

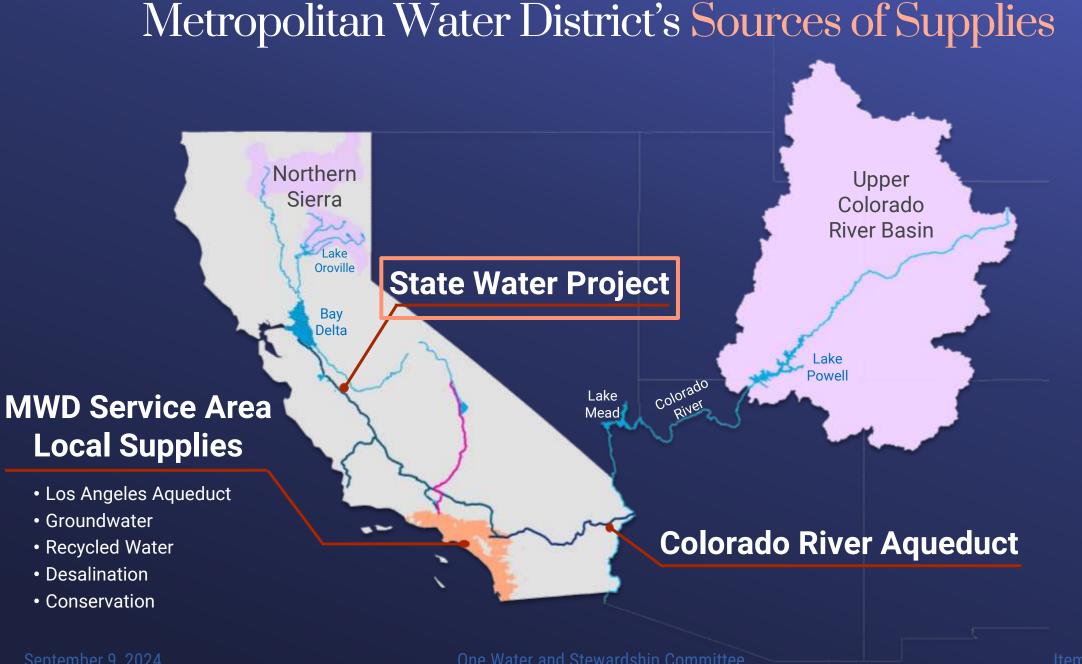
#### One Water and Stewardship Committee

# Update on State Water Project Overview

Item 6d September 9, 2024 Item 6d Update on State Water Project Overview Subject State Water Project Overview

Purpose

Provide a history of and challenges to the State Water Project and the benefits and costs of the State Water Project to Metropolitan



Lake Oroville (March 17, 1970)

# Background on the State Water Project

September 9, 2024

Harris Margarette and

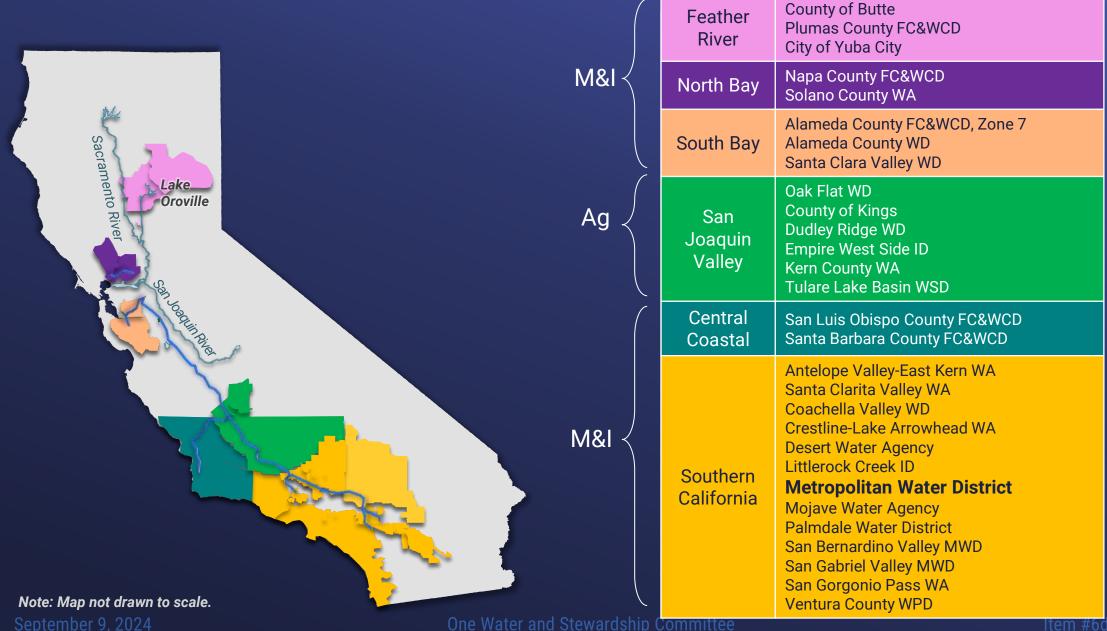
## History of Metropolitan & the State Water Project



