California State Parks' Central Valley Vision

Public Outreach Meeting at Sacramento

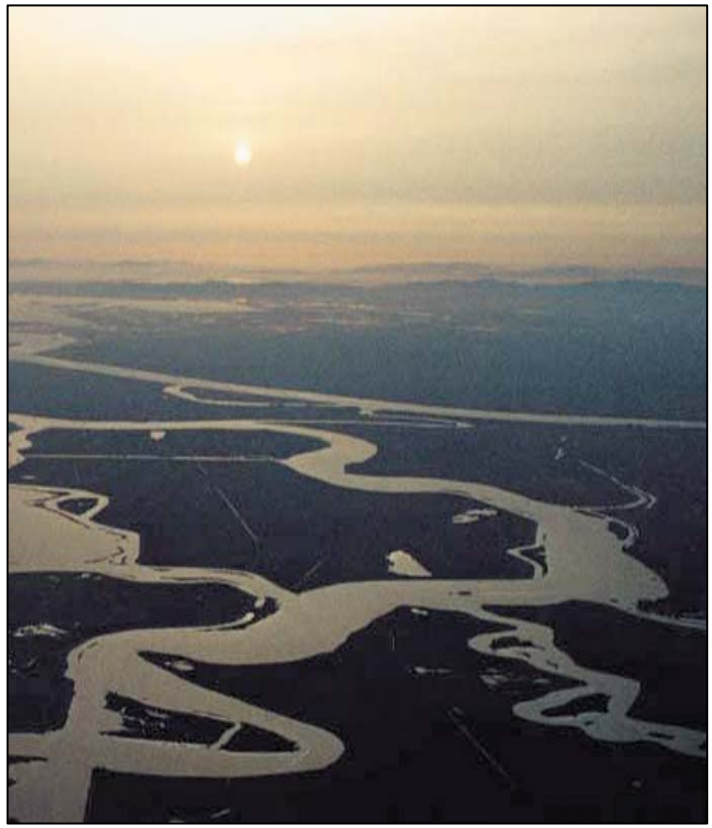
June 1, 2005

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

