



**America's  
Rural Energy  
Coalition**



**WESTERN AREA**  
WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY








# **Fracking powers North Dakota town Williston to fastest-growing micro area in America**

Town lifted by oil boom that made North Dakota second-biggest oil-producing state in US



## Williston and Williams County

2010 Census

22,398



83%

2020 Census

40,950

## McKenzie County

2010 Census

6,360



131%

2020 Census

14,704

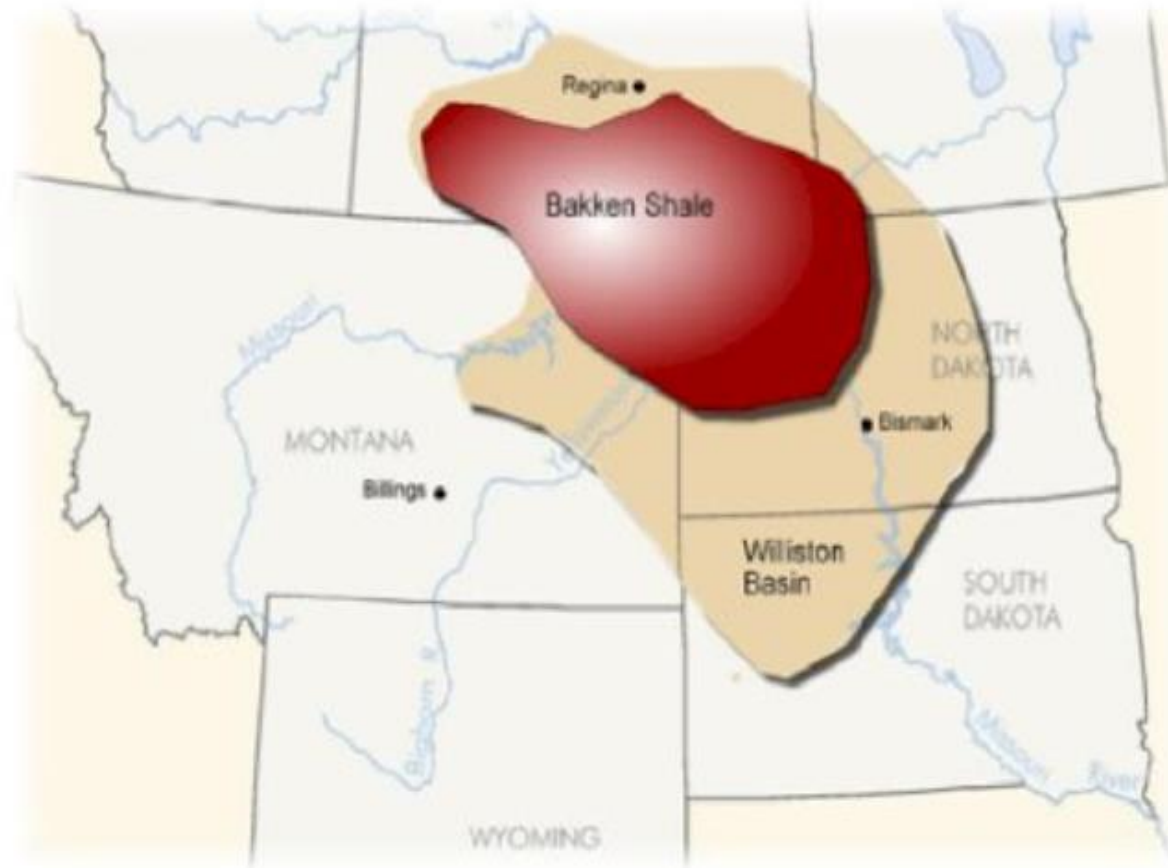






# Growth

- Williston first noticed the increasing activity level beginning in 2004.
- To prepare, the city increased major infrastructure capacity for up to 40% more population.
- We have since far exceeded that excess capacity.



Credit: Ward Koeser



# Instrumental Leaders

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- Mayor Ward Koeser (1994-2014)
- Mayor Howard Klug (2014 – Current)

“My **dream** was that we would become the  
**best little city in America.**  
We are a lot closer to that now than a lot of  
people believe.”

E. Ward Koeser, 2014



# Instrumental Leaders

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Senator Bekkedahl (2015 – Current)

“When it is all said and done, we want to prevail as a better community than when it started.”

Dr. Brad Bekkedahl  
Williston City Commissioner



# HISTORICAL LEGISLATION

**SB2233** Passed by State Legislature in 2013

➤ **Created Two Water Utilities:**

- **Domestic Utility:** Owned and Operated by WAWSA and Member Entities
- **Industrial Utility:** Owned By the State of North Dakota and Operated by WAWSA

= State Assumed **\$238M OF WAWSA DEBTS**

# WAWSA Legislation

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2011 – House Bill 1206 – Legislation the initially created WAWSA

2013 – Senate Bill 2233 – Water development policies, goals, and objectives legislation.

2013 – House Bill 1020 – State Water Commission Appropriations Bill

2015 – Senate Bill 2020 – State Water Commission Appropriations Bill

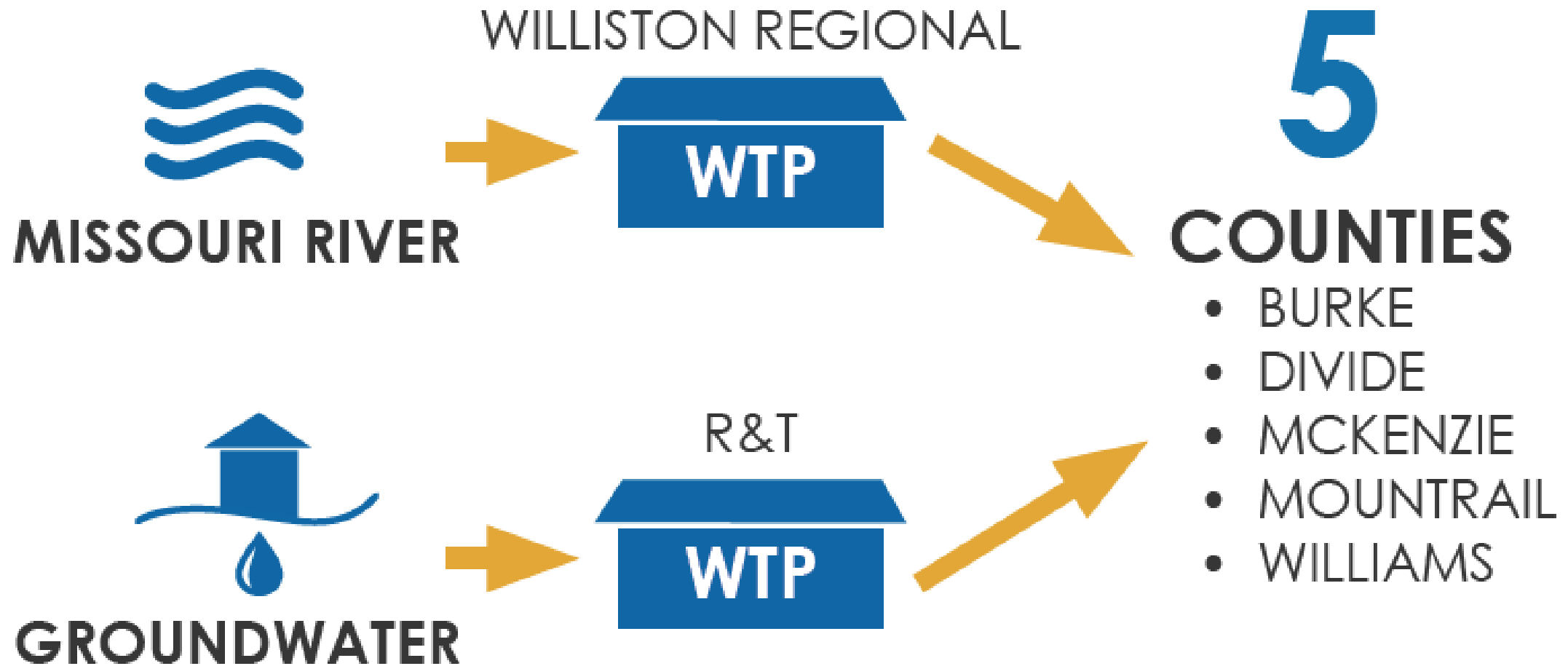
2017 – House Bill 1020 – State Water Commission Appropriations Bill

