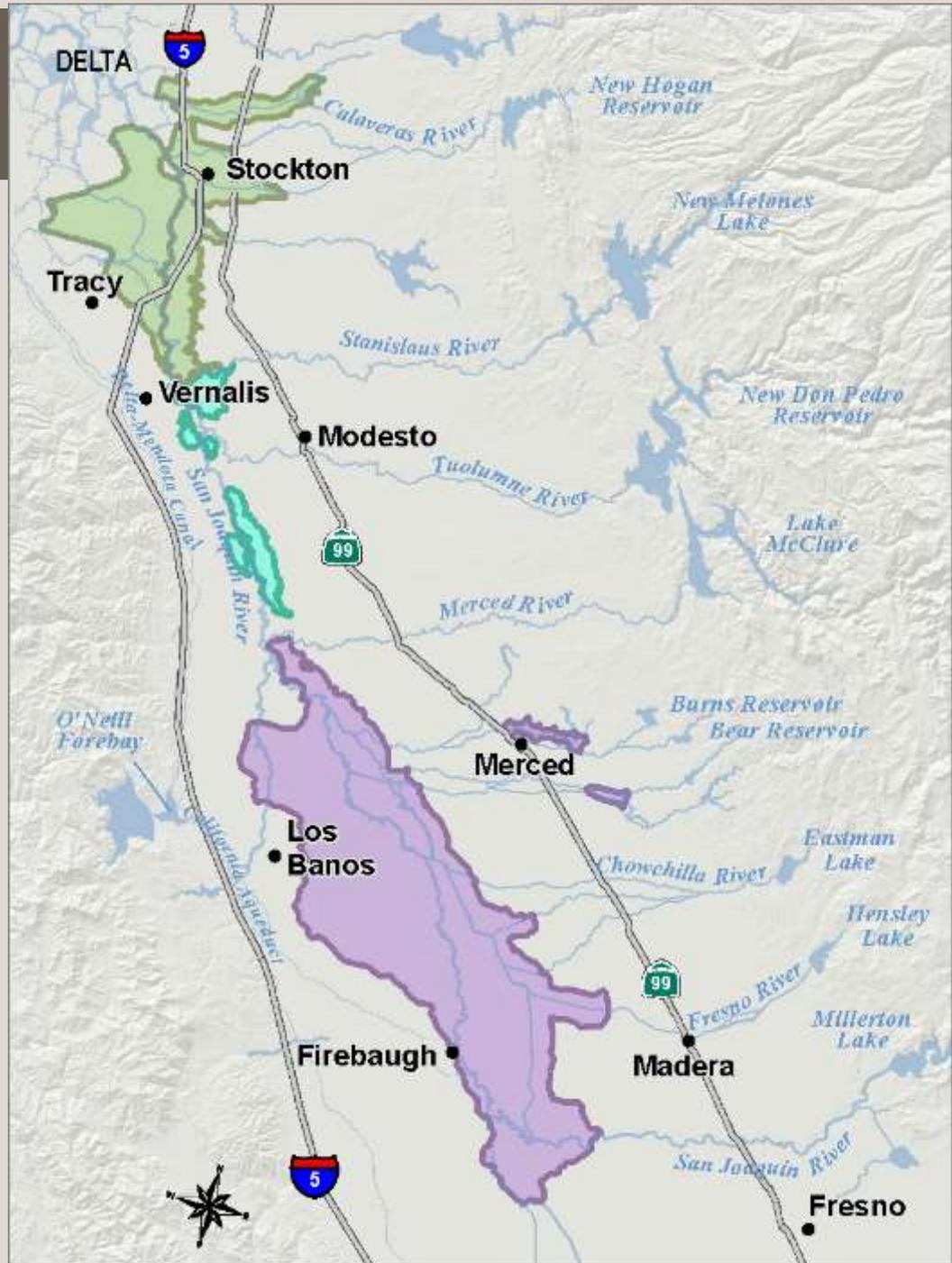
# 2012 CVFPP and CVFPP Updates



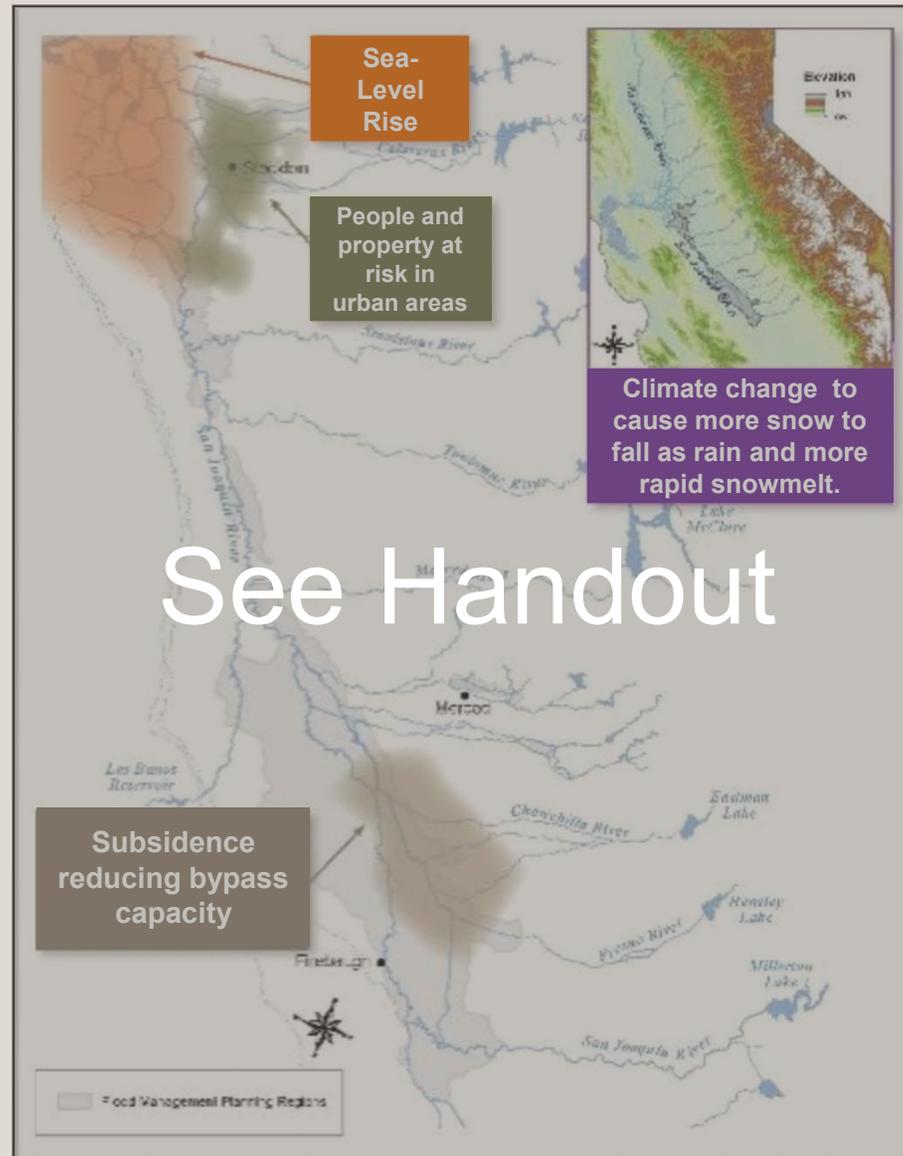
# SJ BWFS Scope

## Flood Management Planning Region

-  Lower San Joaquin River / Delta South
-  Mid-San Joaquin River
-  Upper San Joaquin River



