

## April 7, 2022

# Water Resilience for Southern California

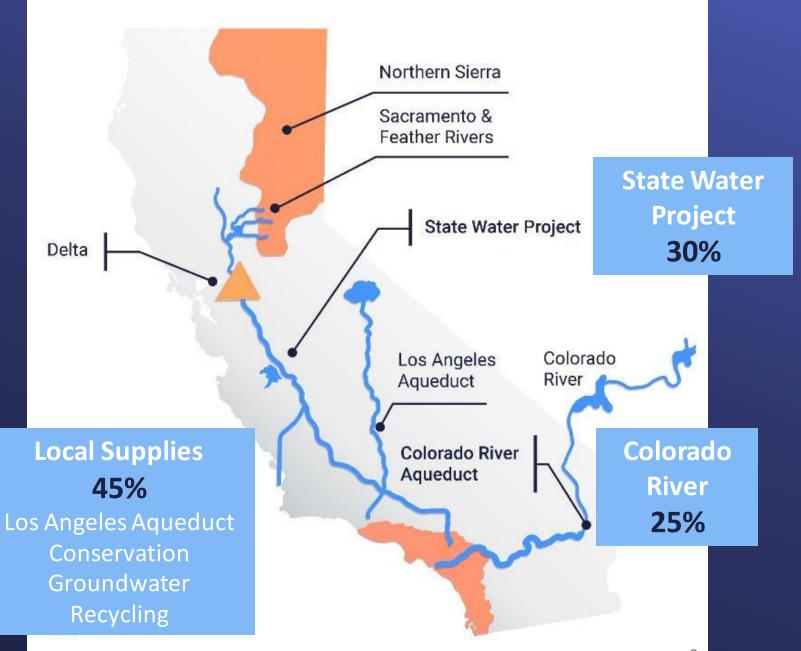
Liz Crosson Chief Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation Officer ecrosson@mwdh2o.com

# Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

- Nation's largest wholesale water provider
- Service area: 19 million people, 5,200 square miles, parts of six counties
- 26 member agencies
- Supports \$1.4 trillion regional economy (ranks 13<sup>th</sup> in the world)



# Securing Water for Southern California



Metropolitan's Imported Supply Watersheds.



#### The New York Times

Extreme Weather LIVE Flooding in New York LIVE Recovery in Louisiana Track Power Outages Photos: Ida's Aftermath Caldor Fire Evacuation

#### In a First, U.S. Declares Shortage on Colorado River, Forcing Water Cuts

Arizona farmers will take the initial brunt, but wider reductions loom as climate change continues to affect flows into the river.

