



One Water and Adaptation Committee

Update on Northern Sierra Nevada Watershed Activities

Item 6d

May 11, 2026

Presented by: Jennifer Nevills

Item 6d

Update on Northern Sierra Nevada Watershed Activities

Subject

Update on Northern Sierra Nevada Watershed Activities

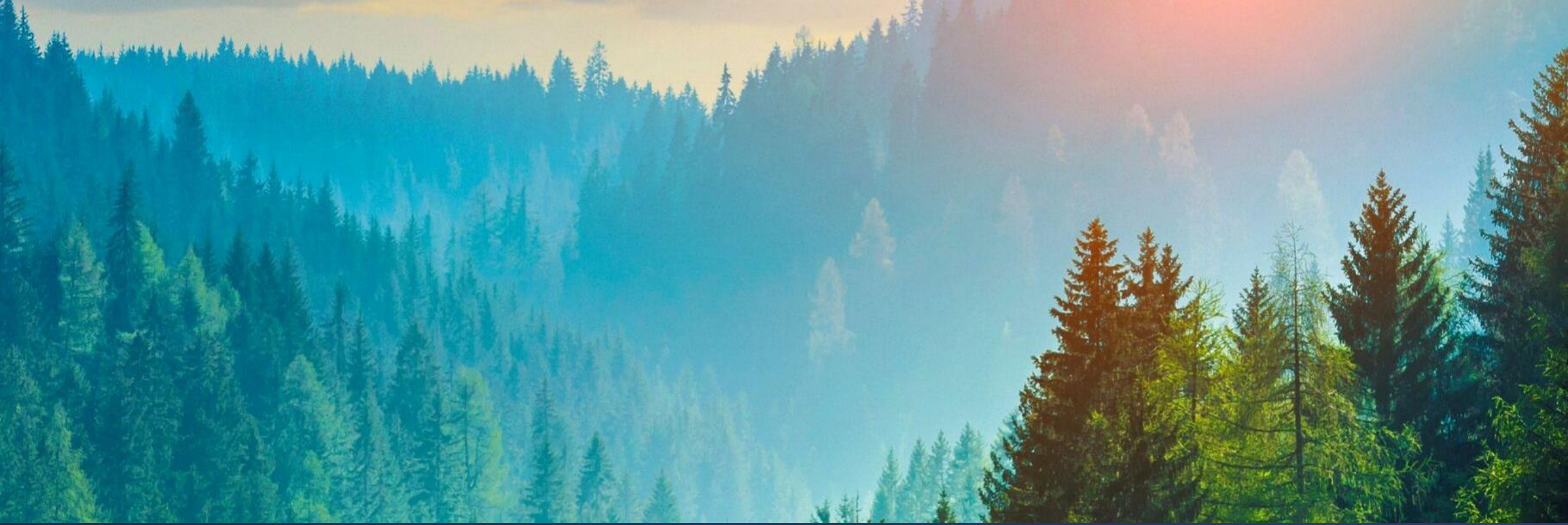
Purpose

To provide an update on Northern Sierra watershed activities including the implementation of Metropolitan's pilot investigations, business case development, and collaborative and relationship building efforts

Next Steps

Continue efforts related to business case development, relationship building and collaboration, and identification of additional beneficiary partners

