

Lower American River Task Force

June 11, 2024

1:00-3:00

Checklist for Virtual Participation



- ✓ If you have less than optimal internet connection, join through both a phone (for audio) and your computer (for video). Join the online meeting via the Zoom link and opt to join via phone audio. When dialing in, be sure to enter your participant ID.
- ✓ Please mute yourself when you are not speaking. This helps cut down on background noise.
- ✓ Introduce yourself in the chat: Name, affiliation, location.

Introduction to Zoom Controls





Phone Users:

Press *9
to "Raise Hand"

When we call on you,

Press *6

to unmute/mute

Orient yourself to Zoom meeting controls:

Unmute/Mute Start Video Zoom Chat Raise Hand

Unmute Start Video Chat Raise Hand

How you can participate today:

- **Verbal:** Get into the queue w/ Raise Hand function
- Written: Submit questions in Chat Box



Opening and Agenda Review

Sophie Carrillo-Mandel, CBI

Welcome LARTF!

Gary Bardini, SAFCA & Jessica Law, Water Forum

LARTF Survey Results

Sophie Carrillo-Mandel, CBI

Survey Purpose & Methodology

Purpose:

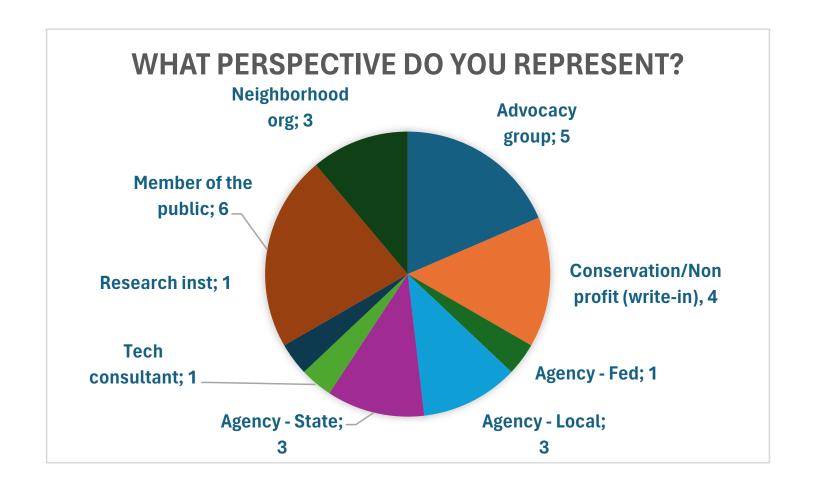
- Inform LARTF adaptation to current/future context (30-year anniversary)
- Understand value add of LARTF should it continue?
- Identify audiences & topics of interest

Methodology:

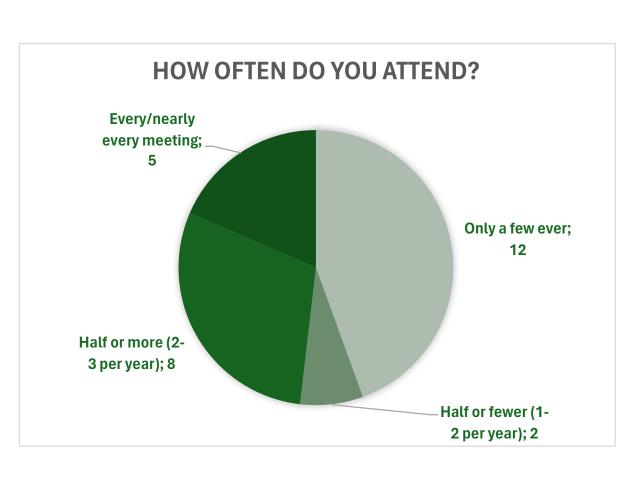
- Developed questions with CBI, SAFCA, WF, review from key stakeholders
- Sent to LARTF mailing list & named in March meeting
- Referenced in Water Forum Blog Post about LARTF 30th Anniversary

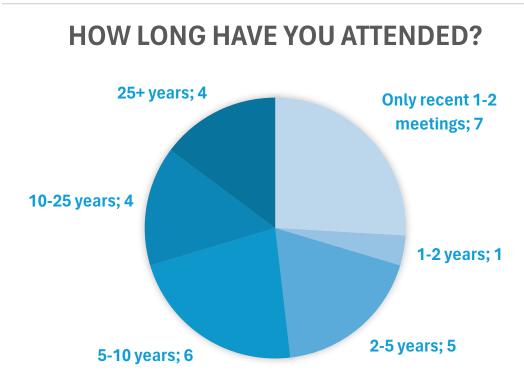
Respondent Data: Role & Perspective

- 31 Responses Total; 27 included in quantitative results
- 4 had never attended only included in qualitative analysis



Respondent Data: Attendance Frequency & Longevity



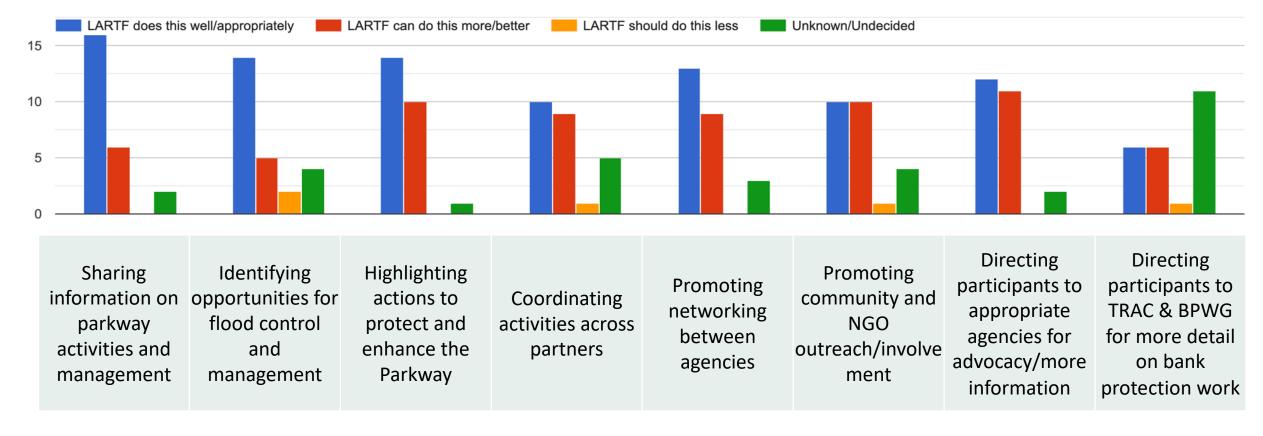


Results Affirmed the Value of LARTF

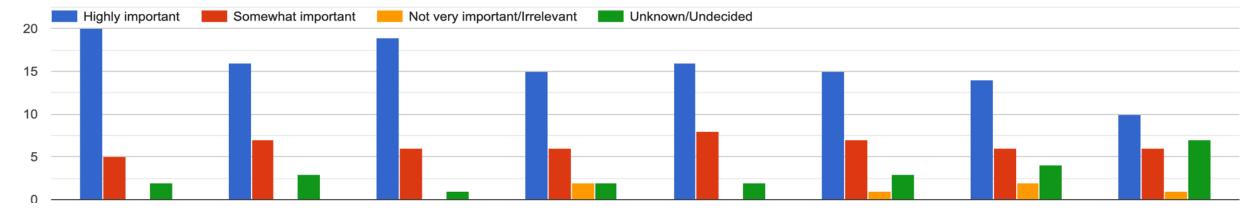
- "Good informational venue" & "Direct engagement with agencies"
 - Similar responses across longstanding members vs newcomers about why they attend

 more recent attendees were slightly more interested in a sense of community and
 advocacy
- LARTF is a unique venue, though there are places to get pieces of similar information
 - 8 responses: none/unknown, "not aware of any other forum which has this broad reach to engage all stakeholders"; "would have to conduct significant online research"
 - AR Parkway Advisory Committee, AR Parkway Coalition, Water Forum, AR Group, "various agency meetings"
- Lots of appreciation & support for structure as-is
 - "The Task Force has proved its importance by having lasted 30+ years."

