

THE NEED FOR REGIONAL MASS EVACUATION PLANNING

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Overview

1. Complexities of Mass Evacuation
2. Regional 2003 Evacuation Planning
3. Sutter and Yolo County Perspective



Background

1. Regional Evacuation Planning Effort 2003

- a. Recognized the need for **regional** evacuation planning
- b. Large Region: 11 counties, State OES Inland Region, Valley Division CHP, and Caltrans Districts 3 & 10
- c. Basic Concepts and Preliminary Work Completed in 2003
- d. **Plan was not Implemented**



2. Subsequent Local Actions

Background

Coordination for Large Scale Movement is Complex and Involves a lot of Partners

- a. CHP
- b. Caltrans
- c. Local Fuel Providers
- d. Commercial Real Estate Agents
- e. Levee Maintaining Agency Representatives
- f. County/City Office of Emergency Services
- g. Local Police and/or Sheriff Offices
- h. Local Fire Districts
- i. Local Charities



Evacuation Center, February 2017

The BIG Differences and Challenges of Mass Evacuations

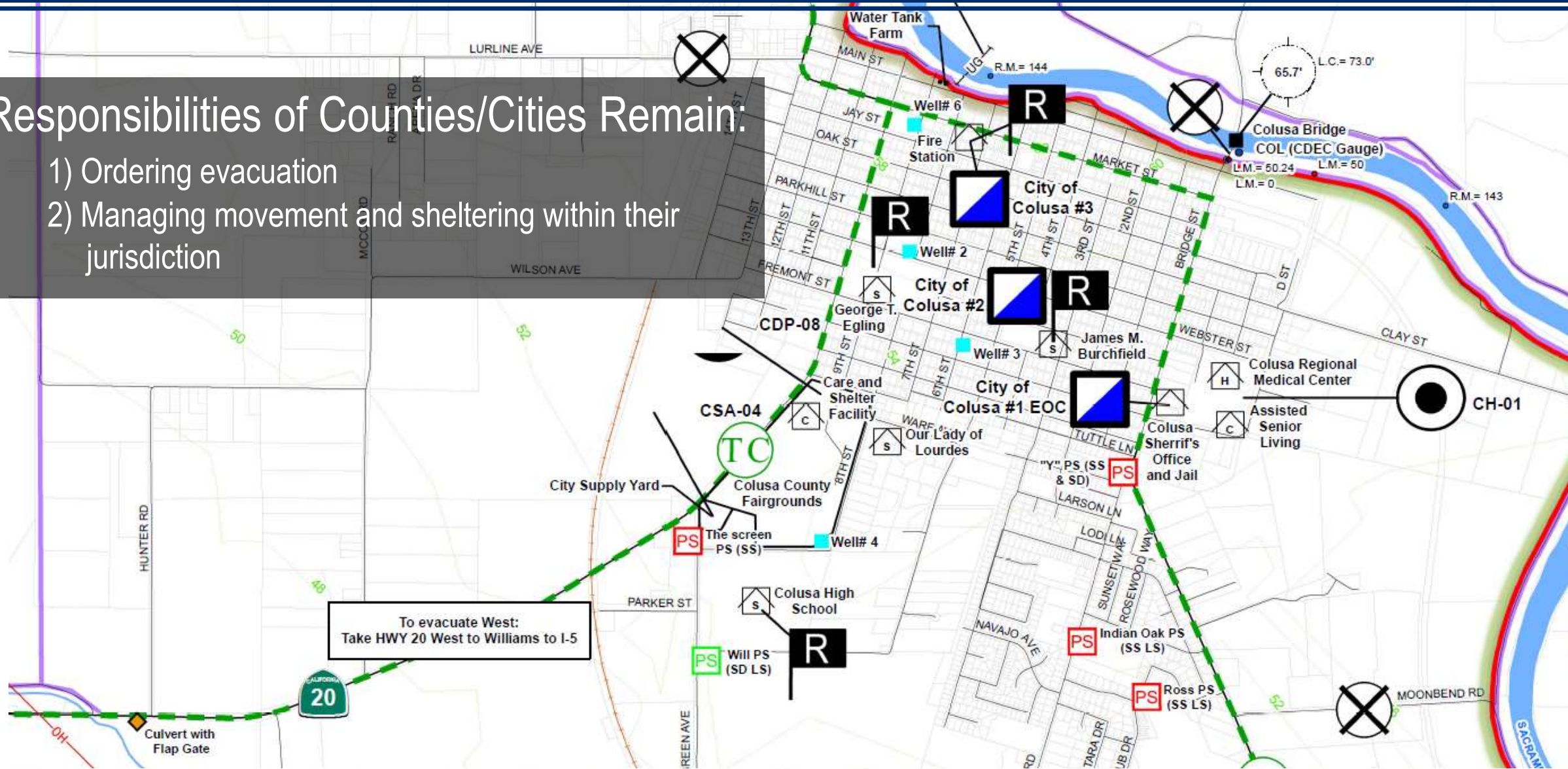
1. Large scale movement **across county lines** makes normal incident command protocols unworkable
2. Highly complex operation
3. Essential practical actions and equipment purchases must be made **in advance**
4. Joint planning among numerous jurisdictions over a large area



