



Yuba Water Agency: Improving forest health and watershed resilience

April 19, 2023



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Overview:

- About Yuba Water Agency
- Need for forest management
- Our Watershed Resilience Program
- North Yuba Forest Partnership
- Forest Resilience Bond
- Additional forest health efforts



Yuba Water Agency's mission areas



Flood Risk Reduction



Sustainable Water Supply



Hydropower Generation

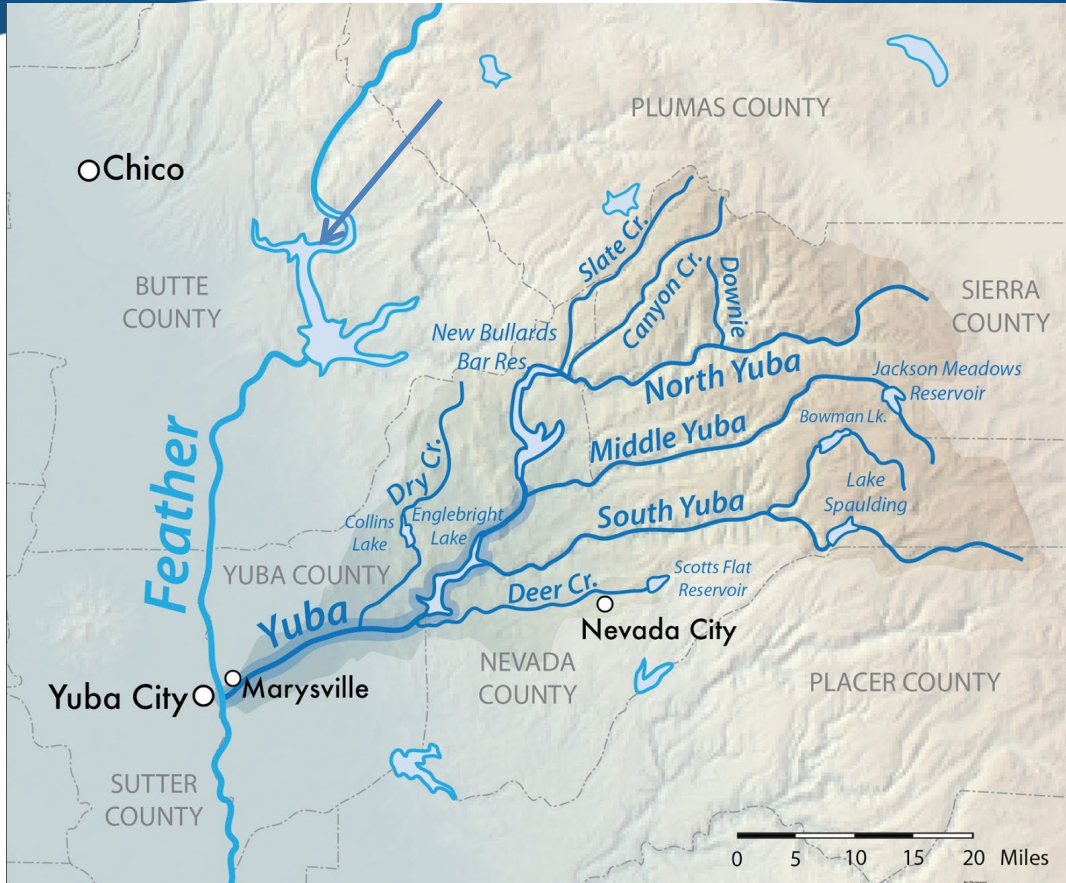


Fisheries Protection
and Enhancement



Recreation at New
Bullards Bar

The Yuba River watershed



Yuba Water Facilities

New Bullards Bar Dam:

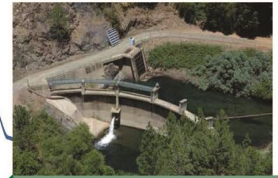
- 5th tallest dam in the United States and the 2nd tallest in California
- Completed in 1970
- 645 feet tall
- Stores nearly one million acre-feet of water
- 170,000 acre-feet of dedicated flood storage space



▲ New Bullards Bar Dam



⚡ New Colgate Powerhouse



▲ Log Cabin Dam



▲ Our House Dam

Water diversions from the Yuba River provide far and ranch families with **260,000 acre feet** of water for **60,000 acres of crops** (rice, peaches, prunes a more), and ensure a sustainable groundwater **sup** for **80%** of Yuba's residents.

