



SEQUOIAS TO THE SLOUGHS (S2S)

PROJECT KICK-OFF

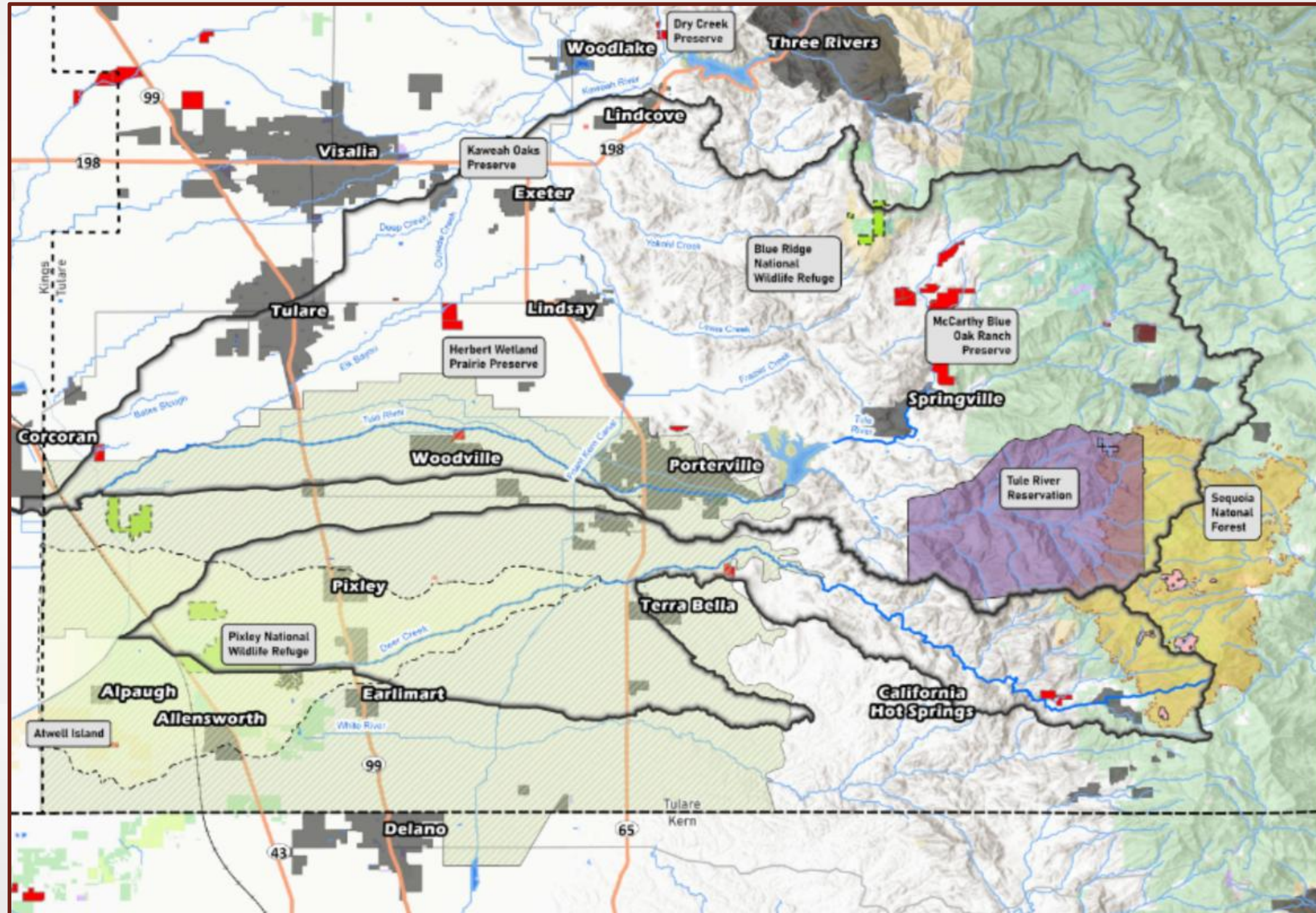
JULY 7, 2026



WELCOME

Introduce yourself
in the chat!