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

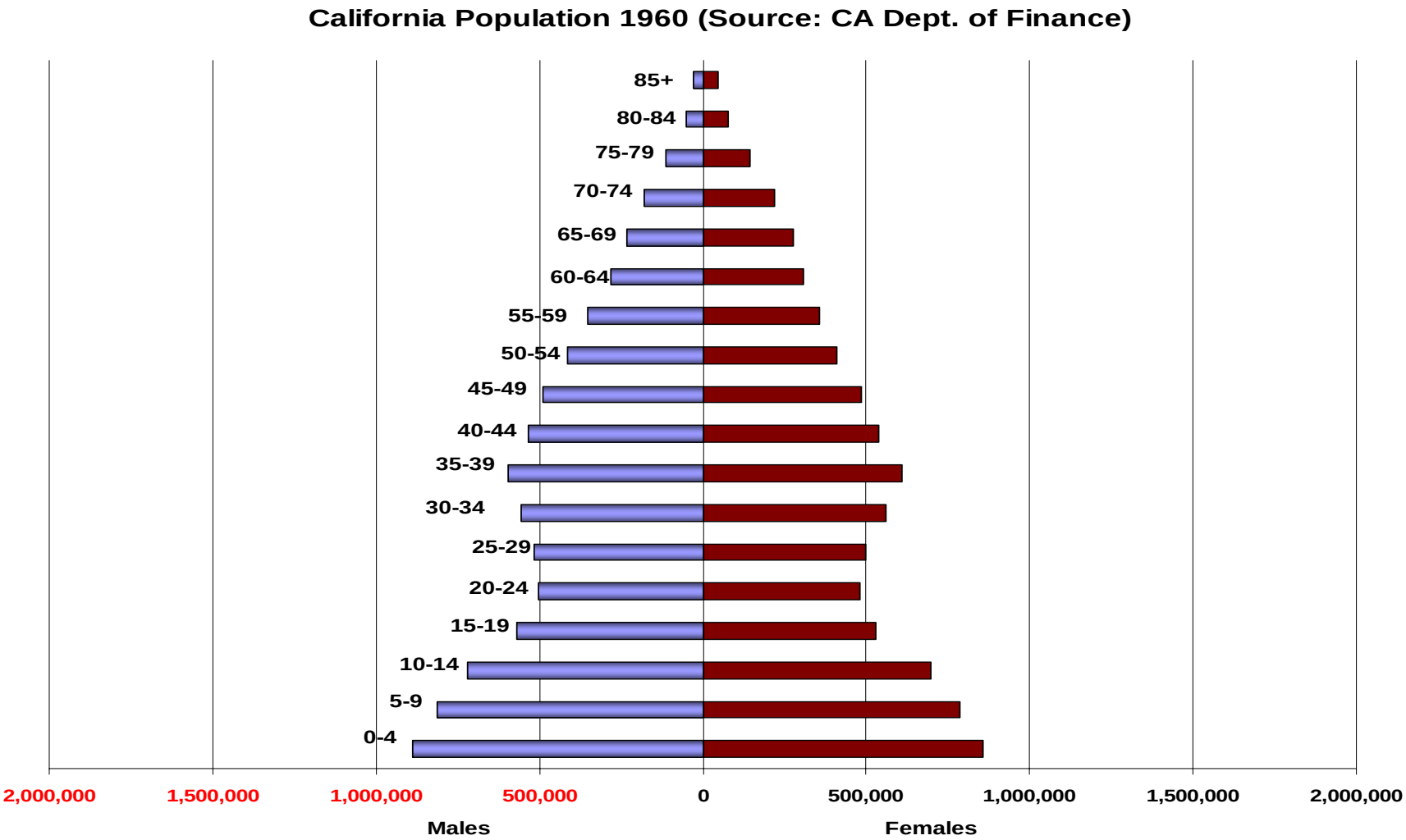
- Balance coastal and urban focus
- Valley is under-represented in public land ownership
- Still a chance to do things right