YUBA WATER HYDROPOWER FACILITY FACTS:



- COMBINED FACILITY CAPACITY**
- ▲ 407MW (Colgate PH, Narrows 1 + Narrows 2 PH)
 - ▲ Energy for 400,000 homes
 - ▲ Carbon-free
 - ▲ Reliable generation regardless of weather conditions



- COLGATE POWERHOUSE**
- ▲ 340MW
 - ▲ Carbon-free, flexible, dispatchable



- NARROWS I POWERHOUSE**
- ▲ 12 MW
 - ▲ Carbon-free



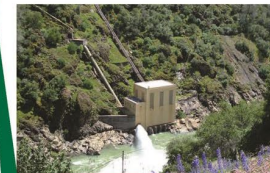
- NARROWS II POWERHOUSE**
- ▲ 55 MW
 - ▲ Carbon-free



🏠 Headquarters



⚡ Narrows II Powerhouse



⚡ Narrows I Powerhouse



Restoring Forest Health in the Yuba River Watershed



Yuba Water's Watershed Resilience Program

- Established by Yuba Water in 2018 to **reduce risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect local communities and safeguard water supply**
- Program builds collaborative projects within Yuba County and Yuba River watershed that support these goals



Historical comparison

Yosemite Valley



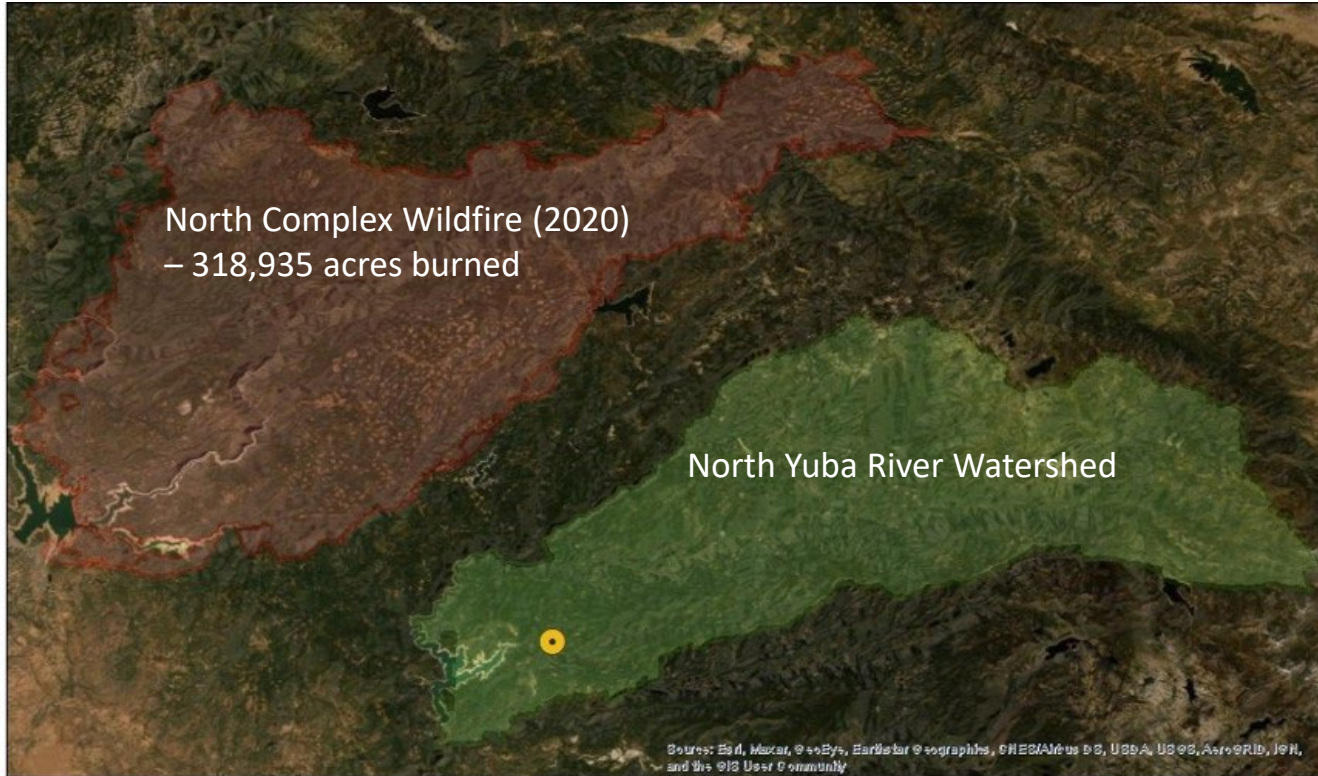
1899



1994

Gruell 2001

Why do we need forest restoration?



