



Water-dependent Recreation RMS

CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN

Photo © California State Parks



Photo courtesy of UC Davis Moyle Lab



Photo courtesy of Philomene Smith







Why should we care NOW?

Rising seas
Park closures
Land use conflicts
Degraded habitat

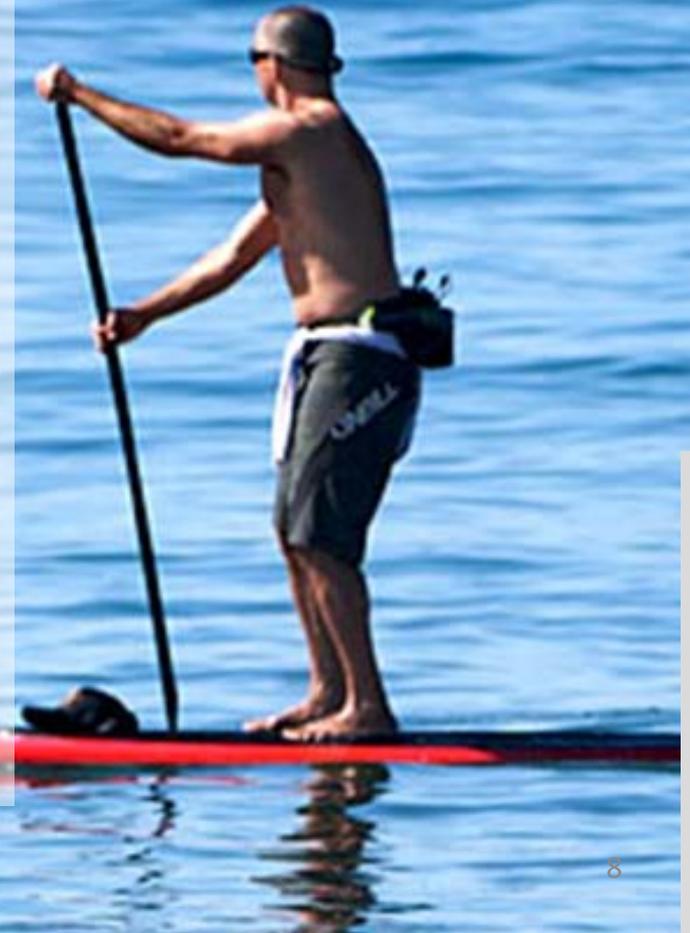
Increasing population
Public health
Weak economy
More challenges?

The right of public access to navigable waterways, lakes and beaches is protected and enhanced under federal law

- US Constitution
 - Commerce Clause
- Clean Water Act
- Federal Power Act
- Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992

