

# DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND MITIGATION PROGRAMS UPDATE

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF LAND TRUSTS  
*CALIFORNIA MITIGATION SUMMIT*  
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# TODAYS TOPICS...

- **Drought Response**
- **The Public Funding Outlook**
- **California Endangered Species Act**
- **Conservation and Mitigation Delivery**

# DROUGHT RESPONSE...

- **Largely unprecedented drought in California.**
- **Entering the fourth year, we are seeing substantial impacts to fisheries and wildlife populations both locally and regionally**
- **Initial response highly reactive. Transitioning to proactive.**
- **Some drought impacts predictable and others less so.**

# DROUGHT RESPONSE...

- **Over 300 individual fish rescues statewide.**
- **Approximately \$1m in response costs**
- **Some production hatcheries now primarily conservation hatcheries**



# DROUGHT RESPONSE...

- **Major investment in Wildlife Area and Ecological Reserve water delivery and efficiency infrastructure.**
- **Approximately \$5.7m in response costs**
- **Averted significant impacts to Pacific Flyway**



# DROUGHT RESPONSE...

- **Enhanced in-delta fisheries population monitoring.**
- **Approximately \$6.8m in response costs**
- **Vastly improved monitoring capability**



# PROPOSITION 1 AND DFW...

- **\$285m for water quality, river, and watershed protection and restoration projects of statewide importance outside the Delta**
- **\$87.5m for water quality, ecosystem, and fish protection facilities that benefit the Delta**
- **All funding other than internal DFW support will be available in the form of competitive grants that demonstrate implementation of the California Water Action Plan**
- **Funding and annual emphasis will reflect priorities developed in conjunction with others and consistent with recently published guidelines**

# PROPOSITION 1 AND DFW...

- **DFW is consolidating granting functions to create a Watershed Restoration and Recovery unit**
- **We anticipate collaborative efforts to leverage opportunities in priority areas of the state over the 10 year bond horizon.**
- **The current year solicitation will be available in July of 2015 preceded by a series of grant workshops to provide additional information and funding support**
- **Current year appropriation for the DFW is \$31m**



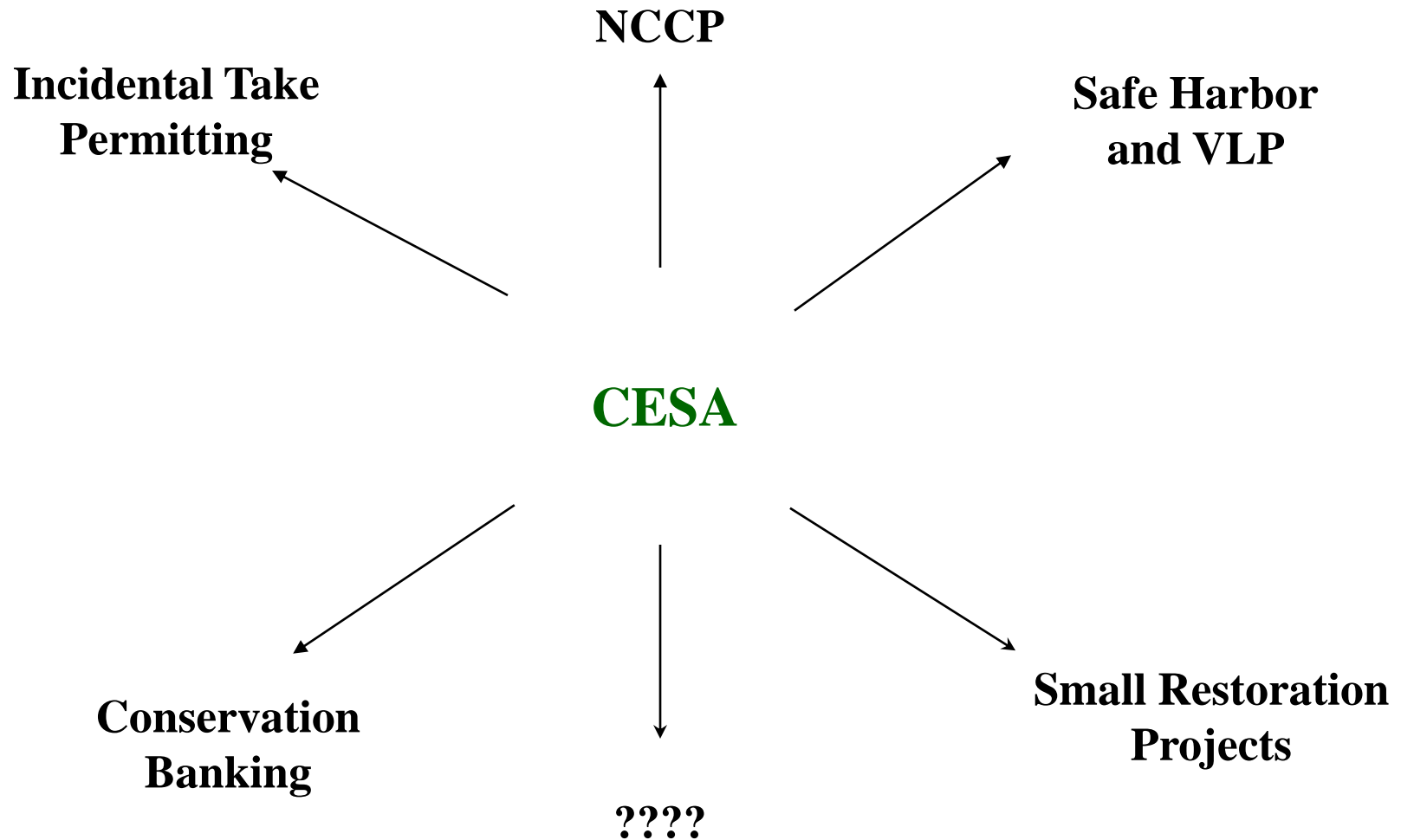
# STATE LISTING ACTIONS...

