



Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

Emergency Conservation Program for the SWP Dependent Areas

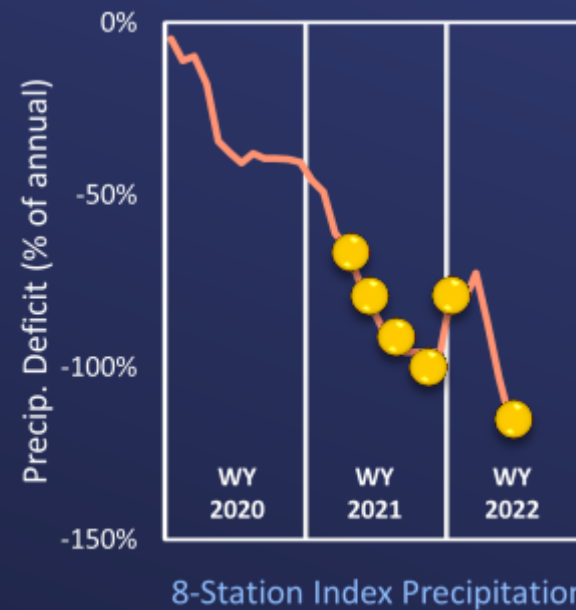
Item 9-2

April 12, 2022

How did we get here?

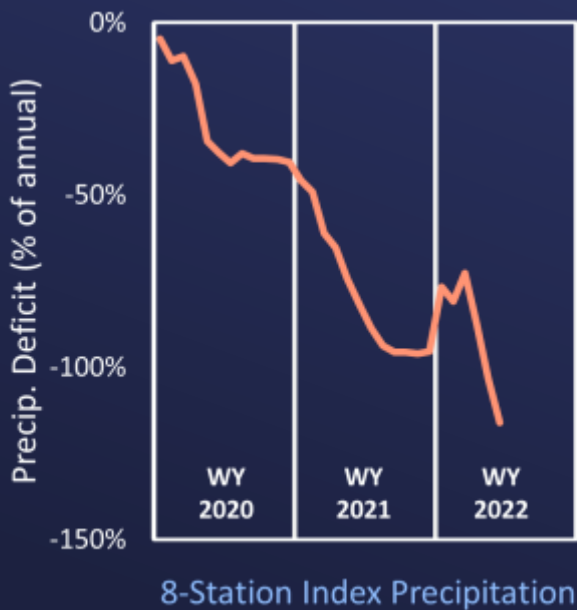
Third Year of Drought

- Driest 3 years
- Driest 3 months (Jan. – Mar.)



● Declarations and Executive Orders by Governor Newsom

How did we get here?

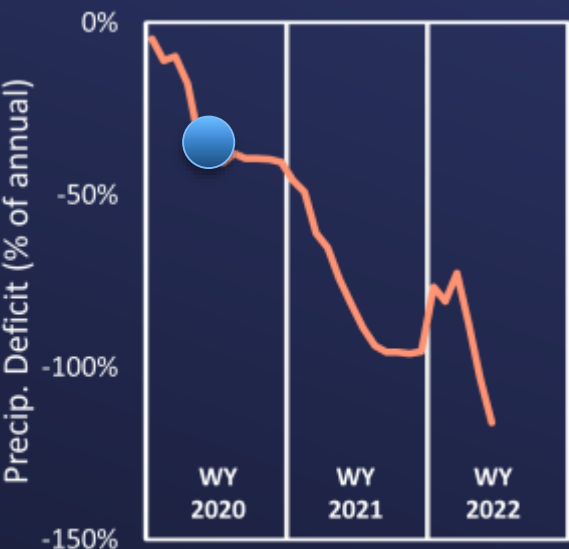


Third Year of Drought

- Driest 3 years
- Driest 3 months (Jan. – Mar.)
- Lowest 3-year total deliveries from State Water Project