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## State Water Contractors

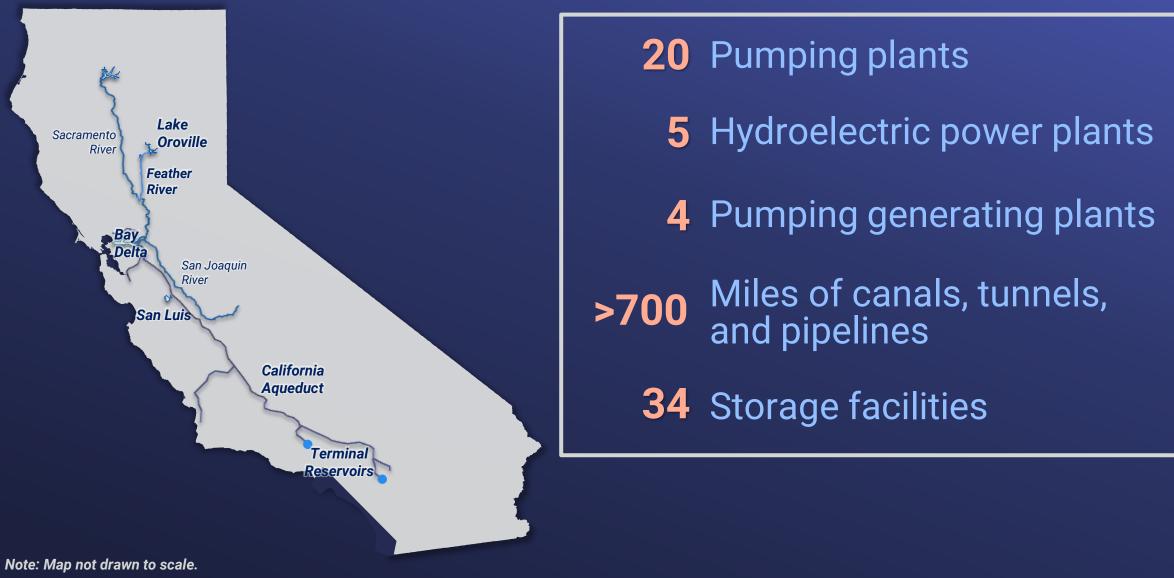


Region

**Contractors** 

SWP Contract Extension & Subsequent Amendments

- In 2018, Metropolitan's SWP contract extended to 2085
  - Stability for participation in State Water Project
  - Improved the project's overall financial integrity and management
- In 2021, water management amendment approved for SWP contract
  - Additional flexibility to manage its SWP supplies
    - Provides additional tools to manage SWP water more efficiently
    - Creates new opportunities for creative partnerships with other agencies
    - New provisions provide fair compensation for transfers and exchanges



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Credit: DWR



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Hydropower Generation

> SWP is a major producer & consumer of power

- The SWP self-generates the majority of its own power demands
  - Fourth largest generator of hydropower in California
    - SWP provides ~14% of state's hydroelectricity
  - Produces power sold to grid during peak demand hours
    - Displaces fossil fuel generation
    - Lowers GHG emissions
    - Generates revenue → lowers water delivery costs



