

California State Parks' Central Valley Vision



National Association of Recreation
Resource Planners (NARRP)

Folsom
May 2, 2005



California State Parks' 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.”



Step One

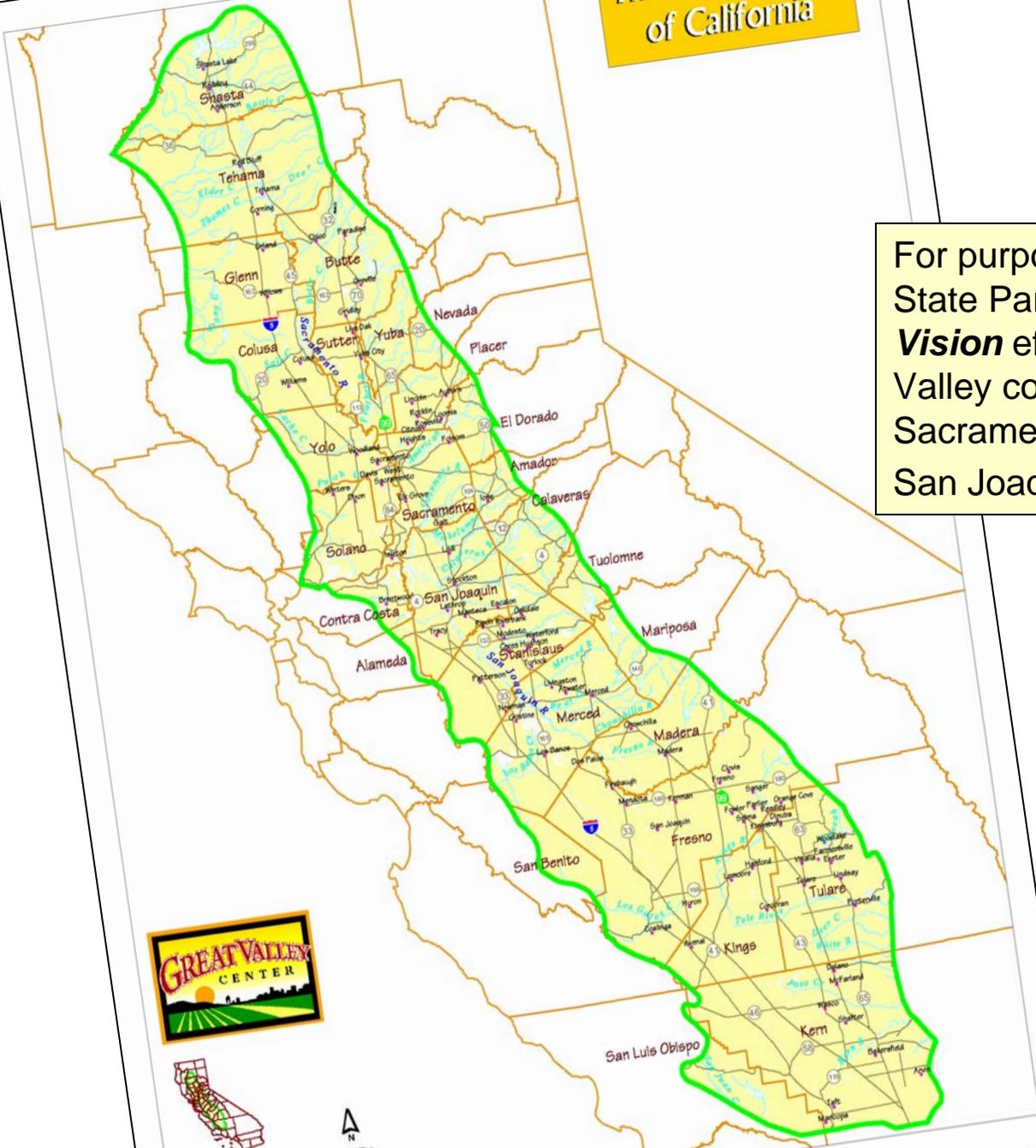
Defining the Central Valley:

- San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys
- Redding to the Tehachapi Mountains
- Valley to 2000' along the Coast Range and the Sierra Nevada
- Diverse and unique natural resources
- Numerous historic, cultural and recreational resources



The Great Valley of California

For purposes of the California State Parks' **Central Valley Vision** effort, 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 a long-term map now?

- Profound growth & demographic changes



Subdivisions meet farmland near Fresno, California.
Courtesy United States Geological Survey.



