

California State Parks' Central Valley Vision



University Farm Circle
El Macero, CA
May 17, 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.”



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 State Parks' **Central Valley Vision**, the Great Central Valley consists of the Sacramento Valley and the San Joaquin Valley.





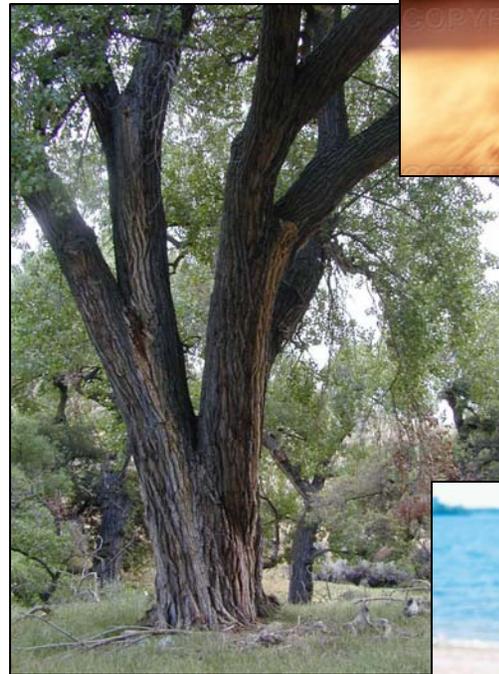
Counties included in the Central Valley Vision:

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| 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, May 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



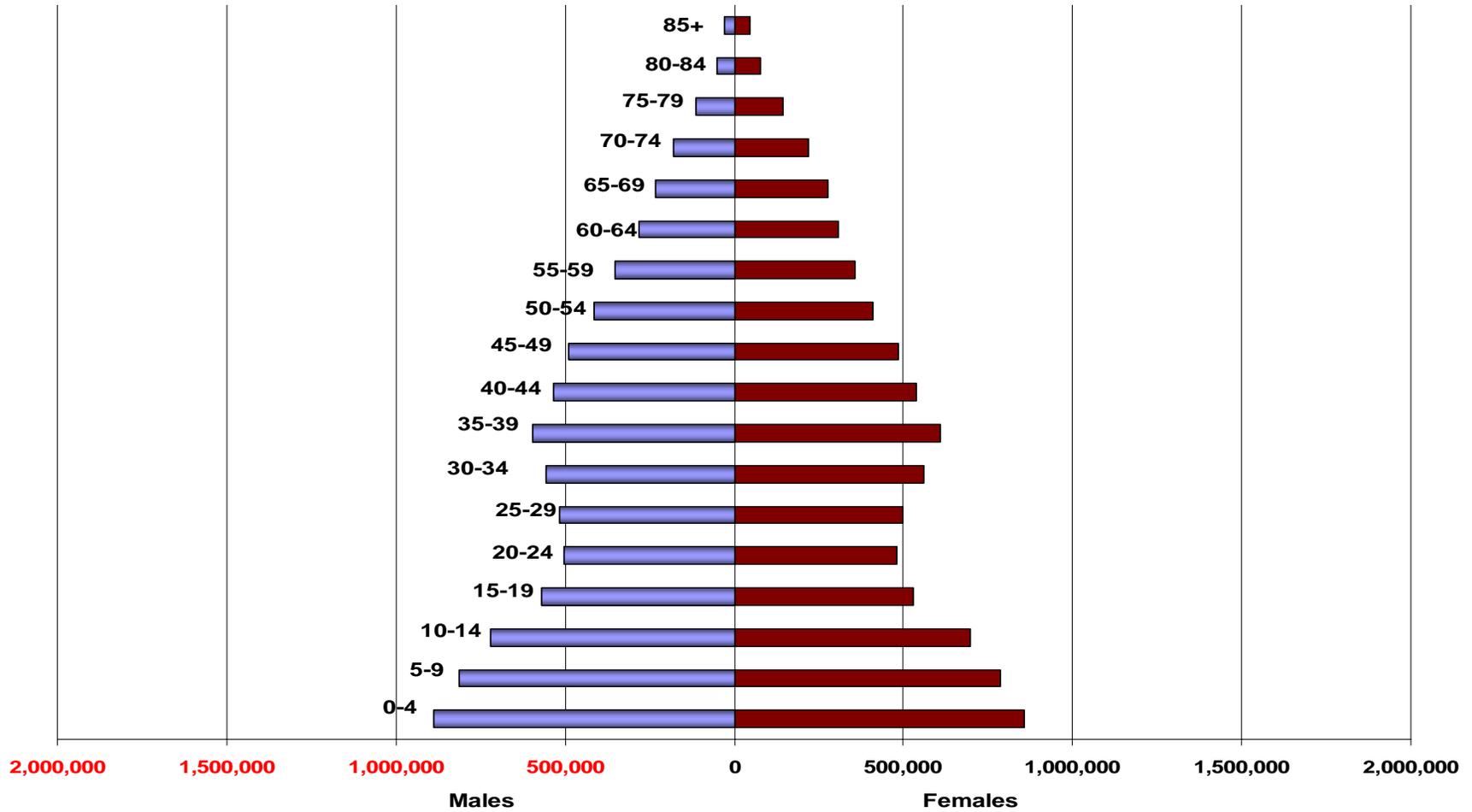
Why a *Vision* now?