Hyatt Power Plant (May 2022)

Credit: DWR

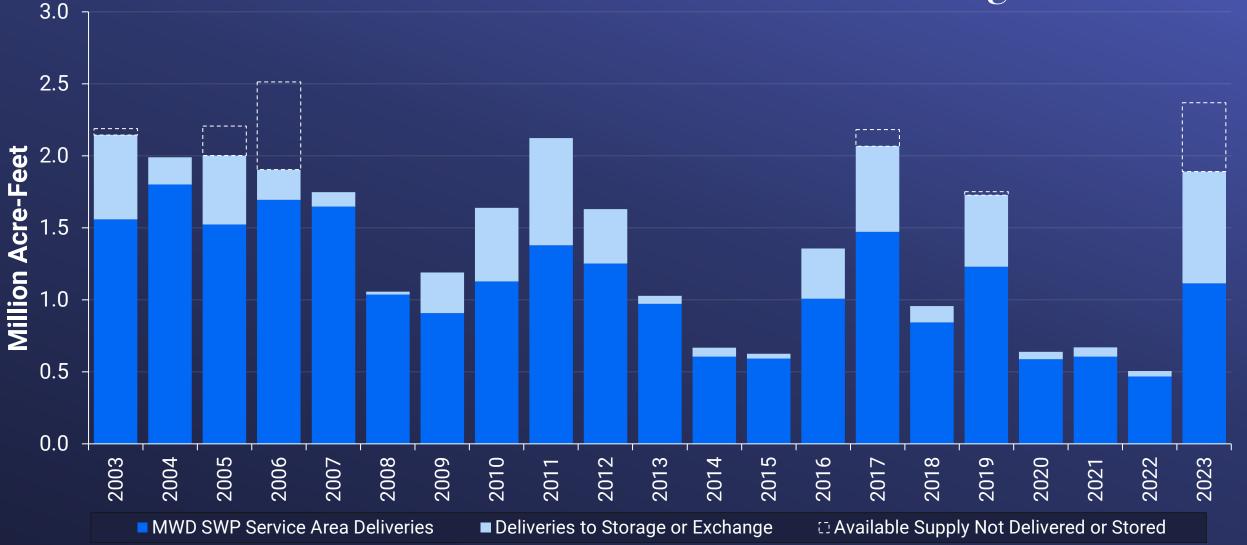
# Benefits from the State Water Project

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# Water Supply

### SWP Deliveries to Service Area & Storage



Note: Service area deliveries include Table A Supplies, Art. 21, Art. 14(b), Art. 12(d), Art. 12(e), Art. 55, draws from storage & carryover, DWCV & other exchanges, transfers, Drought Water Bank and Dry Year Pool Purchases, Pools A&B, Flood Water, wheeling, Port Hueneme lease, and SBVMWD Purchases. Deliveries to storage or exchange includes deliveries to groundwater storage, carryover, flexible storage, HH&S repayment, and returns to exchange programs.

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# Water Quality

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Water Quality



Deliveries to USG-03 (June 2024)

- Southern California's consumers and local supplies depend on SWP's high-quality water
- SWP supplies help Metropolitan meet salinity goals of 500 mg/L at treatment plants
  - SWP supplies typically contain lower total dissolved solids (TDS) compared to CRA supplies
    - Average TDS: 250-325 mg/L (SWP) vs. 625 mg/L (CRA)
  - SWP supplies preferred for blending purposes
- SWP's water quality and salinity management desirable for groundwater basins and recycled water



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## Metropolitan's Flexible System

**Surplus Year Operations** (Higher SWP Allocations)

- Maximizing West Branch & East Branch
- Maximizing SWP Blends
- Minimizing CRA Diversions
- Maximizing Groundwater Deliveries
- Replenishing Storage
  Accounts



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## Storage Portfolio

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## SWP Essential to Metropolitan's Storage & Reliability



