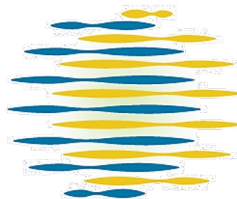


# MERCED RIVER WATERSHED STUDY

*IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION OF ECOSYSTEM EFFECTS*

KARANDEV SINGH (KARANDEV.SINGH@WATER.CA.GOV) | CWEMF ANNUAL MEETING | 4/5/2022



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# Session 16. Merced River Flood-MAR Study

1. Overview
2. Water Available for Recharge and Water Supply and Flood Risk Benefits
- 3. In-depth Discussion of Ecosystem Effects**
4. Multi-sector Performance Using Risk-based Analytics

# Results → Metrics → Sector Performance



## Watershed Conditions

Upper Watershed Runoff

Applied Demand

Water Available For Recharge (WAFR)



## Water Supply/ Groundwater (GW)

GW Pumping

$\Delta$  GW Storage

$\Delta$  GW Levels in Disadvantaged Communities



## Water Supply/ Surface Water (SW)

Lake McClure Storage

SW Deliveries



## Flood Risk

Merced River Flood Conditions



## Ecosystem

GDE Habitat

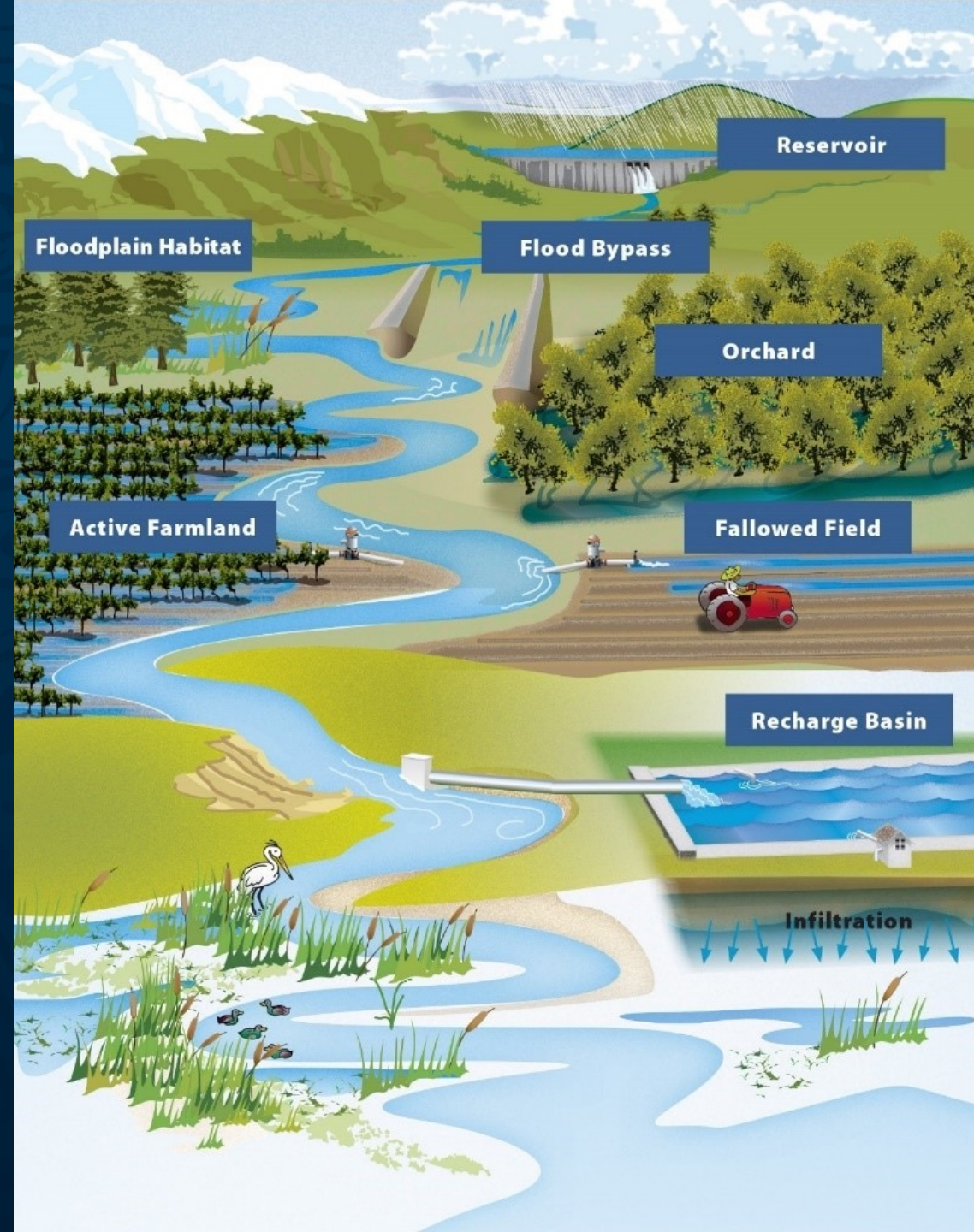
Merced River Salmonid Habitat

Shorebird Habitat



# Ecosystem Sector

- Benefits of Flood-MAR to flood risk and water supply are clear.
- Benefits are expected for non-aquatic species (trees, shorebirds) that rely on groundwater and surface water affected by recharge actions.
- Aquatic species reliant on in-stream flow may see benefits and impacts





# Ecosystem Objectives

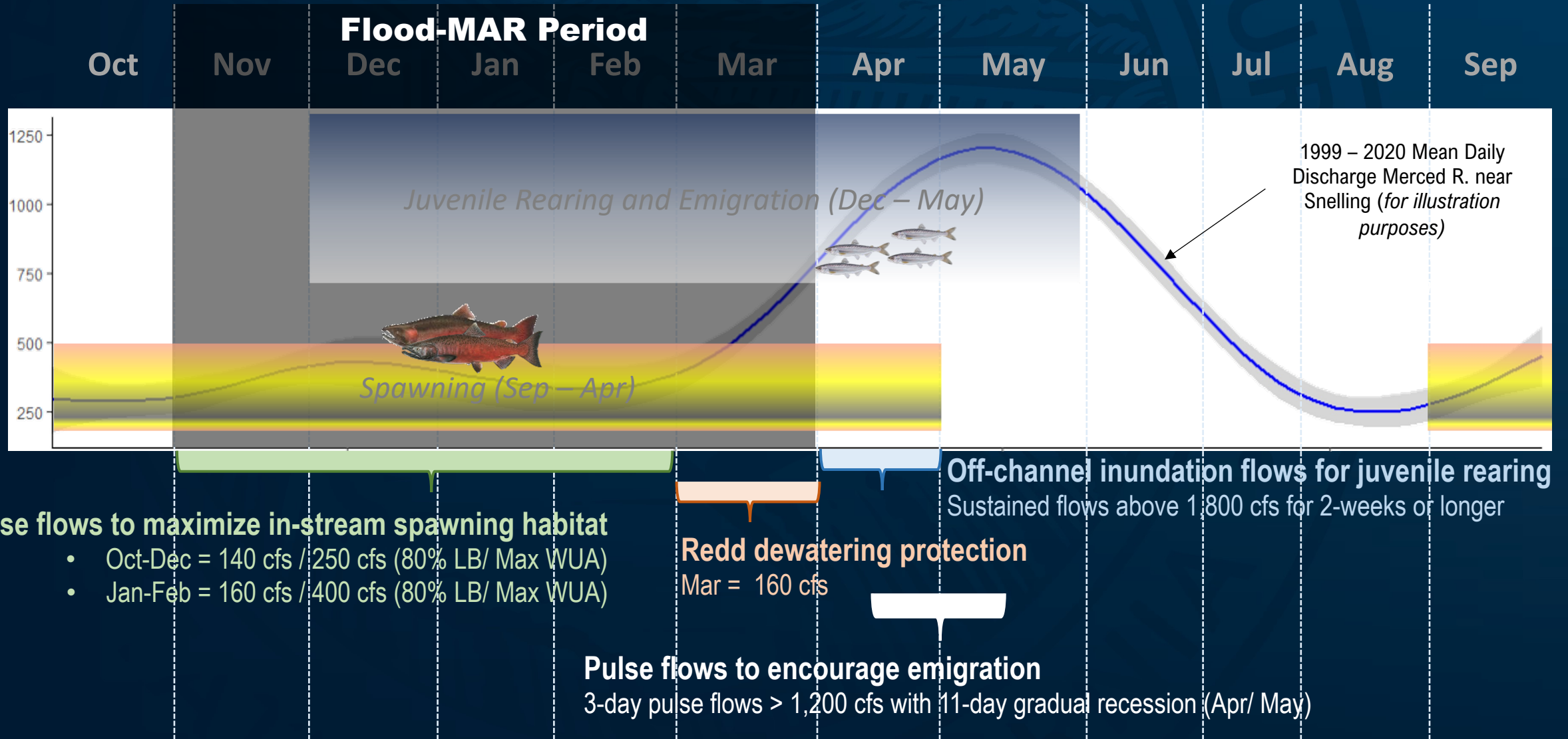
- Evaluate the potential effects of Flood-MAR on Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem species (GDEs), salmonids, shorebirds
- Provide recommendations for how reservoir re-operations and infrastructure enhancements can minimize impacts and provide potential benefits for salmonids

# Scenario Overview

1. **Baseline**
2. Level 1 Intermediate **“Recharge-only”**
  - High flows using existing infrastructure
  - Passively managed ecosystem
3. Level 3 **FIRO-MAR**
  - High flows + Reservoir Reoperation + Infrastructure Improvement
  - Set higher winter base releases to maximize spawning habitat area
  - Repurposed winter and spring runoff for eco releases made in April-May (spring pulse flows, off-channel inundation flows etc.)
  - Improved off-channel habitat

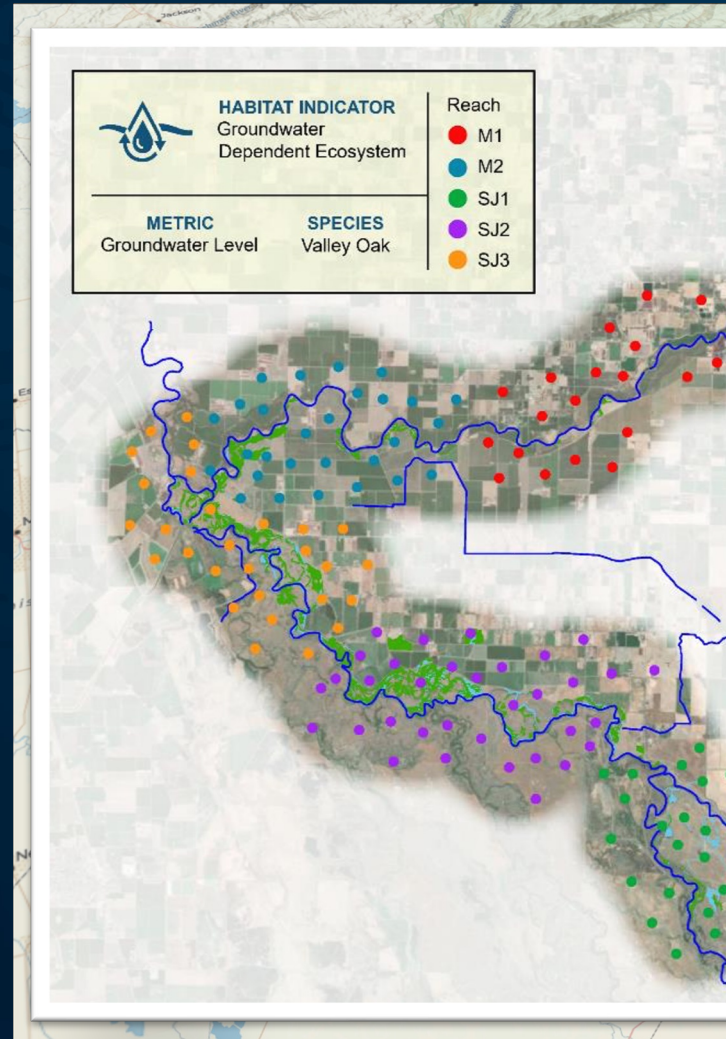


# Level 2/3 Eco-operations



# Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)

- GDEs are plant and animal communities that require groundwater to meet some or all water needs
- Provide water purification, flood mitigation, base flow in rivers, and recreation opportunities
- We evaluated the effects of Flood-MAR actions relative to rooting depths of key tree species



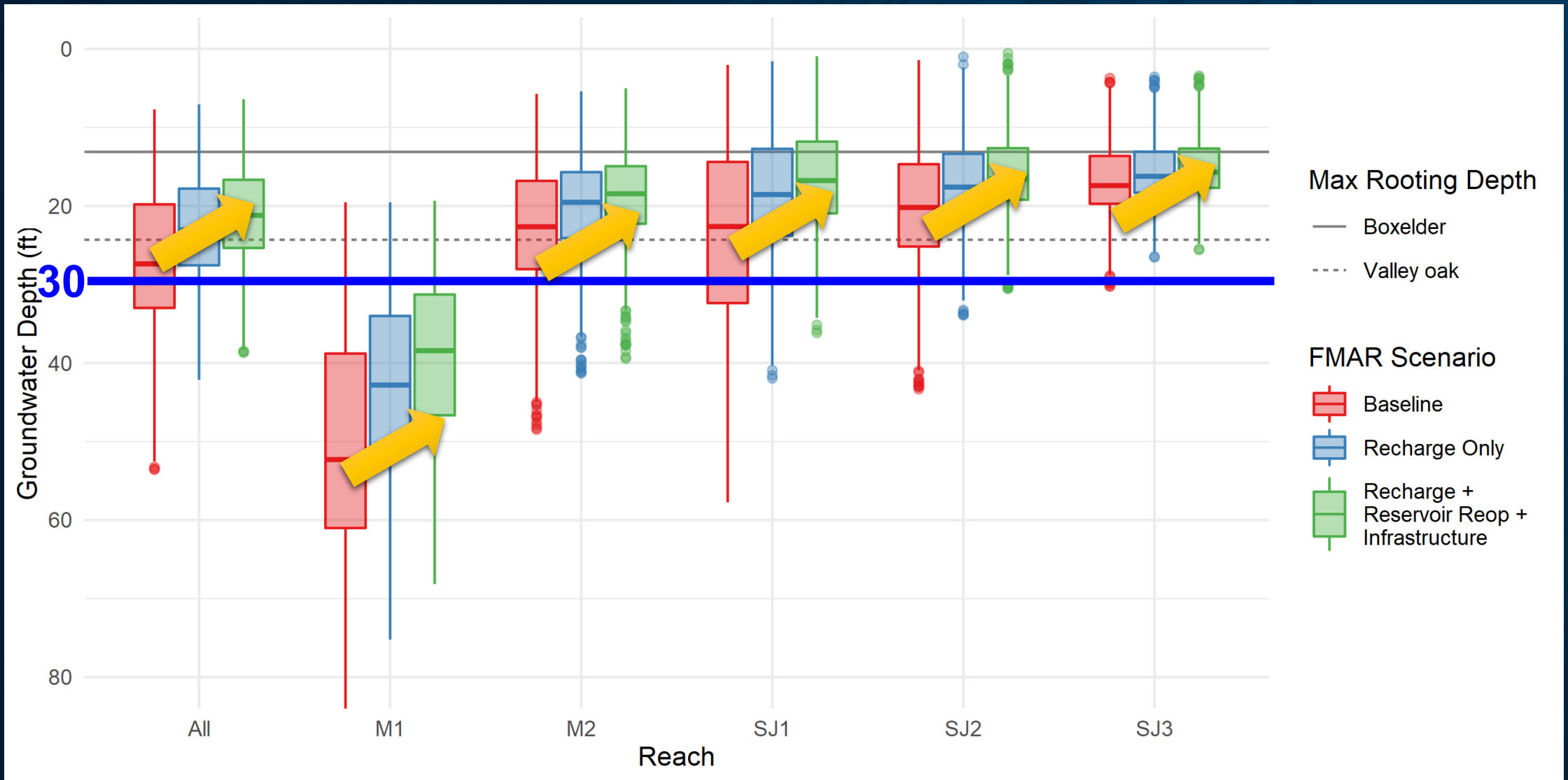
## GDE Rooting Depth

Dominant Species Common Name	Rooting Depth (feet)
Valley oak	24.31
Boxelder	13.12
Goodding's black willow	6.89
Fremont cottonwood	6.89
Hinds' walnut	5.91
Narrow-leaved cattail	0.89
Narrow-leaved willow	NA
Common tule	NA
Mugwort	NA
Blackberry	NA
Arroyo willow	NA

