



# VISPO





## VISPO

- Goal: 40,000 acre-feet of irrigation rights to forbear
- October 1: Trigger Date if J-17 is at or below 635 ft.
- January 1: Opt-out becomes available if J-17 is at or above 660 ft.
- March 1: All payments received.

Option	Fee	\$/acft
5-Year	Stand-by	50.00
	Implementation	150.00
10-Year	Stand-by	57.50
	Implementation	172.50



## Creation of VISPO

- VISPO Workgroup
- 3 year process
- Interactive process with the agriculture community
- October 1 Trigger: chosen to allow for completion of crops and planning for the next years crops
- 635 msl J-17 Trigger: chosen as fundamental piece of “Bottom Up Package”

**Table 3-6.**  
**Number of Occurrences of Springflow Below Selected Thresholds (1947-2000)**

Spring	Threshold (cfs)	Number of Months				
		Baseline	VISPO	VISPO + Conservation	VISPO + Conservation + SAWS ASR	VISPO + Conservation + SAWS ASR + Stage V
Comal	0	38	26	21	0	0
	30	54	36	34	2	2
	45	62	47	41	11	7
	60	73	59	56	27	21
	100	122	112	101	90	84
San Marcos	0	0	0	0	0	0
	25	6	3	3	0	0
	52	20	14	12	3	2
	75	47	47	46	39	39
	100	121	118	116	114	114

