

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH MET DIRECTORS
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
18700 Ward Street, Conference Room 101, Fountain Valley, California
April 2, 2025, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Sites:
25652 Paseo De La Paz, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
17420 Walnut Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
2800 Keller, #301, Tustin, CA 92782

This meeting will be held in person at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California, 92708 (Conference Room 101). As a convenience for the public, the meeting may also be accessed by Zoom Webinar and will be available by either computer or telephone audio as indicated below. Because this is an in-person meeting and the Zoom component is not required, but rather is being offered as a convenience, if there are any technical issues during the meeting, this meeting will continue and will not be suspended.

Computer Audio: You can join the Zoom meeting by clicking on the following link:
<https://zoom.us/j/8828665300>

**Telephone Audio: (669) 900 9128 fees may apply
(877) 853 5247 Toll-free
Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#**

AGENDA

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/COMMENTS

At this time members of the public will be given an opportunity to address the Board concerning items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Members of the public may also address the Board about a particular Agenda item at the time it is considered by the Board and before action is taken.

The Board requests, but does not require, that members of the public who want to address the Board complete a voluntary "Request to be Heard" form available from the Board Secretary prior to the meeting.

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

Determine need and take action to agendize item(s), which arose subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (ROLL CALL VOTE: Adoption of this recommendation requires a two-thirds vote of the Board members present or, if less than two-thirds of the Board members are present a unanimous vote.)

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the District's business office located at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the District's Internet Web site, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2155

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. WATER SUPPLY UPDATE & NEW WATER SUPPLY REPORT FORMAT

Recommendation: Discuss and file the information presented.

2. METROPOLITAN CAMP4W PANEL DISCUSSION

Recommendation: Discuss and file the information presented.

3. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

- a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)
- b. State Legislative Report (SDA)
- c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
- d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)
- e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix
- f. MET Legislative Matrix

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

4. QUESTIONS OR INPUT ON MET ISSUES FROM THE MEMBER AGENCIES/MET DIRECTOR REPORTS REGARDING MET COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Recommendation: Receive input and discuss the information presented.

ACTION ITEM

5. AB 514 (PETRIE-NORRIS): EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLIES

Recommendation: Adopt a support position on Assembly Bill 514 (Petrie-Norris) and join Irvine Ranch Water District's (IRWD) coalition letter.

6. H.R. 1871 (HUFFMAN, D-CA) and S. 857 (CURTIS, R-UT) – WATER CONSERVATION REBATE TAX PARITY ACT

Recommendation: Adopt a support position on H.R. 1871 (Huffman, D-CA) and S. 857 (Curtis, R-UT).

7. SB 496 (HURTADO) – ADVANCED CLEAN FLEETS REGULATION: APPEALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: EXEMPTIONS

Recommendation: Adopt a support position on Senate Bill 496 (Hurtado) and join the California Special Districts Association's (CSDA) coalition and outreach efforts.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. MET ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY (The following items are for informational purposes only – a write up on each item is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director).

- a. MET’s Finance and Rate Issue
- b. MET’s Water Supply Condition Update
- c. MET’s Water Quality Update
- d. Colorado River Issues
- e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

9. METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Summary regarding March MET Board Meeting
- b. Review items of significance for MET Board and Committee Agendas

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Note: Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodations should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodations.



DISCUSSION ITEM

April 2, 2025

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Harvey De La Torre, General Manager
Staff Contact: Alex Heide
Kevin Hostert

SUBJECT: WATER SUPPLY UPDATE & NEW WATER SUPPLY REPORT FORMAT

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors discuss and file this information.

SUMMARY

Water Year 2024-25 is expected to have above-average water supply conditions, with strong precipitation and snow water equivalents in Northern California and the Colorado River Basin. Metropolitan is projected to store additional water, with current supplies and demands, contributing to record storage levels.

MWDOC tracks key water supply metrics, using data from multiple agencies to inform decision-making and ensure regional water reliability. To enhance reporting, MWDOC has implemented Power BI, a business analytics tool that centralizes and visualizes data, enabling more efficient and data-driven decision-making. This new format streamlines reporting, reduces staff workload, and improves accessibility through interactive dashboards and real-time data integration.

DETAILED REPORT

CURRENT WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS

Water Year 2024-25 is anticipated to be an above-average year for water supply conditions, with positive outlooks for both the State Water Project and the Colorado River. Currently, Northern California's accumulated precipitation stands at 123% of normal, and the snow water equivalent is above average. In the Colorado River Basin, snow water equivalent levels are near average, and combined storage in Lake Mead and Lake Powell is at approximately 52% of their average storage volume for this time of year. However, their total capacity

Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Budgeted amount: None	Core: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choice: <input type="checkbox"/>
Action item amount: N/A		Movement between funds: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

remains low at 33.9%. Notably, Lake Mead's water level has been below the “trigger” limit of 1,075 feet since early 2022, continuing a trend of prolonged drought impacts.

With a 35% “Table A” allocation and Metropolitan’s Colorado River supply currently estimated at 781 TAF, Metropolitan is expected to place additional water into storage. Water demands on Metropolitan are estimated at 1.45 MAF. Given this supply and demand balance, Metropolitan projects adding approximately 289 TAF to its record-high storage level of 3.8 MAF. This increase in reserves strengthens regional water reliability and helps mitigate future uncertainties.

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

As part of the Board’s Strategic Priorities Implementation Plan, one key objective is to explore advances in technology that improve water supply reliability planning. MWDOC staff continuously evaluate new technologies to enhance services to Member Agencies, improve operational efficiency, and enhance data-driven decision-making.

MWDOC’s core mission includes ensuring the delivery of reliable and high-quality water supplies. To support this mission, regular water supply reports are developed to track key water metrics, aiding Orange County’s elected officials and water managers in planning for the upcoming year. These reports provide critical insights that help Member Agencies maintain water system resilience and reliability.

Key data sources for these reports include the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), California Department of Water Resources (CA DWR), State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Metropolitan, and other agencies. Important water supply indicators tracked include:

- 8-Station Index Accumulated Precipitation
- Orange County Imported Water Demands
- Snowpack Levels
- Drought Condition Index
- Reservoir Storage Levels

These reports are vital tools for decision-makers, ensuring that local and regional water supply outlooks are accurately assessed and used to inform planning strategies.

NEW REPORT FORMAT

MWDOC staff have implemented Power BI, a business analytics tool developed by Microsoft, to modernize and enhance the Water Supply Report. Power BI enables the visualization of complex data, sharing of real-time insights, and more efficient decision-making by integrating multiple data sources into interactive dashboards and reports.

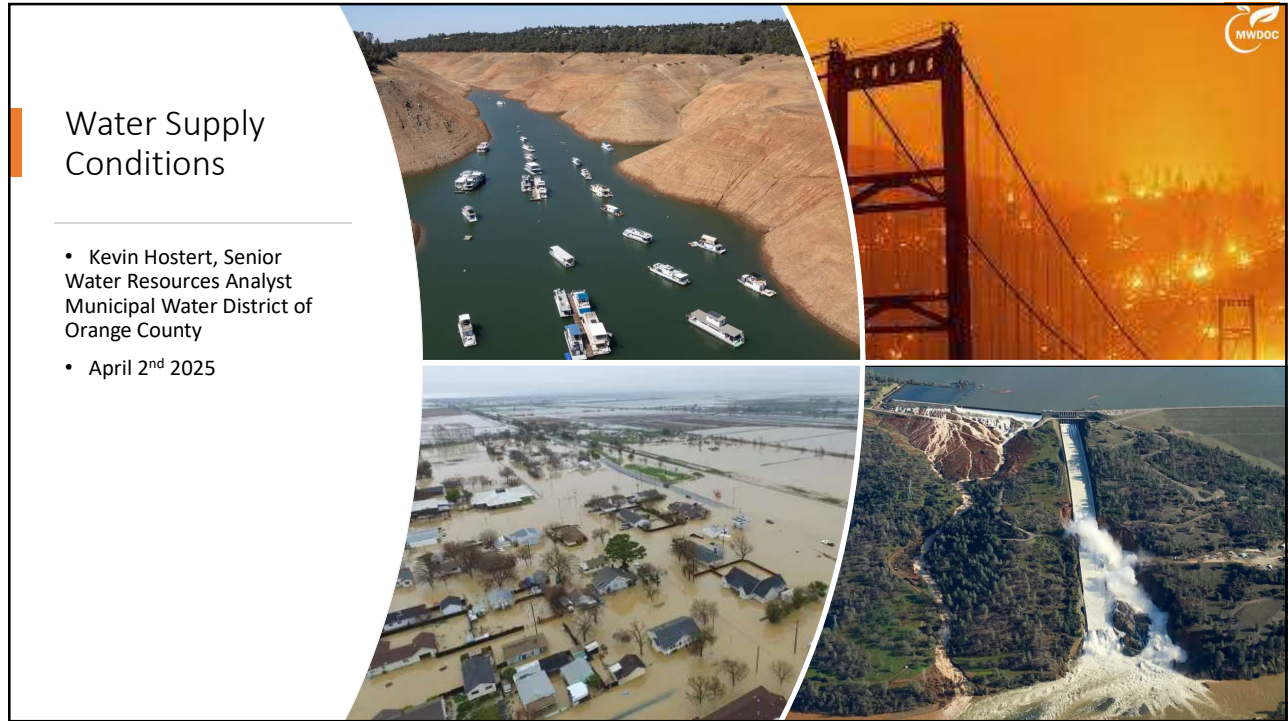
One of the primary advantages of Power BI is centralized data access, as over 109 individual data tables from seven public agencies are now integrated into a single report through Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), allowing real-time data analysis. This API-driven automation significantly reduces staff time required for report development while providing real-time updates. The redesigned report offers a user-friendly interface, making it easier for users to access key insights. Additionally, dynamic charts and graphs help visualize water supply trends over multiple years, offering an interactive and engaging experience. The ability to tailor and scale information as needed enhances functionality and usability over time.

By leveraging Power BI, MWDOC has significantly enhanced its ability to track and communicate water supply conditions, ensuring that Member Agencies and the public have access to timely, accurate, and actionable water data. This modernization supports long-term water supply reliability and strengthens data-driven decision-making across Orange County.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES


- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarifying MWDOC’s mission and role; defining functions and actions. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Balance support for Metropolitan’s regional mission and Orange County values and interests. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solicit input and feedback from member agencies. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strengthen communications and coordination of messaging. | <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in workforce development and succession planning. |

List of Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: Water Supply Conditions PowerPoint
Link: MWDOC Water Supply Dashboard



Water Supply Conditions

- Kevin Hostert, Senior Water Resources Analyst
Municipal Water District of Orange County
- April 2nd 2025



1

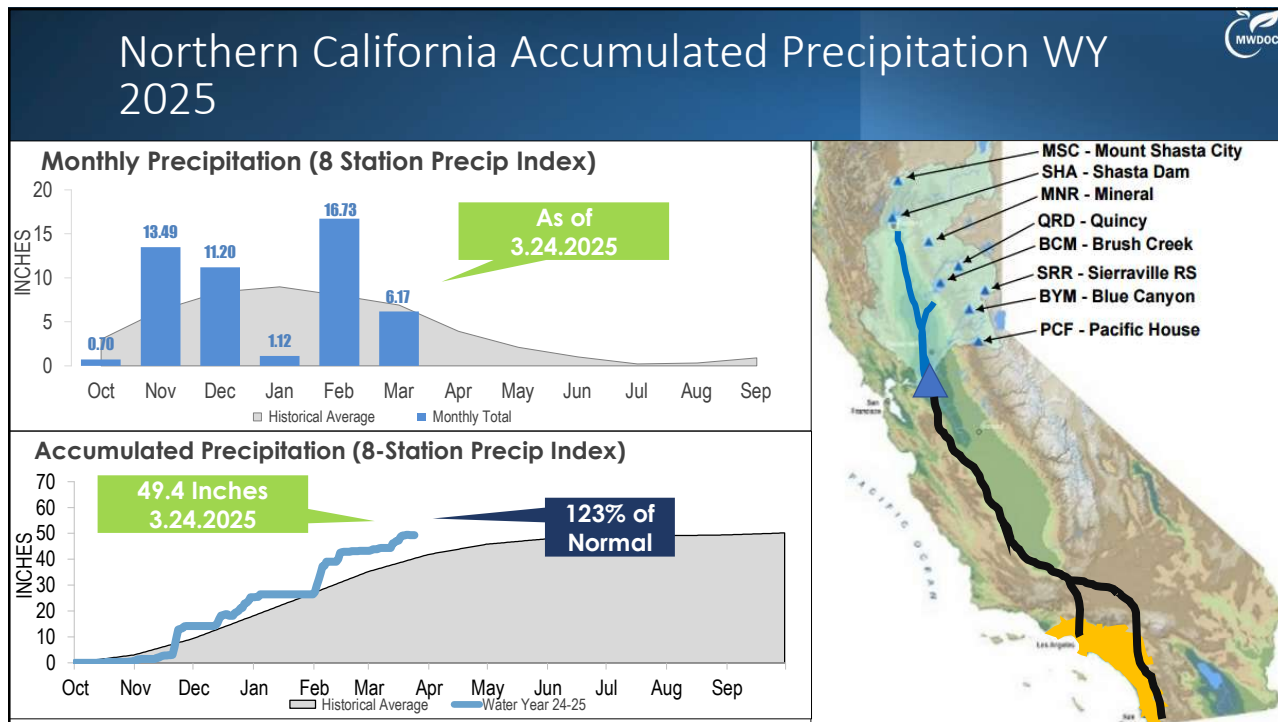


A Review of Regional Water Supply Conditions

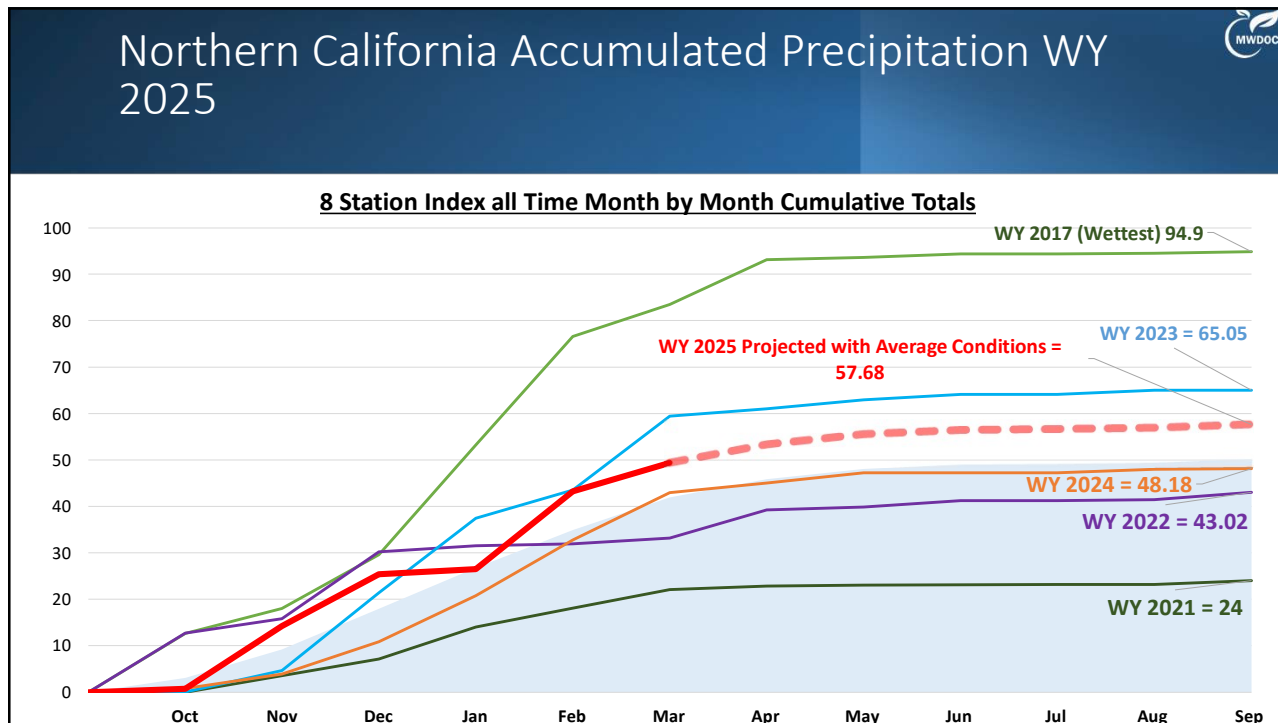


Oroville Spillway 5.12.2023

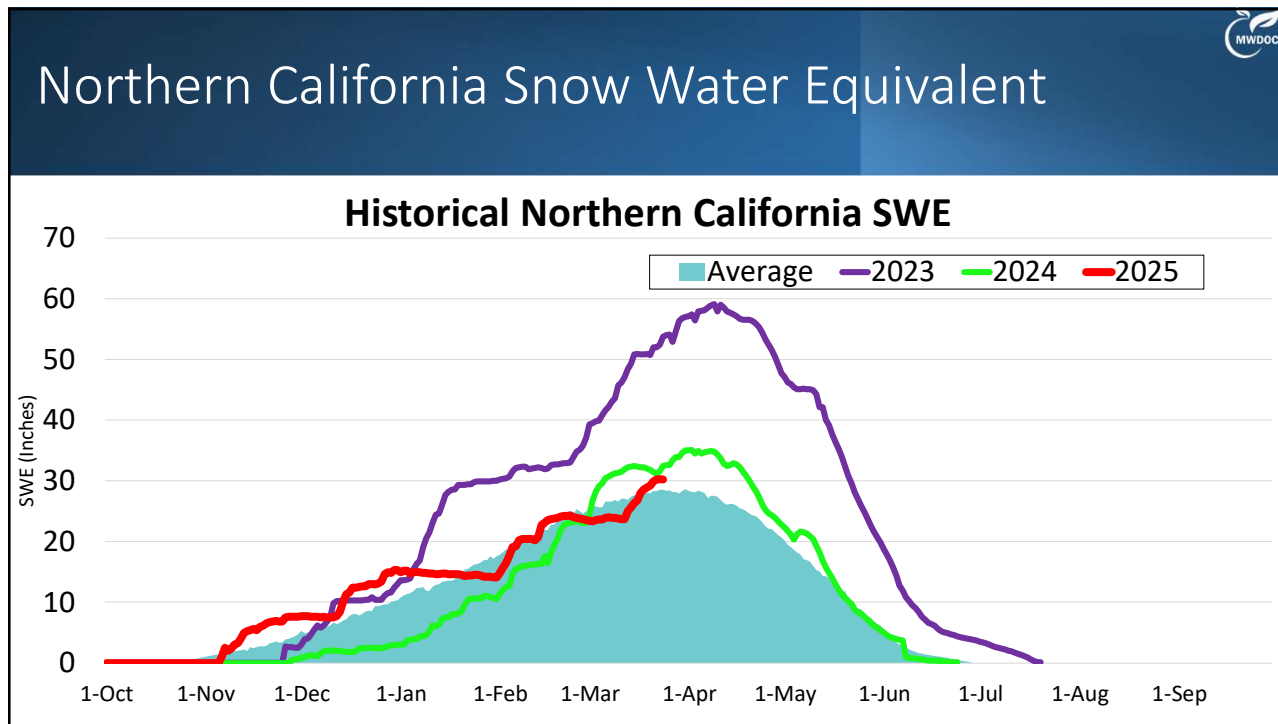
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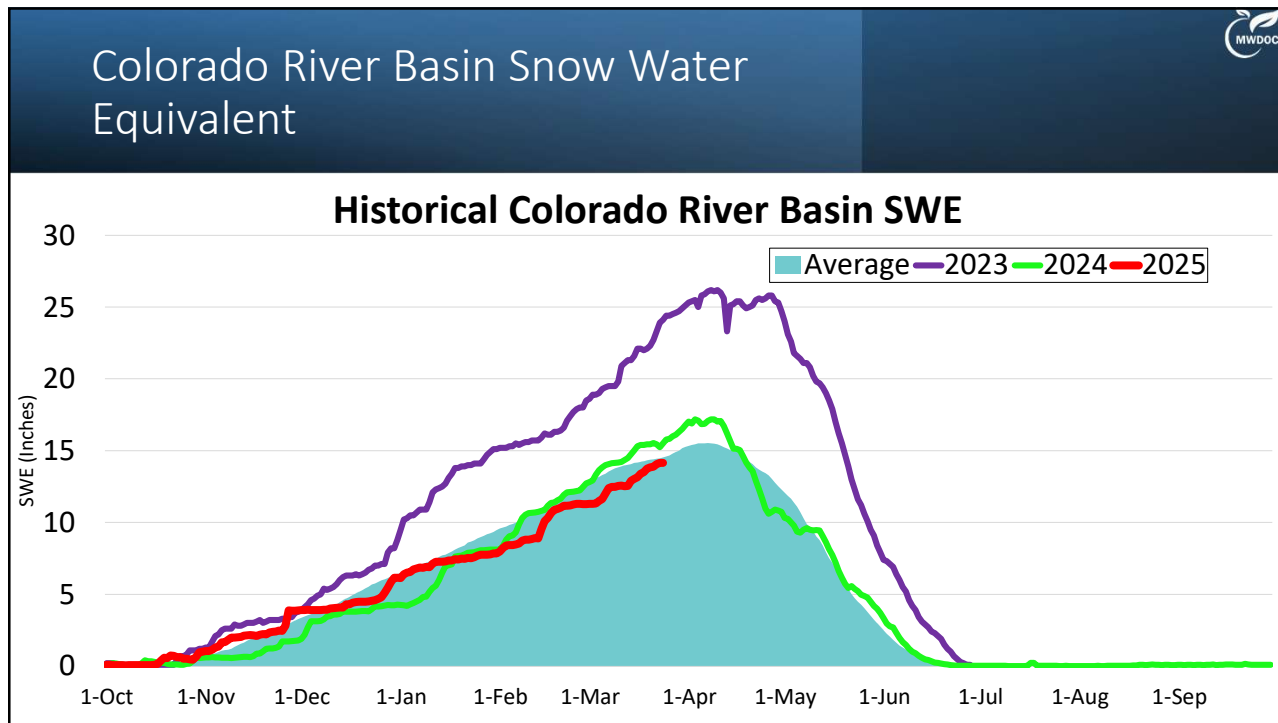
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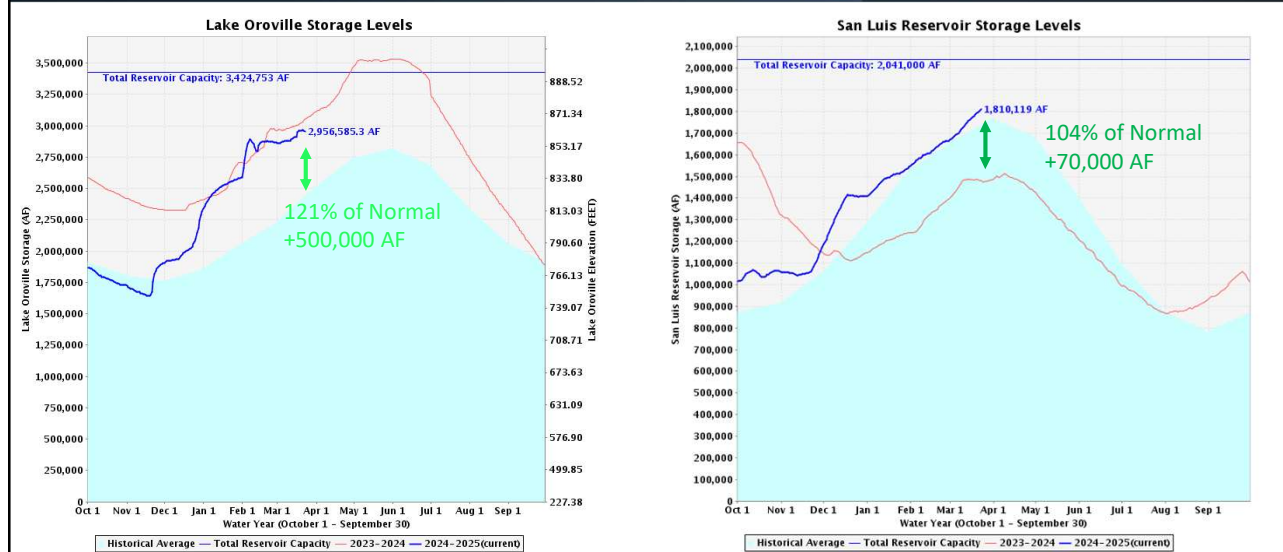


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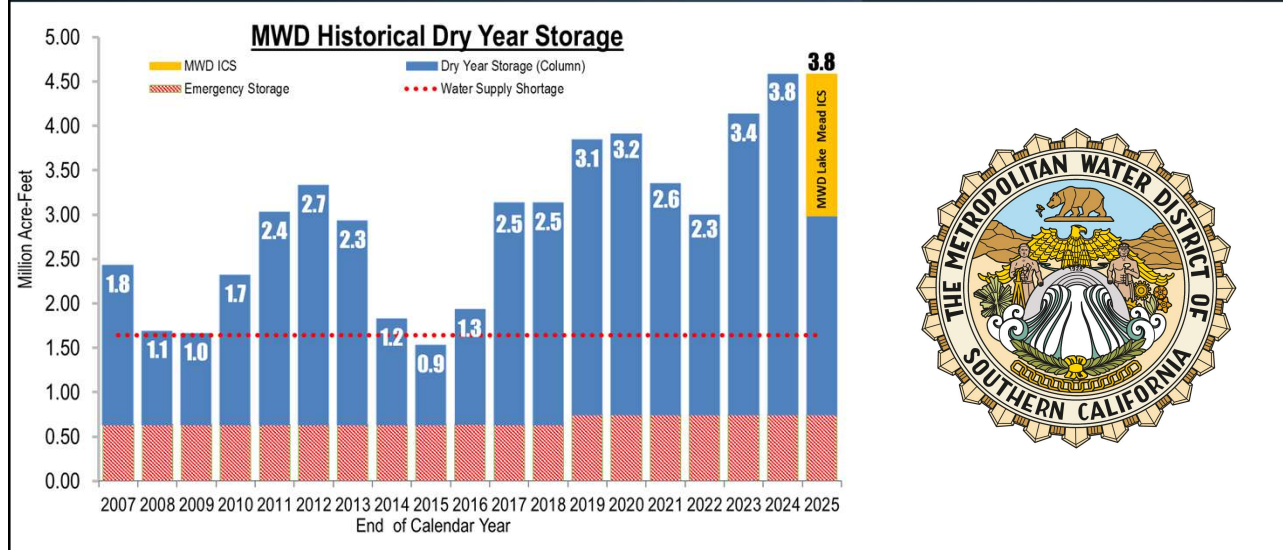
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Lake Oroville and San Luis Storage Levels



7

MWD Storage January 1st, 2025



8



9



DISCUSSION ITEM

April 2, 2025

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Harvey De La Torre, General Manager

Staff Contact: Melissa Baum-Haley
 Alex Heide

SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN CAMP4W PANEL DISCUSSION

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors discuss the information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

In February 2023, the Metropolitan Board initiated the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) to integrate water resources, climate considerations, and financial planning. To ensure a transparent and efficient development process, a Joint Task Force of Board Members and Member Agency Managers was chartered in October 2023.

CAMP4W is designed as a flexible and evolving strategy that enhances Metropolitan’s ability to maintain reliability and resilience amid changing conditions. The Metropolitan Board is anticipated to adopt the CAMP4W Implementation Strategy at the April 2025 Board Meeting.

This action marks the completion of the initial planning phase and outlines a roadmap for institutionalizing climate adaptation over the next five years. The Implementation Strategy includes key components such as assessed vulnerabilities, time-bound targets, a policy framework, a climate decision-making framework, and five-year implementation timelines, ensuring comprehensive decision-making.

MWD OC has invited Metropolitan staff to provide background information on CAMP4W and context for the implementation strategy of CAMP4W. A panel of Member Agency General Managers has also been invited to provide their perspective and input on the key takeaways

Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Budgeted amount: N/A	Core: <input type="checkbox"/>	Choice: <input type="checkbox"/>
Action item amount: N/A		Movement between funds: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

from CAMP4W and how their agency plans on utilizing the information developed by Metropolitan.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clarifying MWDOC’s mission and role; defining functions and actions. | <input type="checkbox"/> Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Balance support for Metropolitan’s regional mission and Orange County values and interests. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solicit input and feedback from member agencies. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthen communications and coordination of messaging. | <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in workforce development and succession planning. |

List of Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1- March 26 th PowerPoint - Climate Adaptation Master Plan Implementation Strategy

Subcommittee on Long-Term Regional Planning
Processes and Business Modeling

Review Draft Climate Adaptation Master Plan Implementation Strategy

Item 3b
March 26, 2025



Item 6a

CAMP4W Draft Implementation Strategy Discussion

Subject

Discuss the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Implementation Strategy slated for Board Approval in April 2025.

Purpose

Seek Committee input on the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Implementation Strategy to culminate this current planning phase and lay out implementation timelines for the next five years.

Next Steps

The Draft CAMP4W Implementation Strategy will be brought to the Board for approval in April.

CAMP4W Implementation Strategy Updates

Since February Task Force Meeting

- ✓ Five-Year Implementation Timelines
- ✓ Forward from the Chair providing context and past accomplishments
- ✓ New Water Quality Section and updates throughout
- ✓ Elevating Water Efficiency Program to show CAMP4W Assessment in Timeline
- ✓ Annual Report Update: Adding overall demand trends

Additional Requested Clarifications

Board Decisions Should be Based on Current Information and Data

Water Supply Reliability Criteria is Paramount

Range of Potential Water Supply Gaps Should be Considered in
Project and Program Assessments

Account for Planned Local Agency Projects and Anticipated
Conservation Mandates

Identify Location and Extent of Supply Gaps

CAMP4W...Not your typical Master Plan.

