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Overview of Water Management Issues in the Los Angeles County Region

LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S OFFICE

Presented to:
Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife
Hon. Marc Levine, Chair

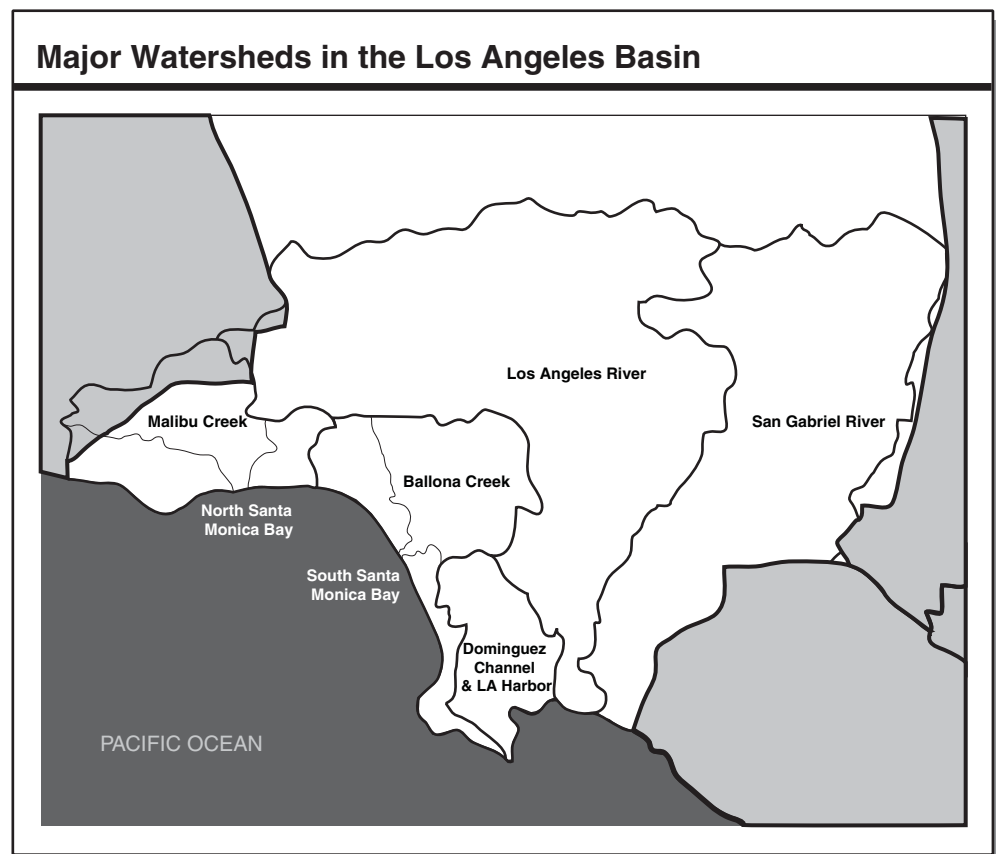
Select Committee on Urban Rivers and Streams
Hon. Jimmy Gomez, Chair





Complex Water Management in Los Angeles County Region

- ✓ Los Angeles Basin Includes Multiple Watersheds
- ✓ Los Angeles County Has Roughly 230 Community Water Systems
- ✓ Region Includes Multiple Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Areas
 - Greater Los Angeles County (divided into five subregions), Los Angeles Gateway Water Management Authority, Upper Santa Clara River, and Antelope Valley.



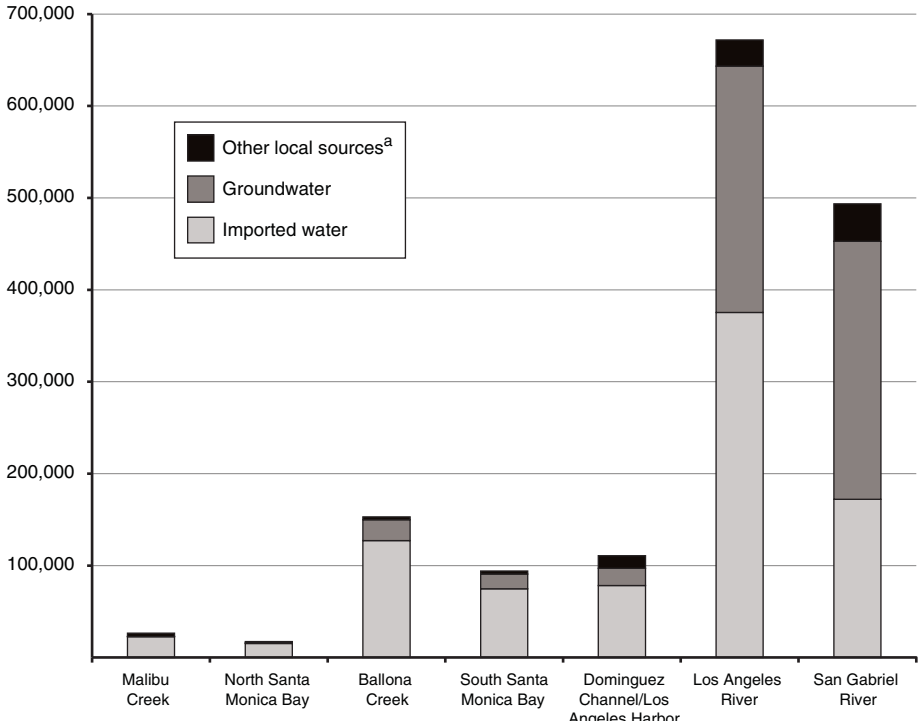


Regional Sources of Water

- Region Relies Primarily on Imported Water
- Region's Per Capita Water Use Declining Due to Increased Conservation

Sources of Water Used in Los Angeles Basin

2010, in Acre-Feet Per Year by Watershed



^a Includes local surface water, desalinated ocean water, and recycled water.



Regional Water Management Challenges

- Growing Population
- Constrained Supply of Imported Water
- Contaminated Stormwater Runoff
- Contaminated Groundwater Basins
- Urbanization Limits Opportunities for Stormwater Capture, Groundwater Recharge, and Natural Spaces
- Constrained Ability to Fund Infrastructure Upgrades
- Maintaining Flood Protection



Examples of Current and Potential Water Management Projects in Region

- Increased Wastewater Recycling
 - Proposed demonstration project collaboration between Metropolitan Water District and Los Angeles County Sanitation District.

- Increased Stormwater Capture
 - Green Solution project in Upper Los Angeles River watershed.
 - Sun Valley watershed projects.

- Expanded Groundwater Supply and Storage
 - San Fernando Valley groundwater remediation.
 - Water Replenishment District of Southern California project to treat wastewater for groundwater replenishment.

- Reenvisioning Flood Control Channels
 - Pacoima Wash Initiative.
 - Los Angeles River restoration.



Issues for Legislative Consideration

- What role should the state play in enabling, encouraging, and funding local water management projects?
 - Are there steps the state can take to increase local ability to fund water infrastructure upgrades?
 - Are there steps the state can take to increase water conservation across the region?
 - How effective is the state at encouraging and supporting local projects?

- What are the primary goals for improved water management in the region? Are there particular projects that can accomplish multiple goals?

- What types of projects increase the region's flexibility to adapt to changing conditions and future uncertainties?

- How should the state weigh the comparative costs and benefits of different types of state-funded projects?

- How can the state evaluate the success of different water management strategies, approaches, and projects?

- Are there additional steps the state can take to ensure underserved communities are included in regional water efforts?

- Are there water management lessons the Los Angeles region can learn from other areas of the state?