**Max rooting depth of 30 feet  
(Merced Sub-basin GSP, 2019)**



# Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems



# System Performance

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline Current Conditions

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline DT3DP1.1 Scenario

Performance Indicator: **Decline** | No significant change | **Improvement**

Preliminary Results – Subject to Change

				VULNERABILITY		ADAPTATION PERFORMANCE	
				CURRENT	DT3DP1.1	DT3DP1.1	
				BASELINE		L1 INTERM.	L3 FIRO-MAR
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<b>Ecosystem</b>	GDE Habitat	% Months with GW Levels ≤ 30 feet	Percent	77	<b>70</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>83</b>

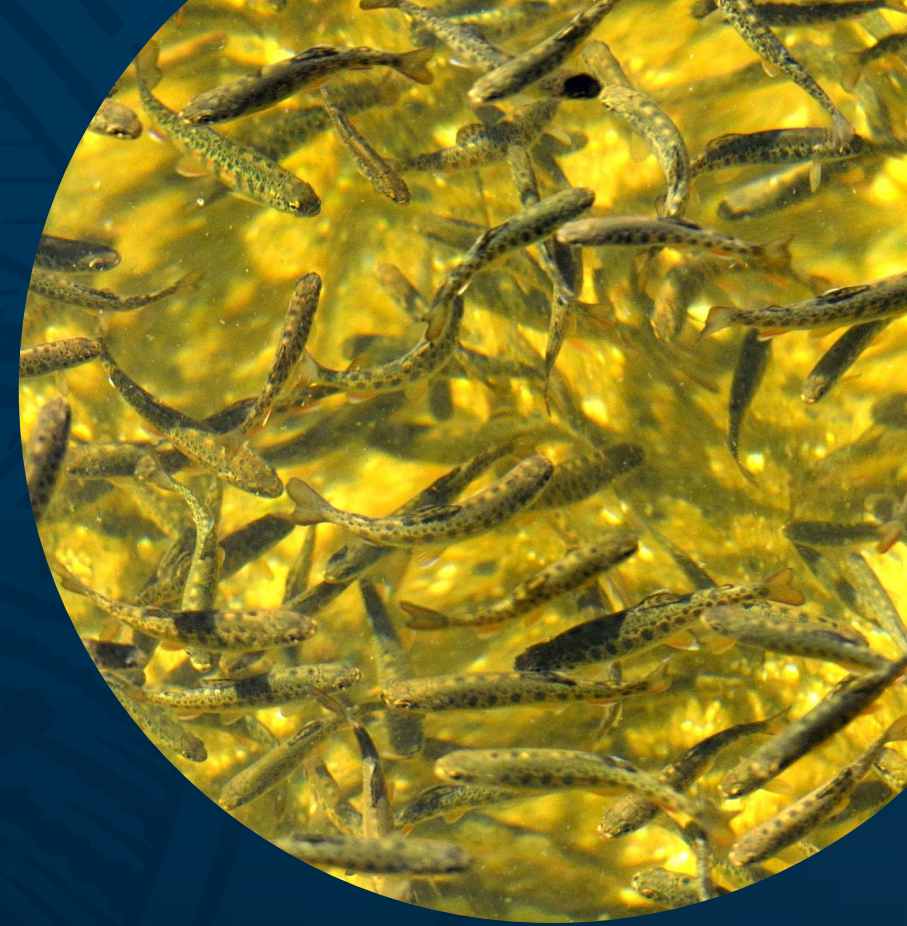




# Salmonid Habitat

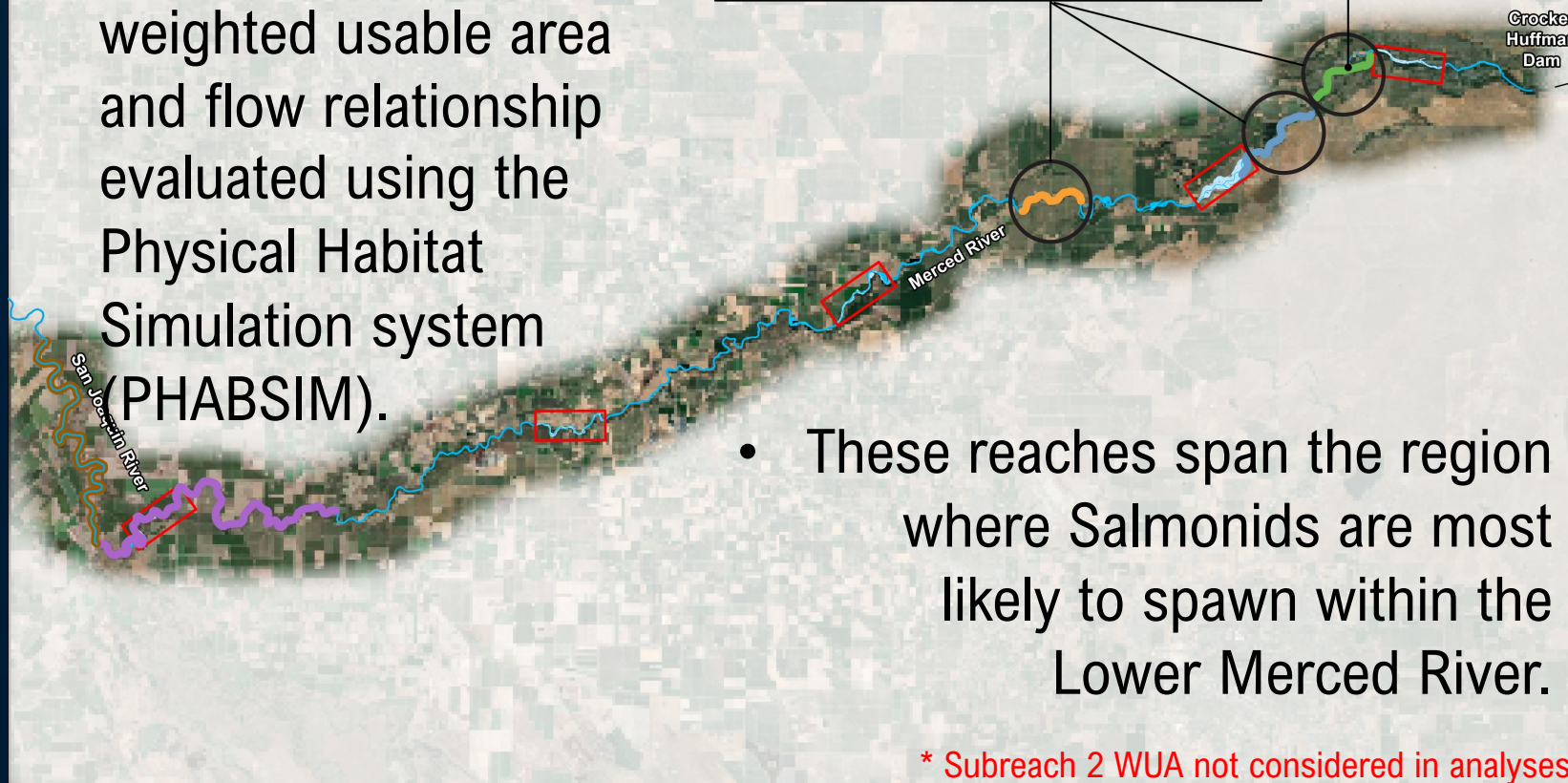
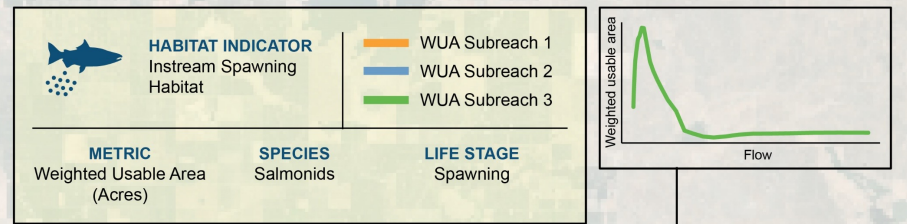
- Require freshwater for spawning and rearing
- Dependent on adequate depths, velocities, substrates, and cool temps
- Life stages evaluated: spawning, rearing, juvenile emigration
  - In-stream spawning habitat
  - Potential\* seasonally inundated off-channel juvenile rearing habitat

*\*Without improvement, off-channel habitat very limited in Merced River currently.*



# Instream Salmonid Spawning Habitat

- Tracking the spawning habitat at Subreach 1 and 3 using the weighted usable area and flow relationship evaluated using the Physical Habitat Simulation system (PHABSIM).

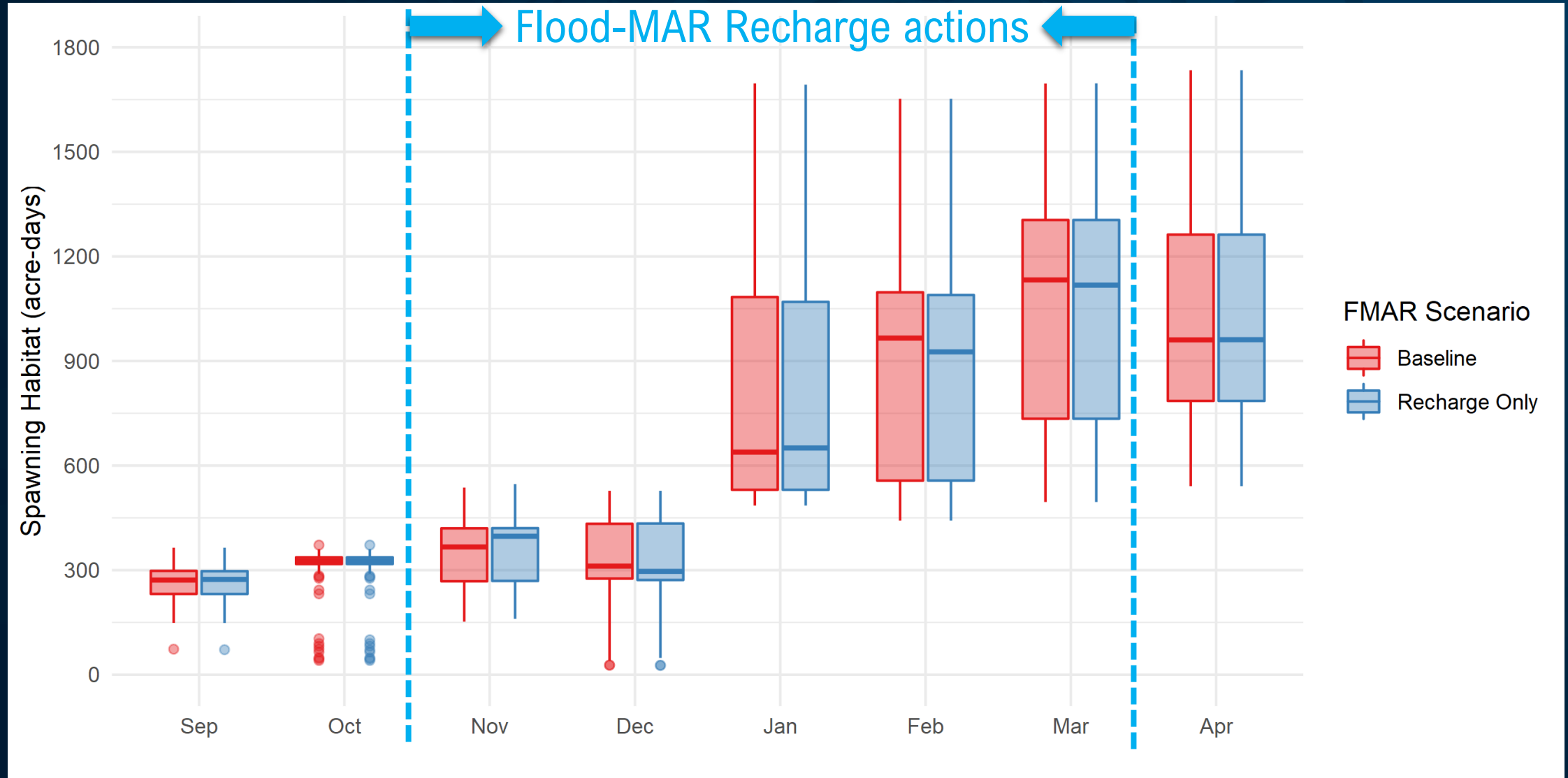


- These reaches span the region where Salmonids are most likely to spawn within the Lower Merced River.

