WRDMP24

Plan Advisory Group, Meeting #1

May 31, 2024; 10 am – 11 am via Microsoft Teams

El Dorado Water Agency

Reminder:

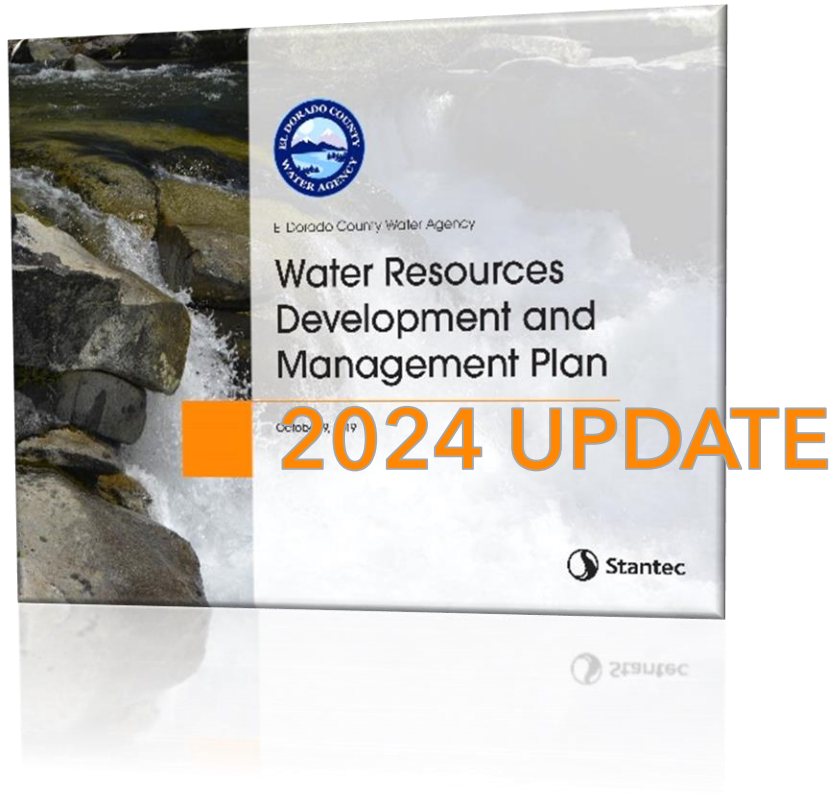
We are looking forward to a productive meeting; please consider – **it is a virtual meeting.**

- Remote collaboration meetings can be challenging and frustrating, especially with larger groups – please be patient and flexible. If you are having technical difficulties, please chat with Rebecca Guo (EDWA) or email Rebecca.Guo@edcgov.us.
- Meetings WILL NOT be recorded.
- Please use hand-raise functions if you wish to speak.
- Please use Chat for your questions and comments if you prefer.
- Feedback: Orit Kalman @ kalmanorit@gmail.com

Meeting Objectives

- Confirm the PAG membership, charges, and expectation of input and level of engagement.

- Establish common understanding of the process, schedule, and anticipated outcome for 2024 update of the Water Resources Development Management Plan (WRDMP).



Agenda

Welcome and Introduction
Orit Kalman, Facilitator

Opening Remarks and Introduction of WRDMP
Rebecca Guo, General Manager, El Dorado Water Agency

PAG Charter and Roster Review and Confirmation
Orit Kalman, Facilitator

Workplan for 2024 WRDMP Update
Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting, Senior Principal Consultant

- Major areas of update
- Review process
- Schedule
- Receiving input about the workplan

Next Steps
Rebecca Guo, General Manager, El Dorado Water Agency

Adjourn

Caldor Fire recovery area near Lower Forni. (Credit: Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting)

Apple Hills (Credit: Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting).

Opening Remark and Introduction of WRDMP

Rebecca Guo, General Manager, El Dorado Water Agency

Purposes of WRDMP

2019 WRDMP was a major overhaul of the previous plans to align the Agency's charges provided by the 1959 El Dorado County Water Agency Act.

§ 96-103. Legislative finding and declaration

Sec. 103. The Legislature hereby finds that ***water problems in the county require county-wide water conservation, flood control and development of water resources****; that these problems are not general or state-wide; that the county for many years has had made investigations and engineering surveys of the county's water resources by private, public and United States engineers; that county water districts, municipalities, and water conservation districts now exist within portions of the county, have acquired property and works, developed a limited water supply, and have incurred indebtedness, but have been and are* ***unable alone*** *to economically develop an adequate water supply and control the floods of said county and for such reason it is necessary to have a* ***political entity coextensive with the geographical limits of the entire county****; that the county cannot be supplied with water from a common source or by a common system of works; that investigation having shown conditions in said county to be peculiar to it. It is, therefore, hereby declared that a general law cannot be made applicable to said county and that the enactment of this special law is* ***necessary for the conservation, development, control and use of said water for the public good and for the protection of life and property therein****.*

(Stats.1959, c. 2139, p. 5108, § 103.)

Purposes of WRDMP

WRDMP meets the requirements of County's Ordinance 5096 on public water planning adopted in 2018.

Section 3. Posting of Water Management Plans

Preparation and posting of the Countywide Water Management Plan and updates and Urban Water Management plans shall be as provided for in a Memorandum of Understanding between the County of El Dorado and the El Dorado County Water Agency.

Section 5. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Exclusion.

