

## Unveiling impacts and optimal strategies of water-saving system for integrated water resources management in a water-scarce watershed

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## Abstract

In this study, impacts and optimal strategies of water-saving system are identified through developing a novel stochastic bi-level programming-based water saving and trading simulation model for water resources regulation (SB-WSTM). The link between socio-economic and water resources under uncertain conditions, as well as participation of government water-saving subsidy and water-saving facilities (i.e., sprinkler irrigation, micro-irrigation, low-pressure pipe irrigation) are elaborated. The SB-WSTM is then applied to Dagou River watershed in China with water-scarce characteristics for demonstrating its efficiency. The responses of the water resources system to water-saving facilities and subsidies are disclosed quantitatively. Micro-irrigation facility construction is recommended to cope with extremely dry condition; 50% of the subsidy rate combined with 70% of efficient irrigation area is the optimal water-saving scheme based on multi-criterion analysis and should be recommended. Recognizing the effect of water saving, generating efficient water allocation patterns, and taking water-saving strategies are key adaptation means for water system sustainable utilization.

**Keywords:** Integrated water resources management; Water rights trading; Water-saving irrigation facilities; Water-saving subsidy; Stochastic uncertainties

## 1. Introduction

Constantly changing and evolving economic, technical, political, and environmental factors create new challenges in water management (Shrestha and Wang, 2020; Xiao et al., 2021; Oladosu et al., 2022). In response to these challenges, integrated water resources management

has been central to water governance worldwide, maximizing the potential value of limited water resources (Apostolaki et al., 2019; Zehtabian et al., 2023). Among them, the emergence of water-saving strategy is particularly crucial. The strategy utilizes innovative water-saving techniques to optimize water utilization, and formulates water-saving policy to promote the development of water-saving society (Michaux et al., 2019; Ierna and Mauromicale, 2022).

In recent years, the agricultural region that employs water-saving irrigation technologies is gradually expanding (Zhang et al., 2019). Reasonable decisions regarding the application of water-saving technologies can increase crop yield on one hand and comprehensively enhance the utilization efficiency of water resources on the other (Chen et al., 2021). This can avoid water wastage and effectively alleviates water-scarce issues. However, the restriction of regional economic factors leads to a significant decline in water-saving social participation (Heiba et al., 2023). High maintenance cost of the measures reduces user's enthusiasm and hinders the widespread adoption (Liu et al., 2022). Therefore, the government provides efficient policies, such as financial subsidy, for supporting the water-saving efforts (Cremades et al., 2015). In summary, water-saving irrigation technologies and government subsidy are two essential considerations in formulating water-saving strategy.

The evaluation of irrigation technologies' impact and efficacy has emerged as a prominent research topic in the field of water saving (Yang et al., 2020; Zhou et al., 2021; Pronti et al., 2023; Zhao et al., 2023a). Guo et al. (2023) adopted emergy synthesis to assess the input structure of protected vegetable production system, revealing that water-saving technologies and energy-efficient utilization can optimize the emergy input structure in system. Hamidov et al. (2022) found a rebound effect resulting from increased agricultural water use due to

advancements in water-saving technologies, calling for reasonable subsidies. In addition, utility evaluation and impact mechanism of water-saving subsidies have been studied (Jia et al., 2022; Li et al., 2023; Ma et al., 2023). Boudmyxay et al. (2019) employed a dynamic computable general equilibrium model to explore the impact of water-saving subsidy on agricultural production, farmers' welfare and consumption. Cheng et al. (2021) analyzed the impact of water price and water-saving subsidy mechanisms, showing that the related policies can decrease the cultivation of high-water-consuming crops while safeguarding agricultural income and food security. Integrated researches involving water-saving project and policy provide valuable insights for formulating effective water-saving strategies (Yang et al., 2022). Song et al. (2023) took a comprehensive approach to deal with the issue of water resource disorder, energy and grain imbalance by combining water-saving project with policy solutions. Water-saving strategy associated with irrigation technologies and government subsidy is essential for establishing a rational water-saving behavior. Nevertheless, no previous study focuses on integrated impact of water-saving project and policy, as well as optimization of the decision-making related to the efforts.

Complexity factors exist in integrated water management systems, raising challenges for planning water saving strategies (Gao et al., 2014; Ma et al., 2021; Nematian, 2023; Kanani et al., 2024). For example, surface runoff has stochastic characteristics and causes changes in water supply and demand processes. Besides, water-saving facility construction plan would be inexact associated with uncertainties from surface water supply, and water resource management involves conflicting decisions about water consumption and benefit. Accordingly, mathematical programming approaches were formulated to deal with the complexities represented by probability distributions, imprecise data, and conflicting

objectives (Haag et al., 2022; Zhu et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2024). Among them, interval two-stage stochastic programming (ITSP) has been widely explored for interpreting combined uncertainties and addressing associated water deficit penalties of violating promised targets in water management cases (Simic, 2016; Yu et al., 2018). Bi-level programming (BP) is capable of solving hierarchical decision-making issues involving conflicting objectives, thereby attaining a balance in the interaction among decision makers regarding system benefits and water consumption levels (Ma et al., 2020). These methods possess their own merits, yet presently, there remains a deficiency in a holistic approach to simultaneously tackle uncertainties and multiple objectives in water saving planning.

Water rights trading, as a common tool for improving water use efficiency, is widely used in optimizing the water allocation (Xu et al., 2023), adapting to variable water demands (Delorit and Block, 2018), and promoting innovation in water management (Zhang et al., 2021; Chen et al., 2024; Wu et al., 2024). This study provides the first analysis integrating impact of water-saving project and policy, as well as conducts related decision-making simulation planning within water trading framework. A novel stochastic bi-level programming-based water saving and trading simulation model for water resources regulation (SB-WSTM) is proposed to achieve this innovation. SB-WSTM incorporates scenario analysis on water-saving irrigation facility and government subsidy, as well as uncertainty analysis with interval stochastic bi-level programming (ISBP). The established simulation models will be implemented in a real case of Dagu River watershed of China. The objectives include: (i) examining the response of water resources system to water-saving projects and policies under uncertain conditions; (ii) revealing the optimal water-saving scheme taking into account system benefit, water consumption, water-saving amount and water use efficiency.

## 2. Methodology

Bi-level programming (BP) is capable of balancing stakeholders to achieve compromise (Sakawa et al., 2000; Ma et al., 2020). Both upper-lower-level functions have their own independent objectives and influence each other. Let  $X \in R^{z_1}$  and  $Y \in R^{z_2}$  be vectors of decision variables signifying upper-lower-level choices. Let  $F_U : R^{z_1} \times R^{z_2} \rightarrow R$  and  $f_L : R^{z_1} \times R^{z_2} \rightarrow R$  represent the upper-lower-level decision makers, respectively.

$G_1 : R^{z_1} \times R^{z_2} \rightarrow R$  and  $g_1 : R^{z_1} \times R^{z_2} \rightarrow R$  are decision variables. The BP model can be stated as:

$$\text{Max}_X F_U(X, Y) \quad (1a)$$

Subject to:

$$G_1(X, Y) \leq 0 \quad (1b)$$

where:

$$Y \in \arg \text{Max}_Y f_L(X, Y) \quad (1c)$$

Subject to:

$$g_1(X, Y) \leq 0 \quad (1d)$$

Although BP is capable of handling the trade-offs among different stakeholders, it has limitations in dealing with stochastic uncertainties in practical integrated water management problems. Interval two-stage stochastic programming (ITSP) provides great flexibility and efficiency in dealing with uncertainties expressed as intervals following the discrete

probability distribution (Ji et al., 2020; Yin et al., 2021). Incorporating ITSP into BP enables the construction of the interval stochastic bi-level programming (ISBP) model as follows (Ma et al., 2020):

Upper level:

$$\text{Max}_{X^\pm, Y^\pm} F_U^\pm = C_{T_1}^\pm X^\pm - \sum_{k=1}^K p_k D_{T_2}^\pm Y^\pm \quad (2a)$$

Subject to:

$$A_m^\pm X^\pm \leq V_m^\pm, \quad m=1, 2, \dots, M \quad (2b)$$

$$B_n^\pm X^\pm - C_n^\pm Y^\pm \geq W_k^\pm, \quad n=1, 2, \dots, N; \quad k=1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2c)$$

$$x_t^\pm \geq 0, \quad x_t^\pm \in X^\pm, \quad t=1, 2, \dots, t_1 \quad (2d)$$

$$y_{tk}^\pm \geq 0, \quad y_{tk}^\pm \in Y^\pm, \quad t=1, 2, \dots, t_2; \quad k=1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2e)$$

Lower level:

$$\text{Max}_{X^\pm, Y^\pm} f_L^\pm = c_{T_1}^\pm X^\pm - \sum_{k=1}^K p_k d_{T_2}^\pm Y^\pm \quad (2f)$$

Subject to:

$$a_m^\pm X^\pm \leq v_m^\pm, \quad m=1, 2, \dots, M \quad (2g)$$

$$b_n^\pm X^\pm - c_n^\pm Y^\pm \geq w_k^\pm, \quad n=1, 2, \dots, N; \quad k=1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2h)$$

$$x_t^\pm \geq 0, \quad x_t^\pm \in X_t, \quad t=1, 2, \dots, t_1 \quad (2i)$$

$$y_{tk}^\pm \geq 0, \quad y_{tk}^\pm \in Y_{tk}, \quad t=1, 2, \dots, t_2; \quad k=1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2j)$$

$$\text{where } A_m \in \{R^\pm\}^{M \times t_1}, \quad B_n \in \{R^\pm\}^{N \times t_2}, \quad B_n \in \{R^\pm\}^{N \times t_2}, \quad B_n \in \{R^\pm\}^{N \times t_2}, \quad V_m \in \{R^\pm\}^{M \times 1},$$

$$C_{T_1}^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{1 \times t_1}, \quad D_{T_2}^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{1 \times t_2}, \quad a_m^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{m \times t_1}, \quad b_n^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{n \times t_2}, \quad b_n^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{n \times t_2},$$

139  $v_m^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{M \times 1}$ ,  $c_{T_1}^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{1 \times t_1}$ ,  $d_{T_2}^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{1 \times t_2}$ ,  $X^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{t_1 \times 1}$ ,  $Y^\pm \in \{R^\pm\}^{t_2 \times 1}$  and  $\{R^\pm\}$   
 140 indicate a group of interval parameters and variables; the superscript ' $\pm$ ' indicates interval  
 141 parameters possessing upper-lower limits.  $C_{T_1}^\pm$  and  $c_{T_1}^\pm$  represent the net gain within period t.  
 142  $X^\pm$  is a constant target value allocated to stakeholders.  $p_k$  is probability value.  $D_{T_2}^\pm$  and  $d_{T_2}^\pm$   
 143 indicate the deficit value that fails to reach the actual targets.  $Y^\pm$  indicates the decline in net  
 144 benefit resulting from deficit.  $W_m^\pm$  and  $w_m^\pm$  respectively indicate the demand quantities of users.  
 145  $V_m^\pm$  and  $v_m^\pm$ , as random variables, are indicated as the total available quantities.  
 146  
 147 An interactive algorithm for ISBP is proposed to gain the compromise solution. Through  
 148 formula group (3), the upper-level decision can get  $f_*^{U\pm} = [f_*^{U-}, f_*^{U+}]$ ,  $x^{U\pm} = [x^{U-}, x^{U+}]$ ,  
 149  $y^{U\pm} = [y^{U-}, y^{U+}]$ ; the lower-level decision can get  $f_*^{L\pm} = [f_*^{L-}, f_*^{L+}]$ ,  $x^{L\pm} = [x^{L-}, x^{L+}]$ ,  
 150  $y^{L\pm} = [y^{L-}, y^{L+}]$ . Because solution  $x^{U\pm}$  is constrained by the upper-level decision-making,  
 151 obtaining the optimal solution in the lower-level is restricted. Existence of tolerance is  
 152 reasonable and provides a broader feasible range for the lower-level decision-makers to seek  
 153 the optimal solution. Therefore, permission is given for the solution  $x^{U\pm}$  to fluctuate within  
 154 the range  $(x^- \in [x^{U-} - r_1, x^{U-} + r_1], x^+ \in [x^{U+} - r_1, x^{U+} + r_1])$ , where  $r_1$  is maximum  
 155 tolerance of the upper-level decision maker.  $x^{U\pm}$  is the most favorable decision;  $x^{U\pm} - r_1$  and  
 156  $x^{U\pm} + r_1$  are the worst acceptable ones. Concerning the upper-bound, the predilection of  
 157 decision makers linearly increases within the interval of  $[x^{U\pm} - r_1, x^{U\pm}]$  and linearly  
 158 descends within the interval of  $[x^{U\pm}, x^{U\pm} + r_1]$ . As the upper-level indicates an optimization

159 problem with a maximizing objective, the decision maker would believe that all  $f_U^+ \geq f_*^{U+}$  is  
 160 acceptable and all  $f_U^+ < f_U^{+'} = f_U(x^{L+}, y^{L+})$  is unacceptable; the lower-level model indicates a  
 161 minimization problem, the decision maker would believe that the solutions fulfilling  
 162  $f_L^+ \leq f_*^{L+}$  are acceptable while those fulfilling  $f_L^+ > f_L^{+'} = f_L(x^{U+}, y^{U+})$  are not. The  
 163 interactive algorithm is adopted to calculate the upper-bound model, and the formula can be  
 164 expressed as:

$$165 \quad \text{Max} = \lambda^+ \quad (3a)$$

166 Subject to:

$$167 \quad a^- x^+ \leq v^+ \quad (3b)$$

$$168 \quad b^- x^+ - c^- y^+ \geq w^+ \quad (3c)$$

$$169 \quad \mu_{x^+}(x^+) \geq \lambda^+ I \quad (3d)$$

$$170 \quad \mu_{f_U^+}[f_U^+(x^+, y^+)] \geq \lambda^+ \quad (3e)$$

$$171 \quad \mu_{f_L^+}[f_L^+(x^+, y^+)] \geq \lambda^+ \quad (3f)$$

$$172 \quad x^+, y^+ \geq 0 \quad (3g)$$

$$173 \quad \lambda^+ \in [0, 1] \quad (3h)$$

174 where:

$$175 \quad \mu_{x^+}(x^+) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^+ - (x^{U+} - r_1)}{r_1}, & \text{if } x^{U+} - r_1 \leq x^+ \leq x^{U+} \\ \frac{(x^{U+} + r_1) - x^+}{r_1}, & \text{if } x^{U+} \leq x^+ \leq x^{U+} + r_1 \\ 0, & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3i)$$

$$\mu_{f_U^+} [f_U^+(x^+, y^+)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_U^+ > f_*^{U+} \\ \frac{f_U^+ - f_U^{+'}}{f_*^{U+} - f_U^{+'}}, & \text{if } f_U^{+'} \leq f_U^+ \leq f_*^{U+} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_U^+ < f_U^{+'} \end{cases} \quad (3j)$$

$$\mu_{f_L^+} [f_L^+(x^+, y^+)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_L^+ > f_*^{L+} \\ \frac{f_L^+ - f_L^{+'}}{f_*^{L+} - f_L^{+'}}, & \text{if } f_L^{+'} \leq f_L^+ \leq f_*^{L+} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_L^+ < f_L^{+'} \end{cases} \quad (3k)$$

178

179 Among them, formulas (3b) and (3c) are original constraints for ISBP model.  $\mu_{x^+}(x^+)$  acts as  
 180 the membership function among the decision variables.  $\mu_{f_U^+} [f_U^+(x^+, y^+)]$  and

181  $\mu_{f_L^+} [f_L^+(x^+, y^+)]$  serve respectively as membership functions of the upper-lower-level

182 model. Subsequently, solutions  $x_{opt}^+$  and  $y_{opt}^+$  can be acquired via formula group (4).

