

Delta Overview

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Delta Stewardship Council



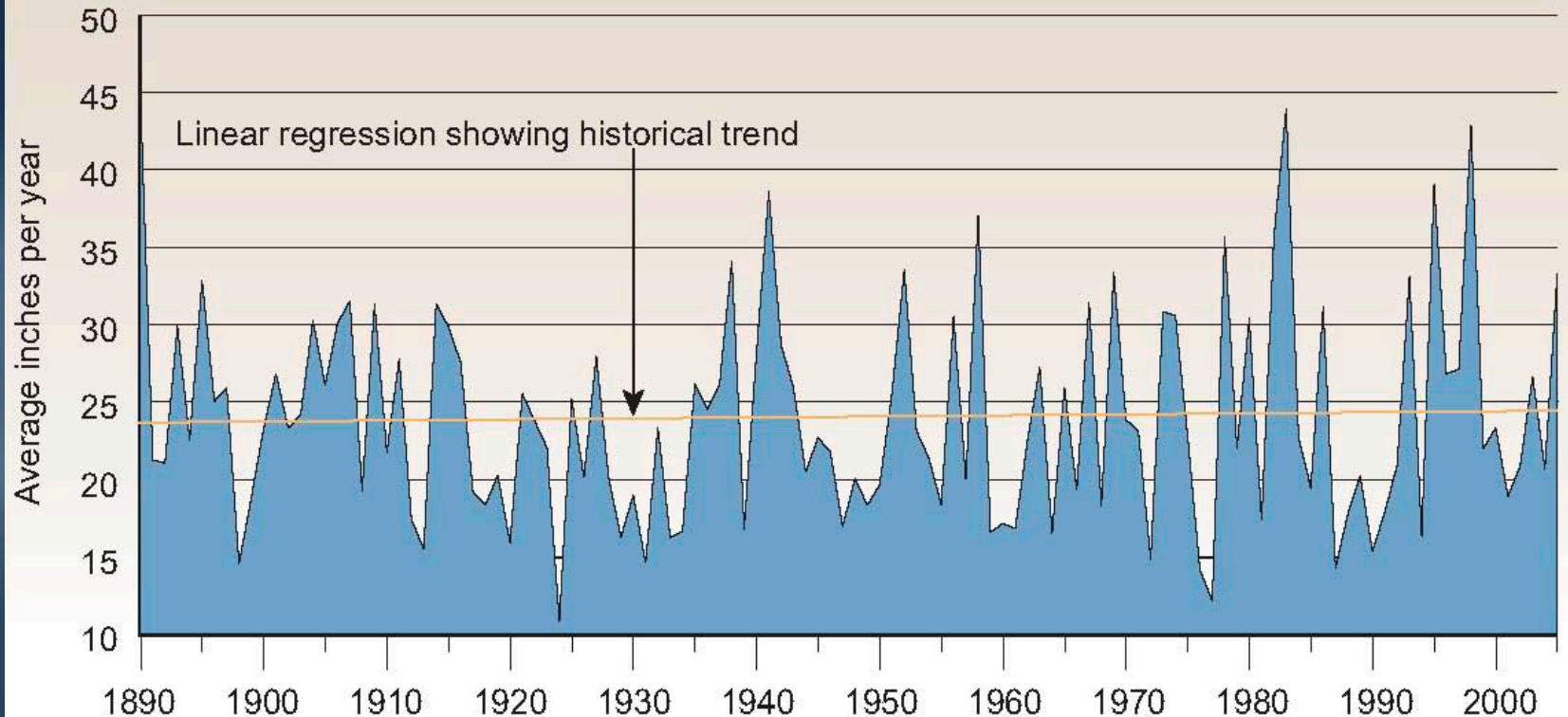
DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

