



# Integrating Water Efficiency Standards and Codes into Long-Term Demand Forecasting

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Report #4495 (Forthcoming)



# **Project Team and Advisory Committee**

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**Veronica Blette, U.S. EPA WaterSense Program**

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**Ben Dziegielewski, formerly Southern Illinois  
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**Douglas Frost, City of Phoenix Water Service**

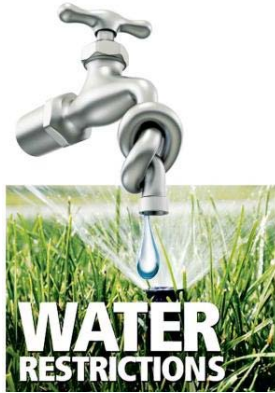
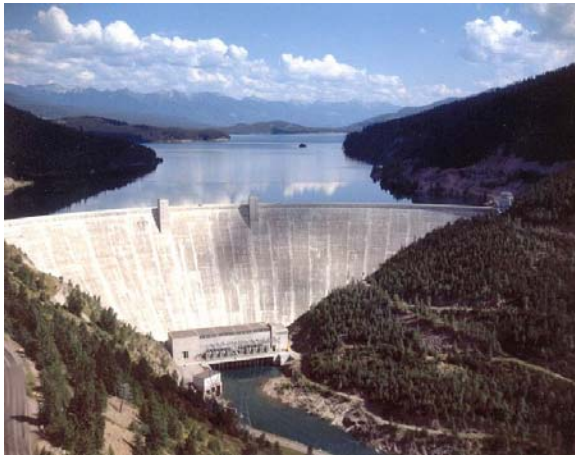
**Margaret Hunter, American Water**



# Outline

- Demand Forecasting Overview
- Efficiency Standards and Codes
- Stock Modeling
- Collecting and Incorporating Data
- Characterizing Uncertainty
- Guidance and Recommendations

# Water Demand Forecasting



**Accurate demand forecasting is essential.**

**Underestimating** future water demand could contribute to water supply shortfalls, temporary increases in water bills, and the imposition of emergency cutbacks.

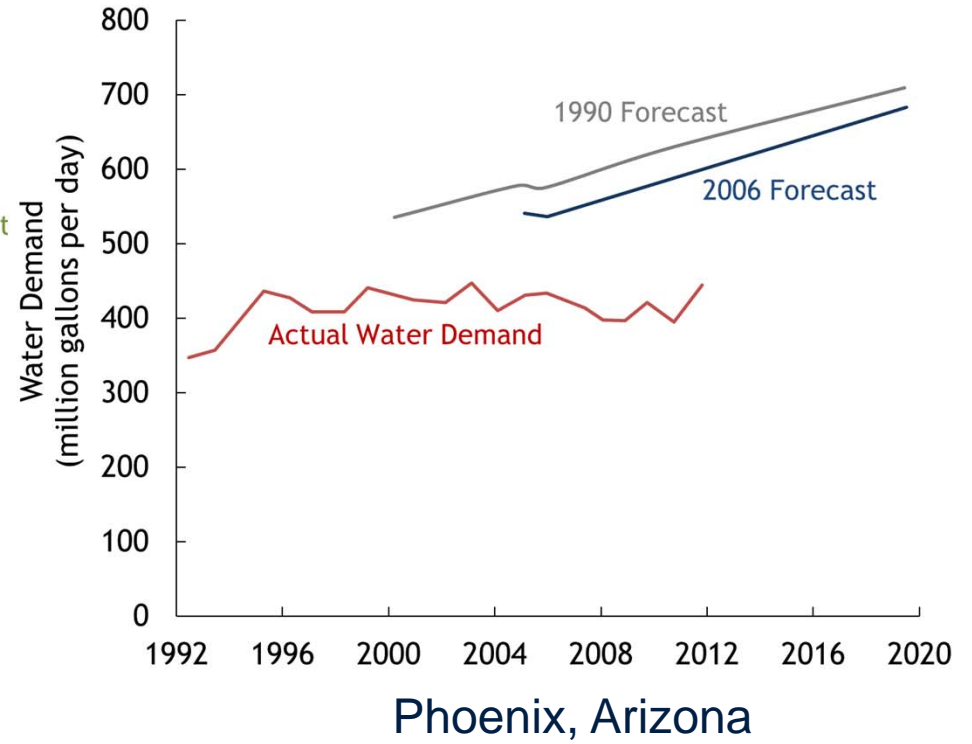
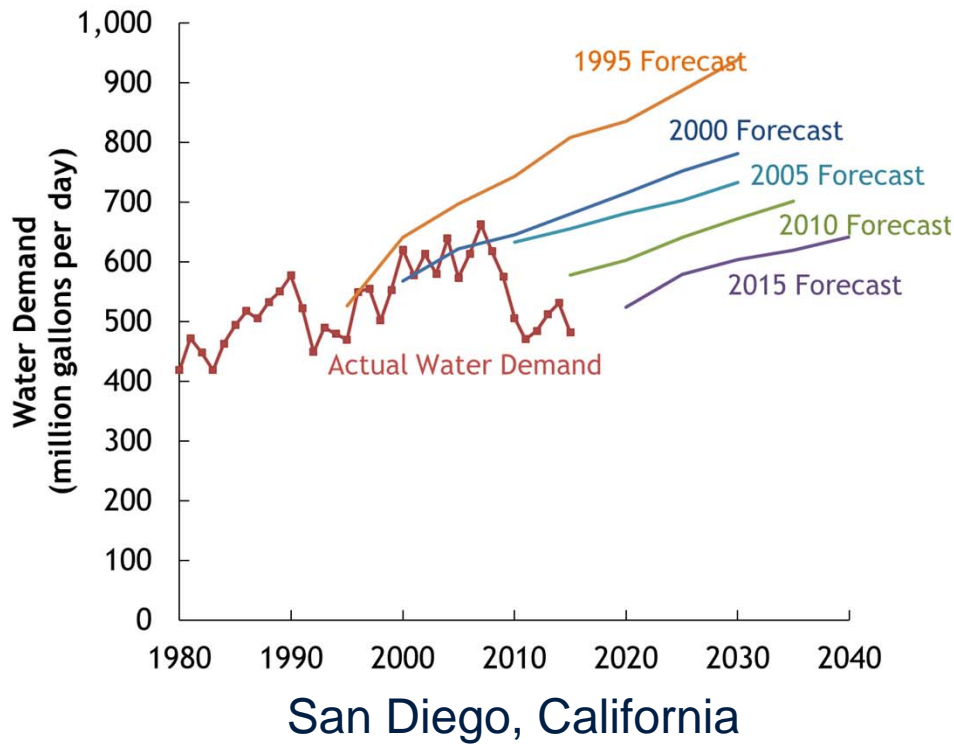
**Overestimating** demand can lead to costly investment in unneeded infrastructure and water sources, with higher water bills and potential environmental impacts.



