Pee Dee Basin Water-Demand Projections

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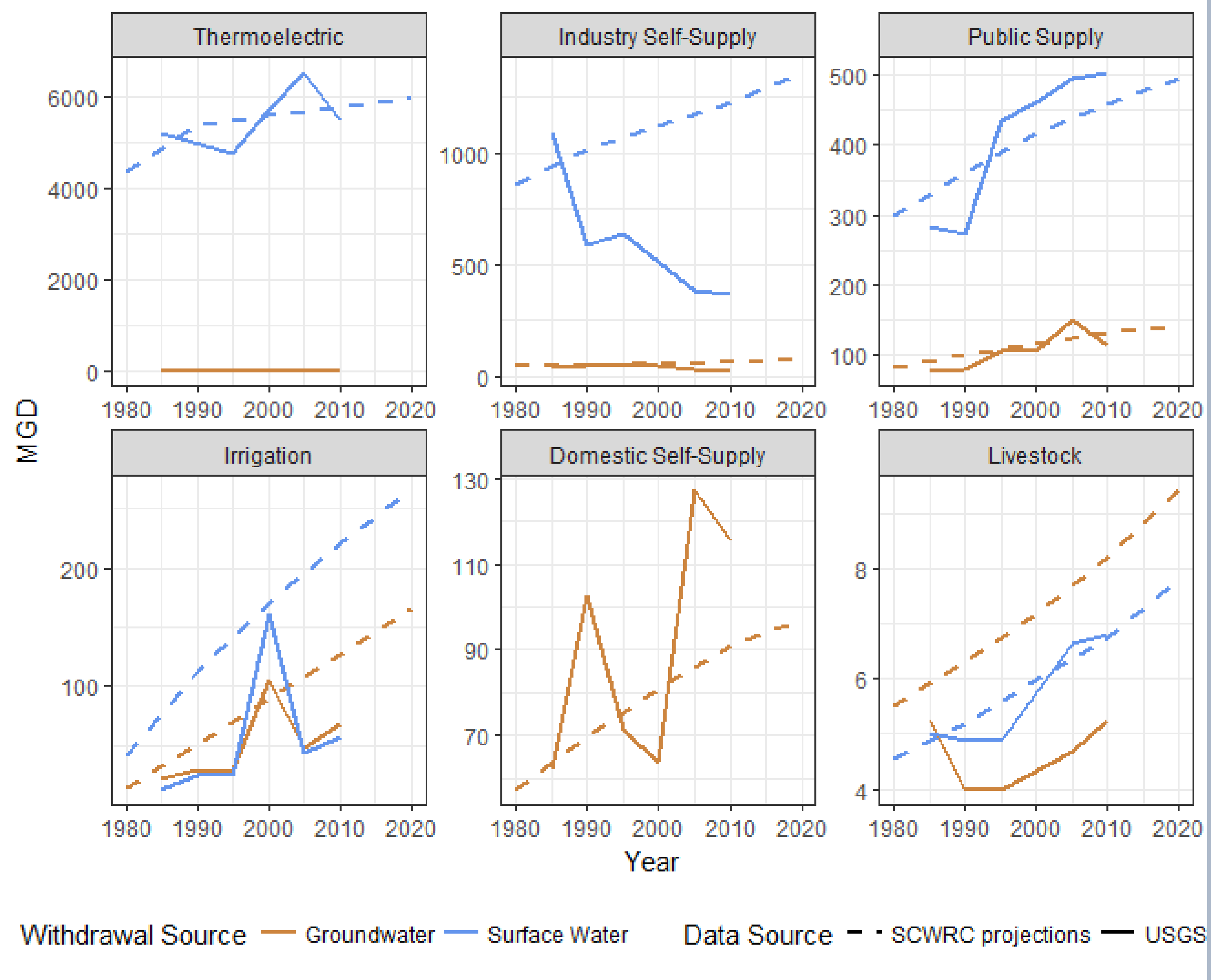
Is It Possible to Predict the Future?



Projections are not forecasts

Forecast

- Educated guess.
- Based on expected conditions and actions.
- Timeframe limited by predictability of future conditions.
- Aim to be accurate.

Projection

- Extrapolation of trend.
- Based on hypothetical scenarios.
- Timeframe can extend beyond the limits of effective forecasting.
- Aim to be informative.

Stakeholder Input Throughout the Process

Development of the Methods

2016 -2017 - meetings with stakeholder interest groups for input on water-demand projection methods and data sources.

- SCAWWA Water Utility Council
- SC Water Quality Association
- SC Farm Bureau Water Committee
- Chamber of Commerce Environmental Technical Committee
- SC Water Planning Process Advisory Committee (PPAC)

Stakeholder Feedback

- Water Works Association, Utility Council
  - Use weather and demographic variables for long term forecasts.
  - Consider impacts of outdoor use restrictions.
- Chamber of Commerce, Environmental Committee
  - Provide information on a reach scale for real-world application.
  - Guarantee privacy of survey responses.
- Farm Bureau, Water Committee
  - Agricultural return flows can be significant.
  - Not all cropland can be profitably irrigated.
  - Vegetables and hemp production could increase.
- Water Quality Association
  - Some systems are highly interconnected.
  - Inflow and Infiltration can be significant.

Development of the Methods

2018 - technical advisory conference calls with representation from a variety of fields of experience.

- Public water supply (17)
- Thermo-electric power (5)
- Manufacturing (5)
- Government (22)
- Consultants (4)
- Legal (2)
- Golf (2)
- Agriculture (5)
- Environment (4)
- Research & education (11)

Acknowledgements to Chrissa Waite and Stuart Norvell of USACE and Dr. Jeff Allen and Dr. Tom Walker of the SCWRC for their collaboration on developing the water demand projection methods.

Technical Advisory Committee Feedback

- General recommendations:
  - provide draft projections to local stakeholders.
  - provide an opportunity for feedback.
  - do not rely on overly complex methods.
- Sector specific recommendations:
  - **Thermo-electric**: Contact the utilities directly
  - **Public supply**: Do not rely on complex statistical methods which may underestimate demand.
  - **Industry**: Use economic output, not employment as the driver variable.
  - **Agricultural Irrigation**: A more technical method may be appropriate for projecting irrigated acreage.
  - **Golf**: A simpler projection method was recommended due to the relatively low volume of water use.

Development of the Methods

2018 – Publication of "Water Users' Perspectives: Summary of Withdrawal Survey Responses and Commentary" in *Journal of South Carolina Water Resources.*

2019 – Projection Methods for Off-stream Water Demand in South Carolina published online by SCDNR following reviews by an editorial board, the PPAC, and technical advisory conference call participants.

