



International Association
for Hydro-Environment
Engineering and Research

Supported by
Spain Water and IWHH, China

**IAHR World Water Day Forum on “Hydro-environment
Engineering and Adaptation to Climate Change”**

Lecture 1

Water Security and Ecosystem Services*

Peter GOODWIN

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science



University of Maryland
CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
of MARYLAND

** Keynote Lecture presented at the Croucher Advanced Study Institute on “Global Water Security: Integrated Modeling and Adaptive Management”, HKUST, January 8-11, 2019*

Presentation Outline

- The Grand Challenge
- Ecosystem Services
- The California Experience
 - Co-equal Goals of water security and ecosystem recovery
- Adaptive Management
 - Science and Engineering to inform policy and management actions

The ultimate sustainability challenge:

maintaining and improving the quality of life for the nation within a healthy Earth system.

Tim Killeen,
SEES, National Science Foundation. 2012

The Grand Challenge

Snow, C.P. 1960. *Science and Society*. The Godkin Lecture. Harvard University

Giosan, L, 2014. *Protect the World's Deltas*. Nature 516. December 4. 31-33.

National Academy of Engineering, 2018. *Environmental Engineering for the 21st Century: Addressing Grand Challenges*. Prepublication Copy. National Academies Press. DOI 10.17226/25121

Luoma S.N., Dahm C.N., Healey M, and Moore J.N., 2015. *Challenges Facing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Complex, Chaotic or Simply Cantankerous?* San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science, Volume 13, Issue 3. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15447/sfews.2015v13iss3art7>

Ecosystem Services

Yarnell, S.M. et al. 2015. *Functional Flows in Modified Riverscapes: Hydrographs, Habitats and Opportunities* BioScience 2015. doi: 10.1093/biosci/biv102

Borden, C., P. Goodwin and D. Swanson, 2016. *Integrated Hydro-Environment Assessment with Latitude (IHEAL): A framework for conceptualizing and quantifying Water Use Sustainability in IWRM*. Proceedings of the 37th IAHR World Congress August 13 – 18, 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Millennium Assessment, 2003. *Ecosystems and Human Well-being: A Framework for Assessment*. Island Press, Washington, DC.

The California Experience

Delta Stewardship Council, 2018. *Delta Plan, Appendix 1B: Adaptive Management*.

San Francisco Estuary Institute-Aquatic Science Center (SFEI-ASC). 2016. *A Delta Renewed: A Guide to Science-Based Ecological Restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta*. A Report of the Resilient Landscapes Program, Publication #799, San Francisco Estuary Institute-Aquatic Science Center, Richmond, CA. Report is available at www.sfei.org/projects/delta-landscapes.

Goals project. 2015. *The Baylands and Climate Change: What We Can Do*. *Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Science Update 2015* prepared by the San Francisco Bay area Wetlands Ecosystem Goals project. California State Coastal Conservancy.

Ecosystem Services

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment defines Ecosystem Services as:

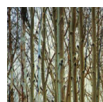
“the benefits people derive from ecosystems”

Examples include:

- Provisioning services: food, wood, raw materials
- Regulating services: pollination of crops, prevention of floods or soil erosion, water purification
- Cultural services: recreation, sense of place

www.IUCN.org

What is the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment?



Largest assessment ever undertaken of the health of ecosystems

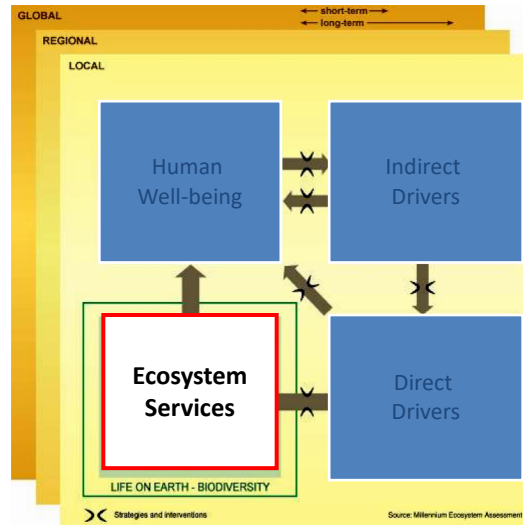
- Prepared by 1360 experts from 95 countries; extensive peer review
- Consensus of the world's scientists

Designed to meet needs of decision-makers among government, business, civil society

- Information requested through 4 international conventions

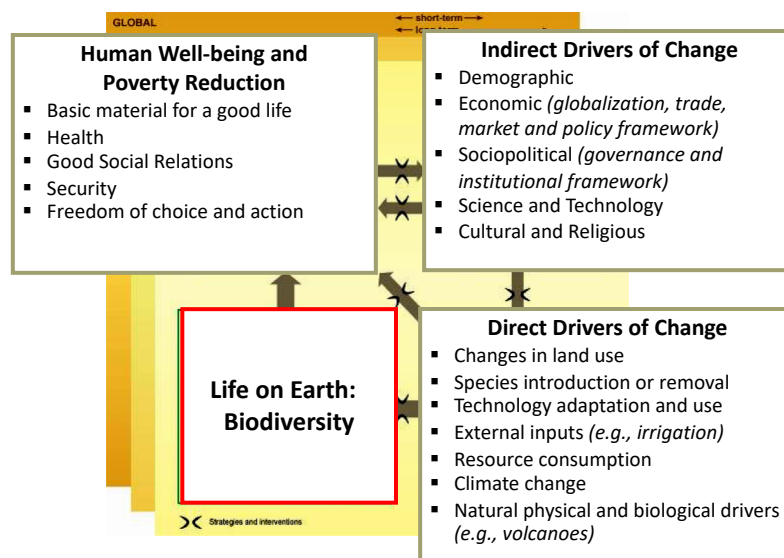
courtesy: Richard Norgaard

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment scientists developed a complex systemic framework with people – including their culture, science, and economies – inside the system they were trying to understand.

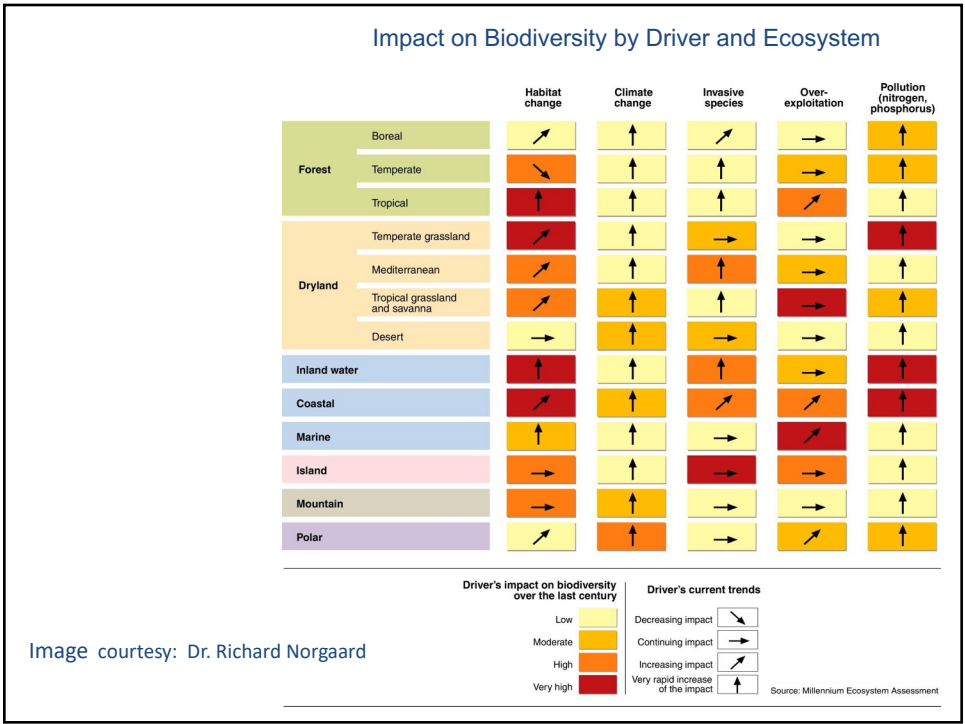
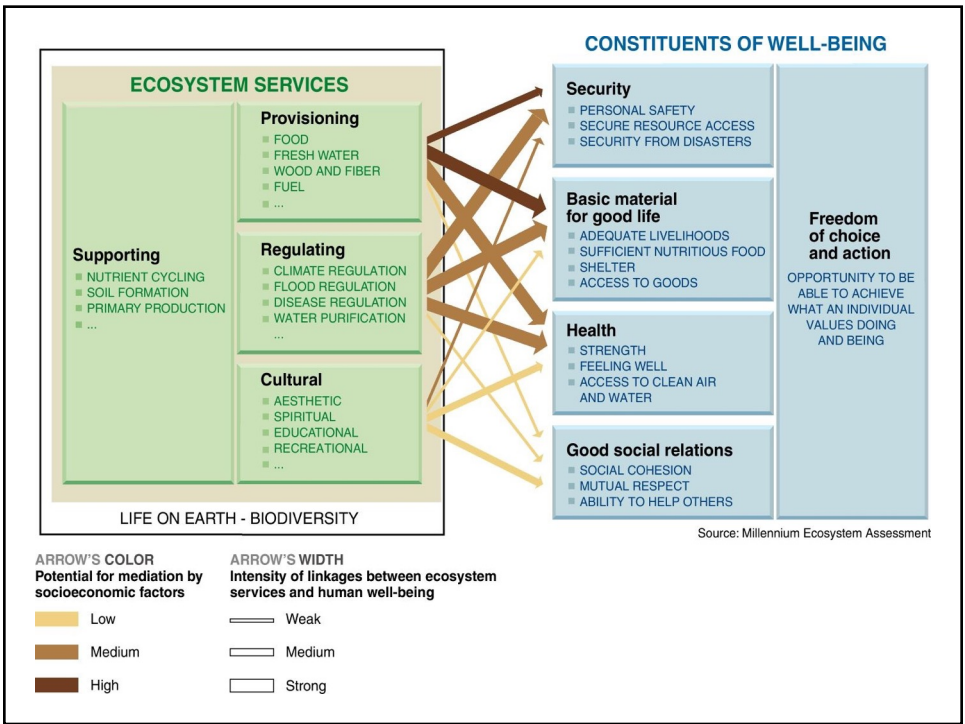


Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment scientists developed a complex systemic framework with people – including their culture, science, and economies – inside the system they were trying to understand.



Millennium Ecosystem Assessment



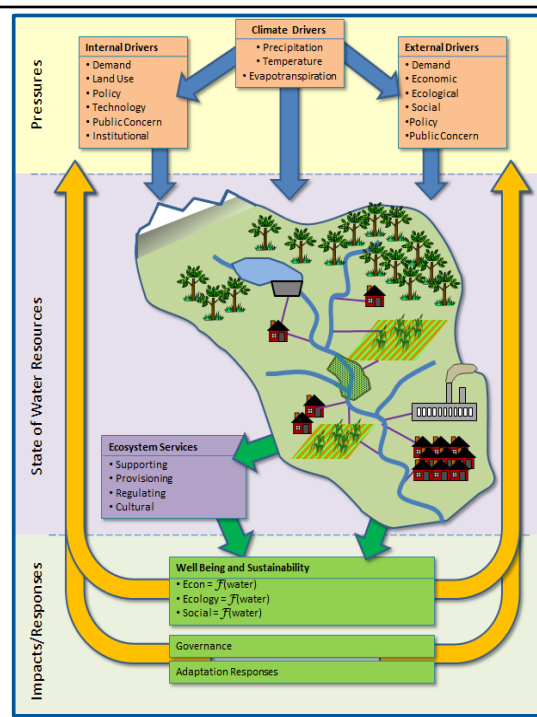
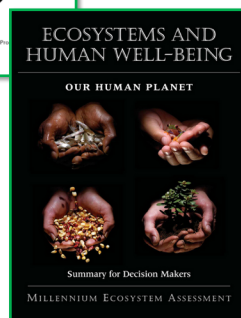
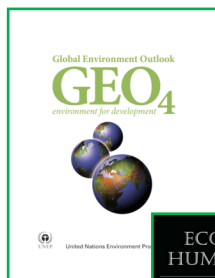
Integrated Water Resources Management

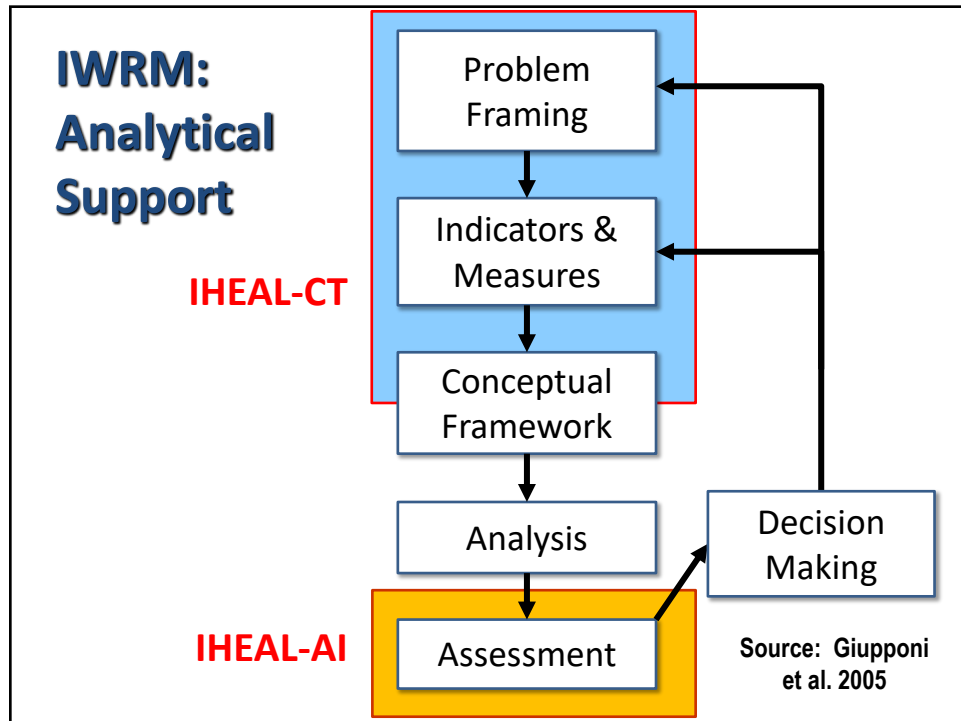
*“a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximise the resultant **economic** and **social welfare** in an equitable manner without compromising the **sustainability of vital eco-systems**”*



Source: GWP, 2004

iHEAL







C.P. Snow

Godkin Lecture, Harvard University, 1960

Let me say at once that I have no easy answers at all. If there were any easy answers, they would have been found by now. The whole problem is an intractable one, one of the most intractable that organised society has thrown up. It is partly the expression, in political and administrative terms of the split between two cultures that I have said something about elsewhere.⁴²







