

Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable

Advisory Committee on Water Information

USGS National Center

John Wells, SWRR Co-Chair

David Berry, SWRR Manager

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Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable



A national collaboration of federal, state, local, corporate, non-profit and academic interests

A committee of the USGS
Advisory Committee on Water
Information

Our Mission

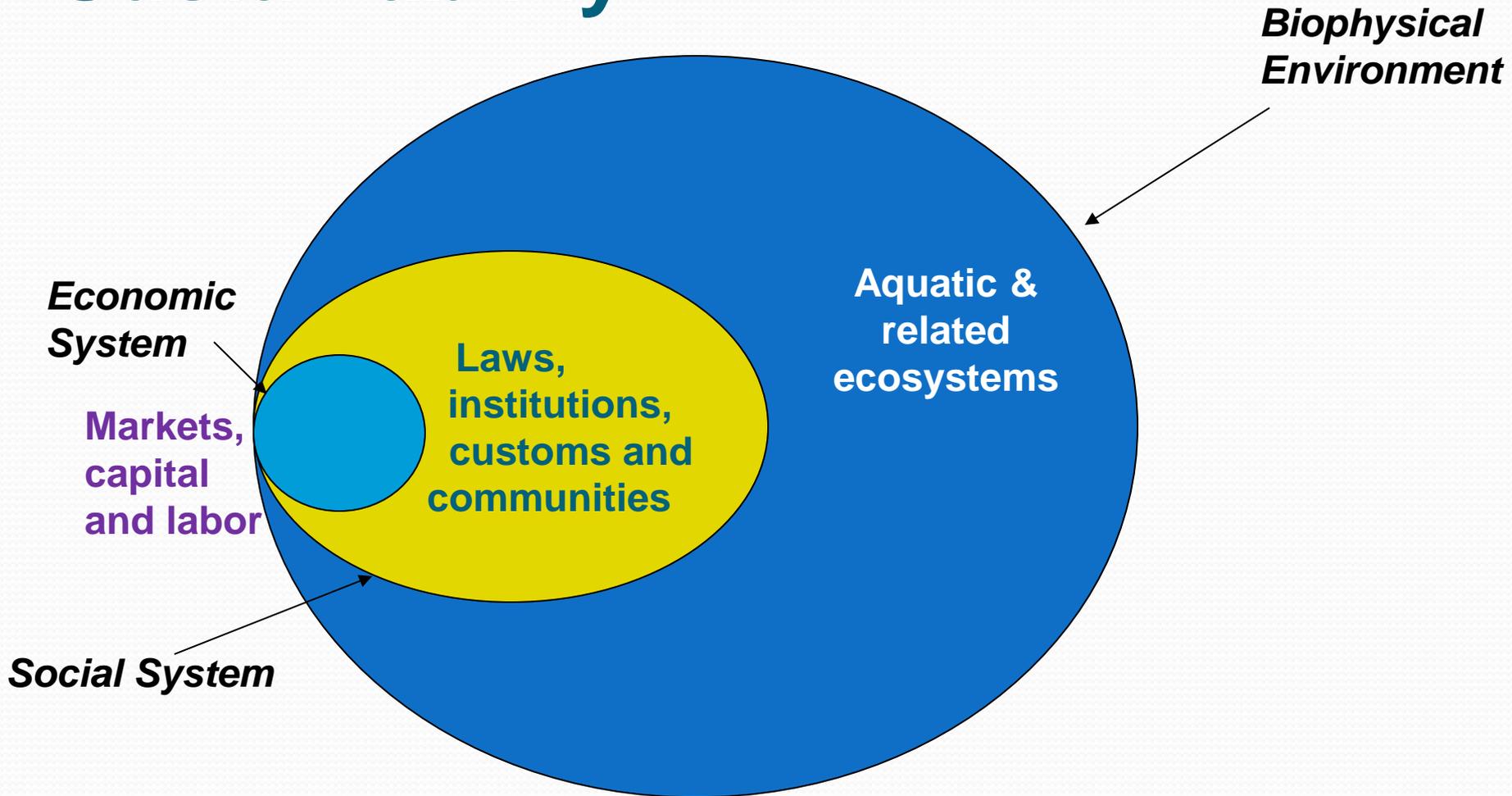
To promote sustainability of the nation's resources through ...

