California Water Data Consortium

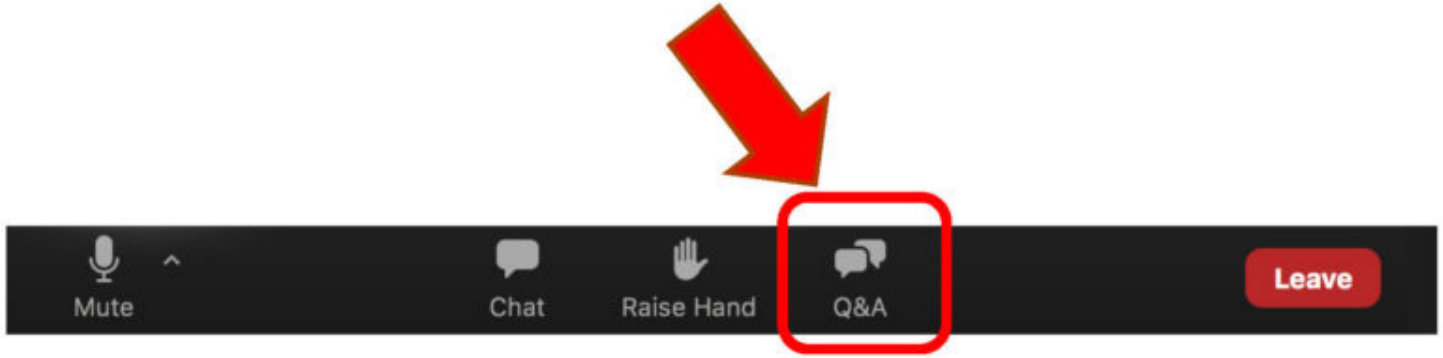
Public Town Hall

October 23, 2024



Housekeeping

- All attendees are muted.
- Submit questions via the Q&A box.
- Participate in the polling questions.
- Please complete the post-event survey.
- This session will be recorded.
- Experiencing technical difficulties? Send a chat message.



Speakers



ROBYN GRIMM

CEO & President



MARTHA DAVIS

Steering Committee
Co-Chair



DAVID ORTH

Board Chair



AMANDA MILLER

Director of
Finance & Operations



HANNAH AKE

Senior Program
Manager



SONYA MILONOVA

Senior Program
Manager



ALYSSA SENTURK

Senior Communications
& Outreach Manager

Agenda

- Opening Remarks with Steering Committee Co-Chair Martha Davis
- Introduction by Board Chair David Orth
- Welcome by CEO & President Robyn Grimm
- Program Updates by Staff
- Q&A Break
- "What's Next" Discussion
- Q&A



California Water Data Consortium

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

An independent nonprofit formed in 2019 by state agencies and other partners.

Our Mission

To empower cross-sector collaboration, partnership with the state, and innovation to ensure that state and local agencies, tribes, nongovernmental organizations, researchers, and the public can readily access and use high-quality data necessary to sustainably manage water for the benefit of all Californians.

Overarching Goal

To support implementation of the Open and Transparent Water Data Act (AB 1755) by serving as a credible, trusted leader and convener in open water data access and use in California.

Board of Directors



David Orth
Board Member & Chair



Meredith Lee
Board Member & Vice Chair



Joone Lopez
Board Member & Treasurer



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Board Member



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Adrian Covert
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Kristine Johnson
Board Member



Mitra Novin Rogers
Board Member



Deven Upadhyay
Board Member

Steering Committee & Working Groups



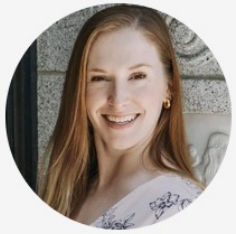
Newsha K. Ajami
Chief Strategic Development Officer for Research in the Earth & Environmental Sciences
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab



Mike Antos
Senior Integrated Water Management Specialist
Stantec Consulting



Drew Atwater
Deputy General Manager
Moulton Niguel Water District



Katie Regan
State Data Services Manager
California Department of Technology



Martha Davis
Retired Assistant General Manager/Executive Manager for Policy Development
Inland Empire Utilities Agency



Greg Gearheart
Deputy Director
California State Water Resources Control Board



David Harris
Enterprise Chief Data Officer
California Natural Resources Agency



Mahesh Gautam
Senior Water Resources Engineer
CA Department of Water Resources



Nick Martorano
Director
California Water Quality Monitoring Council



Christina McCready
Lead, AB 1755 Partner Agency Team
California Department of Water Resources

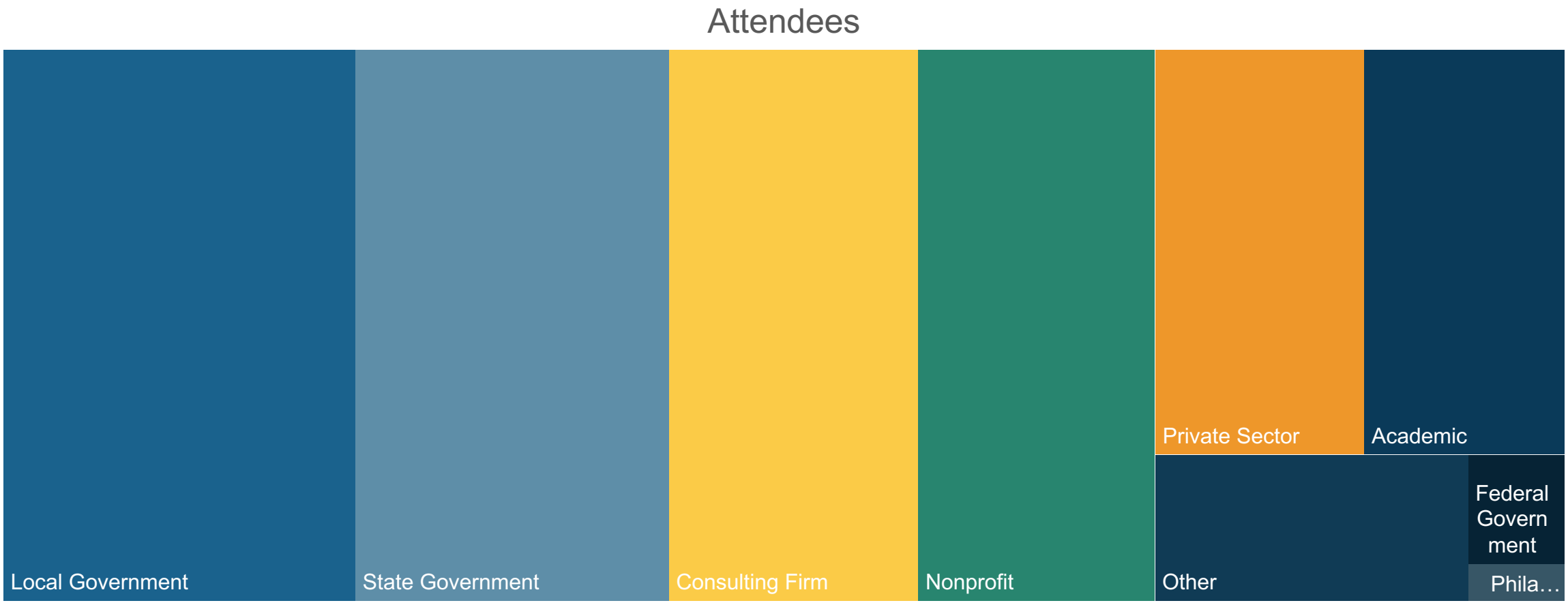


Eddie Ocampo
Program Director of the Community Sustainability
Self Help Enterprises



Rafael Maestu
Economist and Chief Data Scientist - CA State Water Resources Control Board

Who’s in the room today?