Develop a draft recommendation for Board consideration in early 2027



Forest Resilience Bond Pilot Investigations

North Feather I Forest Resilience Bond

Launched: December 2024

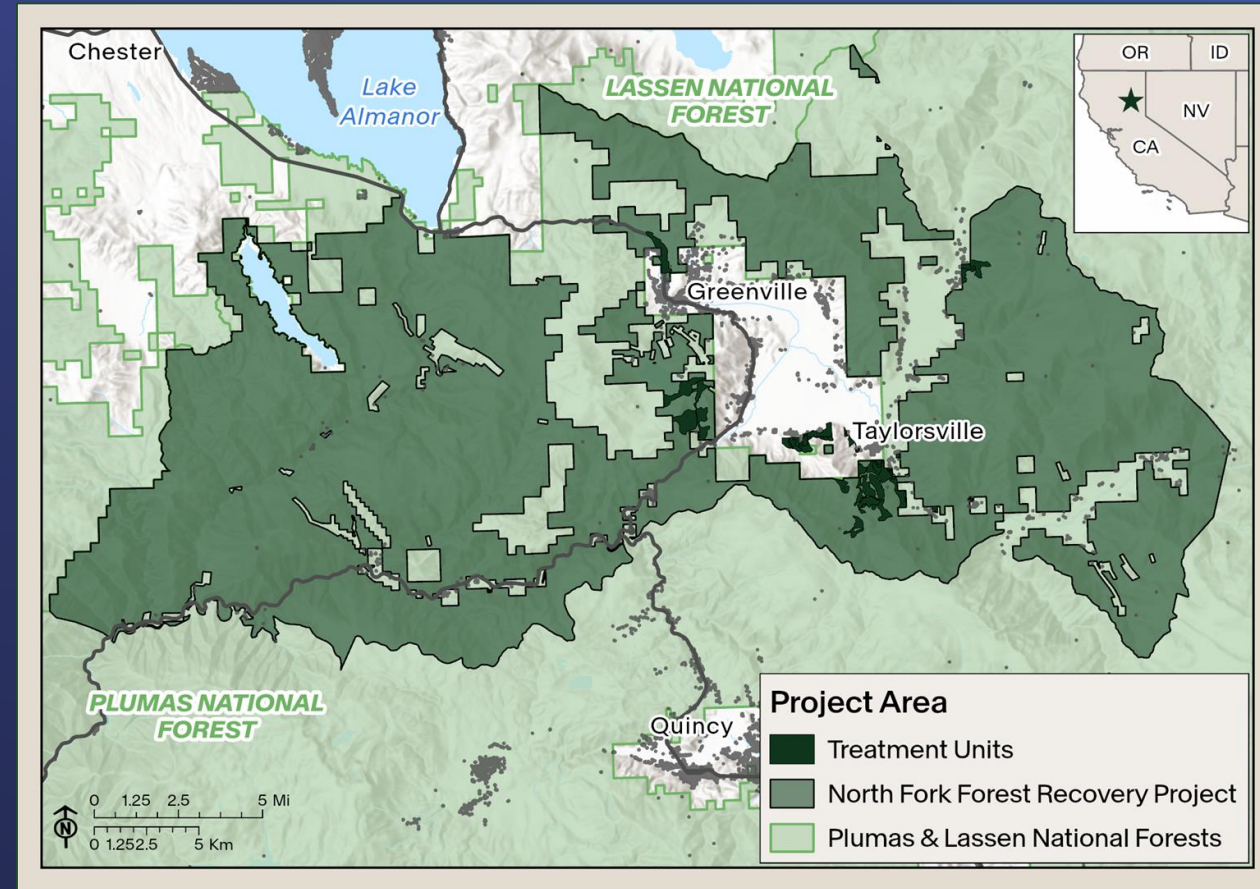
Location: Feather River Watershed, Plumas NF

Project Focus: Wildfire risk reduction, post-fire recovery, community protection

Funding Secured for Phase 1 Pilot:

- Public: - \$5.6M
- Beneficiaries - \$892K

Enables Sierra Institute to work with local contractors & tribal crews, supporting local workforce development



Project Partners	Sierra Institute, USFS, Greenville Rancheria
Funding Partners	CAL FIRE, Metropolitan, PG&E, DWR, SNC, USFS

2024-2025¹: 562 acres implemented	2025-2026¹: 600 acres planned
¹ Water year (October 1 st - September 30 th)	

