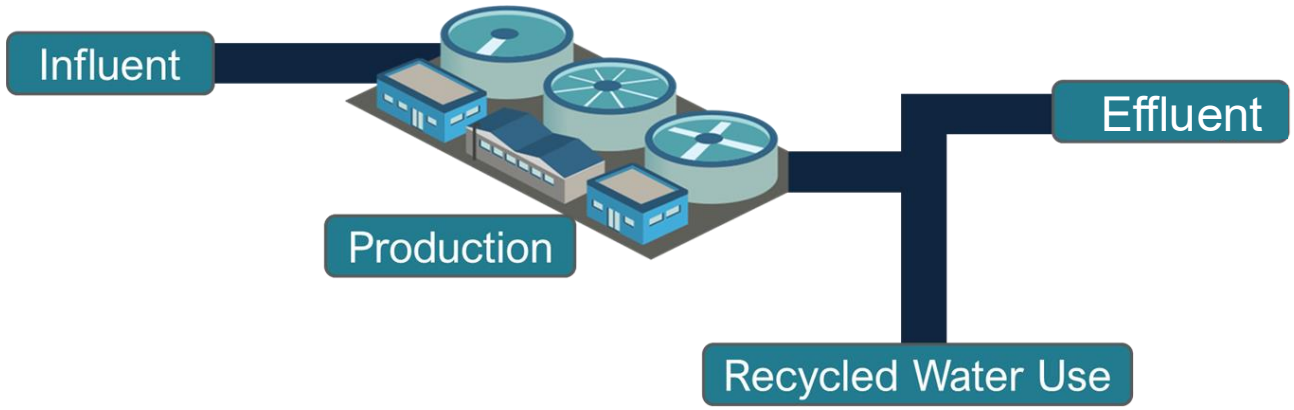
Volumetric Annual Reporting of Wastewater and Recycled Water

2025 Calendar Year Results

The State Water Resource Control Board's Recycled Water Policy requires wastewater treatment plants and recycled water producers to report monthly volumes of influent and effluent each year from the previous calendar year every April. Reporting includes treatment level and discharge type and, as applicable, recycled water use by category.

Wastewater treatment plants and recycled water producers have been required to submit data in GeoTracker since the 2019 calendar year.



These annual data support policy decisions across the Water Boards and sister agencies, and enable the State Water Board to track progress toward the three Recycled Water Policy Goals to:

1. **MAXIMIZE** reuse where groundwater supplies are in a state of overdraft
2. **REUSE** all dry weather discharge to enclosed bays, coastal lagoons, estuaries, and ocean waters, as feasible
3. **INCREASE** the volume of recycled water used to at least 2.5 million acre-feet a year in the next decade

California Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

GeoTracker

Recycled Water Policy

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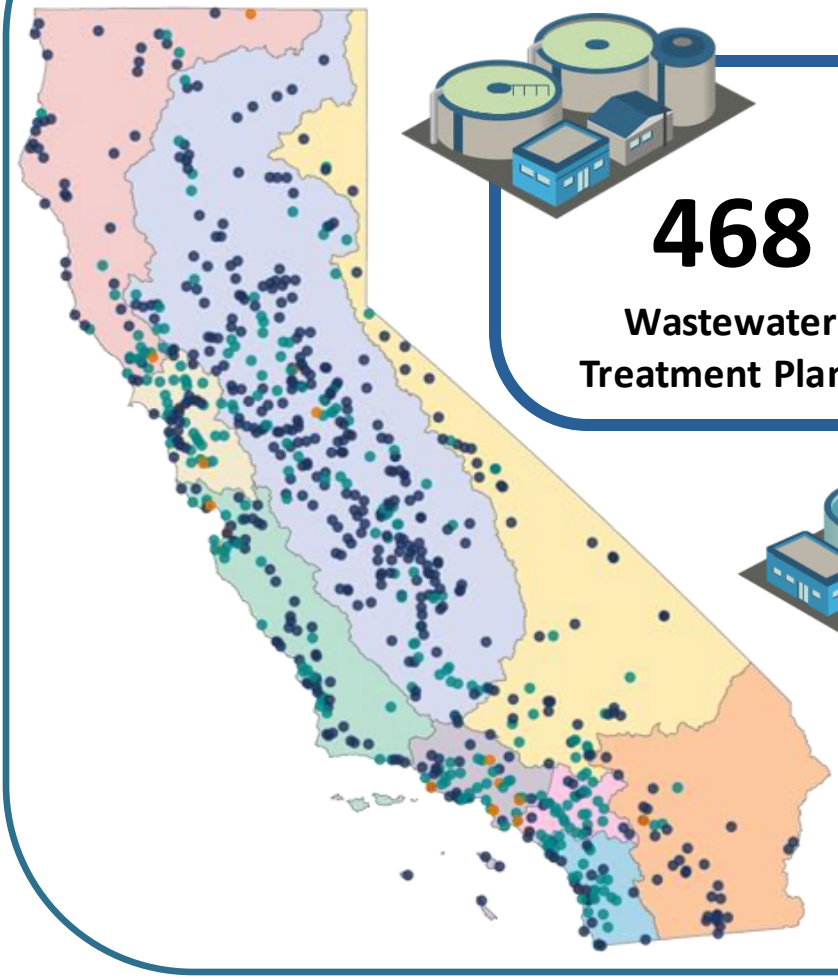
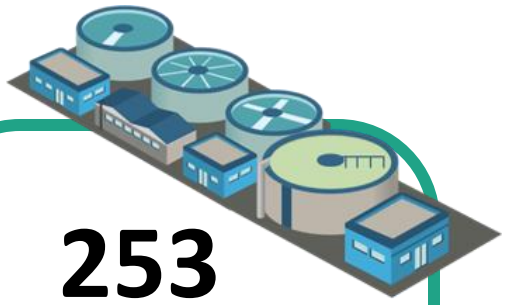
2025 Volumetric Annual Report Compliance



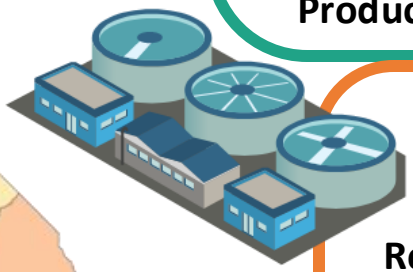
468

Wastewater Treatment Plants



253

Wastewater Treatment + Recycled Water Production Plants



26

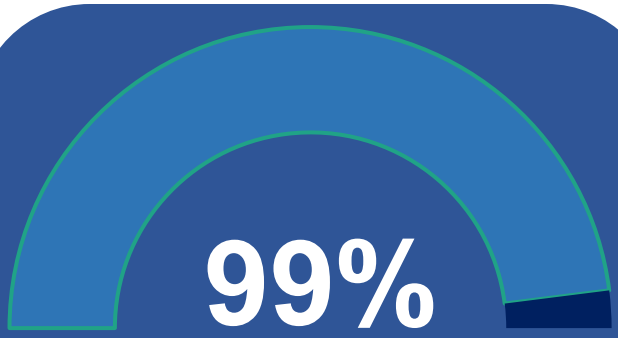
Recycled Water Producers

Permittees are required to enter volumes in Acre-Feet.

1 AF = 326,000 gallons

or enough water to cover an acre of land (about the size of an American football field) in 1 foot of water

In California, an acre-foot can typically meet the annual indoor and outdoor water needs of one to two average households.