We've all engaged with different aspects of the Data Life Cycle

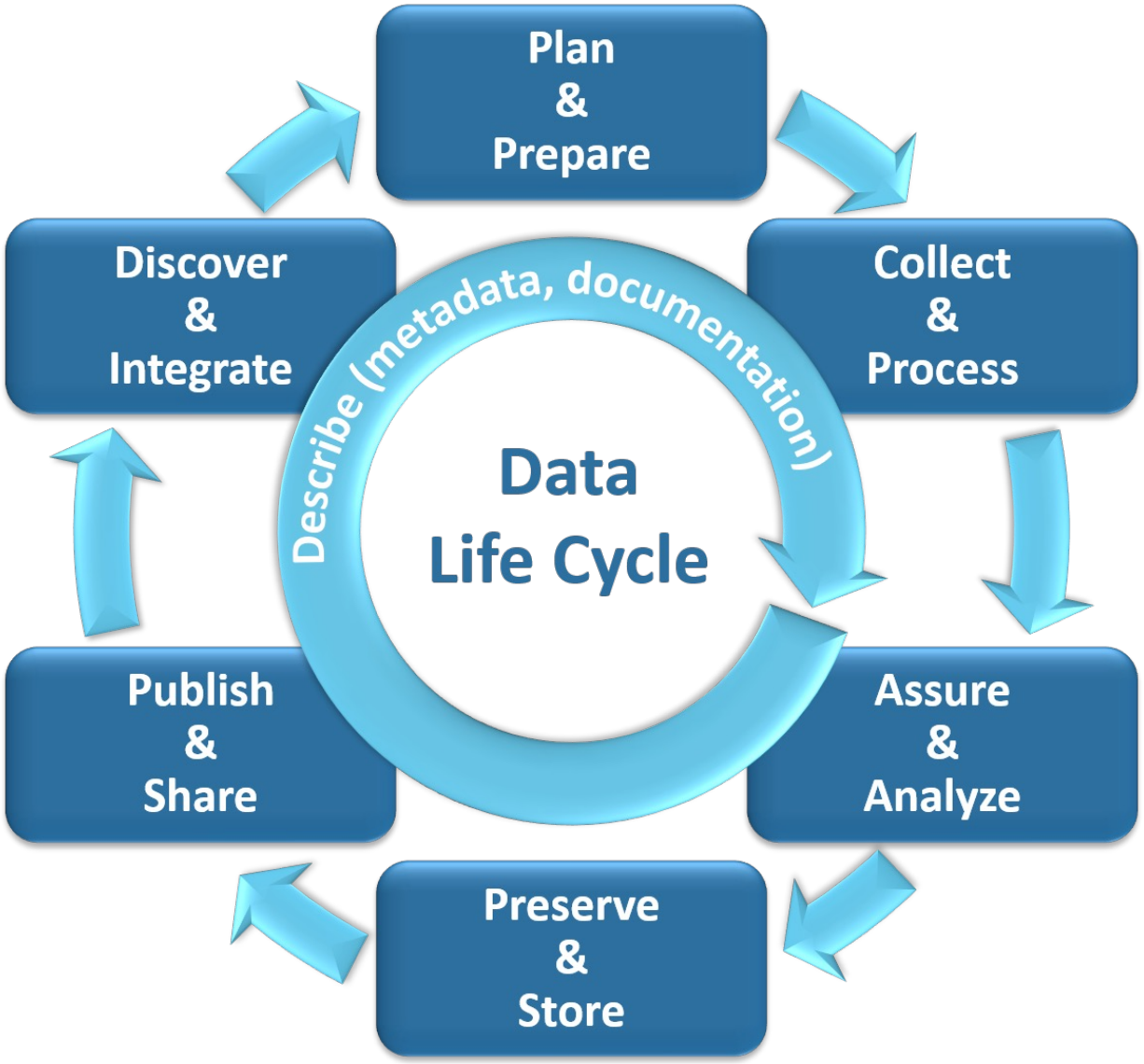


Image Credit: SWRCB

We've all engaged with different aspects of the Data Life Cycle

