

# Bay Delta Conservation Plan and Importance to So Calif.

# Richard Atwater, Executive Director Southern California Water Committee SBCCOG February 28, 2014







Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta:

## California's Water Epicenter



## A Vulnerable & Incomplete System

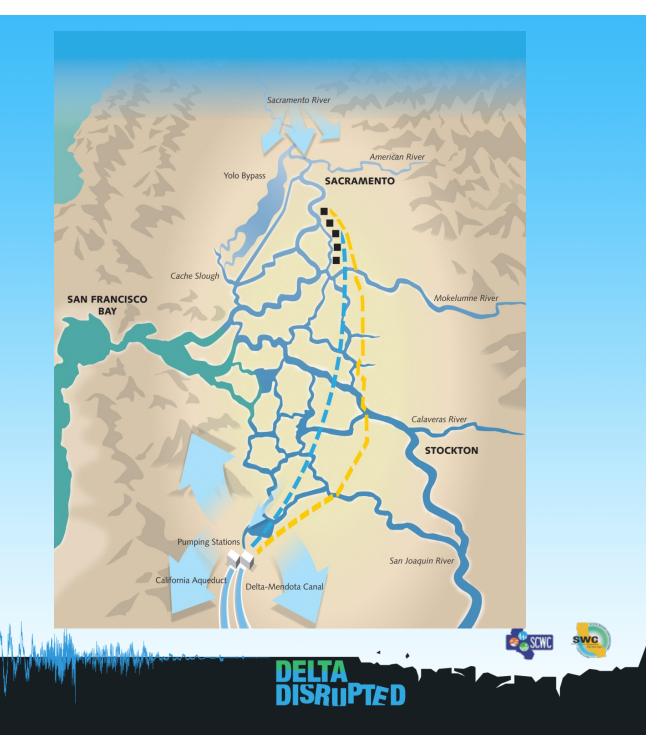
- Past generations invested in a network of dams, aqueducts and pumps to move water around the state
- 100-year-old man-made levee system is old and fragile
- Much of the land has subsided below sea level
- Future sea level rise and changing weather patterns will put greater pressure on the levees



# How likely is a major earthquake (6.7 magnitude) to hit Northern California?



A retrofit of the existing system that secures it from risk of flood, earthquake and sea level rise in the Delta is the most sensible approach

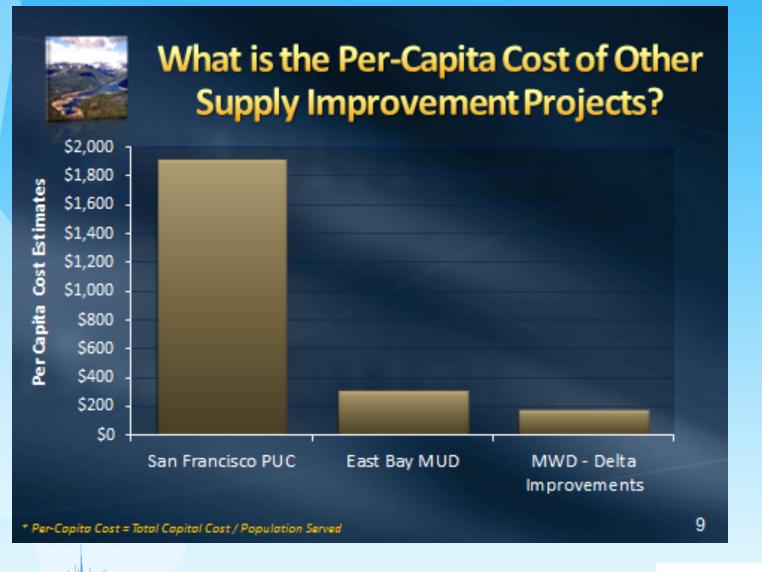


## **Investing In The Seismic Retrofit**

- Project is prudent, affordable & urgently needed
- Cost of the water conveyance project would be covered by public water agencies
  - ~\$14 billion
  - Project would be financed over many years
  - No state general fund dollars involved
- Broader funding sources, including potentially voter approved bonds, would pay for environmental improvements

## **An Investment Long Overdue**







PTED



## **Regional Water Investments**

Water Conservation and Efficiency

- Recycled Water
- Groundwater clean up efforts
- Groundwater storage for droughts
- Stormwater capture



