An aerial photograph of a river winding through a dense, green forest. The river is surrounded by lush vegetation and trees. In the distance, a small white boat is visible on the water. The background shows rolling hills and mountains under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

LOCAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND WATERSHED MONITORING IN THE NORTHERN SACRAMENTO RIVER BASIN

**Dennis Heiman
CA RWQCB, Central Valley**

WHY DO YOU NEED A WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM?

- **establish existing (or baseline) watershed condition**
- **determine if conditions (or parameters) are at 'problem' levels**
- **provide focus to the watershed management program**

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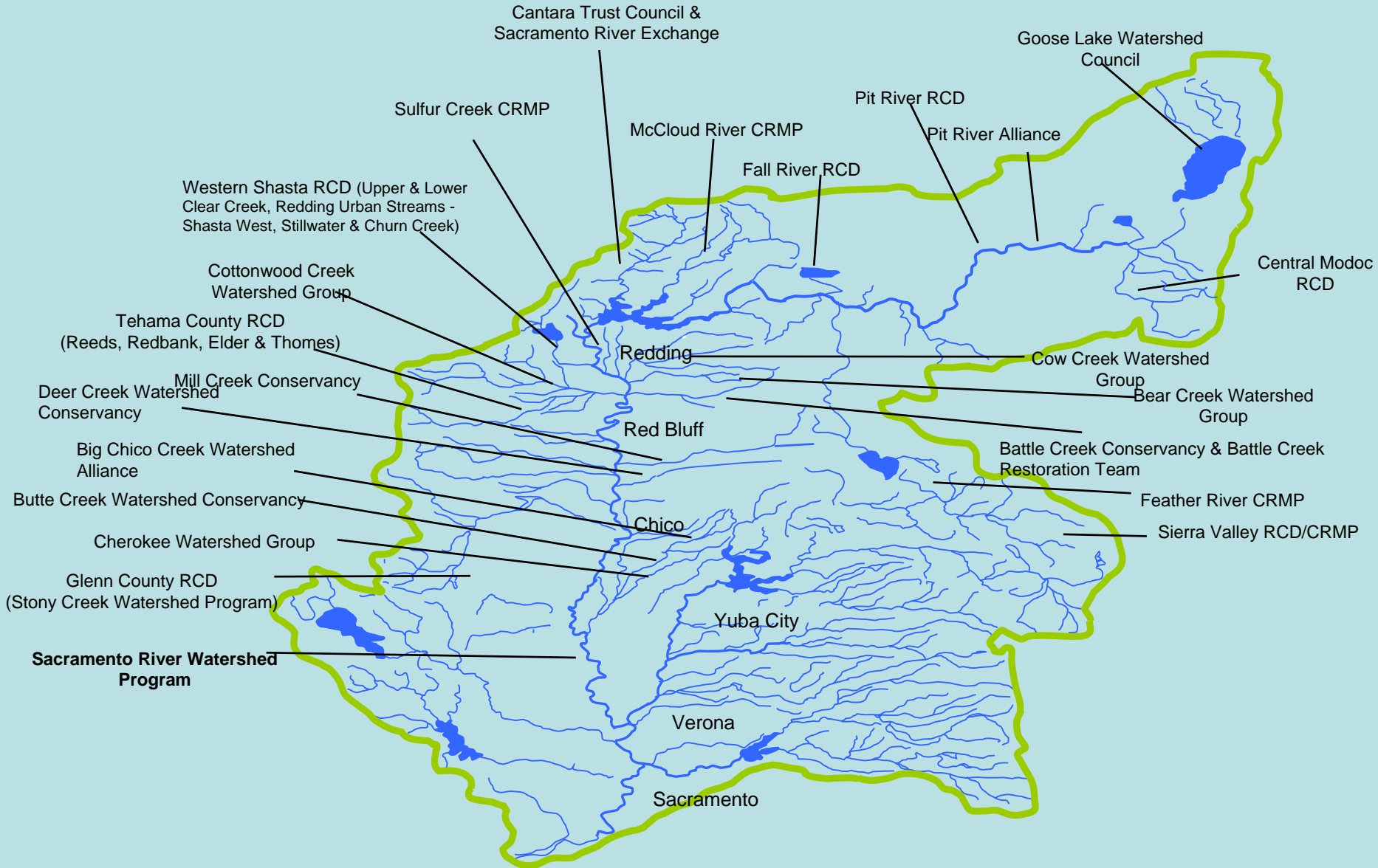
- **involve and educate the watershed community (includes agencies)**
- **evaluate long term trends**
- **validate improvements resulting from projects, better practices, and education**

