

# Agenda Overview

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**12:00 p.m.** Welcome, Introduction to the BAOWN Noontime Summer Seminar Series and Agenda Review

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**12:05 p.m.** Overview of the BAOWN and the Workshop on Urban Stormwater  
*Richard Luthy, Stanford University*

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**12:15 p.m.** Panel Discussion: Opportunities and Overcoming Challenges  
*Mike Thompson, Sonoma Water*  
*Matt Fabry, City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County*  
*Pam Boyle Rodriguez, City of Palo Alto*  
*Josh Bradt, San Francisco Estuary Partnership*

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**12:35 p.m.** Q&A with Panel

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**12:50 p.m.** Closing Comments

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**1:00 PM** Adjourn

Bay Area One Water Network  
Workshop on Urban Stormwater



**Stormwater Capture to  
Augment Water Supplies in  
the San Francisco Bay Area**

**Richard G. Luthy  
Stanford University**

**[luthy@stanford.edu](mailto:luthy@stanford.edu)**

Bay Area One Water Network  
July 6, 2020

# Bay Area One Water Network

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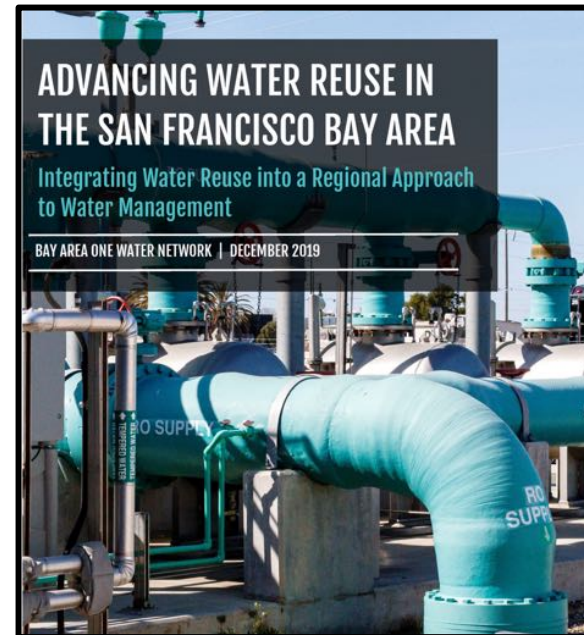
Clearinghouse for stakeholders and water managers in the region to share information, build collaborative capacity, and develop strategies for implementing resilient, integrated water systems.



# Bay Area One Water Network

## Advance safe and resilient Bay Area water systems

- **Workshops**
  - Advancing Water Reuse
  - Stormwater as a Water Source
- **Off-the-record discussions**
- **Synthesis reports & recommendations**