Pellett, C. Alex (2020) "Mapping Center Pivot Irrigation Fields in South Carolina with Google Earth Engine and the National Agricultural Imagery Program," *Journal of South Carolina Water Resources*: Vol. 7 : Iss. 1 , Article 4. Available at: https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/jscwr/vol7/iss1/4

Equations to Define the Terms

Equation 1: Water Demand Mass Balance

$$Demand = Withdrawal + Purchase + Reuse - Sales - Loss - \Delta Storage + Shortage$$

Where:

Demand	:	Off-stream water demand
Withdrawal	:	Total water withdrawal from source water bodies
Purchase	:	Total purchases of water from distributors
Reuse	:	Total reuse of water previously used for another purpose
Sales	:	Total wholesale transfers of water to another user or distributor
Loss	:	Total losses of water preventing it from being put to use
ΔStorage	:	Net change in off-stream storage
Shortage	:	Water not available to meet the objectives of water users

Equation 2: Return Flow Mass Balance

$$Return\ Flow = Discharge - Inflow\ \&\ Infiltration$$

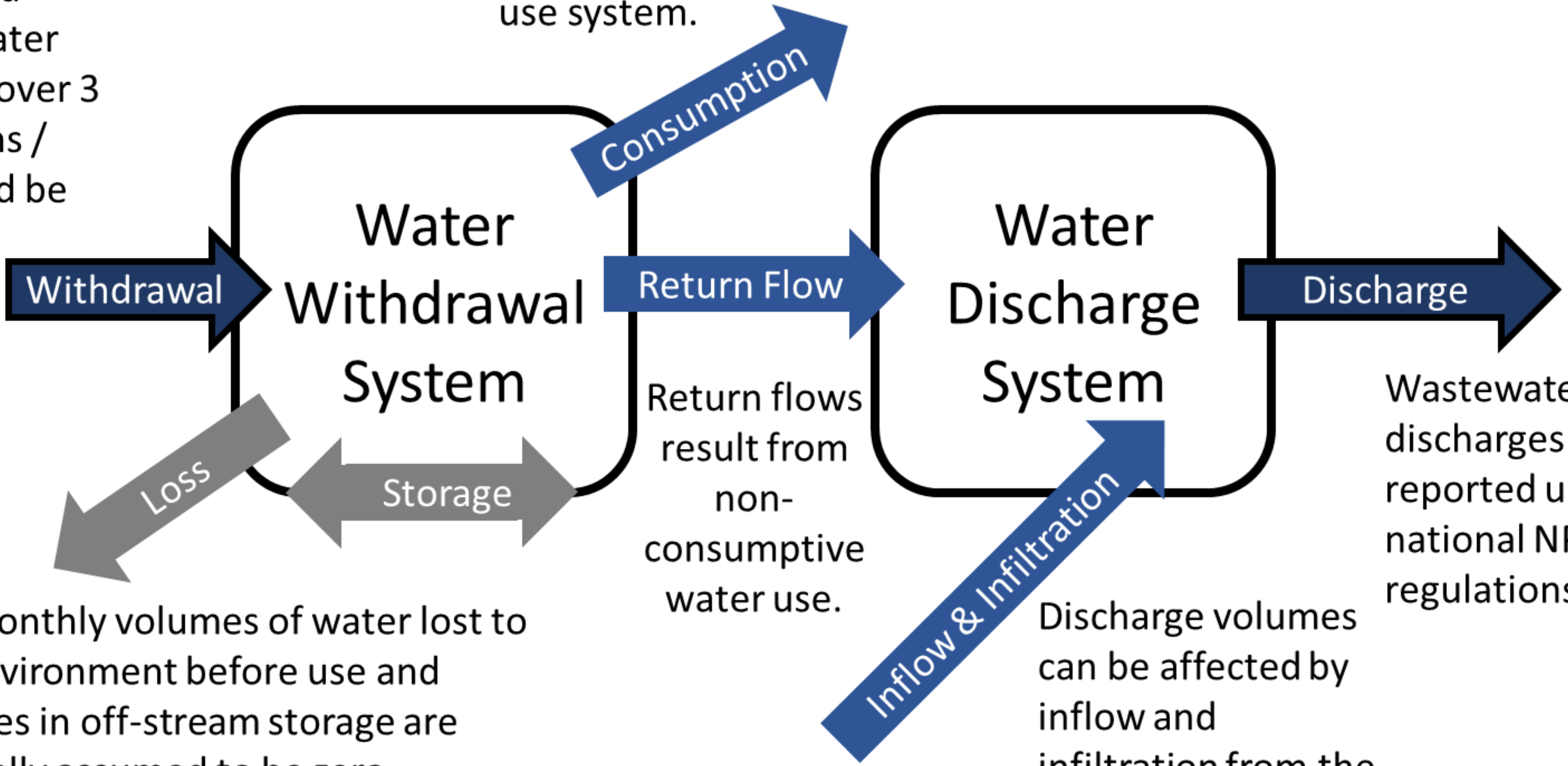
Where:

Return Flow	:	Water returned to the environment after non-consumptive uses
Discharge	:	Concentrated discharges to surface water bodies (NPDES data)
Inflow & Infiltration	:	Waste-water resulting from inflow and infiltration (I/I)

Mass Balance Illustration

Water that is used and evaporates or transpires to the atmosphere is *consumed* from the water use system.

Permitted and registered water withdrawals over 3 million gallons / month should be reported to SCDHEC.



Return flows result from non-consumptive water use.