- Evaluation of information
- Development & use of indicators
- Targeting of research
- Engagement of people & partners

Outreach

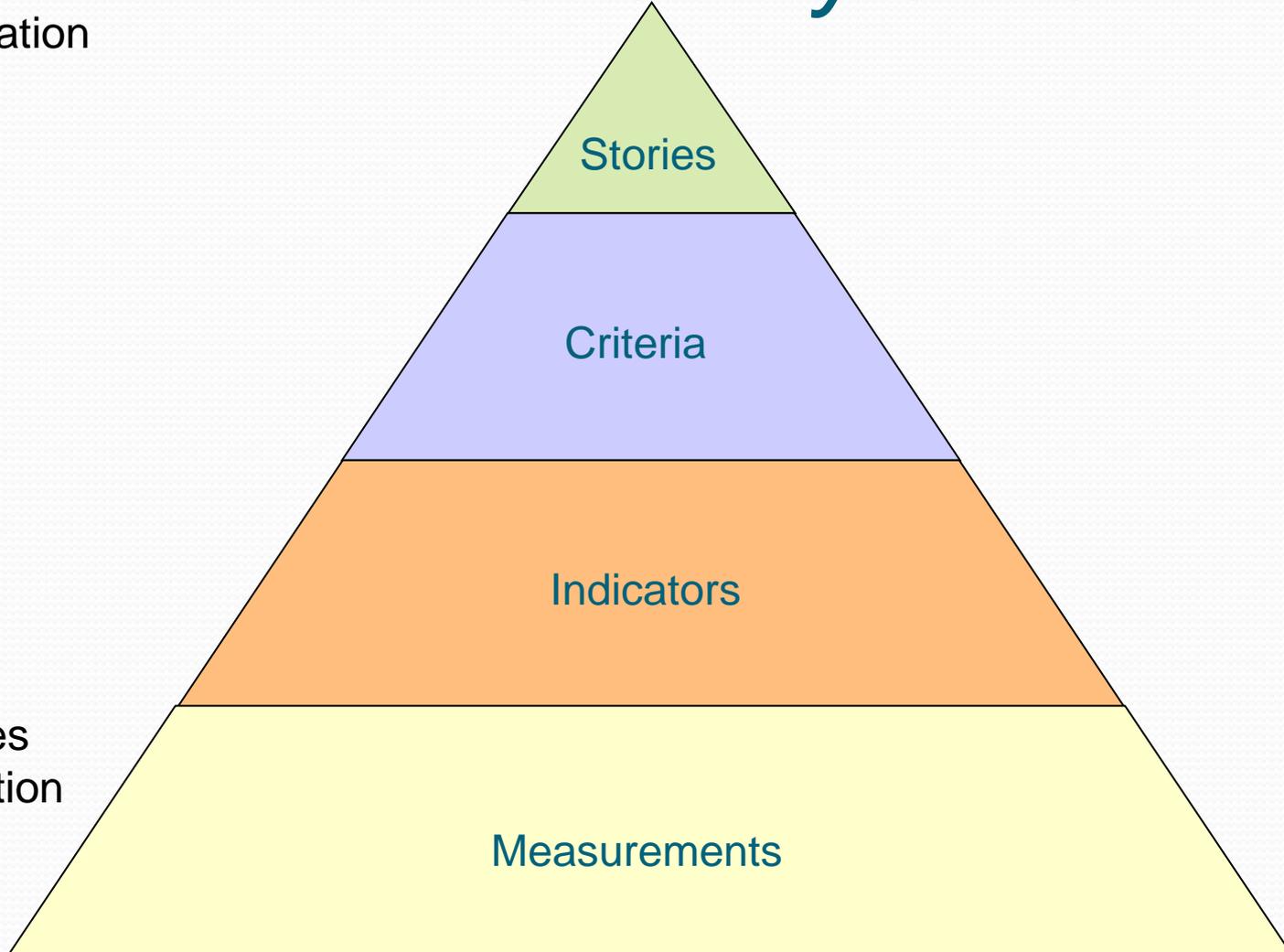
- 1,000 participants from federal, state and local governments; corporations; nonprofits and academia
- Meetings in California; Colorado; Florida; Maryland; Michigan; Minnesota; New Hampshire; Virginia; Washington, D.C.
- Web site <http://acwi.gov/swrr/index.html>
- 2005 Preliminary Report
http://acwi.gov/swrr/Rpt_Pubs/prelim_rpt/index.html
- 2010 SWRR Report
http://acwi.gov/swrr/Rpt_Pubs/SWRRReportMarch2010.pdf