CONSIDERATIONS IN ESTABLISHING A WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM

- focus on the issues and parameters of concern
- involve an interdisciplinary TAC
- select parameters that are information rich, feasible to measure, and repeatable

- **consider all options for implementation (volunteers, watershed program staff, resource agencies/academia, contract consultants)**
- **design and implement monitoring program consistent with available funding**

Watershed Groups and Programs in the Upper Sacramento River Watershed



UPPER FEATHER RIVER WATERSHED MONITORING

- implementing entity – Feather River CRM and Plumas Corporation
- underway since 1999
- 26 fixed monitoring stations
- monitoring parameters (next slide)
- Reports: Feather River CRM Watershed Monitoring Report 2000-2003 (www.feather-river-crm.org)

MONITORING PARAMETERS:

- Flow
 - Geomorphology and Habitat
 - bank full W/D
 - entrenchment
 - % fines and particle size dist.
 - pool/riffle ratio
 - Water Quality
 - temperature
 - turbidity/SS
 - limited chemistry – nutrients, bacteria, metals, etc.
 - Biological
 - macro invertebrates & fish
- 
- A photograph of a river with eroded banks and a forested background. The river is in the center, with dark water and some white foam. The banks are made of dark brown soil, showing signs of erosion. In the background, there is a dense forest of tall evergreen trees. The foreground is a grassy area with some rocks and small plants.

Upper Feather River Watershed Monitoring Locations



1. Goodrich Cr
2. Butt Cr
3. NFFR abv Lake Almanor
4. Last Chance Cr @ Doyle Crossing (CRS)
5. Last Chance Cr blw Murdock Crossing
6. Red Clover Cr blw Chase Bridge
7. Red Clover Cr at Notson Bridge (CRS)
8. Red Clover Cr blw Drum Bridge
9. Indian Cr abv Red Clover (DWR weir)
10. Indian Cr blw Red Clover (Flournoy)
11. Indian Cr at Taylorsville
12. Lights Cr
13. Wolf Cr near Town Park

