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Planning in a Perfect Storm: Poor Economy, Wet Weather and Budget Cuts

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Bill Maddaus and Michelle Maddaus



Presentation Overview

- 1. The challenge reduce water consumption
- The reality of the last few years recession!
- 3. Key ways to adapt planning to the perfect storm:
 - More sophisticated demand forecasting
 - Methods utilities use to adapt to reduced conservation budget

4. Case studies

- Marin Municipal Water District
- East Bay Municipal Water District
- City of Santa Barbara

5. Questions



The Water Demand Reduction Challenge

Why are U.S. water utilities in water short areas are under intense pressure to reduce consumption?

- Hydrologic deficit
- Rulings by judges
- Water use reduction targets set by politicians
- Other reasons including economics, long term changes in weather (climate) and environmental goals



The Reality of the Last Few Years

1

Recession and/or droughts caused revenues to fall

2

Conservation funding becomes more challenging

3

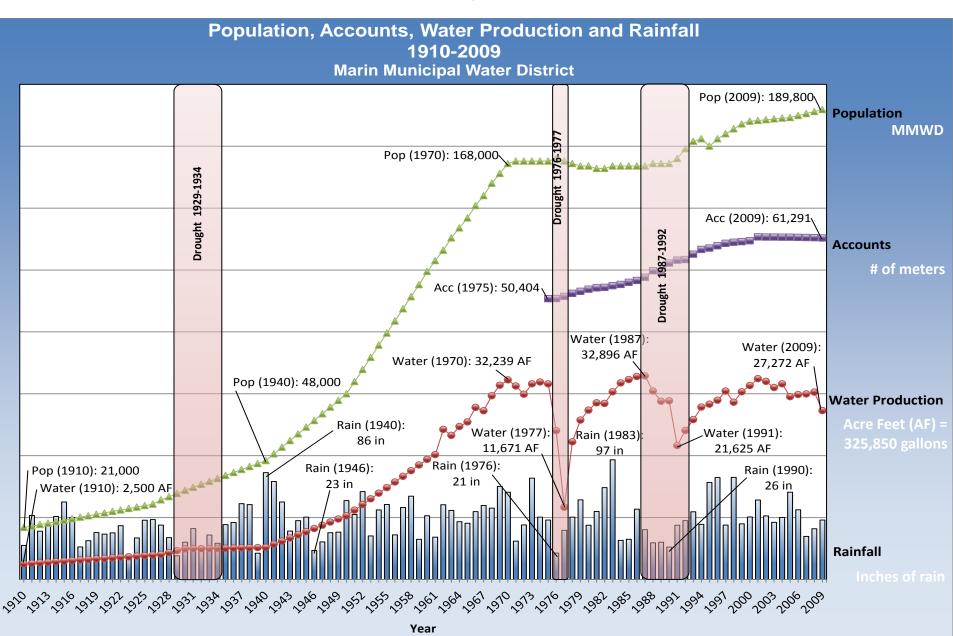
Need for creative ways to continue conservation programs

4

Need for better understanding of water demands and factors

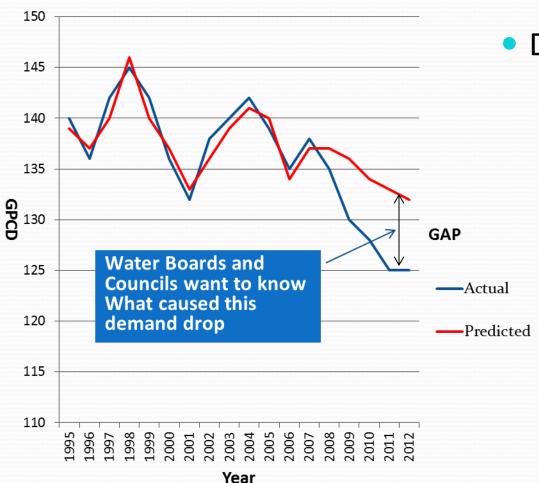


A look at 100 years of data...