99%

Compliance Rate

As of October 2, 2026

747 of 758 facilities have submitted the Volumetric Annual Report

CALIFORNIA Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

GEOTRACKER

RECYCLED WATER POLICY

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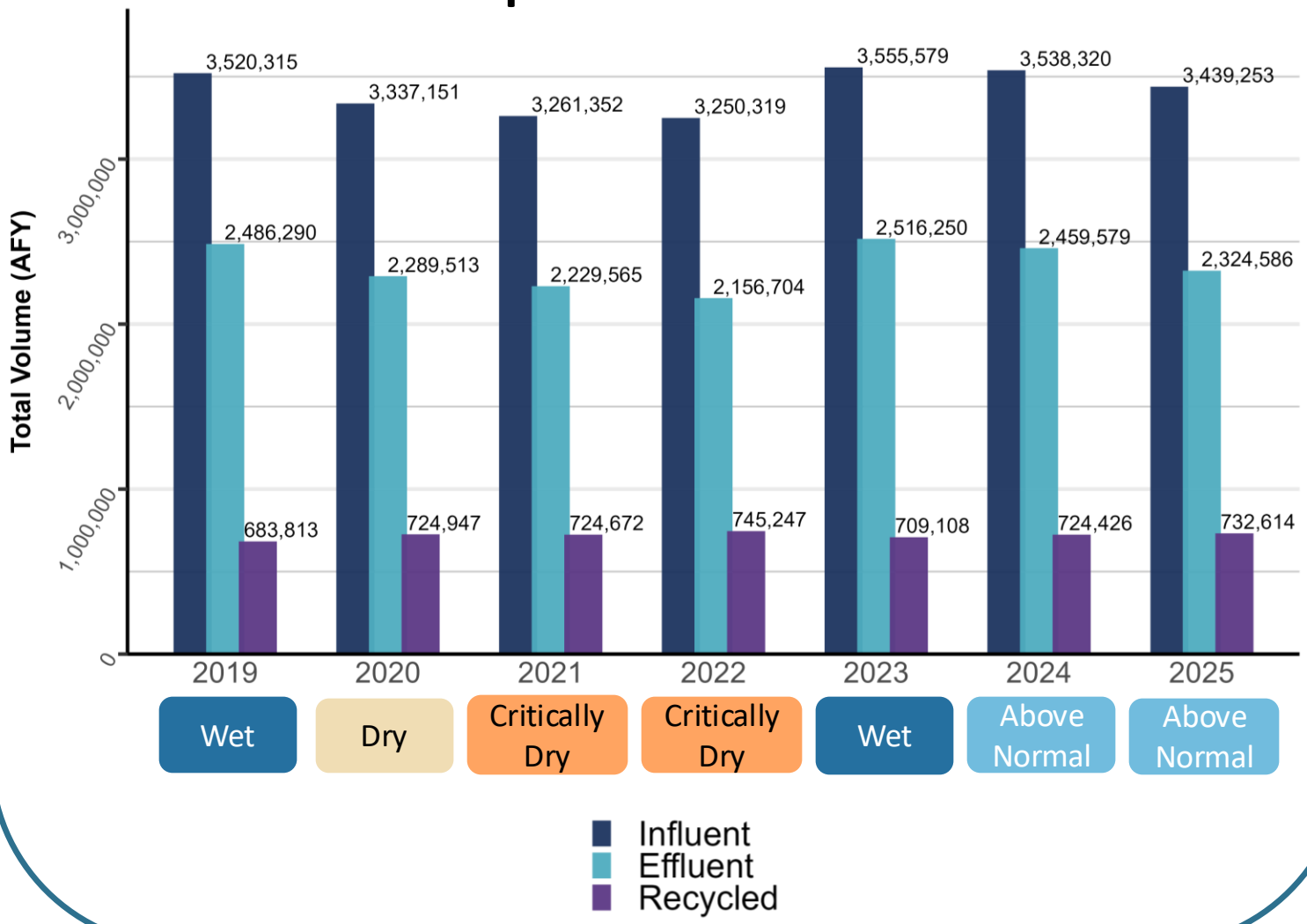
This is the 7th year

of the Volumetric Annual Report of Wastewater and Recycled Water in California. The Report is establishing a baseline to evaluate trends in water use and evaluate the impacts from drought, conservation efforts, and shifts in water demand.

