Climate science for adaptation in the North Bay Region

Inter-tribal Climate Adaptation Leadership Summit Graton Rancheria

Lisa Micheli, Pepperwood Lauren Casey, Regional Climate Protection Authority





Outline

What is Pepperwood and what's our role in local climate adaptation and engaging TEK?

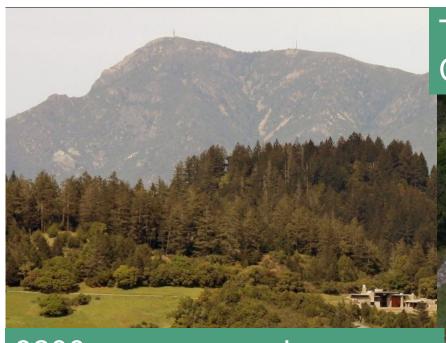
Where do climate projections come from?

Sample regional and local results, and applications to real world questions

Sonoma County's Regional Climate Protection Authority and community adaptation planning



Pepperwood Mission: advance science-based conservation science across our region and beyond



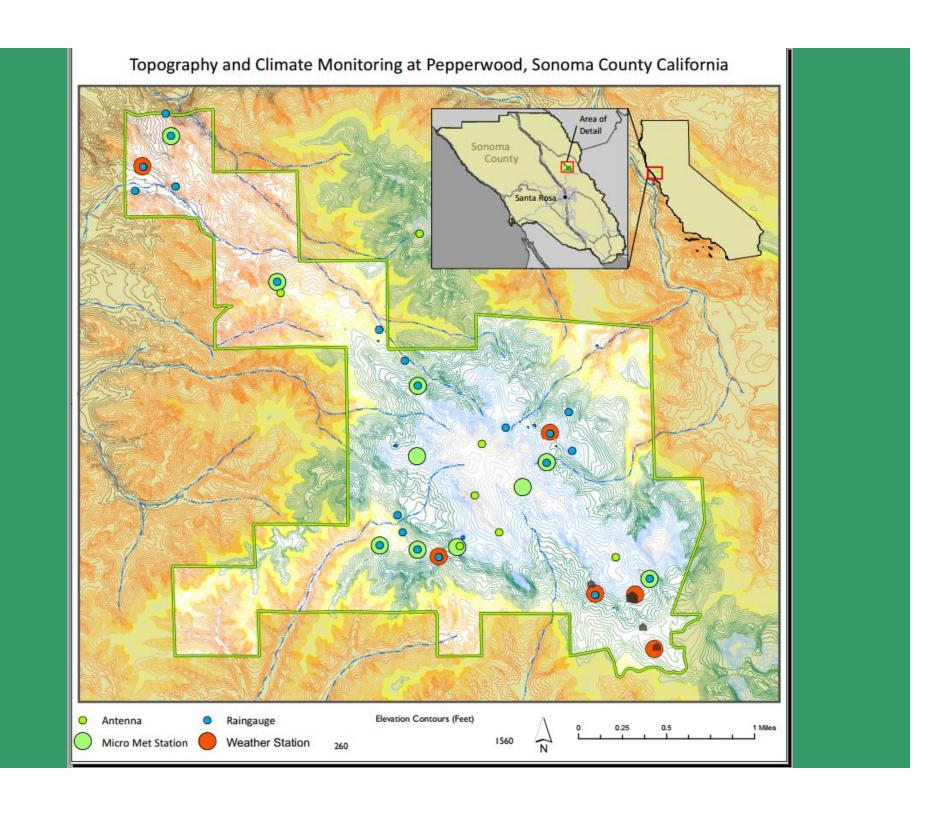
3200-acre reserve in Mayacamas, partnered with CA Academy of Sciences

The new Dwight Center for Conservation Science









TBC3

Terrestrial Biodiversity Climate Change Collaborative





Bridging science and climate adaptation for natural resources













Creekside Center for Earth Observation



Pepperwood Native Advisory Council





Two sets of reports available on line summarizing data presented today



Climate Hazards and Vulnerabilities



North Bay Climate Adaptation initiative



Suggested citation: Commail, C. S. Moore, D. Diffestre, S. Veloc, L. Michell, L. Coopy, M. Mersich, 2054. Climate Ready Sonoria County, Climate Husselb and Violenzibilities. Prepared as part of Climate Action 2020 by North Bay Climate Adaptation Inflation for Sonorias County Regional Climate Production Actions, "Justice Bay, Climbria,



Climate Ready North Bay



A climate adaptation knowledge base for planning the future of North San Francisco Bay Area watersheds. About the Climate Ready North Bay Project.

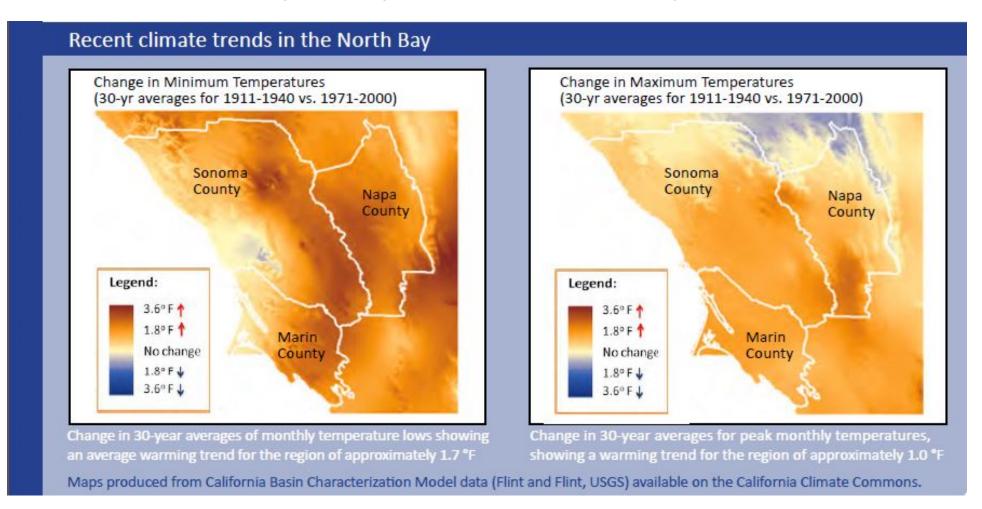
Climate Ready Exchange Pages

http://climate.calcommons.org/crnb/home

http://www.sctainfo.org/pdf/Climate% 20Ready_Hazards_Vulnerabilities.pdf

Where do climate projections come from?

weather stations can already detect a warming trend in our local climate, especially in "minimum temperatures"



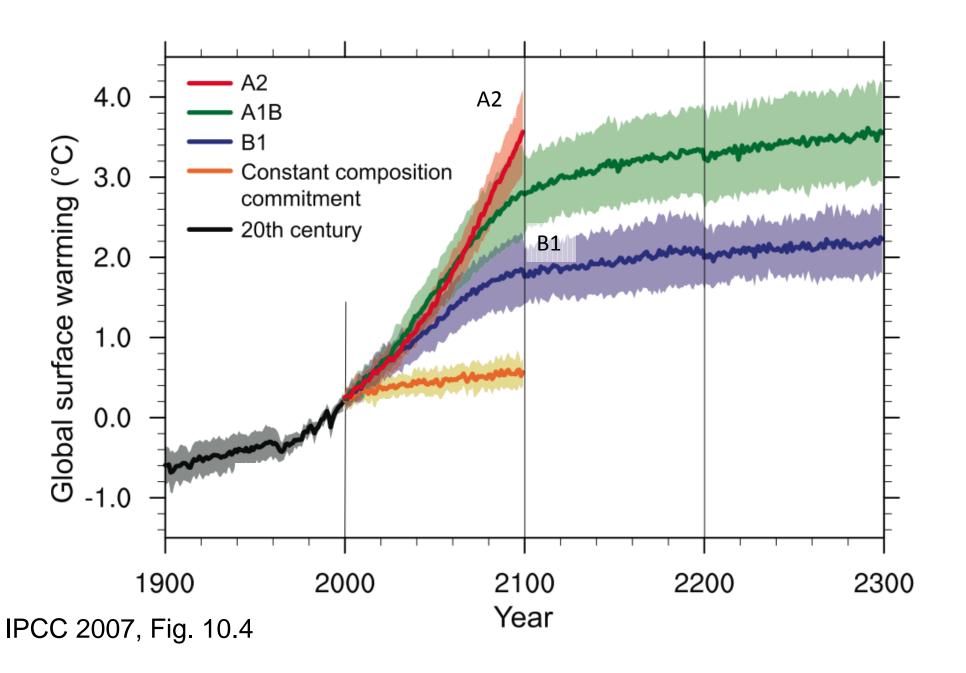
between 1911 and 2000, 1.0 degree F increase in summer temps and a 1.7 degree F increase in winter temps (averaged over 30 year periods)



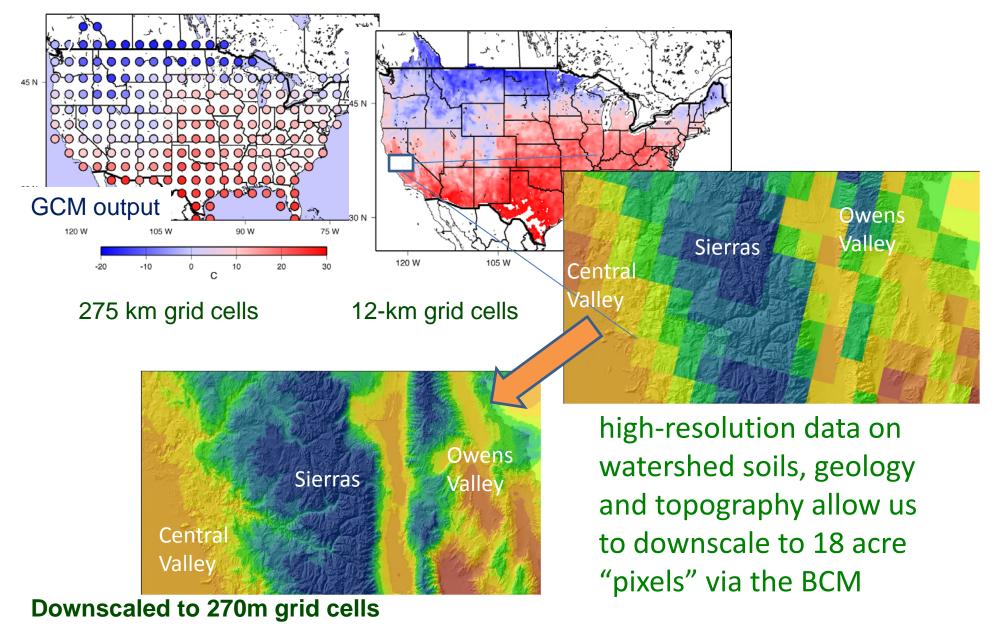
climate vulnerability

There is a consensus-based "library" of climate change models created by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)--scientists from more than 200 United Nations' member countries agreed!

