

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH MET DIRECTORS  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY  
18700 Ward Street, Board Room, Fountain Valley, California  
February 5, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

**AGENDA**

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**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. 2093)**

**PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

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

*Recommendation: Receive input and discuss the information.*

**2. GOVERNOR'S DRAFT WATER RESILIENCE PORTFOLIO**

*Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.*

**3. ORAL UPDATE REGARDING COLORADO RIVER SALINITY CONTROL ISSUES**

*Recommendation: Receive and file the information presented.*

**4. WATER SUPPLY CONDITION UPDATE**

*Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.*

**5. DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

*Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.*

**6. 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 Water Supply Conditions
- b. MET's Finance and Rate Issues
- c. Colorado River Issues
- d. Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues
- e. MET's Ocean Desalination Policy and Potential Participation in the Doheny and Huntington Beach Ocean (Poseidon) Desalination Projects
- f. South County Projects

*Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.*

**7. METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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

*Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.*

**CLOSED SESSION****8. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION - Pursuant to Paragraph (2) Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Claim of Rosemary Ramirez Against the Municipal Water District of Orange County for personal injury, Date of Claim January 14, 2020****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.



**INFORMATION ITEM**

February 5, 2020

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Harvey De La Torre  
Melissa Baum-Haley

**SUBJECT: GOVERNOR'S DRAFT WATER RESILIENCE PORTFOLIO**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file the information.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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The draft Water Resilience Portfolio was released by the state in January 3, 2020, as directed in Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-10-19. The water resilience portfolio is the state's long-term policy approach to adapting to a warming, more variable climate and a growing population. The document also addresses the continuing priority of providing safe, reliable drinking water to vulnerable communities. The draft may be accessed at [www.waterresilience.ca.gov](http://www.waterresilience.ca.gov) (executive summary attached).

The draft Water Resilience Portfolio outlines 133 integrated actionable recommendations into broad areas that are intended to help California cope with more extreme droughts and floods, rising temperatures, declining fish populations, aging infrastructure and other challenges. The four broad approaches are identified: 1) Maintain and diversify water supplies; 2) Protect and enhance natural systems; 3) Build connections; and 4) Be prepared.

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b> N/A	Budgeted amount: None	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u>  </u>
<b>Action item amount:</b> N/A		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

Rather than a one-size-fits all approach to water resilience across the state, the portfolio suggests region-by-region approach to achieve water resilience based on the unique challenges and opportunities in each area. Leadership at the local, regional and tribal levels is essential. This water portfolio is shaped to provide important tools to local and regional entities building resilience and to encourage collaboration within and across these regions.

Additionally, the portfolio assumes a context of continuing implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, “Conservation as a Way of Life” water efficiency laws, the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Act, and the voluntary agreement framework to implement the State Board’s Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

The draft document is in essence the basis for the Newsom Administration’s water policy and is currently being circulated for public review with feedback being accepted through February 7, 2020.

MWDOC has invited Brad Coffey, who leads Metropolitan’s Water Resource Management Group, to discuss Metropolitan’s perspective on the draft Water Resilience Portfolio along with the top-line messages of the input letter they are submitting.

**Attachment: Executive Summary of the draft Water Resilience Portfolio**





**INFORMATION ITEM**

February 5, 2020

**TO: Board of Directors**

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Harvey De La Torre  
Melissa Baum-Haley

**SUBJECT: ORAL UPDATE REGARDING COLORADO RIVER SALINITY CONTROL ISSUES**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file the information.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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On December 6, the Bureau of Reclamation issued a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Paradox Valley Unit (PVU) of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program. The draft EIS analyzes alternatives for replacing an aging well in the Paradox Valley that captures and prevents about 100,000 tons of salt from reaching the Colorado River each year.

The need for the proposed action is to control salinity in the Colorado River contributed by sources in the Paradox Valley to decrease the adverse effects of high salt concentrations in the Lower Colorado Basin. The PVU has injected naturally occurring brine from Paradox Valley into a deep subsurface reservoir since 1996, but the injection well may be nearing the end of its useful life. Because the underground reservoir pressure and induced seismicity have increased, and brine disposal rates have had to be substantially reduced in response, a new brine control and disposal facility is needed to protect and enhance the

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b> N/A	Budgeted amount: None	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u>  </u>
<b>Action item amount:</b> N/A	Line item:		
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

quality of water available in the Colorado River for use in the United States and the Republic of Mexico.

Four alternatives were analyzed in the draft EIS:

- a) A no-action alternative - where the existing deep injection well would not be replaced. This would represent no salinity control in Paradox Valley. Up to 95,000 tons of salt would load into Colorado River annually.
- b) A replacement injection well – where the brine would be collected from the existing brine production well field and piped to the existing surface treatment facility (STF). Then it would be piped from the STF to a new deep injection well and injected into a currently unpressurized block of the Leadville Formation. Up to 114,000 tons of salt controlled annually in the Paradox Valley, decreasing salt loading downstream in the Colorado River.
- c) Construction of evaporation ponds – where brine would be collected from the existing brine production well field and piped to the existing STF. Then it would be piped from the STF to a series of evaporation ponds 7 miles southeast of the production well field. The facility would be operated to evaporate the water from the brine, thereby allowing the solid salt to be harvested for disposal in an onsite salt landfill or to be used as a commodity. The evaporation pond system would be designed to accommodate a continuous flow of up to 300 gpm of brine (484 acre-feet/year). This equates to up to 171,000 tons of salt that would be prevented from entering the Colorado River system annually, assuming the brine would be continuously diverted.
- d) Construction of a zero liquid discharge facility to capture brine – where brine would be collected from the existing brine production well field and piped to the STF. Then it would be piped from the STF to a centralized treatment plant, consisting of a series of thermally driven crystallizers. The zero-liquid discharge facility would be operated to evaporate (and later condense) water from the brine, resulting in a solid salt and produced freshwater stream. The solid salt would be transported to an onsite, 60-acre salt landfill, which would reach an ultimate vertical height of 100 feet above the ground surface. The permanent facility would cover 80 acres. Up to 171,000 tons of salt controlled annually in Paradox Valley, decreasing salt loading downstream in Colorado River

Created in 1973, the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) is an organization of the seven Colorado River Basin states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. The purposes of the Forum are to coordinate salinity control efforts among the states, coordinate with federal agencies on the implementation of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program (Program), work with Congress on the authorization and funding of the Program, act to disseminate information on salinity control and otherwise promote efforts to reduce the salt loading to the Colorado River.

Metropolitan staff is working with the other Colorado River Basin states through the Forum to evaluate the four alternatives and develop feedback by the comment deadline of February 4, 2020. The Final EIS is scheduled for release in May 2020, with a Record of Decision to be issued in June 2020.

Bill Hasencamp, manager of Colorado River Resources at Metropolitan, was appointed by the Governor as California's representative to the Salinity Control Forum in 2014 and is currently serving as chairman of the Forum. Mr. Hasencamp will join us for an oral update on the status of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control issues.

**Attachment: Metropolitan Presentation on Paradox Valley Unit and the Colorado River Salinity Control Program**



# Paradox Valley Unit and the Colorado River Salinity Control Program

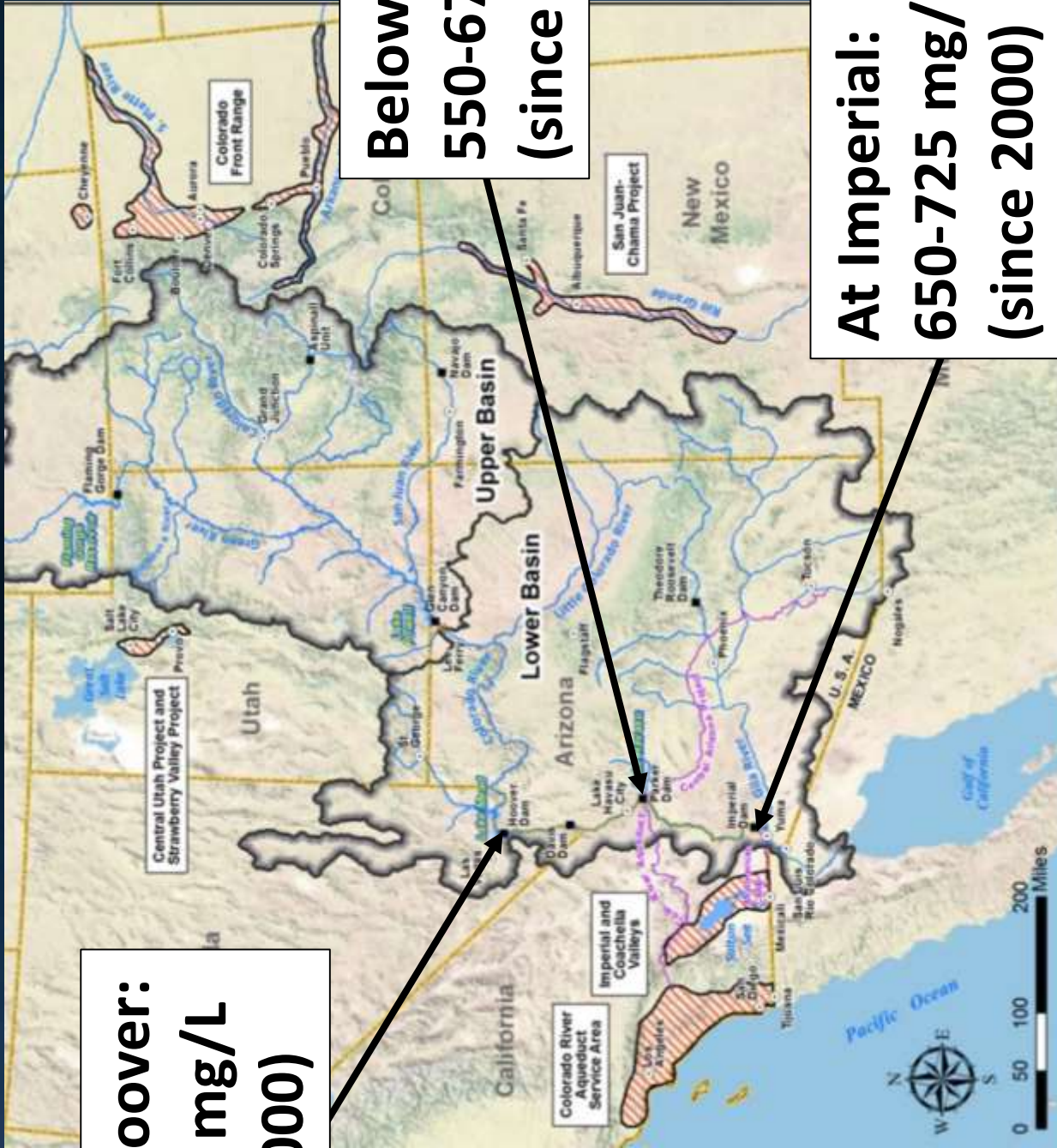
Water Planning and Stewardship Committee  
Item 6b  
January 13, 2020

# Colorado River Salt Concentrations

**Below Hoover:**  
**550-650 mg/L**  
**(since 2000)**

**Below Parker:**  
**550-675 mg/L**  
**(since 2000)**

**At Imperial:**  
**650-725 mg/L**  
**(since 2000)**





# Salt and Economic Impact

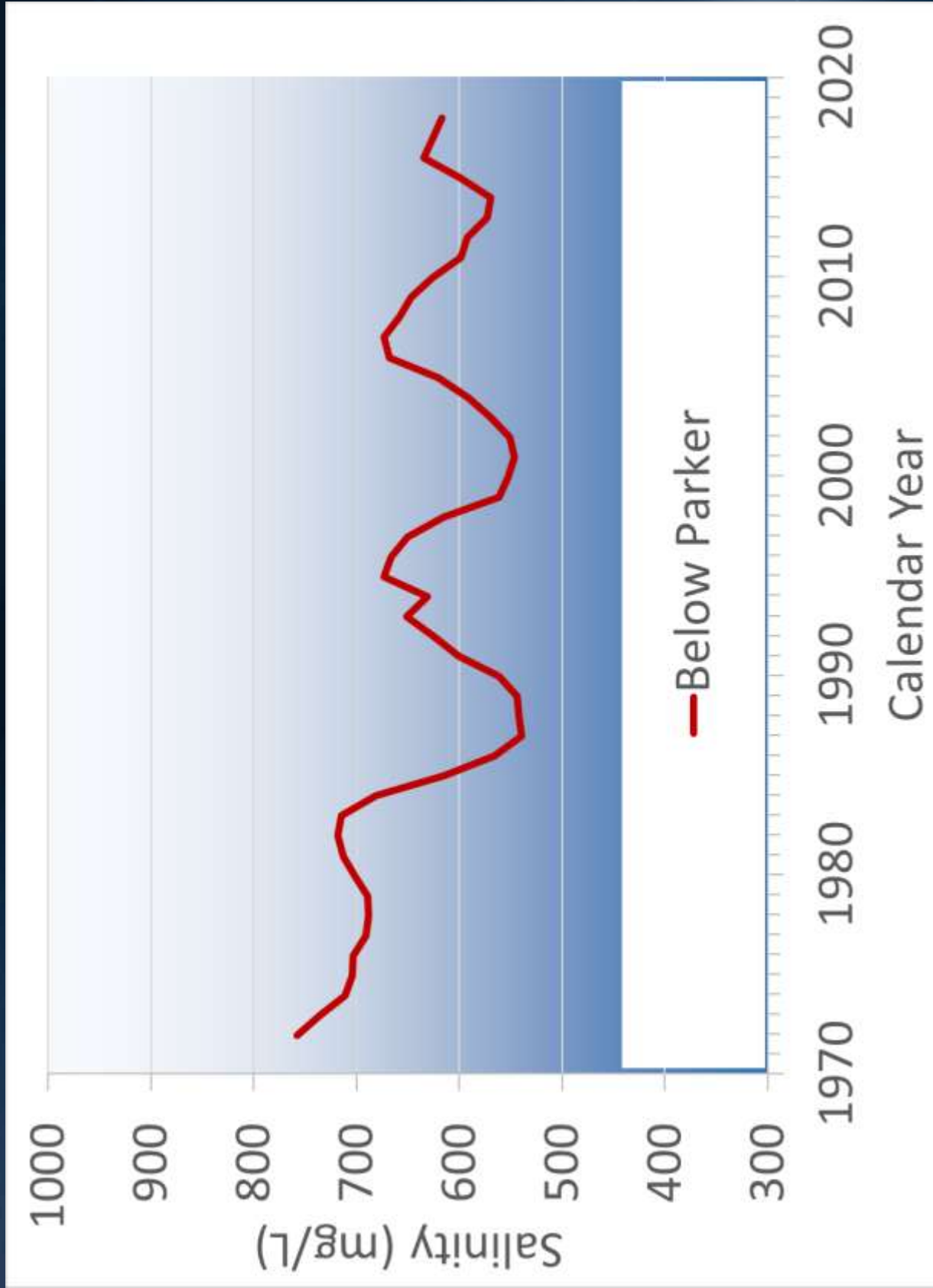
- Economic impacts to end-users in Lower Basin:
  - \$454M/year (as of 2017)
- MWD water quality goal: 500 mg/L



# Salinity Standards/Control Established

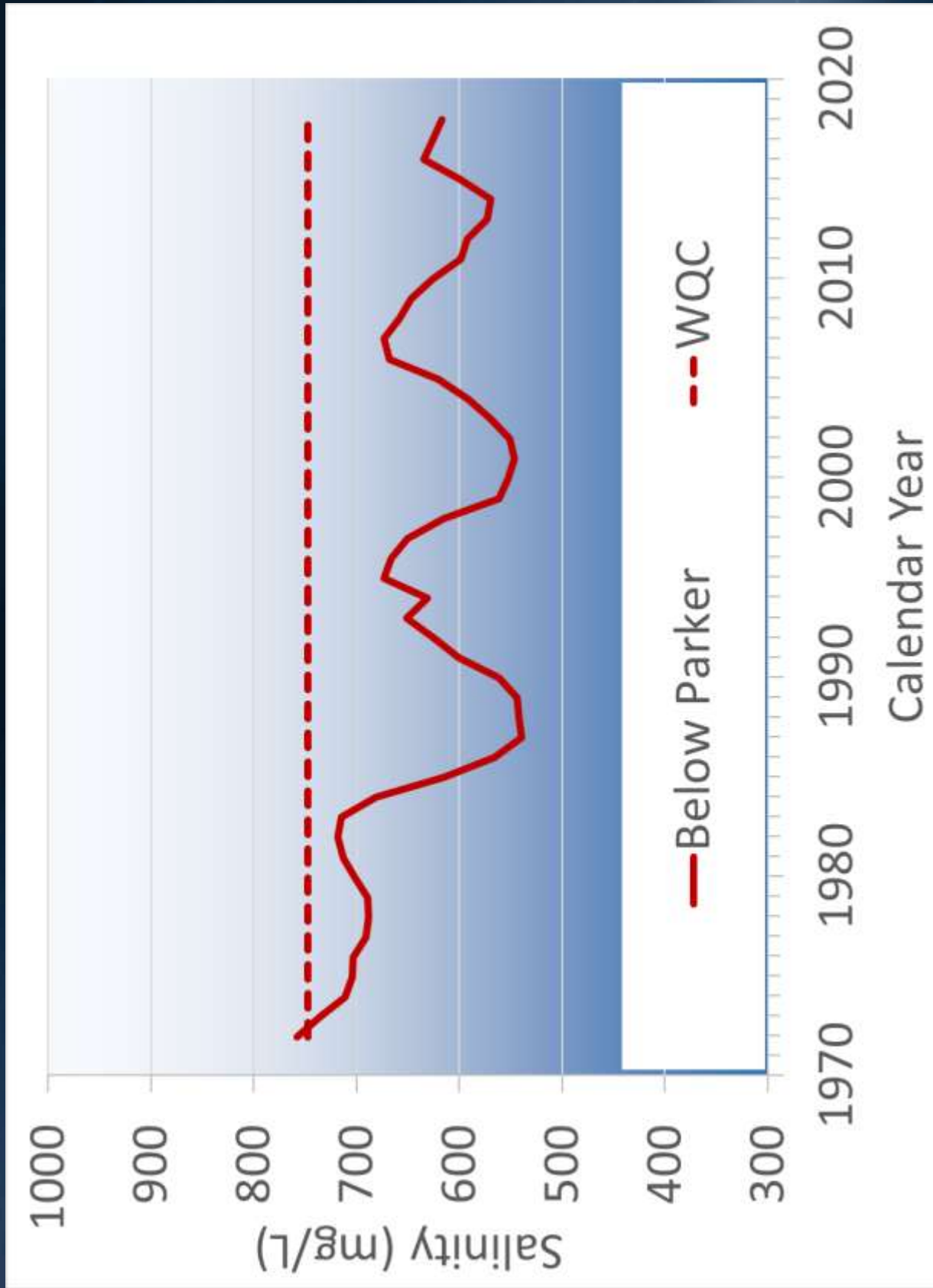
- Standards Upstream of Imperial Dam
  - In response to the Clean Water Act (1972)
- Standards Downstream of Imperial Dam
  - Minute 242 with Mexico (1973)
- Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act (1974)  
(federal statute, P.L. 93-320)
  - Authorized salinity control projects, including the Paradox Valley Unit (PVU), Yuma Desalter
  - Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum

# Salt Control Reduces Concentrations

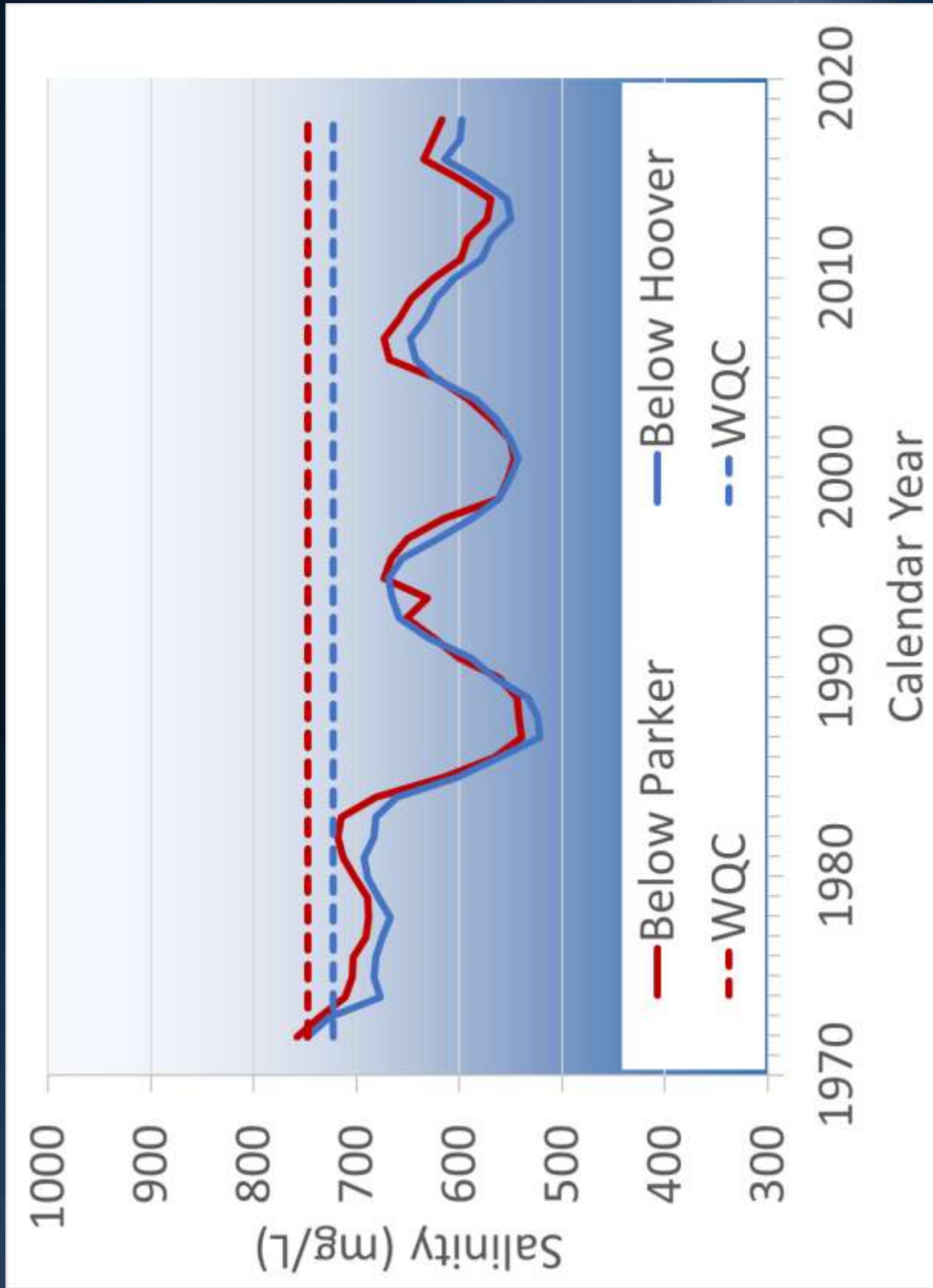




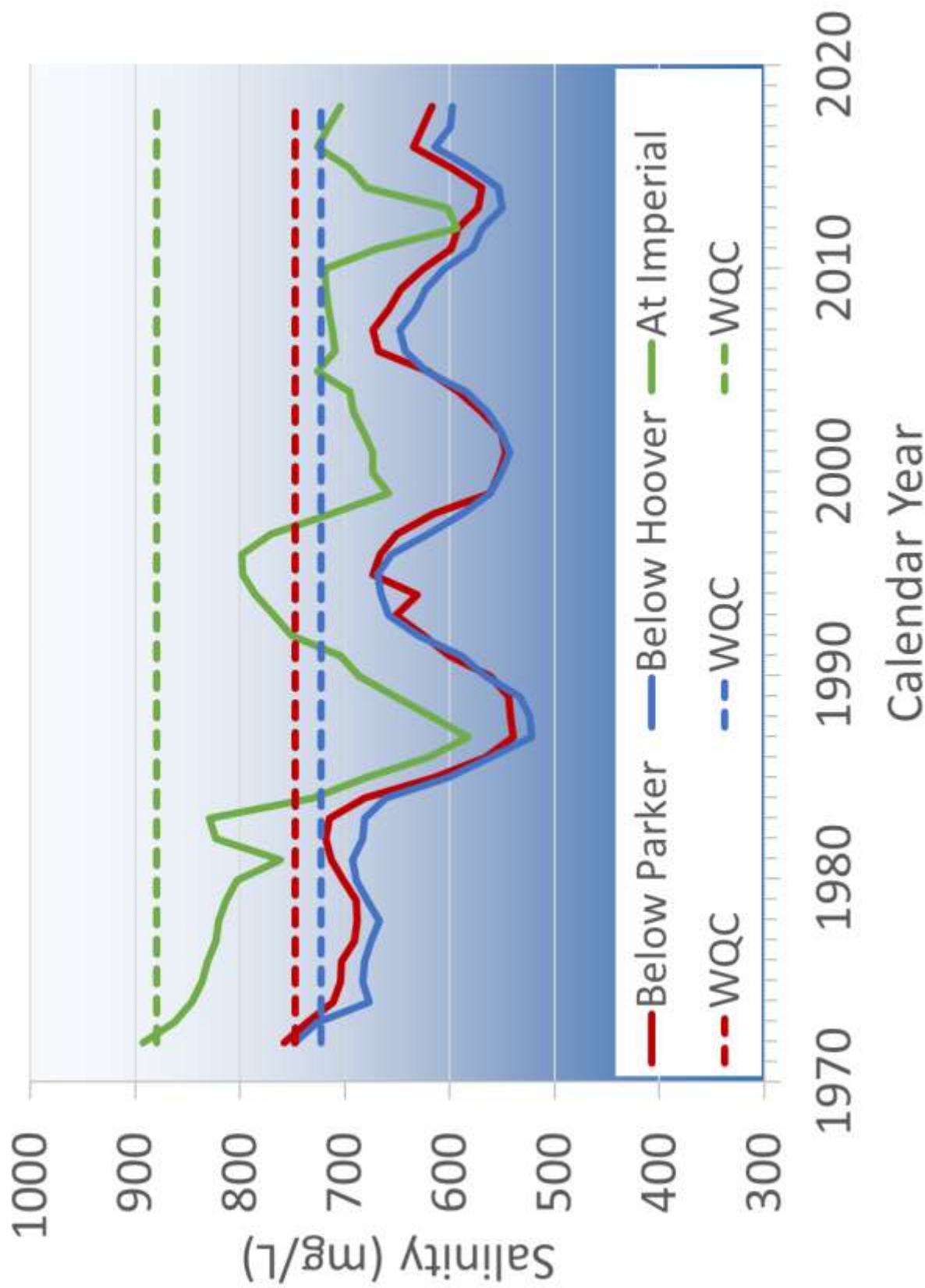
# Salt Control Reduces Concentrations



# Salt Control Reduces Concentrations

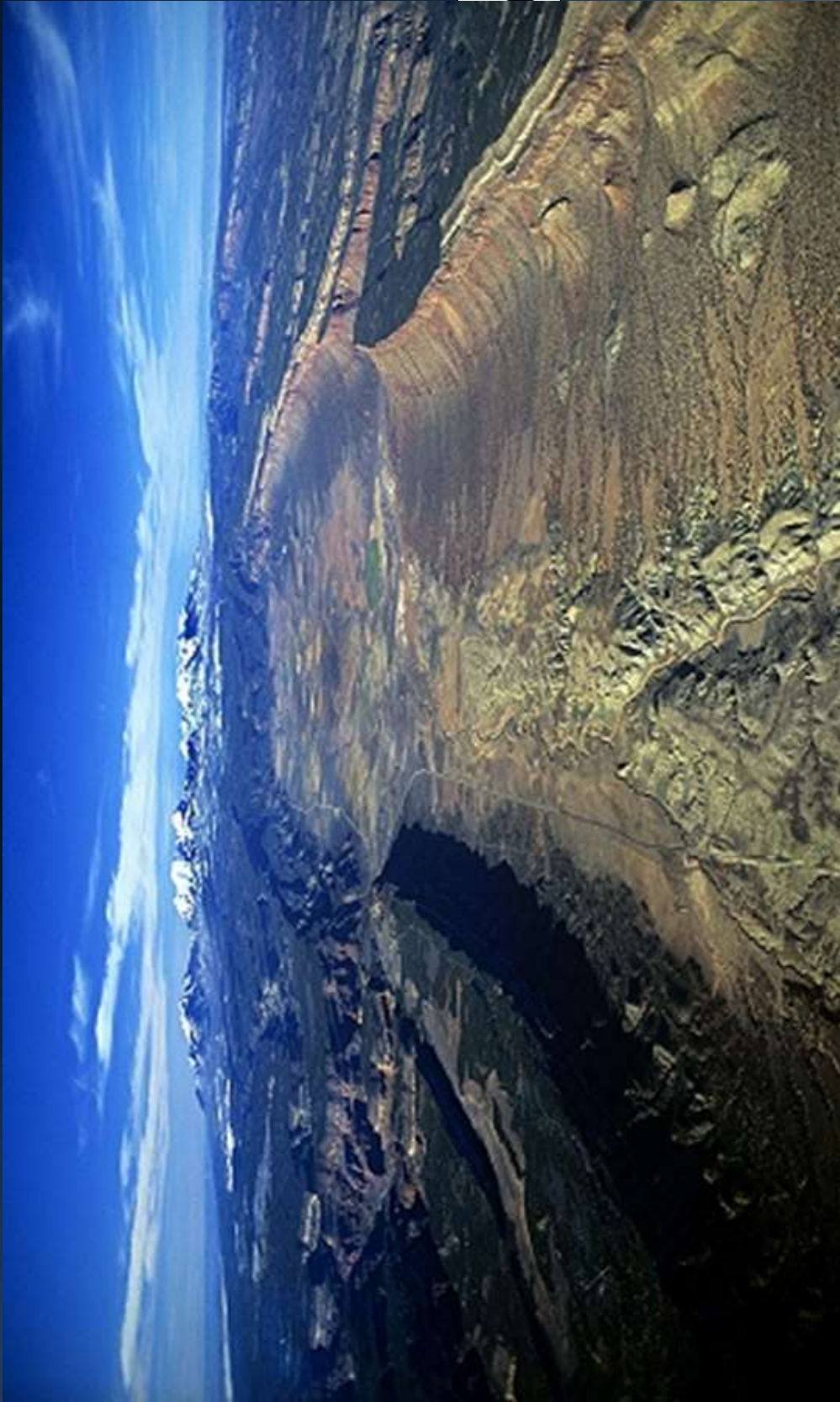


# Salt Control Reduces Concentrations



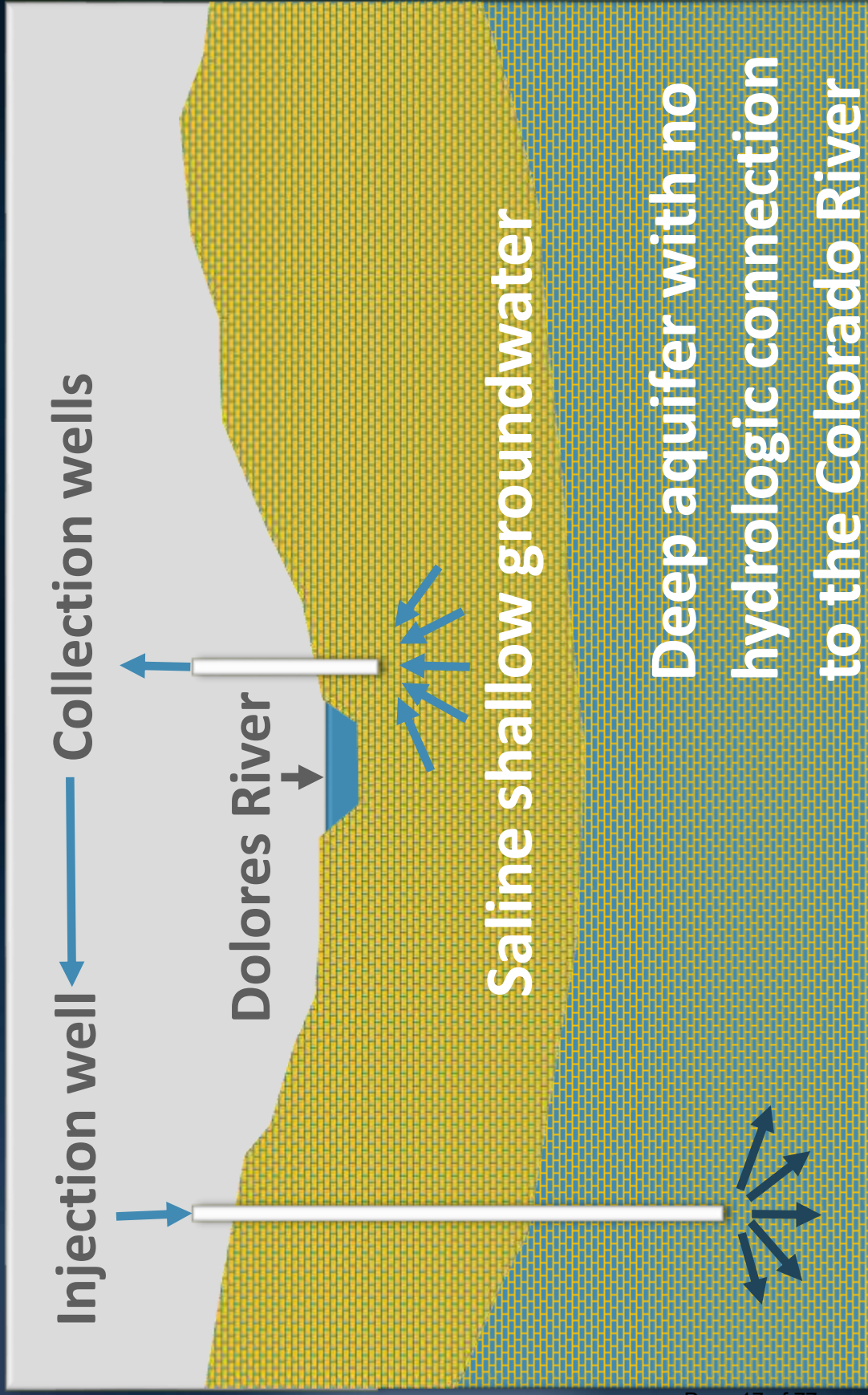


# Paradox Valley, Colorado



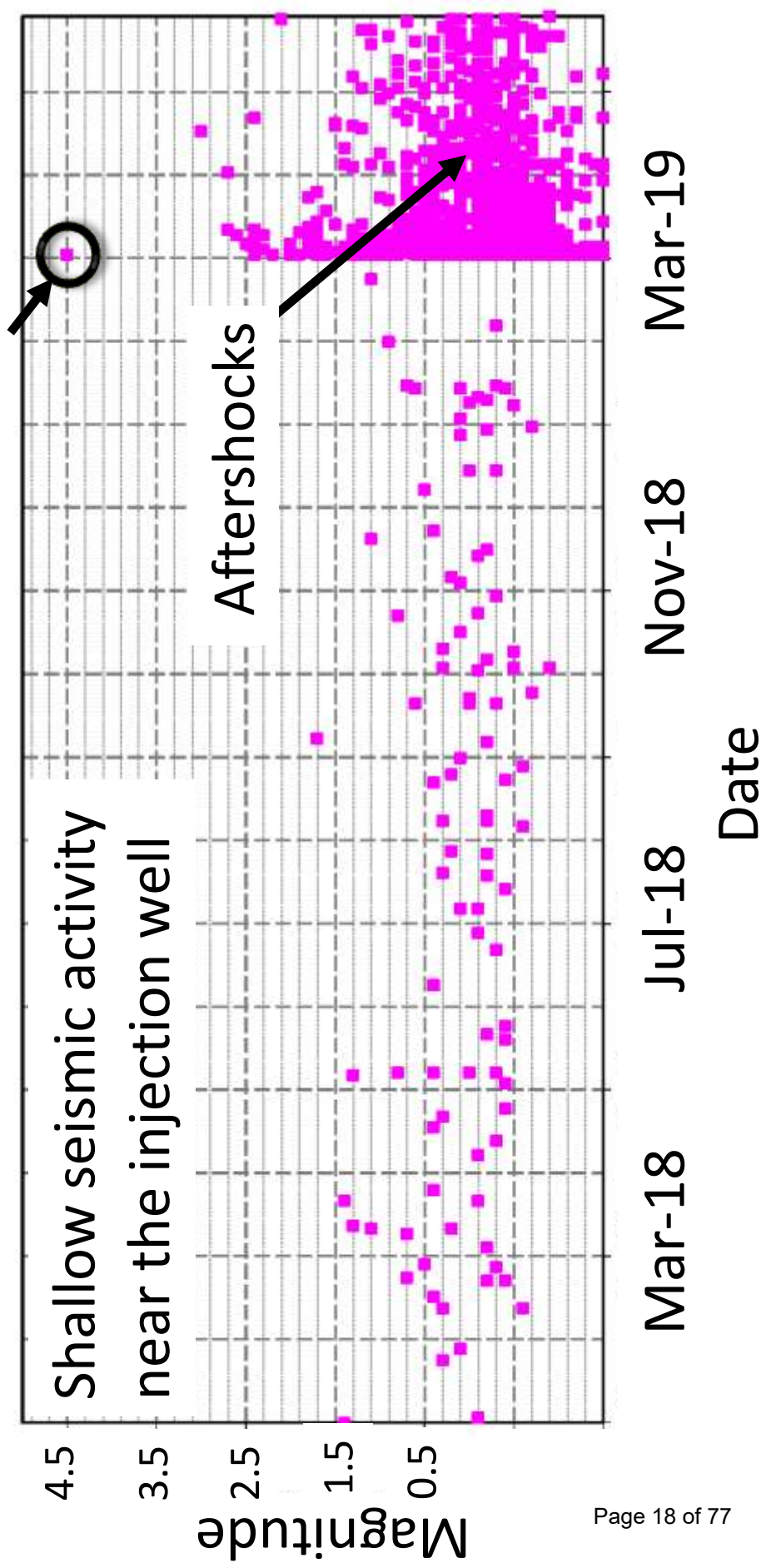


# Paradox Valley Unit (PVU)



# Injection Increases Seismic Risk

March 2019 earthquake (Magnitude = 4.5)