- Several Actions either in review or before the Fish and Game Commission:
  - Tri-colored Blackbird – emergency listed
  - Pacific Fisher – under status review
  - Northern Spotted Owl – under status review
  - Townsends big-Eared bat – under petition review
  - Flat Tailed horned Lizard – under status review
  - Livermore Tar Plant – under status review
  - Gray Wolf – preparing findings
  - White Shark – preparing findings
  - Clearlake Hitch – preparing findings

# STATE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Current policies and economic conditions favor increased infrastructure investments in California:
  - Proposition 1E and flood control
  - Transportation infrastructure
  - Investor Owned Utilities and transmission
  - Renewable energy
  - Urban development

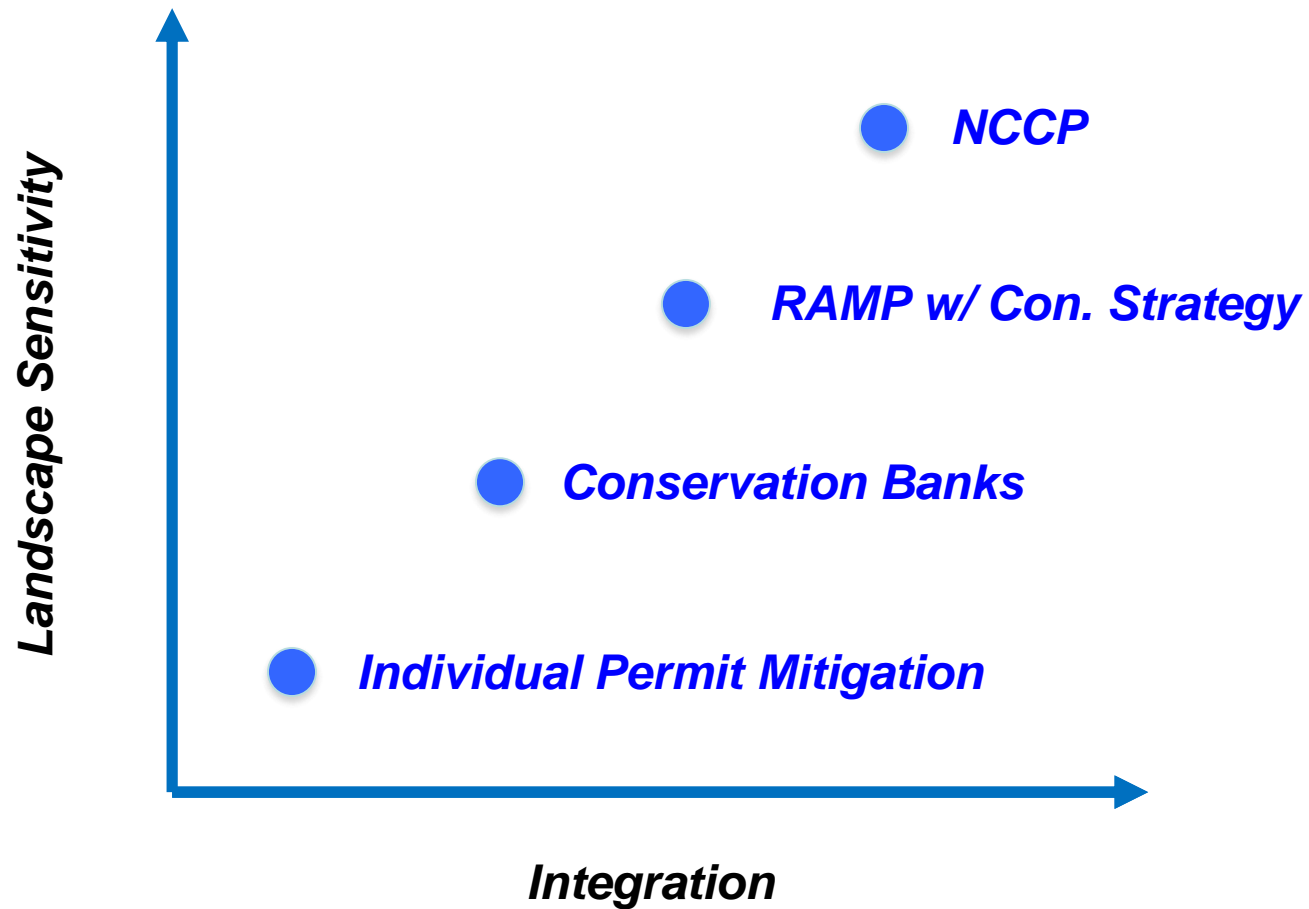
# CESA IN PRACTICE AND POLICY...



