

Paradise Cut Project

Advisory Committee Meeting

July 1st, 2024

11.30 am – 1.00 pm

Location: River Islands Executive Offices (73 Stewart Rd, Lathrop, Ca 95330

Glenn.Prasad@sjafca.org



Advisory Committee Agenda

1. Administrative Matters:
 - A. Roll Call/ Sign up sheet
 - B. Approval of Meeting Minutes and consensus on meeting notes format. **[Possible Action]**
 - C. Confirmation of Members and Alternates
2. Scoping Discussions (SJAFCA/WR)
3. Funding for Next Phase (SJAFCA/WR)
4. Meeting Scheduling, Reoccurrence, and Location **[Possible Action]**
5. Governance Charter (SJAFCA/ Consero)
6. Engagement Strategy (SJAFCA/ Consero)
7. State Updates (DWR, CVFPB)
8. Advisory Committee Comments/ Items for Future Agenda
9. Public Comment
10. Adjournment



Administrative Matters

- Roll call/ sign up sheet
- **Approval of meeting notes [action]** and consensus on format
- Confirmation of members and alternates

Committee Members and Alternates

AGENCY	MEMBER	ALTERNATE
SJAFCA	Chris Elias	Glenn Prasad
SDWA	John Herrick	Mary Hildebrand
American Rivers	Sarah Puckett	Julia Sullivan
City of Tracy	Ilene Macintire	Robin Kloepper
RD 2095	Bob Pombo	TBD
RD1,2,544,2089	Nick Mussi	TBD
RD 2058, 1007	Alexis Stevens	Greg Pombo
RD 2062	Susan Dellosso	Ramon Batista

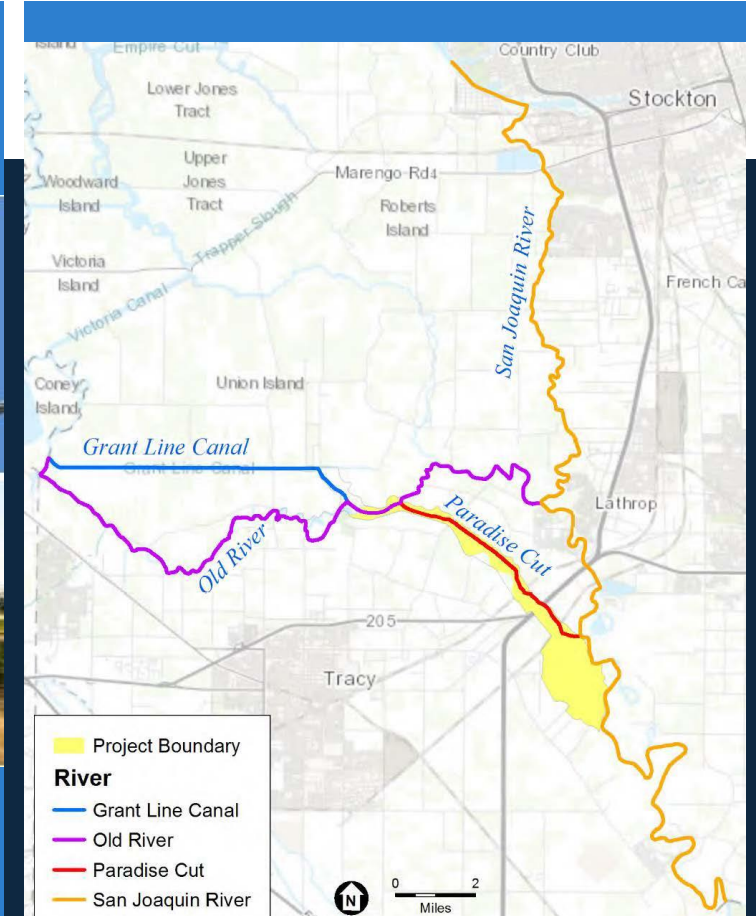
- Please send any changes to Leanne Randall:
Leanne.Randall@sjacfa.org

Paradise Cut Expansion and South Delta Restoration Project

Advisory Committee Scoping Meeting
July 1, 2024



Photo credit: ESA 2023



Alternatives

2017 CVFPP Update

Option M-ag (“CVFPP”)

Elements

- New 1,000-foot weir and associated levee setback upstream of the existing Paradise Cut weir
- New setback levees along Paradise Cut
- Expansion of the east railroad trestle by 500 feet

Considerations

- 2-foot reduction in peak stage on the San Joaquin River at Mossdale Bridge
- ~500-acre increase in riparian and wetland habitat



Source: American Rivers (2019). Conceptual Design Technical Memo: Paradise Cut Expansion Project. April 9, 2019.

2019 Conceptual Design

CVFPP with Dredging

Alters the CVFPP alternative via:

- 2 vertical feet of dredging along a 5-mile section of Old River and Grant Line Canal

Considerations

- Same flood stage reduction in the San Joaquin River as CVFPP alternative.
- Minimal stage reductions in Old River and Grant Line Canal.



Source: American Rivers (2019). Conceptual Design Technical Memo: Paradise Cut Expansion Project. April 9, 2019.