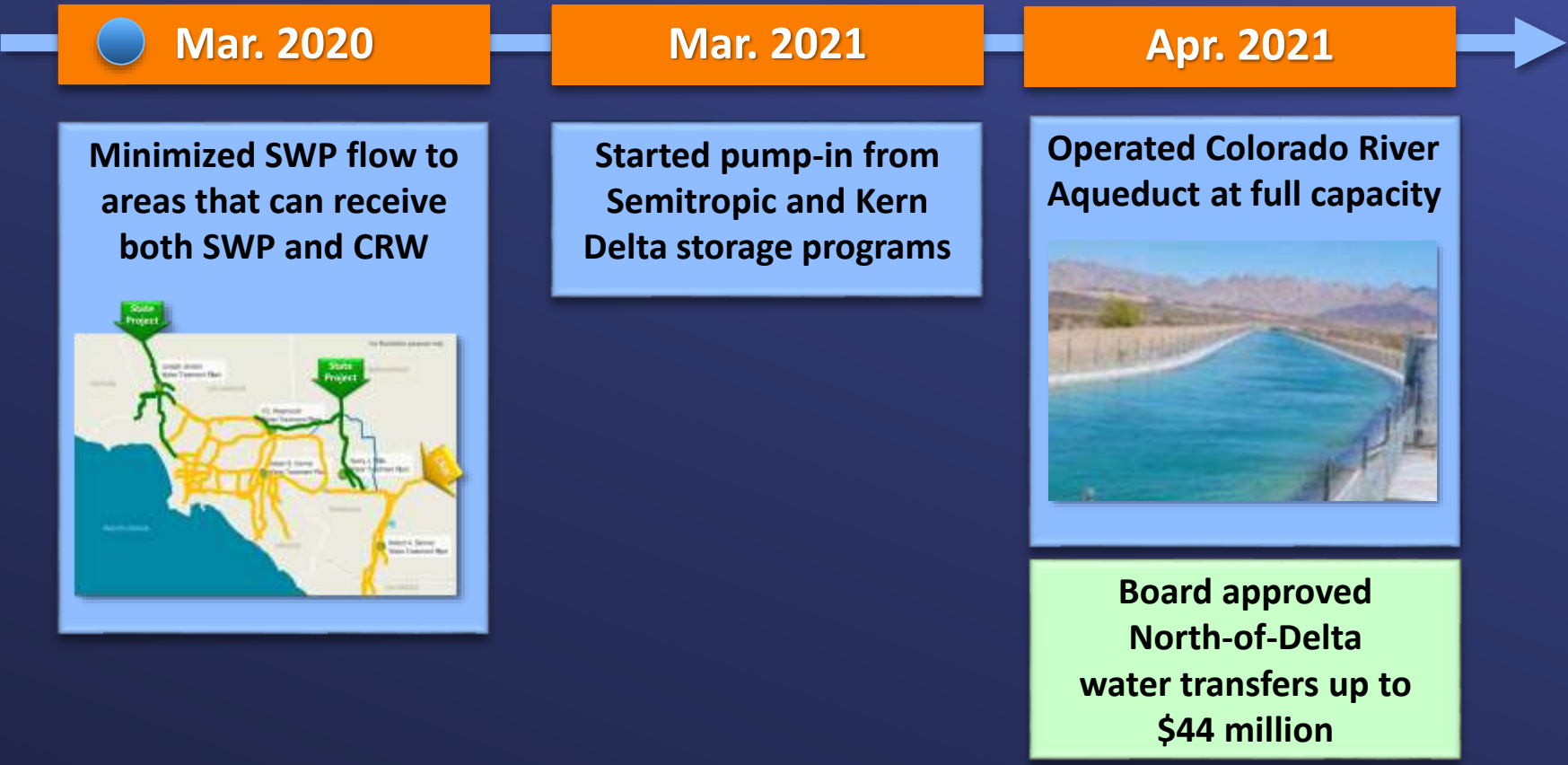
Average Expectation for SWP	3.2 million AF
DWR's Lowest Forecast	1.0 million AF
Today	0.6 million AF

What did we do as the drought intensified?



8-Station Index Precipitation

Proportionate Response Since Mar. 2020



What did we do as the drought intensified?



