

Napa River Fish Monitoring

Martin Perales
Napa Resource
Conservation District

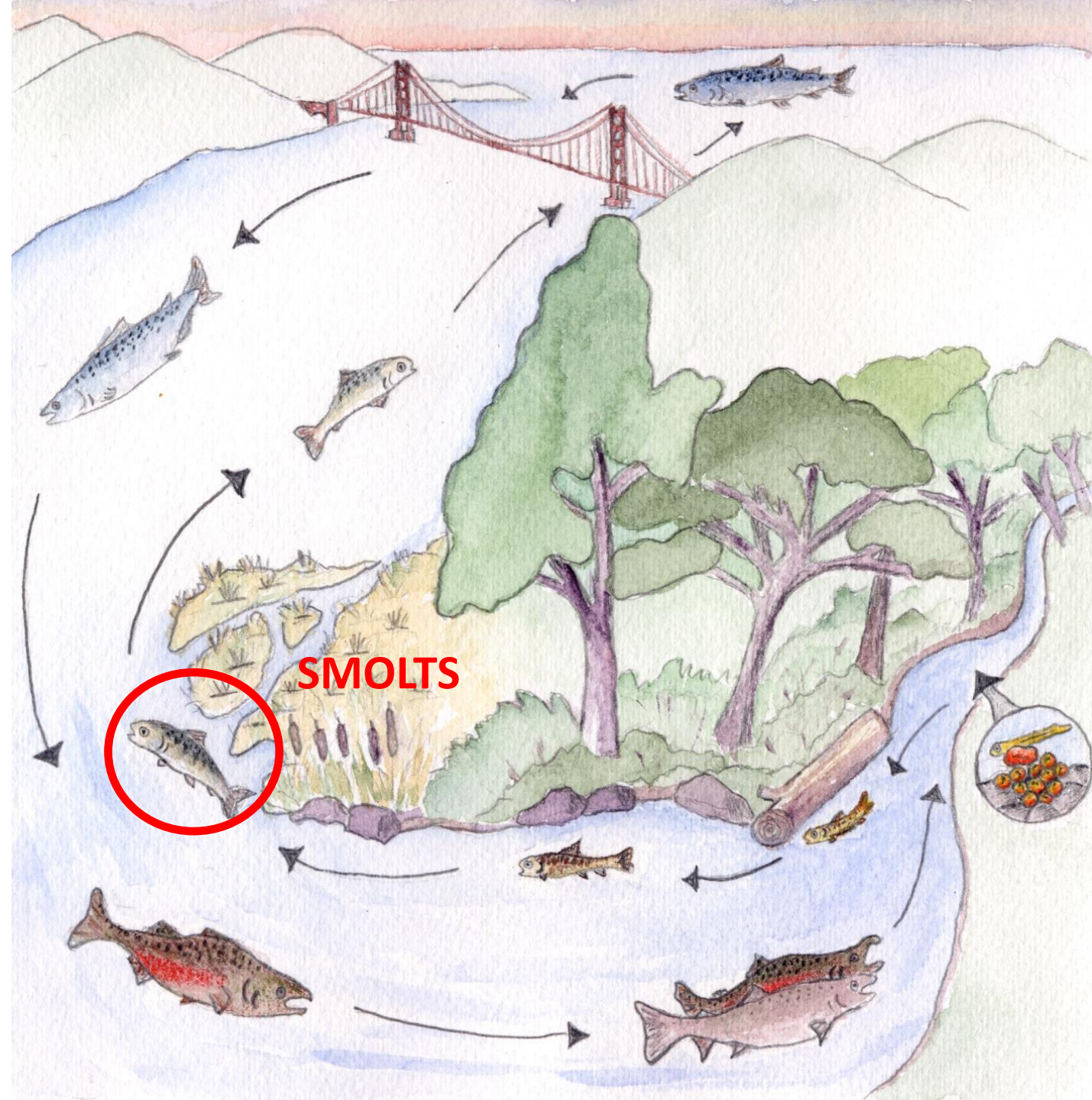


Steelhead

Oncorhynchus mykiss

- Listed as **Threatened** under the Federal Endangered Species Act
- Anadromous form of Rainbow Trout
- Young spend 1-4 years in freshwater





Napa River Fish Trap

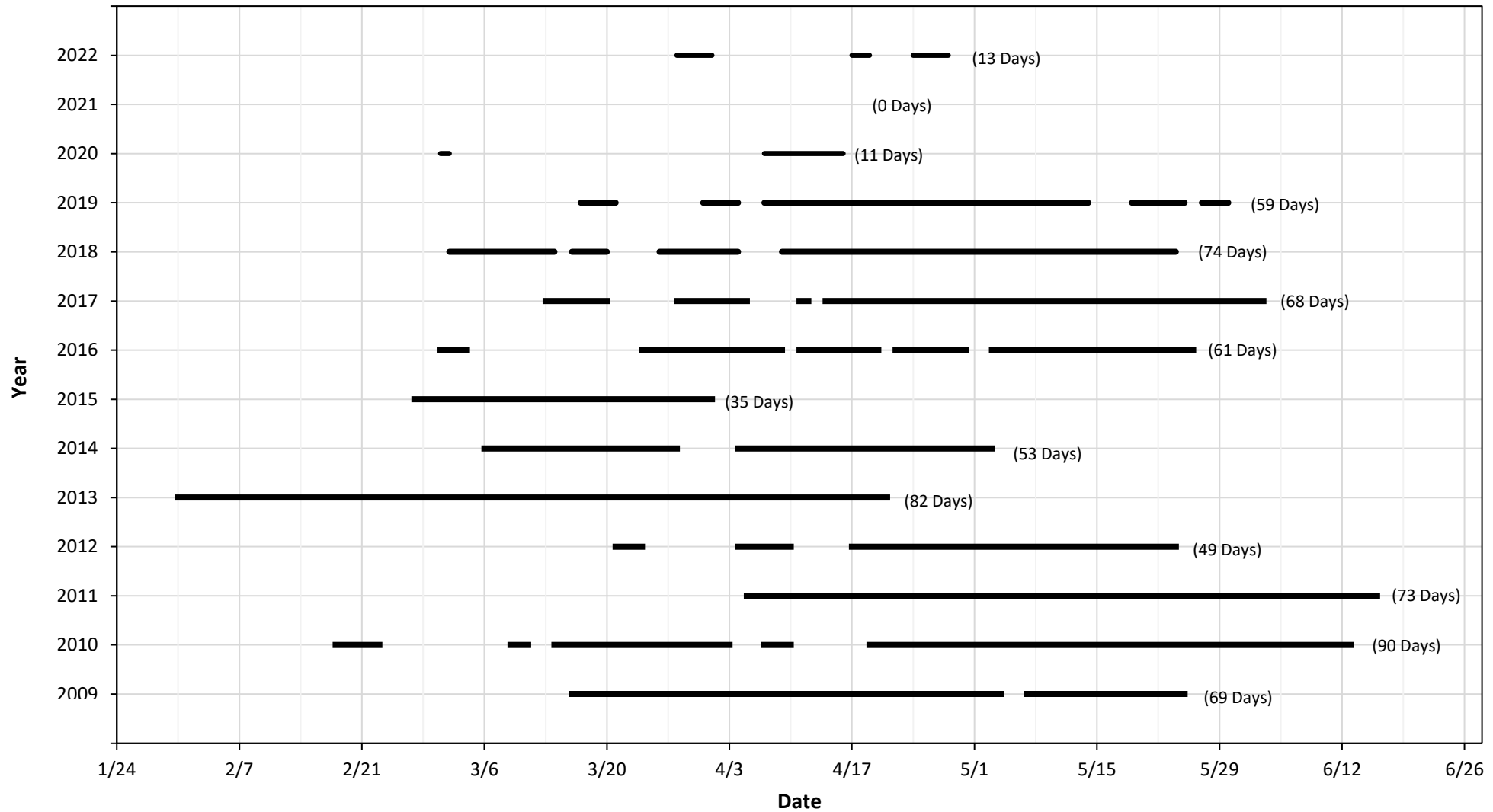


Napa River Watershed

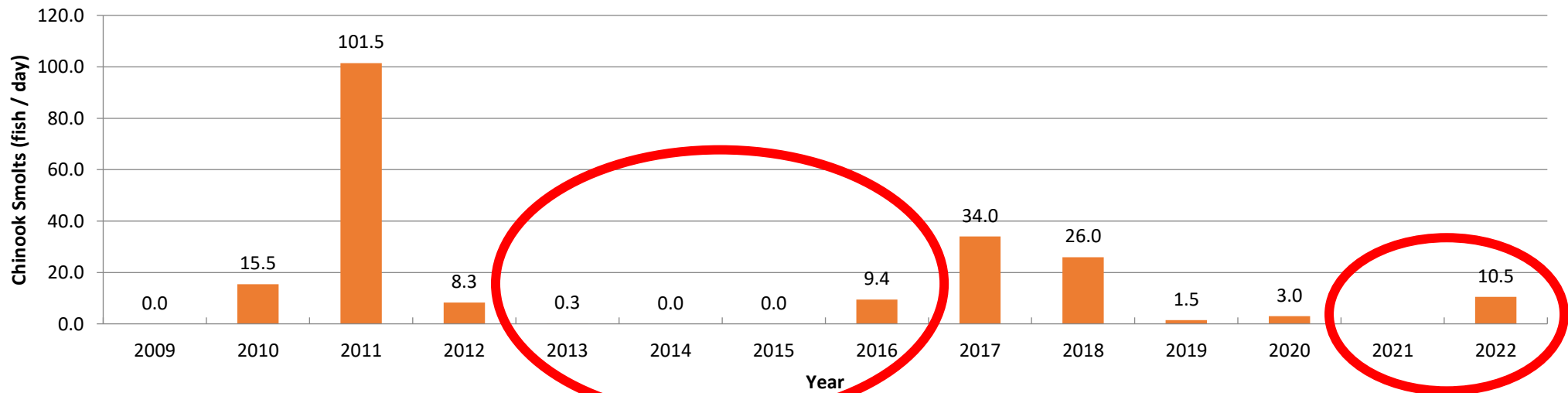
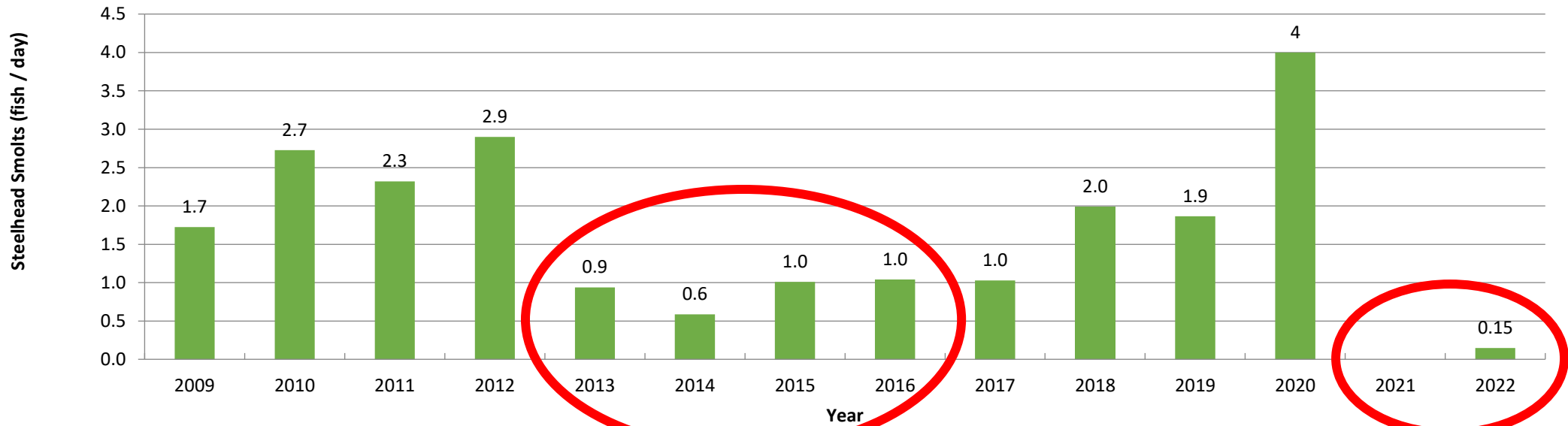
- 31 major tributaries
- Approx. 146 stream miles with anadromous salmonids

Napa River Fish Trap →
Approximately 66% of salmonid habitat is upstream of this point

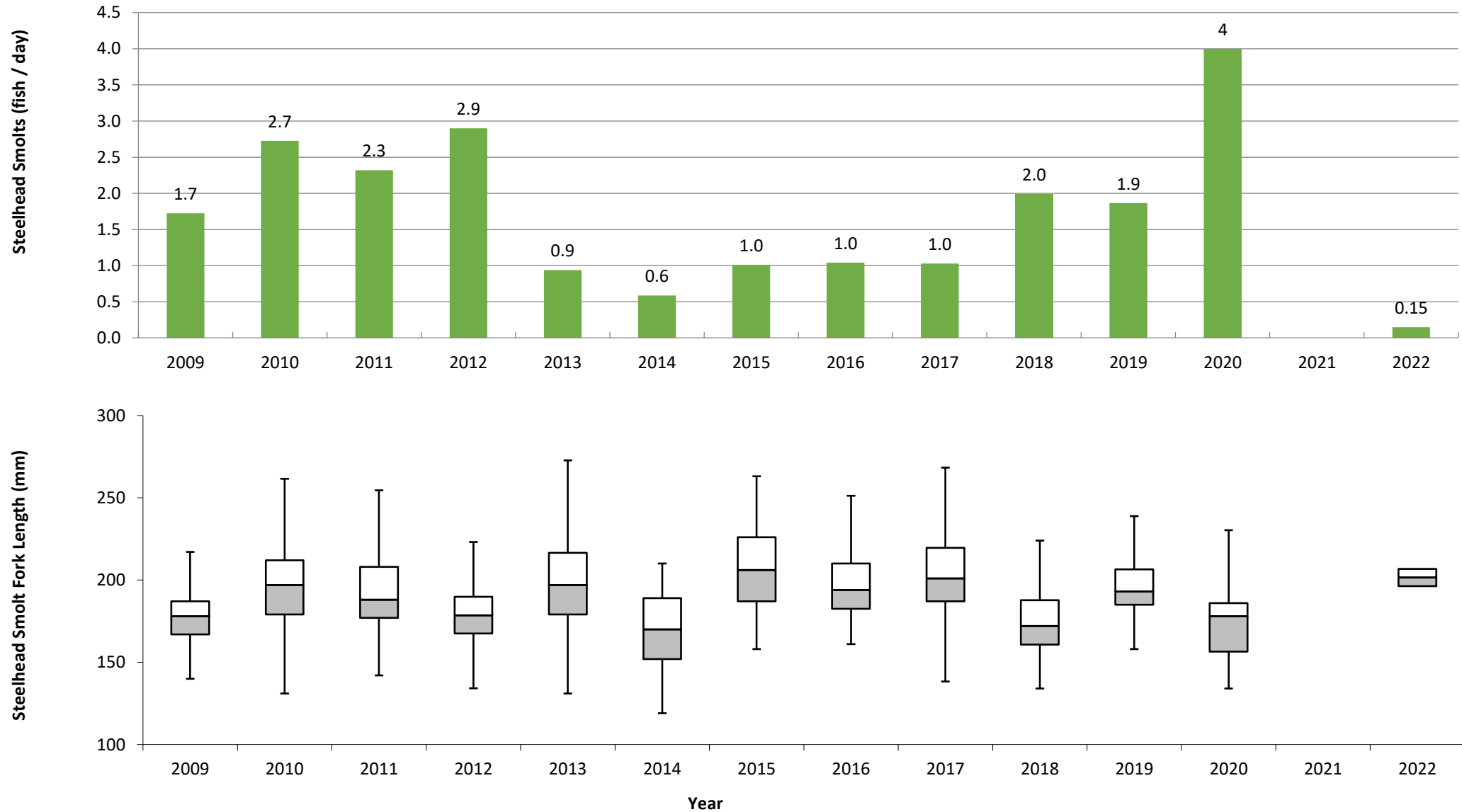
Sampling dates - Rotary Screw Trap



Steelhead vs Chinook production



Steelhead smolt catches through time



PIT tagging



Table 1. PIT tagged steelhead re-detected by the Napa River PIT tag antenna in subsequent years.

Date Tagged	Tagging Location	Length (mm)	Weight (g)	Re-Detection Date	Days between tagging and re-detection
4/1/2016	Napa River RST	192	65.1	3/1/2018	699
4/2/2016	Napa River RST	201	85.1	3/1/2018	698
5/12/2017	Napa River RST	193	68.4	2/17/2019	646
3/18/2018	Napa River RST	190	63.5	3/11/2020	724
4/17/2018	Napa River RST	185	68.1	2/17/2020	671
4/23/2018	Napa River RST	185	65.1	3/19/2019	330

First confirmation of self-sustaining population



Napa River Fish Community



29 species in freshwater streams

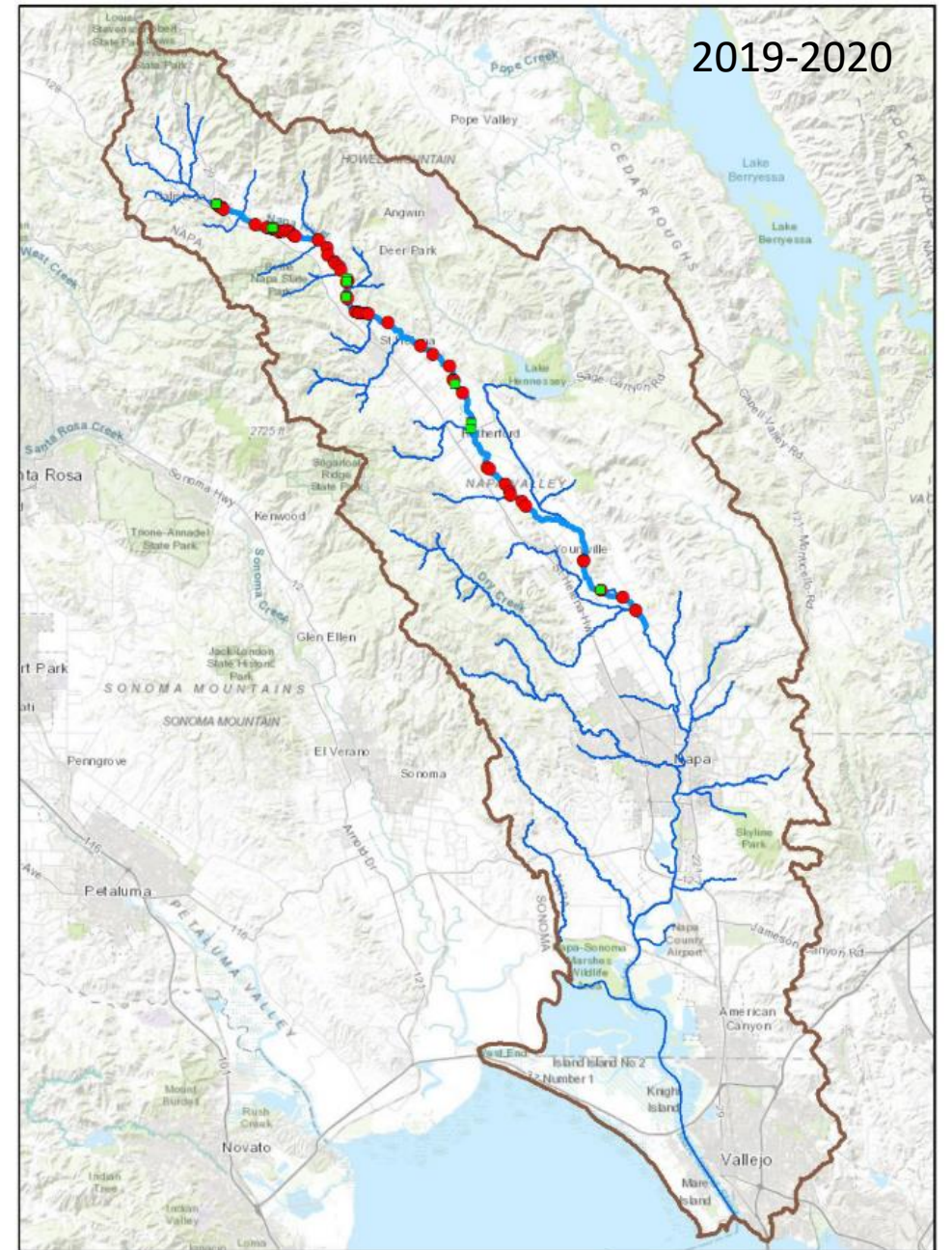
- **15 native species**
 - **2 Salmonids**
 - **Steelhead**
 - **Chinook Salmon**

**Assemblage
dominated by
native species**

Napa River -
potentially
important
system for
native lamprey



Adult spawner surveys



2019-2020

Napa River Watershed

Major Stream

Napa River Surveyed Reaches

Live Spawning Salmon

Salmon Spawning Redds

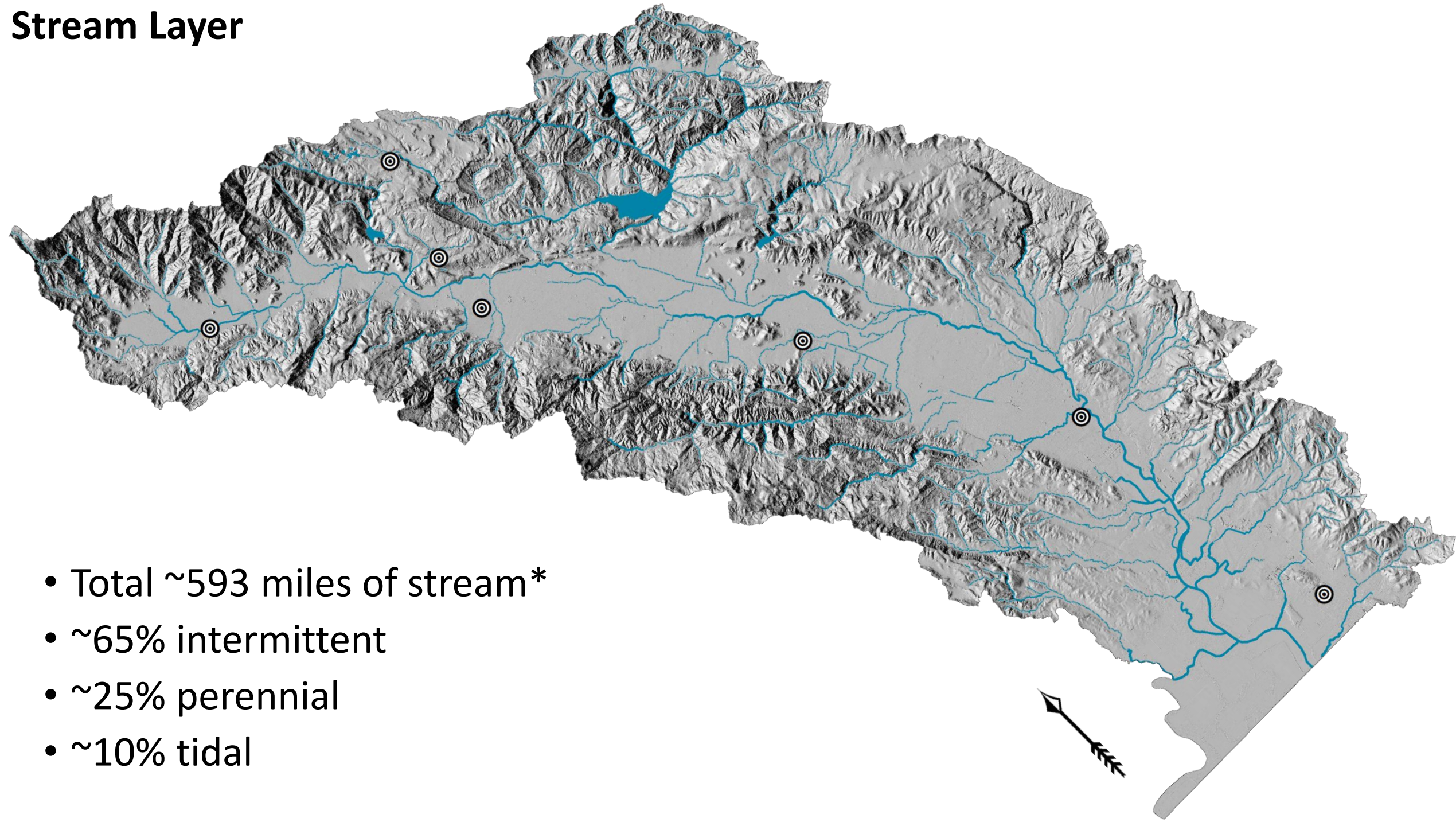
N

0 5 10 Km



Update on
collective fish
barrier
remediation
efforts

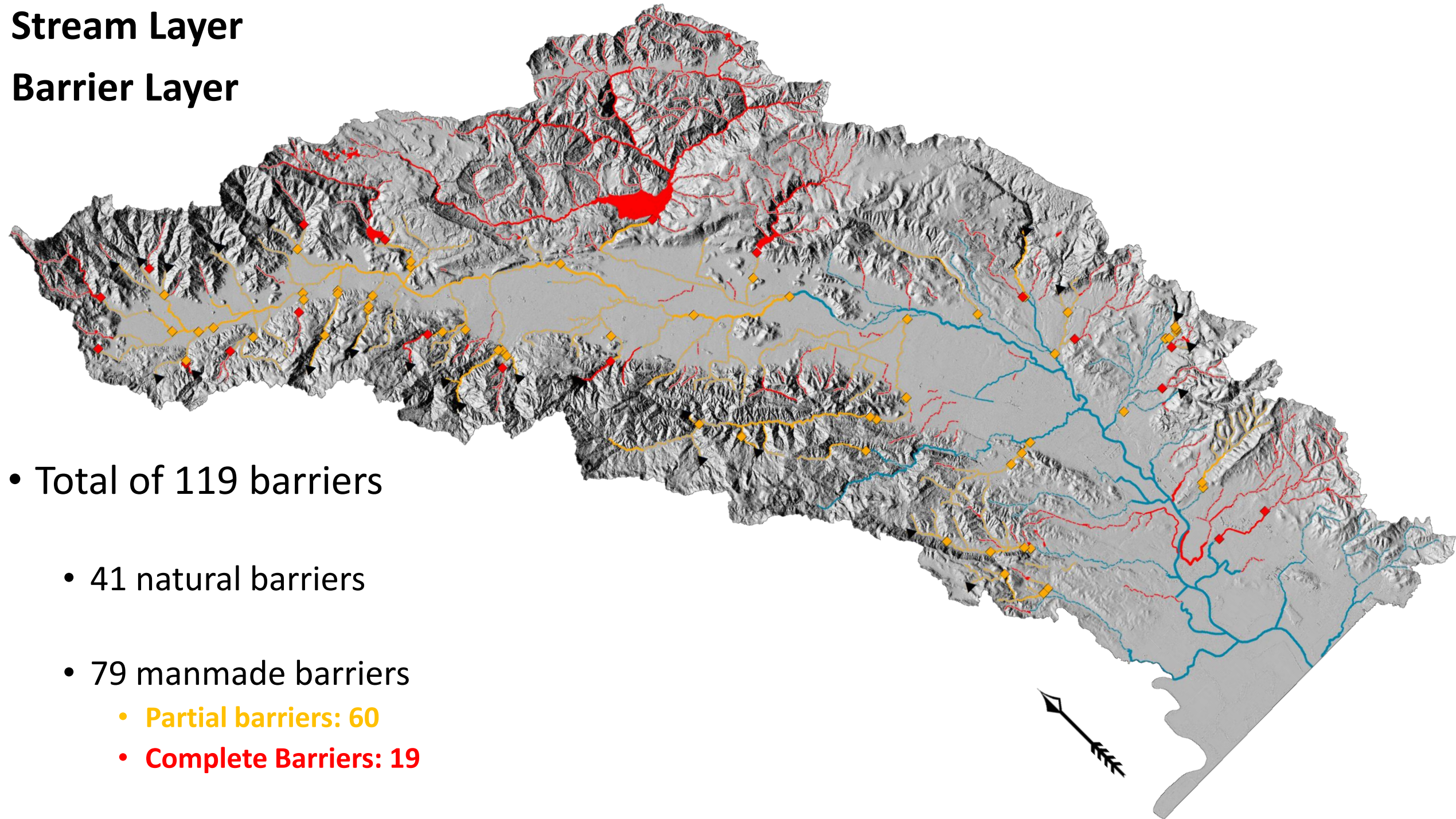
Stream Layer



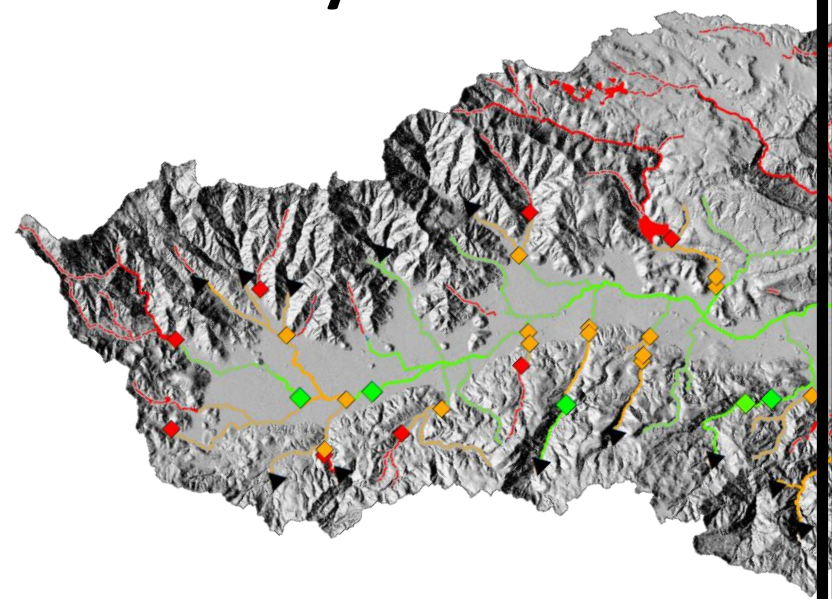
- Total ~593 miles of stream*
- ~65% intermittent
- ~25% perennial
- ~10% tidal

