

# About the Sonoma County Water Agency

## Core Business Functions Align with Integrated Management:

- Wholesale water supplier to over 600,000 people - Sonoma & Marin Counties
- Flood Control
- Sanitation - 8 systems
- Power Generation/Renewable Energy Development

## Our Approach to Business:

- Integrated Resource Management
- Resiliency/Adaptation
- Partnerships/Collaborations



**Overarching Goal: Proactive Management of Surface Water & Groundwater Resources to Promote Reliability for All Users**

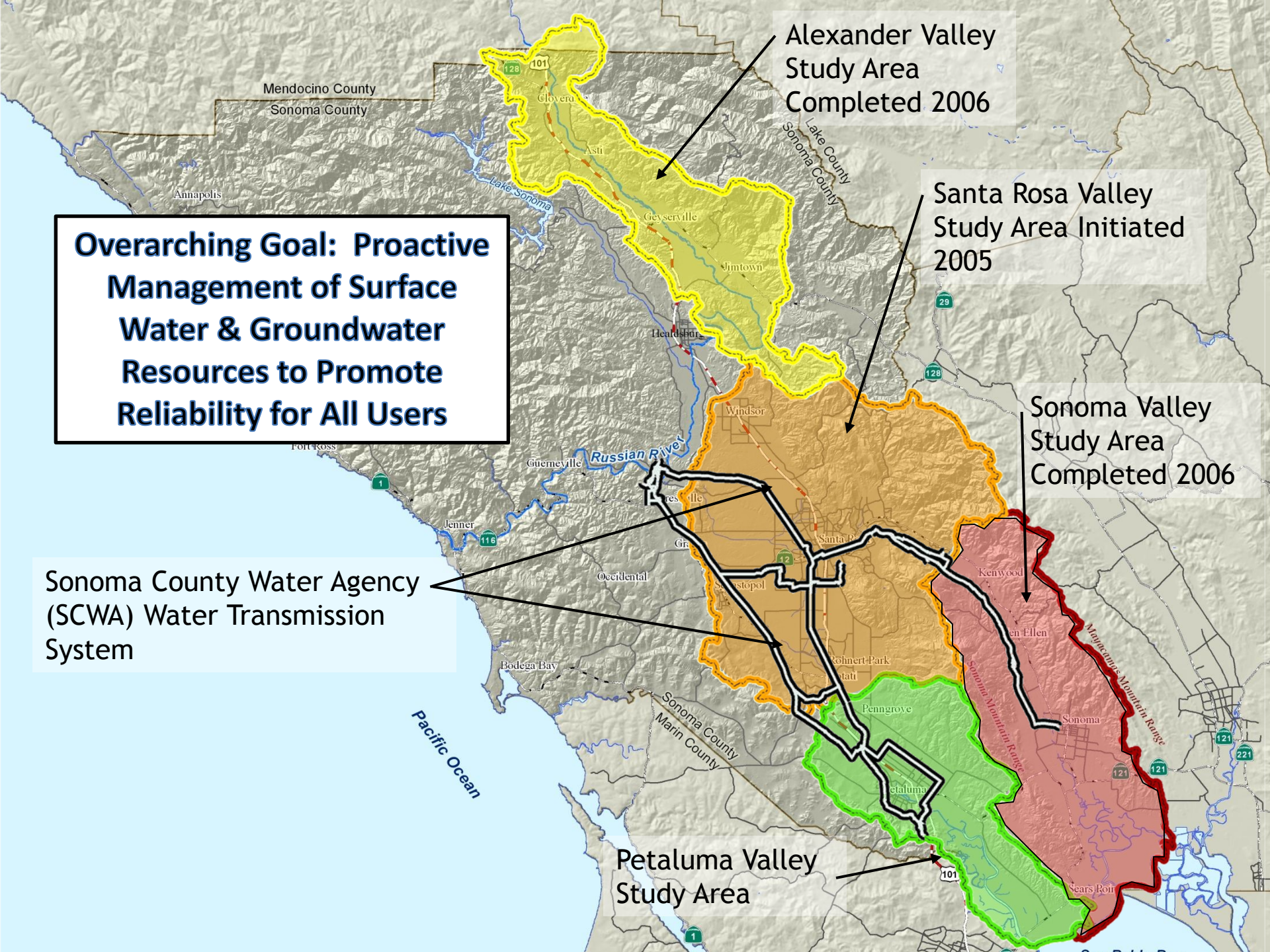
Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) Water Transmission System

