

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 *

May 13, 2024

2:30 p.m.

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>

**Monday, May 13, 2024
Meeting Schedule**

**09:00 a.m. EOT
11:00 a.m. LEG
12:30 p.m. Break
01:00 p.m. Legal
02:30 p.m. OWS**

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

Teleconference Locations:

525 Via La Selva • Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Allendale Ins Agency • 337 W. Foothill Blvd. • Glendora CA 91741

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

Cedars Sinai Medical Center • 8700 Beverly Blvd • Los Angeles, CA 90048

Conference Room • 1545 Victory Blvd. 2nd Floor • Glendale, CA 91201

* 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 April 8, 2024 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions) [21-3313](#)

Attachments: [05132024 OWS 2A \(04082024\) 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. Update on State and Federal Bay-Delta Regulatory Processes [21-3338](#)

Attachments: [05132024 OWS 6a Presentation](#)

- b. Update on Water Surplus Drought and Drought Management [21-3339](#)

Attachments: [05132024 OWS 6b Report](#)
[05132024 OWS 6b Presentation](#)

- c. Update on Conservation [21-3340](#)

Attachments: [05132024 OWS 6c Presentation](#)

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Bay-Delta Resources activities [21-3314](#)
Colorado River Resources activities
Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation activities
Water Resource Management activities

Attachments: [05132024 OWS 7a Bay-Delta Mgmt Report](#)
[05132024 OWS 7a Colorado River Mgmt Report](#)
[05132024 OWS 7a SRI Monthly Activities Report](#)

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting [21-3315](#)
- b. Report on Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Meeting [21-3316](#)
- c. Report on the Bay-Delta Ad Hoc Meeting [21-3317](#)

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities [21-3318](#)

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

April 8, 2024

Chair Quinn called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong (AB 2449 “just cause”), De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Erdman, Miller, Peterson, Pressman, and Quinn.

Members absent: Directors Cordero, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, and Sutley.

Other Board Members present: Directors Abdo, Dennstedt, Luna, McCoy, McMillan, Ortega, Seckel, and Smith.

Director Armstrong indicated he is participating under AB 2449 “just cause” regarding illness. Director Armstrong appeared by audio and on camera

Committee staff present: Crosson, Goshi, Hagekhalil, 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. Anselmo Collins, Senior Assistant General Manager – Water System, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, spoke in support of 8-6.
2. Jay Lewitt, Division 5 Director and President, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, spoke in favor of items 8-3, 8-4, 8-5, and 8-6.

Chair Quinn announced the reordering of the Agenda and noted that item 6a would be heard first.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation California-Great Basin: Presented by Regional Director: Karl Stock
Presented by: Karl Stock, Regional Director U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Mr. Randall Neudeck provided brief background information and introductory comments.

Mr. Stock gave a detailed report of Reclamation’s priorities that relate to its workforce, operations, water and power infrastructure investments, and science partnerships.

General Manager, Hagekhalil and Board Chair, Ortega made commentary remarks.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for March 11, 2024.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

Director Erdman made a motion, seconded by Director Miller to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A.

Director Armstrong announced during roll call that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

Director Armstrong appeared by audio and on camera

The vote was:

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

The vote for the Consent Calendar item passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 7 absent.

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

Chair Quinn announced that due to teleconference procedures and the need for disclosures and recusals by certain directors, the committee would vote separately on items 8-3 through 8-6. She noted that there would first be a general presentation on the Local Resources Program (LRP), followed by separate presentations and votes for each proposed project.

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

Mr. Brandon J. Goshi, Interim Manager, Water Resource Management, provided background information on the LRP and introduced Ms. Lagman.

Ms. Lagman provided a detailed presentation explaining each of the proposed LRP projects. She described the purpose, benefits, the incentive payment structure options that were set by the Board in 2014, reviewed agreement yields, and highlighted project details and key terms for each of the proposed projects.

Director Armstrong read a disclosure statement and stated that he was disqualified from voting on item 8-3.

8-3 Subject: Review and consider Eastern Municipal Water District’s five approved Initial Studies/Mitigated Negative Declarations and two Addenda, and take related CEQA actions; authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with Eastern Municipal Water District for the Perris North Basin Groundwater Contamination Prevention and Remediation Program for up to 3,466 acre-feet per year of treated groundwater for potable purposes in the Eastern Municipal Water District service area

Presented by: Jewls Lagman, Assistant Engineer II, Water Resource Management

Motion: Review and consider Eastern Municipal Water District’s five approved Initial Studies/Mitigated Negative Declarations and two Addenda, and take related CEQA actions, and authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with Eastern Municipal Water District for the Perris North Basin Groundwater Contamination Prevention and Remediation Program for up to 3,466 AFY of treated groundwater for potable purposes in the Eastern Municipal Water District service area.

Ms. Lagman reviewed the options in the board letter and staff’s recommendation.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Miller
2. Erdman

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

Director Armstrong announced during roll call that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

Director Armstrong appeared by audio and on camera

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, DeJesus, Erdman, Miller, Peterson, Pressman, and Quinn.
Noes: None
Not voting: Director Armstrong.
Abstain: None.
Absent: Directors Cordero, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, and Sutley.

The vote for item 8-3 passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 noes, 1 not voting, 0 abstentions, and 7 absent.

Director Peterson read a disclosure statement prior to item 8-4, noting that he may participate in the item.

8-4 Subject: Review and consider the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority certified Final Environmental Impact Report and two Addenda, and take related CEQA actions; authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority for the PURE Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo for up to 5,000 acre-feet per year of treated recycled water for potable purposes in the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District service area

Presented by: Jewls Lagman, Assistant Engineer II, Water Resource Management

Motion: Review and consider the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority certified Final Environmental Impact Report and two Addenda and take related CEQA actions, and authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority for

the PURE Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo for up to 5,000 AFY of treated recycled water for potable purposes in the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District service area.

Mr. Goshi introduced this item and Ms. Lagman reviewed the options in the board letter and staff's recommendation.

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

Director Armstrong announced during roll call that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

Director Armstrong appeared by audio and on camera

The vote was:

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

The vote for item 8-4 passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 7 absent.

Director Ackerman read a disclosure statement prior to item 8-5 recusing herself from the item.

Director Erdman also read a disclosure statement but noted that he may participate in item 8-5.

8-5 Subject: Review and consider the South Coast Water Agency's certified Final Environmental Impact Report and take related CEQA actions; authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with Municipal Water District of Orange County and South Coast Water District for the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project for up to 5,600 acre-feet per year of treated desalinated water for potable purposes in the Municipal Water District of Orange County service area

Presented by: Jewls Lagman, Assistant Engineer II, Water Resource Management

Motion: Review and consider the Lead Agency's certified Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and take related CEQA actions, and authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with the Municipal Water District of Orange County and South Coast Water District for the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project for up to 5,600 acre-feet per year of treated desalinated seawater for potable purposes in the Municipal Water District of Orange County service area.

Mr. Goshi introduced this item and Ms. Lagman reviewed the options in the board letter and staff's recommendation

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

Director Armstrong announced during roll call that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

Director Armstrong appeared by audio and on camera

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Armstrong, DeJesus, Erdman, Miller, Peterson, Pressman, and Quinn.

Noes: None

Not voting: Director Ackerman.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Directors Cordero, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, and Sutley.

The vote for item 8-5 passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 noes, 1 not voting, 0 abstentions, and 7 absent

Director Quinn read a disclosure statement prior to item 8-6 but noted that she may participate in the item.

Director Pressman read a disclosure recusing himself from item 8-6.

8-6 **Subject:** Review and consider the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power’s certified Environmental Impact Report and Addendum, and take related CEQA actions; authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power for the Los Angeles Groundwater Replenishment Project for up to 19,500 acre-feet per year of potable recycled water through groundwater replenishment in the San Fernando Valley

Presented by: Jewls Lagman, Assistant Engineer II, Water Resource Management

Motion: Review and consider the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power’s certified Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Addendum, and take related CEQA actions, and authorize the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power for the Los Angeles Groundwater Replenishment Project for up to 19,500 acre-feet per year (AFY) of potable recycled water through groundwater replenishment in the San Fernando Valley.

Mr. Goshi introduced this item and Ms. Lagman reviewed the options in the board letter and staff’s recommendation

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

Director Armstrong announced during roll call that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

Director Armstrong appeared by audio and on camera

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, DeJesus, Erdman, Miller, Peterson, and Quinn.

Noes: None.

Not voting: Director Pressman.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Directors Cordero, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, and Sutley.

The vote for item 8-6 passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 noes, 1 not voting, 0 abstentions, and 7 absent.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

9-2 Subject: Proposed Interagency Local Supply Exchange Program

Presented by: Nadia Hardjadinata, Resource Specialist, Water Acquisition Team

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

Ms. Hardjadinata's oral report provided details on the Interagency Local Supply Exchange Program (ILSEP) that would allow transfers of locally produced supplies between Metropolitan's member agencies. She explained the proposed framework for Metropolitan to facilitate the sale and exchange of local supply production, and key terms.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Miller | 5. Armstrong |
| 2. Ortega | 6. Peterson |
| 3. Alvarez | 7. Smith |
| 4. Seckel | |

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions

Director Lefevre entered the meeting.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (Continue)

b. Subject: Update on Water Surplus Drought Management

Presented by: Noosha Razavian, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

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

Ms. Razavian reported on the increased State Water Project Table A water allocation, hydrological conditions, and above-average snowpack conditions.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith

Staff responded to Director's comments and questions.

- c. Subject: Update on California Salmon Strategy for a Hotter, Drier Future:
Restoring Aquatic Ecosystems in the Age of Climate Change

Presented by: Corey Phillis, PhD., Sr. Resource Specialist, Bay-Delta Initiatives

Mr. Neudeck provided brief information and introductory comments and introduced Dr. Corey Phillis.

Dr. Phillis gave an update on a recently released State report on salmon strategy and actions to recover salmon throughout the State. He explained the background of the report and discussed the identified priority actions and long-term impacts.

- d. Subject: State Water Project Audit Report

Presented by: David Reukema, Sr. Resource Specialist, Water Resource
Management

Mr. Goshi provided background information and introductory comments noting Mr. Reukema's retirement at the end of April. Mr. Goshi also noted some of Mr. Reukema's career highlights.

Mr. Reukema gave a presentation on the annual report of State Water Project charges and audit for calendar year 2024. He discussed the statement of charges and audit processes, and audit findings.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Peterson
2. Armstrong
3. Miller

Staff responded to Director's comments and questions.

- e. Subject: Update on Conservation

Presented by: Karina Sandique, Associate Resource Specialist, Water Resource
Management

Mr. Goshi provided information on continued challenges related to administering and budgeting for the Conservation Program.