Stream Layer

Barrier Layer



Stream Layer Barrier Layer




- Total of 119 barriers
 - 41 natural barriers
 - 79 manmade barriers
 - Partial barriers: ~~60~~ 42
 - Complete Barriers: ~~19~~ 17

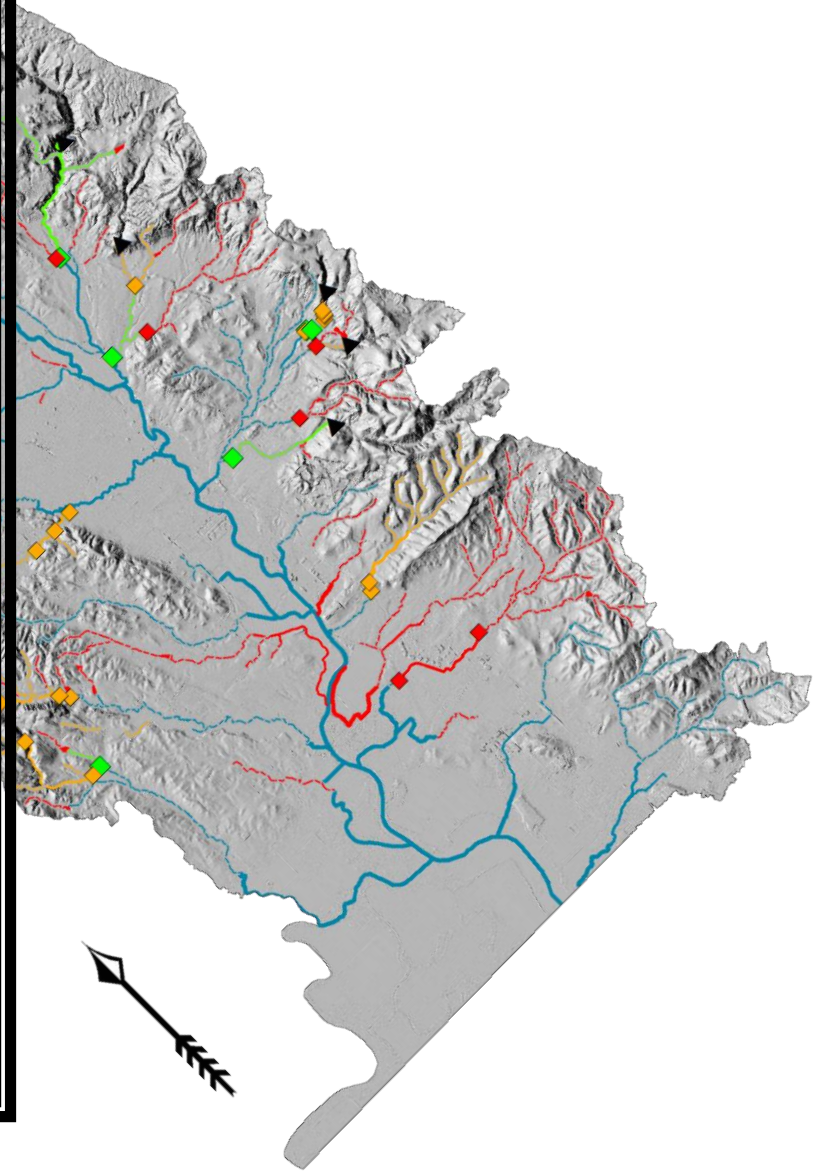
NAPA RIVER FISH BARRIER PLAN

August 2011

Prepared by:

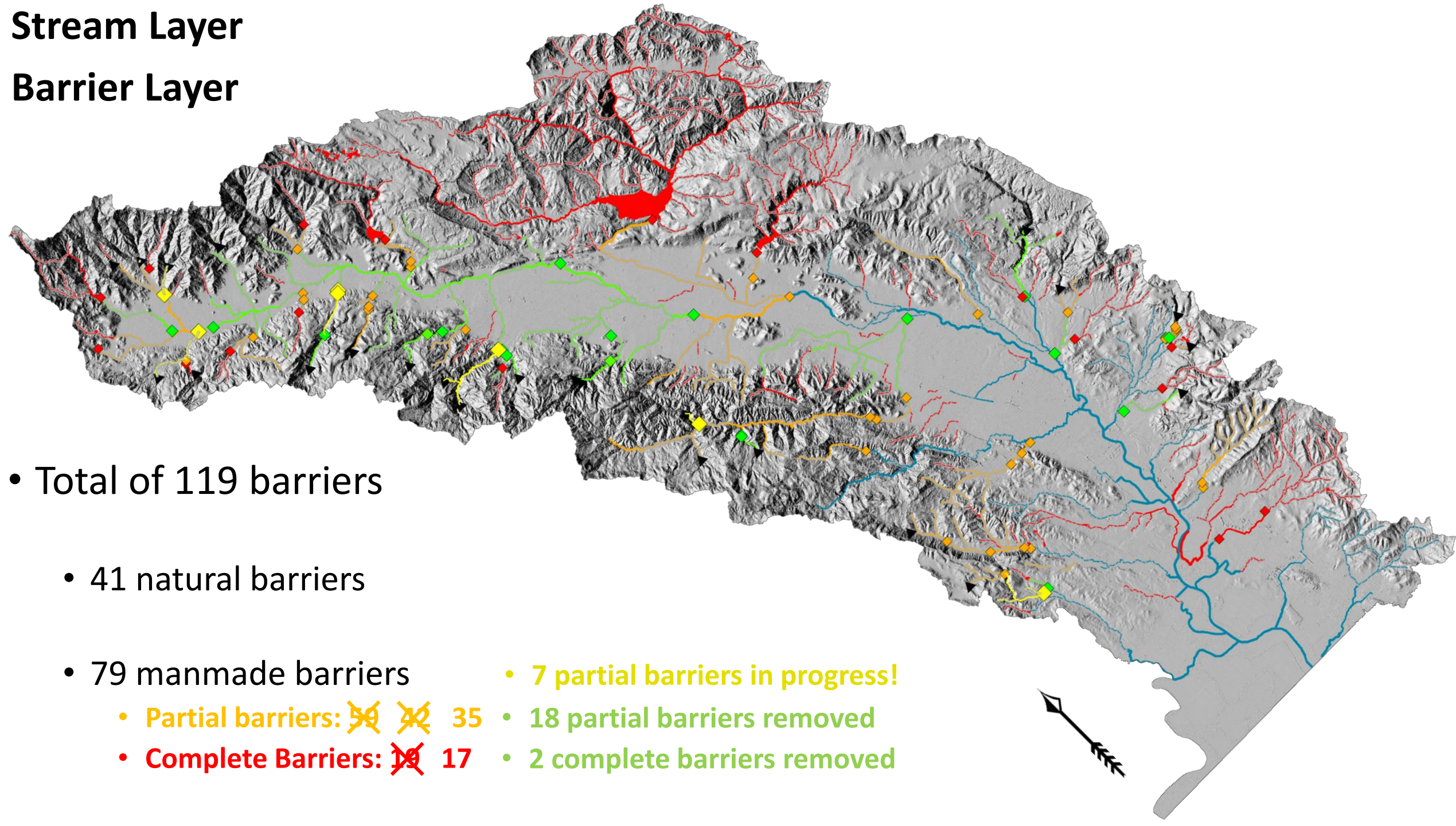
 **NAPA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
1303 JEFFERSON STREET, SUITE 500B
NAPA, CALIFORNIA 94559

JONATHAN KOEHLER SENIOR BIOLOGIST (707) 252-4188 x 109 jonathan@naparcd.org	PAUL BLANK HYDROLOGIST (707) 252-4188 x 112 paul@naparcd.org
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Stream Layer

Barrier Layer



- Total of 119 barriers

- 41 natural barriers

- 79 manmade barriers

- **Partial barriers:** ~~50~~ ~~15~~ 35

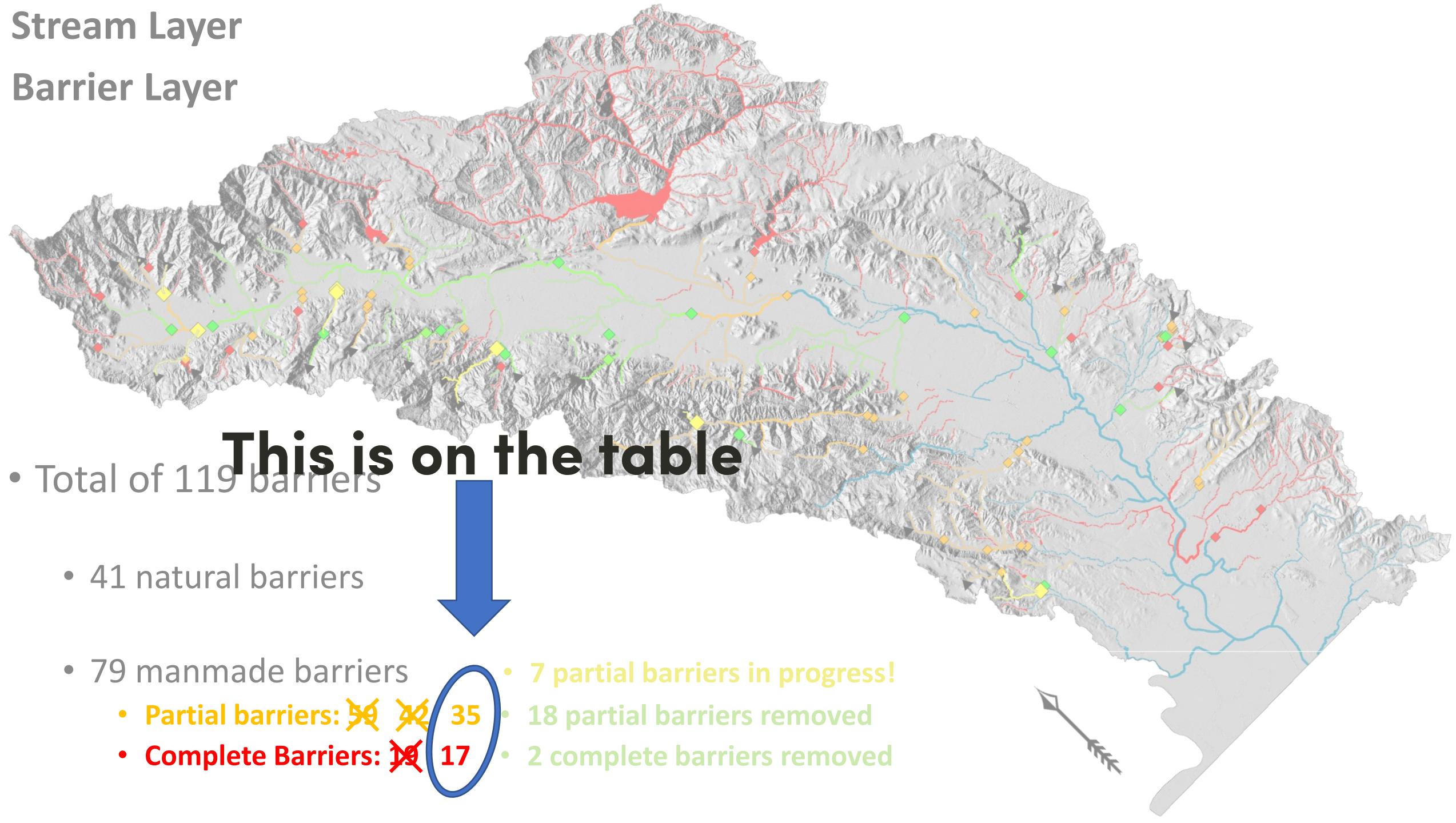
- **Complete Barriers:** ~~19~~ 17

- **7 partial barriers in progress!**

- **18 partial barriers removed**

- **2 complete barriers removed**

Stream Layer
Barrier Layer



This is on the table

• Total of 119 barriers

• 41 natural barriers

• 79 manmade barriers

• Partial barriers: ~~50~~ ~~42~~ 35

• Complete Barriers: ~~19~~ 17

• 7 partial barriers in progress!

• 18 partial barriers removed

• 2 complete barriers removed

Formed advisory committee to develop a watershed strategy for fish habitat enhancement

- Bringing together local, state, federal and private partners
 - Proof-of-concept Barrier remediation
 - 6 barriers to remediate ASAP
 - Watershed wide fish passage barrier assessment
 - Scale up monitoring efforts
 - Fish and flows

Stream Watch

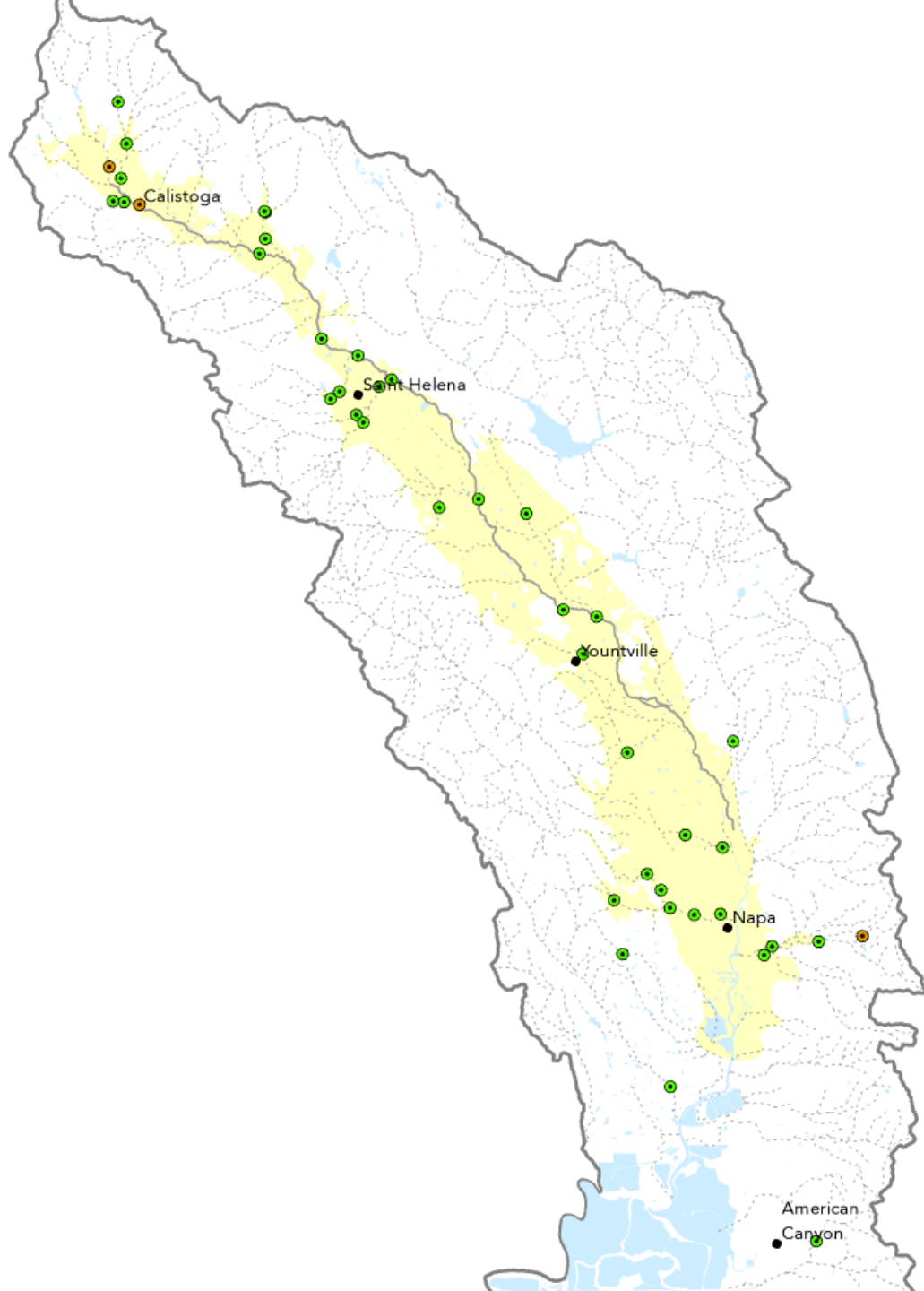
Community Science Streamflow Monitoring Program
Napa River Watershed



- Flow is the most fundamental factor to the health of a stream
- Natural drying of certain reaches is a characteristic of Mediterranean climates and the Napa River system
- Climate change, land development, groundwater pumping, flow diversion increase the degree, extent, and duration of drying resulting in loss of habitat
- Anecdotal evidence of widespread and substantial reductions of dry-season flow
- Need better understanding of location and severity of drying channels and changes through time

Stream Watch

Community Science Streamflow Monitoring Program
Napa River Watershed



- Napa County and Napa RCD collaboration
- Cost-effective collection of simple high-quality wetted channel information by volunteer observers
- 39 active stations, 3 retired, covering approx. 50 miles of stream channel

Dry



Isolated Pools



Flowing



Napa Co. Stream Watch Observ...

experience.arcgis.com/experience/6e3ff2bf06d34a718441a8cda7ee18d8

OneRain ArcGIS Online sharepoint NWS Oak Knoll Forecast Pope Forecast NSH Summary StreamStats

Stream Watch Observation Mobile App v1.2

Please choose a site below to get started.

SELECT A SITE FROM THE LIST BELOW:

A-Z | ☰

Site 1
Napa River at Yountville Eco-Reserve

Site 2
Napa River at Pope St.

Site 3
Napa River at Rutherford Rd.

MAP

Find address ...

SITE INFORMATION

Napa Co. Stream Watch Observ... StreamWatch

survey123.arcgis.com/share/226fcab353dd4ae38ab072d106fb1a6b?field:ObsID=ff0a8b0...

OneRain ArcGIS Online sharepoint NWS Oak Knoll Forecast Pope Forecast NSH Summary StreamStats

StreamWatch

Stream Watch is a community science program in partnership with Napa County and Napa County Resource Conservation District

NAPA RCD

NAPA COUNTY CALIFORNIA

Please enter your information below

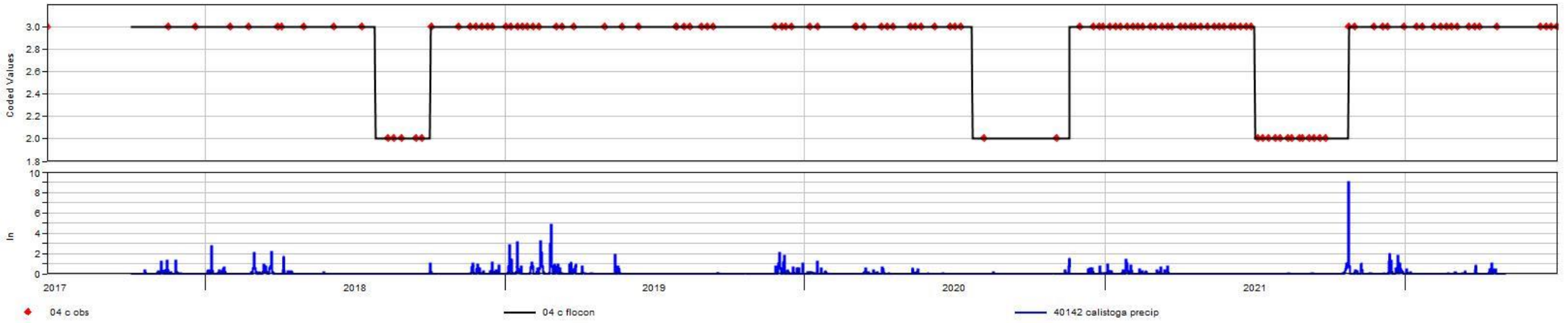
Your information is kept private.

Observer Name*

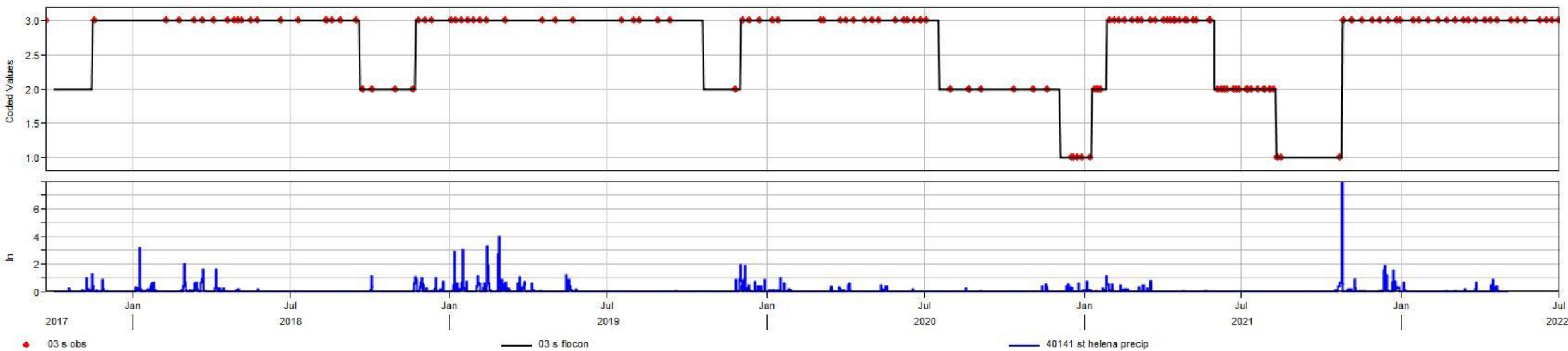
Observer Organization

Observer Email

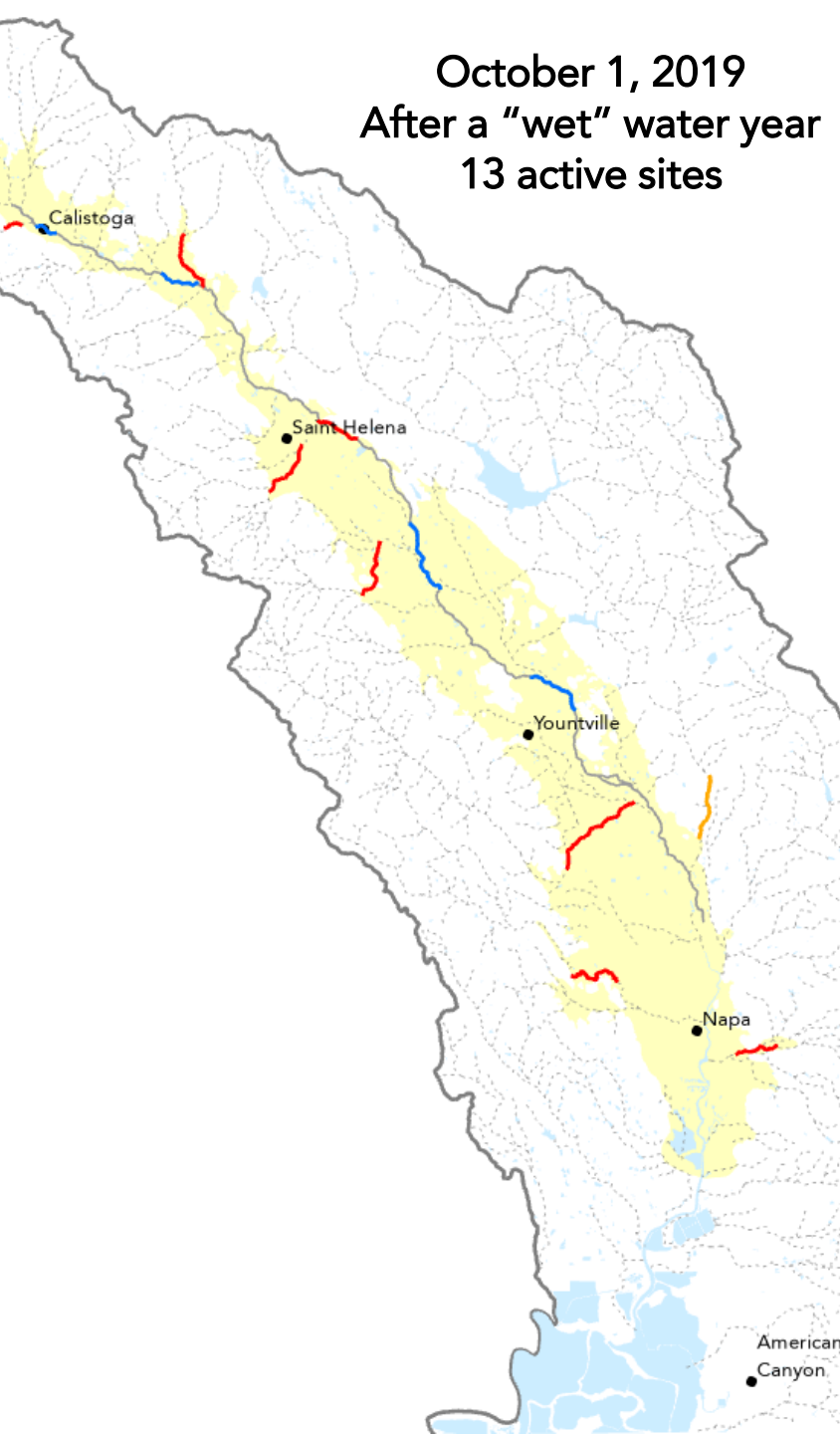
Site 04 – Napa River at Larkmead Ln



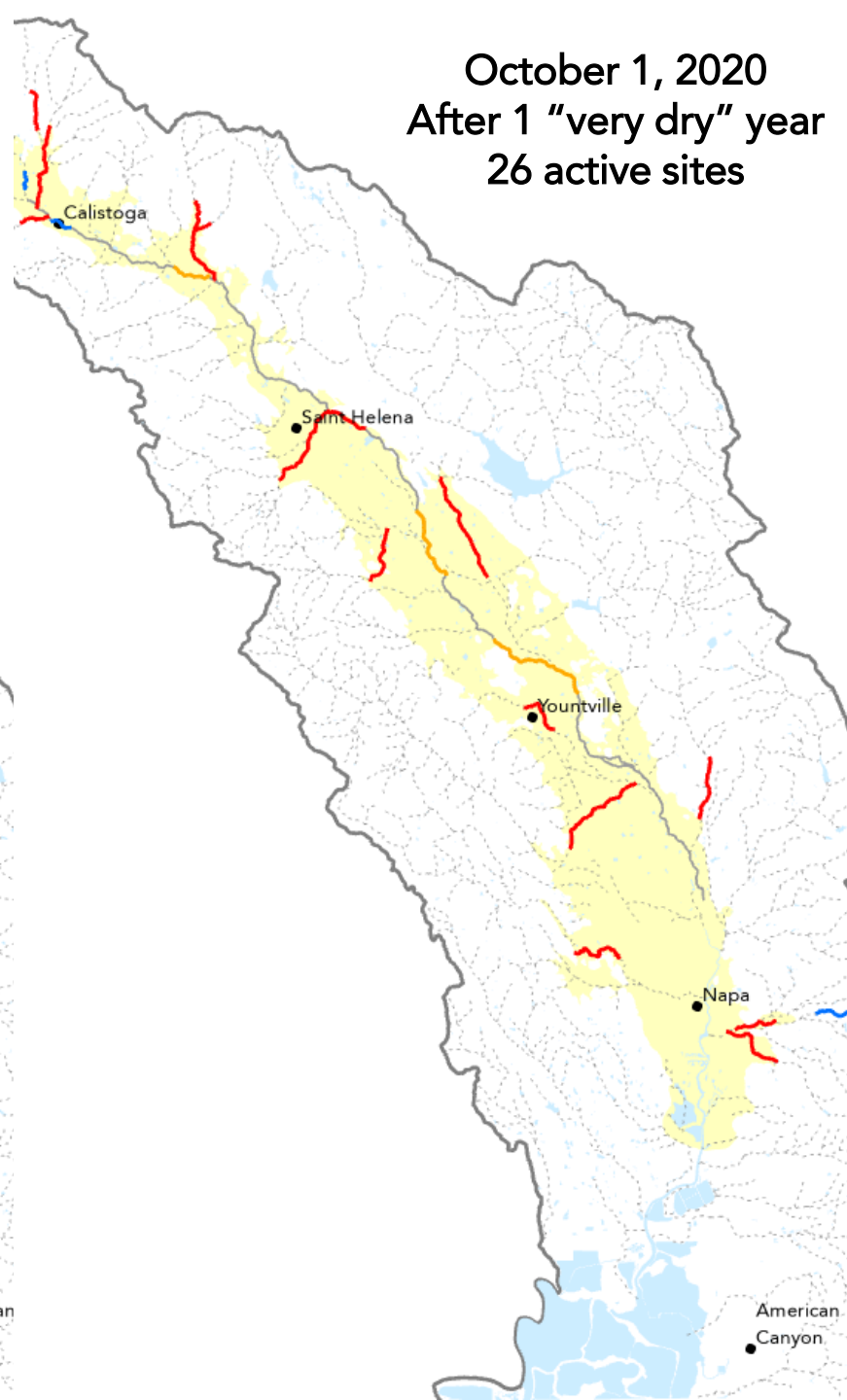
Site 03 – Napa River at Rutherford Rd



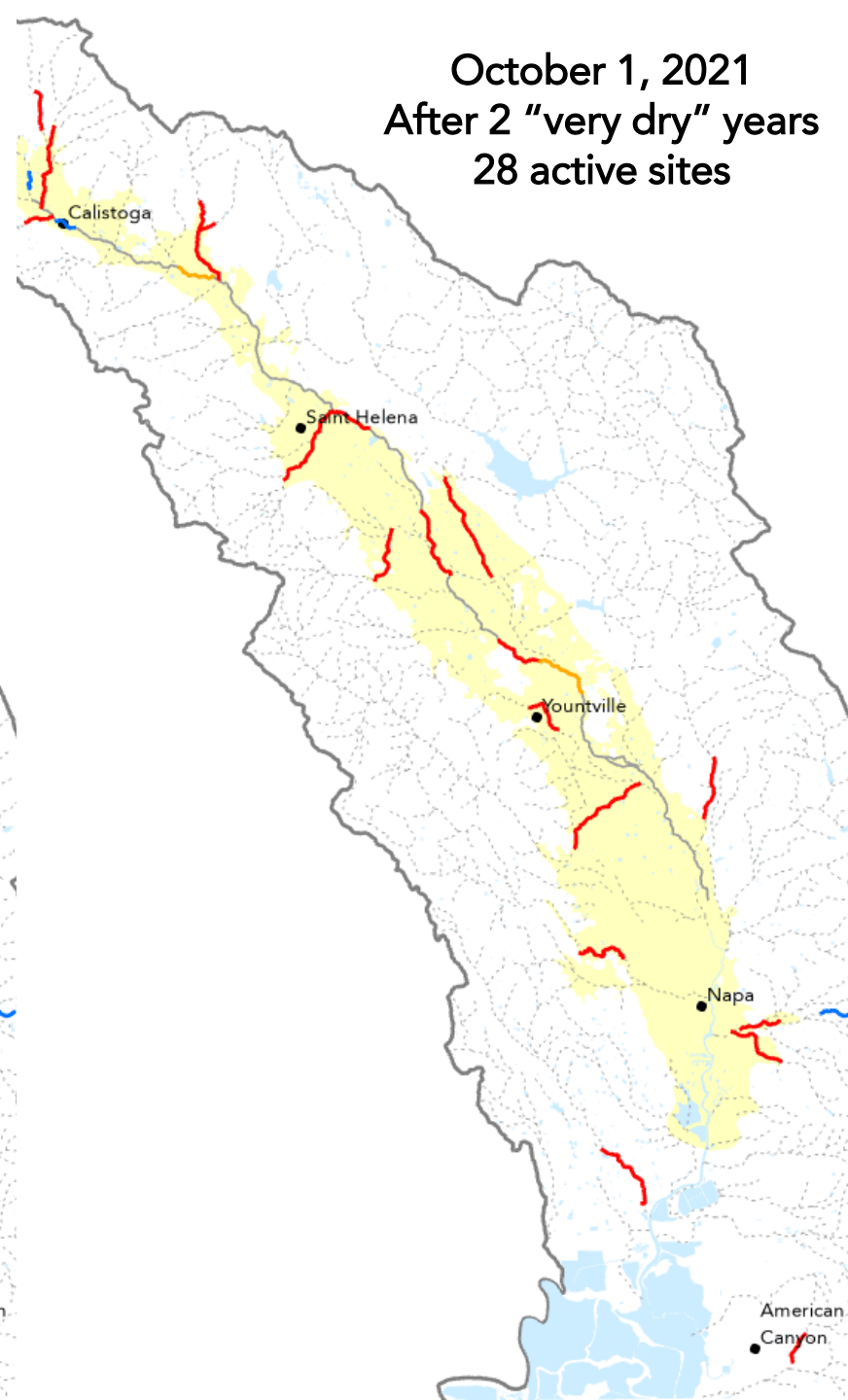
October 1, 2019
After a "wet" water year
13 active sites