# Stormwater workshop & synthesis report



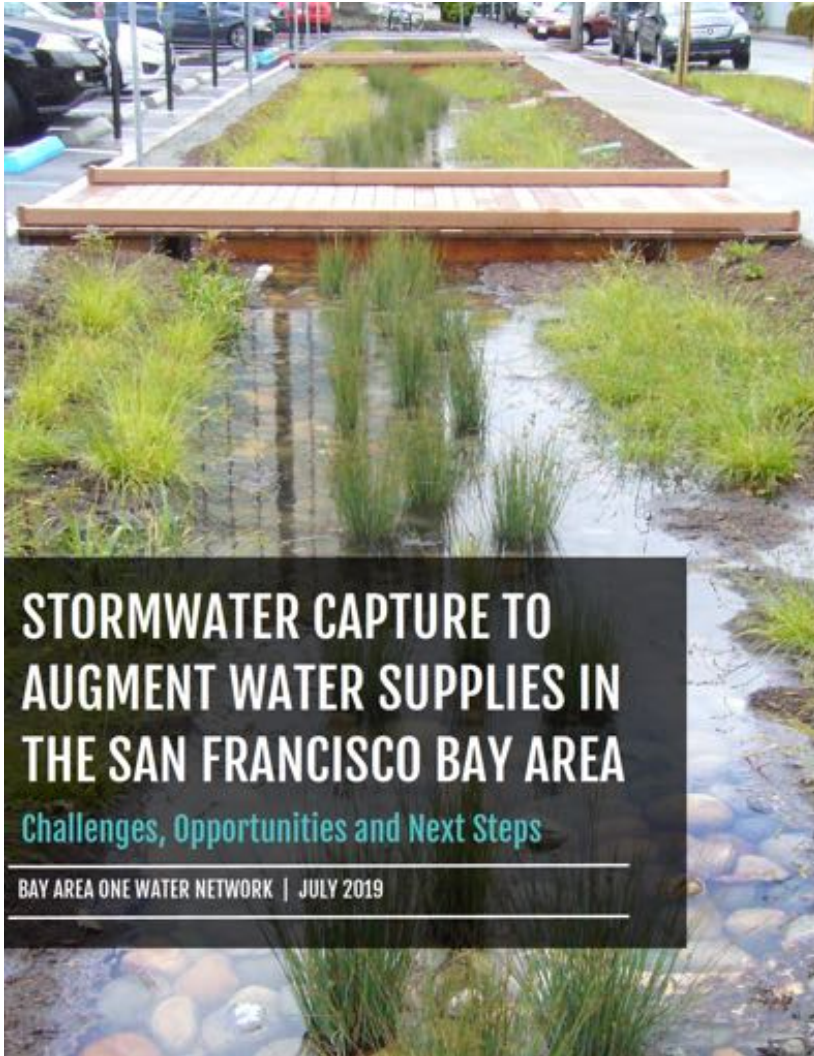
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- History and current state of stormwater capture
- Case studies and innovative management
- Regional drivers
- Range of opportunities
- Spur discussion and future actions