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

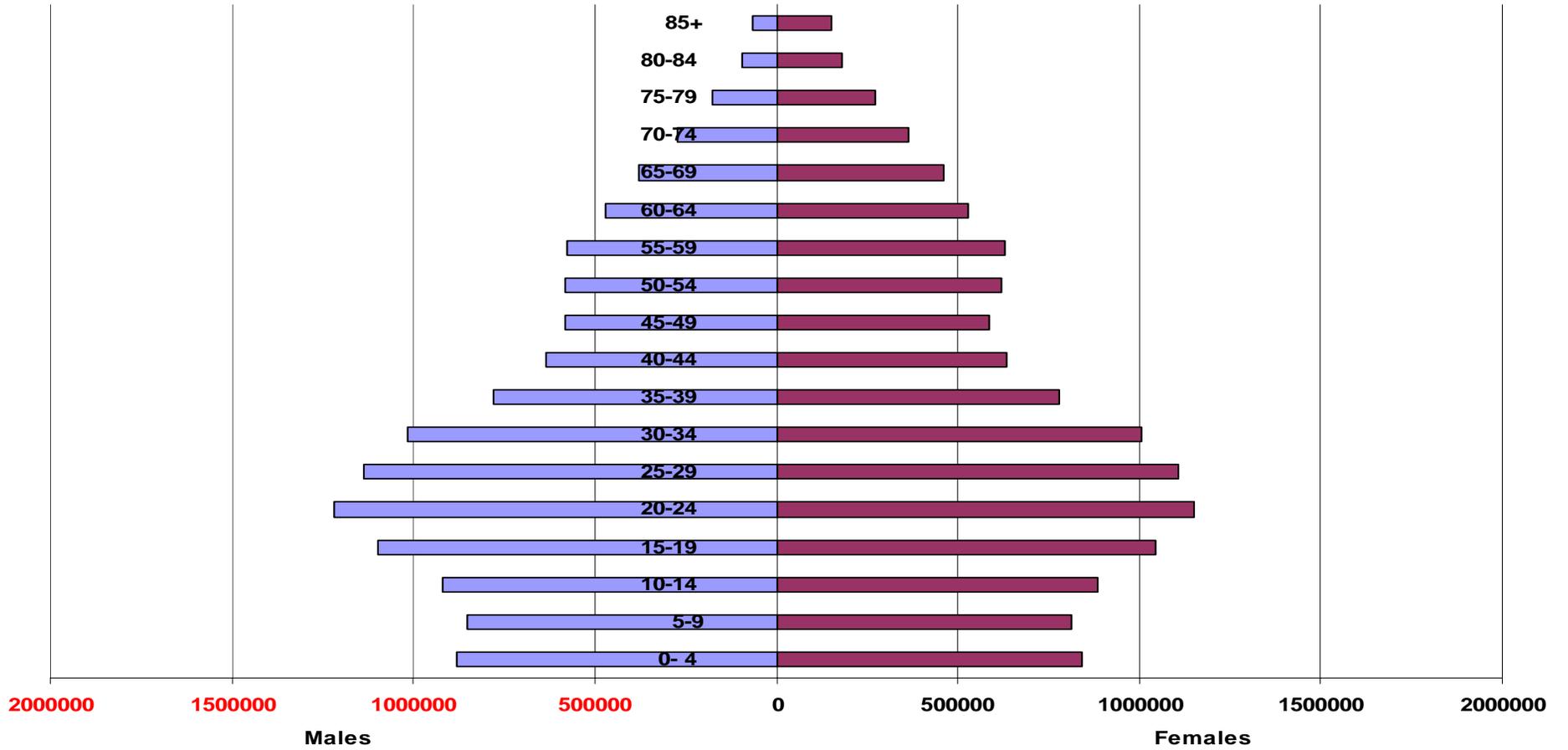
1960

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



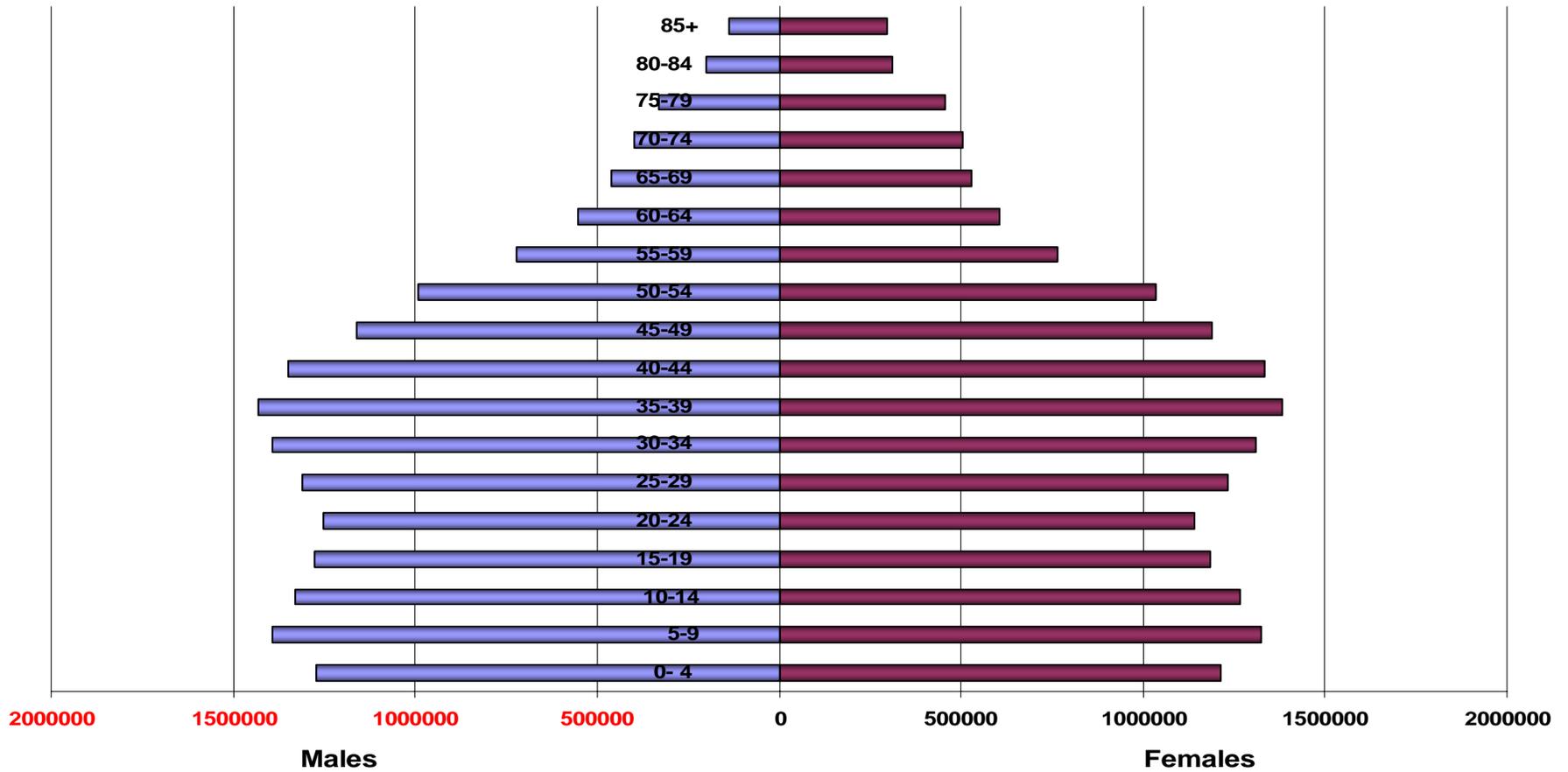
1980

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



