



# Report on Annual Colorado River Water Order Process

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

Item 6a

June 10, 2013

# Presentation Overview

- Contractual Framework
- Processes and Coordination
- Colorado River Basic and Additional Supplies
- 2013 Water Order Example
- Conclusions

# Contractual Framework

- Water Delivery contracts with the Secretary of the Interior under Section 5 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act
- Administered by Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Lower Colorado Regional office
- California Priorities under Seven Party Agreement and QSA

# Metropolitan Process

- Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM)
  - Principles provide guidance on which programs to implement
- Prepare Diversion Request for USBR
  - Diversion on a calendar year basis
  - Process begins six months early

# Process with USBR

- Submit Intentionally Created Surplus and Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Plans
  - July 1
- Submit annual and monthly Diversion Request and 43 CFR Part 417 questionnaire
  - September 15, which includes:
    - Basic Apportionment
    - Available Surplus and Unused Apportionment
    - Additional Colorado River supplies
    - Documentation of reasonable use

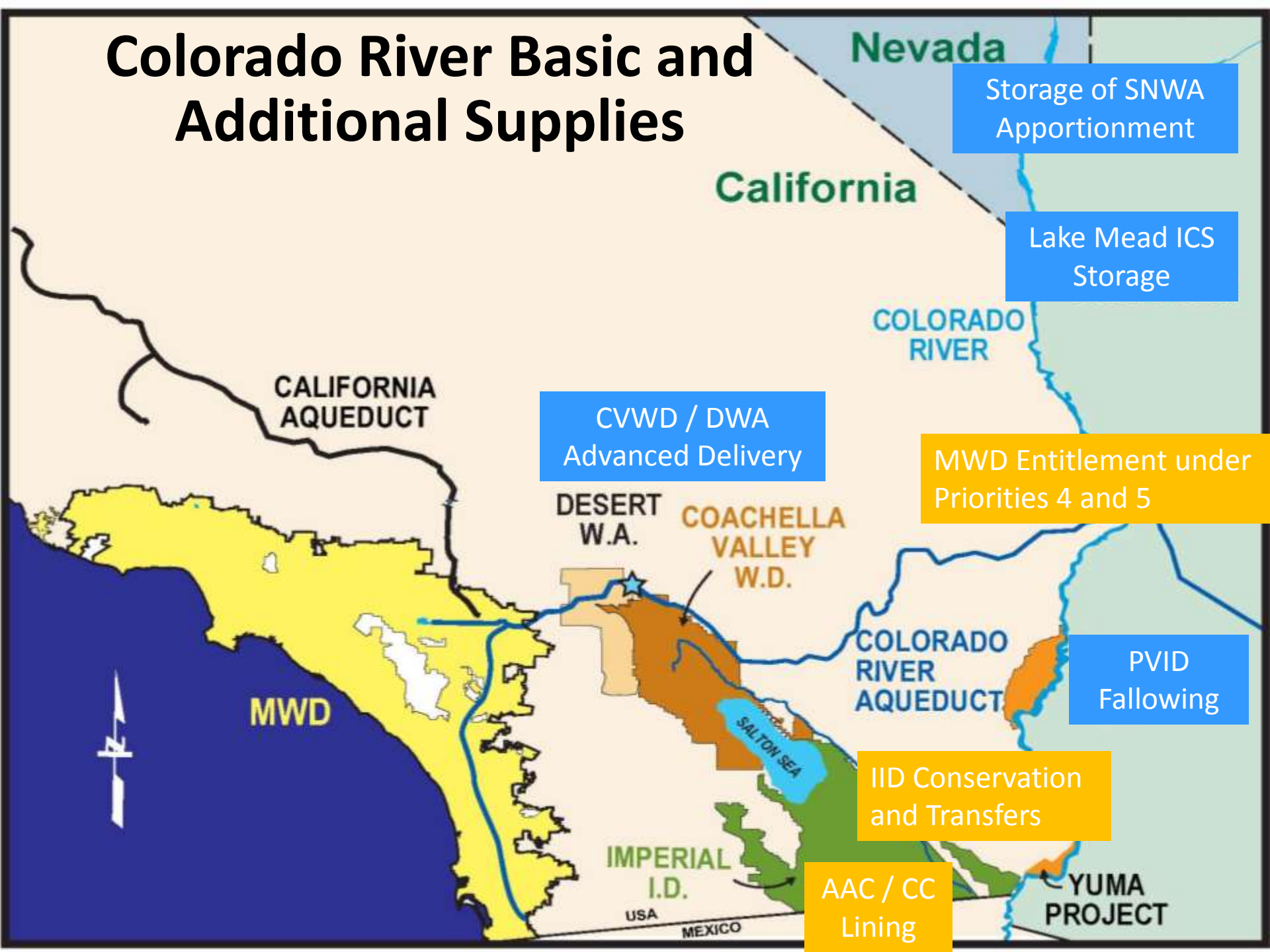
# Process with USBR (cont')