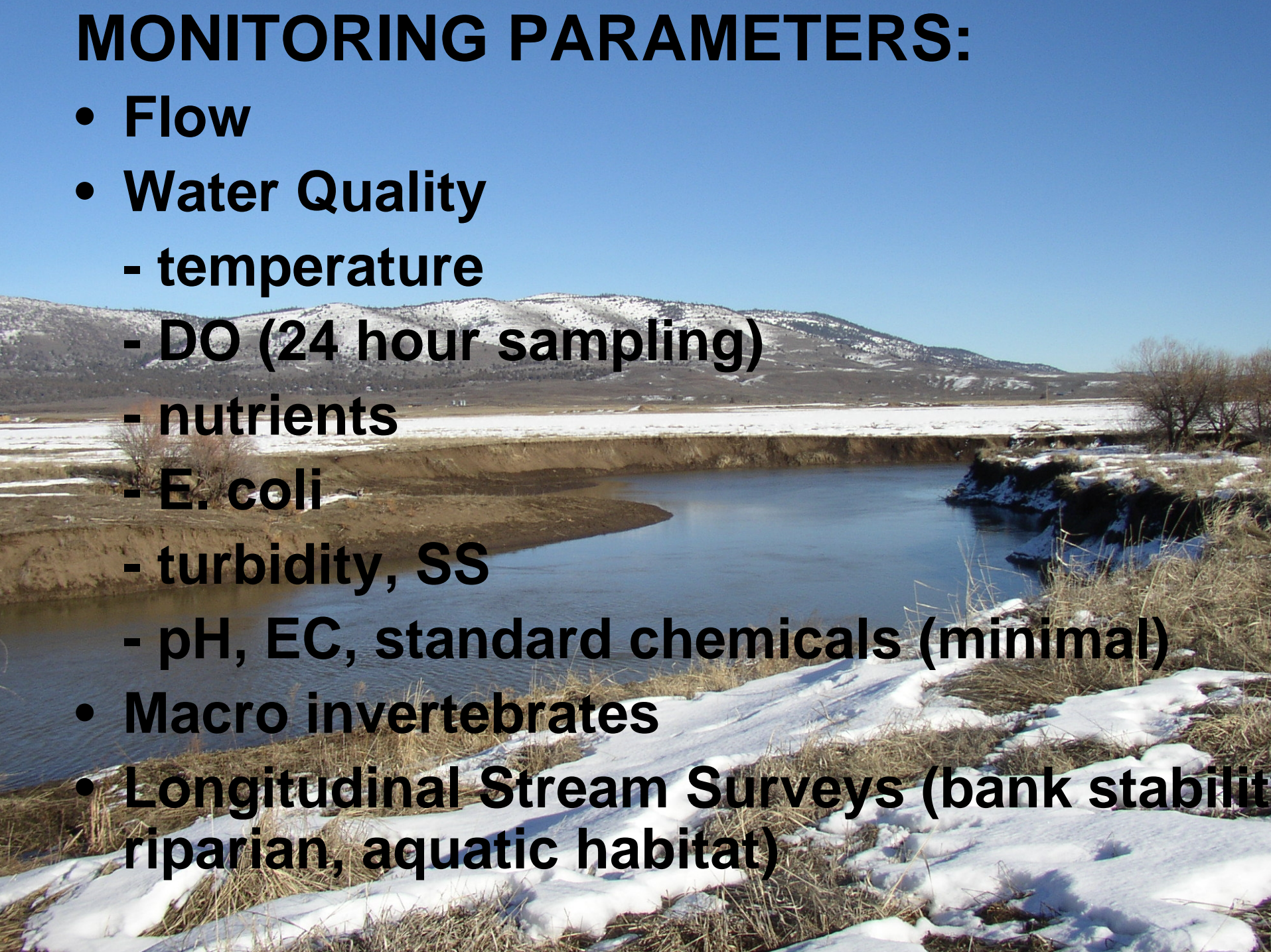
14. Indian Cr abv Spanish Cr
15. Rock Cr
16. Spanish Cr at Hwy 70 (Gansner Park)
17. Spanish Cr abv Greenhorn
18. Greenhorn Cr
19. Spanish Cr abv Indian
20. East Branch North Fork Feather abv NFFR
21. Middle Fork Feather @ Beckwourth
22. Sulphur Cr
23. Jamison Cr
24. Middle Fork Feather abv Nelson Cr
25. North Fork Feather
26. Wolf Cr @ Main St Bridge

PIT RIVER WATERSHED

MONITORING PROGRAM:

- implementing entity – Pit River Alliance (4 RCD's, USFS, BLM, RWQCB, DWR)
- underway since 2000
- 52 fixed monitoring sites
- monitoring parameters (next slide)
- Pit River Water Quality Study 2001-2002 (www.pitalliance.com)

MONITORING PARAMETERS:

- Flow
 - Water Quality
 - temperature
 - DO (24 hour sampling)
 - nutrients
 - E. coli
 - turbidity, SS
 - pH, EC, standard chemicals (minimal)
 - Macro invertebrates
 - Longitudinal Stream Surveys (bank stability, riparian, aquatic habitat)
- 
- A photograph of a stream in a winter landscape. The stream flows from the background towards the foreground, curving to the right. The banks are covered in snow and dry grass. In the background, there are snow-dusted mountains under a clear blue sky.

Water Quality Monitoring Sites