Ms. Sandique provided the monthly update on conservation expenditures and activity from July 1, 2022 – February 29, 2024. She reviewed data on regional conservation, budget activity, and biennium expenditures.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Quinn
2. Abdo

General Manager, Adel Hagekhalil provided additional comments.

- f. Subject: Update on Making Conservation A California Way of Life Rule-making
Presented by: Krista Guerrero, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

Ms. Guerrero gave an update on the implementation status of the legislation, developing regulation, and Metropolitan's efforts in support of member and retail agencies for making conservation a way of life rule-making. She also explained Metropolitan's successes and accomplishments, investments in Conservation outreach and education, and described regulation progress and primary goals.

- g. Subject: Update on the Flow Monitor/Leak Detection Device Pilot Program
Presented by: Elise Goldman, Resource Specialist

Ms. Goldman gave an update on the Flow Monitor/Leak Detection Device Pilot Program where she explained the device's purpose and functionality, Metropolitan's rebate incentives through Regional Rebate Program; and benefits and challenges.

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

- a. Subject: Bay-Delta Resources, Colorado River Resources, Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation, and Water Resource Management activities
Presented by: Meena Westford, Executive Policy Advisor, Colorado River

Assistant General Manager, Deven Upadhyay deferred to Mr. Hagekhalil who announced Ms. Meena Westford's resignation, as she accepted a position with San Diego County Water Authority, and he noted some of Ms. Westford's contributions to Metropolitan.

Ms. Westford remarked on her work and accomplishments with Metropolitan over the course of the last twelve years as well as recognizing several colleagues.

Chair Quinn added additional comments.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting

Nothing to report.

- b. Report on Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Meeting

Nothing to report.

- c. Report on Bay-Delta Ad Hoc Meeting

Director Ackerman reported on items discussed at the 3 Bay-Delta Ad Hoc meetings from March and April 2024.

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

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

None

10. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on May 13, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Tracy Quinn
Chair



One Water & Stewardship Committee

Update on State and Federal Bay-Delta Regulatory Processes

Item 6a

May 13, 2024

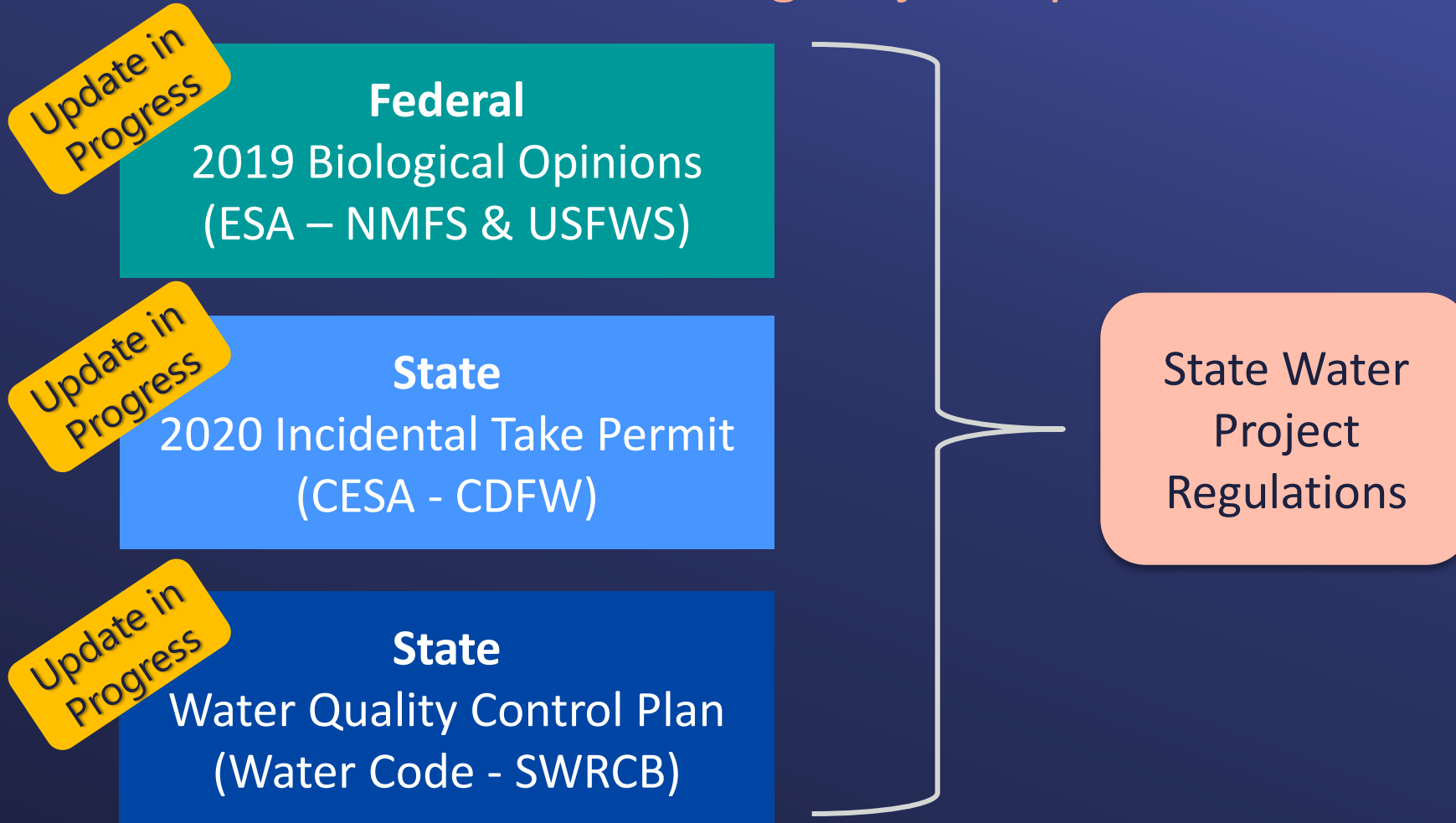
Update on State and Federal Bay-Delta Regulatory Processes

Presentation Summary

- Regulatory Overview
- Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations of the SWP and CVP
- Water Quality Control Plan Update and Proposed Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program
- Next Steps

SWP Regulatory Overview

Key Permits and Standards Governing Project Operations



ESA = Endangered Species Act

CESA = California Endangered Species Act

NMFS = National Marine Fisheries Service

USFWS = United States Fish and Wildlife Service

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife

SWRCB = State Water Resources Control Board



Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations of the SWP and CVP

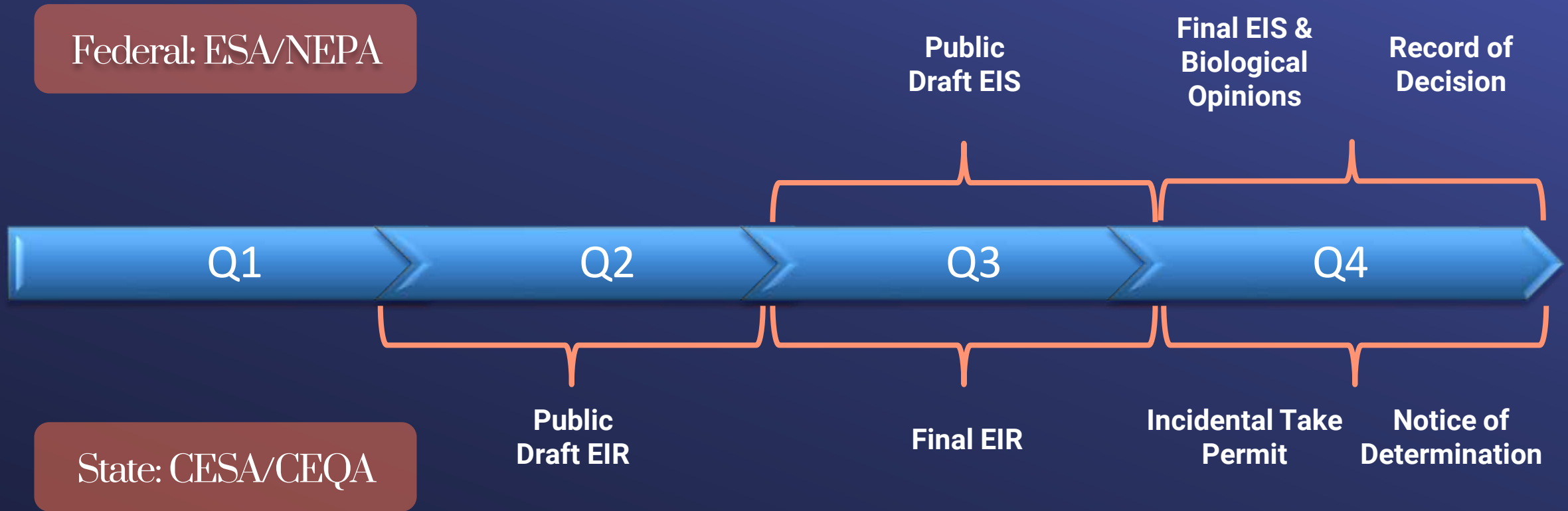
Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations

Timeline Milestones



Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations

Anticipated 2024 Milestones



Current Areas of Interest

- Incorporation of Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program into new permits
- Potential ESA listing of Longfin Smelt and White Sturgeon
- Approaches to better address Steelhead and Winter-run Chinook salmon take

Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations





Water Quality Control Plan Update and Proposed Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program

May 13, 2024

One Water & Stewardship Committee

Item 6a Slide 8

22

Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program

Supplemental Materials March 29, 2024

- Rounds out materials provided in Fall 2023
- Provided State Board essential details ahead of public workshop
- Includes:
 - Flow and Non-flow Measure Accounting
 - Global Agreement
 - Implementing Agreements
 - Enforcement Agreements

Workshop on Proposed Voluntary Agreements

Day 1
April 24, 2024

Overview of Proposed
Healthy Rivers &
Landscapes Program

Session 1: Integration of
VA Flow & Non-Flow
Measures

Session 2: Flow Measure
Accounting

Day 2
April 25, 2024

State Board opening
remarks & staff
presentation

Session 3: Non-flow
Measure Accounting

Session 4: Science Plan

Individual Public
Comments

Day 3
April 26, 2024

State Board opening
remarks & staff
presentation

Session 5: Governance
& Participation

Session 6: Enforcement,
Accountability,
Transparency, &
Implementation

Individual Public
Comments



Next Steps Upcoming Board Items

Update on State and Federal Bay-Delta Regulatory Processes

Next Steps

- Long-Term Operations Process
 - Biological Opinions end of year 2024
 - Incidental Take Permit Q3 2024
- Water Quality Control Plan Process
 - Updated Bay-Delta Plan anticipated mid-2025





Water Resources Management Group

• **Water Surplus and Drought Management Update Conditions as of 4/19/2024**

Summary

This report provides the monthly update in accounting for water supply, demand, and storage conditions for calendar year (CY) 2024 as of April 19, 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 May.

