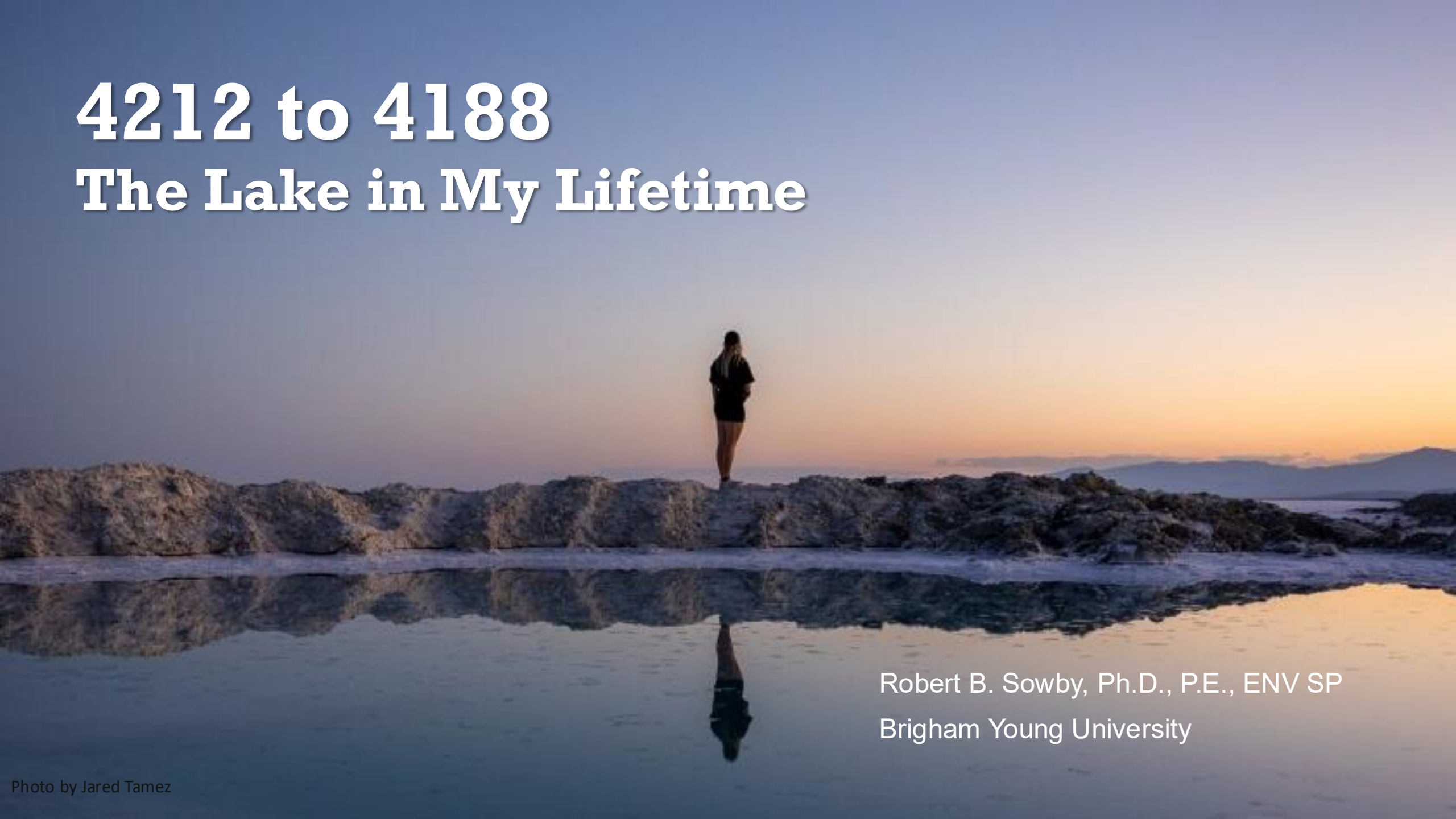
4212 to 4188
The Lake in My Lifetime



Robert B. Sowby, Ph.D., P.E., ENV SP
Brigham Young University

Photo by Jared Tamez

