

# California State Parks' Central Valley Vision



**Public Outreach Meeting at  
C.S.U., Fresno  
May 31, 2005**



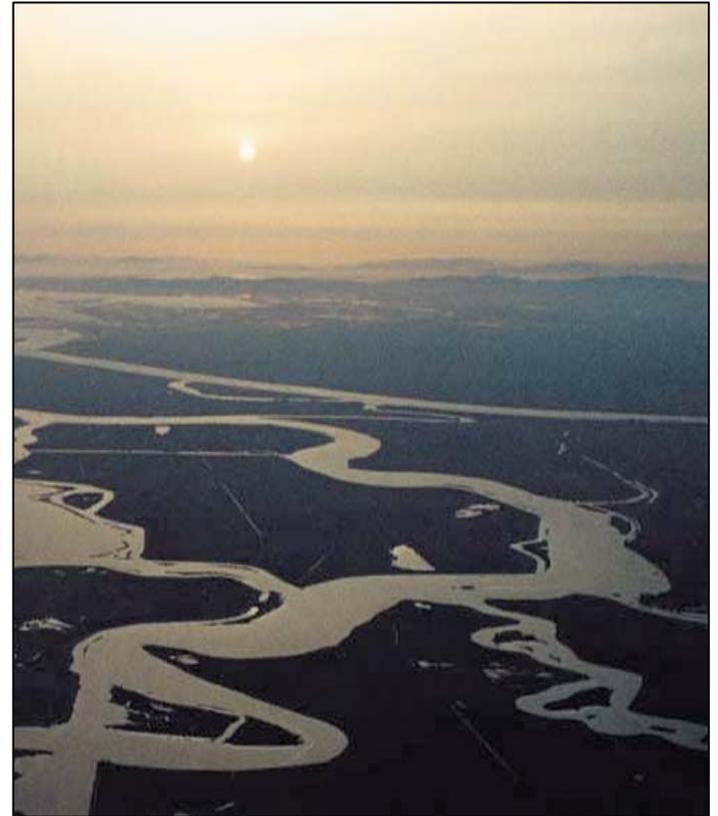
# California State Park's Mission

*“To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.”*



*“We are embarking on a 20-year effort to study the Central Valley and increase our presence by providing meaningful experiences to meet the needs of Valley residents for protection and interpretation of incredible natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources found only in the Valley.”*

Ruth Coleman, Director, California State Parks



Aerial photo of the Central Valley

# State Parks is challenged to provide:

...meaningful natural, cultural and recreational experiences for a diverse California in the Central Valley



# The Great Valley of California

For purposes of the **Central Valley Vision**, the Great Central Valley consists of the Sacramento Valley and the San Joaquin Valley.





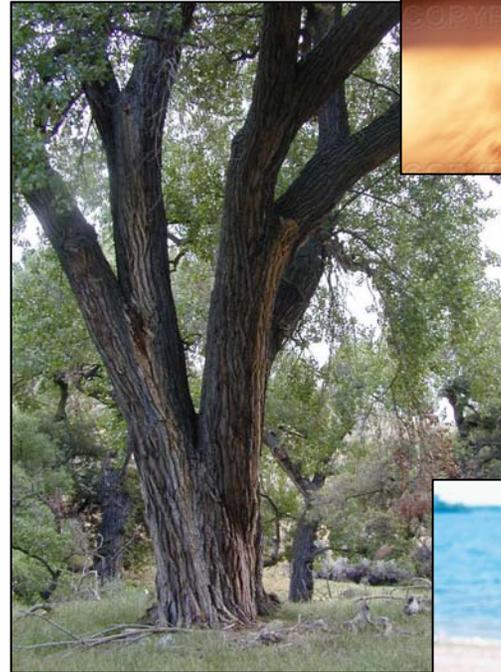
Counties included in the  
Central Valley Vision:

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| Butte      | San Joaquin |
| Colusa     | Shasta      |
| Fresno     | Solano      |
| Glenn      | Stanislaus  |
| Kern       | Sutter      |
| Kings      | Tehama      |
| Madera     | Tulare      |
| Merced     | Yolo        |
| Sacramento | Yuba        |

Map source: California Association of Counties,  
California County Map, 2005

# Why the *Vision* is Needed

- Balance coastal and urban focus
- Valley is under-represented in public land ownership
- Still a chance to do things right



