Water Conservation Update

Kevin Kluge | August 16, 2022

Agenda

- Water Supply Outlook
- Stage 1 Drought
- Program Updates
  - Landscape Transformation - Water Forward Plan
  - Austin Energy Partnerships
  - GoRepair! Plumbing

Statewide Drought Levels

Water Weekly

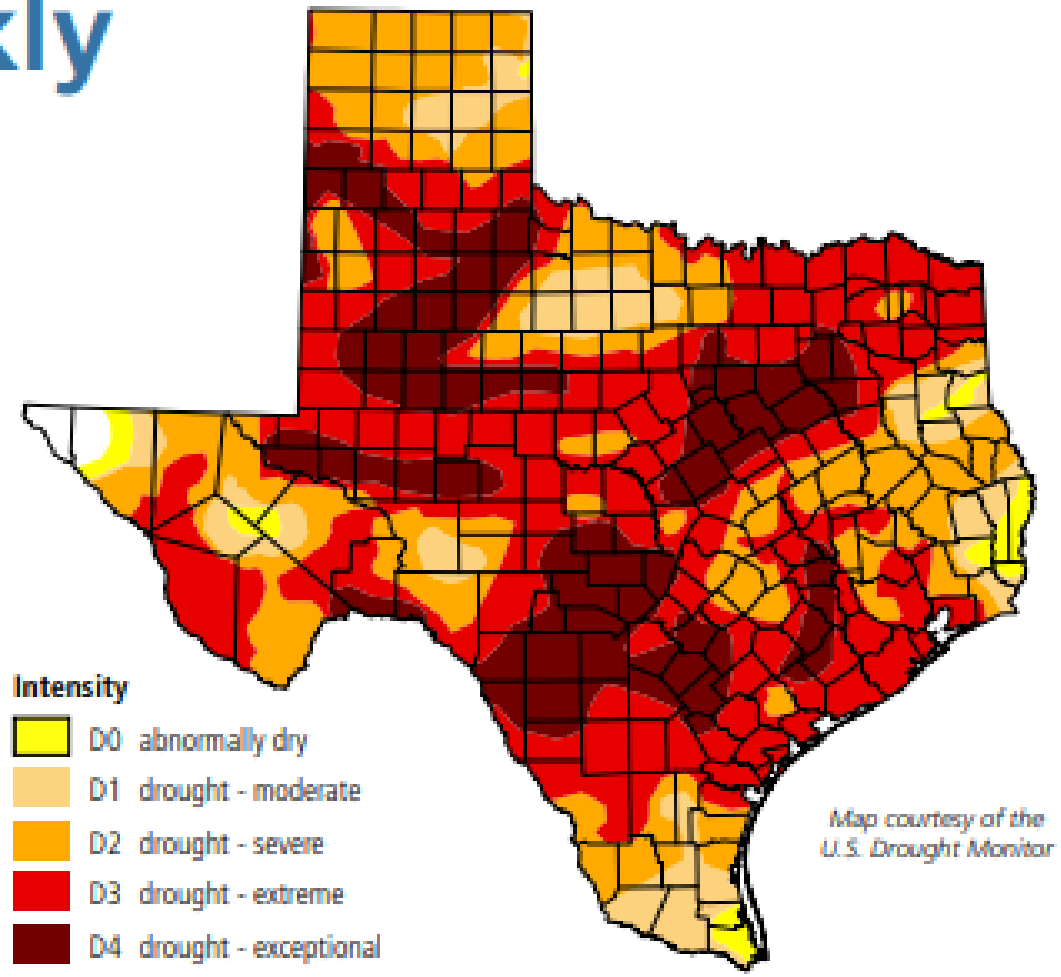
For the week of 08/08/22

Water conditions

The drought map for August 2 conditions shows improvement in parts of West Texas and the Panhandle but degradation in other areas. The total area of drought was unchanged from last week, but extreme or worse drought was up two percentage points and now covers 62 percent of the state.