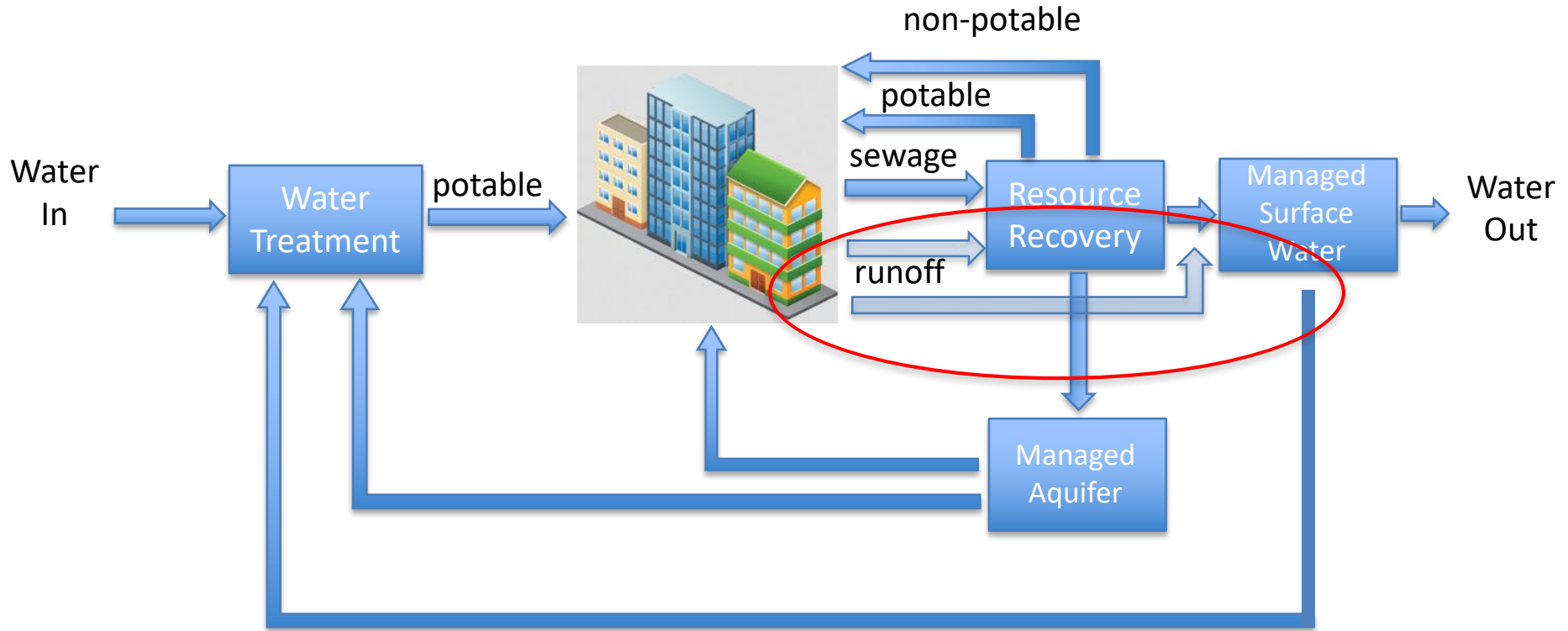


# Challenges, opportunities & next steps



- **What's special about the Bay Area**
- **Integrating water supply into the stormwater equation**
- **Key steps to advance stormwater capture**
- **Collaborating for integrated solutions**

# The logic of stormwater



- Fits with the Governor's water resilience portfolio
- Popular with the public
- Cost effective "new" water source



# The opportunity for stormwater

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- **Over half of the urbanized land is impervious**
- **If only a fraction is captured, it could represent a significant contribution to water supply**
- **Multi-benefit appeal**
  - **Reduce dependence on water imports**
  - **Flood control**
  - **Pollution prevention**
  - **Urban green space**
  - **Habitat & recreation**





# The business case

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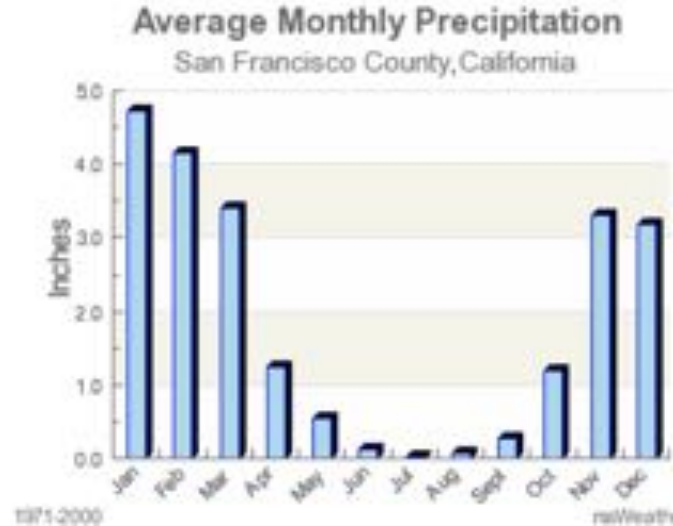
- Large stormwater capture projects for water supply are cost-competitive with other sources of new water
- \$500 -- \$1,000 / acre-ft
- Wholesale water price ~ \$1,800 / acre-ft
- Compliance with MS4 permits requires infrastructure investment
- Popular with the public



# Stormwater capture not simple



- Seasonal precipitation
- Much of the region has steep slopes and clay soils that are not conducive to capture and infiltration
- Most favorable locations already developed
- Expensive land
- Prevention of GW contamination
- Institutional barriers (flood protection, pollution control, water supply often managed by separate entities)



# Innovative approaches

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- **Monterey One Water (stormwater & drainage)**
- **Sonoma & Livermore (flood protection, capture & recharge)**
- **San Mateo (green streets to control PCBs and Hg)**
- **Stanford (leveraging existing infrastructure)**
- **Leveraging with water recycling**