183 Respectively,  $f_{Uopt}^+$  and  $f_{Lopt}^+$  are the values of the objective function for the upper-lower-level

184 model. Analogously, with the computation of  $(x^{U-}, y^{U-}, f_*^{U-})$ ,  $f_L^- = f_L(x^{U-}, y^{U-})$ ,

185  $(x^{L-}, y^{L-}, f_*^{L-})$  and  $f_U^- = f_U(x^{L-}, y^{L-})$ , the solutions of  $x_{opt}^-$ ,  $y_{opt}^-$ ,  $x_{opt}^-$  and  $f_{Lopt}^-$  related to

186 lower-bound of the objective can be attained from the following model:

$$187 \quad Max = \lambda^- \quad (4a)$$

188 Subject to:

$$189 \quad a^+ x^- \leq v^- \quad (4b)$$

$$190 \quad b^+ x^- + c^+ y^- \leq w^- \quad (4c)$$

$$191 \quad \mu_{x^-}(x^-) \geq \lambda^- I \quad (4d)$$

$$\mu_{f_U^-} [f_U^-(x^-, y^-)] \geq \lambda^- \quad (4e)$$

$$\mu_{f_L^-} [f_L^-(x^-, y^-)] \geq \lambda^- \quad (4f)$$

$$x^-, y^- \geq 0 \quad (4g)$$

$$x^- \leq x_{opt}^+ \quad (4h)$$

$$y^- \leq y_{opt}^- \quad (4i)$$

$$\lambda^- \in [0, 1] \quad (4j)$$

where:

$$\mu_{x^-}(x^-) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^- - (x^{U^-} - r_1)}{r_1}, & \text{if } x^{U^-} - r_1 \leq x^- \leq x^{U^-} \\ \frac{(x^{U^-} + r_1) - x^-}{r_1}, & \text{if } x^{U^-} \leq x^- \leq x^{U^-} + r_1 \\ 0, & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4k)$$

$$\mu_{f_U^-} [f_U^-(x^-, y^-)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_U^- > f_*^{U^-} \\ \frac{f_U^- - f_U^{-'}}{f_*^{U^-} - f_U^{-'}}, & \text{if } f_U^{-'} \leq f_U^- \leq f_*^{U^-} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_U^- > f_U^{-'} \end{cases} \quad (4l)$$

$$\mu_{f_L^-} [f_L^-(x^-, y^-)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_L^- > f_*^{L^-} \\ \frac{f_L^- - f_L^{-'}}{f_*^{L^-} - f_L^{-'}}, & \text{if } f_L^{-'} \leq f_L^- \leq f_*^{L^-} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_L^- > f_L^{-'} \end{cases} \quad (4m)$$

202

203 Through solving formula groups (3) and (4), solutions for the ISBP model can be obtained

$$204 \quad (\text{i.e., } x_{opt}^\pm = [x_{opt}^-, x_{opt}^+], y_{opt}^\pm = [y_{opt}^-, y_{opt}^+], f_{Uopt}^\pm = [f_{Uopt}^-, f_{Uopt}^+] \text{ and } f_{Lopt}^\pm = [f_{Lopt}^-, f_{Lopt}^+]).$$

### 3. Case Study

#### 3.1 Overview of the study system

Dagu River watershed is positioned between the latitude range of 36°10' N-37°12' N and the longitude range of 120°03' E-120°25' E (Figure 1). The main stream spans a length of 157 km, covering a total area of 4781 km<sup>2</sup> in Qingdao territory (Chen et al., 2024). Dagu River plays a key role as the main water supply in Qingdao, which is one of the northern cities in China facing water scarcity. The interannual variation of the runoff volume is significant. For example, the surface water resource was  $1.51 \times 10^9$  m<sup>3</sup> in 2020, and increased to  $5.95 \times 10^9$  m<sup>3</sup> in 2021 (Qingdao Water Administration Bureau, 2021). Besides, Qingdao's planting industry irrigation has gradually developed into a water-saving type. In 2018, the city's efficient water-saving irrigation area was  $166.7 \times 10^3$  hm<sup>2</sup>, and in 2019, it was  $188.0 \times 10^3$  hm<sup>2</sup>, of which low-pressure pipe irrigation area is  $160.30 \times 10^3$  hm<sup>2</sup>, sprinkler irrigation area is  $11.28 \times 10^3$  hm<sup>2</sup>, and micro-irrigation area is  $4.84 \times 10^3$  hm<sup>2</sup> (Qingdao water Conservancy Statistical Yearbook 2019).

Place Figure 1 here

#### 3.2 Modeling formulation

The case study incorporates practical details: (i) The Dagu River is divided into 16 river areas

based on the division of five-level river basin; the river basin is divided into 21 regions according to 4 counties; the model involves users in the regions, among which users are the main water users of the first and second industries in Qingdao, including 21 users of planting industry, livestock, fishery, and 17 users of processing and manufacturing enterprises. (ii) Pollutant content level control considers 5 national and 3 provincial control sections; and treatment capacity of 4 main wastewater treatment plants is considered. The analysis covers 5 hydrological year types ([Appendix A](#)) and spans 2 planning periods (2024 and 2025). (iii) Dagu River watershed is an important water source of Qingdao City. The modeling effort focuses on promoting economic development while controlling water consumption to ensure sustainability. In this study, a two-level decision-making process is modeled to address economic benefit maximization and water consumption minimization to enhance water use efficiency. (iv) Water-trading system regards users' trading costs and prices, ensuring that the allocation of water rights is commensurate with water consumption by users, so that the trading behavior is in line with the users' interest orientation. (v) For the planting industry, the operating costs, construction costs and water-saving subsidies of main water-saving facilities, such as sprinkler irrigation, micro-irrigation and low-pressure pipe irrigation in Dagu River watershed form part of the water-saving system; in addition, enterprises' calculations involve water-saving potential, costs, and subsidies. The framework of the proposed SB-WSTM is provided in Figure 2. Accordingly, the SB-WSTM can be represented as (the explanations of subscripts, coefficients and decision variables in the simulation planning models are provided in [Appendix D](#)):

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Place Figure 2 here

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253

254 Objective function:

255 Upper level:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Maxf_U^{\pm} = & \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (WQA_{ta} \times BA_{az}^{\pm}) - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (p_k \times WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times DA_{az}^{\pm}) \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (p_k \times BWT A_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times TCA_{az}) \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^1 \left[ p_k \times (SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \right] + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^1 (p_k \times WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{a=1}^A \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWA_{ta} \times PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + FAUA_{ta} \times PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
 & + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I (WQI_{ti} \times BI_i^{\pm}) - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^I (p_k \times WLI_{tki}^{\pm} \times DI_{zi}^{\pm}) \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^I (p_k \times BWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \times TCI_i) \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I SFCI_{ti} + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I WSIS_{ti} \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWI_{ti} \times PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + FAUI_{ti} \times PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm}) \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{s=1}^S (p_k \times SDW_{tks}^{\pm} \times SC_{ts}^{\pm})
 \end{aligned}$$

256

257

(5a)

258

259 The upper-level stakeholder is committed to maximizing the benefits derived from Dagu

260 River watershed. This encompasses revenue from objective water, loss from water deficit,

261 water charges, water-saving facilities' operation and construction, subsidies for water-saving

262 costs, water-trading expenditures, and expenses for wastewater treatment.

263

264 Lower level:

$$Minf_L^{\pm} = \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (p_k \times WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^I (p_k \times WPI_{tki}^{\pm}) \quad (5b)$$

266

267 The lower-level stakeholder is committed to minimizing water consumption in Dagou River  
268 watershed, involving actual water consumption of all production-oriented.

269

270 Subject to:

271 (1) Water consumption constraints:

$$WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = WQA_{taz} - WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5c)$$

$$WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = WQI_{ti} - WLI_{tki}^{\pm} - WSI_{ti} \quad (5d)$$

$$WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5e)$$

$$WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5f)$$

$$PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5g)$$

$$PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq TWNI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5h)$$

$$PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq UGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5i)$$

$$PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq UGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5j)$$

$$PSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = (WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \times LWPA_{az}^{\pm} \quad (5k)$$

$$PSI_{tki}^{\pm} = (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times LWPI_i^{\pm} \quad (5l)$$

$$QWAmi_{taz} \leq WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWama_{taz} \quad (5m)$$

$$QWImi_{ti} \leq WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti} \leq WQIma_{ti} \quad (5n)$$

284

285 Constraints (5c) and (5d) manifest that the actual water is objective water minus the

combination of water deficit and water saving. Constraints (5e) and (5f) manifest that the actual surface water and groundwater constitute the actual water composition. Constraints (5g) and (5h) manifest that the actual surface water is obliged to satisfy the water rights held. Constraints (5i) and (5j) manifest that the actual groundwater ought to be controlled by the maximum total groundwater intake. Constraints (5k) and (5l) manifest that the actual production scale equals the combination of actual water consumption and saving multiplied by the production scale per unit of water. Constraints (5m) and (5n) manifest that the combination of the actual water consumption and saving should be limited by the peak water demand, and meet the fundamental water demand. Constraints (5m) and (5n) manifest that the combination of actual water consumption and saving remains within the peak water demand and the fundamental water demand.

(2) Water rights trading constraints:

$$TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + BWT A_{tkaz}^{\pm} - SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5o)$$

$$TWN I_{tki}^{\pm} = WNI_{tki}^{\pm} + BWTI_{tki}^{\pm} - SWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5p)$$

$$QWAmi_{taz} \leq WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWama_{taz} \quad (5q)$$

$$TWN I_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti} \leq QWIma_{tzi} \quad (5r)$$

$$WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \geq SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5s)$$

$$WNI_{tki}^{\pm} \geq SWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5t)$$

$$\sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I SWTI_{tki}^{\pm} = \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A BWT A_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I BWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5u)$$

Constraints (5o) and (5p) manifest that the water rights held are determined by taking into

account initial water rights and the purchase or sale processes (the calculation of the initial water rights is shown in [Appendix B](#)). Constraints (5q) and (5r) manifest that the aggregation of actual groundwater, water rights held and water saving ought to remain within the peak water demand. Constraints (5s) and (5t) manifest that water rights sold should not surpass the initial water rights. Constraint (5u) manifests that the aggregation of water rights sold is equal to the aggregation of water rights purchased.

(3) Price rule constraint:

$$WQA_{tkaz} \times BA_{az}^{\pm} - WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times DA_{az}^{\pm} + SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times TRA_{az}^{\pm} - BWT A_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times (TCA_{az}^{\pm} + TRA_{az}^{\pm}) - SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - SFBA_{taaz}^{\pm} + WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm} - FAWA_{taaz}^{\pm} \times PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - FAUA_{taaz}^{\pm} \times PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \geq NTGA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5v)$$

$$WQI_{tki} \times BI_i^{\pm} - WLI_{tki}^{\pm} \times DI_i^{\pm} + SWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \times TRI_i^{\pm} - BWT I_{tki}^{\pm} \times (TCI_i^{\pm} + TRI_i^{\pm}) - SFCI_{ti}^{\pm} + WSIS_{ti}^{\pm} - FAWI_{ti}^{\pm} \times PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - FAUI_{ti}^{\pm} \times PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \geq NTGI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5w)$$

Constraints (5v) and (5w) manifest that the post-trading advantages of the user are at least as much as the pre-trading advantages.

(4) Wastewater discharge and treatment constraints:

$$EPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = UPEA_{az}^{\pm} \times \left[ (WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \times IWPA_{az}^{\pm} \right] \quad (5x)$$

$$EPI_{tki}^{\pm} = UPEI_i^{\pm} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times IWPI_i^{\pm} \right] \quad (5y)$$

$$\sum_{i=16}^{16} DISW_{tki}^{\pm} = \sum_{i=16}^{16} \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times IWDR_i^{\pm} \right] \quad (5z)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
SDW_{tks}^{\pm} &= \sum_{i=1}^{15} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\
&+ \sum_{i=17}^{17} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\
&+ LSW_{ts}^{\pm} + OSW_{ts}^{\pm} \leq MSDW_s^{\pm}
\end{aligned} \tag{5aa}$$

327

328 Constraints (5x) and (5y) manifest that the actual pollutant generation is the product of actual  
329 production scale and pollutant generation per unit production scale (the pollutants referred to  
330 in the constraints regard COD as the object of study). Constraint (5z) manifests that the  
331 wastewater directly discharged originates from the combination of the actual water  
332 consumption and saving multiplied by the coefficient of drainage. Constraint (5aa) manifests  
333 that the capacity of wastewater treatment facility is required to exceed the total of indirect  
334 wastewater, domestic wastewater, and other types of wastewater.