2019 – Senate Bill 2020 – State Water Commission Appropriations Bill

**2021 – House Bill – 1020 – State Water Commission Appropriations Bill**

**2021 – House Bill – 1431 – \$74.5m Debt Reduction (RTF)**

**2021 – Senate Bill – 2345 – Federal ARPA Fund Allocation**







**1,800+ Miles installed of Rural  
Distribution & Transmission Pipeline**



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**16 Pump  
Stations**



**9 Ground Storage  
Reservoirs**



**4 Water  
Towers**

## ENTITY CONTRIBUTIONS

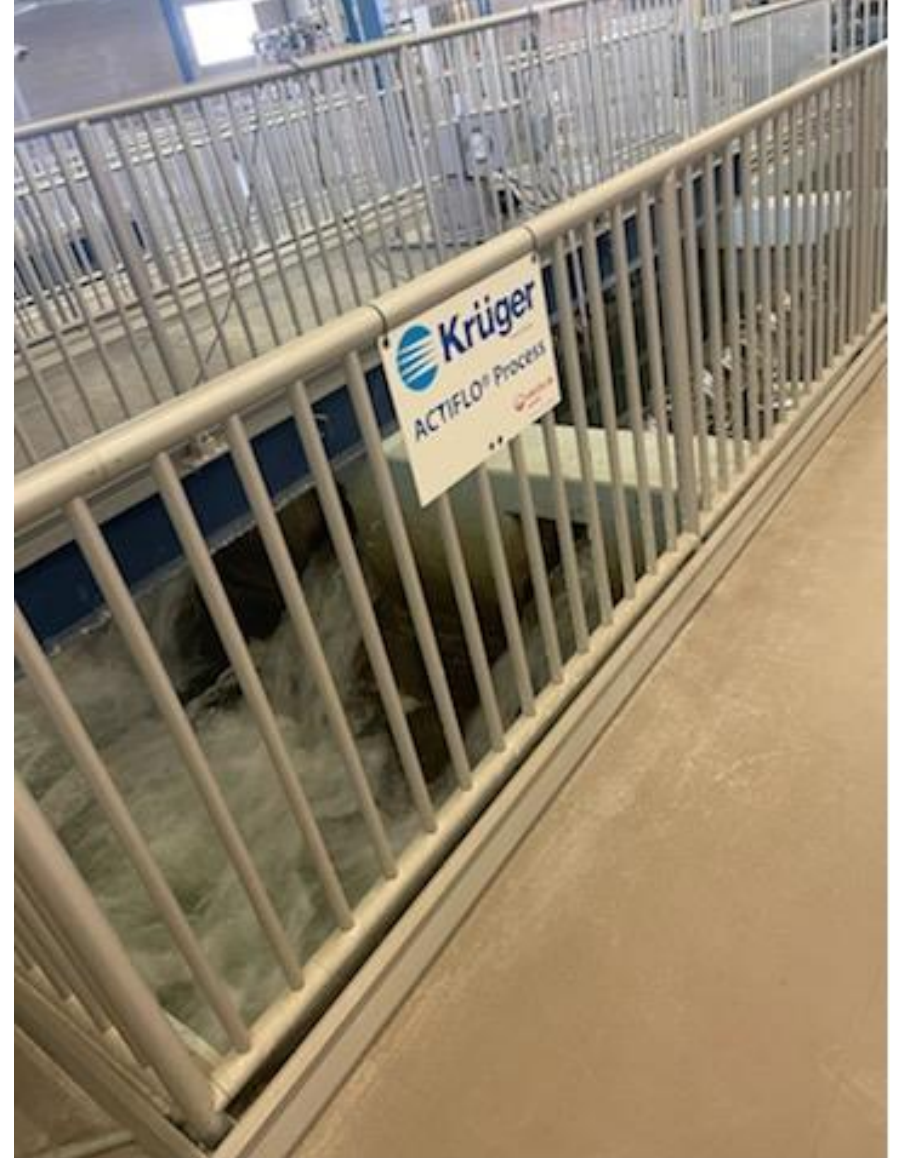
Each Member Entity (and many sub-member entities) contributed existing infrastructure such as water plants, transmission lines & water depots **(OVER \$100 MILLION IN ASSETS)** to WAWSA for the public purpose and good of this project.



## WAWSA BOARD



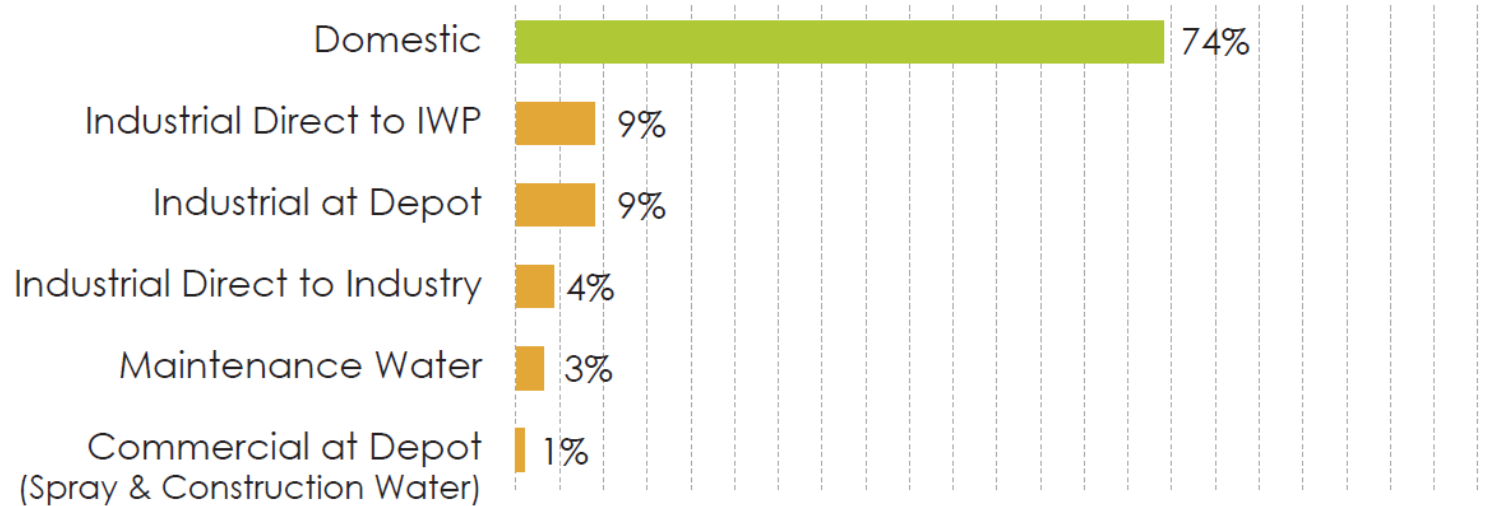
- City of Williston
- McKenzie County Water Resource District (MCWRD)
- Northwest Rural Water District (NWRWD)
- R&T Water Supply Commerce Authority (R&T)
- Burke-Divide-Williams (BDW) Rural Water