Step Two

Who are the Central Valley residents and what are their interests and preferences?

California today:

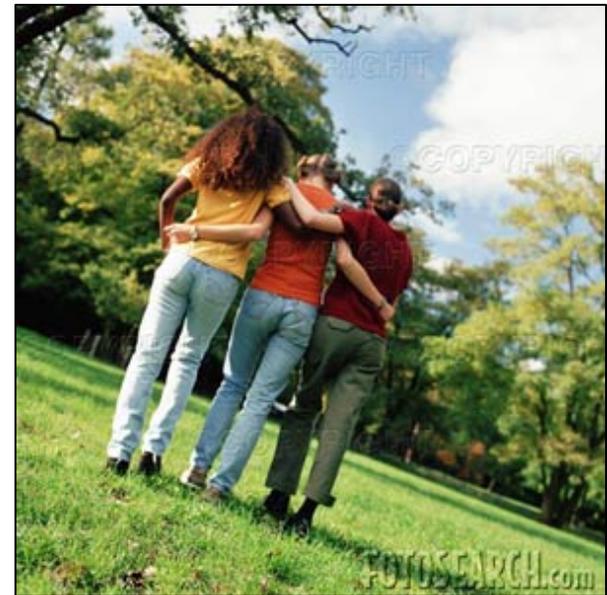
- 35 million residents; 52 million by 2040
- Sacramento, Fresno, Stockton, Modesto, Bakersfield becoming major urban areas
- Valley will see intensive growth – averaging 20-25% *higher* than coastal areas
- Dramatic increases in diverse populations

California Population Shifts

- 550,000 – 650,000 added each year
- 1 in 8 U. S. citizens live in California
- By 2010, 1 in 5 will be *older* than 60
- Californians are two full years *younger* than U. S. average