Plumas Community Protection I Forest Resilience Bond

Launched: September 2025

Location: Feather River Watershed, Plumas NF

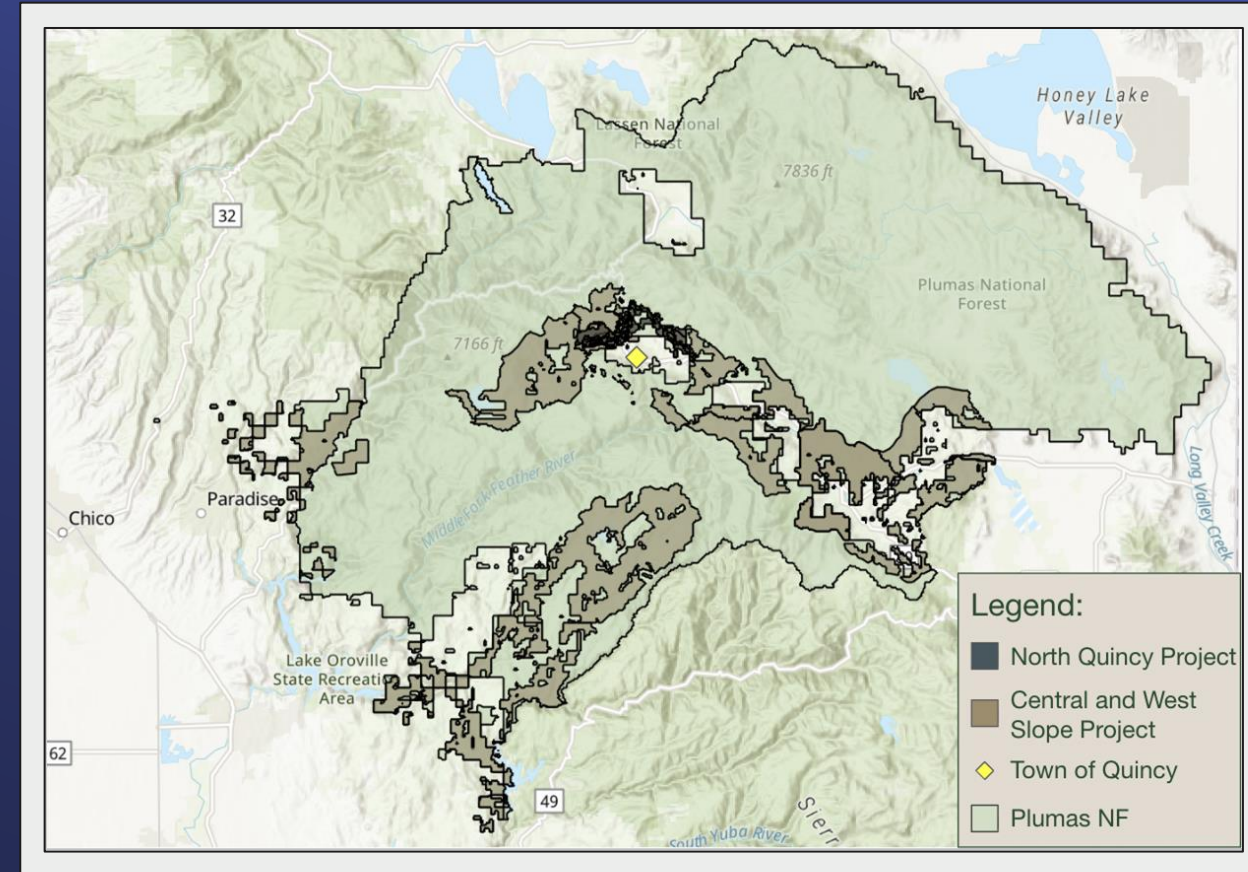
Project Focus: Wildfire risk reduction, ecosystem and community protection

Funding Secured for Phase 1 Pilot:

- Public - **\$10M**
- Beneficiaries - **\$600K**

Supports the protection of one of the last remaining areas of unburned forest in the watershed

Project Partners	National Forest Foundation, USFS
Funding Partners	USFS, Metropolitan, PG&E



2024-2025¹: Pre-launch	2025-2026¹: 2,165 acres planned
¹ Water year (October 1 st - September 30 th)	

