

Advanced Observing Systems For Emergency Response and Integrated Water Management



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Climate Diagnostics and Prediction Workshop

October 23, 2018

Talk Overview

- Motivation
- History of the Past Decade
- Current and Future Investments

Motivation

- Atmospheric Rivers are a key component to California's water supply and flood risk. The character, size, number, and timing of atmospheric rivers play a key role in seasonal hydrologic outcomes for California including the size and distribution of the snowpack.
- Improved observations and forecasting are key elements for enabling more options for integrated water management in California.
- As the world warms, capabilities in observations and forecasts must adapt for water management to keep up with changing conditions.



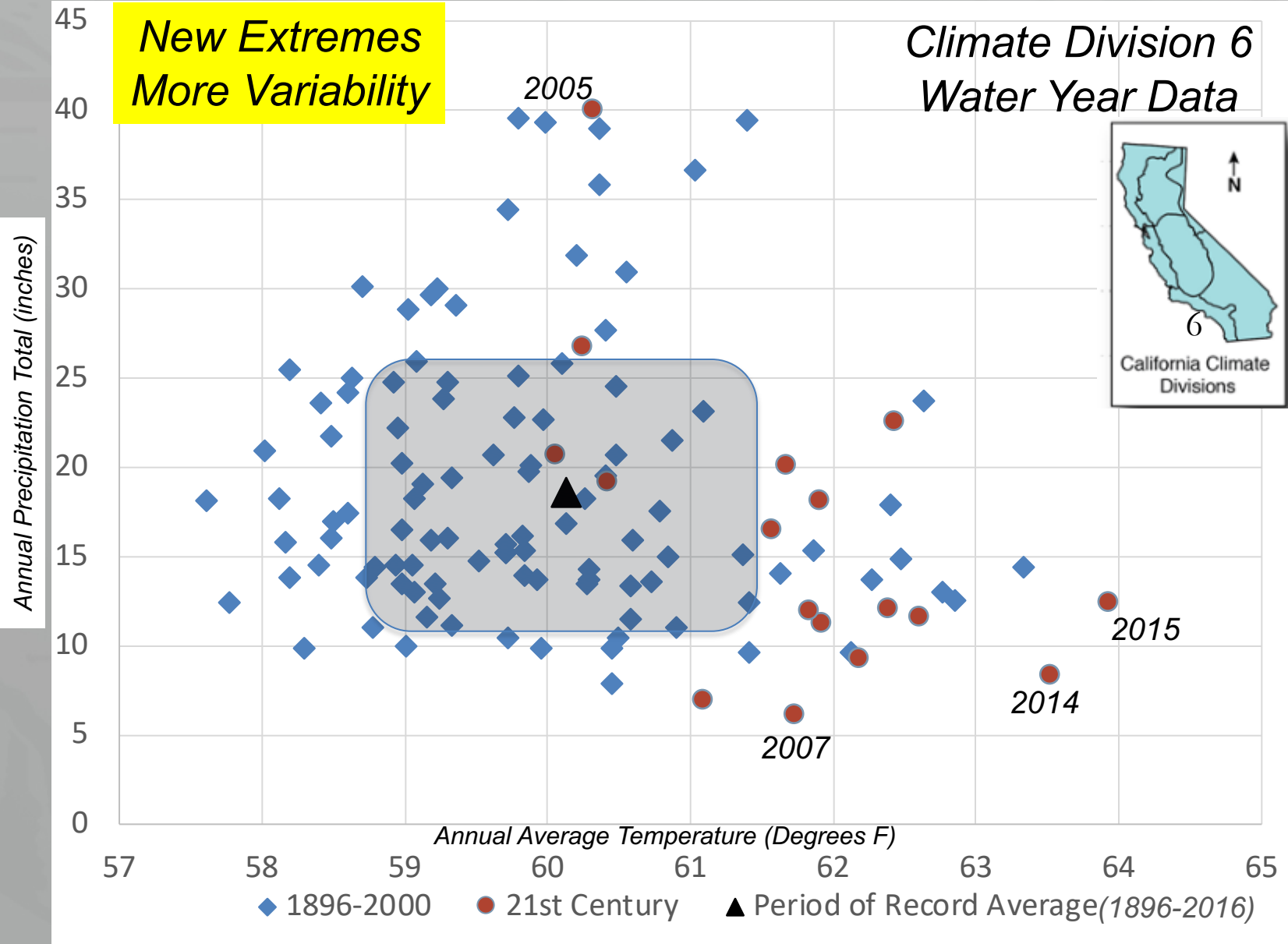
California's topography affects our weather and climate.

Observations play a critical role in resource management. Complex terrain can be challenging to observations on many fronts.

Time is a key element to water management – more time offers more alternatives to be employed. Forecasts can play a role.

A warming world challenges current forecasting practices

New extremes/
more variability
→
Essential
to seek
additional
information



→ Statistical models may not be sufficient for future forecasting/modeling

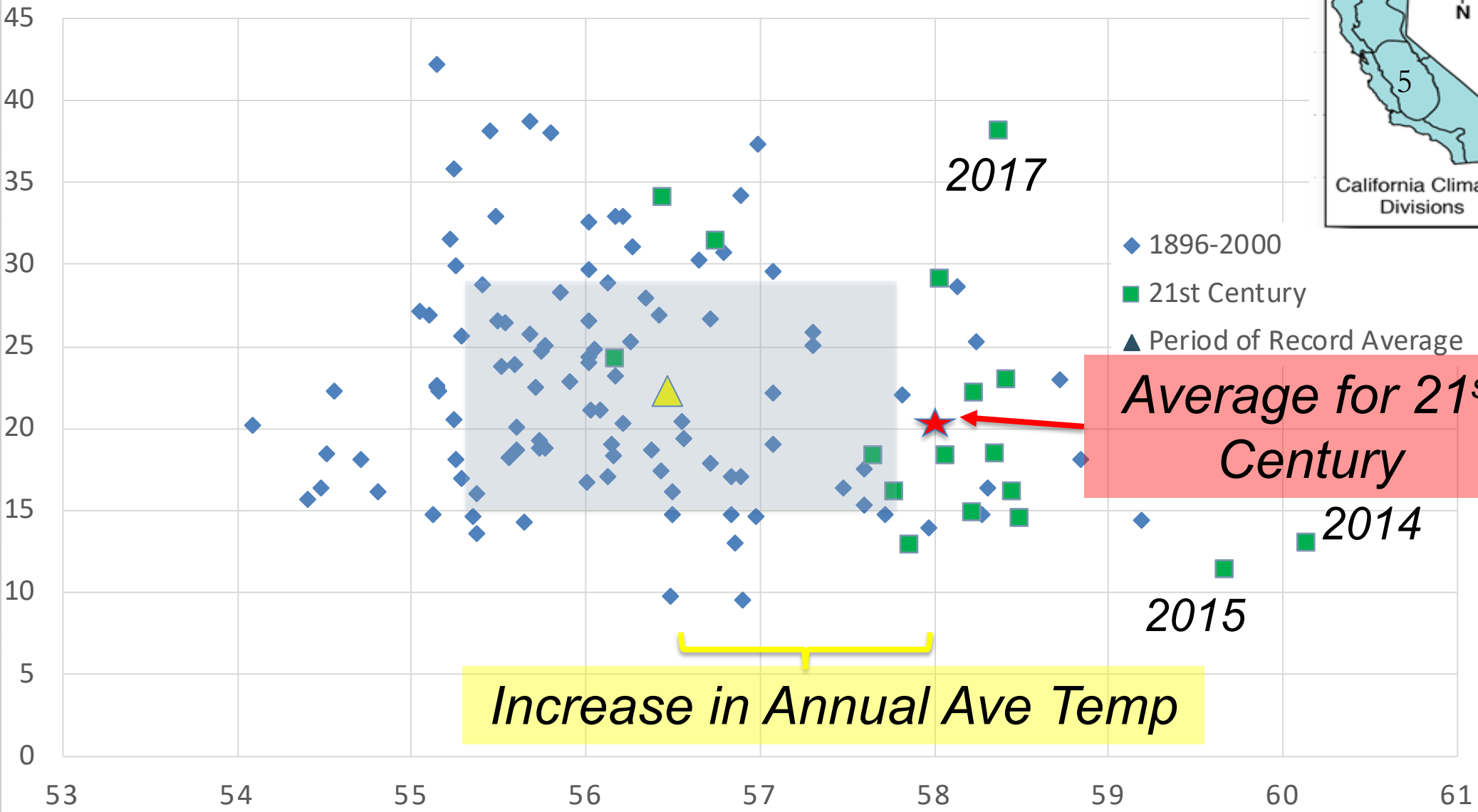
Shaded box=1 Stand. Dev.