1986

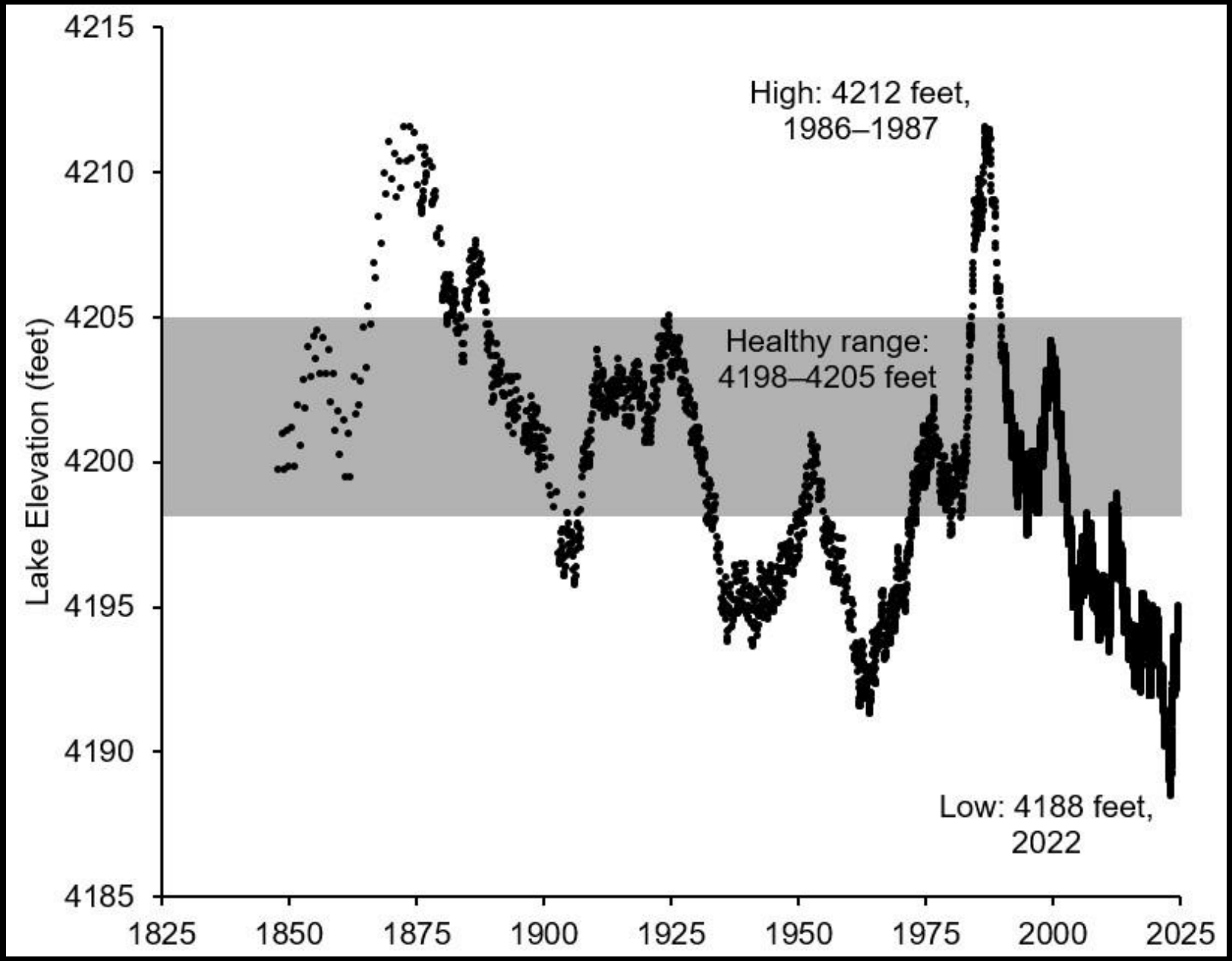
Elev. 4212 ft

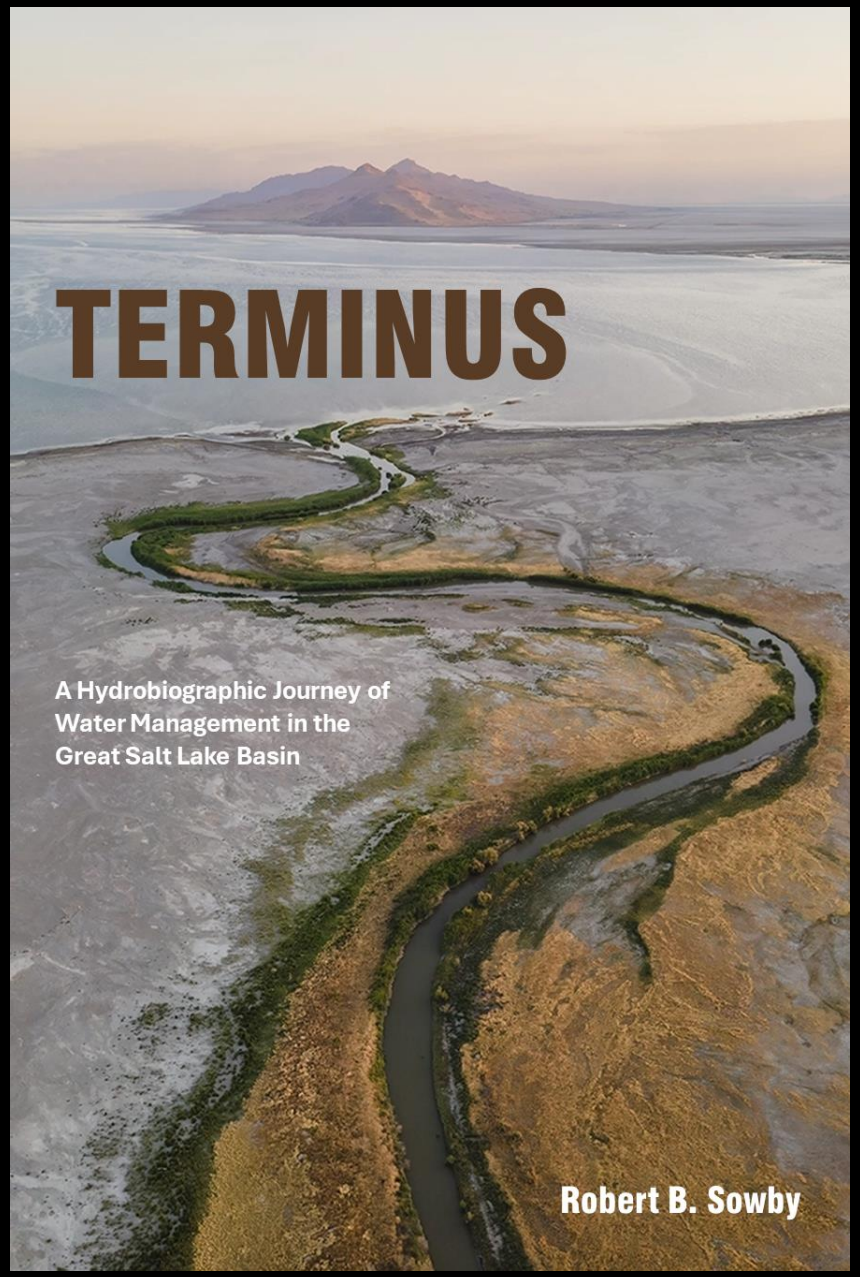
2,300 mi^2

2022

Elev. 4188 ft

900 mi^2


4215
4210
4205
4200
4195
4190
4185
Lake Elevation (feet)
1825
1850
1875
1900
1925
1950
1975
2000
2025
High: 4212 feet,
1986–1987
Healthy range:
4198–4205 feet
Low: 4188 feet,
2022

