

City of Santa Fe Water Annual Update 2026

April 2026

Outline

- Current System
 - Potable water resources
 - Non potable water resource
- SF Water Past
 - Demand Growth
 - Groundwater Extraction
 - Conservation
 - Preferential Surface Water Use
- 2025 Highlights
 - Annual Report & Newsletter
 - Production
 - Reservoir Storage
 - WRI
 - Rate Increase & Structure Change
- The Next Big Thing
 - Planning that got us here
 - SJC Return Flow Project
- What's Up With Water?

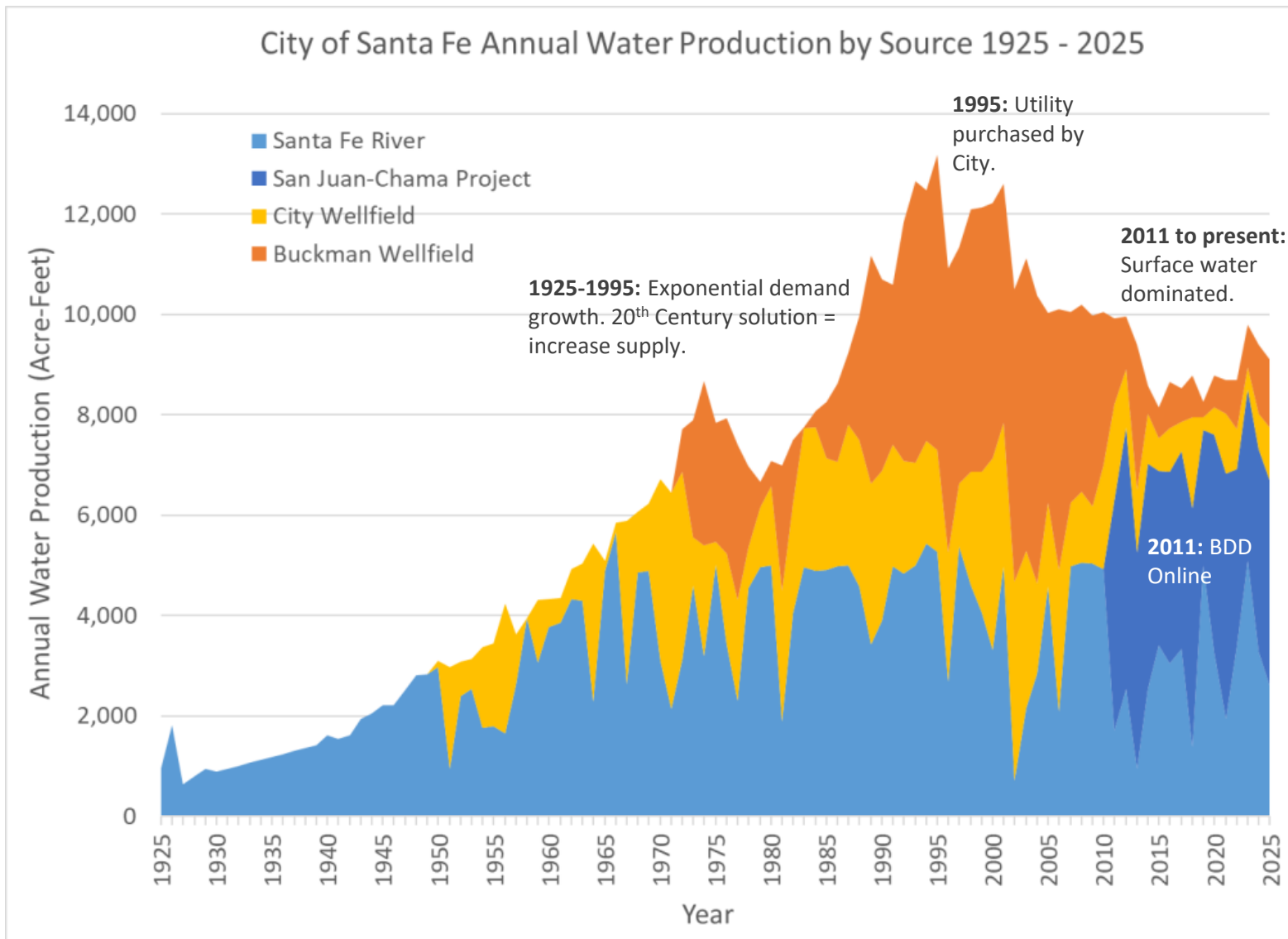


The System

- 4 Potable Sources
 - Santa Fe River
 - City Wells
 - Buckman Wells
 - BDD
- BDD jointly owned
 - City
 - County
 - Las Campanas
- San Juan Chama
 - City diverts Colorado River water from the Rio Grande at BDD
- Non-potable resource

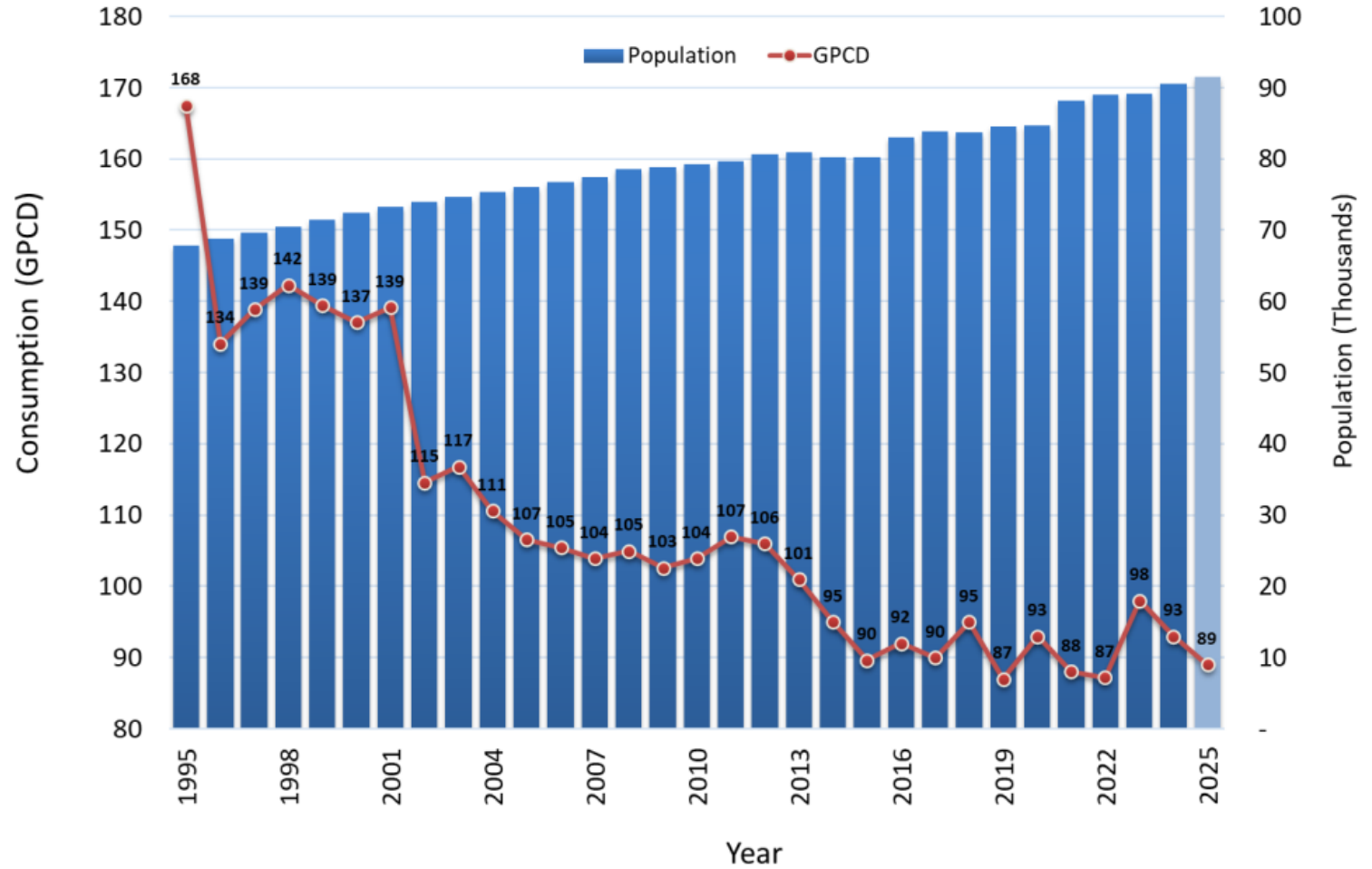


CoSF Water Past: A Picture Is Worth...

