

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

OW&S Committee

T. Quinn, Chair
S. Faessel, Vice Chair
L. Ackerman
D. Alvarez
J. Armstrong
G. Cordero
D. De Jesus
D. Erdman
L. Fong-Sakai
S. Goldberg
C. Kurtz
R. Lefevre
C. Miller
G. Peterson
B. Pressman
N. Sutley

One Water and Stewardship Committee

Meeting with Board of Directors *

March 11, 2024

3:00 p.m.

**Monday, March 11, 2024
Meeting Schedule**

**09:00 a.m. EOT
11:30 a.m. Leg
01:00 p.m. Break
01:30 p.m. EOP
03:00 p.m. OWS**

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. If you have technical difficulties with the live streaming page, a listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 873 4767 0235. Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or click <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694849772?pwd=V3dGZGRYUjJ3allqdUxXTIJRM044Zz09>

MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

Teleconference Locations:

Princess Cruise / Emerald Princess • 3721 S.W. 30th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

525 Via La Selva • Redondo Beach, CA 90277

1370 N. Brea Blvd., Suite #235 • Fullerton, CA 92835

337 W. Foothill Blvd., • Glendora CA 91740

934 16th Street • Denver, CO 80202

* The Metropolitan Water District's meeting of this Committee is noticed as a joint committee meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee may participate as members of the Board, whether or not a quorum of the Board is present. In order to preserve the function of the committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee will not vote on matters before this Committee.

- 1. Opportunity for members of the public to address the committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))**

**** CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION ****

- 2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for February 13, 2024 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions) [21-3095](#)

Attachments: [03112024 OWS 2A \(02132024\) Minutes](#)

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

NONE

**** END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS ****

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

NONE

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Report on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Near-term Colorado River Operations (through 2026) [21-3098](#)

Attachments: [03112024 OWS 6a Presentation](#)

- b. Report on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s development of post-2026 Colorado River reservoir operations guidelines and strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead [Conference with legal counsel – anticipated litigation; based on existing facts and circumstances, including potential imposition of significant water use reductions in the Lower Basin under the regulatory authority of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation could lead to litigation among the United States and one or more Colorado River water users; there is a significant exposure to litigation against Metropolitan: unknown number of potential cases; a portion may be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)] [21-3147](#)

Attachments: [03112024 OWS 6b Presentation](#)

- c. Update on Water Surplus Drought Management [21-3102](#)

Attachments: [03122024 OWS 6c Report](#)
[03112024 OWS 6c Presentation](#)

- d. Delta Levee Maintenance Funding [21-3130](#)

Attachments: [03112024 OWS 6d Presentation](#)

- e. Potential Interagency Local Supply Exchange Program [21-3142](#)

Attachments: [03112024 OWS 6e Presentation](#)

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Bay-Delta Resources, Colorado River Resources, Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation, and Water Resource Management activities [21-3097](#)

Attachments: [03112024 OWS 7a Bay-Delta Monthly Report](#)
[03112024 OWS 7a SRI Monthly Activities Report](#)

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting [21-3105](#)

- b. Report on Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Meeting [21-3131](#)

- c. Report on the Bay-Delta Ad Hoc Meeting [21-3106](#)

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities [21-3096](#)

10. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: This committee reviews items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors. Final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Committee agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. This committee will not take any final action that is binding on the Board, even when a quorum of the Board is present.

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ONE WATER AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

February 13, 2024

Board Vice Chair Sutley called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

Director De Jesus stated that he is participating under AB 2449 “just cause” due to an illness that prevents him from attending in person. Director De Jesus appeared by audio and on camera.

Announcement was made that teleconference location 34819 Calle Del Sol, Capistrano Beach CA 92624 was not available as previously noted on agenda.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, De Jesus (AB 2449 “just cause”), Faessel (teleconference posted location), Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre (teleconference posted location), Miller, Peterson, Pressman, and Sutley.

Member absent: Directors Cordero, Erdman, and Quinn.

Other Board Members present: Abdo, Bryant, Camacho, Dennstedt, Dick, Douglas, Fellow, Garza, Gualtieri, Kassakhian, Luna, McCoy, McMillan, Morris, Ortega, Petersen, Phan, Seckel, and Smith.

Committee staff present: Crosson, Goshi, Hasencamp, Hawk, Munguia, Neudeck, Schlotterbeck, Upadhyay, and Wheeler.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE’S JURISDICTION (AS REQUIRED BY GOV. CODE SECTION 54954.3(A))

Public Speakers included:

- 1 Charming Evelyn , Sierra Club CA, provided general comments regarding water conservation
- 2 Barbara Baragan Parrilla, Restore the Delta, provided general comments regarding the Delta; 6a
- 3 Melisa Tayaba, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, provided general comments regarding the Delta; 6a
4. Caty Wagner, Sierra Club CA, provided general comments regarding the Delta; 6a
- 5 Emily Papalardo, DCC Engineering, provided general comments regarding item 6a.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for January 8, 2024.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-7** Subject: Approve an adjustment to Metropolitan’s Member Agency Administered Program to allow member agencies to use up to 50 percent of their allocated funds under the flexible, non-documented water savings category; agencies with allocations less than \$50,000 are able to use 100 percent of their Member Agency Administered Program allocation for flexible, non-documented water savings projects/programs; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Motion: Approve an adjustment to Metropolitan’s Member Agency Administered Program to allow member agencies to use up to 50 percent of their allocated funds under the flexible, non-documented water savings category; agencies with allocations less than \$50,000 are able to use 100 percent of their Member Agency Administered Program allocation for flexible, non-documented water savings projects/programs

No presentations was given, Director Goldberg made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar consisting of items 2a and 7-7 seconded by Director Kurtz.

Director De Jesus announced that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

The vote was:

- Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, DeJesus, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, KurtzLefevre, Miller, Peterson, Pressman, and Sutley.
Noes: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: Directors Cordero, Erdman, and Quinn.

The motion for items 2a and 7-7 passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

****END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS****

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-3 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to secure one-year water transfers and water exchanges with various water district for up to \$50 million from Water Supply Program and State Water Project budgets for such supplies and to secure storage and conveyance agreements with the Department of Water Resources and various water districts to facilitate these transfers and exchanges; and grant final decision-making authority to the General Manager subject to the terms set forth in the letter; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: Sarah J. Bartlett, Program Manager, Water Resource Management

Motion: Authorize the General Manager to secure one-year water transfers and water exchanges with various water districts for up to \$50 million from Water Supply Program and State Water Project budgets for such supplies and to secure storage and conveyance agreements with the Department of Water Resources and various water districts to facilitate these transfers and exchanges; and grant final decision-making authority to the General Manager subject to the terms set forth in this letter.

Mr. Deven Upadhyay, Executive Officer & Assistant General Manager, provided background information and introductory comments.

Ms. Bartlett gave a presentation on the proposed request for the General Manager to execute agreements required to secure additional water in 2024 to help preserve storage reserves in the event 2024 remains dry. The agreements would include necessary water transfer agreements, exchange agreements, and storage and conveyance agreements with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and various water entities.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Goldberg
2. Peterson
3. Pressman

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Pressman, to approve option 1 of the board letter.

Director De Jesus announced that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

The vote was:

- Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, De Jesus, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, Pressman, and Sutley.
- Noes: None.
- Abstentions: None.
- Absent: Directors Cordero, Erdman, and Quinn.

The motion for item 8-3 passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

9-3 Subject: Proposed Supplemental Water Management Program

Presented by: Tracy Abundez, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

Brandon Goshi, Interim Manager, Water Resource Management provided background information and introductory comments.

Ms. Abundez's oral report provided information on a potential Supplemental Water Management Program (SWM Program). The SWM Program would establish a water management-based framework where Metropolitan would pay member agencies for actions that they take to help Metropolitan manage supplemental supplies.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Miller | 6. Peterson |
| 2. Ortega | 7. Kurtz |
| 3. Armstrong | 8. Smith |
| 4. Goldberg | 9. Sutley |
| 5. Pressman | |

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Delta Islands Strategic Value, Fiscal, and Risk Analysis

Presented by: Randall Neudeck, Manager, Bay Delta Programs
Russell Ryan, Sr. Engineer, Bay Delta Initiatives

Mr. Neudeck and Mr. Ryan co-presented on staff's analysis on strategic, fiscal, and risk analysis of the Delta islands to assess the financial resources, identify potential threats to the Delta islands, and evaluate the value of these islands to Metropolitan.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1. Miller | 5. Fong-Sakai |
| 2. Smith | 6. Pressman |
| 3. Sutley | 7. Alvarez |
| 4. Lavere | |

Staff responded to questions and comments.

During the committee's discussion, Board Vice Chair Sutley announced that the remaining Committee Items would be deferred to allow additional time for discussion.

- b. Subject: Update on Conservation

This item was deferred.

- c. Subject: Update on the Flow Monitor Leak Detection Device Pilot Program

This item was deferred.

- d. Subject: Update on Water Surplus and Drought Management

This item was deferred.

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

- a. Subject: Bay-Delta Resources, Colorado River Resources, Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation, and Water Resource Management activities

This item was deferred.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Bay-Delta

Director Ackerman reported on the planned items for the April Subcommittee on Bay-Delta including updates on Sites Reservoir operations, Delta Levy Monitoring Innovation Project, and Delta long-term operations. Director McMillan reported on the first Ad Hoc meeting.

- b. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Sutley noted the need for further discussion on transfers and a holistic look at other programs

11. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on March 11, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Nancy Sutley
Board Vice Chair



One Water & Stewardship Committee

Report on Release of Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Lower Basin Alternative for Colorado River Operations

Item 6a

March 11, 2024

Item 6a

Report on Release of Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Lower Basin Alternative for Colorado River Operations

Subject

Report on Release of Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) for near-term operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead

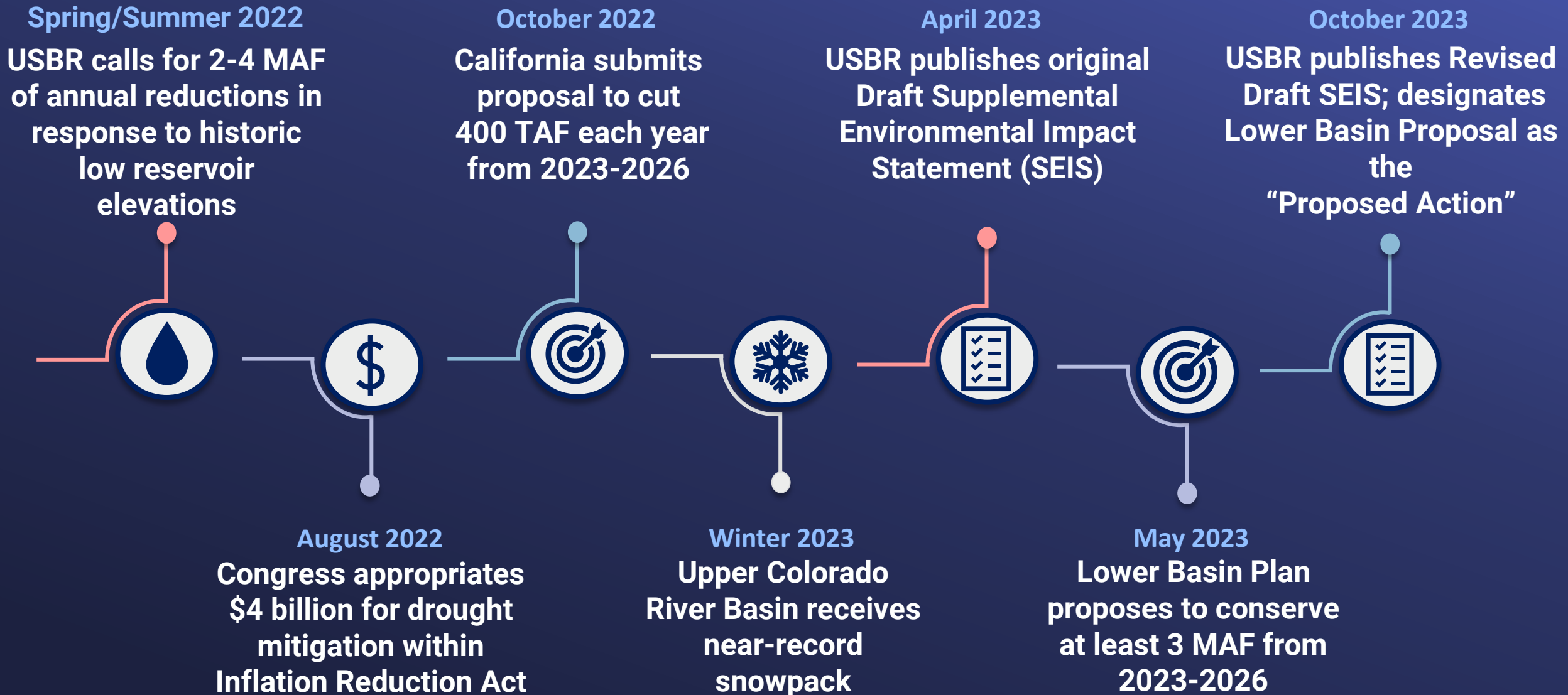
Purpose

US Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has selected the Lower Basin Plan as the preferred alternative and published the FSEIS for operation of the Colorado River System reservoirs through 2025.