Iterative

refining and improving over time

Adaptive

adjusting to changing conditions

Innovative

introducing new approaches

CAMP4W...Not your typical Master Plan.

Iterative

refining and improving over time

- Review and update data annually
- Employ best available climate science and methodologies
- Annual reports track signposts, targets and progress
- Continual improvement through regular review of Implementation Strategy to adjust polices, tools, and timelines, as needed

Adaptive

adjusting to changing conditions

Innovative

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CAMP4W...Not your typical Master Plan.

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Adaptive

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- Tracking signposts and current trends keep the Board informed for decision-making
- Project and program assessments consider potential phasing of implementation
- Scenario planning facilitates development of a range of potential solutions
- Adjustments based on real world conditions helps prevent stranded assets

Innovative

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Innovative

introducing new approaches

- Integrates water resources, climate adaptation and financial planning
- Provides standardized and comprehensive assessment methodology using Board-identified evaluative criteria
- Holistically addresses water and energy resources, infrastructure, workforce, and operations
- Collaboratively developed under Board leadership in a Task Force model with Member Agency Manager participation

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Adaptive

adjusting to changing conditions

- Updated data, Member Agency input, and Board direction keep targets current
- Project and program assessments consider potential phasing of implementation
- Scenario Planning facilitates development of a range of potential solutions
- Adjustments based on real world conditions helps prevent stranded assets

Innovative

introducing new approaches

- Integrates water resources, climate adaptation and financial planning
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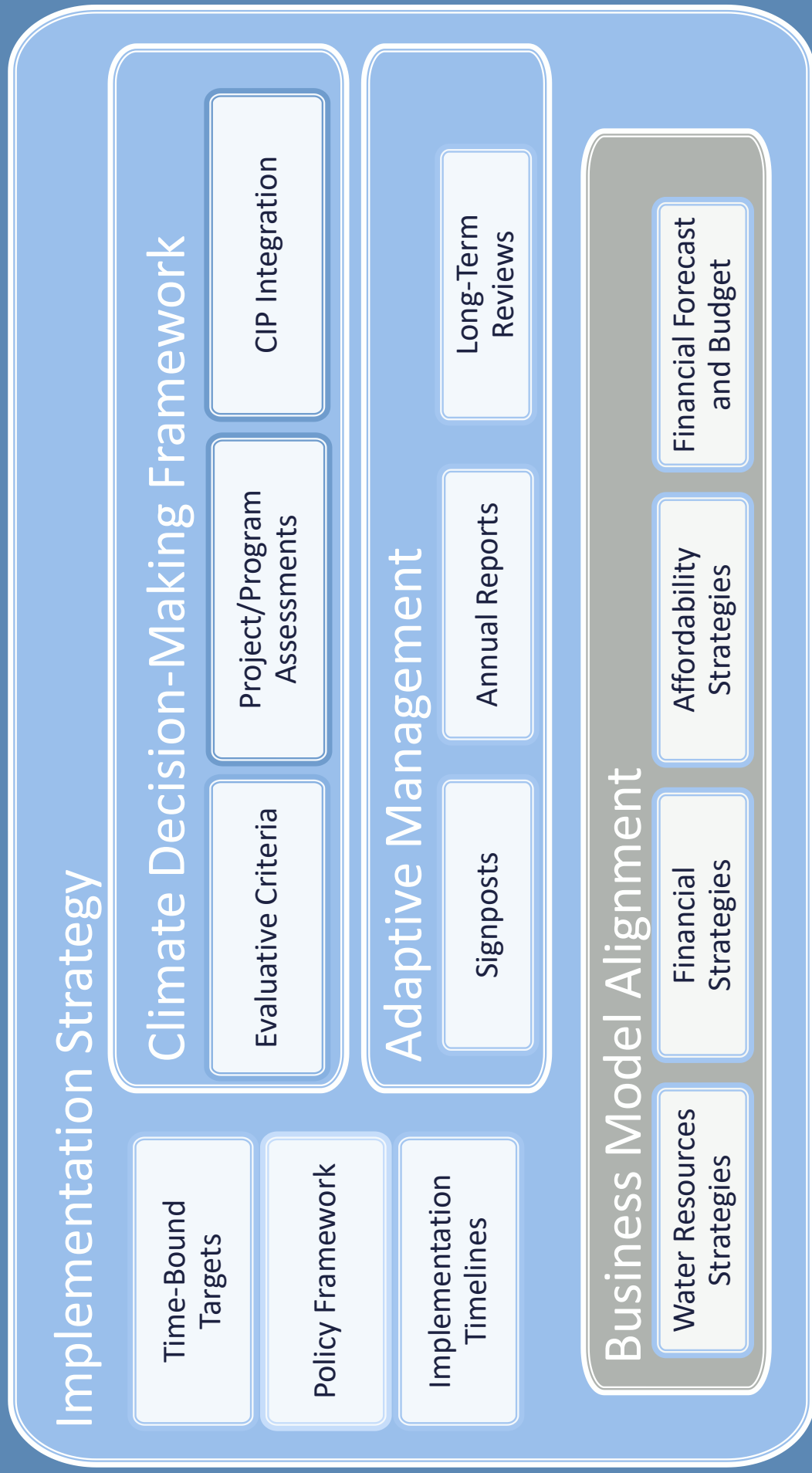
Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water

IRP Regional Needs Assessment

Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessments

Infrastructure Studies and Assessments

Public & Partners Engagement



Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water

IRP Regional Needs Assessment

Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessments

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Public & Partners Engagement

Implementation Strategy

Time-Bound Targets

Policy Framework

Implementation Timelines

Climate Decision-Making Framework

Evaluative Criteria

Project/Program Assessments

CIP Integration

Adaptive Management

Signposts

Annual Reports

Long-Term Reviews

Business Model Alignment

Water Resources Strategies

Financial Strategies

Affordability Strategies

Financial Forecast and Budget

Assess Climate Risks and Vulnerabilities

- IRP Regional Needs Assessment
- System Reliability Studies and planning processes (supply, capacity, infrastructure, flexibility, emergency response)
- SWP-DA Studies and Call to Action
- February 2023 Board Retreat
- Board Climate Training Workshop
- Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

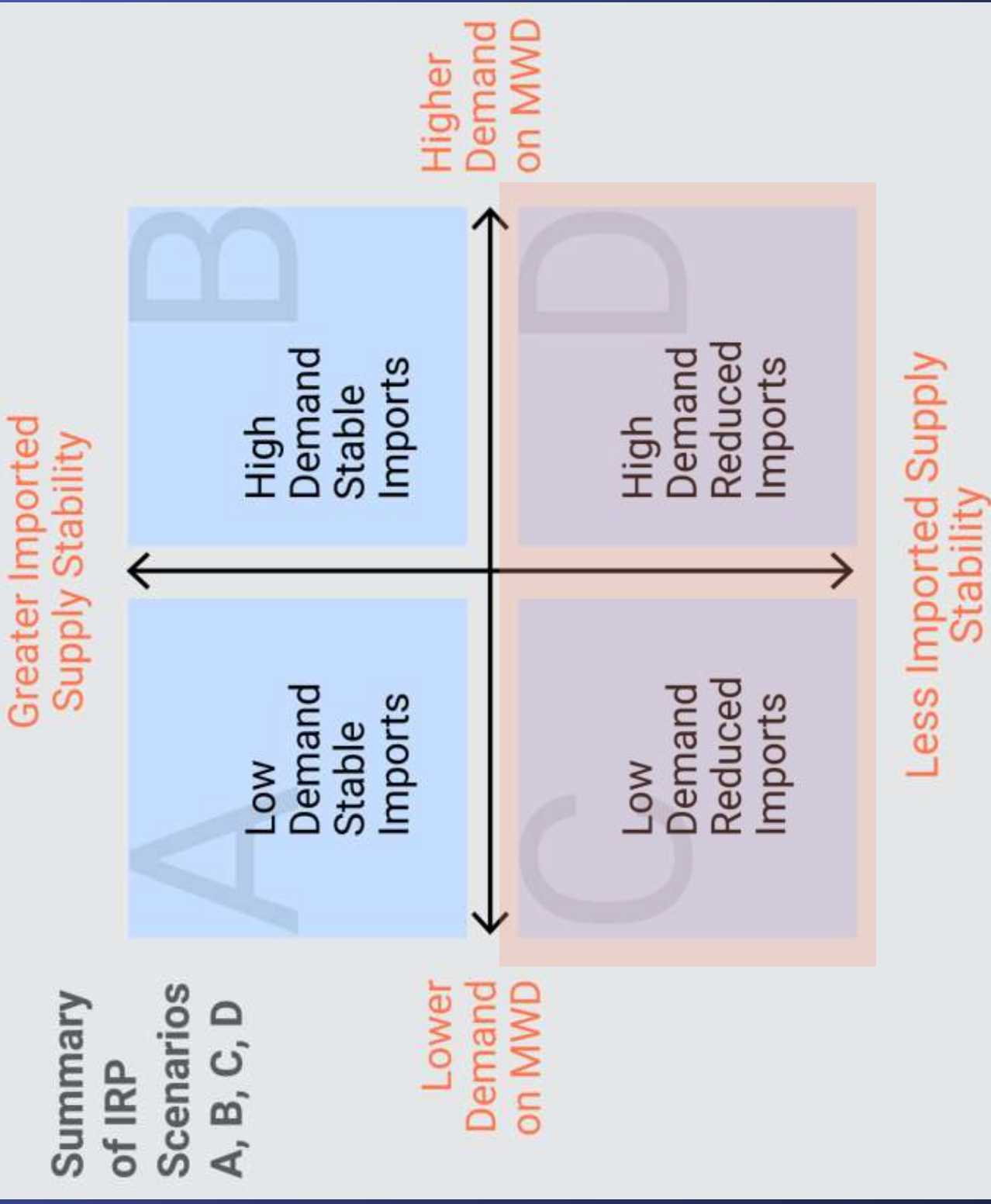
Working Memos 1, 2, 3



Planning for Uncertainty

The scenarios in Metropolitan's IRP Needs Assessment provide the foundation of climate adaptation planning

Summary of IRP Scenarios A, B, C, D







Set Time-Bound Targets and Policy Framework

- **Resource-Based Targets**
 - Core Supply
 - Storage
 - Flex Supply
- **Policy-Based Targets**
 - Equitable Supply Reliability
 - Local Agency Supply
 - Demand Management
 - Regional Water Use Efficiency
 - Greenhouse Gas Reduction
 - Surplus Water Management
- **Climate Adaptation Policy Framework**

Working Memos 6, 10



Resource-Based Time-Bound Targets

	CATEGORY	NEAR TERM	MID TERM	LONG TERM
 <p>Resource-Based Targets Numbers reflect additional supplies unless indicated otherwise</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Core Supply</p> 	<p>Identify 300 TAF for potential implementation by 2035.</p> <p>Alternatively, 250 TAF of new storage will reduce core supply need to 200 TAF</p>	<p>Identify 550 TAF for potential implementation by 2045.</p> <p>Alternatively, 250 TAF of new storage will reduce core supply need to 550 TAF or, 500 TAF of new storage will reduce core supply need to 500 TAF</p>	
	<p>Storage</p> 	<p>Identify up to 500 TAF for potential implementation by 2035</p>		
	<p>Flex Supply (Dry Year Equivalent)</p> 	<p>Acquire capability for up to 100 TAFY</p>		

Policy-Based Time-Bound Targets



Policy-Based Targets

CATEGORY	NEAR TERM	MID TERM	LONG TERM
Equitable Supply Reliability	Add 160 CFS capacity to the SWPDA by 2026	Implement additional 130 CFS capacity to SWPDA by 2032	Implement capacity, conveyance, supply, and programs for SWPDA by 2045
Local Agency Supply ¹	Maintain 2.09 to 2.32 MAF (under average year conditions)	2.12 to 2.37 MAF (under average year conditions)	2.14 to 2.40 MAF (under average year conditions)
Demand Management ²	Implement structural conservation programs to achieve 300 TAF by 2045		
Regional Water Use Efficiency	Assist Retail Agencies to achieve, or exceed, compliance with SWRCB Water Use Efficiency Standards ³		
Greenhouse Gas Reduction	GPCD target for 2030 ⁴	GPCD target for 2035	GPCD target for 2045
Surplus Water Management	N/A	40% below 1990 emission levels by 2030	Carbon Neutral by 2045
Community Equity*	Develop capability to manage up to 500 TAFY of additional wet year surplus above Metropolitan's Storage Portfolio and WSDM action		
Water Quality*			
Imported Water Source Resilience*			

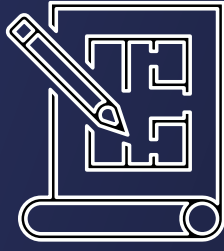
CAMP4W Themes Inform Policy Framework and Initiatives

Themes	Policy Framework
Reliability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Metropolitan will consider climate risks and integrate climate adaptation strategies into water supply programs, policies, planning, implementation and operations
Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Metropolitan will integrate climate risk and vulnerability assessments for climate-related hazards including drought, extreme heat and precipitation, sea level rise, flooding, and wildfire using the best available climate science and climate change information into planning, implementation and operations
Financial Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Metropolitan will reduce short-term and long-term climate-related financial risks through periodic reviews and potential refinement of its business model, active monitoring and managing of financial conditions, and by maintaining flexible financing alternatives
Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Metropolitan will continue to support retail user affordability efforts that support our mission to provide regional wholesale water service in the most economically responsible way
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Metropolitan will engage with the diverse communities we serve to listen, communicate transparently, and co-create solutions for greater equity in climate adaptation planning and implementation

Climate Adaptation Policy Framework

Themes	Policy Framework
<p>Resilience</p>	<p>➤ Metropolitan will integrate climate risk and vulnerability assessments for climate-related hazards including drought, extreme heat and precipitation, sea level rise, flooding, and wildfire using the best available climate science and climate change information into planning, implementation and operations</p>

Example Initiatives:



Establish Resilient Infrastructure Guidelines



Assess power system vulnerabilities



Develop response indicators and action plans for primary climate threats to water quality



Review workforce safety measures for climate risks

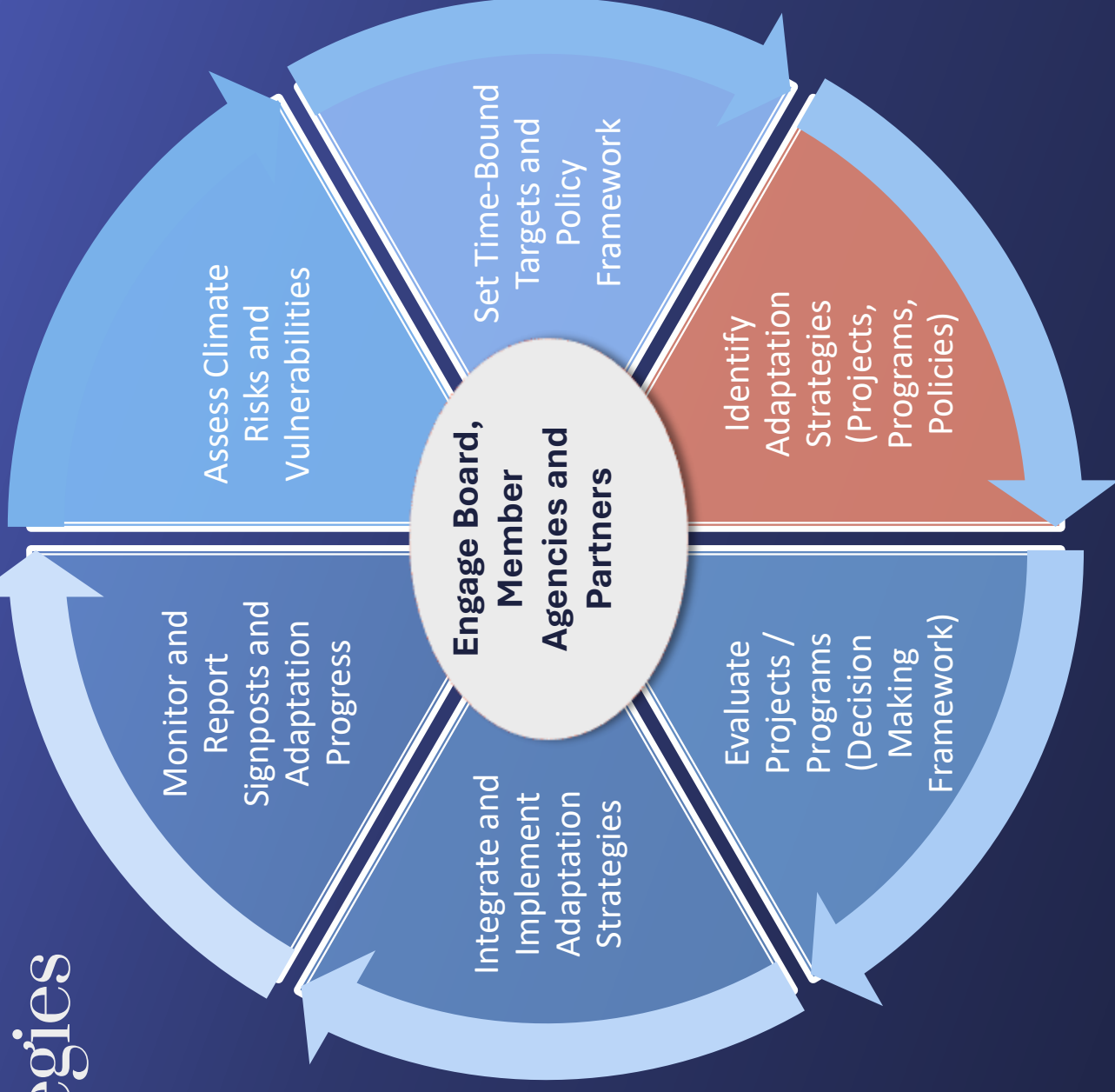


Update fire management plans for critical facilities

Identify Adaptation Strategies

- Review existing planning processes and projects for consistency with CAMP4W
- Identify new projects, programs, policies to address:
 - Specific climate and/or infrastructure vulnerability
 - CAMP4W Time-Bound Target
 - CAMP4W Policy directive

Working Memos 6, 7, 10



Identify Potential Adaptation Strategies

Projects	Studies	Programs, Policies, Initiatives
AVEK Phase II	Forest Watershed Restoration Pilot	Resilient Infrastructure Guidelines
Delta Conveyance Project	Surface Water Storage Study	Local Resources Program Review
Sites Reservoir	System Overview Study	Member Agency Exchange Program
Webb Tract Restoration	System Flexibility Study	Fire Management Planning
Pure Water Southern California	Energy Sustainability Plan Update	Landscape Guidelines
Battery Energy Storage Systems	Regional E-W Conveyance Study	Affordability Policy
Sepulveda Feeder Stage 2	DVL Pumped Storage Expansion Study	Climate Vulnerability Assessments
DVL Pumped Storage w/ Existing	Brackish GW Desal Study	Community Engagement Standards
Forebay	Seawater Desal Study	Turf Replacement Programs
	CRA Transmission Strategic Plan	Leak Detection Subsidies Program

Evaluate Projects & Programs

- Developed Evaluative Criteria and method for evaluating projects and programs
- Determined thresholds for CAMP4W projects
- Tested the Comprehensive Assessment Approach using quantitative and qualitative information

Working Memos 5, 7, 9



CAMP4W Comprehensive Assessment

Proposed Rubric Includes Quantitative and Qualitative Measures

Each **project** or **program** would be considered through a robust narrative description of how project attributes achieve each objective

Descriptions could include:

- ✓ Quantitative metrics
- ✓ Qualitative information
- ✓ Gaps in information available

Evaluative Criteria

Reliability

Resilience

Financial Sustainability & Affordability

Adaptability & Flexibility

Equity

Environmental Co-benefits

Key	Exceptional	Significant	Moderate	Limited	Very Limited	Undetermined or Not Applicable
Ranking Guidelines at the Attribute Level						
Defining to which level a project, program or portfolio will deliver CAMP4W objectives for each attribute category.						
Exceptional	The project/program/portfolio directly and completely addresses the benefits being assessed by the question/statement.					
Significant	The project/program/portfolio directly addresses most elements of the benefits being assessed by the question/statement.					
Moderate	The project/program/portfolio only addresses some elements of the benefits being assessed by the question/statement or addresses them indirectly.					
Limited	The project/program/portfolio only addresses few or minor elements of the benefits being assessed by the question/statement or provides minor indirect benefits.					
Very Limited	The project/program/portfolio does not provide any or very limited benefits to those being assessed by the question/statement.					
Undetermined or Not Applicable	The ranking for this project/program/portfolio is not determined at this time or the attribute is not applicable.					

Integrate and Implement

- Board review and approval will result in implementation of a project, program or policy
- Implementation may include integration into existing or future CIP and budget cycle
- Each approved project, program, or policy will include key milestones for implementation

Implementation Strategy



Adaptation Strategies: Water and Energy Projects Planned for CAMP4W Assessment

Timelines are subject to change based on new and evolving information.

Key

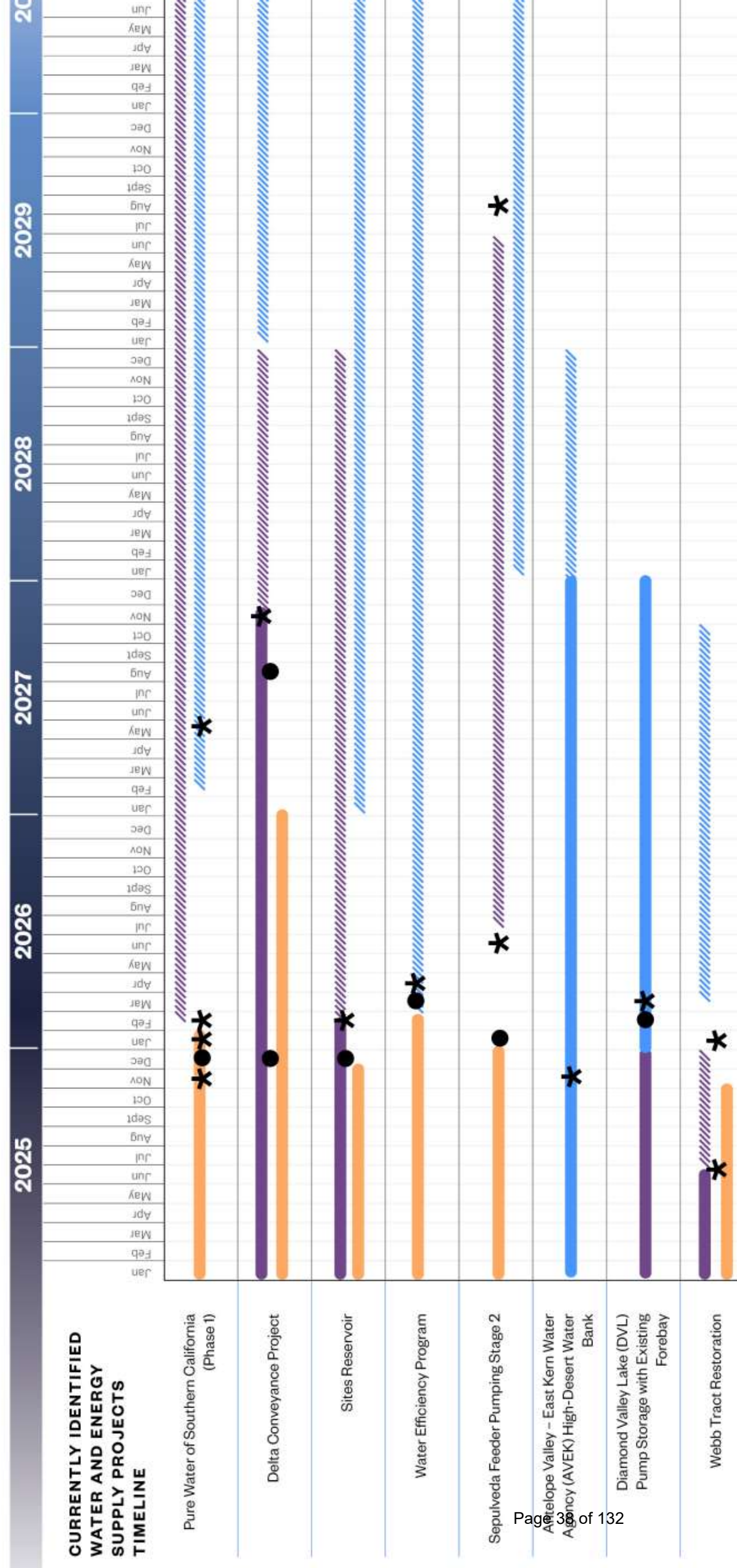
- ◆ Annual Report
- ★ Board Decision Point
- Budget Approval (CIP/other elements)
- CAMP4W Assessment
- ◆ Needs Assessment Update

Board Authorized Phase

- Planning
- Design
- Implementation/Construction

Phase Pending Board Decision

- Planning
- Design
- Implementation/Construction

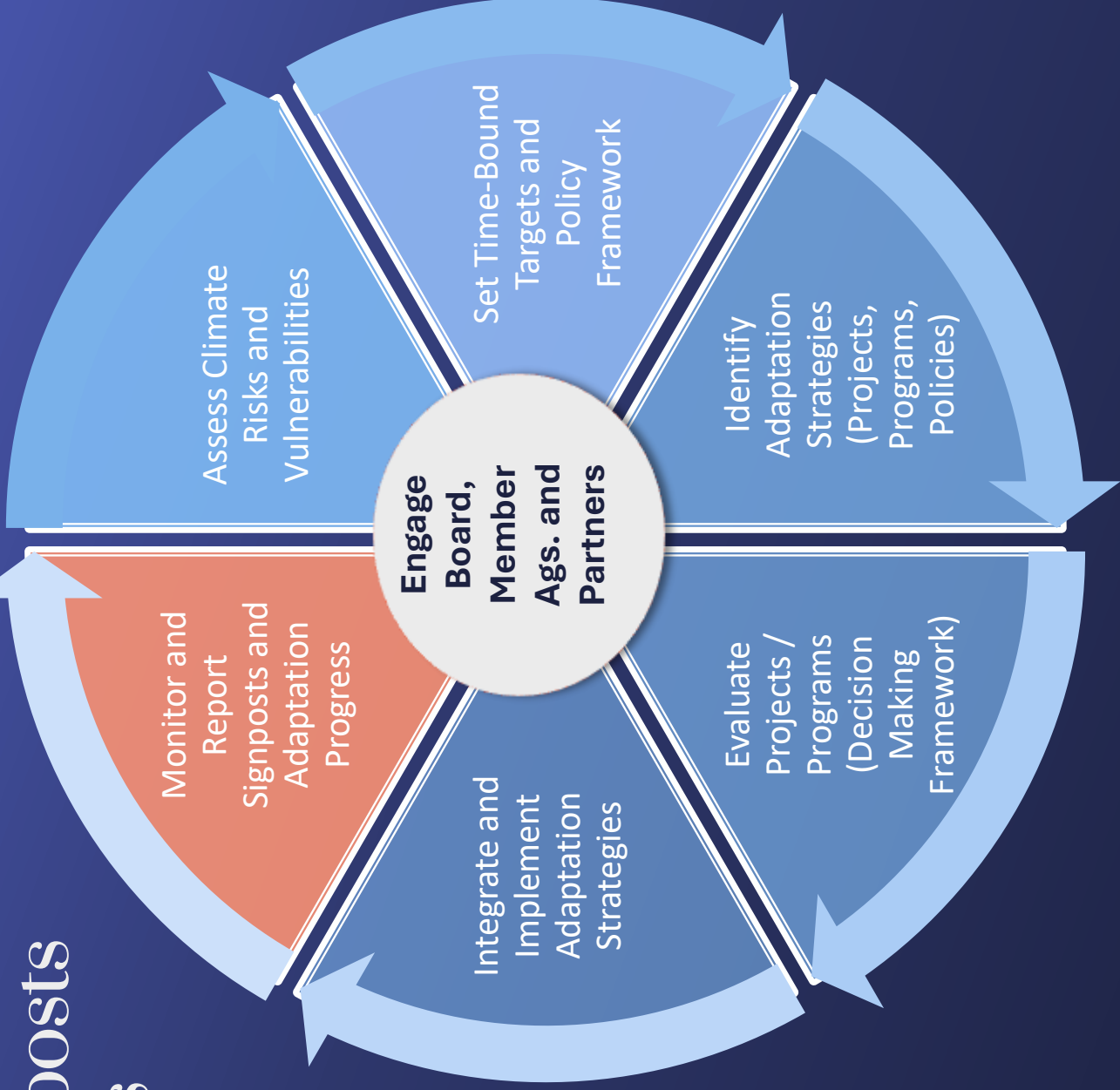


Monitor and Report Signposts and Adaptation Strategies

- ✓ Identified Water Supply, Infrastructure, and Financial Signposts
- ✓ Drafted 2024 Annual Report



Working Memo 8, CAMP4W Annual Report



Water Supply Reliability Signpost Metrics

Demographics



Trends in population, housing, and employment

Climate Change



Industry understanding of climate change impacts and emissions

Local Agency Supply



Trends in local agency supply production and capability

Imported Supply (Risks & Regulations)



