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Call to Order

Board of Directors Workshop - Resources
Thursday, April 7, 2022

Chairperson – Director Hayes
Vice-Chair – Director Harrison

Introductions

Following the introduction of Directors and District staff, participants may use this time to state their name and agency/affiliation in order to be included in the formal record of attendees.

Public Comment

Any person may address the Board on matters within its jurisdiction.

- *Please use the chat feature on the Zoom toolbar or digitally raise your hand to let the moderator know you would like to make a comment.*



Summary of Previous Meeting (Pg. 2)

Board of Directors' Workshop - Resources - March 3, 2022

Discussion Item 4.1 (Pg. 9)

Bob Tincher, PE, MS – Chief Water Resources Officer
Adekunle Ojo, MPA – Water Resources Manager

Staff Update on Cloud Seeding

Staff Recommendation
Receive and File



Staff Update on Cloud Seeding



Summary of Previous Report from Staff

Total Projected Increases

Ground Only Seeding

| Target Area | Seasonal Precip. Increase (inches) | Percent Increase | Avg. Natural Streamflow (AF) | Streamflow Increase (AF) | Percent Increase |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| NW | 0.41 | 3.5% | 25,000 | 2,043 | 8.2% |
| NE | 0.49 | 4.1% | 65,000 | 4,330 | 6.7% |
| SW | 0.59 | 3.7% | 5,000 | 447 | 9.0% |
| SE | 0.49 | 4.5% | 10,000 | 1,373 | 13.7% |
| TOTAL w/ Ground Only | | | 105,000 | 8,193 | 7.8% |

With Aerial Support in the NE Target

| Target Area | Seasonal Precip. Increase (inches) | Percent Increase | Avg. Natural Streamflow (AF) | Streamflow Increase (AF) | Percent Increase |
|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| NW | 0.41 | 3.5% | 25,000 | 2,043 | 8.2% |
| NE | 0.89 | 7.3% | 65,000 | 7,772 | 12.0% |
| SW | 0.59 | 3.7% | 5,000 | 447 | 9.0% |
| SE | 0.49 | 4.5% | 10,000 | 1,373 | 13.7% |
| TOTAL | | | 105,000 | 11,635 | 11.1% |

\$44/AF (\$22/AF with grant funds, 7,800 AF)

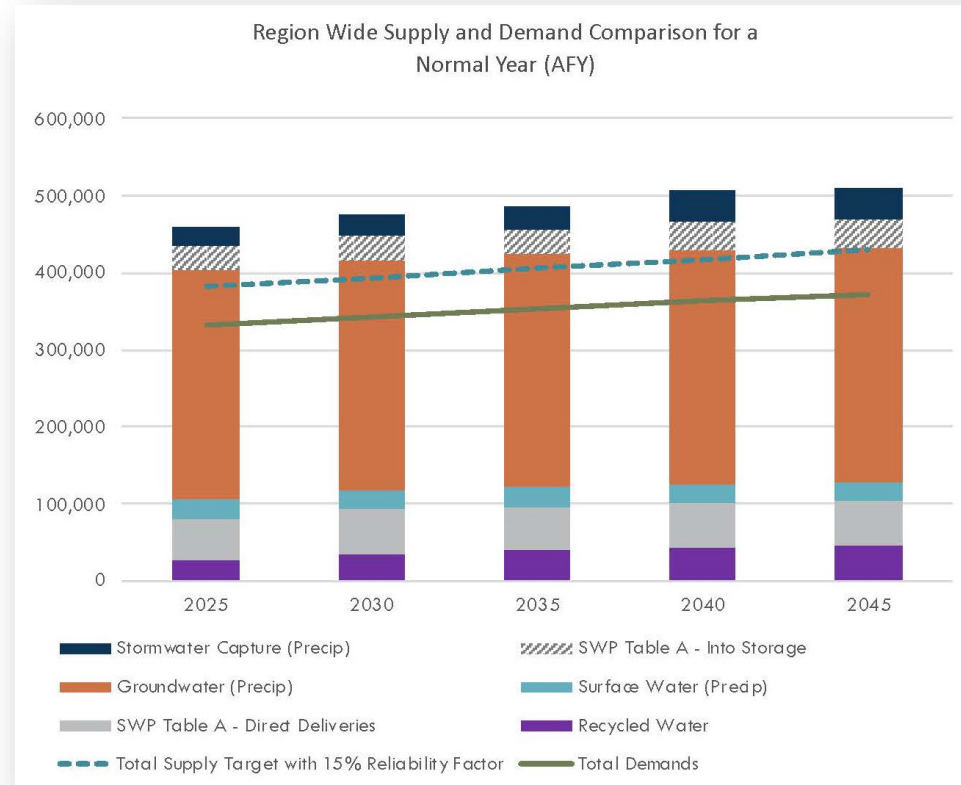


Photo Courtesy of Dr. Vincent Schaefer

Cloud seeding works but there is no way to directly measure how much water you will actually receive for your money



Photo Courtesy of Dr. Vincent Schaefer





New Information Since Staff's Last Report

Other Projects (provided by SAWPA)

Estimates

| Case Study | Name | Location | Year | Increase in Precip | Increase in Runoff | Validation Approach |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Colorado River Basin Augmentation (Central Colorado Mountains River Basins Program) | Central Colorado | WY 2020-2021 | 9.3% | 107,000 AF | Target and Control and Randomized Seeding |
| 2 | Santa Barbara County Water Agency | Huasno-Alamo | 1981-2014 | 9% | -- | Target and Control |
| | | Santa Ynez | 1981-2014 | 19%-21% | -- | |
| 3 | Seeded & Natural Orographic Wintertime clouds: the Idaho Experiment (SNOWIE) | Payette | 2003-2020 | 11.2% | 271,000 AF | Target and Control with Doppler Radar |
| | | Boise | 2003-2020 | 12.1% | 217,000 AF | |
| | | Wood | 2003-2020 | 10.2% | 68,000 AF | |
| 4 | Wyoming Weather Modification Pilot Program | Wyoming | 2005-2014 | 5%-15% | 0.4%-3.7% increase | Randomized cross over with target and control |
| 5 | Australia Snowy Precipitation Enhancement Research Project (SPERP) | Entire area | 2004-2015 | 7% | -- | Randomized |
| | | Target area | 2004-2015 | 14% | -- | |
| 6 | Utah Division of Water Resources | Statewide | 24-43 years | 7% | -- | Target and Control |
| | | Statewide | 2019-2020 | 8% | -- | |

**SNOW PACK AUGMENTATION IN THE
 SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS**
 WATER YEARS
 1976-77
 AND
 1977-78

by
Norm Caouette

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
 G. Louis Fletcher
 District Engineer

Grist

Can cloud seeding help quench the thirst of the US West?

