Water Supply Conditions and Water Authority Drought Response Actions

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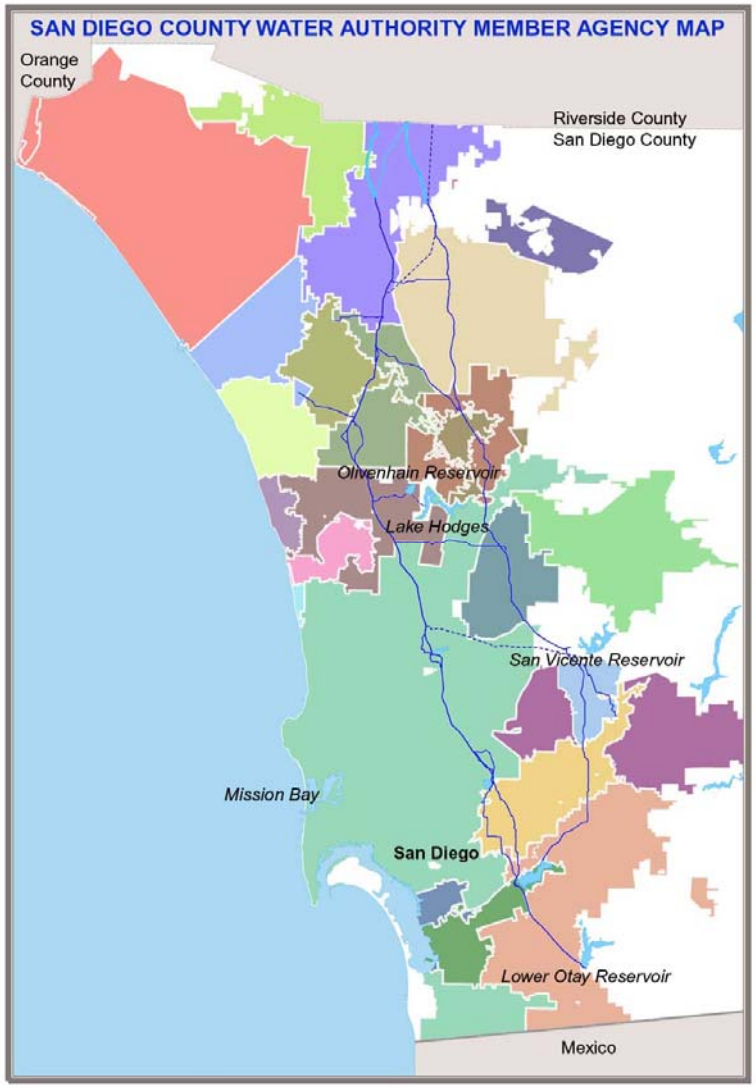
San Diego Unified Disaster Council Meeting
February 20, 2014

