

MONTEREY COUNTY  
BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS

# Monterey County Water Future – First Steps toward a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Water System

# Regional Water Forum Themes

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Existing Work Underway – We are Problem-Solving Now  
March 15, 2022

Importance of a Water Secure Future  
September 20, 2022

How do we Complete Our 21<sup>st</sup> Century Water System  
Scheduled for December 13, 2022

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD  
OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

## Agenda

### Regional Water Forum #2

- Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks
- Presentation
- Federal and State Perspectives
- Special District and Regulated Utility Perspectives
- Public Comment

# Water is the lifeblood of our communities in Monterey County

## The **interdependence** of water

Water is essential to human health and central to agricultural— the future will require refining priorities

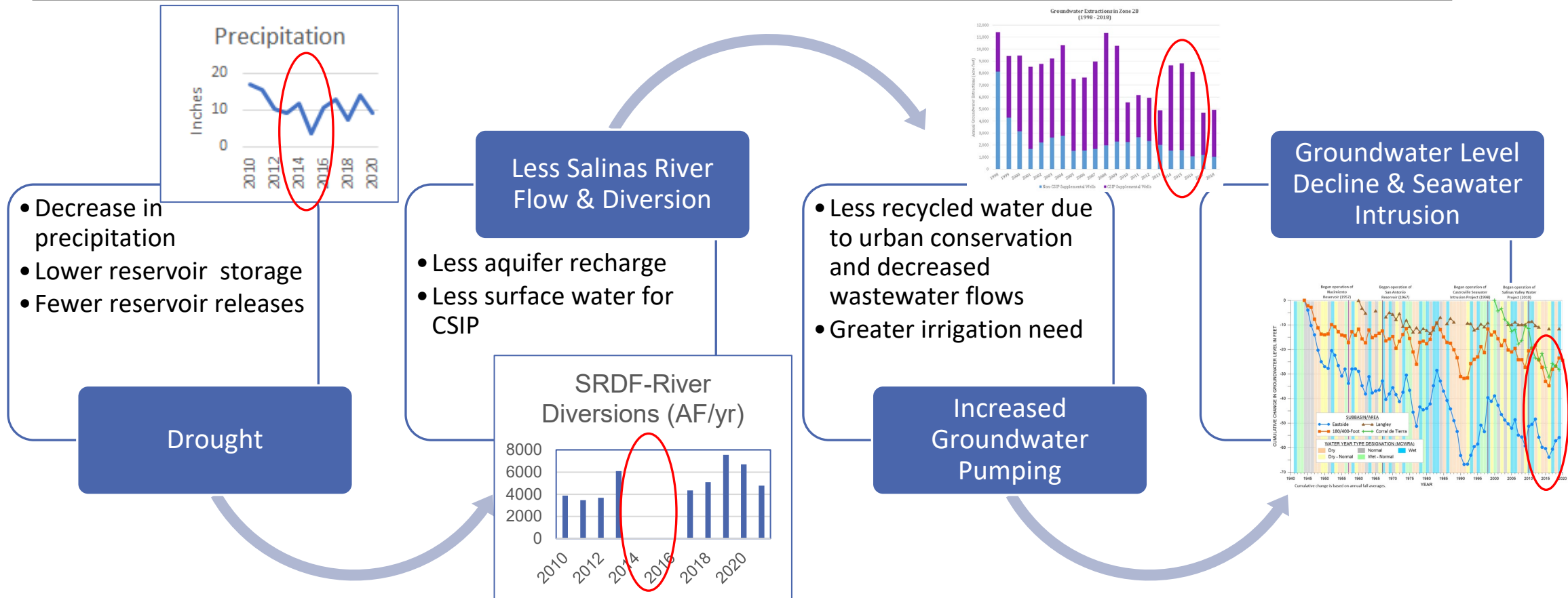
## We have **relationships** with our neighbors

Further scientific understanding of our aquifers shows the **inter-relatedness of aquifers** in North County

