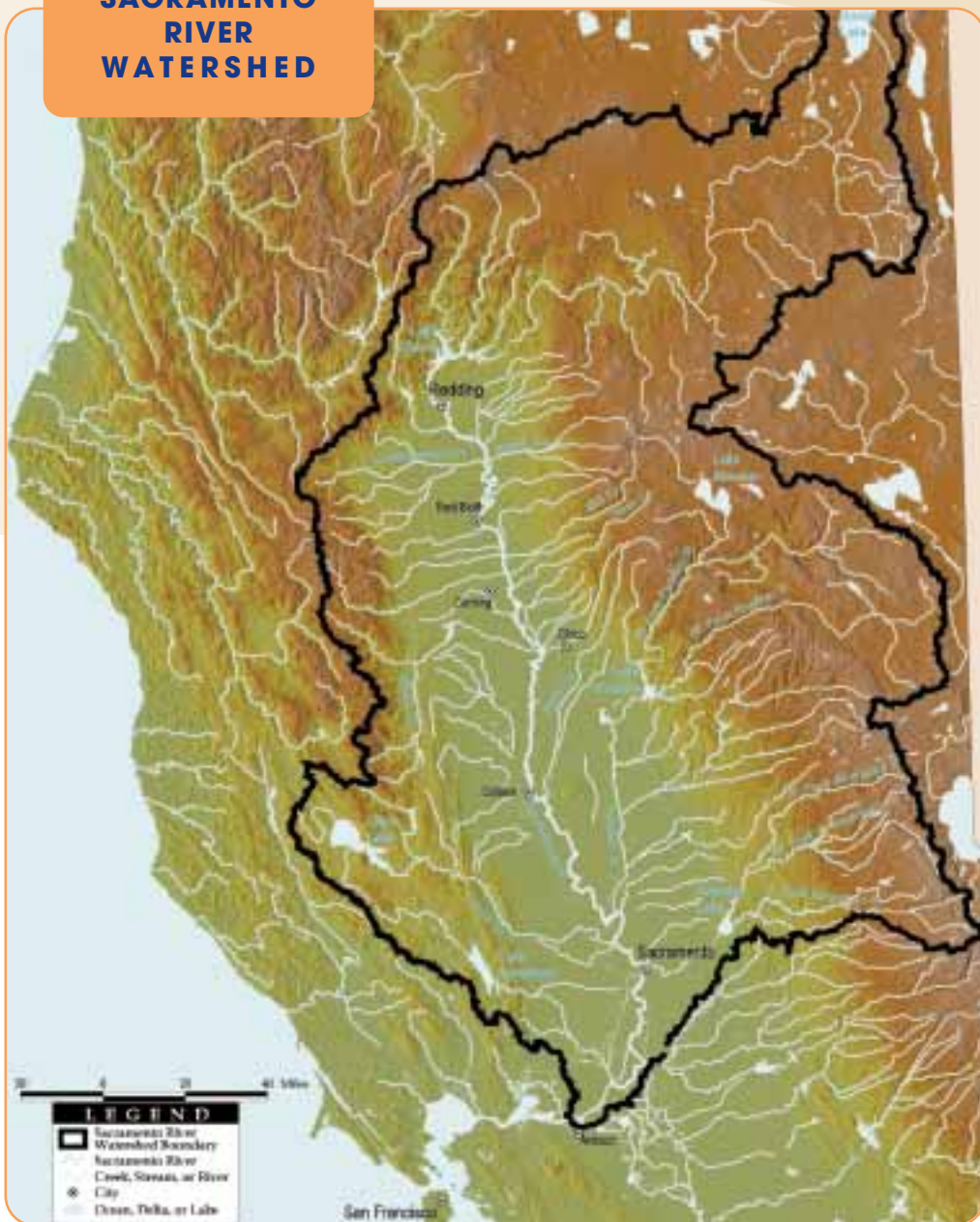


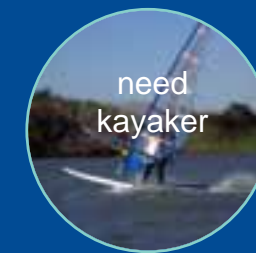
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED PROGRAM

- Developing a resource center for all to obtain information on the activities in the watershed
- Providing an up-to-date program website (www.Sacrriver.org)
- Producing technical reports (including plans and results) and newsletters
- Hosting education workshops
- Providing a networking forum for those working in watersheds in Northern California
- Providing high quality monitoring data (available on the Interagency Ecological Program website at www.iep.ca.gov)
- Workgroups developing strategies focusing on non-regulatory, voluntary management strategies for mercury and organophosphate pesticides
- Producing public service announcements
- Providing K-12 Education Grants

SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED



SACRAMENTO RIVER



need kayaker

need agriculture

WATERSHED PROGRAM

Working together to sustain, restore and enhance our watershed's resources while promoting our long term social and economic vitality.

