



# Water Conservation Program Quarterly Report

## Resource Management Commission

August 21, 2012

Mark Jordan

Water Conservation Program Coordinator

# Overview:

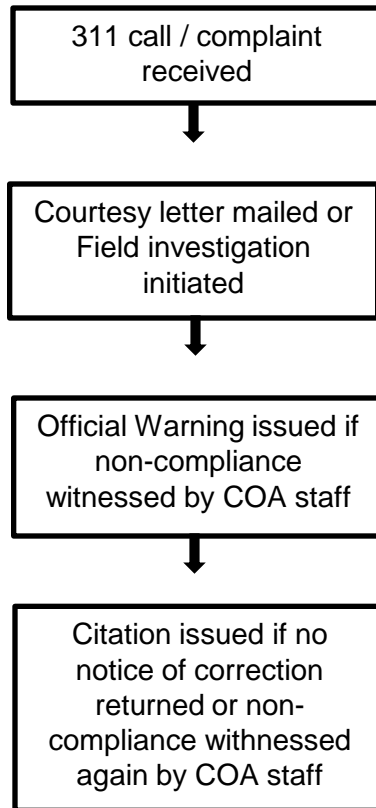
- Conservation incentive programs
- Enforcement activity
- Public education/outreach events
- Water use under Stage 2
- Reclaimed water use and system expansion
- Weather and water supply forecasts
- Looking ahead

# Incentive Programs

- Most activity in Residential Clothes Washer and Rain Barrel Rebate Programs.
- Rebates for “hardscape” components of Lawn Remodel Program began in April; remaining components beginning July 16.
- Added pool cover pilot rebate program in June.
- Revised residential irrigation system upgrade rebate in July.
- Discontinued commercial irrigation system rebate program in response to new code requirements.
- Re-evaluating Hotel WaterWise program in response to new code requirements.
- Working with ICI customers to revamp incentive program.

