

# SBFA Board Meeting

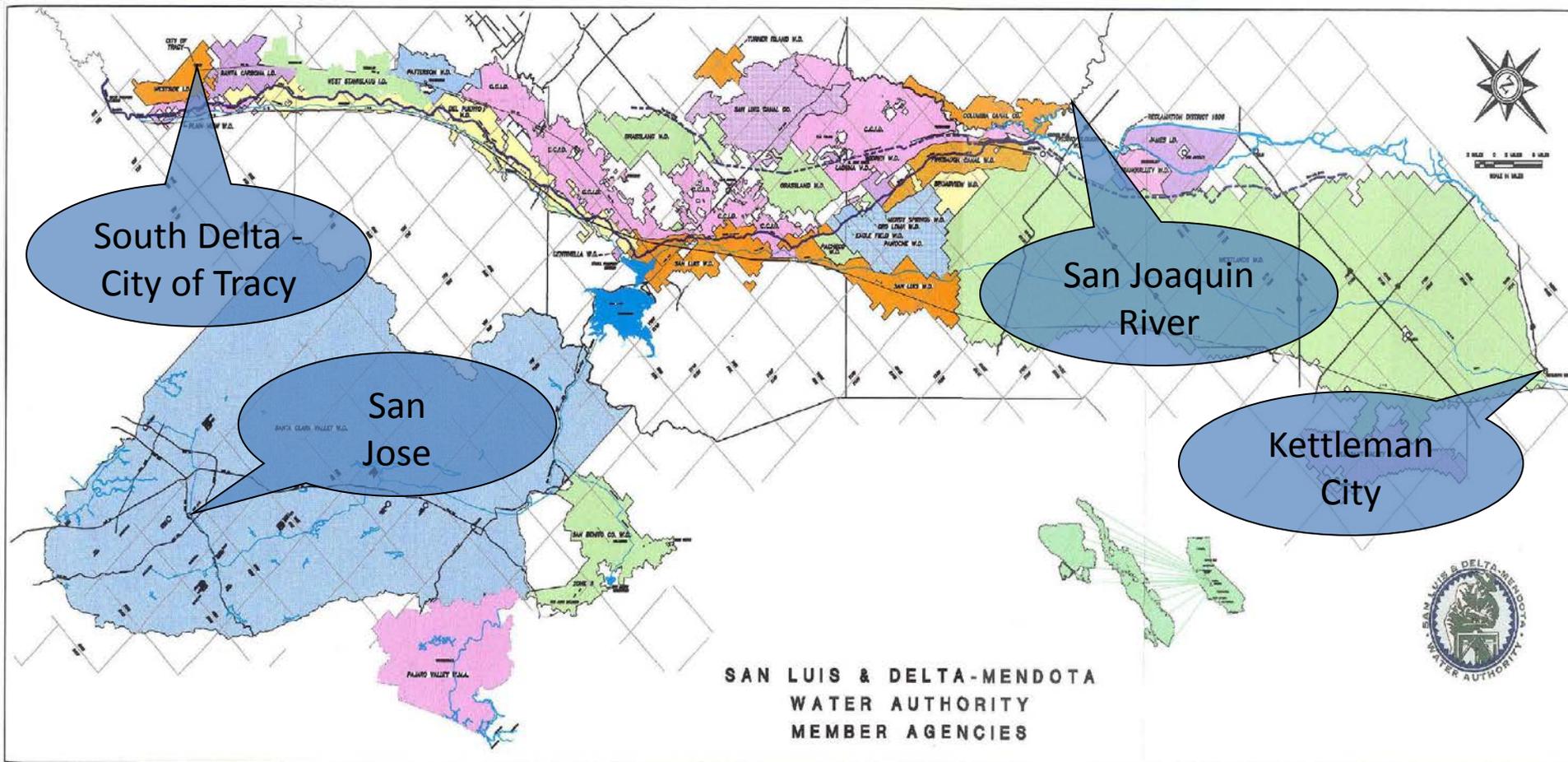
## A Briefing on Drought Impacts To Agriculture