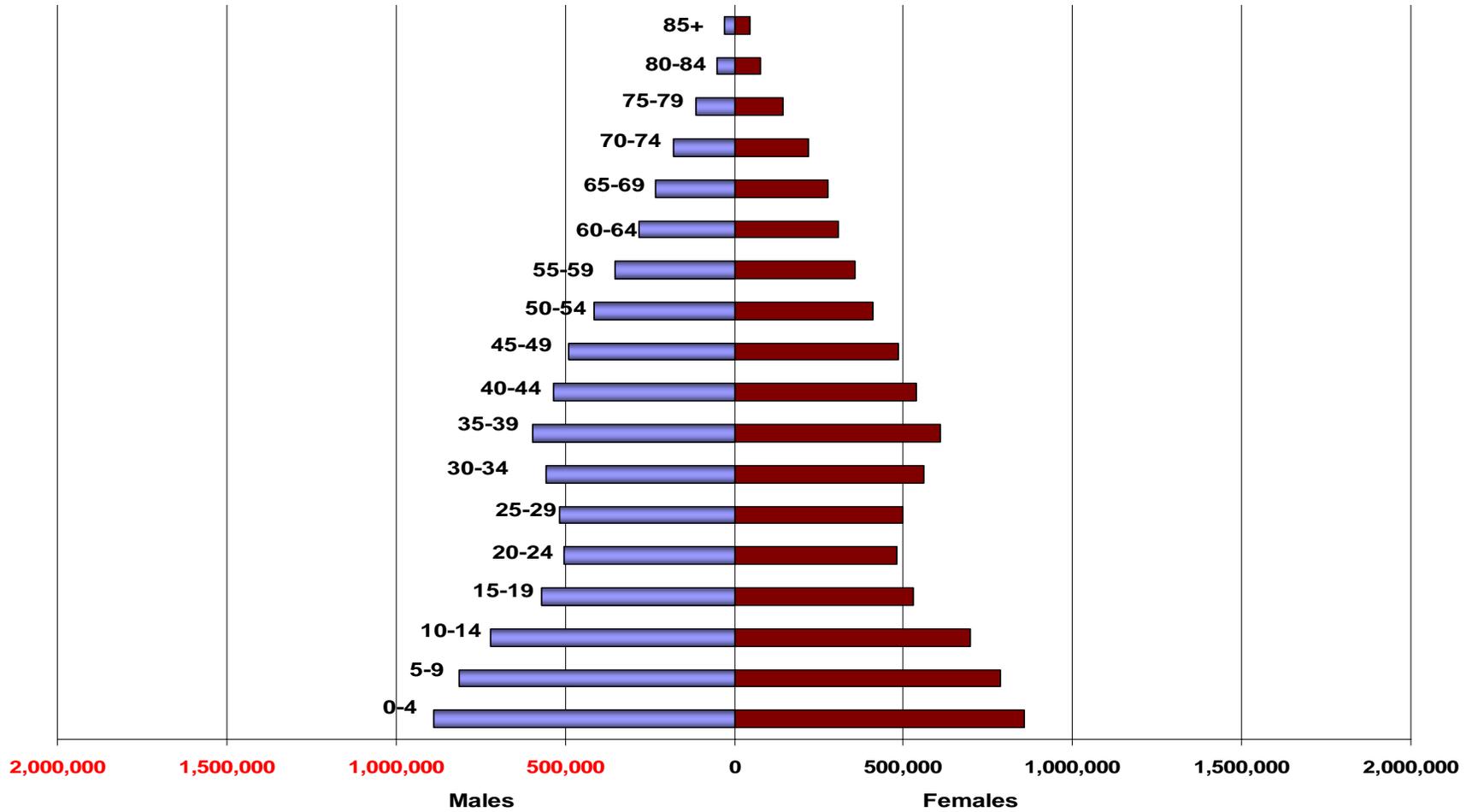


- Fueled by recent immigrants
- By 2020, California's senior population will **double**
- Over one-third (36.1%) of Asian-Americans live in California
- Nearly one-third (31.1%) of Hispanic-Americans live in California