# Water Conservation Code Enforcement

## Enforcement Process

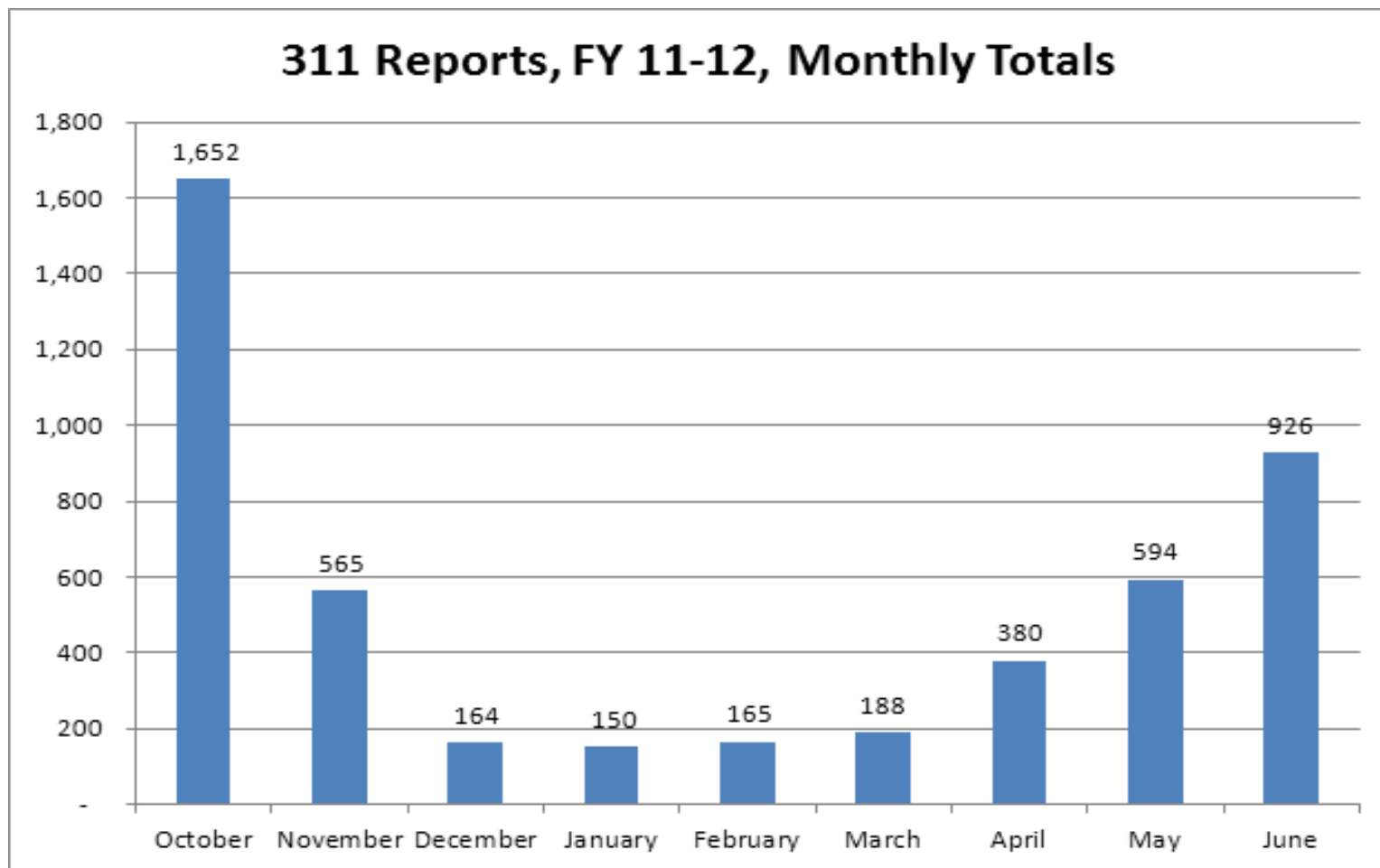


## FY 12 Enforcement under Stage 2

- 4784 “311” Calls
- 2,372 Courtesy Letters
- 604 Official Warnings
- 363 Citations Issued
  - 183 Residential Citations
  - 180 Commercial / MF Citations



# FY 2012 “311” Reports





# Conservation Outreach FY2012 To Date



- FY 2012 Activities (FY 2011)
  - Events/Booths: 8,182 (19,881)
  - Public Presentations: 1,680 (2,898)
  - School Presentations: 22,289 (19,718)

## April

- Lawn Remodel Workshop
- Getting Connected Business Fair
- Earth Day Events

## May

- Austin Water Science Expo
- EcoRise Youth Innovations

## June

- Groundwater to Gulf Summer Institute

# Water Use under Stage 2



- Stage 2 (1 X week watering) in effect from September 6, 2011 to July 16, 2012
- Total water use thru June lower in FY 2012 than in FY 2011
- Peak water use higher in June 2012 than in June 2011

# Reclaimed Water Use



- Annual Use
  - FY12: (through 3Q) 1.075 BG (4.0% of total wastewater treated)
  - FY11: 1.45 BG (4.65% of total wastewater treated)
  - FY10: 1.09 BG (3.01% of total wastewater treated)



