

Watershed Resilience Initiative

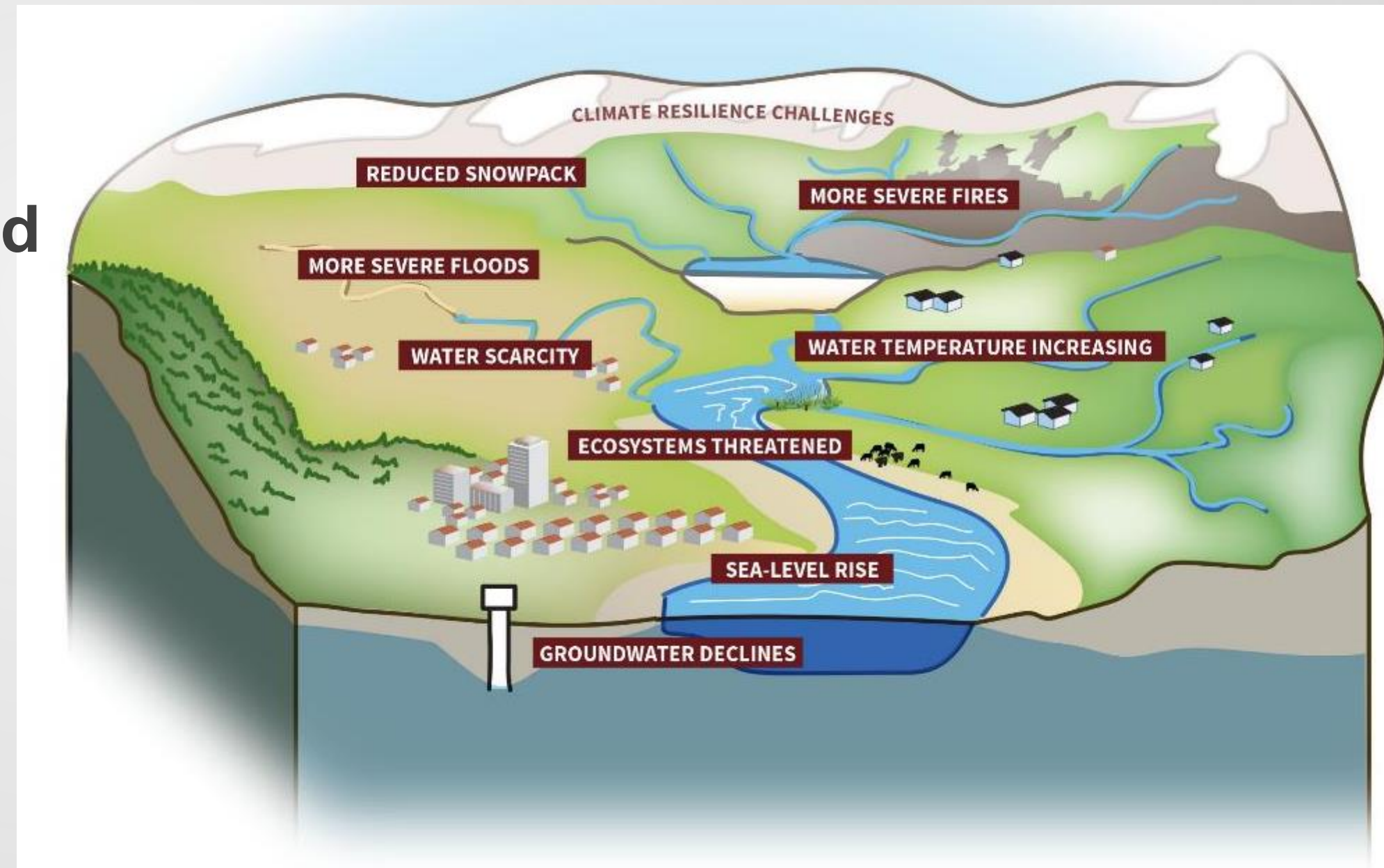
California Water Plan (CWP) Update 2023

Eric Tsai, DWR
CWEMF Annual Conference
April 17, 2023



Framing Today's Presentation

- We are in a **climate crisis**. Each water sector is vulnerable to climate change
- Collaboration across water and land sectors is **mixed**
- Many agencies lack **funding, tools, and institutional capacity to understand climate vulnerabilities**
- **State agency alignment** challenges
- **Inequities** exist in process and outcomes