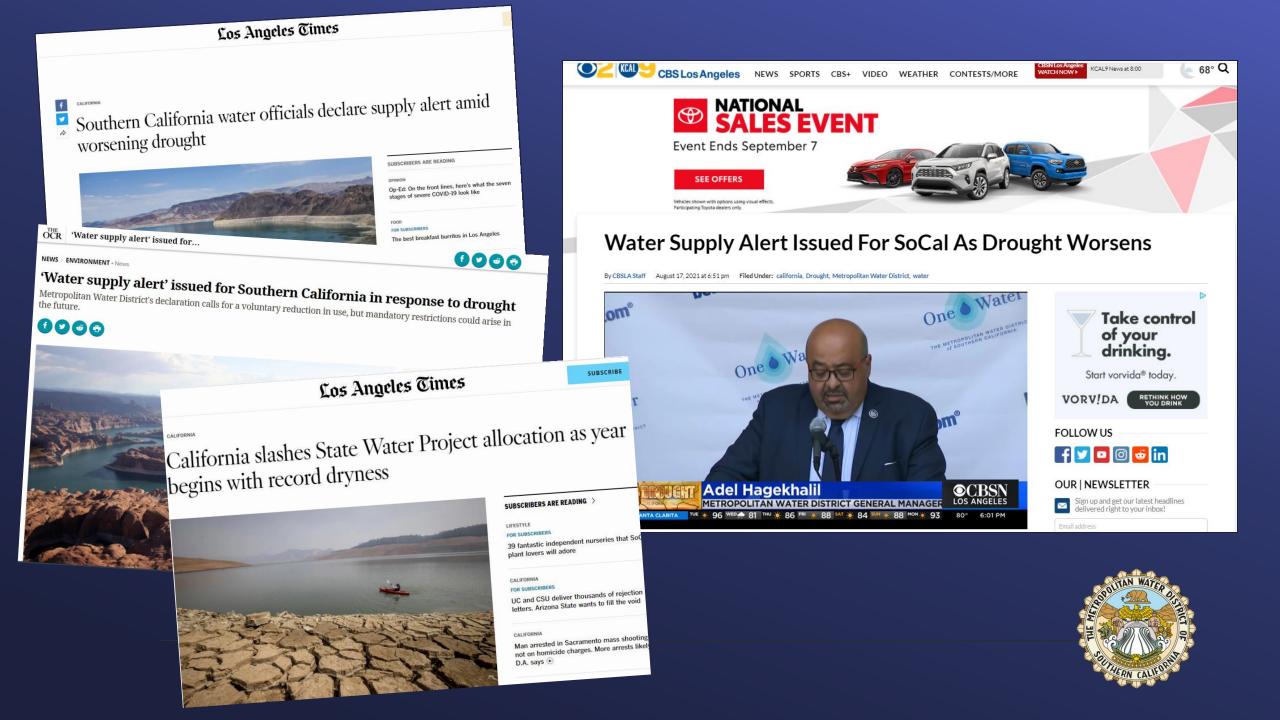




Years of drought have severely depleted the reservoirs that feed the Colorado River, and deeper restrictions on water use are expected. "Additional actions will likely be necessary in the very near future," a senior official said. Patrick T. Fallon/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

By Henry Fountain





#### Weather Climate Storm Tracker Wildfire Tracker Video



#### See the dried up reservoir that's shutting down this power plant

LIVE TV Edition V

Q

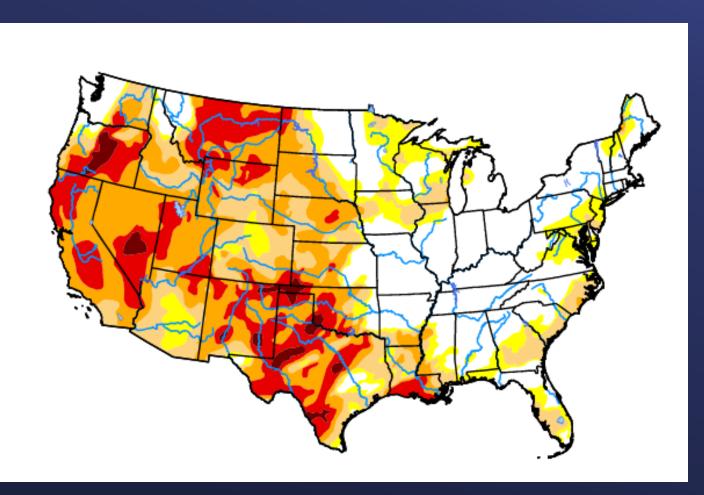
Q

Lake Oroville, a reservoir that provides water for a hydroelectric power plant in California, is so low that it must be shut down for the first time since it opened in the 60's. Source: CNN



