

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
A. Chacon
G. Cordero
D. De Jesus
D. Erdman
L. Fong-Sakai
S. Goldberg
C. Kurtz
R. Lefevre
C. Miller
M. Petersen
G. Peterson
N. Sutley

One Water and Stewardship Committee - Final

Meeting with Board of Directors *

July 10, 2023

3:00 p.m.

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. 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 or a Committee on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference (833) 548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or click <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694849772?pwd=V3dGZGRYUjJ3allqdUxXTIJRM044Zz09>

Monday, July 10, 2023 Meeting Schedule

08:30 a.m. EOT
10:30 a.m. LC
12:30 p.m. Break
01:00 p.m. LRAC
03:00 p.m. OWS

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

Teleconference Locations:

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

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

Meritage Resort • 875 Bordeaux Way • Napa, CA 94558

* 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))**

2. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

NONE

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

3. **CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for June 12, 2023 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions) [21-2337](#)

Attachments: [07102023 OWS 3A \(06132023\) Minutes](#)

4. **CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION**

NONE

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

5. **OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION**

NONE

6. **BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

NONE

7. **COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. Tree Rebate addition to Turf Replacement Program [21-2465](#)

Attachments: [07112023 OWS 7a Presentation \(Revised\)](#)

- b. Update on Conservation [21-2489](#)

Attachments: [07112023 OWS 7b Presentation](#)

- c. Proposal for Colorado River Inflation Reduction Act Bucket 2 Funding [21-2510](#)

Attachments: [07102023 OWS 7c Presentation](#)

8. **MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

- a. Colorado River Manager's Report [21-2338](#)

Attachments: [07102023 OWS 8a Report](#)

- b. Bay-Delta Manager's Report [21-2339](#)

Attachments: [07102023 OWS 8b Report](#)
[07102023 OWS 8b Presentation](#)

- c. Water Resource Management Manager's Report [21-2340](#)

Attachments: [07102023 OWS 8c Presentation](#)

- d. Chief Sustainability Resiliency and Innovation Officer's Report [21-2466](#)

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. 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

June 12, 2023

Chair Quinn called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman (entered after roll call), Armstrong, Chacon, Erdman (entered after roll call), Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, Quinn, and Sutley (entered after roll call).

Members Absent: Directors Alvarez, Cordero, De Jesus, Goldberg, and Petersen.

Other Board Members present: Abdo, Dennstedt, Dick, Fellow, Garza, Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Seckel, and Smith.

Committee staff present: Coffey, Crosson, Hasencamp, 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. Mark Gold, National Resources Council, spoke in support of item 7b
2. Justin Breck, Los Angeles Water Keeper, spoke in support of item 7b
3. Devon Provo, Accelerate Resilience L.A. spoke in support of item 7b.
4. Osha Maserve, Soluri Meserve Law Corporation, spoke in opposition of item 7-8.
5. Bruce Blodgett, Executive Director, Delta Protective Commission

2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a.** Subject: Report from Subcommittee on Bay-Delta

Subcommittee on Bay-Delta did not meet. Nothing to report.

- b.** Subject: Report from Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities

Presented by: Director Armstrong.

Director Armstrong reported on two subcommittee items discussed at an earlier meeting of the Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities. The first item was an update on Local Resources Program. The second item was a conservation update.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for May 8, 2023.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-7** Subject: By a two-thirds vote, authorize payment of up to \$932,800 for support of the Colorado River Board and Six Agency Committee for fiscal year 2023/35; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: None. No presentation requested.

Motion: By a two-thirds vote, authorize payment of up to \$932,800 for support of the Colorado River Board and Six Agency Committee for FY 2023/2024

Brad Coffey provided background information on the following item giving the committee the option of viewing the presentation.

- 7-8** Subject: Adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Delta Smelt and Native Species Preservation Project and take related CEQA actions

Presented by: Sean Carlson, Manager, Environmental Planning

Motion: Adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Delta Smelt and Native Species Preservation Project and take related CEQA actions.

Mr. Carlson gave a presentation on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Delta Smelt and Native Species Preservation Project, which, if approved by a future Board action, would include the construction of two marsh-pond complexes to house native fish for research and experimental study.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Fong-Sakai | 4. Peterson |
| 2. Ortega | 5. Kurtz |
| 3. Miller | 6. Ackerman |

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Kurtz, to approve the Consent Calendar consisting of items 3a, 7-7, and 7-8.

The vote was:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Ayes: | Directors Ackerman, Armstrong, Chacon, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, Quinn, and Sutley. |
| Noes: | Chacon (item 7-8), Fong-Sakai (item 7-8), and Miller (item 7-8) |
| Abstentions: | Fong-Sakai (item 3a). |
| Absent: | Directors Alvarez, Cordero, De Jesus, Goldberg, and Petersen. |

The motion for item 3A passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 5 absent.

The motion for item 7-7 passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 5 absent.

The motion for item 7-8 passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 3 noes, 0 abstentions, and 5 absent.

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

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

None.

