

2025 Water Management Plan Revision Process

February 7, 2025



LCRA's Water Management Plan

- **Operations plan for supplying water from lakes Buchanan and Travis to users throughout the lower Colorado River basin**
- **Allows for supply of interruptible water provided we continue to meet the needs of our firm customers**
- **Helps meet environmental needs of the lower Colorado River and Matagorda Bay**
- **Developed with significant input from participants, and approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

Updates and Potential Plan Design

- **Update:**
 - Hydrology to include 2017-2023
 - Firm and interruptible projected demands through 2032
- **Confirmed basic framework with TCEQ staff**
- **Anticipate curtailment modifications**
- **Expect next WMP to be in place until about 2032**

Water Management Plan Framework

- **WMP substantially revised in 2015, further updated in 2020**
- **Anticipated updates in 2025**
 - Hydrology through 2023
 - Firm demand projections through 2032
- **WMP has safeguards and is responsive to:**
 - Inflows & Storage conditions
 - Actual operations and demands
 - Possible future conditions
 - Increased firm demands

WMP Framework – Responsive to Inflow and Storage Conditions

- **Storage in the Highland Lakes and recent inflows are evaluated when allocating interruptible supply**
- **Separate evaluation dates before first and second seasons factor in the most recent conditions**
- **Water supply conditions determined based on storage and inflows**

Current WMP Framework – Water Supply Conditions

- **Default water supply condition is Normal Conditions**
- **Enter Less Severe Drought if storage and inflows are below certain triggers.**
- **Enter Extraordinary Drought if inflows tracking worse than 1950s “drought intensity” curve and storage below 1.3 million a-f.**

Current WMP Framework – Reduced Agricultural Supply and Operational Considerations

- Allocations for agricultural supply reduced or cut off based on conditions at beginning of season
 - Curtailment curves for Normal or Less Severe Drought
 - Up to 178,000 a-f for first season under Normal
 - Up to 155,000 a-f for first season under Less Severe Drought
 - Cut off if in Extraordinary Drought

Current WMP Framework – Reduced Agricultural Supply and Operational Considerations (Continued)

- **Agricultural supply can be cut off midseason:**
 - If diversions exceed allocations;
 - If releases from Highland Lakes exceed release caps; or
 - If storage falls to 1 million a-f

Current WMP Framework – Possible Future Conditions

- **Look-Ahead Test** – additional curtailment of agricultural supply if necessary:
 - 12 months: Stay above 600,000 a-f
 - Upcoming season: Stay above 900,000 a-f

Current WMP Framework – Possible Future Conditions (Continued)

- **Drought Worse Than Drought of Record**
 - If storage below 600,000 a-f, drought at least 24 months and inflows worse than historic drought
- **WMP firm demands based on year 2025 projections**
 - Will begin revision process ahead of demands being realized

Current WMP Framework – Environmental Flows

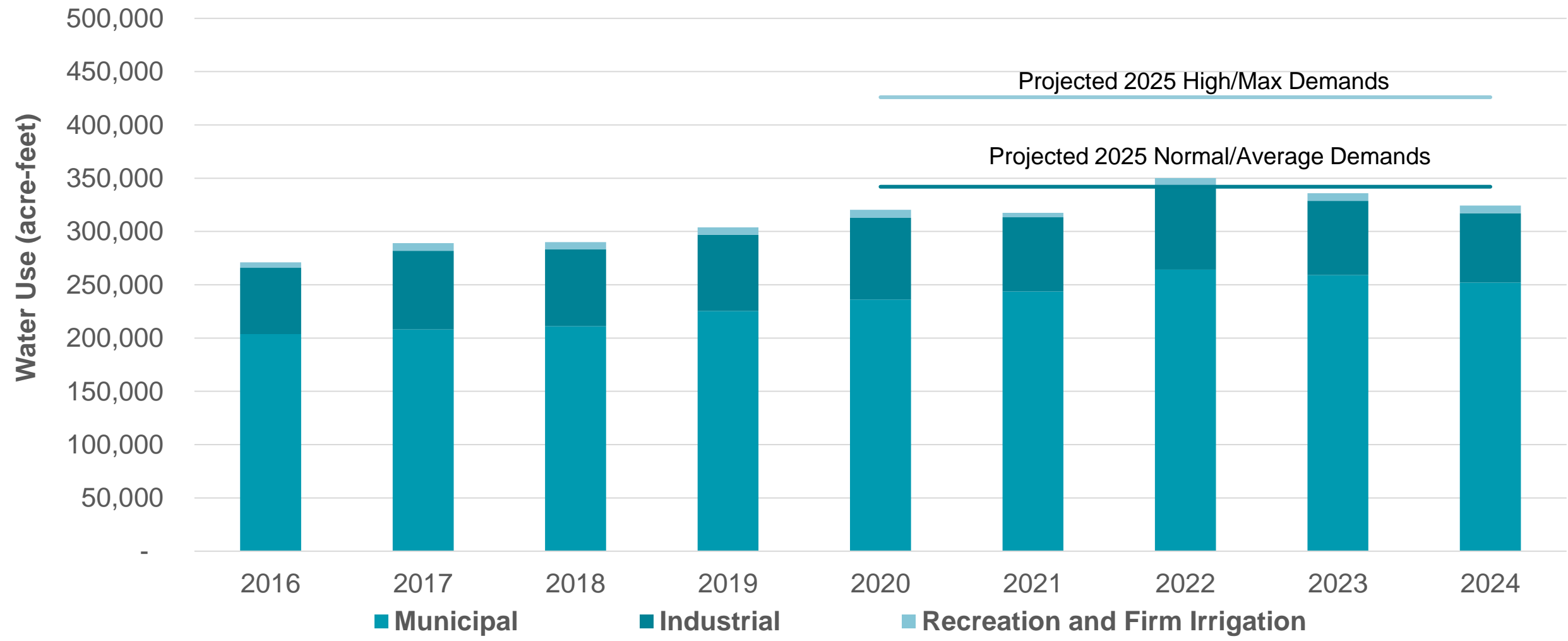
- **Criteria based on March 1, July 1 and Nov. 1 Evaluation Dates**
- **Three levels of instream flow targets: Subsistence, Base-Dry and Base-Average**
- **Five levels of bay inflow targets**
- **Environmental flow obligations other than subsistence instream flows are limited to the extent of inflows to lakes Buchanan and Travis.**