Projections of future global temperature, IPCC assessment



"downscaling" from Global Circulation Models (GCMs) to high resolution climate-hydro futures



What kinds of questions can we answer with landscape-level data sets?

How much hotter is it going to get, and what will be the potential increase in frequency of heat and drought events?

What regions of the county will be most drought- or flood-prone?

How will stream flow and aquifer recharge be impacted?

Which floodplains and recharge areas should be protected to increase watershed resilience?

Where will fire risks be greatest, and how might fire frequency change?

How will land suitability for agriculture, forestry or residential development be affected, and how much more water will be needed for irrigation due to higher temps?

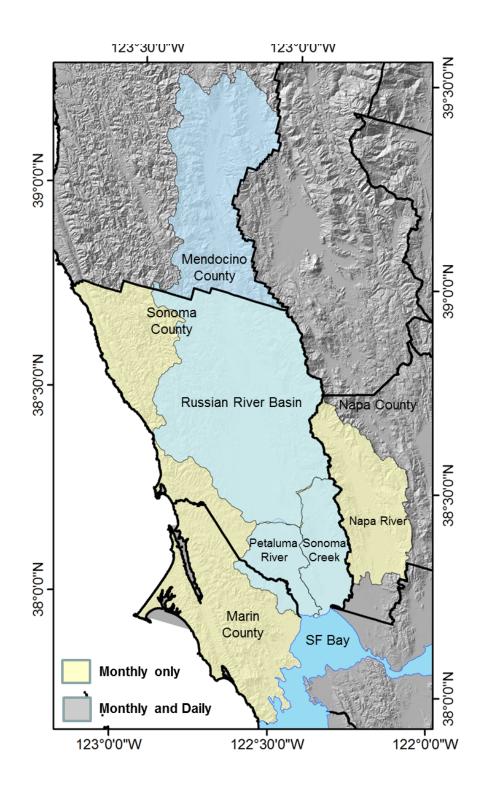
What do climate projections say about the future of Northern CA?

North Bay Climate Ready

assessed how climate impacts may play out across the North Bay landscape

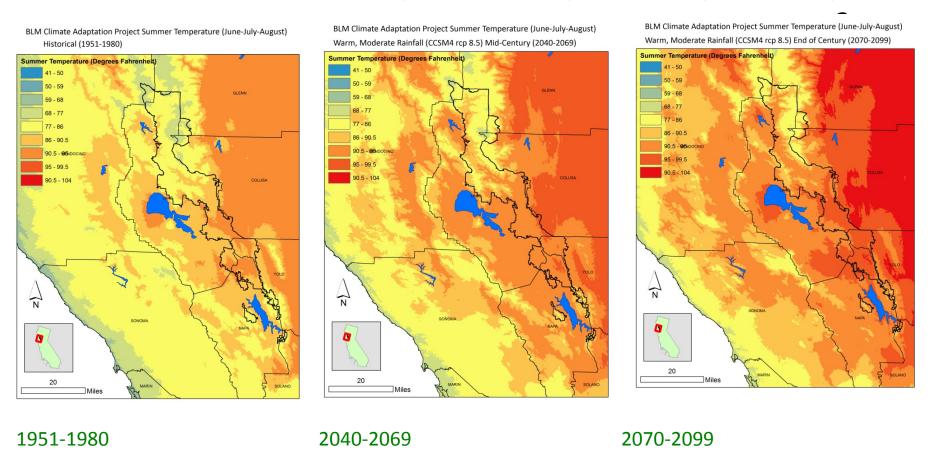






Temperatures are on the rise

increases on order of 4-7° by mid-century, 7-12°F by end (30 y)

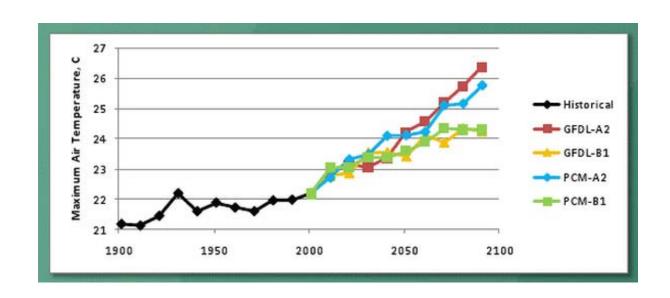


Confidence in direction of trend, uncertainty about how fast!

Warmer Environment

All of the climate models indicate warmer average temperatures across Sonoma County in the future

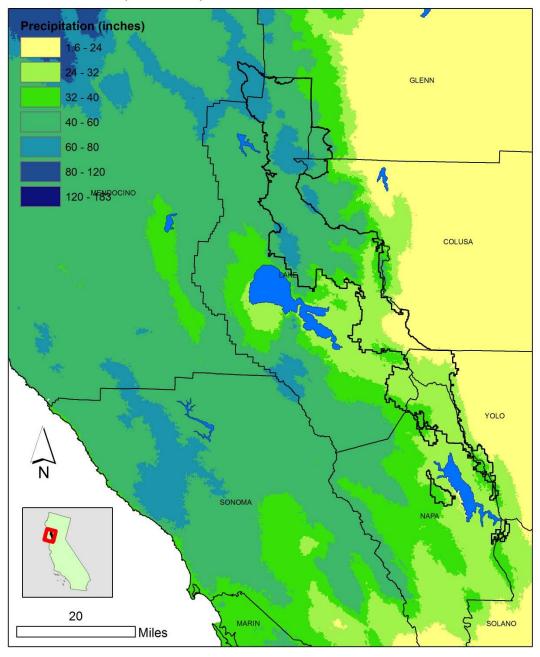
- Minimum temps rising faster than maximum temps
- Some areas are expected to cool slightly due to microclimates and other localized conditions



Model agreement on (4-7°F) warmer temps

Source: Alan and Lorraine Flint, USGS

BLM Climate Adaptation Project Precipitation Historical (1951-1980)



We don't know whether it's going to rain more or less....

+25% and -25% projected for 30 y averages?

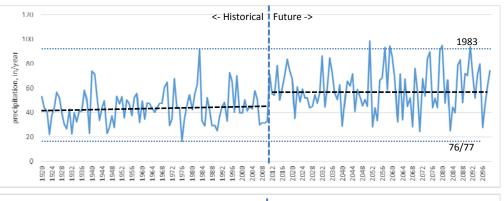
How might climate change impact the magnitude and frequency of water supply droughts?

Average Historical 45 in/yr

Scenario 5 Warm & High Rainfall

Scenario 3 Warm & Moderate Rainfall

Scenario 6 Hot & Low Rainfall



<- Historical Future ->

1983

1983

76/777

Warm & high rainfall future Average 59 in/yr 5 yrs exceed historical max 3 yrs approach historical min

Warm & mod rainfall future
Average 47 in/yr
2 yrs exceed historical max
4+ yrs approach historical min

Hot and low rainfall future Average 36 in/yr No yrs approach historical max 5+ yrs approach historical min

Sonoma County Precipitation, 1920-2099

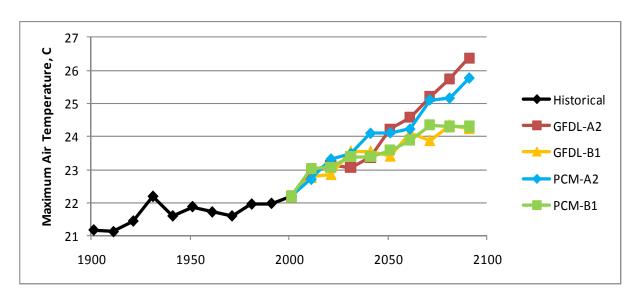
But rain is likely to be more variable year to year!

100% more flood years and 60% more drought years on average

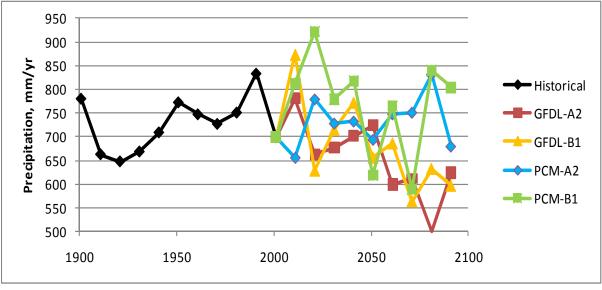




Climate for Sonoma County current and future conditions – 4 scenarios



average temperatures are projected to rise 3-6 degrees F by the close of this century

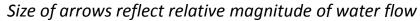


impacts on precipitation are uncertain, but rainfall patterns are likely to be more variable

How can we take rainfall and temperatures and project the future of watersheds in Northern CA?