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on Metropolitan's Groundwater Storage and Delivery Programs

Presented by: Anna Garcia, Associate Engineer, Water Acquisition Team

Ms. Garcia's presentation on Metropolitan's Groundwater Storage and Delivery Programs was provided in response to Directors' comments at the May 8, 2023, OW&S Committee. Her presentation gave a high-level status update and a broad overview of those storage and delivery programs.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Seckel
2. Armstrong
3. Ortega

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

- b. Subject: Update on Stormwater Activities

Presented by: Warren Teitz, Manager, Resource Development Team

Mr. Teitz gave a presentation that discussed updates on Stormwater conditions, Stormwater for Direct-Use Pilot Program, and upcoming activities as they relate to planning.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Erdman

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

c. Subject: Update on Water Surplus and Drought Management

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

Ms. Razavian provided an abbreviated presentation that reviewed hydrological conditions and Metropolitan's current water supply-demand balance.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: Colorado River Manager's Report

Presented by: Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources

Mr. Hasencamp provided an update on Colorado River activity.

b. Subject: Bay-Delta Manager's Report

Presented by: Nina Hawk, Manager, Bay-Delta Initiatives

Ms. Hawk provided an update on Bay-Delta activity.

c. Subject: Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Presented by: Brad Coffey, Manager, Water Resource Management

Mr. Coffey's update highlighted two of Water Resource Management's staff members, Mr. Gary Tilkian and Mr. James Morgutia. Mr. Tilkian's cover article was published in the May issue of American Water Works Association. Mr. Morgutia has been instrumental in preparing and submitting grant applications resulting in nearly \$50M in grant funding. Finally, Mr. Coffey provided an update on Metropolitan's developing proposal to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to pursue funding from the Inflation Reduction Act for Colorado River Bucket 2 projects.

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on July 10, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Tracy Quinn
Chair



