

# Water Conservation Workshop

February 24, 2009



# Workshop Agenda

- Introduction
- State and Regional Outlook
- Water Conservation Efforts
  - Tools for Water Savings
- Proposed Changes
- Next Steps



# Our Water Rights

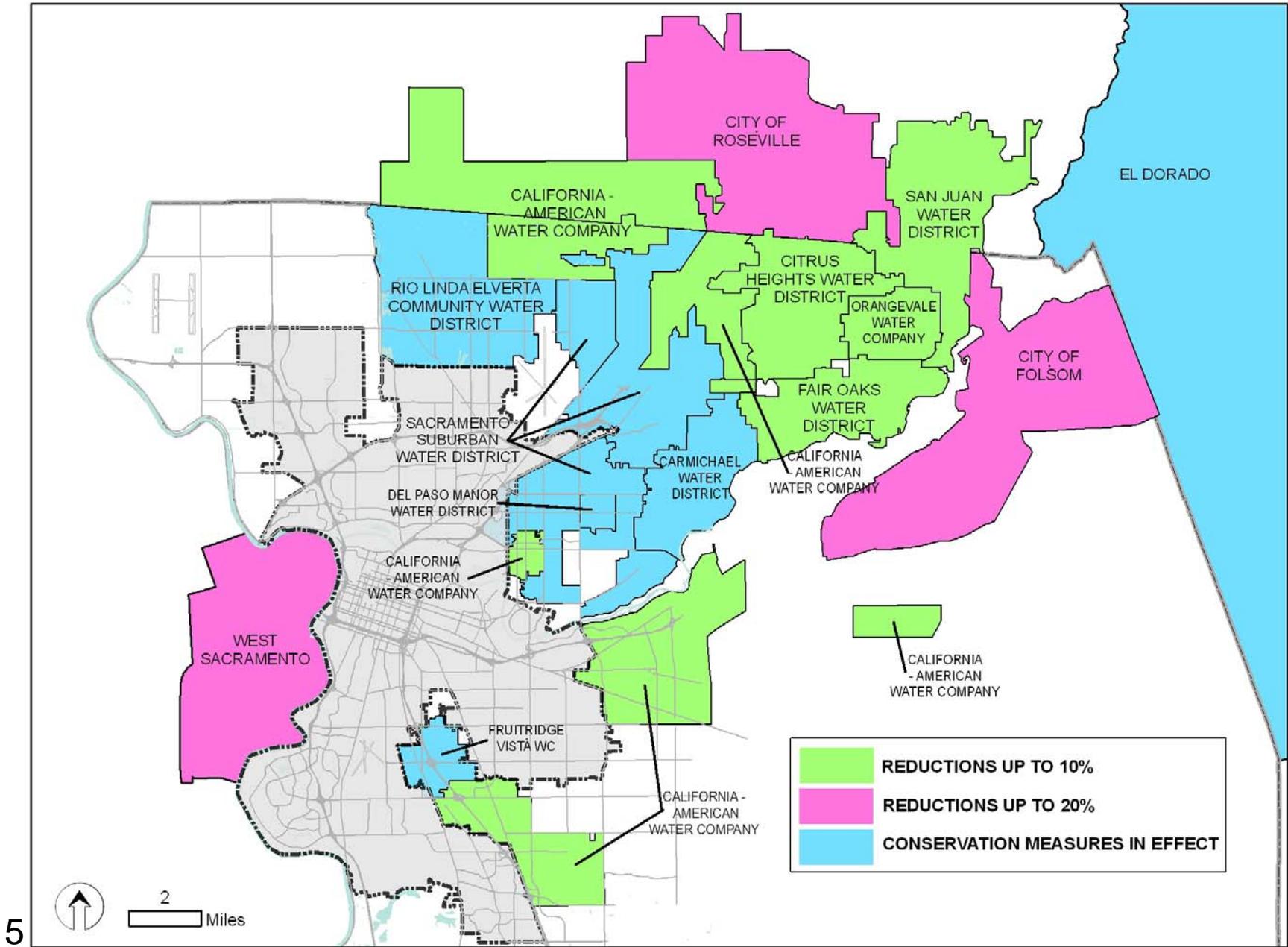
- American River: 245,000 Acre Feet per Year
- Sacramento River: 81,800 Acre Feet per Year
- Groundwater: Approximately 20,000 Acre Feet per year
- Sacramento Avg. consumption:
  - 280 gal/capita/day
- Statewide Avg. Consumption (gal/capita/day):  
192 gal/capita/day