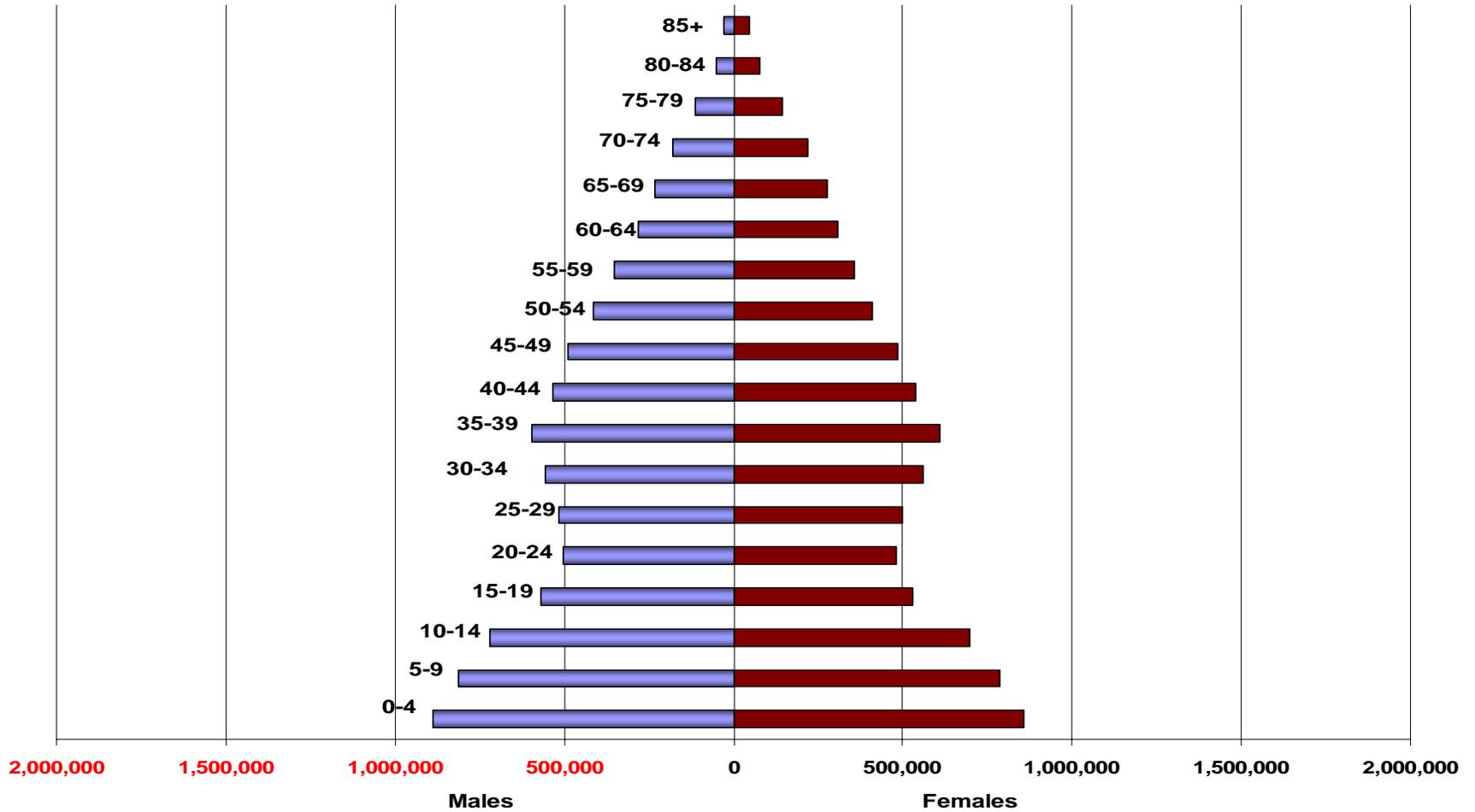
# Why a *Vision* now?

## Profound growth & demographic changes in California

- 35 million residents today; 52 million by 2040
- Sacramento, Fresno, Stockton, Modesto, Bakersfield becoming major urban areas
- Valley will see intensive growth – averaging 20-25% *higher* than coastal areas
- Dramatic increases in diverse populations
- Growth threatens farmland, environment and increases social and fiscal disparities