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Proportionate Response Since Mar. 2020

● May 2021

Board approved new Operational Shift Cost-Offset Program

Fed Mills Plant from DVL for the first time



Jun. 2021

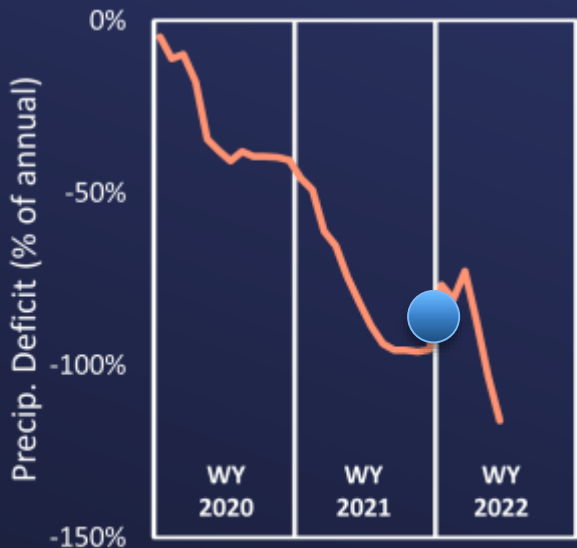
Rehabilitated Greg Avenue pumps began operation



Aug. 2021

Board declared Water Supply Alert, calling for consumers & businesses to voluntarily reduce water use

What did we do as the drought intensified?



8-Station Index Precipitation

Proportionate Response Since Mar. 2020

Oct. 2021

Governor Newsom declares State of Emergency for all California counties

Zero percent SWP allocation expected

Metropolitan requests supplies for human health and safety* if drought persists



Nov. 2021

Board declares drought emergency for SWP dependent area and warns of further action if drought continues

Board expands conservation programs

Dec. 2021

More than 16 feet of snow falls in December

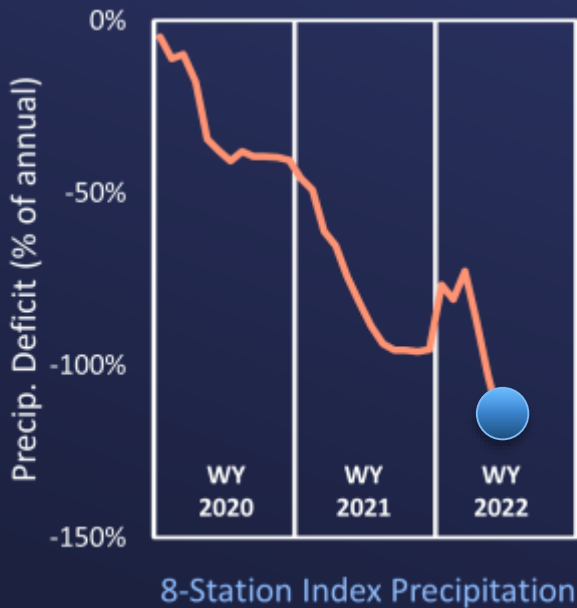


Board approves SDCWA & San Bernardino Valley Water District agreements

Board amends Capital Investment Plan to improve east area infrastructure reliability

*domestic supply, fire suppression, or sanitation

What did we do as the drought intensified?



Proportionate Response Since Mar. 2020



What is Human Health & Safety supply?

Water needed for domestic supply, fire protection, or sanitation

- SWP contract provision allocating water on a basis other than Table A
- Implemented consistent with State Water Board curtailment regulations
- Primary basis is 55 gal/person/day
- Does not include outdoor uses (except hand watering for fire protection)