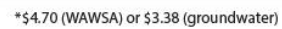


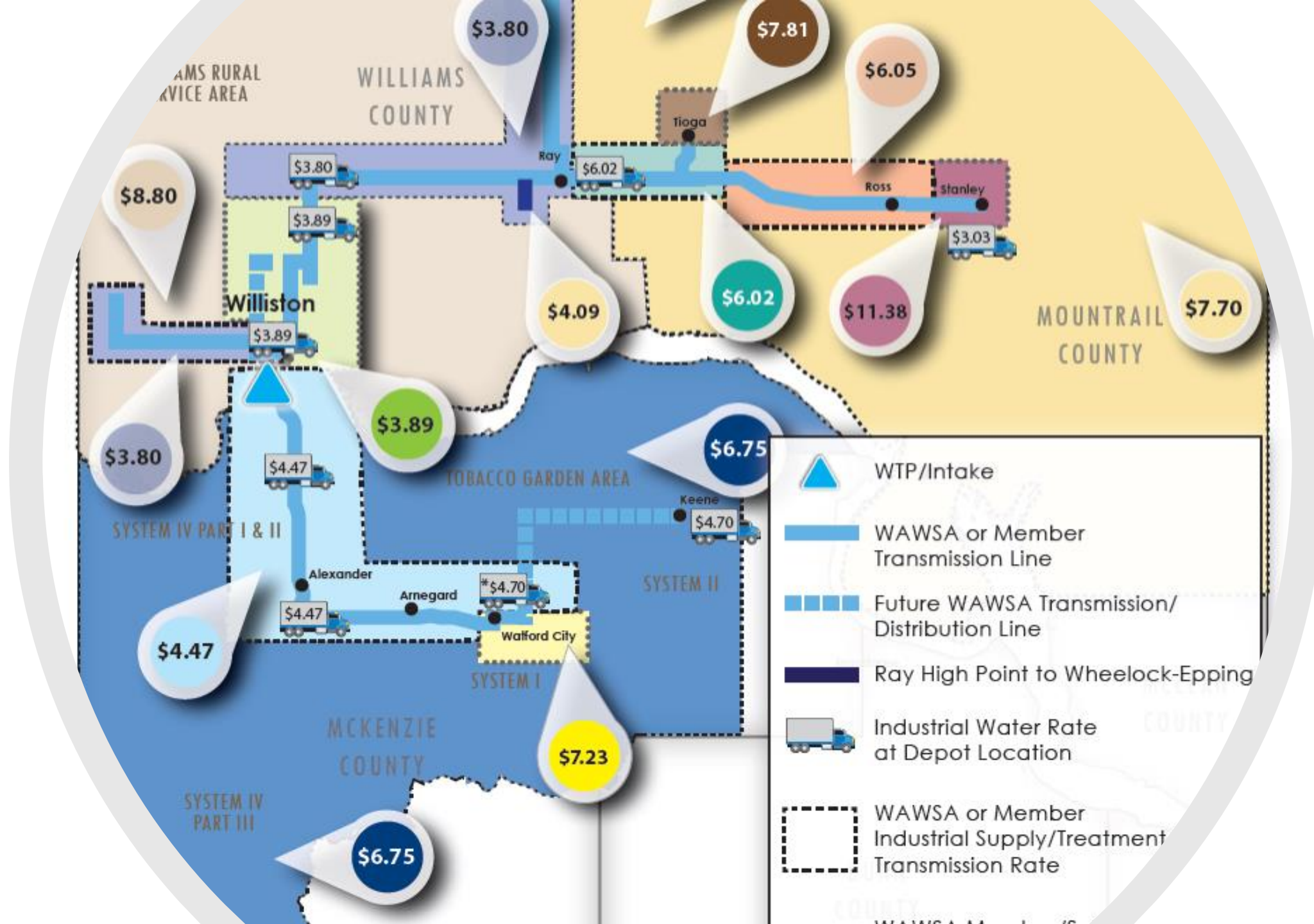


**WAWSA**  
**WATER SALES**  
**BY PERCENTAGE**  
2016-2020



Updated 12-30-21 | Effective 1-1-22









Industrial Sales





# Industrial Sales

## IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL SALES

- WAWSA is operating nine depots, and there are no plans at this time to open additional depots.
- **The WAWSP Business Plan is the first of its kind in North Dakota.** Typically, rural water systems are subsidized heavily by grant dollars. Selling the system's unused water capacity to the oil industry during the population growth period is projected to pay for a significant portion of the WAWSP overall project cost.
- **Direct pipelines = reduced impacts on roads.** Direct pipelines along with a limited number of strategic WAWSA industrial water depots, which were coordinated with the NDDOT and local entities, have reduced wear and tear on county and township roads by reducing truck traffic.



MORE THAN  
**750,000 TRUCKLOADS**  
OF WATER OFF OF THE ROADS



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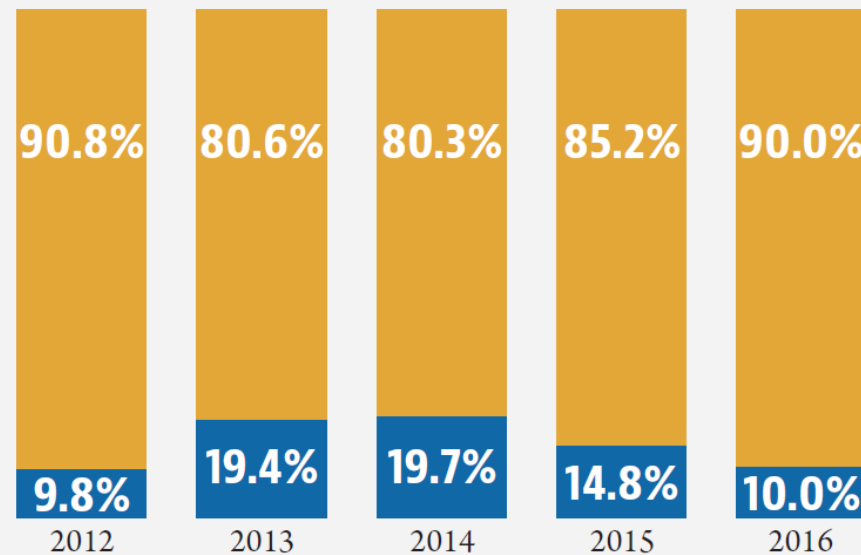
**WESTERN AREA**  
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## MARKET SHARE

WAWSA has repeatedly testified that they would provide no more than 25% of the market share and have been well below that historically.