Oroville Evacuation, Feb. 2017

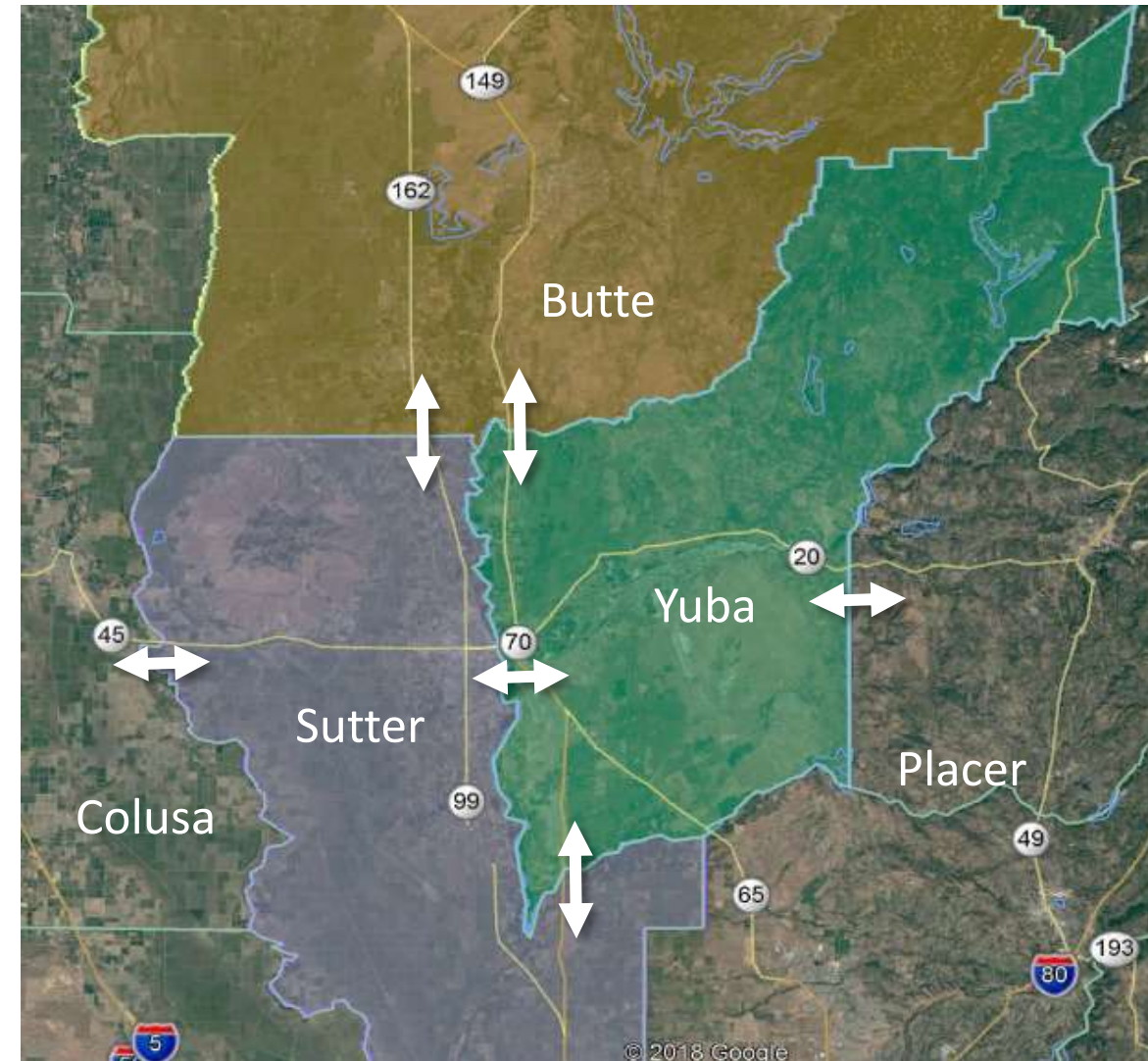
Inland Region Evacuation Planning Assumptions