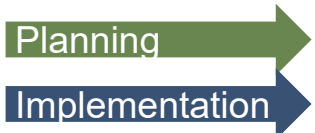
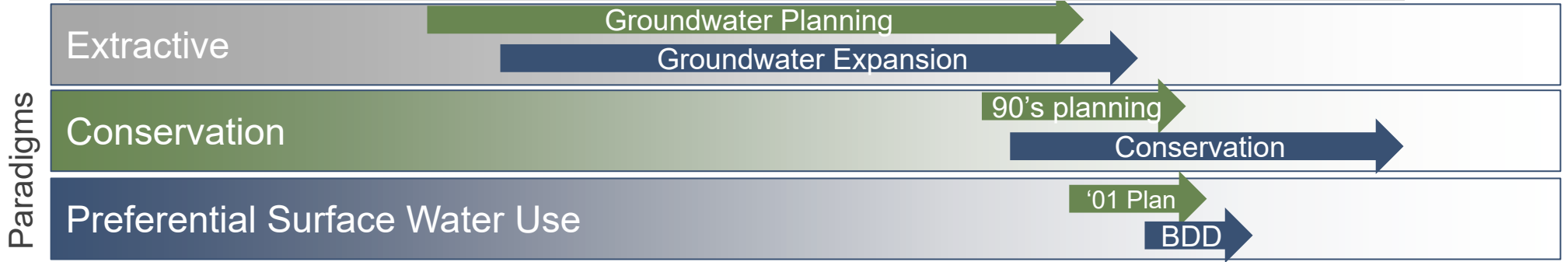
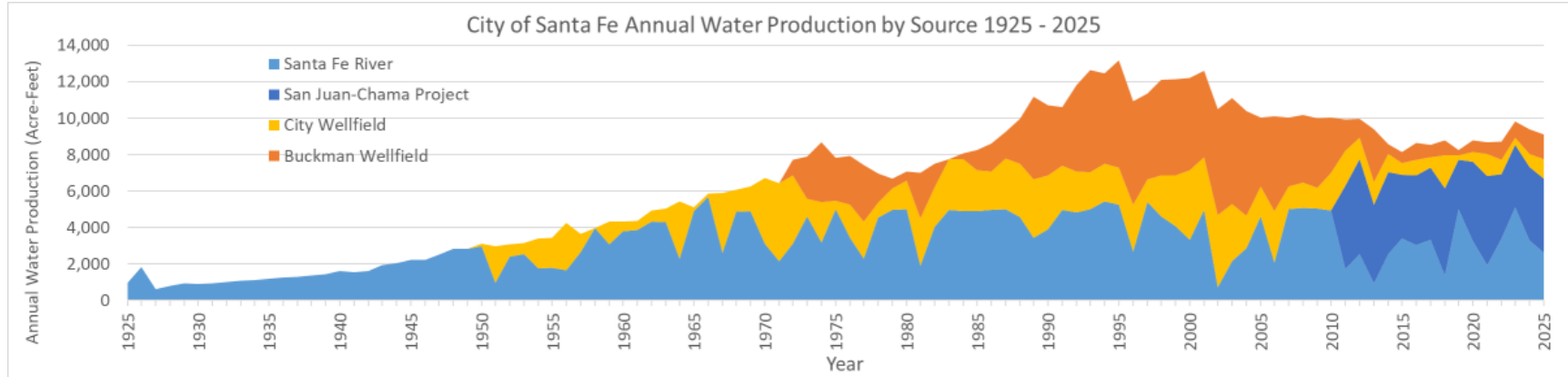


Water Conservation Success

Population and GPCD

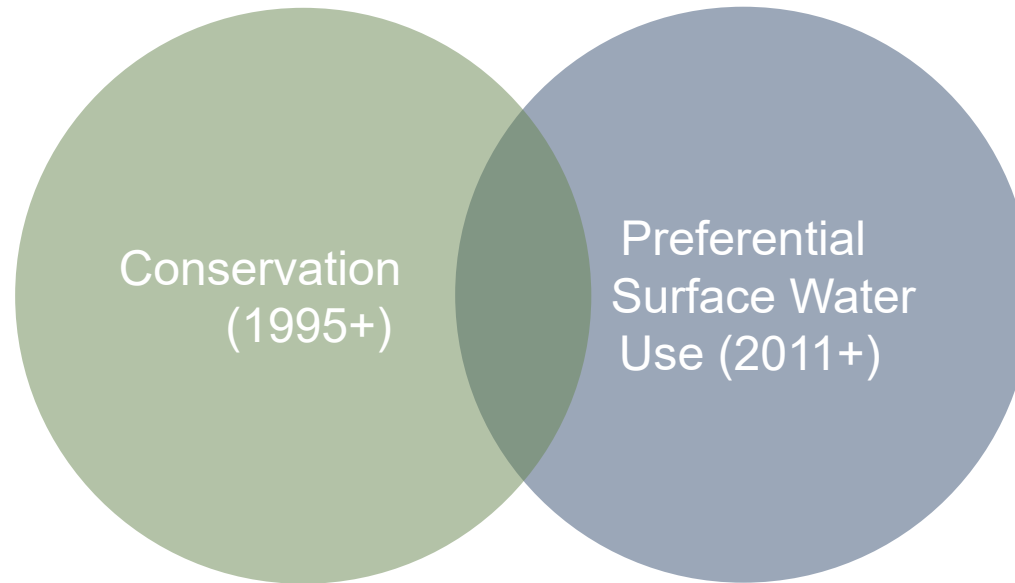


The City of Santa Fe's Evolving Water Supply

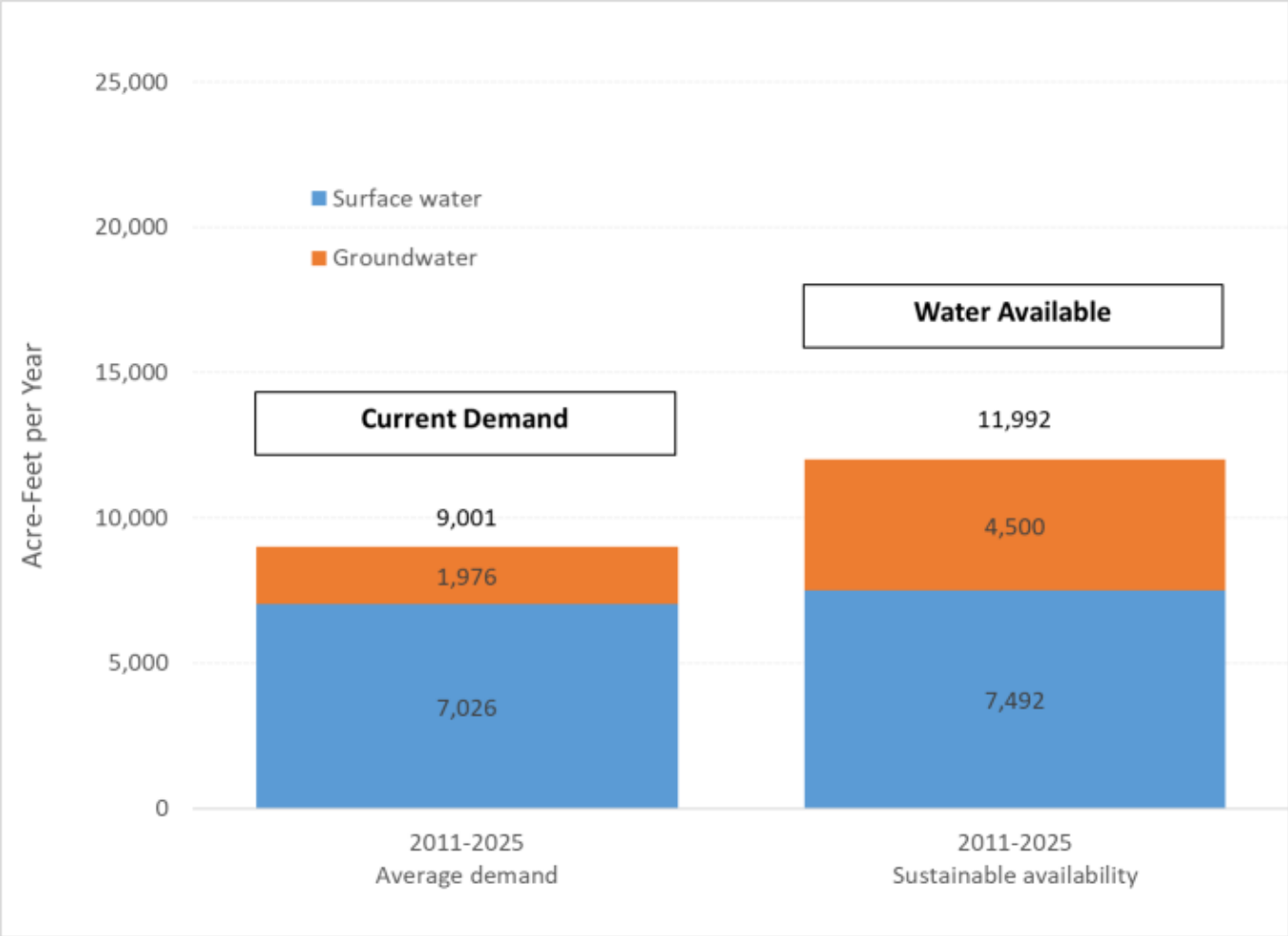


Two water management paradigm shifts 1995 - 2011

Conservation and Preferential Surface Water Use



Current Demand and Supply (average of last 15 years)



