

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

California Water Plan Update 2023

May 15, 2024

California Water Commission



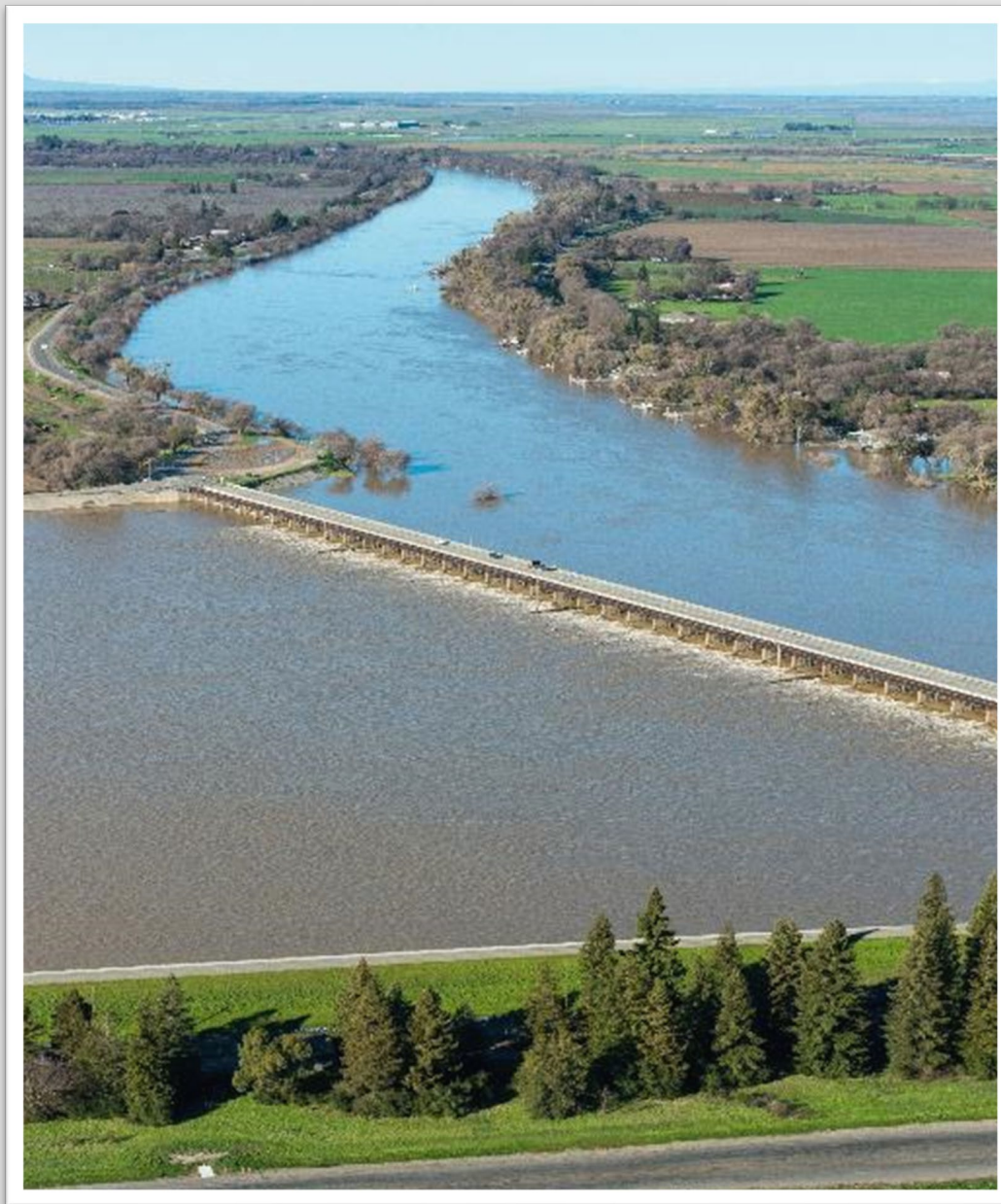
California Water Plan Foundations

- Mandated in CA Water Code
- Updated every 5 years
- Quantifying statewide status and trends
- Ideation and strategic planning
- Administration priorities
- Recommendations

