Central Oregon Cities' Organization

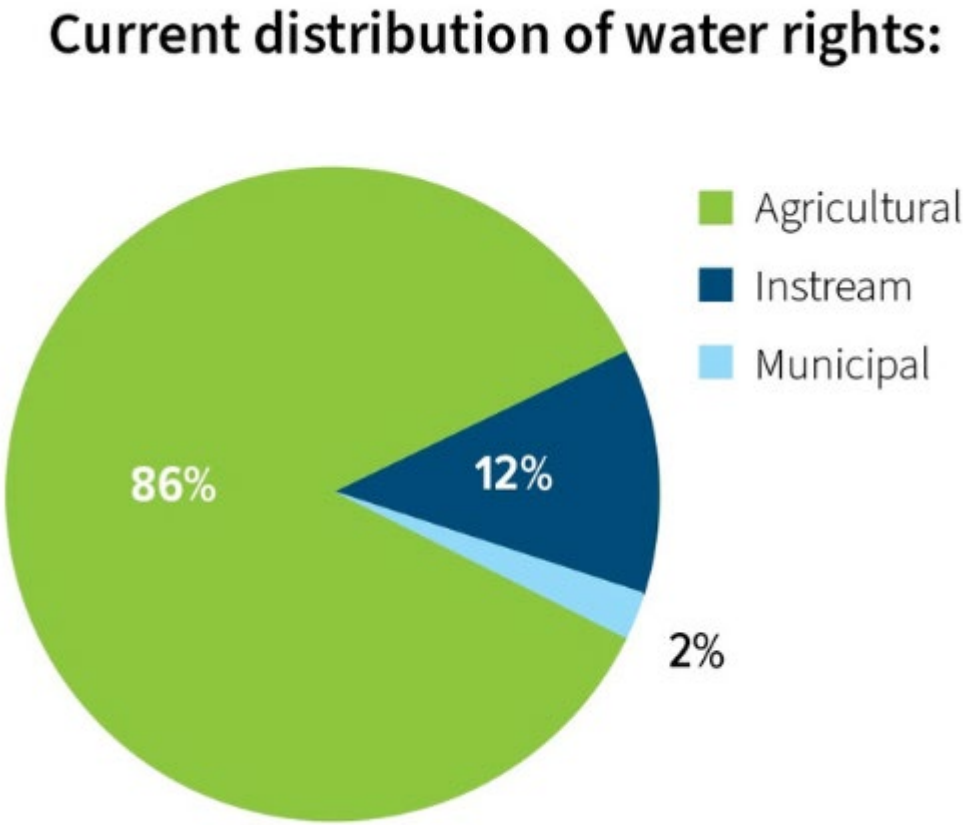
Municipal Water Conservation and Future Water Supply Needs

CENTRAL OREGON CITIES ORGANIZATION

Bend
Culver
La Pine
Madras
Maupin
Metolius
Prineville
Redmond
Sisters

- **COCO** - 9 cities, combined population of approx. 150,000. Established in 1998 to promote common interests – water supply and management is key.
- **Stewardship** – COCO cities are a small slice of the pie, but we use it wisely. Significant conservation efforts have been implemented over the last decade and still ramping up.
- **Mitigation Program Since 2002** – mitigation required to offset impacts to surface water. Mitigation equals instream flow.
- **Groundwater** - is key to COCO members' water supplies.

COCO's Slice of the Pie:

