



## **CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT**

**Meeting Date:** June 4, 2013

**To:** Honorable Mayor & City Council

**From:** Daniel E. Cartagena, Senior Management Analyst

**Subject:** Sacramento – San Joaquin Bay Delta Update

**Attachments:**

1. Metropolitan Water District Powerpoint
2. Bay Delta Conservation Plan Fact Sheet

---

### **INTRODUCTION**

As the City of Beverly Hills representative to the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors, Dr. Robert Wunderlich provides periodic updates on significant topics to the Beverly Hills City Council. On June 4<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Wunderlich's presentation will focus on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP).

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Water Supply Reliability - the Bay Delta Conservation Plan**

The City of Beverly Hills is approximately 90% dependent on Metropolitan Water District (MWD) for its water supply. MWD in turn depends on water that passes through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for a significant part of its water supply. Over the years, the Delta's ecosystem has deteriorated and its 1,100-mile levee system is increasingly vulnerable to failure caused by earthquakes and floods. The decline of the Delta's ecosystem has led to significant regulatory restrictions reducing the amount of water available from the Delta. The impacts of droughts, potentially exacerbated by climate change, further threaten the availability of water from both the Delta and the Colorado River. MWD has committed to supporting the development of local water resources and conservation to address future water needs in Southern California without increasing imported water from outside of the region, but the security of Southern California's water supply depends on maintaining the reliability of water supply that passes through the

Delta region at its historical levels. The result is a pressing two-fold need: (1) to improve California's water reliability; and (2) to restore the Delta's fragile ecosystem.

After several years of planning, Federal and state officials, water agencies, and other interested parties have developed the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) to address these needs. The environmental documents necessary for selection and approval of the preferred project alternative are being released in several steps, beginning in April 2013 and continuing through this summer. The contemplated projects would have profound effects on California's economy, waters supply, agriculture, natural resources, and flood control.

The projects potentially include large investments for new infrastructure, including twin 35-mile long tunnels to transport water under the Delta, and the largest ecosystem restoration project on the West Coast. The twin tunnels would enhance water reliability by diverting water north of the Delta, rather than south of the Delta as per current operations, and transporting the water under the Delta, rather than through the Delta. This would protect the water supply from earthquakes and flooding in the Delta and lessen the need for pumping restrictions currently in place to protect fish populations. The BDCP addresses impacts on several fish species including Delta and longfin smelt, Chinook salmon, Steelhead, and green and white sturgeon. In general, the beneficial effects of the BDCP for the covered fish species result from habitat restoration and reduced entrainment from south Delta pumping. The new water facilities contemplated in the BDCP, including the new water intakes north of the Delta, will reduce the reliance on south Delta pumping, thereby maintaining or reducing the current low levels of fish entrainment, presently achieved via mandated pumping restrictions. The BDCP also applies a decision tree-based water operations management approach for promoting the health of the Delta and longfin smelt populations based on water flow and other conditions affecting the fish populations.

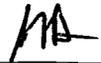
With the release of the environmental documents, interested parties are already contacting elected officials and regulatory agencies to express their viewpoints regarding the proposed projects. The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, because of its great importance for our region and the state, and to provide information so that the City can make its perspectives regarding this project heard.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is presented for informational purposes only

Mahdi Aluzri 

---

Approved By

# **Attachment 1**



# THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## IT'S ABOUT RELIABILITY:

## BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN

### The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

California's biggest water challenge is in Northern California where the rivers of the Sierra Nevada merge into the vast Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the "hub" of the state's water system. State (State Water Project) and federal (Central Valley Project) water projects draw supplies that travel through the Delta and help sustain California's economy and provide drinking water for more than two thirds of the state's population.

Over the years, the Delta's ecosystem has deteriorated, and its 1,100-mile levee system is increasingly vulnerable to failure caused by earthquakes, floods and other forces of nature. The decline of the Delta's ecosystem has led to historic restrictions in water supply deliveries. The result is a pressing two-fold need: improve California's water reliability and restore the Delta's fragile ecosystem.