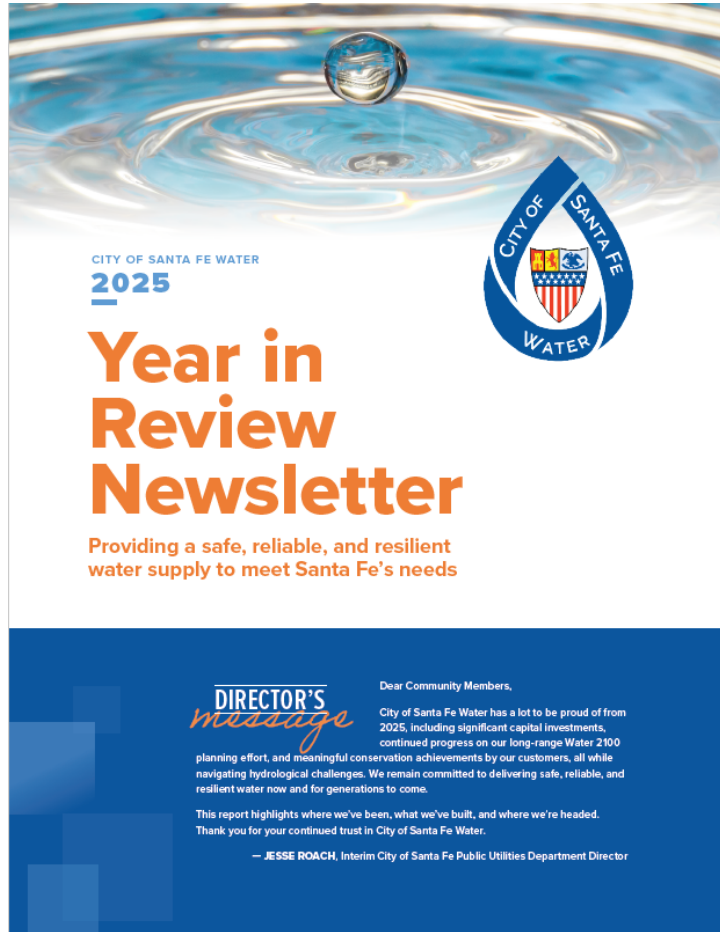
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2025 City of Santa Fe Water Newsletter and Annual Report

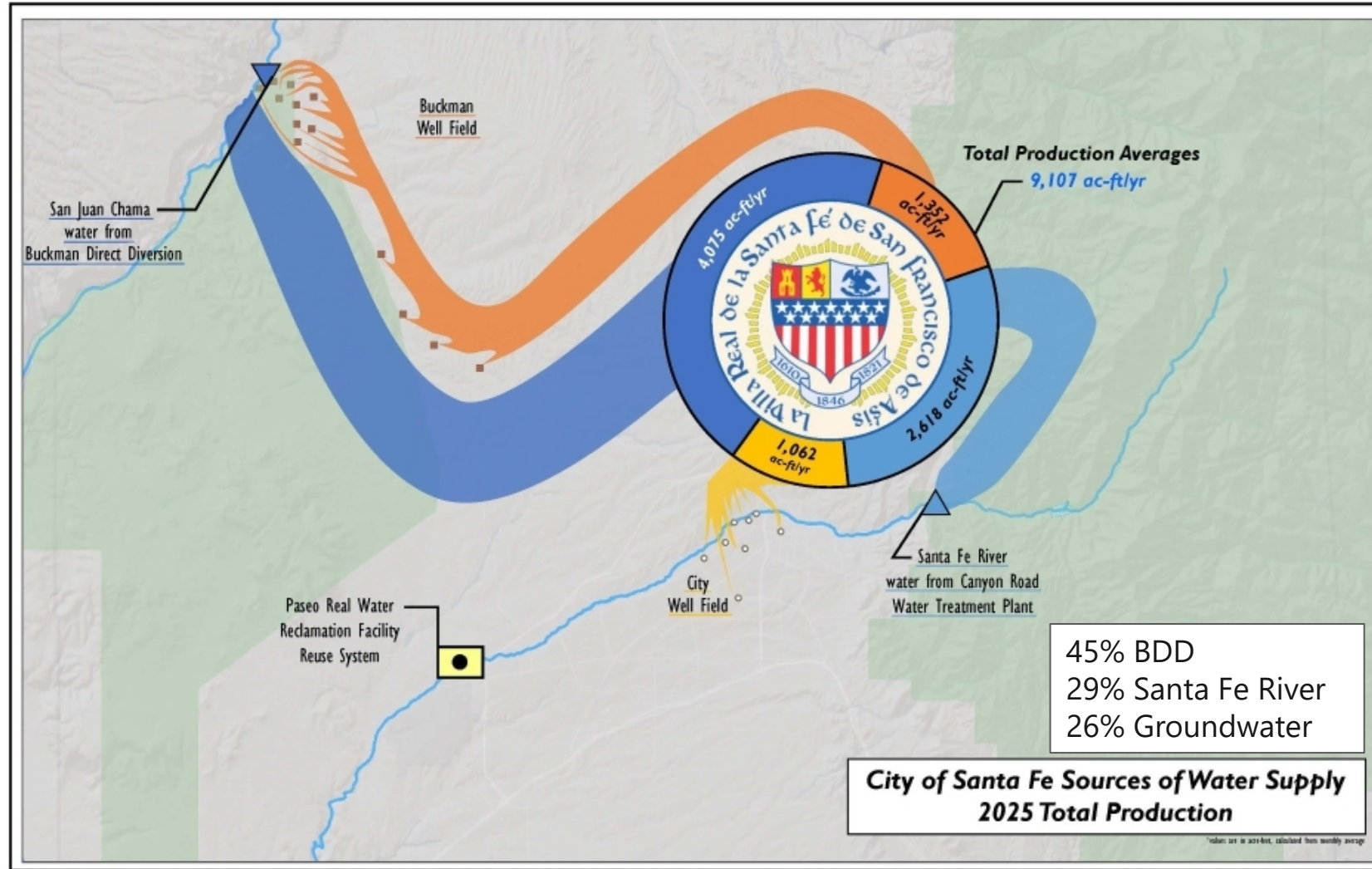
Available at <https://santafenm.gov/water>



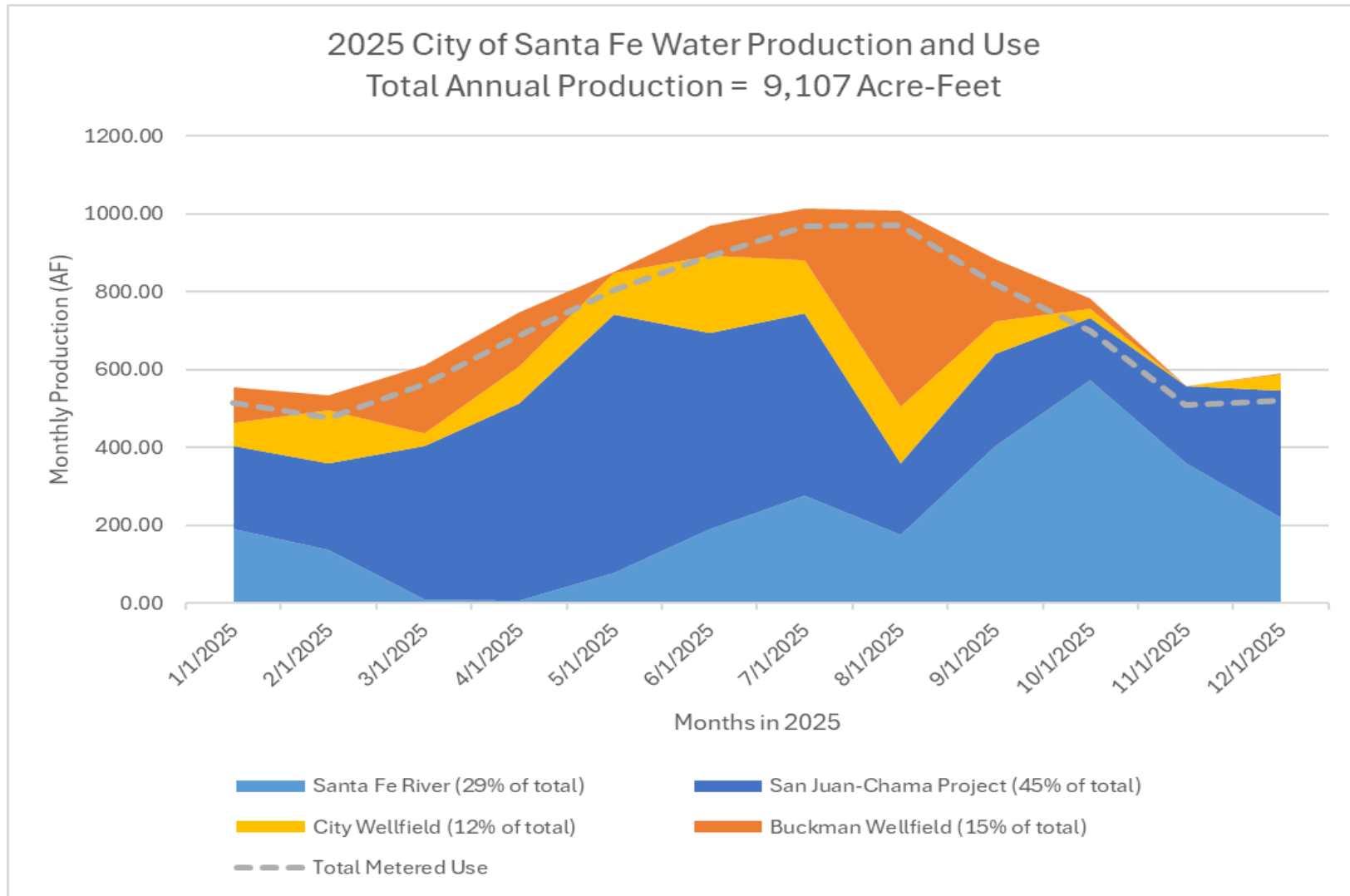
- First year trying newsletter format
- Newsletter is 8 pages focused on 2025 highlights
- Annual report, which meets code requirements is 16 pages of information that doesn't change much from year to year