# ELS with Four PVU Alternatives

- A: No action
- B: Injection well (new location)
- C: Evaporation ponds
- D: Zero liquid discharge (ZLD)



# Baseline for Evaluating Impacts

- DEIS uses inconsistent baseline to evaluate impacts
  - Sometimes with existing well in operation
  - Sometimes without it
- MWD staff believe baseline should include operation of existing well
  - Existing Lower Basin CR water quality reflects this condition
  - Baseline = “Existing Condition”



# A: No Action

- Removal of existing project
- 95,000 tons/year salt increase
  - Average hydrology: 9.2 mg/L increase at Imperial Dam
  - Dry hydrology: up to 15 mg/L increase
- Construction cost: \$3.7M for removal of existing facilities
- O&M cost: \$0
- LB economic impact: \$23M/year increase

## B: Injection Well (New Location)

- Fewer earthquakes anticipated in new location
  - But, continuing seismicity risk
- Up to 19,000 tons/year additional salt removal
  - 1.9 mg/L additional reduction at Imperial
- Construction cost: \$108M
  - O&M cost: \$3.0M/year
  - Unit cost: \$62/ton
    - Original unit: ~\$60/ton
- LB economic impact: \$5M/year reduction
- Implementation risk due to geologic uncertainty

# C: Evaporation Ponds

- 600-acre project footprint
- Up to 76,000 tons/year additional salt removal
  - 7.5 mg/L additional reduction at Imperial
- Construction cost: \$132M
  - O&M cost: \$5.7M/year
  - Unit cost: \$63/ton
- LB economic impact: \$19M/year reduction
- Bird mortality in salt ponds
- 60-acre landfill, 100 feet high with rock salt
- Potential permitting difficulties

# D: Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD)

- Proprietary technology
- Up to 76,000 tons/year additional salt removal
  - 7.5 mg/L additional reduction at Imperial
- Construction cost: \$112M
  - O&M cost: \$11.8M/year
  - Unit cost: \$94/ton
- LB economic impact: \$19M/year reduction
- Energy intensive (highest carbon footprint)
- 60-acre landfill, 100 feet high with rock salt

# Salinity Control Forum Meeting

- Forum met last week to discuss PVU
- Key conclusions:
  - Basin States reject the “No Action” alternative
  - Existing well may still be operable at lower rate
  - Therefore, doesn’t make sense to remove it
  - Hybrid alternative may be preferable

# Next Steps

- Continue discussions with Basin States representatives
  - Aim: achieve consensus on an alternative
- Submit comments on DEIS by February 4<sup>th</sup>
- Coordinate with California agencies

# Summary for Discussion

Alternative	A: No Action	B: Inject. Well	C: Evap. Ponds	D: ZLD
Salt in CR relative to “Existing” (tons/year)	+ 95,000	- 19,000	- 76,000	-76,000
Salinity at Imperial Dam relative to “Existing” (mg/L)	+ 9.2	- 1.9	- 7.5	- 7.5
Lower Basin economic impact relative to “Existing”	+ \$23M	- \$5M	- \$19M	- \$19M
Construction cost (States pay 25% over 50 years)	\$3.7M	\$108M	\$132M	\$112M
Annual O&M cost (States pay 25% annually)	NA	\$3.0M	\$5.7M	\$11.8M
Amortized unit cost (\$/ton)	NA	\$62	\$63	\$94









**INFORMATION ITEM**

February 5, 2020

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Kevin Hostert

**SUBJECT: WATER SUPPLY CONDITION UPDATE**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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

**SUMMARY REPORT**

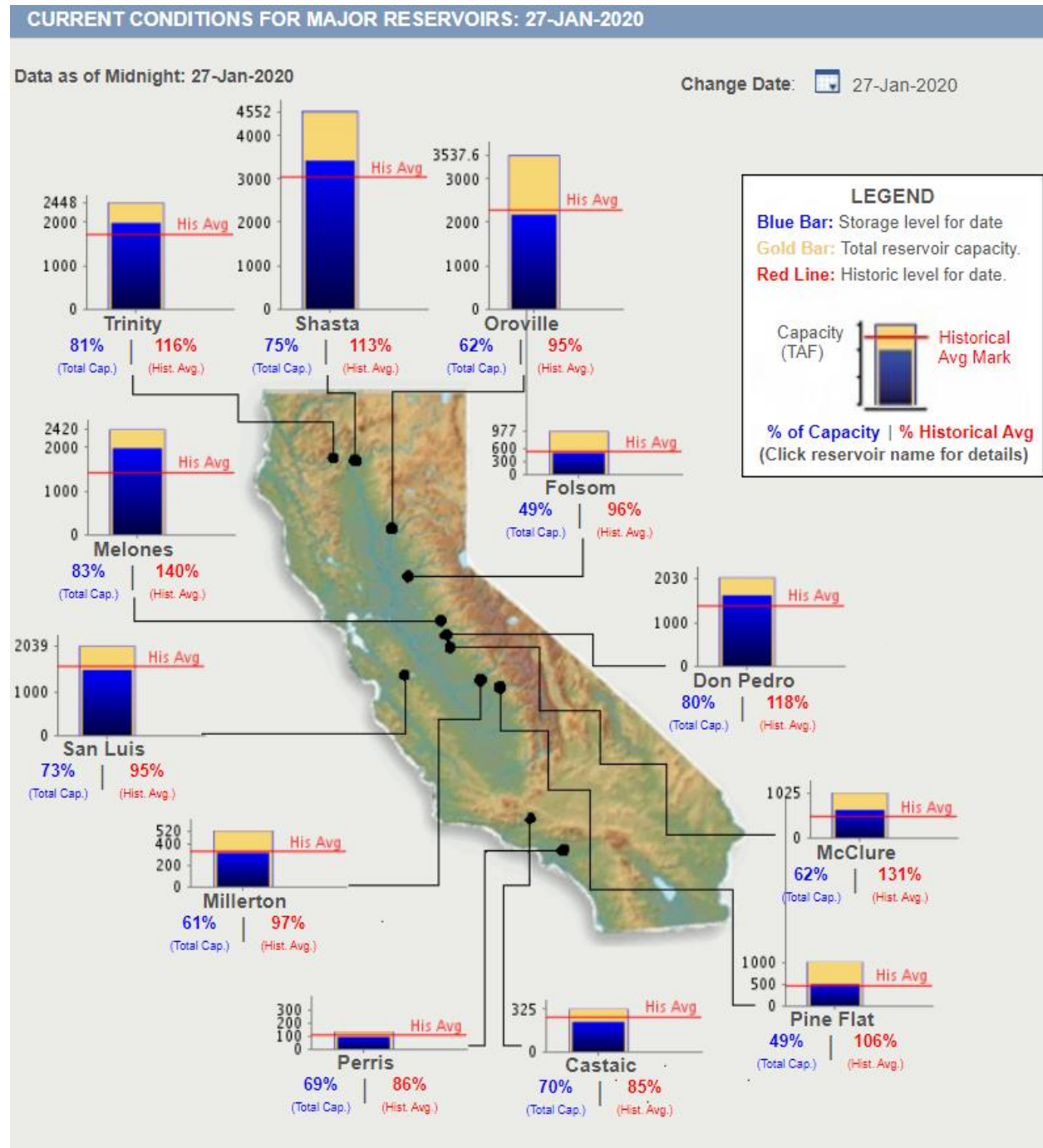
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The 2019-20 Water Year (2019-20 WY) officially started on October 1, 2019. Thus far, the Northern California accumulated precipitation (8-Station Index) is reporting **17.7 inches or 68% of normal** as of January 28th. For 2019-20 WY, the Northern Sierra Snow Water Equivalent is reporting **13.6 inches on January 28th**, which is **80% of normal** for that day. Due to the below average precipitation/snowfall, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has increased the State Water Project (SWP) **“Table A” allocation at 15%**. This allocation provides Metropolitan with approximately **286,725 AF in SWP deliveries this water year**. DWR's approval considered several factors including existing storage in SWP, conservation reservoirs, SWP operational regulatory constraints, and the 2020 contractor demands.

The Upper Colorado River Basin accumulated precipitation is reporting **10.4 inches or 92% of normal** as of January 27th. 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 reporting **11.6 inches as of January 27th**, which is **104% of normal** for that day. Due to the above average precipitation/snowfall in 2018-19 WY there is now a 0% chance of a shortage at Lake Mead in 2020 and a 4% chance of shortage in 2021.

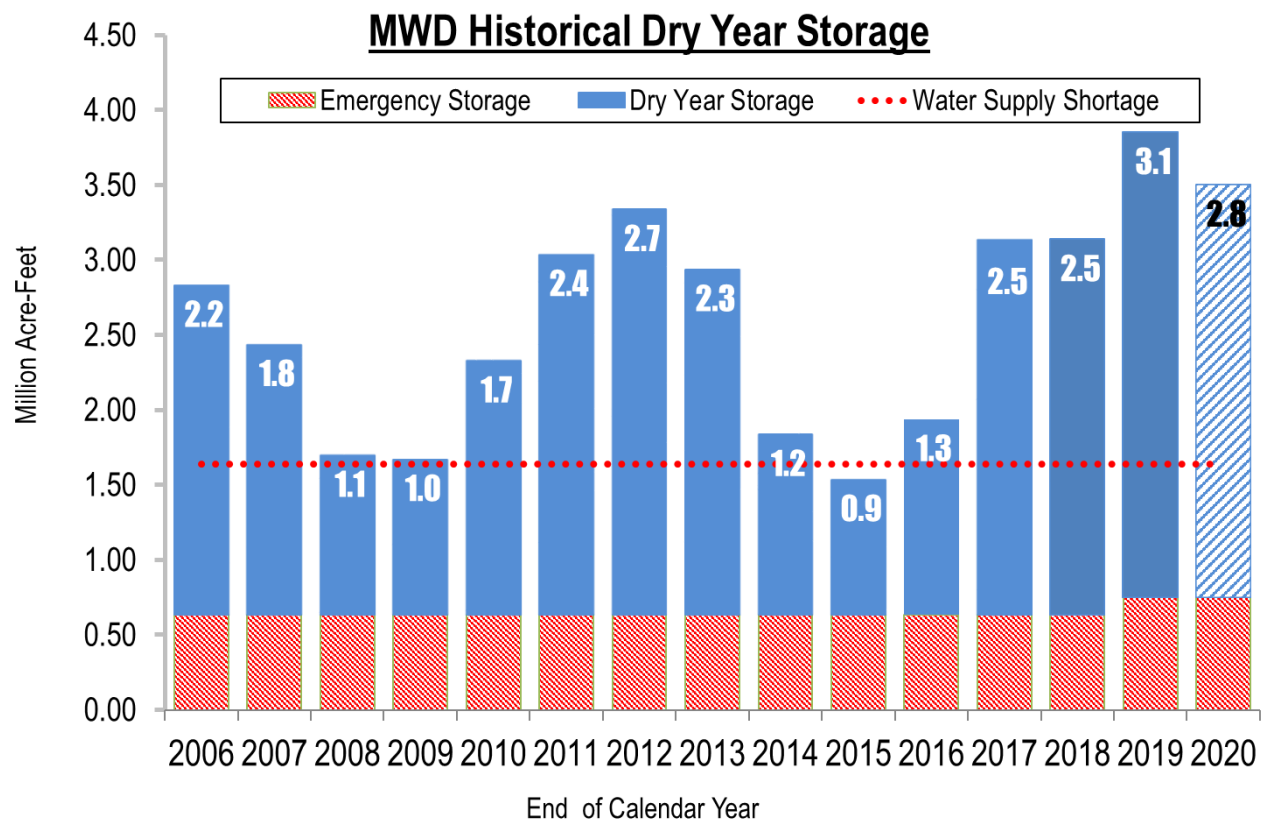
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<b>Action item amount: N/A</b>	Line item:		
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

As of January 27th Lake Oroville storage is at **62% of total capacity and 95% of normal**.  
 As of January 27th San Luis Reservoir has a current volume of **73% of the reservoir's total capacity and is 95% of normal**.



With estimated total demands and losses of 1.626 million acre-feet (MAF) and with a 15% SWP Table A Allocation, Metropolitan is projecting that demands will exceed supply levels in Calendar Year (CY) 2020. Based on this, estimated total dry-year storage for Metropolitan at the end of **CY 2020 will go down to approximately 2.8 MAF**.

A projected dry-year storage supply of **2.8 MAF** will be the **second highest amount for Metropolitan**. A large factor in the increase in water storage is because **water demands regionally have been at approximately 36-year lows**.



### **2019-20 CYCLIC IN-LIEU OPERATIONS**

In regards to the 2019-20 Cyclic In-Lieu operations (a.k.a. MET Cyclic Cost Offset Program), as of December 2019 approximately **9,354.7 AF of imported water has been delivered into the OC Basin Cyclic Account via In-Lieu**.

Unfortunately, due to dry hydrology and a State Water Project allocation of 15 percent, Metropolitan has suspended all cyclic deliveries as of December 31, 2019, including Cyclic In-Lieu deliveries. Metropolitan will also begin reducing State Water Project deliveries to preserve flexibility in case the allocation remains low. Metropolitan will regularly revisit operational plans throughout early 2020, as the final SWP allocation for the calendar year will be unknown until the May/June timeframe.

### **Attachment: Water Supply Conditions Presentation**





## Water Supply Conditions

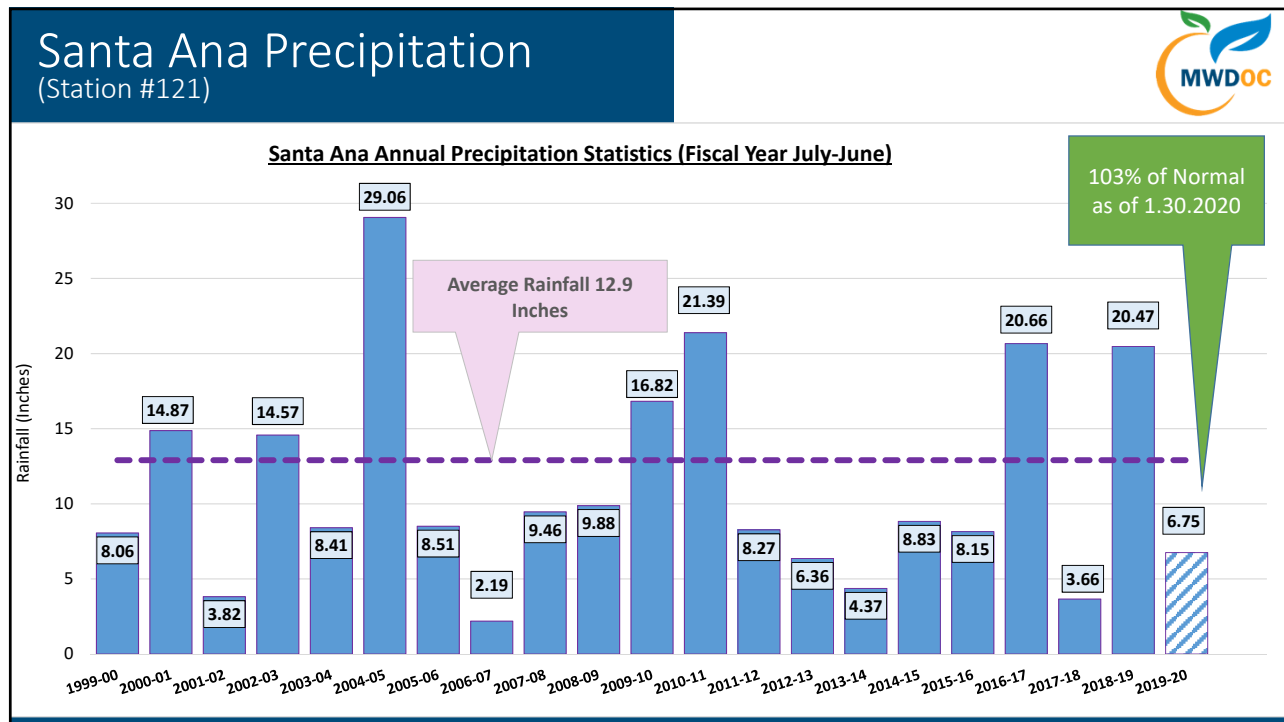
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst  
Municipal Water District of Orange County