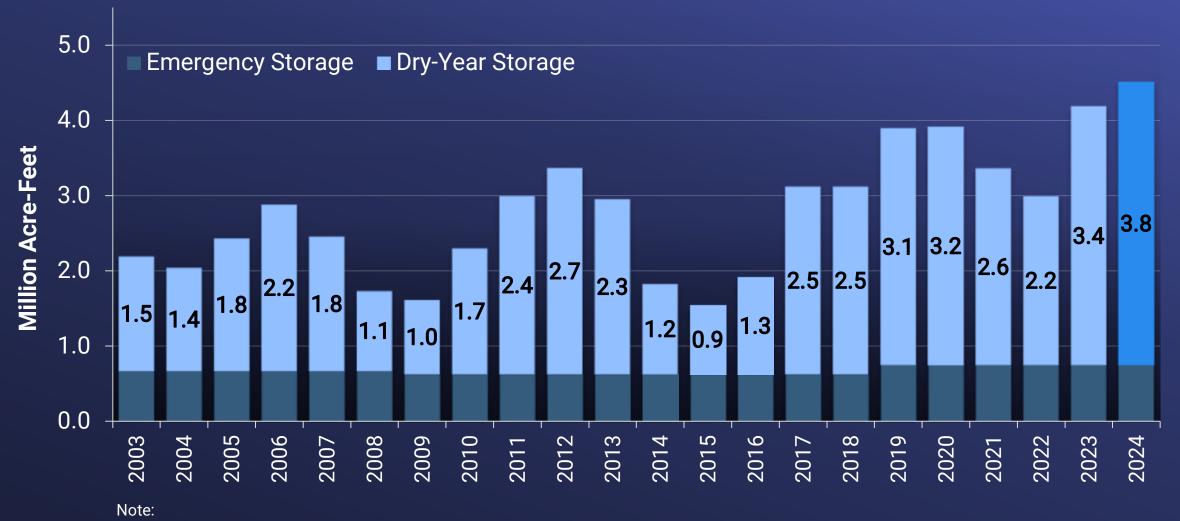
*Note: Map not drawn to scale.* September 9, 2024

## Metropolitan's Water Supply/Demand Balance Strategy

Theoretical Examples



### Metropolitan's Record-High Storage End-of-Year Balances



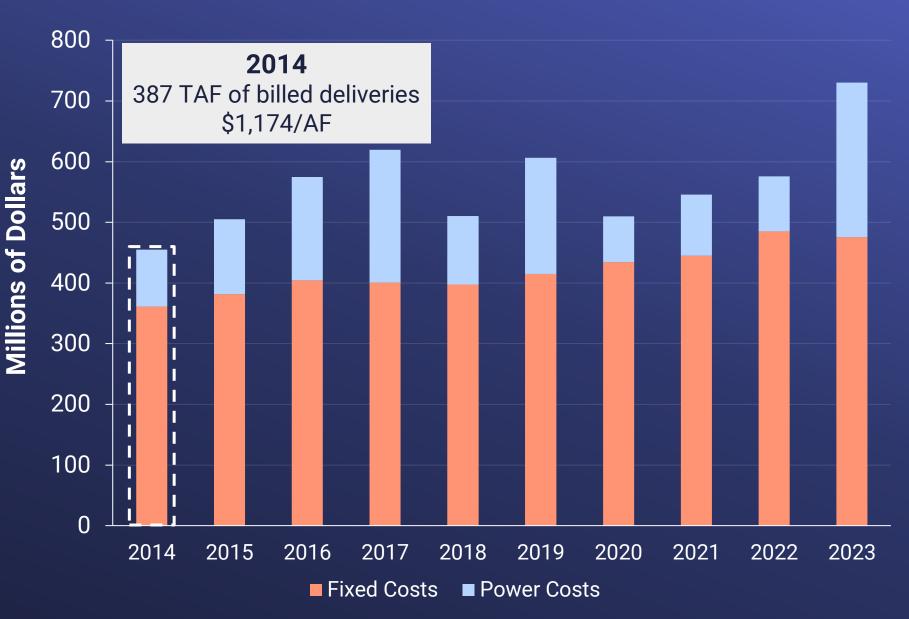
2024 end-of-year balance is preliminary as it is subject to DWR adjustments and USBR final accounting.