Basin Characterization Model

translating climate to watershed response Solar radiation Temperature and Rainfall Recharge (mountain block) Runoff Water table **Evapotranspiration** Runoft (actual and potential) **Evapotranspiration** Topography, Soils, Geology Recharge (mountain front) Less permeable bedrock Recharge (alluvial valley) More permeable Seepage bedrock Streamflov Baseflow Mechanisms of groundwater recharge Mountain block to regional aquifer Mountain front recharge to alluvial aquifer



Flint and Flint 2013





Directly through alluvial valley where shallow water table

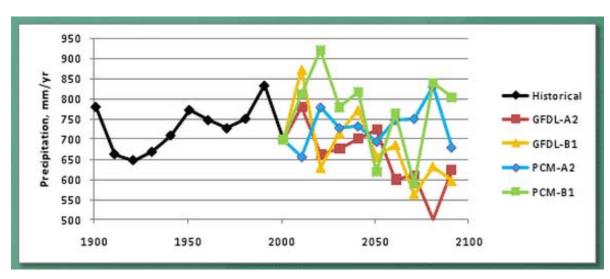
Streambed losses

May return to stream via baseflow

Drier Environment

Increased temperatures will dry out plants and soils, especially by end of summer

- This is true regardless of whether we receive more or less rain
- Expect more frequent and longer droughts
- Increased wildfire risk



Source: Alan and Lorraine Flint, USGS

Rainfall is uncertain, but more "arid" conditions likely under all scenarios

BCM methods

Climatic Water Deficit = drought stress Potential – Actual Evapotranspiration

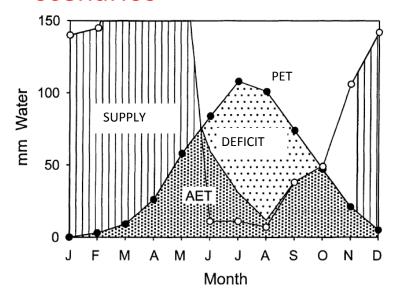
Integrates effects of temperature and rainfall on landscape in context of watershed structure

Surrogate for irrigation demand

Correlates with vegetation and fire risk

Potential drought-stress indicator

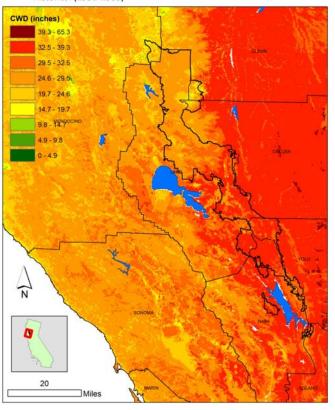
Increases with all future climate scenarios



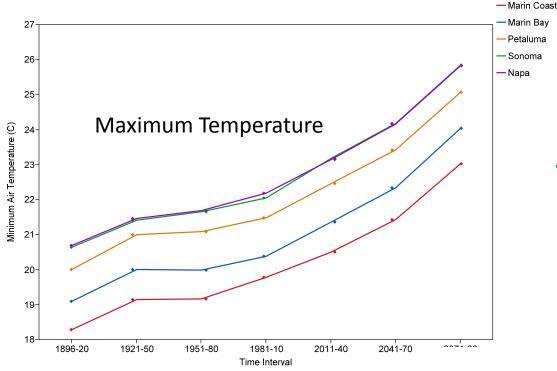
CWD mechanistically links energy loading, drainage, and available soil moisture

Climatic Water Deficit (CWD) of how dry the soils are at the end of the summer

BLM Climate Adaptation Project Climatic Water Deficit Historical (1951-1980)



In North Bay on order of 10-20% drier, equivalent to 3-6" rainfall

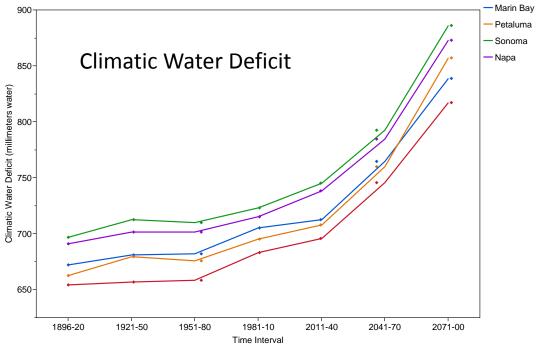


Climatic water deficits increase faster than temperature over time

(Marin, Sonoma, Napa Basins)

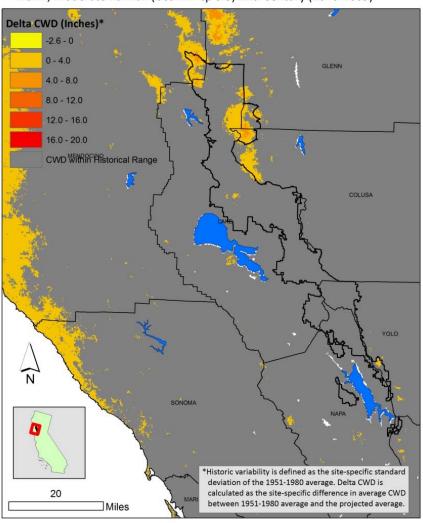
Marin Coast

Under both warmer drier and warmer wetter scenarios, climatic water deficit (AET-PET) increases on the order of 10-20%, or approx 75-150 mm additional water needed to maintain vegetation cover (natural or crop)

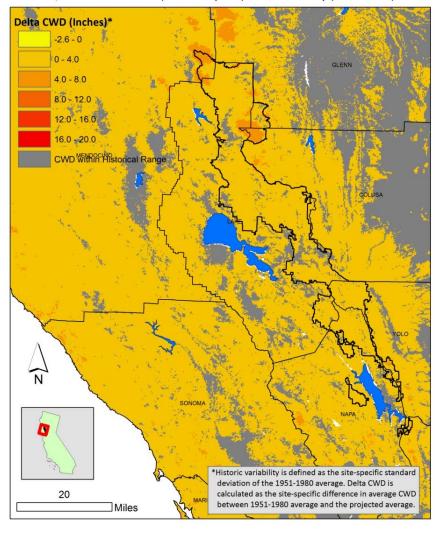


Where do projected increases in CWD exceed the historical range of variability?

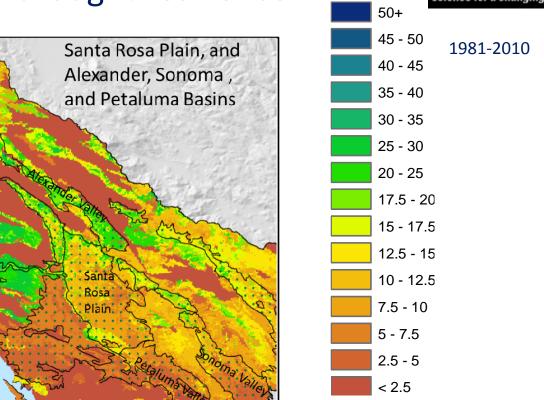
BLM Climate Adaptation Project Increases in (CWD) that Exceed Historic Variability* Warm, Moderate Rainfall (CCSM4 rcp 8.5) Mid-Century (2040-2069)



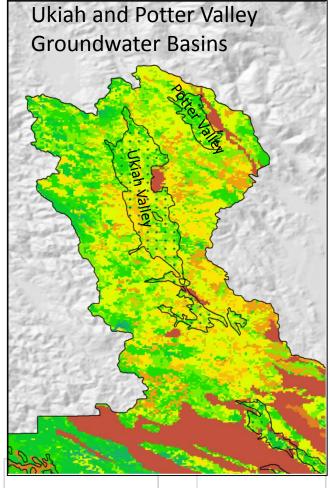
BLM Climate Adaptation Project Increases in (CWD) that Exceed Historic Variability* Warm, Moderate Rainfall (CCSM4 rcp 8.5) End of Century (2070-2099)

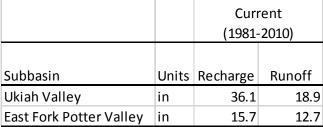


Recharge protection for drought resilience



(inches)





Recharge or Runoff for Groundwater Basin Watersheds

		Current	
		(1981-2010)	
Subbasin	Units	Recharge	Runoff
Alexander Valley	in	9.1	19.4
Santa Rosa Plain	in	10.5	9.8
Petaluma Valley	in	10.6	8.5
Sonoma Valley	in	8.6	8.8

Groundwater basins

Current

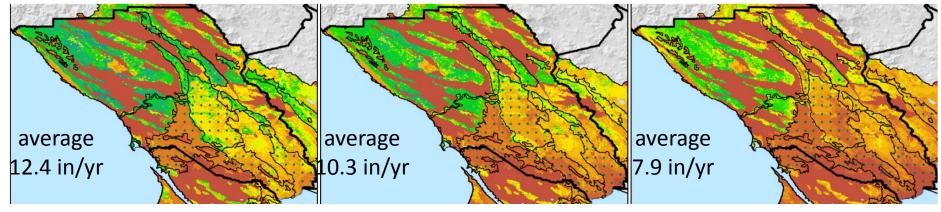
Given groundwater is more resilient than reservoir supplies, where are the most important groundwater recharge areas to protect?

Projected Groundwater Recharge 2040-2069

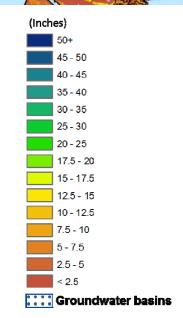
Warm & High Rainfall

Warm & Moderate Rainfall

Hot & Low Rainfall

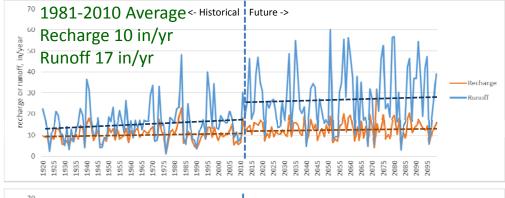


- Consider mapping priority recharge areas that target upper 75% of recharge
- Consider analyzing existing impermeable footprint, where could LID assist in conservation
- Consider analyzing developing areas for conservation of high recharge zones
- Can you use this to prioritize siting studies for injection wells?
- What % of recharge is currently used in each basin? How much area to protect to sustain in future?



