

# Life-cycle Assessment of Urban Water Infrastructures

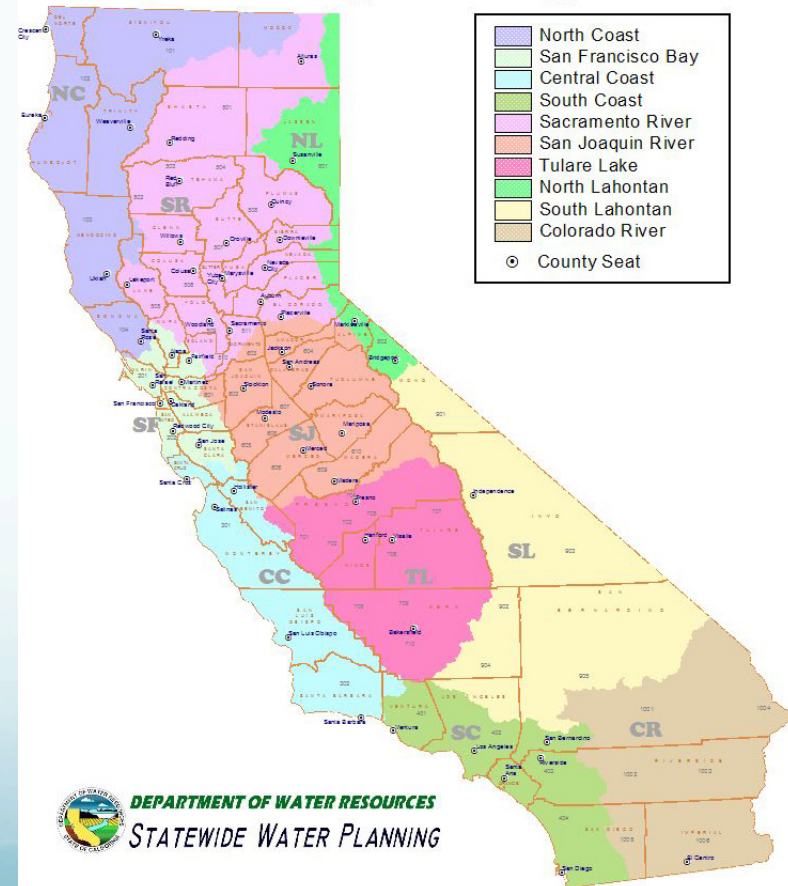
Paige Miller (ReNUWIt REU), Jennifer Stokes, Arpad Horvath



## Project 1: Energy Profile for California's Water System

- Objective:
  - Gain a better understanding of CA's energy use in relation to the movement of their water
    - Affects future decisions targeting energy and cost savings
  - Do this by illustrating the amount of energy it takes to supply/convey, treat, and distribute water in CA based on the source of the water supply
    - Supply sources: Federal, State, Local, Imported, Groundwater, Recycled, Desalinated
- Project Breakdown:
  - State of California has 10 Hydrologic Regions
  - Summarize the total distribution of water supply sources for each region by gathering data about a handful of utilities in each region
  - Create an energy profile for each of the utilities chosen

## Hydrologic Regions



# Project 1 (continued)

Table 1: Energy profile for the San Francisco Bay Region

| Water Source  | Supply (kWh/AF) | Treatment (kWh/AF) | Distribution (kWh/AF) |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Federal       | 870.0           | 87.0               | 390.0                 |
| State         | 1128.0          | 83.3               | 390.7                 |
| Local         | 0.0             | 64.2               | 390.9                 |
| Local Imports | 92.4            | 64.2               | 394.6                 |
| Groundwater   | 86.6            | 3.0                | 396.1                 |
| Desalinated   | 1643.0          | 0.0                | 390.9                 |
| Recycled      | 0.0             | 1129.0             | 684.1                 |

- Table 1 shows the variation of energy intensity for each water source in the Bay Region
- Energy associated with supplying GW varies with depth
- Conveyance of water is dependent on geography
  - Gravity fed systems vs. pumping
- For Bay Region, GW is least energy intensive source
- Desalination is most energy intensive source

# Project 2: Update of WWEST

- WWEST is a LCA tool that evaluates the environmental impacts of WWTPs
- Create Excel spreadsheet to house data collected from peer reviewed journal articles
- Seeking data related to WWTP operations, emissions, and energy use/consumption
- Organize data based on
  - Liquid and sludge treatment processes
  - Influent and effluent
  - System inputs and outputs

