

# Analyses of California's Water Problems

*Kaveh Madani  
Jay Lund*

*Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
University of California, Davis*





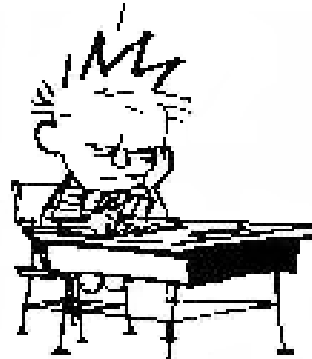
# **“Still Wrong, but Sometimes Useful”: Adventures with CALVIN**

**Jay R. Lund**

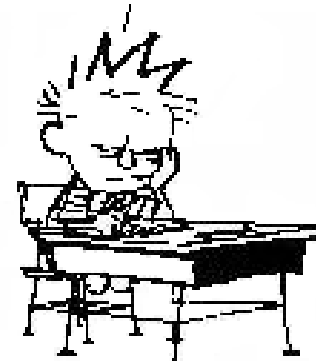
**Richard E. Howitt**

**University of California - Davis**

NOBODY LIKES US  
"BIG PICTURE"  
PEOPLE



<http://cee.engr.ucdavis.edu/faculty/lund/CALVIN/>



# What is CALVIN?

- Entire inter-tied California water system
- Surface and groundwater systems
- Supply and demand management options
- Economics-driven engineering optimization model
  - Economic Values for Agricultural, Urban, & Hydropower Uses
  - Flow Constraints for Environmental Uses
- Prescribes monthly system operation over a 72-year representative hydrology