Essential Relationships of Sustainability





Information Pyramid



Fewer Pieces
Of Information



More Pieces
Of Information

Measurements

Indicators

Criteria

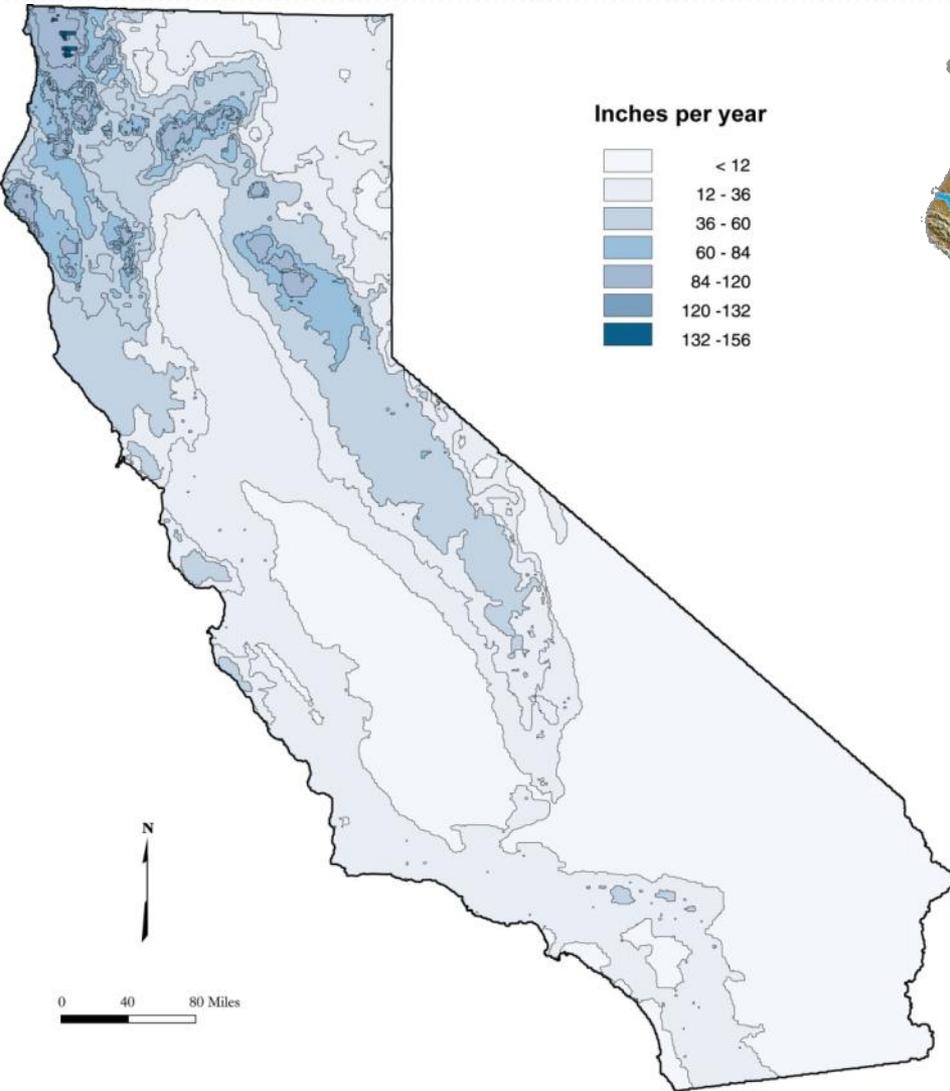
Stories

California Water Plan

Blueprint for Integrated Water Management & Sustainability



California Water



Mean annual precipitation in California, 1951 to 1990

Imperative to Act to Keep Pace w/ Changes



- Population growth & movement
- Shift to permanent crops
- Increasing flood risk
- Declining Delta & watersheds
- Impaired water bodies
- Climate Change profoundly impacting water systems
- Aging water & flood systems challenged by legal remedies & regulatory protections
- Growing economic & societal consequences of declining water reliability and degraded quality of surface & groundwater supplies