Demand Forecasting-The Issue

Model Prediction vs. Actual Water Use



- Demand Forecasting:
 - Originally many forecasts were based on population or employment
 - This worked well in the past, but no longer tracking water use
 - Need for more detailed methods that include larger number of water demand variables

Demand Variables to Consider

- Understand the Long-Term Trends
 - Demands are leveling off
- Planned Conservation Efforts Increasing
- Weather Effects
 - Weather normalize historical data
- Climate Change
 - Change in water supply, change in irrigation season, change in frequency of extreme events, etc.
- Economic Impacts (Recession)
 - Unemployment correlated with water use

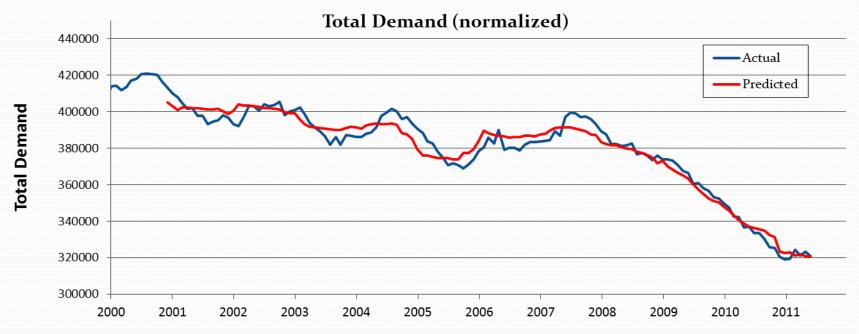


Closer Look at Variables to Consider

Variable Type	Variables	Units	Data Source
Weather	Precipitation	Inches per year	Weather data
Weather	Avg Daily Max Air Temp	Fahrenheit	Weather data
Weather	Avg Air Temp	Fahrenheit	Weather data
Weather	Min Air Temp	Fahrenheit	Weather data
Weather	Eto	Inches	Weather data
Economy	Employment	People	CA EDD / US Bureau
		Unemployment	
Economy	Unemployment	%	CA EDD / US Bureau
Service Area			
Demographics	SF Units	Dwelling units	2010 Census
Service Area			
Demographics	MF Units	Dwelling units	2010 Census
Service Area Data	Rates	\$/CCF	Provided by Agencies
Service Area Data	Population	People	Various sources
Service Area Data	# Customers	Accounts	Agency billing data
		Conservation	
Conservation	Conservation	activity	Historical conservation data



Analyzing Historical Demand w/ Recession



- $R^2 = 0.95$
- 13 Factors analyzed, 4 were statistically significant:
 - Weather Precipitation, Eto, Air Temp
 - <u>Economy</u> **Unemployment,** Employment, Household income
 - Service Area Data SF / MF Housing Units, Rates, Population, # Accounts



DSS Model - Demand Forecasting



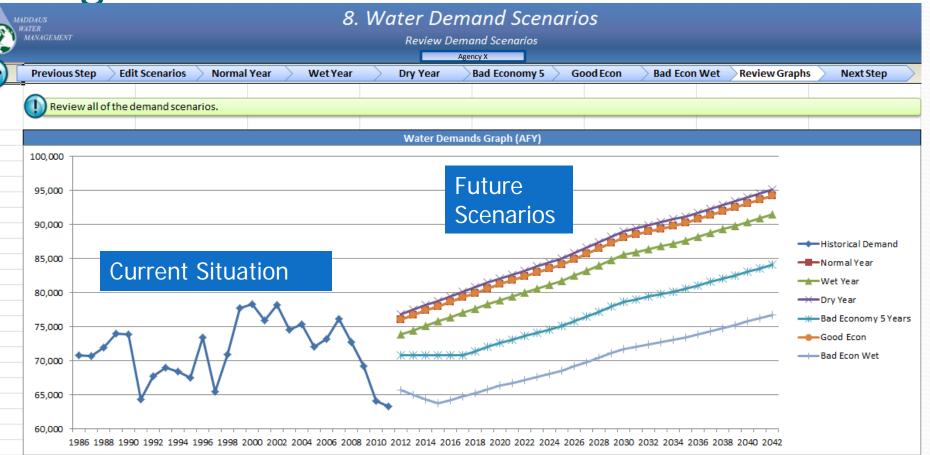
DSS Model created in 1999

Endorsed by the California Urban Water Conservation Council

End Use Model with Billing Data



Using Factors to Forecast Demand Scenarios



Normal Year

- Bad Economy, Wet Year
- Good or Bad Economy
- Wet or Dry Year



Innovative Conservation Measures Need to be Evaluated

- Automatic meter infrastructure systems (AMI)
- Green building codes and standards
- New development ordinances
- Landscape and irrigation management using advanced technology
- Use of recycled water to replace potable uses
- Innovative programs to influence customers behaviors and attitudes towards water efficiency
- Water loss reduction
- High efficiency fixtures
- Water pricing
- Rain collection systems