October 1, 2020
After 1 "very dry" year
26 active sites

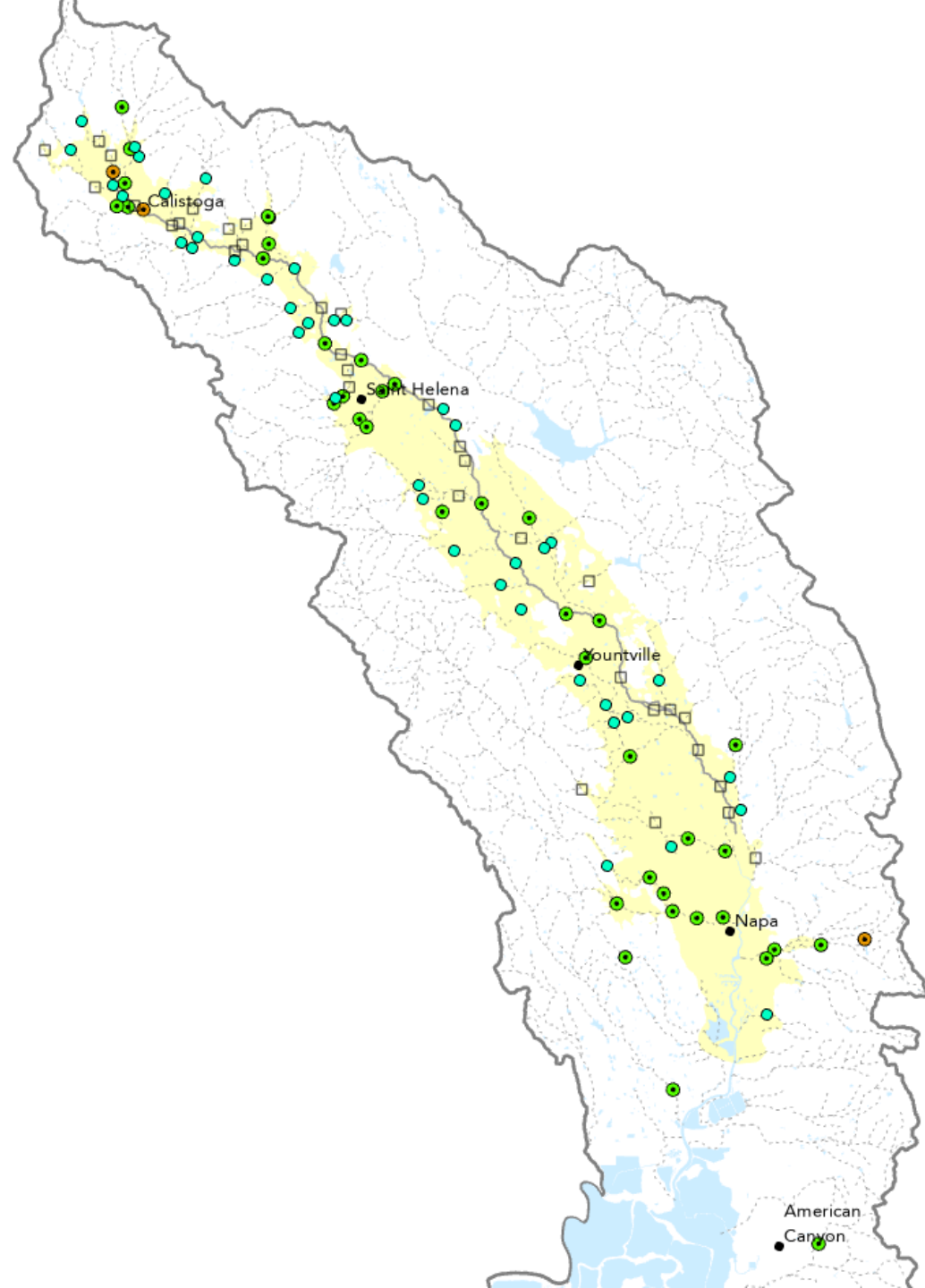


October 1, 2021
After 2 "very dry" years
28 active sites



Stream Watch

Community Science Streamflow Monitoring Program
Napa River Watershed



- Network can be expanded with up to 40 additional volunteer stations
- Up to 30 camera stations
- Sep/Oct wetted channel mapping of select reaches
- Expand network to upland areas
- Water quality monitoring at select stations

CEFF APPLICATIONS: INSTREAM FLOWS & CDFW



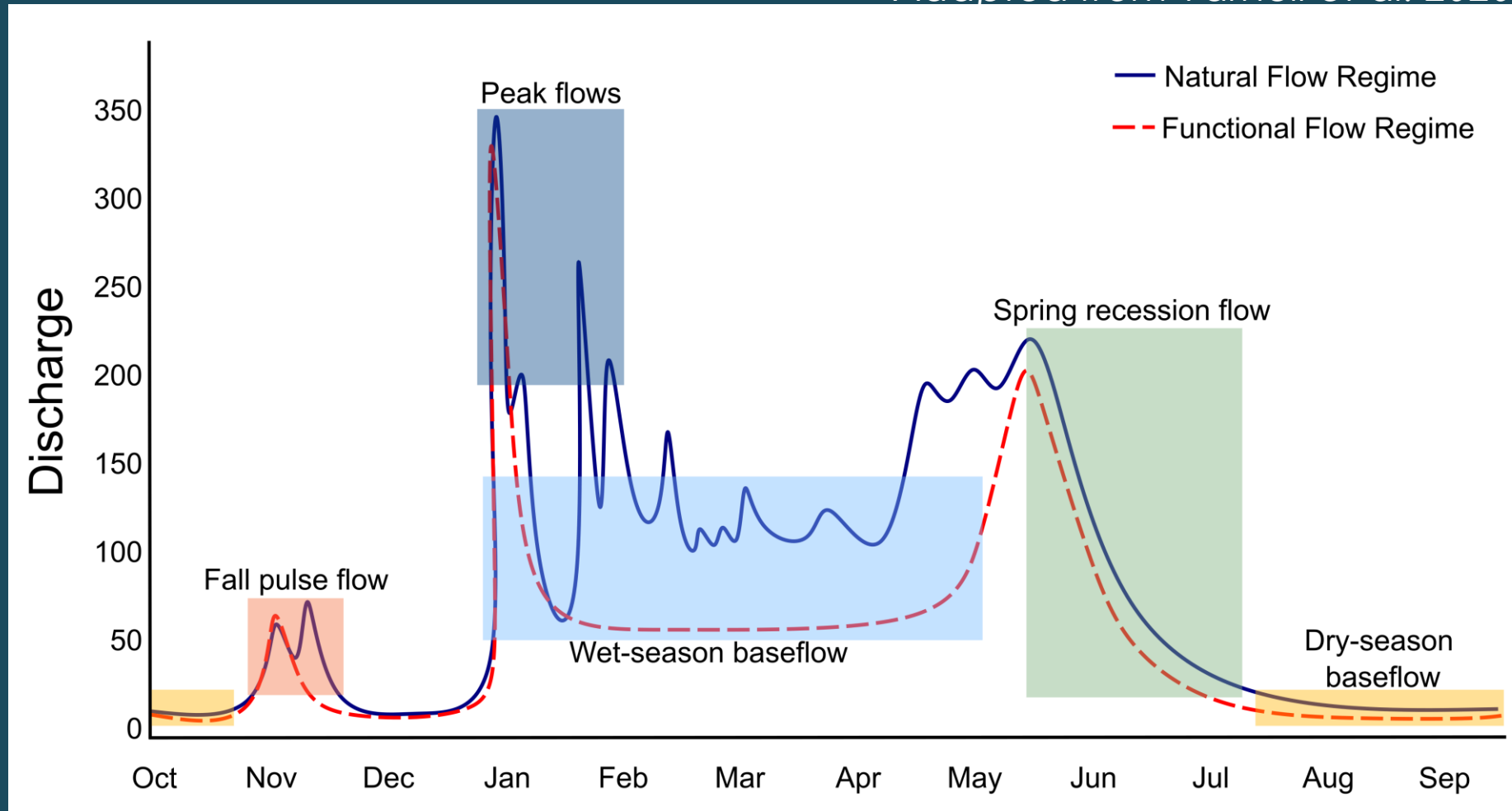
Alyssa Obester & Alex Milward
CDFW Water Branch
Instream Flow Program

September 8, 2022



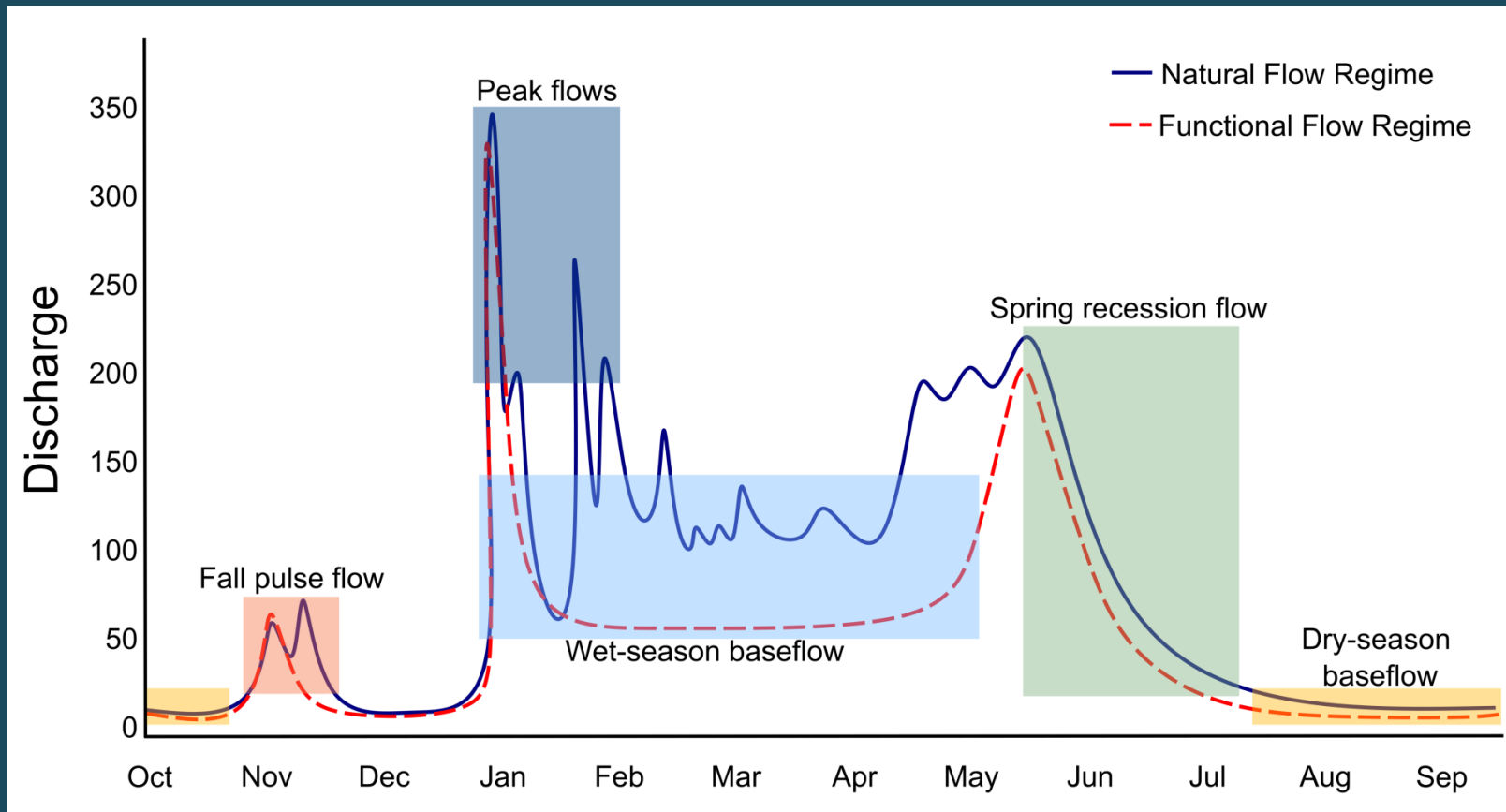
FUNCTIONAL FLOWS

Adapted from Yarnell et al. 2020



Key functions and flows that would exist under **natural conditions**

FUNCTIONAL FLOWS



Flow Component	Flow Metric
Fall pulse flow	Magnitude (cfs)
	Timing (date)
	Duration (days)
Wet-season base flow	Magnitude (cfs)
	Timing (date)
	Duration (days)
Wet-season peak flow	Magnitude (cfs)
	Duration (days)
	Frequency (# of occurrences)
Spring recession flow	Magnitude (cfs)
	Timing (date)
	Duration (days)
Dry-season base flow	Rate of change (%)
	Magnitude (cfs)
	Timing (date)
	Duration (days)

Functional flow metrics available at rivers.codefornature.org

Metrics quantify flow components

FUNCTIONAL FLOWS

Metric	Wet Years	Moderate Years	Dry Years
Fall pulse flow magnitude (cfs)	534 (150–3,600)	490 (423–948)	402 (269–609)
Fall pulse flow duration (total days per year, when present)	3 (2–6)	4 (2–6)	5 (3–6)
Fall pulse flow start timing	Oct 11 (Oct 5–Oct 29)	Oct 23 (Oct 13–Nov 8)	Oct 18 (Oct 7–Nov 15)
Wet-season baseflow magnitude (cfs)	1,004 (604–1,309)	654 (401–916)	414 (331–672)
Median wet-season flow magnitude (cfs)	3,725 (2,394–5,722)	2,290 (1,360–2,650)	1,300 (913–1,804)
Wet-season duration (days)	135 (102–164)	153 (119–187)	131 (113–164)
Wet-season start timing	Nov 16 (Oct 19–Dec 5)	Nov 21 (Oct 15–Dec 23)	Nov 22 (Nov 3–Jan 1)
2-year peak flow magnitude (cfs)	40,300	40,300	40,300
2-year peak flow duration (total days per year, when present)	4 (1–6)	2 (1–2)	1
2-year peak flow frequency (events per year, when present)	2 (1–3)	1 (1–2)	1
5-year peak flow magnitude (cfs)	70,000	70,000	–
5-year peak flow duration (total days per year, when present)	2 (1–3)	1	–
5-year peak flow frequency (events per year, when present)	1 (1–2)	1	–

Spring recession flow magnitude (cfs)	8,430 (4,424–36,690)	4,680 (2,940–12,100)	4,870 (2,602–9,770)
Spring recession flow duration (days)	34 (28–73)	40 (26–49)	39 (30–54)
Spring recession flow start timing	Mar 29 (Mar 3–Apr 22)	Apr 17 (Apr 9–May 26)	Apr 3 (Mar 19–May 13)
Spring recession flow rate of change (%)	6 (5–8)	5 (4–7)	5
Dry-season baseflow magnitude (cfs)	92 (68–122)	93 (63–110)	69 (59–97)
Dry-season duration (days)	218 (183–240)	165 (139–178)	190 (150–226)
Dry-season start timing	May 9 (Apr 21–May 31)	Jun 1 (May 11–Jun 24)	May 14 (Apr 23–Jun 18)

Functional flow metrics available at
rivers.codefornature.org

FUNCTIONAL FLOWS SUMMARY

- Function and process-focused approach
- Based on natural hydrologic patterns
- Broadly *ecologically* protective
 - Not species or life-stage specific
- Does not account for human water use



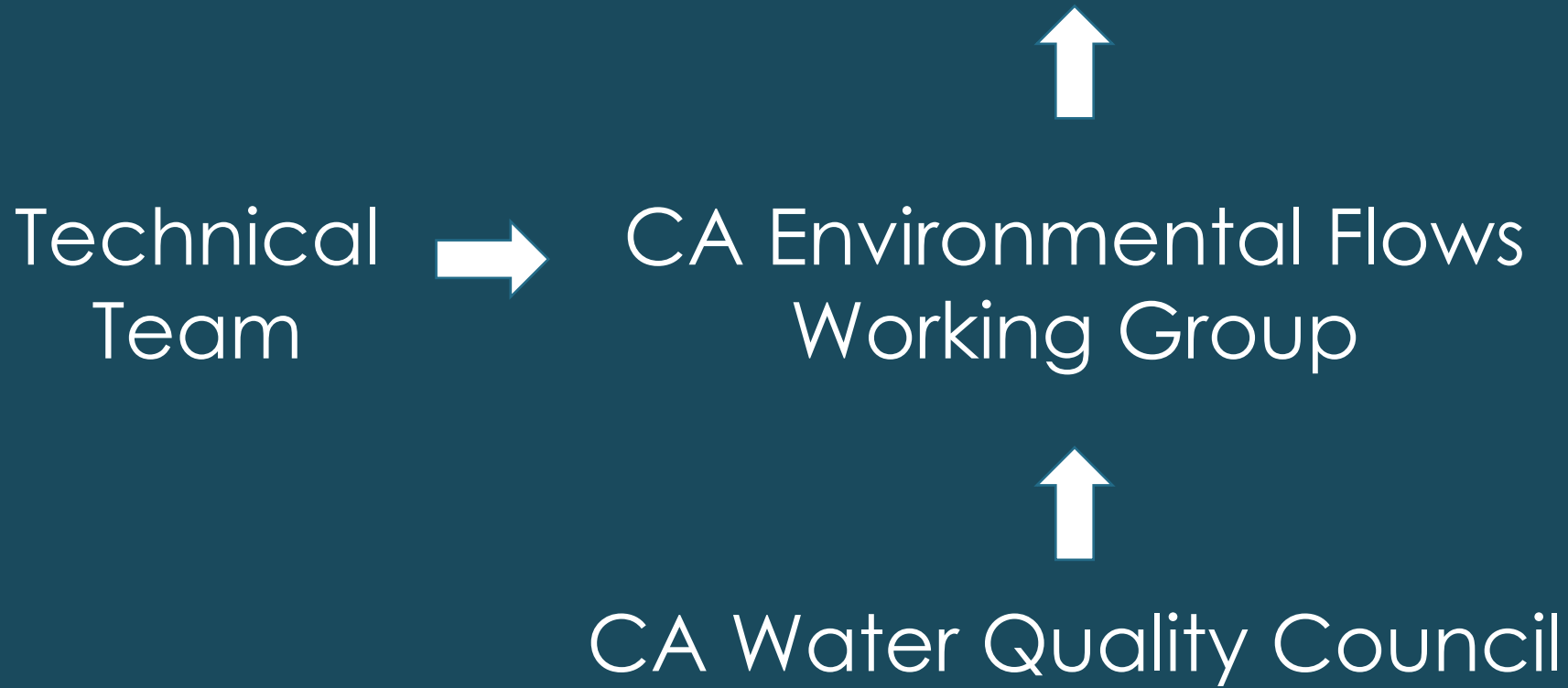
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL FLOWS FRAMEWORK (CEFF)

- Uses functional flows to represent ecological flow needs
- Provides technical guidance and tools for managers to develop environmental flows
- Not regulatory or prescriptive

<https://ceff.ucdavis.edu>



CA Environmental Flows Framework (CEFF)



You're welcome to join the CA Environmental Flows Working Group quarterly meetings (open to the public) https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html > "General Interests"

See previous meetings

https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/environmental_flows_workgroup/meetings.html

CEFF Overview

SCIENCE-BASED ASSESSMENT

Section A

At my location(s) of interest, what are the natural ranges of flow metrics for each of my five functional flow components?

Identify range of natural functional flows

Do any of my five functional flow components require additional assessment due to non-flow factors?

No Yes

SOCIOPOLITICAL
CONSIDERATIONS

CEFF Overview

SCIENCE-BASED ASSESSMENT

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No Yes

Section B

How do I use location specific information to develop ecological flow needs that account for physical and biological constraints?

Develop ecological flow needs that account for local physical and biological conditions

Compile ecological flow needs for all functional flow components

SOCIOPOLITICAL
CONSIDERATIONS

CEFF Overview

SCIENCE-BASED ASSESSMENT

Section A

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Develop ecological flow needs that account for local physical and biological conditions

Compile ecological flow needs for all functional flow components

SOCIOPOLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Section C

How do I reconcile ecological flow needs with non-ecological management objectives to create flow recommendations?

Develop final environmental flow recommendations

Tools associated with CEFF

- Hydrologic classification of stream types available at eflows.ucdavis.edu
- Modeled natural functional flow metrics available at rivers.codefornature.org
- Modeled monthly natural flows available at rivers.codefornature.org

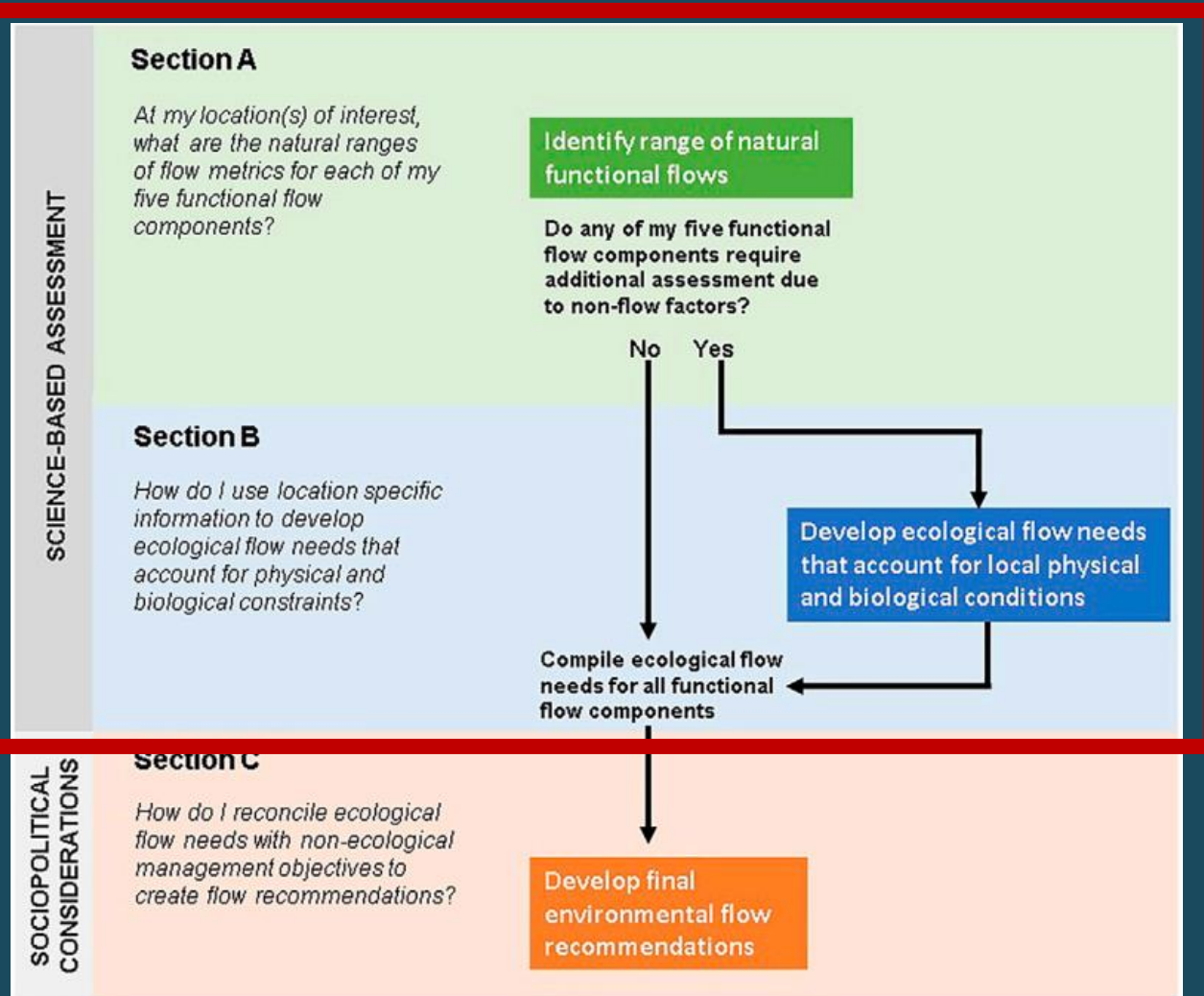
Modeled natural flows and functional flow metrics available at rivers.codefornature.org

CDFW'S INSTREAM FLOW PROGRAM

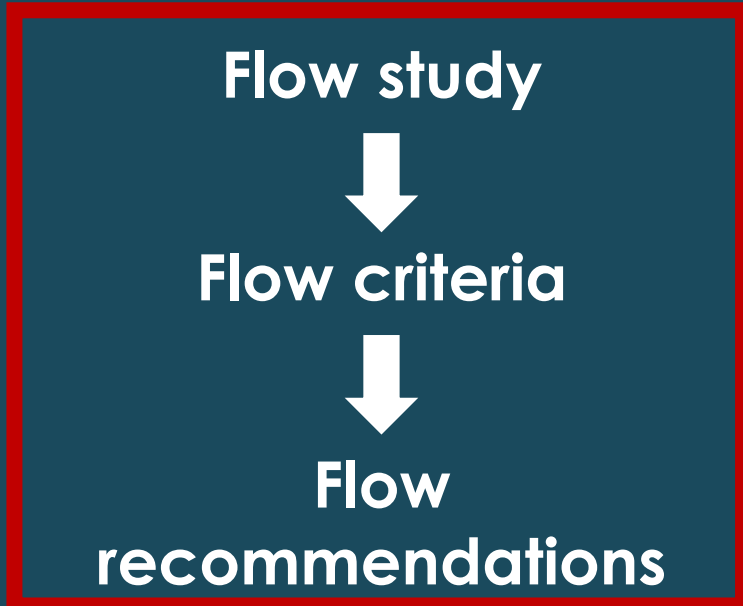
- Develop instream flows required to maintain healthy conditions for aquatic and riparian species
- Provide technical, flow-related support to CDFW regional staff
 - Site-specific, technical instream flow studies
 - Desktop-based flow criteria
 - Flow information to support drought, other regulatory processes



CDFW'S INSTREAM FLOW PROGRAM



CDFW involvement



Flow objectives & other water allocation decisions

CDFW CEFF INVOLVEMENT

- Member of Technical Team
 - Assist in Framework development, provide feedback, test tools
- Participate in Eflows Workgroup Meetings
- Serve as CDFW's "CEFF resource"
 - Provide CEFF trainings to staff



CEFF APPLICATIONS: WATERSHED CRITERIA REPORTS

- Rapid approach for developing watershed-wide flow criteria
- Developed using hydrologic and modeling tools – no data collection required
- Can be combined with site-specific data, when available



CEFF APPLICATIONS: WATERSHED CRITERIA REPORTS

Functional Flows

What are the flows that preserve the ecological and physical processes throughout the year and across years?