On March 22, 2024, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) doubled the State Water Project (SWP) Table A allocation from 15 percent to 30 percent due to improved hydrologic conditions in February. The increase to the allocation does not account for storm activity observed in March. DWR is assessing the impacts of those storms and will likely revise the SWP Table A allocation by the end of April. In the meantime, Metropolitan's SWP supply is 574 thousand acre-feet (TAF). Metropolitan's Colorado River supply is currently estimated to be 866 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 1.44 million acre-feet (MAF) for CY 2024.

The current trend demand on Metropolitan for CY 2024 is estimated to be 1.41 MAF. This includes a consumptive demand estimate of 1.18 MAF with the remaining demand reflecting replenishment deliveries, obligations, losses, cyclic pre-deliveries, and reverse cyclic deliveries as shown on page 4. Supply and demand are essentially balanced at this time. Any additional increases to the allocation will put Metropolitan into a surplus mode. Given these conditions, Metropolitan will reposition some water in storage to maximize future drought reliability. Put and take capacities for each storage program are presented in **Attachment 1**.

Purpose

Informational

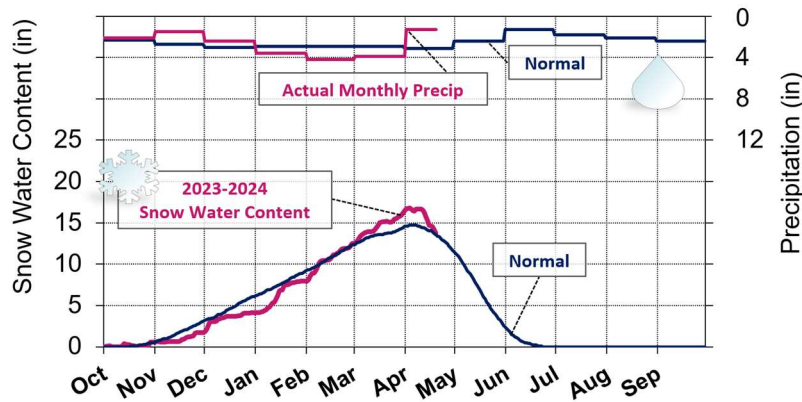
Attachments

- Attachment 1: Projected 2024 WSDM Storage Detail (30 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 tracks the hydrologic conditions for water year (WY) 2023-2024.

Upper Colorado Basin Snowpack & Precipitation



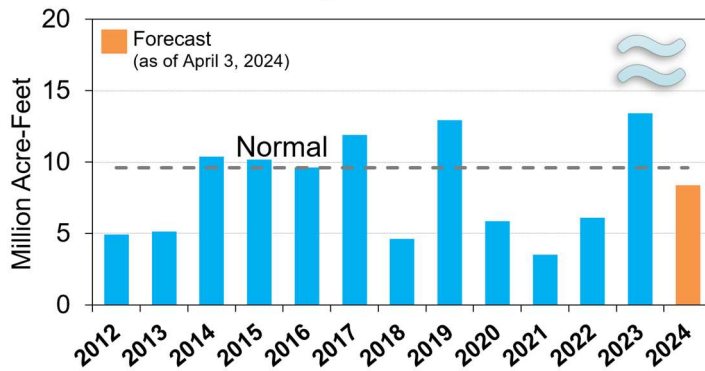
Upper Colorado River Basin

✳ Above normal snowpack water content for this date: 13.7 inches or 101% of normal for this date.

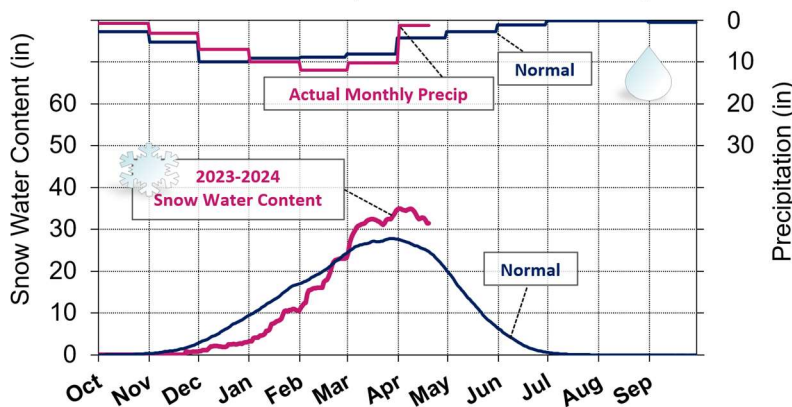
◆ Above normal precipitation to date: 19.0 inches or 103% of normal.

≈ Runoff into Lake Powell for WY 2024 is forecasted at 87% of normal.

Powell Unregulated Water Year Inflow



Northern Sierra Snowpack & 8 Station Precipitation



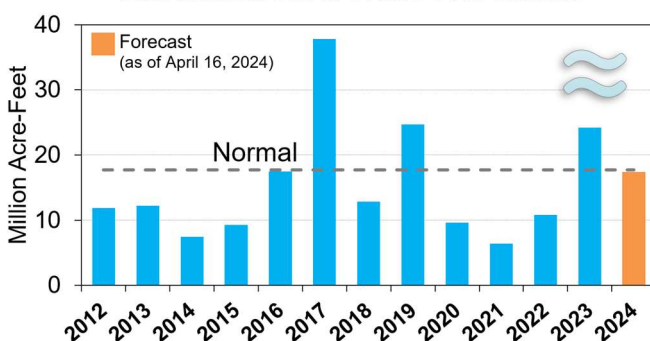
Sacramento River Basin

✳ Above normal snowpack water content for this date: 31.5 inches or 121% of normal for this date.

◆ Near normal precipitation to date: 44.3 inches or 94% of normal.

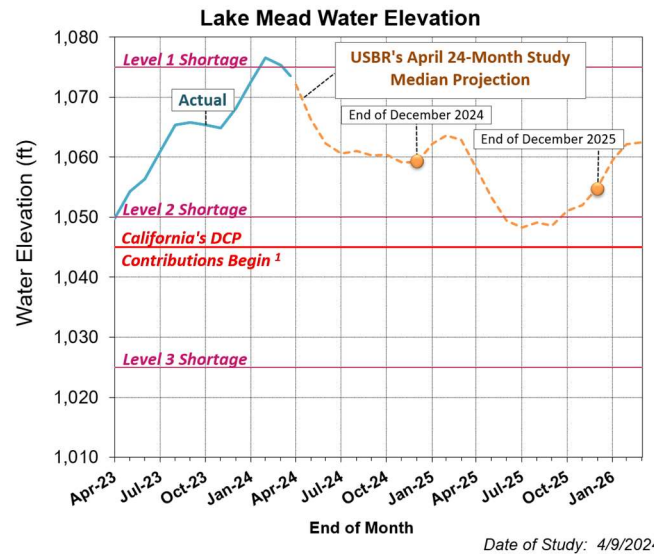
≈ Runoff forecast for WY 2024 is forecasted at 98% of normal.

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	14,000
PVID Following 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 Following Program ²	6,000
Quechan Diversion Forbearance ¹	0
Quechan Seasonal Following Program ³	0
Higher Priority Water Use Adjustment	-111,000
Total CRA Supplies ⁴	866,000

- 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 Is expected to become system water under USBR’s Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program, however agreements have not been finalized.
- ³ Rounded to the nearest thousand. Supply estimate is 291 AF.
- ⁴ Per USBR Forecast (4/16/2024). Total may not sum due to rounding.

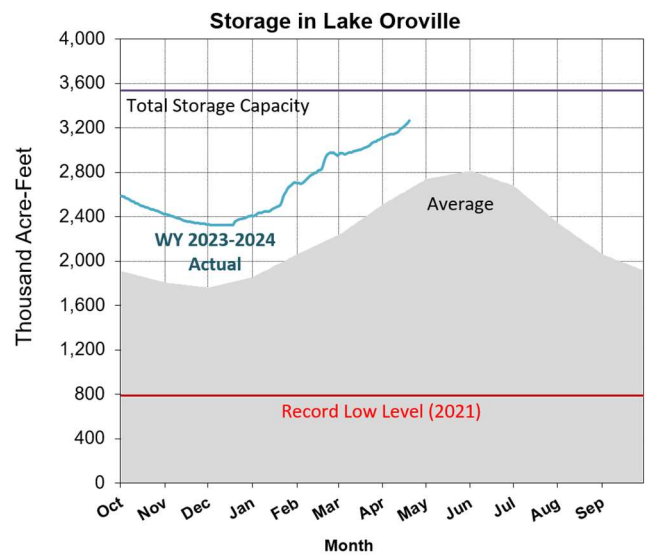


¹ Metropolitan is required to make Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) contributions in the following year if the August 24-month Study projects Lake Mead’s elevation to be at or below 1,045 feet on January 1. Since the August 2023 24-month Study projected Lake Mead’s elevation to be above 1,045 feet on January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

- Lake Mead storage is currently 9.4 MAF or elevation 1,073.6 feet (36 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 (30% SWP allocation)	573,000
Port Hueneme ¹	1,000
Total SWP Supplies ²	574,000
Total Supplies (CRA + SWP) (Prior to storage actions) ²	1,440,000

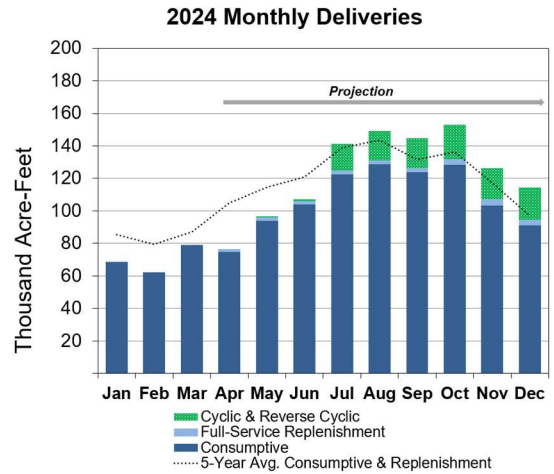
- ¹ Rounded to the nearest thousand. Supply is 555 AF.
- ² Total may not sum due to rounding.



- The SWP Table A allocation for CY 2024 is currently 30 percent. DWR is assessing the impacts of the March storms and will likely revise the SWP Table A allocation by the end of April. The final allocation is typically determined by May or June.
- Lake Oroville is currently at 3.2 MAF (92 percent of total capacity) or 123 percent of historical average as of the date of this report.

Current Demand	Acre-Feet
Member Agency Consumptive ¹	1,182,000
Member Agency Replenishment	25,000
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	105,000
2022 Reverse Cyclic Deliveries	7,000
Total Demands ³	1,410,000

¹ Includes exchange w/ SDCWA (IID/Canal Lining) and CUP sales.
² Per USBR Forecast (4/16/2024).
³ Total may not sum due to rounding.