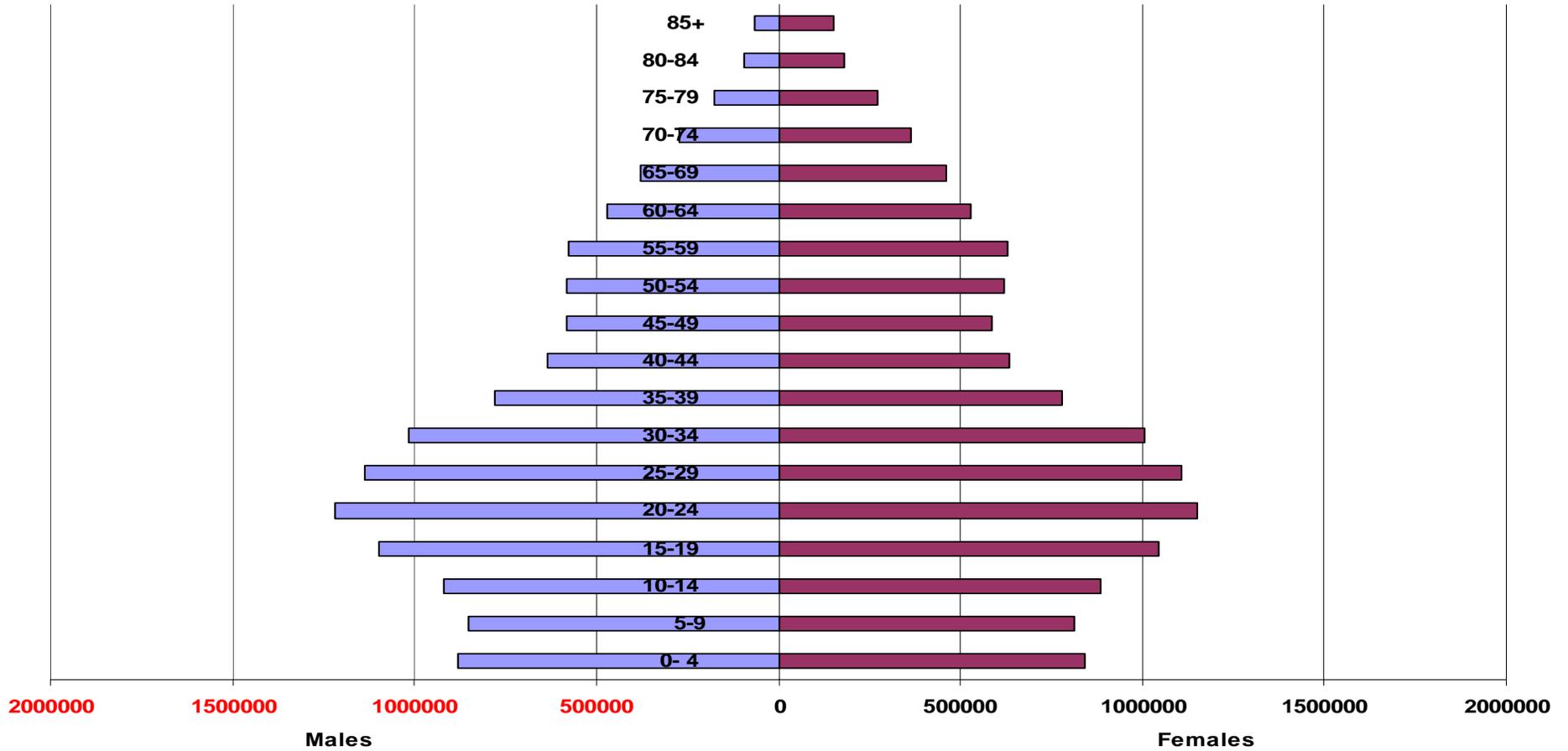
1960

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



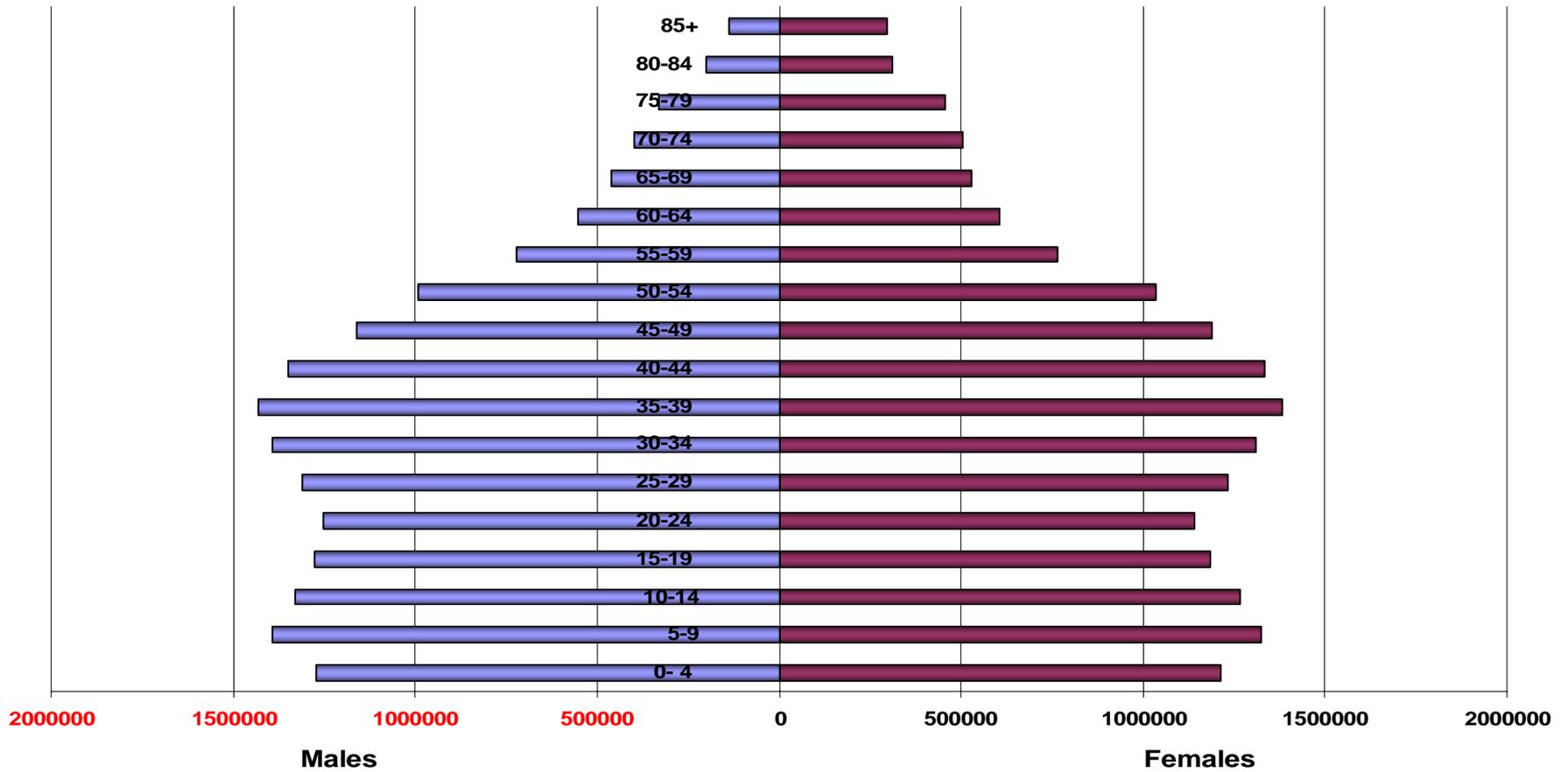
1980

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



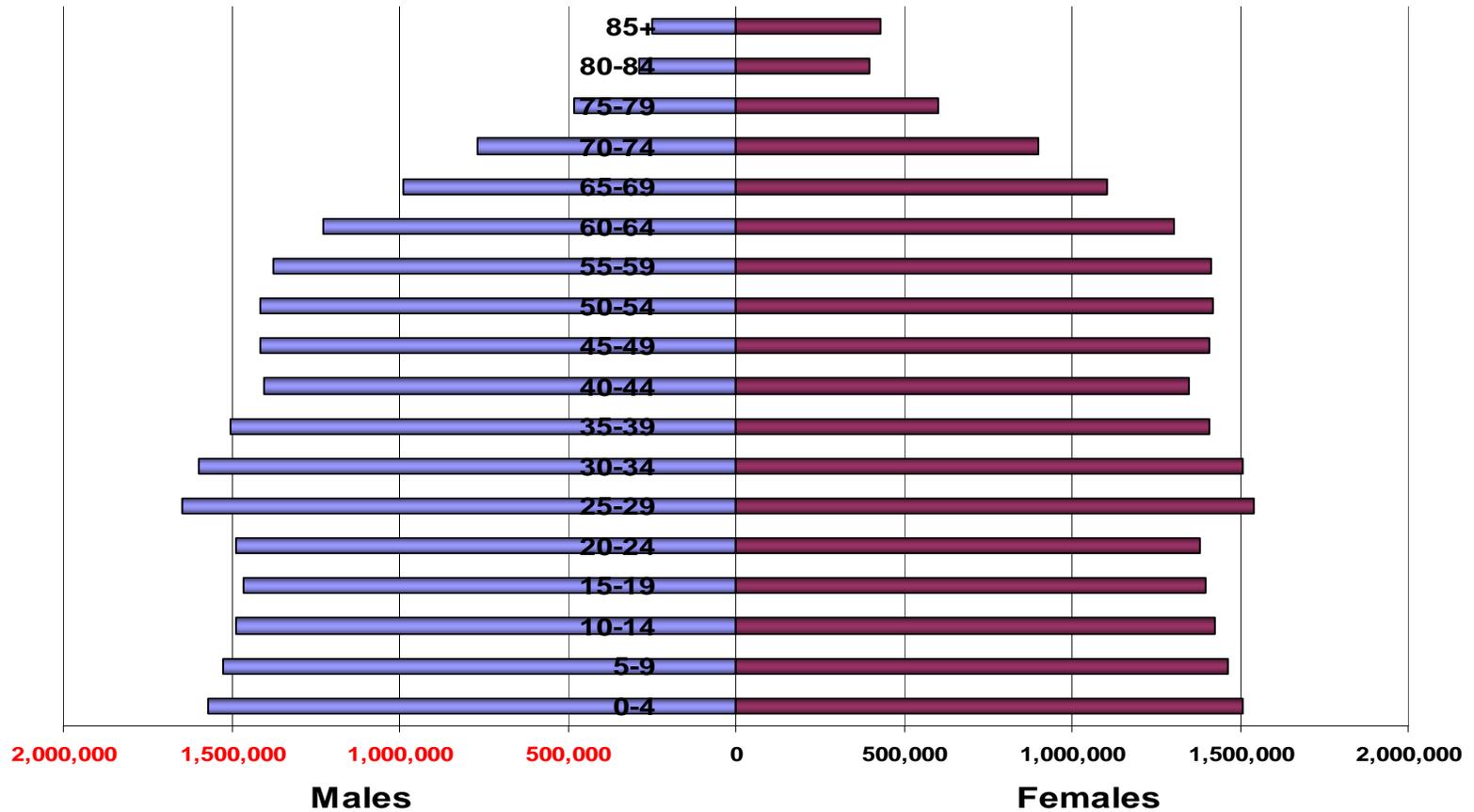
2000

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



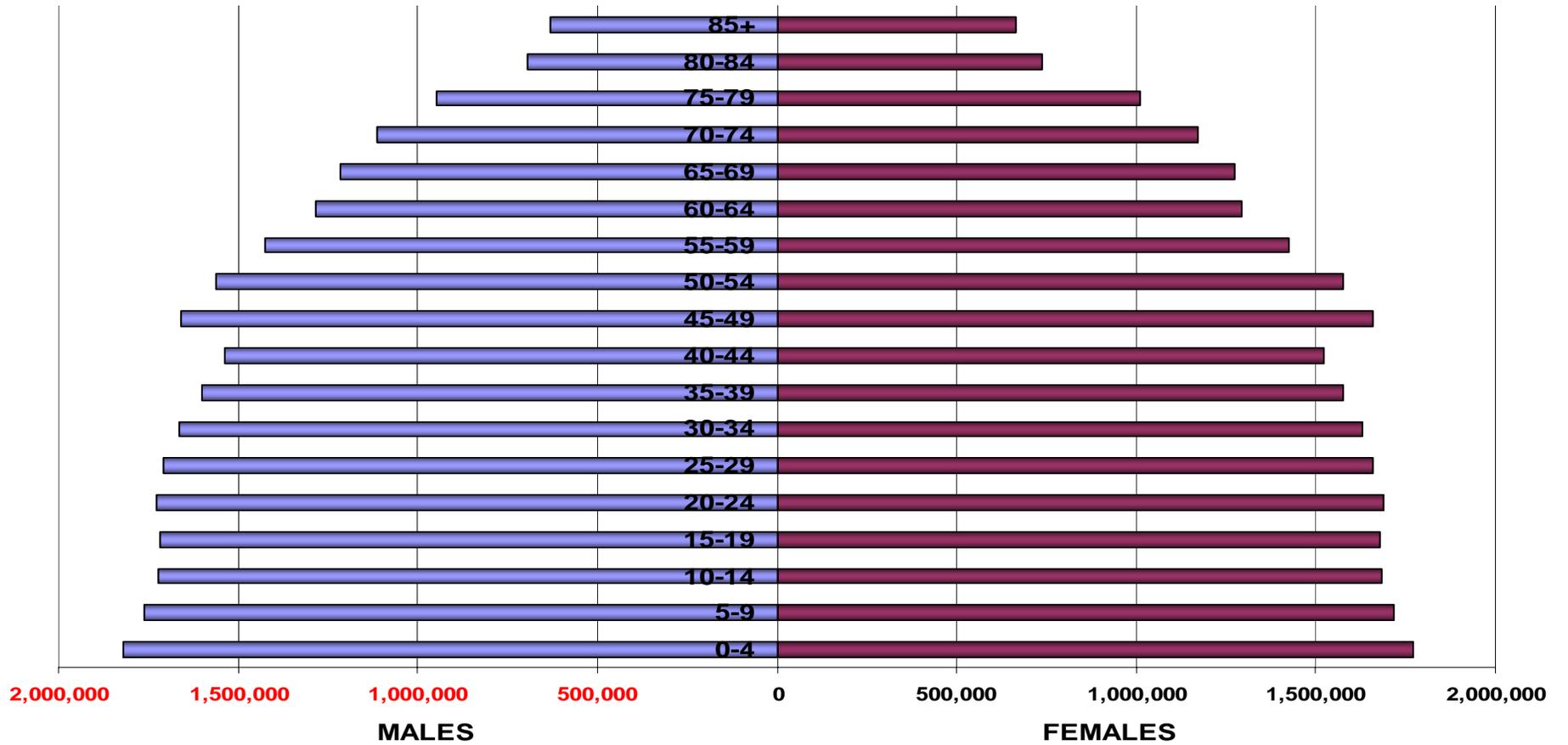
2020

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



2040

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



Central Valley Population

County	2000	2020	2040
Butte	204,672	260,730	282,492
Colusa	18,923	26,337	32,449
Fresno	803,401	1,114,654	1,476,699
Glenn	26,718	31,950	37,182
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
Sacramento	1,230,465	1,946,679	2,579,720
San Joaquin	567,798	989,462	1,457,128
Shasta	164,748	227,922	296,007
Solano	396,784	555,264	751,782
Stanislaus	449,777	653,841	843,523
Sutter	79,464	111,856	139,805
Tehama	56,042	68,323	80,640
Tulare	369,355	543,749	754,790
Yolo	169,882	271,040	363,663
Yuba	60,553	84,816	112,097
Total:	5,728,347	8,566,283	11,574,528