335

336 (5) Water balance constraint:

$$\sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \sum_{a=1}^A TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times TWNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \right] \right\} \leq SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} \tag{5ab}$$

$$SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSW_{wz} \times \begin{pmatrix} RNF_{tkz} + DIW_{tz} + ORD I_{tkz} \\ -ORD O_{tkz} - OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \end{pmatrix} \right] \tag{5ac}$$

$$ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (OCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) \tag{5ad}$$

$$RIBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{v=1}^V (IOCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm}) \tag{5ae}$$

$$341 \quad ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \begin{array}{l} RNF_{tkz} + DIW_{tz} + ORDI_{tkz} - ORDO_{tkz} \\ -OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \\ -\sum_{a=1}^A TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times TWNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \\ +DWWP_z \times \left[ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{s=1}^S (SSZ_{zs} \times SDW_{tks}^{\pm}) \\ +\sum_{i=16}^{16} (ISZ_{zi} \times DISW_{tki}^{\pm}) \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right] \right\} \quad (5af)$$

342

343 Constraint (5ab) manifests that the water rights held by the river area must not surpass the  
 344 available water resources of the river area. Constraints (5ac) to (5af) manifest that the water  
 345 balance of the river region accounts for upstream inflow, natural runoff, exterior diversion,  
 346 outflow, and the surface water consumption including that by residents and water rights held  
 347 by users, and other surface water consumption (the calculation of natural runoff is shown in  
 348 Appendix A).

349

350 (6) Pollutant content level constraints of river monitoring sections:

$$351 \quad CSM_m \times MBF_{tkm}^{\pm} \geq OCS_{tkm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z ZSM_{mz} \times \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{a=1}^A (DPMA_{maz} \times EPA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\ +\sum_{s=3}^S \left[ \begin{array}{l} SSZ_{zs} \times DPMS_{ms} \times (1 - UPES_s) \\ \times \left( \begin{array}{l} LSW_{ts} \times LSP_{ts} \\ +OSW_{ts} \times OSP_{ts} \end{array} \right) \end{array} \right] \\ +\sum_{s=4}^S \left[ \begin{array}{l} SSZ_{zs} \times DPMS_{ms} \\ \times (1 - UPES_s) \times \sum_{i=1}^6 EPI_{tki}^{\pm} \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right\} \quad (5ag)$$

352

$$MBF_{tkm}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (WSM_{mw} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) + NRM_{tkm} \quad (5ah)$$

354

355 Constraint (5ag) manifests that the pollutant content level at the monitoring section is  
 356 governed by the stream runoff and pollutant burden (conform to the local standard of surface  
 357 water quality). Constraint (5ah) manifests that the stream discharge at the monitoring section  
 358 is fixed by taking into account the upstream inflow (i.e., upstream river region and natural  
 359 runoff prior to the monitoring section upstream).

360

361 (7) Supply and demand constraints:

$$DWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm}, & \text{if } PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5ai)$$

$$SWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}, & \text{if } WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5aj)$$

$$DWI_{tki}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - WNI_{tki}^{\pm}, & \text{if } PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - WNI_{tki}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - WNI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5ak)$$

$$SWI_{tki}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} WNI_{tki}^{\pm} - PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm}, & \text{if } WNI_{tki}^{\pm} - PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } WNI_{tki}^{\pm} - PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5al)$$

366

367 Constraints (5ai) to (5al) manifest that if the initial water rights transcend the expected surface  
 368 water consumption, then the water rights can be offered; if the initial water rights fall short of  
 369 the expected surface water consumption, it implies the demand for water rights.

370

371 (8) Water-saving regulation constraints:

$$372 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFBA_{tkaz} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} SIFC_{az} + NIPM_{tkaz} MIFC_{az} + NIPL_{tkaz} LIFC_{az}) \quad (5am)$$

$$373 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SIRC_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MIRC_{az} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LIRC_{az}) \quad (5an)$$

$$374 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 \left( SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SICW_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MICW_{az} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LICW_{az} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} NSCW_{az} \right) \quad (5ao)$$

$$375 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 EFIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (5ap)$$

$$376 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (PNSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - NIPS_{tkaz} - NIPM_{tkaz} - NIPL_{tkaz}) \quad (5aq)$$

$$377 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} + PIPS_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (5ar)$$

$$378 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPM_{tkaz} + PIPM_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (5as)$$

$$379 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPL_{tkaz} + PIPL_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (5at)$$

$$380 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times SIRW_{az}) \quad (5au)$$

$$381 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times MIRW_{az}) \quad (5av)$$

$$382 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 LIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times LIRW_{az}) \quad (5aw)$$

$$383 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (5ax)$$

$$384 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 (\sigma_a \times EFIA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (5ay)$$

$$WSI_{ii} = TIOV_i \times (PTVW_i - TIVW_i) + CICW_i \times \frac{\eta_p - \eta_c}{1 - \eta_p} \quad (5az)$$

$$SFCI_{ii} = USFC_i \times WSI_{ii} \quad (5ba)$$

$$\sum_{a=1}^1 WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 \left[ \varphi_a \times (SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz}) \right] \quad (5bb)$$

$$WSIS_{ii} = \varphi_i \times SFCI_{ii} \quad (5be)$$

389

390 Constraint (5am) manifests that the water-saving construction cost is the unit area  
 391 construction cost multiplied by total areas of three efficient irrigation facilities. Constraint  
 392 (5an) manifests that the water-saving operating cost is equivalent to the sum of operating cost  
 393 per unit area multiplied by the total area of three efficient irrigation facilities. Constraint (5ao)  
 394 manifests the actual water consumption is equal to the product of the sum of the areas of three  
 395 efficient irrigation facilities, and non-water-saving irrigation and the corresponding water  
 396 consumption per unit area. Constraint (5ap) manifests that the non-water-saving irrigation  
 397 area is original non-water-saving irrigation area minus total newly added irrigation areas of  
 398 three efficient irrigation facilities. Constraints (5aq) to (5at) manifest that the actual  
 399 sprinkling, micro-irrigation, and low-pressure pipe irrigation areas amount to the combination  
 400 of the original irrigation area and the newly added irrigation area. Constraints (5au) to (5ax)  
 401 manifest that the water-saving amount is equivalent to the sum of three actual efficient  
 402 irrigation facilities multiplied by the corresponding Water saving per unit area. Constraint  
 403 (5ay) manifests that the proportion of irrigation area allocated to three efficient irrigations.  
 404 Constraint (5az) is manifested as the computing process of the water-saving potential of  
 405 enterprises. Constraint (5ba) manifests that the water-saving cost of the enterprise is obtained  
 406 by multiplying the water saving by the unit saving cost. Constraints (5bb) and (5be) manifest

the water-saving subsidy for planting industry and enterprises from the government.

*3.3 Scenario design and data collection*

The 14th Five-Year Plan for Water Saving and Unconventional Water Use in Qingdao city (compiled by [Qingdao Water Administration Bureau, 2021](#)) provides crucial guidelines for the further advancement of efficient water-saving irrigation project and the improvement of precise subsidy and incentive for agricultural water use in Qingdao. This “Plan” aims to refine Qingdao’s water-saving activities plan to address the predicament of water scarcity.

Therefore, to align with the refinement of water-saving activity planning, this study designed five scenarios of efficient water-saving irrigation area ratios and five scenarios of water-saving subsidy policy to examine the impact of different water-saving schemes on the water rights trading market under conditions of water scarcity (details are described in [Table 1](#)). The ratios of efficient water-saving irrigation area are set according to 2025 planning targets. Agricultural users are free to choose efficient water-saving irrigation methods (as described by constraint condition [5ay](#)). Water-saving subsidy policy aims to examine the applicability of national policy at the local level and the impact of water-saving policy on Qingdao’s water rights trading (as described by constraint conditions [5bb](#) and [5be](#)).

-----  
Place Table 1 here  
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The study relies on data from reliable and valid sources, including statistical yearbooks, water resource bulletins, published papers, and expert consultations. Flow data of Nancun

hydrologic station from 1998 to 2011 are collected for calibration of hydrological simulation. Meteorological data employed are gathered from China Meteorological Data Service Center (encompassing daily rainfall data along with highest and lowest temperatures). A digital elevation model (DEM) comes from geospatial data cloud site of the Computer Network Information Center of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (<http://www.gscloud.cn>), which is applied to obtain the physical characteristics, flow direction and hydrological network. The Data Center for Resources and Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences provided land use data sets (<http://www.resdc.cn>). The Soil and Terrain Database obtained a soil map of 1:1 million. The Water Resources Bulletin obtains water demand and supply data, in addition, based on the Water Conservancy Statistical Yearbook, the area data of three efficient irrigation facilities (i.e., sprinkling, micro-irrigation, and low-pressure pipe irrigation) are acquired. Enterprise wastewater data and agricultural wastewater data are derived from the Key Pollution Source Data Release System of the Department of Ecology and Environment of Shandong Province and the Bulletin of the Second National Pollution Source Census of Qingdao City, respectively ([Qingdao Municipal Bureau of Ecology and Environment, 2020](#)).

## 4. Results and Discussion

### 4.1 Initial water right allocation

[Figure 3](#) illustrates initial water rights under water-saving scenarios among hydrological year types. The volume of available water resources is commensurate with that of total initial water rights. The results indicate that the total initial water rights in wet years ( $k = 4$  and 5) would

increase compared to dry years ( $k = 1$  and  $2$ ). For example, under Scenario S1, total initial water rights in wet years would increase by  $[18.08, 20.81]\%$  compared to dry years in 2025. This is due to higher surface available water resource in wet years. Besides, the results show that, compared with non-subsidy scenarios (S1-S5), total initial water rights under full water-saving subsidy (S21-S25) would decrease. For example, under 70% efficient water-saving irrigation area, total initial water rights would decrease by  $[4.16, 4.29]\%$ , i.e.,  $[3.18, 3.30] \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ . This is because the costs incurred by operation and construction of water-saving irrigation technologies are offset under full subsidy, bringing about the tendency to adopt irrigation technology with higher water-saving capacity (as shown in Figure 7), leading to a decrease in surface water consumption for planting industry. From the results, with the increase of efficient water-saving irrigation area, the total initial rights would decrease. For example, the total rights under S25 would decrease by  $[6.97, 8.15]\%$ , i.e.  $[55.06, 65.34] \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ , compared to S21. This is because the increase in efficient water-saving irrigation area leads to a decrease in water consumption of planting industry users. In addition, with the increase of efficient water-saving irrigation area, the initial water rights amount for planting industry would decrease, while those for enterprise would increase.

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Place Figure 3 here  
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#### 4.2 Water rights trading process

Figure 4 illustrates water rights trading amount under water-saving scenarios among hydrological year types (PL: planting industry; LI: livestock; FI: fishery; EN: enterprise). The

results indicate that water trading mainly occurs in special dry years ( $k = 1$ ), where enterprises are buyers, and agriculture (including planting industry, livestock, and fishery) are sellers. Notably, agriculture, especially planting industry, is the main seller, accounting for 66.36, 71.54]% of total sales on average. This is because the benefits per unit water consumption of enterprises is higher than that of agriculture, and planting industry has a larger water basis, so water rights tend to flow to high-efficiency enterprises (Ma et al., 2020; Browne and Ji, 2023; Chen et al., 2024). Besides, the results show that, compared to non-subsidy scenarios (S1-S5), the trading amount under full water-saving subsidy (S21-S25) would decrease by [11.60, 14.75]% on average, i.e.,  $[308.02, 455.64] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . This arises from the fact that water-saving subsidy would decrease enterprises' actual surface water consumption, as shown in Figure 5. And enterprises' demand for water rights would decrease by [12.63, 13.27]%. In detail, from the results in Figure 5, compared to non-subsidy scenarios, enterprises' actual surface water consumption under full subsidy would decrease by  $[371.60, 392.28] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ , and the actual groundwater consumption would increase by  $[401.64, 498.02] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . This is because under scenarios with subsidy, enterprises would utilize more groundwater with higher water price to substitute for surface water. Surface water with lower price tends to flow to industries without subsidy such as fisheries, whose actual surface water use would increase by  $[382.86, 502.99] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . These results imply that water saving subsidy alters enterprises' water consumption structure of surface water and groundwater, thereby impacts supply and demand dynamics and water trading processes. The results also show that with the increase of efficient water-saving irrigation area, the water trading amount would increase. For example, compared to S1, water trading amount under S5 would increase by [41.43, 67.02]%, i.e.,  $[952.93, 1173.66] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . This is because the expansion of efficient irrigation area would raise planting industry's water-saving amount and reduce surface water consumption.

Therefore, planting industry's water right supply would nearly double, enlarging the water trading market scale. The aforementioned analysis implies that water-saving users transfer surplus water rights to high-return users, gaining water-saving benefits; and high-return users pay for the water rights, thereby stimulating the intrinsic motivation of users to save water.

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Place Figures 4 and 5 here  
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### 4.3 Water resources allocation

Figure 6 illustrates surface and underground water consumption of multiple industries under water-saving schemes among hydrological year types. The results indicate that, compared to dry years, surface water consumption under wet years would increase, while the groundwater consumption would decrease. For example, in wet years under S1, the planting industry of surface water consumption would increase by [18.93, 22.09]% compared to dry years, while the groundwater consumption would decrease to 0. This results from the fact that groundwater price is higher than price of surface water that is abundant in wet years. In addition, the results show that the total surface water consumption under full water-saving subsidy (S21-S25) would decrease by  $[1.58, 2.41] \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$  on average compared with non-subsidy scenarios (S1-S5). This is because the water-saving amount under full water saving subsidy is [6.52, 10.16]% more than that without subsidy. The results also show that the consumption of surface water by planting industry would decrease as the area of efficient water-saving irrigation increases. For example, the consumption of surface water by planting industry under S5 is [5.68, 5.76]% less than that under S1, i.e.,  $[3.35, 3.39] \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ . This is because

the increase of efficient water-saving irrigation area leads to an increase in water-saving amount by planting industry (Pinto et al., 2023). For example, the water-saving amount under 70% efficient water-saving irrigation area (S5, S10, S15, S20 and S25) is increased by [19.16, 19.60] on average, i.e.,  $[4.00, 4.05] \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ , compared to 60% efficient water-saving irrigation area (S1, S6, S11, S16 and S21).