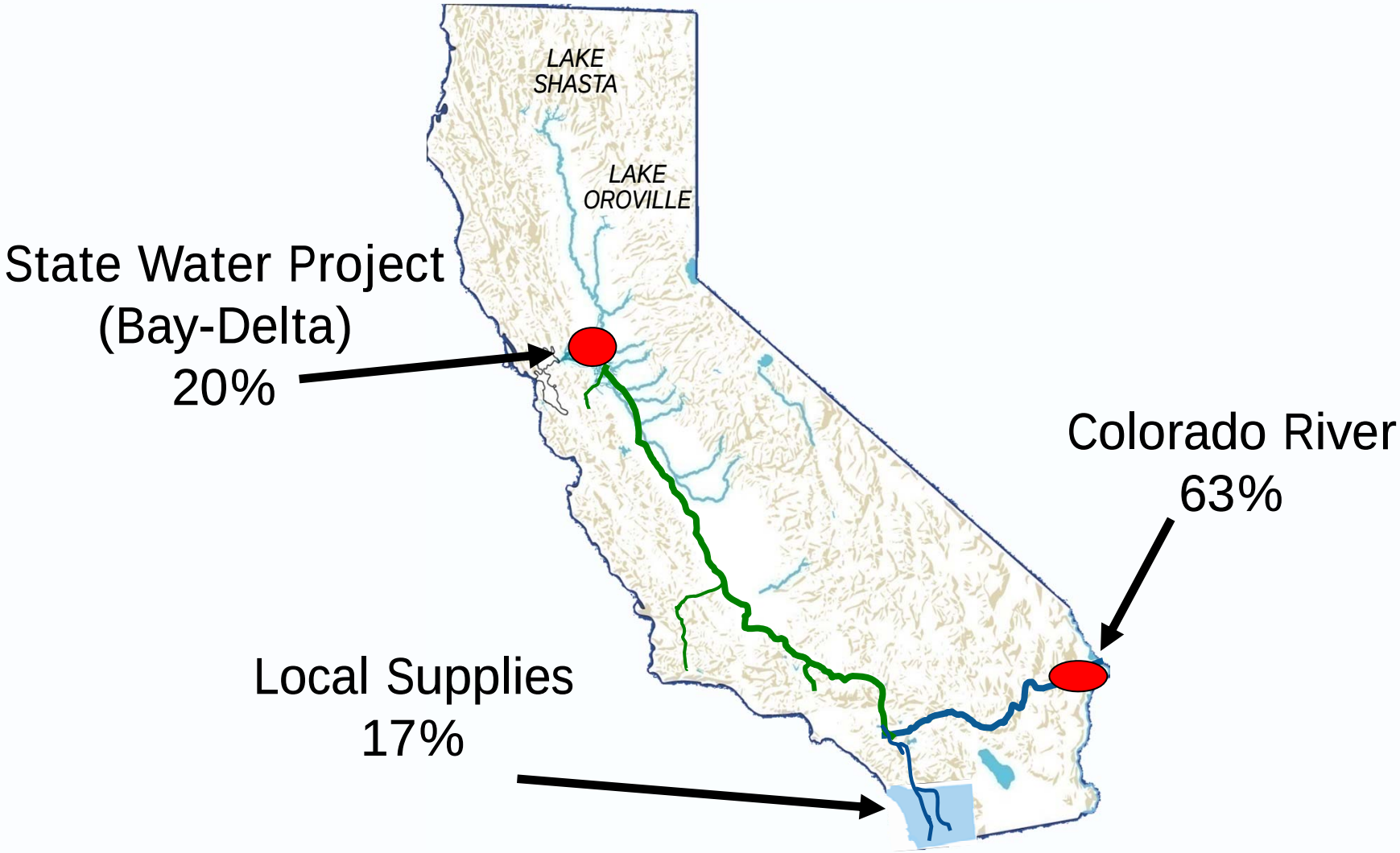
San Diego County Water Authority

San Diego County Water Authority

- Wholesale water agency created by State Legislature in 1944
  - 24 member agencies
  - 35-member board of directors
  - Serves 3.1 million people and region's $188 billion economy
- Mission is to provide safe and reliable water supply to member agencies
- Service area
  - 950,000 acres
  - 97% of county's population