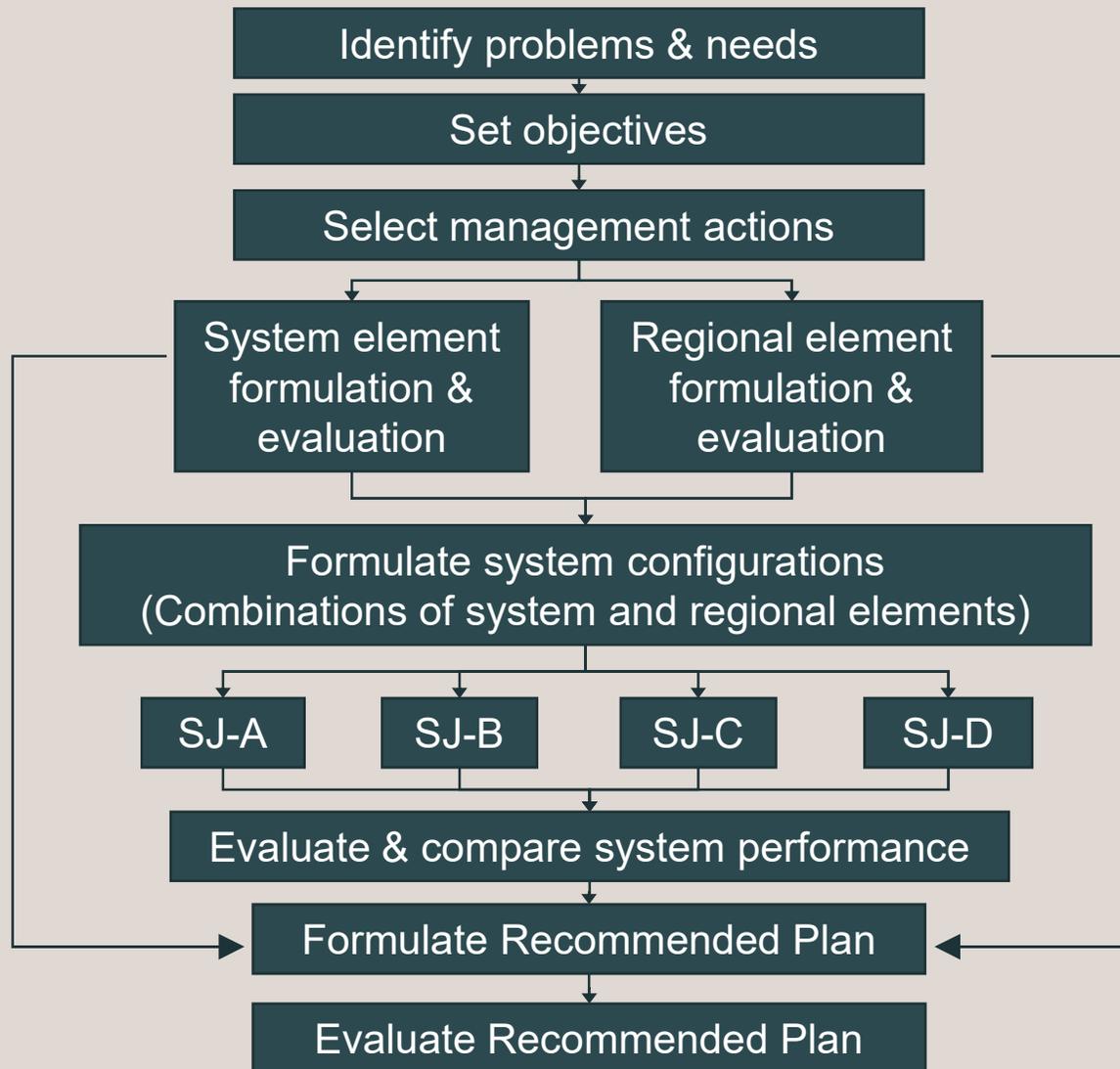
# Resource Problems



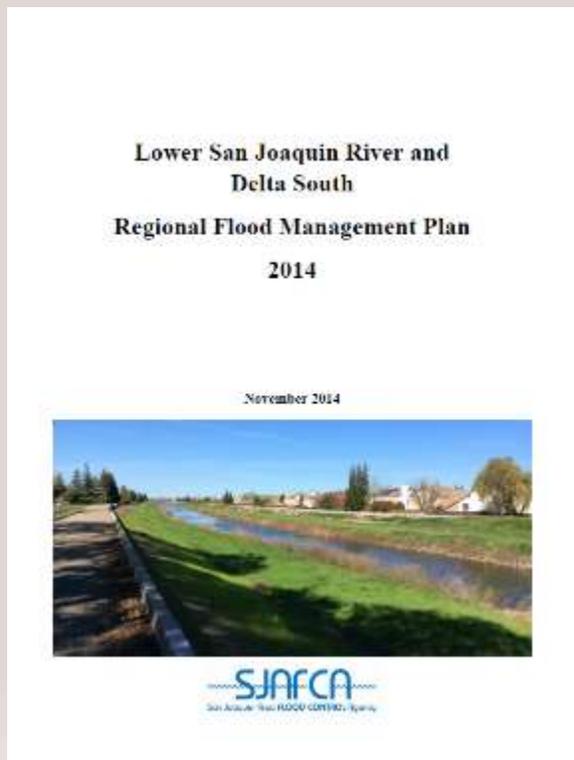
# Goals and Objectives

Goals	Objectives
Improve Flood Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduce flood damages and life loss from flood events</li><li>• Reduce stages in urban, small-community, and rural areas</li><li>• Achieve and maintain 200-year level of protection for urban areas</li><li>• Achieve and maintain 100-year level of protection for small communities</li></ul>
Promote Ecosystem Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve dynamic hydrologic and geomorphic