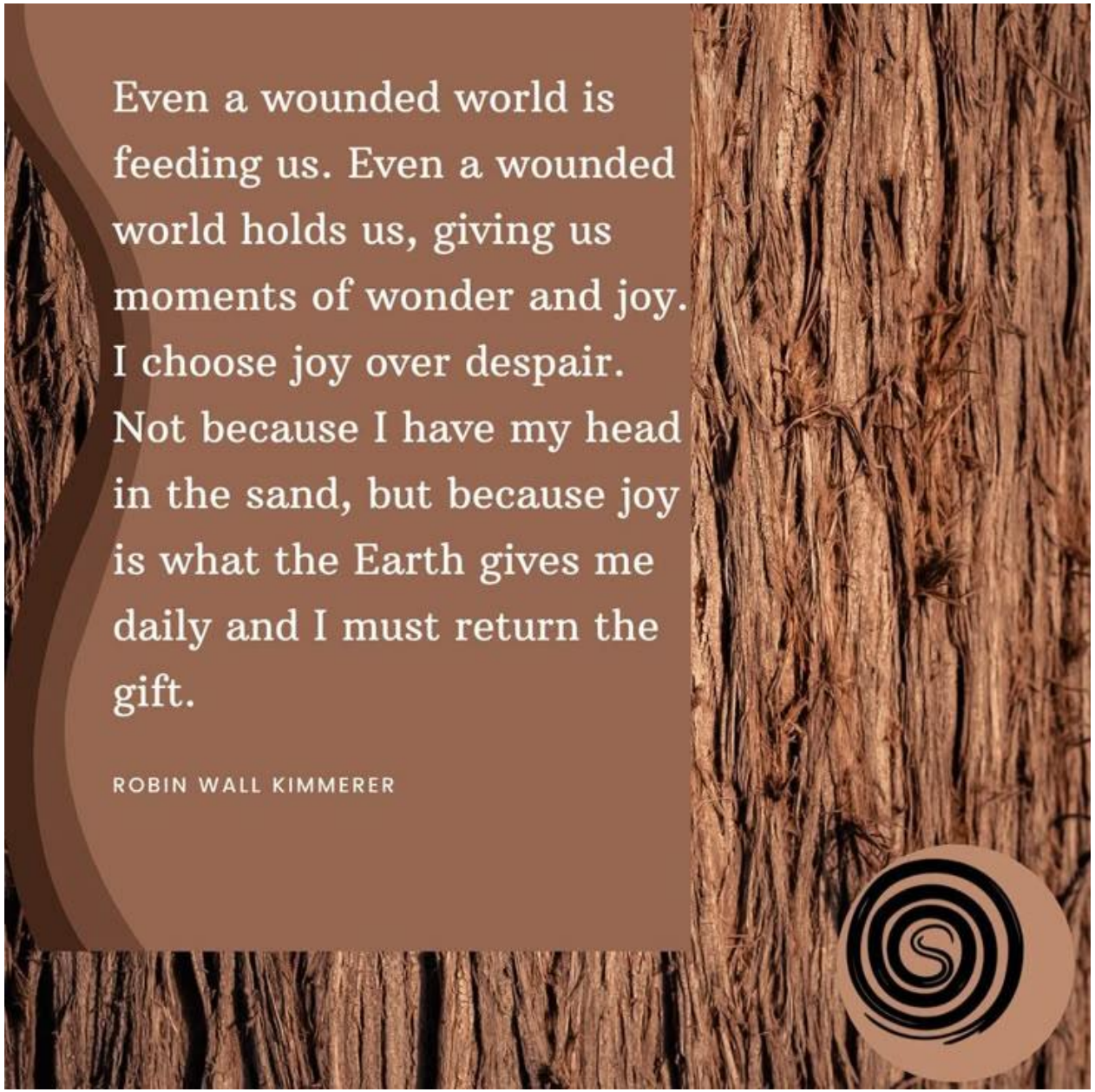
ALLIANCE FOR WATER EFFICIENCY

WATER EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM 2025

AUGUST 6-8, 2025 | CHICAGO, IL

Rising to the Challenge: When Extremes Become the New Normal

Room 621 3:45-4:45pm


Even a wounded world is feeding us. Even a wounded world holds us, giving us moments of wonder and joy. I choose joy over despair. Not because I have my head in the sand, but because joy is what the Earth gives me daily and I must return the gift.
ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

Adapting to Climate Change

Water efficiency enhances resilience to droughts, floods, and rising sea levels.