February 5<sup>th</sup> 2020



## Orange County Weather and Water Supply Conditions

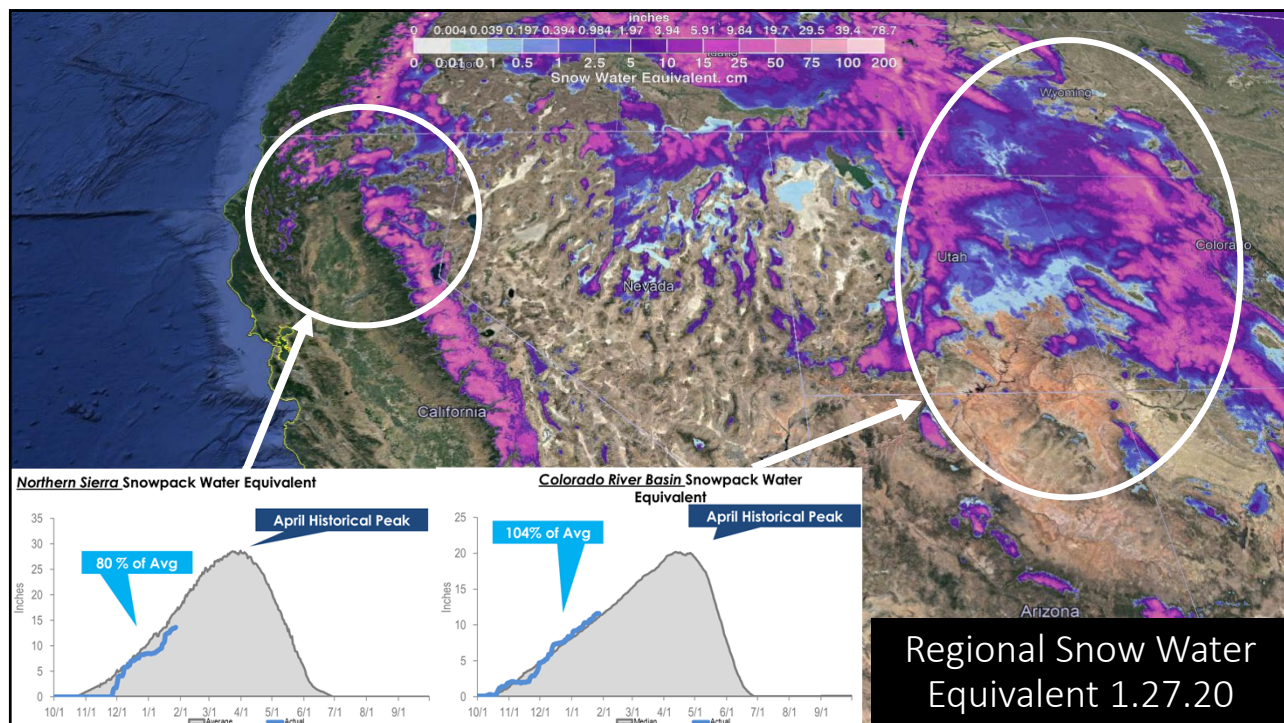
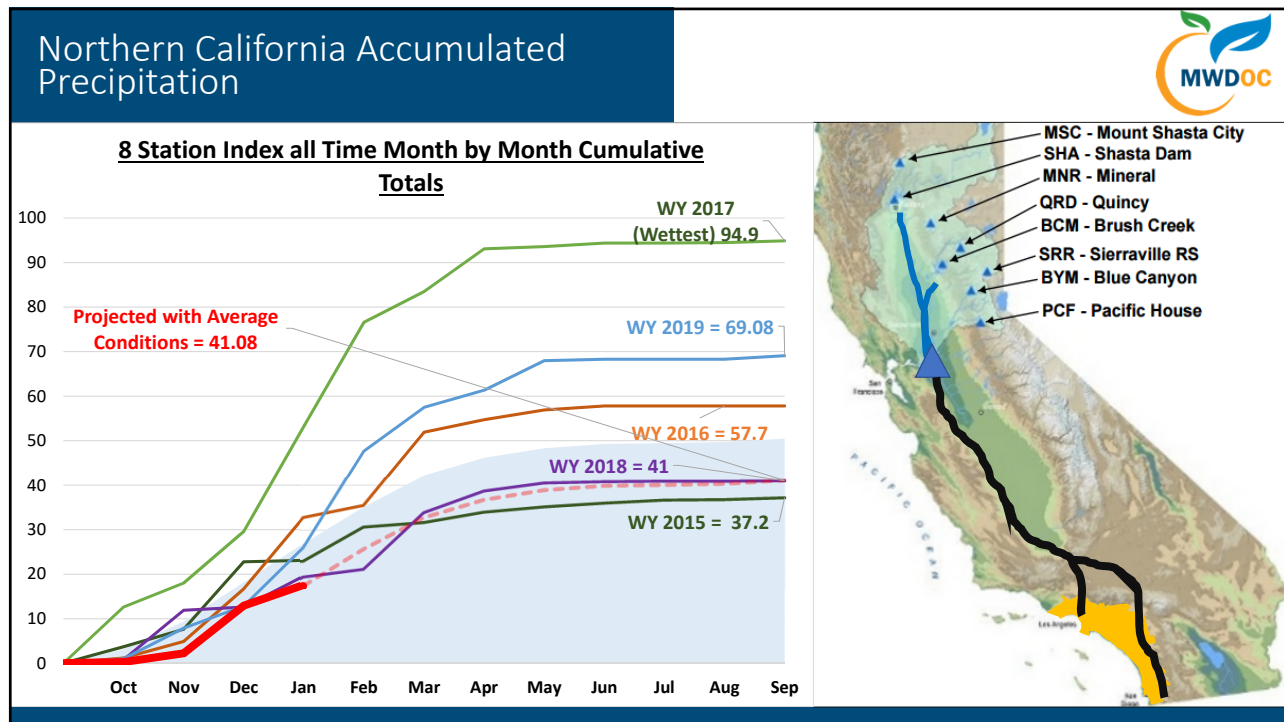
Insight to local weather conditions that affect Orange County's water supply and water demand



## Regional Weather and Water Supply Conditions

Insight to regional weather conditions that affect California's water supply

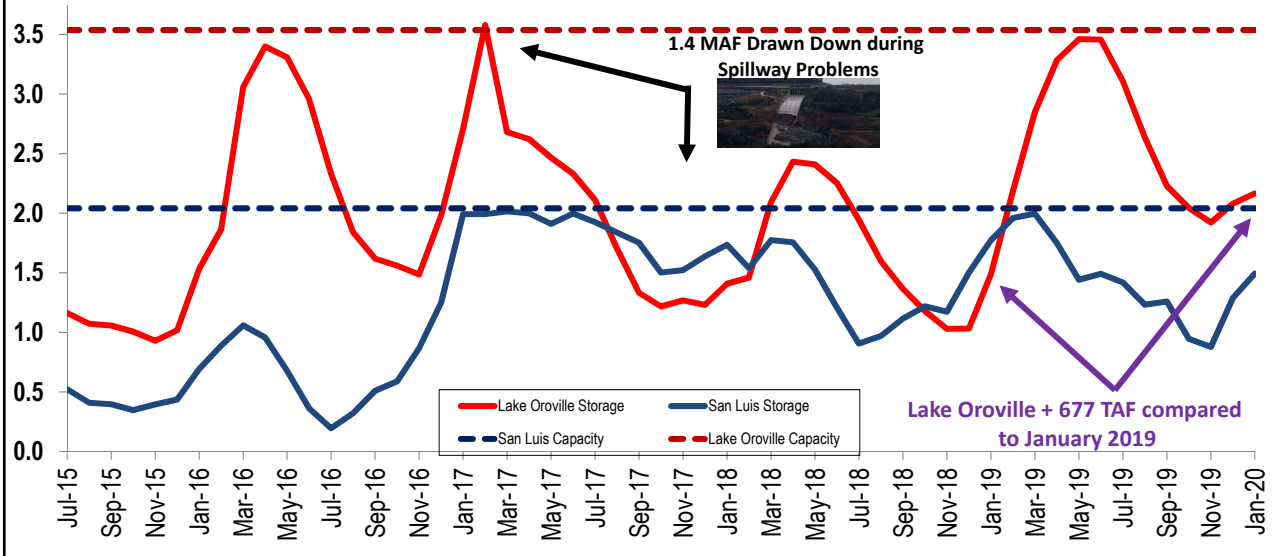




## Reservoir Storage



### Lake Oroville and San Luis Historical Monthly Water Levels



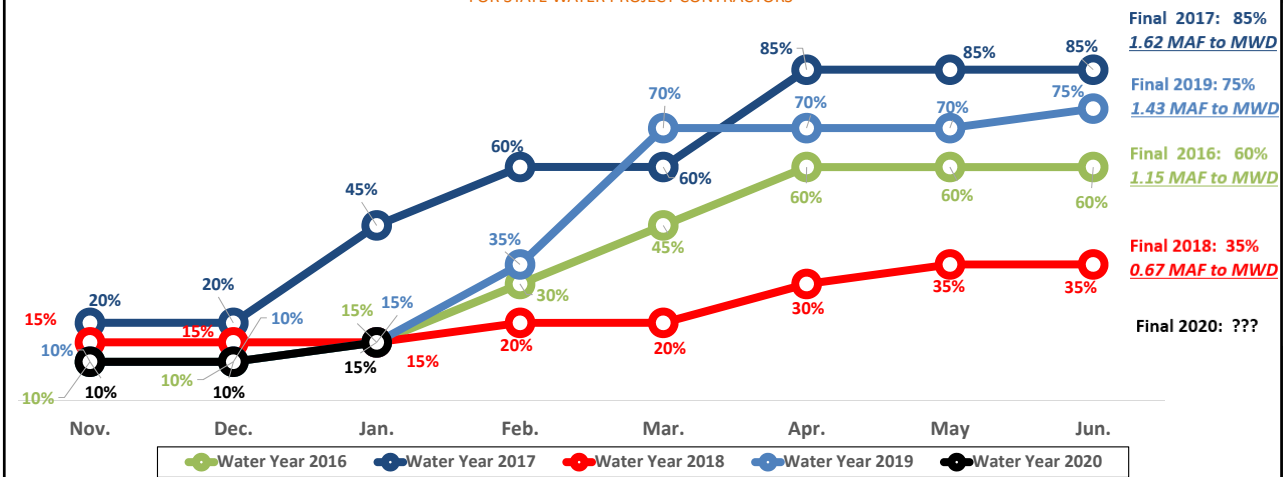
## SWP Table A Allocation



**Note: In 2018 SWP Table A = 35% with no water being removed from MWD storage.**

### SWP TABLE A ALLOCATION

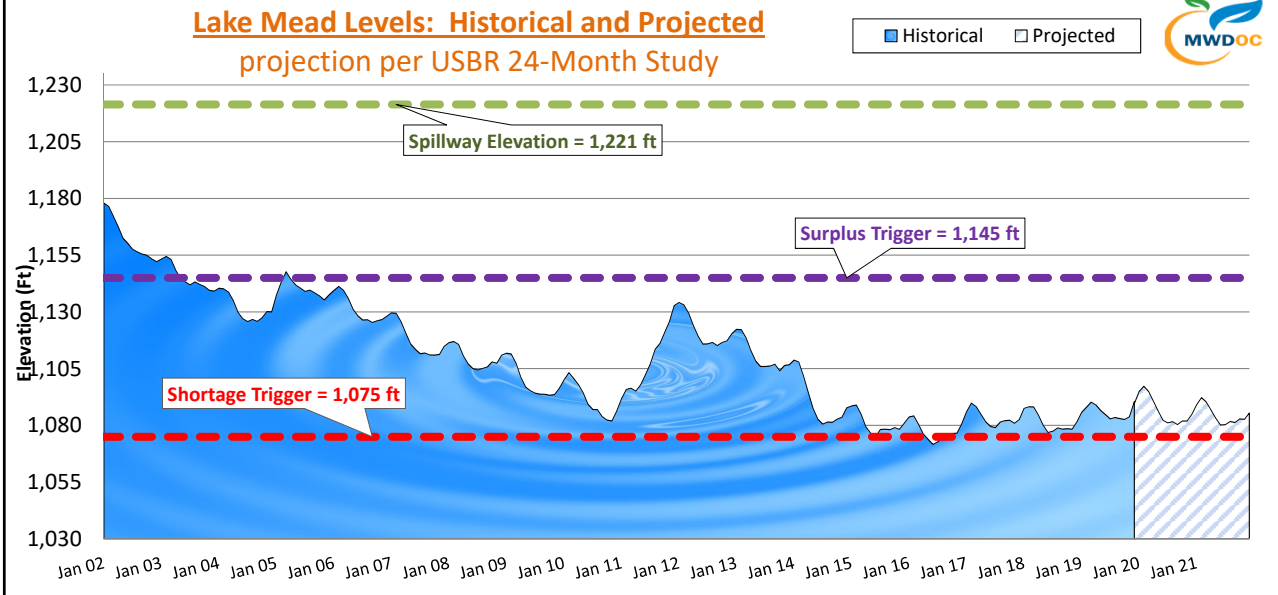
FOR STATE WATER PROJECT CONTRACTORS



# Lake Mead

## Lake Mead Shortage/Surplus Outlook

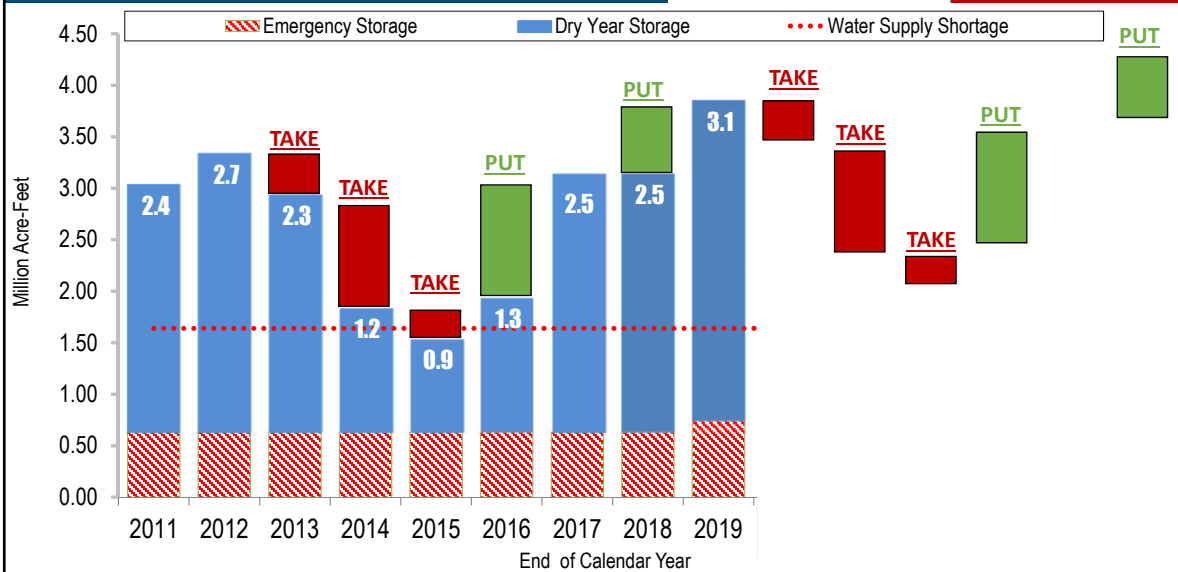
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Shortage	0%	4%	24%	37%	43%
Surplus	0%	0%	7%	12%	19%



