



Financial Incentives for Springflow Protection: The Voluntary Irrigation Suspension Program Option

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EAA Act & Directives



ORIGINAL STATUTE - 1993

- Limit permitted withdrawals
 - ❖ 450,000 acre-feet initially thru 12/31/07
 - ❖ 400,000 acre-feet beginning 01/01/08
- Permits must be based on historical use; many instructions
- Meters on all wells, EAA pay all costs for irrigators
- EAA must implement drought restrictions

2007 AMENDMENTS TO EAA ACT

- Permitted withdrawals Increased to 572,000 acre-feet
- Drought plan placed in Statute
- EAA must participate in Recovery Implementation Program (referred to as EARIP)

Finding a Solution



Category	Element	Total Cost
Flow Protection Measures	Emergency Stage V Critical Period Management Reductions	\$186,600,000
	SAWS ASR	
	Municipal Conservation Program	
	Voluntary Irrigation Suspension Program Option	
Restoration, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures	Bio-monitoring Riparian Habitat Restoration Water Quality Protection & Monitoring Wild Rice Restoration	\$32,400,000
Other Measures	<u>Refugia</u>	\$43,100,000
Grand Total		\$262,100,000

VISPO Highlights



Concept – provide financial incentive to suspend pumping during severe drought

- Enrollment Goal - 40,000 acre-feet
- Two options – 5 year and 10 year
- Suspension Trigger – if J-17 at/below 635' on October 1, enrolled water suspended for following calendar year
- Opt out of suspension - if J-17 at/above 660' on following January 1 and permit holder notifies EAA by January 15

VISPO Options & Payments



5 Year Program Payments/ AF

Fee	1	2	3	4	5
Stand-by	\$50.00	\$50.75	\$51.26	\$51.77	\$52.29
Suspension	\$150.00	\$152.25	\$153.77	\$155.31	\$156.86