One Water Committee and Stewardship

Addition of Tree Rebate to Turf Replacement Program

Item 7a

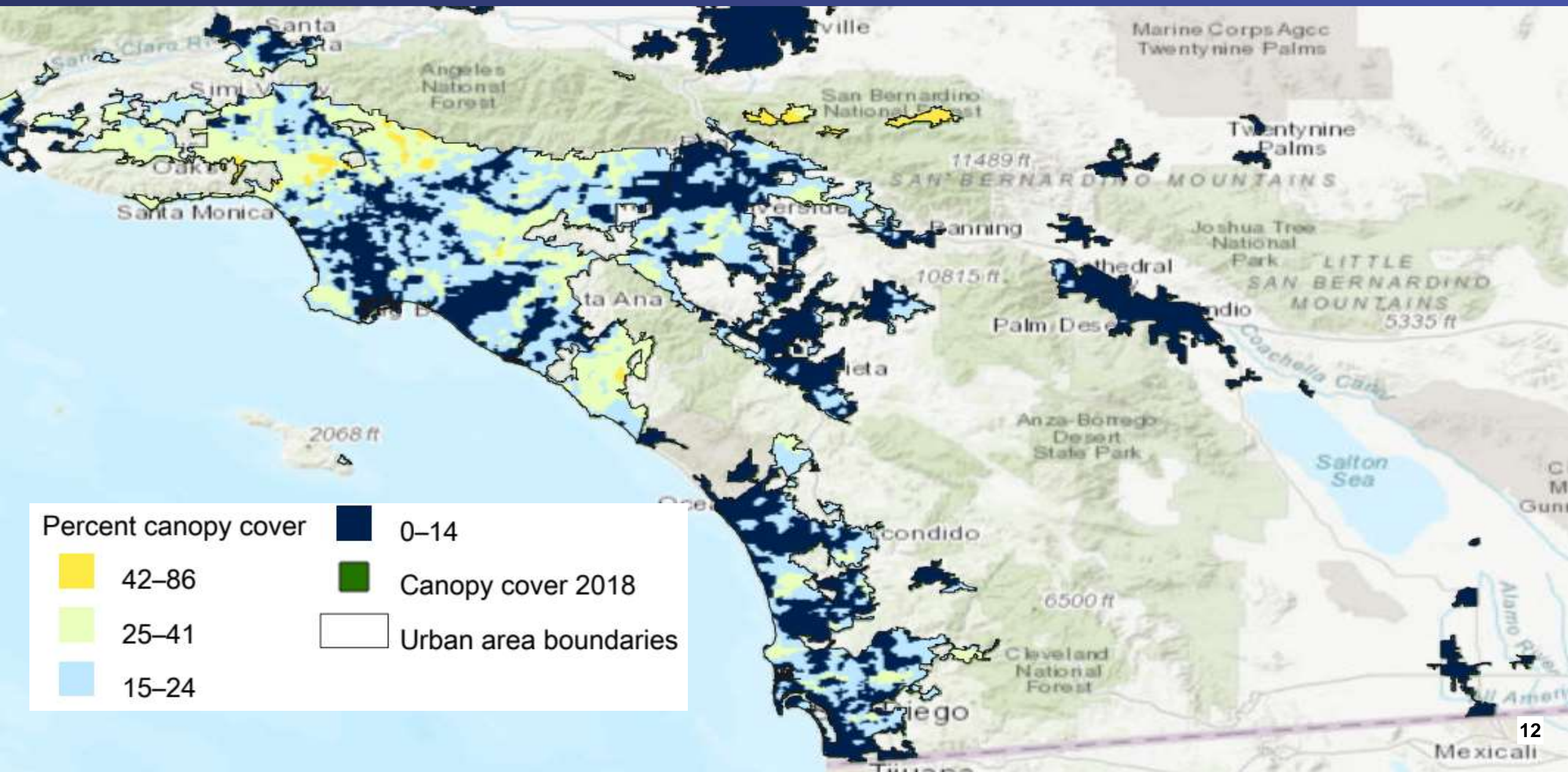
July 10, 2023

Program Development

- Water use efficiency program advisory committee request
 - Details developed by sub-committee of 6 agencies
- Met with NGOs to discuss program details and resources
 - Positive feedback on program idea and details
 - Provided resources and expertise on recommended tree list and exclusion list



USDA Urban Tree Canopy Map



Tree Rebate Program

Benefits of Trees in Turf Replacement Program

- Urban cooling
 - Trees reduce temperatures by 2-6° F
- Tree root infiltration increases water storage in soil
- Replacing lawn with trees and CA Friendly landscaping reduces water use by at least 30%
- Increases green spaces and urban forests in urban areas

Tree Rebate Program

Other Benefits of Trees

- Urban cooling and energy conservation
- Carbon sequestration
 - Removes 48 lbs of carbon dioxide per year
- Promotes healthy soil and reduces erosion
- Air quality improvements
 - Filters up to 43 lbs. of particle pollutants per year
- Increases and protects biodiversity
- Increases neighborhood property values
- Reduces stress and improves health

Program Details

- Rebate added to Turf Replacement Program for Residential and Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional properties
- \$100 rebate per tree planted; max 5 trees
 - 15-gallon minimum size
 - Edible fruit trees allowed in residential projects
- 1 new tree = 3 plants



Tree Rebate Program

Program Resources

- Tree definition
- Exclusion list – hedges, invasives, non-native palms
- Recommended tree plant list
- Care and maintenance/watering guide

Equivalent Incentive Estimation

	Residential	Commercial
Avg # of Apps Received Per Month(3-month AVG)	516	54
Avg Square Ft. Per Application	1,732	14,725
MWD Turf Replacement Incentive	\$2.00	\$2.00
Equivalent Additional Incentive Per Sq Ft. w 1 Tree Bonus	\$0.06	< \$0.01
Equivalent Additional Incentive Per Sq Ft. w 5 (max) Tree Bonuses	\$0.29	\$0.03

Budget Impacts

	Residential	Commercial
Avg # of Apps Received Per Month (3-month AVG)	516	54
Avg Square Ft. Per Application	1,732	14,725
Dropout Rate	40%	40%
Additional Annual Expenditures for Tree Rebate (Assumes 2 Trees/App)	~\$750k	~\$78k

- Annual Tree Rebate expenditures expected to cost up to \$830K based on current activity and dropout rates = 3% of total projected annual expenditures for TRP

Next Steps

- Obtain feedback and incorporate changes into the program
- Present to MWD Board for approval
- Program implementation expected fall/winter 2023





