

Carmel River

Watershed Success through Integration & Partnerships



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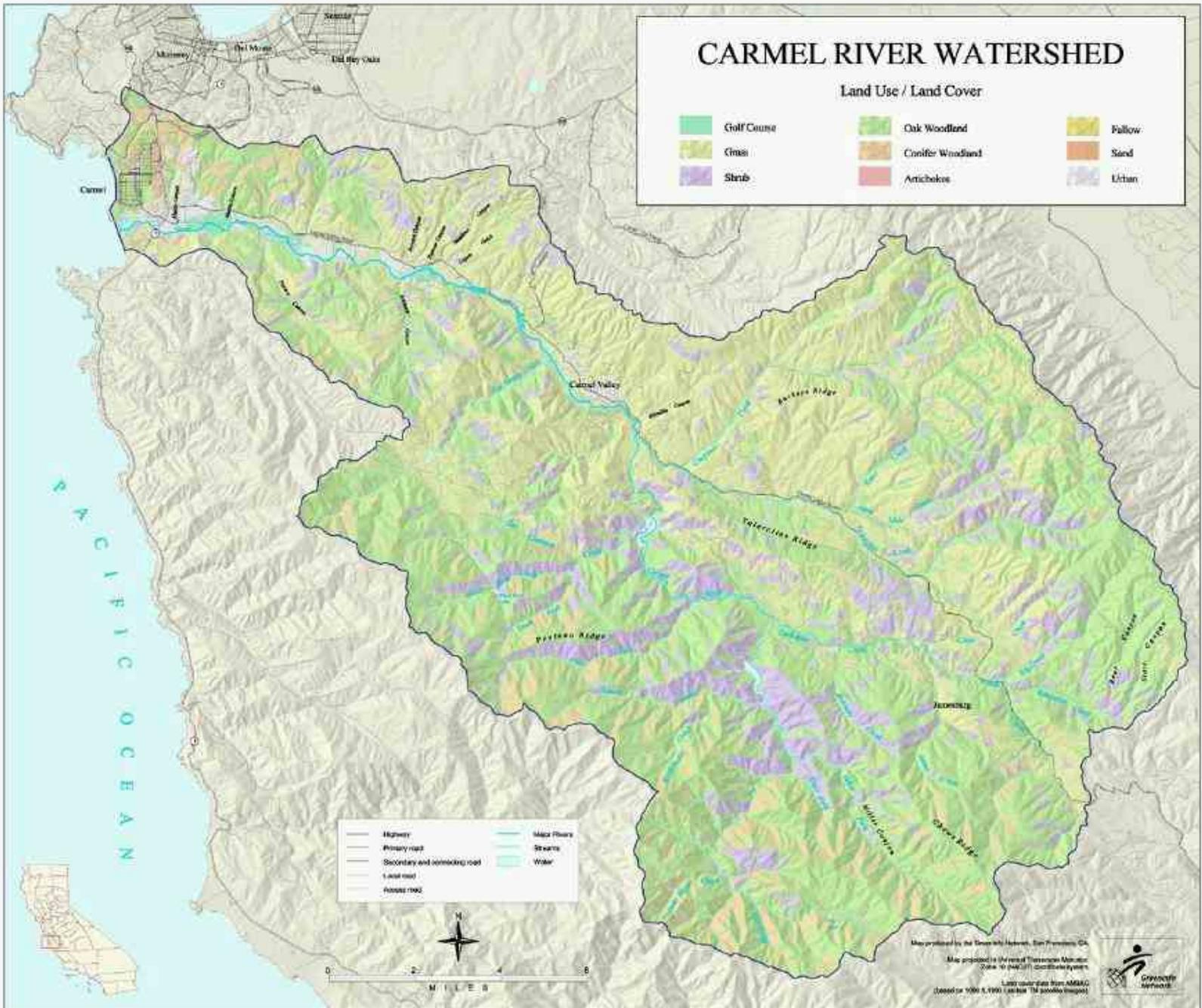
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CARMEL RIVER WATERSHED

Land Use / Land Cover

 Golf Course	 Oak Woodland	 Fallow
 Grass	 Conifer Woodland	 Sand
 Shrub	 Artichoke	 Urban



 Highway	 Micro Flows
 Primary road	 Streams
 Secondary and connecting road	 Water
 Local road	
 Roads 1992	

Map prepared by the Geographic Institute, San Francisco, CA.
 Map prepared in fulfillment of the National
 Data Access and Information System
 (NDAIS) requirements.
 Data provided by the National Map Accuracy
 Council (1966, 1990). Location: 37° 50' N, 122° 10' W.



The Watershed: Natural Resources

- A 256-square mile watershed drains to Carmel Bay; 75,000 AF average runoff
- Federally listed steelhead trout; South-Central ESU
- Other species include the California red-legged frog, western pond turtle; over 200 bird species
- Watershed drains to an Area of Special Biological Significance & Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary



The Watershed: Water Supply, Flooding

- Two water supply dams in the upper watershed: San Clemente and Los Padres Dams
- 21 water supply wells in alluvial floodplain
- River is currently overdrafted and under order from SWRCB to limit diversions
- Watershed produces severe floods every 15-20 years



Collaboration & Resource Management



Headwaters to Lagoon: A Watershed Approach

Public-Private Partnerships Move Projects Forward ...

- ✓ Creative land owner solutions
- ✓ Leveraging public and private funds
- ✓ Restoring physical function for the watershed
- ✓ Watershed restoration goals for species and the community



Overall Goals & Natural Resource Outcomes

- Reduce water withdrawals and improve water quality to restore habitats and aid species recovery
- Restore floodplain and riparian functionality – habitat benefits and property safety
- Sustain Carmel River for multiple uses that require balance over the long term: water supply, species, flood protection, recreation, etc.



Creating a Whole from the Pieces



Integration of Goals for the Watershed

- Partners represent all facets of the watershed – water supply, flood protection, water quality, fisheries
- Plans, projects, policy – knowing the difference and acting accordingly
- Develop strong technical information and share it
- Coordinate funding strategies with each other and match projects with funding sources to be most competitive
- Consider cooperative approaches to permitting, CEQA, and construction to save funds

Recommendations

Partnerships

- Identify Federal partners early and identify common objectives
- Private partnerships deserve meaningful consideration
- Recognize “critical mass” of efforts early and promote for more comprehensive approaches and communications with partners

Funding

- Consider special status for projects to receive longer grant contract periods and collective funding agreements among agencies
- Create multi-agency funding pools to eliminate extensive applications and coordinate application processes across agencies and funding sources
- Reduce grant review periods and processes and allow decisions at PM level
- Project planning & design needs more funding sources – create a role for this somewhere

Integration

- Watershed coordinators could be key to integration success
- Without leadership integration is always compromised
- Provide models for legal partnership agreements
- Successful projects and partnerships let natural resource and other objectives (ie., recreation) guide approach to project outcomes – funders can help by recognizing these multiple objectives