

BAWSCA

Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency



**Its First 10 Years:
Getting Results**

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BAWSCA's Ten Valuable Results for Water Customers

Since 2003, BAWSCA has delivered results for the benefit of its 26 member agencies in Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties. These agencies serve 1,700,000 Residents, 30,000 Businesses, and thousands of Community Organizations.

1. California legislation to protect health, safety and economic well-being of residents, businesses, and community organizations

in Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties who depend on the Bay Area Regional Water System. Three bills, prepared by BAWSCA's predecessor organization and enacted with the leadership of Senator Jackie Speier and Assembly Member Lou Papan, mandated that San Francisco rebuild the earthquake-vulnerable water system (AB 1823-Papan), ensured funds would be available for that purpose (SB 1870-Speier), and authorized the formation of BAWSCA (AB 2058-Papan).

2. A new 25-year Water Supply Agreement,

negotiated by BAWSCA, with San Francisco, greatly expands San Francisco's commitments to water customers in Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties who pay two-thirds of the cost of the system and saves them millions of dollars they would have paid under the terms of the old agreement.

3. Continuous monitoring of San Francisco's \$4.6 billion Water System Improvement Program

by BAWSCA led to 16 recommendations, accepted by San Francisco, to keep the program on scope, on budget, and on schedule.

4. \$62 million saved for BAWSCA member agencies

over the next 21 years by issuing bonds to prepay a capital debt they owed to San Francisco.

5. Over \$17 million saved

by reviewing and correcting San Francisco's allocation of costs to BAWSCA member agencies over the last 18 years.

6. A vote for BAWSCA member agencies

on any plan created by San Francisco to drain Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, initiated by BAWSCA and agreed to by San Francisco and all 26 member agencies.

7. BAWSCA's award-winning regional water-conservation programs

save water, save money, and leverage the BAWSCA member agency staff. BAWSCA secured over \$1.5 million in State grants to fund water conservation efforts by member agencies and their customers.

8. An agreement to share limited San Francisco water supply during droughts,

brokered by BAWSCA, and approved unanimously by its member agencies.

9. The first Long-Term Reliable Water Supply Strategy

for the region was initiated, and is being developed, by BAWSCA and its member agencies.

10. BAWSCA's presence and results have improved San Francisco's perception and treatment of water customers outside of San Francisco.

This was underscored by San Francisco Public Utilities Commissioner Moran in July 2012 when he said to the BAWSCA Board, "[the] San Francisco PUC is stronger by having BAWSCA be strong and able to represent your interests to us capably."

To deliver results, BAWSCA receives support from its Board of Directors and 26 member agencies, the California legislature, U.S. Representative Jackie Speier, the City and County of San Francisco, labor leaders, businesses, community organizations, and the media.

Future Challenges Facing BAWSCA

- 1. Threats to Supply Reliability.** The interests of BAWSCA member agencies and their customers must be effectively represented to State and federal regulatory bodies that will make decisions that impact the reliability of the San Francisco supply.
- 2. San Francisco's Water System Improvement Program.** San Francisco has extended completion of two of the forty-eight projects from 2015 to 2019. Ensure that BAWSCA's and the State's oversight continues until San Francisco completes the program within budget to protect the health, safety and economic well-being of the water customers.
- 3. Uncertain Future Water Supply.** San Francisco has not committed to meet the future water needs of the BAWSCA member agencies and the communities that they serve, leaving the future of those communities uncertain.
- 4. BAWSCA's Long-Term Reliable Water Supply Strategy.** Complete and implement to ensure that the member agencies have access to cost-effective and reliable water supplies.
- 5. Water Supplies for San José and Santa Clara.** San Francisco may decide to stop serving water to the cities of San José and Santa Clara, which are BAWSCA member agencies. Alternative solutions, and potential impacts to these cities and other BAWSCA members, must be identified and evaluated.
- 6. Administration of the Water Supply Agreement.** Ensure San Francisco meets or exceeds its contractual commitments for water supply, reliability, water quality, and fair pricing.
- 7. New Drought Allocation Plan.** The current plan that allocates San Francisco supplies between BAWSCA member agencies during a drought expires in 2018, and a new one will need to be developed and agreed to by BAWSCA's 26 member agencies.

What is the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency?

BAWSCA is an independent special district authorized by the California Legislature in 2002 (AB 2058 – Papan) to help protect the health, safety and economic well-being of the 1.7 million people, 30,000 businesses, and thousands of community organizations in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Alameda Counties.

AB 2058 states that "it is the intent of the Legislature to enable local governments responsible for water distribution in the three counties to establish a multi-county agency authorized to plan for and acquire supplemental water supplies, to encourage water conservation and use of recycled water on a regional basis, and to assist in the financing of essential repairs and improvements to the San Francisco regional water system, including seismic strengthening." *California Water Code Section 81301(d).*

BAWSCA Member Agencies:

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| Alameda County WD | Foster City/Estero MID | Milpitas | San José |
| Brisbane | Guadalupe Valley MID | Mountain View | Santa Clara |
| Burlingame | Hayward | North Coast County WD | Stanford University |
| California Water Service Co. | Hillsborough | Palo Alto | Sunnyvale |
| Coastside County WD | Menlo Park | Purissima Hills WD | Westborough WD |
| Daly City | Mid-Peninsula WD | Redwood City | |
| East Palo Alto | Millbrae | San Bruno | |