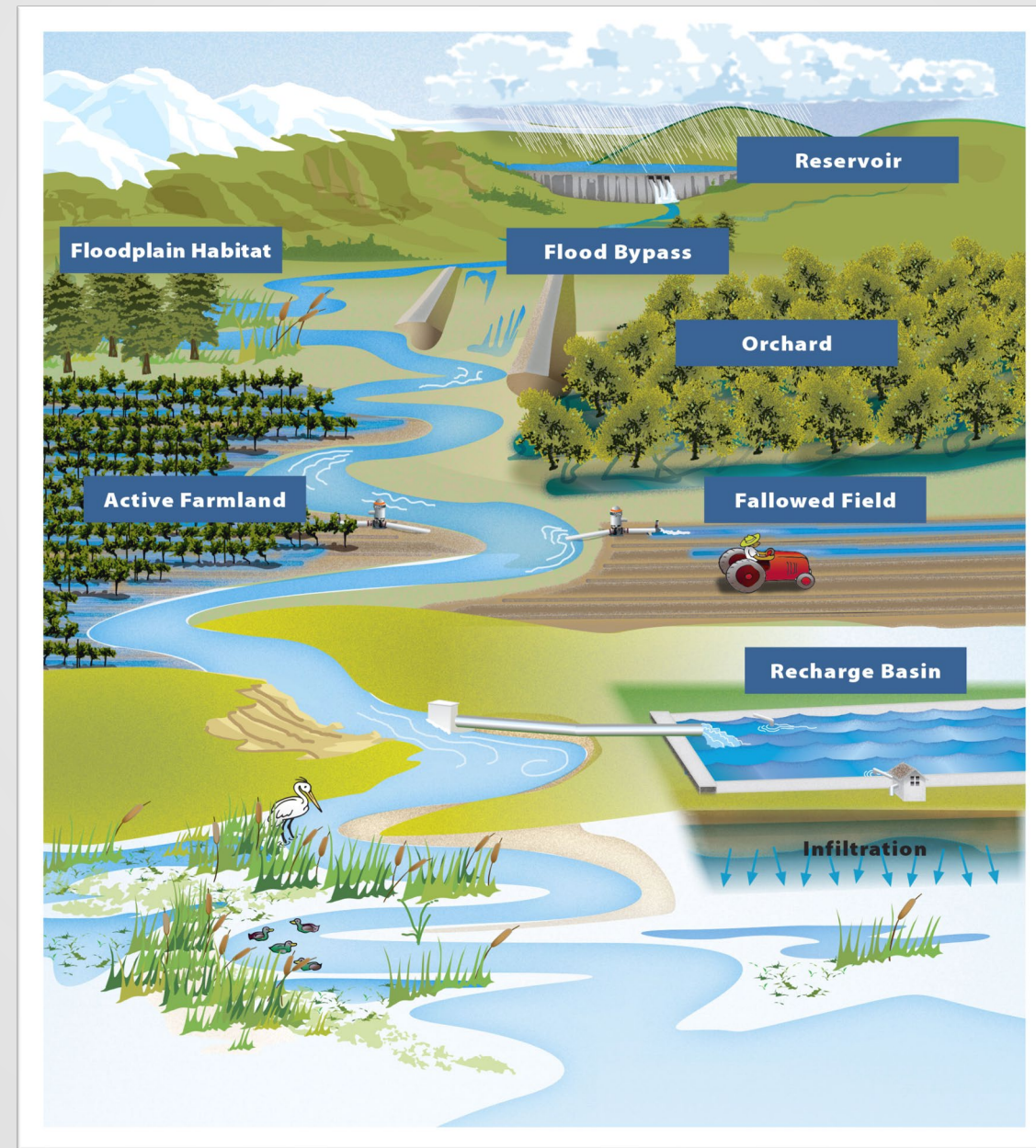


Advancing Administration Themes With State Agency Alignment & Watershed Networks

Climate Urgency



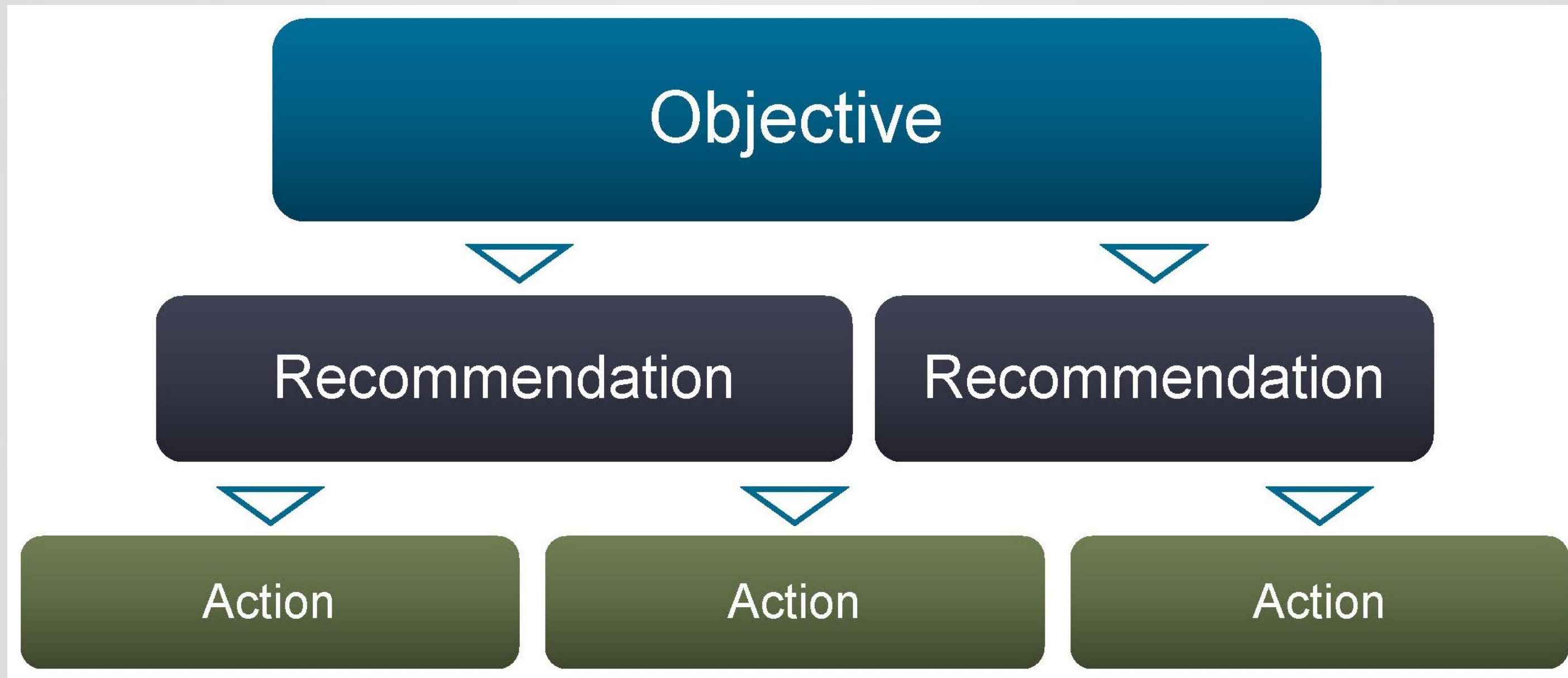
Watershed Resilience



Equity in Water Management



Update 2023 Recommendations Roadmap to Resilience



Roadmap to Resilience Objectives

- Obj 1 - Support Watershed Resilience Planning and Implementation.
- Obj 2 - Improve Resiliency of “Backbone” State, Federal, and Regional Built Water Infrastructure.
- Obj 3 - Improve Resiliency of Natural “Backbone” Infrastructure.
- Obj 4 - Advance Equitable Outcomes in Water Management.
- Obj 5 - Support and Learn from Tribal Water & Resource Management Practices.
- Obj 6 - Support and Increase Flexibility of Regulatory Systems.
- Obj 7 - Provide Stable Funding for Implementing Actions toward Water Resilience.