PROTECTING RIVERS & LAKES

Efficiency helps maintain stream flows and lake levels that are threatened by droughts.

RESILIENT LANDSCAPES

Native plants and drought-tolerant landscaping are better suited to withstand droughts and wildfires.

AGRICULTURE

Efficient irrigation supports food production with less water.

MINIMIZE FLOODING

More efficient water use increases sewer capacity during heavy rains.

WATER SUPPLY DISRUPTIONS

Helps communities manage water shortages due to climate-related events (wildfires, flooding, etc.).

RISING SEA LEVELS

Water efficiency helps reduce groundwater withdrawals, preventing land subsidence and saltwater intrusion—crucial for coastal communities vulnerable to sea level rise from climate change.

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

As climate change increases the frequency and severity of drought, saving water remains the most affordable solution to water scarcity.

[Water Efficiency's Role in Addressing Climate Change Fact Sheet - Alliance for Water Efficiency]

Terrence McCarthy

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

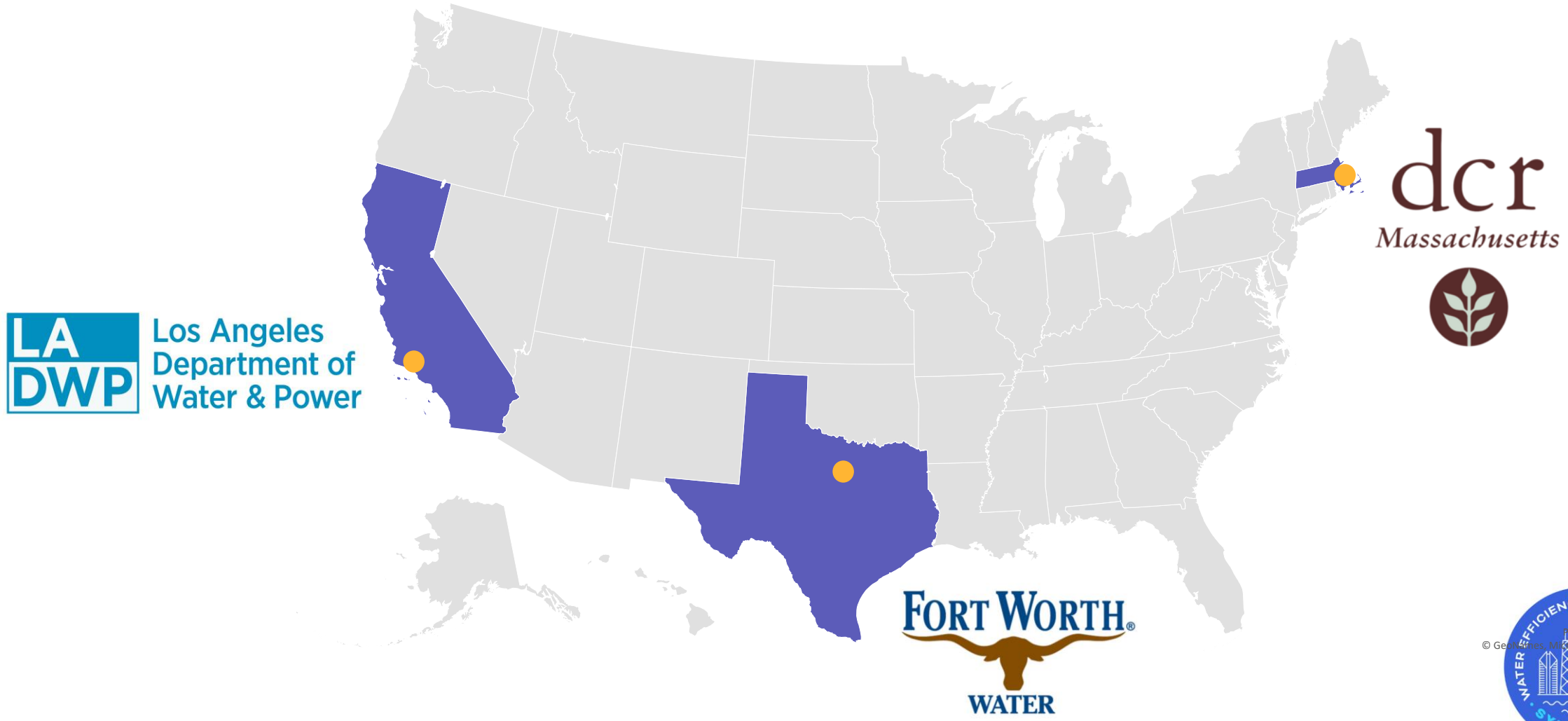
Micah Reed

Fort Worth Water

Anne Carroll

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Office of Water Resources

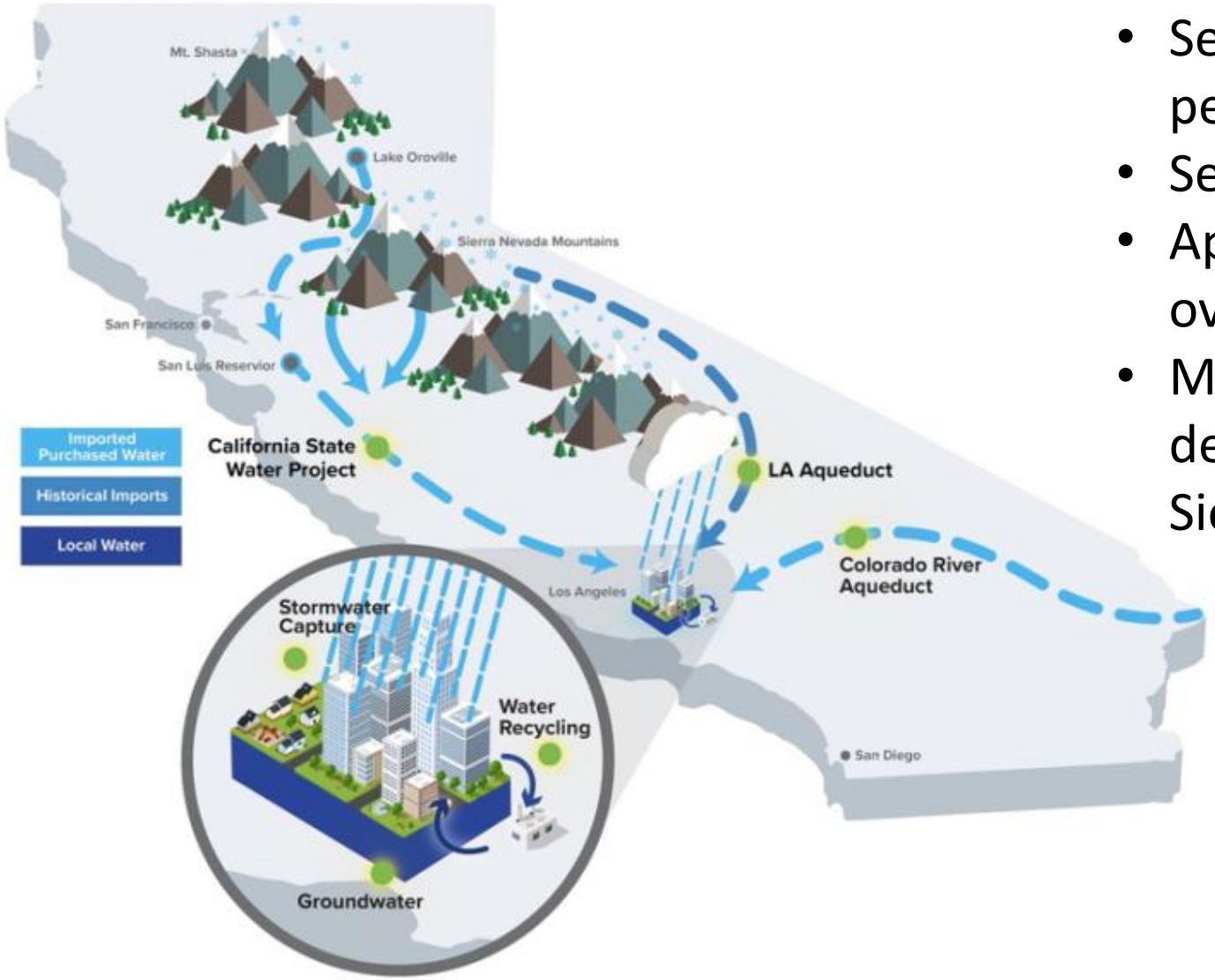
WATER EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM