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Place Figure 6 here  
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#### 4.4 Water-saving facilities construction

Figure 7 illustrates construction area of three facilities among hydrological year types (NIPS: sprinkler construction area; NIPM: micro-irrigation construction area; NIPL: low-pressure pipe construction area). The results indicate that, in special dry years ( $k = 1$ ), micro-irrigation is the predominant type of efficient water-saving irrigation facility construction, accounting for [91.58, 92.44]% of total construction area on average. For other hydrological years, the predominant type of facility construction is low-pressure pipe. It accounts for [80.00, 88.78]% for  $k = 2$ , [80.00, 88.78]% for  $k = 3$ , [80.16, 92.91]% for  $k = 4$ , and [87.39, 93.77]% for  $k = 5$  on average, respectively. This is because the water-saving ability of micro-irrigation is nearly twice that of low-pressure pipe irrigation; but the water-saving cost of micro-irrigation is high. Thus, micro-irrigation technology is more applicable during special dry years. Low-pressure pipe irrigation with lower cost would be adopted when surface water resources is increased. Besides, the results show that the micro-irrigation facility construction area under full water-saving subsidy would increase by nearly 7 times compared to non-subsidy

scenarios. This is because water-saving subsidy alleviates the cost; users would be more inclined to choose irrigation facility with high water-saving capabilities. The result implies that with suitable water-saving subsidy, the agricultural sector will progressively lean towards utilizing irrigation systems with greater water-saving capacities, such as micro-irrigation, fostering high-quality water-saving advancements in the region (Zhao et al., 2023b). The results also show that the increase of low-pressure pipe irrigation area is the largest with the construction of efficient water-saving irrigation facility (Figure 7 (a)-(e)). For example, under 70% efficient water-saving irrigation area (i.e., S5, S10, S15, S20 and S25), construction area for water-saving facility would be  $[12.67, 13.30] \times 10^3 \text{ hm}^2$  for low-pressure pipe irrigation on average,  $[3.85, 4.04] \times 10^3 \text{ hm}^2$  for micro-irrigation, and  $[0.12, 0.56] \times 10^3 \text{ hm}^2$  for sprinkler irrigation. This is because low-pressure pipe irrigation facility has lowest construction cost.

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Place Figure 7 here  
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#### 4.5 Bi-objective function values

Figure 8 illustrates system benefits and total actual water consumption under water-saving schemes. The results indicate that system benefits and water consumption are higher in wet years than those in dry years. For example, under S1, the system benefits in wet years would be improved by  $[5.25, 6.41]\%$  on average, and the total water consumption would be improved by  $[4.54, 5.89]\%$ , compared to dry years. In addition, the results show that, with the rise of water-saving subsidy, the system benefits would be increased, and the total water consumption would decrease. For example, compared to non-subsidy scenarios, the system

benefit under full subsidy would increase by  $[157.24, 172.76] \times 10^6$  RMB¥, and the total water consumption would decrease by  $[1.38, 2.27] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup> on average. This is because the subsidy makes up for the cost of water saving, and planting industry tends to invest in micro-irrigation water-saving facility (see Figure 7), leading to increased water-saving amount and reduced total water consumption (Li et al., 2023). The findings also indicate that, with the increase in efficient irrigation area, the total water consumption would decrease. For example, compared to 60% of the irrigation area, the total water consumption under 75% would decrease by  $[4.97, 5.12]\%$  on average, i.e.,  $[3.86, 3.97] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup>. This is because, as the planting industry increase the area of efficient water-saving irrigation, water-savings amount would increase, consequently decreasing total water consumption.

Place Figure 8 here

#### 4.6 Optimal water saving scheme

The optimal water-saving scheme is ascertained relying on Technique for Order Preference by Similarity to an Ideal Solution (TOPSIS) (Shih et al., 2007; Ghazali et al., 2018; Wang et al., 2022). This study comprehensively considers the system benefits (deduction of water-saving subsidy), water consumption, water-saving amount, and water use efficiency to evaluate the performance of multiple water saving scenarios. The evaluation results are presented in Table 2, regarding the results, the largest Euclidean distance is 0.7936 (S15), succeeded by 0.7842 (S5) and 0.7402 (S10). It indicates that S15 that corresponds to 50% of the subsidy rate and 70% of efficient irrigation area is the optimal water-saving scenario under SB-WSTM. Table

3 presents the optimal decisions under optimal water saving scheme. The results can be displayed as follows: (a) The actual production scales of planting industry in Pingdu county is the largest among all counties in each year. The production scales would respectively be  $[148.81, 150.31] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Pingdu),  $[127.85, 129.15] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Laixi),  $[104.28, 105.34] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Jiaozhou) and  $[81.17, 81.99] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Jimo). (b) The agricultural water consumption of Laixi county is the largest. The agricultural water consumption would respectively be  $[35.75, 35.94] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup>/year in Laixi,  $[19.65, 19.97] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup>/year in Pingdu,  $[7.26, 7.26] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup>/year in Jimo and  $[15.85, 15.87] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup>/year in Jiaozhou. Table 4 presents the optimal water-saving scheme. The results show that: (a) The main water-saving facility of each county is, with an area of  $[43.62, 44.43] \times 10^3$  ha/year in Laixi,  $[14.40, 14.42] \times 10^3$  ha in Jiaozhou,  $[12.98, 13.52] \times 10^3$  ha/year in Pingdu and  $[6.95, 6.96] \times 10^3$  ha/year in Jimo. (b) The area of each water-saving facility in the main county is listed as follows: the area of sprinkler irrigation facility in Jiaozhou is  $[1.92, 1.97] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the area of micro-irrigation facility in Laixi is  $[1.99, 1.99] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the area of low-pressure pipe irrigation facility in Laixi is  $[43.62, 44.43] \times 10^3$  ha/year. (c) The main hydrological year type of water-saving facility in each county is listed as follows: the construction area of Laixi is  $[13.68, 14.56] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the construction area of Pingdu is  $[5.91, 7.16] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the construction area of Jimo is  $[1.32, 1.32] \times 10^3$  ha/year, and the construction area of Jiaozhou is  $[4.43, 4.61] \times 10^3$  ha/year under special dry year. (d) The water-saving subsidy for Laixi county is the largest. The subsidy would be  $[165.40, 171.30] \times 10^6$  RMB/year (Laixi),  $[6.66, 13.86] \times 10^6$  RMB/year (Pingdu),  $[0.99, 1.05] \times 10^6$  RMB/year (Jimo) and  $[2.16, 3.00] \times 10^6$  RMB/year (Jiaozhou), respectively. (e) The main hydrological year type of water-saving subsidy in each county is listed as follows: the subsidy of Laixi is  $[209.57, 222.67] \times 10^6$  RMB/year, the subsidy of Pingdu is  $[13.92, 21.57] \times 10^6$  RMB/year, the subsidy of Jimo is

[0.49, 0.49]  $\times 10^6$  RMB/year, and the subsidy of Jiaozhou is [1.14, 4.52]  $\times 10^6$  RMB/year under special dry year.

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Place Tables 2, 3 and 4 here  
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## 5. Conclusions

This study proposes a novel stochastic bi-level programming-based water saving and trading simulation model for water resources regulation (SB-WSTM) in a water-scarce watershed. SB-WSTM incorporates scenario analysis on water-saving irrigation facility and government subsidy, as well as uncertainty analysis with interval stochastic bi-level programming (ISBP) within a water trading market framework. The SB-WSTM has superiority in: (i) disclosing the response of water resources system to water-saving facilities and subsidies; (ii) obtaining the optimal water saving and water resources regulation schemes considering water system functions.

The SB-WSTM is applied in a water-scarce watershed, Dagou River watershed of China. Several findings can be disclosed: (i) As surface water resources increase, total initial water rights, surface water and total water consumption, and system benefits would rise accordingly, accompanied with a decrease in groundwater consumption. Besides, water rights trading process mainly occurs during special dry years. (ii) Micro-irrigation, which is given priority in special dry years because of its efficient water-saving ability, accounting for [91.58, 92.44]% of total construction area. Low-pressure pipe irrigation is more favored in other hydrological

year types because of the lower construction costs, accounting for more than 80%. To cope with extremely dry years that may damage food security and ecological red line in Daguer River watershed, it is recommended to increase the promotion and investment of micro-irrigation facility. (iii) Water-saving subsidy would decrease total water rights and surface water consumption, while increasing system benefit. In addition, water-saving subsidy would change users' water consumption structure, decreasing the proportion of surface water consumption for enterprises; full water-saving subsidy leads to a decrease in water right demand by [12.63, 13.27]% compared with non-subsidy scenarios, which would reduce water trading amount by [11.60, 14.75]%. And full water-saving subsidy would increase the construction area of micro-irrigation facility by nearly 7 times. (iv) The increase of water-saving irrigation area would decrease total water rights and the consumption of surface water by planting industry, consequently increasing water rights allocation to enterprises. Furthermore, this expansion would transfer surplus water rights to high-return users and raise the amount of water right supply, thereby stimulating the intrinsic motivation to save water. (v) Based on comprehensive evaluation for system benefits (deduction of water-saving subsidy), water consumption, water-saving amount, and water use efficiency, the scenario that entails 50% of the subsidy rate combined with 70% of efficient irrigation area emerges as the optimal water-saving scheme.

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862     **List of Table Captions**

863     Table 1 Design of water-saving schemes

864     Table 2 TOPSIS analysis results of different water-saving scenarios

865     Table 3 Production and water consumption decision scheme under optimal water saving  
866             scheme

867     Table 4 Water-saving irrigation facility areas and subsidy decision scheme under optimal  
868             water saving scheme

870 Table 1 Design of water-saving schemes

Scenario	High-efficient water-saving irrigation area rate (%)	Water-saving costs subsidy rate (%)
S1	60.0	0
S2	62.5	0
S3	65.0	0
S4	67.5	0
S5	70.0	0
S6	60.0	25
S7	62.5	25
S8	65.0	25
S9	67.5	25
S10	70.0	25
S11	60.0	50
S12	62.5	50
S13	65.0	50
S14	67.5	50
S15	70.0	50
S16	60.0	75
S17	62.5	75
S18	65.0	75
S19	67.5	75
S20	70.0	75
S21	60.0	100
S22	62.5	100
S23	65.0	100
S24	67.5	100
S25	70.0	100

872 Table 2 TOPSIS analysis results of different water-saving scenarios

Scenario	Maximum Euclidean distance
S1	0.5319
S2	0.6221
S3	0.6589
S4	0.6833
S5	0.7843
S6	0.5585
S7	0.6375
S8	0.6787
S9	0.6630
S10	0.7402
S11	0.4922
S12	0.5929
S13	0.5593
S14	0.7210
S15	0.7936
S16	0.5059
S17	0.5246
S18	0.6579
S19	0.6399
S20	0.6835
S21	0.3507
S22	0.2806
S23	0.3624
S24	0.3255
S25	0.3572

874 Table 3 Production and water consumption decision scheme under optimal water saving scheme

Decisions	Hydrological year type	Laixi	Pingdu	Jimo	Jiaozhou
Objective production scales of planting industry ( $10^3$ ha)	\	[128.95, 130.26]	[148.82, 150.31]	[81.17, 81.99]	[104.29, 105.34]
Objective production scales of livestock industry ( $10^6$ head)	\	[1.93, 1.95]	[0.80, 0.81]	[0.83, 0.84]	[1.63, 1.64]
Objective production scales of fishery industry ( $10^3$ ha)	\	[0.97, 0.98]	[0.22, 0.22]	[0.24, 0.24]	[1.07, 1.08]
Actual agricultural water consumption ( $10^6$ m <sup>3</sup> )	Special dry year	[31.12, 32.08]	[17.90, 19.15]	[6.96, 6.97]	[15.49, 15.67]
	Dry year	[35.86, 36.22]	[19.69, 20.25]	[7.16, 7.16]	[15.90, 15.90]
	Normal year	[36.43, 36.80]	[19.69, 20.25]	[7.30, 7.31]	[15.90, 15.90]
	Wet year	[36.43, 36.78]	[19.76, 20.29]	[7.39, 7.39]	[15.90, 15.90]
	Special wet year	[36.43, 36.78]	[19.76, 20.29]	[7.39, 7.39]	[15.90, 15.90]
	Expected value	[35.75, 35.94]	[19.65, 19.97]	[7.26, 7.26]	[15.85, 15.87]
Actual irrigation water consumption of planting industry ( $10^6$ m <sup>3</sup> )	Special dry year	[19.15, 20.03]	[14.00, 15.26]	[6.03, 6.03]	[12.76, 12.95]
	Dry year	[23.16, 23.53]	[15.61, 16.16]	[6.03, 6.03]	[12.95, 12.95]
	Normal year	[23.16, 23.53]	[15.61, 16.16]	[6.03, 6.03]	[12.95, 12.95]
	Wet year	[23.16, 23.51]	[15.64, 16.16]	[6.02, 6.03]	[12.95, 12.95]
	Special wet year	[23.16, 23.51]	[15.64, 16.16]	[6.02, 6.03]	[12.95, 12.95]
	Expected value	[22.77, 22.97]	[15.58, 15.89]	[6.02, 6.03]	[12.93, 12.95]

876 Table 4 Water-saving irrigation facility areas and subsidy decision scheme under optimal water saving scheme

Decisions	Hydrological year type	Laixi	Pingdu	Jimo	Jiaozhou
Sprinkler irrigation facility area ( $10^3$ ha)	Special dry year	[1.31, 1.50]	[0.29, 1.48]	[0.43, 0.43]	[1.92, 2.32]
	Special wet year	1.39	0.29	0.43	1.92
	Expected value	[1.39, 1.41]	[0.29, 0.44]	[0.43, 0.43]	[1.92, 1.97]
Micro-irrigation facility area ( $10^3$ ha)	Special dry year	[11.41, 11.41]	[0.011, 0.24]	[0.21, 0.21]	[0.24, 0.24]
	Special wet year	0.65	0.011	0.21	0.24
	Expected value	[1.99, 1.99]	[0.011, 0.040]	[0.21, 0.21]	[0.24, 0.24]
Low-pressure pipe irrigation facility area ( $10^3$ ha)	Special dry year	[27.96, 31.08]	[12.50, 17.78]	[6.95, 6.95]	[14.41, 14.58]
	Special wet year	[45.44, 46.78]	[12.30, 13.62]	[6.94, 6.97]	[14.40, 14.40]
	Expected value	[43.62, 44.43]	[12.98, 13.52]	[6.95, 6.96]	[14.40, 14.42]
Water-saving subsidy ( $10^6$ RMB)	Special dry year	[419.13, 445.33]	[27.83, 43.14]	[0.99, 0.99]	[2.29, 9.04]
	Special wet year	[125.67, 135.89]	[1.45, 11.50]	[0.99, 1.16]	[2.14, 2.14]
	Expected value	[165.40, 171.30]	[6.66, 13.86]	[0.99, 1.05]	[2.16, 3.00]