Forces quantitative understanding of the system

# CALVIN Model Coverage

Over 1,200 spatial elements

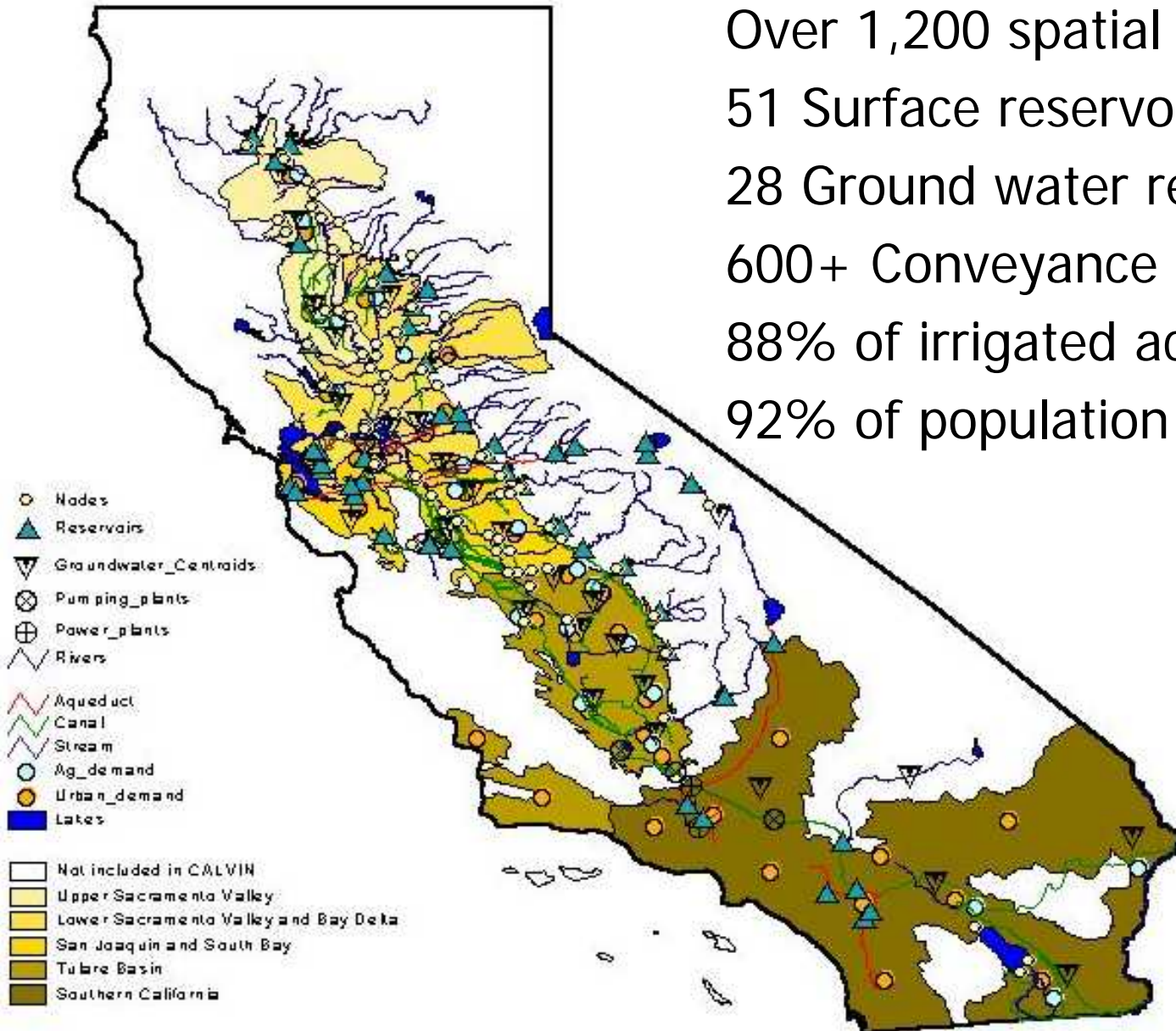
51 Surface reservoirs

28 Ground water reservoirs

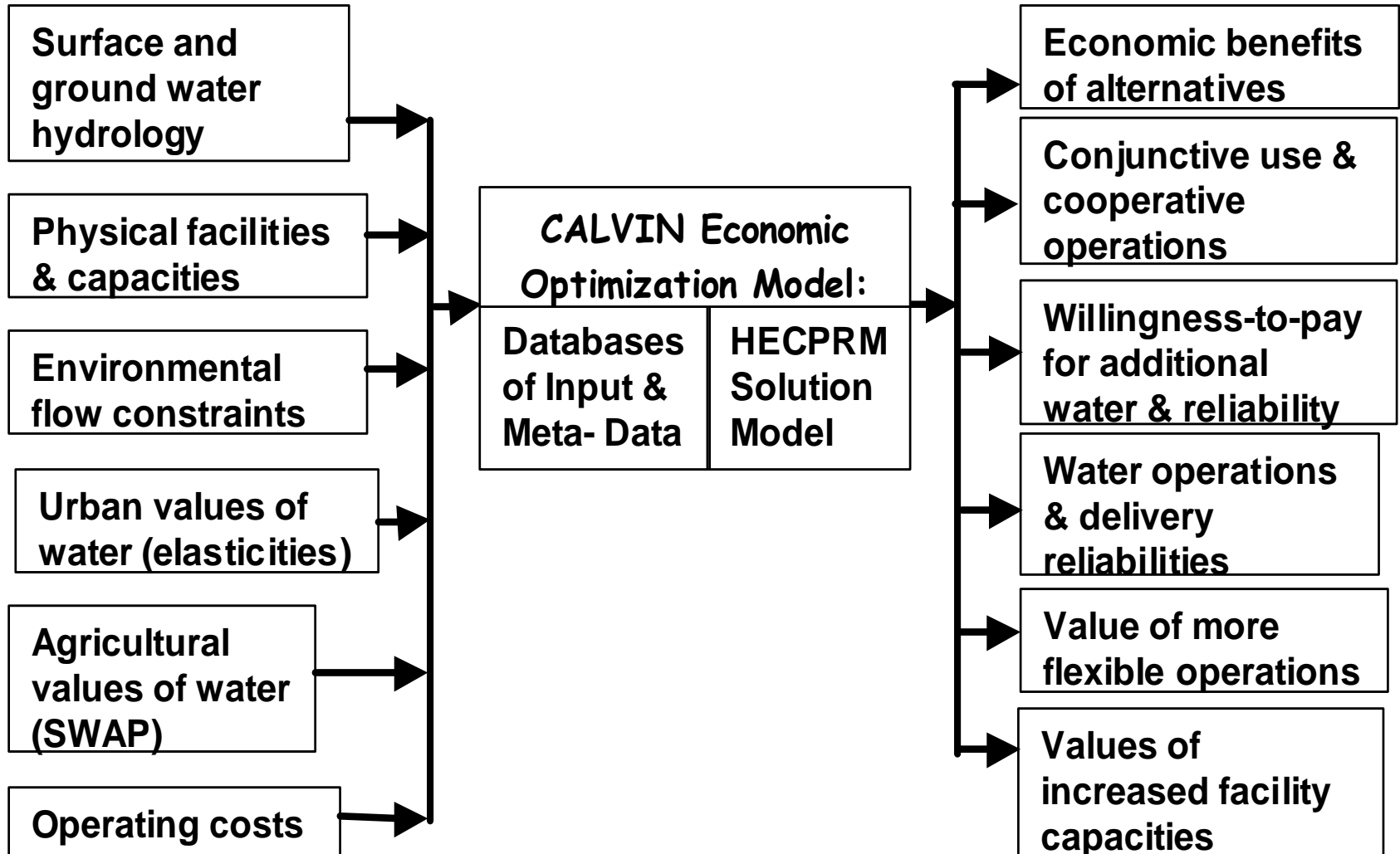
600+ Conveyance links

88% of irrigated acreage

92% of population



# Data Flow for the CALVIN Model



# Applications of CALVIN

- Regional and statewide water markets & values of new facilities (2001)
- Conjunctive use in S. California (2002)
- Restoring Hetch Hetchy (2003)
- Climate warming & adaptation (2003, 2005, now)
- Paleodrought (2005)
- Groundwater overdraft (2006)
- Baja California & Colorado R. Delta (2006 - now)
- Delta water supply impacts (2002, 2007- now)
- Sacramento Valley Conjunctive Use (now)

Proof of concept for innovations

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# Lesson taught by CALVIN

1. Integrated modeling is possible
2. Integrated modeling produces more insightful results
3. Documentation is possible
4. System data bases are possible

# Beyond the Peripheral Canal



## ENVISIONING FUTURES FOR THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

JAY LUND | ELLEN HANAK | WILLIAM FLEENOR  
RICHARD HOWITT | JEFFREY MOUNT | PETER MOYLE

Public Policy Institute of California

### Engineers:

Jay Lund, UC Davis\*

William Fleenor, UC Davis

### Economists:

Ellen Hanak, PPIC\*

Richard Howitt, UC Davis

### Geologist:

Jeffrey Mount, UC Davis

### Biologist:

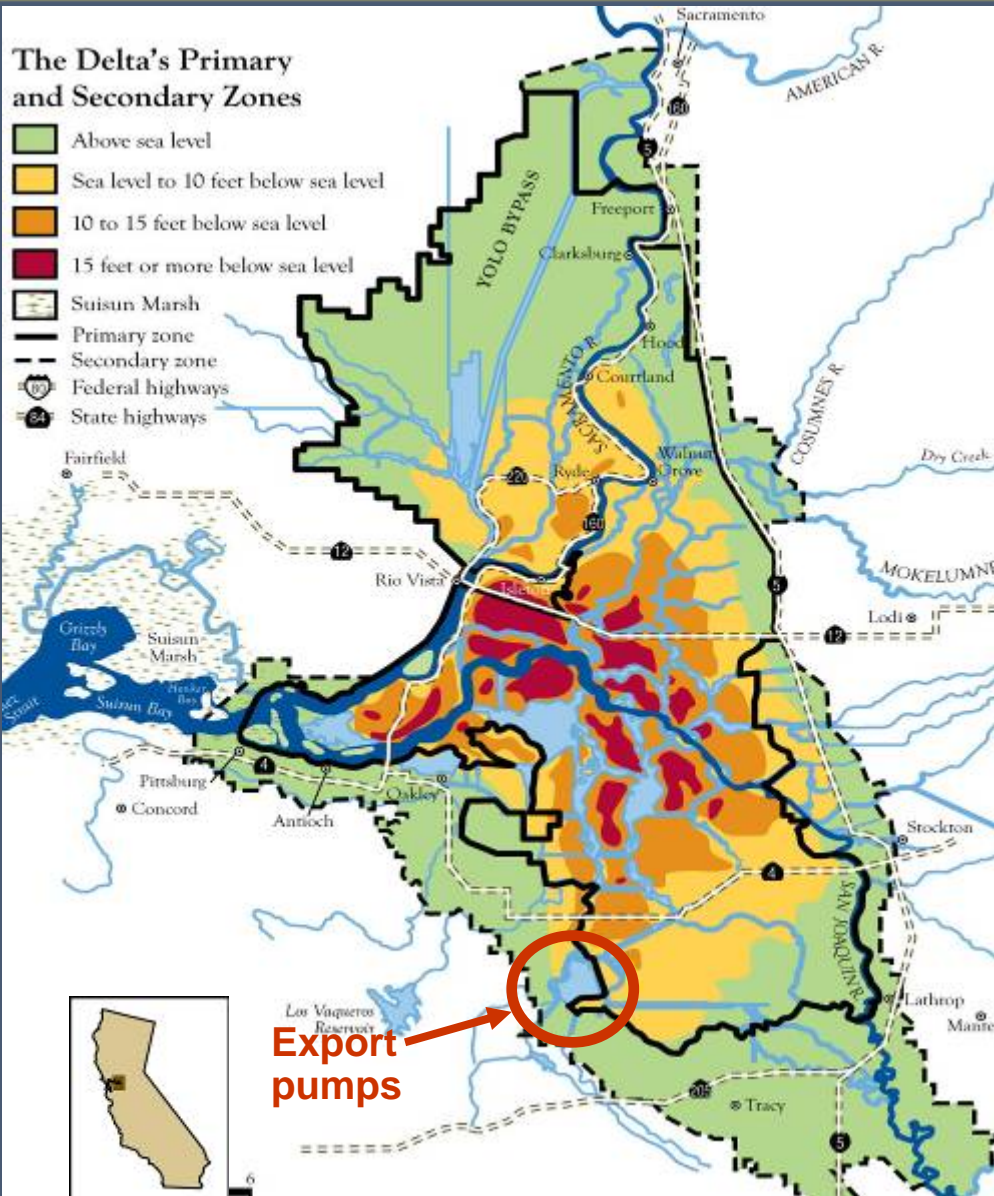
Peter Moyle, UC Davis

*\* Lead authors*

# The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

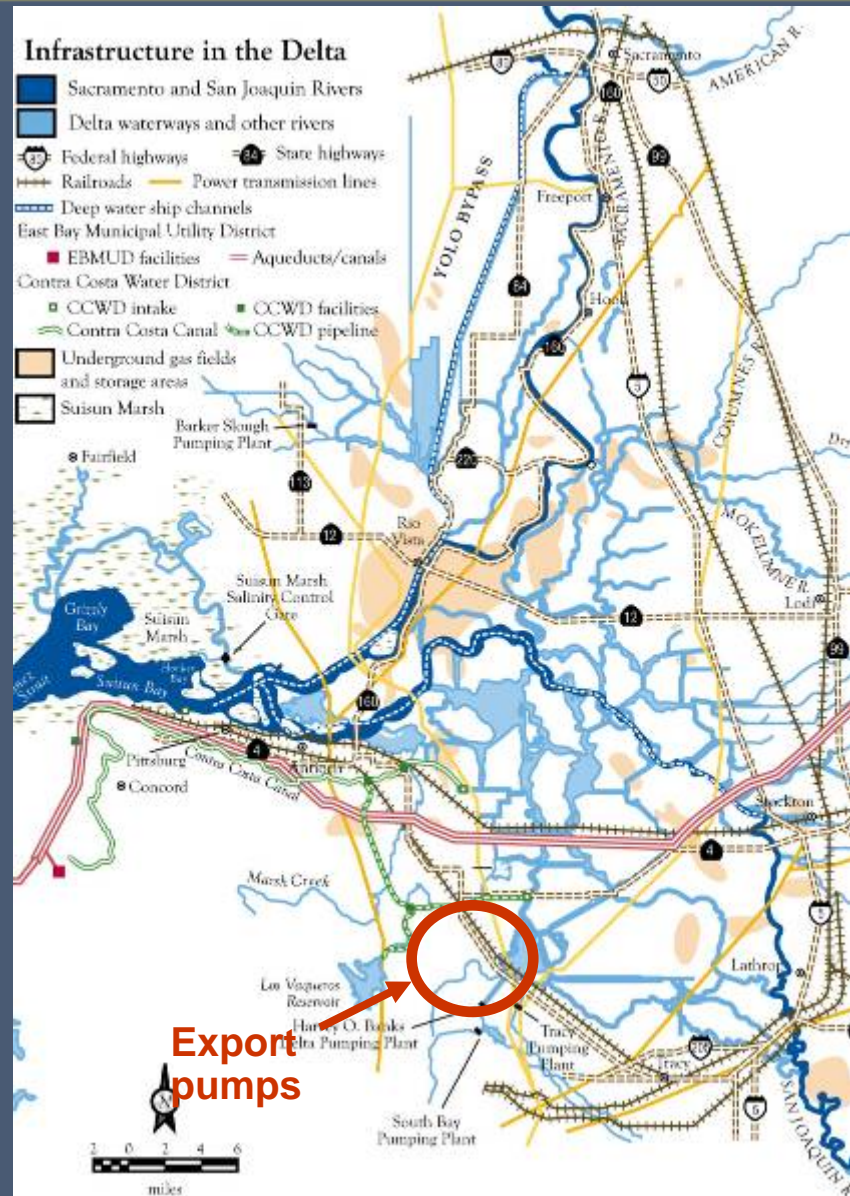
## The Delta's Primary and Secondary Zones

