Overview of Metropolitan's Bay-Delta Science Program

Bay-Delta Committee
Item 6c
June 22, 2021

Overview

- Relevance of Science to Metropolitan's Supply Reliability
- Priorities
- Science Program Approach
- Science Investigation Priorities
- Moving forward

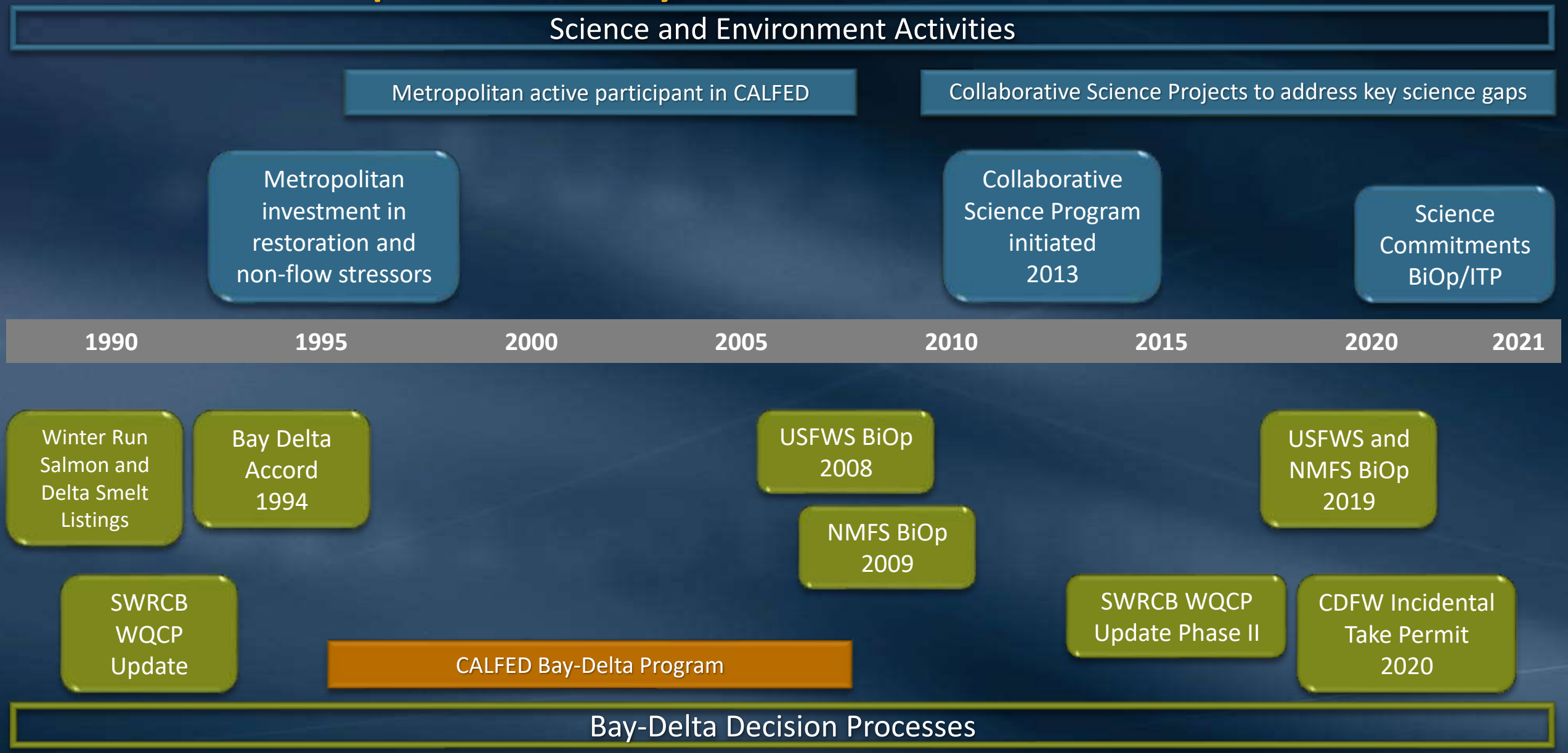
Importance of Metropolitan's Bay-Delta Science Program

- Supports water quality, supply reliability, and ecosystem restoration
- Science drives policies/regulations
- Proactive science
  - Protects the environment
  - Drives better decisions
  - Fosters effective regulations
- Informs Management Decisions and Project Operations
  - Reduces scientific uncertainty to improve Delta ecosystem and increase water supply reliability