# Reclaimed Water Projects

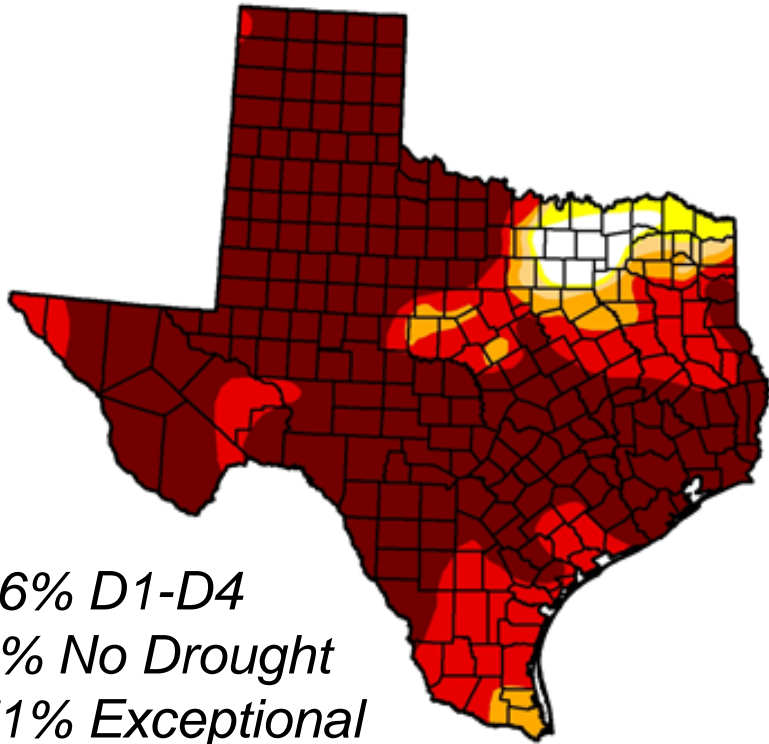
- Under construction:
  - Montopolis Main;
  - Guerrero Park Main Phase II;
  - BAE Systems Main
- Under design:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Street/Central Library Main
  - Smith Road Extension
  - Hancock Golf Course Irrigation System
- Nearing Connection:
  - Hornsby Bend Admin Building Irrigation
  - Krieg Fields
- Hornsby Bulk Water Fill Station Available for Use
- PARD Tree Irrigation Trucks painted for reclaimed water



# Weather Outlook

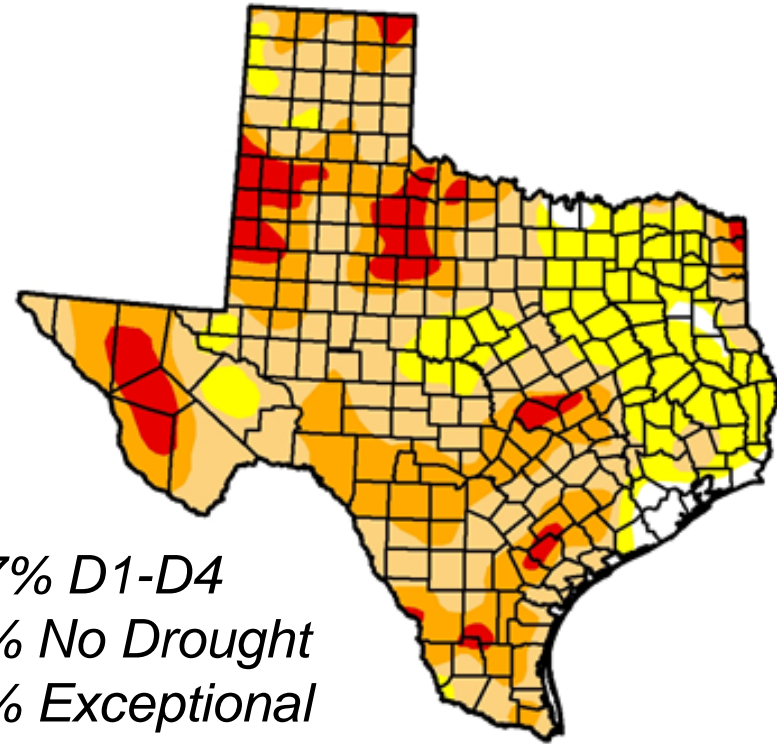
- *Hot temperatures and variable rainfall expected to continue through September.*
- *Trend toward normal rainfall expected to develop this fall and winter as mild to moderate El Nino develops.*
- *El Nino influence forecast to begin sometime in October or November and continuing through winter and spring.*
- *Rainfall this fall and winter expected to be similar to last El Nino period of late 2009 and 2010.*
- *Temperatures expected to be fairly mild this fall and slightly below normal this winter.*