\* Subreach 2 WUA not considered in analyses



# Instream Salmonid Spawning Habitat

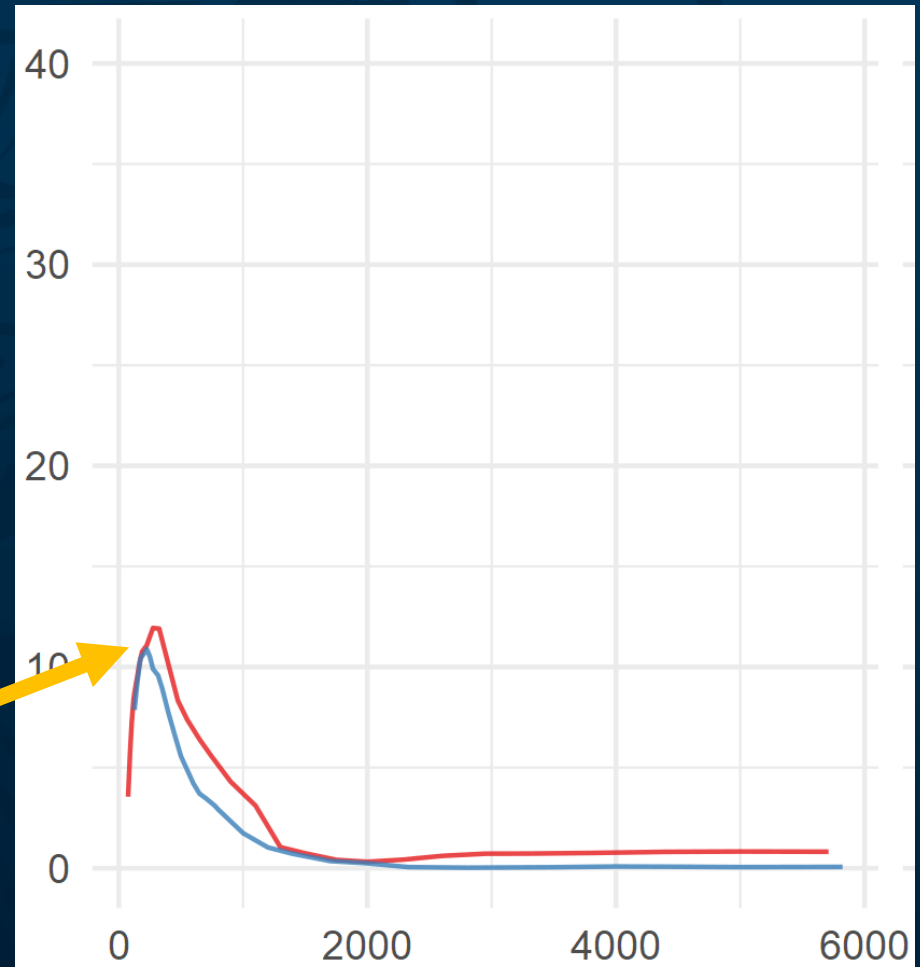




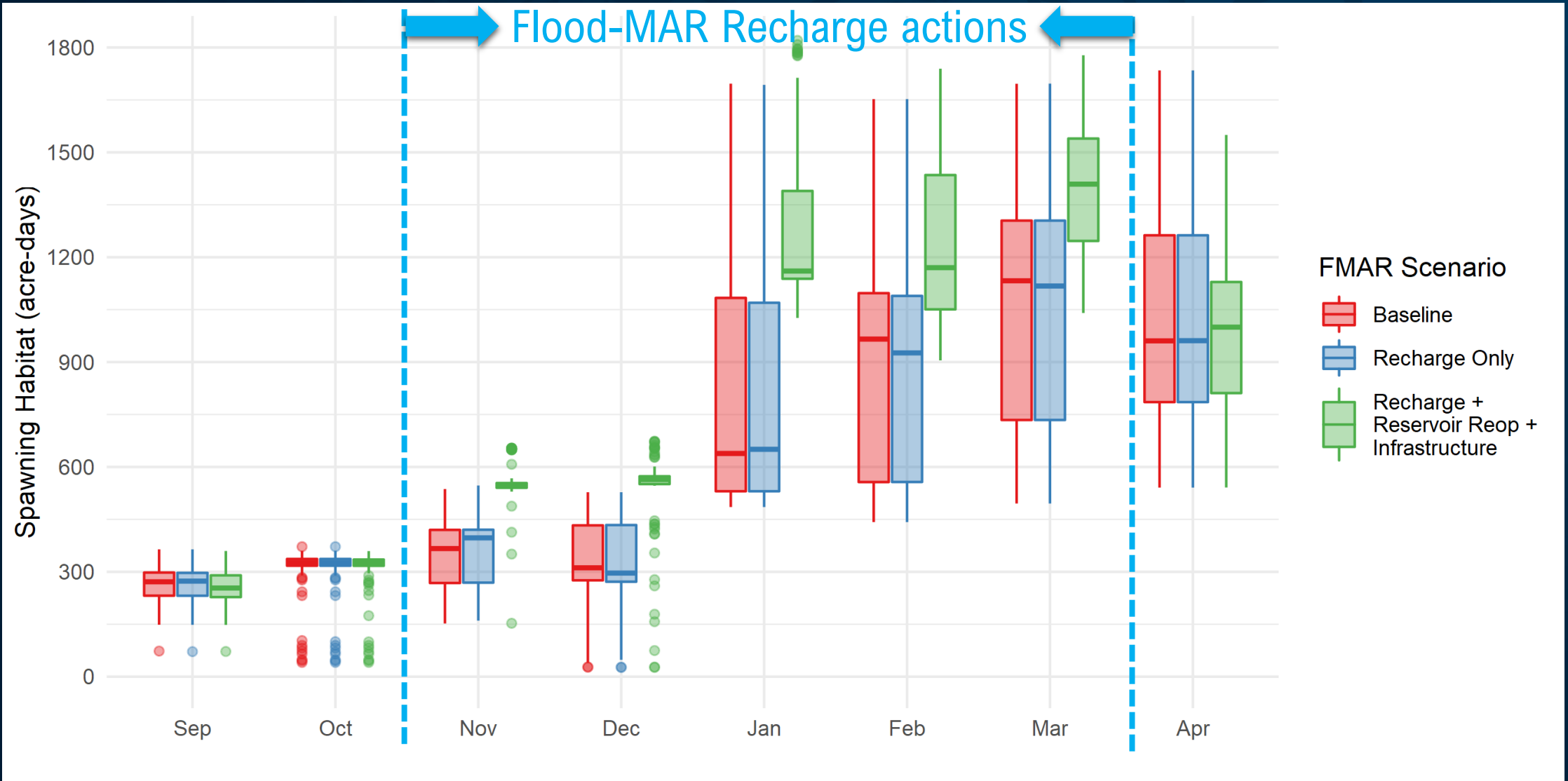
# Instream Spawning Habitat

Recommended Level 3 FIRO-MAR reservoir reoperation:

- Re-operate reservoir to maximize spawning habitat of salmonids by maintaining flows at the following levels
  - Oct-Dec = 140 - 400 cfs
  - Jan-Feb = 160 – 800 cfs
  - Mar = 160 cfs



# Instream Salmonid Spawning Habitat



# System Performance

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline Current Conditions

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline DT3DP1.1 Scenario

Performance Indicator: **Decline** | No significant change | **Improvement**

Preliminary Results – Subject to Change

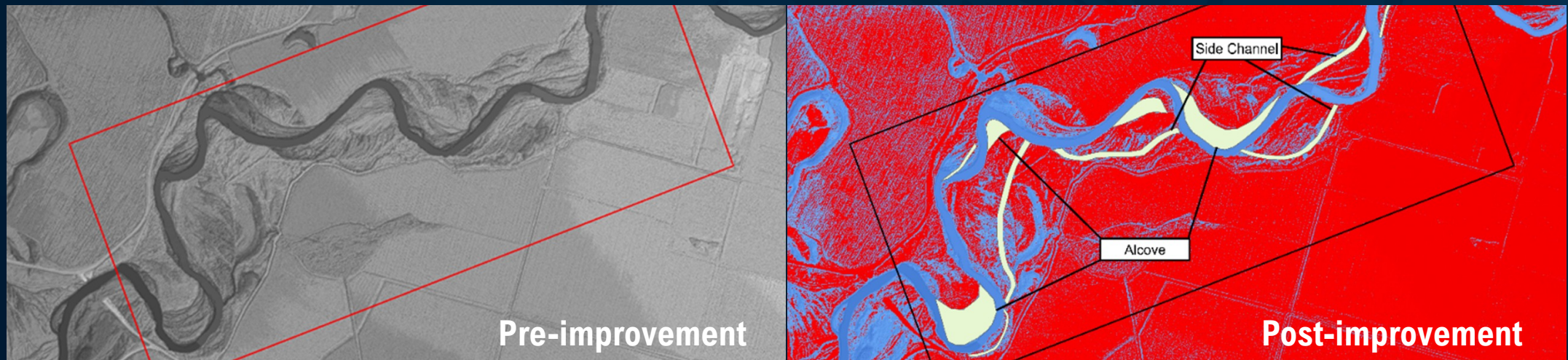
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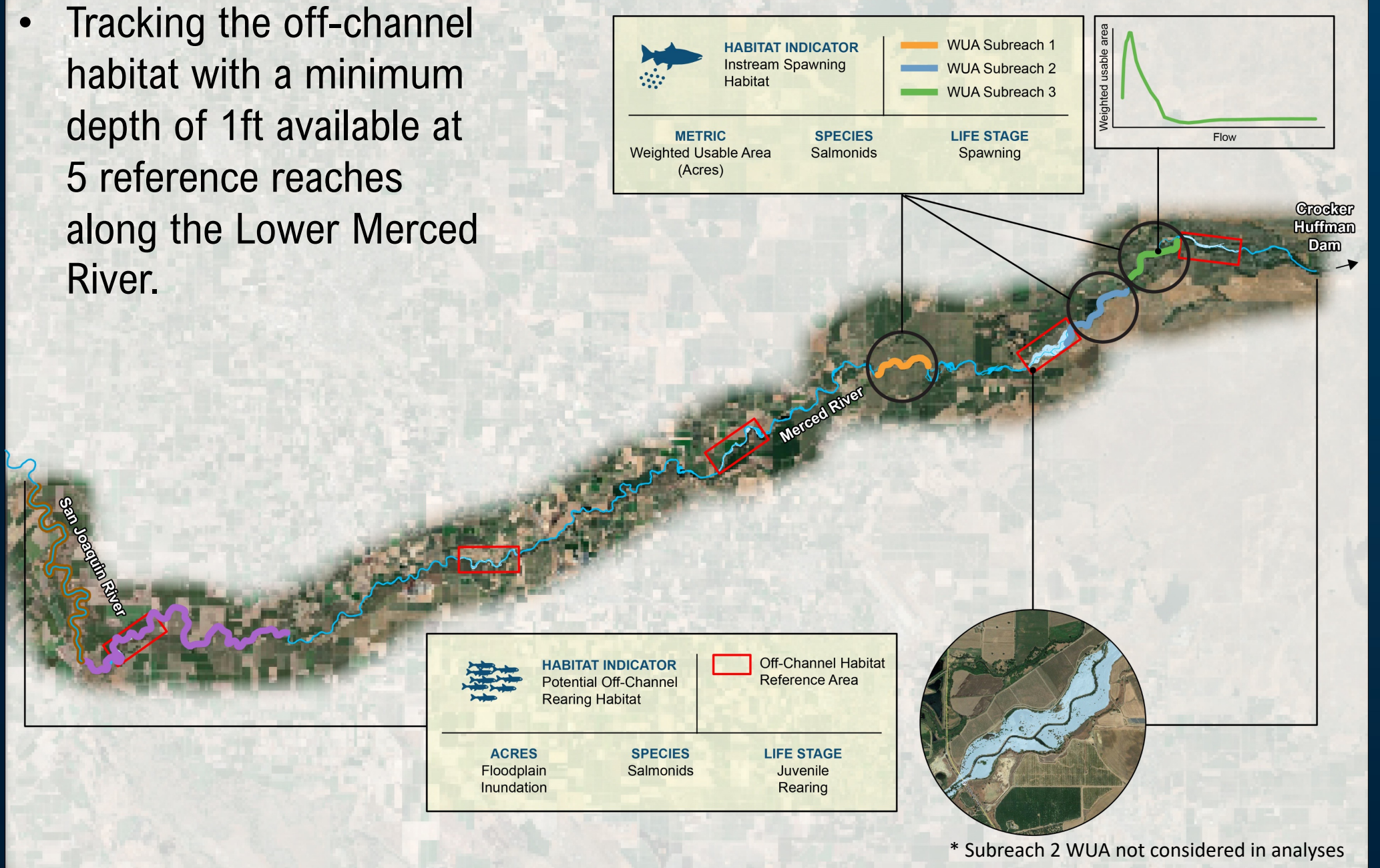
# Potential Off-channel Habitat

- Very limited in Merced River currently
- Recommended reservoir reoperation **plus habitat improvement**
  - Support a single off-channel habitat inundation event April
  - By maintaining sustained flow of 1,800 to create habitat with at least 1 foot of depth
  - For a minimum of 2-week period



