



# **The Future of Marin's Farms and Ranches – Challenges and Opportunities**

**Marin Coalition  
February 23, 2023**

# What is a farm in Marin in 2022?

- 343 farms or ranches on 140,000 acres
- Average farm is 400 acres
  - 45% are less than 50 acres
  - 23% are 500 or more acres
- Less than 4% is irrigated land
- 73% of farms have annual sales less than \$100,000
- Average net farm income (gross income minus production expenses): \$56,000  
(includes insurance, government programs, agritourism, rental income to other operators, etc.)

# What is farmed in Marin in 2022?




- 39,000 acres are certified organic, 95% of them for pasture
- Majority of lands are improved pasture and rangeland
- Acres in vegetables/fruit: 380
- Acres in wine grapes: 195
- Acres in nursery products: 7

# Who is farming in Marin in 2022?

- 200 farms report hiring farm workers, total payroll of \$14M
  - 1/3 hire more than 5 workers
- 678 Decision-makers on the farm – USDA calls them “Producers”
  - 42% female, 58% male
  - 47% consider farming their “Primary Occupation”
  - 62% had some kind of off-farm work
  - 33% spent more than 200 days working off-farm
  - 65% are over the age of 55
  - Less than 7% are under age 35
  - 3% identify as Latino with 626 acres under the direction of a Latino Principal Producer
- “Principal Producers” – less than 7% are hired managers

# MAP 1-2 ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

## Legend

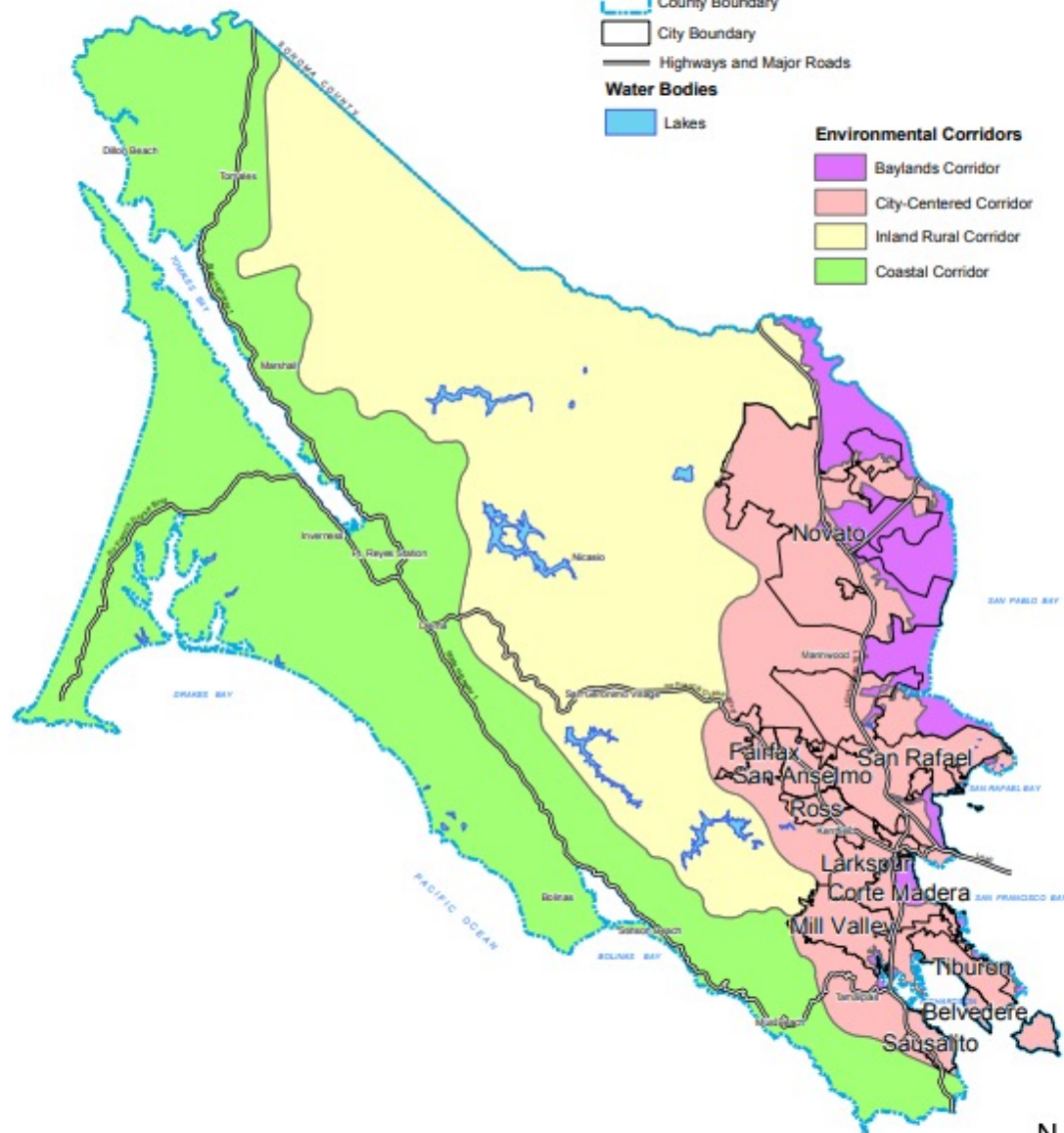
-  County Boundary
-  City Boundary
-  Highways and Major Roads