- Above sea level
- Sea level to 10 feet below sea level
- 10 to 15 feet below sea level
- 15 feet or more below sea level
- Suisun Marsh
- Primary zone
- Secondary zone
- Federal highways
- State highways



## Infrastructure in the Delta

- Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers
- Delta waterways and other rivers
- Federal highways
- State highways
- Railroads
- Power transmission lines
- Deep water ship channels
- Contra Costa Water District
- EBMUD facilities
- Aqueducts/canals
- CCWD intake
- CCWD facilities
- Contra Costa Canal
- CCWD pipeline
- Underground gas fields and storage areas
- Suisun Marsh



# Why the Delta Matters to Californians



**Water Supply**



**Agriculture**



**Ecosystem**



**Infrastructure**



**Recreation**



**Housing**

# Major Themes

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- **Current Delta is unsustainable for almost all stakeholders**
- **Improved understanding of the Delta provides opportunities for new solutions**
- **Promising alternatives exist**
- **Most Delta users have ability to adapt**
- **Promising solutions are unlikely to arise from a stakeholder-only process**

# A Three-pronged Crisis

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- **Levees at increasing risk**
  - **Sea level rise and sinking land**
  - **Floods and earthquakes**
- **Steep declines in many fish species**
  - **Many are “listed”**
  - **Culprits: invasive species, habitat loss, pumps**
- **Governing institutions lacking**
  - **Resurgence of legal actions**

# Why We Need a New Delta Policy

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- Existing Delta policy is unsustainable
  - All interests are getting worse together
- Delta failure would be disastrous for state, regional, and local interests
- Better ecosystem understanding points to promising new solutions
- Stakeholders can better adapt to new solutions than continue with the current high-risk policy
- Promising alternatives exist

# Fluctuating Delta Alternatives Are Most Promising

Alternatives	Environmental Performance	Annual Water Exports	Economic and Financial Costs
1. Levees as Usual	Poor	0 – 6+ maf	~\$2 Billion + failures
2. Fortress Delta	Poor	6+ maf	> \$4 Billion + lost islands
3. Saltwater Barrier	Poor		\$2 – 3 Billion + lost islands
4. Peripheral Canal Plus	Promising - allows Delta to fluctuate		\$2 – 3 Billion + < \$70 M/year
5. South Delta Aqueduct			\$2 – 3 Billion + < \$41 M/year
6. Armored-Island Aqueduct	Mixed		\$1 – 2 Billion + < \$30 M/year
7. Opportunistic Delta	Promising	2 – 8 maf	\$0.7 – 2.2 Billion + < \$170 M/year
8. Eco-Delta	Best?	1 – 5 maf	Several \$ Billion + < \$600 M/year
9. Abandoned Delta	Poor	0	\$500 Million + ~\$1.2 Billion/year

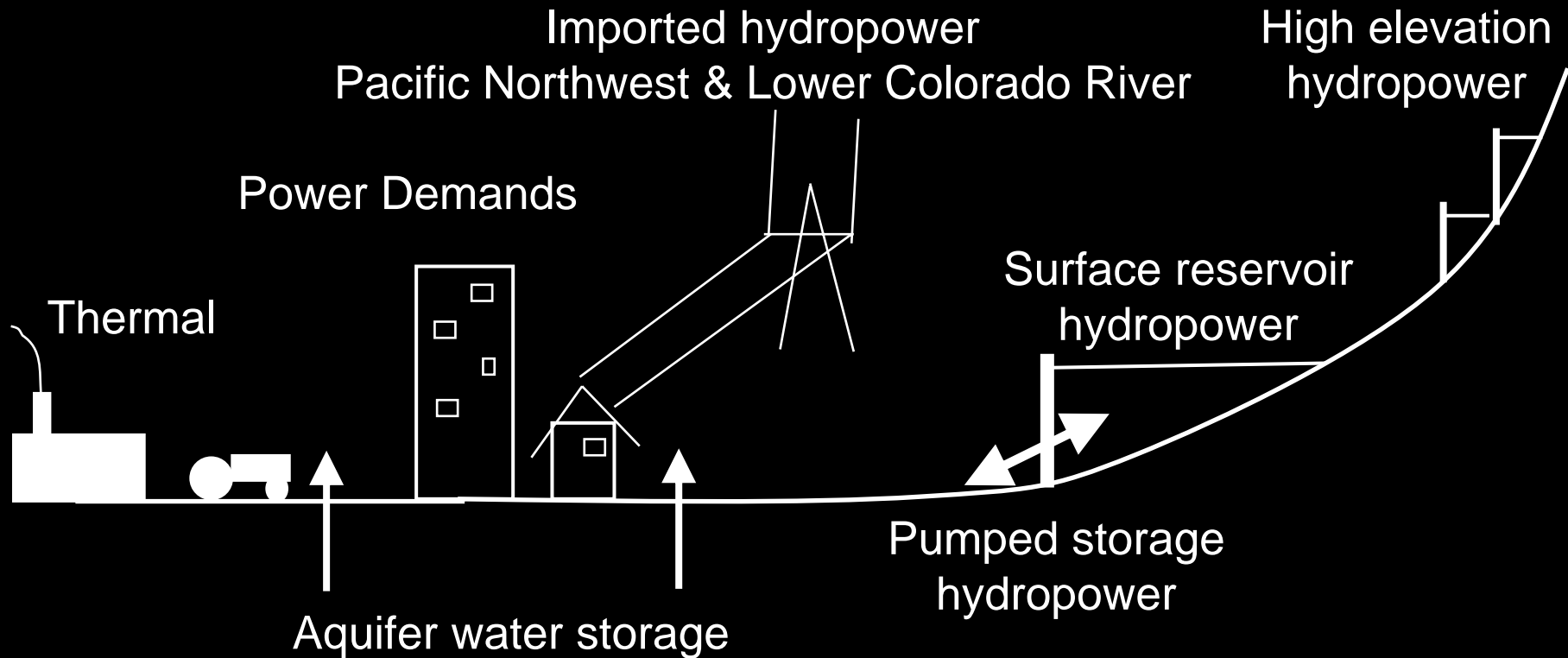
# Hydropower and Climate Warming in California

*Kaveh Madani  
Jay Lund*

*Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
University of California, Davis*



