March 27, 2024

Water Subcommittee

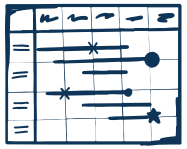
Rialto Draft Drought Contingency Plan

WSC

Agenda

DCP Background & Purpose

Draft DCP Overview



DCP Next Steps

WaterSMART Drought Response Program

- USBR provides financial assistance for activities that help prepare for and respond to drought.
- Program funding is allocated for:
  - Drought Contingency Planning
  - Drought Resiliency Projects
    - Increase reliability of supplies
    - Improve water management
    - Provide benefits for fish, wildlife and the environment
  - Emergency Response Actions

The City of Rialto received a grant to prepare a Drought Contingency Plan

Drought Contingency Planning

- Drought Contingency Plans are structured to address these questions:
  - How will we recognize the next drought in the early stages?
  - How will drought affect us?
  - How can we protect ourselves from the next drought?

Drought Contingency Planning

1. Introduction	2. Drought Monitoring	3. Response Actions	4. Vulnerability Assessment	5. Mitigation Actions	6. Operational and Administrative Framework	7. Plan Update Process
• Purpose, Goals • Approach • Historical Drought • Agency Overview • Supply & Demand	• Drought Indices • Shortage Stages	• Related to Shortage Stages	• Risks and Impacts of Drought on critical resources • Future Conditions • Drive mitigation actions	• Tool to prioritize actions • List of Actions	• Roles • Responsibilities • Resources	• Plan Evaluation • Future Updates

Drought Task Force

- Composed of multiple agencies in the region to provide input on each element of the DCP
  - City of Rialto Staff
  - Rialto Water Services/Veolia
  - San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
  - West Valley Water District
  - Fontana Water Company
  - City of Colton