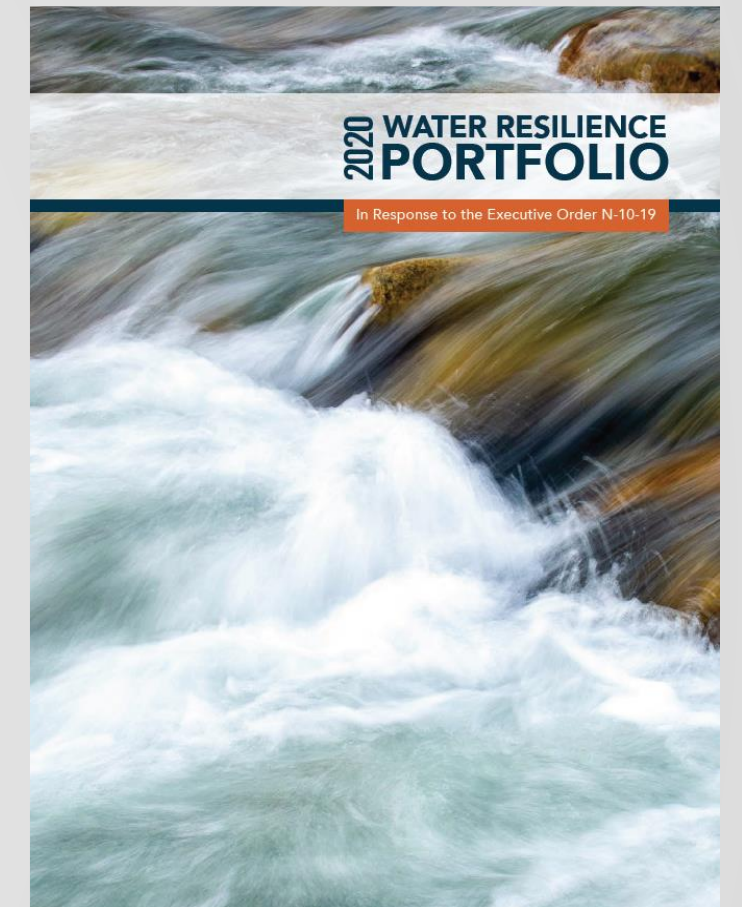
Water Resilience Portfolio

Relationship to the Water Resilience Portfolio

- CWP advances Water Resilience Portfolio actions and supports State agencies

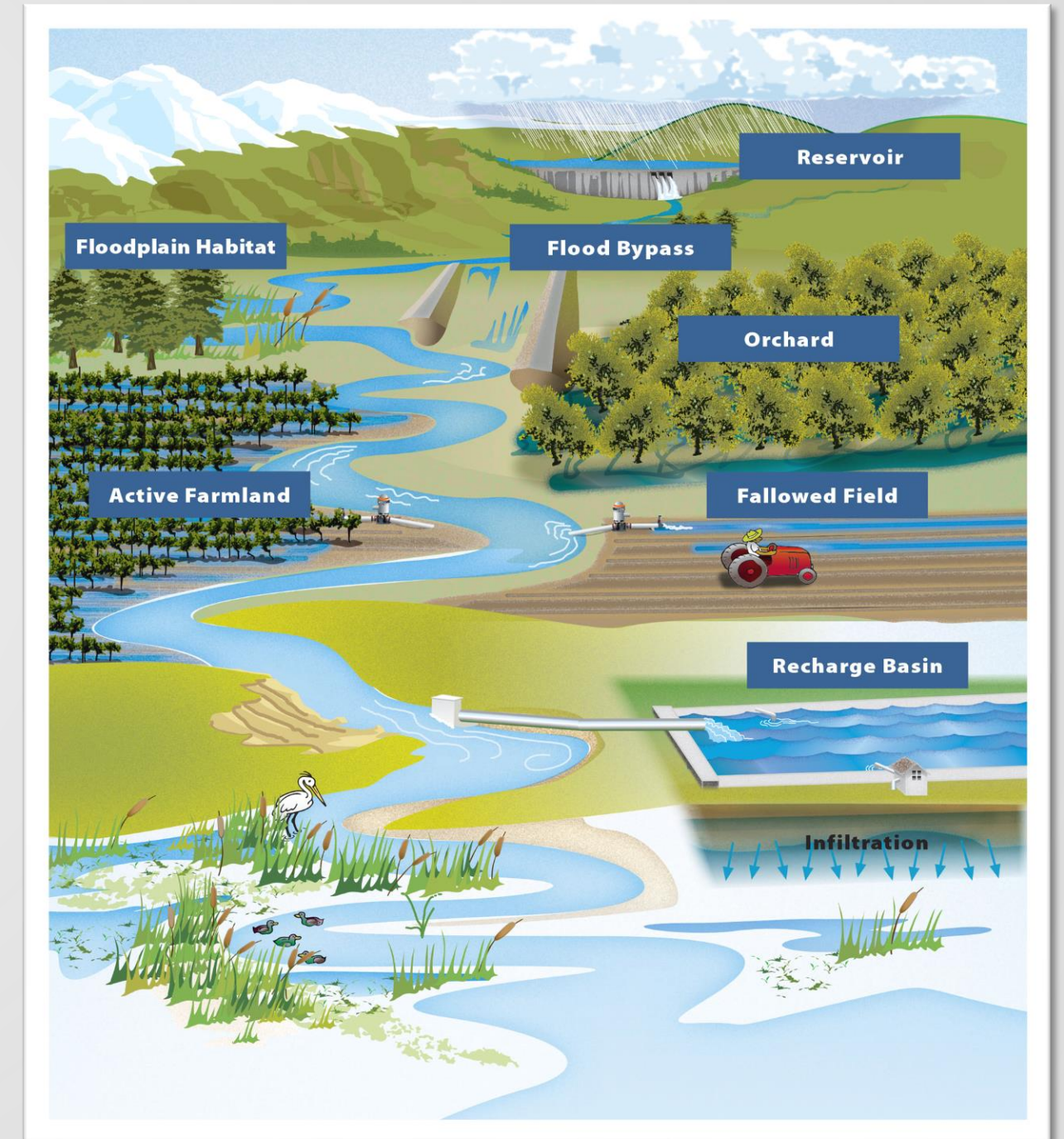
A Focus on Regional Resilience

- EO N-10-19 Principle: “Encourage **regional approaches** among water users sharing **watersheds**”
- State government must focus on **enabling regional resilience** while continuing to set statewide standards, enable projects of statewide scale and importance, and help address challenges beyond the scope of any region...”
- Action 20. Support groups and leaders in each of the state’s **regions** to develop and execute **integrated water resilience strategies**.
- Action 27: Improve the ability of **regions** to anticipate weather and climate changes



