Building a Stronger Los Angeles

LADWP provides clean, reliable water to Los Angeles residents, businesses and visitors. Through innovative and strategic investments, the nation's second largest public water utility, is working to ensure that the city we serve remains water strong well into the future.

LA DWP Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Diverse Water Sources for a Diverse City

From the Sierra Mountains and the Colorado River to the ground beneath our feet here in Los Angeles, the water that fuels our city comes from a variety of diverse sources.

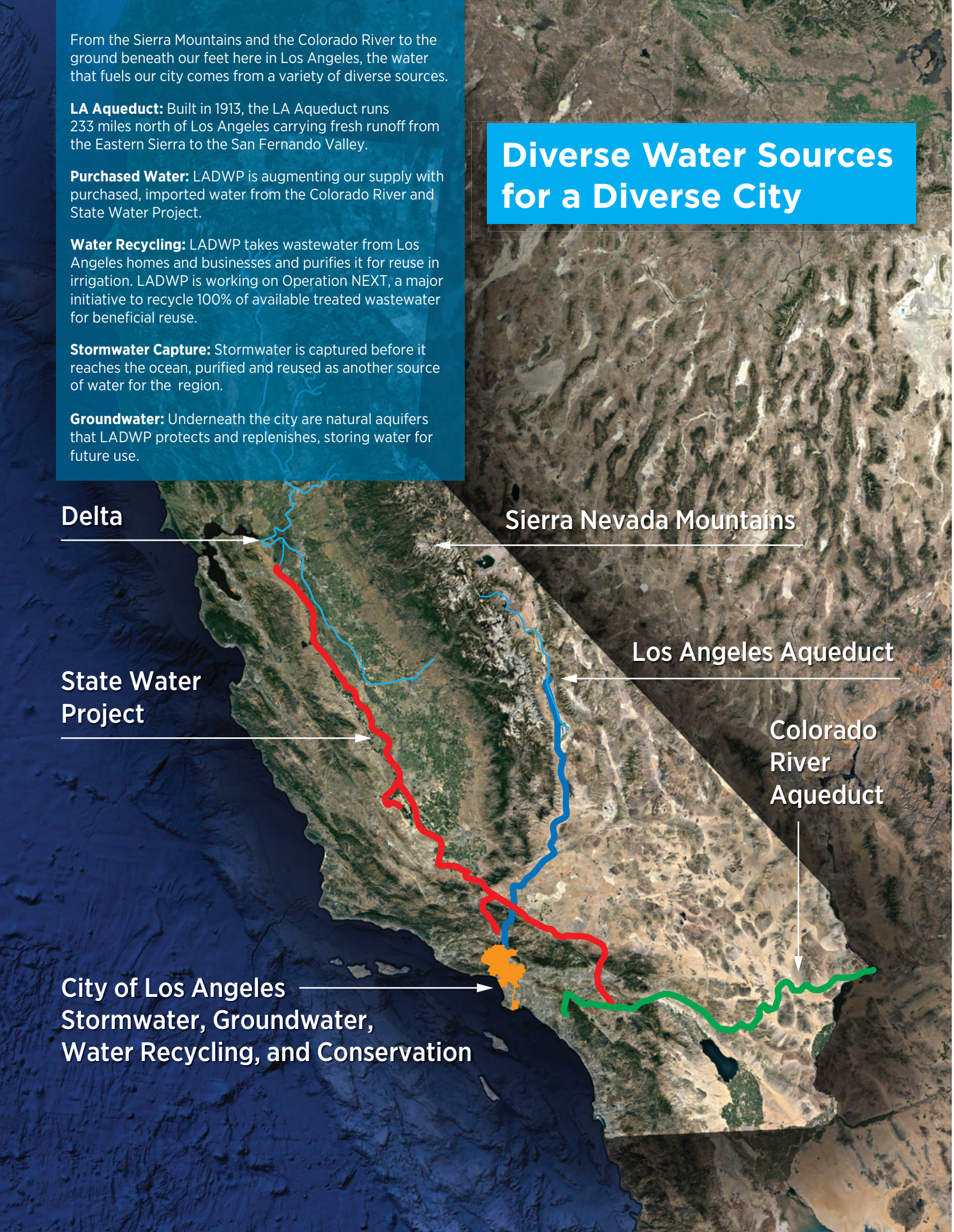
LA Aqueduct: Built in 1913, the LA Aqueduct runs 233 miles north of Los Angeles carrying fresh runoff from the Eastern Sierra to the San Fernando Valley.

Purchased Water: LADWP is augmenting our supply with purchased, imported water from the Colorado River and State Water Project.

Water Recycling: LADWP takes wastewater from Los Angeles homes and businesses and purifies it for reuse in irrigation. LADWP is working on Operation NEXT, a major initiative to recycle 100% of available treated wastewater for beneficial reuse.

Stormwater Capture: Stormwater is captured before it reaches the ocean, purified and reused as another source of water for the region.

