SEQUOIAS TO THE SLOUGHS (S2S) WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP GROUP

WELCOME!

AS YOU ARRIVE, MARK AREAS ON THE MAP THAT YOU KNOW WELL. YOU CAN ALSO NOTE ASPECTS TO UPDATE OR CHANGE.

PLEASE COLLECT A NAME TAG, HANDOUTS, AND FIND A SEAT.

SEQUOIAS TO THE SLOUGHS (S2S)

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP GROUP

Meeting One
September 30, 2026

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

WHAT WE HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH TODAY

- Get to know each other
- Understand the project goals, timeline, and process
- Ensure the WSG represents all interests and issues
- Identify shared long-term priorities
- Agree on the WSG role and responsibilities



TODAY'S AGENDA

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Project Overview: Goals, Process, Timeline
- *Discussion*: Building a Shared Vision
- *Decision*: WSG Role & Charter Agreements
- Next Steps



INTRODUCTIONS

1. Name
2. Role, organization and/or location within the project area
3. What draws you here? What do you hope the group accomplishes?
4. *Optional: What is one question or concern that you have, if any?*

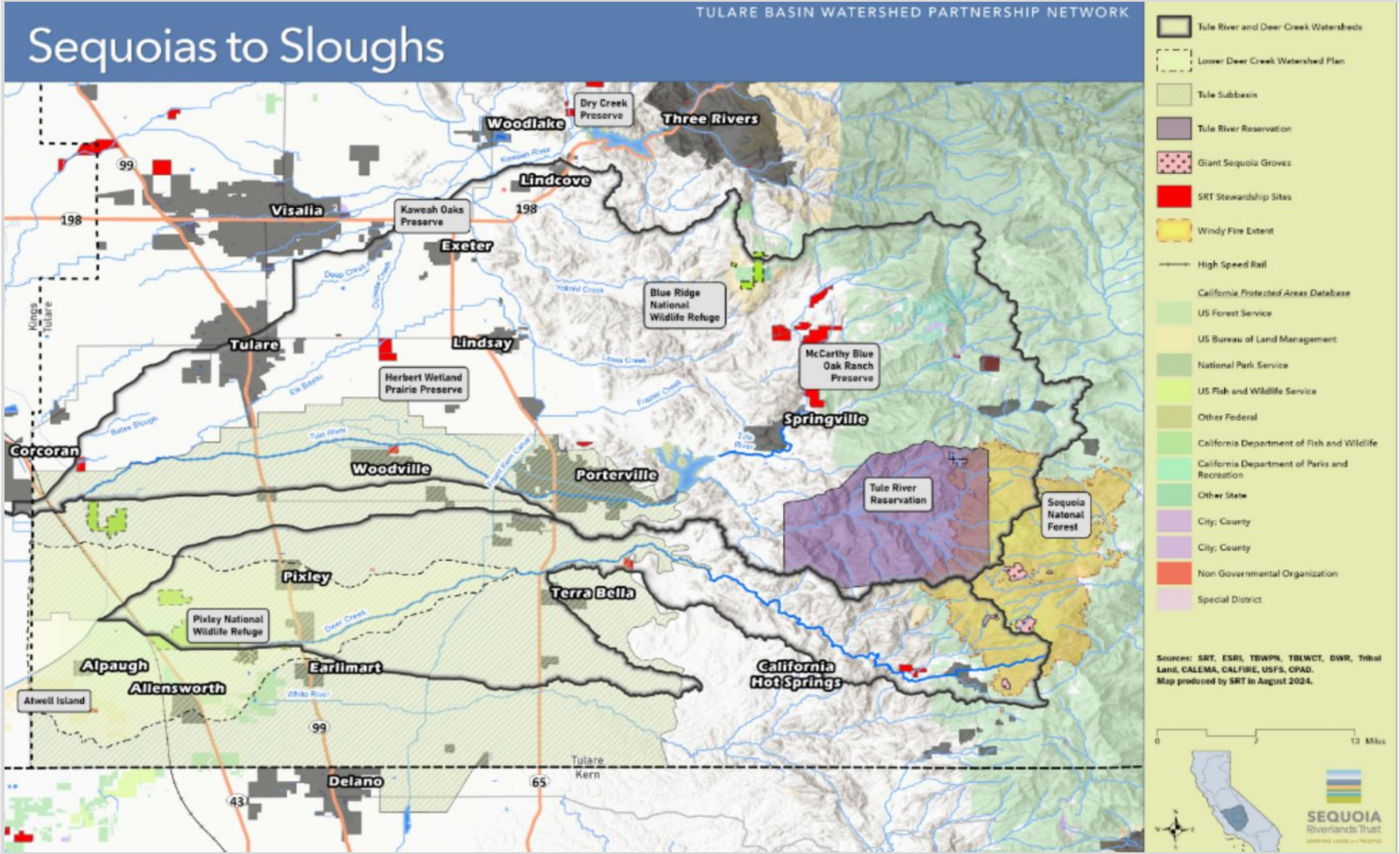
THE BIG PICTURE

A **collaborative** effort to **combine knowledge,** assess watershed challenges and opportunities, and **align around strategic action** focused on a **whole watershed approach** and its protection and enhancement that **benefits all stakeholders**.



TULARE BASIN WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

Sequoias to Sloughs



- Tule River and Deer Creek Watersheds
- Lower Deer Creek Watershed Plan
- Tule Subbasin
- Tule River Reservation
- Giant Sequoia Groves
- SRT Stewardship Sites
- Windy Fire Extent
- High Speed Rail

California Protected Areas Database

- US Forest Service
- US Bureau of Land Management
- National Park Service
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Other Federal
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- Other State
- City; County
- City; County
- Non Governmental Organization
- Special District

Sources: SRT, ESRI, TBWPN, TBLWCT, DWR, Tribal Land, CALEMA, CALFIRE, USFS, CPAD.
Map produced by SRT in August 2024.

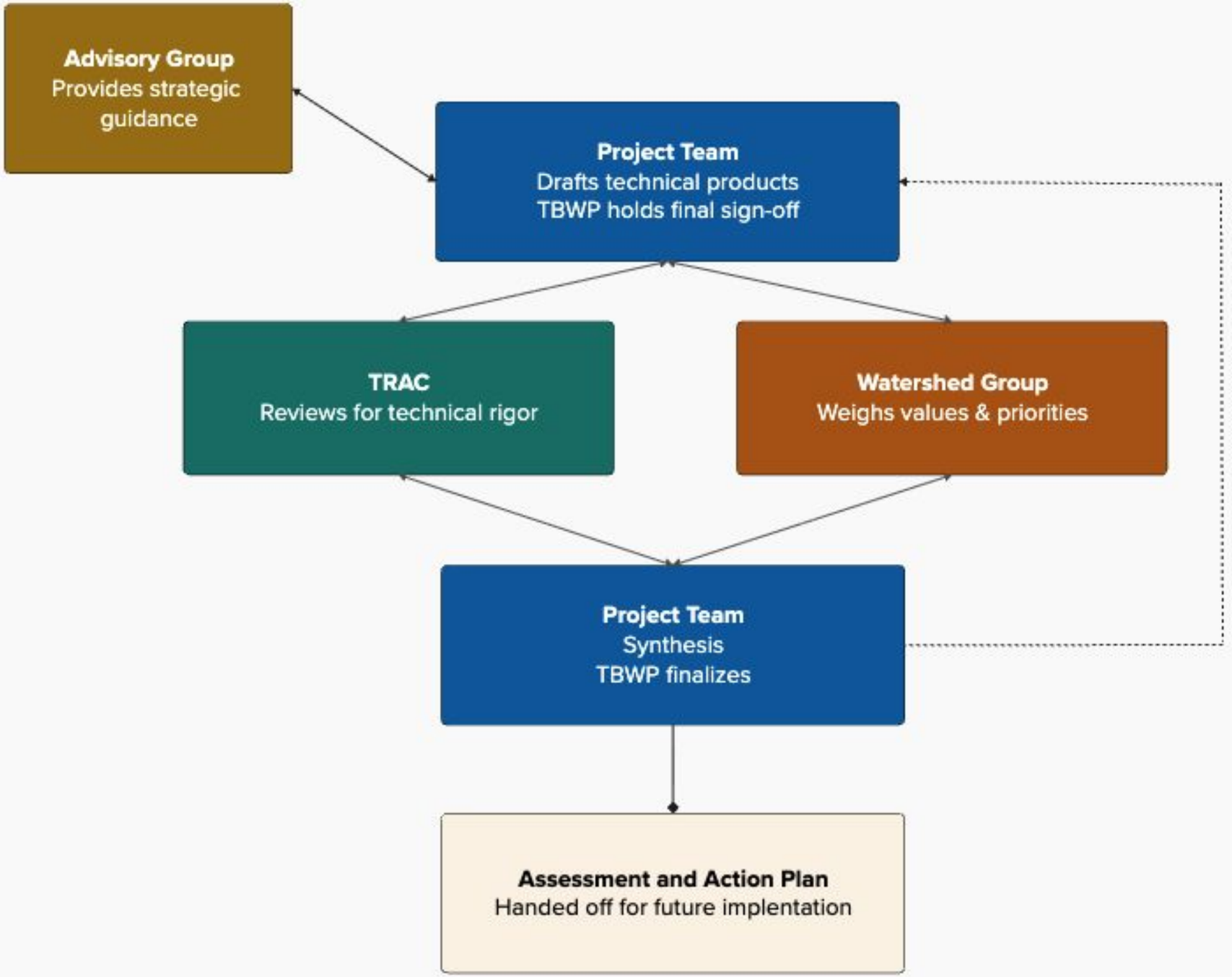
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SEQUOIA Riverlands Trust