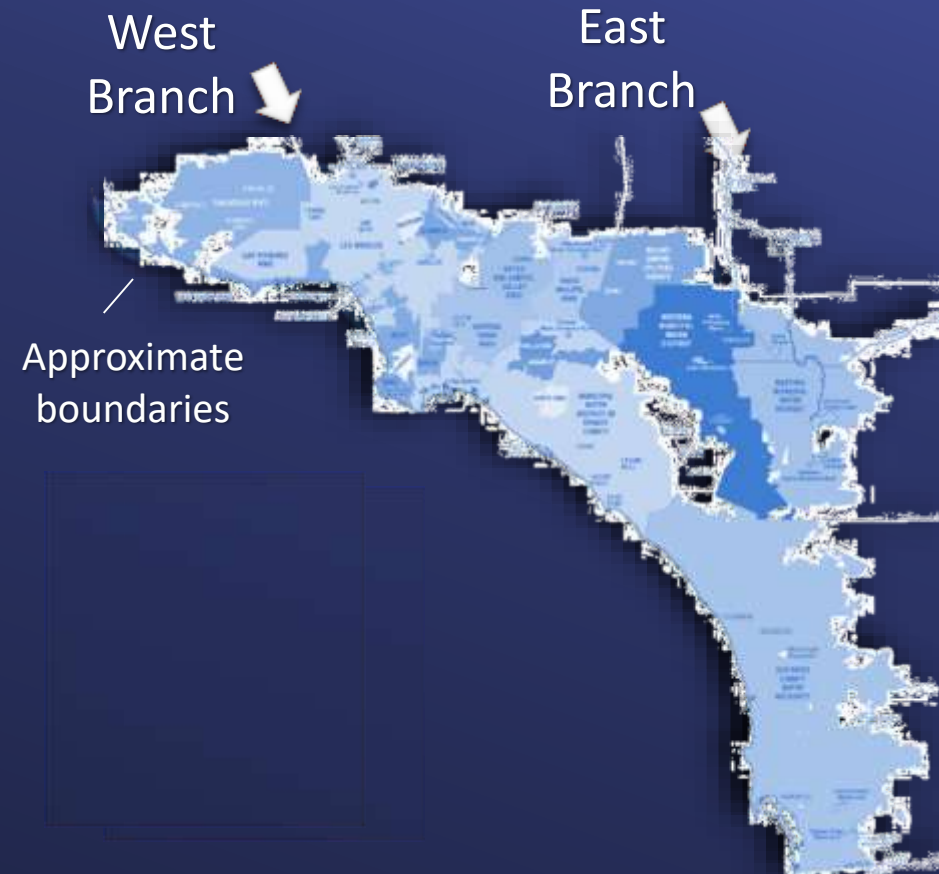
What are the conditions for receiving Human Health & Safety supplies?

DWR conditions to accessing human health & safety supplies

- “Robust conservation efforts with mandatory requirements”
- Pay back water within five years
- Make investments to reduce reliance on SWP for human health & safety needs
- Certain other supplies may supplement human health & safety deliveries

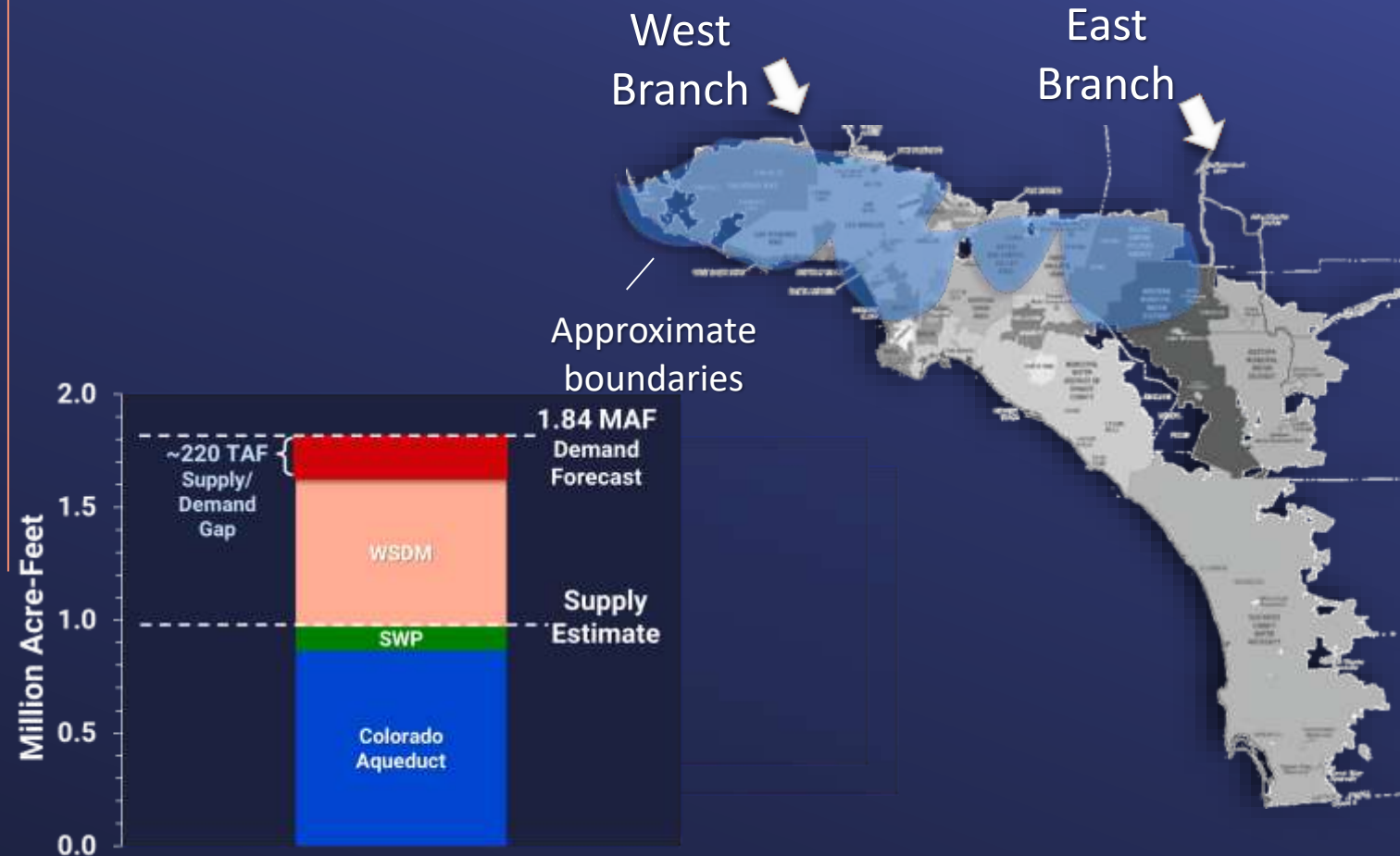
What is the SWP dependent area?

