



Bay Delta Conservation Plan & California Water Issues

Southern California Water Dialogue
June 26, 2013

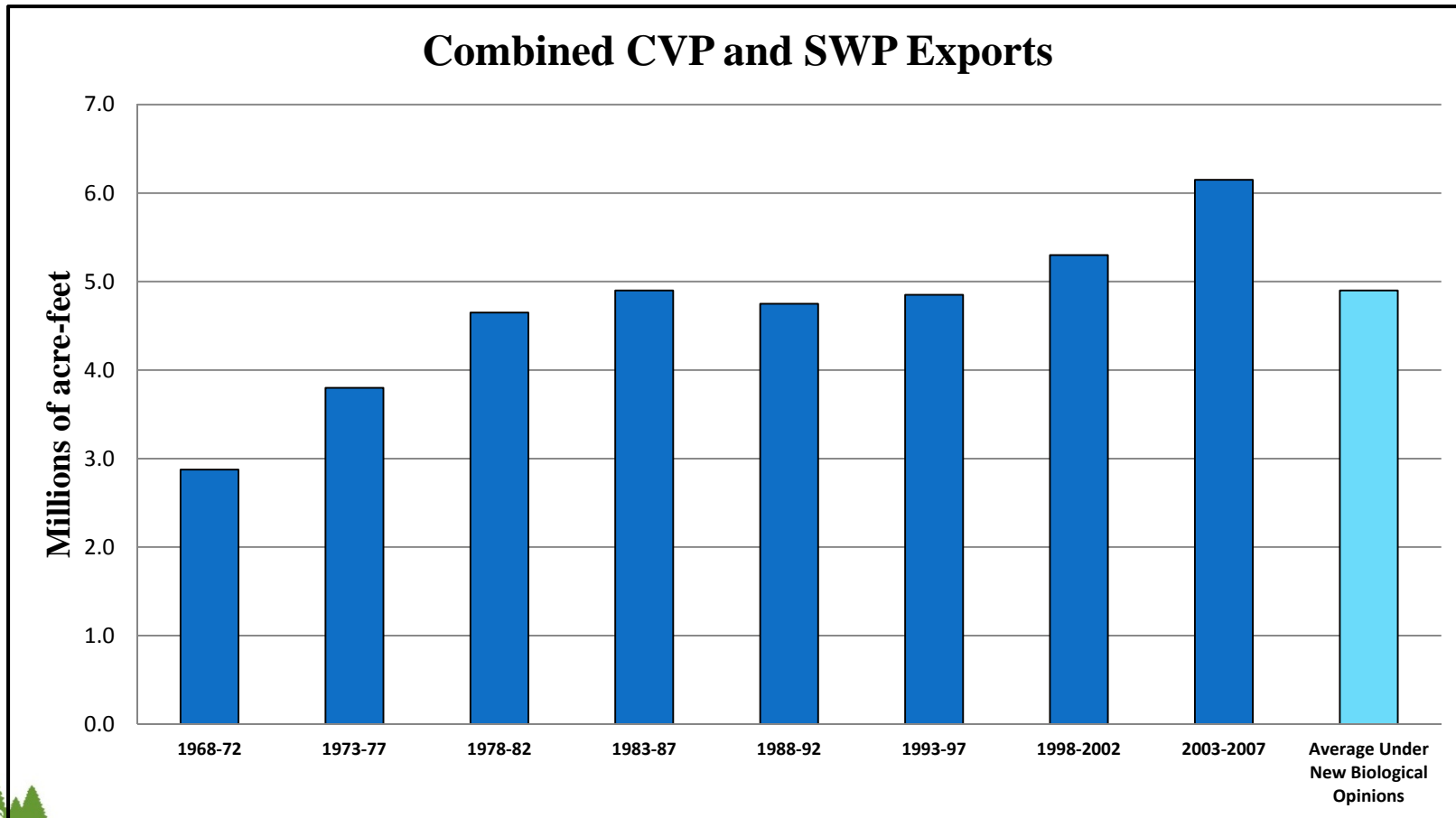


Doug Obegi, Natural Resources Defense Council

The Bay-Delta Watershed and Major Water Projects



Water Exports from California's Bay-Delta Estuary – Then and Now

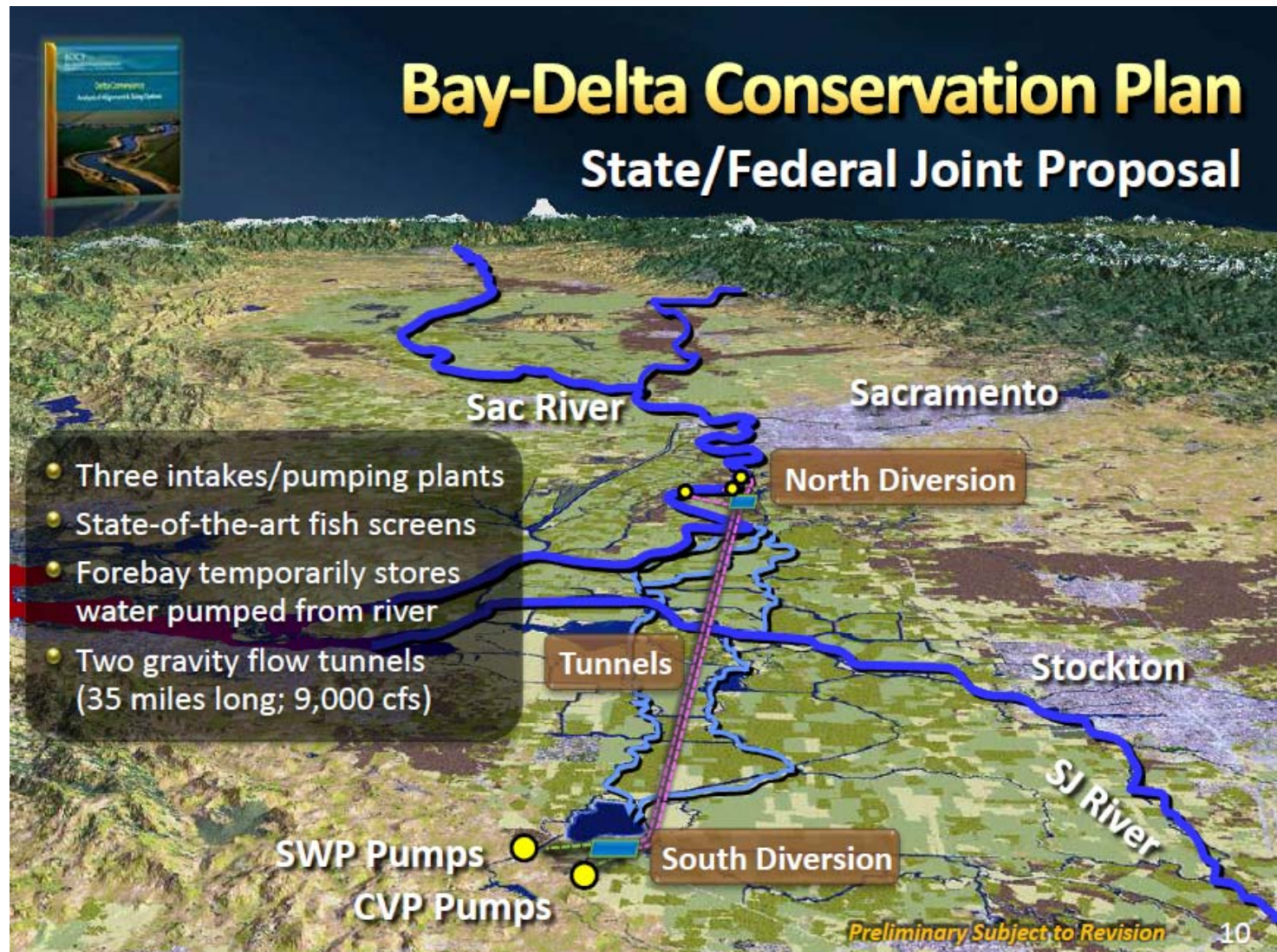


Protecting the Bay-Delta Protects Fishing Jobs and Delta Farmers

California's salmon fishery was closed in 2008 and 2009, for the first time in the State's history. The State of California estimated that the closure resulted in thousands of lost jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars of lost income each year.



