

# Southern California Water Committee Stormwater Capture Opportunities

Richard Atwater, Executive Director Southern California Water Committee So. Calif. Env. Dialogue April 24, 2013





## Introduction to SCWC

- Established in 1984
- Non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to education & outreach on water issues
- Regional leader on water policy
- Stormwater education program Pump Up The Volume
- Spans Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Imperial, Riverside, Ventura & Kern Counties
- Regional base; statewide influence





#### **Diverse & Influential Members**

- 200 members:
  - Business
  - Local government
  - Water agencies
  - Agriculture
  - Environmental
  - Labor
  - General public
- Unique water policy group representing such diverse interests







#### **Stormwater Task Force**



- Background on SCWC
   Stormwater Task Force
- Summary of Issue Paper
- Workshop on June 28 at MWD
- Development of Database on Stormwater Projects in So Cal





#### SCWC SW Task Force White Paper

#### Database development

- Project attributes
- Project costs and benefits
- Stakeholder involvement
- Funding Strategies

#### SoCal SW capture summary paper

- Current SW capture efforts
  - Actual project based demonstration of SW capture benefits





#### Background



- Focus: So Cal MS4 Permits and opportunities to conserve stormwater
- Purpose: Evaluate for
  - stormwater capture/recharge or
  - water supply opportunities
- Relevant state policies:
  - State Board's Strategic Plan Update
    2008 2012
  - State Board's 2009 Recycled Water Policy
  - Delta Stewardship Plan





#### **Stormwater Paper**



 MS 4 permits offer opportunity for integrated watershed management approach Recognize need to protect groundwater & water supply Need to encourage watershed specific solutions based on existing infrastructure and local geology to recharge groundwater