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)
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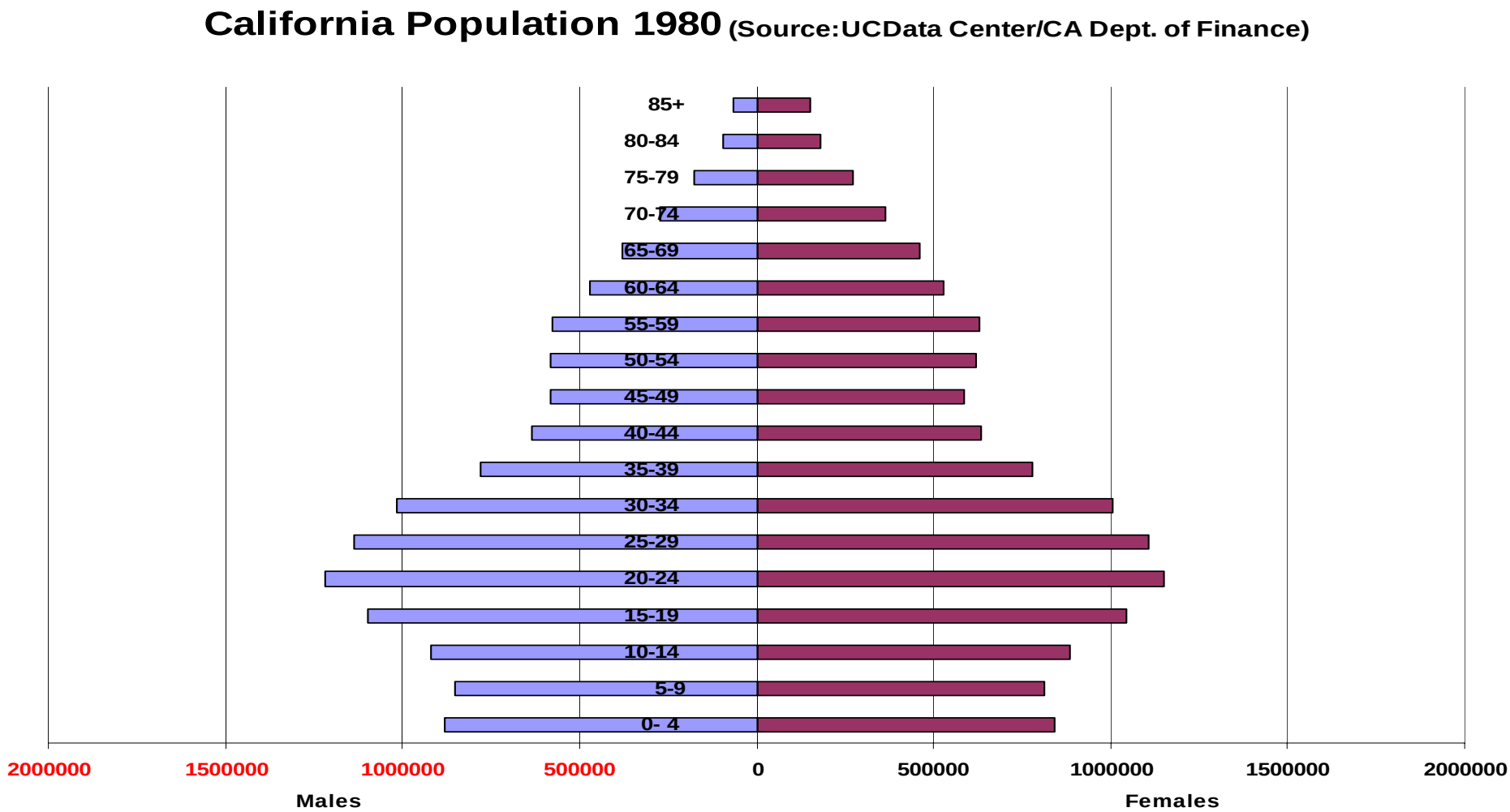
California Population 1980 (Source:UCData Center/CA Dept. of Finance)
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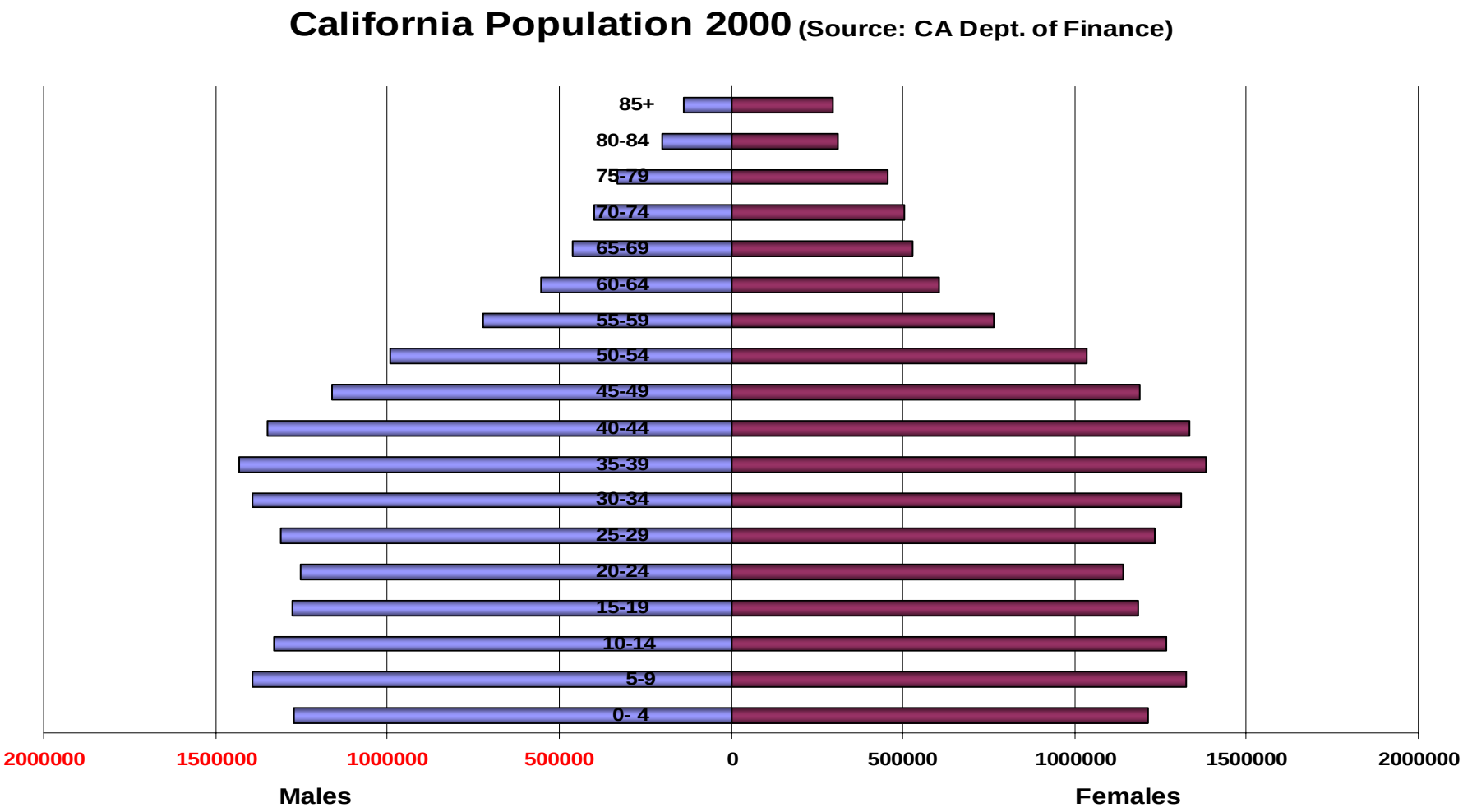
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