California Aqueduct Subsidence

November 18, 2020



California Water Commission

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California Aqueduct

- Supplies water to 27
 million people and
 750,000 acres of farmland
- Up to 3 feet of subsidence during recent drought
- Subsidence projected to continue if no action is taken





Madera County Dos Amigos **Pumping Plant** Fresno County **Cumulative Vertical Change** Pool 18 South 02 Apr 2014 - 26 Oct 2017 -40.6 - -9 1.1 - 2 -8.9 - -8 2.1 - 3 -7.9 - -7 3.1-4 -6.9 - -6 4.1 - 5 -5.9 - -5 1-6 feet of subsidence -2.9 - -2 -1.9 - -1 -0.9 - 0Pool 23 Kern Bowl 1-4 feet of subsidence County Pool 26 Explanation Pool 28 **Bakersfield** Pool extents California Aqueduct Aqueduct study corridor Pool 30 Boundaries of subsidence bowls + High point Maricopa Bowl Aqueduct mile posts 5 mile stations 1-2 feet of subsidence **Pumping Plant**

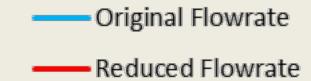
Recent DWR Studies

- Subsidence due to deep groundwater pumping
- Over 2 feet of subsidence from recent drought can not be recovered
- Transition from annual to perennial crops
- Aqueduct capacity reduced up to 33% in some locations
- Reduced Aqueduct operational flexibility and efficiency