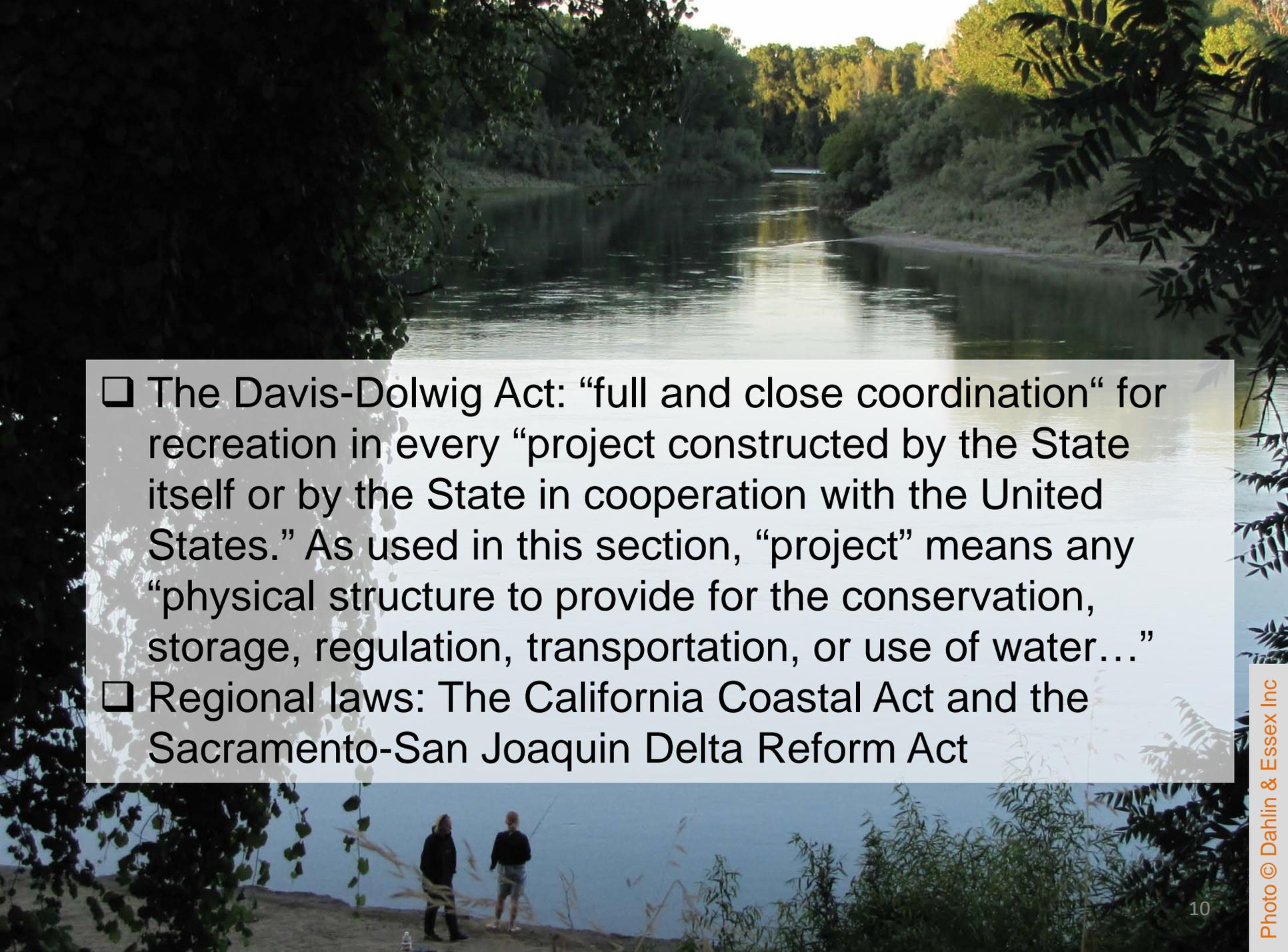
Providing for recreation in water projects is an integral part of California law

- ❑ California Constitution: ...”access to the navigable waters of this State shall be always attainable for the people...”
- ❑ California’s Bill of Rights protects: “the right to fish upon and from the public lands of the state and in the waters thereof”.
- ❑ The California public trust doctrine: “an affirmative duty to take the public trust into account in the planning and allocation of water resources, and to protect public trust uses whenever feasible”.





- ❑ California Civil Code, Section 830 describes the public trust easement for non-tidal waters
- ❑ California Fish and Game Code 5937 requires maintenance of the fishery above and below dams
- ❑ The Harbors and Navigation Code: "...there exists a need to provide for recreational resource planning of the waterways in a manner that provides access and utilization for recreational purposes..."

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- ❑ The Davis-Dolwig Act: “full and close coordination“ for recreation in every “project constructed by the State itself or by the State in cooperation with the United States.” As used in this section, “project” means any “physical structure to provide for the conservation, storage, regulation, transportation, or use of water...”
 - ❑ Regional laws: The California Coastal Act and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act

How does recreation relate to other water management decisions?

- ❑ Expand Integrated Regional Water Management
- ❑ Protect surface water and groundwater quality



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- Expand environmental stewardship
 - Practice integrated flood management
 - Manage a sustainable California Delta

- ❑ Improve Data and Analysis for decision-making
- ❑ Improve tribal water and natural resources
- ❑ Ensure equitable distribution of benefits





Let's tack!