Source: NOAA Climate Division 6 Water Year Data

CLIMATE DIVISION 5 WATER YEAR DATA

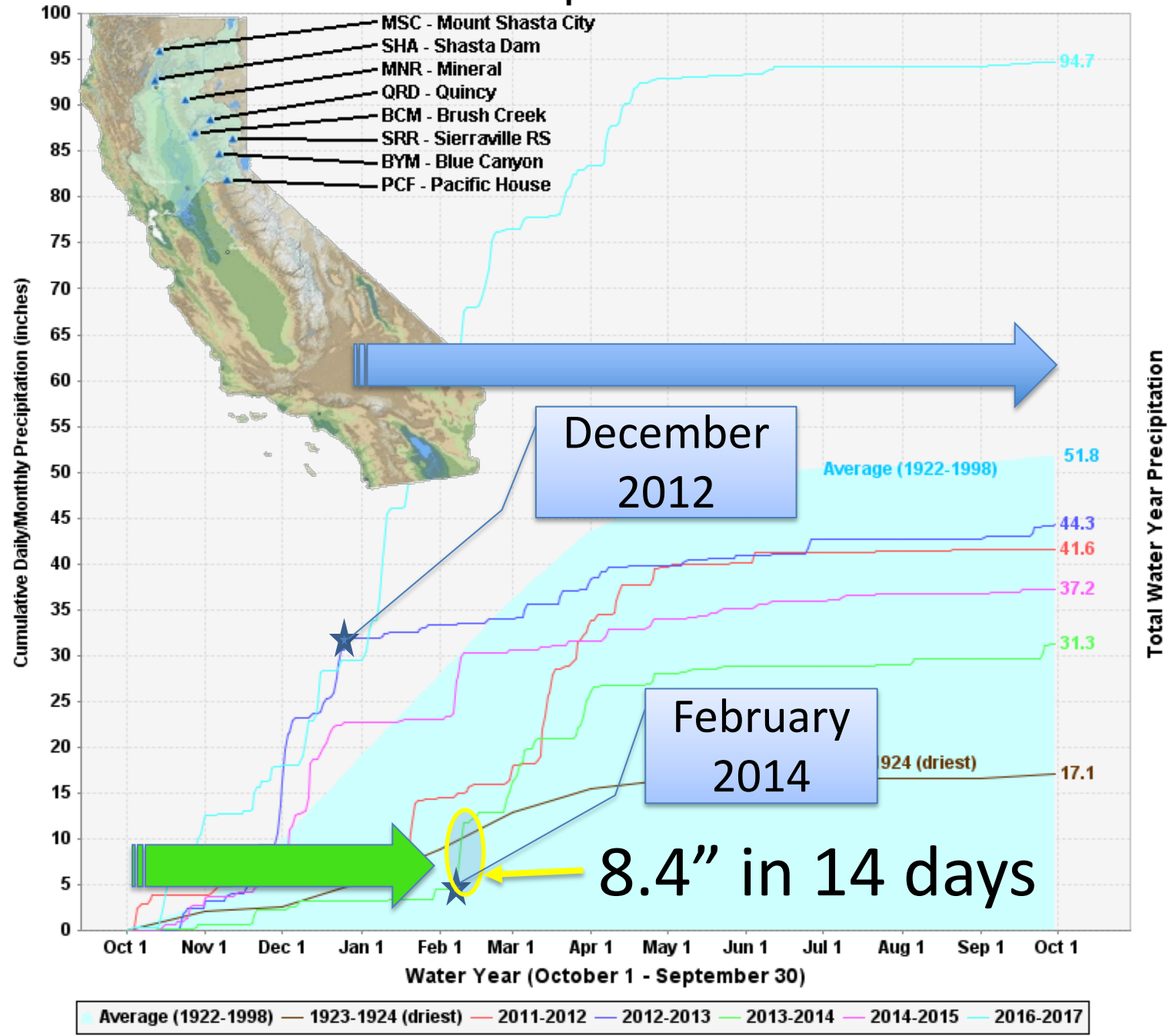


Accumulated Precipitation (inches)



Annual Average Temperature (°F)

Northern Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index



Variability at multiple scales

- Not only variability between water years →
- Also variability within the water year → due to Atmospheric Rivers (AR)

★ 16.8"
 404 Days
 (Less than driest year, 17.1")

Talk Overview

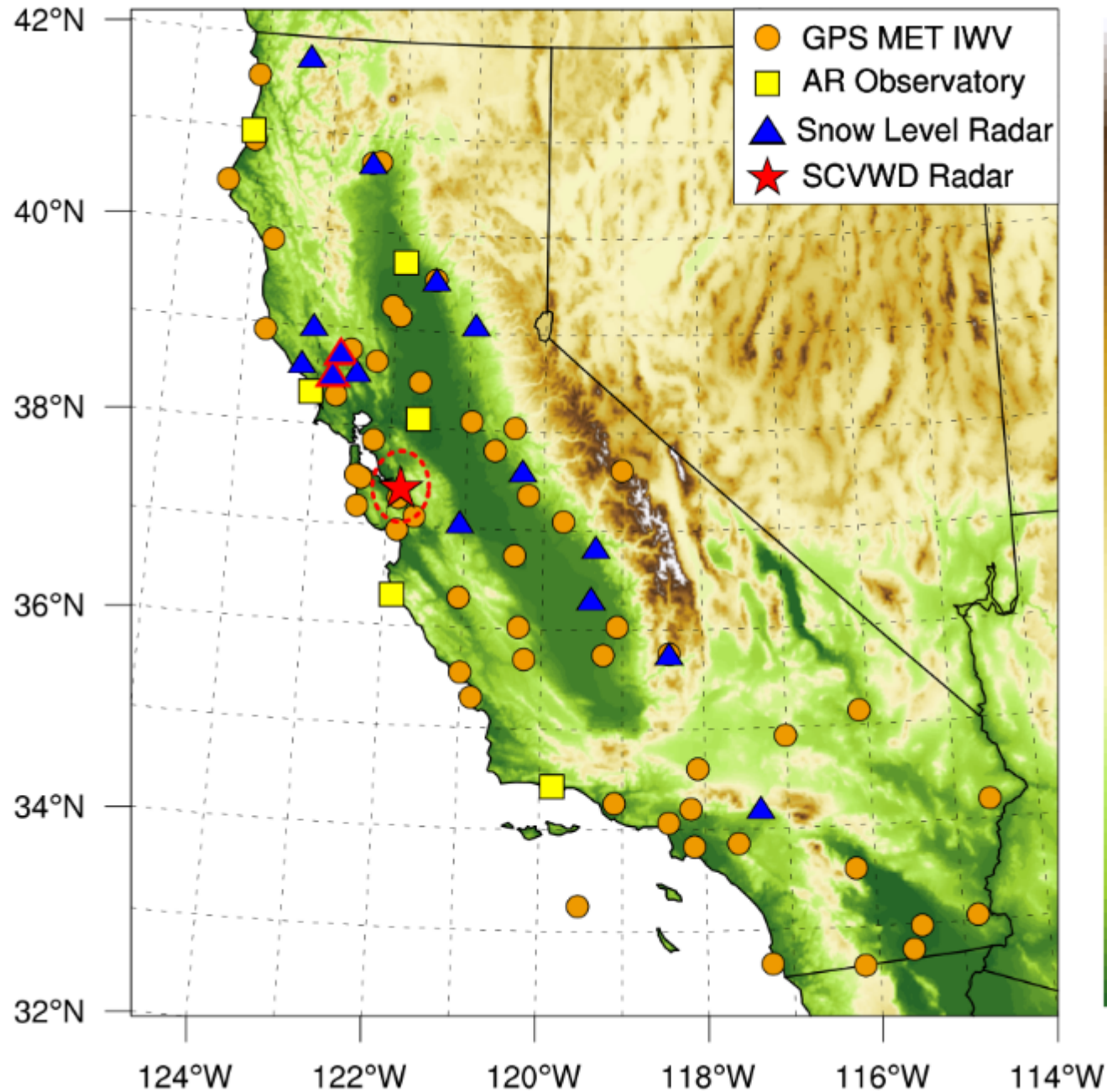
- Motivation
- **History of the Past Decade**
- Current and Future Investments