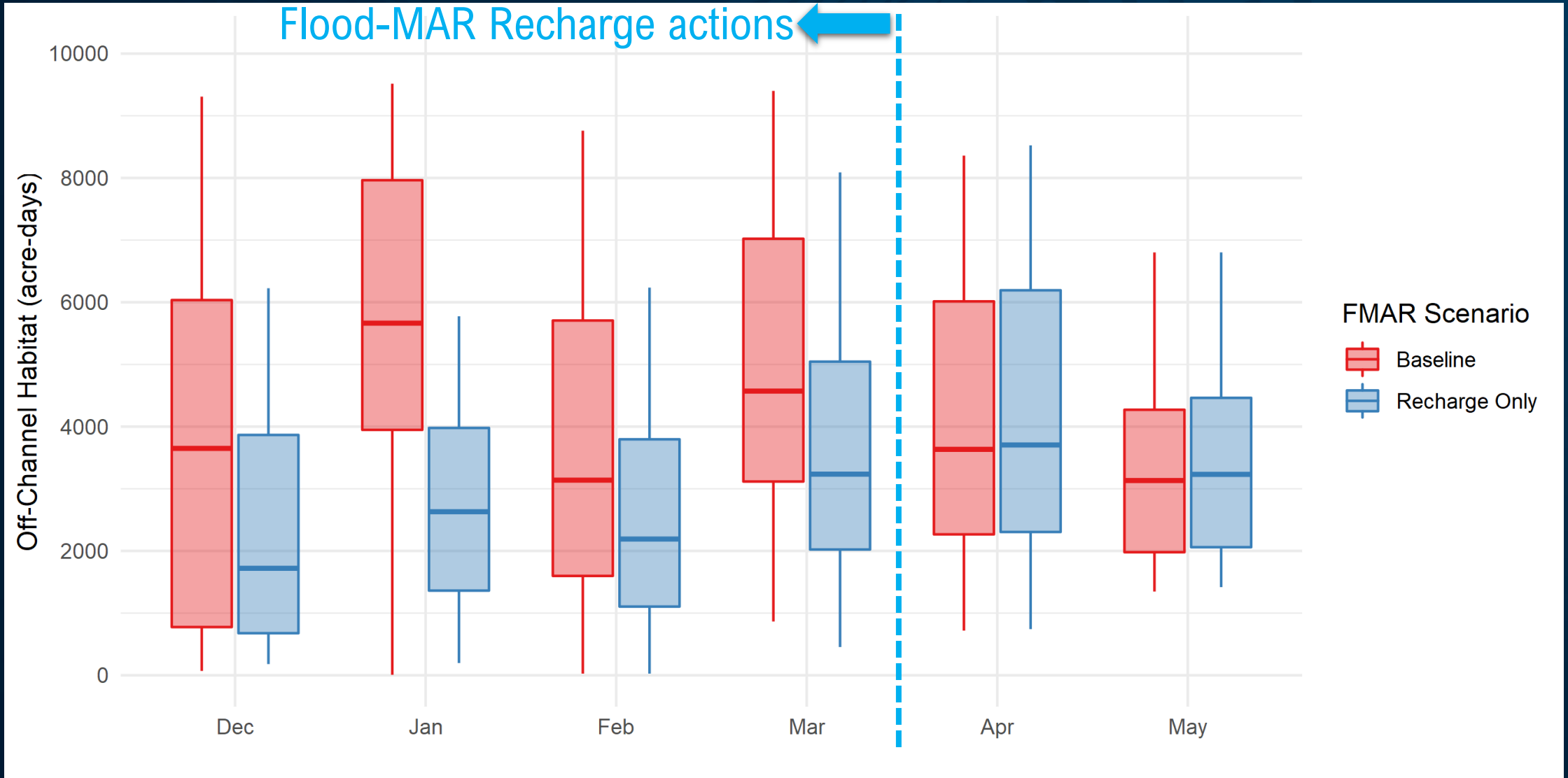


- Tracking the off-channel habitat with a minimum depth of 1ft available at 5 reference reaches along the Lower Merced River.



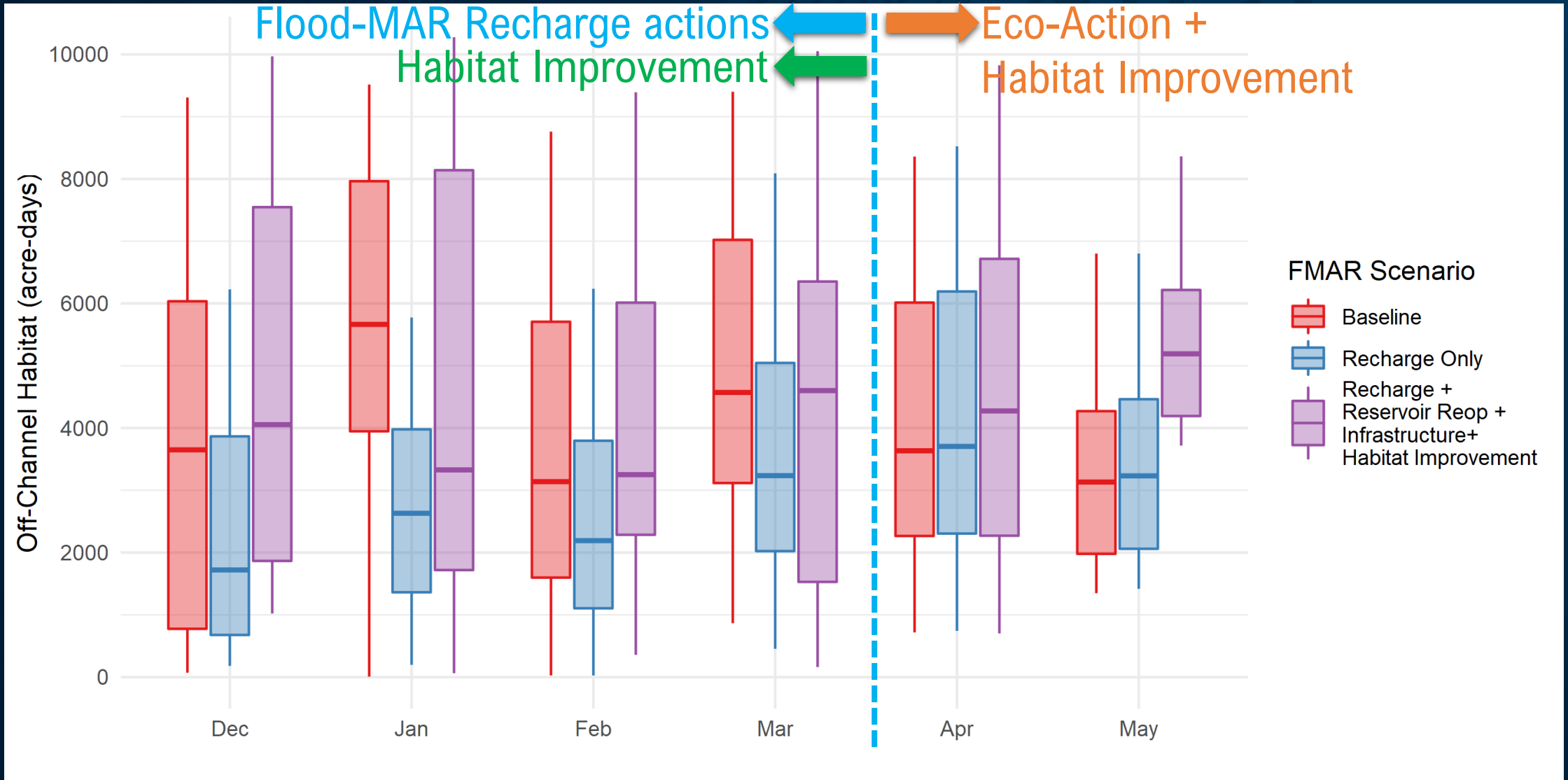
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# Potential Off-channel Habitat





# Potential Off-channel Habitat



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		<sup>1</sup> Dec – May	Potential off-channel seasonally inundated habitat			<b>882</b>	<b>441</b>
	<sup>2</sup> Sep – Apr				<b>882</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>427</b>

**Without improvement, very limited off-channel habitat in Merced River.**

**L3 FIRO-MAR scenario includes habitat improvement in addition to providing inundation flows.**

# Shorebirds

- Recommendations from The Nature Conservancy
  - 2" – 4" inundation for a minimum of 2 weeks
  - Two distinct migratory periods:
    - March 15 – April 30
    - July 15 – October 15
  - Habitat created within 6 miles from a managed wetland preferred





# Shorebirds

- 521 acres of habitat created\*
- at 2" inundated depth
- during March
  - 2-days of ramp up period
  - 28-days of constant inundation depth
  - 1-day of ramp-down period

*\*Level 2 and 3 FIRO-MAR & Hybrid-MAR scenarios only*



Land-Use	SAGBI Soil Type	Within 6 miles of Merced NWR (acres)	Outside 6 miles of Merced NWR (acres)	TOTAL (acres)
Idle	Poor	121	360	481
Idle	Very Poor	0	40	40
<b>TOTAL (acres)</b>		<b>121</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>521</b>

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	Merced River Salmonid Habitat	In-stream spawning habitat <sup>2</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	530	509	657	
		Potential* off-channel seasonally inundated habitat <sup>1</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	212	633	441	
		<sup>1</sup> Dec – May <sup>2</sup> Sep – Apr		Years	30	45	46	
	Shorebird Habitat	Inundated ag fields (521 acres x 28-days x # Events)		1000 Acre-Days	--	--	963	

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# In summary...

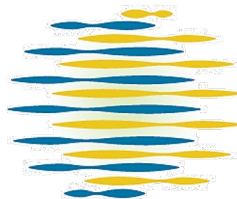
1. Flood-MAR actions are expected to benefit GDEs and shorebirds
2. Aquifer recharge alone, without careful consideration of aquatic species, may have net negative impacts
3. Reservoir reops can minimize impacts and create benefits by:
  - Fine-tuning releases to maximize habitat for key life stages (e.g., spawning)
  - Providing pulse flows in key months to encourage juvenile emigration
4. Off-channel habitat improvement can provide beneficial rearing habitat for salmonids





# QUESTIONS?

KARANDEV SINGH (KARANDEV.SINGH@WATER.CA.GOV) | CWEMF ANNUAL MEETING | 4/5/2022



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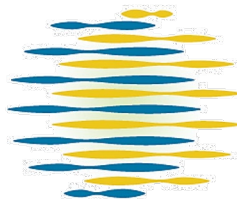
# MERCED RIVER WATERSHED STUDY

*MULTI-SECTOR PERFORMANCE USING RISK-BASED ANALYTICS*

KARANDEV SINGH (KARANDEV.SINGH@WATER.CA.GOV) | CWEMF ANNUAL MEETING | 4/5/2022



Sustainable Conservation



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MERCED  
IRRIGATION  
DISTRICT

WATER & POWER



# Session 16. Merced River Flood-MAR Study

1. Overview
2. Water Available for Recharge and Water Supply and Flood Risk Benefits
3. In-depth Discussion of Ecosystem Effects
4. Multi-sector Performance Using Risk-based Analytics

# 300 Runs

30 Climate Scenarios x [Baseline + 9 Project Alternatives]

*Why the 30 climate scenarios?*

## 9 Models

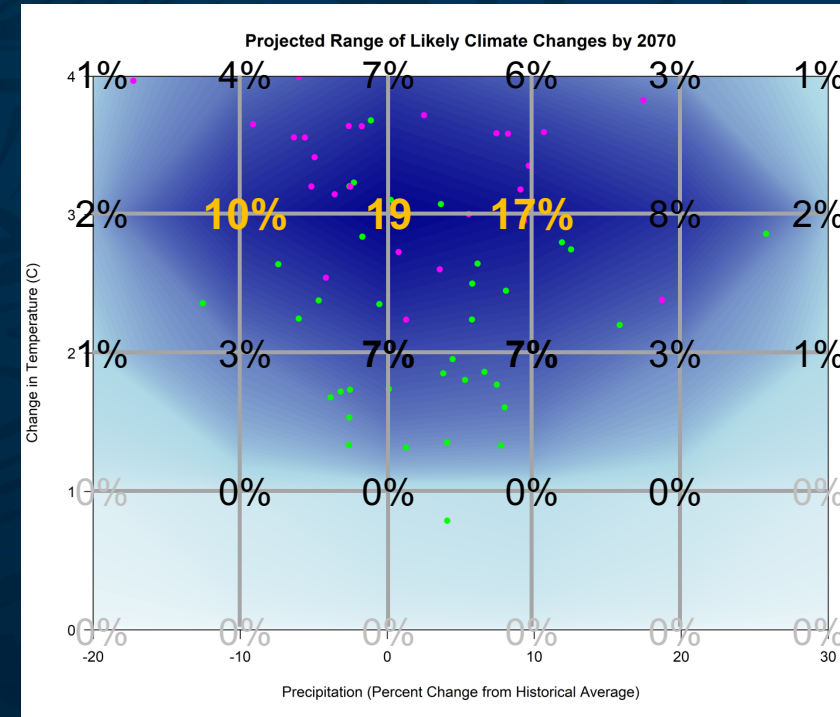
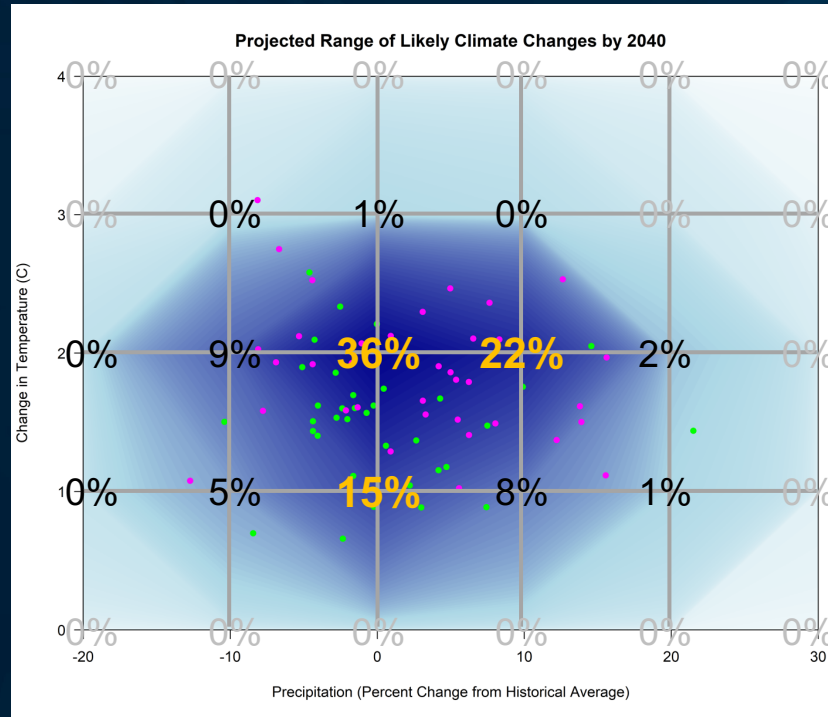
simulating integrated “headwater-to-groundwater” physical processes and operations at a sub-daily to monthly timestep over a 100-year continuous period representing hydrologic conditions between WY 1900 and WY 1999.

