



Hands on Habitat

State of California

What Are the Problems?

- **Tidal wetlands and salt marshes**
Statewide, 80% of these habitats have been lost.
- **Rivers** Salmon and steelhead habitats have been impacted by barriers, agricultural and forest practices, urbanization, and changes to stream flow.
- **Salmon** Many salmon populations are listed as either threatened or endangered. Coho have been reduced to 10% of the 1940 population.
- **Subtidal habitat** Kelp beds, eelgrass, and native oyster populations have been reduced by almost 40% in some locations.

Background

Historically, California waters supported abundant recreational and commercial fisheries and large populations of marine mammals. Over the past two centuries, development and land use practices have resulted in significant impacts to coastal and fresh water habitats, and declines in the species that depend on them. Opportunities for restoration in the state are significant: salmon and steelhead currently occupy only 18% of the potential stream habitat; the rest have been lost to barriers and habitat degradation.

What We Do

- Restore oyster beds, rehabilitate kelp forests, and re-establish seagrass
- Rehabilitate salt marshes and streams
- Enhance sand dunes
- Improve fish passage
- Fence livestock from sensitive areas
- Remove invasive species
- Plant native species
- Educate communities about the value of habitat and restoration

How We Do It

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) achieves science-based habitat restoration through community involvement and stewardship. We build



powerful partnerships with California's public, private, and non-profit organizations. Our projects continually demonstrate the effectiveness and benefits of locally based habitat conservation in California.

Our Accomplishments

Since 1996, we have:

- Awarded more than \$10 million and leveraged more than \$24 million
- Funded 268 projects
- Completed 182 projects
- Restored more than 8,000 acres of coastal habitat
- Opened almost 160 stream miles for fish passage
- Engaged roughly 33,000 volunteers for 170,000 service hours through partner-led activities

Our Partners

NOAA works with 290 non-profit, private, and public partners in California, including local school districts, farmers and businesspeople, environmental non-profit groups, and Native American tribes, as well as many state resource agencies and universities.

Our Focus

Reverse catastrophic decreases in salmon populations and the severe degradation of marine and estuarine habitat

Contact

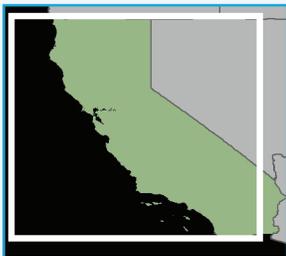
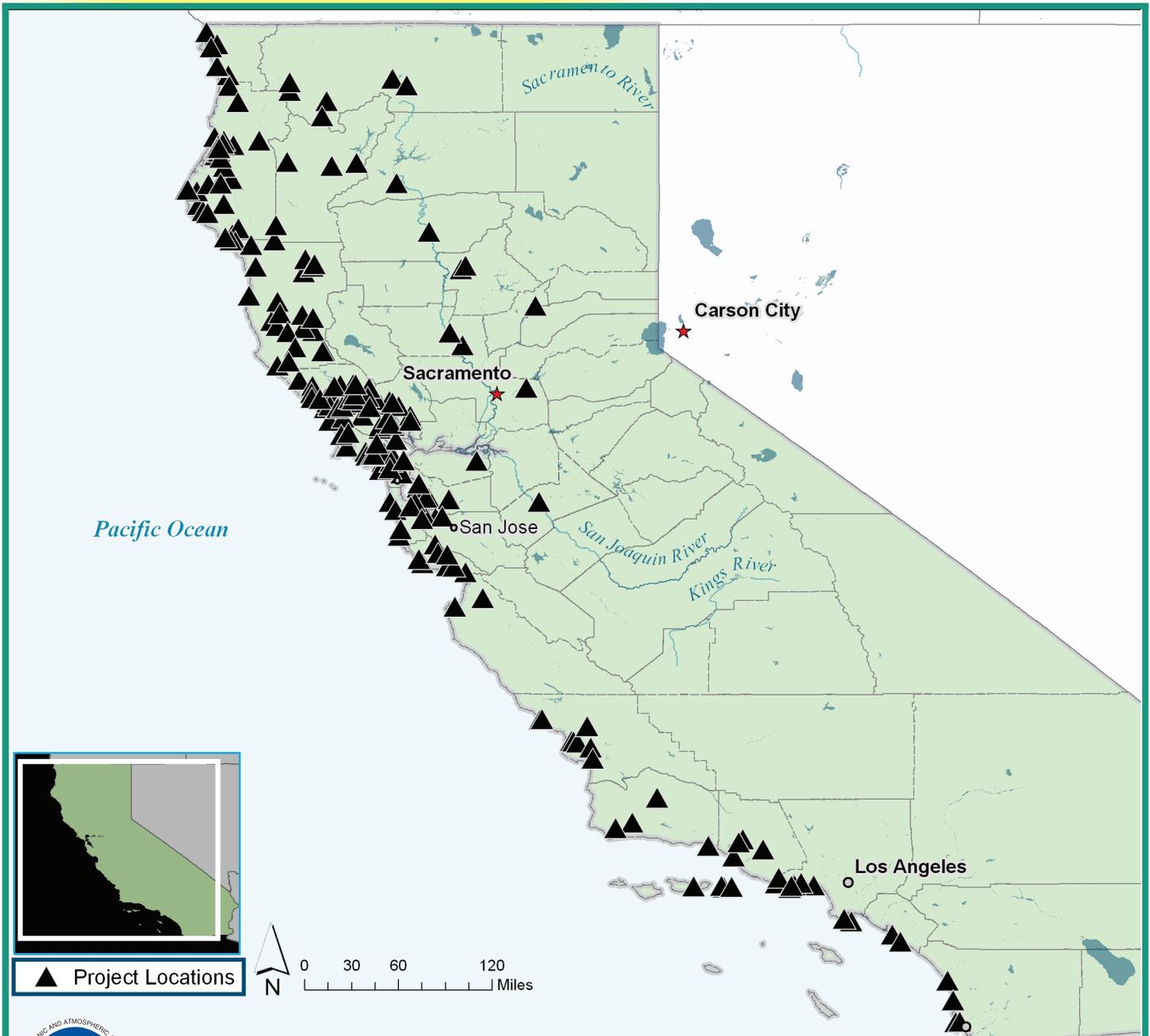
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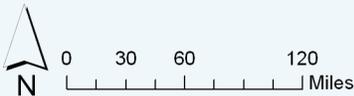
Last updated December 2007

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP)

State of California



▲ Project Locations



SELECT COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROJECTS:

Freshwater Farms Estuary Restoration, Myrtle town
Garcia River Sediment Reduction Project, Point Arena
Kent Canyon Fish Passage Barrier Removal, San Rafael
Little Browns Creek Fish Passage Restoration, Weaverville

Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline Restoration, Oakland
Mattole Flow Program, Whitethorn
Morro Bay National Estuary Riparian Restoration
Pismo Creek Fish Ladder, San Luis Obispo County
Rancho La Vina Riparian Restoration

San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Project, Oakland
South Bay Salt Pond Restoration, Alviso
Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project
Walters Creek Riparian Restoration - Phase II, San Luis Obispo
Whites Gulch Dam Removal, Sawyers Bar