Drought conditions

- 97% now
- 97% a week ago
- 80% three months ago
- 1% a year ago



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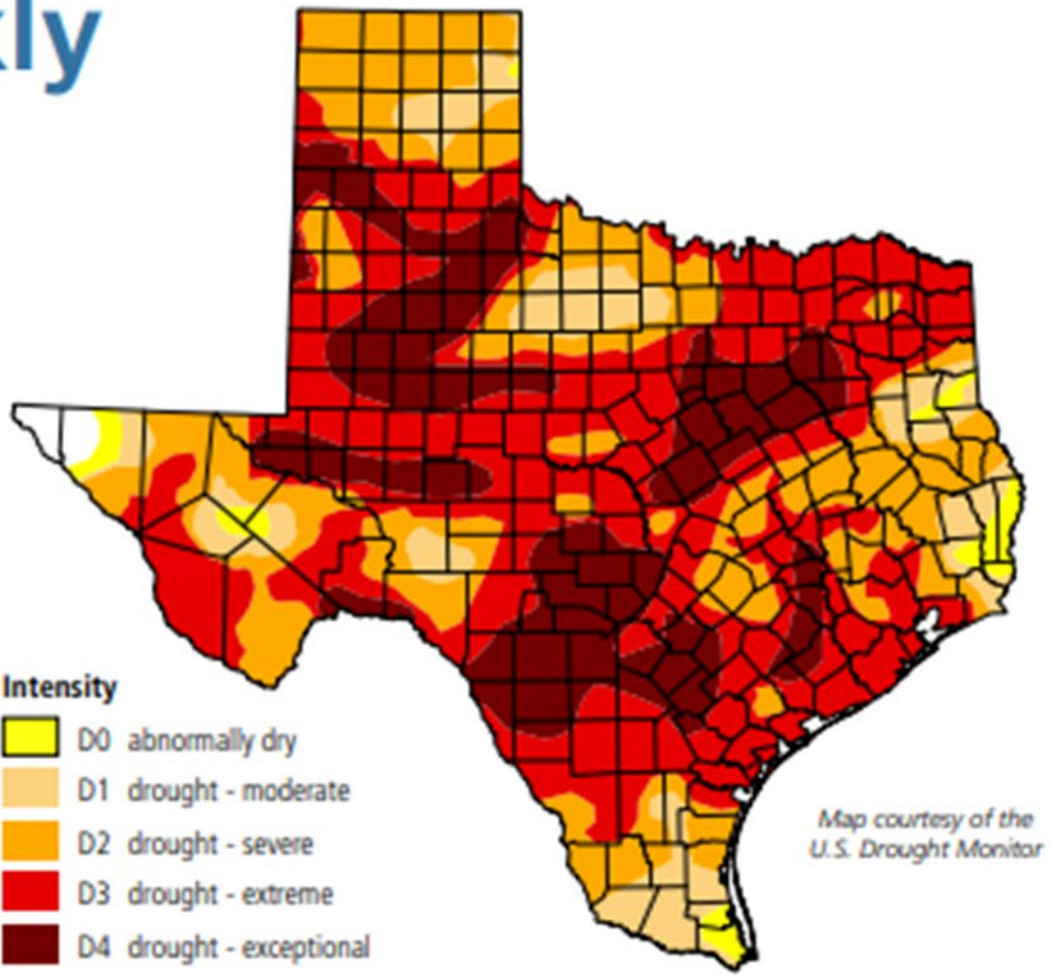
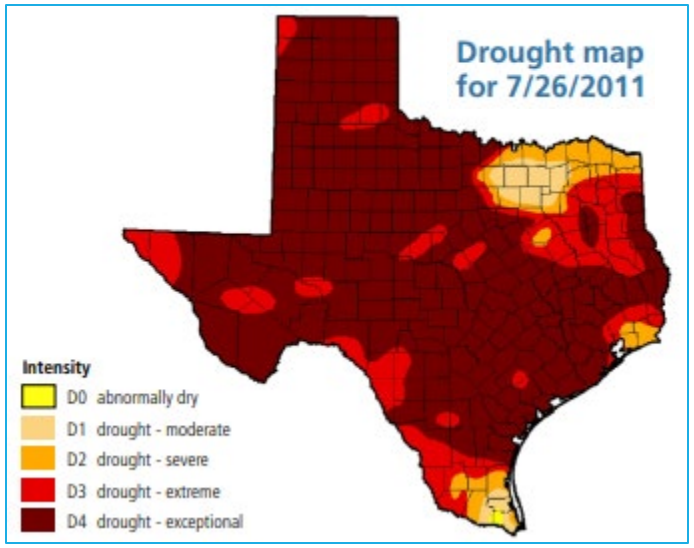