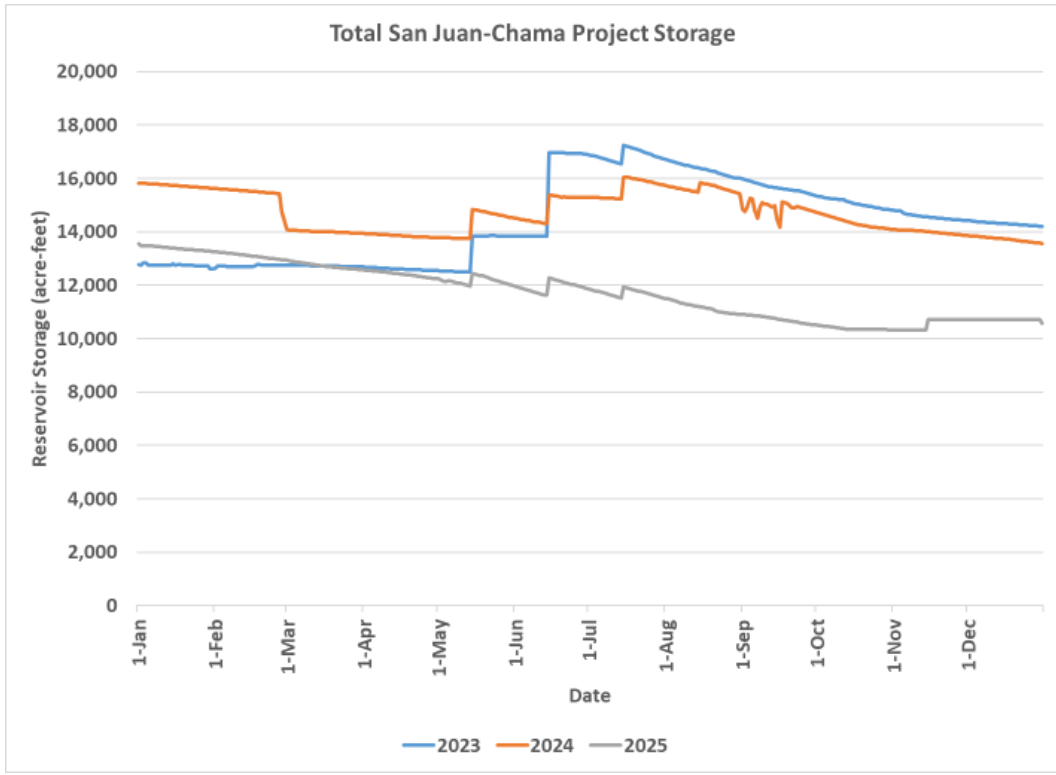
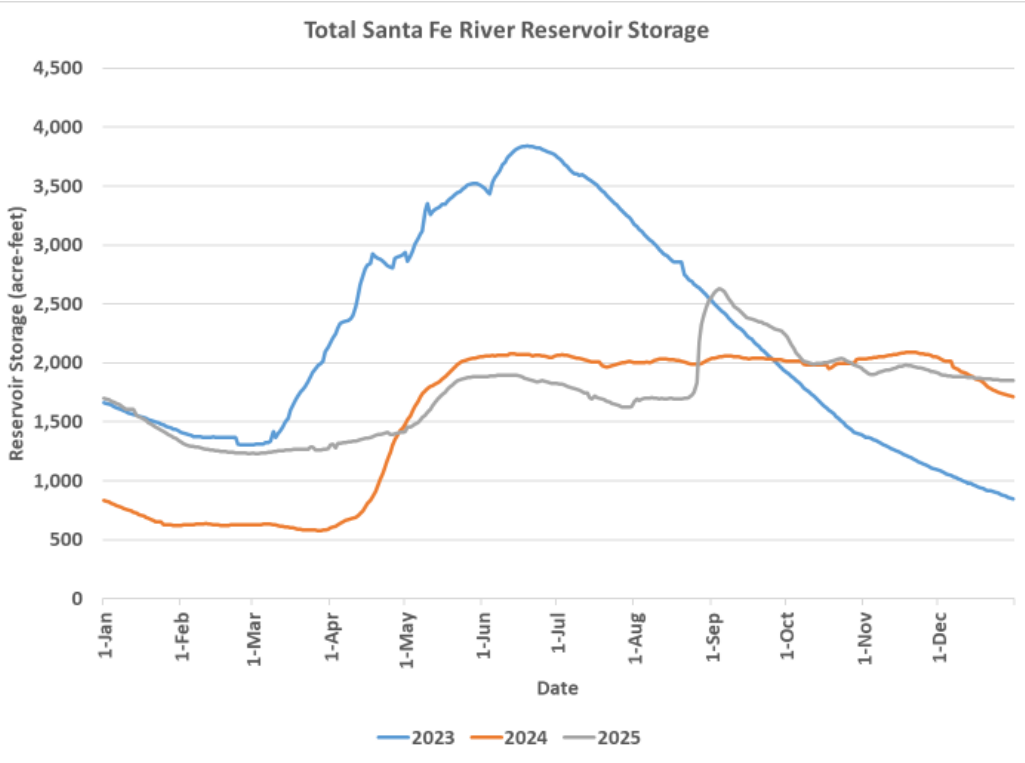
2025 Sources of supply