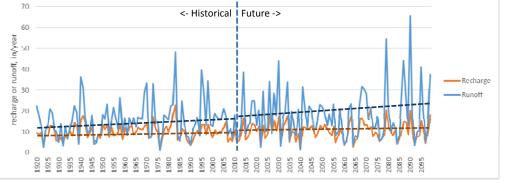
Sonoma County Annual Recharge and Runoff, 1920-2099





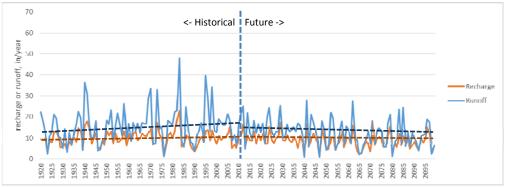
End century averages Recharge 13 in/yr Runoff 30 in/yr

Scenario 3 Warm & Moderate Rainfall



End century averages Recharge 10.5 in/yr Runoff 20 in/yr

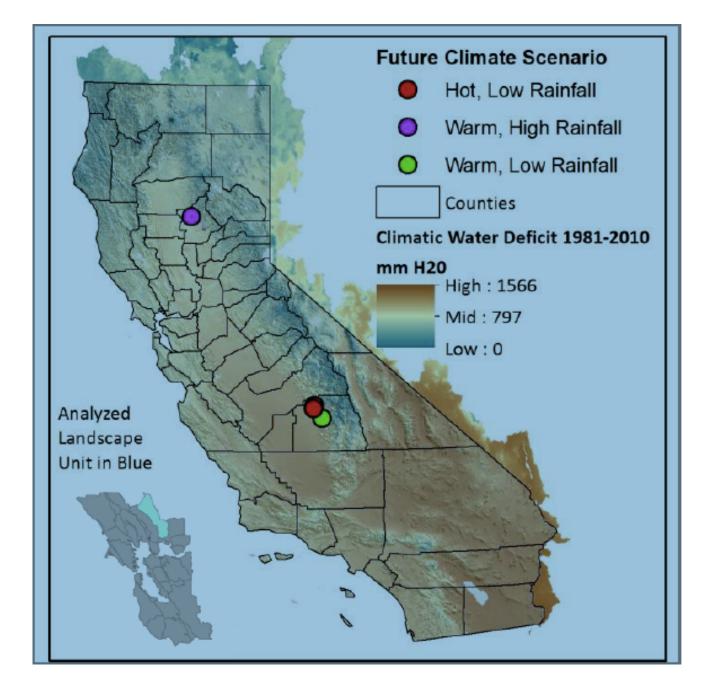
Scenario 6 Hot & Low Rainfall



End century averages Recharge 8 in/yr Runoff 11 in/yr

Recharge is less variable than runoff across all futures

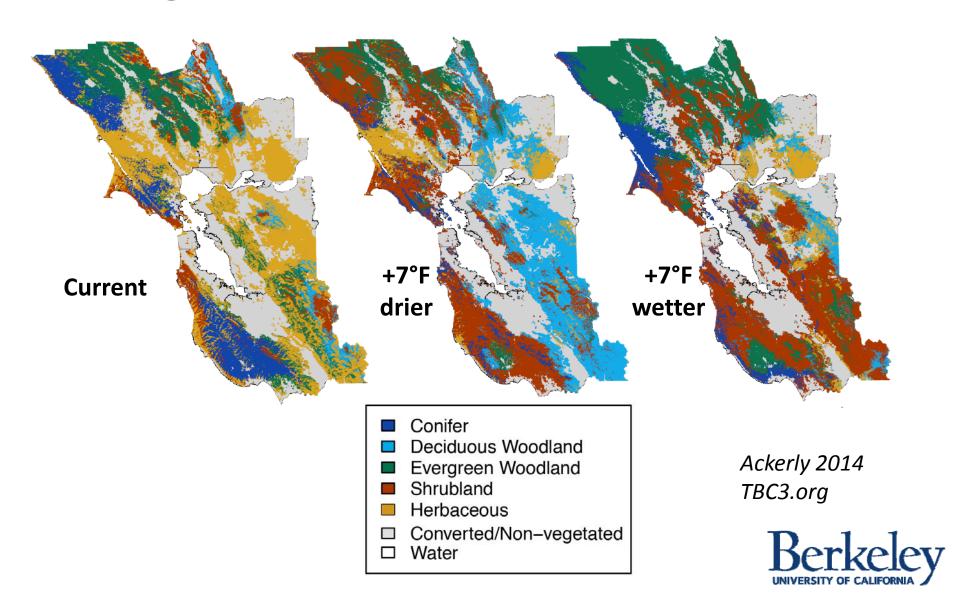
Landscape Analogs



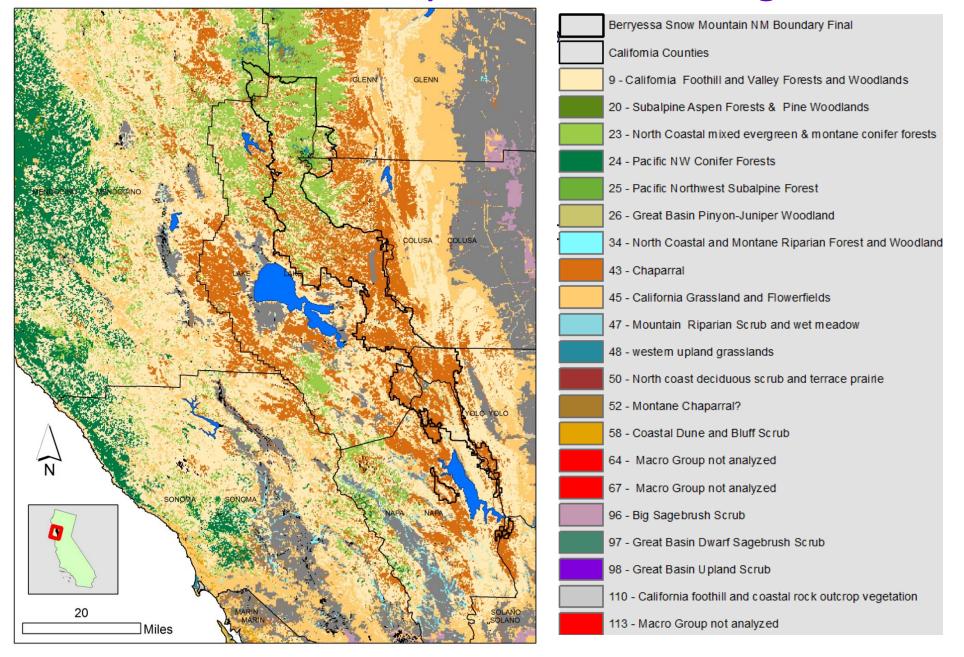
Where in CA presently has climate projected for Blue Ridge-Berryessa Landscape Unit?

What does this mean for our forests and chaparral in Northern CA?

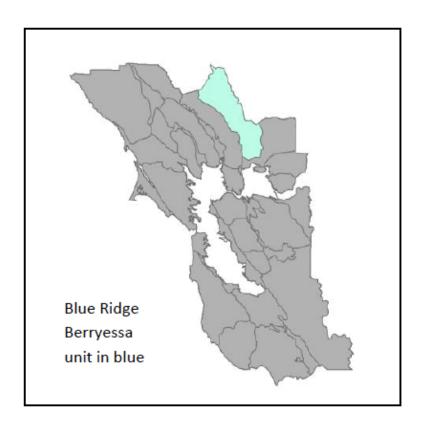
what might the Northern California vegetation of the future look like?

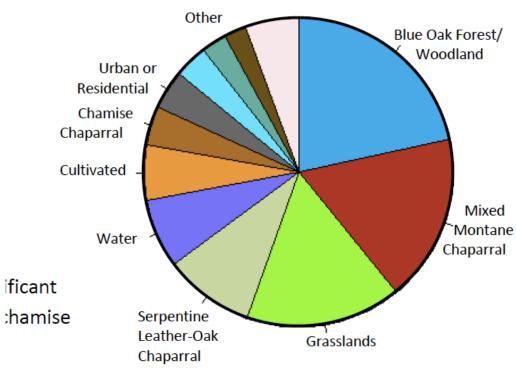


Vegetation Macro Groups North Bay/North Coast Region

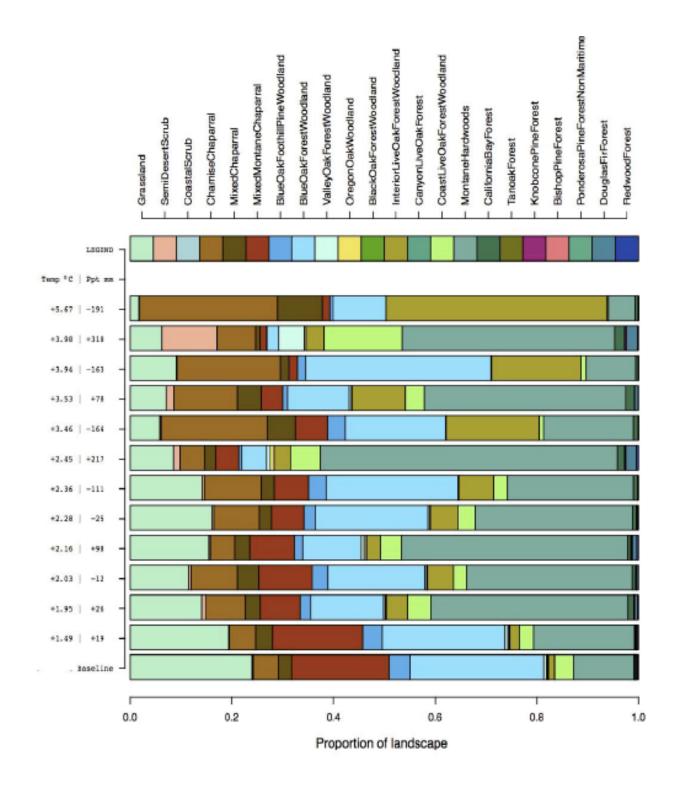


Blue Ridge-Berryessa Vegetation





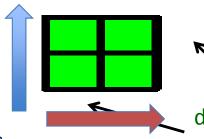
Blue Ridge-Berryessa Landscape unitprojected vegetation



What will be forest winners and losers under climate change?

