



SB 332 (Hertzberg and Wiener) Wastewater Treatment: Recycled Water

Communication and Legislation Committee
Item 6a
April 8, 2019

Summary of Senate Bill 332

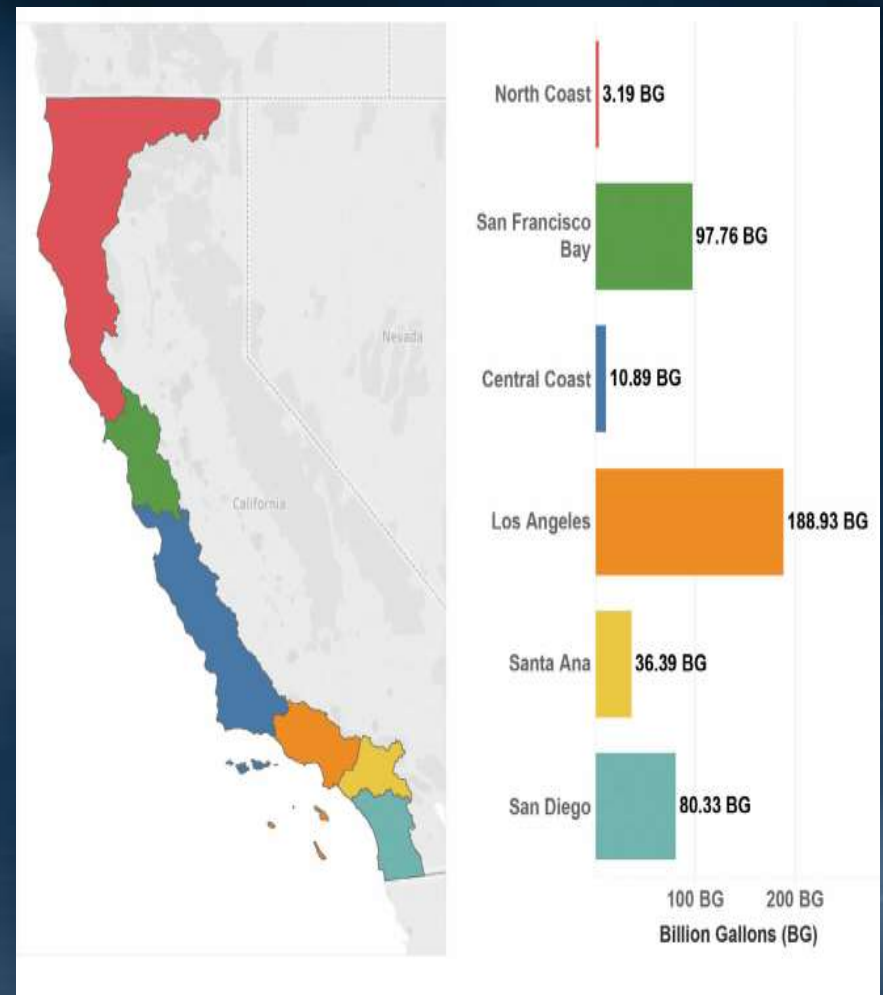
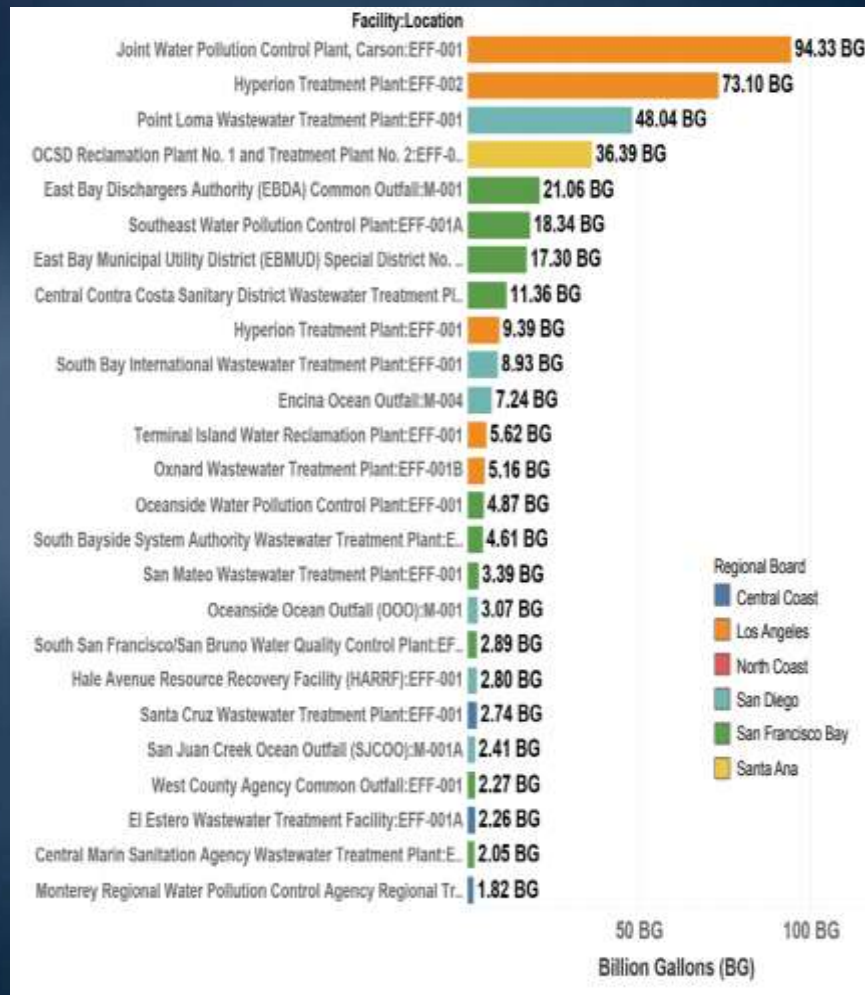
- Accelerate water recycling and increase water supplies by mandating reduction of wastewater discharges to the ocean
- Declares discharges of treated wastewater from ocean outfalls is a “waste and unreasonable use” of water
- Similar to SB 163 (Hertzberg) from the 2015/16 legislative session
- Sponsored by the National Resource Defense Council and California CoastKeeper Alliance

Summary of Senate Bill 332

Requires NPDES permit holders and affiliated water suppliers to:

- Reduce ocean discharges
 - 50 percent by 2030
 - 95 percent by 2040
- Submit joint plan for treatment, transportation, and reuse by 2022
- Submit progress reports by 2024 & every 5 years thereafter
- Penalties for lack of progress

California Municipal Wastewater Ocean Discharges by Facility &



Goals of SB 332

- Prepare for drought and climate change
- Increase water supply reliability
- Maximize beneficial reuse of ocean discharges
- Accelerate reaching state recycled water goals
- Reduce reliance on imported water supplies
- Reduce pollutant loading to ocean waters

Concerns of SB 332

- Reduction goals not feasible today
 - Uncertain regulatory path
 - Limited recycled water demands
 - Narrow baseline recycling credits
 - No brine or wet weather disposal credits
- Substantial financial impacts
- Water suppliers authority over ocean discharges
- Consistency with State Recycled Water Policy

Areas to Evaluate Further

- Timeline for ocean discharge reduction volumes
- Penalties on water supplier for actions outside of their authority
- Prior conservation and recycled water efforts
- Clear regulatory path established
- Funding that supports implementation goals
- Providing state grant and loan priority for regional water recycling projects

Next Steps

- Author and sponsors have indicated a desire to discuss bill and benefits/concerns
- Staff will share concerns, experience with Regional Recycled Water Program, and observations
- Recommend position as bill develops

