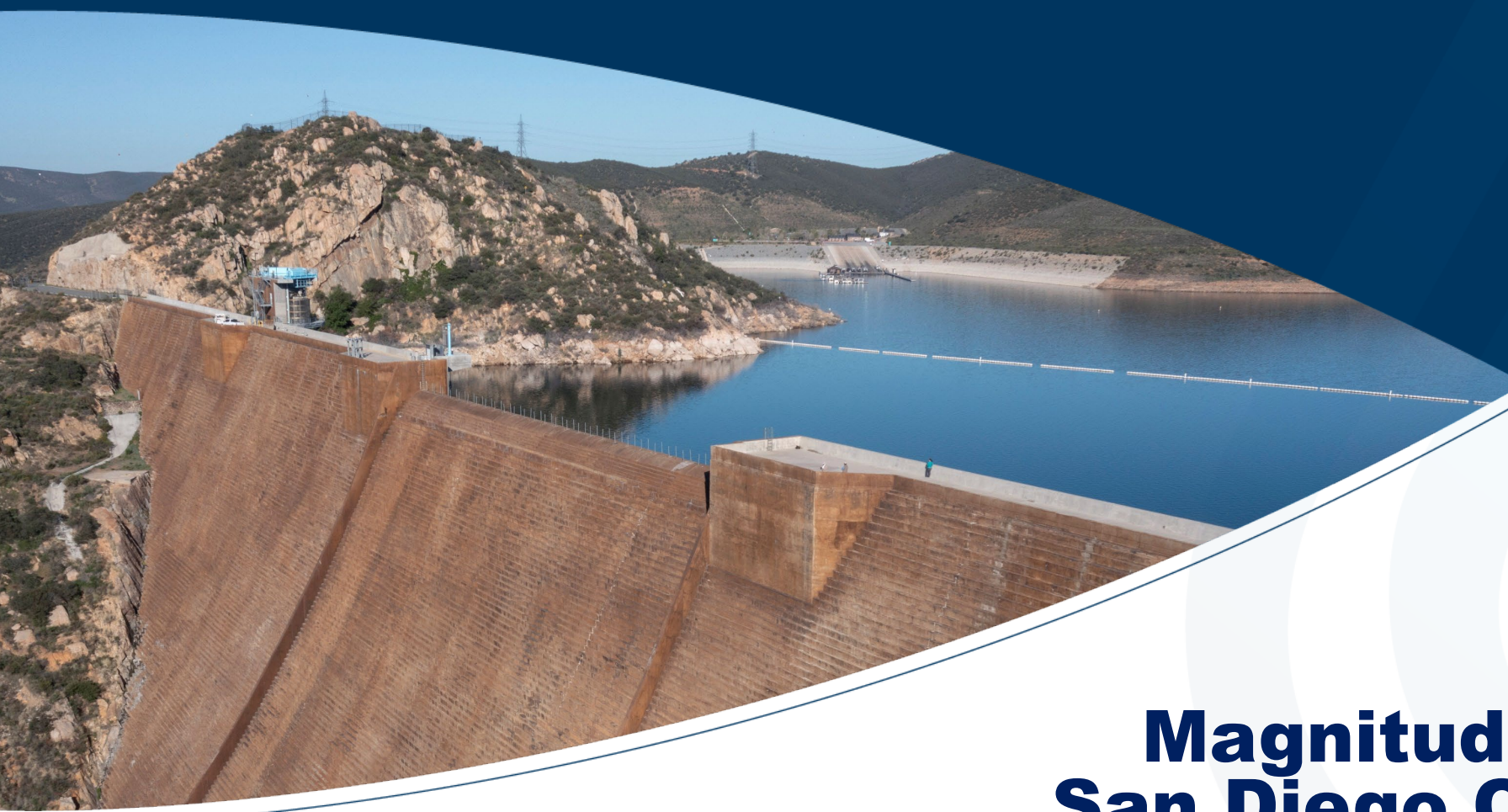




**San Diego County  
Water Authority**  
And Its 24  
Member Agencies



# **Magnitude of Managing San Diego County's Water**

June 6, 2022  
LAFCO Commission Meeting

**Sandy Kerl**  
General Manager



# Is San Diego Prepared for Drought?

- Water conservation is hard-wired in San Diego County
- Conserved Colorado River QSA supplies are highly reliable
- Drought-resilient supplies include seawater desalination
- Region's water supplies are reliable even in multiple dry years

# Started Preparing in Early 1990's

## Companies cringe at 50 percent cut in water

Firms offer conservation plans to mayor; some say cutbacks could cripple growth

## State to Shut Off Water Delivery to Southland

By VIRGINIA ELLIS  
and TED ROHRLICH  
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

SACRAMENTO – Gov. Pete Wilson on Monday announced new and unprecedented cutbacks of state water deliveries so drastic that Southern California will be cut off from this traditional source of water by mid-March.