Next Steps

The Preferred Alternative will be adopted through Record of Decision

Background



SEIS Process

Released
March 5, 2024



Draft SEIS

- Summarize reasonable alternatives
- Identify preferred alternative or alternatives

Final SEIS

- Incorporate and respond to public comment
- Identify preferred alternative or alternatives

Record of Decision

- State Decision
- Provide analysis of environmental impacts

Preferred
Alternative
Selection

Lower Basin Plan
Selected as
Preferred Alternative

Reminder: Lower Basin Proposal Contents



MINIMUM OF 3 MAF OF
SYSTEM CONSERVATION IN
2023-2026



AT LEAST 1.5 MAF BY END OF
2024



UP TO 2.3 MAF
COMPENSATED UNDER IRA

2023 Progress on Alternative Conservation

	Preferred Alternative Assumptions	2023 Progress*
Lower Basin (Through 2024)	1.5 MAF	1.1 MAF
California (annual)	400 TAF	650 TAF
Metropolitan ICS Creation (Through 2026)	216 TAF	450 TAF

*Subject to final verification in Reclamation's Water Accounting Report

Next Steps



Record of Decision to adopt Preferred Alternative



Continued implementation of system conservation projects in the Lower Basin





One Water & Stewardship Committee

Report on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Development of the Post-2026 Colorado River Operational Guidelines

Item 6b

March 11, 2024

Item 6b

Report on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's development of post-2026 Colorado River reservoir operations guidelines

Subject

The Lower Basin Alternative for Post-2026 operations of Colorado River System reservoirs

Purpose

California, Arizona and Nevada developed a proposal for operation of the Colorado River System reservoirs to be analyzed as part of the Bureau of Reclamation's Post-2026 Operational Guidelines Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Next Steps

The Colorado River Basin States will continue efforts to develop a consensus alternative before Reclamation issues a draft EIS, expected in December 2024

Post-2026 Operational Guidelines

- The Interior Department's Scoping Report anticipates the Post-2026 Operational Guidelines will address:
 - Lower Basin water use provisions
 - Coordinated operation of Lake Powell and Lake Mead
 - Storage and delivery of conserved water (e.g., Intentionally Created Surplus)



Basin States have made efforts in collaboration on Post-2026 Operational Guidelines, but no consensus yet

Scoping Comment Letters:

- Joint 7-States
- Lower Basin
- Upper Basin
- Metropolitan SNWA Central Arizona Project

Alternative Development:

- Lower Basin Alternative
- Upper Basin Alternative
- Other stakeholder alternatives

Still Potential for a Seven Basin States consensus preferred alternative



Collaboration & Consensus Building

Arizona, California, and Nevada's agreement to jointly propose the Lower Basin Alternative reflects the Lower Division's pivot from the high-profile disagreement early in 2023 to consensus on the path forward for operations of the Colorado River system reservoirs. Metropolitan shares the Lower Division States' commitment to working with the Upper Division States, Tribes, Mexico and NGOs to reach a consensus alternative.

Lower Basin Alternative - Key Concepts



Addresses the structural deficit in the Lower Basin



Operates the reservoirs based on system contents rather than elevations at Lake Powell and Lake Mead



Shares water use reductions broadly



Includes provisions for storage and delivery of stored water

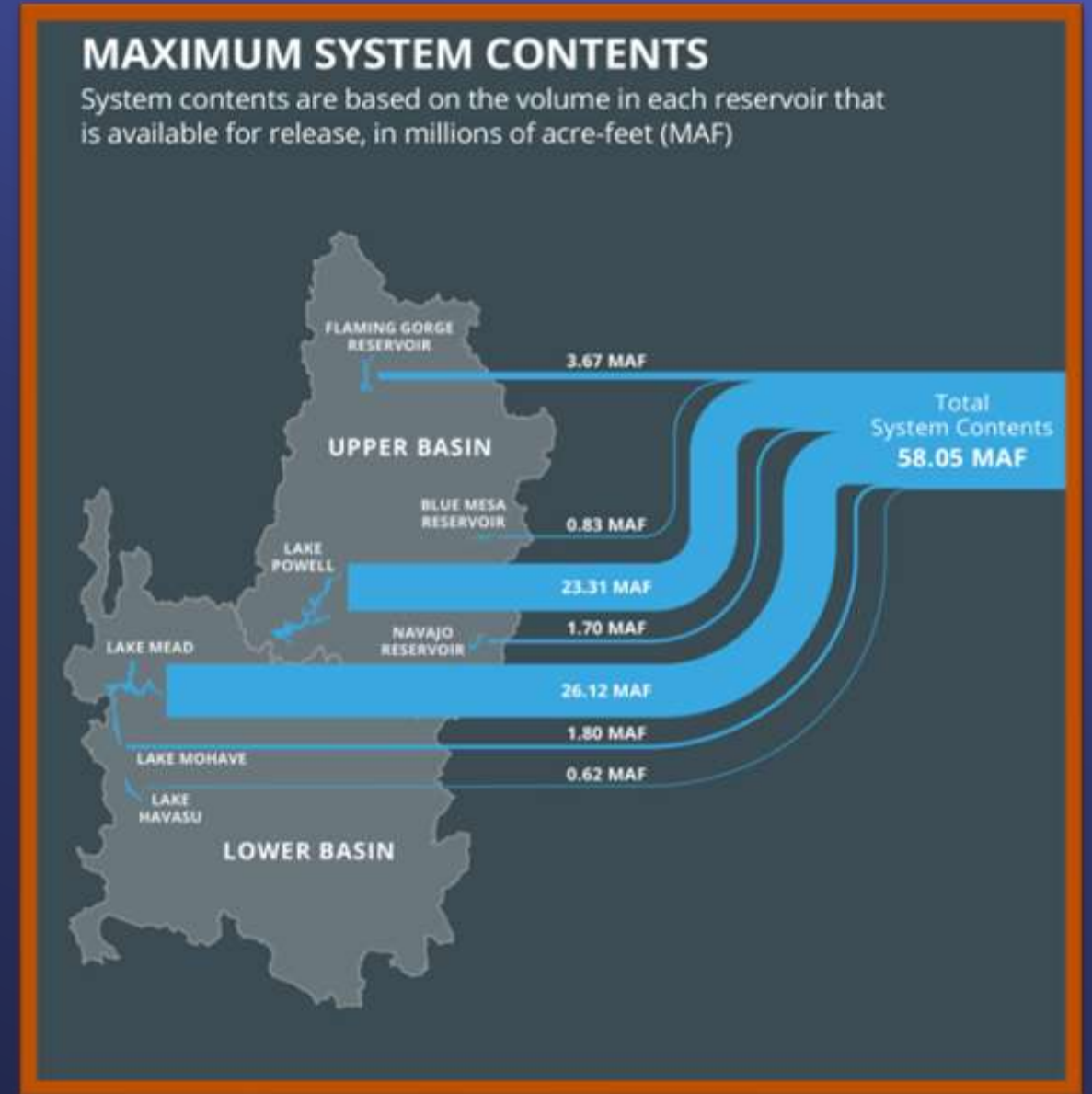


Establishes releases from Lake Powell that are adaptable to a broad range of hydrologies and respond to “hydrologic shortages”

The Alternative is designed to address impacts of drought and climate change through a holistic and sustainable approach to the coordinated operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead that improves predictability for water users

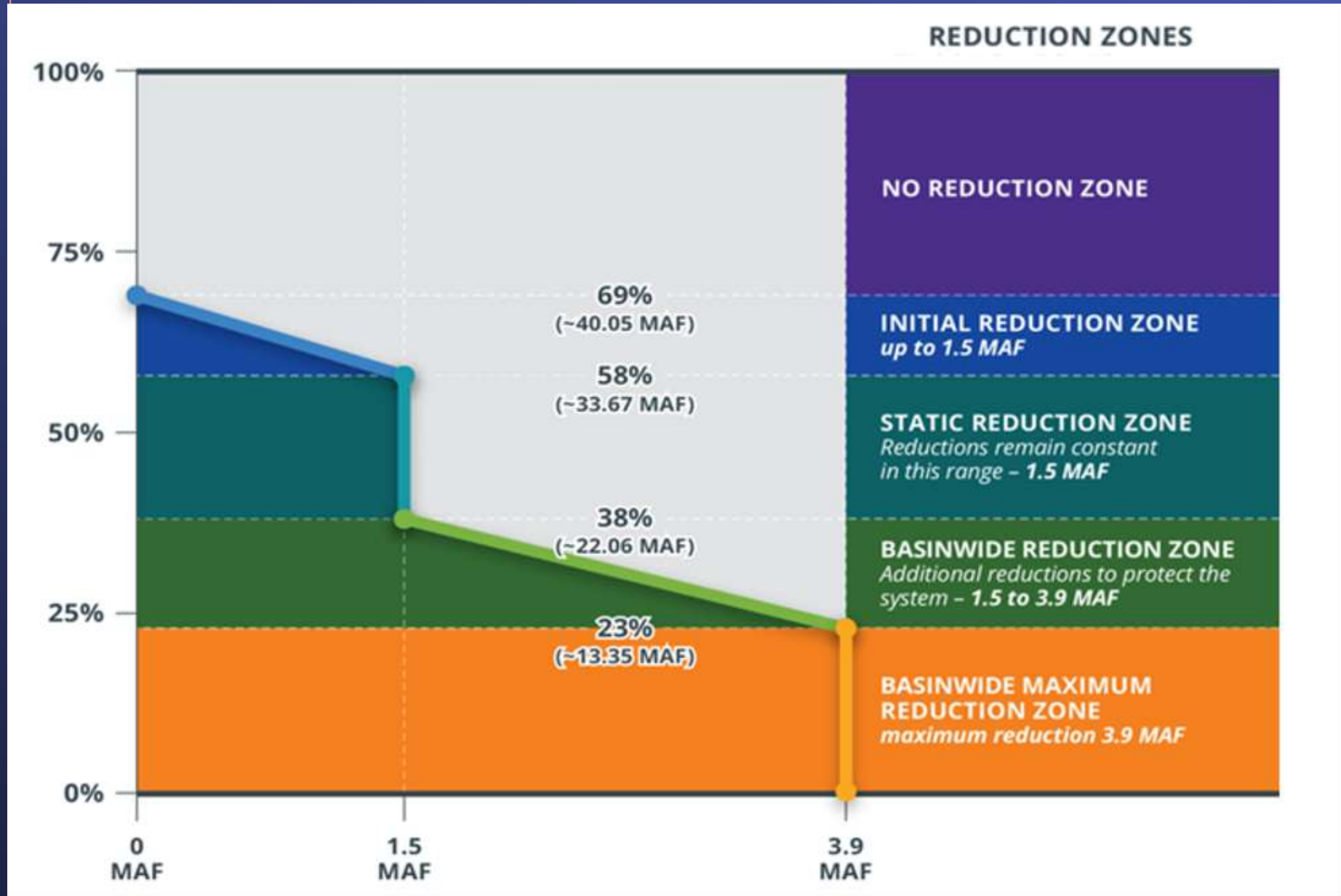
Total System Contents

- Shifts away from reliance on forecasts and elevations in Lake Powell and Lake Mead to determine reservoir releases and Lower Basin shortages
- “Total system contents” includes the contents of seven Colorado River System reservoirs: Flaming Gorge, Blue Mesa, Navajo, Powell, Mead, Mohave, and Havasu
- Provides a more holistic and sustainable approach to Colorado River reservoir operations



Lower Basin Alternative

Lower Basin Reductions & Basinwide Reductions at Lowest Conditions



Lower Basin Alternative

Lake Powell Release Regime – Upper Basin System Contents

Lake Powell Operational Tiers												
BOWY CRSP Live Capacity (%)	Operational Tier	CRSP Live Storage Volume (MAF)										
100	Equalization Release (release between 8.5 and 11.0 MAF*)	29.51										
80	Hydrologic Shortage-Based Release Regime <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>UB Depletions* (3-yr Avg) (MAF)</th> <th>Release (MAF)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>< 3.80</td> <td>7.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.81 - 4.30</td> <td>7.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.31 - 4.80</td> <td>8.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>> 4.80</td> <td>8.5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Includes net reservoir evaporation from Colorado River mainstem reservoirs.</p>	UB Depletions* (3-yr Avg) (MAF)	Release (MAF)	< 3.80	7.0	3.81 - 4.30	7.5	4.31 - 4.80	8.0	> 4.80	8.5	23.61
UB Depletions* (3-yr Avg) (MAF)		Release (MAF)										
< 3.80		7.0										
3.81 - 4.30		7.5										
4.31 - 4.80		8.0										
> 4.80	8.5											
30	Reduced Release Ramp (release between 6.0 and 7.0 MAF)	8.85										
20	Static Release (release no more than 6.0 MAF)	5.90										
0		0.00										

April Adjustment Release

*Flood control operations occur when Powell elevation is greater than 3,700-ft.
April Adjustment Release: Reservoirs balance when Mead's forecasted EOWY elevation is less than 1,000-ft while Powell's forecasted EOWY elevation is greater than 3,510-ft. Releases from Powell are constrained between 6.0 MAF and 11.0 MAF. The balancing determination is made each April and lasts through September.

Mexico's Participation

- Any participation by Mexico will be determined in a separate process between the US and Mexico through the International Boundary and Water Commission
- The Lower Basin Alternative includes assumptions regarding participation by Mexico in reductions; surplus deliveries; and the conservation, augmentation, and storage program commensurate with prior Treaty Minutes

Lower Basin Alternative

Share of Static Reduction

When total system contents reach 58% full then the Lower Basin and Mexico share the 1.5 maf Static Reduction in the volumes described in the table. The Lower Basin Alternative shares reductions in a way that honors California's senior rights.