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California Aqueduct (May 13, 2023)

# Costs & Value of the SWP

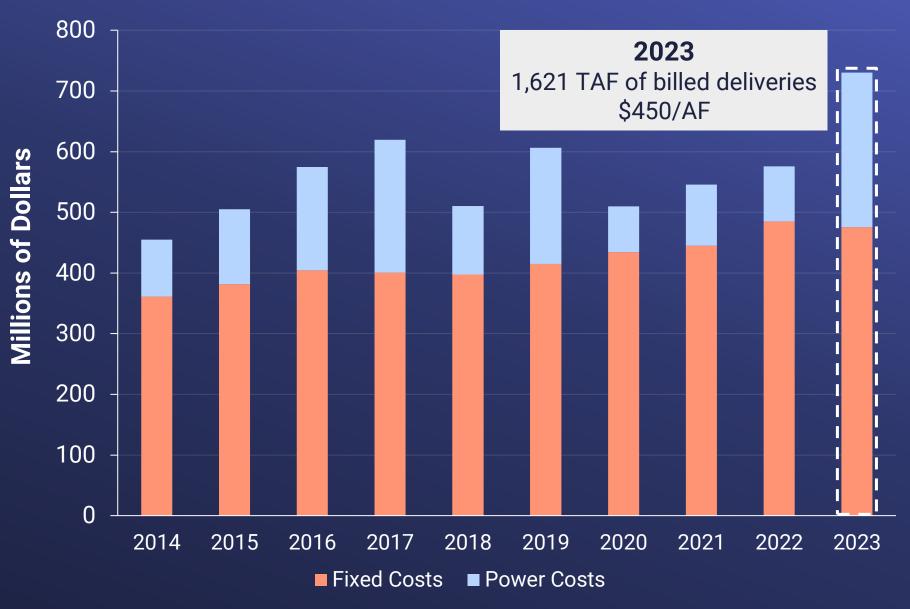
## Metropolitan SWP Charges 2014-2023 (in nominal dollars)



Note: Data compiled from Department of Water Resources Bulletin-132-23 Appendix B. Dollar per acre-foot calculation utilizes total billed deliveries from Table B-5B.

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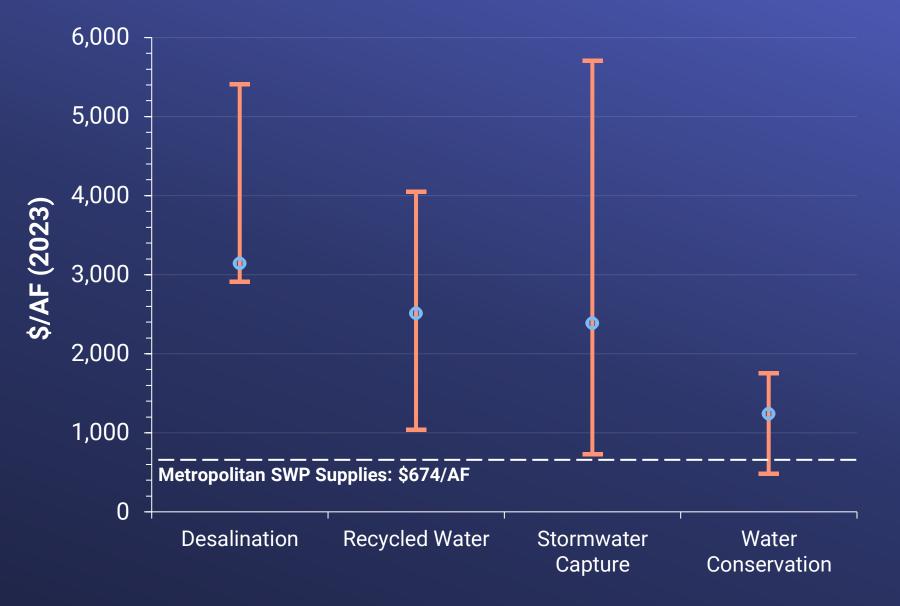
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Metropolitan SWP Charges 1963-2023 (in 2023 \$)



Note: Data compiled from Department of Water Resources Bulletin-132-23 Appendix B. Total deliveries and dollar per acre-foot calculation utilizes total billed deliveries from Table B-5B.