Wilson said that drought conditions he state to notify cities:

## Water Dependence Bodes a Dry San Diego Future

■ Drought: A twisted history of water politics has left the county at the vulnerable end of the supply pipeline.

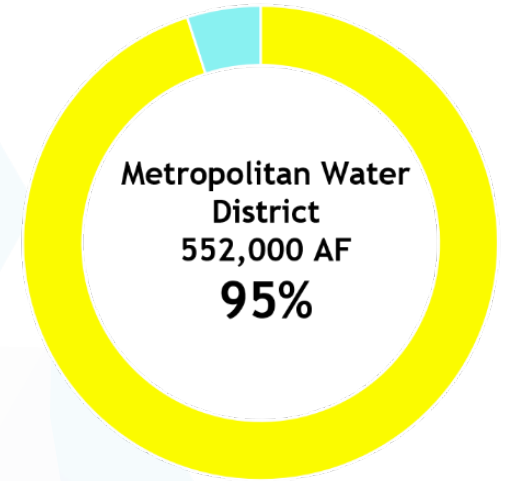
## 50% Water-Delivery Cut Will Be Blow to San Diego

■ Drought: Metropolitan Water District directors also vote a 90% cut in allocation for agricultural users.

## Grim water outlook is getting even worse

By Steve LaRue  
Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO – Southern Californians are likely to be ordered to cut back their water consumption by an unprecedented 30 percent this spring unless more snow falls on the Sierra Nevada, the area's chief water official said yesterday.



## State Water Project cuts off water to farms; urban slash expected

# Strategic Investments in Supply Reliability



Local Surface Water Storage  
\$1 billion



Carlsbad Seawater Desalination  
\$1 billion



QSA Water Transfer & Canal Linings  
Hundreds of Millions \$



Pipeline Relining  
\$493 million



Potable Water Reuse  
& Purple Pipe  
Hundreds of Millions \$



Twin Oaks Valley Water  
Treatment Plant  
\$179 million



Water Use-Efficiency  
Investments  
Hundreds of Millions \$

# Infrastructure Upgrades



The San Vicente Dam Raise, completed in 2014, produced the largest increase in water storage in San Diego County history.

