



California Water Data Consortium

*Ensuring that data supports water management for the
benefit of all Californians*

Advancing Urban Water Use Data Sharing
and Reporting

Presentation at the National Water Use Data Workshop

Tara Moran

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The Open & Transparent Water Data Act

*“The recent drought reveals that California needs to integrate existing water and ecological data into an authoritative open-access platform to help water managers operate California’s water system more effectively and help water users make informed decisions based on water availability and allocation.”
(CWC § 12401(a))*



We support implementation of California's Open and Transparent Water Data Act of 2016

“The California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the members of the Partner Agency Team support the creation of a Water Data Consortium and commit to close coordination between state agencies and the activities of the Consortium.”

- Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural Resources and Jared Blumenfeld, Secretary for Environmental Protection

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Drew Atwater Metropolitan
Water District/California Data
Collaborative

Christina Babbitt (vacant)
Environmental Defense Fund

Martha Davis Retired,
Assistant General
Manager/Executive Manager
for Policy Development, Inland
Empire Utilities Agency

MISSION

THE CONSORTIUM EMPOWERS CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION, PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STATE, AND INNOVATION TO ENSURE THAT STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES, TRIBES, NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, RESEARCHERS, AND THE PUBLIC CAN READILY ACCESS AND USE HIGH-QUALITY DATA NECESSARY TO SUSTAINABLY MANAGE WATER FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL CALIFORNIANS

VISION

A RESILIENT & EQUITABLE WATER FUTURE
WHERE OPEN & ACCESSIBLE DATA INFORMS ALL
WATER MANAGEMENT DECISIONS IN CALIFORNIA

OUR ORIGIN

2016

AB
1755
PASSED!

ACKNOWLEDGES THE TREMENDOUS
POTENTIAL OF CALIFORNIA'S WATER
DATA TO SUPPORT A RESILIENT AND
EQUITABLE WATER FUTURE FOR
ALL CALIFORNIANS

2019

THE CWDC
FOUNDED
TO SUPPORT
STATE AGENCY
IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE OPEN AND
TRANSPARENT
WATER DATA ACT

OVERARCHING GOAL

THE CONSORTIUM SUPPORTS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPEN & TRANSPARENT
WATER DATA ACT BY SERVING AS A CREDIBLE, TRUSTED LEADER & CONVENER IN
OPEN WATER DATA ACCESS & USE IN CALIFORNIA

GOALS

1. ADVANCE COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS TO CALIFORNIA'S MOST CRITICAL WATER DATA CHALLENGES
2. ENGAGE A DIVERSITY OF INTERESTED PARTIES IN OUR WORK, EMPHASIZING TRADITIONALLY UNDERREPRESENTED VOICES
3. COMMUNICATE THE VALUE OF OPEN WATER DATA IN CALIFORNIA
4. CONTINUE TO BUILD THE CONSORTIUM'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

BOLD.

URGENT.

COLLABORATIVE.

INCLUSIVE.

OUTCOME-ORIENTED.

PROJECTS

• GROUNDWATER ACCOUNTING & DATA REPORTING

• LIDAR

• WATER USE REPORTING IN THE DELTA

• URBAN WATER REPORTING

• ...

Advancing Projects



Facilitating Data Exchange

- Groundwater Accounting and Data Reporting
- Urban Water Reporting



Investment in Data

- LiDAR
- Delta Water Use Reporting

California water is facing ongoing and unprecedented challenges, including climate change, population growth, and other stressors



A man wearing a white cowboy hat, a blue and grey plaid shirt, and blue jeans with a patterned belt is filling a clear plastic water bottle from a public water tap. He is standing in front of a bright orange stucco wall. In the background, a woman with long dark hair is visible, looking towards the camera. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

“We are unable to
identify communities
or individuals at risk of
drying of their water
supply”