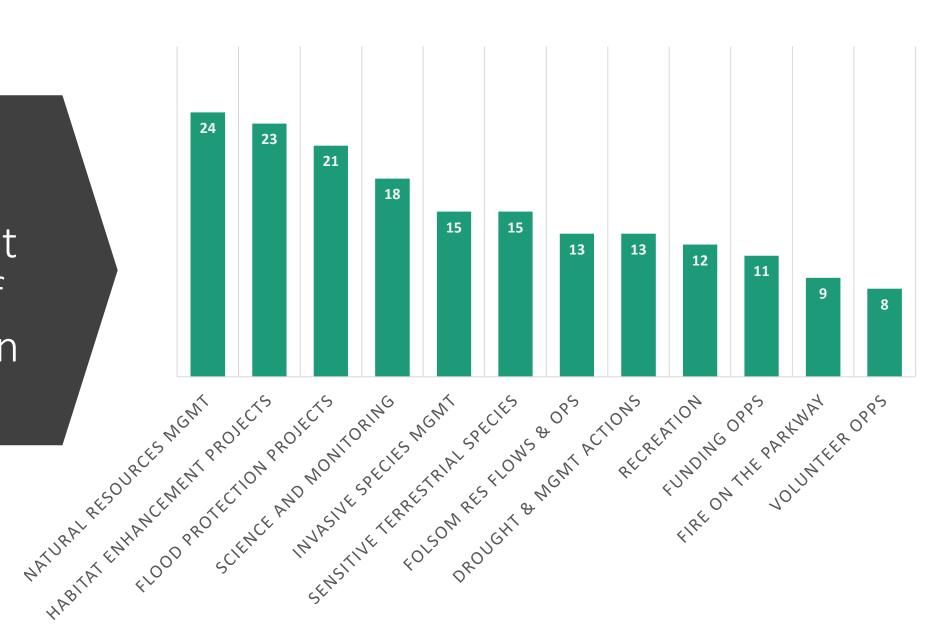
How well does LARTF currently fulfill each of these roles?



How important/needed is for the LARTF to fulfill each of these roles?

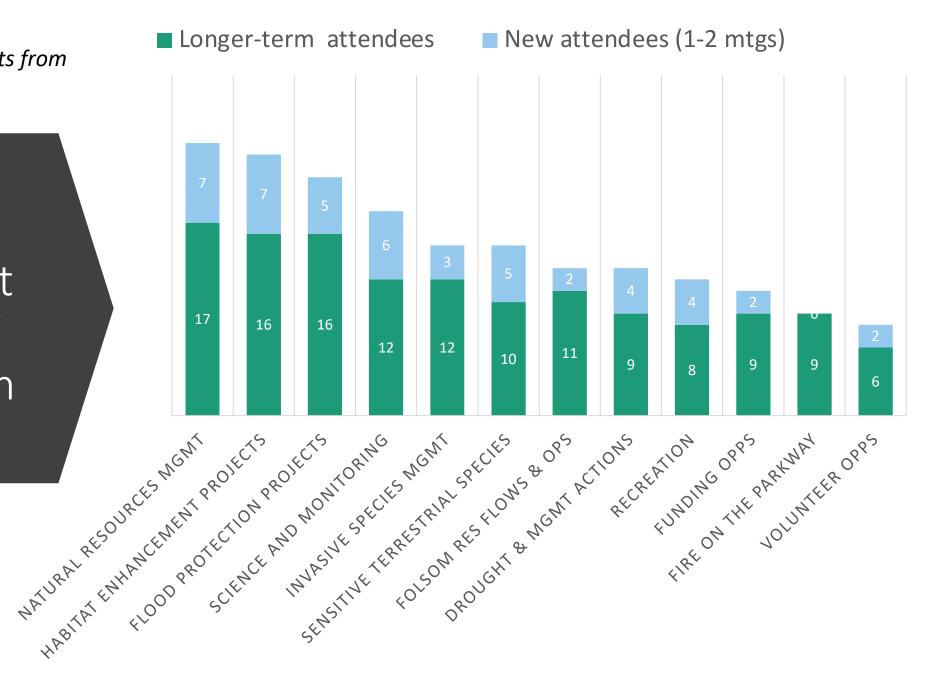


Most important topics of discussion



Slight variation in interests from newer members...

Most important topics of discussion



Additional Topics of Interest

- Impacts of illegal camping on parkway
- Conservation planning strategies and tools
- Academic research and habitat status updates

Suggestions & Areas of Improvement

- More active engagement: provide opportunities for dialogue and networking
- Fewer long agency presentations
- Clarity about roles whose responsibility is it to report out on parkway activities? LARTF or Regional Parks?
- Renew focus primarily on flood management
- Start year with annual forecast/projection of work in the Parkway; end with Year-in-Review to reconcile actuals and any unmet targets to be pushed to next year
- Create a less intimidating space for members of the public
- Several suggestions for practices not historically in LARTF wheelhouse: Advocacy and public outreach

Next Steps

- Revisit the LARTF mission and charter
- Coordinate with agencies about their roles, avoiding duplication, enhancing coordination
- Make sure we are planning for an LARTF future beyond AR Common Features project



LARTF Discussion

- What stands out to you about the survey? Is there anything surprising?
- Anything you would like to learn more about?
- Other thoughts?



Lower American River Conditions

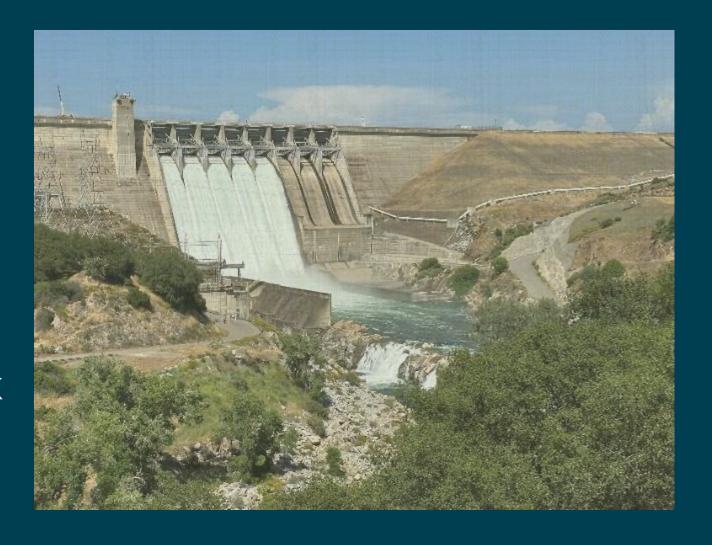
Elizabeth Kiteck, Bureau of Reclamation



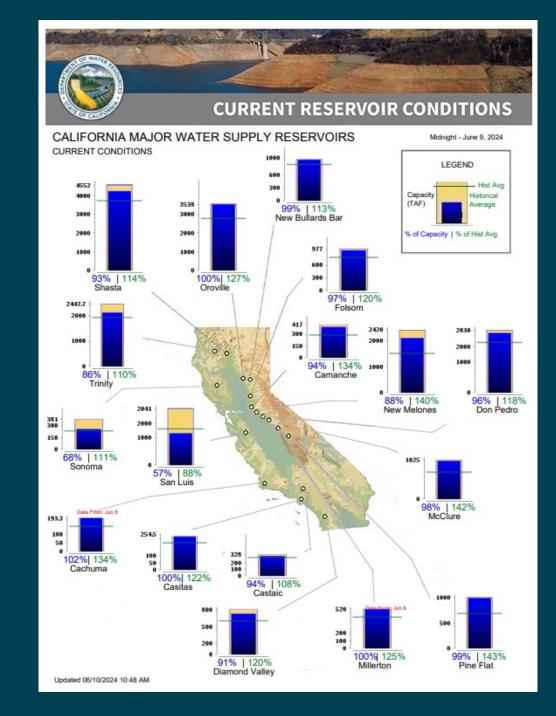
WY2024 CVP Ops Update

Lower American River Task Force

June 11, 2024



- Shasta 4.24 MAF
- Trinity 2.35 MAF
- Folsom 945 TAF
- San Luis 1.16 MAF
- New Melones 2.10 MAF





