

Hydrologic Restoration in a Semi-Arid Environment

Devin Best

Executive Director, US-LT RCD

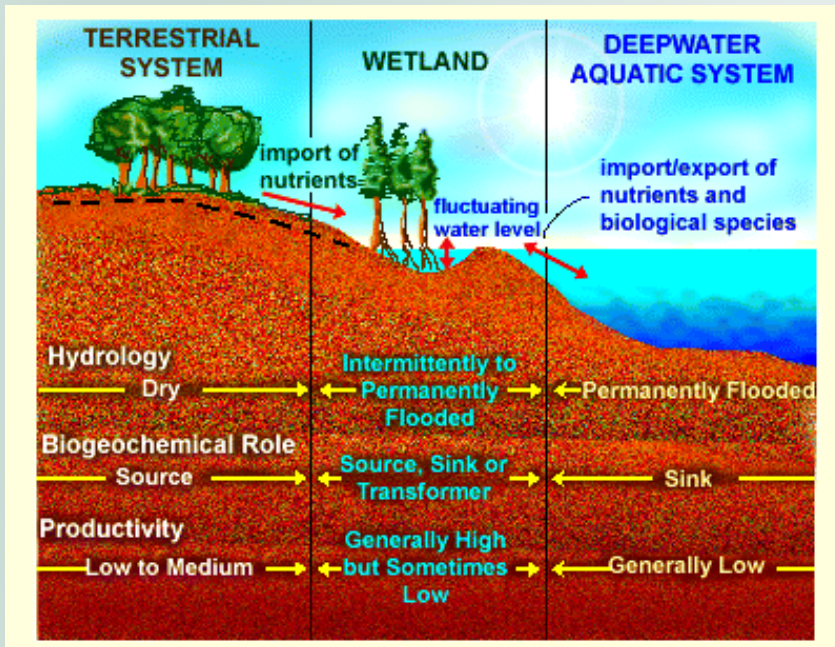


What are Wetland Infiltration Ponds?

- Wetlands defined as area saturated with water
- Usually plant species differentiate wetlands from other land forms
- Hydric soil – permanently or seasonally saturated in aneorobic (no oxygen) conditions



Functions of a Wetland

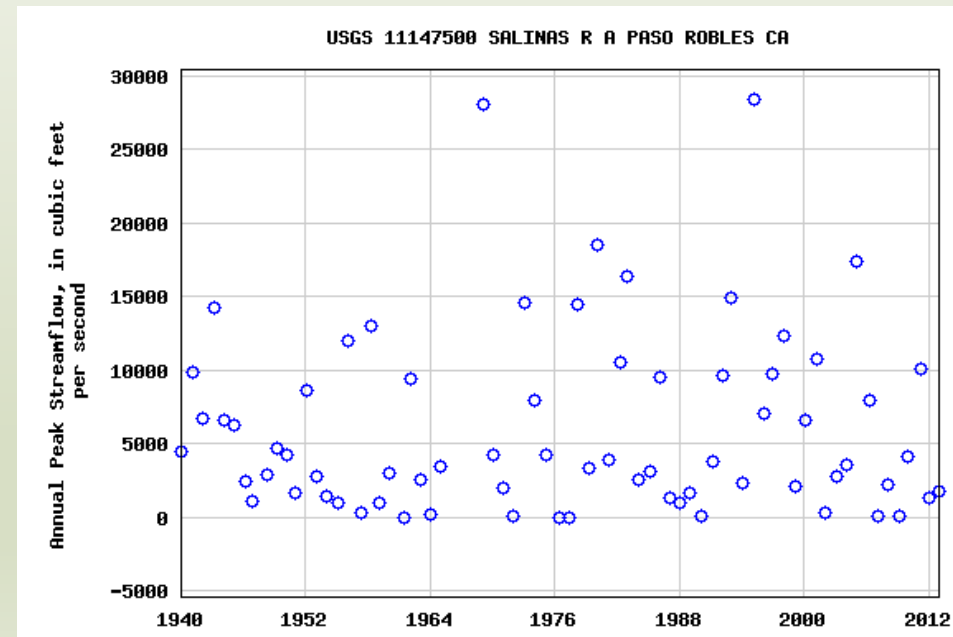
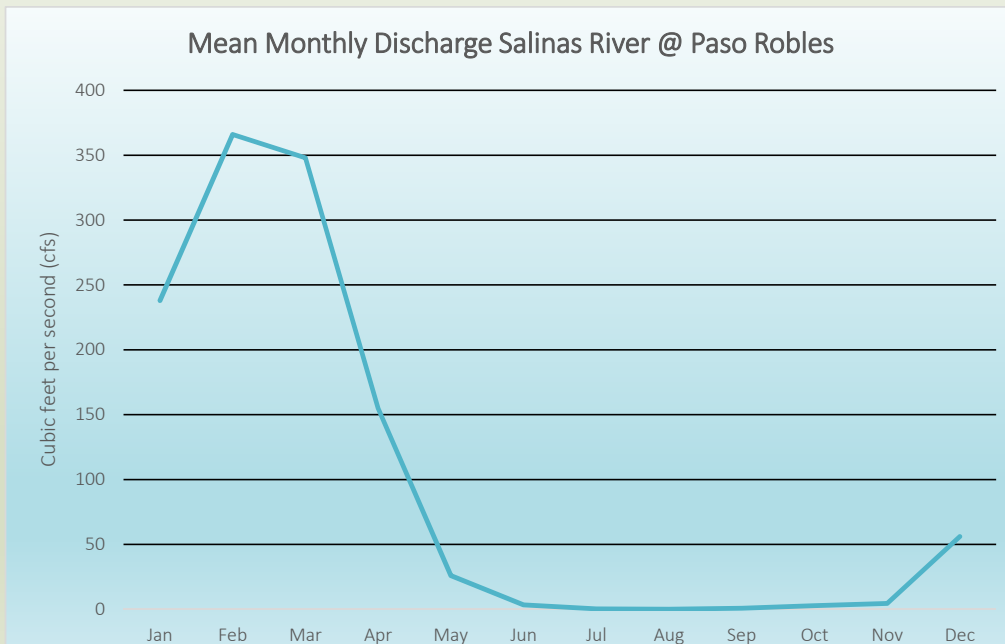