Top Left: Hungry Horse Dam, Montana, Dept. of Interior via Wired.com; Top Right: City of Lancaster, Texas; Bottom: Tampa Bay Desalination Plant, Florida, wateronline.com



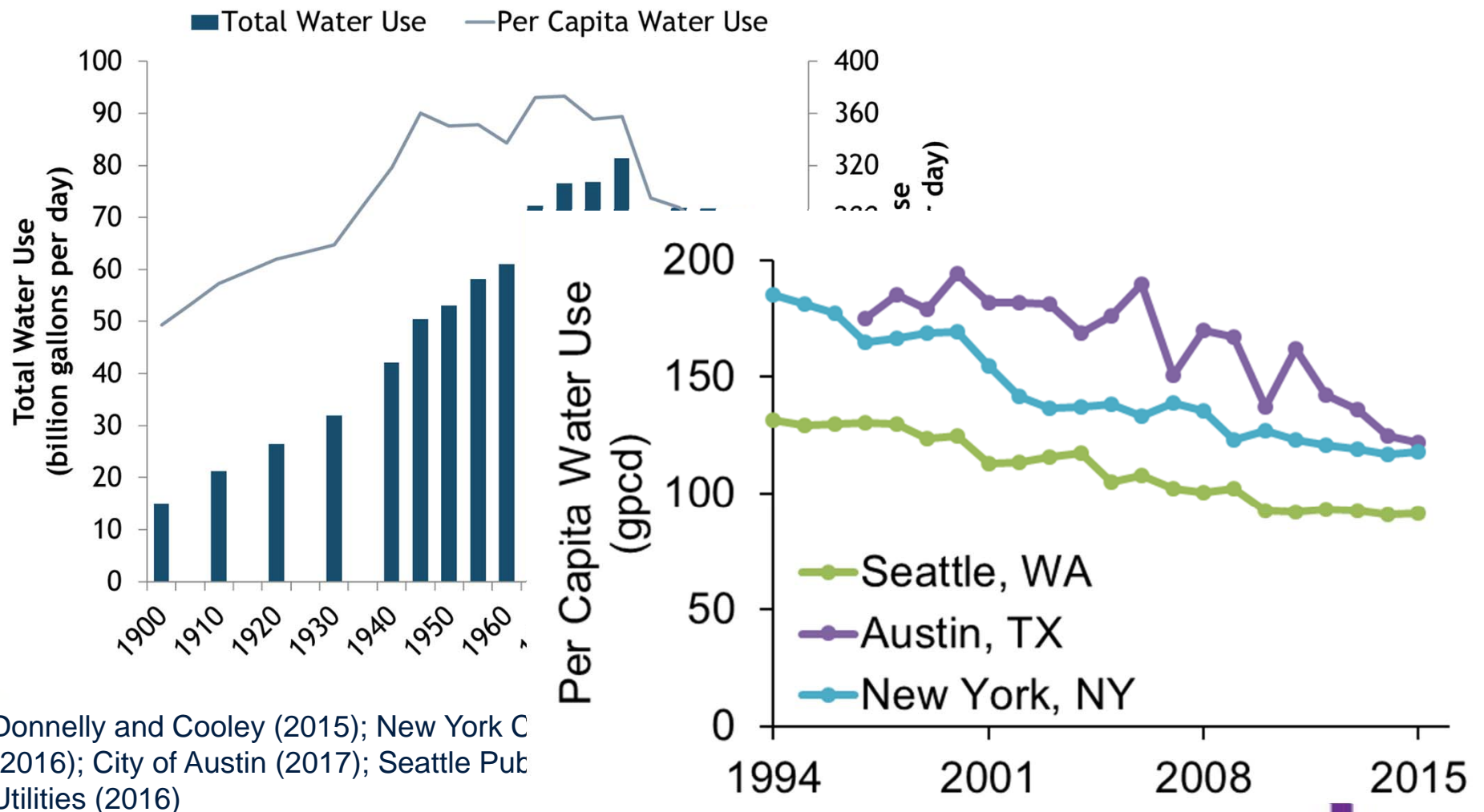
# Forecasts often overestimate demand



Heberger, Donnelly, and Cooley, 2016. "A Community Guide for Evaluating Future Urban Water Demand." Pacific Institute, Oakland, CA.

# Municipal Water Use in the U.S.

Per capita water use in the U.S. is **declining**, at least partially due to efficiency standards and codes.



Donnelly and Cooley (2015); New York C (2016); City of Austin (2017); Seattle Pub Utilities (2016)

# Research Objective

## WRF Report #4495

Develop guidance to help water planners and managers increase the reliability of their water demand forecasts by accounting for efficiency standards and codes.



# Water-Use Efficiency Standards

	Units	Federal Standards	WaterSense or ENERGY STAR minimum efficiency	Ultra-high efficiency
Single-flush tank-type toilets	gpf	1.6	1.3	0.79
Dual-flush tank-type toilets	gpf	1.6	1.6 (full)/ 1.1 (reduced)	0.95 (full)/ 0.5 (reduced)
Commercial toilets (flushometer valve)	gpf	1.6	1.28	1.0
Showerheads	gpm	2.5	2	0.75
Bathroom faucets	gpm	2.2	1.5	1.0
Commercial pre-rinse spray valves	gpm	1.6	1.28	0.65
Residential clothes washers	IWF	4.7 (front-load) 6.5 (top-load)	3.7 (front-load) 4.3 (top-load)	2.6
Commercial clothes washers	IWF	4.1 (front-load) 8.8 (top-load)	4.5	3.7
Residential dishwashers	gallons per cycle	5.0	3.5	1.95



# Demand Forecasting Methods

Four methods for long-term demand forecasting:

**(1) Extrapolation models:** Population x Water Use Factor

**(2) Econometric or regression models:**

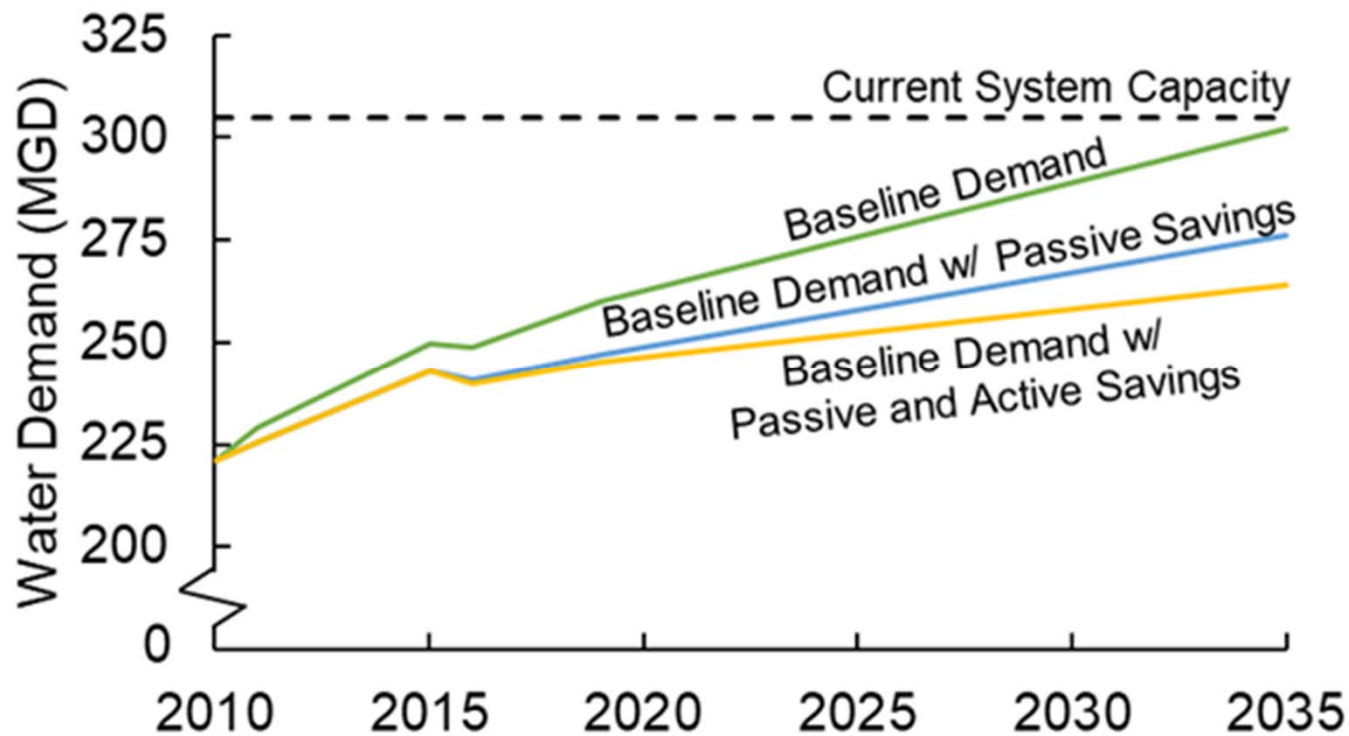
Demand = f(growth, water price, new development, etc.)

**(3) Comprehensive end use ('bottom up') models:** water use projected by end uses individually and then summed.

**(4) Hybrid models:** Extrapolation or econometric models with correction factor for conservation (guesstimate or modeled)

# Base Models with Corrections Models

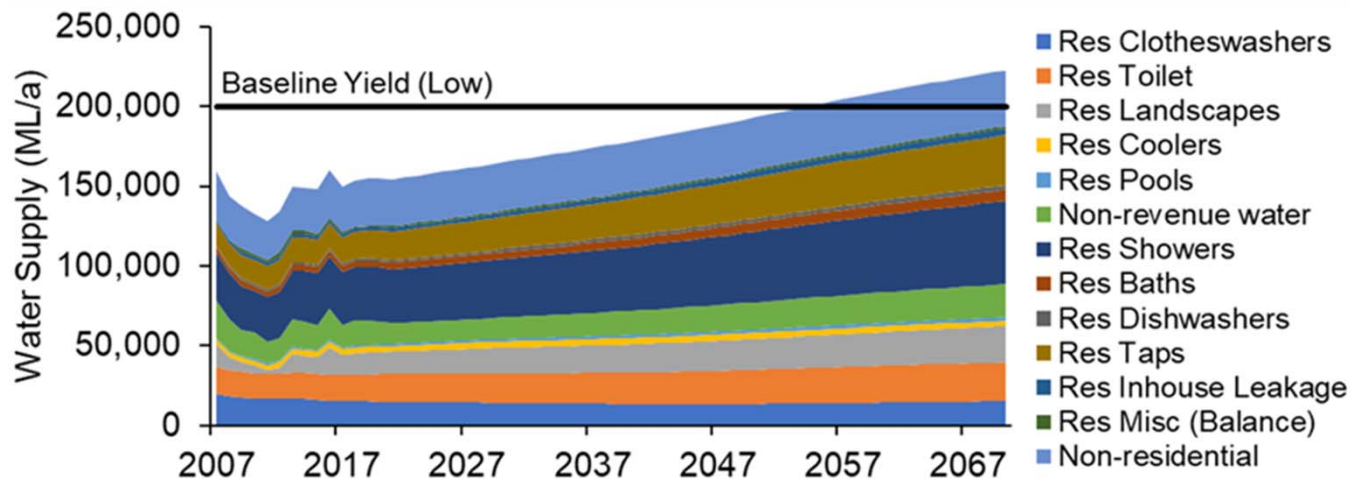
Baseline Econometric or Extrapolation Model  
with a Correction Factor for Efficiency



Modified from Tampa Bay Water. (2013).  
“Water Demand Management Plan”

# Comprehensive End Use Modeling

- Water use projected for each end use as a **function of stock, efficiency, and behavior.**
- Water use is a function of economic/price impacts, technology, development, and changing efficiency.
- Allows for co-variation between economy and efficiency.