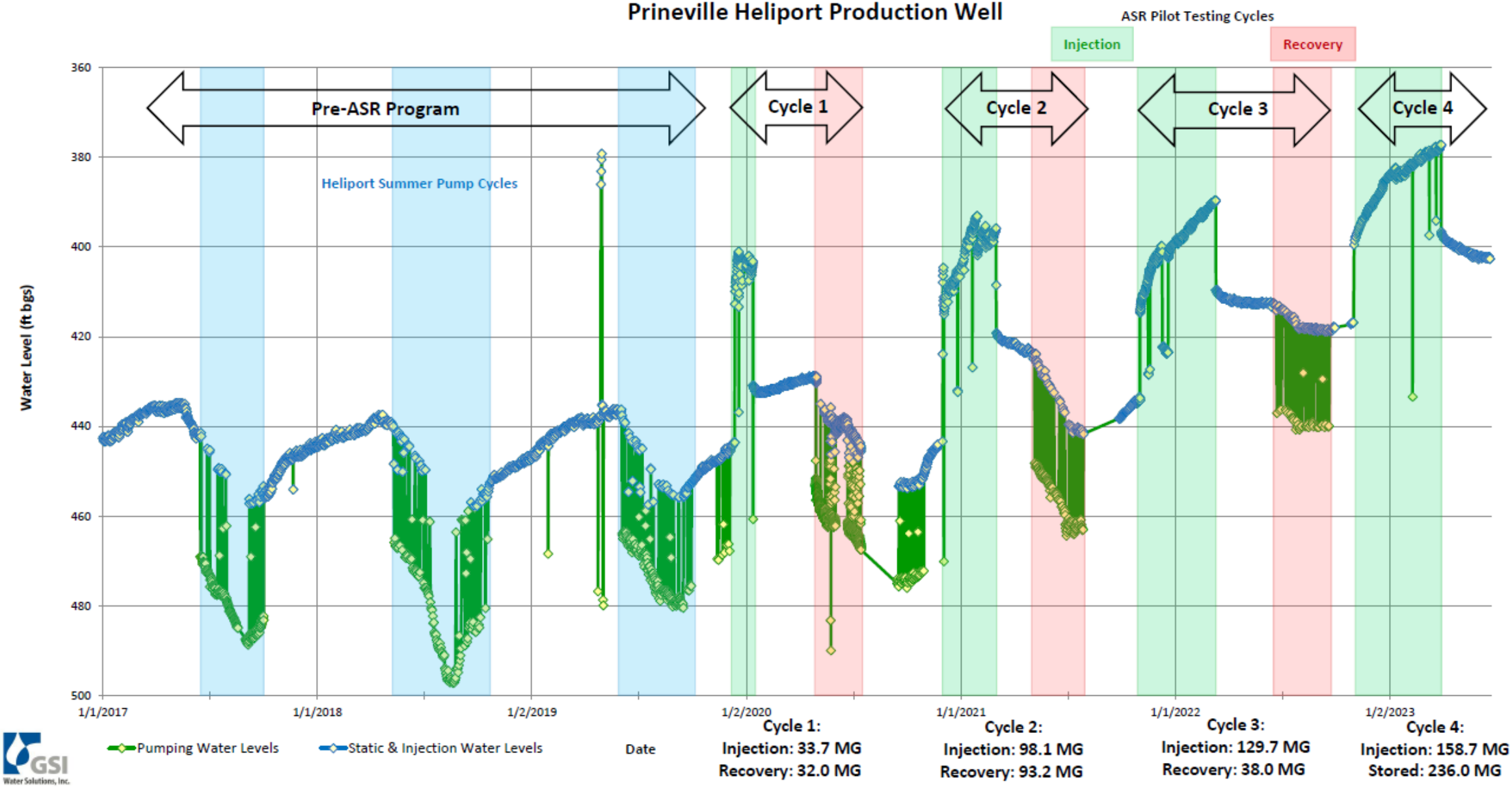


Water Conservation Highlights

Prineville

- **Water loss reduction efforts**
  - Reduced water loss by replacing old water supply lines, conducting regular water audits, and installing automatic residential meters
- **Free water-saving resources for water customers**
  - Leak detection tablets, lawn watering gauges, faucet aerators, and showerheads
- **Water Conservation Outreach: Summer focus**
  - Billing inserts, billing messages, newsletter articles, and social media messages
- **Rebate Program** (Launched in June 2023)
  - Weather-based irrigation controllers, rotating sprinkler nozzles, and soil moisture sensors
- **Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project**
  - Provides water supply resiliency during periods of high demand

