



Pipeline Rebuild Program Update

Planning Committee

July 8, 2025

Dustin La Vallee, Senior Civil Engineer

Dennis Knisely, Construction and Maintenance Superintendent

Agenda

- Pipeline Rebuild Overview
- Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Review
 - Project Selections and Design
 - Pipeline Construction
 - Research and Innovations
- Next Steps



Ductile Iron Pipe Installation

Pipeline Rebuild Overview

- Established in FY 2015 to reach a sustainable long-term pipeline replacement rate
- Reduce main breaks and water loss
- Perform pilot studies on pipeline renewal technologies and process improvements
- Promote teamwork, research, and innovation across District
- Leverage improvements

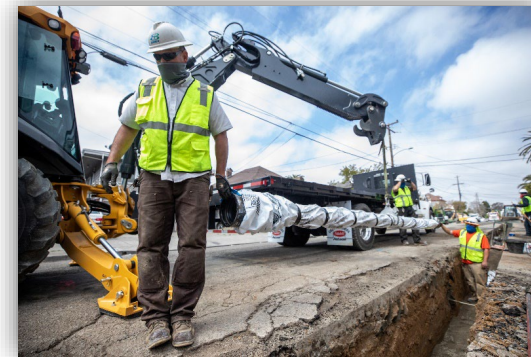


Trench Excavation



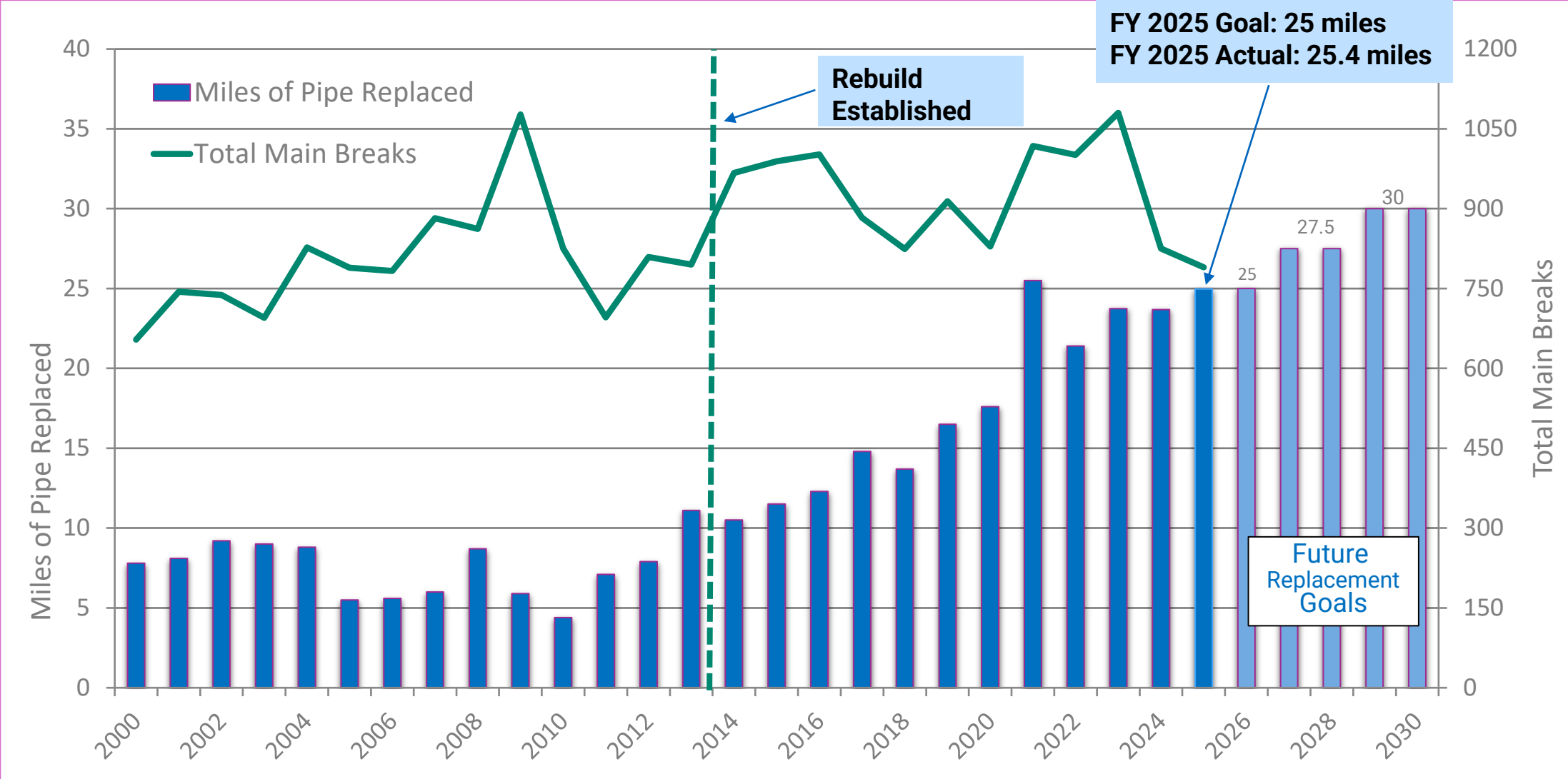
Steel Pipe Installation

Pipeline
R&BUILD



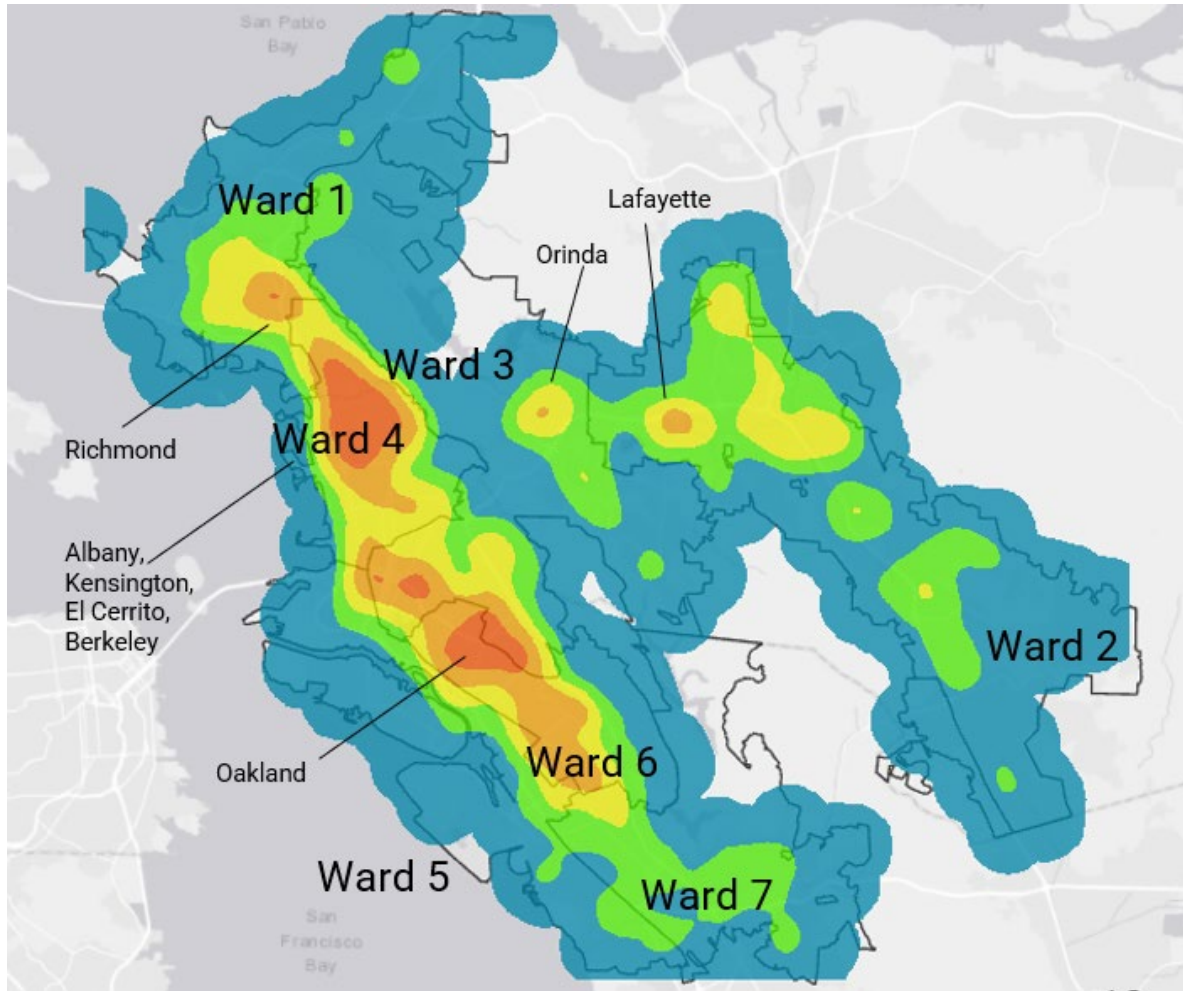
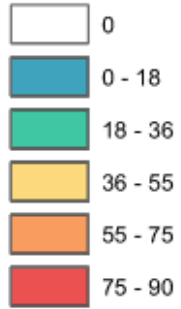
Ductile Iron Pipe Installation

Pipe Replacement vs Leaks



Main Break Density (2018 to 2024)

Main breaks per 1-mile radius



Ward	Breaks / 100 miles (2018-2024)	Miles Installed (FY 2018-2025)	Miles Installed (FY25)
1	19	23.4	4.2
2	22	25.8	7.2
3	27	25.5	2.4
4	36	35.3	3.3
5	14	9.7	1.4
6	32	34.7	6.2
7	14	7.2	0.7

Note: the table does not include pipeline abandonment and pipelines replaced under the Relocations and System Improvements Programs. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) benchmark for a well-maintained water system is in the range of less than 15 to 30 breaks per 100 miles of pipe.

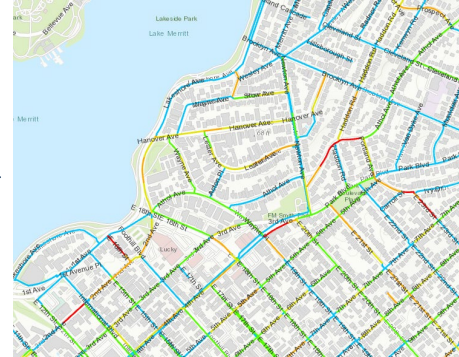
FY 2025 Project Selection and Design



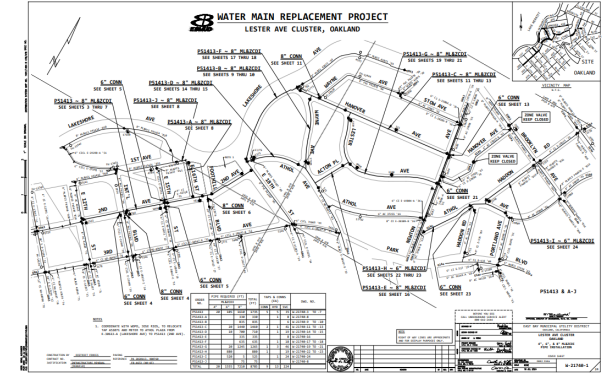
Collect Leak Data



Attach leak data to ArcGIS pipeline map



Run pipeline risk model and select project clusters



Prepare Design Drawings

- Utilized a Likelihood of Failure (LOF) model incorporating pipe leak data, pipe age, and material type, alongside Consequence of Failure (COF) criteria such as proximity to critical customers, major roadways, and environmental factors, to prioritize projects.
- Completed 25 miles of detailed design drawing packages for pipe replacement
- Performed close coordination with District pipeline crews including design and pre-construction job walks to confirm alignments
- Continued coordination with cities, counties, and other utility agencies to schedule and plan projects ahead of planned paving

Research and Innovation

Condition Assessment Pilots

- Completed pilots of non-invasive condition assessment in Lafayette and Berkeley on approximately 8,000 feet of pipelines
- Pipelines evaluated included steel, AC, CI, and PVC
- Beginning non-invasive condition assessment pilot in Pleasant Hill in June 2025. Pilot will evaluate approximately 7,000 feet of pipelines