This ordinance shall not apply to any projects or parcels within the jurisdiction of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

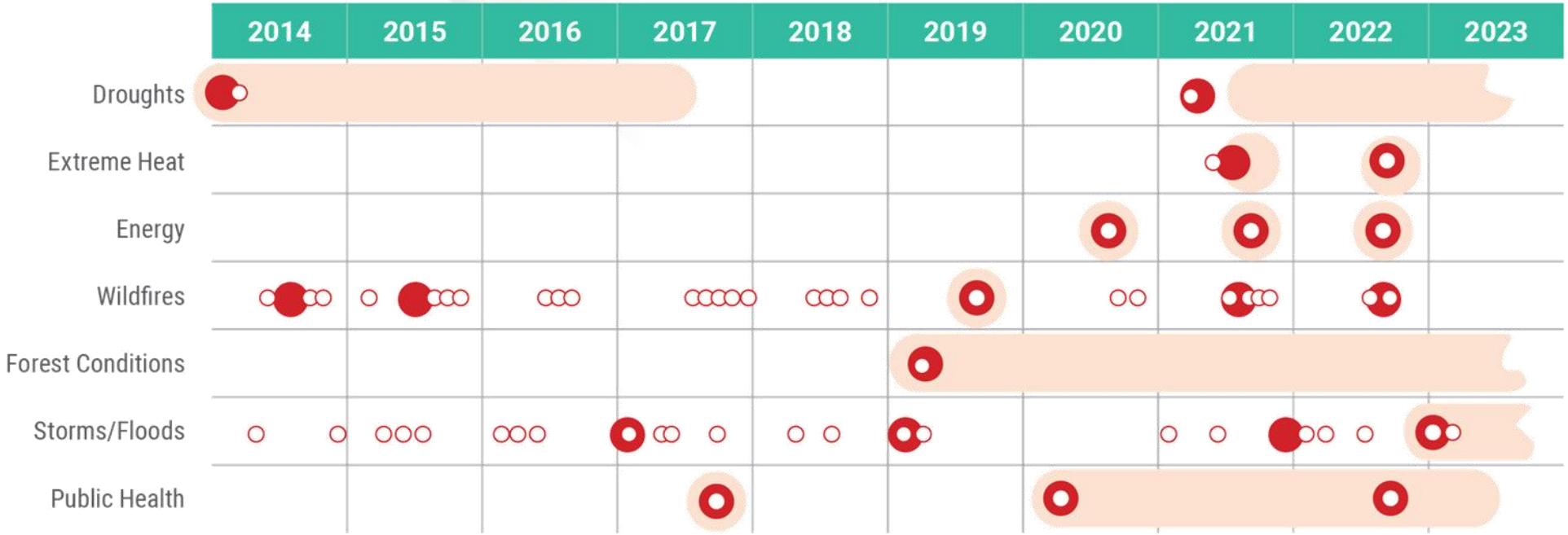
Board workshop on the draft WRDMP on October 9, 2019, during PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff.

2019 WRDMP

- Developed through **extensive collaboration**, respecting each entity's roles and responsibilities in water resources-related management issues.
- Designed to be a **policy plan** with resource management strategies (RMS) and major management actions.
- Provides a **roadmap for collective implementation** by all parties for a better future with sufficient flexibility and clear objectives.
- Adopted policies and guidance by Agency's Board for its long-term implementation, providing stability and transparency. Required **5-year updates** provide adaptative capacity to address changed conditions.

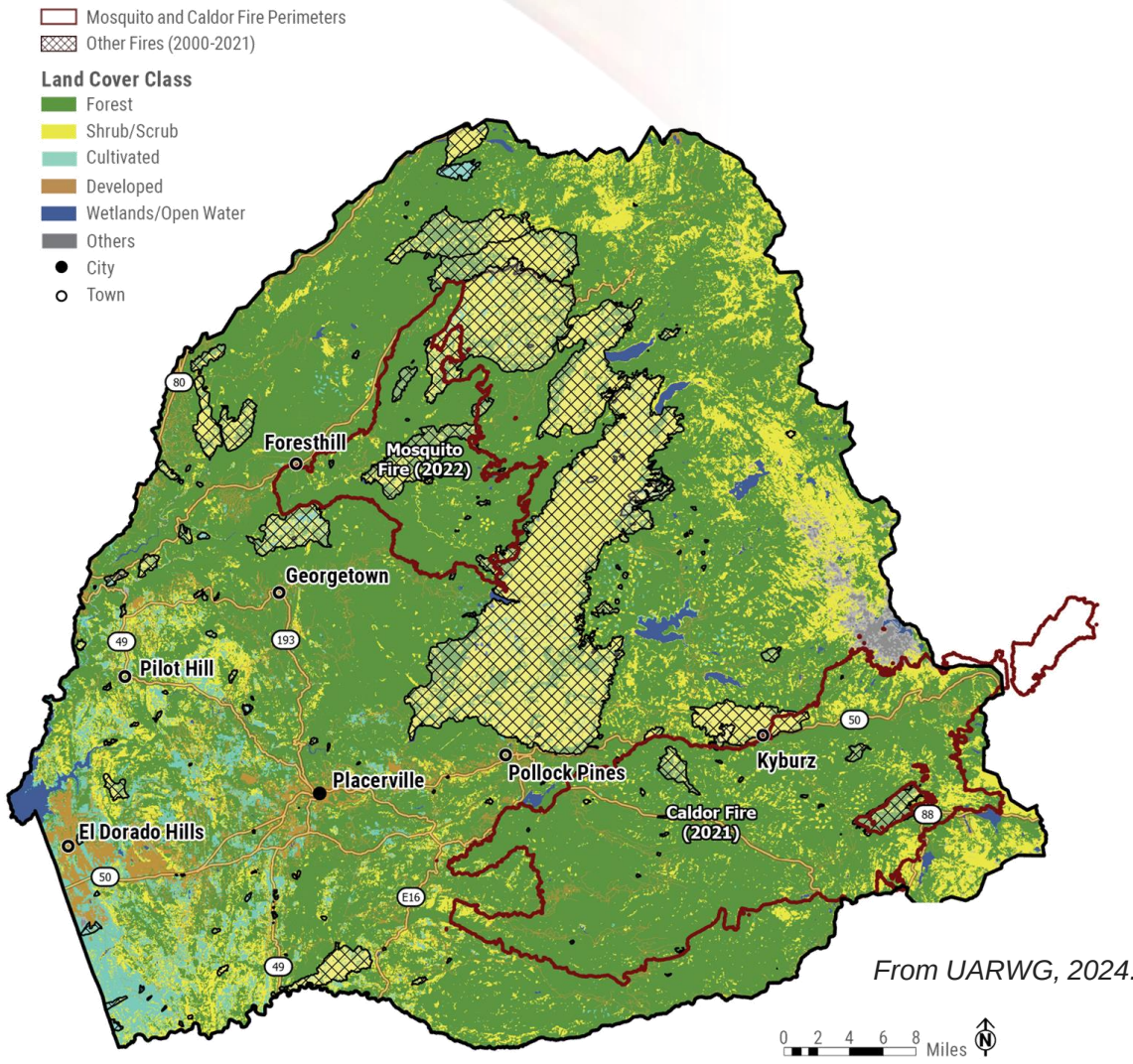
See EDWA's [webpage](#) for additional details about 2019 WRDMP.

