

The background is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER DIALOGUE – JULY 28, 2021

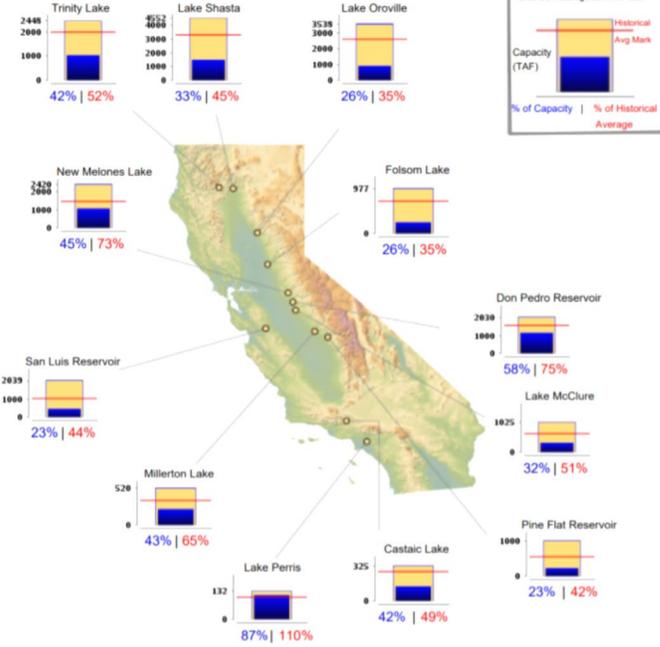
**INVESTMENTS IN DROUGHT-PROOFING ARE PAYING OFF IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA,
BUT HOW LONG WILL SUPPLIES LAST IF DROUGHT PERSISTS?**



CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

SELECTED WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight: July 25, 2021