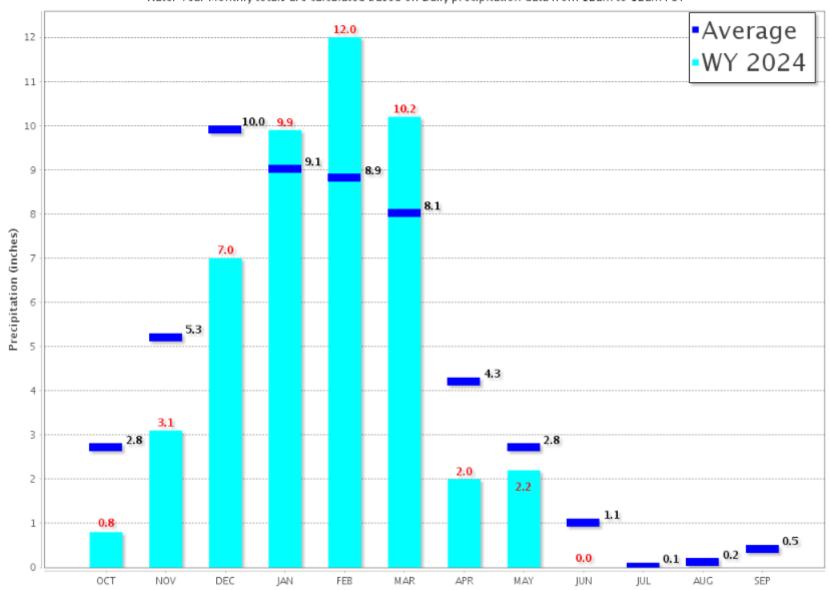


Northern Sierra 8-Station



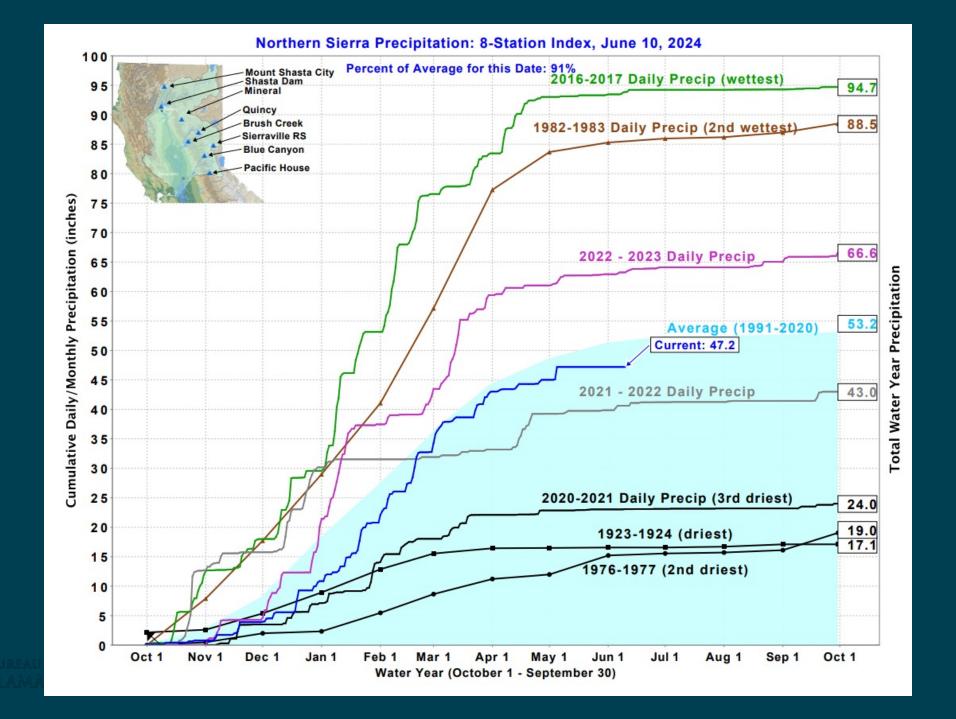
Precipitation Index for Water Year 2024 - Updated on June 10, 2024 10:48 AM

Note: Monthly totals may not add up to seasonal total because of rounding
Water Year Monthly totals are calculated based on Daily precipitation data from 12am to 12am PST