# Stewardship

- Sustainability
  - Environmental Benefits
- Governor's Proposal for 20% reduction by 2020
- Resources





# Water Supply Conditions for 2009

Sacramento City Council  
Water Conservation Workshop  
February 24, 2009

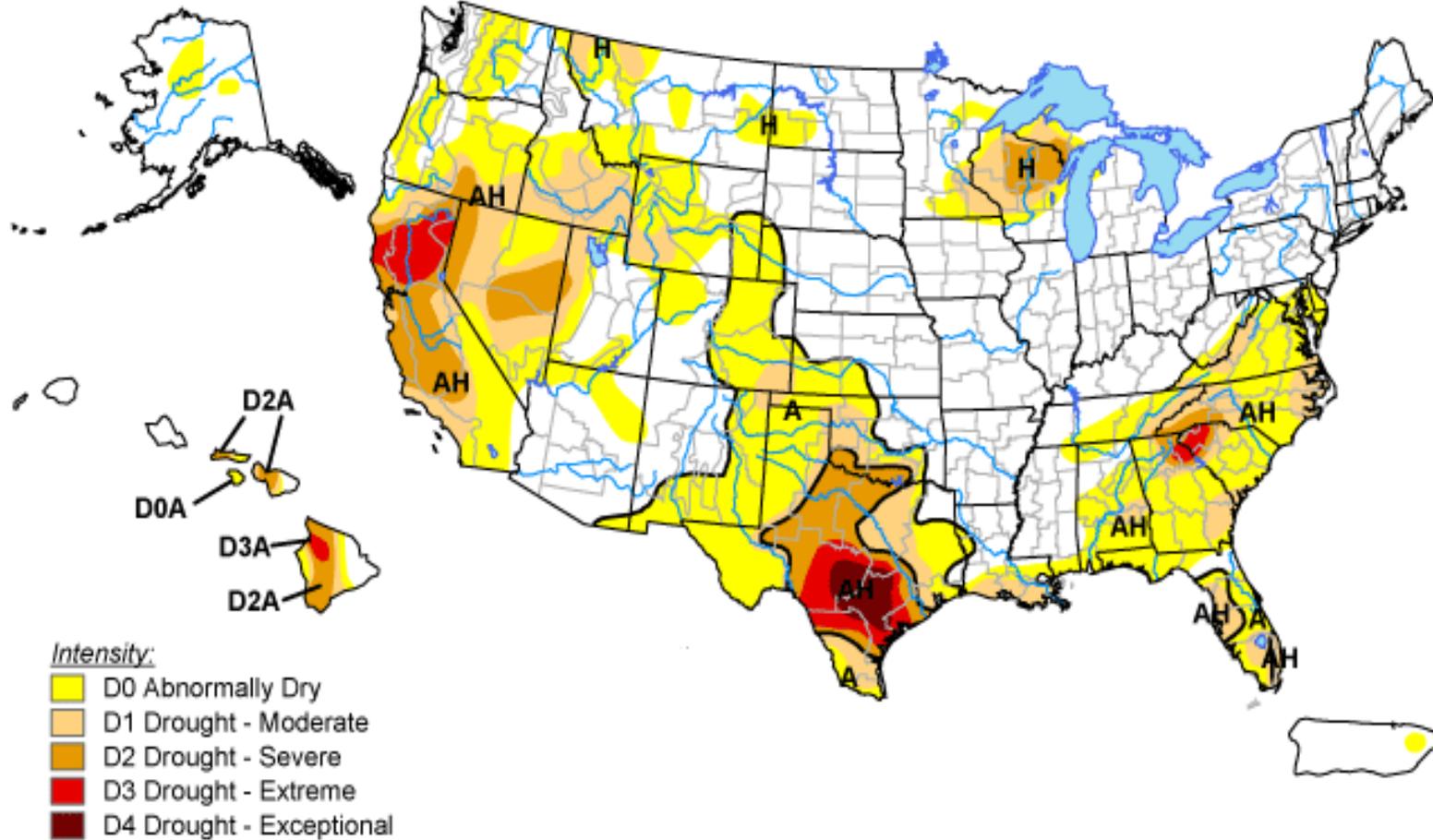
John Woodling  
Regional Water Authority

# Overview

- Statewide Conditions
- Regional Conditions
- Regulatory Considerations
- How do we address this?

