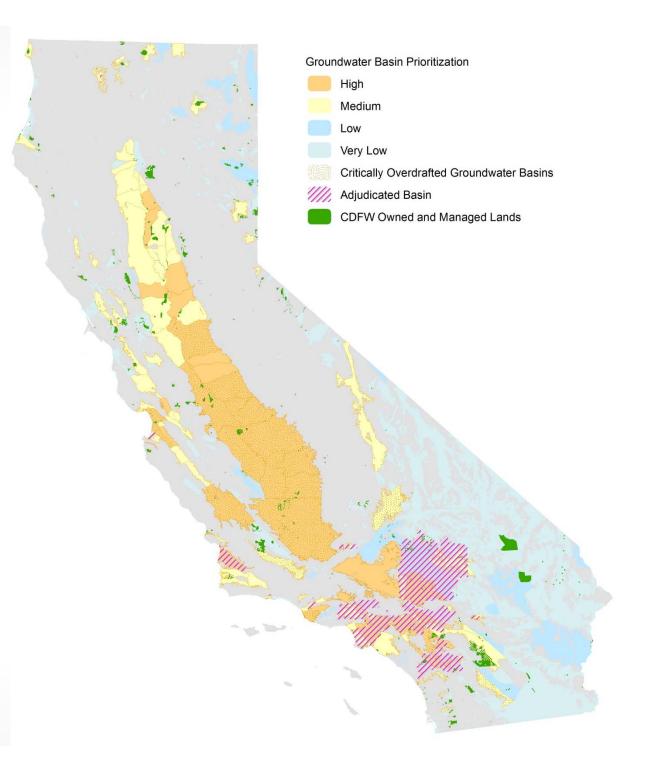
Tools for Assessing Impacts on Beneficial Uses

25th Groundwater Resources Association Annual Meeting September 29, 2016

> Kristal Davis Fadtke, Senior Environmental Scientist California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Own and manage over 600,000 acres overlying groundwater basins
- User of groundwater for wildlife areas, ecological reserves, and fish hatcheries
- Public trust agency





Beneficial Uses

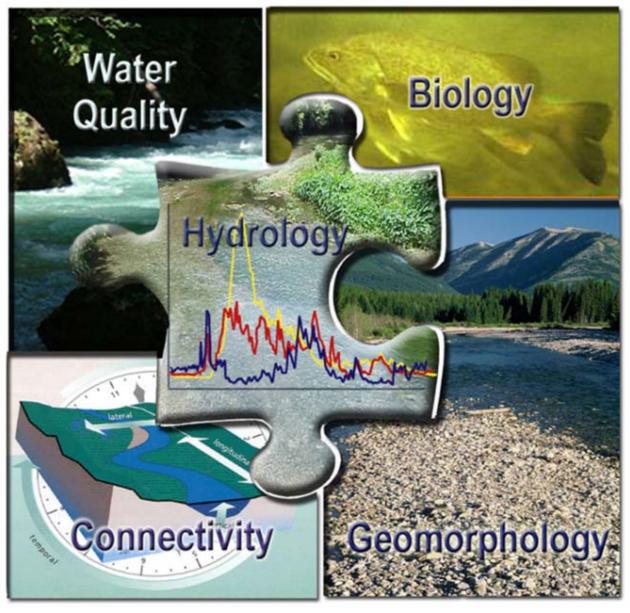
- Aquaculture
- Areas of Special Biological Significance
- Cold Freshwater Habitat
- Estuarine Habitat
- Inland Saline Water Habitat
- Marine Habitat
- Migration of Aquatic Organisms
- Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance
- Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species
- Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development
- Warm Freshwater Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Wildlife Habitat