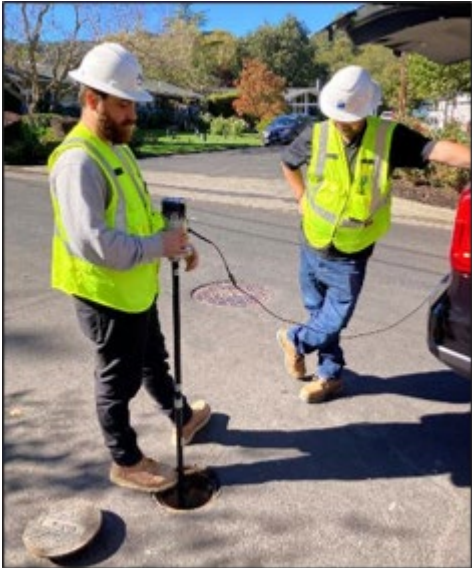
Data Loggers



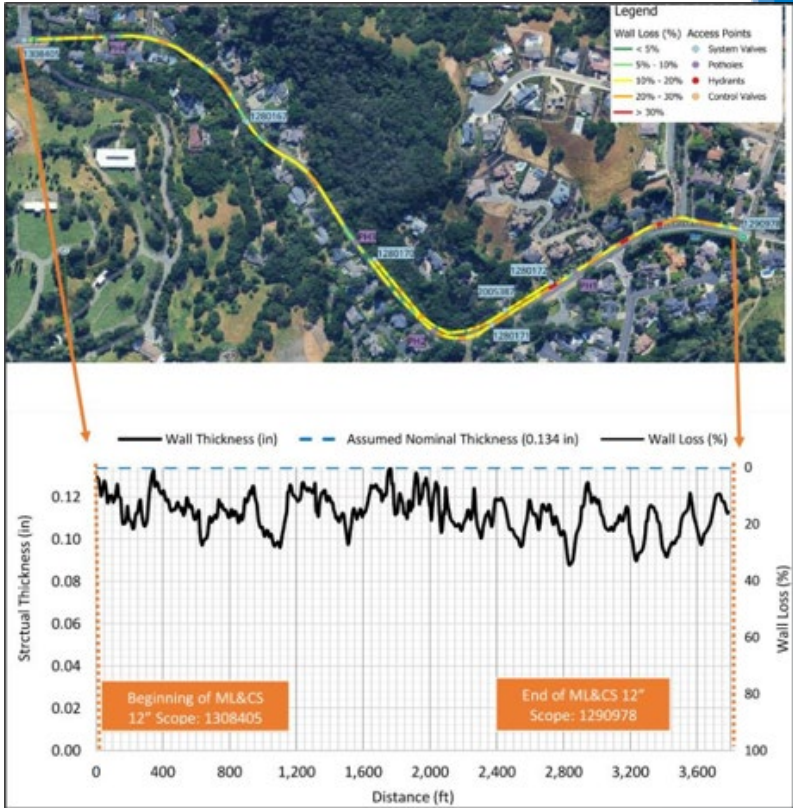
Sensor Connection



Thickness Measurements



Condition Assessment

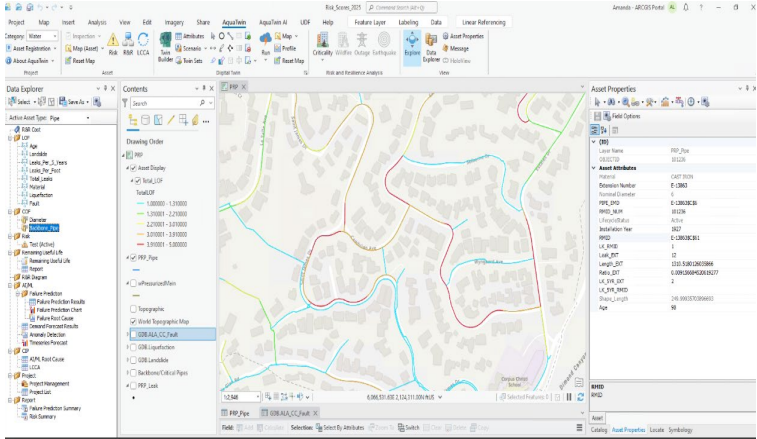


Pipe Stiffness Measurements

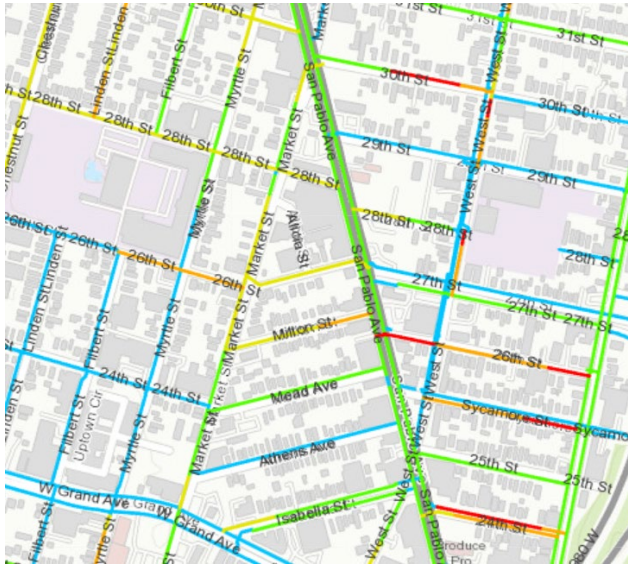
Research and Innovation

Risk Model Improvements

- Incorporated consequence of failure factors into risk model for FY 2026
- Piloted asset management software allowing for more flexibility on LOF and COF adjustments
- Issued RFP for artificial intelligence (AI) / machine learning (ML) risk model
- Finalizing agreement with UC Berkeley to work on LOF and COF with CSI
 - SFPUC and LADWP also looking to coordinate on this study



AquaTwin Asset



District Risk Model

Pipeline Construction Overview

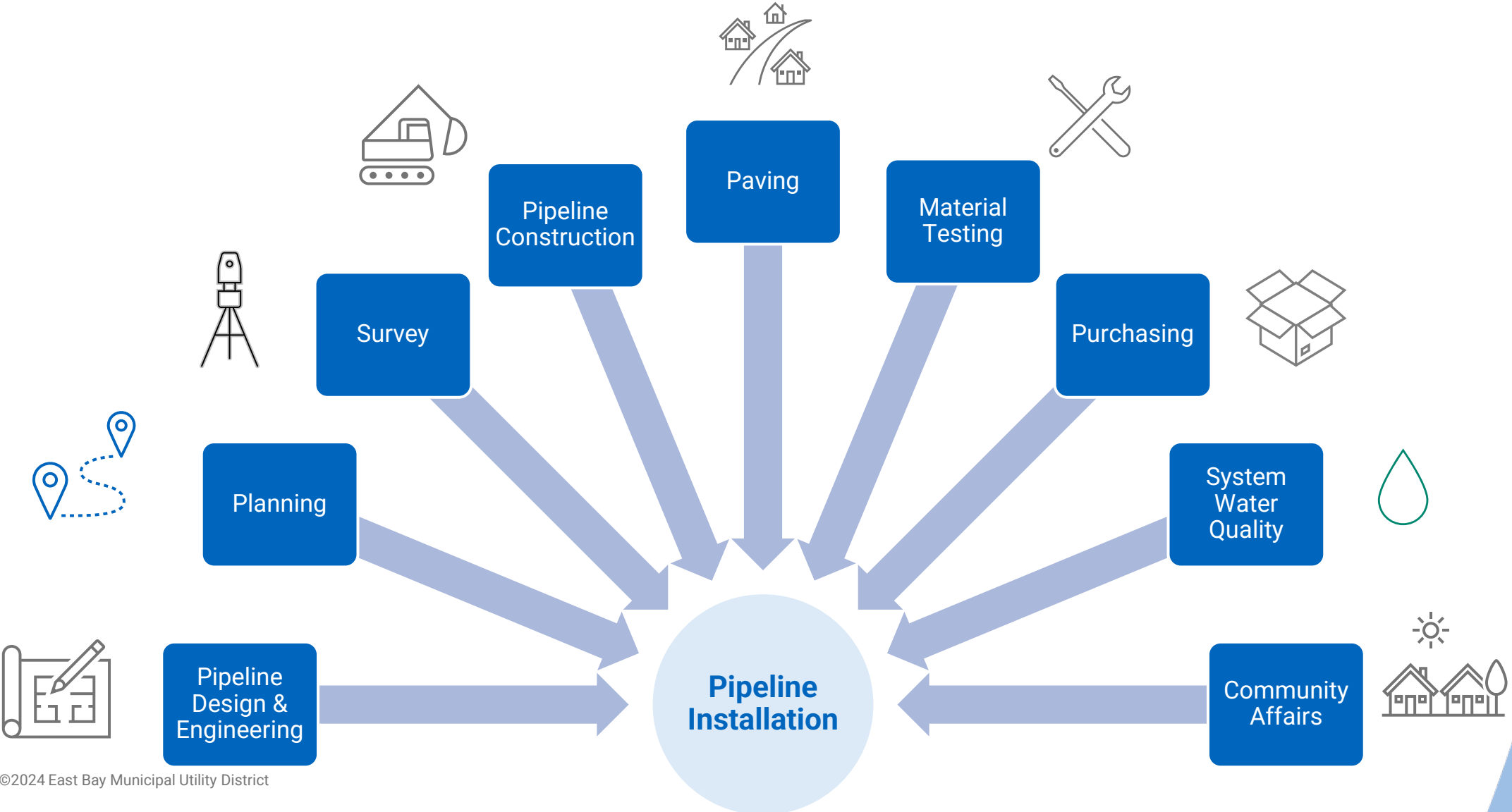
Pipeline Construction Division Staffing

- 12 Pipeline Crews, 1 Service Crew
 - Pipeline Crew = 8 Staff Members
 - Service Crew = 5 Staff Members
- 6 Utility Laborers
- 8 Paving Crews
 - Paving Crew = 8 Staff Members



