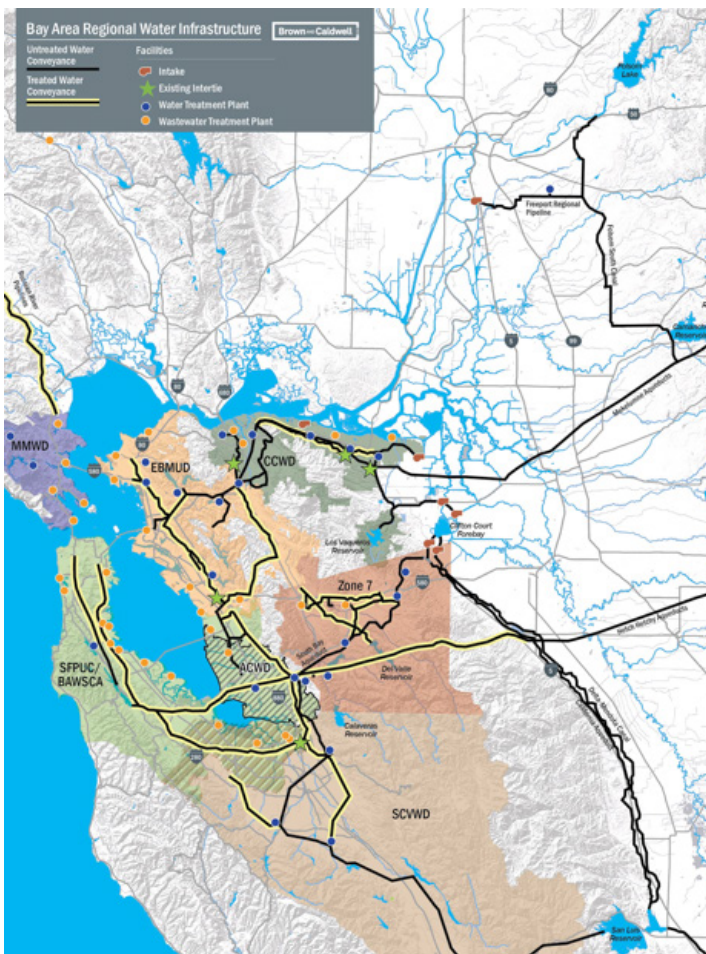


BAY AREA REGIONAL RELIABILITY

As underscored by the recent unprecedented drought, the Bay Area is more resilient when the region's water agencies work collaboratively, rather than individually. Inspired by opportunities to better leverage existing resources and assets, eight of the region's largest water agencies formed the Bay Area Regional Reliability (BARR) partnership to improve integrated regional water management and drought mitigation.

Area Map

Together, BARR agencies are pursuing measures and actions that would use existing infrastructure and water resources more fully to produce greater efficiencies and improved reliability for the entire region.



Timeline

After adopting principles in 2014 to guide the partnership, the agencies executed a Memorandum of Agreement in 2015. In 2016 through 2017 the BARR agencies collaboratively developed a Drought Contingency Plan (DCP)—a project funded in part by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation—to approach drought mitigation and response from a regional, integrated perspective. In 2018 through 2020, the agencies are partnering on the Bay Area Water Market Program to explore water transfer and exchange opportunities in the region. The grant funded project will develop an implementation plan for establishing a water market in the Bay Area, identifying the various pathways under which the agencies could secure and exchange/transfer existing and supplemental supplies. The project will define the various processes for moving water and then identify and attempt to resolve associated barriers, maximizing the efficient use of existing assets. This program will increase flexibility to deliver water from different sources to facilitate voluntary exchanges and transfers, thereby helping to promote long-term drought resilience. This project will not only help to secure a more stable water supply to support the Bay Area's strong economy, but it will also provide a model for other water suppliers in California.

Partners

The Bay Area Regional Reliability (BARR) Partners include Alameda County Water District, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, Contra Costa Water District, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Marin Municipal Water District, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Santa Clara Valley Water District, and Zone 7 Water Agency.

Funding

The BARR DCP and the upcoming Bay Area Water Market Program are funded by contributions from each of the agencies and also a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Results

The Bay Area's largest water agencies are working together to develop a regional solution to improve the water supply reliability for over 6 million area residents and the thousands of businesses and industries located therein. The BARR Partners have joined forces to leverage existing facilities and, if needed, build new ones to bolster regional water supply reliability.

Website

<http://www.bayareareliability.com/>