## Water Bodies

-  Lakes

## Environmental Corridors

-  Baylands Corridor
-  City-Centered Corridor
-  Inland Rural Corridor
-  Coastal Corridor



THIS MAP WAS DEVELOPED FOR GENERAL PLAN PURPOSES.  
THE COUNTY OF MARIN IS NOT RESPONSIBLE OR LIABLE FOR  
USE OF THIS MAP BEYOND ITS INTENDED PURPOSE.

JOHN HART  
**FARMING ON THE EDGE**

*Saving Family Farms in Merced County, California*



HART

FARMING ON THE EDGE

*California*

*Foreword by Wendell Berry*





Photo by Hector Joel Amezcua

**UC Cooperative Extension  
Marin Coalition**

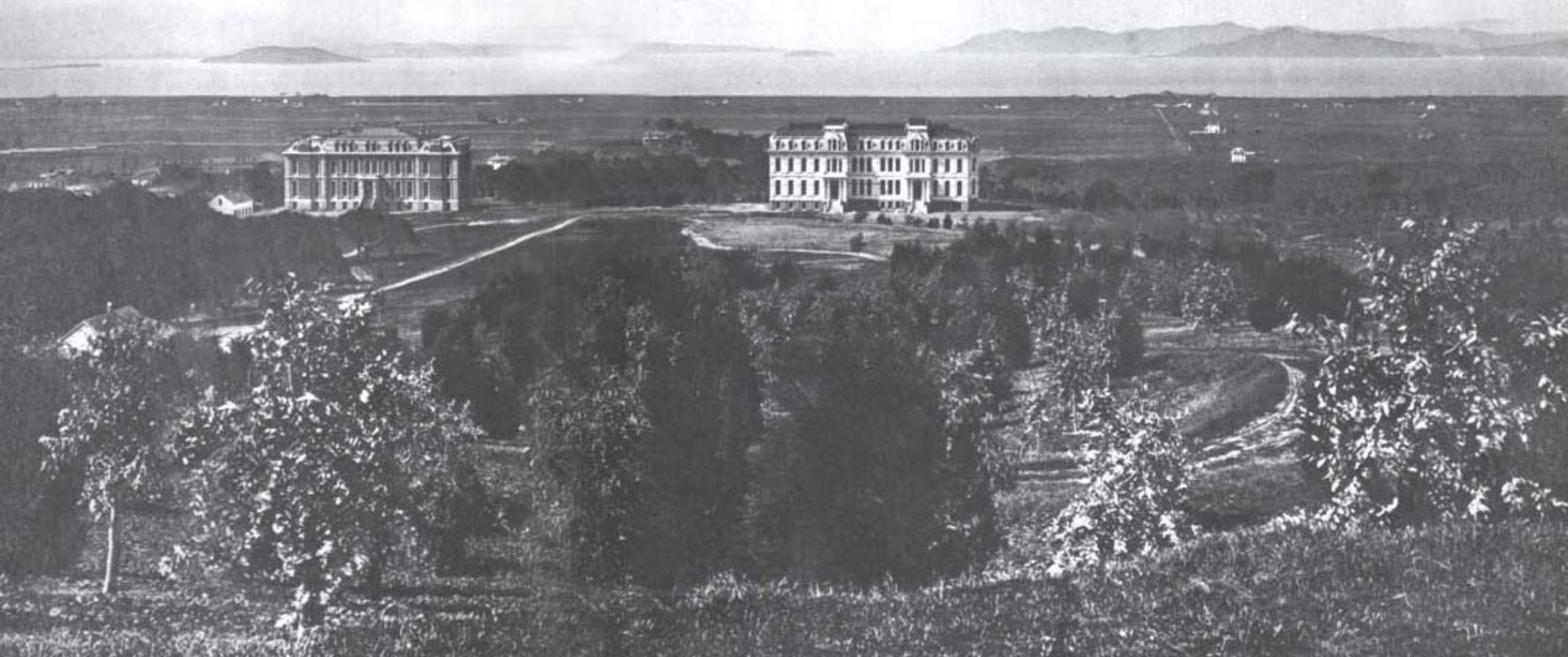
**David J. Lewis**  
Director







Our mission is to sustain Marin's vital agriculture, environment, and communities by providing University of California research-based information in agriculture, natural resource management, healthy living, and youth development.