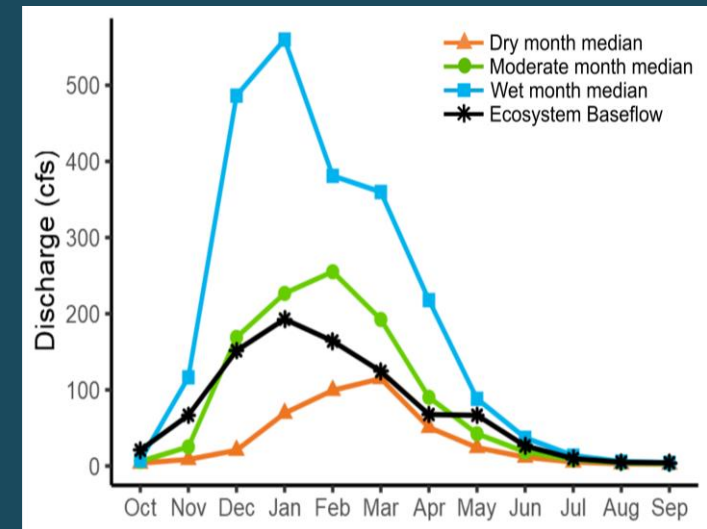
Metric	Wet Years	Moderate Years	Dry Years
Fall pulse flow magnitude (cfs)	400 (180–1,400)	300(185–1,400)	150 (75–450)
Fall pulse flow duration (total days per year, when present)	3 (2–6)	3 (2–5)	6 (3–9)
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Median wet-season flow magnitude (cfs)	400 (250–700)	300 (200–450)	130 (75–230)
Wet-season duration (days)	150 (97–175)	140 (118–176)	120 (70–163)
Wet-season start timing	Nov 15 (Oct 20–Dec 15)	Nov 20 (Nov 6–Dec 28)	Dec 15 (Nov 13–Jan 3)



Additional Analyses

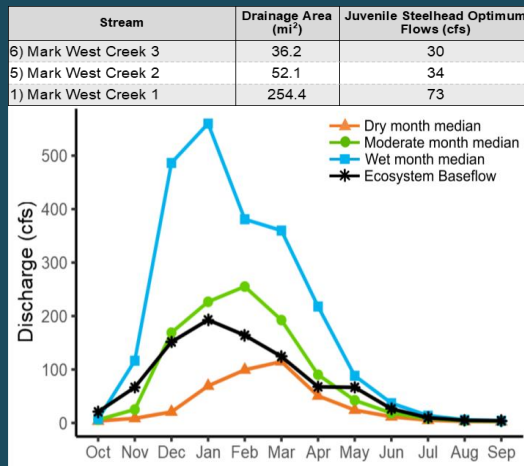
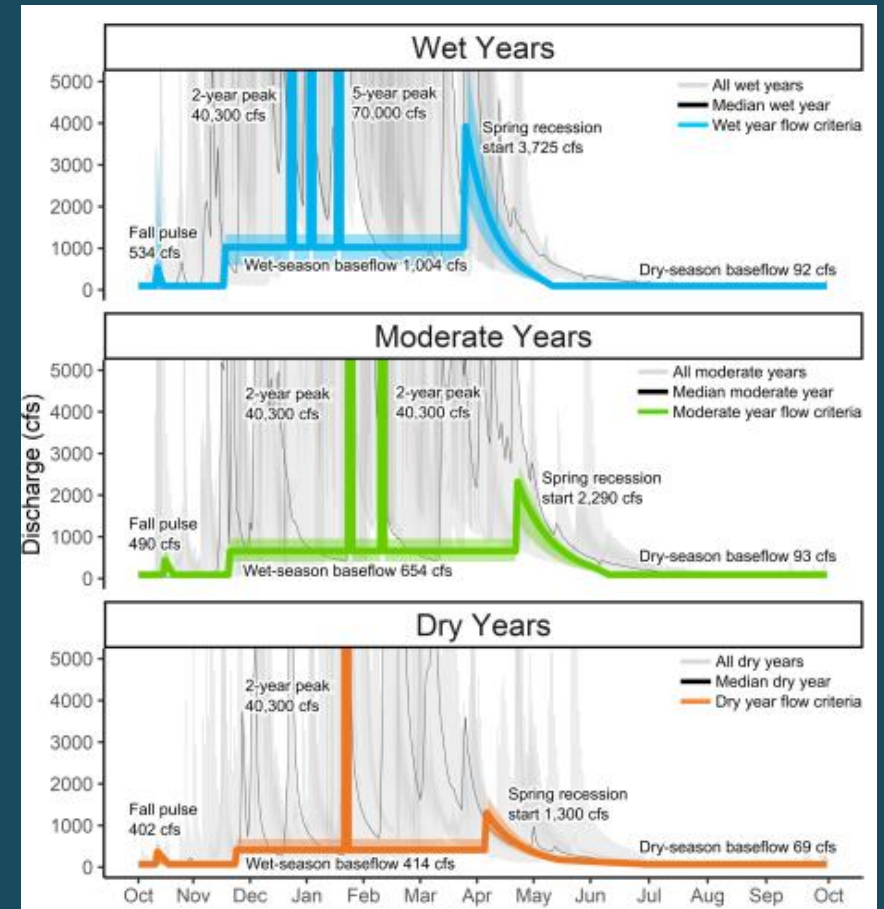
What are specific ecosystem and species-specific flow targets?

Stream	Drainage Area (mi ²)	Juvenile Steelhead Optimum Flows (cfs)
6) Mark West Creek 3	36.2	30
5) Mark West Creek 2	52.1	34
1) Mark West Creek 1	254.4	73



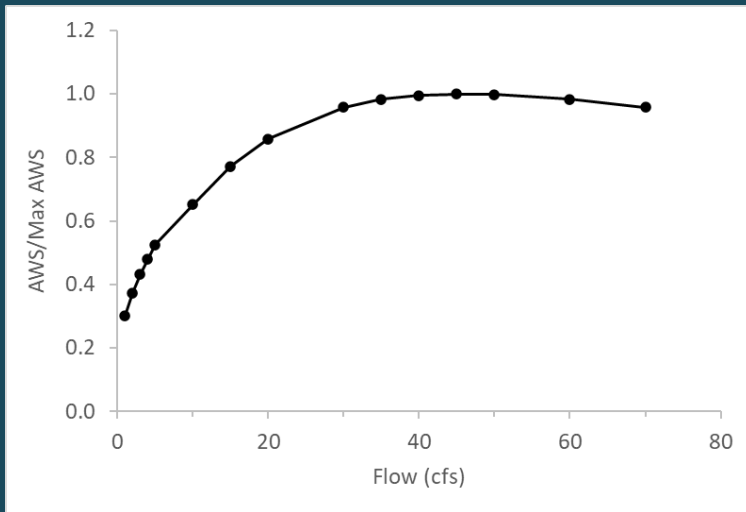
CEFF APPLICATIONS: WATERSHED CRITERIA REPORTS

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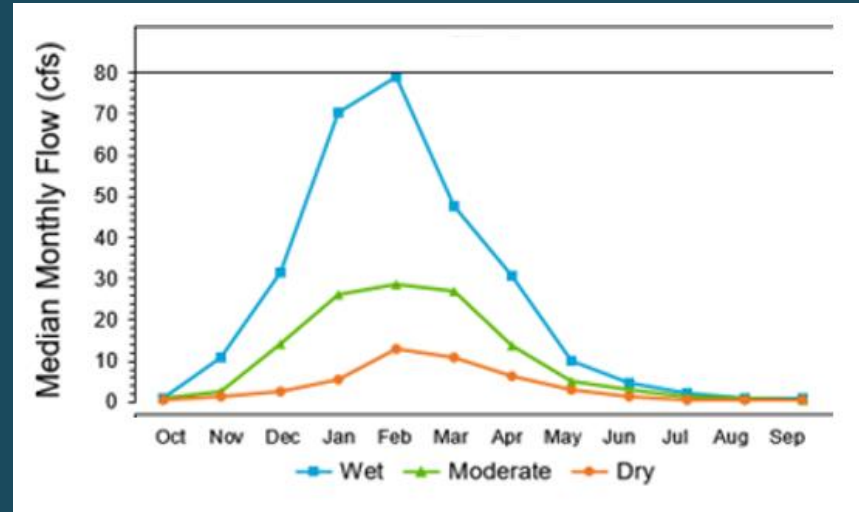


Water Year Type	Wet Season Nov-Mar	Spring Recession Week 1	Spring Recession Week 2	Spring Recession Week 3	Spring Recession Week 4	Spring Recession Week 5	Spring Recession Week 6	Spring Recession Week 7	Spring Recession Week 8	Spring Recession Week 9	Spring Recession Week 10	Dry Season May-Oct
Wet	1,004 [†]	3,118	2,022	1,311	850	551	358	232	150	97	-	92 [‡]
Moderate	654 [†]	1,974	1,378	963	672	469	328	229	160	112	78	93 [‡]
Dry	414 [†]	1,120	782	546	382	266	186	130	91	-	-	69 [‡]

CEFF APPLICATIONS: REFINING FIELD-BASED HABITAT-FLOW RELATIONSHIPS



Streamflow - habitat suitability relationship



Estimated natural hydrology from Natural Flows Database

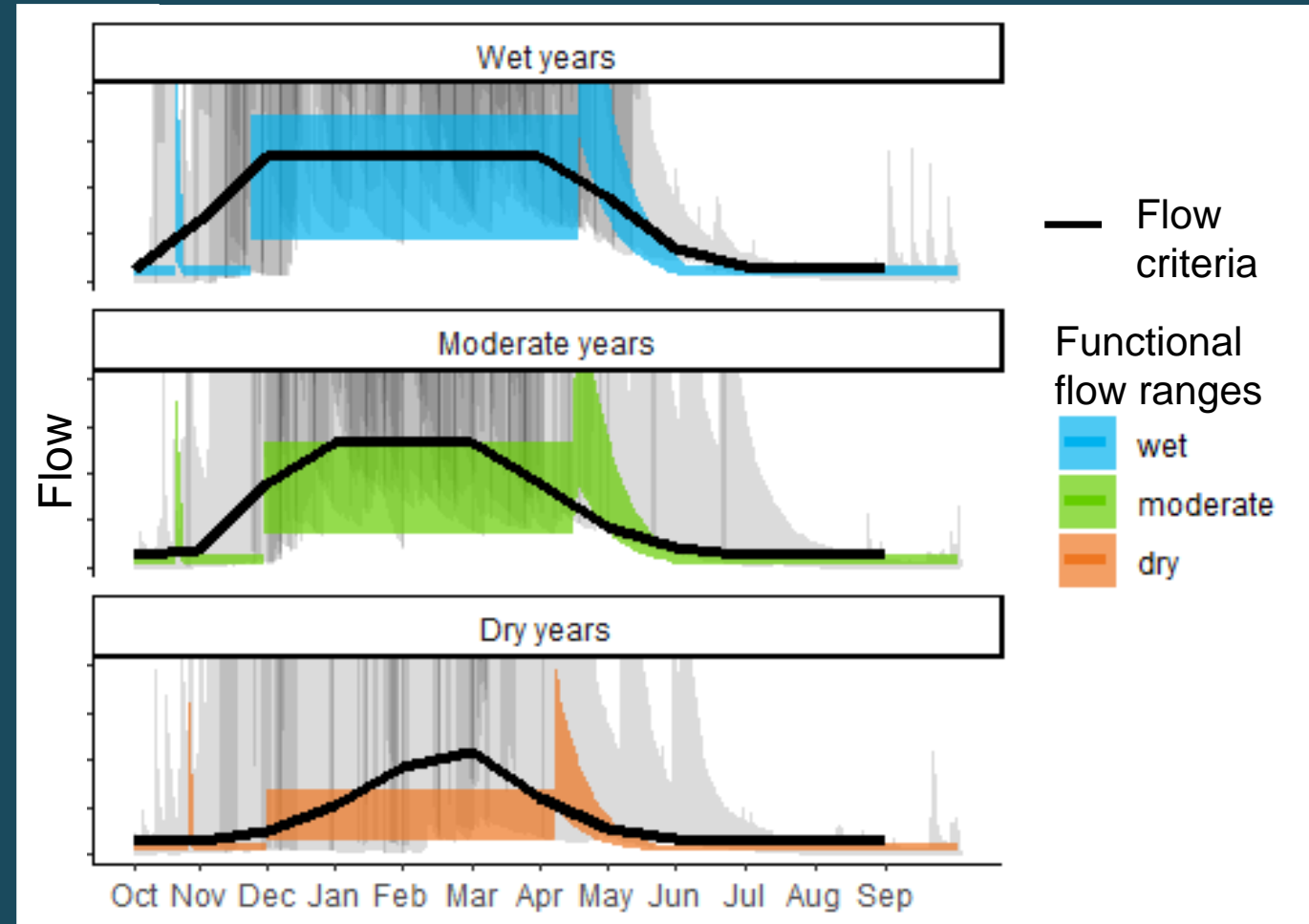


Month	Moderate Water Month Type
January	26
February	29
March	27
April	14
May	5
June	3
July	1
August	1
September	1
October	1
November	3
December	14

Green Line Results table

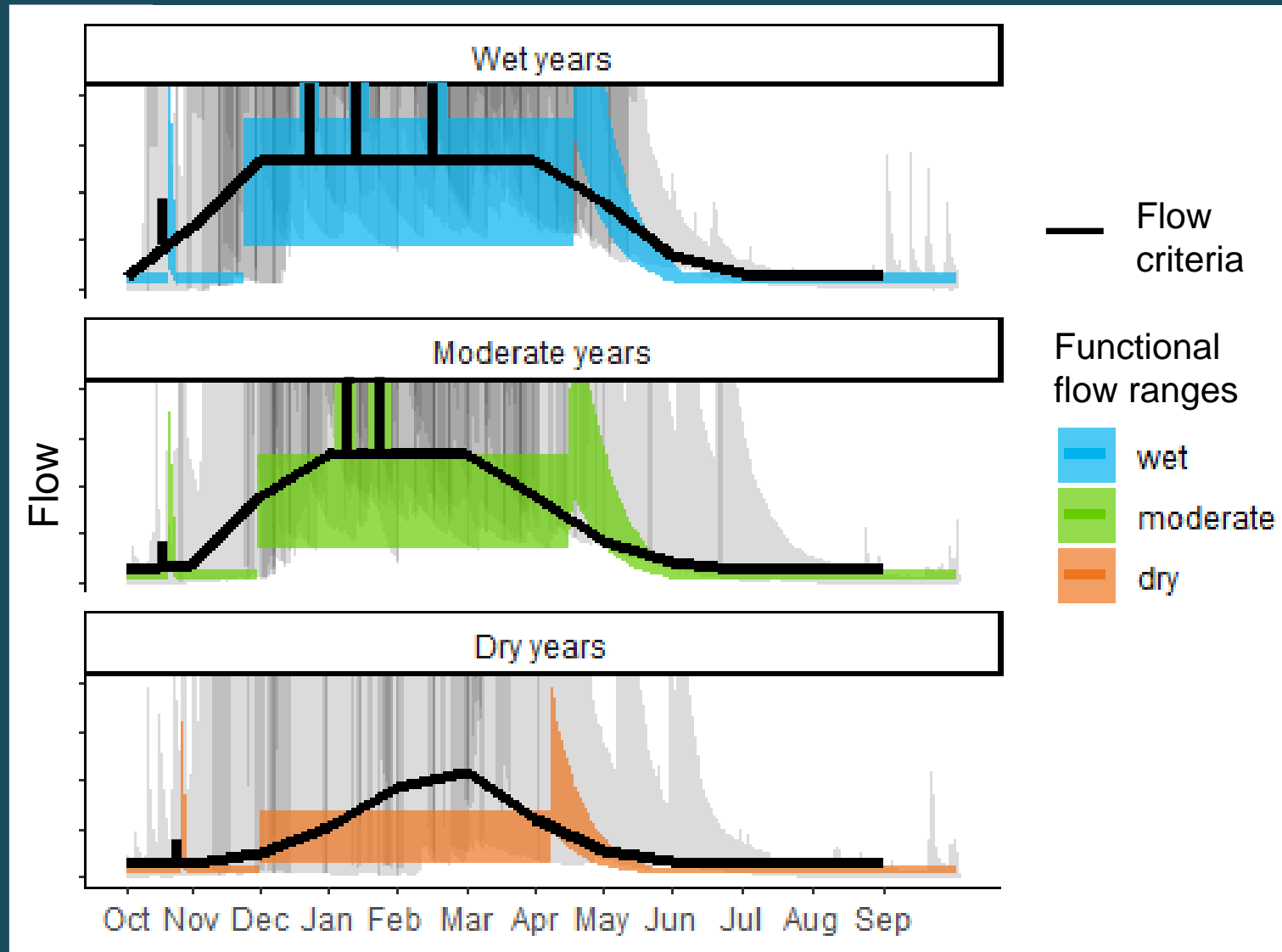
CEFF APPLICATIONS: REFINING FIELD-BASED FLOW CRITERIA

- Assessing whether field-based flow criteria match natural hydrology



CEFF APPLICATIONS: REFINING FIELD-BASED FLOW CRITERIA

- Incorporating variability (pulse and peak flows) to baseflow-focused criteria



ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS

- Assisting regions in drafting conditions for FERC licenses
- Providing flow information for water management
- Providing flow information support to regions during drought to assist with water management discussions





**CEFF tools have helped us provide peer-reviewed,
defensible flow information to regional staff in a timely
manner.**

Thank you!

InstreamFlow@wildlife.ca.gov



South Orange County Flow Ecology Study

South Orange County Watershed Management Area
California Environmental Flows Framework (CEFF) Application

Napa County GSA Technical Advisory Group Meeting
September 8, 2022



CEFF Application Highlights

- Highly modified watershed where establishing reference-based flows may be challenging
- Flow modifications are from diffuse non-point sources
- Groundwater may be a significant contributor to summer baseflows



Study Objectives

Develop tools and datasets to inform decisions regarding flow management activities

- Identify when and where flows are altered
- Evaluate degree to which alteration is impacting ecology
- Prioritize areas for flow management

Incorporate input from local stakeholders and technical experts

Provide ready access to data, tools, and products

Stakeholder Engagement

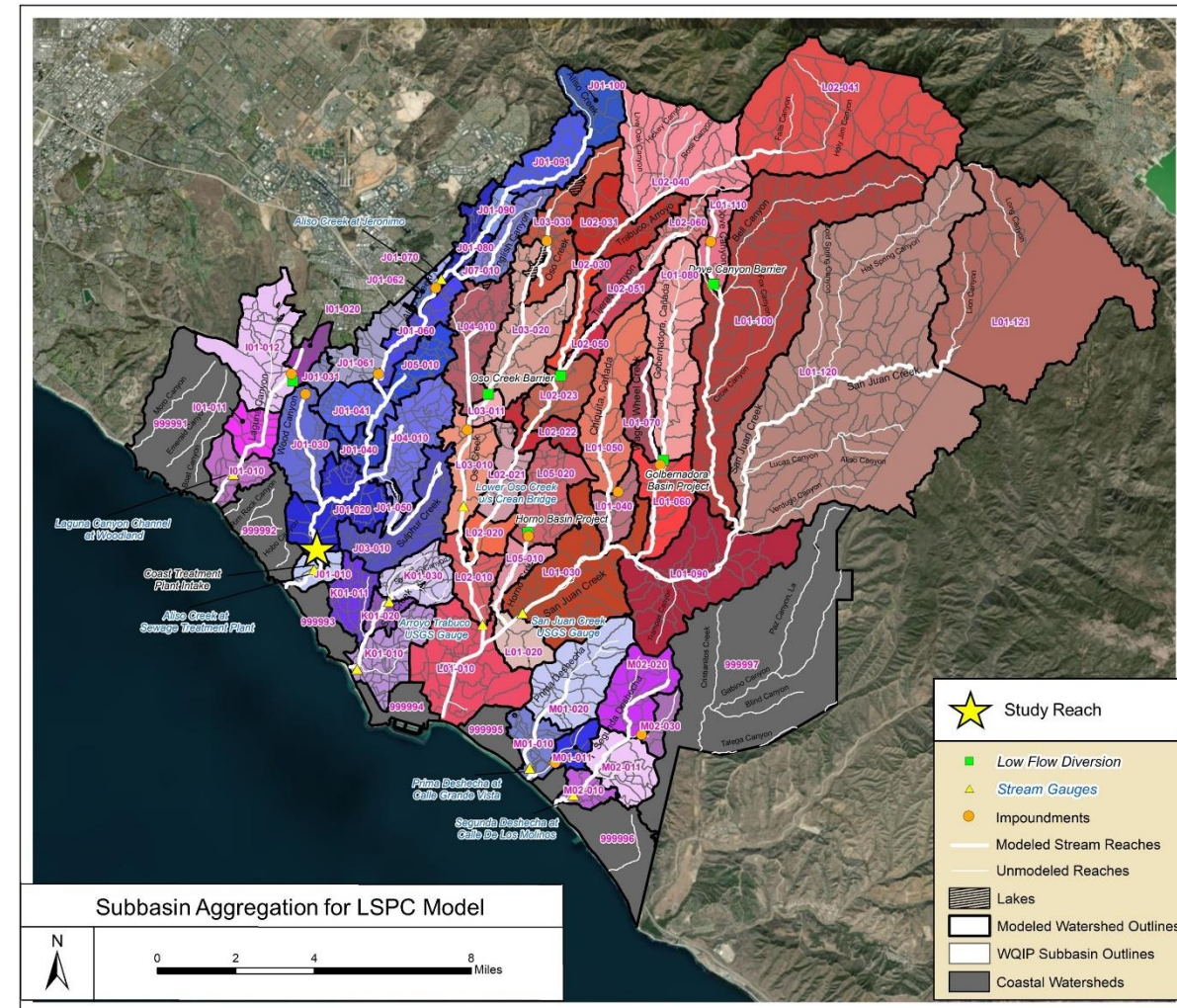
- **Online Webinar: July 17, 2019**
 - Overview of the study and context
- **Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting: August 5, 2019**
 - Webinar Q&A summary and discussion
- **Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting: October 22, 2019**
 - Project overview, roles and expectations of TAG
 - Technical approach, including hydrologic model development and calibration
- **TAG/SAG Meeting: January 8, 2020**
 - Tiered approach for ecological assessment
 - Update on hydrologic model development
- **TAG Meeting: June 3, 2020**
 - Hydrologic model calibration
- **SAG Meeting: June 16, 2020**
 - Tier 1 and 2 example outputs
 - Focal species discussion
- **TAG/SAG Meeting: November 12, 2020**
 - Hydrologic model recalibration
- **TAG/SAG Meeting: December 3, 2020**
 - Tiers 1-3 development and interpretation
 - Synthesis of data and key decisions

Study Area

South Orange County, CA
Watershed Management Area

Altered hydrology and
channel erosion identified as
the highest priority water
quality conditions¹

¹South OC Watershed Management Area Water
Quality Improvement Plan, 2018



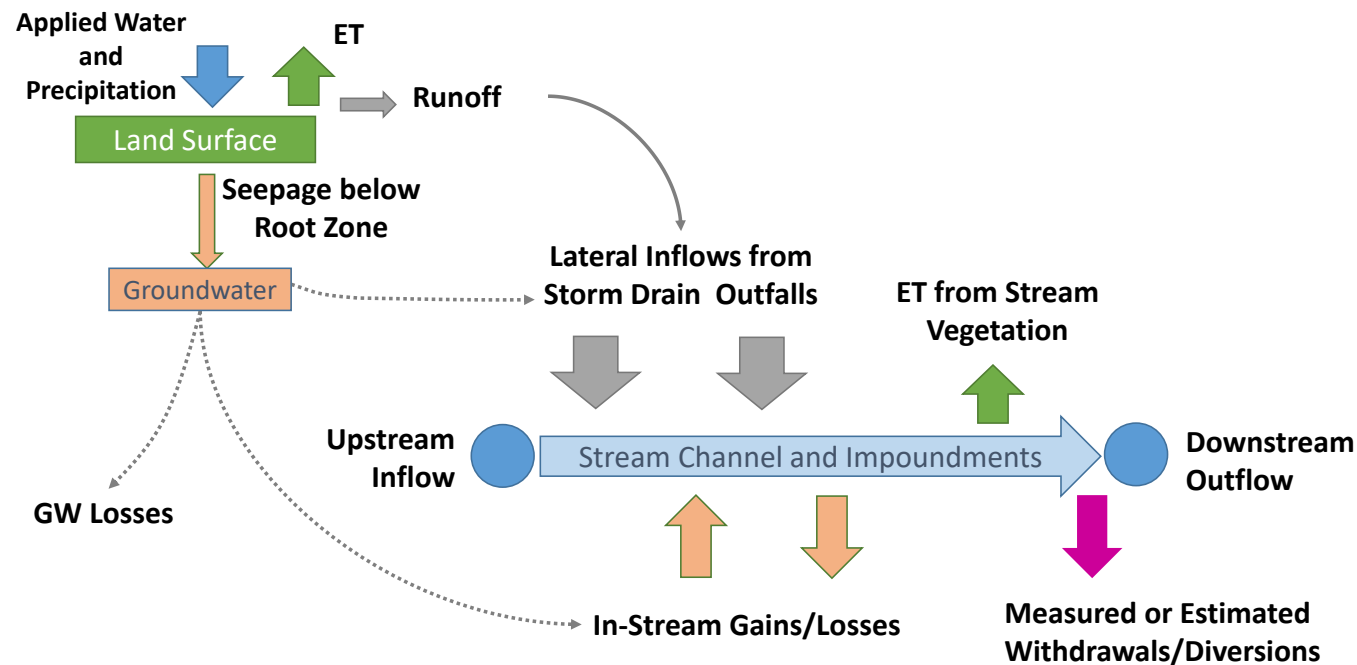
Ecological Management Objectives

- Improve stream flow conditions to benefit overall stream ecosystem health
- Reduce unnatural flows that favor invasive species
- Provide habitat to support federally endangered least Bell's vireo
- Restore habitat for native fish populations



Hydrologic Modeling

- Provided finer temporal and spatial resolution
- Allowed for evaluation of future scenarios
- Utilized isotope analysis to quantify natural versus unnatural water contributions



Current condition

- Current land use and flow management measures
- Recent climate: 1990-2019; Recent irrigation patterns: 2010-2019
- Calibrated to streamflow gages, outfall monitoring, and water isotope data

Reference condition

- Remove urban land, irrigated agriculture, diversions, and impoundments
- Same time period

Future scenarios

- Climate change at mid-century
- Increased water conservation progress

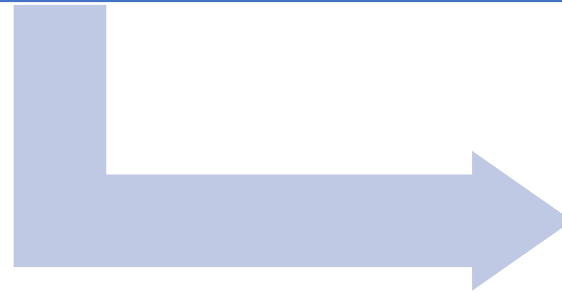
Used Loading Simulation Program in C++

Tiered Flow Ecology Analysis

1 - Hydrologic alteration
based on deviation from
reference condition



2 - Biologic alteration
based on Bioassessment
Indices (CSCI and ASCI)



3 - Biologic alteration
based on higher trophic
level species



usgs.gov

Ecological Flow Criteria for Species of Concern



Photo: Barrett Paul, USFWS

^a High baseflow criteria due to widened channel morphology. Channel modifications needed for suitable baseflow depths

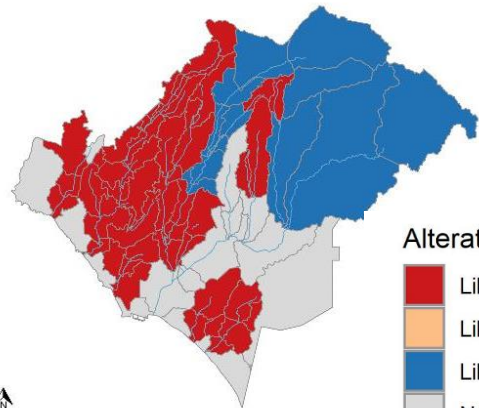
Flow Component	Flow Metric	Natural Range of Flow Metrics median (10th - 90th)	Ecological Flow Criteria: Black Willow	Ecological Flow Criteria: Arroyo Chub
Fall pulse flow	Fall pulse magnitude	2.4 (1.7 - 5) cfs	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	Fall pulse timing	Nov 29 (Oct 24 - Dec 3)	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	Fall pulse duration	11 (3 - 16) days	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
Wet-season baseflow	Wet-season baseflow magnitude	3 (2 – 5) cfs	0.1 – 12 cfs	> 120 cfs^a
	Wet-season timing	Dec 15 (Oct 10 – Jan 25)	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	Wet-season duration	67 (30 - 133) days	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
Peak flows	2-year peak flow magnitude	31 cfs	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	2-year peak flow duration	4 (1 – 25) days	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	2-year peak flow frequency	2 (1 – 8)	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	5-year peak flow magnitude	423 cfs	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	5-year peak flow duration	3 (1 - 6) days	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	5-year peak flow frequency	3 (1 - 4) event(s)	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
Spring recession flows	Spring recession start magnitude	15 (3 - 528) cfs	33 - 528 cfs	Same as natural range
	Spring timing	Mar 3 (Feb 22 - Mar 18)	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	Spring duration	109 (76 - 125) days	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	Spring rate of change	1.4 (0.9 – 1.9) % decline per day	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
Dry-season baseflow	Dry-season baseflow magnitude	2 (0.5 – 4) cfs	0.1 – 12 cfs	> 120 cfs^a
	Dry-season timing	June 20 (May 9 - Jul 10)	Same as natural range	Same as natural range
	Dry-season duration	198 (116 - 220) days	Same as natural range	Same as natural range

Data Products

Where are flows altered?

Spring Recession Flow

Rate of Change (% decrease per day)



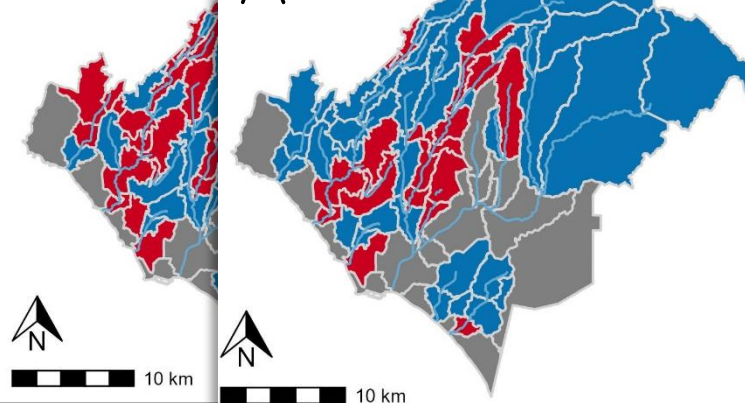
Alteration Status

- Likely Altered High
- Likely Altered Low
- Likely Unaltered
- NA

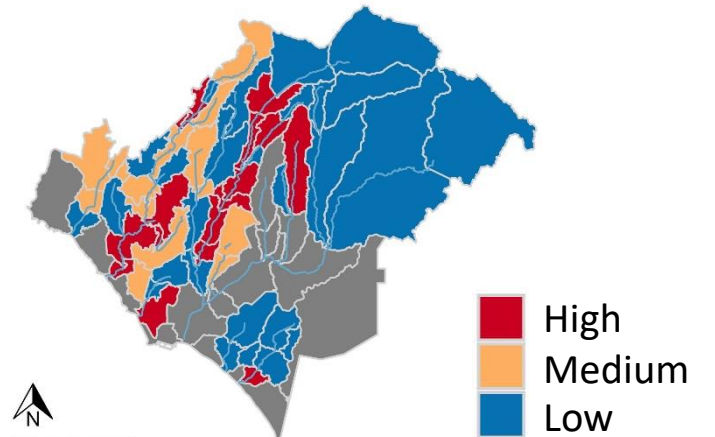
Where is alteration impacting biology?