2025 Water Production and Use



2025 Reservoir Storage

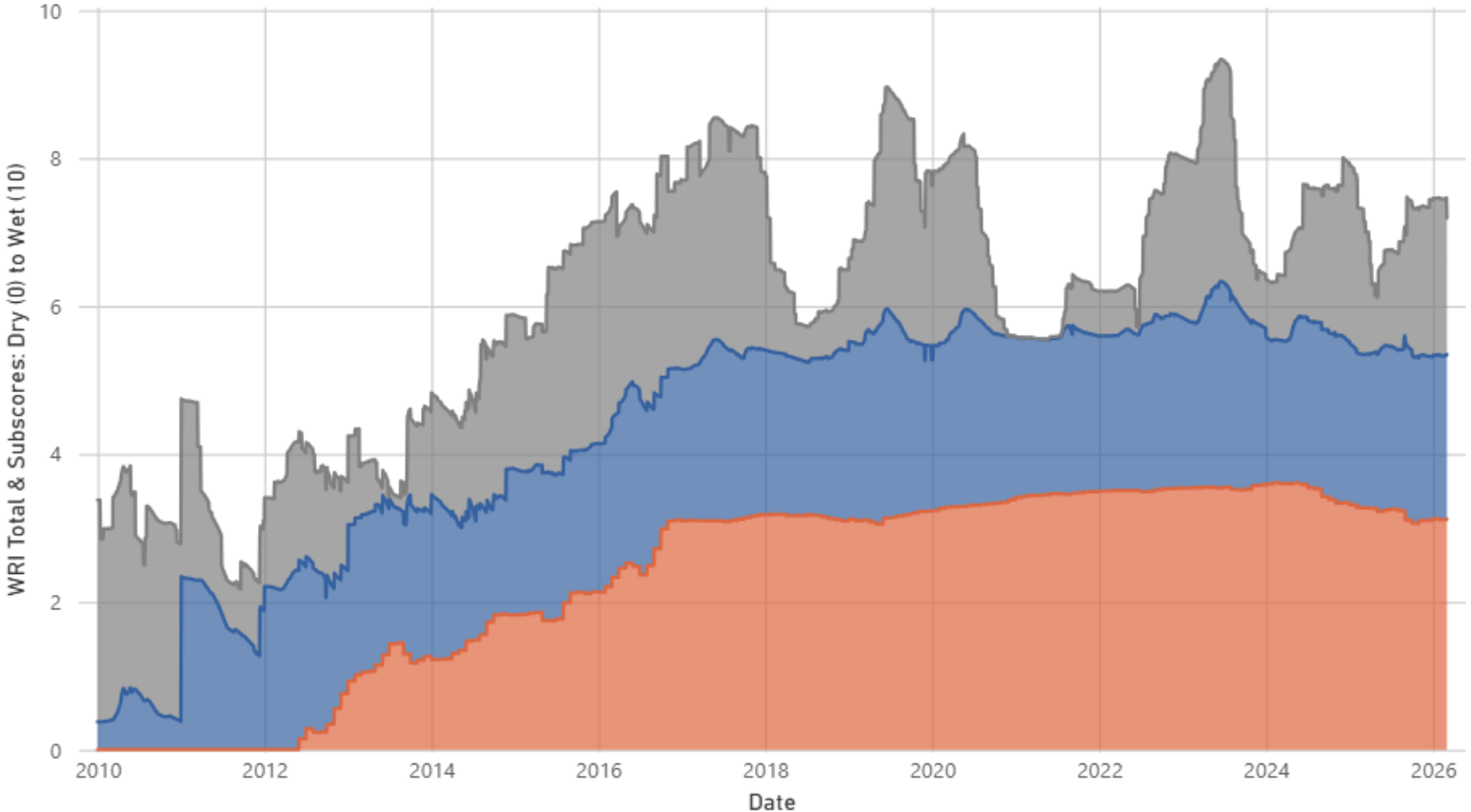


Water Resources Indicator

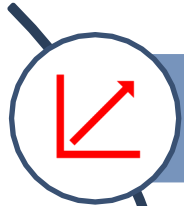
Combination of groundwater availability (40%), surface water availability (30%), and regional drought (30%)

WRI Daily Total Score as Sum of Weighted Subscores (Stacked)

● Groundwater Subscore [0 - 4] ● Surface Water Subscore [0 - 3] ● Drought Monitor Subscore [0 - 3]



1st of 5 Annual Water Rate Increases Went into Effect in February



General cost inflation rose 41% between 2013 and 2024.



Large capital projects necessary to continue to provide reliable service.



Water rates unchanged since 2013.



Increase to the average residential bill of approximately \$2 per month for 5 years

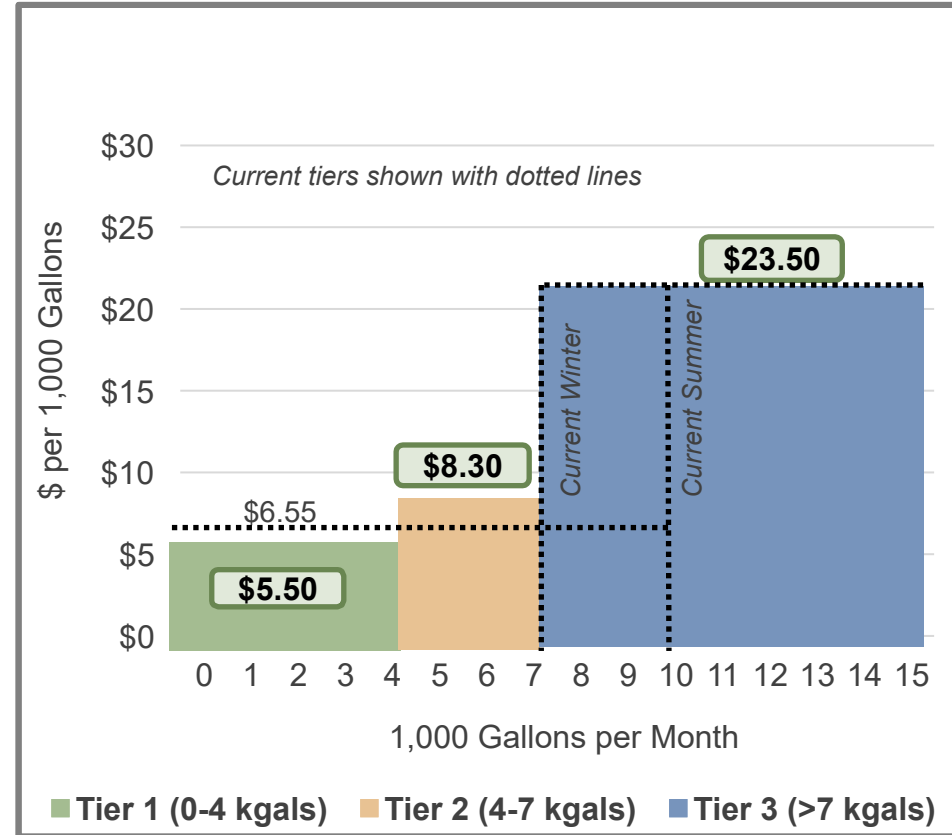
New Tier Being Added to Residential Rate Structure

Fixed 3-Tier Residential Structure (currently seasonally varying 2-Tier Structure)

- January 2027 Implementation

Volume Charge

- Introduces a discounted 1st tier; rewards water conservation and increases affordability for “lifeline” usage
- New 2nd tier incentivizes conservation
- 3rd tier goes into effect at 7000 gallons year-round (Currently shifts to 10,000 gallons May-August)
- Usage tiers fixed throughout the year; simplifying bills



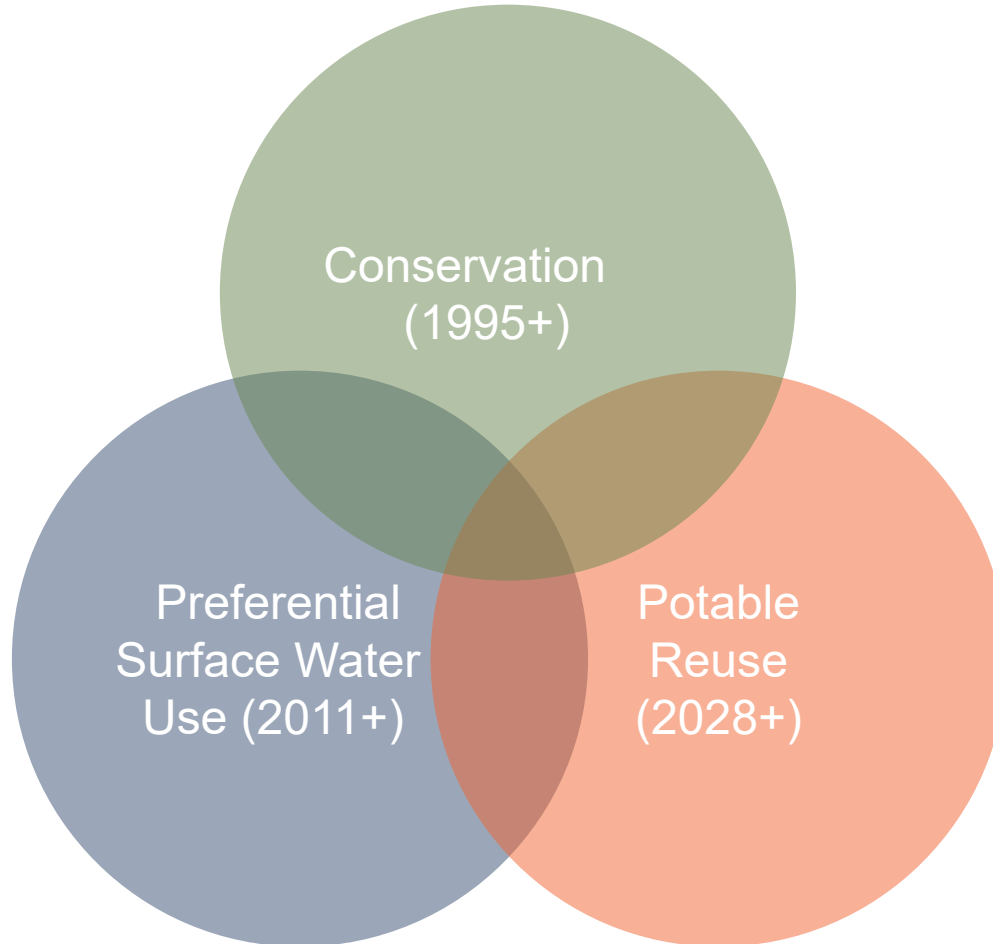
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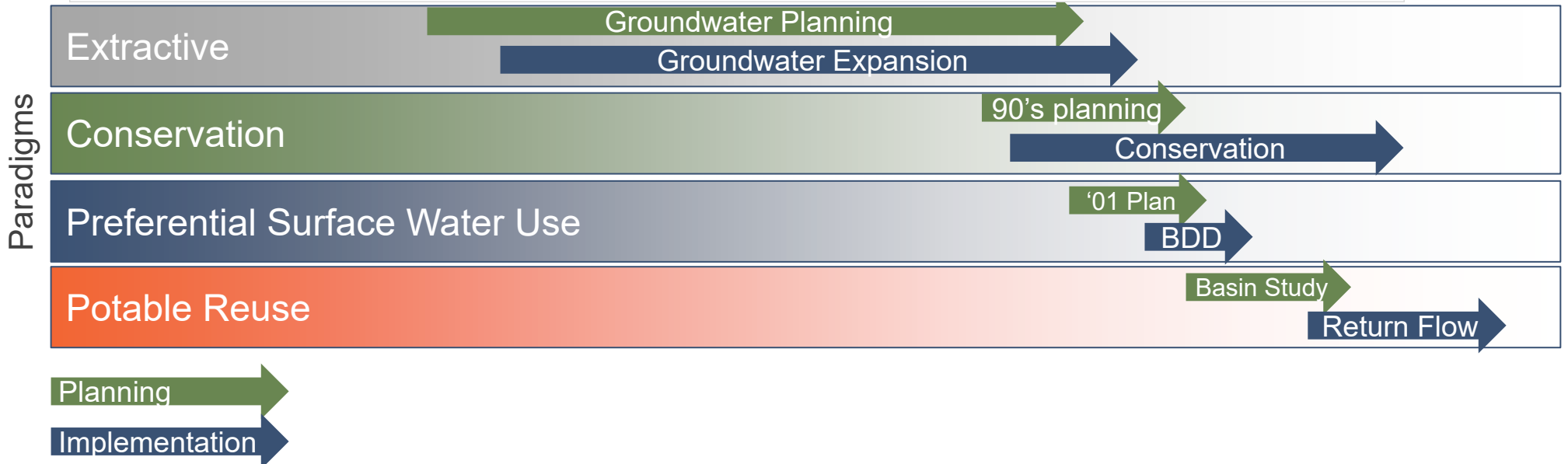
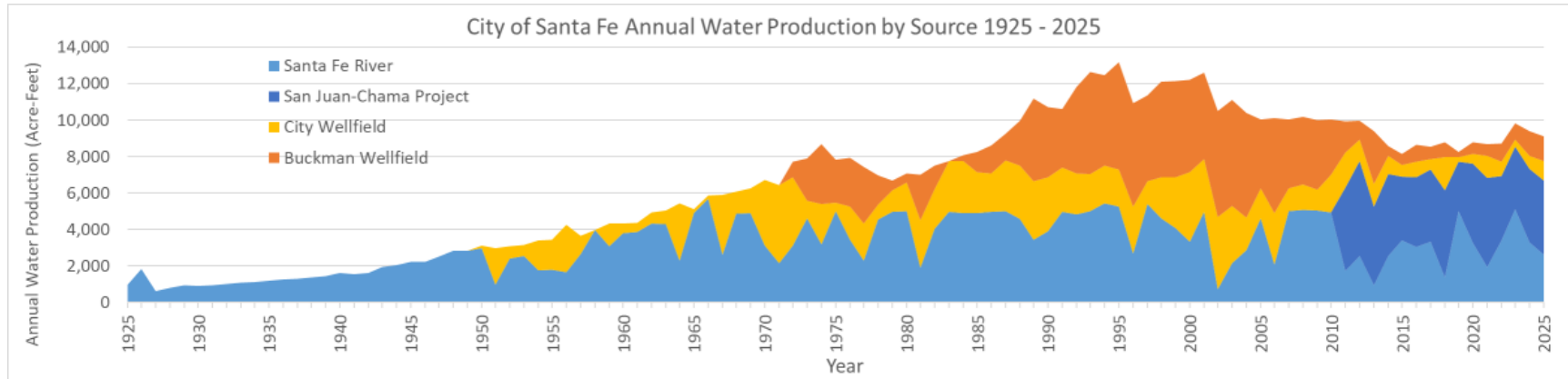