Who can I contact for more information?

SRWP Coordinator

Dennis Bowker
327 College Street
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 661-3635
dennisbowker@volcano.net

SRWP Education Coordinator

Allen Harthorn
500 Orange Street
Chico, CA 95928
(530) 879-0887
ahart@harpos.to

SRWP Resource Center

1-888-815-3330 (toll-free in California)

SRWP Website

<http://www.sacrriver.org>



since 1996

MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure that current and potential uses of the watershed's resources are sustained, restored, and where possible, enhanced, while promoting the long-term social and economic vitality of the region.



The 27,000 square mile Sacramento River Watershed drains the Cascade Range, Coast Ranges, Modoc Plateau, Sierra Nevada, and Sacramento Valley. The watershed is one of the largest in the United States and covers most of northern California. The main stem of the Sacramento River flows over 400 miles from north of Lake Shasta to the Sacramento River-San Joaquin River Delta. The Feather, Yuba, Pit, and American Rivers are all major tributaries.

Water quality varies throughout the watershed and is dependent upon what takes place in the environment, as tributaries, point discharges, and runoff feed into the main stem river system.

However, data on water quality also varies throughout the watershed. There are sections of the Sacramento River and its tributary creeks and rivers that haven't been monitored thoroughly. In some stretches of water, no monitoring has occurred at all, which leaves critical gaps in information.

WHAT IS THE STATE OF THE SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED?

We need to fill these information gaps to know the state of the entire watershed. We also need people who have a stake in this massive region and remarkable river system to work together from a watershed management perspective to make informed decisions. Congress provided the funding to launch this stakeholder effort.

The river supplies approximately 80% of the freshwater flow to the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary, the largest estuary on the west coast.



HOW IS THE SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED PROGRAM HELPING?

Hundreds of people are serving as stewards of the watershed – acting individually or as members of groups. They have joined together in the Sacramento River Watershed Program, founded in 1996.

The key to the watershed program is stakeholder involvement. Over 30 conservancies, 100 government agencies, 12 educational institutions, and 900 individuals are active in our program, many of which are members of one or more of the five core subcommittees.

We are monitoring and developing better information on water quality and watershed management, by trying to focus on the real issues. Over 35 conservancies, universities, government agencies, and other interest groups actively monitor the Sacramento River and its tributaries and share data. Our monitoring augments the data collection efforts of other scientific programs. We are also evaluating pollutant control options, management strategies, and building public awareness.

The Sacramento River Watershed Program provides a forum for stakeholder interests to be heard, and for knowledge to be shared. For more information about the program and various watershed resources, visit our new website at <http://www.sacrriver.org>.

What is Watershed Management?

Watershed Management incorporates many factors. Watershed lands vary greatly in terms of water yield, natural sensitivities, and the activities that they support both locally and downstream. The relationship between proper management and long-term health, including soil productivity, flood safety, water quality and production, and wildlife habitat protection is crucial. Effective watershed management conserves and enhances fundamental resources while providing the needs of people and their ecosystems.

A watershed management approach fosters collaborative partnerships in a comprehensive effort to enhance watershed conditions, reduce polluted runoff, maintain natural resources, and protect drinking water supplies. The watershed management approach presents opportunities for finding creative ways to enhance the overall health of the watershed, including its aquatic system, by fostering greater involvement and commitment to long-term, effective natural resource management.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the most significant water quality issues facing the watershed?

Right now, the SRWP is developing water quality management strategies for four different issues: mercury, organophosphate (OP) pesticides, drinking water constituents, and toxicity with unknown causes. These issues were chosen because they are not only important in the Sacramento River Watershed, but they also are feasible to conduct in our watershed. The Delta Tributaries Mercury Council and the Sacramento/Feather River OP Pesticides Focus Group have already been formed to help develop these management strategies.

Two-thirds of all Californians receive some of their drinking water from the Sacramento River.



SRWP PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Watershed Coordinator

The Watershed Coordinator acts as the spokesperson for the SRWP; communicates and coordinates with local watershed groups, agencies, organizations, local governments, and the SRWP Resource Center; and serves as an informal liaison among the many SRWP subcommittees and work groups. Additional duties include summarizing the needs of local watershed groups, seeking funding sources for watershed activities in the basin, and investigating other successful programs for ideas to enhance the usefulness and value of the SRWP to its constituents.



Public Education Coordinator

The Public Education Coordinator assists the Watershed Coordinator and focuses more specifically on K-12 Education and other public outreach efforts.

Subcommittees

Each subcommittee has an open membership. For information about subcommittee meeting schedules and activities, call 1-888-815-3330.