- Water Quality
 - *Nutrient retention, sediment traps, biofilters*
- Species Biodiversity
- Flood Control – Floodplains
- Groundwater replenishment



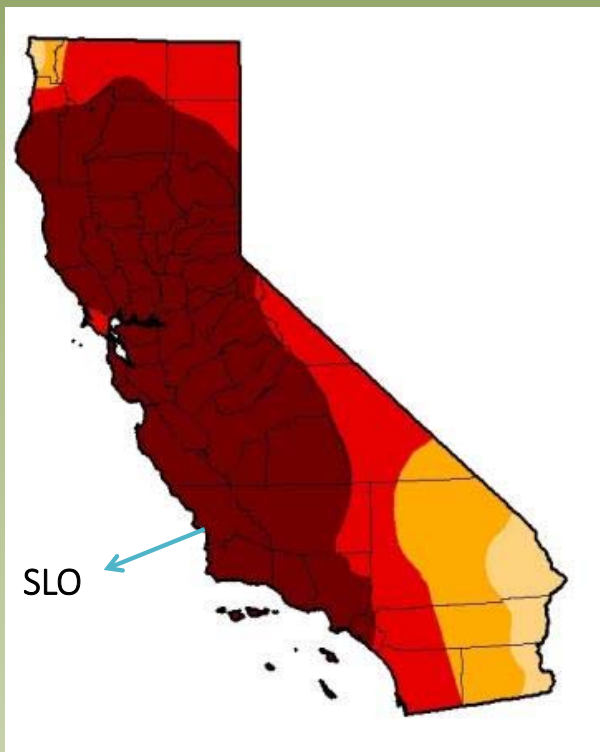
How can wetland restoration improve hydrologic conditions?

CAPTURE, STORE, SAFE RELEASE



How Wetlands Improve Watershed Function

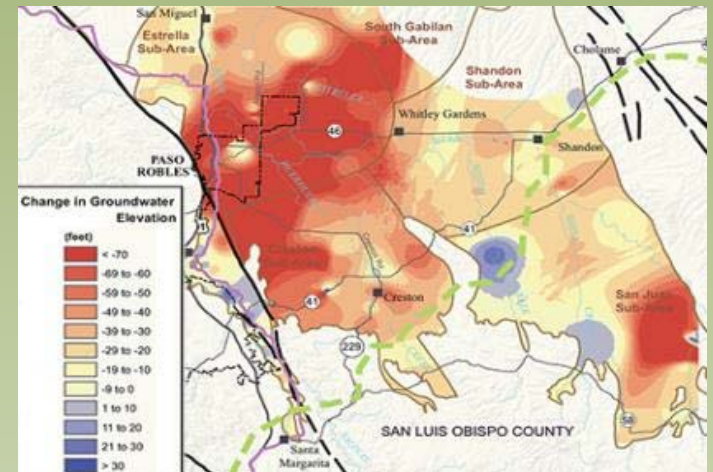
Drought



Flooding



Runoff



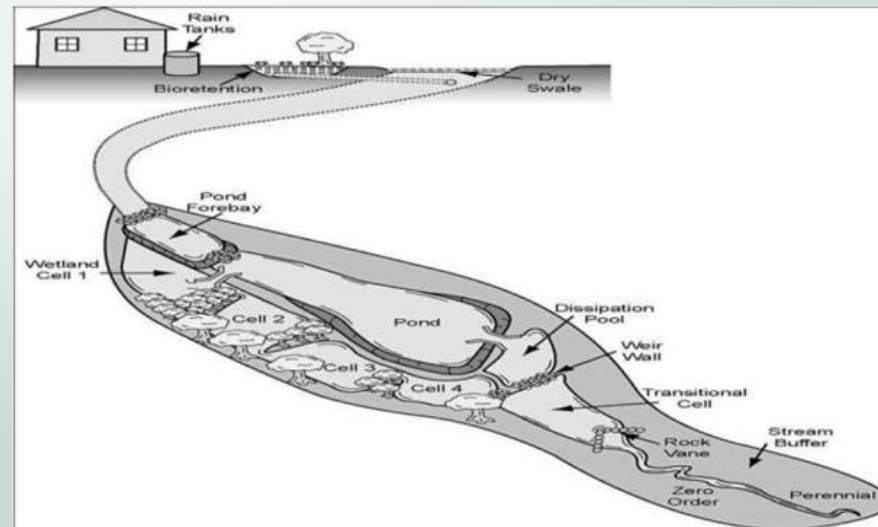
Groundwater Management

Ways to Implement

Wetland Ponds



Backwater, Alcove, Side Channels



Rain Gardens

Upper Salinas – Las Tablas RCD's Role

Planning

- SLO Watersheds Management Plan (www.slowatershedproject.org)
- Upper Salinas River Watershed Action Plan
- Stakeholder coordination

Design

- Various types of wetlands for diverse

Permit Coordination

- 404, 401, 1600, etc.

Funding

- Obtain grant funding
- Grant management

Monitoring

- Annual performance monitoring

Questions/Comment?

