



Sustainable Conservation

# Accelerating Restoration in a Changing Climate

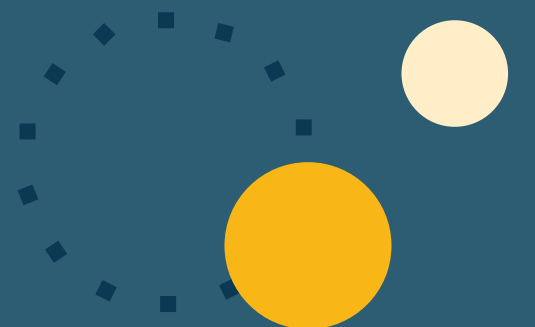
**Erika Lovejoy**

Senior Director

Accelerating Restoration

California Climate Summit

April 22, 2025





setting **restoration**  
on a separate path  
from development



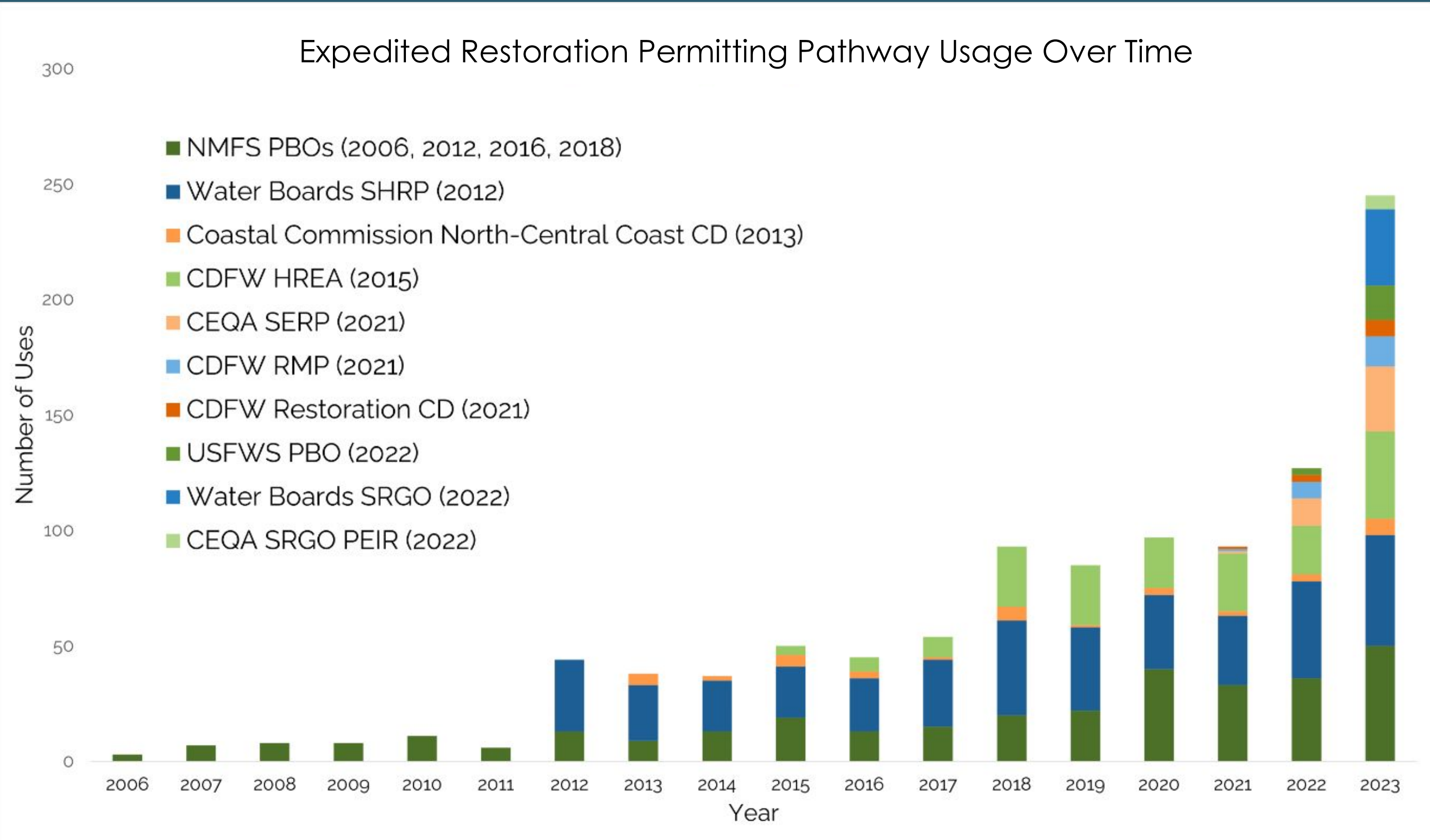


# BENEFITS

- Built in coordination
- Clear requirements
- Regulatory certainty
- Good planning tool for applicants
- More predictable timelines
- Save agency staff and applicants time/money



# Realizing the Benefits







# ACCELERATING RESTORATION IN THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY AND BEYOND

## PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS TO CUT GREEN TAPE IN CALIFORNIA



Sustainable Conservation

