How to Fix a Problem

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Estuarine consultant/ USEPA ret.

Is this News?

Describe the Problem

Recognize Limits, Scope and Uncertainties

Set Goals

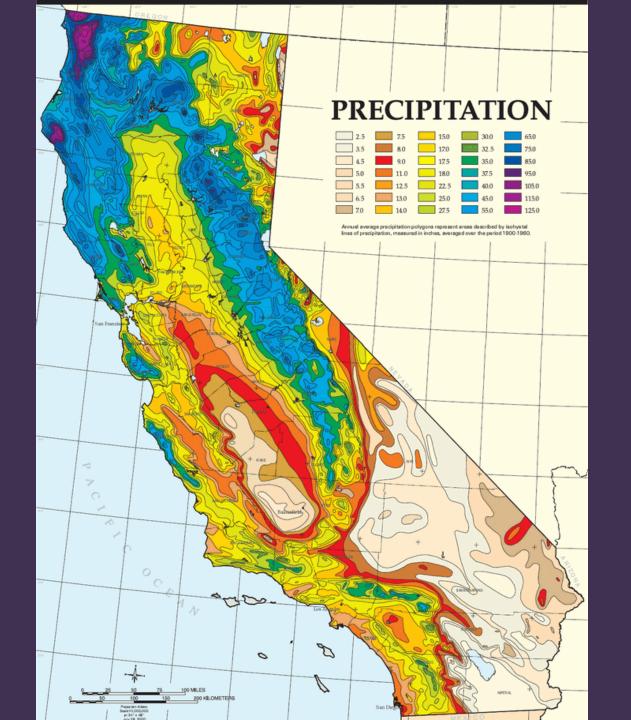
Establish Acceptable Costs

(use numbers)

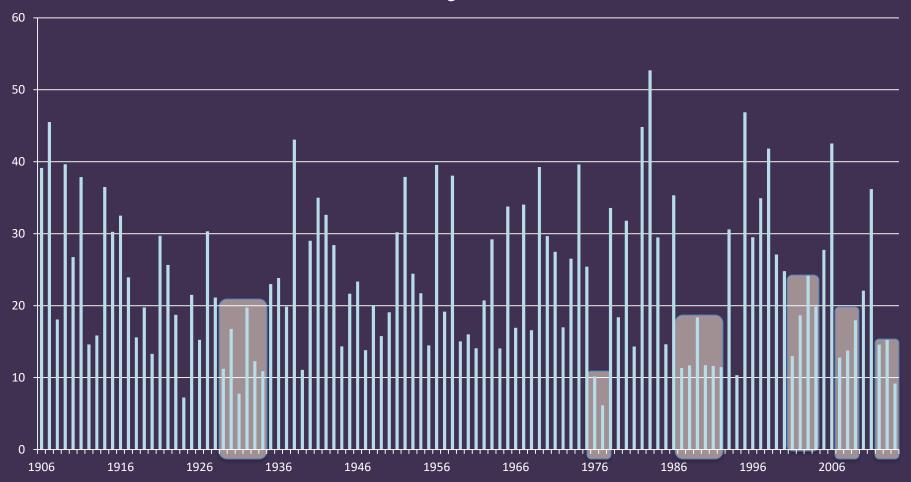
Grandad's Problem

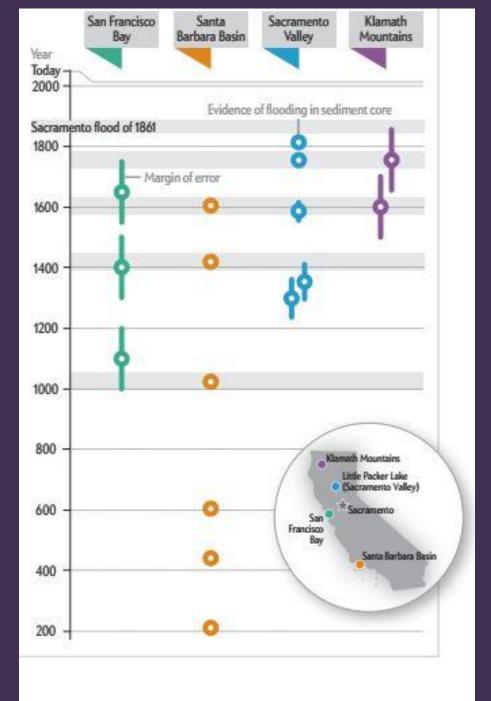
California is temporally and geographically diverse

(we solved this one pretty well for 40 years)



Central Valley Runoff MAF





How Did Fish Adapt?