Pipeline Construction Crew

Pipeline Rebuild Stakeholders



Pipeline Rebuild Cost Summary

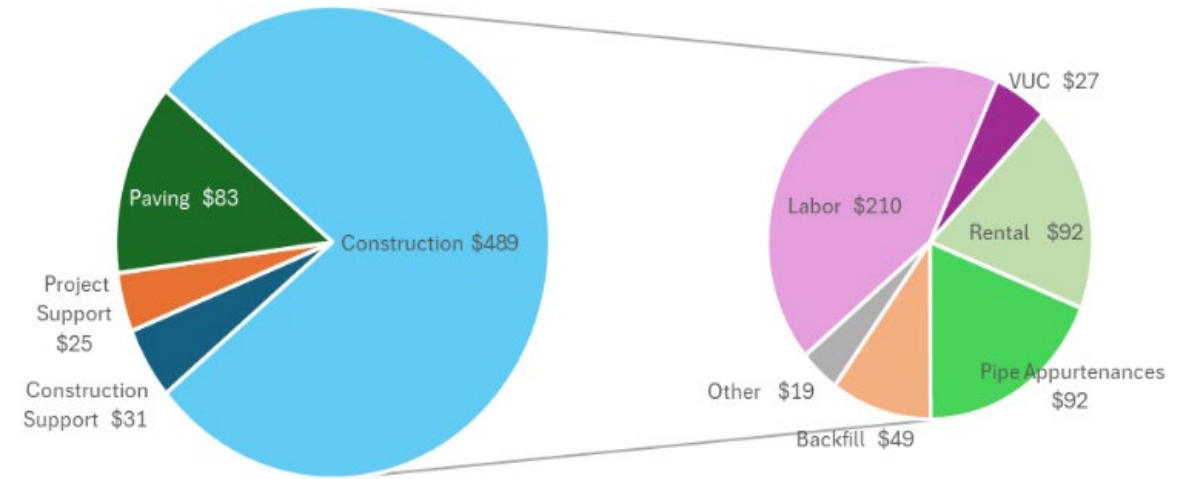
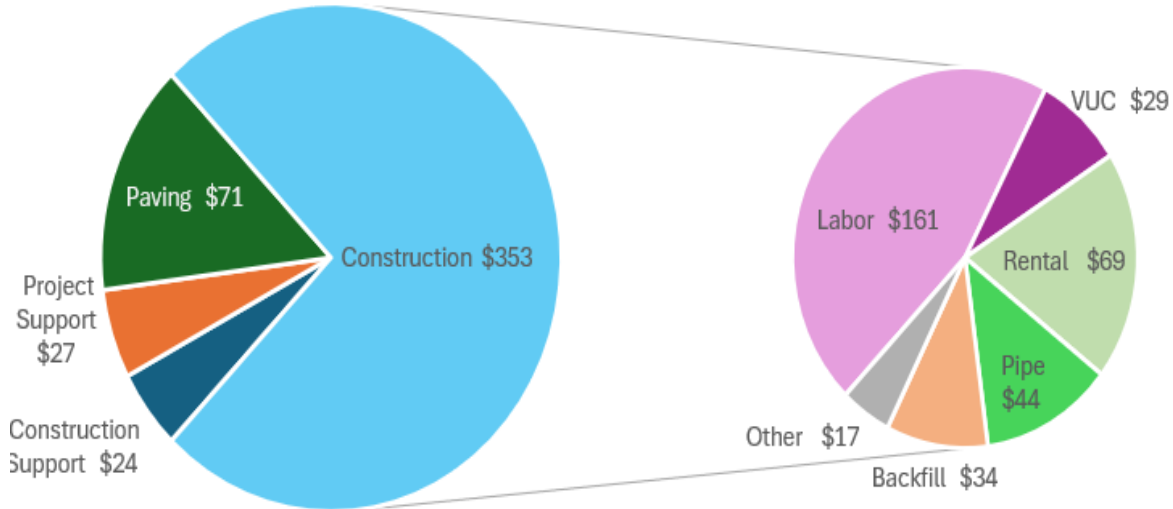
	FY 2021		FY 2024		FY 2025	
Project Category	Spent	Miles Installed	Spent	Miles Installed	Spent	Miles Installed
Infrastructure Renewals (IR)	\$57.2M	23.20	\$80.6M	23.60	\$88.6M	23.35
Relocations	\$2.0M	0.63	\$5.4M	0.69	\$6.5M	1.04
System Improvements	\$13.0M	1.60	\$3.0M	1.03	\$2.4M	1.05
Trench Soils	\$4.8M	-	\$5.0M	-	\$4.3M	-
KPI Mileage Goal	-	20 miles	-	22.5 miles	-	25 miles
Totals	\$77.0M	25.40	\$94.0M	25.30	\$101.8M	25.40
<i>IR Average Cost (\$/mi)</i>	<i>\$2.5M /mi</i>		<i>\$3.4M /mi</i>		<i>\$3.8M /mi</i>	
<i>IR Trench Soils (\$/mi)</i>	<i>\$0.19M /mi</i>		<i>\$0.18M /mi</i>		<i>\$0.16M /mi</i>	
<i>IR Average Cost w/ Trench Soils (\$/Mile)</i>	\$2.7M/mi		\$3.6M/mi		\$4.0M/mi	

Increase in IR cost of \$8 million between FY 2024 and FY 2025 due to higher material costs (more 12-inch diameter mains and higher percentage of DI pipe) and higher labor & rental costs

FY 2021 to FY 2024 Average IR Unit Costs

FY21 Projects - Cost Per Foot Breakdowns

FY24 Projects - Cost Per Foot Breakdowns



Direct Cost per Foot = \$475

Direct Cost per Foot = \$628

Increase in average IR unit cost from \$2.5 to 3.4 million/mile driven by a range of factors including:

- Higher material and labor costs
- Increase in equipment rental costs
- Increasingly stringent permit conditions
- Factors impacting crew efficiency including changes in pipe materials, more challenging IR projects, etc.

Next Steps

- FY 2026 Mileage Goal of 25 miles
- Expand Direct Hauling of Trench Soils
- Advance risk model through AI / ML and continue to incorporate COF factors related to customers impacts
- Continue to pilot condition assessment technologies to better understand the condition of distribution pipelines
- Identify design and construction efficiencies that can be implemented starting in FY 2027 to increase productivity



Questions?





Center for Smart Infrastructure Update

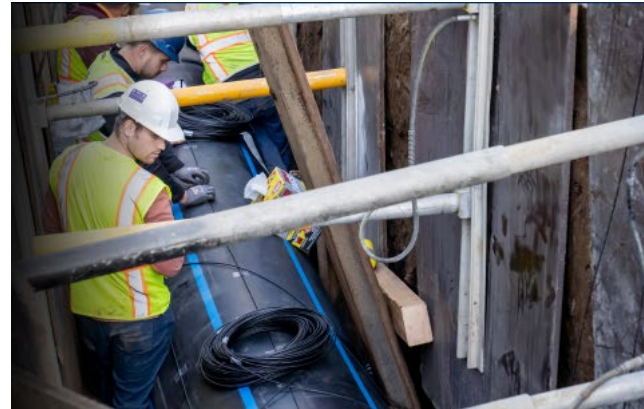
Planning Committee

July 8, 2025

Pongsiri Prachya, Senior Civil Engineer

What is Center for Smart Infrastructure (CSI)?

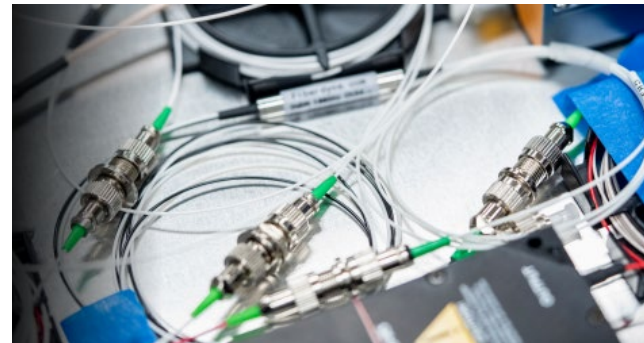
- Partnership between
 - Infrastructure Owners
 - Academia
 - Industry
 - Consultants
- Goal: address challenges facing water and wastewater utilities
- Interdisciplinary hub for infrastructure research and innovation



Fiber Optics Installation on EBMUD Pipeline



Pipe Testing Apparatus



Fiber Optic Cables



"Spot" the Robot Dog

Overview

- Phase 1 Update
- Phase 2
- Next Steps



Phase 1 Accomplishments

- Constructed pipeline testing facility at Richmond Field Station
- Conducted pipe and appurtenance tests
- Installed and monitoring advanced sensing on Summit pipeline project
- Launched CE 112 class on water and wastewater design and operations
- Held multiple workshops



CSI Richmond Field Station Facility “Then”

CSI Richmond Field Station Pipe Testing Facility

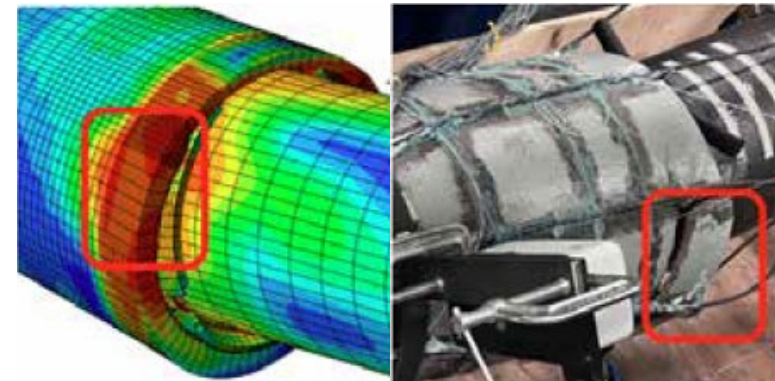
[Video of Pipe Testing Facility](#)

Pipe Testing Center



Tension/Compression Testing Apparatus

Four-Point Bending Testing Apparatus

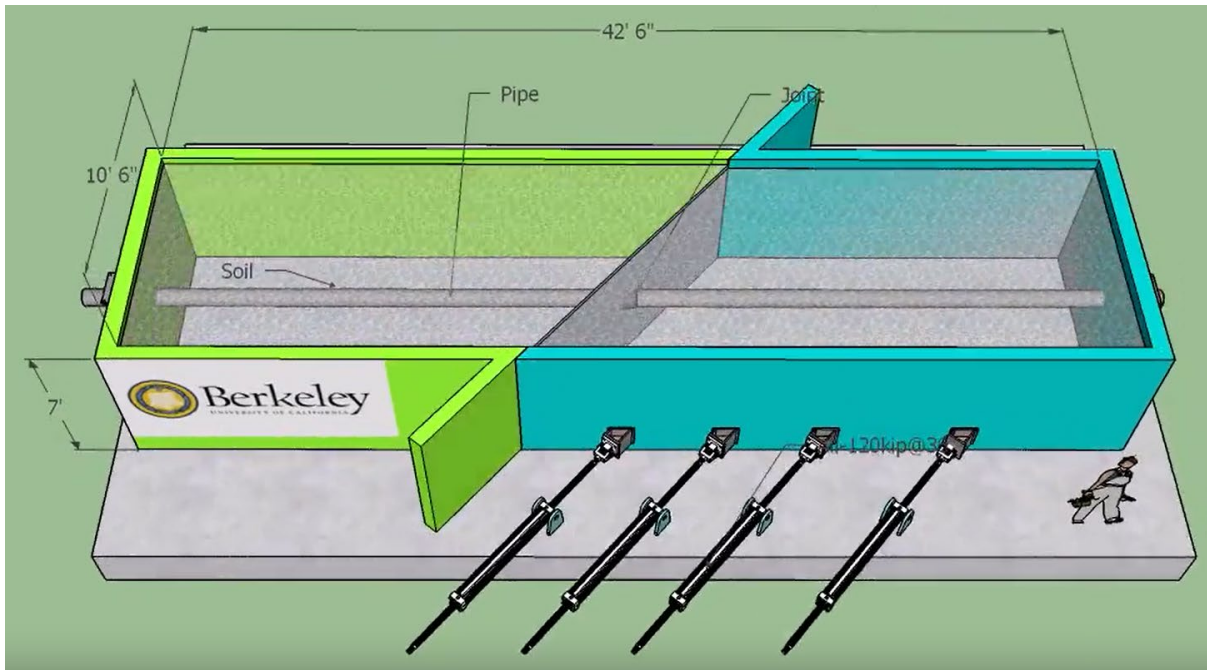


Finite Element Model – Detailed Analysis of Failure

Pipe Testing Center

Split Basin

- Capable of simulating fault rupture effects (similar to Hayward Fault)
- Soil-pipe interface