Please share your
name, location or
organization, and
one quality or
feature of this place
that is special to
you.



TODAY'S AGENDA

- ◆ Welcome
- ◆ Project Overview
- ◆ *Discussion*: Exploring the project's potential
- ◆ Hearing from partners and allies
- ◆ *Discussion*: Alignment with your interests
- ◆ How to get involved
- ◆ Next steps



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PROJECT OVERVIEW

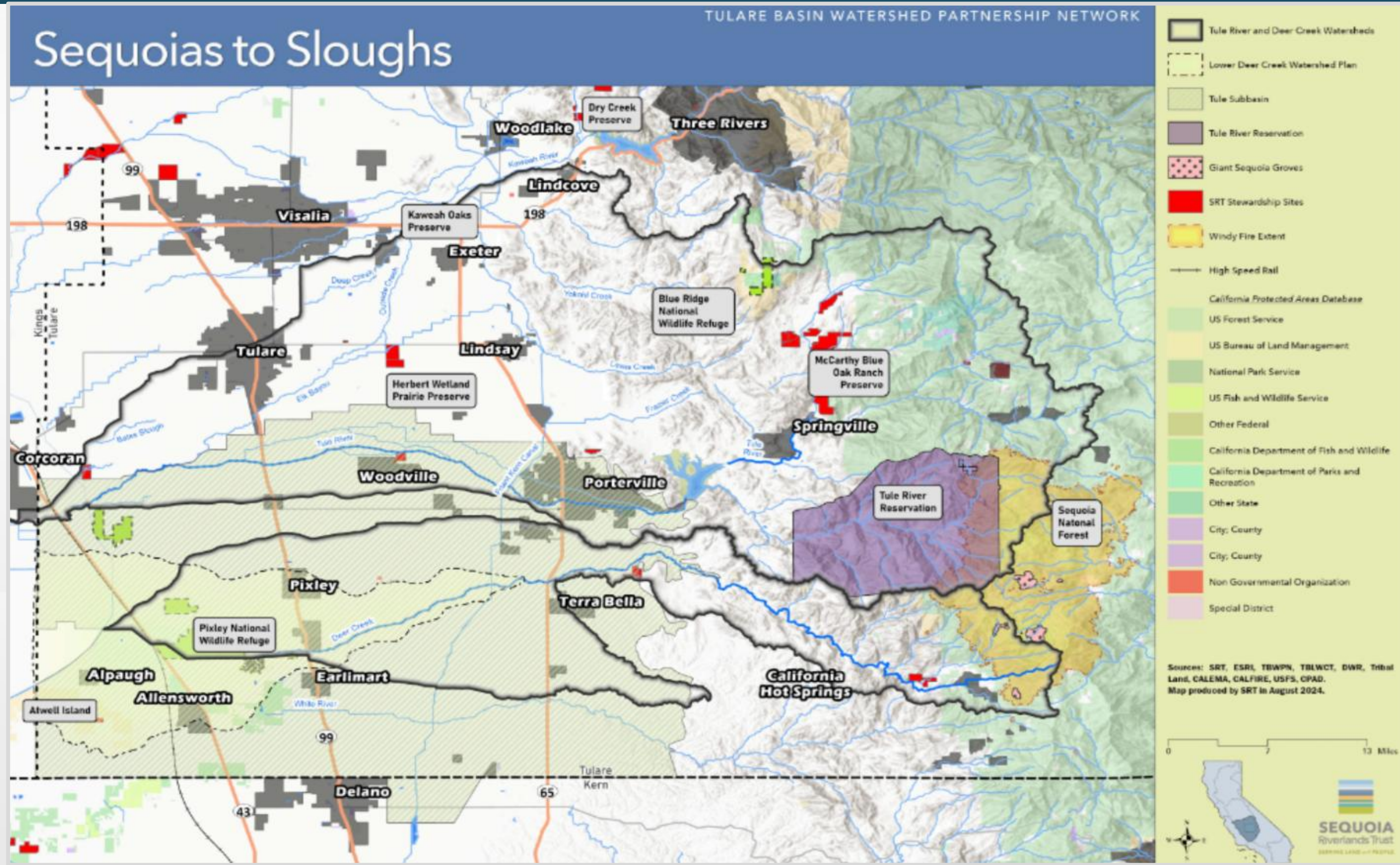
- PURPOSE
- FOCUS AREAS
- SCOPE
- OBJECTIVES
- VALUES
- ROLES
- TIMELINE

PURPOSE: 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 in the Subbasin.

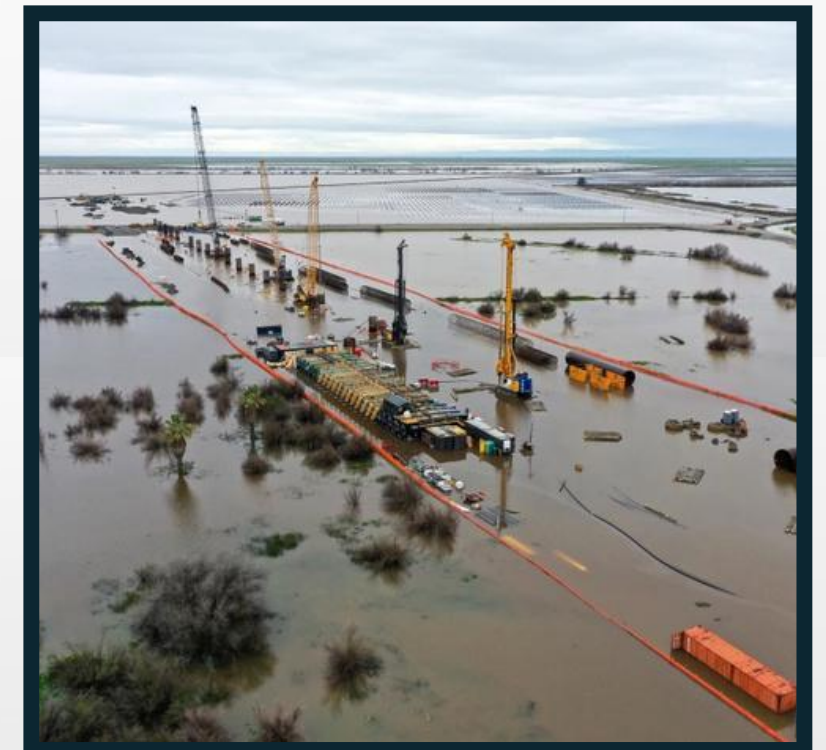


GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE & PROJECT BOUNDARIES



FOCUS AREAS

1. Upper Watershed Post-Fire Recovery and Protection
1. Drought and Floods Variability, Intensity, and Impacts
1. Water Quality and Quantity, Integration and Management
1. Tribal, Cultural, and Social



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Develop a comprehensive plan to guide priority restoration, repurposing, and conservation efforts that protects and enhances the watershed
- Create a collaborative environment where diverse groups and sectors can work together constructively, effectively and efficiently
- Make the watershed "ready to proceed" with specific, prioritized, multi-benefit actions and as a model for the whole Tulare Lake Basin
- Strengthen the role of local Tribes in watershed planning, project development, and on-the-ground work
- Enhance coordination among agencies and stakeholders
- Develop the capacities of a sustaining network