Upper Butte Creek I Forest Resilience Bond

Launched: March 2026

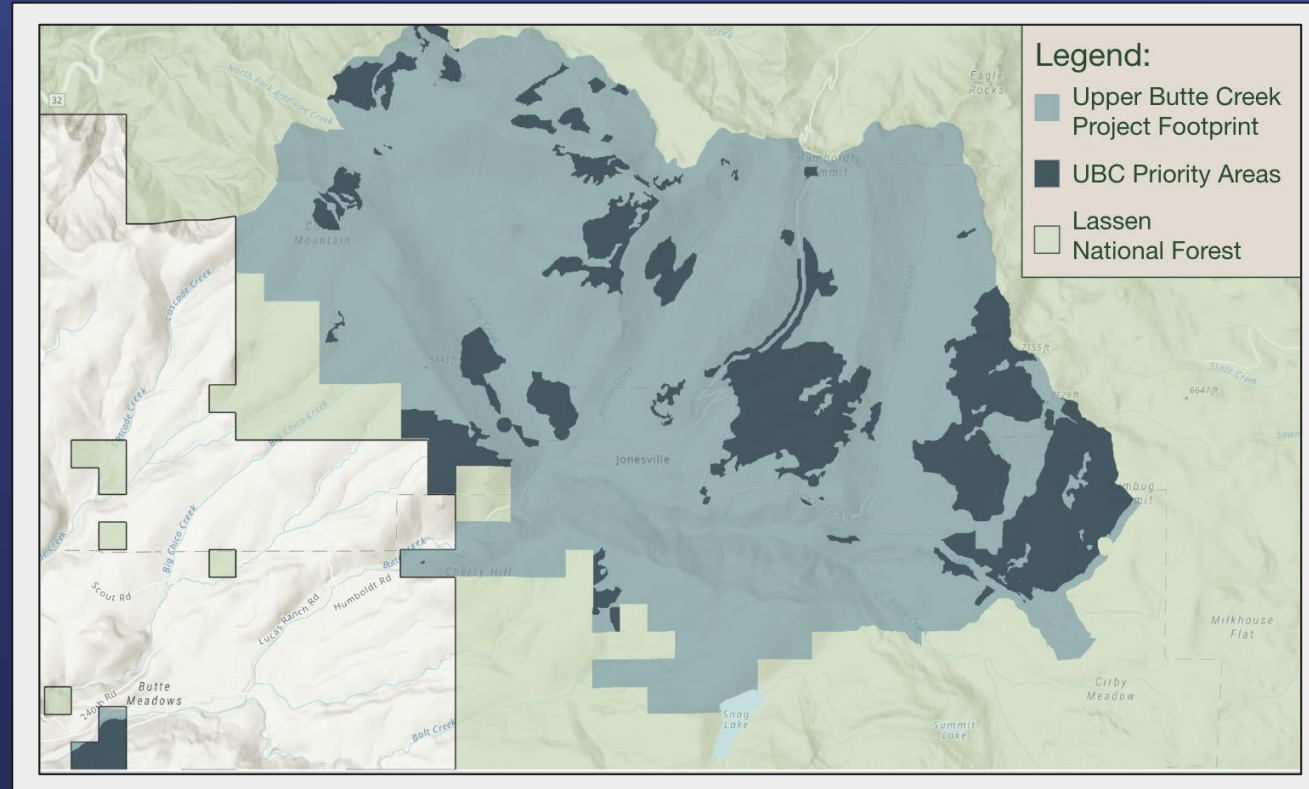
Location: Sac River Watershed, Lassen NF

Project Focus: Wildfire risk reduction, aquatic habitat restoration, community protection

Funding Secured for Phase 1 Pilot:

- Public - \$2M
- Beneficiaries - \$600K

Supports habitat protection for the largest wild population of spring-run Chinook salmon in the CV



Project Partners	Butte County RCD, USFS
Funding Partners	National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, USFS, Metropolitan

2024-2025¹: Pre-launch	2025-2026¹: 890 acres planned ²
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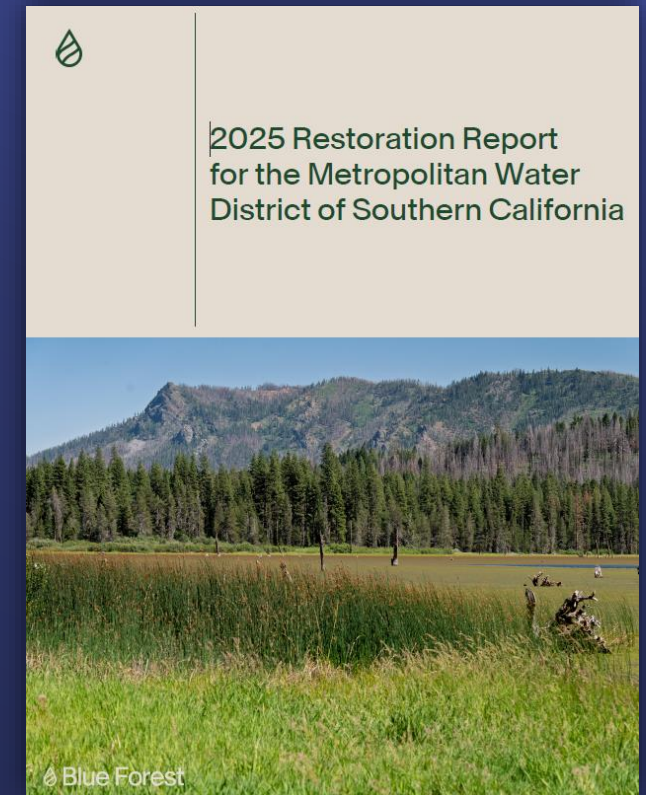
¹ Water year (October 1st - September 30th)