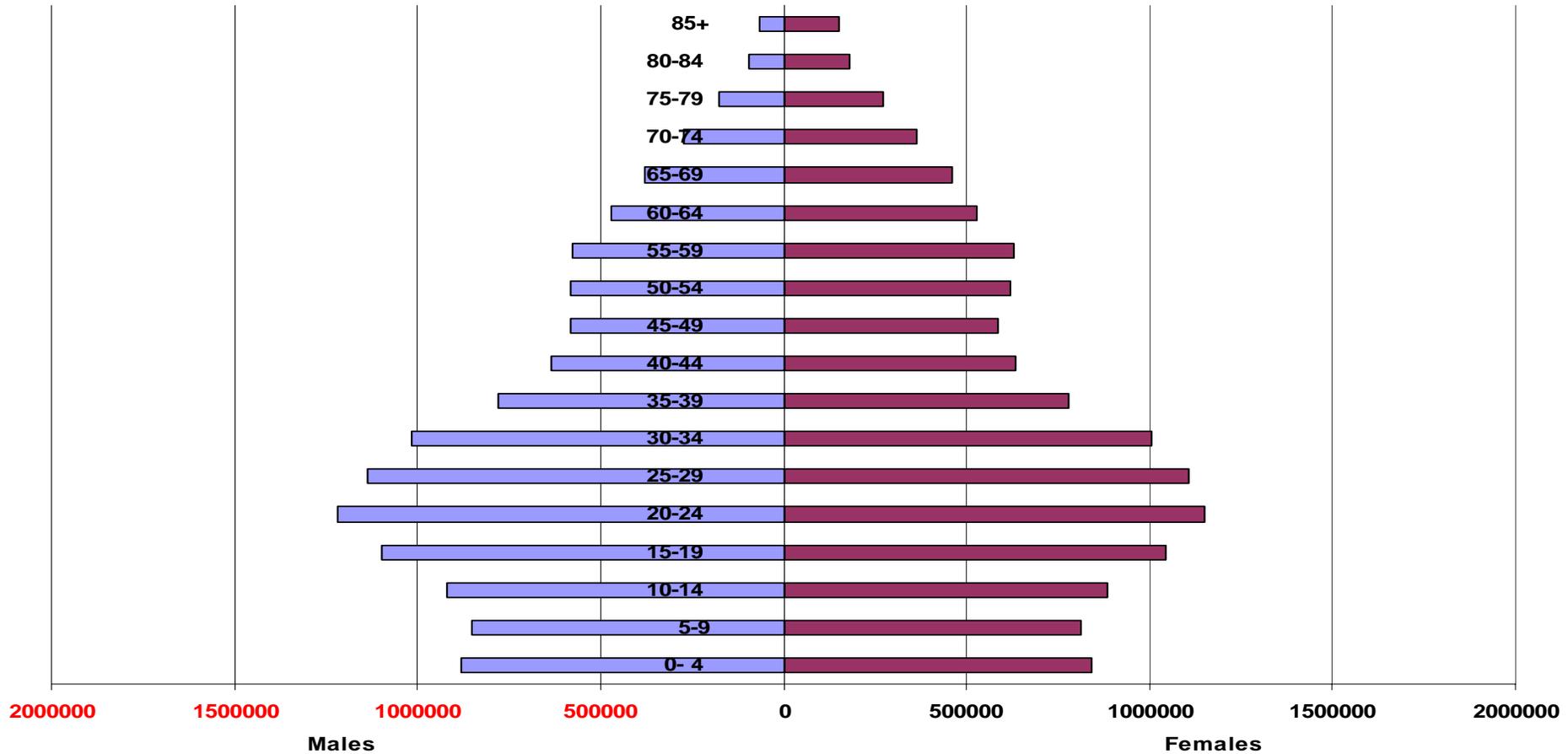
# 1960

California Population 1960 (Source: CA Dept. of Finance)