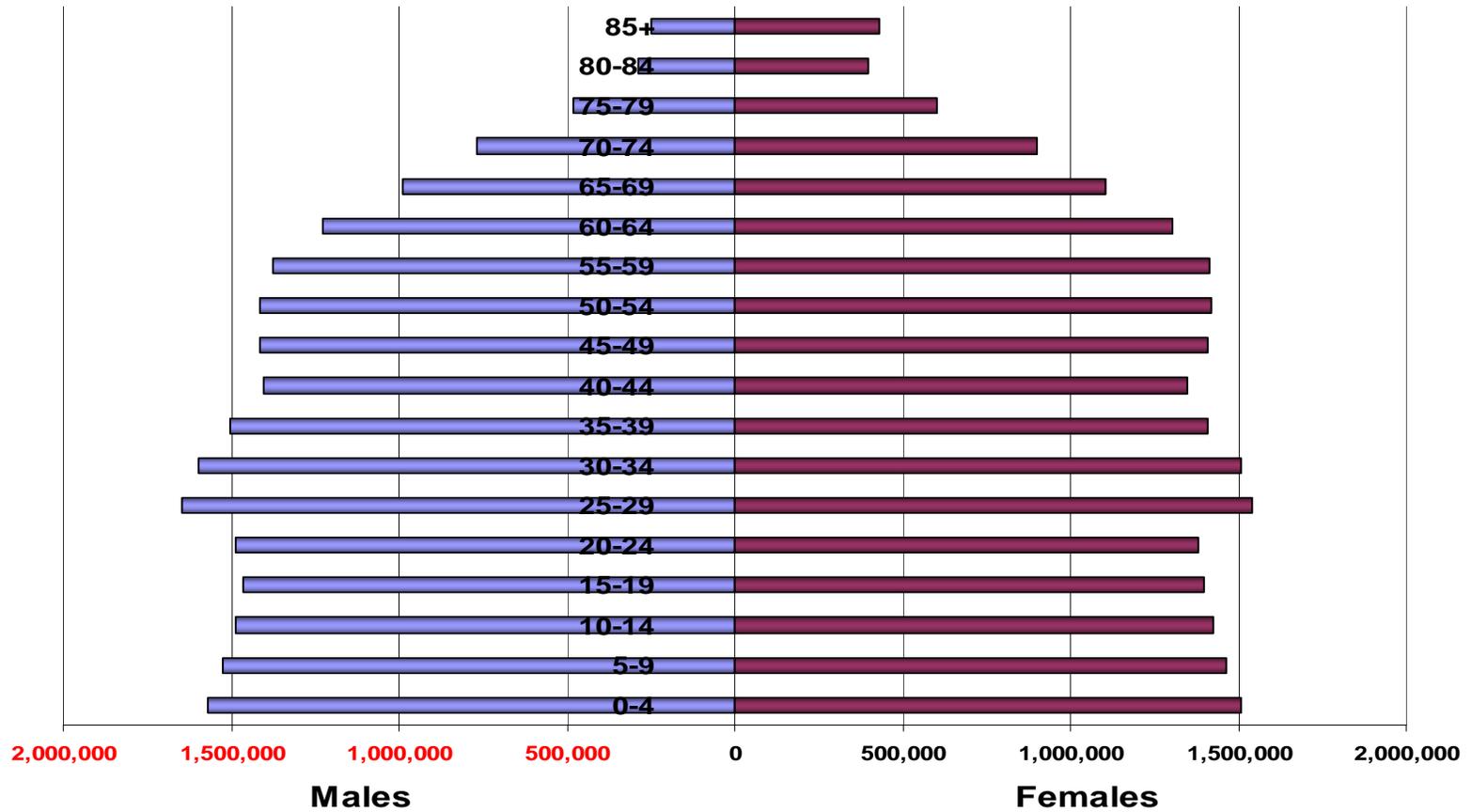
2000

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



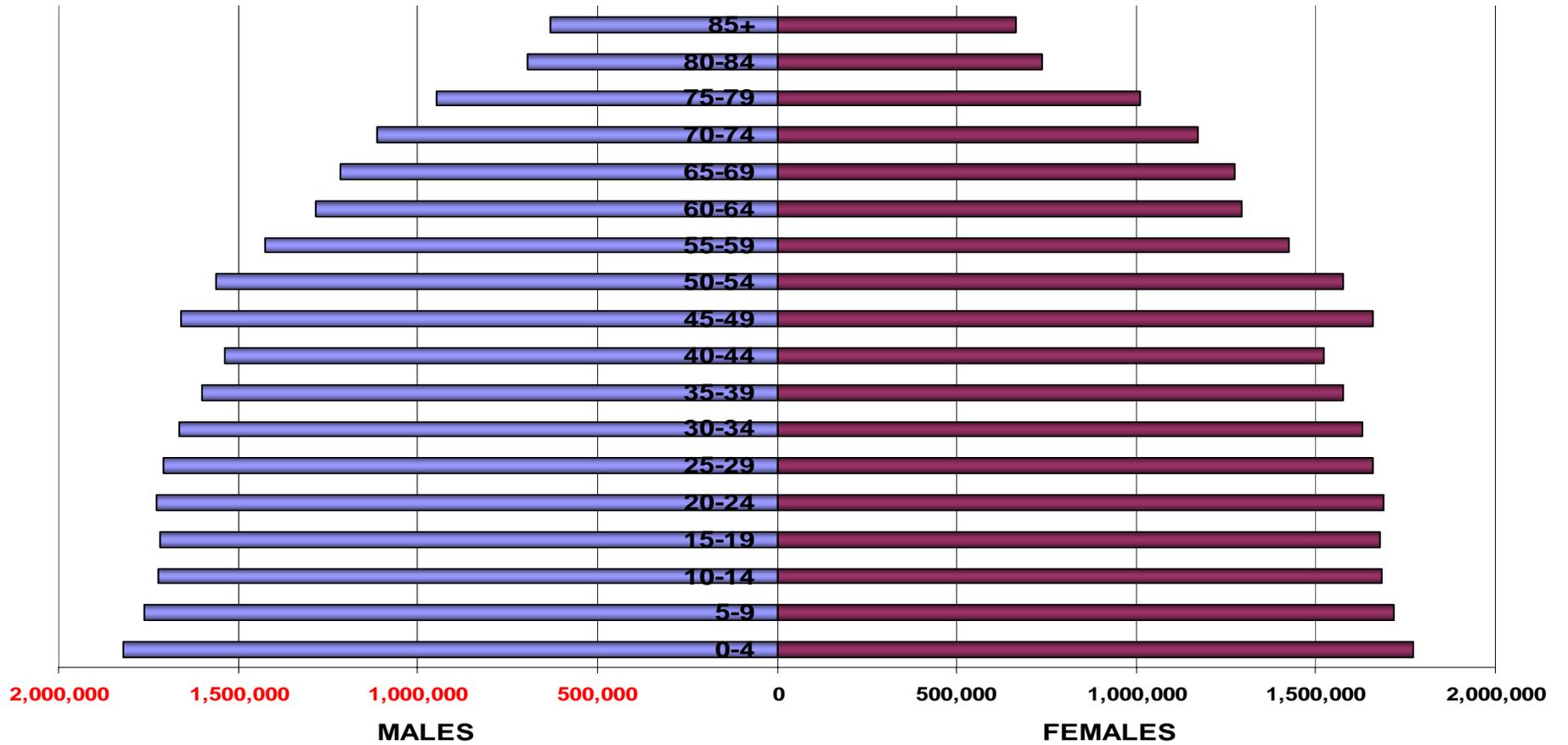
2020

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



2040

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



Explosive Growth in the Central Valley

