Water conservation impacts on wastewater services

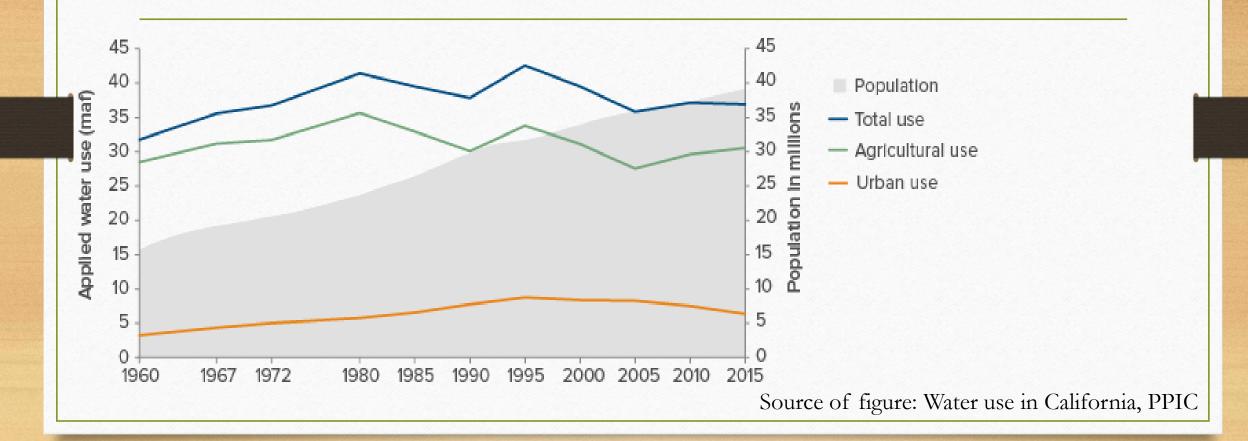


Lorien Fono

Executive Director

Bay Area Clean Water Agencies

Conservation is a way of life in California

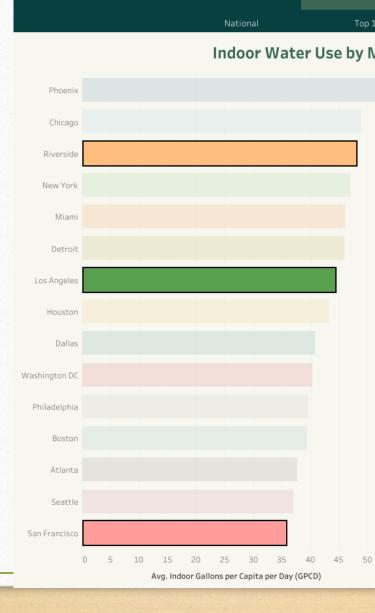


Proposed legislation will reduce indoor water use targets

- In 2017 to 2019, for indoor water use:
 - Statewide average was 51 GPCD
 - Statewide median was 48 GPCD

Year	Statute (gpcd)	DWR-SWB Recommendation (gpcd)
2020	55	No Change
2025	52.5	47
2030	50	42

Conservation is especially a way of life in the San Francisco Bay Area

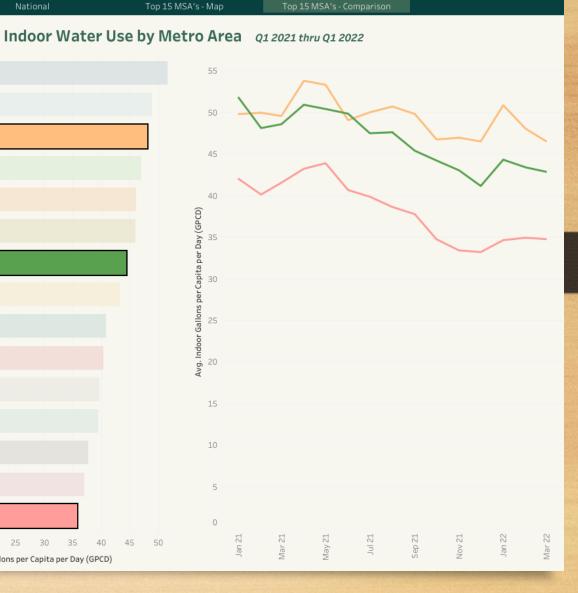


Title

Devices

Indoor Use

Outdoor Use

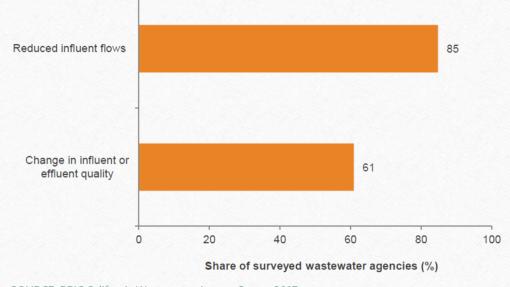


End

Drought

Source: Flume Datalabs

PPIC: Most wastewater agencies saw reduced flows during the last drought (2014-2017)