Grow big

Spread out in time and space

Find reliable habitats

• Be tough, specialize



The Salmon Toolbox Diversity spreads risk in space & time

Fall run

Adult migration
Spawning
Incubation
Rearing & migration

Late Fall run

Adult migration
Spawning
Incubation
Rearing & migration

Winter run

Adult migration
Spawning
Incubation
Rearing & migration

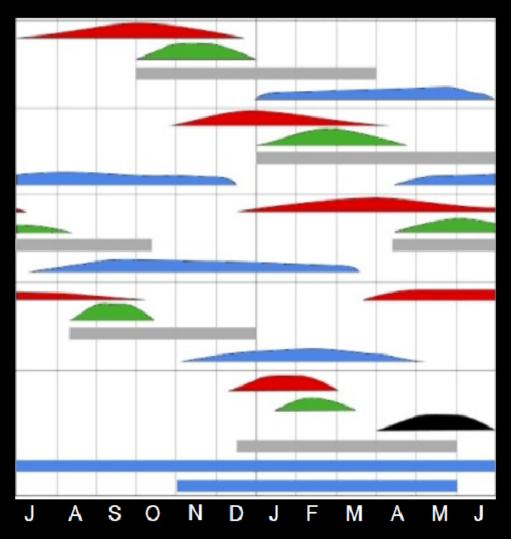
Spring run

Adult migration Spawning Incubation

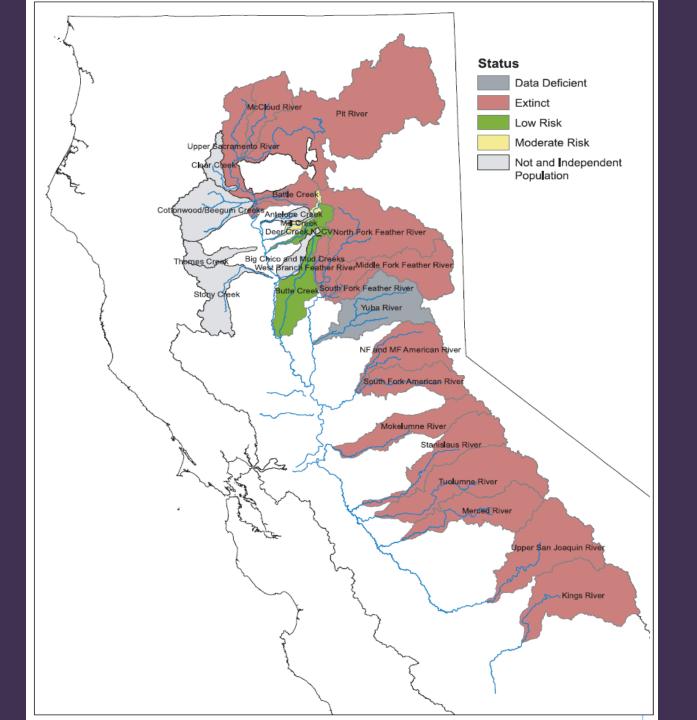
Rearing & migration

Steelhead

Adult migration
Spawning
Incubation
Rearing & migration



Data sources: Vogel and Marine, 1991; Hallock, 1983; CDFG, 1993 Modified from California Rice Promotion Board by CH2MHill







Wisconsin 183 species 65,498 sq mi

California 67 species 163,696 sq mi

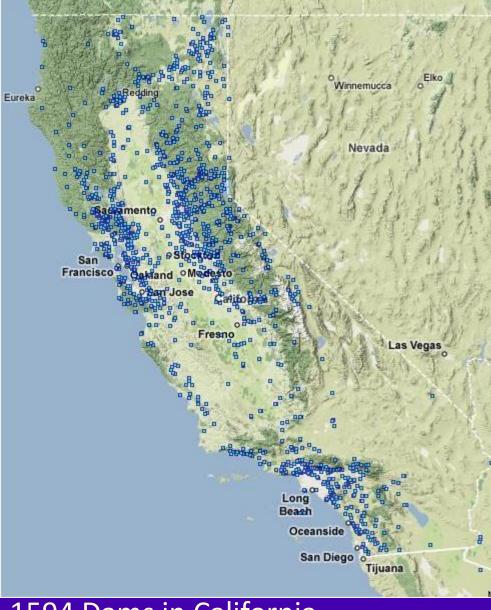
What Did Our Grandparents Do?