878 **List of Figure Captions**

879 Figure 1 The geographical location and division of Dagu River watershed (the explanation of  
880 the river reach is seen in Appendix D)

881 Figure 2 Framework of the SB-WSTM

882 Figure 3 The quantity of initial water rights in five hydrological year types under 25 water-  
883 saving scenarios ( $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  represent special dry year, dry year, normal year,  
884 wet year and special wet year, respectively)

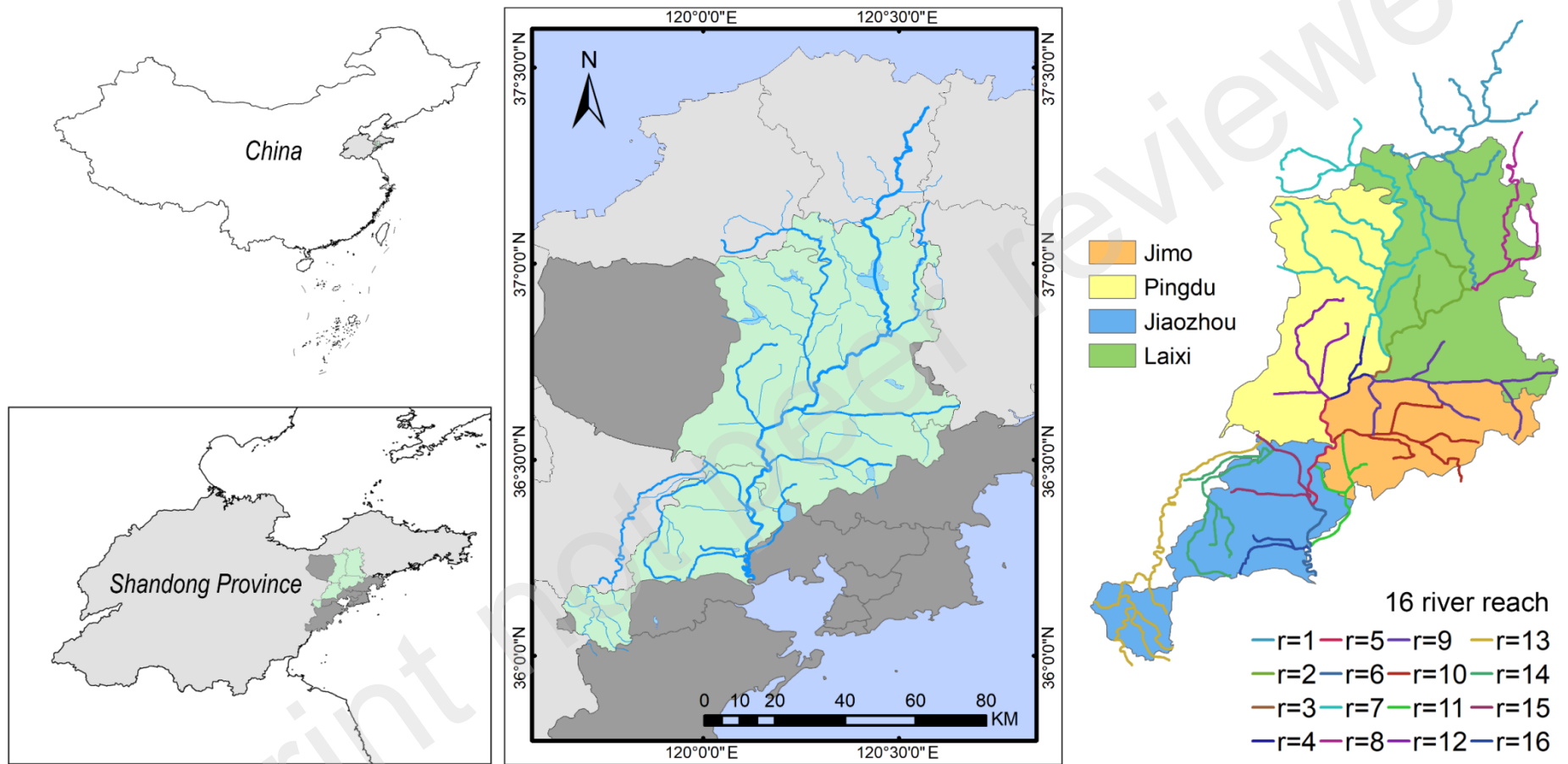
885 Figure 4 Water rights trading in five hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios  
886 (PL: planting industry; LI: livestock; FI: fishery; EN: enterprise)

887 Figure 5 Actual surface and underground water consumption and initial water rights of  
888 different industries in special dry year

889 Figure 6 Surface and underground water consumption of multiple industries in five  
890 hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios

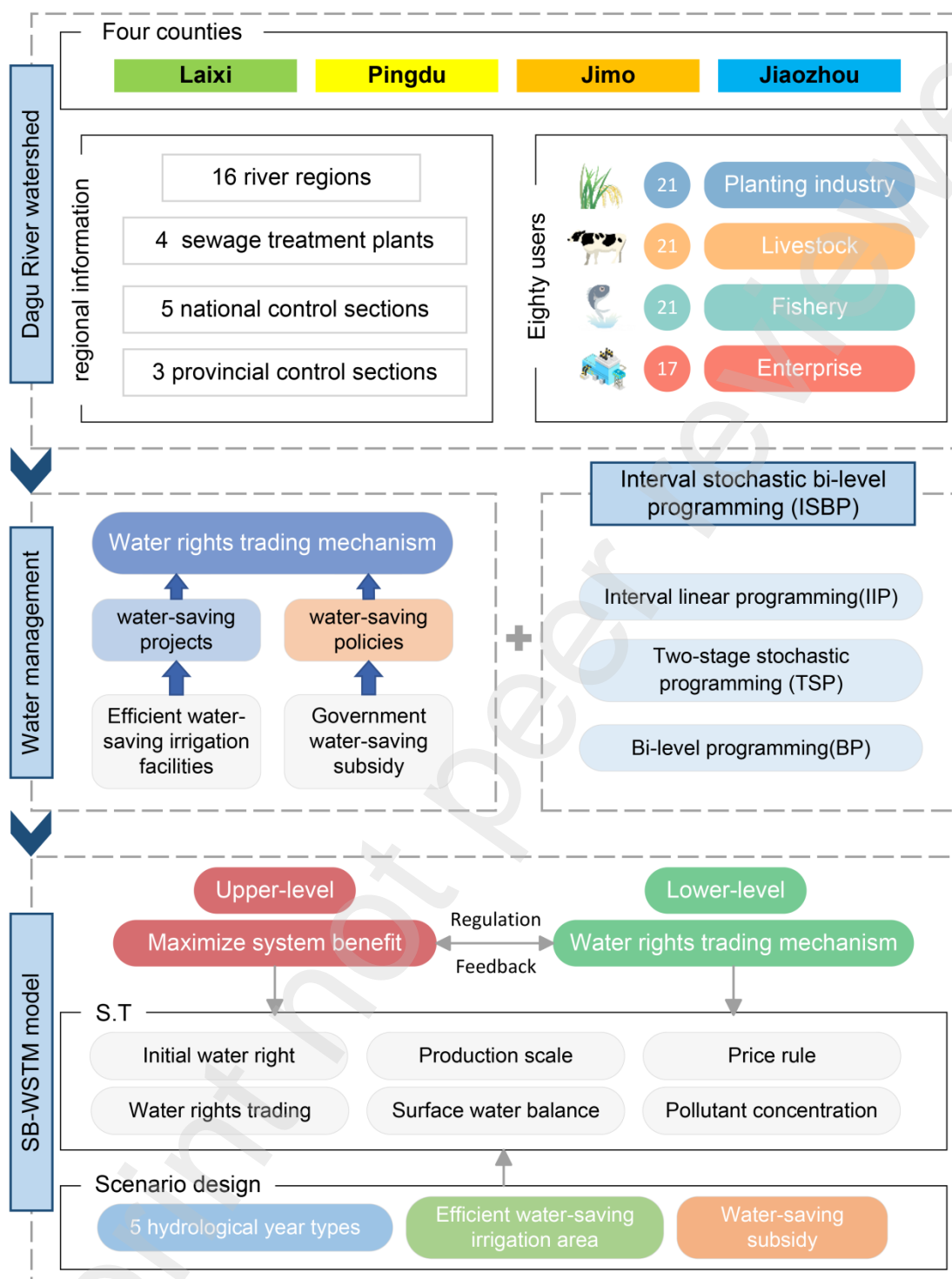
891 Figure 7 The construction area of different water-saving facilities for planting industry in five  
892 hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios (NIPS: sprinkler construction  
893 area; NIPM: micro-irrigation construction area; NIPL: low-pressure pipe  
894 construction area; (a): 60% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (b): 62.5% of  
895 the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (c): 65% of the efficient water-saving  
896 irrigation area; (d): 67.5% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (e): 70% of  
897 the efficient water-saving irrigation area)

898 Figure 8 System benefits and total actual water consumption under five hydrological year  
899 types under water-saving scenarios