- Meetings with USBR and informal approval
  - October 1 – November 15
- Official approval from USBR
  - November 15 – December 31
- Water accounting for previous year
  - April - May

# Coordination

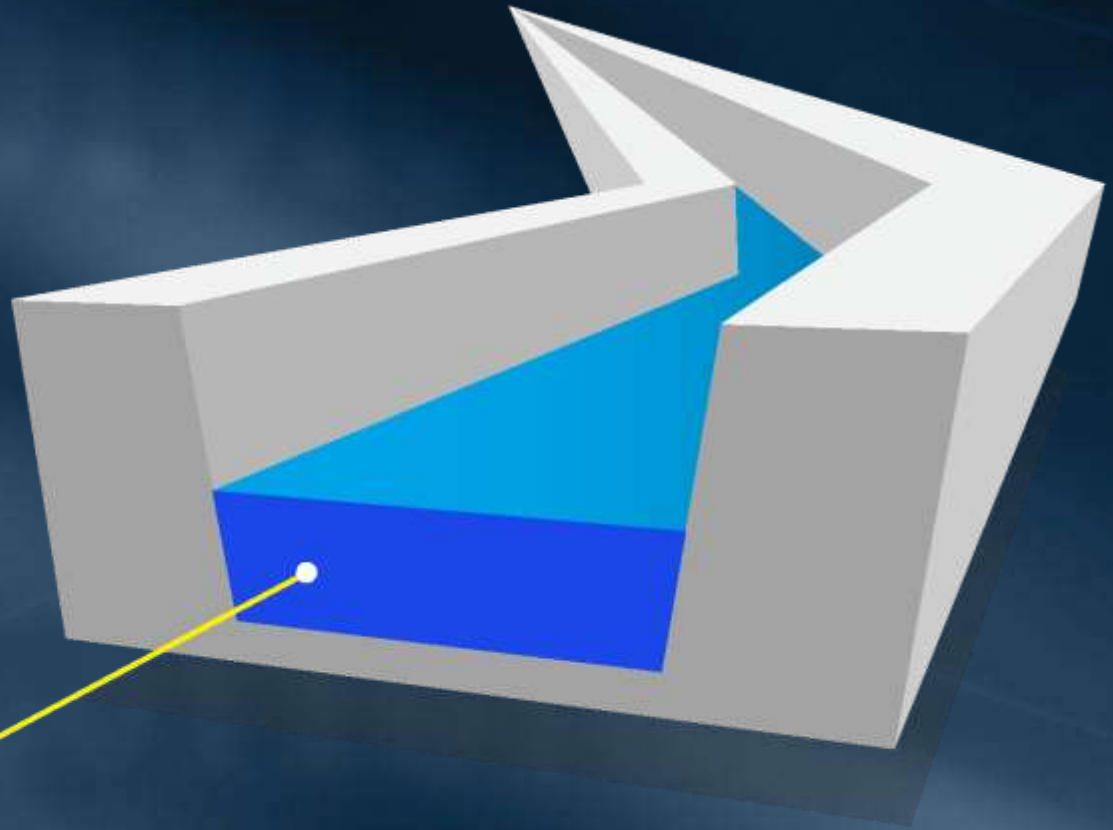
- Approval updated as needed
- Monthly conference calls
- Coordination with USBR increases as the calendar year progresses due to:
  - Hydrology (wet or dry winter, availability of other supplies)
  - Changes in demand
  - Improved forecast of water use by others

