

ICAN

Irrigation Consulting Ambassadors Network



**PRESENTED BY THE MOBILE IRRIGATION LAB
A SERVICE OF
THE RCD OF TEHAMA COUNTY**

**PARTNERING WITH
UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION TEHAMA COUNTY**



MIL BACKGROUND



- **Started with DWR & BOR funding in 2002**
- **Provide irrigation water management assistance for growers in Tehama County**
- **Shasta, Butte, Glenn County agreements**
- **2007 – 2008 lean years**
 - Poor CA economy
- **2009 – present run by Kevin Greer**
 - Averages 73 evaluations per year
 - 2013 lean year, limited funding
 - 2014 awarded CIG grant



ICAN BACKGROUND



- **NRCS sponsored grant**
 - **CIG – Conservation Innovation Grant**
 - Collaboration between the MIL & Allan Fulton
 - Innovations in irrigation efficiency
 - Introduce technology



ICAN FORMAT



- **2 Meetings at RCD offices**
 - April & December
- **1 Field day**
 - UC Cooperative Extension sponsored
- **1 Site visit**
 - Perform irrigation evaluation
 - Check on workshop implementation
 - Answer questions



ICAN OBJECTIVES



- **Create small scale learning environment**
 - Reduced workshop size
 - Make them hands-on
 - Bring irrigators into close contact with presenters
 - Produce better workshop results
 - ✦ Increased implementation of irrigation concepts
 - Introduce tools that aid in scheduling
 - Produce efficient irrigators/leaders
 - ✦ Your practices spread