## **Collaboration** is required for success

Increasing demands on water and impacts from climate variability calls for a strategic, coordinated, and **urgent** approach

# Climate variability calls for a coordinated approach to better understand, manage, and secure water




# Challenges to Water Security

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Climate change and drought test operational assumptions  
Irregularity of precipitation and increased evaporation both matter

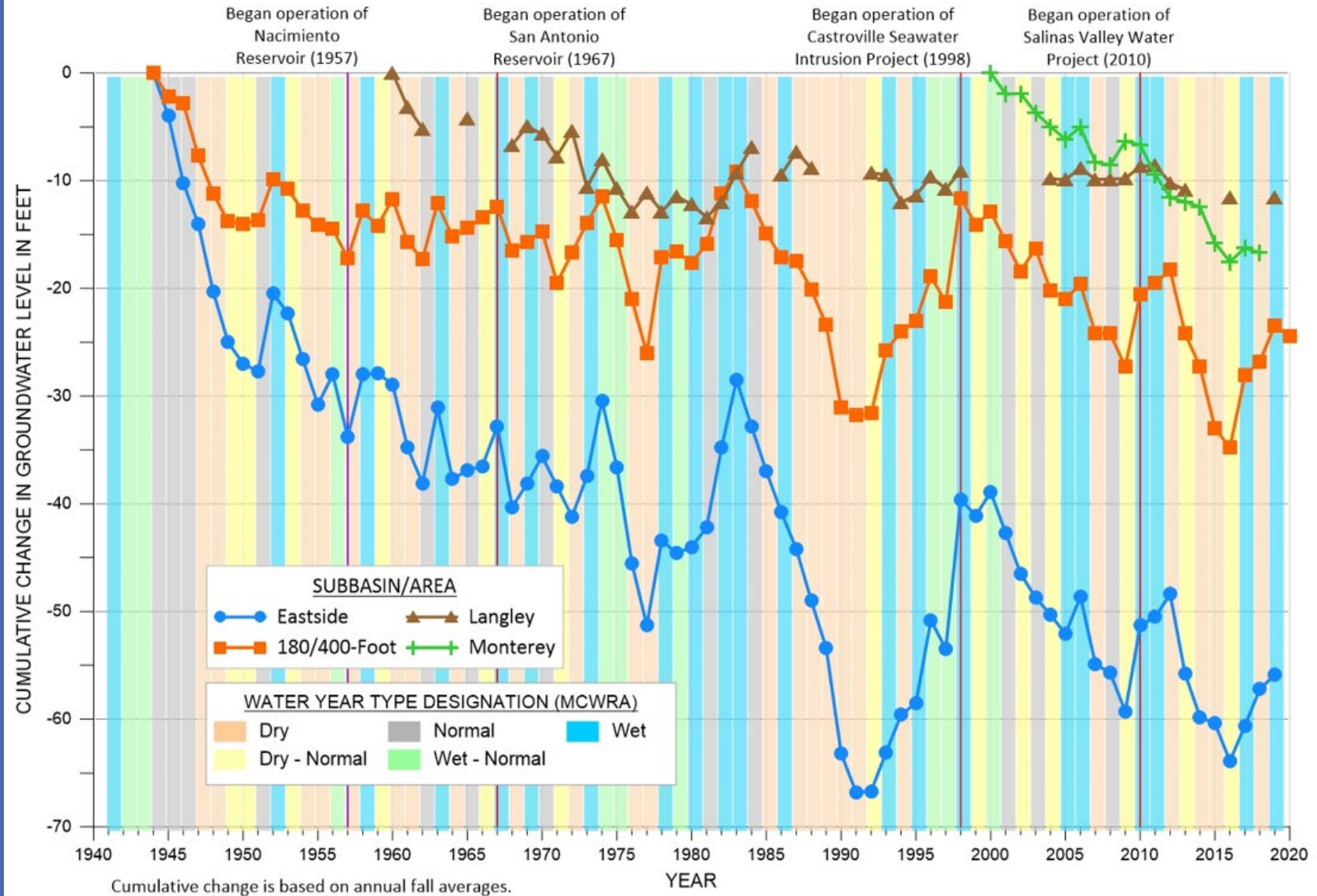


Water supply reliability & demand need to be co-assessed  
Plan "B" may need to be quickly developed as conditions require  
Supplies are interrelated