An Exemplar

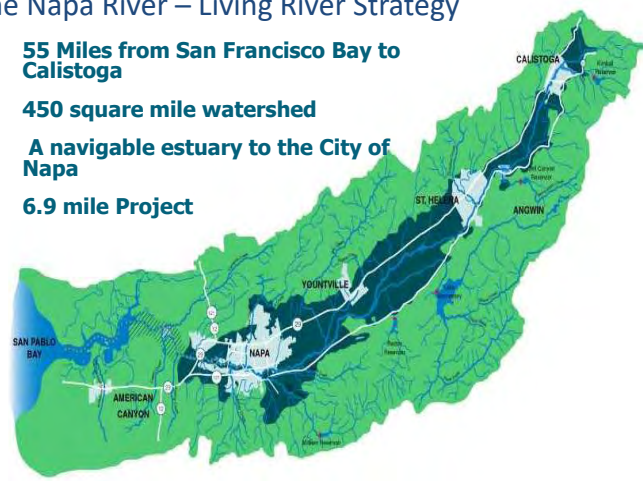
The Napa River – Living River Strategy

55 Miles from San Francisco Bay to Calistoga

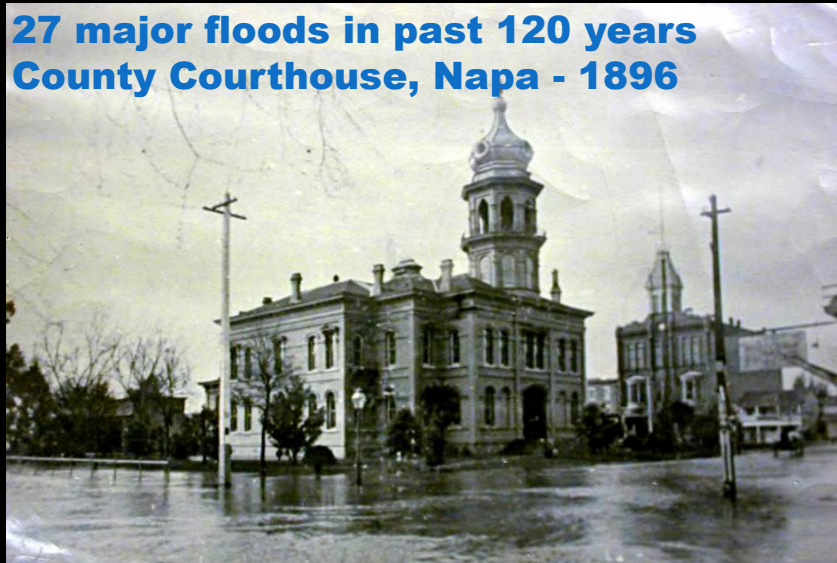
450 square mile watershed

A navigable estuary to the City of Napa

6.9 mile Project



27 major floods in past 120 years
County Courthouse, Napa - 1896



Creation of 659 acres of wetland, mudflat and open water

Southern portion of project area



NAPA RIVER BYPASS



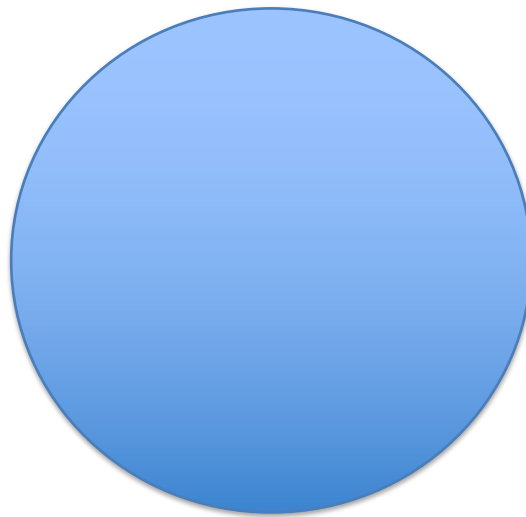


Fundamental Question:
will the ecosystem recover or was the fire a tipping point?

Unknown

Given the wicked (multifactorial) nature of the problems, however, we can expect that increased understanding will not solve the problem but only point the way to better management approaches.

NRC 2014





What do we mean by natural flows in complex and irreversibly altered systems?

Novel ecosystems (Moyle, 2014): resilient and desirable

Landscape ecology vs cumulative projects

Yarnell, S.M. et al. 2015. *Functional Flows in Modified Riverscapes: Hydrographs, Habitats and Opportunities* BioScience 2015. doi: 10.1093/biosci/biv102

Time-frame to inform management decisions

Mark Cowin, Director, California Department of Water Resources

When is good science good enough?

John Wiens, Independent Science Board. Delta Science Program

Polymath or Translators

Expert Panel on Adaptive Management, BDCP and NASEM Recommendations

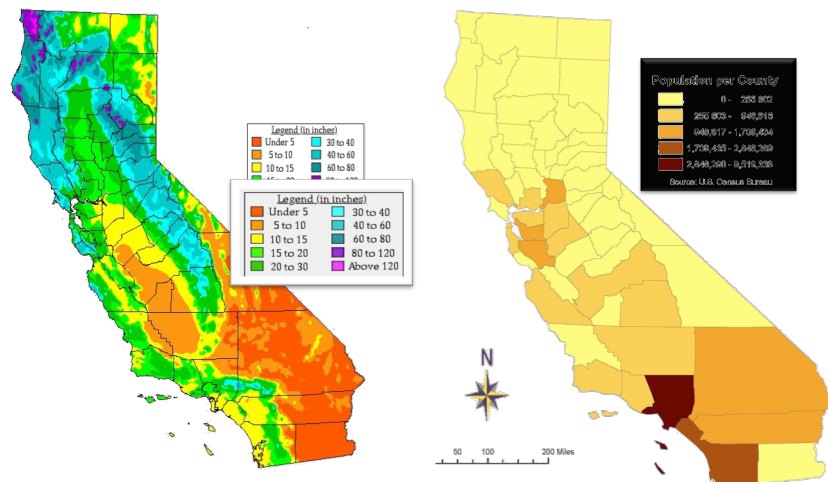
Who has responsibility and who has authority?

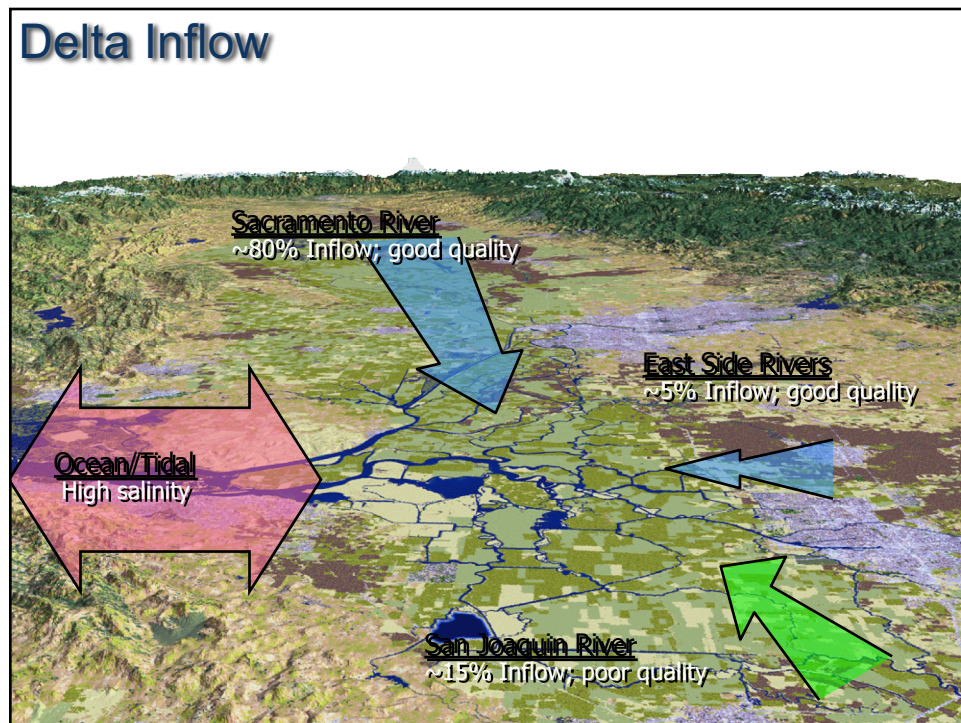
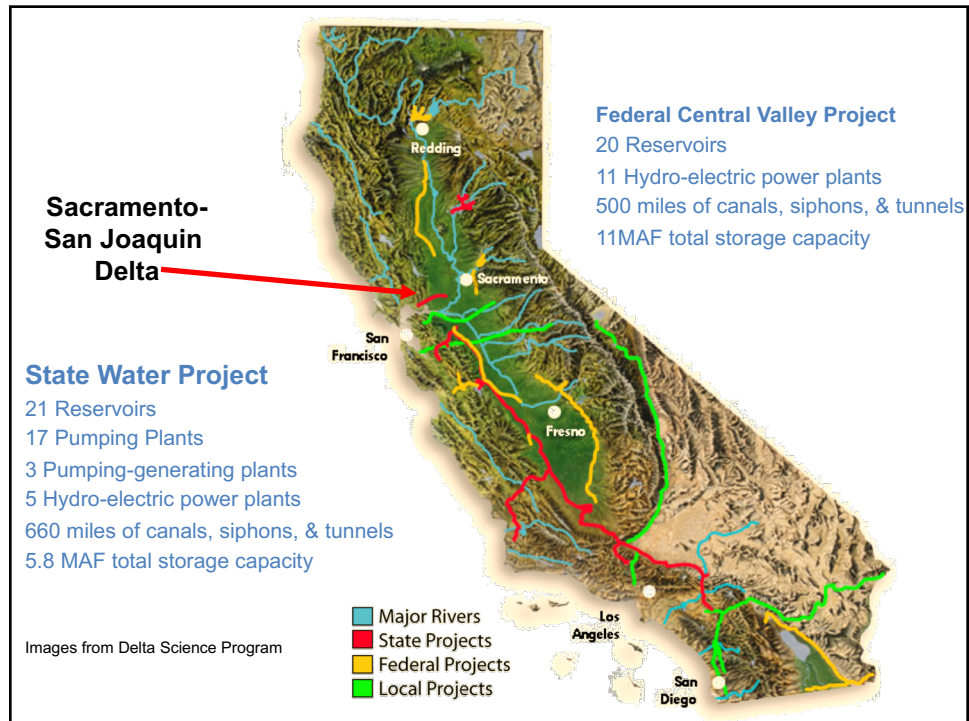
Universal challenge.