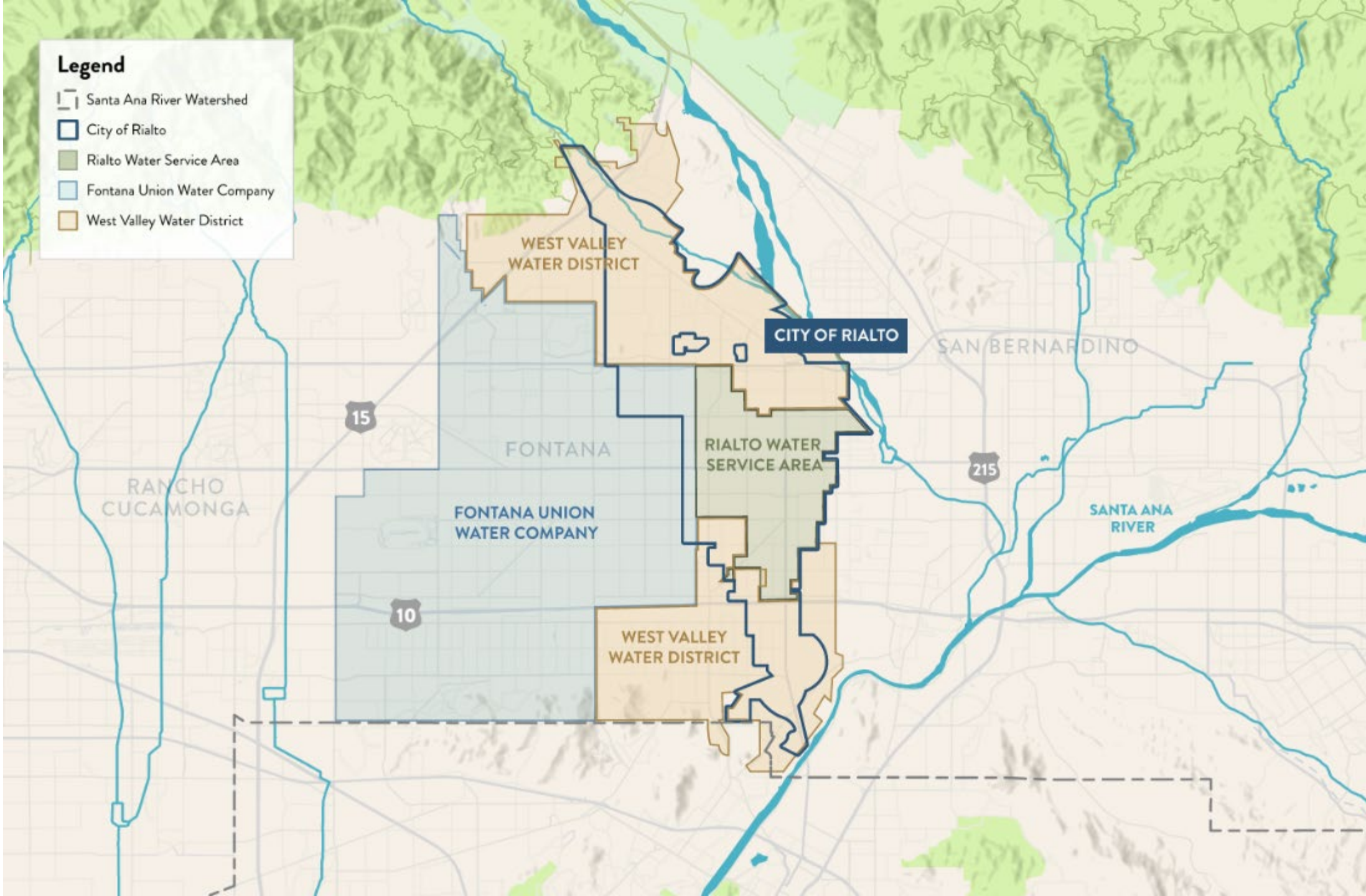
Drought Task Force

- DCP process included 7 Workshops

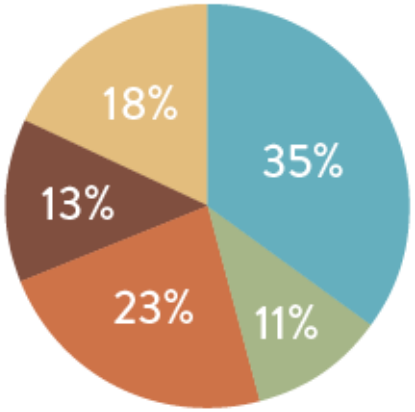
Draft DCP Overview

Rialto Drought Contingency Plan

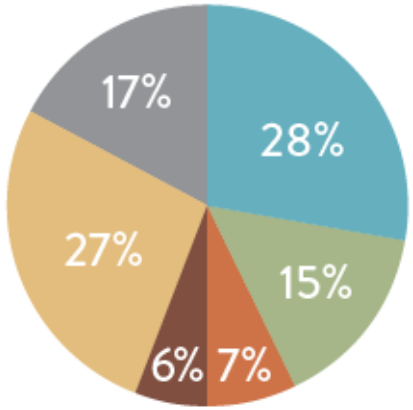
Plan Area


Legend
Santa Ana River Watershed
City of Rialto
Rialto Water Service Area
Fontana Union Water Company
West Valley Water District
WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
CITY OF RIALTO
SAN BERNARDINO
15
FONTANA
RIALTO WATER SERVICE AREA
215
RANCHO CUCAMONGA
FONTANA UNION WATER COMPANY
SANTA ANA RIVER
10
WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

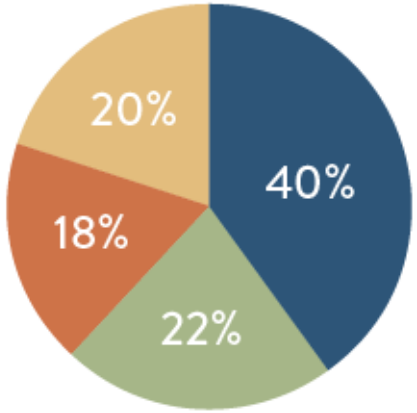
Water Supply Portfolios in the Plan Area



Rialto



West Valley Water District



Fontana Union Water Company

Water Supply

- Bunker Hill Basin
- Chino Basin
- Lytle Creek Basin
- Rialto-Colton Basin
- Riverside North Basin
- Lytle Creek Surface Water
- Imported Water

Drought Monitoring

- The State already requires water suppliers to do an Annual Water Supply & Demand Assessment (AWSDA) to assess whether a supply shortage may occur in the coming year if drought conditions occur, and to determine which Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) stage and actions to implement.

1 INFO

Provide information about the water system being assessed

2 DEMAND

Estimate water demands for the coming year

3 SUPPLY

Estimate water supplies available from each source for the coming year

4 ASSESSMENT

Compare supplies to demands to determine whether a supply shortage may occur, and at what percent (or stage)

5 ACTIONS

Determine which WSCP stage and actions to implement to close the projected gap, if any

Drought Response Actions

- Reviewed stages and response actions for Rialto, WVWD, FUWC, and Colton WSCPs
- Generally, each agency implements the same or very similar response actions, but the stage in which each action is implemented may differ.