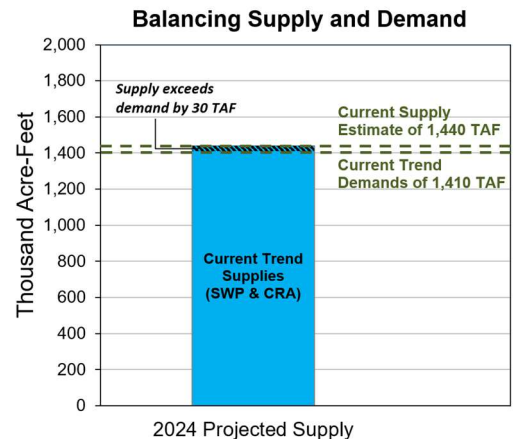


The demand forecast for May 2024 is below the 5-year average based on the demand trend from January through April. Additionally, given the current SWP Table A allocation, estimated deliveries through the Cyclic Program and Reverse Cyclic Program have been included.

MANAGING REGIONAL SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Supply/Demand Balance	Acre-Feet
Total Supplies	1,440,000
Total Demands	1,410,000
Current Balance Estimate ¹	30,000

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 likely have surplus supplies to manage this year and will reposition water in storage to maximize future drought reliability.
- **2023 Supply Reconciliation:** Metropolitan has secured scheduled supplies not delivered in CY 2023 pursuant to Articles 14 (b) and 12 (e) of the State Water Project Contract for delivery in CY 2024.
- **Cyclic and Conjunctive Use Program Deliveries:** Metropolitan plans to deliver water to local storage managed by its member agencies through the Cyclic Program and the Conjunctive Use Program.
- **SWP Groundwater Banking Deliveries:** Metropolitan plans to deliver water to various SWP banking programs.
- **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 Put Capacity ²	CY 2024 Take Capacity ²	2024 Total Storage Capacity
WSDM Storage				
Colorado River Aqueduct Delivery System	1,544,000	78,000	160,000	1,657,000
Lake Mead ICS	1,544,000 ³	78,000	160,000 ⁴	1,657,000
State Water Project System	1,006,000	302,000	620,000	1,991,000
MWD & DWCV Carryover	297,000	149,000	297,000	350,000 ⁵
MWD Articles 14(b) and 12(e)	28,000 ⁶	0	28,000	N/A
Castaic and Perris DWR Flex Storage	219,000	0	219,000	219,000
Arvin Edison Storage Program	100,000	0 ⁷	0	350,000
Semitropic Storage Program	190,000	68,000	38,000	350,000
Kern Delta Storage Program	114,000	51,000	17,000	250,000
Mojave Storage Program	19,000	0	9,000	330,000
AVEK Storage Program	27,000	0	12,000	30,000
AVEK High Desert Water Bank Program	11,000	34,000	0	112,000 ⁸
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	1,016,000	109,000	634,000	1,246,000
Diamond Valley Lake	753,000	57,000	496,000	810,000
Lake Mathews and Lake Skinner	207,000	19,000	95,000	226,000
Conjunctive Use Programs (CUP) ⁹	56,000	33,000	44,000	210,000
Other Programs	586,000	282,000	68,000	1,181,000
Other Emergency Storage	381,000	0	0	381,000
DWCV Advanced Delivery Account	205,000	282,000	68,000	800,000
Total	4,153,000	771,000	1,482,000	6,075,000
Emergency	750,000	0	0	750,000
Total WSDM Storage (AF) ¹⁰	3,403,000	771,000	1,482,000	5,325,000

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

² Put and take capacity assumed under a 30 percent SWP Table A Allocation. Storage program losses included where applicable.

³ This amount is net of the water Metropolitan stored for IID in Lake Mead in an ICS sub-account.

⁴ Take capacity based on planned maintenance activities and current CRA supply estimate.

⁵ Total storage capacity varies year-to-year potentially increasing as the contractual annual storage limit combines with the remaining balance from the previous year. Metropolitan may opt to exceed the 350 TAF storage capacity as shown to enhance drought protection for the service area, however there is a potential risk that Metropolitan's stored water be converted to SWP contractor water if San Luis Reservoir approaches full capacity.

⁶ Approved carryover supplies under Articles 14 (b) and 12 (e) of the State Water Project Contract for delivery in 2024.

⁷ Puts are limited due to water quality considerations.

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ Total WSDM Storage level subject to change based on accounting adjustments. Total may not sum due to rounding.

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. Metropolitan is coordinating with member agencies to deliver the remaining balance by the end of CY 2024 as shown on page 4.

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%	7%
Average Metropolitan DCP Contribution When Contributions Are Required (AF)	0	0	180,000

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

Table 3: Cyclic Program Activity ¹

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 6b
May 13, 2024

Item 6b

Update on WSDM

Subject

Update on Oral Report on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Purpose

Provide updated supply and hydrologic information

SWP Update

SWP Table A Allocation Increases to 40%

- SWP Allocation increased from 30% to 40%
 - Update reflects hydrologic conditions as of April 1
 - Incorporates improvements from March storm events and reservoir storage conditions
- Additional increase to the allocation may occur
 - Final allocation typically determined in May or June

Lake Oroville, Banks Pumping Plant, California Aqueduct
(March 2024)



Credit: DWR

Lake Oroville
(April 26, 2024)



Credit: DWR

An aerial photograph of Lake Oroville, showing a large number of boats scattered across the water. The lake is surrounded by dense green forested hills. In the background, a dam is visible across the valley. The sky is blue with some white clouds.

Hydrologic Conditions Update

Spring Ushers in Late Season Storm to Sierra Nevada

Palisades Tahoe
(May 5, 2024)



Credit: Palisades Tahoe

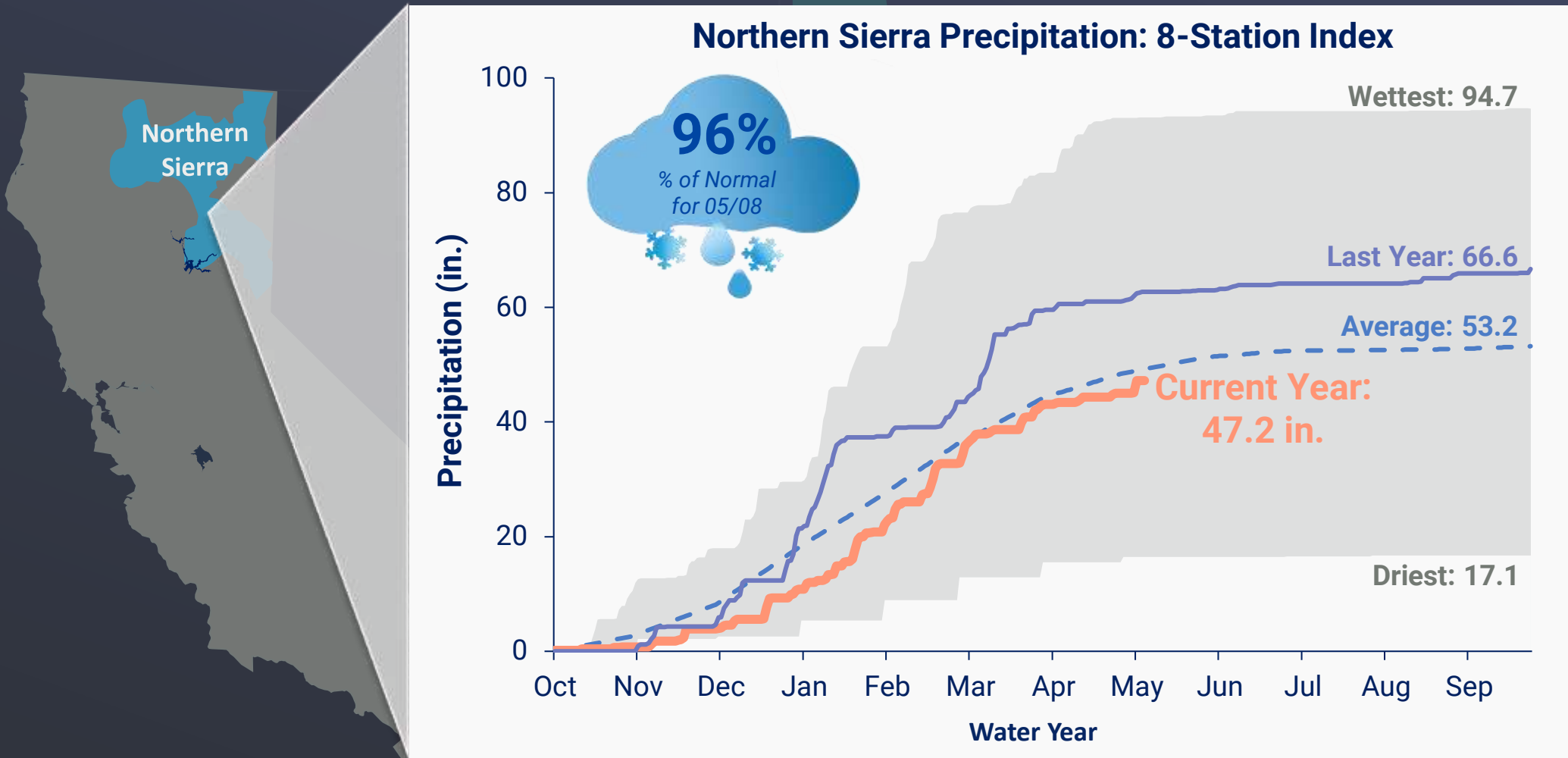
May 13, 2024

Yosemite National Park
(May 5, 2024)