- Responsibilities of Counties/Cities Remain:
 - 1) Ordering evacuation
 - 2) Managing movement and sheltering within their jurisdiction



Inland Region Evacuation Planning Assumptions

- Responsibilities of Counties/Cities Remain:
 - 1) Ordering evacuation
 - 2) Managing movement and sheltering remain within their jurisdiction
- But the **Region** would implement and control large scale movement across county lines
 - 1) Manage movement and evacuee movement assistance
 - 2) Manage regional shelter plan and operations
- Evacuation movement would be in all directions and on all trafficable highways



Establish Regional Operational Control

Regional Evacuation Management Team

- Would have operated from a Caltrans traffic management center
- Manage Mass Traffic Movement
- Identify Shelter Locations with Local Partners



Shelter in Sutter HS, Feb 2017

Evacuation Control and Assistance Points (ECAPS)

ECAPs Would Need to Be Pre-Identified

- Located at County Lines to Facilitate Movement
- 23 ECAPs have:
 1. Road signs for nearest open shelter
 2. Fuel trucks to provide emergency fuel
 3. Tow trucks to clear blockages
 4. Ambulances
 5. Traffic control personnel



Oroville Evac. Feb. 2017

Practical Issues - Fuel

- **No Plan in Place**
Everyone heads for the local gas station
- **Can 5-gallon fuel cans help emergency refueling in a mass evacuation?**
- **Equipment to refuel cars from large fuel tenders is not readily available**
- **Pre-plan and stage fuel truck attachments**



An evacuation order prompted by the erosion of the emergency spillway at Oroville Dam produced lines of vehicles on Bogue Road at Highway 99, coming out of Yuba City. **Andy Furillo** - The Sacramento Bee

Practical Issues –Provide Updated Information to Evacuees

Provide Updated Information to Public

- Shelters will fill up and new ones will open in a dynamic rapidly changing situation
- Evacuees will need information on location of ECAPs
- Low-frequency radio transmitters managed by Regional Management Team



Gonzalo Madrigal of Yuba City sleeps in his car in the parking lot of Sutter High School Jan. 4. About 20 members of his family slept in eight cars in the lot because the shelter was full.

