

# Water Conservation: Planning for Uncertainty

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PNWS-AWWA



## Water for People and Fish

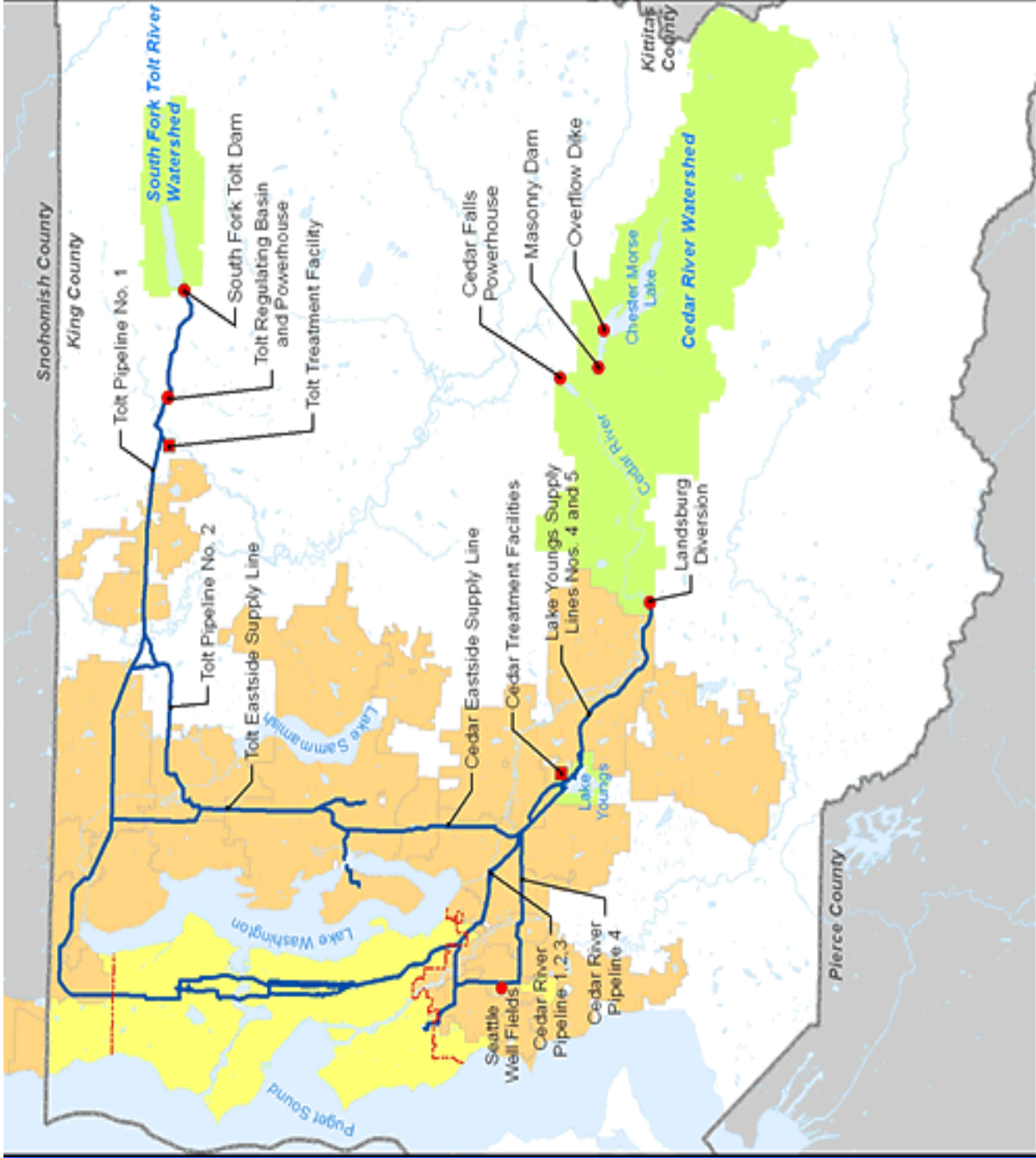
Provide our customers with reliable, cost-effective drinking water services that protect public health and balance our social and environmental responsibilities to the citizens and community.





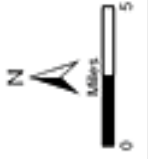
# The Conservation Story

- Seattle's Water System
- Growth & New Supply Options
- 18 Years of Conservation
- Accomplishments
- Planning for Uncertainty & Future Conservation