## Drought Conditions Persistent in the West. As of March 31, 2022

## U.S. Drought Monitor





The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

#### Author:

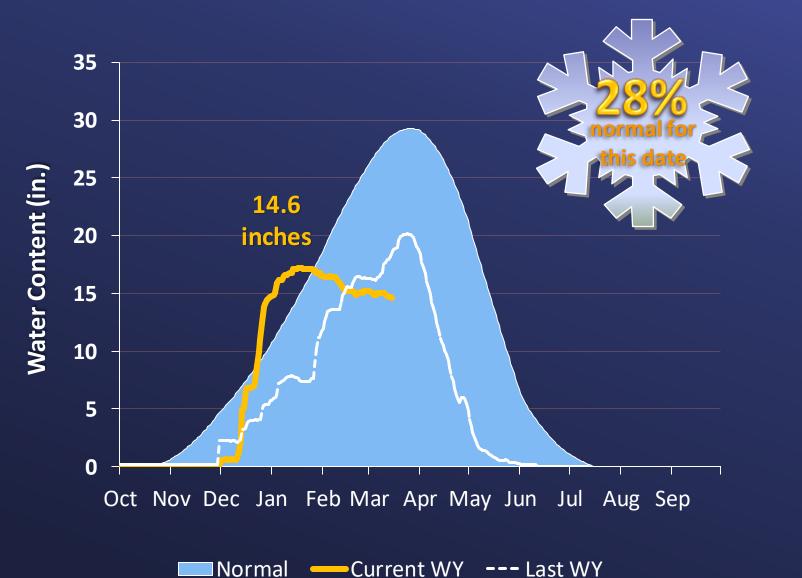
Brian Fuchs National Drought Mitigation Center





#### droughtmonitor.unl.edu

# Hydrologic Conditions Northern Sierra.



- Water content has begun to decrease
- Way below average for this time of year
- Statewide average is 38% as of April 1 Snowpack Survey