	Reduction acre-feet/year	% of State's Basic Apportionment
Arizona	760,000	27.1%
California	440,000	10.0%
Nevada	50,000	16.7%
Mexico	250,000	16.7%
Total	1,500,000	16.7%

Lower Basin Alternative

Augmentation & Conservation

The Lower Basin Alternative proposes a new program to incentivize conservation and augmentation by allowing storage for future delivery or to meet reduction requirements

Storage of Augmentation & Conservation

- The Lower Basin Alternative includes:
 - Potential range of 5 – 10 maf of total storage for water either conserved or augmented in the Lower Basin and Mexico
 - Stored water will provide flexibility in managing reductions, including allowing for the “pre-conservation” of reductions so that water stored in a previous year could be delivered to offset reduction volumes
 - Entitlement holders eligible to participate

Accounting & Delivery of Stored Water



Limits delivery of stored water so that a state's total annual delivery doesn't exceed its basic apportionment in years when Lower Basin reductions are in place, with a few exceptions



Specifies that the volume of water stored should be subtracted from the total system contents before reductions are calculated so as not to diminish the volume of reduction that would otherwise occur absent the stored water

Lower Basin Alternative vs. Upper Division State Alternative

Addresses the structural deficit in the Lower Basin

Operates reservoirs based on system contents

Shares water use reductions broadly

Includes provisions for storage and delivery of stored water

Establishes releases from Lake Powell that are adaptable and respond to “hydrologic shortages”

Assumes Mexico’s participation consistent with past Treaty Minutes

Includes Lower Basin reductions that address structural deficit

Operates Lake Powell and Lake Mead separately - does not use system contents

Assumes water use reductions only in Lower Basin

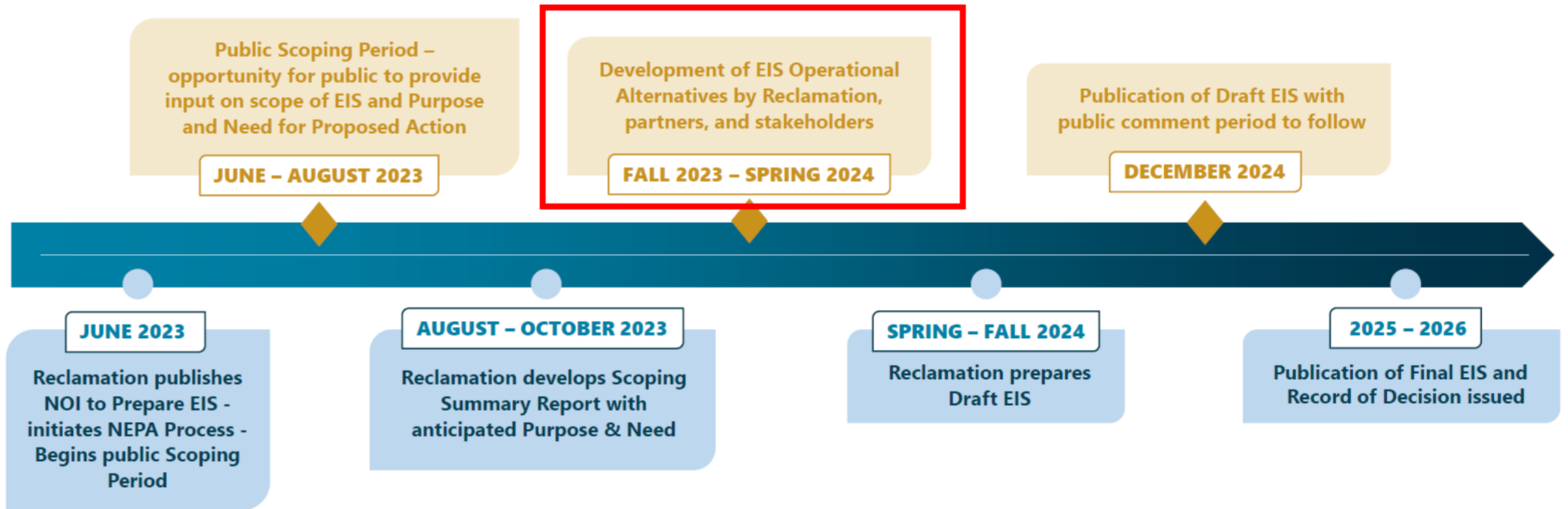
Silent on storage and delivery of stored water

Sets Lake Powell releases based on Powell elevations and Lower Basin water use

Silent on Mexico – both on Upper Basin share of Treaty deliveries and Mexico’s participation

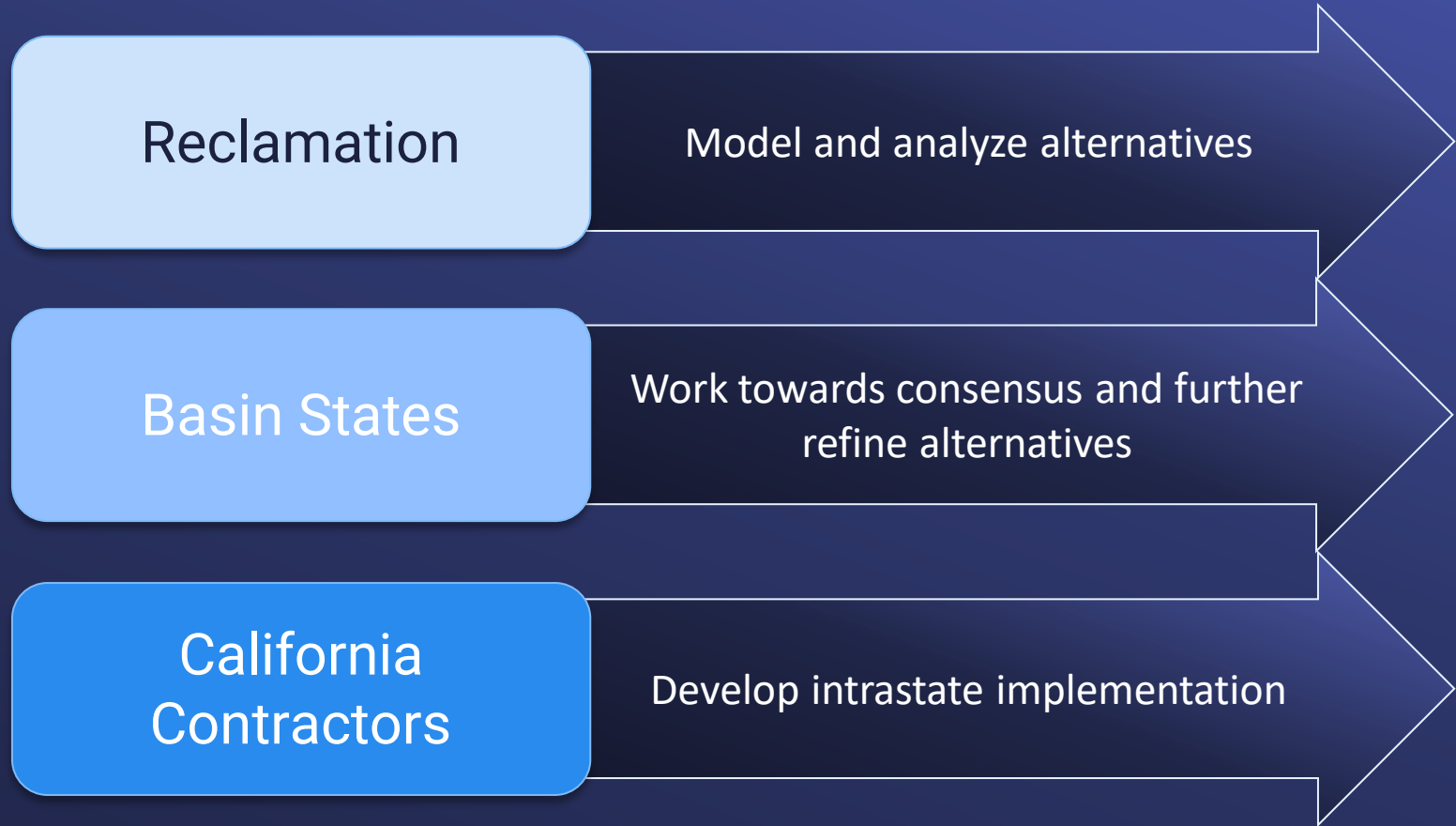
Reclamation's EIS Schedule

Post-2026 Milestone Schedule



Lower Basin Alternative

Next Steps







Water Resources Management Group

• **Water Surplus and Drought Management Update Conditions as of 2/14/2024**

Summary

This report provides the monthly update in accounting for water supply, demand, and storage conditions for calendar year (CY) 2024 as of February 14, 2024, and tracks the hydrologic conditions for water year (WY) 2023-2024. Updated supply and hydrologic information will be provided during the oral report in March.

Storms in early February brought much needed precipitation to the Upper Colorado River Basin, northern Sierra, and Metropolitan service area. As of February 14, 2024, the Upper Colorado River Basin snowpack and precipitation measured near normal at 99 and 97 percent of normal, respectively. Snowpack and precipitation totals increased in the northern Sierra but remain below normal at 79 and 82 percent of normal, respectively. For parts of Southern California, early February storms brought season total to 20 percent to over 40 percent of the total annual average precipitation according to the National Integrated Drought Information System.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is assessing the impacts of these storms on the State Water Project (SWP) Table A allocation. Results of updated hydrologic and allocation studies incorporating the February storms will be available in updates scheduled for the latter part of March. In the meantime, Metropolitan's SWP supply remains at 191 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which is the current ten percent SWP Table A allocation. Metropolitan's Colorado River supplies are currently estimated to be 828 TAF. This reflects (1) agreements that have been signed under the Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program to leave water in Lake Mead; and (2) the United States Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) daily water use forecast for California's Colorado River water users for this year. Metropolitan's Colorado River supply will change over the year based on higher priority water use in California and water management actions Metropolitan may decide to take. Combining both supply estimates, Metropolitan's imported supply is estimated to be 1.01 million acre-feet (MAF) for CY 2024.

Demand on Metropolitan, including estimated losses and other obligations, is currently estimated to be 1.50 MAF for CY 2024. Since supply is less than demand, Metropolitan's current supply/demand gap is approximately 489 TAF. However, it is relatively early in the year, and a wide range of potential supply and demand balances remain possible. Should supplies remain low, Metropolitan has dry-year storage available in its regional storage portfolio to satisfy the potential supply gap for CY 2024, including in the SWP Dependent Area, and is exploring potential opportunities for augmenting water supplies in the event they are needed.

Purpose

Informational

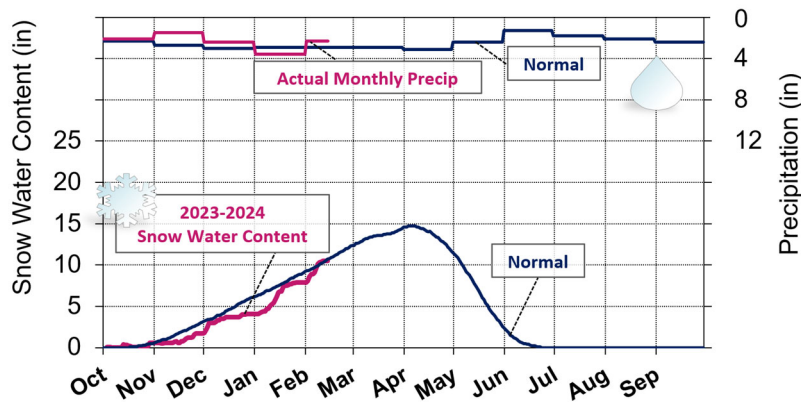
Attachments

- Attachment 1: Projected 2024 WSDM Storage Detail (10 percent SWP Table A allocation)
- Attachment 2: Future Contributions and Obligations and Cyclic Program
- Attachment 3: Range of Future Supply and Demand Gaps

Detailed Report

This Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) report provides the water supply and demand estimates for CY 2024 and developing hydrologic conditions for water year (WY) 2023-2024.

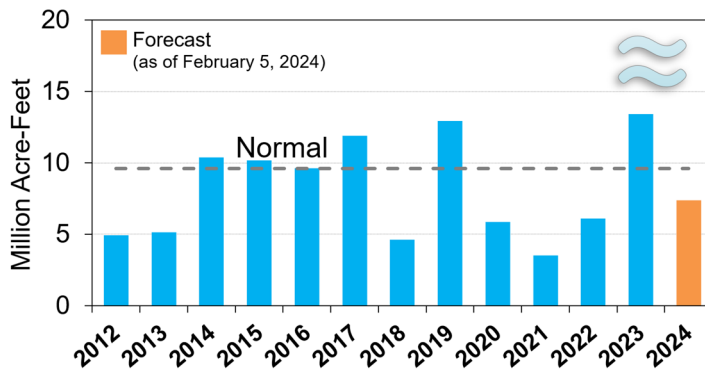
Upper Colorado Basin Snowpack & Precipitation



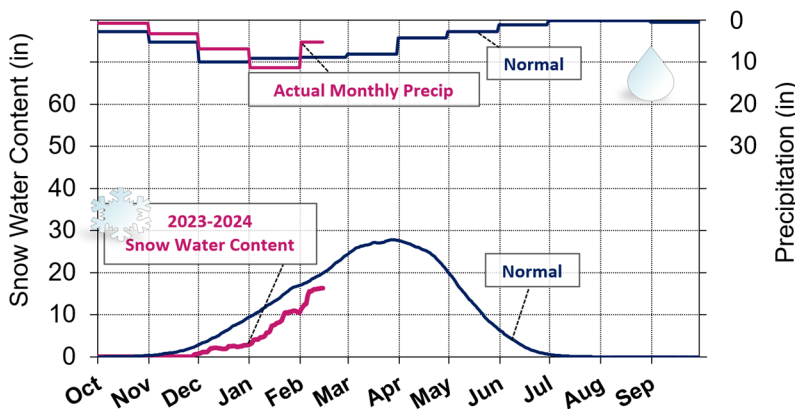
Upper Colorado River Basin

- ❄ Near normal snowpack water content for this date: 10.5 inches or 99% of normal for this date.
- 💧 Near normal precipitation to date: 11.9 inches or 97% of normal.
- ≈ Runoff into Lake Powell for WY 2024 is forecasted at 77% of normal.