ASCI

CSCI



Where are priority areas for flow management?

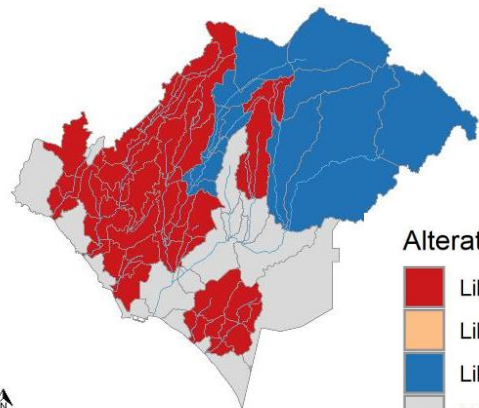


Data Products Inform Management Decisions

Where are flows altered?

Spring Recession Flow

Rate of Change (% decrease per day)



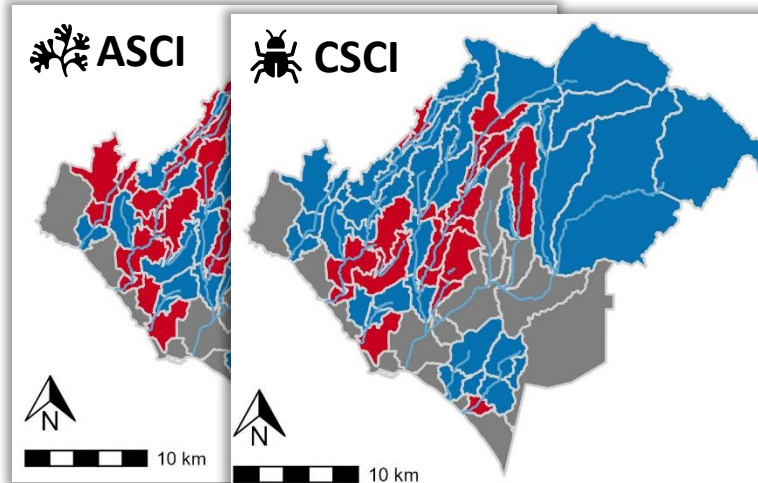
Alteration Status



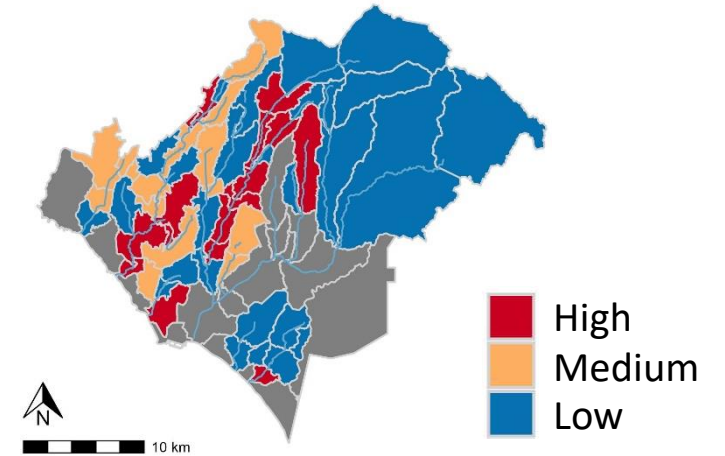
Where is alteration impacting biology?

ASCI

CSCI



Where are priority areas for flow management?



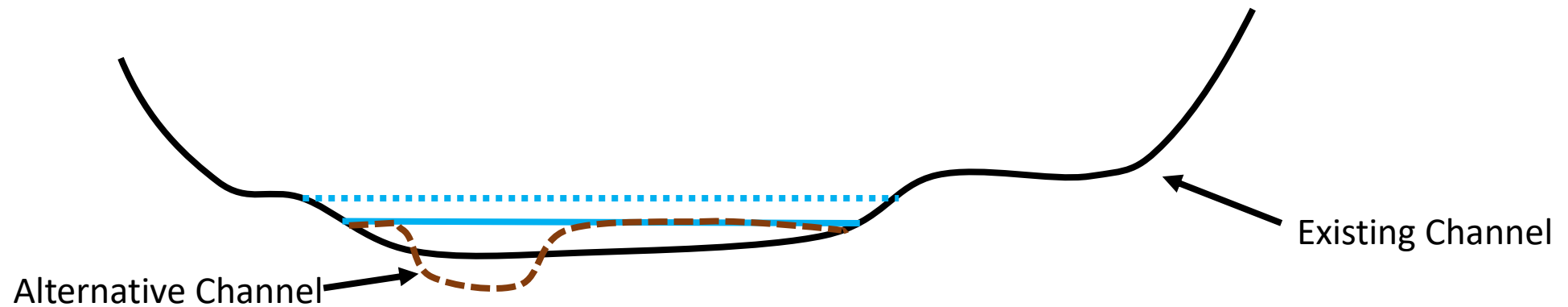
Where should flow management be prioritized?

Where should channel restoration be prioritized?

How should flows and morphology be in restored stream reaches?

Can we get more out of the water we have?

- Existing channel too wide to provide suitable depths for arroyo chub



Can changes to the channel morphology be made to provide more suitable habitat conditions?

- Example design with narrower channel and inset floodplain

Web-based Application

https://sccwrp.shinyapps.io/socfess_shinyapp/

What areas should be prioritized for management?

Prioritization for Additional Analysis
Based on Biologically-Relevant Flow Alteration

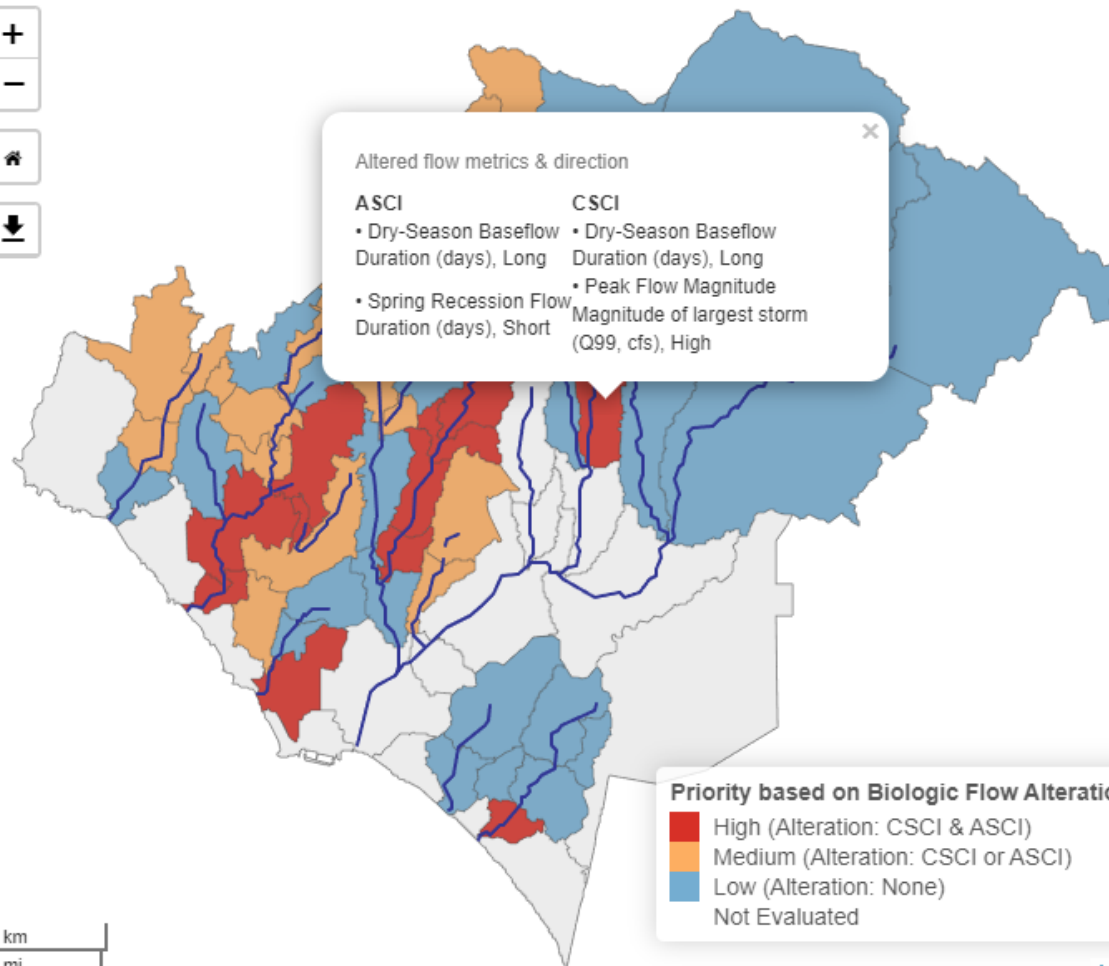
Thresholds of Alteration

of flow metrics altered:

% of years altered:
 0% 51% 100%

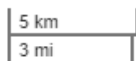
[Download data](#)

Click on each subbasin for more information

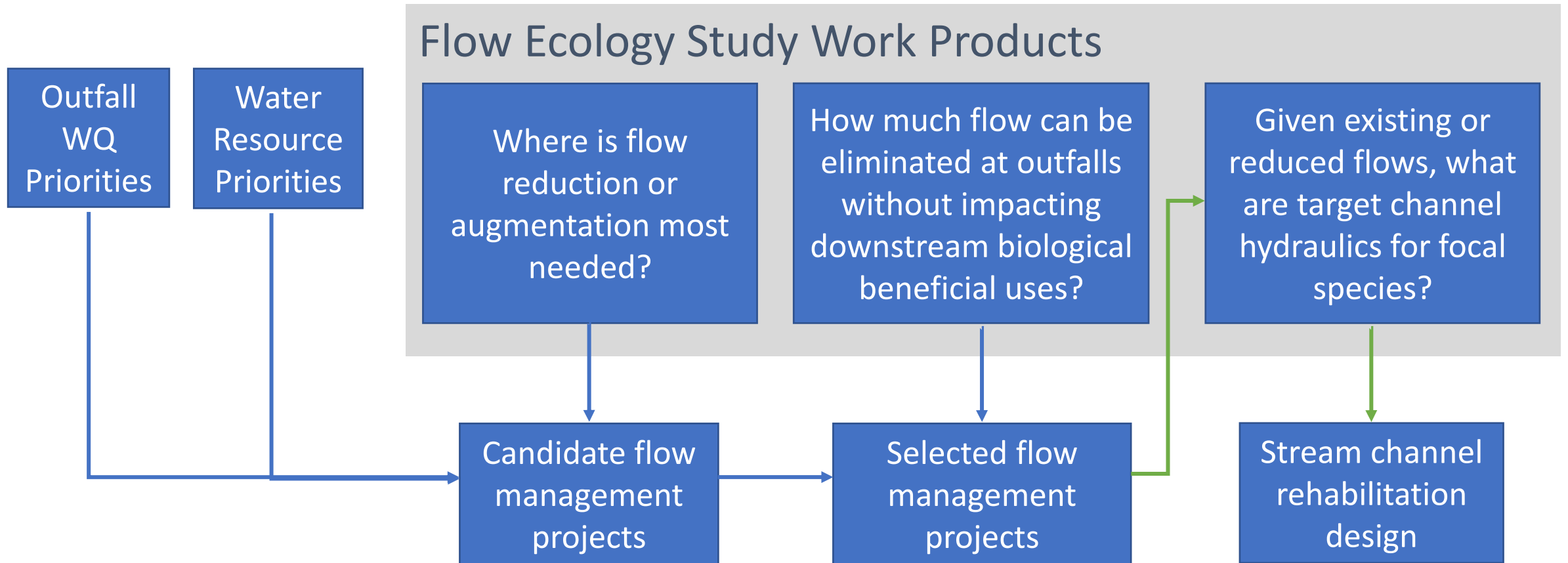


Priority based on Biologic Flow Alteration

- High (Alteration: CSCI & ASCI)
- Medium (Alteration: CSCI or ASCI)
- Low (Alteration: None)
- Not Evaluated



How can the products be used locally?



What did we learn?

- Hydrologic alteration affects biological condition to varying degrees
- Flow ecology tools can be used to prioritize subbasins for management
 - Approximately 40% of subbasins prioritized for flow management
- CEFF provides flexible guidance that can be applied in highly altered systems
 - More detailed local hydrologic modeling may be necessary
 - Consideration of mediating factors (i.e., channel alteration) is important
 - Non-flow management actions may be necessary to achieve ecological flow criteria

More Information

<https://www.southocwqip.org/pages/flow-ecology-study>

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the page 'Who is conducting the study?'. The navigation menu includes 'SOC WQIP', 'WQIP Background', 'HPWQC', 'Special Studies', 'Monitoring', 'Reporting & Adaptive Management', and 'Clearinghouse'. Three boxes list the study leads: 'OC Public Works' (Overseeing the study on behalf of the municipalities of South OCWMA), 'Geosyntec Consultants' (Serves as one of two study leads with their efforts focused on hydrology), and 'SCCWRP' (Serves as one of two study leads with their efforts focused on ecology).

How can I get involved?

Currently, input on this study is solicited through two groups: (1) the Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG), which provides input on the overall study process and (2) the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), which provides technical input on the approach, methods, and study endpoints. All SAG and TAG meeting materials are available by clicking the links below.

December 2, 2020

SAG/TAG Webinar Workshop

Focus: flow ecology analyses and synthesis.

November 12, 2020

SAG/TAG Webinar Workshop

Focus: isotope study findings, hydrologic model recalibration, and water conservation and climate change scenario analysis.

July 16, 2020

SAG/TAG Webinar Workshop

Focus: hydrologic assessment results and the proposed flow ecology evaluation approach.

July 3, 2020

TAG Webinar Workshop

Focus: hydrologic model, its calibration, and its output

January 8, 2020

SAG/TAG In-person Workshop

Focus: update on study progress and address action items from previous meetings

October 22, 2019

TAG In-person Workshop

Focus: discuss technical processes within the study and opportunities for TAG input

August 5, 2019

SAG In-person Workshop

Focus: discuss the study and opportunities for SAG input

July 17, 2019

SAG Webinar Workshop

Focus: introduce the special study

Open Data Portal:

<https://ocgov.app.box.com/v/20-21WQIPAppendixH>

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Open Data Portal page for Appendix H. The page features the County of Orange logo and the title 'Appendix H - Special Study Work Plan'.

Appendix H - Special Study Work Plan

Name



Final Report Data Products

South OC WQIP, 2 Others



Appendix H.1 - Flow Ecology Special Study Final Report.pdf

South OC WQIP, 2 Others

Additional Resources

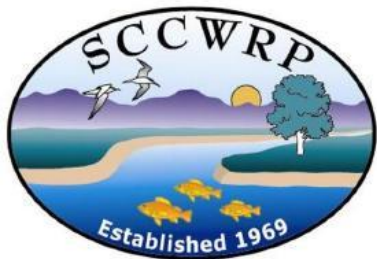
Taniguchi-Quan, K. T., Irving, K., Stein, E. D., Poresky, A., Wildman Jr, R. A., Aprahamian, A., Rivers, C., Sharp, G., Yarnell, S. M., & Feldman, J. R. (2022). Developing Ecological Flow Needs in a Highly Altered Region: Application of California Environmental Flows Framework in Southern California, USA. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2022.787631>

Irving, K., Taniguchi-Quan, K. T., Aprahamian, A., Rivers, C., Sharp, G., Mazor, R. D., Theroux, S., Holt, A., Peek, R., & Stein, E. D. (2022). Application of Flow-Ecology Analysis to Inform Prioritization for Stream Restoration and Management Actions. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2021.787462>

Questions?

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kristinetq@sccwrp.org

Eric Stein
erics@sccwrp.org



Napa County Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Technical Advisory Group

Groundwater Conditions and Potential Recharge Areas of Interest

September 8, 2022



**Luhdorff &
Scalmanini**
Consulting Engineers





Current Conditions and RMS Templates





SMC for Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels

Minimum Threshold

Minimum static October groundwater elevation prior to 2015

Undesirable Result

20% of designated RMS well levels fall below the MT in fall (October) for 3 consecutive years of fall measurements in non-drought years

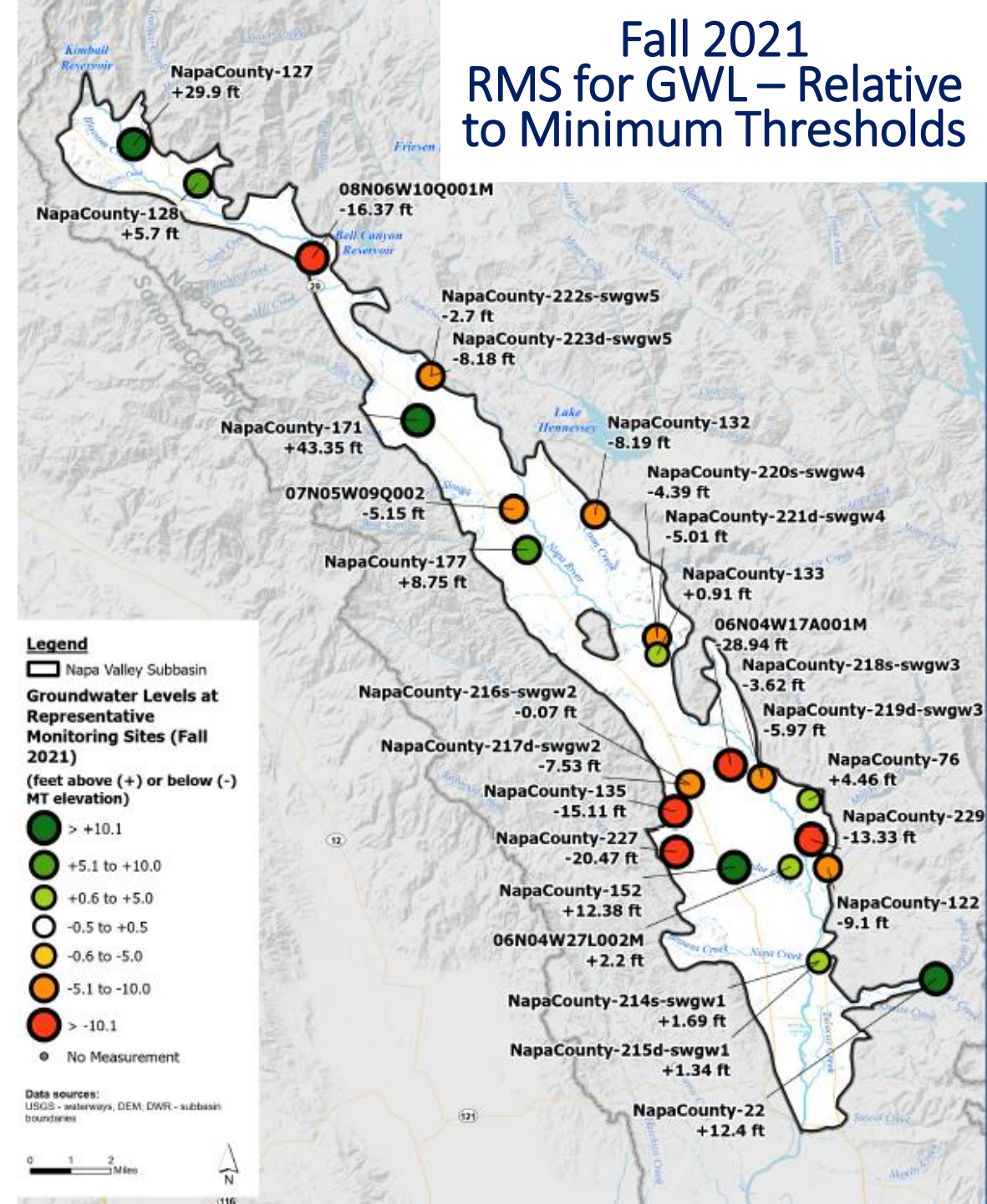
Trigger

20% of designated RMS well levels fall below the MT in fall during a single year

RMS Groundwater Levels- Fall 2021

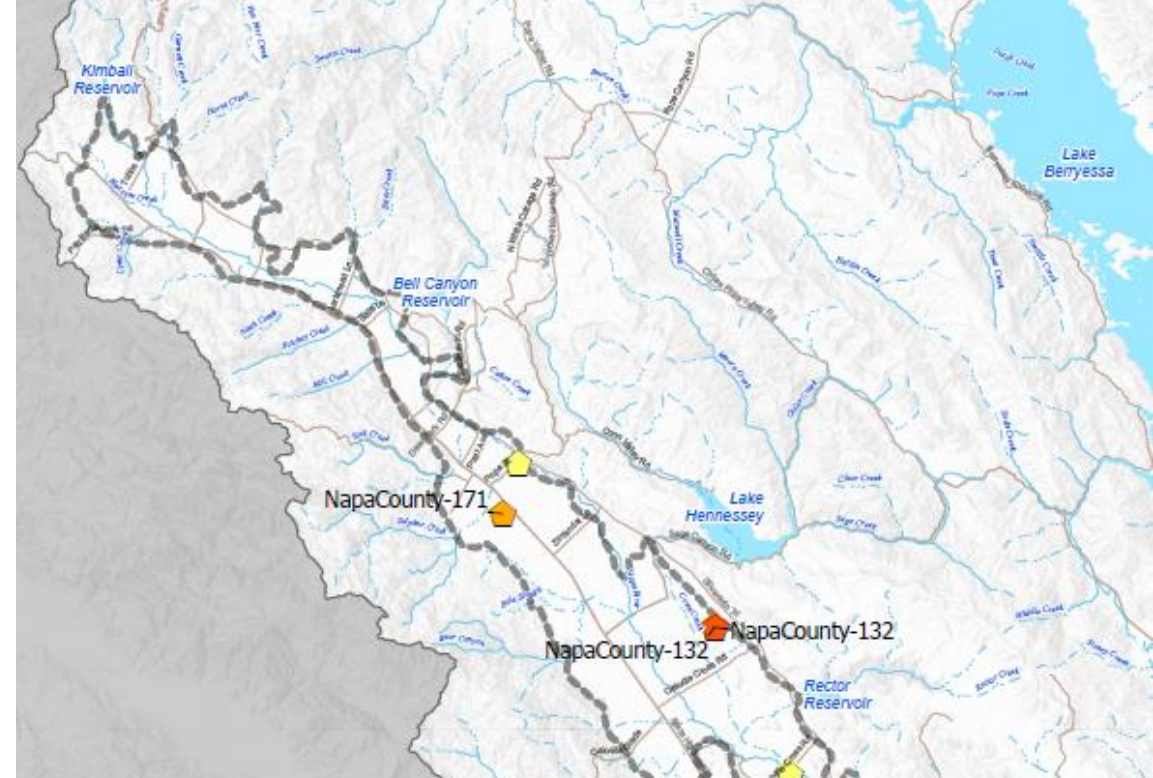
- 27 RMS wells measured
- 16 of the 27 wells (59%) had exceedances
 - 5 well had exceedance of > 10 feet
 - 7 wells had exceedances of 5-10 ft
 - 3 wells had exceedances of 2-5ft
 - 1 well had exceedances of 0-1ft

Fall 2021
RMS for GWL – Relative
to Minimum Thresholds







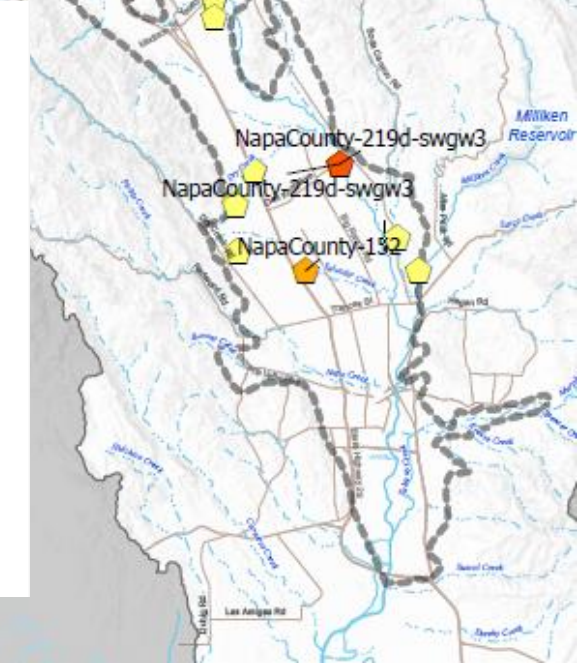
RMS Groundwater Levels- Response Action Required

- Four wells on track to have a Fall MT exceedance
- Two of the wells will have had three consecutive years of MT Exceedance
- Three wells have been dropped from a monitoring network
 - Letters for re-recruitment have been drafted



Explanation

-  Wells with Projected MT Exceedance and with three consecutive fall MTs
-  Wells with Projected MT Exceedance and with two fall MTs
-  Well with MT Exceedance in last three years
-  DWR Groundwater Basins and Subbasins



RMS Template

- Data sheets are provided for all RMS Wells that monitor groundwater levels in Napa Valley.
- Information pertaining to location, Sustainability Indicator(s), construction information, and nearby features are included.
- These are living documents and can be updated and modified based on requests.