In the midst of increasing drought conditions across the West, many are embracing cloud seeding to

James D. ...
 Publishes ...
 Mar 12 ...

Topic: **Climate Change**
 This article discusses the impact of climate change on water resources in the West, particularly in the context of snowpack augmentation and cloud seeding.

Quantifying snowfall from orographic cloud seeding

Katja Friedrich¹, Kyoko Ikeda², Sarah A. Tessendorf³, Jeffrey R. French⁴, Robert M. Rauber⁵, Bart Geerts⁶, Lulin Xue⁶, Roy M. Rasmussen⁷, Derek R. Blestrud⁸, Melvin L. Kunkel⁹, Nicholas Dawson¹⁰, and Shaun Parkinson¹¹

¹Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO 80309; ²Research Applications Laboratory, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, CO 80307; ³Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071; ⁴Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL 61820; and ⁵Cloud Seeding Group, Idaho Power Company, Boise, ID 83702

Edited by John H. Seisfeld, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, and approved January 30, 2020 (received for review October 2, 2019)

Climate change and population growth have increased demand for water in arid regions. For over half a century, cloud seeding has been evaluated as a technology to increase water supply; statistical approaches have compared seeded to nonseeded events through precipitation gauge analyses. Here, a physically based approach to quantify snowfall from cloud seeding in mountain cloud systems is presented. Areas of precipitation unambiguously attributed to cloud seeding are isolated from natural precipitation (<1 mm h⁻¹). Spatial and temporal evolution of precipitation generated by cloud seeding is then quantified using radar observations and snow gauge measurements. This study uses the approach of combining radar technology and precipitation gauge measurements to quantify the spatial and temporal evolution of snowfall generated from cloud seeding and temporal evolution of snowfall generated from glaciogenic cloud seeding. The results represent a critical step toward quantifying cloud seeding impact. For the cases presented, precipitation generated by cloud seeding between 0.05 and 0.3 mm as precipitation amount of water generated over the instruments was precipitated (196 ac ft) for 86 min of seeding to 3.4 × 10⁹ m³ (275 ac ft) for 24 min of cloud seeding.

statistical comparisons, we introduce here a physically based approach by which we isolate areas of precipitation that were unambiguously generated by cloud seeding and quantify the amount of precipitation in these areas using precipitation gauge measurements and ground-based radar analyses. This approach is applied to radar echoes that were attributed to seeding at a time of no or light (<1 mm h⁻¹) natural precipitation for three cloud seeding events. This study combines radar and gauge analyses in order to quantify the spatial and temporal evolution of snowfall from cloud seeding.

For the three cases presented, unambiguous evidence was provided in two studies (10, 11) that glaciogenic seeding from an aircraft led to the production of precipitation that eventually fell to the surface. However, the amount of precipitation that eventually fell for the three cases was not quantified in these previous studies, which would be a fundamental step toward investigating cloud seeding efficacy. Cloud seeding efficacy toward investigations of a variety of operations and

Idaho Power's Cloud Seeding Case Studies




April 2, 2021

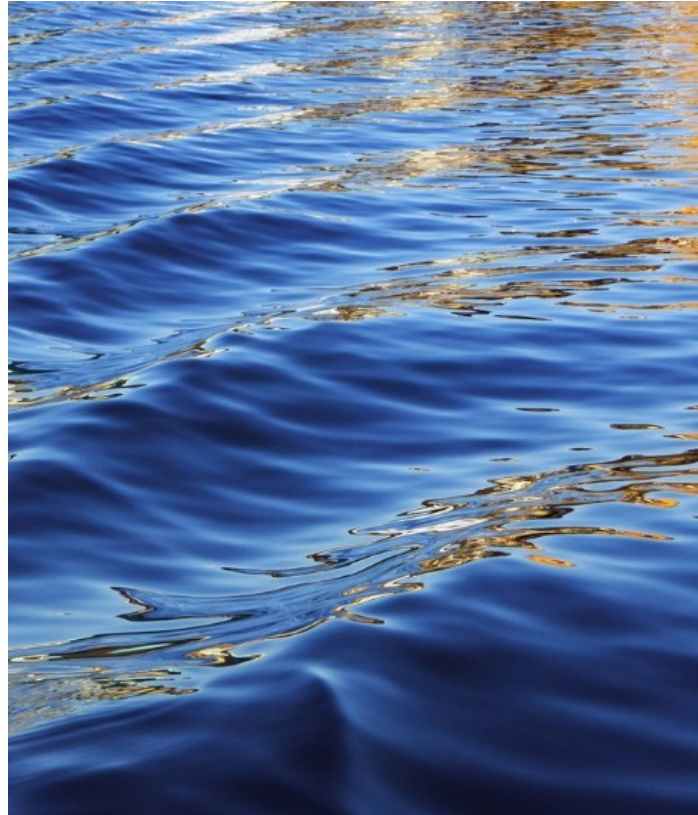
Derek Blestrud
 Senior Atmospheric Scientist



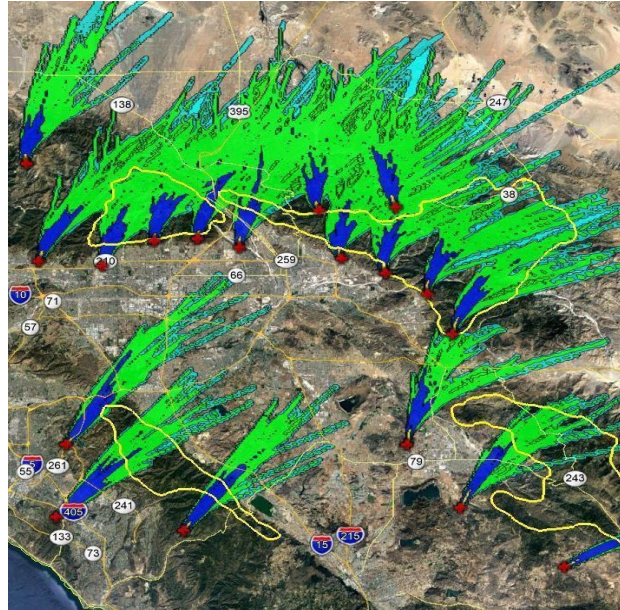
5190-5195 | PNAS



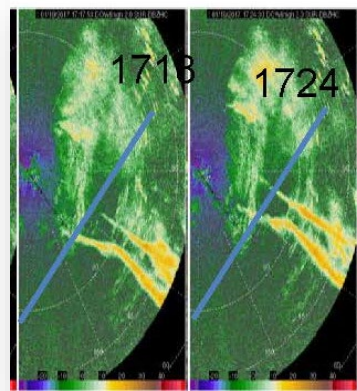
Challenges and
Opportunities that May be
Addressed in a Pilot Scale
Project