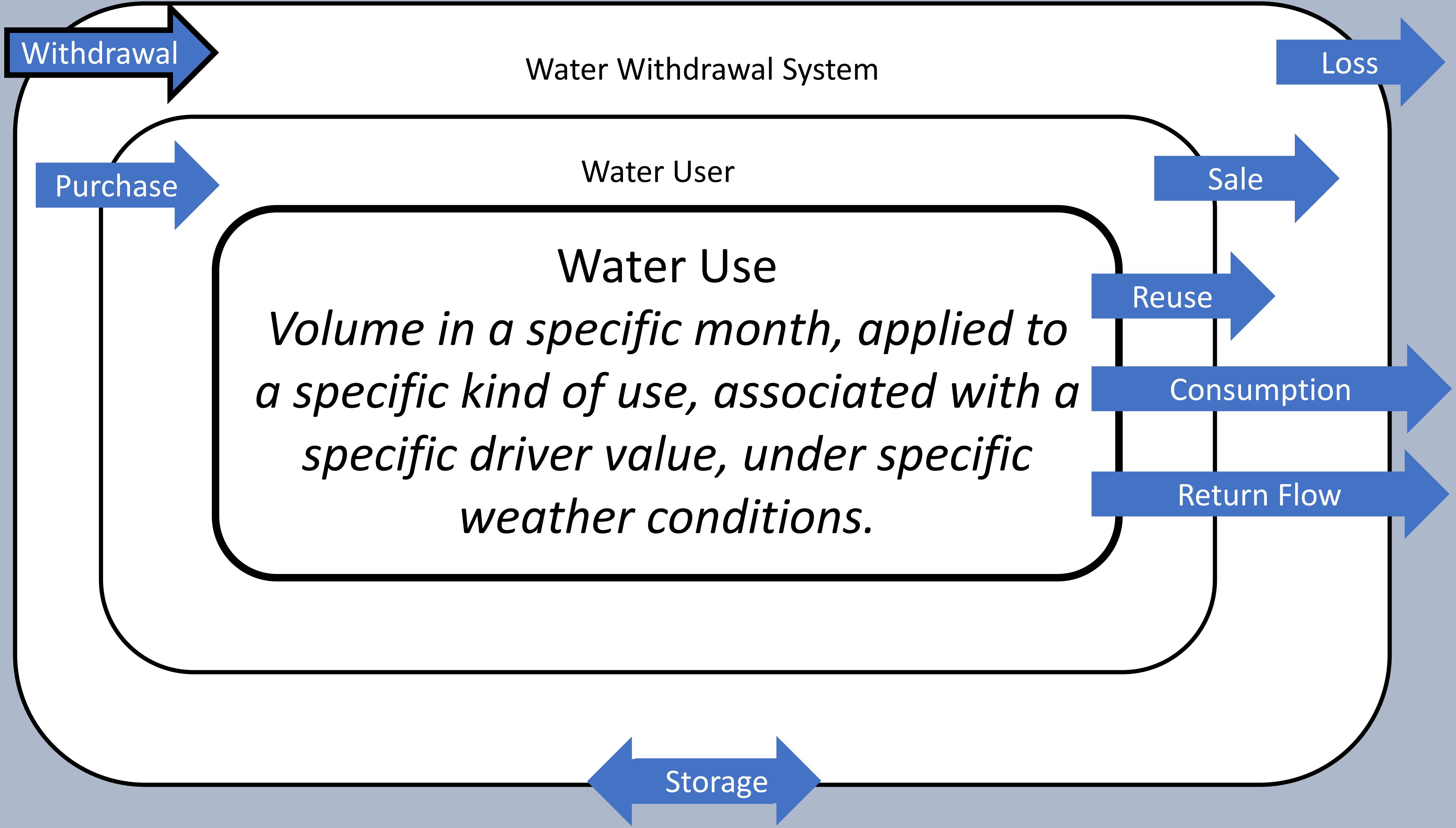
Wastewater discharges are reported under the national NPDES regulations.

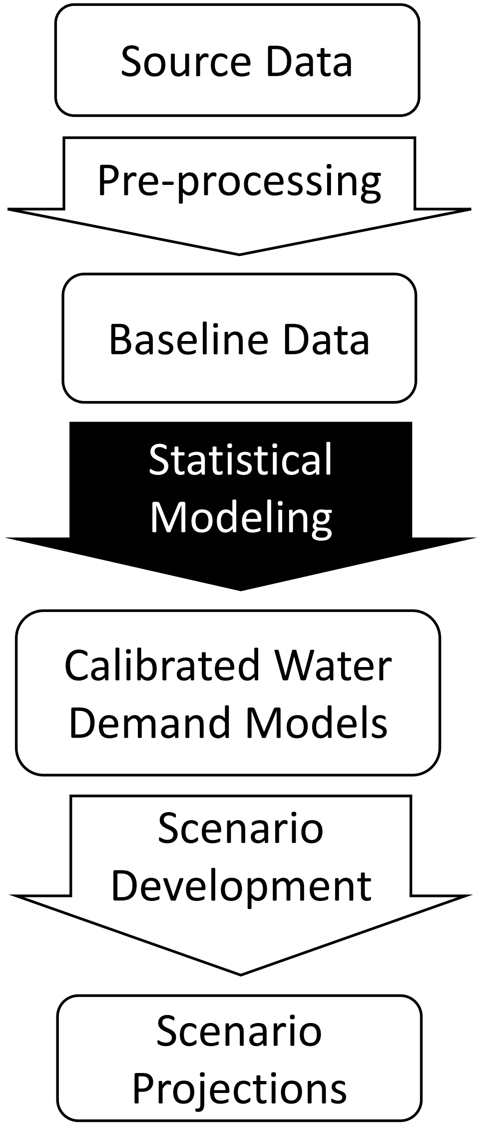
The monthly volumes of water lost to the environment before use and changes in off-stream storage are generally assumed to be zero.

Discharge volumes can be affected by inflow and infiltration from the environment.

Consumption, return flow, and inflow & infiltration are estimated over the baseline period to project future non-consumptive use.

A More Detailed Model





Equation 3 – General Model of Water Demand

$$Demand_{u,t} = \frac{Driver_{u,t} * Rate_k * Seasonality_{k,m} * \cancel{Weather_{u,t}}}{Efficiency_u}$$

Where:

Demand$_u$: Modeled water demand for use *u*, expressed in terms of volume per month.
Driver$_u$: Primary driver value for use *u*, units vary by category.
Rate$_k$: Median rate for kind *k* of water demand, expressed per unit of primary driver.
Seasonality$_{k,m}$: Median seasonality coefficient for kind *k* and calendar month *m*, unitless.
Efficiency$_u$: Average efficiency coefficient for use *u*, unitless.
~~*Weather*$_{u,t}$: Weather coefficient for use *u* at time *t*, unitless.~~