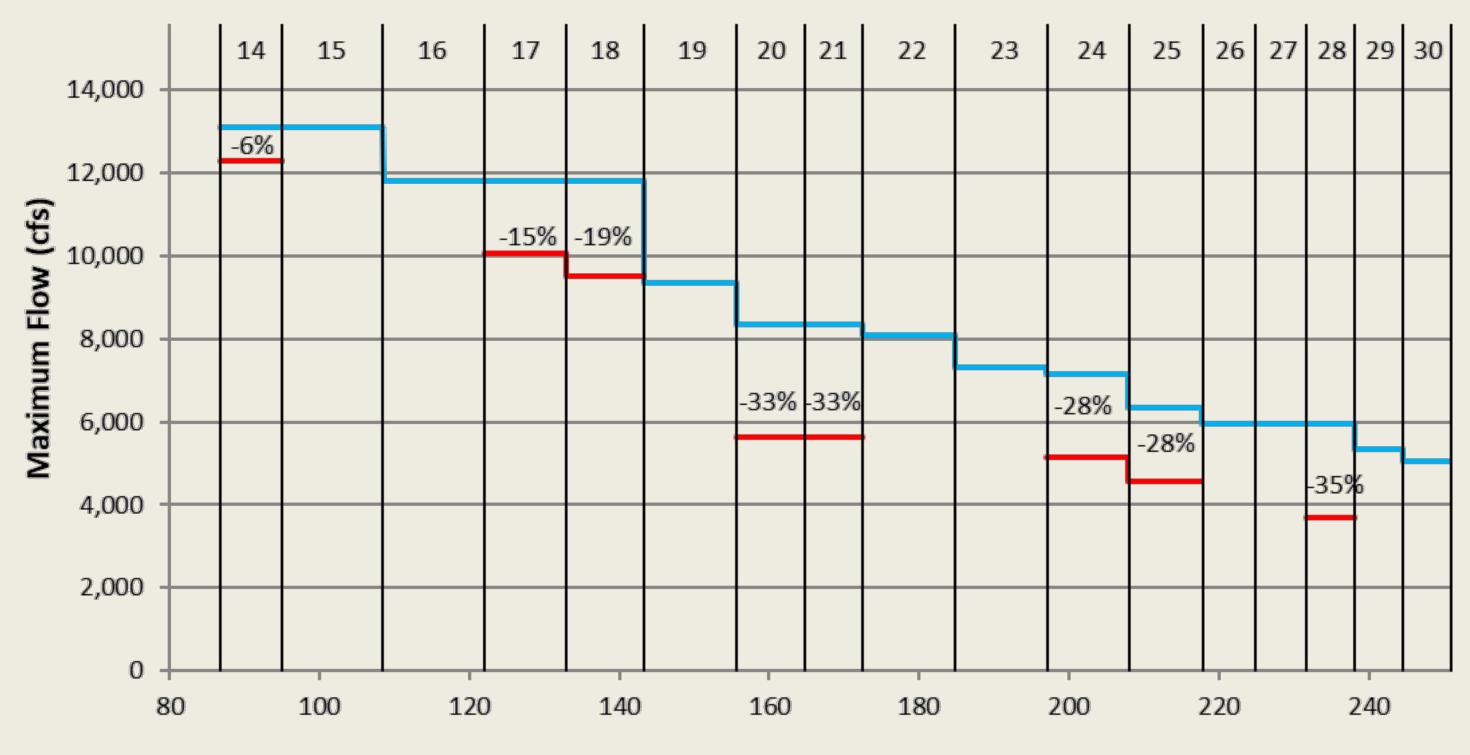
5

Aqueduct Capacity

Based on design freeboard





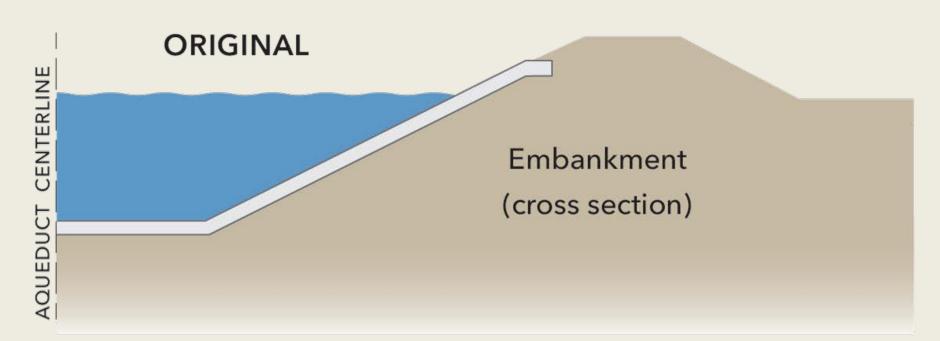


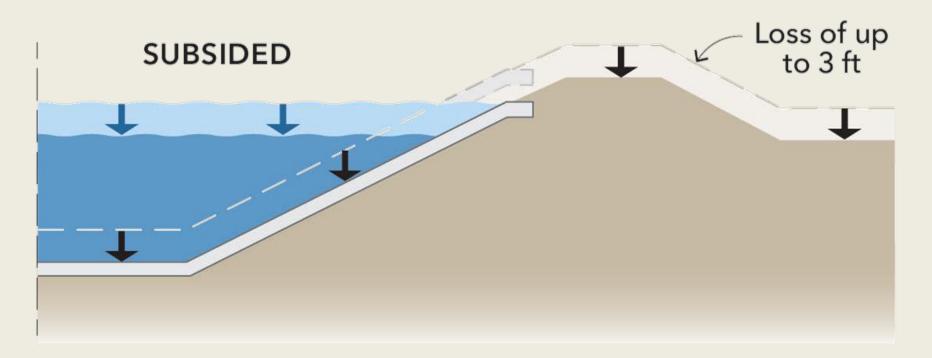
Milepost (miles)