# Modeling Water by End Use

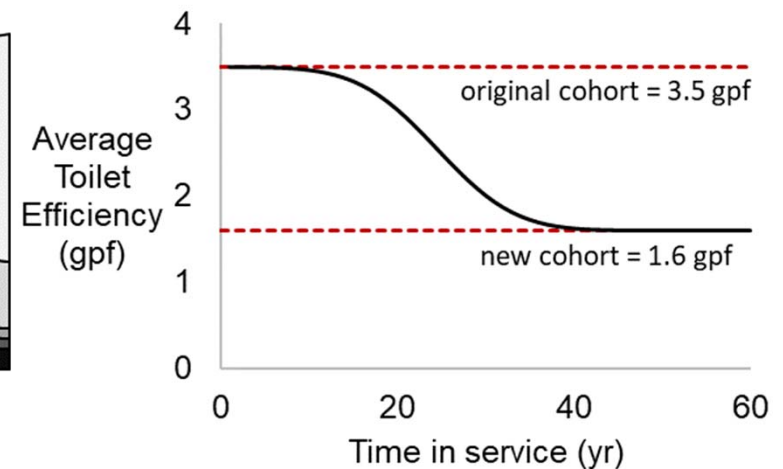
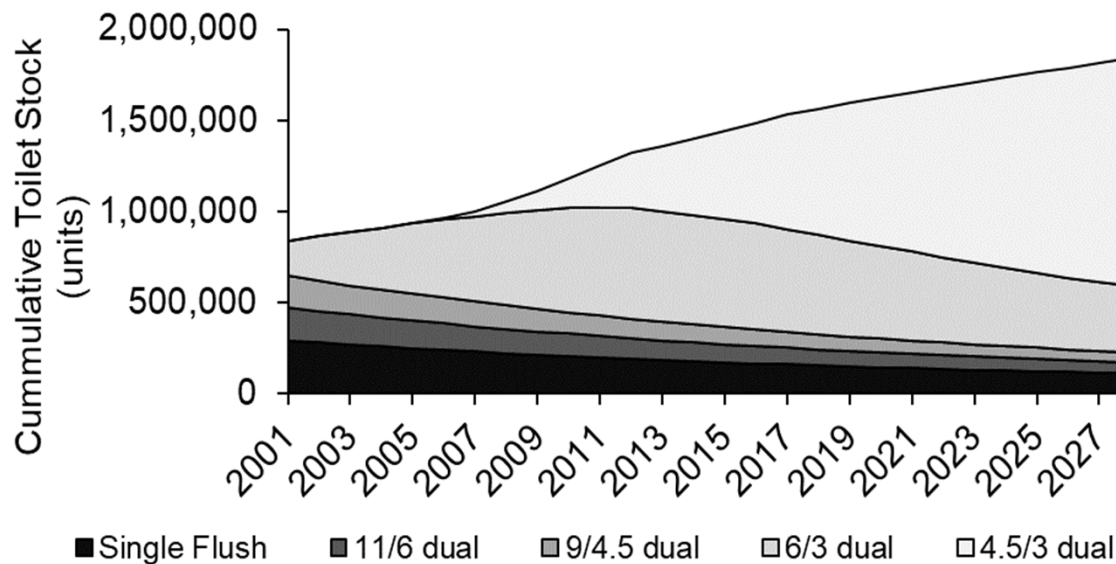
End Use Analysis can be used as part of correction factors or comprehensive end use modeling.

$$\frac{\text{Total Vol}}{\text{Day}} = \left( \underbrace{\# \text{ of Homes} \times \frac{\# \text{ of Homes w/ DW}}{\# \text{ of Homes}} \times \frac{\# \text{ of DW}}{\# \text{ of Homes w/ DW}}}_{\text{Total Stock of Dishwashers}} \right) \times \underbrace{\frac{\text{Volume}}{\text{Use}}}_{\text{Technology (Efficiency)}} \times \underbrace{\frac{\text{Uses}}{\text{DW} \times \text{Day}}}_{\text{Behavior}}$$



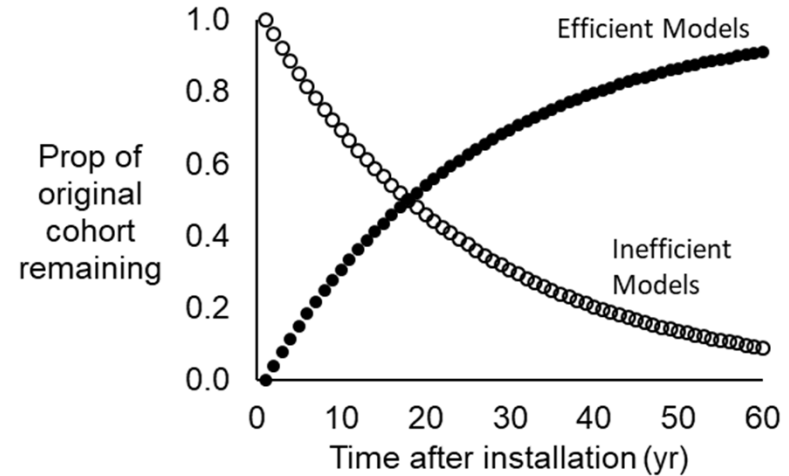
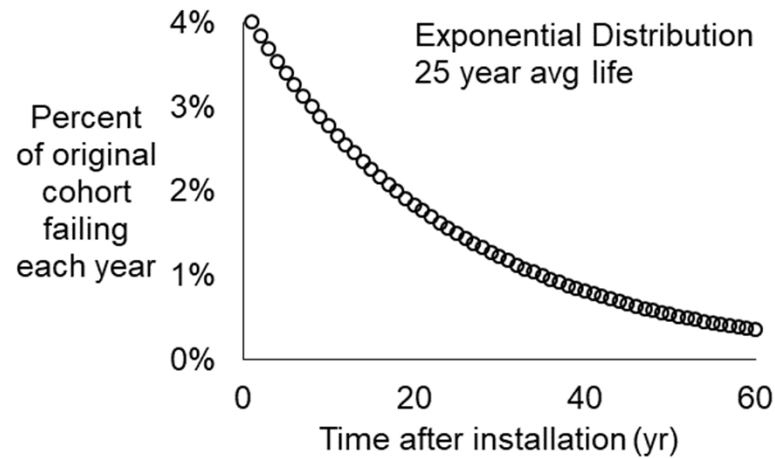
# Stock Model Components

Stock models simulate the turnover of cohorts of devices using **replacement distribution** and a **device lifetime**.

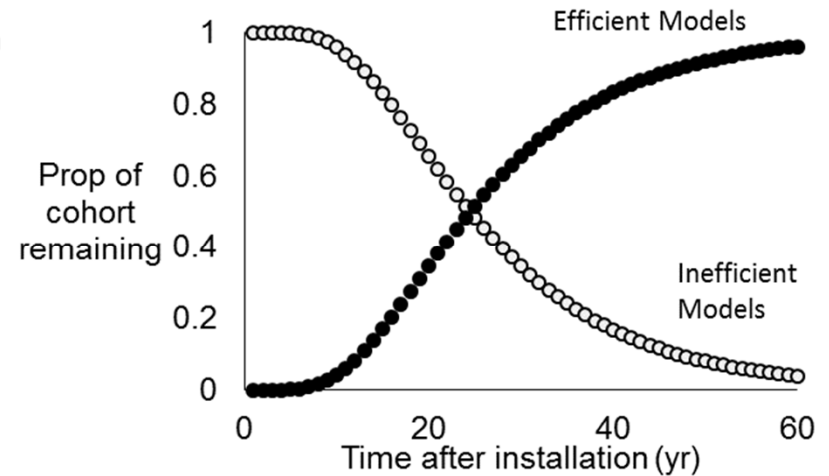
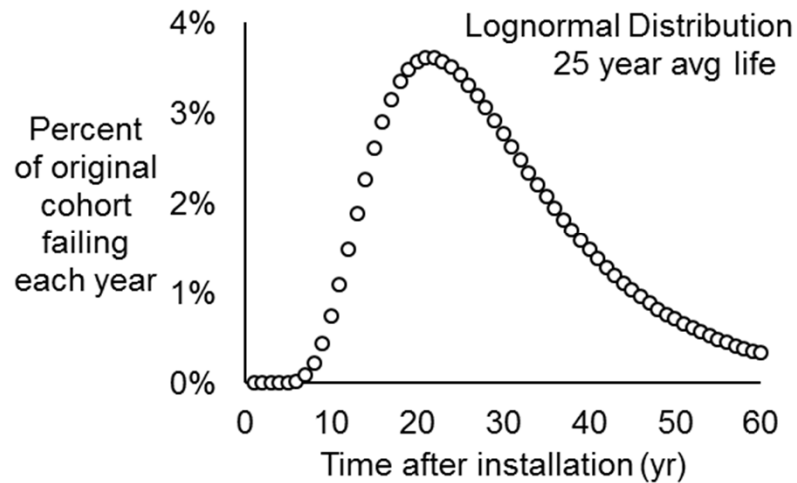