**CHALLENGE:** How to meaningfully present and understand climate vulnerability and adaptation potential?

*Scenario-based vs. risk-based analytics*

# Decision scaling: what and why?

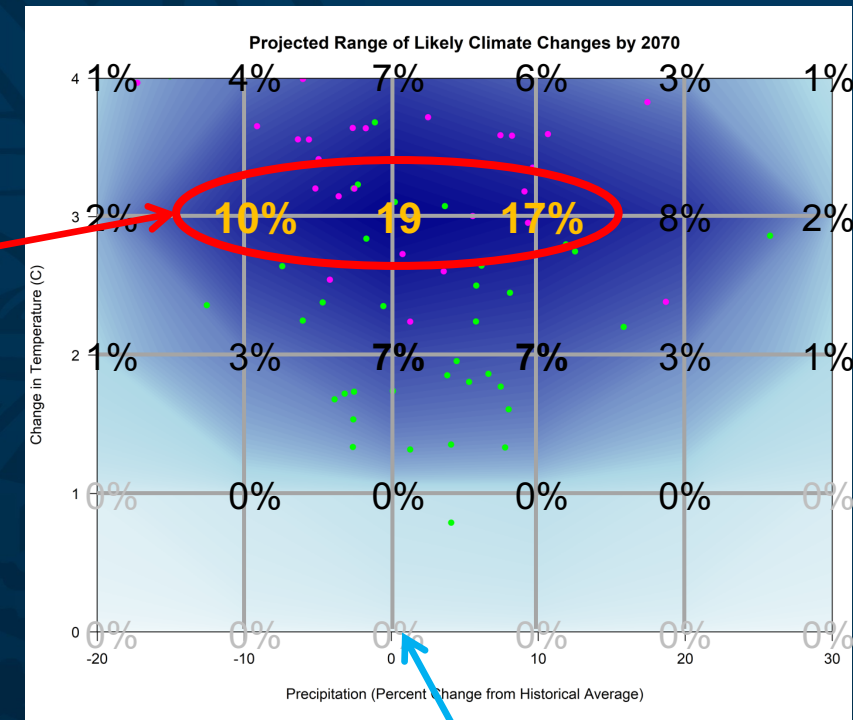
The dots represent the shift in average annual precipitation and temperature for the ensemble of Fifth Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP5) general circulation models (GCMs) driven with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP) scenarios 4.5 and 8.5 in the region contributing flow to the Central Valley Water System for the 30-year period centered at 2040 and 2070 relative to the 1971–2000 period.



Instead of selecting handful “representative” climate scenarios, evaluated across a full spectrum of probable climate futures.



**Most probable 2070  
climate futures  
(+3°C and ±10%)**



# SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

## Scenario Comparison

**Current Climate  
(0°C and 0%)**

# Results – Future Conditions (+3°C, +10%)

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline Current Conditions

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline DT3DP1.1 Scenario

Performance Indicator: **Decline** | No significant change | **Improvement**

Preliminary Results – Subject to Change

*\*Without improvement, very limited off-channel habitat in Merced River.*



					VULNERABILITY		ADAPTATION PERFORMANCE			
					CURRENT	DT3DP1.1	DT3DP1.1			
					BASELINE		L1 INTERM.	L3 FIRO-MAR	L3 RP-MAR	
<b>Watershed Conditions</b>	Upper Watershed Runoff	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	1,123	<b>1,277</b>	1,277	1,277	1,277		
		Nov – Mar	TAF/ season	434	<b>688</b>	688	688	688		
		Apr – Oct	TAF/ season	689	<b>589</b>	589	589	589		
	Applied Demand	Agricultural Demand (Oct – Sep)		TAF/ year	800	<b>854</b>	854	854	854	
	Water Available For Recharge	Available (Nov – Mar)		TAF/ season	--	--	<b>90</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>151</b>	
		Applied (Nov – Mar)		TAF/ season	--	--	<b>79</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>145</b>	
<b>Water Supply/ Groundwater (GW)</b>	GW Pumping	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	466	<b>499</b>	499	501	<b>506</b>		
	Δ GW Storage	Change in basinwide GW storage		TAF/ year	-50	<b>-60</b>	<b>-35</b>	<b>-32</b>	<b>-15</b>	
	Δ GW Levels	Aquifer east of Corcoran Clay layer		Feet/ year	-0.6	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	
<b>Water Supply/ Surface Water (SW)</b>	Lake McClure Storage	End of October Storage	Avg. TAF	518	<b>474</b>	474	472	<b>435</b>		
		# Years allocation ≤ 80%	Years	7	7	7	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>		
	SW Deliveries	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	355	<b>372</b>	372	369	<b>367</b>		
<b>Flood Risk</b>	Merced River Flood Conditions	100-year max simulated flow	cfs	6,004	<b>42,412</b>	<b>40,552</b>	<b>15,660</b>	<b>8,774</b>		
		# Years with flows > 7300 cfs	Years	0	<b>9</b>	9	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>Ecosystem</b>	GDE Habitat	% Months with GW Levels ≤ 30 feet		Percent	77	<b>70</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>79</b>	
	Merced River Salmonid Habitat	In-stream spawning habitat <sup>2</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	530	<b>509</b>	509	<b>657</b>	<b>628</b>	
		<sup>1</sup> Dec – May	Potential* off-channel seasonally inundated habitat <sup>1</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	212	<b>633</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>354</b>
		<sup>2</sup> Sep – Apr			Years	30	<b>45</b>	45	<b>46</b>	<b>37</b>
Shorebird Habitat	Inundated ag fields (521 acres x 28-days x # Events)		1000 Acre-Days	0	0	0	<b>963</b>	0		

# Results – Future Conditions (+3°C, 0%)

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline Current Conditions

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline DT3DP1.1 Scenario

Performance Indicator: **Decline** | No significant change | **Improvement**

Preliminary Results – Subject to Change

*\*Without improvement, very limited off-channel habitat in Merced River.*

## VULNERABILITY

CURRENT | DT3DP1.0  
BASELINE

## ADAPTATION PERFORMANCE

DT3DP1.0  
L1 INTERM. | L3 FIRO-MAR | L3 RP-MAR

Watershed Conditions	Upper Watershed Runoff	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	1,123	1,074	1,074	1,074	1,074		
		Nov – Mar	TAF/ season	434	569	569	569	569		
		Apr – Oct	TAF/ season	689	505	505	505	505		
	Applied Demand	Agricultural Demand (Oct – Sep)		TAF/ year	800	864	864	864		
	Water Available For Recharge	Available (Nov – Mar)		TAF/ season	--	--	60	79	103	
		Applied (Nov – Mar)		TAF/ season	--	--	54	73	100	
Water Supply/ Groundwater (GW)	GW Pumping	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	466	520	520	524	528		
	Δ GW Storage	Change in basinwide GW storage		TAF/ year	-50	-115	-93	-91	-77	
	Δ GW Levels	Aquifer east of Corcoran Clay layer		Feet/ year	-0.6	-1.6	-1.1	-1.0	-0.8	
Water Supply/ Surface Water (SW)	Lake McClure Storage	End of October Storage		Avg. TAF	518	417	417	414	374	
		# Years allocation ≤ 80%		Years	7	14	14	15	18	
	SW Deliveries	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	355	359	359	354	350		
Flood Risk	Merced River Flood Conditions	100-year max simulated flow		cfs	6,004	6,077	6,077	6,047	6,553	
		# Years with flows > 7300 cfs		Years	0	0	0	0	0	
Ecosystem	GDE Habitat	% Months with GW Levels ≤ 30 feet		Percent	77	34	39	42	40	
	Merced River Salmonid Habitat	In-stream spawning habitat <sup>2</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	530	481	481	645	610	
		<sup>1</sup> Dec – May	Potential* off-channel seasonally inundated habitat <sup>1</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	212	374	245	230	182
					Years	30	33	34	34	28
	Shorebird Habitat	Inundated ag fields (521 acres x 28-days x # Events)		1000 Acre-Days	--	--	--	773	--	





# Results – Future Conditions (+3°C, -10%)

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline Current Conditions

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline DT3DP1.1 Scenario

Performance Indicator: **Decline** | No significant change | **Improvement**

Preliminary Results – Subject to Change






*\*Without improvement, very limited off-channel habitat in Merced River.*

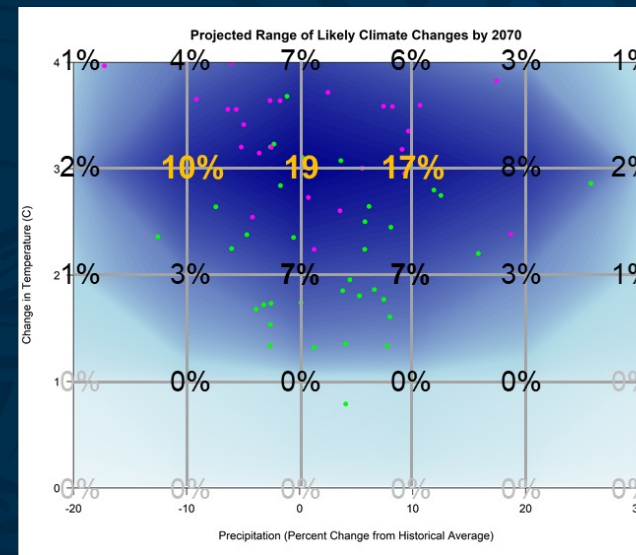
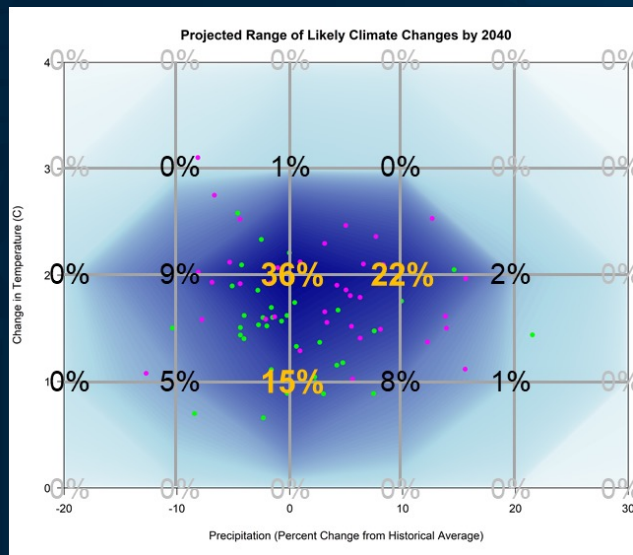
## VULNERABILITY

CURRENT | DT3DP0.9  
BASELINE

## ADAPTATION PERFORMANCE

DT3DP0.9  
L1 INTERM. | L3 FIRO-MAR | L3 RP-MAR

Watershed Conditions				VULNERABILITY		ADAPTATION PERFORMANCE			
				CURRENT	DT3DP0.9	L1 INTERM.	L3 FIRO-MAR	L3 RP-MAR	
	Upper Watershed Runoff	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	1,123	<b>879</b>	879	879	879	
		Nov – Mar	TAF/ season	434	<b>456</b>	456	456	456	
		Apr – Oct	TAF/ season	689	<b>423</b>	423	423	423	
	Applied Demand	Agricultural Demand (Oct – Sep)	TAF/ year	800	<b>875</b>	875	875	875	
	Water Available For Recharge	Available (Nov – Mar)	TAF/ season	--	--	<b>33</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>65</b>	
		Applied (Nov – Mar)	TAF/ season	--	--	<b>30</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>63</b>	
	Water Supply/ Groundwater (GW)	GW Pumping	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	466	<b>547</b>	548	<b>553</b>	<b>558</b>
		Δ GW Storage	Change in basinwide GW storage	TAF/ year	-50	<b>-185</b>	<b>-172</b>	<b>-170</b>	<b>-161</b>
		Δ GW Levels	Aquifer east of Corcoran Clay layer	Feet/ year	-0.6	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-2.0</b>
	Water Supply/ Surface Water (SW)	Lake McClure Storage	End of October Storage	Avg. TAF	518	<b>359</b>	358	354	<b>316</b>
			# Years allocation ≤ 80%	Years	7	<b>22</b>	22	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>
		SW Deliveries	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	355	<b>338</b>	338	<b>332</b>	<b>328</b>
	Flood Risk	Merced River Flood Conditions	100-year max simulated flow	cfs	6,004	6,004	6,004	6,021	6,021
			# Years with flows > 7300 cfs	Years	0	0	0	0	0
	Ecosystem	GDE Habitat	% Months with GW Levels ≤ 30 feet	Percent	77	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>
		Merced River Salmonid Habitat	In-stream spawning habitat <sup>2</sup>	1000 Acre-Days	530	<b>451</b>	452	<b>629</b>	<b>590</b>
			Potential* off-channel seasonally inundated habitat <sup>1</sup>	1000 Acre-Days	212	<b>177</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>87</b>
			<sup>1</sup> Dec – May	Years	30	<b>24</b>	24	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>
			<sup>2</sup> Sep – Apr	Years	30	<b>24</b>	24	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>
	Shorebird Habitat	Inundated ag fields (521 acres x 28-days x # Events)	1000 Acre-Days	--	--	--	<b>598</b>	--	



CURRENT  
CONDITION



2040

2070

FUTURE  
CONDITION

# SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

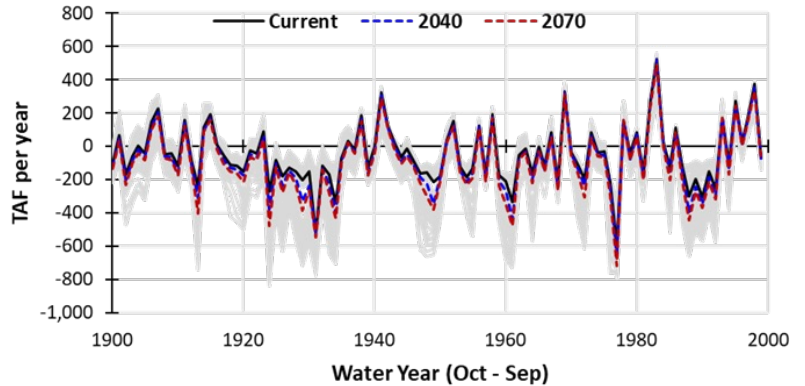
Planning Horizon

*AVERAGE = assign equal weight which assumes that all scenarios have same likelihood (probability of occurrence)*

*WEIGHTED AVERAGE = assign weight based on the likelihood of occurrence*

# Planning Horizon/ Expected Value

Baseline



Change in Temperature	Change in Precipitation					
	0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3
0	-184	-109	-50	-13	7	20
1	-211	-133	-70	-26	-2	12
2	-238	-158	-92	-42	-14	4
3	-267	-185	-115	-60	-26	-5
4	-295	-210	-139	-81	-41	-16

Change in Temperature	Change in Precipitation					
	0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3
0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1	0%	5%	15%	8%	1%	0%
2	0%	9%	36%	22%	2%	0%
3	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
4	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Change in Temperature	Change in Precipitation					
	0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3
0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2	1%	3%	7%	7%	3%	1%
3	2%	10%	19%	17%	8%	2%
4	1%	4%	7%	6%	3%	1%