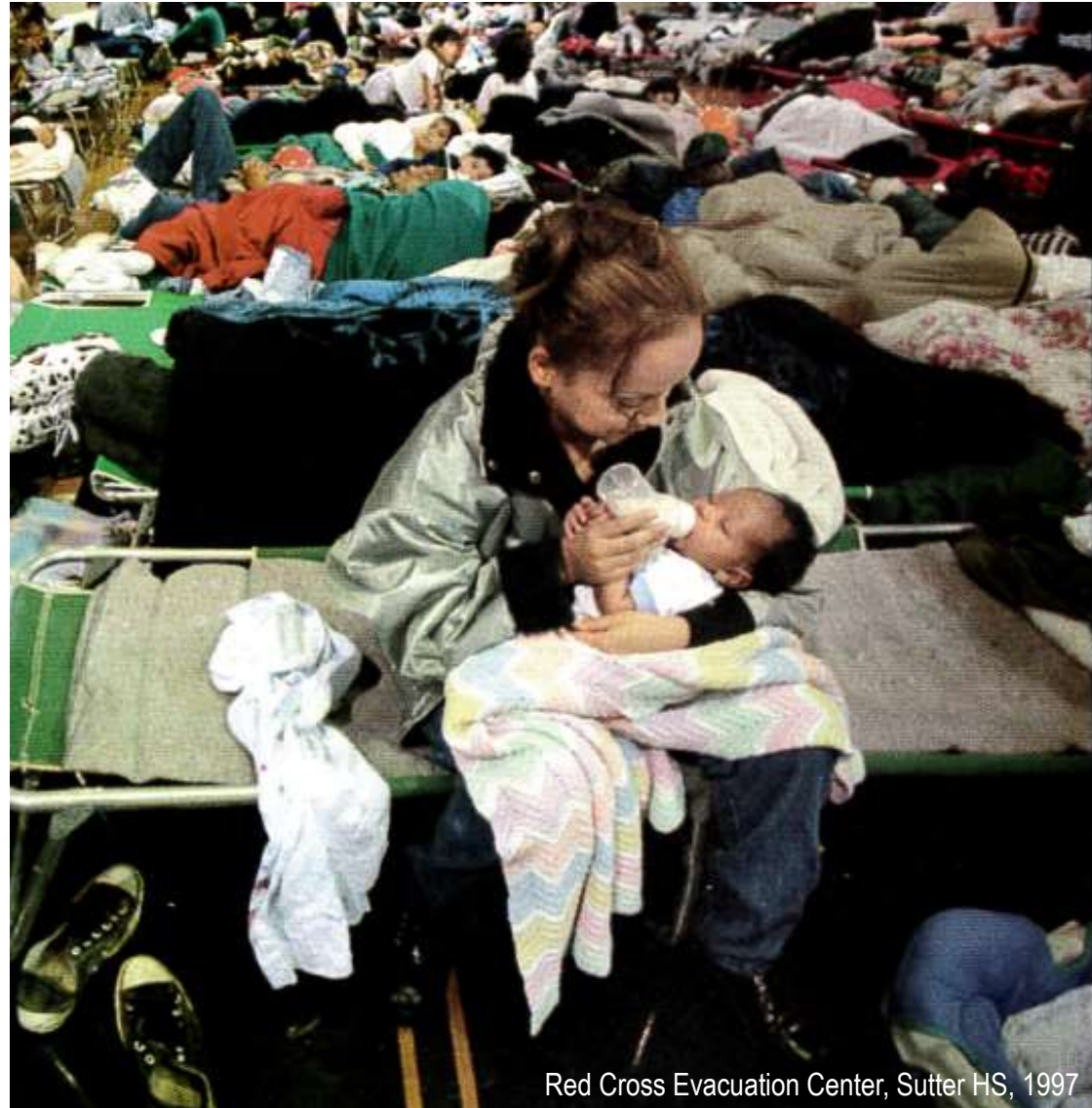
CRAIG KOHLRUSS

Evacuees Outside Sutter HS, 1997



Regional Shelter Plan

1. Two Zones in a Stricken Area:
Active Zone and **Preparation Zone**
2. Regional Management Team and Local Shelter Team Select Shelter Locations
3. Regional Management Team passes information to ECAPS for Distribution to the Public



