

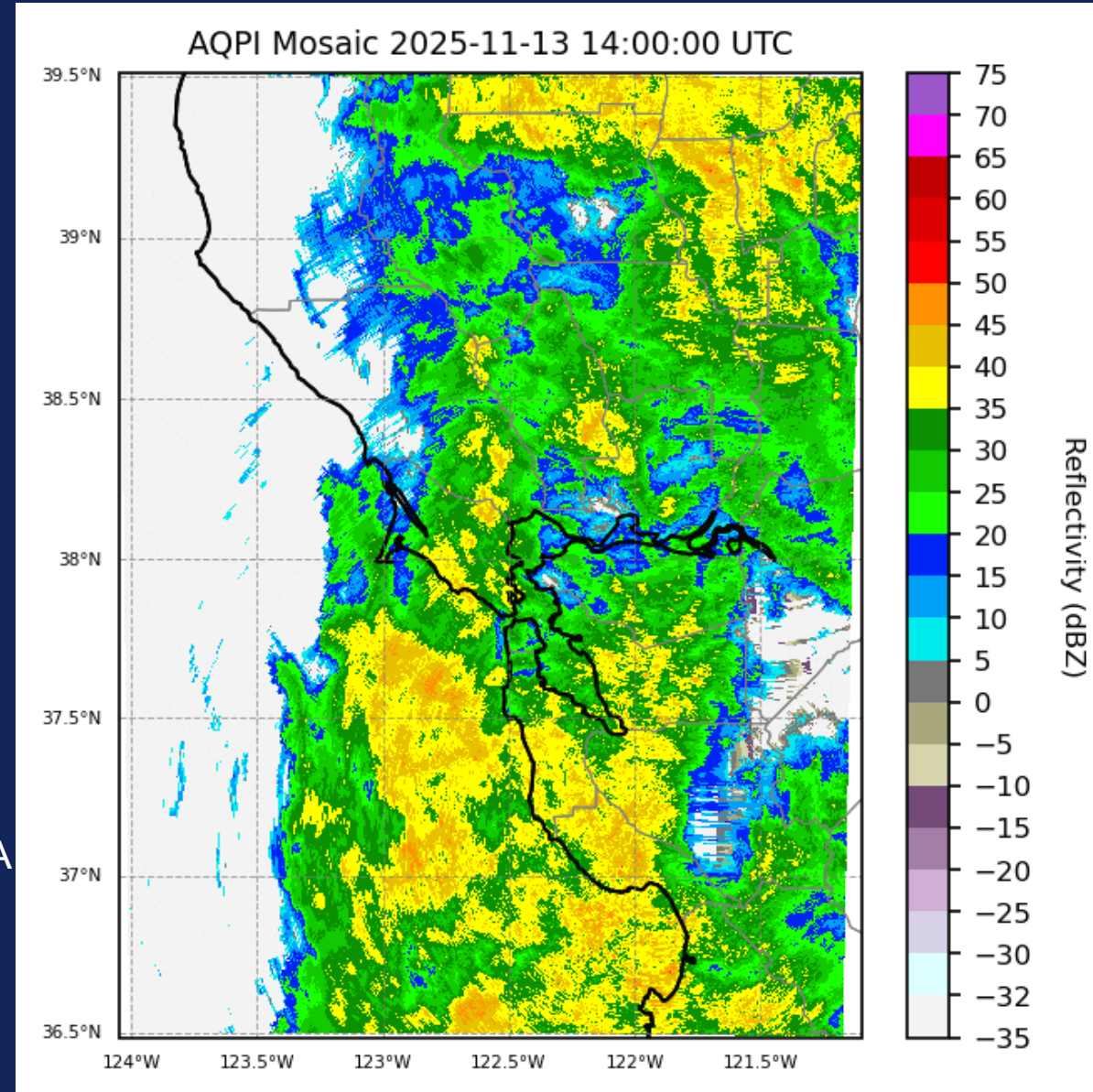


**Sonoma  
Water**

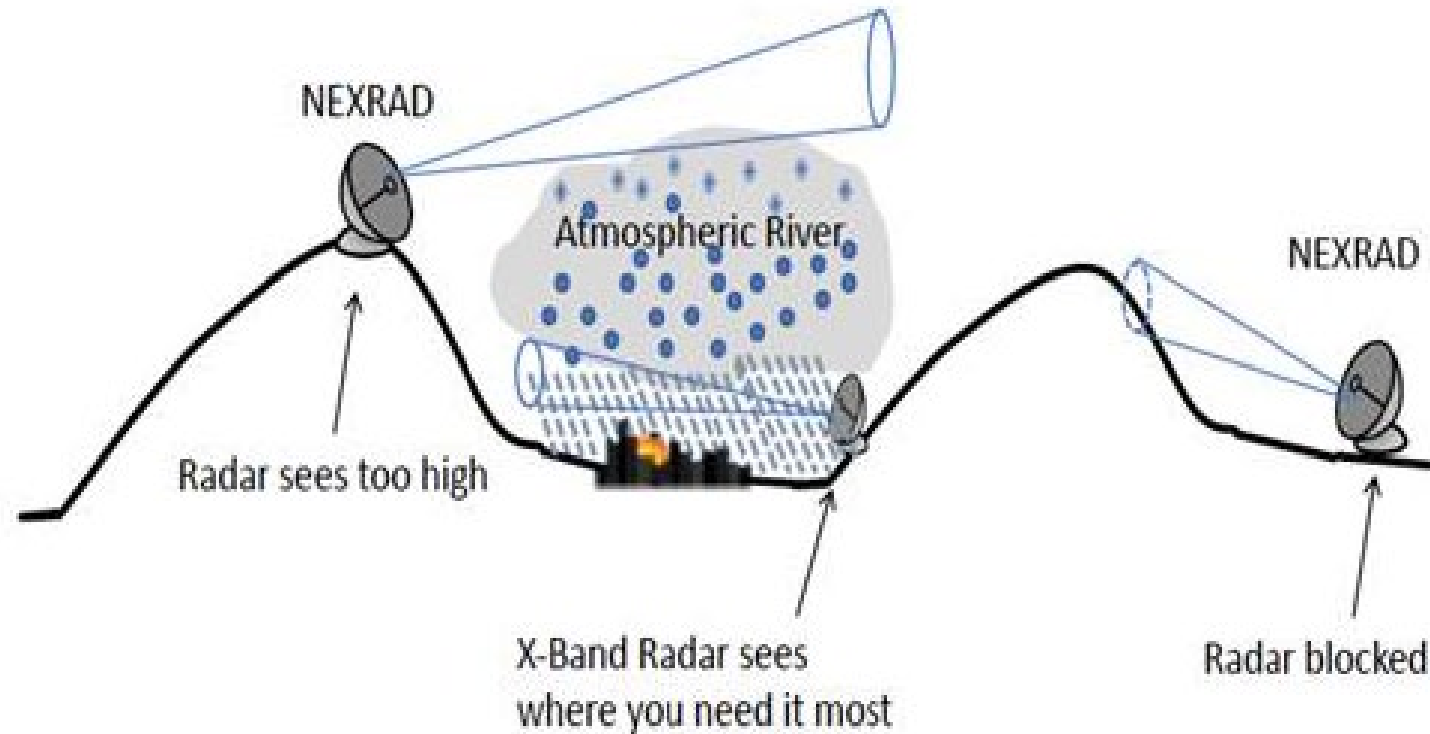
# Advanced Quantitative Precipitation Information Project Update

12 May 2026

Grant Davis, General Manager  
Dale Roberts, Principal Engineer  
F. Martin Ralph, PhD, Director,  
Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E)  
UC San Diego/Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, CA



# SF Bay Area AQPI – A New Technology to Respond to Extreme Weather



## Why is it needed?

- Existing radar is not optimal for West Coast terrain
- Public safety benefits
- Economic loss minimized