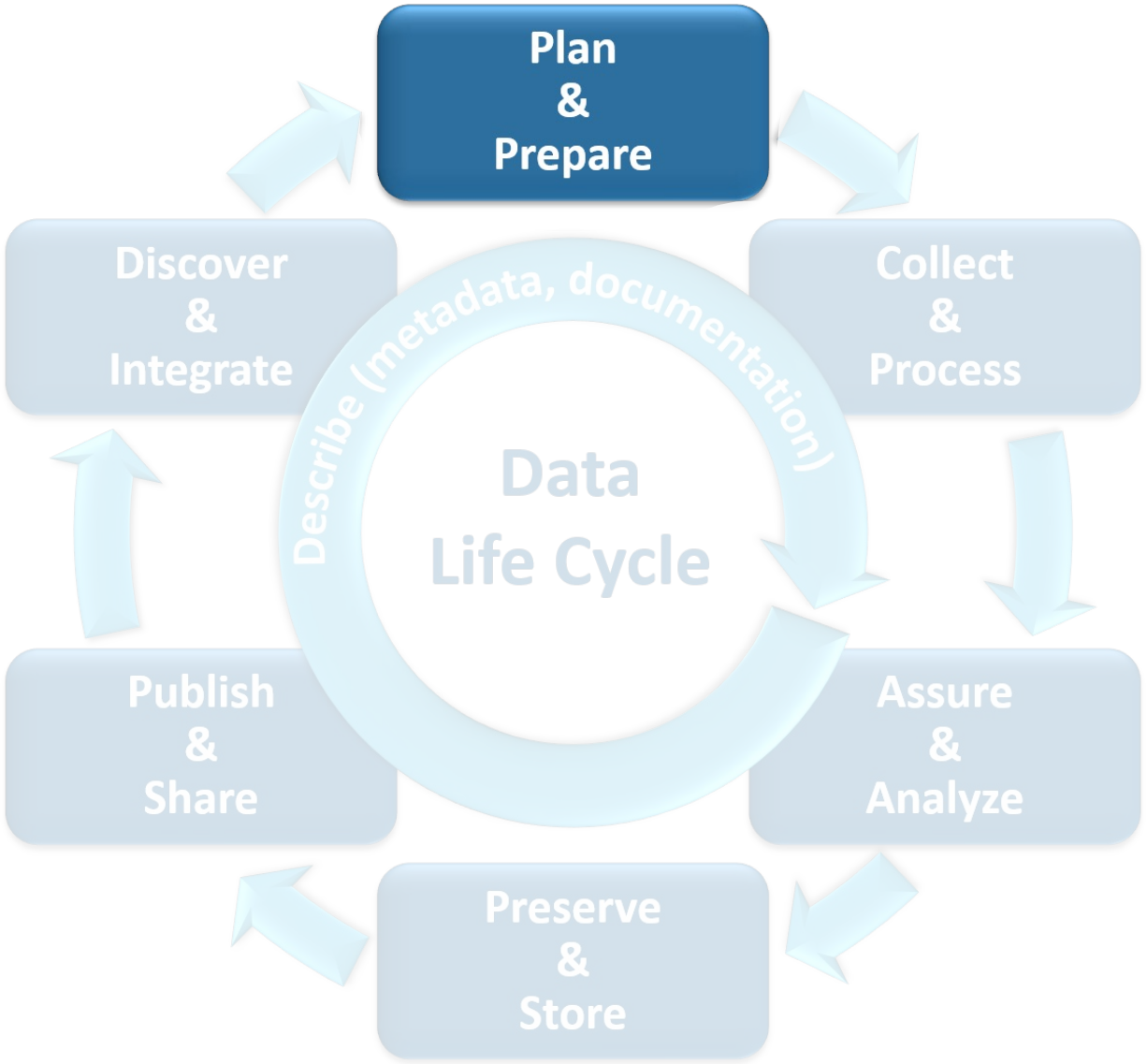


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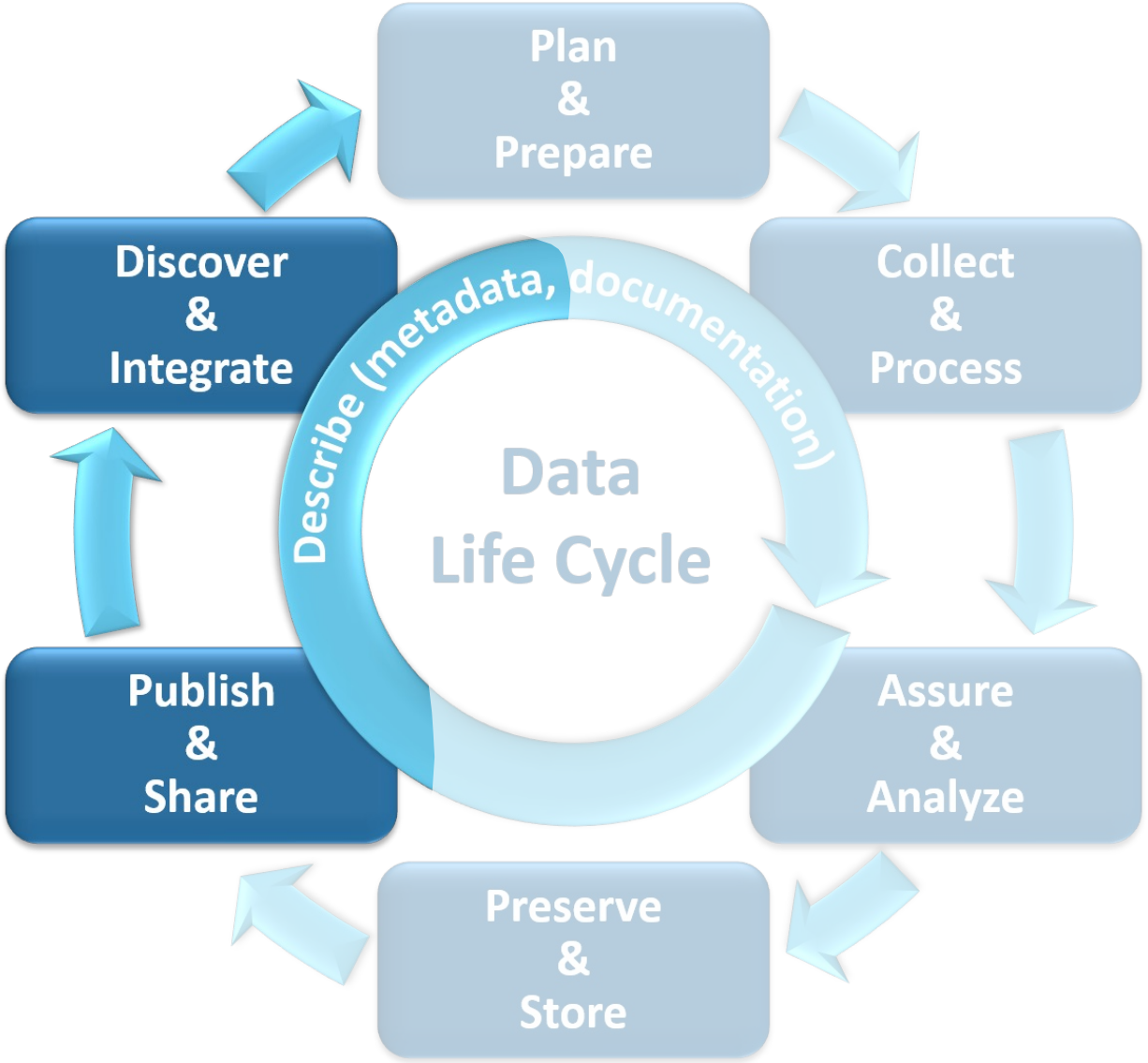


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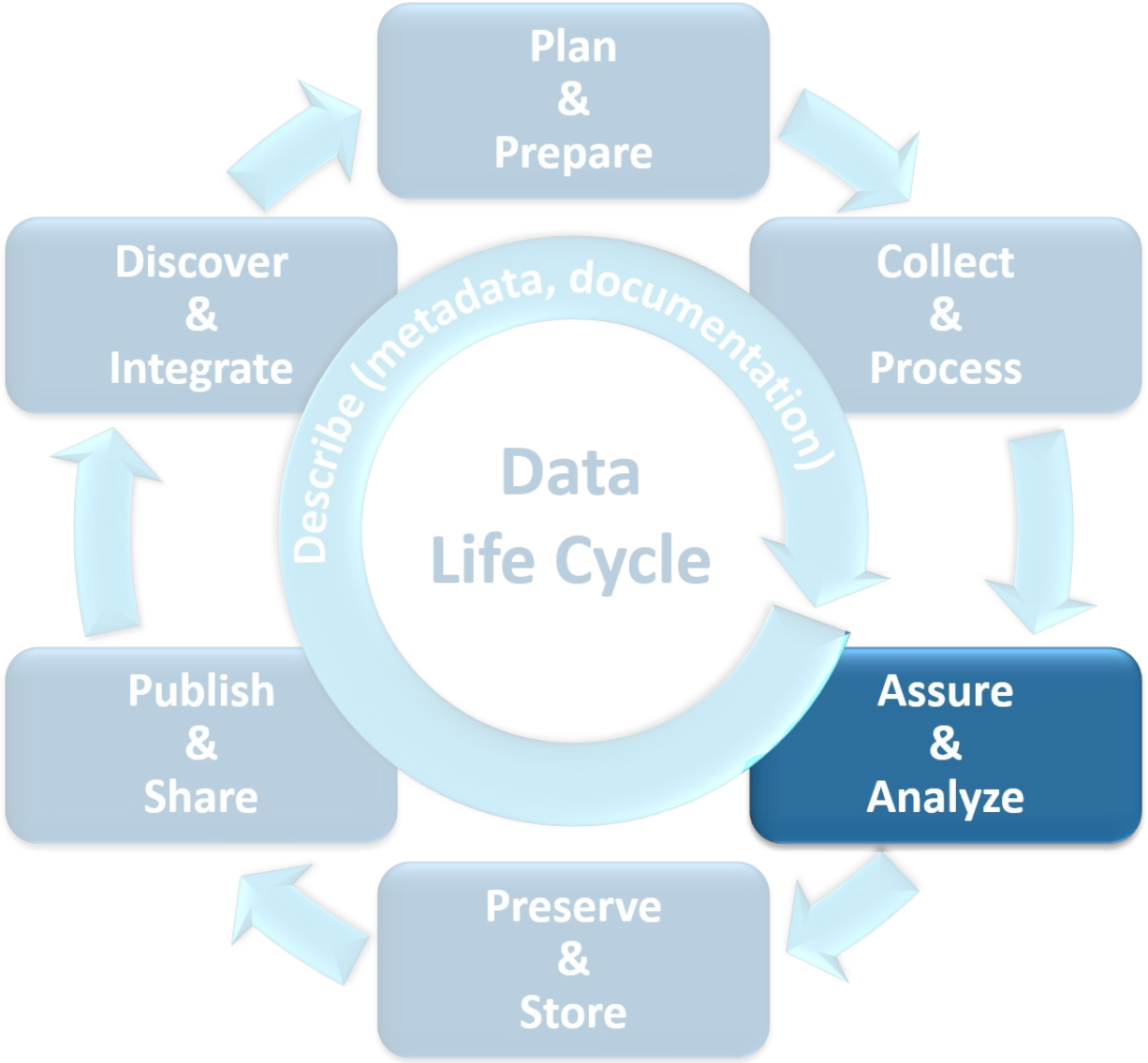