Cost of water  
Environmental/permitting requirements  
Complexity of funding projects

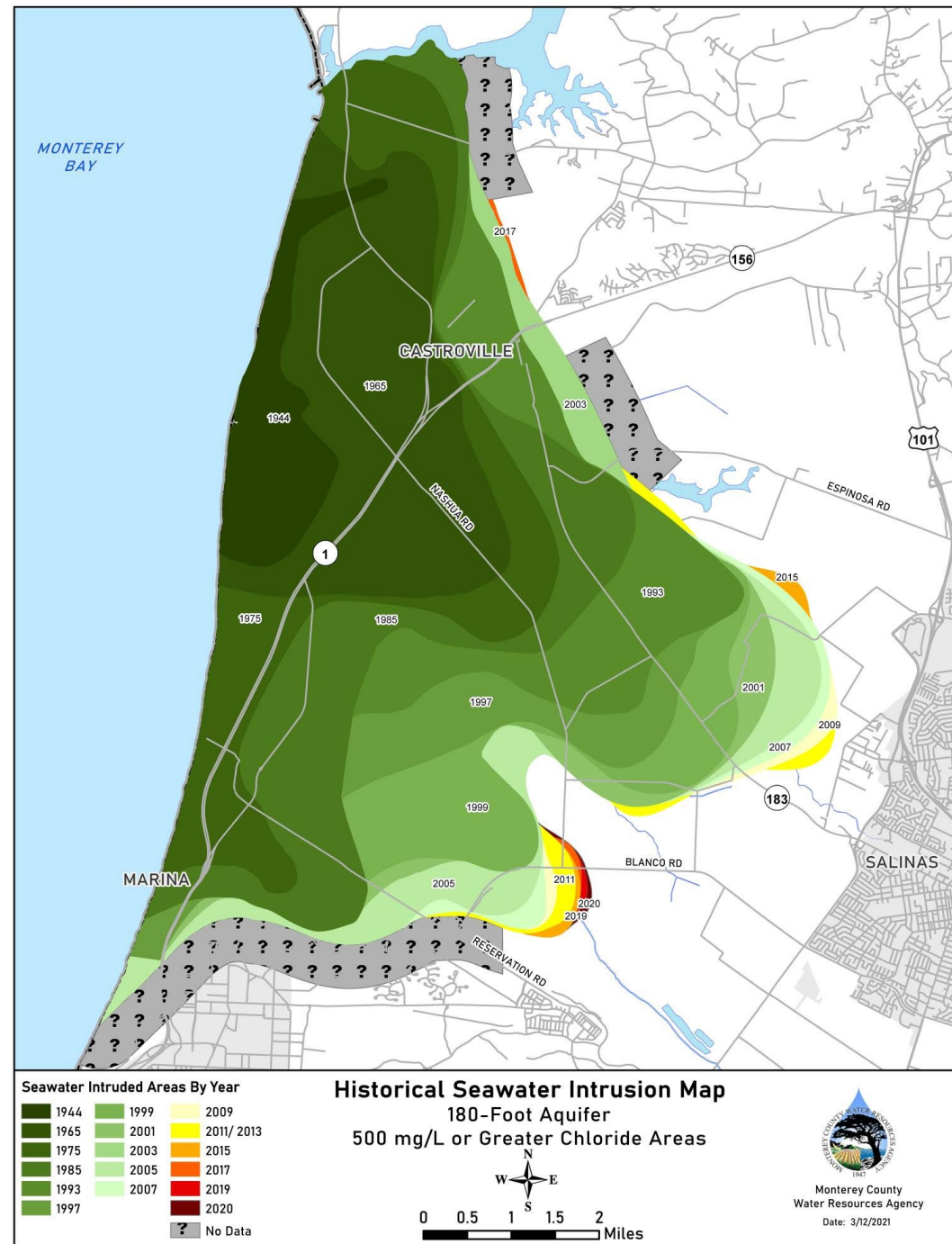
# Current Challenges — Declining Groundwater Levels