Sources: Metropolitan SWP costs calculated from DWR Bulletin-132 and adjusted to 2023 dollars. Other values from previous studies by the Pacific Institute, PPIC, and CPUC and adjusted to 2023 dollars as published in "Facts About the Economic Value of the Delta Conveyance Project"

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Lake Oroville (April 26, 2024)

Credit: DWR

# Present & Future Challenges

Arrithm









#### Climate Change

## **Regulatory Restrictions**



Water Quality





**Endangered Species** 

*Note: Photos courtesy of DWR.* September 9, 2024

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## Effects of Climate Change



Infrastructure Stressors

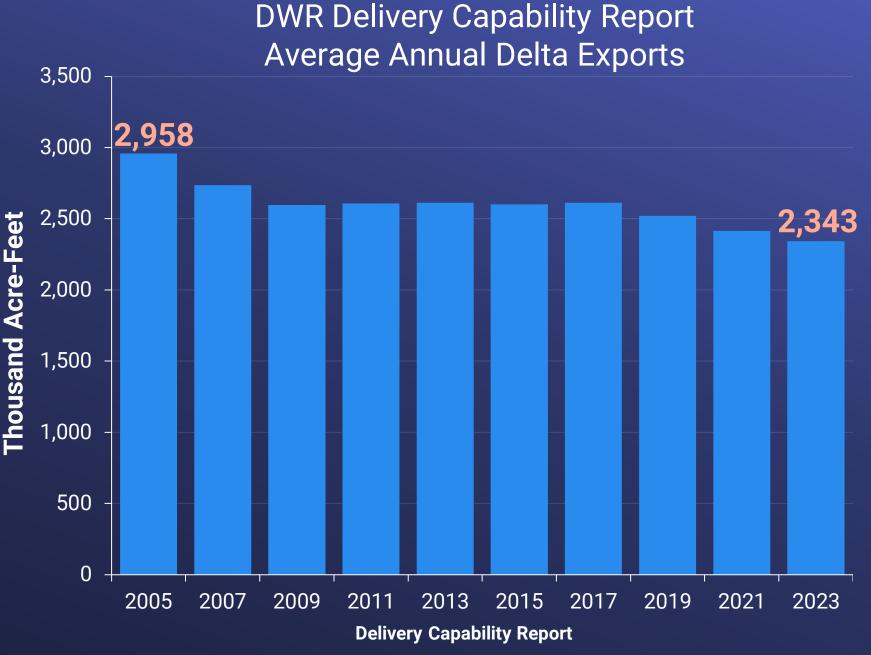
Note: Photos courtesy of DWR, Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA) at Colorado State University, and East Bay Times. September 9, 2024 One Water and Stewardship Committee

Higher Temperatures

## Reliability Estimates Trending Downward

Graph depicts modeled average annual SWP Delta Exports, which have declined by 600,000 AF since 2005.

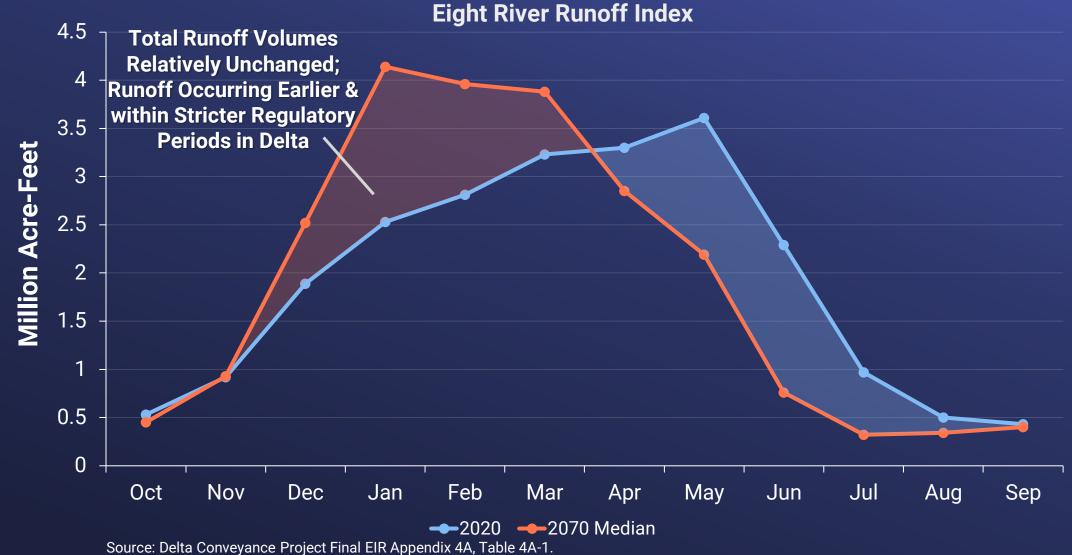
*This volume is equivalent to a 15% SWP Table A Allocation.* 