Highlights of Changed Conditions



From UARWG, 2024. Programmatic Watershed Plan for the Upper American River Watershed.

Highlights of Changed Conditions



- Caldor Fire (2021) and Mosquito Fire (2022) had the most on-the-ground impacts of all things countywide.
- Changes in federal and state regulatory frameworks, management strategies, and funding priorities to address climate change, social preference, and other factors.

From UARWG, 2024. Programmatic Watershed Plan for the Upper American River Watershed.

A Sampling of Accomplishments

- Signed **Fazio Water Service Contract** with Reclamation
- **American River Basin Study** (with Reclamation, PCWA, cities of Roseville, Sacramento and Folsom, RWA, and SAFCA)
- **Regional Drought Contingency Plan** (with Drought Planning Task Force)
- Convened **County Drought Task Force**

- **Programmatic Watershed Plan** for the upper American River watershed (with Upper American River Watershed Group)
- Initial **economic valuation** of ecosystem goods and services

- **Tahoe Valley South Subbasin GSA** with STPUD
- Engagement with **regional groups** (RWA, IRWMs, SOFAR, etc.)

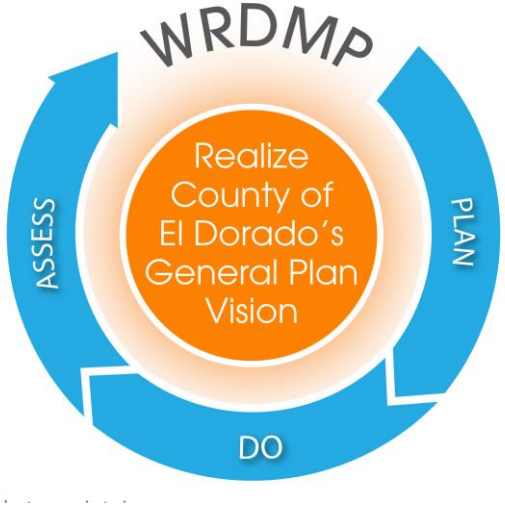
- **Countywide Plenary for Water** (held twice per year since 2020, except some COVID years)
- **Rebranding** and Website re-design
- Organized **regional advocacy** with state and federal parties

- **Caldor Fire response and recovery support** to GFCSD and other small water systems
- Secured over **$3M in federal and state funding** to support planning, fire recovery, and more
- Contributed over **$1M to support local water-resource projects**

2024 WRDMP

Use same goals and principles of 2019 WRDMP

- **Goals:**
  - Assist the County of El Dorado in realizing its adopted General Plan through prudent and integrated water management.
  - Plus supporting goals:
    - Develop a concise, adaptable and policy-focused plan with actions that are commensurate with the Agency's role and responsibilities.
    - Incorporate an integrated water management approach into sustainable investment strategies and implementation
    - Address changes in countywide water supply conditions, regulations, as well as the evolving understanding of climate change and its effects.
    - Promote transparency and common understanding of the Agency's investment priorities in water resource development and management.



- **Principles:**
  - Respect the roles and responsibilities of water purveyors and other local agencies.
  - Promote dialogue among local agencies, economic interests, and stakeholder for mutual understanding.

Lava Cap Winery (Photo credit: Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting)

PAG Charter and Participation

Orit Kalman, Facilitator

Plan Advisory Group

Purpose: EDWA convened the PAG to assist with the 2024 WRDMP update process and ensure the integrity and applicability for the resulting product.

The goals of the PAG are to:

- ✓ Review and provide input on the proposed WRDMP Update.
- ✓ Foster collaboration amongst agencies to address future water resource needs.

Member Agencies:

American River Conservancy
City of Placerville*
City of South Lake Tahoe*
County of El Dorado (multiple departments)
El Dorado and Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts
El Dorado County Farm Bureau
El Dorado Irrigation District
El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission
El Dorado Water Agency
El Dorado Wine Grape Growers Association
Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
Grizzly Flats Community Service District
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians*
South Tahoe Public Utility District
Tahoe City Public Utility District
UC Agriculture and Natural Resources

* Invited

Working Together to Promote an Effective Process

PAG Members

- Actively participate
- Collaborate - provide relevant input and informative feedback on content.

EDWA

- Lead the 2024 WRDMP update process.
- Provide timely communications.
- Provide all materials, to be reviewed by PAG members, in a timely manner.

Consultants

- Support the process by providing all necessary content for review.
- Facilitate meetings in a manner that promotes full PAG members participation.

PAG Principles of Engagement

Respect: Treat PAG members, staff, and consultants with respect, valuing their ideas and contributions.

Be time-conscious: Respect each other's time commitments.

Communication: Communicate your ideas openly and honestly.

Accountability and commitment: Take responsibility for your actions and follow through on commitments.

Decision-making: As an advisory group, PAG members are encouraged to identify areas of consensus and acknowledge differing points of view to ensure that all perspectives are heard and considered.

Innovation: Members are encouraged to promote innovative new ideas.

Time Commitment: Three meetings (ranging from 1hr. to 3-hrs.) to address key update topics. Some meetings will be in person with remote participation option. Review time between meetings. Individual meetings to inform update content as needed.

The PAG meeting schedule will be introduced after the update focus discussion.