Prineville Heliport Production Well



Cycle 1:
Injection: 33.7 MG
Recovery: 32.0 MG

Cycle 2:
Injection: 98.1 MG
Recovery: 93.2 MG

Cycle 3:
Injection: 129.7 MG
Recovery: 38.0 MG

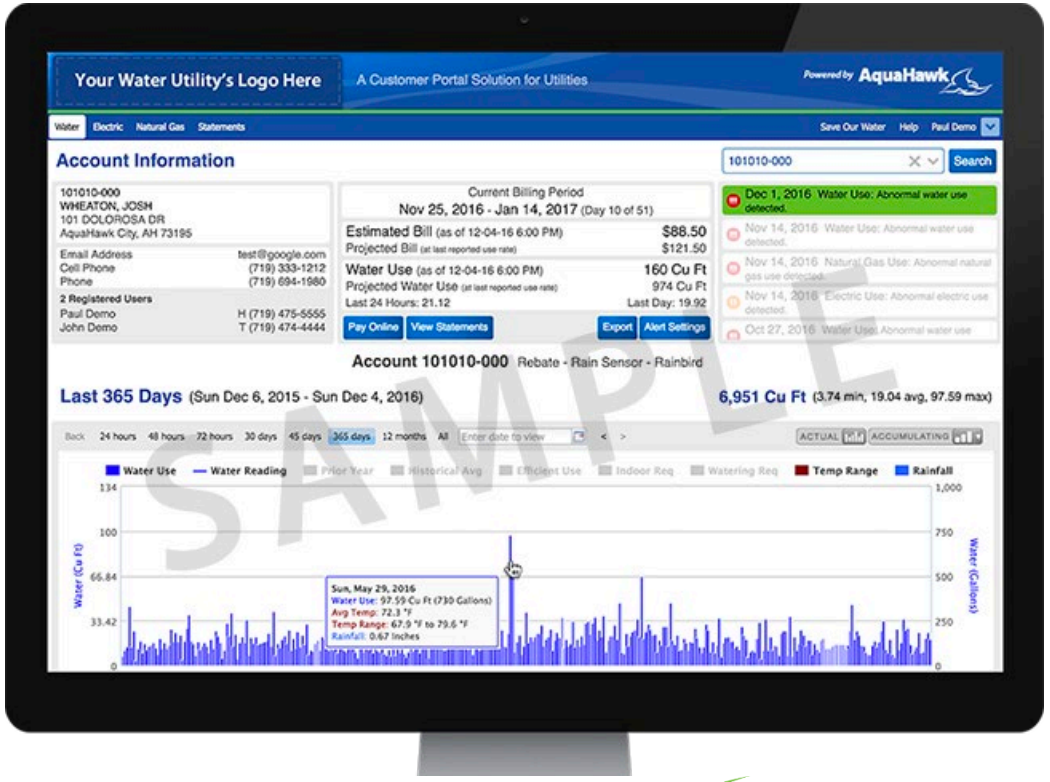
Cycle 4:
Injection: 158.7 MG
Stored: 236.0 MG

GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

Sisters

- Promotional conservation campaign at public events in our parks
- Free water conservation kits and lawn moisture testing gauges
- Updating water rate methodology to be more conservation based with escalating overage rates
- Retrofitting park/street irrigation to 100 percent subsurface drip irrigation, including targeted turf areas
- 17 percent decrease in water usage last year during one of our largest population growth years.