Sonoma Coast Range Species Level Examples

Example: Coast Live Oak



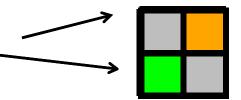


Identify potential "winners and losers" by landscape unit

does well in all future scenarios regardless of warming magnitude and rainfall

Example: California Bay is sensitive to rainfall in the Coast Ranges

does well in moderate scenario, but declines in hot and low rainfall





Example: Tan Oak is sensitive to rainfall and temperature

shows declines in all scenarios



What are the potential native plant winners and losers for Blue Ridge Berryessa?

The color shows the projected response of vegetation to future climate.

Red: Dramatic Decline - 25% less than current

Orange: Moderate Decline - 25-75% less than current

Gray: Relative Stability - 75-125% current Green: Increase - 125% more than current The four squares represent different

Lower rainfall climate futures:

Higher rainfall

combinations of warmer (up to 4.5°F) vs. hotter (+4.5°F or more) temperatures and lower vs. higher rainfall

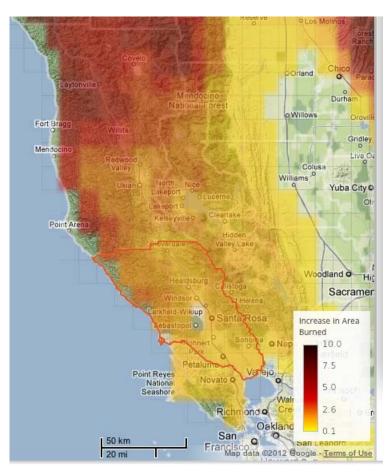


Impacts on plant phenology?



Earlier bud break in many species-complex reaction not just to earlier spring conditions, but also reduced winter temperatures/lack of chilling hours....

Projected vegetation change plus drier hotter weather

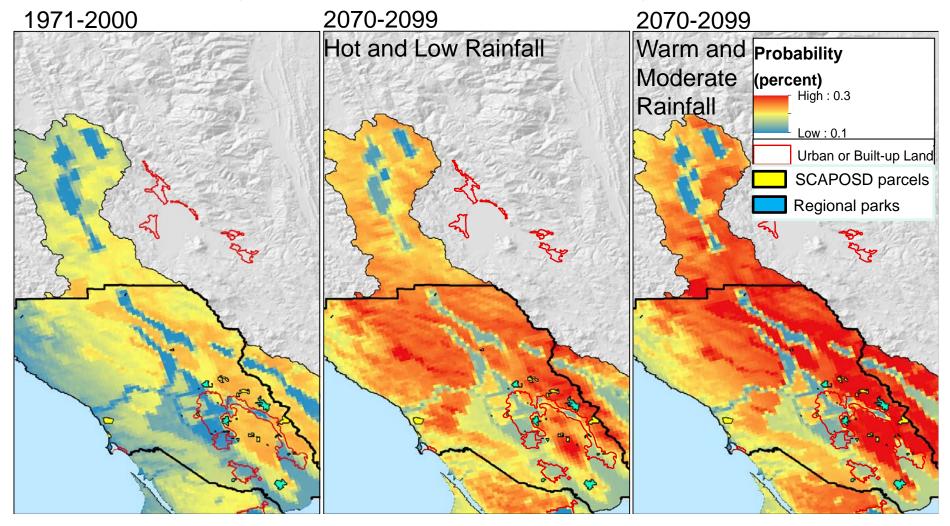


Moritz Lab: Source: Cal-Adapt.org Fire Risk Scenario - GFDL Model

A drier environment can lead to more frequent and more intense fires



Probability of a fire within next 30 years



What are the most fireprone parts of the county?

			Warm, Moderate		1oderate	
		Current	Hot, Low	Rainfall	Rair	nfall
Variable	Units	1971-2000	2040-2069	2070-2099	2040-2069	2070-2099
Probability of burning 1	Percent	0.17	0.21	0.23	0.20	0.23
or more times	SD	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.06

Fire Mitigation and Forest Health Workshop for the Mayacamas to Berryessa Coast Range Region

Workshop Proceedings

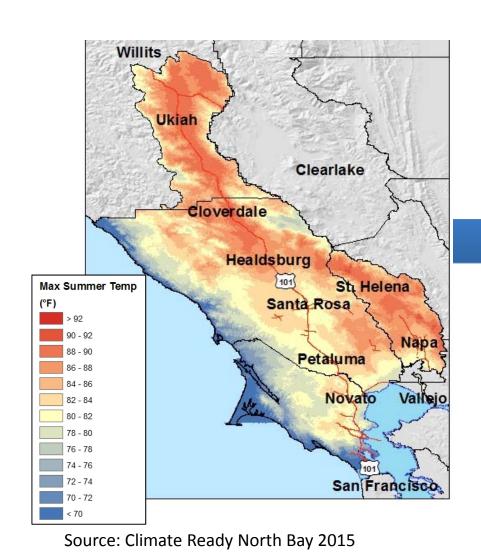
May 20, 2016



http://www.pepperwoodpreserve. org/what-we-do/conservationinitiatives/fire-and-forest-health/



Climate Ready North Bay: translating a landscape-level climate-hydrology database into inputs for long-term planning



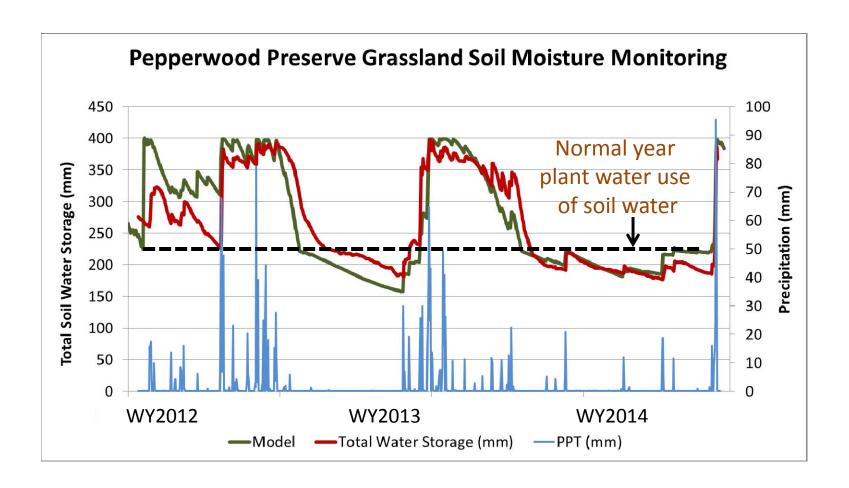
- Warmer temperatures
- Greater rainfall variability
- Greater evapotranspiration
- Increased water demand
- Variable runoff and recharge
- Shifts in natural vegetation types
- Increased wildfire risk
- (Not sea level rise!)



What are examples of practical applications?

Sentinel Site Soil Moisture Monitoring

(headwaters of Mark West Creek, Russian River)



Soils dried out beyond wilting point!

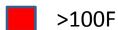


CRNB results

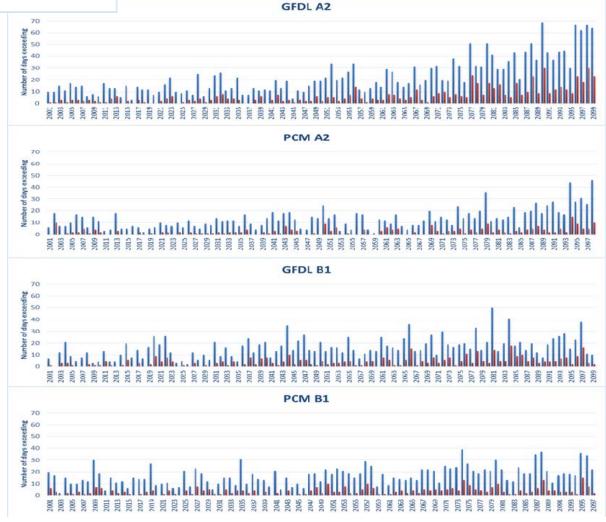


How might climate change impact the magnitude and frequency of heat waves impacting the health of vulnerable populations?