One Water and Stewardship Committee

Update on Conservation

Item 7b

July 10, 2023

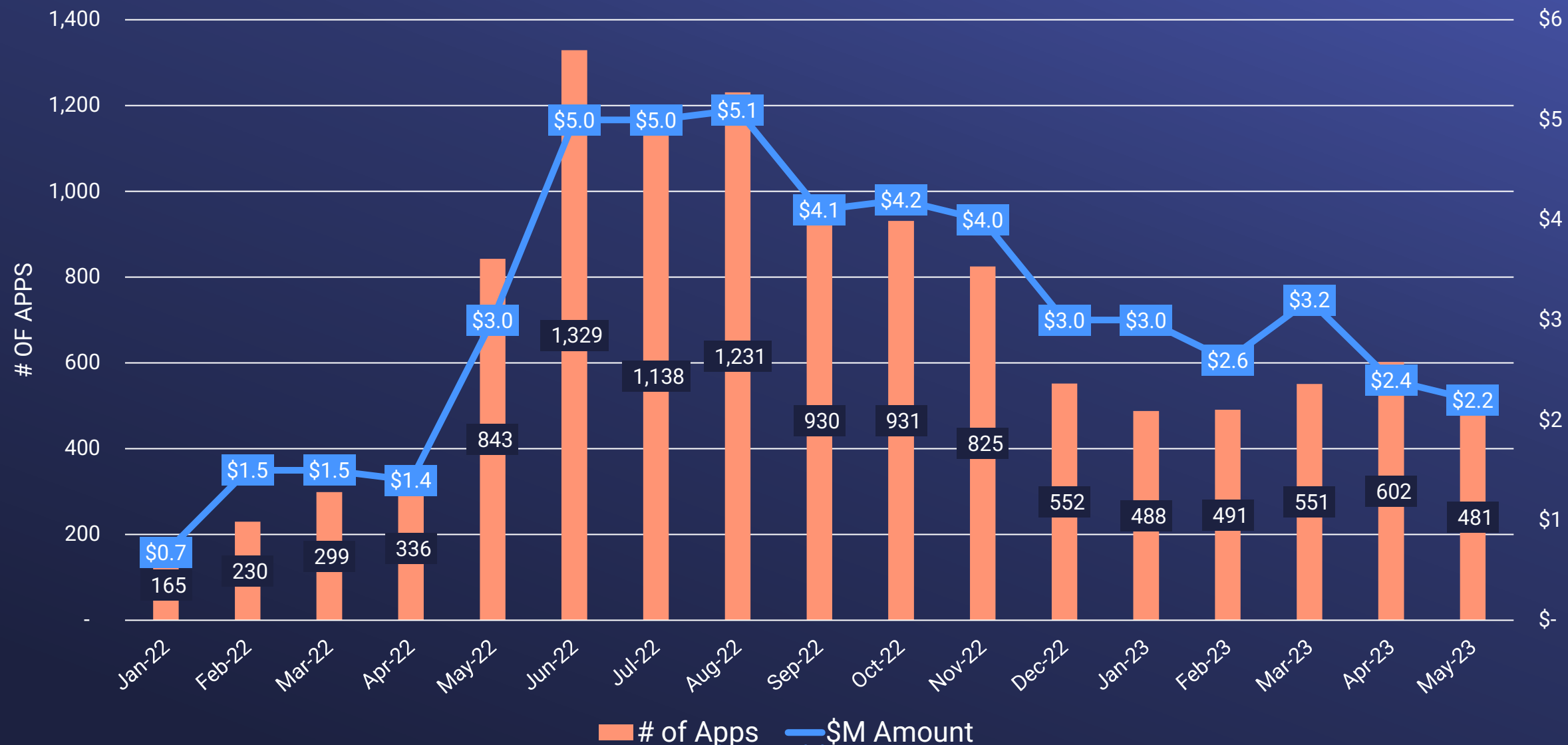
Current Conservation Program Expenditures FYs 2022/23 & 2023/24⁽¹⁾

	Paid ⁽²⁾	Committed ⁽³⁾
Regional Devices	\$6.2 M	\$7.0 M
Member Agency Administered	\$7.0 M	\$5.4 M
Turf Replacement	\$20.0 M	\$38.1 M
Advertising	\$5.6 M	\$1.4 M
Other	\$1.9 M	\$1.5 M
TOTAL	\$40.7 M	\$53.4 M

- (1) The Conservation Program biennial expenditure authorization is \$86M.
- (2) As of 7/1/2022 –5/31/2023. Financial reporting has changed from modified accrual to cash basis. This resulted in \$9.2M of expenditures that were accrued last year but paid in cash this fiscal year.
- (3) Committed dollars as of June 10, 2023.

Turf Replacement Applications & Dollars Committed

Residential/Commercial/Industrial/Institutional



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



Turf Replacement Rebates:

May: 1,346,575 ft² removed

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 9,391,121 ft² removed



Toilets:

May: 1,389 units rebated

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 23,193 units rebated



Sprinkler Nozzles:

May: 3,330 units rebated

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 22,200 units rebated

Lifetime Water Savings to be achieved by all rebates in May 2023: 7,717 AF

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 56,971 AF lifetime water savings

Conservation Grant Program Current Awards Total \$49.5M

Grant	Projects	Award Amount	Status/ Funds Available	To be Spent by
USBR WaterSMART FY2022	Public Agency (PA) Turf	\$2M	Awarded Available since November 2022	December 2025
DWR Urban Drought Relief 2021	RES & CII Turf Replacement	\$2M	Awarded Available November 2022 Fully reserved	June 2025
	Residential Direct Install Program (SoCalGas)	\$2.5M	Awarded Available since November 2022	June 2025
USBR WaterSMART FY2023	RES & CII Turf Replacement (shift to RES)	\$5M	Awarded April 2023 Anticipate being available Fall 2023	June 2026
DWR Urban Drought Relief 2022	CII & PA Turf Replacement	\$30M	Awarded June 2023 Anticipate being available Fall 2023	Likely December 2026
	Residential Direct Install Program (SoCalGas)	\$5M		
	Recirculating Firefighter Training Units (DRAFTS Pump Pods)	\$3M		

Grants Update

Metropolitan most recently awarded \$43M from both USBR and DWR

2023 USBR Water Energy Efficiency Program Grant
\$5M to supplement (add \$1/square foot) MWD's base
incentive for RES & CII Turf Replacement

2022 DWR Urban Conservation and Drought Relief Grant
\$38M to fund three programs:

- \$30M to supplement base incentive for CII & Public Agency Turf Replacement
- \$5M to fund additional installations for Residential Direct Install Program with SoCalGas
- \$3M to incentivize the purchase of firefighter training recirculation units (DRAFT Pump Pods)

How Turf Replacement Grants are/will be Rolled Out

Metropolitan's Base Turf Replacement Program

Fall 2022

USBR FY 2022

- 2,000,000 sf
- Public Agency
- Total Rebate: \$4/sf
- Available November 2022; funding still available