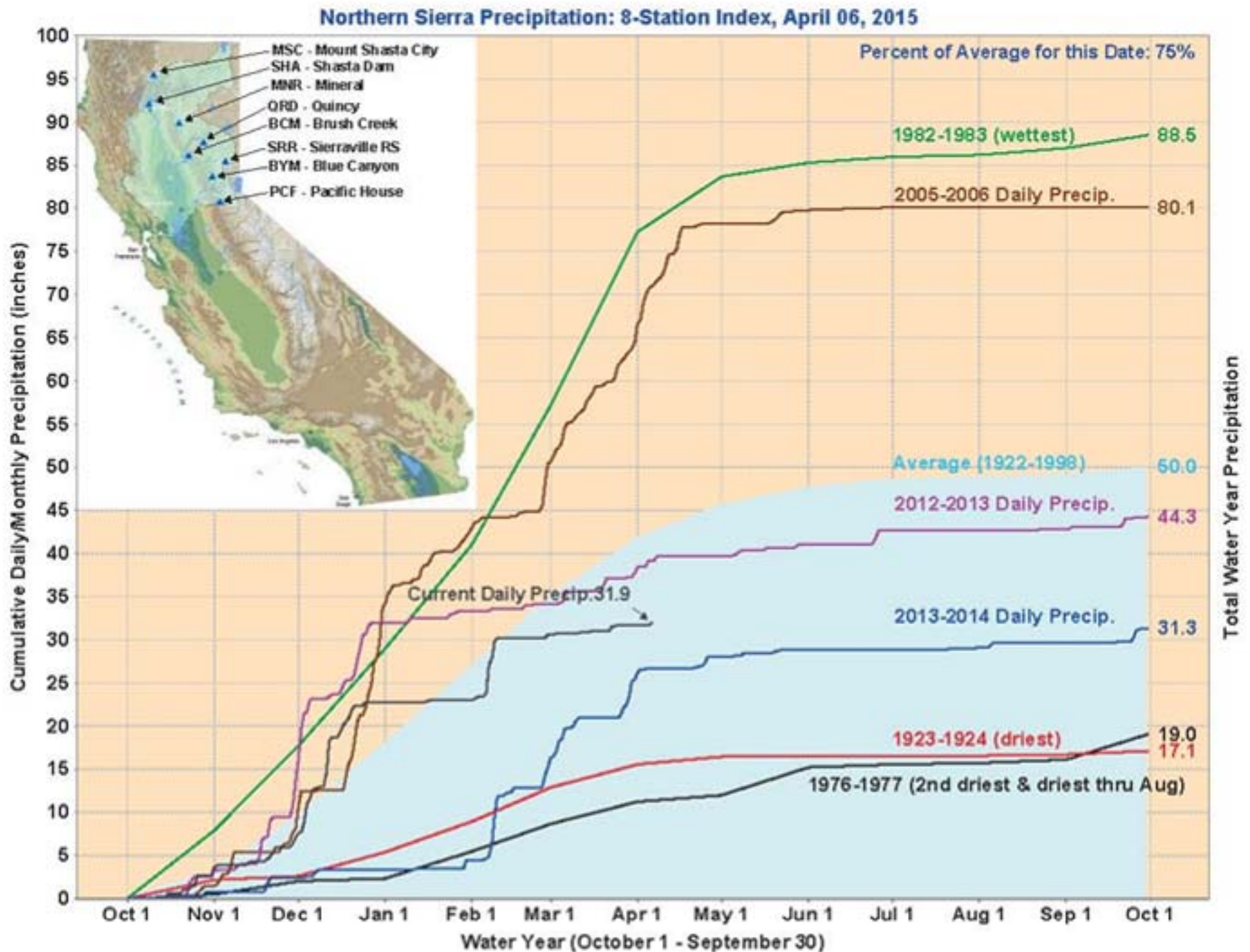
ICAN OBJECTIVES



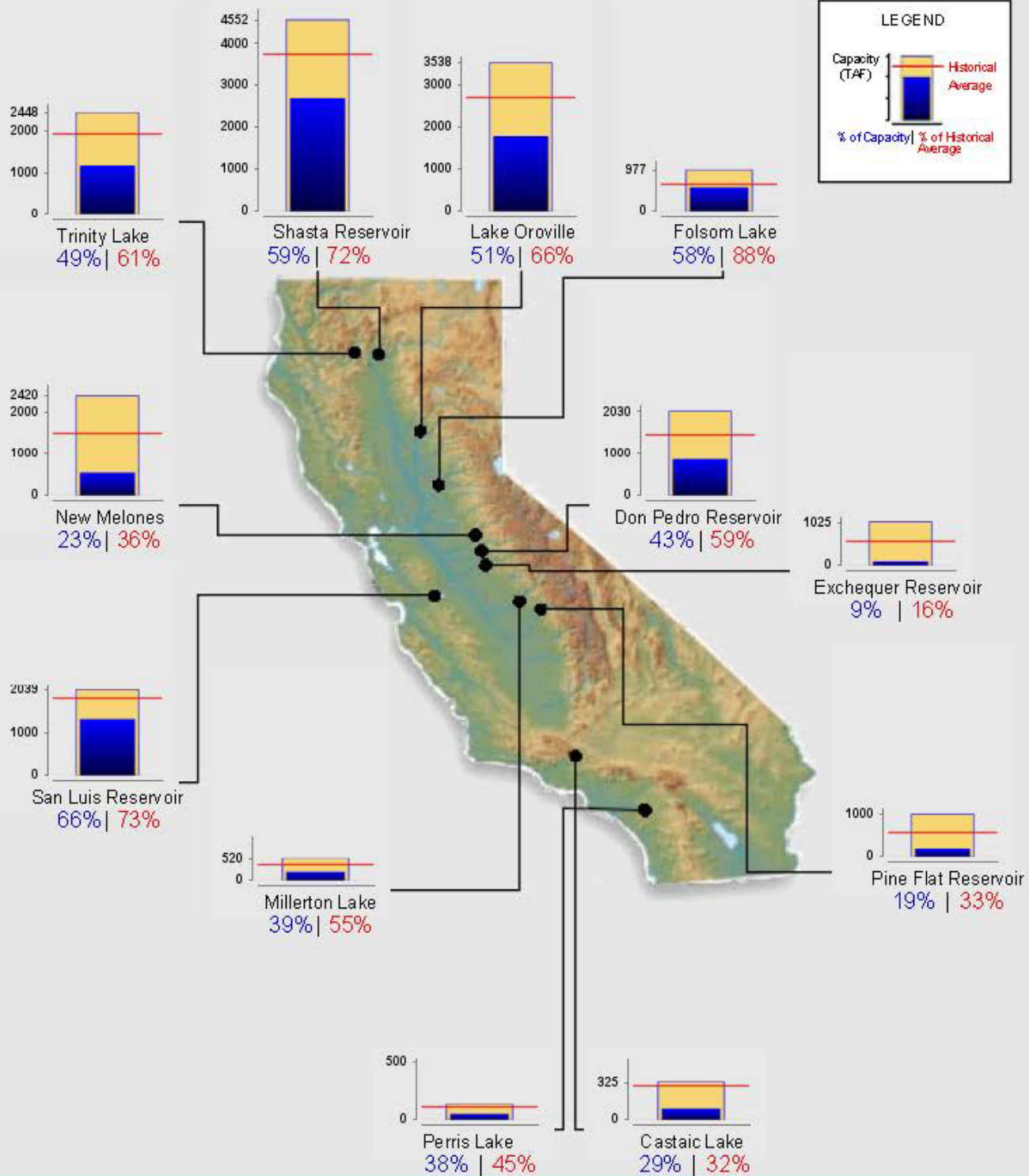
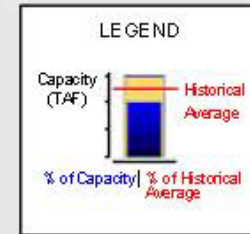
- **Introduce irrigation concepts that are implemented:**
 - Importance of keeping irrigation records
 - Understanding water holding capacity of soil
 - Distribution Uniformity (DU), Application Efficiency (AE)
 - System application rates
 - Scheduling
 - ✦ ET
 - ✦ Soil moisture
 - ✦ Pressure chamber
 - Efficiency practices
 - Alternative practices