State's Focus on Watershed Resilience

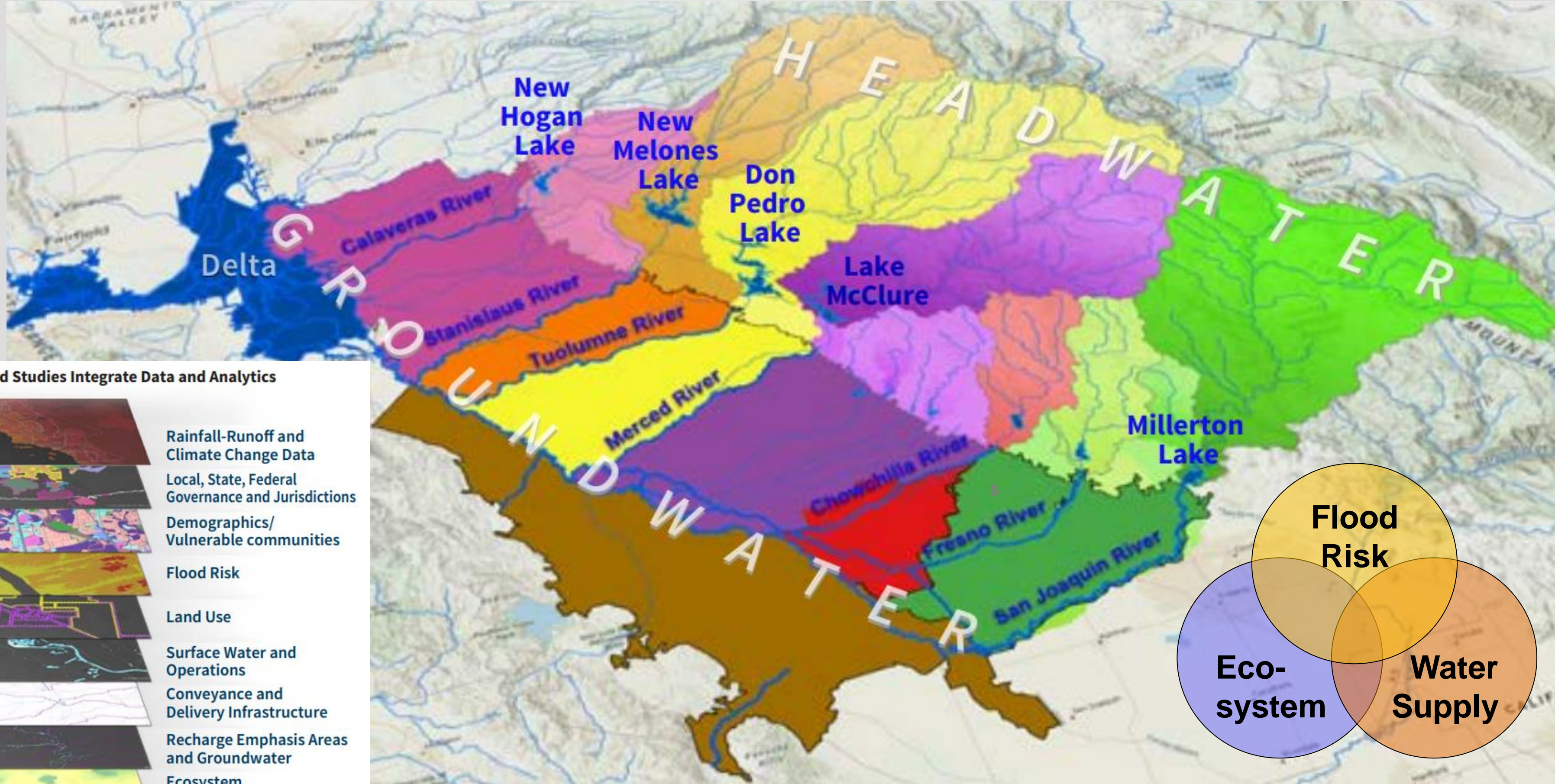
- Systems Approach to Water
- Align Human Activities with Natural Systems
- Common Thread across Water/Land Sectors and IWM