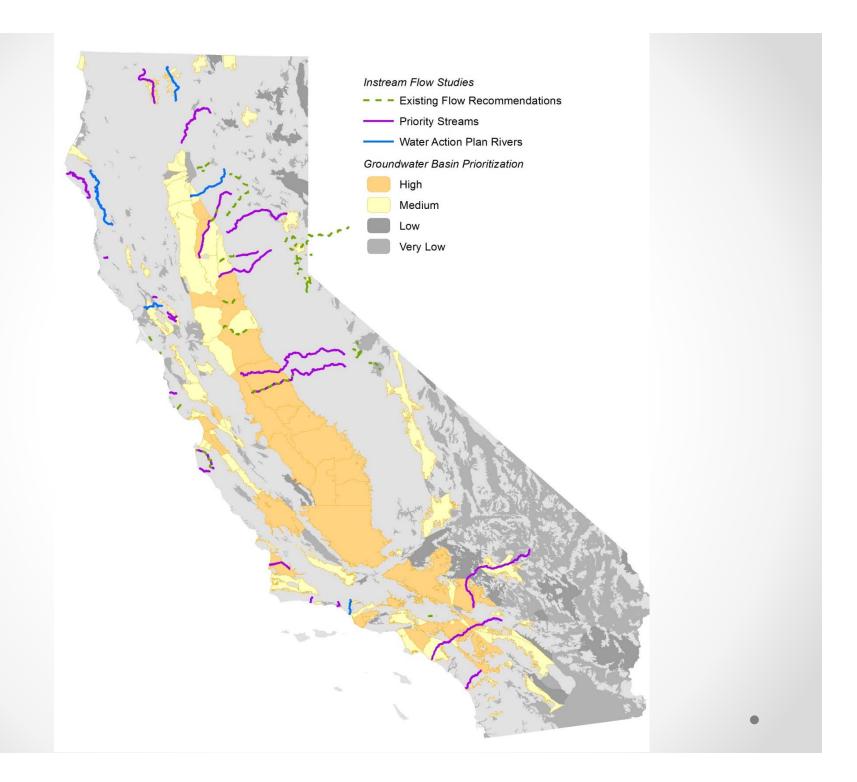
Instream Flow Program

Instream flow criteria:

A regime of varying water flow and levels to protect fish and wildlife and the habitats that support them











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Instream Flow Program



Sound science is vital to the management of natural resources, especially when managing water. The CDFW Instream Flow Program (IFP) develops instream flows required to maintain healthy conditions for aquatic and riparian species. Instream flows are determined by investigating the relationships between flow and available stream habitat for waterways throughout California as required by the <u>California Water Action Plan</u>, <u>Public Resources Code (§10000-10005)</u> and <u>FGC §5937</u> mandates. Instream flow criteria, which must be scientifically defensible and comparable among studies, are transmitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for consideration in water allocation and appropriation actions.

To ensure high quality science that is robust, credible, transparent, and relevant, IFP conducts flow studies, collects field data, develops guidelines for quality assurance, conducts outreach, and coordinates with other agencies and interested parties on program related activities. The IFP coordinates study design, field data collection, and study implementation with CDFW Regional staff, SWRCB, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and non-governmental organizations.

Instream flow studies should broadly consider the structure and function of the river system. Following the Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM), five riverine components (biology, hydrology, geomorphology, water quality and connectivity) are reviewed when developing instream flow criteria. The development of instream flow criteria provides information on important factors in streams, such as:

- · Relationships of flow to aquatic habitat
- · Aquatic habitat suitability
- · Stream temperature
- · Channel geomorphology

