



Empowering Stewardship Through Collaboration & Capacity Building: Learnings from Forest Health

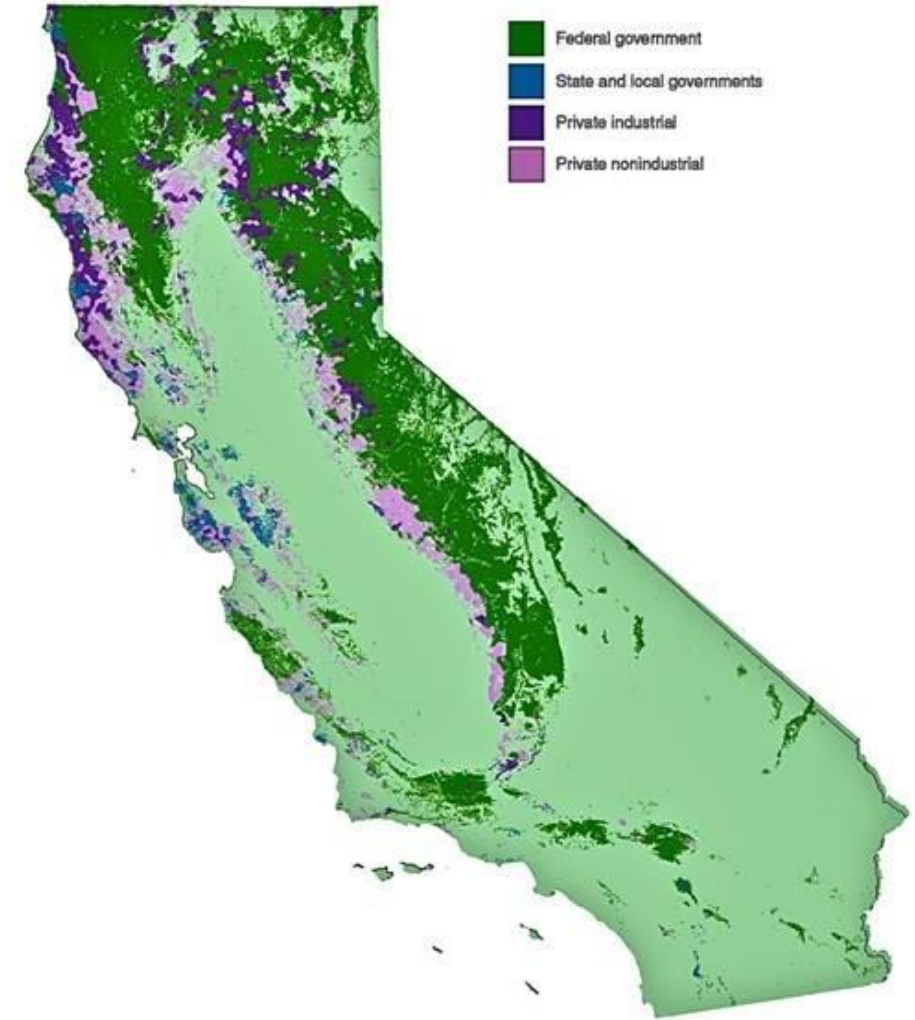
Ali Blodorn, PhD.
alison@naparcd.org, 707-690-3115



Forest Stewardship in the North Bay

- New(er) Focus Area, Scaling Rapidly
 - Regional collaboration & capacity building
- Unique Land Management Needs
 - Private landowners
 - Agricultural producers
- Forest Health & Water Nexus
 - Working across resource concerns & interagency collaboration

Patchwork of Owners Across California Forestlands



Hewes, Jaketon H.; Butler, Brett J.; Liknes, Greg C. 2017. Forest ownership in the conterminous United States circa 2014: distribution of seven ownership types - geospatial dataset. Fort Collins, CO: Forest Service Research Data Archive. <https://doi.org/10.2737/RDS-2017-0007>