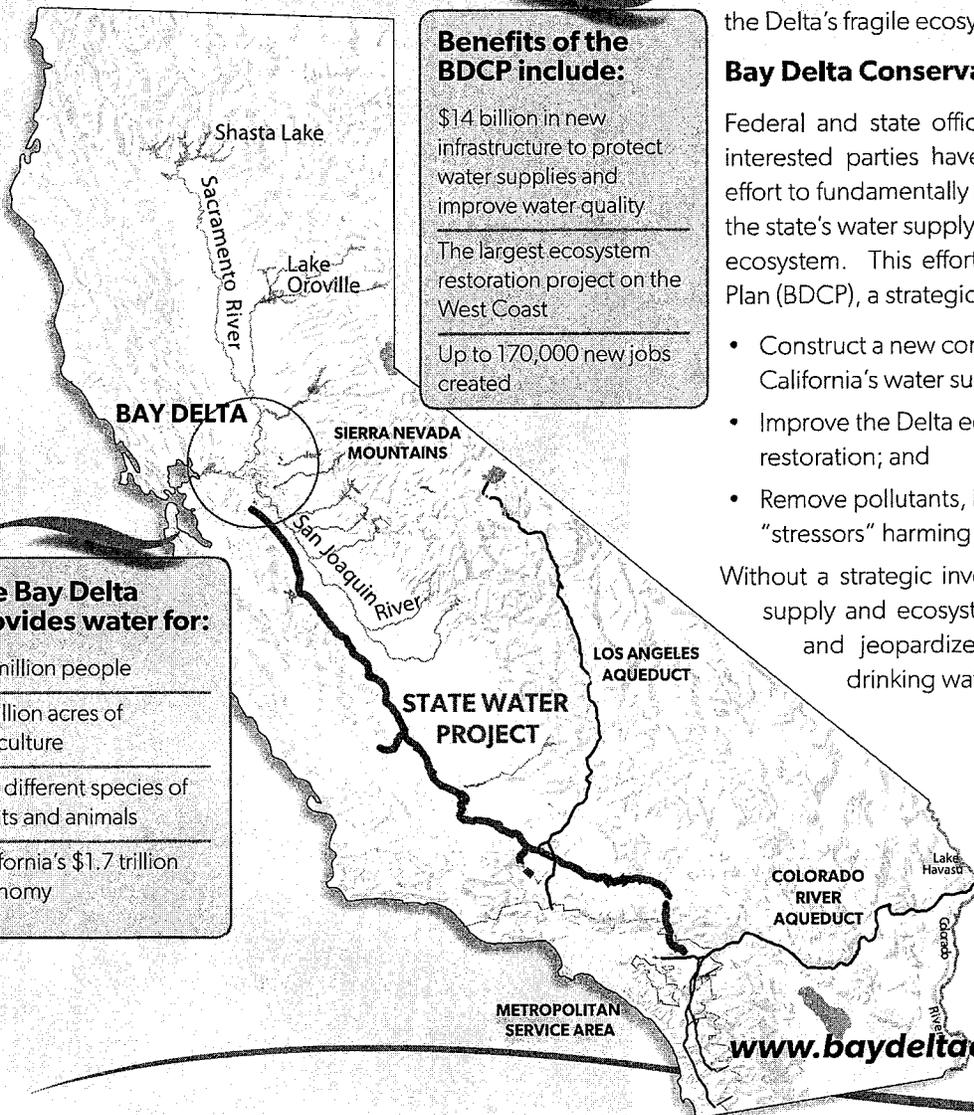
### Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Federal and state officials, water agencies and other interested parties have undertaken a comprehensive effort to fundamentally and systematically improve both the state's water supply reliability and restore the Delta's ecosystem. This effort is the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), a strategic action plan that will:

- Construct a new conveyance tunnel to protect California's water supply;
- Improve the Delta ecosystem through habitat restoration; and
- Remove pollutants, invasive species and other "stressors" harming the Delta environment.

Without a strategic investment in the Delta, the water supply and ecosystem will continue to deteriorate and jeopardize the delivery of safe, reliable drinking water to 25 million people.