California's Sustainability Solutions Require ...

- Systems Thinking & a Holistic Approach
- Awareness of Time Horizons, Scales, Trajectories
- Managing Risk & Uncertainty
- New Tools
- Common Ground for Solutions
- Continuous Education

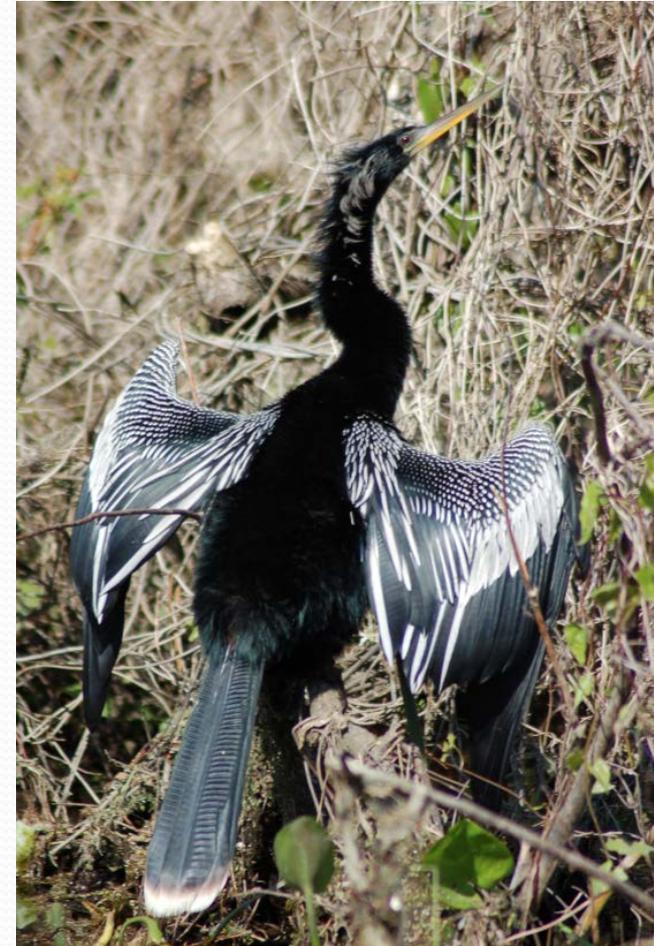
International Water Stewardship

- The Alliance for Water Stewardship's *International Water Stewardship Standard*
- To support water users in taking appropriate actions to evaluate and improve their impacts on watersheds
- Beta testing stage



Water Sustainability in Florida

- Wakulla Spring
- Water quality, water use and land use
- Climate change and sea level rise
- The Everglades
- Water Choices





N.H. Water & Watershed Conference

New Hampshire Water & Watershed Conference March 21, 2014

- The conference included SWRR presentations.
- SWRR gave participants a national perspective on water resource issues.

New Hampshire Lives on Water and is ...

- Water rich
- Prizes tourism
- Has no water withdrawal permitting
- Accustomed to high population growth but the future is murky
- Highly rural with many small public water systems and private wells
- Fiscally conservative; has no water resource planning unit

Water Sustainability Commission goals ...

- Ensure that quality and availability of water in 25 years will be as good as or better than today
- Fully inform and engage public
- Gather the data needed
- Invest in infrastructure
- Focus on future
in management



Next Steps for the SWRR

- Continue roundtable outreach
 - Build regional connections
 - Add new private, nonprofit & public sector partners
- Assist agencies in developing and describing the need for monitoring and management programs



Contact Information

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