Funding Promoting Opportunity: 2005 to Present

- Hydrometeorological Testbed Study (HMT), Enhanced Flood Response and Emergency Preparedness (EFREP) and FloodSafe Investments → Funding for protection against flooding, increase obs. stations
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA , 2009) Funding, 2007-2009 Drought → NASA-JPL Collaboration
- Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E) Formation, the 2012-2016 Drought, and Collaboration Expansion with ASO, WWAO, and FIRO → funding to research seasonal forecasting and AR
- Advance Quantitative Precip. Information (AQPI), The Events of WY 2017 & WY2018 → 10 Bay Area Counties single Integrated Water Management grant → Stormwater flooding, Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO)

Monitoring Atmospheric Rivers

- Major impacts from heavy precip are associated with the landfall of AR
- Characteristics of AR were not operationally monitored offshore/onshore, until recently, with the help of the previous listed funding sources
- Key elements to monitoring AR and categorizing landfall events:
 1. Moisture
 2. Wind speed/direction
 3. Snowline/freezing elevation



California's Advanced Observing System for Atmospheric Rivers

● *GPS-Met*

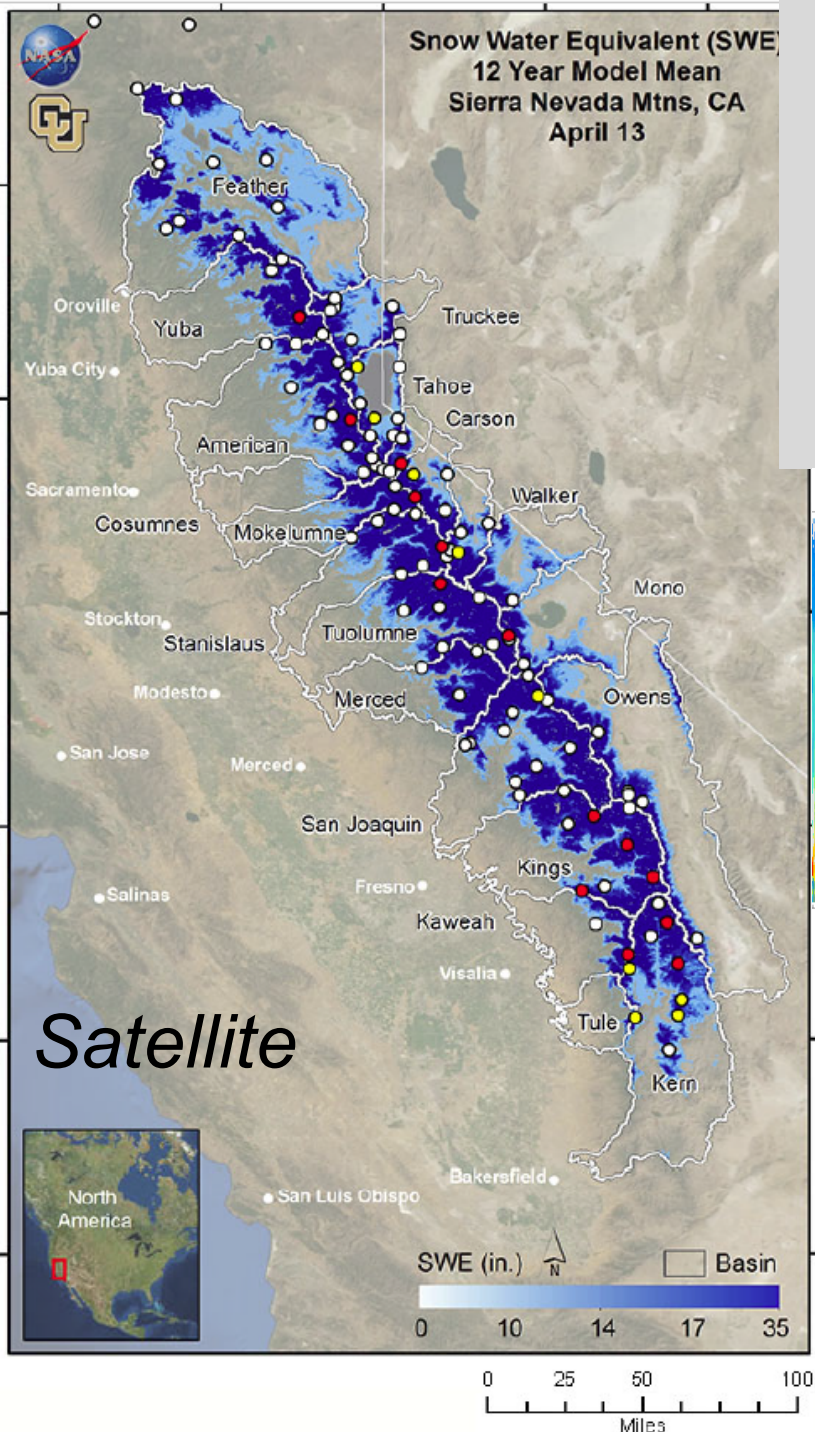


■ *AR Observatories*



▲ *Snow Level Radar*



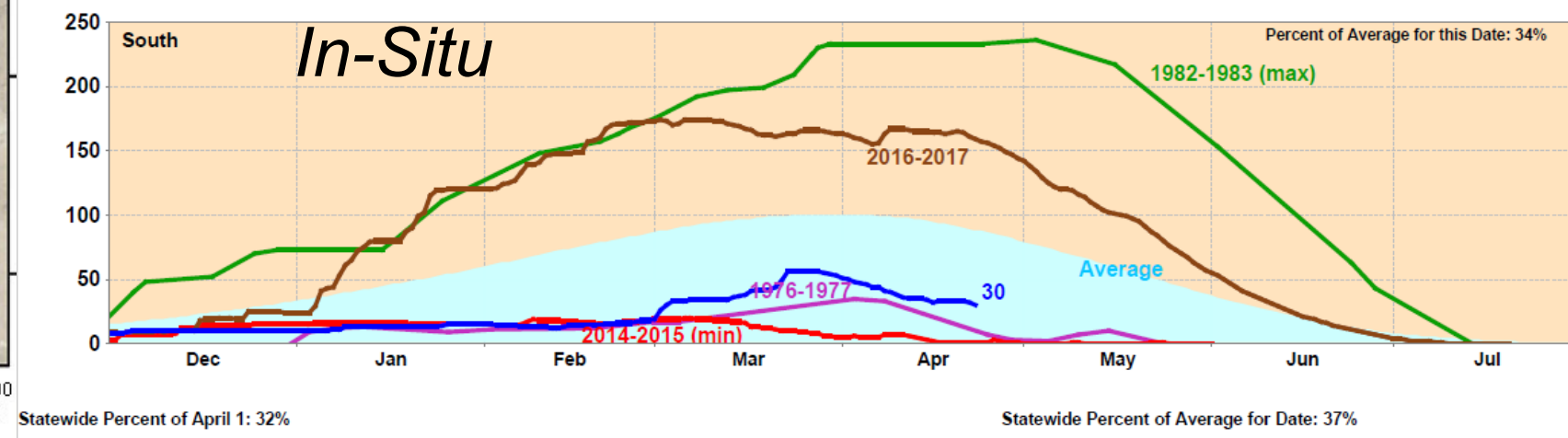
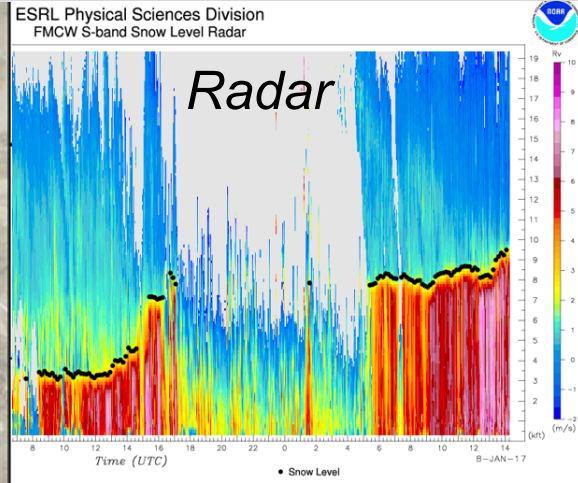
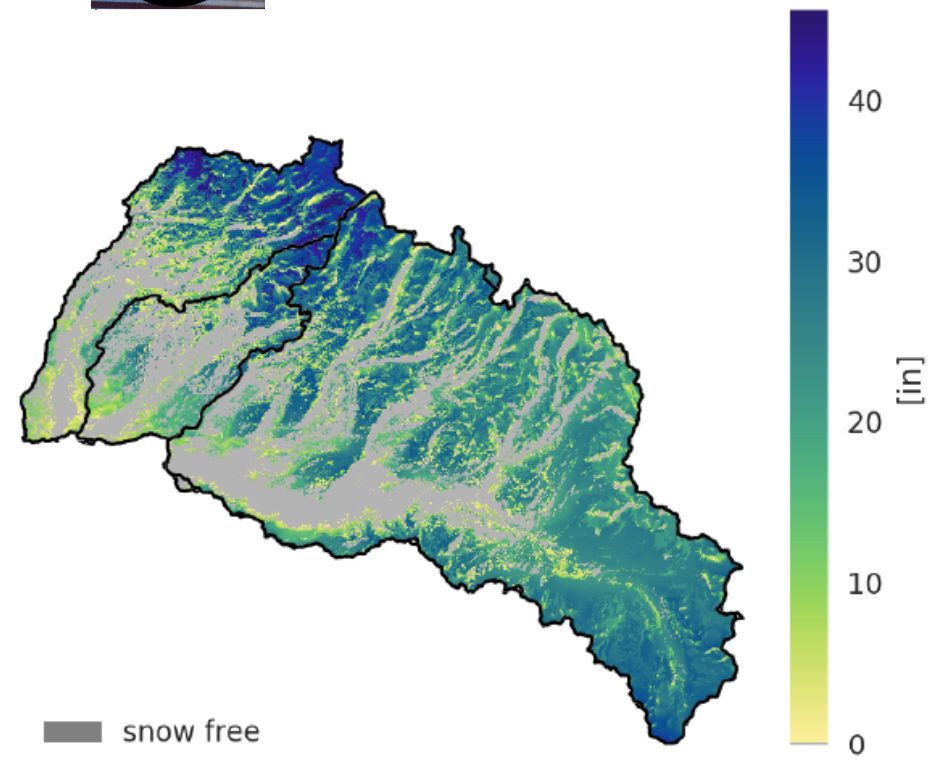