March 4, 2014

Dan Nelson, Executive Director

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

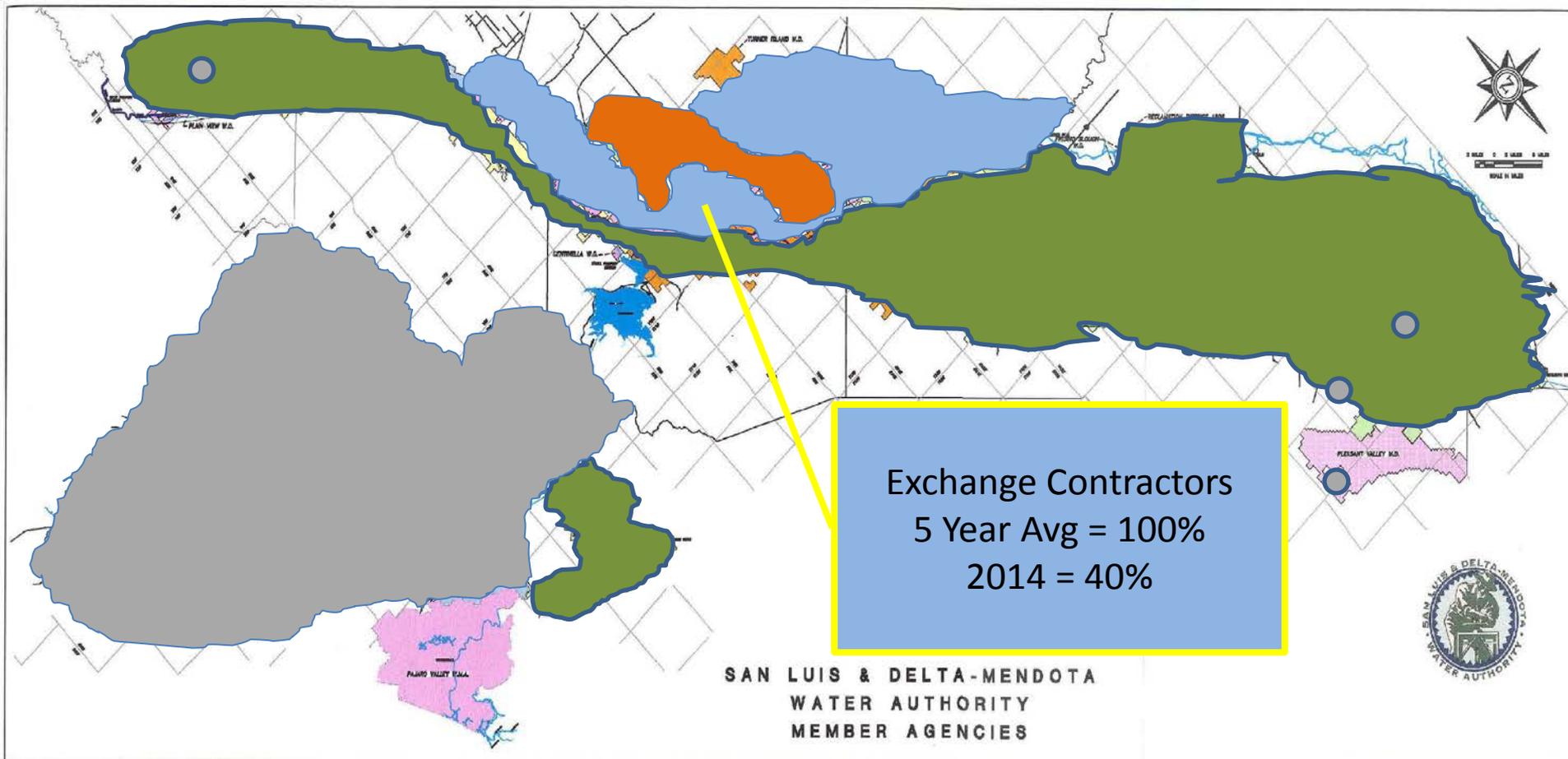


Banta-Carbona Irrigation District, Broadview Water District, Byron Bethany Irrigation District (CVP), Central California Irrigation District, Centinella Water District, City of Tracy, Columbia Canal Company, Del Puerto Water District, Eagle Field Water District, Firebaugh Canal Water District, Fresno Slough Water District, Grasslands Water District, James Irrigation District, Laguna Water District, Mercey Springs Water District, Oro Loma Water District, Pacheco Water District, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, Panoche Irrigation District, Patterson Irrigation District, Pleasant Valley Water District, Reclamation District 1606, San Benito County Water District, San Luis Canal Company, San Luis Water District, Santa Clara County Water District, Tranquillity Irrigation District, Turner Island Water District, West Side Irrigation District, West Stanislaus Irrigation District, Westlands Water District, Widren Water District.