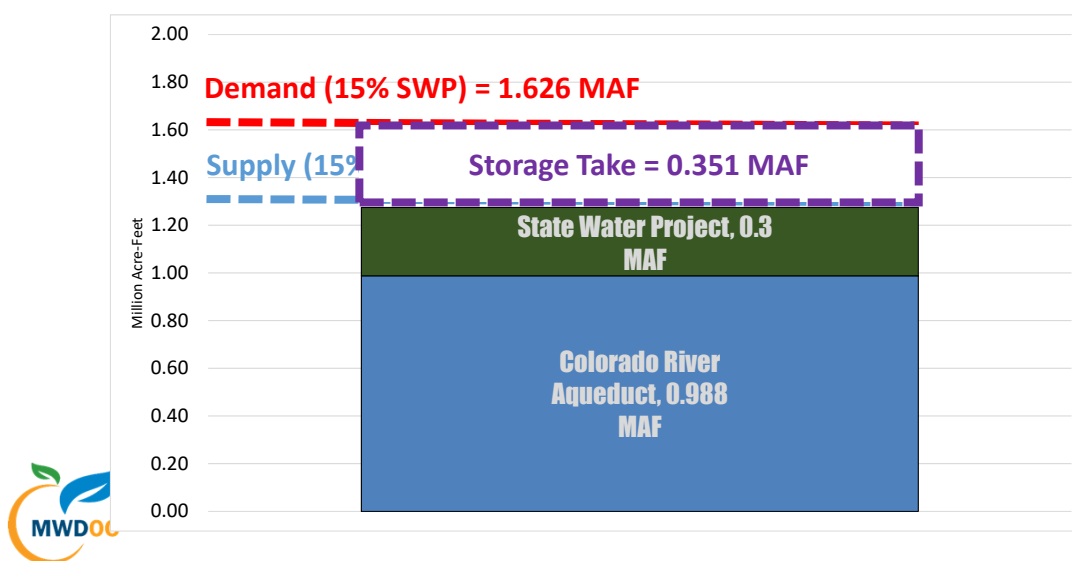
MWD 2019 Water Storage



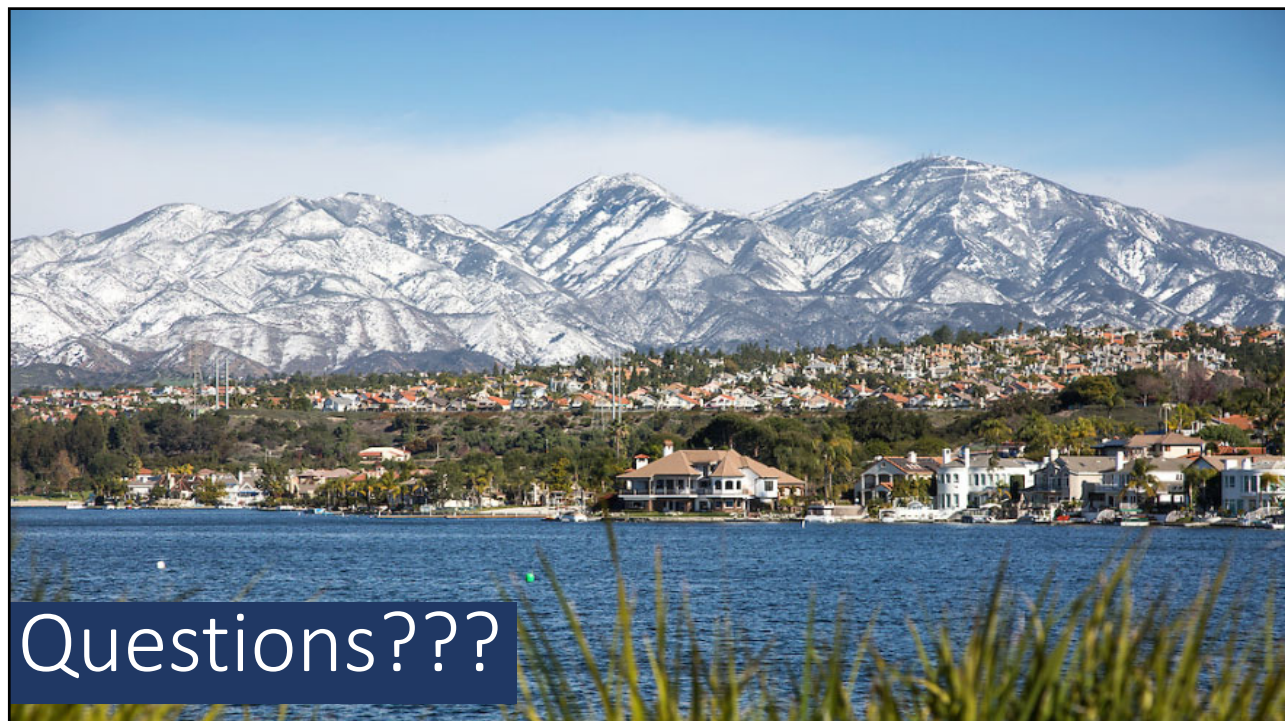
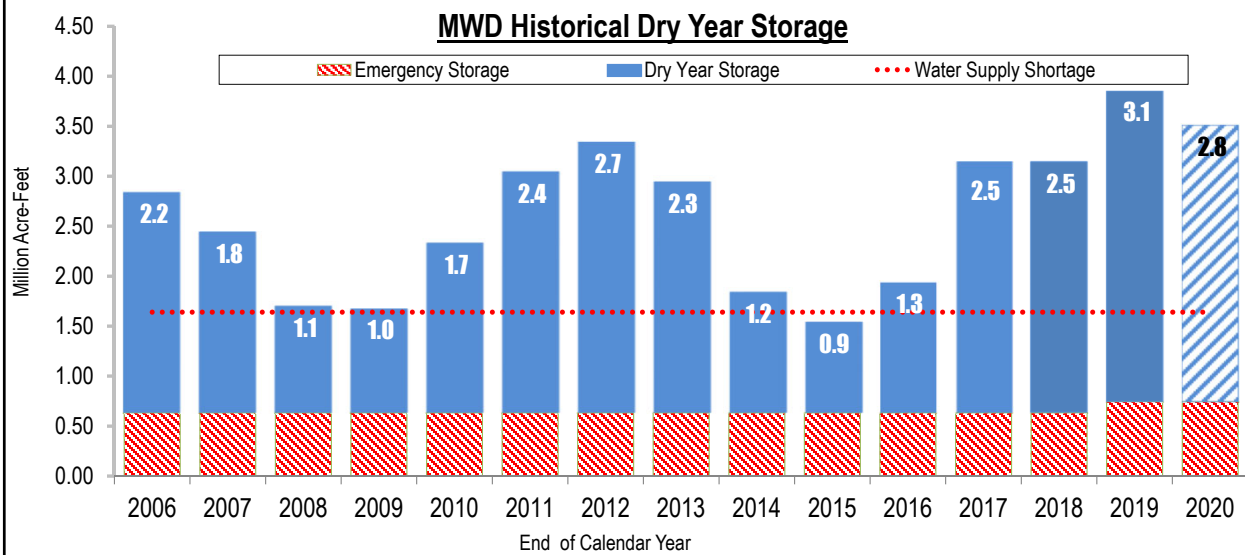
## MWD 2019 Estimated Water Storage



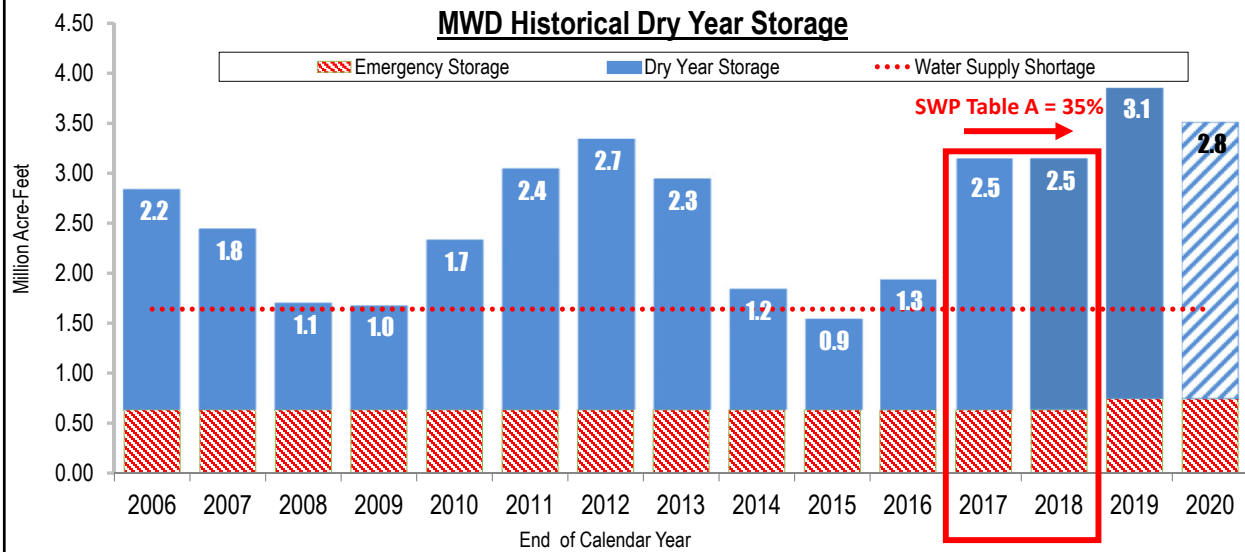
## MWD 2020 Estimated Water Storage



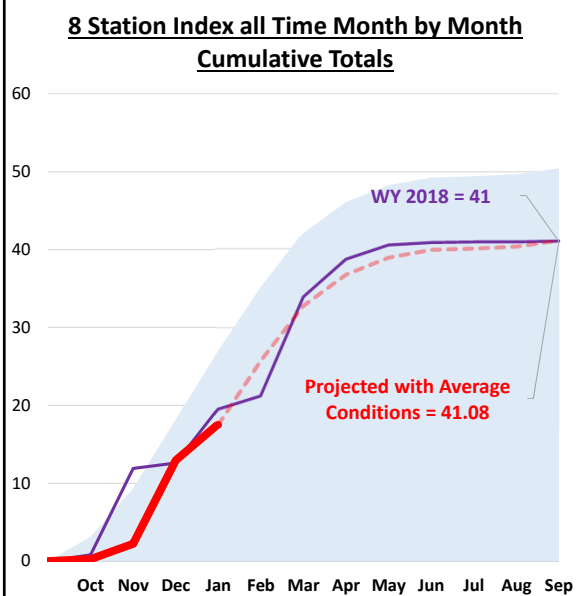
## MWD 2020 Estimated Water Storage



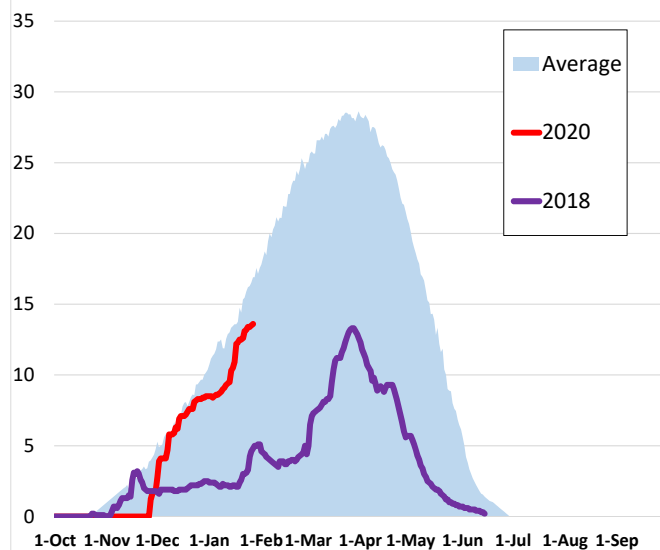
## MWD 2020 Estimated Water Storage



## 2020 Vs 2018 Water Year



## Historical Northern California SWE





**DISCUSSION ITEM**

February 5, 2019

**TO: Board of Directors**

**FROM: Robert Hunter,  
General Manager**

Staff Contact: Melissa Baum-Haley

**SUBJECT: DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors review and discuss the information presented.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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**Delta Conveyance Notice of Preparation**

On January 15, California Department of Water Resources posted a Notice of Preparation that will initiate the Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Conveyance Project. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) will initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Delta Conveyance Project in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California.

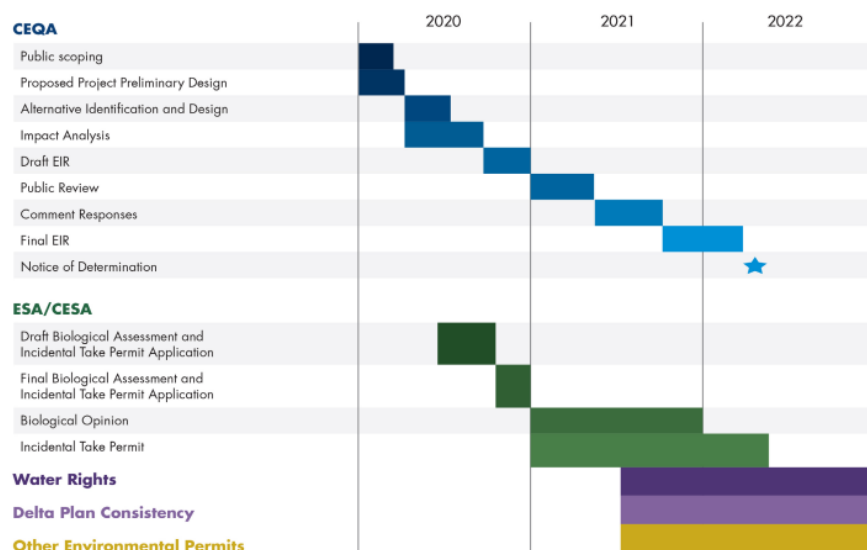
DWR is the lead agency under CEQA. The Delta Conveyance Project will also involve federal agencies that must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), likely requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). Federal agencies with roles with respect to the project may include approvals or permits issued by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and United States Army Corps of Engineers. To assist in the anticipated federal agencies' NEPA compliance, DWR will prepare an EIR that includes relevant NEPA information where appropriate. Once the role of the federal lead agency is

<b>Budgeted (Y/N): N/A</b>	Budgeted amount: None	Core _X_	Choice __
<b>Action item amount: N/A</b>	Line item:		
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

established, that federal lead agency will publish a Notice of Intent to formally initiate the NEPA process.

The proposed Delta Conveyance project facilities will have a capacity of 6,000 cubic feet per-second (cfs) combined between two intakes (3,000 cfs each) located along the Sacramento River between South Sacramento and Walnut Grove. Likely alternatives to the proposed project will be considered within the range of 3,000 cfs – 7,500 cfs capacity. The NOP also includes two corridor options for the single tunnel, one within in the central portion of the Delta, and the other in the eastern portion of the Delta.

The chart below illustrates the Delta Conveyance environmental compliance milestones.



## Agreement in Principle

State Water Project (SWP) cost/benefit allocation negotiations to establish the Agreement in Principle will determine basic terms for a SWP Contract Amendment to equitably allocate costs and benefits of a potential Delta Conveyance Facility (DCF), which will be part of the existing SWP.

The public negotiations between State Water Contractors (PWA) and DWR occurred between July and November 2019, with negotiations focused on an “Opt-In” approach. Where the PWAs decide whether or not to invest in and receive corresponding benefits from the DCF. On November 15, an Agreement in Principle was reached with support amongst 17 PWAs (92% of Table A) and 12 non-participant PWAs did not support.

DWR expressed concern about operating to two contracts given that 12 contractors did not support the November 15 Agreement in Principle. DWR presented a sixth offer, shifting the focus to an “Opt-Out” approach on December 20. The PWA’s are evaluating this latest proposal.

## Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority

At the January 16, 2020 Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) reported that the Engineering team continued to complete foundational studies regarding design criteria and alternative siting analyses of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project in support of the release of the NOP. The Engineering team also prepared materials and visualizations for the Stakeholder Engagement Meetings focused on the Intakes and the Intermediate Forebay siting studies.

Field work has been delayed as the DCA awaits the completion of the CEQA process for the geotechnical work and gain clarity on the permitting requirements for the program from the on-going litigation with the Delta Counties. The DCA staff continues to analyze the existing data and enter validated data into their geologic model of the Delta.

The DCA also held its second Stakeholder Engagement Committee meeting in December, where they presented an overview of the CEQA process and reviewed the key components that comprise the Delta Conveyance Project. They also reviewed a series of maps that can be used to evaluate siting alternatives of project components.

### **Additional Information**

Additional information on the Bay-Delta Issues can be found in *Issue Brief D - Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues* of the Discussion Item regarding Metropolitan Water District items critical to Orange County.



## January 2020



The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is pursuing an environmental review process to evaluate a single tunnel option to modernize Delta conveyance under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The first step in this process is release of a Notice of Preparation (NOP). The NOP informs agencies and the public about the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and solicits input on the scope and content of the EIR, including information needs, potential project effects and mitigation measures, and possible alternatives to the proposed project.

Modernizing Delta conveyance is part of the state's Water Resilience Portfolio, which describes the framework to address California's water challenges and support long-term water resilience and ecosystem health.

## CEQA FAST FACTS

- **Who is the CEQA Lead Agency?** California Department of Water Resources
- **What's in a NOP?** A Notice of Preparation includes a description of the Proposed Project, including Project Objectives, Project Area, and Project Facilities, probable environmental effects of the project, scoping meeting details and deadline for submittal of comments.
- **What is the Purpose of Environmental Review?** Prior to approval of a project, CEQA requires an agency to prepare an EIR that will identify, analyze and disclose the significant adverse environmental impacts of a proposed project, and provide feasible mitigation measures and alternatives to avoid or reduce such effects.
- **What Resource Areas will be Studied?** The EIR will evaluate topics including but not limited to:
  - water supply
  - groundwater
  - water quality
  - geology and seismicity
  - soils
  - fish and aquatic resources
  - terrestrial biological resources
  - land use
  - recreation
  - aesthetics
  - cultural resources
  - transportation
  - utilities
  - energy
  - air quality
  - noise
  - hazardous materials
  - public health
  - mineral resources
  - climate change and growth

## PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

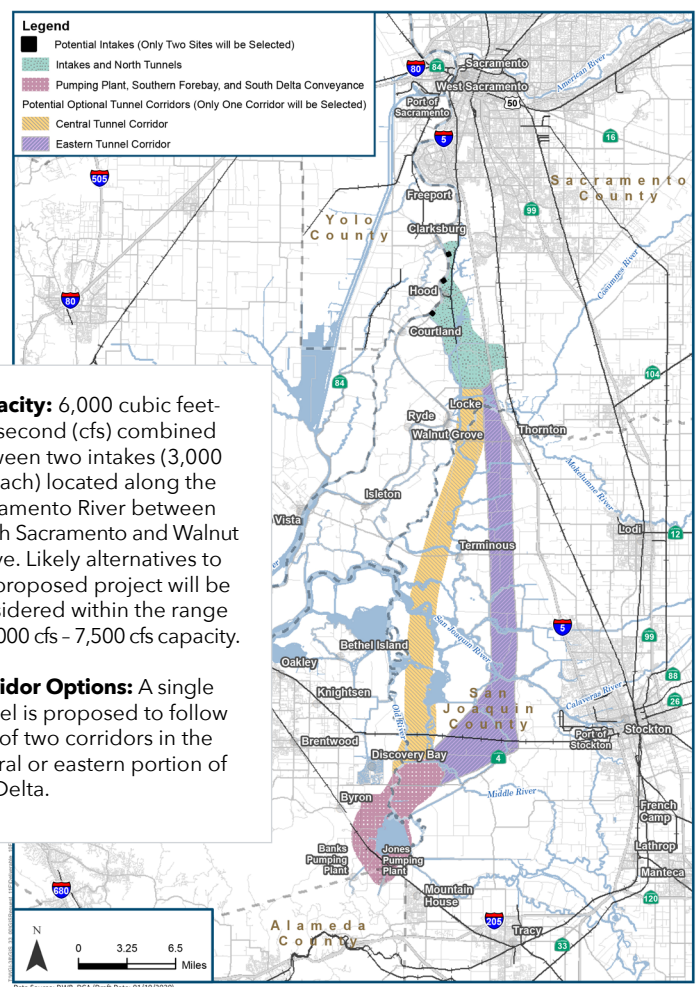
To assist in the development of a reasonable range of alternatives that will be analyzed in the EIR, DWR has identified the following purpose and objectives for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project.

**Purpose:** Develop new diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta necessary to restore and protect the reliability of water deliveries in a cost-effective manner, consistent with the State's Water Resilience Portfolio.