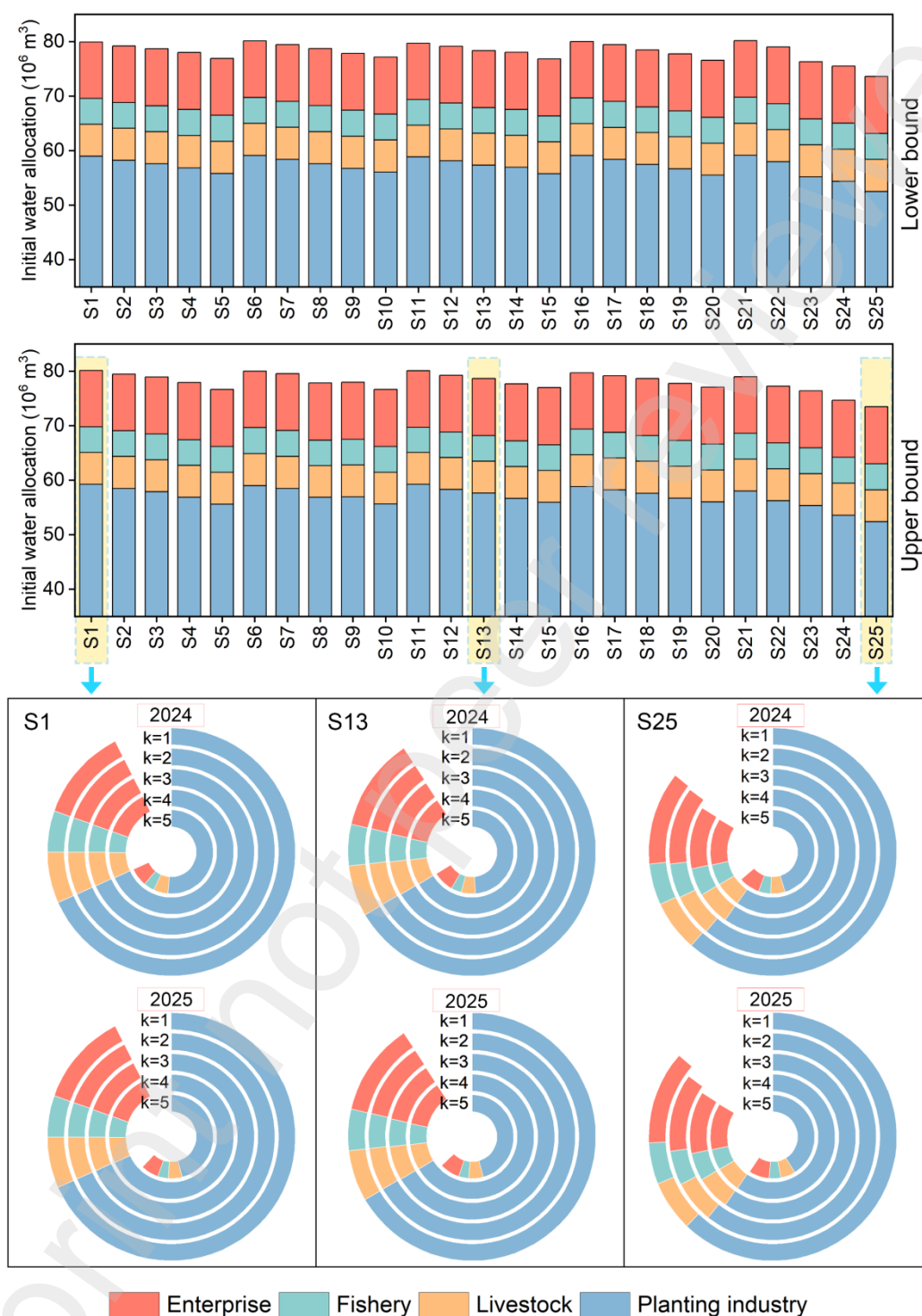


900

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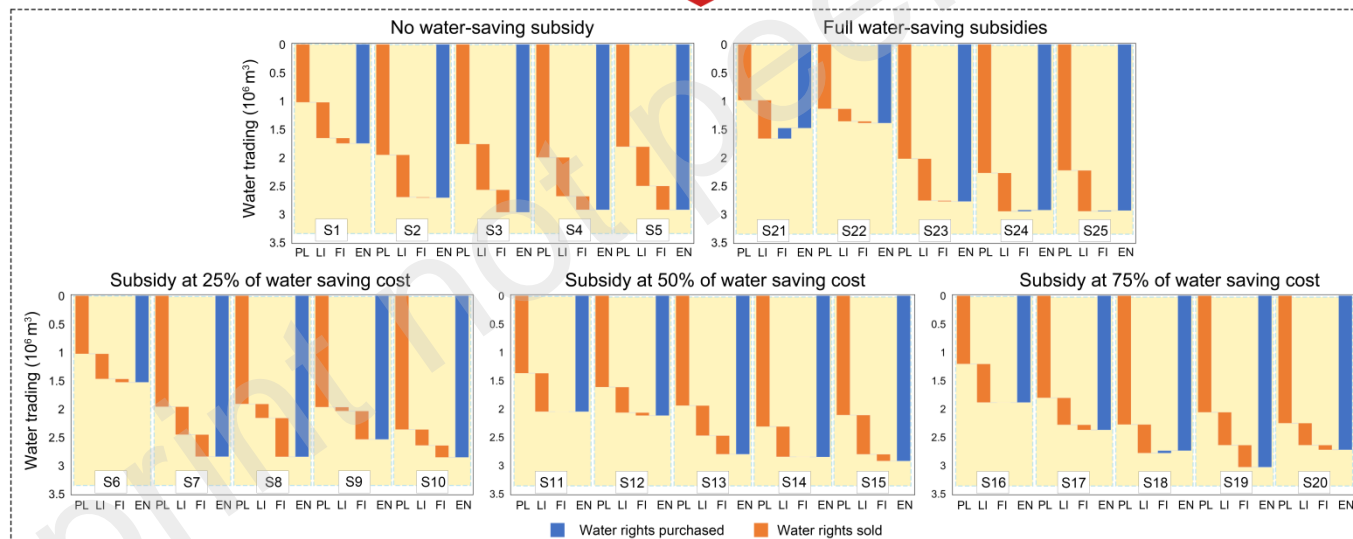
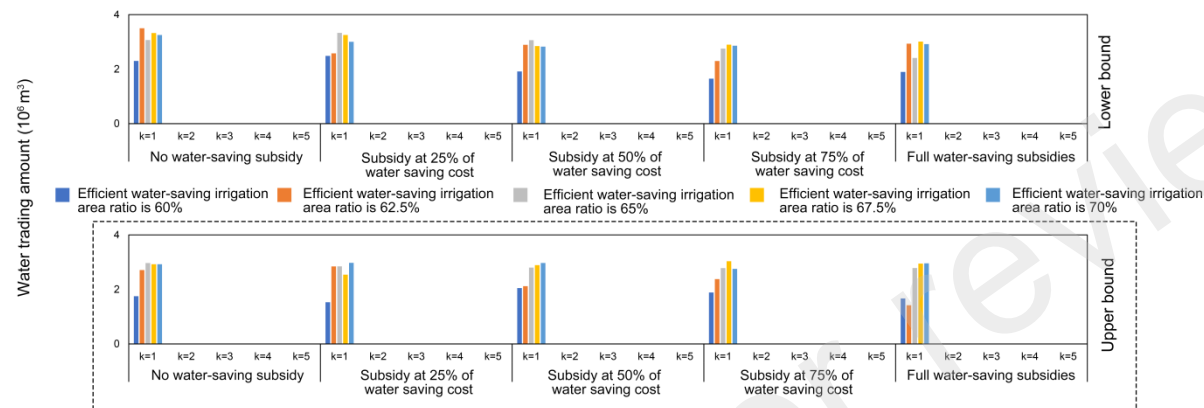


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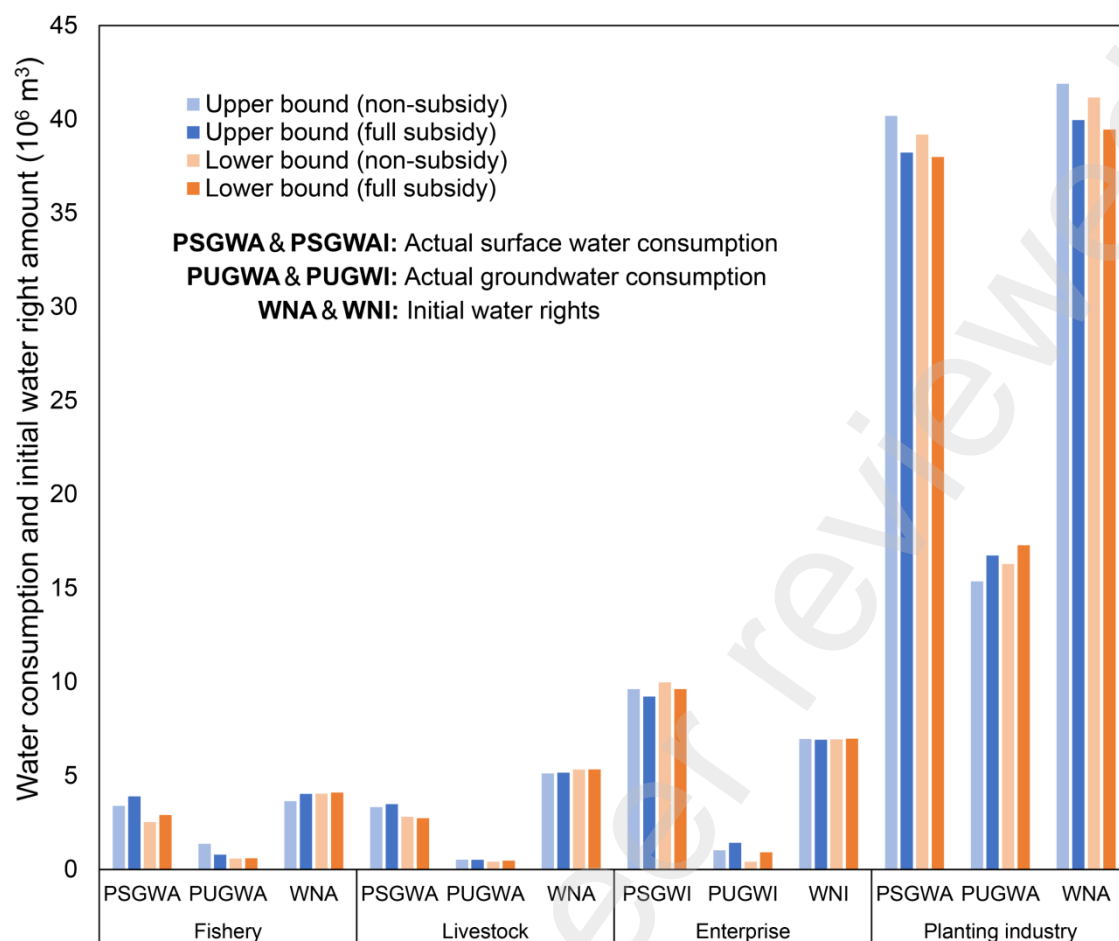
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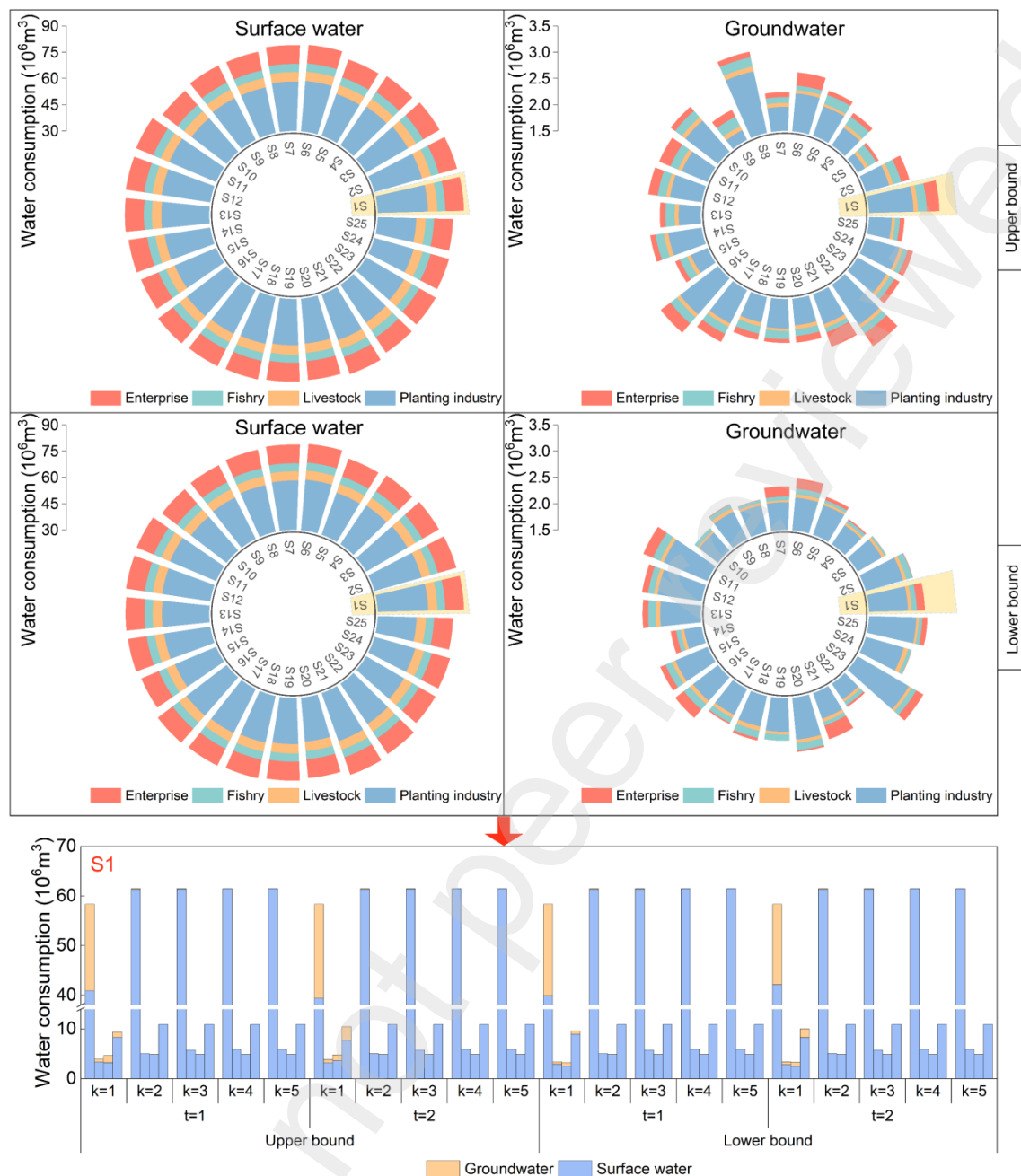
906 and special wet year, respectively)



907 Figure 4 Water rights trading in five hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios (PL: planting industry; LI: livestock; FI: fishery; EN:  
908 enterprise)



909 Figure 5 Actual surface and underground water consumption and initial water rights of  
 910 different industries in special dry year