Impacts on the Aqueduct

- Decreased delivery capacity
- Increased cost to deliver water

- Decreased system reliability
- Increased operations and maintenance



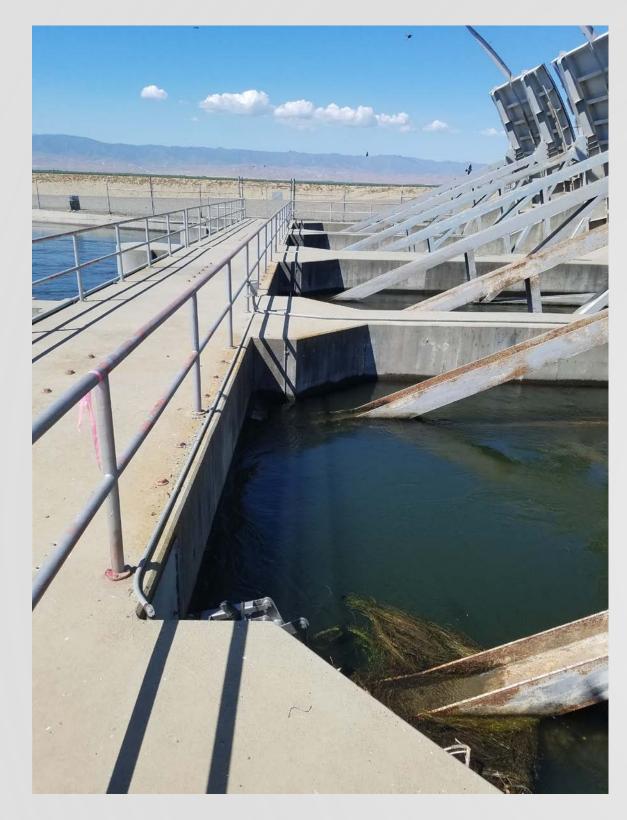


State Water Project operations decrease water levels to keep it below the (subsided) top of liner which means less flow capacity in the Aqueduct.