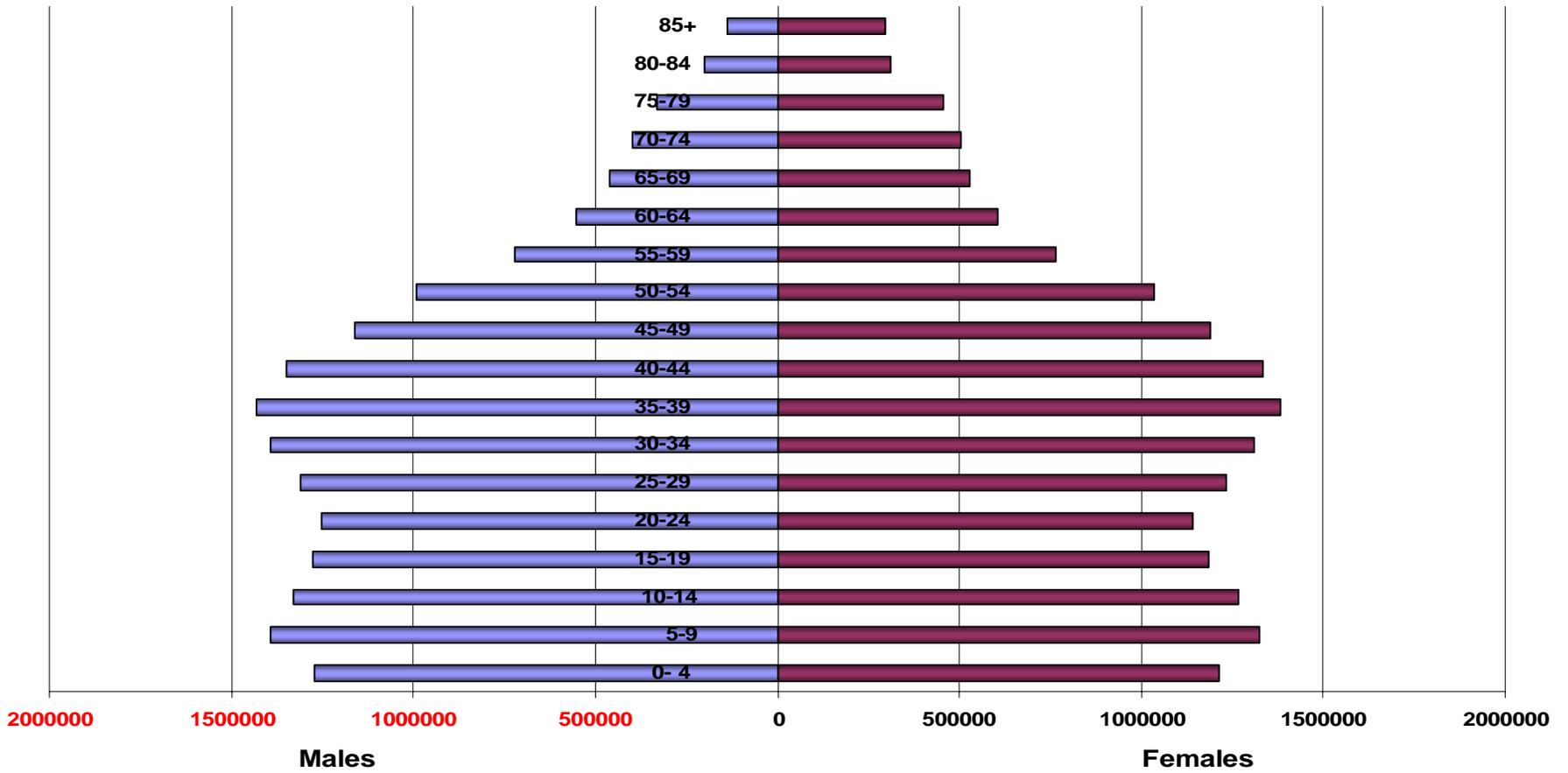
# 1980

## California Population 1980 (Source: UCData Center/CA Dept. of Finance)



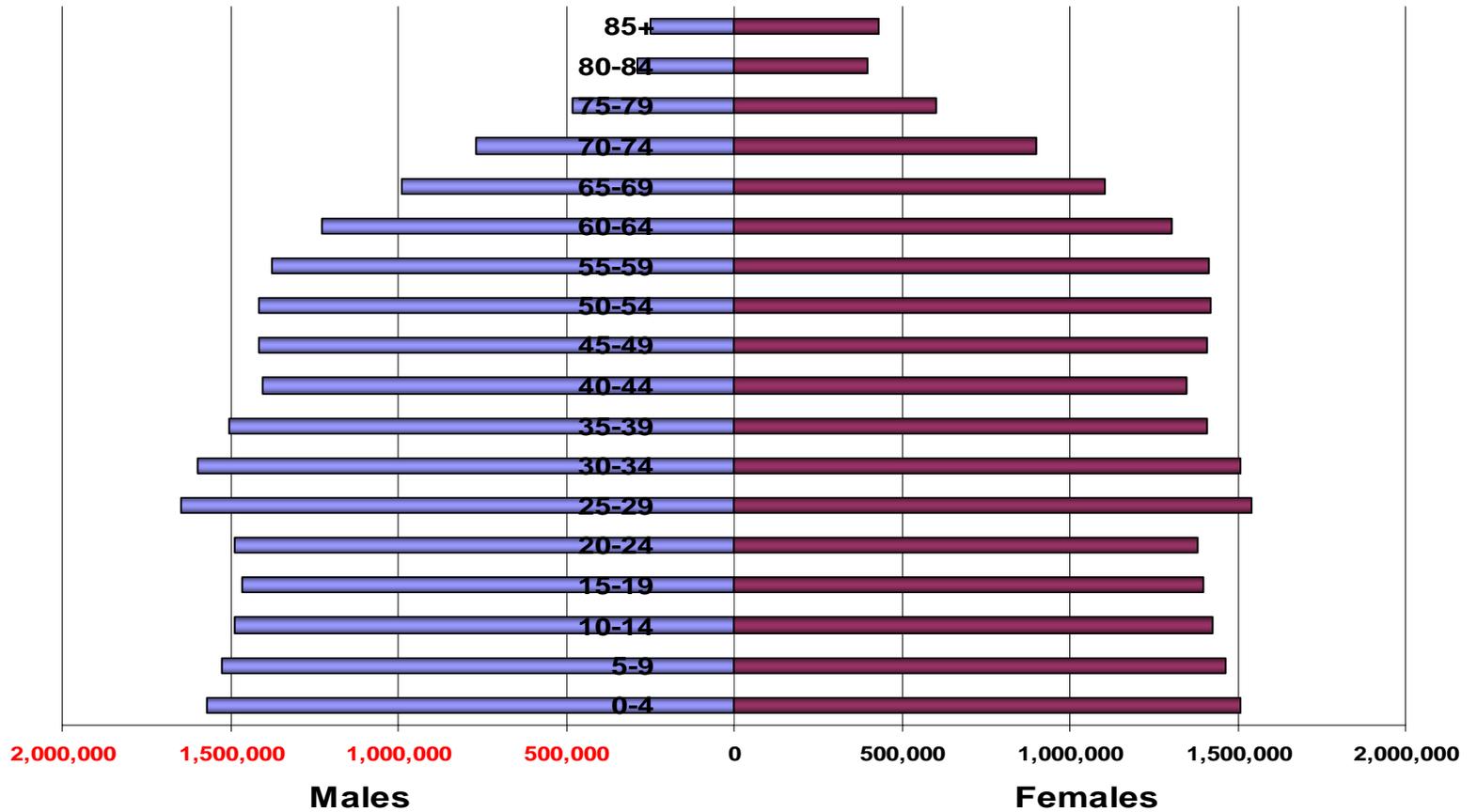
# 2000

## California Population 2000 (Source: CA Dept. of Finance)



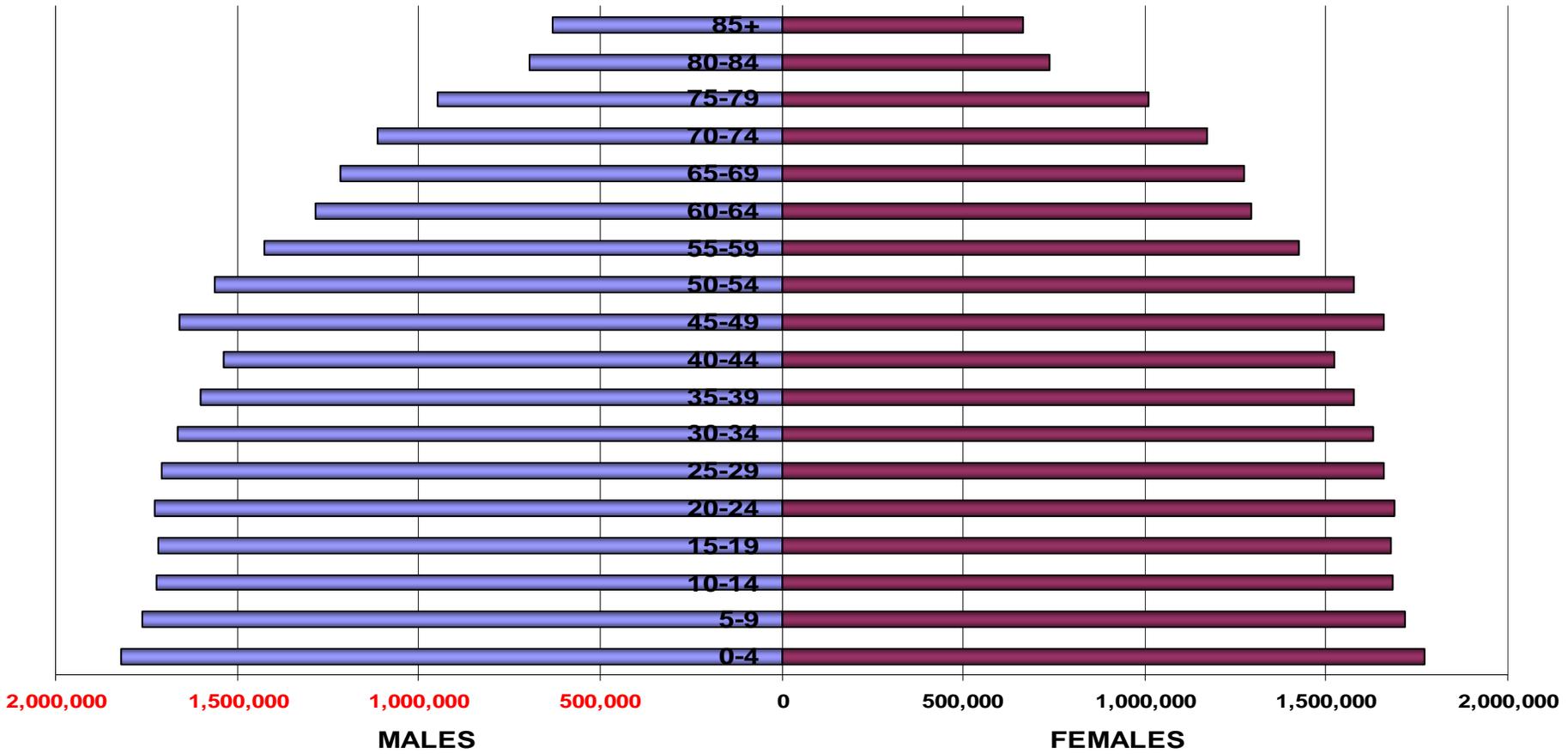
# 2020

## California Population 2020 (Source: CA Dept. of Finance)



# 2040

## California Population 2040 (Source: CA Dept. of Finance)



# Population within 100 miles of *this* Outreach meeting

<b>County</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2040</b>
<b>Fresno</b>	<b>803,401</b>	<b>1,114,654</b>	<b>1,476,699</b>
Kern	664,694	950,112	1,325,648
Kings	129,823	184,751	252,762
Madera	124,372	183,966	259,353
Merced	210,876	360,831	528,788
Stanislaus	449,777	653,841	843,523
Tulare	369,355	543,749	754,790