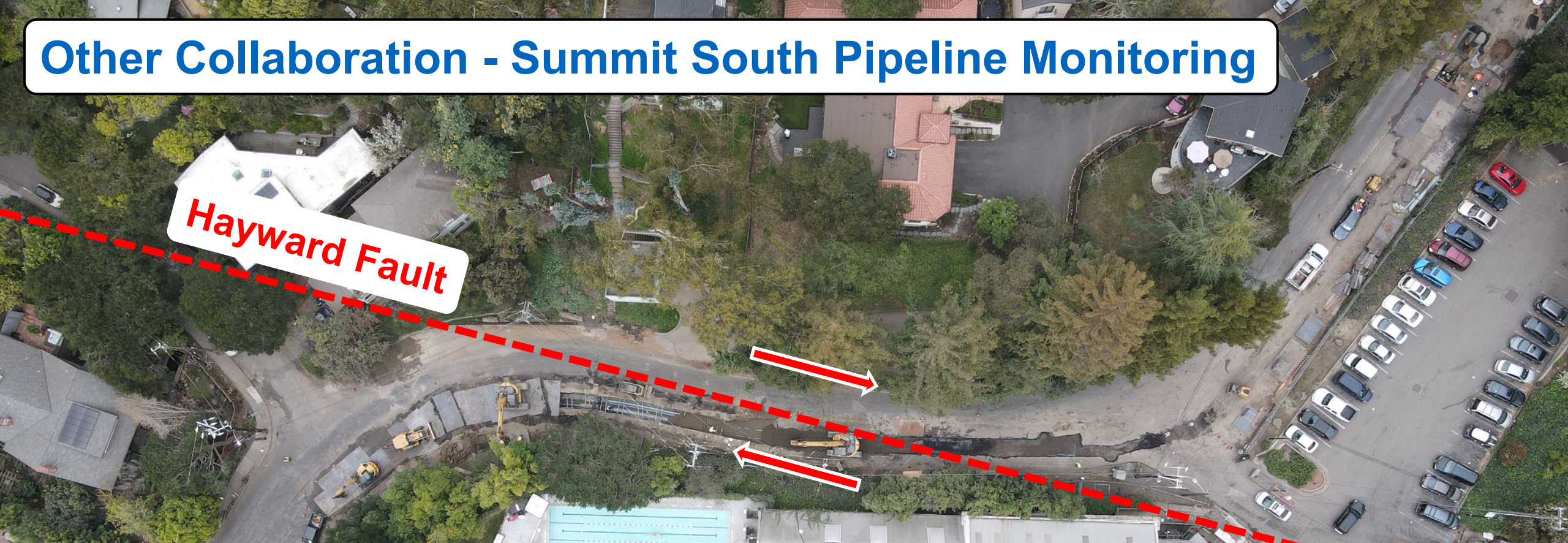


Testing Apparatus

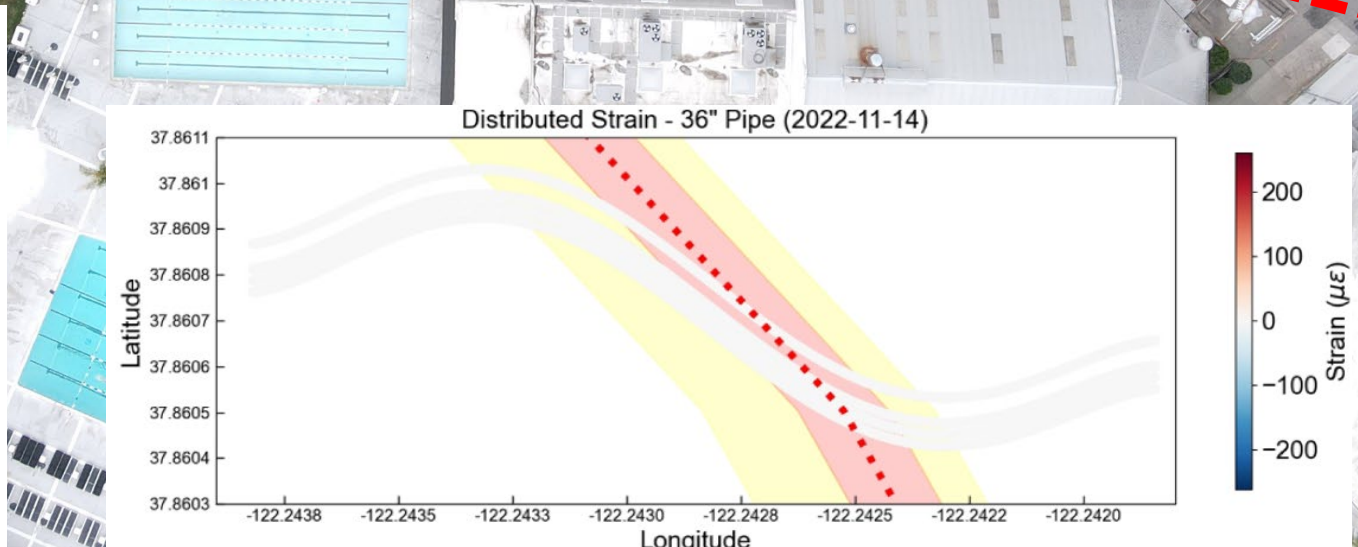
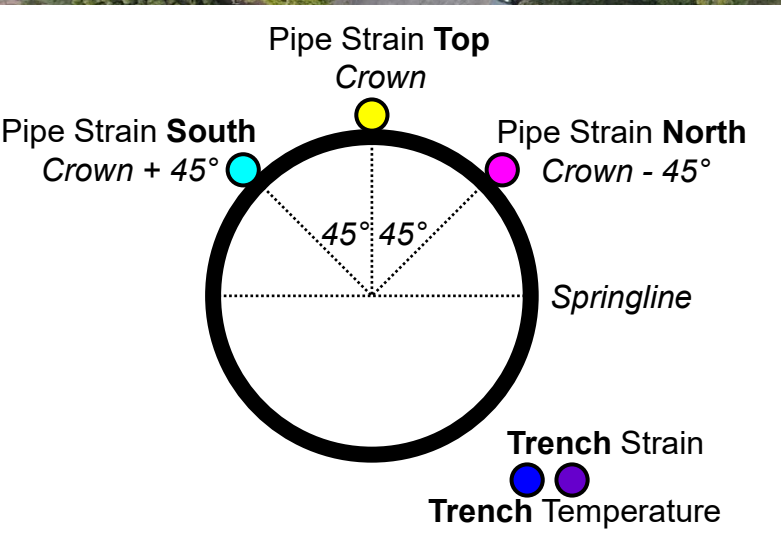


Split Basin before Backfill

Other Collaboration - Summit South Pipeline Monitoring



Hayward Fault



CE 112 - EBMUD Class & Internship

Water and Wastewater Systems Design and Operation

- Water Supply and Natural Resources
- Water and Wastewater Systems Design and Operations



CE 112 in classroom



CE 112 class at Sobrante Water Treatment Plant

- Infrastructure Maintenance, Renewal, and Replacement
- Sustainability and Resilience
- Emergency and Community

Phase 2 – Project Specific Research

Pipeline

- Cement Mortar Lining of Mokelumne Aqueduct
- Monitoring Settlement of Mokelumne Aqueduct using satellite
- Pipeline Likelihood and Consequence of Failure
- Pipeline Fragility Curves for Seismic Resilience
- Pipeline Performance in Landslide
- Cured In-Place Pipeline (CIPP)
- Field Lok Gasket Testing

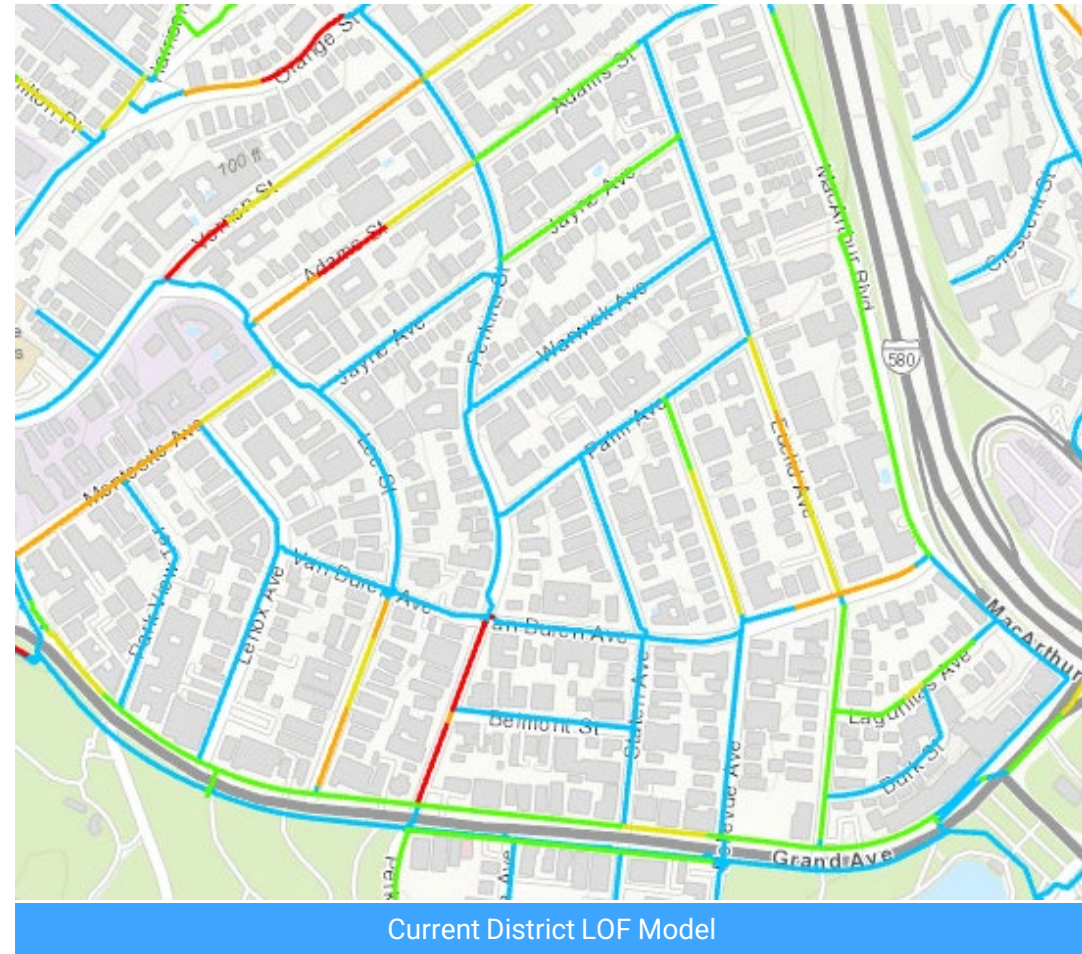
Geotech and Wastewater

- Unlined Spillway Channel Performance and Upgrades
- Embankment Dam Fragility Curves and Post-Earthquake Response
- Untethered Video Inspection of Sanitary Sewer System



Distribution Pipeline LOF and COF

- Definitions:
 - LOF is Likelihood of Failure
 - COF is Consequence of Failure
- Current risk models calculate LOF, but do not forecast pipeline degradation rates
- Develop an LOF model that can forecast pipeline degradation
- Develop COF model to predict risk and impact



CML Mokelumne Aqueducts

- 3 Mokelumne Aqueducts convey raw water from Pardee
- Cement Mortar Lining (CML) is failing, resulting in corrosion of steel pipe
- Failure is greater in the aboveground sections
- Need for improved CML mix design capable of withstanding daily thermal expansion and contraction of steel pipe
- CSI will perform thermal and cyclic testing



