

Water Conservation Update

Resource Management Commission

Kevin Kluge | February 15, 2022

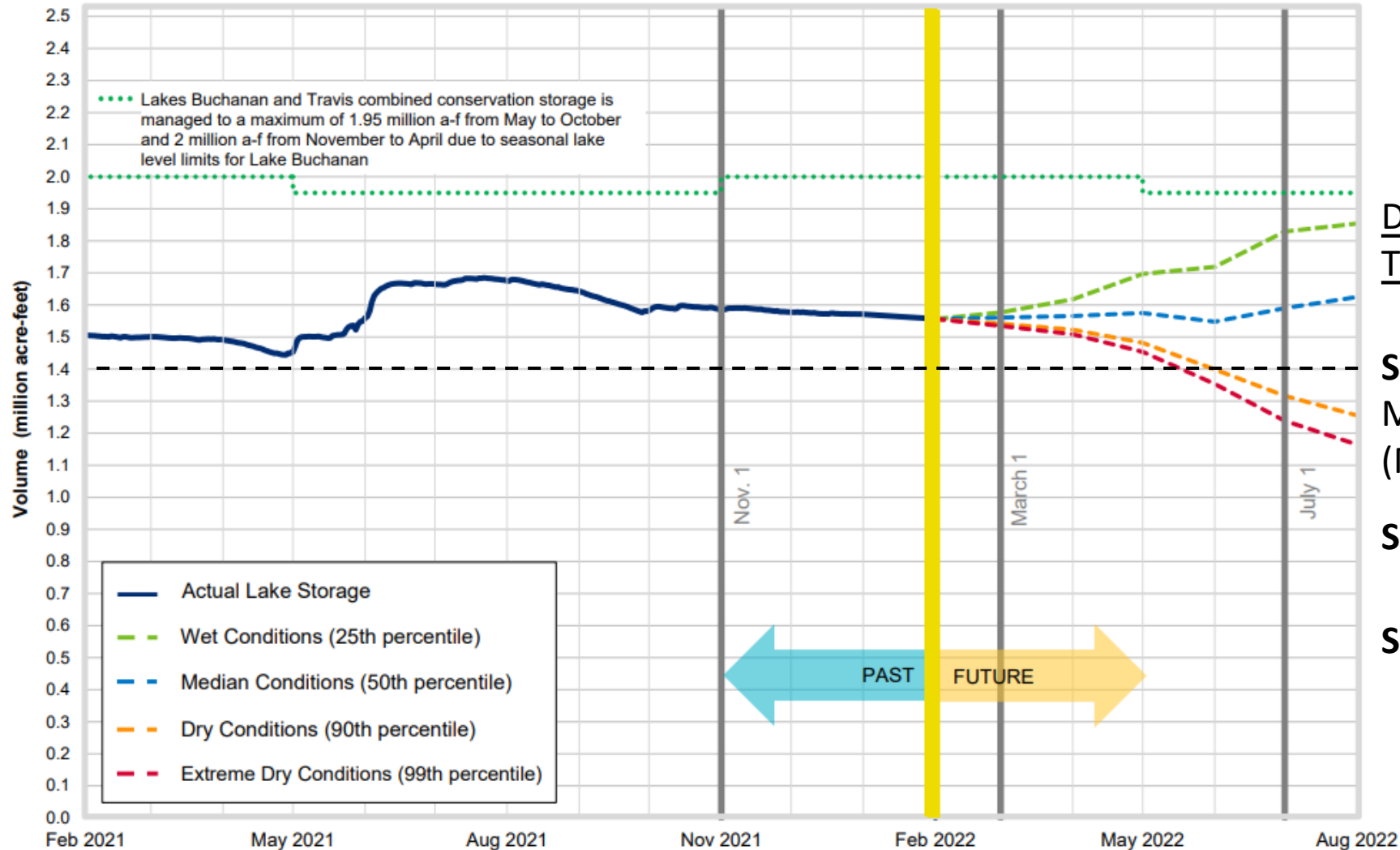


Agenda

- 💧 Water supply outlook
- 💧 On-going activities:
 - Onsite water reuse
 - Reclaimed water
 - Austin Energy partnerships
 - Water Forward strategy - Landscape Transformation Ordinance
- 💧 New activities:
 - Winter enforcement activities
 - New conservation supervisors
 - Conservation penalty ordinance
 - Bright Green Future School Grants



Lakes Buchanan and Travis Total Combined Storage Projections



Drought Stage Triggers:

Stage 1: 1.4 Million Acre Feet (MAF)

Stage 2: 0.9 MAF

Stage 3: 0.6 MAF

Date: Feb. 1, 2022

Note: One acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons

Highland Lakes Storage summary as of February 8, 2022

Combined lake storage: 1.55 million acre feet

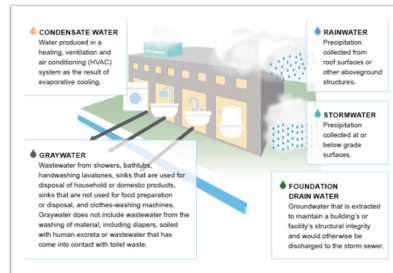
Combined reservoir total: 78%



On-going activities

Onsite water reuse

- 💧 Incentives approved
- 💧 1 app. in review
- 💧 1 app. reserving funds
- 💧 On-site blackwater reuse system (CLARA)



Reclaimed water

- 💧 Mandatory connection increased 250' to 500'
- 💧 Voluntary incentives
 - Irrigation conversion
 - Cooling tower conversion
 - Up to \$100,000 per account