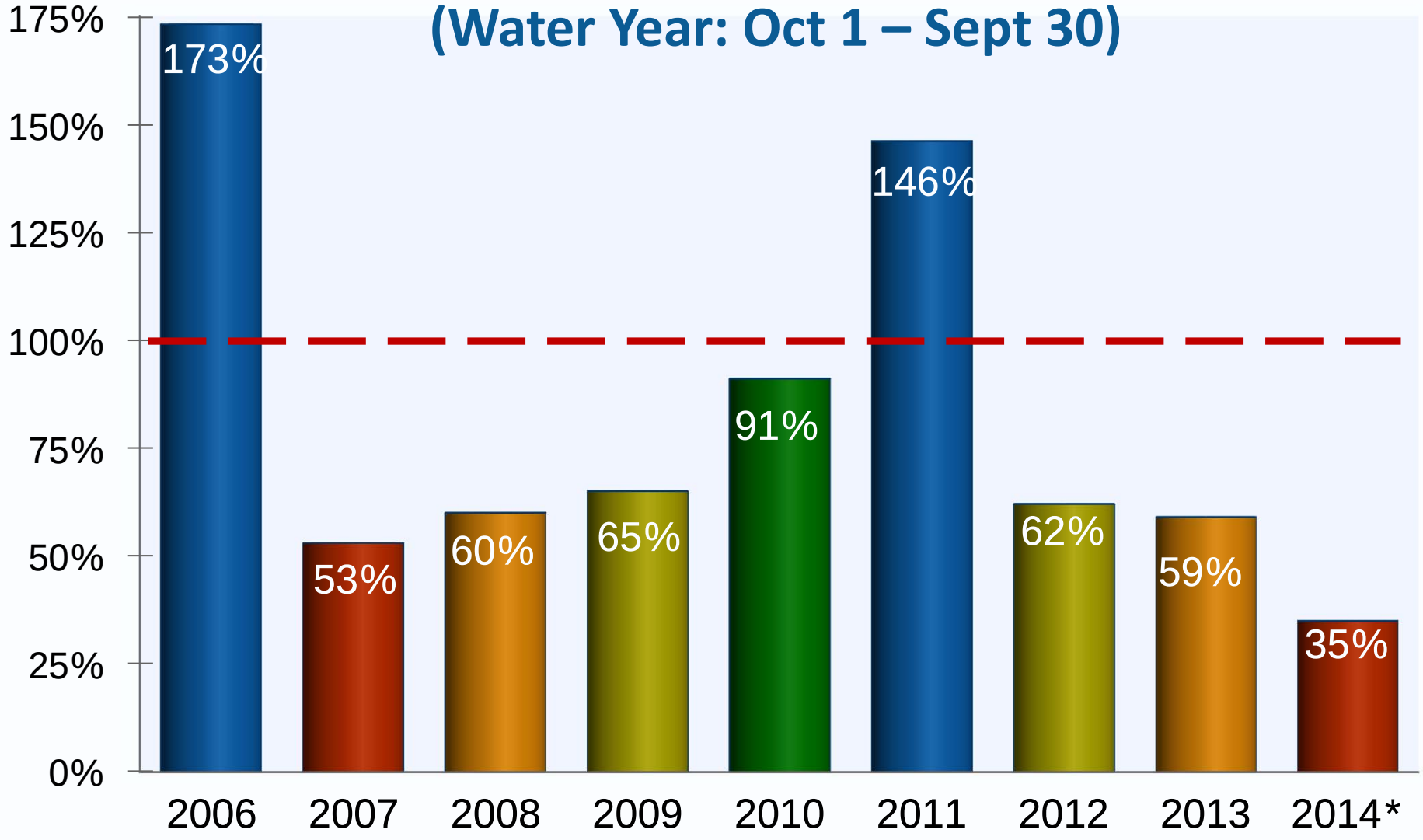


Sources of San Diego County's Water Supply (2009-13 five-year average)