2019 Conceptual Design

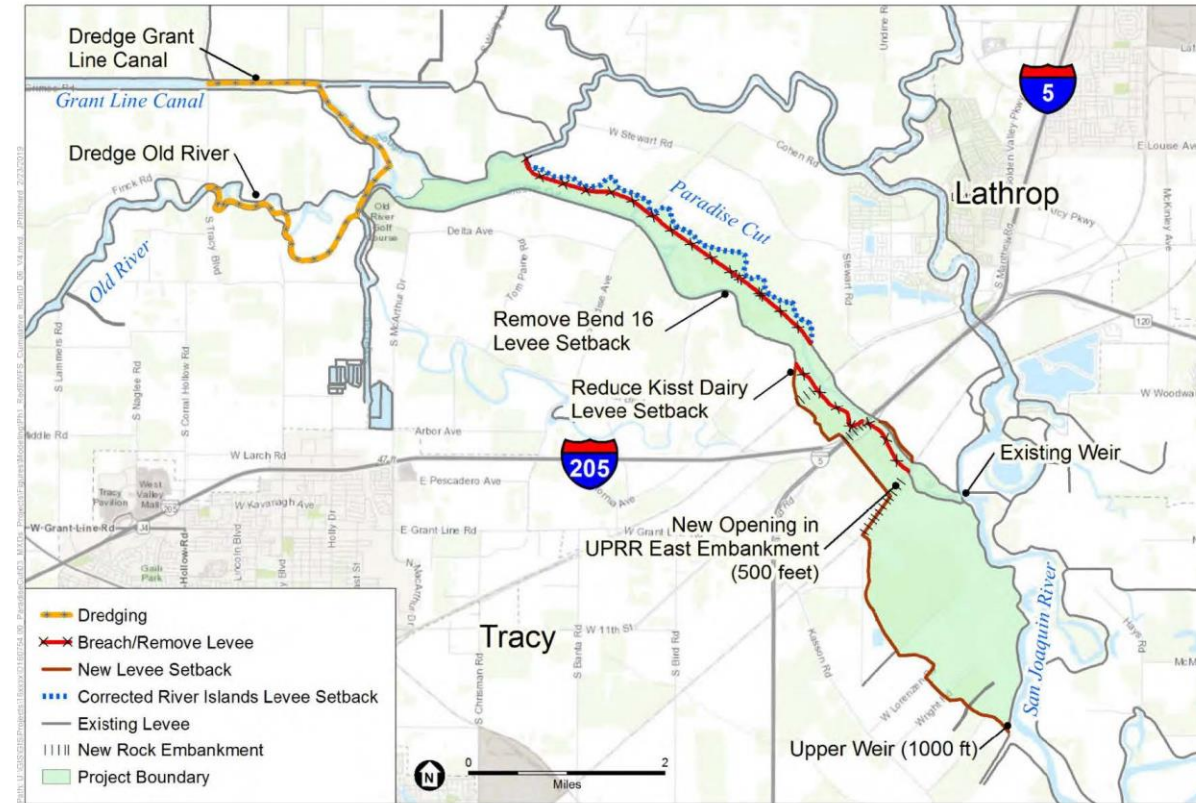
Modified CVFPP

Alters the CVFPP with Dredging alternative via:

- Realignment of the River Island levee
- Reduction of the setback levee at Kisst Dairy to avoid costs and impact of moving a dairy facility
- Elimination of the setback levee at Bend 16

Considerations

- Same flood stage reduction in the San Joaquin River as CVFPP alternative.
- Minimal stage reductions in Old River and Grant Line Canal
- Increases flood stage within Paradise Cut by up to 3.5 inches



Source: American Rivers (2019). Conceptual Design Technical Memo: Paradise Cut Expansion Project. April 9, 2019.

2019 Conceptual Design

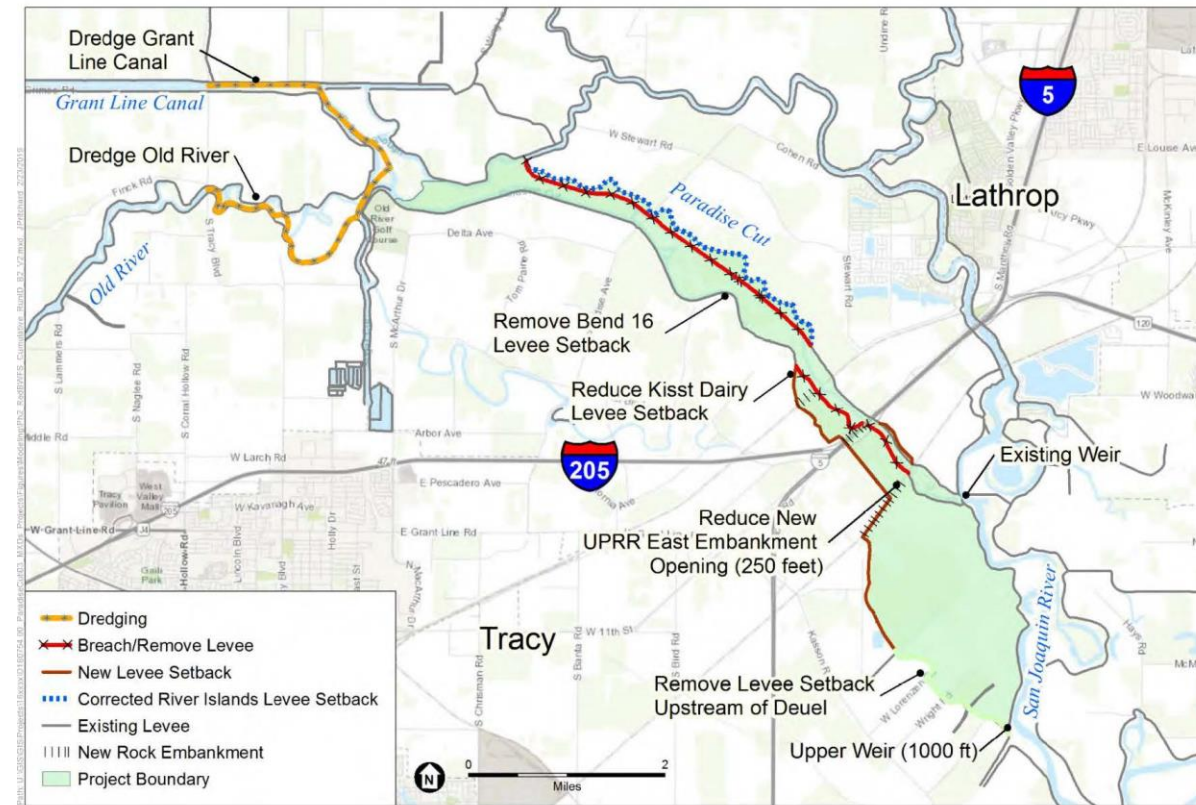
Minimum Viable Project (MVP)