Influent, Effluent, and Recycled Water Volume Comparison 2019-2025



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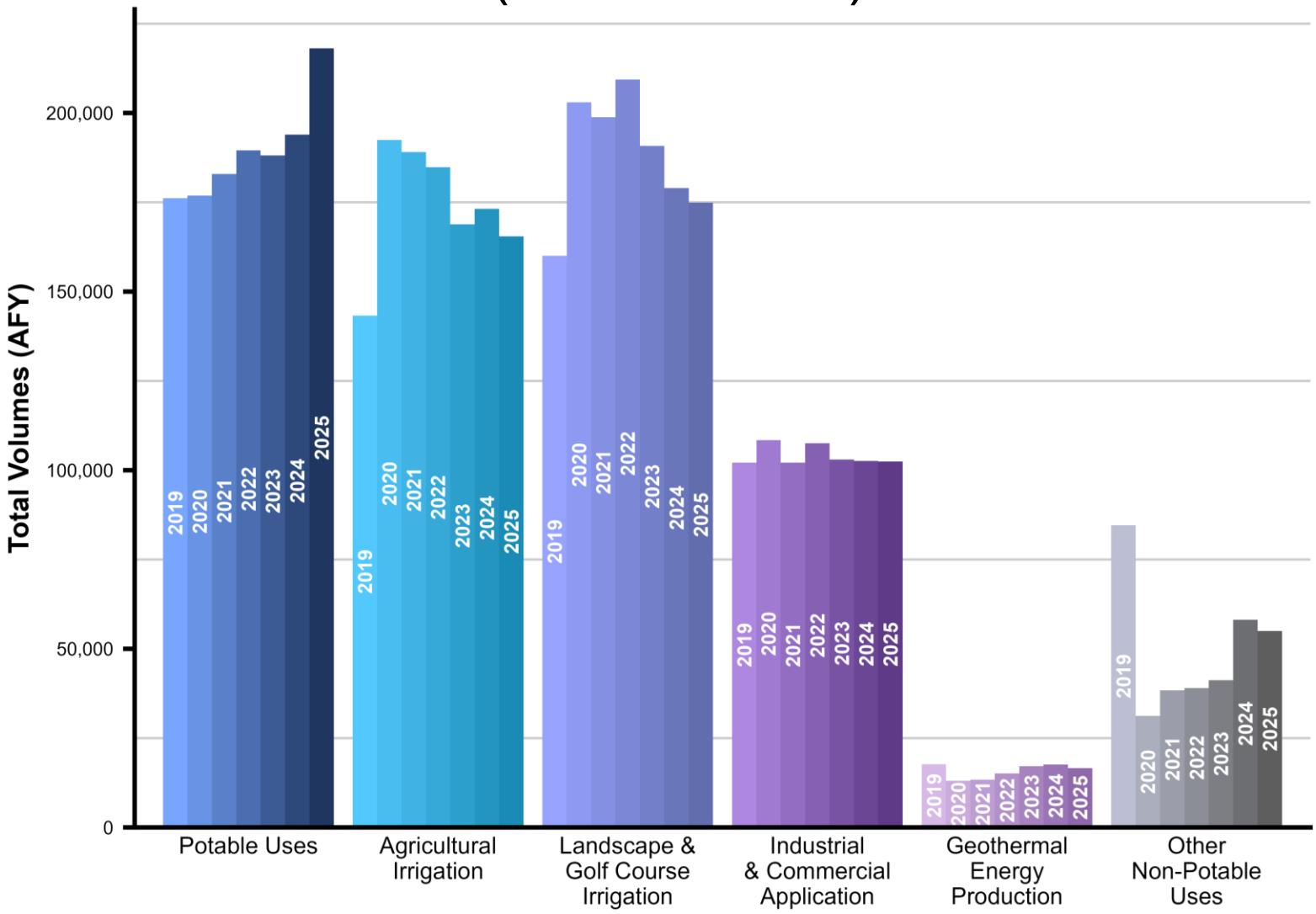
CALIFORNIA Water Boards

RECYCLED WATER POLICY

In 2025, the total volume of recycled water treated to California Code of Regulations, Title 22 standards and approved for beneficial uses was:

733,000 AFY

Recycled Water Volumes by Category (2019 – 2025)