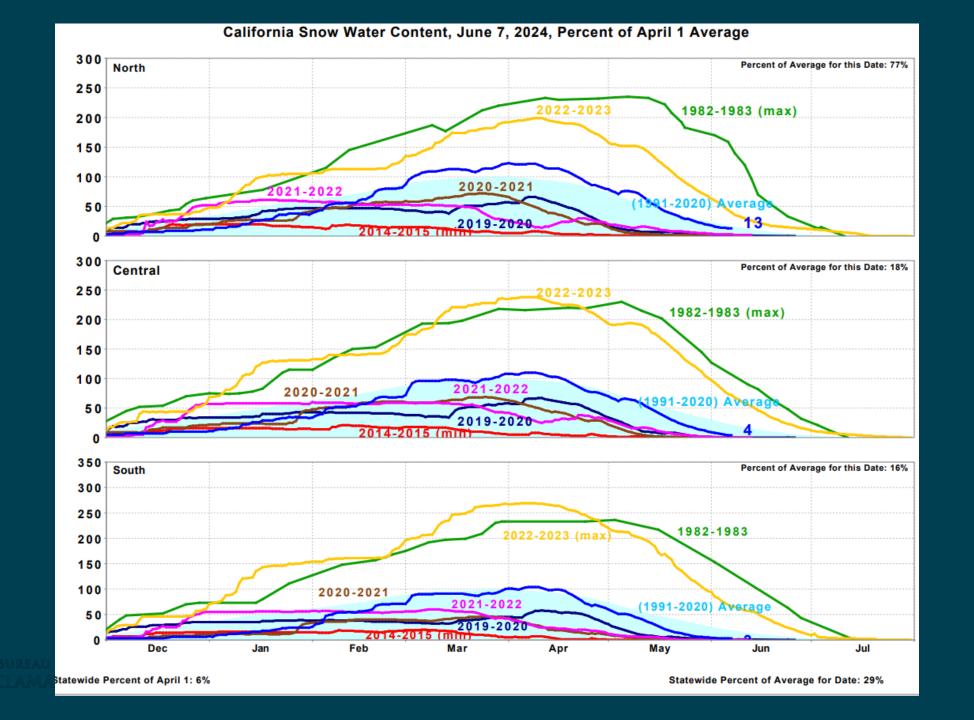


Water Year

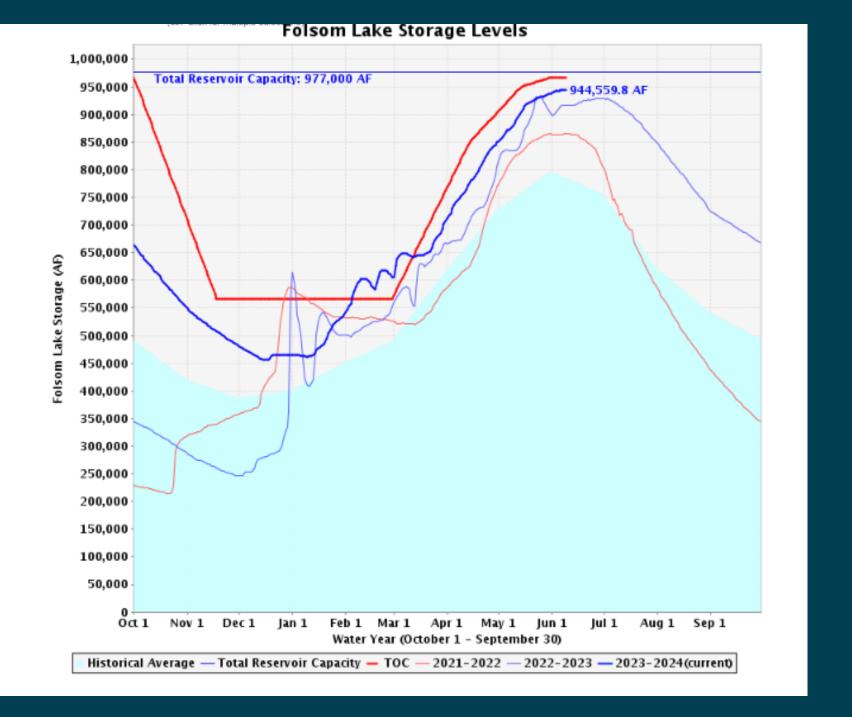




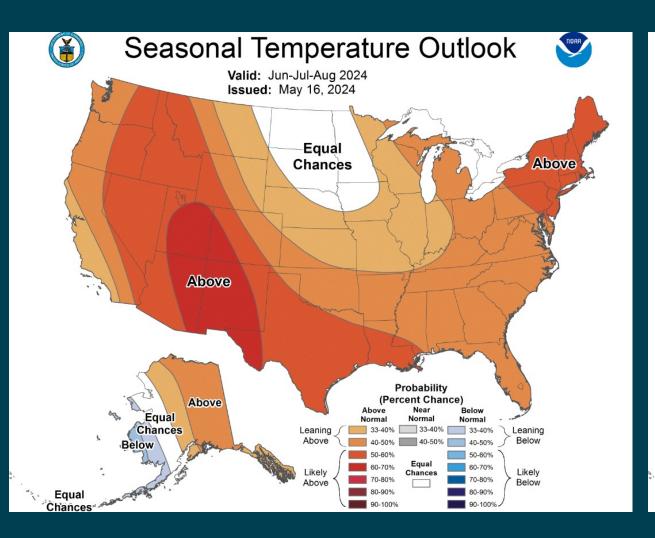


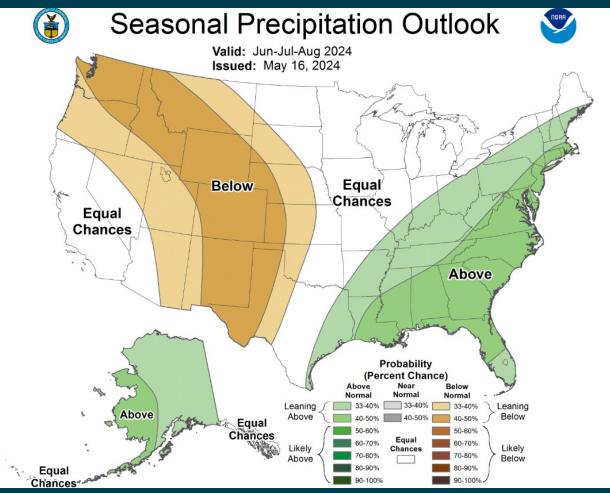
















Bank Protection Working Group

Gregg Ellis, ICF

Lower American River

Bank Protection Working Group Update

June 2024

BPWG Update

- BPWG held a meeting on April 30
 - History of Task Force as it relates to bank protection
 - American River watershed hydrology as it relates to flood control
 - Contracts 1 and 2 (constructed or in progress)
 - Contract 3A & B (planning phase)
- Valuable information exchanged, discussed
- BPWG recording available here: https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Sacramento-Levee-Upgrades/
- Next BPWG meeting/date is being planned date coming soon



Questions?



Q&A: River Conditions, Planning, and Management Updates

Opportunity for Task Force questions

Natural Resources Management Plan Implementation

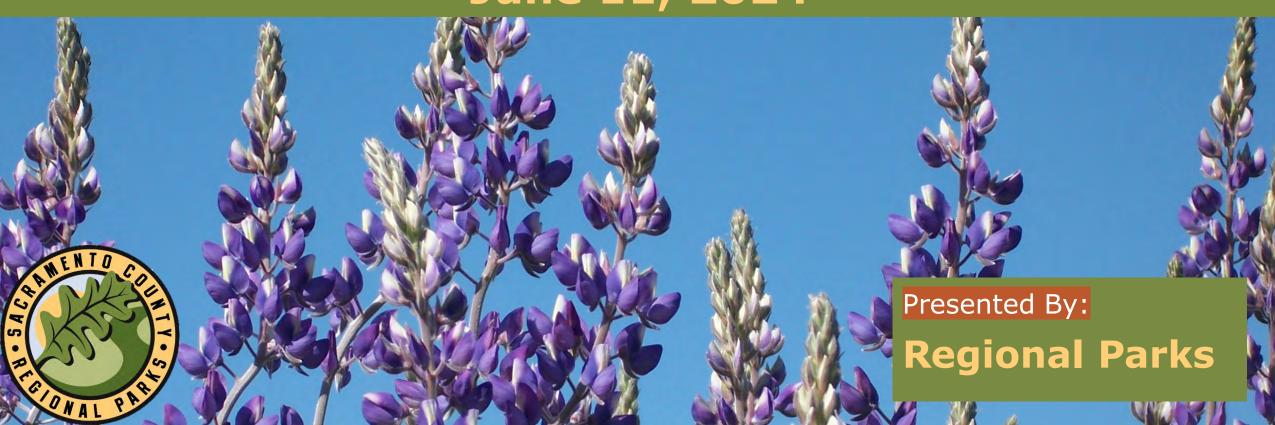
KC Sorgen, Regional Parks

American River Parkway

Natural Resources Management Plan

Lower American River Task Force (LARTF)

June 11, 2024



Status Update on Achieving Goals



NRMP Overview

Goal Areas	Goals	<u>Objectives</u>
Biological Resources	7	17
Physical Resources	2	3
Cultural Resources	2	2
Human Use Impact Reduction	6	9
Agency & Community Coordination	5	8
Total	22	39



Specific-Measurable-Achievable-Realistic-Time-Bound

Biological Resources



- Vegetation mapping
- Invasive plant mapping
- Bird surveys
- Bat surveys









Biological Resources



- Developed a restoration and habitat enhancement plan for a portion of Woodlake to restore degraded habitat, increase habitat connectivity, and relocate trails (Regional Parks, WCB grant)
- Planning alternative road/trail routes to reduce habitat fragmentation
- Salmonid habitat enhancement (11 acres spawning/rearing, Water Forum)
- IPMP implementation (ARPF, Regional Parks)



Physical Resources



- Coordinate with SAFCA on flood protection
- Coordinate with the SWRCB for water quality and sampling.
 Data is publicly available







Cultural Resources



- Road/trail realignments to protect cultural sites
- Forensic dog and pedestrian surveys and excavations
- UAIC on the Woodlake restoration plant palette
- UAIC and Shingle Springs Band of Miwok on gathering and activities within the ARP
- Permits for gathering and education





Human Use Impact Reduction



Slide 8 of 10

- Rangers and maintenance regularly clear out camps and trash/debris (Bannon Slough, Woodlake, Steelhead Creek, Discovery, etc.).
- Volunteer groups continued to clean trash/debris from waterways.
- Coordinating utility vegetation management and grazing activities with utility companies.
- Planning to consolidate maintenance roads and reduce habitat fragmentation in Cal Expo.
 - Evaluating trails and planning relocations/ realignments to utilize corridors.