Lava Cap Winery (Photo credit: Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting)

Workplan for WRDMP24

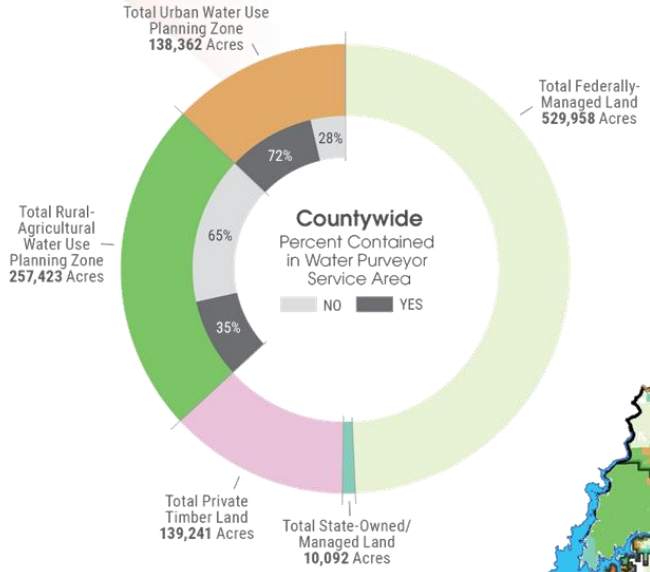
Yung-Hsin Sun, Senior Principal Consultant, Sunzi Consulting

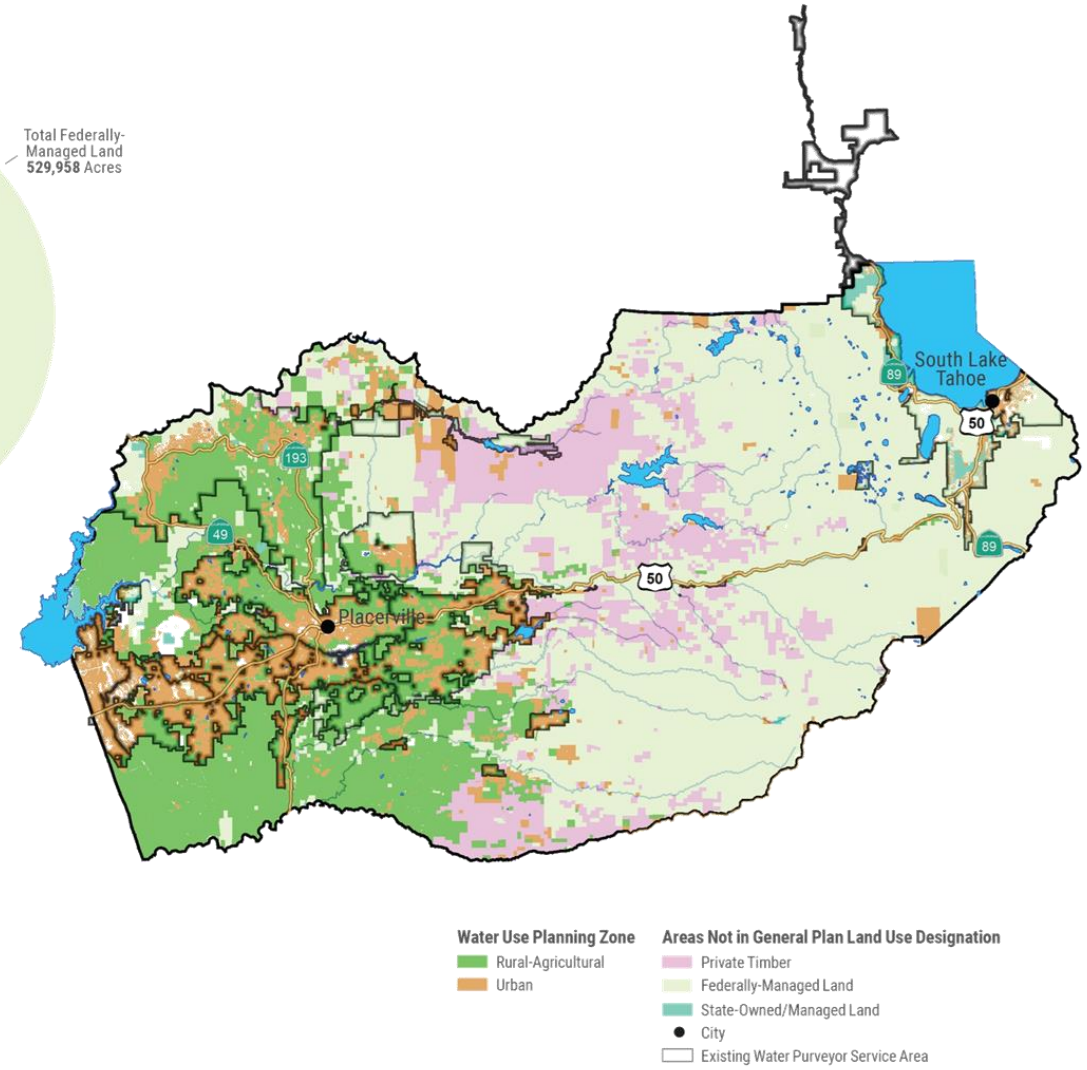
2024 WRDMP

- Strategy built on the 2019 design for stability and flexibility
  - Follow the same goals and principles including forming the PAG for collaboration in plan development
  - Maintain the same format and document organization for streamlined update
  - Address the changed conditions
  - Enforce the same review process
    - The PAG will review the most current draft in every meeting.
    - The draft will be distributed prior to the meeting.
    - The concise document allows timely review and comments during the meeting to reduce the impacts on reviewer's busy schedule
  - Update Agency's implementation policy and guidance, if needed
- The resulting plan will be available for all parties with implementation responsibilities to further develop their corresponding policy and actions.

Update Focus

- Minimum change in land use designation





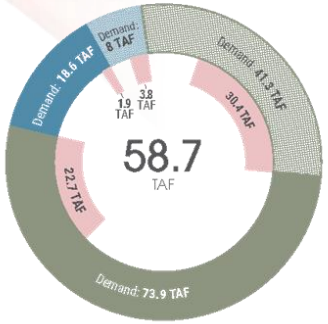
Source of parcel information; County of El Dorado, March 2019