# Claude "Bud" Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant



# Conserved Water Supplies

## Quantification Settlement Agreement



All-American and Coachella  
Canal lining projects



Conserving Agricultural runoff  
and water transfer agreements

# A Diversified Water Supply

## Reducing Dependence on Imported Water

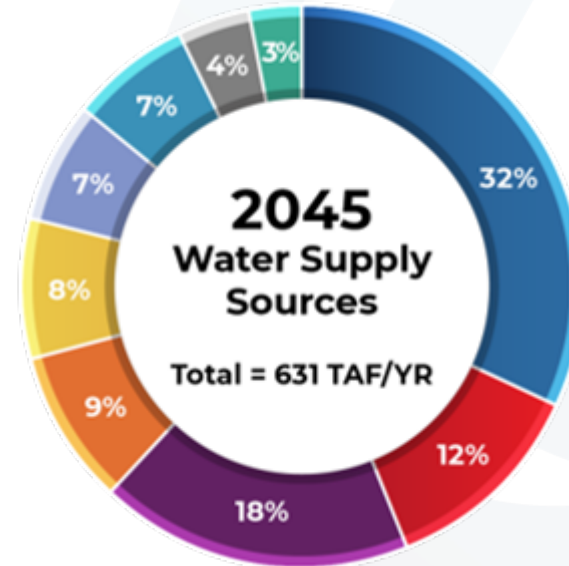
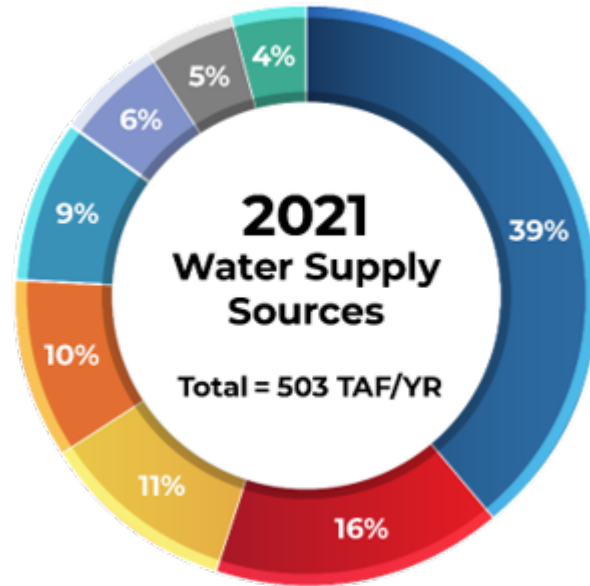
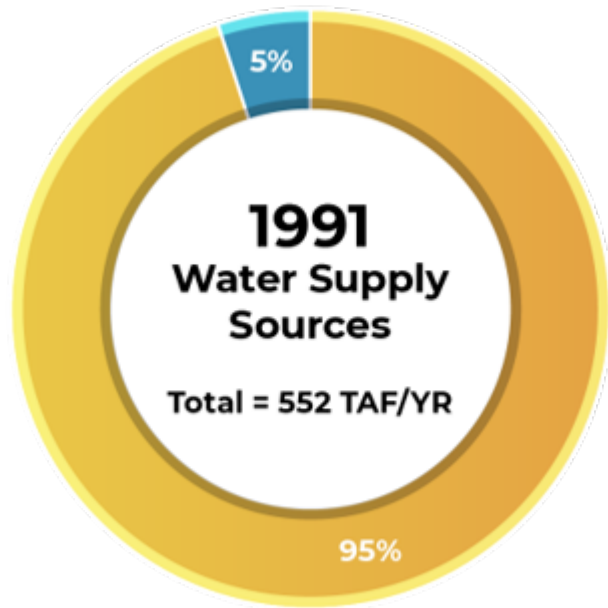
**31%**  
**Local Water Supply**