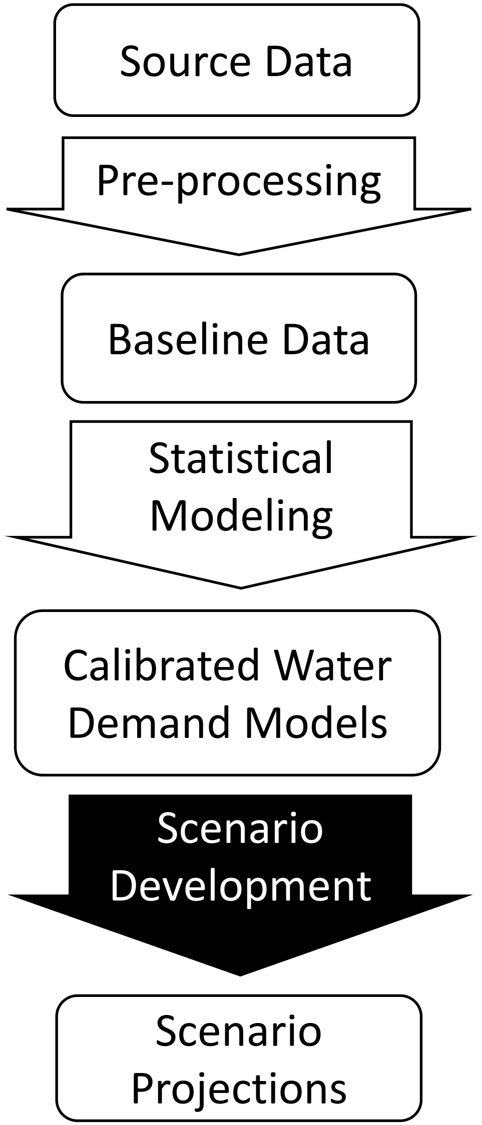
Equation 4 –Simplified Model of Water Demand

$$Demand_{u,t} = Driver_{u,t} * Rate_u * Seasonality_{u,m} + Deviation_{u,t}$$

Where:

Demand$_u$: Modeled water demand for use *u*, expressed in terms of volume per month.
Driver$_u$: Primary driver value for use *u*, units vary by category.
Rate$_u$: Median rate for kind *k* of water demand, expressed per unit of primary driver.
Seasonality$_{u,m}$: Median seasonality coefficient for kind *k* and calendar month *m*, unitless.
Deviation$_{u,t}$: Deviation for use *u* at time *t*, volume per month.

Projections



- Water demand models derived from 2012-2017 input data will be applied to projected datasets including population, employment, and irrigated acres.
- Moderate projections assume stable trends in dynamic factors, and no change in underlying relationships.
- **<u>High-demand scenario assumes high growth and high withdrawals.</u>**

Drivers of Water Demand

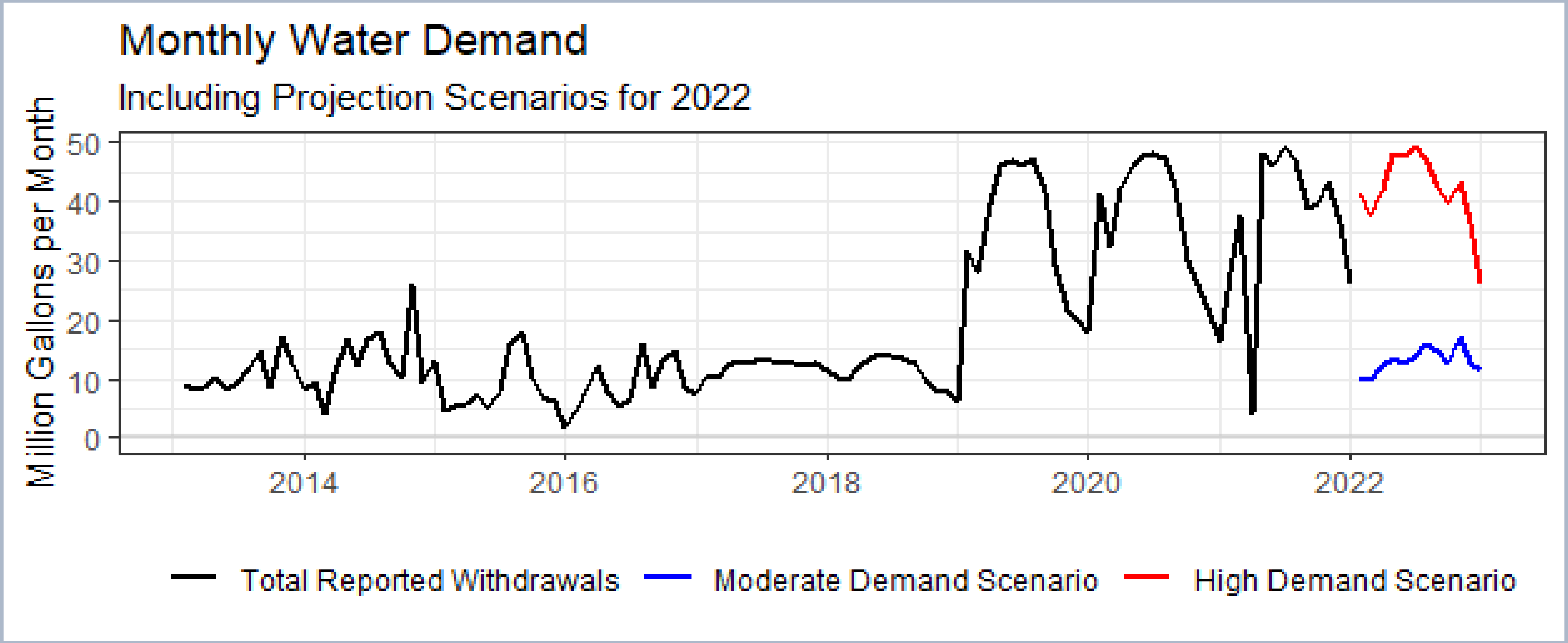
Table 1.1: Drivers of Water Demand

Category	Primary driver
Thermo-electric power	Electricity production
Public and domestic supply	Population
Manufacturing	Economic production
Agriculture and Golf Courses	Irrigated acres