Alters the Modified CVFPP alternative via:

- Elimination of the setback levee south of Deuel Vocational Institute
- Reduction of east railroad expansion to 250 feet

Considerations

- Same flood stage reduction in the San Joaquin River as CVFPP and Modified CVFPP
- Equivalent or smaller downstream hydraulic impacts on Paradise Cut, Old River, and Grant Line Canal (relative to Modified CVFPP)
- Presumed to cost less than CVFPP and Modified CVFPP by halving railroad trestle expansion and reducing levee setbacks by 1.5 miles



Source: American Rivers (2019). Conceptual Design Technical Memo: Paradise Cut Expansion Project. April 9, 2019.

2019 Conceptual Design

Potential Maximum Project

Alters the Modified CVFPP alternative via:

- Inclusion of setback levees at Kisst Dairy and Bend 16, and new downstream setback levee
- Expansion of openings under I-5, I-205, and west railroad trestle by 500 feet
- Expansion of upper weir opening to 2,000 feet
- No setback levee at Duel Vocational Institute

Considerations

- Reduces flood stages on the San Joaquin River relative to other alternatives
- Upstream of crossings, reduces flood stages on Paradise Cut relative to the MVP; increases flood stages on Old River and Grant Line Canal



Source: American Rivers (2019). Conceptual Design Technical Memo: Paradise Cut Expansion Project. April 9, 2019.

2021 Anchor Report

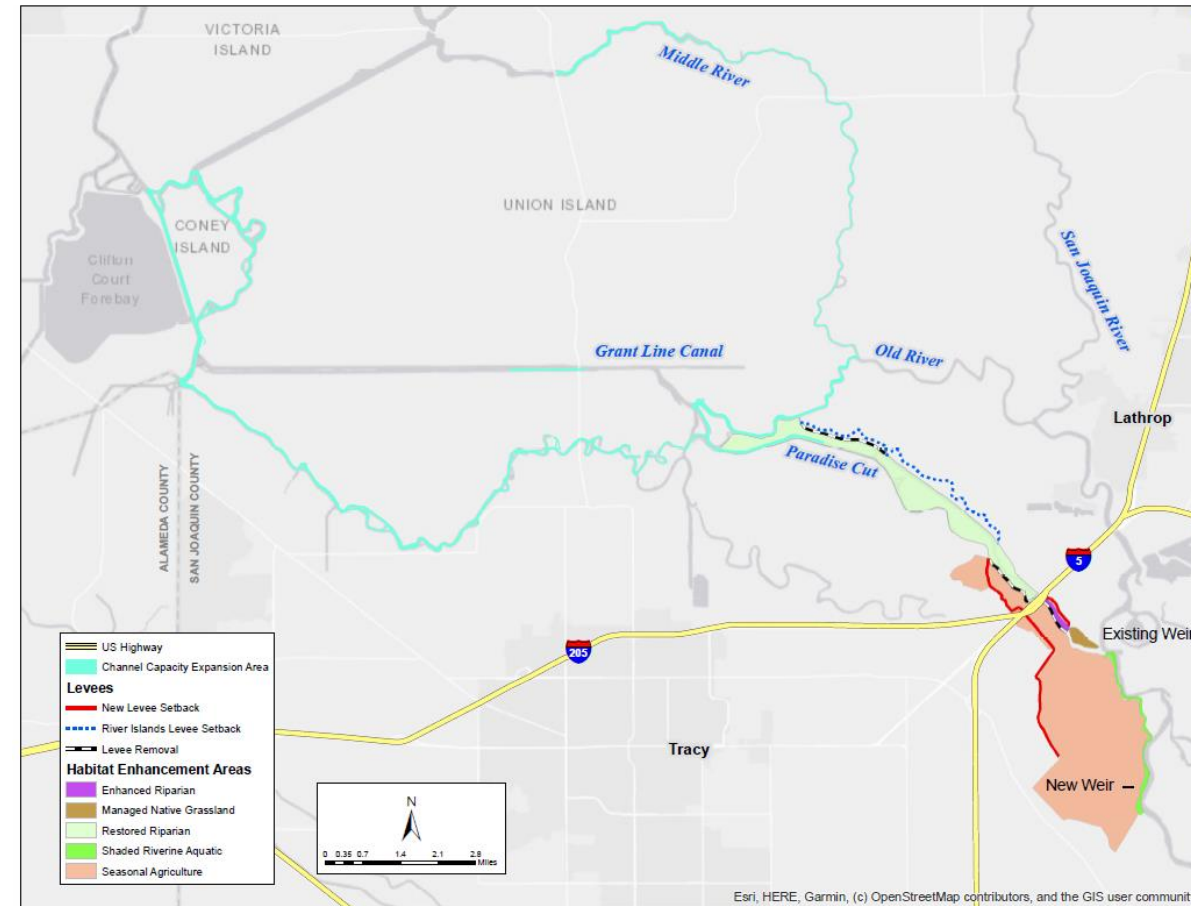
Additional Channel Restoration

Alters the Minimum Viable Project alternative via:

- Up to 25 miles of dredging, in depths ranging from 6 to 8 feet, to restore South Delta channels to their deepest historical elevations
 - Old River
 - Middle River
 - Fabian & Bell Canal
 - Tom Paine Slough
 - Paradise Cut

Considerations

- Further data, modeling, and studies needed to understand potential effects



Source: San Joaquin County RCD (2023). Proposed Strategies to Address Concerns of Landowners and Reclamation Districts Downstream of the Paradise Cut Expansion and South Delta Restoration Project. May 4, 2023.

Topic for Discussion

Would it be beneficial to evaluate other alternatives or develop variations of the four alternatives considered?



Critical Feasibility Issues

Critical Feasibility Issues

- Conflicts with existing easements and land acquisition
- Extent and cost of dredging
- Extent and cost of downstream hydraulic mitigation
- Cost of railroad bridge expansion
- Juvenile fish migration over the expanded weir
- Maintainability

Topic for Discussion

Are there other critical issues that have not yet been identified that need to be resolved?



Other Issues to be Addressed

Feasibility Study

Other considerations to be addressed

Cost and Maintainability

- Operation and maintenance costs
- Capital costs and project financing strategy
 - Cost of railroad bridge expansion
 - Extent and cost of downstream hydraulic mitigation
 - Cost of flowage easements
- Retention of access to all pumps and pipelines so that they will be maintained properly in perpetuity
- Assessment of long-term fiscal impact on Reclamation District (RD) 2095, which is where most new flowage easements would need to be obtained
- Repurposing of RD 2095 levee

Feasibility Study

Other considerations to be addressed

Environmental Restoration and Mitigation

- Impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies
- Consideration of additional restoration activities within or near project footprint
- Consideration of fish and flow impacts from SWP/CVP export pumps in engineering and restoration designs
- Consideration of potential benefits of additional flows in Tom Paine Slough

Feasibility Study

Other considerations to be addressed

Dredging

- Potential for sedimentation and other downstream effects of project alternatives under current and future hydrological conditions
- Assessment of potential benefits of dredging upper portion of Paradise Cut
- Assessment of potential impacts of channel dredging on irrigation water access particularly where lowering bed of the channel could increase pumping requirements
- Assessment of potential impacts on flow split between Old River and Grant Line Canal

Feasibility Study

Other considerations to be addressed

Flood Risk Reduction

- Modeling of flow velocity dynamics
- Flood risk reduction benefits under current and future hydrological conditions
- Management alternatives for the levee that would remain on the left bank of the San Joaquin River between the new and existing weirs
- Effects of different extents/depths of channel restoration actions on flood risks to downstream levees
- Constraints and opportunities associated with routing of overland-flowing waters back into Paradise Cut, and the fate of existing structures in overland flow areas
- Optimal size of openings under I-5 and two railroads
- Assessment of potential opportunities presented by River Islands' plans to degrade the federal project levee along the Stewart Tract banks of Paradise Cut and Old River
- Assessment of locations where levees no longer conform to design specifications