Ground Based



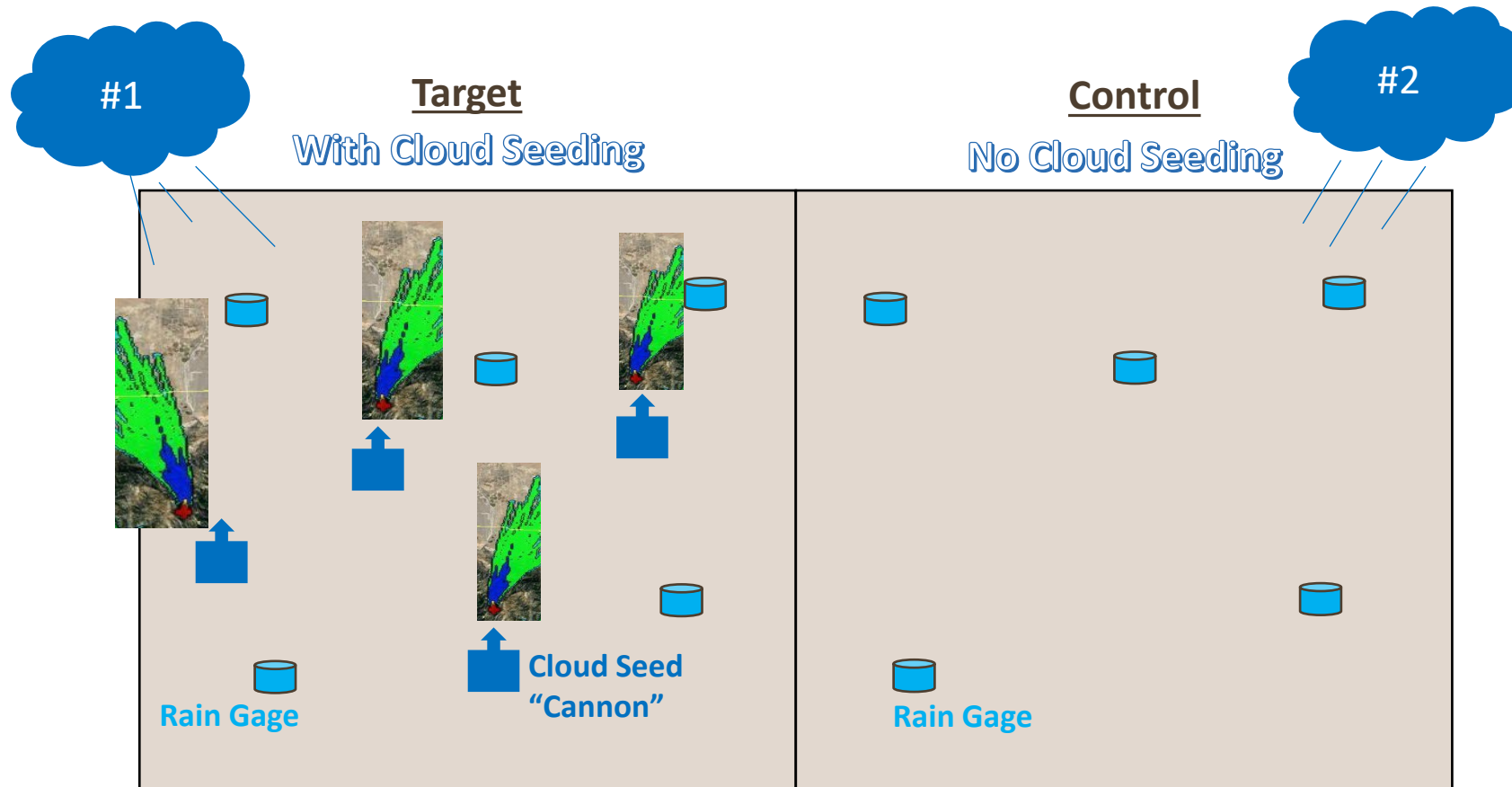
Aerial (Doppler Radar)



Why is it difficult to measure the actual benefit?

- ✓ Areas are not uniform
- ✓ The 3-dimensional dispersion is not uniform and difficult to track in nature in real-time
- ✓ Cloud seeding is not 100% effective across the entire seeded area
- ✓ It is difficult to know whether any measured increase in snow or rain is due to the cloud seeding or to the variability in nature (storm cell)

Target-Control Method



Assumptions:

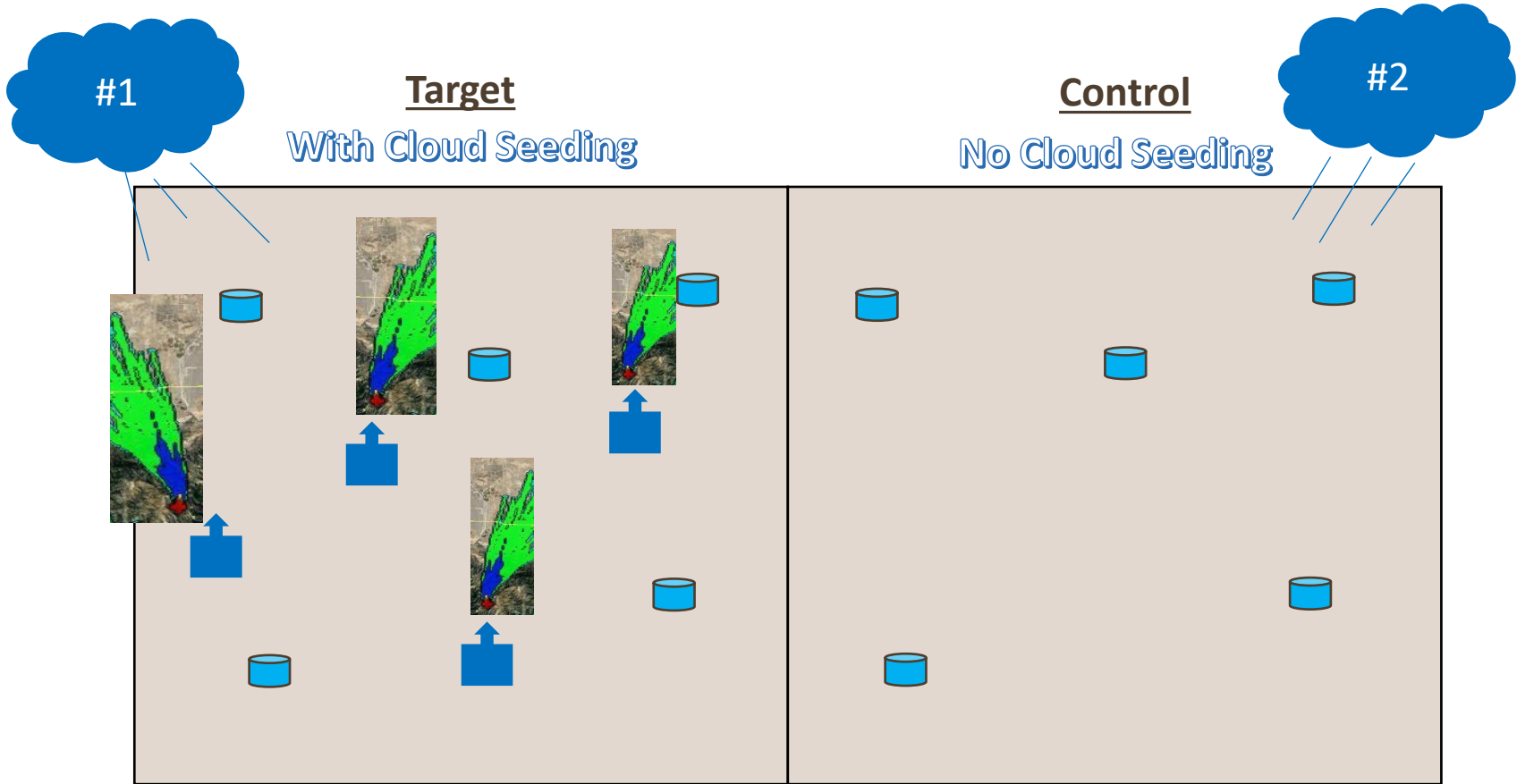
#1

=

#2

Dispersion area of silver iodide

Target-Control Method



$$\text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} = \text{Large Cylinder}$$

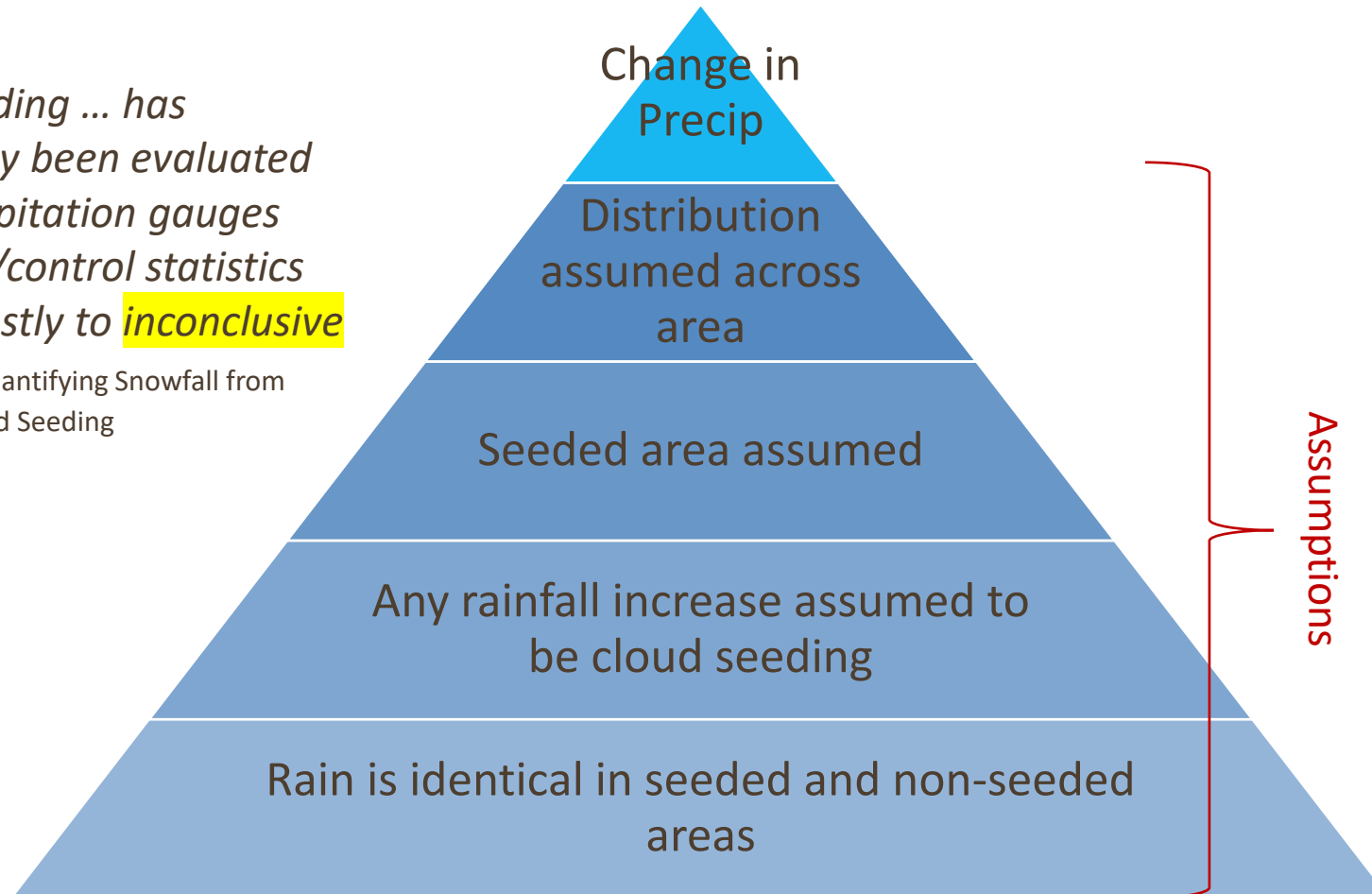
$$\text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} + \text{Cylinder} = \text{Large Cylinder}$$

Compare Large Cylinder and Large Cylinder Difference all due to cloud seeding?