Image Credit: SWRCB

Investment and Modernization is Needed Across the Whole System

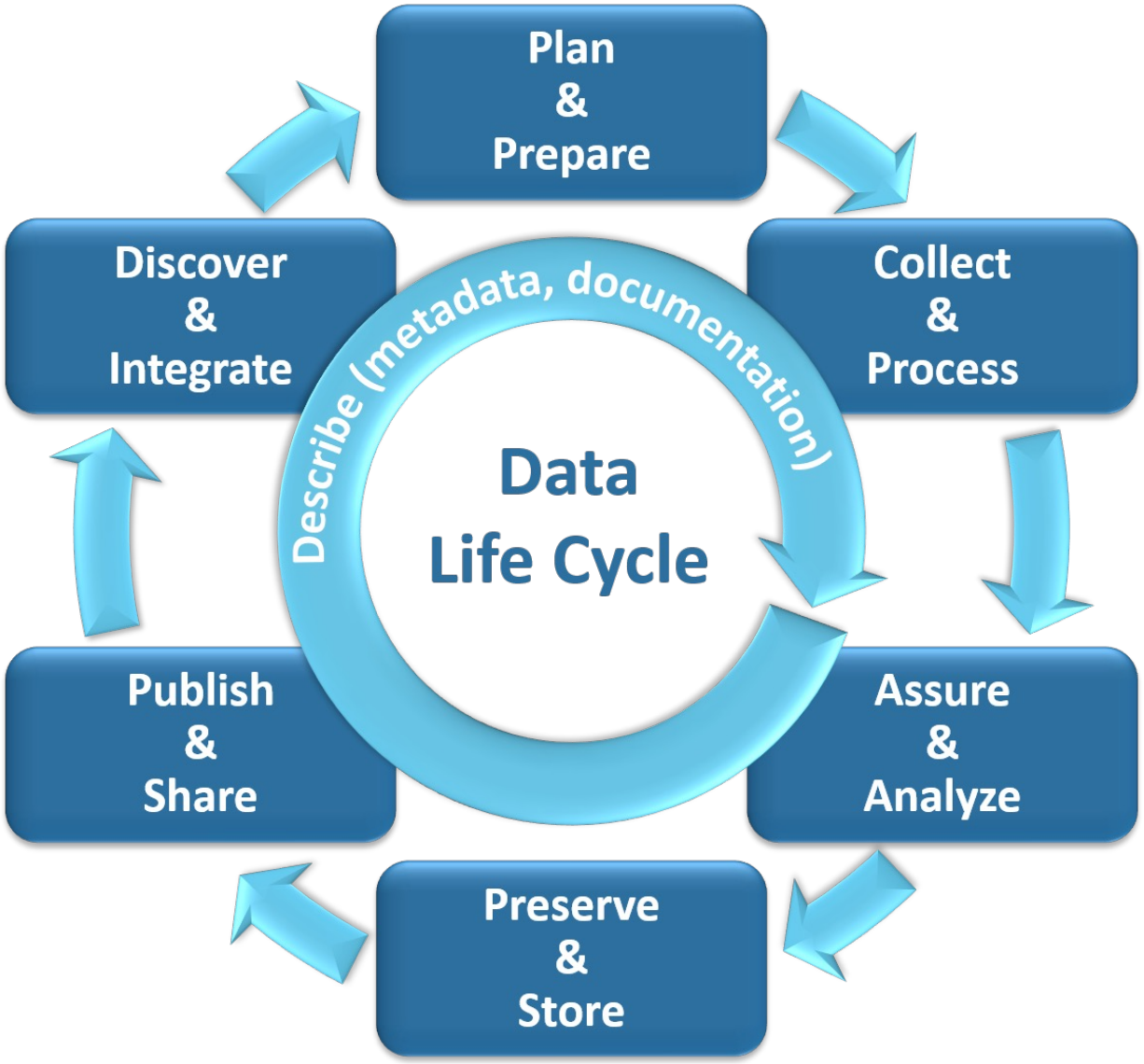


Image Credit: SWRCB

Our Work

- Groundwater Accounting Platform & Data Standards
- Urban Water Reporting Project
- Telemetered Water Monitoring Project
- Advancing Open Data and Data Governance
- LiDAR Working Group
- Data for Lunch and Other Events

What aspects of the Consortium’s work are you most familiar with?

What about our work would you like to learn more about?

