CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE

SWAP
California State Wildlife Action Plan

State Wildlife Action Plan 2015 Update

Project Status and Update

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Meeting Topics

- Preliminary results from regional workshops
- Statewide strategies and companion plans
- Scoping meeting recap

SWAP
California State Wildlife Action Plan

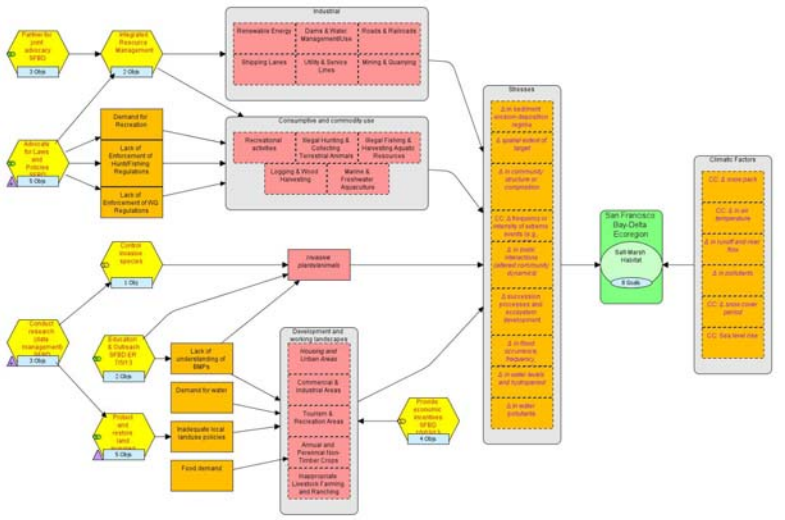
Workshop Summaries

- >120 staff
- 13 agencies/organizations

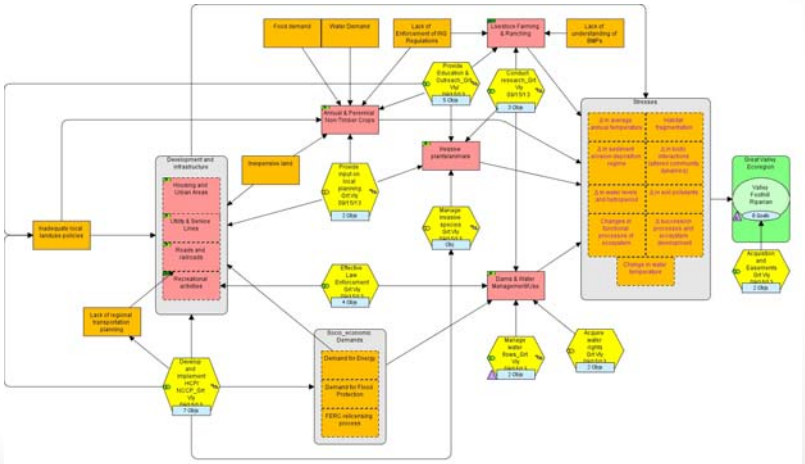
- 40 Conservation Units
- 64 Conservation projects

- >250 Strategies
- Goals
- Objectives
- Actions
- Monitoring

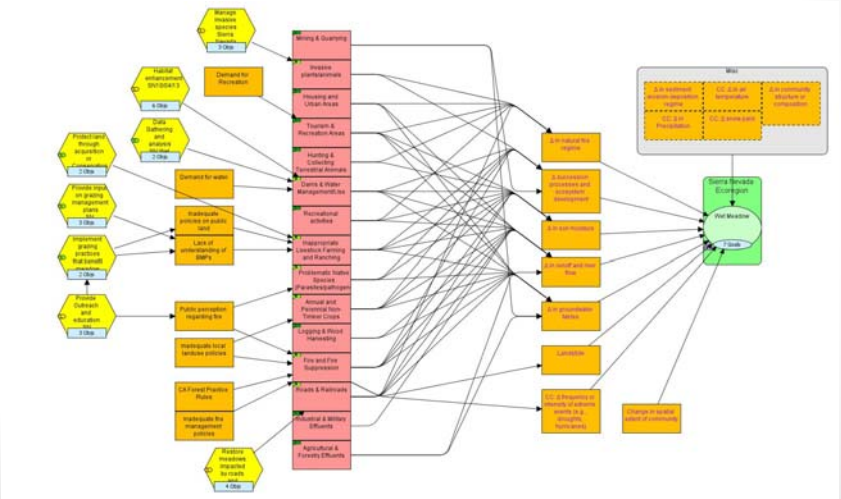
San Francisco Bay-Delta



Great Valley



Sierra Nevada



Statewide Strategies

- Anadromous fish
- Climate Change
- Invasive species
- Invertebrates
- Law enforcement
- Marine Environment
- Plants
- Pollution
- Pests and Nuisance Species