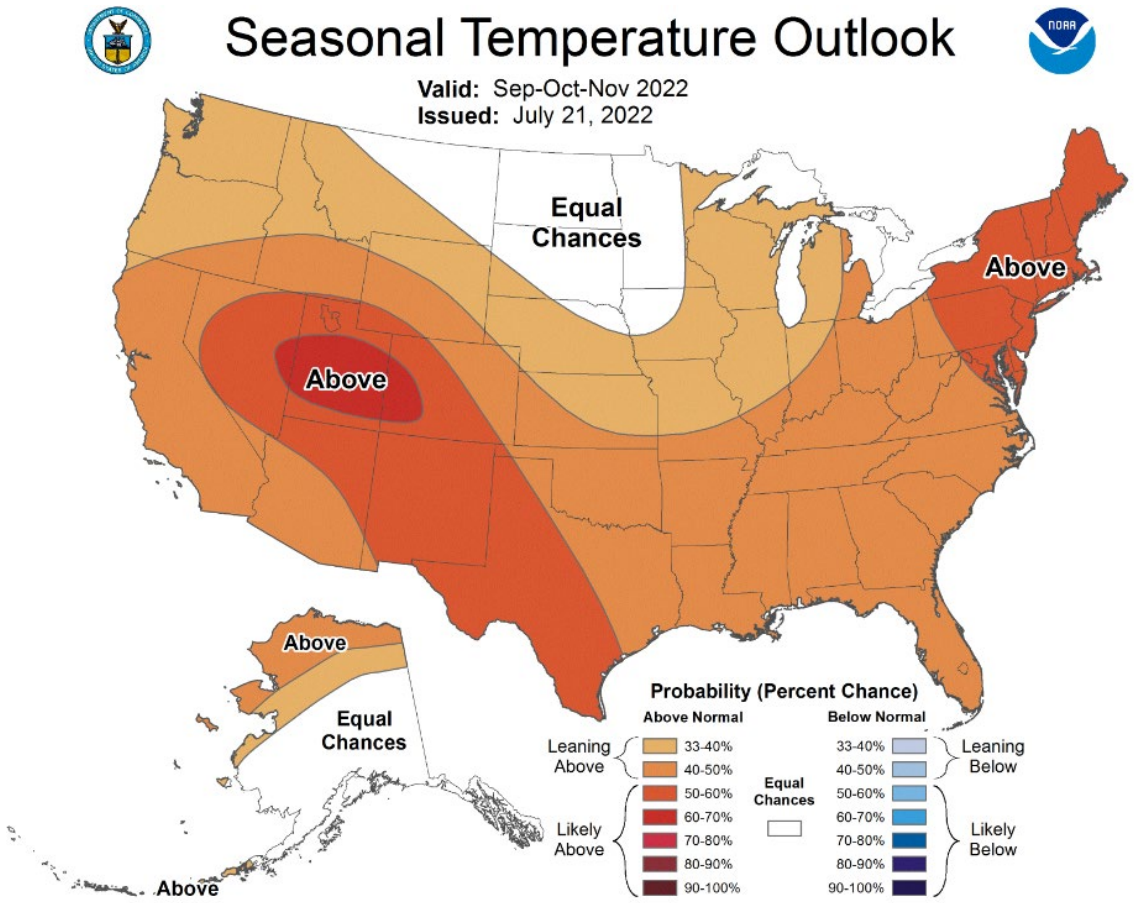
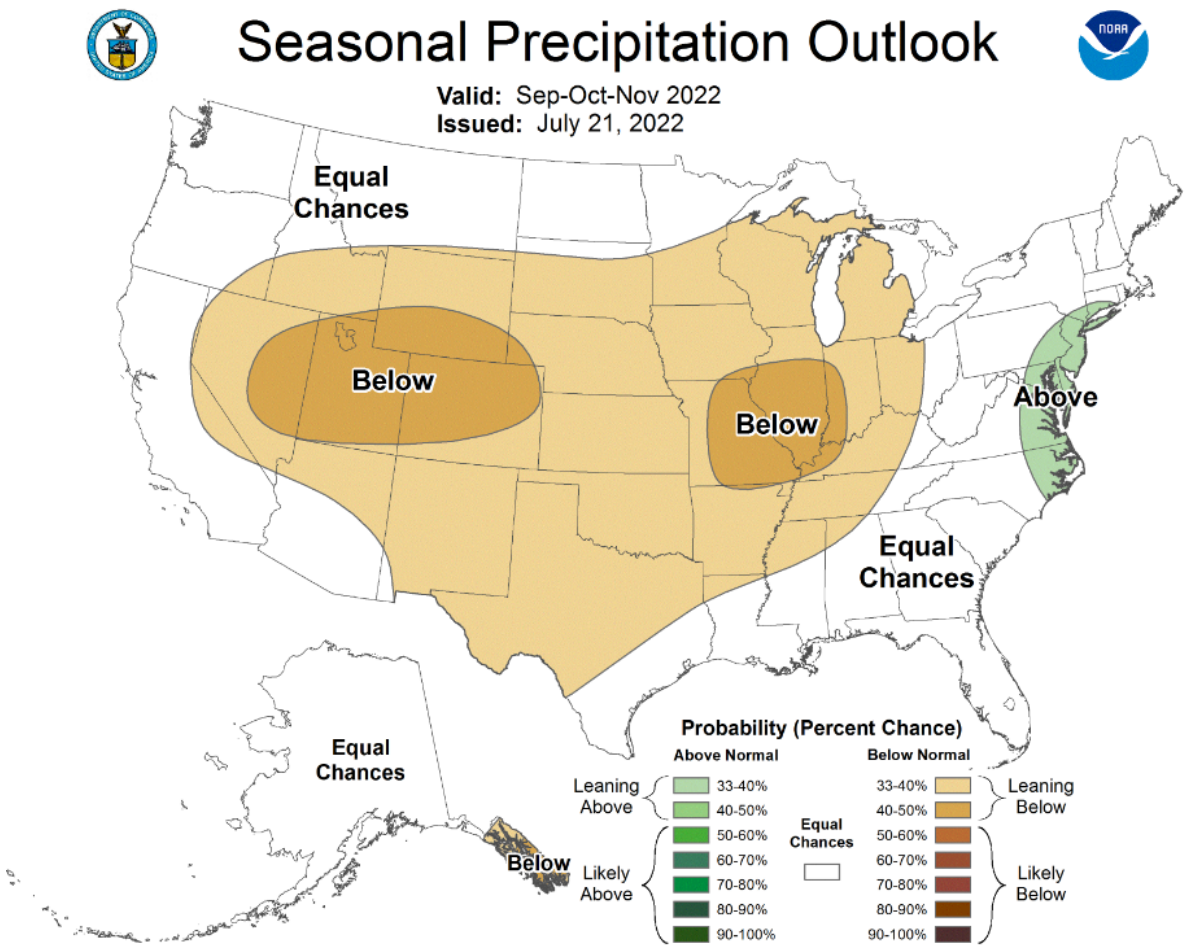