	LT
Current	-50
2040	-79
2070	-101



# Results – 2040 Planning Horizon

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline Current Conditions






Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline DT3DP1.1 Scenario

Performance Indicator: **Decline** | No significant change | **Improvement**

Preliminary Results – Subject to Change

*\*Without improvement, very limited off-channel habitat in Merced River.*

VULNERABILITY		ADAPTATION PERFORMANCE		
CURRENT	PH 2040	PH 2040		
BASELINE		L1 INTERM.	L3 FIRO-MAR	L3 RP-MAR

	<b>Watershed Conditions</b>	Upper Watershed Runoff	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	1,123	1,138	1,138	1,138	1,138		
			Nov – Mar	TAF/ season	434	<b>528</b>	528	528	528		
			Apr – Oct	TAF/ season	689	<b>610</b>	610	610	610		
		Applied Demand	Agricultural Demand (Oct – Sep)		TAF/ year	800	<b>835</b>	835	835		
		Water Available For Recharge	Available (Nov – Mar)		TAF/ season	--	--	<b>59</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>108</b>	
			Applied (Nov – Mar)		TAF/ season	--	--	<b>54</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>105</b>	
	<b>Water Supply/ Groundwater (GW)</b>	GW Pumping	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	466	<b>494</b>	494	497	<b>501</b>		
		Δ GW Storage	Change in basinwide GW storage		TAF/ year	-50	<b>-79</b>	<b>-62</b>	<b>-59</b>	<b>-46</b>	
		Δ GW Levels	Aquifer east of Corcoran Clay layer		Feet/ year	-0.6	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	
	<b>Water Supply/ Surface Water (SW)</b>	Lake McClure Storage	End of October Storage		Avg. TAF	518	<b>479</b>	478	<b>474</b>	<b>425</b>	
			# Years allocation ≤ 80%		Years	7	<b>10</b>	10	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	
		SW Deliveries	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	355	<b>359</b>	359	356	<b>352</b>		
	<b>Flood Risk</b>	Merced River Flood Conditions	100-year max simulated flow		cfs	6,004	<b>15,677</b>	<b>14,919</b>	<b>9,084</b>	<b>8,384</b>	
			# Years with flows > 7300 cfs		Years	0	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
	<b>Ecosystem</b>	GDE Habitat	% Months with GW Levels ≤ 30 feet		Percent	77	<b>57</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>63</b>	
		Merced River Salmonid Habitat	In-stream spawning habitat <sup>2</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	530	<b>509</b>	509	<b>657</b>	<b>625</b>	
			<sup>1</sup> Dec – May	Potential* off-channel seasonally inundated habitat <sup>1</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	212	<b>367</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>198</b>
						Years	30	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>31</b>
		Shorebird Habitat	Inundated ag fields (521 acres x 28-days x # Events)		1000 Acre-Days	--	--	--	<b>865</b>	--	

# Results – 2070 Planning Horizon

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline Current Conditions

Performance evaluated with respect to Baseline DT3DP1.1 Scenario

Performance Indicator: **Decline** | No significant change | **Improvement**

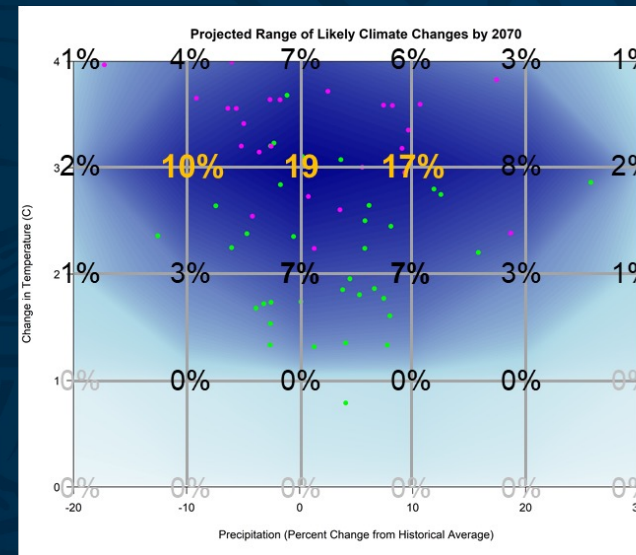
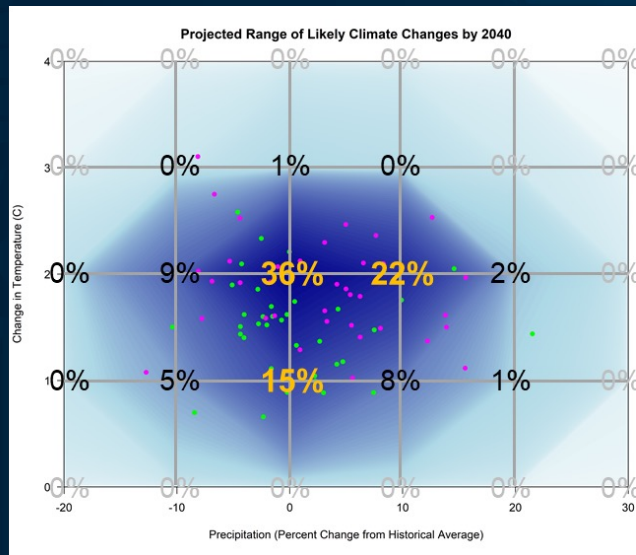
Preliminary Results – Subject to Change

*\*Without improvement, very limited off-channel habitat in Merced River.*

VULNERABILITY		ADAPTATION PERFORMANCE		
CURRENT	PH 2070	PH 2070		
BASELINE		L1 INTERM.	L3 FIRO-MAR	L3 RP-MAR

<b>Watershed Conditions</b>	Upper Watershed Runoff	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	1,123	<b>1,161</b>	1,161	1,161	1,161		
		Nov – Mar	TAF/ season	434	<b>619</b>	619	619	619		
		Apr – Oct	TAF/ season	689	<b>542</b>	542	542	542		
	Applied Demand	Agricultural Demand (Oct – Sep)		TAF/ year	800	<b>860</b>	860	860	860	
		Water Available For Recharge	Available (Nov – Mar)	TAF/ season	--	--	<b>73</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>123</b>	
	Applied (Nov – Mar)		TAF/ season	--	--	<b>65</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>118</b>		
<b>Water Supply/ Groundwater (GW)</b>	GW Pumping	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	466	<b>515</b>	516	519	<b>523</b>		
	Δ GW Storage	Change in basinwide GW storage		TAF/ year	-50	<b>-101</b>	<b>-80</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-66</b>	
	Δ GW Levels	Aquifer east of Corcoran Clay layer		Feet/ year	-0.6	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	
<b>Water Supply/ Surface Water (SW)</b>	Lake McClure Storage	End of October Storage	Avg. TAF	518	<b>436</b>	436	433	<b>395</b>		
		# Years allocation ≤ 80%	Years	7	<b>12</b>	12	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>		
	SW Deliveries	Oct – Sep	TAF/ year	355	<b>359</b>	359	<b>356</b>	<b>352</b>		
<b>Flood Risk</b>	Merced River Flood Conditions	100-year max simulated flow	cfs	6,004	<b>29,327</b>	<b>28,222</b>	<b>18,312</b>	<b>14,765</b>		
		# Years with flows > 7300 cfs	Years	0	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>Ecosystem</b>	GDE Habitat	% Months with GW Levels ≤ 30 feet		Percent	77	<b>50</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>	
	Merced River Salmonid Habitat	In-stream spawning habitat <sup>2</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	530	<b>492</b>	492	<b>648</b>	<b>616</b>	
		<sup>1</sup> Dec – May	Potential* off-channel seasonally inundated habitat <sup>1</sup>		1000 Acre-Days	212	<b>501</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>287</b>
					Years	30	<b>38</b>	38	<b>39</b>	<b>32</b>
Shorebird Habitat	Inundated ag fields (521 acres x 28-days x # Events)		1000 Acre-Days	--	--	--	<b>840</b>	--		





CURRENT  
CONDITION



2040

2070

FUTURE  
CONDITION

# SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

## Risk-based Results



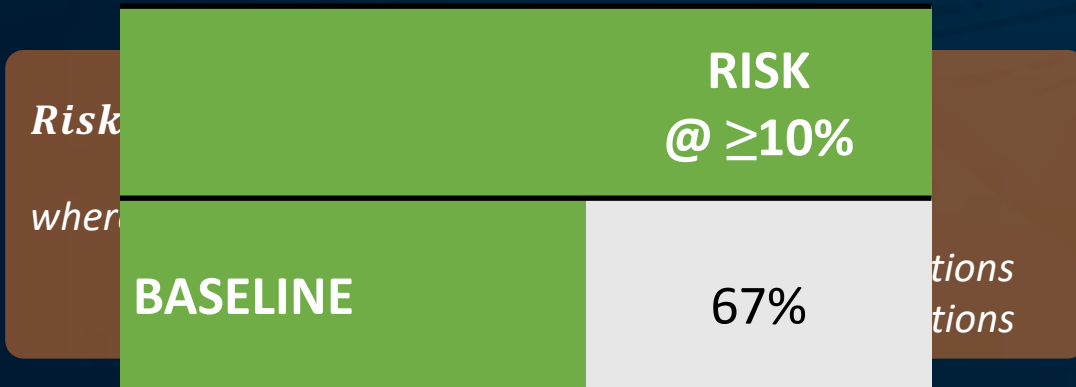
# How to evaluate risk-based performance?

**RISK** – probability that future performance across all probable climate scenarios will **deteriorate** by more than a specific threshold (e.g. 10%) compared to the baseline current conditions.

# RISK – What is the probability that long-term change in GW storage rate is will exceed beyond 55 TAF (50 TAF + 10%) by 2040?

BASE		Change in Precipitation					
		0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3
Change in Temperature	0	-184	-109	-50	-13	7	20
	1	-211	-133	-70	-26	-2	12
	2	-238	-158	-92	-42	-14	4
	3	-267	-185	-115	-60	-26	-5
	4	-295	-210	-139	-81	-41	-16

Trend relative to baseline current conditions	Change in Temperature	less than	Change in Precipitation					
		0	0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3
	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	3	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
	4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0



Planning Horizon	Change in Temperature	EV	Change in Precipitation					
		-79.02	0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3
2040	Risk	67%						
	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
	1	0%	5%	15%	8%	1%	0%	
	2	0%	9%	36%	22%	2%	0%	
	3	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	
4	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		

There is 67% probability that long-term change GW storage rate will exceed by more than 10% beyond the baseline current conditions by 2040.

# How is vulnerability reduced with Flood-MAR?

LEVEL	Scenario	Year	Change in Temperature	Change in Precipitation					Arizona	EV Risk	-79 67%	Change in Precipitation						
				0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2				1.3	0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3
BASELINE "DO NOTHING"	BASE	0		0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3			0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3	
		1	-184	-109	-50	13	7	20				0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
		2	-211	-133	-70							5%	15%	8%	1%	0%		
		3	-238	-158	-92							9%	36%	22%	2%	0%		
		4	-267	-185	-115							0%	1%	0%	0%	0%		
		4	-295	-210	-139						0%	0%	0%	0%	0%			
LEVEL 1 INTERMEDIATE	ALT	0		0.8	0.9	1	<b>BASELINE</b>					67%	<b>Change in Precipitation</b>					
		1	-178	-100	-36	<b>RECHARGE ONLY</b>						0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3		
		2	-204	-123	-54	<b>(Level 1 Intermediate)</b>						51%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
		3	-232	-147	-73	<b>(-16%)</b>						5%	15%	8%	1%	0%		
		4	-258	-172	-93	<b>(-16%)</b>						9%	36%	22%	2%	0%		
		4	-288	-194	-116	<b>(-16%)</b>						0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
LEVEL 3 FIRO-MAR	ALT	0		0.8	0.9	1	<b>RECHARGE +</b>					51%	<b>Change in Precipitation</b>					
		1	-181	-98	-33	<b>RES REOP +</b>						0.9	1	1.1	1.2	1.3		
		2	-206	-121	-51	<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>						5%	15%	8%	1%	0%		
		3	-235	-146	-71	<b>(Level 3 FIRO-MAR)</b>						9%	36%	22%	2%	0%		
		4	-260	-170	-91	-32	0	19				0%	1%	0%	0%	0%		
		4	-291	-193	-114	-50	-10	11				0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	



# Results → Metrics → Sector Performance



## Flood Risk

Lake McClure Flood Pool	Max Encroachment at Lake McClure (11/1 - 3/15)
Merced River	Merced River 100-year maximum simulated flow (11/1 - 6/30)
Local Creeks	Bear Creek 100-year maximum simulated outflow
	Mariposa Creek 100-year maximum simulated outflow
	Owens Creek 100-year maximum simulated outflow



## Water Supply/ Groundwater (GW)

GW Storage	Basinwide average annual change in groundwater storage
GW Pumping	Average annual total groundwater pumping to meet agricultural uses in the Merced watershed



## Water Supply/ Surface Water (SW)

SW Deliveries	Average annual total surface water deliveries to agricultural users in the Merced watershed
Lake McClure Storage	Average annual Lake McClure storage at the end of the irrigation season (Oct 31st)