## MWD's Balanced Approach Dry-Year Strategy



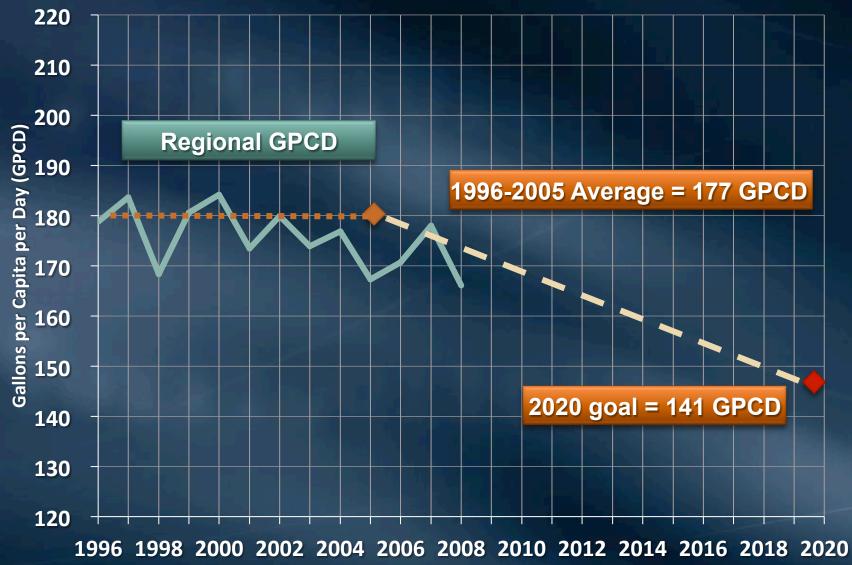
#### **Early 1990's**

Heavy dependence on imported supplies

#### **Current Strategy**

Emphasis on conservation, local supplies, storage & transfers

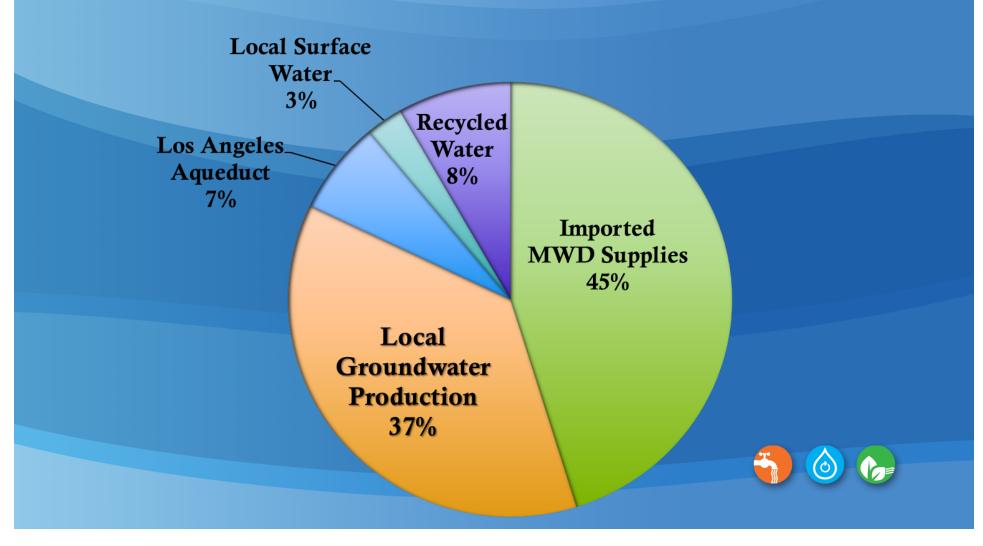
# **Regional Per Capita Water Use**



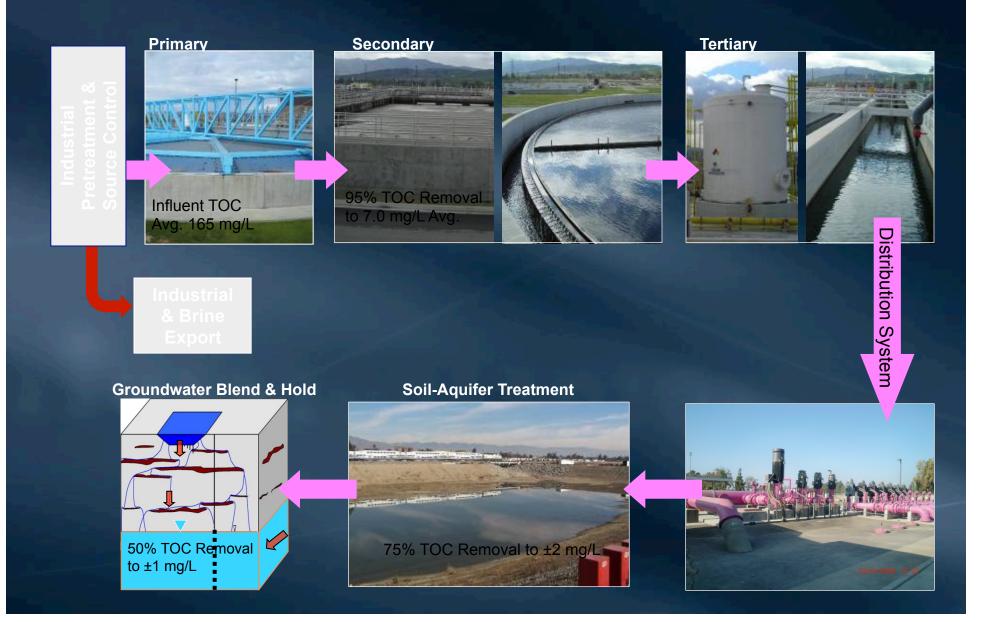


## **2010 Service Area Water Supplies**

#### **Total Retail Demand: 3.6 MAF**



## San Gabriel River Recycled Water Production Cycle



#### Using Water Over And Over Again: Recycling



#### **Investing in Efficiency**





















# Investment in Local Water Projects

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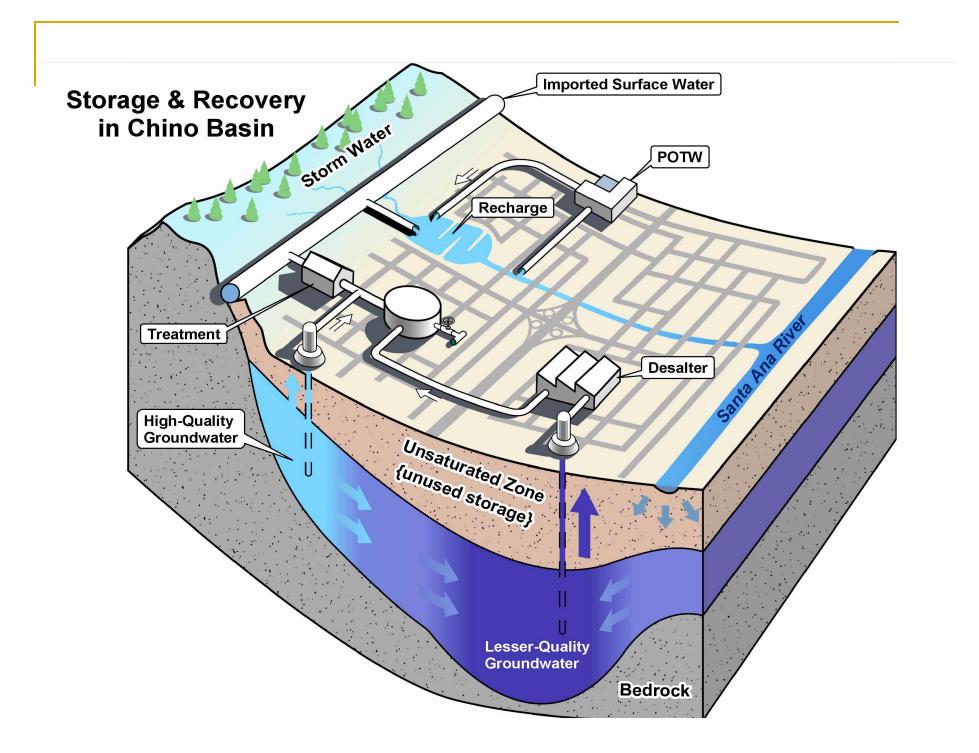
## Invested \$10 billion since 1995

| Program                | Number of<br>Projects | Annual (AF) |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Recycling              | 100+                  | 450,000     |
| Groundwater<br>Storage | 9                     | 350,000     |
| Desalination           | GW &<br>Seawater      | 240,000     |