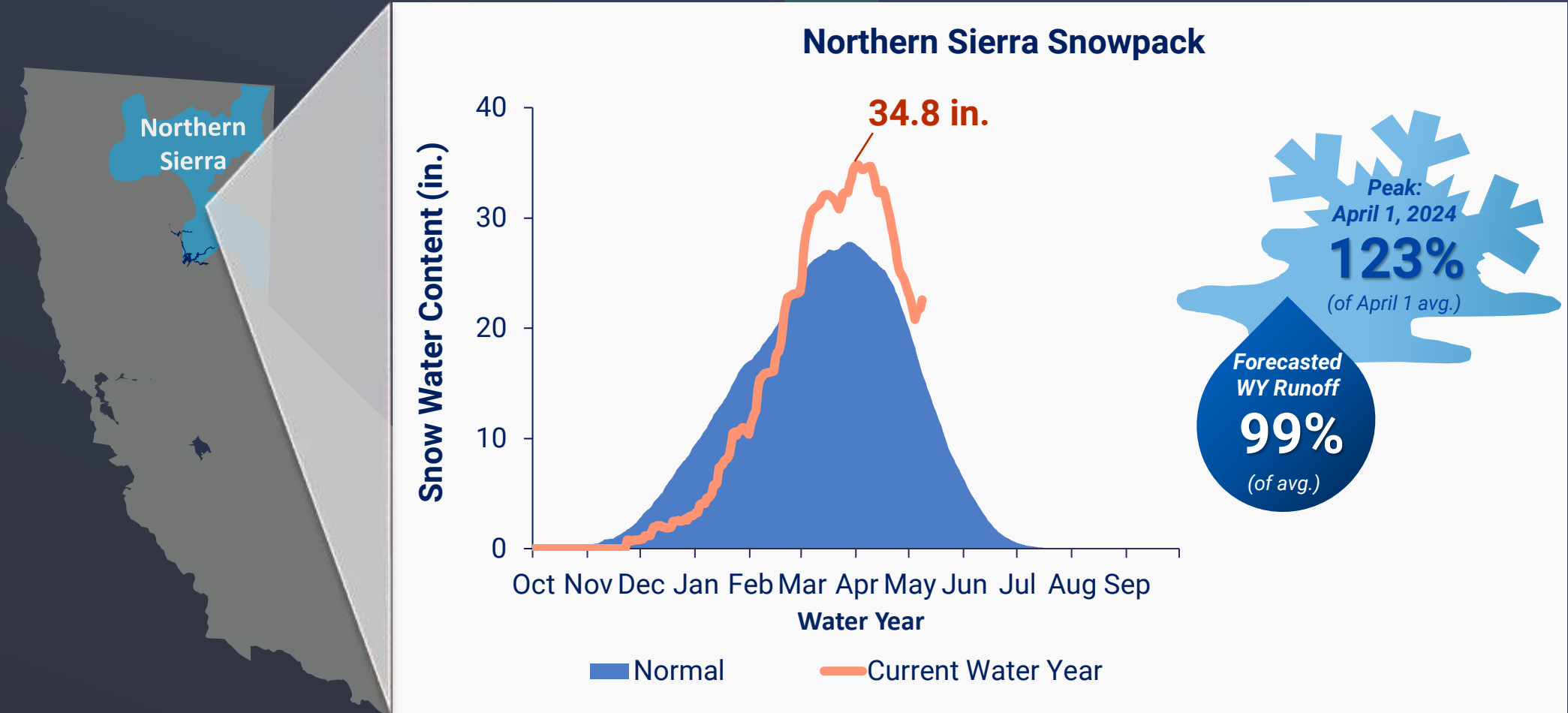


Credit: Yosemite Conservancy

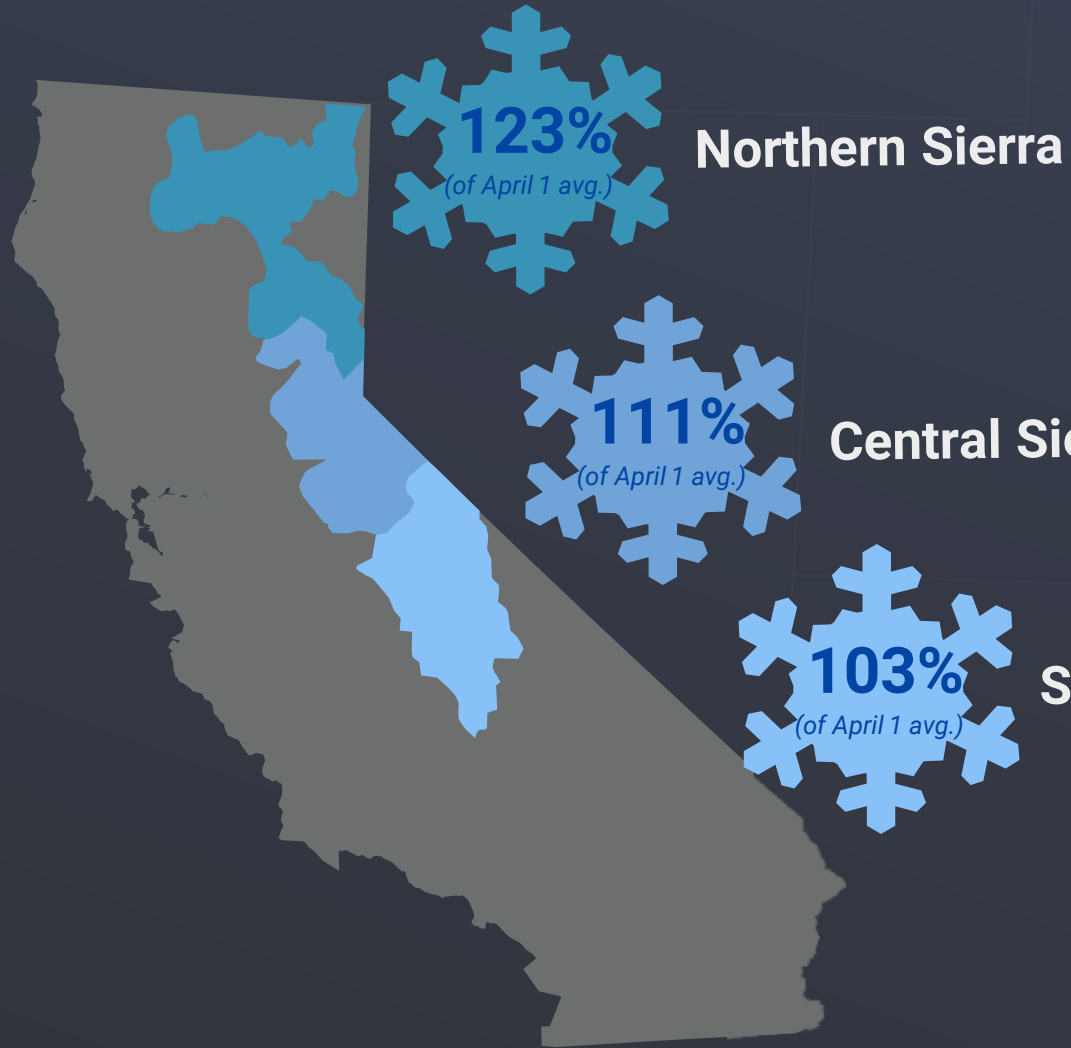
Near-Normal Precipitation for Northern Sierra



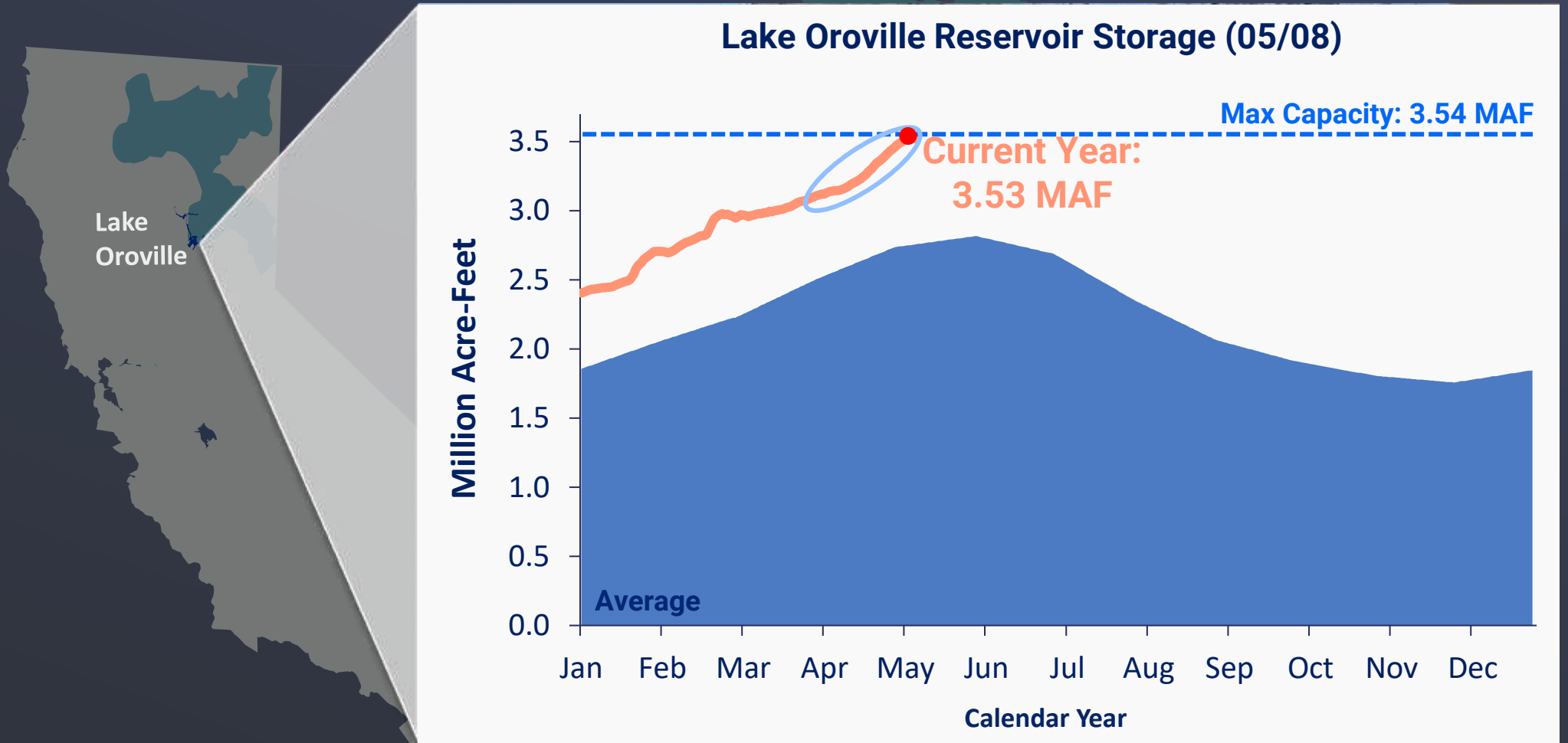
Northern Sierra Snowpack Snowmelt Underway