Legend

0 5 10 Miles




Benefits of forest restoration


- Protects Yuba Water's mission
- Protects our communities, water supply, and local economies
- Reduces risk of destructive wildfire
- Improves forest health and resilience




Watershed Resilience Program by the numbers:

 Invested \$10M to date and leveraged more than \$157 M in external funds

 Collaborating with 19 partners

 Helped develop and fund 9 projects, in Yuba County and the upper watershed

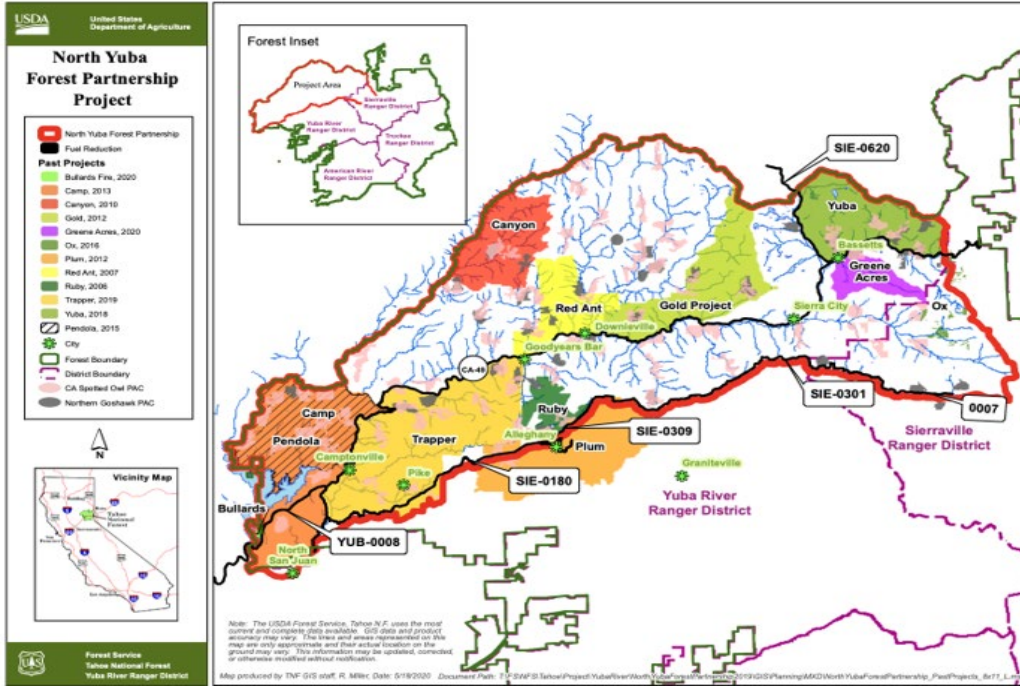
 More than 4,000 acres treated so far

 More than 280,000 acres of planned restoration underway



North Yuba Forest Partnership

Working together to expedite forest health work across the North Yuba River watershed



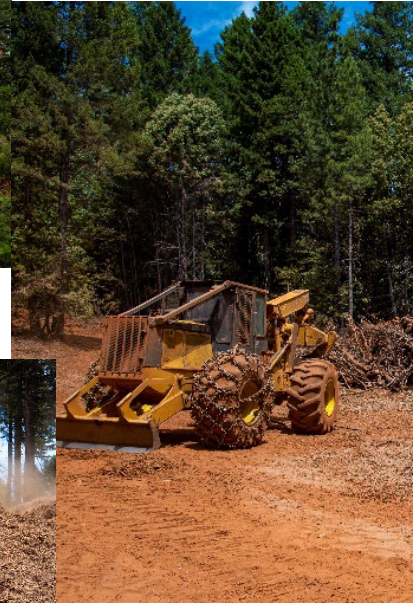
Blue Forest Conservation and Forest Resilience Bonds



- First-ever Forest Resilience Bond piloted by Yuba Water and Blue Forest in 2018 with 15,000-acre Yuba Project
- Now, 26,000-acre Yuba 2 Project funded via second Forest Resilience Bond, began work in 2022
- Increasing pace and scale of our efforts

Additional watershed resilience efforts

- Yuba Foothills Healthy Forest Project (Cal Fire Grant)
- Camptonville Community Partners' Forest Biomass and Business Center (Yuba Water Planning Grants)
- Yuba Watershed Protection and Firesafe Council (Yuba Water Planning grants and capacity building support)





Questions?

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