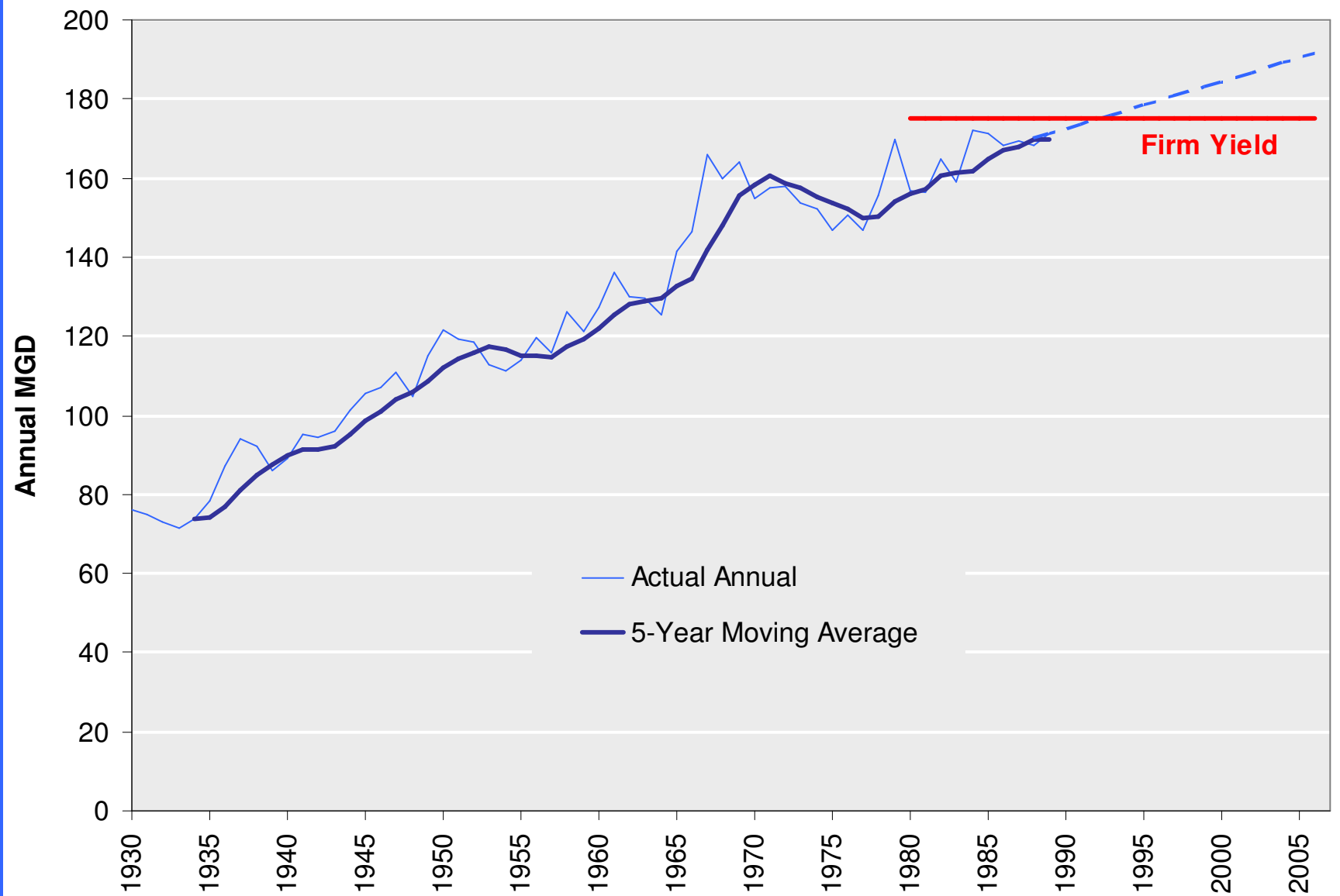


### Seattle Regional Water Supply System

- - - Seattle City Limits
- Transmission Pipeline
- Water Bodies
- Municipal Watersheds
- Current Area Served (2006)
- Seattle Retail Service Area
- Seattle Wholesale Customer