**69%**  
**Colorado River**

**<1%**  
**State Water Project**



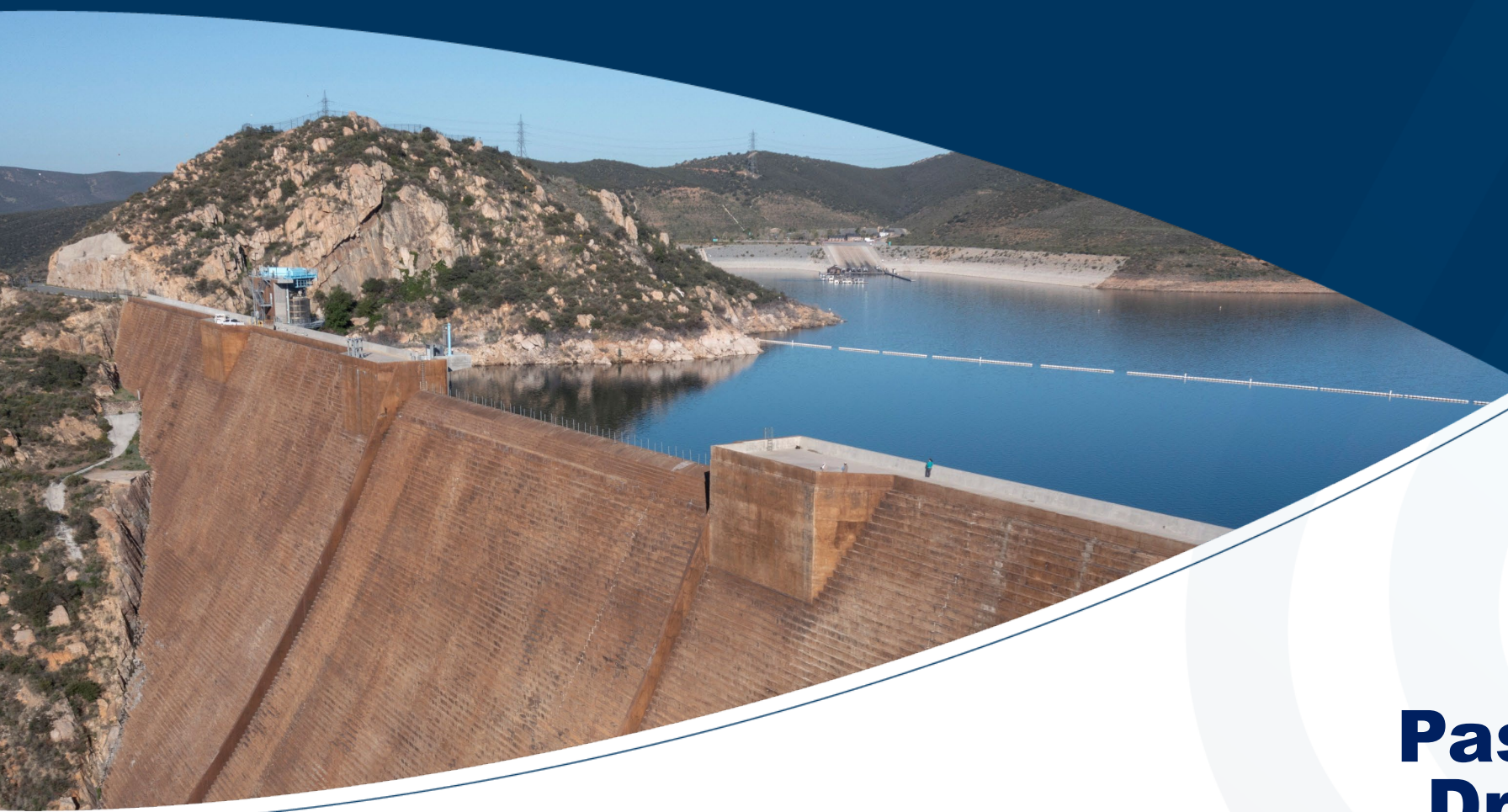
# Results of Supply Diversification



- Conserved Water/IID
- Conserved Water/Canal Lining
- Potable Reuse
- Seawater Desalination
- Metropolitan Water District
- Recycled Water
- Local Surface Water
- Groundwater
- San Luis Rey Water Transfer



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# **Past and Current Drought Actions**

**Kelley Gage**

Director of Water Resources

June 6, 2022  
LAFCO Commission Meeting

# Key State Actions During 2012-2016 Drought

- **May 2015** – Water Board’s emergency regulation required 25% statewide reduction in potable water use
  - Member agency reduction targets ranged from 12% to 36%
  - Reduction targets did not consider local supply conditions or availability of drought-resilient supplies
- **Feb. 2016** – Regulation amended to allow adjustments for new drought-resilient supplies
  - Carlsbad Desalination Plant supplies certified as drought resilient
  - Member agency targets lowered to between 8% and 28%