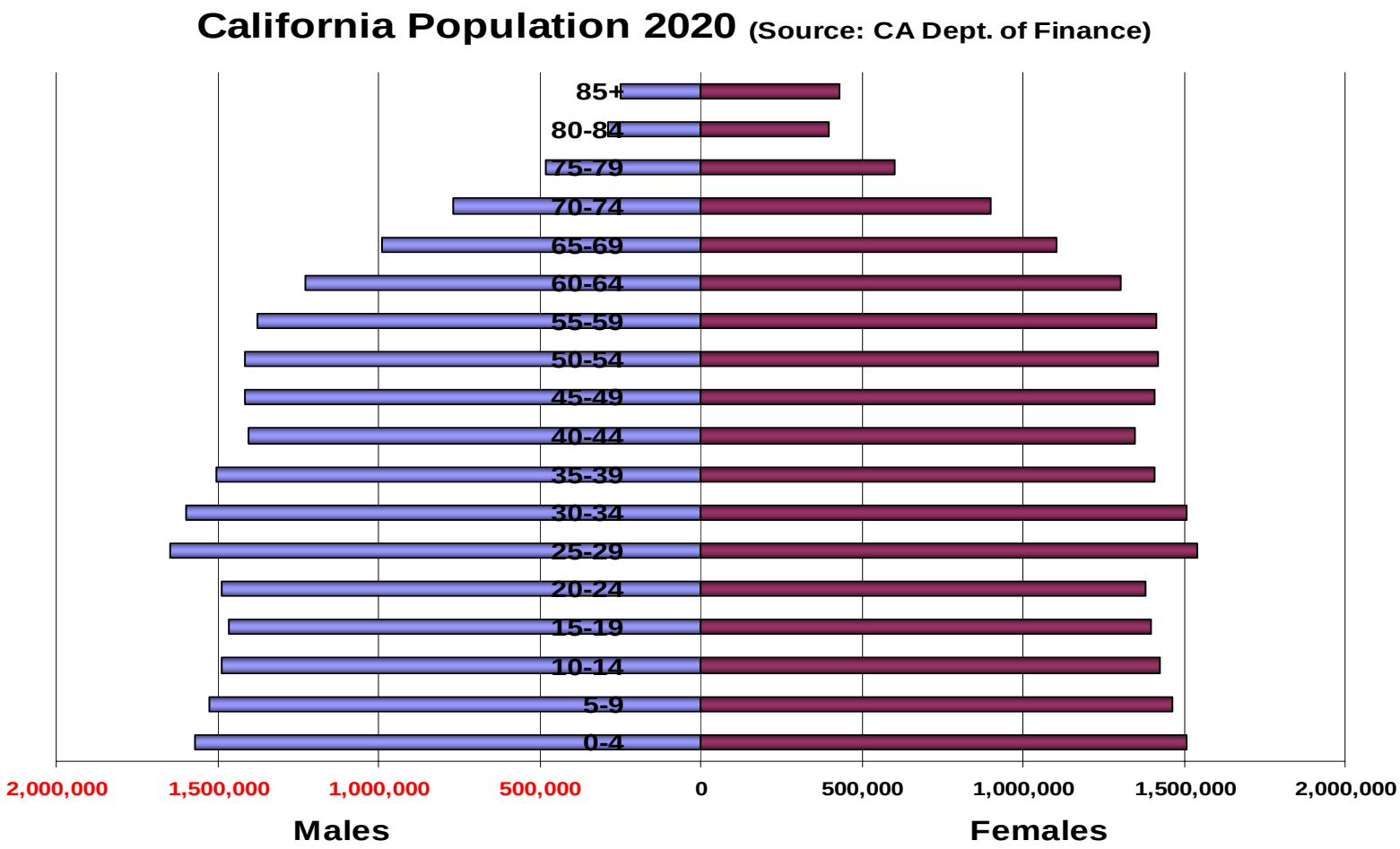
California Population 2020 (Source: CA Dept. of Finance)
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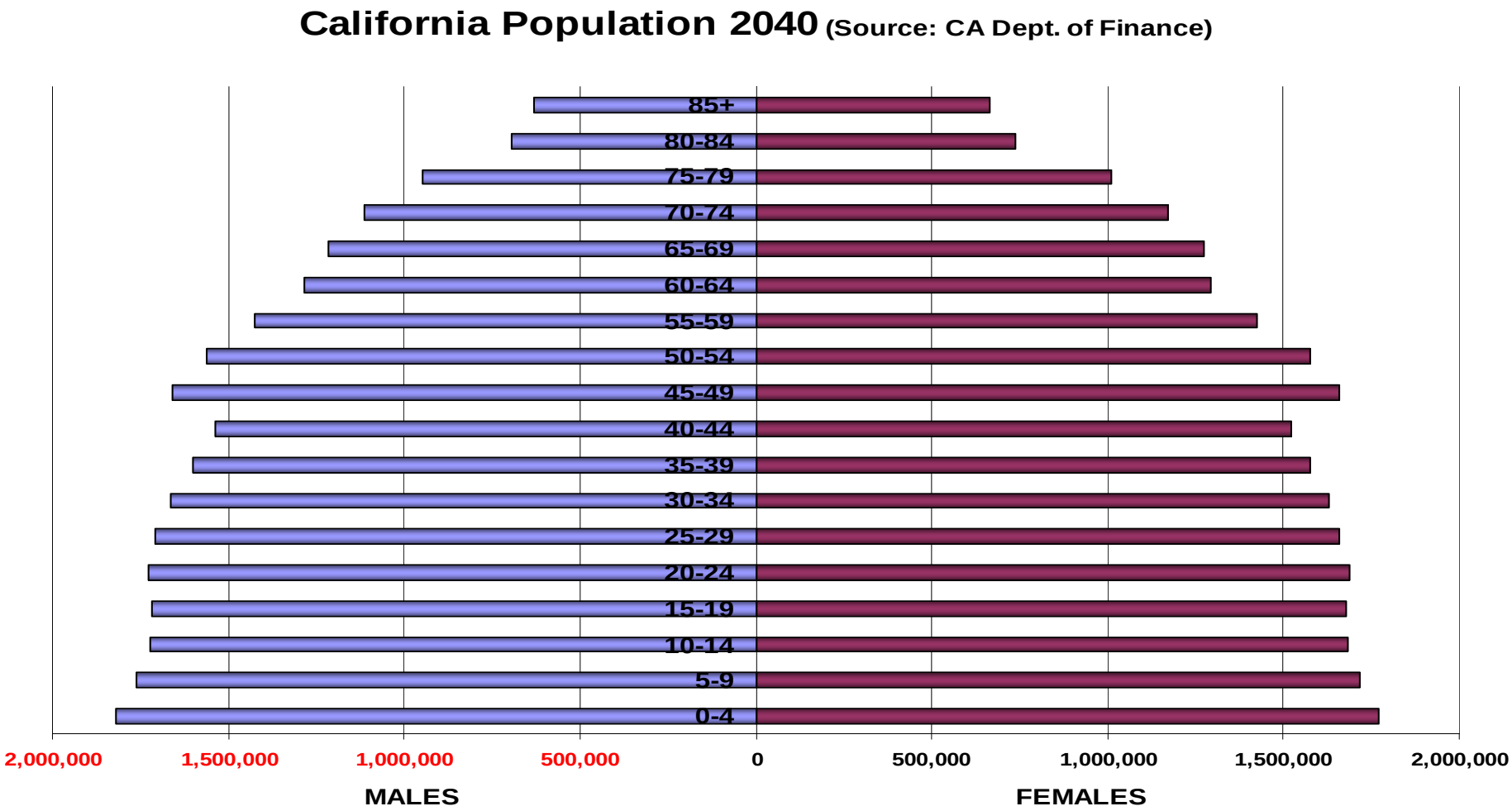
California Population 2040 (Source: CA Dept. of Finance)
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Population within 100 miles of *this* Outreach meeting