California founded its Land Grant  
University in the city of Berkeley in 1868

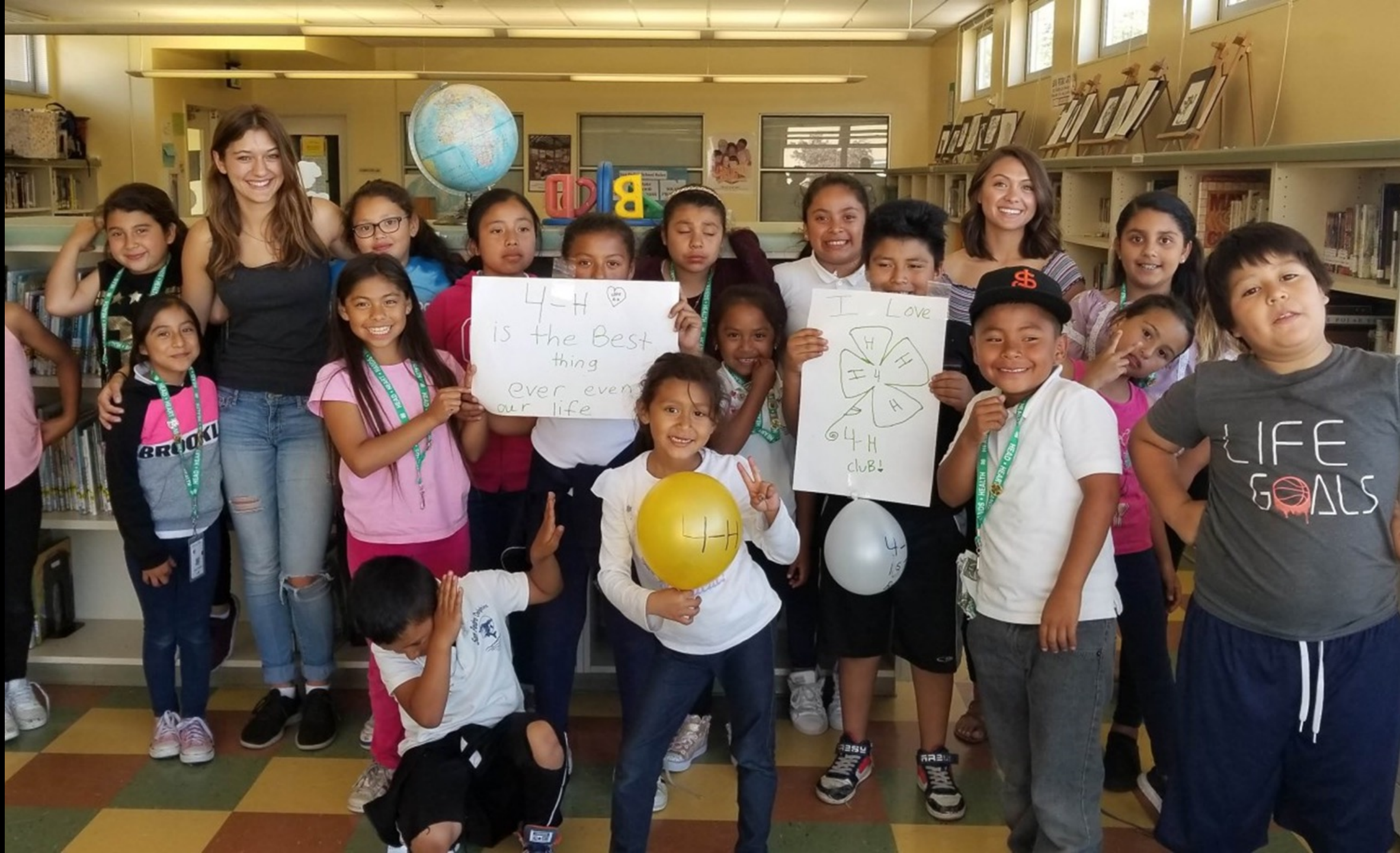




*The 4-H Award*  
of the  
**RUBY CLOVER**

*Presented to*  
**Coryl Hodges**

*in recognition of 25 years of service to 4-H as a volunteer leader, by the Cooperative Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Maricopa County 4-H*