Extra Slides

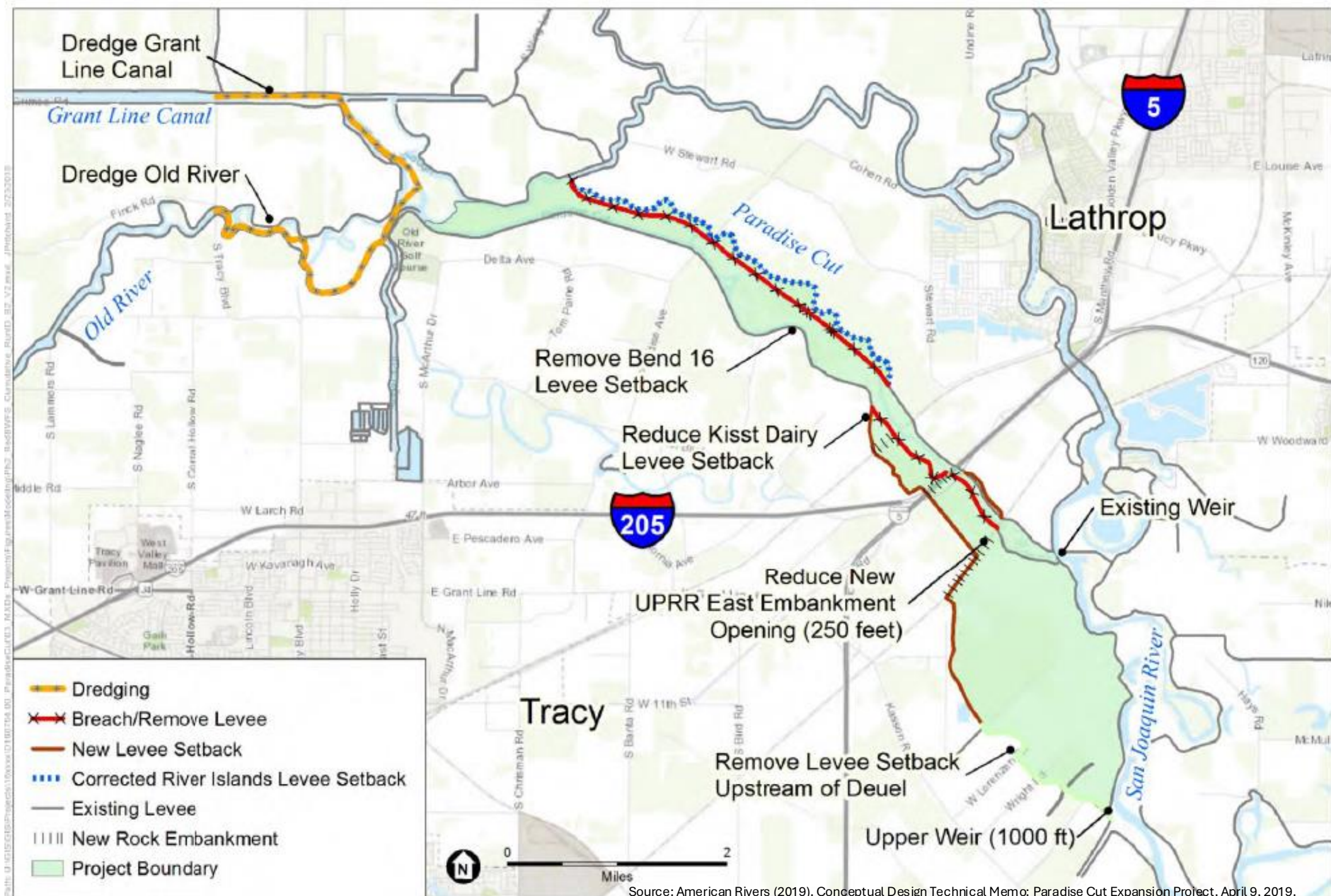
CVFPP Concept







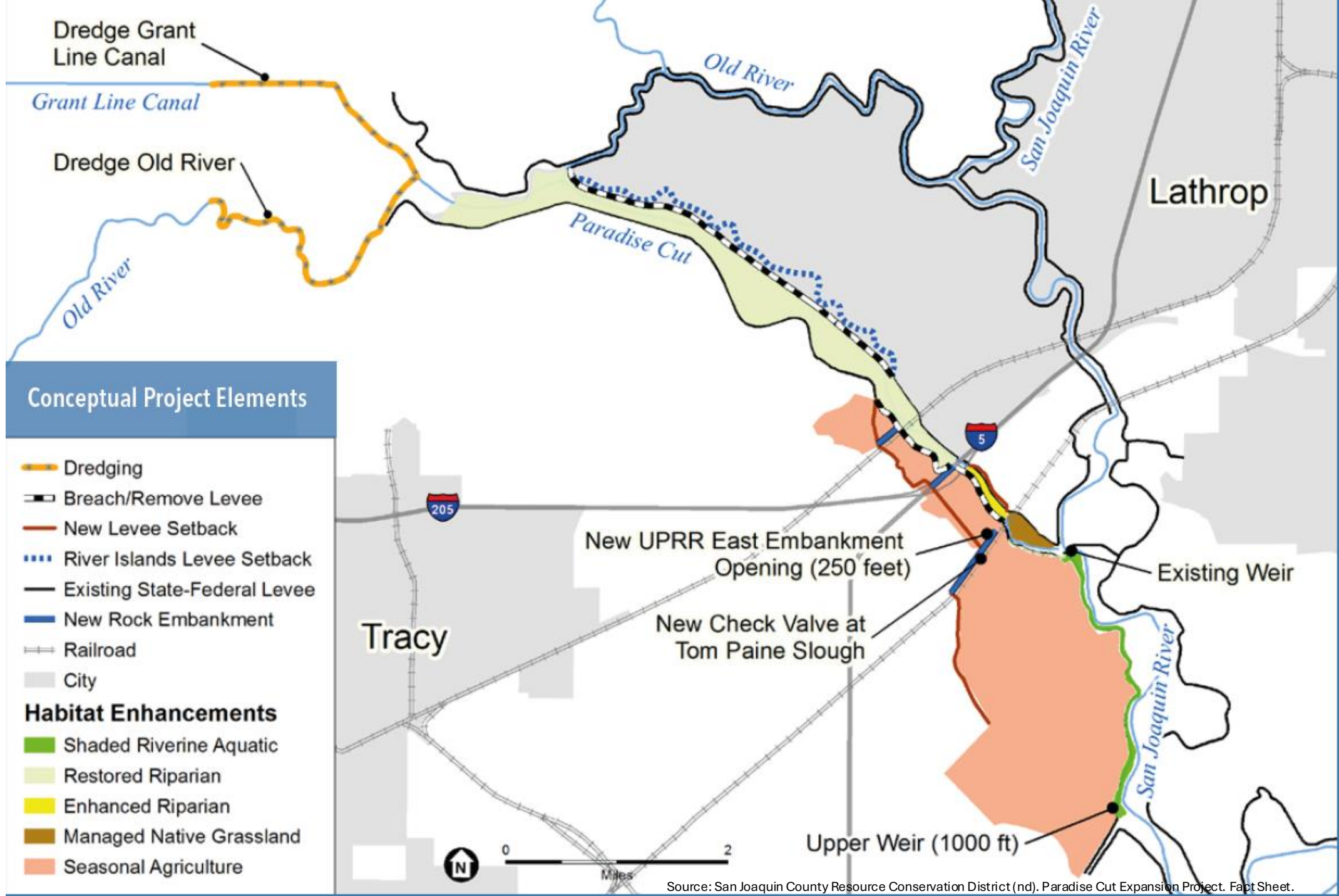
Minimum Viable Project (Preferred Alternative)