Instream Flow Program

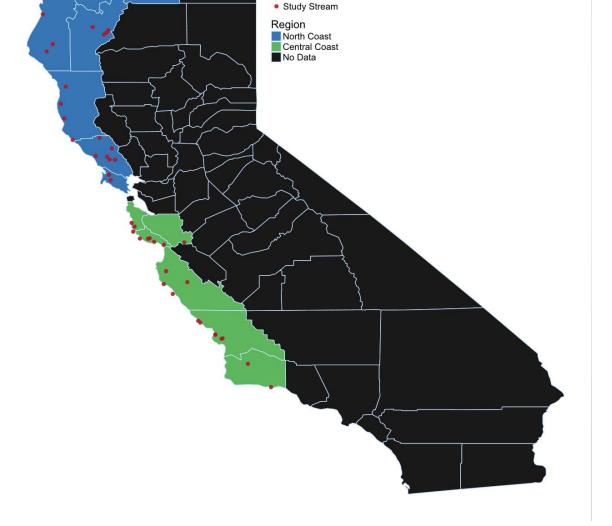
- Instream Flow Studies
 - Big Sur River
 - Butte Creek
 - Deer Creek
 - Mill Creek
 - Scott River and Shasta Rivers
 - South Fork Eel River
- Instream Flow Program Documents
- SOPs and QA/QC Documents
- Instream Flow Recommendations Map
- Outreach
- Links and Resources



Habitat survey transects in the Big Sur River

Regional Pilot Flow Study

- Collaboration with the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Integrate flow criteria into a regional watershed health report card
- Based on steelhead biology