Focus on Objective 1: Support Watershed Resilience Planning and Implementation

Recommendation 1.1. Improve State Agency Alignment for Watershed Resilience

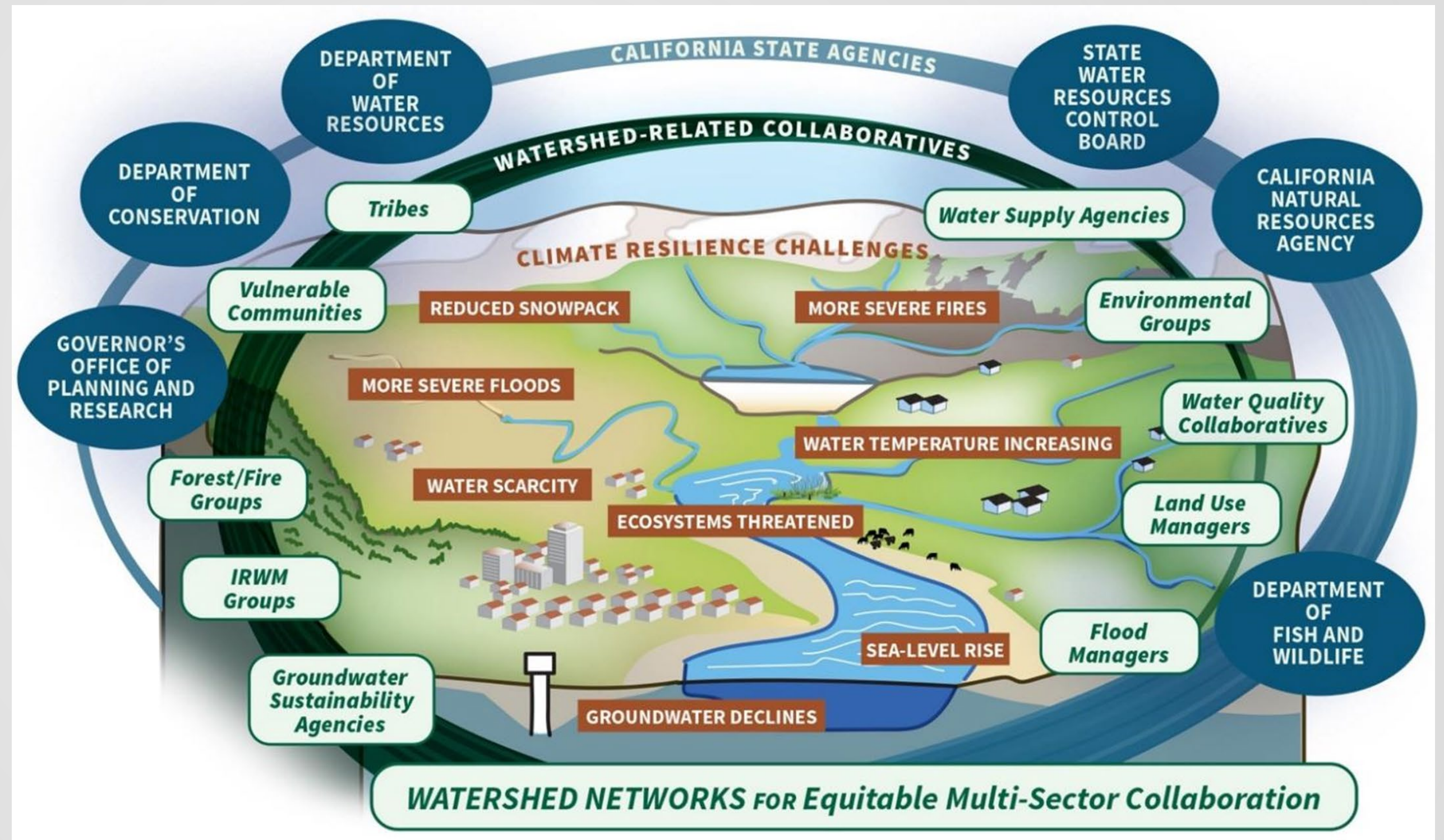
Action 1.1.1. Align State Agencies to Support Watershed Resilience.