processes</li><li>• Increase and improve quantity, diversity, quality, and connectivity of riverine aquatic and floodplain habitats</li><li>• Reduce stressors related to the development and operation of the SPFC that negatively affect at-risk species</li></ul>
Promote Multi-Benefit Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve Water Supply, Recreation, Open Space, Commercial Fisheries, Navigation, Hydropower</li></ul>

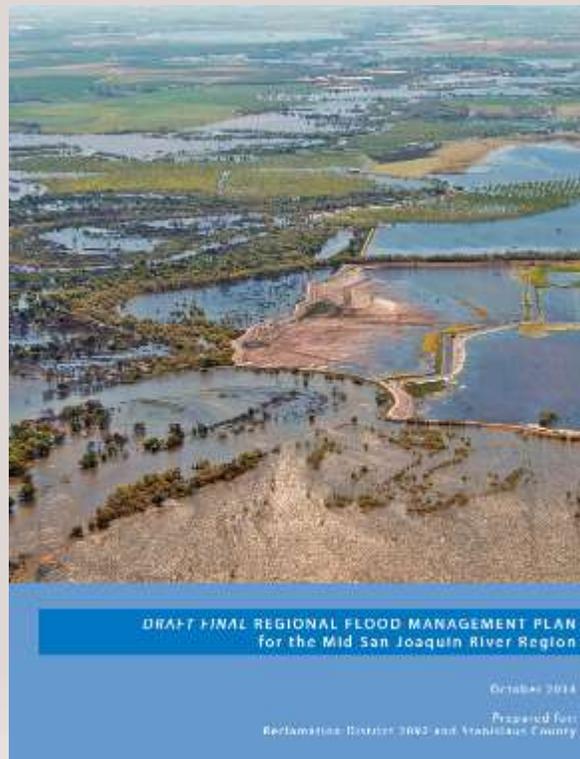
# Plan Formulation Process



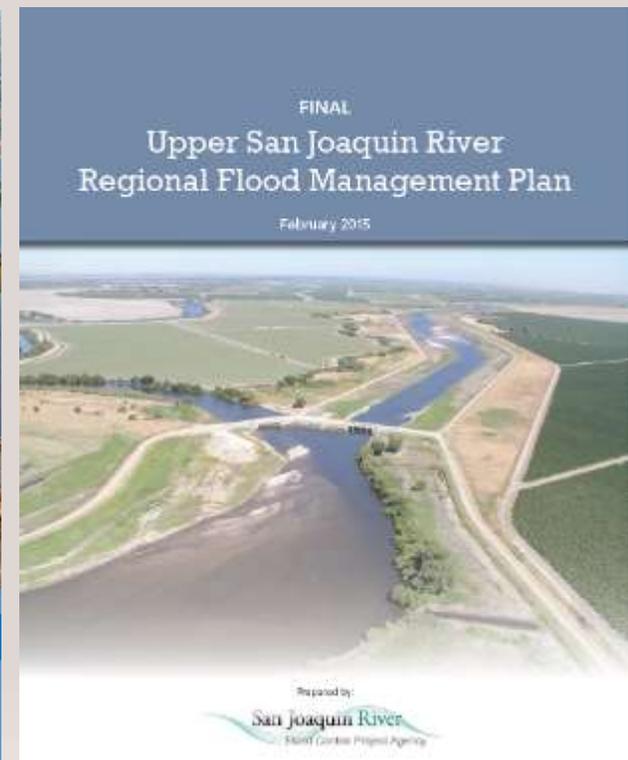
# Regional Flood Management Planning (RFMP) Integration