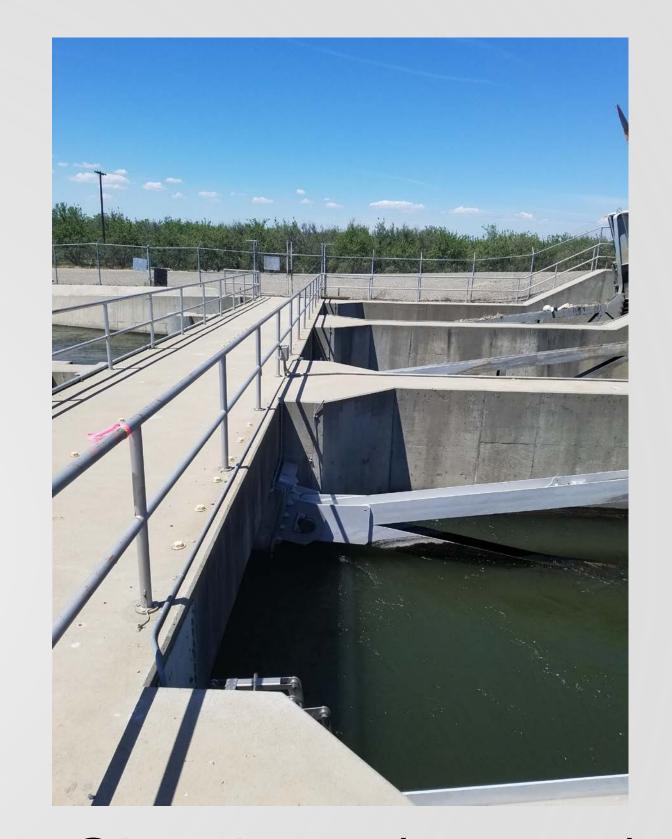
Impacts - Subsided Gate Structure







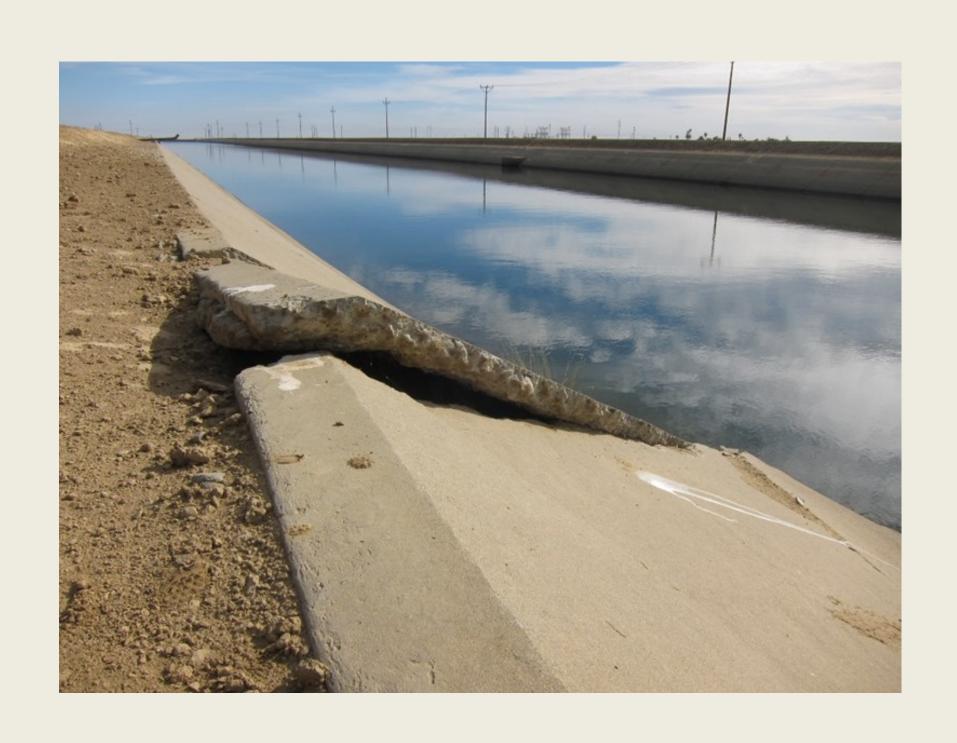
Check 17 (Subsided)



Check 20 (normal)