Companion Plans

- Agriculture
- Consumptive & Recreational Uses
- Energy Development
- Forests & Rangelands
- Land Use Planning
- Transportation Planning
- Tribal Lands
- Water Management

Scoping Meetings

Comment Categories

- Coordination
- Species
- Process
- Partnership
- Funding
- Scientific Integrity
- Suggestions
- Climate Change
- Education and Outreach
- Recreation
- Agenda 21

Coordination

- Other plans (flood, marine resources, SD Management and Monitoring Strategic Plan) (LA, SD)
- NCCPs/HCPs (LA, SD, O)
- Other agencies that impact habitats (Water Boards, Calfire), Air Resources Board, Caltrans (LA, PS, O, LT, R)
- Law enforcement – marijuana cultivation (F, E)
- Were HCPs used to help identify threats and stresses? (O)
- Is a SWAP strategy the same as a USFS strategy? (LT)
- How will SWAP affect Tribal lands? (R)
- How is SWAP coordinating with large timberland owners that have conservation plans? (R)
- Who has jurisdiction over water? What's being done about illegal diversions? (R, E)

Species

- How will already listed species be addressed with a narrowed SGCN list (LA, SD), what about Red-sided garter-snake
- Are we focused on native or introduced species? (LA, F, O)
  - How long does it take for an introduced species to be considered native (LA)
  - Who decides what's more important between a wild horse and a salamander? (PS)
- Are SGCNs prioritized? (SD, LT), Are all SGCNs endemic? (PS)
- Are we working on reintroducing species (PS)
- Are species that naturally migrate considered invasive? (F)
- Is there a different focus for sub-species? (SLO)
- How are you preparing for wolves coming back to CA? (O)

Process

- How are threats and stresses quantified? (SD)
- Is there an annual vetting of the plan? (SD)
- Is there a deadline for public comments (SD)
- Are there other regional targets being developed? (PS)
- Where does the plan address disease? (PS, R)
- Why is farming, grazing and logging considered a threat? (F, SLO, R)
- How do you know if habitats are improving? (F, LT, E)
- Wouldn't it be better to focus on the positive aspects of the habitat rather than threats and stresses? Need more positive language (F, R)
- Are inappropriate grazing practices on public land being considered?(O, R)
- Will you consider invasive weeds? (O)
- How is the plan addressing Monterey shale? (O)

Partnerships

- Will CDFW manage private lands that have target habitat? (PS, SLO)
- Wouldn't it be better to work with private landowners than making new regulations? (F)
- How can we get more information/data from private landowners? (SLO)
- How can private landowners help removing fish barriers without violating CDFW laws? (O)
- Will the plan help coordinate fishing groups to help with restoration? (O)
- Why did you change your name-will it affect hunting? (R)
- Are you requiring local governments to adopt SWAP? (R, E)

Funding

- Source of funding? (LA)
- Will hunting and fishing funds be affected? (LA, R)
- What is the funding match requirements (SD)
- Is there funding for conservation easements? (F)
- Why don't we have funding like Colorado (1% sales tax)? (F)
- Are funds form WCB involved in SWAP? (E)

Scientific Integrity

- Will there be peer review ?(LA)
- How will Citizen science (LA), Volunteers (LA) be involved?
- Who will do the data collection? (PS)
- Will SWAP create a clearinghouse data-base? (LT)

Suggestions

- Are we aware of local restoration projects? (LA)
- Should try to maintain minimum flows of freshwater (SD, R)
- 800k ac-ft of water used for one fish in Delta-how can farmers get some of that water? (F)
- Non-grazed or under-grazed should be considered a threat (SLO)
- Why is it so difficult to do restoration on private lands? (S, SLO)
- Consider mosquito abatement for companion plan (S, O, R)
- It seems water skiing wakes are destroying all the habitat along the banks of the Delta. (O)
- Consider using more prescribed burns (LT, R)