### Objectives:

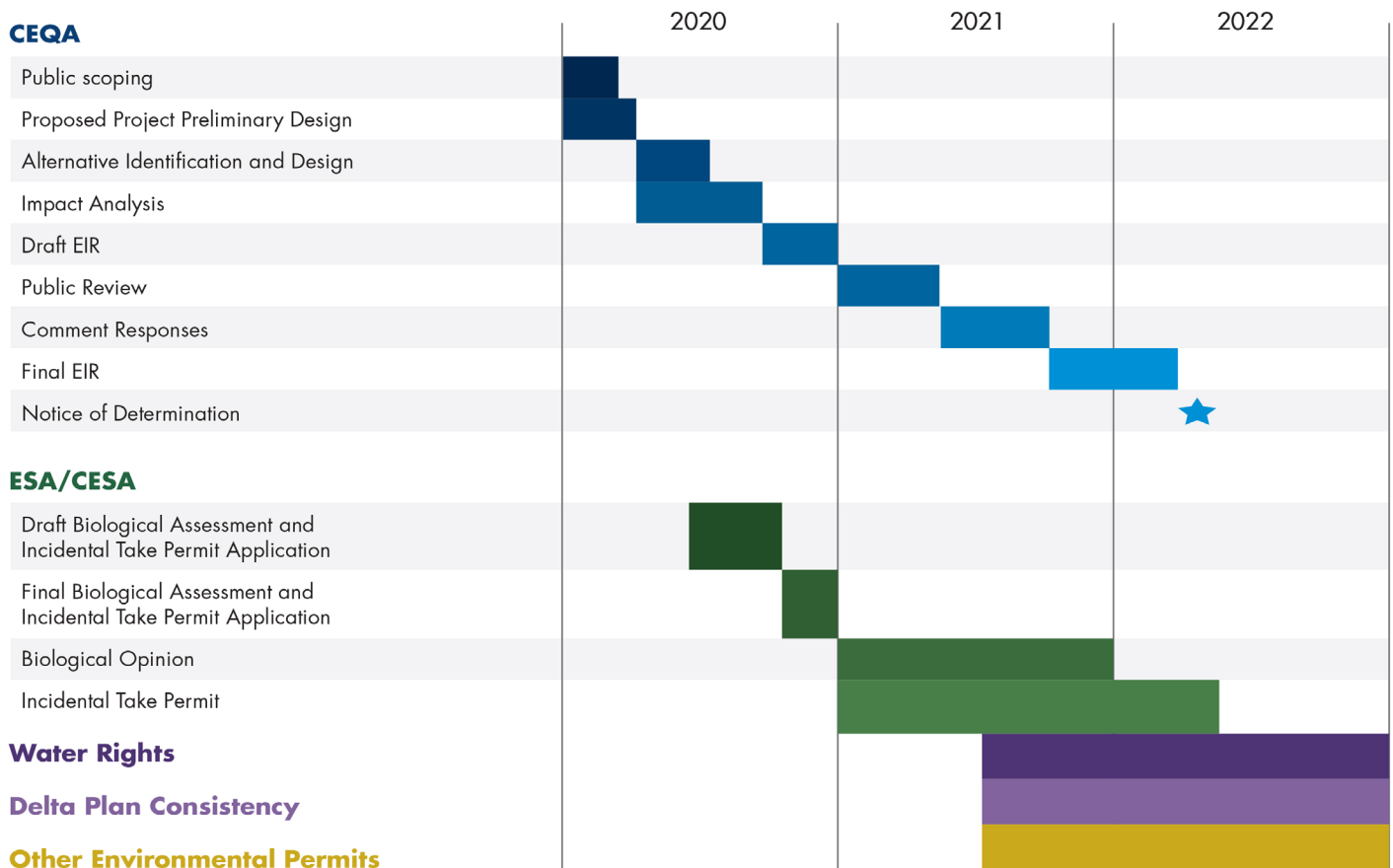
- Address sea level rise and climate change
- Minimize water supply disruption due to seismic risk
- Protect water supply reliability
- Provide operational flexibility to improve aquatic conditions in the Delta

## PROPOSED DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT FACILITIES



## DELTA CONVEYANCE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE MILESTONES

This schedule details the actions associated with the environmental review process under CEQA and other required environmental compliance activities and is subject to change. There are several opportunities for public involvement throughout the process.



## HOW TO COMMENT | Comments Due: March 20, 2020



**Email:** [DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov](mailto:DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov)



**Mail:** Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments, Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236



**Attend a Public Meeting:** Several public scoping meetings will be held throughout the state as an opportunity to get information and submit comments on the scope of the EIR.

**Sacramento** | 2/3/20, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | CA EPA Building | 1001 I Street, Sacramento

**Los Angeles** | 2/5/20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Junipero Serra State Building  
320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles

**Walnut Grove** | 2/10/20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Jean Harvie Community Center  
14273 River Road, Walnut Grove

**San Jose** | 2/12/20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Room  
5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose

**Stockton** | 2/13/20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | San Joaquin Council of Governments,  
Board Room | 555 Weber Avenue, Stockton

**Clarksburg** | 2/19/20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium  
52870 Netherlands Road, Clarksburg

**Brentwood** | 2/20/20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Brentwood Community Ctr,  
Conference Room | 35 Oak Street, Brentwood

### About Comments

All comments received during the scoping period will be considered in the development of the Draft EIR. DWR is seeking public input on the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIR and input about alternatives that meet the project's objectives.

### For more information, contact:

Para más información por favor llame al  
Để biết thêm thông tin, xin gọi số  
Para sa karagdagang impormasyon,  
mangyaring tumawag sa  
如欲瞭解更多資訊, 請致電  
Kom tau lus ghia ntiv, thov hu  
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**1-866-924-9955**



## **NOTICE OF PREPARATION**

### **NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT**

January 15, 2020

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) will initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Delta Conveyance Project in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California. DWR is the lead agency under CEQA.

The Delta Conveyance Project will also involve federal agencies that must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), likely requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). Federal agencies with roles with respect to the project may include approvals or permits issued by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and United States Army Corps of Engineers. To assist in the anticipated federal agencies' NEPA compliance, DWR will prepare an EIR that includes relevant NEPA information where appropriate. Once the role of the federal lead agency is established, that federal lead agency will publish a Notice of Intent to formally initiate the NEPA process.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In July 2017, DWR had previously approved a conveyance project in the Delta involving two tunnels referred to as "California WaterFix." In his State of the State address delivered February 12, 2019, Governor Newsom announced that he did not "support WaterFix as currently configured" but does "support a single tunnel." On April 29, 2019, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-10-19, directing several agencies to (among other things), "inventory and assess... [c]urrent planning to modernize conveyance through the Bay Delta with a new single tunnel project." The Governor's announcement and Executive Order led to DWR's withdrawal of all approvals and environmental compliance documentation associated with California WaterFix. The CEQA process identified in this notice for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project will, as appropriate, utilize relevant information from the past environmental planning process for California WaterFix but the proposed project will undergo a new stand-alone environmental analysis leading to issuance of a new EIR.

#### **PROPOSED DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

##### **Purpose and Project Objectives**

CEQA requires that an EIR contain a "statement of the objectives sought by the proposed project." Under CEQA, "[a] clearly written statement of objectives will help the lead agency develop a reasonable range of alternatives to evaluate in the EIR and will aid the decision makers

in preparing findings or a statement of overriding considerations. The statement of objectives should include the underlying purpose of the project and may discuss the project benefits” (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15124[b]).

Here, as the CEQA lead agency, DWR’s underlying, or fundamental, purpose in proposing the project is to develop new diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta necessary to restore and protect the reliability of State Water Project (SWP) water deliveries and, potentially, Central Valley Project (CVP) water deliveries south of the Delta, consistent with the State’s Water Resilience Portfolio.

The above stated purpose, in turn, gives rise to several project objectives. In proposing to make physical improvements to the SWP Delta conveyance system, the project objectives are:

- To address anticipated rising sea levels and other reasonably foreseeable consequences of climate change and extreme weather events.
- To minimize the potential for public health and safety impacts from reduced quantity and quality of SWP water deliveries, and potentially CVP water deliveries, south of the Delta resulting from a major earthquake that causes breaching of Delta levees and the inundation of brackish water into the areas in which the existing SWP and CVP pumping plants operate in the southern Delta.
- To protect the ability of the SWP, and potentially the CVP, to deliver water when hydrologic conditions result in the availability of sufficient amounts, consistent with the requirements of state and federal law, including the California and federal Endangered Species Acts and Delta Reform Act, as well as the terms and conditions of water delivery contracts and other existing applicable agreements.
- To provide operational flexibility to improve aquatic conditions in the Delta and better manage risks of further regulatory constraints on project operations.<sup>1</sup>

## **Description of Proposed Project Facilities**

The existing SWP Delta water conveyance facilities, which include Clifton Court Forebay and the Banks Pumping Plant in the south Delta, enable DWR to divert water and lift it into the California Aqueduct. The proposed project would construct and operate new conveyance facilities in the Delta that would add to the existing SWP infrastructure. New intake facilities as points of diversion would be located in the north Delta along the Sacramento River between Freeport and the confluence with Sutter Slough. The new conveyance facilities would include a tunnel to convey water from the new intakes to the existing Banks Pumping Plant and potentially the federal Jones Pumping Plant in the south Delta. The new facilities would provide an alternate location for diversion of water from the Delta and would be operated in coordination with the existing south Delta pumping facilities, resulting in a system also known as "dual conveyance"

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<sup>1</sup> These objectives are subject to refinement during the process of preparing a Draft EIR.

because there would be two complementary methods to divert and convey water. New facilities proposed for the Delta Conveyance Project include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Intake facilities on the Sacramento River
- Tunnel reaches and tunnel shafts
- Forebays
- Pumping plant
- South Delta Conveyance Facilities

Figure 1 shows the areas under consideration for these facilities. Other ancillary facilities may be constructed to support construction of the conveyance facilities including, but not limited to, access roads, barge unloading facilities, concrete batch plants, fuel stations, mitigation areas, and power transmission and/or distribution lines.

Under the proposed project, the new north Delta facilities would be sized to convey up to 6,000 cfs of water from the Sacramento River to the SWP facilities in the south Delta (with alternatives of different flow rates, as described in the “Alternatives” section below). DWR would operate the proposed north Delta facilities and the existing south Delta facilities in compliance with all state and federal regulatory requirements and would not reduce DWR’s current ability to meet standards in the Delta to protect biological resources and water quality for beneficial uses. Operations of the conveyance facilities are proposed to increase DWR’s ability to capture water during high flow events. Although initial operating criteria of the proposed project would be formulated during the preparation of the upcoming Draft EIR in order to assess potential environmental impacts and mitigation, final project operations would be determined after completion of the CEQA process, obtaining appropriate water right approvals through the State Water Resources Control Board’s change in point of diversion process, and completing the consultation and review requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act and California Endangered Species Act. Construction and commissioning of the overall conveyance project, if approved, would take approximately 13 years, but the duration of construction at most locations would vary and would not extend for this full construction period.

Reclamation is considering the potential option to involve the CVP in the Delta Conveyance Project. Because of this possibility, the connection to the existing Jones Pumping Plant in the south Delta is included in the proposed facility descriptions below. The proposed project may include a portion of the overall capacity dedicated for CVP use, or it may accommodate CVP use of available capacity (when not used by SWP participants). If Reclamation determines that there could be a role for the CVP in the Delta Conveyance Project, this role would be identified in a separate NEPA Notice of Intent issued by Reclamation.



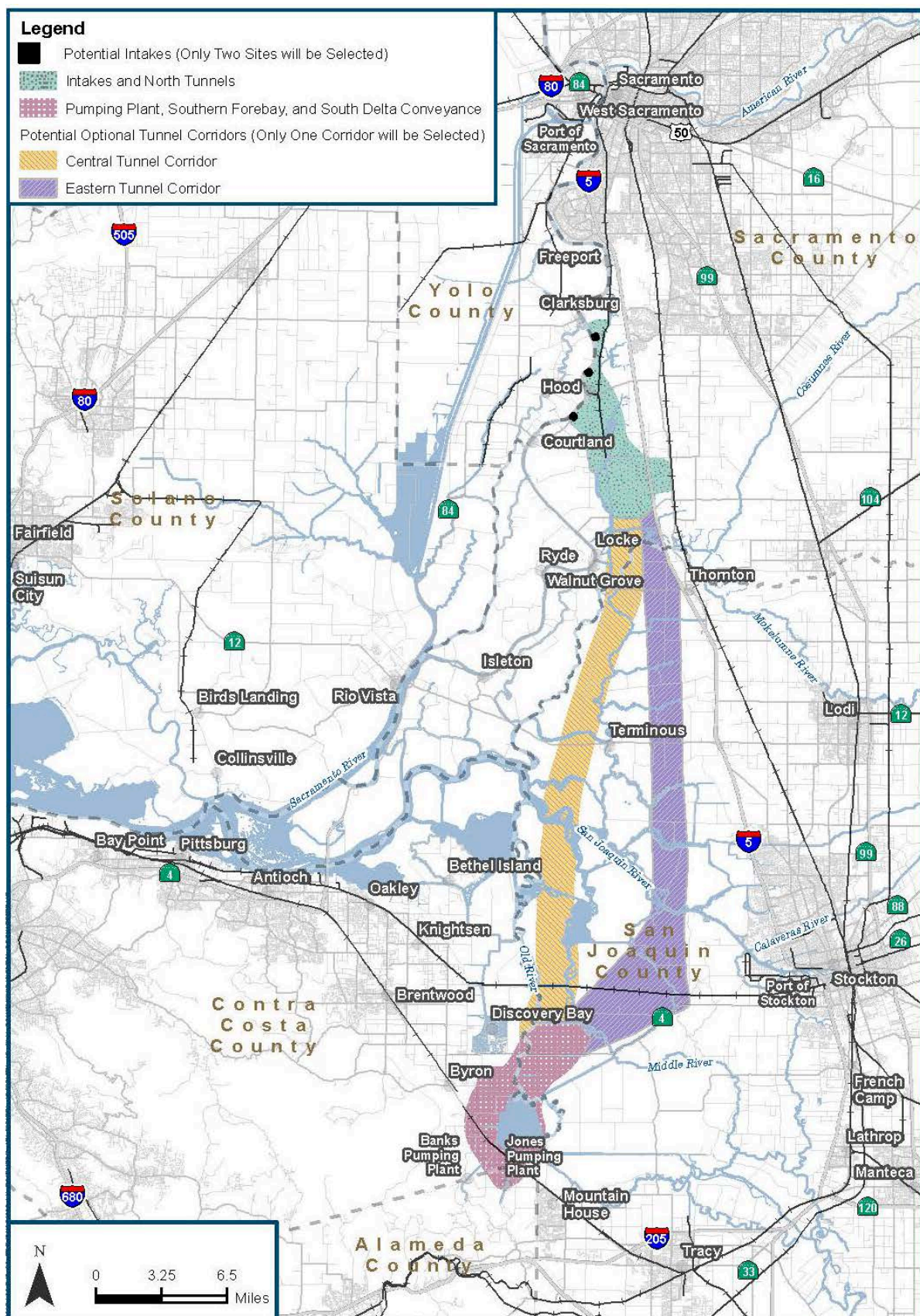


Figure 1. Proposed Project Facility Corridor Options

## Intake Facilities

The proposed intake facilities would be located along the Sacramento River between Freeport and the confluence with Sutter Slough, as shown in Figure 1. The proposed project would include two intakes with a maximum diversion capacity of about 3,000 cfs each. The size of each intake location could range from 75 to 150 acres, depending upon fish screen selection, along the Sacramento River and include a state-of-the-art fish screen, sedimentation basins, tunnel shaft, and ancillary facilities. An additional 40 to 60 acres at each intake location would be temporarily disturbed for staging of construction facilities, materials storage, and a concrete batch plant, if needed.

## Tunnel and Tunnel Shafts

The proposed project would construct up to two north connecting tunnel reaches to connect the intakes to an Intermediate Forebay (see “Forebays” section below), a single main tunnel from the Intermediate Forebay to a new Southern Forebay, and two connecting south tunnel reaches as part of the proposed project’s South Delta Conveyance Facilities (see “South Delta Conveyance Facilities” section below) to connect to the existing SWP and, potentially CVP, facilities in the south Delta. The single main tunnel would follow one of two potential optional corridors as shown in Figure 1.

The proposed single main tunnel and connecting tunnel reaches would be constructed underground with the bottom of the tunnel at approximately 190 feet below the ground surface. Construction for the tunnel would require a series of launch shafts and retrieval shafts. Each launch and retrieval shaft site would require a permanent area of about four acres. Launch sites would involve temporary use of up to about 400 acres for construction staging and material storage. Depending on the location, the shafts may also require flood protection facilities to extend up to about 45 feet above the existing ground surface to avoid water from entering the tunnel from the ground surface if the area was flooded. Earthen material would be removed from below the ground surface as tunnel construction progresses; this reusable tunnel material could be reused for embankments or other purposes in the Delta or stored near the launch shaft locations.

## Forebays

The proposed project would include an Intermediate Forebay and a Southern Forebay. The Intermediate Forebay would provide potential operational benefits and would be located along the tunnel corridor between the intakes and the pumping plant. The Southern Forebay would be located at the southern end of the single main tunnel and would facilitate conveyance to the existing SWP pumping facility and, potentially the CVP pumping facilities. The forebays would be constructed above the ground, and not within an existing water body. The size of the Intermediate Forebay would be approximately 100 acres with an additional 150 acres disturbed during construction for material and equipment storage, and reusable tunnel material storage. The embankments would be approximately 30 feet above the existing ground surface. Additional appurtenant structures, including a permanent crane, would extend up to 40 feet above the embankments.

The Southern Forebay would be located near the existing Clifton Court Forebay and would be approximately 900 acres with an additional 200 acres disturbed during construction for material and equipment storage, potential loading and offloading facilities, and reusable tunnel material storage. The Southern Forebay embankments would be up to 30 feet above the existing ground surface.

### Pumping Plant

The proposed project would include a pumping plant located at the new Southern Forebay and would receive the water through the single main tunnel for discharge in the Southern Forebay. The pumping plant would be approximately 25 acres along the side of the Southern Forebay and would include support structures, with a permanent crane for maintenance as the highest feature that would extend approximately 70 feet above the existing ground surface. The temporary and permanent disturbed area for the pumping plant is included in the Southern Forebay area, described above.

### South Delta Conveyance Facilities

The proposed project would include South Delta Conveyance Facilities that would extend from the new Southern Forebay to the existing Banks Pumping Plant inlet channel. The connection to the existing Banks Pumping Plant would be via canals with two tunnels to cross under the Byron Highway. The canals and associated control structures would be located over approximately 125 to 150 acres. Approximately 40 to 60 additional acres would be disturbed temporarily during construction. These facilities could also be used to connect the Southern Forebay to the CVP's Jones Pumping Plant.

### **Contract Amendment for Delta Conveyance**

The proposed project may involve modifications to one or more of the State Water Resources Development System (commonly referred to as the SWP) water supply contracts to incorporate the Delta Conveyance Project. Therefore, if modifications move forward, the Delta Conveyance Project EIR will assess, as part of the proposed project, potential environmental impacts associated with reasonably foreseeable potential contract modifications.

### **PROJECT AREA**

The proposed EIR project area for evaluation of impacts consists of the following three geographic regions, as shown in Figure 2, below.