Coordination



- Engagement with the NRMP Technical Advisory Committee
- Developed a monitoring strategy for vegetation classification and mapping (Wild Rye Consulting)
- ARPF prepared a Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Coordinated with Sac Metro and City Fire to perform prescribed burns
- Continued implementing a grazing program
- Permitted several community members and educational institutions for research
- Coordinated new signage along the Parkway bike trails with ARPF

Monitoring Plan













Q&A: Parkway Programs

Opportunity for Task Force questions

American River Fire Safe Council & Fire Plan Update

ARPF Invasive Species Program

Danny Whitaker, American River Parkway Foundation (ARPF)

LOWER AMERICAN RIVER TASK FORCE

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

American River Parkway Foundation

Daniel Whitaker

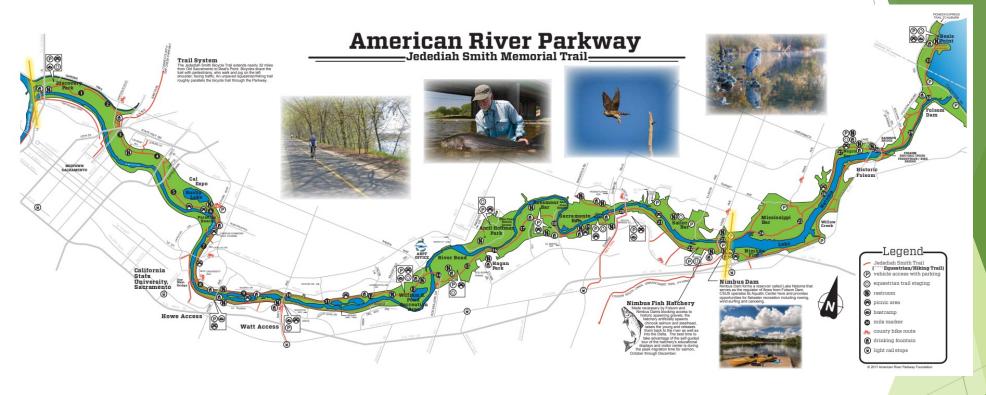
Natural Resources Manager





5. Questions

American River Parkway - Wild & Scenic River



- > This stretch of river, flowing through the city of Sacramento, is the most heavily used recreation river in California.
- > 23 miles & 4,800 acres

American River Parkway Fire Safe Council

- Founded by ARPF in July 2021
- Recognized by the California Fire Safe Council
- Coalition of public and private sector organizations that share a common, vested interest in wildfire prevention and loss mitigation.
- Developed to help lead education on the danger of wildfires and help communities protect themselves from wildfires.

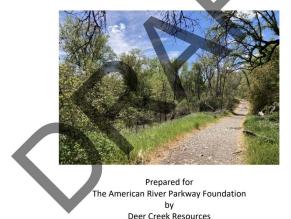




ARP Fire Safe Council Members

- American River Flood Control District
- American River Natural History Association
- California American Water
- California Exposition and State Fair (Cal Expo)
- California State University, Sacramento (CSUS)
- Carmichael Water District
- County of Sacramento
- Golden State Water Company
- Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)
- Sacramento Area Sewer District (SASD)
- Sacramento City Fire Department
- Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
- Sacramento Metropolitan Utility District (SMUD)
- Sacramento Suburban Water District
- Sacramento Valley Conservancy
- Sacramento Water Forum
- Save the American River Association (SARA)
- Soil Born Farms Urban Agriculture & Education Project
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)

AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN



April 29, 2024

ARP Community Wildfire Protection Plan

- Modeled wildfire behavior and analyzed wildfire hazard across the Parkway
- Described assets at risk
- Recommends projects to reduce wildfire-caused impacts
- Areas adjacent to homes or high-value ecological assets are highest priority

Deer Creek Resources

- Based in Chico, CA
- Uses mapping and cutting-edge wildfire science to help communities and landowners prepare for wildfire
- Full-service wildfire safety program, from project design to implementation
- Experts in prescribed fire planning and implementation



Next Steps

- CWPP is in final draft phase; public comment period ended on May 31, 2024.
- ▶ Deer Creek Resources is compiling all comments and making final edits
- CWPP will then go to Board of Supervisors, Sac City and Sac Metro, and CAL FIRE for approval
- CWPP will enable stakeholders to seek grant funding towards implementing wildfire mitigation activities



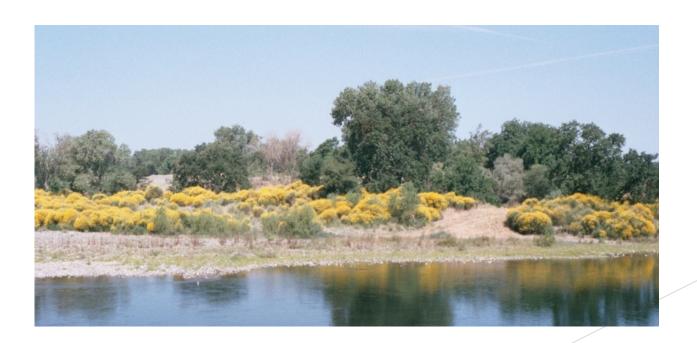
Into the weeds... and other stories of the "Plant Patrol"



Invasive Plant Management Program American River Parkway Foundation

Invasive Plant Management Program

- Started in 1997
- Addressed large mature infestations of red sesbania, Spanish broom, giant reed, Chinese tallow tree, and tamarisk
- In 2004, ARPF stepped in to assist County and expand volunteer base



What is an invasive plant?

A SPECIES IS CONSIDERED **INVASIVE** WHEN:



It is introduced to an ecosystem outside of its native range.



It has potential impacts on the ecology, the economy, or society in its introduced range.

Negative Effects

- Increase soil erosion and can cause major damage to streams and other wetland areas that provide habitat for native fish, plants, and animals.
- > Increase the frequency and risk of wildfires.
- Decrease biodiversity.
- Put endangered and threatened species at further risk. In fact, invasive species are the second leading cause of animal population decline and extinction worldwide.
- Displace native plants that wildlife and fish depend on for food.
- Decrease flood conveyance, increasing flood risk to surrounding areas.

INVASIVE PLANT PATROL

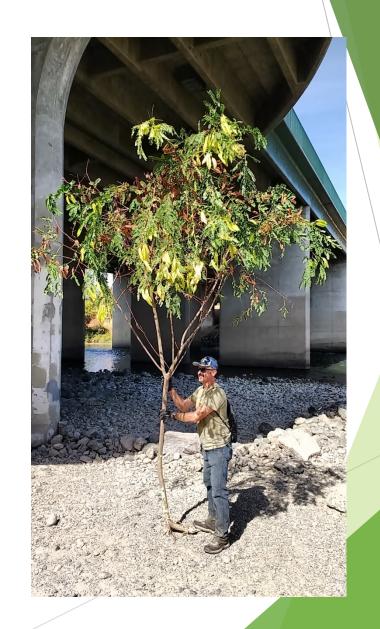
TWO KINDS OF VOLUNTEERS:

- > ROAMING
- > ADOPTION



INVASIVE PLANT PATROL

- Visit Parkway once a month in APRIL -OCT
- Report volunteer hours
- Map management efforts
- Report any issues
- Notify staff if additional volunteers or equipment is needed to address invasive plants in a particular area





PLANT REMOVAL BMPS

- Remove seed pods from plants and dispose in trash bags. Trash bags can be placed in any trash can.
- Invasive plants are pulled and stacked in place to naturally break down.
- Be mindful of creating new trails and removing or trampling native vegetation.
- Minimize soil disturbance

Mapping

- Survey and map invasive plant populations
- Points for smaller, isolated populations
- ► Lines for linear populations (trail margins) ←
- Polygons for larger, widespread populations \(\sigma_{\infty}^{\infty} \)
 & to demarcate survey boundaries