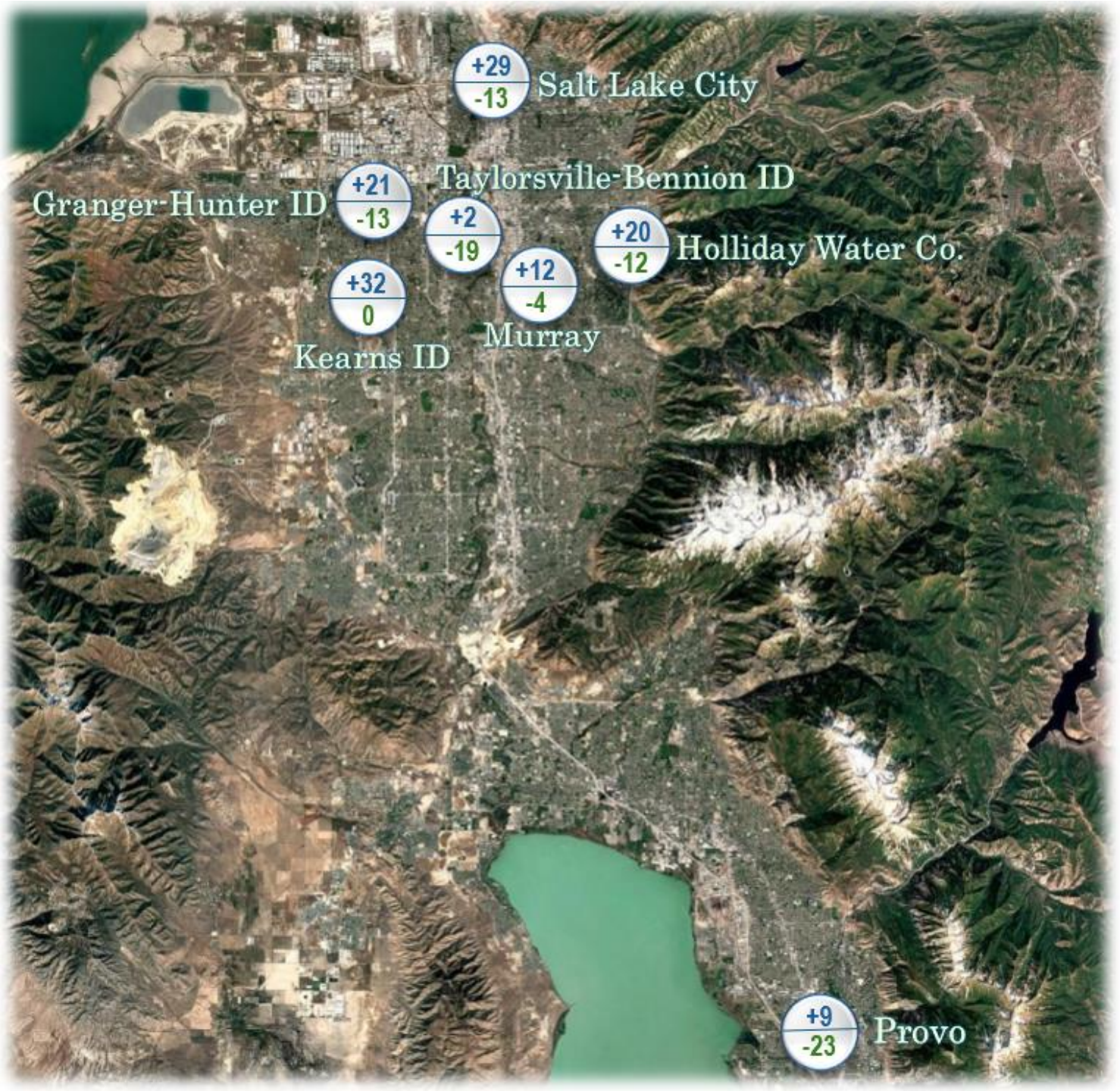

TERMINUS
A Hydrobiographic Journey of Water Management in the Great Salt Lake Basin
Robert B. Sowby