# Annual Seattle Water Demand 1930-1990



# Conservation as an Alternative: Considerations in the 1990s

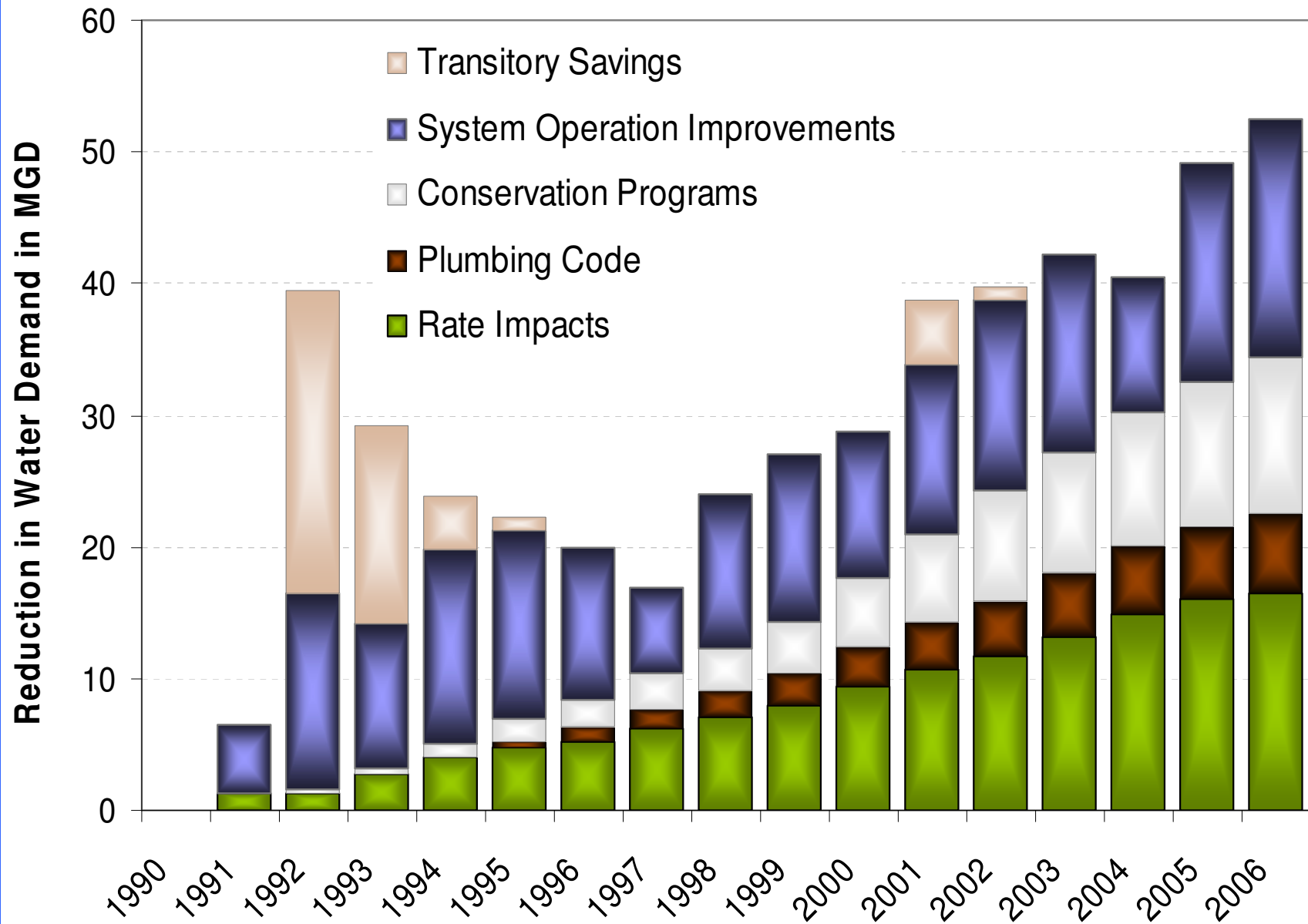
- 1987 Drought
- Developing new supply involved:
  - High Capital Costs
  - Negative Environmental Impacts
  - Regulatory Uncertainty
  - Long Lead Time
- Energy experience of the early 1980s

Question: Is it possible to delay the need for new supply through conservation?

# Four Sources of Conservation

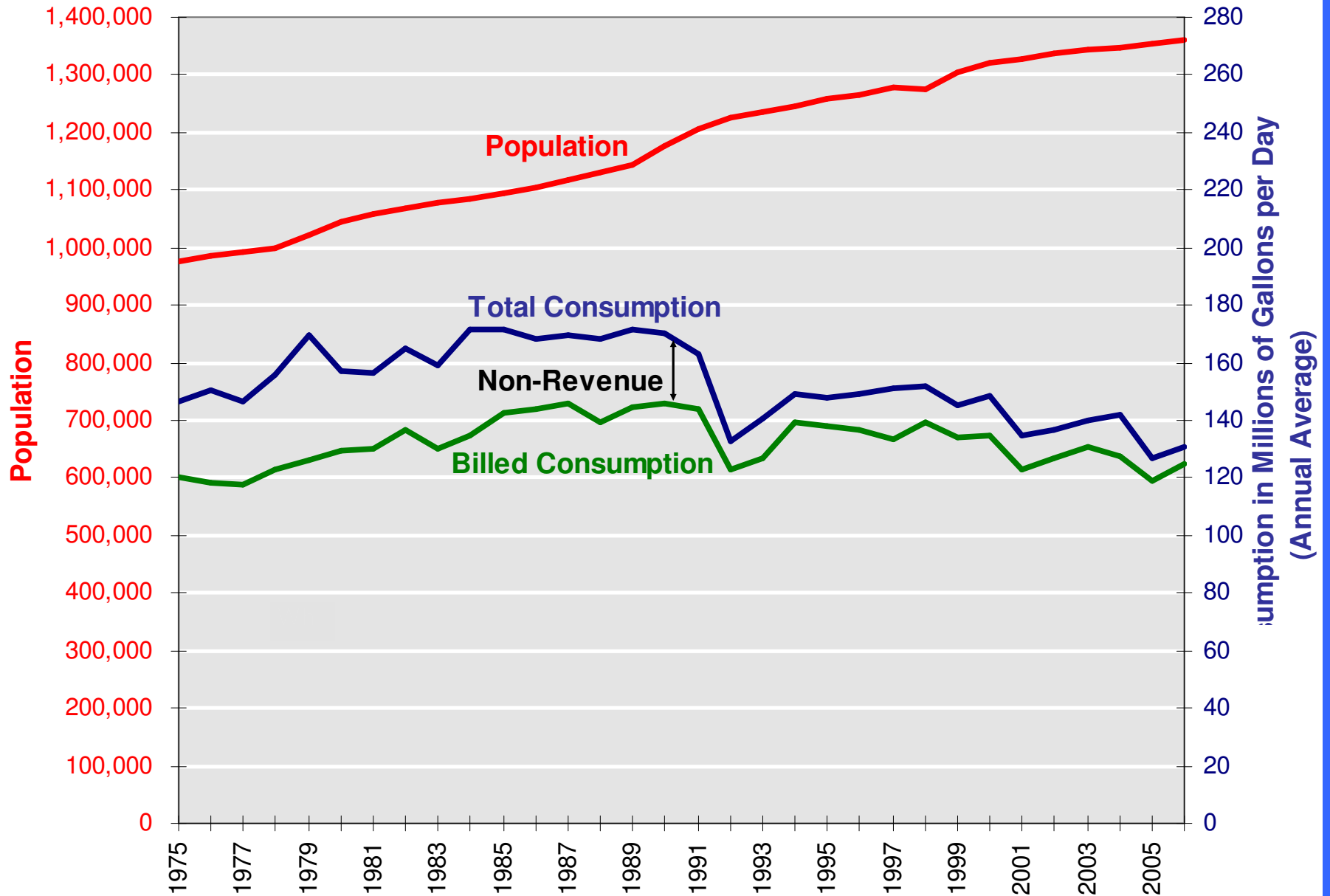
- Federal and State Plumbing Code
- Conservation Programs
- New rate structure to provide price signals
- Reductions in “Non-Revenue” Water