County	2000	2020	2040
Butte	**204,672**	**260,730**	**282,492**
Colusa	18,923	26,337	32,449
Glenn	26,718	31,950	37,182
Sacramento	1,230,465	1,946,679	2,579,720
Shasta	164,748	227,922	296,007
Sutter	79,464	111,856	139,805
Tehama	56,042	68,323	80,640
Yolo	169,882	271,040	363,663
Yuba	60,553	84,816	112,097
Total:	**2,011,467**	**3,029,653**	**3,924,055**

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

	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 Islanders	456,638	863,418	1,205,261
Black	347,535	681,819	981,296
Multirace	183,309	454,675	699,028
All Populations	**5,728,347**	**8,566,283**	**11,574,528**

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

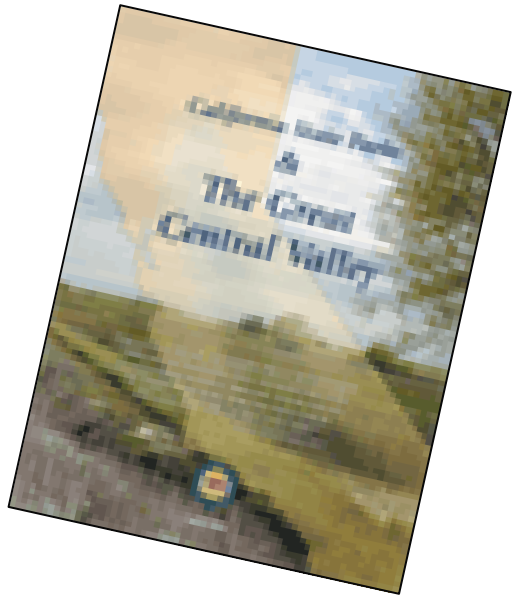
Purpose of the *Central Valley Vision*

- ✓ 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

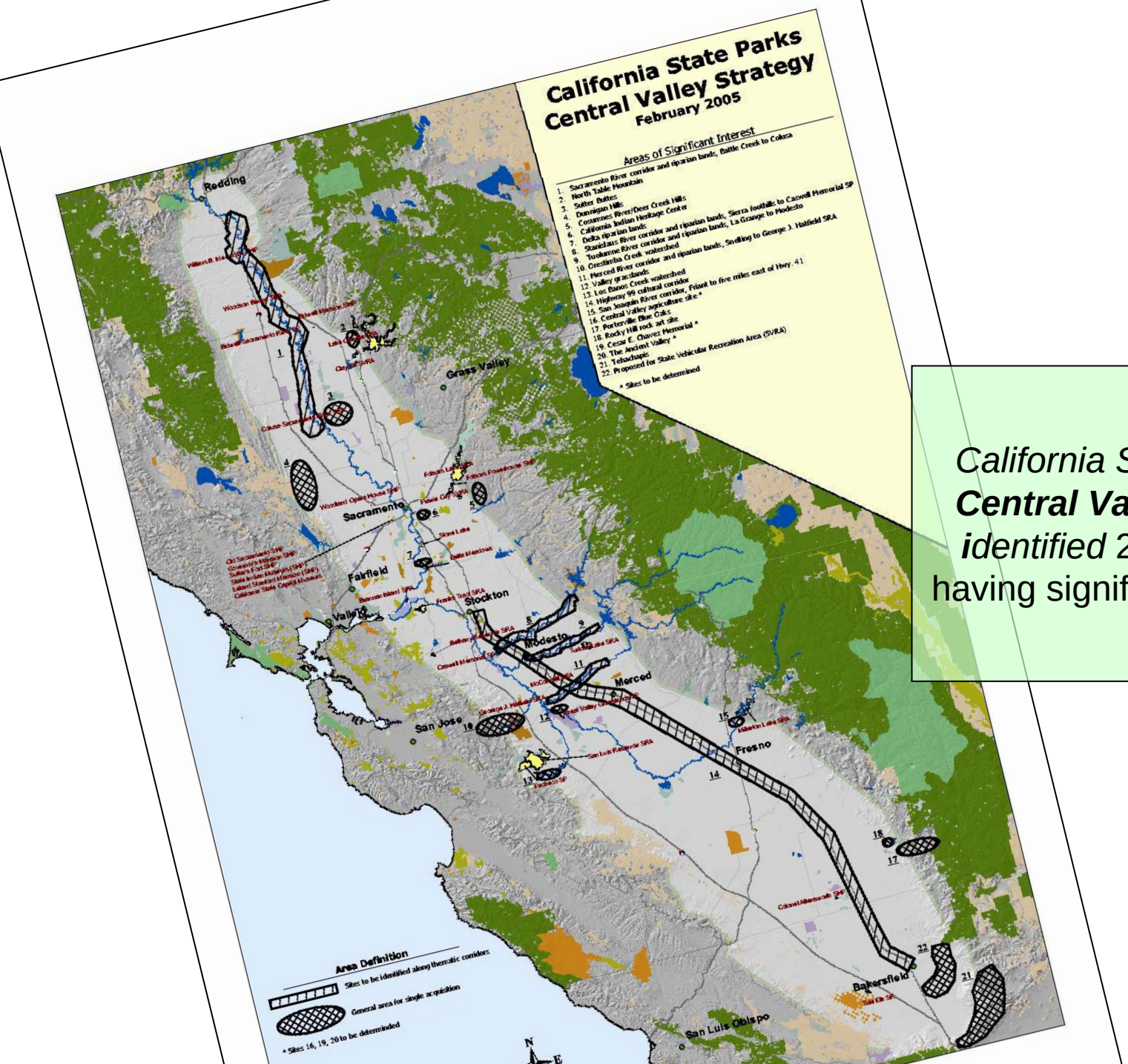
What has been done so far?

- 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 Vision*** ***identified*** 22 areas as having significant interest

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, Northern Tehachapis