Draft Water Demand Projections

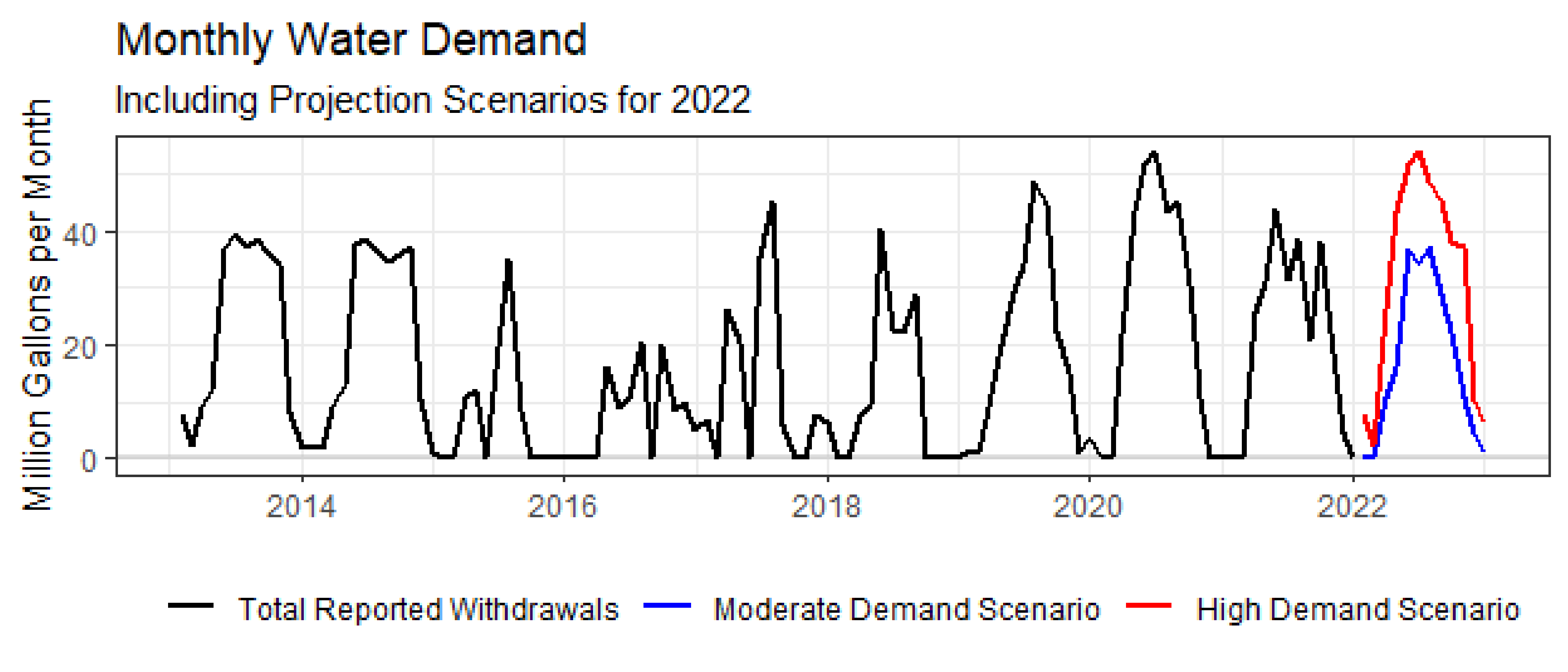
- Preliminary draft results, not yet vetted.
- For demonstration purposes only.
- There will be modifications to these draft projections based on continued stakeholder feedback.
- All values are plotted as Million Gallons per Month

Mining



Draft projections for Martin Marietta Loamy Sand and Gravel (all surface water). No change in projections for the Mining sector of water demand.