911 Figure 6 Surface and underground water consumption of multiple industries in five



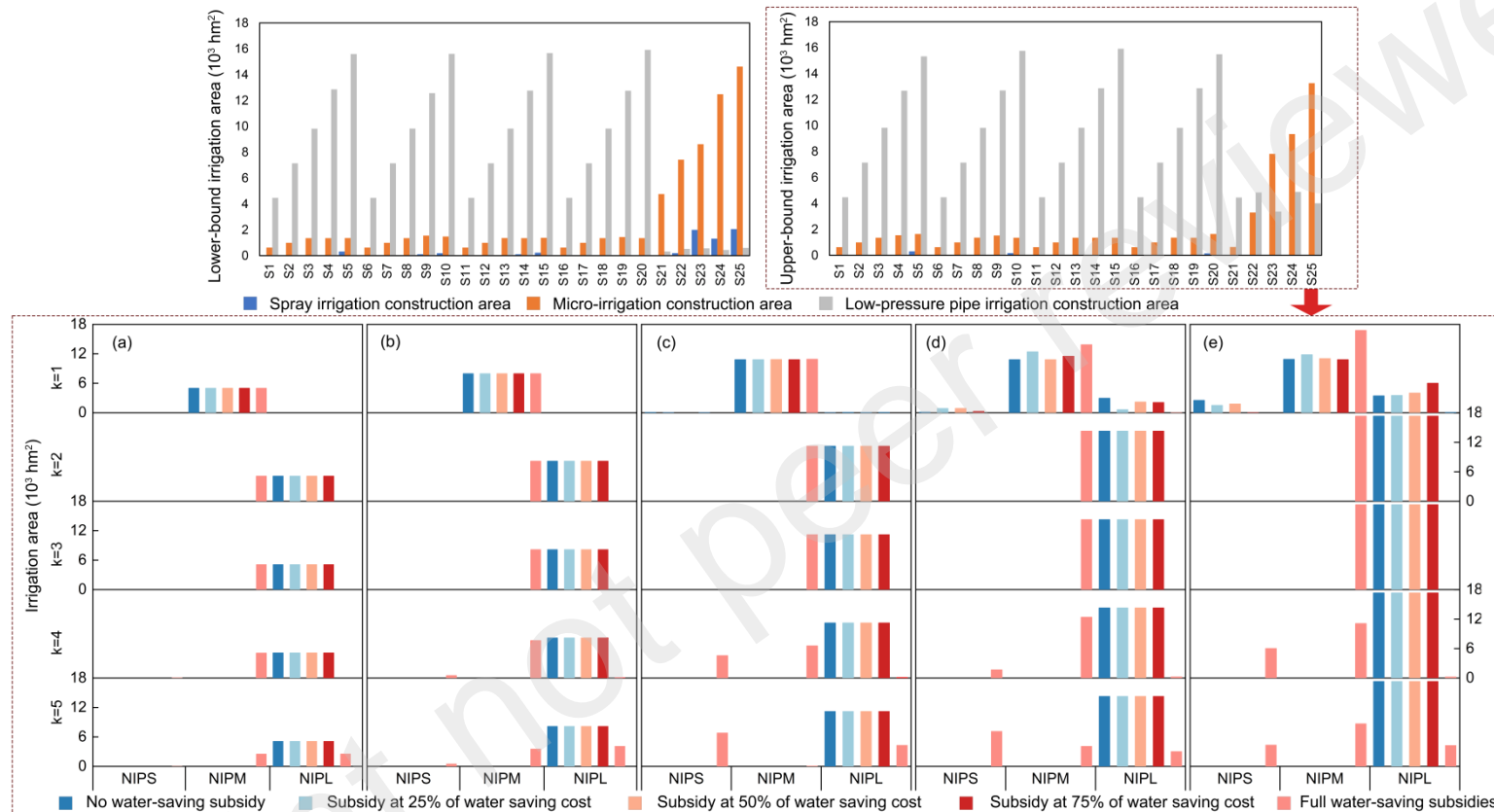
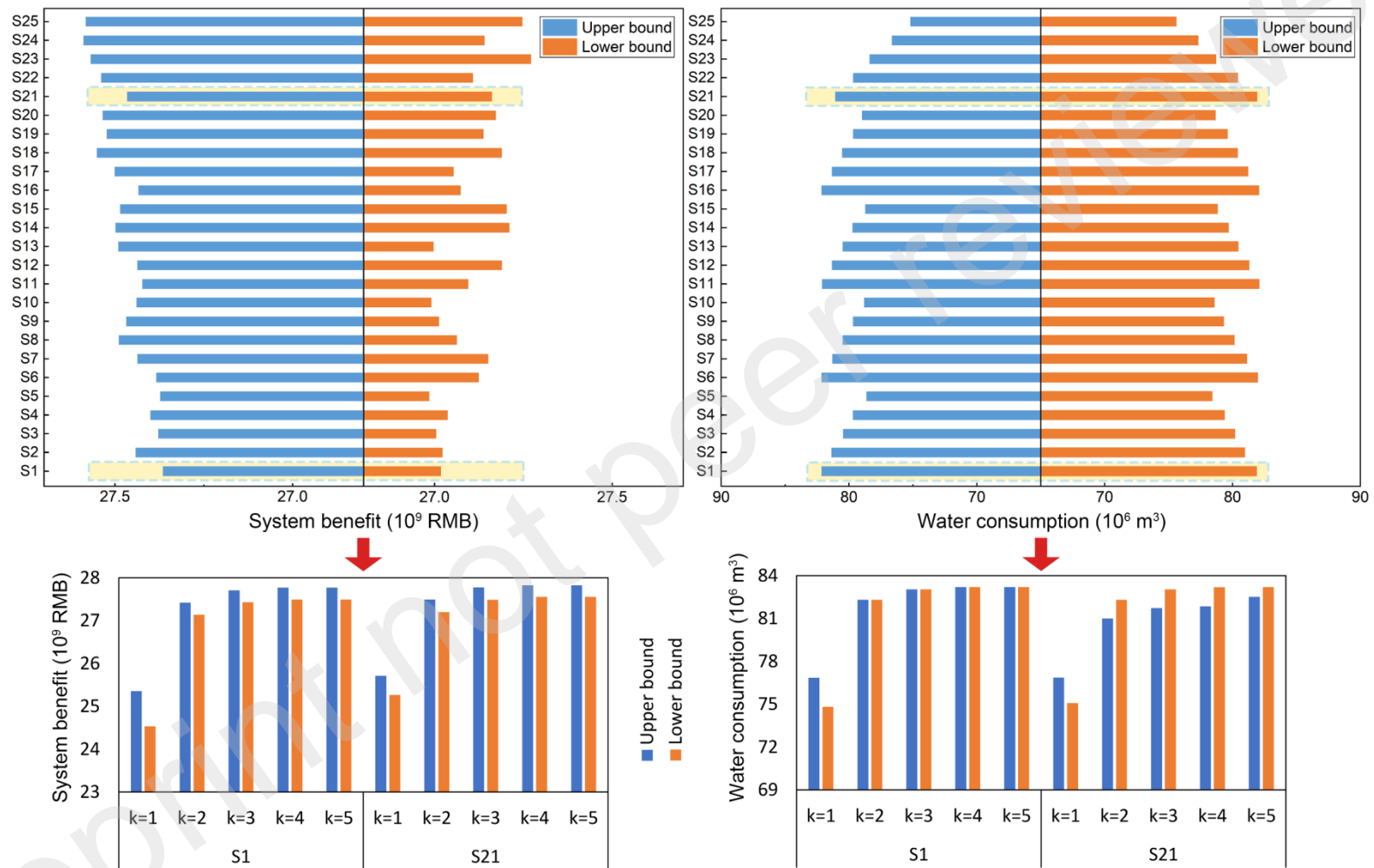


Figure 7 The construction area of different water-saving facility for planting industry in five hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios (NIPS: sprinkler construction area; NIPM: micro-irrigation construction area; NIPL: low-pressure pipe construction area; (a): 60% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (b): 62.5% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (c): 65% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (d): 67.5% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (e): 70% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area)



917  
 918 Figure 8 System benefits and total actual water consumption under five hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios

## Appendix A. Reconstruction of natural runoff with SWAT

### A.1 Methodology

SWAT is a semi-distributed physical model capable of predicting the impact of water management, agriculture chemical yield, and sediment in the large watershed on different timescales (Neitsch et al., 2009; Aloui et al., 2023). The model predicts surface runoff based on a water balance equation (Zhang et al., 2016):

$$SW = SW_0 + \sum_{i=1}^t (R_i - Q_{surf,i} - E_{a,i} - w_{seep,i} - Q_{gw,i}) \quad (A.1)$$

where  $SW$  and  $SW_0$  are the respective final and initial soil water contents at time  $t$ , respectively;  $R_i$  is the precipitation on the  $i$  day,  $Q_{surf,i}$  is the surface runoff on the  $i$  day ( mm  $H_2O$  ),  $E_{a,i}$  is the evaporation on the  $i$  day,  $w_{seep,i}$  is the infiltration from the soil layer to the vadose zone on the  $i$  day,  $Q_{gw,i}$  is the return flow on the  $i$  day.

Due to influence of human activities, the measured runoff cannot fully reflect the law of river runoff. It is necessary to carry out runoff reduction investigation and analysis calculation, and restore the measured annual runoff series to the natural annual runoff series. In this study, the runoff component investigation method is used to reconstruct the natural runoff of Dagu River watershed (Loboda et al., 2005). The water balance equation based on the annual runoff reduction calculation is:

$$W_{nr} = W_m + W_c + W_i + W_{flf} + W_{td} \pm W_{rf} \pm W_{re} \pm W_d \pm W_{fd} \pm W_o \quad (A.2)$$

where  $W_{nr}$  is the natural runoff ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_m$  is the measured runoff;  $W_c$  is the net water consumption of surface water for agricultural irrigation ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_i$  represents the net water consumption of industrial surface water ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{ff}$  is the net water consumption of surface water in forest and fishery ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{td}$  is the net water consumption of urban domestic water ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{rf}$  is the reservoir storage variable ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{re}$  denotes the difference between reservoir water surface evaporation and land surface evapotranspiration response ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_d$  is the quantity of water diversion across the watershed ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{fd}$  is the quantity of flood diversion in the river ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_o$  denotes other runoff ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ ).

## A.2 Results

Figure A1 displays the streamflow simulation results of Dagu River watershed based on the SWAT model. The Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE) value is 0.58, indicating satisfactory simulation of surface runoff. The natural runoff of Dagu River watershed is then reconstructed utilizing water balance equation based on the process of water consumption, drainage, water diversion, and predicted streamflow. Statistical analysis of multi-year natural runoff is conducted to provide random inputs for model. Pearson type III distribution is used to fit the probability density function. Figure A2 and Table A1 provide the hydrological frequency and probability of natural runoff, which are used to provide SCWM-WT with surface water resources amount which is of randomness.

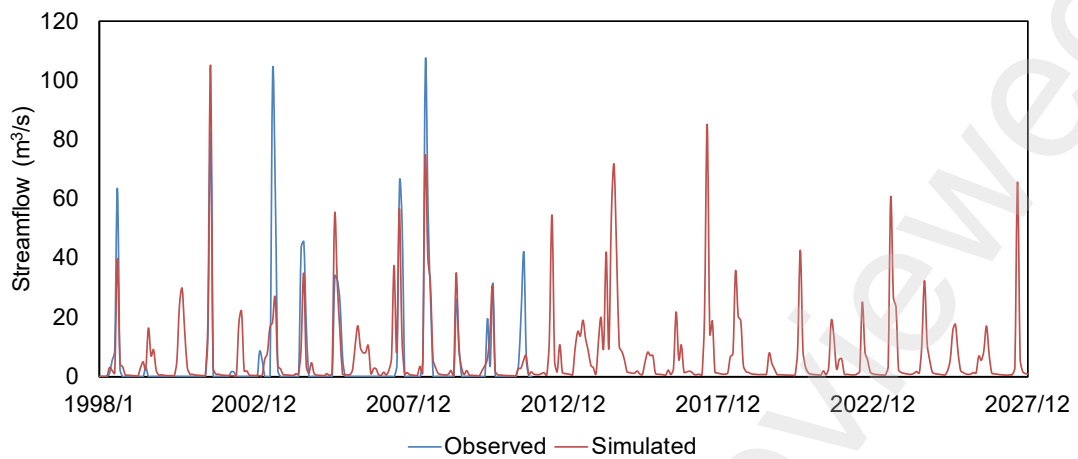


Figure A1 The observed and simulated surface runoff in Nancun hydrological station

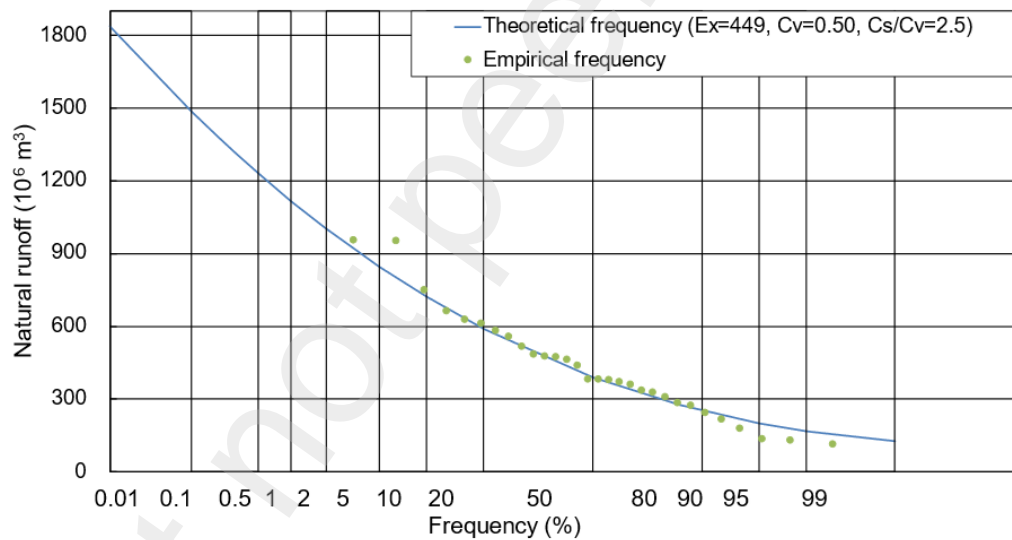


Figure A2 Natural runoff frequency curve diagram

Table A1 Natural runoff and its distribution probability under different hydrological year type

Hydrological year type	Special dry	Dry	Normal	Wet	Special wet
Natural runoff ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3$ )	173.44	273.83	390.85	551.91	852.57
Distribution probability (%)	0.125	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.125

## Appendix B. Initial water rights model

Objective function:

$$\text{Max } f = \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K (p_k \times HD_{tk}^{\pm}) \quad (\text{B.1})$$

The objective function is to maximize harmonious degree.

Subject to:

(1) Harmonious degree.

$$HD_{tk}^{\pm} \leq HDP_{tk}^{\pm} \quad (\text{B.2})$$

$$HD_{tk}^{\pm} \leq HDW_{tk}^{\pm} \quad (\text{B.3})$$

$$HD_{tk}^{\pm} \leq HDE_{tk}^{\pm} \quad (\text{B.4})$$

Constraints (B.2) to (B.4) reflect that the harmonious degree should not harmonious degree about current situation; the harmonious degree should not exceed harmonious degree about current situation.

(2) The principle of fairness.

$$\frac{\left\{ \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSD_{dz} \times \sum_{a=1}^A (WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \right] + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSD_{dz} \times \sum_{i=1}^I ISZ_{zi} \times (WNI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \right] \right\} \div POP_{td}}{PCWT_{td}} \geq HDP_{tk}^{\pm} \quad (\text{B.5})$$

$$PCWT_{td} = \left[ \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A QW Ama_{taz} + \sum_{i=1}^I QW Ima_{ti} \right] \div \sum_{d=1}^D POP_{td} \quad (B.6)$$

990

991 Constraint (B.5) reflects that the ratio of the sum of the initial water rights allocated to each  
 992 user before water saving and the water saving amount of water saving users to the per capita  
 993 water consumption. Constraint (B.6) reflects that the ratio of current total water consumption  
 994 to population.

995

996 (3) The principle of status quo.

$$997 \quad \frac{WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}}{QW Ama_{taz}} \geq HDW_{tk}^{\pm} \quad (B.7)$$

$$998 \quad \frac{WNI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}}{QW Ima_{ti}} \geq HDW_{tk}^{\pm} \quad (B.8)$$

999

1000 Constraints (B.7) and (B.8) reflect that the proportion of the sum of the initial water rights  
 1001 allocated to each user before water saving and the sum of the water saving amount of water  
 1002 saving users to the maximum water consumption that can be achieved by the current situation.

1003

1004 (4) The principle of maximum benefit.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left\{ \begin{aligned}
& \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (WQA_{taz} \times BA_{az}^{\pm}) - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (p_k \times WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times DA_{az}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^1 [p_k \times (SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz}^{\pm})] \\
& + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^1 (p_k \times WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{a=1}^A \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWA_{taz} \times PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + FAUA_{taz} \times PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
& + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I (WQI_{ti} \times BI_i^{\pm}) - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^I (p_k \times WLI_{tki}^{\pm} \times DI_{zi}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I SFCI_{ti} + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I WSIS_{ti} \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWI_{ti} \times PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + FAUI_{ti} \times PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{s=1}^S (p_k \times SDW_{tks}^{\pm} \times SC_{ts}^{\pm})
\end{aligned} \right\} \geq HDE_{tk}^{\pm} \quad (B.9)
\end{aligned}$$

$FMAX_{tk}^{\pm}$

Constraint (B.9) reflects that ratio of system benefit of water saving participation to maximum system benefit under different planning periods and hydrological year types (the calculation of maximum system benefit is shown in constraint C.2 in [Appendix C](#)).