10 Year Program Payments/AF

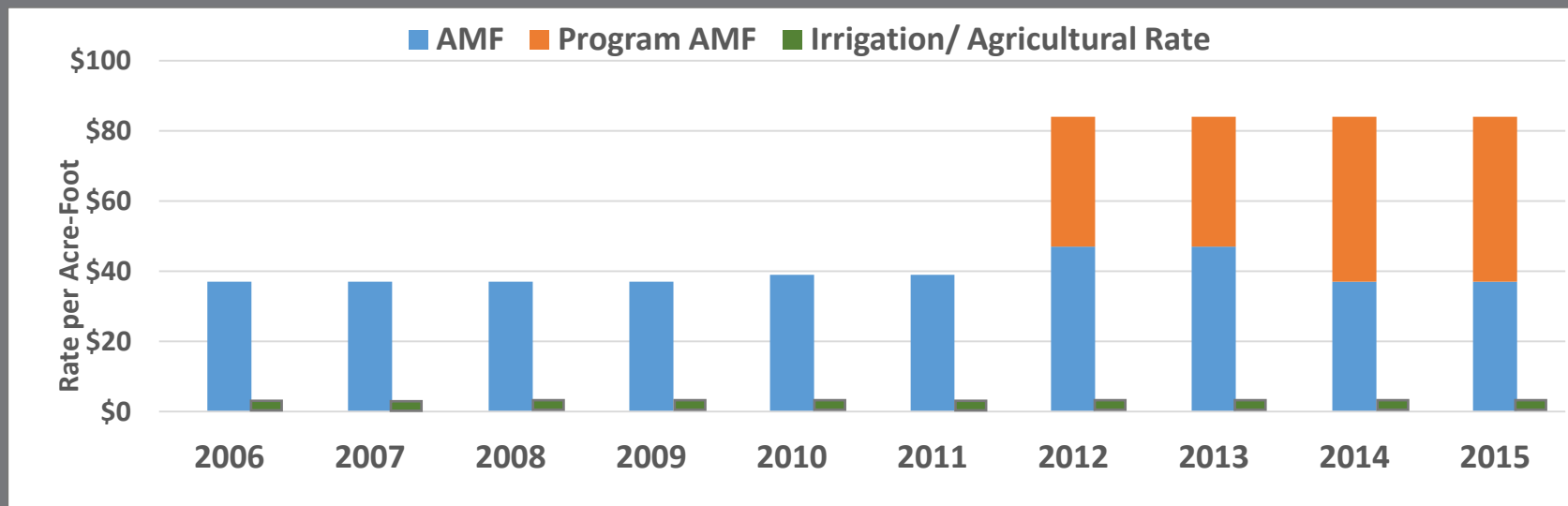
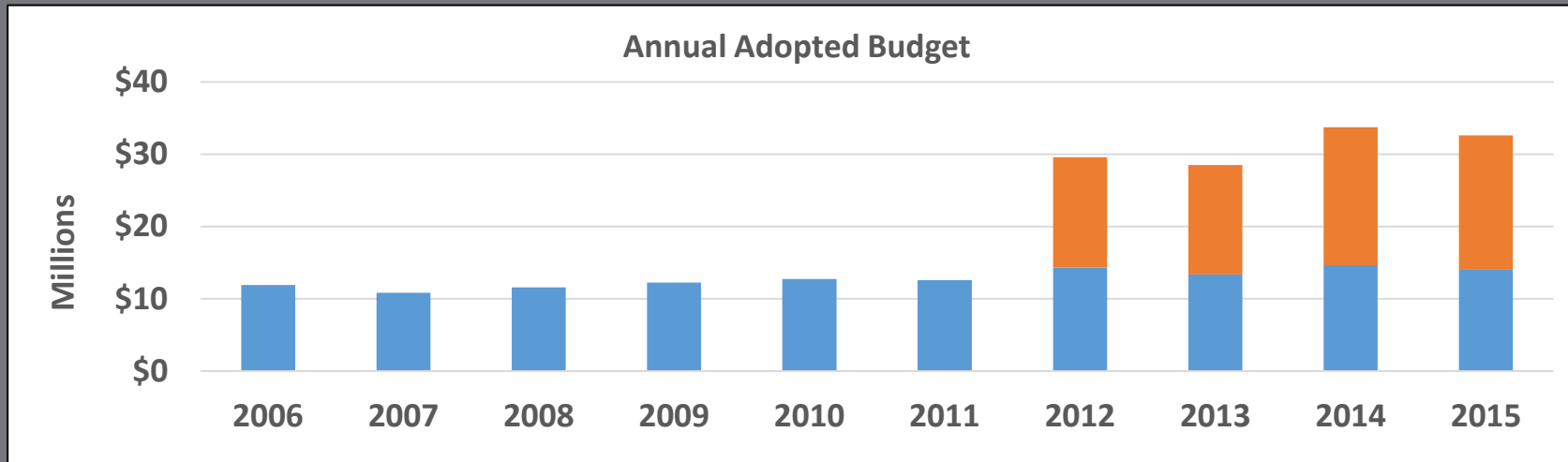
Fee	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Stand-by	\$57.50	\$57.50	\$57.50	\$57.50	\$57.50	\$70.20	\$70.20	\$70.20	\$70.20	\$70.20
Suspension	\$172.50	\$172.50	\$172.50	\$172.50	\$172.50	\$210.60	\$210.60	\$210.60	\$210.60	\$210.60

VISPO Enrollment & 2015 Payments



VISPO Enrollment	Atascosa	Bexar	Comal	Hays	Medina	Uvalde	Total	%
	(acre-foot)	(acre-feet)	(acre-feet)	(acre-feet)	(acre-feet)	(acre-feet)	(acre-feet)	
5-year	354	884	0	123	3,693	20,397	25,451	62
10-year	0	1,573	0	0	7,803	6,094	15,470	38
Grand Total	354	2,457	0	123	11,496	26,491	40,921	
Payment	\$70,880	\$538,870	\$0	\$25,010	\$2,538,839	\$5,503,664	\$8,677,263	

HCP Impact on Budget and Fee





QUESTIONS?

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