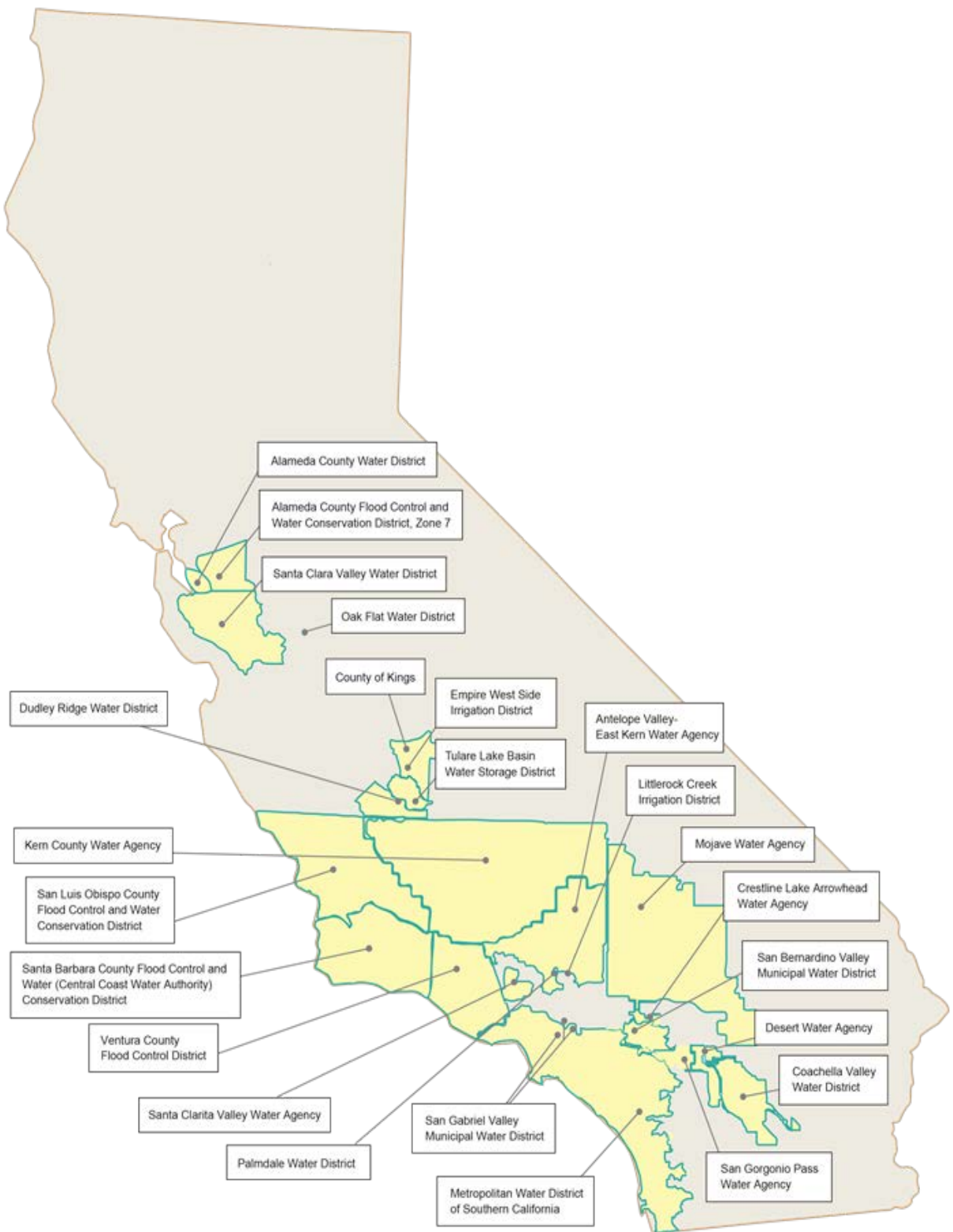
- Upstream of the Delta region
- Statutory Delta (California Water Code Section 12220)
- South-of-Delta SWP Service Areas and, potentially, South-of-Delta CVP Service Areas.

The study areas will be specifically defined for each resource area evaluated in the EIR. Figure 3 shows the SWP South-of-Delta water contractors.



### Figure 2. Project Area





**Figure 3. SWP South-of-Delta Service Areas**

## **ALTERNATIVES**

As described above, the proposed project has been informed by past efforts taken within the Delta and the watersheds of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, including those undertaken through the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP)/California WaterFix. As stated in CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(a), the “EIR shall describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project, and evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives. An EIR need not consider every conceivable alternative to a project. Rather it must consider a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that will foster informed decision making and public participation. An EIR is not required to consider alternatives which are infeasible.”

The scoping process will inform preliminary locations, corridors, capacities and operations of new conveyance facilities to be evaluated in the EIR. In identifying the possible EIR alternatives to be analyzed in detail, DWR is currently considering alternatives with capacities that range from 3,000 to 7,500 cfs, with varying degrees of involvement of the CVP, including no involvement. DWR will make its final choice of potentially feasible alternatives to include in the Draft EIR after receipt of scoping comments.

## **POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

DWR as the lead agency will describe and analyze the significant environmental effects of the proposed project. DWR did not prepare an initial study so none is attached; the EIR will include the suite of resource categories contained in Appendix G of CEQA Guidelines. Probable effects may include:

- Water Supply: changes in water deliveries.
- Surface Water: changes in river flows in the Delta.
- Groundwater: potential effects to groundwater levels during operation.
- Water Quality: changes to water quality constituents and/or concentrations from operation of facilities.
- Geology and Seismicity: changes in risk of settlement during construction.
- Soils: changes in topsoil associated with construction of the water conveyance facilities.
- Fish and Aquatic Resources: effects to fish and aquatic resources from construction and operation of the water conveyance facilities.
- Terrestrial Biological Resources: effects to terrestrial species due to construction of the water conveyance facilities.
- Land Use: incompatibilities with land use designations.
- Agricultural and Forestry Resources: preservation or conversion of farmland.
- Recreation: displacement and reduction of recreation sites.
- Aesthetics and Visual Resources: effects to scenic views because of water conveyance facilities.
- Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources: effects to archeological and historical sites and tribal cultural resources.
- Transportation: vehicle miles traveled; effects on road and marine traffic.

- Public Services and Utilities: effects to regional or local utilities.
- Energy: changes to energy use from construction and operation of facilities.
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas: changes in criteria pollutant emissions and localized particulate matter from construction and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Noise: changes in noise and vibration from construction and operation of the facilities.
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials: potential conflicts with hazardous sites.
- Public Health: changes to surface water could potentially increase concerns about mosquito-borne diseases
- Mineral Resources: changes in availability of natural gas wells due to construction of the water conveyance facilities.
- Paleontological Resources: effects to paleontological resources due to excavation for borrow and for construction of tunnels and canals.
- Climate Change: increase resiliency to respond to climate change
- Growth Inducement and Other Indirect Effects: changes to land uses as a result of changes in water availability resulting from changes in water supply deliveries

Where the potential to cause significant environmental impacts are identified, the EIR will identify avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures that avoid or substantially lessen those impacts.

## **ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

DWR previously studied a similar project through efforts on the BDCP and subsequently the California WaterFix. The proposed Delta Conveyance Project is a new project and is not supplemental to these past efforts or tiered from previous environmental compliance documents. This section provides background on these past efforts.

In October 2006, various state and federal agencies, water contractors, and other stakeholders initiated a process to develop what became known as the BDCP to advance the objectives of contributing to the restoration of ecological functions in the Delta and improving water supply reliability for the SWP and CVP Delta operations in the State of California.

In December 2013, after several years of preparation, DWR, Reclamation, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service, acting as joint lead agencies under CEQA and NEPA, published a draft of the BDCP and an associated Draft EIR/EIS. The Draft EIR/EIS analyzed a total of 15 action alternatives, including Alternative 4, which was identified as DWR's preferred alternative at that time.

In July of 2015, after taking public and agency input into account, the lead agencies formulated three new sub-alternatives (2D, 4A, 5A) and released a Partially Recirculated Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS (RDEIR/SDEIS) for public comment. Alternative 4A, which is known as "California WaterFix" was identified as DWR and Reclamation's preferred alternative in the RDEIR/SDEIS.

On July 21, 2017, DWR certified the Final EIR and approved California WaterFix. Following

that approval, DWR continued to further refine the project, resulting in reductions to environmental impacts. These project refinements required additional CEQA/NEPA documentation.

On January 23, 2018, DWR submitted an addendum summarizing proposed project modifications to California WaterFix associated with refinements to the transmission line corridors proposed by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. The Addendum described the design of the applicable modified California WaterFix power features, proposed modifications to those power features (including an explanation of the need for the modifications), the expected benefits of the modifications to the transmission lines, and potential environmental effects as a result of those power related modifications (as compared to the impacts analyzed in the certified Final EIR).

On July 18, 2018, DWR released the California WaterFix Draft Supplemental EIR, which evaluated proposed changes to the certain conveyance facilities of the approved project. (No Final Supplemental EIR was ever completed, due to the change in direction dictated by Governor Newsom's State of the State speech and Executive Order N-10-19.) On September 21, 2018, Reclamation issued the California WaterFix Draft Supplemental EIS, including an alternatives comparison.

## **SCOPING MEETINGS**

The proposed project is of statewide, regional or area-wide significance; therefore, a CEQA scoping meeting is required pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.9, subdivision (a)(2). Public Scoping meetings are scheduled to take place at the following times and locations:

- Monday, February 3, 2020, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. California Environmental Protection Agency Building, 1001 I Street, Sacramento
- Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Junipero Serra State Building, 320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles
- Monday, February 10, 2020, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Jean Harvie Community Center, 14273 River Road, Walnut Grove
- Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Room, 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose
- Thursday, February 13, 2020, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. San Joaquin Council of Governments Board Room, 555 Weber Avenue, Stockton
- Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium, 52870 Netherlands Road, Clarksburg
- Thursday, February 20, 2020, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Brentwood Community Center Conference Room, 35 Oak Street, Brentwood

Anyone interested in more information concerning the EIR process, or anyone who has information concerning the study or suggestions as to significant issues, should contact Marcus Yee at (916) 651-6736.



## WRITTEN COMMENTS

This notice is being furnished to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues and alternatives to consider in developing the EIR. The primary purpose of the scoping process is to identify important issues raised by the public and responsible and trustee public agencies related to the issuance of regulatory permits and authorizations and natural resource protection. Written comments from interested parties are invited to ensure that the full range of environmental issues related to the development of the EIR are identified. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

Written comments on this part of the Scoping process will be accepted until 5 p.m. on March 20, 2020 and can be submitted in several ways:

- Via email: [DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov](mailto:DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov)
- Via Mail: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments, Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94236

As required by the CEQA Guidelines, within 30 days after receiving the Notice of Preparation, each responsible and trustee agency is required to provide the lead agency with specific detail about the scope, significant environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures related to the responsible or trustee agency's area of statutory responsibility that will need to be explored in the EIR. In the response, responsible and trustee agencies should indicate their respective level of responsibility for the project.

PLEASE NOTE: DWR's practice is to make the entirety of comments received a part of the public record. Therefore names, home addresses, home phone numbers, and email addresses of commenters, if included in the response, will be made part of the record available for public review. Individual commenters may request that DWR withhold their name and/or home addresses, etc., but if you wish DWR to consider withholding this information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. In the absence of this written request, this information will be made part of the record for public review. DWR will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of, or officials of, organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.



**DISCUSSION ITEM**

February 5, 2020

**TO: Board of Directors**

**FROM: Robert Hunter,  
General Manager**

Staff Contact: Karl Seckel  
Harvey De La Torre  
Melissa Baum-Haley

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

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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

**DETAILED REPORT**

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

- a) MET's Water Supply Conditions
- b) MET's Finance and Rate Issues
- c) Colorado River Issues
- d) Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues
- e) MET's Ocean Desalination Policy and Potential Participation in the Doheny and Huntington Beach Ocean (Poseidon) Desalination Projects
- f) South Orange County Projects

**ISSUE BRIEF # A**

**SUBJECT: MET's Water Supply Conditions**

**RECENT ACTIVITY**

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*Information can be found in Item 5 – Water Supply Update and Storage Levels.*

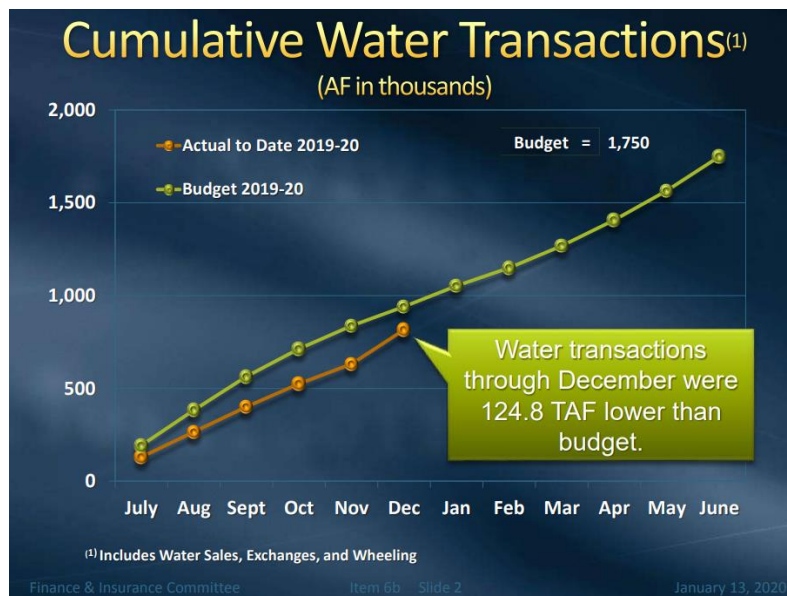
## ISSUE BRIEF # B

**SUBJECT: MET's Finance and Rate Issues**

### **RECENT ACTIVITY**

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Water transactions through December 2019 were 124.8 TAF (or 13%) lower than the Budget. Year to date revenues were \$864.1 million. Metropolitan is projecting Fiscal Year 2019/20 water transactions are expected to be \$197.7 million under budget. Water transactions are anticipated to be 198 TAF lower than the Fiscal Year budget of 1750 TAF potentially resulting in \$214 million less water revenues.



## **ISSUE BRIEF # C**

**SUBJECT: Colorado River Issues**

### **RECENT ACTIVITY**

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#### **Amendment to Agreements with Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District**

Following Board approval at the December Board meeting, on December 11, Metropolitan built on an existing partnership with Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District by signing the amendment to agreements for the exchange and delivery of water. This comprehensive set of amendments updates existing agreements and will provide greater certainty for water supply and financial planning, simplify program implementation, and improve dry-year water supply reliability. The partnership was recognized in Las Vegas where the agreements were signed by the agency General Managers and attorneys.

#### **Bard Water District Seasonal Fallowing Agreement**

Following Board approval at the December Board meeting, on December 20, a landmark, seven-year seasonal land fallowing agreement to conserve Colorado River water to benefit California cities and farms was signed by Metropolitan and Bard Water District. Under this agreement, Bard farmers will forgo planting lower-value, water-intensive crops during spring and summer, receiving a payment of \$452 for each acre fallowed for the season (escalated annually). A portion of this payment will be used by Bard Water District to make needed system improvements. This seasonal fallowing will reduce water consumption in Bard, making more Colorado River water available for Metropolitan to divert or store in Lake Mead. Metropolitan estimates a water savings of 2.0 acre-feet per irrigable acre. Participating farmers will reduce their water consumption through land fallowing of up to 3,000 acres annually between the months of April and July.

#### **Regional Recycled Water – Potential Partnership**

In December, staff of Metropolitan and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) shared information with their respective board and advisory meetings about a potential future partnership on Metropolitan's Regional Recycled Water Program. At Metropolitan's Engineering and Operations Committee in December, the possibility of a Letter of Intent between Metropolitan and SNWA was discussed, followed by a meeting at which SNWA described the potential Letter of Intent with its Integrated Resource Planning Advisory Committee 2020. Metropolitan staff will keep its Board apprised of discussion between our two agencies on this matter.



## **ISSUE BRIEF # D**

**SUBJECT: Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues**

### **RECENT ACTIVITY**

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For information specifically relating to the Delta Conveyance Project (f.k.a. the California WaterFix) please, refer to the associated Board Item – Delta Conveyance Project Activities.

### **Science Activities**

Metropolitan staff co-authored, with other state and federal agency staff, a recently published Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) Newsletter scientific article titled “Invasive Aquatic Vegetation Impacts on Delta Operations, Monitoring, and Ecosystem and Human Health.” The article is a review of the efforts by state agencies to monitor and control aquatic weeds in the Delta as well as the ecological impacts of the aquatic weeds on the Delta ecosystem. Invasive aquatic vegetation is becoming increasingly more common in the Delta, causing alterations to the environmental characteristics. Invasive aquatic vegetation is also impacting both ecosystem and human activities. Ecosystem impacts include flow disruption, reduced native habitat, and altered food web. Human impacts include impediments to recreational and commercial navigation, impairments to water diversions both small and large, potential habitat for human disease vectors, and costs to control its expansion.

Metropolitan staff participated in several Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) Project Work Team meetings in December addressing winter run salmon, salmon genetics and climate change. The purpose of the IEP Project Work Teams is to collaborate on science activities, organize new studies, review study proposals, and prepare scientific reports.

Metropolitan staff continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program, including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). At the December 17 CAMT meeting, the team received a presentation on the CAMT Fall Outflow Study, which is evaluating the environmental conditions associated with detection and occupancy of Delta smelt in the fall months, including fall outflow. Preliminary results of the study identified several environmental variables that had a strong relationship with Delta smelt occupancy, including salinity, temperature, turbidity, predators, and competitor species. The Fall Outflow Study investigators also noted critical data gaps for their analysis, especially the lack of food web data for some regions where Delta smelt are found. CAMT also discussed proposed activities for the CAMT 2020 work plan and discussed next steps in implementing the Delta Smelt Science Plan, completed earlier this year.

Metropolitan staff continued participation on the Delta smelt Structured Decision Making Technical Work Group, and this month provided input to the screening of Delta smelt impact pathways, which will inform Delta smelt objectives and performance measures. Metropolitan staff also continued participation on the CAMT Salmon Subcommittee, which is currently focused on providing input to the development of a Coordinated Salmon Science Plan (CSSP). The purpose of the CSSP is to integrate and prioritize salmon science activities in

the Delta region to support decision making related to conservation and management actions.