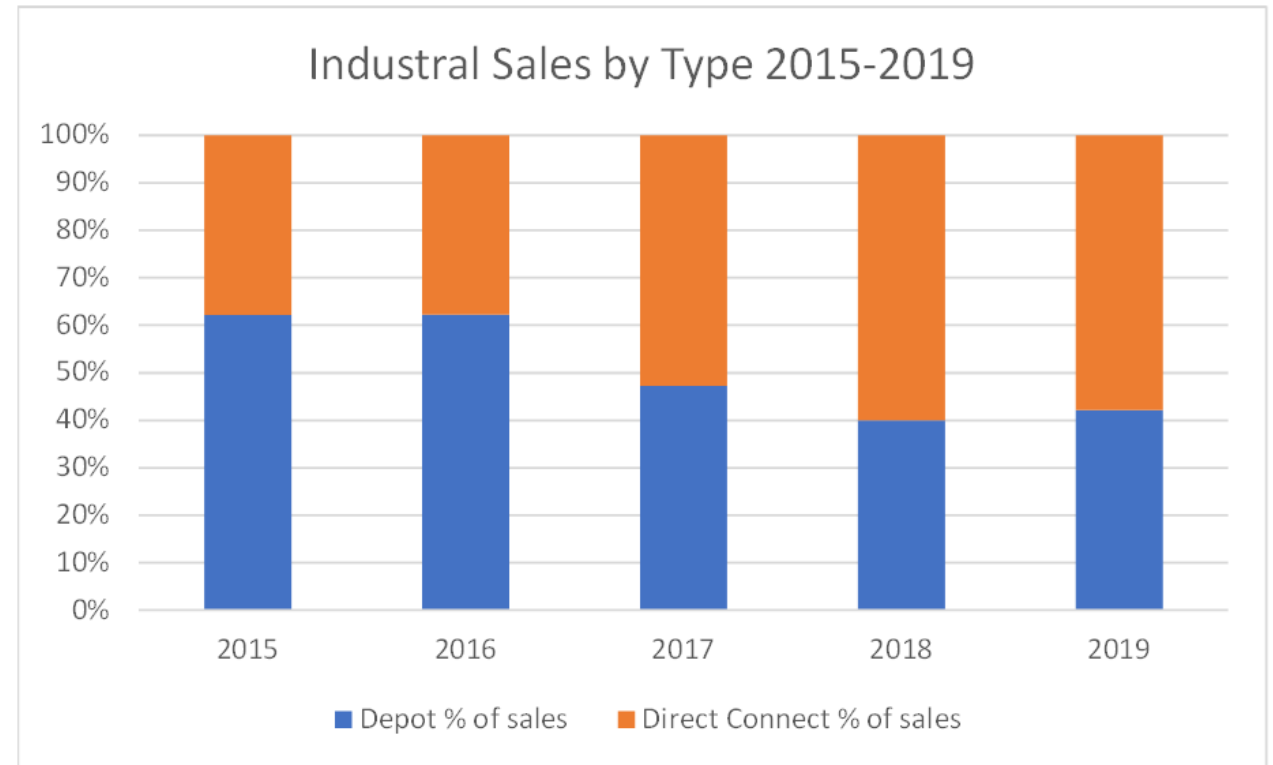
■ WAWSA    ■ IWP/non-WAWSA

### REPORTED ND OIL & GAS INDUSTRIAL WATER USAGE



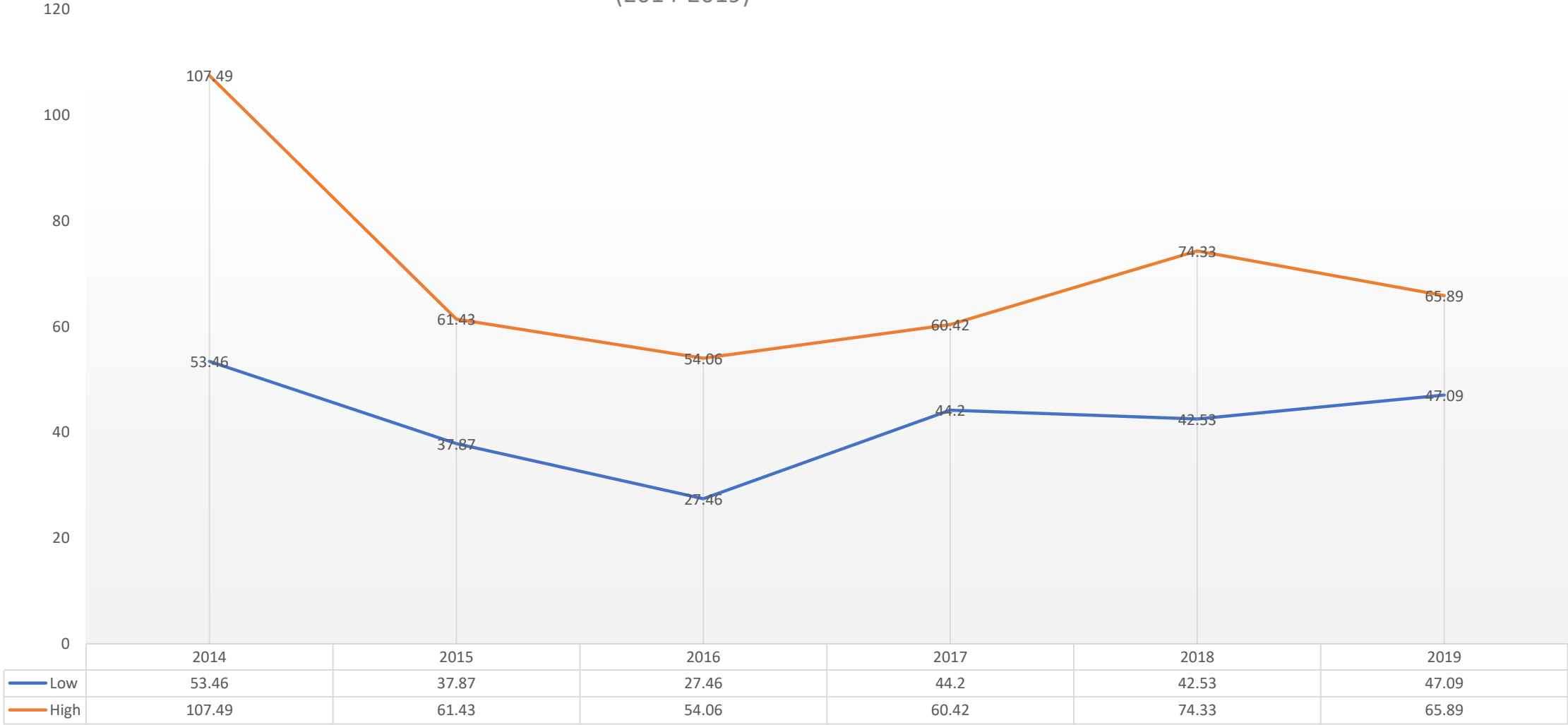
# Considerations

- 2014 | 2015 \$0.84/bbl
- 2017 Volume-based contracts
- 2018 | 2019 Volume-based contracts were discouraged
- 2019 Excessive precipitation created an abundance of surface water





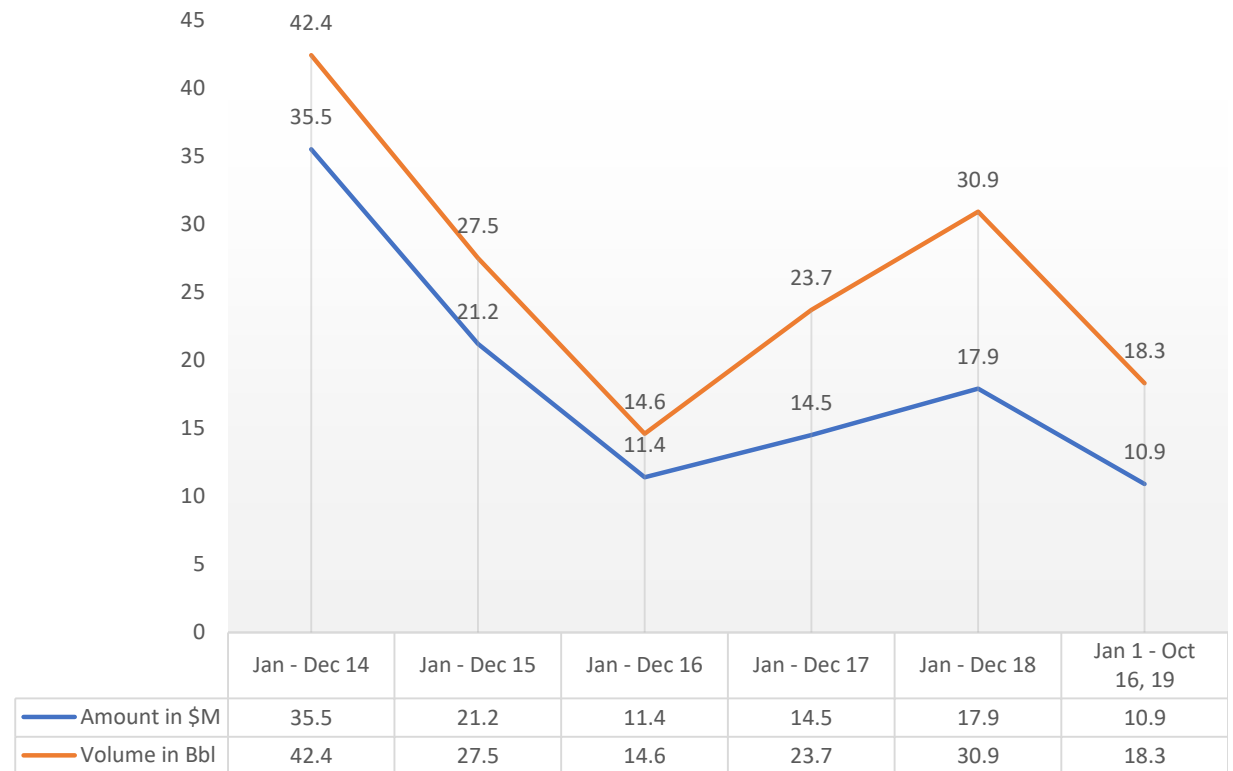
Oil Prices per Bbl  
(2014-2019)

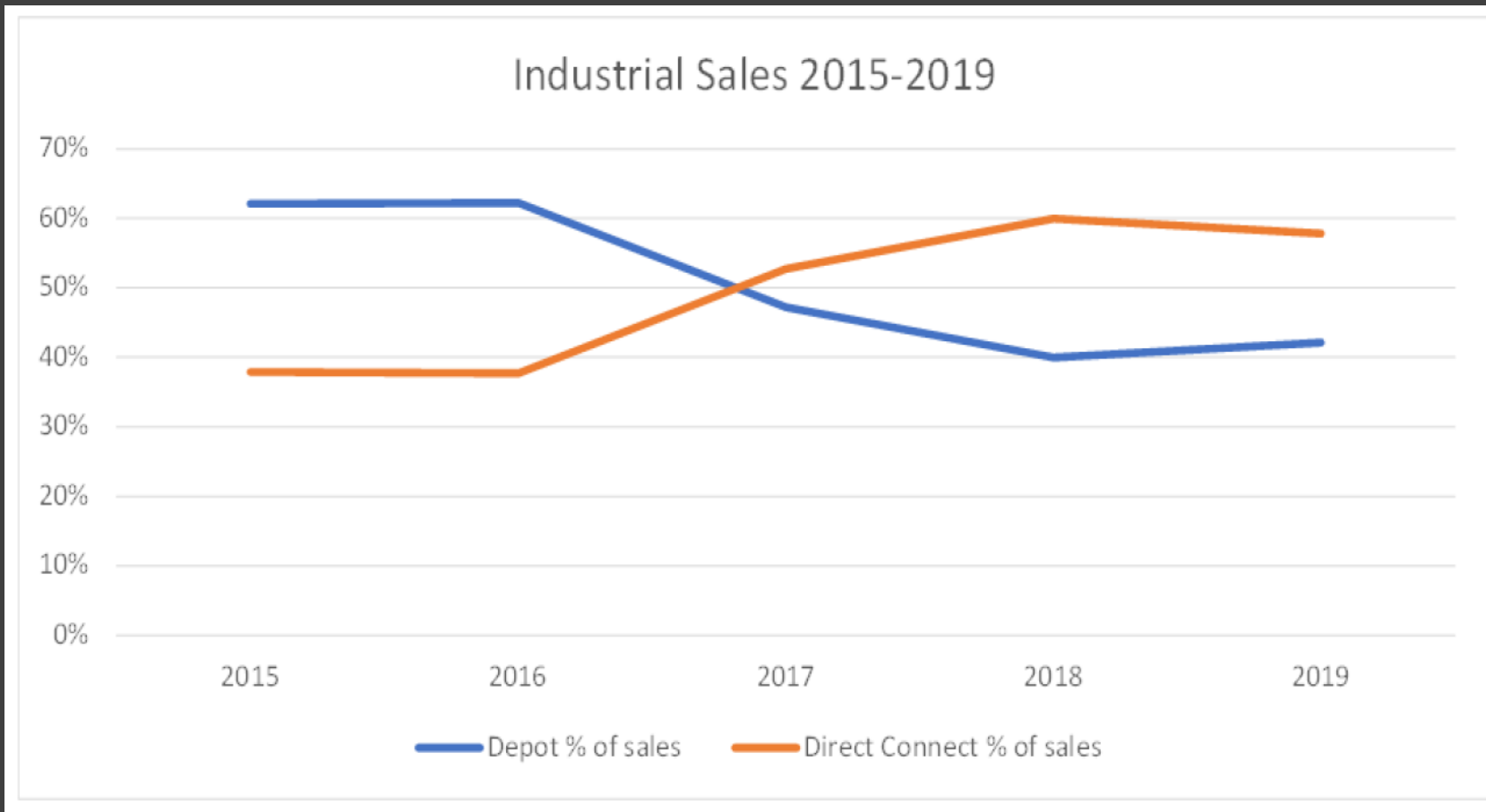


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Industrial Water Sales (2014-2019)