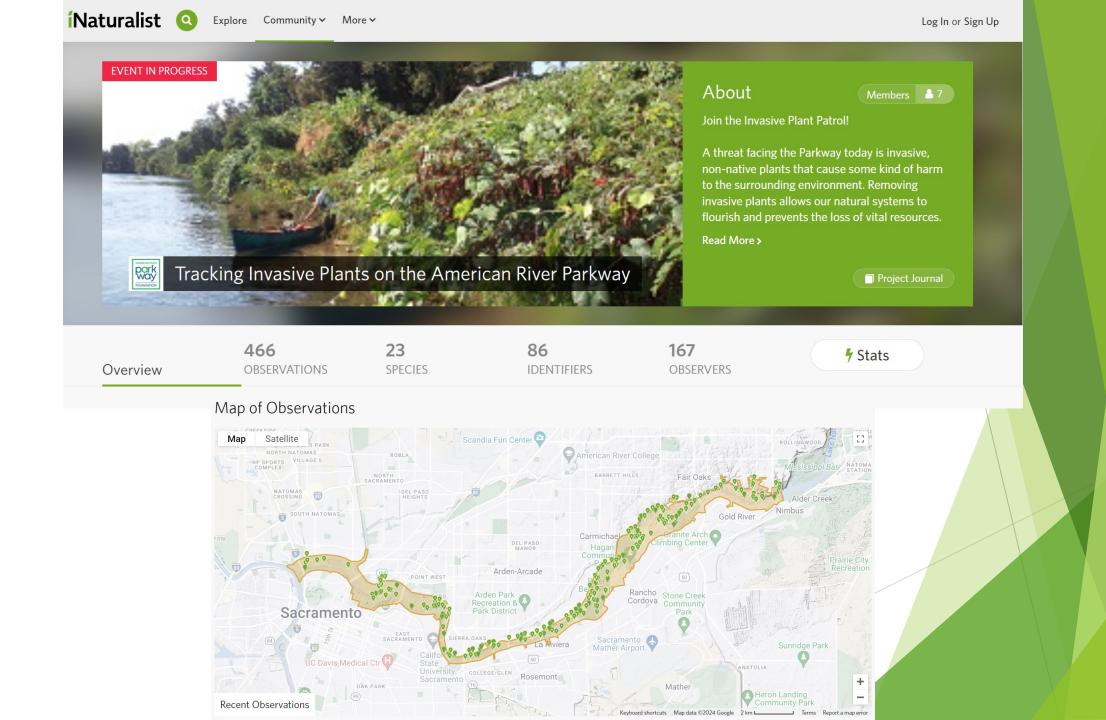
Reporting Your Work



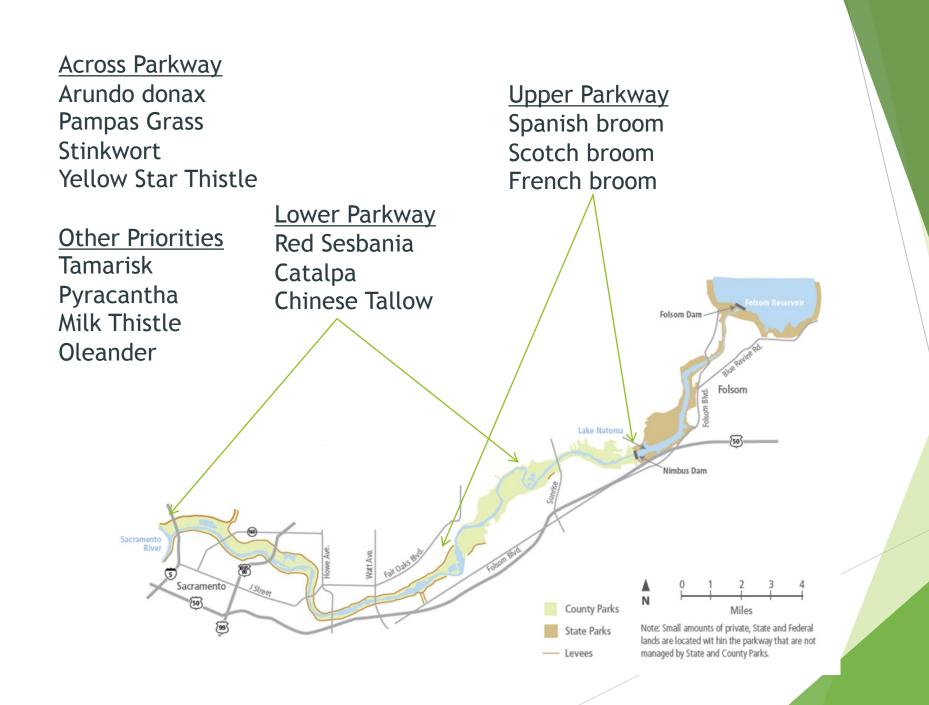
ARPF Plant Steward Volunteer Report Form

Thank you for volunteering with the American River Parkway Foundation. Please complete the form below. Once completed, press "Submit." Be sure to also submit all signed Waiver of Liability forms and photos to volunteer@arpf.org.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSemaAwP5YRZvIE2_ FWjimvLTA5V3b6BA6b5o4AbHnEr7mWtiw/viewform



Invasive Plant Species



Know Your Brooms

Distinguishing Features of Four Common Broom Species in California.

Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius)	French broom (Genista monspessulana)	Spanish broom (Spartium junceum)
Stems: 5-sided; star-shaped cross section Leaves: compound, 3 leaflets, deciduous, sometimes single on new twigs	Stems: 8 to 10 ridges; round cross section Leaves: compound, 3 leaflets, evergreen, usually dense	Stems: smooth or finely ribbed; round cross section Leaves: simple, deciduous sparse
Flowers: single or paired in leaf axils Petals: yellow or partially red	Flowers: 4 to 10 in clusters at end of short branches Petals: yellow	Flowers: several in open racemes at stem ends Petals: yellow
Seed pods: flattened, only margins hairy	Seed pods: slightly flattened, entirely covered	Seed pods: slightly flattened with few, if any,

with long hairs

long hairs

California (native) Asmispon glaber



California broom (Deer Weed)

Acmispon glaber



Deciduous Leaves

Stems: round cross section (smooth, no ridges).

Leaves: 3 leaflets, deciduous

Smaller Flowers: 4 -10 clustered at end of short branches

Yellow flowers turn reddish with age.

Shrub size: it's smaller (one to two feet tall) *not 6-8 feet*



Become a Plant Steward!

- If you visit one of these areas regularly or want to have a mission when you visit the Parkway, please consider adopting one of these areas:
- Discovery Park
- Woodlake area
- Cal Expo
- Paradise Beach
- ► Howe-Watt
- Rio Americano
- Rossmoor Bar
- Sacramento Bar
- Sunrise Recreation Area





Q&A: Parkway Programs

Opportunity for Task Force questions

Folsom Dam Raise

Reena Jawanda, SAFCA

LTC Dan Jenkins & Dan Campos, US Army Corps of Engineers

FOLSOM DAM RAISE PROJECT

Folsom Dam American River Watershed 11JUN24

Program Manager – Nikole May Project Manager – Dan Campos







US Army Corps of Engineers_®

AGENDA



AGENDA ITEM	POC
Opening Comments	Nikole May
Background	Nikole May
Construction Updates	
Main Dam – Wing Dams	Nikole May
Dikes 1-6	Dan Campos
MIAD	Dan Campos
Upcoming Construction	
Dike 7	Dan Campos
Temperature Control Shutters	Nikole May
Closing Remarks	Nikole May