Aboveground Section of Mokelumne Aqueduct



Cement Mortar pieces form debris dams reducing hydraulic capacity

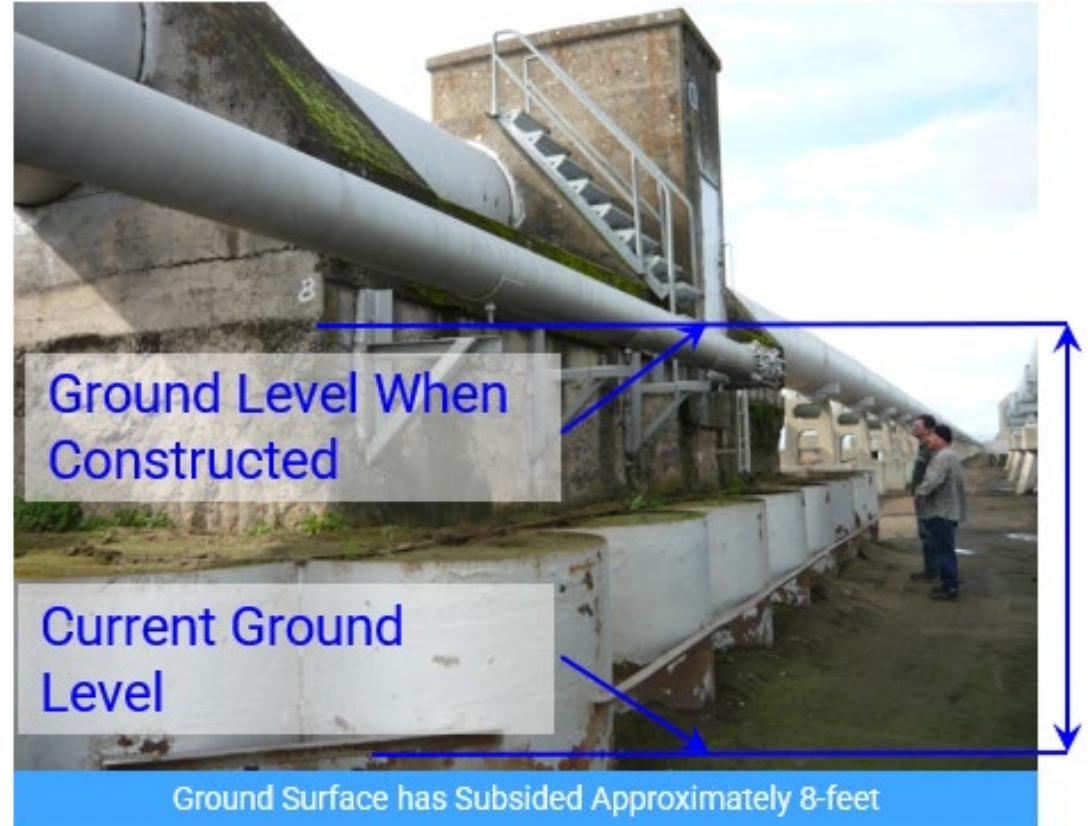
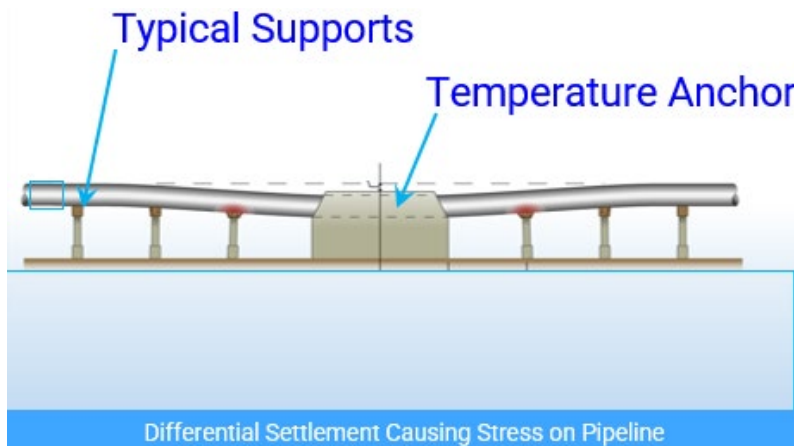


Large sheet of delaminated lining. Longitudinal weld traverses the center of the spall.

Internal Corrosion of Steel Pipe at CML Failure

Satellite Monitoring of Mokelumne Aqueduct Settlement

- Exposed piles
- Subsidence creating structural concerns
- Failure: costly to repair and may impact operation
- Remote monitoring via satellite



Unlined Spillway Channel Performance and Upgrades

- Pardee and Camanche Spillways
- Experienced erosion with relatively minor floods
- Potential for larger flood to damage spillway, which is costly to repair
- Floods predicted to worsen due to climate change
- Develop predictive models for erosion and scour potential
- Develop effective mitigation measures



Pardee Spillway

Embankment Dam Fragility Curves and Post-Earthquake Response

- 22 Earth Embankment Dams
- Limited ability to perform rapid earthquake risk assessment
- Develop a post-earthquake inspection criterion
- Develop a real-time monitoring program



39th Avenue Reservoir, Oakland

Untethered Camera Sewer Inspection

- New method of sewer inspection
- Inspection with action camera during low flows
- Longer inspection length than corded camera crawler
- CSI to evaluate and develop a SLAM algorithm to pinpoint sources of rapid inflow and infiltration
 - Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM) via multi-sensor fusion with visual, gyroscopic, and accelerometer data

Camera in sewer during inspection



Action camera mount in a 6" acrylic sphere

Next Steps

- Continue to engage with agencies, manufacturers, and researchers
- Further the development of remote sensing and pipeline monitoring technologies
- Expand the large-scale pipeline testing capabilities
- Expand the collaboration to other areas of water and wastewater
- Expand the collaboration to other emerging issues
- Board consideration of Phase 2 collaboration agreement for \$2.8 million

Photo: October 11, 2024 CSI Workshop on Pipeline Testing for Hazard Resilience



Questions?



Flowing
into the
Future



Photo Credit: City of Sacramento

Water Forum 2050

Planning Committee

July 8, 2025

Max A. Fefer, Associate Civil Engineer



Agenda

- Background of District's Interest
- What is the Sacramento Region Water Forum?
- Water Forum 2050
- District Participation in Water Forum 2050 and Benefits
- Next Steps

District Interest in Sacramento Region

- Freeport + Folsom South Canal
- Central Valley Project contract
- Long-term partnership with Placer County Water Agency (PCWA)
- Other potential supplemental supplies



What is the Water Forum?

- Diverse group of 40+ business and agricultural leaders, citizen groups, environmentalists, water managers, and local governments in the Sacramento region.
- Two co-equal goals
 - Provide a reliable and safe water supply for the Sacramento region's economic health and planned development.
 - Preserve the fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values of the Lower American River.
- Original Water Forum Agreement was signed in 2000 and expires soon.
- Water Forum 2050 is a successor agreement to account for new challenges like climate change.



Photo Credit: City of Sacramento

Benefits of Original Water Forum Agreement

- Created a strong regional culture of trust, collaboration, and transparency.
- Advanced critical infrastructure projects without litigation.
- Built significant habitat enhancements on the Lower American River.
- Provided environmental flows and drought water supply for the District from PCWA 2014, 2015, and 2022.



Salmond habitat restoration
Photo Credit: City of Sacramento

Why Water Forum 2050?

Climate change, droughts, and extreme weather are key drivers for a new agreement.



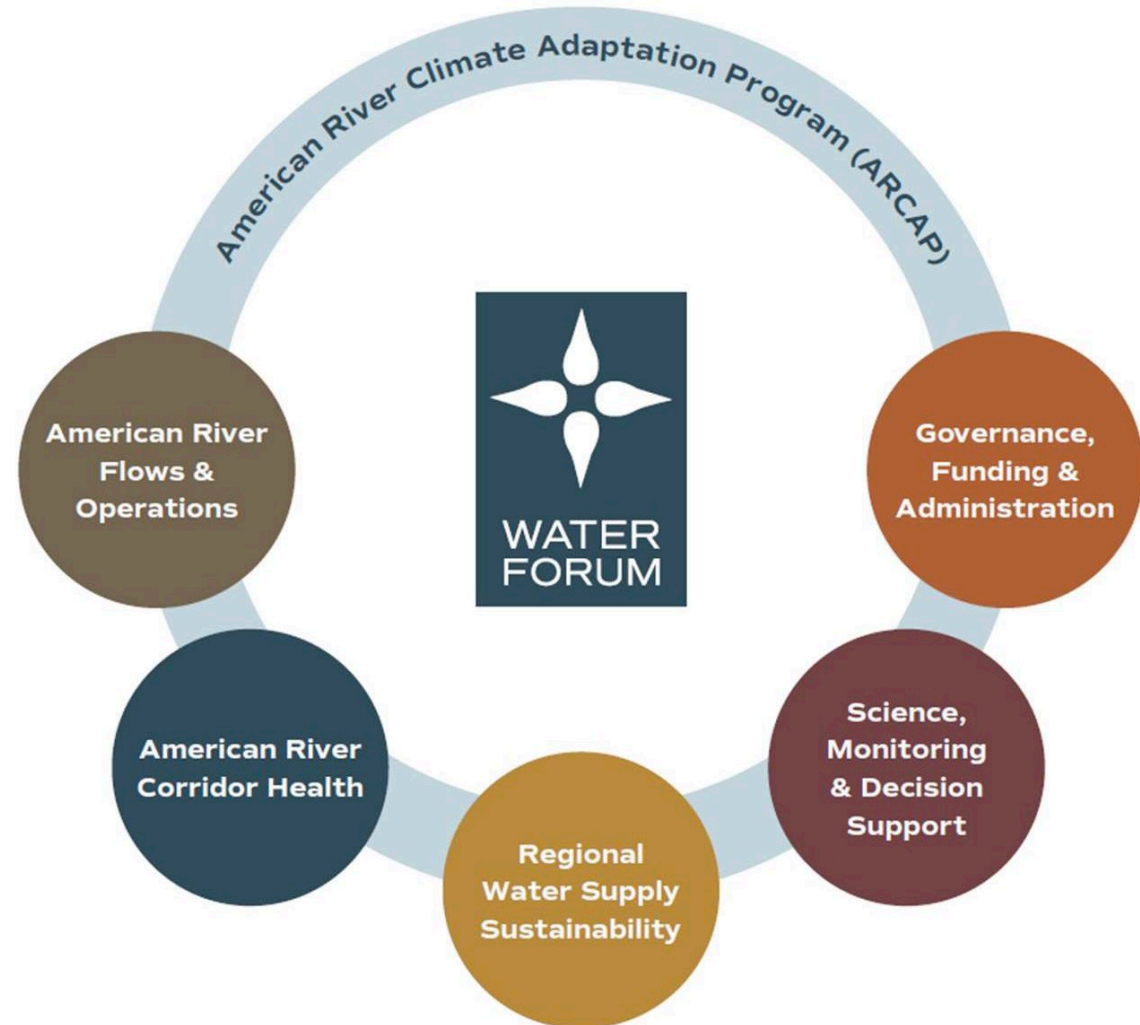
Folsom Dam
Photo Credit: City of Sacramento



Lower American River
Photo Credit: City of Sacramento

Water Forum 2050 Program Areas

- Continues and modernizes the work of the Water Forum through 2050.
- An updated framework for:
 - Collaboration
 - Action
 - Adaptive Management
 - Regional Planning
 - Developing drought resilient water supplies (ARCAP)
- Goal - Contribute tangible volumes of water toward the co-equal objectives.



American River Climate Adaptation Program (ARCAP)

- Create and deploy measurable quantities of water through regional actions to support the co-equal objectives.
 - Opportunities for the District to participate in potential supplemental supply projects such as the Sacramento Regional Groundwater Bank.
- Strategic safeguard against worsening climate conditions and decreased storage in Folsom Reservoir.
- An "insurance policy" to protect regional water supplies and the lower American River during extreme dry periods.

District Participation and Benefits

- Support the co-equal objectives of the Water Forum.
- Continue water conservation plans consistent with state law.
- Regional support for diversion of water from the Sacramento River at Freeport during droughts:
 - Seat at the table to support long-term water transfer project with Placer County Water Agency (up to 47,000 acre-feet in dry years).
 - Reinforces District's presence in regional water supply planning to represent our interests.
- Build and strengthen District's partnerships with Sacramento region water agencies that are developing drought water supply projects.
- Provide annual funding (\$29,602 in Fiscal Year 2026) for Water Forum staffing, river data gathering, hydro-dynamic modeling, habitat restoration planning, and more.

Next Steps

- Staff recommends District participation in Water Forum 2050
- Board feedback and discussion

July

- Board Briefing
- Review Draft Agreement
- Confirm Agency Commitments

August

- Final Comments Due

September

- Final Draft Agreement

October

- Confirmation of Final Agreement

December

- Board Considers Approval



Questions?