Well Name: NapaCounty-127

Monitoring Network

SGMA Representative Monitoring Network

SGMA Sustainability Indicator(s)

Groundwater Levels (GWL)

Supplemental Indicator(s)

NA

Well Identification

SWN: 009N007W25N001M

MNM: 385926N1225938W001

Well Construction

Well Type: Domestic well

Well Depth (ft bgs): 149

Top of Perforation (ft bgs): NA

Bottom of Perforation (ft bgs): NA

Well Completion Report Available? Yes

Monitoring Information

Monitoring Frequency: Semi-Annual GWL

Measurable Objectives (MO) and Minimum Thresholds (MT) (ft amsl):

GWL MO = 374.0; MT = 351.0

Groundwater Level Observation

Most Recent Water Level:

Measurement Date: 3/7/2022

Depth below ground surface (ft): 9.33

Elevation (ft amsl): 382.67

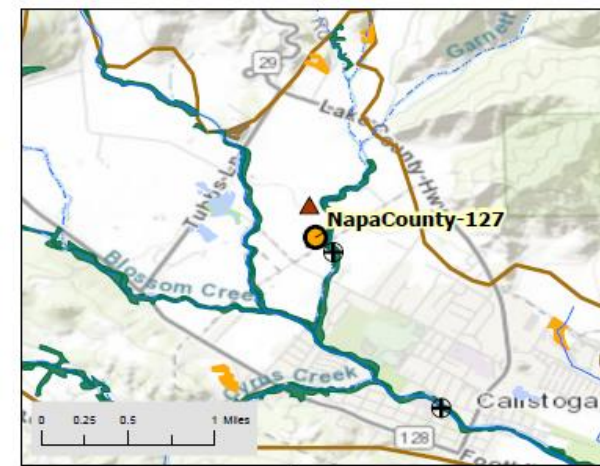
Location Description

Latitude/Longitude: 38.593241/-122.592484

Ground Surface Elevation (ft amsl): 392.00

Distance to Perennial Stream (ft): 300

Alluvial Thickness (ft): 70



Explanation

● RMS Sites in Focus

Other RMS Sites

▲ Groundwater Well

⊗ Stream Flow/Stage

▲ Benchmark (Land Subsidence)

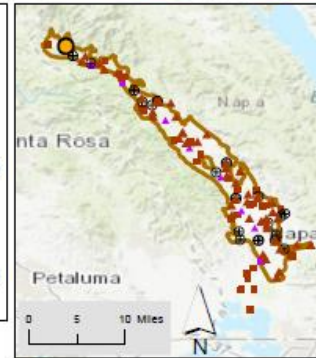
Non-RMS Monitoring Sites

■ Groundwater Well

⊗ Stream Flow/Stage

▲ Benchmark (Land Subsidence)

▭ Subbasin Boundary



Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems

■ Bulrush - Cattail

■ Coast Live Oak Alliance

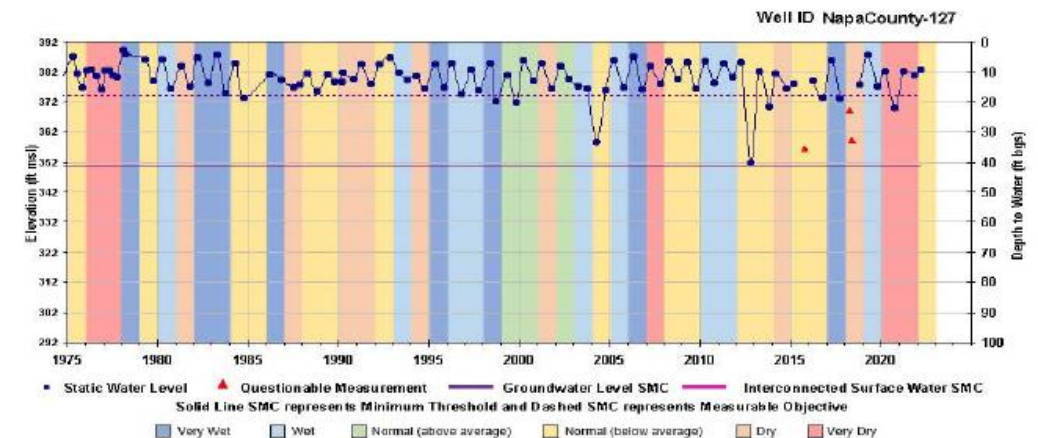
■ Riparian Valley Oak

■ Valley Oak Alliance

■ Wetlands

— River/Creek - Perennial

- - - River/Creek - Intermittent



MT Exceedance Summary



Well ID	MT (ft msl)	Fall 2020 (ft msl)	Fall 2021 (ft msl)	Spring 2022 (ft msl)	Summer 2022 (ft msl)	Response Action
06N04W17A001M	42	-11.44	-28.94			Working to re-recruit
07N05W09Q002M	126	2.34	-5.15			Working to re-recruit
08N06W10Q001M	270	-21.57	-16.37			Working to re-recruit
NapaCounty-122	-45	-7.35	-9.1	9.67		
NapaCounty-132	109	-2.7	-8.19	3.8	-0.65	Yes, on track to have a fall exceedance
NapaCounty-133	73	-1.2	0.91	8.52	1.08	
NapaCounty-135	33	19.68	-15.11	19.73	6.63	
NapaCounty-152	55	5.16	12.38	11.96	-55	Yes, on track to have a fall exceedance
NapaCounty-171	165	-6.73	43.35	38.83	-4.2	Yes, on track to have a fall exceedance
NapaCounty-216s-swgw2	66	4.995	-0.07	20.11	18.51	
NapaCounty-217d-swgw2	60	-0.373	-7.53	12.87	7.97	
NapaCounty-218s-swgw3	29	0.04	-3.62	3.47	-1.38	Yes, on track to have a fall exceedance
NapaCounty-219d-swgw3	29	-0.41	-5.97	3.47	-1.8	Yes, on track to have a fall exceedance
NapaCounty-220s-swgw4	75	-0.129	-4.39	7.49	4.13	
NapaCounty-221d-swgw4	75	-0.795	-5.01	7.83	3.41	
NapaCounty-222s-swgw5	185	0.47	-2.7	7.6	7.16	
NapaCounty-223d-swgw5	164	-7.88	-8.18	15.04	10.11	
NapaCounty-227	59	N/A	-20.47	8.1		
NapaCounty-229	-69	-18.59	-13.33	8.37		

Orange on track to have three consecutive MT exceedances in the Fall

Yellow on track to have MT exceedance in the Fall

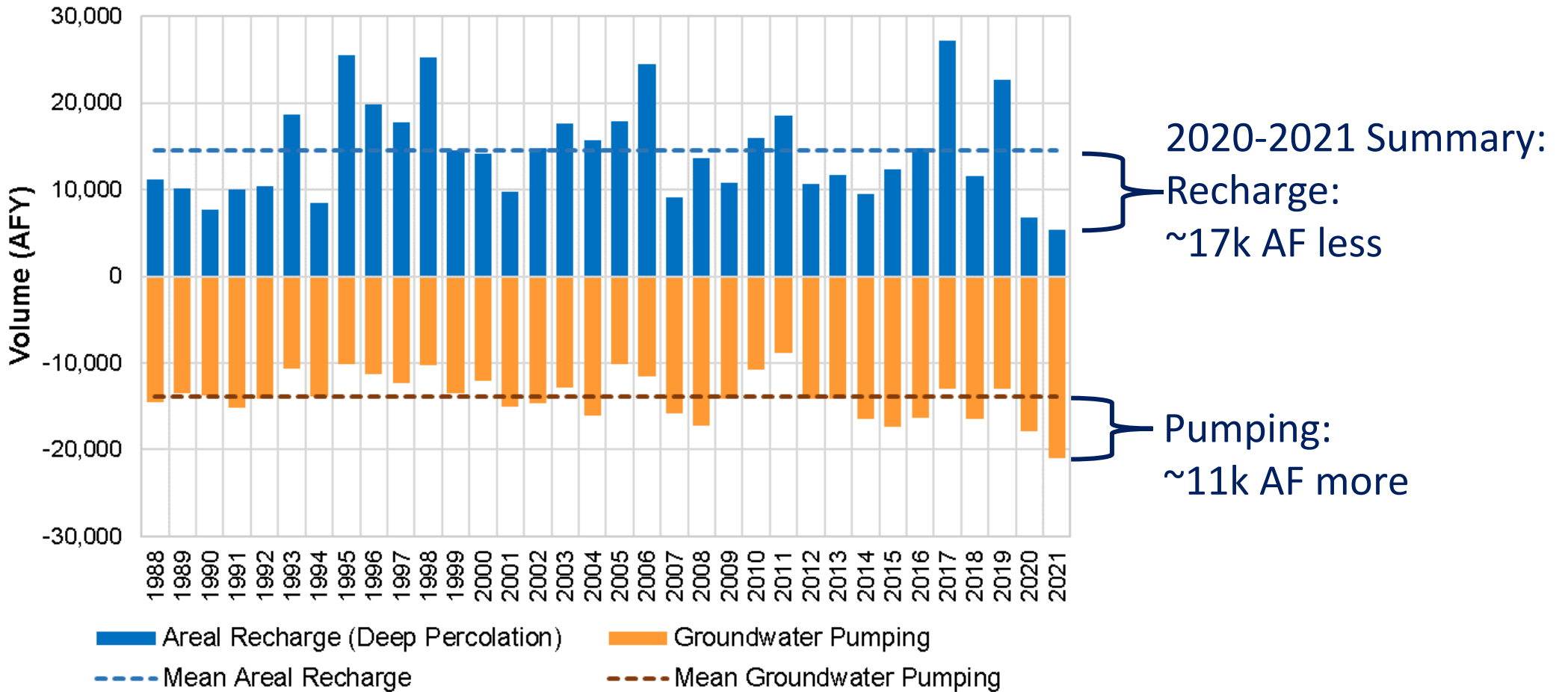


Quantifying Existing Recharge and Pumping



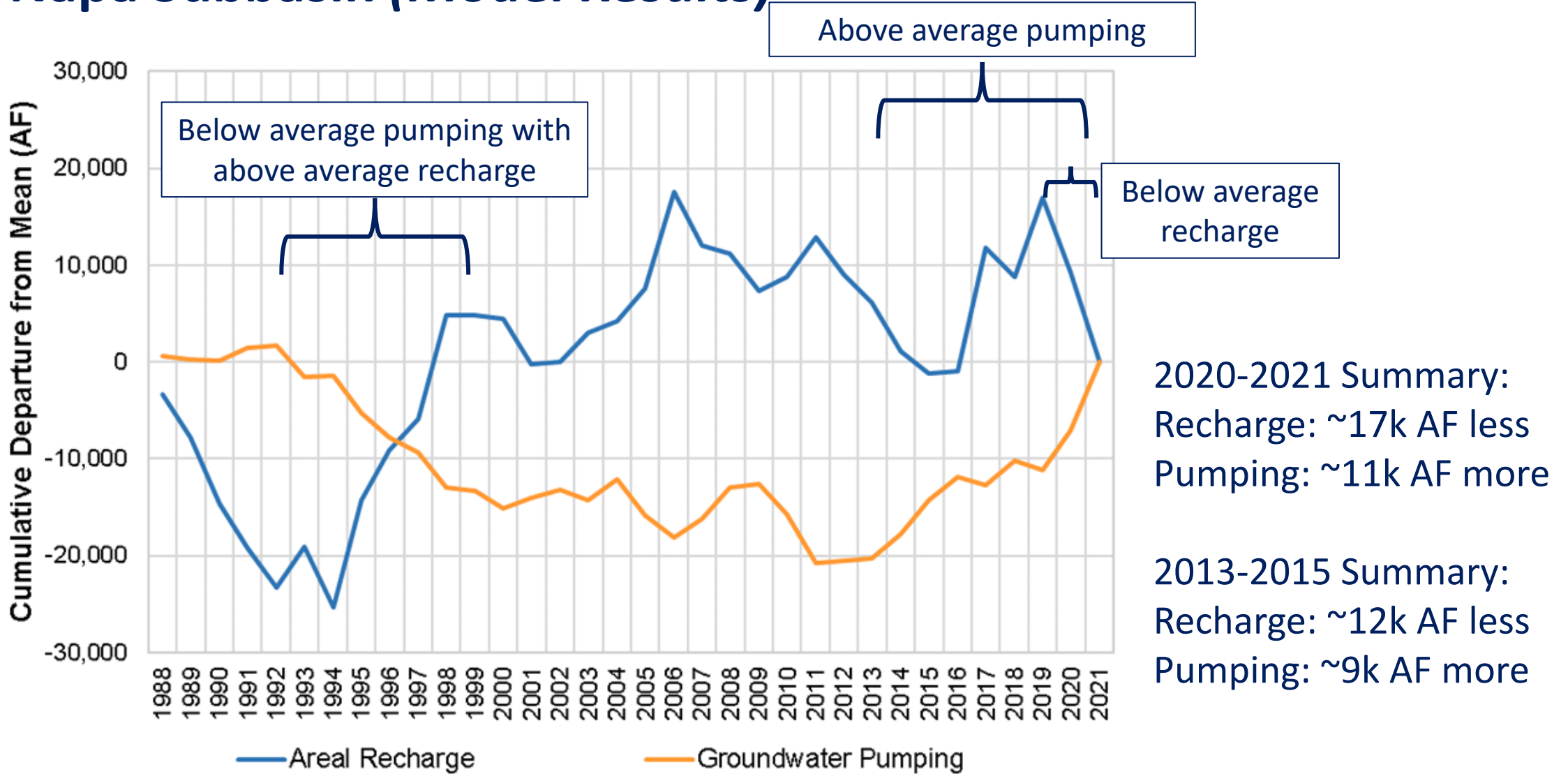


Pumping and Recharge in the Current Drought: Napa Subbasin (*Model Results*)



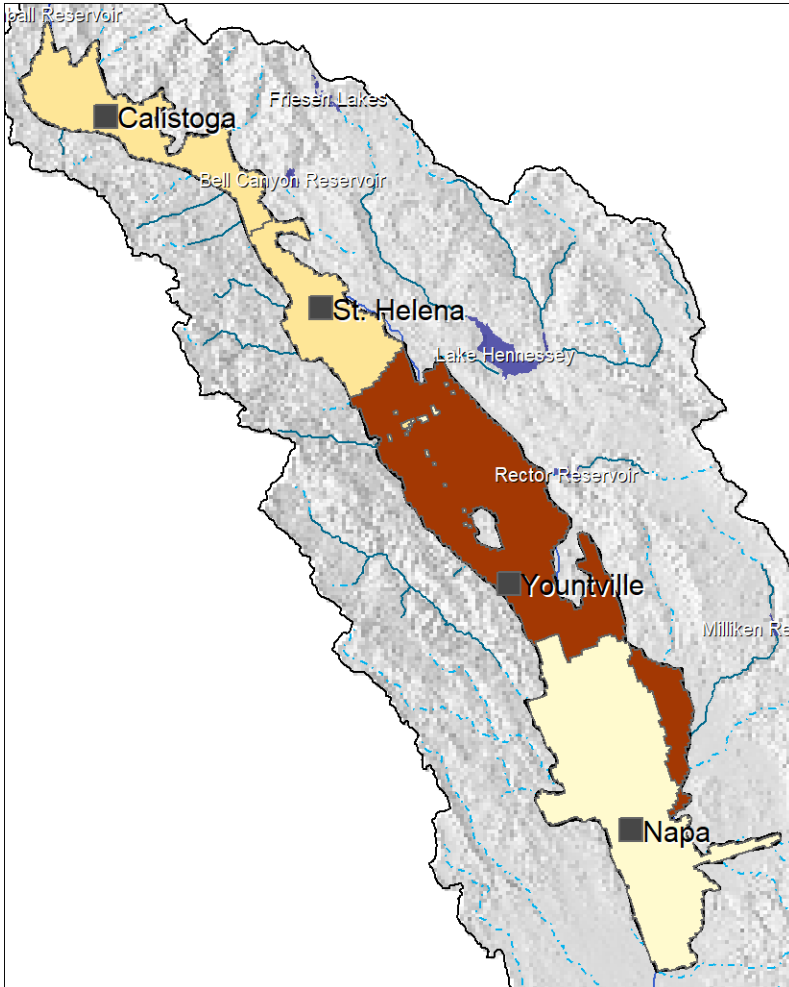


Pumping and Recharge in the Current Drought: Napa Subbasin (*Model Results*)



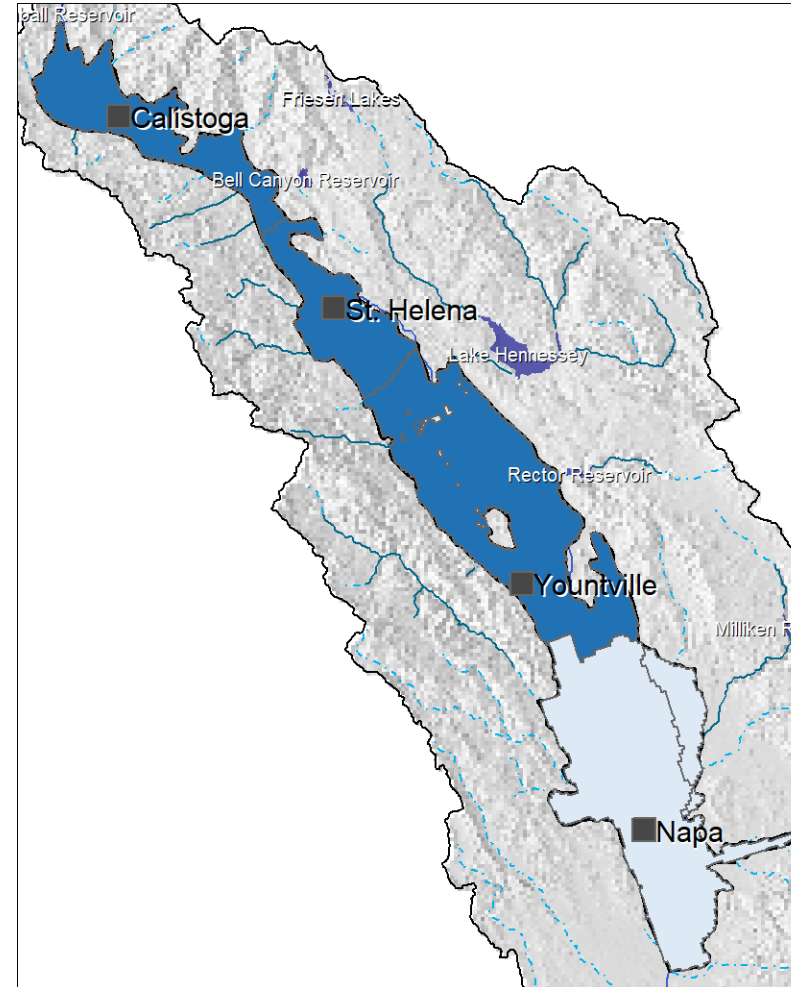
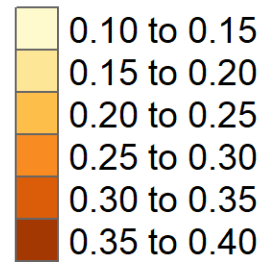


Pumping and Recharge in the Current Drought: Napa Subbasin – Pumping & Recharge (AF/acre)



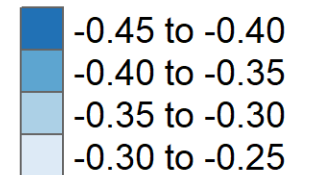
- Napa River
- - - Intermittent Streams
- Perennial Streams
- Napa River Watershed
- Napa Valley Subbasin

Pumping Above Average (AF/acre)



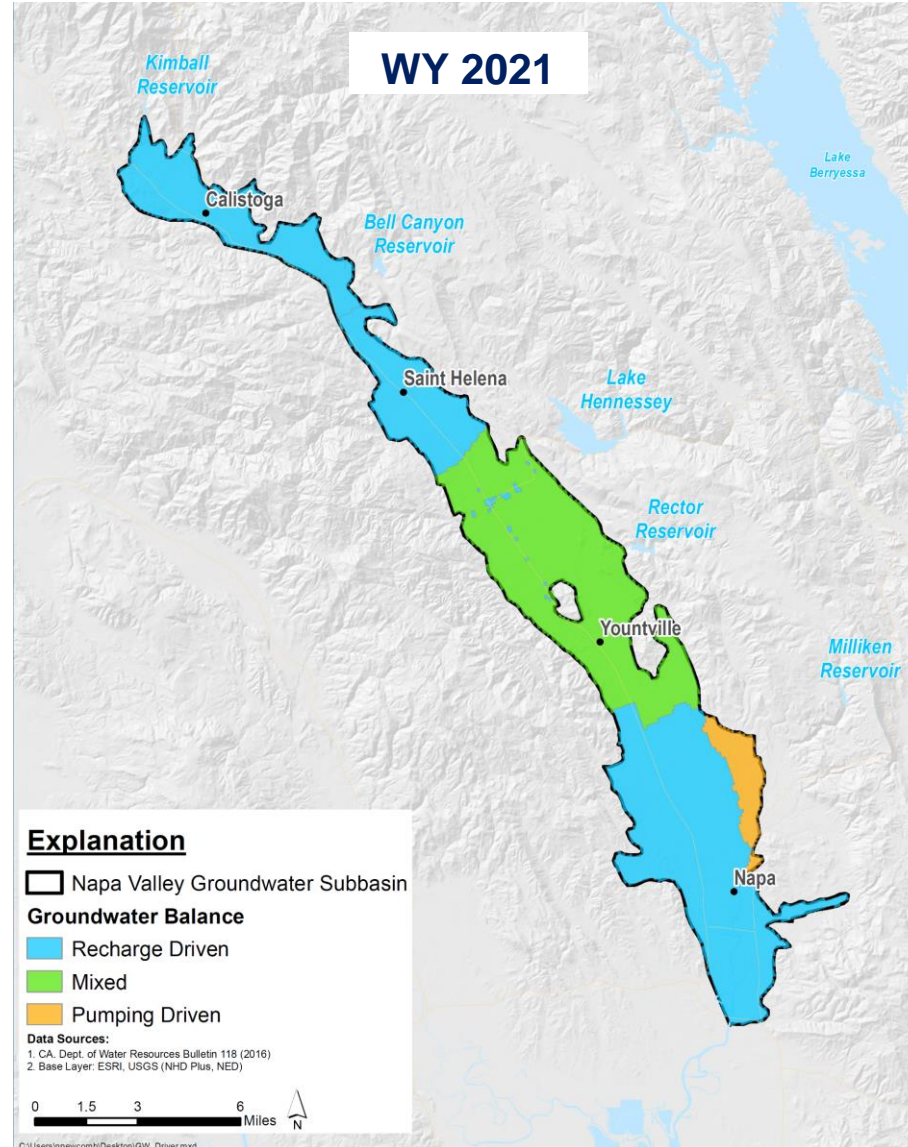
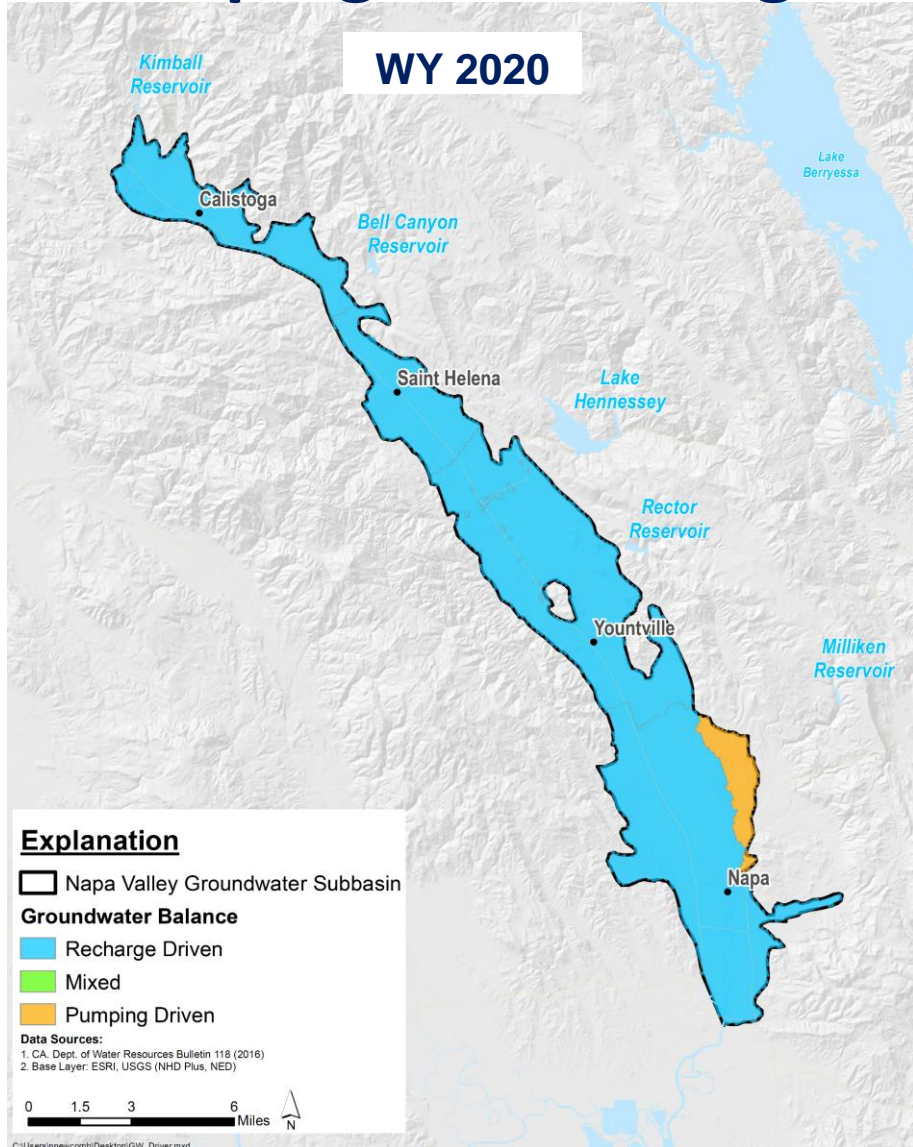
- Napa River
- - - Intermittent Streams
- Perennial Streams
- Napa River Watershed
- Napa Valley Subbasin

Recharge Below Average (AF/acre)





Quantifying the Relative Impact of Pumping vs. Recharge



ΔQ Difference in Pumping Relative to 1988-2019 Average

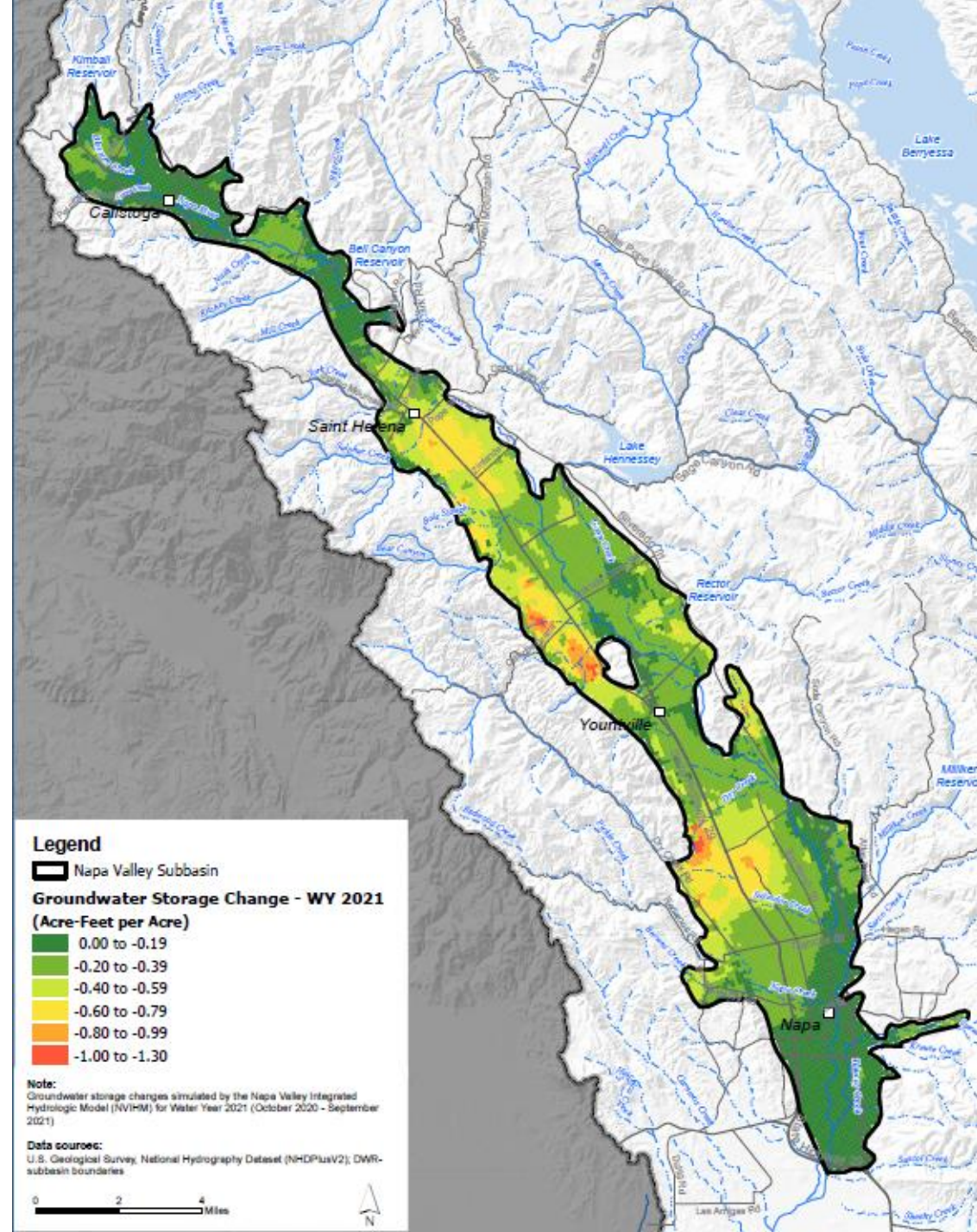
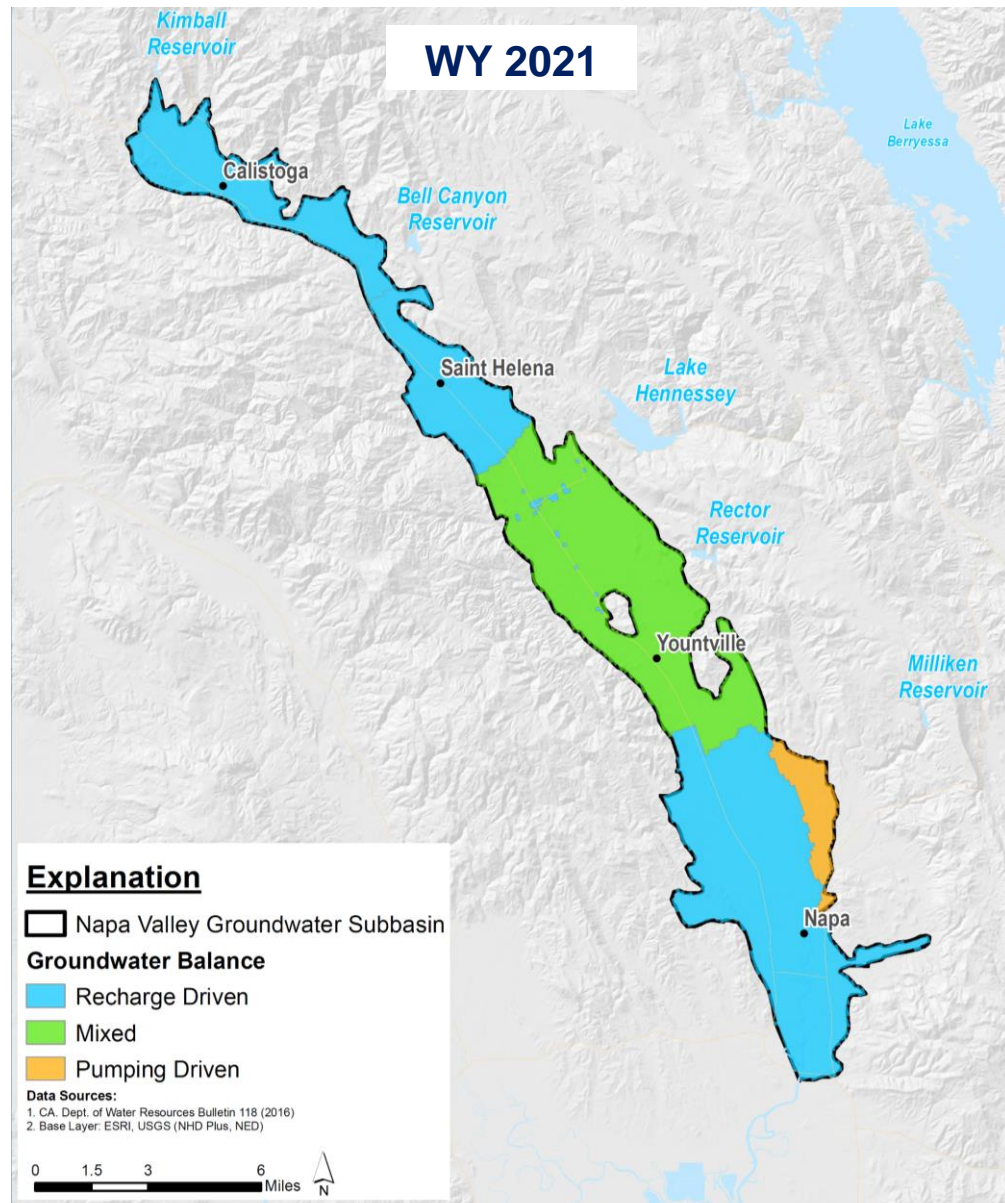
ΔR Difference in Recharge Relative to 1988-2019 Average

$\frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta R} \leq 0.75$ Recharge Driven