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- An implementable Strategic Action Plan to coordinate and amplify existing efforts
- Shared, systemic understanding of the area’s risks, needs, and the integrated solutions at the landscape level
- Increased capacity in which to constructively collaborate, address challenges holistically, and generate durable outcomes




Advisory Group
Provides strategic guidance
Project Team
Drafts technical products
TBWP holds final sign-off
TRAC
Reviews for technical rigor
Watershed Group
Weighs values & priorities
Project Team
Synthesis
TBWP finalizes
Assessment and Action Plan
Handed off for future implentation

WORKING GROUP ROLES



Watershed Stewardship Group

Decides what counts as a priority

1. Develop goals and objectives
2. Identify opportunities, priorities, and project concepts
3. Attract resources and support to this area



Technical and Regulatory Advisory Committee

Ensure technical rigor

1. Identify and analyze relevant resources
2. Visualize and describe watershed information



Core Team

Drafts and Synthesizes

1. Facilitate and coordinate WSG and TRAC meetings
2. Manage project timeline and deliverables
3. Primary contact for external communications

PROJECT TIMELINE

Phase	What happens	Estimated Timing
Assessment	Characterize data, knowledge, capacity, and gaps. Reviewed by TRAC and WSG as it's drafted	Now through April 2027
Synthesis & prioritization	Findings and gaps synthesized; WSG decides which gaps/findings are priorities. TRAC checks technical sufficiency.	Through June 2027
Strategic action plan development	Translate priorities into projects and project concepts; build the case for future funding for implementation.	Through October 2027
Deliverable & wrap up	Final assessment + strategic action plan package	Reviewed and finalized by grant end, September 2028

Watershed Stewardship Group Meetings

- Quarterly for up to 2.5 hours
- Alternate between in-person and virtual formats
- Between meetings, review draft content, including technical information.

BUILDING A SHARED VISION

Reflection & Discussion



ELEMENTS OF A SHARED VISION

(Example, Maryland)

“Through partnerships with private landowners and government agencies, the Deep Creek watershed will improve its environmental stability and economic viability while retaining its rural landscapes and natural beauty so that, for generations to come, local citizens and visitors have a special place to live, work, and play."