# Current Challenges

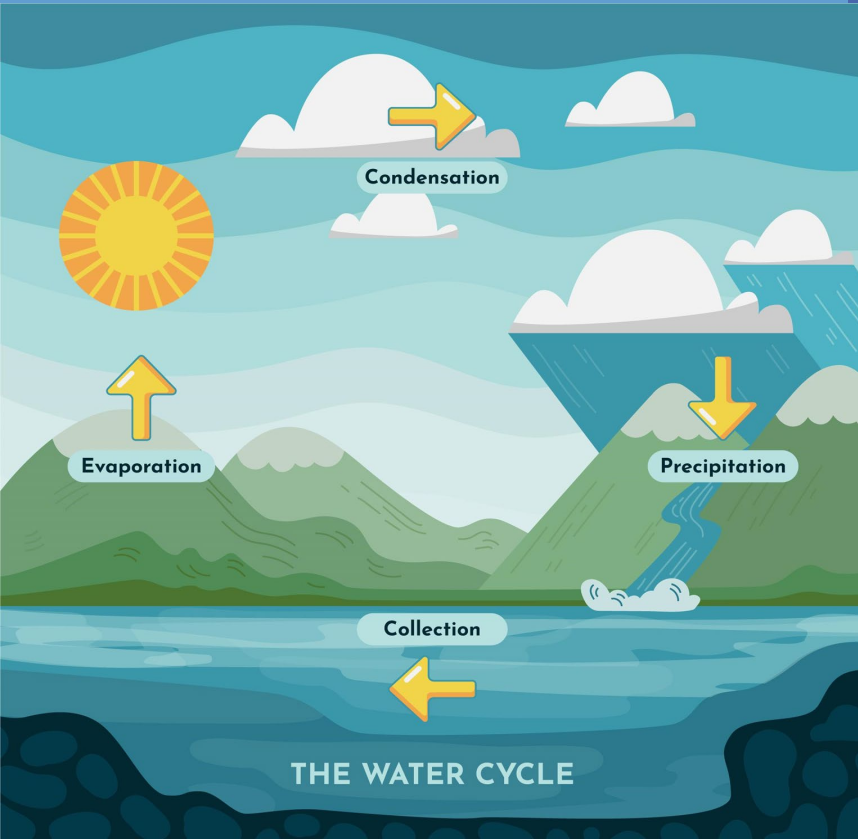
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## Seawater Intrusion





# Future Water Security Solutions



1. Better utilization of current supplies
  - Recycled water
  - Stormwater capture
  - Increased storage (above and below ground)
2. Create new supplies
  - Desalination
  - Brackish water desalting
3. Find ways to use less water
  - Leakage management
  - Demand management
  - Conservation
4. Planning for redundancy and reliability
  - Affordability
  - Fire protection
  - Emergency operations (power outages)
    - Interties