# Replacement Distributions

Exponential  
Decay

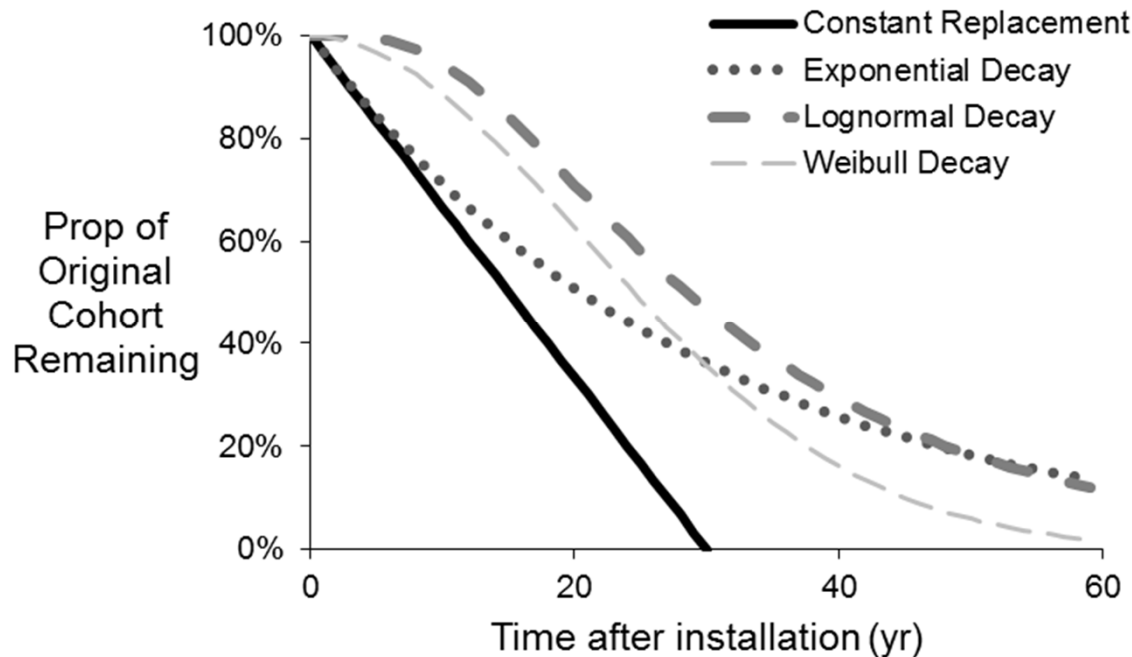


Lognormal  
Distribution



# Choosing a Replacement Rate

- Water Sector: Australia study showed that lognormal decay best fit the replacement rates of toilets (Snelling 2007)
- Energy Sector: Weibull distributions of replacement rates fit with sales data



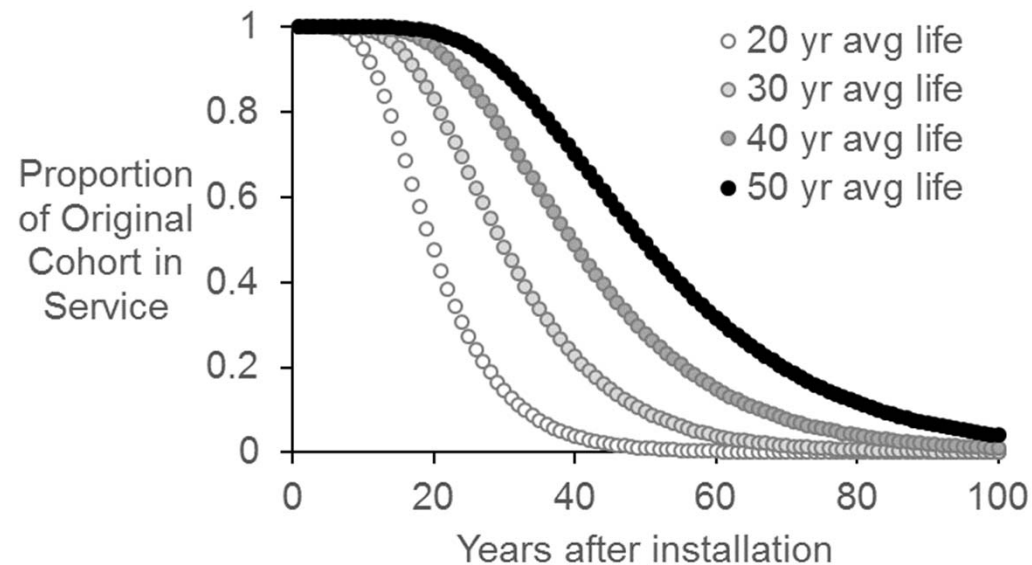
The replacement function can dramatically affect the modeled current stock and future conservation savings.



# Impact of Device Lifetime on Models

Device	Range of Device Lifetime
Showerheads	5 – 12 years
Toilets	20 – 30 years
Dishwashers	10 – 15.5 years
Clothes Washers	8 – 20 years

If an analyst forecasts a 20-year average life and the devices last 30 years, that leads to a 17% difference in water usage.