PLANNED 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



WHAT THE PROJECT IS

1. **Strategic, Aspirational, Practical:** defining what you want to do, create, enable for the watershed overall and what is in it for specific stakeholders
1. **Integrative, Whole Systems Approach:** shared understanding the system(s) involved; addressing agricultural, ecological, social, economic interests together
1. **Appropriately Aligned with State Efforts:** – CA Water Plan 2023/2028, SB72, SGMA, Watershed Resilience program, etc. – *tailored to the regional/local contexts*
1. **Forward-looking, Non-regulatory:** out in front of regulations, with a focus on creating new opportunities & project concepts to enable what's needed/wanted *beyond* what is required
1. **Complementary & Collaborative:** Builds upon prior efforts & aligns with existing ones, including local policy and planning; partner with agencies (e.g., Subbasin-wide GSP)
1. **A 'Learning Lab' for the Watersheds/Region:** processes for doing this work well, learning & adapting as we go; a foundation for the area and an solid example for region

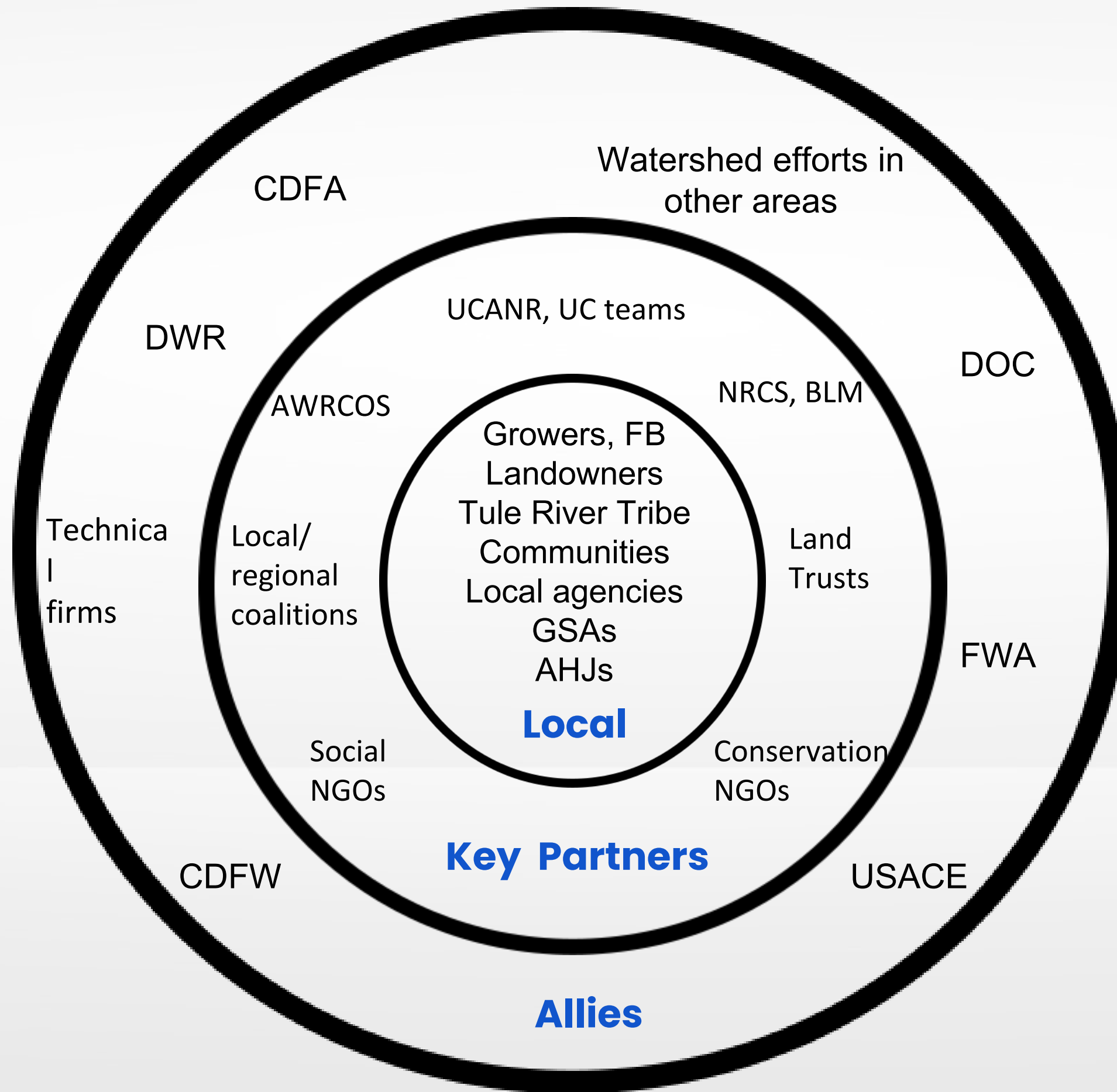
CORE VALUES

- ★ Work Collaboratively for Greater Results
- ★ Work with the Whole Subbasin and Basin in Mind
- ★ Ensure Scientific and Technical Quality
- ★ Honor and Include Tribal Presence and Knowledge
- ★ Coordinate with Prior and Existing Efforts
- ★ Develop Regenerative Capacity

WHAT THE PROJECT IS NOT

- 1. **Not:** A basic planning process with generic 'recommendations', a visionary 'pie-in-the-sky' brainstorm, or talk-a-thon
- 1. **Not:** Focused on one interest group, one resource, or one sector
- 1. **Not:** State-policy centered, SGMA-centered, or 'MLRP 2.0'
- 1. **Not:** Conflicting with local policy or planning, or voluntary efforts
- 1. **Not:** a mindset of 'we know all the answers already'

WHO WILL BE INVOLVED



WORKING GROUP ROLES



Watershed Stewardship Group

1. Build a shared understanding
2. Develop goals and objectives
3. Identify opportunities, priorities, and project concepts
4. Attract resources and support



Technical and Regulatory Advisory Committee

1. Collate and analyze information
2. Identify and review relevant resources
3. Document missing information
4. Visualize and describe watershed information