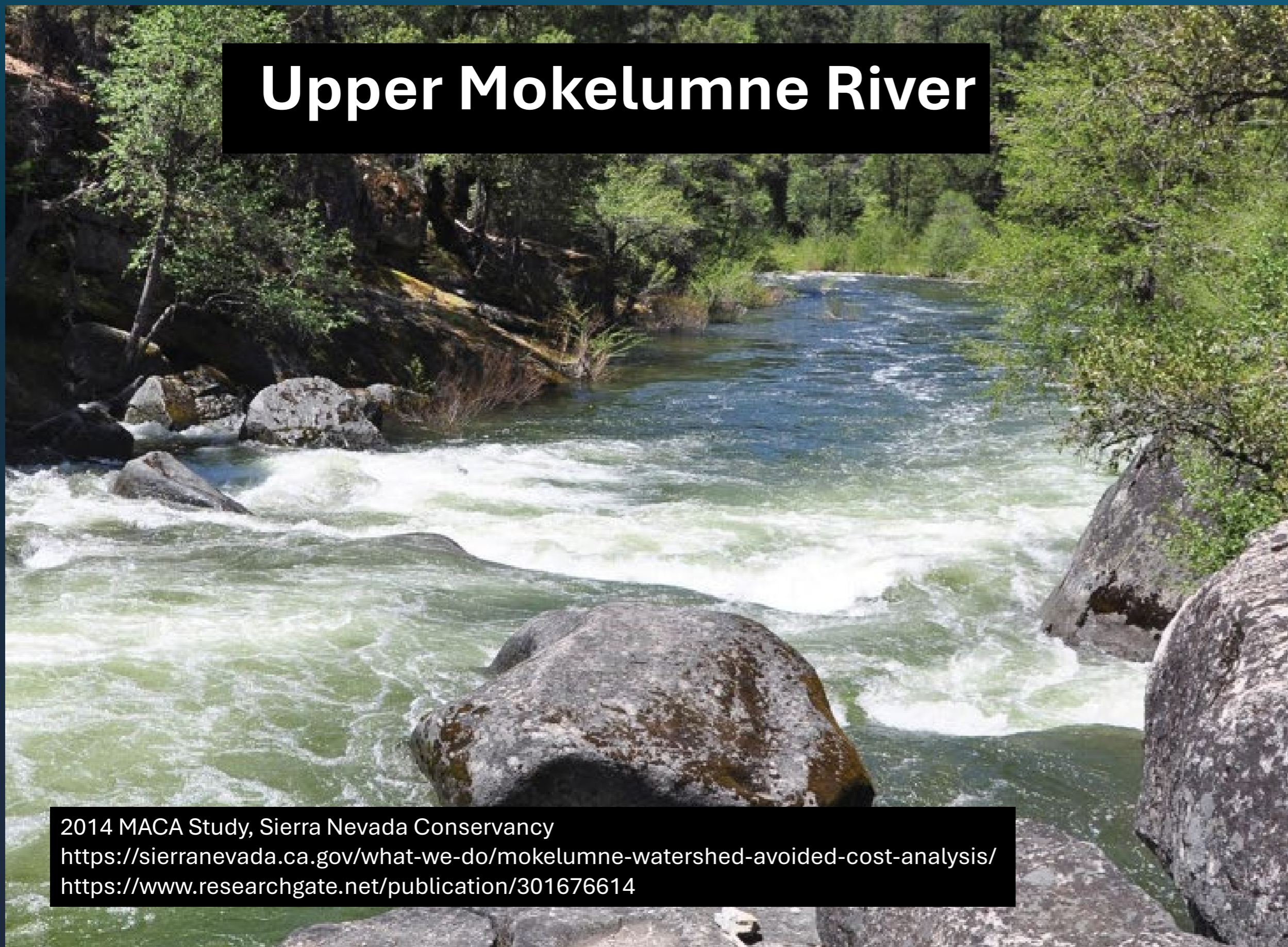
**EROSION THREAT TO
THE MOKELUMNE
WILD & SCENIC RIVER**

AFTER WILDFIRE

Rich Farrington, Ph.D., Director AWA & UMRWA, rfarrington@amadorwater.org

Painting: Unknown Author

Upper Mokelumne River



2014 MACA Study, Sierra Nevada Conservancy
<https://sierranevada.ca.gov/what-we-do/mokelumne-watershed-avoided-cost-analysis/>
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301676614>



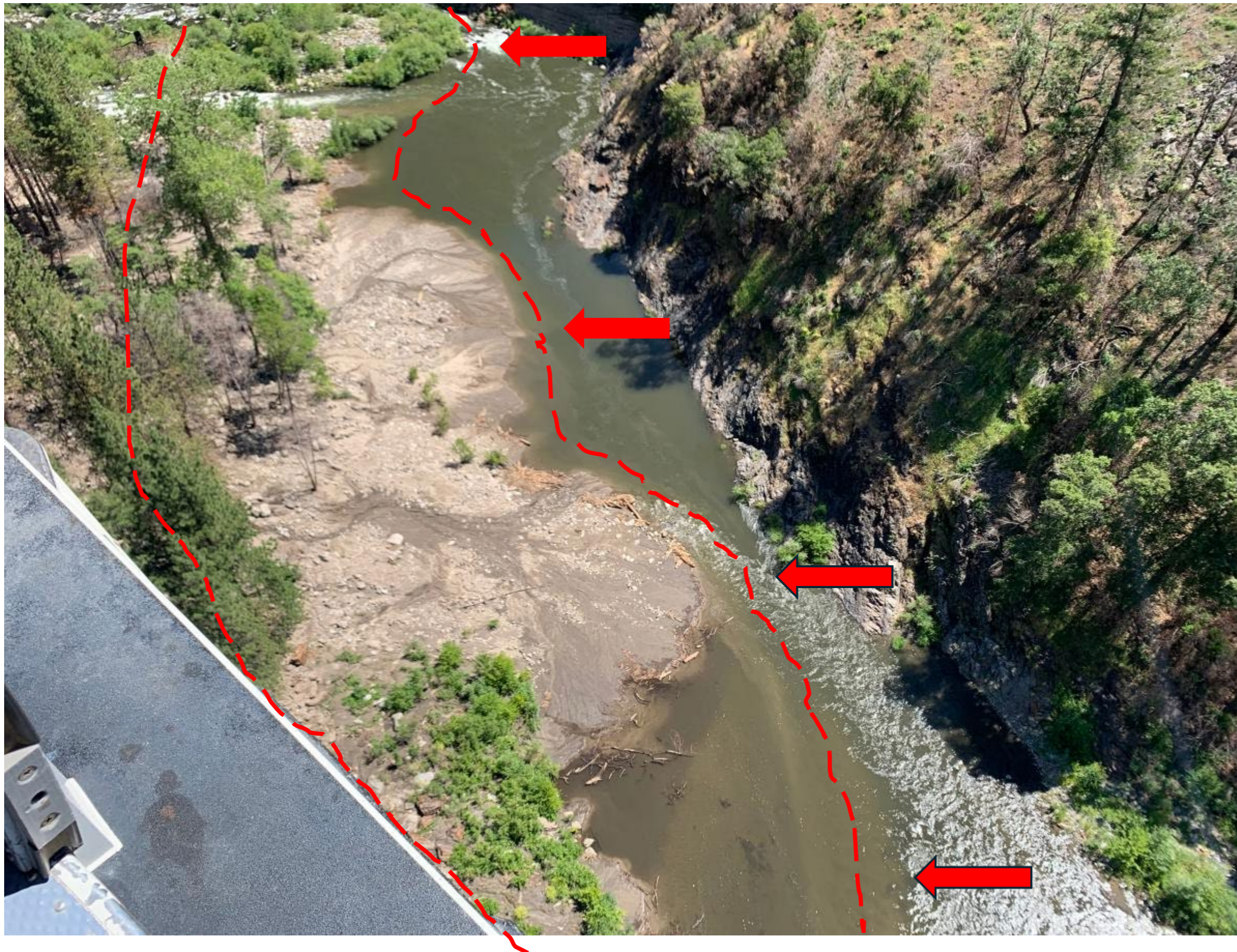
This could be the Mokelumne River

**from debris flows
after the Dixie mega wildfire**

**(North Fork Feather River
1 year after 2021 Dixie Fire)**

Photo: Cal Geological Survey, Don Lindsay;
<https://www.usgs.gov/programs/landslide-hazards/science/dixie-fire-post-fire-debris-flows-a-tale-two-storms>

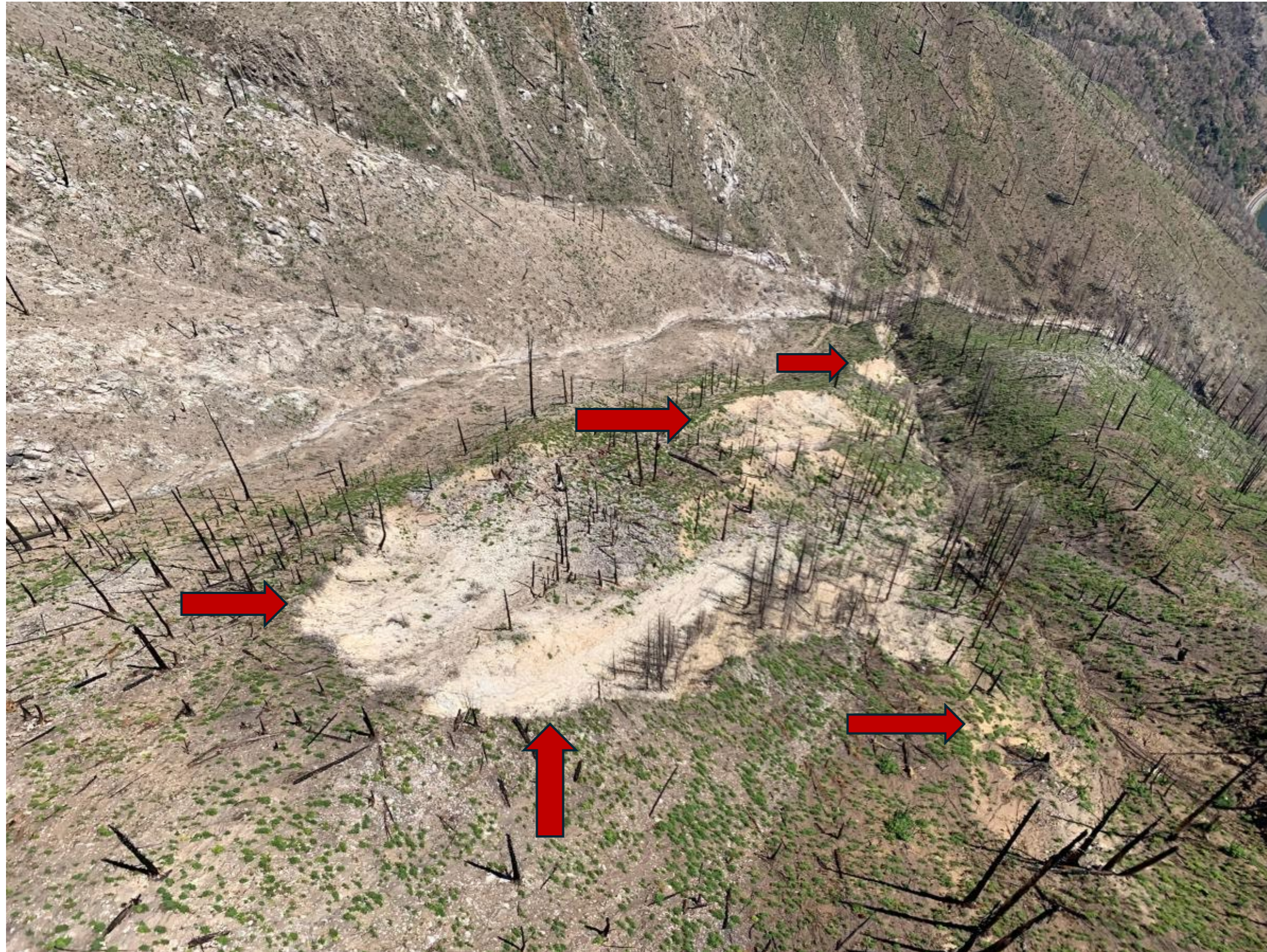




Debris-flow deposits in the North Fork Feather River

1 yr After
2021 Dixie Fire of
963,711 ac.

Cal Geological Survey



Origination of Debris Flow deposits in North Fork Feather River

**1 yr after the 2021
Dixie Fire**

**US Geological Survey:
“Debris-flow risk can be
elevated for several
years after a wildfire”**

Photo: Cal Geological Survey



Debris Flow Deposit Dixie Fire Burn Area in 2022

**Debris Flow is a fast moving
mixture of mud, water,
boulders, and logs**

Cal Geological Survey



Fish kill

In the Klamath River after the 2022 60,000 Acre McKinney Fire and a massive debris flow.