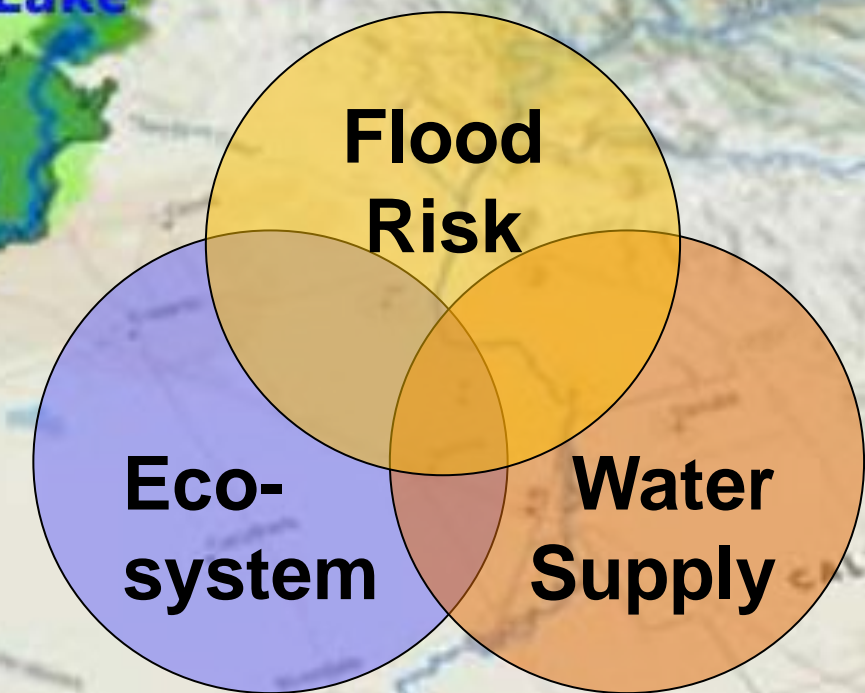
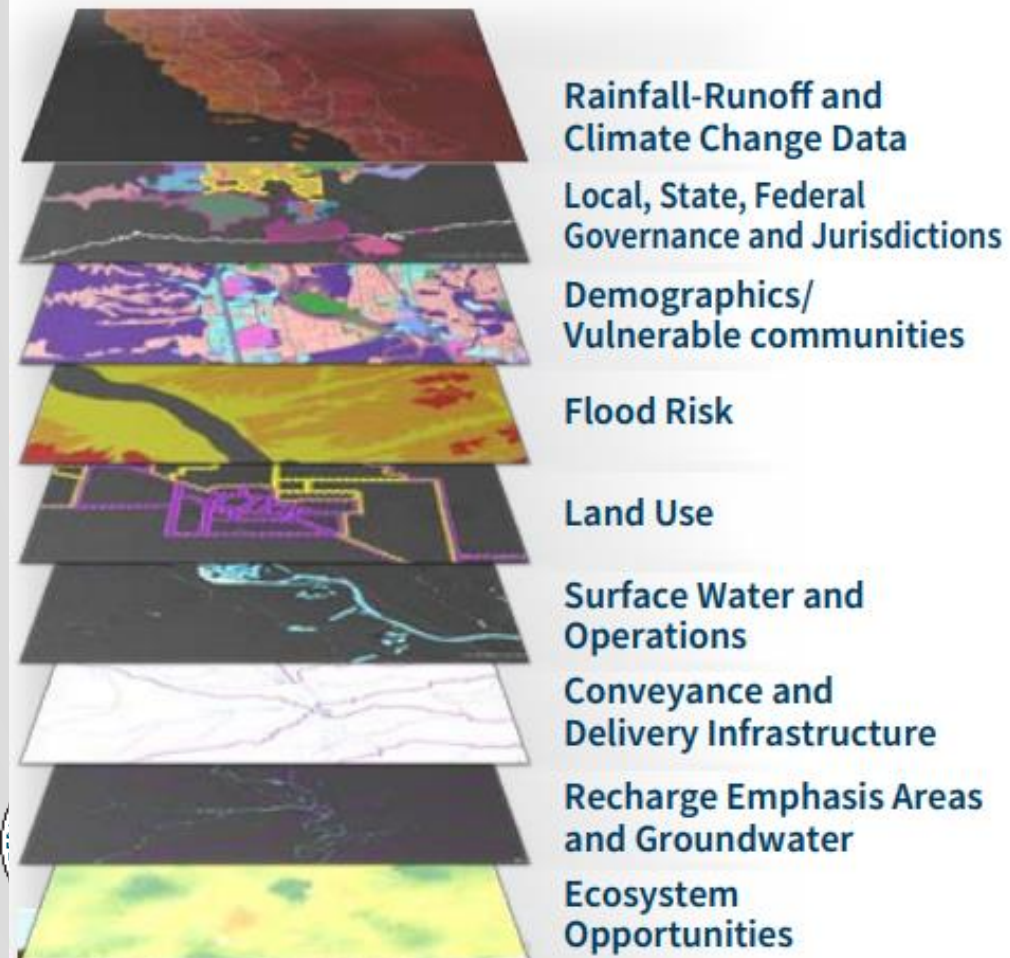
DWR is orienting our data/analytics, technical support, and outcomes tracking with a focus on watersheds.