Sonoma

Water

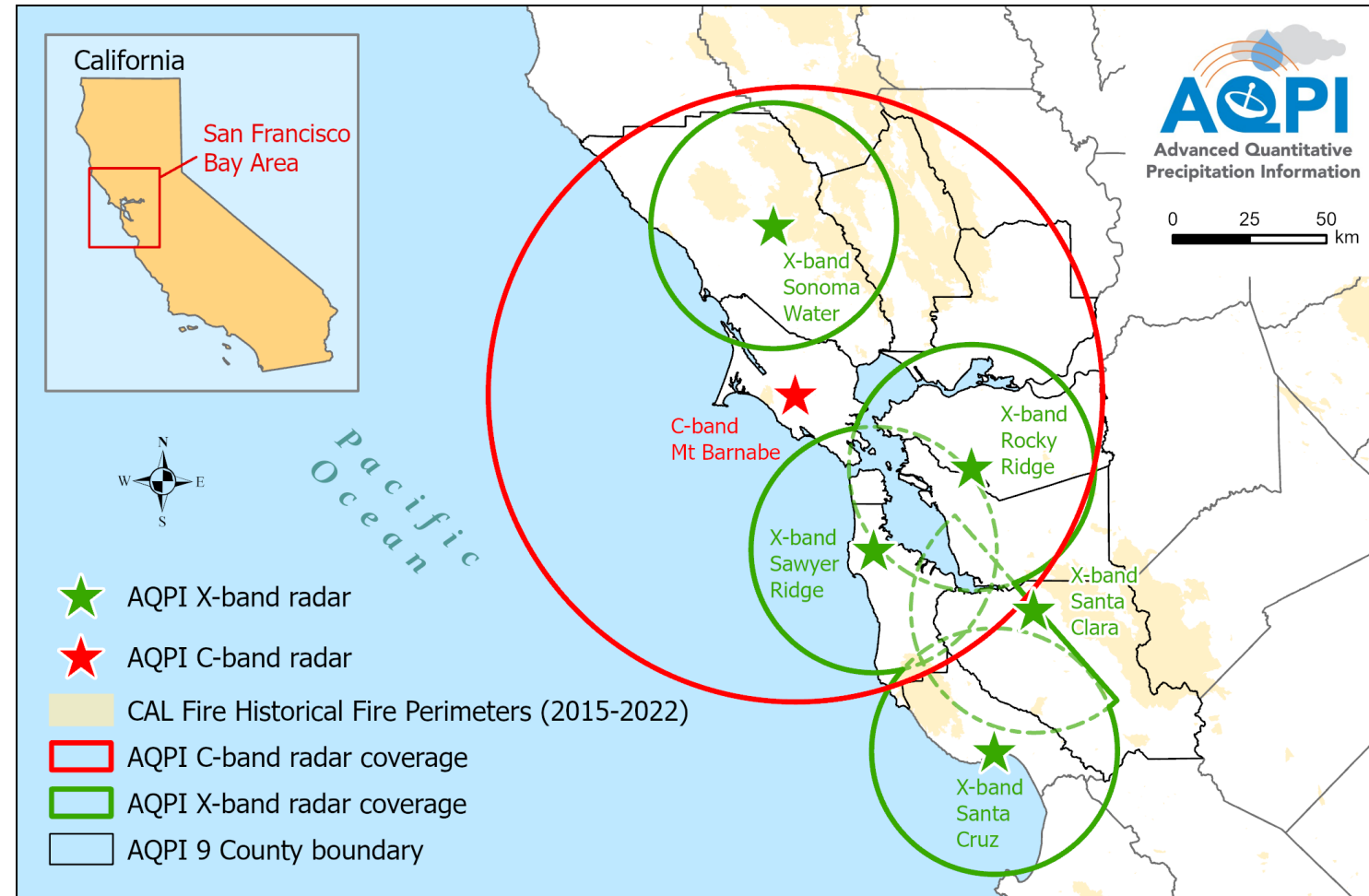
Economic loss minimized

## Advanced Quantitative Precipitation Information (AQPI)

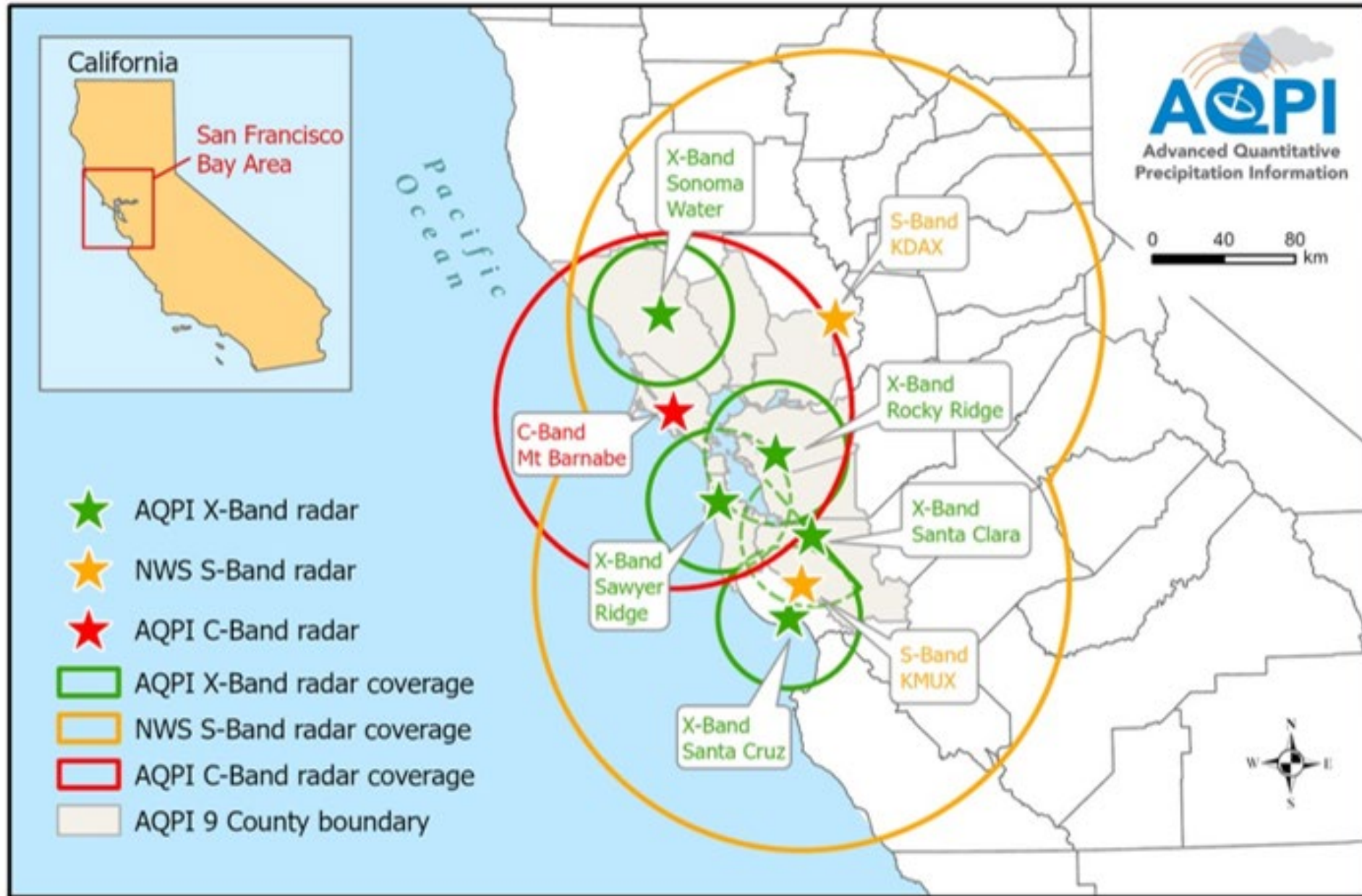
- \$19.8M DWR grant, 25% match
- Sonoma Water Local Sponsor
- 4 X-band radars (N-S-E-W)
- 1 C-band radar (Ocean facing)
- 20 surface monitoring stations
- Data transmission of radar observations and rain gauges to Colorado State and CW3E for processing and distribution to local water agencies
- Users can integrate AQPI forecasts to better inform operations and resource allocation, increase efficiency, and save money
- Grant requires operation for 20 years
- Contributions from Feds, State, & Locals



