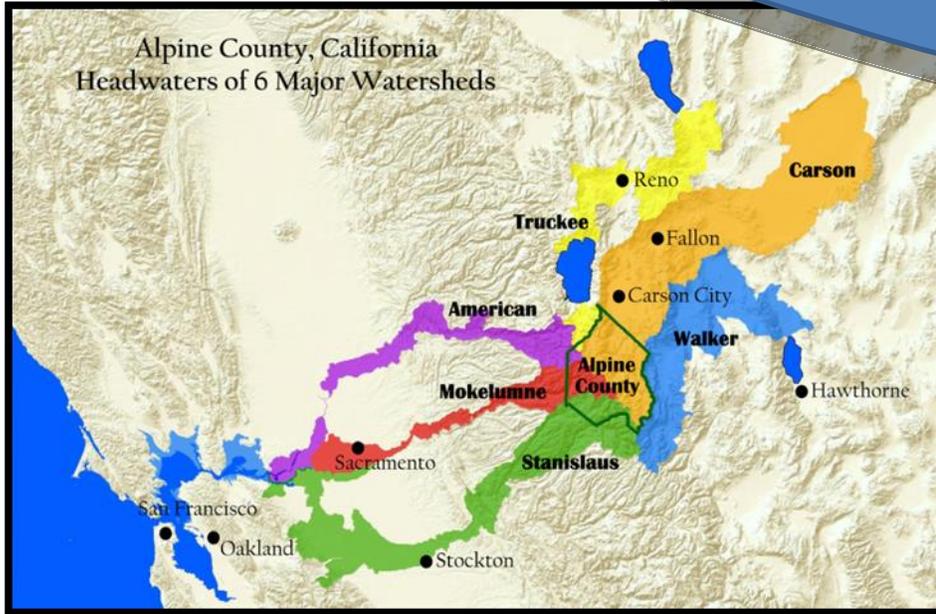




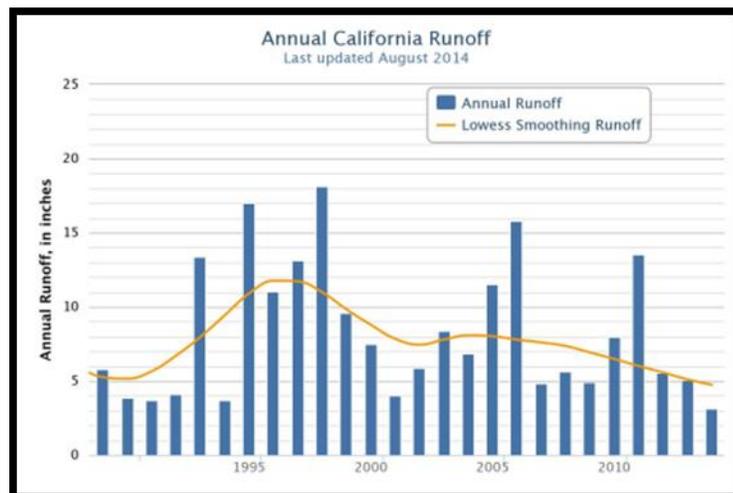
Drought Relief

through Headwaters Protection

in Alpine County



Alpine County is unique in that it encompasses the headwaters of six major watersheds: the American, Carson, Mokelumne, Stanislaus, Truckee and Walker Rivers. The long-term availability of clean water in these rivers is dependent on the health of the headwaters and streams that feed into them.



Runoff from snow and rainfall has been in decline in California for the past 18 years. It will take more than a few substantial winters to overcome the state's water deficit. The protection and restoration of the county's wetlands increase natural water storage.

Alpine County's watersheds provide water to 5.2 million users in California, supplying 146 public water systems including:

- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- City of Sacramento Department of Utilities
- City of Stockton Municipal Utility District
- South Tahoe Public Utility District

In western Nevada, Alpine County is a vital source of water providing 95% of the runoff entering the Carson Basin.

2014 was California's 3rd driest year in its 119 year history of monitoring precipitation.

Temperatures in April through September of 2014 averaged 70° F, exceeding the past record set in 2013.

58% of California is classified as being in "exceptional" drought, the worst category.

Restoring the Source

Meadows are natural reservoirs that allow for the slow release of water late into the season. Their characteristic low gradient streams, sinuous channels and abundant vegetation help retain water which is important in alleviating drought.

Meadow restoration involves rebuilding incised stream channels to raise the water table and reestablish flow through the wetland. Other techniques include stabilizing banks with native plants to limit erosion and to protect existing vegetation.



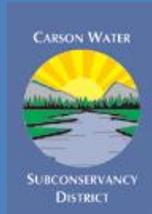
The Indian Valley Meadow Restoration Project, located in the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed, is an example of a plug and pond treatment. Notice the earthen dams have created ponds raising the water table.

Watershed Partnerships

The lasting protection of Alpine County's watersheds requires the cooperation and resolve of diverse stakeholders. The Alpine Watershed Group serves to build partnerships, while creating meaningful opportunities for communities to participate in the stewardship of their natural resources.



In Partnership With:



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Benefits of Meadow Restoration

- Maintains late season flows
- Increases groundwater storage
- Shades and cools streams
- Provides habitat for wildlife

Indian Valley Meadow Restoration:

A project of the U.S. Forest Service in partnership with American Rivers, Alpine Watershed Group, and 10 other organizations



Mission

To preserve and enhance Alpine County's watersheds for future generations

Find out how to get involved:
www.alpinewatershedgroup.org

530-694-2327