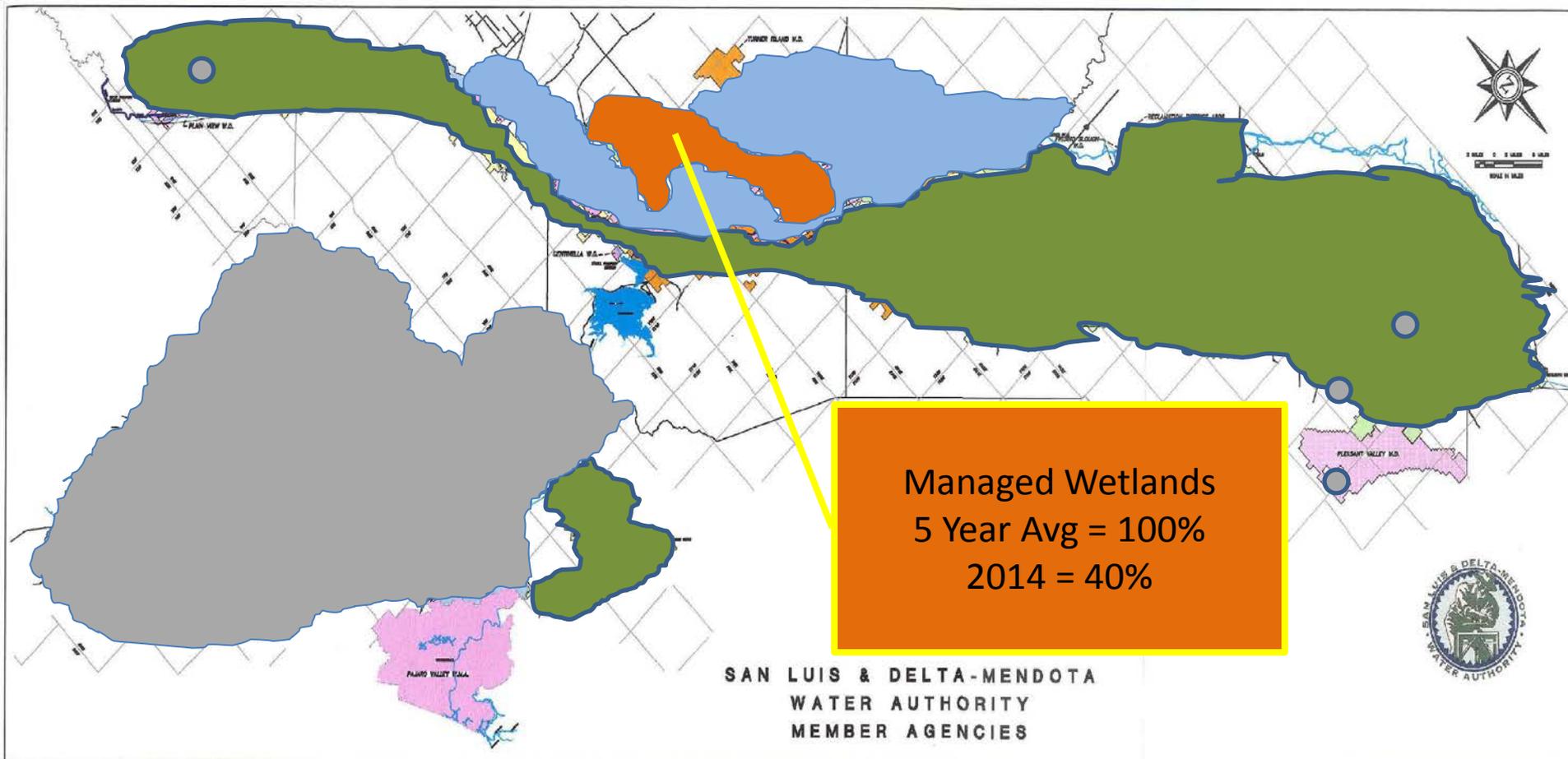
# Diverse Group of CVP Contractors

## ➤ 4 types of CVP Contracts

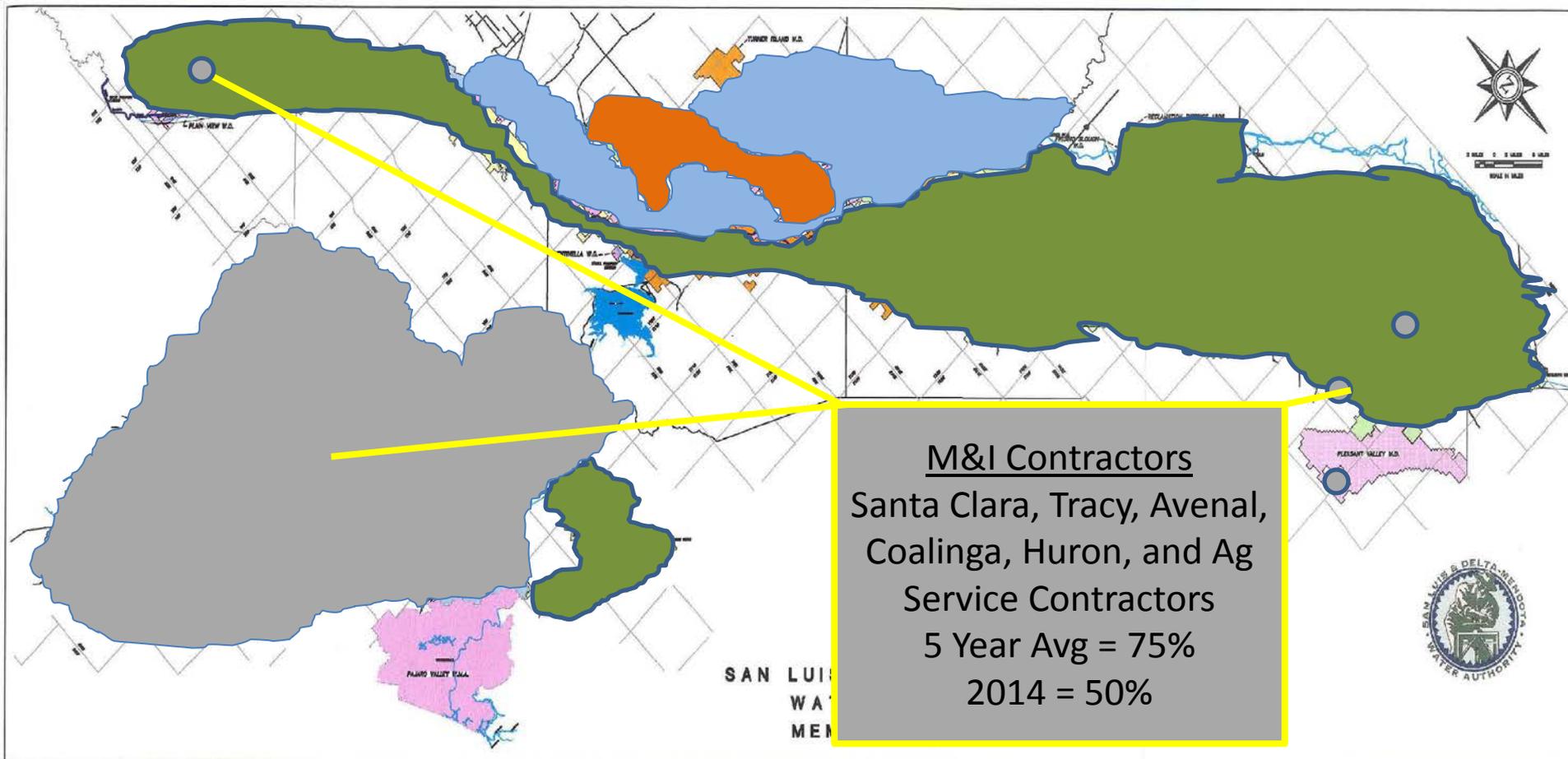
- Exchange Contracts – 870,000 acre-feet
- Ag Service Contracts – 1,900,000 acre-feet
- M & I Contracts – 200,000 acre-feet
- Wildlife Refuge – 300,000 acre-feet