The Next Big Thing: Potable Reuse

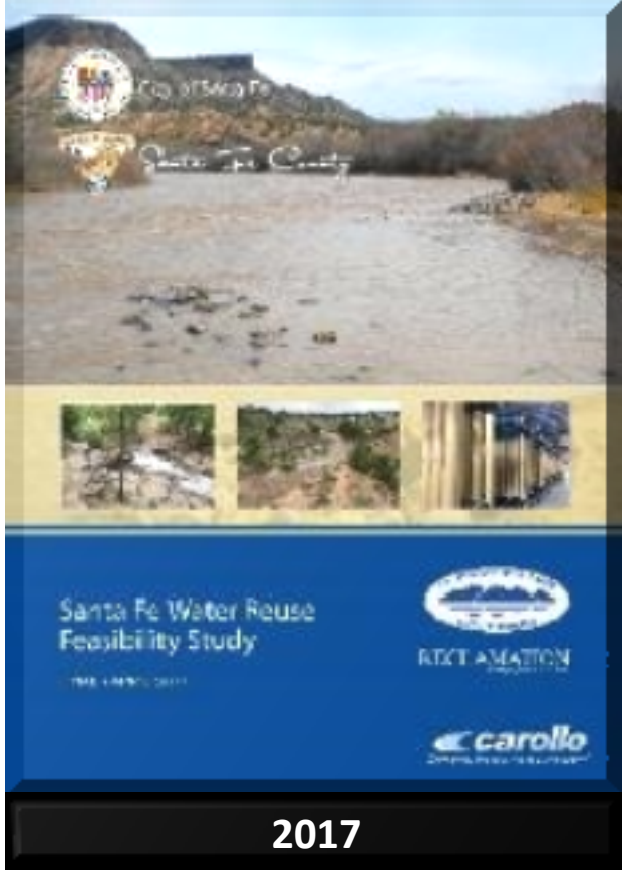
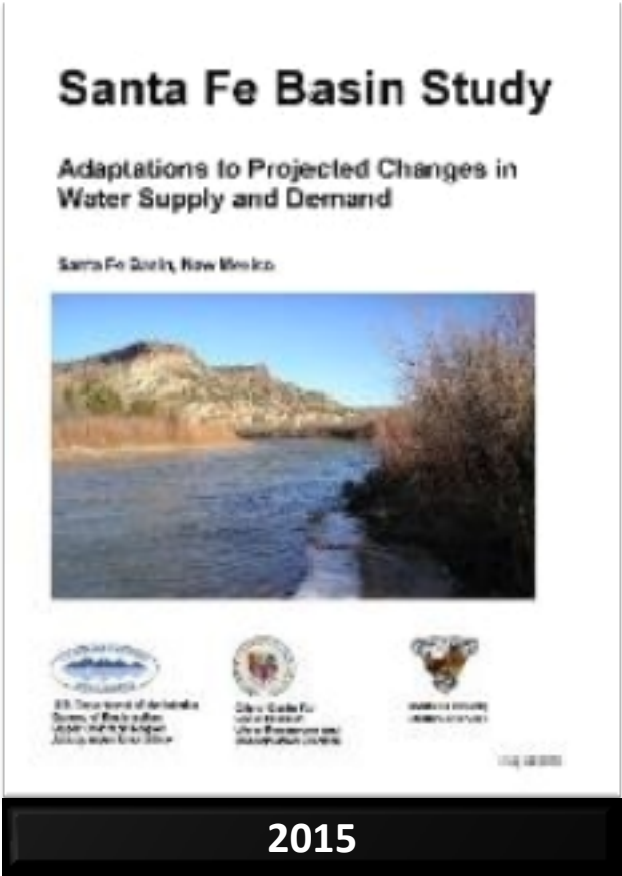
The third big paradigm shift for CoSF Water is (indirect) potable reuse of effluent



