

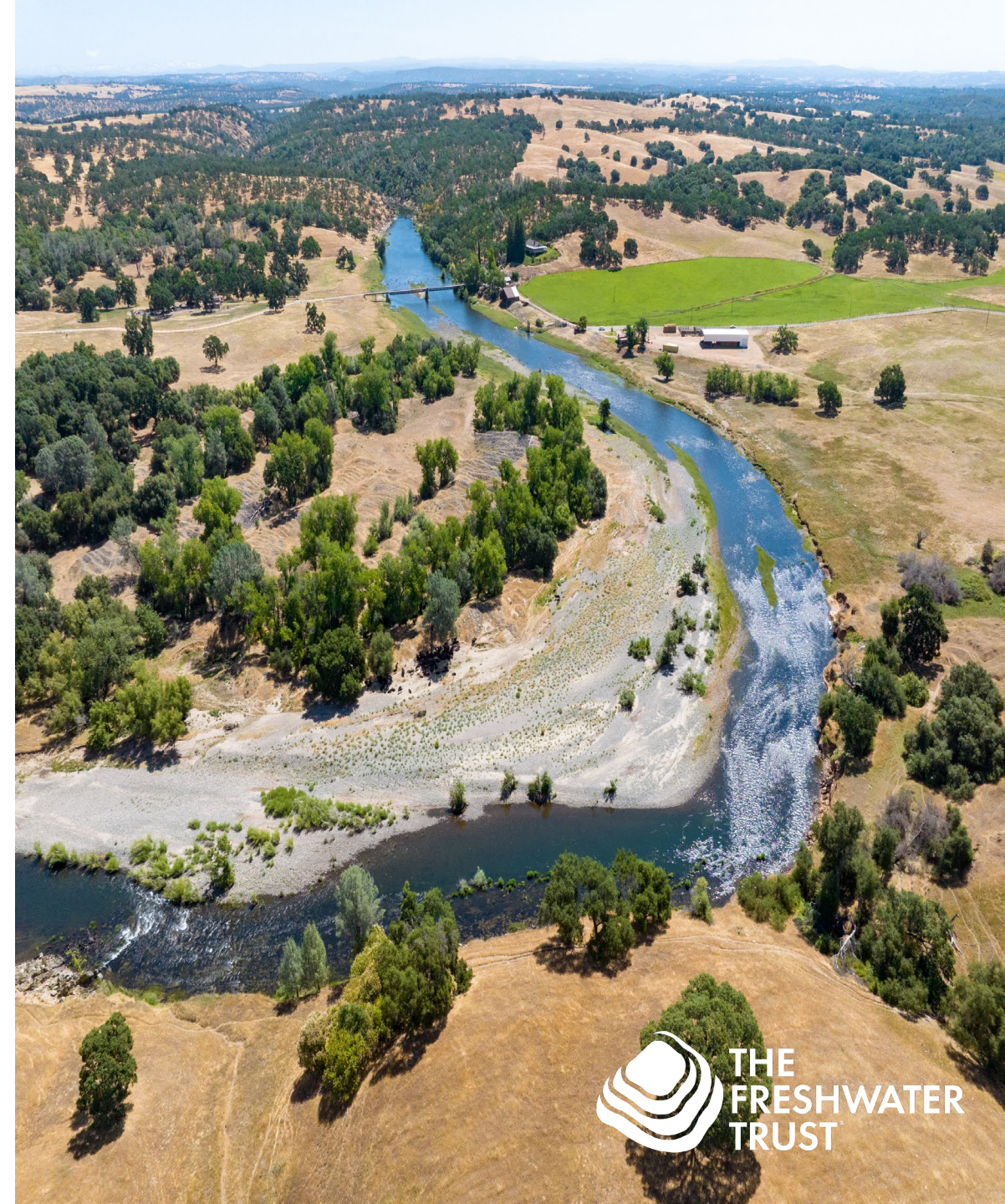
# **Sierra to Sea Watershed Outcomes Initiative**

## Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Brief

January 7, 2026

# Overview

1. The Freshwater Trust
2. A Framework for Regional Sustainability
  - Why do this, why now?
  - How does it work?
2. Sierra to Sea Pilot
  - Current progress
  - Partnerships
3. Questions & Discussion
  - CGA current interests & collaborative opportunities?