Resulting supply impacts from climate change and regulations

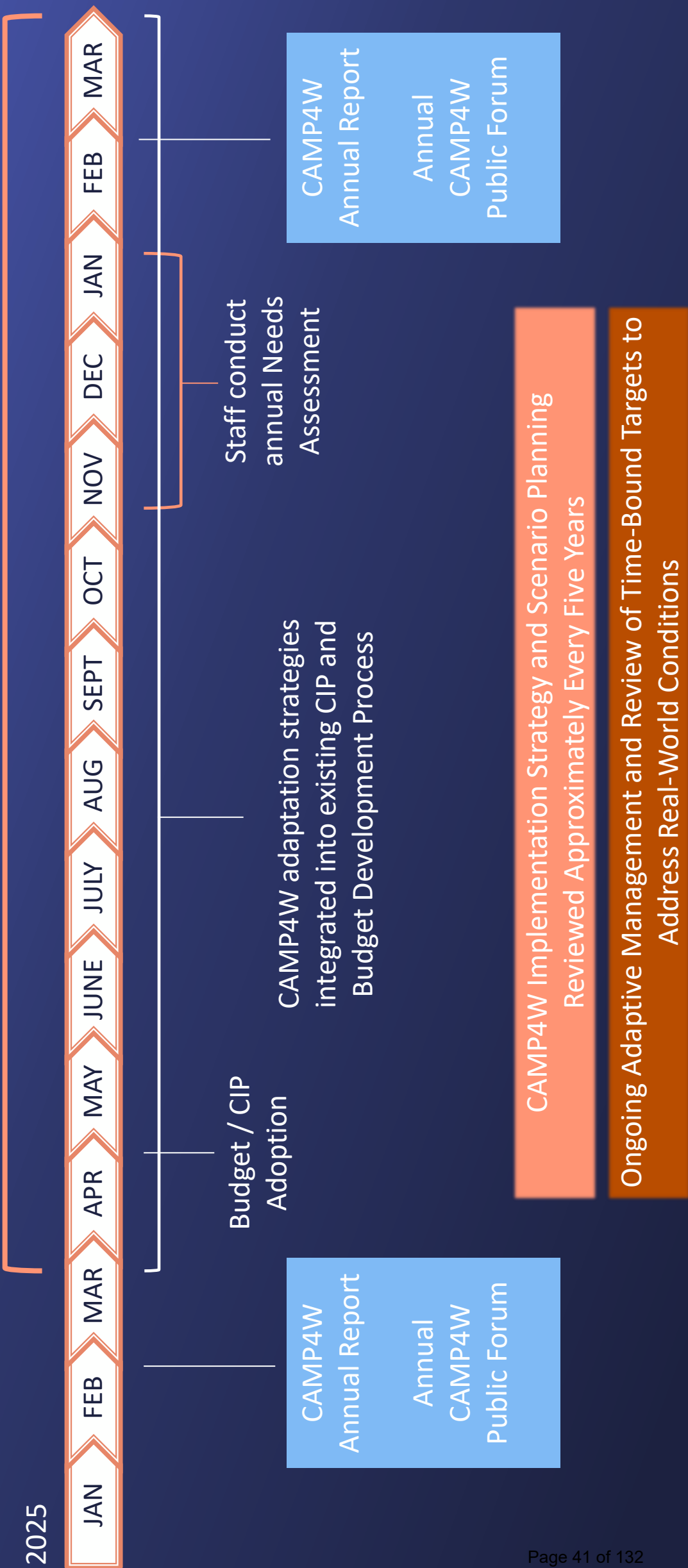
Storage



Storage capability and accessibility

Schedule of CAMP4W Reports and Updates

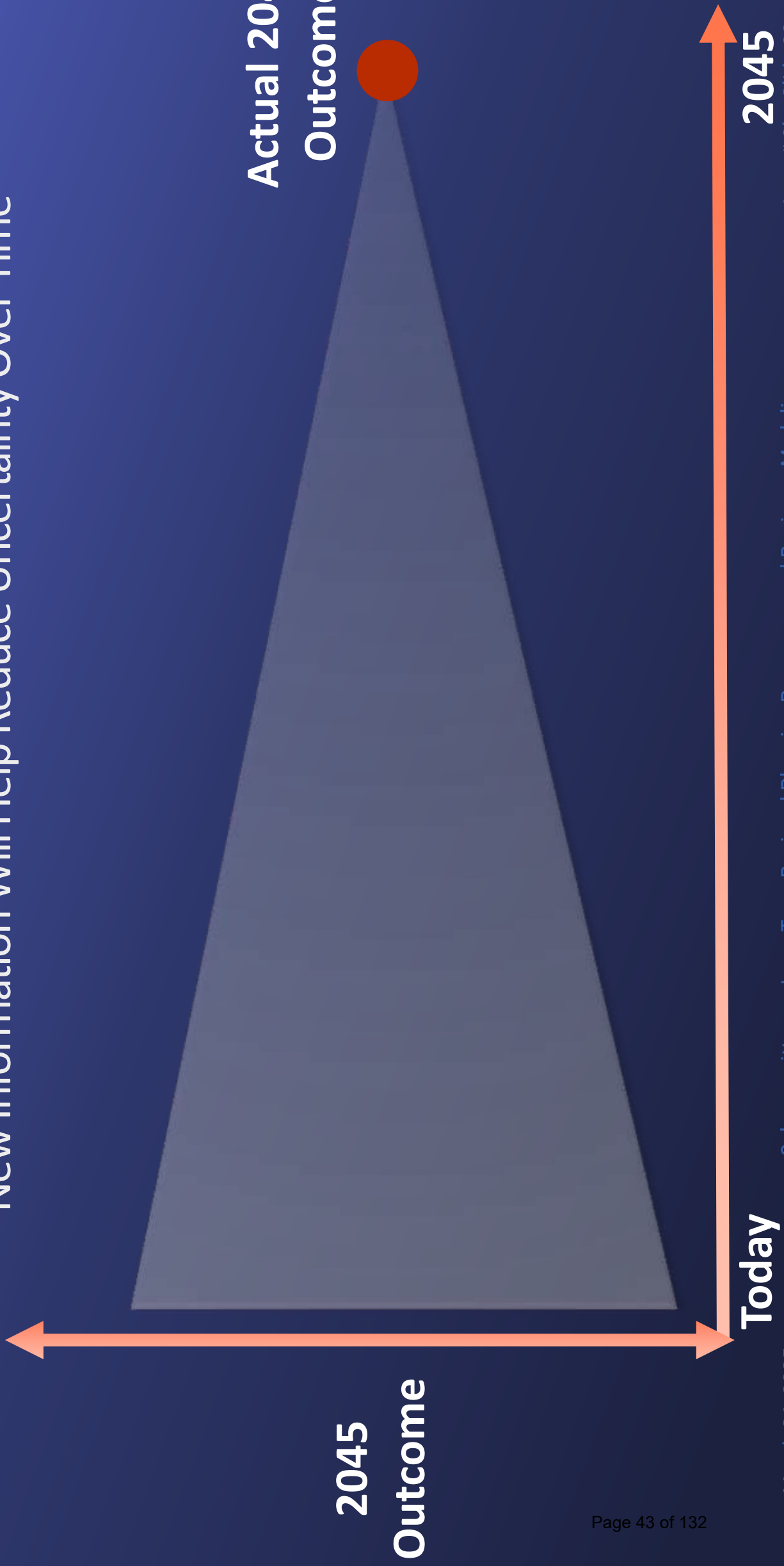
BI-ANNUAL BUDGET AND CIP DEVELOPMENT



Adaptive Management Framework Incorporating the Needs Assessment Scenarios for Long-Term Planning

Adaptive Management Framework

New Information Will Help Reduce Uncertainty Over Time



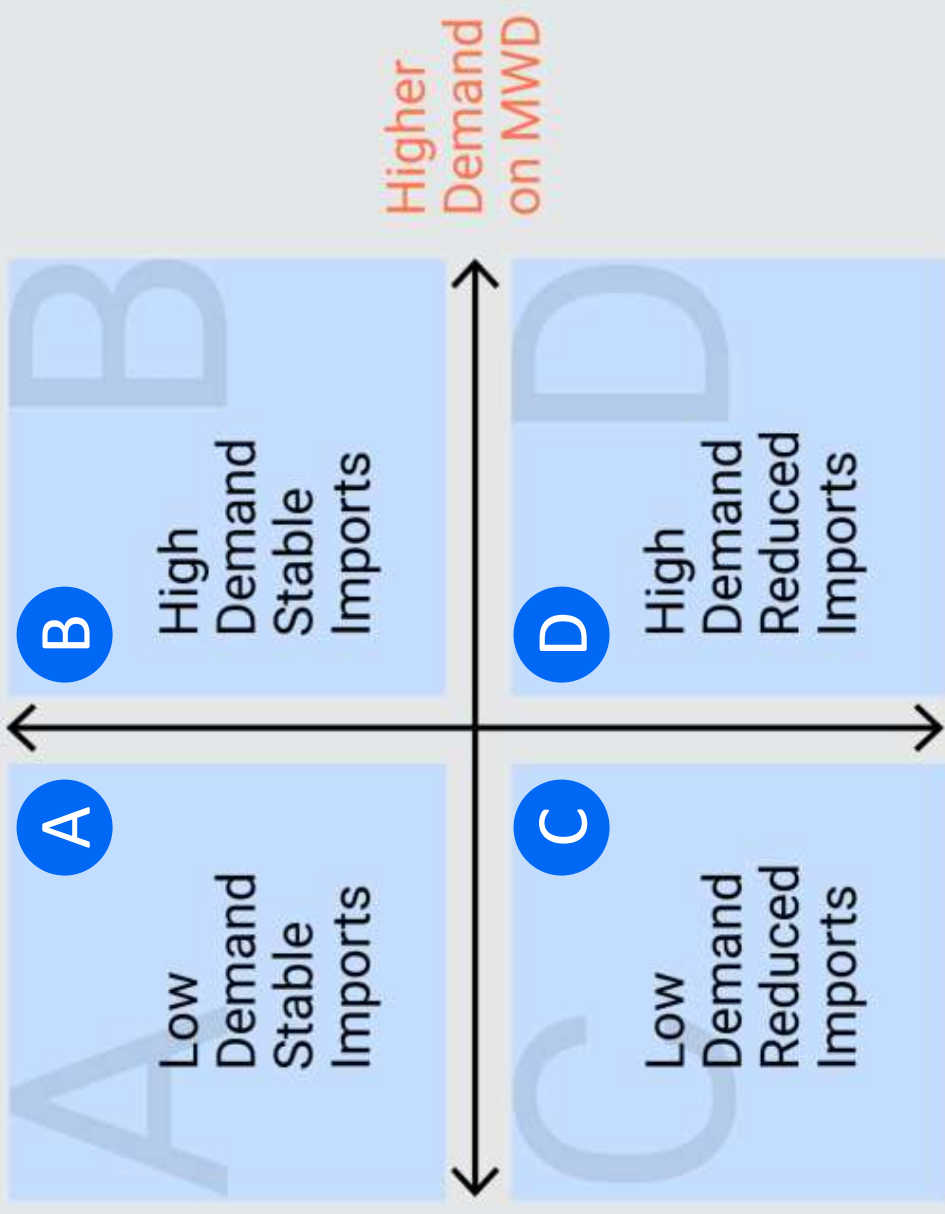
2045 Outcome

Today

2045

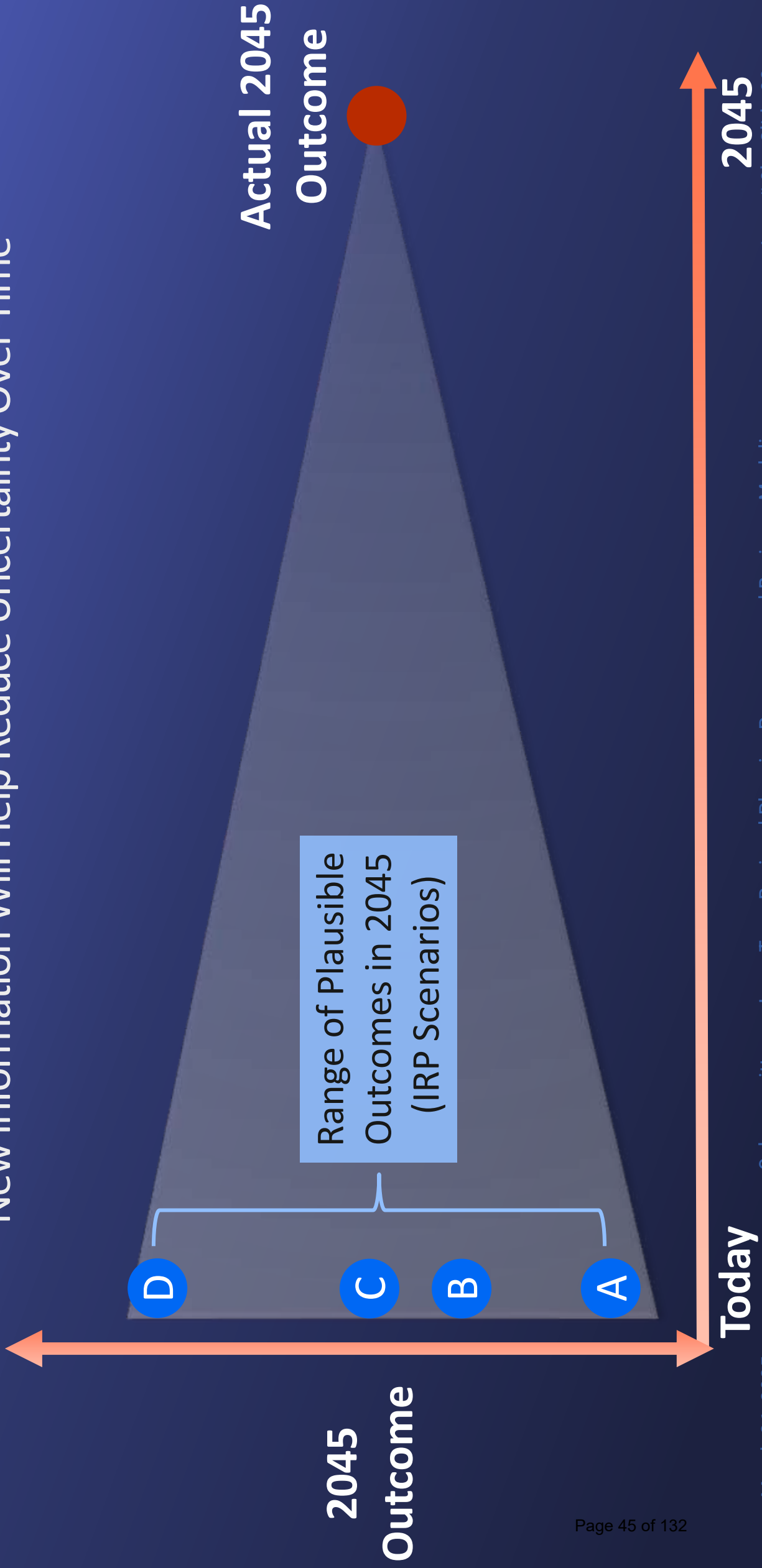
2020 IRP Scenarios

Summary of IRP Scenarios A, B, C, D



Adaptive Management Framework

New Information Will Help Reduce Uncertainty Over Time



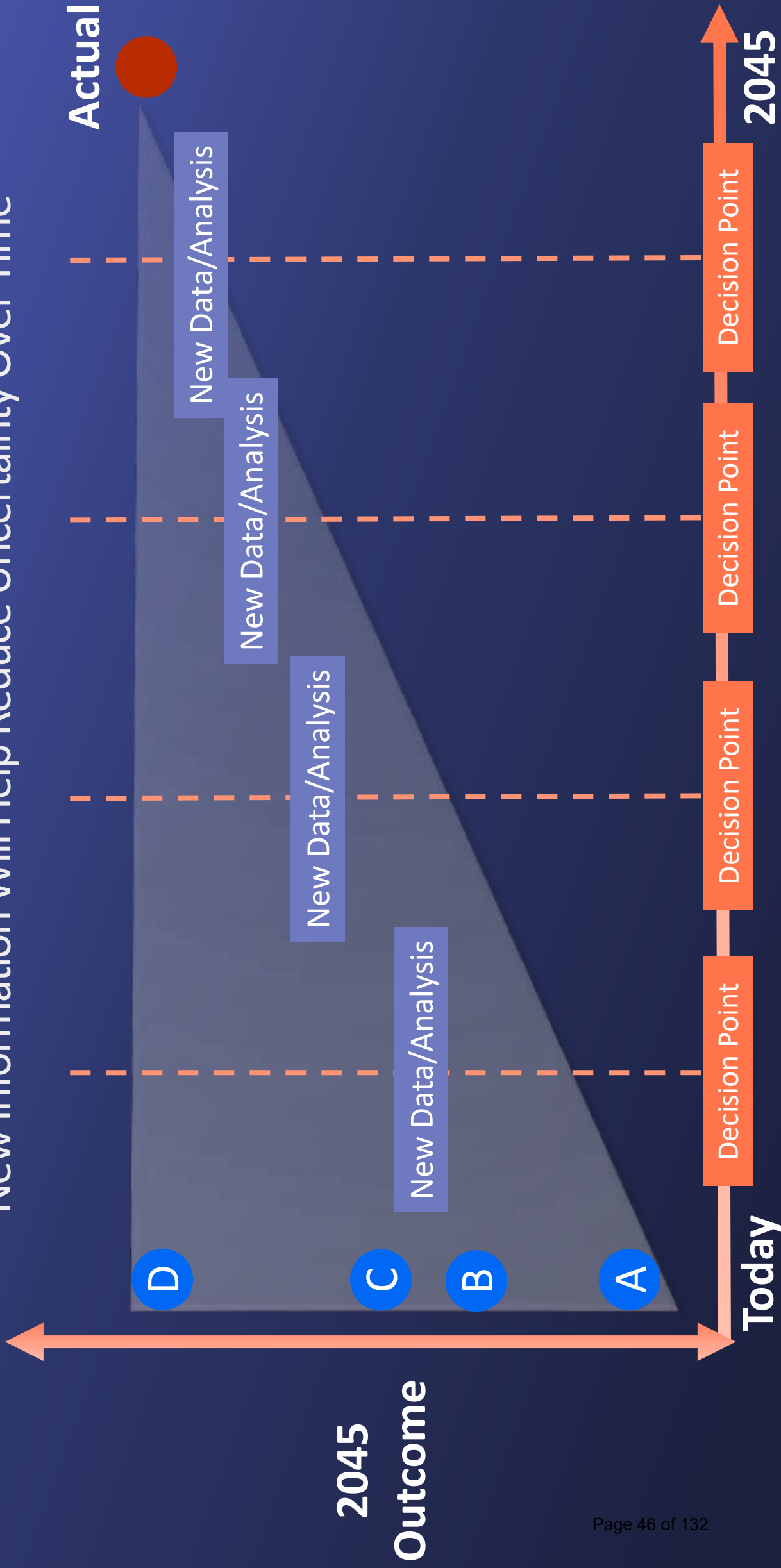
2045 Outcome

Today

2045

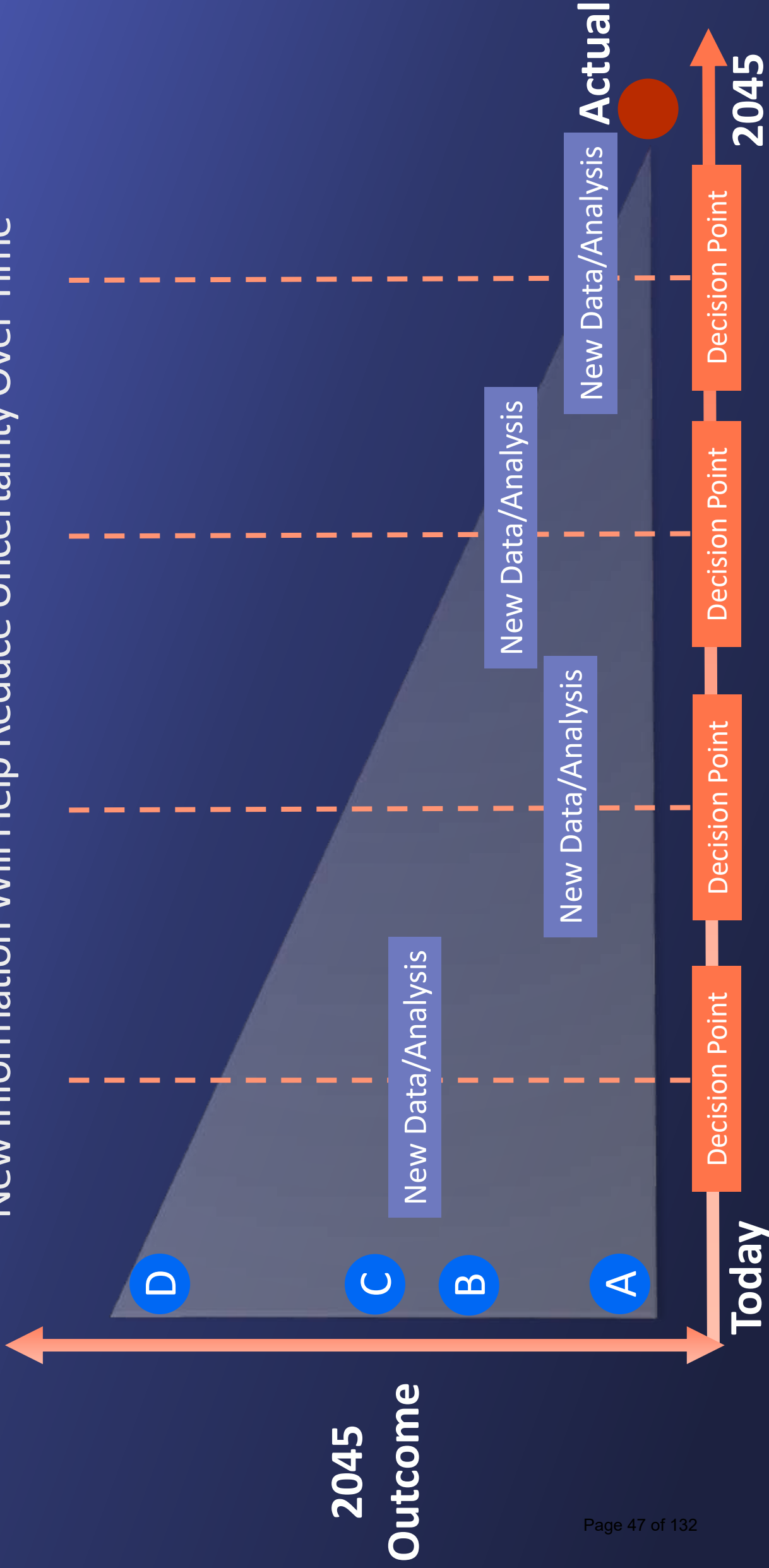
Adaptive Management Framework

New Information Will Help Reduce Uncertainty Over Time



Adaptive Management Framework

New Information Will Help Reduce Uncertainty Over Time



Adaptive Management

Scenario Planning Informs Decision Making

- Distinct difference between planning and implementation decisions
 - Planning identifies risks and options for the range of uncertainty, including the “worst case”
- Implementation decisions will be made over time and informed by real world data provided at that time
 - Signpost evaluation and updated analyses will inform Board implementation decisions
- Adaptive management framework provides guardrails
 - These guardrails provide a balance between adequately planning for future risks while avoiding overinvestment or stranded assets

Additional Requested Clarifications

Board Decisions Should be Based on Current Information and Data

Water Supply Reliability Criteria is Paramount

Range of Potential Water Supply Gaps Should be Considered in
Project and Program Assessments

Account for Planned Local Agency Projects and Anticipated
Conservation Mandates

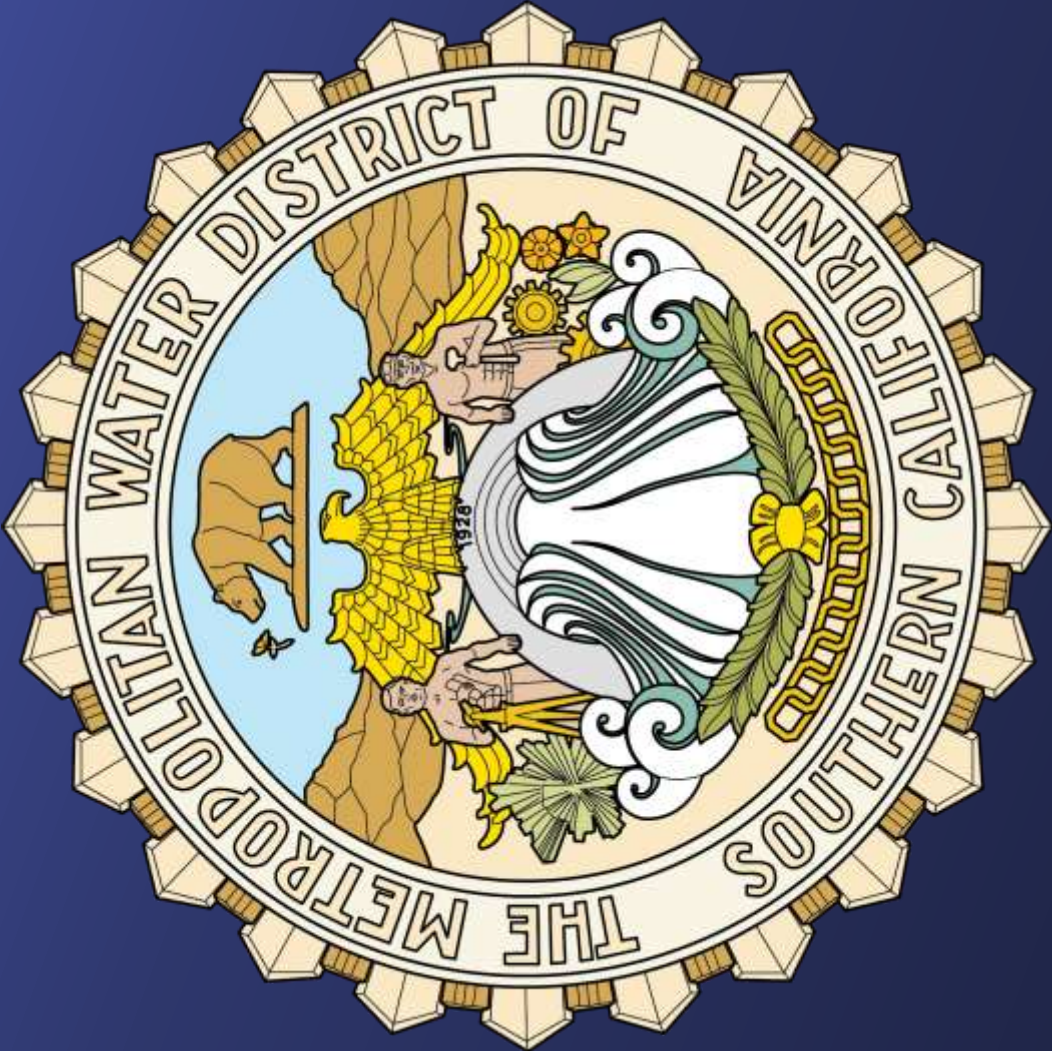
Identify Location and Extent of Supply Gaps

2025 Q1 CAMP4W Activities

- Submit Comments on Implementation Strategy by March 28, 2025
- March 11, 2025: FAAME
 - Info Item: Draft CAMP4W Implementation Strategy
 - Documents:
 - Draft CAMP4W Implementation Strategy

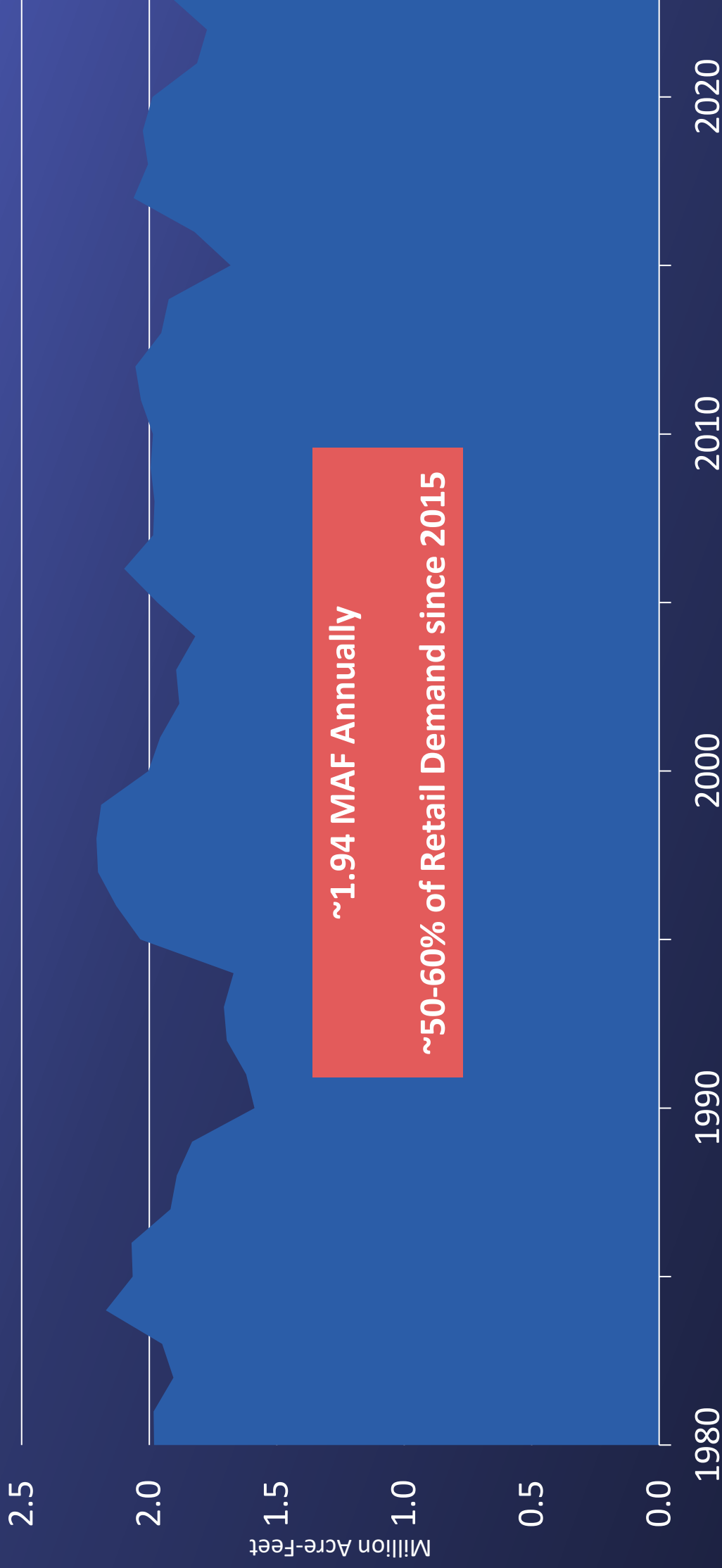
- March 26, 2025: CAMP4W Task Force
 - Present 2024 CAMP4W Annual Report Data
 - Review CAMP4W Implementation Strategy
 - Documents:
 - Draft CAMP4W Implementation Strategy