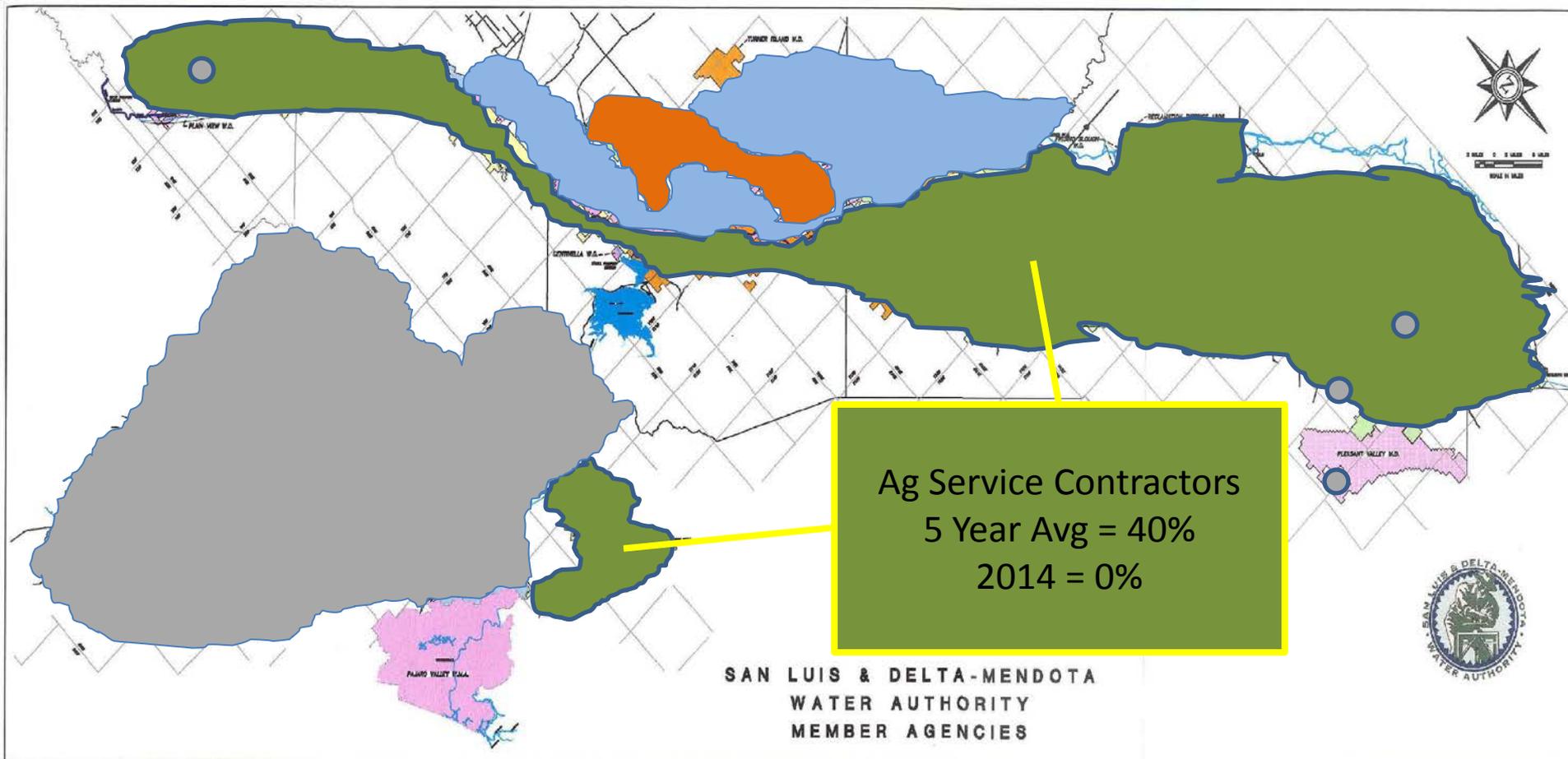
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# WHAT HAVE FARMERS/DISTRICTS DONE TO COPE