# State Moves From Conservation Mandate to “Stress Test”

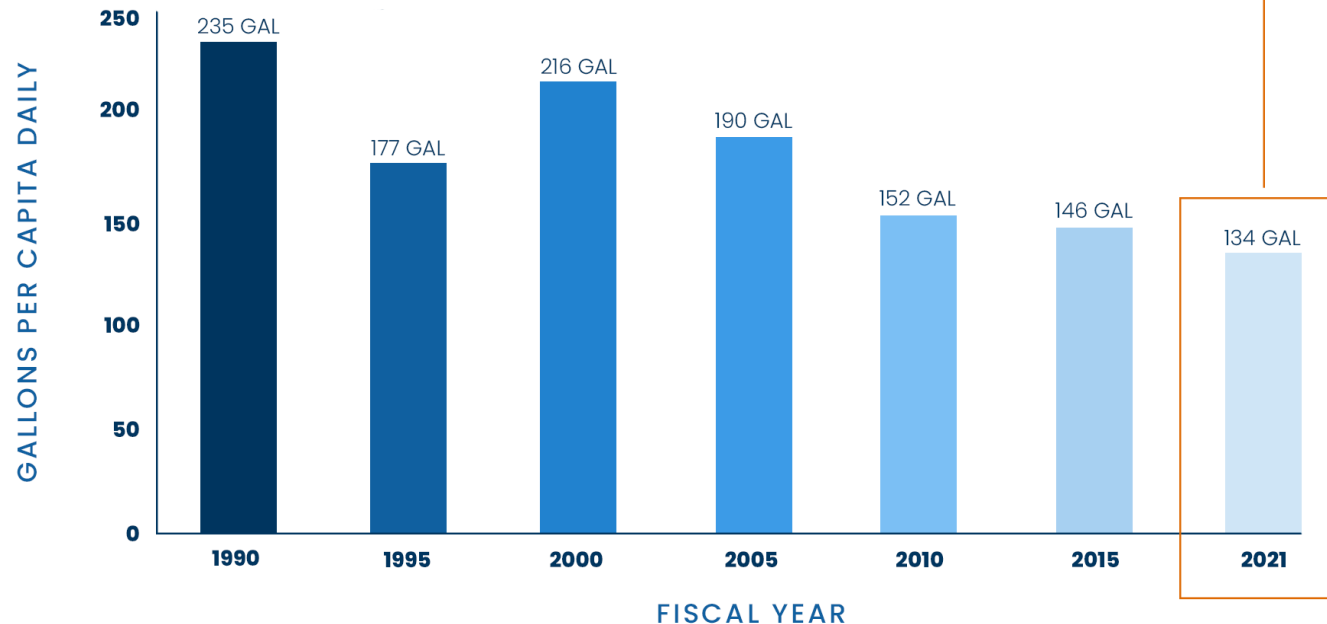
- **May 2016** – Regulation amended to allow self-certification
  - Individual conservation standard (if any) based on unique supply and demand conditions
  - Determined by projecting supplies and demands for 2017, 2018, 2019
    - Supplies based on hydrology in 2013, 2014, 2015
    - Demands based on potable use in 2013, 2014
  - Conservation standard based on shortage level in 2019
- **San Diego region’s “Stress Test” showed no shortages**
  - Eliminated member agency reduction targets
  - Carryover storage and desalination played key role
  - Significant reduction in water use during drought period



# Water Savings Continue into Current Drought

- Water use efficiency is a way of life for San Diego region
- No “bounce back” in water use after 2012 – 2016 drought

**Per capita water use in San Diego region has declined 43% since 1990**



# Key State Actions in Response to Current Drought

- **November 2020** - Governor directed state agencies to prepare for possible dry conditions in 2021
- **April 2021 – October 2021** - Governor issued multiple drought emergency proclamations
  - Declared statewide emergency
  - Authorized State Board to prepare emergency regulations to prohibit wasteful water practices
    - Adopted on January 4, 2022
  - Directed water suppliers to activate Water Shortage Contingency Plans (WSCP)
- **July 2021** – Governor issued Executive Order N-10-21
  - Voluntary 15% reduction in water use from 2020 levels



# Latest Executive Order (EO-N-7-22)

- Signed by Governor on **March 28, 2022**
- Key provision directs Water Board to consider adopting emergency regulations that require water suppliers to:
  - Submit preliminary Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment by June 1 (and final version by July 1)
  - Implement Level 2 demand actions in Water Shortage Contingency Plans
  - Ban irrigation of “non-functional” turf in commercial, institutional, and industrial sectors

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22

**WHEREAS** on April 12, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, I proclaimed states of emergency that continue today and exist across all the counties of California, due to extreme and expanding drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS** climate change continues to intensify the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and California is in a third consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in continuing drought in all parts of the State; and

**WHEREAS** the 21st century to date has been characterized by record warmth and predominantly dry conditions, and the 2021 meteorological summer in California and the rest of the western United States was the hottest on record; and

**WHEREAS** since my October 19, 2021 Proclamation, early rains in October and December 2021 gave way to the driest January and February in recorded history for the watersheds that provide much of California's water supply; and

**WHEREAS** the ongoing drought will have significant, immediate impacts on communities with vulnerable water supplies, farms that rely on irrigation to grow food and fiber, and fish and wildlife that rely on stream flows and cool water; and

# State Water Board Actions in Response to EO-N-7-22

- **April 20** – Released draft text of emergency regulation
- **April 21** – Hosted webinar to solicit informal feedback
- **May 24** – Final Emergency Regulation adopted

## Key Provisions:

- By June 10, water suppliers must implement demand reduction measures in Level 2 of Water Shortage Contingency Plans
- Bans irrigation of non-functional turf at commercial, industrial, institutional sites; establishes fine up to \$500
- Requires Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment to be submitted by June 1, final by July 1

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# Local Impact of State Regulations

Putting Level 2 demand reductions into play

Regulation does not:

- Require formal activation of Level 2 of WSCP
- Require an actual reduction of 20%

Water Authority can remain in Level 1, but implement Level 2 demand reduction actions

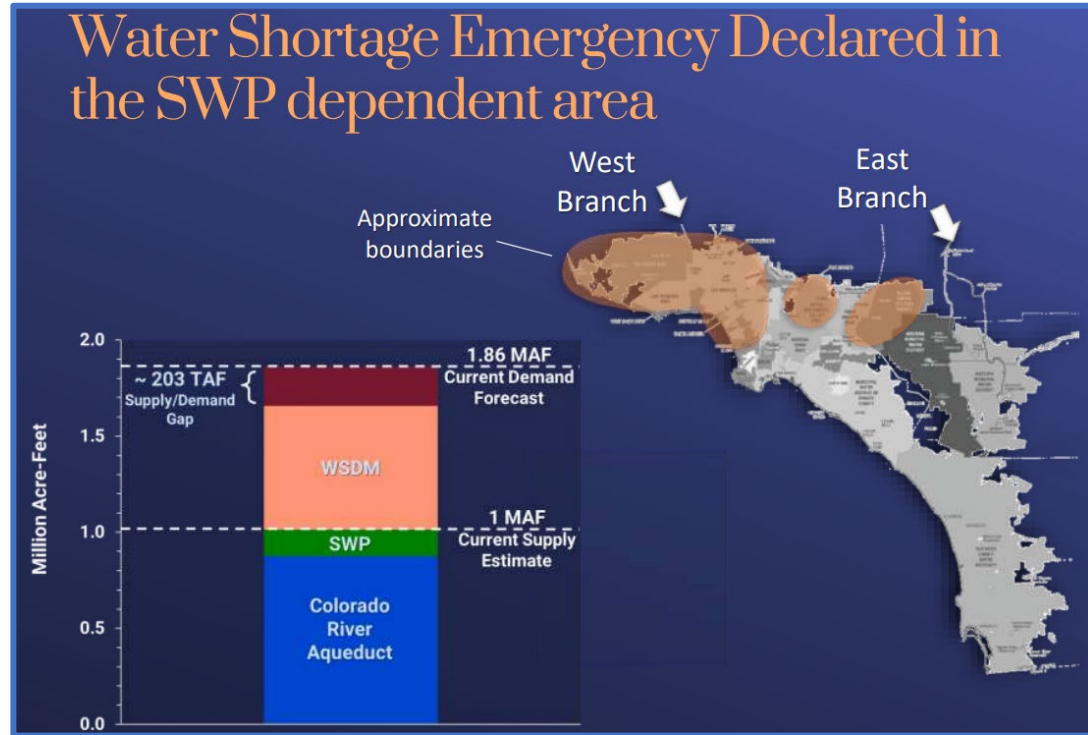
- Ongoing water use efficiency
- Communication plan
- Supply augmentation actions not needed

Bans irrigation of non-functional turf CII sites

- Allows exemption for low water-use turf
- Fine of up to \$500, enforcement is at the discretion of the water supplier

# Metropolitan Water District Supply Actions

MWD Cannot Meet SWP Exclusive Areas' Demands



Two “paths”

Path 1  
1-Day Week outdoor watering

Path 2  
“Volumetric limits”

\$2,000 /AF assessed for water use above monthly volumetric limit

Zero-Day outdoor watering as soon as September 1, 2022

- State to deliver ~130,000 AF of HH&S supplies (based on 55 GPCD)
  - Remaining SWP Exclusive Areas supply gap ≈ 90,000 AF

# Drought Outreach Collaboration



Metropolitan Water District of Southern California



Department of Water Resources

An advertisement for water conservation. It features a photograph of a smiling man and woman sitting in a garden with purple flowers. The text is overlaid on the image.

*This is*  
**HOW WE SAVE WATER.**

**WE REPLACED OUR LAWN WITH CALIFORNIA NATIVES AND THE HELP OF A REBATE**

[bewaterwise.com](http://bewaterwise.com)

An advertisement for water conservation. It features a photograph of a garden with a stone path, purple flowers, and green plants. The text is overlaid on the image.

**San Diego County Water Authority**  
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**Use less water. Get more compliments.**

**SAVE OUR WATER.com**



## CITIES

### A Quiet Revolution: Southwest Cities Learn to Thrive Amid Drought

Facing a changing climate, southwestern U.S. cities such as San Diego, Phoenix, and Las Vegas have embraced a host of innovative strategies for conserving and sourcing water, providing these metropolitan areas with ample water supplies to support their growing populations.