# Drought Monitor Comparison



July 5, 2011

**July 5, 2011**

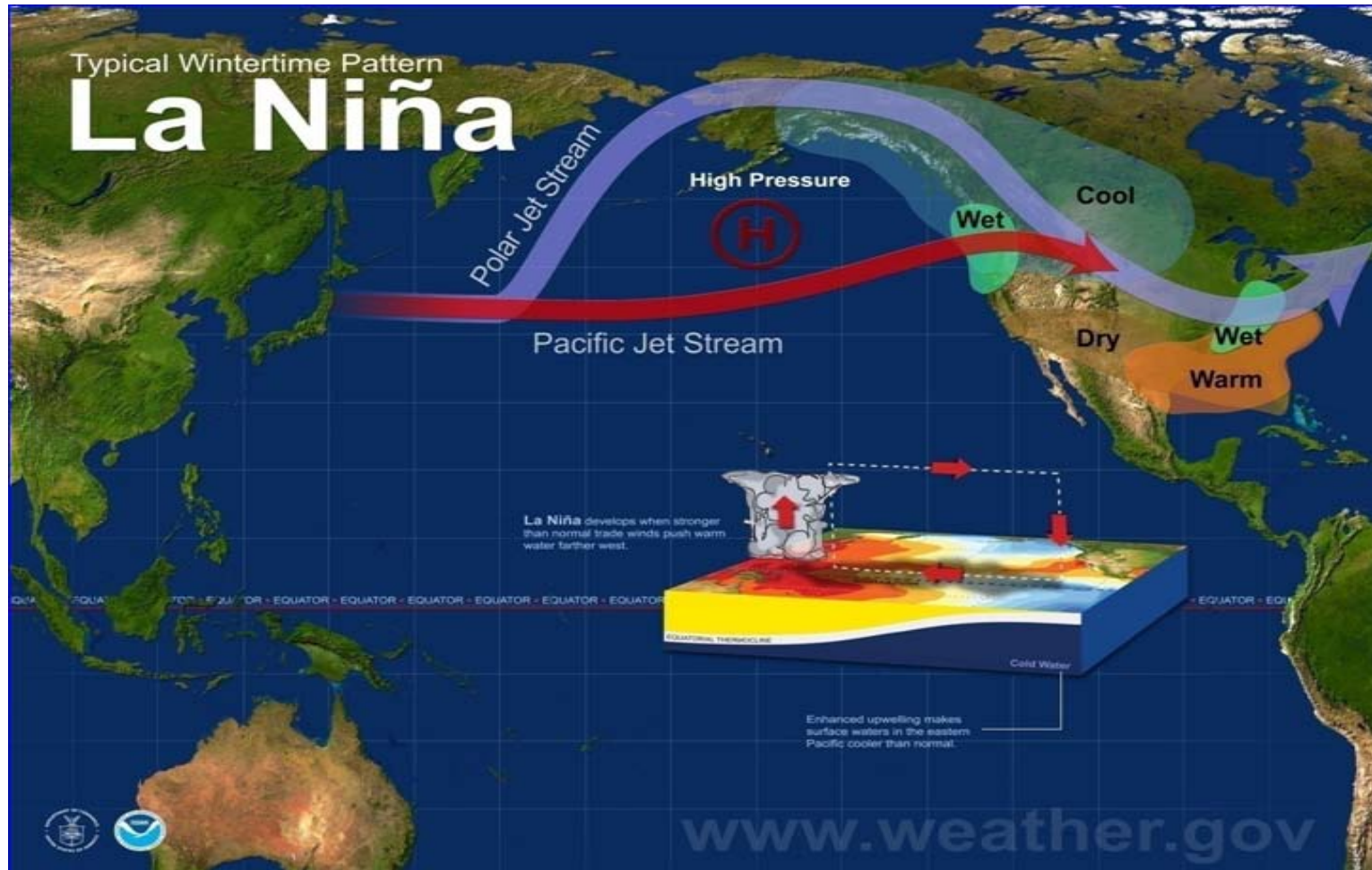


July 3, 2012

**July 3, 2012**

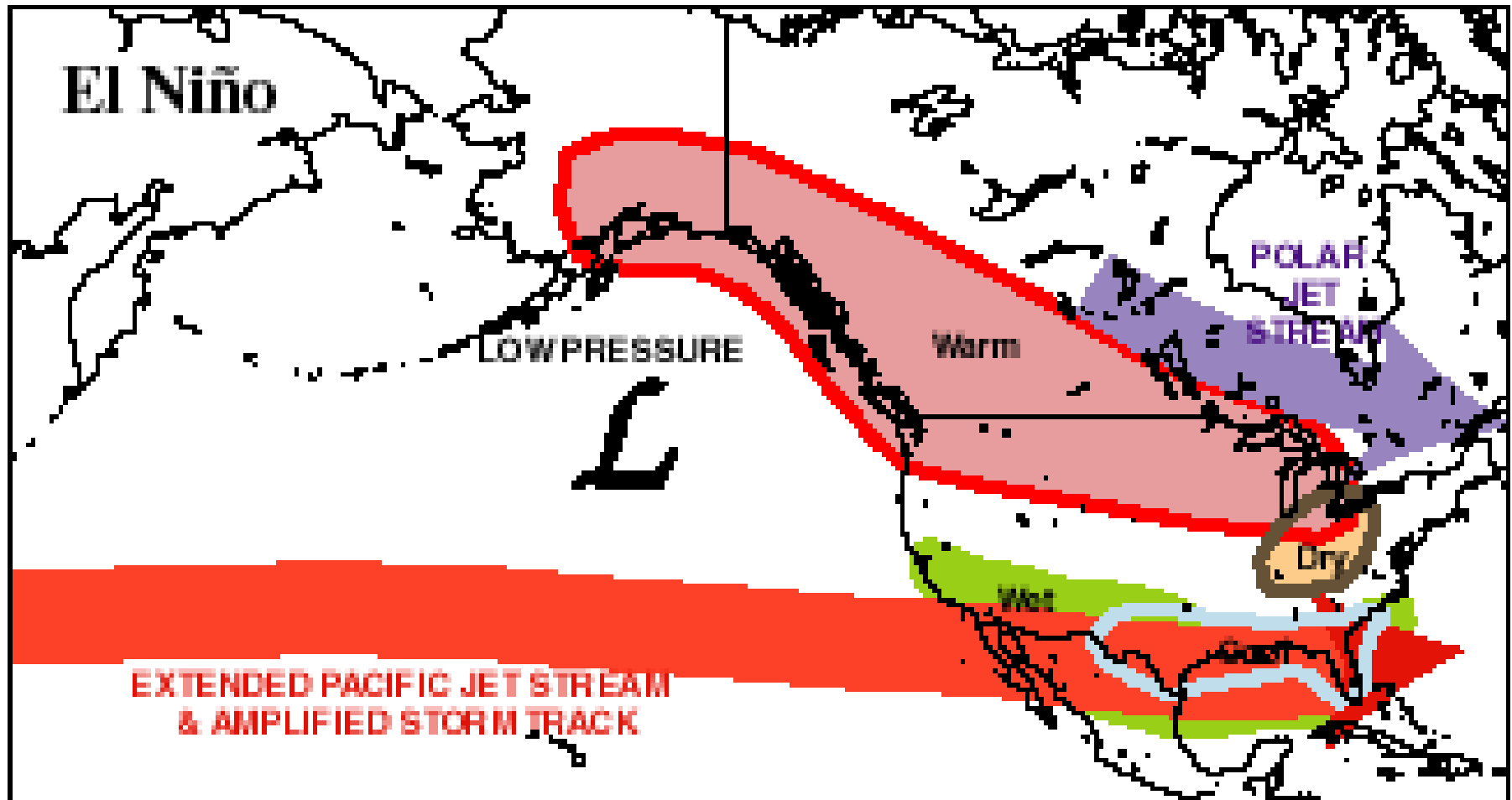


# Typical pattern with La Niña





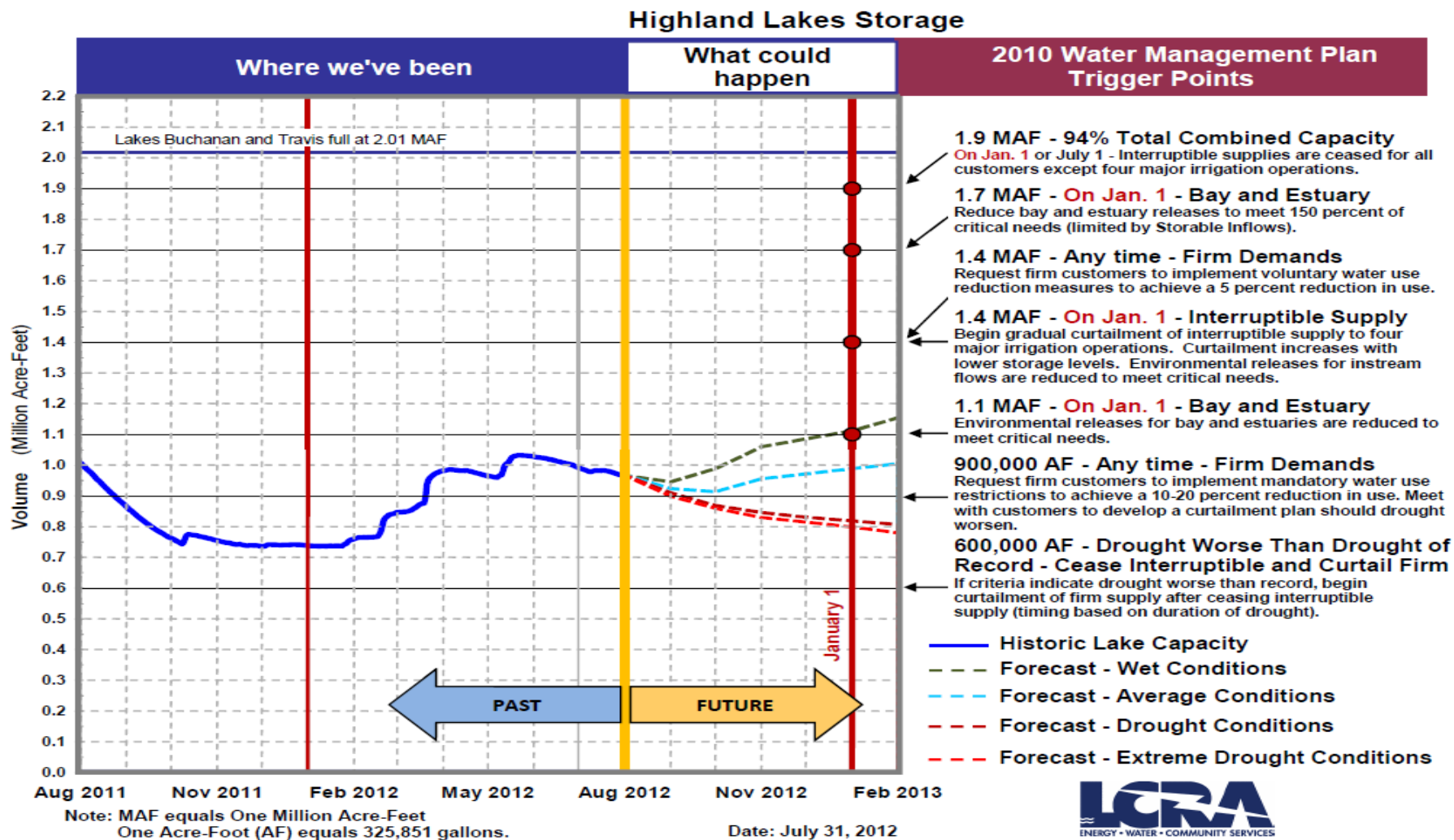
# Typical response from El Niño



# Factors impacting lake levels

- Reduced environmental flow requirements
- LCRA curtailment of stored water for irrigation
- Higher summer evaporation rates
- Municipal and Industrial summer demand on stored water
- Low inflows to the Highland Lakes

# Highland Lakes Storage



# Looking ahead

- Code revision related rulemaking:
  - Car wash equipment efficiency standards
  - Large irrigation system inspections
  - Splash pad operating hours
  - Variance application fees and administrative fines
- Implement Revised Lawn Conversion Program
- ICI program overhaul:
  - Complete review of customer data to identify areas of greatest conservation potential
  - Assess/revise current rebate program with customer input
  - Increase marketing/outreach
  - Expand AE partnership





**Mark Jordan**

**Water Conservation Program Coordinator**

**(512) 974-3901**

[mark.jordan@austintexas.gov](mailto:mark.jordan@austintexas.gov)

[www.waterwiseaustin.org](http://www.waterwiseaustin.org)