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Water Solutions Network Releases the WSN Watershed Framework

The Watershed Framework charts a collaborative cross-sector, watershed scale path toward climate resilience

Sacramento, Calif. -- The Water Solutions Network (WSN) is pleased to announce the release of the WSN Watershed Framework. Guided by broad engagement from statewide land and water leaders, the Framework charts a collaborative cross-sector, watershed scale path toward climate resilience. The effort envisions a bold future where humans succeed at handling our most pressing climate challenges. The Framework suggests activities that will move us toward that vision.

The Framework is designed to build individual, local, and watershed-wide skills and capacity to, first, center equity, and then to break down silos and develop understanding and solutions that work with and restore our natural systems. WSN is inviting willing watersheds to take the Framework for a “test drive” and will create a learning network for those test driving the Framework.

“Tribes and Tribal people in California have thousands of years of knowledge and expertise stewarding this place. I appreciate the WSN Watershed Framework’s commitment to honoring that knowledge and expertise, and to including Tribal communities from the outset.” – Trina Cunningham, Executive Director, Maidu Summit Consortium

"Local agencies are investing in data and information to inform our own operations. I welcome the WSN Watershed Framework’s invitation to bring local data to the table to promote a more nuanced understanding of how our watersheds work and where there is opportunity to increase flexibility and improve system function." – Michelle Reimers, General Manager, Turlock Irrigation District

“The WSN Watershed Framework’s focus on learning together dovetails well with our approach for developing forest collaboratives. I look forward to exploring how the Framework can create stronger relationships and learning opportunities across sectors and across watersheds.” – Liz Berger, Deputy Regional Forester, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region

The Framework discussion engaged a diverse group of leaders from local, state, federal, Tribal, NGO, legislative, agricultural, and philanthropic organizations. The process included three workshops that started with the development of a vision of watershed-scale opportunities and ended with this turnkey Framework. In between workshops, WSN conducted smaller feedback sessions with additional participants to ensure voices from all sectors and jurisdictions were included. A full list of the 53 participants and contributors can be found in the Framework.

For more information contact Water Solutions Network Managing Director Debbie Franco at debbie@watersolutionsnetwork.org or go to www.watersolutionsnetwork.org/watershed-framework.

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