Areas currently served by Metropolitan
primarily through the State Water Project



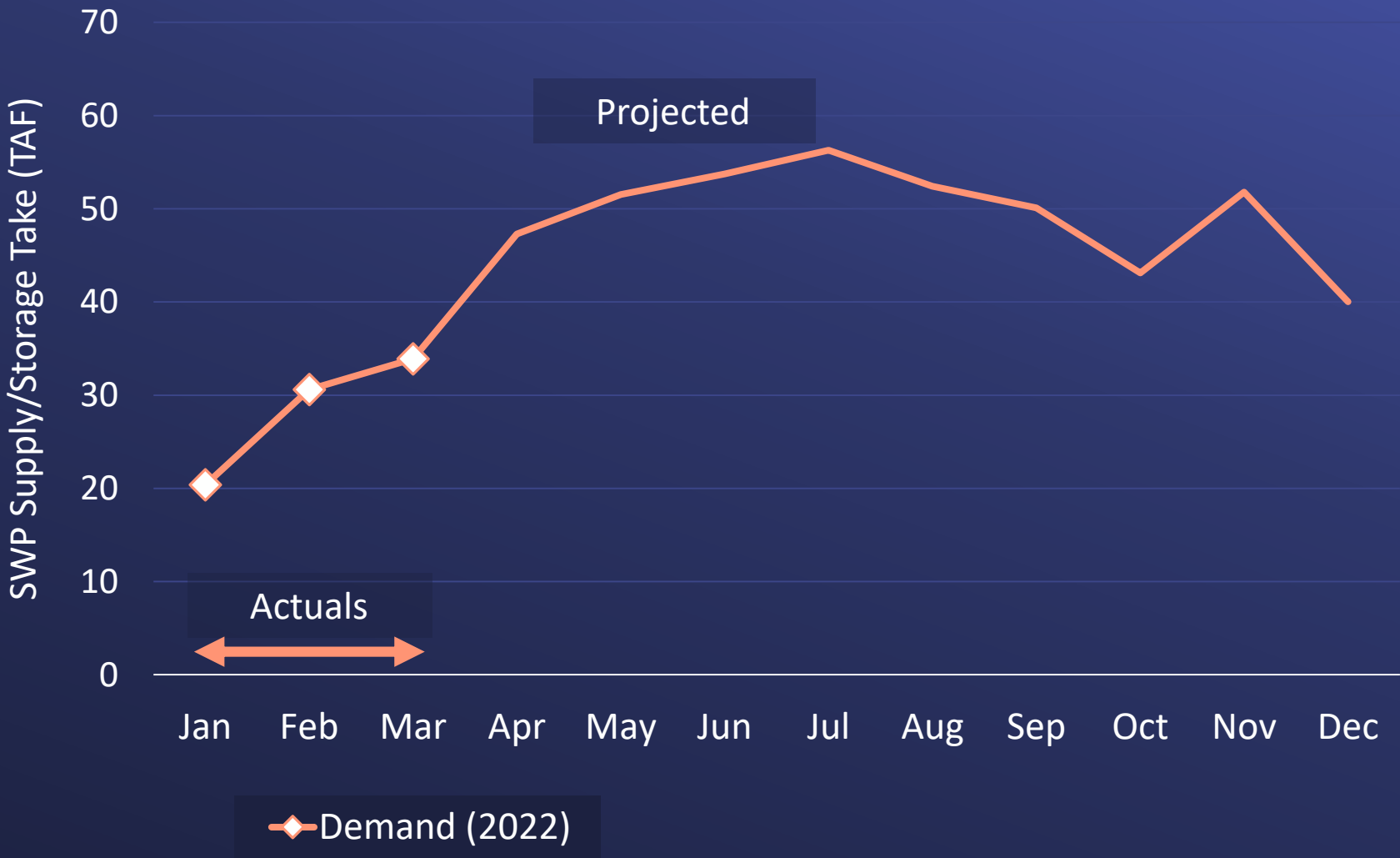
Can we
meet normal
demands
in the SWP
dependent
area?