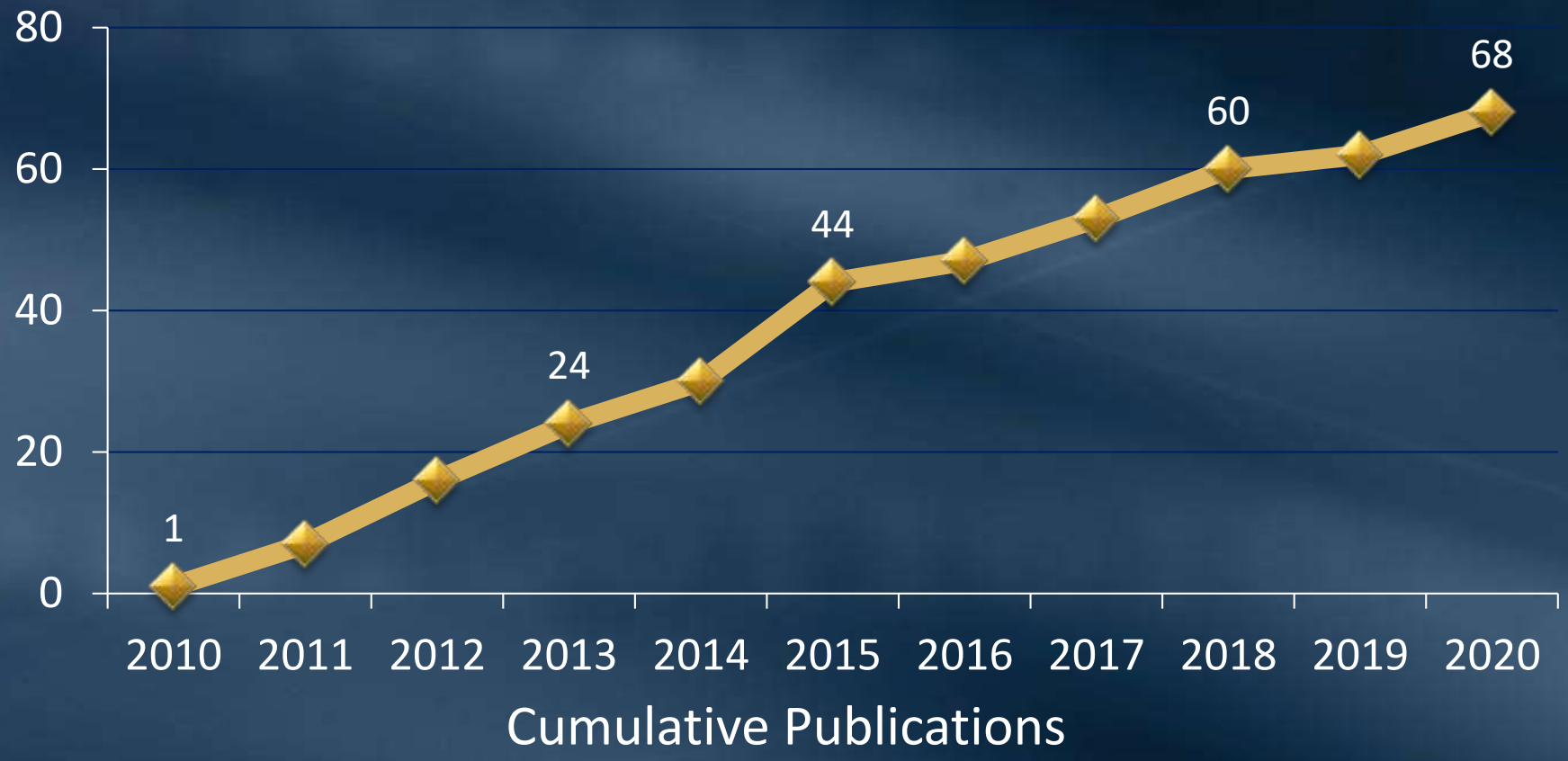
Key Agencies

- Department of Water Resources
- State Water Resources Control Board
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Metropolitan's Bay-Delta Science Involvement



Peer Reviewed Science Publications Funded by Metropolitan



Science Investigation Priorities

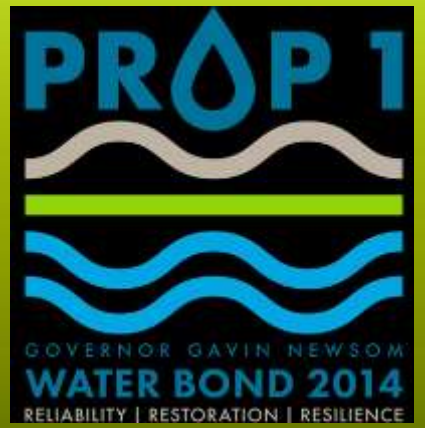
- What is the effectiveness of management actions implemented to improve habitat conditions and food availability for listed fish species?
- What are the impacts of different stressors on aquatic species in the Delta and their role in species decline?
- What are the habitat needs for the listed fish species?
- What technologies are needed to enhance our ability to monitor and study listed fish species?