# Hydropower Systems



# Hydropower and California

1,000 GWH/yr, 2004

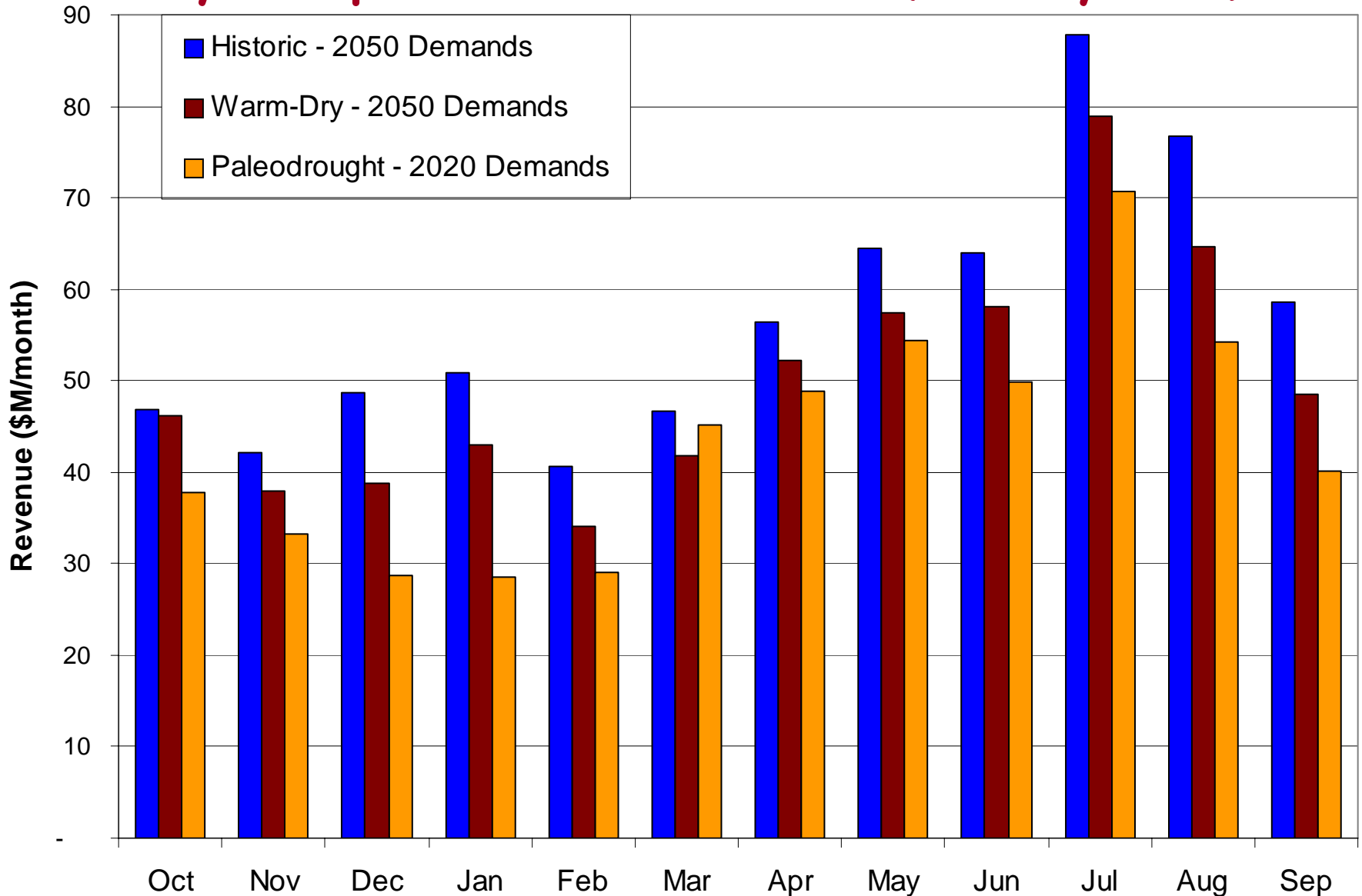
Hydropower Total	45.4
In-state Hydropower	34.4
High Elevation*	25.3
Low Elevation*	9.1
Pumped Storage	?
Imported Hydropower	11
PNW	9.5
LCR	1.5
Thermal	205.2
Other renewables	24.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>275.1</b>

\* Estimated      Sources: CEC; McCann 2005

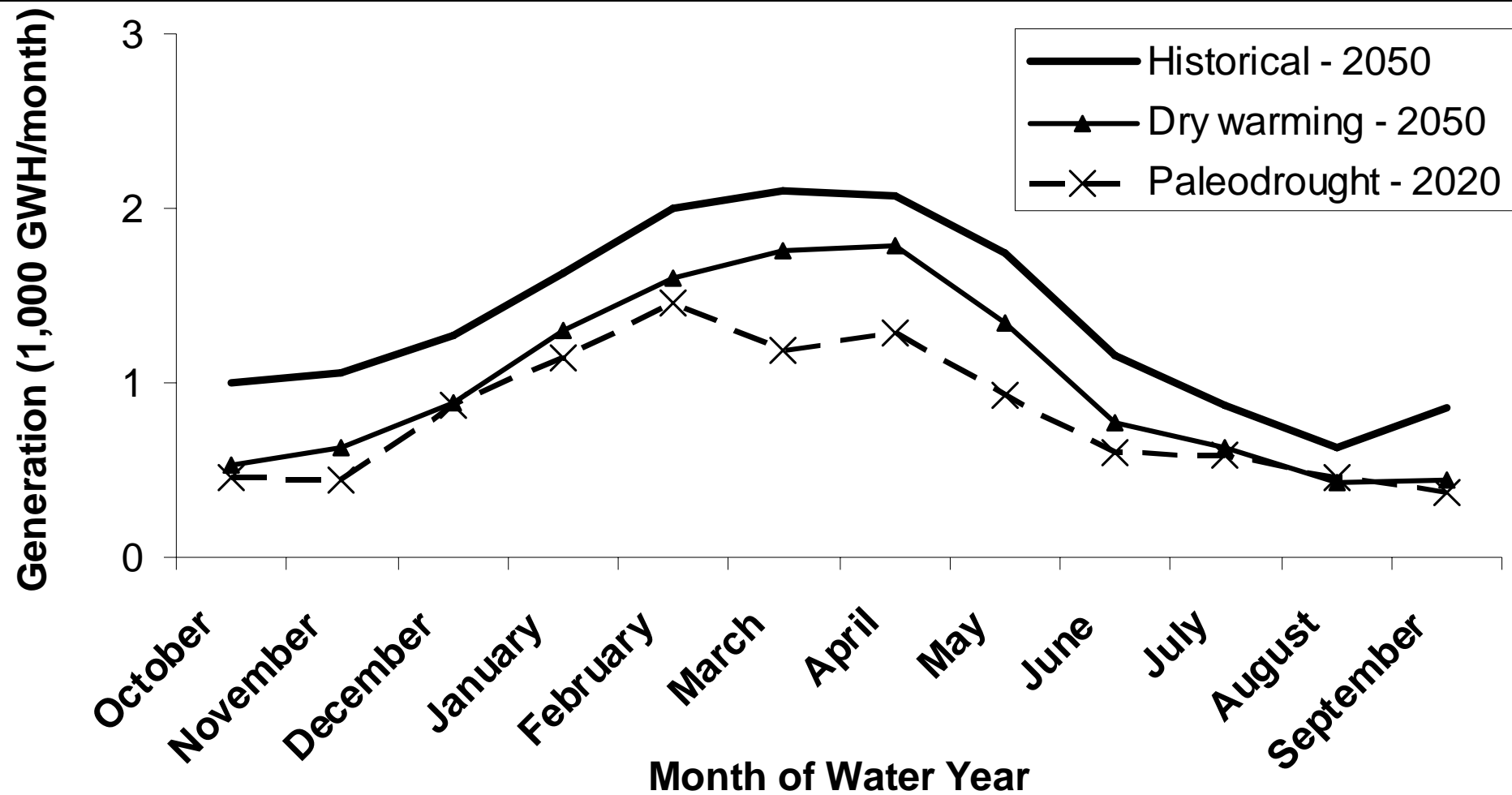
# Climate Effects on Hydropower

1. Energy demand
2. Timing of water availability
3. Quantity of water available
4. Availability of hydropower to import
5. Thermal generation efficiency
6. Sensitivity of environment to hydro operations