Alexander Valley Study Area Completed 2006

Santa Rosa Valley Study Area Initiated 2005

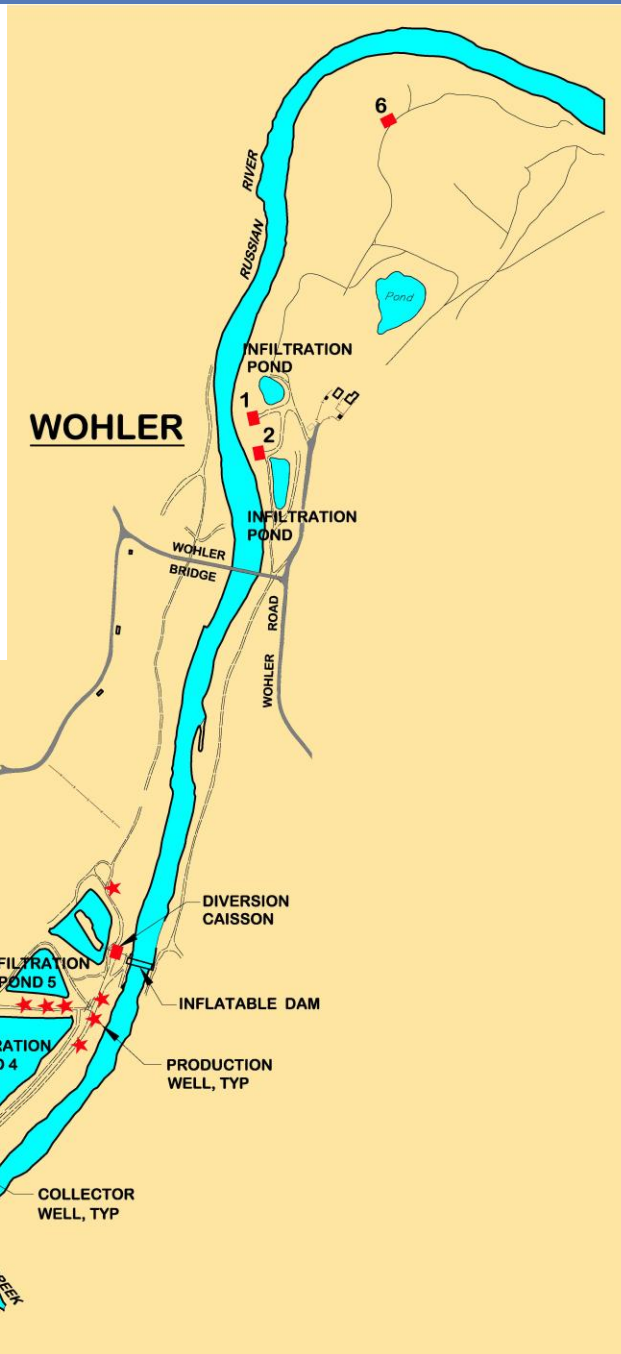
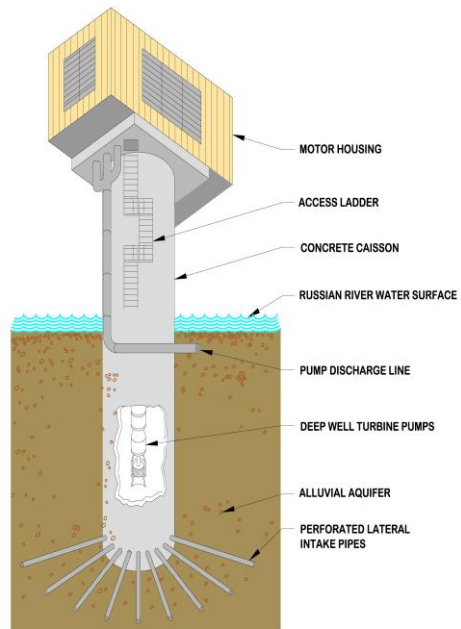
Sonoma Valley Study Area Completed 2006

Petaluma Valley Study Area



# Russian River Water Supply Facilities

- One of the largest riverbank filtration systems in the world
- Treatment accomplished via natural filtration.
- Only chlorine added as a disinfectant
- Watershed fee



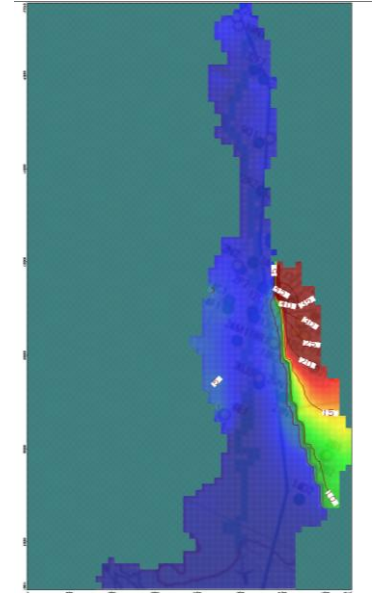
# Tools, Decision Making, & Policy Development

Planning Models: Utilize best available science (GSFLOW, MODFLOW, BCM)

Public Outreach & Education - Collaborative GW Management

Scenario Planning With Stakeholders: Address risk and uncertainty

Leads to regional programs and allocation of resources



# Challenges

- Ecosystem services not widely recognized or understood
- Difficulty monetizing benefits of programs beyond avoided infrastructure cost (What's the value of a healthy aquifer?)
- Groundwater as a property right in California presents difficulties in monetizing value of groundwater
- To date, costs borne by ratepayers - Benefits spread much more broadly - Can ecosystem services help better align benefits & funding?

# Opportunities

Describe ecosystem benefits in economic terms - provide rationale & incentive for proactive programs

Incorporate into asset management program?

Potential collaborations