Check Structures in San Luis Field Division

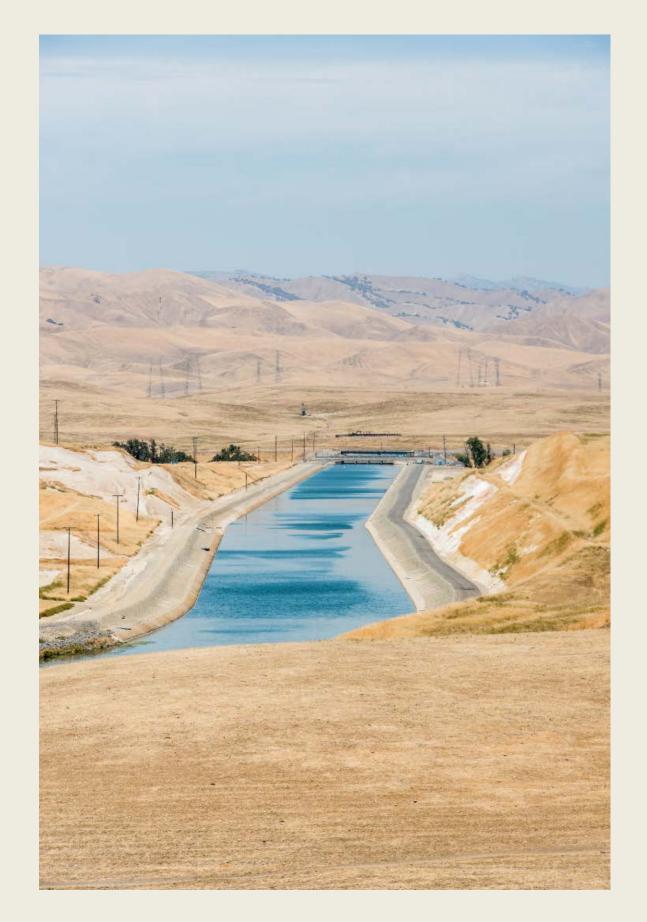
Impacts - Damaged Liner





Key Considerations

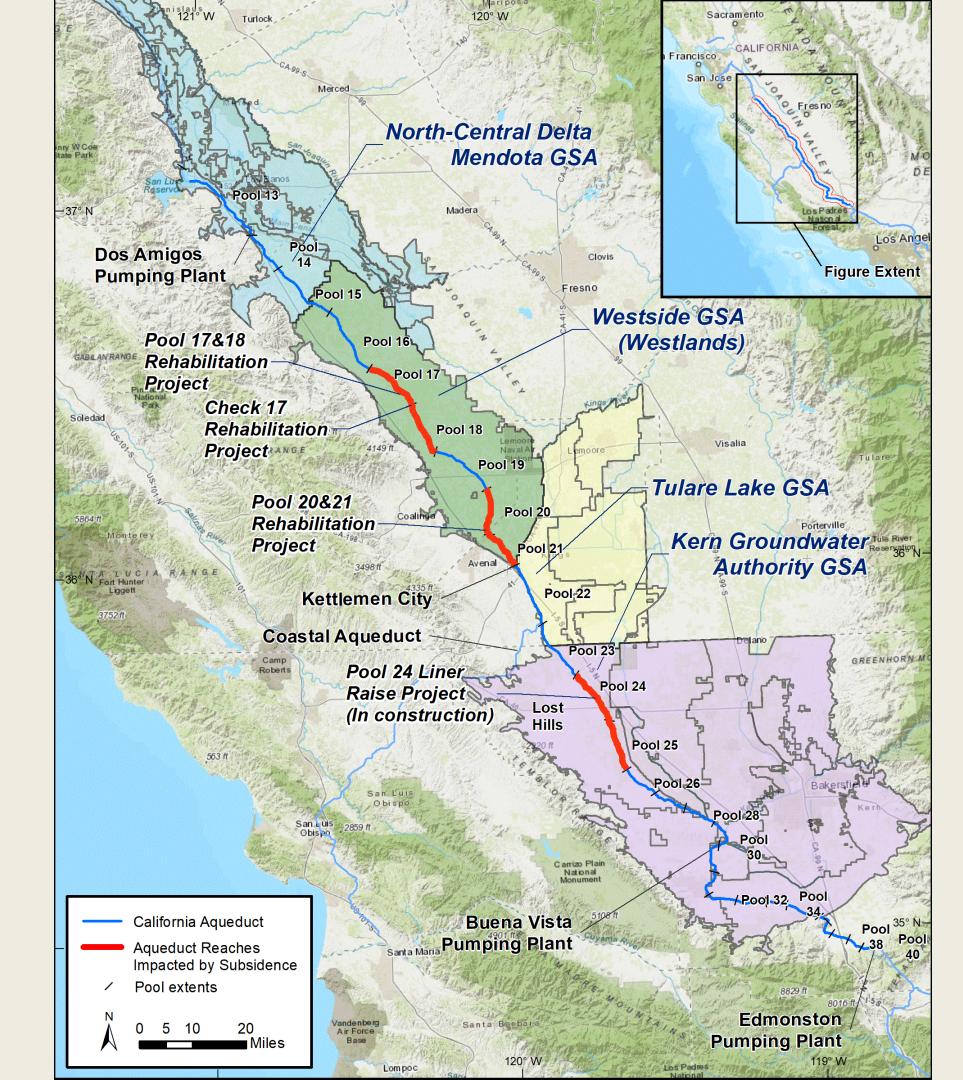
- Restore capacity for reliable water delivery
- Restore operational flexibility
- Ensure infrastructure resiliency
- Improve operational efficiency
- Pursue supplemental funding



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act –

 Engage with Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and others

 Protect the Aqueduct from further damage



What's Next?

Rehabilitation

Design and construction projects to address current impacts.

- Raise 35 miles of the Aqueduct
- Reconstruct Check Structure 17
- Raise bridges
- Relocate utilities crossing the Aqueduct
- Raise turnout structures

Recovery

Develop a Recovery Plan to address subsidence in the future.

- Develop a Recovery Plan including an alternatives study
- Plan, design, and implement enduring repairs to the Aqueduct
- Stakeholder engagement



Questions?