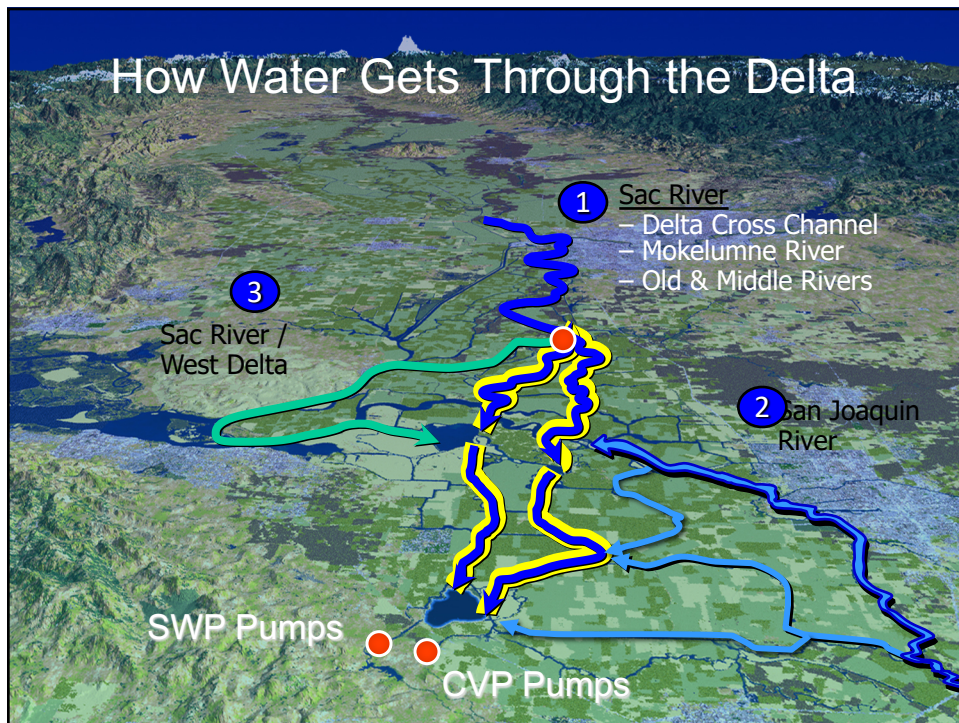
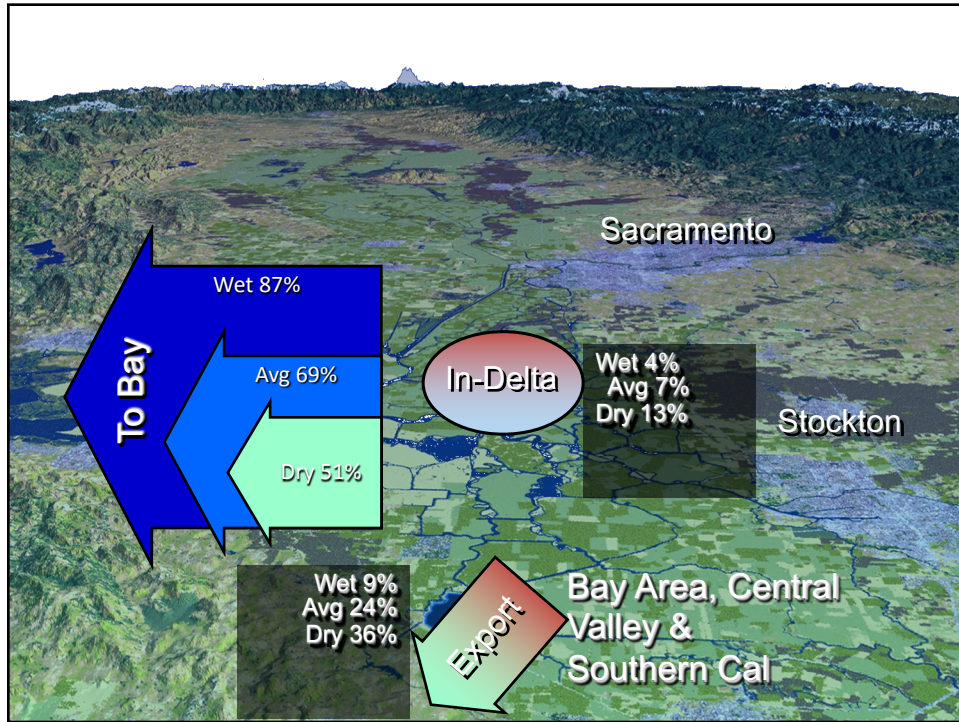
Other challenges include:

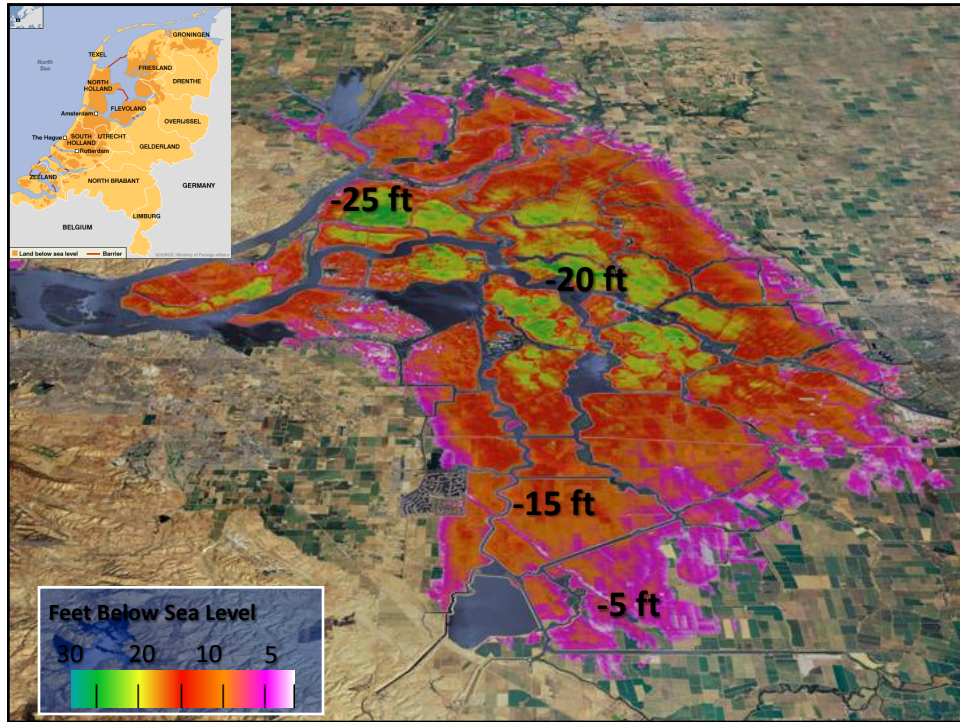
- Agencies are mission-bound
- Perturbations that induce significant change
- Environmental research is a journey not a destination – but '*experimentation*' is not embraced by politicians!
- Sustained commitment to resources is needed
 - monitoring
 - SYNTHESIS with the right team
 - communication