## Ecosystem

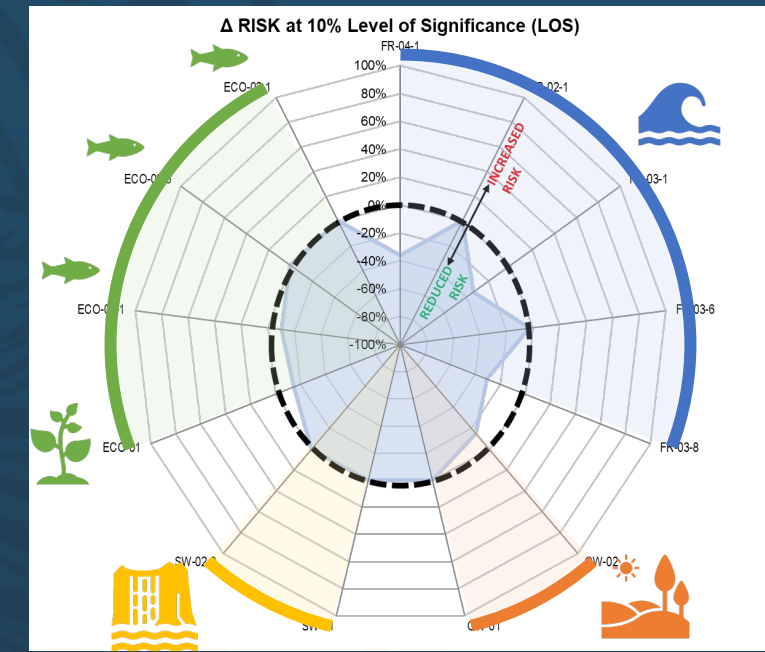
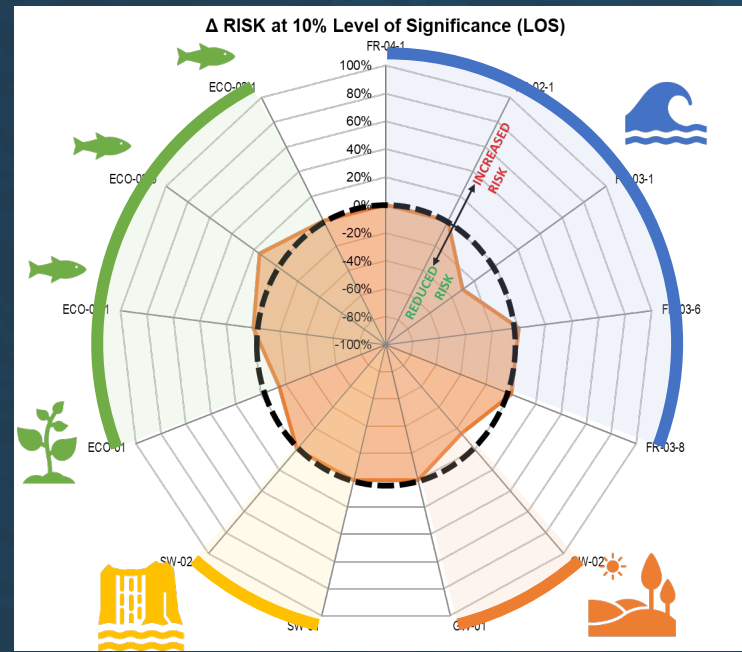
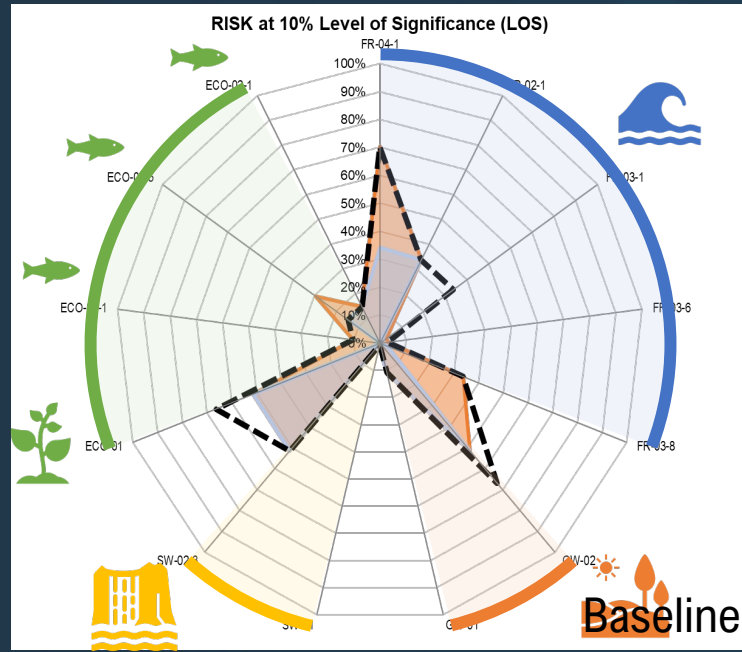
GDEs	Proportion of months with depth to groundwater less than 30 feet
Instream Habitat	Merced River in-stream salmonid spawning habitat
Potential Off-Channel Habitat	Potential Merced River off-channel juvenile rearing habitat during qualified events (Dec - May)
	Potential Merced River off-channel juvenile rearing habitat during qualified events (Dec - May)

# RISK @ 10% LOS

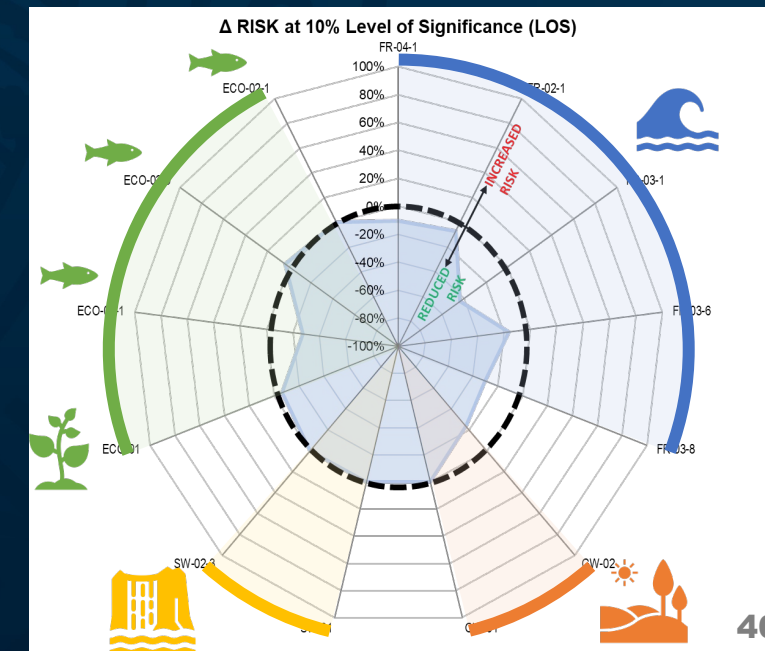
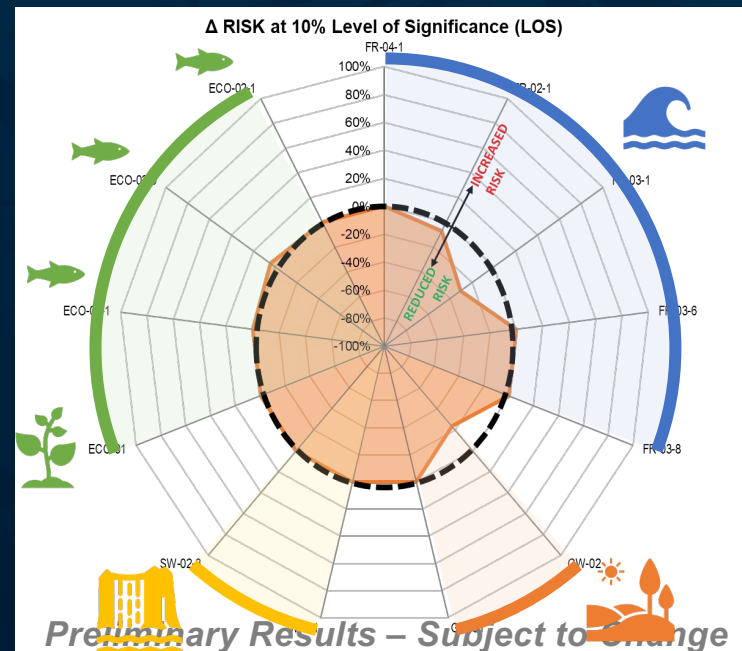
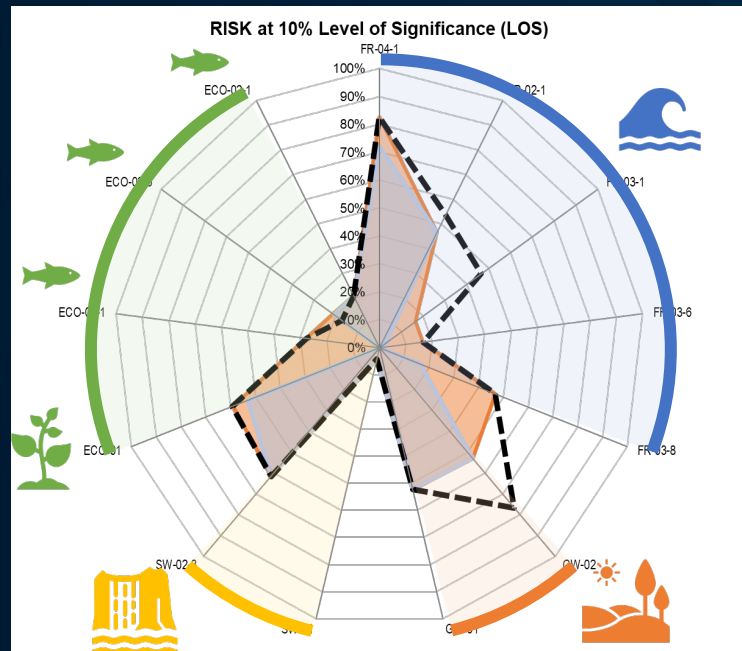
# Δ RISK – Level 1 Intermediate

# Δ RISK – Level 3 FIRO-MAR

2040



2070



# How to evaluate risk-based performance?

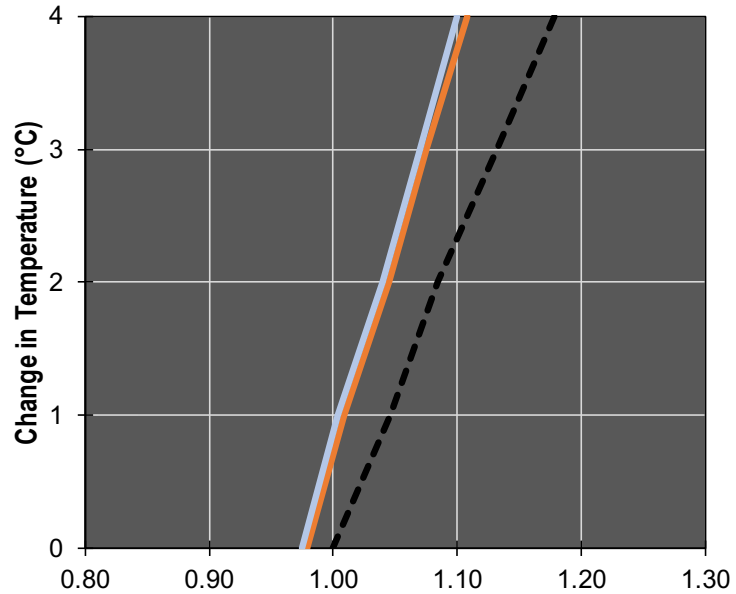
**RISK** – probability that future performance across all probable climate scenarios will **deteriorate** by more than a specific level of significance (e.g. LOS = 10%) compared to the baseline current conditions.

**RESILIENCE** – added buffer against change in precipitation to sustain the same level of future performance as the baseline current conditions for a given change in temperature threshold.



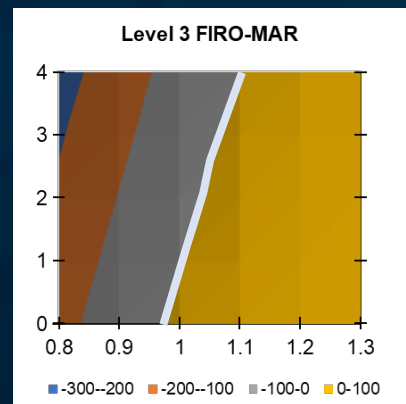
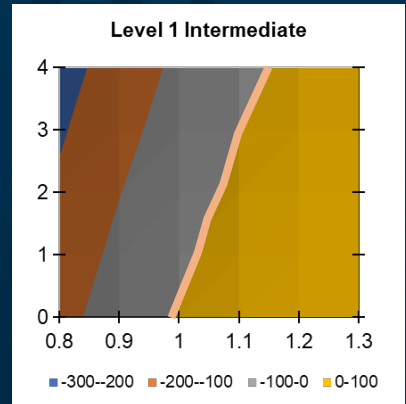
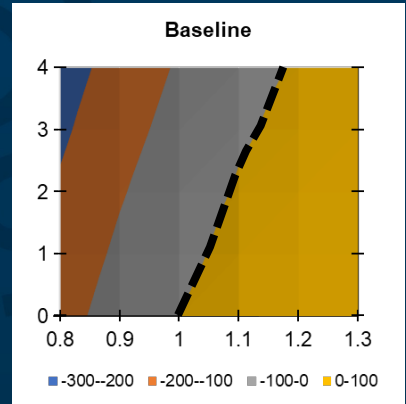
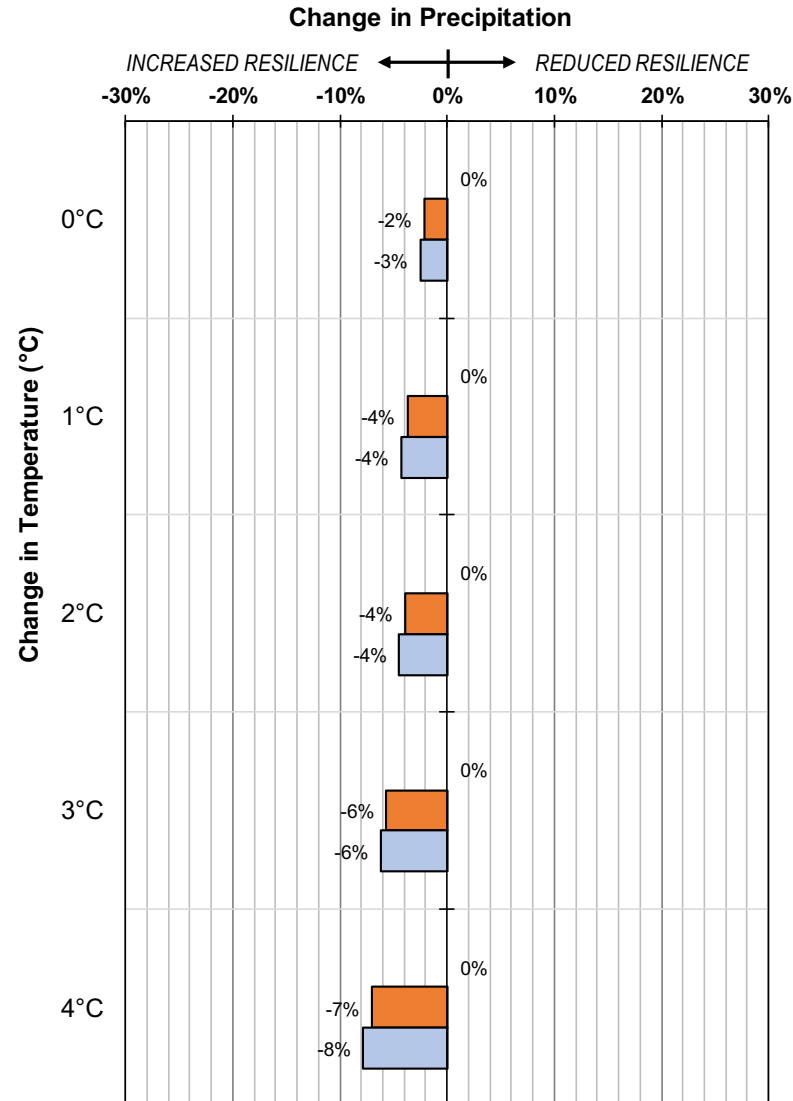
**CLIMATIC RESILIENCE:** Added buffer against change in precipitation to sustain the baseline current conditions level of performance at 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4 °C change in temperature.