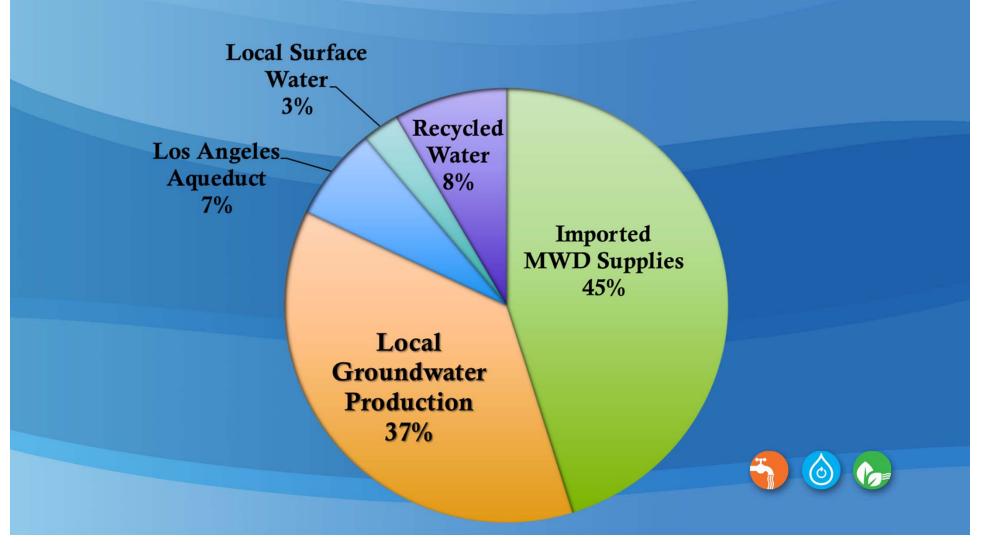






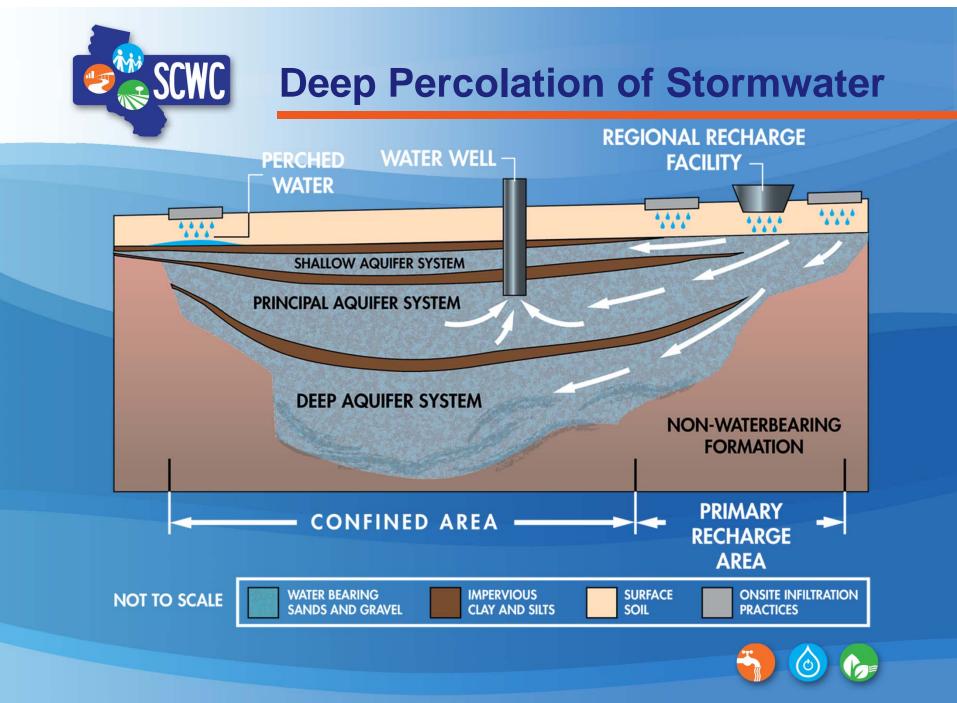
#### **CY 2010 Service Area Water Supplies**

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



# ~ 3 MAF of Available Storage Space

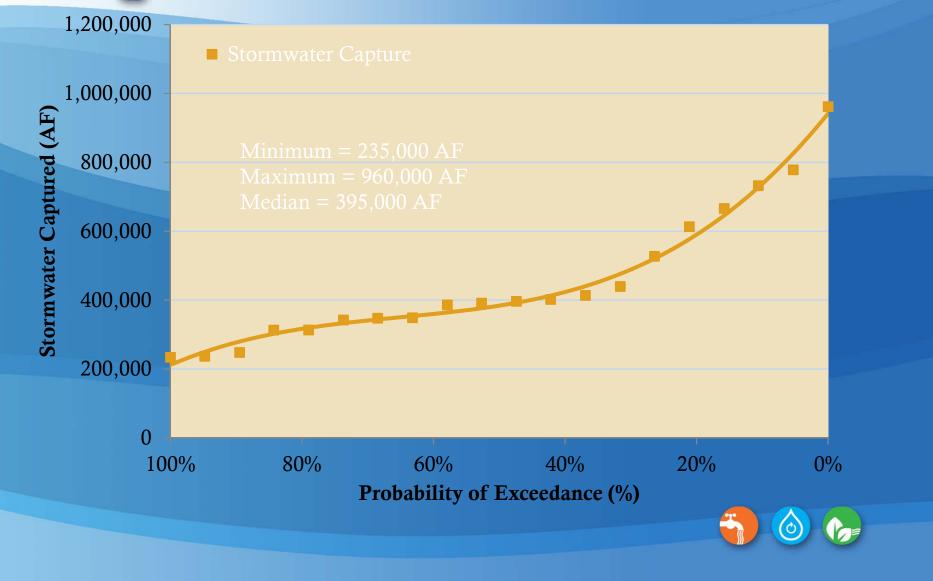
	2011
Northwest MWD Service Area Basins	NA
San Fernando Valley Basins	510,000
LA County Coastal Plain Basins	484,300
San Gabriel Valley Basins	353,000
Orange County Basins	218,000
Inland Empire Basins	500,000
Eastside MWD Service Area Basins	600,000
San Diego County Basins	NA