**Be Informed ...  
Know the Facts ...  
Get Involved ...  
Our Future  
Depends on It.**



**Benefits of the BDCP include:**

- \$14 billion in new infrastructure to protect water supplies and improve water quality
- The largest ecosystem restoration project on the West Coast
- Up to 170,000 new jobs created

**The Bay Delta provides water for:**

- 25 million people
- 3 million acres of agriculture
- 750 different species of plants and animals
- California's \$1.7 trillion economy

[www.baydeltaconservationplan.com](http://www.baydeltaconservationplan.com)

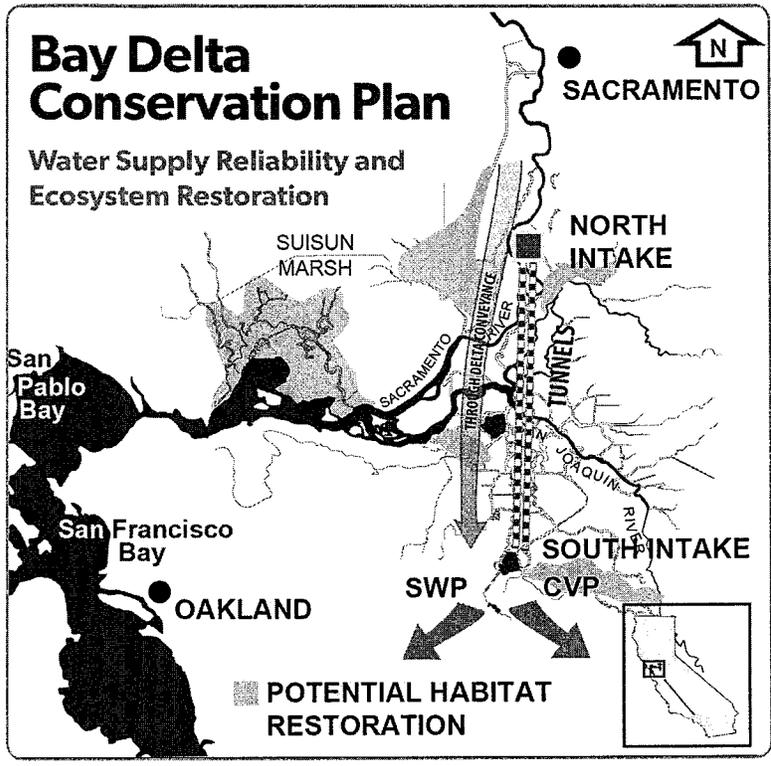
### Proposed Conveyance Features

There are 2 intake points: North (new) and South (existing) for flexible system operations.

The 2 tunnels under the Delta use a smaller footprint than a canal, provide protection from seismic and flood risk, and lessen the impact on the estuary habitat and other land uses.

There is a 9,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) flow, which is gravity-fed allowing for lower energy needs.

The state-of-the-art fish screens at intake points protect aquatic species.



### Proposed Ecosystem Improvements

Restoration of 100,000+ acres of habitat including accelerated restoration of 30,000 acres of aquatic habitat

Increased quality, availability, diversity and complexity of Delta habitat

Establishment of more than 200 biological goals supporting species recovery

Programs to reduce toxic pollutants, invasive species, predators and other stressors currently damaging the estuary environment

# MEETING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S WATER NEEDS

Metropolitan remains committed to reducing its future reliance on imported water from Northern California. Our Integrated Resources Plan, a comprehensive and strategic long-term water management plan, calls for enhanced conservation, additional recycling and other local efforts to meet new demands. However, the reliability of our traditional imported supplies from Northern California and the Colorado River remain important baselines for Southern California's \$1 trillion economy. Absent a reliable method of storing and delivering adequate supplies when they are available, our system is at risk long-term.

Metropolitan has made a concerted effort to diversify its water resources and improve regional reliability. To sustain California's economy, we must find a balanced solution that restores the Delta ecosystem and assures long-term water supply reliability.

**The Bay Delta Conservation Plan is the solution.**

**On average, the cost of the BDCP conveyance for Southern Californians is \$5-\$6 per month, per household.**

### About Metropolitan

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-chartered cooperative of 26 member agencies – cities and public water agencies – that serves nearly 19 million people in six counties. Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies and helps its members develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

Printed on recycled paper. ♻️

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

### The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

700 N. Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA 90012  
 P.O. Box 54153, Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153  
 (213) 217-6000 | (800) call mwd (225-5693)

[www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com) | [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com)