Lower San  
Joaquin/Delta  
South RFMP



Mid San  
Joaquin RFMP



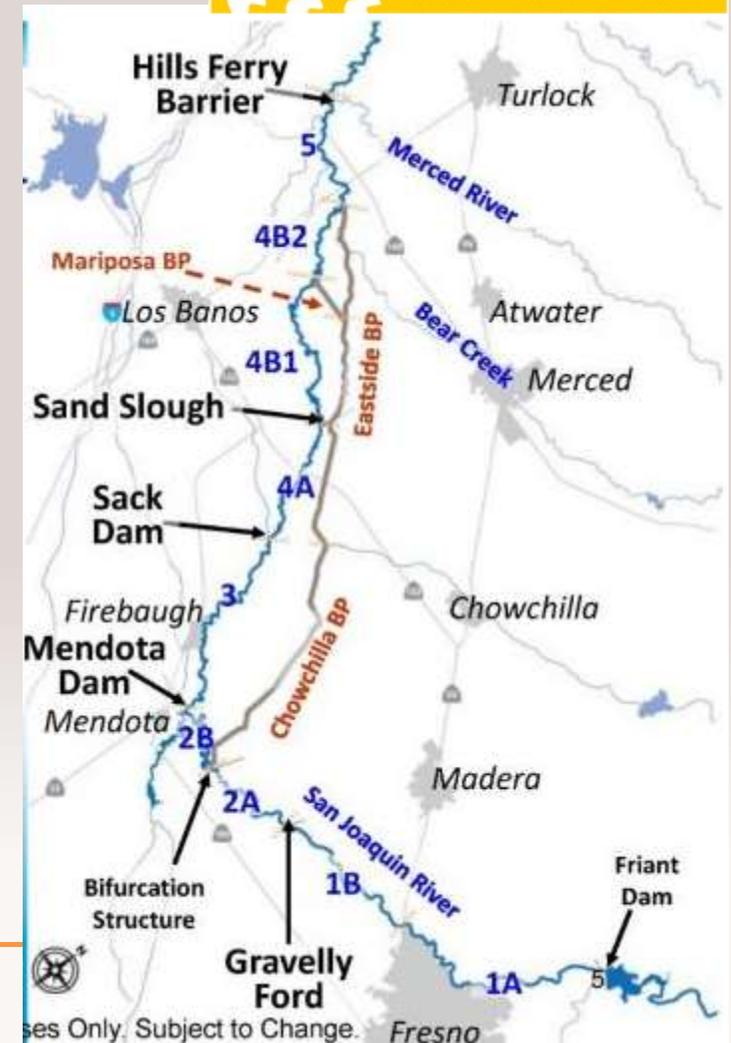
Upper San  
Joaquin RFMP



# San Joaquin River Restoration Program Integration Approach



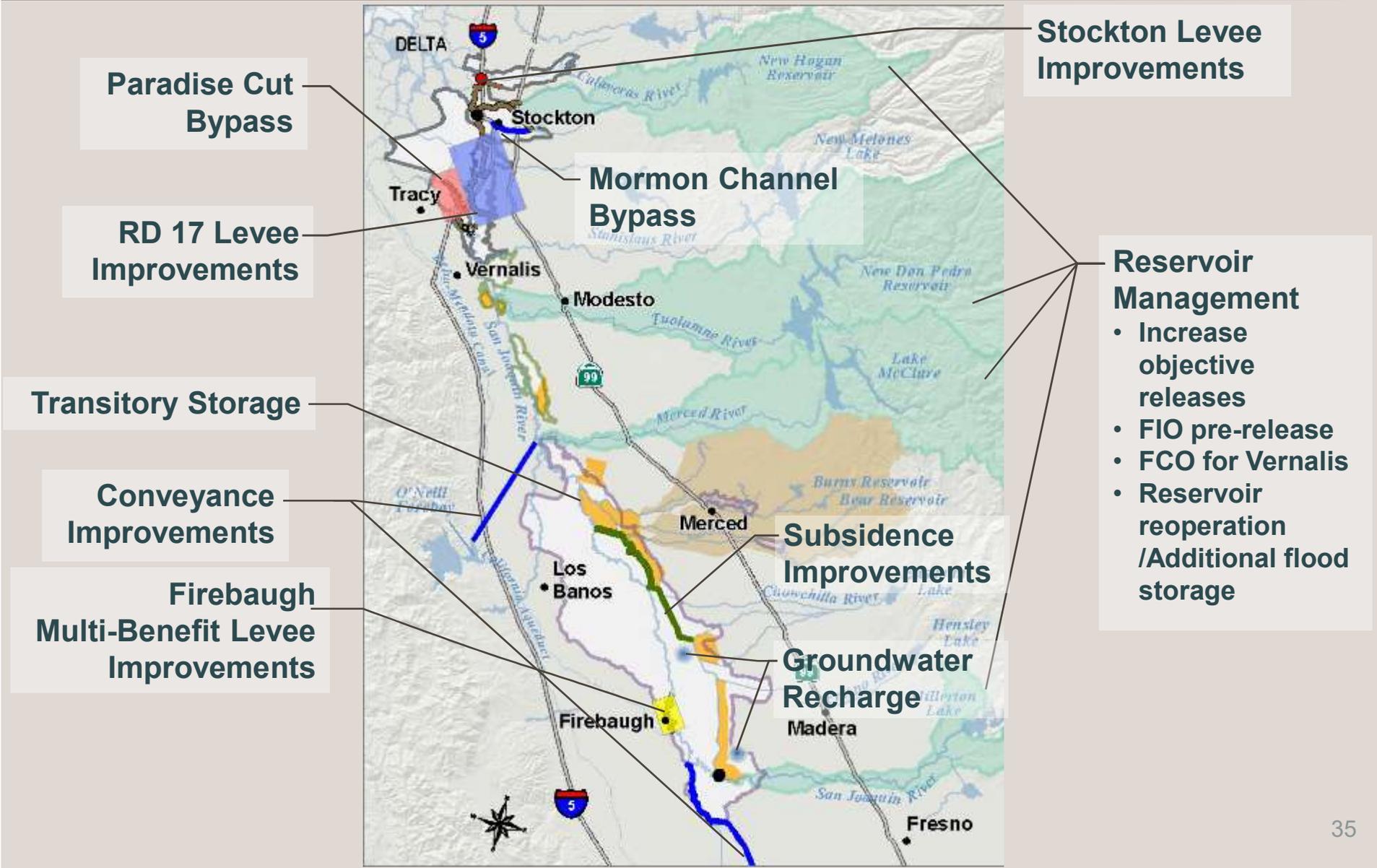
- Major planning process in the upper San Joaquin region
- Focus actions with a flood nexus
- Actively collaborate on win-win multi-benefit actions
- Look for opportunities to align future efforts