June 18, 2014

Today's talk

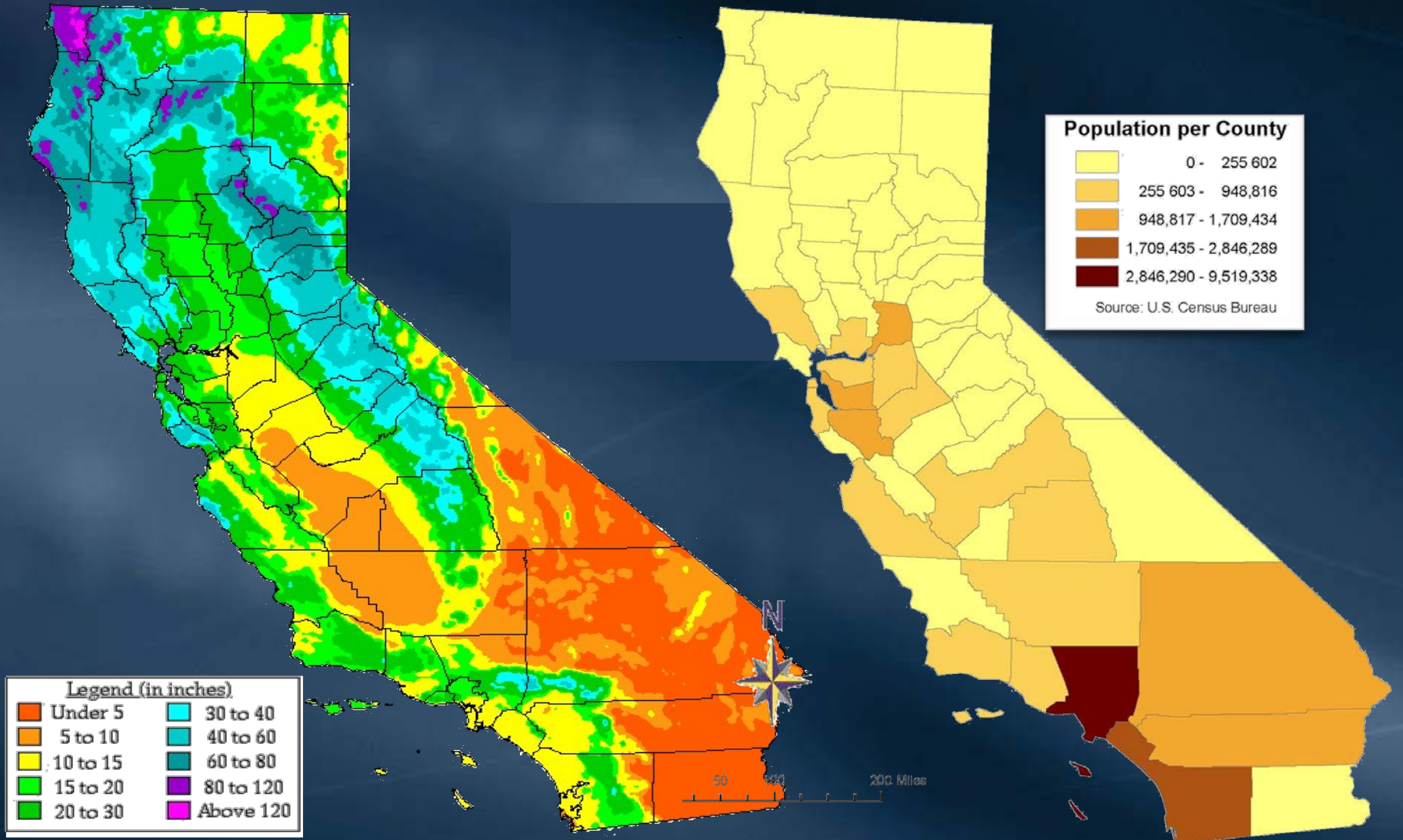
- Where California's water comes from & where it goes
- The trouble with the Delta
- Which state agencies do what & why
- 2009 legislative package – why I'm here
- A comprehensive approach

California precipitation variability ...