# **Attachment 2**

# **The Bay Delta Conservation Plan – Stabilizing a Key Part of the Water Supply for Beverly Hills**

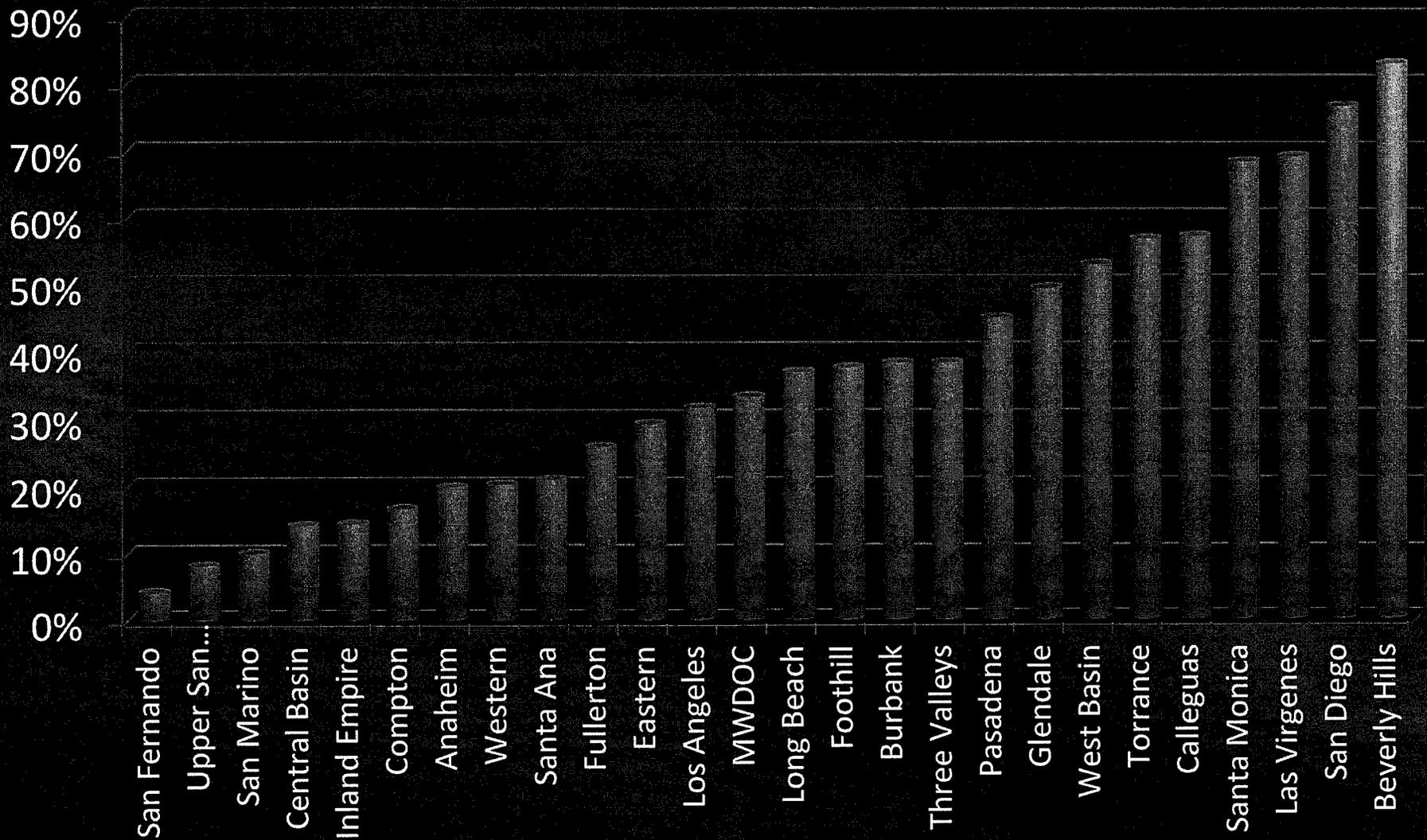
**Bob Wunderlich**

**MWD Director for the City of Beverly Hills**

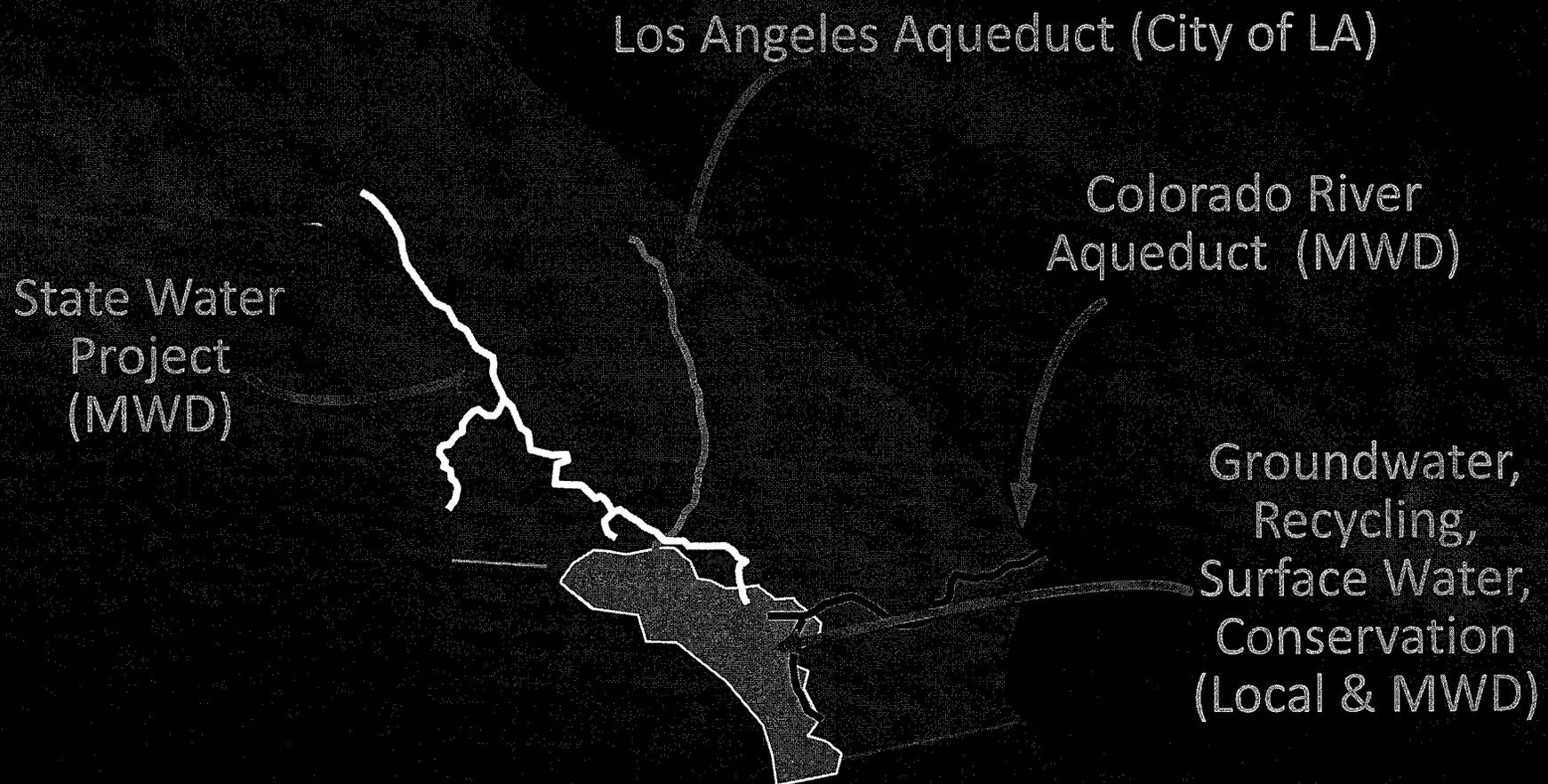
**May 23, 2013**

# Beverly Hills is Heavily Dependent on MWD for its Water -

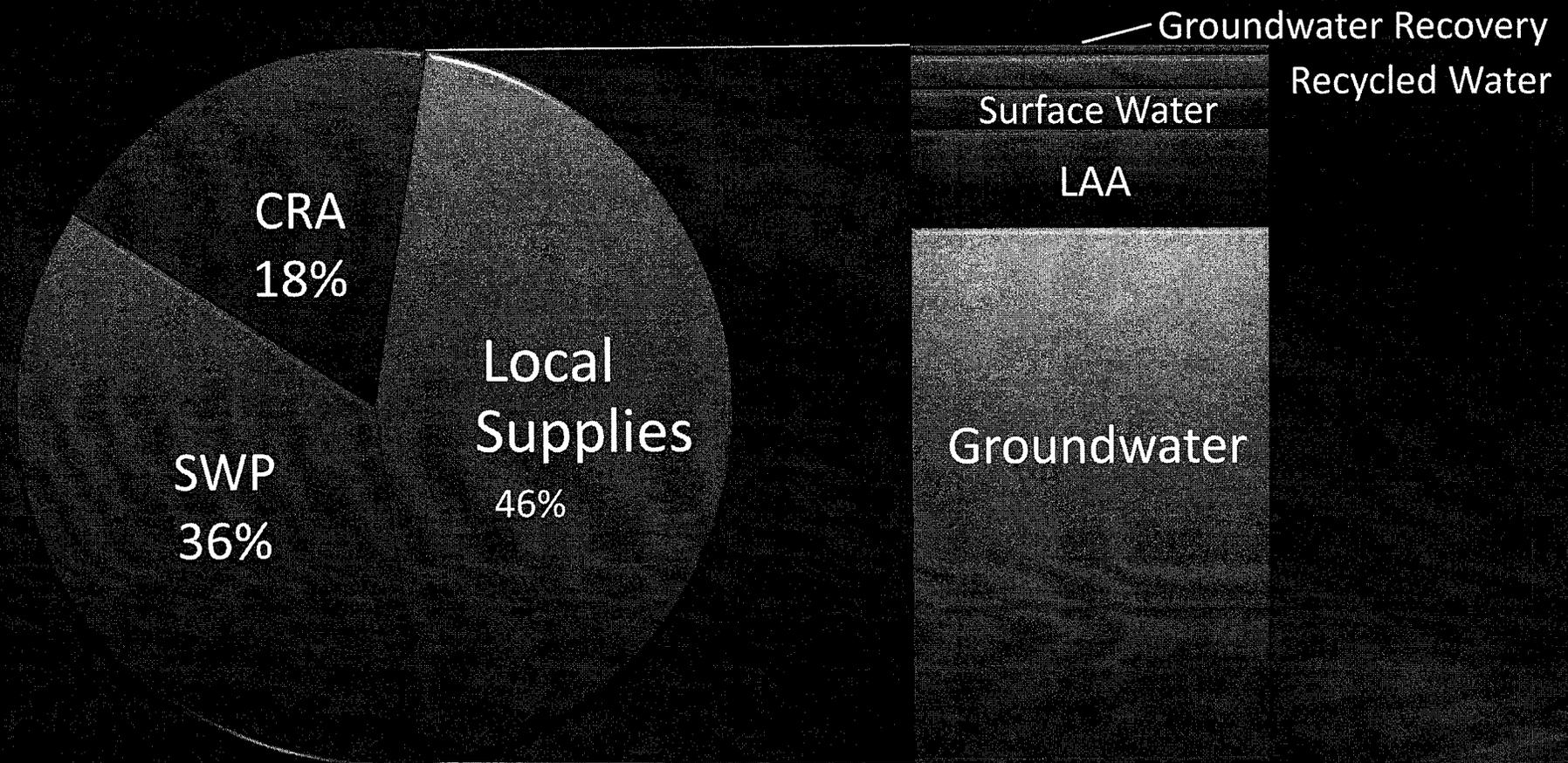
## % of Water Supply from MWD by City/Agency (Average for 2003–2012)



# Southern California Relies on Multiple Water Sources



# Southern California Imports About Half its Water from the SWP & CRA



Average 2003-2012

# SWP and CRA Face Many Challenges



Climate Change



Drought



Earthquakes



Regulatory  
Restrictions

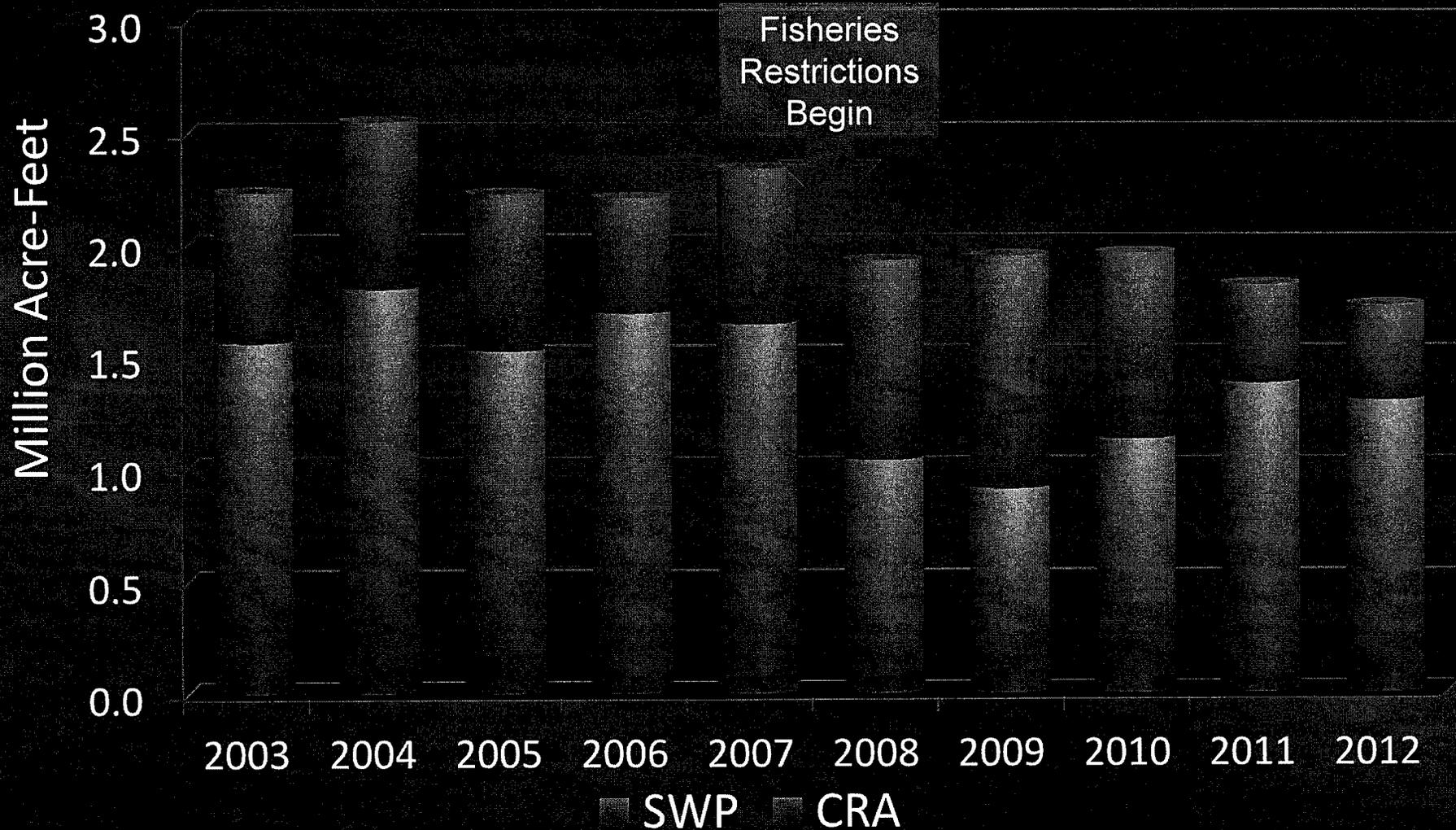


Ecosystem  
Stressors

# The Delta is Vital to California

- Drinking Water for 25 million Californians
- Irrigation for half of the nation's fruits and vegetables
- Major Levee Failure Risk
  - Up to three-year disruption of water deliveries
  - \$40 billion estimated impact to California's economy
- Status Quo
  - Ecosystem decline
  - Pumping restrictions (supply reduced 30%)

# Water from SWP has Declined due to Restrictions - Water Available to MWD from SWP & CRA by Year



# Water Has Been Lost to Fisheries Restrictions

Calendar Year	SWP (TAF)	MWD (TAF)
2008	494	<b>247</b>
2009	251	<b>126</b>
2010	770	<b>385</b>
2011	465	<b>233</b>
2012	365	<b>183</b>
2013*	550	<b>275</b>

\*through March 19, 2013

# Metropolitan's Integrated Resource Plan -

MWD's Long Term Plan for a Reliable Water Supply Calls for Increased Efficiency, Local Supplies, & Stable Imports

## Water Use Efficiency

- 20% Reduction in Per-Capita Water Use

## Local Resources

- Develop through Incentives and Partnerships
- Implement Foundational Actions

## SWP

- Delta Improvements for Reliability

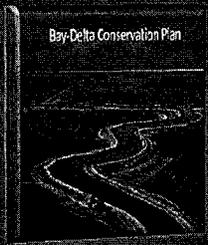
## CRA

- Develop Dry-Year Supply Programs

# BDCP Addresses Wide Scope of Pressing Delta Issues

- Water Supply Conveyance
  - North of Delta diversion facilities
- Habitat Restoration
  - Up to 113,000 acres
- Earthquake Mitigation
- Flood Protection
- Actions to reduce/eliminate environmental stressors





# BDCP

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN  
PLAN DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE



*Preliminary Subject to Revision*

# BDCP Alternative Proposals Will Be Evaluated for Cost Effectiveness

- What are the water supply benefits?
- What regulatory assurances do we have?
- How do their costs compare?
- Are these alternatives feasible and capable of achieving the intended benefits?

# BDCP Contemplated Project Costs

Improvements	Capital	O&M (Annual)	Funding Source
Conveyance	\$14 billion	\$83 million	Water Contractors
Eco-Restoration & Other Stressors	\$3.6 billion	\$46 million	All Beneficiaries

- “Users pay” for new conveyance facility and associated mitigation
- All “beneficiaries pay” for habitat conservation and other state-wide benefits of the plan
- Average Cost for Southern Californians
  - ~ \$5 - 6/month per household for life of bond financing
  - Water benefits extend for significantly longer period

*Metropolitan's share is approximately 25 percent*

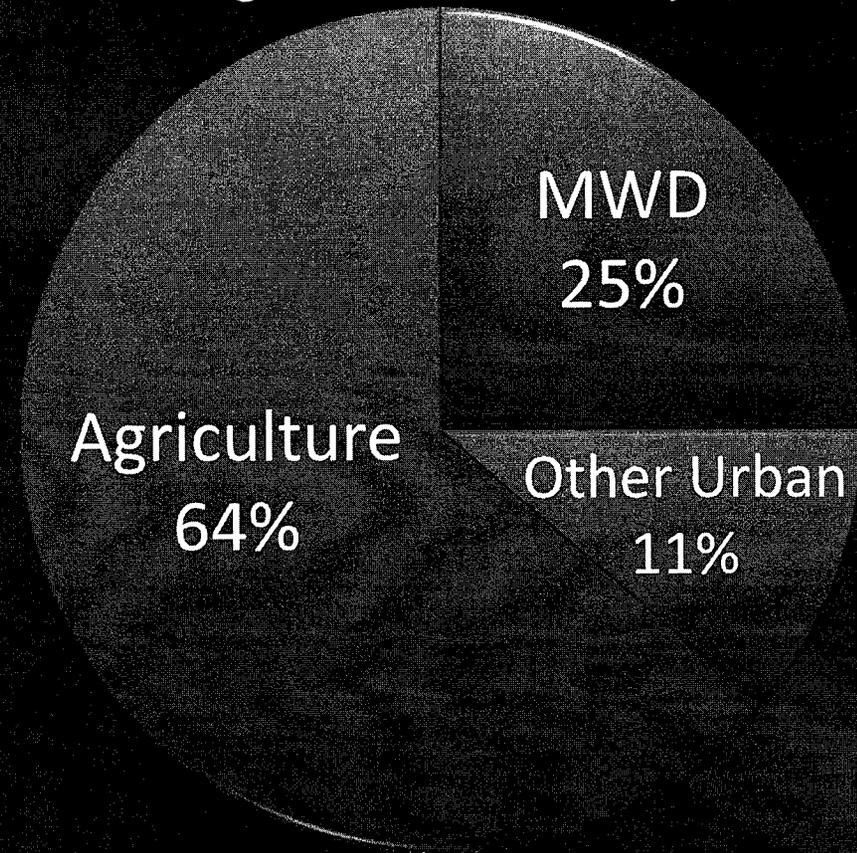
*The \$14 billion estimate per the Governor's announcement (July 25, 2012)*

*Other cost information from Dec-2010 BDCP document*

# Funding for BDCP Improvements Comes From Beneficiaries

- Conveyance facility and mitigation costs paid by ratepayers
- Habitat restoration and other statewide benefits paid by state (bond funds)

Funding Shares for Conveyance\*



\*Assuming 50-50 Cost Share between SWP and CVP Contractors

# Next Steps

- BDCP is crucial to the region
- Public Draft BDCP and EIR/EIS are scheduled to be released through this summer
- Interested parties are contacting elected officials and regulatory agencies
- Ensure that our voice and perspective is heard