SOURCE: PPIC California Wastewater Agency Survey 2017. NOTE: Overall sample size: 105.

In our region, we are already seeing impacts of low flows on wastewater services

- Collection system
- Wastewater treatment
- Recycled Water



Impacts of low flows on collection systems

- Slower flows increase sedimentation and blockages
 - Increased energy consumption
 - Increased risk of failure and spills
- Lower flows mean higher wastewater concentration
 - Increased odors
 - Increased toxicity
 - Increased corrosion



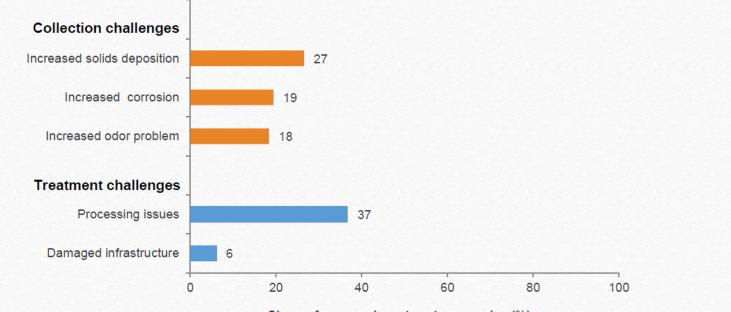
Wastewater Treatment

- Increased sulfide odor, corrosion, chemicals
- Overloading solids handling system
- Increased maintenance
- Process impacts on nutrient removal and energy generation
- Impaired effluent quality



Photo credit: CWEA

Some wastewater agencies had problems with their collection and treatment systems during the drought

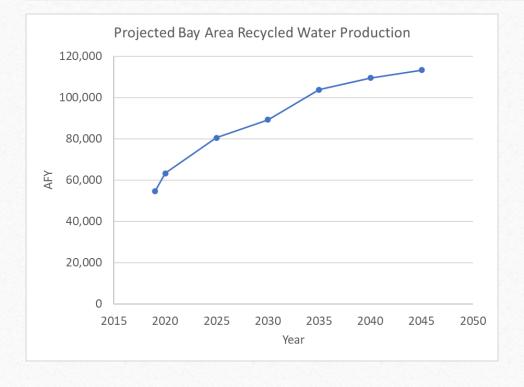


Share of surveyed wastewater agencies (%)

SOURCE: PPIC California Wastewater Agency Survey 2017.

NOTES: Overall sample size: 98. Limited to respondents reporting reduced influent flow or quality during the drought.

Bay Area agencies are planning to increase recycled water production

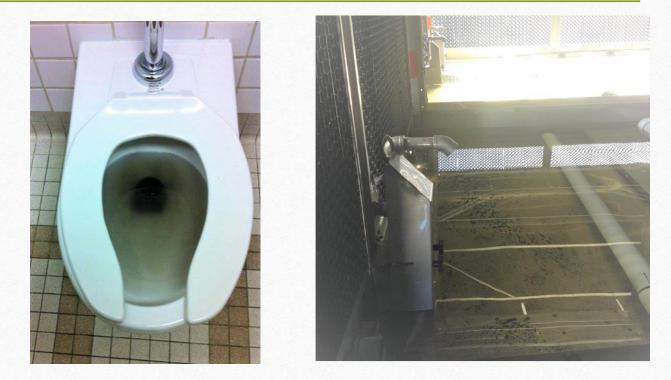


Major recycled water uses in our region are:

- Industrial
- Irrigation:
 - Landscape
 - Agriculture
 - Golf Course

Low flows impact quality and quantity of recycled water

 High levels of salt and organic materials impact the suitability of the recycled water for industrial and residential nonpotable reuse