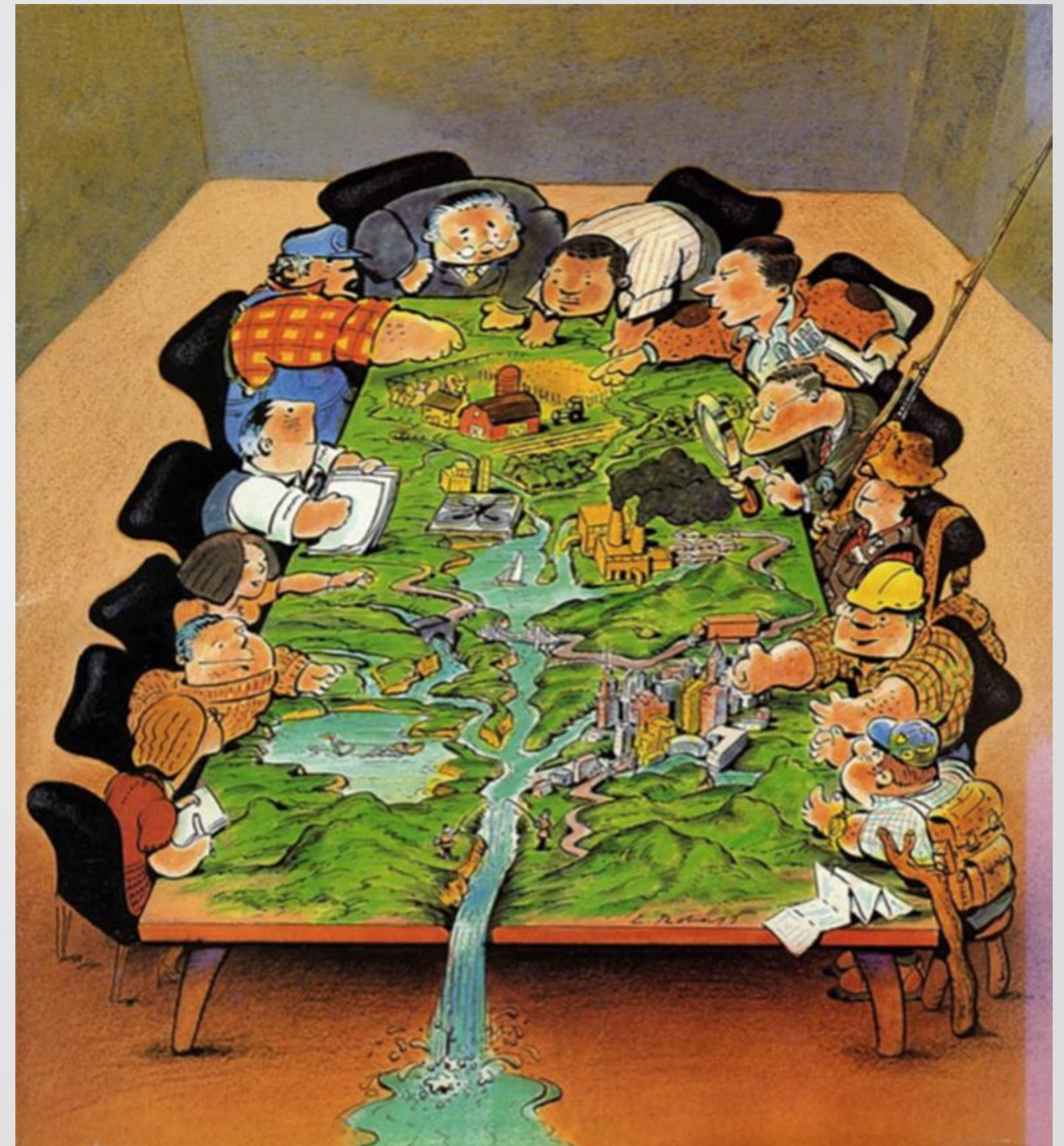
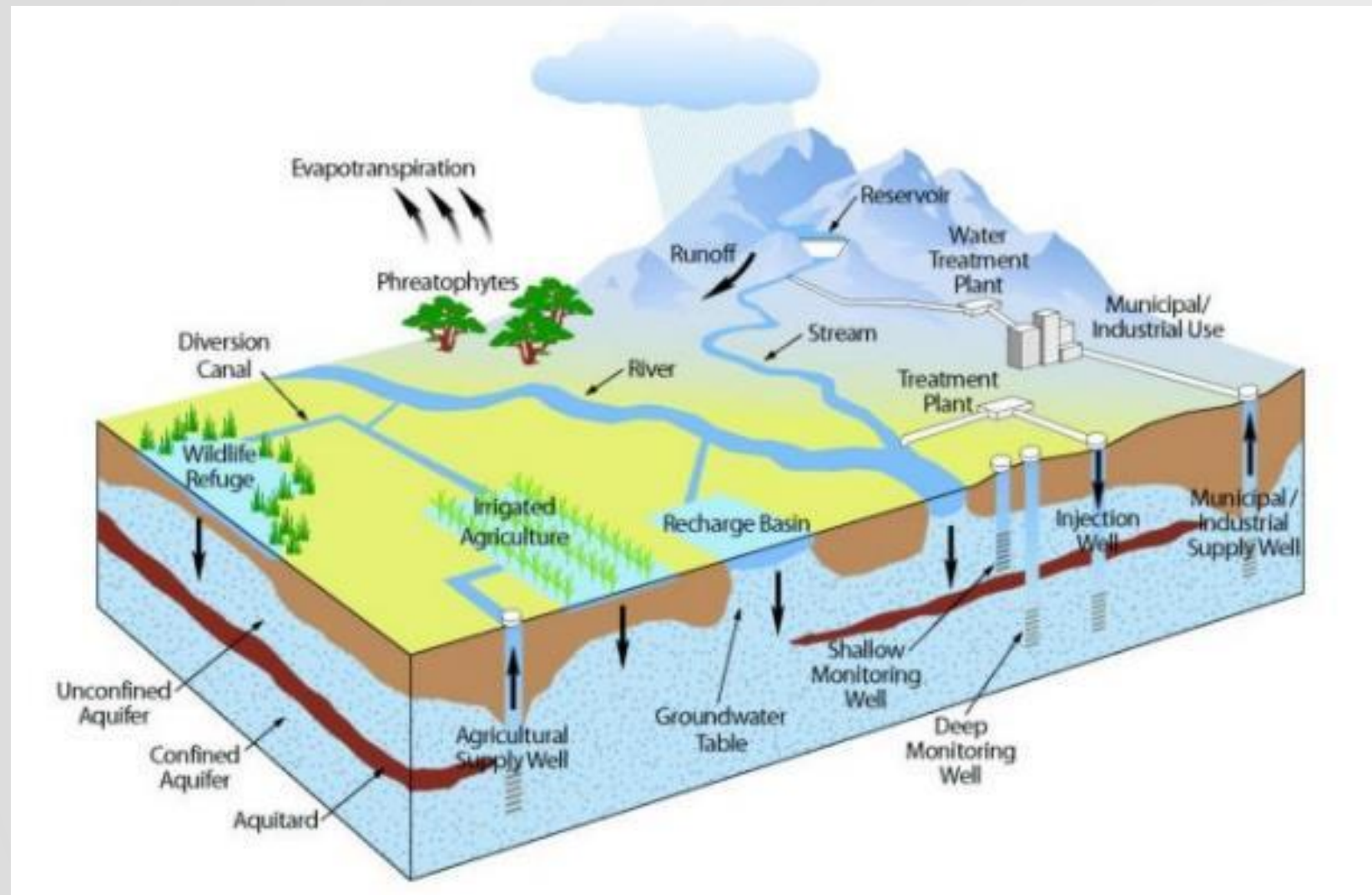
San Joaquin River Basin Watershed Studies