| | 2000 | 2020 | 2040 |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| All Central Valley 18 Counties: | 2,126,908 | 3,203,856 | 4,187,093 |
| Yolo County | <u>169,882</u> | <u>271,040</u> | <u>363,663</u> |

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

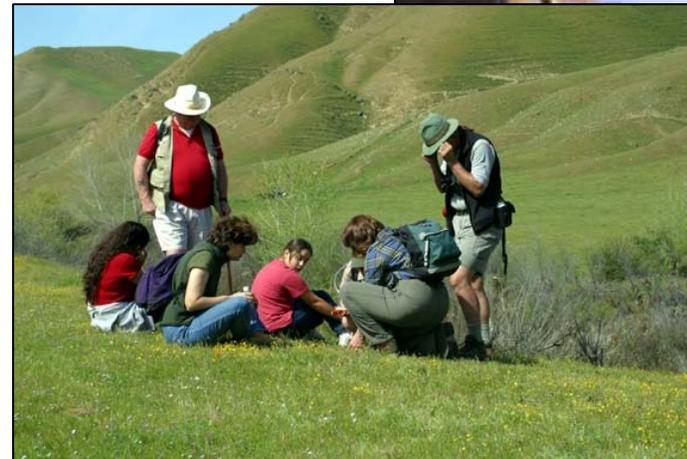
Population Projections for Selected Ethnicities in the Central Valley

| | 2000 | 2020 | 2040 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| White | 3,011,951 | 2,934,506 | 2,952,686 |
| Hispanic | 1,728,914 | 3,631,865 | 5,736,157 |