Powell Unregulated Water Year Inflow



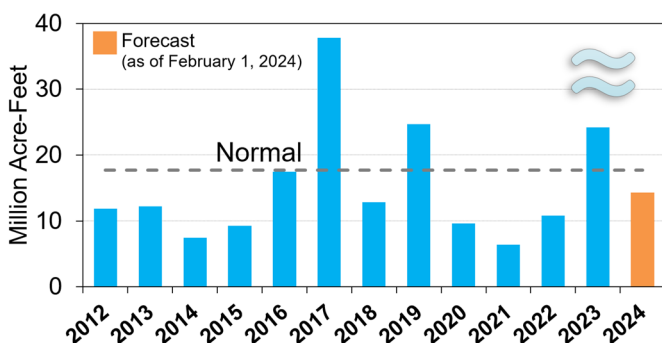
Northern Sierra Snowpack & 8 Station Precipitation



Sacramento River Basin

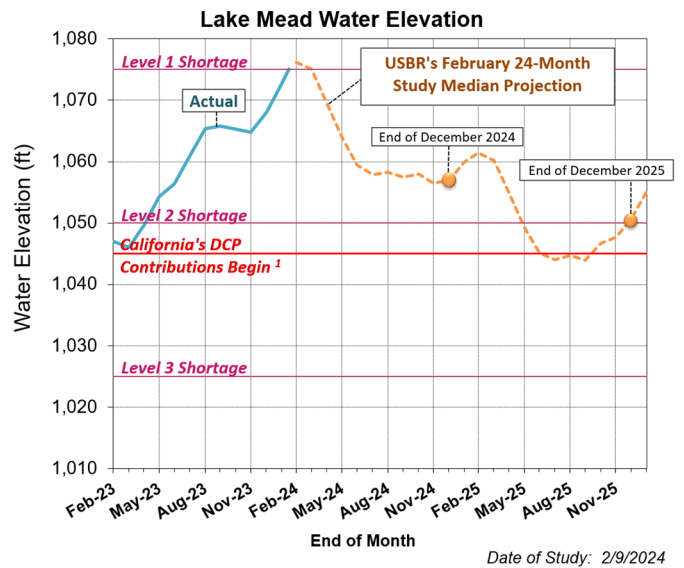
- ❄ Below normal snowpack water content for this date: 16.3 inches or 79% of normal for this date.
- 💧 Below normal precipitation to date: 26.1 inches or 82% of normal.
- ≈ Runoff forecast for WY 2024 is forecasted at 81% of normal.

Sacramento River Water Year Runoff



CRA Supplies	Acre-Feet
Basic Apportionment	550,000
IID/ MWD Conservation Program	105,000
CVWD - 2nd Amendment, Exchange of Additional Water	10,000
PVID Fallowing Program ¹	0
Exchange w/ SDCWA (IID/Canal Lining)	278,000
Exchange w/ USBR (San Luis Rey Tribe)	16,000
Lower Colorado Water Supply Project	9,000
Bard Seasonal Fallowing Program ²	6,000
Quechan Diversion Forbearance ¹	0
Quechan Seasonal Fallowing Program ³	0
Higher Priority Water Use Adjustment	-146,000
Total CRA Supplies ⁴	828,000

¹ Not a supply for Metropolitan in 2024. Water generated from these programs will become system water as part of USBR’s Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation Program to help protect Lake Mead.
² Will become system water once the agreements have been signed.
³ Rounded to the nearest thousand. Supply estimate is 281 AF.
⁴ Per USBR Forecast (2/12/2024). Total may not sum due to rounding.

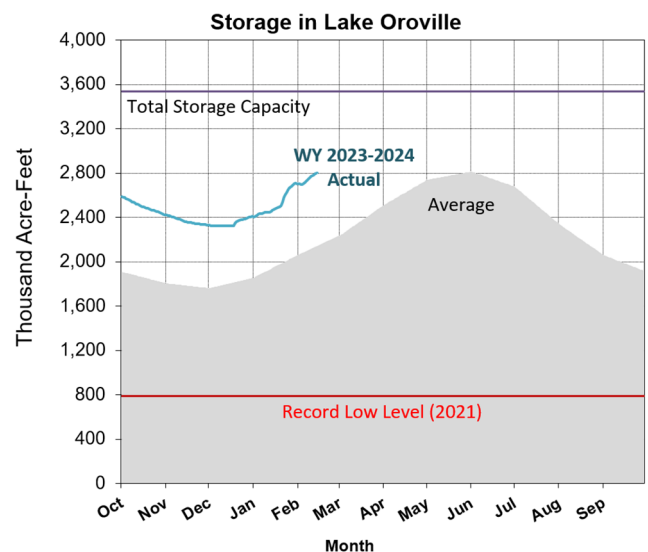


¹ Metropolitan is required to make Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) contributions in the following year if the August 24-month Study projects Lake Mead’s elevation to be at or below 1,045 feet on January 1. Since the August 2023 24-month Study projected Lake Mead’s elevation to be above 1,045 feet on January 1, 2024, Metropolitan is not required to make DCP contributions in 2024. This figure reflects the latest 24-month study (February 2024) available at the time of this report.

- Lake Mead storage is currently 9.6 MAF or elevation 1,075.0 feet (37 percent of total capacity).
- The Lower Basin is at a Level 1 shortage in CY 2024. Under this level, Metropolitan’s operations are not impacted.

SWP Supplies	Acre-Feet
Table A (10% SWP allocation)	191,000
Port Hueneme ¹	0
Total SWP Supplies ²	191,000
Total Supplies (CRA + SWP)	
(Prior to storage actions) ²	1,019,000

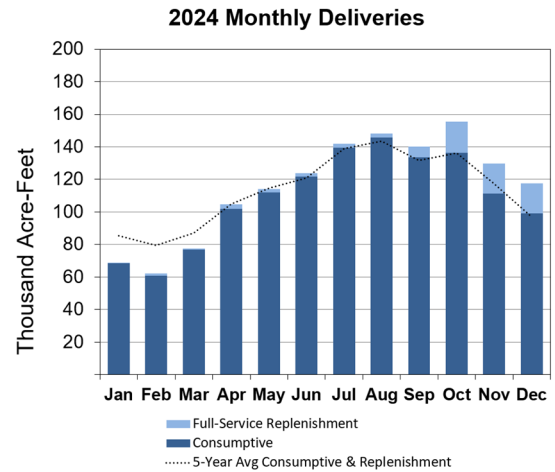
¹ Rounded to the nearest thousand. Supply is 185 AF.
² Total may not sum due to rounding.



- The SWP Table A allocation for CY 2024 is currently ten percent. Further increases to the SWP allocation are possible and will depend on future hydrologic conditions. The final allocation is typically determined in May or June.
- Lake Oroville is currently at 2.8 MAF (79 percent of total capacity) or 131 percent of historical average as of the date of this report.

Current Demand	Acre-Feet
Member Agency Consumptive ¹	1,340,000
Member Agency Replenishment	78,000
Coachella Valley Water District Agreement	15,000
Imperial Irrigation District Return ²	0
Exchange w/ San Luis Rey Tribe	16,000
System and Storage Losses	60,000
Cyclic Deliveries	0
2022 Reverse Cyclic Deliveries	0
Total Demands ³	1,509,000

¹ Includes exchange w/ SDCWA (IID/Canal Lining) and CUP sales.
² Per USBR Forecast (2/12/2024).
³ Total may not sum due to rounding.

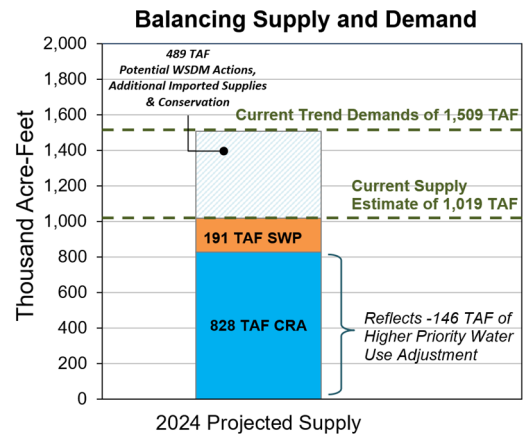


Consumptive and replenishment demand for February and March are forecasted to be slightly below the 5-year average due to higher initial local supplies.

MANAGING REGIONAL SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Supply/Demand Balance	Acre-Feet
Total Supplies	1,019,000
Total Demands	1,509,000
Current Balance Estimate ¹	-489,000

¹ Total may not sum due to rounding.



WSDM Strategies/Actions

Metropolitan is monitoring supply development and updated demand projections. Available WSDM supplies are identified to satisfy any supply/demand gap in 2024 and appropriate actions will be taken to meet demands as needed. The following is a status of WSDM and other actions:

- **Dry-Year Storage:** Metropolitan will satisfy the potential supply gap with takes from dry-year storage balance.
- **2023 Supply Reconciliation:** Metropolitan is working with DWR to take delivery of scheduled supplies not delivered in 2023 pursuant to Article 14 (b) and 12 (e) of the State Water Project Contract.
- **Cyclic and CUP Deliveries:** Ceased until further notice.
- **SWP Groundwater Banking Deliveries:** Ceased until further notice.
- **SWP Transfer Supplies:** In February, Metropolitan’s Board authorized the General Manager to secure one-year transfers and water exchanges with various water districts in the event they are needed.

2024 WSDM Storage Detail

	1/1/2024 Estimated Storage Levels ¹	CY 2024 Take Capacity ²	2024 Total Storage Capacity
WSDM Storage			
Colorado River Aqueduct Delivery System	1,544,000	182,000	1,657,000
Lake Mead ICS	1,544,000	182,000 ³	1,657,000
State Water Project System	977,000	593,000	1,991,000
MWD & DWCV Carryover	297,000	297,000	350,000 ⁴
MWD Articles 14(b) and 12(e)	0	0	N/A
Castaic and Perris DWR Flex Storage	219,000	219,000	219,000
Arvin Edison Storage Program	100,000	0	350,000
Semitropic Storage Program	190,000	45,000	350,000
Kern Delta Storage Program	114,000	32,000	250,000
Mojave Storage Program	19,000	0	330,000
AVEK Storage Program	27,000	0	30,000
AVEK High Desert Water Bank Program	11,000	0	112,000 ⁵
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	1,016,000	635,000	1,246,000
Diamond Valley Lake	753,000	496,000	810,000
Lake Mathews and Lake Skinner	207,000	95,000	226,000
Conjunctive Use Programs (CUP) ⁶	56,000	44,000	210,000
Other Programs	586,000	29,000	1,181,000
Other Emergency Storage	381,000	0	381,000
DWCV Advanced Delivery Account	205,000	29,000	800,000
Total	4,123,000	1,439,000	6,075,000
Emergency	750,000	0	750,000
Total WSDM Storage (AF) ⁷	3,373,000	1,439,000	5,325,000

¹ Preliminary start of year balances, subject to DWR adjustments and USBR final accounting in May 2024.

² Take capacity assumed under a ten percent SWP Table A Allocation. Storage program losses included where applicable.

³ Take capacity based on planned maintenance activities and current CRA supply estimate.

⁴ Total storage capacity varies year-to-year based on prior year remaining balance added to current year contractual limits.

⁵ Reflects 40 percent of the AVEK High Desert Water Bank Program's total storage capacity that has been constructed. The total storage capacity for the AVEK High Desert Water Bank is 280 TAF. Full recharge and recovery operation anticipated by 2027.

⁶ Total of all CUP programs including IEUA/TVMWD (Chino Basin); Long Beach (Central Basin); Long Beach (Lakewood); Foothill (Raymond and Monk Hill); MWDOC (Orange County Basin); Three Valleys (Live Oak); Three Valleys (Upper Claremont); and Western.

⁷ Total WSDM Storage level subject to change based on accounting adjustments.

Future Contributions and Obligations and Cyclic Programs

Table 1: Future Obligations ¹

	Beginning of Year 2024 Balance
Water Stored for IID under the California ICS Agreement and its Amendment or the 2021 Settlement Agreement with IID	266,000 ²
Storage and Interstate Release Agreement with Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA)	330,000 ³
Coachella Valley Water District Agreement	105,000 ⁴
2022 Reverse Cyclic	7,000 ⁵
Total (AF) ⁶	708,000

¹ Rounded to the nearest thousand AF. Subject to change based on accounting adjustments.

² Reflects final accounting under USBR's 2022 Water Accounting Report released May 15, 2023. IID can request a return in any year, conditional on agreement terms.

³ SNWA may request up to 30,000 AF per year.

⁴ Obligation must be met by the end of 2026.

⁵ Deferred delivery from Calleguas Municipal Water District and Three Valleys Municipal Water District. Metropolitan is required to deliver water to the member agencies by 2027. Metropolitan will deliver water to the member agencies when the SWP Table A allocation is higher than 40 percent or sooner if Metropolitan determines water is available.

⁶ Total may not sum due to rounding.

Table 2: Potential Magnitude of California's Drought Contingency Plan Contribution

	2024	2025	2026
Likelihood of Required California Drought Contingency Plan Contribution ¹	0%	0%	6%
Average Metropolitan DCP Contribution When Contributions Are Required (AF)	0	0	203,000

¹ Results from USBR's February 2024 Colorado River Mid-Term Modeling System (CRMMS) model run.

Table 3: Cyclic Program Activity¹

CY	Starting Balance (AF)	CY Actions (AF)				Ending Balance (AF)
		Cyclic Pre-Delivery	Cyclic Cost-Offset Pre-Delivery	Total Pre-Delivery	Sale Out of Cyclic to Date	
2019	51,000	147,000	19,000	166,000	91,000	126,000
2020	126,000	2,000	0	2,000	50,000	79,000
2021	79,000	0	0	0	28,000	51,000
2022	51,000	0	0	0	27,000	24,000
2023	24,000	33,000	14,000	48,000	72,000	0
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0

¹ This table is updated with actual Cyclic Program activity on a monthly basis. Total may not sum due to rounding.