Watershed Studies Integrate Data and Analytics



Sustainable, Resilient and Equitable Watersheds

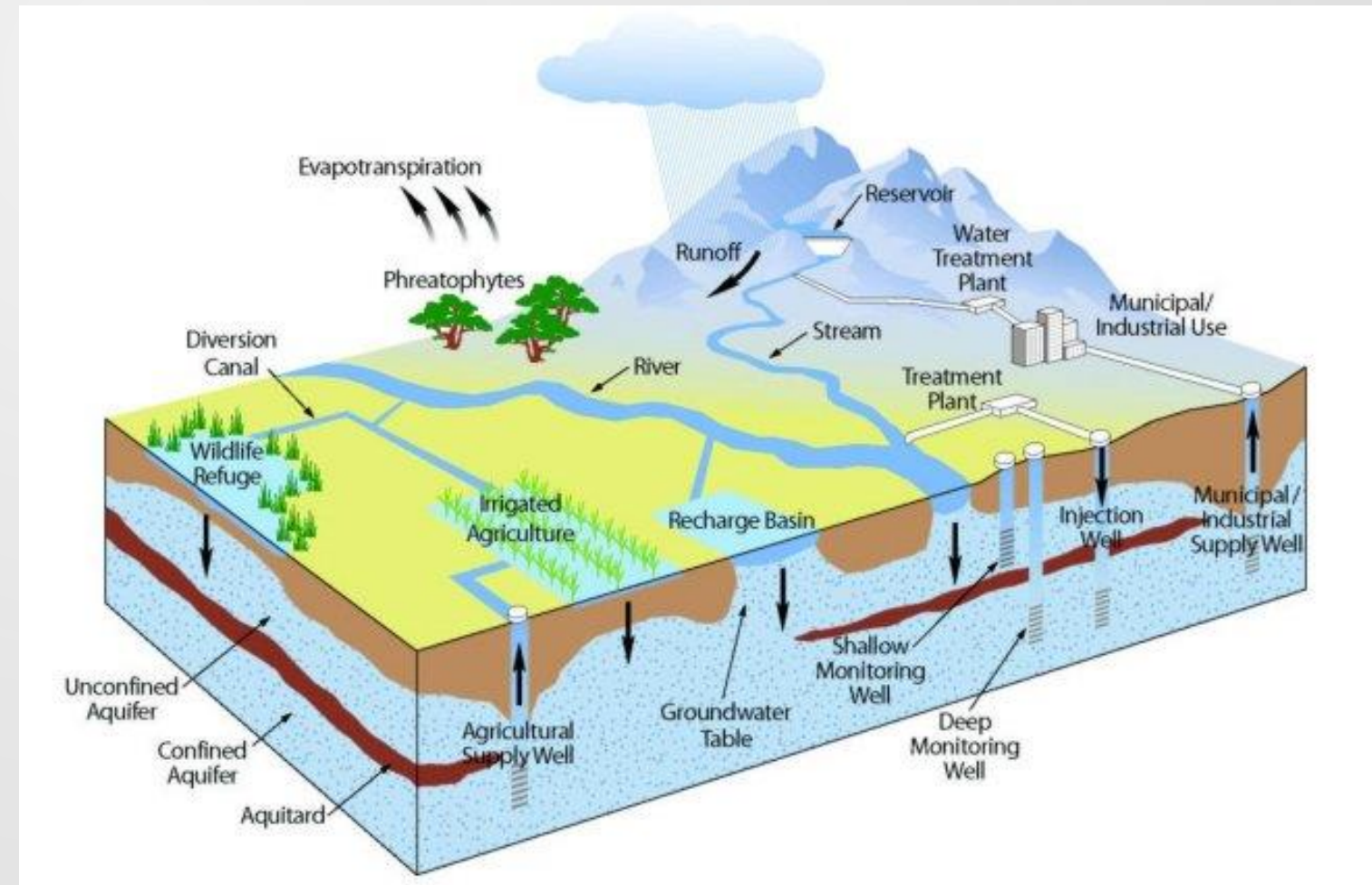


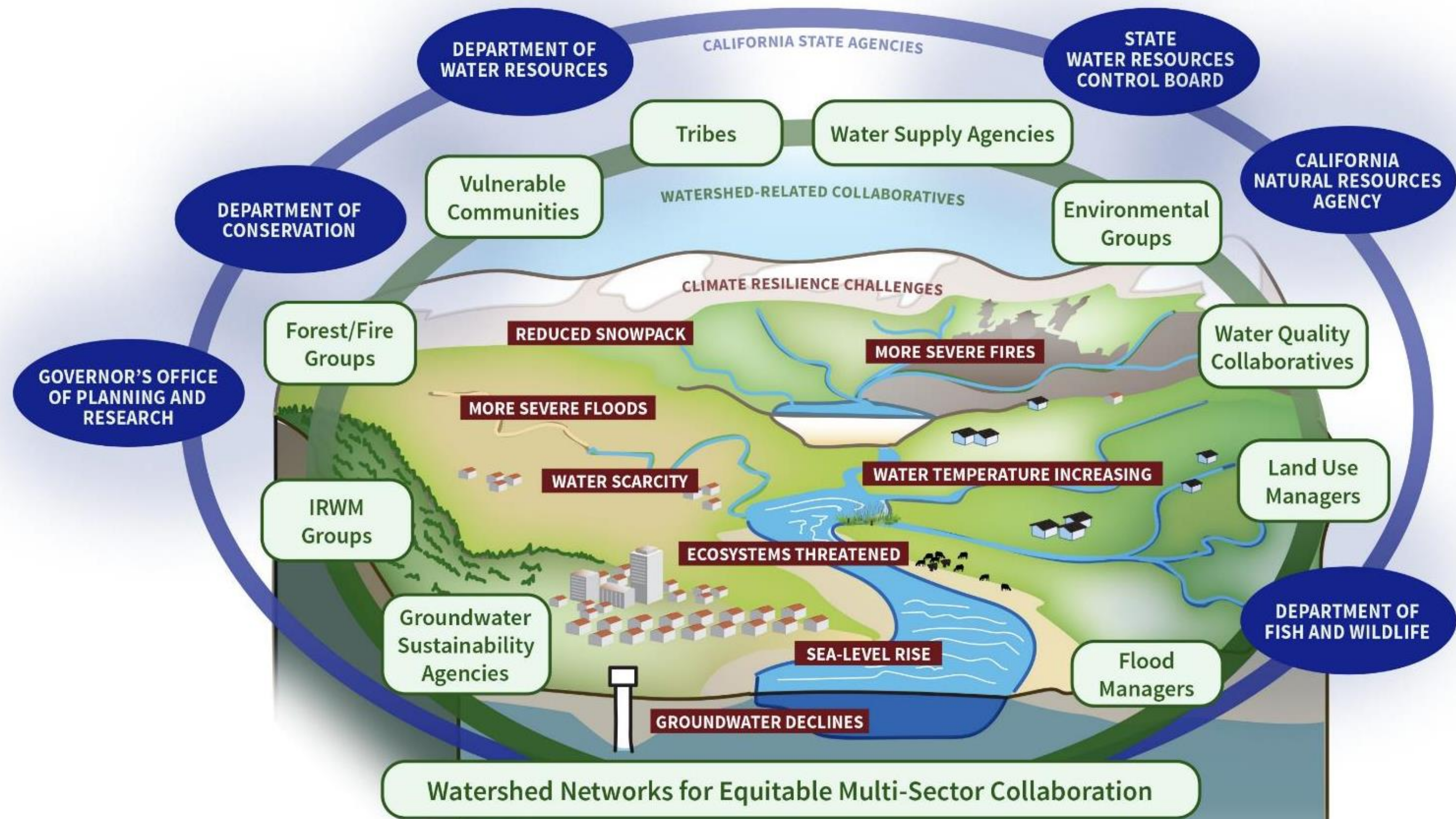
Watershed Resilience Goal

Increase regional climate resilience through integrated water management at watershed scales

Major Principles

- Climate Change Adaptation
- Integrated Water Management
- Networks
- Equity
- Outcomes-based Management
- Watershed Scale