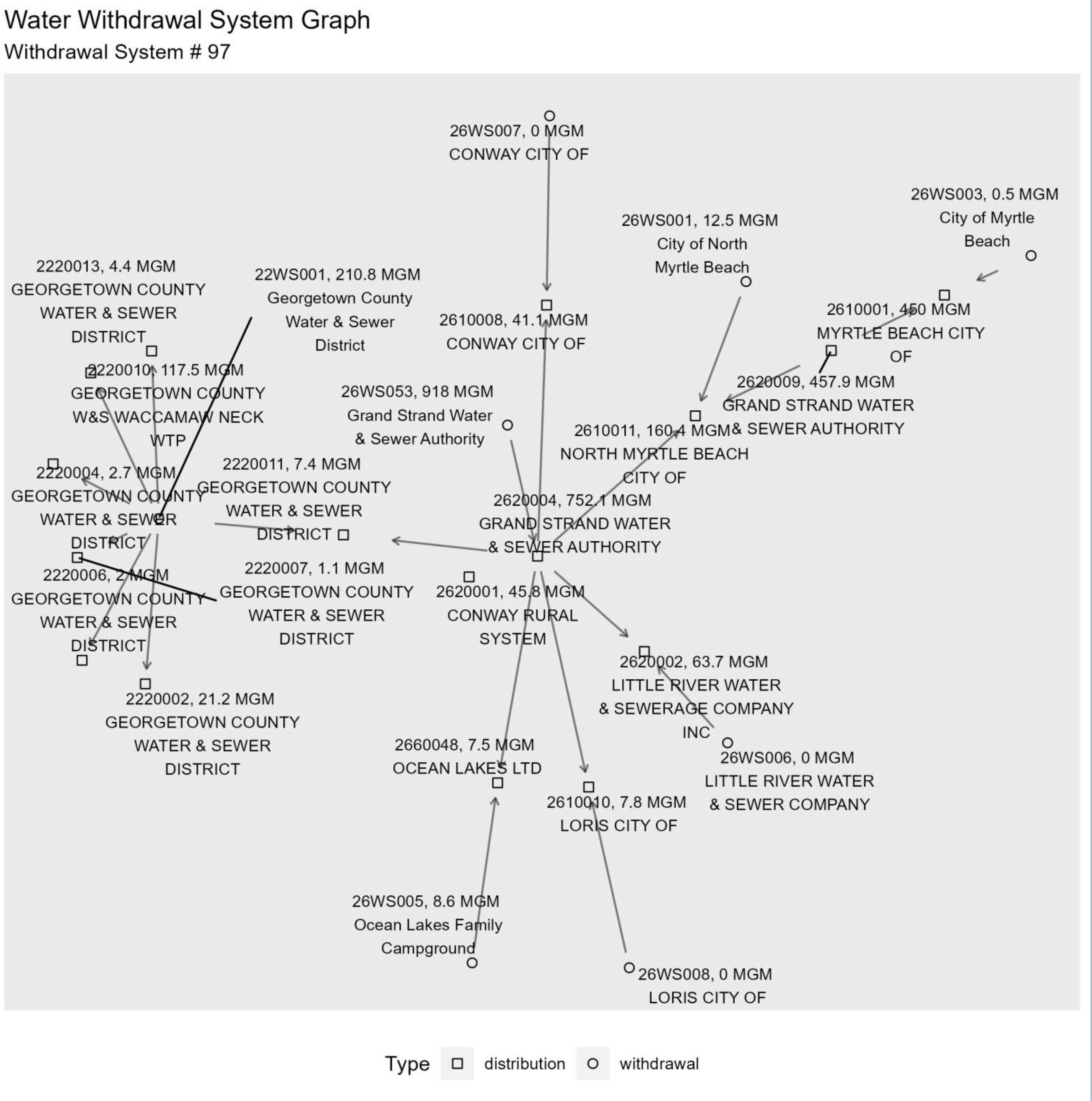
Golf Courses



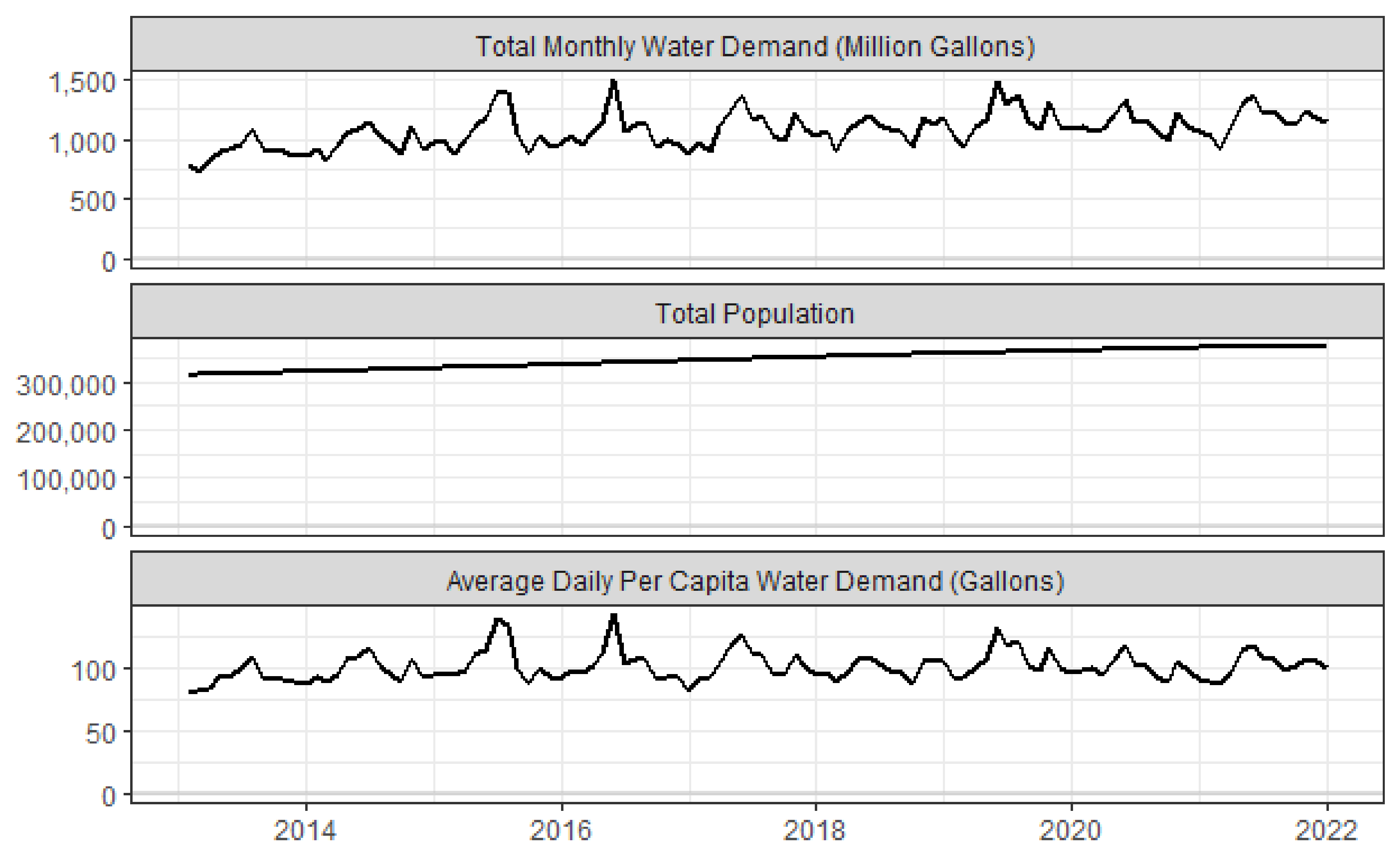
Draft projections for Grande Dunes Golf Resort, one of the largest withdrawers for Golf in the basin (all surface water).

Public Supply

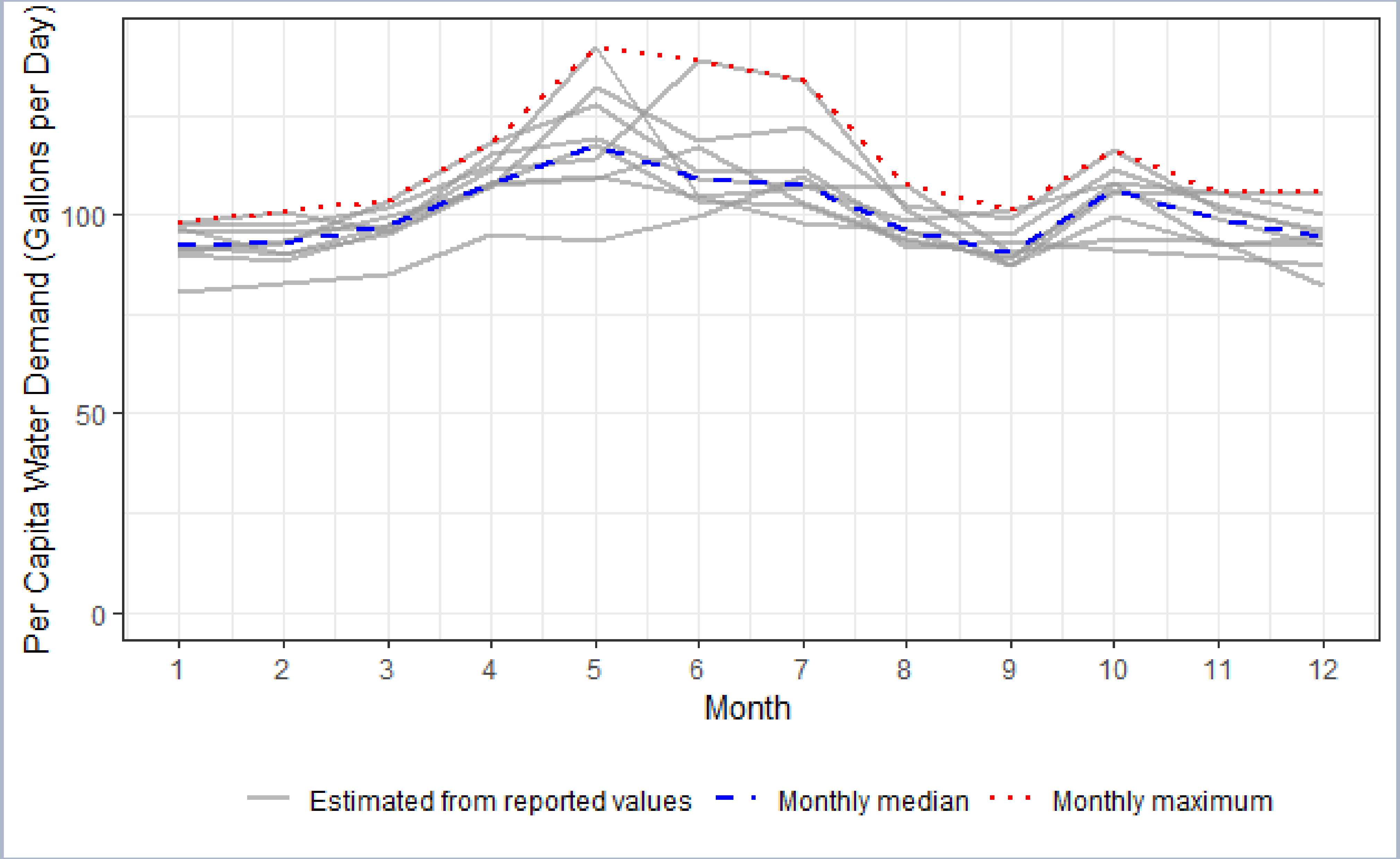
- Many Drinking Water Distributors are interconnected by wholesale purchases and sales.
- Public Supply Systems are represented as the total of all interconnected withdrawal and distribution permits.
- Population served by each distributor is projected based on the county listed on the distribution permit.