Goal:
*Integrated Observing
Systems for
Integrated
Water Management*



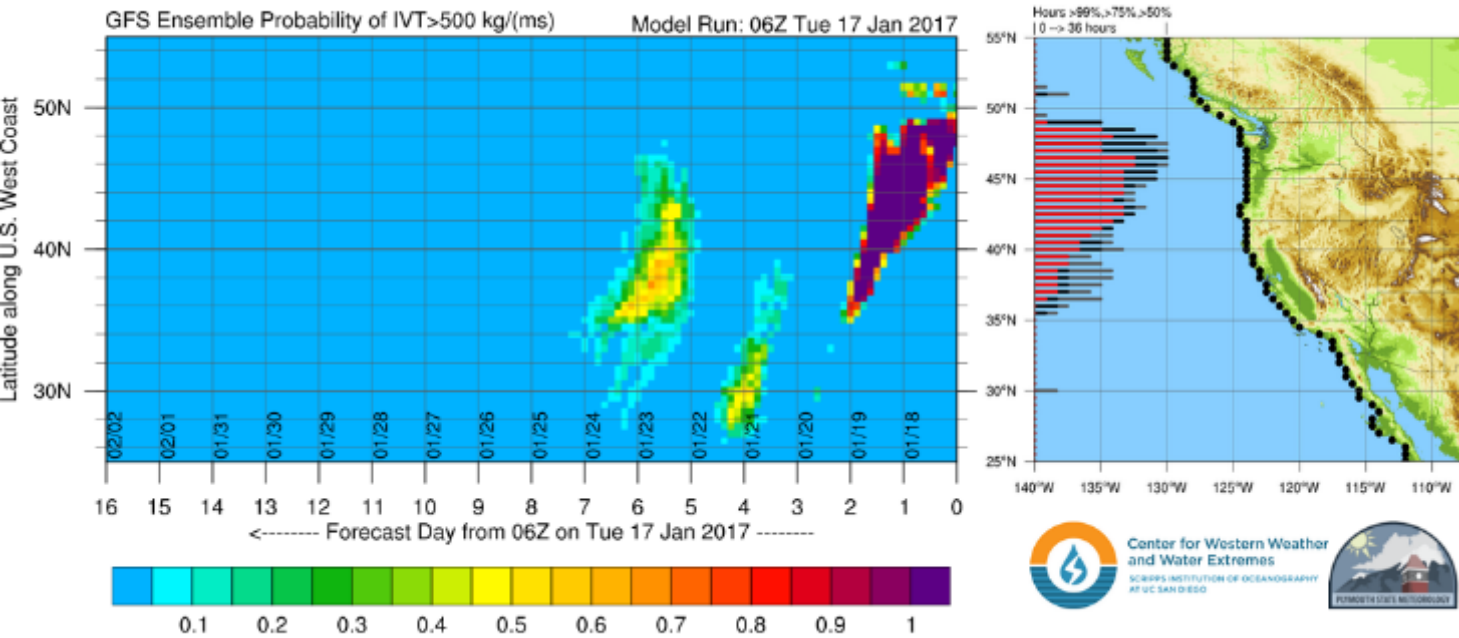
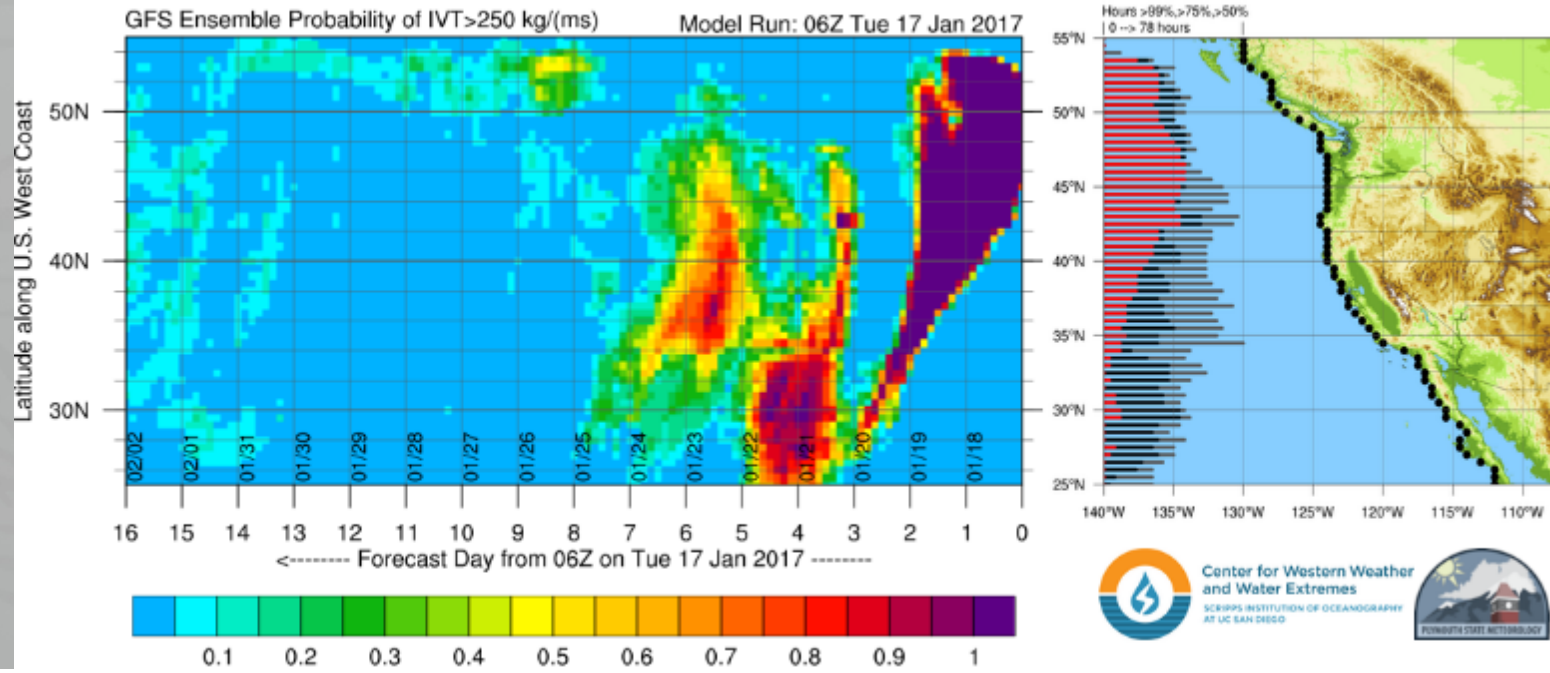
SWE
2018-4-16