# The Freshwater Trust

- BasinScout®
  - Ag water use management-  
Multi-state and multi-agency
  - Groundwater sustainability planning, 7 GSAs managed, 2 GSP in two subbasins
  - Using analytics to target sustainability



# Regional Funding & Implementation Framework: *Core Principles*

## Need

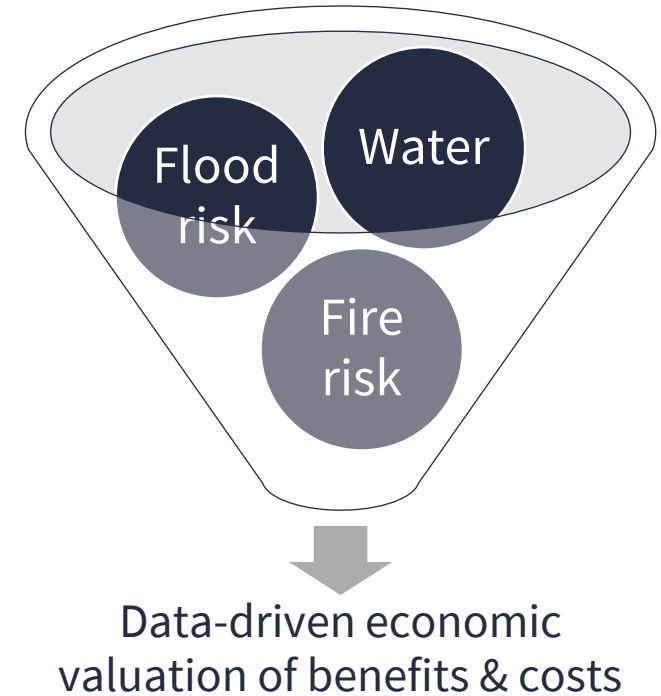
Continuous funding capacity development and simplified planning and reporting

## Solution

Consolidate fundraising mechanisms, permitting, monitoring, and reporting processes

## Opportunity

Access mix & match funding sources, accelerate implementation, streamline reporting, and maximize ROI