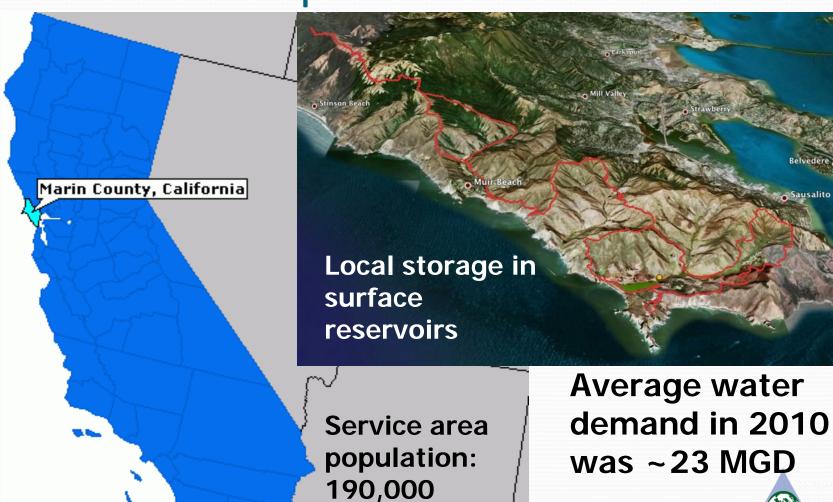


DSS Model - Conservation





Case Study #1: Marin Municipal Water District



Marin Municipal Water District, California

Innovative Conservation Measures	Water Loss Reduction Landscape Programs	
Planned Conservation Program Total Budget	\$31M 30 year Present Value Cost for 30 conservation measures	
Projected Program Savings with Plumbing Code	~16% by 2035 4.6 MGD MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT	