Why This is Important

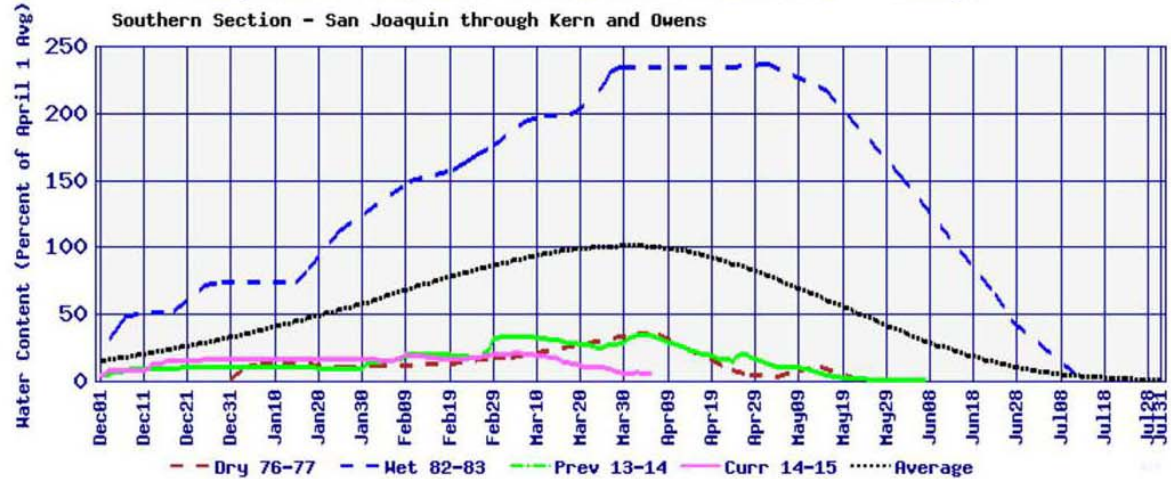
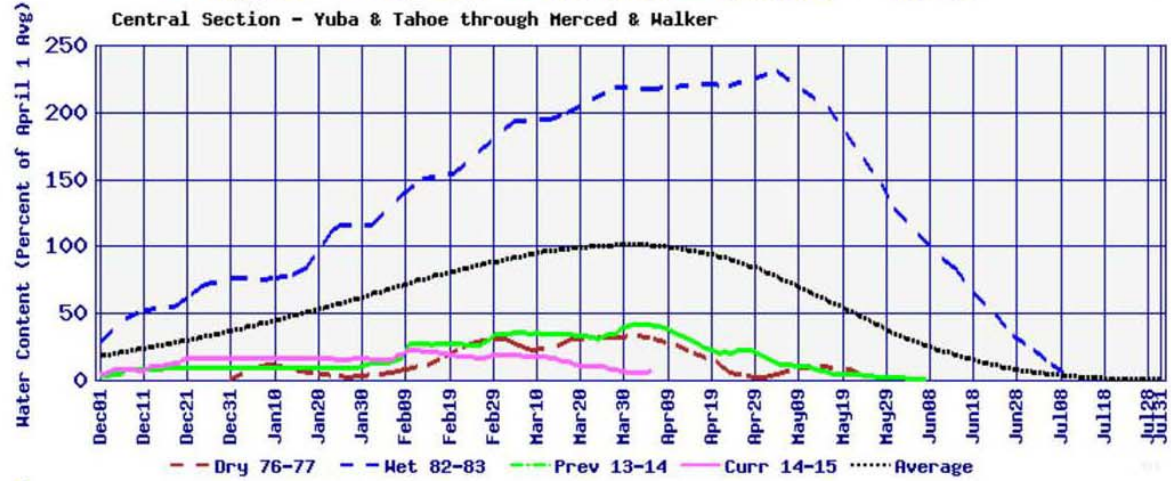
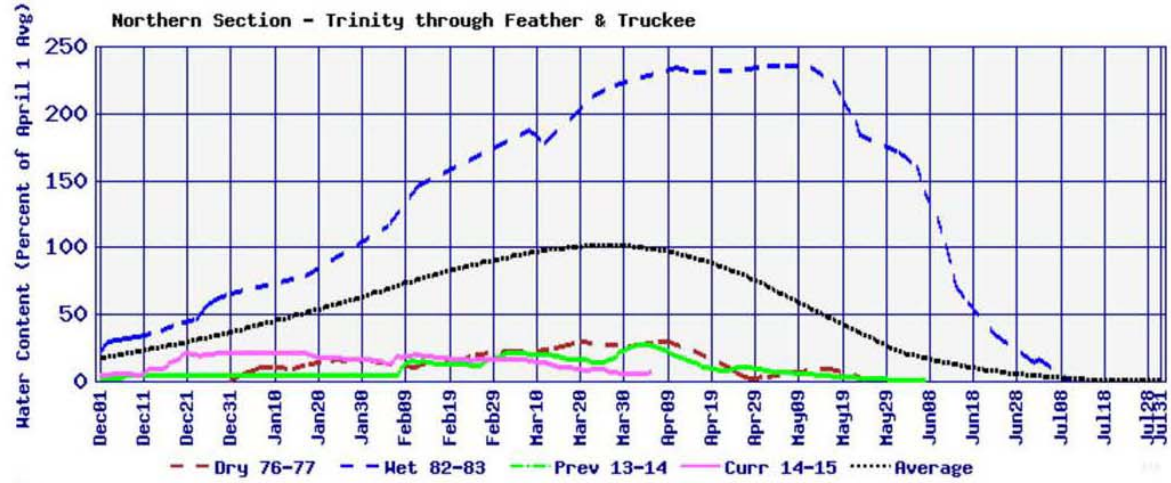


CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



California Snow Water Content

PERCENT OF APRIL 1 AVERAGE, APRIL 06, 2015



WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT



- **Some CA statistics**

- **Population 38 million**

- ✦ **Estimated 47 million by 2030**

- **Human water use**

- ✦ **20% Residential**

- ✦ **80% Agricultural**

- **Irrigated Ag in CA**

- ✦ **9 Million acres**

- **Dwindling groundwater & Sierra snowpack**

= More pressure on water users



Today's Activities



- **Discussion of the importance of irrigation efficiency, MIL services and findings**
- **Overview of irrigation scheduling approaches**
- **Introduction and use of Washington State University mobile irrigation scheduling tool**
- **Get your input on next activity**