The City of Santa Fe's Evolving Water Supply



Planning efforts that brought us to potable reuse

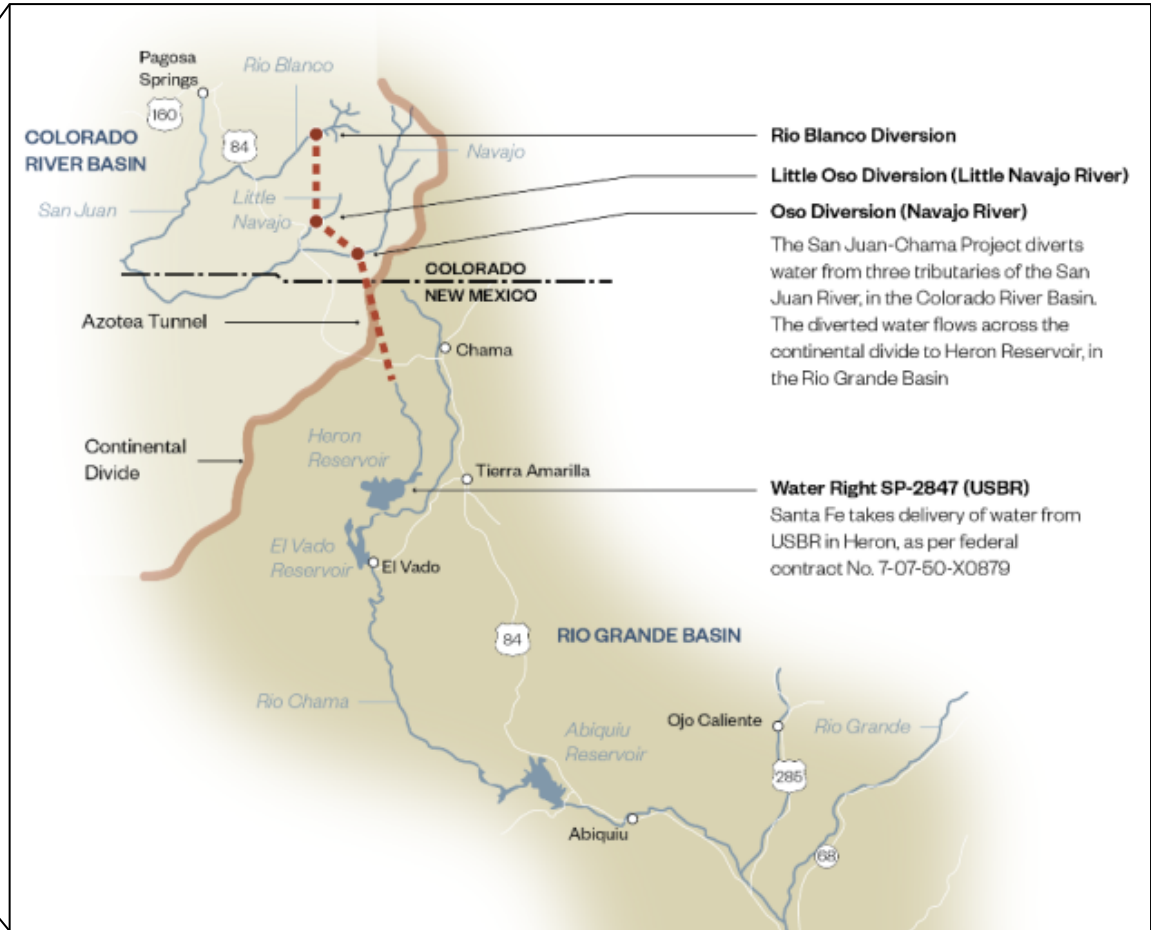


First planning to consider climate change



San Juan Chama Project

City diverts Colorado River (San Juan – Chama Project) water directly from Rio Grande



San Juan-Chama Return Flow Project

1

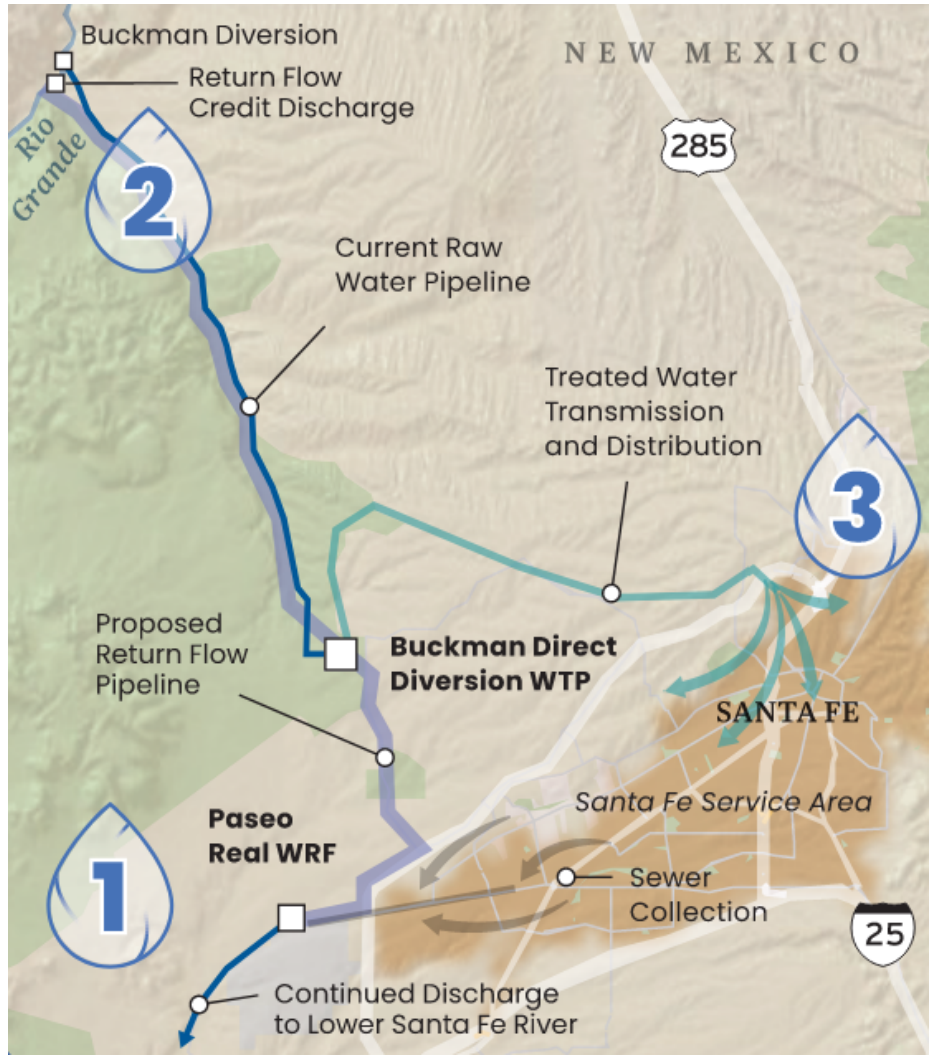
Build a new pipeline to take the SJC portion of the City's treated wastewater from the Paseo Real Water Reclamation Facility for discharge to the Rio Grande downstream of the existing BDD.

2

Receive return flow credit from the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (OSE) for the unconsumed SJC water that is returned to the Rio Grande, allowing for diversion of additional supply from BDD.

3

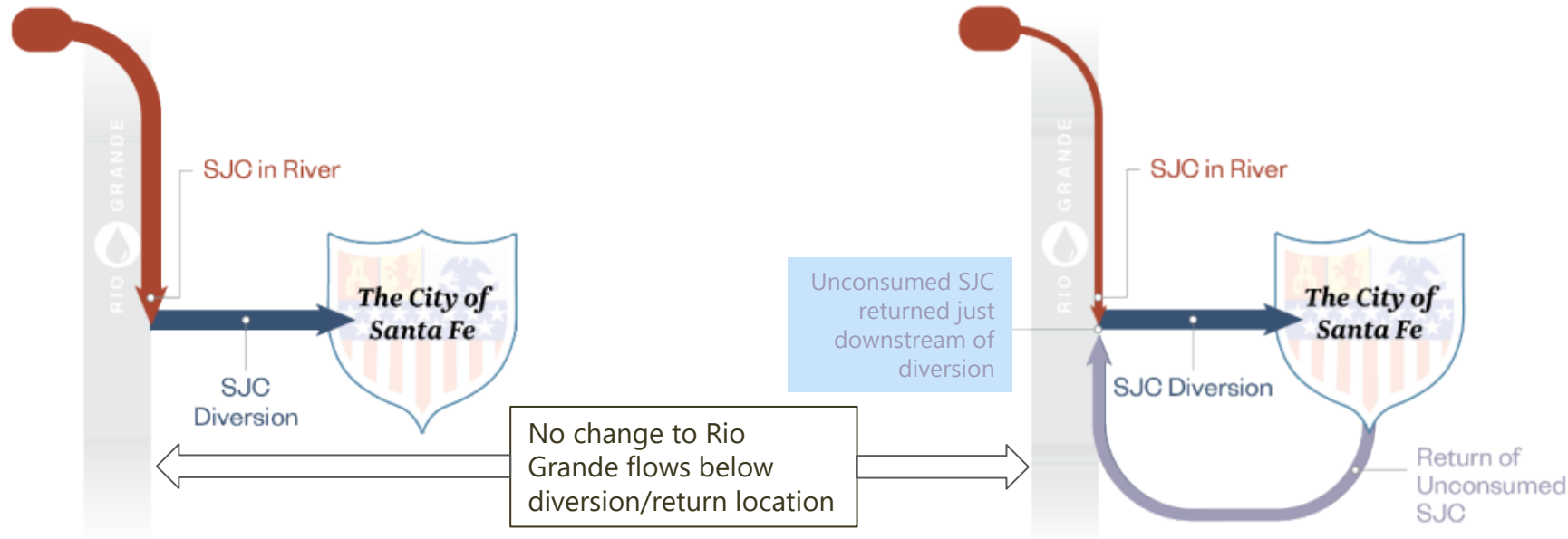
The project will utilize existing water rights and BDD infrastructure. It will increase the City's water supply and our resilience to surface water shortages, drought, climate change, wildfire, and Rio Grande Compact constraints.



San Juan Chama Return Flow Project

Full consumption of SJC water

- Goal: Achieve full consumption of San Juan Chama (SJC) water by getting credit for returning unconsumed SJC water to the Rio Grande.