# Hydrologic Conditions Northern Sierra.

300

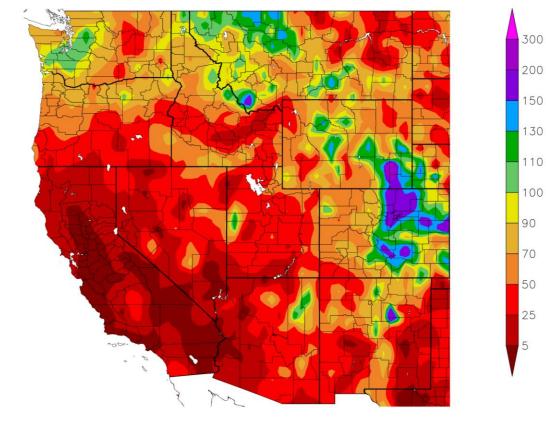
150

130

70

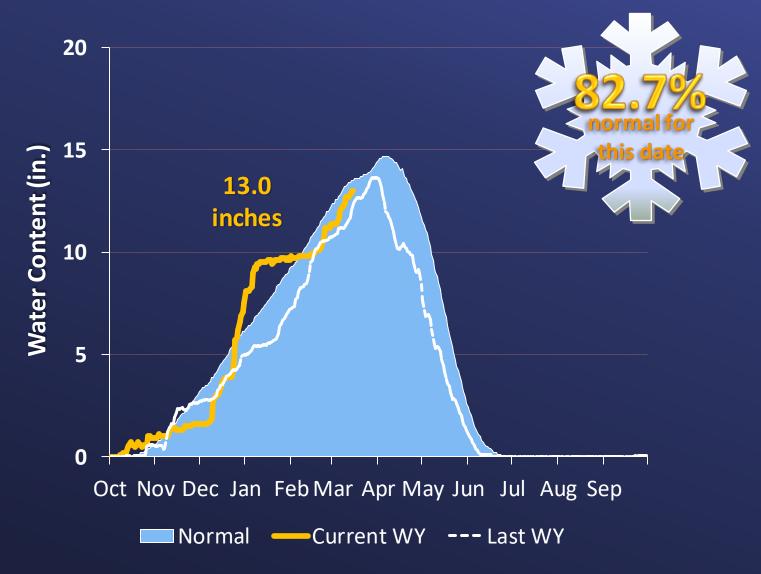
## Percent of Normal Precipitation

1/1/2022 - 3/12/2022



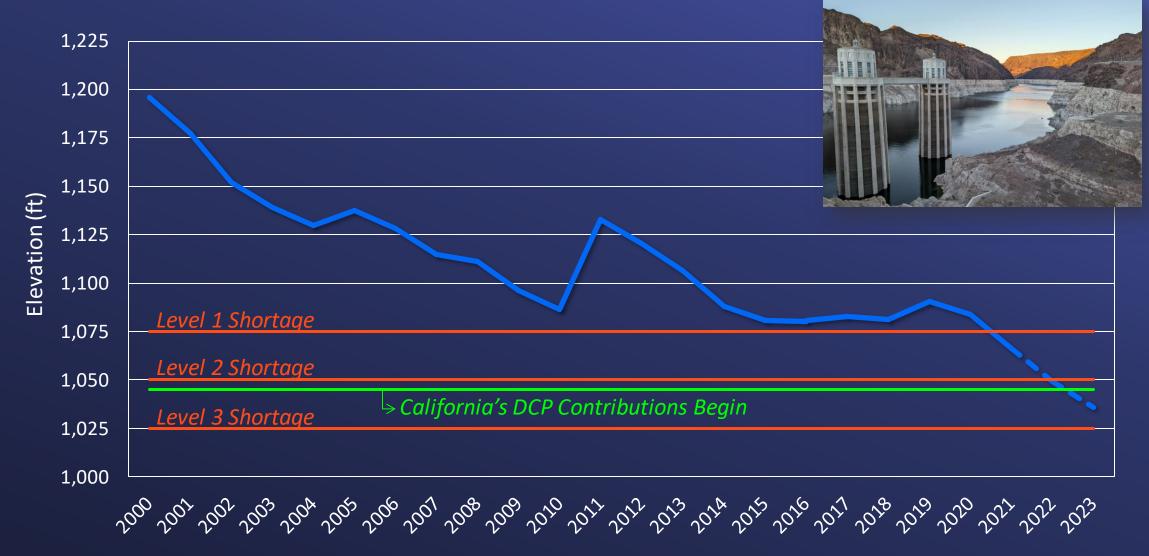
- Jan Mar 2022 driest on ightarrowrecord (8-Station)
- Runoff forecast has been  $\bullet$ decreasing since December
- Department of Water **Resources reduced water** use allocations to 5%

# Hydrologic Conditions Upper Colorado River Basin.



- About average for this time of year
- Not seeing decreases in water content yet
- Metropolitan had supplies to fill available aqueduct capacity this year

# **Declining Lake Mead Elevation.**



Lake Mead Elevation — — Forecasted Elevation

Key Findings of the 2000-2021 Megadrought.

- Driest 22-year period since year 800
- 2002 and 2021 ranked among the driest
- Human-caused climate change is responsible for about 42% of the soil moisture deficit since 2000
- Drought likely to continue
  (75% chance to continue to 30 years)

# What is Water Resilience?

- 1) Water Resilience is the ability to provide an uninterrupted supply of safe, clean water through natural occurrences such as earthquakes, drought, climate change and water quality conditions.
- 2) Water resilience is commonly understood as the ability of water systems to withstand a variety of water-related shocks (floods, droughts, changes in water quality) without losing their ability to support key functions.
- 3) Water resilience is the ability of social-ecological systems to weather and recover from shocks while remaining adaptable to an uncertain future, and "water resilience" refers to those characteristics in a water system.
- 4) Water resilience must encompass approaches that allow us to persist, adapt, and transform in the face of uncertain climatic change stressors and shocks.
- 5) Water resilience is the ability of water systems to function so that nature and people, including those on the frontlines and disproportionately impacted, thrive under shocks, stresses and change.