AUTHORIZATION AND FUNDING



2002

Final Long-Term Study

- Chief's Report
Signed Nov. 5, 2002

2004

Project Authorized for Construction

2007

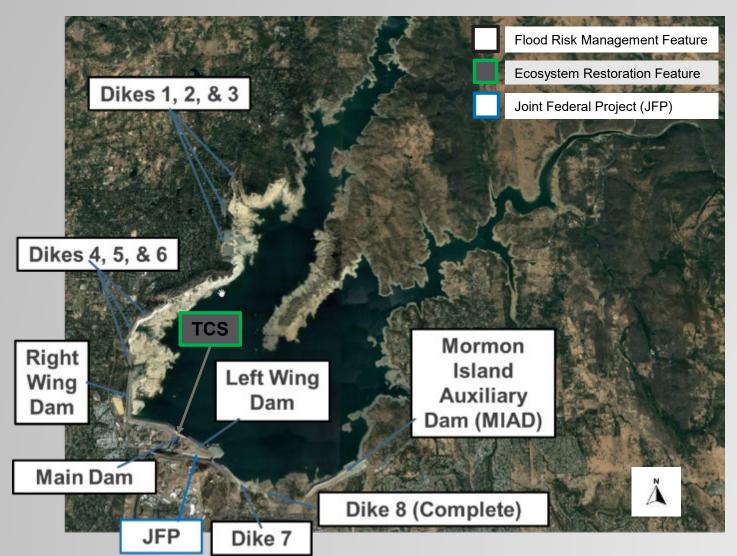
Post Authorization Change Report – Increased estimated cost for TCS project element 2018 Bipartisan
Budget Act (BBA) –
Fully Funded Flood
Risk Reduction Portion
of Project to Complete

2022

Bipartisan
Infrastructure Law
(BIL) Fully Funded
Temperature Control
Shutters to Complete

BACKGROUND





Folsom Dam is a Section 7 (FCA 1944) dam

- USACE Folsom Dam constructed 1955
- USBR O&M and Dam Safety
- USACE Flood Ops via WCM

Dam Raise Project

- 3.5 feet raise/increase 42K ac-ft physical storage
- Reduce Flood Risk Outflows of 160K cfs for sustained time
- Surcharge Operations Update
- Partners Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) w/ Department of Water Resources (DWR), Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA), and indirectly U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)

Ecosystem Restoration

- Temperature Control Shutters better control water temperature entering LAR to increase native salmon and steelhead populations
- Bushy and Woodlake Habitat Restoration

MAIN DAM-WING DAMS

U.S. ARMY





Construction – APR24 – APR28

Key contract components

- Piers raised 3.5-ft with new platforms, hoists and electrical systems
- Top seals on all 8 gates
- Gate strengthening of existing frames
- New trunnion anchorage system utilizing the existing anchors
- Wing dams raised

Current/upcoming construction activities

- Main Dam
- Right Wing Dam (RWD)
 - Foundation prep ongoing
 - Placement of lean concrete pad has begun
- Left Wing Dam (LWD)
 - Work to begin once RWD is complete



U.S. ARMY









Construction - SEP23 - SEP25

Key contract components

- Dikes 1, 4, 5 and 6 3.5-ft floodwall
- Dike 2 Embankment raise
- Dike 3 New embankment dike

Current/upcoming construction activities

 Dike 1 – Floodwall being constructed; embankment fill placement to follow









Construction - NOV23 - SEP25

Key contract components

- Slag Cement-Cement-Bentonite (SCCB) Cutoff Wall
- Floodwall

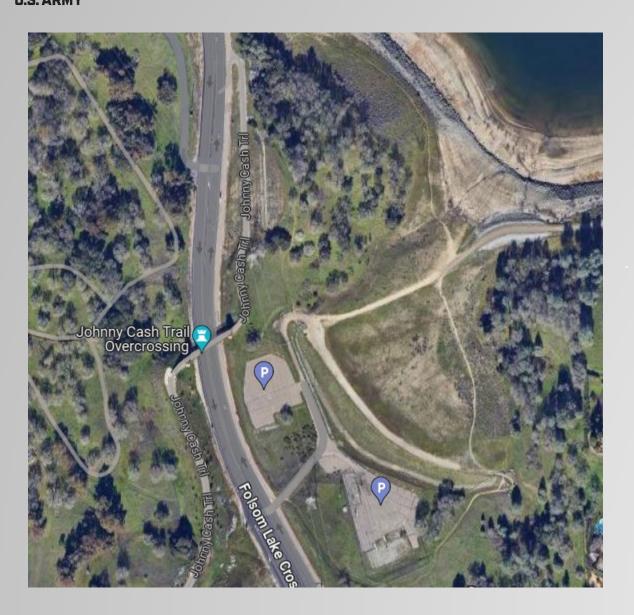
Current and upcoming construction activities

- Complete
 - Cutoff wall demonstration section currently assessing coring and testing data.
 - Floodwall demonstration
- Current/Upcoming
 - Excavate/degrade
 - Relocate instrumentation housing
 - Floodwall demonstration section testing









Construction – JUL25 – FEB27

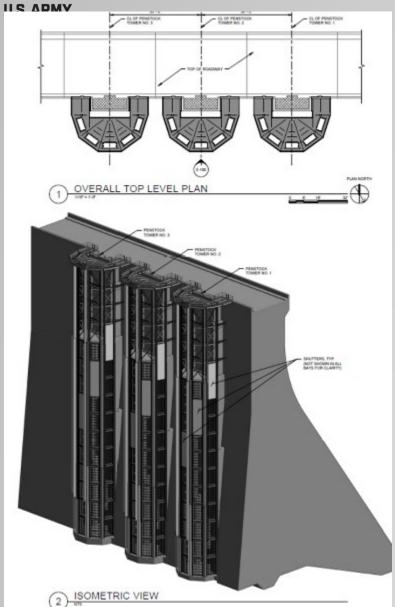
Key contract components

- 3.5-ft raise floodwall
- Status
 - 100% design is complete
 - Construction following MIAD



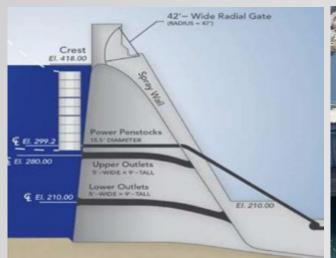
FOLSOM TEMPERATURE CONTROL SHUTTERS





AUTHORITY:

Sect 128 of EWDA 2004 (PL 108-137) as modified by Sect 128 of EWDA 2006 (PL 109-103) references Chief's Report 5NOV02





Authorized Outputs = Measurement of improved regulation of the American River water temperature to increase native salmon and steelhead populations downstream of the dam (789.3 Average Annual Habitat Units)