Map courtesy of the U.S. Drought Monitor

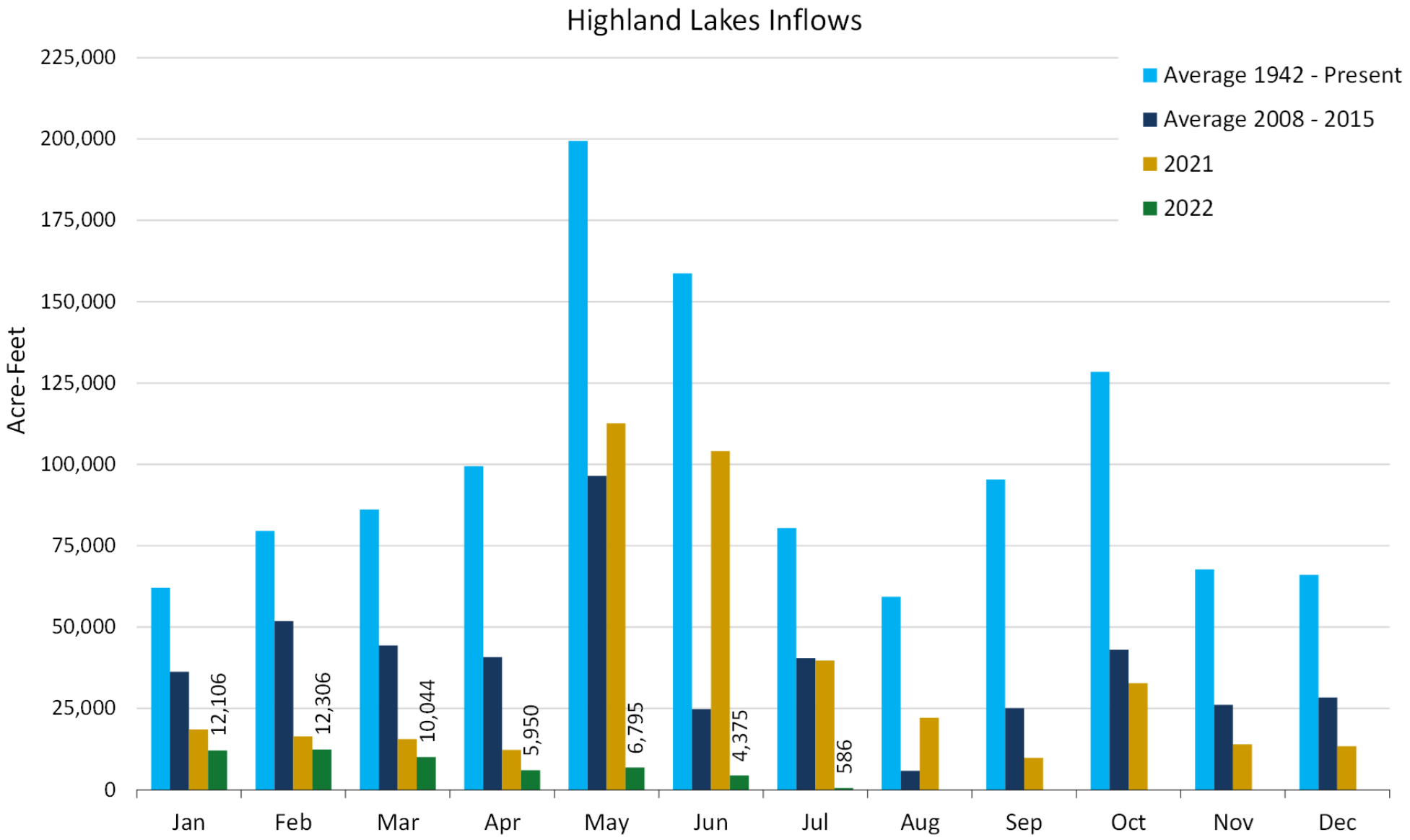


NOAA 3-Month Outlook