Source: Data from SWP Delivery Capability Report 2023, Figure 6-1.

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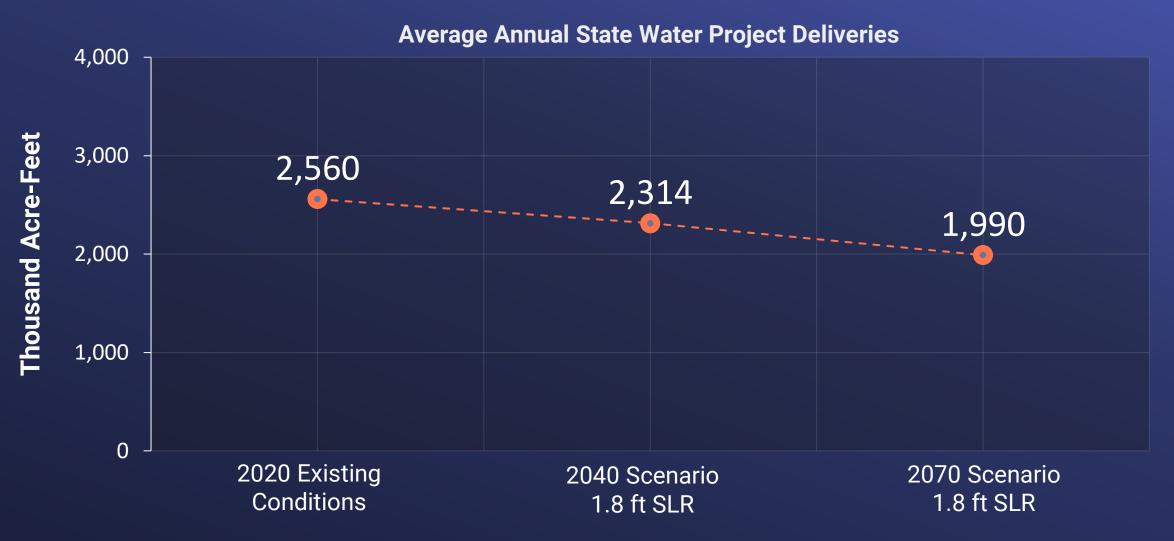
### SWP System Designed for Hydrologic Patterns that are Shifting with Climate Change



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## Continued Decline in Reliability by 2070



Source: Berkeley Research Group, Benefit-Cost Analysis of the Delta Conveyance Project, Table 2, Analysis 5 and Main Scenario.

### Key Takeaways

- Over the last 20 years, estimated reliability has declined by 15%
- Future water supply projections show continued decline over time
- Increased regulations and climate change continue to impact the reliability of the SWP
- More rainfall, less snowpack, and earlier runoff indicative of the climate change impacts to the hydrologic pattern
- The current SWP system is not designed to effectively manage the shifting hydrologic pattern

Lake Oroville (May 09, 2024)

CONTRACTOR

# Managing Risks & Uncertainty

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# Increase Resiliency and Reliability of the SWP

## Additional Storage

- Meet demands in dry years
- Manage excess supplies
- Improve system flexibility

## Flexible Conveyance

- Maintain existing capability
- Manage shifts in hydrology
- Optimize project operations



#### Next Steps: Conveyance for the SWP Delta Conveyance Project – Board Updates and Deliberation for Continued Planning Efforts