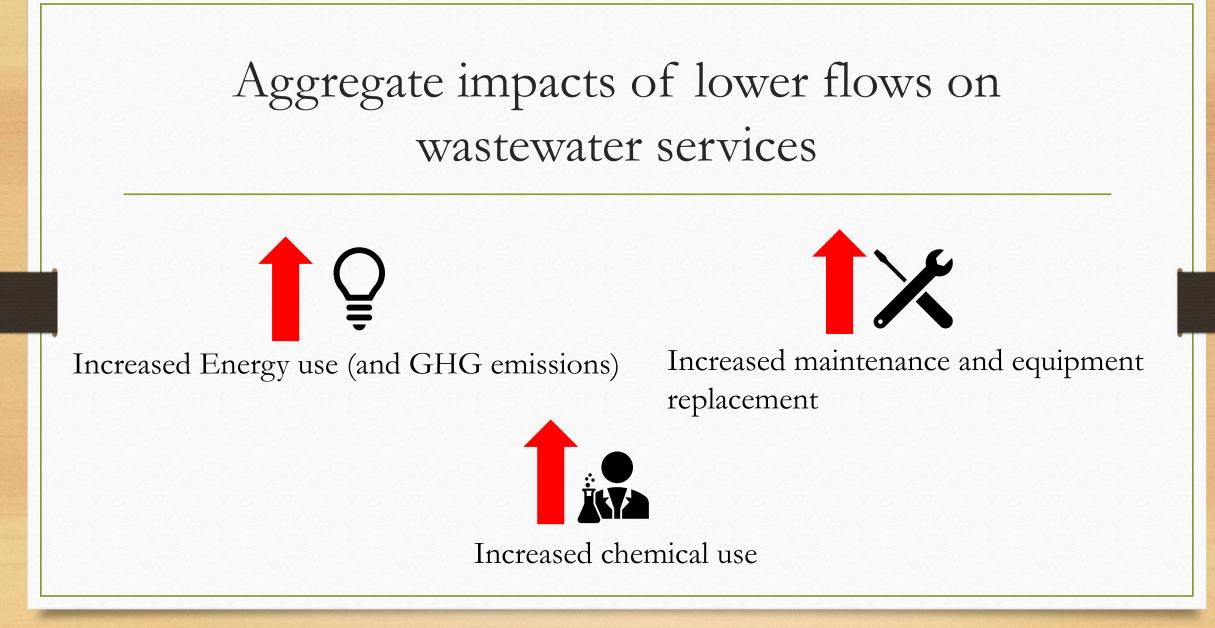


Low flows impact quality and quantity of recycled water

- Recycled water landscape irrigation users will need to plan salt-tolerant landscaping
- Ultimately capital investments will need to be planned to keep current levels of water recycling







Impacts on the community with business as usual

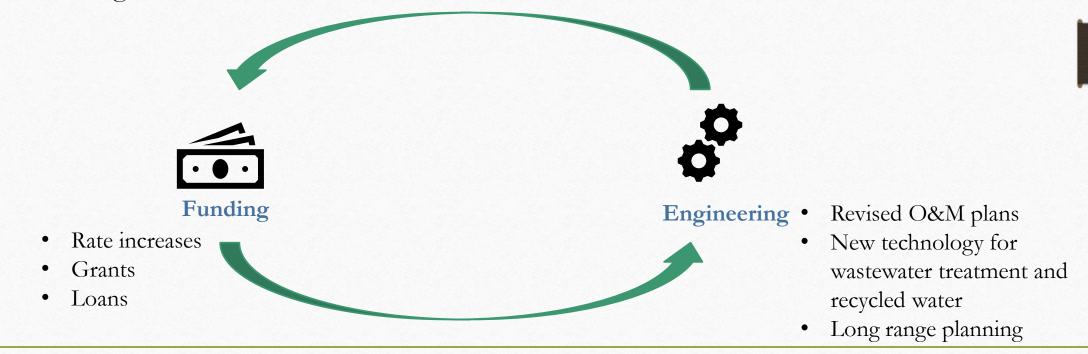


- Increased sewer overflows, especially in low lying areas
- Increased odor impacts in low lying areas and near treatment plants
- Increased rates, with significant impact to low-income households

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Planning for the future

Nothing I've covered is an existential threat. Problems can be solved:



Path to a more equitable future

- Creative funding and financing to minimize impacts on rates, or to provide relief to low-income households
- Implement technologies to minimize odor impacts on nearby communities
- Design sewer system management plan to consider the ancillary impacts of low flows on low income and overburdened communities



Photo credit: EBMUD