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,752,298</b>	<b>3,991,904</b>	<b>5,441,563</b>

Source of Data: State of California, Department of Finance, Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity for California and Its Counties, 2000-2050

# Population Projections for the 18 counties of the Central Valley

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2040</b>
White	3,011,951	2,934,506	2,952,686
Hispanic	1,728,914	3,631,865	5,736,157
Asian/Pacific Islanders	456,638	863,418	1,205,261
Black	347,535	681,819	981,296
Multirace	183,309	454,675	699,028
<b>All Populations</b>	<b><u>5,728,347</u></b>	<b><u>8,566,283</u></b>	<b><u>11,574,528</u></b>

Source of Data: State of California, Department of Finance, Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity and its Counties, 2000-2050.

# 32 State Park Units in the Central Valley

(listed from North to South)

William B. Ide Adobe SHP  
Woodson Bridge SRA  
Bidwell-Sacramento River SP  
Bidwell Mansion SHP  
Lake Oroville SRA  
Clay Pit SVRA  
Colusa-Sacramento River SRA  
Sutter Buttes  
Woodland Opera House SHP  
Folsom Lake SRA  
Folsom Powerhouse SHP  
State Capitol Museum  
Sutter's Fort SHP/State Indian  
Museum  
Governor's Mansion SHP  
Old Sacramento SHP/Railroad  
Museum  
Leland Stanford Mansion SHP

Prairie City SVRA  
Stone Lake  
Delta Meadows River Park  
Brannan Island SRA  
Franks Tract SRA  
Bethany Reservoir SRA  
Caswell Memorial SRA  
San Luis Reservoir SRA  
Pacheco SP  
George J. Hatfield SRA  
Great Valley Grasslands SP  
McConnell SRA  
Turlock Lake SRA  
Millerton Lake SRA  
Colonel Allensworth SHP  
Tule Elk SR