ELEMENTS OF A SHARED VISION

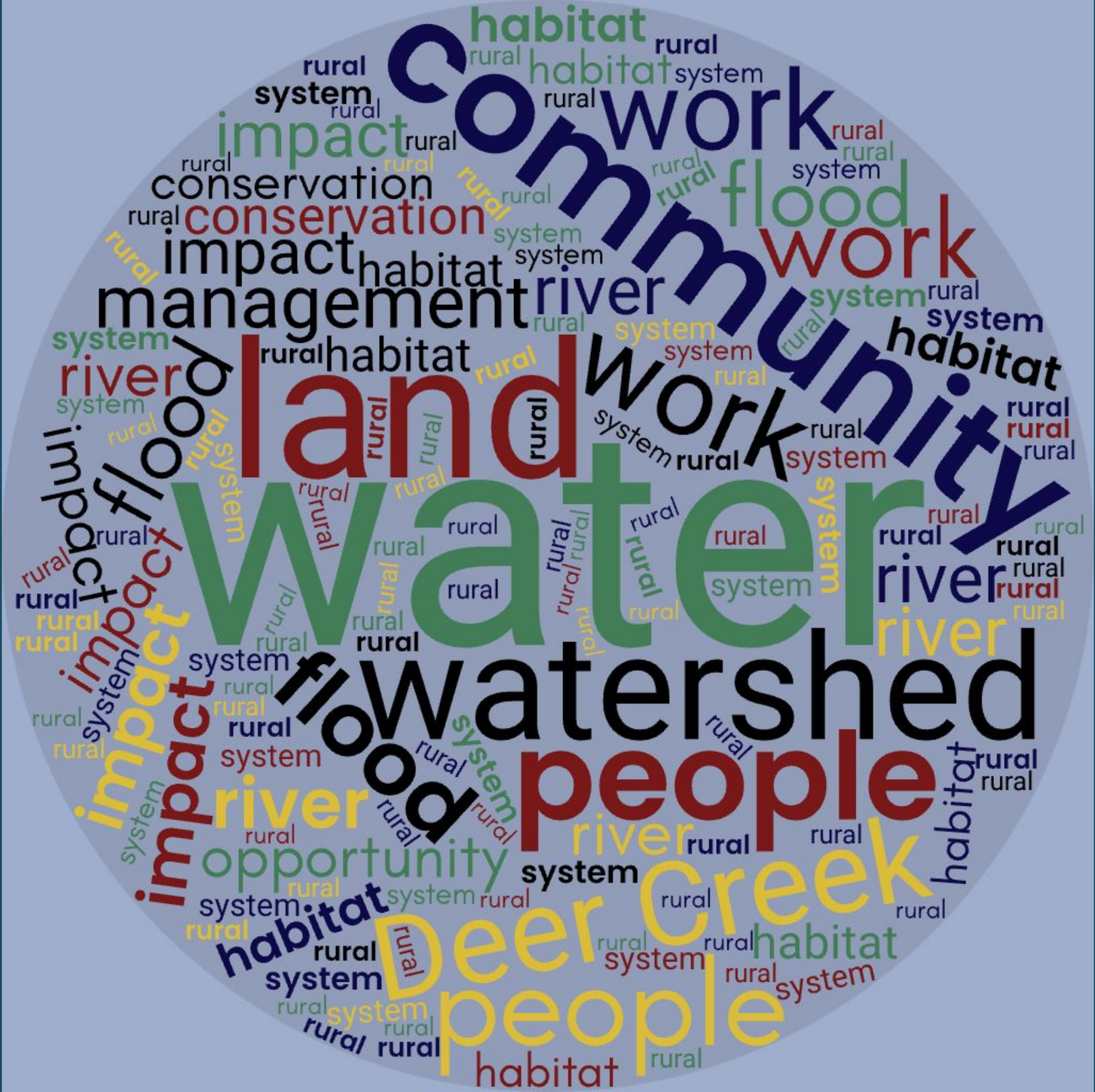
(Example, Arizona)

“The Vision of the Council and Partnership is to ensure an adequate long-term supply of water is available to meet the current and future reasonable needs while preserving the health of the environment on the Coconino Plateau.”

ELEMENTS OF A SHARED VISION

(Example, CA Water Plan 2023)

"All Californians benefit from water resources that are sustainable, resilient to climate change, and managed to achieve shared values and connections to our communities and the environment."


habitat
rural
community
work
habitat
system
rural
system
rural
impact
rural
rural
rural
rural
flood
conservation
rural
conservation
rural
system
work
impact
habitat
system
management
river
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habitat
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land
work
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BUILDING A SHARED VISION

Examples based on what we've heard so far:

"From the giant sequoias to the valley sloughs, one connected watershed shaped by the ranchers, farmworkers, small communities, and land stewards who live its challenges every day."