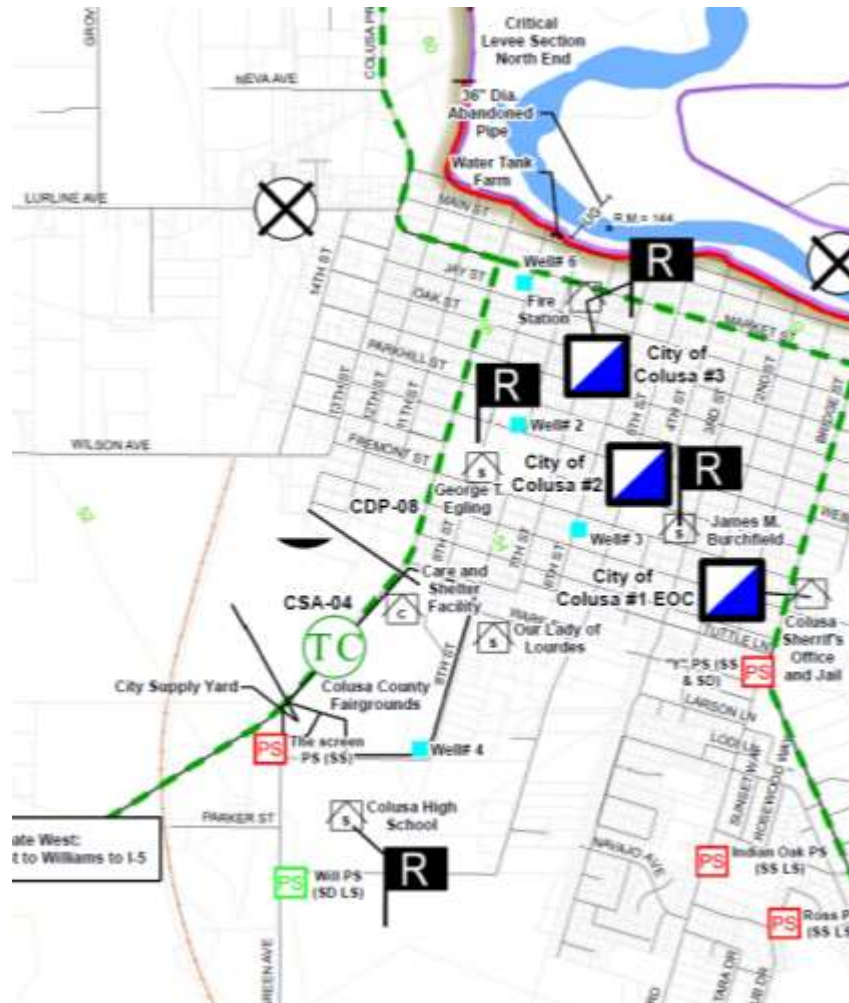
LEFT:

Vanessa Castorana, 15, of Yuba City feeds her friend's 3-week-old son Justin Stephens at the Red Cross evacuation center on high ground at Sutter High School Jan. 2. More than 6,000 people filled the school while thousands more took shelter in private homes, swelling Sutter's normal population of 2,500 to an estimated 30,000.