Airborne



Forecast Tools from the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E)

*Probability of
 $IVT > 250 \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ →
~Indicator: Weak AR*

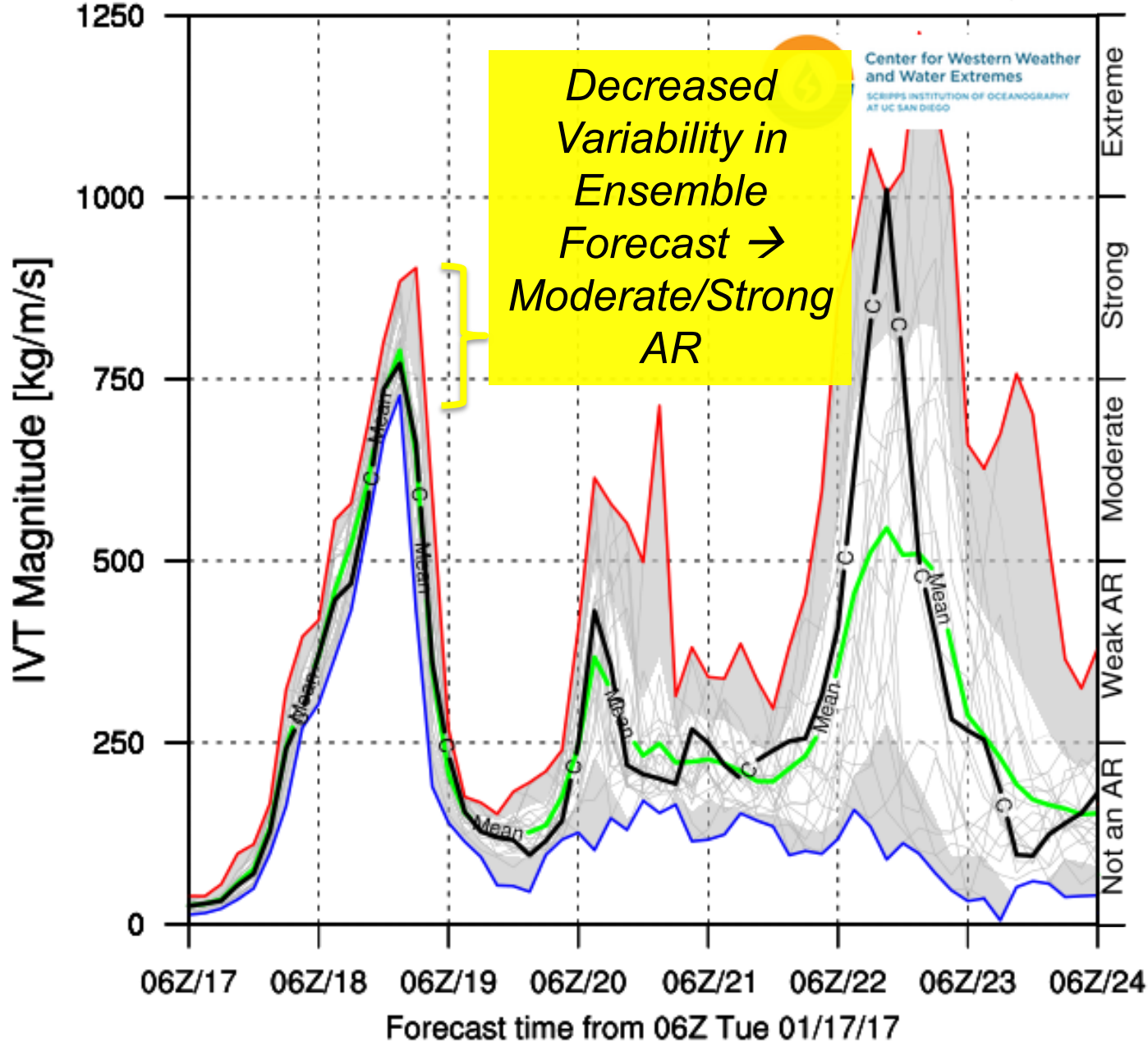


AR Outlook Tool

*Probability of
 $IVT > 500 \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$
~Indicator: Strong AR*