PROJECT

Urban Water Reporting



Image from: CA DWR



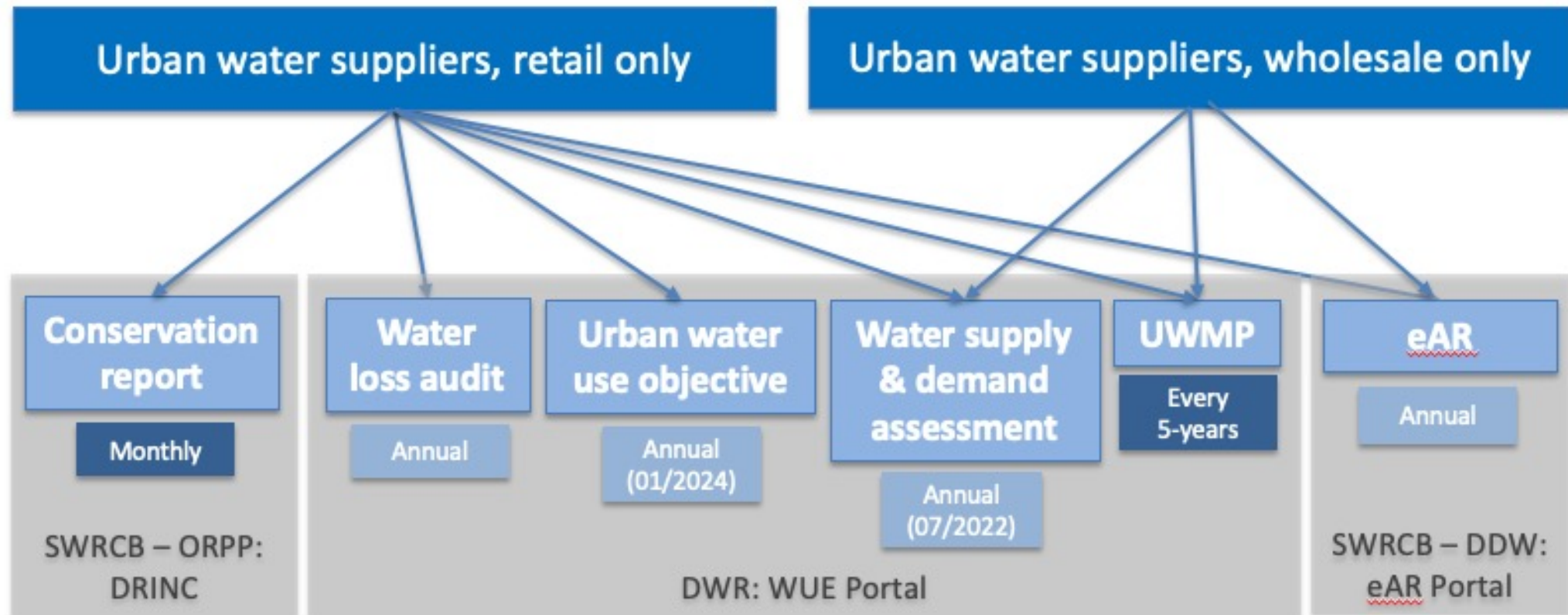
Project Vision

In partnership with DWR and SWRCB, we are aligning urban water supply and use data to:

- Reduce reporting burden
- Expand access to more timely data
- Improve data use

Urban Water Reporting Requirements

Urban water suppliers submit annual, monthly and 5-year legal/regulatory reports to various agencies and data portals





Critical Urban Water Policy Questions

- Are urban water suppliers meeting their conservation targets set by the Governor?
- Over the next 12-24 months, do urban water suppliers have adequate supplies relative to their projected demands?
- What progress are urban water agencies making in diversifying their water supplies?

Project Approach

To understand:

1. State legal and regulatory requirements
2. Local data collection and reporting practices, challenges and opportunities
3. State data collection and processing practices, challenges and opportunities
4. Data users experience in accessing and using these data



Urban Water Reporting Workshop

- Included state agency leaders and employees, urban water suppliers, and data users
- Focused on solutions to align data reporting and improve data quality and usability



Potential Solutions



Prioritizing
Funding



Developing
Aligned Metrics



Aligning
Definitions



Improving Data
Literacy



Developing a
Shared Data
Portal

Next Steps

1. Pending report summarizing solutions
2. Scoping capacity and resources required
3. Pursuing grant and funding opportunities



California Water Data Consortium

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“I could not be more pleased with the outstanding progress that the State and the Consortium have jointly achieved in implementing the Open and Transparent Water Data Act. I look forward to our continued collaboration on this important work.”

– Senator Dodd