AIR SCOUR
AIR SCOUR
AIR SCOUR

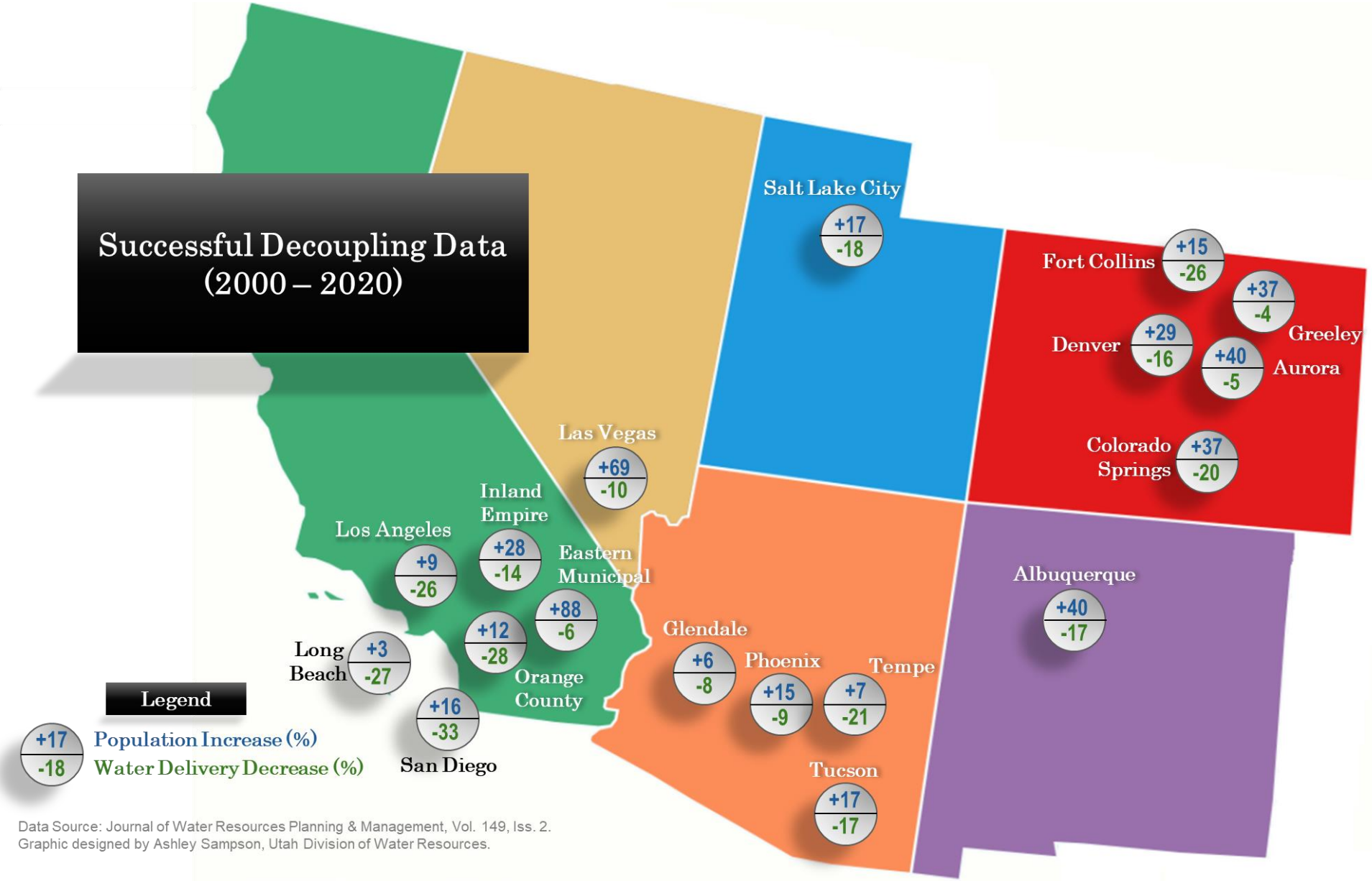
Successful Decoupling Data (2003 – 2023)

+20 Population Increase (%)

-13 Water Delivery Decrease (%)