State's Current BDCP Proposal



Questions about State's Proposal

Water Reliability

- How would it reduce physical vulnerability?
- Would it provide improved reliability in droughts?

Ecosystem and Science

- Would it improve, or worsen, ecosystem health and water quality?
- Is it legally permissible?

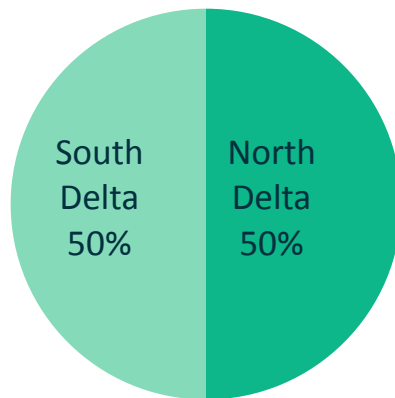
Economics

- Is it financially feasible?

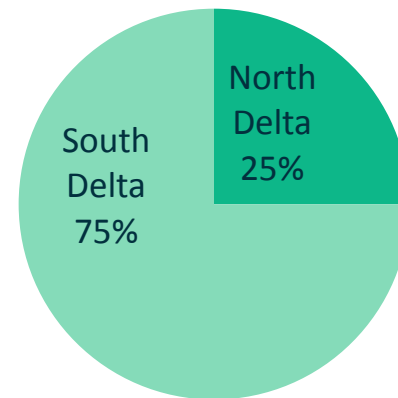
Water supply reliability

- A large facility still relies on south of Delta pumping, so levees are still very important.
- Permittable operations likely to result in lower deliveries in drier years.