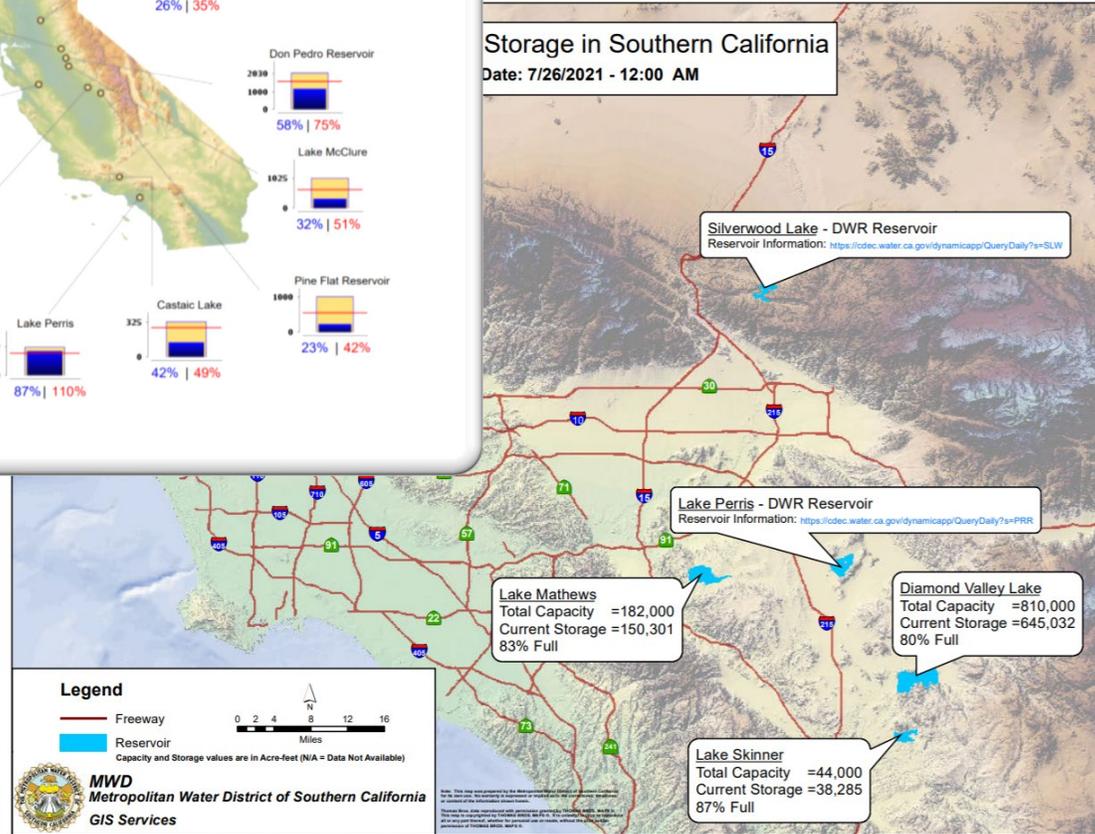


Updated 07/26/2021 11:48 AM

HOW LONG WILL OUR SAVINGS LAST?

Storage in Southern California

Date: 7/26/2021 - 12:00 AM



Lake Powell, the second largest reservoir on the Colorado River, hit the lowest water level since it was filled in 1963. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/07/26/us/lake-powell-drought-water-shortage-climate/index.html>

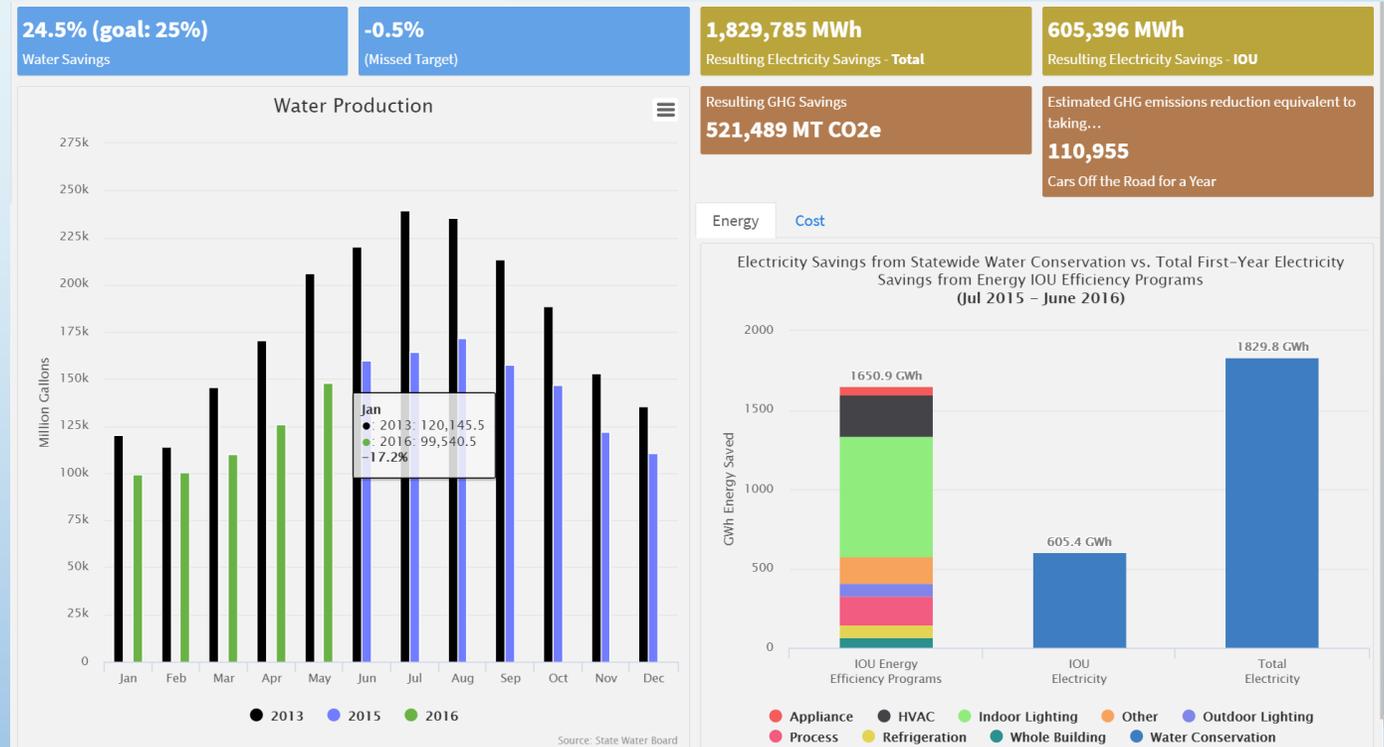


https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hoover_Dam_08sept09_showing_water_elevation_of_Lake_Mead.jpg

WATER-ENERGY NEXUS



Low reservoir levels can impact hydropower production.