**Authors:** Erika Lovejoy, Katie Haldeman, Stephanie Falzone, Shayan Kaveh



# Key Report Themes

Informed by interviews with 39 organizations and over 80 individuals

01

**Proactive Use of  
Efficient  
Permitting  
Pathways**

02

**Creation of  
Dedicated  
Restoration  
Teams**

**\*that use efficient  
permitting!**

03

**Expanding  
Successful Tools  
and Filling in  
Regulatory Gaps**

04

**Addressing  
Ongoing Policy  
and Funding  
Challenges**



## Theme 1

# Proactive Use of Efficient Permitting Pathways

- Leadership guidance (e.g. Sec Crowfoot's Cutting Green Tape memo)
- Comprehensive training for agency staff and applicants



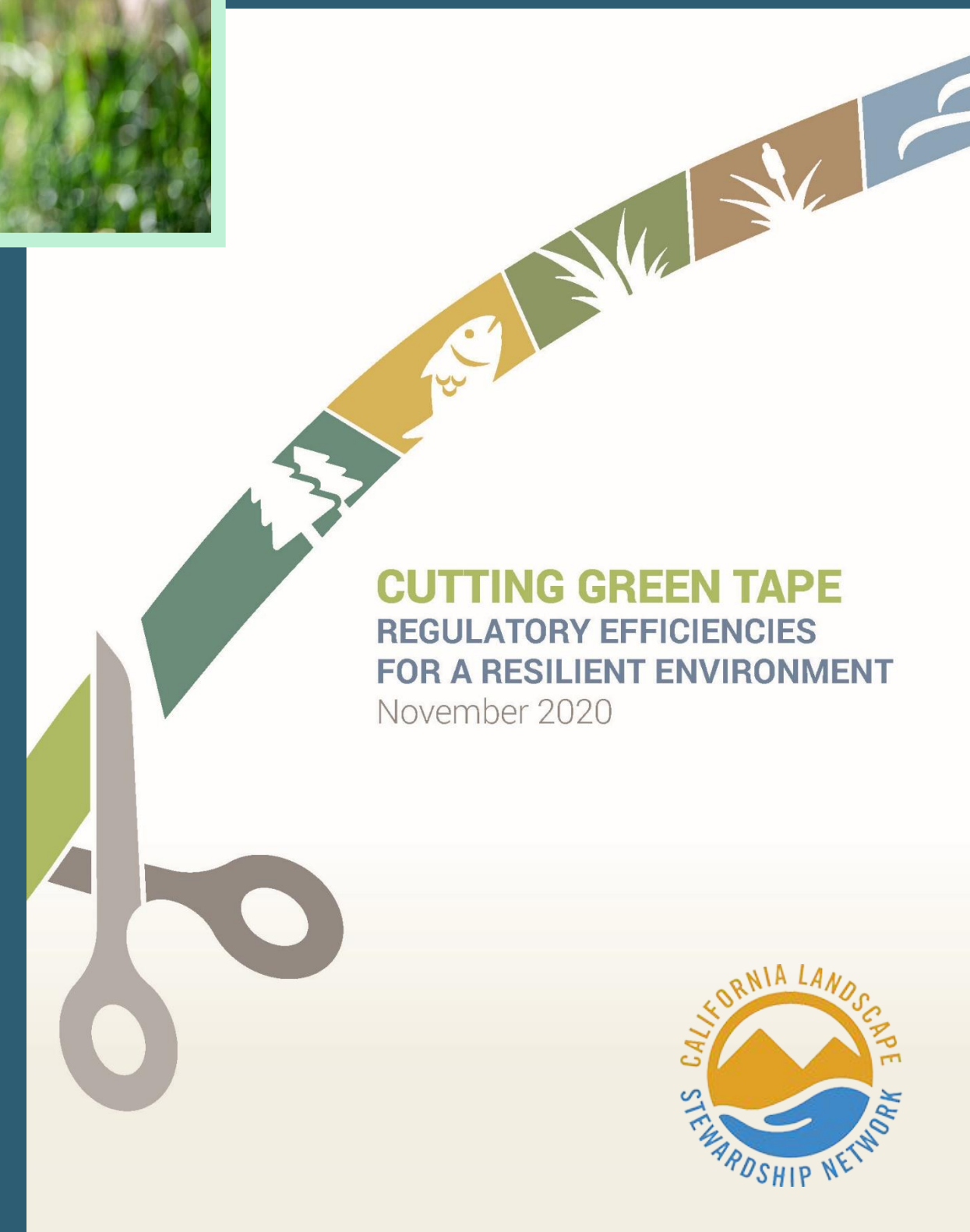
Wade Crowfoot  
California Natural  
Resources Secretary



GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor  
WADE CROWFOOT, Secretary for Natural Resources

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Leaders of the Agency's Conservancies, Departments, and Divisions  
**FROM:** Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, Natural Resources Agency  
**SUBJECT:** Cutting Green Tape Report Implementation  
**DATE:** January 7, 2021





## Theme 2

# Creation of Dedicated Restoration Teams

*\*that use efficient permitting!*

- Follow NOAA Restoration Center and CDFW CGT team successful models
- Grant funding, technical assistance, and expedited permitting in the same program





## Theme 2

# Cutting Green Tape (FY 21-24)

- \$8,091,644 saved
- Decreased processing time by 35%
- 195,659 acres enhanced
- 675 stream miles restored

# NOAA Restoration Center

- Up to \$17.6 million in staff time and consultant fees saved
- Decreased processing time over 50%
- Over 330 projects implemented





## Theme 3

# Expanding Successful Tools and Filling in Regulatory Gaps

- Many tools are working well and can be scaled up
- Some agencies still need efficient pathways





# Addressing Ongoing Policy and Funding Barriers

- Speeding up mitigation, minimizing permit fees, increasing agency staff,
- Identifying and securing long-term project/staff funding







improve

**process**

empower

**staff**

increase

**capacity**

accelerate


**progress**



# [acceleratingrestoration.org](https://acceleratingrestoration.org)


ACCELERATING RESTORATION

A resource website by




Sustainable Conservation

[HOME](#) [FIND PERMITTING PATHWAYS ▾](#) [EXAMPLE PROJECTS ▾](#) [MORE RESOURCES ▾](#) [ABOUT US ▾](#)




## Tools and resources for restoration project permitting



### Find Pathways by Agency

Find efficient permitting options listed by the issuing agencies or authorities here.


[SEE AGENCIES](#)



### Introduction to Permitting

New to restoration project permitting? Start with these tips for success.

[GET STARTED](#)



### Our Essential Guide

Download our PDF table of permits, agencies, eligibility, and benefits.

[DOWNLOAD](#)



Email us at:  
[restoration@](mailto:restoration@suscon.org)  
[suscon.org](https://suscon.org)

Thank you to the State Coastal Conservancy, foundations, and individuals for funding our outreach work.



# Expedited Permitting Toolbox

## Small Projects

Currently  $\leq$  5 acres and 500 cumulative linear feet



Order for Small Projects (SHRP)



CatEx 15333  
(no linear ft limit)



Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act (HREA)

\*Have coordinated conditions

## Small or Larger Projects



CDs for NOAA Programmatic BOs



Programmatic BOs\*



Statewide Programmatic BO\*



CWA Coverage: RGP 16, NWP 27, etc.

Federal ESA Coverage through PBOs

## Larger Projects



Statewide Restoration General Order (SRGO)\*



SRGO PEIR\*

Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP)



Restoration Consistency Determination (CD)  
(For federal/state listed species)

Restoration Management Permit (RMP)\*  
(Up to 5 separate CDFW authorizations in a single permit)