Program Updates by Staff

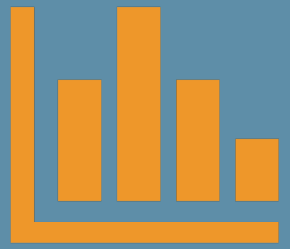


California Water Data Consortium

Groundwater Projects

Hannah Ake

Groundwater Project Objectives



Scaling the open-source Groundwater Accounting Platform



Co-developing common groundwater data reporting formats

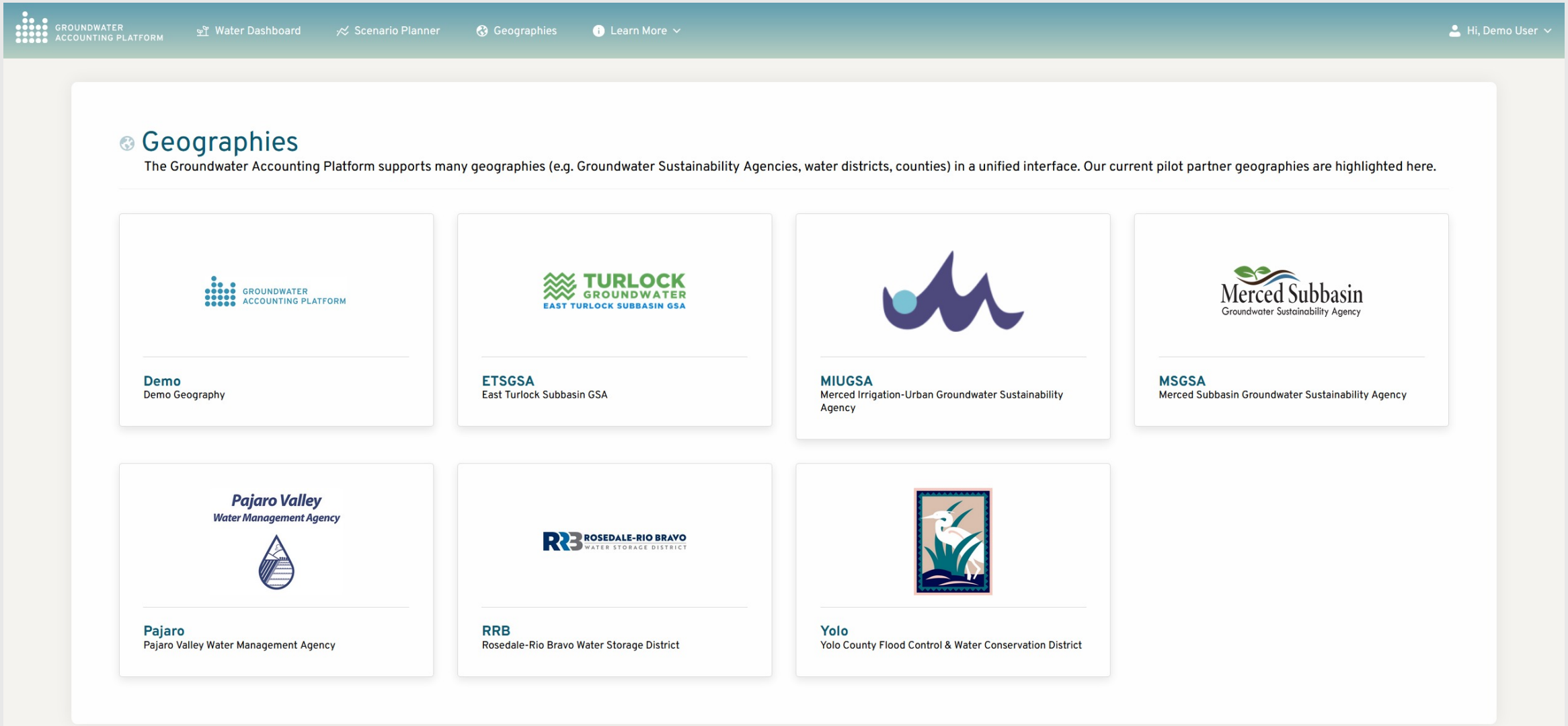


Groundwater Accounting Platform

Project Vision

The **Groundwater Accounting Platform** is an accessible open-source water accounting platform that integrates data from a variety of sources and effectively communicates this information to support local, regional, and state water management decisions.

Growing the User Community



Platform Launch and Public Workshops

GROUNDWATER ACCOUNTING PLATFORM WORKSHOP

JOIN US FOR THE PLATFORM LAUNCH!

The Merced Subbasin GSA (MSGSA) invites you to the launch of our new Groundwater Accounting Platform. This platform is a critical component of the Allocation Rule, aimed at sustainably managing groundwater resources in the Merced Subbasin.

The platform enables users to monitor their water use through evapotranspiration data from OpenET. Landowners will receive one or more letters in the mail a few days before the workshop. These letters contain a Water Account PIN number, which is essential for claiming your water accounts on the platform.

Mailing addresses are based on the latest county tax assessor records. If you do not receive a letter, GSA staff will be available at the workshop to assist you in claiming your accounts.



WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE WORKSHOP:

- Introduction and demonstration of core functions of the Platform
- Hands-on support where participants can set up their accounts in person

PLEASE BRING A LAPTOP OR TABLET TO SET UP ACCOUNT IN PERSON AND BRING ANY MSGSA LETTERS WITH PINS YOU HAVE RECEIVED



WORKSHOP DETAILS

26 JUNE 2024

AT THE FARM BUREAU AT 9:00 AM,
646 HWY 59, MERCED

Merced Subbasin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Groundwater Accounting Platform Launch Public Workshop

East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

The East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency is dedicated to the sustainable management of groundwater resources in the East Turlock Subbasin.

Our goal is to ensure the long-term availability of groundwater for our community. To learn more about our mission and initiatives, visit ETSGSA Overview. https://turlockgroundwater.org/who

Join Us for the Groundwater Accounting Platform Launch!

The East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETSGSA) invites you to the launch of our new Groundwater Accounting Platform. This platform is a critical part of our developing Pumping Management Program, aimed at sustainably managing groundwater resources in the East Turlock Subbasin.

The platform enables users to monitor their water use through evapotranspiration data from Land IQ. It is a powerful tool used across California to track groundwater use, aiding water managers, landowners, and users in effectively managing water availability. For more details, visit: https://groundwateraccounting.org/.

When? Tuesday, June 25th, 2024
10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Where? Turlock Community Library
550 Minaret Avenue, Turlock, CA 95380

Online Join us virtually via Zoom.
The session will also be recorded for later viewing.

Important Postcard Information

What to Please bring a laptop or tablet to participate in the group activity.

Groundwater Data Reporting Formats



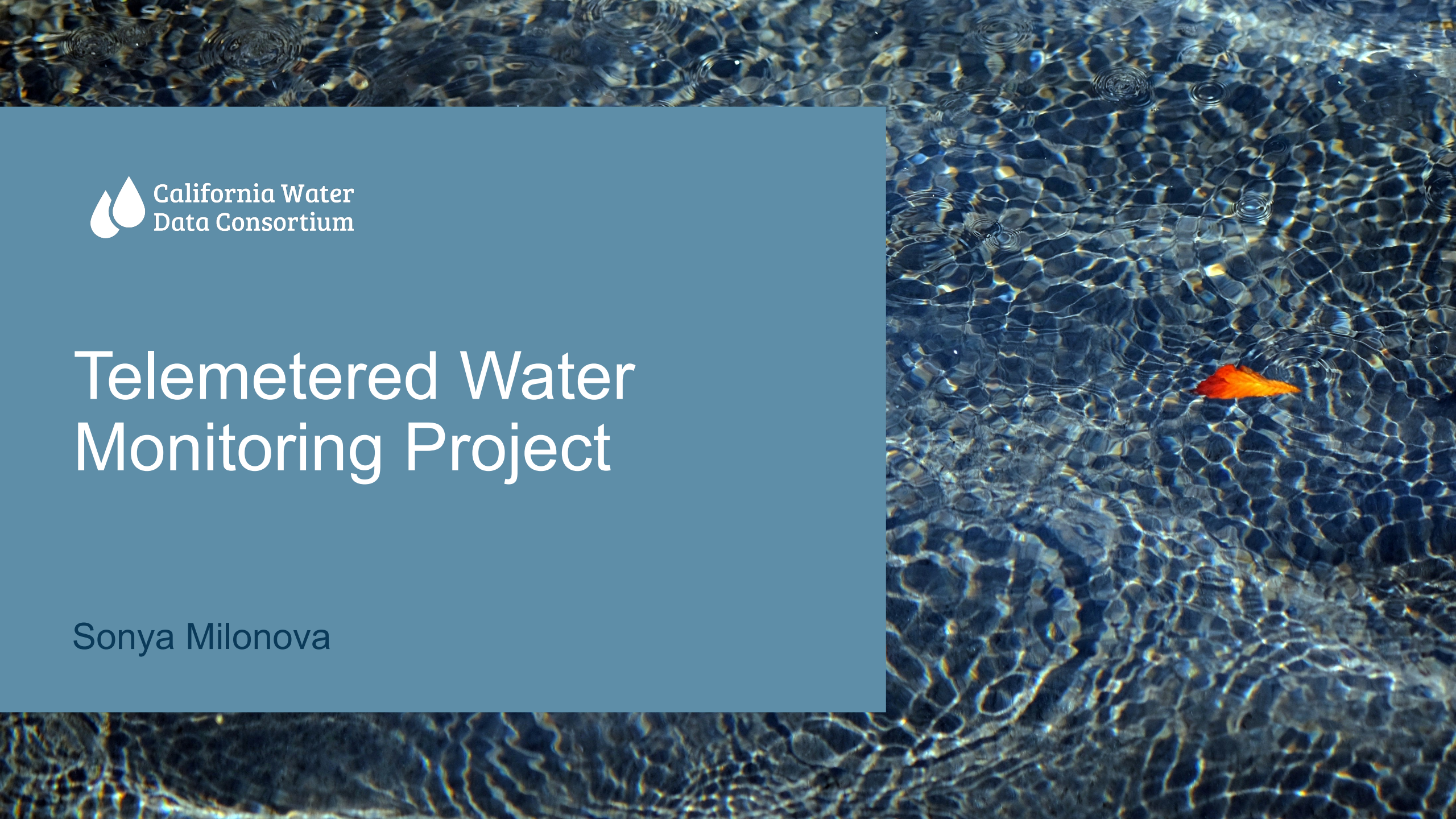
Support state-level data integration by recommending groundwater reporting formats