Climate Change

- When are climate changes considered natural phenomena? (LA)
- What is a hydroperiod? (O)
- We are losing the snowpack. Shouldn't we build more dams? (O)
- How much are we considering the loss of snowpack and more precipitation as rain? (LT)
- Why is money being spent to save species that will eventually go extinct due to climate change? (S)

Education and Outreach

- Route 66 Goldminers (LA)
- Are conservation easements meant to close an area for human use? (PS)
- If E&O is so important, why doesn't the CDFW fund it? (F)
- Lack of public support for some of USFS recommendations has stalled their implementation. How will SWAP deal with gaining public support? (LT)
- Programs in the past that have involved the types of programs such as finding willing partners in the private sector and developing successful conservation programs to see if they were successful and quantify them? (E)

Recreation

- Where will hunting and fishing be addressed? (SD)
- What are the recommendations related to OHVs? (SD)
- Won't fishing opportunity will be lost by removing non-native fish (PS, LT)
- Are the conservation efforts designed to eliminate all people and end all fishing? (O)
- Why isn't striped-bass included as an SGCN?
- Are non-consumptive recreation activities considered in plan? (LT)
- Why not change the fishing regulations for non-native fish to allow anglers to take more? (R)

Agenda 21

- Were the Standards for the Practice of Conservation developed by the UN? (F)
- How will large swaths of land shown on the maps affect public access? (O)
- How can you justify using private lands to create a corridor system for wildlife? (O)
- Has the legislature given you authority to implement this plan? (O)
- How does your map affect private property rights? (O)
- Why is law enforcement a part of the plan if its non-regulatory? (R)

How to Submit Comments

- Via email: SWAP@wildlife.ca.gov
- Via Mail: Armand Gonzales
  California Department of Fish and Wildlife
  1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1341-B
  Sacramento, CA 95814

SWAP Website: www.dfg.ca.gov/SWAP

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE

SWAP California State Wildlife Action Plan

California State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) 2015

Great Valley Region
Riparian Habitat

About Our Region and Riparian Habitat Riparian habitat is found along rivers and streams across the state forming green belts along the running watercourses. Riparian habitat is home for many species providing water, food, escape, and nesting areas. Some species spend their entire life within the habitat (riparian endemic species), while some are frequent visitors from the adjacent lands and some are yet from distance migrating from across the borders.

What are the sensitive species found in the riparian habitat? The following 43 riparian dependent species from this region are found to be sensitive:

Invertebrate [1]
VALLEY ELDERBERRY LONGHORN BEETLE

Amphibian [4]
CALIFORNIA GIANT SALAMANDER
COMMON ENSATINA
FOOTHILL YELLOW-LEGGED FROG
RED-LEGGED FROG

Reptile [5]
GIANT GARTER SNAKE
GOPHER SNAKE
RINGNECK SNAKE
WESTERN POND TURTLE
WESTERN SKINK

Bird [20]
BALD EAGLE
BANK SWALLOW
BEWICK'S WREN
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON
CALIFORNIA QUAIL
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT
GOLDEN EAGLE
GREAT BLUE HERON
GREAT EGRET
GREATER WHITE-FRONT
HUTTON'S VIREO
LONG-EARED OWL
OSPREY
SONG SPARROW
SPOTTED TOWHEE
SWAINSON'S HAWK
TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD
YELLOW BILLED CUCKOO
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT
YELLOW WARBLER

Mammal [13]
BROAD-FOOTED MOLE
DEER MOUSE
FRINGED MYOTIS
LONG-EARED MYOTIS
MOUNTAIN LION
NORTHERN RIVER OTTER
PORCUPINE
RINGTAIL WESTERN MASTIFF BAT
RIPARIAN BRUSH RABIT
RIPARIAN WOODRAT

WESTERN SMALL- FOOTED MYOTIS YUMA MYOTIS
WESTERN SPOTTED SKUNK

What do we find important for recovering and sustaining healthy riparian habitat? Ecological conditions that are found to be most critical to sustain healthy riparian habitat in this region are:

- Area and extent
- Connectivity
- Hydrological regime
- Surface Water Flow Regime
- Soil/ sediment erosion deposition regime