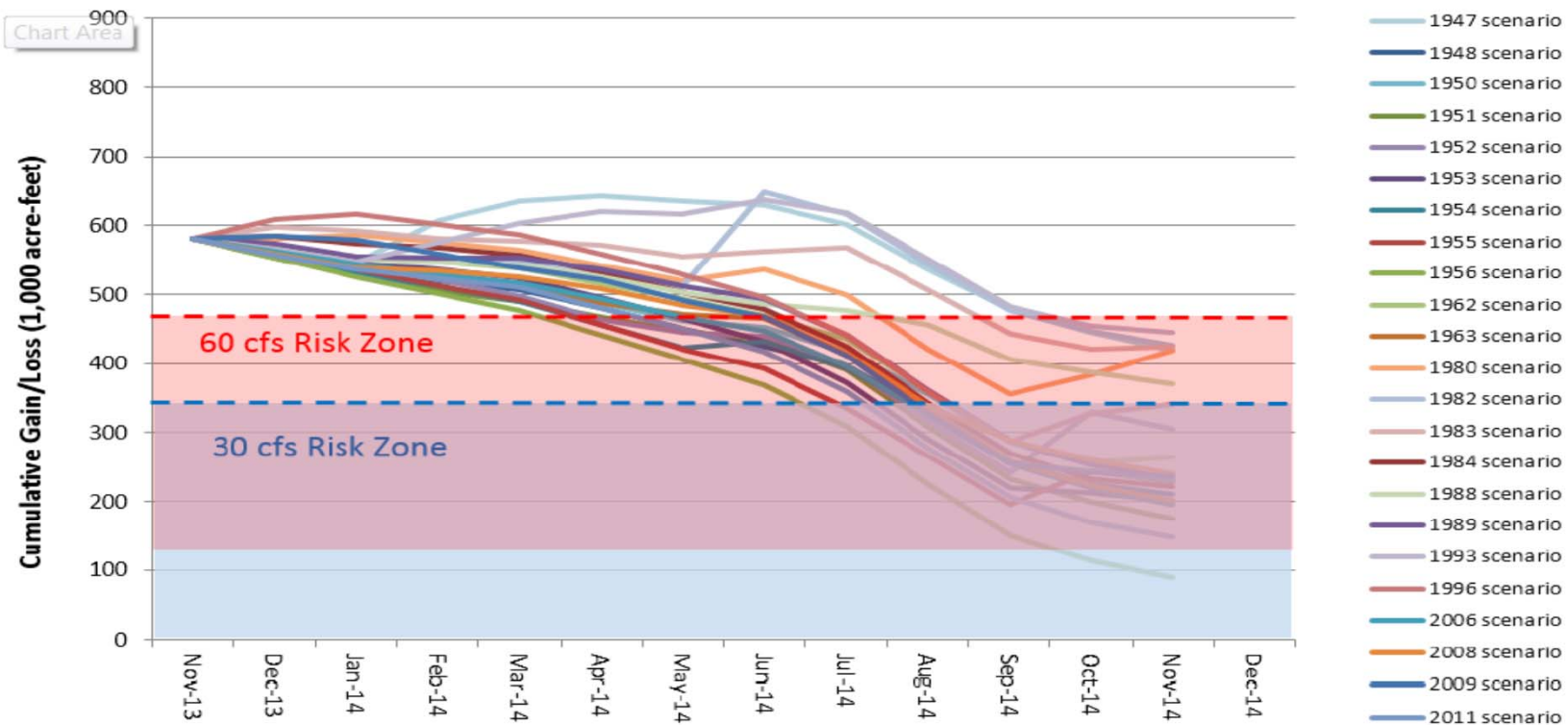


# Current Conditions



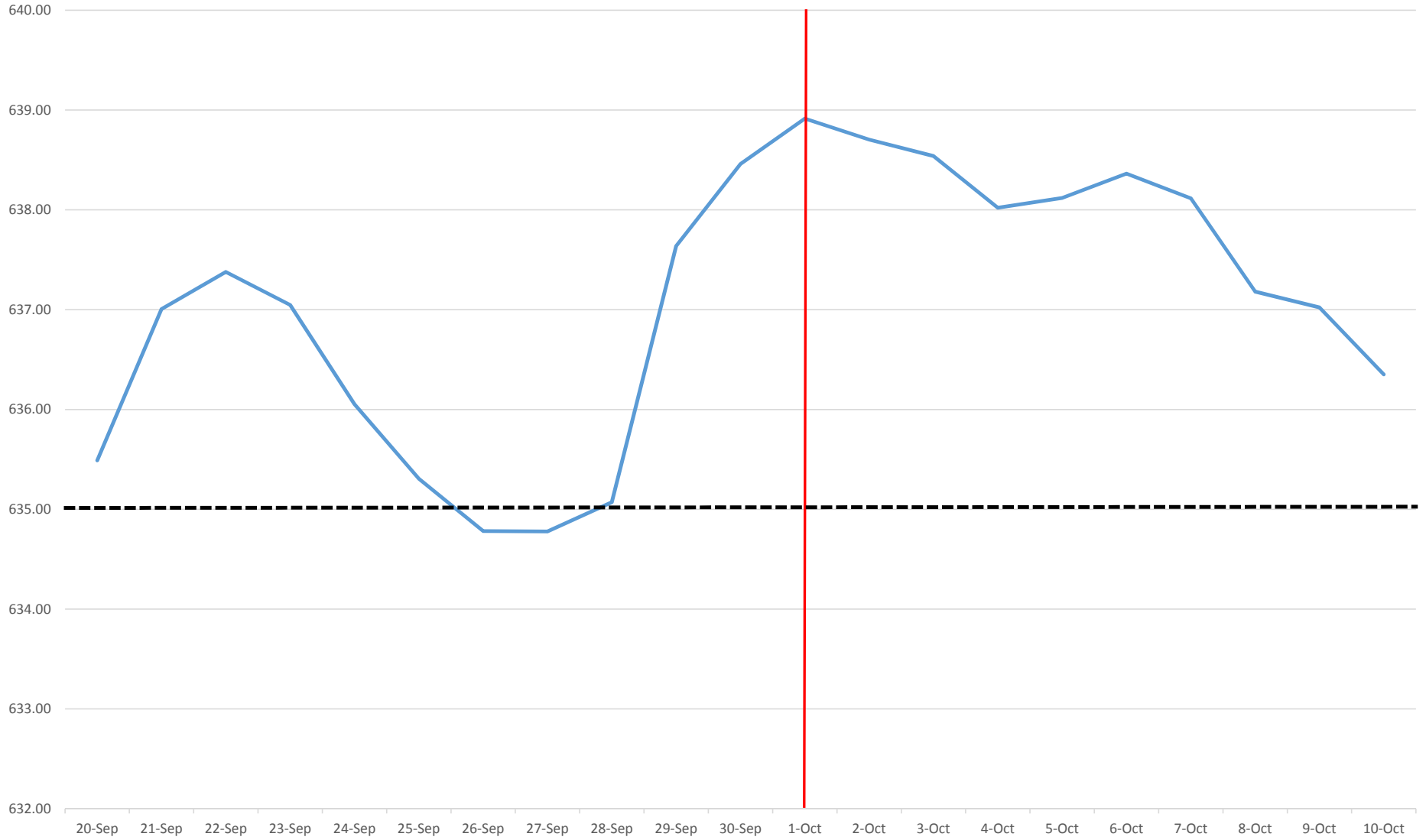
## 2014 scenarios based on previous dry years