# Colorado River Basic and Additional Supplies



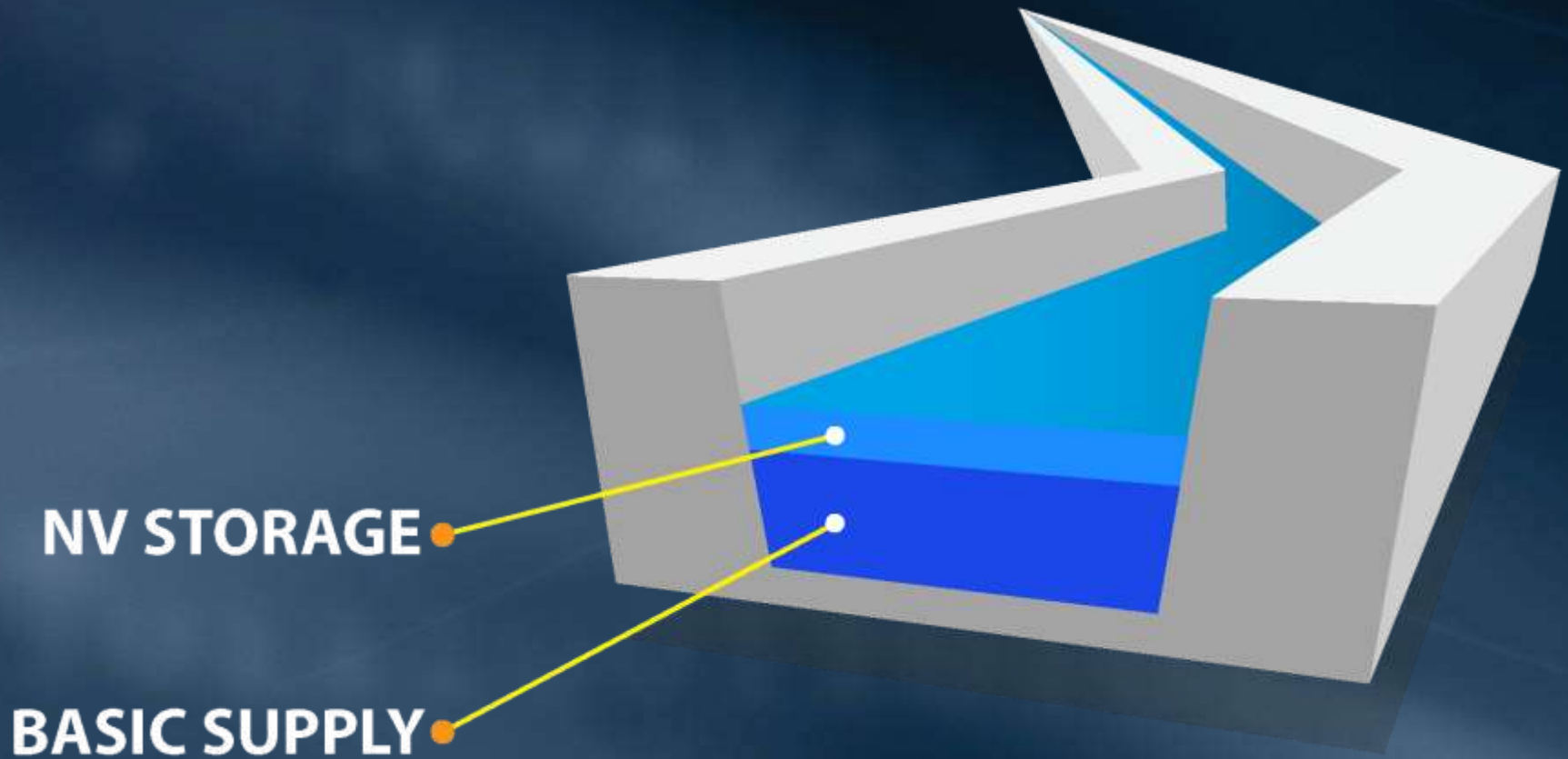


# Water Order Components



**BASIC SUPPLY**

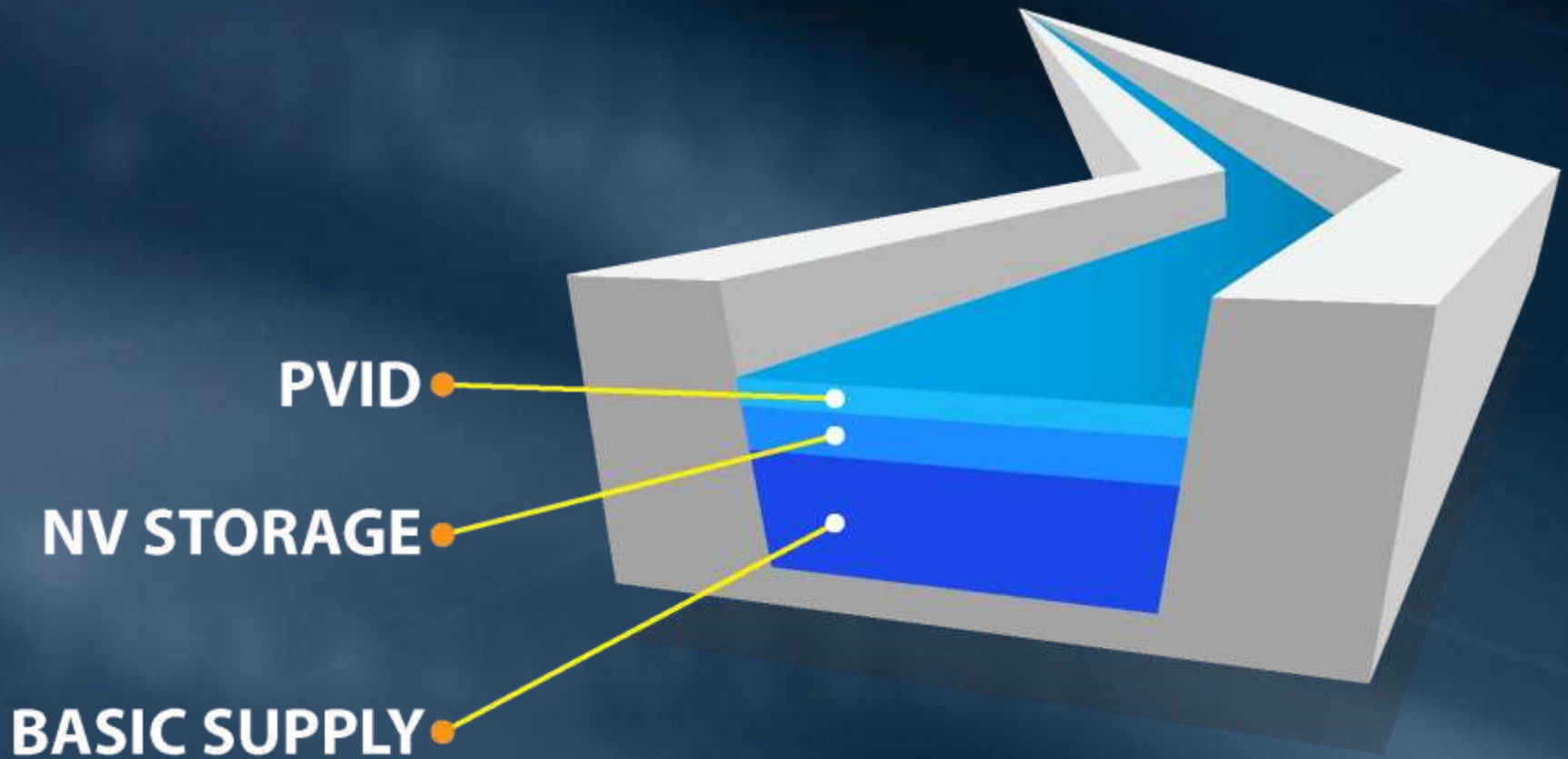
# Water Order Components



**NV STORAGE**

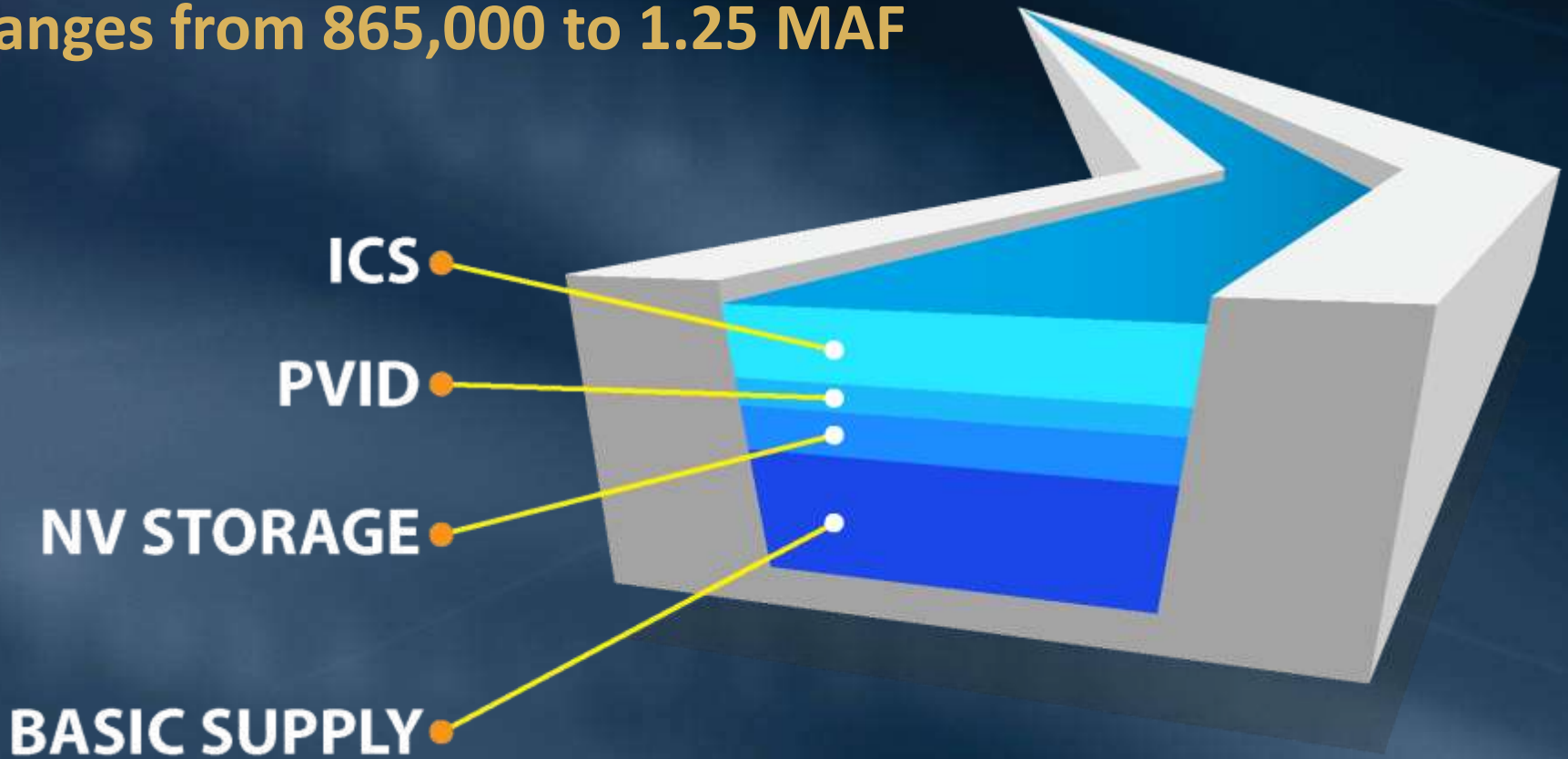
**BASIC SUPPLY**

# Water Order Components



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Total diversion forecast for 2013  
ranges from 865,000 to 1.25 MAF



# Conclusions

- MWD processes are iterative
- Start with estimate
- Monitor other States' and California's uses
- Make adjustments for unused water, California agriculture, and Indian Tribe use
- Use ICS for storage or take as needed
- Balance of base supply and variable programs provides operational flexibility