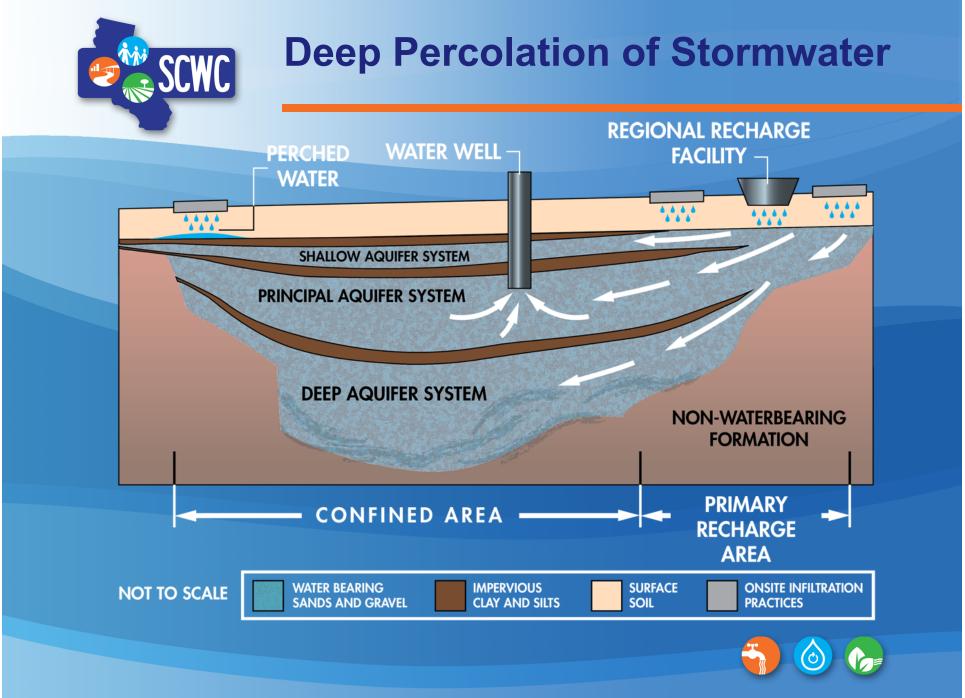
## ~ 3 MAF of Available Storage Space

|                                   | 2011    |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Northwest MWD Service Area Basins | NA      |
| San Fernando Valley Basins        | 510,000 |
| LA County Coastal Plain Basins    | 484,300 |
| San Gabriel Valley Basins         | 353,000 |
| Orange County Basins              | 218,000 |
| Inland Empire Basins              | 500,000 |
| Eastside MWD Service Area Basins  | 600,000 |
| San Diego County Basins           | NA      |

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Source: SCWC Stormwater White Paper



## Stormwater: A Smart & Sensible Solution

- 450,000 acre-feet of stormwater is currently captured and recharged into So Cal groundwater basins per year (enough water for <u>3 million people/year</u>)
- Billions of gallons are lost every year because we don't have enough stormwater capture systems
- Capturing stormwater is viable, cost-effective and environmentally preferable
- Capturing stormwater provides numerous benefits, including:
  - Creating more local water supplies
  - Reducing polluted run-off
  - Providing a cost-effective water supply option





Individual
Neighborhood
Large Scale





#### **Small Scale Projects**



#### Whitnall Highway Power Line Easement Project

- LADWP Project.
- Conceptual plan being developed.
- Project expected to increase groundwater recharge by more than 110 acre-feet per year.
- Goal is to capture and infiltrate stormwater beneath LADWP power lines using swales and ponds.
- Designs expected in 2013.



Courtesy of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power



## **Large Scale Projects**

#### **Pacoima Spreading Grounds Project**

- LACFCD/LADWP Project.
- Estimated cost \$32 million.
- Increased recharge by 2,000 acre-feet annually.
- Designs expected in late 2012.





**Lopez Spreading Grounds Project** 

- LACFCD/LADWP Project.
- Increased recharge by 750 acre-feet annually.
- Designs expected in 2013.
- Estimated cost \$8 million.



Courtesy of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power









# **Thank You!**

## Richard Atwater Southern California Water Committee