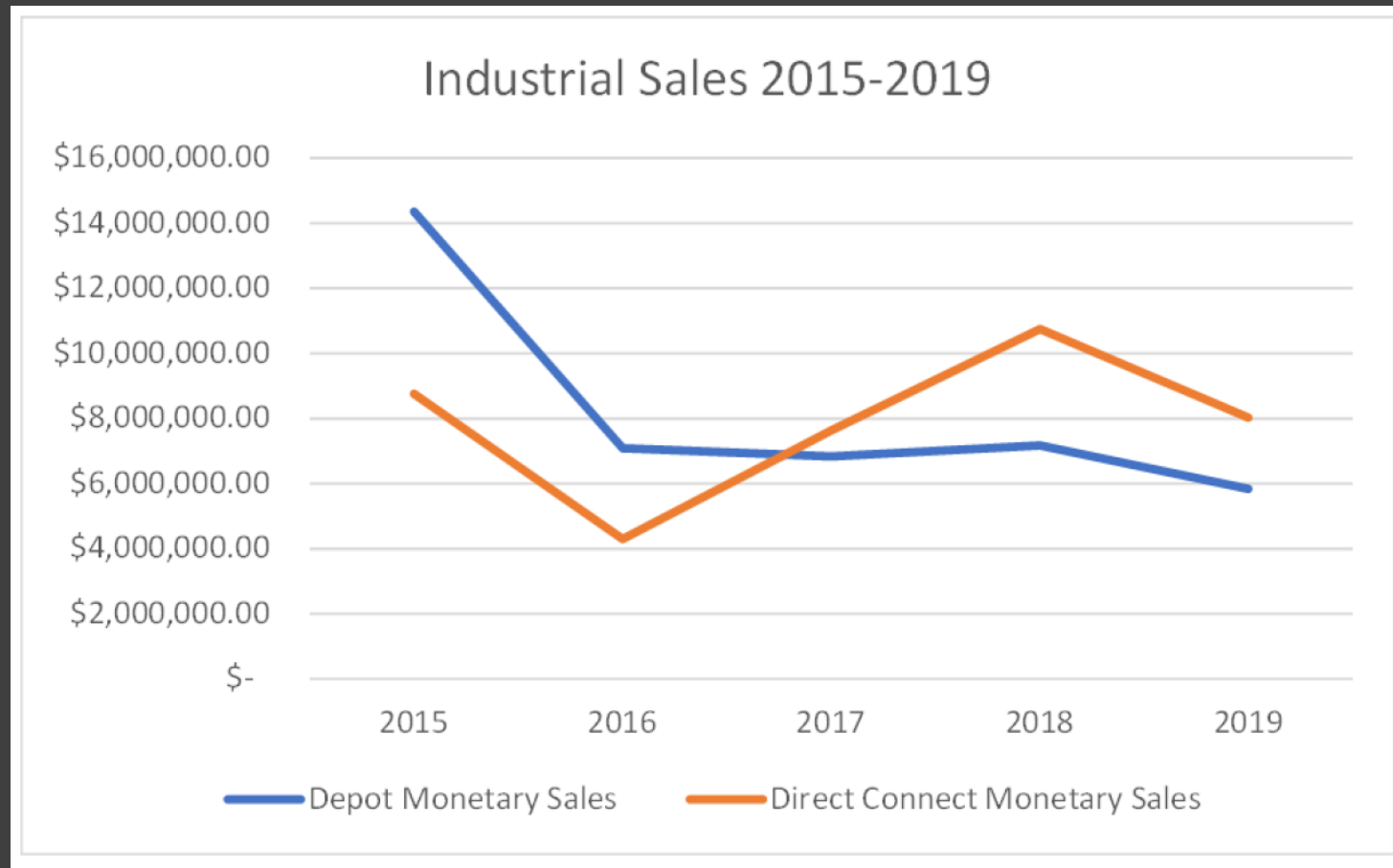




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## Missouri River Basin Water Management



## Missouri River Water Management

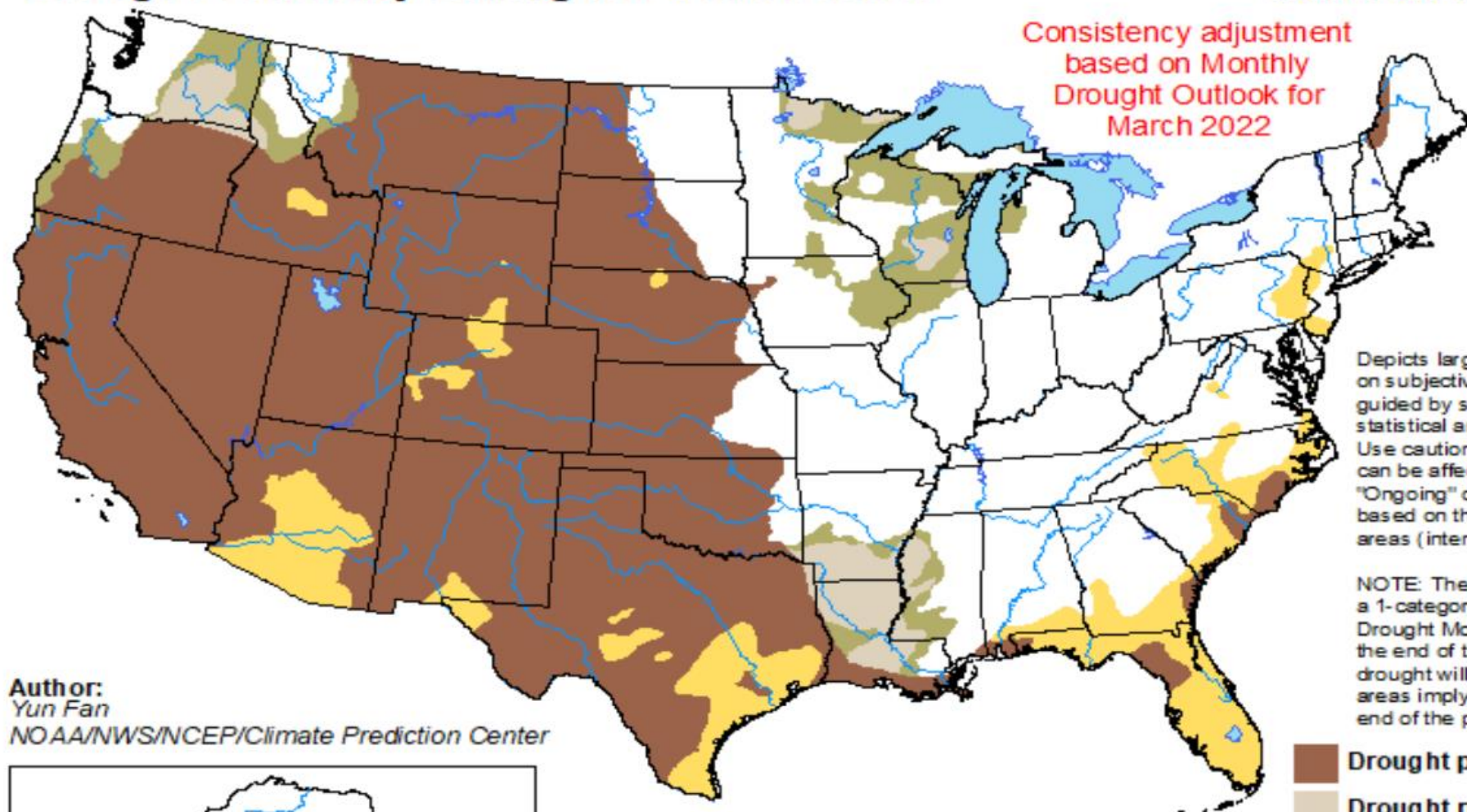


# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 1 - May 31, 2022  
Released February 28, 2022