Store and move water

Simplify

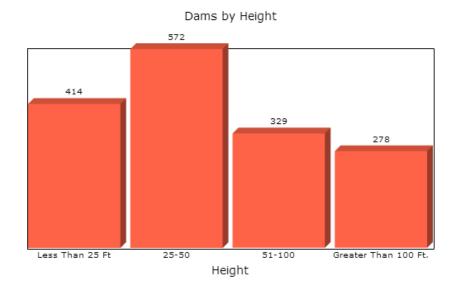
Cash out early/quickly

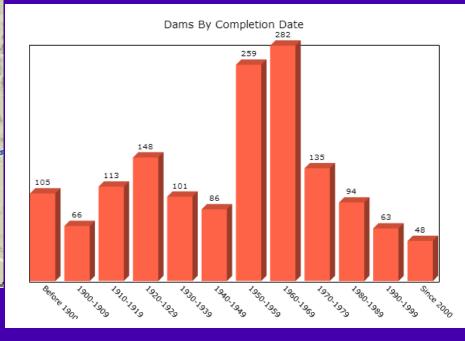
Hope

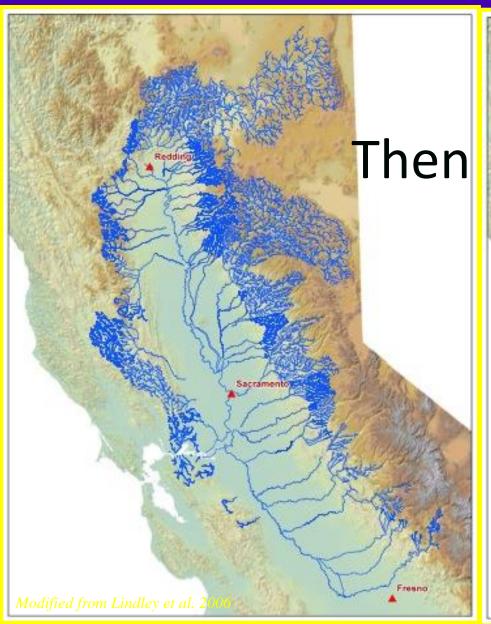


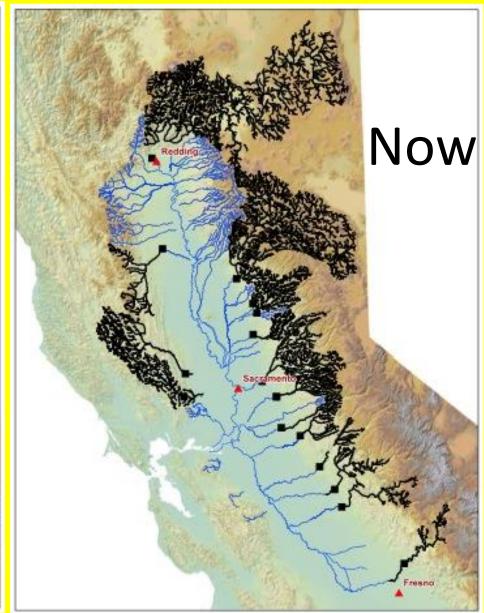
1594 Dams in California

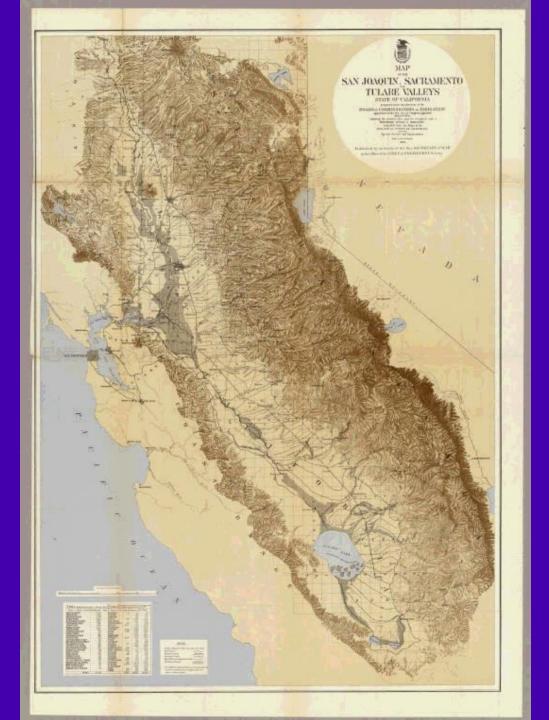