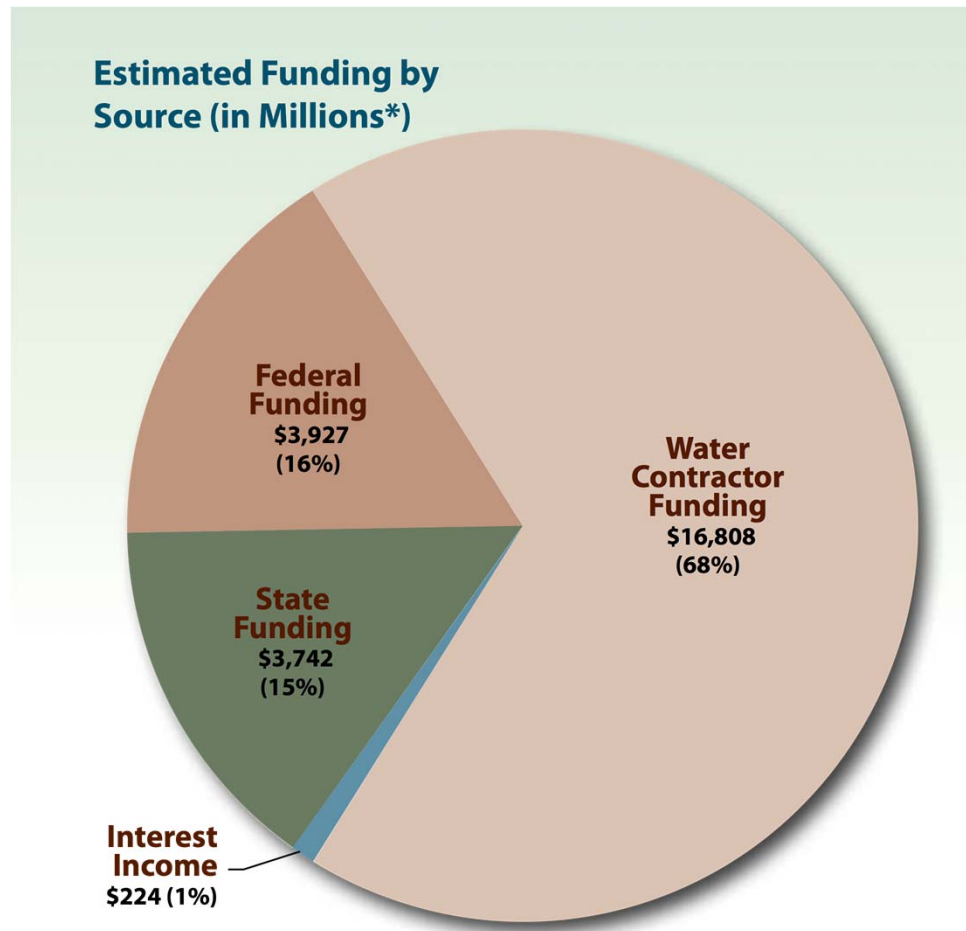
Normal Year



Dry Year



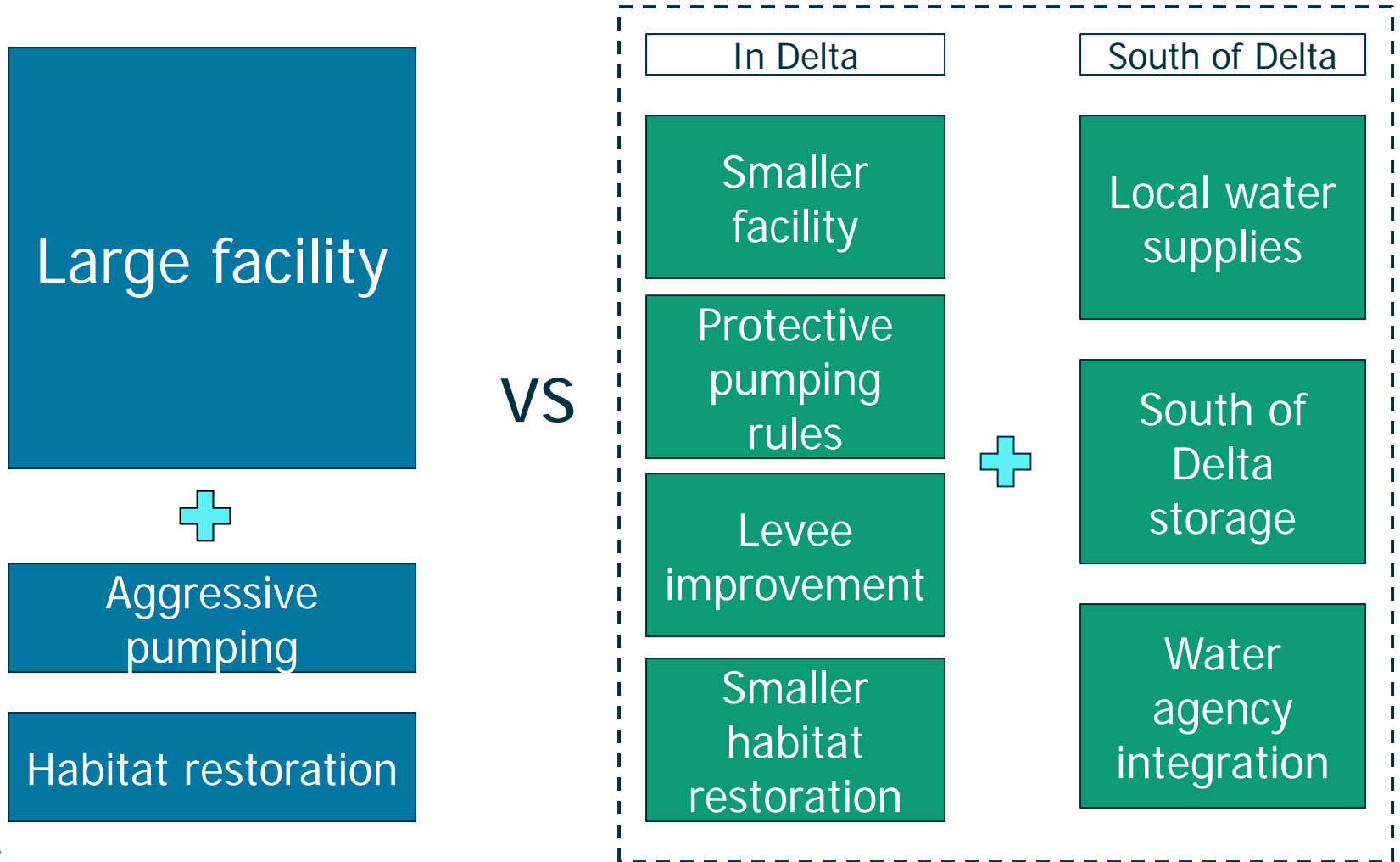
State's Estimated Funding Sources



Potential Funding Challenges

- Financing:
 - “The annual debt service would average approximately \$1.1 billion from 2021 through 2055.” (page 8-98)
- Federal funding availability?
- Will urban customers be asked to subsidize agriculture?
- Funding for local supply development?

