The Sacramento River Watershed Program (SRWP) was founded in 1996, with the basic principle that we must care for the river and its watershed today so future generations may enjoy its physical and spiritual benefits tomorrow.

SRWP provides a forum for watershed stakeholders and agency representatives to share information, measure cumulative progress, and maintain a shared vision of the Sacramento River Watershed. Serving as a regional organization, SRWP conducts watershed monitoring activities, provides outreach and education, and offers support to partners throughout the entire 27,000 square-mile watershed—from the Oregon border to the Bay-Delta.

SRWP has been recognized by State agencies as a role model for regional watershed programs and participates in a variety of regional and state meetings to serve as a voice for local groups and ensure the inclusion of local watershed management activities in regional and statewide plans. SRWP works to promote the importance of collaborative efforts as they provide the foundation for implementation of important watershed projects including fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration; water quality improvements; water supply reliability; and flood management.

Key Accomplishments

» Successful track record of managing projects and developing effective initiatives to improve the health of the watershed.

» Implemented a comprehensive water quality monitoring program highly respected by State agencies since 1998 (and now expanding to watershed health monitoring).

» Proven history of building successful partnerships with government agencies, watershed practitioners, industry, agricultural community, and other stakeholders to address watershed issues.

» Effective public education and outreach campaign that includes social media, publications, and a user-friendly website that provides a wide range of tools and resources for watershed practitioners, agency representatives, and the general public.
SRWP conducts watershed education and outreach at all levels to promote the importance the Sacramento River Watershed and its resources. Activities range from the development of an educational newspaper insert, *A Journey through the Sacramento River Watershed* to conferences, workshops, and meetings featuring updates on statewide and regional topics. SRWP is currently implementing a variety of projects all aimed at increasing awareness and improving the health of the watershed. The following project summaries provide an overview of the breadth of SRWP projects that have been or are presently being implemented.

**Mercury Outreach and Research**
SRWP actively supports efforts to address mercury contamination in the Sacramento River Watershed including outreach, monitoring, and research. SRWP coordinates and facilitates the Delta Tributaries Mercury Council (DTMC), which provides a forum for scientists, agency representatives, and stakeholders to share information regarding mercury studies and policies affecting mercury in the watershed.

**Sacramento River Watershed Roadmap**

Many reports, projects, assessments, and management plans have been generated on the Sacramento River and its many tributaries. These efforts have provided a wealth of information about the history and current state of our watershed; however, that information has never been consolidated into a single picture of the condition of the entire Sacramento River Watershed or presented to the public, state and federal agencies, and decision makers.

The Sacramento River Watershed Roadmap consolidated and linked the work that has been conducted by locally directed watershed programs into a comprehensive report or “Roadmap” for the Sacramento River Watershed. This report highlights key information about our watersheds in layman terms and provides a comprehensive look at the entire watershed.

**Addressing Effects of Climate Change**
SRWP is partnering with watershed stakeholders to develop the infrastructure, methodology and management practices to address the devastating impacts of drought and the need to significantly increase forest management efforts in the Sacramento River Watershed. This effort developed out of broader work to focus on fuels and fire management as a nexus to watershed health.

There is an immense need for pilot projects that improve forest health, result in multiple benefits, and illustrate and promote the benefits of proactive, collaborative watershed management. In 2016, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy approved funding for the Butte Forest Thin – Doe Mill Ridge Watershed Project that will reduce wildfire risk and restore forest and watershed health in the Sacramento River Watershed. The project implements forest thinning and low intensity prescribed fire to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire, control invasive species, restore habitat, and demonstrate the linkages between management of upstream areas and the impacts on downstream water availability and quality. This project represents an important piece of our large scale cooperative management effort to identify restoration needs and opportunities, implement complementary programs and projects, and demonstrate that restoring our forests is critical for maintaining and improving water quality.

**Watershed Health Monitoring**
SRWP has been involved with water quality monitoring in the Sacramento River watershed since 1998. In 2015, we partnered with the SWRCB and 34 North to develop a data portal customized for the Sacramento River watershed.

The Sacramento River Watershed Data Portal (SRW Portal) gives users access to the extensive monitoring data, studies, reports and articles on the Sacramento River watershed and will serve as an information hub and foundation for collaborative efforts connecting our partners to data, funding, projects, and each other.

Data is managed at the regional level and shared with all stakeholders for larger watershed assessment and analysis so that we can mutually benefit and learn from each other’s regional monitoring programs and assessment efforts.

The SRW Portal has received widespread interest and support from stakeholders and supports regional efforts to estimate, track and evaluate the benefits that result from the numerous programs and projects that are being implemented within the watershed so that we can optimize management strategies, showcase and share successful efforts, and build the case for investment in the Sacramento River Watershed. The SRW Portal will be officially launched in fall 2017.