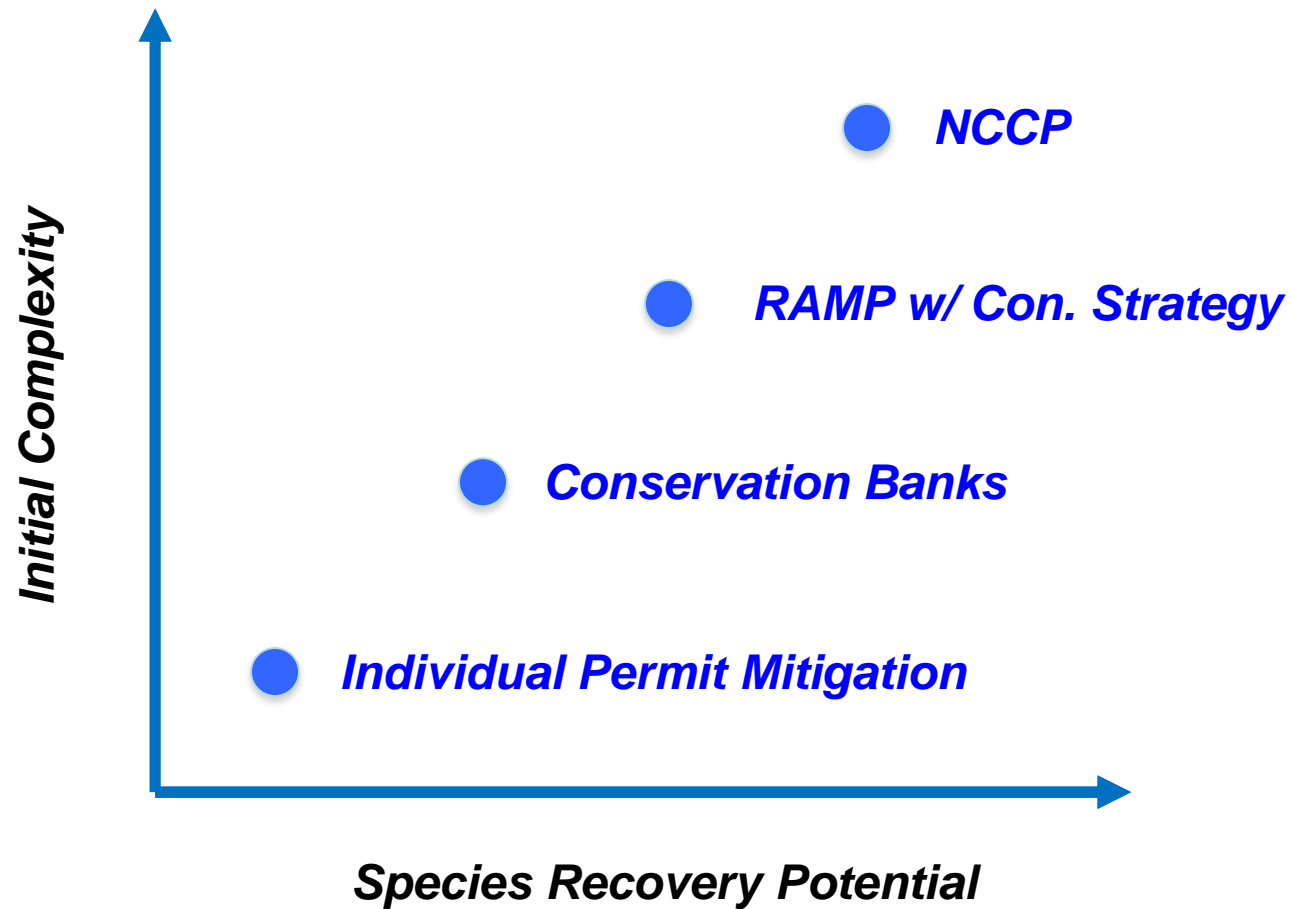
# REGIONAL ADVANCE MITIGATION PROGRAMS

- **Provide for strategic and targeted conservation investments**
- **Leverage collaboration with land trusts and other conservation delivery organizations**
- **Efficient alternative to project-by-project mitigation and land acquisition**
- **Promotes both regulatory and conservation certainty**

