

# Bay-Delta Watershed Voluntary Agreements

Imported Water Committee July 28, 2022

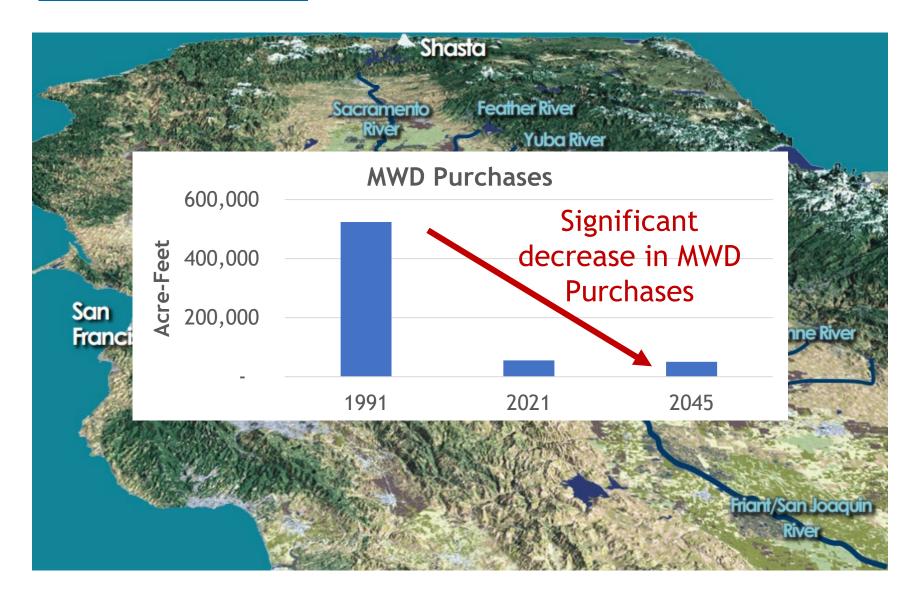
Amy Chen Director of the MWD Program

#### San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary





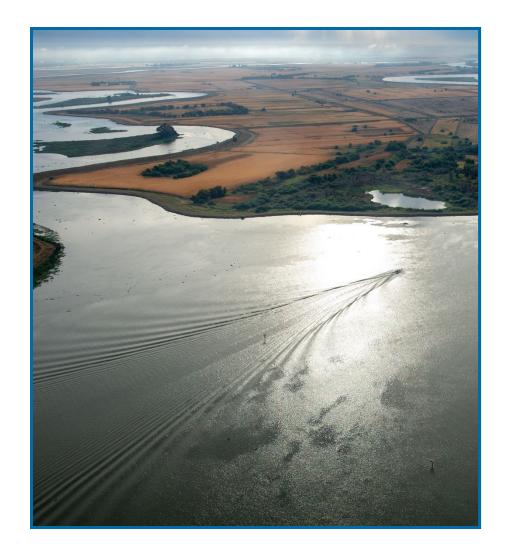
#### San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary





## **Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan**

- State Board last updated in 2006
- Establishes water quality objectives to protect beneficial uses
- Program of implementation
  - Water rights
  - Regulatory measures to protect water quality
  - Recommendations to other entities
- Impacts SWP / CVP exports
  - Plan covers watershed; broader than project operations





### **Bay-Delta Plan Update**

#### Phase 1: San Joaquin River

December 2018: Amendments adopted (40% unimpaired flows)

2019-2021: Voluntary Agreement Negotiations Ongoing October 2021: State agencies end negotiations and direct the State Board to continue its regulatory implementation process

#### Phase 2: Sacramento River and Delta

July 2018: Amendment framework released (55% unimpaired flows)

2018-2022: > Voluntary Agreement Negotiations Ongoing March 2022: State agencies and other Sacramento watershed users sign MOU to advance VAs based on term sheet

Phase 3: Assignment of Rights and Responsibilities
Future



# Voluntary Agreements MOU

- Flows: up to 825,000 AF
  - 175,000 CVP and SWP
  - 30,000 SWP only

 Habitat: ~47,000 acres  Science and Governance Programs







#### About 2/3 of watershed signed on



# VAs vs. Regulatory Approach

|               | Voluntary Agreements  | Regulatory Approach                           |
|---------------|---|---|
| Water Supply  | Up to 175 TAF (SWP/CVP)<br>Additional 30 TAF SWP only                                   | 55% Unimpaired Flow <sup>1</sup>              |
| Costs         | \$10/AF diverted  | No direct costs, but must replace lost supply |
| Structure     | Voluntary Approach 8 up to 15 years   | Permanent change, unless amended              |
| Watershed     | Bay-Delta Watershed-wide  | Juniors (SWP-CVP) larger obligation           |
| Governance    | State Board/Water Users/NGO's/Science   | State Board                                   |
| Functionality | Habitat Restoration<br>Adaptively Managed flows (functional flows)<br>Performance based | Flow only                                     |

<sup>1</sup>State Board would allocate responsibility for the 55% in a subsequent water rights adjudication or by regulation amending water rights

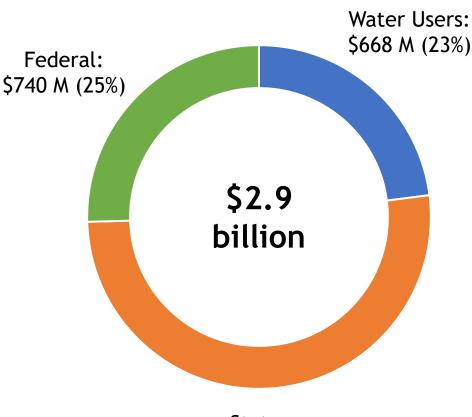
NOTE: Current estimated flows to be agreed upon by multiple parties. This information reflects the State's most recent proposal, subject to agreement by multiple parties, legislation, and actions by multiple boards and state/federal agencies. May be modified, updated or reconciled based on actual agreements.

VAs anticipated to have lower impact on SWP exportsCould be challenged



# **Funding and Next Steps**

- MWD supported May 10, 2022
  - General Manager commitment to bring stakeholders into discussions
  - \$8-12 M/year
- 8-year term
- State Board consideration
- Early actions
- Impact on MWD planning



State: \$1,500 M (52%)



# Questions