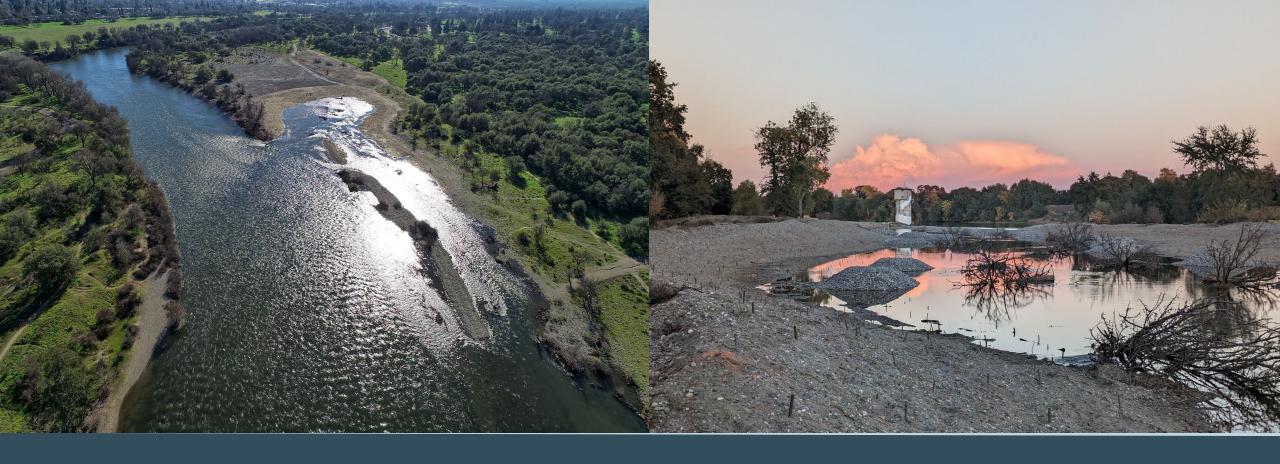
Status: 35% Design Complete

Thank You



2024 Habitat Projects

Erica Bishop, Water Forum

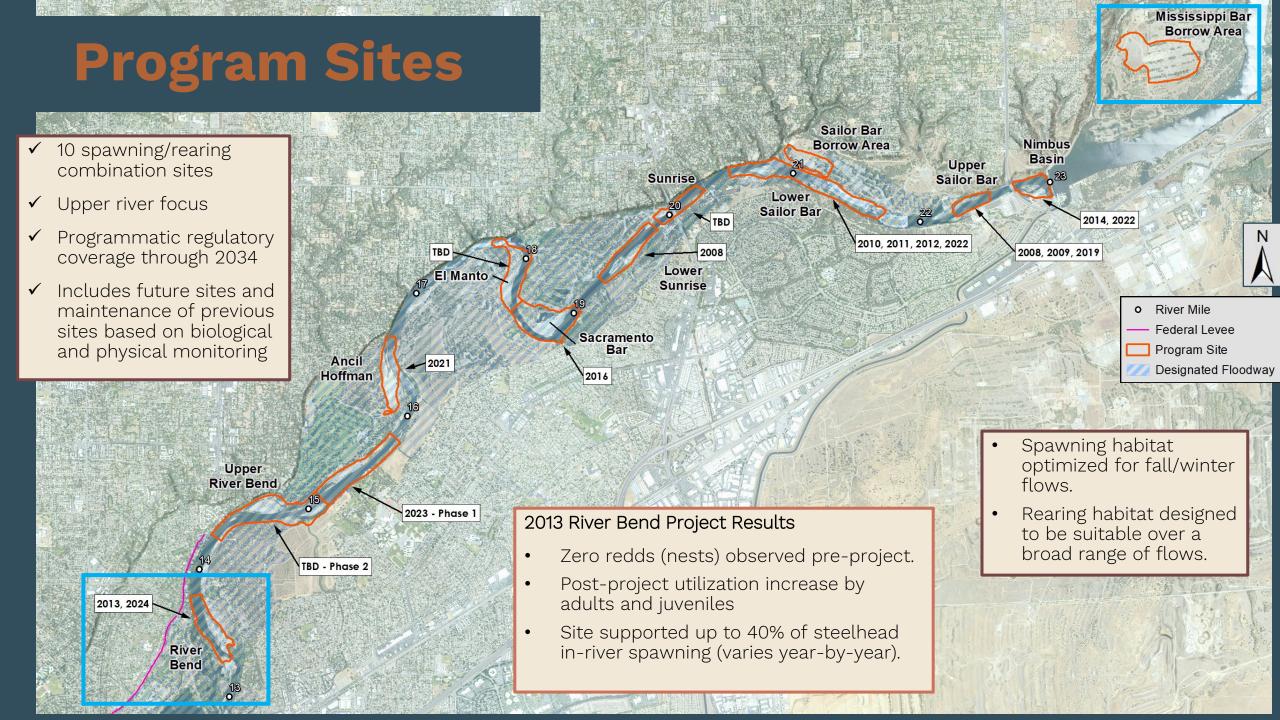




Lower American River Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Program

2024 Project Update: River Bend Park

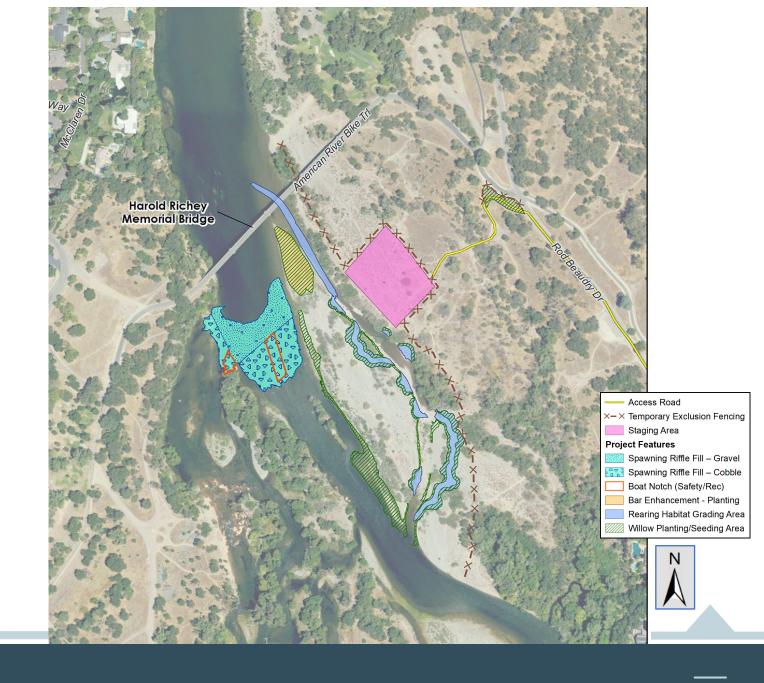
Lower American River Task Force – June 2024



Project Elements

Habitat Features

- Spawning areas (~3 acres)
 - o 6,800 cy gravel/cobble import
 - o Offsite borrow (MS Bar)
- Rearing areas (~3 acres)
 - Activate side channel at lower flows (mitigate stranding risk)
 - Add seasonally inundated benches and channel complexity
 - o 35 woody habitat structures
 - Repurposed orchard trees
- Native seeding/plugs/willow planting
 - o Includes culturally significant plants (Valley Sedge, etc.)
 - Four willow species (sandbar, red, shining, arroyo)



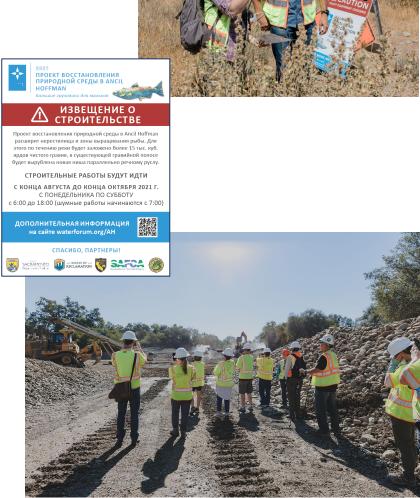
What to Expect

- First week of August: Mobilize at Mississippi Bar (gravel sorting) and River Bend for in-river work.
- Mid-October: Project complete (tentative)
- Work Hours 7am to 5pm planned
 - o No weekend work currently scheduled (subject to change)
- Gravel haul traffic: 2-5 trips/hour over ~15 days
 - o Flaggers/fencing in place for public safety
- ✓ Bike trail and Rod Beaudry Drive open during construction
- ✓ River boat/float traffic river stays open during construction



Upcoming Coordination and Outreach

- Direct mail sent to nearby addresses (mid June)
- Door-to-door outreach along haul route (early July)
- Targeted stakeholder briefings (ongoing)
- Project and safety signage (eight languages early July)
- ✓ Public Info Session (virtual, July 24th)
 - o RSVP on project webpage
- ✓ Project Details and FAQs: waterforum.org/habitat2024
- ➤ Project contact: (916) 808-1997 or contact@waterforum.org







Q&A: Project Updates

Opportunity for Task Force questions and discussion

LARTF Member Updates

Announcements, Disclosures, Discussion

Wrap Up & Next Steps

- Next Member/Community Spotlight?
- Next meeting: September 10



https://waterforum.org/lartf