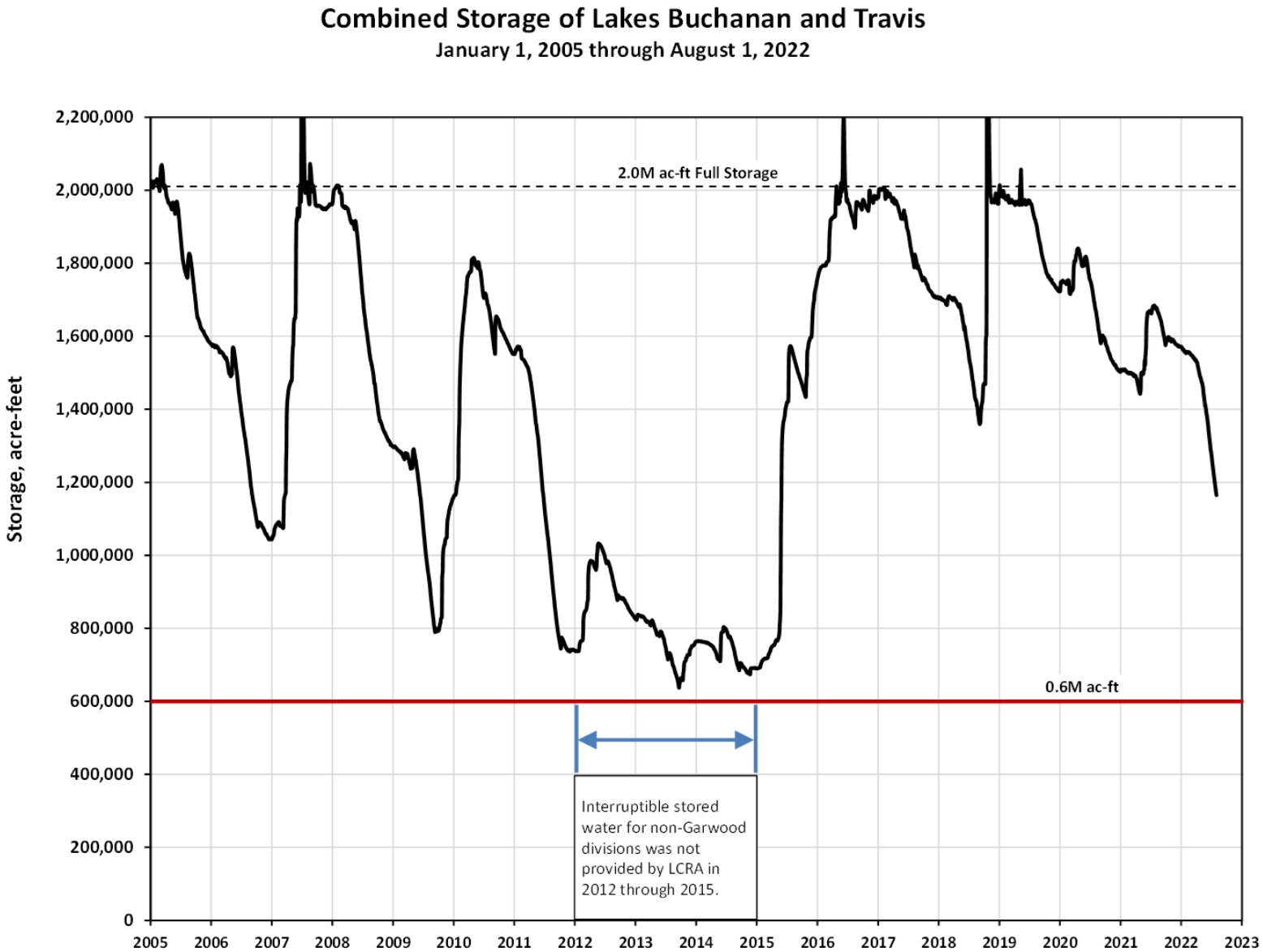




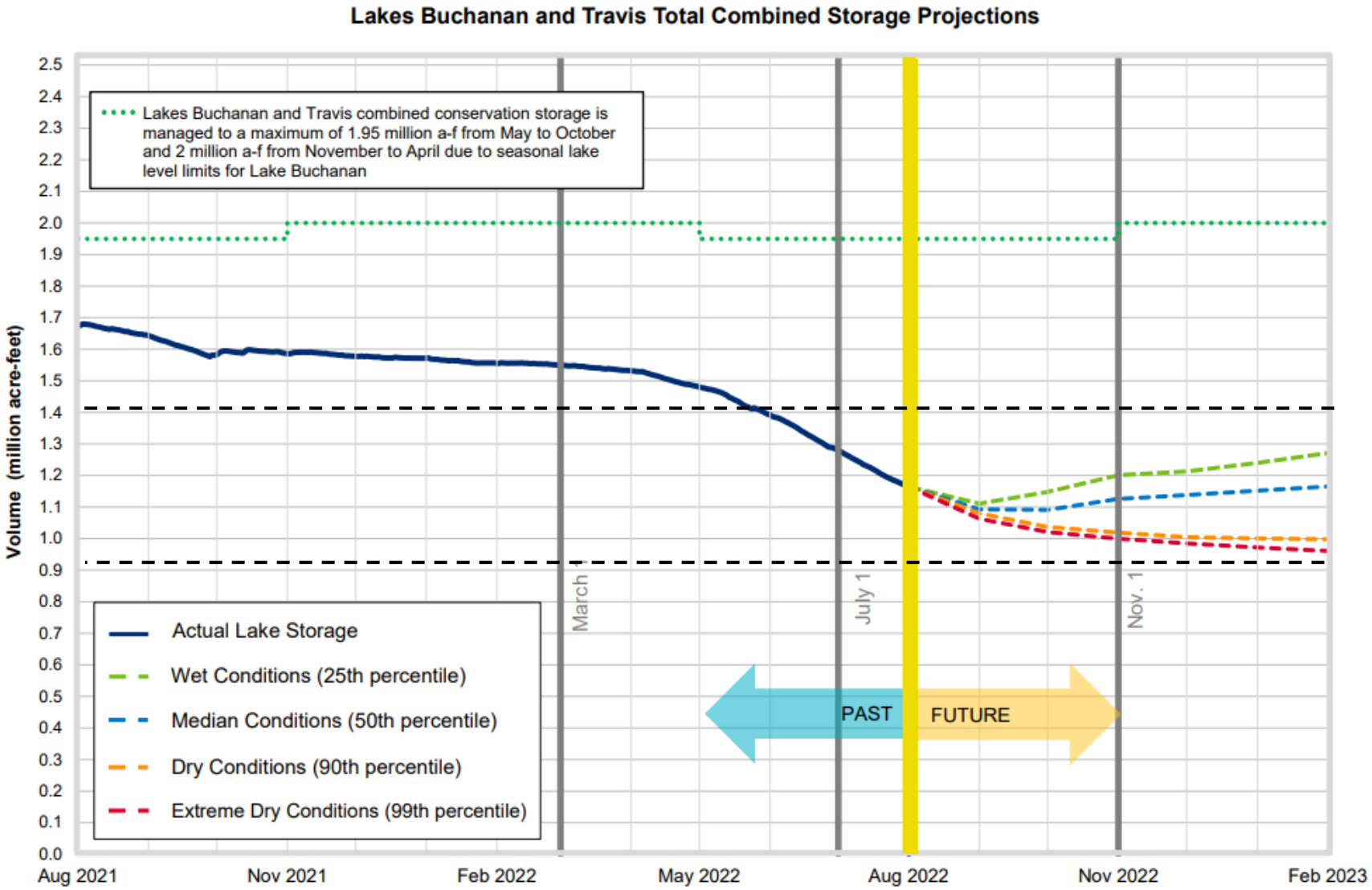
Highland Lake Inflows



Historical Reservoir Storage



Reservoir Storage Projections



Drought Stage Triggers:

Stage 1: 1.4 Million Acre Feet (MAF)

Stage 2: 0.9 MAF

Stage 3: 0.6 MAF

Stage 1 Drought

Austin WATER

STAGE 1

RESIDENTIAL

AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION
Even Address: **Thursday**
Odd Address: **Wednesday**
Hours: Midnight - 8 AM, 7 PM - Midnight

HOSE-END SPRINKLERS
Even Address: **Thursday & Sunday**
Odd Address: **Wednesday & Saturday**
Hours: Midnight - 10 AM, 7 PM - Midnight

COMMERCIAL / MULTI-FAMILY

AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION
Even Address: **Tuesday**
Odd Address: **Friday**
Hours: Midnight - 8 AM, 7 PM - Midnight

HOSE-END SPRINKLERS
Even Address: **Tuesday**
Odd Address: **Friday**
Hours: Midnight - 10 AM, 7 PM - Midnight

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION
All Addresses: **Monday**
Hours: Midnight - 8 AM, 7 PM - Midnight

HOSE-END SPRINKLERS
All Addresses: **Monday**
Hours: Midnight - 10 AM, 7 PM - Midnight

Home Car Wash Allowed with Bucket or Auto Shut-Off Hose

Tree Irrigation, Hand-Held Hose, Drip Irrigation and Athletic Fields: **Exempt**

Current Drought Activities

- Media messages
- Focused outreach for irrigation audits
- Staff patrols and 311 responses
- Signs and coasters

Program Updates

Landscape Transformation

Landscape Transformation
Incentives or Ordinances

Landscape transformation to regionally-appropriate landscapes can reduce water needs for outdoor irrigation and provide additional benefits.

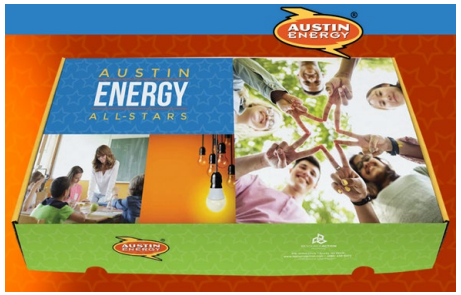
The Water Forward recommendations are to implement incentives and ordinances to encourage water use efficiencies and reduce water needs for outdoor irrigation. Implementation of an ordinance option could include implementing limitations on turf grass area, and/or irrigation area.

- Transitioning new single-family residential landscapes
- Ordinances and incentives
- Stages
  - Spring: public & stakeholder input
  - Summer: develop recommendations
  - Fall – present to public, stakeholders

Austin Energy Partnerships

- Instant Savings Pilot
  - Water hose timers
  - 5 Home Depots
  - 2,446 timers (Feb – July)
  - Rebates – 15
  - Future potential?

- All-Star Kits
  - Kits go out to 7,000 sixth graders and their families
  - Includes a low-flow showerhead, kitchen aerator, and info.



GO REPAIR! Plumbing Program

- New program with Housing & Planning Dept.
- Since January
  - Plumbing repairs for 20 homes
  - Average $8,100 per home

- Types of repairs include
  - Bath/shower (12)
  - Bathroom sink (9)
  - Clothes washer (1)
  - Kitchen sink (6)
  - Sewer lines (4)
  - Toilet (11)
  - Water heater (5)
  - Water line (1)

QUESTIONS?

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