**Photo: Karuk Tribe
per LA Times 8/10/2022**

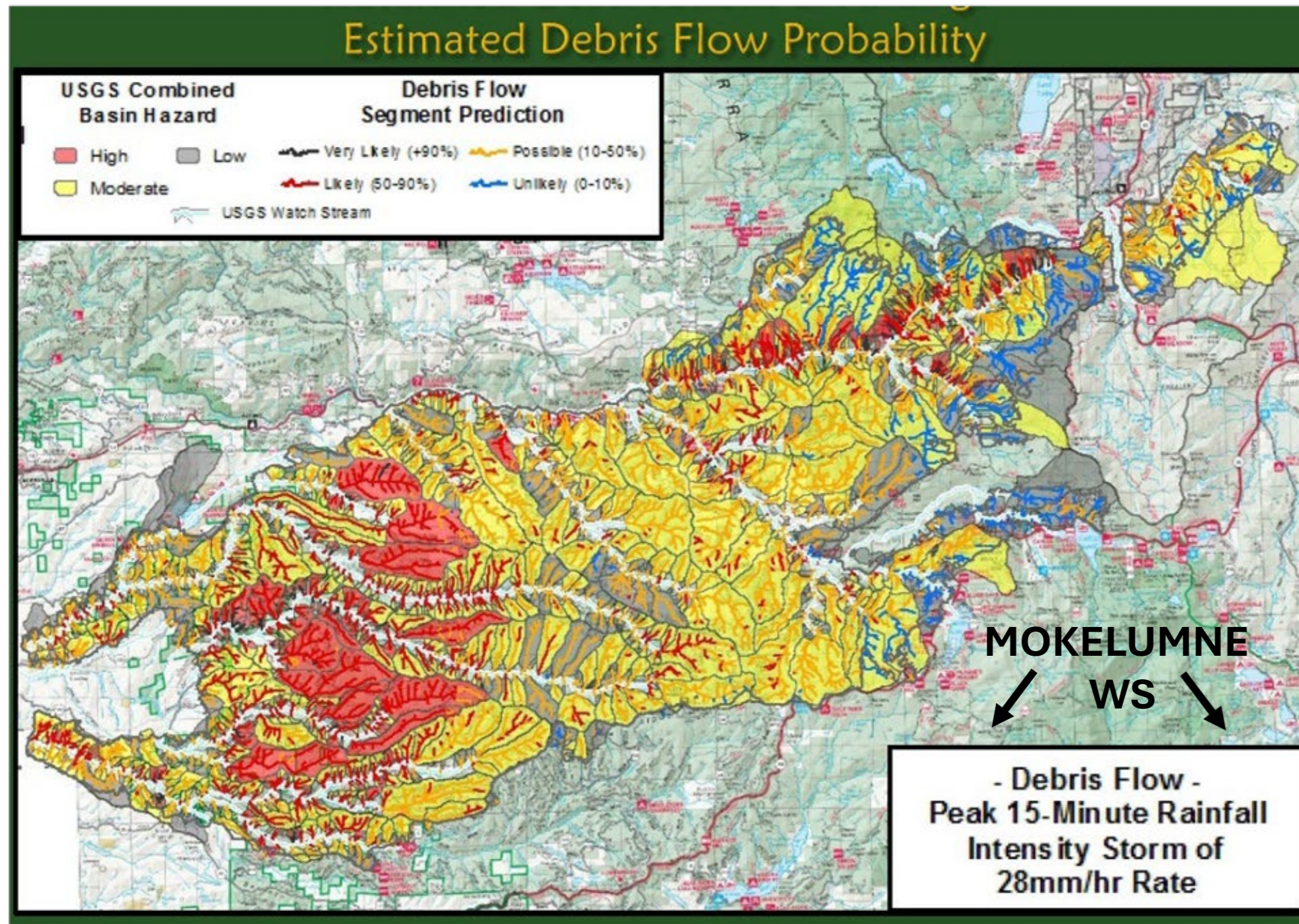


2022 Debris Flow scars 1 year after Dixie Fire, North Fork Feather River

Note: Severely Burned Veg

Photo credit: Cal Geological Survey

2021 CALDOR FIRE (221,835 ac) USGS Debris Flow Probability in 15 min. of a 1 inch/hr storm: USGS



EXPLANATION

● Sediment Retention Basins

● Basin Outlet

▭ Fire Perimeter

Basin Volume (m³)

▭ < 1,000 m³

▭ 1,000-10,000 m³

▭ 10,000-100,000 m³

▭ > 100,000 m³

Projection is WGS84
Web Mercator

Predicted volume, in cubic meters (m³), of a debris flow in response to the design rainstorm with a peak 15-minute rainfall intensity of 24 mm/h

This could be the Mokelumne Watershed



Dixie Fire - 963,711 ac.
July 26, 2021

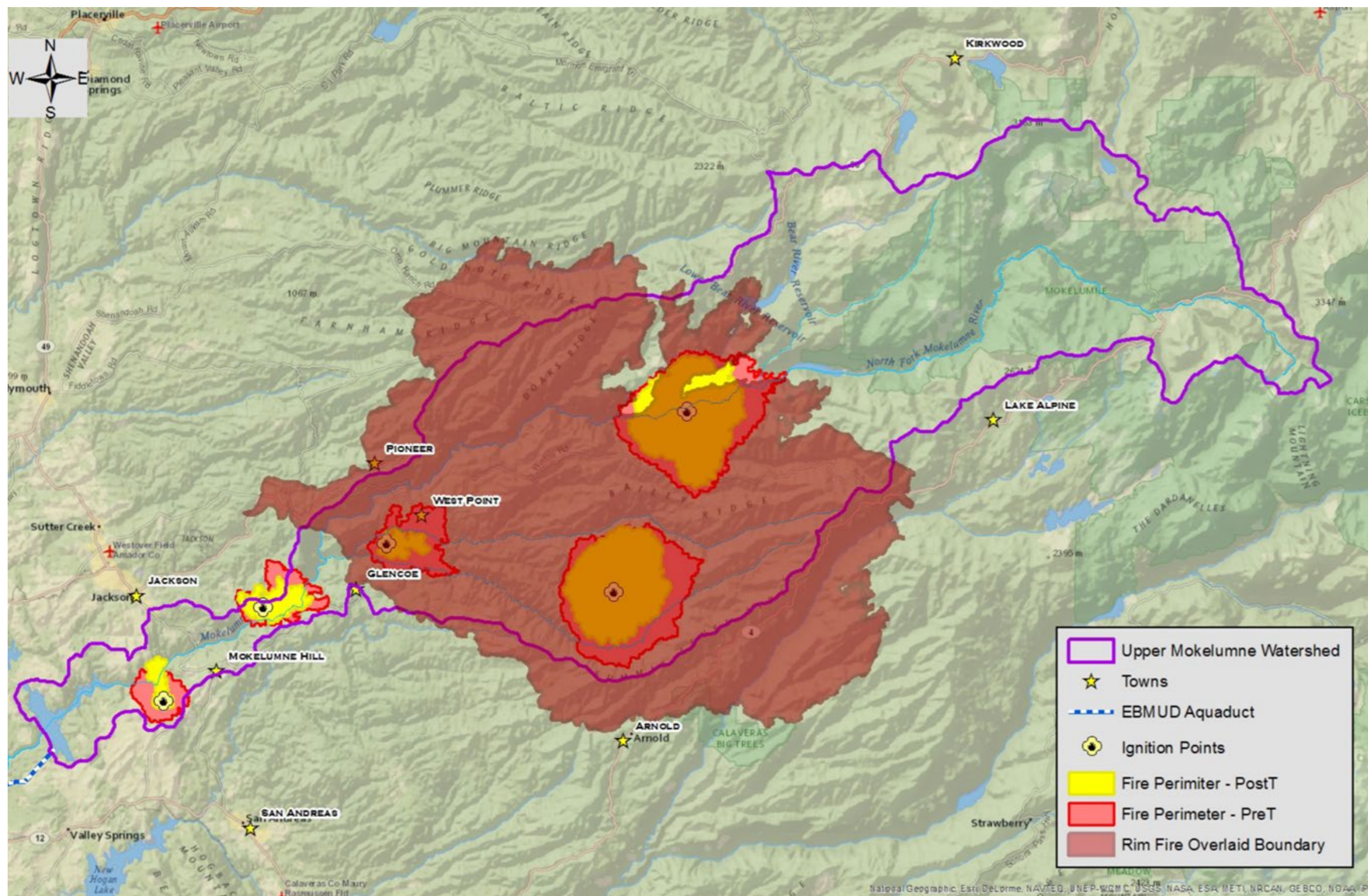
**2022 USFS “Wildfire Crisis
Strategy”:**

**“Wildfires have been growing in
size, duration, and destructivity over
the past 30 years”**

(https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/fs_media/fs_document/WCS-Second-Landscapes.pdf)

Photo: INCIWEB

2013 Rim Fire (257,314 ac.) Outline on Mokelumne Watershed & MACA Modeled Fires



Costs would be much higher from a fire the size of the Rim Fire

2014 MACA (Mokelumne Avoided Cost Analysis) Modeled Fires (Yellow & Dark Red, Lighter Red is Rim Fire). MACA concluded cost of Prevention is much less than the cost of the fire.

Cal Sierra Nevada Conservancy

<https://sierranevada.ca.gov/what-we-do/mokelumne-watershed-avoided-cost-analysis/><https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301676614>



Wildfire is a Threat to Drinking Water Quality

After a 2015 fire near Solimar Beach in Ventura, Ca.

Photo: Joel Angel Juárez /
Associated Press

“Central Valley Water Quality Control Board and Wildfire” website

Research shows increased concentrations of contaminants including nutrients (e.g. nitrates and phosphorus), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, copper, zinc, mercury, lead, and other metals. Several of these pollutants can be harmful to human health and toxic to aquatic life. Many pollutants absorb, or attach, to suspended particles such as sediment.”

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/wildfire_and_water_quality/