# Questions and Discussion



# Elements Studied



**Stockton Levee Improvements**

- Reservoir Management**
- Increase objective releases
  - FIO pre-release
  - FCO for Vernalis
  - Reservoir reoperation /Additional flood storage

# Element Performance Summary

Draft San Joaquin River Basin-wide Feasibility Study Performance Matrix (Not for Distribution. 2016/05/03)

Elements	H&H Performance				Local	Public Safety	Economic Stability	Ecosystem Vitality	Enriched Experience	Costs
	Systemwide			Varied						
	Lower SJ Vernalis	Mid SJ Newman	Upper SJ Sand Slough							
					+	\$	♻️	🌳	\$ (Million)	
<b>System Elements</b>										
Paradise Cut (Option A, Base Case)	N/C	N/C	N/C	Low	✓	✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	\$99	
Paradise Cut (Option M, Ag-Focus)	Medium	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	\$309	
Paradise Cut (Option M, Riparian-Focus)	Medium	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	\$323	
5,000-cfs Newman Diversion to O'Neill Forebay	Low	Medium	N/C	Medium	✓	✓			\$2,600	
1,000-cfs Mendota Pool Diversion	N/C	N/C	Low	Medium	✓✓	✓			\$1,512	
<b>Reservoir Management</b>										
Joint FCO for Vernalis 46,000-cfs Objective	Low/Low	Low/Low	Low/Low	Med/Med	✓	✓			N/A	
<b>Calaveras River Watershed</b>										
Additional Flood Storage: 42 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓✓	✓✓✓			\$42	
<b>Tuolumne River Watershed</b>										
Objective Release: 9K to 15K cfs	Low	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓	✓		\$264	
Objective Release: 9K to 20K cfs	Low	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓	✓		\$264	
Objective Release: 9K to 25K cfs	Low	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓	✓		\$264	
Pre-release: 50 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓			N/A	
Pre-release: 100 TAF	Low	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓			N/A	
Additional Flood Storage: 50 TAF	Low	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓			\$39	
Additional Flood Storage: 100 TAF	Low	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓			\$77	
Additional Flood Storage: 200 TAF	Medium	N/C	N/C	High	✓✓	✓✓			\$155	
<b>Merced River Watershed</b>										
Objective Release: 6K to 10K cfs	Low	Low	N/C	High/High					N/A	
Objective Release: 6K to 15K cfs	Low	Low	N/C	High/High					N/A	
Objective Release: 6K to 20K cfs	Low	Medium	N/C	High/High					N/A	
Pre-release: 25 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	Low	✓	✓			N/A	
Pre-release: 50 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	Low	✓	✓			N/A	
Additional Flood Storage: 25 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	Low	✓	✓			\$21	
Additional Flood Storage: 50 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	Low	✓	✓			\$42	
Additional Flood Storage: 100 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	Low	✓	✓			\$84	
Additional Flood Storage: 200 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	Medium	✓	✓			\$169	
Montgomery Reservoir 150 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	Medium	✓	✓			\$530	
Enlarged Bear and Burns Reservoir: +85 TAF	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C					N/A	
Black Rascal Creek Detention Basin: 1-3 TAF									N/A	