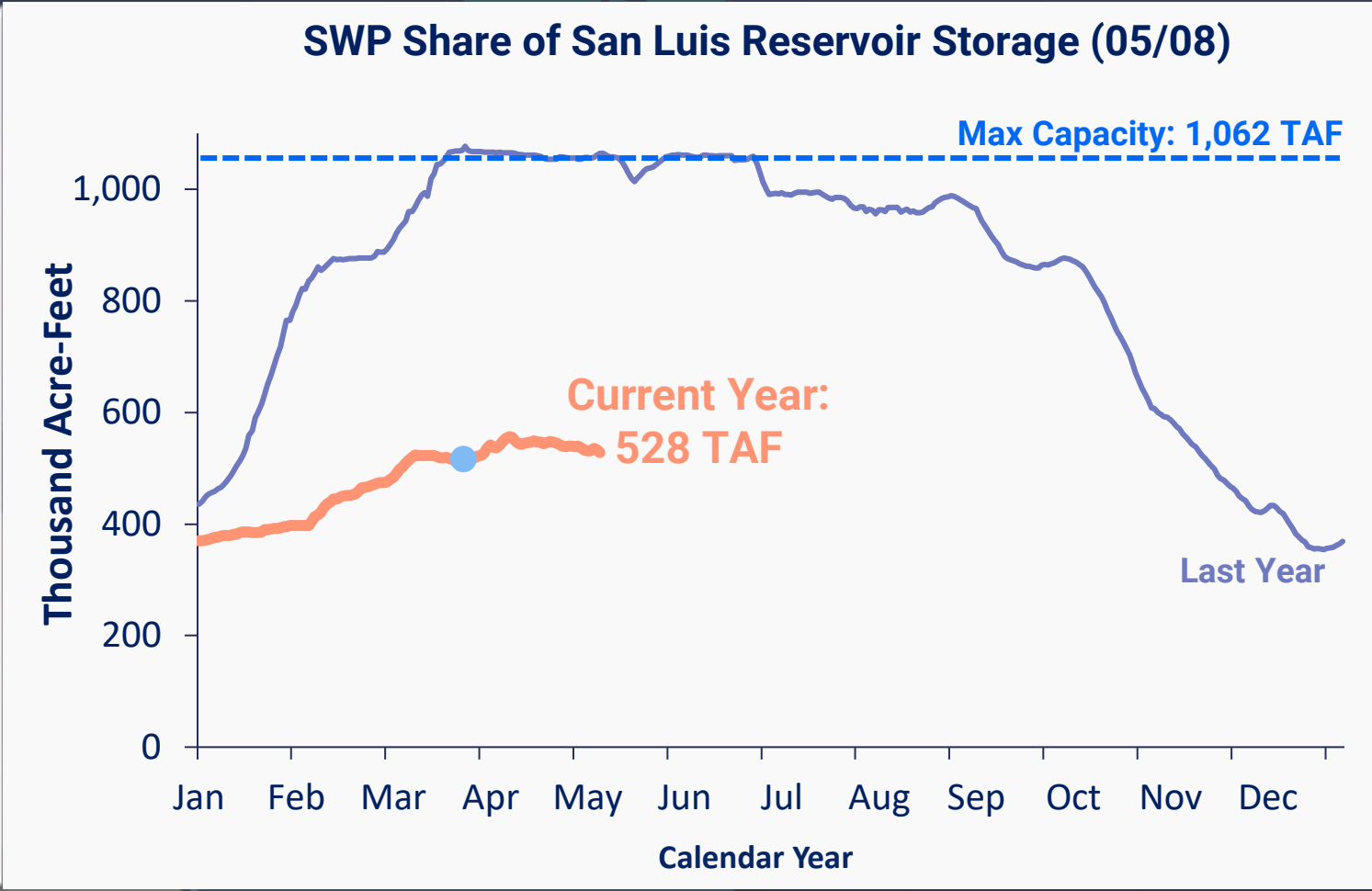
Above-Average Snowpack Conditions throughout Sierra Nevada



Lake Oroville Reservoir Reaches Full Capacity

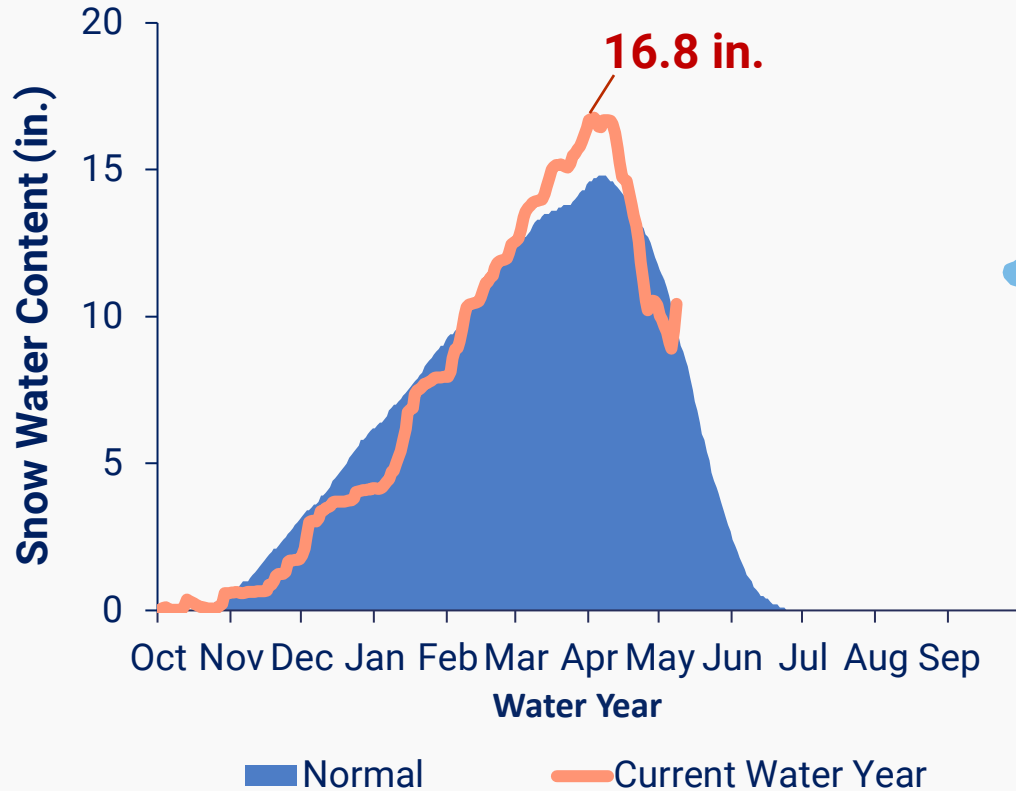


SWP Share of San Luis Projected to Reach Storage Target



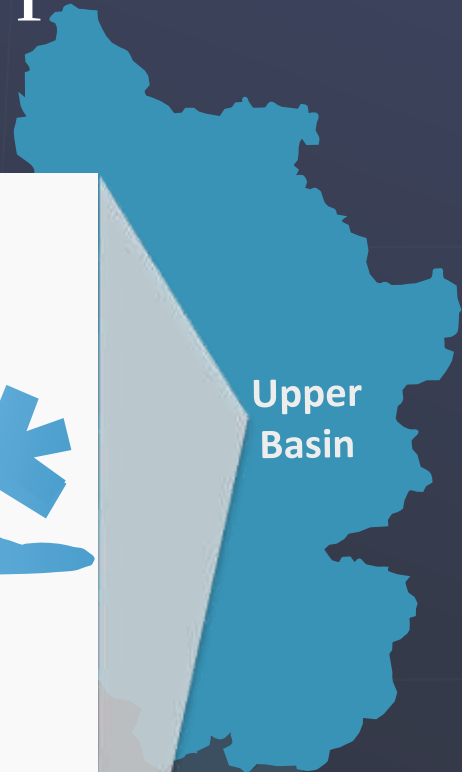
Upper Colorado River Basin Snowpack Continuing to Melt

Upper Colorado River Basin Snowpack



Peak:
April 3, 2024
115%
(of April 1 avg.)

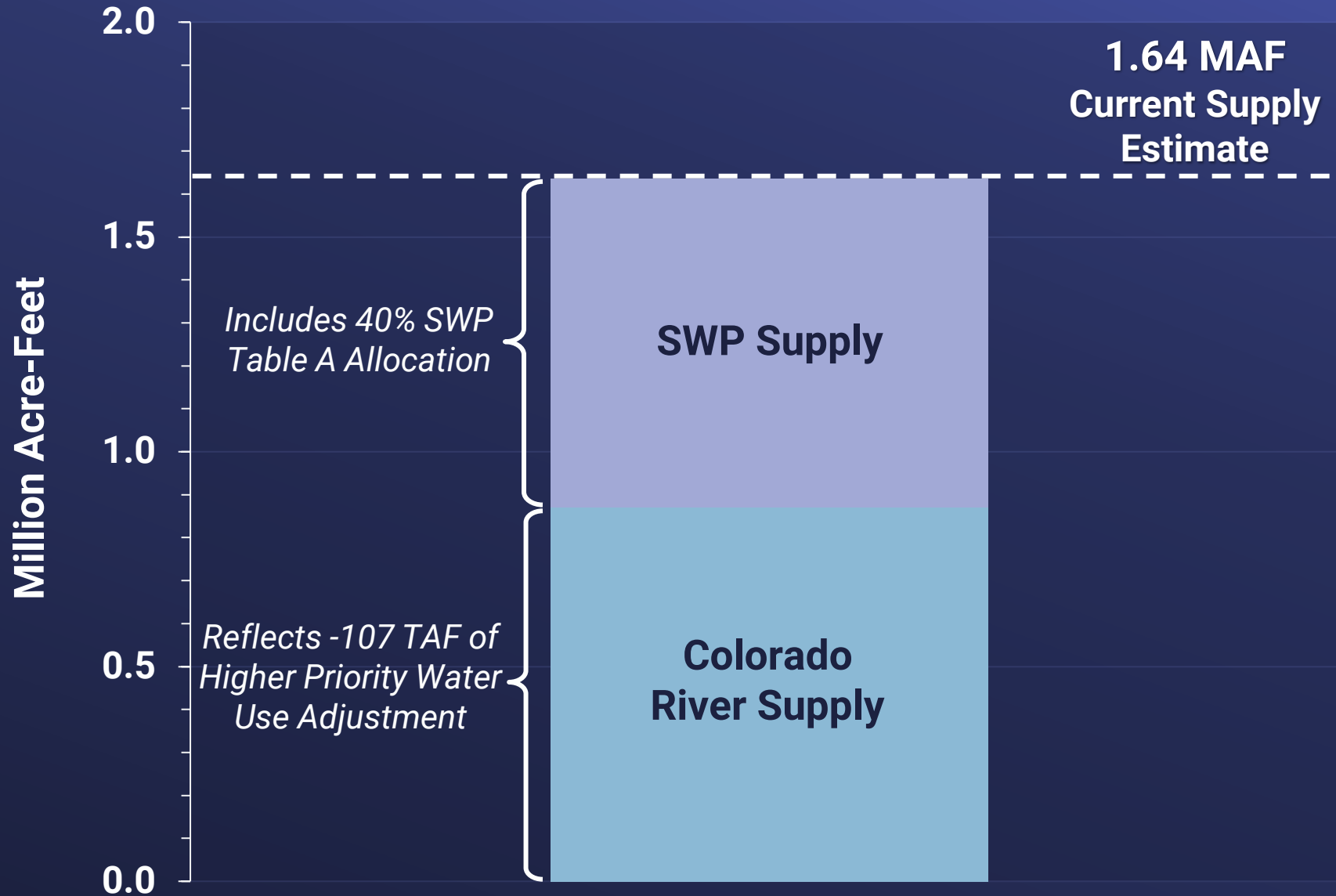
Forecasted
WY Runoff
81%
(of avg.)