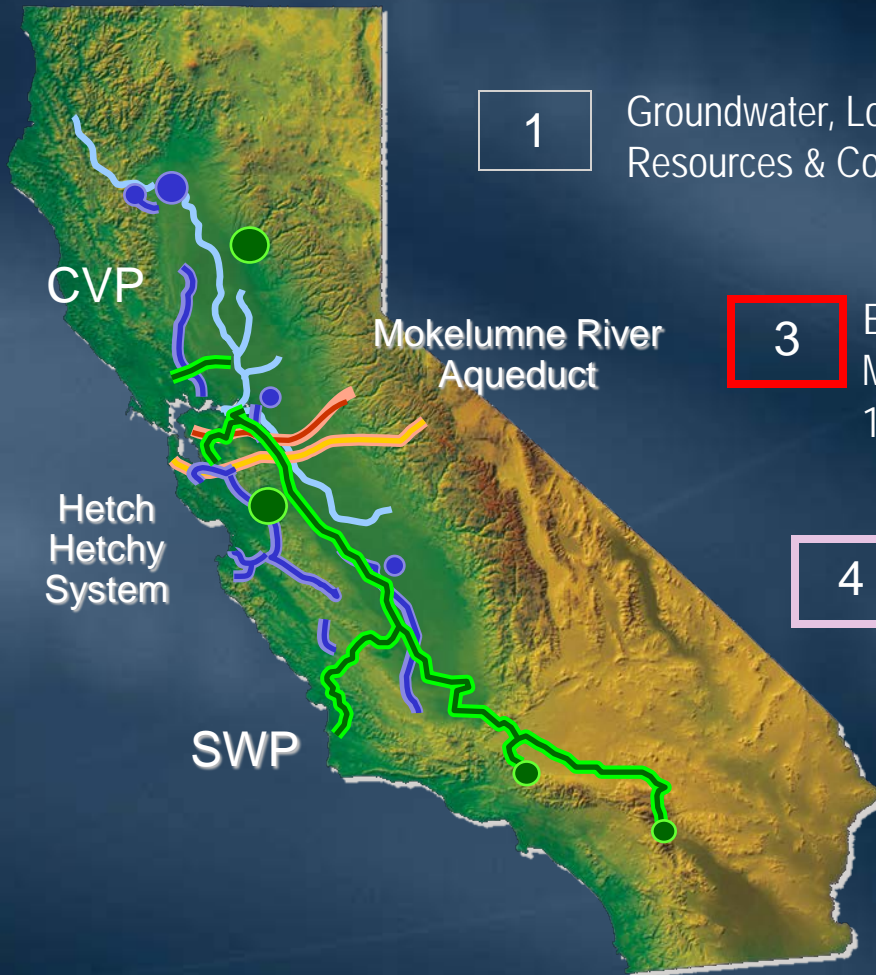


116 year average: 23.88 inches
Driest 30 years (1908-1937): 21.28 inches
Wettest 30 years (1977-2006): 24.88 inches

... and water / population imbalance



California Water Development



1

Groundwater, Local Resources & Conservation

2

San Francisco PUC
Hetch Hetchy System
1913 - Raker Act

3

East Bay Municipal Utility District
Mokelumne River Aqueduct
1929

4

US Bureau of Reclamation
Central Valley Project
1940 - 1st water delivered (Contra Costa Canal)

5

CA Dept. of Water Resources
State Water Project
1960 - Burns Porter Act
1973 - 1st water to So. Cal.

Importance of the Bay-Delta

Supplies Bay Area, Central Valley, & Southern Cal

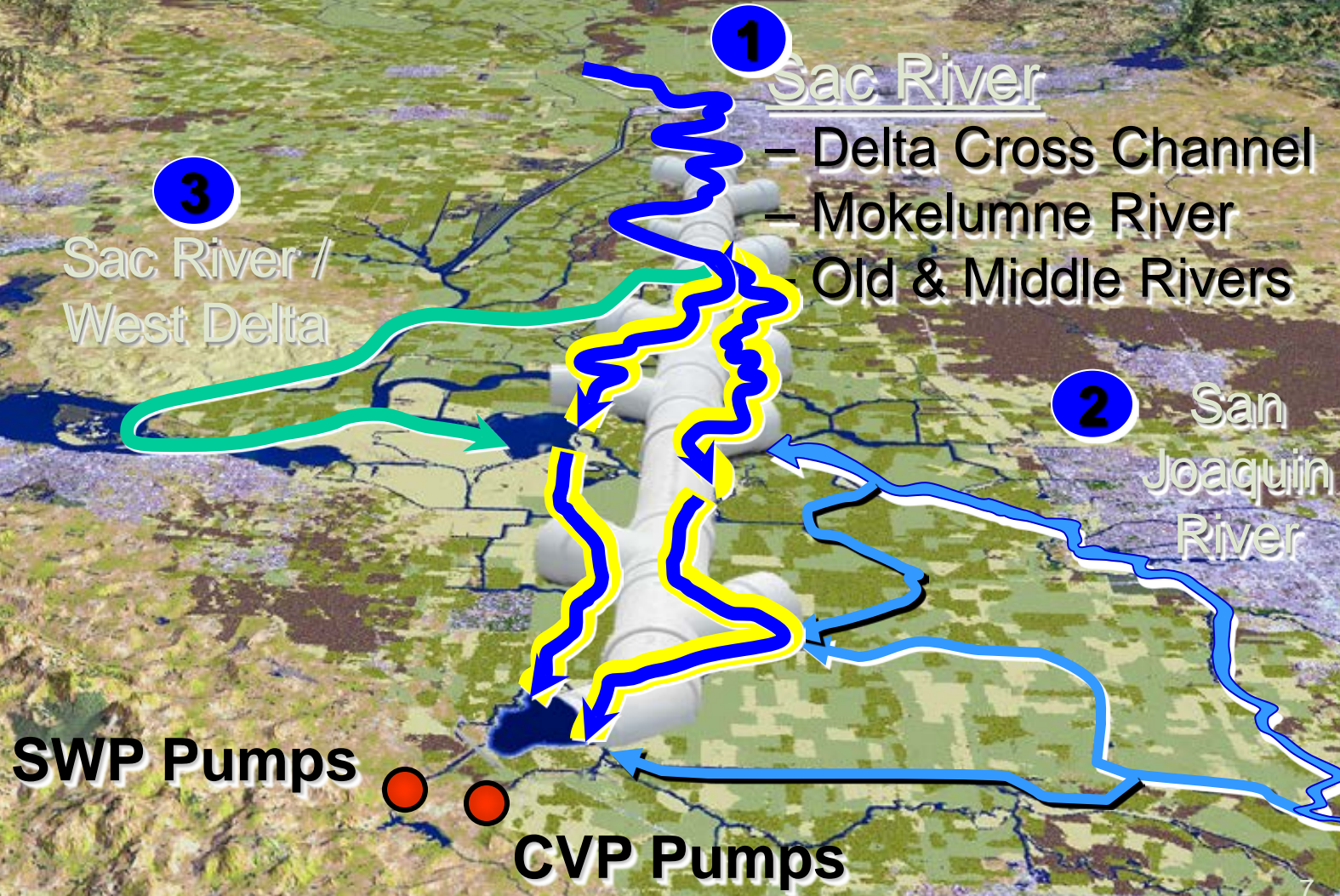
Bay Area – 33%

Some regions up to 100% dependent

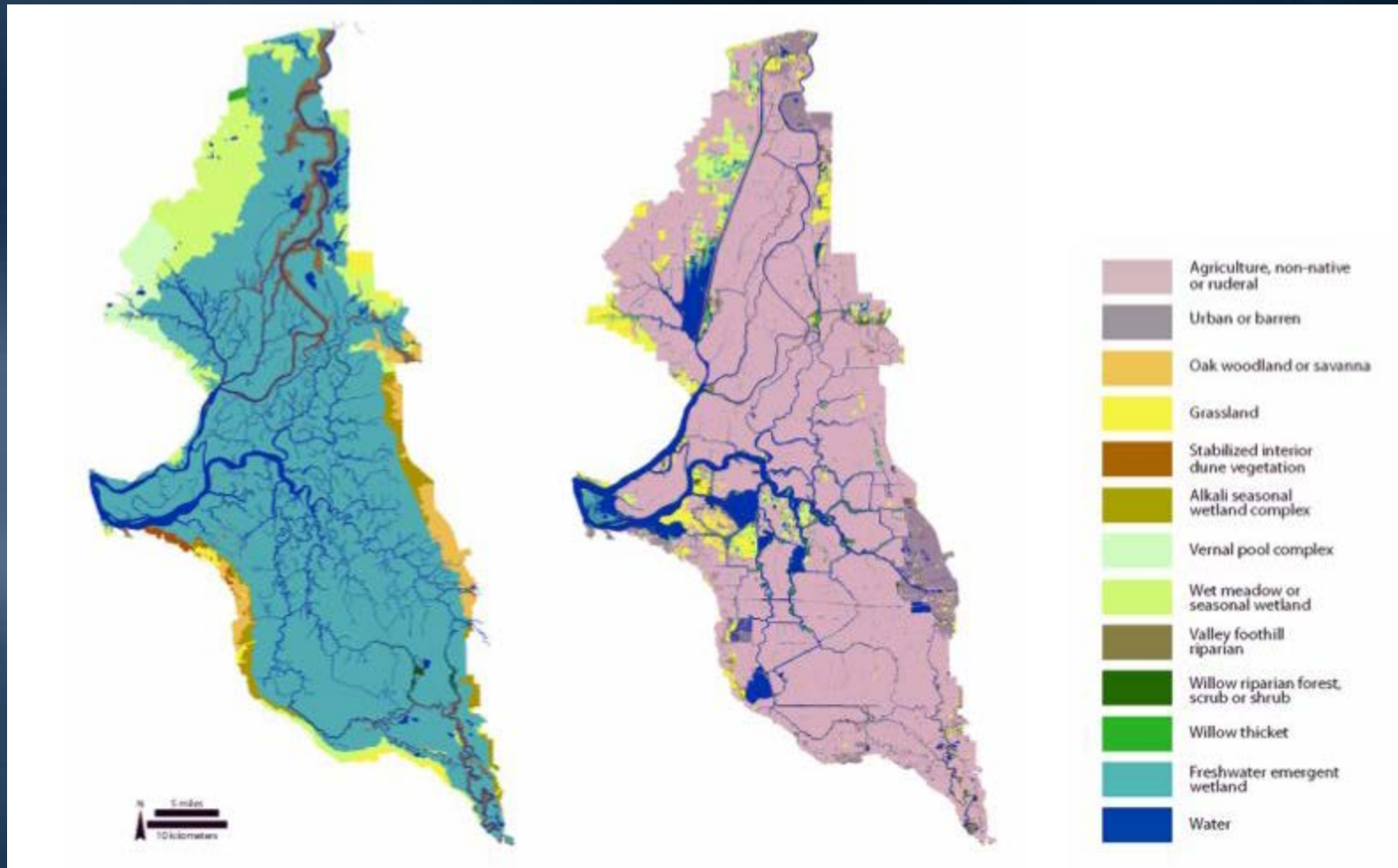
Central Valley – 23 to 90%

Southern Cal – 30%

How Water Gets Across the Delta

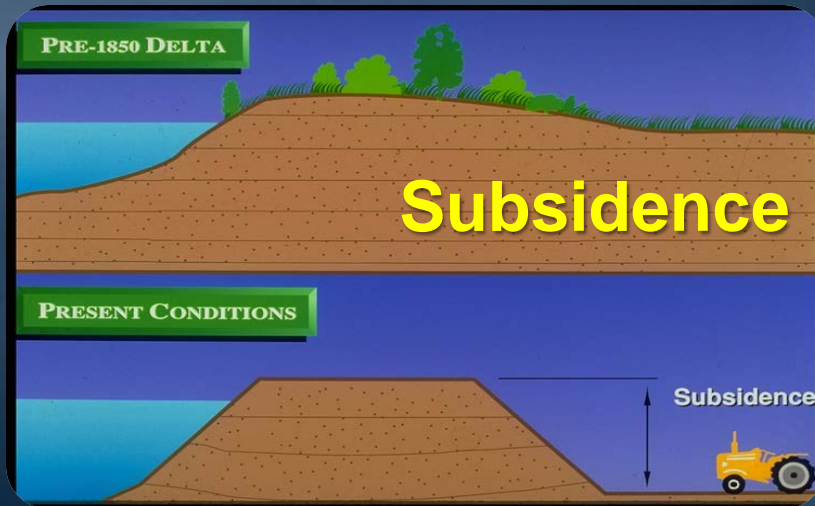


Many forces shaped the Delta



Change in Delta land cover, early 1800s to early 2000s. *Graphic by SFEI-ASC*

Key Delta Risks



What else is wrong with the Delta?

- Loss of wetlands / riparian habitat
- Methyl mercury
- Increase in invasive species
- Increase in urban runoff
(wastewater discharges)
- ... and more

Who's doing what at state level?

DWR

Operates SWP, flood control & emergency response, habitat restoration, DHCCP

CVFPB

Plans flood control on Sac & SJ Rivers, coordinates with USACE

CWC

Storage Funding
Recommends for federal funding
Eminent domain

DF&W

Permits, habitat restoration

Delta Conservancy

Habitat restoration, local coordination

CNRA

Oversees & coordinates BDCP

DPC

Land use appeals in Primary Zone, resource management plan

CalEMA

Plan & coordinate emergency response

SWRCB

Water rights, quality standards, public trust protections

Delta Watermaster

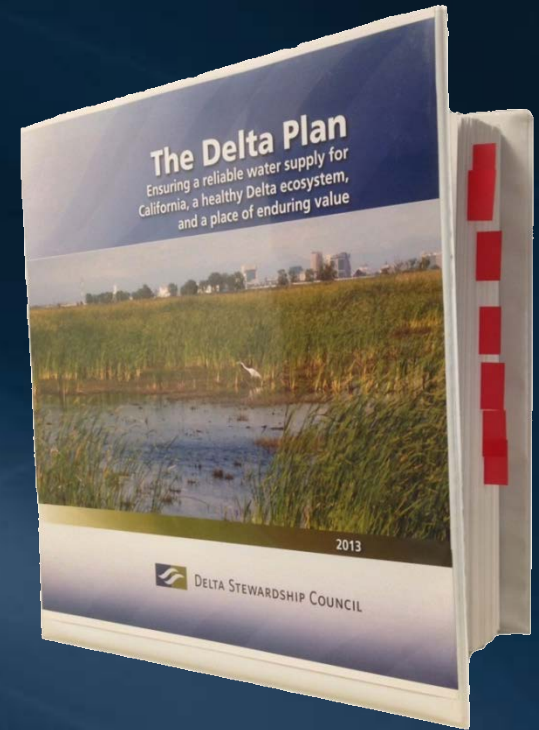
Water rights & enforcement in Delta

Delta Stewardship Council created to:

- Develop enforceable plan to achieve coequal goals of ecosystem restoration and statewide water supply reliability
- Ensure progress towards those goals
- Oversee and coordinate activities in the Delta among various agencies
- Inform decision-making with best available independent science

What is the Delta Plan?

- Delta Plan draws upon existing state and federal laws and policies and ongoing programs to chart a big-picture course
- The Delta Plan is:
 - ✓ 14 regulatory policies; 73 recommendations
 - ✓ A plan that encourages state and local agencies to implement local and regional projects



Delta Plan Themes:

- **Conservation & Efficiency** – reduce reliance on the Delta through local and regional projects
- **Reduce Flood Risk** – increase use of floodplains and emergency prep, prioritize levee investments
- **Ecosystem Restoration** – protect prime locations and wildlife corridors, update water quality objectives
- **Supply Reliability & Storage** – change major point of diversion in Delta, increase storage above and below
- **Protect the Delta** – locate new development in urban areas, preserve agricultural lands and ensure role for Delta voices
- **Science & Adaptive Management** – best available science and adaptive management

California Water Action Plan

- Sets direction for near- and long-term actions on water issues
- Budget includes \$618.7 million for near-term actions
 - Water efficiency
 - Wetland and watershed restoration
 - Groundwater programs
 - Conservation
 - Flood control
 - Integrated water management

Today's takeaways

- California's precipitation is highly variable
- Most Californians far from water sources
- Delta is hub for water deliveries – plagued by many problems
- 2009 legislative package – New Delta Governance:
 - Use water efficiently
 - Fix the Delta – but rely on it less
 - Greater storage a must – more so with climate change
 - Find regional and local solutions for new water
- Delta Plan & Water Action Plan aligned in need for comprehensive approach

Questions?