Potential Future Supply and Demand Gaps (Estimate as of November 2023)

Metropolitan's Water Surplus and Drought Management Plan provides a framework for managing Metropolitan's resources in periods of surplus and shortage. To guide WSDM actions, Metropolitan constructs plausible scenarios with different supply and demand assumptions. The table below shows the projected range of plausible end-of-year supply and demand balances for Calendar Years 2025 and 2026. These ranges provide a bookend for the wide range of supply and demand balances that may unfold.

To reflect a reasonable range of future outcomes, the low supply projection is coupled with a high demand projection as one bookend and the high supply projection is coupled with the low demand projection for the other bookend. The resulting ranges and key assumptions are shown in the table below. For 2025, the supply and demand balances may range from a shortage of ~1,011 TAF to a surplus of ~1,642 TAF, and for 2026, the balances may range from a shortage of ~1,032 TAF to a surplus of ~1,660 TAF. Regardless of the conditions that may materialize in the future, Metropolitan will continue to adhere to the WSDM Plan to capture surplus water in normal to wet conditions and use stored water and drought actions in drought conditions.

Item	2025 (TAF)		2026 (TAF)	
	Low Supply/ High Demand	High Supply/ Low Demand	Low Supply/ High Demand	High Supply/ Low Demand
SWP ¹	116	1,914	116	1,914
Colorado River ²	889	1,074	853	1,077
Demand on Metropolitan ³	-1,900	-1,100	-1,900	-1,100
Other Demand on Metropolitan ⁴	-116	-246	-101	-231
Supply/Demand Balance ⁵	-1,011	1,642	-1,032	1,660

¹ SWP supplies are based on a low of 5% to a high of 100% of Table A.

² Colorado River supplies are based on estimated basic apportionment, transfers, exchanges, higher priority water use, and DCP contributions.

³ Demand on Metropolitan reflects the total replenishment and consumptive demand.

⁴ Includes Coachella Valley Water District exchange, San Luis Rey Agreement, system losses, and Reverse Cyclic and Cyclic Program deliveries.

⁵ The supply-demand balances should not be interpreted as an absolute range as they were determined by explicit assumptions to represent reasonable outcomes.



One Water and Stewardship Committee

Update on WSDM

Item 6c
March 11, 2024

Item 6c

Update on WSDM

Subject

Update on Oral Report on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Purpose

Provide updated supply and hydrologic information



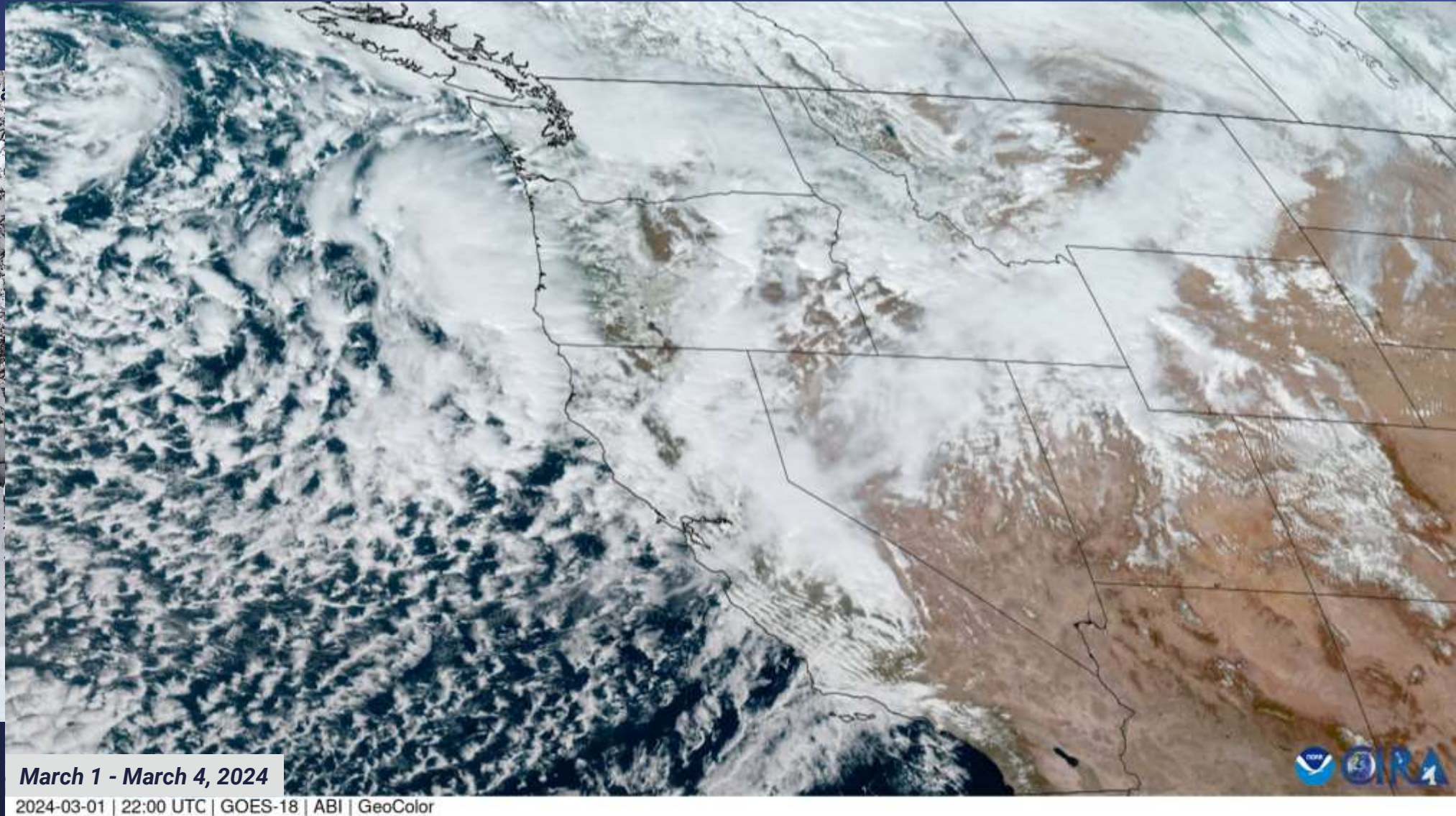
Hydrologic Conditions Update

Additional Winter Storms Impact California & the West

Lake Tahoe (M...



Credit: CNN



Imported Supply Watershed Conditions Continuing to Improve



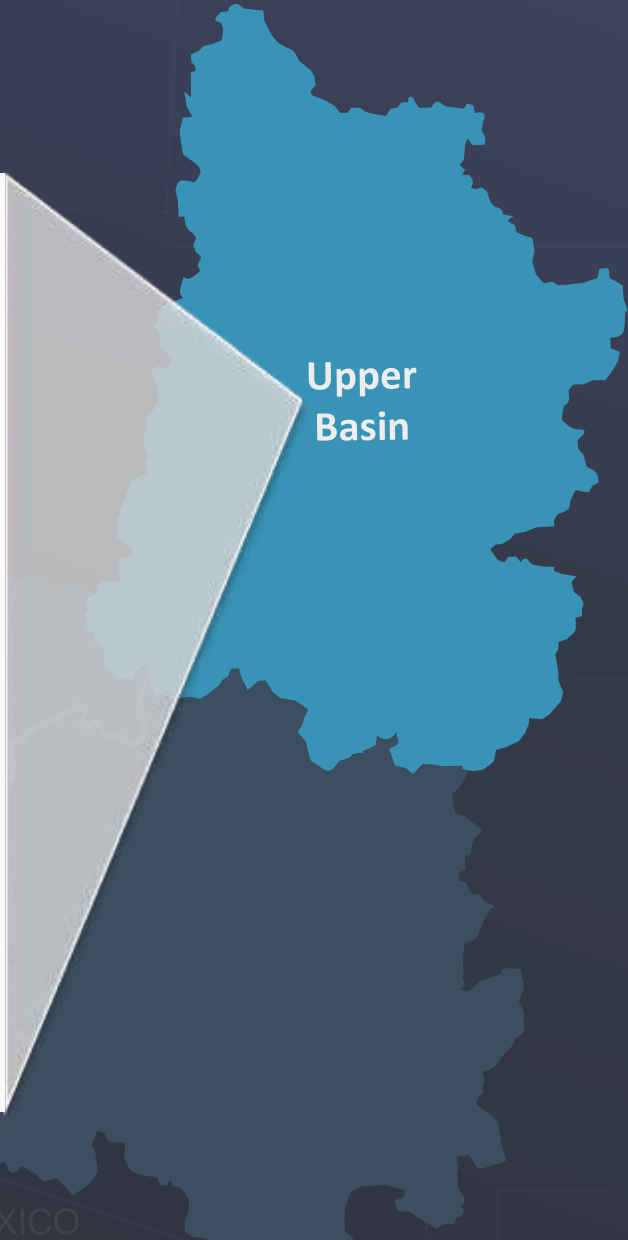
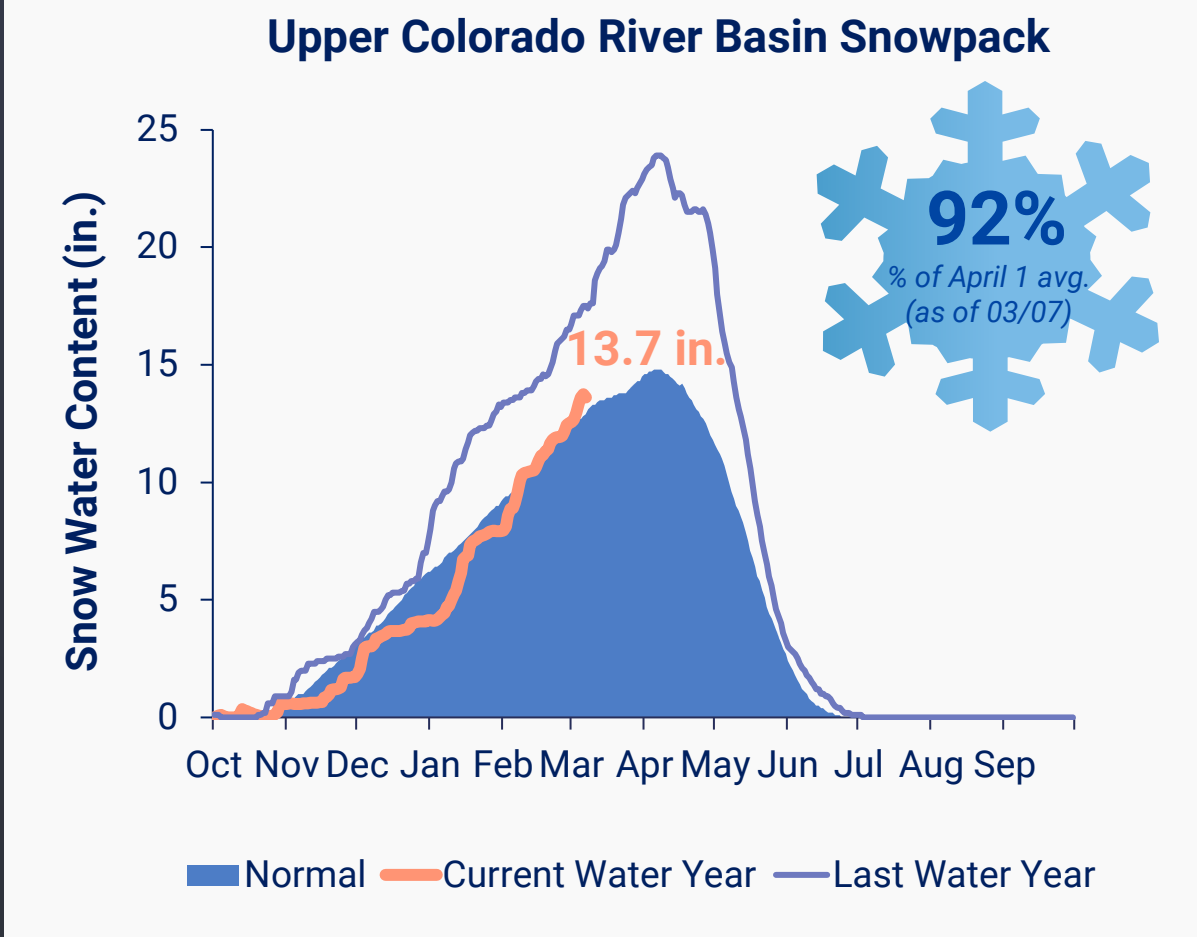
March 11, 2024

Note: Images not drawn to scale.