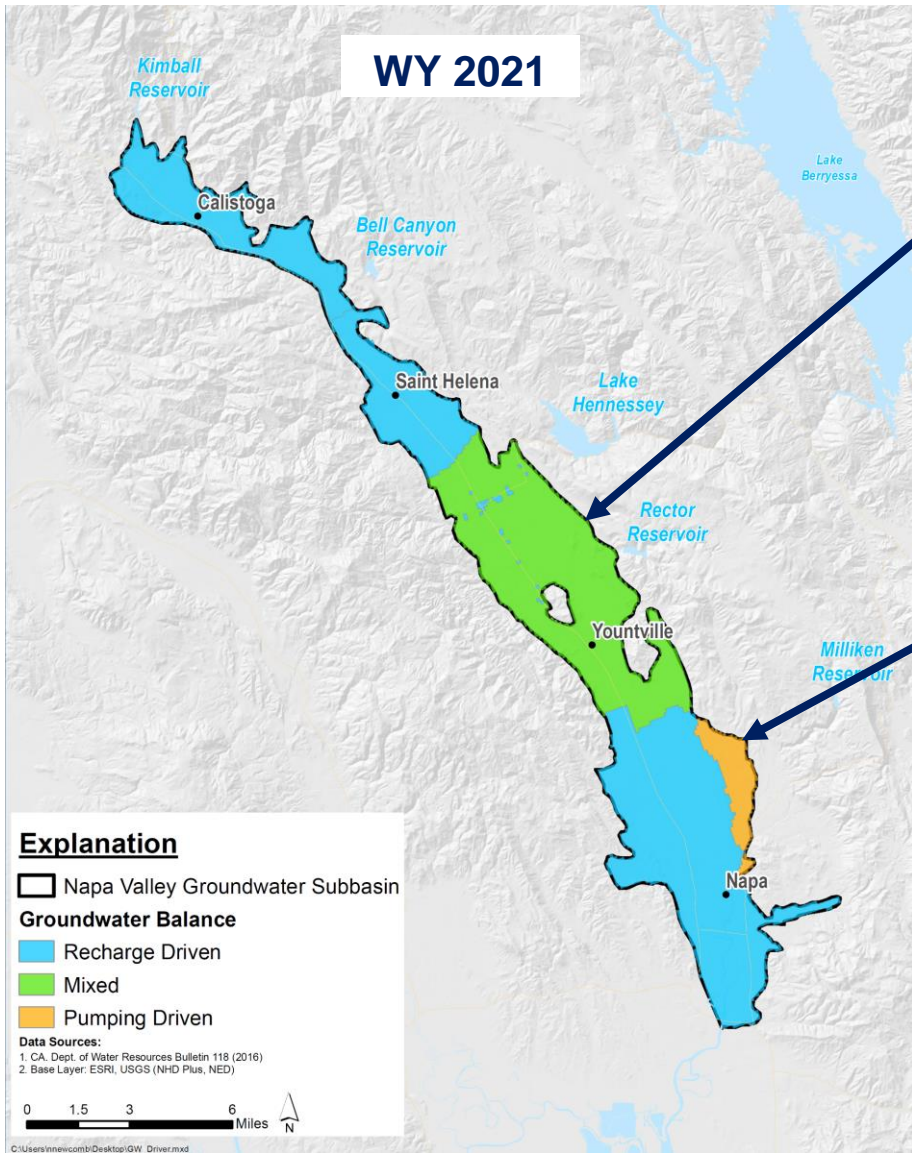
$0.75 < \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta R} \leq 1.25$ Mixed

$\frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta R} > 1.25$ Pumping Driven

Pumping and Recharge Changes Compared to Storage Changes

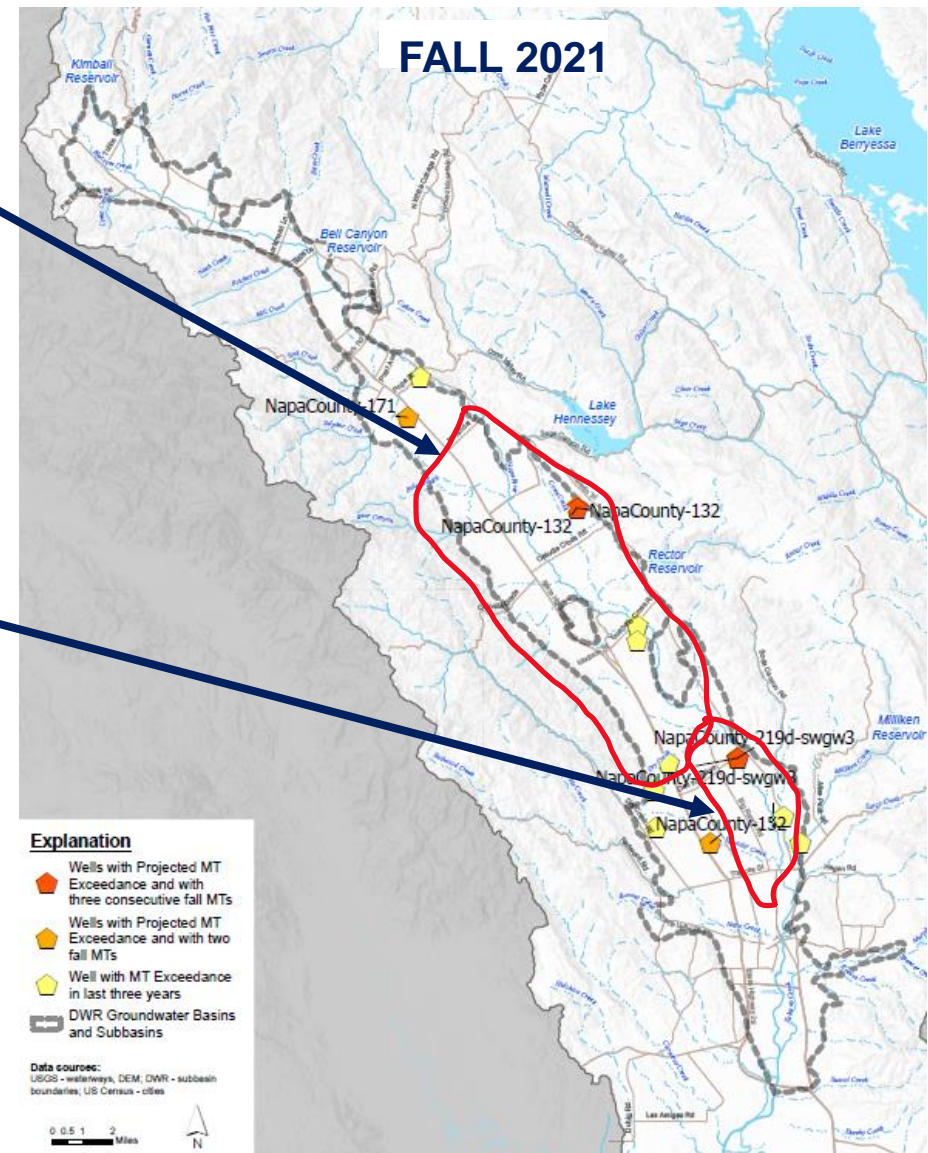


Drought Impacts by Areas



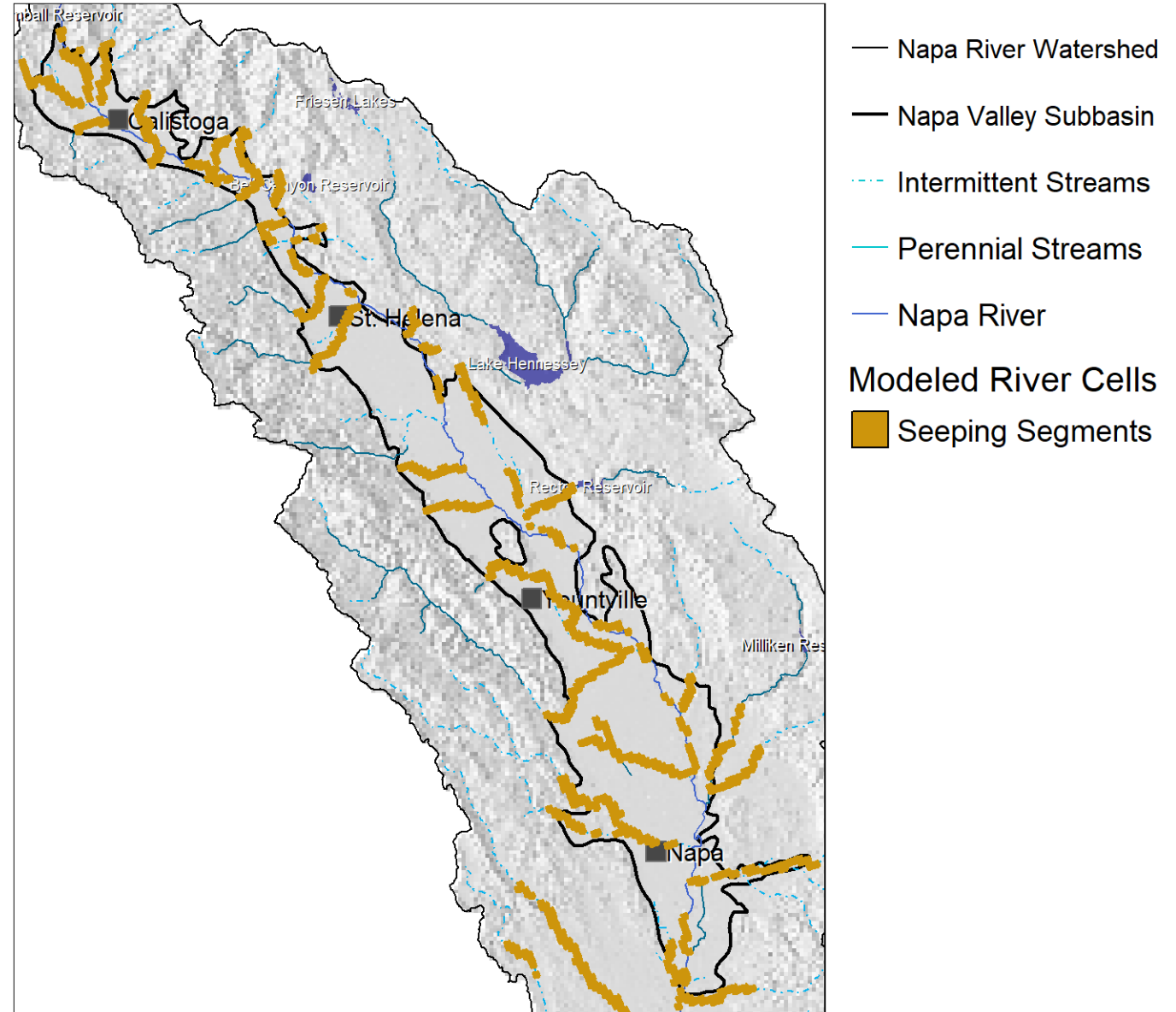
Drought Effects:
Mixed impacts of both diminished recharge and additional pumping. Relative to average.

Northeast Napa Management Area:
Predominately pumping driven impacts.



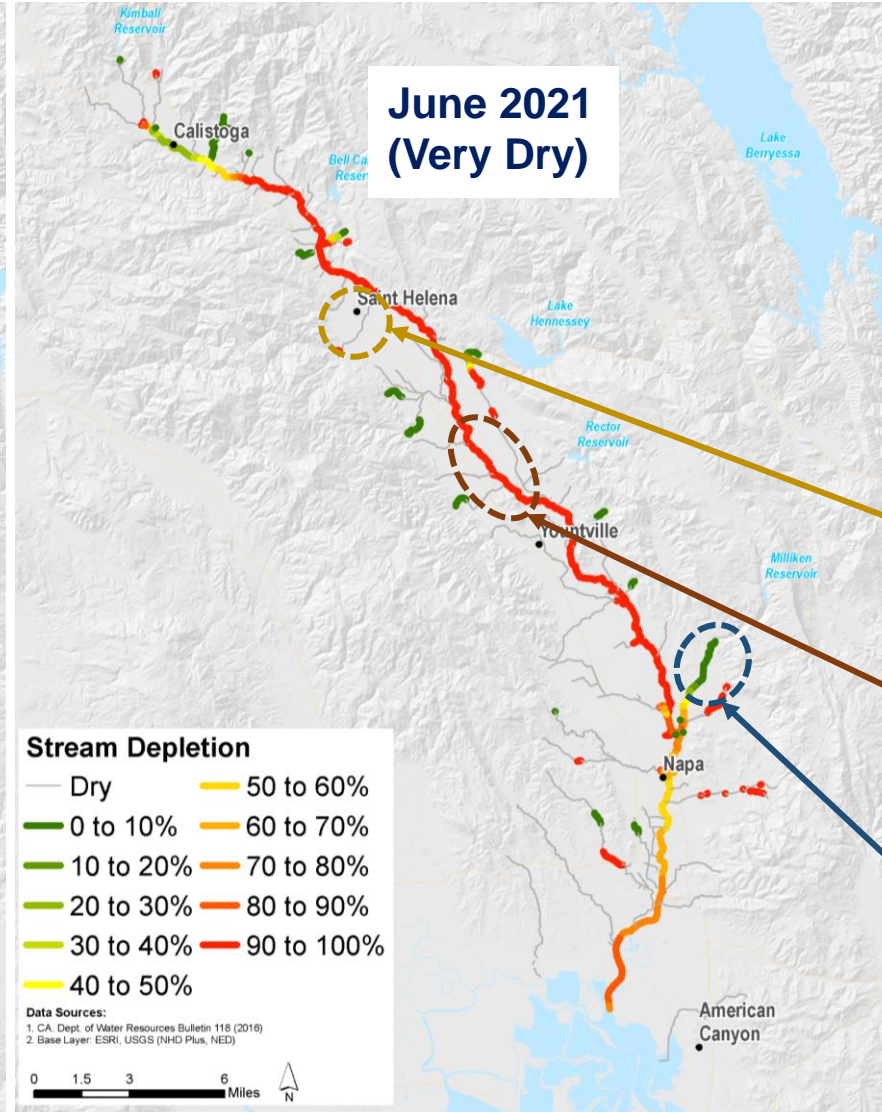
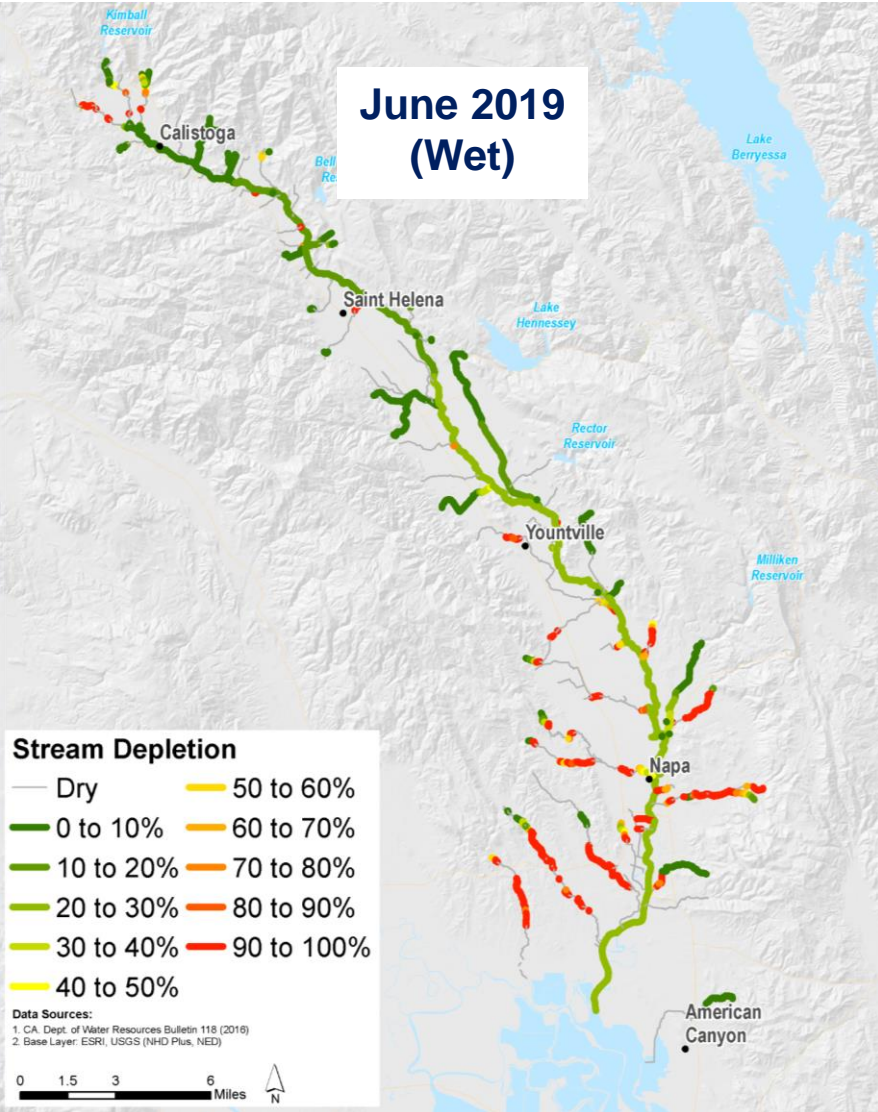
Modeled Stream Reaches with High Seepage

- Infiltration based on historic groundwater model run (NVIHM).
- Infiltration potential based on amount of infiltration (from river to aquifer) when water was in the stream.
- Scenario analysis for pumping is used to explore effects of groundwater pumping on streams.
 - No Pumping Scenario: Pumping never occurred in Napa Valley
 - Pumping: Normal as-is conditions





Climate, Pumping, and Stream Flow - June



$$\text{Stream Depletion} = \frac{\text{FLOW}_{\text{No Pumping}} - \text{FLOW}_{\text{Pumping}}}{\text{FLOW}_{\text{No Pumping}}}$$

Stream Depletion is 'Dry' -
No Pumping scenario flow is 0

Stream Depletion ~100% -
Pumping flow is 0 (dry channel)

Stream Depletion ~0% -
Pumping flow is equal to No Pumping scenario



Climate, Pumping, and Stream Flow - June

June 2019
(Wet)

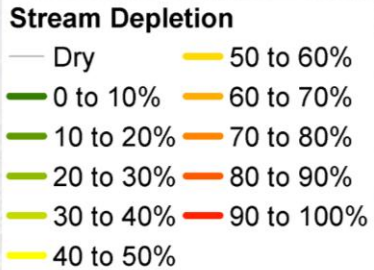
June 2021
(Very Dry)

Depletion occurs in Wet years
Percent depletion is intensified by drought impacts

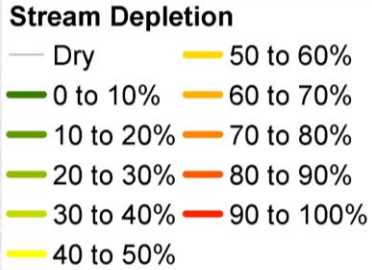
Stream Depletion is 'Dry':
Pumping reductions will not add flow to these reaches.

Stream Depletion ~100% -
Pumping reductions will have the greatest impact to increasing flow

Stream Depletion ~0% -
Pumping has little to no effect on stream flow



Data Sources:
1. CA. Dept. of Water Resources Bulletin 118 (2016)
2. Base Layer: ESRI, USGS (NHD Plus, NED)



Data Sources:
1. CA. Dept. of Water Resources Bulletin 118 (2016)
2. Base Layer: ESRI, USGS (NHD Plus, NED)





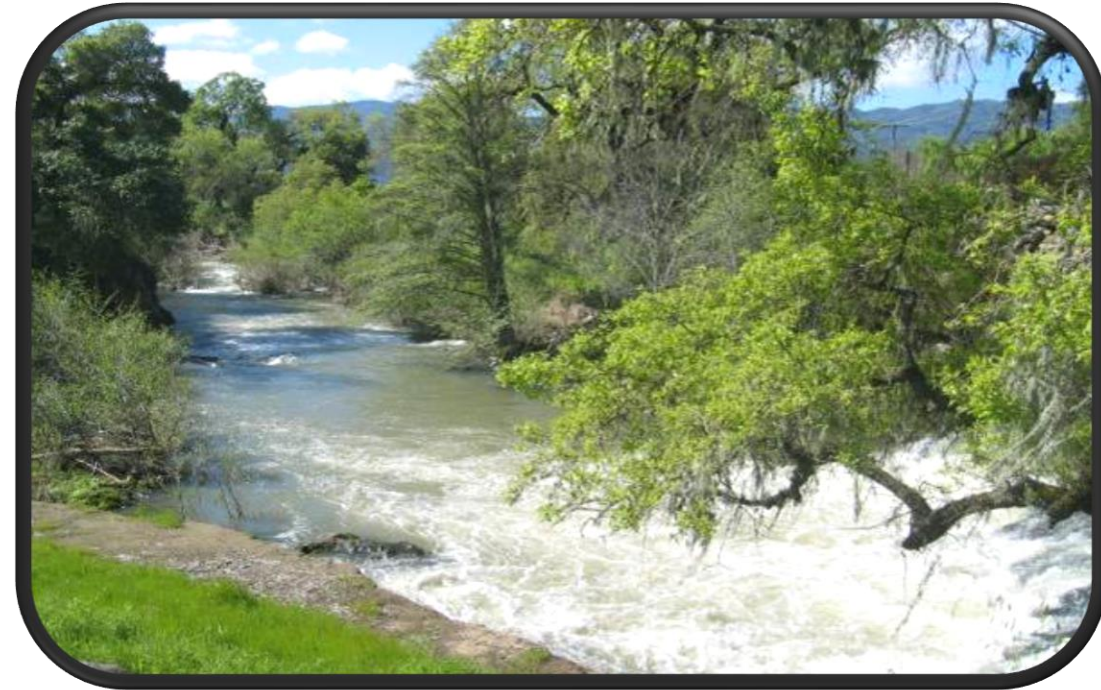
Potential Recharge Areas of Interest



Technical Memo on Potential Recharge Areas



- GIS spatial analysis of currently available information
 - Stream network, including significant streams within the Napa River Watershed
 - Surficial and subsurface geology
 - Fish and other ecological habitat status and/or priority (biological value)
 - Stream Watch network observations
 - Other existing observations/prior studies that inform recharge site prioritization



Recharge Overview



Goals for Recharge



Physical Limitations



Prioritizing Need



Discussion





Reasons and Goals for Recharge

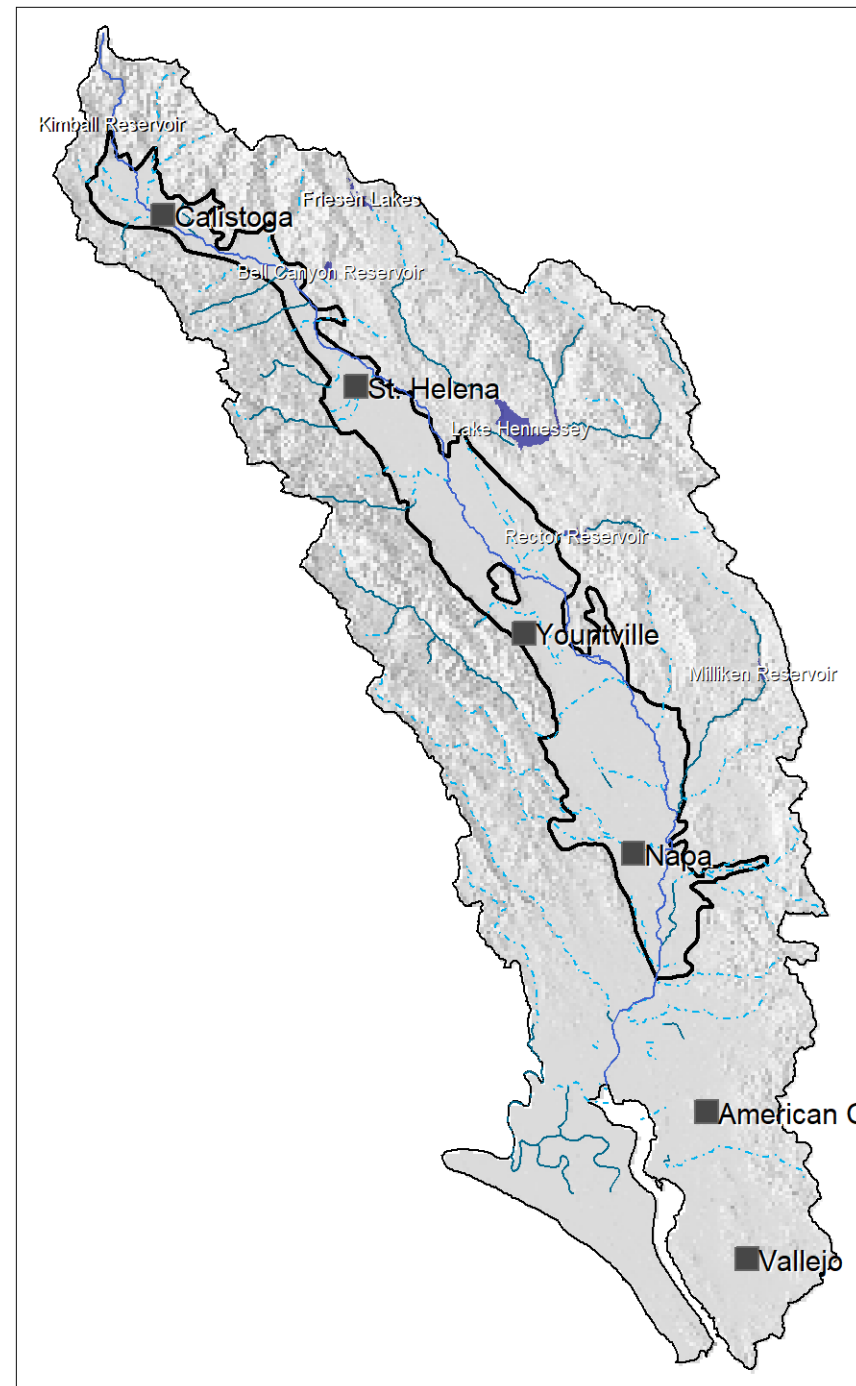
- Reasons that an area may benefit from additional recharge:
 - Climate impacts
 - Areas that have diminished recharge due to ongoing drought
 - Areas of high pumping
 - Mitigate groundwater decline due to prolonged pumping
 - Additional ecosystem benefits
 - Increased baseflow to river segments
 - Higher groundwater elevation for phreatophytes or other GDE

A scenic photograph of a river or stream flowing through a wooded area. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding trees and sky. The right bank is densely packed with green and brown foliage, while the left bank is more open with some trees. The overall lighting is soft, suggesting a quiet time of day like dawn or dusk.

Recharge Considerations – Where is it needed?

