Regional Planning and Permitting Challenges and Opportunities

Local Maintaining Agency Perspective

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Regional Permitting????
WHY NOT DO ALL MULTI-BENEFIT PROJECTS?

- Still need permitting

- Many O&M projects don’t lend themselves to multi-benefit.

- How do you capture excess credits the projects create?
WHAT DO YOU DO?

• Currently, we permit on a project by project basis.

• It’s costly and time consuming.
WHAT ELSE IS MISSING?

Habitat value of working lands which can be further improved with restoration and management actions
Can this be the vehicle for programmatic permitting using working lands for advance mitigation?
RCIS ADVANTAGES

- Voluntary
- Advanced mitigation
- Temporary impact credits
- New types of actions
- Credit for uplift on public lands
Example Habitat Assessment
Rice Fields and Associated Canals
Giant Garter Snake

Site Score Before Restoration
55%

Potential Site Score Post-Restoration
85%
POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

• ~$20M Federal funding for setback levee
• 20 acres floodplain restoration opportunity
• Additional permitting
• Future O&M??
• How to capture credits?