LA DWP
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
dcr
Massachusetts
FORT WORTH®
WATER
WATER EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM
Powered by Bing
© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom

Extreme Weather in Los Angeles

Terrence McCarthy, P.E.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power



- Serve water and power to ~4 million people
- Service area over 470 square miles
- Approximately 426 MGD delivered to over 740,000 services
- Multiple water supply sources largely dependent on snowpack/runoff from Sierra Nevada mountains

LA DWP Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Weather Extremes

Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

City of Fort Worth Water

Population: 1,001,741

Wholesale Population: 454,704

- Ice Storm Uri February 11-27, 2021
- Lowest temperature since 1983
- More main breaks in one week than in a typical year (over 720)
- Complete power and operations lost at 4 of 5 water treatment plants

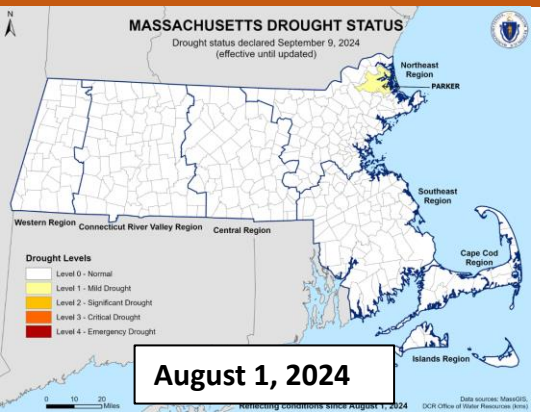
FORT WORTH®

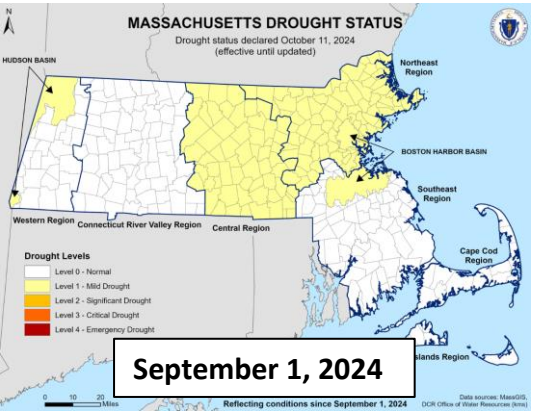
Massachusetts: What's "Normal"?

Climate Normals (1991-2020)- Boston Area

Month	Total Precipitation Normal (inches)	Mean Max Temperature Normal (°F)	Mean Min Temperature Normal (°F)	Mean Avg Temperature Normal (°F)
Annual	43.59	59.3	44.5	51.9

Massachusetts: Recent Extremes





Extremely rapid onset & intensification

Fall/winter droughts

Historically high fire activity

Unprecedented low Precipitation

Record low Streamflows

Reminders & What's Next

Thank you all for participating in this session!

- **CEUs:** AWWA CA-NV Water Use Efficiency Practitioner and Irrigation Association

- **Next:** Restaurant Roundup! **Meet in the lobby of the InterContinental at 6:00 pm to gather with your Restaurant Roundup captain and group.**
- Day 2 of Symposium will kick off tomorrow with breakfast starting at 8:00 am! If you're leaving tomorrow, please leave your luggage with the hotel concierge if possible.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

WATER EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

ALLIANCE FOR WATER EFFICIENCY

WATER EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM 2025

AUGUST 6-8, 2025 | CHICAGO, IL