Potential Maximum Project

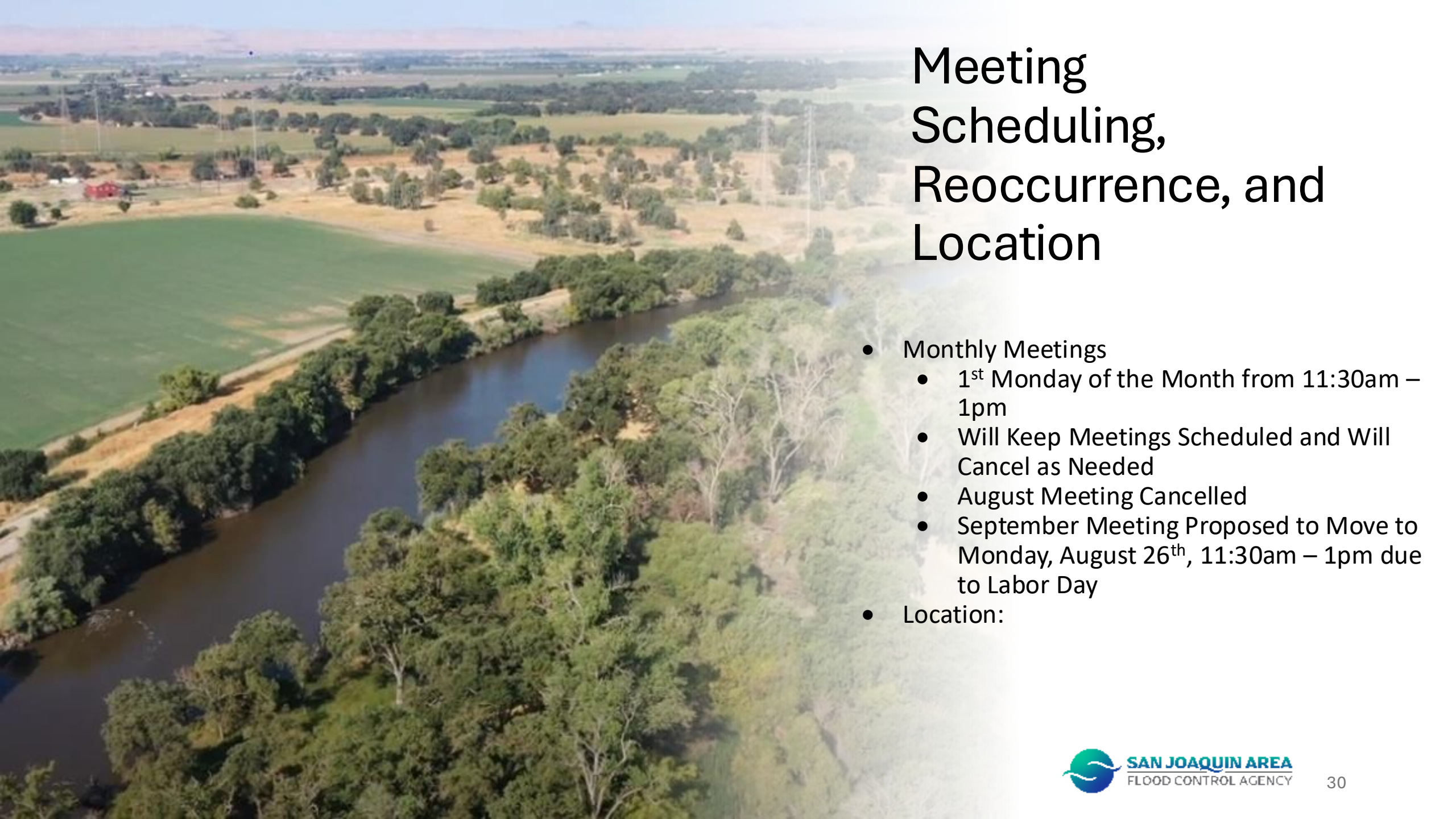


Source: American Rivers (2019). Conceptual Design Technical Memo: Paradise Cut Expansion Project. April 9, 2019.