- April 8, 2025: FAAME and Board
 - Seek Board Approval of CAMP4W Implementation Strategy
 - Documents:
 - Final CAMP4W Implementation Strategy

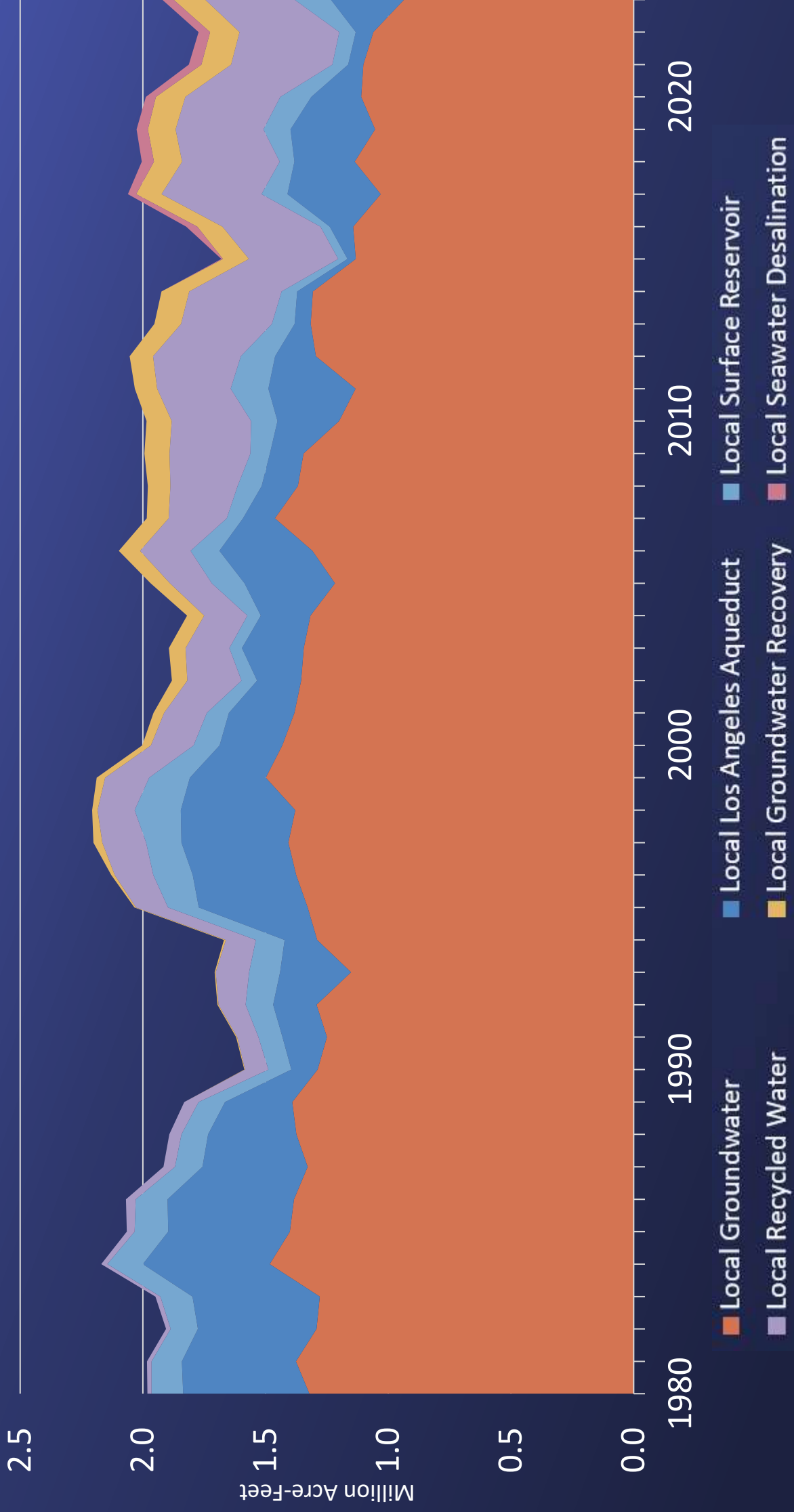


Local Supply Production & Potential Projects

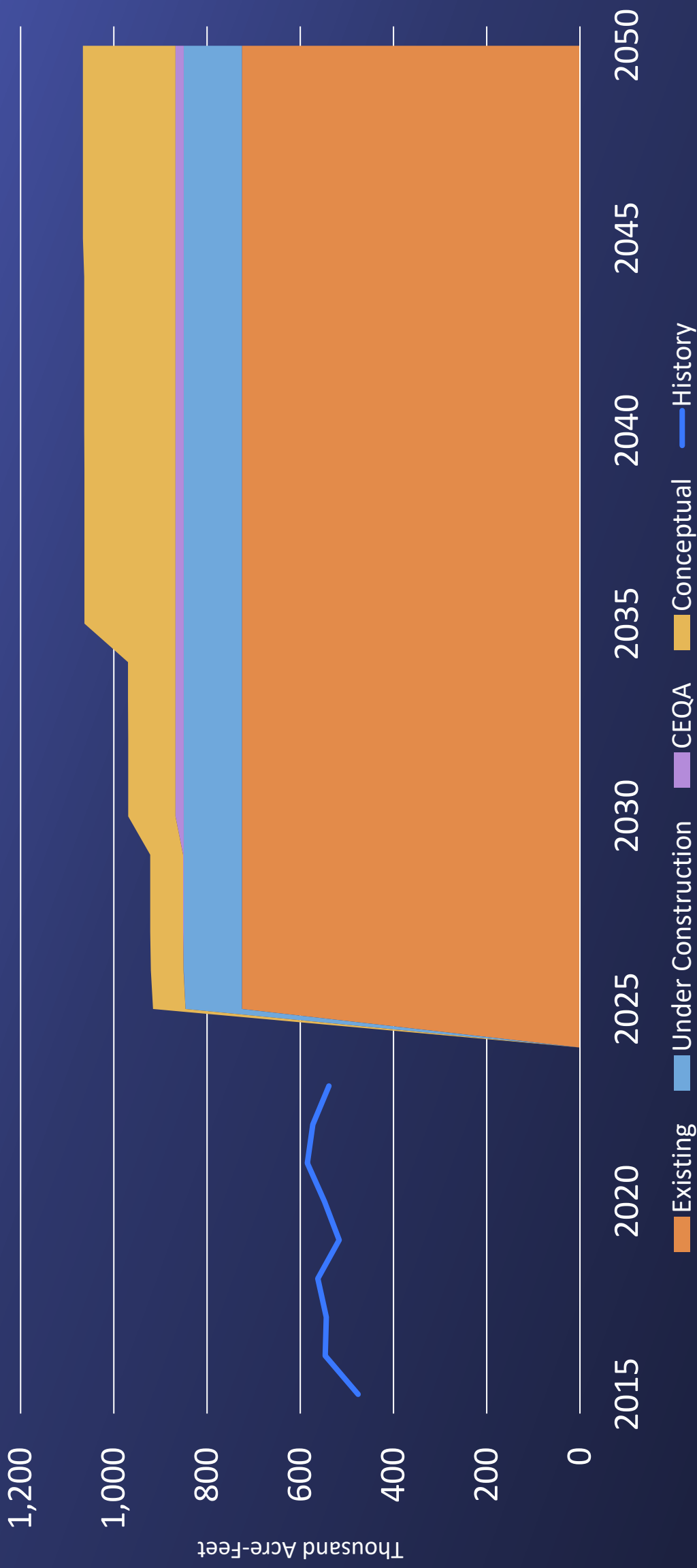
Total Local Production (1980-2023)



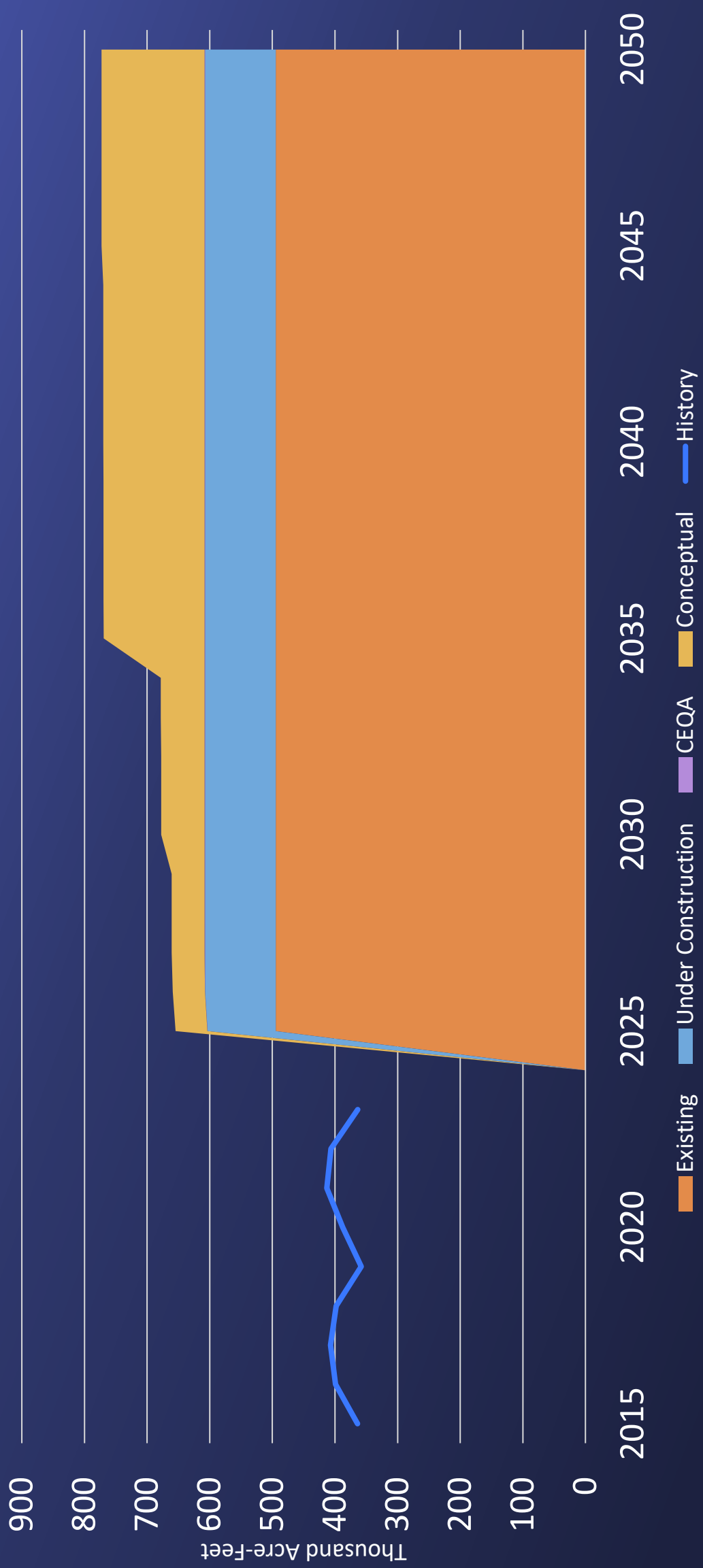
Total Local Production by Type (1980-2023)



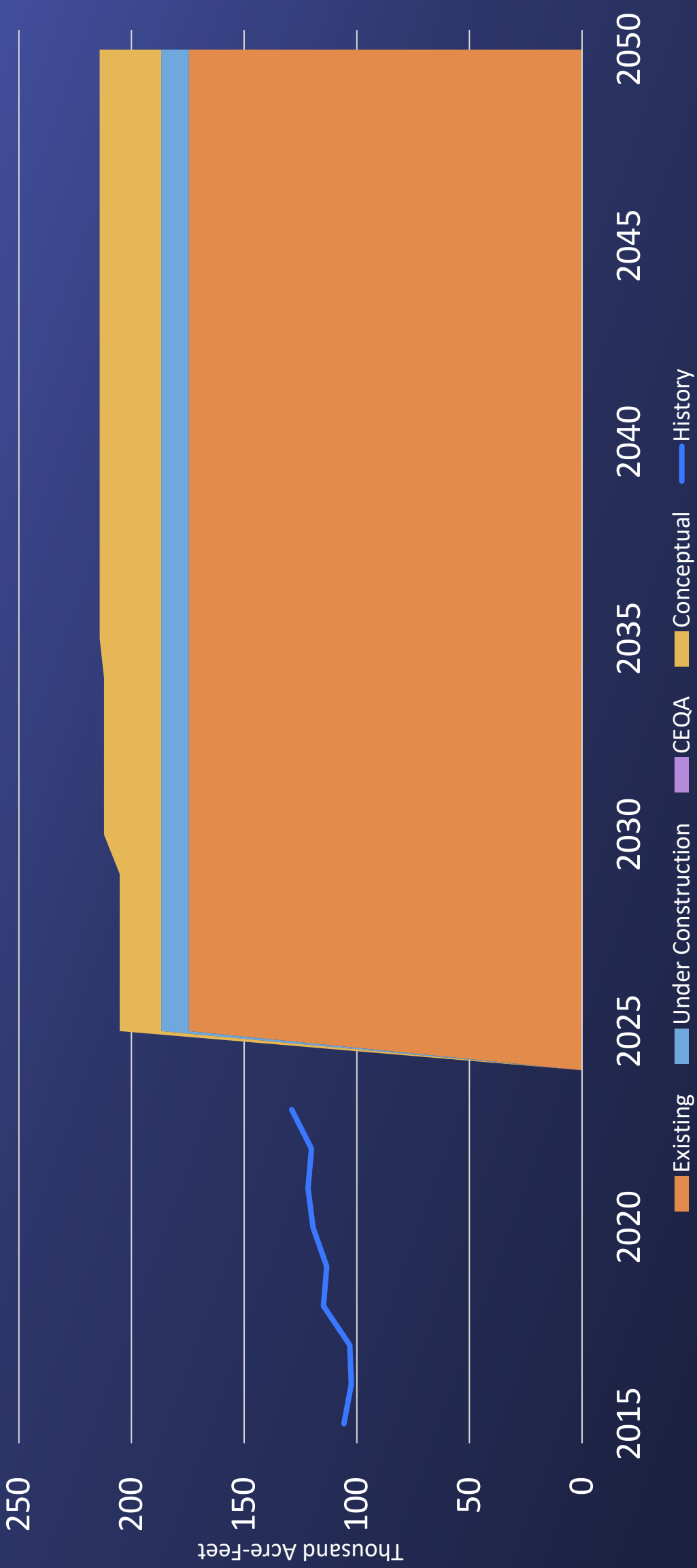
Inventory of Potential Local Projects by Planning Category



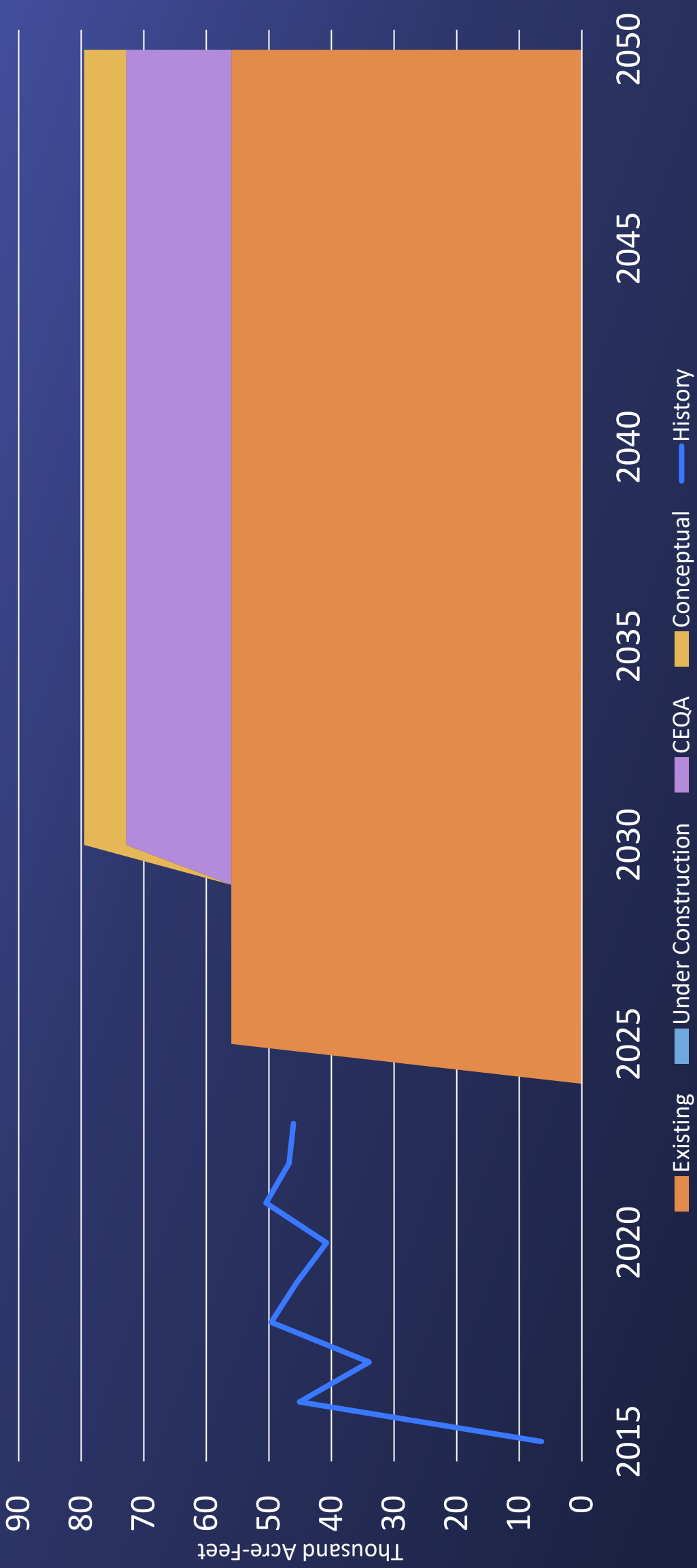
Potential Local Projects by Planning Category – Recycled Water



Potential Local Projects by Planning Category – Groundwater Recovery



Potential Local Projects by Planning Category – Seawater Desalination



Local Resources Program (LRP) Performance

Why are LRP Contractual Commitments Higher than Actual Project Production?

- Contracts are typically developed based on maximum project production capacity
 - Set at member agency request and may reflect future phasing of projects
- Changes to project design and use may occur after the LRP agreement is executed
- LRP performance provisions reflect short and mid-term production levels

Background

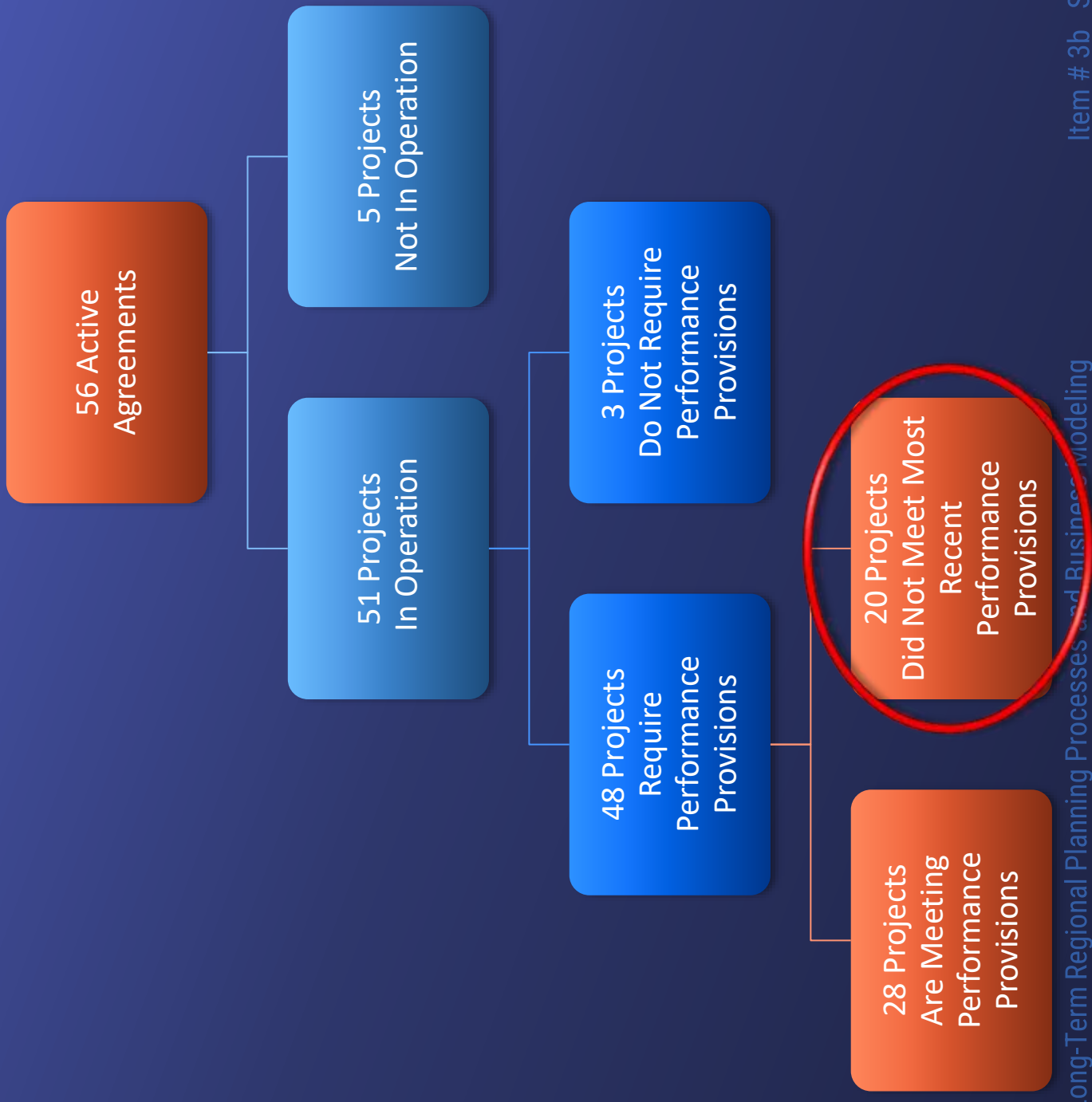
How do we determine performance?

Performance Provisions Ensure Project Continued Participation in LRP

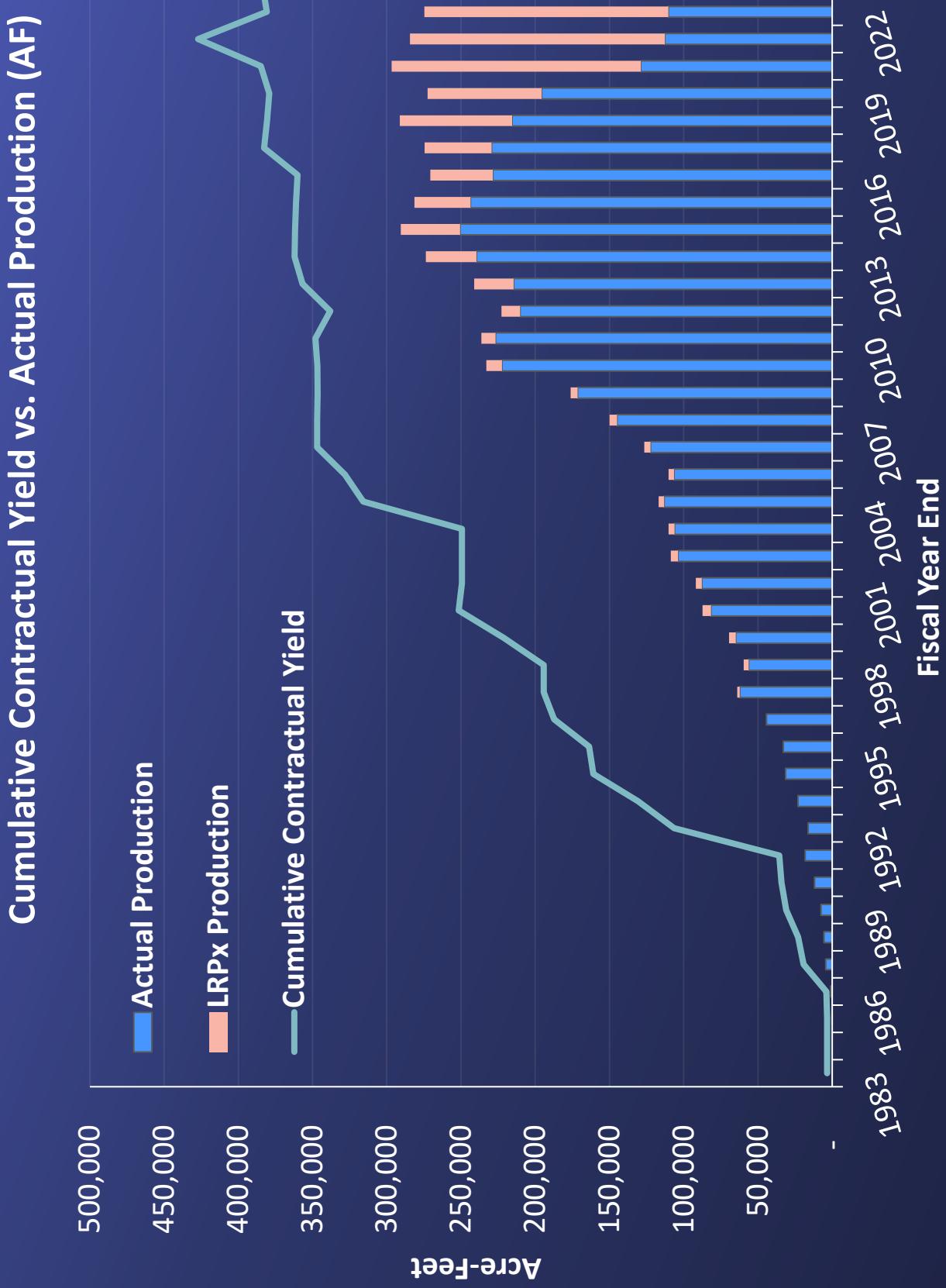
- Project must meet performance provisions in LRP agreement
- Start of construction and operation
- Production targets every four years

Production Target	Timeline (full fiscal year)	What happens if the production target is not achieved
50 % of contractual yield	Years 1 – 4 of production	Reduce the ultimate yield by shortfall to meet production target using the highest annual yield in the 4-year period
75 % of contractual yield**	Years 5 - 8 and every four years thereafter until the 25 th year of production	

How are current LRP projects performing?



How Projects Have Performed Over Time



Challenges Identified by Member Agencies to Meet Contractual Yield

- Demand
 - Lower irrigation demands due to conservation
 - Reduced wet-year water demand
 - End-user participation lower than anticipated
- Supply
 - Declining flows to wastewater treatment plants
 - Restrictions on groundwater pumping
- Construction
 - Equipment failure and supply chain issues
 - Changes to project during construction



To: Board of Directors, *Municipal Water District of Orange County*
From: Natural Resource Results
RE: Monthly Board Report – March 2025

Federal Agency Staffing

A February 25th memo circulated by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) conveyed the Trump Administration's plan to heavily reduce agency spending and workforce. Following the initial firings of thousands of probationary employees across departments, agencies were ordered to submit a Reduction in Force (RIF) plan by March 13th to significantly reduce the spending and workforce of each agency. While the scope of effect for each agency is different, all agencies can expect a significant reduction on top of the firings already completed.

Appropriations

In lieu of a full appropriations bill(s) for FY25, Congress approved a Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the government funded at previous levels through the end of the fiscal year. The decision came after Congress passed a CR in December to keep the government open through March 14. The CR passed the House on party lines except for Rep. Massie (R-KY) and Rep. Golden (D-ME), but needed 60 votes in the Senate, meaning Democratic support was needed. Despite the divide between the parties, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) led a handful of Democrats to get the votes. The now passed CR will keep the government open and funded through September.