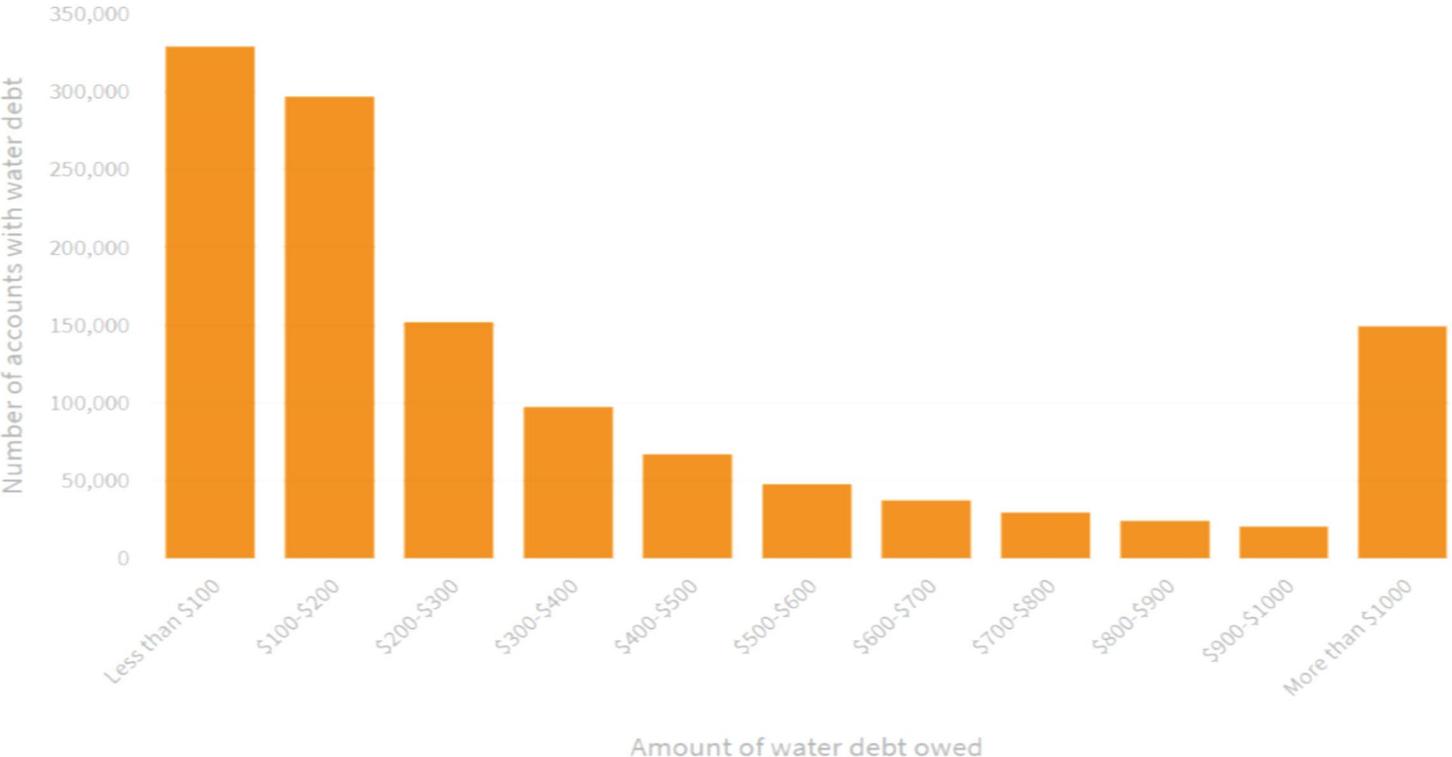


A UC Davis [Center for Water-Energy Efficiency](#) shows that when Californians reduced water use by nearly 25% in 2015, California also saved 1830 GigaWatt-Hours of energy — enough to power more than 270,000 homes.