CRAIG KOHLRUSS

Red Cross Evacuation Center, Sutter HS, 1997

Subsequent Local Actions



Evacuation Maps



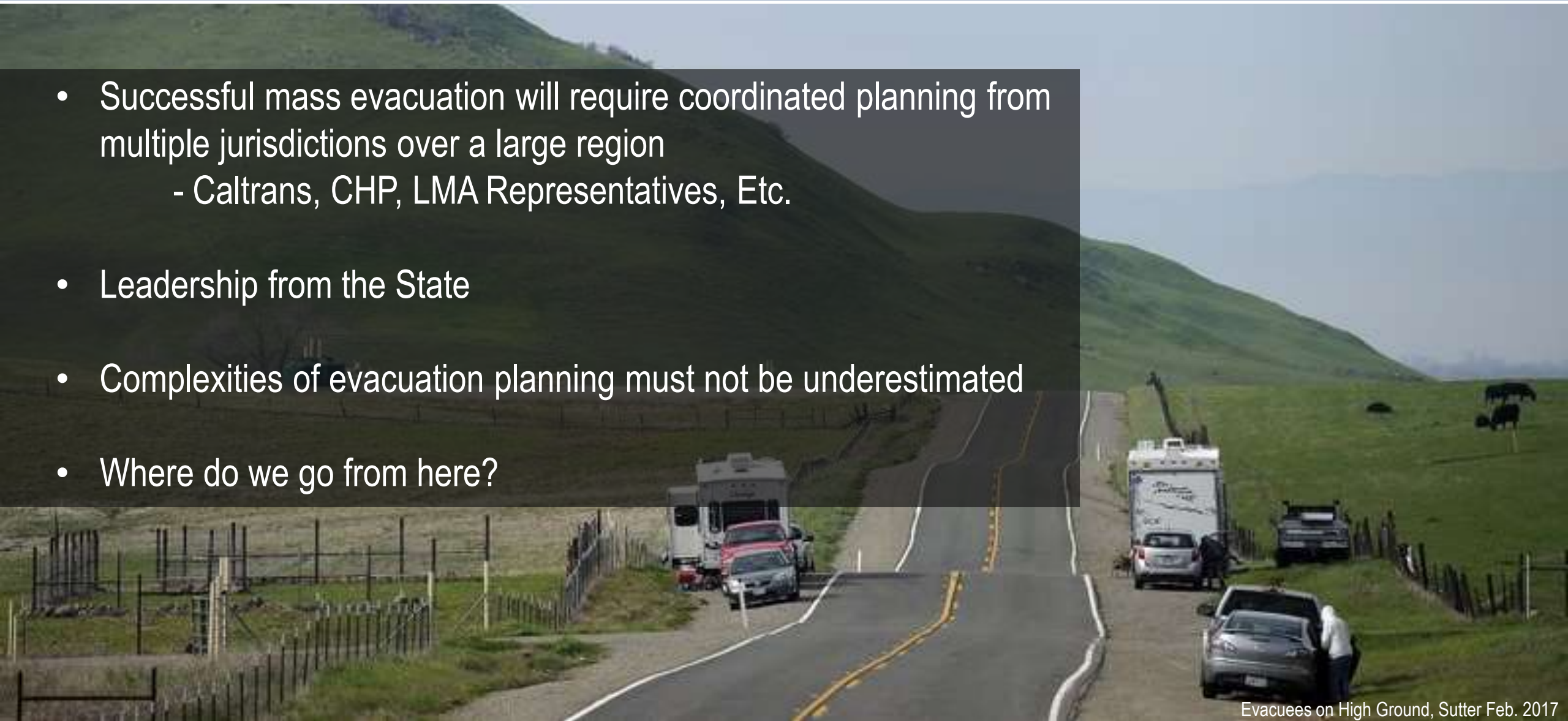
Mobile Radio Transmitters



Fueling Attachments

Background Summary

- Successful mass evacuation will require coordinated planning from multiple jurisdictions over a large region
 - Caltrans, CHP, LMA Representatives, Etc.
- Leadership from the State
- Complexities of evacuation planning must not be underestimated
- Where do we go from here?