**"No change line" with respect to Baseline Current Conditions**



— Level 1 Intermediate — Level 3 FIRO-MAR - - - Baseline

Baseline Threshold -50  
**Δ DP Coodinate w.r.t. Baseline**

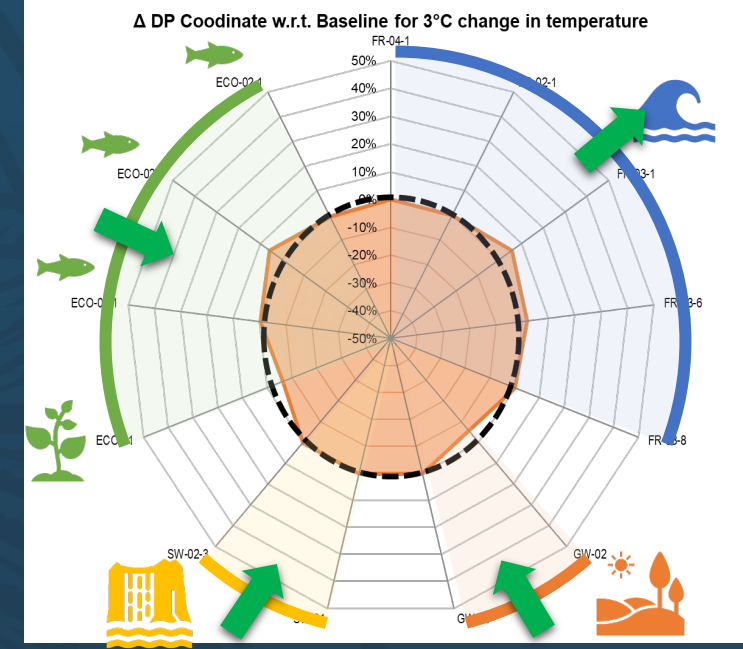
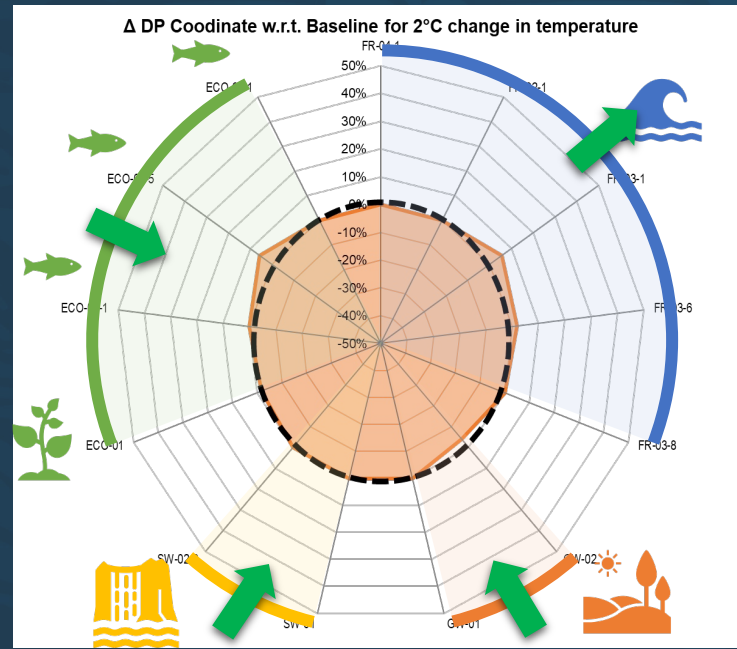
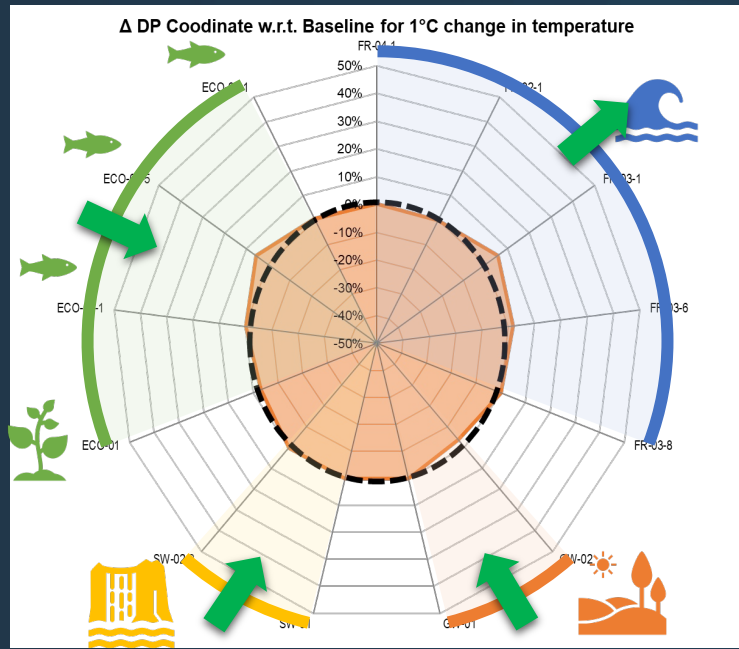


# Resilience @ +1°C

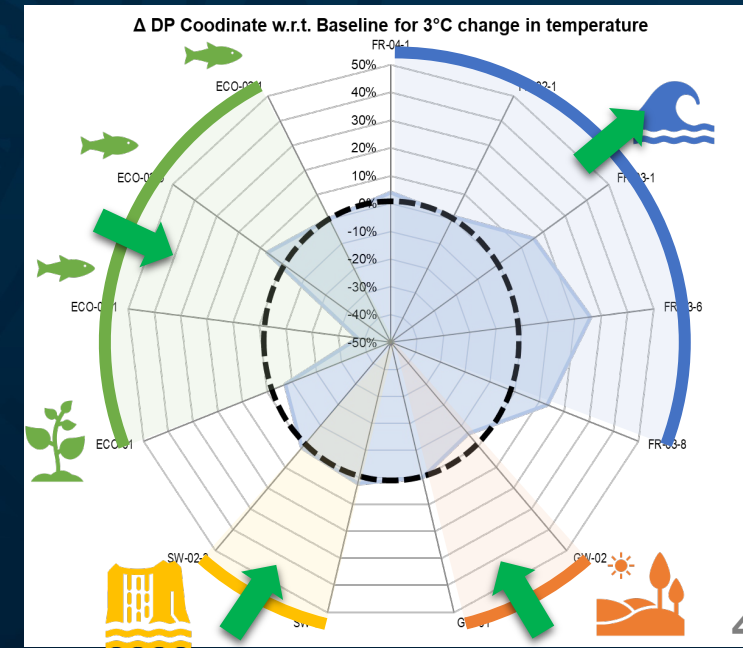
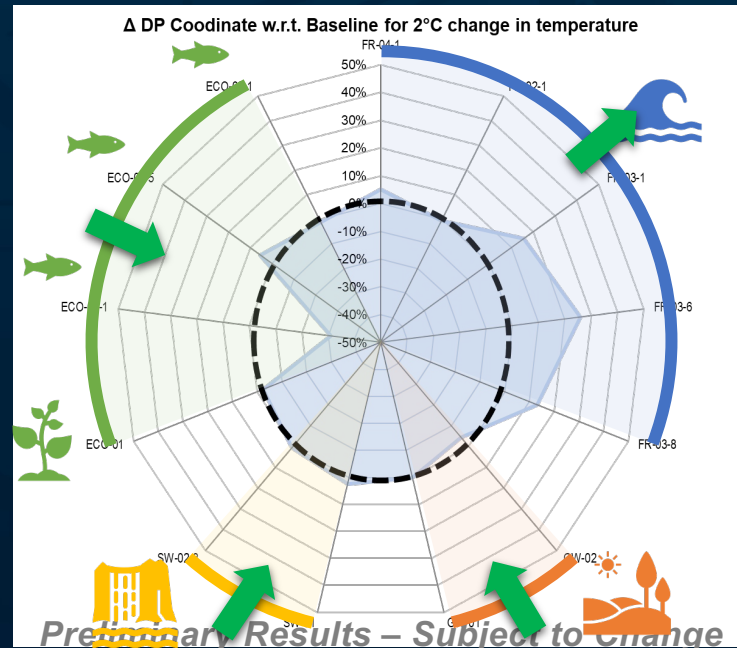
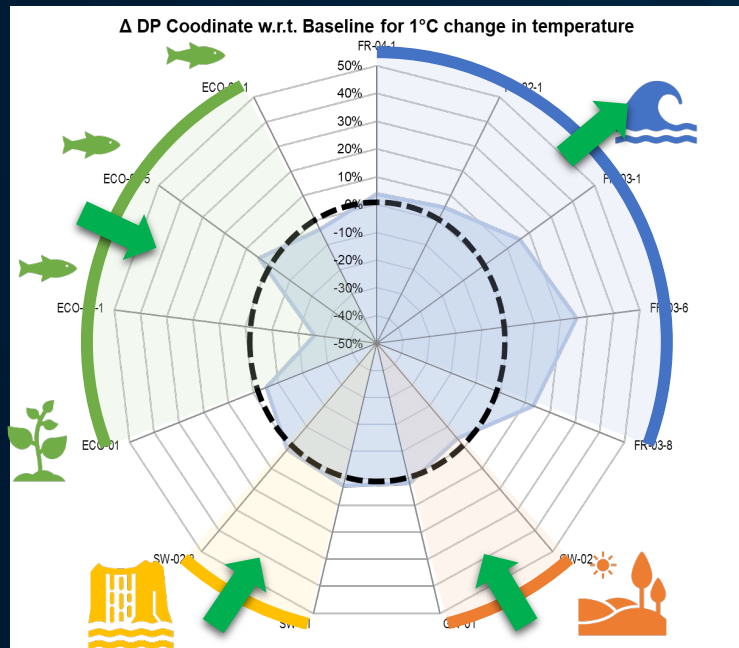
# Resilience @ +2°C

# Resilience @ +3°C

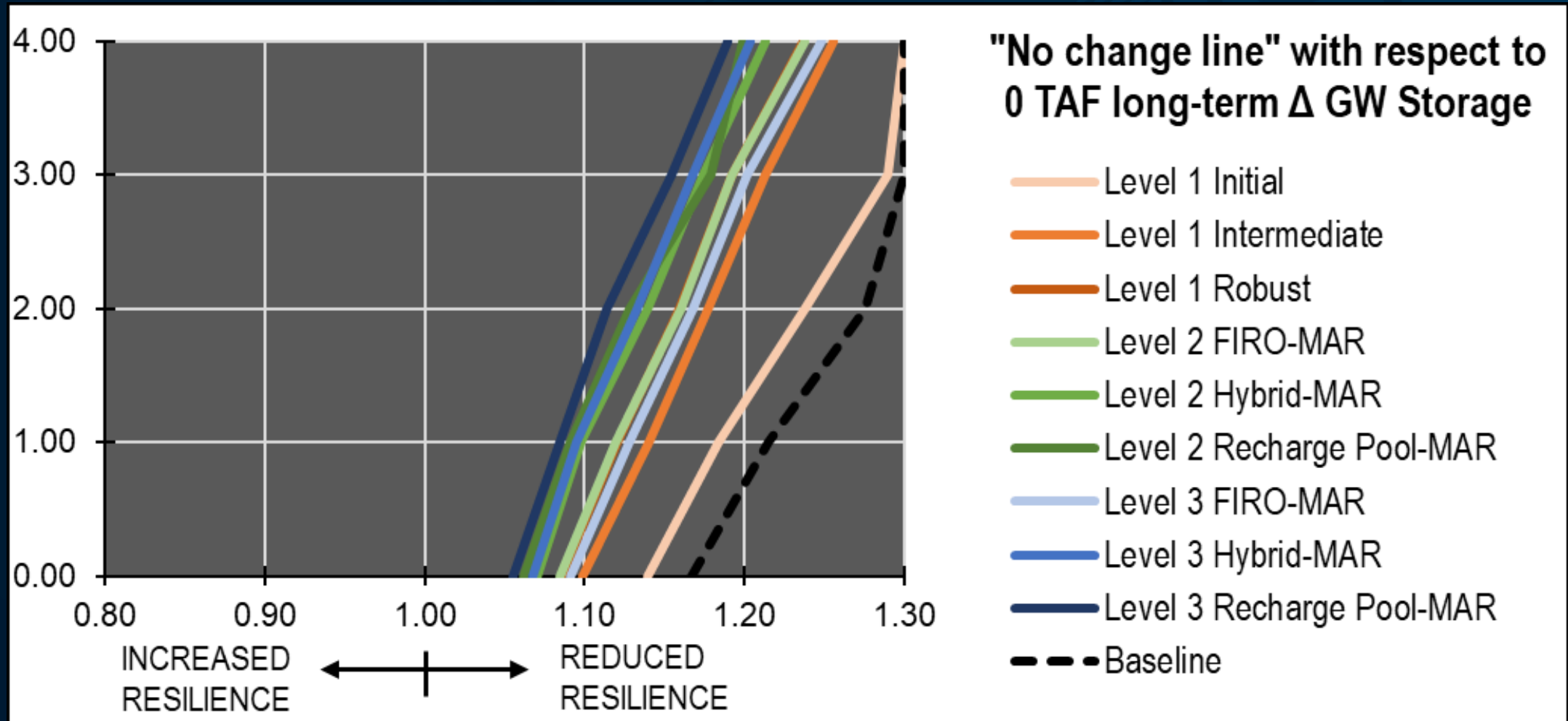
L1 Intermediate



L3 FIRO-MAR



# Can Flood-MAR actions alone help reach GW sustainability in the Merced River watershed?





# What's next: San Joaquin River Basin Watershed Studies



# QUESTIONS?

**KARANDEV SINGH (KARANDEV.SINGH@WATER.CA.GOV)**

- Watershed Studies Integrate Data and Analytics
- Rainfall-Runoff and Climate Change Data
  - Local, State, Federal Governance and Jurisdictions
  - Demographics/Population and Urban Centers
  - Flood Risk
  - Land Use
  - Surface Water and Operations
  - Conveyance and Delivery Infrastructure
  - Recharge Emphasis Areas and Groundwater
  - Ecosystem Opportunities