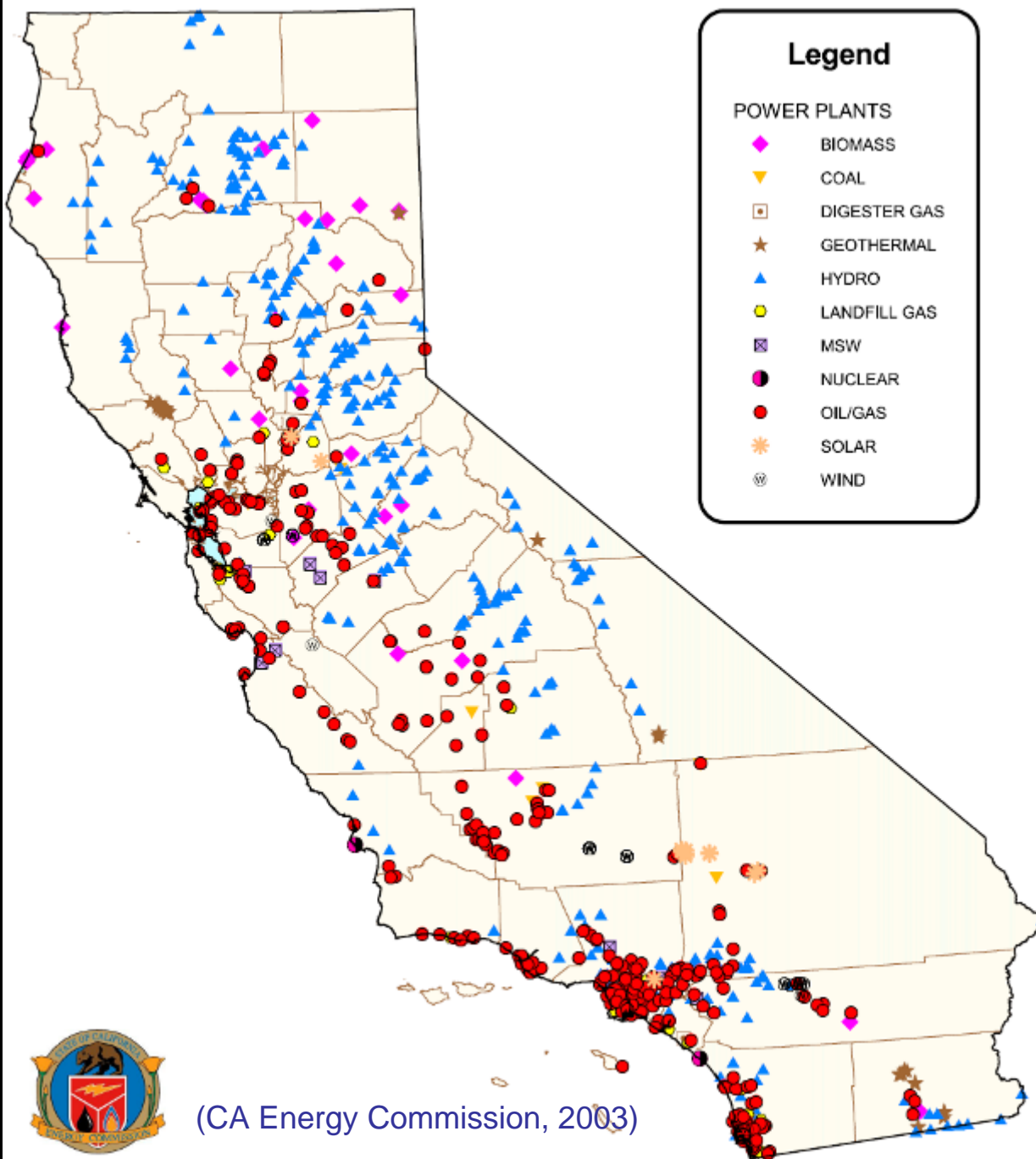
# Average Water Supply Reservoir Hydropower Benefits (\$M/year)



# Water Supply Dam Hydropower Seasonal Generation Changes

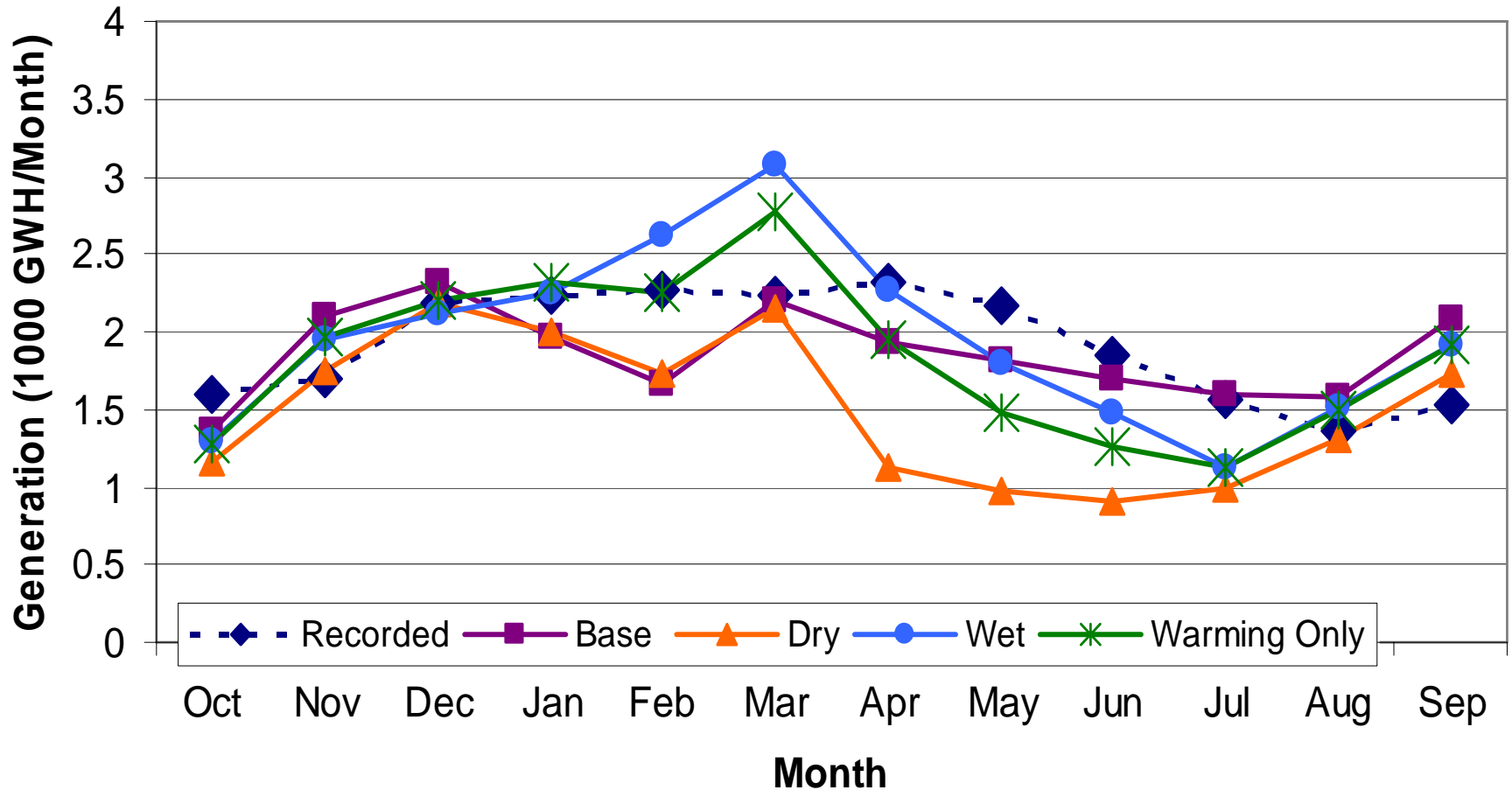


Major water supply reservoirs in CALVIN system optimization model



- 156 High-elevation power plants
- Varied ownership
- Snowpack dependant
- High-head, little head-storage effect
- Limited storage or flow data!!

