

A Water Renaissance for California

A smart, cost-effective path to a resilient water future

Rising costs, unreliable supplies, and outdated strategies are putting California's communities and natural areas at risk.

A 21st Century Strategy

Today, Southern California gets half of its water from faraway places like the Bay-Delta, Mono Lake, and the Colorado River, sources increasingly threatened by climate change. The Water Renaissance shifts toward sustainable local water that's available rain or shine.

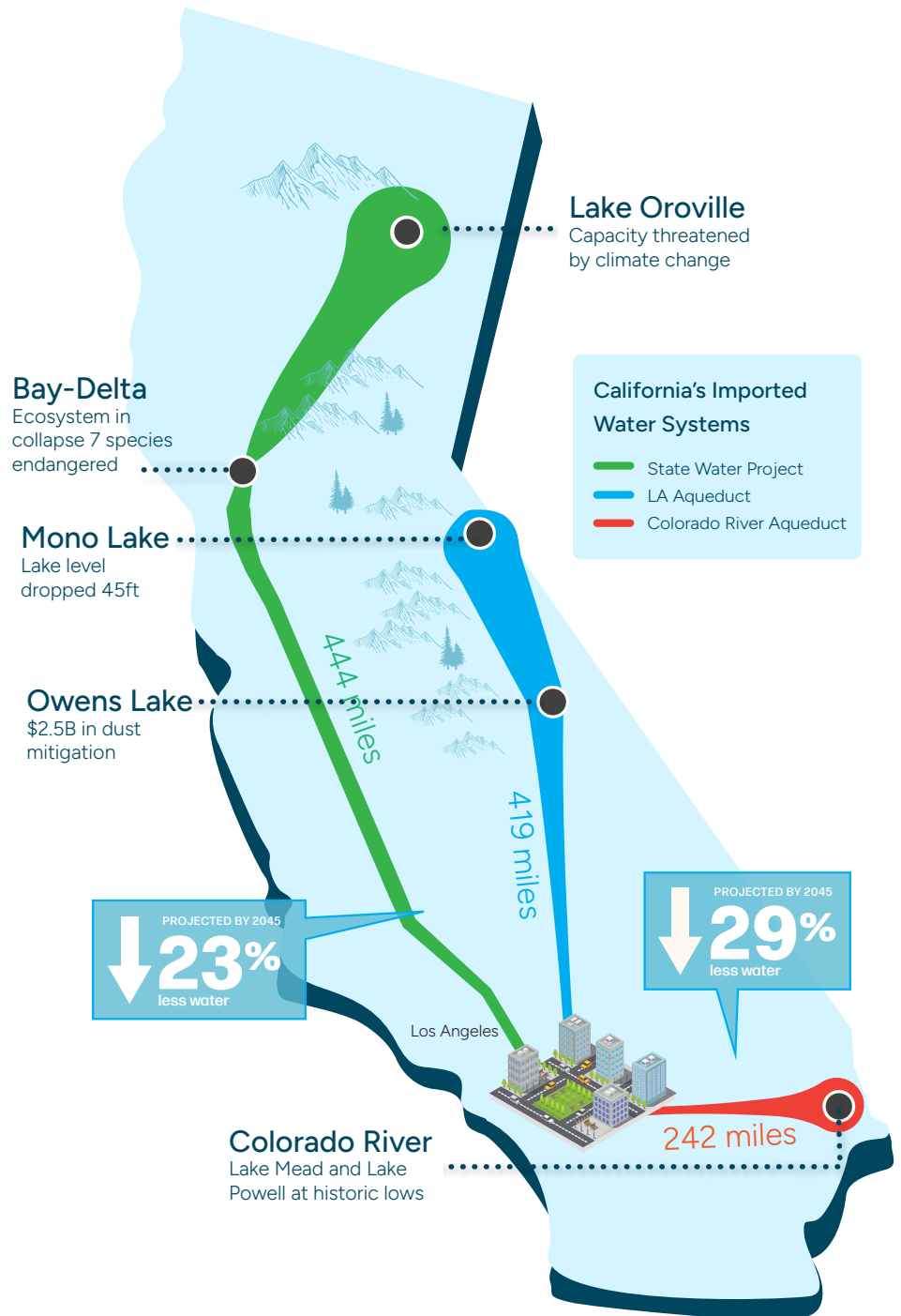
Why Local Water Wins

Investing in local water means

- More reliable water during droughts and disasters
- Lower long-term costs for ratepayers
- Job creation in local communities
- Healthier rivers, fisheries, ecosystems and communities

Practical Policy Solutions, Affordable for Californians

The Water Renaissance Plan shifts California away from expensive, unreliable imports to practical, sustainable solutions that we can afford.



Learn more at
cawaterrenaissance.org



Water Renaissance Plan Priorities

Invest locally: Provide resilient water supplies for every Californian.





- Enhance local investments in wastewater recycling and stormwater capture
- Fund conservation and efficiency programs for low-income households
- Clean up groundwater and maximize storage opportunities

Reduce risky imports: Use imported water as the last – not the first – resort.

- Limit investment in unreliable import projects like the Delta Tunnel
- Strengthen resilience when facing natural disasters (drought, flood, earthquake)
- Protect natural areas and California’s \$1.4B salmon fishing industry

Reform policy and funding approach: Ensure our water system works for communities.

- Enable water bill assistance programs
- Create quality local jobs throughout California to build and maintain our water systems
- Explore new funding tools, including a statewide water bond
- Incorporate Tribal priorities into water policy and projects
- Address water quality issues like harmful algal blooms and polluted drinking water

LOCAL WATER SUPPLIES: MORE BANG PER BUCK	PROJECTED ANNUAL YIELD	ESTIMATED COST	ESTIMATED COST/AF ⁱⁱ
 Conservation & Efficiency	500 ^{TAF}	>\$1B	≈\$348-1,610
 Water Recycling	600-800 ^{TAF}	\$40B	≈\$2,400-\$3,600
 Stormwater Capture	600 ^{TAF}	\$2B	≈\$1,070-\$3,600 ⁱⁱⁱ
 Groundwater Cleanup	100 ^{TAF}	\$700M	≈\$2,300
Total Water Renaissance	1.8-2^{MAF}	\$44B	

VS	Delta Tunnel	0.4^{MAF}	\$60-\$100B^{iv}	\$5000-\$8,300/AF
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To keep rates and taxes affordable, the state must prioritize the smartest and most cost-effective water investments. The most reliable and affordable way to secure our water future is to invest locally.

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