# Example of Stock Modeling

Tampa Bay Water, Demand Management Plan (2013)

Step 1: Separate households by age based on new legislation

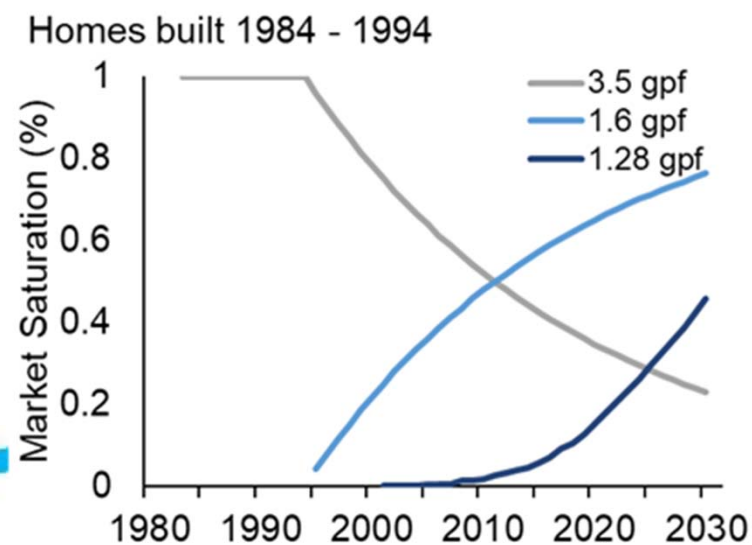
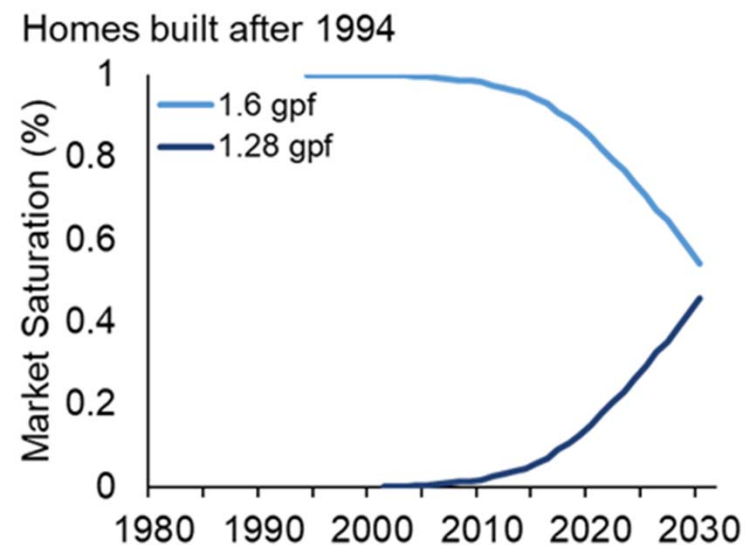
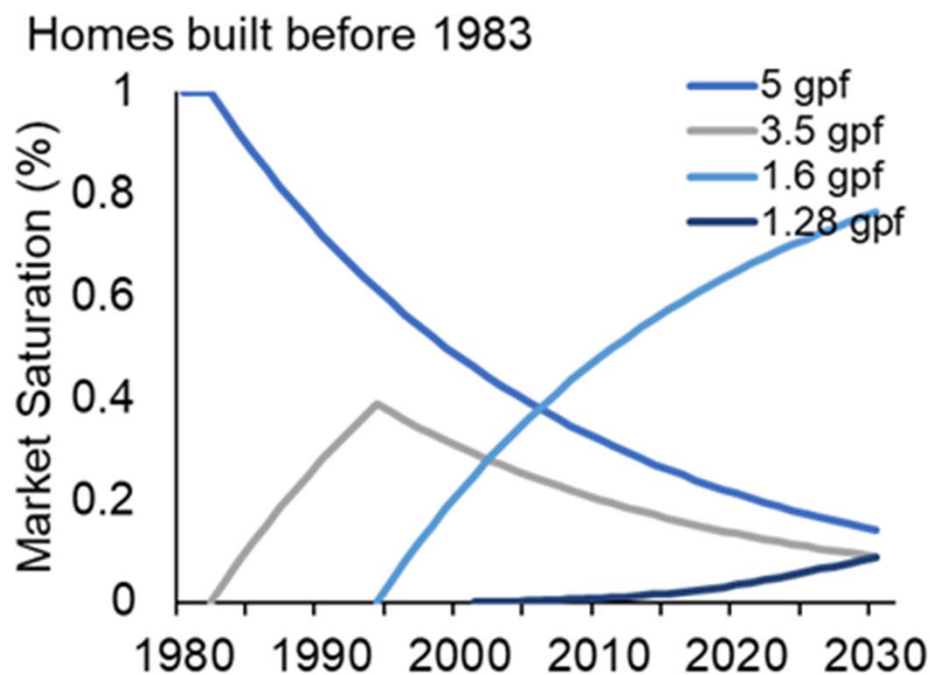
- Pre-1984: 5 gpf toilets
- 1984–1994: 3.5 gpf
- 1994–Present: 1.6 gpf

Datasets:

- **Billing and conservation program data**
- **Water use data**
- **Water Efficiency Program Library (WEPL)**
- **Parcel data**
- **Market share of WaterSense devices**
- **Projected population growth (Moody's Analytics)**

# Example of Stock Modeling

Step 2: Run stock model with decay function for each housing group.



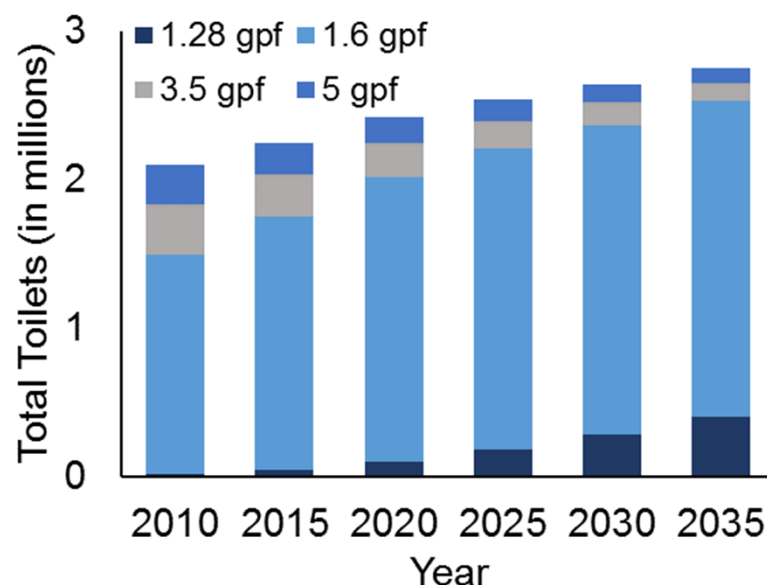
Data provided by Tampa Bay Water. (2013). Water Demand Management Plan.  
Diringer et al., forthcoming. WRF Project #4495

# Example of Stock Modeling

Step 3: Determine total stock of toilets in the service area.

Step 4: Multiply stock of toilets by distribution of toilet efficiencies.