# Monthly Generation



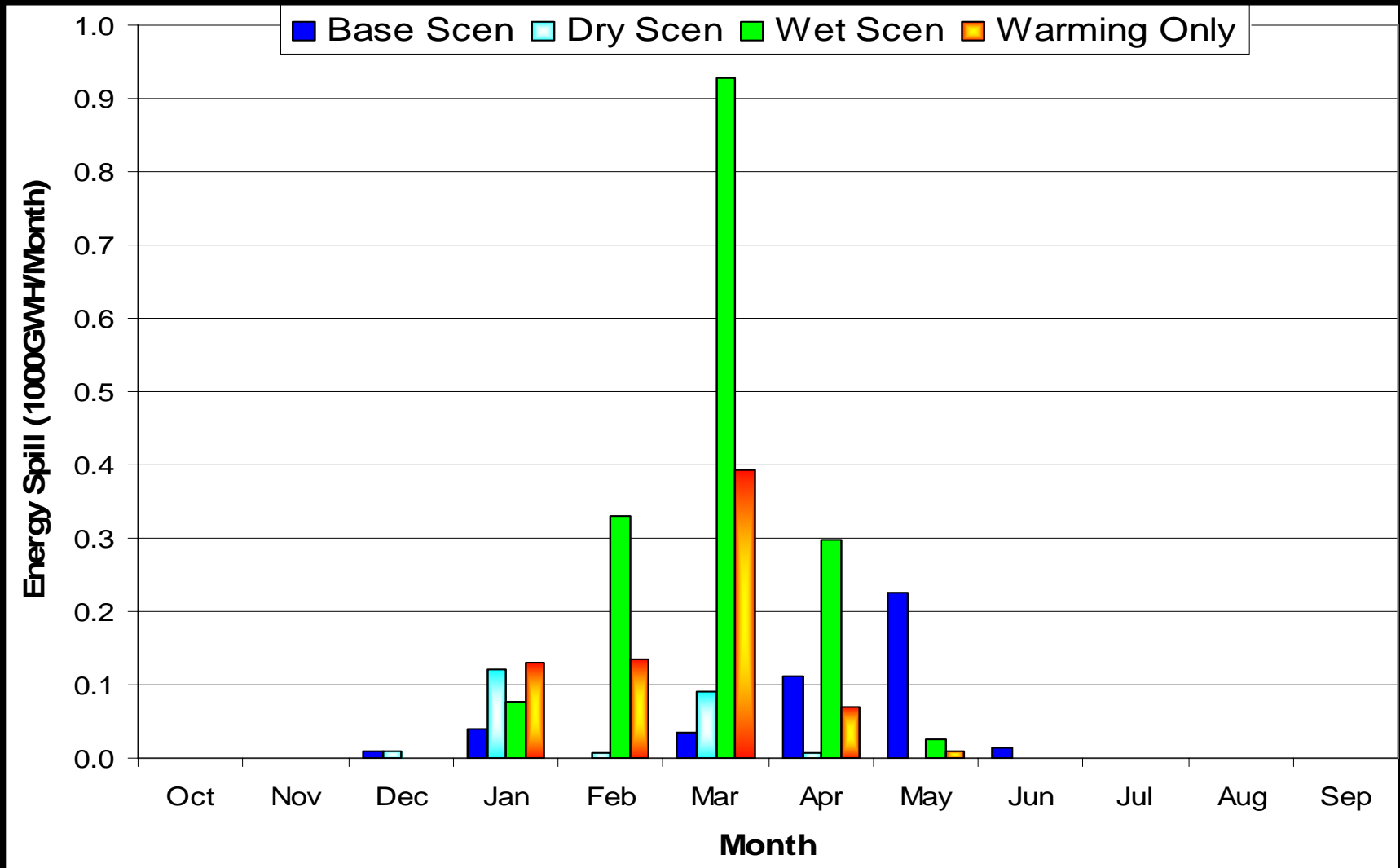
EBHOM's Results

# Model Results

	Scenario			
	<i>Base</i>	<i>Dry</i>	<i>Wet</i>	<i>Warming-Only</i>
<b>Generation (1000 GWH/yr)</b>	22.3	18.0	23.4	22.0
Generation Change with Respect to the Base Case (%)		- 19.3	+ 4.8	- 1.4
<b>Spill (MWH/yr)</b>	433	224	1,661	735
Spill Change with Respect to the Base Case (%)		- 46.0	+ 283.9	+ 58.8
<b>Revenue (Million \$/yr)</b>	1,449	1,271	1,483	1,435
Revenue Change with Respect to the Base Case (%)		- 12.3	+ 2.3	- 0.9

average of results over 1984-1998 period under four climate scenarios

# Average monthly energy spill (1984-1998)



# Overall Conclusions

- Sierra loses snowpack, the natural reservoir.
- Storage works. Generation changes more with total runoff than seasonal runoff shift.
- Problems for smaller high-elevation reservoirs - more spills even without change in total runoff
- Drier climate causes more problems than wetter climate causes benefits.
- Revenue reduction may be economically insufficient to justify expanding storage or generation capacity.

# The Next Step in Central Valley Flood Management: Connecting Costs and Benefits

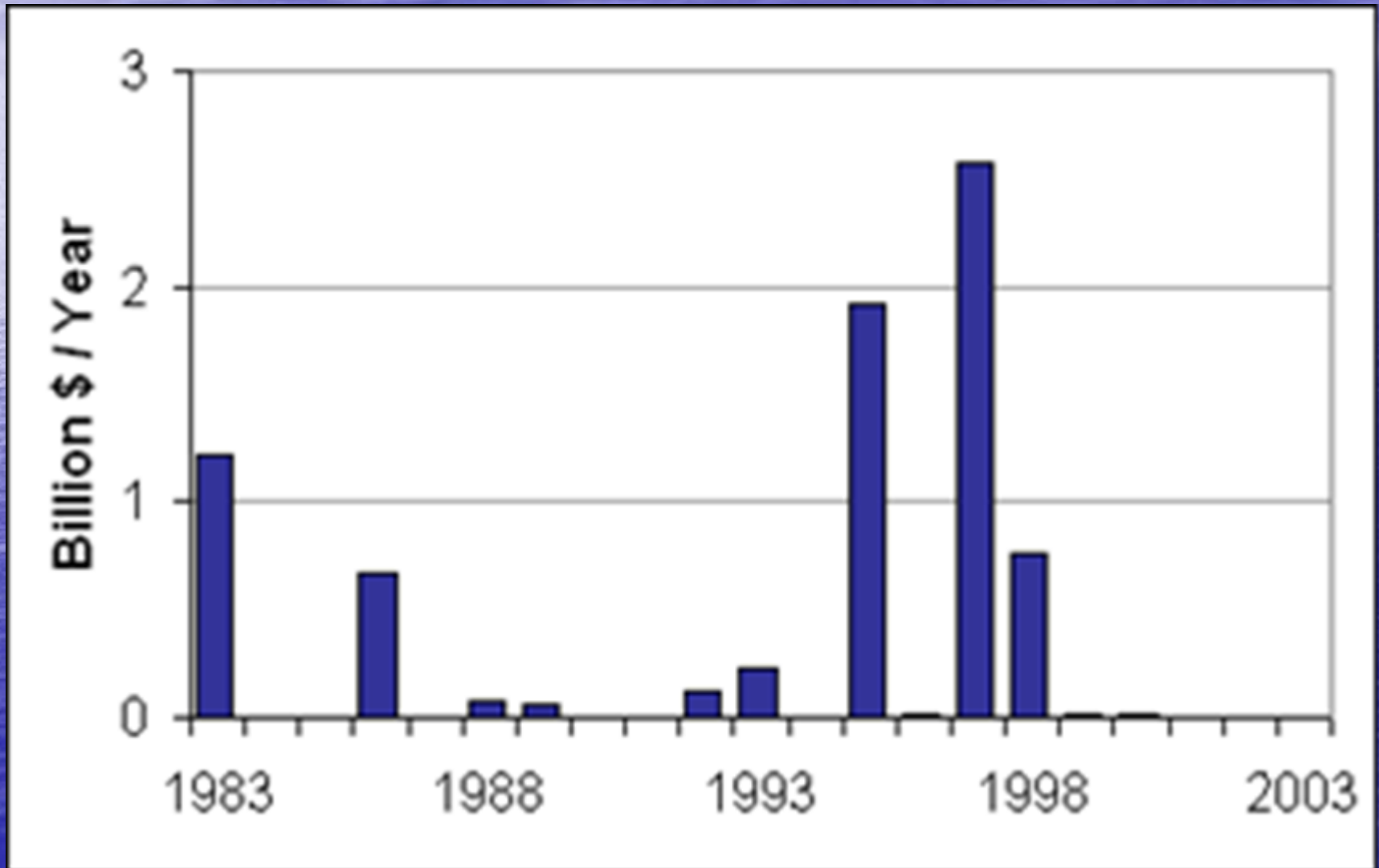
Kaveh Madani, Dana Rowan, Jay Lund  
*University of California, Davis*

# Central Valley Flood System

- Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers
- Composed of Levees, weirs, reservoirs, and bypasses
- Designed mainly to protect farmland and navigation