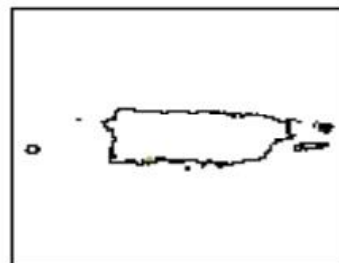
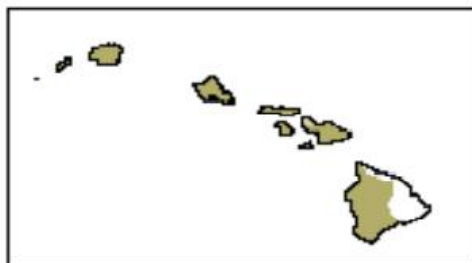
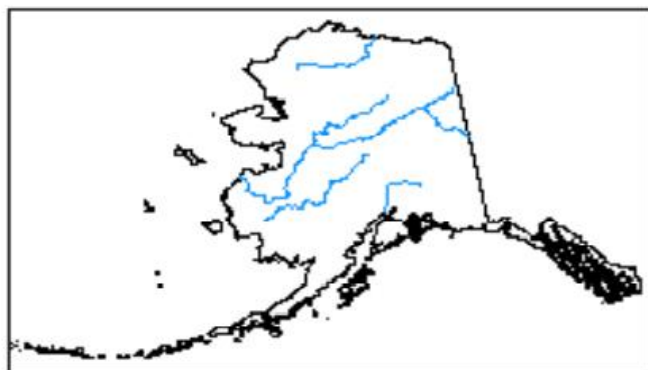
Consistency adjustment  
based on Monthly  
Drought Outlook for  
March 2022



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:  
Yun Fan  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

# Mountain and Plains Snowpack

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Mountain snowpack in the upper Missouri River Basin is accumulating at below-average rates.

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The February mountain snowpack in the Fort Peck reach was 80% of average.

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Mountain snowpack in the Fort Peck to Garrison reach was 82% of average.

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By March 1, about 80% of the total mountain snowpack has typically accumulated.

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Mountain snowpack normally peaks near April 15.

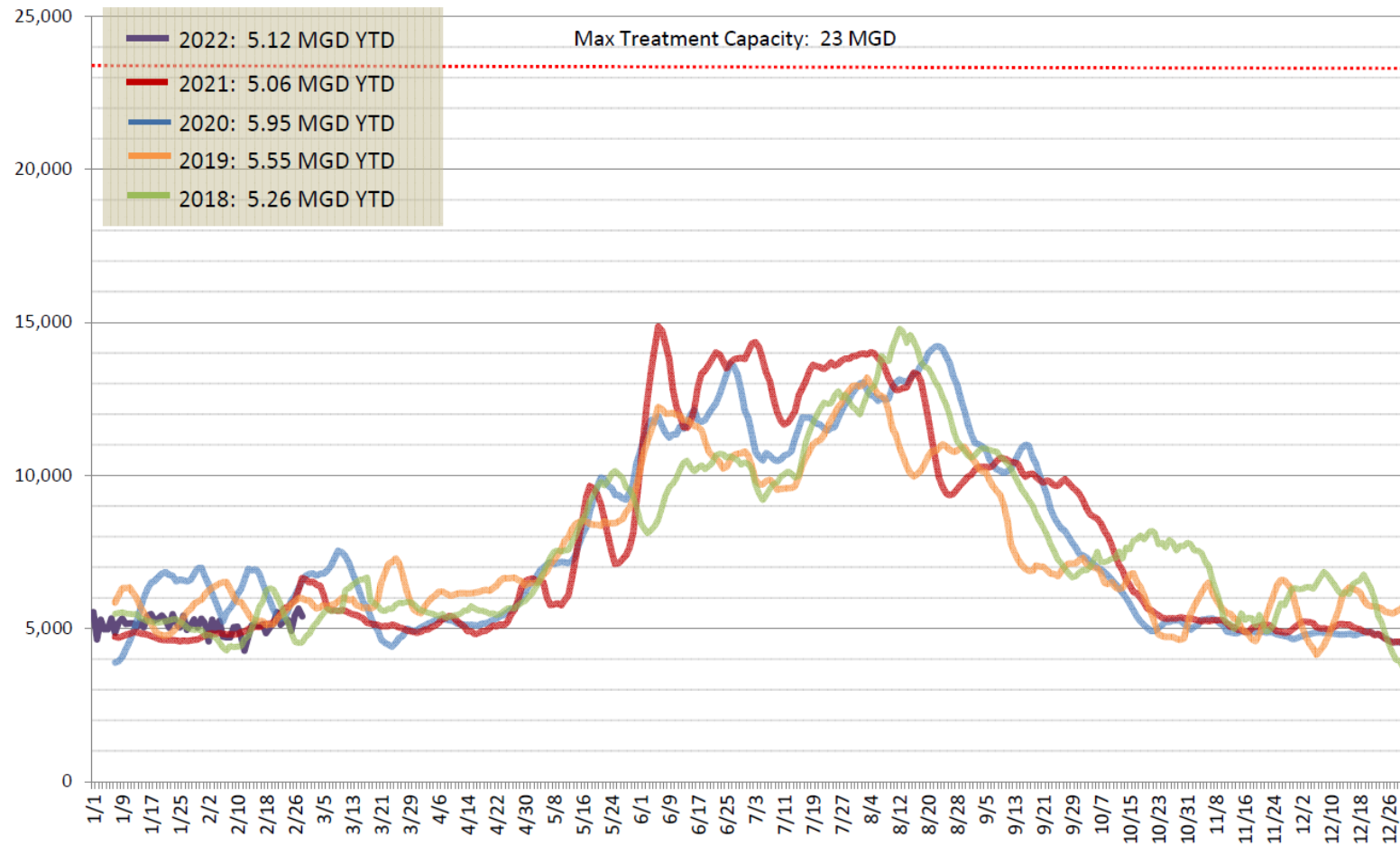
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Currently, plains snowpack in the upper Missouri River Basin is very light to non-existent.

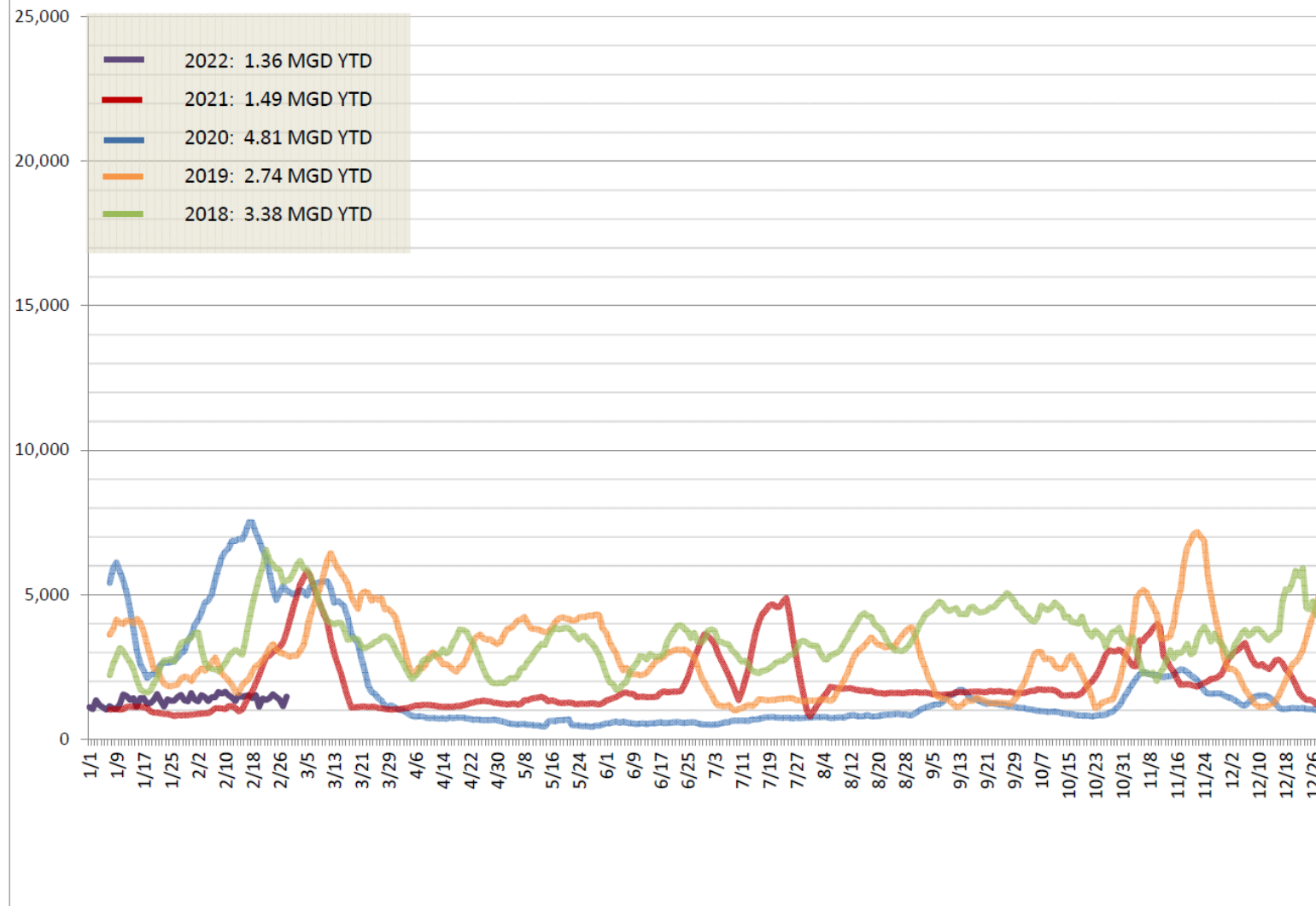
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Source: USACE <https://go.usa.gov/xt7UH>