# Planning for Uncertainties and Keeping the "Bucket" Full





Maintain imported supplies from the Colorado River



Modernize and secure supply reliability of the State Water Project

Integrated Water Resources Plan utilized a scenario planning approach to better prepare for an uncertain future



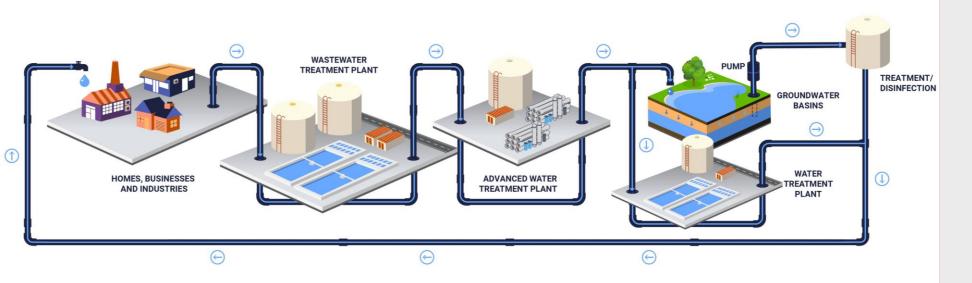
Meet all future demands by expanding local supplies

# One Water





#### Producing a Drought-Proof Supply of Water for Southern California 150 million gallons daily, enough for 500,000 homes

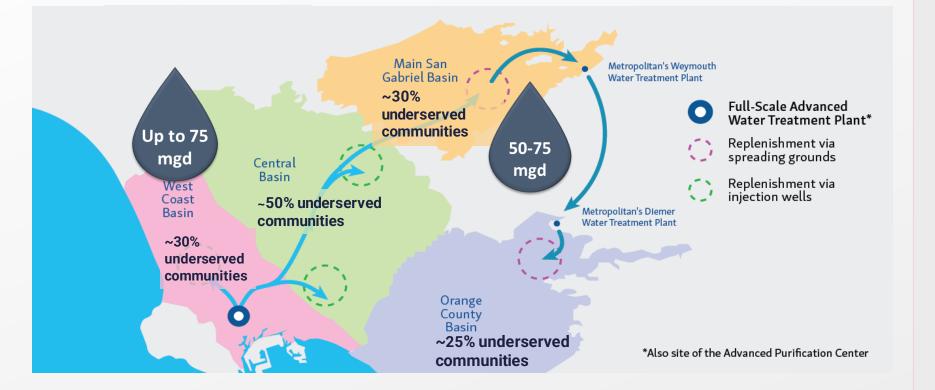


Regional Recycled Water Program\_

## How It Works.

Wastewater from homes, businesses and industries in LA County Cleaned at Sanitation Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson

Purified at Metropolitan's Advanced Water Treatment Plant Conveyed through 40+ miles of pipeline to groundwater basins, industries or Met treatment plants



Regional Recycled Water Program

Groundwater Basins Served by Full-Scale Program.



Regional Recycled Water Program

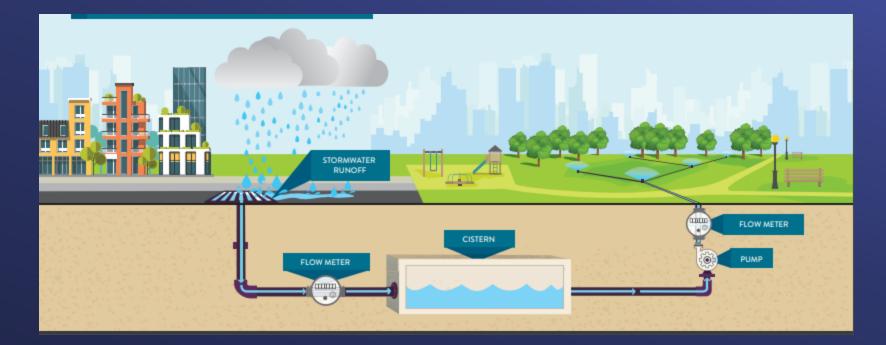
Potential Exchanges With Colorado River Partners.











#### MET Local Resources Program Supports Member Agency Projects





Greg Avenue Pump Station, Expanding Flexibility of Distribution System



















mwdh2o.com Bewaterwise.com



One Water