

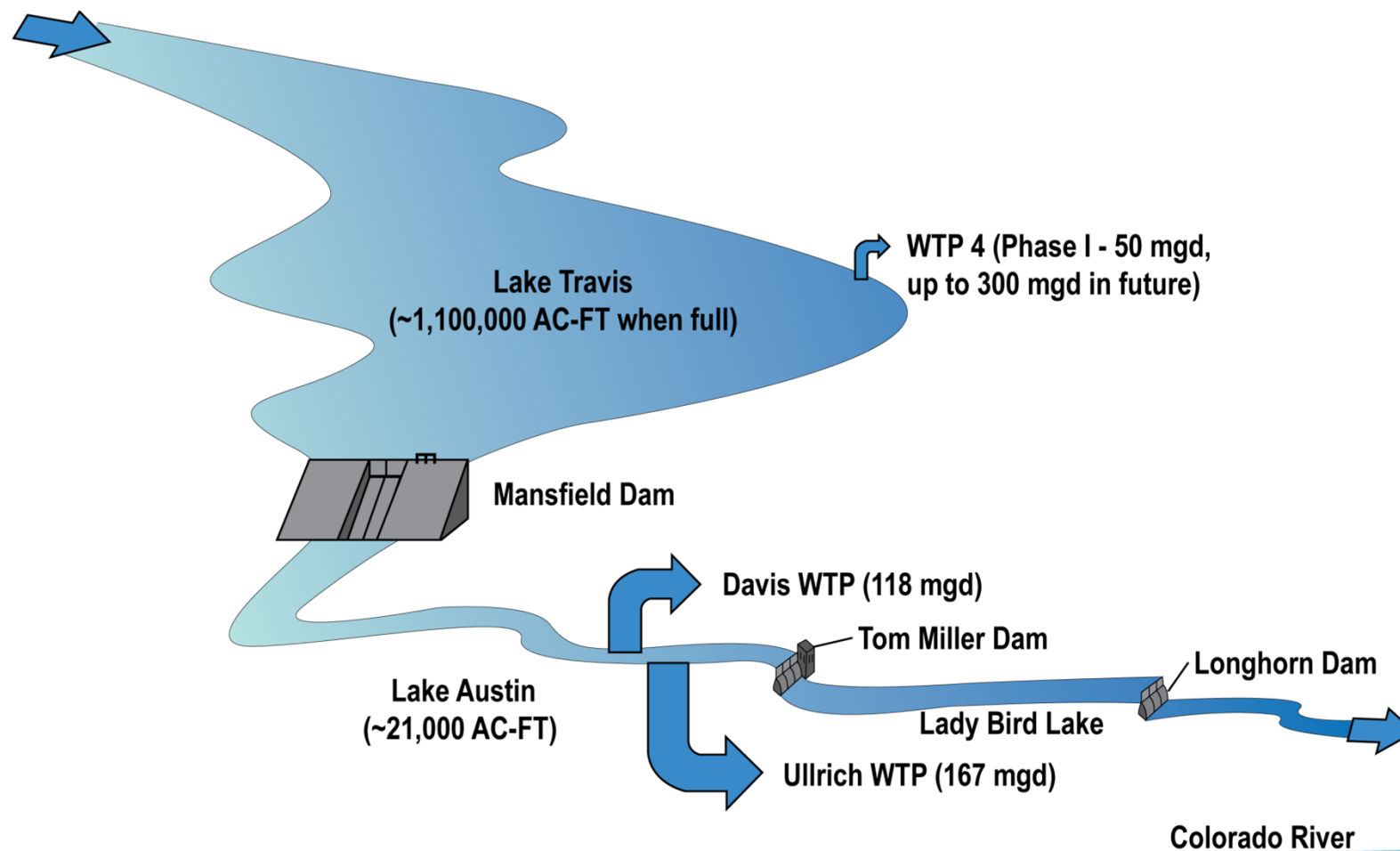


Commission

LCRA Water Management Plan (WMP) Update

November 10, 2015

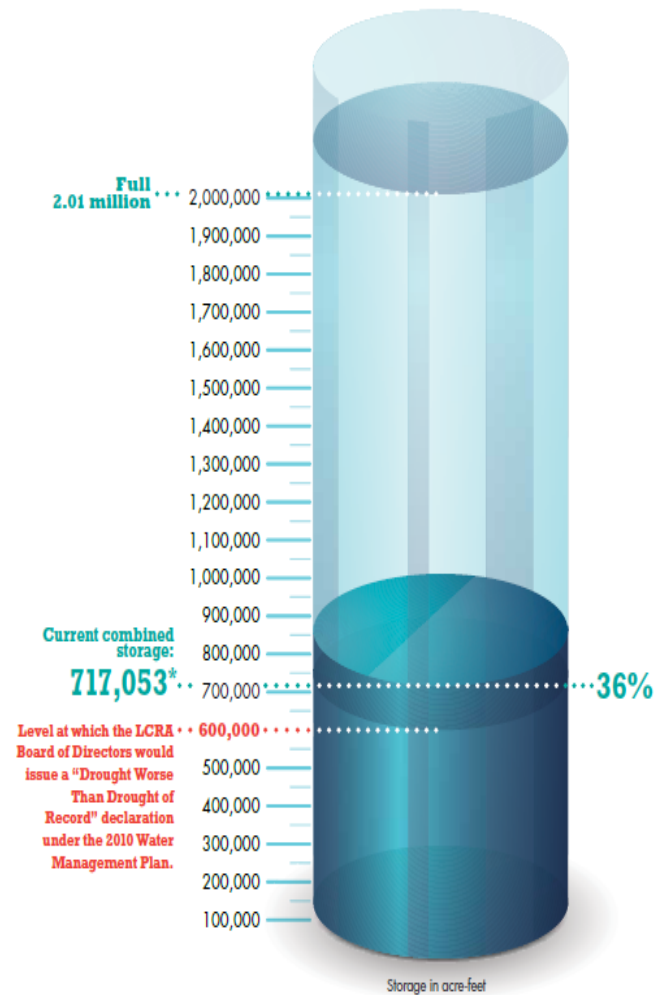
Austin Water Supply



Still In Drought (7 Y / 84 M / 2555 D)

LCRA, Feb. 18, 2015: “The drought gripping the Highland Lakes is now **the most severe drought** the region has experienced since construction of the lakes began in the 1930s.”

HOW FULL ARE LAKES TRAVIS AND BUCHANAN?



Without additional rain in the Highland Lakes watershed, there is a small chance – less than 1 percent – the combined storage of lakes Buchanan and Travis could fall to 600,000 acre-feet in the June-July 2015 time frame.

*as of March 1, 2015

10 Lowest Annual Inflows on Record

Rank	Year	Annual Total in Acre-Feet
1	2011	127,801
2	2014	207,535
3	2013	215,138
4	2008	284,462
5	2006	285,229
6	1963	392,589
7	2012	393,163
8	1983	433,312
9	1999	448,162
10	2009	499,732