² Planned acreage estimate, subject to change during implementation

2025 Annual Restoration Report





















Report Overview

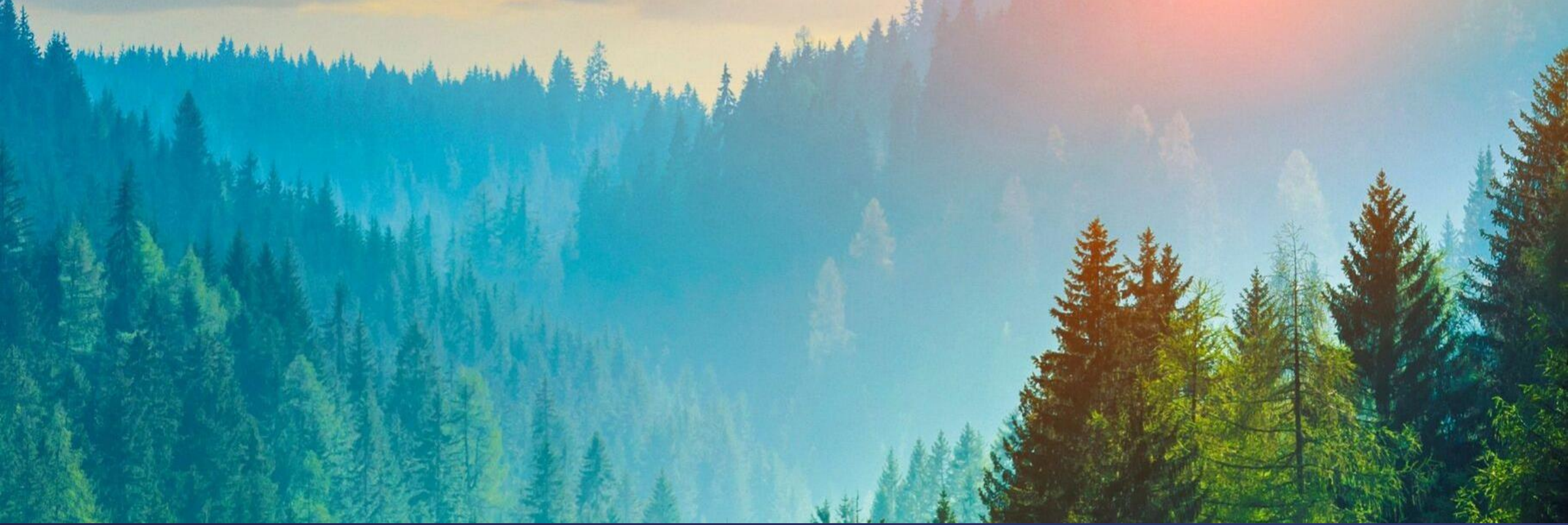
- Landscape & project overview
- Year in review
 - WY 2025 project updates
- Looking ahead
 - WY 2026 project outlooks
 - Long-term opportunity
- Appendices
 - Detailed water benefits
 - Project photos
 - Projected WY 2026 benefits



Evaluation of Potential Benefits

Metropolitan's Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Evaluative Criteria

	Metropolitan's Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Evaluative Criteria					
Benefit Areas	Reliability	Resilience	Financial Sustainability	Adaptability & Flexibility	Equity	Environmental Co-benefits
Water Supply						
Wildfire Risk Reduction						
Carbon						
Reduced Sediment & Debris Flow						



Collaboration & Relationship Building

Collaboration & Relationship Building

Blue Forest & Metropolitan MOU

- Helps outline shared intentions and coordination
 - Summarizes coordinated actions for working together and individually
- Includes provisions that specify that the MOU
 - Is a nonbinding agreement
 - Is not a funding commitment
 - May be modified by mutual consent and terminated by either party
- Increases Blue Forest's ability to attract private investors
- Creates no fiscal impact for Metropolitan

Collaboration & Relationship Building

- Upper Watershed Site Visits
 - October – North Feather I FRB
 - November – Ortega/Shepherd Romey special SWP inspection trip
- Watershed Solutions Network Watershed Framework Test Drive
 - Facilitating opportunities for connection
 - Developing communication tools and story map
 - Planning a SoCal visit with Upper Feather Watershed leaders



Next Steps

- Continue business case development
 - Analyze key metrics of interest
- Continue relationship building & collaboration efforts
 - Develop staff and Board site visits
 - Participate in DWR-SWC site visit
- Pursue additional beneficiary partners
- Develop a draft recommendation for Board consideration