# Cumulative Water Savings Since 1990





# Growth in Population and Water Consumption Seattle Regional Water System: 1975-2006



# Hardware Measures

Program pays 50% or more – clothes washers, pre-rinse spray heads, process controllers, and irrigation systems

Water savings are relatively easy to attribute to SPU investment

Hardware – funded by CIP



# Behavior Measures

Disseminate information to customers to change practices  
Challenge to attribute savings to SPU investment  
Messaging – Funded by O&M

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# Regional 1% Program

## Progress 2000-2007

2007 Cumulative mgd savings = 7.5 mgd

## Annual Targets 2007-2010

1.12 mgd each year

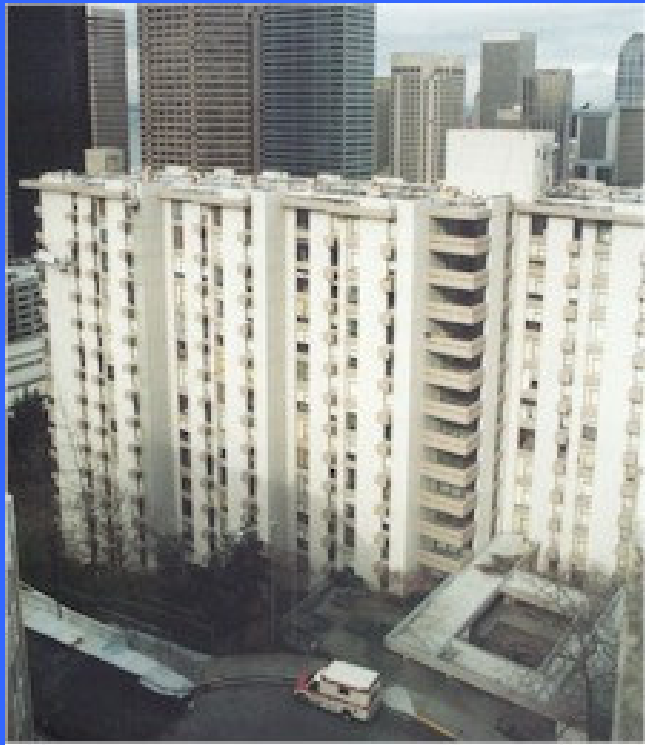
## Regulatory Requirement

6-year conservation goal key part of  
*2007 Water System Plan*



# Everyone Can Conserve = Seattle only

- Reach substantially all with offer to retrofit with water saving measures. Voluntary program
- Retrofit 21,650 units – 42% market penetration by 2010
- 2008-2010 goals – 1650 units per year + clothes washers for limited number of units