| All Populations | <u>5,728,347</u> | <u>8,566,283</u> | <u>11,574,528</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.

California State Parks Today



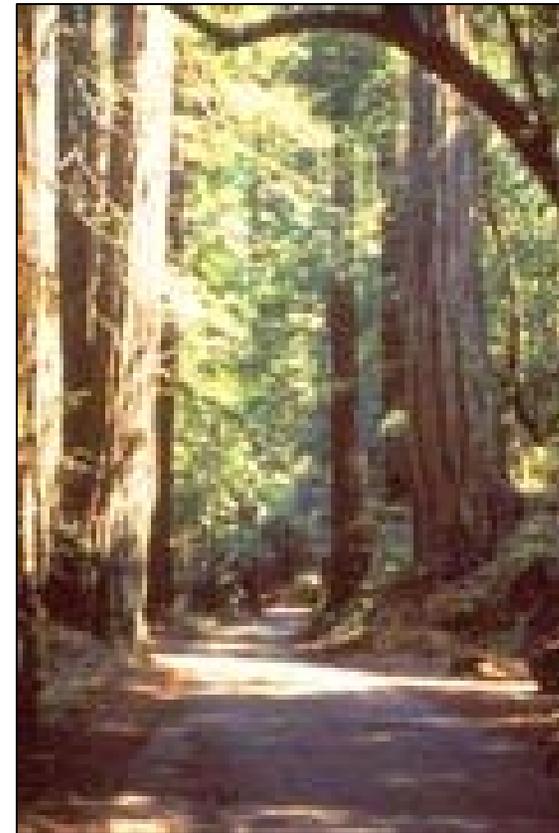
...are well known and well-loved throughout
the State



