

San Joaquin River Restoration Program



Balancing the Water Needs of Farmers and Fish

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State of the Estuary Conference

Oakland, CA

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Objectives

- Provide a brief description and history of the river
- Describe the process for restoration
- Discuss the human dynamic of the restoration



The San Joaquin River



Map of San Joaquin River with reach designations

Agricultural Development

- Allowed growth of agricultural industry
- One of the nations most productive agricultural regions.
- Urban and rural population growth





The San Joaquin River



Mariposa Bypass gates, San Joaquin River, CA



Chinook Salmon

- Historic runs of spring and fall Chinook
- Spring run extirpated in late 1940's





Reaching a settlement

- *Natural Resources Defense Council, et. al., v. Rodgers et. al. 1988*
- 18 years of litigation
- Settlement in 2006
- San Joaquin River Restoration Act (PL 111-11) passed in 2009



The Settlement

- Restoration Goal
- Water Management Goal
- Outlined aspects of in-river channel improvements
- Defined roles and responsibilities for restoration



Restoration Goal

- Reintroduce Spring and fall run chinook salmon
- Restore flows From Friant Dam to the confluence of the Merced River
- Water quality and fisheries protections for flows downstream to the Delta
- Channel improvements Flow conveyance
- Fish passage and Habitat

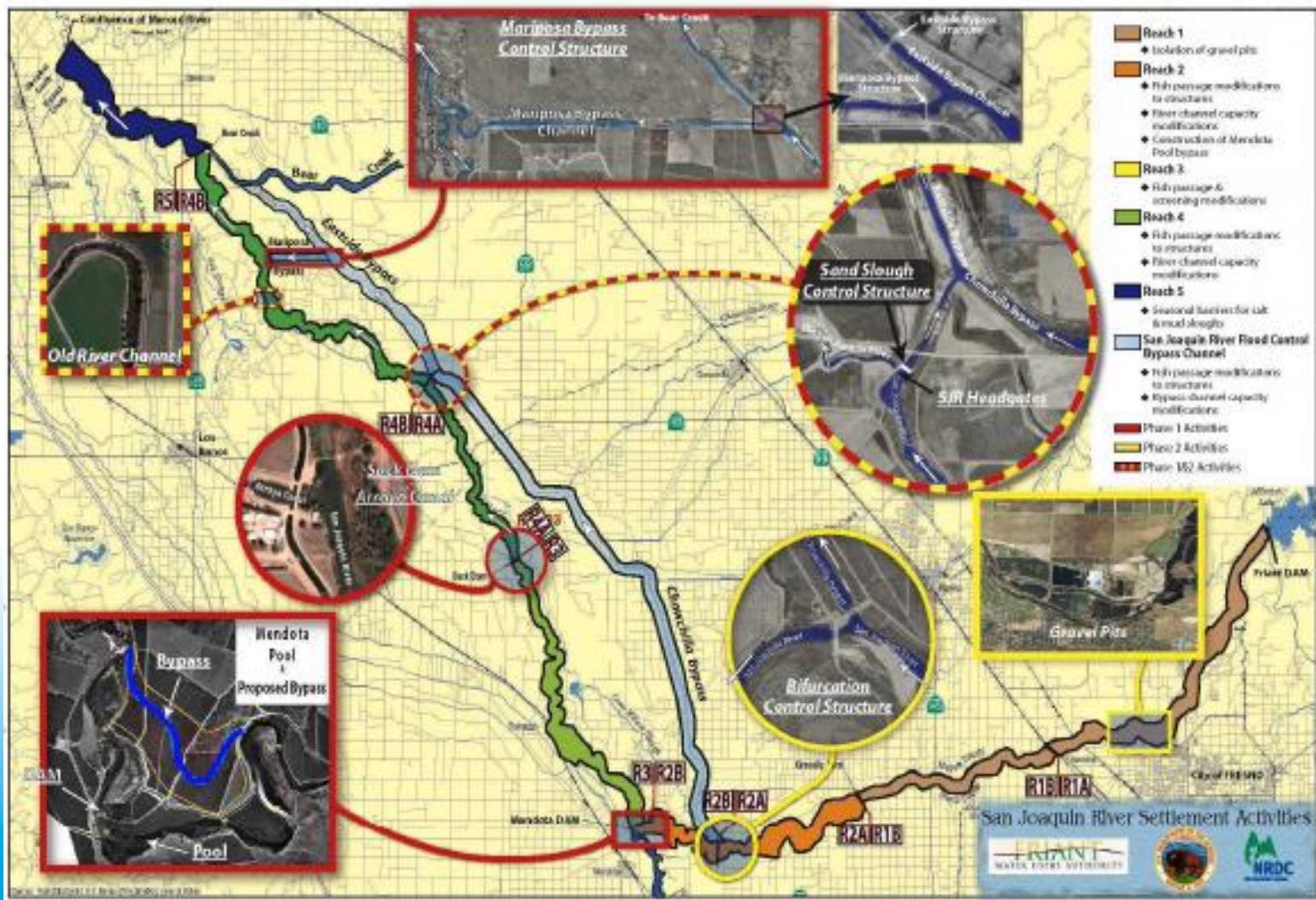


Water Management Goal

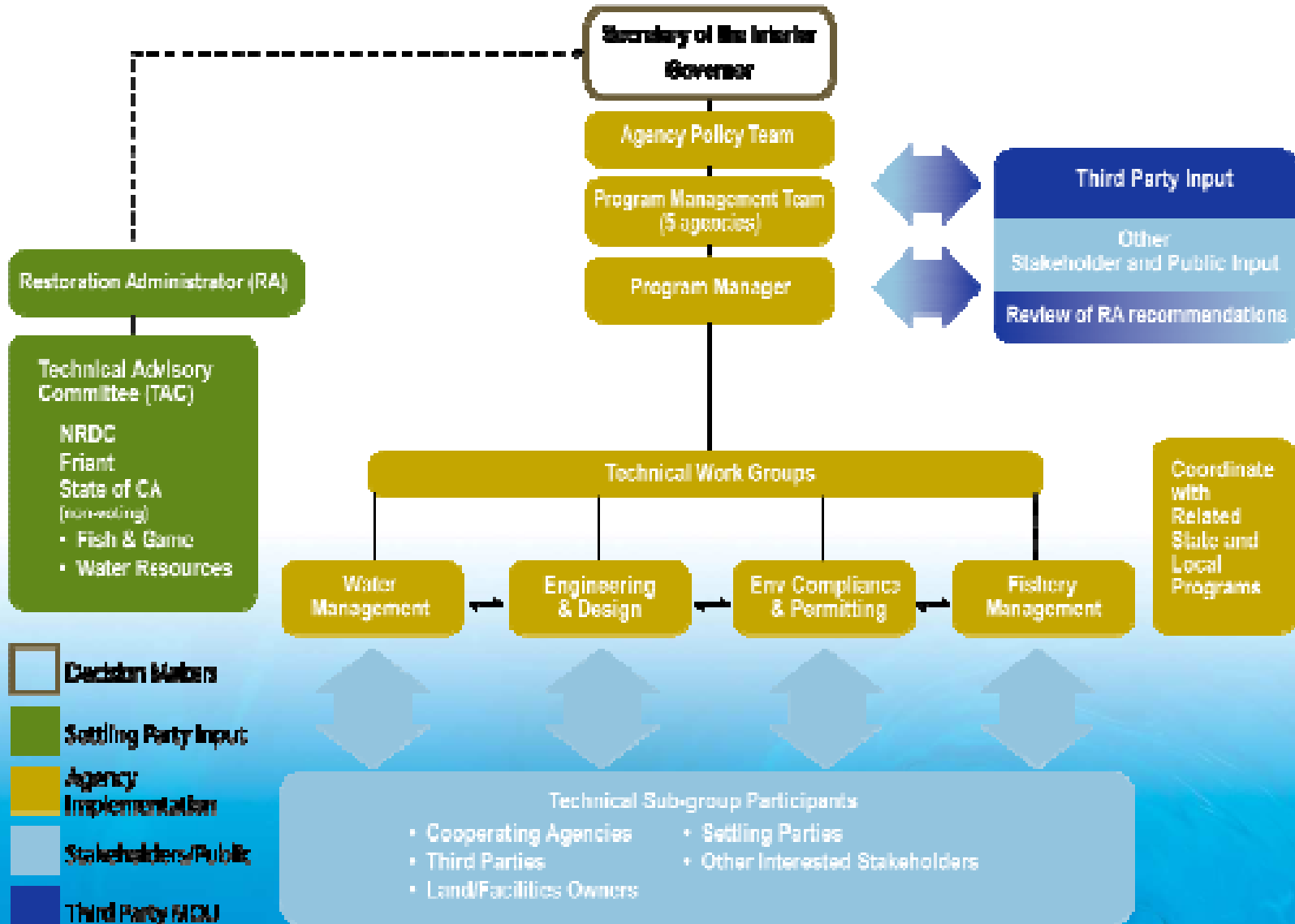
- Parallel Goal of the Settlement
- The Secretary is required to: Develop and implement a plan for recirculation, recapture, reuse, exchange or transfer of Restoration Flows
- Implement the Recovered Water Account that will make wet year water available at reduced prices
- Have no adverse impact on the Restoration Goal, downstream water quality or fisheries (paragraph 16(a)(1))



SJR Channel Improvements



Program Structure





Restoration Administrator

- Restoration Administrator (RA)
- Monitors progress of Settlement and reports annually to the court.
 - Provides recommendations on flow releases
 - Additional actions to achieve Restoration Goal
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Supports the RA in carrying out their responsibilities under the Settlement
 - Eight members Including Friant, NRDC, DWR, DFG and four appointees
 - Federal agency representatives