Alternative portfolio-based approach



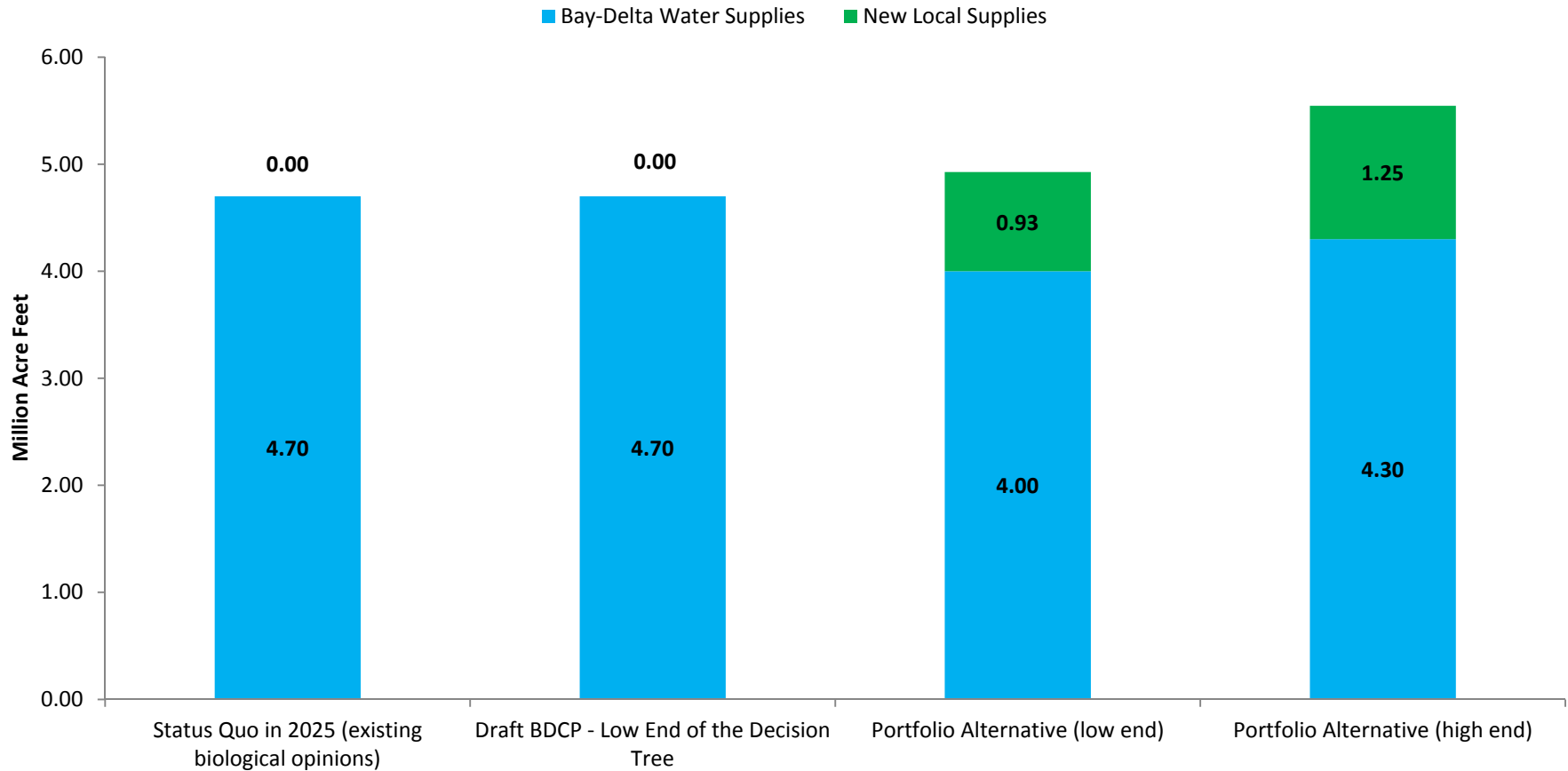
Water supply reliability

Portfolio-based approach

- Smaller facility
- Levee investments
- Conservation and water recycling
- South of Delta storage