	Normal Conditions	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	>50%
Rialto	Stage 1	Stage 2		Stage 3	Stage 4						
WVWD	Stage 1	Stage 2		Stage 3	Stage 4						
FUWC	Stage 1	Stage 2		Stage 3		Stage 4		Stage 5		Stage 6	
Colton	Stage 1		Stage 2	Stage 3		Stage 4					

Response Actions

- Performed a detailed analysis of Rialto's current response actions in the WSCP
  - Recommendations for Rialto to consider incorporating or enhancing as part of the next WSCP update:
    - **Communication & Outreach** to better engage City residents on shortage stages and actions they can take to help respond to drought conditions
    - **Rebates** to reduce water use
    - **Flexible language** to provide the City Manager or their designee flexibility to respond and comply with executive orders and state mandates
    - **State's six standard shortage stages** corresponding to 10% shortage intervals

Education & Engagement Plan

Rialto DCP Education and Engagement Plan

The Education and Engagement Plan aims to effectively engage and inform the community about Rialto's DCP, focusing on the six stages of water shortage and associated drought response actions. The goal is to promote water conservation, raise awareness about the severity of the drought, and guide residents through the necessary measures to mitigate its impact. This plan was developed using the input received during Drought Task Force Workshop #4, which focused on Drought Communication.

1.0 Stage Overview
2.0 Communication Channels
3.0 Tiered-Message Approach
4.0 Educational Materials
5.0 Community Engagement Program
6.0 Responsive Feedback Options
7.0 Strategic Partnerships

The Education and Engagement Plan aims to effectively engage and inform the community about Rialto's DCP, focusing on the six stages of water shortage and associated drought response actions. The goal is to promote water conservation, raise awareness about the severity of the drought, and guide residents through the necessary measures to mitigate its impact. This plan was developed using the input received during Drought Task Force Workshop #4, which focused on Drought Communication.

Vulnerability Assessment

- Analyzed each supply source:
  - Bunker Hill subbasin
  - Lytle Creek subbasin
  - Rialto-Colton Basin
  - Riverside North Basin
  - Lytle Creek Surface Water
  - Imported Water
  - Other / All

- Based on
  - Task Force Vulnerability Assessment Workshop
  - 2020 IRUWMP
  - Other Regional Documents
  - Other Known Issues