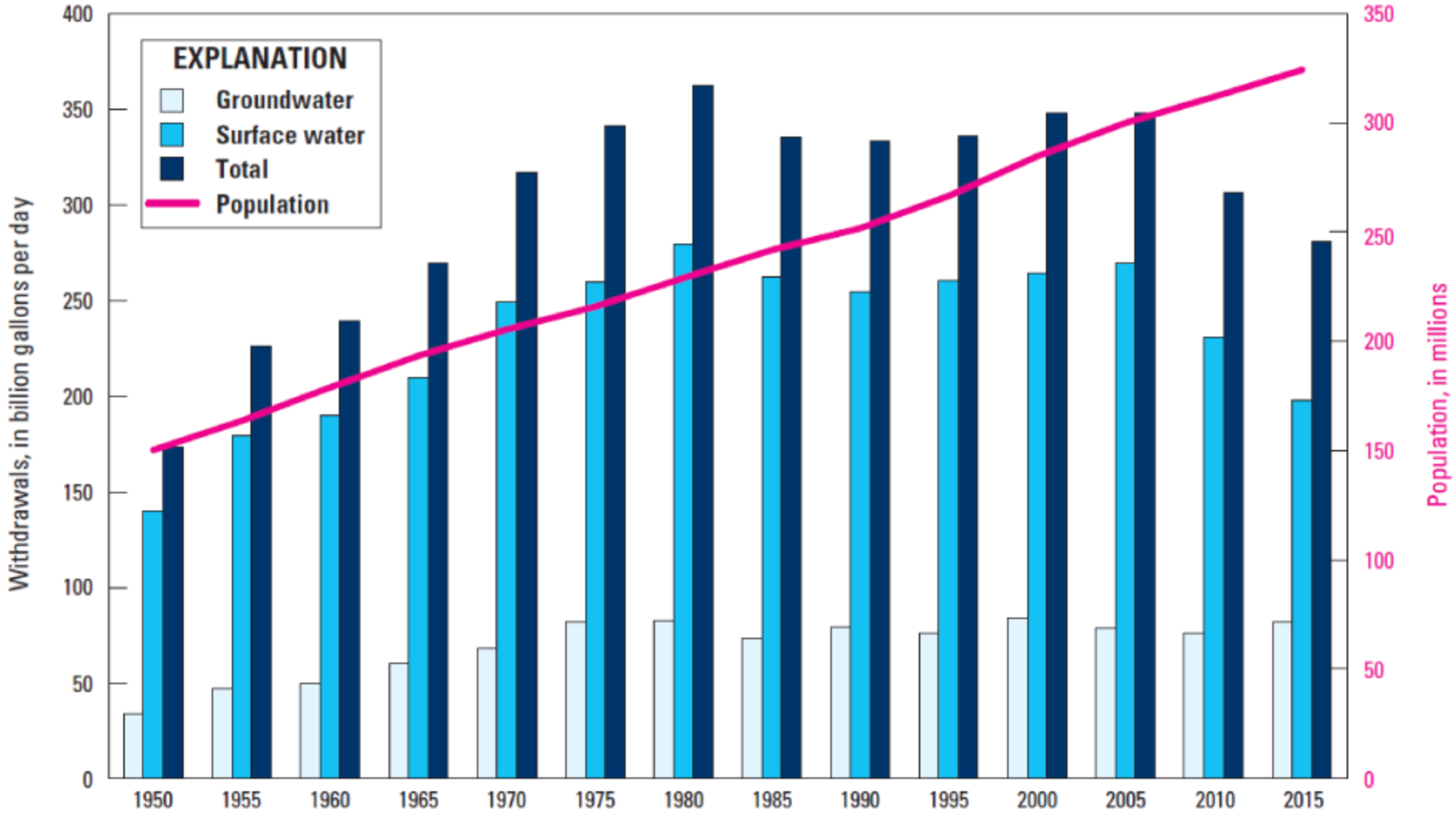


2003 Data Source: Utah Division of Water Resources, Municipal and Industrial Water Supply and Uses in the Jordan River Basin, Salt Lake City, 2006.
2023 Data Source: Utah Division of Water Rights, "Water Use Data" webpage, accessed September 16, 2024.
Graphic designed by Ashley Sampson, Utah Division of Water Resources.