GFS Ensemble Init: 06Z Tue 01/17/17

LatLon: 39N;124W



Decreased
Variability in
Ensemble
Forecast →
Moderate/Strong
AR

AR Strength Forecast and Uncertainty Tool

Grey Lines = 20 perturbed GFS ensemble members

Red Line = Max ensemble value

Black Line = Unperturbed GFS control forecast

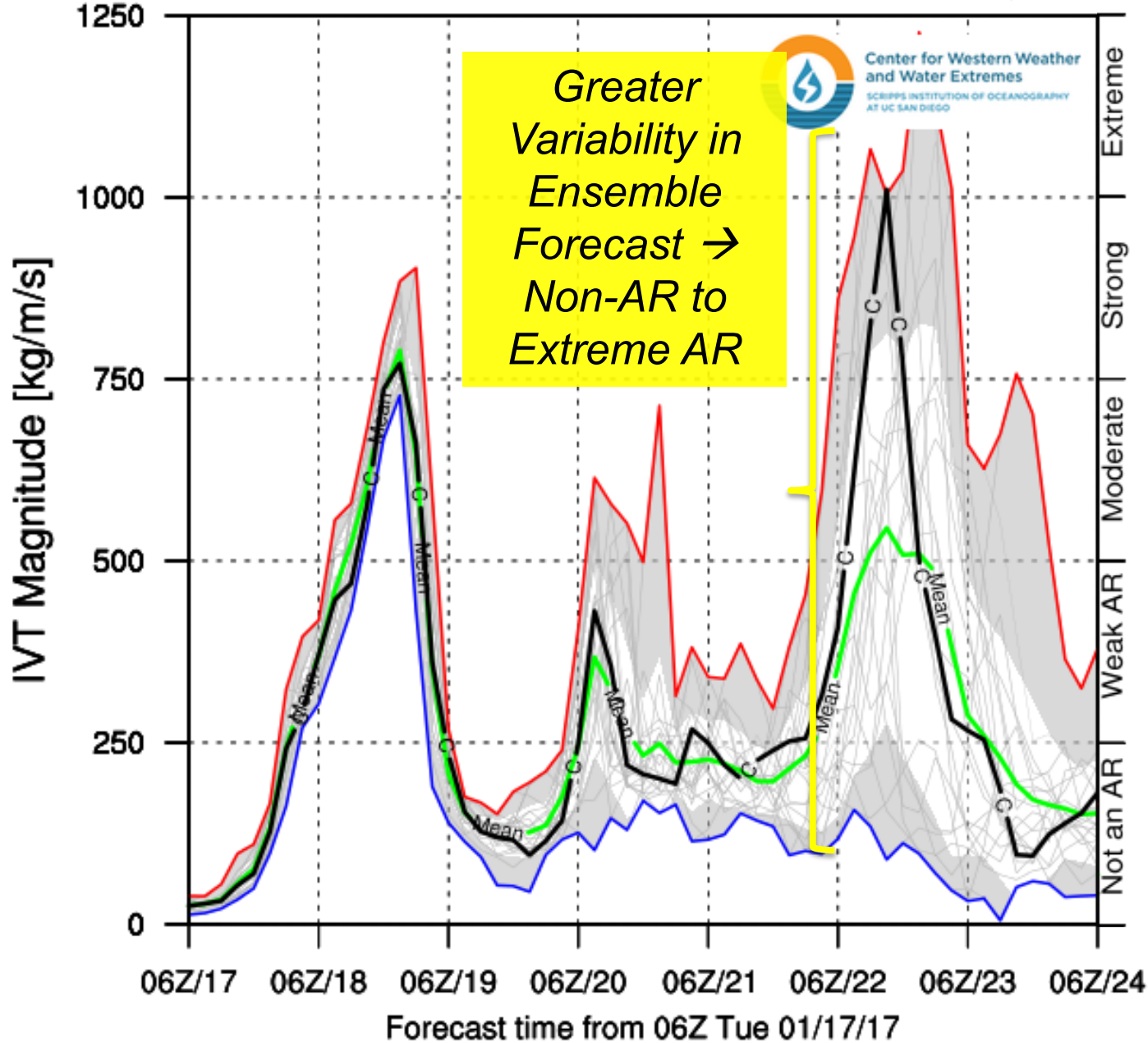
Green Line = 20-member ensemble mean

Blue Line = Min ensemble value

Categorical AR Strength by Ralph/CW3E

GFS Ensemble Init: 06Z Tue 01/17/17

LatLon: 39N;124W

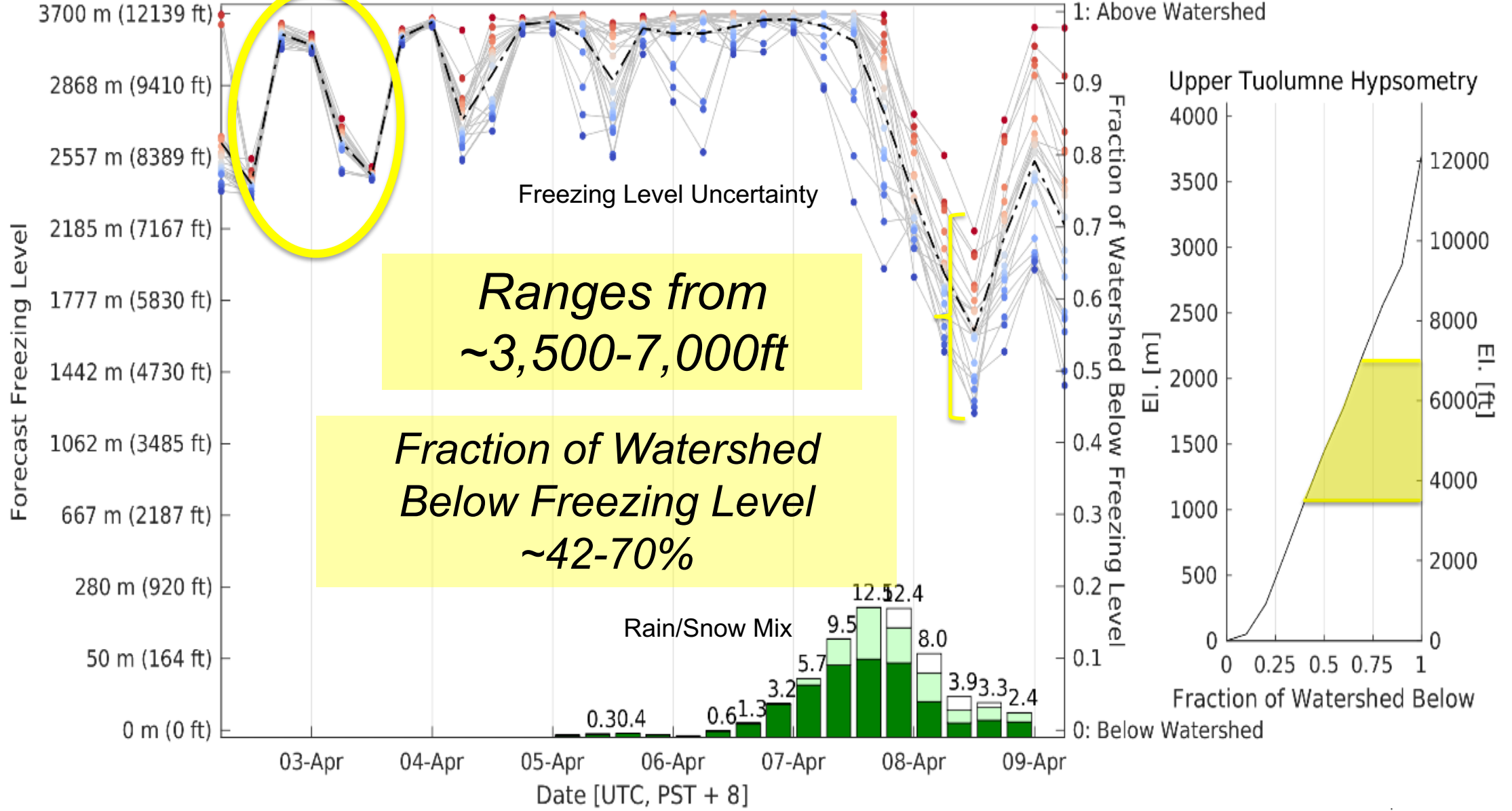


AR Strength Forecast and Uncertainty Tool

Goal: Decrease uncertainty in order to increase lead-time for decision making

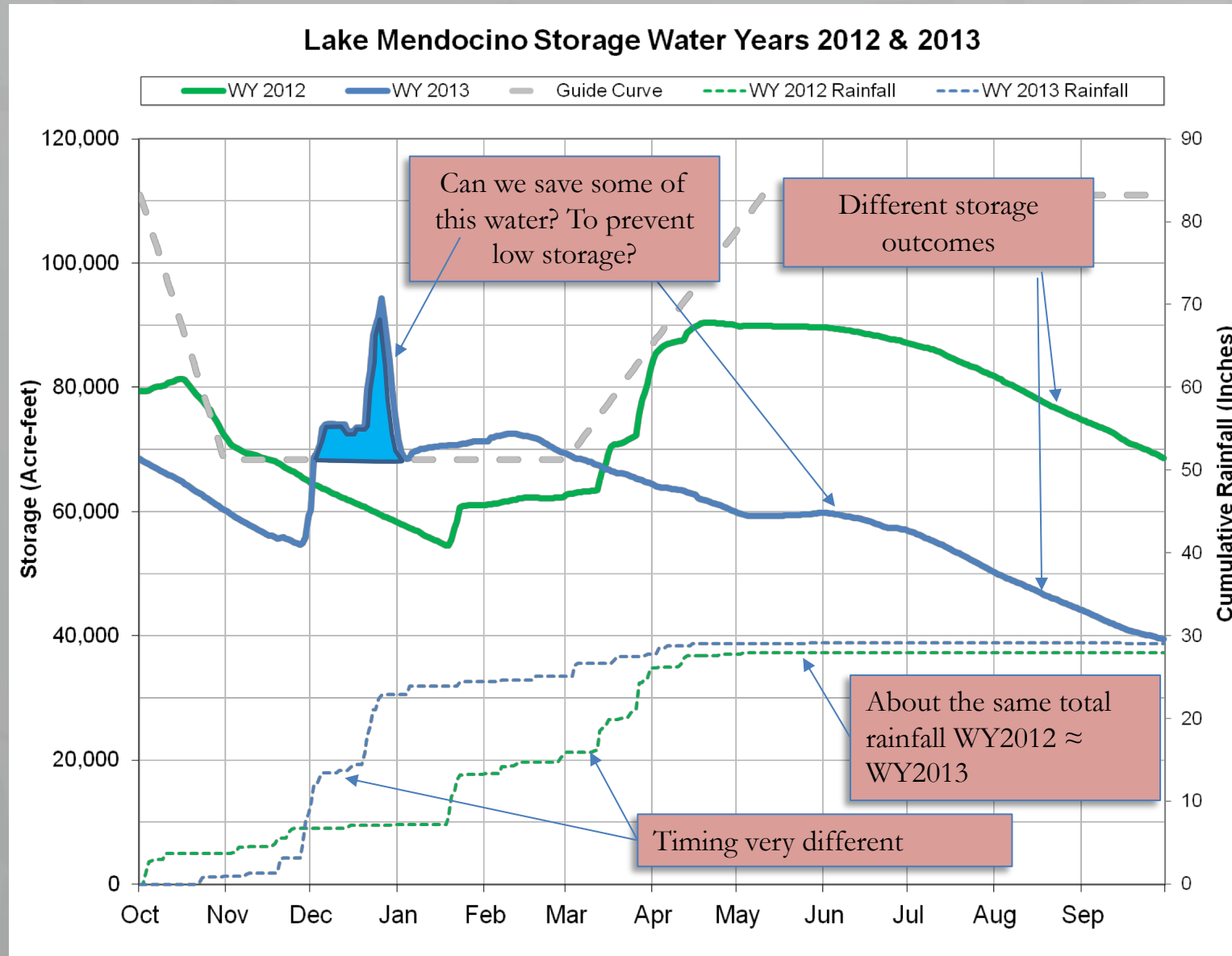
Upper Tuolumne Forecast Initialized 02-Apr 06Z