VULNERABILITY CATEGORIES

CLIMATE CHANGE

EXTENDED DROUGHT

INFRASTRUCTURE

ADMINISTRATIVE, REGULATORY & ENVIRONMENTAL

WATER QUALITY

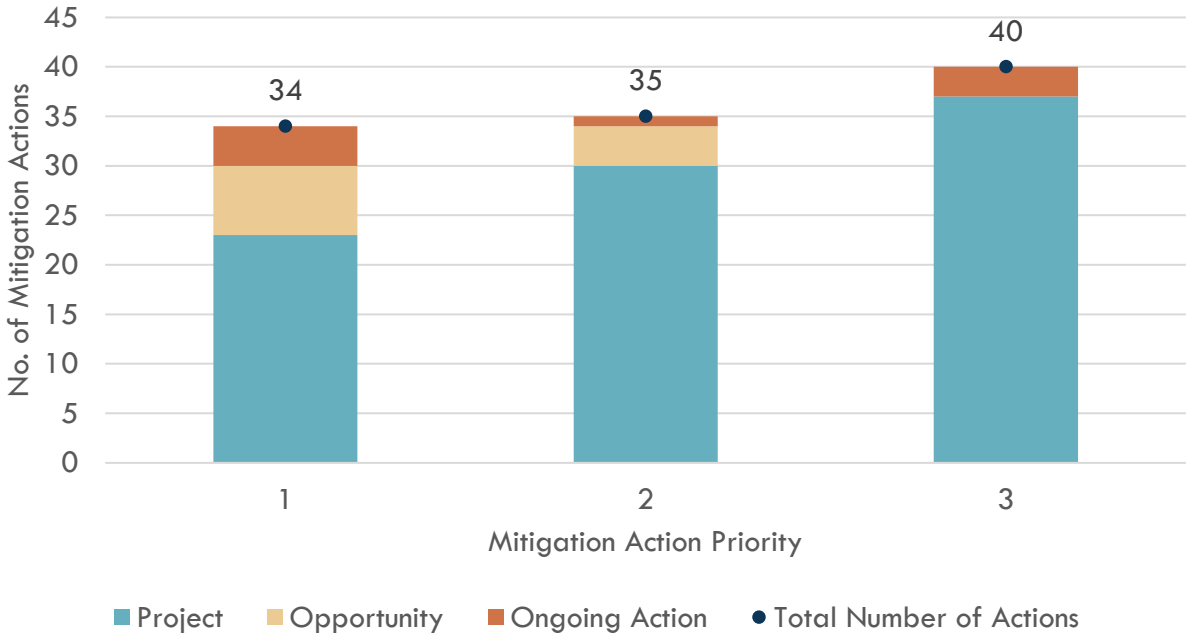
Vulnerability Assessment

Likelihood	
Low	Vulnerability could occur once every 10 years
Moderate	Vulnerability could occur at least 3 times every 10 years
High	Vulnerability could occur at least 5 or more times every 10 years
Impact	
Low	If the vulnerability were to occur, it would **minimally** impact the water supply and/or ability to operate. Agencies could absorb impacts within existing operations.
Moderate	If the vulnerability were to occur, it would **noticeably** impact the water supply and/or ability to operate. Agencies could adapt with existing resources relatively quickly.
High	If the vulnerability were to occur, it would **significantly** impact the water supply and/or ability to operate. Adaptation could have a significant cost or require substantial time to implement.

	Impact	Low	Moderate	High
Likelihood	High	3	2	1
	Moderate	3	3	2
	Low	4	3	3

Mitigation Actions

- Organized into
  - **Projects:** existing capital improvement project that is well defined
  - **Opportunities:** high-level concept that would require additional exploration to assess feasibility and define an implement approach
  - **Ongoing Actions**: currently occurring actions or programs that are planned to continue
- Prioritized based on the highest risk score of the vulnerabilities mitigated



Mitigation Actions

KEY TAKEAWAYS: PRIORITY 1 MITIGATION ACTIONS

- Construct groundwater recharge projects, where and when possible, particularly on the west side of the San Bernardino Valley region (i.e Cactus Recharge Basins)
- Maintain and expand collaboration and communication among agencies for shared water resources.
- Construct additional wells for increased supply reliability in the Bunker Hill subbasin for use when rights within the Rialto-Colton Basin are reduced and when Rialto-Colton Basin/Lytle Creek subbasin wells are impacted by water quality issues.
- Construct well-specific treatment, as required, to maintain existing supply assets.

Operational & Administrative Framework

- Ongoing conversations expected to continue at the regional level
  - Rialto Basin Groundwater Council
  - Basin Technical Advisory Committee (BTAC)
  - San Bernardino Basin Optimization Program
- Each agency will complete their own Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment and their respective governing bodies will enact the appropriate WSCP response actions
- Each agency will implement its own mitigation actions/projects, and collaborate on regional projects as appropriate
- DCP may be updated every five years, after the completion of future Integrated Regional Urban Water Management Plans (IRUWMP)

Grant Funding Opportunities

- DCP includes a list of Federal and State grant programs that may be applicable to DCP projects
- USBR WaterSMART Drought Resiliency Projects grant program awards extra points for projects that are part of a DCP

USBR WaterSMART: Water & Energy Efficiency Grants

Applies to on-the-ground water management improvement projects, including projects that conserve water, increase the production of hydropower, mitigate conflict risk in high-risk water areas, and further increase water supply reliability in the western United States.

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/

USBR WaterSMART: Planning & Project Design Grants

Project Design Grants apply to site-specific final design (minimum 60% design level) to support planning and design for projects that could be funded by USBR implementation grants. Note that project design grants under this program cannot be used to prepare a feasibility study.

Water Strategy Grants apply to early stage planning activities, including outreach and collaboration, technical analyses and assessments, project scoping activities to identify and prioritize implementation projects, and to develop a strategy for water supply projects, water marketing activities, water management projects, and/or river restoration activities.

Drought Contingency Plans and existing DCP updates are also funded through this USBR WaterSMART grant program.

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/

USBR WaterSMART: Drought Resiliency Projects

Applies to projects that increase the reliability of water supplies through infrastructure improvements, groundwater recovery, improve water management through decision support tools, modeling, and measurement, and the construction of domestic water supply projects.

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/

USBR WaterSMART: Small Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Entities with water or power delivery authority can obtain funding to improve water efficiency through previously identified planning efforts. Appliable projects include canal lining/piping, meter and flow measurement, landscape irrigation measures, and SCADA and automation.

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/

NEXT STEPS

1. Incorporate comments and prepare Final DCP
2. Submit the Final DCP to USBR
3. Post the DCP on the City's website per grant requirements

Thank You!

WSC