Top 5 all-time lowest reservoir inflows have occurred since 2006

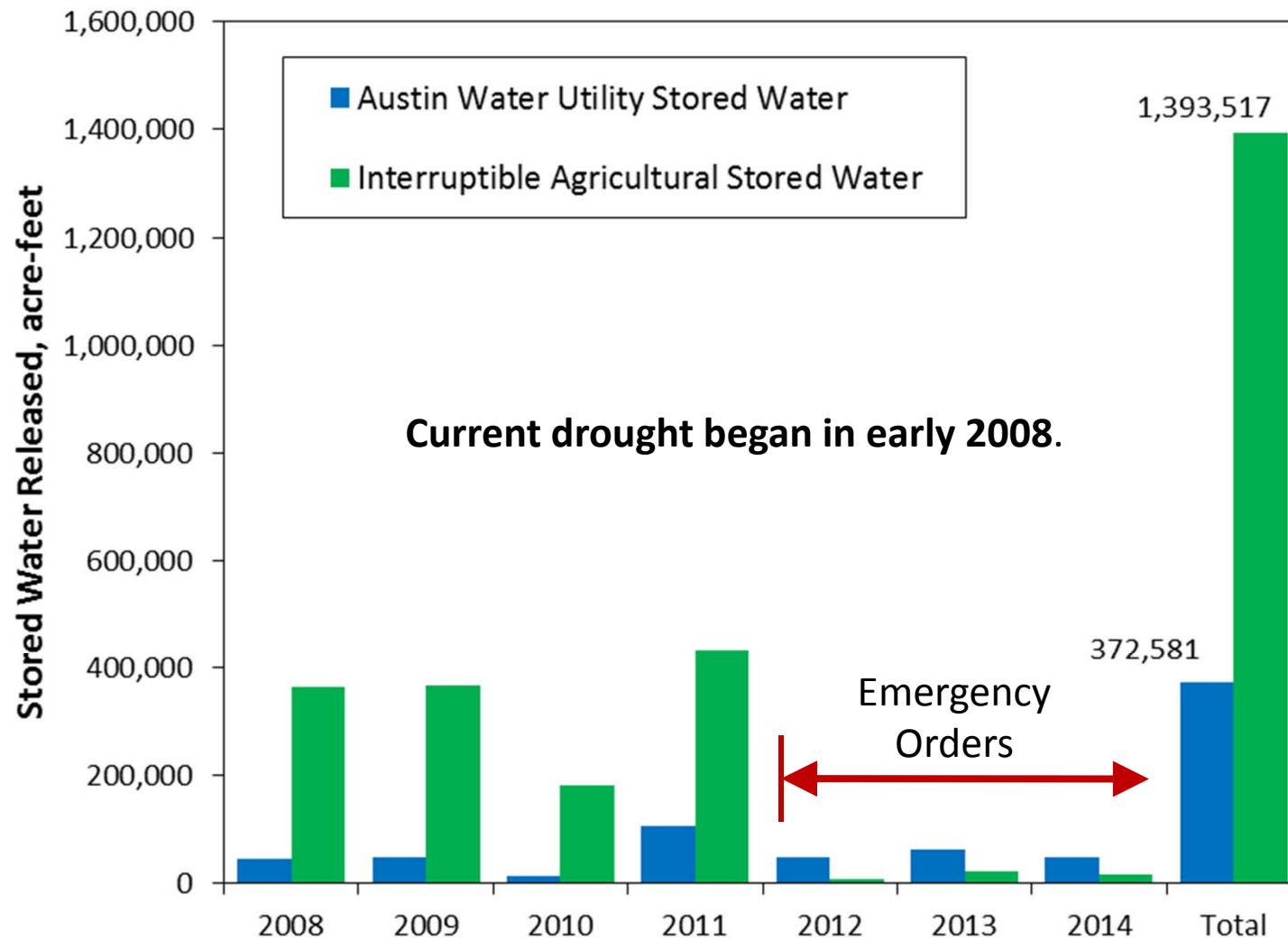
8 of the 10 lowest inflow years have all occurred since 1999

Long Term Drought Risks

From a 2011 study published in the Texas Water Journal, which analyzed data to reconstruct climate for a wide swath of Texas, including the Austin region, back to 1500:

- [T]he 1950s drought was severe but...there have been periods when drought was more severe and/or more protracted...
- The recurrence of severe prolonged drought in [the region studied, which included Austin] appears to be the norm, not the exception.
- It would be a questionable strategy for civil authorities to assume that the 1950s drought represents the worst-case scenario to be used for planning purposes in water resources management, at least for western and central Texas. This especially holds true when water managers consider the possible impacts of climate change, combined with a rapidly growing population and new demands on water resources.





Water Management Plan Status

- Revised WMP Approved by TCEQ – November 4, 2015
 - A long journey – revision process started in July 2010
- Enhanced Firm Water Protections
 - Elimination of interruptible customer “Open Supply”
 - Separate decision making for “first” crop and “second” crop water
 - Interruptible curtailment curves more restrictive on releases
 - Establishment of anytime cutoffs based on lake levels
 - Annual interruptible water availability and cutoffs tied to drought conditions
 - Inflow Pattern Analysis & Look Ahead Testing
- Updated Hydrology through 2013
- Earlier Start to Next Revision Process
 - No later than January 1, 2018

Questions?