Regional Collaboration & Capacity Building

Inner Coast Collaborative

COLUSA COUNTY



RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



SOLANO
Resource
Conservation
District

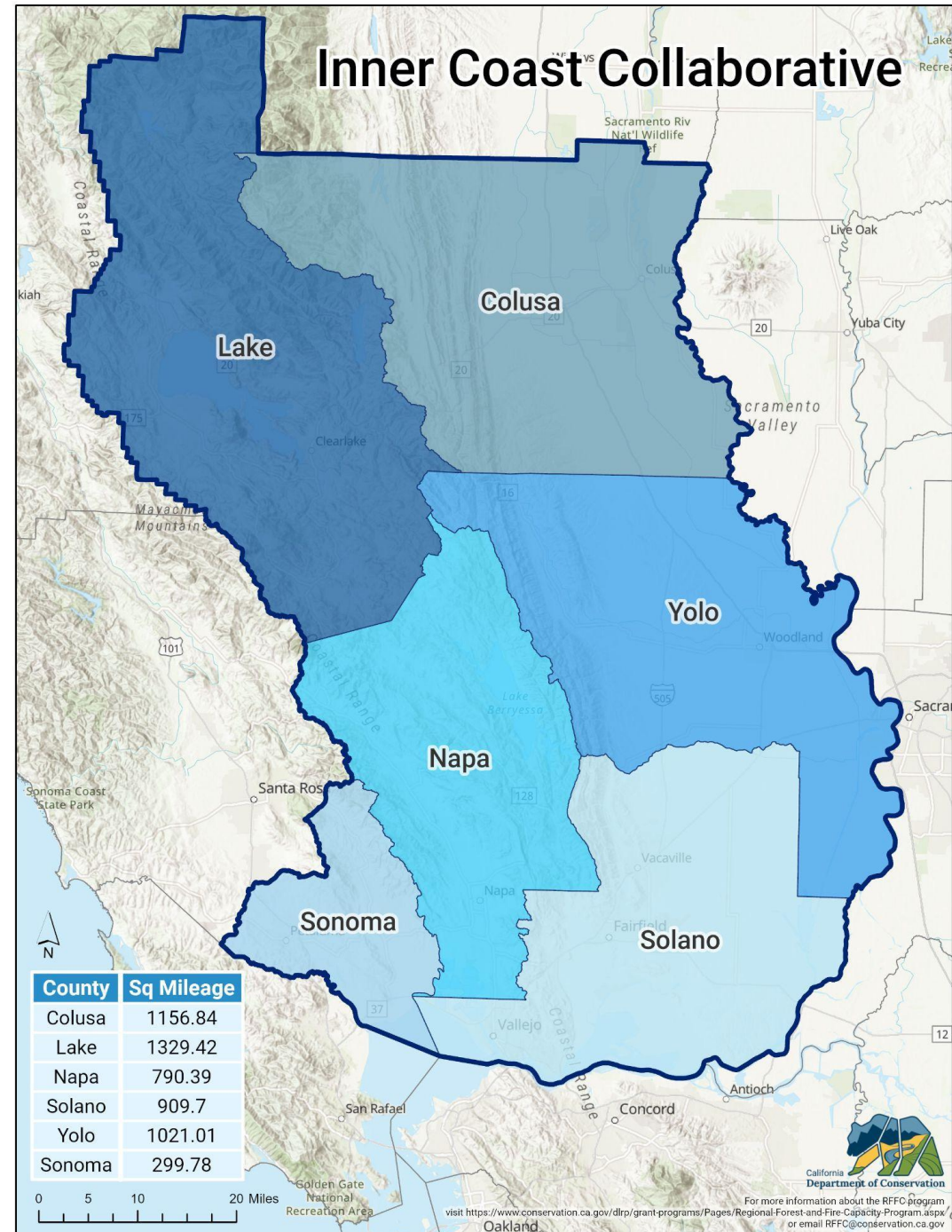


S O N O M A
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



YOLO COUNTY
RCD

Yolo County Resource Conservation District



Inner Coast Collaborative

- Supports capacity building & planning/ permitting building a pipeline of shovel ready projects
- Regional planning & prioritization working beyond jurisdictional boundaries, landscape scale projects