**Bidwell-Sacramento River State Park**



**William B. Ide Adobe State Historic Park**



**Woodson Bridge State  
Recreation Area**



**Bethany Reservoir SRA State Recreation Area**



**Great Valley Grasslands State Park**



**Prairie City SVRA State Vehicular Recreation Area**



**Sutter's Fort SHP/State  
Indian Museum**



**Pacheco State Park**



**Old Sacramento State Historic Park**



Sutter Buttes Park





**San Luis Reservoir SRA State Recreation Area**



**Tule Elk SR State Reserve**



**California State Railroad Museum**



**Turlock Lake State Recreation Area**



**Caswell Memorial State Park**



**Sutter's Fort State Historic Park**



**McConnell State Recreation Area**



**Col. Allensworth State Historic Park**



**Colonel Allensworth State  
Historic Park**



**Leland Stanford Mansion State  
Historic Park**



**Brannan Island State Recreation Area**



**Great Valley Grasslands State Park**



**Sutter's Fort SHP/State  
Indian Museum**



**Franks Tract State Recreation Area**



**Colusa-Sacramento River State Recreation Area**

# Purpose of the *Central Valley Vision*

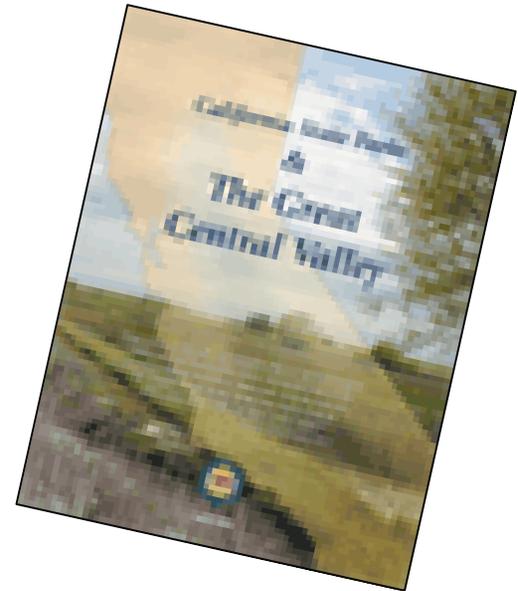
- ✓ Identify current and near term actions
- ✓ Meet the public's needs through stronger partnerships, appropriate expansions, and facility rehabilitation and development
- ✓ Provide a 20-year blueprint for State Park actions designed to increase service and relevancy to Valley residents and State Park visitors



**Great Valley Grasslands State Park**

# What has been done so far?

- Project began July 2003
- Staff team established
- Oversight Committee developed
- Field sites reviewed
- Report and brochure released April 2004



## **The *Vision* Recommends State Parks:**

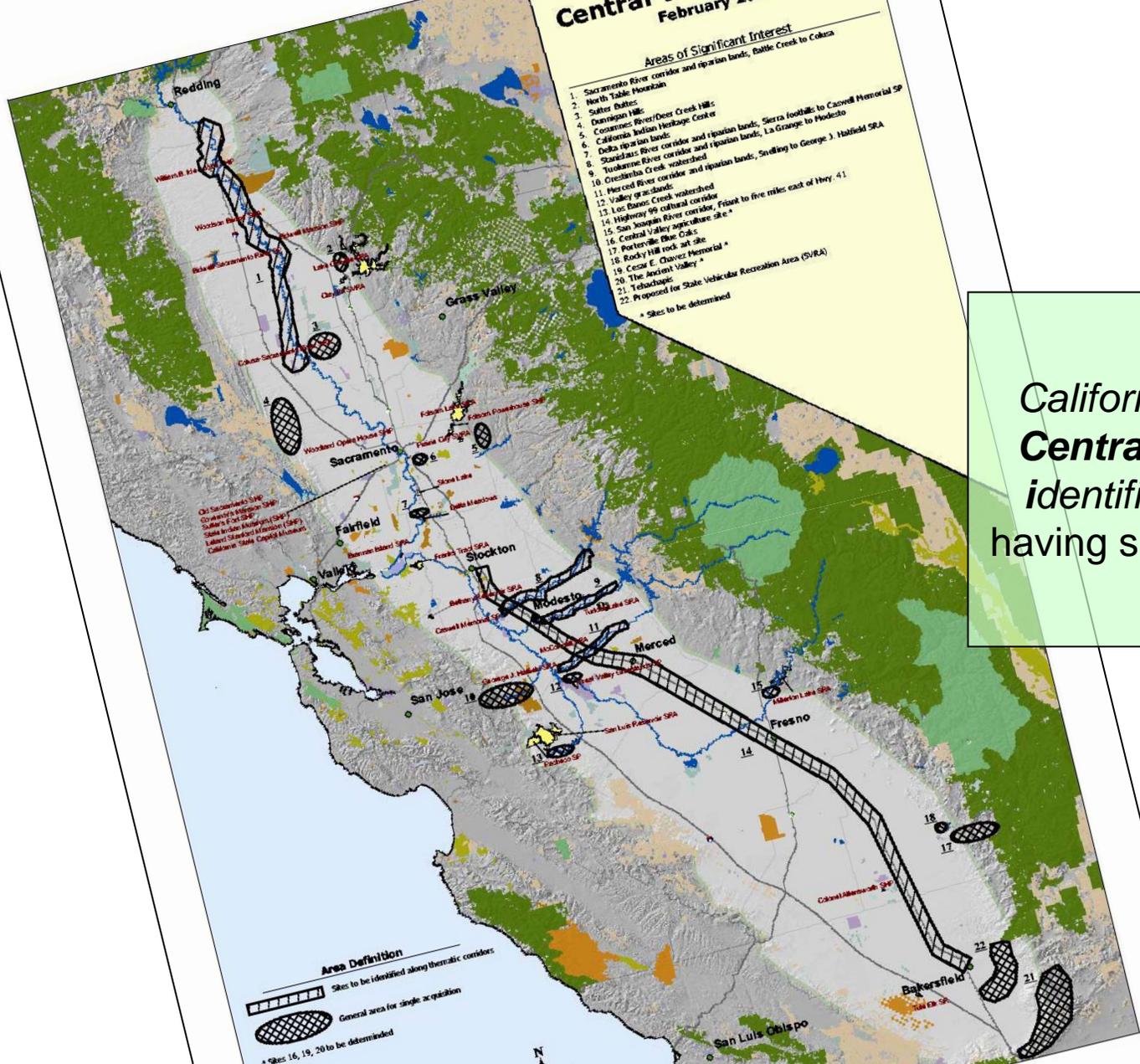
- **Expand facilities at existing parks**
- **Round-out boundaries of existing parks**
- **Acquire key natural, cultural and recreation lands and corridors**
- **Preserve and interpret rich history of the Valley**