Fall 2023 → 2026

DWR 2022

- 30,000,000 sf
- Public Agency & Commercial
- Total Rebate: \$5/sf for public agency sites *until USBR FY22 funds run out*; \$3/sf for commercial
- Available through December 2026, or until fully reserved

DWR 2021

- 2,000,000 sf
- Residential & Commercial
- Total Rebate: \$3/sf
- Funds fully reserved

USBR FY 2023

- 5,000,000 sf
- Residential
- Total Rebate: \$3/sf
- Available through June 2026, or until fully reserved

Grant Awards also Focus on Services for Underserved Communities & Firefighter Training Efficiency

SCG Direct Install



\$5M to further expand program



DRAFT Pods



\$3M to supplement current incentive







One Water and Committee

Proposal for Colorado River Inflation Reduction Act Bucket 2 Funding

Item 7c

July 10, 2023

Bucket 2 Funding

Lower Colorado River Basin Conservation & Efficiency Proposals

- Seeks savings of Colorado River water to support Lake Mead
 - Reduce consumptive use
 - Add new water supply
- Offered to Colorado delivery contractors, but can include partnerships
- Funds project implementation, not Ops., Maintenance, & Replacement
- Monitored to ensure benefits realized

Proposals due:
Jul. 19, 2023

Summary of Approach

Seeking funding for a portfolio proposal

- Main elements of the proposal include
 - Member agency partnerships
 - Landscape transformation
 - Storage
- Proposal includes programs for disadvantaged communities and income-qualified residents





● 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 June 2023.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Notice of Intent to Prepare Post-2026 Operational Guidelines

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) published the Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Notice to Solicit Comments and Hold Public Scoping Meetings on the Development of Post-2026 Operational Guidelines and Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Reclamation is seeking comments on the purpose and need of the EIS, and scope of the analysis. The NOI notes that as the 2007 operational guidelines are interim, it is likely that the post-2026 operational guidelines will be interim, but that Reclamation intends that the post-2026 operational guidelines and strategies be robust and adaptive enough to withstand a broad range of future conditions and provide greater operational and planning stability to water users and the public. Reclamation requests that the public submit comments concerning the scope of specific operational guidelines, strategies, and any other issues that should be considered on or before August 15, 2023. Metropolitan staff will be preparing comments to submit before the deadline.

Reclamation intends to develop approaches for outreach throughout this National Environmental Planning Act process that facilitate inclusion at multiple levels. This outreach will include individualized consultation, outreach to existing groups and forums, creation of new groups and forums, as well as broader public outreach. Tribal engagement and inclusivity will be emphasized through this process. Reclamation is also committed to identifying processes that can complement the International Boundary and Water Commission's efforts to develop agreements that will succeed Treaty Minute 323, which expires in 2026.

June Salinity Control Forum Meeting

Metropolitan Staff attended a meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) in Jackson, Wyoming, June 6-7, 2023. The meeting featured discussion of proposed language for the 2023 federal Farm Bill to reduce state cost-share requirements for salinity control funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service's EQIP Program (from 30 percent to 15 percent) and for operation and maintenance costs on three projects implemented as part of the original 1974 Salinity Control Act: the Paradox Valley Unit (PVU; from 25 percent to 10 percent), the Grand Valley Project (from 25 percent to 0 percent), and the McElmo Project (from 30 percent to 0 percent). These reductions in state cost-share requirements would be a major first step toward rectifying a funding deficit that has challenged the Salinity Control Program in the recent past. Metropolitan staff has worked with congressional staff to develop proposed legislation to implement this change in the cost share amounts.

Additionally, Reclamation updated the Forum on their Request for Information from private industry to solicit new alternatives for the long-term replacement of the PVU. The Paradox well continues to operate at 2/3 capacity, but the length of time it can continue to operate is uncertain. Finally, Forum Work Group members presented to the Forum the draft 2023 "Triennial Review," in which the Forum communicates to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency an assessment of the sufficiency of existing water quality criteria for salinity on the Lower Colorado River. The draft Triennial Review recommended no changes to existing salinity criteria. Forum members will review and comment on the draft prior to their fall meeting in October 2023.

Board Report (Colorado River Management Report)

Reclamation Begins 2023 Annual Operating Plan Consultation

Reclamation held the first of three annual consultation meetings regarding its Annual Operating Plan for Colorado River Reservoirs (AOP) for 2024. Each year Reclamation prepares an AOP that reports on operations of Colorado River Reservoirs during the past year, and projects operations and releases for the current year based on current and projected reservoir elevations and hydrologic conditions throughout the basin. The AOP provides Metropolitan with significant operational information regarding projected releases from Lake Powell to Lake Mead and whether the Lower Division States (California, Arizona, and Nevada) will be at normal, surplus, or shortage conditions. Metropolitan uses information in the AOP to plan diversions, ICS creation and/or delivery, interstate banking determinations, and Drought Contingency Plan Contributions. In most years the AOP is finalized in September, but the 2024 AOP is expected to be finalized in October 2023 due to the anticipated schedule of the 2007 Interim Guidelines Supplemental EIS. The final determination for 2024 will be made in August 2023, but at this point it appears a tier 1 shortage will likely be declared for next year. This determination would not affect Metropolitan's operations.



● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for June 2023.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

Delta Conveyance

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act for a public review that ended on December 16, 2022. DWR received more than 700 unique comment letters with over 6,000 individual comments. DWR is currently working to organize the comments and develop responses. The Final EIR is expected at the end of 2023. It will include responses to all substantive comments on the Draft EIR and edits to the Draft EIR, as appropriate, to respond to the comments.

DWR recently published a fact sheet addressing how modernizing infrastructure can help to capture more storm flow. The fact sheet can be found [here](#).

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as part of its permitting review under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act, released a draft Environmental Impact Statement to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act for a public review that ended on March 16, 2023. USACE is working to organize the comments received.

Sites Reservoir

At the June 16 Joint Sites Reservoir Committee and Authority Board meeting, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a new Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation that includes activities necessary to move the Sites Reservoir Project forward into construction. These preconstruction activities include continued planning and engineering, including geotechnical investigations, design, environmental permitting, and the water rights process.

Funding the Sites Reservoir Project beyond the planning phase and into detailed design, construction and operation will require developing a Sites Reservoir Benefits and Obligations Contract (Contract). The Contract will also serve as the long-term commitment of the Sites Authority to provide the Participant with its capacity interest in the Sites Reservoir water storage system. Executing this Contract will be expected following the receipt of a water rights decision and securing critical permits. The Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized Sites Reservoir staff to proceed with negotiation of the Contract (Draft 1) with the Participants.

The Reservoir Committee and Authority Board also approved two contracts for geotechnical monitoring as-needed services with the Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun along with geotechnical monitoring as-needed services and an ethnographic study with the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Quarterly Bay-Delta Science Update

Metropolitan's Bay-Delta Science Program is directed at supporting strong science for protecting the Bay-Delta environment, driving effective management decisions, and supporting water supply reliability. For the period April 1 to June 30, 2023, staff provided science updates to Metropolitan Board committees and member agencies. Staff provided presentations to the One Water and Stewardship Committee on the State Water Resources Control

Date of Report: 7/11/2023

Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

Board Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement that includes evaluation of the effects of the proposed voluntary agreement actions on spawning habitat, rearing habitat, Bay-Delta habitat and estuarine fish abundances, and a Salmon Update reporting on the status of the salmon fishery this year. Staff gave a presentation to the Subcommittee on Bay-Delta in April on the Pilot Propagation Study for the Delta smelt and Native Species Preservation Project. Staff also gave a presentation to the West Basin Caucus on the Pilot Propagation Study. These presentations highlighted recent study findings that show that impoundments can be used to raise Delta smelt.



One Water and Stewardship Committee

Bay-Delta Manager's Report

Item 8b

July 10, 2023

Twitchell Island

- Fully developed non-tidal wetland
- Similar conditions to Webb Tract
- Reviewed lessons learned during construction and best management practices

Lower Roberts Island Rice Farm

- Understand growth patterns and water management
- Inform the needs to develop the anticipated 1,500 acres of rice on Webb Tract



Delta Site Visits and Learning Opportunities

Bay-Delta, Water Resource Management, Real Property and Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation staff met with rice farmers and DWR to share knowledge and learn best practices

Sacramento Regional San Tour

Echowater Project

- Tertiary wastewater treatment upgrade completed in Spring 2023
- Removes 99% of ammonia and 89% of nitrogen
- Improves water quality in the Delta

Harvest Water

- Water Storage Investment Project (WSIP)
- Will utilize tertiary treated wastewater to supply crops and offset groundwater withdrawals



Lynda Smith

33 Years of Service

"I love working at the interface between science and policy. It is what drew me to Metropolitan and has made my work interesting and challenging every day."