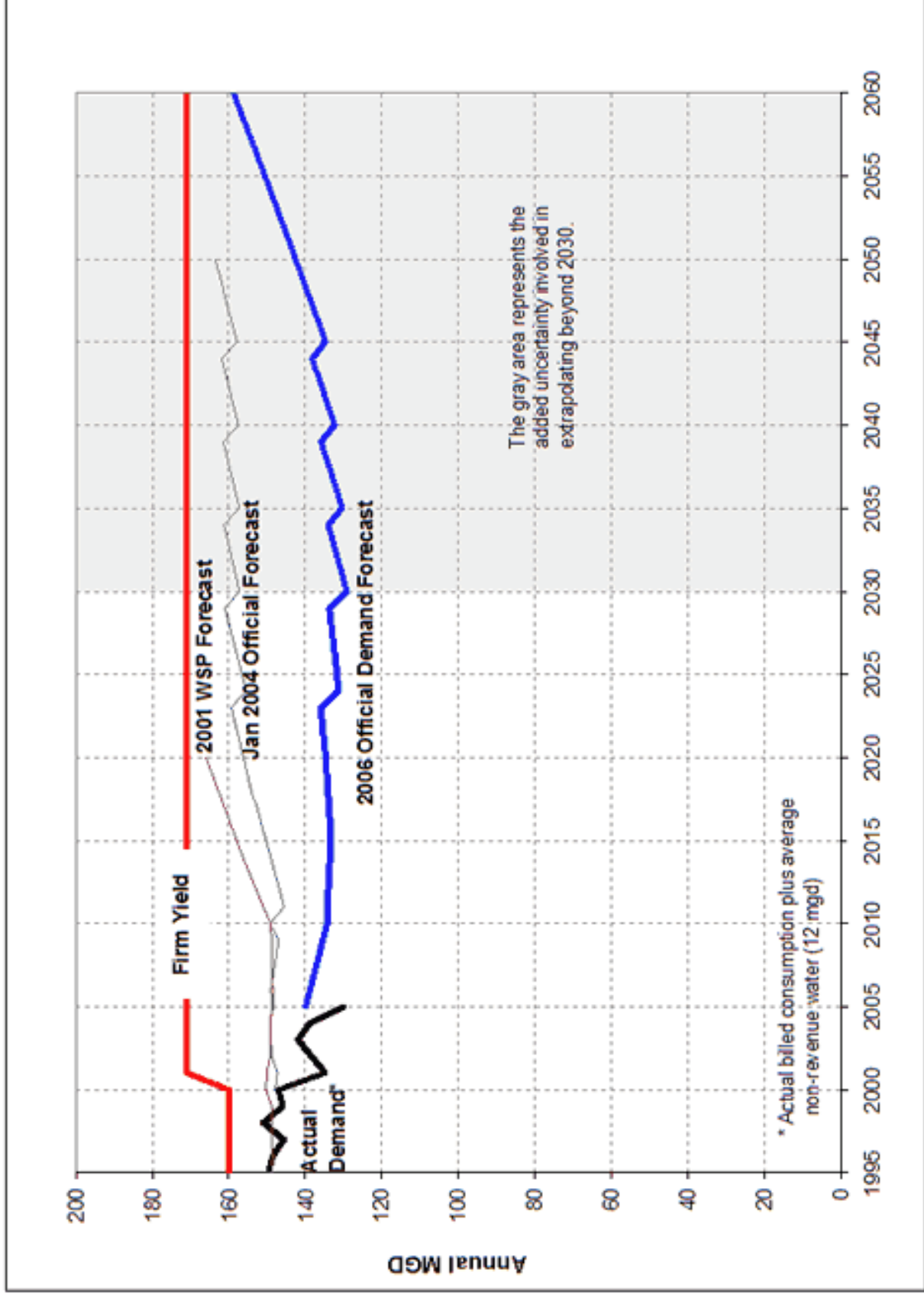
# OUR WATER. OUR FUTURE

Planning for Uncertainty



# Forecasts of Future Water Use

## SPU's 2006 Official Water Demand Forecast

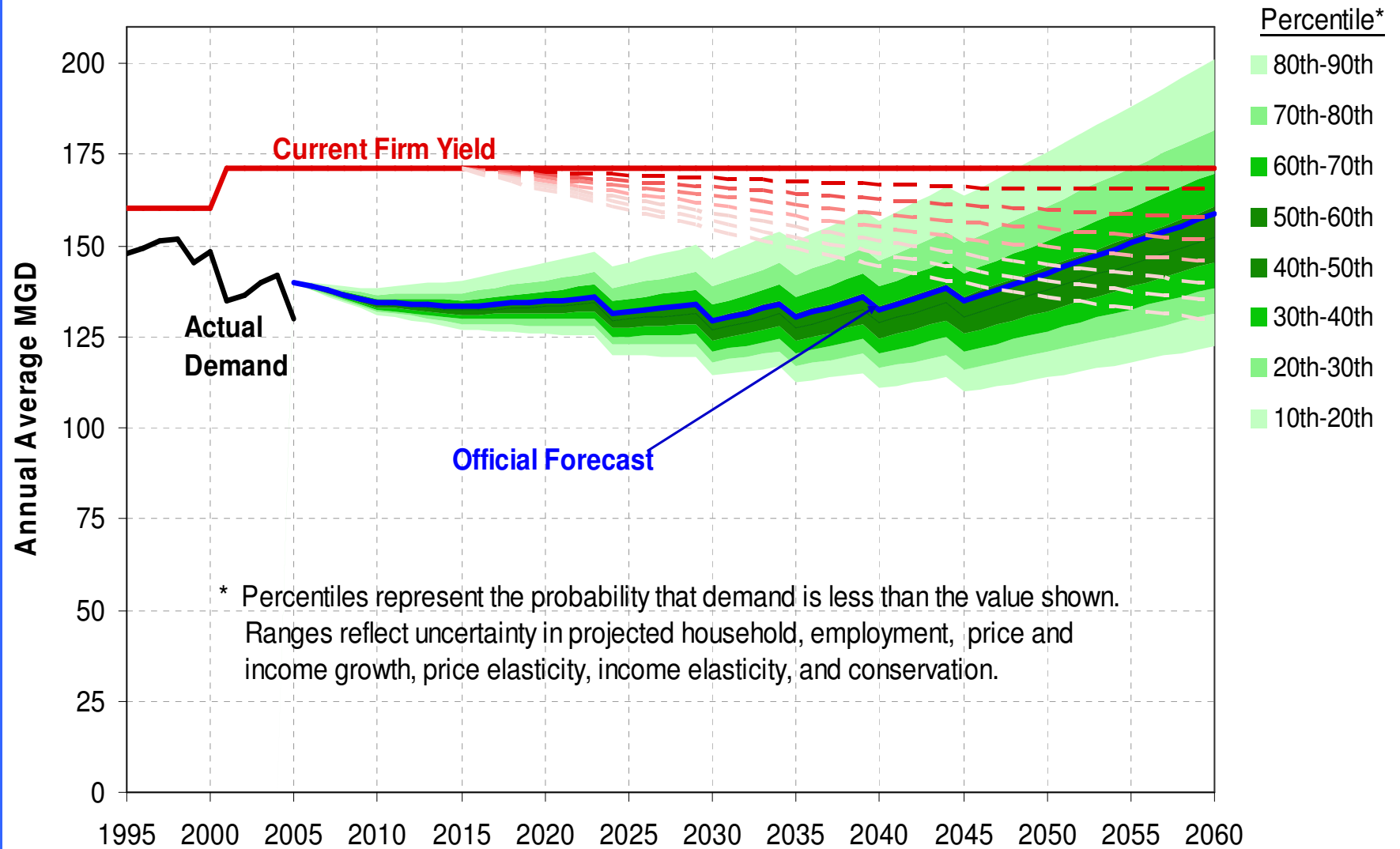


\*Note: The increase in firm yield in 2000 is due to the start-up of the Tolt Treatment Facility.





# Uncertainty Around Supply



# Conservation Goal Setting: Considerations in the 2000s

- What are the reasons to conserve water if not needed as a new source of supply?
- Given those reasons, how much should be conserved and at what cost?