Pismo State Beach



Old Town San Diego State Historic Park



**Armstrong Redwoods
State Reserve**



Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument



**Hollister Hills State Vehicular
Recreation Area**



Angel Island State Park



Malibu Lagoon State Beach



Fort Ross State Historic Park



Bodie State Historic Park



D. L. Bliss State Park



**Carnegie State Vehicular
Recreation Area**



Jack London State Historic Park



**Mono Lake Tufa SR
State Reserve**



Monterey SHP State Historic Park



Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park

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



Lake Oroville State Recreation Area



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



Lake Oroville State Recreation Area



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



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**



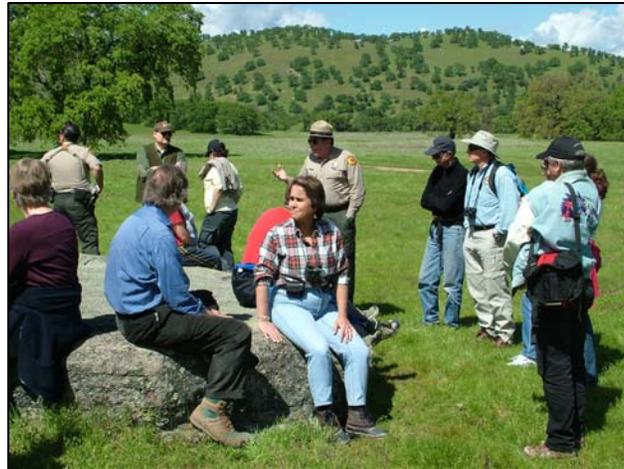
Franks Tract State Recreation Area



Colusa-Sacramento River State Recreation Area



Sutter Buttes Park



Purpose of the *Central Valley Vision*

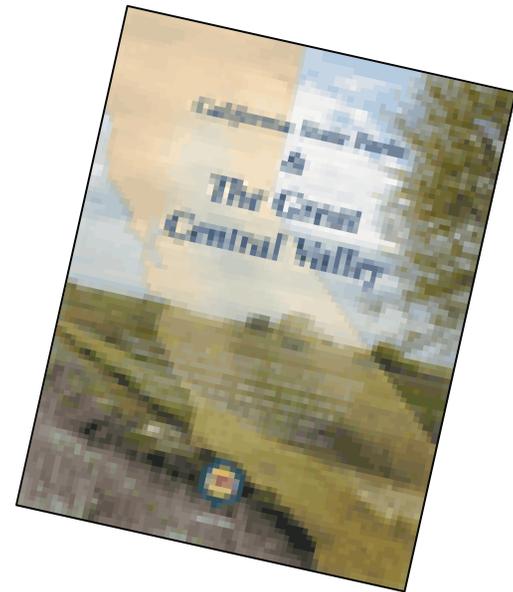
- ✓ Identify current and near term actions
- ✓ Meet the public's needs through stronger partnerships, appropriate expansions, and facility rehabilitation and development
- ✓ Provide a 20-year blueprint for State Park actions designed to increase service and relevancy to Valley residents and State Park 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. Duwamish River/Deer Creek Hills
 5. Coast Range
 6. Coast Range National Heritage Center
 7. Delta riparian lands
 8. Delta riparian lands
 9. Stanislaus River corridor and riparian lands, La Grange to Modesto
 10. Tuolumne River corridor and riparian lands, Snelling to George J. Hatfield SRA
 11. Merced River corridor and riparian lands
 12. Merced River watershed
 13. Los Banos Creek watershed
 14. Highway 99 cultural corridor
 15. San Joaquin River corridor, Pittsburg to five miles east of Hwy 41
 16. Central Valley agriculture site*
 17. Porterville Blue Oaks
 18. Rodly Hill rock art site
 19. Coarse E. Chavez Memorial
 20. The Ancient Valley
 21. Tehachais
 22. Proposed for State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA)
- * Sites to be determined

California State Parks' Central Valley Vision
22 areas identified 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





Sycamore Alluvial Plain, Tehachapis