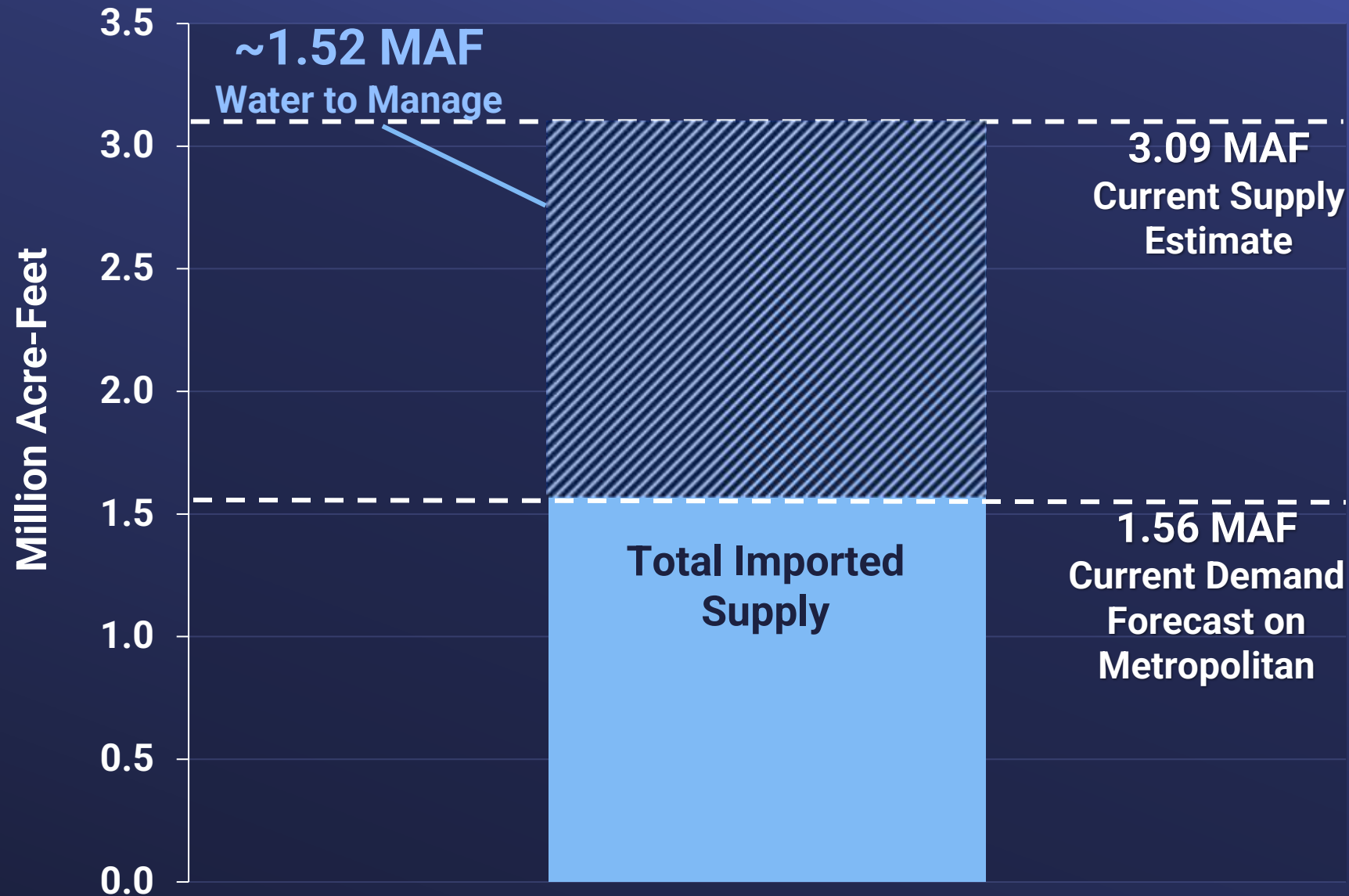
One Water & Stewardship Committee

Water Resource Manager Update

Item 8c

July 10, 2023

2023 Water Supply/Demand Balance



Note: Data as of June 27, 2023.