# U.S. Drought Monitor

February 17, 2009  
Valid 8 a.m. EST



# U.S. Drought Monitor

## California

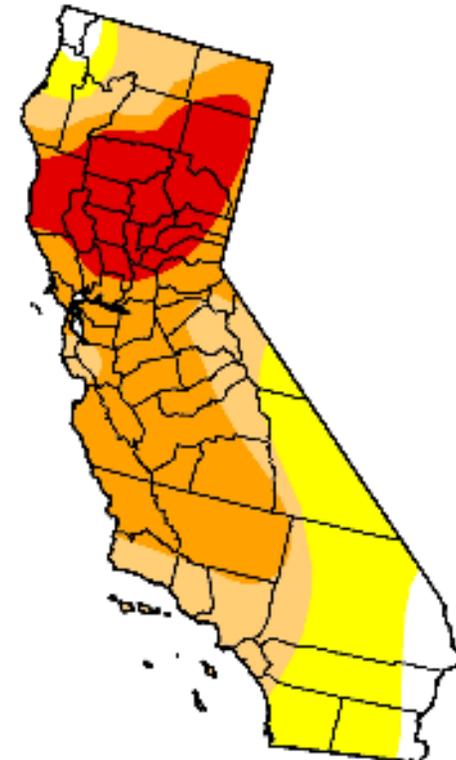
February 17, 2009  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	5.2	94.8	70.7	50.1	16.7	0.0
Last Week (02/10/2009 map)	0.9	99.1	78.8	54.7	19.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (11/25/2008 map)	4.7	95.3	86.0	41.3	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/06/2009 map)	1.7	98.3	88.2	41.3	2.8	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/07/2008 map)	0.0	100.0	95.9	55.0	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (02/19/2008 map)	18.3	81.7	37.5	14.1	0.0	0.0

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



# How Dry Is it?

*“California is facing the most significant water crisis in its history.”* – California DWR

- Sierra Snow pack – 70% of normal
- CVP Allocation – 50% M&I, 0% ag
- SWP Allocation – 15%
- Three consecutive dry years, six of last eight
- Governor’s Executive Order
- Drought Water Bank