With the funding for FY25 finalized, Congress looks towards FY26 funding, hopeful to pass full Appropriations bills after multiple consecutive CR's. While the process has just begun, with members beginning to put up Congressionally Directed Spending Requests on their websites, an ideal timeline would lead to completion of FY26 bills in late summer or early fall.

Budget

House Republicans approved a budget framework for President Trump's domestic policy agenda with a vote of 217-213. The reconciliation process will focus on several priorities including:

- Rolling back land lockups that block resource development and other activities
- Limiting future use of Resource Management Plan's and Antiquities Act designations
- Unlocking American mineral resources on public lands

The focus now shifts to negotiations with the Senate, where Republicans narrowly approved their budget resolution in a 52-48 vote, advancing a reconciliation package that bypasses the

filibuster and includes substantial funding for the military and immigration. However, their proposal postpones extensions of Trump-era tax cuts, a point of contention for House Republicans.

Federal Funding Freeze

While some federal funding is beginning to flow again, the spigot has not fully opened. Bureau of Reclamation projects that are funded with annual appropriations or with funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) seem to be moving, while projects funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) are still under review at the Department of the Interior (DOI). The timeline for completing the IRA funding review is still not clear. Each agency seems to be in a slightly different position and the lack of uniformity within the review process makes tracking any progress very challenging.

While we don't expect DOGE to slow down, Republicans have raised concerns over the lack of transparency and have even met with Elon Musk directly to convey their concerns. The request to DOGE from Senate Republicans was this: send us your proposed cuts and we will handle them. This would be treated as a package of "recissions" in which the Administration sends proposed cuts to Congress and they are then voted on and only require a simple majority.

Cabinet Nominations

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee announced Wednesday it will hold a hearing on the nominations of Brian Nesvik to be director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Jessica Kramer to be an assistant administrator of the EPA, and Sean Donahue to be an assistant administrator of the EPA. The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26 at 10 a.m.

On April 2, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee is expected to hold a nomination hearing for Kate MacGregor to be DOI Deputy Secretary.

Trump White House CEQ Rescinds NEPA Rule

The Trump White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has revoked its NEPA implementing rule, replacing it with nonbinding guidance that directs agencies to follow their own NEPA regulations. The guidance, issued by CEQ Chief of Staff Katherine Scarlett, encourages agencies to expedite approvals but lacks detailed instructions.

This the rescission of the implementing rule and issuance of guidance was in response to a February decision from a federal judge in North Dakota who vacated the CEQ's NEPA regulations, stating that the CEQ does not have the authority to issue such regulations but can only make recommendations. This ruling supported arguments from 20 Republican-led states that the regulations would increase costs and unfairly favor clean energy projects, potentially violating NEPA.

To:	MWDOC Workshop
From:	Syrus Devers
Date:	April 2nd, 2025
Re:	State Legislative Report

Legislative Report

All deadlines and delay tactics related to bill introductions have come and gone and the Capitol is operating at full speed. Anyone in the Capitol last week spent significant time standing in lines. The deadline to introduce a bill was February 19th, but the final deadline to amend substantive language into spot bills and get a referral to a policy committee was March 21st. Bills referred to more than one policy committee have to be heard soon or risk not meeting the policy committee deadline of May 2nd. Keep in mind the Legislature takes a recess from April 10th to the 21st.

High Conflict Bills.

MWDOC’s interest in these bills has yet to be determined, but the following bills will likely trigger the most significant battles this year:

AB 1413 (Papan): Assembly Member Diane Papan chairs the Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee, which makes any issue she chooses to pursue a serious one. Among several other provisions, this bill states that a groundwater basin adjudication may not authorize more pumping than the latest groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, or SGMA. It also provides that when an adjudication is being pursued at the same time as a GSP validation, the validity of the GSP must be decided first. Certain smaller groundwater basins have pursued adjudication under the novel term “safe yield” which, it is alleged, conflicts with the SGMA’s standard of “sustainable yield”.

SB 601 (Allen): This may be one of the most complex pieces of legislation as well as being one of the most controversial. In very brief, notwithstanding the length of this paragraph, this bill seeks to restore environmental protections to wetlands that are no longer protected under federal law following the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in 2023 in Sackett v. EPA. Prior to that case, a wetland could be protected under federal law even if there was no surface connection to a federally protected waterway, if damaging the wetland would impact the navigable waterway. If so, the wetland was entitled to the same level of protection. The Sackett case held that a wetland was only subject to federal jurisdiction if it had a continuous connection to a river on which you could paddle a boat.¹ SB 601 seeks to restore protection to those wetlands no longer protected under federal law. One of the many issues with the bill is that the Sackett holding itself is subject to varying interpretations, and it is not clear that SB 601 precisely conforms to any of them.

¹ Please do not quote. For descriptive purposes only to keep this paragraph as short as possible.

Syrus Devers Advocacy

AB 362 (Ramos): This bill would, in statute, define beneficial use of water to include tribal water uses. Beneficial use is one of the most basic doctrines in water law and it has never been defined in statute. Putting a new definition in statute is equal to changing the DNA of California water law, which has been refined over a century by the courts and regulations. The looming controversy is that this bill was introduced last year, and the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee demanded substantial amendments. The author refused to accept the amendments and “rolled” the Chair by getting out with votes from the Democrats on the committee. The bill, however, died on the infamous “Suspense File” in the Assembly. The author has reintroduced the bill, setting a high-stakes confrontation with the committee.

MWDOC’s Priority Bills.

Two bills MWDOC is supporting survived their first policy hearings. SB 394 (Allen) on water theft, and the MWD sponsored bill, AB 580 (Wallis), which removes the sunset on MWD’s existing authority as a lead agency for the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975, were both passed with bipartisan support.

Administrative Report

As reported last month, Sites Reservoir may see a new round of funding due to the collapse of the Los Vaqueros project. The hope was that the Water Commission, which is sitting on over half of a BILLION dollars, would allocate some funds to the remaining six projects. (Of those projects, Sites is the only large one left standing.) Instead, the Water Commission elected to do nothing and give the remaining projects an opportunity to plead their case for more funding. The takeaway is that the Water Commission did not want to make the same mistake twice. While understandable, sitting on a half of a BILLION dollars is a bit irksome in the face of California’s infrastructure needs.

ACKERMAN CONSULTING

Legal and Regulatory

April 2, 2025

1. **Tea Cleans Water:** It has become a regular occurrence that universities in the United States and around the world come up with new ideas in Water World. This time, Northwestern University has been studying the use of tea leaves in cleaning water and removing heavy metals such as lead and cadmium. This is a worldwide issue. They have discovered that these heavy metal ions are attracted to the surface of tea leaves, where they become trapped. Researchers are always looking for new materials for filters to enhance water purification. In this case, tea leaves have hit the spot. Of the various ways to produce tea, cellulose bags turn out to be the best. Those bags are made from natural fiber. They enhance the ability of the tea leaves to grab dangerous metals. The longer the steeping time, the more effective this process is. While this process is one that we will probably not have to rely on in the United States, it can be useful in some more remote areas of the world. Tea lovers unite.
2. **PFAS Removal:** Everyone is looking at various ways to remove PFAS from our water system. One of the keys is to make it commercially feasible. Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts has added another method to the list. This one is called hydrothermal liquefaction. The wastewater is heated up to over 500°F in a pressure cooker and hydrogen peroxide is added to the mix. Cook for 10 minutes and you have water that is 90% free from PFAS and related contaminants. In addition, the byproduct is a 60% yield of transportation fuel such as diesel, water, and gas.
3. **Burn PFAS:** Australian researchers have come up with another way to get rid of PFAS. They have discovered a way to safely burn the forever chemicals out of the water. The United States currently has a moratorium on burning PFAS and there are some regulatory questions in other parts of the country. The concerns arise out of spreading the PFAS through the atmosphere and creating other unhealthy emissions. There are over 15,000 types of PFAS, but the study shows that many of them have a similar carbon chain. The varied chemical reactions involved in heating PFAS makes the process difficult. However, their process, called mineralization, breaks down the fluorocarbon chain into individual compounds such as calcium, fluoride, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide and water. In addition, the byproduct produced by the process can be reusable materials such as industrial chemicals and fertilizers. Whether or not this process can be commercially viable is part of the test.
4. **Water From Air:** Ohio State has come up with another instrument to convert air into water. Their machine is called an open-source nickel titanium-based dehumidifier. Again, this machine is being designed for remote areas around the world that have difficulty in getting clean drinking water. They state that bad drinking water throughout the world causes more deaths than any war we have had. The key to their machine is an alloy called nickel titanium which has unusual rates of deformation in response to temperature change. Their machine, which looks like a small lathe, stretches wire under different temperatures and releases the pressure. This process allows

for water capture. The parts are cheap and readily available, and they are hopeful that this will be a successful device worldwide. It does rely on constant and robust air flow, but the mechanism is very simple.

5. **The History of Water:** Scientists continue to debate when water first appeared in our universe. The conventional thought used to be that water did not appear until approximately 1 billion years after The Big Bang. This current study argues that water came into existence within 100 to 200 million years after The Big Bang. Their conclusions come from examination of remnants of stellar explosions which occurred in the past. Their study looks at the dense, dusty cores of metals around the universe and how they store water. One of the scientists believes that water could have existed much, much earlier. The improvement of research instruments has made finding such evidence more possible. It also makes it much more difficult for researchers to agree on what really happened and when.
6. **LA Fires Kill Kelp:** Private researchers with a group called Kelp Ark have been studying the Pacific Ocean after the LA fires. They have studied the impact of fires around California and other places to determine the impact of the fires on the ocean and in particular the growth of kelp. Kelp is very important as it provides a home and food for various other groups in the ocean food chain. Kelp requires two things to survive: rocks and sunlight. Whenever there is a significant fire, a lot of material is transferred from the air to the ocean. The sediment, including dirt and pollutants from the LA fire, has been significant and attaches to rocks and reefs, making it difficult for the kelp to grow. In addition, all the ash and debris in the air reduces the amount of sunlight that gets to the water, also making it difficult for the kelp to survive. The Kelp Ark folks explained that they could barely see a few inches down in the ocean because of all the debris after the LA fires. Their initial response was that many of the fish and other wildlife were in existence, but that the kelp was practically gone. They attribute that to the additional debris contained in the fire. Normal wildfires burn brush and trees and other organic material. The LA fires burned everything, including plastics, electronics, and other industrial chemicals. This clearly had an impact on the ocean.
7. **Hawaii Sinking:** Hawaii has a serious subsidence problem. This is primarily caused by the active volcanoes in Hawaii. Depending on how far away you are from the hot spots on the Big Island can determine how fast you are sinking. The islands are sinking because of their own weight on a liquid base. The average subsidence is about 6mm (10 sheets of paper) per year. However, various spots of Oahu are sinking at 40 times that rate. This, along with sea level rise, must be considered for all urban planning and development on the islands. Also, a great portion of Hawaii was built on sediments and fill material, which has started to compact over time.
8. **SF v EPA:** The US Supreme Court recently issued an especially important decision in the case of City and County of San Francisco versus EPA. This potentially was going to cost San Francisco over \$10 billion in penalties for violation of the Clean Water Act. The case involved the issuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits. These permits must be obtained for any agency or entity that discharges into the ocean or other water subject to the Clean Water Act. In San Francisco's case, it involved 2 wastewater treatment facilities which discharged into the San Francisco Bay and the Ocean. During periods of heavy rain untreated wastewater overflows the treatment plants and discharges into the Pacific Ocean or the San Francisco Bay. The EPA claimed San Francisco violated their permit under the "end result" limitation. This rule claimed that whatever pollution occurred in the body of water was your responsibility. San Francisco argued that this was vague, and the court

agreed with them. The Court indicated that the EPA had the power to designate discharge limitations and that the entity could be charged with a violation for not meeting those limitations. Many water agencies around the US joined San Francisco in this argument. This was a major decision for Water World.

9. **More Desal Technology:** New ideas for desalinization technology are being suggested every day. A current one being looked at is one done locally by the OceanWell company. The prototype is in Las Virgenes Reservoir and it's being assisted by Tim Quinn, the former ACWA president. The pilot study is being conducted by Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, and it is actually being supported by the National Resources Defense Council. The concept is to reduce electrical usage, reduce toxic brine and safeguard marine life being sucked into the intake valves. The device looks like a stainless-steel tank similar to those used in a winery. The tank is set up in deep water where the pressure from the water drives the sea water through the reverse osmosis membranes. A patented intake system is designed to not hurt any of the sea creatures around the device. The ultra-salty brine is discharged into the ecosystem at a less concentrated rate. The only electricity needed is to run the fresh water onshore pumps to land. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and the US Bureau of Reclamation are also involved in this study.
10. **Delta Good:** Recent study by the Delta Protection Commission is raising a few eyebrows. The Commission is a state agency formed many years ago to monitor the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta area. Their current report paints a rosy picture of the Delta. The unemployment rate has dropped and is below the statewide average. Median household income has increased. Land in agricultural production has increased by over 10%. In the last eight years higher value crops are bringing more income to the area. The only negative stated was that pavement conditions have worsened in the area.

April 2, 2025

TO: MWDOC Board of Directors
FROM: Peter Whittingham
SUBJECT: April 2025 Report

A variety of noteworthy events occurred in the month of March - following is a few of the more interesting developments and issues of the month:

- At its March 12 meeting, the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OCLAFCO or Commission) received the final draft Municipal Service Review (MSR) of Orange County Water District's application for an analysis of potential consolidation with Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC). The Commission unanimously voted to receive and file the report, and MWDOC Board member Al Nederhood, GM Harvey de la Torre, and OCWD Board President Denis Bilodeau provided brief remarks with President Bilodeau terming the analysis a "great reference document" if at some future time both agencies agree to pursue potential consolidation.
- In addition, longtime OCLAFCO Executive Officer Carolyn Emery announced her retirement from the position, effective April 1.
- A new multi-million-dollar trash interceptor has been deployed in Newport Beach, the aim of which is to collect floating trash before it enters and contaminates the Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve, Newport Harbor, and area beaches. The \$5.5 million Newport Bay Trash Interceptor will supplement other city trash-reduction efforts including trash booms, catch basin collection systems and floating skimmers. Every year, hundreds of tons of trash enters Newport Harbor via San Diego Creek; the Trash Interceptor is expected to catch up to 80 percent of this floating debris.
- Huntington Beach City Councilmember Tony Strickland received 51.3% of the vote in the February 25 special election and was sworn in March 11 to succeed new 1st District Supervisor Janet Nguyen as State Senator representing the 36th District. Senator Strickland successfully surpassed the 50%+1 threshold to defeat three other candidates and avoid a runoff election.

- A 5-4 U.S. Supreme Court ruling issued March 3, which was roundly criticized by environmental groups, may have considerable impacts on the next MS4 permit issued for Orange County and the Inland Empire. The Court found that some regulations imposed by the EPA against the city of San Francisco, which has sent raw sewage into creeks that feed into San Francisco Bay because the city's antiquated sewage system has been pushed beyond its limits during the bigger storms of recent winters, were too broad. The Court's ruling pointed to the Clean Water Act's requirement that fines or punishments imposed on a polluter must be based on a specific link to the pollution being discharged. Orange County Coastkeeper has applauded this component of the ruling, as the organization has argued during negotiations regarding the new MS4 permit that regulations that track and measure specific pollutants are required by law.
- The Whittier City Council voted unanimously to name Conal McNamara its new City Manager at its meeting of March 25. Mr. McNamara has been serving as the City Manager in the City of La Palma since April, 2020 after leaving his prior position as Whittier's Community Development Director.
- The Orange County Water District, in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, announced the approval of a minor deviation to the Water Control Plan at Prado Dam. This five-year deviation represents a milestone in OCWD's ongoing efforts to bolster the drinking water supply through innovative stormwater capture strategies. OCWD has partnered with USACE since 1995 to store water from the Santa Ana River at Prado Dam; the approved deviation allows for higher water storage levels, temporarily raising it to 508 feet above mean sea level, with potential future increases to 510 or 512 feet. This adjustment will allow for the capture of an additional two billion gallons of stormwater, which is enough water to supply 48,000 people and save \$6 million in imported water costs.
- Federal prosecutors have asked a U.S. District Court judge to sentence former Anaheim Mayor Harry Sidhu to serve eight months in federal prison, along with a \$40,000 fine and one year of supervision after release. Sidhu pled guilty in 2023 to one count each of wire fraud and obstruction of justice and two counts of making false statements to a Federal agent; he is scheduled to be sentenced on March 28.

It is a pleasure to work with you and to represent the Municipal Water District of Orange County.

Sincerely,



Peter Whittingham

MWDOC Workshop Bill Matrix

Prepared by SDA Government Relations
April 2nd, 2025

A. High

AB 259 (Rubio, Blanca, D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

Calendar: *04/09/25 A-LOCAL GOVERNMENT 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 CARRILLO, JUAN, Chair*

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly Local Government

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing, as specified, and requires a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing to comply with specified requirements, including that the local agency post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, and the legislative body complies with prescribed requirements. Current law requires a member to satisfy specified requirements to participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including that specified circumstances apply. Current law establishes limits on the number of meetings a member may participate in solely by teleconference from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including prohibiting such participation for more than 2 meetings per year if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less. This bill would remove the January 1, 2026, date from those provisions, thereby extending the alternative teleconferencing procedures indefinitely. (Based on 01/16/2025 text)

Position: support

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Support - March 5th Workshop

AB 514 (Petrie-Norris, D) Water: emergency water supplies.

Calendar: *04/29/25 A-WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 444 PAPAN, DIANE, Chair*

Location: 02/24/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires every public and private urban water supplier that directly or indirectly provides water for municipal purposes to prepare and adopt an urban water management plan. The act requires an urban water management plan to include a water shortage contingency plan, as provided. This bill would declare that it is the established policy of the state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of emergency water supplies by local water suppliers, and to support their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply disruption, as provided. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

Notes:

On the April agenda.

AB 523 (Irwin, D) Metropolitan water districts: alternate representative.

Location: 02/24/2025 - Assembly Local Government

Summary: Under the Metropolitan Water District Act, the board of a metropolitan water district is required to consist of at least one representative from each member public agency, as prescribed. The act authorizes each member public agency to appoint additional representatives not exceeding one additional representative for each 5% of the assessed valuation of property taxable for district purposes within the entire district that is within the boundaries of that member public agency. The bill would authorize each member public agency that is entitled to designate or appoint only one representative to the board of directors to designate or appoint one alternate representative for the limited purpose of participating in a meeting of the board of directors when the member public agency's designated or appointed representative will be absent from the meeting. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

AB 532 (Ransom, D) Water rate assistance program.

Location: 03/03/2025 - Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials

Summary: Current federal law, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, among other things, requires the federal Department of Health and Human Services to carry out a Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program, which is also known as the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, for making grants to states and Indian tribes to assist low-income households that pay a high proportion of household income for drinking water and wastewater services, as provided. Current law requires the Department of Community Services and Development to administer the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program in this state, and to receive and expend moneys appropriated and allocated to the state for purposes of that program, pursuant to the above-described federal law. The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program was only operative until March 31, 2024. This bill would repeal the above-described requirements related to the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program. The bill would instead require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Department of Community Services and Development to establish and administer the California Low Income Household Water Assistance Program. (Based on 02/11/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

AB 580 (Wallis, R) Surface mining: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Calendar: *03/28/25 #8 A-SECOND READING FILE -- ASSEMBLY BILLS*

Location: 03/24/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 prohibits a person, with exceptions, from conducting surface mining operations unless, among other things, a permit is obtained from, a specified reclamation plan is submitted to and approved by, and financial assurances for reclamation have been approved by, the lead agency for the operation of the surface mining operation. Current law authorizes the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to prepare a master reclamation plan, as provided, that identifies each individual surface mining operation in specified counties and satisfies all reclamation plan requirements for each individual surface mining site. Current law requires the State Mining and Geology Board to act as the lead agency for surface mining operations conducted by the MWD and authorizes the board to conduct an inspection of an individual surface mining operation once every 2 calendar years during a period when that individual surface mining operation is idle or the site has no mineral production. Current law requires the MWD to be the lead agency for any environmental review of the master reclamation plan. Existing law repeals the provisions authorizing the preparation and approval of the master reclamation plan for the MWD on January 1, 2026. This bill would make those provisions operative indefinitely. (Based on 02/12/2025 text)

Position: support

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Support - March 5th Workshop

SB 31 (McNerney, D) Water quality: recycled water.

Calendar: 03/28/25 #1 S-SENATE BILLS - SECOND READING FILE

Location: 03/25/2025 - Senate Environmental Quality

Summary: The Water Recycling Law generally provides for the use of recycled water. Current law requires any person who, without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits an unauthorized discharge of 50,000 gallons or more of recycled water in or on any waters of the state to immediately notify the appropriate regional water board. This bill would, for the purposes of the above provision, redefine "recycled water" and provide that water discharged from a decorative body of water during storm events is not to be considered an unauthorized discharge if recycled water was used to restore levels due to evaporation. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Sponsored by WateReuse

SB 72 (Caballero, D) The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.

Location: 01/29/2025 - Senate Natural Resources and Water

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Water Resources to update every 5 years the plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water resources of the state, which is known as "The California Water Plan." This bill would revise and recast certain provisions regarding The California Water Plan to, among other things, require the department to expand the membership of the advisory committee to include, among others, tribes, labor, and environmental justice interests. The bill would require the department, as part of the 2033 update to the plan, to update the interim planning target for 2050, as provided. The bill would require the target to consider the identified and future water needs for a sustainable urban sector, agricultural sector, and environment, and ensure safe drinking water for all Californians, among other things. (Based on 03/18/2025 text)

Position: support

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Support position taken on 2/5

SB 350 (Durazo, D) Water Rate Assistance Program.

Location: 03/19/2025 - Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications

Summary: Would establish the Water Rate Assistance Program. As part of the program, the bill would establish the Water Rate Assistance Fund in the State Treasury, available upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income residential ratepayers, as specified. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to take various actions in administering the fund, including, among other things, tracking and managing revenue in the fund separately from all other revenue. The bill would require the state board, in consultation with relevant agencies and after a public hearing, to adopt guidelines for implementation of the program and to adopt an annual report to be posted on the state board's internet website identifying how the fund has performed, as specified. The bill would require the guidelines to include minimum requirements for eligible systems, including the ability to confirm eligibility for enrollment through a request for self-certification of eligibility under penalty of perjury. By expanding the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the state board to take various actions in administering the program, including, but not limited to, providing guidance, oversight, and funding for low-income rate assistance for residential ratepayers of eligible systems. The bill would authorize the Attorney General to bring an action in state court to restrain the use of any method, act, or practice in violation of these provisions, except as provided. (Based on 03/25/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

SB 394 (Allen, D) Water theft: fire hydrants.

Calendar: 04/01/25 S-JUDICIARY 3 p.m. or upon adjournment of Session - 1021 O Street, Room 2100 UMBERG, THOMAS, Chair

Location: 03/19/2025 - Senate Judiciary

Summary: Current law authorizes a utility to bring a civil action for damages against any person who commits, authorizes, solicits, aids, abets, or attempts certain acts, including, diverting or causing to be diverted, utility services by any means whatsoever. Current law creates a rebuttable presumption that there is violation of these provisions if, on premises controlled by the customer or by the person using or receiving the direct benefit of utility service, certain actions occur, including that there is an instrument, apparatus, or device primarily designed to be used to obtain utility service without paying the full lawful charge for the utility. This bill would add to the list of acts for which a utility may bring a civil cause of action under these circumstances to include tampering with a fire hydrant, fire hydrant meter, or fire detector check, or diverting water, or causing water to be diverted, from a fire hydrant with knowledge of, or reason to believe, that the diversion or unauthorized connection existed at the time of use for nonfirefighting purposes or without authorization from the appropriate water system or fire department. (Based on 02/14/2025 text)

Position: support

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Support - March 5th Workshop

SB 496 (Hurtado, D) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions.

Calendar: 04/02/25 S-ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY 9 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1200 BLAKESPEAR, CATHERINE, Chair

Location: 02/26/2025 - Senate Environmental Quality

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 establishes the state board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases and requires the state board to adopt rules and regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions from those sources. This bill would require the state board to establish the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory Committee by an unspecified date for purposes of reviewing appeals of denied requests for exemptions from the requirements of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation. The bill would require the committee to include representatives of specified governmental and nongovernmental entities. The bill would require the committee to meet monthly and would require recordings of its meetings to be made publicly available on the state board's internet website. The bill would require the committee to consider, and make a recommendation on, an appeal of an exemption request denial no later than 60 days after the appeal is made. The bill would require specified information relating to the committee's consideration of an appeal to be made publicly available on the state board's internet website. The bill would require the state board to consider a recommendation of the committee at a public meeting no later than 60 days after the recommendation is made. (Based on 02/19/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Proposed support - April agenda

SB 732 (Ochoa Bogh, R) Emergency backup generators: critical facilities: exemptions.

Location: 03/12/2025 - Senate Environmental Quality

Summary: Current law imposes various limitations on emissions of air contaminants for the control of air pollution from vehicular and nonvehicular sources. Current law generally designates air pollution control and air quality management districts with the primary responsibility for the control of air pollution from all sources other than vehicular sources. Current law requires the State Air Resources Board to identify toxic air contaminants that are emitted into the ambient air of the state and to establish airborne toxic control

measures to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants from nonvehicular sources. This bill would require an air district without a specified rule on emergency backup generators, as defined, as of January 1, 2026, that adopts such a rule to include in the rule provisions that allow the operator of a critical facility, as defined, to use a permitted emergency backup generator in exceedance of the applicable runtime and testing and maintenance limits if specified conditions are met. The bill would require a critical facility allowed to exceed applicable limits under a rule adopted pursuant to that provision to attest to and provide evidence of having taken demonstrable steps toward implementing the use of backup power technologies that meet or exceed emission standards set by the state board. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

B. Watch

AB 93 (Papan, D) Water resources: demands: data centers.

Location: 03/24/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: Would require a person who owns or operates a data center, as defined, to provide, when applying to a city or a county for an initial business license, equivalent instrument, or permit, under penalty of perjury, on the application, an estimate of the expected water use. The bill would require a person who owns or operates a data center to provide, when applying to a city or county for a renewal of a business license, equivalent instrument, or permit, under penalty of perjury, on the application, a report of the annual water use. By expanding the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require a city or county to require data centers operating within its jurisdiction, as a condition for obtaining or renewing a business license, to meet efficiency standards, as determined by a local jurisdiction, as provided. By imposing additional duties on cities and counties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 03/24/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 269 (Bennett, D) Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program.

Calendar: 04/08/25 A-WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 444 PAPAN, DIANE, Chair

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: Current law provides for the regulation and supervision of dams and reservoirs by the state, and requires the Department of Water Resources, under the police power of the state, to supervise the construction, enlargement, alteration, repair, maintenance, operation, and removal of dams and reservoirs for the protection of life and property, as prescribed. Current law requires the department to, upon appropriation by the Legislature, develop and administer the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program to provide state funding for repairs, rehabilitation, enhancements, and other dam safety projects at existing state jurisdictional dams and associated facilities that were in service prior to January 1, 2023, subject to prescribed criteria. This bill would include the removal of project facilities as additional projects eligible to receive funding under the program. (Based on 01/17/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 367 (Bennett, D) County water districts: County of Ventura: fire suppression.

Location: 02/03/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: The County Water District Law authorizes the formation of county water districts and authorizes those districts to appropriate, acquire, and conserve water and water rights for any useful purpose and to operate water rights, works, properties, rights, and privileges useful or necessary to convey, supply, store, or make use of water for any purpose authorized by that law. Current law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas. This bill would require a water district that supplies water to more than 20

residential dwellings that is used for the suppression of fire in either a high or very high risk fire hazard severity zone in the County of Ventura to have a backup energy source with sufficient power to promptly operate wells and pumps servicing the high or very high risk hazard severity zone at normal capacity for at least 24 hours in the case of a power shutoff unless the relevant water delivery systems are gravity fed and do not need any backup power to continue to operate during a power shutoff. The bill would require the Ventura County Fire Department to annually inspect facilities that provide water, as specified. The bill would require a water district to take various actions, including alerting the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services whenever its water delivery capacity has been reduced due to equipment failure or maintenance. The bill would require, if any fire destroys more than 10 residential dwellings or causes more than \$3,000,000 in damages to any residential dwelling in a specified water district, a report be made by the water district where the fire occurred and the Ventura County Fire Department that assesses the appropriateness of the water delivery system, as specified. (Based on 02/03/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 430 (Alanis, R) State Water Resources Control Board: emergency regulations.

Calendar: 04/08/25 A-WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 444 PAPAN, DIANE, Chair

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: Current law provides that an emergency regulation adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board following a Governor's proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions, for which the board makes specified findings, may remain in effect for up to one year, as provided, and may be renewed if the board determines that specified conditions relating to precipitation are still in effect. This bill would require the board, before the 2nd renewal of any emergency regulation or upon its repeal, to conduct a comprehensive economic study assessing the impacts of the regulation and would require the board to make the study publicly available on its internet website (Based on 02/05/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 591 (Caloza, D) Emergency services: mutual aid: public works.