Scientific Expertise

Collaboration

Metropolitan's Science Program Approach

Participation



Funding

Scientific Expertise

- Metropolitan in-house expertise
  - Salmon
  - Delta smelt/longfin smelt
  - Stressor effects
  - Biological modeling
  - Water system and Delta operations modeling
- Consultants
- University researchers
- Science research centers

Collaboration Strengthens Science Understanding

- Provide needed expertise to address specific science questions
- Engage outside expertise to learn from other systems
- Pursue grant funding with partners to leverage Metropolitan's science investment

Delta Stewardship Council
A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

California Rice

Lawrence Livermore
National Laboratory

How Metropolitan Participates in the Delta Science Community

Science Conferences & Workshops

Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program

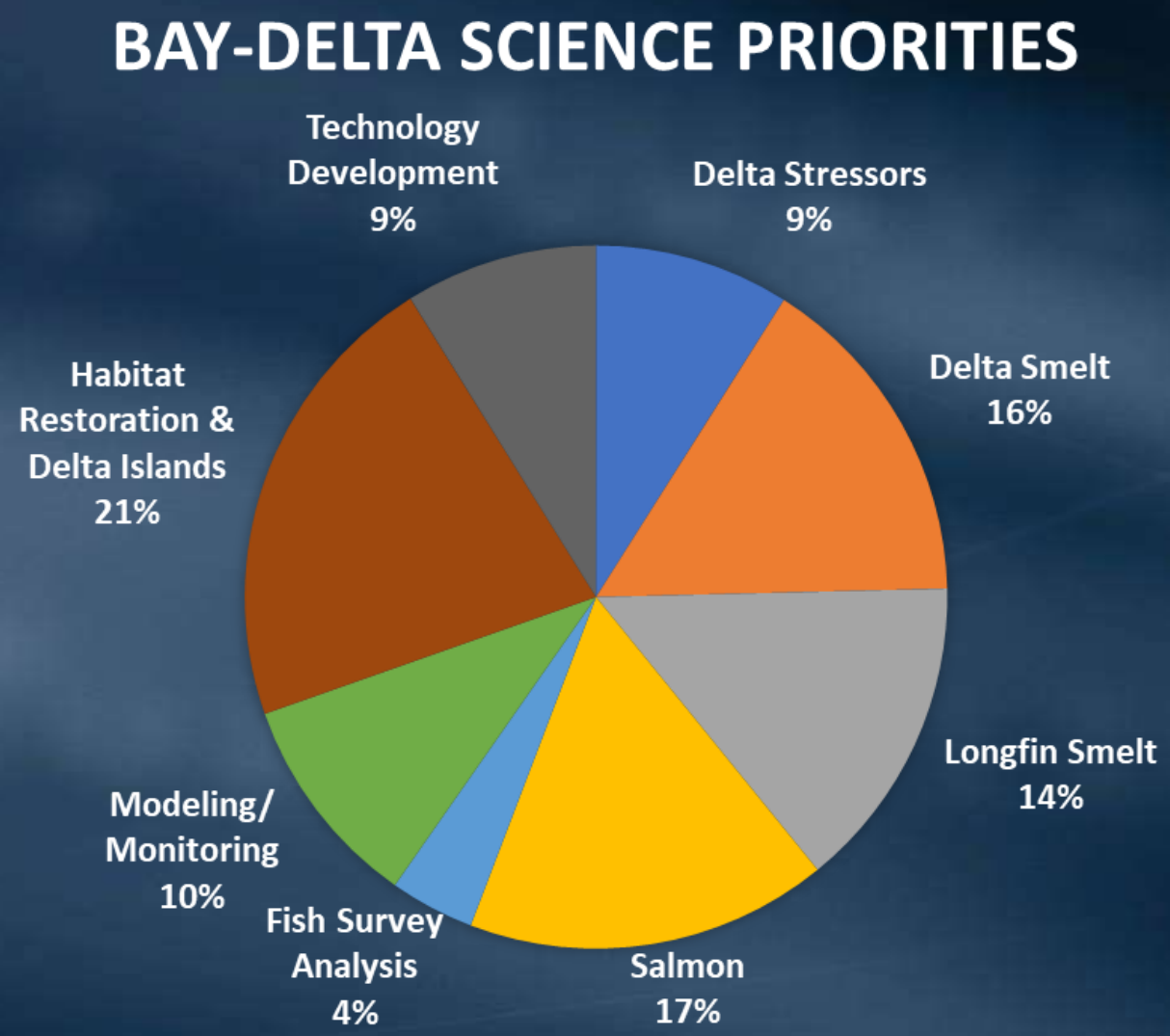
Delta Science Community

State Water Contractors

Interagency Ecological Program

Delta Stewardship Council Delta Science Program

Funding Science Investigations

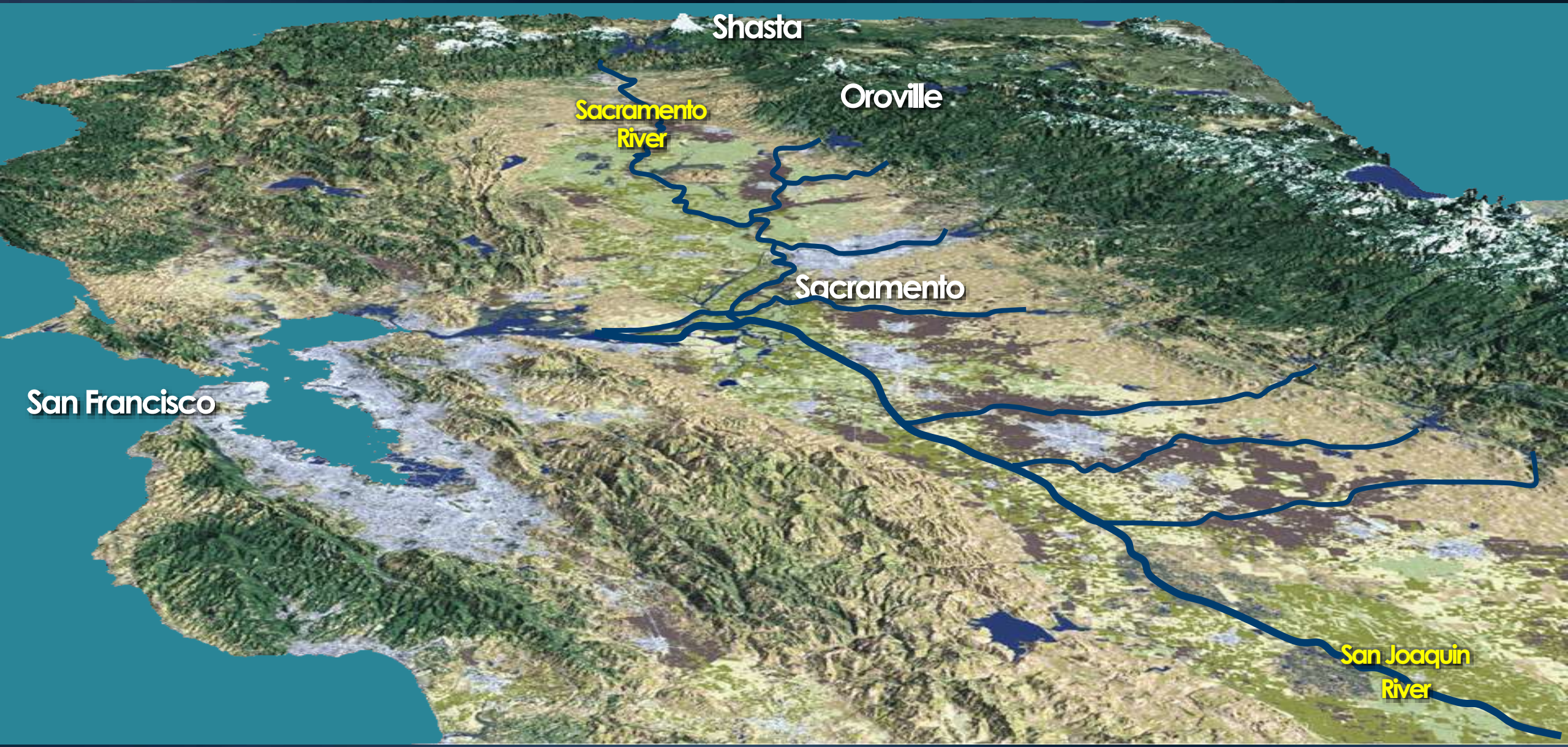


Metropolitan Science Funding

Average ~$1.5 million annually for the last five years

Science Investigation Priorities

Sacramento/San Joaquin Bay-Delta Watershed



Science Investigation Priorities

Effectiveness of Management Actions

Delta Stressors

Habitat Needs for Listed Species

Innovation and New Technology

Moving Forward

- Significant science commitment in BiOp/ITP
- Collaborations to address priority science questions
- Drought studies
- Technology development
- Climate change


THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
1928