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“Why conserve water if we have enough for 50 years?”

# Background

## Asset Management

- Cost effectiveness
- Total life-cycle costs and benefits
- Triple bottom line – financial, social and environmental costs and benefits
- Manage risks

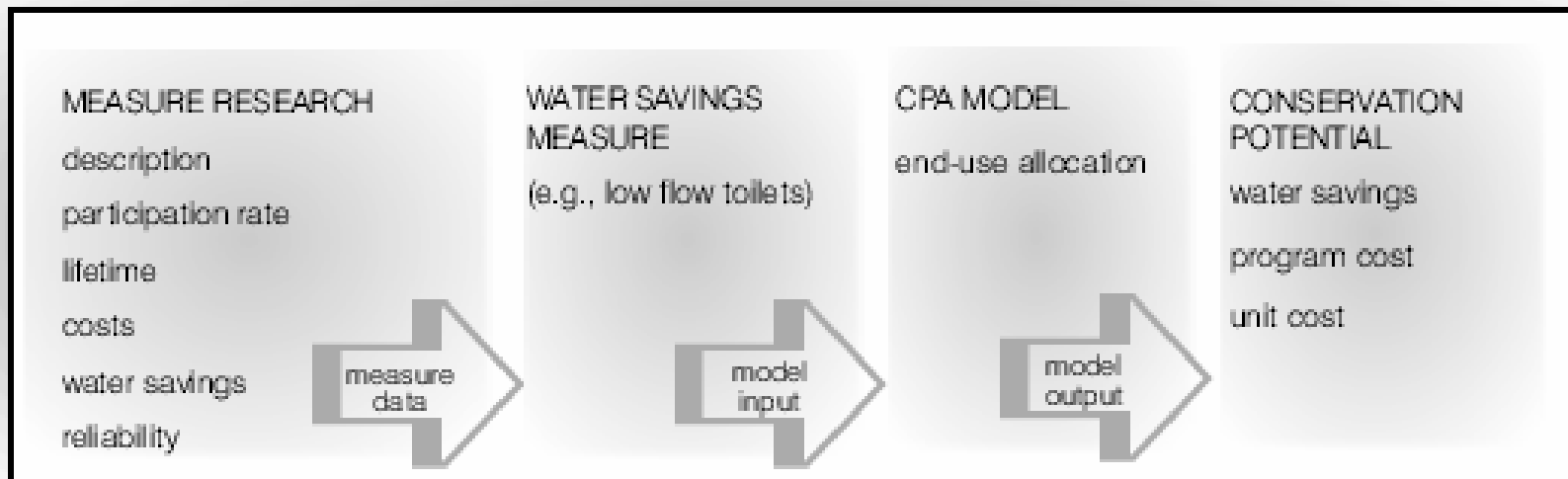
# Conservation Analysis

## Components

- Identify & analyze conservation drivers
  - Risk Framework
- Identify & analyze alternative levels of conservation
  - Conservation Potential Assessment (CPA)