Policy and Regulatory Framework Changes

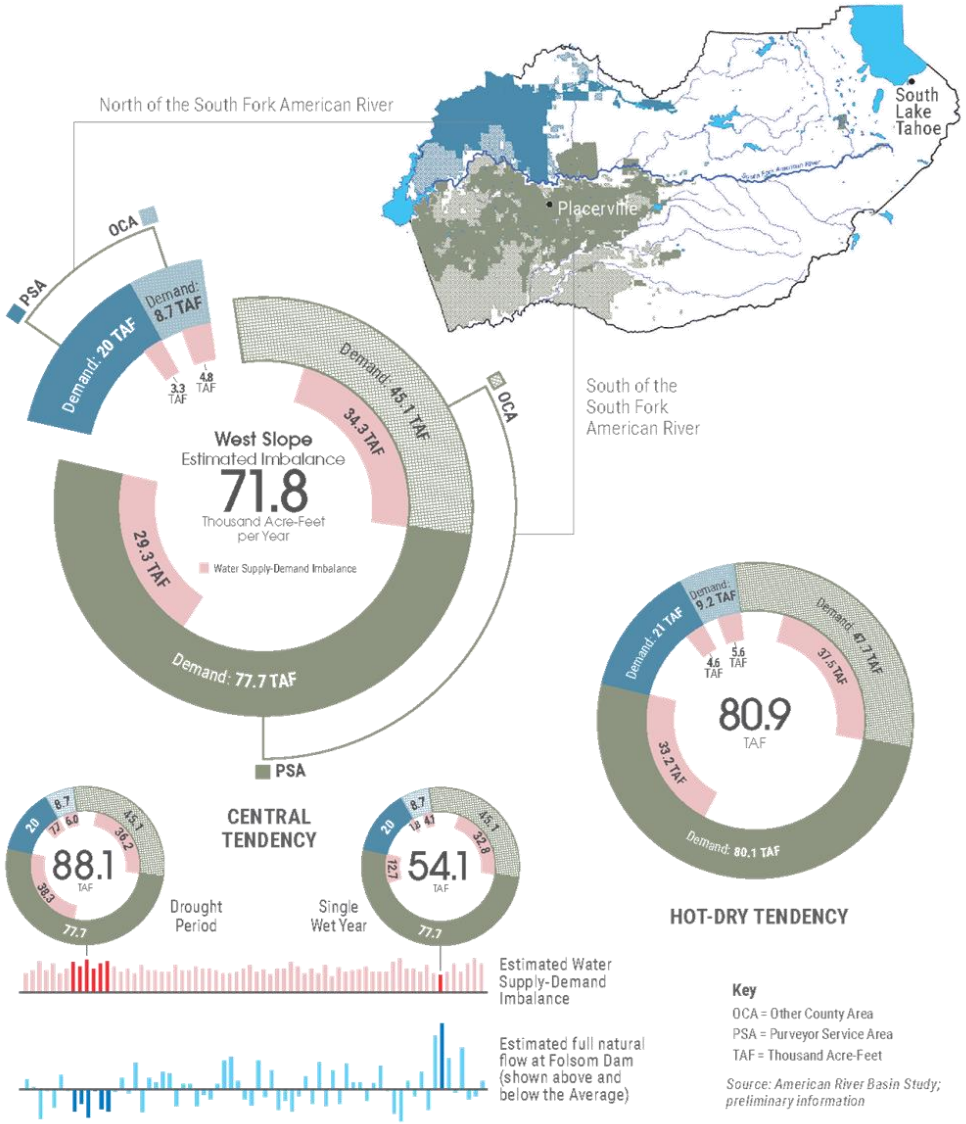
- Pending adoption of urban water use efficiency standards, variances and performance measures (scheduled in summer 2024)
- SB 552 of 2021 and implementation regarding drought planning for small water systems and rural communities
- Senior water right curtailments under emergency regulations
- Continued and evolving implementation of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- Wildfire resilience related legislations and regulations (more in the background), including elevated defensible space requirements (SB 190 of 2019), home hardening disclosure (AB 38 of 2020) and County General Plan Safety Element update
- Policy and funding preferences over nature-based solutions, and highly integrated multi-benefit projects with socioeconomic and equity considerations

Update Focus (cont'd)

- Long-term water supply-demand imbalance with assumed realized conditions per County General Plan (>50 years of planning horizon and broader considerations than purveyor-specific UWMPs)
- Updates will be based on recent long-term climate forecast information State produced.