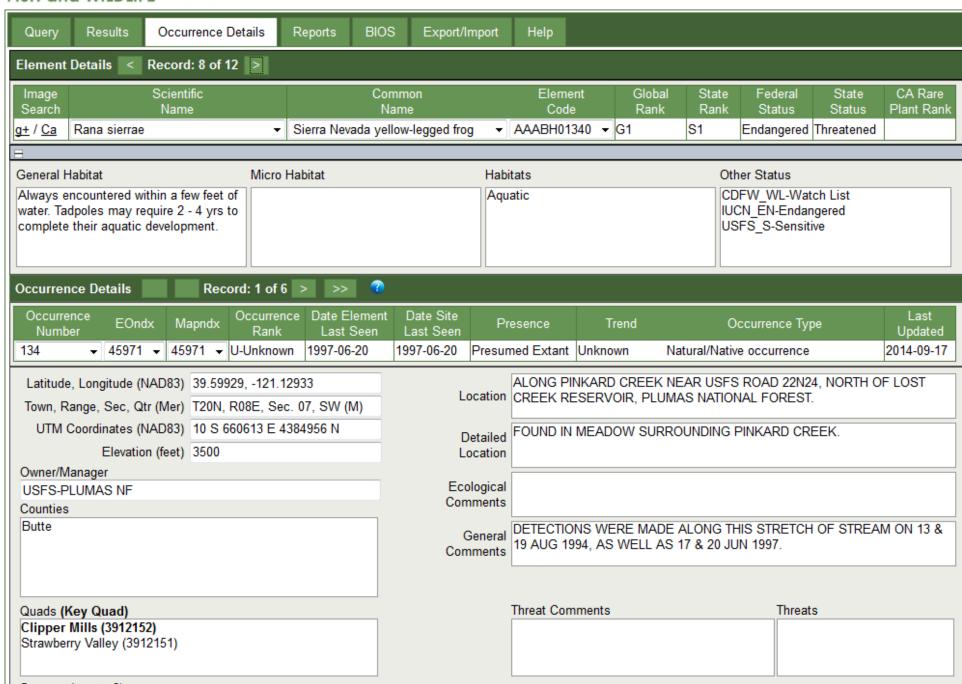
CNDDB

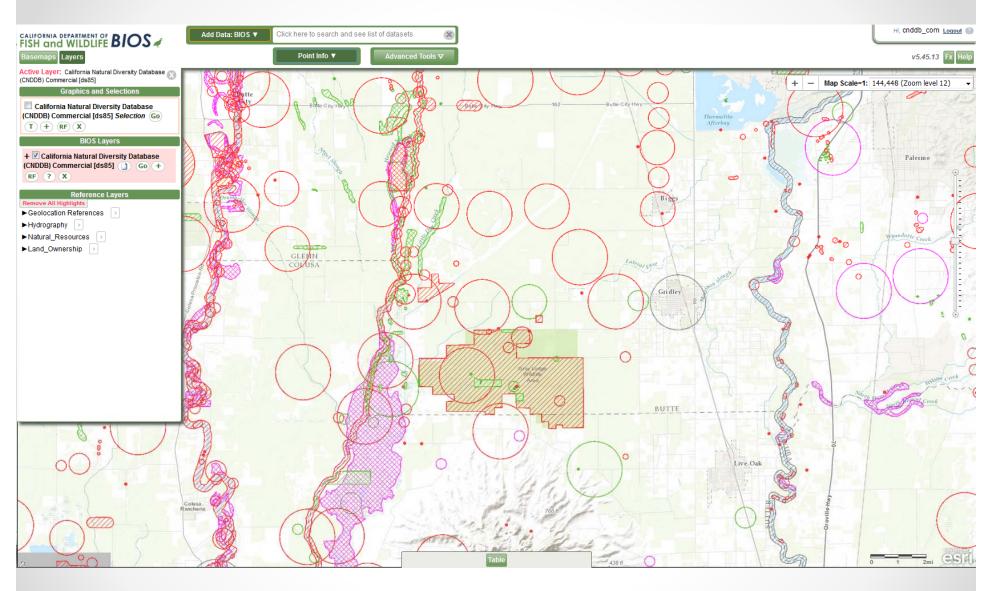
- The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) is an inventory of the status and locations of rare plants and animals in California
- It is a positive detection database, does not predict where species might occur
- 75,000 element occurrences as of September 2013
- 400-600 added each month



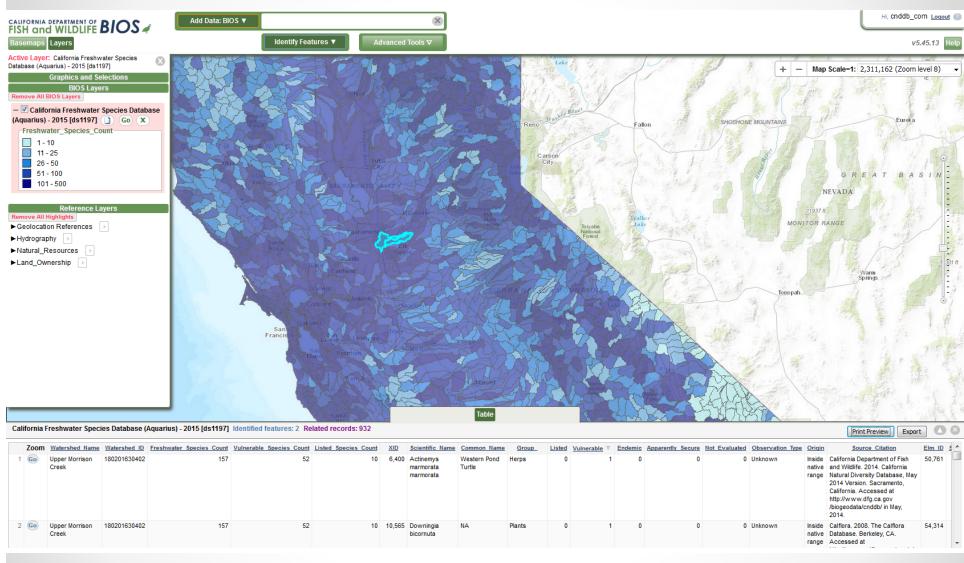
Query	Results	Occurrenc	e Details	Reports	BIOS	Export/Import	Help			
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Species Name or Code										
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= Federal/State Listing Status										
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▼ Ca	☑ Candidate ☐ None ☐ Delisted									
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Count	ty									
⊞ Quad										

FISH and WILDLIFE RareFind











Questions?

Kristal.Davis-Fadtke@wildlife.ca.gov

https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation