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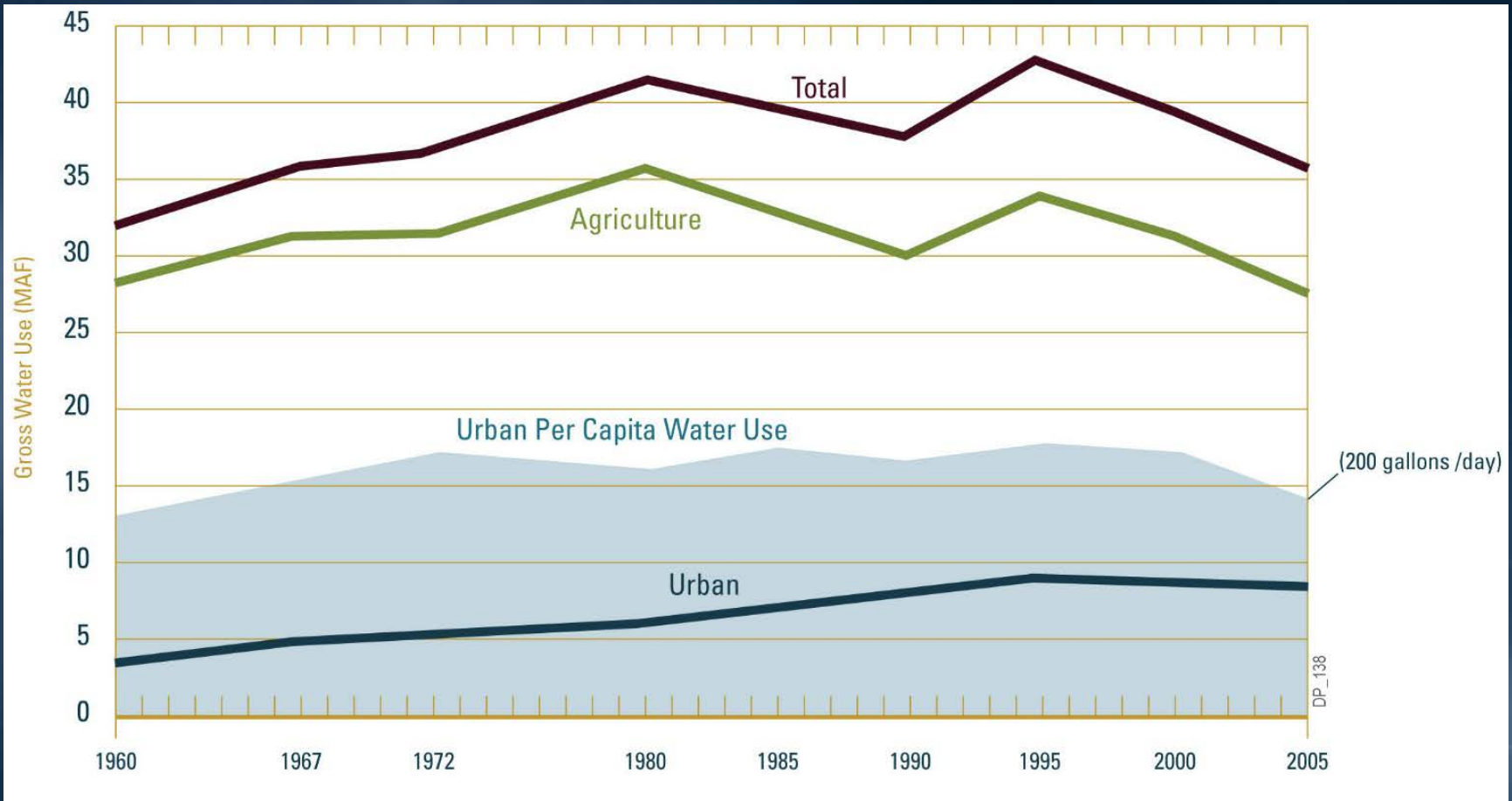
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State's water use is trending down



Opportunities for (new) water