Identify data needs/gaps to support Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and Open & Transparent Water Data Act



Develop and implement a communications plan to share lessons learned



California Water Data Consortium

Telemetered Water Monitoring Project

Sonya Milonova

Updating Water Rights Data (UPWARD) Project

eWRIMS

Electronic Water Rights Information Management System

- Contains water rights, licenses, registrations and revocations.
- **Unstandardized and unconsolidated data delays management actions**

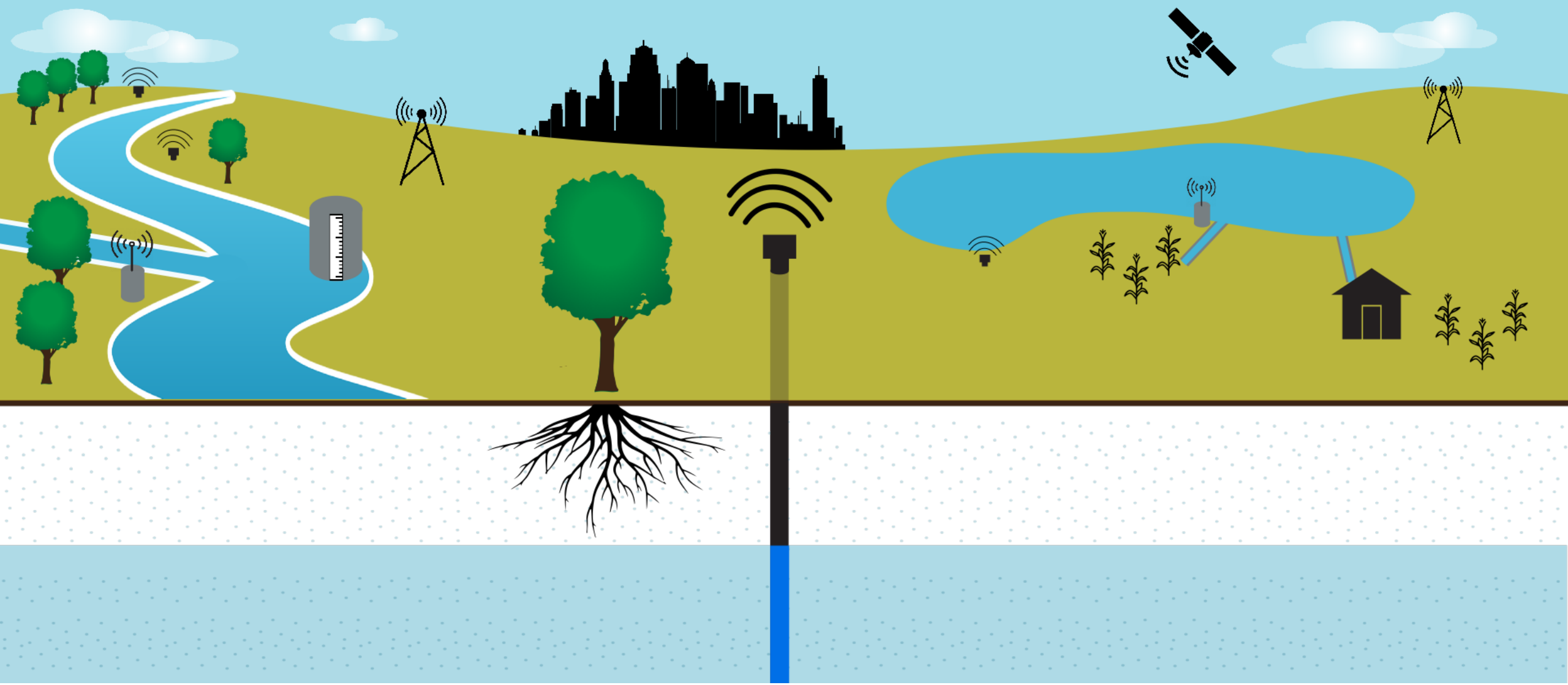


CALIFORNIA
Water Boards
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

CalWATRS

California Water Accounting, Tracking, and Reporting System

- Contains **real-time data** on streamflow, water usage, diversions, storage, rights, and fees.
- **Data is automatically measured & transmitted**



What is Telemetry?

Project Overview

UPWARD CALIFORNIA

Telemetry Research Unit

1. Study water monitoring and data reporting.

2. Conduct a telemetry Pilot Project in a California watershed.

3. Make recommendations to simplify reporting, improve data quality, and reduce staff time.

Telemetered Water Monitoring Project

1. Collect lessons learned and best management practices for telemetered water monitoring networks.

2. Work with interested parties to develop recommendations for the Pilot Project that are responsive to local needs and priorities.

3. Work with a technical advisory committee to develop recommendations for successful California-wide telemetry.

Best Practices for Telemetered Water Monitoring



Build trust in network equipment and technology

- Pay more for reliability and long-term cost savings.
- Engage qualified professionals.
- “Double up” to test emerging technology.



Avoid overly prescriptive approaches

- Tailor equipment to each site.
- Avoid proprietary technology.
- Tailor data management to the needs of users.



Prioritize project and data governance

- Address privacy and security concerns.
- Adopt a transparent governance structure.

Telemetry Pilot Project

- Existence of willing partners.
- Existing data networks.
- Sufficient hydrologic complexity.
- Alignment with other state policies and plans.



Recommendations for Pilot Telemetry Project

- Leverage the Pilot Project network design to support State reporting and compliance requirements for local entities.
- Explore non-contact methods for flow and diversion measurement.
- Experiment with a wide range of monitoring network componentry, methods, and technologies.
- Leverage existing environmental permitting and expertise in environmentally sensitive areas.
- Build a data management system to ingest data from various sources, automate error detection, and prioritize data privacy and security.
- Investigate options for long-term sustainability of the telemetry network.

Opportunities to Engage



Stay Informed and Provide Feedback



Participate in the Russian River Pilot Project



Engage with the Statewide Technical Advisory Committee

Other Projects and Work Groups

The Consortium runs several other projects and working groups:

- Continued Advancement of Open Data Project
- LiDAR Working Group
- Urban Water Data Reporting Project

The Consortium hosts working groups to provide a forum for cross-sector collaboration to advance solutions to specific and timely water data challenges.



California Water Data Consortium

Communications & Outreach

Alyssa Senturk

Outreach Overview: Who do we work with?

- Water managers
- Local agencies
- State agencies
- Policymakers
- Landowners and growers
- Philanthropic funders
- Advocacy groups
- Academic and research groups
- Community-based organizations and NGOs





Communications Initiatives

Data for Lunch

A free series connecting water professionals, researchers, and policymakers to explore emerging datasets, technologies, and governance innovations shaping California's water management.

The Data Current

Insights, news, and opportunities in open water data in your inbox every season.

Impact Narratives

We’re focusing on telling compelling stories that highlight the human impact of our work.

Do you have a story about the impact of water data? Let us know!







Unlocking Future Potential

- Expand our reach through more targeted and strategic communications
- Tell more impactful stories that demonstrate the value of our work
- Enhance our role as a thought leader in water data
- Equip our partners and communities with the tools they need to amplify our message

Q&A Break

Please submit your questions via the Q&A box.