California Precipitation and Population

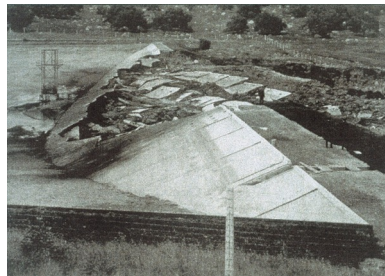






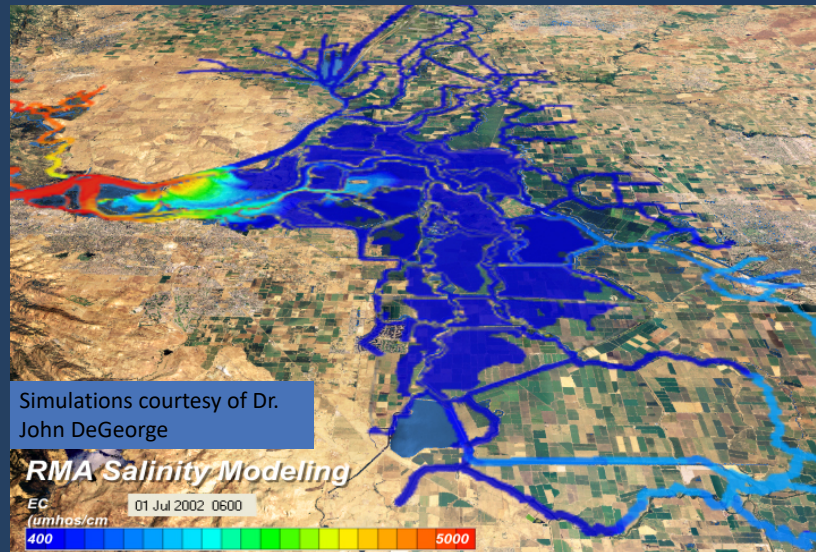


Delta Levees – Seismic Hazard



6.5 Magnitude Earthquake

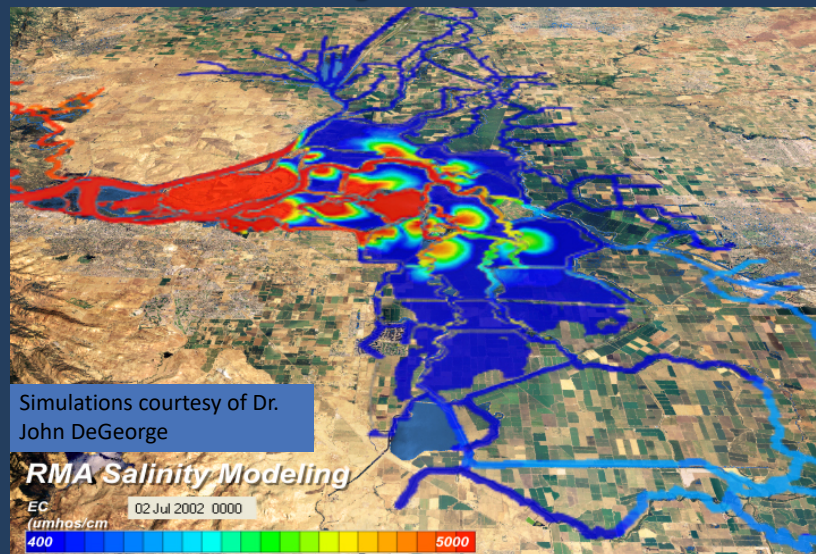
causing 20-Island Failure



0 – 6 hours: Islands flood with fresh water

6.5 Magnitude Earthquake

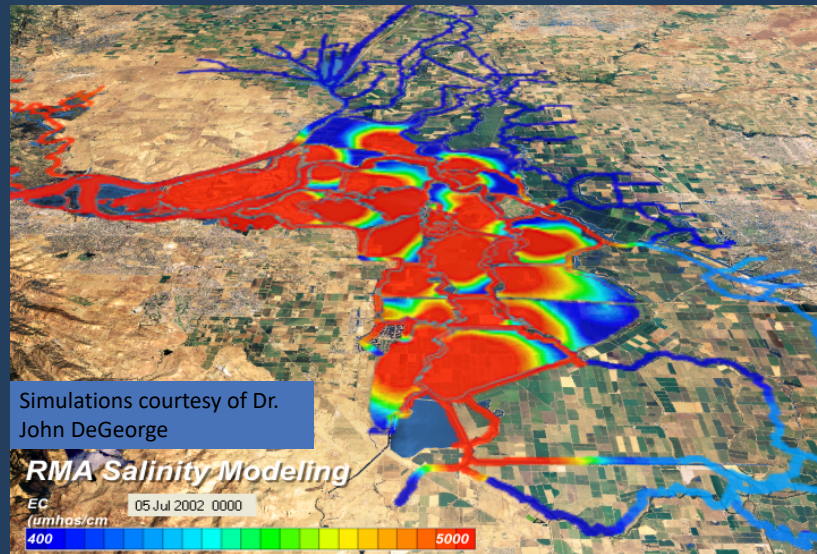
causing 20-Island Failure



12 – 24 hours: Salt water intruding into Delta

6.5 Magnitude Earthquake

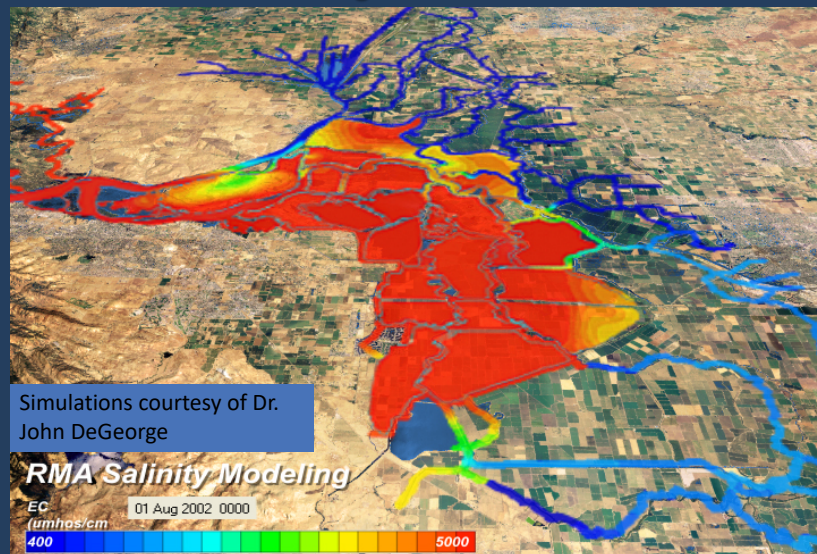
causing 20-Island Failure



1 – 7 days: Salt water throughout Delta

6.5 Magnitude Earthquake

causing 20-Island Failure



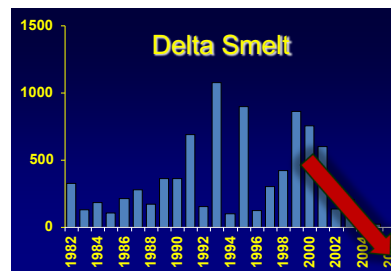
30 days: A saline estuary

The Problems facing California

- 2/3 of California residents rely on Delta water
- Irrigates up to 4 million acres of California farmland
- 80% of California's commercial fishery species rely on the Bay-Delta
- Habitat for 700 species, including 50+ threatened or endangered
- Hotspot for biodiversity
- Greatest loss of biodiversity

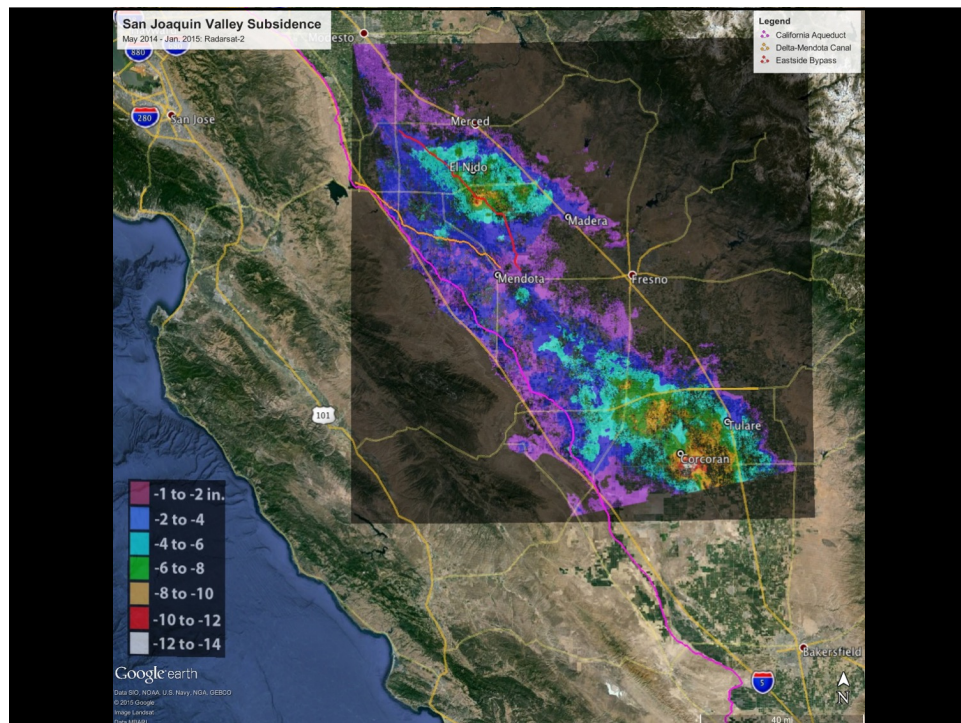


A Collapse in Delta Smelt Protected by Endangered Species Act



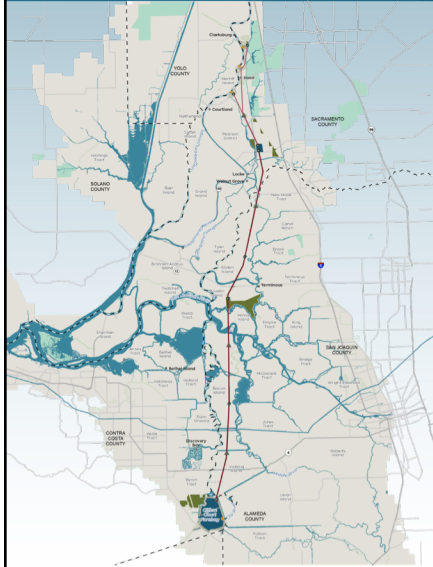
There are many other endangered species – many have conflicting needs (seasonally and spatially).

Who decides?