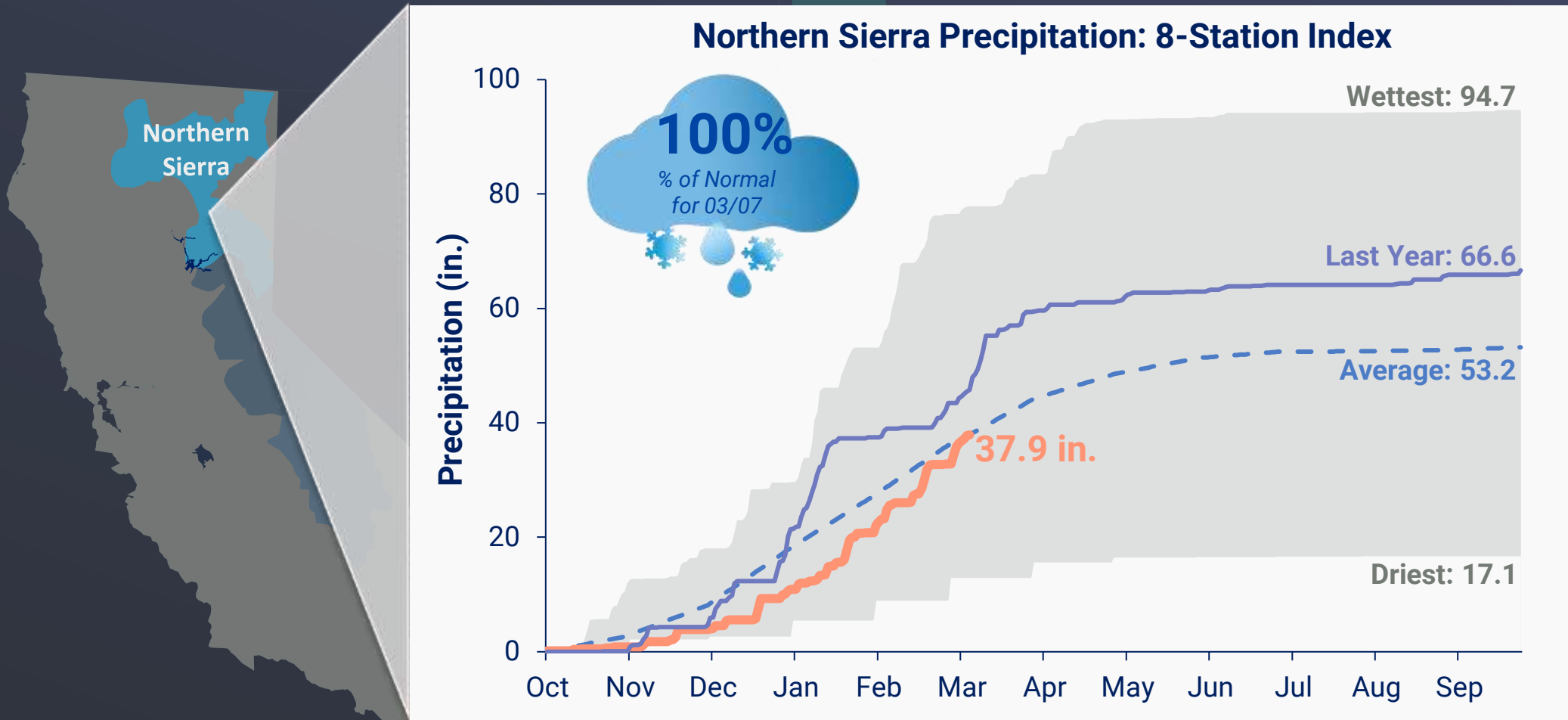
One Water and Stewardship Committee

Item #6c Slide 5

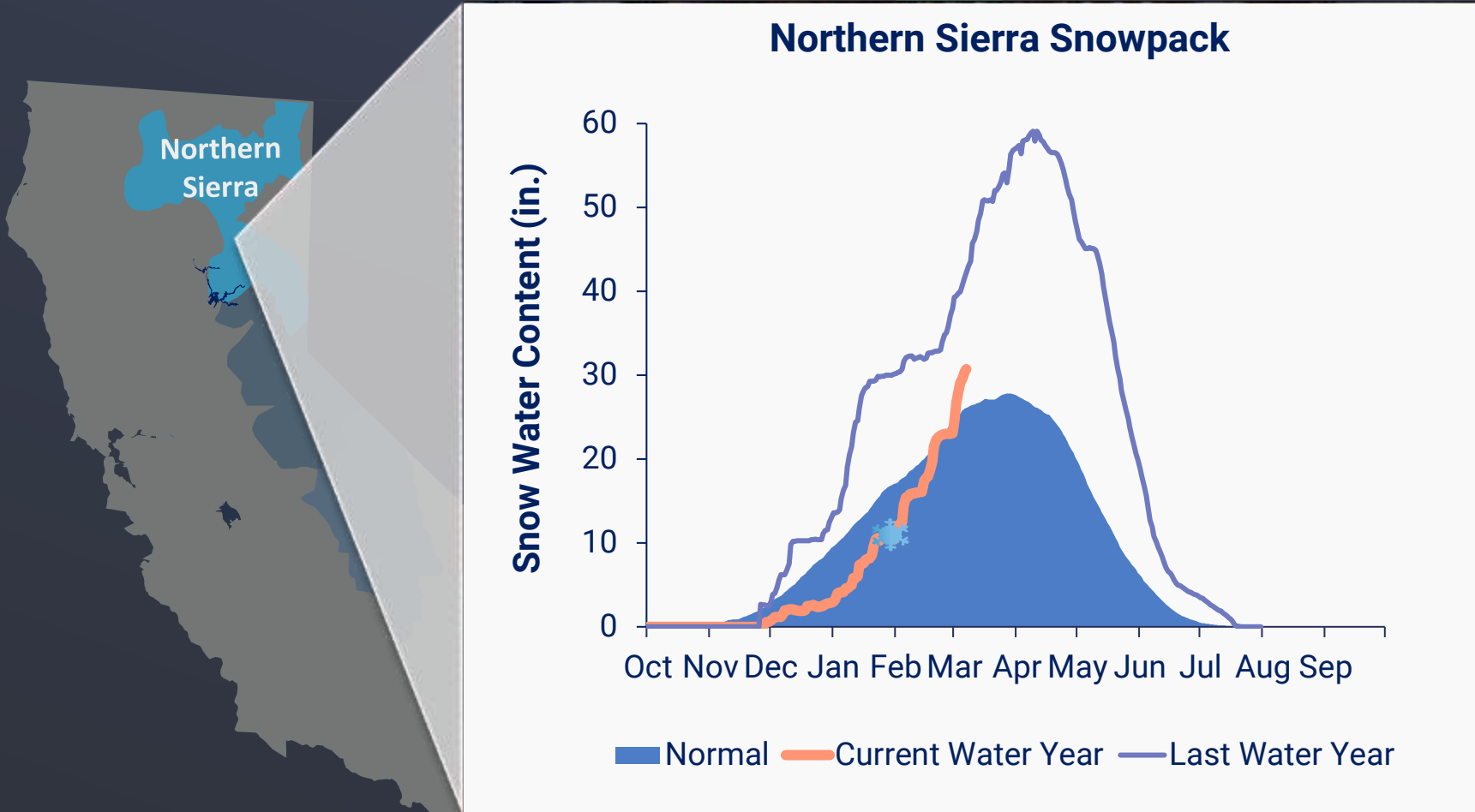
Imported Supply Watershed Conditions Continuing to Improve



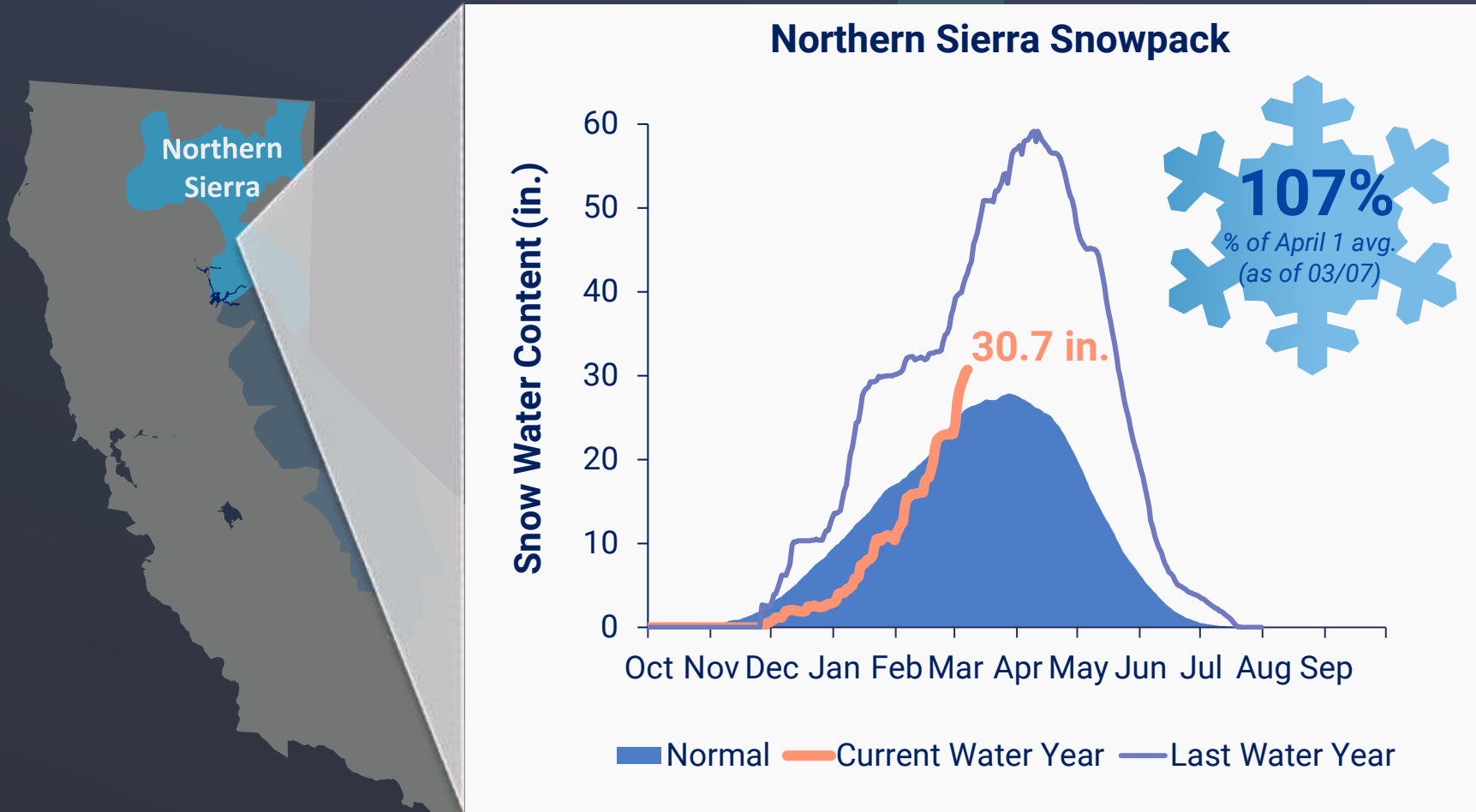
Imported Supply Watershed Conditions Continuing to Improve



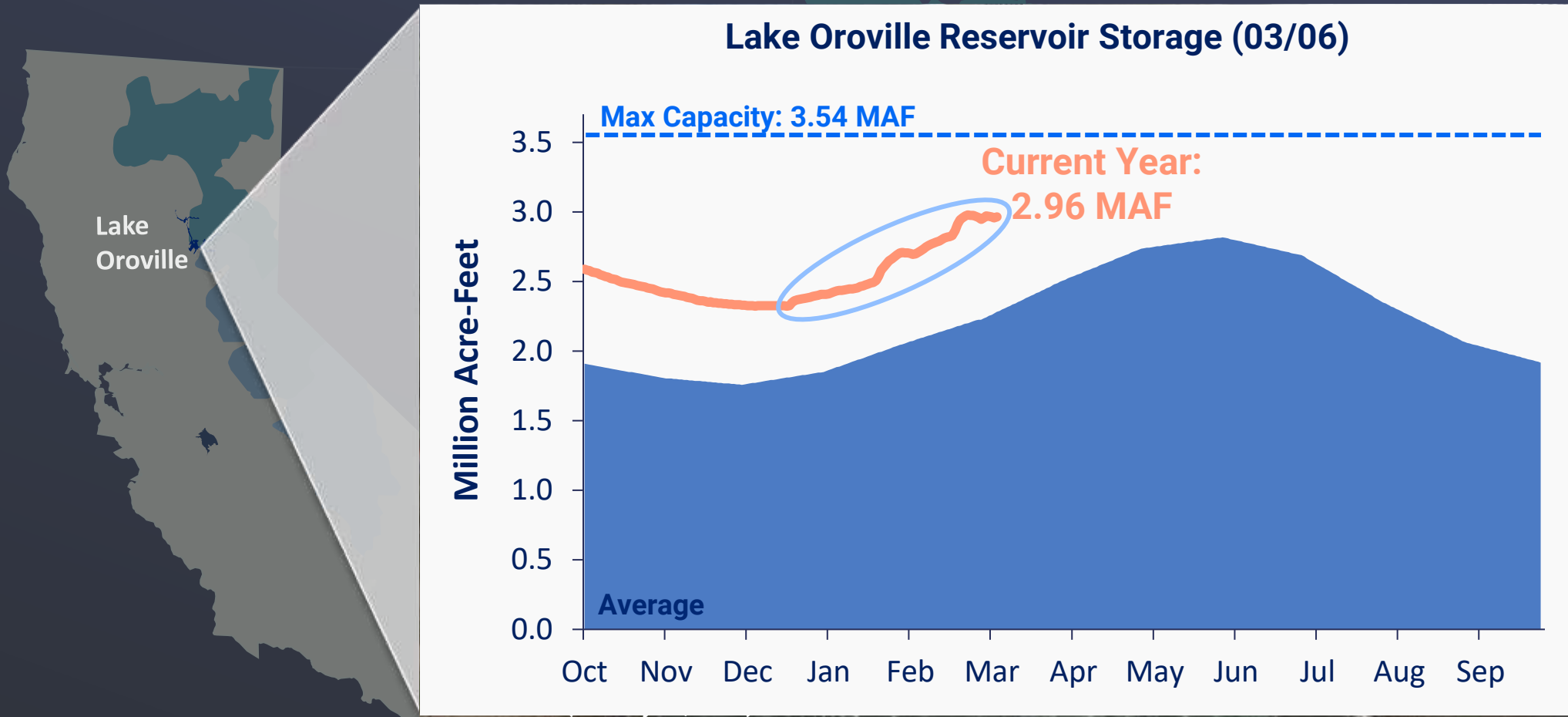
Imported Supply Watershed Conditions Continuing to Improve