Normal water demands cannot be met
in the SWP dependent area



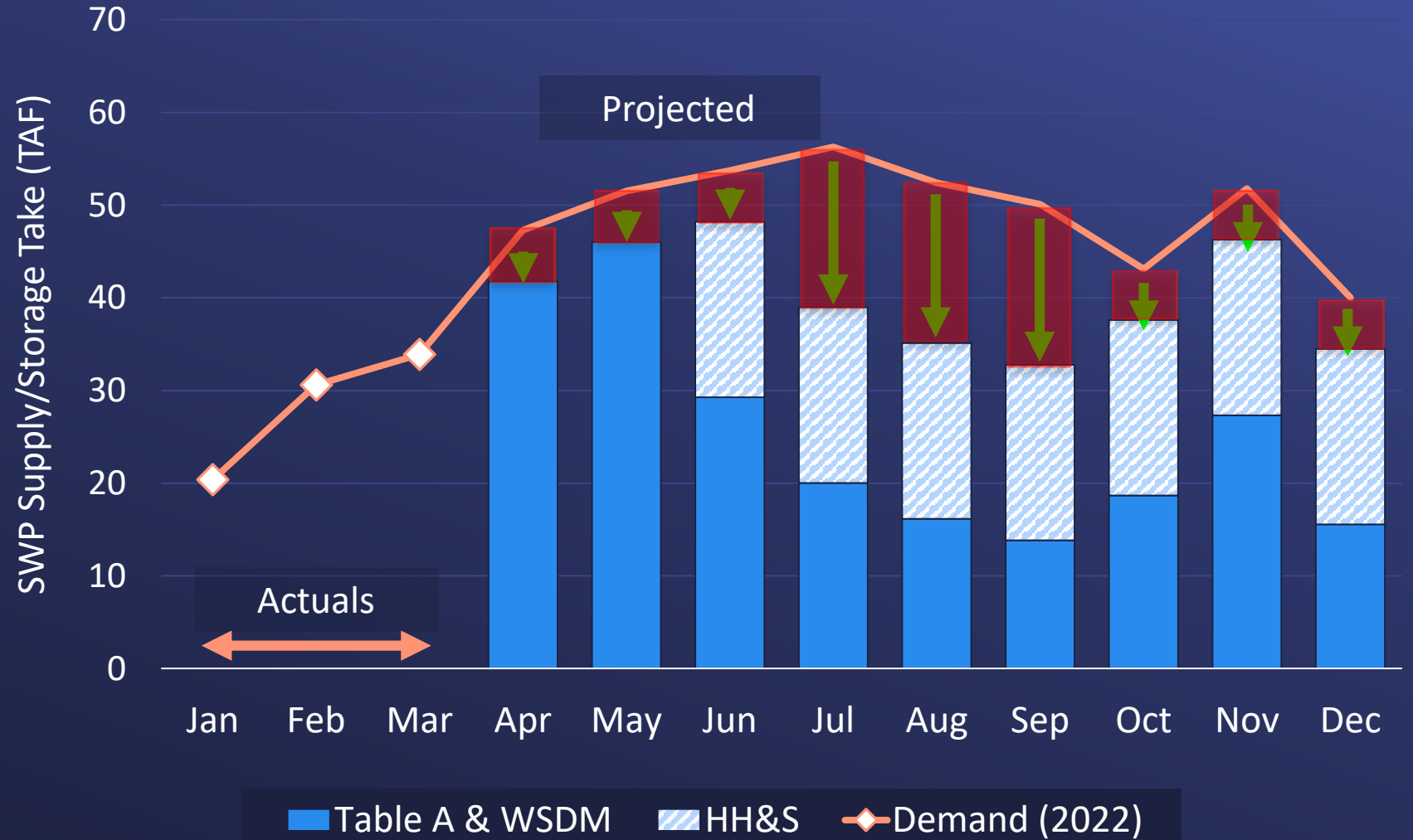
When
should we
accelerate
actions?