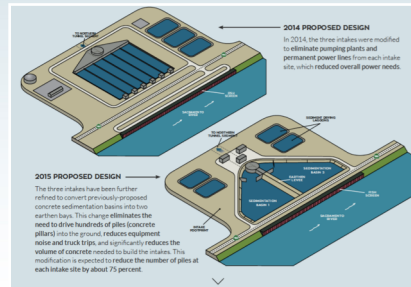


BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN / CALIFORNIA WATER FIX

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/CALIFORNIA WATER FIX
PARTIALLY RECIRCULATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

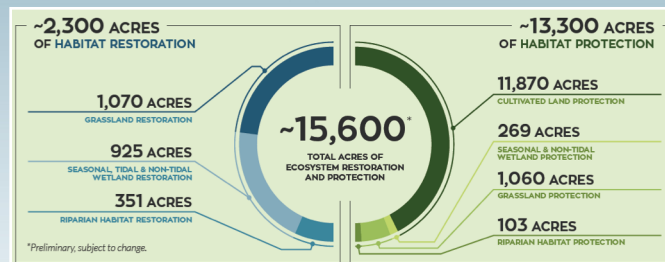


Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta /Project Area



BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN / CALIFORNIA WATER FIX

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/CALIFORNIA WATER FIX
PARTIALLY RECIRCULATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



Environmental Mitigation



20,000 hectares

Target: 450 km²

3,500 ACRES
MANAGED WETLANDS CREATED
for subsidence reversal and
carbon management


17,500+ ACRES
FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION
500+ acres restored; planning,
permitting and financing secured
for an additional 17,000 acres



9,000 ACRES
TIDAL & SUB-TIDAL HABITAT RESTORATION

1,000+ ACRES
PROPOSITION 1 & RE FUNDED
RESTORATION PROJECTS
Aquatic, riparian and upland
habitat projects; multi-benefit
flood management projects

2009 State of California Legislation The Coequal Goals

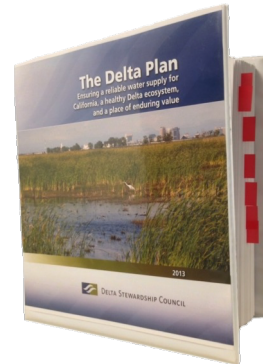
 "'Coequal goals' means the two goals of providing a **more reliable water supply for California** and **protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem**. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place." (*California Water Code §85054*).

Delta Stewardship Council created to:

- Develop enforceable plan to achieve coequal goals of ecosystem restoration and statewide water supply reliability
- Ensure progress towards those goals
- Oversee and coordinate activities in the Delta among various agencies
- Inform decision-making with best available independent science

What is the Delta Plan?

- Delta Plan draws upon existing state and federal laws and policies and ongoing programs to chart a big-picture course
- The Delta Plan is:
 - ✓ 14 regulatory policies; 73 recommendations
 - ✓ A plan that encourages state and local agencies to implement local and regional projects



Role of Science

- Through our joint federal-state partnership, and with science as our guide, we are taking a comprehensive approach to tackling California's water problems..."

From July 25, 2012 Governor Brown and President Obama Administration joint announcement on California's water future.

- "In carrying out this section the Council shall make use of the **best available science**."

California Water Code §85302(g)

There has to be a better way

230+ agencies

Combat Science vs. Collaborative Science

Principles:

Relevant, Credible, Legitimate, Transparent and Timely

Develop a Shared “*State of Delta Knowledge*”

Science should not be used as an excuse for inaction



What is Best Available Science?

Elements include:

- Conceptual Models
- Quantitative Models
- Journal articles [inc. SFEWS]
- Traditional knowledge
- Reports, conference papers
- Peer Review
- Collaborative synthesis
- Sounding Boards/Directed Research/RFPs

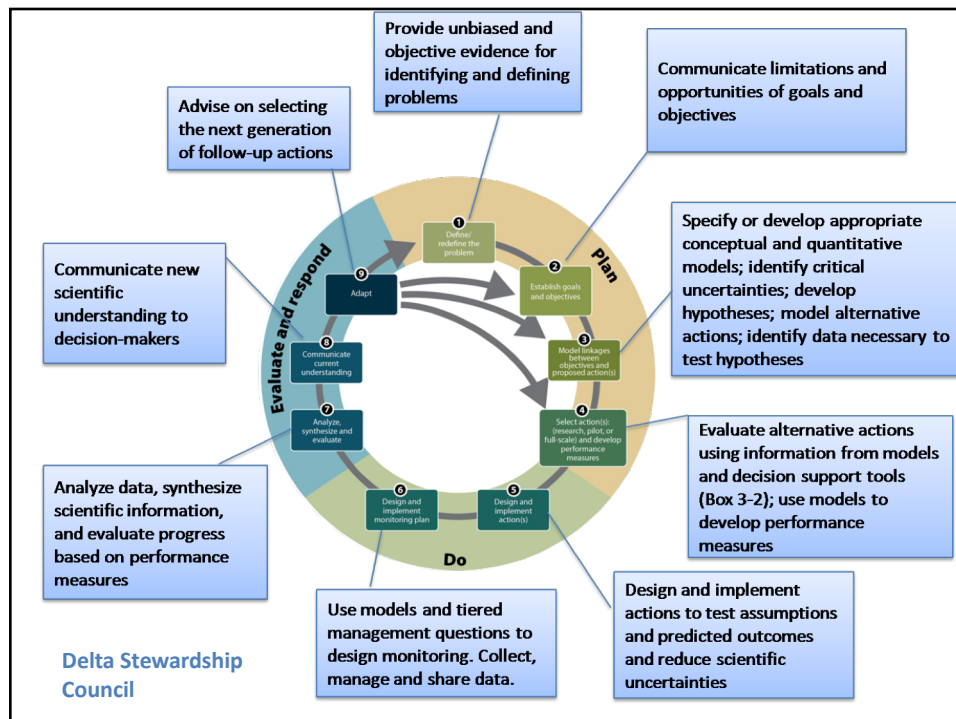
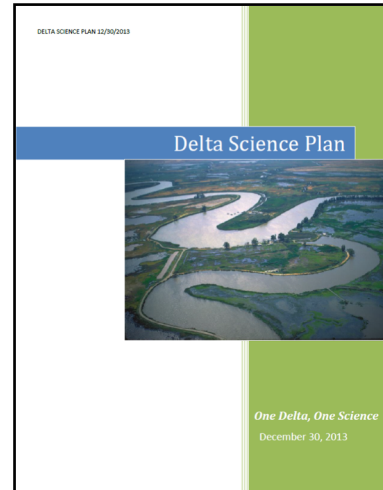


A Framework for Collaborative Science

Delta Science Plan *One Delta, One Science*

*Completed
December 30, 2013
Updated Dec 2016*

*1000+ contributors
from 230+ organizations*

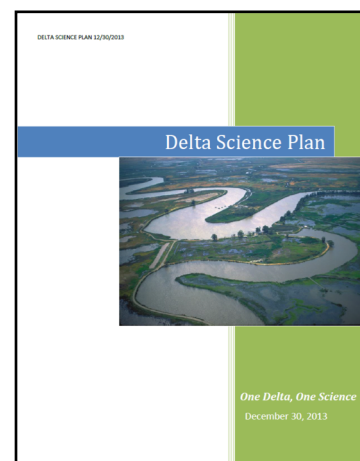


Challenges

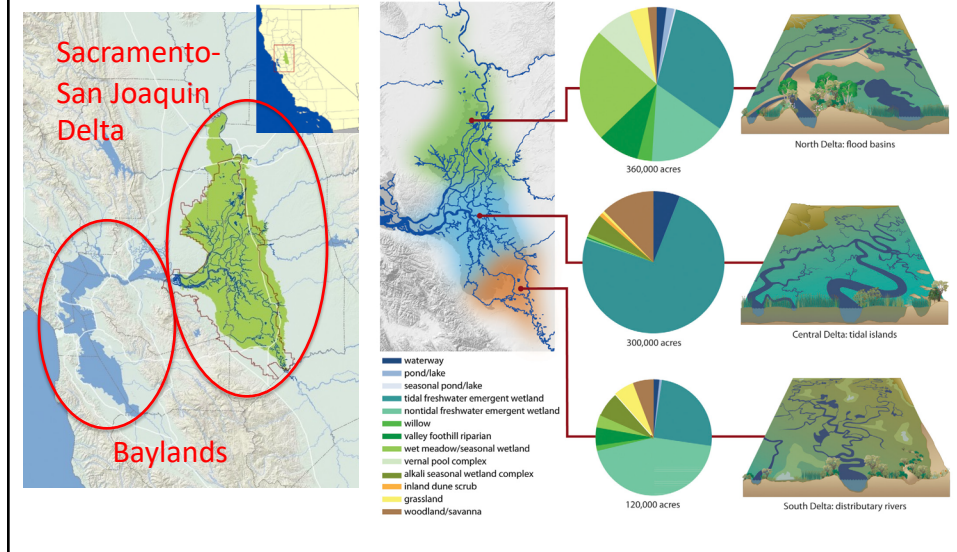
- Creating a perturbation big enough to learn?
 - transformative
 - high risk
- If unanticipated outcome – accept and move on?
- Planning for episodic events
- Who decides?
- Importance of leadership and decision authority
- Science to inform management and policy

- Building a common body of knowledge
 - Credible, Legitimate, Relevant and Transparent
- Managing scientific conflict
 - embrace legitimate differences of opinion
 - sift out selective, obfuscated, biased information
- Infrastructure for Science
 - Data accessibility
 - Community Modeling