Third Parties

- Impacted by settlement
- Direct Opportunity to provide input to management structure
- Representation on Technical Subgroups



Transparency

- Program website
 - www.restoresjr.net
- Program Documents
 - Program Management Plan
 - Fisheries Management Plan
 - Technical Documents
- Public Meetings / workshops

Progress To Date

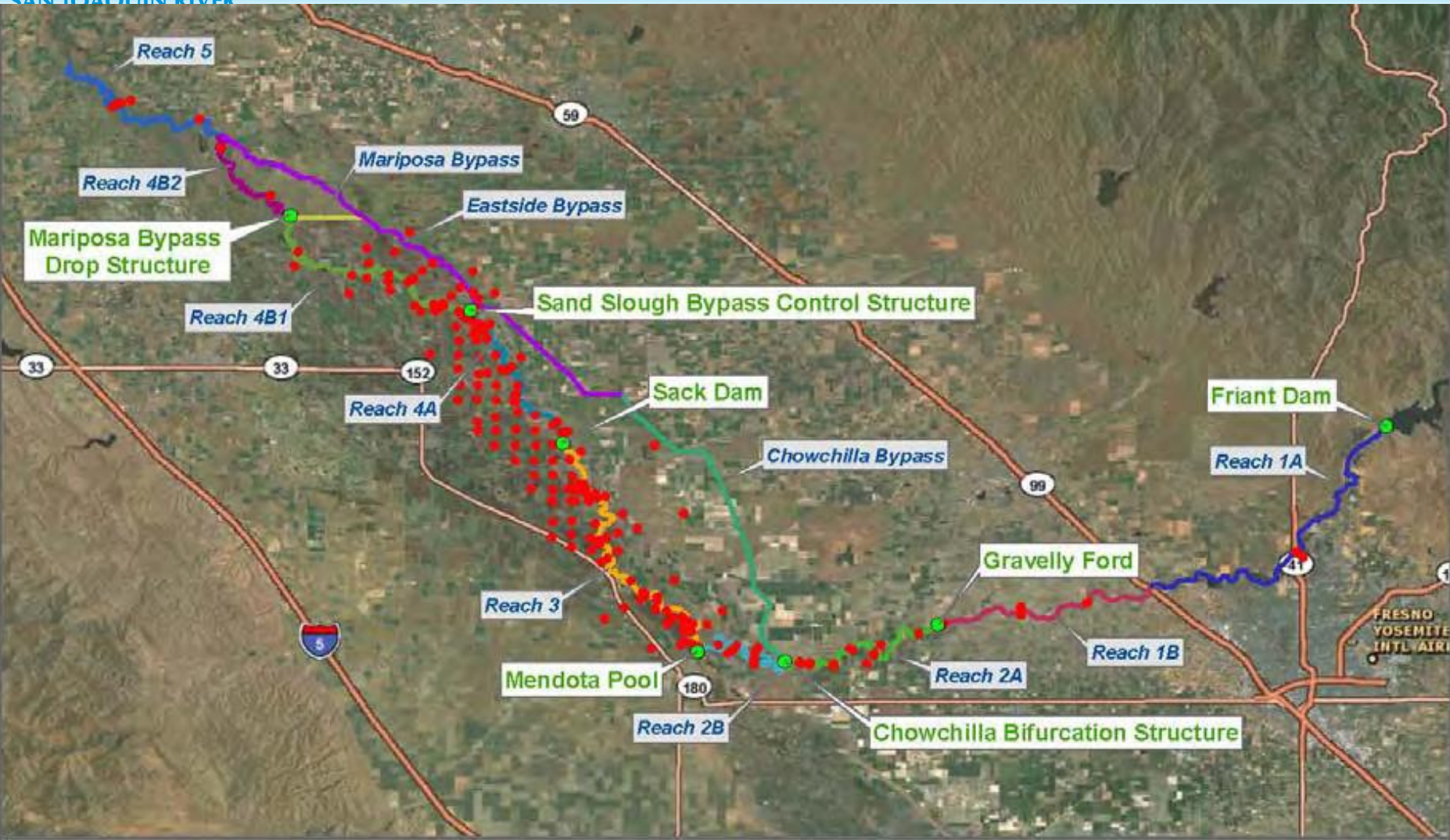
- Began interim flows in 2010
- Project designs well underway
- Studies and testing
- Active management regarding seepage



Responsive Management

- Worked with Stakeholders
- Implementation of Seepage Management Plan
 - Monitoring Network





0 5 10 20 Miles

RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

V:\SJRRP\Monitoring Well Data\maps\Overview.mxd

Overview Monitoring Wells

Preliminary Data



Last Updated: 1/27/2011



Responsive Management

- Implementation of Seepage Management Plan
 - Monitoring Network
 - Conveyance/structural Improvements
 - Real time flow management
- Working with impacted parties



The Future

- Substantial challenges to reaching recovery ahead



- Trust partners and process will allow us to adapt as necessary