Data Source: Journal of Water Resources Planning & Management, Vol. 149, Iss. 2.
Graphic designed by Ashley Sampson, Utah Division of Water Resources.

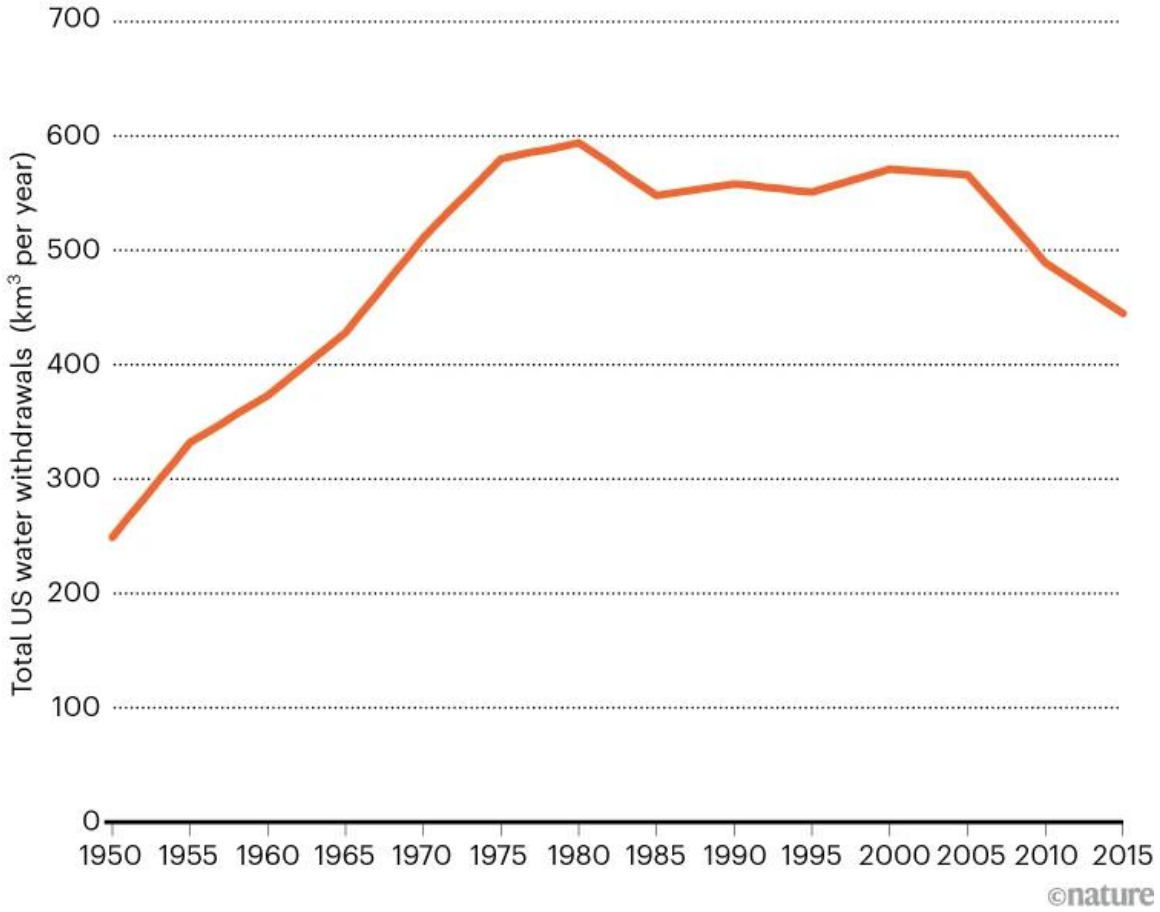

Annual MGD
260
240
220
200
180
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
1940 1945 1950 1955 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020
Actual Consumption
1967 SWD Forecast
1973 RIBCO Forecast
1980 Complan Forecast Medium
1980 Complan Forecast Medium-Low
1985 Complan Forecast Medium
1993 WSP Forecast
1997 Revised Forecast
2001 WSP Forecast
2003 Official Forecast
2007 WSP Forecast
Current Forecast
Seattle Public Utilities 4/24/12