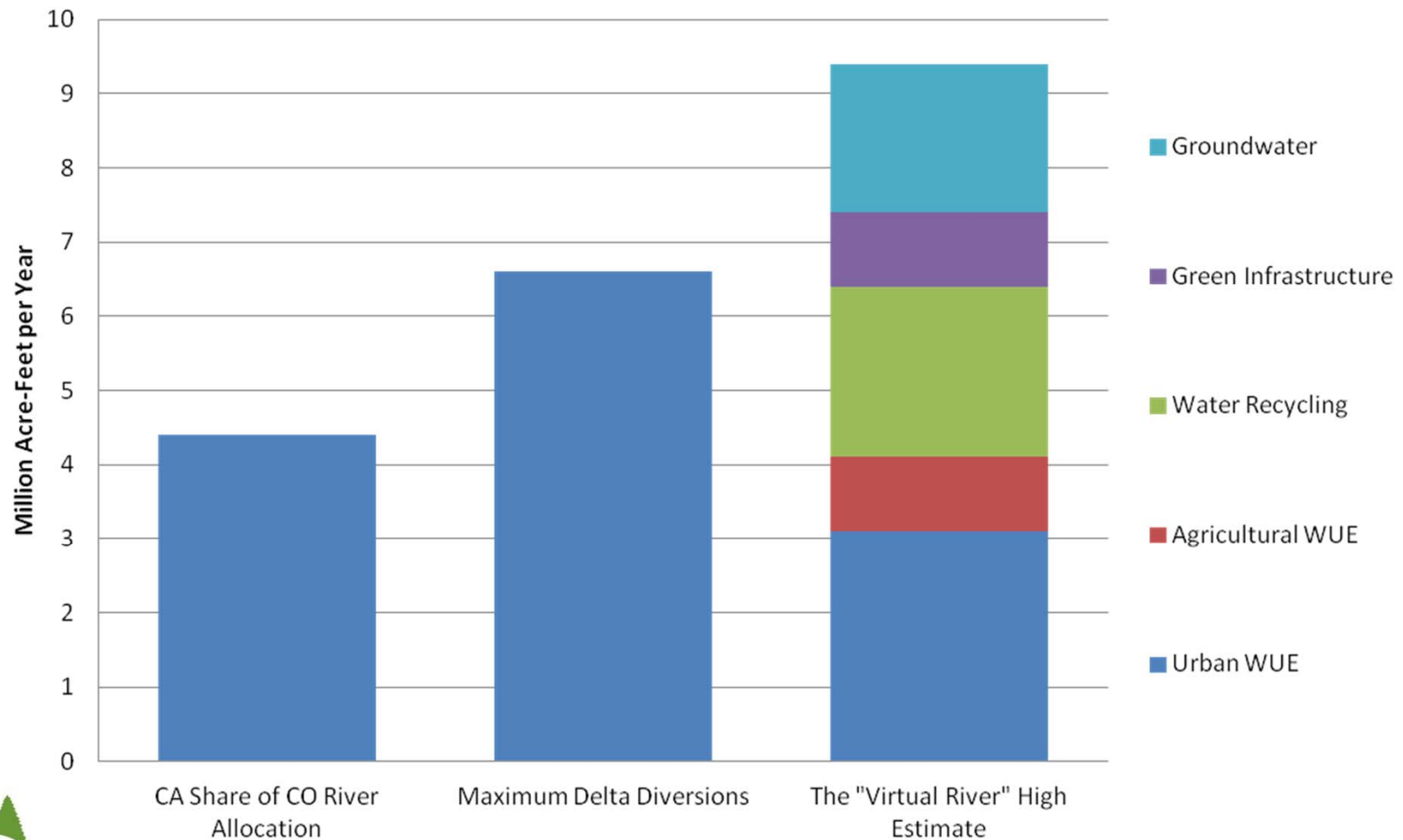
Anticipated Water Supplies in 2025 Under Different Bay-Delta Conservation Plan Alternatives