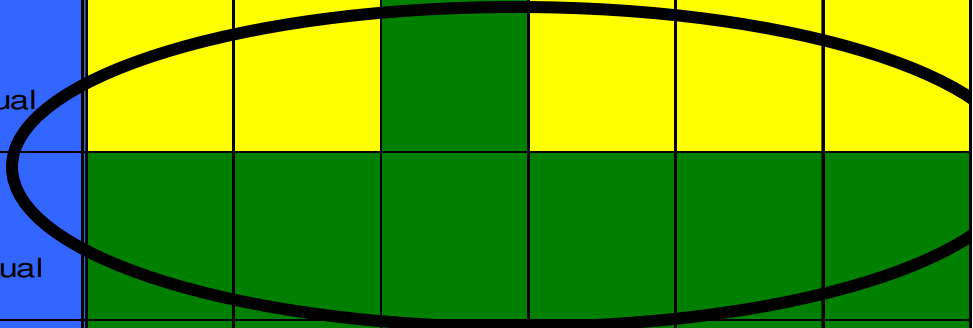
# Decision Model

SPU's Conservation Potential Assessment  
Calculates water savings and costs for 140  
water saving measures  
Calculates savings from Indirect Benefits –  
energy, stormwater and wastewater  
Does not calculate social costs



# Results of Drivers Analysis

Alternative Conservation Baseline Strategies	Description and Performance Measure	Public Trust Risk	Regulatory Risk	Asset and Service Reliability Risk	Legal Risk	Environmental Risk	Workforce Risk
<b>Do Nothing</b>	No messaging or incentives. No performance measure.	Red	Red	Red	Red	Orange	Orange
<b>Awareness Campaign</b>	Messaging; no incentives. Less intense than 1% program. Customer survey to assess effectiveness. Results estimated <.3 MGD annual savings.	Orange	Red	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
<b>Program to Shave Peak Investment Variable</b>	Less intense than 1% program. Set performance goal for peak season. Results could range from <.3-.5 MGD peak season savings.	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
<b>Low Intensity Program / Investment</b>	Less intense than 1% program. Set performance goal on per capita demand. Results could be in range of .7 MGD annual savings.	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
<b>Medium Intensity Program / Investment</b>	Similar intensity to 1% program. Set performance goal to keep demand flat. Results could range from 1-1.5 MGD annual savings.	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
<b>High Intensity Program / Investment</b>	Intensity estimated to be greater than 1% program. Set performance goal to reduce total demand. Results could be above 1.5 MGD annual savings.	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green



# OUR WATER. OUR FUTURE.

## *2030 Regional Conservation Goal*

- **Save 7 million gallons a day from 2006 through 2010 = 1% Regional Program + Seattle Ordinance requirements**
- **Save an additional 15 million gallons per day from 2011 through 2030 = regional baseline conservation**
- **Build these savings into the new demand forecast**
- **If more water supply is needed in the future, additional (more costly) conservation will be considered.**