Austin Energy - Instant Savings

- 💧 Pilot project for hose water timers at The Home Depot
- 💧 Instant savings of \$5



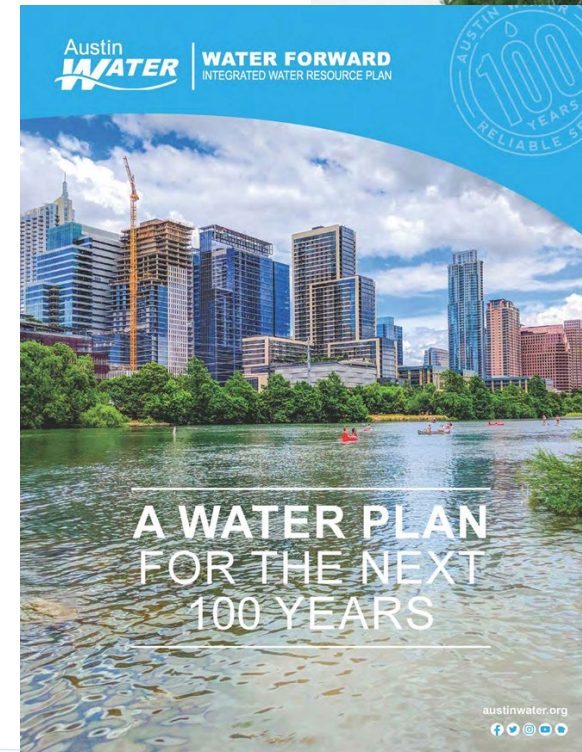
Austin Energy – All-Star Program

- 💧 Energy and water conservation education
- 💧 6,000+ sixth graders

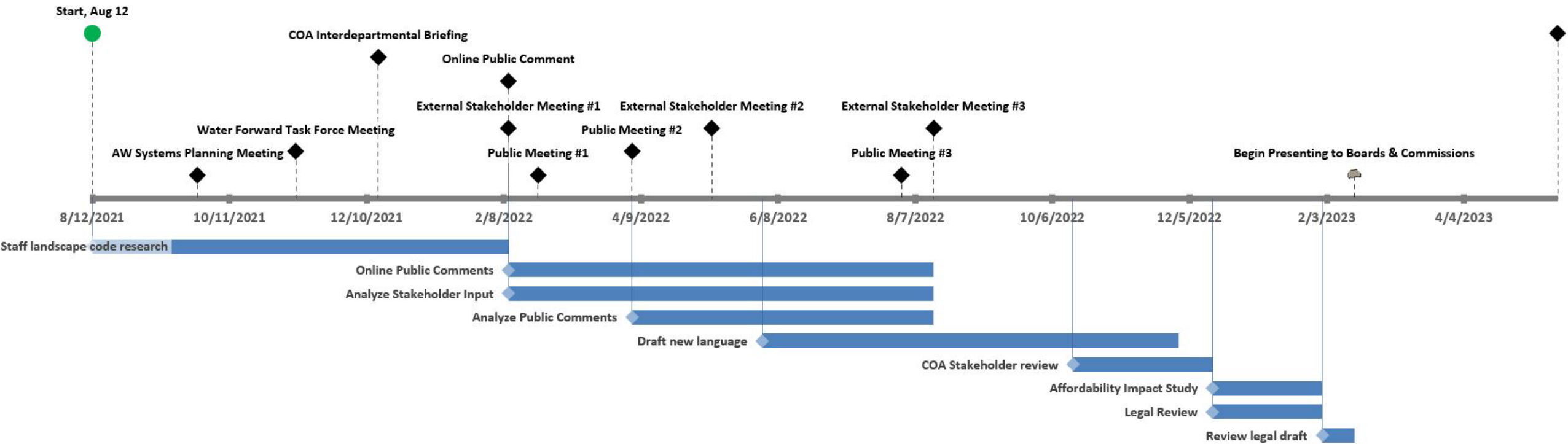


Water Forward strategy - Landscape Transformation Ordinance

- Spring/Summer 2022 – stakeholder outreach
 - Feb. 10 - Stakeholder Meeting
 - Feb. 23 - Public Meeting
- Fall/Winter 2022 - review of proposal
- Winter 2022 – Commissions and Council



Landscape Transformation Ordinance



New activities

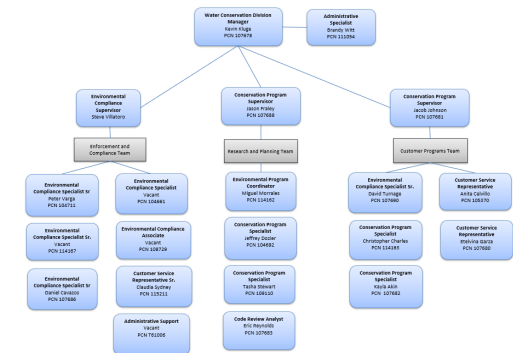
Winter enforcement activities



- 💧 Suspend regular patrols
- 💧 Shift staff time to
 - expanded irrigation audits
 - water waste investigation

New supervisors

- Customer Programs Supervisor
- Research and Planning Supervisor



Conservation penalty ordinance

- 💧 Penalty process changed in Dec. 2022
- 💧 Currently, all penalties start at \$250
- 💧 New framework will delineate by violation type and occurrence



- 💧 Timeline
 - March 9 – Water & Wastewater Commission
 - March 22 – Resource Management Commission
 - April/May – City Council

Bright Green Future School Grants

- 💧 Austin Water sponsorship
- 💧 6 Rain garden projects
 - Conserve water
 - Native plant education
 - Minimize soil erosion





QUESTIONS?

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