Notes: (1) Estimated export levels under the Draft BDCP - low end of the Decision Tree may result in substantially lower levels of water deliveries if biological objectives are not achieved. This scenario does not guarantee average exports of 4.7 million acre feet per year. (2) The Draft BDCP - high end of the Decision Tree is predicted to result in water exports of 5.6 million acre feet per year. It is not shown above because the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service have indicated it is unlikely to be permitted. (3) Conveyance cost estimates do not include interest payments on bonds and thus substantially underestimate costs of new conveyance.

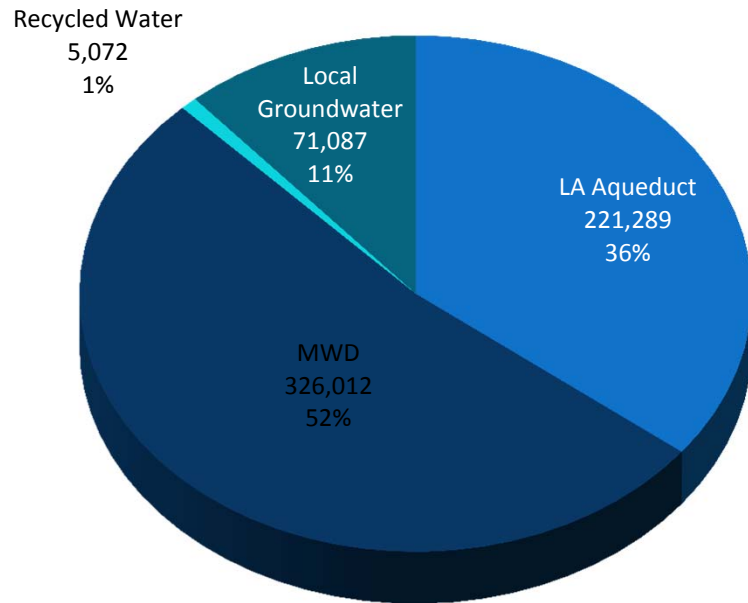
Reducing Reliance on the Delta

The Virtual River - Water Supply for California's Future

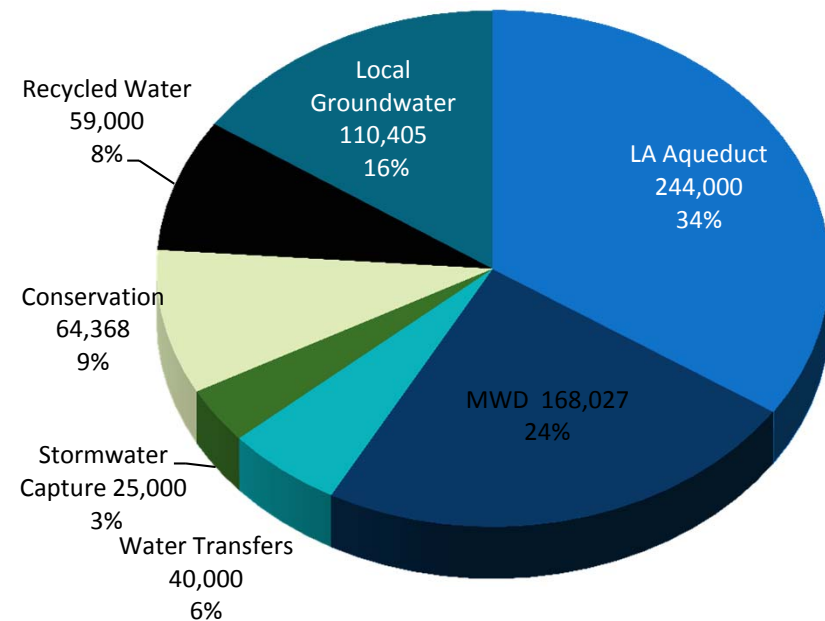


Virtual River - Los Angeles Case Study

LADWP 2010



LADWP 2035



By 2035, the virtual river will help Los Angeles reduce imported water use dramatically

Thank You