*A regional weather prediction system that uses enhanced weather radar to track precipitation associated with atmospheric rivers.*



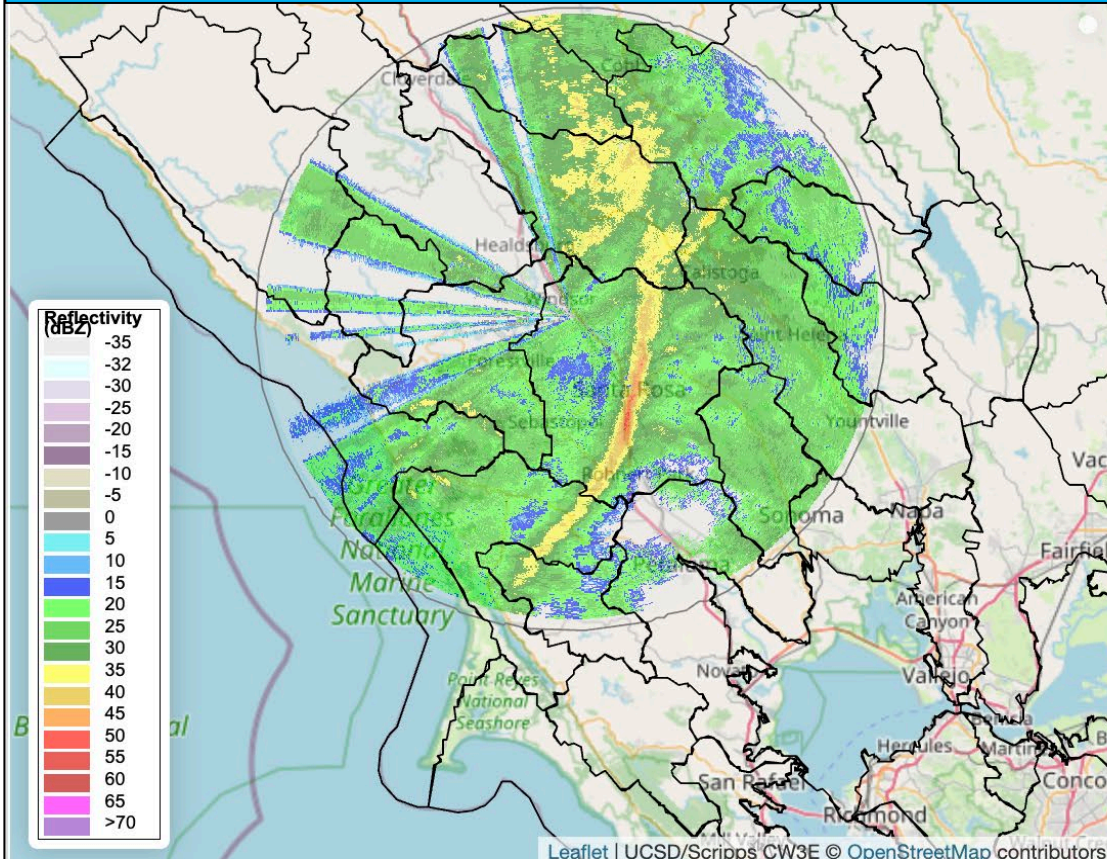
# AFTER AQPI NETWORK



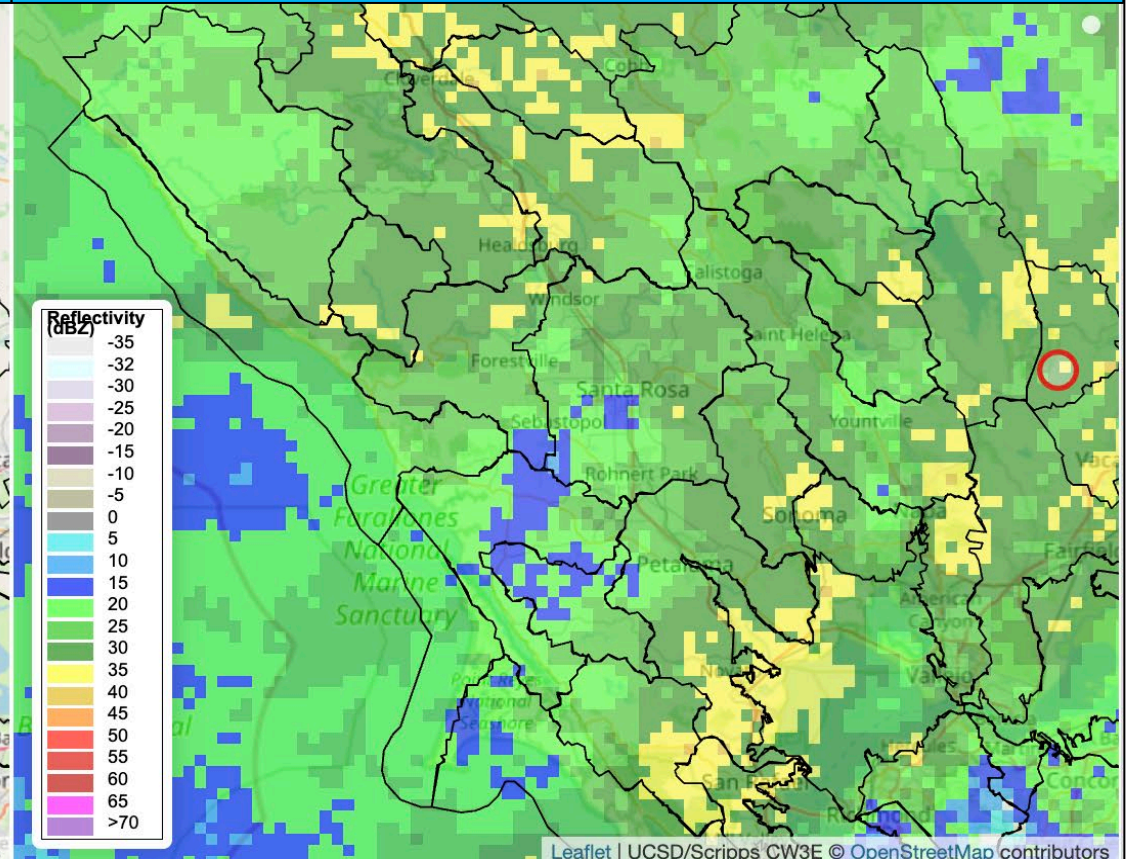
Sonoma  
Water

# North Bay Narrow Cold Frontal Rainband, 05 Nov 2025

**AQPI radar detects the NCFR over Sonoma County**



**Legacy (NWS) radar *does not* detect the NCFR**



# SF Bay Area AQPI Project Partners and Supporters



## Next Steps

- Partners agreed to transition operation to Scripps/CW3E
- Agreement with local entities to fund Scripps/CW3E via BACWA
- Agreements other local agencies to reimburse Sonoma Water for C-band radar costs.
- Put the system to use: Integrate AQPI forecasts to better inform water, wastewater, flood control operations and resource allocation, increase efficiency, and save money



Sonoma  
Water