Additional conservation needed now



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Additional conservation needed now



What are the
goals of this
proposed
action?

Seeking three objectives

- Preserve scarce supplies this year
- Minimize take of human health and safety water and show clear line-of-sight to conditions for its use
- Prepare for a potential fourth year of drought

Were others involved?

Metropolitan staff advocated with DWR and sought Member Agency input

- DWR coordination to maximize use of stored supplies and transfers
- 15 meetings with directly affected Member Agency managers (since Aug. 2021)
- Monthly reporting to all Member Agency Managers and WP&S Committee of Board (through WSDM reports and presentations)

What tools were considered?

Three alternatives considered:

- Water Supply Allocation Plan (2014)
- Population-Based Allocation
 - Human health and safety (55 gal/person/day)
 - Water supply balance (~130 gal/person/day)
 - Minimum additional conservation (5% reduction)
- Mandatory Conservation Actions
 - Single day per week outdoor watering
 - No outdoor watering (if warranted)

What is the framework?

Three main elements of the Emergency Conservation Program

- Mandate and enforce conservation actions
 - Single day per week outdoor watering
 - No outdoor watering (if warranted)
- Volumetric penalty of \$2,000 per acre-ft
 - Assessed on all SWP delivered to non-compliant water provider (e.g., only part wholesale Member Agency delivery)
- Ability to opt out
 - Outdoor watering restrictions and penalties do not apply if agency eliminates need for delivery of water from SWP
 - This incentivizes local production and conservation

How does an agency comply?

Agencies must adopt certain elements (codes, ordinances, resolutions)

- Outdoor watering restrictions
 - Phase 1: Single day per week outdoor watering
 - Phase 2: No outdoor watering
- Enforcement plan
 - Real consequences to the customer for inaction
 - Approach will vary by agency
 - Ability to audit the enforcement plan
- Adopt by May 31, 2022, to avoid volumetric penalty in June

What would success look like?

Measures of Success

- Preserve sufficient supply for human health & safety if drought continues
- Provide supply for indoor commercial, industrial, and institutional use
- Allow time for additional emergency supply actions to come on-line

How will you monitor success?

Monitoring Mechanisms in SWP Dependent Areas

- Compliance status of water providers
- Metropolitan deliveries to affected service connections
- Local supply production
- Residential water use (existing SWRCB reporting)
- Disaggregated data from flow monitoring devices
- Remote sensing imagery analysis

What assistance is available?

- Assistance available for enforcement activities
 - Access to remaining Member Agency Administered Program (MAAP) funds in the current biennium
 - Access to the proposed \$4.2 million in the upcoming biennium will be made available on July 1, 2022
 - Any collected penalties add to these available funds
- Partnering with drought awareness and public water conservation messaging
- Regional conservation programs
 - Increased flexibility for turf removal applicants
 - Seeking additional conservation funding from state (\$4.5 million awarded last month)

What actions are proposed on April 26?