National Inventory of Dams, Army Corps



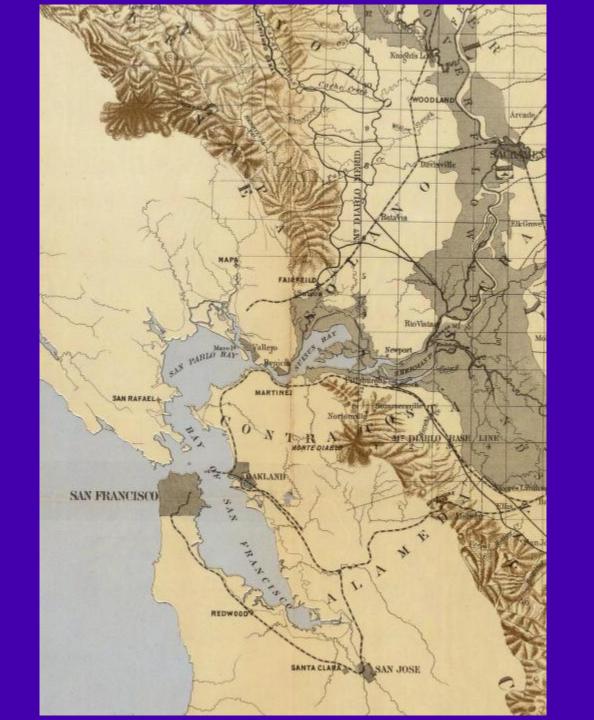




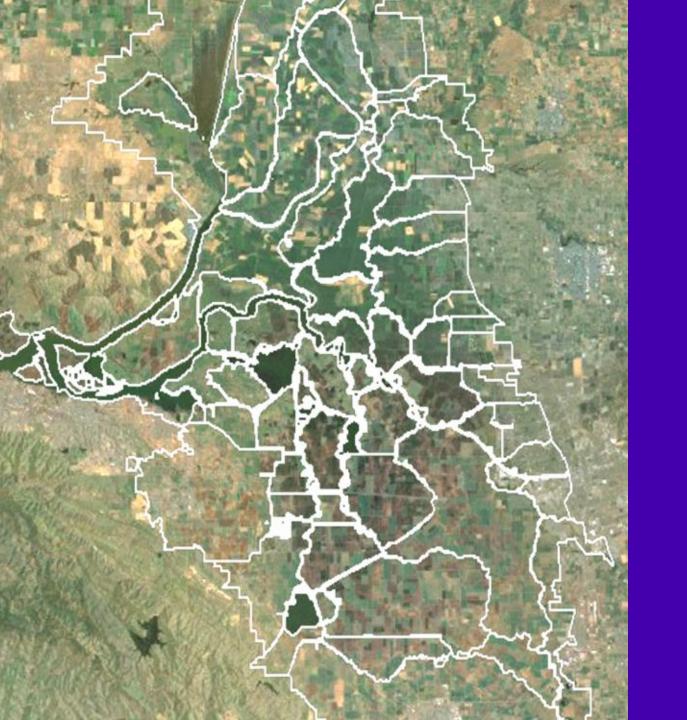














Suisun Marsh

Sacramento River at Decker Island

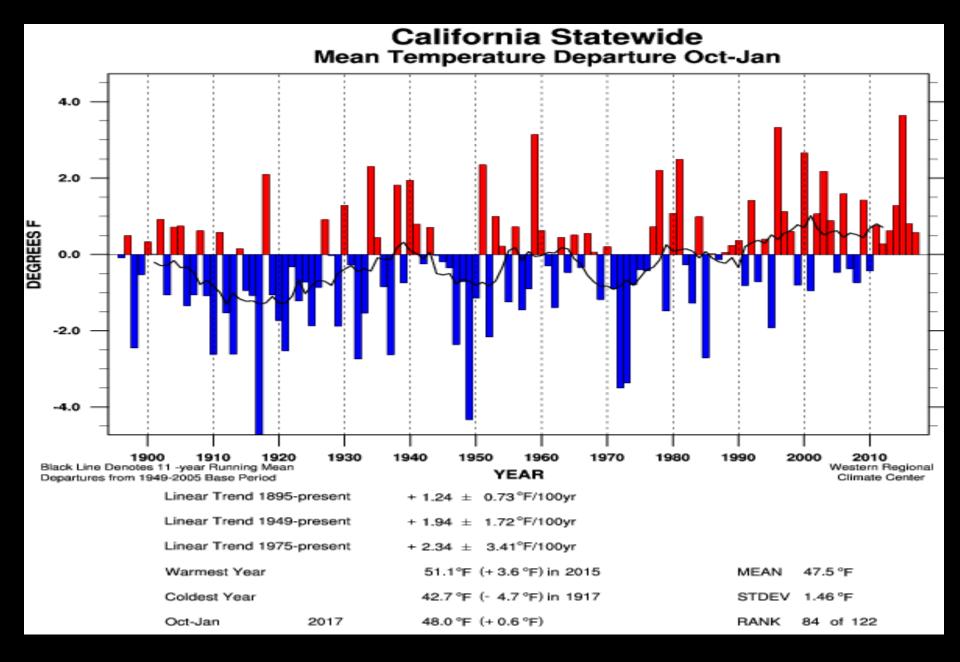


Our Problems