Step 5: Adjust per capita water demand by changing average toilet efficiency.



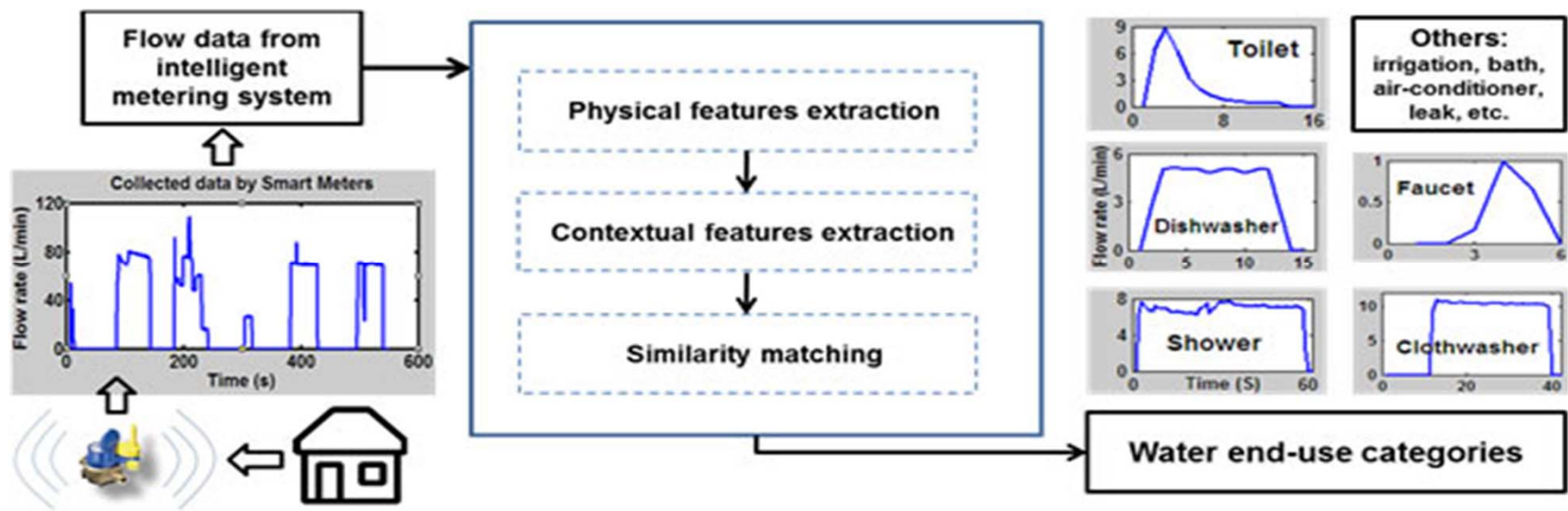
Next Step: (1) Validate model with surveys, in-person assessments, or flow trace analyses.  
(2) Examine uncertainty in forecast using Monte Carlo or scenario testing.

# Datasets for Stock Modeling

	Study Outcomes	Data Collection Method	Residential Water Demand	Total Stock	Efficiency	Behavior
<b>REUWS 1999, 2016</b>	End uses of water, single-family homes, <i>Not nationally representative</i>	Customer survey, flow monitoring	Average indoor and outdoor residential water demand	Single flush/dual flush toilets, CW, DW, showers, bathtubs	Calculated water efficiency per use	Toilet, faucet, DW, CW, bathtub, shower
<b>RECS 1987, 1990, 1993, 1997</b>	Residential energy use, single and multi-family homes, <i>nationally representative</i>	In-person, paper, or online survey	None	--	--	--
<b>RECS 2001, 2005, 2009, 2015</b>				DW, CW Presence/Absence	CW: Top Loading vs. Front Loading	Self-reported DW, CW use per week

# Collecting Data

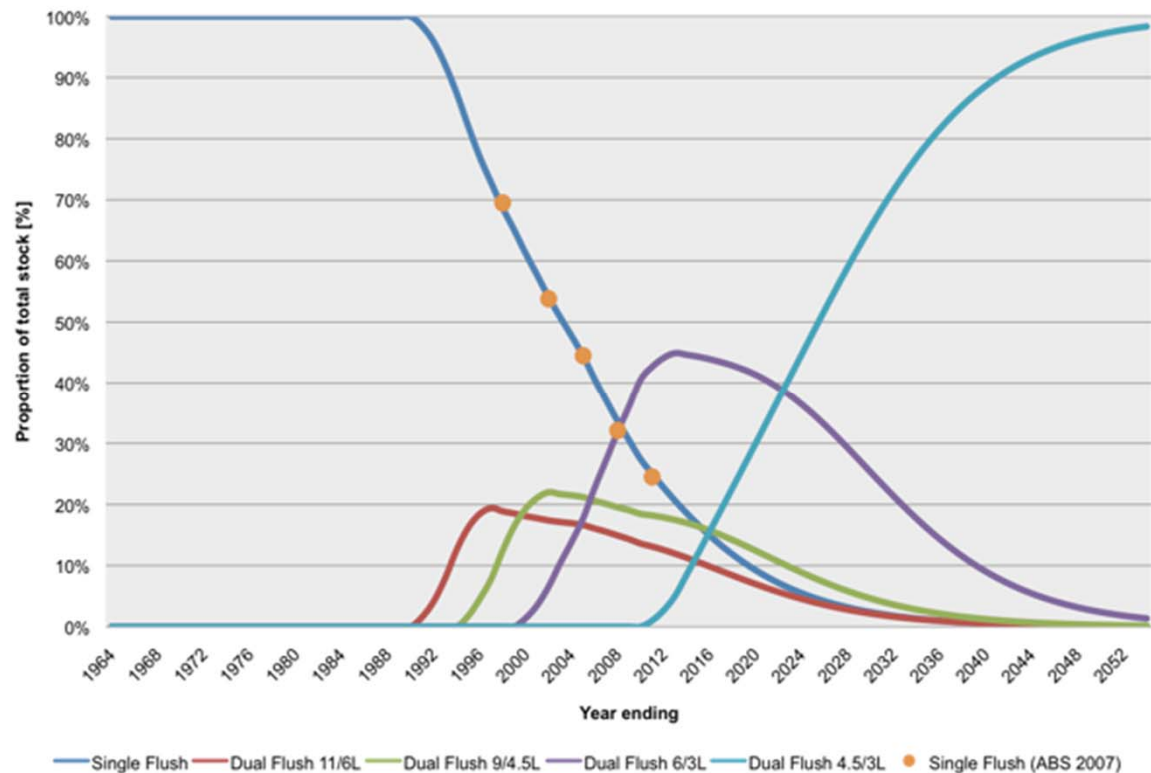
- Surveys for end uses of water
- In-person assessments
- High-resolution flow trace analyses
- Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)



# Incorporating Data

Study data be incorporated into models, used to calibrate models, and/or verify model results.