# CONSERVATION AND MITIGATION EFFECTIVENESS...



# CONSERVATION AND MITIGATION EFFECTIVENESS...



# CONSERVATION AND FEDERAL LANDS

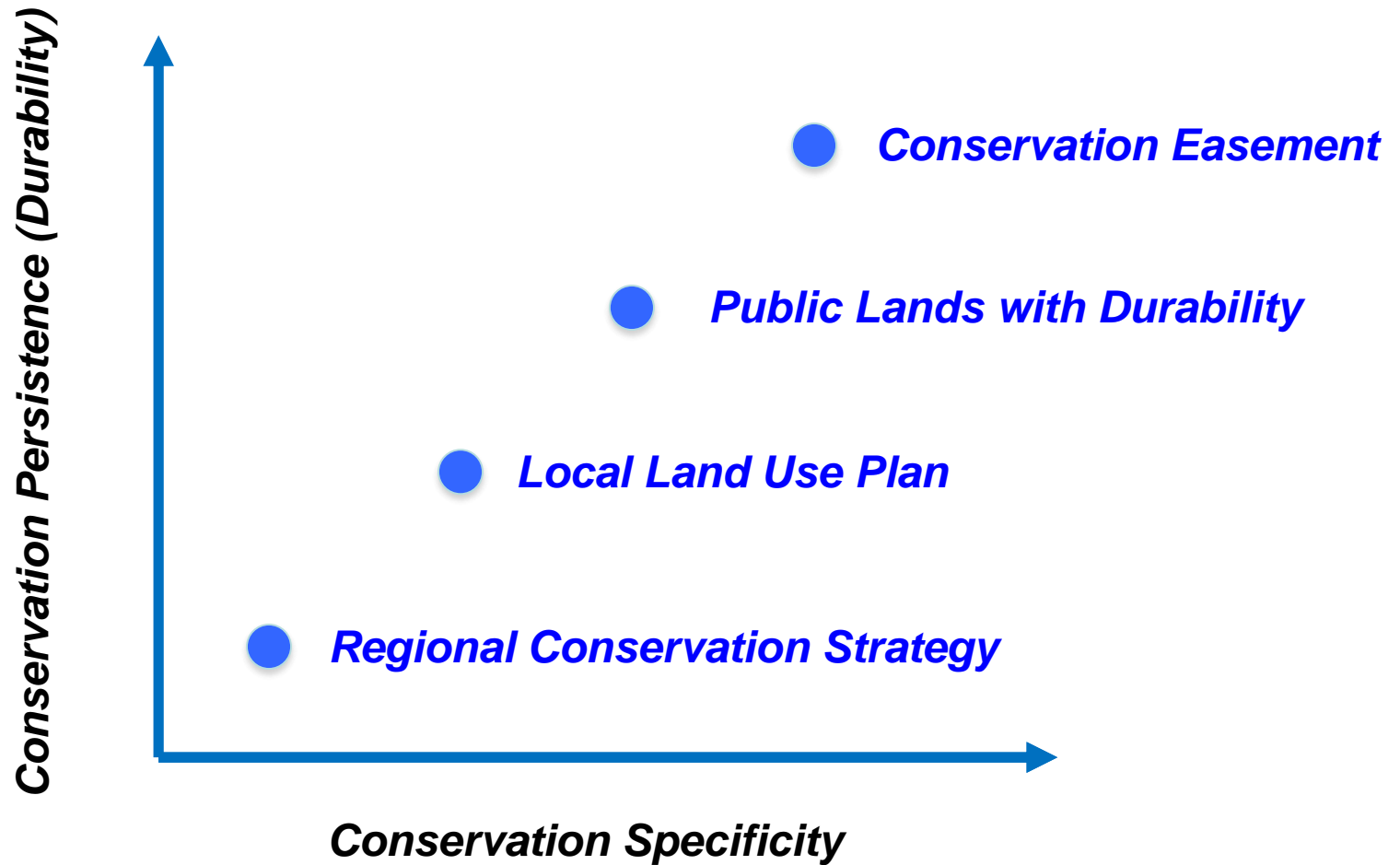
- Public (federal) lands often support some of the highest value habitat for declining and vulnerable species
- These lands often represent important connectivity for declining and vulnerable species
- Federal lands are an important part of providing resilience to support climate change adaptation
- Federal lands can be an important contributing land base for supporting landscape-level ecological processes

# CONSERVATION AND FEDERAL LANDS

- November 2012 conceptual agreement between the Bureau of Land Management and DFW
- November 2014 specific Durability Agreement between BLM and DFW
- A series of tools that deliver varying degrees of conservation persistence (durability) on federal lands
  - Use of a Right of Ways and Withdrawals
  - Use of Cooperating Agreements
  - Other mechanisms to effect durable conservation



# CONSERVATION AND MITIGATION CONCEPTS: DURABILITY



# THANK YOU!

## Some resources...

- **Conservation Planning and Permitting:**
  - <http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/habcon/conplan/>
- **Drought Response:**
  - <http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/drought>
- **Proposition 1:**
  - <http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/explore/grant-opportunities>
- **Durability Agreement:**
  - [http://drecp.org/documents/docs/2012-11-27\\_CDFG\\_BLM\\_DRECP\\_Durability\\_MOU.pdf](http://drecp.org/documents/docs/2012-11-27_CDFG_BLM_DRECP_Durability_MOU.pdf)