See Handout

# Questions and Discussion

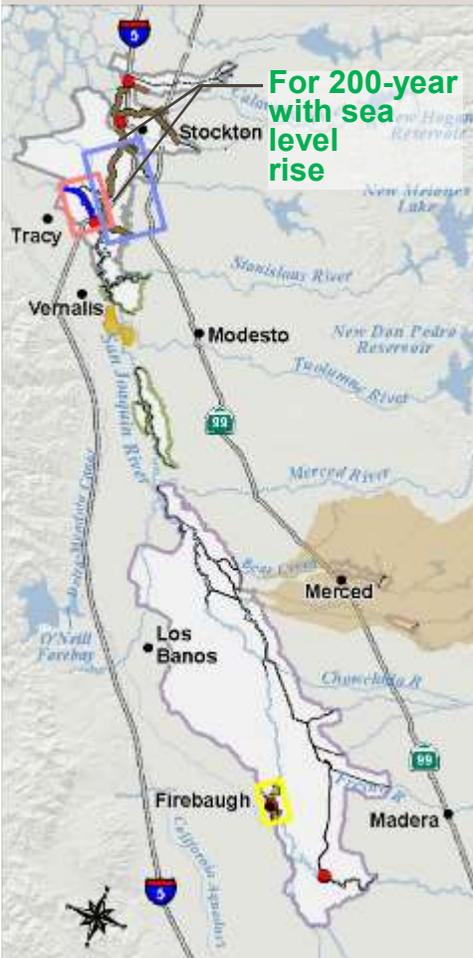


# 5-Minute Break

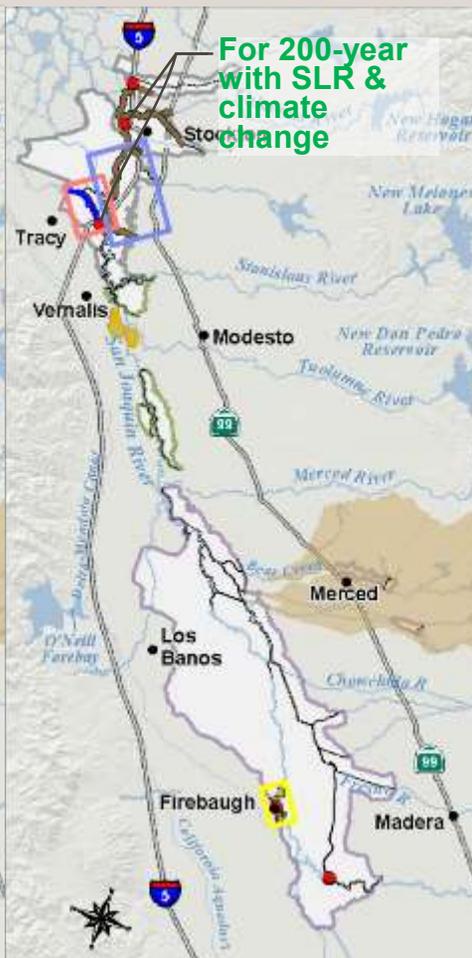


# System Configurations

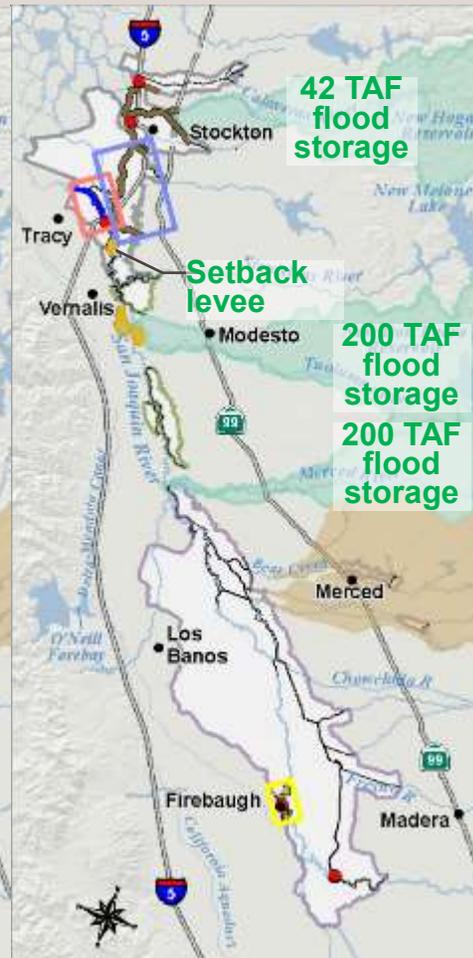
**SJ-A**  
(2012 CVFPP SSIA)



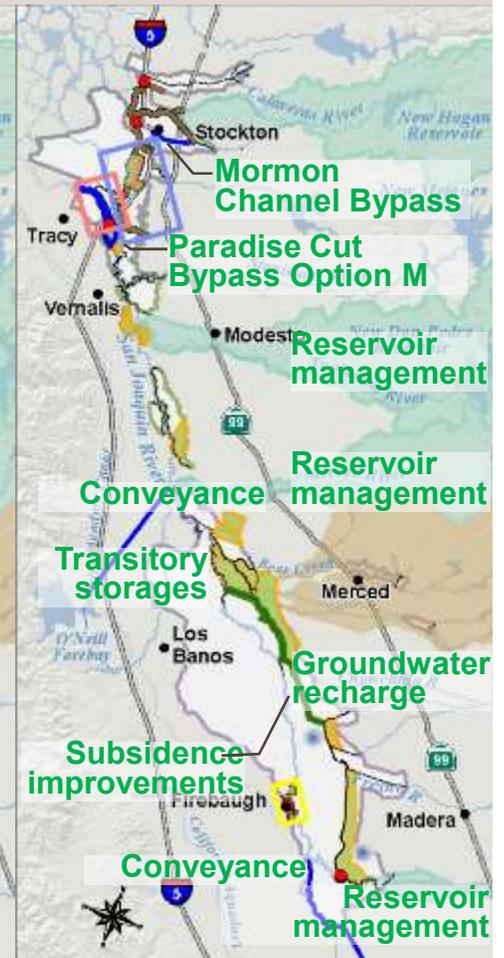
**SJ-B**  
(Raising Urban Levels for Resiliency)