Location: 03/03/2025 - Assembly Emergency Management

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the Office of Emergency Services within the Governor's office under the supervision of the Director of Emergency Services and makes the office responsible for the state's emergency and disaster response services. The office serves as the State Disaster Council for the purposes of the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. Current law states it is the purpose of the Legislature to facilitate the rendering of aid to areas stricken by an emergency and to make unnecessary the execution of written agreements customarily entered into by public agencies exercising joint powers, and that emergency plans duly adopted and approved as provided by the Governor shall be effective as satisfying the requirement for mutual aid operational plans provided in the Master Mutual Aid Agreement. Current law requires outside aid be rendered in accordance with approved emergency plans during any state of war emergency or state of emergency when the need arises in any county, city and county, or city. This bill would additionally state that it is the purpose of the Legislature to facilitate the rendering of public works resources critical for disaster response and recovery to areas stricken by an emergency. The bill would require that outside aid rendered during any state of war emergency or state of emergency includes public works personnel, equipment, and materials. (Based on 02/12/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 615 (Davies, R) Power facilities: emergency response and action plan.

Location: 03/13/2025 - Assembly Emergency Management

Summary: Current law requires an application to be filed with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission for certification of a site and related facility which includes an electric transmission line or thermal powerplant, or both. Current law requires the application to contain, among

other things, safety and reliability information, including planned provisions for emergency operations and shutdowns, as specified. This bill would require the application to also contain an emergency response and action plan that incorporates impacts to the surrounding areas in the event of an emergency and that would be conducted and coordinated with local emergency management agencies, unified program agencies, and local first response agencies. (Based on 02/13/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 794 (Gabriel, D) California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations.

Location: 03/03/2025 - Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials

Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to administer provisions relating to the regulation of drinking water to protect public health. The state board's duties include, but are not limited to, enforcing the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (federal act) and adopting and enforcing regulations. Current law authorizes the state board to adopt as an emergency regulation, a regulation that is not more stringent than, and is not materially different in substance and effect than, the requirements of a regulation promulgated under the federal act, with a specified exception. This bill would provide that the authority of the state board to adopt an emergency regulation pursuant to these provisions includes the authority to adopt requirements of a specified federal regulation that was in effect on January 19, 2025, regardless of whether the requirements were repealed or amended to be less stringent. The bill would prohibit an emergency regulation adopted pursuant to these provisions from implementing less stringent drinking water standards, as provided, and would authorize the regulation to include requirements that are more stringent than the requirements of the federal regulation. (Based on 02/18/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 810 (Irwin, D) Local government: internet websites and email addresses.

Calendar: *04/09/25 A-LOCAL GOVERNMENT 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 CARRILLO, JUAN, Chair*

Location: 03/10/2025 - Assembly Local Government

Summary: Existing law requires that a local agency that maintains an internet website for use by the public to ensure that the internet website uses a ".gov" top-level domain or a ".ca.gov" second-level domain no later than January 1, 2029. Existing law requires that a local agency that maintains public email addresses to ensure that each email address provided to its employees uses a ".gov" domain name or a ".ca.gov" domain name no later than January 1, 2029. Existing law defines "local government" for these purposes. This bill would allow a community college district, community college, or other postsecondary institution to use a ".edu" domain to satisfy these requirements. (Based on 02/19/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 1413 (Papan, D) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater adjudication.

Calendar: *04/08/25 A-WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 444 PAPAN, DIANE, Chair*

Location: 03/24/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: Existing law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans, except as specified. Existing law requires the department to periodically review the groundwater sustainability plans developed by groundwater sustainability agencies pursuant to the act to evaluate whether a plan conforms with specified laws and is likely to achieve the sustainability goal for the basin covered by the plan. Existing law authorizes a groundwater sustainability agency that adopts a groundwater sustainability plan to file a court action to determine the validity of the plan no sooner than 180 days following the adoption of the plan, as provided. This bill would instead authorize groundwater sustainability agencies to

file those actions within 180 days following the adoption of the plan. The bill would prohibit the court, in those validation actions, from adjudicating certain matters delegated to the department for evaluation. Existing law provides that an action against a groundwater sustainability agency that is located in a basin that is being adjudicated is subject to transfer, coordination, and consolidation with a comprehensive adjudication, as appropriate, if the action concerns the adoption, substance, or implementation of a groundwater sustainability plan, or the groundwater sustainability agency's compliance with the timelines in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. This bill would require an action against a groundwater sustainability agency that is located in a basin that is being adjudicated to be consolidated with a comprehensive adjudication if the action concerns the adoption, substance, or implementation of a groundwater sustainability plan, or the groundwater sustainability agency's compliance with the timelines in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The bill would also require the court hearing the consolidated action to try the cause of action for judicial review of the groundwater sustainability plan's determination of a basin's sustainable yield before trying any other issue in the action. Existing law authorizes a court to enter judgment in an adjudication action for a basin required to have a groundwater sustainability plan if, in addition to other criteria, the court finds the judgment will not substantially impair the ability of a groundwater sustainability agency, the State Water Resources Control Board, or the department to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and to achieve sustainable groundwater management. This bill, among other things, would provide that a judgment substantially impairs the ability of those entities to comply with the act and to achieve sustainable groundwater management if it allows more total pumping from the basin annually or on average than the sustainable yield of the basin established in the latest groundwater sustainability plans that have been validated by a final judgment or by operation of law when no validation action or action to invalidate the validation was filed. (Based on 03/24/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 90 (Seyarto, R) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: grants: improvements to public evacuation routes: mobile rigid water storage: electrical generators.

Location: 03/11/2025 - Senate Natural Resources and Water

Summary: The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4 at the November 5, 2024, statewide general election, authorized the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs. The act makes \$135,000,000 available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Office of Emergency Services for a wildfire mitigation grant program to provide, among other things, loans, direct assistance, and matching funds for projects that prevent wildfires, increase resilience, maintain existing wildfire risk reduction projects, reduce the risk of wildfires to communities, or increase home or community hardening. The act provides that eligible projects include, but are not limited to, grants to local agencies, state agencies, joint powers authorities, tribes, resource conservation districts, fire safe councils, and nonprofit organizations for structure hardening of critical community infrastructure, wildfire smoke mitigation, evacuation centers, including community clean air centers, structure hardening projects that reduce the risk of wildfire for entire neighborhoods and communities, water delivery system improvements for fire suppression purposes for communities in very high or high fire hazard areas, wildfire buffers, and incentives to remove structures that significantly increase hazard risk. This bill would include in the list of eligible projects grants to the above-mentioned entities for improvements to public evacuation routes in very high and high fire hazard severity zones, mobile rigid dip tanks, as defined, to support firefighting efforts, prepositioned mobile rigid water storage, as defined, and improvements to the response and effectiveness of fire engines and helicopters. (Based on 03/12/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 224 (Hurtado, D) Department of Water Resources: water supply forecasting.

Calendar: 03/28/25 #4 S-SENATE BILLS - SECOND READING FILE

Location: 03/25/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Would require the Department of Water Resources, on or before January 1, 2027, to adopt a new water supply forecasting model and procedures that better address the effects of climate change and implement a formal policy and procedures for documenting the department's operational plans and the department's rationale for its operating procedures, including the department's rationale for water releases from reservoirs. The bill would also require the department to establish, and publish on the department's internet website, the specific criteria that it will employ to determine when its updated water supply forecasting model has demonstrated sufficient predictive capability to be ready for use in each of the watersheds. The bill would require the department, on or before January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report on its progress toward implementing the new forecasting model and to post the report on the department's internet website. The bill would also require the department, on or before January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report that explains the rationale for the department's operating procedures specific to the previous water year. (Based on 03/11/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 239 (Arreguín, D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.

Calendar: 04/02/25 S-LOCAL GOVERNMENT 9:30 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 2200 DURAZO, MARÍA ELENA, Chair

Location: 02/14/2025 - Senate Local Government

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Current law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes specified neighborhood city councils to use alternate teleconferencing provisions related to notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed, if, among other requirements, the city council has adopted an authorizing resolution and 2/3 of the neighborhood city council votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified. This bill would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. The bill would require the subsidiary body to post the agenda at the primary physical meeting location. The bill would require the members of the subsidiary body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, as specified. (Based on 01/30/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 601 (Allen, D) Water: waste discharge.

Calendar: 04/02/25 S-ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY 9 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1200 BLAKESPEAR, CATHERINE, Chair

Location: 03/05/2025 - Senate Environmental Quality

Summary: Under current law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards regulate water quality and prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (act) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. Current law requires, when applying to a city or a county for an initial business license, equivalent instrument, or permit, or renewal thereof, a person who conducts a business operation that is a regulated industry, as defined, to demonstrate enrollment with the NPDES permit program by providing specified information, under penalty of perjury, on the application. Current law includes in this specified information, among other things, the Standard Industrial Classification Codes for the business, and a Waste Discharger Identification number (WDID), as specified. This bill would revise the above-described requirement to demonstrate enrollment with NPDES to instead require

demonstrating enrollment with NPDES or the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) permit programs by providing the specified information. The bill would require, when applying to a city or a county for a building or construction permit, a person who conducts a business operation that is a regulated industry and seeks permission for construction activities over one acre to demonstrate enrollment with the NPDES or WDR permit programs by providing specified information under penalty of perjury on the initial building or construction permit application, or renewal thereof. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 614 (Stern, D) Potable water: nonfunctional turf.

Location: 03/05/2025 - Senate Natural Resources and Water

Summary: Current law prohibits the use of potable water, as defined, for nonfunctional turf located on common areas of properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities, starting January 1, 2029. This bill would prohibit that use of potable water one year earlier. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 742 (Pérez, D) Water systems and water districts.

Location: 02/21/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: The California Water District Law provides for the establishment of water districts, and grants a district the power to acquire, plan, construct, maintain, improve, operate, and keep in repair the necessary works for the production, storage, transmission, and distribution of water for irrigation, domestic, industrial, and municipal purposes. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation related to the regulation of water systems and water districts. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

spot bill

AB 497 (Wilson, D) San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan.

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Current law makes available to the Natural Resources Agency bond funds for, among other things, implementing an updated State Water Resources Control Board's San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan (Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan), which establishes water quality control measures and flow requirements needed to provide reasonable protection of beneficial uses in the watershed. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation relating to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: spot bill

AB 1146 (Papan, D) Water infrastructure: dams and reservoirs: water release: false pretenses.

Calendar: 04/29/25 A-WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 444 PAPAN, DIANE, Chair

Location: 03/17/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: Would prohibit the release of stored water from a reservoir in this state if the release is done under false pretenses, which the bill would define to mean a release of water from a reservoir in a manner that is knowingly and designedly under any false or fraudulent representation or assumption as to the purpose and intended use of the water. The bill would authorize the State Water Resources Control

Board to issue an interim relief order, as specified, to a reservoir operator to prohibit the release of stored water in violation of the above-described prohibition. The bill would authorize the board to commence an interim relief proceeding on its own motion or upon the petition of an interested party, and would specify information required to be included in the petition. The bill would provide any person who violates these provisions would be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine or imprisonment in the county jail, or both. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 03/17/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: spot bill

Total Measures: 28

Total Tracking Forms: 28

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
March 10, 2025 – First Year of Legislative Session**

Item No. 3f

Bill Number Author	Amended Date Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<p>AB 580 G. Wallis (R – Rancho Mirage)</p> <p>Sponsor: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</p>	<p>Introduced</p> <p>Assembly Desk</p>	<p>Surface Mining: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</p> <p>This bill removes the sunset date on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s ability to operate under a single Master Reclamation Plan for repairs using earth-moving activities under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act for the maintenance of the Colorado River Aqueduct.</p>	<p>Sponsor</p>	<p>AB 580 removes the sunset date, ensuring Metropolitan can continue using this proven process, allowing for critical repairs to water infrastructure, maintaining environmental oversight without delays, and preventing duplicative compliance.</p> <p>Making this streamlined process permanent ensures safe, efficient, and cost-effective maintenance of the CRA.</p>



ACTION ITEM

April 2, 2025

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Harvey De La Torre
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: AB 514 (PETRIE-NORRIS): EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLIES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors vote to adopt a support position on Assembly Bill 514 (Petrie-Norris) and join Irvine Ranch Water District’s (IRWD) coalition letter.

BILL SUMMARY

AB 514 would establish a state policy that recognizes the role emergency water supplies can play in water resilience can encourage and incentivize greater investment and development of those supplies across the state. It would enact such a policy by adding the following policy statement to the California Water Code:

“It shall be the policy of the state to encourage and incentivize, but not mandate, the development of emergency water supplies, and to support their use during times of water shortage.”

NEED FOR THIS PROPOSAL

California has always had a climate that cycles between periods of large amounts of precipitation and times of drought. With climate change, however, we are experiencing extreme weather cycles and weather. As the state sees more rainfall and less snow, earlier snowmelt, more intense rain events, aridification, and increasingly frequent droughts, the state needs to focus on water resilience.

While water use efficiency will continue to play an important role in the face of climate change, water resilience for the future will also require California to take different approaches than have been taken in the past to ensure sufficient water for the state’s ecosystem, urban and

Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Budgeted amount:	Core: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choice: <input type="checkbox"/>
Action item amount:		Movement between funds: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

agriculture needs in times of excess and times of shortage. California can and should take action to build water resilience into its water resource management and planning accounting for these changes.

The Legislature can encourage actions that build water resilience, especially for times of drought. With intensifying and prolonged periods of drought likely, emergency supplies can help ensure sufficient water.

BACKGROUND

This measure was introduced last year as SB 1218 (Newman); however, it was held in Assembly Appropriations due to fiscal concerns. That language was removed in the reintroduced version of the bill.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT

The development of emergency water supplies — a water supply that has been developed by a water supplier to enhance its water supply reliability during times of shortage and is a supply in addition to the baseline water supplies that the agency draws upon during non-shortage times to meet water demands within its service area — is one tool that can aid the state in mitigating the impacts of more frequent droughts. Unfortunately, few water suppliers have made an investment in emergency supplies because the state has not formally recognized them.

AB 514 seeks to remedy this by enacting a policy in the Water Code that recognizes emergency water supplies, encourages their development, and supports their use during times of shortage. Such a policy could encourage investment in and development of emergency supplies— making communities more resilient, better able to withstand drought and flood, and more prepared to provide safe and reliable water supplies to residents, businesses and the environment.

Current supporters include: ACC-OC, East Orange County Water District, California Municipal Utilities Association, Eastern Municipal Water District, City of Garden Grove, El Toro Water District, City of Roseville, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, City of Sacramento, Greater Irvine Chamber of Commerce, San Diego County Water Authority, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, South Coast Water District, Olivenhain Municipal Water District, Southern California Water Coalition, Orange County Business Council, Three Valleys Municipal Water District, Rancho Water District, and Western Municipal Water District.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

None on file.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Clarifying MWDOC’s mission and role; defining functions and actions.*
- Balance support for Metropolitan’s regional mission and Orange County values and interests.*
- Strengthen communications and coordination of messaging.*
- Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives.*
- Solicit input and feedback from member agencies.*
- Invest in workforce development and succession planning.*

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1: Adopt a support position on AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) and join IRWD’s coalition letter.

Fiscal Impact: None

Option #2: Take no action

Fiscal Impact: None

List of Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: AB 514 Full Text

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 514

Introduced by Assembly Member Petrie-Norris

February 10, 2025

An act to add Section 106.6 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 514, as introduced, Petrie-Norris. Water: emergency water supplies.

Existing law, the Urban Water Management Planning Act, requires every public and private urban water supplier that directly or indirectly provides water for municipal purposes to prepare and adopt an urban water management plan. The act requires an urban water management plan to include a water shortage contingency plan, as provided.

This bill would declare that it is the established policy of the state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of emergency water supplies by local water suppliers, and to support their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply disruption, as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (a) California has a climate that cycles between periods of large
- 4 amounts of precipitation and times of drought.

1 (b) California’s weather cycles are already affecting water
2 resources throughout the state, which in turn negatively impact
3 ecosystems, economies, and communities.

4 (c) In addition to enhancing water efficiency, California can
5 and should take action to build water resilience into its water
6 resource management and planning that accounts for these changes,
7 allowing the state to better adapt to and mitigate the impacts of
8 climate change on water supplies and watersheds.

9 (d) With climate change likely bringing more frequent and
10 intense droughts to California, the state needs to evaluate how it
11 will ensure sufficient water supplies during times of shortage.

12 (e) An emergency water supply is one way the state can ensure
13 sufficient water supplies during times of drought, and the
14 development of emergency water supplies can aid the state in
15 mitigating the impacts of more frequent droughts.

16 (f) Despite this, few water suppliers have made an investment
17 in emergency water supplies.

18 (g) Establishing as state policy a role for emergency water
19 supplies can help encourage and incentivize greater investment
20 and development of those supplies across the state.

21 SEC. 2. Section 106.6 is added to the Water Code, to read:

22 106.6. (a) It is hereby declared to be the established policy of
23 this state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of
24 emergency water supplies by local water suppliers, and to support
25 their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply
26 disruption.

27 (b) For purposes of this section, “emergency water supplies”
28 means water supplies identified in a water shortage contingency
29 plan or drought plan by a local water supplier that have been
30 developed to increase a water supplier’s water supply reliability
31 during a drought or unplanned service or supply disruption and
32 that are in addition to the baseline water supplies the water supplier
33 draws on during nonshortage times to meet water demands within
34 its service area.

35 (c) This section does not require a water supplier to add or
36 modify any operation or demand management plan, or to interfere
37 with any water right or contractual right related to water exchange,
38 conveyance, or storage.

O



ACTION ITEM

April 2, 2025

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Harvey De La Torre
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: H.R. 1871 (HUFFMAN, D-CA) and S. 857 (CURTIS, R-UT) – WATER CONSERVATION REBATE TAX PARITY ACT

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors vote to adopt a support position on H.R. 1871 (Huffman, D-CA) and S. 857 (Curtis, R-UT).

BILL SUMMARY

H.R. 1871 and S. 857, The Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act, are identical measures that would expand the tax exclusion for energy conservation subsidies provided by public utilities to include certain subsidies for water conservation or efficiency measures and storm water management measures.

This legislation excludes gross income subsidies provided (directly or indirectly) by a public utility to a customer, or by a state or local government to a resident for the purchase or installation of any water conservation or efficiency measure. In addition, it also excludes subsidies provided by a storm water management provider for the purchase or installation of any storm water management measure.

H.R. 1857 is sponsored by Representative Jared Huffman (D-CA) and co-sponsored by Representatives Blake Moore (R-UT), and Judy Chu (D-CA). Companion legislation in the U.S. Senate is sponsored by Senator John Curtis (R-UT), and co-sponsored by Senators Alex Padilla (D-CA) and John Hickenlooper (D-CO).

Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Budgeted amount: N/A	Core: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choice: <input type="checkbox"/>
Action item amount: N/A		Movement between funds: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

BACKGROUND

The Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act clarifies that these rebates, which are growing in number and size across the nation, are not taxable income, but rather an effort to defray upfront consumer costs for public benefit.

This would ensure that the IRS treats water conservation rebates in the same manner as they treat energy conservation rebates, including insulation, Energy Star-certified windows and doors, and energy efficient appliances, which are not considered taxable income.

Specifically, this legislation would:

- Amend the tax code to exempt from taxation any rebates or subsidies for water conservation, efficiency, stormwater management, or wastewater management improvements.
- Extend the tax exemption to rebates or subsidies provided directly or indirectly by public utilities, state and local governments, and stormwater management providers.
- Apply the exemption retroactively to amounts received on or after December 31, 2021, ensuring that recent rebates are also covered.

Congressman Huffman has introduced this measure for the past few years, each with nearly identical language. In 2024 he introduced H.R. 8628; in 2019, he introduced H.R. 2313; in 2017, he introduced H.R.448; and in 2016, he introduced H.R. 4615. To date, none of these bills has moved past introduction.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT

Congressman Jared Huffman - ““Worsening climate change has triggered more severe and frequent droughts throughout California, and our communities and ecosystems are paying the price. We need bold, innovative solutions to get this crisis under control immediately. The Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act is one of the simplest and fastest ways to both reduce this water use and help California preserve its water supply, while also protecting our taxpayers from bearing the brunt of these costs. This legislation offers a win-win solution – enabling a cost-efficient transition to water-saving technologies locally while also protecting precious resources statewide.”

Senator John Curtis - “Due to Utah’s dry climate, water conservation is essential to preserving our way of life. While households and communities have made significant strides in improving water efficiency, the federal tax code has yet to catch up in supporting these investments. By removing taxes on rebates for water-saving home upgrades, our bill rewards Utahns for adopting sustainable practices that benefit both our environment and economy.”

Senator Alex Padilla - “For Californians, conserving water is a way of life — and we know the importance of staying prepared for the next major drought. Saving water means saving money on your water bills, which is why water utilities throughout the state offer rebates for more efficient water fixtures or drought-tolerant landscaping. We should incentivize homeowners to invest in technologies that reduce their water consumption, not penalize them with additional federal income taxes.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

None on file

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clarifying MWDOC's mission and role; defining functions and actions. | <input type="checkbox"/> Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Balance support for Metropolitan's regional mission and Orange County values and interests. | <input type="checkbox"/> Solicit input and feedback from member agencies. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthen communications and coordination of messaging. | <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in workforce development and succession planning. |

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1: Adopt a Support position on H.R. 1871 (Huffman) and S. 857 (Curtis) and send a letter of support to the authors' offices and the Orange County delegation.

Fiscal Impact: None

Option #2: Take no action

Fiscal Impact: None

List of Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: H.R. 1871 & S. 857 Full Text

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for certain conservation subsidies to include subsidies for water conservation or efficiency measures, storm water management measures, and wastewater management measures.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CURTIS (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for certain conservation subsidies to include subsidies for water conservation or efficiency measures, storm water management measures, and wastewater management measures.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Water Conservation
5 Rebate Tax Parity Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO INCOME EXCLUSION FOR CON-**
2 **SERVATION SUBSIDIES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 136 of
4 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

5 (1) by striking “any subsidy provided” and in-
6 serting “any subsidy—

7 “(1) provided”,

8 (2) by striking the period at the end and insert-
9 ing a comma, and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following new
11 paragraphs:

12 “(2) provided (directly or indirectly) by a public
13 utility to a customer, or by a State or local govern-
14 ment to a resident of such State or locality, for the
15 purchase or installation of any water conservation or
16 efficiency measure,

17 “(3) provided (directly or indirectly) by a storm
18 water management provider to a customer, or by a
19 State or local government to a resident of such State
20 or locality, for the purchase or installation of any
21 storm water management measure, or

22 “(4) provided (directly or indirectly) by a State
23 or local government to a resident of such State or
24 locality for the purchase or installation of any waste-
25 water management measure, but only if such meas-

1 ure is with respect to the taxpayer's principal resi-
2 dence.”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

4 (1) DEFINITION OF WATER CONSERVATION OR
5 EFFICIENCY MEASURE AND STORM WATER MANAGE-
6 MENT MEASURE.—Section 136(c) of the Internal
7 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

8 (A) by striking “ENERGY CONSERVATION
9 MEASURE” in the heading thereof and inserting
10 “DEFINITIONS”,

11 (B) by striking “IN GENERAL” in the
12 heading of paragraph (1) and inserting “EN-
13 ERGY CONSERVATION MEASURE”, and

14 (C) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
15 paragraph (5) and by inserting after paragraph
16 (1) the following:

17 “(2) WATER CONSERVATION OR EFFICIENCY
18 MEASURE.—For purposes of this section, the term
19 ‘water conservation or efficiency measure’ means any
20 evaluation of water use, or any installation or modi-
21 fication of property, the primary purpose of which is
22 to reduce consumption of water or to improve the
23 management of water demand with respect to one or
24 more dwelling units.

1 “(3) STORM WATER MANAGEMENT MEASURE.—

2 For purposes of this section, the term ‘storm water
3 management measure’ means any installation or
4 modification of property primarily designed to re-
5 duce or manage amounts of storm water with re-
6 spect to one or more dwelling units, including an in-
7 stallation or modification to prevent or reduce the
8 impacts of storm water-caused flooding to such
9 property.

10 “(4) WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT MEASURE.—

11 For purposes of this section, the term ‘wastewater
12 management measure’ means any installation or
13 modification of property primarily designed to man-
14 age wastewater (including septic tanks and cess-
15 pools) with respect to one or more dwelling units.”.

16 (2) DEFINITION OF PUBLIC UTILITY.—Section
17 136(c)(5) of such Code (as redesignated by para-
18 graph (1)(C)) is amended by striking subparagraph
19 (B) and inserting the following:

20 “(B) PUBLIC UTILITY.—The term ‘public
21 utility’ means a person engaged in the sale of
22 electricity, natural gas, or water to residential,
23 commercial, or industrial customers for use by
24 such customers.

1 “(C) STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PRO-
2 VIDER.—The term ‘storm water management
3 provider’ means a person engaged in the provi-
4 sion of storm water management measures to
5 the public.

6 “(D) PERSON.—For purposes of subpara-
7 graphs (B) and (C), the term ‘person’ includes
8 the Federal Government, a State or local gov-
9 ernment or any political subdivision thereof, or
10 any instrumentality of any of the foregoing.”.

11 (3) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

12 (A) The heading of section 136 of such
13 Code is amended—

14 (i) by inserting “**AND WATER**” after
15 “**ENERGY**”, and

16 (ii) by striking “**PROVIDED BY PUB-
17 LIC UTILITIES**”.

18 (B) The item relating to section 136 in the
19 table of sections of part III of subchapter B of
20 chapter 1 of such Code is amended—

21 (i) by inserting “and water” after
22 “Energy”, and

23 (ii) by striking “provided by public
24 utilities”.

6

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply to amounts received after Decem-
3 ber 31, 2021.

4 (d) NO INFERENCE.—Nothing in this Act or the
5 amendments made by this Act shall be construed to create
6 any inference with respect to the proper tax treatment of
7 any subsidy received directly or indirectly from a public
8 utility, a storm water management provider, or a State
9 or local government for any water conservation or effi-
10 ciency measure, storm water management measure, or
11 wastewater management measure before January 1, 2022.



ACTION ITEM

April 2, 2025

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Harvey De La Torre
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: SB 496 (HURTADO) – ADVANCED CLEAN FLEETS REGULATION:
APPEALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: EXEMPTIONS**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors vote to adopt a support position on Senate Bill 496 (Hurtado) and join the California Special Districts Association’s (CSDA) coalition and outreach efforts.

BILL SUMMARY

SB 496 would require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to establish the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Regulation Appeals Advisory Committee by an unspecified date for purposes of reviewing appeals of denied requests for exemptions from the requirements of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation. The Board would be required to meet monthly and make a recommendation on an appeal of an exemption request denial no later than 60 days after the appeal is made.

Additionally, SB 496 would update the emergency vehicle exemption to include vehicles that respond to and support critical operations related to emergencies and disasters.

SB 496 also modifies the requirements of the daily usage exemption, removing barriers that prevent applicants from complying with the mandate.

Finally, this measure would modify the requirements of the daily usage exemption by prohibiting the CARB from requiring the fleet owner to provide documentation showing the executed zero-emissions vehicle purchase agreement to qualify for a specified extension to comply with certain requirements of the regulation.

Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Budgeted amount: N/A	Core: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choice: <input type="checkbox"/>
Action item amount: N/A		Movement between funds: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

NEED FOR THIS PROPOSAL

Front line workers need to be able to rely on their vehicles under any conditions during a fire, earthquake, storm or other emergency where their service is critical. These improvements to the ACF will protect the health and safety of Californians, avoid unnecessary costs detrimental to our shared long-term goals, and ensure that local agencies can continue to work diligently to decarbonize their fleet operations and comply with the ACF without being penalized for factors beyond their control.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT

SB 496 would provide relief to local agencies in their efforts to comply with the ambitious deadlines and requirements of the CARB/ACF/Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEV) mandates.

As local agencies strive to achieve the State's climate and emissions goals, while confronting the barriers outside their control, this measure will help state and local agencies more effectively navigate the ACF regulation and its associated risks and costs to our communities. Of critical concern to local governments, the ACF mandates on medium-duty and heavy-duty fleets are creating unnecessary challenges to maintaining the many critical services Californians rely upon for their most essential daily needs as well as during emergencies and disasters.

SB 496 will help state and local agencies meet both the needs of our communities and California's climate goals in three important areas:

- Protecting the health and safety of our communities:
 - SB 496 updates the emergency vehicle exemption within the ACF to allow those vehicles that respond to and support critical operations related to emergencies and disasters, often under austere conditions, to continue to protect our communities. Our front-line workers need to be able to rely on their vehicles working under any condition during a fire, earthquake, storm, or other emergency where their service is critical.
- Prioritizing affordability for our hard-working families:
 - SB 496 modifies the requirements of the daily usage exemption, removing barriers for the applicant to comply with the mandate. Moreover, the legislation promotes affordability amid rapidly rising cost pressures on essential local services by averting the costly acquisition of ZEVs before it is possible to install the infrastructure required to use them.
- Promoting transparency and accountability for our government:
 - SB 496 establishes an Appeals Advisory Committee by which local agencies may request a review of exemption request denials. This ensures transparency while protecting due process for those seeking further review.

SB 496 is co-sponsored by the California Special Districts Association, the League of California Cities, the California Association of Counties, and the Rural County Representatives of California.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

None on file. The bill is set for its first hearing on April 2 in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee where environmental groups are expected to oppose.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clarifying MWDOC’s mission and role; defining functions and actions. | <input type="checkbox"/> Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Balance support for Metropolitan’s regional mission and Orange County values and interests. | <input type="checkbox"/> Solicit input and feedback from member agencies. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthen communications and coordination of messaging. | <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in workforce development and succession planning. |

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1: Adopt a Support position on SB 496 (Hurtado) and submit a letter of support to the author and Orange County delegation and join CSDA’s outreach efforts.