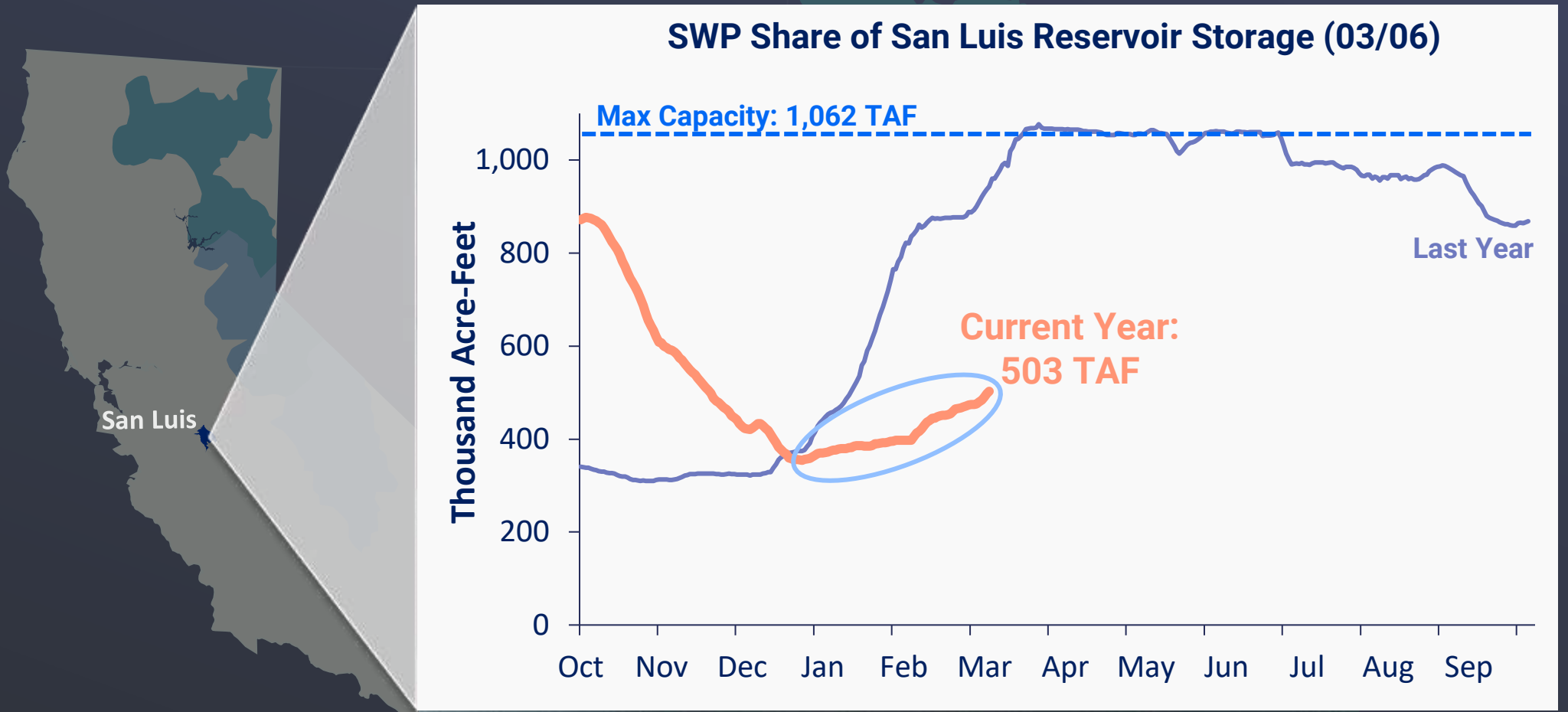
Imported Supply Watershed Conditions Continuing to Improve



Flood Control Releases Made as Lake Oroville's Levels Rise

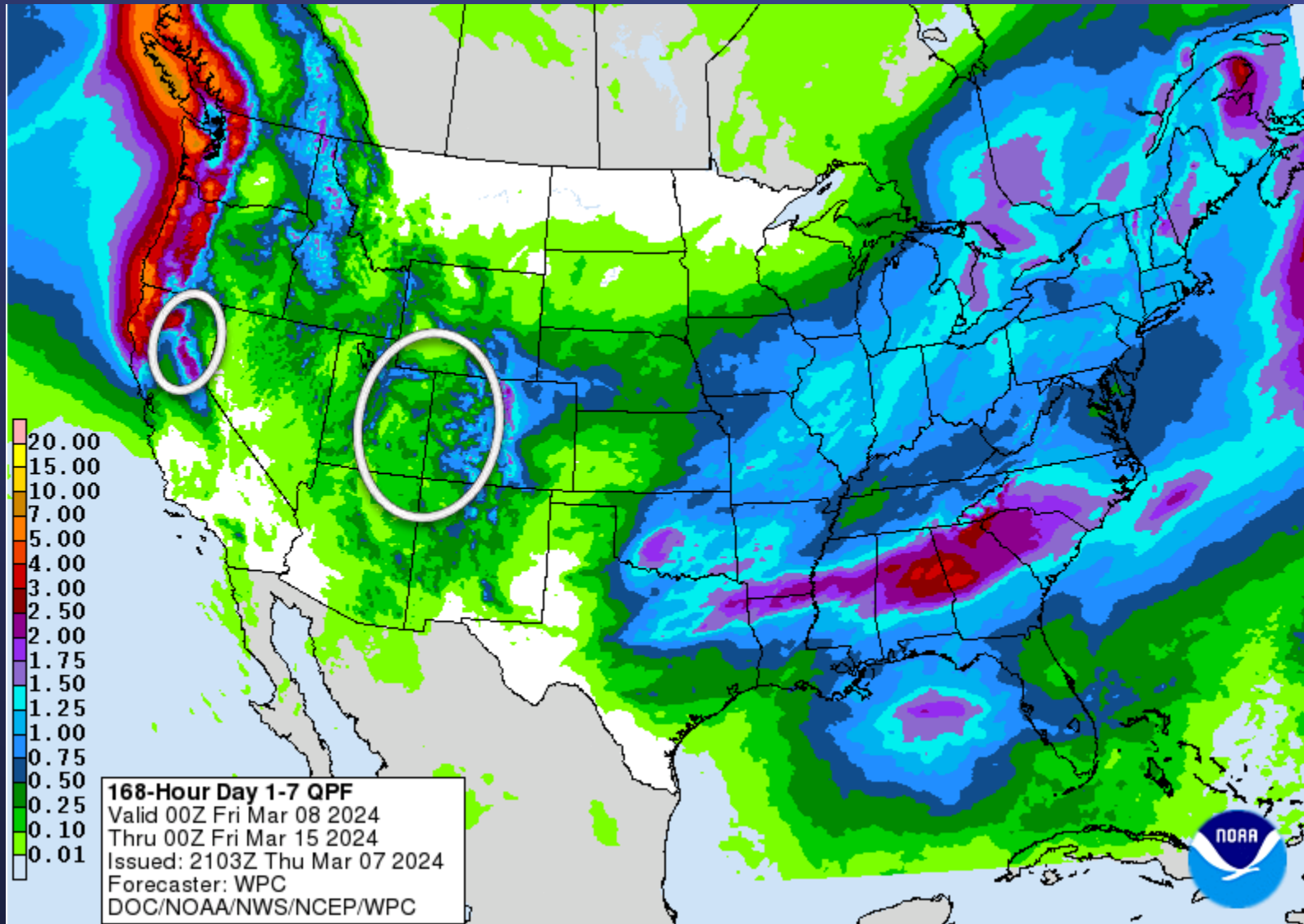


Modest Improvements in SWP Share of San Luis



Additional Precipitation in the Forecast

March 8 – March 15





2024 Water Surplus & Drought Management

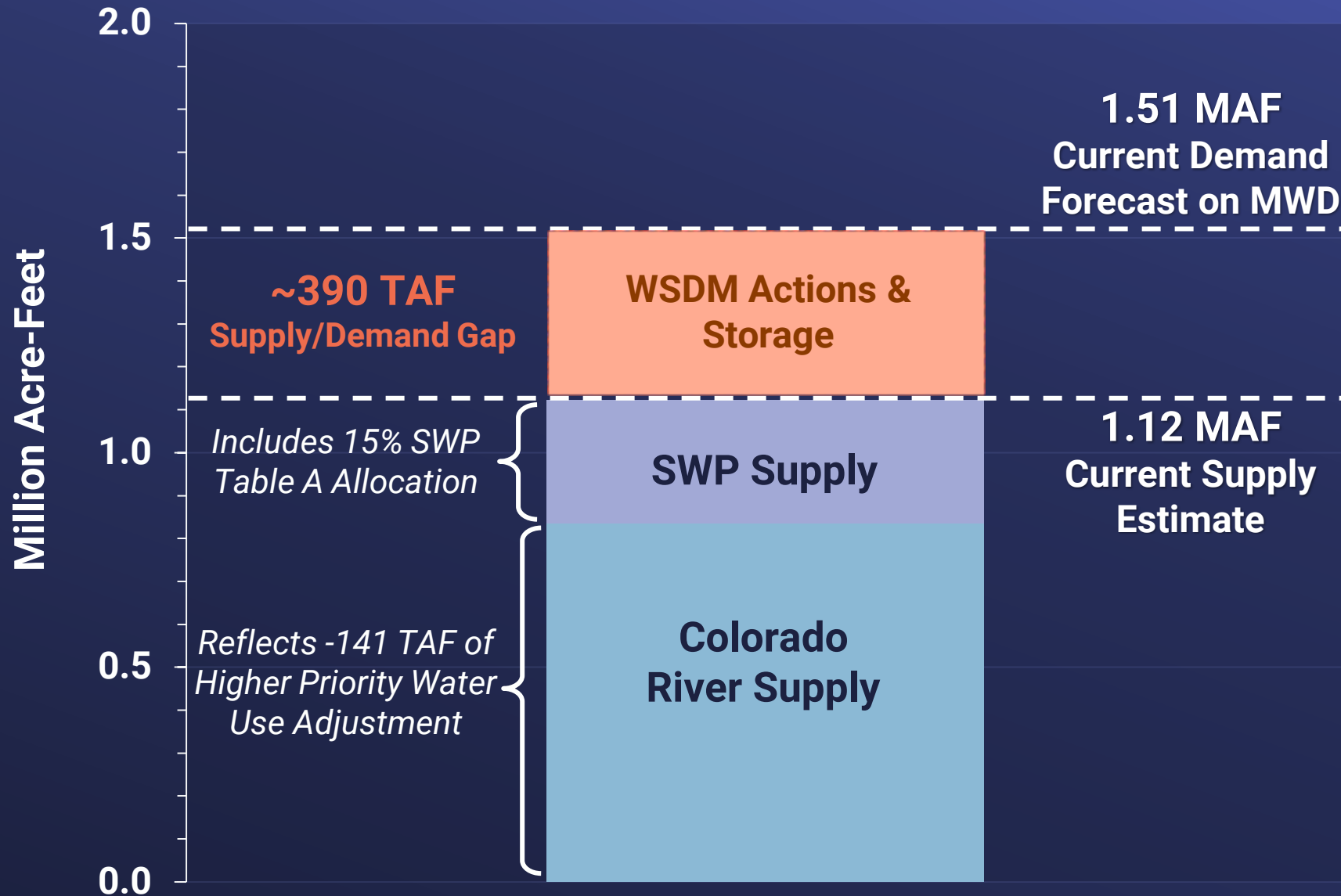


WSDM Update

SWP Table A Allocation Increases to 15%

- SWP Allocation increased from 10% to 15%
 - Update reflects hydrologic conditions as of February 1
 - Incorporates improved hydrologic conditions from late December and January storm events
- Additional increases to the SWP Allocation expected
 - March allocation update will include February's storm events and the continued improvements to the snowpack conditions
 - Regulatory obligations continue to impact the availability of supplies

2024 Water Supply/Demand Balance: *Regional View*



Note: Data as of February 26, 2024.





One Water and Stewardship Committee

Delta Levees Maintenance Funding

Item 6d

March 11, 2024

Item 6c
Delta Levee
Maintenance
Funding

Subject

Delta Levee Maintenance Funding

Purpose

Evaluate the value of Delta levee maintenance funding to Metropolitan.

Next Steps

Board discussion

Delta Levee

- Delta Levees Funding – 2 Programs
 - Enhancement “Special Projects” – 93 to 97% State share
 - Maintenance “Subventions” – 75% State share
- Maintenance Funding Program
 - Authorized 1973; additional funding in 1988, 1991, 1996, 2006
 - \$60 million/year average reimbursement requests
 - \$10 million/year average disbursements Delta-wide
 - \$500,000 average disbursements to Metropolitan





One Water & Stewardship Committee

Potential Interagency Local Supply Exchange Program (ILSEP)

Item 6e

March 11, 2024

Item 6e
Potential
Interagency
Local Supply
Exchange
Program
(ILSEP)

Subject

Oral report on Interagency Local Supply Exchange Program (ILSEP)

Purpose

The potential ILSEP creates a framework for Metropolitan to facilitate the sale and exchange of extra local supply production among its member agencies

Next Steps

Incorporate committee feedback and provide an information item in April

What Are We
Trying To
Achieve?