**SJ-C**  
(Flood Storage/ Reoperation)



**SJ-D**  
(Large Scale Enhancement)



# Configuration Performance Summary

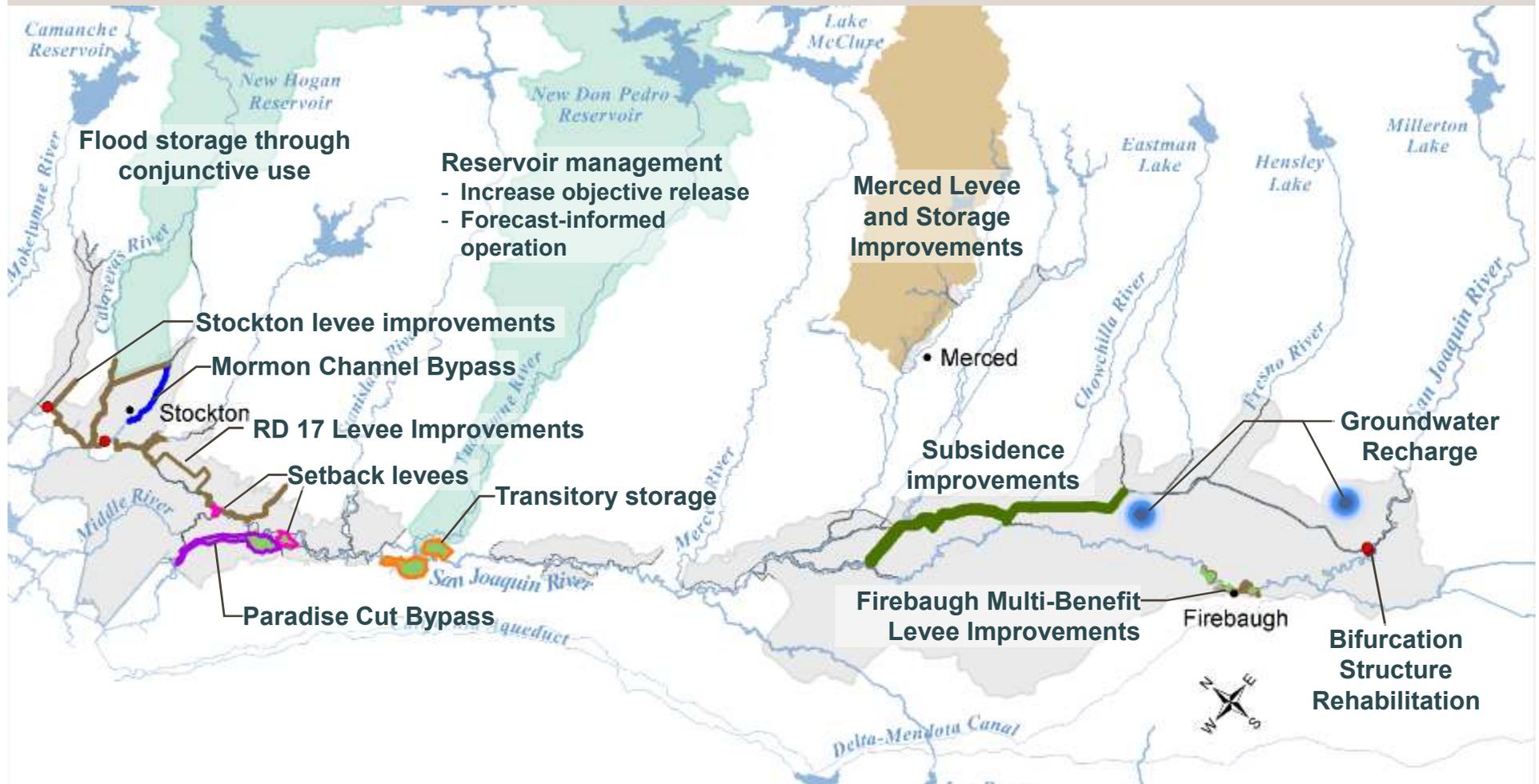
**San Joaquin River Basin-Wide Feasibility Study: Draft System Configuration Performance Summary (2016/05/03)**

Goal	Foundational Goals	Objective Theme	Metric/Benefit Category	Metric	Baseline	SJ-A 2012 CVFPP SSIA	SJ-B Raising Urban Levees for Resiliency	SJ-C Upstream Storage	SJ-D All Elements	Recommended Plan
Improve Flood Risk Management	Public Safety	Improve Flood System Resiliency (Long-Term with Climate Change)	Urban areas with 200-year LOP	Number of urban impact areas that pass a flood event with climate change with a 2% or less probability of levee failure and have sufficient freeboard along the entire impact area	1 of 18	2 of 18	11 of 18	15 of 18	TBD	TBD
			Small communities with 100-year LOP	Number of small community impact areas that pass a 100-year flood event with climate change with a 2% or less probability of levee failure and have sufficient freeboard along the entire impact area	0 of 2	1 of 2	1 of 2	1 of 2	TBD	TBD
			Reduce stages in urban areas	Average Urban Stage Change (feet)	-	(0.26)	(0.8)	(1.65)	TBD	TBD
			Reduce stages in small communities	Average Small Community Stage Change (feet)	-	(0.52)	(0.52)	(0.32)	TBD	TBD
			Reduce stages in rural-agricultural areas	Average Rural-Agricultural Stage Change (feet)	-	(0.04)	(0.03)	(0.64)	TBD	TBD
			Flood damage reduction	Event-Specific Flood Damages for 200-year event with Climate Change (\$ billion)	\$16.93	\$6.43	\$1.99	\$1.72	TBD	TBD
			Life loss reduction	Event-Specific Life Loss for 200-year event with climate change (estimated mortalities)	6,525	1,326	274	194	TBD	TBD
Promote Ecosystem Functions	Ecosystem Vitality	Processes	Inundated floodplain	Inundated Floodplain – total amount of land and EAH for 2-Year EAH (acres)	0	578	578	773	>816	773
			Riverine geomorphic processes	River Meander Potential – total amount (acres)	0	1,190	1,190	1,947	>2,466	2,466
		Habitat	BRA center	Riparian Lined Bank – total length (miles)	0	1.6	1.6	2.4	>4.4	4.4
			Riparian & Marsh	Habitat Amount – total amount in floodway (acres)	0	2,666	2,666	2,795	>27,355	2,853
		Stressors	Fish passage barriers	Passage Barrier – total of high, low, and fence dams	0	0	0	0	0	0
			Invasive plants	Invasive Plant-Dominated Vegetation in Channel Maintenance Areas – total area (acres)	0	9	9	67	>93	67
		Promote Multi-Benefit Projects	Economic Stability	Integrated Water Management	Water supply	Surface Water Benefit (TAF/year)	-	0	0	8
	Groundwater Benefit (TAF/year)				-	0-0.8	0-0.8	0-0.8	N/A	0-30
Water quality	Improvement in Water Quality				-	Low	Low	Low	N/A	Low
Navigation	Navigation Benefit				-	Low	Low	Low	N/A	Low
Commercial fishery	Population Benefit				-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hydropower	Hydropower Benefit		-	None	None	None	N/A	None		
	Ag. Stewardship		Agricultural impact	Ag. land conversion (percentage of total ag land in planning area)	-	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	8.5%	0.7%
Enriching Experiences	Integrate Water Management	Recreation	Potential Visitor use Days per Year	-	15,391	95,300-169,550	95,300-169,550	N/A	>95,300-169,550	
		Open space	Residential Parcels within 0.5 mile of Configuration Boundary	-	1,759	5,619	5,619	N/A	>5,619	
Cost Efficiency	Annual O&M and repair costs			\$ million	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$28
	Total Capital Costs			\$ billion	-	\$0.9	\$1.1	\$1.4	>\$8.7	\$2.0
	Annualized Capital Cost (Interest Rate = 8%, 60 year planning period)			\$ million	-	\$58	\$70	\$115	>\$582	\$156

See Handout

N/A = Not available  
TBD = To be determined  
WORKING DRAFT – Subject to Revision. Not for Distribution.