# Folsom Lake

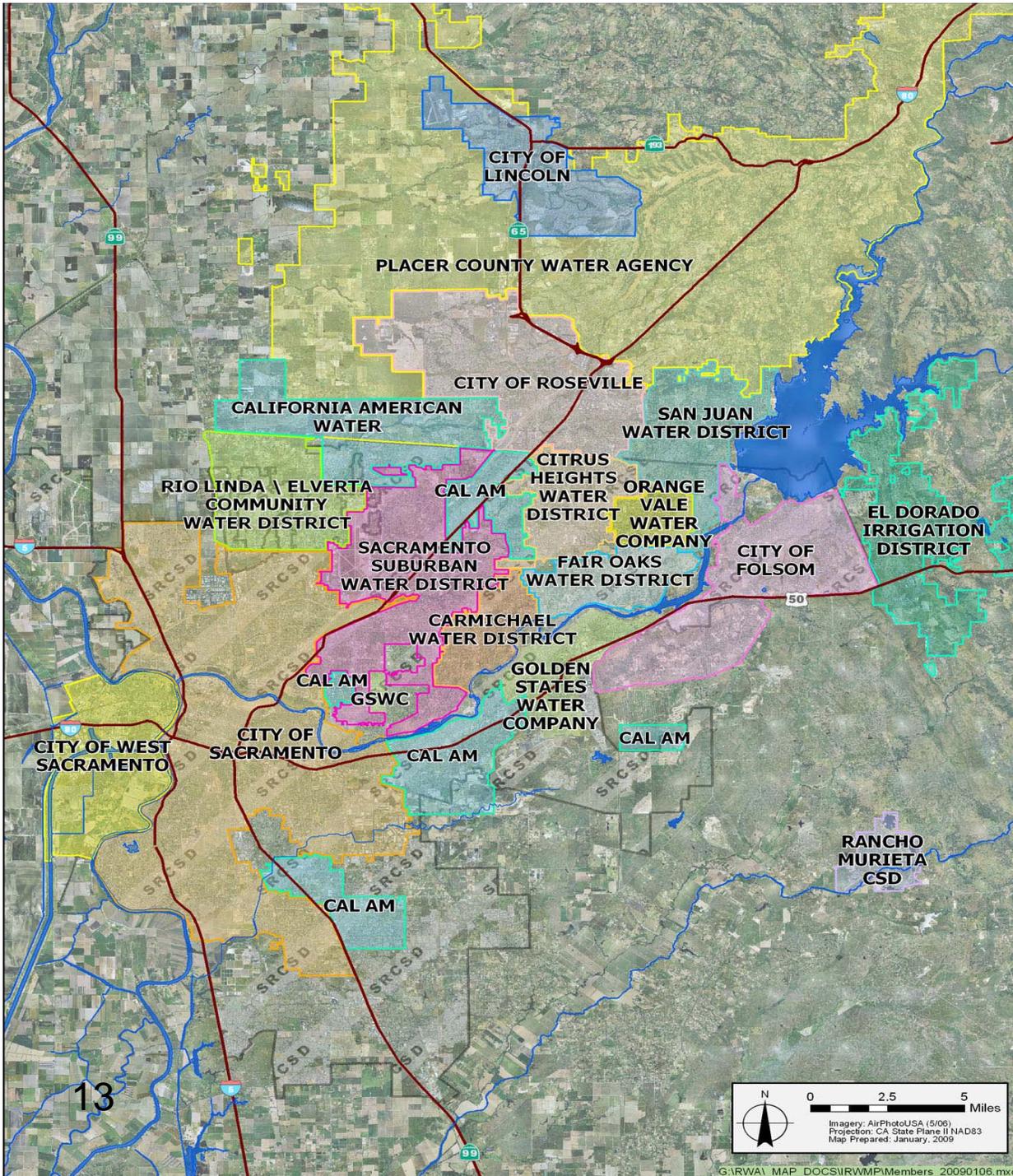


# What Does it Mean for the Region?

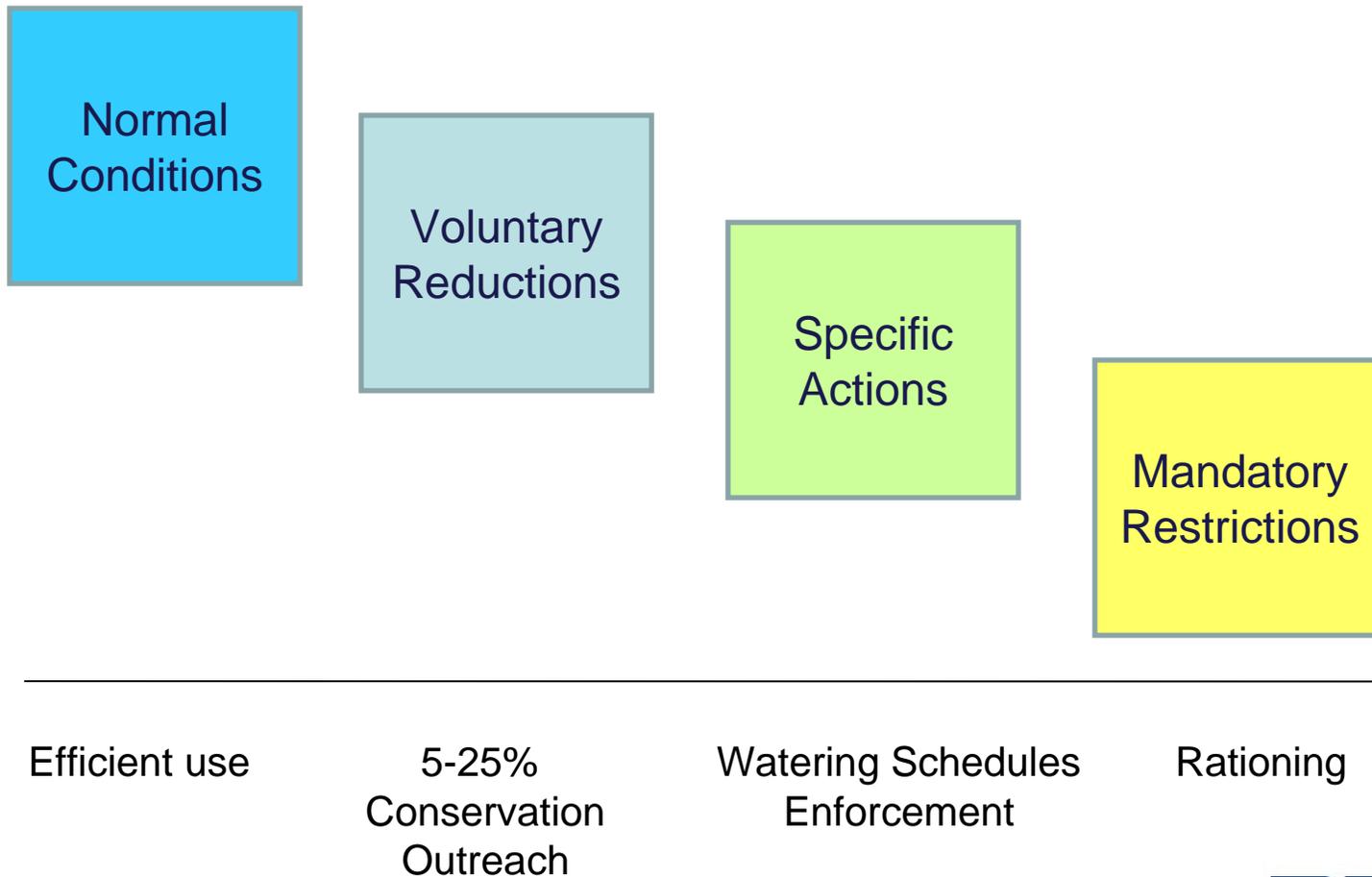
That depends...

- Conditions are unique for each water supplier
- Water source, water rights and contracts, diversion location, access to groundwater, facilities all vary