Extreme
Heat
Days for
Santa
Rosa
Plain



3-day high flows for Upper River and Lower Russian River (modeled)

3-day flows exceedances of 99.9% threshold (per decade)

19,298 cfs threshold for upper river 38,902 cfs threshold for lower river

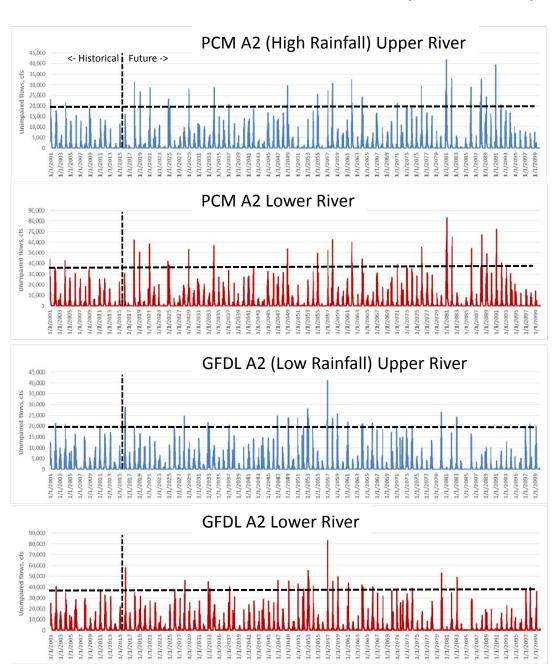
2001-2015 vs 2016-2099

(exceedances per decade)

	Upper	River:	Lower River:		
	Heald	lsburg	Guerneville		
	Current	Future	Current	Future	
	(2001-15)	(2016-99)	(2001-15)	(2016-99)	
Business-a	as-usual				
PCM A2	1.3	3.9	1.3	3.6	
GFDL A2	2.0	3.6	0.7	3.3	
Mitigated					
PCM B1	4.0	4.8	3.3	4.6	
GFDL B1	2.0	3.7	1.3	3.6	

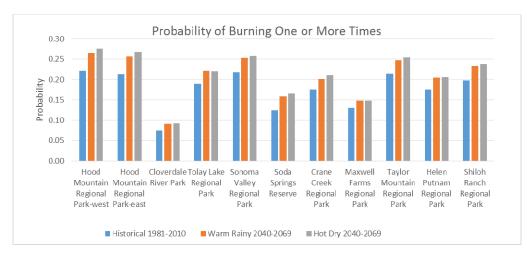
The frequency of 3-day "very high flow" events are up to 4 x more likely to occur than they do currently.

PCM wet model GFDL dry model

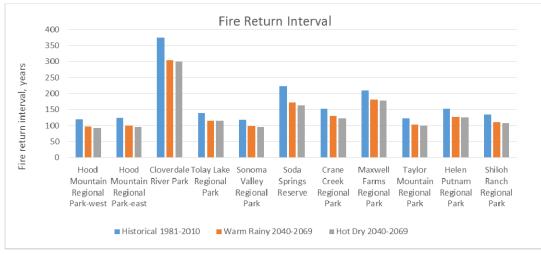


Possibly Expanding		Baccharis	Aggressive invader of grasslands in the absence of fire or grazing, and spreads rapidly in wet years. Models project expansion in interior regions of the Bay Area, especially under higher rainfall future scenarios.
Possibly		Toyon	Widespread in many different habitats and soil types, from coastal bluffs to interior chaparral and edges of woodland. Wide niche suggests it will be persistent in the face of climate change, but sensitivity of local populations is not known.
		Chamise Chaparral	Occupies hot, dry, steep slopes, and favorable conditions are projected to expand throughout the Bay Area under future climates. Seed dispersal and establishment may limit expansion. For existing chaparral stands, succession to oak woodland can happen over time in the absence of fire.
Likely Stable		Coast Live Oak	Reaches its northern range limit in the Bay Area, and may persist or even expand under warmer climates. While it is sensitive to warmer summers, it may be favored by increasing winter temperatures.
		Interior Live Oak	Models disagree on future projections for Interior Live Oak. It appears to be sensitive to warmer winter temperatures, and may decline in southern parts of the region, while staying stable or expanding in the north and in interior ranges.
		Black Oak	Endemic to California and southern Oregon. Declines in climate suitability are predicted under all scenarios, due to warmer winters and drier summers. Native Americans promoted black oak for acorn harvesting.
ossibly Ded ining	*	Blue Oak	Models disagree on the fate of Blue Oak. Native range includes very hot and dry locations, but it may be negatively impacted by warmer winters near the coast and loss of groundwater. Recruitment failure has been observed in parts of California, possibly due to competition with grasses and impacts of grazing.
Poss		Grassland	Widespread across Bay Area climate gradients, usually maintained by grazing, mowing, and/or fire. Vulnerable to shrub invasion. Climate change and N-deposition are expected to alter species composition, but impacts on overall distribution and amount of grassland more likely depend on management strategies.

How might climate change impact the risk of fire on our regional parks?



Average probability of a burn within 30 years goes up 18% by midcentury



Average fire return interval goes down 18% by midcentury



Adaptation

Pepperwood plus UC Berkeley plus diverse land managers of the region-you are welcome to join us!



TEK inputs on Pepperwood's Adaptive Management Plan (2016)

- Acknowledge native land practices more adapted to surviving extremes!
- One of five preserve-wide strategies is to restore native stewardship practices, where appropriate, with our Council's guidance
- First prescribed burn achieved in 2016-8 acres of grasslandpartnership between Pepperwood-NAC-CALFIRE
- Black Oak restoration project in development
- Basketry materials-locate and ID suitable restoration/collection sites
- Bay Nut and other traditional food source collecting
- Ongoing partnership with CIBA/Tending the Wild
- Site adoption by volunteer stewards



Creating multi-agency, multijurisdictional capacity to respond to climate change

Our members:

10 jurisdictions, ~490k people 2 countywide agencies

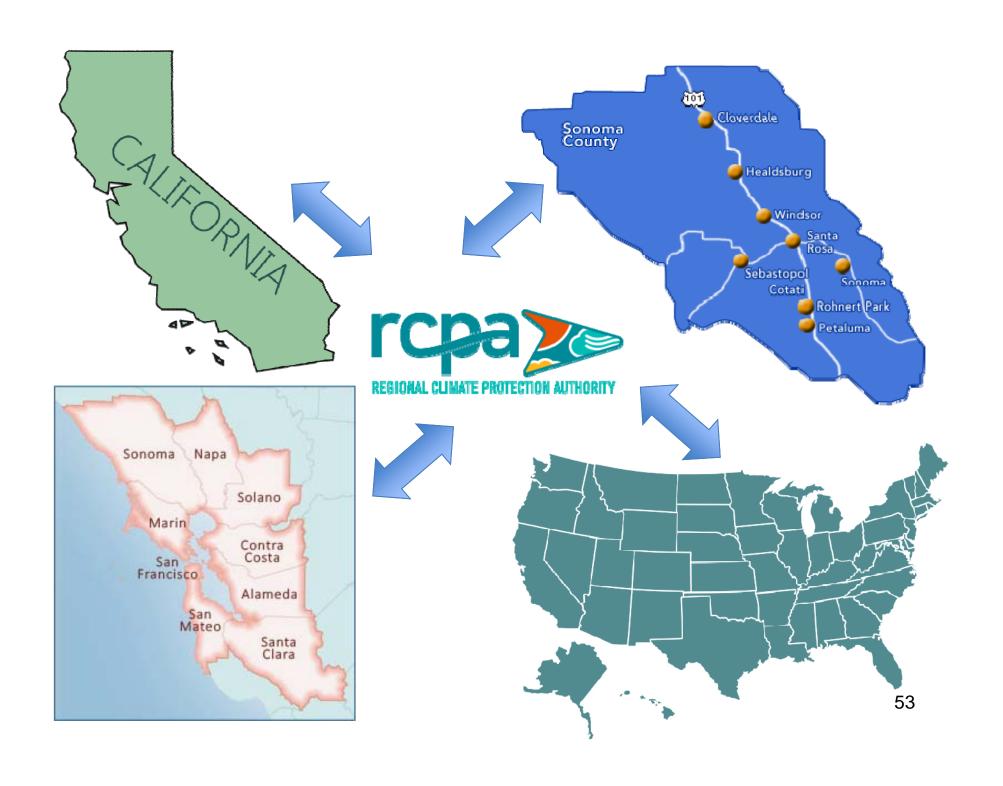


Our goals:

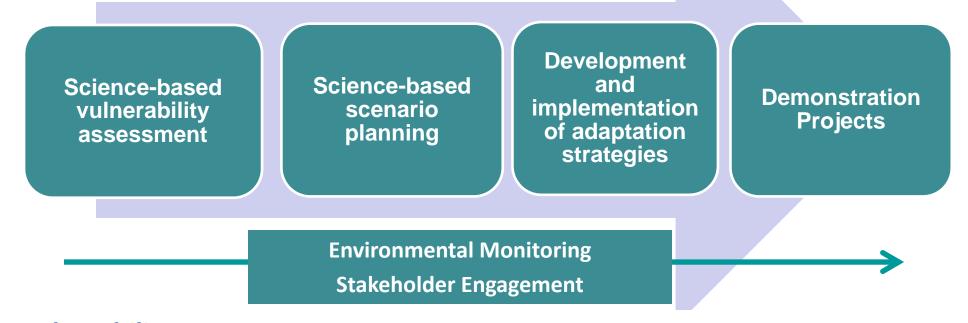
- Reduce GHGs by 25% from 1990 levels by 2020
- Reduce GHGs by 40% from 1990 levels by 2030
- Assess vulnerabilities and ID key adaptation strategies

Convening:

- Cities
- County Departments
- Sectors, Experts, Public
- Regional partners (CRNB)



Climate Adaptation Road Map



Vulnerability assessments

These can help a community measure the risks it faces from climate change. A good vulnerability assessment uses the best available science to identify local impacts, determine the community's exposure and sensitivity to these impacts, and define where the community needs to improve its capacity to adapt to these impacts.

Climate adaptation plans

A comprehensive climate adaptation plan sets priorities for adaptation actions that respond to risks identified in a vulnerability assessment.



Climate Change & Health

"Climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century... The impacts will be felt all around the world – and not just in some distant future but in our lifetimes and those of our children."