BALANCING RELIABILITY & AFFORDABILITY

Water debt in California

While around half of California households with water debt owed less than \$200 this fall, over 155,000 households owed more than \$1,000.

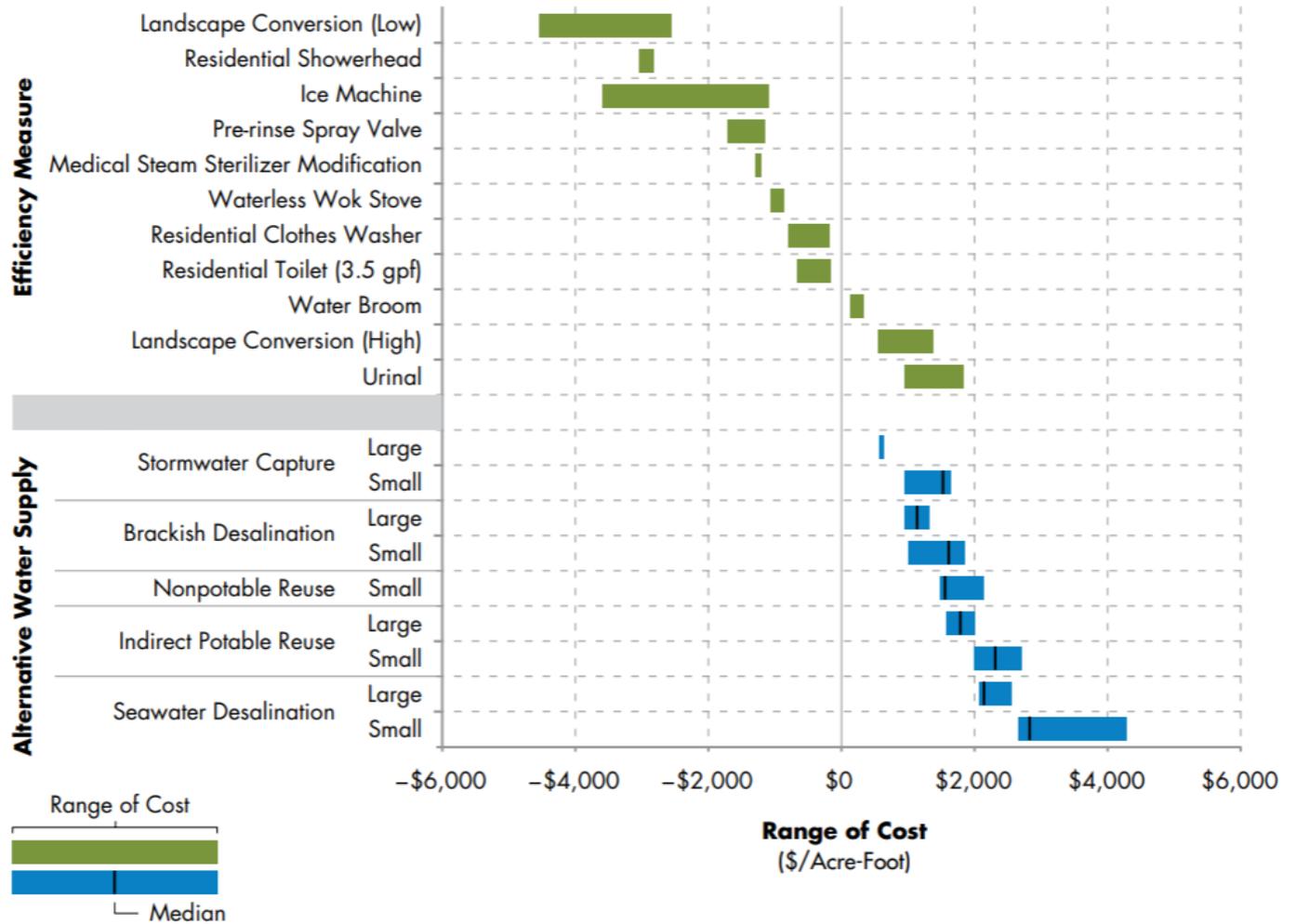


Source: [State Water Resources Control Board's COVID-19 Drinking Water Survey](#).