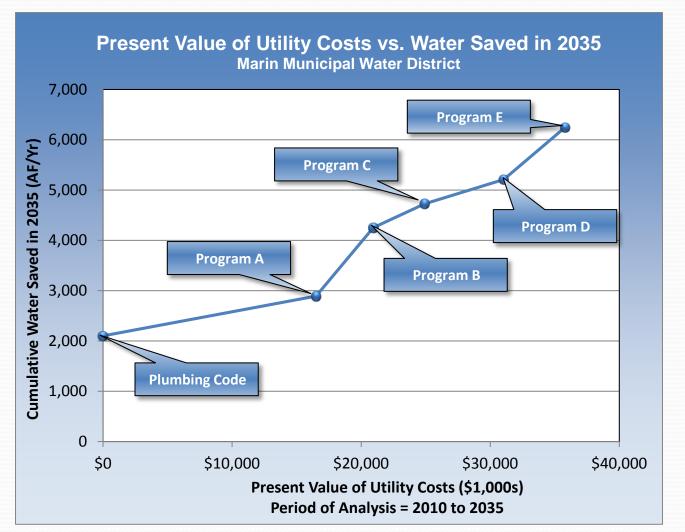


2007 Water Conservation Master Plan



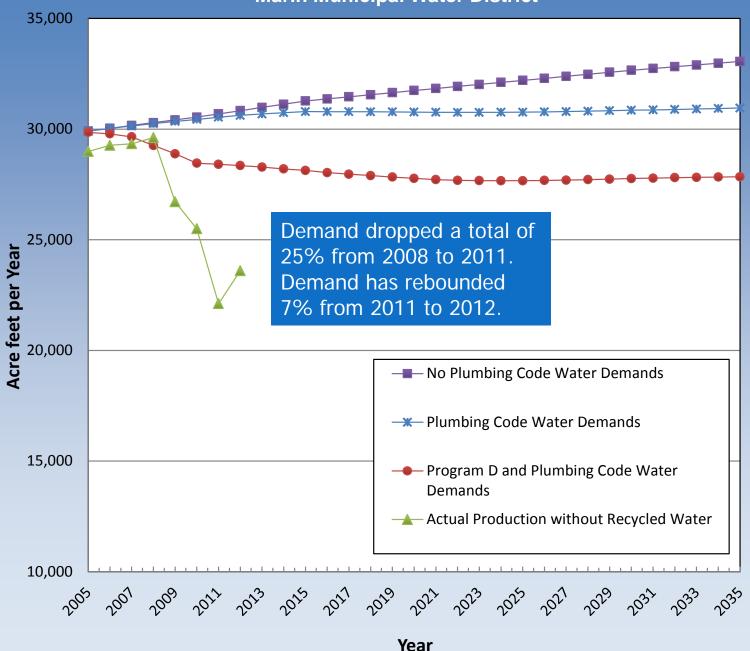
Adopted June 20, 2007

Evaluating Cost Effectiveness of Alternative Conservation Programs





Water Demands with Conservation Savings Marin Municipal Water District



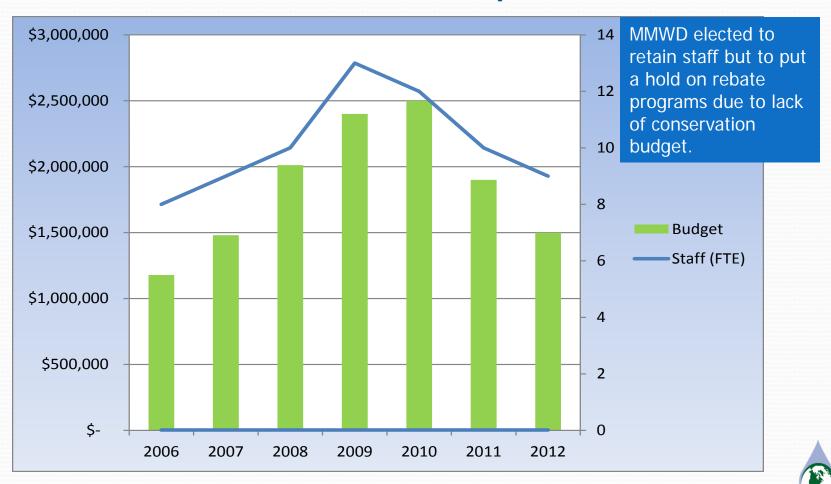
w/o Plumbing Code

w/ Plumbing Code

MMWD Adopted Conservation Program D



What Happened in Last few Years Since Conservation Plan Adopted



Case Study #2: East Bay Municipal Water District



Service area population: ~1,300,000



Case Study #2: East Bay MUD

Innovative Conservation
Measures

New Home Ordinance
AMI for Water Loss Reduction

Planned Conservation
Program Total Budget
30 year Present Value Cost for
43 measures

Projected Program Savings including Plumbing Code

~14% by the year 2040 37 MGD by 2040

AMI meter pilot tests and on line access to data and home water reports





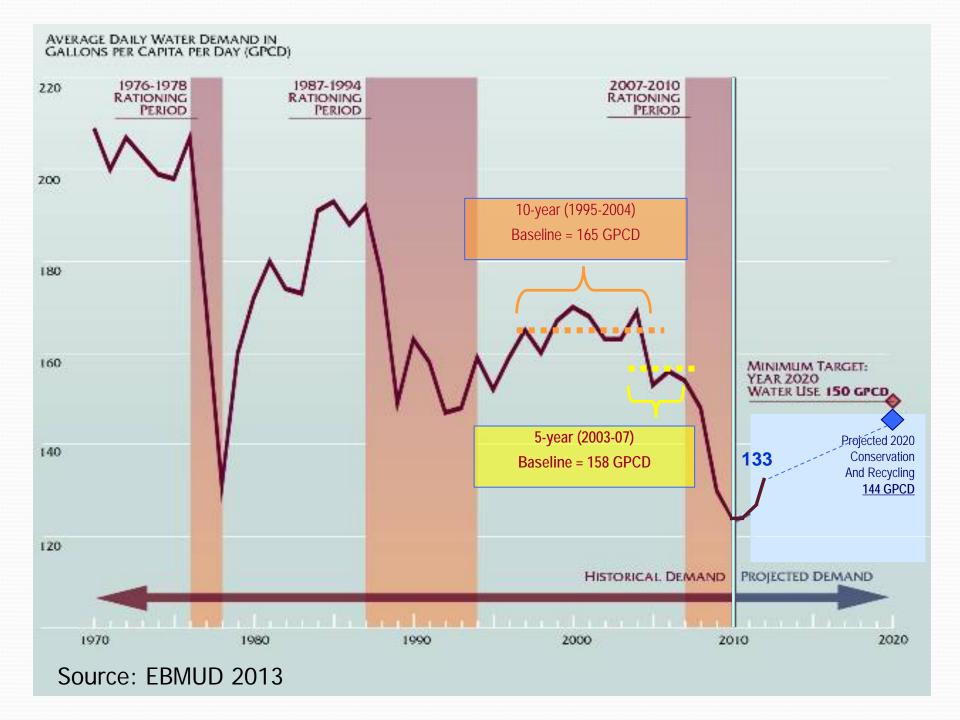
Example of a Truly Integrated Water Resource Plan

Water Supply Management Program 2040, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), California