- The Lancet



Impact of Climate Change on Human Health

Injuries, fatalities, mental health impacts

Asthma, cardiovascular disease

Heat-related illness and death, cardiovascular failure Severe Weather

RISING ANDERATURES Air Pollution

> Changes in Vector Ecology

Malaria, dengue, encephalitis, hantavirus, Rift Valley fever, Lyme disease, chikungunya, West Nile virus

Forced migration, civil conflict, mental health impacts

Environmental Degradation

Extreme

Heat

Increasing Allergens

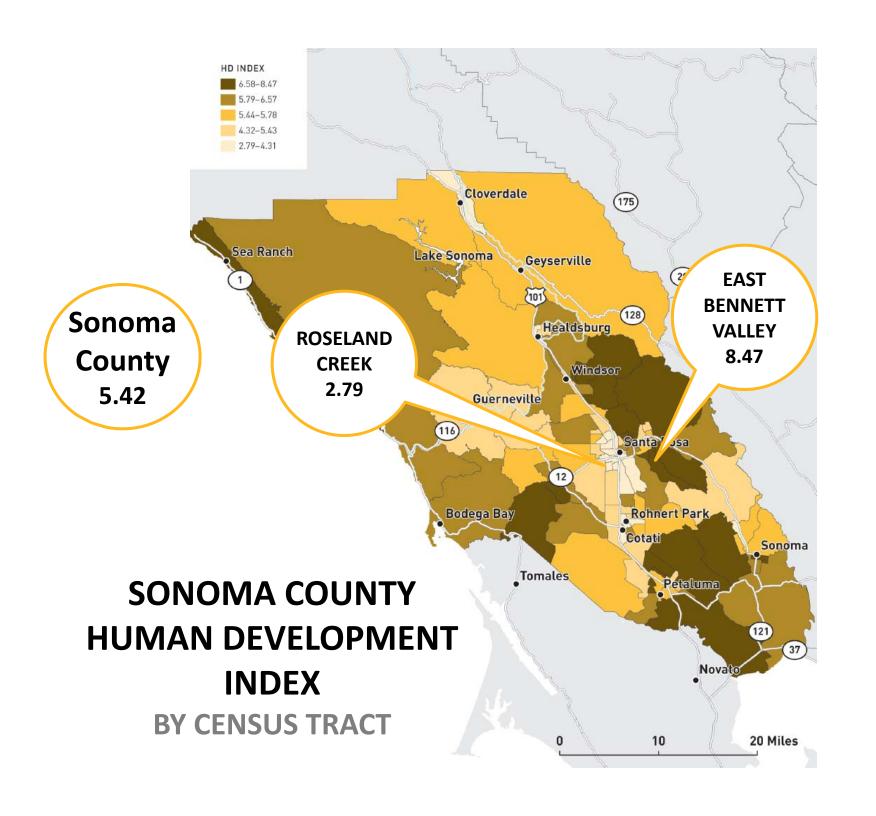
Respiratory allergies, asthma

Water and Food Supply Impacts

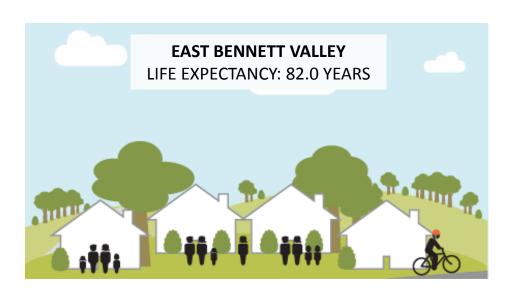
Water Quality Impacts

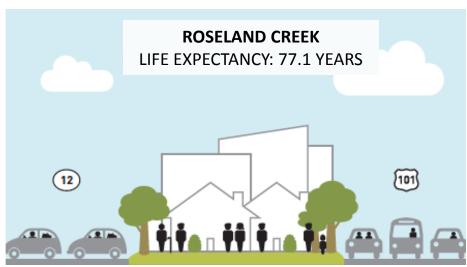
Malnutrition, diarrheal disease

Cholera, cryptosporidiosis, campylobacter, leptospirosis, harmful algal blooms



A TALE OF TWO NEIGHBORHOODS





- 1.2% living in poverty
- 5% Latino population
- extensive parks and green space
- 58.6% at least bachelor's degree
- **61%** management occupations
- \$68,967 median personal earnings

- **16.5%** living in poverty
- 59% Latino population
- limited parks and green space
- 8.6% at least bachelor's degree
- 11% management occupations
- \$21,699 median personal earnings

ECOSYSTEM OF A HEALTHY COMMUNITY



- Green spaces
- Sidewalks and bike paths
- Affordable housing



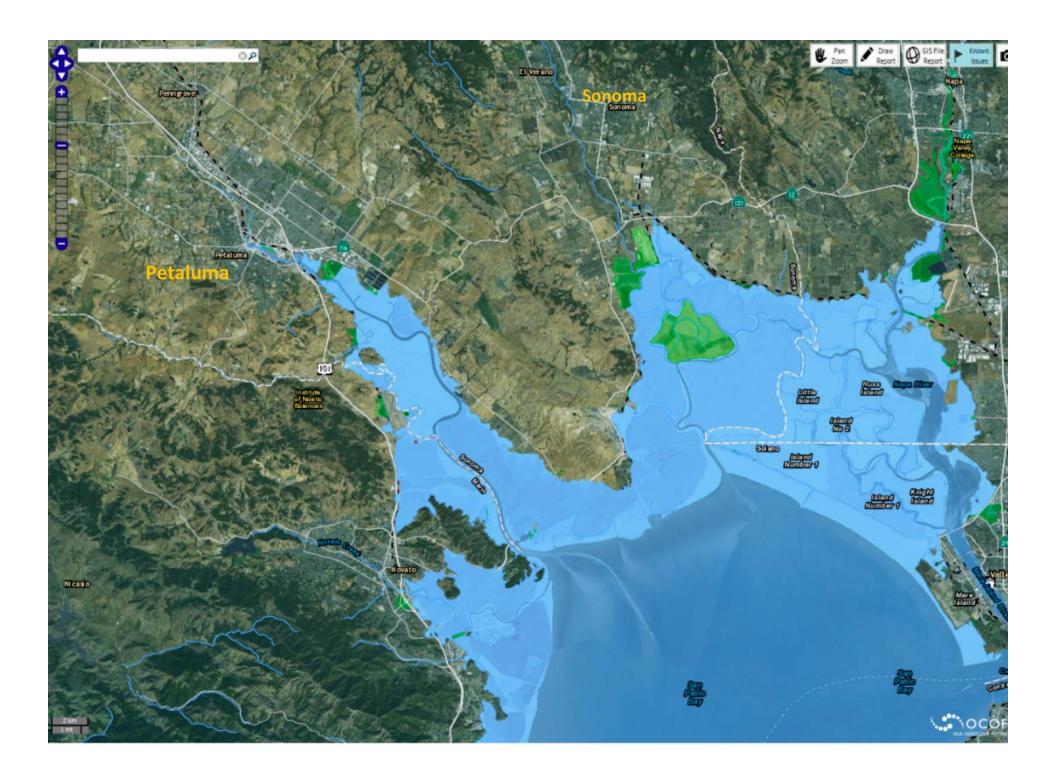
- Fresh produce stores
- High-quality schools
- Affordable health care
- Accessible public transportation



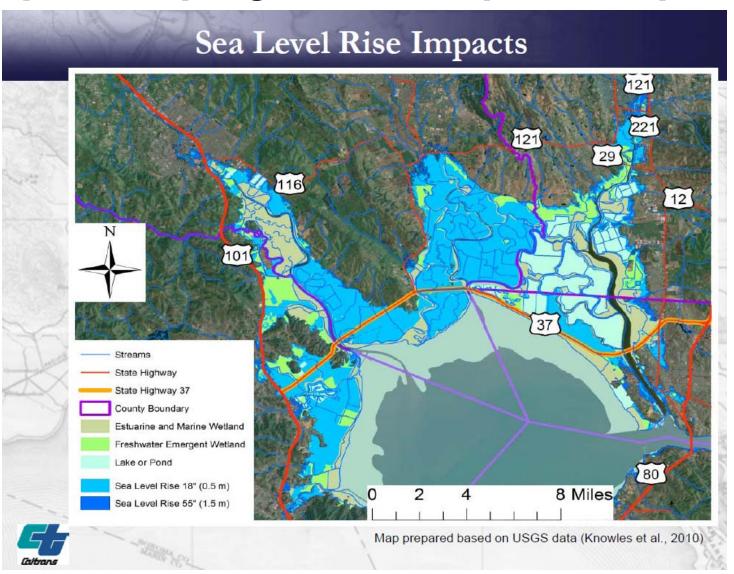
- Jobs with decent wages
- Work/life balance
- A diverse economy



- Equality under the law
- Accountable government
- Affordable, safe childcare
- Safety and security