4-H ♡  
is the Best  
thing  
ever even  
our life

I Love  
4-H club

LIFE GOALS

# North Bay Science Discovery Day – Free Youth Science Festival



- **Purpose:**
  - To spark young peoples' curiosity for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)
  - To strengthen the North Bay's STEM learning ecosystem to expand and sustain youth STEM engagement.
- The event is free (including parking) to be more accessible.
- Over 50 companies, schools, clubs, and groups offer hands-on STEM engagement activities and learning opportunities.
- Average attendance is 10,000 to 15,000 annually.
- Planned by 15 volunteers with 50 one-day volunteers.
- Started in 2011 for children in grades 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> (but open to all!)



**March 11, 2023**  
**Sonoma County Fairgrounds**  
**10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources





SAN RAFAEL

Fire-Smart Landscaping - FIREsafe MARIN and UC Marin Master Gardeners

2,046 views • Premiered May 6, 2020

24 0 SHARE SAVE ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUI6hUY9Nq8>





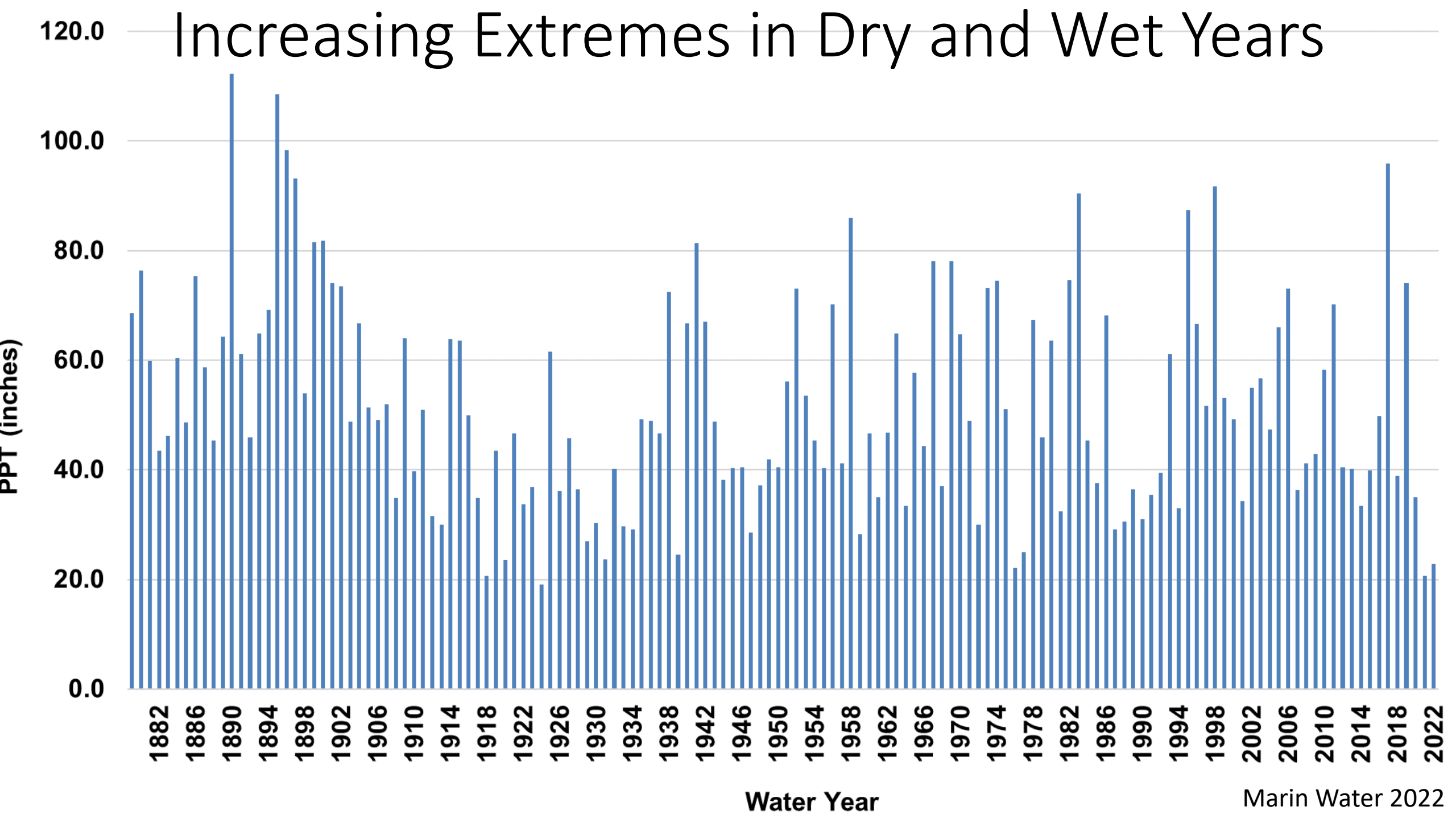






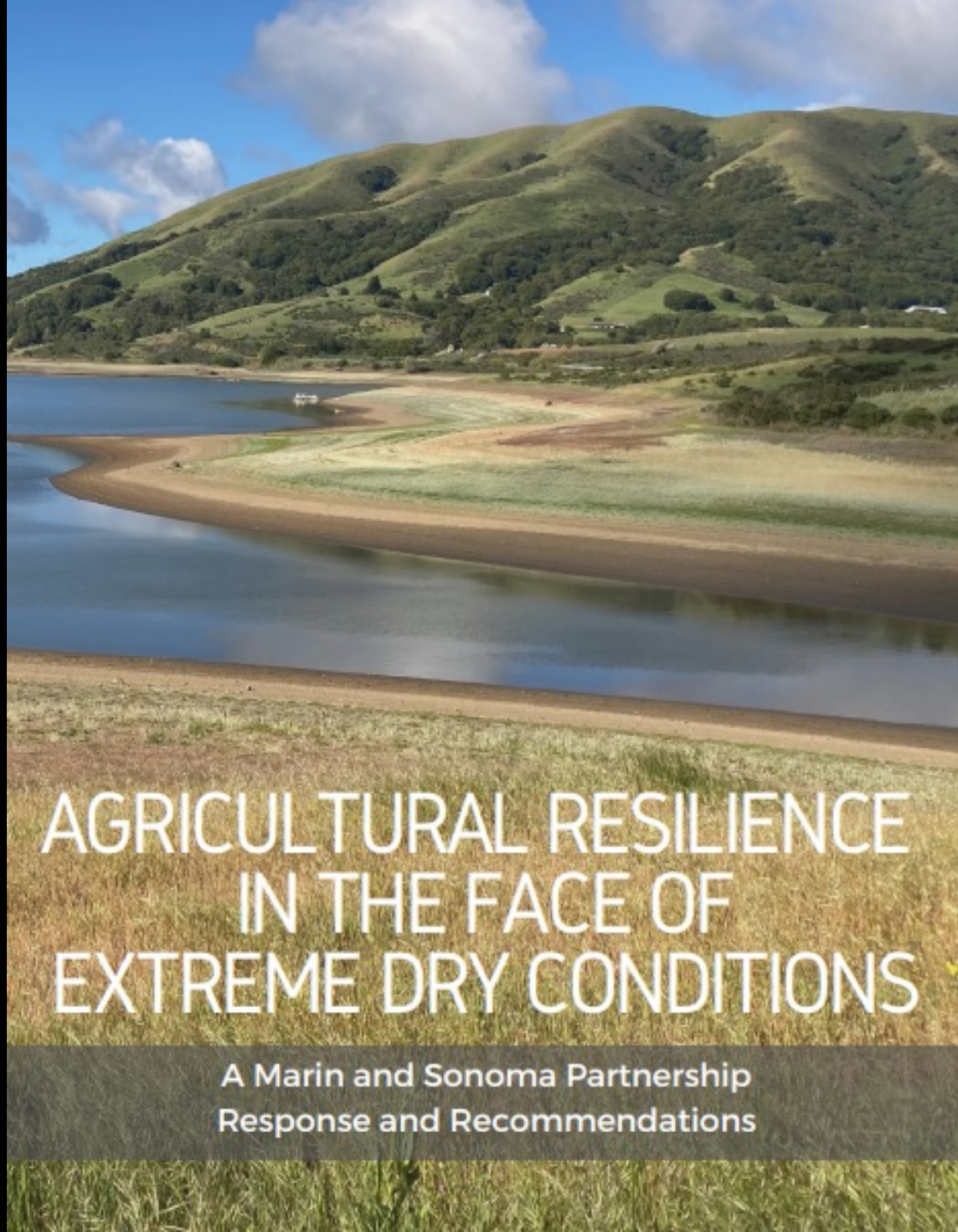


# Increasing Extremes in Dry and Wet Years



Water Year

Marin Water 2022



# AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF EXTREME DRY CONDITIONS

A Marin and Sonoma Partnership  
Response and Recommendations