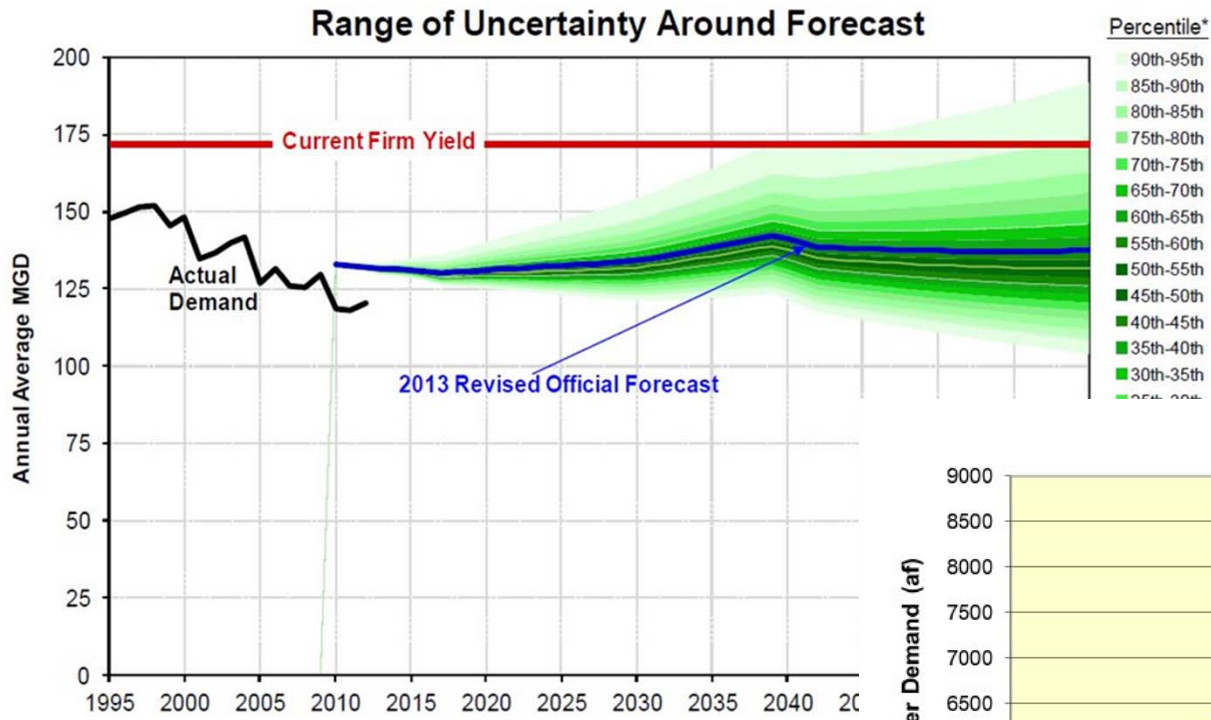
Market share from Australia for toilet, where the orange dots represent census data to calibrate the changing stock.



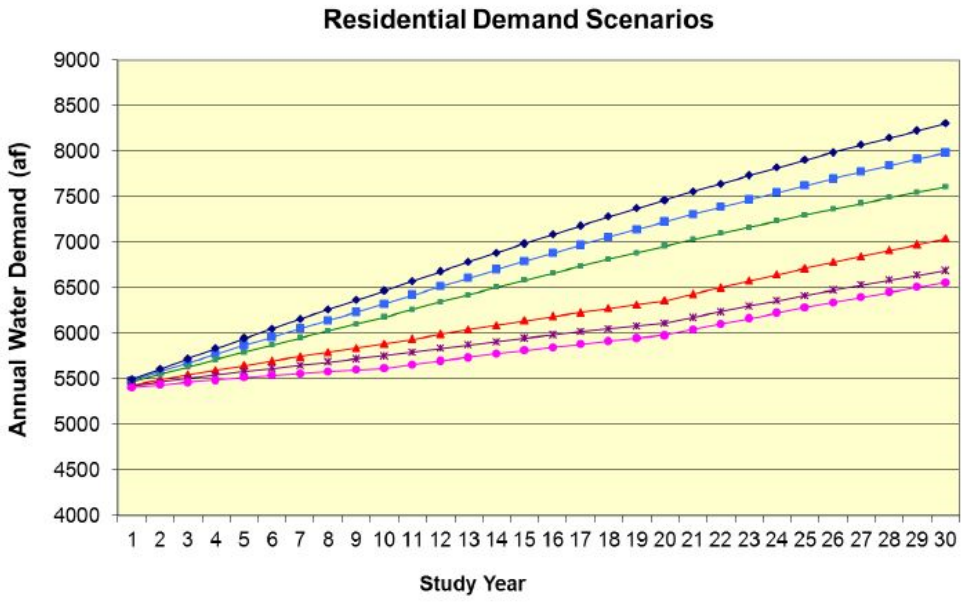


# Characterizing Uncertainty

Multiple scenarios and Monte Carlo simulations can be used to provide a range of predicted future water demand.



Check out WRF 4558 (Kiefer et al., 2016) Uncertainty in Long-Term Water Demand Forecasting



(above) Flory, 2013. "Forecasting Water Demand in Seattle."  
(right) Aquacraft, 2015. "Residential Demand Forecasting Model."

# Guidance and Recommendations

## 1. Improve overall forecasting methods

- Examine the accuracy of demand forecasts and monitor trends in water use.
- Incorporate stock models into demand forecasts to capture efficiency improvements resulting from standards and codes.
- Integrate uncertainty into demand forecasts.

## 2. Improve stock modeling for demand forecasts

- Determine current stock and efficiency of devices.
- Develop realistic device lifetimes and replacement rates.

## 3. Anticipate the Future

- Anticipate future standards and codes.
- Investigate AMI technologies for collecting water data

# Acknowledgements

## Project Advisory Committee

**Veronica Blette**, U.S. EPA WaterSense Program

**David Bracciano**, Tampa Bay Water

**Benedykt Dziegielewski**, formerly Southern Illinois University

**Douglas Frost**, City of Phoenix Water Services Department

**Margaret Hunter**, Senior Project Manager, American Water

## Participating Utilities

City of Austin, TX; Cobb County Water System, GA; East Bay Municipal Utility District, CA; Irvine Ranch Water District, CA; Long Beach Water Department, CA; San Antonio Water System, TX; San Diego County Water Authority, CA; San Francisco Water and Power, CA; Yarra Valley Water, Melbourne, Australia

Funded By:



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# Thank You and Contact Info

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