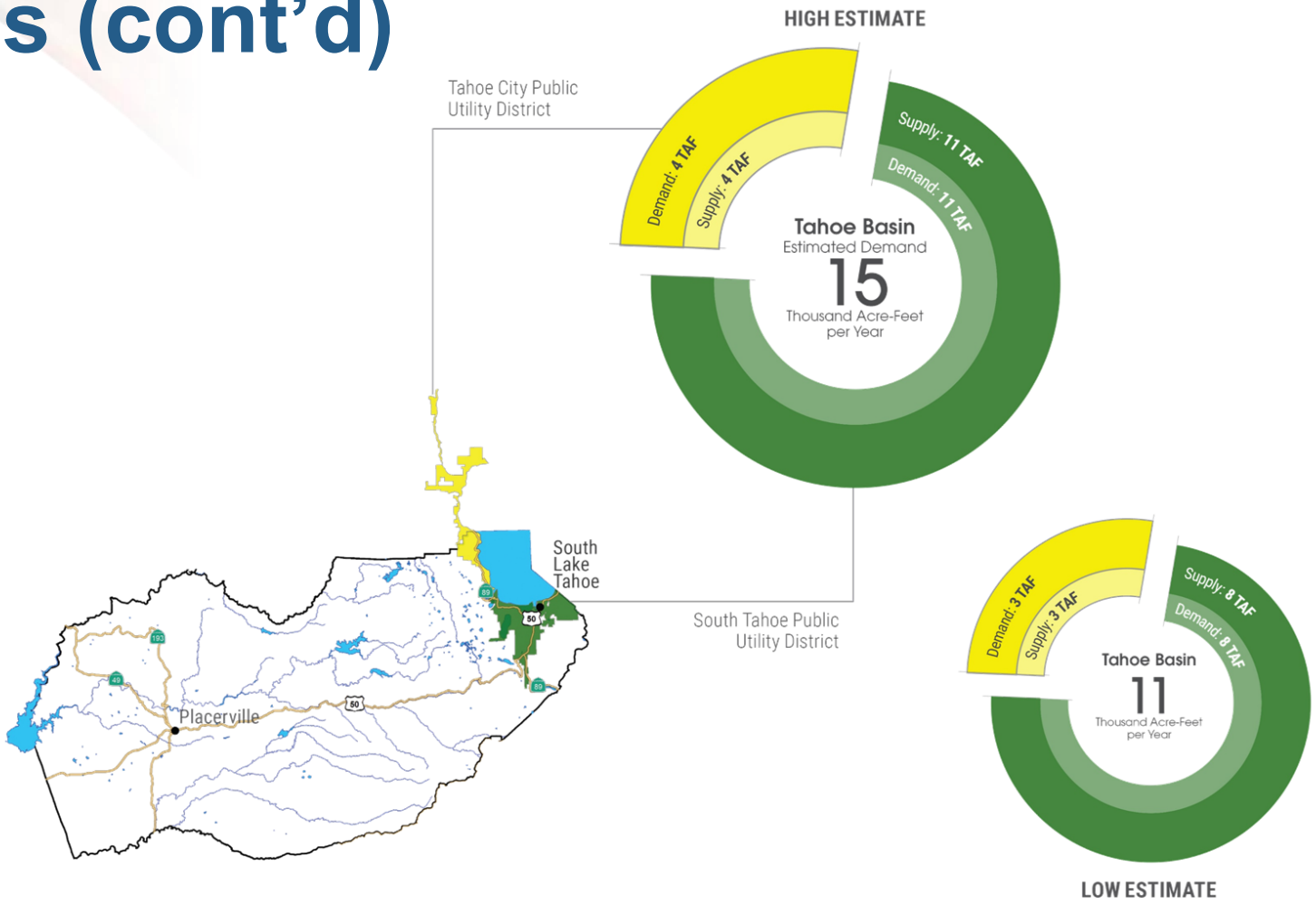
WARM-WET TENDENCY



Modified from WRDMP, using final ARBS modeling results.

Update Focus (cont'd)

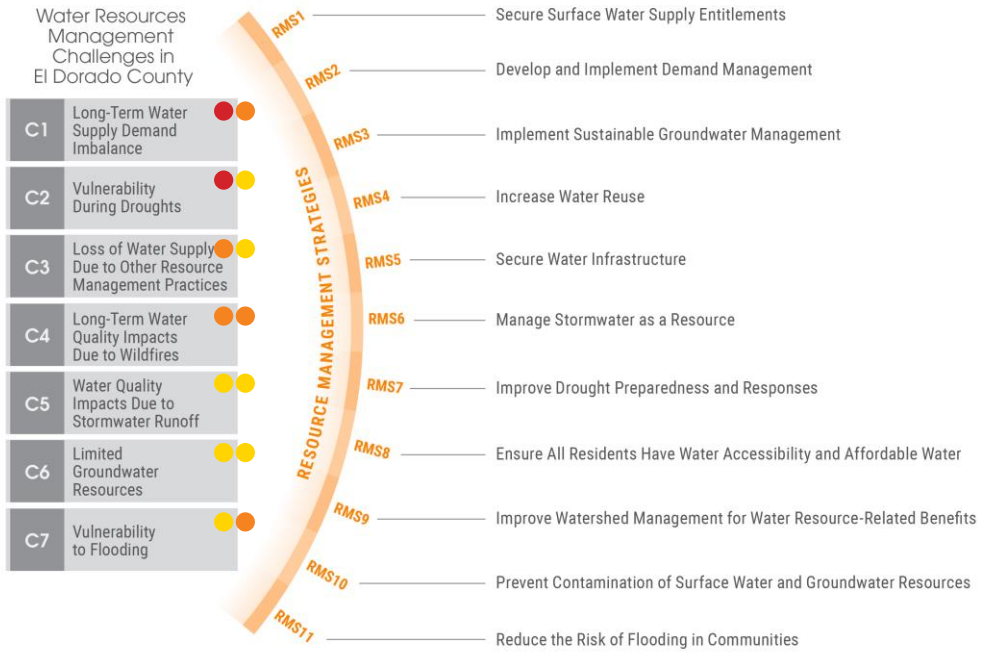
- Long-term water supply-demand imbalance per Tahoe Area Planning Agency, the Truckee River Operating Agreement, and associated water right process before the State Water Resources Control Board



Source: Tahoe Basin Ongoing Assessment

Update Focus (cont'd)

- Update/consolidate/reconcile the challenges and RMS of WRDMP and PWP



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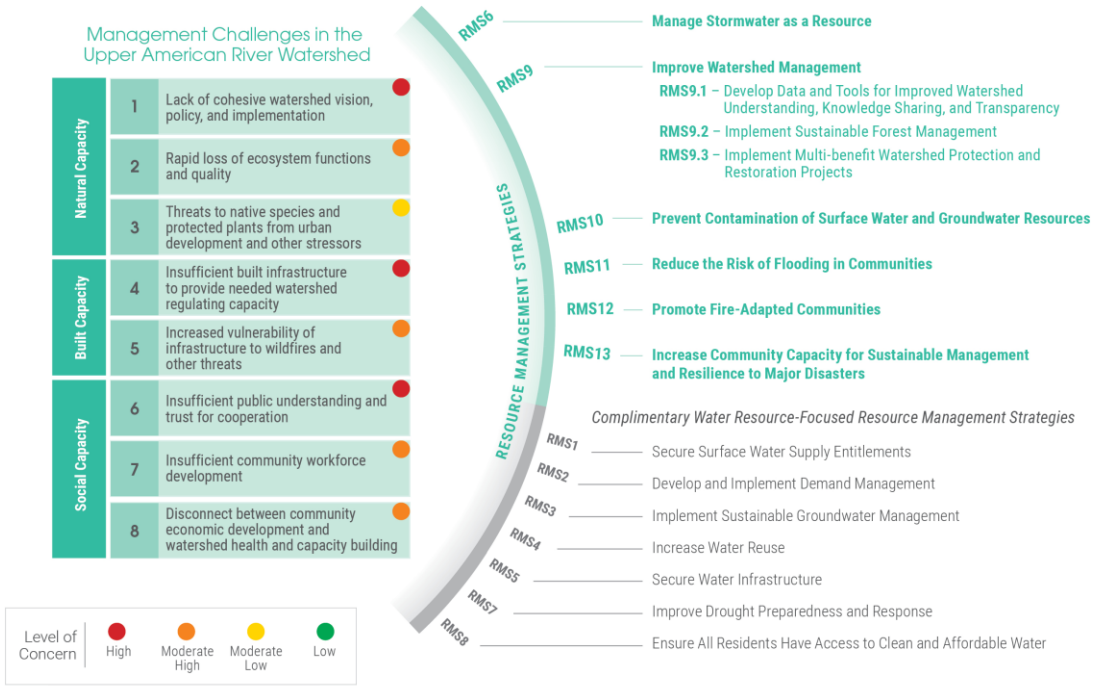