CWC Drought Strategy 4 – Support Improved Coordination, Information, and Communication in Drought and Non-drought Years



A Focus on Watershed Resilience

Update 2023 underscores the importance of supporting programs to incentivize robust watershed-specific climate vulnerability analyses and adaptation plans, followed by investments in multi-sector collaborations and solutions at the watershed- and regional scale



Watershed Resilience Program Intent and Outcomes



Program Intent

Empower local water leaders with the capacity to prepare for climate change impacts across water sectors at the watershed scale



Equity

Build and support inclusive and diverse watershed networks



Climate Science

Inform sound resilience planning with quantitative climate vulnerability and adaptation analysis



Scale

Incentivize planning on a hydrologically appropriate scale, from headwaters to groundwater basins



Focus on Objective 1 Continued...: Support Watershed Resilience Planning and Implementation

Recommendation 1.3. Support Long-term Sustainability for Critically Challenged Regions

Action 1.3.1. Identify the Regions of the State with High Climate Vulnerabilities and Preparedness Challenges.

CWC Drought Strategy 3 – Better Position Communities to Prepare and Respond to Drought



CWC Drought Strategy 2 – Conduct Watershed-level Planning to Reduce Drought Impacts to Ecosystems

- **Recommendation 3.1** Expand and Accelerate Ecosystem Restoration.
- **Recommendation 5.1** Strengthen partnerships with California Tribes that acknowledge and respect their sovereign authority and ensure that Tribes are included in planning and water resources decision-making processes, consistent with their sovereign status.
- **Recommendation 5.3** Collaborate to further understand Tribal water quality, ecosystems, and access to water, to support Tribal lifeways including subsistence and cultural practices.
- **Recommendation 6.1** Support Regulatory Processes with Robust and Consistent Data for Decision-Making.
- **Recommendation 6.2** Increase Efficiency and Efficacy of Regulatory Systems to Meet Needs of a Changing Climate.
- **Recommendation 6.3** Improve Aquifer Management, Replenishment, and Resilience.
- **Recommendation 7.1** Provide Funding for Watershed Resilience Programs.



CWC Drought Strategy 3 – Better Position Communities to Prepare for and Respond to Drought Emergencies

- **Recommendation 1.3** Support Long-term Sustainability for Critically Challenged Regions
- **Recommendation 2.3** Strengthen partnerships with California Tribes that acknowledge and respect their sovereign authority and ensure that Tribes are included in planning and water resources decision-making processes, consistent with their sovereign status.
- **Recommendation 2.5** Improve Integration of Water, Energy, and Agricultural Systems.
- **Recommendation 2.6** Reduce Water Demands in All Sectors.
- **Recommendation 3.3** Improve Aquifer Management, Replenishment, and Resilience.
- **Recommendation 4.2** Build Community Capacity and Resilience.
- **Recommendation 4.3** Improve Access to and Outcomes of State Resources.
- **Recommendation 7.1** Provide Funding for Watershed Resilience Programs.



CWC Drought Strategy 4 – Support Improved Coordination, Information, and Communication in Drought and Non-drought Years

- **Recommendation 1.1** Improve State Agency Alignment for Watershed Resilience
- **Recommendation 1.4** Expand and Improve Monitoring, Reporting, Data, and Decision-Support Tools
- **Recommendation 2.4** Improve Data, Analysis, and Information-Sharing to Support Integrated Water Management and Planning.
- **Recommendation 3.3** Improve Aquifer Management, Replenishment, and Resilience.
- **Recommendation 4.2** Build Community Capacity and Resilience.
- **Recommendation 5.2** Collaborate with Tribes to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge (or Tribal Ecological Knowledge) into California water policy, planning, and projects.



Thank you!

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