A Flourish chart

CLOSING THE GAP BETWEEN SUPPLY & DEMAND

Levelized Cost of Alternative Water Supplies and Water Conservation and Efficiency Measures, in 2015 dollars per acre-foot 🔍



Notes: All values are rounded to two significant figures. Costs for water supplies are based on full-system cost, which includes the cost to integrate the supply into a water distribution system. Ranges for water supplies are based on 25th and 75th percentile of project costs, except for large stormwater projects, which include the full cost range of the two projects. Conservation and efficiency measures shown in this figure represent only a subset of the measures examined in this study due to space limitations. Cost ranges for water conservation and efficiency measures are based on varying assumptions about the incremental cost and/or water savings associated with a measure.

Source: Pacific Institute

CONSERVATION POTENTIAL

Average monthly residential gallons per capita daily (R-GPCD)

Select Month

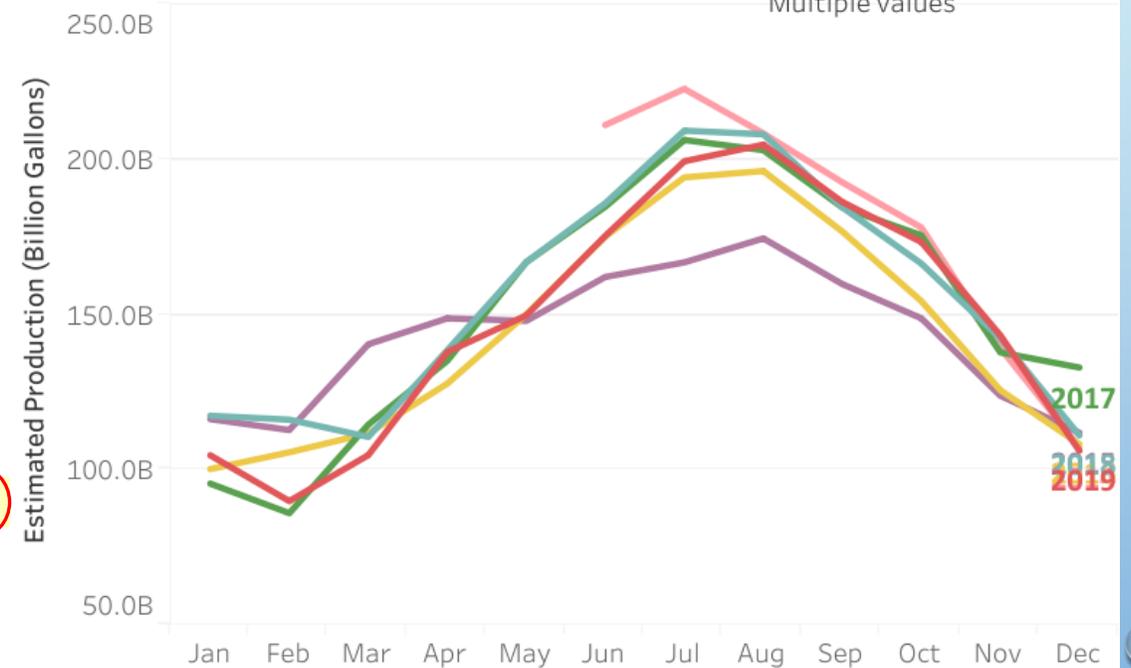
All

Hydrologic..	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Central Co..	82	68	65	68	69	66	73	69
Colorado R..	189	145	144	156	159	154	167	150
North Coast	75	64	65	65	66	68	73	64
North Lah..	116	84	87	91	91	87	96	71
Sacrament..	146	110	114	122	119	112	126	101
San Franci..	78	65	63	68	68	67	71	61
San Joaqui..	143	101	100	107	111	108	117	97
South Coast	102	83	81	85	86	80	86	78
South Lah..	146	108	109	111	113	105	113	94
Tulare Lake	159	119	125	133	134	131	136	108
Statewide ..	108	85	85	90	90	85	92	81

Statewide Urban Water Production

Select Year

Multiple values



Estimated total production is obtained by substituting the most recent corresponding monthly total production into missing reports.