Evacuees on High Ground, Sutter Feb. 2017

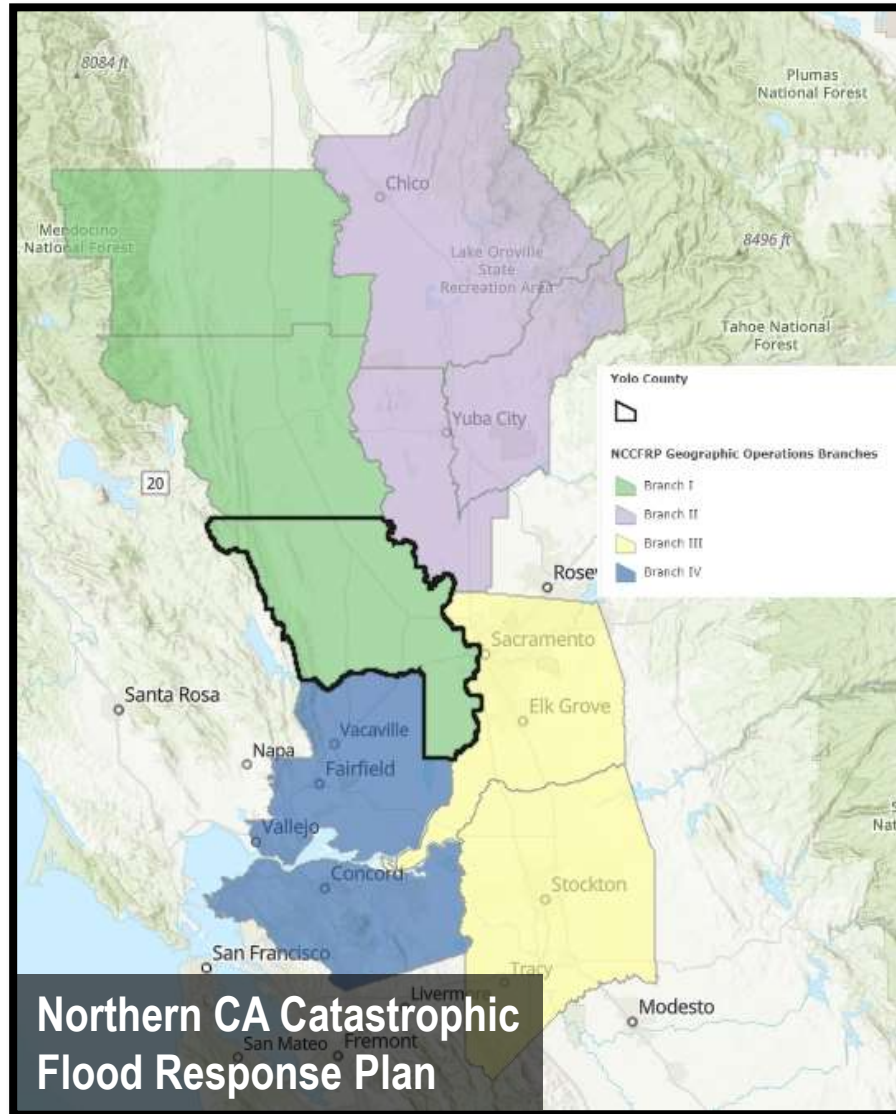
What Has Happened Since Oroville?

Agencies Develop Conflicting Plans:

- State's Oroville Dam Evacuation Planning
- Northern California Catastrophic Flood Response Plan with an Evacuation Component
- Local Flood Response Planning with Evacuation Maps
- Various counties are either developing or updating their own evacuations plans