By JIM ROBBINS / PHOTOGRAPHY BY TED WOOD

# Recognition for the San Diego Strategy

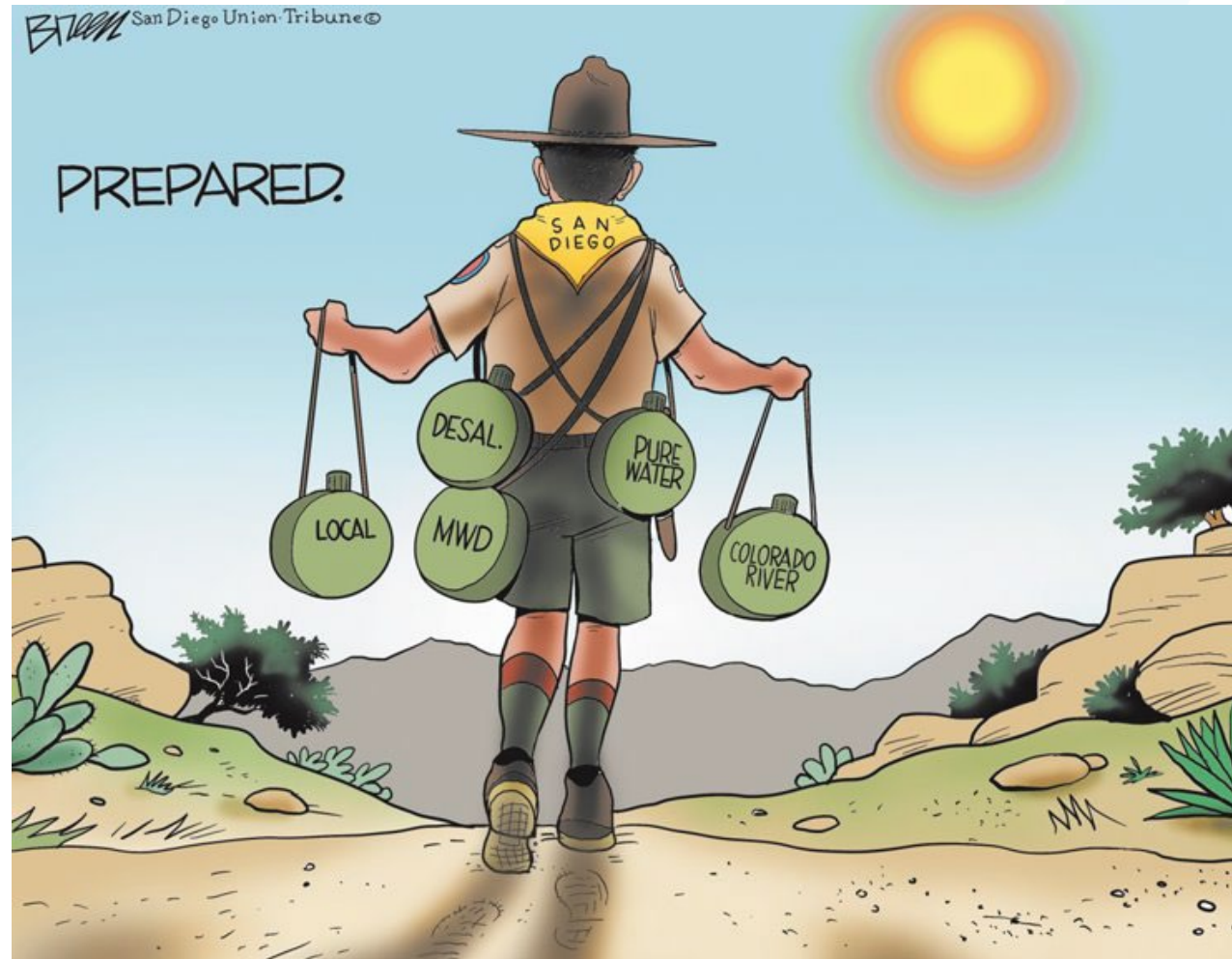
## The New York Times



## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



# A “Poster Child for Readiness”



# Thank You!



@sdcwa



SanDiegoCountyWaterAuthority



@sdcwa

