



BEAVER MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION PLAN FOR CALIFORNIA

Public Scoping Meetings

August 19th and September 8th, 2025

Presented by: Molly Alves

Beaver Restoration Program Supervisor

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Meeting Format

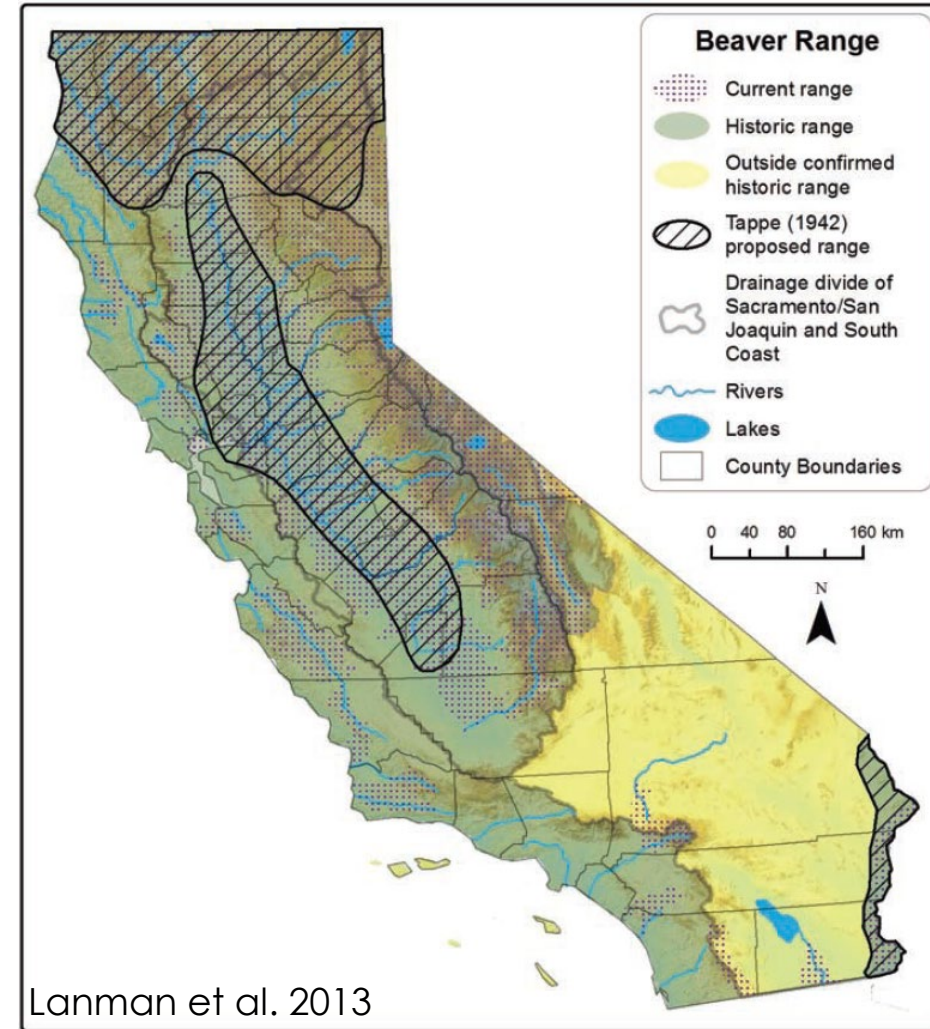
- Overview of the California Beaver Management and Restoration Plan
 - Background
 - Plan Objectives
 - Plan Overview
 - Content
- Next Steps
- Questions/Comments/Feedback



Background



- 2022: CDFW received funding and positions to establish a Beaver Restoration Program
- “Beaver Restoration” in California:
 - Maximize the role of beavers in ecosystem restoration



Background continued...



- Beaver Restoration Program vision:
To gather a comprehensive understanding of where, when, and how beavers can be utilized to restore ecosystem processes and habitats in California, communicate those findings in clear and meaningful ways, and with that knowledge, effectively utilize beavers as a nature-based solution in restoring and conserving habitats and watersheds for the species under CDFW's purview.



Management and Restoration Plan Goals



1. Define the native range of beavers in California
2. Synthesize the best available science on beavers, their roles in the ecosystem, and how they function in applied restoration
3. Guide restoration activities, decision-making, project prioritization, and collaboration
4. Identify constraints, gaps in current knowledge, research needs
5. Highlight CDFW's [beaver management and restoration] objectives, actions, and deliverables over next 5-10 years

Plan Overview



- **Chapter 1:** Introduction
- **Chapter 2:** Beavers in the Ecosystem
- **Chapter 3:** Conservation, Management, and Restoration Goals
- **Chapter 4:** Human-Beaver Conflict
- **Chapter 5:** Beaver Restoration through Translocation



Plan Overview



- **Chapter 6:** Restoration Opportunities and Priorities
- **Chapter 7:** Adaptive Management
- **Chapter 8:** Unresolved Issues and Information Needs
- **Chapter 9:** Tribal Authority and Perspectives
- **Chapter 10:** Interagency Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement



Plan Content



- **Chapter 1:** Introduction
 - Taxonomy
 - Life History and Habitat
 - Beaver History in California
 - Native Range
 - Current Distribution and Population Status
 - Historical and Ongoing Management
 - Laws and Regulations



Plan Content



- **Chapter 2: Beavers in the Ecosystem**
 - Role as Ecosystem Engineers, Keystone Species

- Effects on:
 - Other Species, by taxa
 - Habitat and the Plant Community
 - Hydrology and Water Chemistry
 - Fire
 - Climate Change

- Knowledge Gaps

- Research Needs



- **Chapter 3: Conservation, Management, and Restoration Goals**

Plan Content



- **Chapter 4: Human-Beaver Conflict**
 - Beaver Depredation Trends
 - Management of Conflicts
 - Non-lethal
 - Lethal
 - Resources for Landowners and Municipalities
 - Consultation
 - Technical Assistance
 - Financial Assistance
 - Management on Department Lands



Plan Content



- **Chapter 5:** Beaver Restoration through Translocation
 - Department Implementation
 - Translocation Procedures
 - Population Management
 - Evaluation and Management of Risks
 - Post-release Monitoring
 - Defining Project Success
 - Restoration Project Funding



Next Steps



- Aug 19th & Sep 8th: Public Scoping
- Oct 10th: Deadline for comments and feedback
- Summer/Fall 2025: consultations with Tribes and Technical Advisory Committee
- Winter 2025: aiming for first draft
- Winter/Spring 2026: aiming for public review



Questions, Comments, Feedback



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Please submit comments and feedback by October 10th to allow time for incorporation prior to Public Review.