1. Support Governor's Executive Order N-7-22
 - Implement Water Shortage Contingency Plan Level 2 response actions to reduce water use
2. Declare a Water Shortage Emergency Condition
 - Targeted to the SWP Dependent Area
3. Adopt two-phase Emergency Water Conservation Program framework
 - Limit outdoor watering to one-day-per-week immediately
 - Require effective enforcement
 - Impose volumetric penalties of \$2,000 per acre-foot for non-compliance
 - Include second phase of complete ban on outdoor watering, if needed

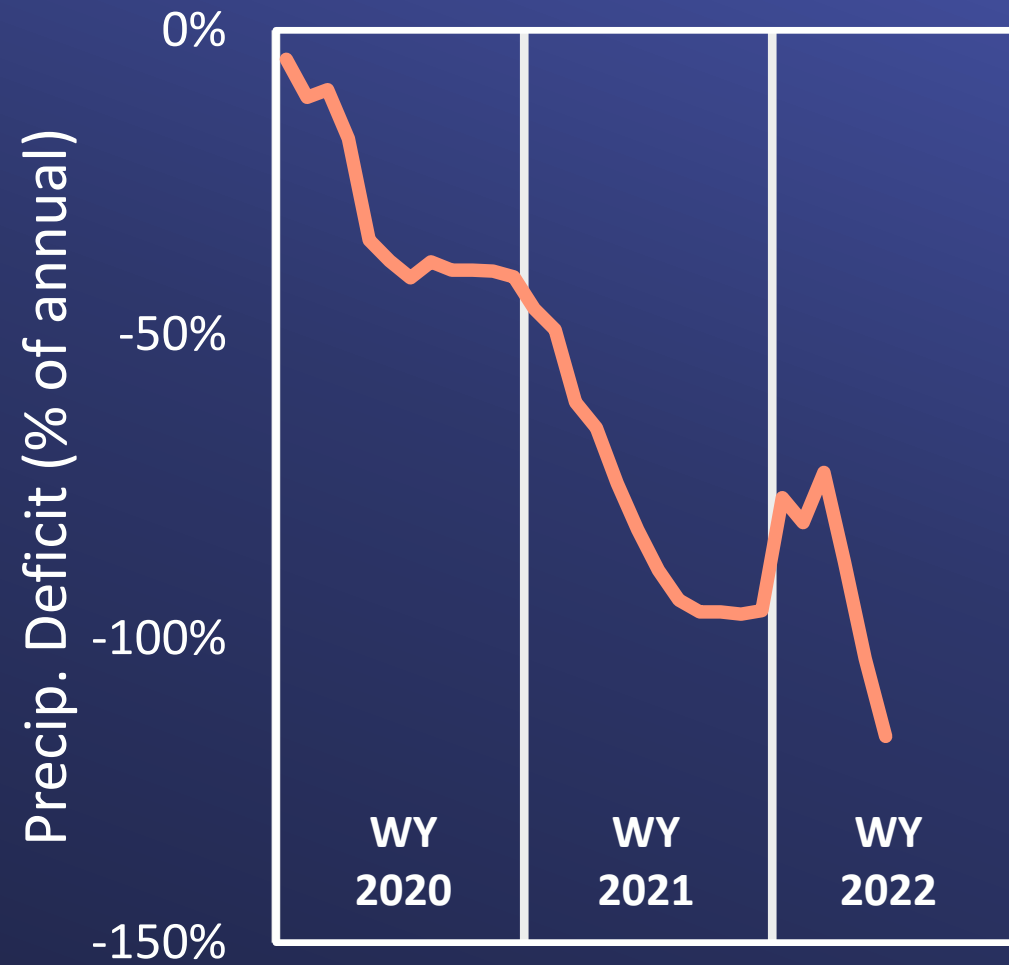
What actions are proposed on April 26? (cont.)

4. Authorize GM to finalize Emergency Conservation Program
 - Ensure conformance with DWR human health and safety requirements
5. Require regular reporting
 - Effectiveness of 1-day watering restriction
 - Need for outdoor watering ban
6. Develop modifications to program if needed
 - Monitoring and feedback will determine if existing plan is effective, workable, and proportionate
 - Potential use of population-based approach to set limits on per capita water use
 - Board action required

How do we coordinate and accelerate actions?

- Continue coordination to finalize and implement the plan
 - Develop suite of acceptable enforcement provisions
 - Finalize and execute an amplified and unified public message for consumer actions
 - Bring information-sharing on-line with affected agencies
- Advocate before State and Federal government for maximum action and assistance during drought





8-Station Index Precipitation