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

Population Projections 18 counties* of the Central Valley

	2000	2020	2040
White	3,011,951	2,934,506	2,952,686
Hispanic	1,728,914	3,631,865	5,736,157
Asian/Pacific Islander	456,638	863,418	1,205,261
Black	347,535	681,819	981,296
Multirace	183,309	454,675	699,028
All Populations	<u>5,728,347</u>	<u>8,566,283</u>	<u>11,574, 428</u>

*18 Counties: Butte, Colusa, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Yolo, Yuba

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



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



Pacheco State Park



Old Sacramento State Historic Park



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



Lake Oroville State Recreation Area



**Lake Oroville State Recreation Area
Visitor's Center Observatory Tower**



Lake Oroville State Recreation Area



San Luis Reservoir SRA State Recreation Area



Tule Elk SR State Reserve



California State Railroad Museum



McConnell State Recreation Area



Col. Allensworth State Historic Park



**Colonel Allensworth State
Historic Park**



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



Franks Tract State Recreation Area



Colusa-Sacramento River State Recreation Area



Turlock Lake State Recreation Area



Caswell Memorial State Park

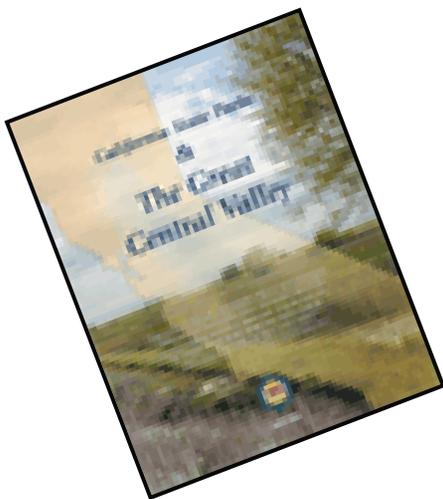


Sutter's Fort State Historic Park

Step three

The Need for a California State Parks Central Valley Vision

- Explosive growth and dynamic population changes
- Balance the focus of previous CA bond acts
- Valley is under-represented by protected lands in public ownership



Great Valley Grasslands State Park

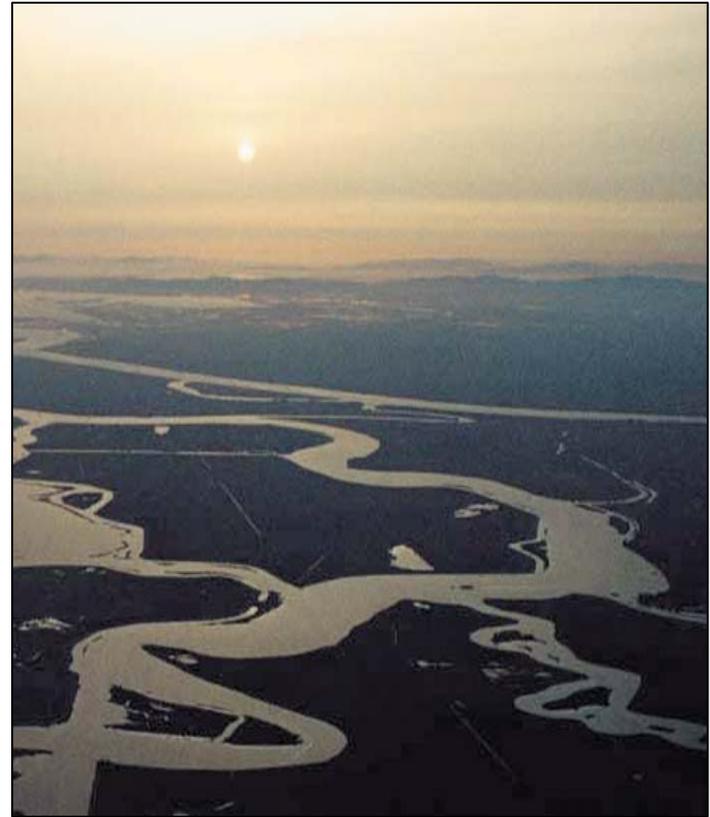
Objectives of the Central Valley Vision

“California’s Great Central Valley is changing in dramatic ways – in its unprecedented growth, in its evolving economies, and in the diversity, needs and interests of its residents.” Ruth Coleman, Director, California State Parks