# California State Parks Central Valley Strategy February 2005

## Areas of Significant Interest

1. Sacramento River corridor and riparian lands, Battle Creek to Colusa
  2. North Table Mountain
  3. Sutter Buttes
  4. Davisian Hills
  5. Cosumnes River/Deer Creek Hills
  6. California Indian Heritage Center
  7. Delta riparian lands
  8. Delta/Sacramento River corridor and riparian lands, La Grange to Modesto
  9. Stanislaus River corridor and riparian lands, Snelling to George J. Hatfield SRA
  10. Tuolumne River corridor and riparian lands, Snelling to George J. Hatfield SRA
  11. Merced River corridor and riparian lands, Snelling to George J. Hatfield SRA
  12. Valley grasslands
  13. Los Banos Creek watershed
  14. Highway 99 cultural corridor
  15. San Joaquin River corridor, Fritch to five miles east of Hwy 41
  16. Central Valley agriculture site\*
  17. Porterville Blue Oaks
  18. Rocky Hill rock art site
  19. Cesar E. Chavez Memorial\*
  20. The Ancient Valley\*
  21. Tehachas
  22. Proposed for State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA)
- \* Sites to be determined

*California State Parks' Central Valley Vision identified 22 areas as having significant interest*



### Area Definition

- Sites to be identified along thematic corridors
- General area for single acquisition
- \* Sites 16, 19, 20 to be determined

# What's Next?

- Action Plan Team established
- Actions include:
  - Public relations
  - Building advocacy for the strategy
  - Gaining support from the Agency, Governor and Legislature
  - Special events
  - Developing and strengthening partnerships
  - Laying groundwork for future funding
  - Meet with key policy leaders

# Public Outreach Meetings

**What special areas or facilities would you like considered?** Where should we seek to acquire new lands because of their natural, cultural, historical or recreational potential? Additional public outreach meetings will be held during the fall, 2005.

**May 31 2005: 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

C.S.U., Fresno, Student Union (use parking lot D)  
5421 N. Maple Avenue  
Fresno, CA

**June 1, 2005: 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Resources Building Auditorium  
1416 9th Street, 1st Floor  
Sacramento, CA

**June 8, 2005: 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Bidwell Mansion  
525 The Esplanade  
Chico, CA



# State Parks would like to know:

- What is important in the Central Valley that should be protected and interpreted as a unit of the State Park System, before it is lost?
- Which natural and cultural resources and features should be protected before they vanish?
- What special stories need to be told and where are the places that need to be protected in order to tell them?
- What recreational facilities of the kind found in State Parks should be developed and where?

# For more information:

Department of Parks and Recreation

Planning Division

1416 9th Street, Room 108

Sacramento, CA 95814

916 653-9901; 916 653-4458 (fax)

[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)





Sycamore Alluvial Plain, Northern Tehachapis