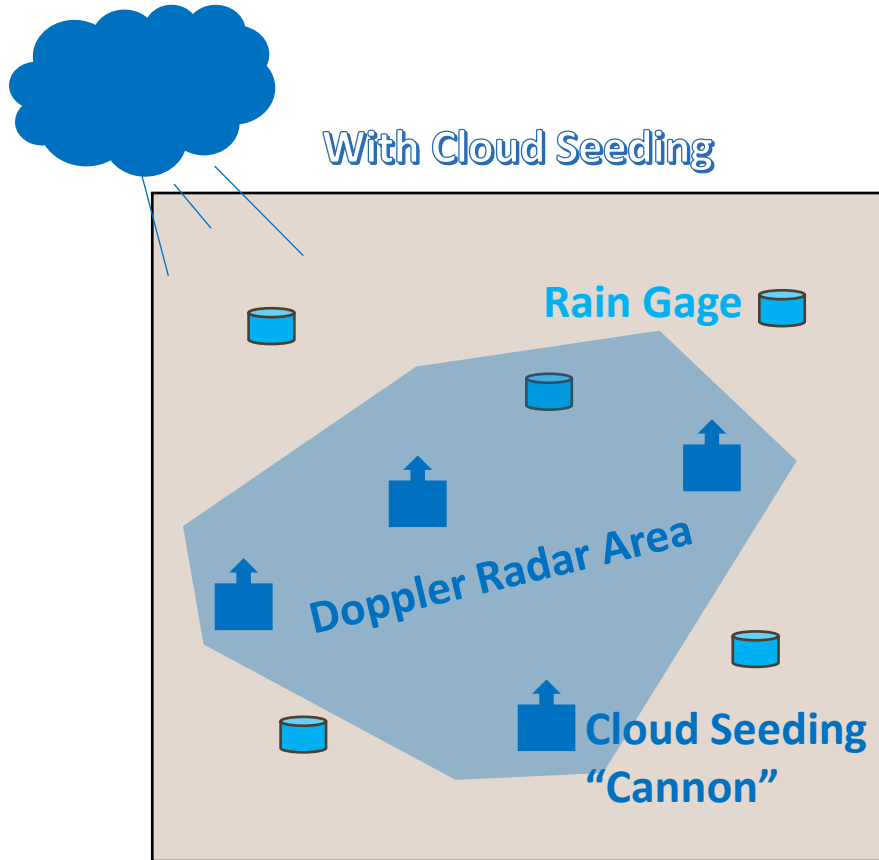
Target-Control Method

Change in Precipitation Built on Assumptions

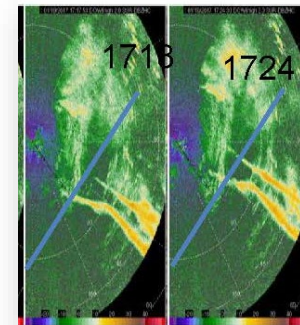
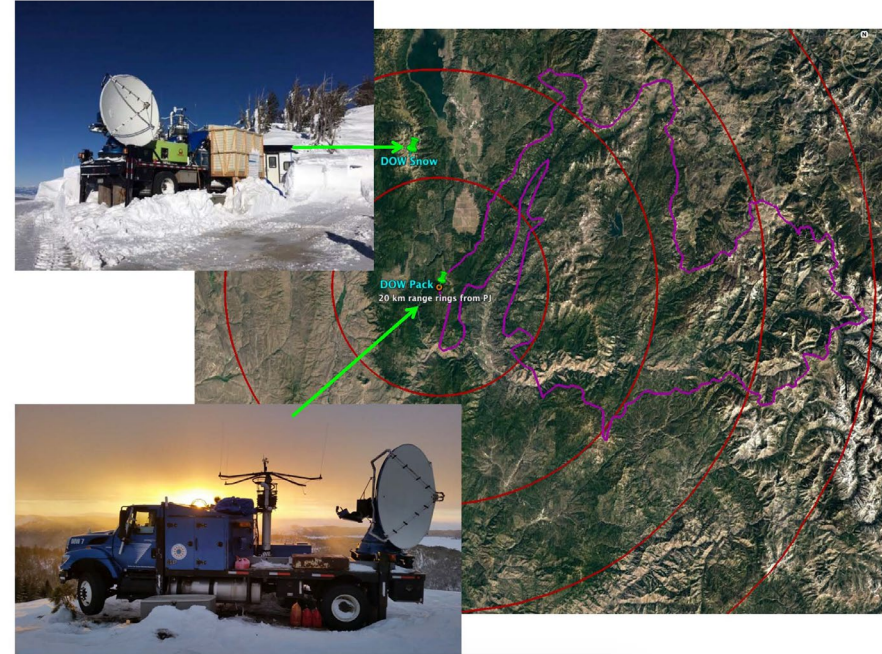
*“Cloud seeding ... has traditionally been evaluated using precipitation gauges and target/control statistics leading mostly to **inconclusive results.**”* Quantifying Snowfall from Orographic Cloud Seeding



Target-Control with Doppler Radar (SNOWIE)