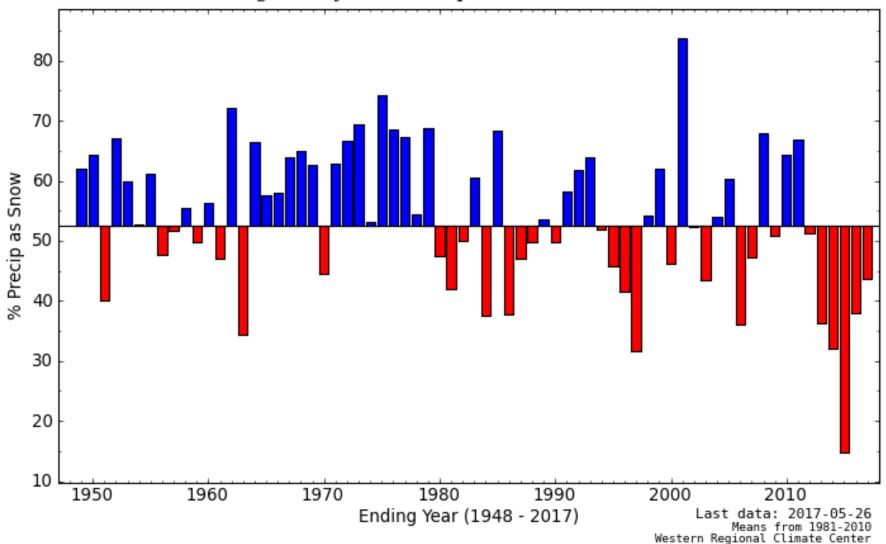
Climate change

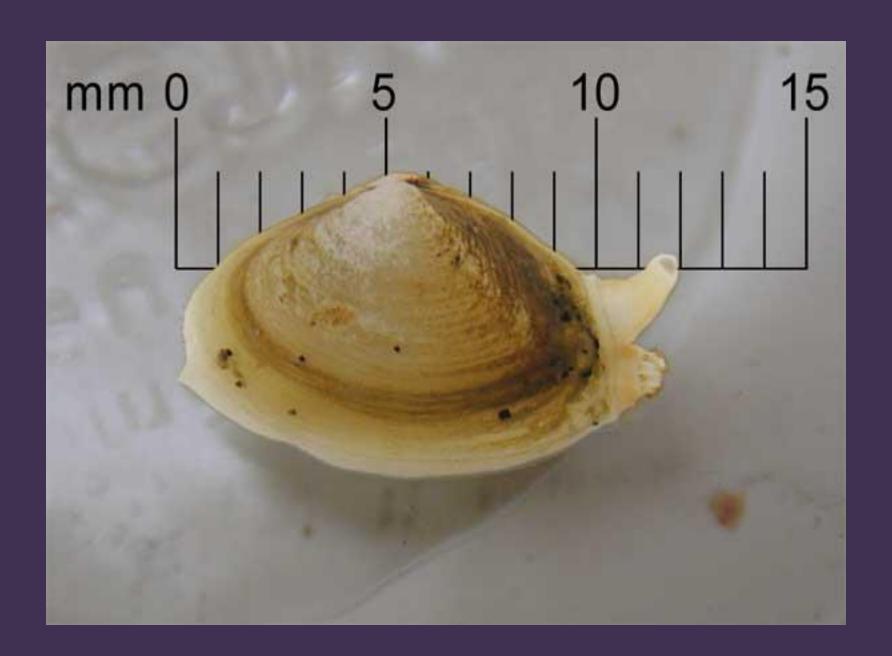
Invasive species

Failing infrastructure



7 Months Ending in May % of Precip as Snow 39.28°N, 120.37°W 2200m











Water Hyacinth, San Joaquin River @ Connection Slough; December 2014.