BEYOND URBAN RELIABILITY

Los Angeles Times

OPINION



Editorial: The California salmon wipeout is even worse than you think



Salmon are facing extinction not just because of climate change, but because of Trump-era policies that continue to be carried out by President Biden's and Gov. Gavin Newsom's administrations. (Associated Press)

WHAT SHOULD WE DO???



IMMEDIATELY

- Strong conservation messaging – encourage people to:
 - Fix leaks
 - Stop irrigating non-functional turf
 - Stop over-irrigating landscapes
 - Replace inefficient plumbing fixtures & appliances

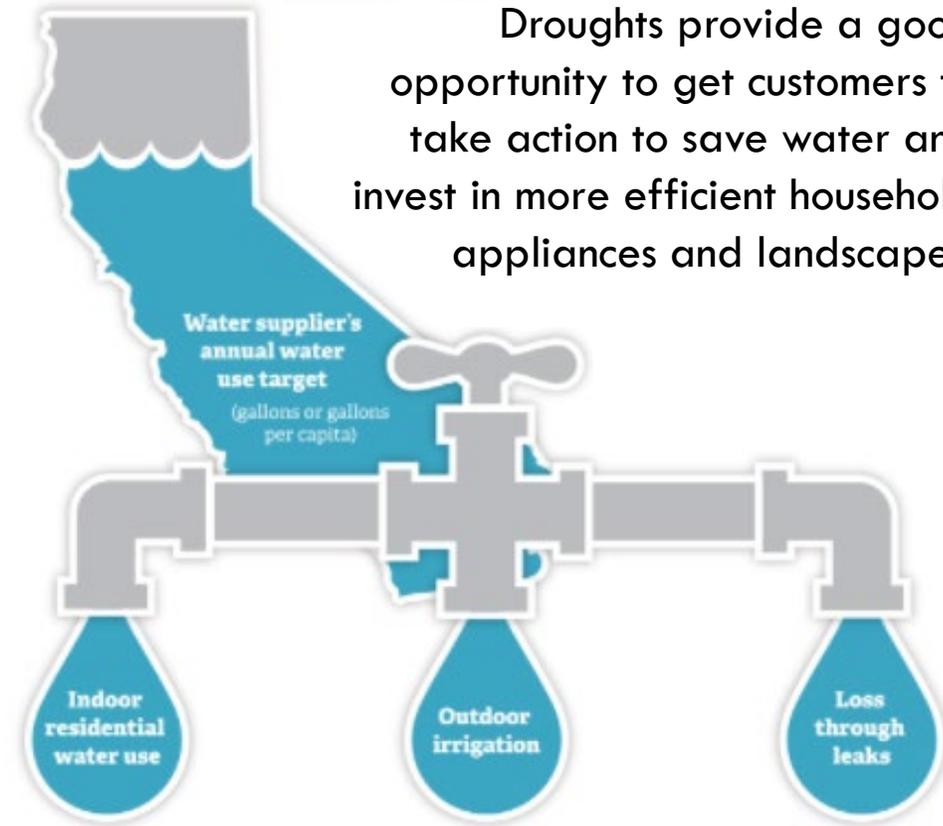
NEAR-TERM

- Increase funding for water efficiency
 - Ensure low-income customers can participate in water efficiency programs

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Ban Non-Functional Turf
- Enforce existing water conservation laws:
 - MWEL, SB 407, etc

LEVERAGING DROUGHT & PUBLIC AWARENESS



These actions will also help water suppliers meet their long-term water efficiency targets!

THANK YOU

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NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

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