- Conservation was a key element of plan
 - Board adopted a plan with high level of conservation
- Wastewater reuse also a component
- Other elements included in plan:
 - Participation in a regional Desal project
 - Tapping supply from another river, jointly with another agency
 - Raising the dam on main supply
 - Developing local ground water supplies
- Plan developed with help of the "Citizens Liaison Committee"







Water Conservation Master Plan (2011-2020)



<u>Water</u> <u>Management</u>

Web services

Calculators

How to videos

Water surveys

Water budgets

Leak notification



Education & Outreach

Public education

Marketing

Community events

Conservation workshops

Training & certifications



Conservation Incentives

Plumbing Fixtures

Appliances

Landscaping

Irrigation Systems

Process Equipmen

Customized



Regulation & Legislation

Water-Efficiency Requirements

Individual & Landscape Metering

CalGreen

Model Landscape Ordinance



Supply Side Conservation

Leak Detection

Pipeline Replacement

Water Facility Audits

Pressure anagement

Distribution Monitoring



Research & Development

Water-Use Information

Meter Technology

Product testing and labeling (i.e. WaterSense, Energy Star)

Plan check review

- Reviewed programs due to reduced conservation budget.
- Looked at market maturity and conservation technology transformation.
- Kept rebates at a lower value to reflect economic conditions.
 Provided by personal communication, Charles Bohlig at EBMUD, September 2013



What Happened in Last few Years Since Original Conservation Plan Adopted





Case Study #3:

City of Santa Barbara, California

- 94,000 service area population in 2010
- > 12 MGD in 2010
- 12.5 MGD in 2035w/o Conservation2% increase in 25 years
- Avoided Cost of Imported State Project Water \$1,800/MG



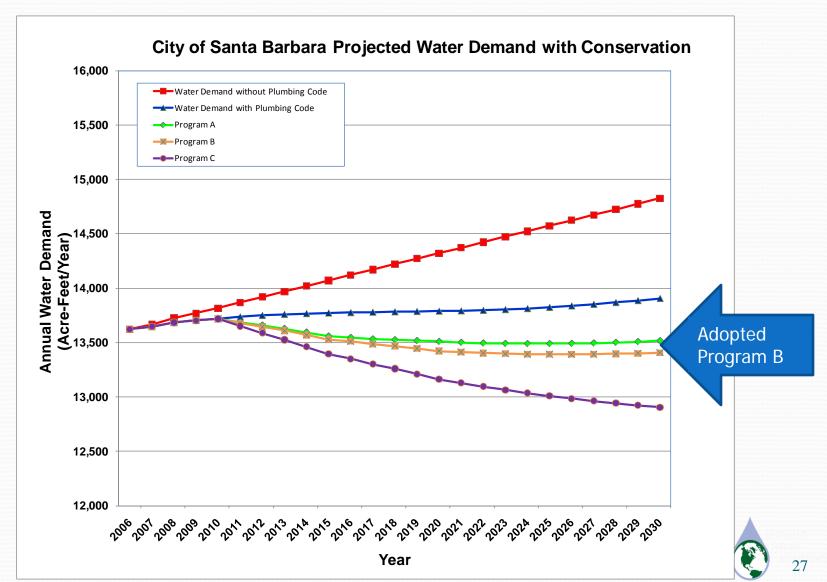


Case Study #3: City of Santa Barbara, California

Innovative Conservation Measures	Promote Green Buildings Landscape Irrigation Upgrades Incentive High Efficiency Fixtures
Planned Conservation Program Total Budget	\$3.1M 30 year Present Value Cost for 17 measures
Projected Program Savings including Plumbing Code	~10% by the year 2030 1.3 MGD by 2030

GREEN BUILDINGS

Water Demand Reductions Over Time



What Happened in Last few Years Since Original Conservation Plan Adopted



Budget and staff increased during recession due to a solid rate structure.
 Personal communication with Alison Jordan, City of Santa Barbara, September 2013



Summary and Conclusions

- New sophisticated methods needed to deal with fluctuations in water demand and establishing variables for forecasts, particularly the rebound from downturns in demands.
- 2. Planning and implementing programs in a declining water use and revenue environment is challenging.
- 3. With a good solid, well justified, and sometimes mandated, conservation plan & program it is easier to hold on to budget and staff.

Contact Information

Bill Maddaus, P.E.
Maddaus Water Management
925-820-1784
Bill@Maddauswater.com

Michelle Maddaus, P.E.
Maddaus Water Management
925-831-0194
Michelle@Maddauswater.com

www.Maddauswater.com