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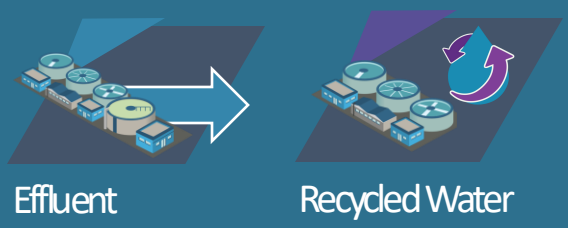
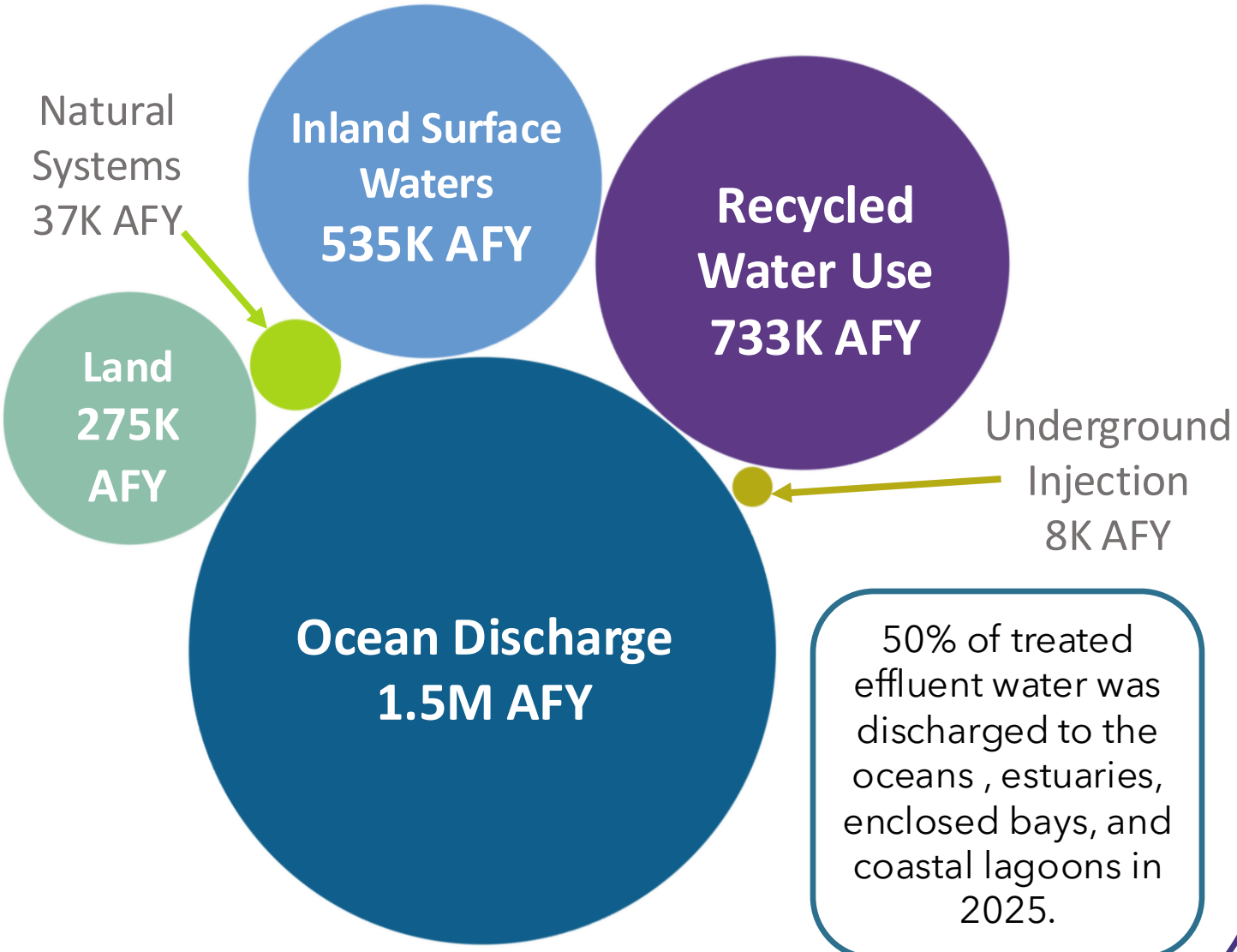
Effluent Discharge and Recycled Water

Tracking effluent discharge volumes and can help inform future policy decisions on where current practices can shift to increase recycled water use