2020 WMP – 2025 Projected Firm Water Demands

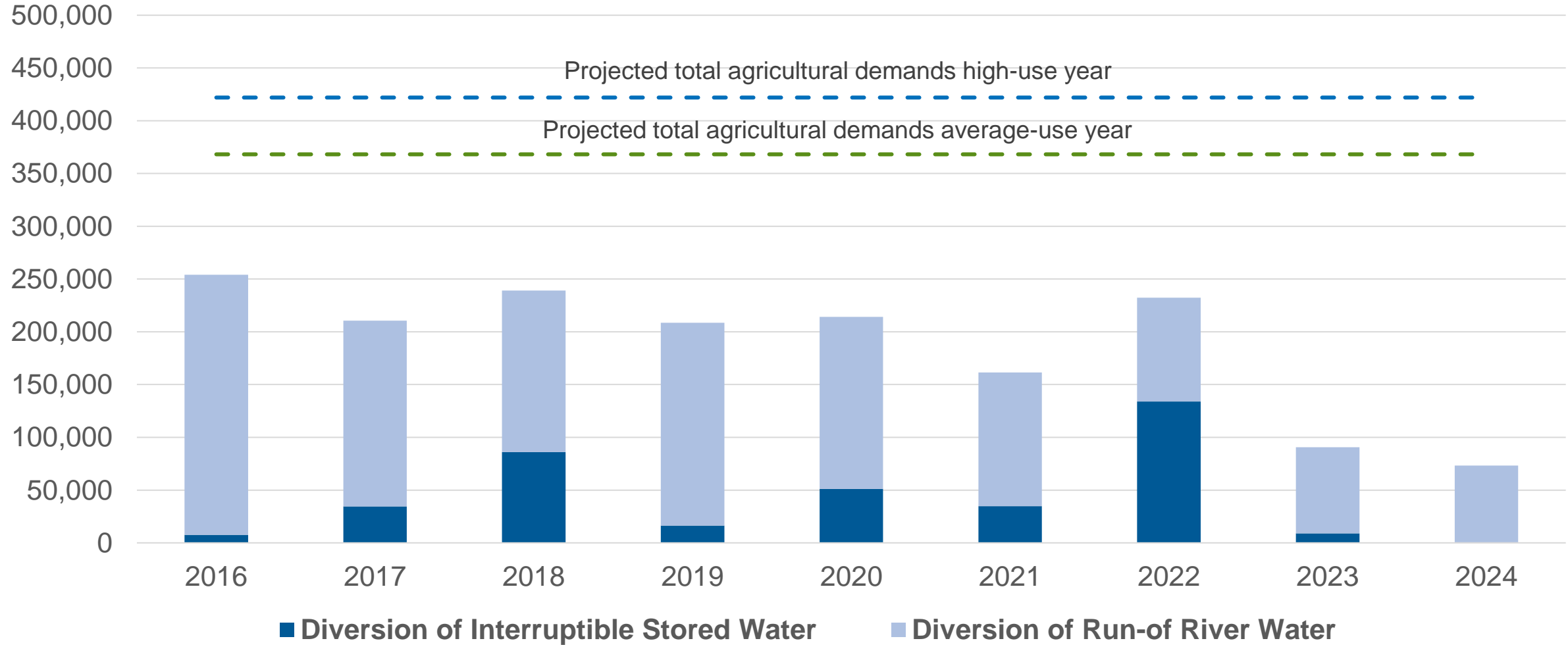
	Normal / Average Use Year (acre-feet)	Max / High Use Year (acre-feet)
Projected Firm Water Use in 2025	342,000	426,000
Projected Total Ag Demands*	368,000	422,000

*Can be met by using stored or run-of-river water

Municipal, Industrial, Recreation and Firm Irrigation Use From Lakes Buchanan and Travis and Colorado River



Use of Interruptible Stored Water and Run-of-River at the Four Downstream Agricultural Operations



* In 2023 and 2024, interruptible stored water was cut off to operations other than Garwood Agricultural Division.

Anticipated Timeline

Met with TCEQ	December 2024
One-on-one Meetings	January and February 2025
Series of full participant meetings	March to May 2025
Update LCRA Board of Directors	June 2025
More full participant meetings	July through October 2025
Present draft plan to Board and obtain public input	November 2025 to January 2026
Seek Board action on updated WMP	Early 2026
Prepare/submit application to TCEQ	Spring or summer 2026

Participant Process

- **Six planned participant meetings**
- **Interested groups as requested**
 - Firm water customers
 - Interruptible agricultural customers
 - Power providers
 - Environmental and lake interests