Funding for Next Phase



Meeting Scheduling, Reoccurrence, and Location

- Monthly Meetings
 - 1st Monday of the Month from 11:30am – 1pm
 - Will Keep Meetings Scheduled and Will Cancel as Needed
 - August Meeting Cancelled
 - September Meeting Proposed to Move to Monday, August 26th, 11:30am – 1pm due to Labor Day
- Location:

Governance Charter & Engagement Strategy



The Consero Solutions Team



Petrea Marchand

Consero President
Project Lead/Facilitator



Danaka DeBow

Project Manager



Laura Duffy

Project Support



Avaree Jackson

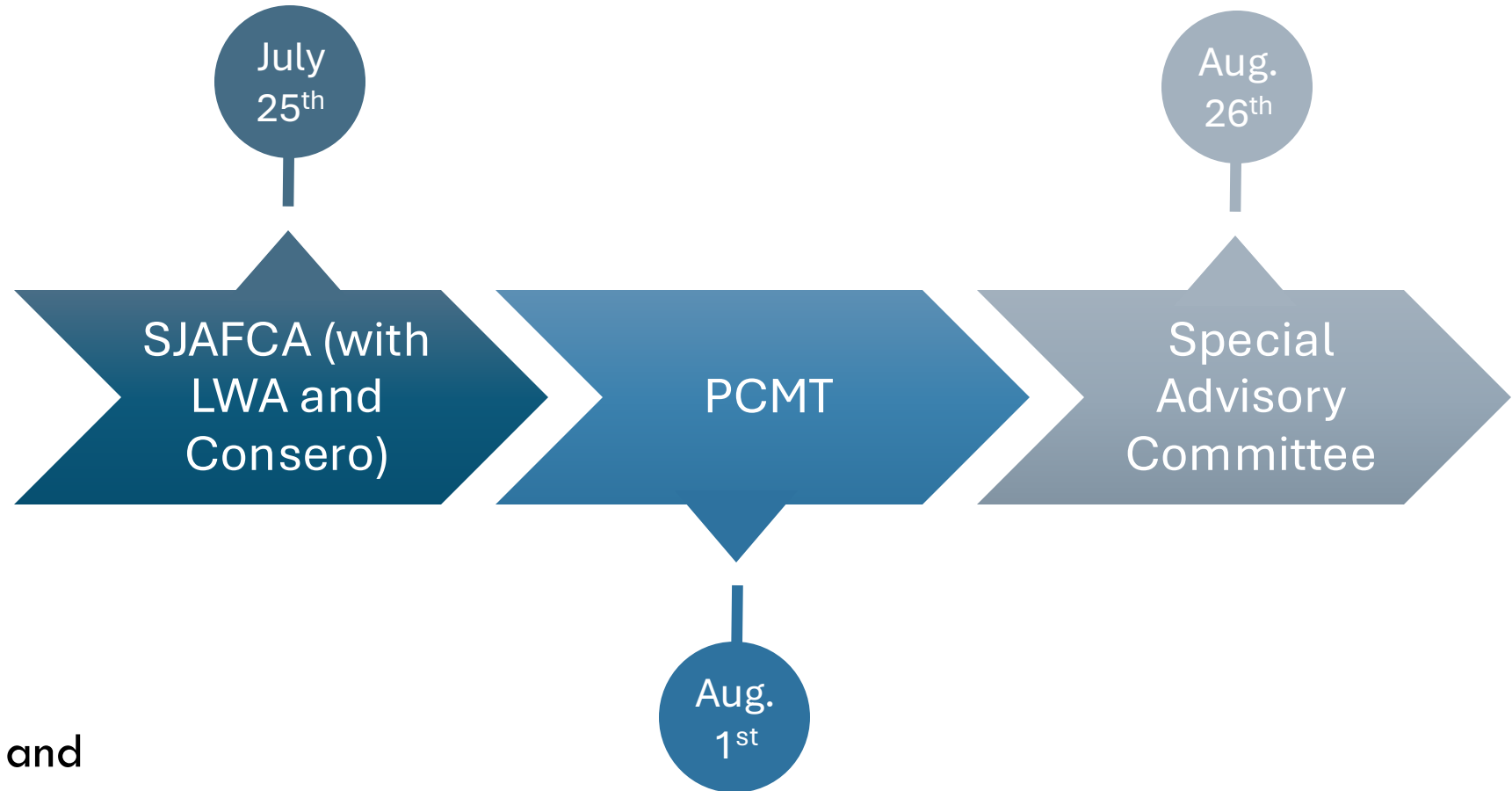
Administrative Support

CONSEROSOLUTIONS

Governance Charter



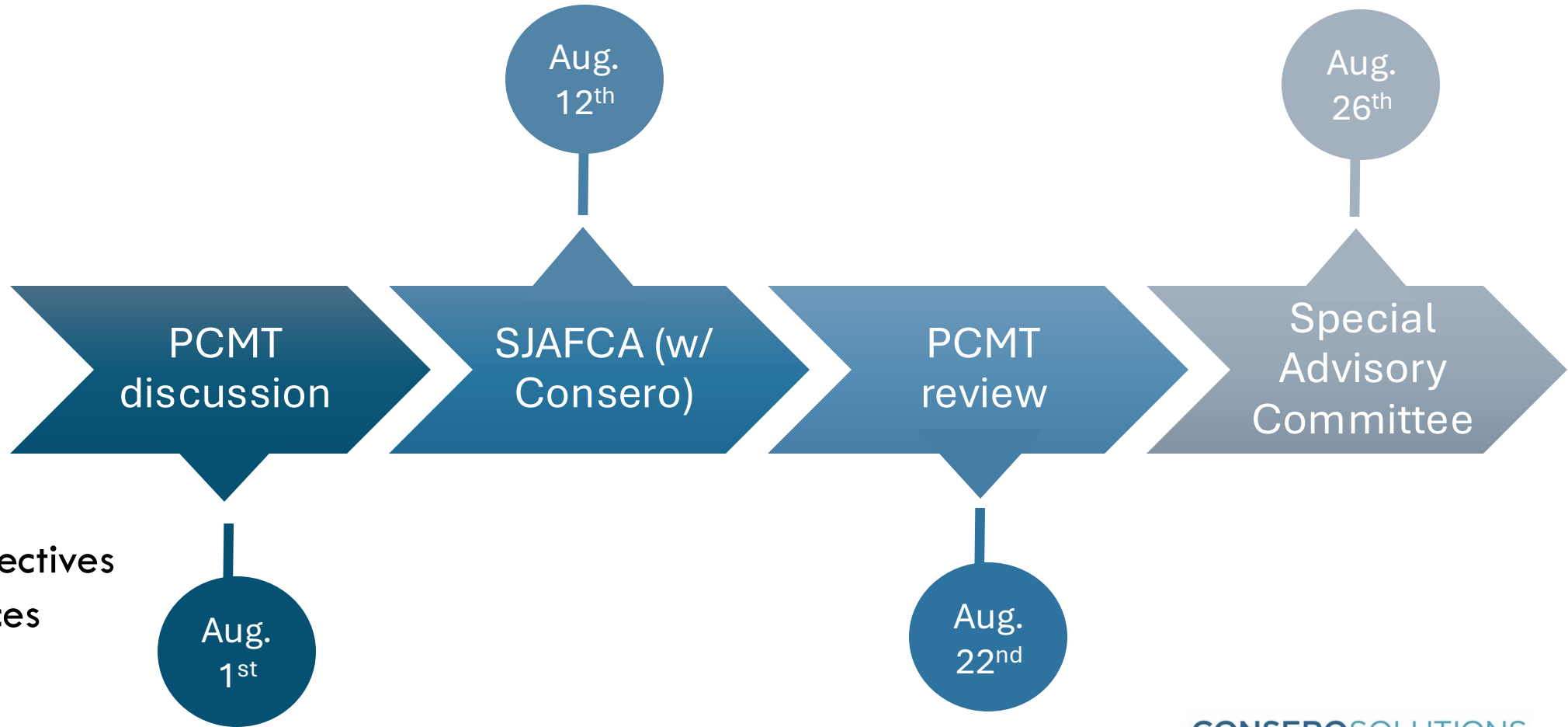
- Roles and responsibilities
- Decision-making authority and process



Engagement Strategy

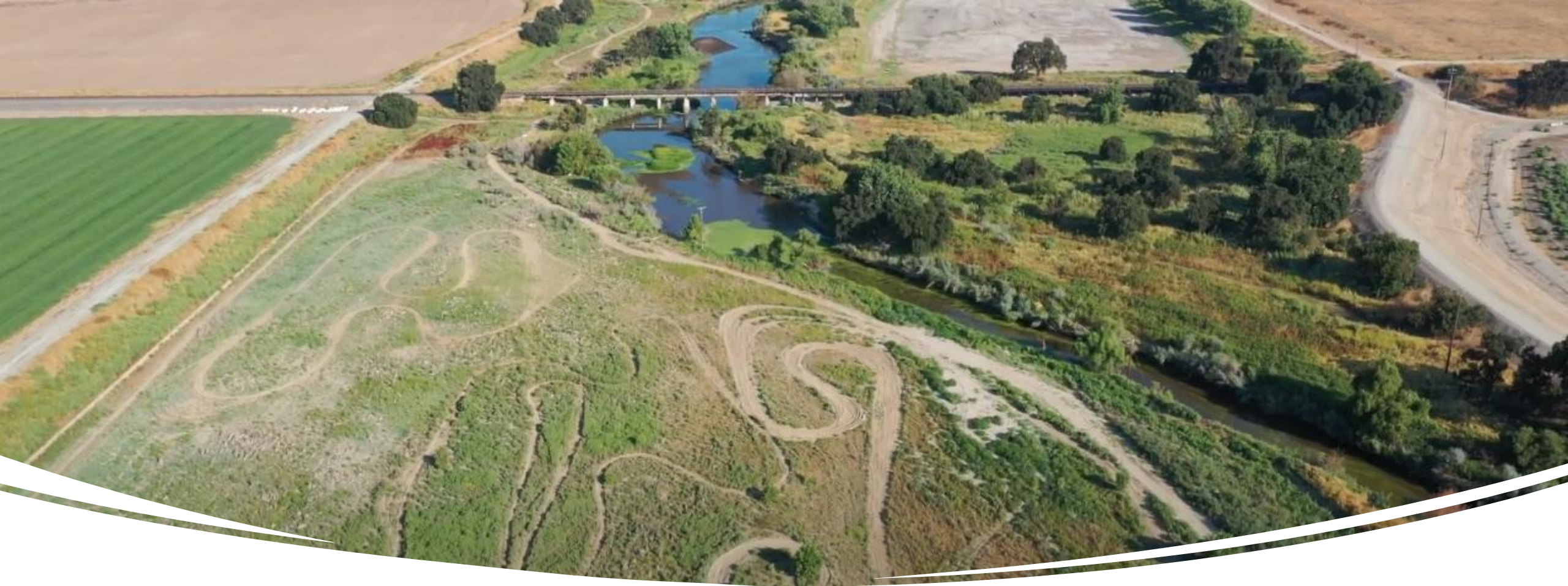


- Goals and objectives
- Target audiences
- Platforms
- Schedule



State Updates





Comments

- Potential Items for Next Meeting
 - Outreach Strategy
 - Governance Charter
- Advisory Committee Comments
- Public Comments

Adjourned

Project Schedule