7-day WPC Precipitation Total: 64.1 mm (2.52 in) - 63% Rain, 28% Rain or Snow, 9% Snow

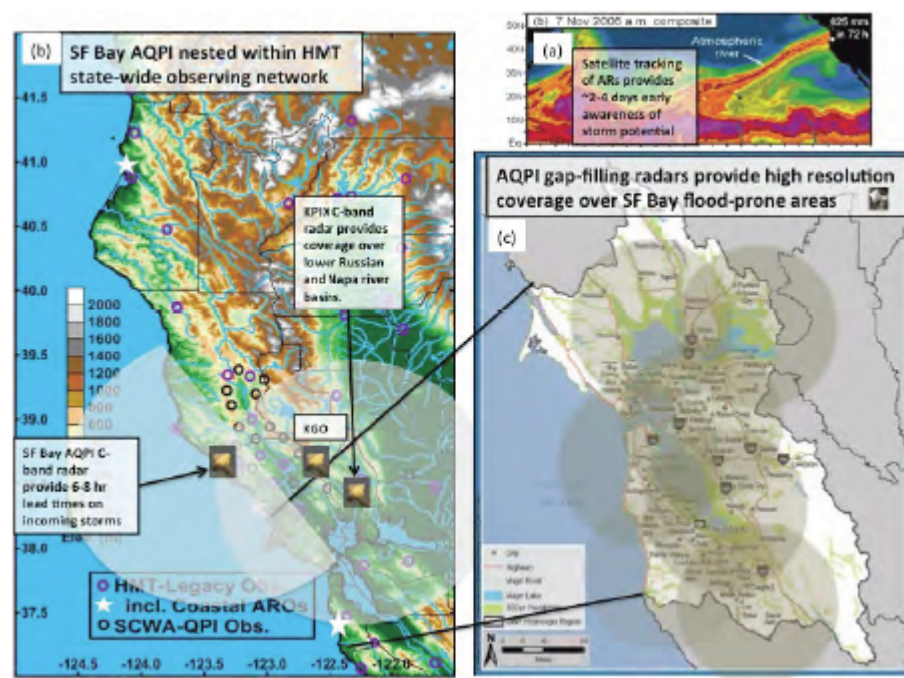


--- GEFS Mean • GEFS Warmest • GEFS Coolest ■ Rain ■ Rain or Snow □ Snow

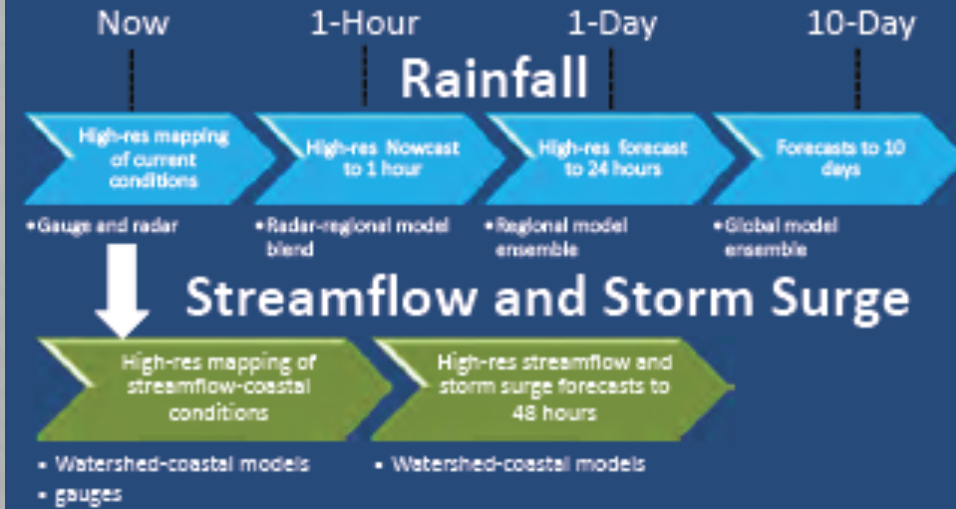
Lake Mendocino Guide Curve – A Tale of 2 Water Years



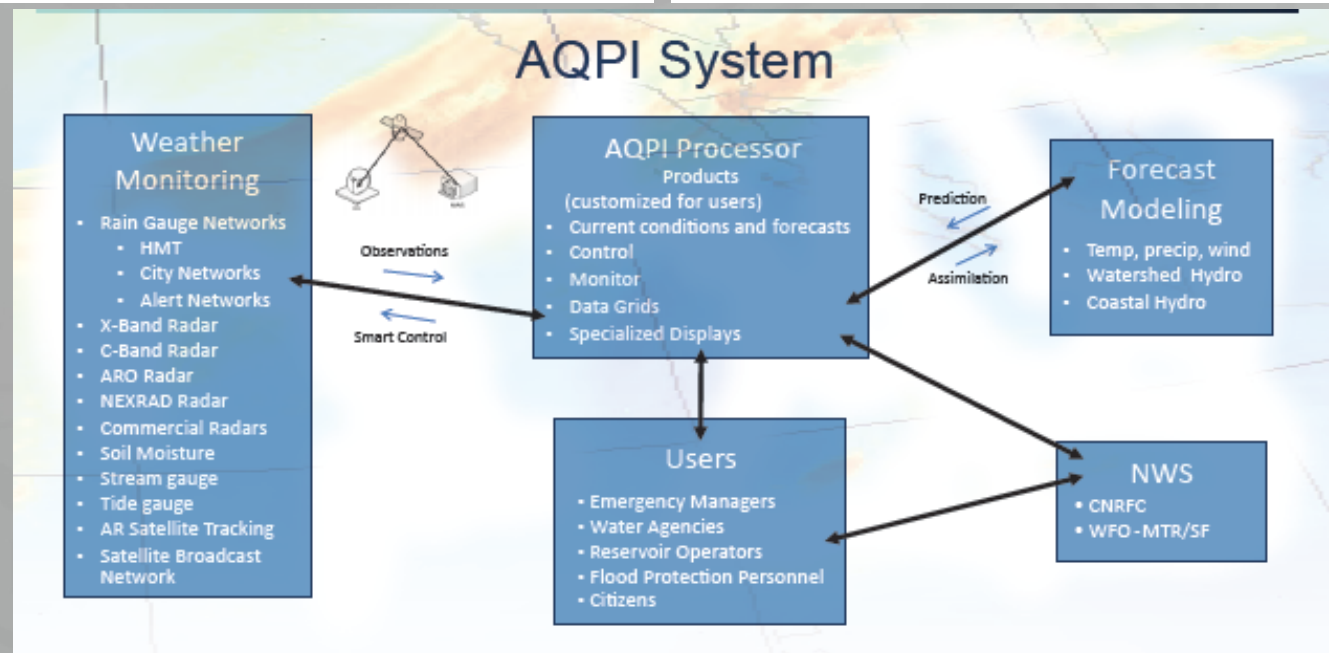
Conceptual layout of monitoring Instrumentation augmentation across the Bay Area region.