Fiscal Impact: None

Option #2: Take no action

Fiscal Impact: None

List of Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: SB 496 Full Text

Introduced by Senator Hurtado
(Coauthors: Senators Archuleta and Niello)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Alanis)

February 19, 2025

An act to add Article 6 (commencing with Section 43850) and Article 6.2 (commencing with Section 43860) to Chapter 4 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to air resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 496, as introduced, Hurtado. Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions.

Existing law requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt and implement motor vehicle emission standards, in-use performance standards, and motor vehicle fuel specifications for the control of air contaminants and sources of air pollution that the state board has found necessary, cost effective, and technologically feasible. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 establishes the state board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases and requires the state board to adopt rules and regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions from those sources.

Pursuant to its authority, the state board has adopted the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation, which imposes various requirements for transitioning local, state, and federal government fleets of medium- and heavy-duty trucks, other high-priority fleets of medium- and heavy-duty trucks, and drayage trucks to zero-emission vehicles. The Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation authorizes entities subject to the regulation to apply for exemptions from its requirements under certain circumstances.

This bill would require the state board to establish the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory Committee by an unspecified date for purposes of reviewing appeals of denied requests for exemptions from the requirements of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation. The bill would require the committee to include representatives of specified governmental and nongovernmental entities. The bill would require the committee to meet monthly and would require recordings of its meetings to be made publicly available on the state board’s internet website. The bill would require the committee to consider, and make a recommendation on, an appeal of an exemption request denial no later than 60 days after the appeal is made. The bill would require specified information relating to the committee’s consideration of an appeal to be made publicly available on the state board’s internet website. The bill would require the state board to consider a recommendation of the committee at a public meeting no later than 60 days after the recommendation is made.

This bill would expand the emergency vehicle exemption under the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation or similar regulation, as specified. The bill, with respect to requirements applicable to state and local government fleets under the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation, would modify the requirements of the daily usage exemption and would prohibit the state board from requiring the fleet owner to provide documentation showing the executed zero-emissions vehicle purchase agreement in order to qualify for a specified extension to comply with certain requirements of the regulation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 6 (commencing with Section 43850) is
 2 added to Chapter 4 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety
 3 Code, to read:

4
 5 Article 6. Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory
 6 Committee

7
 8 43850. For purposes of this article, the following definitions
 9 apply:

1 (a) “Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation” means Article 3.2
2 (commencing with Section 2013) of, Article 3.3 (commencing
3 with Section 2014) of, Article 3.4 (commencing with Section 2015)
4 of, and Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 2016) of, Chapter
5 1 of Division 3 of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations.

6 (b) “Committee” means the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation
7 Appeals Advisory Committee established pursuant to Section
8 43851.

9 (c) “Electrical corporation” has the same meaning as defined
10 in Section 218 of the Public Utilities Code.

11 43851. (a) (1) On or before _____, the state board shall
12 establish the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory
13 Committee.

14 (2) The committee shall review appeals of denied requests for
15 exemptions or time extensions from the requirements of the
16 Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation and make recommendations
17 to the state board with respect to the denial of the exemption or
18 time extension request.

19 (b) The committee shall be composed of all of the following:

20 (1) One representative of the state board who is appointed by
21 the state board.

22 (2) One representative of the Public Utilities Commission who
23 is appointed by the Public Utilities Commission.

24 (3) One representative of the State Energy Resources
25 Conservation and Development Commission who is appointed by
26 the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development
27 Commission.

28 (4) One representative of the Department of General Services
29 who is appointed by the Director of General Services.

30 (5) One representative of the Department of Transportation who
31 is appointed by the Director of Transportation.

32 (6) One representative of a transit agency who is appointed by
33 the state board.

34 (7) One representative of a regional transportation agency who
35 is appointed by the state board.

36 (8) (A) No fewer than 13 and no more than 21 members selected
37 by the state board from any of the following categories:

38 (i) (I) Private fleet owners.

39 (ii) (II) No less than 25 percent of the members appointed pursuant
40 to this paragraph shall be private fleet owners.

1 (ii) (I) State and local government representatives with expertise
2 relating to government fleets.
3 (II) No less than 25 percent of the members appointed pursuant
4 to this paragraph shall be public fleet managers.
5 (iii) Representatives of electrical corporations.
6 (iv) Electric vehicle manufacturing industry experts.
7 (v) Representatives of environmental and environmental justice
8 groups.
9 (vi) Representatives of labor groups.
10 (B) Members appointed pursuant to this paragraph shall serve
11 on the committee for a minimum of one year and a maximum of
12 three years.
13 43852. (a) The committee shall meet monthly on an evenly
14 spaced schedule.
15 (b) (1) Meetings of the committee shall be open to the public
16 in accordance with the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open
17 Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of
18 Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government
19 Code).
20 (2) Meetings of the committee shall be recorded and the
21 recording of each meeting shall be made publicly available on the
22 state board's internet website.
23 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that members of the
24 committee review materials relating to committee meetings and
25 engage in constructive dialogue in all meetings.
26 (c) The representative of the state board shall be the nonvoting
27 chair of the committee.
28 (d) A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members
29 appointed to the committee at the time of a meeting. Any action
30 requires a majority vote of the members present at a meeting at
31 which there is a quorum.
32 43853. (a) If the state board denies an application for an
33 exemption or time extension from any requirement of the Advanced
34 Clean Fleets Regulation, the applicant may appeal the denial to
35 the committee.
36 (b) No later than 60 days after the applicant appeals the denial
37 of the exemption or time extension request to the committee, the
38 committee shall consider the appeal at a meeting and make a
39 recommendation to the state board regarding whether the
40 exemption or time extension request should have been denied.

1 (c) The chair of the committee shall serve as the liaison between
2 the committee and the state board, and shall report the actions and
3 recommendations of the committee to the state board.

4 (d) For each appeal to the committee, all of the following
5 information shall be made publicly available on the state board's
6 internet website:

7 (1) The applicant's original request for an exemption or time
8 extension from any requirement of the Advanced Clean Fleets
9 Regulation and any accompanying information submitted by the
10 applicant.

11 (2) All materials of the state board relating to the denial of the
12 exemption or time extension request.

13 (3) The appeal and any accompanying information submitted
14 by the applicant.

15 (4) The minutes of the meeting during which the appeal was
16 considered.

17 (e) No later than 60 days after the committee makes a
18 recommendation pursuant to subdivision (b), the state board shall
19 consider the recommendation at a public meeting of the state board.

20 SEC. 2. Article 6.2 (commencing with Section 43860) is added
21 to Chapter 4 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety
22 Code, to read:

23
24 Article 6.2. Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation
25

26 43860. For purposes of this article, "Advanced Clean Fleets
27 Regulation" means Article 3.2 (commencing with Section 2013)
28 of, Article 3.3 (commencing with Section 2014) of, Article 3.4
29 (commencing with Section 2015) of, and Article 3.5 (commencing
30 with Section 2016) of, Chapter 1 of Division 3 of Title 13 of the
31 California Code of Regulations.

32 43861. For purposes of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation,
33 or a similar regulation adopted by the state board, vehicles
34 reasonably anticipated to respond to emergency situations, or that
35 support those efforts, and vehicles reasonably anticipated to be
36 used by disaster services workers, as described in Section 3100 of
37 the Government Code, for purposes of responding to the disaster
38 for which they have been activated, are exempt to the same extent
39 as authorized emergency vehicles as defined in Section 165 of the
40 Vehicle Code.

1 43862. For purposes of the extension authorized in paragraph
2 (3) of subdivision (n) of Section 2013, and subdivision (c) of
3 Section 2013.1, of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations,
4 the state board shall not require a fleet owner to submit
5 documentation showing the executed zero-emissions vehicle
6 purchase agreement in order to qualify for that extension.

7 43863. (a) The state board shall not administer the daily usage
8 exemption established pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 2013.1
9 of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations in accordance
10 with the criteria set forth in that subdivision. Instead, the state
11 board shall administer the daily usage exemption established
12 pursuant to that subdivision in accordance with the criteria set
13 forth in subdivision (b).

14 (b) Fleet owners may request an exemption as specified in
15 paragraph (2) of subdivision (n) of Section 2013 of Title 13 of the
16 California Code of Regulations to purchase a new internal
17 combustion engine (ICE) vehicle of the same configuration as an
18 ICE vehicle being replaced as specified in paragraph (1) of
19 subdivision (b) of Section 2013.1 of Title 13 of the California Code
20 of Regulations if no new battery-electric vehicle (BEV) is available
21 to purchase that can meet the demonstrated daily usage needs of
22 any existing vehicles of the same configuration in the fleet, as
23 determined by the criteria specified in paragraphs (2) to (5),
24 inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 2013.1 of Title 13 of the
25 California Code of Regulations. If approved, fleet owners shall
26 place their new ICE vehicle orders within one year from the date
27 the exemption is granted. The executive officer of the state board
28 shall not approve exemption requests for a vehicle configuration
29 that is available to purchase as a near-zero-emissions vehicle. The
30 fleet owner shall submit the following information by email to
31 TRUCRS@arb.ca.gov to apply:

32 (1) The make, model, weight class, configuration, and a
33 photograph of the ICE vehicle to be replaced.

34 (2) The BEV that is available to purchase in the same weight
35 class and configuration with the highest rated energy capacity
36 available. The fleet owner shall submit the make, model, weight
37 class, configuration, and rated energy capacity of the identified
38 BEV.

39 (3) (A) The BEV manufacturer's available full state of charge
40 minimum and maximum range specifications in ideal and

1 less-than-ideal conditions, including when operated in ambient
2 temperatures below 45 and above 90 degrees Fahrenheit and when
3 operated under maximum towing capacity loads and climbing road
4 grades with a minimum 5-percent grade for four miles. If this
5 information is not available from the BEV manufacturer, a
6 20-percent reduction in maximum range shall be used for a range
7 comparison to an ICE vehicle's range data. For vehicles that
8 operate truck-mounted or integrated equipment while stationary,
9 in lieu of supplying the BEV manufacturer's range specifications
10 based on vehicle miles traveled, the needed rated energy capacity
11 is the same as the measured BEV energy use specified in
12 subparagraph (B). The fleet owner shall submit the calculation and
13 results.

14 (B) In lieu of providing BEV manufacturer minimum and
15 maximum range specifications as specified in subparagraph (A),
16 fleet owners may instead submit measured fuel burn rate data from
17 ICE vehicles of the same configuration already operated on similar
18 daily assignments to substantiate their exemption request.
19 Information shall include vehicle loading and weight data, route
20 grade, low and high ambient temperatures, and vehicle miles
21 traveled per day, for three consecutive business days. For vehicles
22 that operate truck-mounted or integrated equipment while
23 stationary, the fuel burn rate data shall also include fuel used while
24 stationary truck-mounted or integrated equipment is operated each
25 day.

26 (4) A description of the daily assignments or routes used by
27 existing vehicle configurations with an explanation as to why no
28 new BEVs available to purchase of the same weight class and
29 configuration can be charged or refueled during the workday at
30 the depot, within one mile of the routes, or where ZEV fueling
31 infrastructure is available. The explanation shall include a
32 description of why charging could not be managed during driver
33 rest periods or breaks during the workday.

34 (5) In granting or denying the exemption request, the executive
35 officer of the state board shall rely on the information submitted
36 by the applicant and use their good engineering judgment to
37 determine whether the information meets the criteria specified in
38 this subdivision. The executive officer shall include information
39 regarding their years of related vehicle engineering experience,

- 1 certifications, and any professional engineering licenses they have
- 2 with a denied exemption request.

O



DISCUSSION ITEM

April 2, 2025

TO: Board of Directors

**FROM: Harvey De La Torre,
General Manager**

Staff Contact: Melissa Baum-Haley
Alex Heide
Kevin Hostert

SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MET) ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors to review and discuss this information.

DETAILED REPORT

This report provides a brief update on the current status of the following key MET issues that may affect Orange County:

- a. MET's Finance and Rate Issues
- b. Water Supply Condition Update
- c. Water Quality Update
- d. Colorado River Issues
- e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

ISSUE BRIEF #A**SUBJECT: MET Finance and Rate Issues****RECENT ACTIVITY**

Water Transactions for March 2025 (for water delivered in January 2025) totaled 85.3 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 3.6 TAF lower than the budget of 88.9 TAF and translates to \$97.8 million in receipts for March 2025, which were \$2.7 million lower than the budget of \$95.1 million.

Year-to-date water transactions through March 2025 were 1.08 MAF, which was 13.6 TAF higher than the budget of 1.07 TAF.

Month		Acre-Feet (AF) ²		Variance		Revenue (\$) ¹		Variance	
Delivered/ Billed In	To be Collected in	Budget	Actual	AF	%	Budget	Actual	\$	%
May	July	111,381	93,988	(17,393)	-16%	115,411,844	111,844,425	(3,567,419)	-3%
June	August	119,830	101,259	(18,571)	-15%	142,766,424	100,440,378	(42,326,046)	-30%
July	September	133,150	113,715	(19,435)	-15%	141,775,001	121,901,017	(19,873,984)	-14%
August	October	136,454	116,650	(19,804)	-15%	145,410,622	129,047,328	(16,363,294)	-11%
September	November	127,137	114,291	(12,846)	-10%	133,836,426	124,663,850	(9,172,576)	-7%
October	December	123,989	115,743	(8,246)	-7%	128,665,932	122,055,973	(6,609,959)	-5%
November	January	124,881	99,081	(25,800)	-21%	125,782,252	110,437,861	(15,344,391)	-12%
December	February ³	104,337	243,696	139,359	134%	103,324,010	269,626,583	166,302,573	161%
January	March	88,988	85,357	(3,631)	-4%	95,074,177	97,849,865	2,775,688	3%
YTD Total		1,070,147	1,083,780	13,633	1%	1,132,046,688	1,187,867,280	55,820,592	5%
February	April	77,291	-	-	0%	81,911,825	-	-	0%
March	May	82,757	-	-	0%	88,153,603	-	-	0%
April	June	107,565	-	-	0%	116,431,176	-	-	0%
FY Total		1,337,760	1,083,780	N/A	N/A	1,418,543,292	1,187,867,280	N/A	N/A

ISSUE BRIEF #B

SUBJECT: MET's Supply Condition Update

RECENT ACTIVITY

The 2024-25 Water Year (2024-25 WY) officially started on October 1, 2024. Thus far, Northern California accumulated precipitation (8-Station Index) reported **49.4 inches or 123% of normal as of March 24th**. The Northern Sierra Snow Water Equivalent is at **30.7 inches as of March 25th**, which is **108% of normal** for that day. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has increased the State Water Project (SWP) **"Table A" allocation to 35% as of February 2025**.

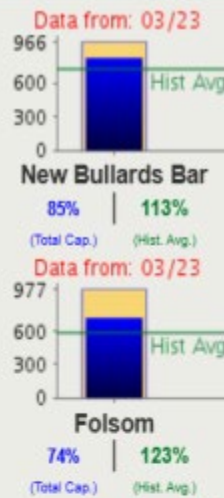
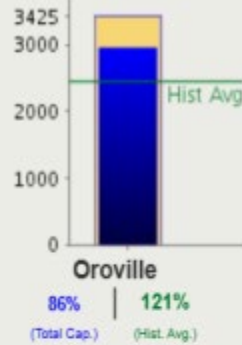
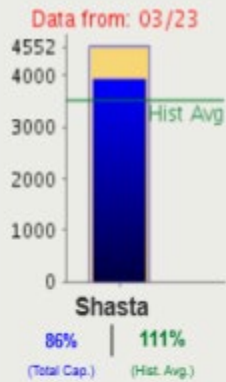
The Upper Colorado River Basin accumulated precipitation is reporting **15.4 inches or 96% of normal as of March 24th**. On the Colorado River system, snowpack is measured across four states in the Upper Colorado River Basin. The Upper Colorado River Basin Snow Water Equivalent was at **14.2 inches as of March 24th**, which is **98% of normal** for that day. Due to the below average inflows into Lake Powell over the past several years, the United States Bureau of Reclamation **declared a shortage at Lake Mead that has been ongoing since January 1st, 2022 (Below 1,075 feet storage level)**. As of March 2025, **there is a 93% chance of shortage continuing in CY 2026, a 57% chance in CY 2027 and a 53% chance in CY 2028. In addition, there is a 7% chance of a California (Below 1,045 feet storage level) shortage in 2027.**

As of March 24th Lake Oroville storage is at **86% of total capacity and 121% of normal**. As of March 24th San Luis Reservoir has a current volume of **89% of the reservoir's total capacity and is 104% of normal**.

With Calendar Year (CY) 2025 estimated total demands and losses of 1.453 million acre-feet (MAF) and with a 40% SWP Table A Allocation, Metropolitan is projecting that demands will equal supply levels in Calendar Year (CY) 2025. Based on this, estimated total dry-year storage for Metropolitan at the end of **CY 2025 will remain at approximately 3.8 MAF**. A projected dry-year storage supply of **3.8 MAF would be approximately 2.8 MAF from a typical level where Metropolitan's goes into Water Supply Allocations**. A large factor in maintaining a high water storage level are lower than expected water demands. We are seeing regional water demands reaching a 40-year low. **However, with a majority of MWD's water supplies stored in Lake Mead and with still a 5-year shortage projection at Lake Mead, there remains a lot of uncertainty about where supply balances will be in the future. In addition, Colorado River Basin States have been meeting for months to negotiate new post 2026 operations at Glen Canyon Dam at Lake Powell and Hoover Dam at Lake Mead.**

CURRENT CONDITIONS: MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS:24-MAR-2025

Data as of Midnight: 24-Mar-2025



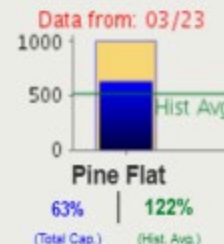
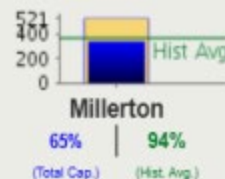
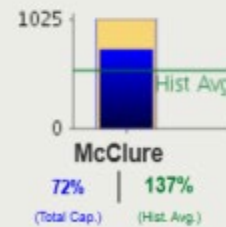
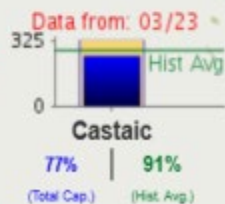
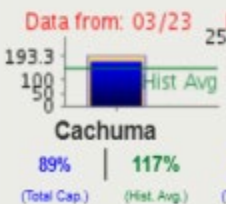
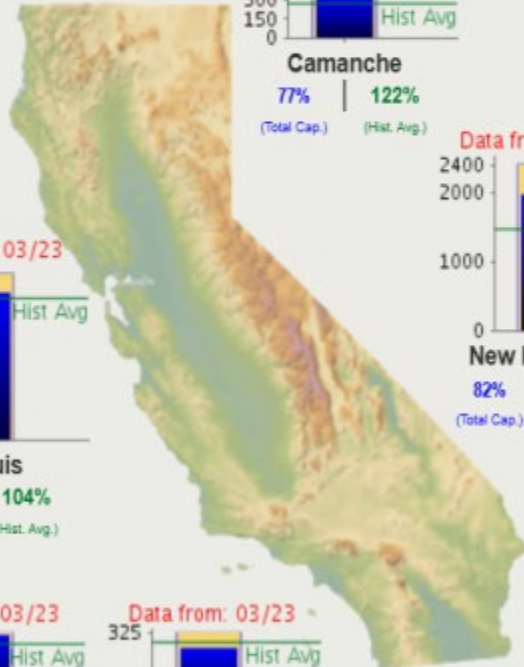
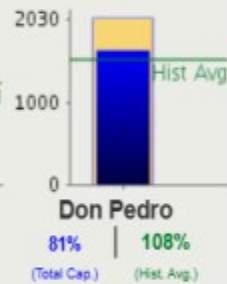
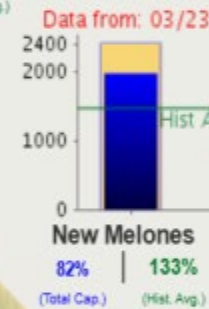
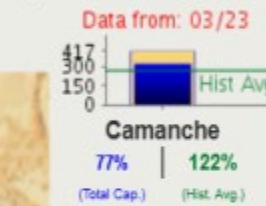
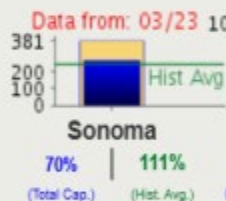
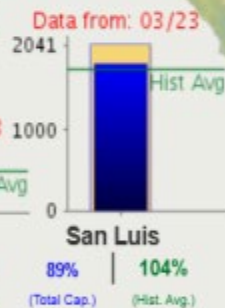
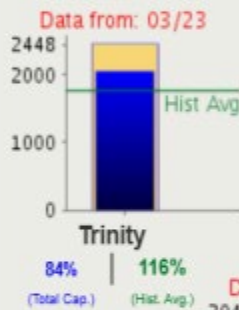
Change Date:

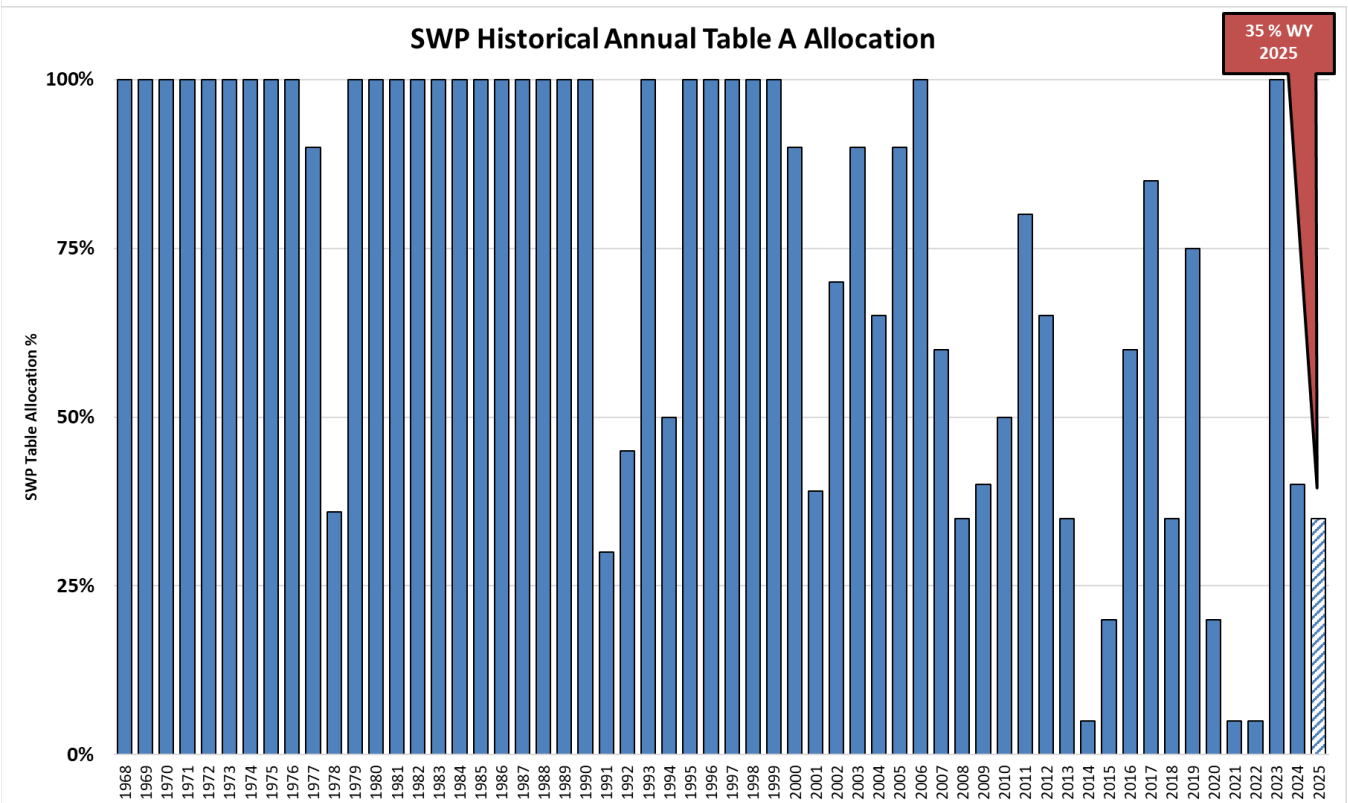
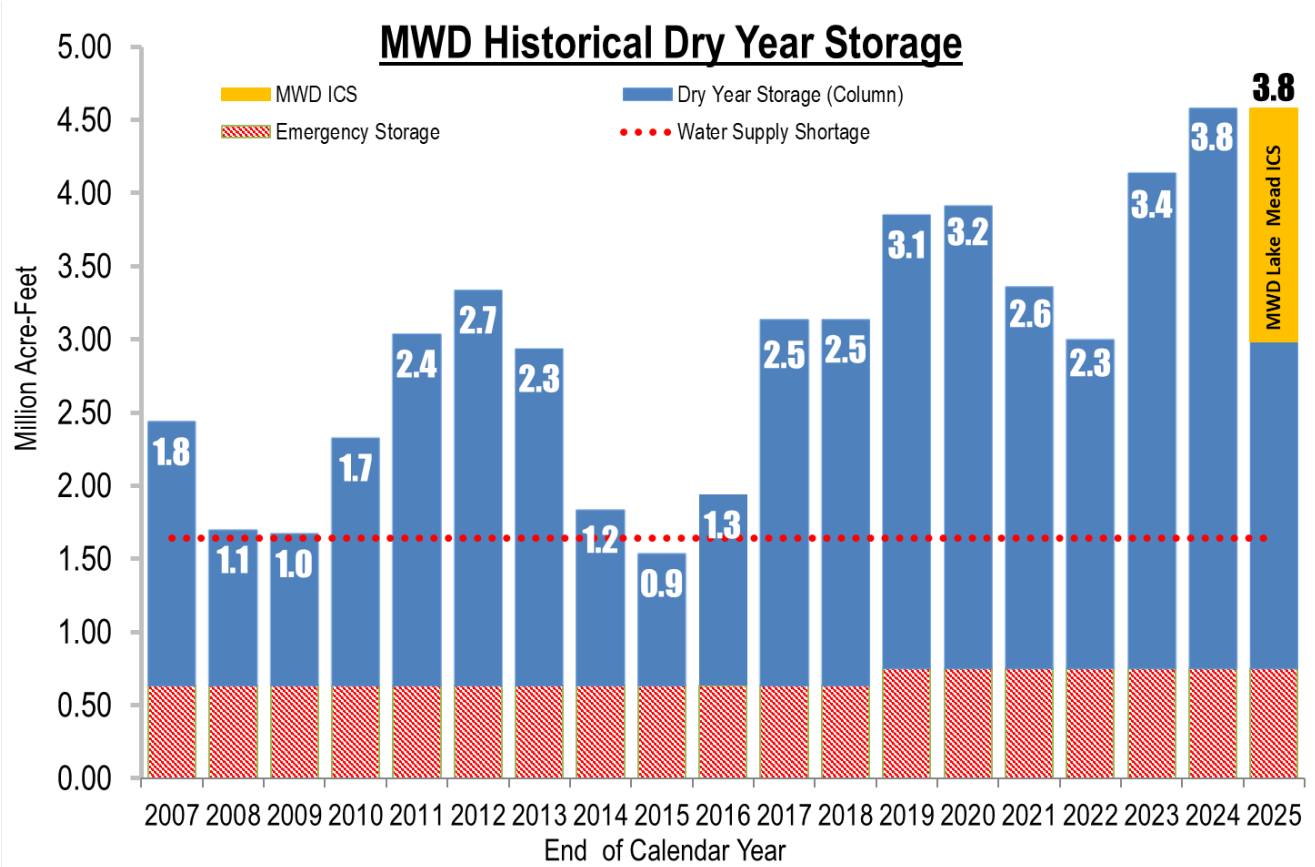
LEGEND

Blue Bar: Storage level for date
Gold Bar: Total reservoir capacity
Green Line: Historic level for date.

Capacity (TAF) | Historical Avg Mark

% of Capacity | % Hist. Avg.
 (Click res. 3 char. code for details)





2025 WSDM Storage Detail

	1/1/2025 Estimated Storage Levels ¹	CY 2025 Take Capacity ²	2025 Total Storage Capacity
WSDM Storage			
Colorado River Aqueduct Delivery System	1,596,000	299,000	1,622,000
Lake Mead ICS	1,596,000 ³	299,000 ⁴	1,622,000 ³
State Water Project System	1,163,000	685,000	2,328,000
MWD & DVCV Carryover	380,000	380,000	519,000 ⁵
MWD Articles 14(b) and 12(e)	3,000 ⁶	3,000	0
Castaic and Perris DWR Flex Storage	219,000	219,000	219,000
Arvin-Edison Storage Program	100,000	0	350,000
Semitropic Storage Program	227,000	51,000	350,000
Kern Delta Storage Program	142,000	32,000	250,000
Mojave Storage Program	19,000	0	330,000
AVEK Storage Program	27,000	0	30,000
AVEK High Desert Water Bank Program	45,000	0	280,000
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	1,060,000	645,000	1,246,000
Diamond Valley Lake	788,000	531,000	810,000
Lake Mathews and Lake Skinner	188,000	76,000	226,000
Conjunctive Use Programs (CUP)	84,000	38,000	210,000 ⁷
Other Programs	762,000	48,000	1,181,000
Other Emergency Storage	381,000	0	381,000
DVCV Advanced Delivery Account	381,000	48,000	800,000
Total	4,581,000	1,676,000	6,377,000
Emergency	750,000	0	750,000
Total WSDM Storage (AF) ⁸	3,831,000	1,676,000	5,627,000

¹ Preliminary start of year balances, subject to DWR adjustments and USBR final accounting in May 2025.