2004 Power Fire

**Dead forest covered in
chemical laden ash**

North Fork Mokelumne

Photo by Kent
Lambert, EBMUD, 2004 Power Fire



Fuel/fire “tinderbox” threat in the North Fork Mokelumne Watershed

In the 2004 Power Fire (17,000 ac) area from brush & dead trees

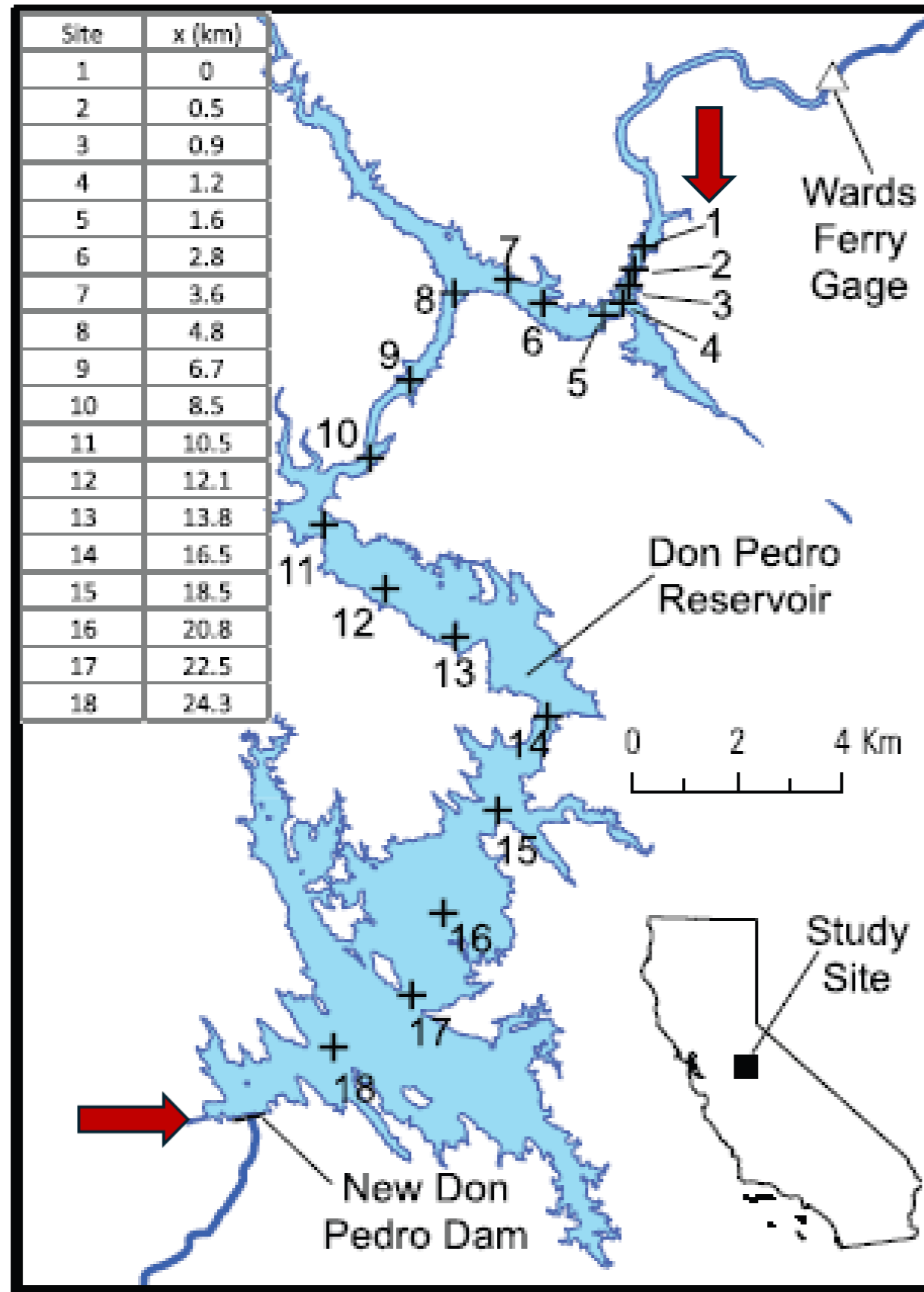
Photo: R.Farrington, 2022

Fuel breaks



**Saved Pollock
Pines and Sly
Park from 2021
Caldor Fire
(221,835 ac)
per**

**Greg Hawkins,
Parks and Rec
Manager, El
Dorado Irrigation
District**

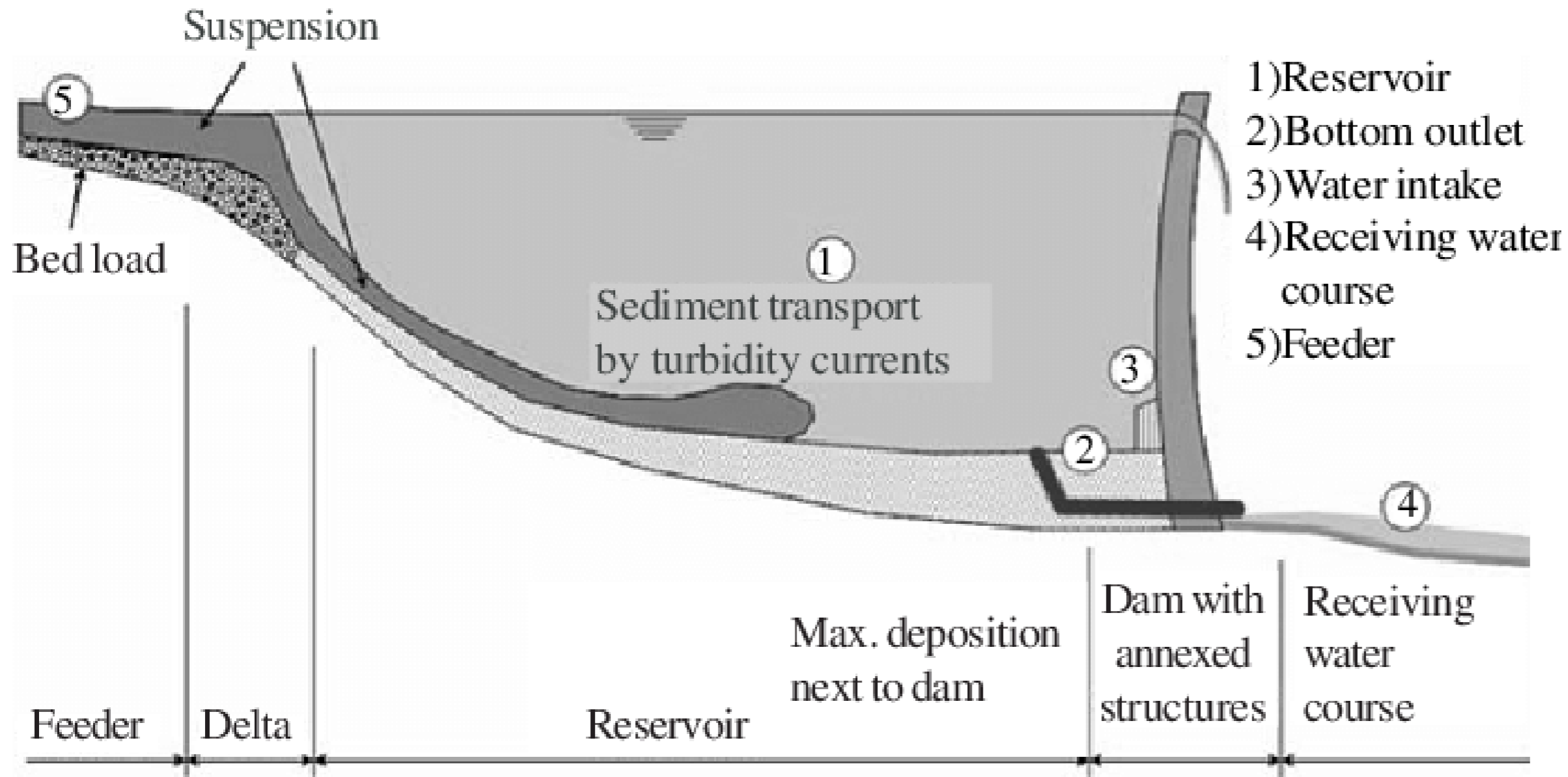


Don Pedro Reservoir study showing underwater turbidity currents flowed **15 miles 2-3 years** following the **2013 Rim Fire (257,314 ac)**.

February 2015
December 2015
and March 2016

From: "Turbidity Current Observations in a Large Reservoir Following a Major Wildfire," **Wright and Marineau, Journal of Hydraul. Eng., 2019**, 145(8): 06019011

Post 2013 Rim Fire (257,314 ac.) – Turbidity currents flowed **15 miles Underwater** in Don Pedro Reservoir during 3 Storms after the fire:



2 & 3 years after the fire:

**February 2015,
December 2015, and
March 2016.**

This could happen to Pardee

“Turbidity Current Observations in a Large Reservoir Following a Major Wildfire,” Wright and Marineau, *J. Hydraul. Eng.*, 2019, 145(8): 06019011

One turbidity current in Don Pedro Res., Ca. after 2013 Rim Fire

February 2015 storm:

(Station 1 to Dam is over 15 miles)

From Wright and Marineau, Journ., Hydraul. Eng., 2019, 145(8): 06019011

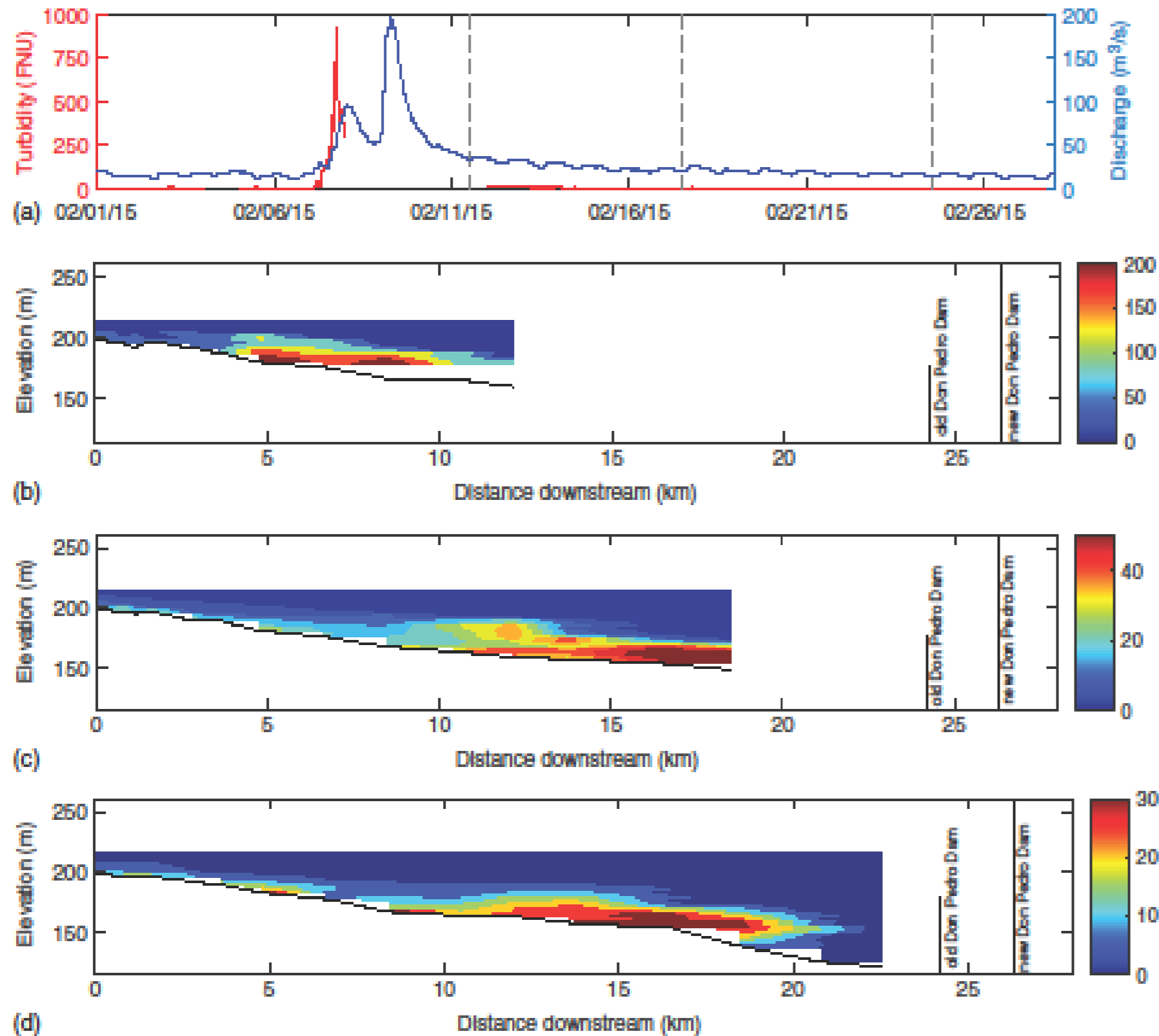


Fig. 2. (Color) Reservoir inflows and turbidity profiling results for the February 2015 event: (a) reservoir inflow and turbidity at Wards Ferry gauge; (b) turbidity profiling on February 11; (c) turbidity profiling on February 17; and (d) turbidity profiling on February 24. Vertical dashed lines in panel (a) indicate dates of turbidity profiling. The turbidity color bar scale is different in each panel.

Some Thoughts

- **Mega wildfires have been increasing in size and intensity over the last 30 years (USFS). Fire is likely to burn the Upper Mokelumne Watershed like the recent megafires in the Sierra (Dixie, Caldor, Rim, King, Butte, KNP, etc).**
- **The Mokelumne designated Wild & Scenic River & other resources could be heavily damaged by debris flows after a fire.**
- **The Costs of restoration, including water treatment and recovery of reservoirs and other infrastructure after a fire will be expensive over the short & long-term.**
- **The 2014 MACA (Mokelumne Avoided Cost Analysis) showed it's less expensive to invest in prevention to avoid all the costs incurred by wildfires.**
- **Prevent severe mega wildfire impacts to the Mokelumne W&S River.**

**This could be
the
Wild & Scenic
MOKELUMNE
RIVER**

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Photo: Cal Geological Survey, Don Lindsay
<https://www.usgs.gov/programs/landslide-hazards/science/dixie-fire-post-fire-debris-flows-a-tale-two-storms>