- Invest in High Tech Water Savings Equipment
  - Spread water across as many acres as possible
  - Drip irrigation a given in permanent crops, now becoming common in row crops as well.



ON FARM WATER CONSERVATION



DISTRICT LEVEL WATER CONSERVATION

# WHAT HAVE FARMERS/DISTRICTS DONE TO COPE

- Purchase Supplemental Water
  - Region very active on the statewide transfer market
  - Water Market is limited by restrictions in the delta



DISTRICT LEVEL WATER CONSERVATION

# WHAT HAVE FARMERS/DISTRICTS DONE TO COPE

- Diversified / Changed Crops
  - Farmers needed to supplement their supplies no matter what crop they grow;
  - High cash crops allow them to compete on the open water market;
  - Large blocks of land have been planted to permanent crops



CROPPING CHANGES



CROPPING CHANGES

# WHAT HAVE FARMERS/DISTRICTS DONE TO COPE

- Increased Pumping Groundwater
  - Groundwater is spotty in both quality and availability on the Westside
  - Significant impacts on subsidence, lowering aquifers and quality

# WHAT HAVE FARMERS/DISTRICTS DONE TO COPE

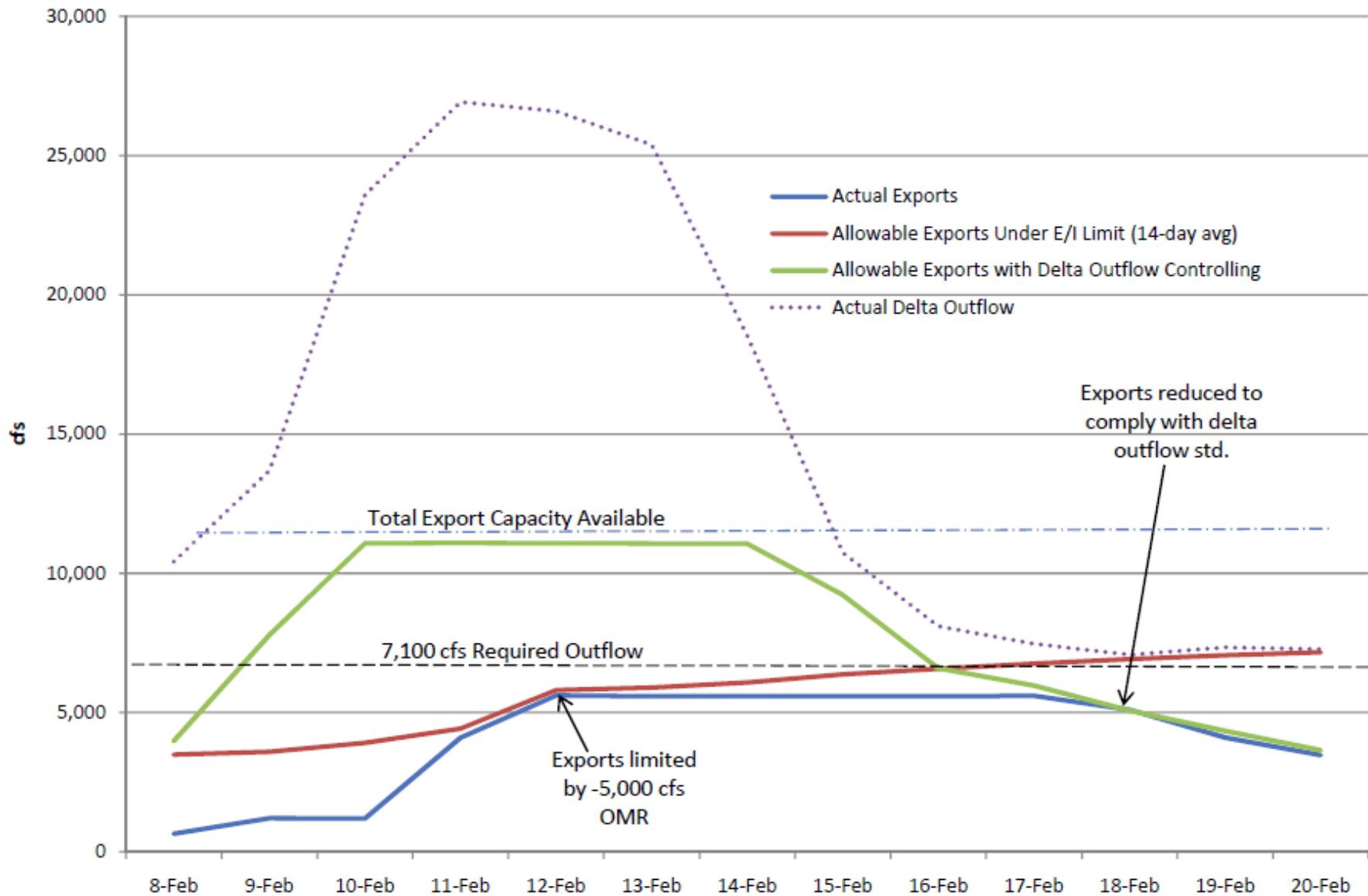
- Fallow / Retire Land
  - Both short term fallowing and long term retirement has taken place;
  - This has been done by both farmers and districts
  - Estimate half of the 1.1 million acres will not be farmed this year

# SLDMWA Perspectives Regulations

- The CVP and the SWP are over regulated
- The regulations operating the projects and the way they are implemented are flawed
  - Inefficient in restoration
  - Inequitable in allocating responsibility causing disproportionate impacts
    - CVP takes on the lions share of the restorations responsibility
    - South of Delta Ag Service Contractors take on disproportionate share of CVP responsibility

# Comparison of Actual vs Regulatory Potential Exports

Feb 8-Feb 20 2014



# SLDMWA Perspectives

## Status Quo Is Not Sustainable

- Current Water Supply cutbacks coupled with incredible increase in costs is not sustainable
  - Regulatory reform
  - Investment for Infrastructure



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