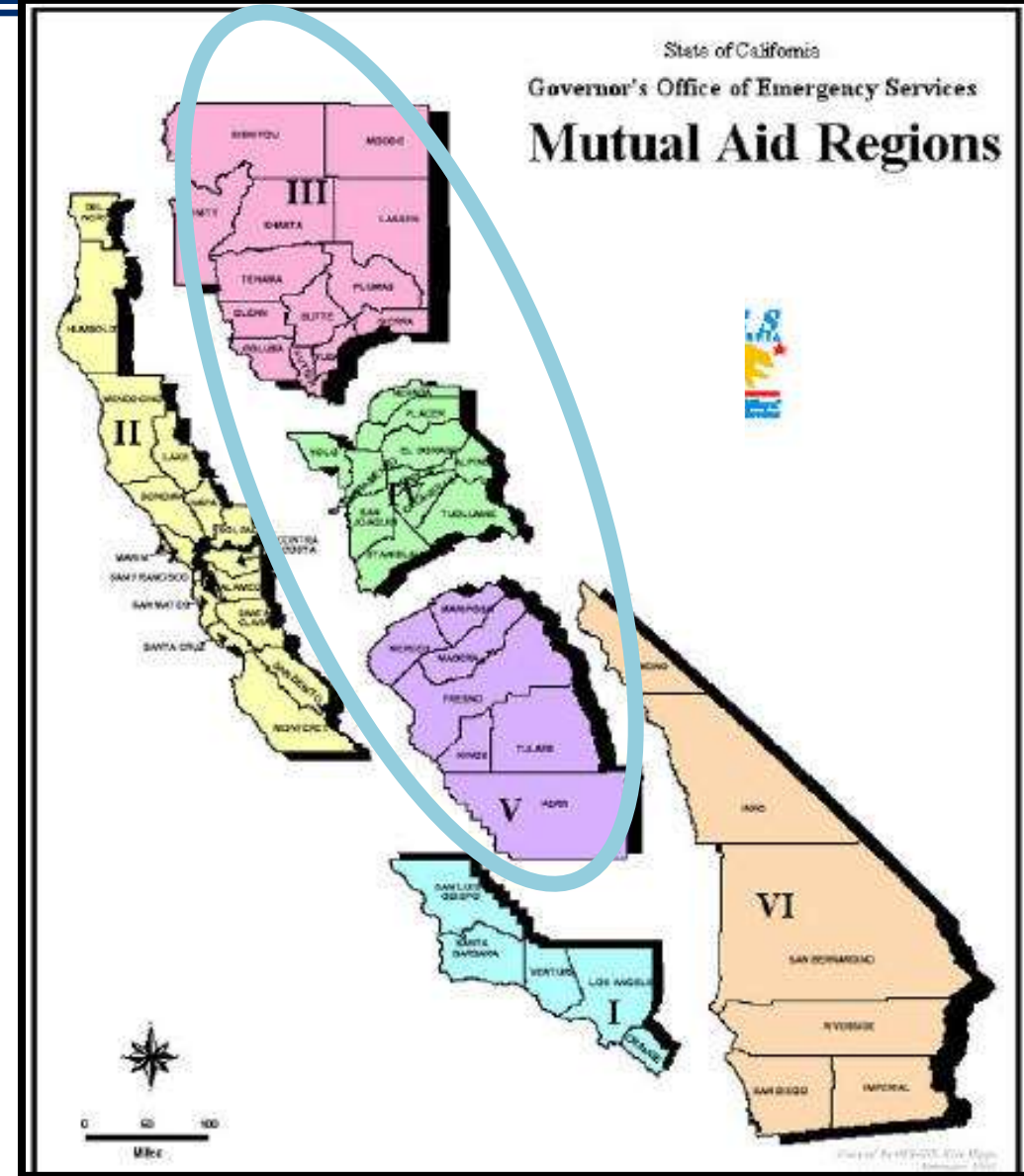
New Plan Examples



What Is Happening Now Regionally?

Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committees (MARAC)

- Established through legal authority
- Regions 3, 4, and 5 are attempting to revive the Inland Region's 2003 Regional Evacuation Planning Effort
- Promotes close coordination **in advance of a disaster or emergency** with local agencies (Cal OES and Locals)



Back to Basics

Communication and Coordination Between Partners

- Maintaining Relationships with Neighbors and Response Partners
 - Eliminate silo planning
- Cross-functional education for different elements of response (response planners, engineers, LMAs, etc.)
- Understanding Emergency Planning Concepts
 - Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)
 - National Incident Management System (NIMS)



What Do We Want To Do Regionally In The Future

More Emphasis on:

- Regional, Multi-jurisdictional Planning (Advance the MARAC Process)
- Identifying Changes in Law to Optimize Response
- Allocating Funding Resources to the Regional Planning

Less Emphasis on :

- Event-specific Modeling
- Isolated, Single-agency Plans



Contact

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THANK YOU

FLOOD OF 1997