Average Water Year Statewide Runoff

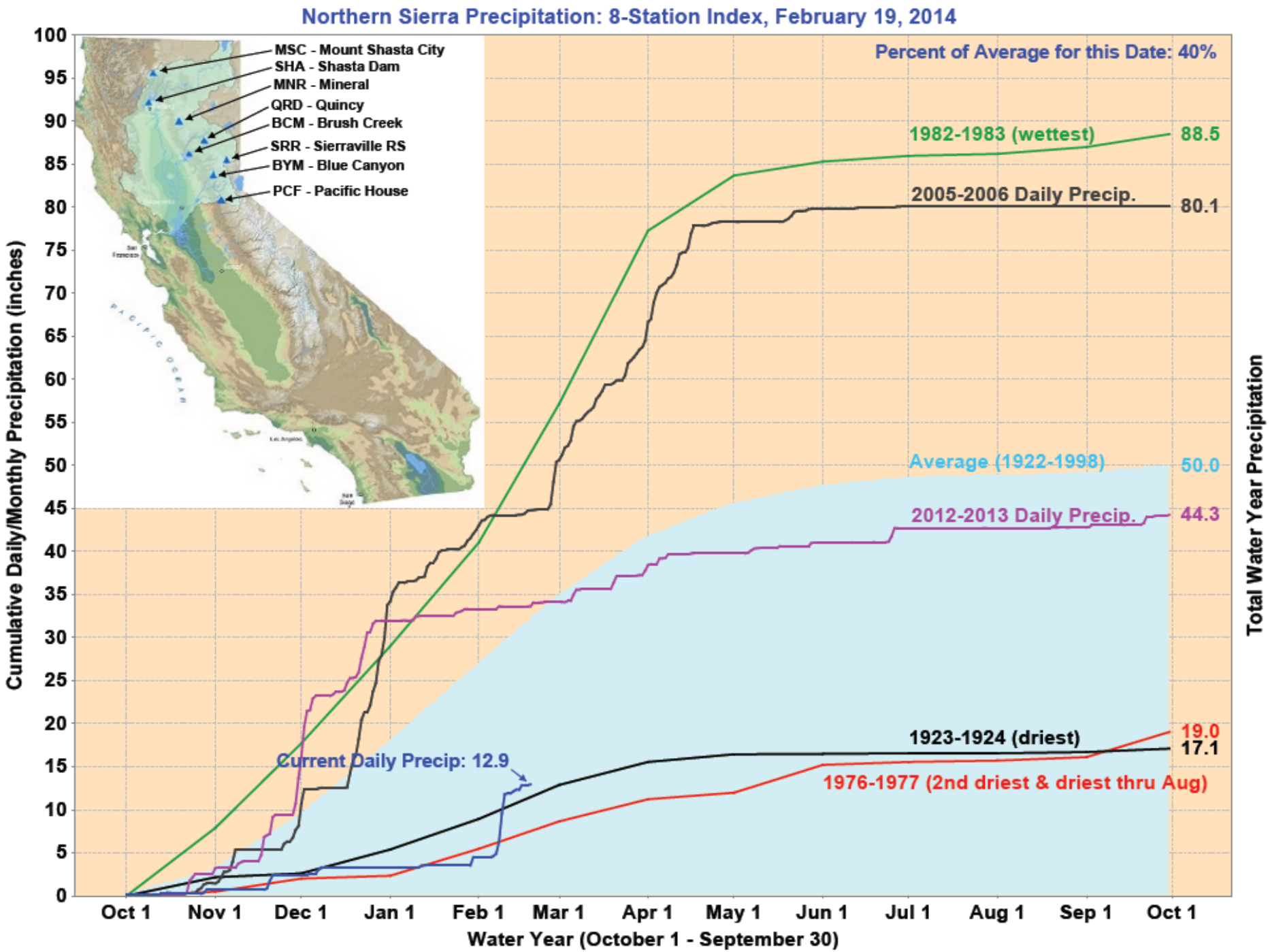
(Water Year: Oct 1 – Sept 30)



*February 1, 2014 forecasted water year runoff

Lake Oroville – Principal SWP Reservoir - July 2011
100% Capacity, 131% Average

Lake Oroville – Principal SWP Reservoir - January 2014
36% Capacity, 55% Average


Northern Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index, February 19, 2014
MSC - Mount Shasta City
SHA - Shasta Dam
MNR - Mineral
QRD - Quincy
BCM - Brush Creek
SRR - Sierraville RS
BYM - Blue Canyon
PCF - Pacific House
Percent of Average for this Date: 40%
1982-1983 (wettest)
88.5
2005-2006 Daily Precip.
80.1
Average (1922-1998)
50.0
2012-2013 Daily Precip.
44.3
1923-1924 (driest)
17.1
19.0
1976-1977 (2nd driest & driest thru Aug)
Current Daily Precip: 12.9
Cumulative Daily/Monthly Precipitation (inches)
Total Water Year Precipitation
Oct 1
Nov 1
Dec 1
Jan 1
Feb 1
Mar 1
Apr 1
May 1
Jun 1
Jul 1
Aug 1
Sep 1
Oct 1
Water Year (October 1 - September 30)