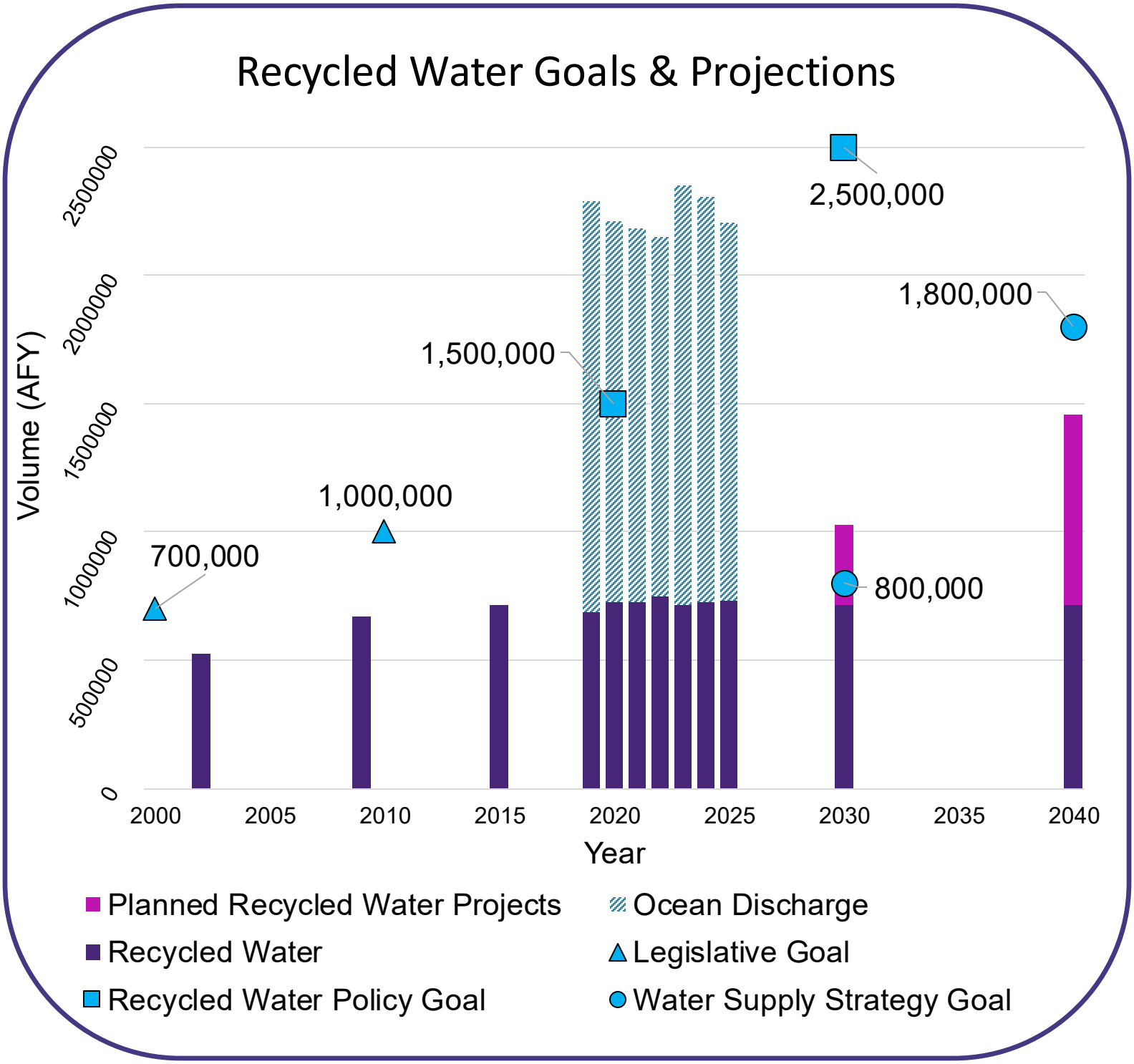


Where did our wastewater go in 2025?



50% of treated effluent water was discharged to the oceans , estuaries, enclosed bays, and coastal lagoons in 2025.

California has set ambitious goals to expand recycled water use. **Maximizing reuse of ocean discharge** could provide a significant opportunity to reach those goals.
A 2023 inventory of planned recycled water projects shows California is on track to meet the 2030 Water Supply Strategy goal, but additional planning is needed to meet the 2040 Water Supply Strategy goal.



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