² Take capacity assumed under a 20 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 will be based on planned maintenance activities and current CRA supply estimate.

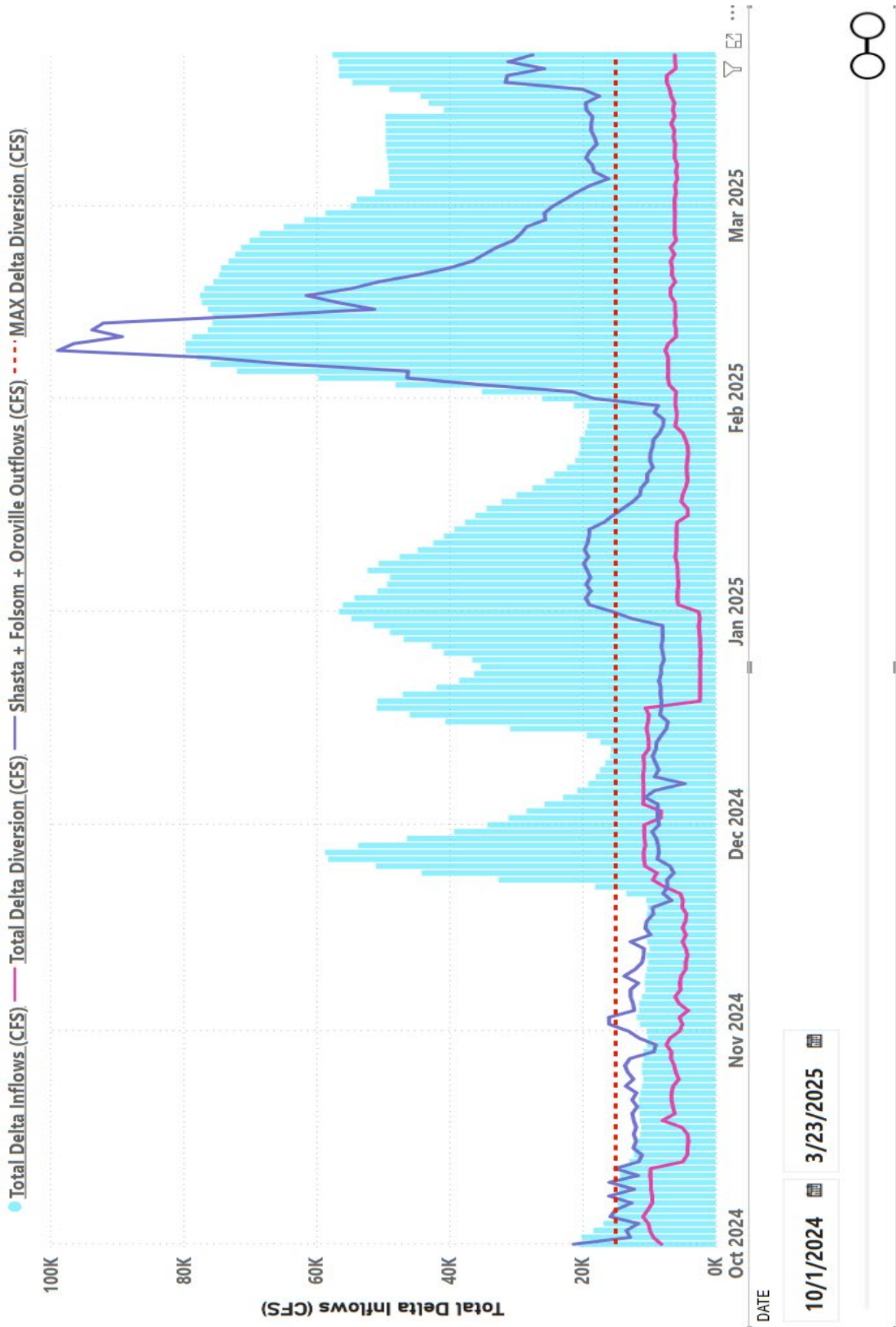
⁵ Total storage capacity varies year-to-year as the contractual annual storage limit, based on the SWP Table A allocation, is combined with the remaining balance from the previous year. There is a potential risk that Metropolitan's stored water be converted to SWP contractor water if San Luis Reservoir approaches full capacity.

⁶ DWR has approved carryover supplies under Article 14 (b) of the State Water Project Contract for delivery in 2025.

⁷ 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.

⁸ Total WSDM Storage level subject to change based on accounting adjustments. Total may not sum due to rounding.

Bay Delta Daily Historical Water Operations



ISSUE BRIEF #C

SUBJECT: MET's Water Quality Update

RECENT ACTIVITY

Water System Operations

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 70,100 acre-feet (AF) for February with an average of 2,500 AF per day, which was about 200 AF per day lower than in January. Metropolitan had suspended delivering water to the Cyclic and Conjunctive Use Programs in 2025 with the low initial State Water Project (SWP) allocation. Treated water deliveries were 21,300 AF lower than in January for a total of 35,900 AF, or 51 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) pumped a total of 51,000 AF in February. SWP imports averaged 1,090 AF per day, totaling about 30,400 AF for the month. The target SWP blend is 0% for Skinner, Weymouth, and Diemer.

Metropolitan has sufficient SWP, Colorado River supplies, and storage to meet demands in 2025. Water continues to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles and operational objectives with an emphasis on positioning SWP supplies to meet future demands in the SWP-dependent area. The California Department of Water Resources has increased the SWP Allocation to 40% in late January. Metropolitan is continuing to minimize the use of Table A supplies to preserve supplies for the SWP-dependent area. At the same time, Metropolitan is also preparing to shift operations to manage surplus supplies should SWP supplies improve. One proactive action that has been taken is to restart deliveries to Diamond Valley Lake to preserve SWP supplies should Article 21 conditions develop later this year.

Water Treatment and Distribution

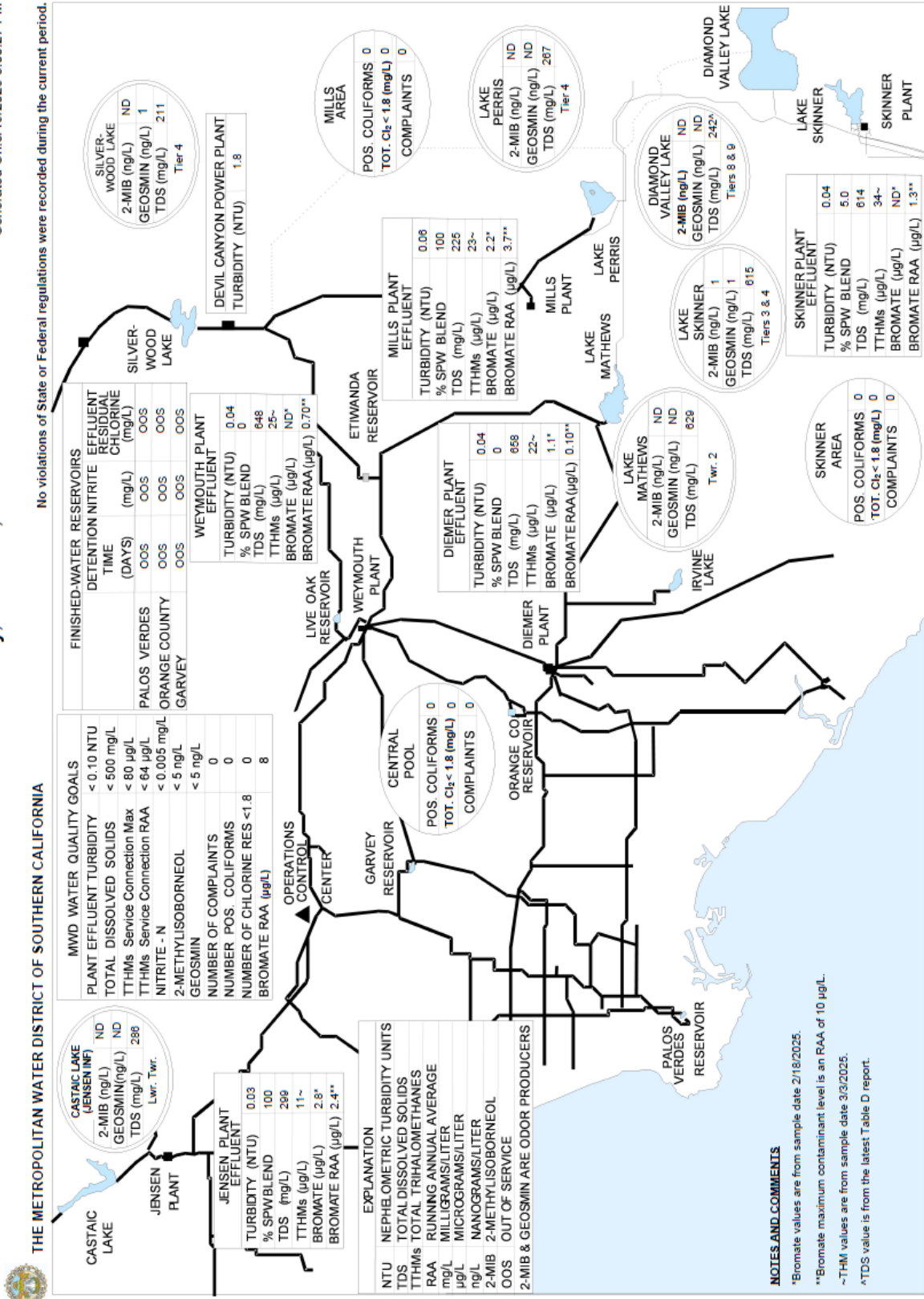
The SWP target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants stayed at zero percent in February. The SWP blend entering Lake Skinner remained at zero percent. Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from December 2023 through November 2024 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the SWP and the CRA were 557, 571, and 548 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

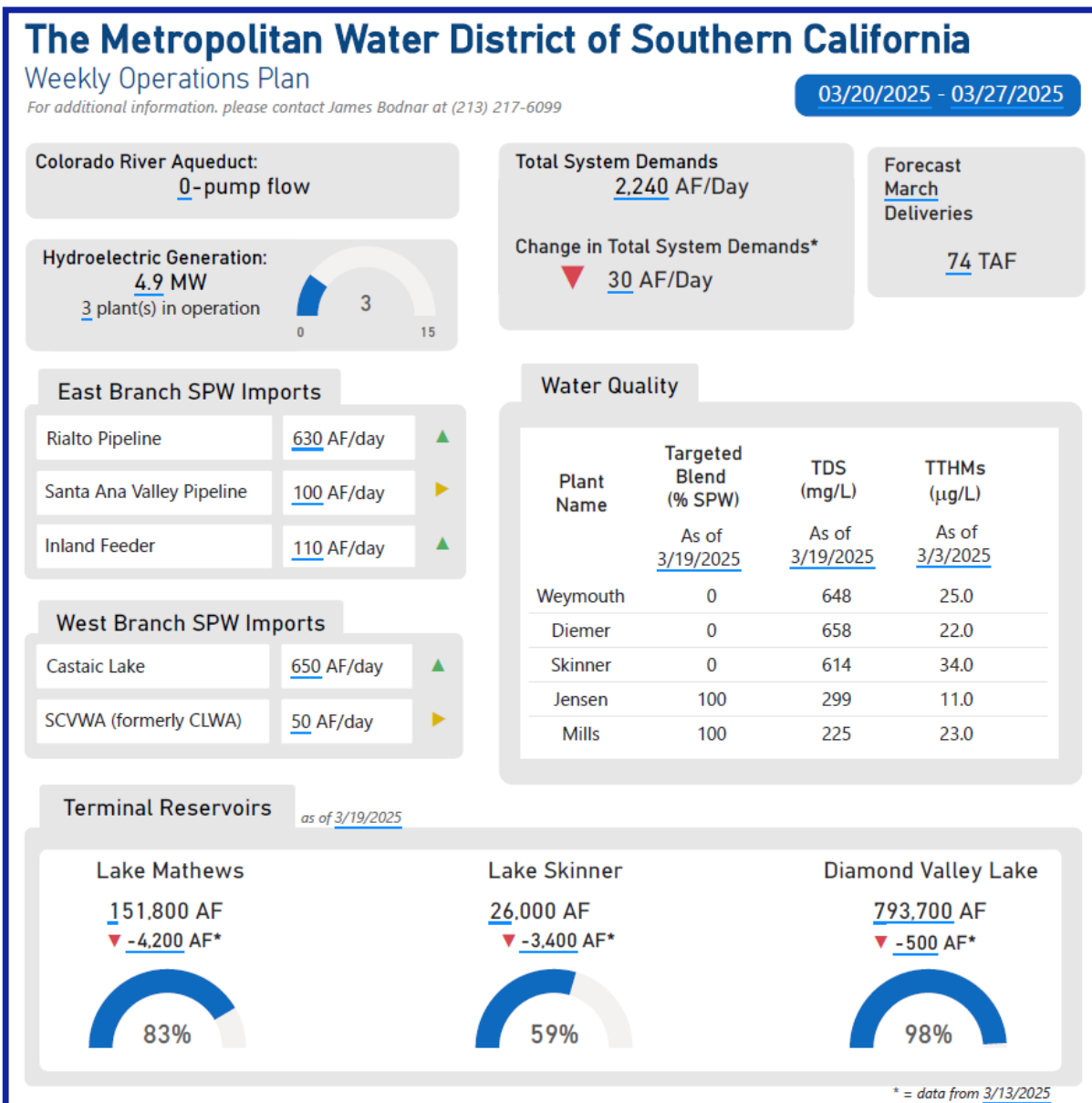
Jensen plant staff pilot-tested a mechanical dewatering centrifuge as part of a proposed capital improvement project (CIP) to optimize solids handling operations. The onsite demonstration unit helped determine an appropriate polymer type and dosage, while exploring increased percent solids concentration. Metropolitan staff also gained hands-on experience with the equipment, providing valuable knowledge for future implementation.

Weekly Water Quality System Status

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Generated On: 3/19/2025 3:00:27 PM





ISSUE BRIEF #D

SUBJECT: Colorado River Issues

RECENT ACTIVITY

Metropolitan Signs Municipal Agency Letter Supporting Reclamation Staff

On February 27, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Central Arizona Project, and Metropolitan sent a letter to Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum, expressing support for the Bureau of Reclamation staff and encouraging maintaining sufficient staffing to effectively manage the Colorado River System. Similar letters were sent from the Colorado River Board of California and other agencies throughout the Colorado River Basin. The letters expressed the importance of the Colorado River to the southwestern United States.

Lower Basin States Letter to Secretary of Interior

On February 13, Arizona, California, and Nevada (the Lower Basin States) sent a letter to Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum, congratulating him on his confirmation and raising concerns about the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation's) process for developing post-2026 operational guidelines for the Colorado River system reservoirs under the previous administration. The letter reaffirmed the Lower Basin States' commitment to a collaborative, consensus-driven approach in developing new operational guidelines and emphasized the advantages of consensus over imposed solutions or litigation. The states urged Secretary Burgum to direct Reclamation to retract the Alternatives Report and ensure a legally compliant analysis of the alternatives. They also expressed optimism about renewed collaboration under his leadership.

Key Messages Outlined in the Letter

1. Concerns Regarding the "Alternatives Report"
 - The January 2025 Alternatives Report, issued by the previous administration, falls outside the standard National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.
 - The Lower Basin States' proposed alternative is not included among those selected for full analysis.
 - The report did not incorporate compliance with the 1922 Colorado River Compact in its evaluation of any of the alternatives.
 - Several issues with the NEPA process to date require resolution.

2. Glen Canyon Dam Infrastructure Protection
 - Reclamation assumes that maintaining Lake Powell above the minimum power pool elevation of 3,490 feet is the only means of protecting dam infrastructure. The letter raises concerns that the prior administration's approach—reducing releases to the Lower Basin to protect Lake Powell's outlet works— fails to address necessary infrastructure repairs.

- Engineering solutions, releases from federal reservoirs above Lake Powell, and temporary Upper Basin water use reductions would be more effective measures for protecting Glen Canyon Dam infrastructure.
- Reclamation should conduct a full NEPA analysis of alternative solutions, including engineering upgrades to Glen Canyon Dam's river outlet works, rather than relying solely on reduced water releases to the Lower Basin.

3. Proposed Reductions

- The Lower Basin States have demonstrated their commitment to a consensus-based solution by voluntarily agreeing to conserve 1.5 million acre-feet of water per year under most system conditions.
- When system storage falls below critical thresholds, the Lower Basin States believe that Basin-wide reductions are necessary.

ISSUE BRIEF #E

SUBJECT: Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

RECENT ACTIVITY

Delta Conveyance

On February 14, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) under Section 2081 of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) for the Delta Conveyance Project. Completion of this permit is an important milestone in the planning process, advancing this critical project towards the implementation phase.

Under CESA, the California Department of Water Resources must obtain an ITP to avoid jeopardy, minimize incidental take, and fully mitigate any impacts of authorized take on threatened or endangered species caused by the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Delta Conveyance Project.

Delta Islands

On February 10, Metropolitan staff released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to engage a partner to cultivate rice on a minimum of 1,000 and up to 1,360 acres on Webb Tract with an initial base term of 10 years and an option to extend for an additional 5 years. Interested respondents are encouraged to make a recommended site visit on February 26. Metropolitan staff is making a concerted effort to widely distribute information on the RFP. Notification of the RFP was sent to over 150 parties who have signed up for notifications about the Webb Tract projects. In addition, Metropolitan staff is reaching out by phone to local rice growers, Farmers Rice Cooperatives, local farm bureaus, and Cooperative Extension Rice Advisors in the area to ensure that interested farmers are notified of the release of the RFP. Yolo, Solano, and Sacramento Farm Bureaus posted information about the RFP in their newsletters.

On February 12, in partnership with the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy, a hybrid public meeting was held to update interested parties on the progress of the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration and Webb Tract Rice Development Projects. The meeting was attended by 17 in-person participants at the Big Break Visitor Center and 25 participants on Zoom.

Metropolitan Bay-Delta staff is currently reviewing a Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP) application for the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project. If approved by CDFW, the SERP exemption will provide a streamlined California Environmental Quality Act clearance for the project and will pave the way for expedited permitting through the new Restoration Management Permit Act enacted on January 1, 2025. The Act is intended to accelerate beneficial restoration projects in California. The SERP exemption application is scheduled for submission in early March 2025.

**Summary Report for
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Board Meeting
March 11, 2025**

CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

Approved Resolution confirming Director Jacque McMillan for Association of California Water Agencies Region 8 Board Member. **(Agenda Item 6B)**

Nominated and elected nonofficer members of the Executive Committee for a two-year term effective March 11, 2025: Cynthia Kurtz, Carl E. Douglas, and Karl W. Seckel. **(Agenda Item 6C)**

Approved and appointed Committee Assignments for:

Ad Hoc Committee on Ag and Tribal Partnerships: Jeffrey D. Armstrong, as a member

Legal and Claims Committee and Legislation and Communications Committee: Michael Camacho, as a member

Organization, Personnel, and Effectiveness: Nancy Sutley, as a member

Ethics, EEO, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee was renamed as Community and Workplace Culture Committee

Subcommittee on Imported Water: Mark Gold, D. Env., Chair; Linda Ackerman, Vice Chair, Desi Alvarez, Jeffrey D. Armstrong, Michael Camacho, Gloria Cordero, David D. De Jesus, Juan Garza, Cynthia Kurtz, Jay Lewitt, Miguel Angel Luna, Jacque McMillan, and Marty Miller as members.

Subcommittee on Long-Term Regional Planning Processes and Business Modeling: Matt S. Petersen, Chair, Karl W. Seckel, Vice Chair, Desi Alvarez, Dennis Erdman, Stephen J. Faessel, Anthony R. Fellow, Lois Fong-Sakai, Mark Gold, D. Env., Jacque McMillan, Tracy Quinn, and Nancy Sutley as members. **(Agenda Item 6D)**

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

Awarded a \$407,740.66 procurement contract to Ireland Inc. dba Core-Rosion Products to furnish two 15,000-sodium hypochlorite tanks for the Copper Basin Reservoir. **(Agenda Item 7-1)**

Awarded a \$321,575 procurement contract to Integrated 8a Solutions Inc. to furnish two 24-inch diameter gate valves; and a \$2,151,947 contract to Bailey Valve to furnish two 24-inch diameter sleeve valves for the Hollywood Tunnel pressure control structure. **(Agenda Item 7-2)**

Authorized the General Manager to enter into agreements with the City of San Buenaventura and Calleguas Municipal Water District for wheeling and emergency delivery of State Water Project water. **(Agenda Item 7-4)**

Authorized the General Manager to enter into a Stormwater for Recharge Pilot Program agreement with the City of Anaheim with a maximum amount of up to \$980,000 for the State College Stormwater Tank Project. **(Agenda Item 7-6)**

Authorized the General Manager to forbear water conserved by two Coachella Valley Water District projects, thus allowing the conserved water to be added to Lake Mead under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program. **(Agenda Item 7-7)**

Reviewed and considered the County of Riverside negative declaration and authorized the General Manager to execute a new ground license agreement with Verizon Wireless for up to 25 years for a new telecommunication site on Metropolitan's fee-owned property in the unincorporated community of Winchester, identified as County of Riverside Assessor Parcel Number 964-030-005. **(Agenda Item 7-8)**

Reviewed and considered the County of Riverside Final Environmental Impact Report certified by the Lead Agency, adopted the Lead Agency's findings, and authorized the General Manager to execute a thirty-year license agreement with Intersect Power, LLC for renewable energy infrastructure purposes on Metropolitan fee-owned property in the County of Riverside and identified as Assessor Parcel Numbers 808-023-022 and 808-023-030. **(Agenda Item 7-9)**

Authorized the General Counsel to increase the amount payable under its contract with Hanson Bridgett LLP by \$100,000 to an amount not-to-exceed \$600,000. **(Agenda Item 7-11)**

Approved amendments to the Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code to modify the structure and duties of various committees and the roles of specified board and committee officers. **(Agenda Item 7-12)**

OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

Authorized an increase in the maximum amount payable under a contract with Richardson & Company LLP for auditing services related to State Water Project charges from \$5,125,000 to an amount not to exceed \$8,900,000 and extend the term by three years to March 31, 2028 **(Agenda Item 8-1)**

Approved employment contract with Mr. Deven N. Upadhyay as General Manager, containing the terms and conditions set forth herein; and authorized retroactive payment of the approved salary to January 29, 2025. **(Agenda Item 8-2)**

THIS INFORMATION SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

All current month materials, and materials after July 1, 2021 are available on the public website here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

This database contains archives from the year 1928 to June 30, 2021: <https://bda.wdh2o.com/Pages/Default.aspx>

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.

Board of Directors - Final

April 8, 2025

12:00 PM

<p>Tuesday, April 8, 2025 Meeting Schedule</p>
<p>08:30 a.m. FAAME 10:15 a.m. LEGAL 11:30 a.m. Break 12:00 p.m. BOD 01:30 p.m. CWC</p>

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Written public comments received by 5:00 p.m. the business days before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.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: 891 1613 4145.

Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via teleconference. To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 815 2066 4276 or to join by computer [click here](#).

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

1. **Call to Order**
 - a. Invocation: TBD
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance: TBD
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Determination of a Quorum**
4. **Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction. (As required by Gov. Code §54954.3(a))**
5. **OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS**

- A.** Report on Directors' Events Attended at Metropolitan's Expense [21-4393](#)
Attachments: [04082025 BOD 5A Report](#)
- B.** Chair's Monthly Activity Report [21-4394](#)
- C.** General Manager's summary of activities [21-4395](#)
 Spotlight on Metropolitan Employee(s) Retiring with over Twenty Years of Service [21-4401](#)
- D.** General Counsel's summary of activities [21-4396](#)
- E.** General Auditor's summary of activities [21-4397](#)
- F.** Ethics Officer's summary of activities [21-4398](#)
- G.** Induction of new Director Gretchen Shepherd Romey from City of San Marino [21-4400](#)
- (a) Receive credentials
 (b) Report on credentials by General Counsel
 (c) File credentials
 (d) Administer Oath of Office
 (e) File Oath

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

6. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the Special Audit Subcommittee of the Executive Committee for November 20, 2024; Ethics, Organization, and Personnel Committee for February 10, 2025; Ethics, EEO, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee for March 10, 2025; and Board of Directors Meeting for February 11, 2025 and March 11, 2025 [21-4386](#)
Attachments: [04082025 BOD 6A \(Audit 11202024\) Minutes](#)
[04082025 BOD 6A \(EOP 02102025\) Minutes](#)
[04082025 BOD 6A \(EEDEI 03102025\) Minutes](#)
- B.** Nomination and Election of nonofficer members of the Executive Committee for remaining two-year term effective March 11, 2025 [21-4399](#)
- C.** Approve Committee Assignments

7. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

- 7-1** Authorize an increase to a professional services agreement with Grid Subject Matter Experts, LLC for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$1.245 million for electric transmission planning and North American Electric Reliability Corporation-related electric reliability compliance services; the General Manager has determined the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) [21-4403](#)

Attachments: [04082025 EOT 7-1 B-L](#)

- 7-2** Authorize an agreement with Red8 in an amount not to exceed \$850,000 for the implementation of the Data Storage Infrastructure Refresh project; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) [21-4197](#)

- 7-3** Authorize an agreement with Metal Toad Media, Inc. for a new fixed cost of \$299,000 per year with a not-to-exceed amount of \$996,200 for the duration of the three-year agreement to host, manage, and maintain Metropolitan's external websites; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) [21-4405](#)

Attachments: [04082025 EOT 7-3 B-L](#)

- 7-4** Authorize an increase of \$3.3 million to an existing agreement with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$4.99 million for final design of a mechanical dewatering facility at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) [21-4406](#)

Attachments: [04082025 EOT 7-4 B-L](#)

- 7-5** Authorize an amendment to a reimbursable agreement with BH Luxury Residences LLC for the relocation of the Santa Monica Feeder within the city of Beverly Hills; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) [21-4421](#)

Attachments: [04082025 EOT 7-5 B-L](#)

- 7-6** Approve Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Five-Year Implementation Strategy; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (FAAME) [21-4419](#)

- 7-7** Adopt resolutions fixing and adopting a Readiness-to-Serve Charge and a Capacity Charge for calendar year 2026; the General Manager has determined the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (FAAME) [21-4420](#)
- 7-8** Approve amendments to the Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code to conform oversight of the General Auditor and Audit Department duties and responsibilities to the current committee structure, to streamline reporting on professional services agreements, and make a minor non-substantive change; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (LEGAL) [21-4429](#)
- 7-9** Express support for AB 523 (Irwin-D) Metropolitan water districts: alternate representative; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (LEG) [21-4432](#)
- 7-10** Approve the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's salary schedules pursuant to CalPERS regulations; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OPE) [21-4437](#)
- 7-11** Authorize the General Manager to extend California Contractor Forbearance for Intentionally Created Surplus; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OWA) [21-4442](#)
- Attachments:** [04082025 OWA 7-11 B-L](#)
- 7-12** Authorize the General Manager to terminate the Foothill Area Conjunctive Use Program Agreement; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OWA) [21-4443](#)
- Attachments:** [04082025 OWA 7-12 B-L](#)
- 7-13** Authorize the General Manager to terminate the Live Oak Basin Conjunctive Use Program Agreement; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OWA) [21-4444](#)
- Attachments:** [04082025 OWA 7-13 B-L](#)

- 7-14** Authorize the General Manager to terminate the Long Beach Conjunctive Use Program Agreement; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OWA) [21-4445](#)

Attachments: [04082025 OWA 7-14 B-L](#)

- 7-15** Authorize the General Manager to terminate the Long Beach Expansion into Lakewood Conjunctive Use Program Agreement; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OWA) [21-4446](#)

Attachments: [04082025 OWA 7-15 B-L](#)

- 7-16** Authorize the General Manager to terminate the Orange County Conjunctive Use Program Agreement; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OWA) [21-4447](#)

Attachments: [04082025 OWA 7-16 B-L](#)

- 7-17** Authorize the General Manager to terminate the Compton Conjunctive Use Program Agreement; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [21-4448](#)

Attachments: [04082025 OWA 7-17 B-L](#)

- 7-18** Authorize increase in the maximum amount payable under contract with outside counsel Liebert, Cassidy Whitmore, in the amount of \$200,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$450,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (LEGAL) [21-4457](#)

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

8. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

- 8-1** Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the certified 2024 Program Environmental Impact Report and authorize an increase of \$12.4 million to an agreement with La Cañada Design Group Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$16.8 million for final design to upgrade the Michael J. McGuire Water Quality Laboratory (EOT) [21-4404](#)

Attachments: [04082025 EOT 8-1 B-L](#)

- 8-2** Report on litigation in Maria Carmen Zarate v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 23STCV15786; and authorize an increase in the maximum amount payable under contract for legal services with Seyfarth Shaw LLP, in the amount of \$250,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$750,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [Conference with legal counsel—existing litigation; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] (LEGAL) [21-4428](#)

9. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

- 9-1** Report on Conservation Program [21-4402](#)
Attachments: [04082025 BOD 9-1 Report](#)
- 9-2** Annual Infrastructure Resilience Update (EOT) [21-4412](#)
- 9-3** Real Property Quarterly Report (Q3 January 1, 2025 through March 31, 2025) (FAAME) [21-4422](#)

11. OTHER MATTERS

NONE

12. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

14. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: Each agenda item with a committee designation will be considered and a recommendation may be made by one or more committees prior to consideration and final action by the full Board of Directors. The committee designation appears in parenthesis at the end of the description of the agenda item, e.g. (EOT). Board agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

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.