"A thriving watershed for everyone who depends on it, where healthy forests, working lands, and thriving communities sustain one another"

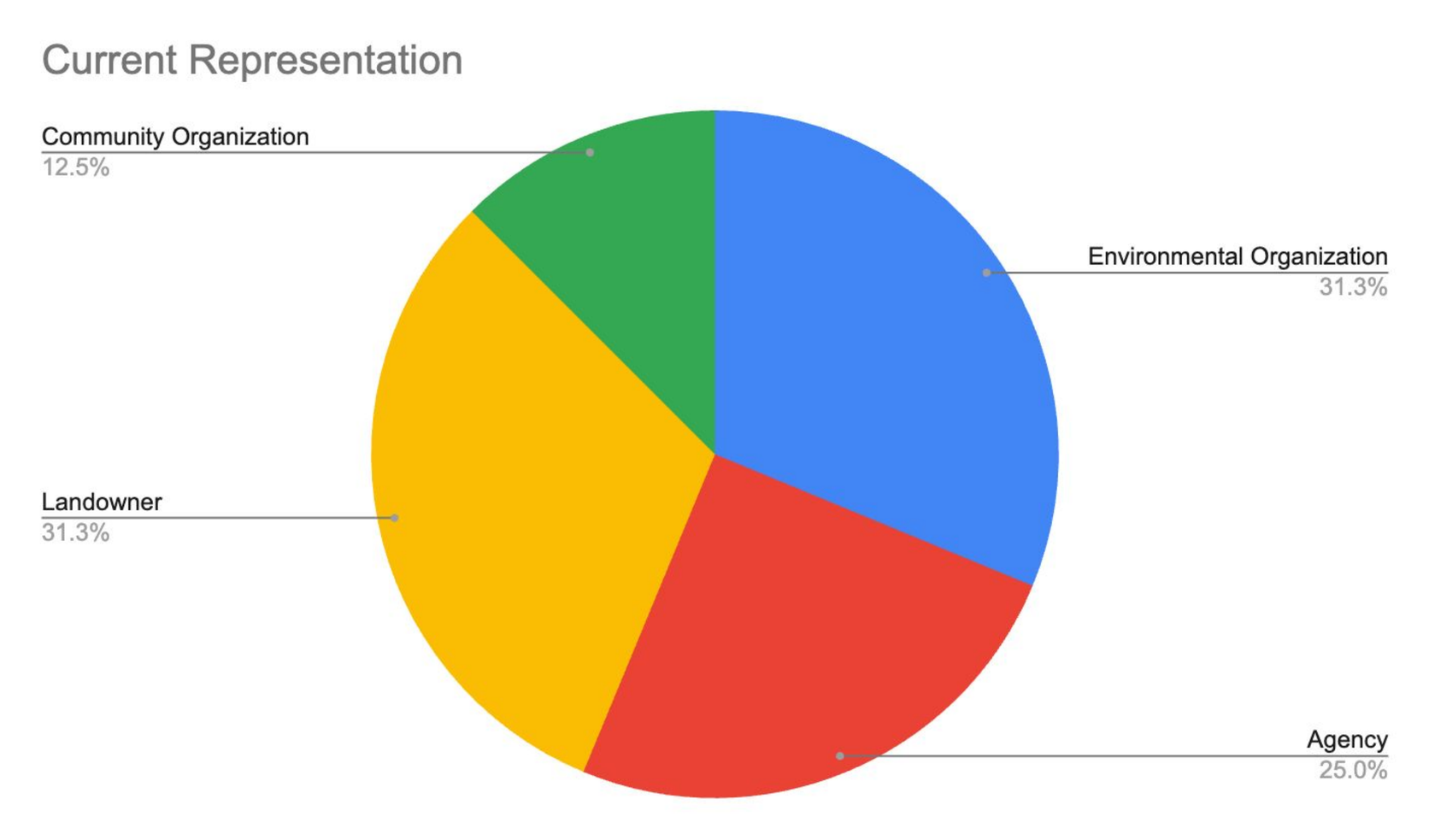
"Linking the upper, middle, and lower watershed by building on the plans, partnerships, and local knowledge already in place."

A FEW DECISIONS TO MAKE...

1. Are meetings open to the public?
2. Consensus decision-making fall back (⅔ vote)?
3. Adding new members?
4. If people aren't at a meeting, how does that change decision making?
5. Sharing documents - portal? Google?



CURRENT WSG REPRESENTATION



OUR NEXT STEPS

- ➔ November 4th half-day field trip
- ➔ Think about the issues and opportunities most important to you
- ➔ Collect and curate resources (send us resources!)



⟶ NEWS YOU CAN USE ⟵

THANK YOU!

Follow the project at https://www.tularebasinwatershedpartnership.org/sequoias-to-the-sloughs-s2s-watershed-assessment-and-stewardship-initiative

Reach Out!

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