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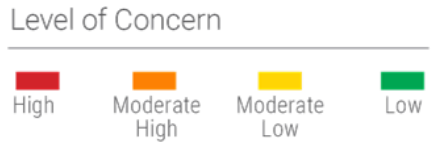
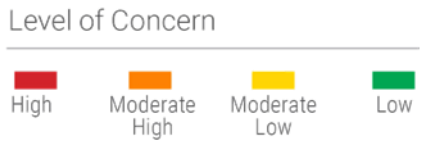
Water-Resource Related Challenges in the West Slope

Water Supply			Water Quality			Public Safety
C1 Long-Term Water Supply-Demand Imbalance (3.1)	**C2 Vulnerability During Droughts (3.2)**	**C3 Loss of Water Supply Due to Other Resource Management Practices (3.3, 3.4, 3.5)**	**C4 Long-Term Water Quality Impacts Due to Wildfires (3.3)**	**C5 Water Quality Impacts Due to Stormwater Runoff (3.5)**	**C6 Limited Groundwater Resources (3.6)**	**C7 Vulnerability to Flooding (3.7)**
• Expected increase in demands and less reliable supplies due to limited availability of groundwater from local fractured rock aquifers and changes in surface water availability. Climate change and other factors result in long-term reduction in water supply reliability. • The Other County Area is not serviced by a water purveyor and therefore may lack reliable water supply for planned economic growth.	• There is no meaningful groundwater supply in the region and water supply can be vulnerable due to reliance on a single source of water (surface water). • The Other County Area is not covered by an existing active drought mitigation planning. • More than 100 small public water systems are susceptible to the effects of drought.	• Dense forests prevent snow from reaching the ground, resulting in a reduction in water supply availability. • Stormwater is managed as a hazard and for water quality compliance purposes but not as a potential resource for broader benefits. • Water infrastructure includes historic unlined ditches and wooden flumes that are susceptible to destruction by fires or landslides. Loss of these major conveyance structures would hinder water deliveries.	• Increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires result in both temporary and long-term water quality degradation on a landscape scale.	• Stormwater runoff may impact water quality, especially along the highway corridor. Wastewater discharges or spills from damaged facilities located near surface water could create water quality concerns.	• Septic tank systems and pollution from runoff pose potential threats to local groundwater quality, although no significant issues have been identified to-date. • Natural occurrence of arsenic in the West Slope could affect water quality in certain areas.	• Riverine flooding is not a substantial threat in the West Slope; however, localized flooding is common in some communities with chronic drainage problems.



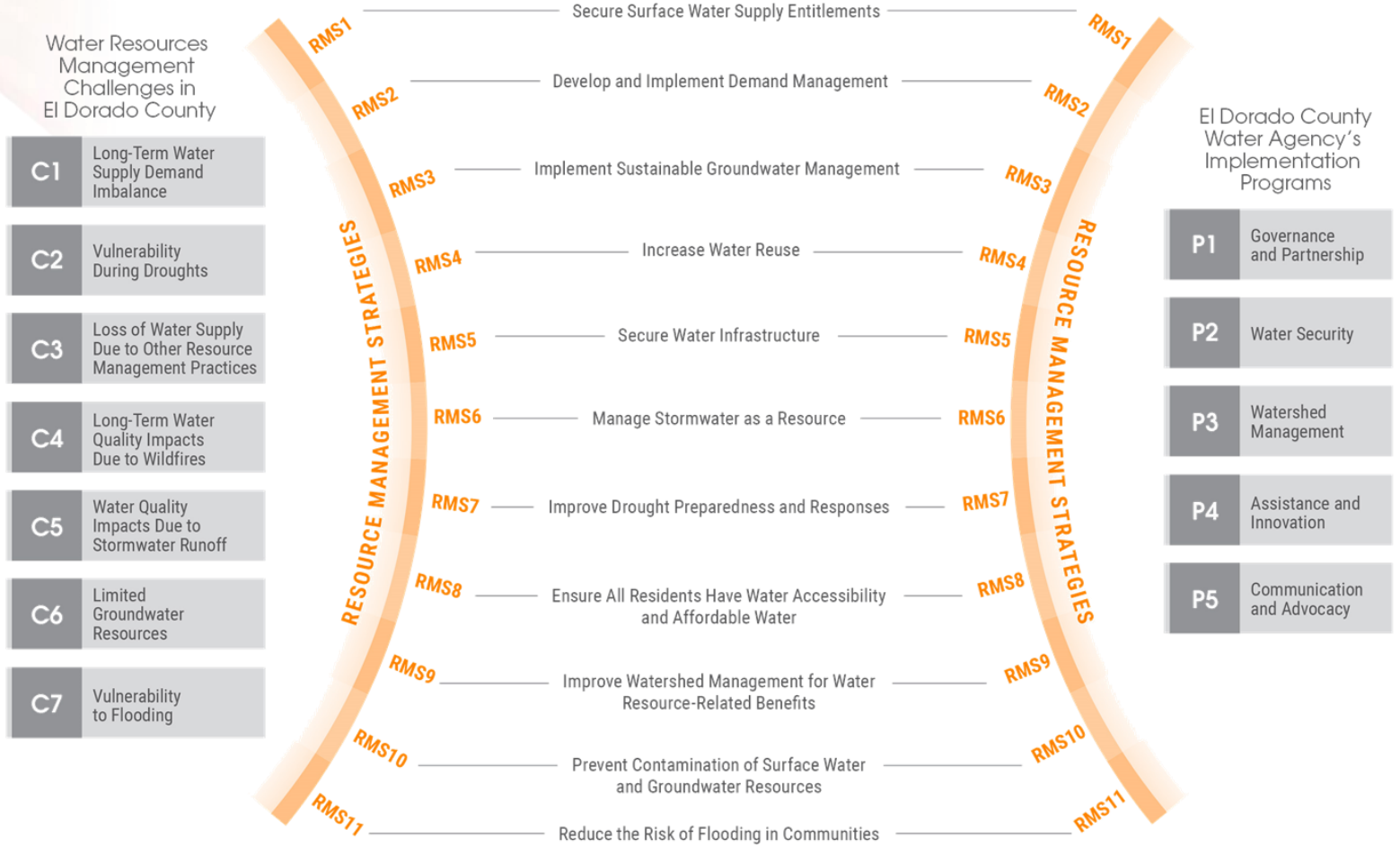
Water-Resource Related Challenges in the Tahoe Basin