AQPI: better monitoring of current and future weather and water conditions

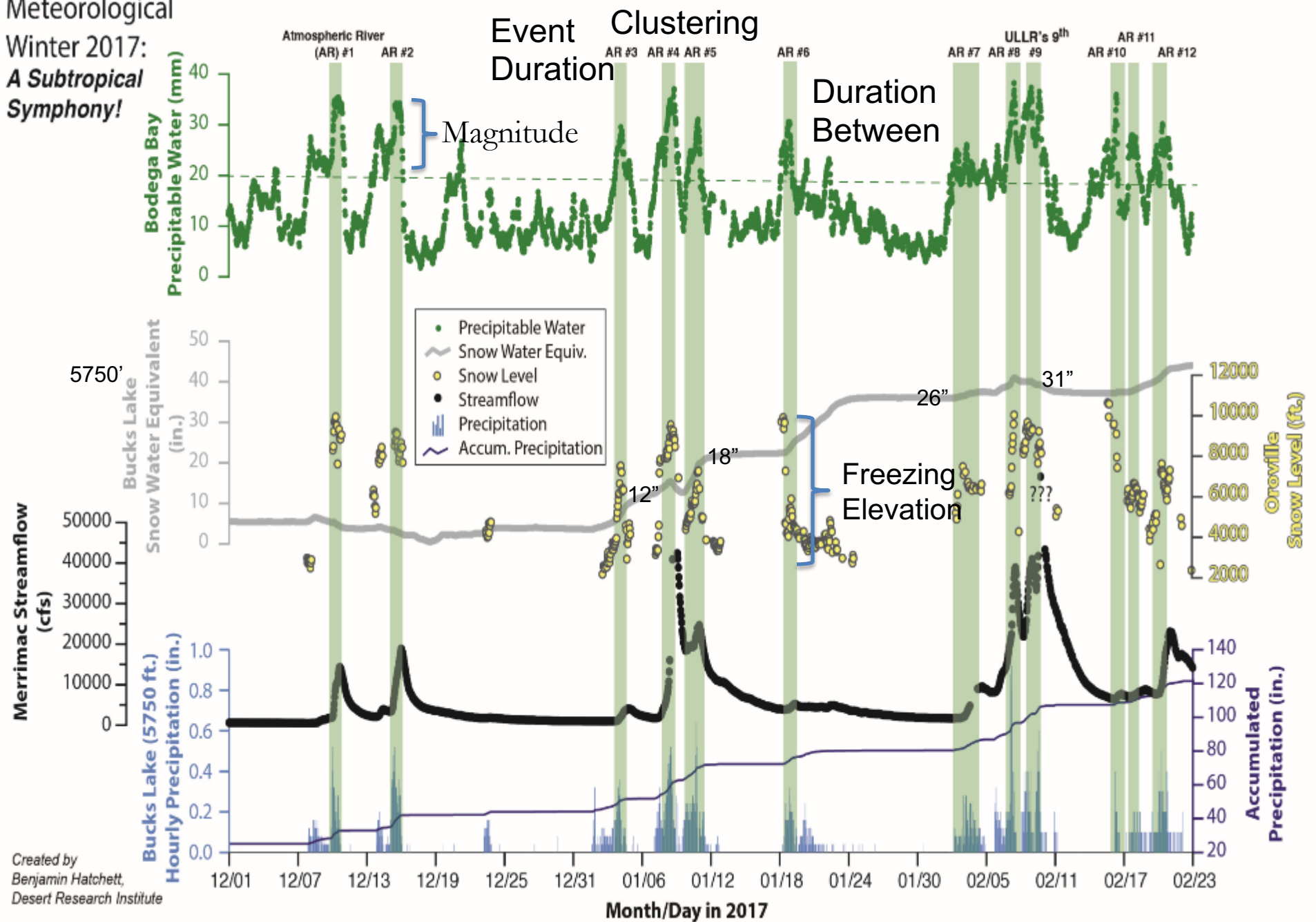


Advanced Quantitative Precipitation Information (AQPI)



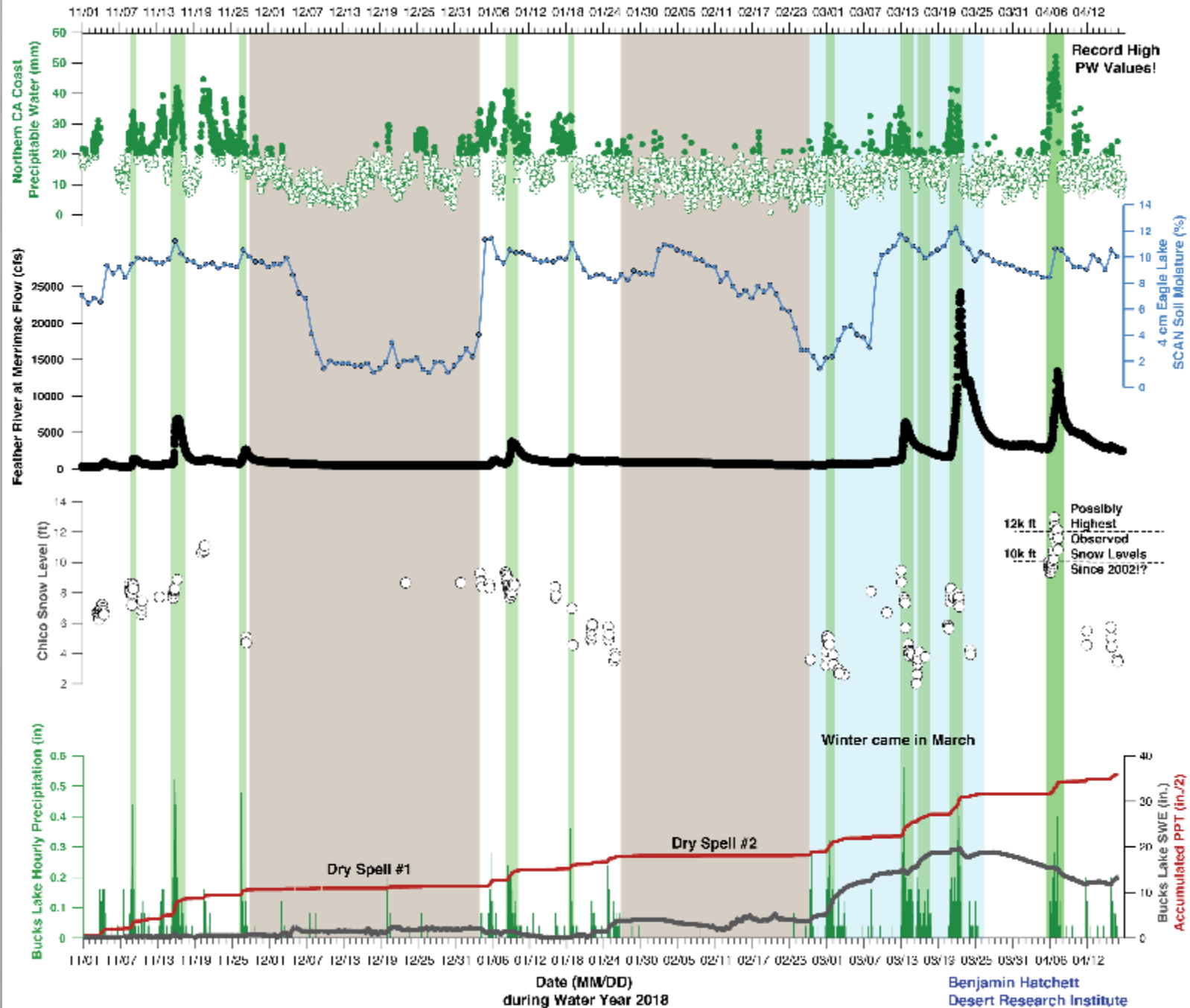
Water Year 2017

Meteorological
Winter 2017:
*A Subtropical
Symphony!*



Created by
Benjamin Hatchett,
Desert Research Institute

Water Year 2018



Benjamin Hatchett
Desert Research Institute
Western Regional Climate Center

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Federal State and Local Alignment

- DWR plays a key role in facilitating the transition of new science in observations and forecasting from research to operations for water management.
- Relationships with federal partners have been built over the past decade with the availability of resources on a project-by-project basis.
- Continued engagement with the science community is key to adapting to a warming world.

Next Steps

- Embarking on new partnership with Climate Prediction Center and furthering partnership with Earth Systems Research Lab
- FIRO comes to Southern California with Orange County Water District and Prado Dam and planned expansion into Feather/Yuba watersheds
- Gathering data, management, and implementation are key goals in the future
- The Next Great Collaboration and Finding Funding

An aerial photograph of a vast agricultural landscape. The foreground is dominated by a large, vibrant green field, likely a crop like corn or soybeans. To the right, there's a field with a mix of green and brown, possibly a different crop or a field in transition. In the background, there are more fields, some appearing to be covered in a light-colored material, possibly plastic mulch or a different crop. A small cluster of buildings, likely a farmstead, is visible in the distance. The overall scene is a patchwork of different agricultural zones.

Questions?

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ASO April 2018 Surveys