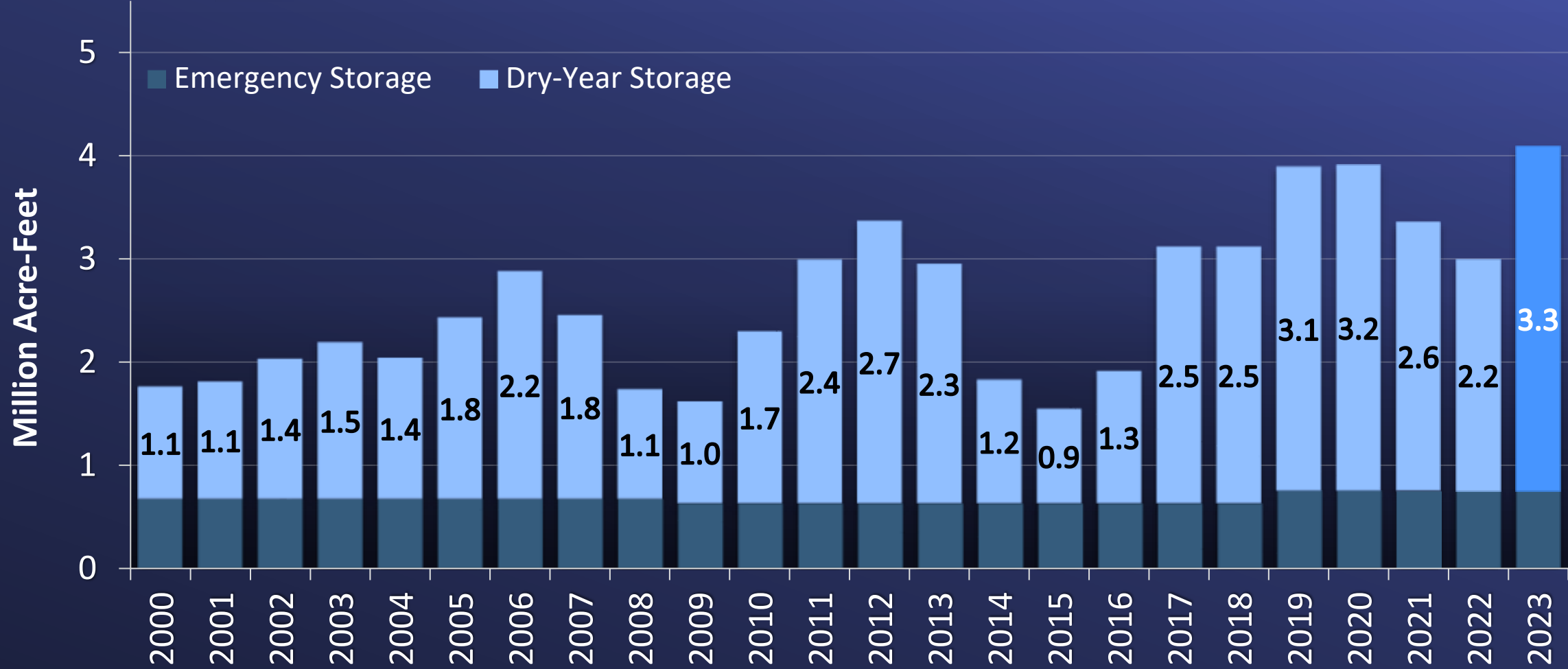
Metropolitan's Storage Actions



- Notes:
- 1) Dashed lines indicate 2023 starting storage balances.
 - 2) Ending storage balances are projections (as of June 27, 2023) and will vary based on actual conditions.
 - 3) In-region storage includes emergency storage.
 - 4) Storage buckets not drawn to scale.

Metropolitan Projecting to Refill Storage Accounts

End-of-Year Balances



Note:

2023 end-of-year balance is preliminary as they are subject to DWR adjustments and USBR final accounting.

Groundwater Coordination

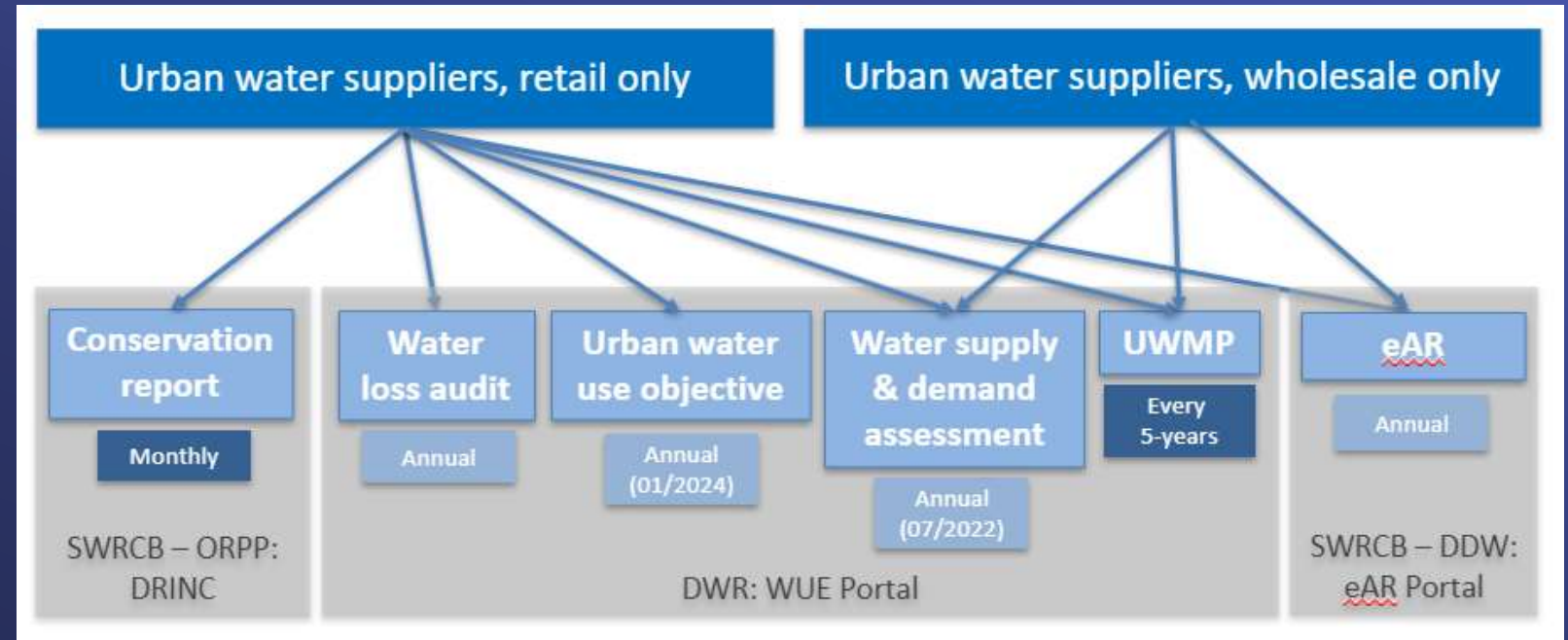
Member Agency Groundwater/Reservoir Management Workshops

- Meetings on Apr. 6 and Jun. 28, 2023
- Reviewed existing groundwater and reservoir management programs
- Seeking opportunities to increase capture of potential unmanaged supply in 2023 and 2024
- Identified near-term changes (future board action)
- Developing options for longer-term programs

California Water Data Consortium

MWD Hosted Consortium Meetings in June

Urban Water Reporting



Groundwater Accounting and Data Reporting



LiDAR