Water Supply			Water Quality			Public Safety
C1 Long-Term Water Supply-Demand Imbalance (3.1)	**C2 Vulnerability During Droughts (3.2)**	**C3 Loss of Water Supply Due to Other Resource Management Practices (3.3, 3.4, 3.5)**	**C4 Long-Term Water Quality Impacts Due to Wildfires (3.3)**	**C5 Water Quality Impacts Due to Stormwater Runoff (3.5)**	**C6 Limited Groundwater Resources (3.6)**	**C7 Vulnerability to Flooding (3.7)**
• The planned economic development areas are covered by the existing service areas of major water purveyors, although many small water systems exist. • The growth restrictions and land use in the Tahoe Regional Plan significantly reduce the risk of water supply-demand imbalance. • Ongoing water right proceeding and process to resolve the 23,000 AF allocation for California parties per Public Law 101-618 (Settlement Act) poses uncertainty in long-term water supply.	• The Tahoe Basin is less susceptible to extended droughts, relying on both surface water and groundwater. • Existing drought ordinances do not provide coverage to the entire Tahoe Basin, although most areas have human consumption. • Small public water systems are susceptible to the effects of drought such as the temporary loss of water supply.	• Dense forests prevent snow from reaching the ground, resulting in reduced water supply available to the Tahoe Basin as groundwater via recharge. • Stormwater is presently being managed as a hazard and for water quality compliance purposes but not as a potential resource for broader benefits.	• Increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires result in both temporary and long-term water quality degradation.	• Stormwater runoff may impact water quality in Lake Tahoe and along the highway corridor.	• Septic tanks are not prevalent in the Tahoe Basin, but leakage could affect groundwater quality. • Long-term groundwater availability is less of a concern because runoff and snowmelt, even under climate change conditions, are adequate for recharge. • Perchloroethylene contamination has been observed in the South Tahoe Basin.	• Riverine flooding is not a substantial threat in the Tahoe Basin; however, rain on snow often causes extensive street flooding in certain areas.

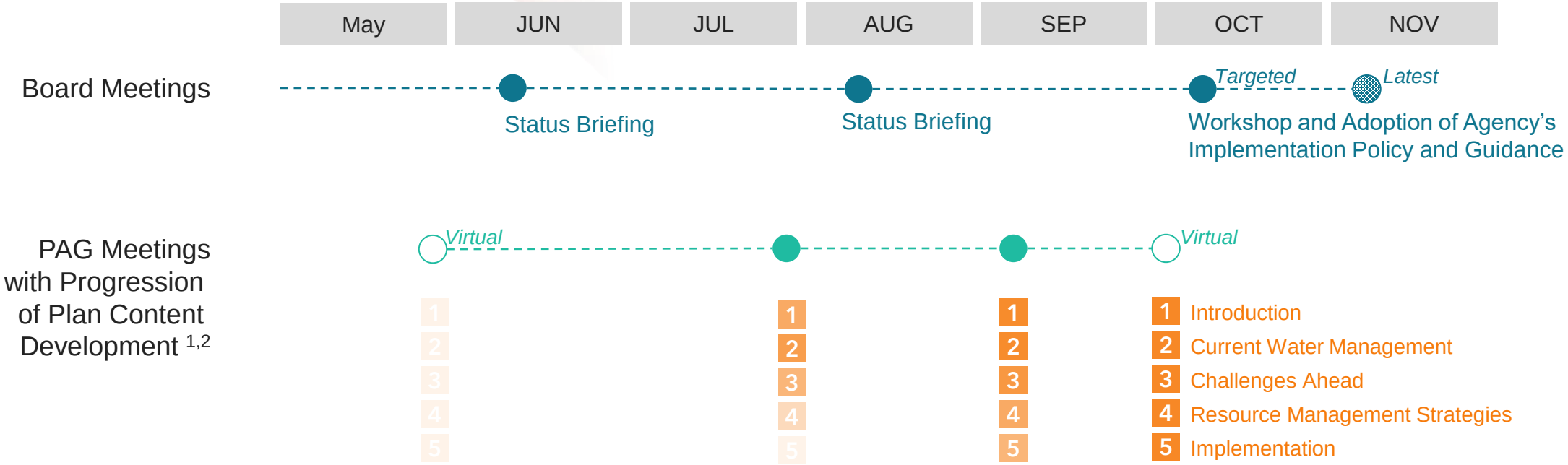


Update Focus (cont'd)

- Update/refine the Agency's implementation
  - Agency's roles in RMS tables (Chap 4) and
  - Agency's Implementation (Chap 5)



Draft Schedule



Notes:

1. *As-needed topic-specific meetings will be scheduled with subject matter experts within and outside of the PAG to support content development. The PAG will be informed about these meetings and the results will be incorporated into the draft plan.*
2. *For every review cycle, the PAG will review the current draft of the plan in its entirety.*

Loon Lake (Photo credit: Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting)

Next Steps

Rebecca Guo, General Manager, El Dorado Water Agency
Orit Kalman, Facilitator

Additional Information

- EDWA's dedicated webpage for the WRDMP, which include the current 2019 WRDMP and supporting information plus the WRDMP24 information
- Contact information:
  Rebecca Guo, EDWA, Rebecca.Guo@edcgov.us
  Orit Kalman, Kalmanorit@gmail.com
  Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting, sun.yunghsin@sunziconsulting.com
  Ibrahim Khadam, Khadam Consulting, ikhadam@khadamConsulting.com

Help us schedule our next PAG meetings:

PAG Meeting #2 (July 29- August 15): Scheduling Link
PAG Meeting #3 (Sept 2-26): Scheduling Link