# Recent CA Flood Damages

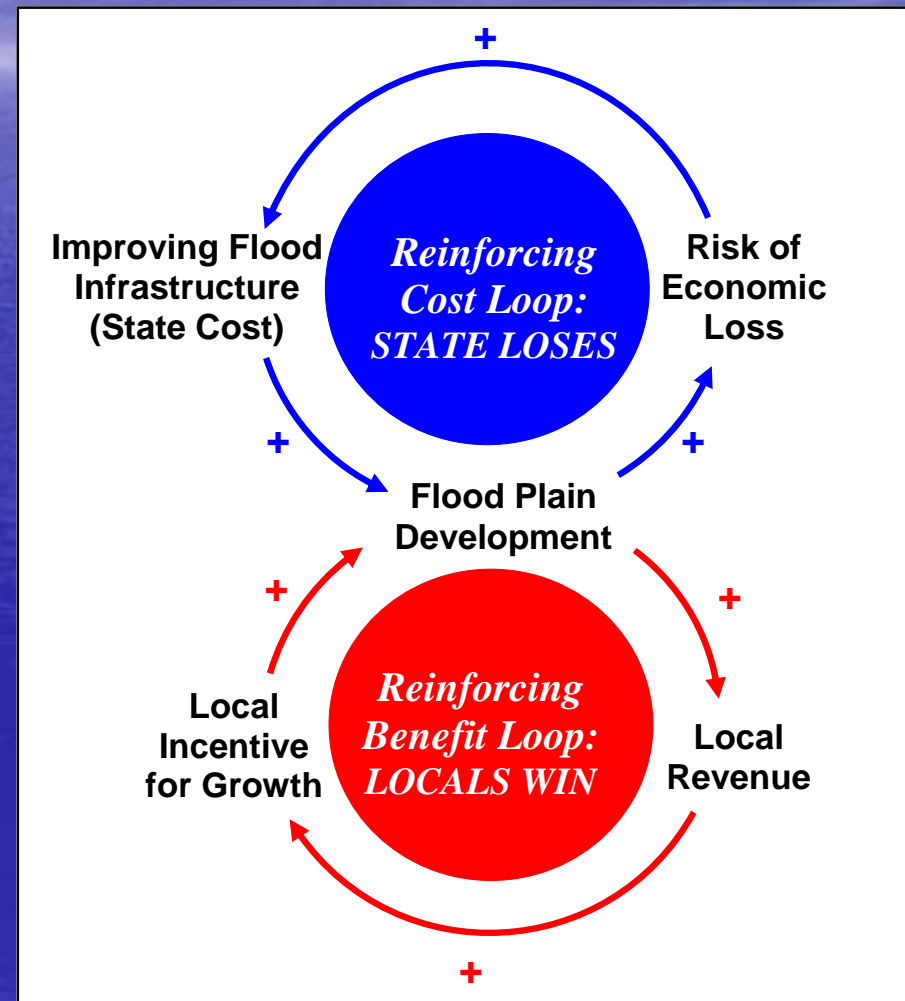
(Pielke et al., 2002)



# Weaknesses of the System

## 1. Disconnect Between Costs and Benefits

- Who makes land-use decisions?
- Who is responsible for protecting public?
- Should we stop development in floodplains?!



# Weaknesses of the System

## 2. Poor Understanding of Risks

- Decision makers and residents poorly understand flood risks and liabilities
- Homeowners are not notified unless in 100-year flood plain
- Inaccurate and outdated FEMA maps which were developed for insurance purposes, not for land use planning and disaster response

# Weaknesses of the System

## 2. Poor Understanding of Risks

- 100-year protection does not clearly convey the risks
- Residual risks neglected
- False sense of security

<i><b>Floodplain</b></i>	<i><b>Chance of Flood during a 30-year Mortgage</b></i>
50 year	45%
<b>100 year</b>	<b>26%</b>
200 year	14%
500 year	6%
1000 year	3%

# Weaknesses of the System

## 3. No Long-term Comprehensive Program

- Short-term plans
- Fluctuating & irregular funding
- Can the \$4.9 billion bond fund solve the problem? Well-planned bond expenditure is important, but insufficient
- Are we prepared for climate change?

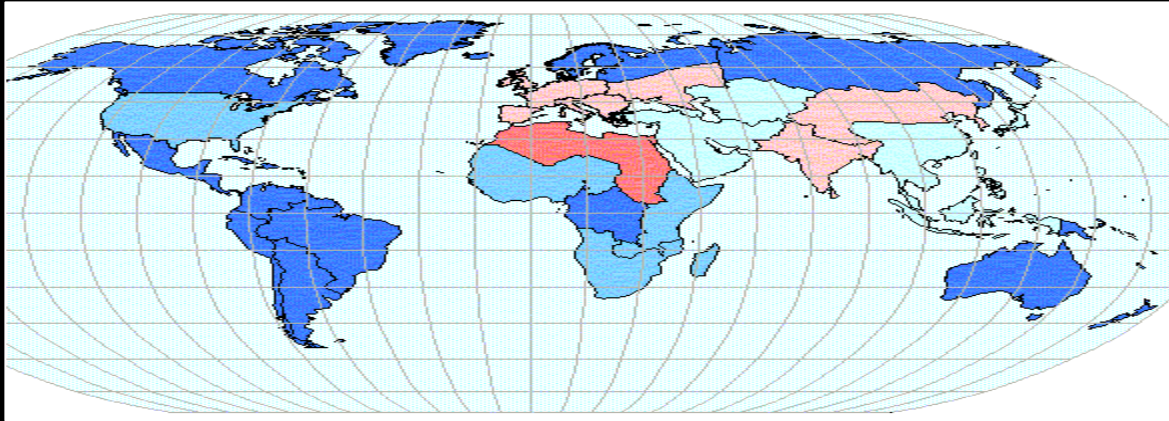
# Flood Control vs. Management

- Floods cannot always be prevented (residual risk) but threats can be minimized
- Managing floodwaters (historic) vs. managing flood risks
- Structural (keeping water away from people) vs. non-structural methods (minimizing the damage potential of floods)

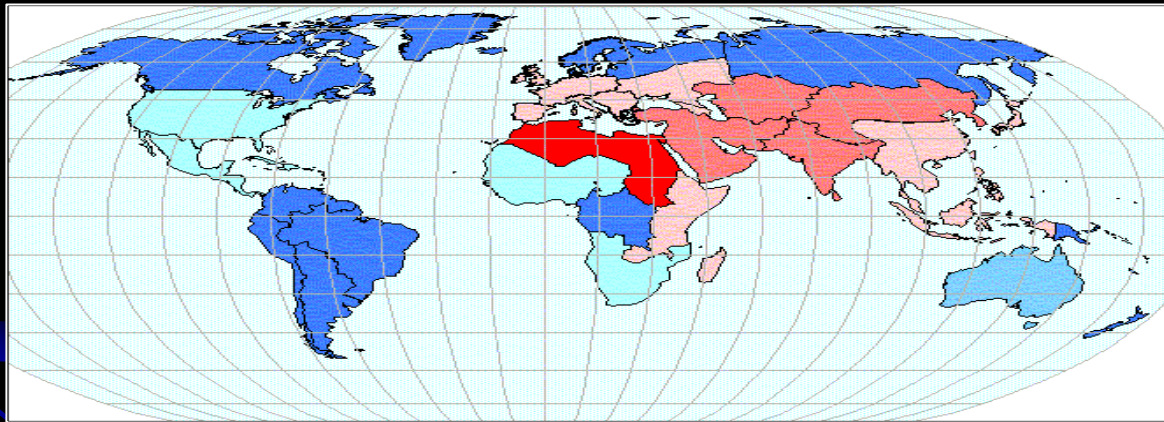
# Conclusions

- California has always flooded and always will
- California can pay for flood management or it can pay more for mismanagement
- Improving Infrastructure alone will not eliminate flood risks
- A combination of approaches is needed
- Flood systems must provide land and water use services for most years, not just flood years

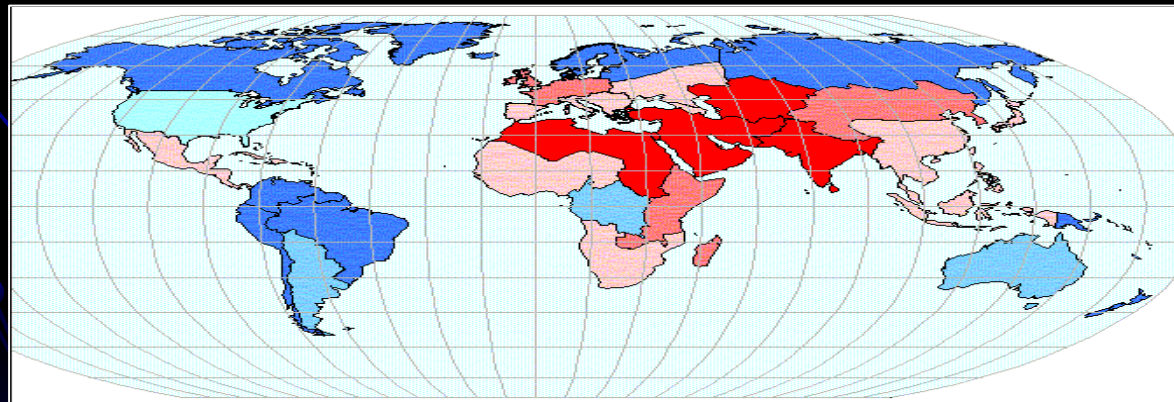
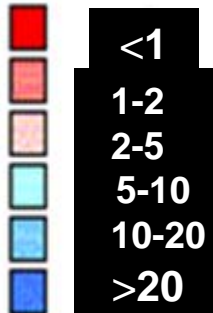
# World ARWA per capita