# Tentative Recommended Plan



# Tentative Recommended Plan Outcomes

- **95%** life loss reduction from 200-year event with climate change
- **1-3 feet** stage reduction in urban and rural areas
- Flood protection for disadvantaged small communities like Firebaugh
- Almost **3,000 acres** of riparian and wetland habitats
- **Almost 800 acres** of inundated floodplain habitat
- Up to **30,000 acre feet** of water supply/year
- **100,000+** potential recreation visitor use days/year

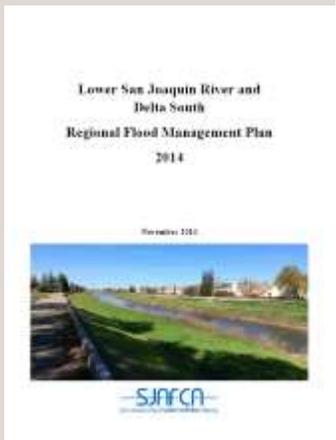
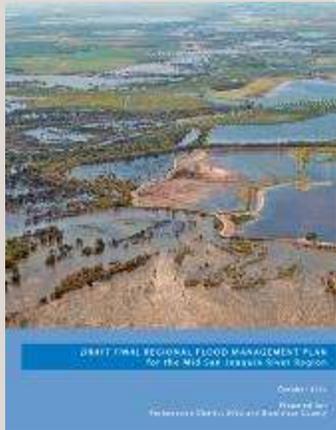


# Alignment with RFMPs



Region	Key Regional Priorities	BWFS Tentative Recommended Plan
<b>Upper San Joaquin</b>	Small Community Level of Protection for Firebaugh	✓
	Urban Level of Protection for Merced	✓
	Groundwater Recharge	✓
	Subsidence Improvements	✓
	Hydraulic Structure Improvements	✓

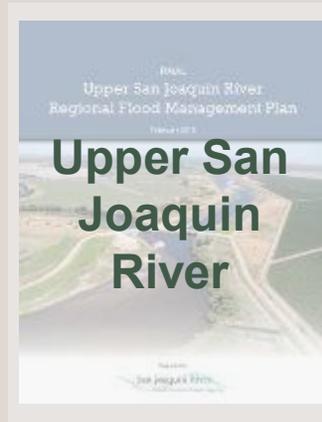
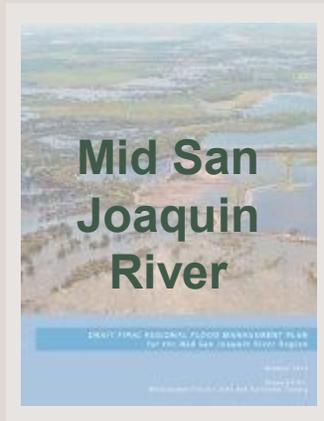
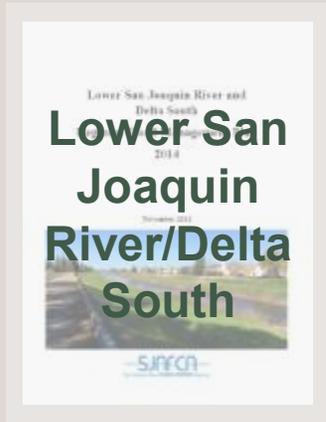
# Alignment with RFMPs



Region	Key Regional Priorities	BWFS Tentative Recommended Plan
Mid-San Joaquin	Multi-Benefit Transitory Storage	✓
	Improve Upstream Reservoir Operations	✓
Lower San Joaquin/ Delta South	Urban Level of Protection for Stockton, Lathrop/Manteca	✓
	Calaveras River Watershed Reservoir Operations/Flood Storage	✓
	Multi-benefit Bypasses for Resiliency	✓
	Multi-benefit Projects Near Vernalis Corridor	✓

# Stakeholder Engagement

## Regional Flood Management Planning



## Federal Agencies



## Reservoir Operators



## Resource Agencies



## Environmental NGOs



## Central Valley Flood Protection Board



# Key Findings

- San Joaquin River Basin resource problems are likely to get worse in the future with climate change, sea-level rise and subsidence.
- A diverse portfolio of management actions is needed to provide flood system resiliency and achieve CVFPP goals. Potential synergies across actions require systems approach.
- Paradise Cut bypass expansion can provide significant stage reduction and ecosystem restoration benefits

# Key Findings

- Stockton has largest flood risk in entire basin. Levee improvements, floodwalls and closure structures likely most effective actions to address highest risk areas.
- Significant multi-benefit opportunities exist to restore floodplain and riparian habitats along San Joaquin River corridor. Opportunities tempered by hydrologic alterations and limitations that result in limited floodplain inundation.
- Floodplain transitory storage can provide wise use of the floodplain because of its ability to provide nonstructural risk reduction and important ecosystem restoration benefits.

# Key Findings

- Tuolumne River watershed is the most promising watershed for potential reservoir management actions.
- A small amount of additional flood storage could significantly reduce stages for large flood events along Calaveras River.
- Groundwater recharge has limited potential to reduce flood stages, but can play a role in mitigating future subsidence.
- In Firebaugh, multi-benefit opportunities exist and are much more likely to achieve potential State interest than single-purpose flood improvements.

# Next Steps

- San Joaquin River BWFS Report Stakeholder Draft - Late Summer/Early Fall 2016
- San Joaquin River BWFS Report Revised Draft – Date TBD
- BWFS recommendations/findings integrated with 2017 CVFPP Update
- Further coordination/refinement through 2017 CVFPP Update

# Questions and Discussion



# Closing Comments