Trends in population and freshwater withdrawals by source, 1950–2015

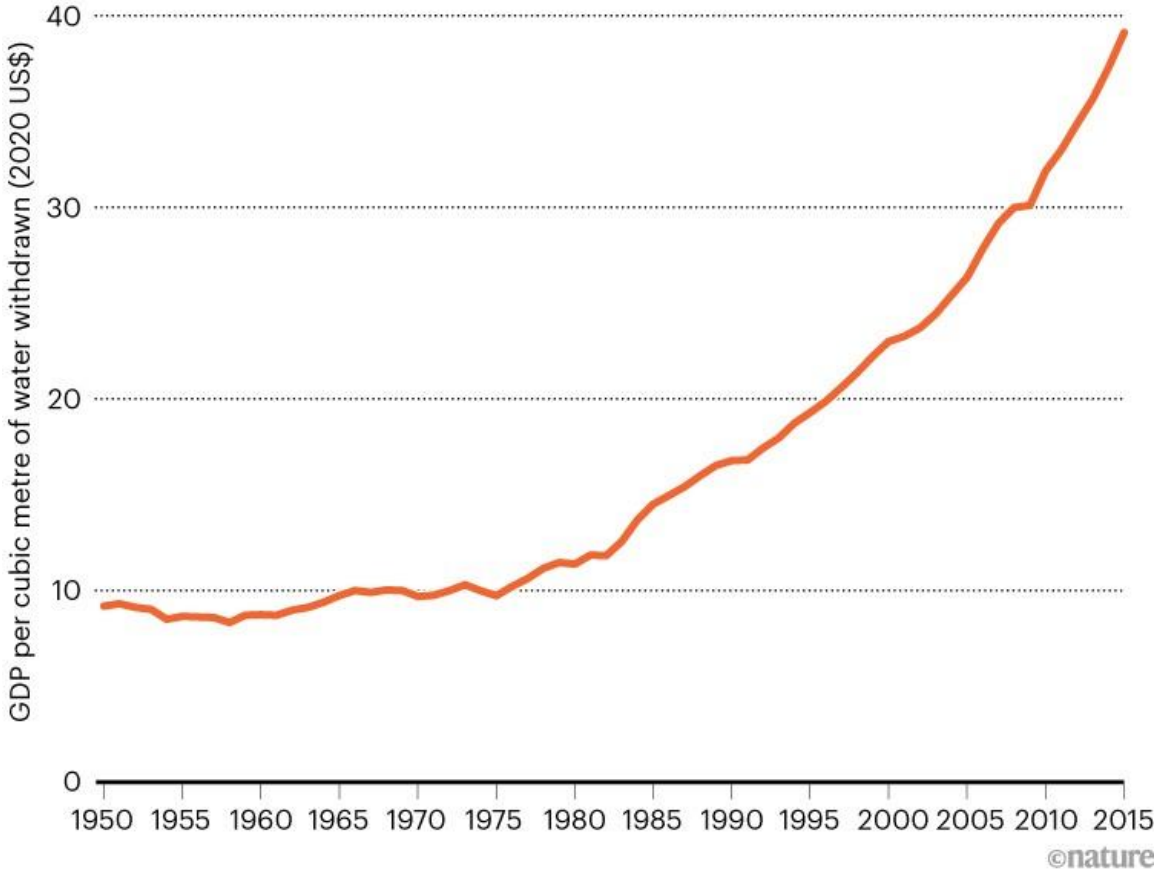
A DIP IN USE

After a period of rapid increase in the decades after the Second World War, the use of water in the United States stabilized and has now even started to decline.



DOING MORE WITH LESS

The US economy is becoming less dependent on water owing to advances in efficiency. This belies the claim that a reduction in water use will stymie growth.



Peter H. Gleick, "The most important issue about water is not supply, but how it is used," *Nature*, Dec. 14, 2023.

Thank You

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