Watershed Resilience-Related Products for CWP Update 2023

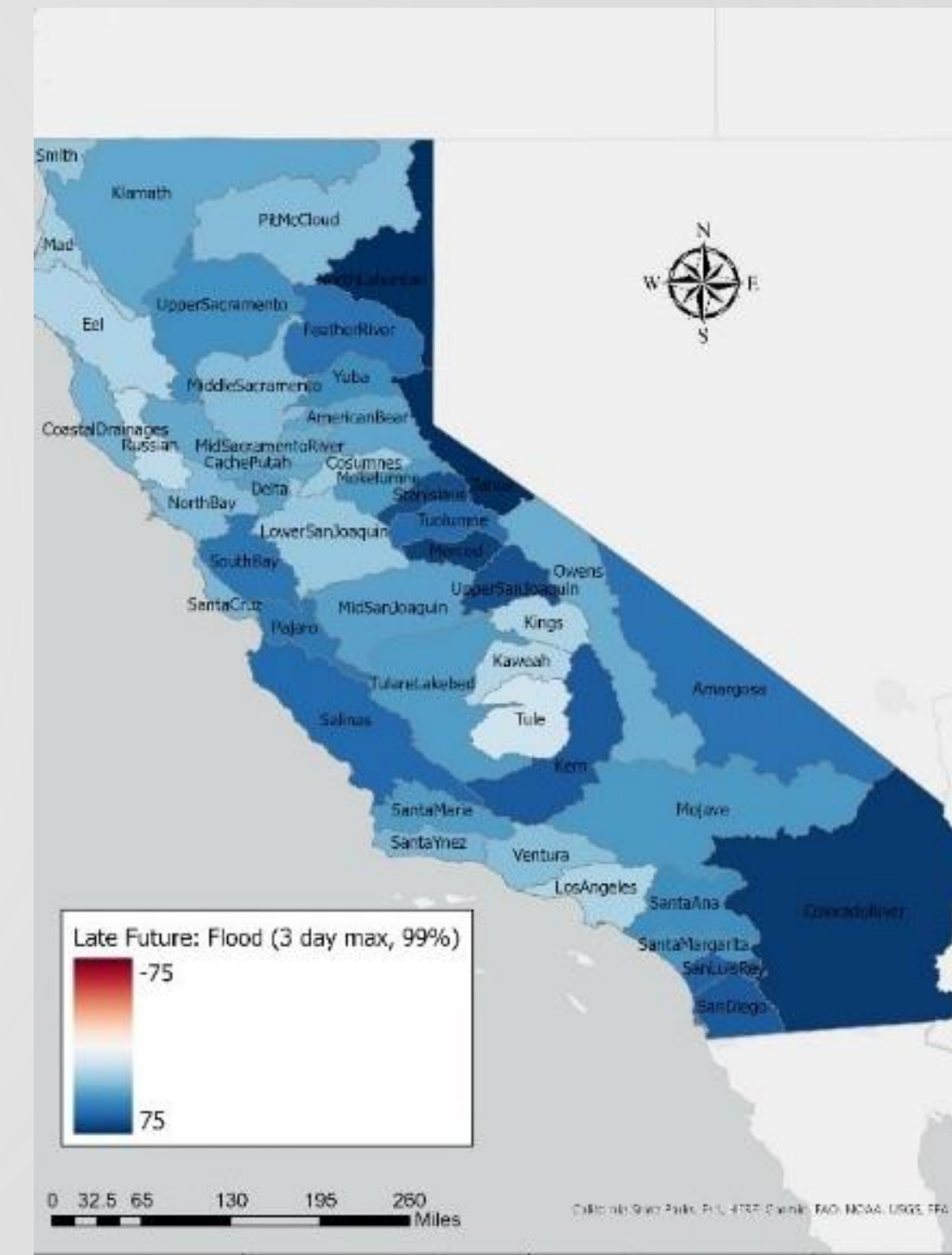
- Statewide Climate Change Risk and Preparedness Assessment
- Watershed Resilience Framework and Toolkit
- Watershed Performance Tracking Hub



Statewide Climate Change Risk and Preparedness Assessment

- Vulnerability
 - Water Supply
 - Flood Management
 - Groundwater
 - Ecosystems
 - Water Quality
 - Recreation
 - Hydropower
 - Drought
 - Wildfire

- Preparedness
 - Reviewed over 800 plans for:
 - Collaboration
 - Staffing for Climate Resilience
 - Identified Climate Impacts
 - Vulnerability/Risk Assessments
 - Adaptation Strategies
 - Funding and Implementation



Climate Vulnerability

≈ Climate Risk

Climate Preparedness



Watershed Resilience Framework and Toolkit

State	Regions
Fund and provide technical and facilitation assistance, as needed for watershed networks. Model cross sector alignment.	Form and facilitate networks of watershed stakeholders,, define watershed boundaries and conditions, advance watershed resilience plans

State	Regions
Develop water balance guidance Provide future scenarios and climate change analysis guidance	Conduct state of watershed assessments

State	Regions
Develop resilience toolkit and adaptation database Develop decision support approaches and pathways/best practices	Apply and expand resilience toolkit to meet watershed-specific needs Prioritize adaptation strategies



State	Regions
Develop State Vision and goals and align State agencies	Develop watershed-specific problems, vision, goals

State	Regions
Highlight case studies Technical Support Funding Synthesize regional vulnerabilities	Conduct vulnerability and risk assessments by watershed

State	Regions
Funding Establish performance tracking framework to report on resilience	Identify and secure funding Regionalize metrics and report regional resilience performance Develop partnerships and agreements



Watershed Performance Tracking Hub

Regional Atlas



Map Explorer

Map Explorers

- Watershed Performance
- Watershed Characteristics
- Projects

Select filters to view projects

Project Objective

- Water Supply
- Flood Management
- Ecosystem
- Recreation
- Groundwater
- Water Quality
- Other
- N/A

Project Type

- Infrastructure Development
- Plan Development
- Education
- Monitoring
- Research
- Other
- N/A

Project Status

Terrestrial Biodiversity Rank with Largest Area per Watershed

BioRankEco

- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1

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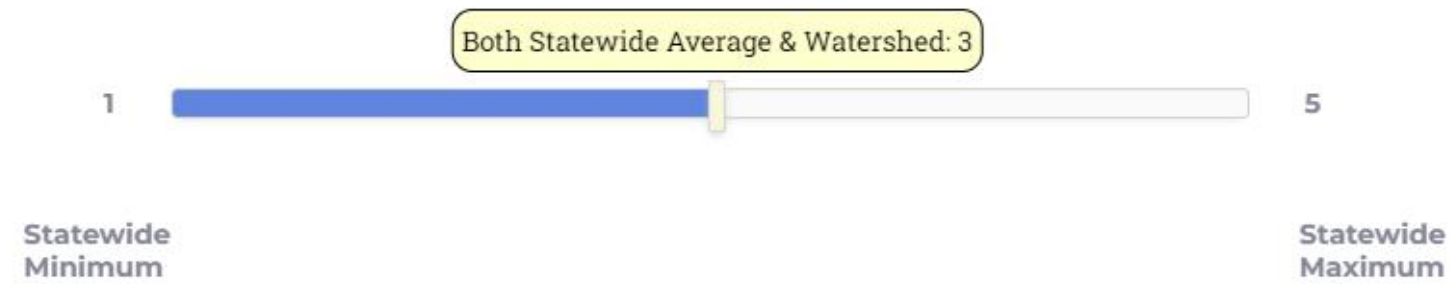
Watershed Performance Tracking Hub

