

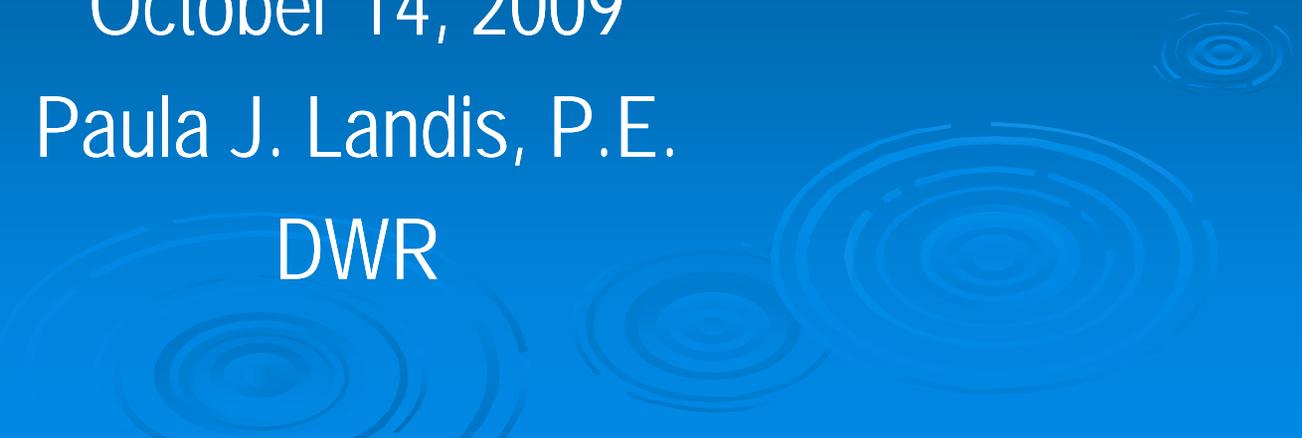
Integrated Regional Water  
Management  
An Opportunity for Improving  
Biodiversity

California Water Plan Plenary Meeting

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DWR



## ➤ Presentation Outline

- Why take a regional approach?
- Define IRWMP and CBC
- Comparison regional approaches
- Comparison of regional boundaries
- Benefits of a regional approach

# Proposition 84

*“...Provides funding to assist local public agencies to meet long term water needs of the state including the delivery of safe drinking water and the protection of water quality and the environment.”*

# Reasons for a Regional Approach

- Large new State or federal driven projects unlikely
- Recognizes unique characteristics of regions
- Problems-solutions don't follow political boundaries
- Encourages cooperation on a manageable level
- Creates opportunities
- Spreads the burden and benefits
- Maximizes scarce resources



# Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Act

- To achieve multiple public benefits:
  - Increase water supply reliability
  - Increase water use efficiency and conservation
  - Reduce energy consumption (water transport)
  - **Improve water management to protect and restore ecosystems and wildlife habitat**
  - Integrate flood protection and water supply systems
  - Promote conjunctive use of groundwater storage

# Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

- A comprehensive plan for a defined geographic area
- Describes major water-related objectives and conflicts
- Considers a broad variety of water management strategies
- Identifies mix of demand/supply management alternatives
- Considers water quality protections
- **Environmental stewardship actions to protect the environment**
- Considers the water-related needs of disadvantaged communities

# Biodiversity

- The diversity of plants, animals and other living things in a particular area or region.
- The abundance of different species living within a particular region.
- **Sustaining the diversity of species in each ecosystem as we plan human activities** that affect the use of the land and natural resources.

# California Biodiversity Council

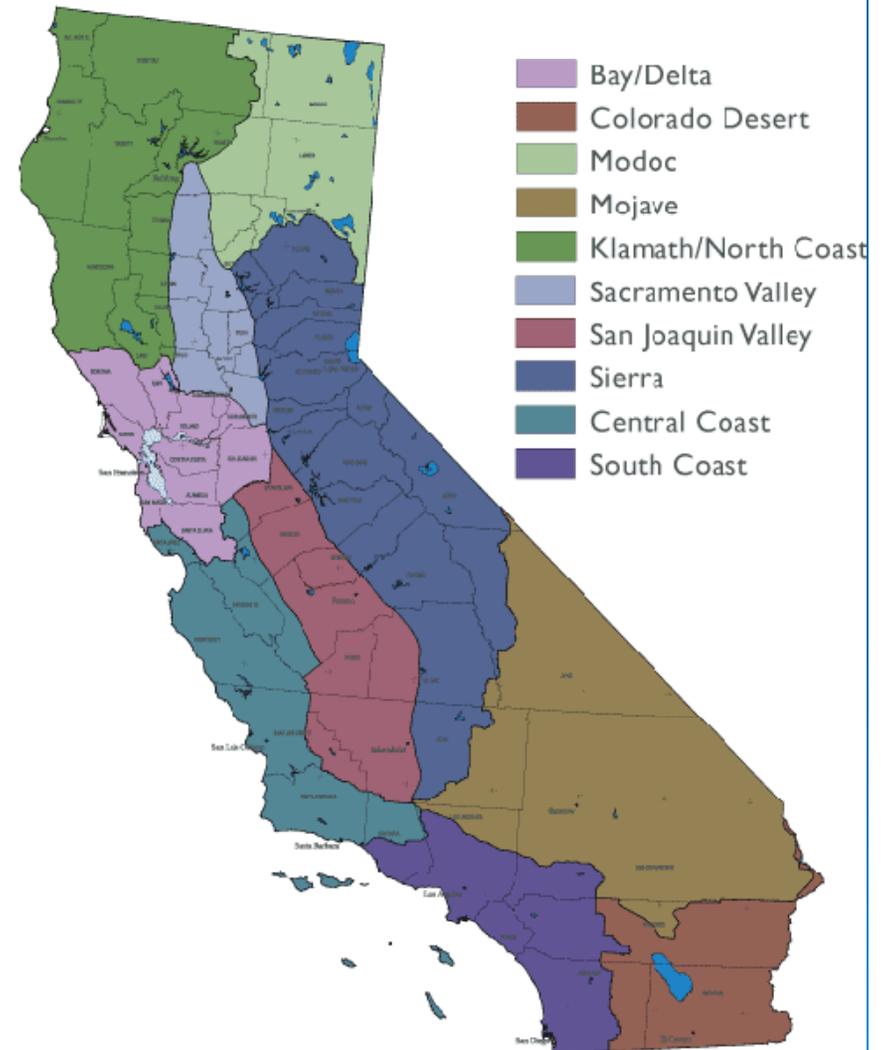
## ➤ Formed to:

- Improve coordination and cooperation between resource management and environmental protection organizations, **to strengthening ties between local communities and governments, encourage comprehensive solutions to regional issues**
- Discuss, coordinate, and assist in developing strategies and complementary policies for conserving biodiversity, exchange information, resolve conflicts, and **promote development of regional conservation practices**

# IRWMP Regions



# BIOREGIONS of CALIFORNIA





# Benefits of Regional Integration

- Optimize use of scarce resources
  - Builds strong working relationships
  - More inclusive, broader support
  - Designed to be sustainable
  - Keeps scope of issues on a manageable level
  - Creates opportunities
  - Spreads the burden and benefits
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# Contact Information

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