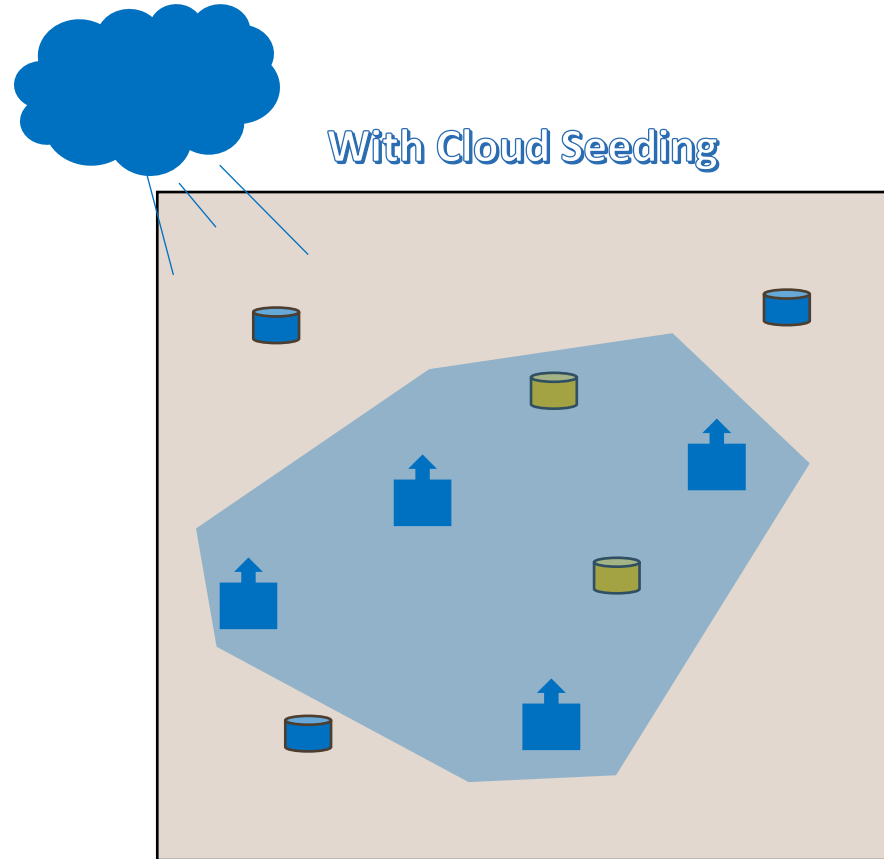


Better defines the "footprint" of the seeded area using Doppler radar



Target-Control with Doppler Radar

“A thorough analysis was conducted to establish a best-match relationship...**To address the...related uncertainty,** an ensemble of...relationships was also developed...”
Quantifying Snowfall from Orographic Cloud Seeding



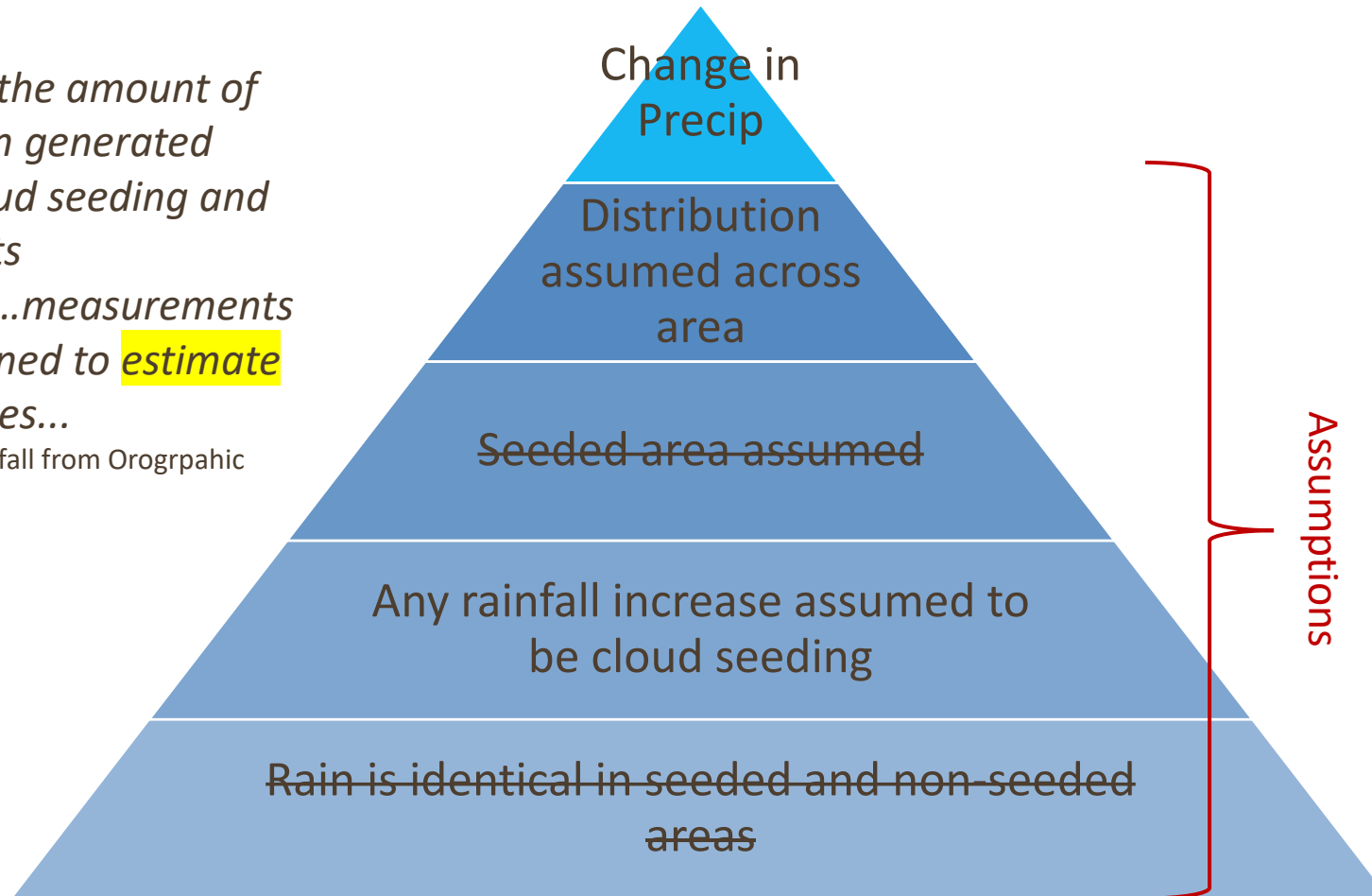
Change in Precipitation  - 

Target-Control with Doppler Radar

Comparison Built on Assumption

To quantify the amount of precipitation generated through cloud seeding and determine its distribution...measurements ...are combined to estimate snowfall rates...

Quantifying Snowfall from Orographic Cloud Seeding



SNOW PACK AUGMENTATION IN THE
SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS

WATER YEARS

1976-77

AND

1977-78

by
Norm Caouette

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

G Louis Fletcher
District Engineer



Valley District's 24-year (1954-78) History with Cloud Seeding

- 1948: a group of cooperators explore the feasibility of cloud seeding in the Santa Ana River watershed
 - Aerial and ground-based
- 1950 - 60: The Santa Ana River Weather Corporation formed. Funding from water agencies including Valley District
- 1954: Valley District formed
- 1960 - 78: Valley District weather modification program
 - 1975: Environmental Impact Report
 - 1976-78: Valley District snowpack augmentation Project
- Louis Fletcher became General Manager and served until 2001. During his tenure, he no longer pursued cloud seeding.