Sustainability Outlook

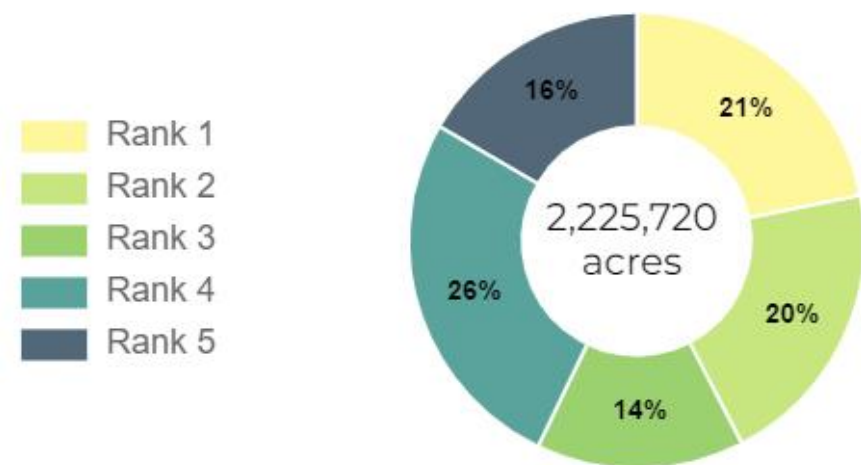
Terrestrial Biodiversity for Middle Sacramento

About Terrestrial Biodiversity ⓘ

Total Terrestrial Biodiversity per Watershed with Respect to State (acres)

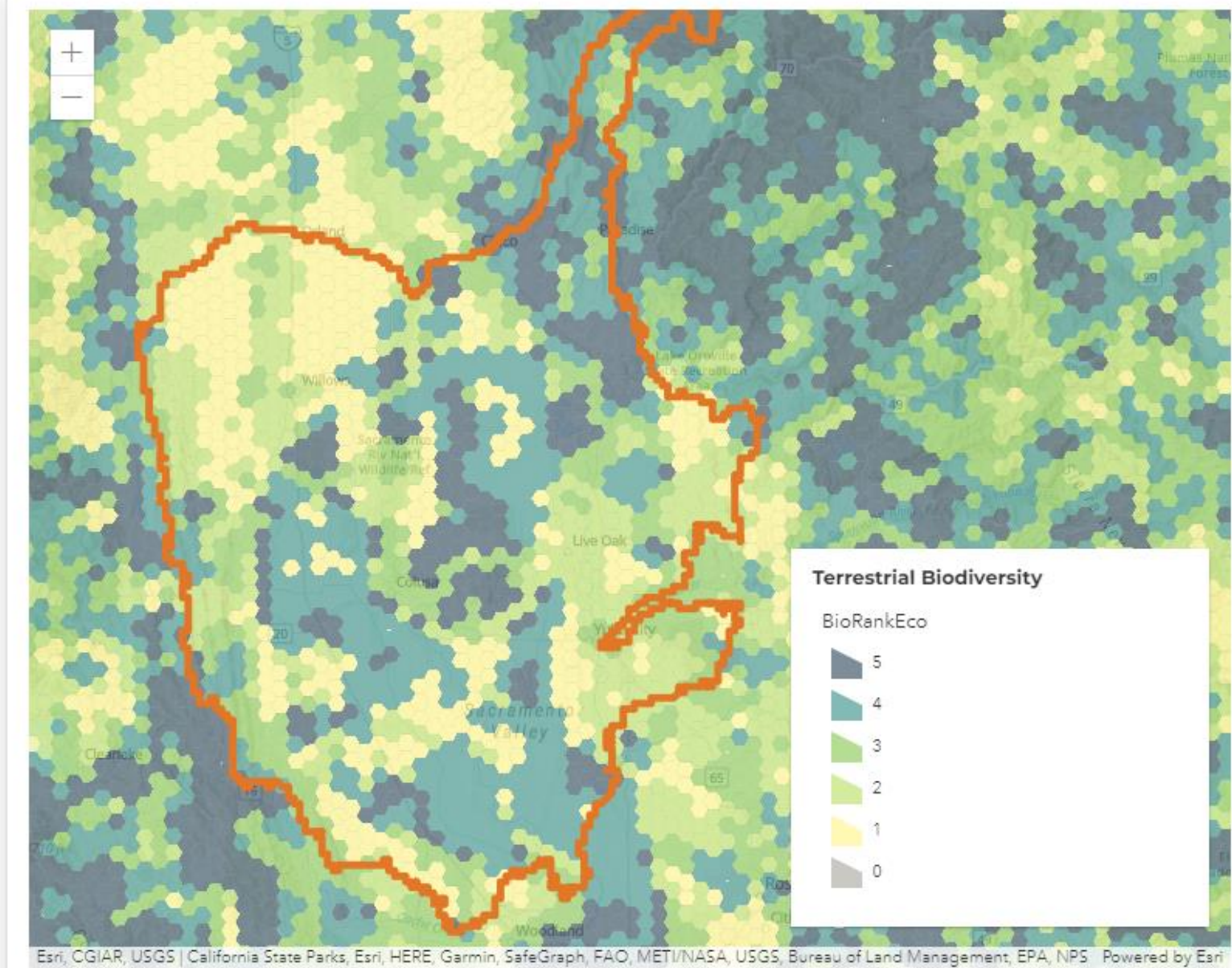


Total Terrestrial Biodiversity Area (acres)



CalEnviroScreen Score: 5

Disadvantaged Communities



Close

Watershed Climate Resilience Funding

- AB 179 Budget Act of 2022 and AB 211 Public Resources Trailer Bill authorized up to \$160 million funding for watershed climate resilience grants.
- Funds provided as grants for drought resilience and identification and assessment of climate risks on a watershed basis.
- Funds shall be prioritized in areas with greatest risk or potential to reduce environmental conflicts
- Includes both longer-term planning and resilience projects
- Next Steps: Looking to pilot test watershed resilience principles and multi-sector networks with willing regional partners



Watershed Resilience Program: Desired Outcomes

- Robust recognition of climate vulnerabilities at the watershed scale
- Support unique locally-led networks across California's diverse regions
- Promote and achieve resilience at the watershed scale



Questions

