

Your National Forests and Sierra IRWM

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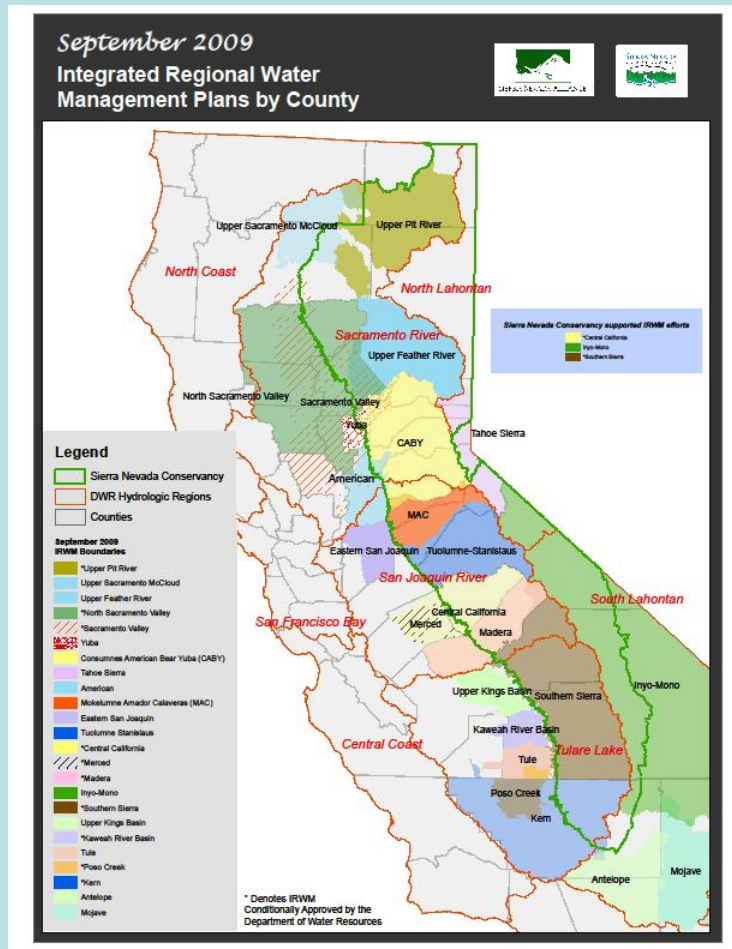
Regional Watershed Improvement Program Leader

USDA Forest Service

IRWM Fits the Purpose and Policy of National Forests

- The purpose for establishment of National Forests includes securing favorable conditions of waterflows. (Organic Administration Act of 1897)
- The Policy the Forest Service (FSM 2502)
 1. To protect and, where appropriate, enhance soil productivity, water quality and quantity, and timing of waterflows.
 2. To maintain favorable conditions of streamflow and a continuous production of resources from National Forest System watersheds.

Sierra IRWMs and the National Forests



Forest Service Roles

- Water Source Area
- Ecosystem Services
 - Water quantity and quality
 - Timing of flows
 - Flood attenuation
 - Adaption to climate change
- Project Opportunities
 - Meadow Restoration
 - Road and Trail Improvements
 - Fuels and Fire
- Science and Research
 - Climate change

Forest Participation in IRWMPs

- Supported by Region
- Status – Varies from signed MOU to initial contacts
- Some Issues: Content and approval of MOUs, and resources

Watershed Management and Restoration is a Priority

Transcript of Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack's Speech

[National Vision for America's Forests,](#)

[\(August 14, 2009, Seattle, WA\)](#)

- So in developing a shared vision around forests, we must also be willing to look across property boundaries. In other words, we must operate a landscape scale operation by taking an all-lands approach.
- We must work and must be committed to a shared vision... Our shared vision must begin with a complete commitment to restoration. Restoration, for me, means managing forest lands first and foremost to protect our water resources while making our forests far more resilient to climate change.