Groundwater: Underneath the city are natural aquifers that LADWP protects and replenishes, storing water for future use.



LADWP Goals by 2035:

50%	70%
Decrease in Imported Water	Local Water Supplies
100%	2X
Wastewater Recycled	More Stormwater Captured
2X	25%
Groundwater Storage Capacity	Reduction in Water Usage

Innovating Now for a Water Strong Future

In order to reduce our reliance on imported, purchased water supplies, LADWP is investing in innovative local supply initiatives to tap into the resources we have right here in Los Angeles. To reach our goal of reducing the amount of water we import by half by 2035, LADWP is investing in the following initiatives:

Conservation

With conservation ordinances still in place from 2009 and ongoing incentives and rebates for customers, LADWP is creating more water by encouraging Angelenos to use less. LADWP customers are using 40% less water per year than they did nearly 40 years ago.

Water Recycling

LADWP is expanding water recycling operations through Operation NEXT, a project that will upgrade existing recycling systems and pipes to distribute more treated water and help L.A. reach the goal of recycling 100% of our city's wastewater.

Stormwater Capture

With 100 new projects forecasted over the next 15 years, LADWP will double the city's stormwater capture capacity. Many of these projects will happen city parks, helping enhance local green spaces along the way.

Groundwater Recharge

The key to maintaining a reliable groundwater supply is to protect and replenish. LADWP is ramping up efforts to remediate and restore beneficial use of the San Fernando Groundwater Basin.

A Water Conscious Way of Life in LA:

- 40% reduction in water usage over 40 years
- 10+ years of mandatory water conservation ordinance in place
- 50 million square feet of turf replaced
- More than 50,000 high-efficiency toilets, washing machines, showerheads and faucets replaced

LADWP by the Numbers:

- 621,000 residential customers
- 66,000 commercial customers
- 7,340 miles of pipeline operated & maintained
- 323,820 acre-feet of storage capacity
- 735,600 water connection points
- 112,000 water quality tests performed in 2020

Facing our Changing Climate Head On

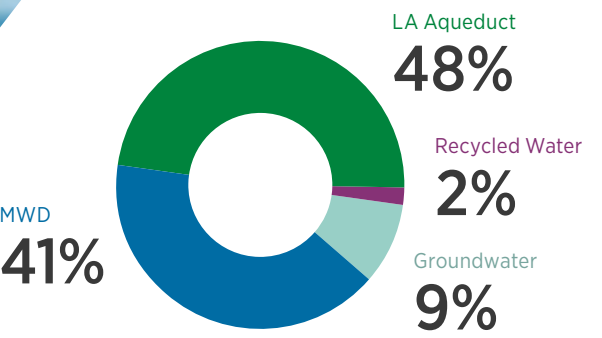
Drier summers, wetter winters, unpredictable weather extremes and the steady decline in snowpack are just a few impacts of climate change forcing California to rethink its water future. For Los Angeles, all these factors are not only decreasing the overall water in the system but also the reliability and sustainability of imported supplies. So we're making a change. For example, in the Eastern Sierra, LADWP has reduced the amount of water we export from the region by more than half over the past 30 years, leaving the water for use in environmental restoration projects throughout the area.

Learn more about LADWP's work in the Eastern Sierra » LADWPEasternSierra.com

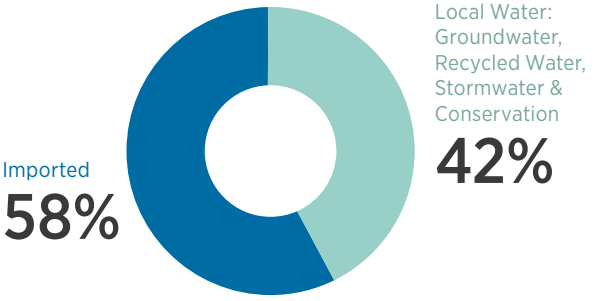
Expanding L.A.'s Local Water Supply

Fiscal Year End 2016-20 Average

Total Supply: 497,386 AF

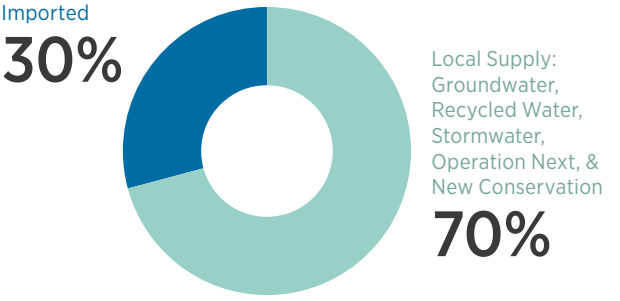


Fiscal Year 2034-35 Average Hydrology



Operation Next

Fiscal Year 2034-35 Average Hydrology



*Ratio of imported water from the L.A. Aqueduct and MWD will vary due to hydrological conditions