- Drought stages not fully coordinated or consistent

# The Greater Sacramento Region



# Water Shortage Contingency Plans



# Regulatory Considerations

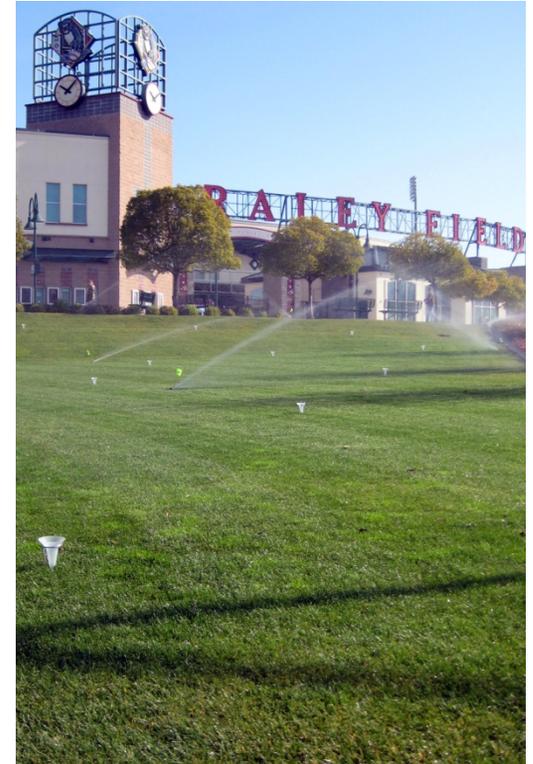
- 20x2020
- Delta Vision
- AB 49
- AB 32
- Model Landscape Ordinance

