Water Use Projections for the Bay Area in 2070

Water for a Growing Bay Area October 21, 2021

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Overview



This Presentation

- Scenario Analysis Overview
- Key Findings from 2070 Water Use Projections:
 - o Total Water Use Estimates
 - o Water Use By Sector

Can the Bay Area continue to grow through 2070 without increasing its overall water use?

Scenario Analysis Overview



*Additional details on data and methods can be found in the main report and appendices.



Key Analysis Findings

Total Water Use

- 1. The Bay Area could add 2 million jobs, 6.8 million people and 2.2 million homes by 2070 and offset water use from this growth through improvements in water use efficiency
- 2. Water use intensity declines with greater efficiency measures and denser land use patterns
- 3. Local water demand may increase in counties where population or job growth is concentrated

Water Use by Sector (e.g., residential indoor/outdoor, commercial)

- 1. Trends in 2070 water use vary across water use sectors
- 2. Denser housing development uses far less water per parcel



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Efficiency is one element in a **broad portfolio** of policy, planning, management, and technical options helping to manage future water demand

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Trends in 2070 water use vary across water use sectors



Decreasing CII water use accounts for substantial portion of the reduction in 2070 water use

2) Outdoor water use drives variation in residential water demand associated with different growth scenarios



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Denser housing development uses far less water per parcel



Strategies for Reducing Outdoor Water Use:

- Low-water use landscaping
- Efficient irrigation
- Reducing irrigated landscape area per housing unit



Summary and Thank You

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Water Use	Inefficient	Efficient	Highly Efficient
Indoor Residential	2017 standards stay in place through 2070	Passive uptake of efficient fixtures; Cut leaks by 50%	Universal uptake of efficient fixtures; Cut leaks by 75%
Outdoor Residential	Only new housing adopts outdoor efficiency standards (MWELO)	50% of existing and all new housing adopt outdoor efficiency standards	All existing and new housing adopt outdoor efficiency standards
Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional	No change from existing water factors	10% gain in efficiency per decade	20% gain in efficiency per decade



Scenarios	Housing Units (Million)	Estimated Population (Million)	Jobs (Million)
Current (Baseline)	2.98	8.20	5.52
2070 Business as Usual (BAU)	4.38	12.65	7.62
2070 SPUR	5.18	14.98	7.62



2070 regional water demand holds steady or declines with modest improvements in efficiency