# Our Water System Today

CSIP  
Optimization



Providing safe water  
for domestic users

Pure Water Monterey



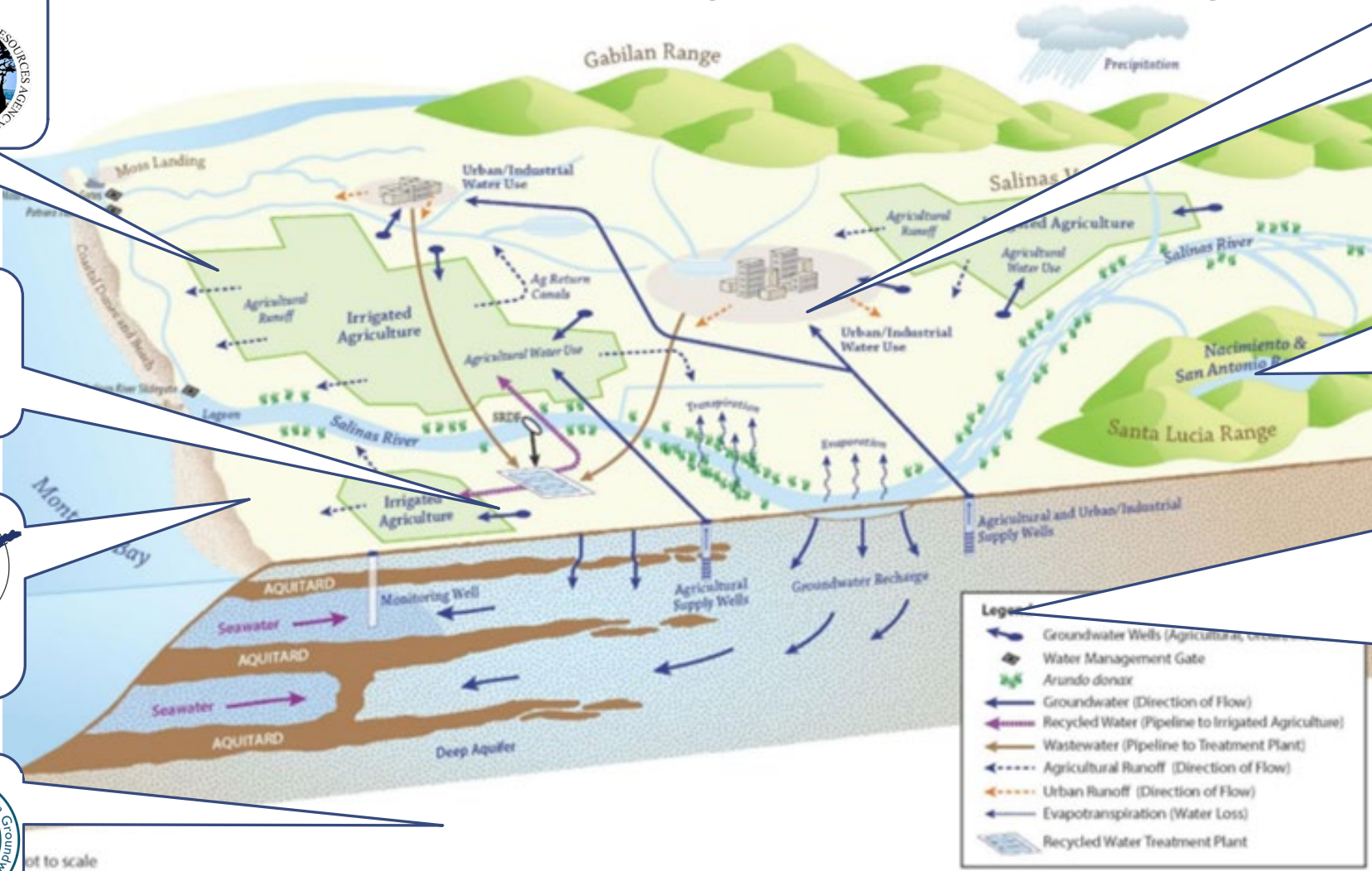
Reservoirs:  
Assets to  