“What’s Next” Discussion

California Water Data Consortium

The Data Life Cycle

Opportunities for Improvement Across All Stages

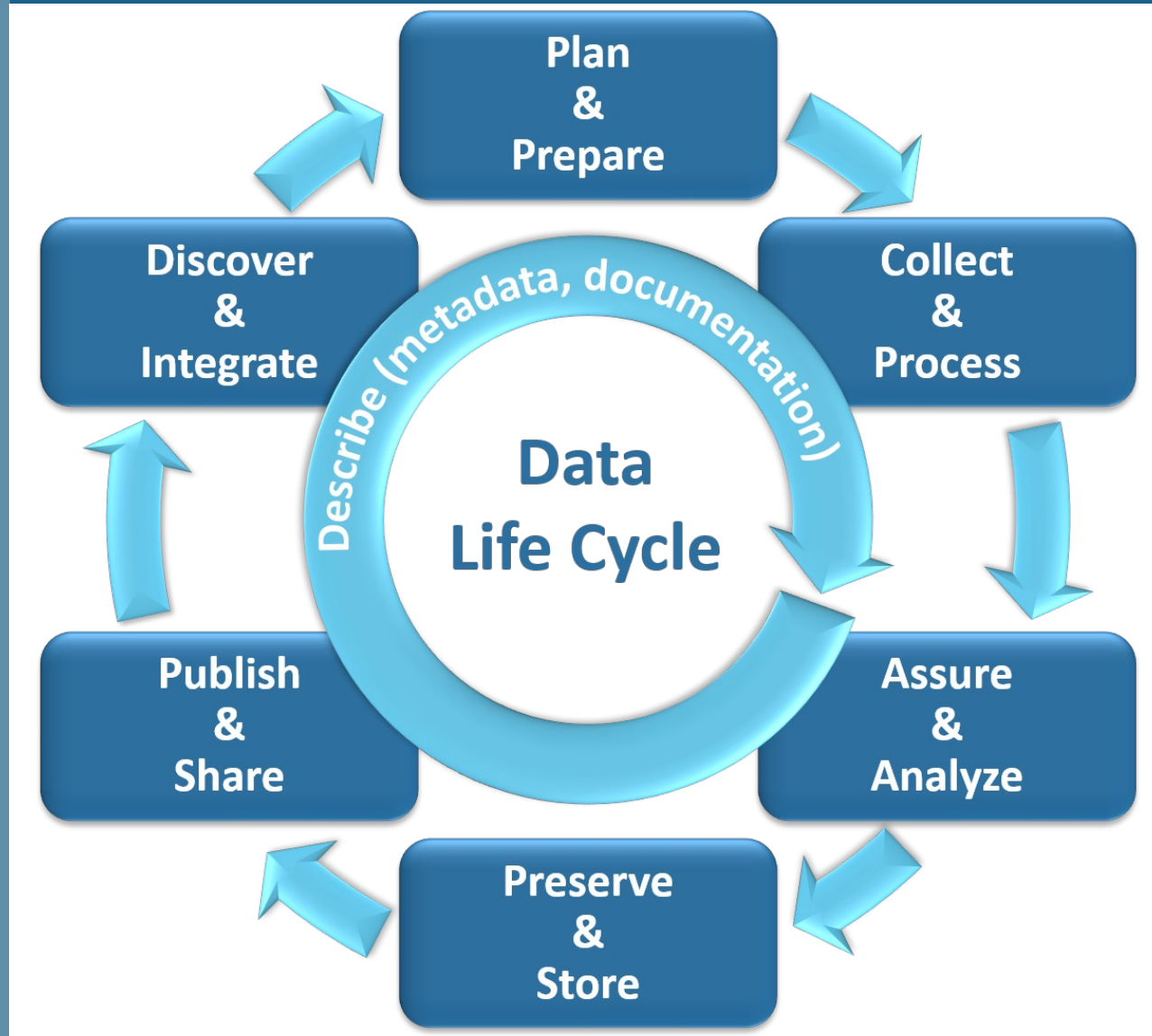


Image Credit: SWRCB

Plan and Prepare

Continue to Build Partnerships and Convene Stakeholders to ensure collaboration and alignment on data goals.



Plan and Prepare

Continue to Build Partnerships and Convene Stakeholders to ensure collaboration and alignment on data goals.

Expand our Work to Clarify Governance Structures and Make Policy Recommendations so the roles, responsibilities, and rules for managing and stewarding data within and across State agencies are clearly defined and funded.

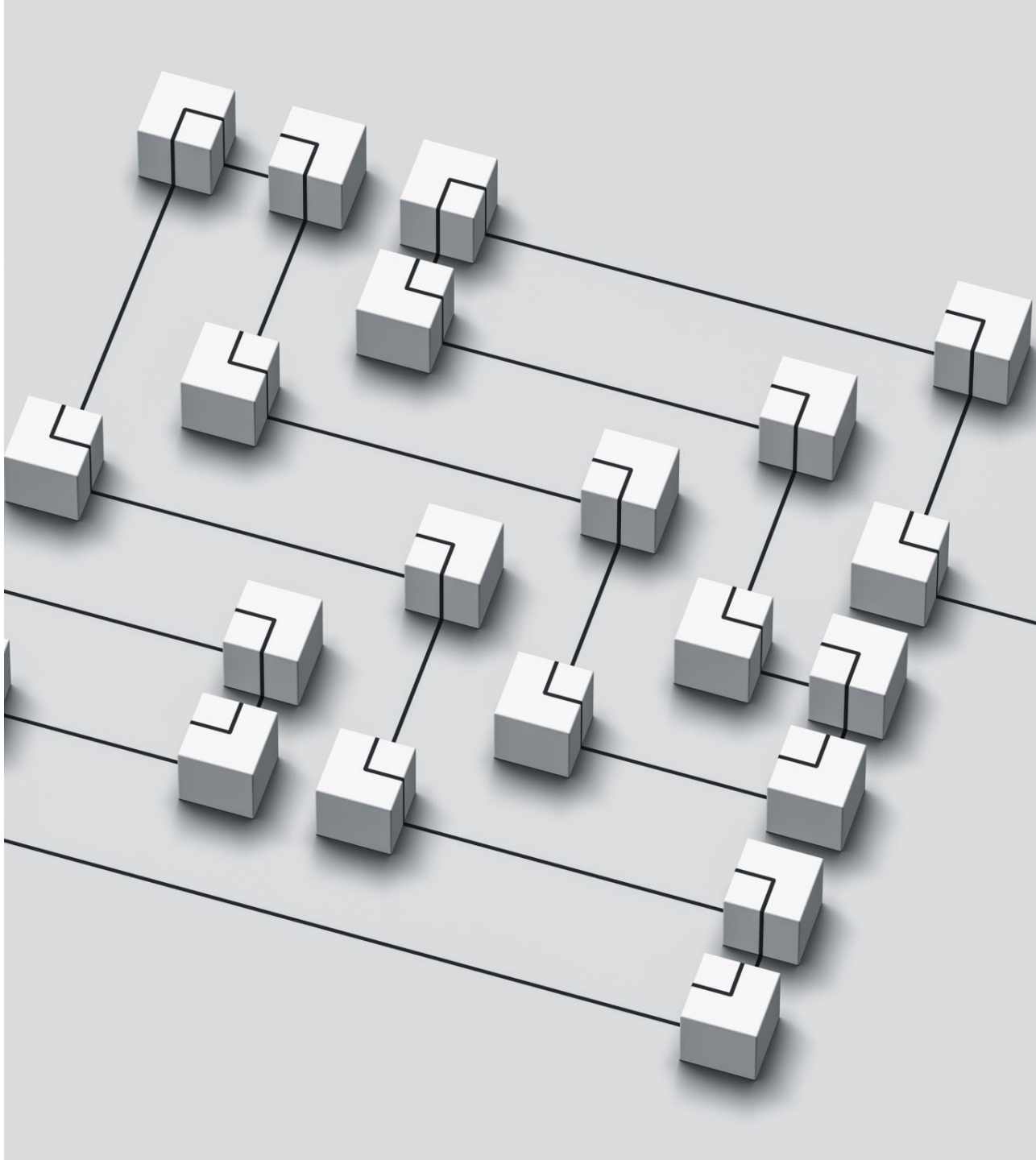
Develop and Implement Training and Capacity-Building Programs to build capacity for data management and stewardship.