### WAWSA 2018 Through 2022 Domestic Water Demands



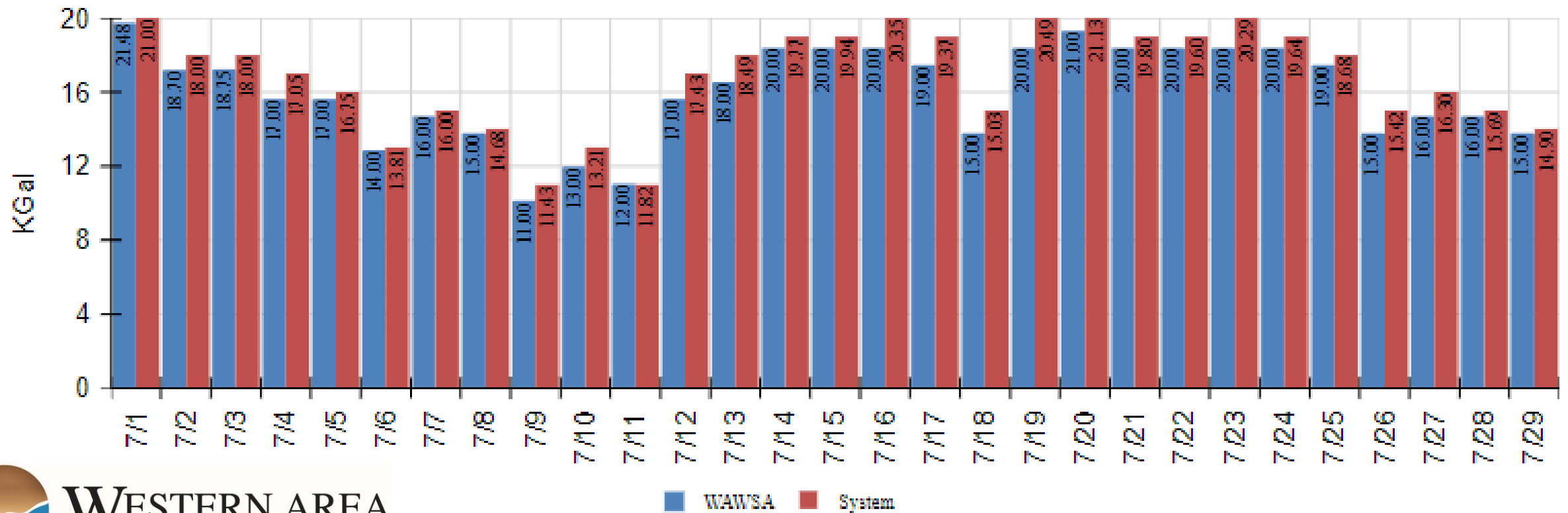
WAWSA 2018 Through 2022 Industrial Water Demands





# Plant Capacity

Water Supply Totals





Ground Water



Treated Effluent



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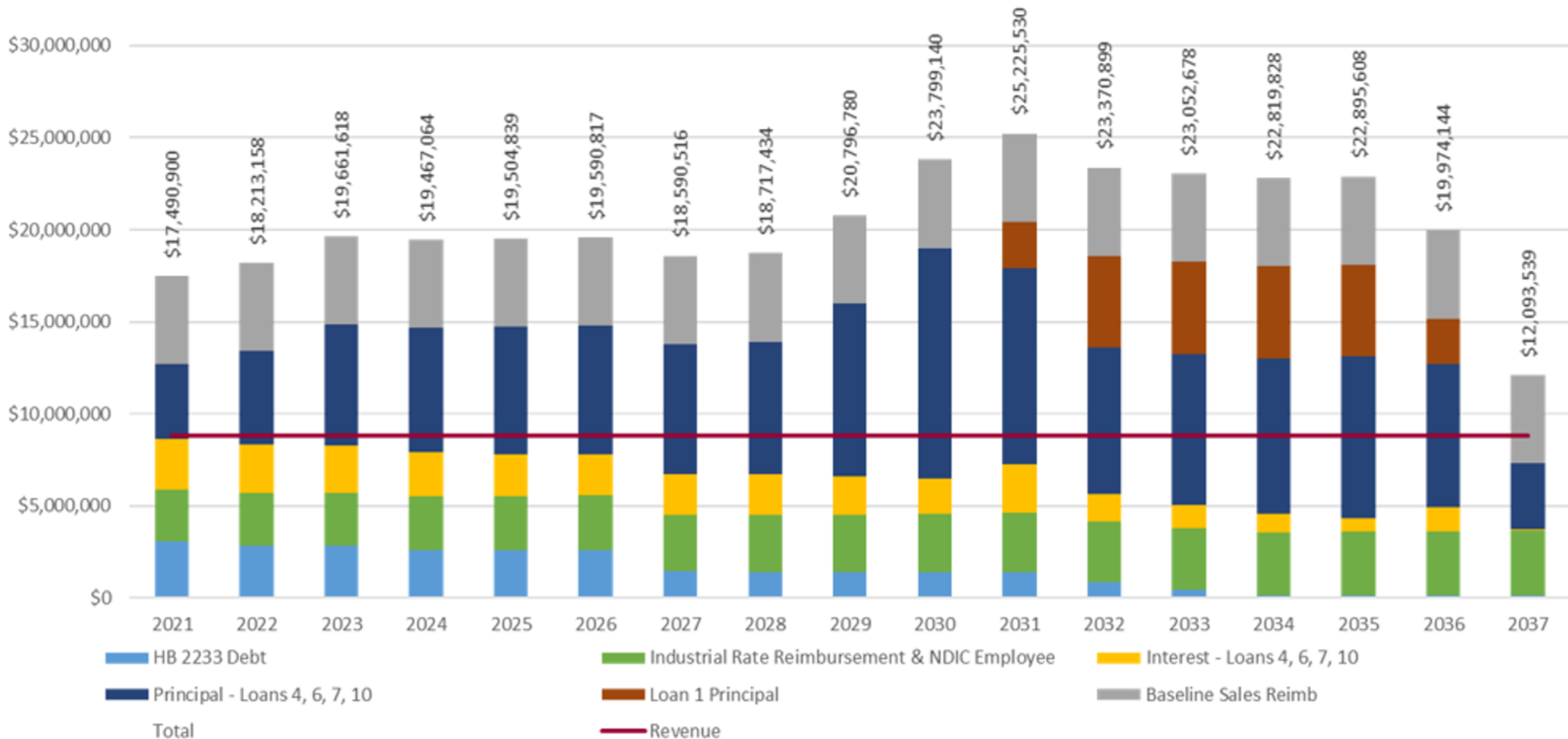
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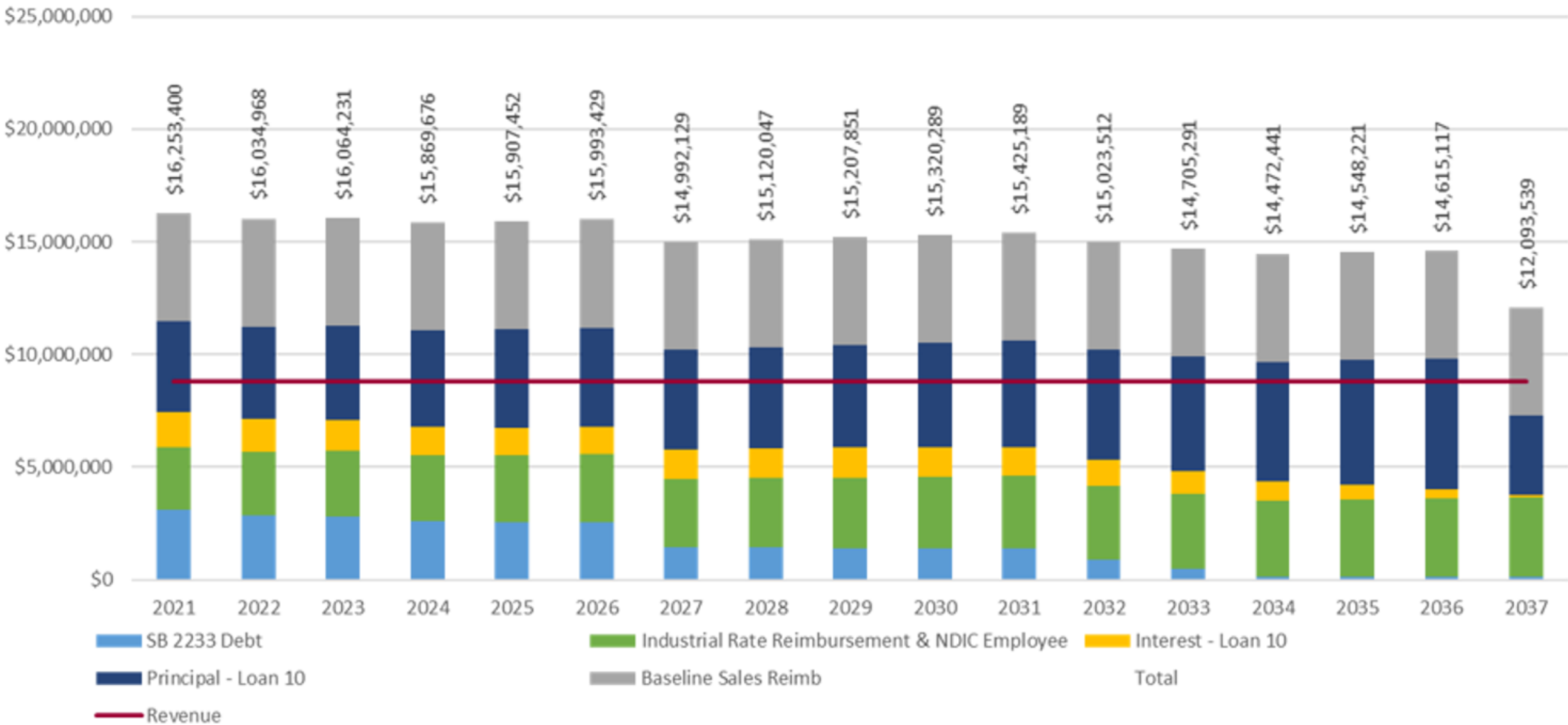
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Is this debt load  
sustainable?