Maintain



Stormwater  
Recharge,  
Conservation, &  
Recycled Water Use



Deep Aquifers  
Management

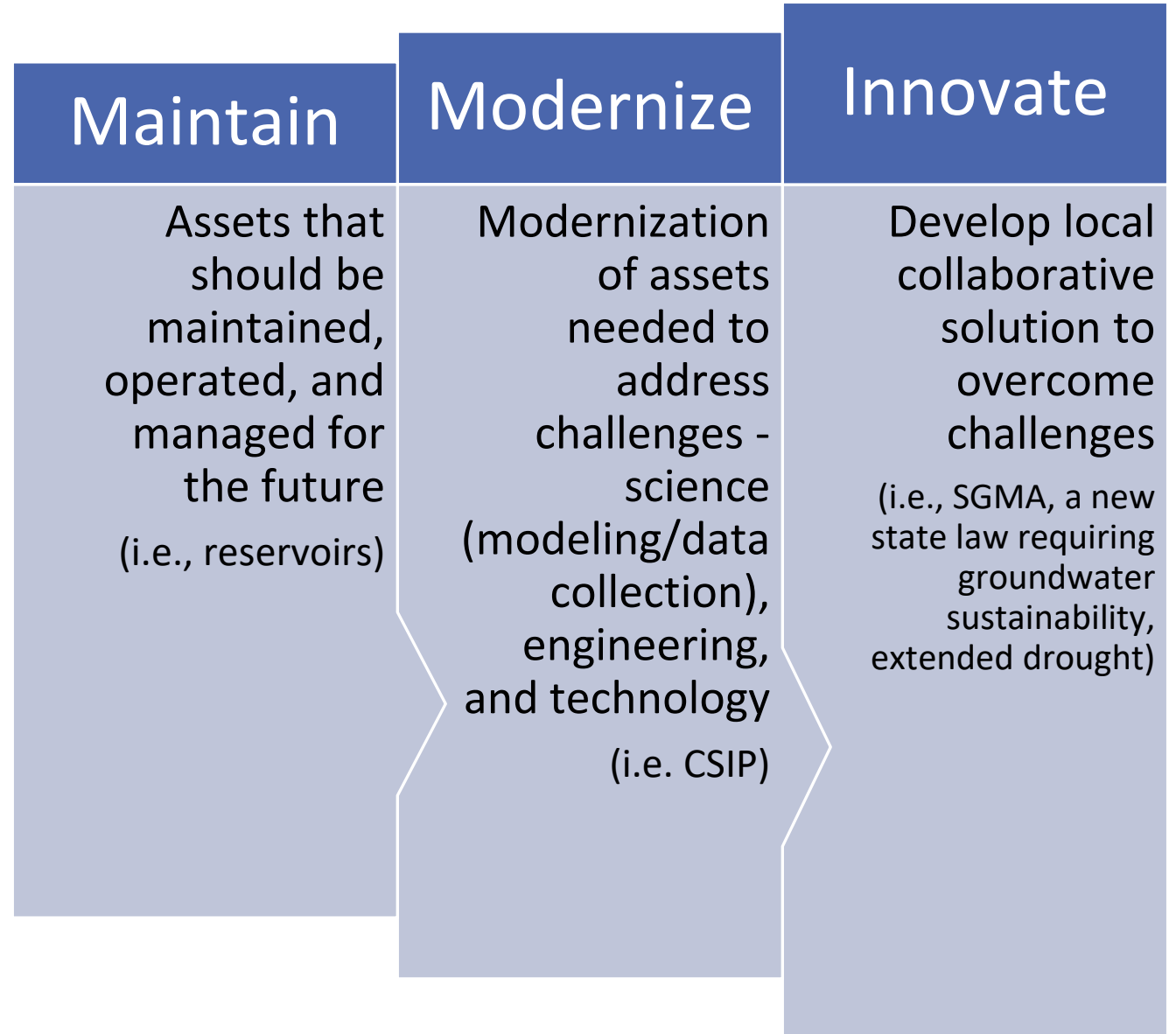


Groundwater  
Sustainability Plans:

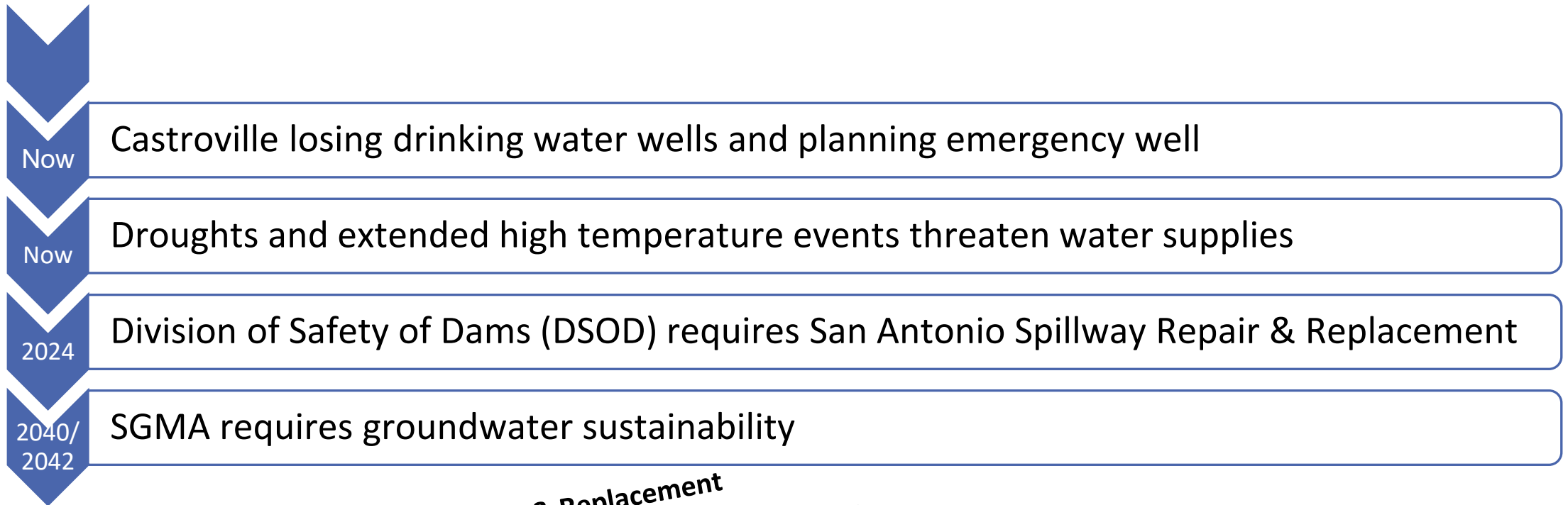
- 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin
- Langley Area Subbasin
- Eastside Aquifer Subbasin
- Monterey Subbasin



Building on 75-  
years of water  
infrastructure  
assets, we need to:

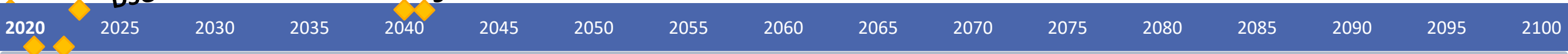


# Pressing Timeline



2020

2100



*DSOD requires San Antonio Spillway Repair & Replacement*

*SGMA requires groundwater sustainability*

*Castroville planning emergency well*

*Droughts threaten domestic wells*



# Regional Priorities - Examples

## Coordination on Operations

- Water scheduling in CSIP

## Impact Avoidance – surface and groundwater

- Water Quality
- Reduced groundwater elevations

## Evaluating Feasibility – affordability, effectiveness

- Aquifer Storage and Recovery in the 180/400
- Brackish water desalting

## Pursuing Projects

- Nacimiento/San Antonio repairs/rehabilitation
- Pure Water Monterey

## Obtaining Funding



## Work Ahead:

# Vision of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Water System

Environmental benefits	Provide aquatic habitats with sufficient water
Good quality water	Have water quality suitable for urban and agricultural users
Groundwater sustainability	Fulfill groundwater regulatory requirements –SGMA
Healthy groundwater ecosystems	Groundwater dependent ecosystems and interconnected surface waters
Economic prosperity	Meet economic and social needs (housing RHNA goals, agriculture, underrepresented communities, etc.)
Climate resilient	Have a robust, resilient water system amidst climate change

# Today's Board Listening Session

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Federal and State Perspectives and Funding Opportunities

Potential regional project partners

- Special District Water Agencies and Regulated Utilities
- Questions
  - Where do you see progress towards regional solutions in the next five years?
  - What are the biggest challenges to getting there?

Public Comments

Board Comments