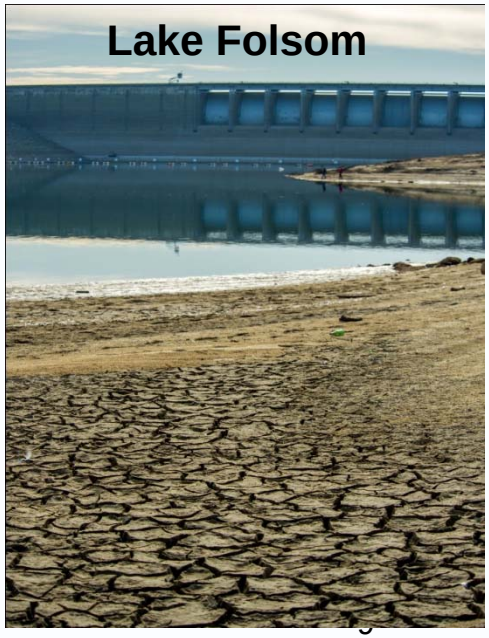
SDCWA Local Service Area Conditions

- Local reservoir storage approximately 217,300 AF or 71% of average (February 18, 2014)

Water Year 2014 Precipitation Through February 19, 2014		
Station	Actual in.	% Normal
Lindbergh Field	2.55	39%
Ramona Airport	4.83	45%

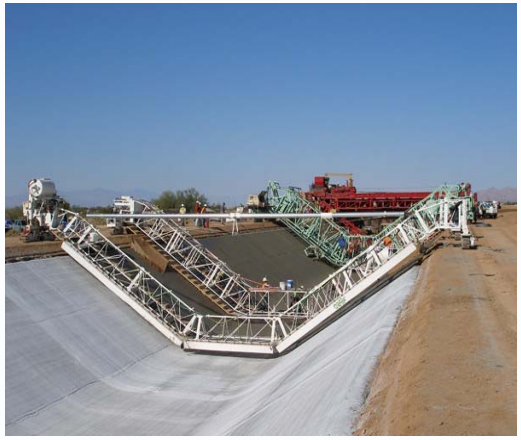
Impacts due to Dry Conditions Vary Statewide

- Impacts depend on supply portfolio of the region
- Communities hardest hit by drought:
  - Small rural drinking water communities
  - Farming communities in the Central Valley
  - Urban regions more heavily reliant on a single supply source or watershed
    - For example, San Juan Water District asking customers to reduce indoor use by 20 percent and eliminate outdoor water use
    - Rely on Lake Folsom: 29% of capacity



Impacts due to Dry Conditions Vary Statewide (cont.)

- San Diego region better able to manage dry conditions, due to:
  - Ratepayer investments over last 20 years to diversify resources
  - Strong regional conservation efforts have kept water demands low
  - Adequate storage reserves in southern California
- MWD staff has stated that supply allocations are not anticipated in 2014
- No cutbacks expected for San Diego region in 2014

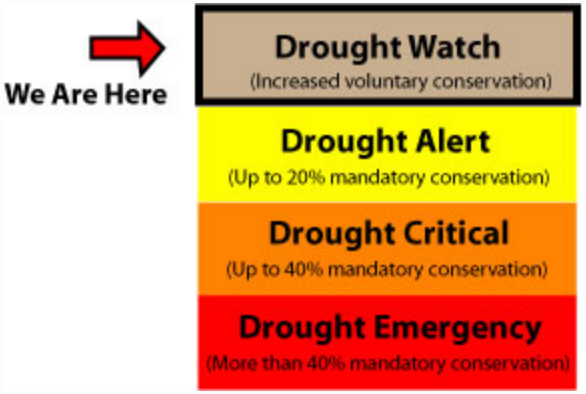


Lining the Coachella Canal

MWD Diamond Valley Lake

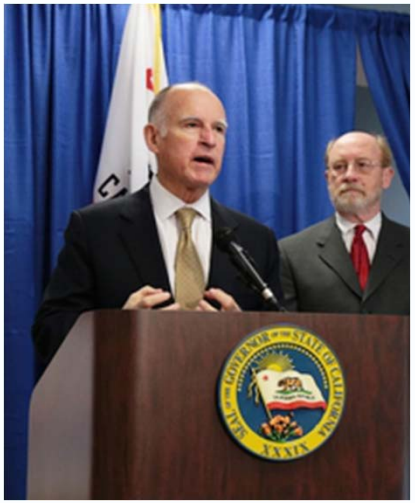
February 13, 2014 Water Authority Board Actions on Drought Response

1. Activate the Water Authority's Water Shortage and Drought Response Plan, Voluntary Stage
2. Declare a Regional Drought Response Level 1, Drought Watch condition