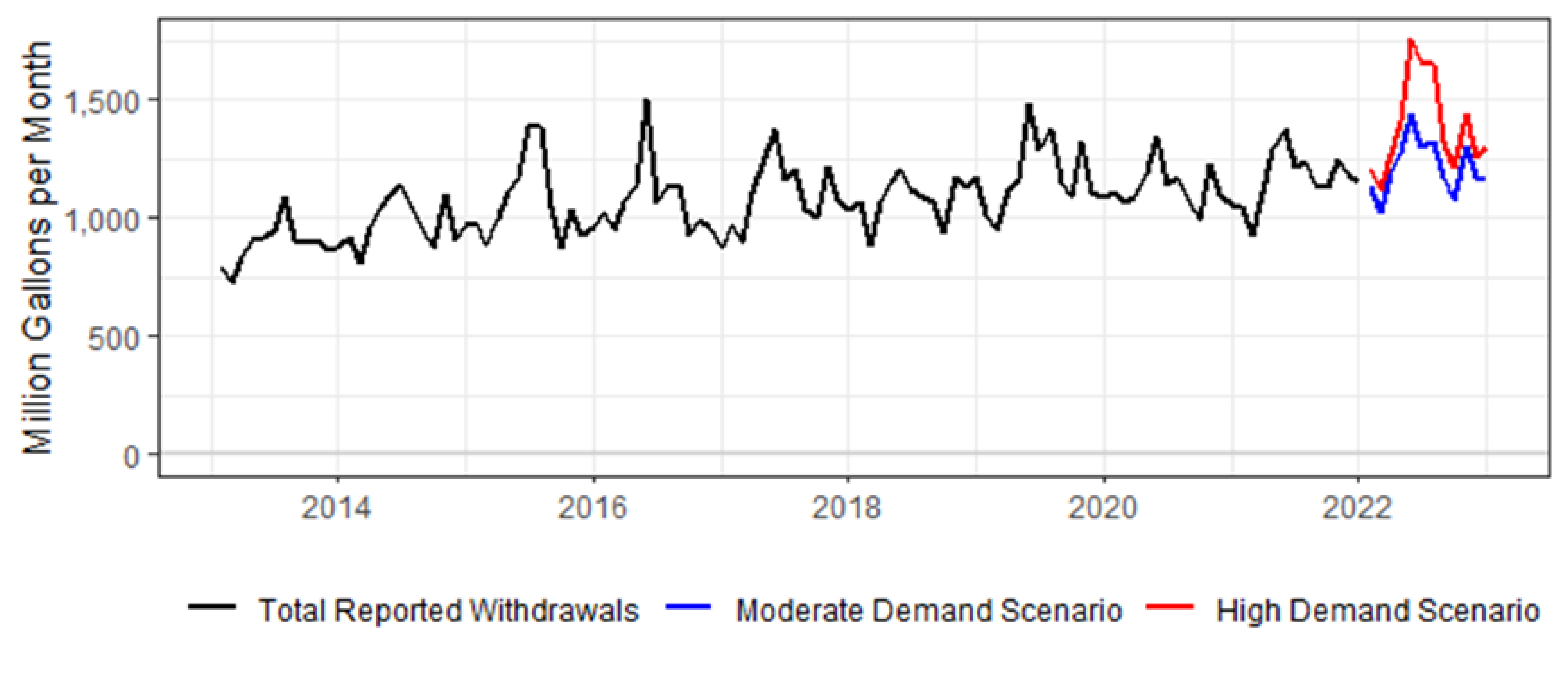
Public Supply



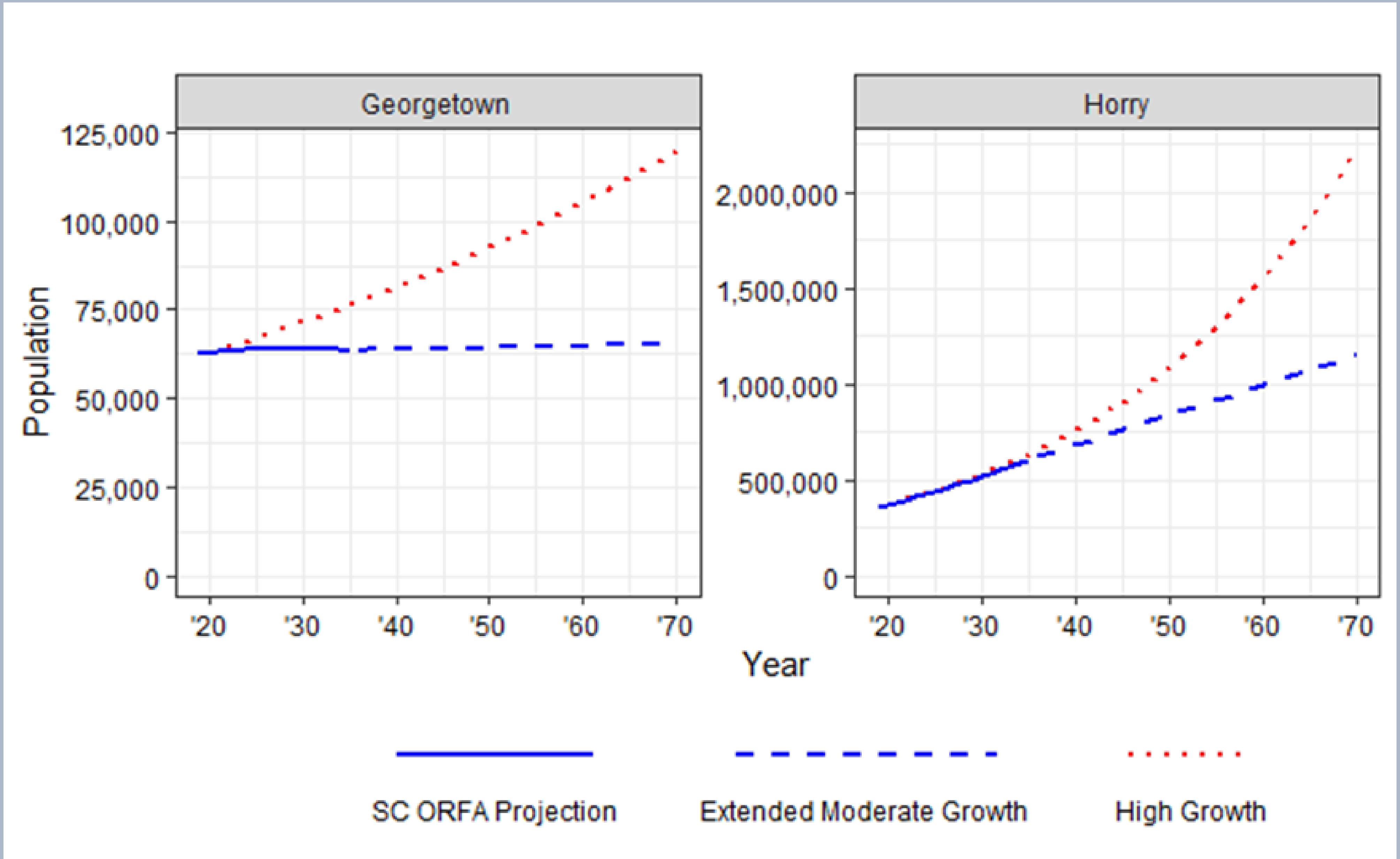
Public Supply



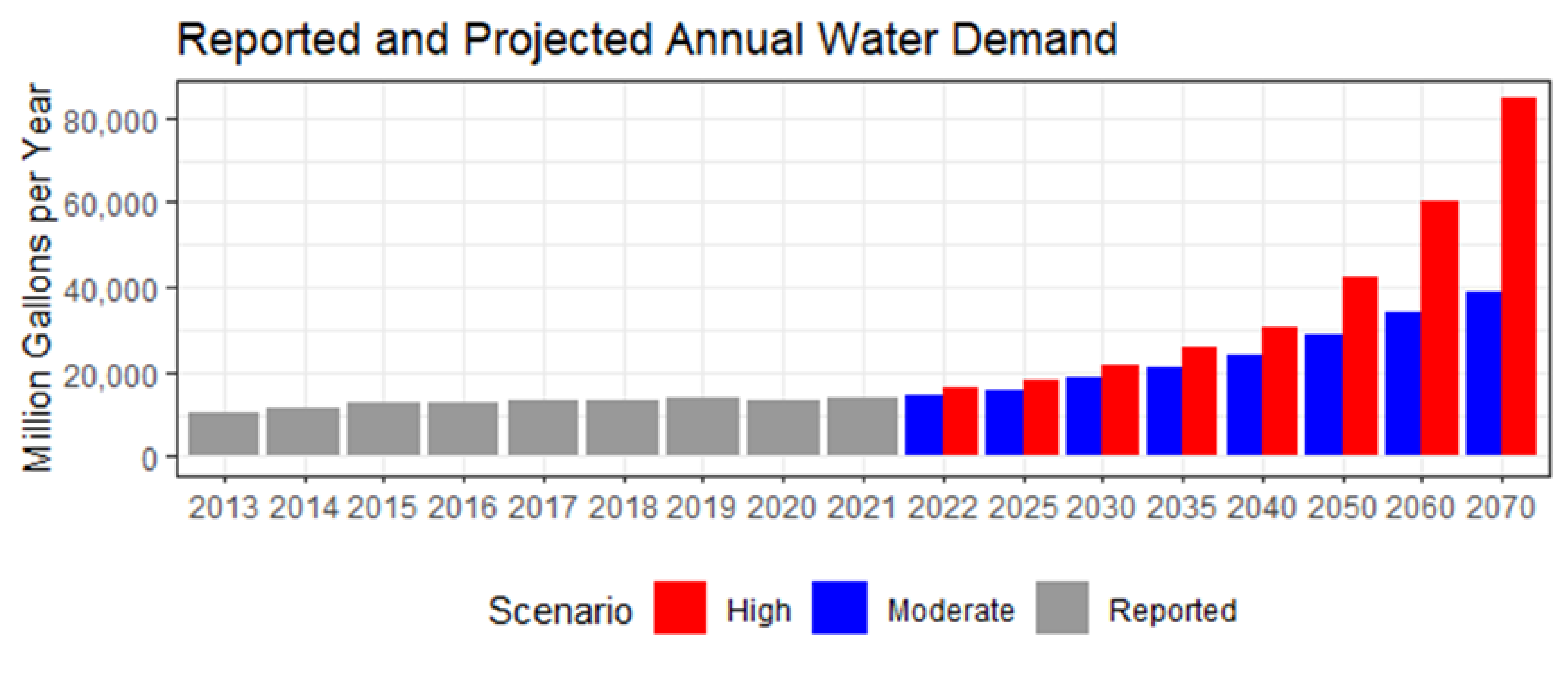
Public Supply



Population Drives Water Demand for Public Supply



Public Supply Projection Example



This is the draft projection for a portion of the Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority.

Manufacturing

- Projected annual growth rates range from 0.3% to 3%, depending on the economic sector.
- Over 50 years, that leads to total increase from less than 10% to over 500%.
- In reality, water demand for manufacturing has been declining as industrial processes become more efficient and manufacturers develop higher value products.

Agricultural Irrigation

- Projected to grow from 38% (Moderate Scenario) to 44% (High Scenario) over the 50 year planning horizon
- That's about 0.7% compounded annually.
- Constraints on irrigable land will be investigated.
- Projected growth will be distributed regionally, not assigned to existing withdrawal intakes.

Thermoelectric Water Demand

- We will use projections from the power companies.

Questions?