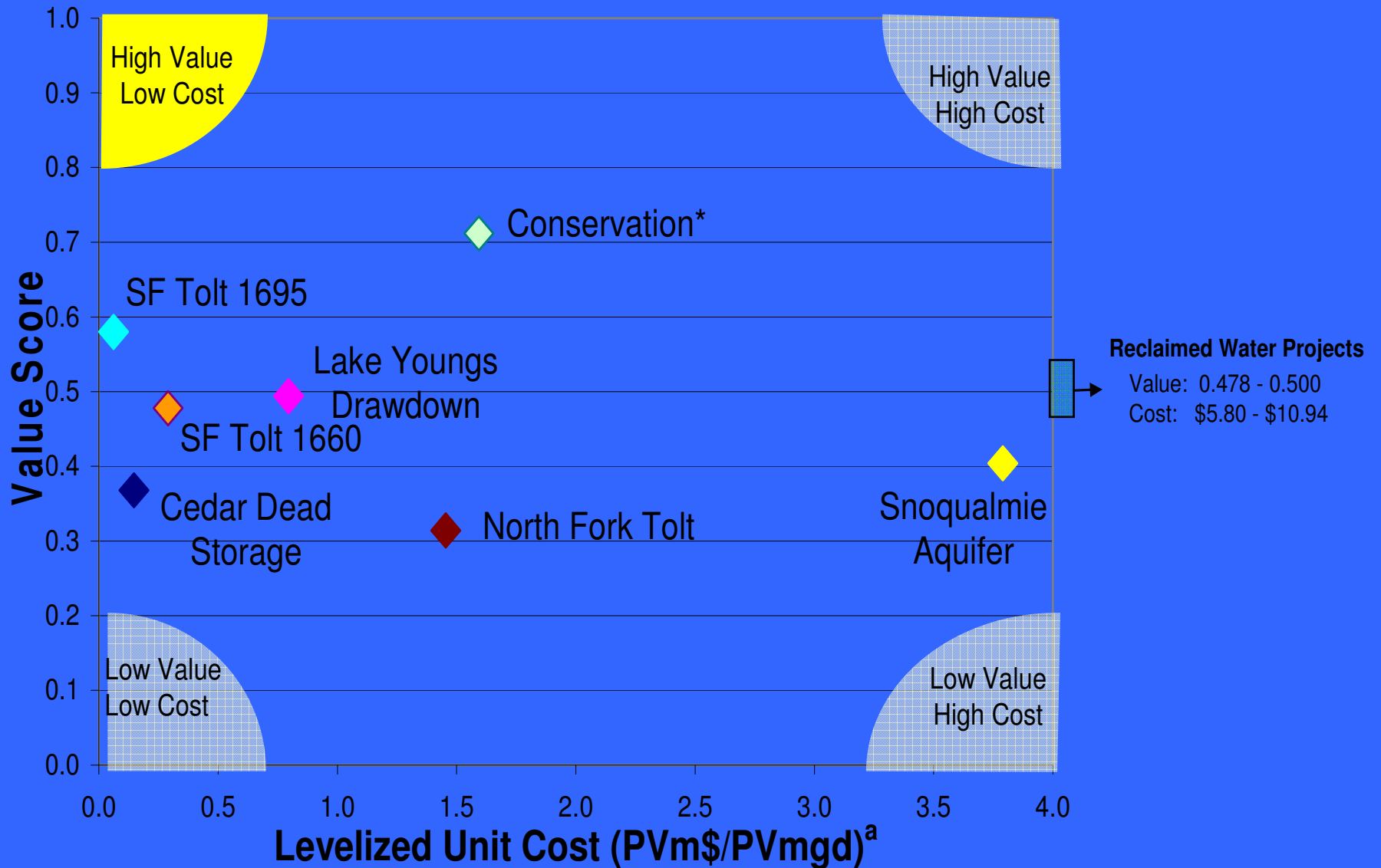
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Conservation Goal

- Today – given the need for no new supply
  - conservation is viewed as:
    - Low-cost insurance for climate change
    - Low-cost way to manage the resource
    - Low-cost way for customers to manage their bills



# Compare Value Score and Cost



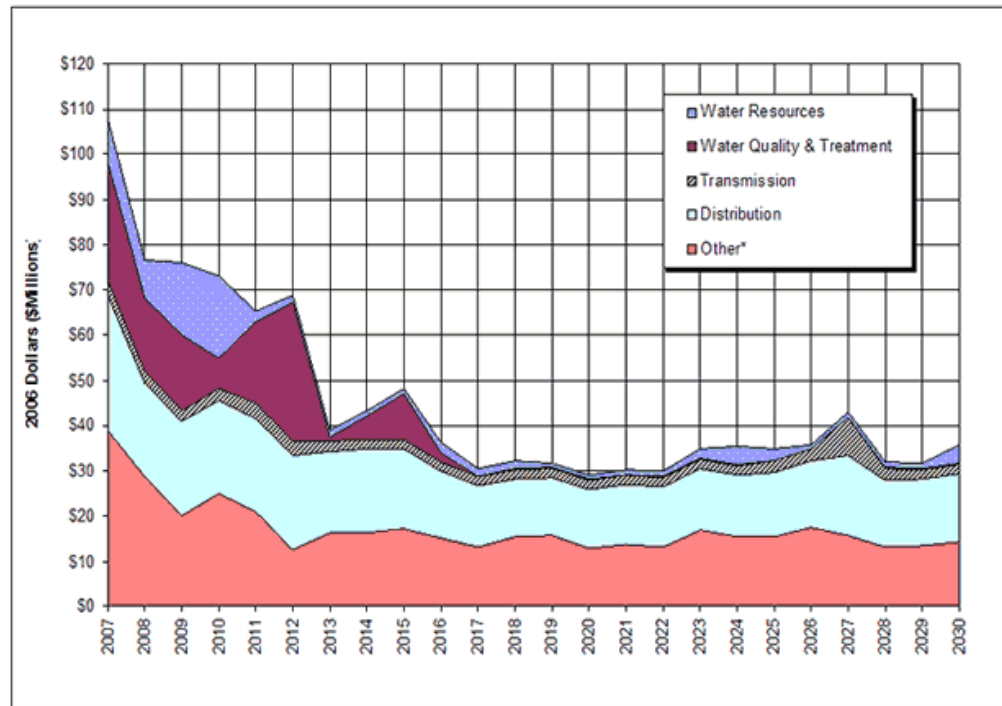
<sup>a</sup>Calculated assuming all sources online in 2050.

\*4 mgd conservation program begins in 2045 and phases in over a 10-year period.

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Potential Financial Implications

**Potential Financial Implications**  
Proposed Capital Facilities Plan Spending through 2030



\* Includes Major Watersheds, Fleets, Facilities, Security, Information Technology, SCADA, Water Design Standards, and other miscellaneous projects. Note: 2007-2012 CIP estimate from 3/20/06

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