Photo: Roger Kelly for Bay Nature Magazine

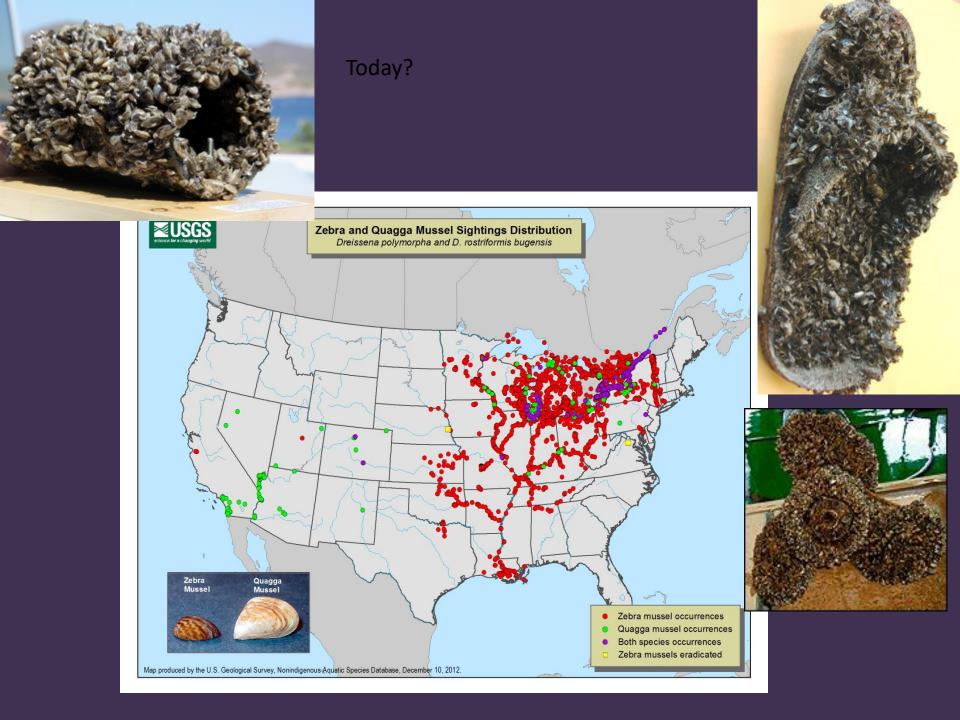


South American Sponge Plant@ Brannon Island 2011 Lars Anderson



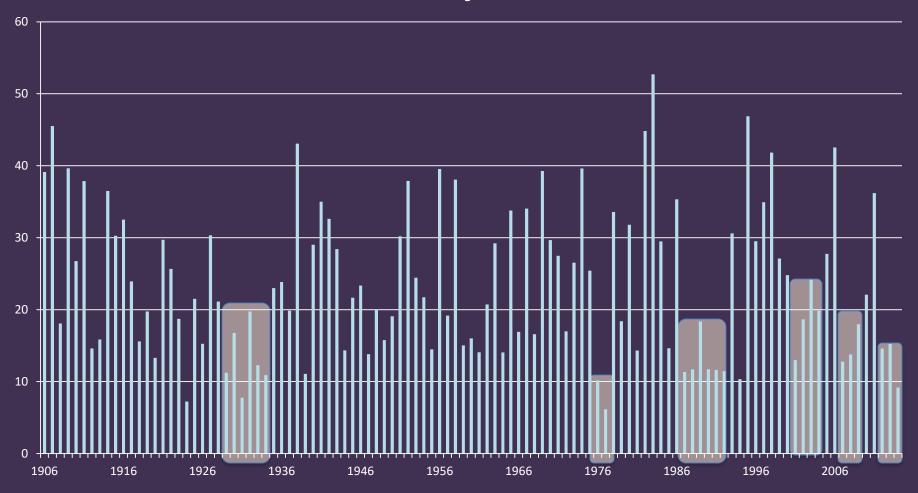
Loach: San Joaquin River near Fresno, Fall 2014.



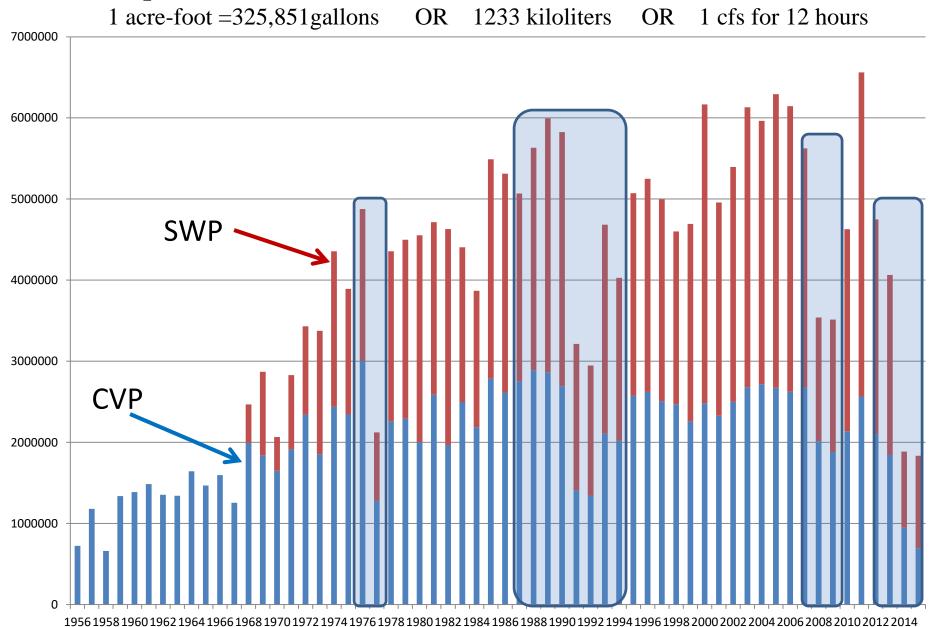




Central Valley Runoff MAF



Exports in acre-feet



Problems:

Snow is increasingly unreliable

Storage options are limited

Export facilities are at risk

Fish adapted to CA climate are at risk

Scope, Limits, Uncertainties:

Systemic, Mountains to Bay

No single action can address much

Many users at table

Engineering of landscape restricted/done

Set Goals:

Water supply?
Maximum each year vs stable each year

Water demand?
Conservation, Contracts and Costs

Reliability?
Maintain old vs build new

Good government? Integrate with whom?

Costs:

Money: Purchase price vs Maintenance

Legislation: Beneficial Uses change with water supply? Conservation mandates?

Reliability?
Maintain old vs build new