ONE DELTA ONE SCIENCE



Baylands and the Sacramento -San Joaquin Delta



The Baylands and Climate Change: WHAT WE CAN DO

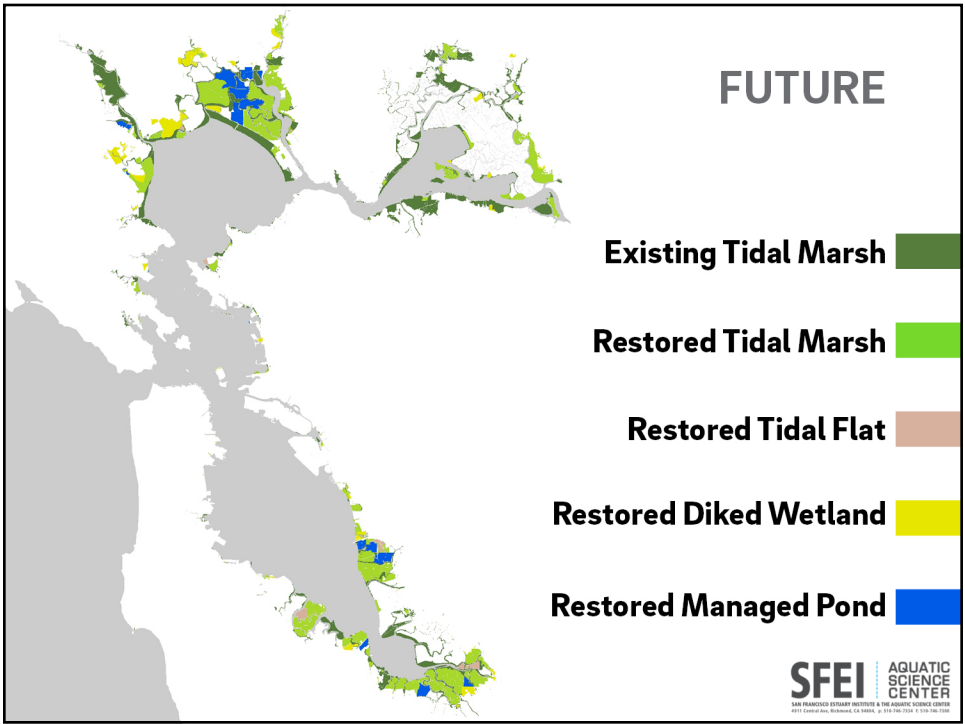
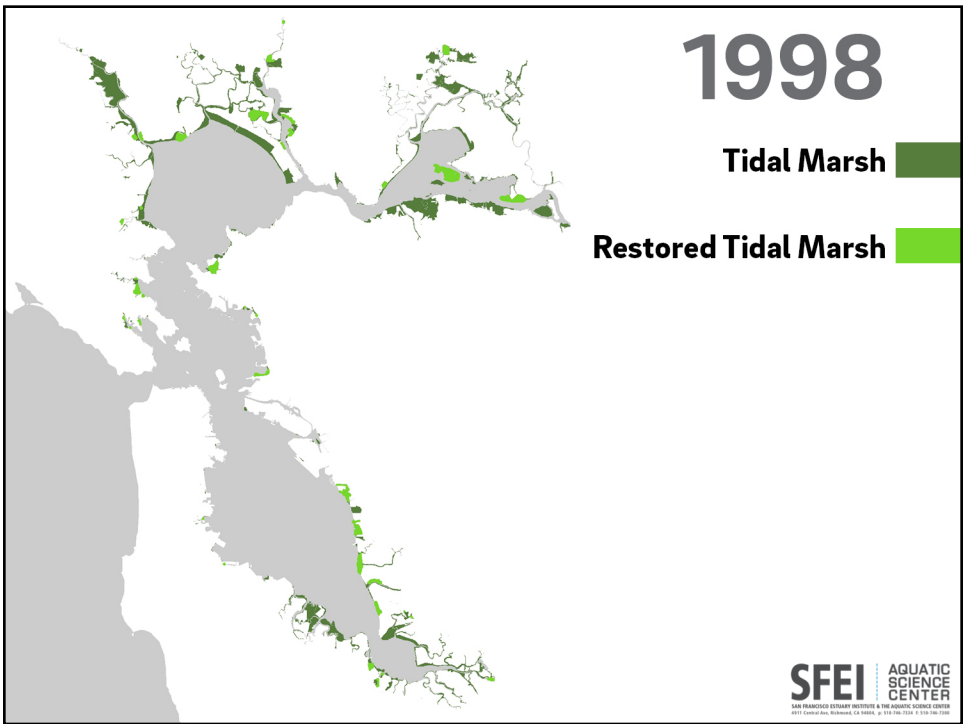
LETITIA GRENIER
SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY INSTITUTE

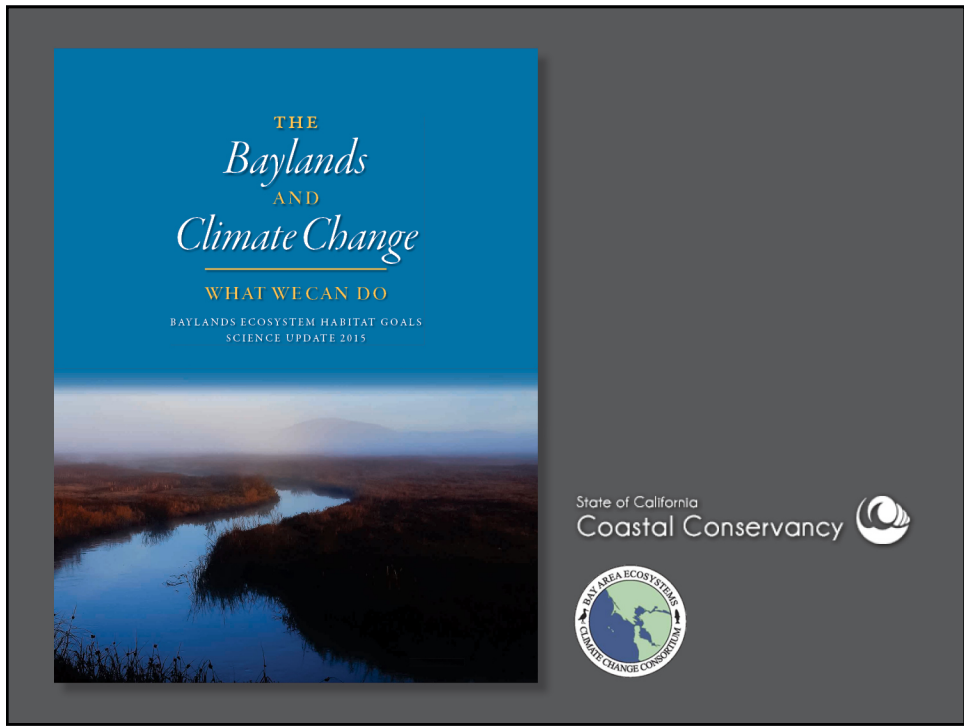
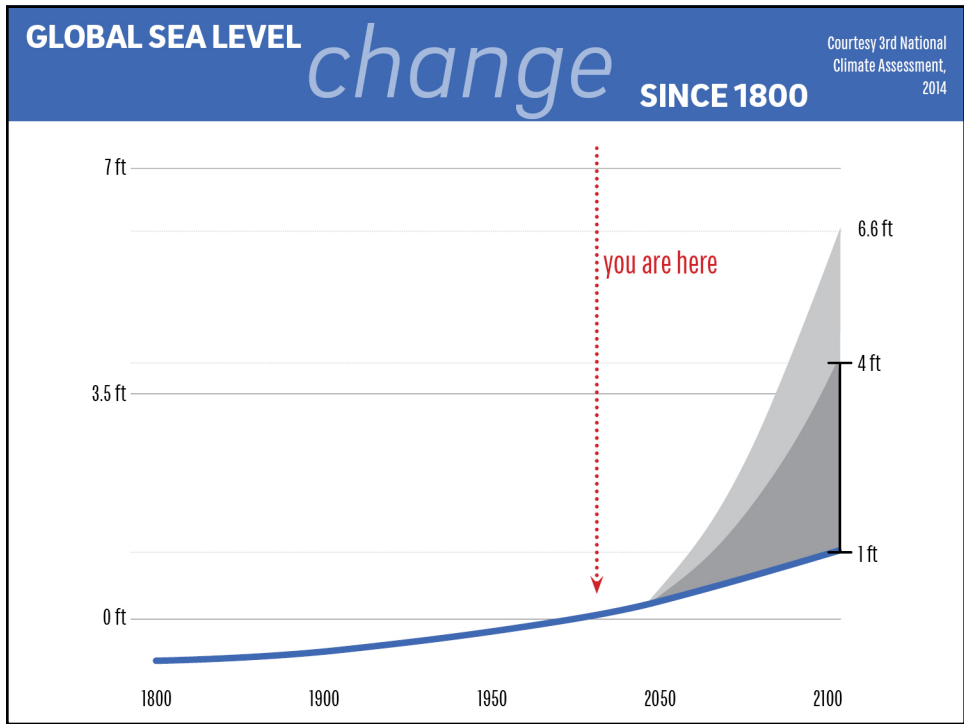
SPUR
16 Feb 2016
San Francisco, CA