Significant Stream Network

- Streams based on Napa County Stream Network
- Stream Network based on biological habitat as well as perennial rivers

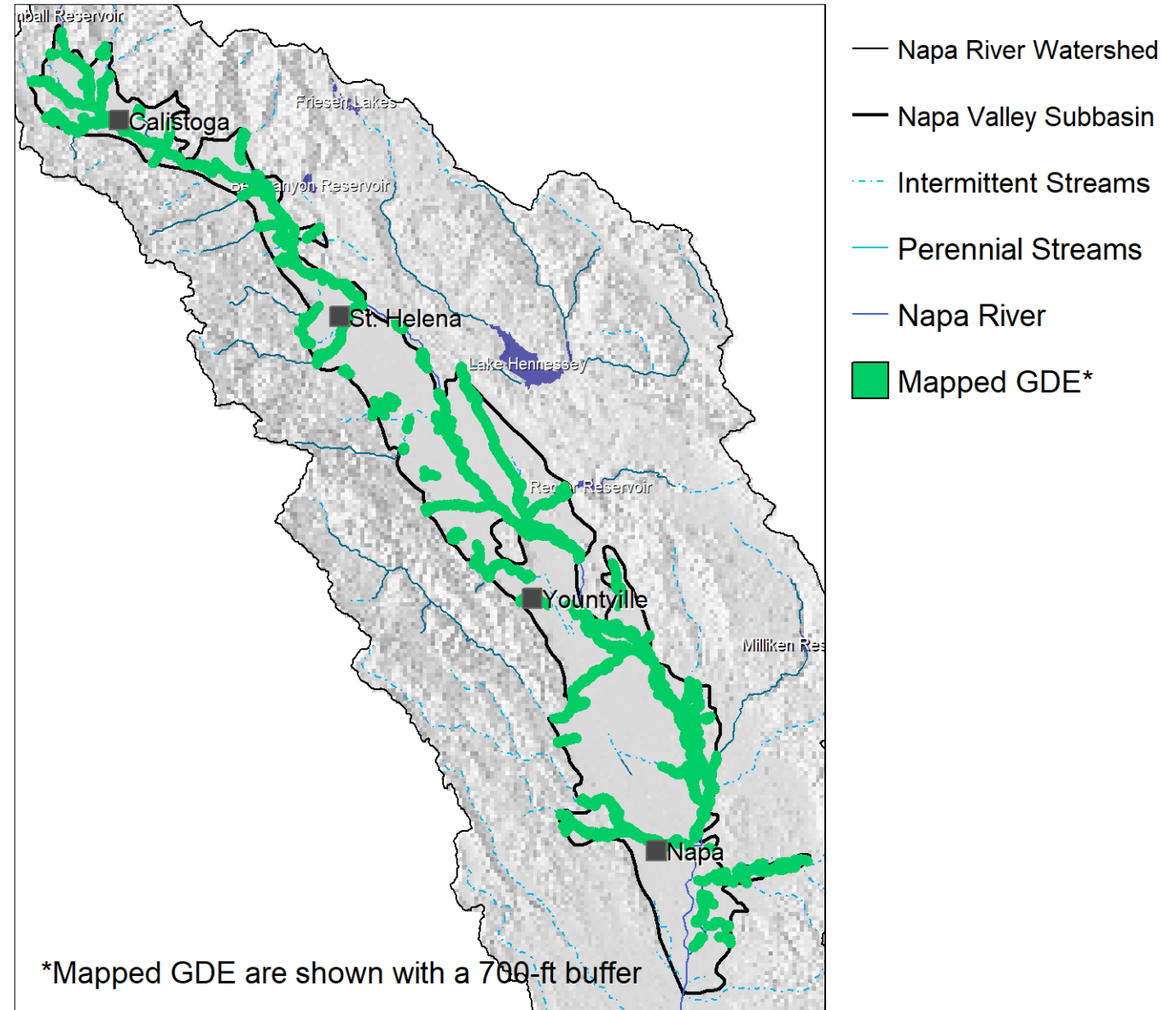


- Napa River Watershed
- Napa Valley Subbasin
- - - Intermittent Streams
- Perennial Streams
- Napa River

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)

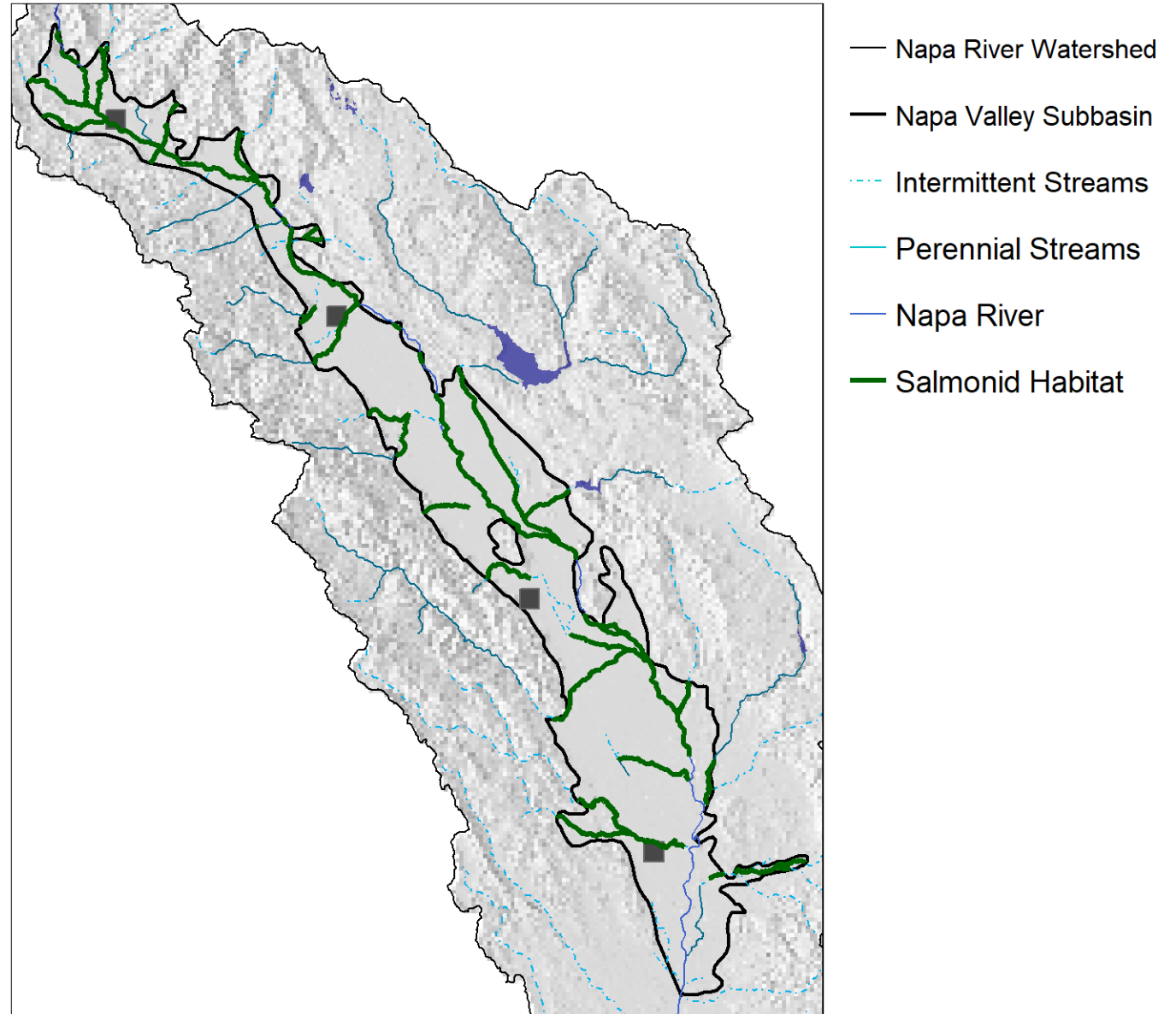
Identification/Delineation

- 2,663 acres delineated in 2019
- 12 freshwater species and 9 other species identified as potentially GW dependent.
- Possible metrics for prioritization:
 - Specific species that are more sensitive to groundwater fluctuations.
 - Changes in remotely sensed health, i.e., NDVI and NDMI
 - Others?



Fish Habitat

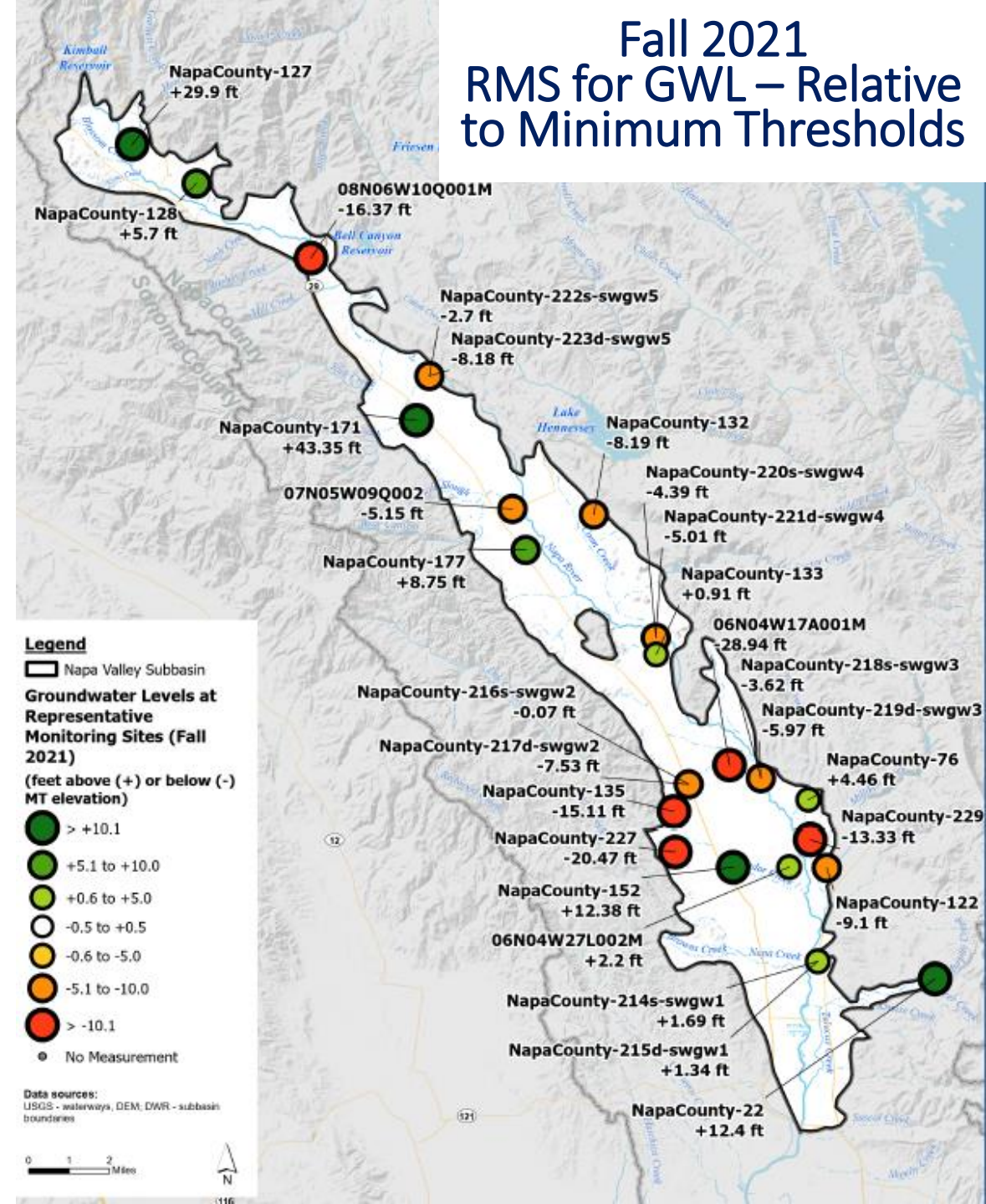
- RCD work to quantify known or potential habitat for salmonids.
- Habitat is for both spawning and rearing.
- Ongoing coordination with RCD is needed to assess which stream reaches may require additional baseflow for better habitat.



Fall 2021 Groundwater Levels

- Representative Monitoring Sites (RMS) are used to measure the sustainability of an area.
- Fall 2021, multiple wells were below the Minimum Threshold (MT).
- RMS below the MT can be used to identify general areas that would benefit from additional recharge.

Fall 2021 RMS for GWL – Relative to Minimum Thresholds



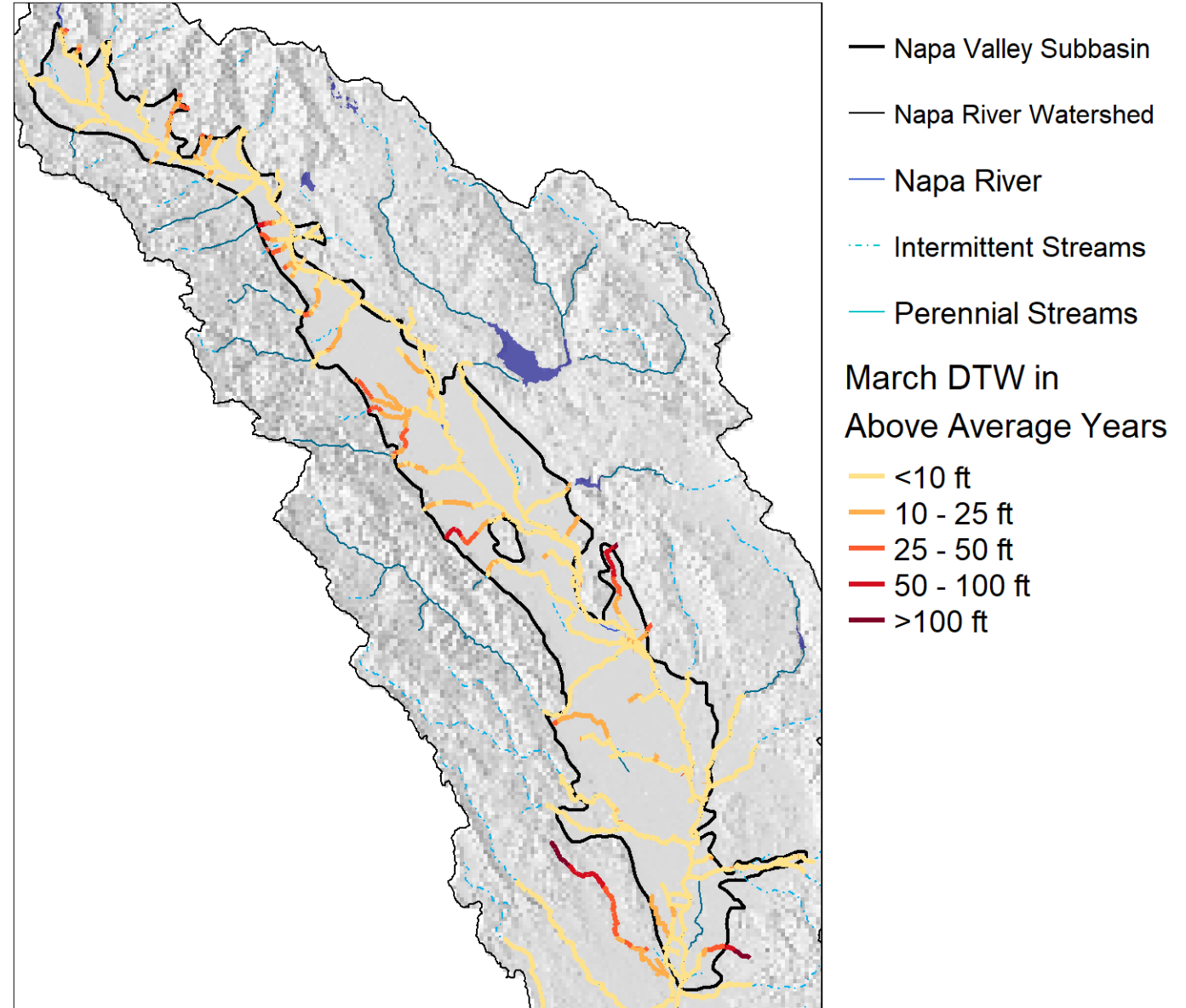


Physical Characteristics Related to Recharge



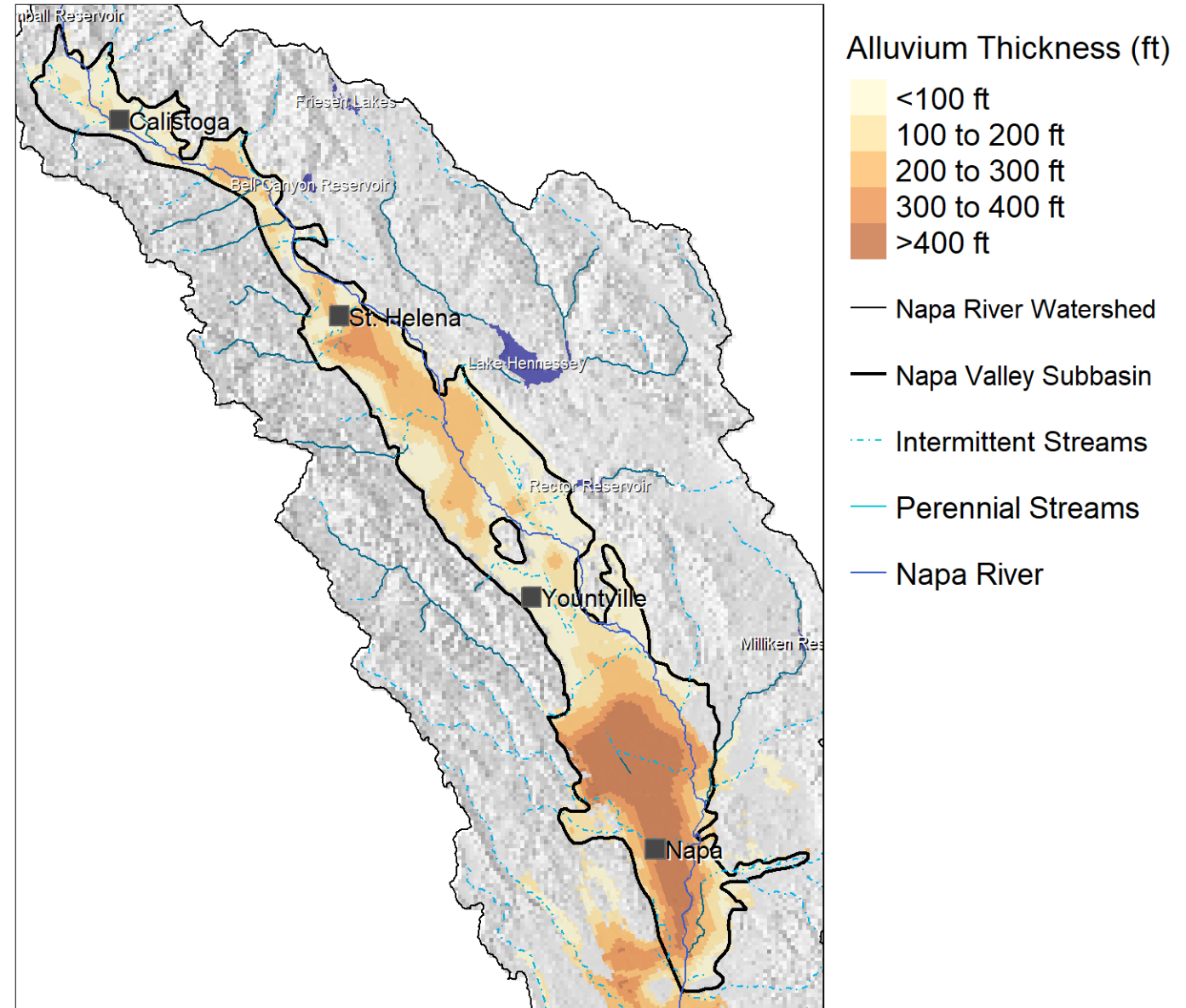
Depth to Water in Aquifer System below the Stream

- Depth to water below stream reaches based on historic groundwater model run (NVIHM).
- Average depth to water in March in climate years that are Above Average shows where there is capacity for recharge when there is water available.



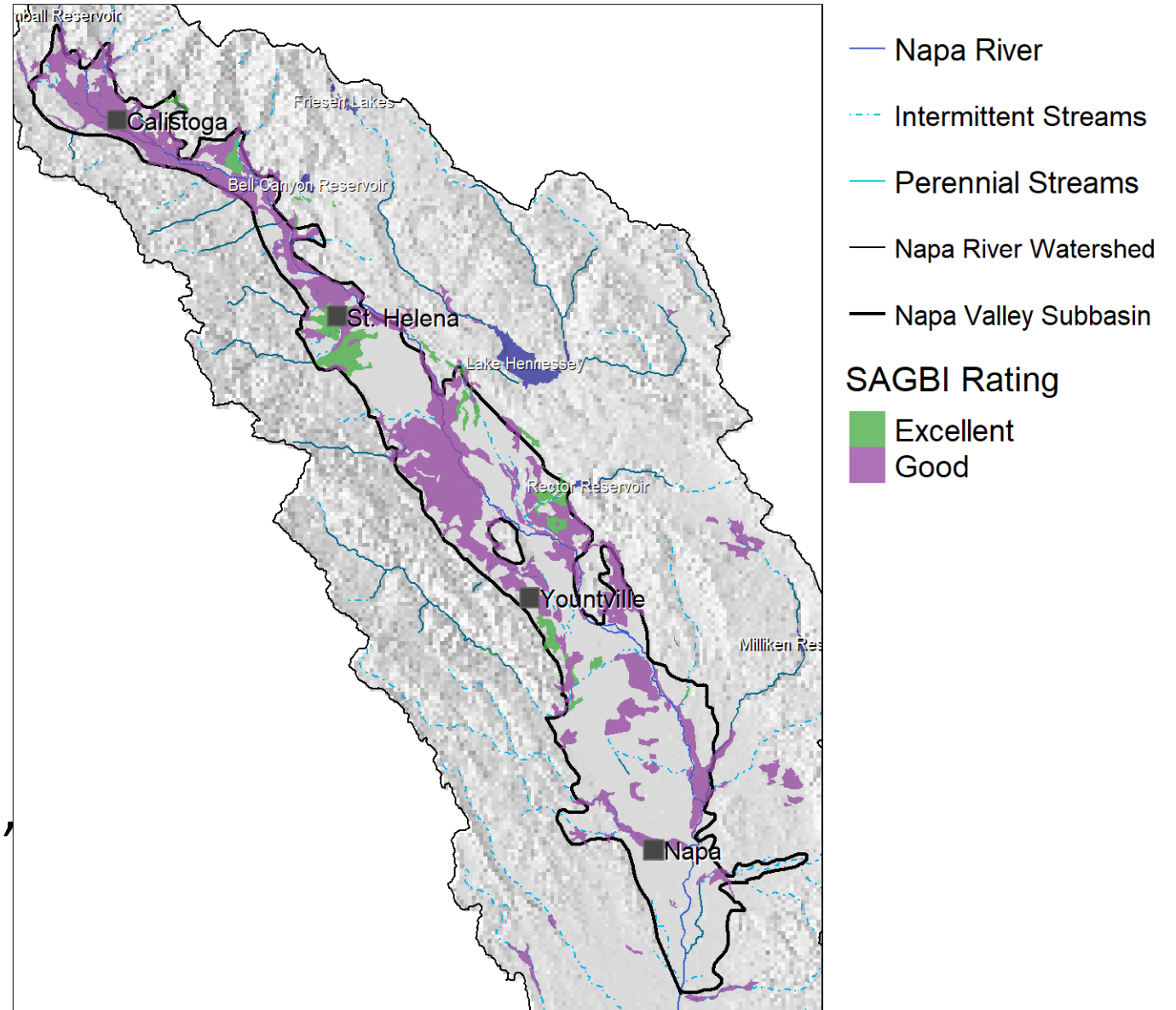
Alluvium Thickness

- Alluvial thickness affects the amount of recharge that can occur in a region.
- Alluvium is the uppermost geologic unit in the Napa Valley, in general, lower conductivity volcanic rocks are under the alluvium.
- If there is not enough storage space in the alluvium, additional recharge may immediately flow out of the alluvium or be rejected.



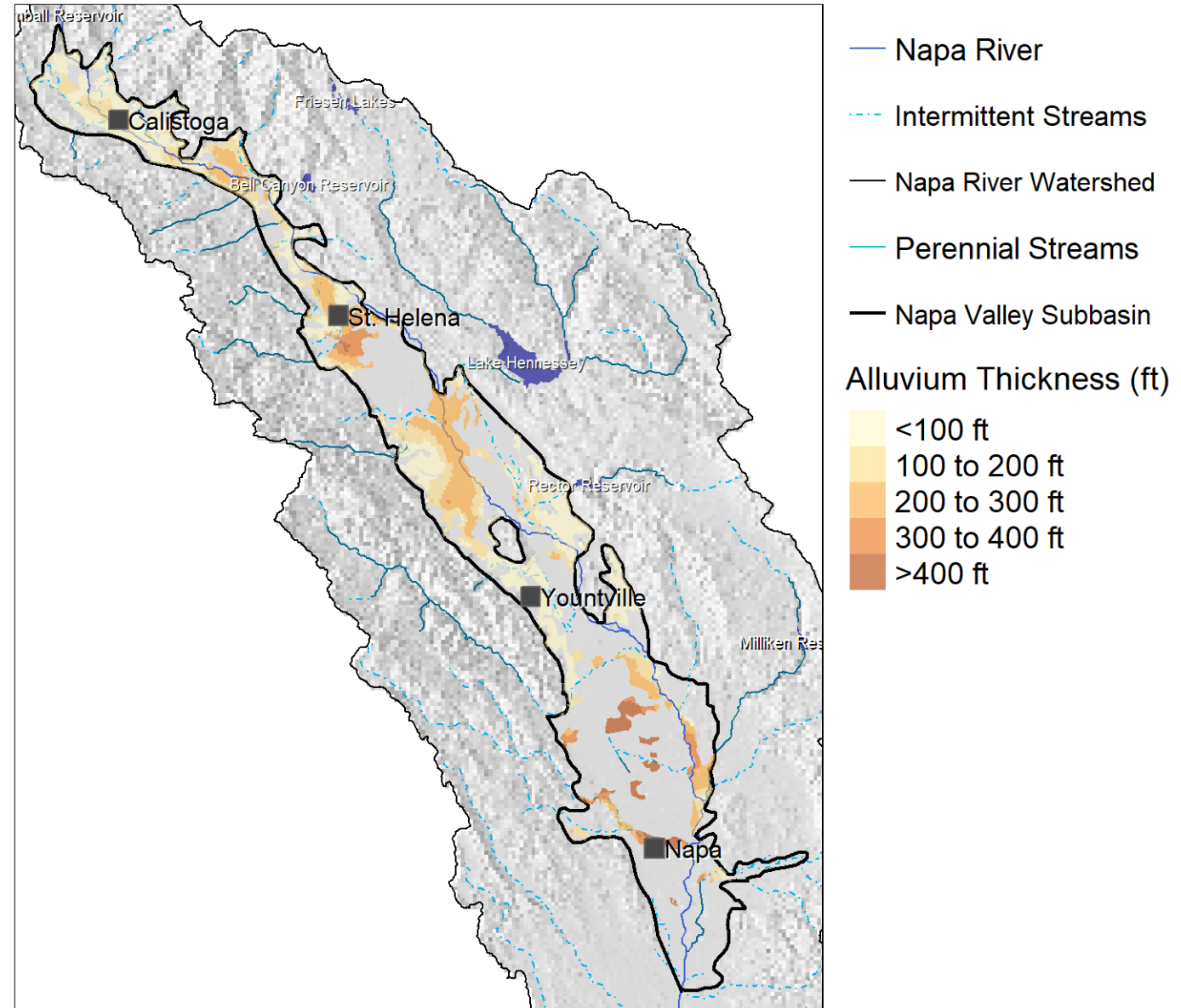
SAGBI Data

- Soil Agricultural Groundwater Banking Index
- Soil recharge potential characteristics: *permeability*, *topography*, drainage, salinity, crusting/erosion.
- These areas generally have high permeability soil and low topographic relief. Giving water time and ability to infiltrate down.
- Only showing 'Good' and 'Excellent' categories.



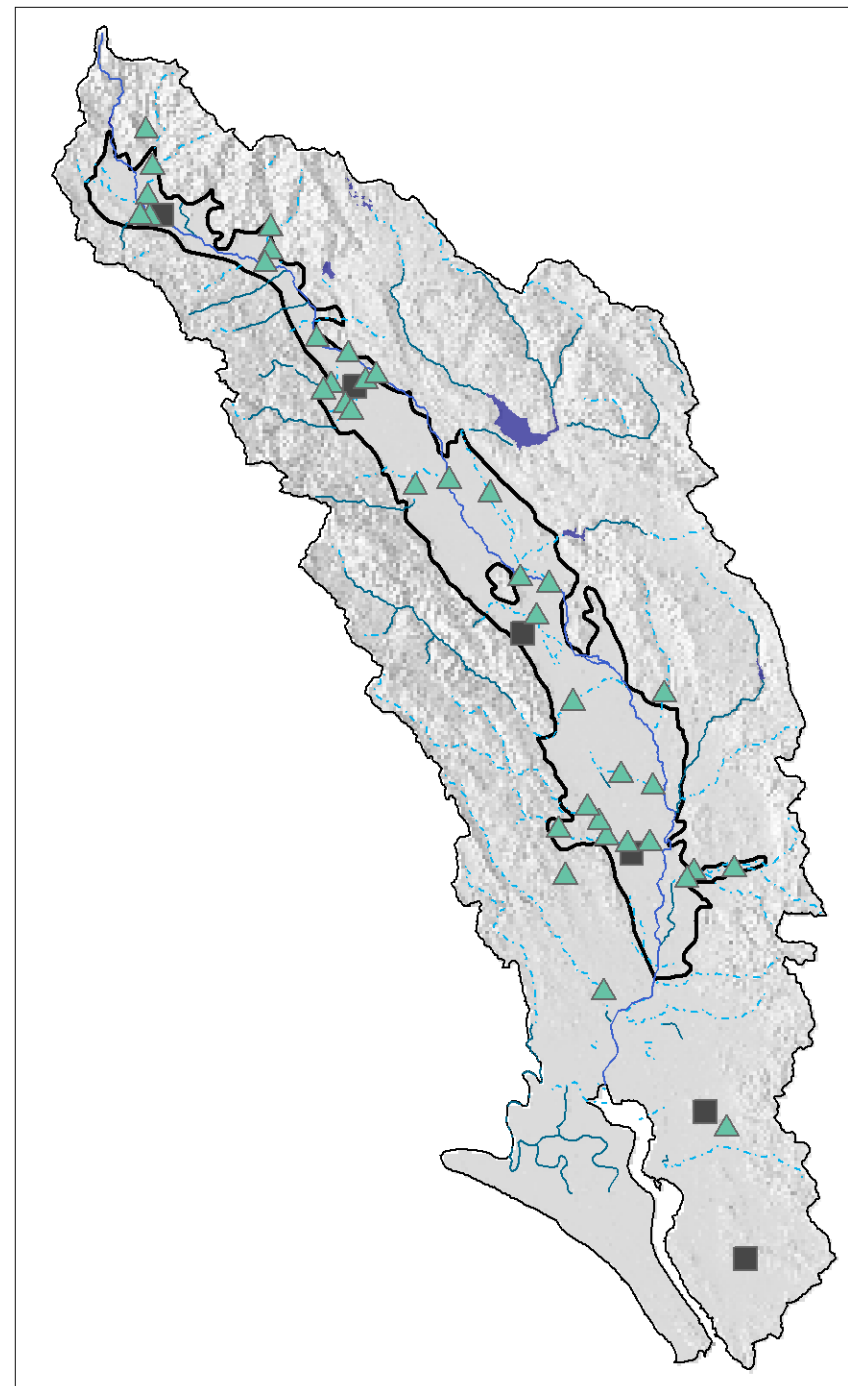
SAGBI Areas with Additional Information

- Total area of ~12,000 acres within Napa Subbasin
- Median alluvial thickness ~150 feet.
- Land use for high priority SAGBI areas (based on DWR/LandIQ 2019 data):
 - 76.4% Vineyards
 - 21.5% Urban
- Additional considerations of groundwater elevations and proximity to stream reaches required.



Additional Data Sources

- Napa RCD
 - Stream Watch
 - Historic Stream Temperatures in Napa Valley
- Pacific Fishery Management Council
- Infrastructure Requirements
- Stormwater Availability
- Land Use



- Napa River Watershed
- Napa Valley Subbasin
- - - Intermittent Streams
- Perennial Streams
- Napa River
- ▲ Active Stream Watch

Response Actions: Near-Term and Subsequent

Very Near-Term



- Voluntary Drought Measures
- GSA: Subbasin
- County: Watershed/County
- Local: Cities/Communities
- Agricultural/Wineries

Short Term



- Storm Water Resource
- Water Conservation
- Groundwater Pumping Reduction
- Interconnected Surface Water & GDEs

Mid-Term



- ID Recharge Areas of Interest
- Explore Recharge Opportunities
- Implement Workplans
- GW Pumping Reduction Options

Drought Response Actions: TAG Input

- What drought response measures might be implemented soon to address drought effects on Interconnected Surface Water?
- What kind of outreach might be most effective?
- What additional interim monitoring (available to implement now) might be useful while data gaps are being addressed (takes longer)?



October 2022: Tentative Topics



- Water Conservation Workplan
 - Summary of survey results on water conservation approaches (Napa Valley Grapegrowers)
 - Irrigation system evaluations (RCD and Napa Green)
 - OpenET
 - Tule Technologies: local stations
- Groundwater Pumping Reduction Workplan
 - Well inventory planning
- RMS exceedances and TAG input on potential response actions
- Potential recharge areas of interest (continuing discussion)





Thank You

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