- ✓ 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

“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

Step four

Research

- Committee of Valley leaders established to help craft both a vision and provide direction

Research included:

- ✓ Assessing previous Valley studies including the Resource Agency's Legacy Project recommendations and maps
- ✓ Interviewing key policy and community leaders
- ✓ Conducting public outreach
- ✓ Assessing potential project sites in the field

Review Central Valley State Park Units:

- ✓ Review existing Real-Estate Assessment Document(s) (READs) database
- ✓ Field Divisions & Headquarters prioritize READ proposals
- ✓ Conduct field surveys
- ✓ Considerations:
 - Consistent with State Parks' Strategic Initiatives
(Natural, Cultural, Recreational strategies)
 - Consistent with park unit general plan
 - Available funding and anticipated operational costs
 - Staffing and operational requirements
 - Determining potential partners
 - Timing
 - Urban proximity

Results of Planning Efforts:

...drum roll please...

Vision Recommendations

- Developing a plan and visionary long-term strategy for State Parks involvement in the Central Valley
- Strategy focus:
 - ✓ Linear river corridors
 - ✓ Telling the story of agriculture in the heartland
 - ✓ Protecting natural, cultural and historical resources
 - ✓ Expanding recreation opportunities
 - ✓ Recognizing the contributions of Valley's immigrants
 - ✓ Learning from California's native people
 - ✓ Developing collaborative efforts and partnering opportunities

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. DuSangue Hills
 5. Cosumnes River/Deer Creek Hills
 6. California Indian Heritage Center
 7. Delta riparian lands
 8. Delta/Sacramento River corridor and riparian lands, Sierra foothills to Caswell Memorial SP
 9. Stanislaus River corridor and riparian lands, La Grange to Modesto
 10. Tuolumne River watershed
 11. Merced River corridor and riparian lands, Snelling to George J. Hatfield SRA
 12. Merced grasslands
 13. Valley grasslands
 14. Los Banos Creek watershed
 15. Highway 99 cultural corridor
 16. San Joaquin River corridor, Fritch to five miles east of Hwy 41
 17. Central Valley agriculture site*
 18. Porterville blue oaks
 19. Rodly Hill rock art site
 20. Coosa E. Chavez Memorial *
 21. Tehachais
 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 to the Department



Area Definition

 Sites to be identified along thematic corridors

 General area for single acquisition

* Sites 16, 19, 20 to be determined

Step five

Public Relations and Advocacy Building

- Planning team established, actions included:
 - ✓ Public relations; i.e., getting the *Vision* out
 - ✓ Building advocacy for the strategy
 - ✓ Gaining support from the Agency, Governor and Legislature
 - ✓ Special events (ground breakings, key acquisitions etc.)
 - ✓ Developing and strengthening partners
 - ✓ Laying groundwork for future funding
 - ✓ Meeting with key policy leaders



Develop Communications Program

- ✓ Brief Resource Agency and Administration
- ✓ Develop public relations and communications program to announce Vision
- ✓ Increase policy leader awareness
- ✓ Brief Valley legislators and key committee staff
- ✓ Familiarization tour of Valley park units and locations of potential State Park actions

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 scheduled during the fall, 2005.

April 27, 2005: 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **May 31 2005**: 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Woodland Opera House
340 2nd Street, Woodland, CA

C.S.U., Fresno, Student Union
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

Building Relationships with Key Stakeholders and Partners

- ✓ Meet with federal, state, and local agencies, private and non-profit stakeholders to identify common interests
- ✓ Use grant awards as an opportunity to connect communities to the Vision
- ✓ Seek economic partnerships with public agencies, Valley business interests and non-profits

Establishing Education and Outreach Efforts

- ✓ Determine best approach; for example, at State Park units, partner with other public agencies (schools, CalTrans)
- ✓ Design interpretive signs, markers and brochures
- ✓ Conduct special interpretive/educational programs at Valley State Park units

Work closely with other State Park Divisions

- Tie the Vision to the Department's *Local Needs Assessment* report
- Recognize current impacts of grants on Central Valley communities
- Conduct planning and technical assistance workshops to help partners and other stakeholders

Points to Remember

In 2000:

- 5,728,347 residents
- 96,700 acres within 32 Central Valley State Park units
- 6.38 million visitors of these 32 units

**In 2040, over 11.5 million
residents projected!**



Sycamore Alluvial Plain, Northern Tehachapis



For more information:

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