Source: SCWC Stormwater White Paper



#### **Stormwater Capture in MWD Area**





# Workshop on June 28

- 110 participants from throughout the region plus experts from state and federal agencies
- Technical papers on regional and LID stormwater capture project data
- Economic and financing issues addressed





## 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.



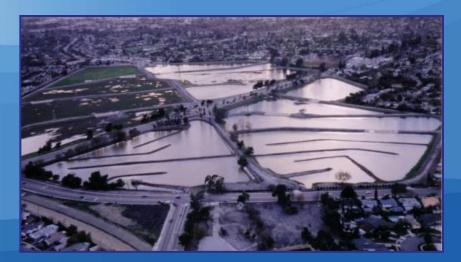
Courtesy of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power



## **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



# Inventory of Stormwater Projects in Southern California

- Collaborating with agencies and key stakeholders throughout the region
- Developing a database on LID and regional stormwater projects (built or planned)
- Using IRWMPs and other planning studies to develop regional assessment of potential stormwater capture
- Complete by Spring 2013 (web page: www.socalwater.org)





- Site specific LID rain garden (NO)
- Site specific capture and reuse (NO)
- Neighborhood/Streetscape/Greenway (YES)
- Gravel Pit Repurposing (YES)
- Spreading Ground/ Basin Enhancement (YE)





Quick glance at cost and capture volume reported

Total capital cost: \$800m - \$1.2b

Total annual O&M cost: \$10 - \$15m

Total annual volume: 200 - 300k AFY

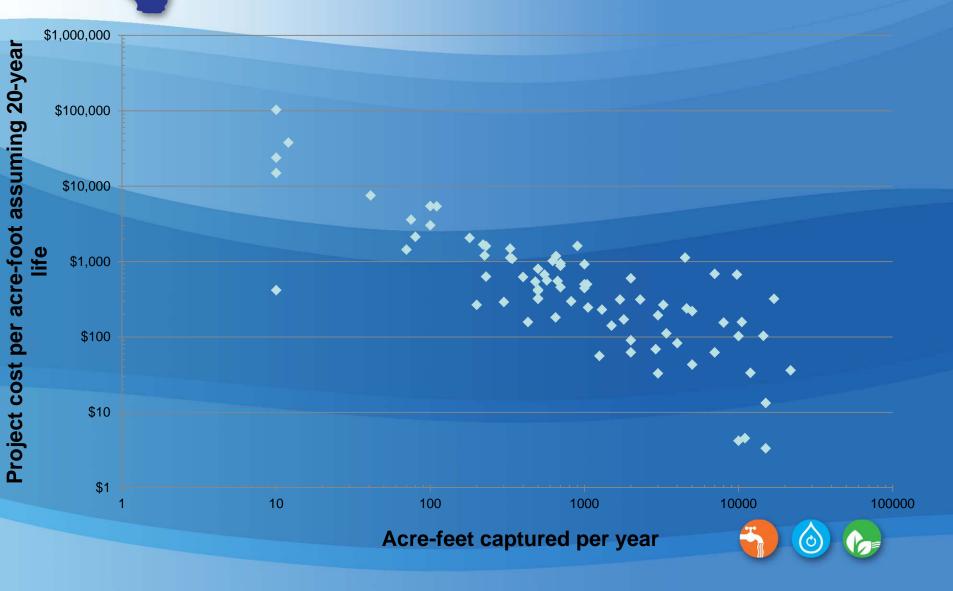
Note: All costs and volume data were self-reported and have not been verifi-





# **Cost/AF versus AF captured**

illustrates the expected economies of scale





Task Force Discussion
Benefits of most cost effective projects
Relations to MS4 permit "Enhanced Watershed Plans'
Workshop on June 18
Upper District Pilot Demo Project with CWF

Recommendations

Guidebook on MS 4 and Stormwater Capture Case St





#### **Conclusions & Recommendations**



 Need for ongoing technical dialogue on regional and LID coordinated stormwater MS4 and supply strategies Take advantage of Army Corps of Engineers dams and other facilities Continue the ongoing collaborative dialogue with Regional Boards, SWRCB and EPA on strategies to conserve and capture stormwater

 Educate the public and stakeholders on the importance and necessity of capturing stormwater