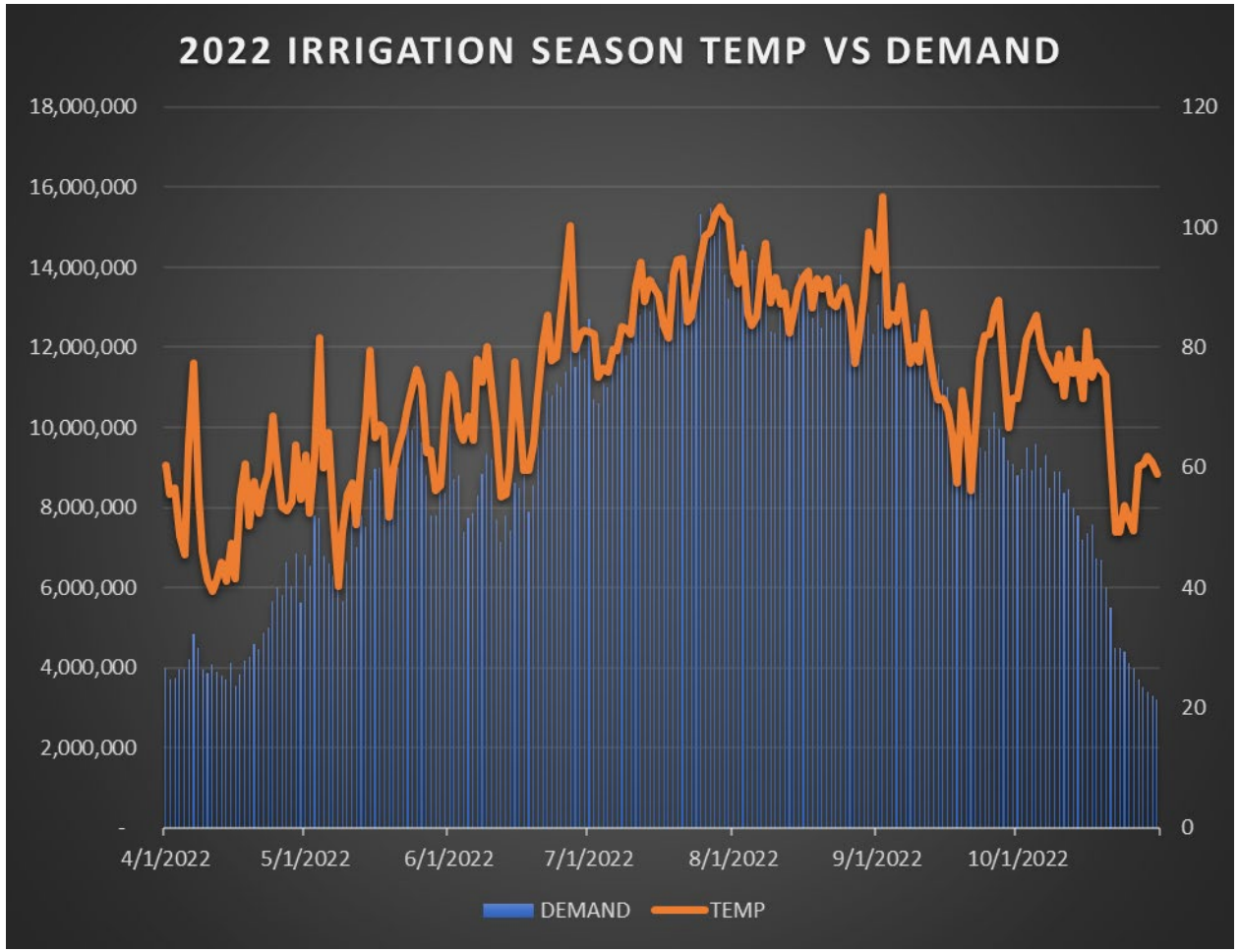
Redmond



AquaHawk

- AquaHawk
  - Online water customer engagement tool to reduce water waste and use
  - Allows customers to monitor water use, set water use threshold alerts, and receive leak alerts
  - Effective tool to inform customers about use patterns
- Irrigation System Rebate Program
  - Weather-based irrigation controllers, soil moisture sensors, and rotating sprinkler nozzles
  - Lots of interest in this program
- Development Code Updates (by 12/2023)
  - To guide water-wise plantings, irrigation, and turf reduction in private development
- Standards and Specs Updates (by 12/2026)
  - To guide right-of-way water-wise plantings, irrigation, and turf deduction
- Conversion of City-owned Green Spaces
  - To promote a desert landscaping and turf mitigation