Collect and Process

Continue Successful Pilot Projects and Programmatic Solutions, like the Telemetered Water Monitoring project, to help modernize data collection and processing across regions.

Continue working towards the streamlining of reporting requirements across the State.

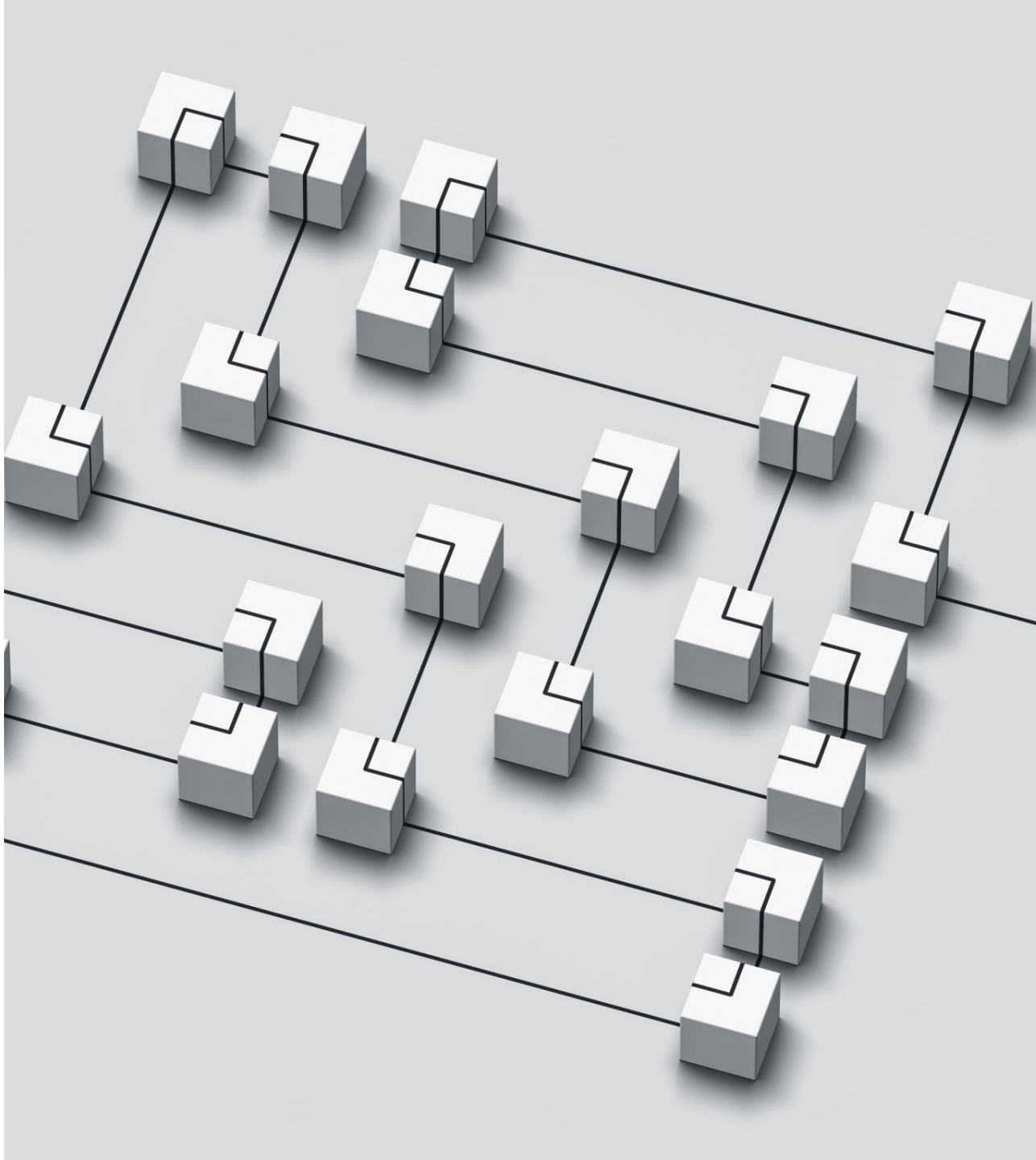


Collect and Process

Continue Successful Pilot Projects and Programmatic Solutions, like the Telemetered Water Monitoring project, to help modernize data collection and processing across regions.

Continue working towards the streamlining of reporting requirements across the State.

Expand Stakeholder Engagement, Especially with Local Agencies to ensure more comprehensive & consistent data collection and build trust.



Assure and Analyze

Continue Supporting Open Data and Transparency Initiatives that open the lines of communication between data users and providers, and with the scientific community.



Assure and Analyze

Continue Supporting Open Data and Transparency Initiatives that open the lines of communication between data users and providers, and with the scientific community.

Expand Efforts to Recommend and Advance Data Standards and Protocols to ensure that data is QA/QC-ed and published in a consistent, high-quality manner

Assess the viability / reliability of remote and AI-generated data to supplement on-ground water use and/or streamflow data networks



Preserve, Store, Publish and Share

Continue Advocating for Data Infrastructure to ensure data can be more effectively documented, stored and preserved for future use



Preserve, Store, Publish and Share

Continue Advocating for Data Infrastructure to ensure data can be more effectively documented, stored and preserved for future use

Support Broader Efforts on Cross-Agency Data Stewardship and Interoperability to support consistent documentation, seamless storage, preservation, and user accessibility of data across various systems



Discover and Integrate

Continue developing and demonstrating the high return on investment for data with projects like the Groundwater Accounting Platform and outreach efforts like our Data for Lunch series.



Discover and Integrate

Continue developing and demonstrating the high return on investment for data with projects like the Groundwater Accounting Platform and outreach efforts like our Data for Lunch series.

Invest more in storytelling and public outreach events that make data needs more understandable and compelling.

Identify and work on efforts to fill gaps in data availability, accessibility and use, especially for critical applications like more holistic water accounting.



Priority Outcomes for Our Work

- Improved data governance, including updated standards and protocols
- More efficient data publication, with improved accessibility and usability of data
- Increased trust and collaboration between data providers, collectors and decision-makers
- Streamlined reporting requirements
- Broader public awareness of the value of water data investments
- More equitable access to and greater benefits from existing data
- Filling critical data gaps

Continuing the Conversation & Evolving our Strategy

Current Goals:

Goal 1 – Advance collaborative solutions to California's most critical water data challenges

Goal 2 – Engage a diversity of interested parties in our work, emphasizing traditionally underrepresented voices

Goal 3 – Communicate the value of open water data in California

Goal 4 – Continue to build the Consortium's organizational structure



What are the highest priorities for achieving more data-driven water management in California?

How can the Consortium better support your work or organization?

Q&A

Please submit your questions via the Q&A box.

How would you prefer to stay informed about the Consortium's activities and updates?

Thank You & Please Stay Connected

cawaterdata.org

info@cawaterdata.org

california-water-data-consortium

CAWaterData

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California Water Data Consortium