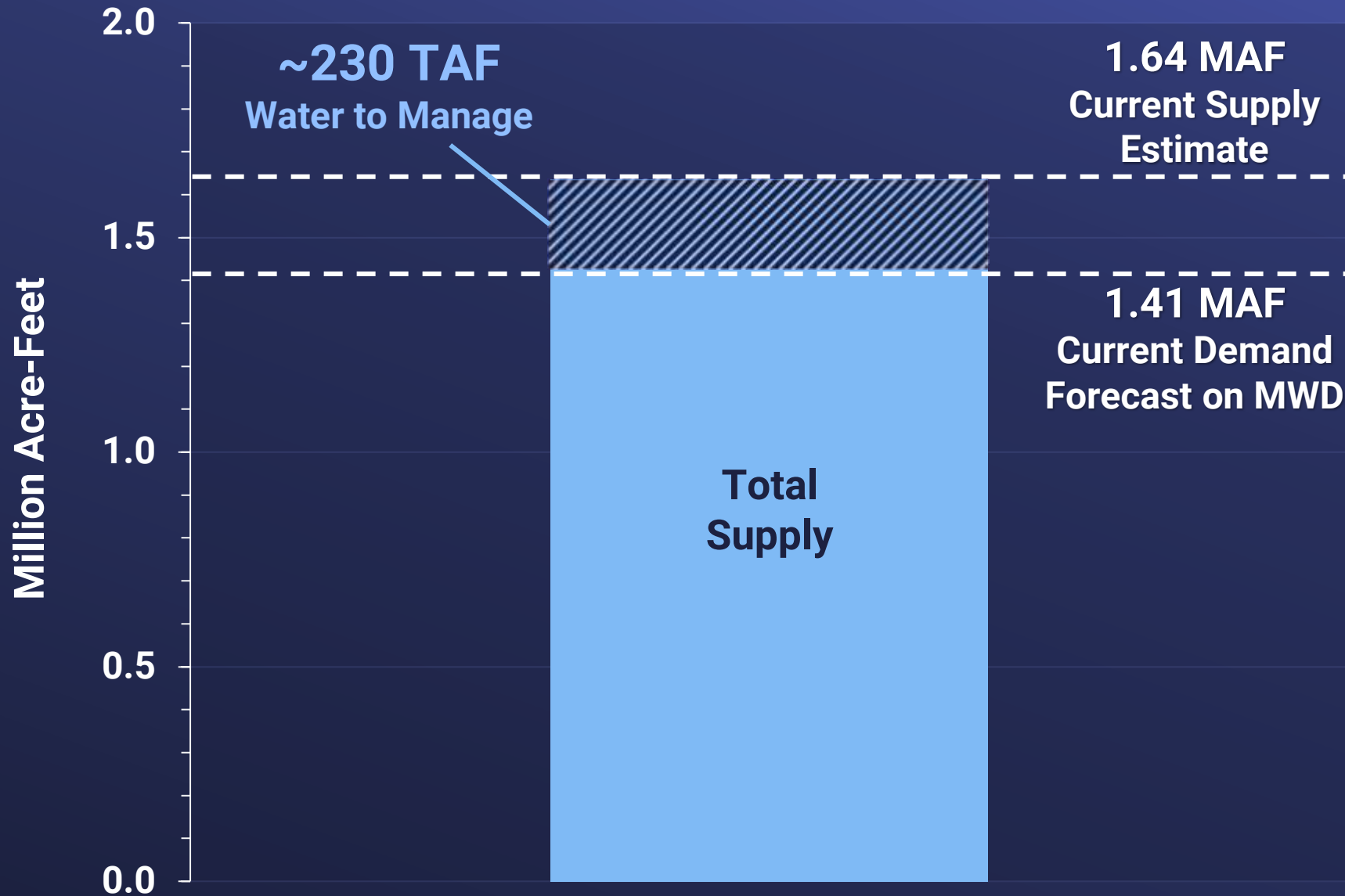
2024 Water Surplus & Drought Management

2024 Water Supply/Demand Balance: *Regional View*



Note: Data as of May 01, 2024.

2024 Water Supply/Demand Balance: *Regional View*



Note: Data as of May 01, 2024.





One Water and Stewardship Committee

Conservation Update

Item 6c

May 13, 2024

Item ##

Conservation Update

Subject

Conservation Update

Purpose

Monthly update on conservation expenditures and activity from July 1, 2022 – March 31, 2024

Current Conservation Program Expenditures FYs 2022/23 & 2023/24⁽¹⁾

	Paid ⁽²⁾	Committed ⁽³⁾
Regional Devices	\$12.9 M	\$3.7 M
Member Agency Administered	\$10.6 M	\$4.6 M
Turf Replacement	\$42.3 M	\$22.9 M
Advertising	\$9.4 M	\$1.1 M
Other	\$3.9 M	\$1.7 M
TOTAL	\$79.1 M	\$34.0 M

- (1) The Conservation Program biennial expenditure authorization is \$86M.
- (2) Paid as of 7/1/2022 - 3/31/2024. Financial reporting on cash basis.
- (3) Committed dollars as of April 10, 2024.

Current
Conservation
Program
Activity
FYs 2022/23 &
2023/24



Turf Replacement Rebates:

March: 1,010,106 ft² replaced

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 19,825,385 ft² replaced



Toilets:

March: 3,153 units rebated

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 40,227 units rebated



Smart Controllers:

March: 795 units rebated

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 17,723 units rebated

Lifetime Water Savings to be achieved by all rebates in March 2024: 6,828 AF

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 118,329 AF lifetime water savings





Office of the General Manager

● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

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

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

Delta Conveyance

The State Water Resources Control Board granted a two-week extension to submit protests regarding the Delta Conveyance Project water rights change petition to add new points of diversion in the north Delta. The new deadline is May 13, 2024. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) applied to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) on April 9. The ITP application, and new information materials, including an updating permitting schedule can be found on DWR's [About the Delta Conveyance Project](#) website.

Delta Conveyance Related Joint Powers Authorities

At the March 8, 2024¹ Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors meeting, the DCA Board adopted a resolution considering an Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP), made Responsible Agency Findings, adopted a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and approved further pre-construction geotechnical investigations for the DCP.

Sites Reservoir

At the April 19 Joint Reservoir Committee and Sites Authority Board meeting, the Reservoir Committee and the Authority Board discussed the estimated construction cost process and discussed the interim financing plan including assumptions related to how the construction costs will be funded.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Regulatory and Science Update

Staff published two peer-reviewed papers in April. The first paper focuses on the hazard risk of contaminants on Chinook Salmon in floodplains or rivers, and was published in the *Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*. The second paper focuses on behavioral and distributional changes by fish in the upper water column of the San Francisco Estuary, and was published in *Estuaries and Coasts*.

The Reorienting to Recovery salmon project hosted a forum meeting and a structured decision making workshop to review blended scenario results that achieved salmonid recovery. The purpose of the Reorienting to Recovery Project is to identify preferred, broadly supported management scenarios that support salmonid recovery in the Central Valley.

Board Report Bay-Delta Management Report

Metropolitan Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix and California EcoRestore/Delta Conveyance Project (BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP) Expenditures

The following is a summary of Metropolitan’s cumulative BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP expenditures updated for the quarter ending March 2024. This report includes the total internal costs related to the BDCP, the CWF-CER, and the subsequent DCP efforts with the state administration.

Staff will continue to provide this report on a quarterly basis in the Bay Delta Management Report.

Total (July 2005 – March 2024)

BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP Internal MWD	Total Costs (18.75 yrs.)
Labor & Benefits ⁽¹⁾	\$ 38.40M
Professional Services	\$ 7.18M
Travel	\$ 1.80M
Other ⁽²⁾	\$ 0.20M
SUBTOTAL	\$ 47.58M
Administrative Overhead	\$ 13.92M
TOTAL	\$ 61.50M

⁽¹⁾ Labor costs include salary, leave and non-leave benefits

⁽²⁾ Other includes charges for materials and supplies, trainings & seminars, conferences & meetings, reprographics, and other incidental expenses

Quarterly Summary (Jan 2023 – Mar 2024)

	FY22-23 Q4	FY23-24 Q1	FY23-24 Q2	FY23-24 Q3
	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024
Labor	0.258M	0.186M	0.152M	0.249M
Professional Services	0.033M	0.001M	0.006M	0.004M
Travel	0.004M	0.000M	0.001M	0.004M
Other	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M
SUB-TOTAL	0.295M	0.187M	0.159M	0.257M
Admin. Overhead	0.059M	0.062M	0.046M	0.048M
TOTAL	0.354M	0.249M	0.205M	0.305M

The following is a summary of the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority costs for member’s share of administrative expenses:

Quarterly Summary (Apr 2023 – Mar 2024)

	FY22-23 Q4	FY23-24 Q1	FY23-24 Q2	FY23-24 Q3
	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024
TOTAL	0.002M	0.001M	0.002M	0.001M



Office of the General Manger

- **Colorado River Management Report**

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to management of Metropolitan’s Colorado River resources for the month of April 2024.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

United States and Mexico Sign Treaty Minute 330

The International Boundary and Water Commission signed Minute 330 on April 18. In this Minute, Mexico agrees to conserve 400,000 acre-feet of additional water for the Colorado River system and for Mexico’s water reserve through 2026. This conservation will be in addition to the 3.0 million acre-feet of additional conservation that the Lower Division States have agreed to undertake in 2023-26 as part of the Lower Basin Plan, which was identified as the Preferred Alternative in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Near-Term Operations of the Colorado River System Reservoirs issued in March 2024. To support the conservation efforts in Minute 330, the United States Government will provide \$65 million for projects in Mexico.

Colorado River Indian Tribes Water Resiliency Act of 2022 Implementation Agreement Signing

Metropolitan Board Chair Ortega and General Manager Hagekahlil attended the signing ceremony of the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT)’s agreements with the Interior Department and state of Arizona to implement the Colorado River Inidan Tribes Water Resiliency Act of 2022. This Act, passed by Congress and signed by the President in 2023, authorizes the CRIT in Arizona to exchange or lease a portion of their water rights within Arizona, and to participate in conservation and storage programs like Intentionally Created Surplus. The water that is exchanged or leased must have a history of use and cannot be provided to another state.