# Expanding Regional Funding & Implementation Framework

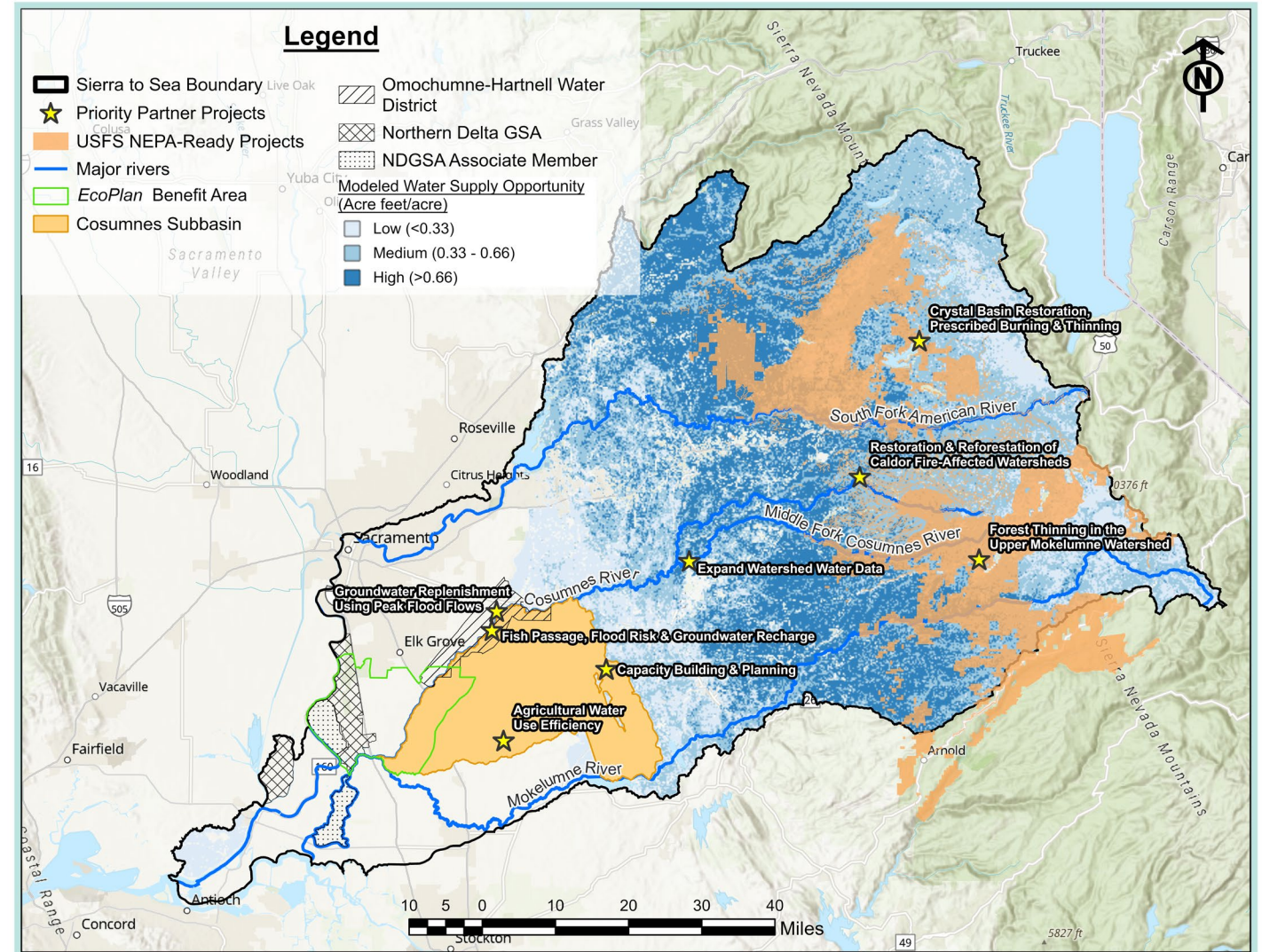
1. Define regional watershed/landscape sustainability targets
2. Quantify potential benefits & costs
3. Solve for the most cost-effective project & funding solutions
4. Consolidate leveraged funding sources, improve access to financing, and match funds to the high-priority projects
5. Streamline accounting, tracking, & reporting

Watershed Benefit	Average Annual Target
Water volume improved	112,000 AF
Sediment reduction	3,000 MT
Wildfire risk reduction	5,000 acres
Greenhouse gas reduction	14,500 MT
Flood risk reduction	% reduction in celerity



# Sierra to Sea Watershed Outcomes Initiative

- Working with Healthy Eldorado Landscape Partnership (HELP)
  - >\$140M secured across the region
- Currently active work:
  - Secured USDA-FS Master Participating Agreement
  - Several NEPA-ready forest resilience projects (fuels reduction, restoration)
  - Harvest Water Program *EcoPlan*
  - Northern Delta GSA
  - OHWD MAR-Sustainability Expansion
  - Cosumnes Multi-benefit Project





# Partnerships

- Executed an enabling agreement with USFS to help integrate watershed efforts
- Key elements of the **Partner Charter**:
  - Summarizes funding & implementation approach
  - Common metrics for watershed targets & projects
  - Leverage funding/matching through a central hub
  - Centralized tracking, accounting, & management
- Demonstrating this approach via coordinated multi-agency Prop 4 proposals



*Erik presents Michelle Wolfgang (ENF Partner Coordinator) an Outstanding Partner Award, 2024 ENF Meadows Site Tour*

## Current Charter Signatories



## Collaborating Regional Partners

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WATER DISTRICT





# Current Interests?

- Agricultural water use efficiency
- Expand MAR applications
- Expand stream gage network – assess potential benefits from upstream activities
- Add current GSP PMAs into the regional funding framework – benefit quantification & coordinated proposals





# Thank you