# Strategies

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- **Large-scale capture and diversion**
  - **A few opportunities with good geology**
- **Neighborhood and green streets**
  - **More expensive but integrate with “one dig” approach**
- **Diversion of runoff to wastewater treatment plants for recycling**
  - **Opportunities for dry weather flows and small storms**
- **Small-scale systems**
  - **Expensive but can help with early and late storms**





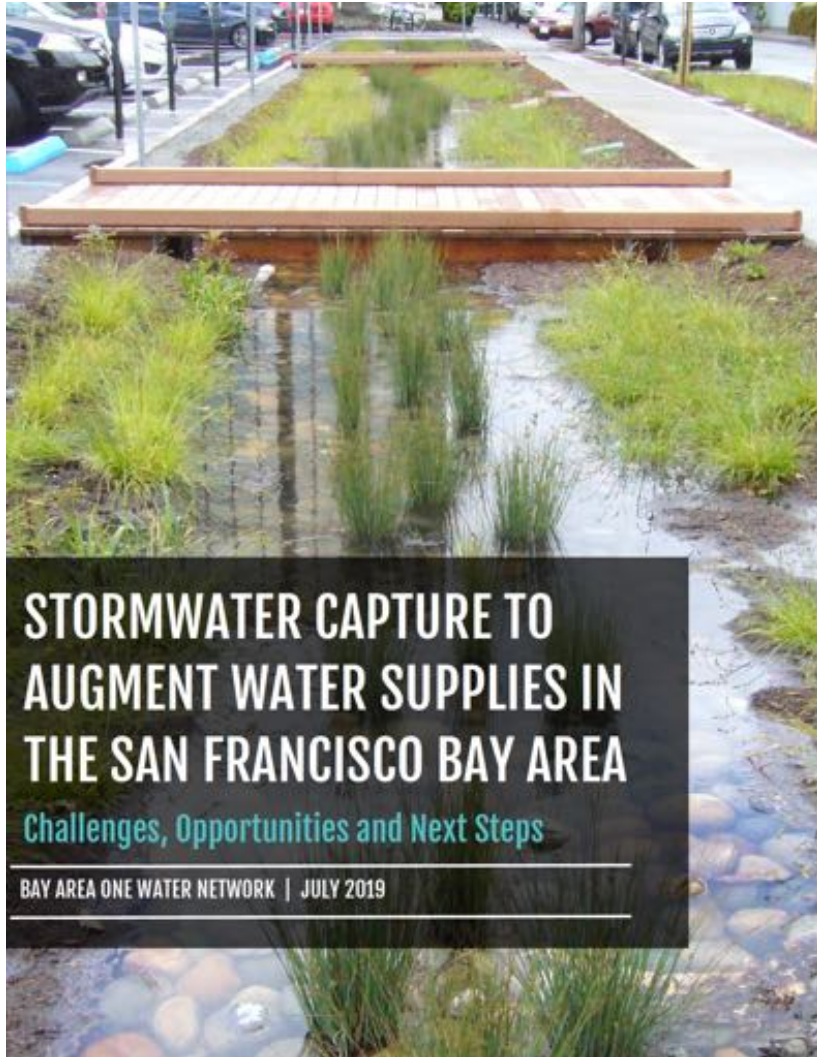
# Path forward

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- **Continue to assess the potential and region-specific questions**
  - **Feasibility**
  - **Effectiveness of existing projects**
  - **Technology improvements**
- **Develop metrics for inclusion of multi-benefits in decision making**
- **Assess ways that existing infrastructure may be leveraged for stormwater capture**
- **Incorporation of stormwater capture into local planning documents**
- **Explore innovative partnerships to creatively fund mutually beneficial projects**
  - **Expand capacity of working groups**



# Stormwater future ...



- **One piece in sustainable water supply for the Bay Area**
- **Continue to assess the potential and region-specific questions**
- **Build from existing local successes & embrace a range of scales**
- **Leverage existing infrastructure; diversion of stormwater to water recharge & recycling facilities**
- **Build relationships among stormwater managers, water & wastewater utilities, urban planners, regulators, and advocates in local communities**