### Case 1: 10-year-average pumping rate of 385,000 acre-ft

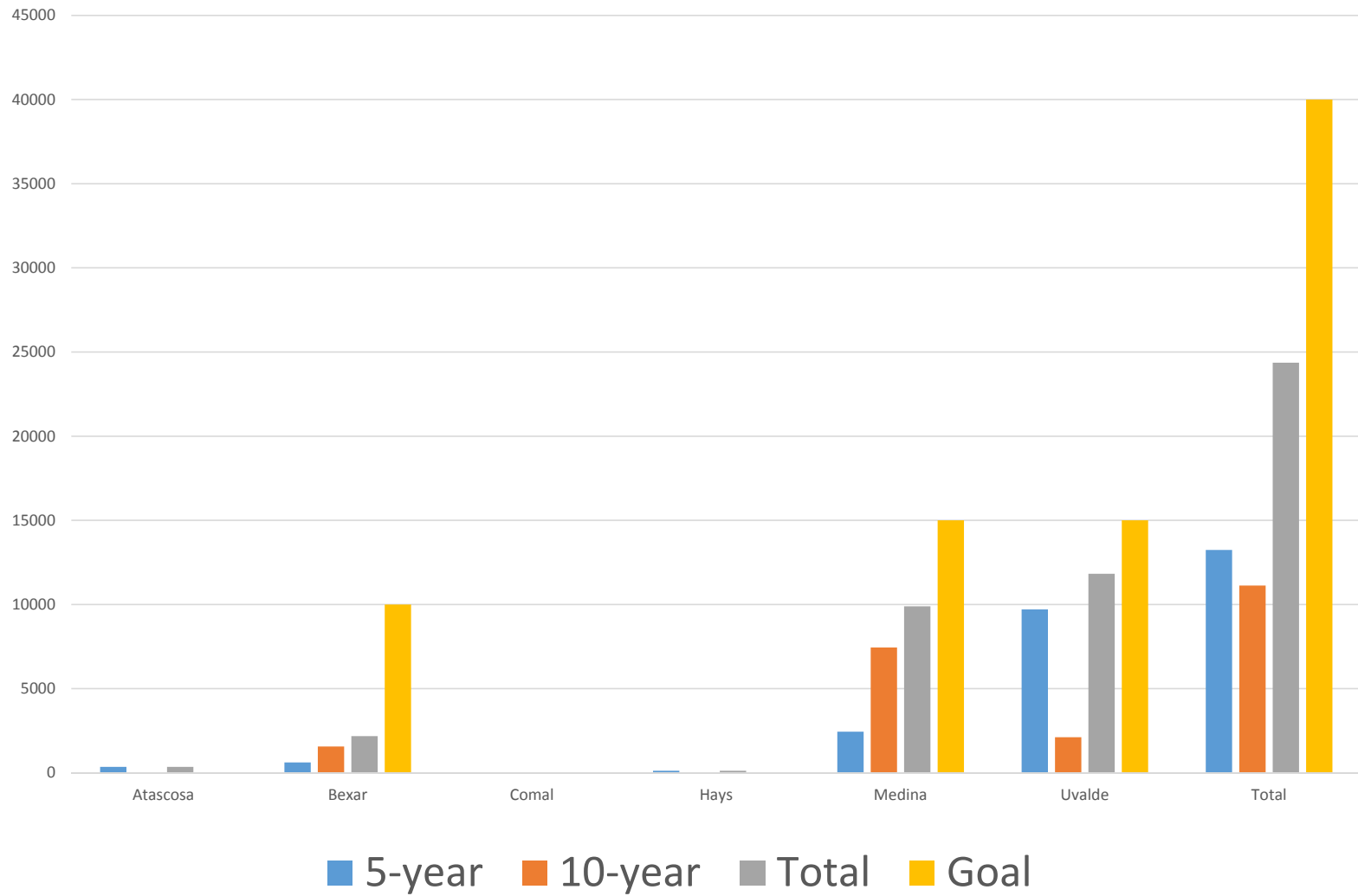


- 23 Scenarios dip into the 60 cfs risk zone:  $\approx 35\%$  probability
- 17 scenarios dip into the 30 cfs risk zone:  $\approx 25\%$  probability

2013



## VISPO Status April 2014







- VISPO is one of our more successful programs
- Currently the Agriculture community is willingly participating in the program and will forbear when triggered
- Has not been tested



# Adaptive Management





## National Research Council Definition (2004):

...flexible decision making that can be adjusted in the face of uncertainties as outcomes from management actions and other events become better understood. Careful monitoring of these outcomes both advances scientific understanding and helps adjust policies or operations as part of an iterative learning process.



## January 10, 2013 AMP Memo:

- Background History
- EAHCP AMP Decisions
- Monitoring and Modeling Program for Evaluating the Effectiveness of the EAHCP
- AMP Decision-Making Processes
- Process for Non-Routine AMP Decisions
- Review by the Science Committee
- Review by the Stakeholder Committee
- Final Review and Decision by the Implementing Committee
- Proposal Packet for Non-Routine AMP Decisions



## FMA § 7.6.2 – Nonroutine AMP Decisions

- Modify a Phase I or II Conservation Measure that requires a Permit Amendment
- Discontinue a Phase I or II Conservation Measure, regardless of requiring a Permit amendment
- Make any substantial alteration of the Biological Goals or Biological Objectives
- Implement or decline to implement an additional Conservation Measure proposed by the Service.



## FMA § 7.12 – Procedures for Nonroutine AMP Decisions

1. Submit AMP Proposal Form: PM, IC or SC Member, 3 SH Members
2. Science Committee Review and Recommendation
3. Stakeholder Committee Review and Recommendation
4. SC and SH Recommendations provided to IC and Service
5. Implementing Committee Consideration
  - Consensus decision
  - Discussion with Service
  - Funding Increase requires EAA Board Approval





# Moving Forward





## Implemented Actions to Address Current Drought

1. Fully implement Phase I Conservation Measures
2. Drought Outreach Workgroup

## Potential Future Actions to Address Drought

1. VISPO – consult with agriculture community
2. Implementing Committee Springflow Protection Workgroup
3. Adaptive Management





## Points to Consider Moving Forward

- VISPO Leases
- Confidence of Agriculture Community
- Funding
- Modeling
- Cost/Benefit



# Questions