Core Team

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

PROJECT TIMELINE

2026-2028

KEY DELIVERABLES

ASSESSMENT &

PLAN

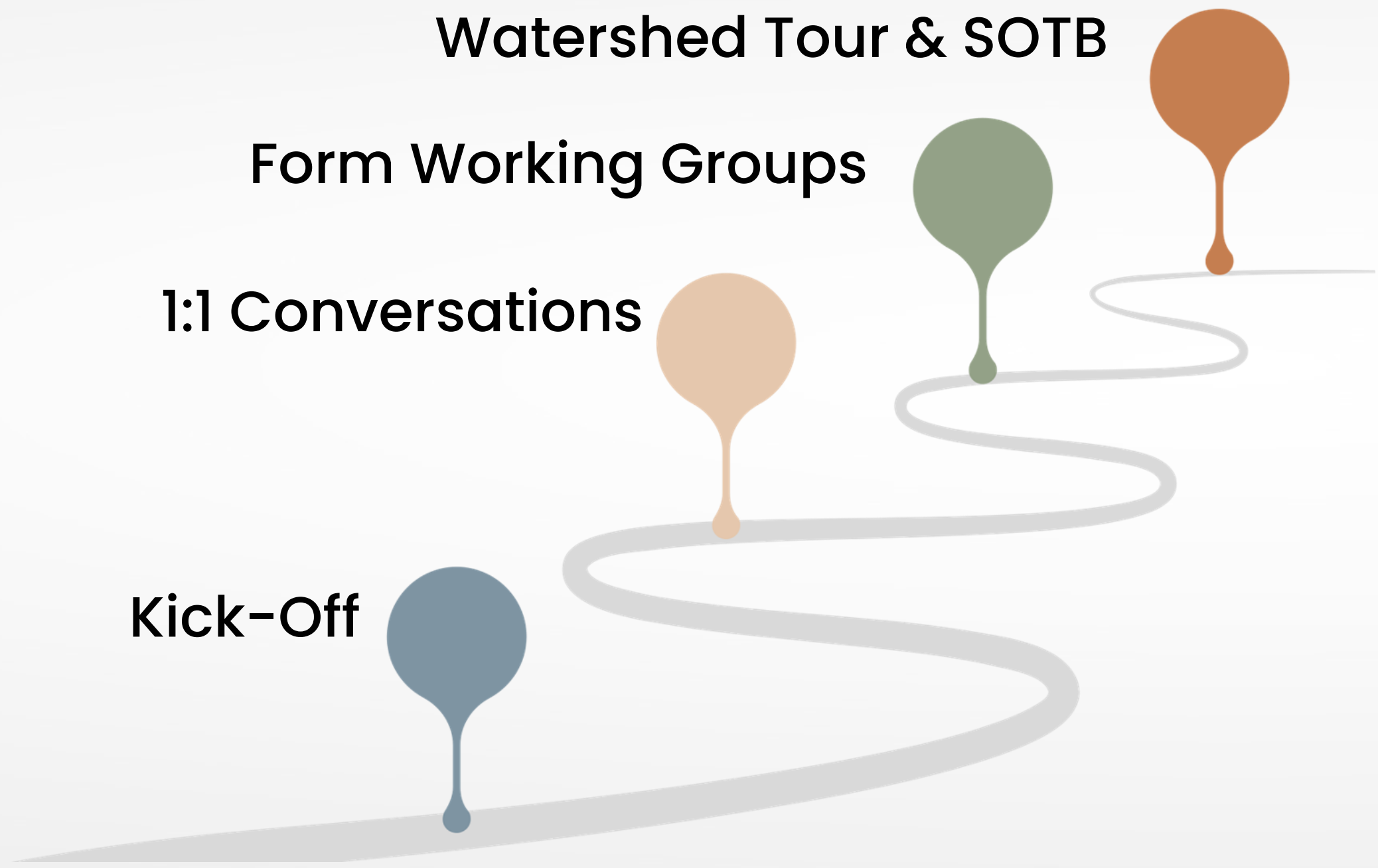
Watershed Tour & SOTB

Form Working Groups

1:1 Conversations

Kick-Off

2026



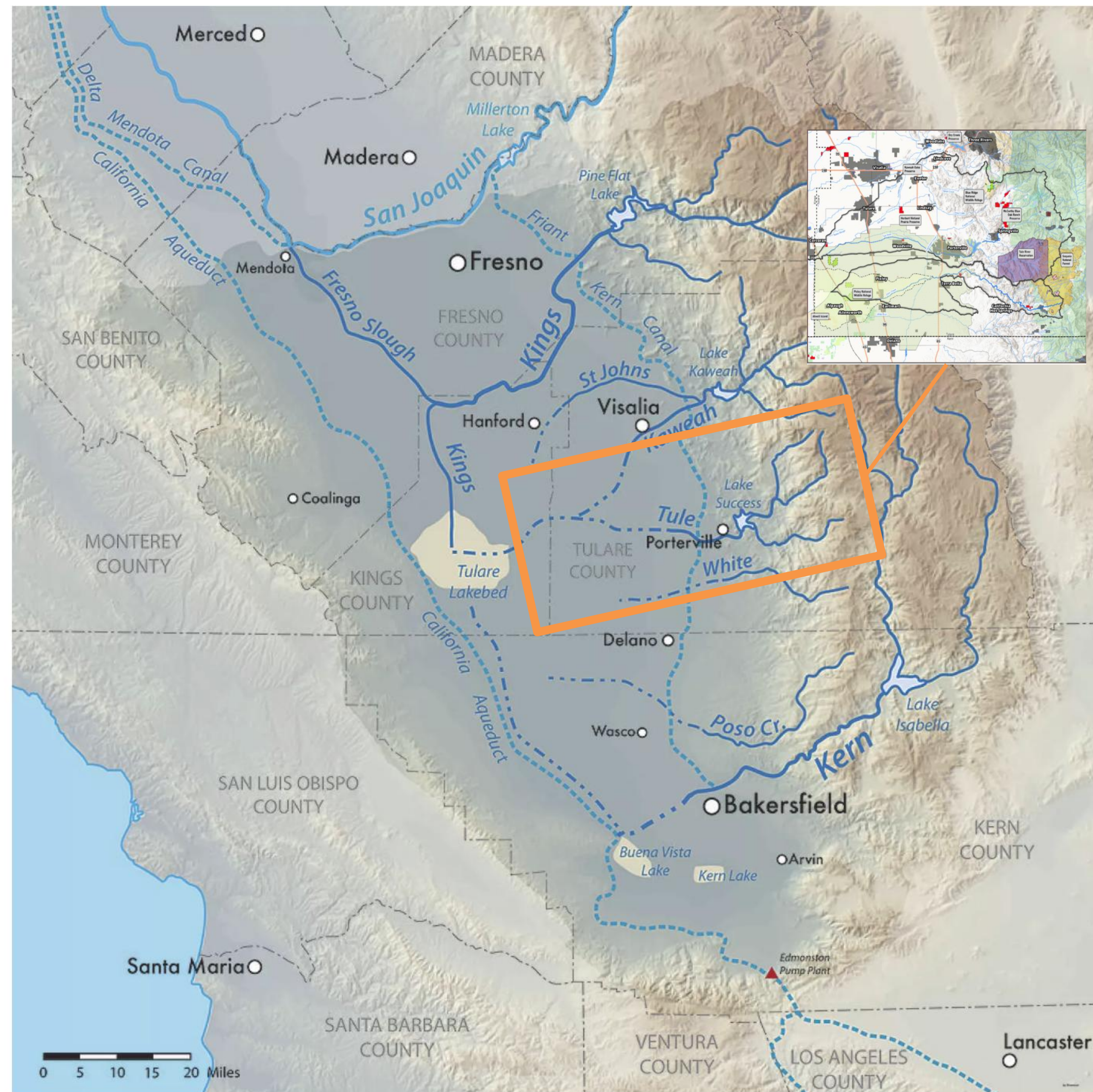
THE TULARE BASIN WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP PERSPECTIVE



What could a coordinated effort like this do for these watersheds, the subbasin, and/or the larger region?

EXPLORING POTENTIAL

- Project Potential to serve these Watersheds
- Place Potential to regenerate and evolve the health and resilience of region
- Essential qualities you want retain and/or develop
- A stronger network/coalition for sustained action and development



YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP GROUP

Allensworth Progressive Association (APA)
Southern Sierra Integrated Regional Water
Management (IRWM) Group
Tule River Tribe
Tachi Yokut Tribe – Santa Rosa Rancheria
Self-Help Enterprises
Tule Land and Water Conservation Trust
Pixley & Lower Tule River ID/GSA
Tulare County Farm Bureau
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Sequoia National Forest (SNF)
Sequoia Riverlands Trust (SRT)
Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition

Growers
Landowners
Dairy Farmers
Tulare County RCD
Kings County RCD
East Tule GSA
Tri-County GSA
Alpaugh GSA
Tulare County
Porterville
Alpaugh
Earlimart
Pixley
Terra Bella



YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN **TECHNICAL AND REGULATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Central Valley Joint Venture (CVJV)

Tulare Basin Watershed Partnership (TBWP)

UC Merced

The Nature Conservancy

CA Audubon

Tulare County Forest Alliance

California Association of Resource Conservation

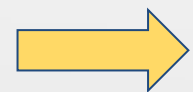
Districts (CARCD)

CA Department of Water Resources (DWR)



OUR NEXT STEPS

- 1:1 conversations
- Recruit WSG and TRAC members
- September/October
 - ◆ Collective vision & charter
- First week of November
 - ◆ Half-day field trip
 - ◆ Challenges & opportunities
- Collect and curate resources



Who else should be included?



THANK YOU!

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

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