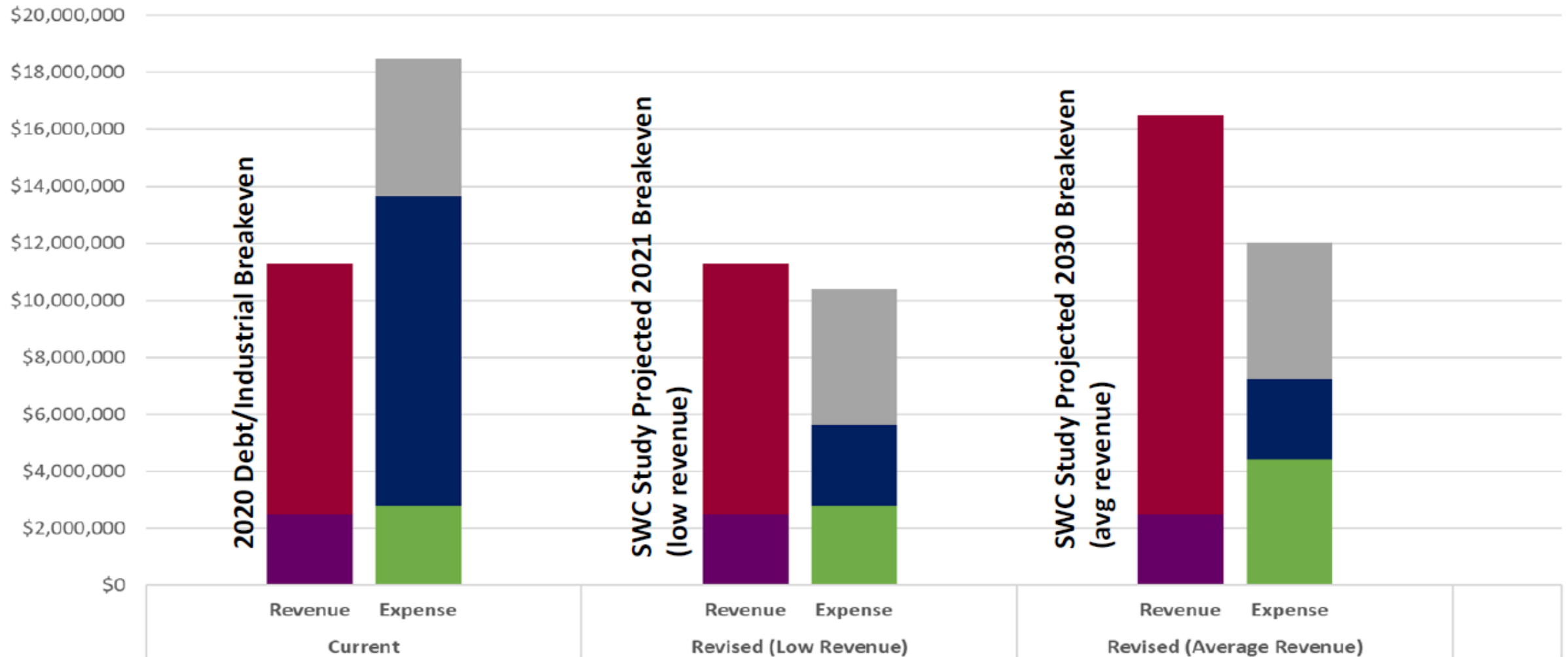




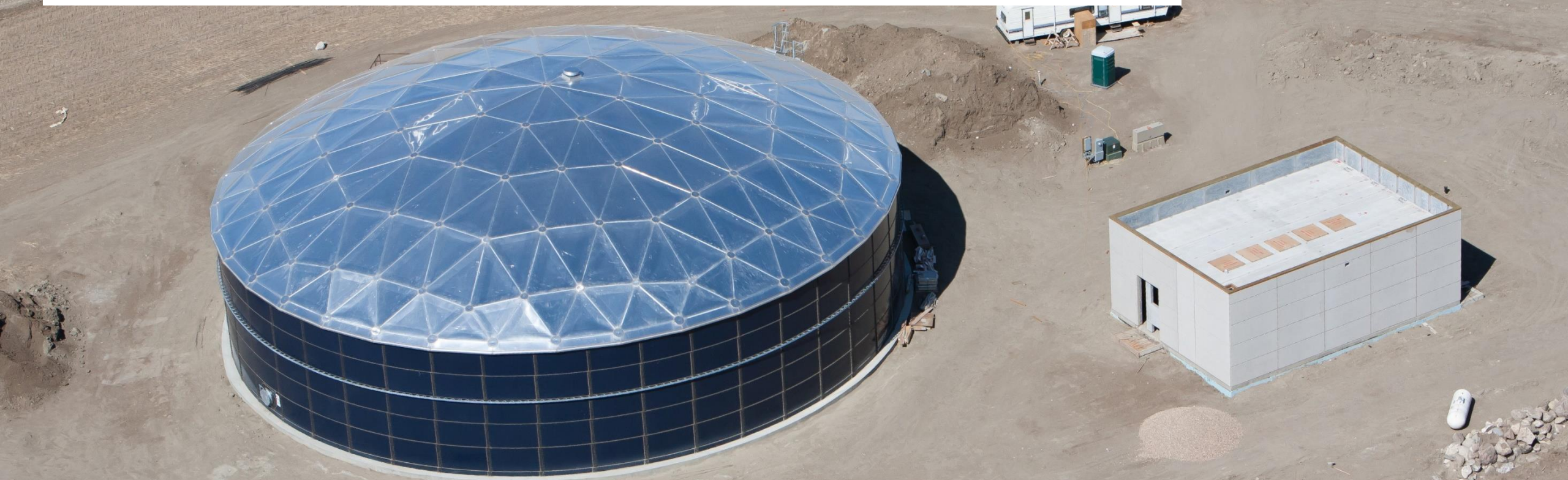
# What does this mean to WAWS?

## Governance Study

### Western Area Water Supply Project



Member Entity	Year		Growth (2011-2022)
	2011	2022	
McKenzie County Water Resource District	200	1466	633%
Northwest Rural Water   BDW	1383	2639	91%
R&T Water	90	800	789%
<b>Total Connections</b>	<b>1673</b>	<b>4905</b>	<b>193%</b>







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*Thank you!*

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