## **ISSUE BRIEF # E**

**SUBJECT: MET's Ocean Desalination Policy and Potential Participation in the Doheny and Huntington Beach Ocean (Poseidon) Desalination Projects**

### **RECENT ACTIVITY**

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#### **Doheny Desal**

The details of this have been moved to briefing Issue F as it pertains only to South Orange County.

#### **Poseidon Huntington Beach**

The Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (SARWQCB) continues to work with Poseidon on renewal of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for the proposed HB Desalination Project.

At the December 6, 2019 SARWQCB meeting in Huntington Beach, Regional Board staff conducted a workshop on the renewal of the NPDES permit for the proposed desalination facility. Along with the NPDES permit renewal, the facility requires a California Water Code section 13142.5(b) determination in accordance with the State's Ocean Plan (a.k.a. the Desalination Amendment). The workshop reviewed the proposed facility, the draft renewal of the NPDES permit, and the associated draft Water Code section determination. To make a determination consistent with the Desalination Amendment the Regional Board is required to analyze the project using a two-step process:

1. Analyze separately as independent consideration a range of feasible alternatives for the best available to minimize intake and mortality of all forms of marine life:
  - a. Site
  - b. Design
  - c. Technology
  - d. Mitigation Measures
2. Then consider all four factors collectively and determine the best combination of feasible alternatives.

Regional Board staff reviewed hundreds of documents and input from both an independent reviewer and a neutral 3rd party reviewer to develop the tentative Order and proposed Water Code section 13142.5(b) determination.

The key areas required by the Ocean Plan on which the Santa Ana Water Board is required to make a determination, includes:

- Facility onshore location;
- Intake considerations including subsurface and surface intake systems;
- **Identified need for the desalinated water;**

- Concentrated brine discharge considerations;
- Calculation of the marine life impacts; and
- Determination of the best feasible mitigation project available.

In evaluating the proposed project, Santa Ana Regional Board staff interpreted “the identified need for the desalinated water” as whether or not the project is included in local area water planning documents, rather than a reliability need as analyzed in the OC Water Reliability Study. The Regional Board staff referenced several water planning documents; Municipal Water District of Orange County’s (MWDOC) 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), the OC Water Reliability Study, OCWD’s Long Term Facilities Plan, and other OCWD planning documents in their evaluation of Identified Need.

The workshop was heavily attended. There were a considerable range of views expressed at the meeting. Several of the SARWQCB members were somewhat confused about the evaluation of Identified Need for the project (inclusion in local water planning documents vs. an identified reliability need for the project) and requested staff to help them understand the issue better.

#### **The Regional Board Final Permit issuance is anticipated at the April 3, 2020 meeting**

Assuming success, Poseidon would then seek its final permits from the California Coastal Commission (CCC). The CCC has committed to reviewing the permit within 90 days of the SARWQCB NPDES permit issuance (CCC permit issuance estimated to be summer 2020).

The latest information is for the SARWQCB to conduct a meeting on March 13, 2020 where both MWDOC and OCWD have been invited to participate regarding the “need” for the Poseidon Project. The definition of “need” varies between the 2014 Ocean Plan Amendment definition where the project must be included in an Urban Water Management Plan or other planning document to a more conventional definition of “need” being from a supply reliability perspective.

## **ISSUE BRIEF # F**

**SUBJECT: South Orange County Projects**

### **RECENT ACTIVITY**

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#### **Doheny Desal Project**

On October 30, 2019, South Coast held a workshop on a Peer Review Cost Estimate for the Doheny Desal Project. Rich Svindland, of California American Water (CalAm), who helped develop the 6.4 MGD Monterey Ocean Desal Project using slant well technology, completed a peer review cost estimate for the Doheny Ocean Desal Project. A workshop was held on October 30, 2019 to present the Peer Review by CalAm based on their experience in developing and bidding a project in Monterey (that plant has not been constructed due to permitting and legal issues). The CalAm presentation and review of the previous Doheny Desal cost estimate by GHD indicated some differences in capital and operating costs including a higher level of staffing for the plant as suggested by CalAm. Overall the cost differences resulted in estimated increased costs:

- Capital costs were estimated at 5.4% higher
- O&M costs were estimated at 15.8% higher
- Overall, the unit cost of water increased from \$1,556 per AF to \$1,805 per AF, an increase of \$249 per AF, an overall increase of about 16.0%

South Coast WD's Board has voiced their opinion that a 5 MGD project provides too much water and is beyond the ability of South Coast WD to shoulder by themselves. Without other partners, they may consider a plant size as small as 2.0 mgd without any oversizing to protect the potential for an ultimate 15 mgd project. The use of excess recycled supplies potentially to be blended with ocean supplies was also discussed with the Latham wastewater plant in near proximity to the Doheny Desal Project. The unknown regarding the concentrated iron and manganese laden water found during the pilot testing.

#### **Next Steps by South Coast WD:**

1. Look for partners
2. High Level Schedule (has slipped a bit due to the Regional Board schedule)
  - a. Environmental permitting                      Late Summer 2020
  - b. DBOM Contract Develop                      Early 2020
  - c. DBOM Contract Award                      Early 2021
  - d. Construction                      Early 2023



### **SMWD Trampas Canyon Recycled Water Reservoir**

Trampas Canyon Reservoir and Dam (Trampas Reservoir) is a seasonal recycled water storage reservoir, with a total capacity of 5,000 AF, of which 2,500 AF is available to meet Santa Margarita Water District's projected base recycled water demands, and 2,500 AF to meet future water supply needs. When completed, the Trampas Reservoir will allow SMWD to store recycled water in the winter and draw on that water during the peak summer months.

The construction of the Trampas Canyon Recycled Water Seasonal Storage Reservoir consists of three main components:

1. Trampas Canyon Dam (Dam)
2. Conveyance facilities to transport recycled water into and out of the Reservoir (Pipelines)
3. Trampas Canyon Pump Station (Pump Station)

The construction of the facilities is being completed in three phases:

1. Preconstruction/Site Preparation for the Dam and Pump Station Construction
  - a. Project Status - Complete
2. Dam and Pipelines
  - a. Project Status - The Construction Contract was awarded in December 2017 and is approximately 73% complete.
3. Pump Station
  - a. Project Status - The pump station construction contract was award to Kingmen Construction on November 22, 2019 for \$3.356 million. Substantial completion of the pump station is anticipated August 31, 2020.

### **San Juan Watershed Project**

Santa Margarita WD continues to focus on diversifying its water supply portfolio for south Orange County residents, businesses, schools, and visitors. On June 21, 2019, the San Juan Watershed Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was approved.

The original project had three Phases; Phase 1 was three rubber dams recovering about 700 AFY; Phase 2 added up to 8 more rubber dams with the introduction of recycled water into the creek to improve replenishment of the basin for up to 6,120 AFY, and Phase 3 added more recycled water topping out at approximately 9,480 AFY. Under this arrangement, most or all of the production and treatment involved the existing San Juan Groundwater Desalter with expansions scheduled along the way to increase production over 5 mgd. Fish passage and regulatory hurdles to satisfy subsurface travel time requirements are presenting some difficulties.

SMWD is working with the Ranch on the next phase of development within SMWD and have access to riparian groundwater from the Ranch. Furthermore, they have discovered that the local geology has high vertical percolation rates and sufficient groundwater basin

travel time to potentially allow percolation of treated recycled water. SMWD is of the opinion that groundwater production and treatment of the groundwater can be initiated in a relatively short time-frame while permitting for percolation augmentation using recycled water from the nearby Trampas reservoir can be added as permitting allows. They believe the new project area may be able to ultimately produce 4,000 to 5,000 AF per year; they believe the original project will continue to be developed for production out of the wells and treatment provided by San Juan Capistrano as the two agencies merge. Ultimate production out of the basin could exceed 10,000 AF per year if all goes well.

### **South Orange County Emergency Service Program**

MWDOC, IRWD, and Dudek have completed the study to determine if the existing IRWD South Orange County Interconnection capacity for providing emergency water to South Orange County can be expanded and/or extended beyond its current time horizon of 2030.

Dudek participated in the November 6, 2019 workshop to re-engage with the SOC agencies on this project. Support from the agencies was expressed to take a small next step to install Variable Frequency Drives at a pump station within IRWD which would be paid for by SOC to help move water from the IRWD system to SOC in an emergency. The Variable Frequency Drives will provide more flexibility to the IRWD operations staff to allow additional water to be sent to SOC while meeting all of the IRWD needs.

### **Strand Ranch Project** (No New Information)

Staff from MWDOC and IRWD are still discussing how to capture the benefits that can be provided by the development of “extraordinary supplies” from the Strand Ranch Project. A meeting is scheduled for Feb. 14th to further exchange ideas on how to implement the program.

### **Other Information on South County Projects**

If any agencies would like to have updates included herein on any projects within your service area, please email the updates to Karl Seckel at [kseckel@mwdoc.com](mailto:kseckel@mwdoc.com).

**Summary Report for  
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Board Meeting  
January 14, 2020**

**GUEST SPEAKER TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Sandy Kerl, General Manager San Diego County Water Authority. **(Agenda Item 4a)**

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Director Camacho was appointed to the Legal and Claims Committee, the Engineering and Operations Committee, and the Real Property and Asset Management Committee. Director Repenning was appointed to the Communications and Legislation Committee and the Engineering and Operations Committee. **(Agenda Item 5F)**

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

Approved the draft of Appendix A in Attachment 1 of the board letter; authorized the General Manager, or other designee of the Ad Hoc Committee, to finalize, with changes approved by the General Manager and General Counsel, Appendix A; and authorized distribution of Appendix A, finalized by the General Manager or other designee of the Ad Hoc Committee, in connection with the sale or remarketing of bonds. **(Agenda Item 8-1)**

**ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Awarded a contract to Suez Treatment Solutions Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$4,100,000 to procure PSUs and dielectrics for Jensen's ozone generation system.  
**(DEFERRED - Agenda Item 8-2)**

Authorized an increase of \$5.5 million for capital projects costing less than \$400,000 for fiscal years 2018/19 and 2019/20. **(Agenda Item 8-3)**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

Adopt the updated State Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2020.  
**(TABLED; deferred to next month, no action taken - Agenda Item 8-4)**

Adopt the updated Federal Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2020.  
**(TABLED; deferred to next month, no action taken - Agenda Item 8-5)**

## **LEGAL AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE**

Review SDCWA December 19, 2019 proposal to settle and report on *San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, et al.* (cases and case numbers listed in the agenda). **(No action taken) (Agenda Item 8-6)**

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

In other actions, the Board:

Awarded \$594,800 contract to Kaveh Engineering & Construction, Inc. for the De Soto valve structure upgrade on the West Valley Feeder No. 1. **(Agenda Item 7-1)**

Adopted the CEQA determination that the proposed project was previously addressed in the certified 2017 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report and related CEQA actions, and authorized a lease agreement with Los Angeles Community College in an amount not-to-exceed \$850,000 for a five-year term, for property to be used for construction staging and storage of steel liner pipe. **(Agenda Item 7-2)**

Reviewed and considered the County of San Diego's adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration and take related CEQA actions, and adopted resolution for the Sringeri Vidya Bharati Foundation Temple Area Annexation concurrently to San Diego County Water Authority and Metropolitan. **(Agenda Item 7-3)**

## **OTHER MATTERS**

Inducted new Director Heather Repenning from the City of Los Angeles. **(Agenda Item 5C)**

Inducted returning Director Michael Camacho from Inland Empire Utilities Agency. **(Agenda Item 5D)**

Approved Commendatory Resolution for Director Jasmine Hall representing Inland Empire Utilities Agency. **(Agenda Item 5E)**

Presented Commendatory Resolution for Director Frank M. Heldman representing the Central Basin Municipal Water District. **(Agenda Item 5H)**

Presented Commendatory Resolution for Director Glen C. Dake representing the City of Los Angeles. **(Agenda Item 5I)**

Presented 5-year Service Pin to Director Marsha Ramos, representing the City of Burbank. **(Agenda Item 5J)**

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

Board letters related to the items in this summary are generally posted in the Board Letter Archive approximately one week after the board meeting. In order to view them and their attachments, please copy and paste the following into your browser:

<http://mwdh2o.com/WhoWeAre/Board/Board-Meeting/Pages/search.aspx>

All current month materials, before they are moved to the Board Letter Archive, are available on the public website here: <http://mwdh2o.com/WhoWeAre/archived-board-meetings>



**Summary Report for  
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Special Board Meeting  
January 28, 2020**

**OTHER BOARD ITEMS**

Authorized Administrative Code changes relating to committees of the Board as set forth in Attachment 2 to reflect all the changes recommended by the board letter with additional amendments added to the Integrated Resources Plan Special Committee. **(Agenda Item 5A)**

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

**Executive Committee:**

Director Repenning was appointed as Vice Chair replacing Director Paskett.

**Audit and Ethics Committee:**

Director McCoy was appointed as Vice Chair.

Director Paskett will remain as a member.

**Bay-Delta:**

Director Faessel was appointed as Vice Chair.

Director Pressman will remain as a member.

Director Repenning was appointed to the committee.

**Engineering and Operations:**

Director Treviño was appointed as Vice Chair.

Director De Jesus will remain as a member.

**Conservation and Local Resources:**

Director Abdo was appointed as Chair.

Director Quinn was appointed as Vice Chair.

Director Paskett will remain as a member.

**New Committee – Integrated Resources Plan:**

Director Pressman was appointed as Chair.

Director De Jesus was appointed as Vice Chair.

**Committee Members:**

Director Abdo

Director Atwater

Director Goldberg

Director Kurtz

Director Lefevre

Director McKenney

Director Ortega

Director Quinn

Director Record

Director Smith

Director Williams

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Item No. 7b

**Regular Board Meeting**

**February 11, 2020**

**12:00 p.m. – Boardroom**

Tuesday, February 11, 2020		
Meeting Schedule		
9:00 AM	L&C	Rm. 2-145
10:00 AM	C&LR	Rm. 2-456
10:30 AM	RP&AM	Rm. 2-145
12:00 PM	Board Mtg	Boardroom

MWD Headquarters Building

•

700 N. Alameda Street

•

Los Angeles, CA 90012

**1. Call to Order**

- (a) Invocation: TBD
- (b) Pledge of Allegiance: Director Sylvia Ballin

**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 Government Code Section 54954.3(a))

**5. OTHER MATTERS**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting for January 14, 2020 and the Special Board Meeting for January 25, 2020  
(Copies have been mailed to each Director)  
Any additions, corrections, or omissions
- B. Report on Directors' events attended at Metropolitan expense for month of January 2020
- C. Approve committee assignments
- D. Chairwoman's Monthly Activity Report
- E. Presentation of Commendatory Resolution for Director Jasmin Hall representing Inland Empire Utilities Agency

**6. DEPARTMENT HEADS' REPORTS**

- A. General Manager's summary of activities for the month of January 2020
- B. General Counsel's summary of activities for the month of January 2020
- C. General Auditor's summary of activities for the month of January 2020
- D. Ethics Officer's summary of activities for the month of January 2020

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS — ACTION**

- 7-1 Authorize the granting of a permanent easement to San Diego Gas and Electric Company for the construction and maintenance of electricity distribution facilities along Metropolitan fee-owned property in the unincorporated San Diego County community of Pala; the General Manager has determined these actions are exempt or are not subject to CEQA. (RP&AM)

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8. OTHER BOARD ITEMS — ACTION**

- 8-1 Set combined public hearing regarding (1) the proposed water rates and charges for calendar years 2021 and 2022 necessary to meet the revenue requirements for fiscal years 2020/21 and 2021/22, and (2) applicability of the MWD Act Section 124.5 ad valorem property tax limitation for fiscal years 2020/21 and 2021/22; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. (F&I)

- 8-2** Award a contract to Suez Treatment Solutions, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$4,100,000 for procurement of ozone generator dielectrics and power supply units at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. (E&O)
- 8-3** Authorize on-call agreements with Arcadis U.S., Inc., HDR, Inc., and Tetra Tech, Inc., in amounts not-to-exceed \$1 million per year each, for a maximum of five years, and with GEI Consultants, Inc. and Genterra Consultants, Inc., in amounts not-to-exceed \$500,000 per year each, for a maximum of three years, for engineering services to support board-authorized O&M and Capital Investment Plan projects; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. (E&O)
- 8-4** Adopt updated State Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2020; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. (C&L)
- 8-5** Adopt updated Federal Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2020; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. (C&L)
- 8-6** Report on Greg Staar v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV41726 and authorization for a legal services contract with Seyfarth Shaw LLP in an amount not-to-exceed \$200,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. (L&C)  
[Conference with legal counsel—existing litigation; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]



- 8-7** Authorize agricultural leases to D&L Farms, Sierra Cattle Company, and Steve Dinelli Farms in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. (RP&AM)

[Conference with real property negotiators; properties total approximately 10,915 acres of land in areas known as Bacon Island and Bouldin Island in Northern California, also identified as San Joaquin County Assessor Parcel Nos. 129-050-01; 129-050-02; 129-050-03; 129-050-04; 129-050-05; 129-050-06; 129-050-07; 129-050-08; 129-050-09; 129-050-11; 129-050-12; 129-050-13; 129-050-14; 129-050-15; 129-050-16; 129-050-17; 129-050-18; 129-050-19; 129-050-24; 129-050-25; 129-050-26; 129-050-27; 129-050-28; 129-050-52; 129-050-54; 129-050-55; 129-050-56; 129-050-60; 069-030-37; 069-030-38; 069-030-39; 069-100-01; and 069-100-02; agency negotiators: Kevin Webb and Octavia Tucker; negotiating parties: Leisha and David Robertson dba D&L Farms; Robert Hilarides dba Sierra Cattle Company; and Steve Dinelli dba Steve Dinelli Farms; under negotiation: price and terms; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.]

## **9. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 9-1** Update on Conservation Program
- 9-2** Proposed biennial budget which includes the Capital Investment Plan and revenue requirements for fiscal years 2020/21 and 2021/22; proposed water rates and charges for calendar years 2021 and 2022 to meet revenue requirements for fiscal years 2020/21 and 2021/22; ten-year forecast; and Cost of Service Report (Workshop #1). (F&I)

## **10. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

## **11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## **12. 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 parentheses at the end of the description of the agenda item e.g., (E&O, F&I). Committee agendas may be obtained from the Board Executive Secretary.

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  
<http://www.mwdh2o.com>.

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.