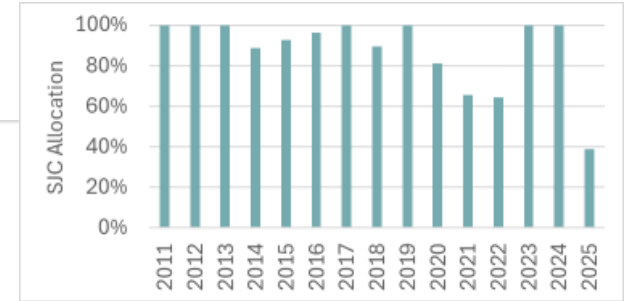
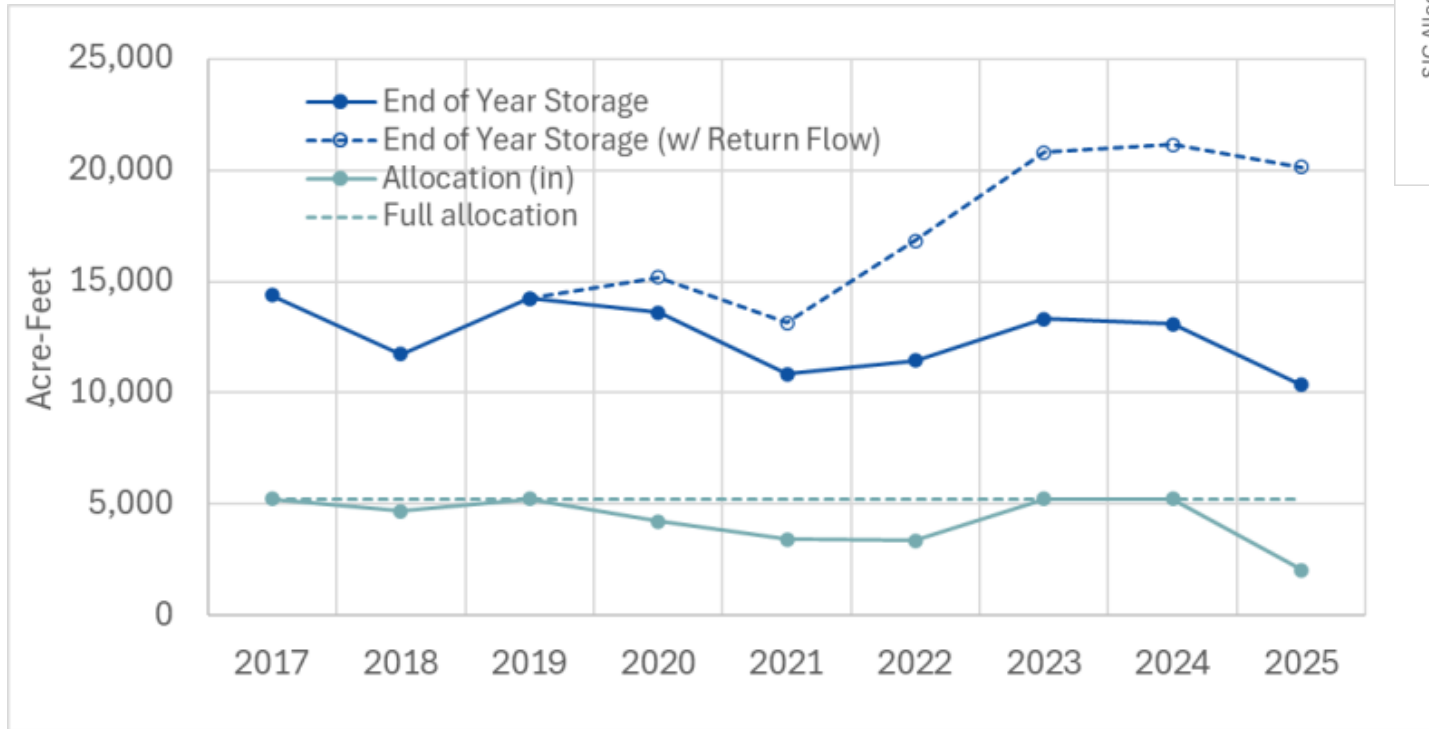


Current: all diversions at BDD from upstream reservoir releases

With project: same diversions at BDD with less release from upstream reservoirs. River "made whole" with effluent return.



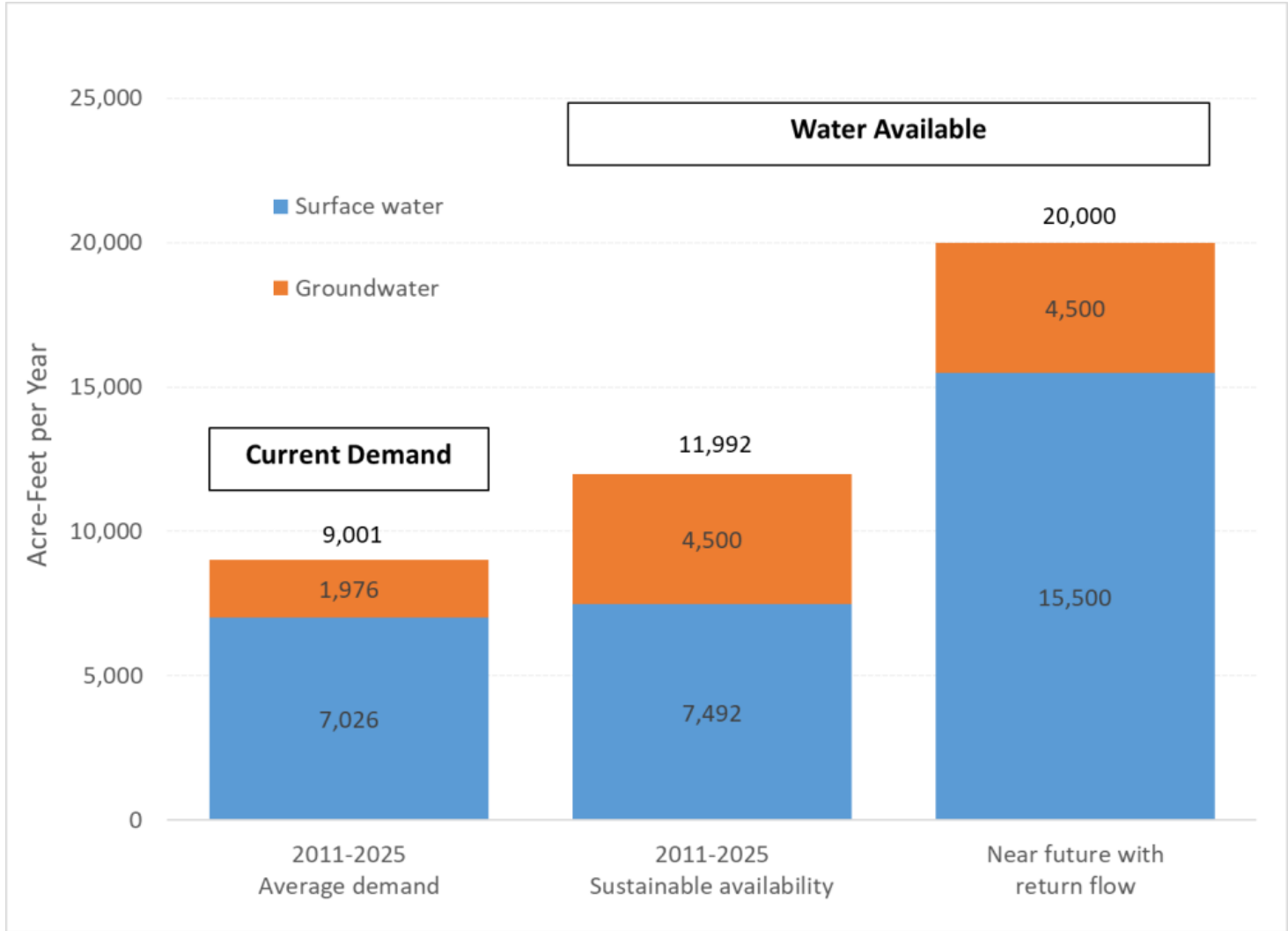
San Juan-Chama Storage, With Hypothetical Return Flow Starting in 2020



Hypothetical Return
Flow Period (lowest
allocations)



Adding (indirect) Potable Reuse to our Paradigm Quiver



What's Up With Water? April 30th 9am and 6pm


In the interest of time, not discussing the current status of long-range water resources planning here

Tomorrow, at 9am and 6pm (same material presented each time) we will cover that and take a deeper dive on much of what was presented here, please join if you can.

Webinar links available at <https://santafenm.gov/water>



← ↻ 🏠 <https://santafenm.gov/public-utilities/water>

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What's Up With Water Returns April 30

Join us for the annual What's Up With Water presentations to learn about Santa Fe's water supplies and receive updates from the City of Santa Fe Water Division.

Two sessions are available on Thursday, April 30:

- 9 a.m. [Click here to join the morning session.](#)
- 6 p.m. [Click here to join the evening session.](#)

These presentations provide an overview of current water conditions, supply planning, and ongoing initiatives to support a sustainable water future for Santa Fe.

Questions?