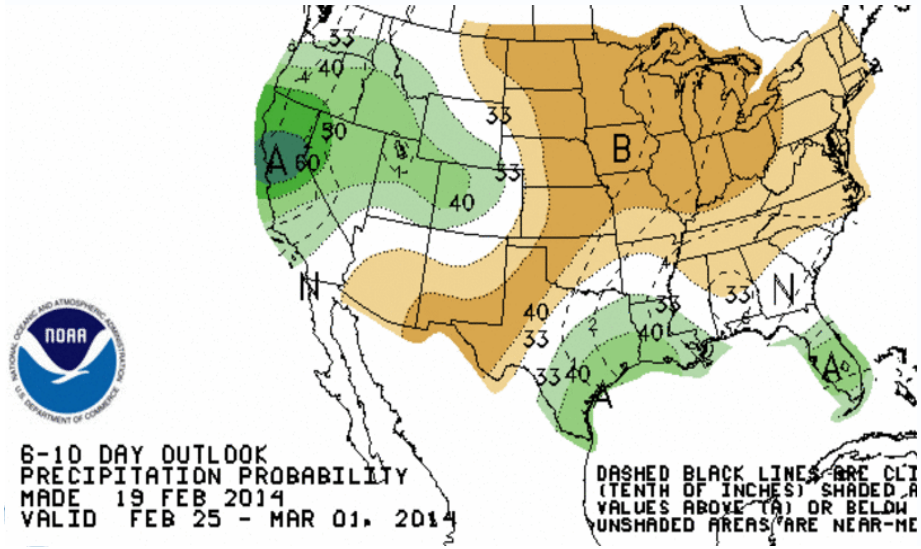
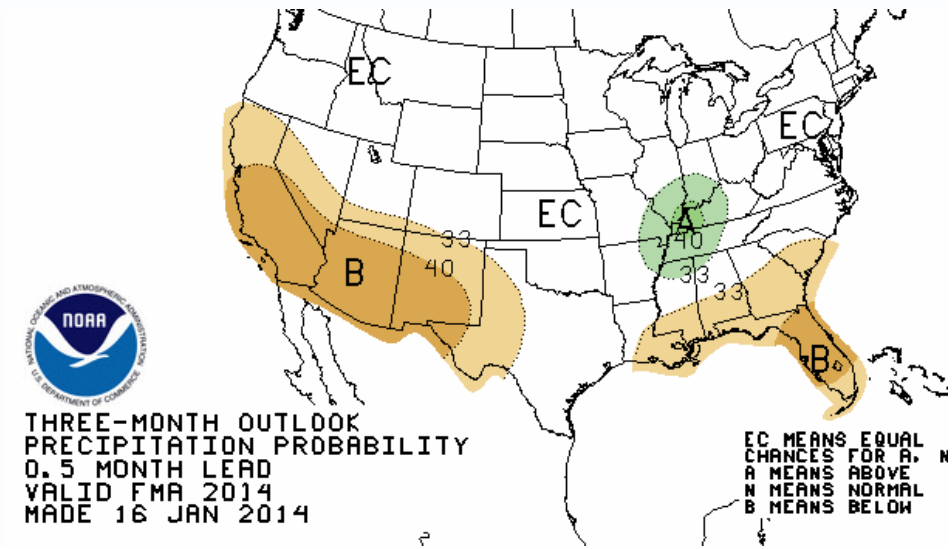


3. Support the expediting of local and regional supply development
4. Advocate for the development of more storage statewide

Basis for the Water Authority's Drought Response Actions – Increase Voluntary Conservation



- Respond to governor's call for increased voluntary conservation
- Assist the state in managing California's water crisis that arose due to unprecedented dry conditions statewide
- MWD will need to withdraw significant amounts of water from storage in 2014 to meet normal demands
- Water savings achieved through increased voluntary conservation will help preserve critical water reserves should dry conditions continue

Drought Response Actions - Next Steps

- Member agencies consider specific actions to take based on their plans and ordinances
- Step-up conservation outreach efforts
  - Drought response campaign starts March/April
- Continue to closely monitor supply and demand conditions