Degraded ecological conditions that are found to be impacting the riparian habitat in this region are:

- Changes in spatial extent of the riparian habitat
- Habitat fragmentation
- Changes in biotic interactions (altered community dynamics)
- Changes in successional processes and ecosystem development
- Changes in functional processes of ecosystem
- Change in annual average temperatures
- Changes in precipitation
- Change in snow pack
- -
- Change in snow cover period
- Change is water temperature
- Changes in runoff and river flow
- Changes in water levels and hydro-period
- Changes in flood occurrence, frequency, intensity, and area flooded
- Changes in sediment erosion and deposition regime
- Changes in soil chemistry
- Increase in water and soil pollutant amount and concentration
- Changes in natural fire regime
- Changes in extreme events

Human related activities and issues that are found to be sources of potential impacts to the riparian habitat are:

- Roads & railroads
- Housing & urban areas
- Utility & Service Lines
- Livestock farming & ranching
- Invasive plant & animal species
- Dams & water Management and uses
- Annual & Perennial Non-Timber Crops
- Recreational activities

More questions?

1. Come talk to us and ask questions at scoping meetings!
2. Check our Website: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/SWAP/
3. Provide written comments

   By email to: SWAP@wildlife.ca.gov

   By mail: Armand Gonzales
   California Department of Fish and Wildlife
   1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1341-B
   Sacramento, CA 95814

California State Wildlife Action Plan Update 2015

Great Valley Ecoregion

DRAFT STRATEGY: Great Valley Riparian

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE

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GOALS

1. By 2025, the area of protected riparian habitat increases by 2%

2. By 2025, establish a flow regime that is sufficient to support existing and future desirable habitat condition.

3. By 2025, establish buffers between agriculture activities and river corridors

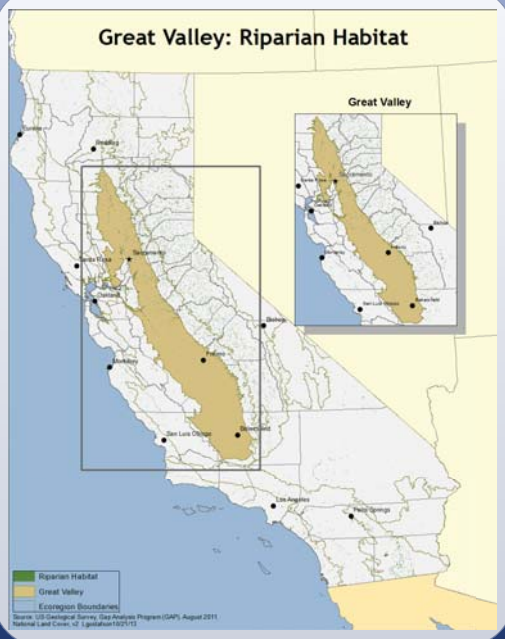
4. By 2025, identify and fill gaps in riparian vegetation along major rivers

5. By 2025, increase the amount of riparian habitat in the ecoregion by 20,000 acres over ten years.

6. By 2025, plan and implement direct management, eradication, or adaptive management of invasive species to optimize native habitats.

7. By 2025, begin moving away from sheet irrigation and tile drains in SJ valley

8. By 2025, treat invasive species on CDFW lands



The State Wildlife Action Plan examines the health of wildlife and prescribes actions to conserve wildlife and vital habitat before they become more rare and more costly to protect. The plan also promotes wildlife conservation while furthering responsible development and addressing the needs of a growing human population.

SENSITIVE SPECIES

Giant garter snake
Yellow billed-cuckoo
Swainson's hawk
Bank swallow
Golden eagle
Ringtail
Bewick's wren
Black-crowned night heron
Broad-footed mole
California giant salamander
California quail
Common ensantina
Common yellowthroat
Deer mouse
Foothill yellow-legged frog
Fringe myotis
Gopher snake
Great blue heron
Great egret
Hutton's vireo
Long-eared myotis
Long-eared owl
Mountain lion
Northern river otter
Osprey
Ringneck snake
Song sparrow
Spotted towhee
Tricolored blackbird
Western mastiff bat
Western pond turtle
Western skink
Western small-footed myotis
Western spotted skunk
Yellow warbler
Yellow-breasted chat
Porcupine
Riparian woodrat
Greater white-front goose
Valley elderberry long-horned beetle
Bald eagle
Red-legged frog


Giant garter snake © 2004 Jeremiah Easter


California quail. H. Vannoy Davis © California Academy of Sciences


Foothill yellow-legged frog © 2004 Pierre Fidenci


California condor © 2008 Ram Vasudev


Western pond turtle © 2003 Pierre Fidenci


Spotted skunk Alden M. Johnson © California Academy of Sciences.

ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSES

Change in annual average temperatures
Change in Annual average precipitation
Change in snow pack
Change in snow cover period
Changes in sediment erosion-deposition regime
Changes in natural fire regime
Changes in extreme events
Change in pollutants
Changes in soil chemistry
Change in runoff and river flow
Changes in water levels and hydroperiod
Change in flood occurrence, frequency, intensity, and area flooded (including hydroperiod)
Loss or change in biotic interactions (altered community dynamics)
Changes in functional processes of ecosystem
Changes succession processes and ecosystem development
Habitat fragmentation
Change in water pollutants
Change is water temperature

Dusky-footed woodrat © 2010 Rob Schell


Bull thistle. Photo courtesy of Bob Case


Development


OHV use

Railroads

HUMAN RELATED IMPACTS

Roads and railroads
Utility & service lines
Recreational activities
Housing and urban areas
Dams & water management/use
Invasive plants/animals
Annual & perennial non-timber crops
Livestock farming & ranching

TEAM

Name	Organization	Roles
Joshua Bush	CDFW-R2	Team Lead
Bob Parris	FWS	Team Member
Erin Tennant	CDFW-R4	Team Member
Krista Tomlinson	CDFW-R4	Team Member
Greg Yarris	Central Valley Joint Venture	Team Member

STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Develop and implement HCP/NCCP
   a. Objectives
      i. Ensure riparian habitats are included in the development of valley floor HCP
      ii. Ensure riparian habitat is covered in BDCP
      iii. Advocate for wildlife
      iv. FERC re-license process streamlined and includes conditions support ecosystem conservation
      v. Ensure projects identified in the HCPs/NCCPs are compatible to ecosystem conservation.
   b. Activities
      i. Coordinate with stakeholders
      ii. Obtain funding for implementation and staffing
      iii. Provide funding grants for coordination and feasibility study
2. Effective Law Enforcement
   a. Objectives
      i. Compliance with water rights and F&G Code 1600 agreements
      ii. Reduced illegal diversions
      iii. Increase LED staffing levels
   b. Activities
      i. Include BMPs as enforceable condition of SAA and water right permit/license
      ii. Advocate for opportunities to improve prosecutions of environmental laws and illegal diversions
      iii. Identify partners to improve enforcement capabilities
      iv. Evaluate and increase LED staffing levels
      v. Obtain funding for implementation and staffing
3. Provide Education & Outreach
   a. Objectives
      i. Educate private landowners on invasive species identification and management
      ii. Raise public awareness of the values of riparian habitats
      iii. Recruit public participation in monitoring invasive species and rapid response
      iv. Inform public of grazing BMP and wildlife friendly land use policy
   b. Activities
      i. Develop goals and objectives, core message
      ii. Identify target audience
      iii. Develop program for the general public, and partnering agencies/organizations
      iv. Conduct public training workshops
      v. Obtain funding for implementation and staffing
4. Conduct research
   a. Objectives
      i. Provide adequate data necessary for the development of invasive species and grazing BMPs
      ii. Provide adequate data necessary for the water flow best management.
   b. Activities
      i. Identify study questions, develop study design
      ii. Conduct literature review, coordinate with experts
      iii. Obtain funding for implementation and staffing
5. Manage water flows
   a. Objectives
      i. Restore critical flow dynamics to benefit riparian ecosystem function
   b. Activities
      i. Obtain funding for implementation and staffing
      ii. Coordinate with State, Federal, counties and local water districts
      iii. Coordinate with Floodsafe and local flood agencies
      iv. Identify and prioritize critical streams to restore flow dynamics
      v. Conduct assessment of needed flows
      vi. Assess opportunities for dam removal on smaller streams
      vii. Identify working groups focused on flow and ecological function
      viii. Identify and review existing local groundwater policies to inform future policy recommendations
      ix. Encourage setback levees to restore hydrological and geomorphic function.