Biological & Habitat Subcommittee

Advocating the need for biological monitoring as part of an integrated approach to water quality assessment and protecting biological and ecological resources within the Sacramento River Watershed

Monitoring Subcommittee

Developing a cost-efficient, well-coordinated long-term monitoring program within the watershed to identify the causes, effects, and extent of constituents of concern that affect the beneficial uses of water and to measure progress as control strategies are implemented

SUBCOMMITTEES

Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee

Facilitating the exchange of information concerning the watershed and encouraging broad-based participation in the management, protection, and enhancement of the watershed

Communications Strategy Workgroup

Sacramento River Toxic Pollutants Control Program Grants Subcommittee

Making sure that work plan tasks that fulfill the requirement of the Sacramento River Toxic Pollutants Control Program grant are carried out

Institutional Framework Workgroup

Toxics Subcommittee

Assessing the health of the watershed with respect to toxic constituents of concern: identifying key problems and opportunities for action, identifying sources of these pollutants and control strategies, and then periodically reassessing watershed health

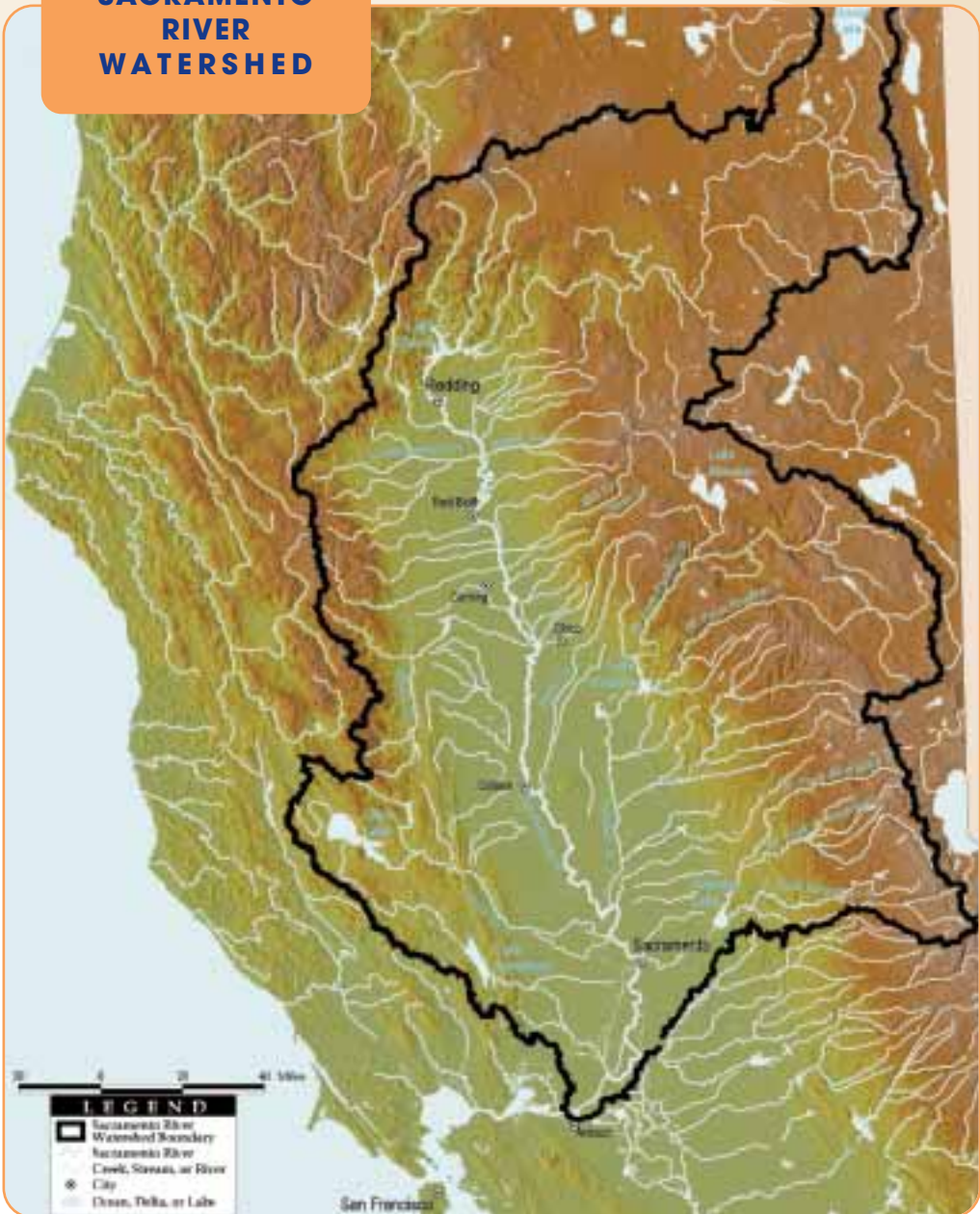
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