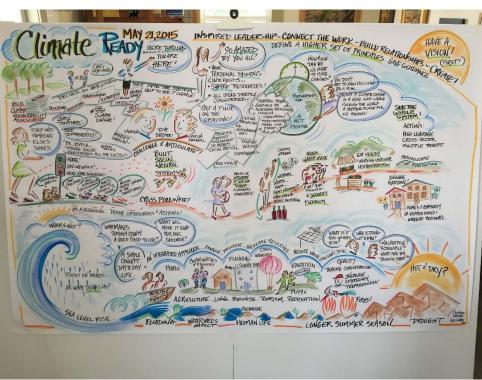
Specific project example: Hwy 37



Source: Caltrans, State Route 37 Stewardship Study presentation, July, 2013

Community Adaptation Planning





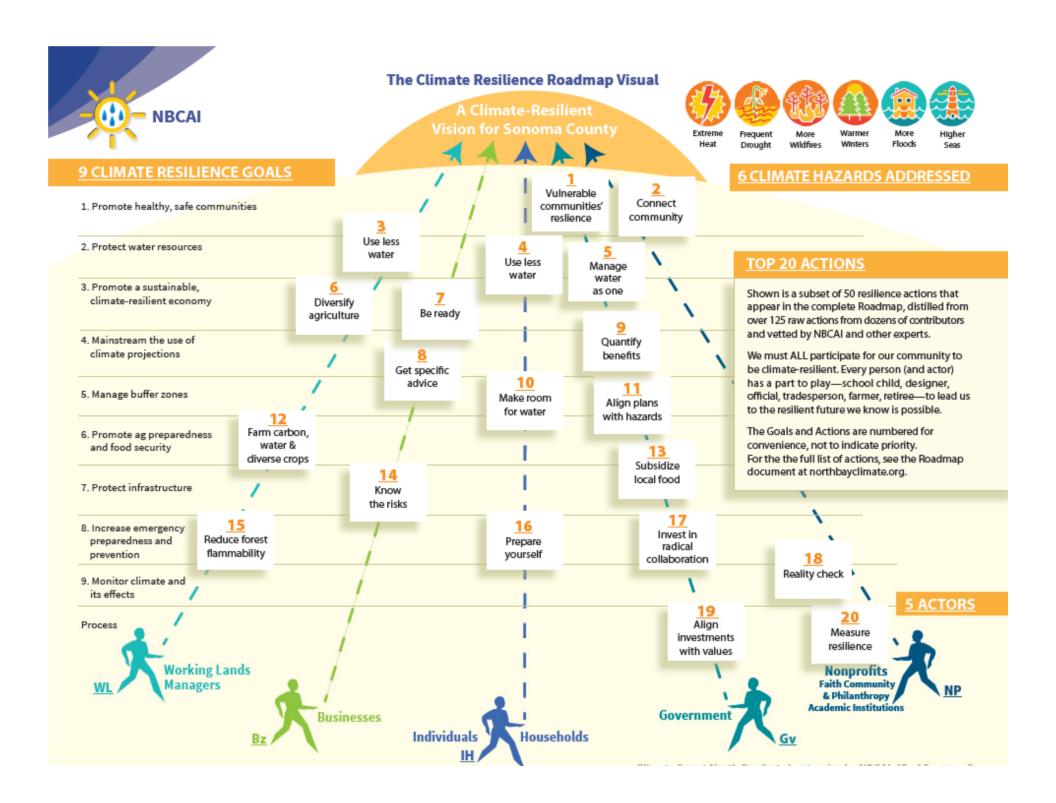
RCPA Climate Readiness Goals

1	Promote healthy, safe communities
2	Protect water resources
3	Promote a sustainable, climate-resilient economy
4	Mainstream the use of climate projections (not just past patterns) in planning, design, and budgeting
5	Protect coastal, bayside, and inland buffer zones
6	Promote food system security and agricultural climate preparedness
7	Protect infrastructure: buildings, energy systems, communications systems, water infrastructure, and transportation systems
8	Increase emergency preparedness
9	Monitor the changing climate and its biophysical effects, in real time

Climate Action 2020 and Beyond

A REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR SONOMA COUNTY COMMUNITIES ~ HIGHLIGHTS AND SUMMARY



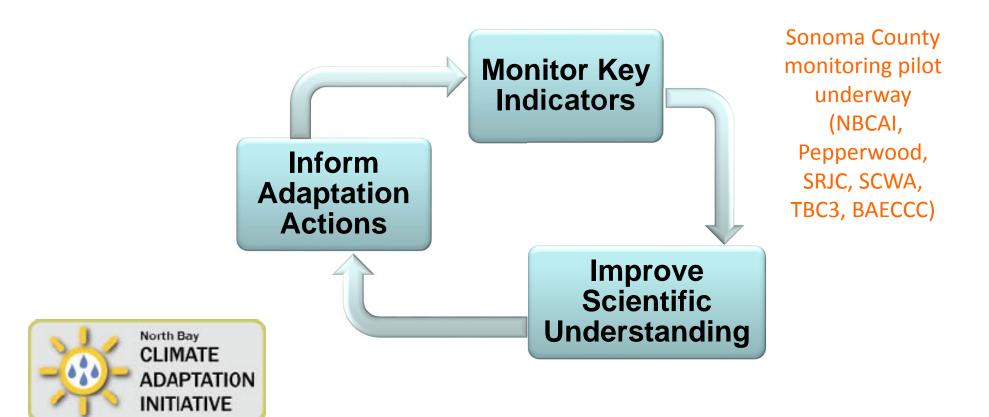


Local Adaptation

Proceeding with Climate-Safe Actions

Monitor starting now

Plan for extremes and wider range of variability Adapt approaches to meet changing conditions



Win-win strategies for climate adaptation

Mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

Protect key watershed functional areas: floodplains, recharge areas, wetlands.

Recycle and conserve water.

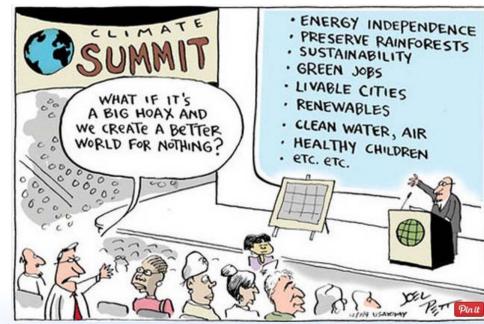
Increase soil moisture holding capacity.

Get serious about fuels management.

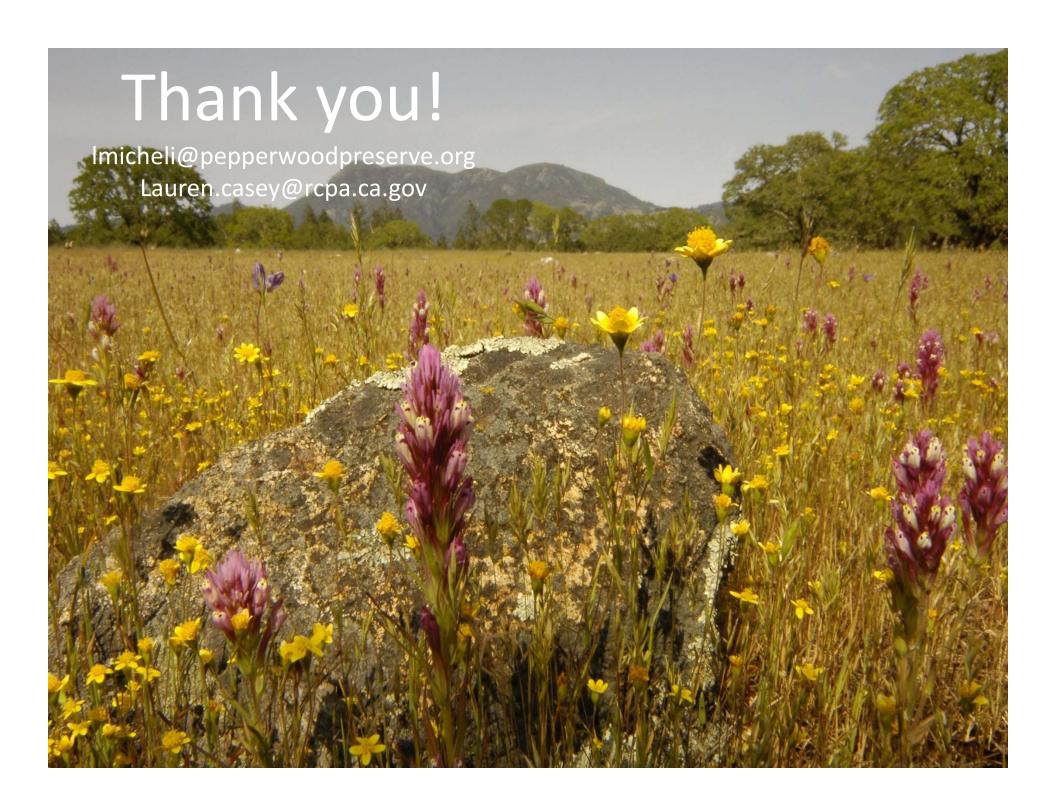
Identify native species that are likely to be climate "winners"- protect seed sources.

Keep the landscape connected-riparian and terrestrial habitat corridors.

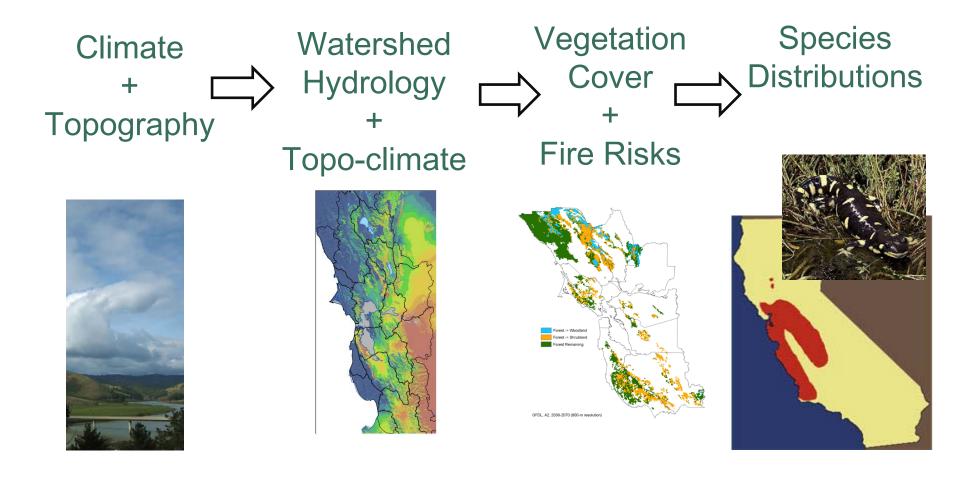
Prepare for more frequent extreme events.



Invest in preparednessit's cheaper than emergency response!



TBC3 has built a climate adaptation knowledge base for application to CA Coast Range watersheds



generating an ensemble of projections for use in scenario planning