1950



1995



2025

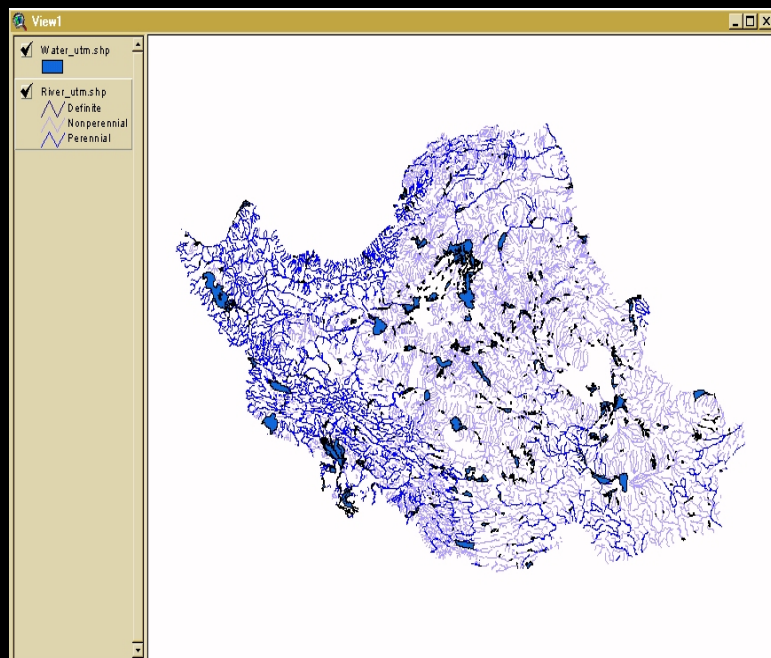
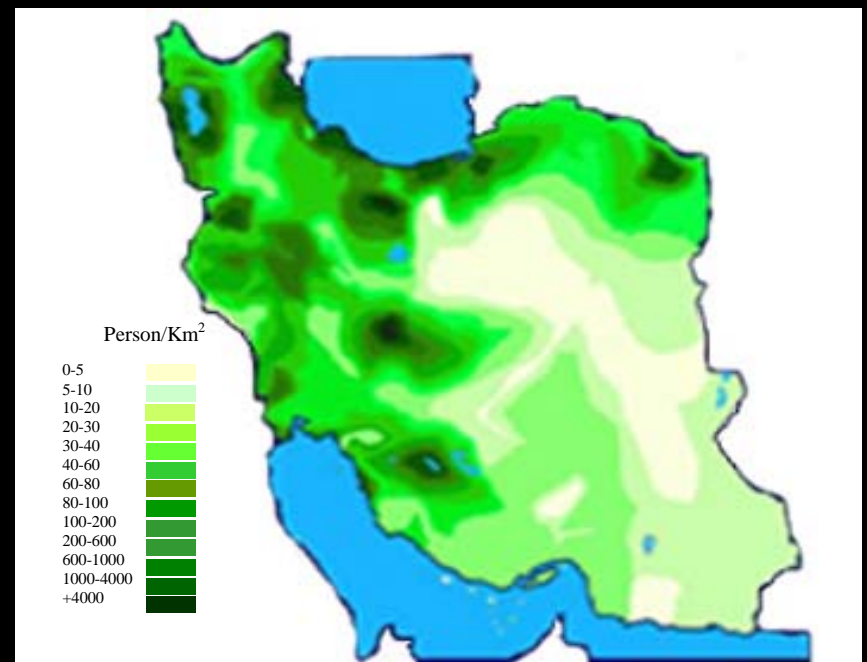
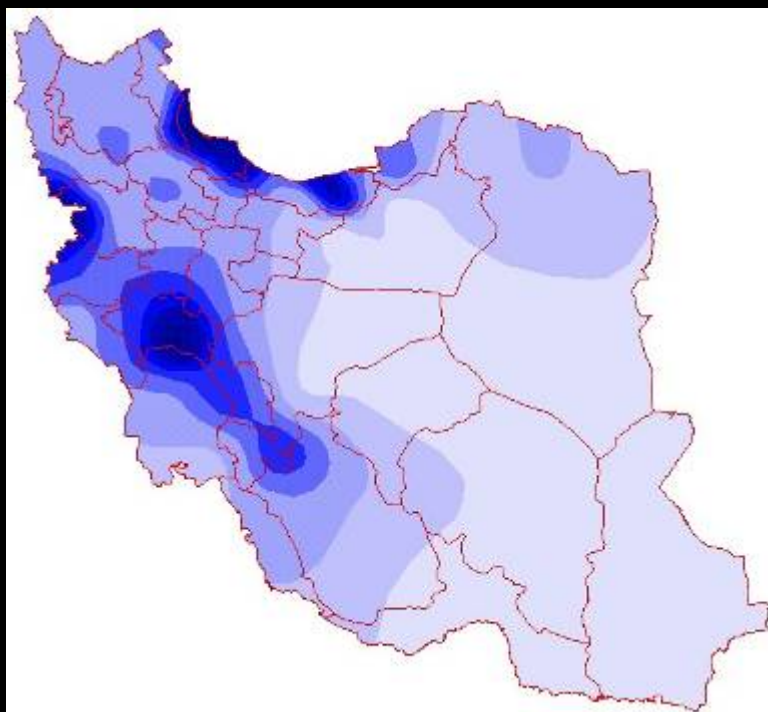
# Renewable Fresh Water

Year	Annual Renewable Water availability (cubic meters/capita)
1956	7000
2001	2000
2021	1300



# Water Consumption at a Glance





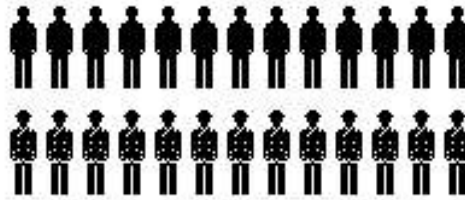
# Long-term Challenges

## ➤ Supply and Demand



# 1-Population Growth

2021



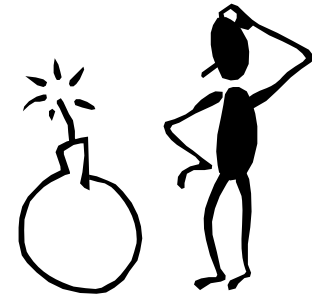
100



2001



66.0



1961

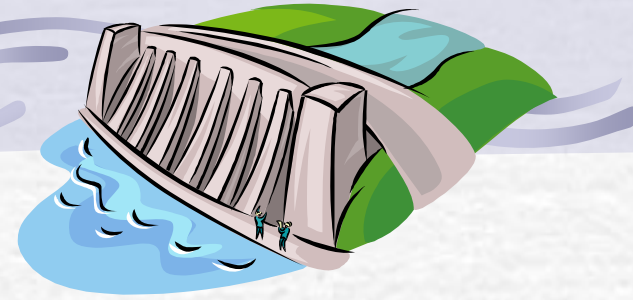


24.3



# DAMS

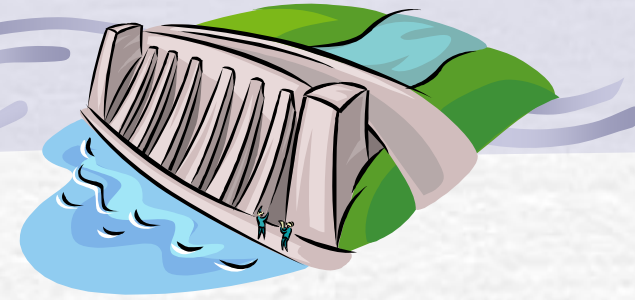
## Under Operation



No Major of Dams	85	75
Total Capacity (BCM)	25	30
Regulating Volume (BCM)	32.9	18.1

# DAMS

## Under Construction



No Major of Dams	85	65
Total Capacity (BCM)	25	30
Regulating Volume (BCM)	32.9	18.1



# Mission

Understanding how the physical processes, information flows and managerial policies **interact** so as to create the dynamics of the variables of interest.

# Water SISWEB

- Social Bookmarking Website dedicated to the Water Community
- SISWEB= Scientific Information Syndication WEBSITE

[www.watersisweb.org](http://www.watersisweb.org)