Results from 1976-78 Project

- 1976-77: driest year on record
- 1977-78: 3rd wettest year on record



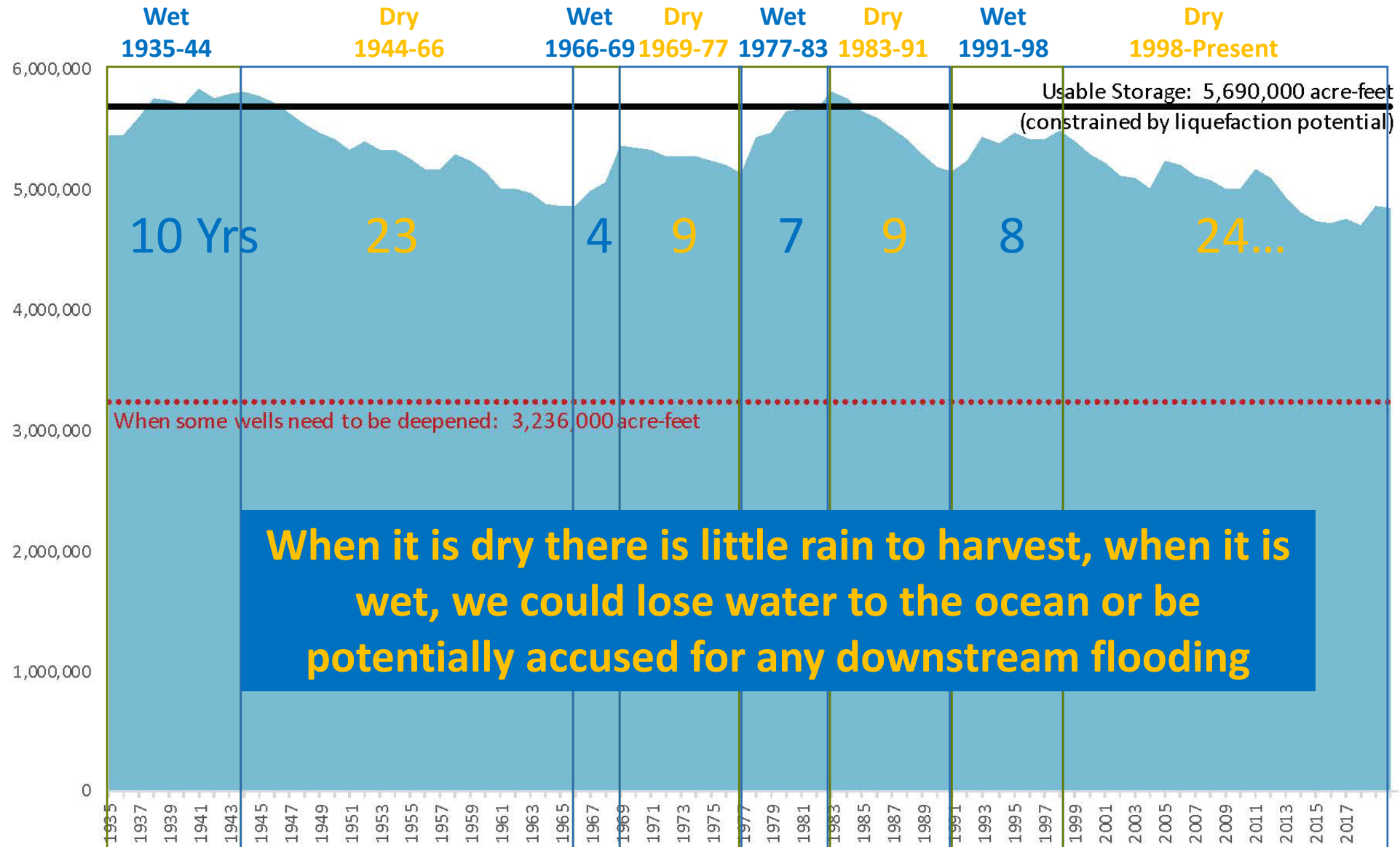
Our typical
"Feast or Famine Hydrology"

- Conclusion:

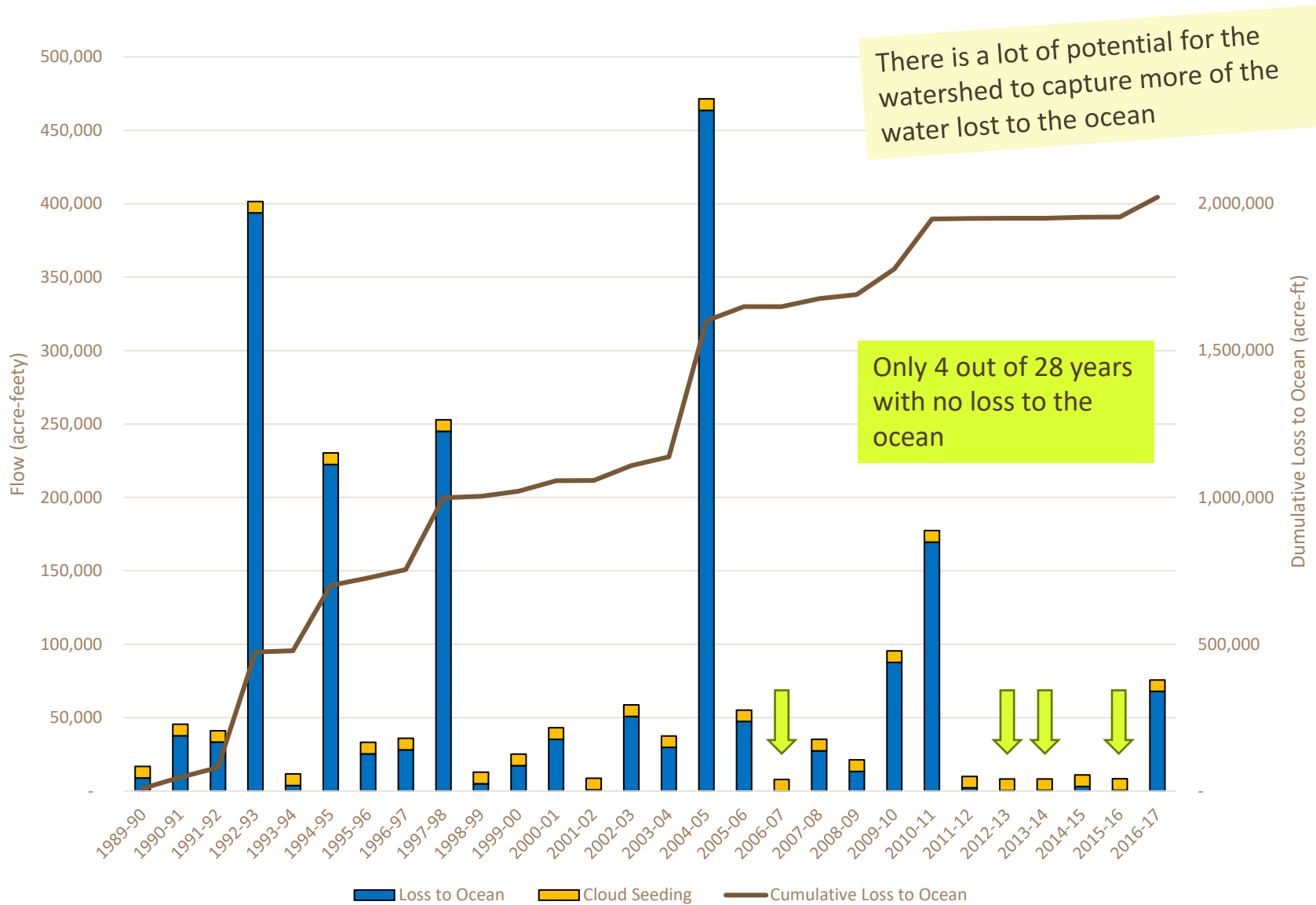
- Inconclusive

- Minimum number of seeding events
 - "Some influence" (not quantified) did occur during one storm

Cloud Seeding will be Challenging with the Watershed's "Feast of Famine" Hydrology

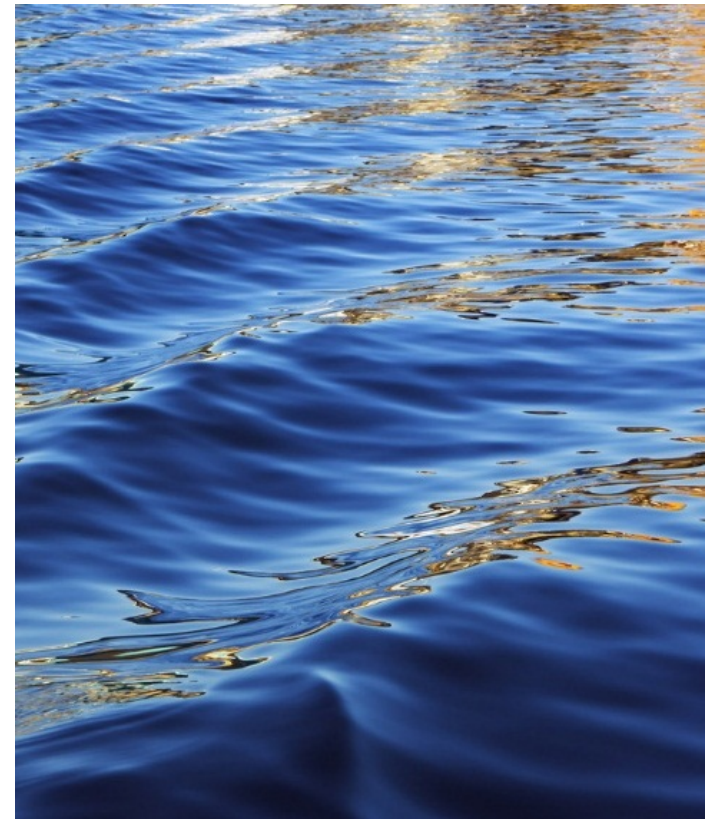


Any Cloud Seeding Benefit Could Flow Into the Ocean










Pilot Scale Project



A Cloud Seeding Pilot Scale Project is Consistent with Our Strategic Plan

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  RESILIENT. Resilient to seismic conditions, drought, population growth and climate change. |  RESTORATIVE. Reduce carbon footprint and recover environmental health. |
|  SCIENCE BASED. Built from reliable regional data shared among all partners. |  COST-EFFECTIVE. Optimize operational efficiency and maximize benefits from ratepayer investments. |
|  INTEGRATED. Holistically optimize value to the region. | |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  COLLABORATIVE. Dedicated to work inclusively. |  TRUSTWORTHY. Committed to earn respect. |
|  INNOVATIVE. Proactive and effective problem-solvers. |  DRIVEN. Passionate and empowered leaders. |

OUR strategies ARE TO...

- 1** Achieve climate resilience through prioritized adaptation and mitigation.
- 2** Proactively manage a diverse, adaptable water supply portfolio to maximize the value of the region's water assets.
- 3** Drive science-based decision making and proactive risk management.
- 4** Build trust by being a collaborative and resourceful partner through effective communication and engagement.
- 5** Attract and support top talent and promote a rewarding culture of growth and opportunity.
- 6** Commit to effective governance through Board leadership development.

Considerations for a Cloud Seeding Pilot Scale Project

- 1. To address questions regarding the actual benefit from cloud seeding:**
 - a. Consider independent measurement, analysis and peer review of the results from an entity that has expertise in weather but is not involved in cloud seeding such as the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E), USGS and/or RAND
 - b. Look for ways to improve the Target-Control method to avoid the possibility that the study results will be inconclusive
 - c. Provide a list of all assumptions used in the estimation of the benefits
 - d. Look for a method that can be used to determine the probability that increased precipitation is from cloud seeding and not due to variability in the weather
 - e. Provide error bands on the results
 - f. Include SAWPA member agency staff in the process
- 2. To address questions about cloud seeding benefits possibly flowing into the Ocean:**
 - a. Consider using the watershed's calibrated flow models to track the water from cloud seeding
 - b. Consider comparing daily flow to the ocean with the estimated cloud seeding benefits to help determine whether the water flowed into the ocean
- 3. To address questions regarding liability for potential floods:**
 - a. Show how SAWPA will avoid potential liability for any flood events

Director Comments and Discussion



Paul Kielhold
President



June Hayes
Vice President



**T. Milford
Harrison**
Treasurer



Gil J. Botello
Director



Susan Longville
Director

Staff Recommendation

Receive and File



Future Business



Adjournment