Develop a framework to facilitate an exchange of additional local supplies between agencies that are not connected

Member Agencies May Want To Invest In Another Agency's Local Supply

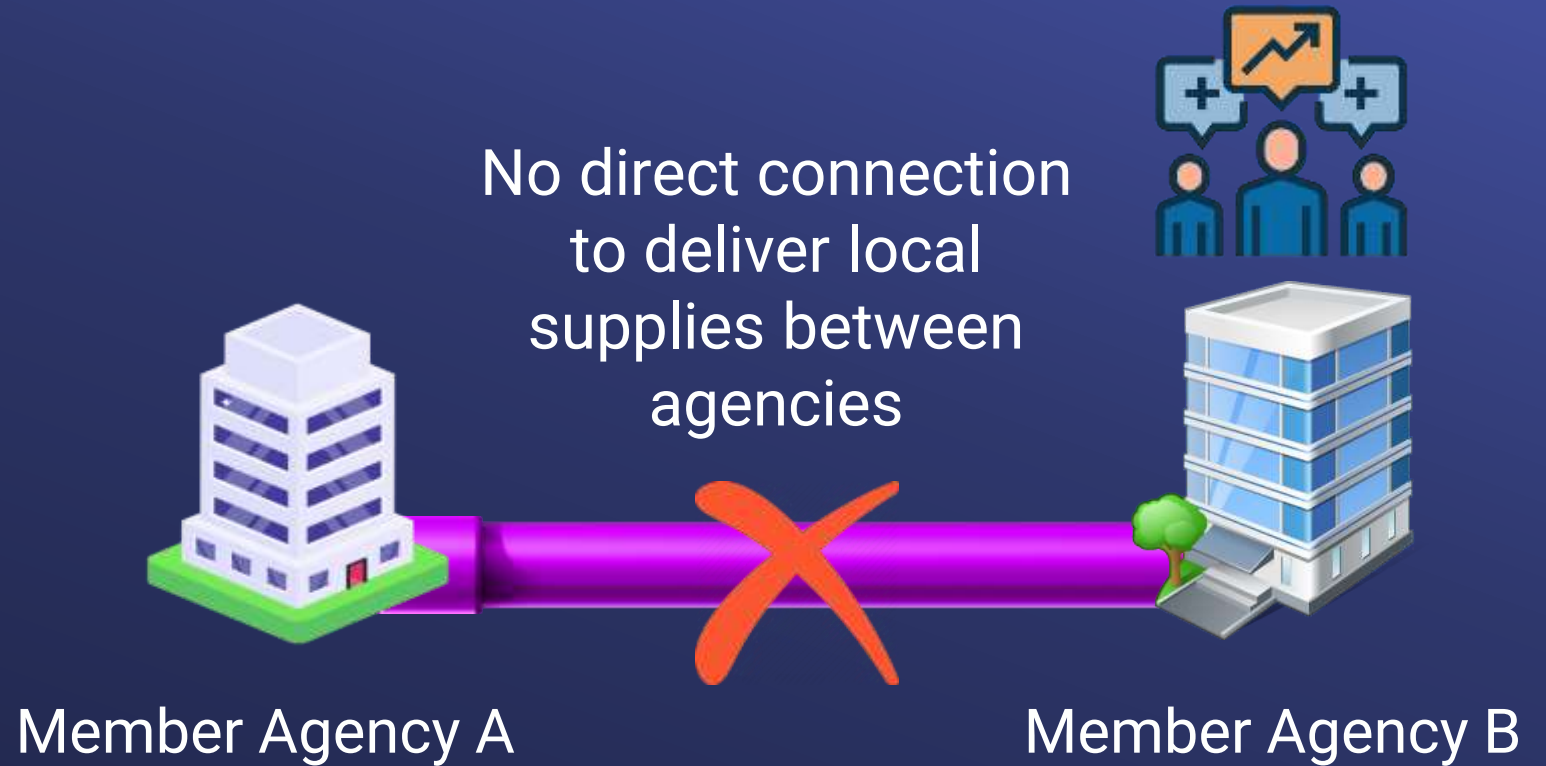


Member Agency A
has ability to increase
local supply production



Member Agency B
is interested in
investing in
local supplies

No Physical Connections Between Interested Member Agencies



As Regional Agency, Metropolitan Can Facilitate An Indirect Exchange



Member Agency A

Member Agency B

Framework Considerations: Selling Agency

1. Ensure that framework does not create a barrier for buyer to execute a voluntary transaction
2. Ensure that Metropolitan is supportive of the sale

Framework Considerations: Buying Agency

1. Ensure that there are no additional unnecessary costs above costs agreed to with the seller to purchase additional local supply
2. Ensure that there are no additional elements that would prevent the purchase of additional local supply

Framework Considerations: Metropolitan/ The Region

1. Ensure Metropolitan facilitates an exchange that increases Metropolitan's regional supply
2. Ensure there is no water supply reliability or financial impact to non-participating agencies
3. Ensure that agency pays full-service water rate for every acre-foot Metropolitan delivers
4. Ensure that during an allocation, Metropolitan is not allocating more water to participating agencies than if there was no exchange agreement in place

Framework Additional Considerations

Are there additional considerations Metropolitan should consider in developing a framework for the program?

Next Steps

- Incorporate committee feedback and develop framework
- Bring as info item in April





Office of the General Manager

• Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for February 2024.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

Delta Conveyance

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) submitted a Change in Point of Diversion Petition to the State Water Resources Control Board to review the petition for accuracy and completeness and then issue a public notice detailing their public review process. DWR, Metropolitan and other supporting public water agencies also filed appeals of the bond validation decision in response to the January 16, 2024, Sacramento County Superior Court ruling denying DWR's request for an order validating bond resolutions to finance the Delta Conveyance Project.

DWR released two fact sheets: [Delta Conveyance Project Fast Facts](#) - a compilation of quick project stats, key project features, water supply reliability, and public input; and, [Adapting to Climate Change: Catching and Moving Water from Big Storms](#) - which found that if the Delta Conveyance Project had been operational during the recent storms, about 457,000 acre-feet of water could have been captured by the State Water Project for future use through February 20. This number will be updated as available.

Delta Conveyance Related Joint Powers Authorities

At the February 15 regularly scheduled meeting, the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors meeting, the DCA Board adopted a resolution to establish a Finance Committee and appointed Director Gary Martin to chair the committee made up of DCA Board Chair Sarah Palmer and Director Martin Milobar.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Regulatory and Science Update

Staff submitted review of the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team Structured Decision Making for Delta Smelt draft report. The draft report details the final analysis of the Phase 1 effort initiated in 2019 with the objective of developing alternative actions to promote positive population growth in Delta smelt in the next 5-10 years.

Delta Islands

Staff has completed negotiations with the Delta Conservancy on the Webb Tract Grant Agreement. A floating wetland containment structure was installed in an existing impoundment on Bouldin Island and the tules located

Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

in the dough boy pools from a previous floating wetlands study on Bouldin Island will be moved to the containment structure in the impoundment as nursery stock and it will continue to be studied.



Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation Group

- **Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation Office Group Monthly Activities**

Summary

Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office February 2024 Monthly Activities

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

SRI Core Activities

The Chief SRI Office delivered a presentation to the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) Energy and Environmental Committee, delving into the essential elements and objectives of the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). The focus was primarily on its implications for water conservation and its integration into broader environmental resilience strategies. Additionally, the Chief SRI Officer took part in the Advisory Council for Climate Adaptation Science (ACCAS) in Washington, D.C., aiming to ensure shared understanding among ACCAS members regarding its purpose, roles, responsibilities, and operations. During this engagement, the ACCAS work plan was outlined, shaping future discussions around topics prioritized by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Subsequently, on February 29, 2024, the CAMP4W Task Force convened to deliberate on Time-Bound Targets, designed to track progress on resource and policy goals for multiple categories. The initial ten Targets for inclusion in the CAMP4W Year One Report were published in Working Memo #6.

Staff is working on the Climate Action Plan Annual Progress Report (CAP APR), which will feature an overview of Metropolitan's progress to implement the actions outlined in the CAP, an updated greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and the status of Metropolitan's carbon budget, which tracks how Metropolitan has advanced its GHG reduction goals. The APR highlights Metropolitan's achievements since the first annual APR was published on earth day of 2023, and also features the 2022 GHG inventory update. The CAP APR is scheduled for release earth day, 2024.

This month SRI staff also moderated a Sustainable Agriculture Roundtable for Sustain Southern California's *Sustainable Agriculture and Food* event held at the University of California Irvine's Beal Applied Innovation Center. Staff guided discussions on water management through a holistic approach to the economics of sustainable farming with a focus on soil health. SRI staff also coordinated with Metropolitan's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) to recognize Black Media Climate Justice Champions at station KBLA's annual Black History Month Luncheon.

Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Transition

In February, the SRI, the ZEV Project Team, and the ZEV Executive Task Force continued their cross-organizational activities to ensure a smooth transition to ZEVs. A ZEV First Directive is under review and provides direction on how to make purchases of ZEVs a priority when vehicles that meet operational and

Date of Report: March 12, 2024

Board Report (March 2024)

reliability needs are available. Also, SRI, Fleet, and Legal met to discuss the development of a new policy on charging needs for Fleet ZEVs. To continue communications with staff on the ZEV transition, SRI, External Affairs, and Operations are working together on an informational poster for display at all Metropolitan sites.

Sustainable Procurement Policy Development

SRI, Administrative Services, and its consultant, the Responsible Purchasing Network continued work on the revision of current Operating Policy G-05, Procurement of Goods and Services, to incorporate sustainable procurement practices. The Contracting Procedures Manual, an attachment to this policy, will subsequently be G-06 and will provide overall guidance and state Metropolitan's commitment to sustainable procurement. It will be issued after the revision of Operating Policy G-05.

Centralized Grants Management Office

CGMO is finalizing a MyLearning Grant Training program for Metropolitan staff to provide online time training to assist project managers throughout the district. We are also launching a Water Grant Network for member agencies and will be starting training in the spring. Staff continues to expand and promote the use of eCivis with group representatives. Most time is spent assisting the team and other groups throughout the district in researching grants, evaluating eligibility, preparing project proposals, reviewing draft agreements, and tracking and reporting project status. Staff is coordinating several new applications, including one for the workforce development project for submittal this spring. Staff is also reviewing State and Federal funding programs, appropriations, and legislation to assess future funding opportunities. The State budget is expected to limit new funding opportunities and/or funding amounts in FY 24/25. Delays in federal appropriations may also affect State Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund programs.

Innovation, Pilots, and Emerging Technologies Update

WaterStart shared the Results of the Phase 1 Global Workshops and Partnerships on the Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Superbowl, Grand Prix, and other large events. WaterStart also presented the results of the Partner's request for a search for technologies that have Rapid Detection of Water Quality Anomalies in the Distribution System that was included in WaterStart's Global Request for Proposals (RFP) Round 24, which opened on October 16, 2023, and closed November 22, 2023. A total of 12 proposals were received from global solution providers from seven countries. The Group reviewed the proposals and discussed partnerships for pilots on the technologies responding to the RFP. Phase 2 of the Global Workshops and Partnership on Olympics, etc., will focus on Cyber Security, Water Security, AI, and Emergency Response for the Olympics and large events. SRI Innovation, Bay Delta, and WRM Groups also participated in WaterStart's facilitated peer-to-peer Workshops with Anglian Water on agriculture technologies and pilots. As a member of WaterStart, Metropolitan's member benefits include peer-to-peer global facilitated discussions and presentations between members and sharing new technologies or discoveries that benefit all members and the water industry; co-funded pilots; H2O TECHCONNECT/Channels for Innovation joint community; global partnerships; and many more benefits. The next RFP for water technologies will be sent out in April.

Environmental Planning Section

In February, EPS staff continued preparing CEQA documents for large capital projects including finalizing the F. E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant and La Verne Site Improvements Program Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in anticipation of an upcoming board action to approve the program and certify the EIR. Staff also continued to prepare the administrative draft Program EIR and associated technical studies for the Pure Water Southern California Program. The 30-day public review period closed for the Garvey Reservoir Rehabilitation Project Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR; preparation of the Draft EIR is ongoing. Staff conducted construction monitoring for several projects including PCCP Reach 3B Rehabilitation and Perris Valley Pipeline projects, and all final mitigation monitoring documentation was completed for the Etiwanda Pipeline Relining construction.

EPS staff also supported critical Water System Operations activities, including providing CEQA and regulatory clearances, as well as pre-construction surveys and construction monitoring support, for operations and

Board Report (March 2024)

maintenance activities throughout the service area. Activities included permitting support for emergency erosion repairs along the Foothill Feeder, environmental clearances for the San Jacinto Pipeline and Upper Feeder shutdowns, and preparations for the upcoming March 2024 Colorado River Aqueduct shutdown, for which EPS will dedicate a full-time staff person and consultant staff to provide biological surveys and monitoring for sensitive resources during the shutdown. Environmental Planning staff also supported the Allen McColloch Pipeline urgent relining to ensure that all environmental commitments and mitigation measures are addressed before the pipeline shutdown in April.

EPS staff provided subject matter expert reviews of several legislative bills including AB 1838 (Jackson) Wildlife Areas: San Jacinto Wildlife Area; AB 1284 (Ramos) Tribal Ancestral Lands and Waters: co-governance and co-management agreements; AB 1951 (Fong) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: roadside wildfire prevention projects; and AB 2252 (Mathis). EPS staff completed environmental clearances for two real estate agreements, and staff reviewed and analyzed notices for 18 external projects to determine the potential impacts to Metropolitan and protect Metropolitan's right-of way and facilities; comment letters were prepared and submitted for those projects that had the potential to affect Metropolitan.

Environmental Planning also continued oversight of reserve management activities to ensure that valuable natural resources are protected and to ensure that Metropolitan's mitigation obligations are met. Activities at the Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve included maintenance of fencing and removal of an adjacent property owner's fencing illegally encroaching into reserve property. Activities at the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve included removal of non-native plants along roads for fire and habitat management, coordination with researchers conducting Quino checkerspot butterfly, Stephens' kangaroo rat, coastal California gnatcatcher, and rare plants surveys. In addition, the Alamos Schoolhouse interpretive center was open, and the Reserve Interpreter hosted birding events on Saturdays. The interpreter was also at the DVL Wildflower Trail on Saturday mornings following the trail's opening in late February. Comprehensive security patrols were conducted throughout both reserves to prevent trespassing, vandalism, poaching, and theft and to protect the Reserve's natural and cultural resources, facilities, and equipment.

Land Management

Nuevo Development Company, LLC was issued a five-year license agreement to operate egg distribution and conveyor equipment on Metropolitan's land near Lake Perris. Nuevo is replacing the prior tenant that had a lease agreement with Metropolitan.