# How do we address the long term?

- Integrated Water Management
  - Efficient water use
  - Conjunctive use
  - Recycled water
  - Groundwater cleanup
  - Transfers
  - Environmental stewardship
  - Regional collaboration

# Regional Water Efficiency Program

- Education and Training
  - homeowners, contractors
- Outreach
  - Regional media messages
- Services
  - household and business audits
- Incentives
  - Rebates, partnerships
- Funding
  - Regional grants



# Questions?

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# Water Conservation Program



# History of Water Conservation

- 1991- Signed the CUWCC Agreement and BMPs.
- 1999- City of Sacramento Department of Utilities Water Conservation Office established
- 2000- Signed the Water Forum Agreement
- 2001- Joined Regional Water Authority



# What do these commitments mean

- Better stewards of our water supply
- Implement additional tools
  - Meters
  - Education/Outreach
  - Ordinances
- Potential Financial Impacts



# Meters and Conservation

- Achieves equity amongst user classes
- Provides customer water usage data on monthly Utility Bills
- Serves as a tool to encourage customers to do water audits, replace inefficient plumbing fixtures, install drip irrigation and monitor outdoor irrigation controllers – year round
- Allows customers to control costs
- Encourages customers to appreciate the “value” of our water



# Progress to Date: Meter Implementation

- Unfunded State Mandated Program
- 2005: 107,000 meters needed to installed and 952,458 feet of pipe need to be replaced (est. cost= \$350 million)
- Total number of meters installed since 2005: 4700
- Construction costs to date: \$18.4 million



# Outreach and Education Efforts

- Increase education during summer months
- Advertising reminding water conservation
- Participating in neighborhood discussions and newsletters with information about conservation
- Continued participation in regional outreach efforts, such as RWA

# Water Conservation Seminars

- Limited sprinkler use doesn't mean a brown lawn.
- Working with Neighborhood Services/Parks and Recreation on workshops and demonstration garden
- Free seminars offered by staff monthly during summer months

# Spare the Water Day

- Day would recommend limitation of water use on a Spare the Water Day
  - These days would go into effect with long periods of hot weather that put a drain on water supply and treatment plants.
  - Ex. Three days or more of anticipated 100+ degree temps might trigger Spare the Water Days.

# Current Water Conservation Ordinance

- Substandard Fixture: customers cannot waste water due to substandard fixtures or water devices.
- No excessive run-off.
- Landscaping regulations
- Limited washing sidewalks or driveways
- Violations are provided written notifications, fines after third or more violation in a season.



# Proposed Changes to Conservation Ordinances

- Limit residential and commercial irrigation
- Enforce watering days
- Implement fines
- Retrofit upon sale



# Proposal: Limiting Irrigation

- Current Ordinance allows irrigation to occur any time of the day or night, except noon- 6 p.m., not exceed 30 minutes per station with automated sprinklers or 2.5 hours with a hose in a calendar day.
- Proposed: No irrigation between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Proposed: Seasonal Watering Schedules, limit watering to 1 day per week based on address in the winter months.

# Proposal: Enforcement of Watering Days

- Current ordinance: No watering Monday. Addresses ending in 1,3,5,7,or 9 may water Tues., Thurs, or Sat. and addresses ending in 2,4,6,8 or 0 may water Wed, Fri, and Sun.
- Proposal: During declared water shortages, irrigation would be further limited.



# Proposal: Require Water Conservation Retrofits

- As a condition of sale of properties within the City of Sacramento, require that water efficient tools be installed on the property.
- These tools could include:
  - Ultra Low Flush or High Efficiency Toilets
  - Low-flow Showerheads
  - Sprinkler timers

# Proposed Water Conservation Efforts

- Expediting Meter Installation Program
- Increasing Water Conservation Commitments
- Increased Education to Customers
- Proposed Ordinance Changes



# Next Steps

- Gather Feedback on Proposals
- Draft new ordinances
  - L&L, Council approval necessary
- Actively work to educate public as to new conservation efforts
- Continue to work regionally on outreach and education efforts