Capacity Building & Planning Examples

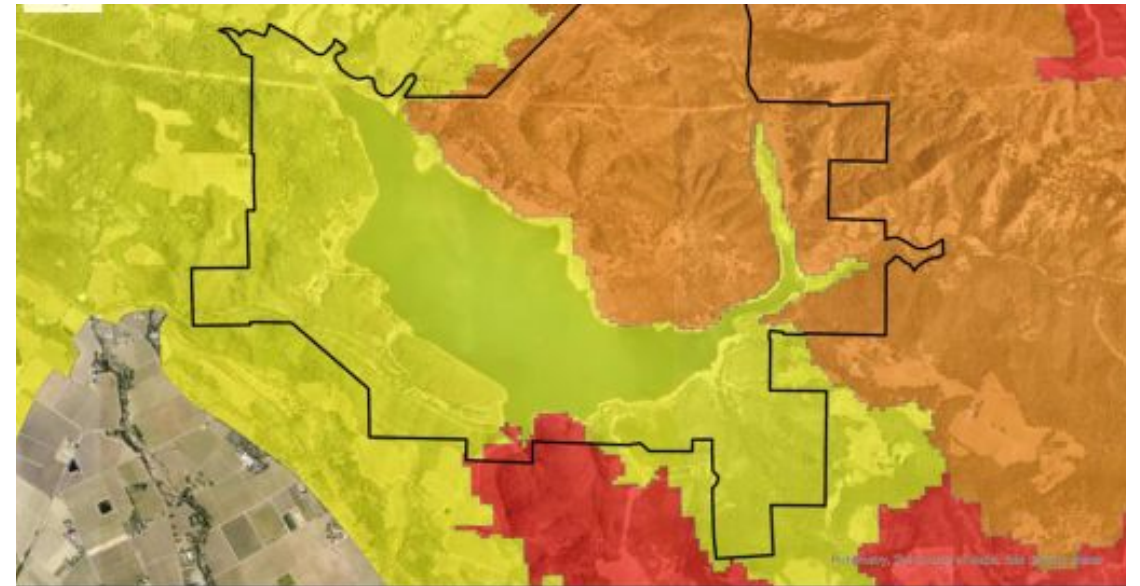
Investing in staff trainings & certifications

- e.g., Regional environmental compliance trainings



Developing management plans & seeking implementation funding

- e.g., City of Napa Lake Hennessey Unit (key source of drinking water)



Name: City of Napa - Lake Hennessey
APN: 025-200-012, 47
025-440-019, 33
030-130-001, 2, 3, 9, 10
030-220-003, 8
032-520-003
032-560-001, 17

Legend

- Lake Hennessey Property Boundary
- HAZ_CODE
 - Yellow Moderate
 - Orange High
 - Red Very High

0 1,250 2,500 5,000 Feet

Map Date: 6/29/2023
Prepared By: NCRCD

Data Sources:
Napa County Parcels (2023)
Napa County Roads (2023)

Maps prepared for informational purposes only. Image depicts publicly available data and needs to be considered with on-the-ground conditions and more accurate site-specific data that may exist. No liability is assumed for the accuracy of the

LandSmart
Productive lands. Thriving streams.

NAPA
RCDO



Regional Collaboration & Capacity Building

Looking Ahead

- Importance of block grants becoming more commonplace
- Investing in building relationships outside of our respective “lanes”

Empowering Stewardship

North Bay Forest Improvement Program

- Regional incentives cost-share program
- Helps small private forestland owners plan and implement forest improvement activities
- Located in four counties: Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma





Regional Incentive-Based Solutions

By providing financial incentives to catalyze private investments in forest health and resilience projects, we seek to:

- Innovate land stewardship across region
- Reduce fuel loads and risks of wildfire
- Create new funding pathways which are more accessible, nimble
- Create program designed for the unique needs of the North Bay region
- Provide a replicable model for resiliency and recovery programs

North Bay Forest Improvement Program Impact

27

Planning
Projects
Awarded

54

Implementatio
n Projects
Awarded

978

Acres
(Completed or
In Progress)

\$2.36M

Incentive
Payments
Allocated

Empowering Stewardship

Looking Ahead

- Regional incentives-based solutions key for empowering local stewardship *replicable, scalable model*
- Importance of landowner education, emphasizing ecosystem functioning and health *culture shift*



What Does This All Mean..?

- **Block grants** – flexible funding that supports capacity building and regional priorities
- **Community-led stewardship** – regionally grounded technical and financial supports
- **Collaboration** – shared goals, interconnected systems



Thank You!

Ali Blodorn, Ph.D.
 Principal Program Manager, Forest Health
alison@naparcd.org
 707-690-3115



California
**Department of
 Conservation**