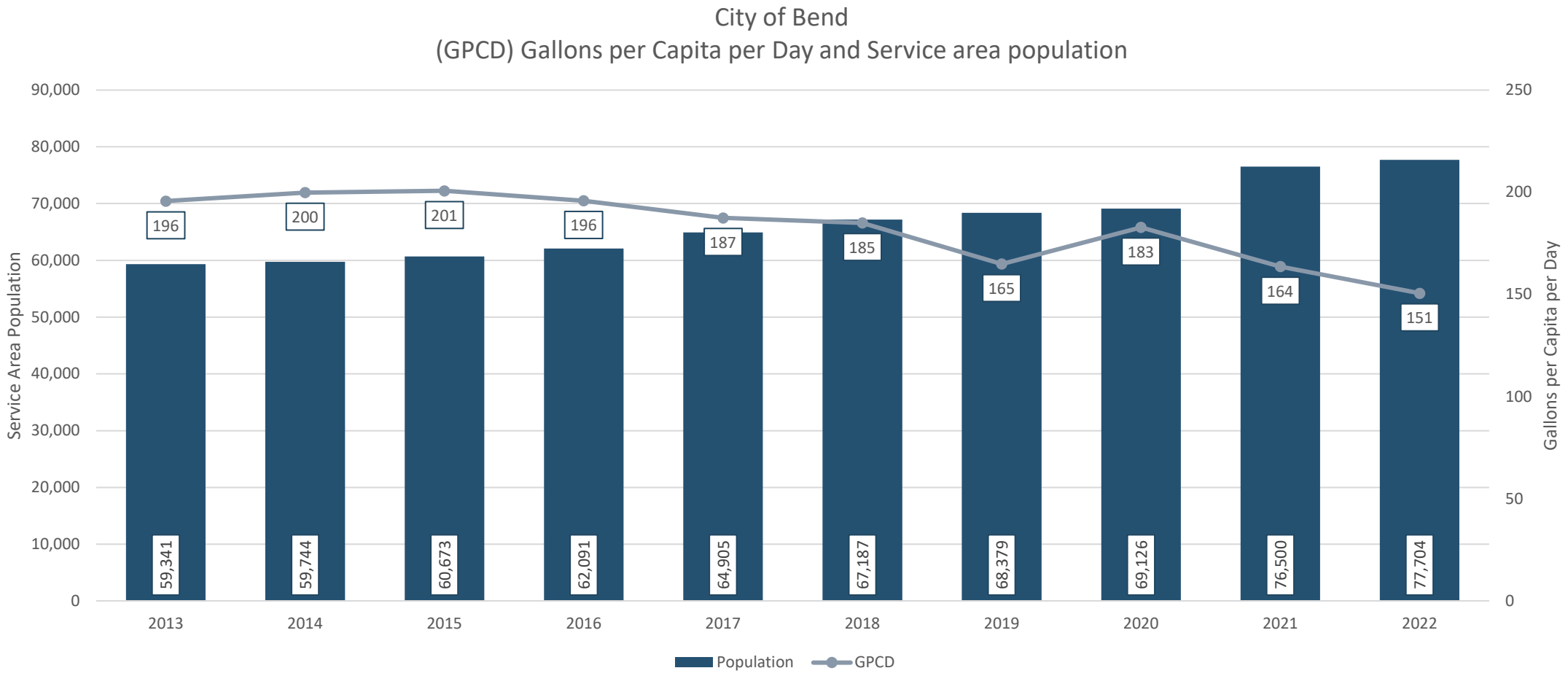
Redmond


2022 IRRIGATION SEASON TEMP VS DEMAND
18,000,000
16,000,000
14,000,000
12,000,000
10,000,000
8,000,000
6,000,000
4,000,000
2,000,000
-
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
4/1/2022
5/1/2022
6/1/2022
7/1/2022
8/1/2022
9/1/2022
10/1/2022
DEMAND
TEMP

Bend

- Communications Campaign
  - ✓ T.V., Radio and Billboard ads to increase awareness around code and new conservation measures (rebates)
- Rebate program expansion
  - ✓ Expanded rebates to indoor and outdoor devices for SFR and MFR customers
- Water use code enforcement
  - ✓ 93 water waste cases handled by Conservation staff this year with an 18 day avg resolution.
  - ✓ Water Smart messaging resulted in 66% compliance resolution of 7 day irrigation violations.
- Landscape Codes and Standards
  - ✓ Developing new code language for private development landscaping and irrigation.
- MOU's with large water use customers
  - ✓ Agreements with Parks, Schools and City Streets to collaborate toward code compliance at all sites.

Bend



CITY OF BEND

Looking Ahead

How can the DBWC support the municipal leg of the stool?

- Help provide stable planning periods for cities.
  - Land use planning, system planning, finance
- Support continuation of the mitigation program
  - Cap and sunset + Reliable ‘off-the-shelf’ credits
- Pathways for long term water supply planning
  - Additional supply to meet demand

Questions?