Metropolitan Staff Participate in Glen Canyon Techncial Analysis Meeting

In early April, the Bureau of Reclamation identified risks to critical infrastructure and Glen Canyon Dam (which forms Lake Powell) when using the bypass tubes to release water into the Grand Canyon. Historically, those tubes have been used to release high flows through the Grand Canyon, but also are the only way to release water out of Lake Powell if the reservoir falls below critical levels. As a result, for the near-term, Reclamation is keeping additional water in Lake Powell to avoid using the bypass tubes, which could result in increased risks of Lower Basin shortages in future years. The Lower Basin States have urged Reclamation to remedy the situation and make any necessary repairs to the facility. In late April, Reclamation held a technical meeting with stakeholders to review the risks to the dam infrastructure, and Metroplitan engineering staff participated in the meeting. The results of that meeting are not available at the time of this report but will be provided to the Board at a later date.



Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation

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

Summary

Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office April 2024 Monthly Activities

Purpose

To report on Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office April 2024 Monthly Activities.

Detailed Report

SRI Core Activities

On April 9 and 24, 2024, the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) Team presented to the Finance and Asset Management (FAM) Committee and Subcommittee on Long-Term Regional Planning Processes and Business Modeling to report the draft Year One Progress Report. The report documents the progress since February 2023 and sets up the next steps for 2024. The discussions are focused on the next steps for 2024 laid out in Sections 4 through 6 of the Report. This is in preparation for a potential concurrence action at the May FAM and board meetings. The Chief SRI Officer also presented to Eastern Municipal Water District, Santa Monica City Council, a delegation from the United Arab Emirates, Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator, the Los Angeles County Water Plan Summit, and the Spheres Sustainability Summit on sustainability and climate adaptation efforts.

On Earth Day, SRI released Metropolitan's [2023 Climate Action Plan \(CAP\) Implementation Second Annual Progress Report](#). The report provides a detailed greenhouse gas inventory from 2022 and progress made on the implementation of greenhouse gas reduction measures during 2023. This is Metropolitan's second annual CAP Implementation Progress Report and details the district's significant progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions as we strive for carbon neutrality by 2045.

Sustainability and Resilience

On April 18, 2024, SRI staff participated in a moderated panel discussion as part of the California Public Information Officials (CAPIO) and California State Information Officers Council (SiOC) webinar on the 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer. Edelman's global research measures the public's trust in government, business, media, and NGOs to deliver information and solve problems. This year's Edelman Trust Barometer focus was on innovation, and SRI staff discussed Metropolitan's innovative approaches to planning through its CAMP4W, Generative Artificial Intelligence Guidelines for Metropolitan employees, and innovative water treatment strategies being studied through Pure Water Southern California.

On April 18, 2024, SRI staff presented a report on *Water Affordability Panels and Recommended Actions* to Metropolitan's Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability (EIA) Board Committee and sought input from the EIA Committee on proposed near-term and mid-term actions. Four panels on affordability were conducted during EIA Board Committee meetings in 2023 and early 2024. These panel discussions brought together experts and stakeholders to provide insights and recommendations for specific policies and programs aimed at making water

Board Report Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office Group Monthly Activities

more affordable for communities and water agencies within Metropolitan’s service area. Staff received feedback on four near-term (2024) and four mid-term (2025+) recommendations.

On April 25, 2024, SRI staff presented Metropolitan’s 2023 Climate Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Second Annual Progress Report to the US Water Alliance’s Peer Exchange: Net Zero Community of Practice. SRI staff updated the Peer Exchange on the progress in Metropolitan’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Centralized Grants Management Office

In April, Metropolitan hosted the first SoCal Water Utilities Grants Network (Grants Network) meeting. This hybrid meeting was attended by over 50 water professionals working on grants. The Grants Network is made up of over 70 staff from member agencies, sub-agencies, and consultants. Metropolitan will be hosting these meetings quarterly at various facilities.

The Grants Network provides a platform for water utilities to collaborate and share resources for funding opportunities. It aims to streamline the grant application process, making it more efficient and reducing the administrative burden for water utilities. By connecting water utilities and centralizing funding information, the Grants Network improves access to funding for water utility projects, ensuring that critical infrastructure improvements can be made while reducing rate pressure.

Innovation, Pilots, and Emerging Technologies

Pilot Partnerships

Metropolitan’s SRI Innovation team, in partnership with WaterStart and Metropolitan’s Bay Delta and Water Resources Management (WRM) Teams, has verified success in controlled pilots with Performance Resource Management (PRM), a company that is pioneering biological soil management in agriculture. Pilot data demonstrates increased crop per drop. When the only variable in split-field trials is PRM technology, yield increases of 20–30 percent are observed with the same amount of water used on each field. Crops tracked on pilots include alfalfa and tomatoes. Reduction in fertilizer has been observed near 35 percent in tomatoes. The carbon footprint of fields receiving PRM’s technology is reduced as more crops are being produced with fewer inputs, while the life of alfalfa fields will be extended by 3–4 years, which reduces planting costs, soil prep (tilling), and germination water (inefficient, high evaporation) while extending plant genetics. PRM’s technology aligns with Metropolitan’s vision for responsible and efficient use of natural resources and agricultural water conservation. 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 Global RFP for water technologies will be sent out in June.

Environmental Planning Section

Core Business: Environmental Planning and Regulatory Compliance Support

EPS staff continued to prepare California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents for capital projects, including supporting the April board action to certify the F.E Weymouth Water Treatment Plant and La Verne Site Improvements Program Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Staff also continued to prepare the draft Program EIR for Pure Water Southern California, including completing the Draft EIR screen check review of the Project Description, continuing preparation of the environmental impact analysis, circulating the revised drafts of the biological resources and hazardous materials technical reports for internal review, continuing cultural and biological resources field surveys and other technical studies, continuing tribal cultural resource consultation, and identifying mitigation for potential impacts. Preparation of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Inland Feeder/San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Foothill Pump Station Intertie Project and the IS/MND for the West Valley Feeder No. 1 Stage 3 Improvements Project continued, as well as preparation of the Draft EIR for the Garvey Reservoir Rehabilitation Project. Staff conducted construction monitoring for capital projects, including PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 3B Rehabilitation, Perris Valley Pipeline, Allen McColloch Pipeline Urgent Relining, Lake Mathews Valve Storage Building, LaVerne Shops

Board Report Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office Group Monthly Activities

Upgrades, Weymouth Basins 5 to 8 Rehabilitation, and Weymouth Asphalt Rehabilitation projects, as well as the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Structural Protection Program. EPS continued to support the Webb Tract Rice Conversion Project and the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project by continuing to prepare environmental documentation in compliance with CEQA.

EPS staff supported critical Water System Operations activities, including providing CEQA and regulatory clearances, pre-construction surveys, and construction monitoring support for operations and maintenance activities throughout the service area, including vegetation removal at Lake Skinner Dam in compliance with state Safety of Dams requirements. EPS staff continued to support the Allen McCulloch Pipeline shutdown and urgent relining, providing environmental surveys and monitoring, and also supported shutdowns for the DVL/Eastside Pipeline Bypass Pipeline Tie-In and the Orange County Feeder. Finally, EPS staff started preparation of the first Annual Report for CRA borrow sites subject to Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) compliance.



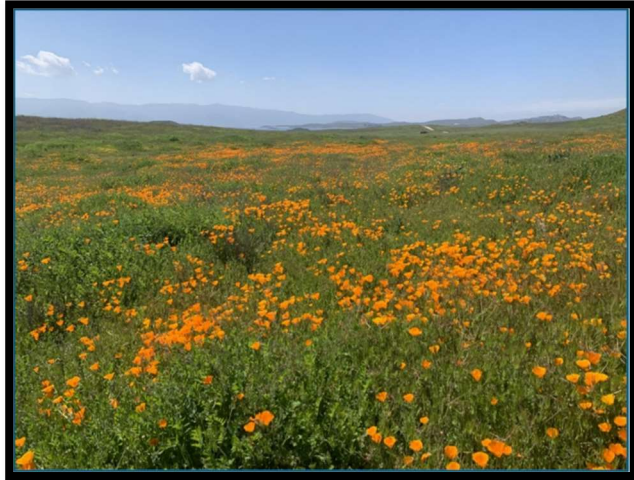
Before and after photos of vegetation removal activities at Lake Skinner Dam

EPS staff provided subject matter expert reviews of several legislative bills, including

- AB 2614 (Ramos): Water Policy: California tribal communities
- SB 1159 (Dodd): California Environmental Quality Act: roadside wildfire risk reduction
- AB 2330 (Holden): Endangered species: authorized take: routine fuel management
- HR 7408 (Westerman): American's Wildlife Conservation Act

EPS staff completed environmental clearances for one real estate agreement, and staff reviewed and analyzed CEQA notices for three external projects to determine the potential impacts on Metropolitan and protect Metropolitan's right-of-way and facilities; comments letters were prepared and submitted for those projects that had the potential to affect Metropolitan. Finally, EPS staff assisted with preparation and finalization of the Second Annual Climate Action Plan (CAP) Progress Report that was released to the public on April 22, 2024.

EPS also continued oversight of reserve management activities to protect valuable natural resources and meet Metropolitan's mitigation obligations. Comprehensive security patrols were conducted throughout both reserves to prevent trespassing, vandalism, poaching, and theft and to protect the reserves' natural and cultural resources, facilities, and equipment. Activities at the Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve included removal of non-native plants for habitat and fire management purposes. Activities at the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve included removal of non-native plants for habitat and fire management and coordinating with researchers conducting surveys for rare plants and threatened and endangered species (Quino checkerspot butterfly and coastal California gnatcatcher). In addition, the Alamos Schoolhouse interpretive center has been open on Saturdays, and the Reserve interpreter has been at the DVL Wildflower Trail on Saturday mornings to answer questions and share information about the reserve and the trail following its opening in late March. The wildflower bloom is smaller than in past years, but visitor numbers are still higher than those seen during other times of year. Fewer wildflowers may be attributed to an abundance of annual grasses resulting from early rains in fall 2023. These same annual grasses, however, have resulted in less invasive vegetation this spring.



California Poppies at the Lake Mathews Reserve

Land Management

Metropolitan obtained a two-year entry residential lease agreement from a private owner for the housing of a WSO employee who is tasked with emergency response duties. The occupancy of the single-family residence in Riverside will allow staff to respond to on-call duties at Lake Mathews and nearby facilities promptly.

New leases were executed with existing Palo Verde tenants, Noroian Farms, and Red River Farms. The leases were approved by Metropolitan’s Board in September 2023 for a new term of up to 16 years with rent terms to enhance water conservation incentives that mirror the existing rent terms included in the current leases with the original, legacy Palo Verde tenants.

An entry permit has been issued to Southern California Gas Company (SCG) for access and construction staging purposes near San Diego Pipeline No. 3 in the unincorporated Rainbow community of San Diego County. The permit will help facilitate SCG’s pipeline inspection and repair project.