SFEI AQUATIC
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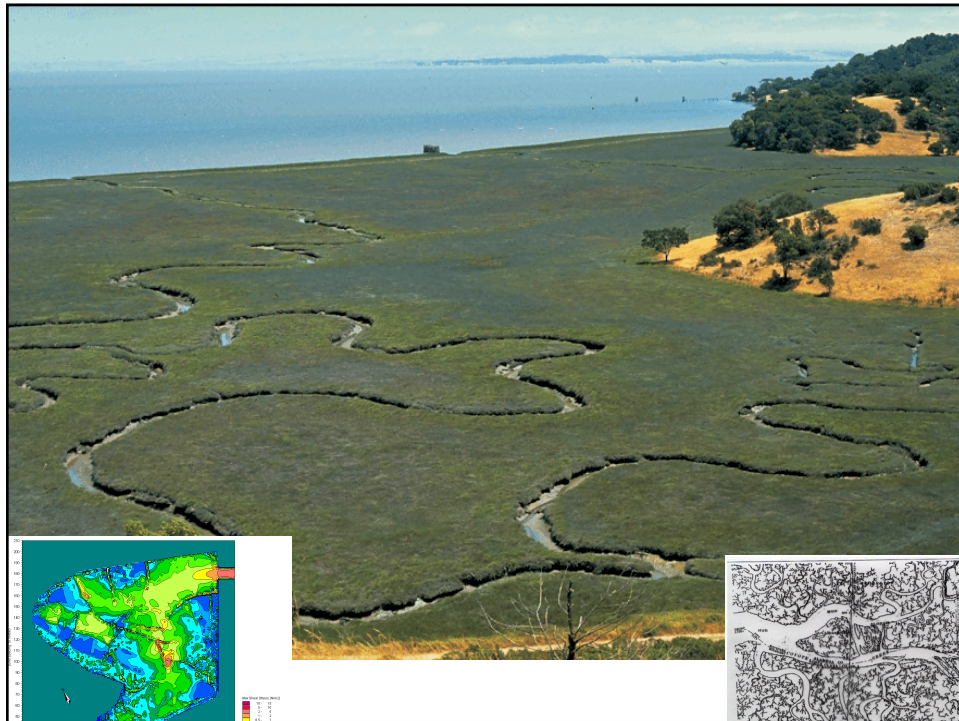


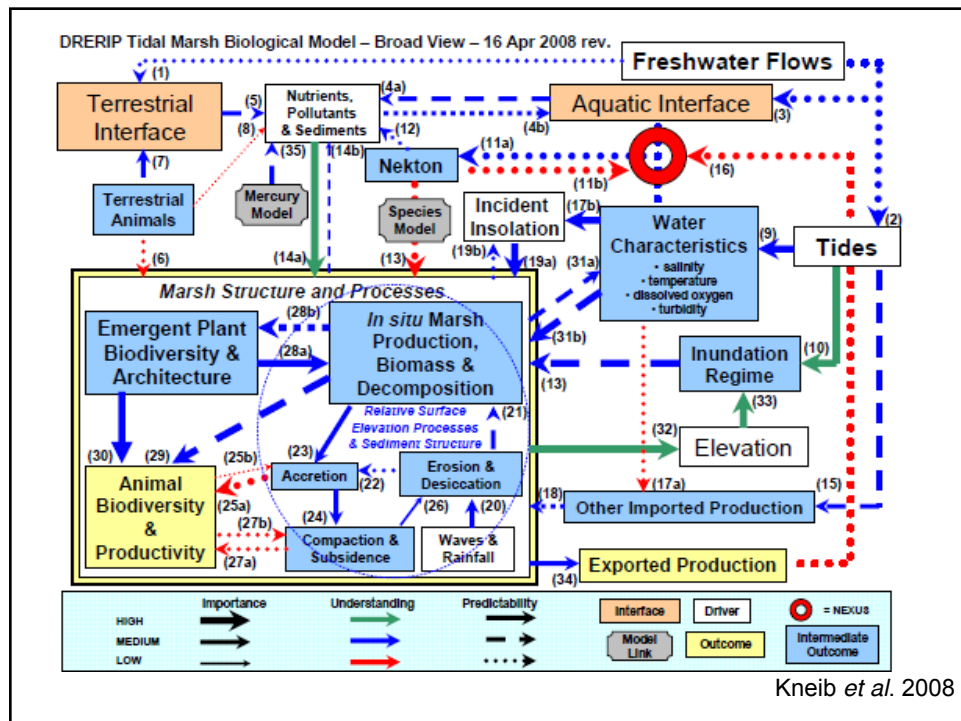
Shira Bezael

WHAT WE CAN DO

- *Restore complete systems, including processes*
- *Restore soon, in areas marshes are likely to persist*
- *Plan for the Baylands to migrate*

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WE HAVE *choices to make*

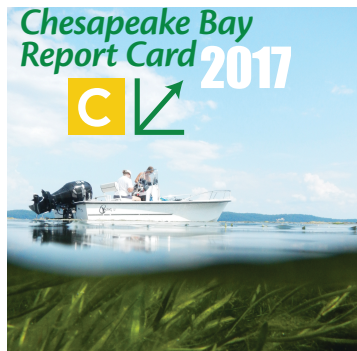


Baylands Goals Science Update



www.BaylandsGoals.org

Nate Kauffman



Bay health is moderate overall



The overall score for the Chesapeake Bay Health Index for 2017 was 54%, the same score as 2016. Bay-wide, dissolved oxygen continued to be the best scoring indicator with an 89% in 2017, an A. Aquatic grasses scored a C (44%), improved from last year's D+ (39%). Water clarity scored an F (17%), a decrease from last year's D (24%). Benthic community in the bay improved from a C (54%) to a B- (60%). Total nitrogen scored a C+ (59%), an improvement from last year's C+ (55%). Total phosphorus scored a B- (76%), declining from an A- (82%) in 2016. Chlorophyll a scored D+ (35%), the same as last year.

Total phosphorus, total nitrogen, dissolved oxygen, and aquatic grasses are showing positive and significant improvements. These improvements are encouraging for water quality and have positive impacts on the ecosystem. Water clarity and chlorophyll a have significantly declining trends. Benthic community shows no significant change in health over time.

There are seven indicators that make up the Bay Health Index for the Chesapeake Bay Report Card. Each indicator is compared to scientifically derived thresholds or goals and scored to determine the overall grade.

Where we are seeing improvements

Elizabeth River

2017 Score: **C**

The Elizabeth River improved from a D to a C in 2017, making this the highest score it has ever received. There were improvements in total nitrogen, chlorophyll a, and dissolved oxygen. Over time, this region has a significantly improving trend.



Boat on the Elizabeth River in Portsmouth, VA. Photo by Chesapeake Bay Program.

James River

2017 Score: **B+**

The James River improved from a C+ to a B+ in 2017. There were improvements in aquatic grasses, water clarity, and total phosphorus. Over time, this region has a significantly improving trend.



A view of the James River at Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge. Photo by USFWS.

Upper Western Shore

2017 Score: **C**

The Upper Western Shore improved from a C to a C in 2017. There were improvements in total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and benthic community. Over time, this region has a significantly improving trend.



The Upper Western Shore, part of the Upper Western Shore region. "Upper Western Shore" by Phil Ransom used under CC BY.

http://ian.umces.edu/work_with_us/environmental_report_card_production/

Can we learn from C.P. Snow?

(1) The objective must be clear and not too grandiloquently vast. A scientific committee set to advise on the welfare of all mankind is not likely to get very far. The objective of the Tizard Committee—to defend England in a foreseeable short-term future against air attack—is about as much as anyone can hope actually to cope with.

Delta Stewardship Council www.deltacouncil.ca.gov




Science and Society Transformed by Data

- Science and Scholarship are team sports
- Innovation and discovery will be driven by analysis
- Synthesis of diverse data streams
- Models encapsulate current knowledge

Tools change how we interact with one another, how we behave and therefore how we think.

www.wilsonminer.com





At times of change, the learners will be the ones who will inherit the world, while the knowers will be beautifully prepared for a world that no longer exists.

Alastair Smith

- *Collaboration and Shared Experiences*
- *Structured Adaptive Management with ongoing monitoring and synthesis is required to achieve desired outcomes.*
- *Risks need to be taken to accelerate understanding and management solutions for these complex and dynamic systems*

Thank you for your attention.