(5) Water consumption constraints:

$$WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = WQA_{taz} - WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (B.10)$$

$$WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = WQI_{ti} - WLI_{tki}^{\pm} - WSI_{ti} \quad (B.11)$$

$$WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (B.12)$$

$$WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (B.13)$$

$$PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (B.14)$$

$$PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq WNI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (B.15)$$

$$1018 \quad PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq UGWA_{tkaz} \quad (B.16)$$

$$1019 \quad PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq UGWI_{tki} \quad (B.17)$$

$$1020 \quad PSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = (WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \times LWPA_{az}^{\pm} \quad (B.18)$$

$$1021 \quad PSI_{tki}^{\pm} = (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times LWPI_i^{\pm} \quad (B.19)$$

$$1022 \quad QWAmi_{laz} \leq WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWama_{laz} \quad (B.20)$$

$$1023 \quad QWImi_{ti} \leq WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm} \leq QWIma_{ti} \quad (B.21)$$

1024

1025 (6) Initial water rights constraint:

$$1026 \quad WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWama_{laz} \quad (B.22)$$

$$1027 \quad WNI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm} \leq QWIma_{ti} \quad (B.23)$$

1028

1029 (7) Price rule constraint:

$$1030 \quad WQA_{tkaz} \times BA_{az}^{\pm} - WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times DA_{az}^{\pm} - SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - SFBA_{laz} + WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm} - FAWA_{laz} \times PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - FAUA_{laz} \times PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = NTGA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (B.24)$$

$$1031 \quad WQI_{tki} \times BI_i^{\pm} - WLI_{tki}^{\pm} \times DI_i^{\pm} - SFCI_{ti} + WSIS_{ti} - FAWI_{ti} \times PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - FAUI_{ti} \times PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} = NTGI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (B.25)$$

1032

1033 (8) Wastewater discharge and treatment constraints:

$$1034 \quad EPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = UPEA_{az} \times \left[ (WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \times IWPA_{az} \right] \quad (B.26)$$

$$1035 \quad EPI_{tki}^{\pm} = UPEI_i \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times IWPI_i \right] \quad (B.27)$$

$$1036 \quad \sum_{i=16}^{16} DISW_{tki}^{\pm} = \sum_{i=16}^{16} \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times IWDR_i \right] \quad (B.28)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
SDW_{tks}^{\pm} &= \sum_{i=1}^{15} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\
&+ \sum_{i=17}^{17} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\
&+ LSW_{ts}^{\pm} + OSW_{ts}^{\pm} \leq MSDW_s^{\pm}
\end{aligned} \tag{B.29}$$

(9) Surface water balance constraint:

$$\sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \sum_{a=1}^A WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times WNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \right] \right\} \leq SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} \tag{B.30}$$

$$SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSW_{wz} \times \left( \begin{aligned} &RNF_{tkz} + DIW_{tz} + ORD I_{tkz} \\ &- ORDO_{tkz} - OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \end{aligned} \right) \right] \tag{B.31}$$

$$ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (OCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) \tag{B.32}$$

$$RIBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{v=1}^V (IOCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm}) \tag{B.33}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm} &= RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \begin{aligned} &RNF_{tkz} + DIW_{tz} + ORD I_{tkz} - ORDO_{tkz} \\ &- OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \\ &- \sum_{a=1}^A TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times TWNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \\ &+ DWWP_z \times \left[ \begin{aligned} &\sum_{s=1}^S (SSZ_{zs} \times SDW_{tks}^{\pm}) \\ &+ \sum_{i=16}^{16} (ISZ_{zi} \times DISW_{tki}^{\pm}) \end{aligned} \right] \end{aligned} \right] \right\} \tag{B.34}
\end{aligned}$$

(10) Pollutant content level constraints of river monitoring sections:

$$1047 \quad CSM_m \times MBF_{tkm}^{\pm} \geq \sum_{z=1}^Z ZSM_{mz} \times \left\{ \begin{aligned} & \sum_{a=1}^A (DPM A_{maz} \times EPA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\ & + \sum_{s=3}^S \left[ \begin{aligned} & SSZ_{zs} \times DPMS_{ms} \times (1 - UPES_s) \\ & \times \left( \begin{aligned} & LSW_{ts} \times LSP_{ts} \\ & + OSW_{ts} \times OSP_{ts} \end{aligned} \right) \end{aligned} \right] \\ & + \sum_{s=4}^S \left[ \begin{aligned} & SSZ_{zs} \times DPMS_{ms} \\ & \times (1 - UPES_s) \times \sum_{i=1}^6 EPI_{tki}^{\pm} \end{aligned} \right] \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (B.35)$$

$$1048 \quad MBF_{tkm}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (WSM_{mw} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) + NRM_{tkm} \quad (B.36)$$

1049

1050 (11) Water-saving rule constraints:

$$1051 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFBA_{tkaz} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} SIFC_{az} + NIPM_{tkaz} MIFC_{az} + NIPL_{tkaz} LIFC_{az}) \quad (B.37)$$

$$1052 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SIRC_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MIRC_{az} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LIRC_{az}) \quad (B.38)$$

$$1053 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 \left( \begin{aligned} & SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SICW_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MICW_{az} \\ & + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LICW_{az} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} NSCW_{az} \end{aligned} \right) \quad (B.39)$$

$$1054 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 EFIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.40)$$

$$1055 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (PNSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - NIPS_{tkaz} - NIPM_{tkaz} - NIPL_{tkaz}) \quad (B.41)$$

$$1056 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} + PIPS_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.42)$$

$$1057 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPM_{tkaz} + PIPM_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.43)$$

$$1058 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPL_{tkaz} + PIPL_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.44)$$

$$1059 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times SIRW_{az}) \quad (B.45)$$

$$1060 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times MIRW_{az}) \quad (B.46)$$

$$1061 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 LIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times LIRW_{az}) \quad (B.47)$$

$$1062 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.48)$$

$$1063 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 (\sigma_a \times EFLA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.49)$$

$$1064 \quad WSI_{ti} = TIOV \times (PTVW_i - TIVW_i) + CICW_i \times \frac{\eta_p - \eta_c}{1 - \eta_p} \quad (B.50)$$

$$1065 \quad SFCI_{ti} = USFC_i \times WSI_{ti} \quad (B.51)$$

$$1066 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 \left[ \varphi_a \times (SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz}) \right] \quad (B.52)$$

$$1067 \quad WSIS_{ti} = \varphi_i \times SFCI_{ti} \quad (B.53)$$

1068

1069 **Appendix C. Maximum benefit for initial water rights:**

1070

1071 Objective function:

$$\begin{aligned}
Maxf_U^{\pm} = & \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (WQA_{taz} \times BA_{az}^{\pm}) - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (p_k \times WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times DA_{az}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^1 \left[ p_k \times (SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz}) \right] \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{a=1}^A \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWA_{taz} \times PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + FAUA_{taz} \times PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
1072 \quad & + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I (WQI_{ti} \times BI_i^{\pm}) - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^I (p_k \times WLI_{tki}^{\pm} \times DI_{zi}^{\pm}) \quad (C.1) \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I SF CI_{ti} + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^I WSIS_{ti} \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWI_{ti} \times PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + FAUI_{ti} \times PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{s=1}^S (p_k \times SDW_{tks}^{\pm} \times SC_{ts}^{\pm})
\end{aligned}$$

Subject to:

(1) Constraints for obtain the maximum value of system benefit under different planning periods and hydrological year type.

$$\begin{aligned}
FMAX_{tk}^{\pm} = & \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (WQA_{taz} \times BA_{az}^{\pm}) - \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times DA_{az}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^1 (SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz}) + \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^1 WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm} \\
1077 \quad & - \sum_{a=1}^A \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWA_{taz} \times PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + FAUA_{taz} \times PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (C.2) \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^I (WQI_{ti} \times BI_i^{\pm}) - \sum_{i=1}^I (WLI_{tki}^{\pm} \times DI_{zi}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{i=1}^I SF CI_{ti} + \sum_{i=1}^I WSIS_{ti} - \sum_{z=1}^Z (FAWI_{ti} \times PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + FAUI_{ti} \times PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm}) \\
& - \sum_{s=1}^S (SDW_{tks}^{\pm} \times SC_{ts}^{\pm})
\end{aligned}$$

(3) Water consumption constraints:

$$1080 \quad WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = WQA_{taz} - WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (C.3)$$

$$1081 \quad WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = WQI_{ti} - WLI_{tki}^{\pm} - WSI_{ti} \quad (C.4)$$

$$1082 \quad WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (C.5)$$

$$1083 \quad WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (C.6)$$

$$1084 \quad PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (C.7)$$

$$1085 \quad PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq WNI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (C.8)$$

$$1086 \quad PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq UGWA_{tkaz} \quad (C.9)$$

$$1087 \quad PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq UGWI_{tki} \quad (C.10)$$

$$1088 \quad PSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = (WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \times LWPA_{az}^{\pm} \quad (C.11)$$

$$1089 \quad PSI_{tki}^{\pm} = (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times LWPI_i^{\pm} \quad (C.12)$$

$$1090 \quad QWAmi_{taz} \leq WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWama_{taz} \quad (C.13)$$

$$1091 \quad QWImi_{ti} \leq WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti} \leq QWIma_{ti} \quad (C.14)$$

1092

1093 (4) Initial water rights constraint:

$$1094 \quad WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWama_{taz} \quad (C.15)$$

$$1095 \quad WNI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{tki} \leq QWIma_{tzi} \quad (C.16)$$

1096

1097 (5) Wastewater discharge and treatment constraints:

$$1098 \quad EPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = UPEA_{az} \times \left[ (WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \times IWPA_{az} \right] \quad (C.17)$$

$$1099 \quad EPI_{tki}^{\pm} = UPEI_i \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWPI_i \right] \quad (C.18)$$

$$1100 \quad \sum_{i=16}^{16} DISW_{tki}^{\pm} = \sum_{i=16}^{16} \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times IWDR_i \right] \quad (C.19)$$

$$1101 \quad \begin{aligned} SDW_{tks}^{\pm} &= \sum_{i=1}^{15} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\ &+ \sum_{i=17}^{17} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}^{\pm}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\ &+ LSW_{ts}^{\pm} + OSW_{ts}^{\pm} \leq MSDW_s^{\pm} \end{aligned} \quad (C.20)$$

1102

1103 (6) Surface water balance constraint:

$$1104 \quad \sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \sum_{a=1}^A WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times WNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \right] \right\} \leq SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} \quad (C.21)$$

$$1105 \quad SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSW_{wz} \times \left( \begin{aligned} &RNF_{tkz} + DIW_{tz} + ORD I_{tkz} \\ &- ORDO_{tkz} - OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \end{aligned} \right) \right] \quad (C.22)$$

$$1106 \quad ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (OCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) \quad (C.23)$$

$$1107 \quad RIBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{v=1}^V (IOCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm}) \quad (C.24)$$

$$1108 \quad ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \begin{aligned} &\left[ \begin{aligned} &RNF_{tkz} + DIW_{tz} + ORD I_{tkz} - ORDO_{tkz} \\ &- OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \\ &- \sum_{a=1}^A TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times TWNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \end{aligned} \right] \\ &+ DWWP_z \times \left[ \begin{aligned} &\sum_{s=1}^S (SSZ_{zs} \times SDW_{tks}^{\pm}) \\ &+ \sum_{i=16}^{16} (ISZ_{zi} \times DISW_{tki}^{\pm}) \end{aligned} \right] \end{aligned} \right] \right\} \quad (C.25)$$

1109

1110 (7) Pollutant content level constraints of river monitoring sections:

$$\begin{aligned}
1111 \quad CSM_m \times MBF_{tkm}^{\pm} &\geq OCS_{tkm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z ZSM_{mz} \times \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\sum_{a=1}^A (DPMA_{maz} \times EPA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\ &+ \sum_{s=3}^S \left[ SSZ_{zs} \times DPMS_{ms} \times (1 - UPES_s) \right] \\ &\times \left( LSW_{ts} \times LSP_{ts} \right) \\ &+ OSW_{ts} \times OSP_{ts} \\ &+ \sum_{s=4}^S \left[ SSZ_{zs} \times DPMS_{ms} \right] \\ &\times (1 - UPES_s) \times \sum_{i=1}^6 EPI_{tki}^{\pm} \end{aligned} \right\} \\
1112 & \hspace{15em} (C.26)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1113 \quad MBF_{tkm}^{\pm} &= \sum_{w=1}^W (WSM_{mw} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) + NRM_{tkm} \\
1114 & \\
1115 \quad (8) \text{ Water-saving rule constraints:} &
\end{aligned}
\tag{C.27}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1116 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFBA_{tkaz} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} SIFC_{az} + NIPM_{tkaz} MIFC_{az} + NIPL_{tkaz} LIFC_{az}) \\
1117 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SIRC_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MIRC_{az} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LIRC_{az})
\end{aligned}
\tag{B.37}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1117 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SIRC_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MIRC_{az} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LIRC_{az}) \\
1118 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 \left( \begin{aligned} &SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SICW_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MICW_{az} \\ &+ LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LICW_{az} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} NSCW_{az} \end{aligned} \right)
\end{aligned}
\tag{B.38}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1118 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 \left( \begin{aligned} &SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} SICW_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} MICW_{az} \\ &+ LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} LICW_{az} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} NSCW_{az} \end{aligned} \right) \\
1119 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 EFIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm})
\end{aligned}
\tag{B.39}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1119 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 EFIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
1120 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (PNSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - NIPS_{tkaz} - NIPM_{tkaz} - NIPL_{tkaz})
\end{aligned}
\tag{B.40}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1120 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (PNSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - NIPS_{tkaz} - NIPM_{tkaz} - NIPL_{tkaz}) \\
1121 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} + PIPS_{tkaz}^{\pm})
\end{aligned}
\tag{B.41}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1121 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} + PIPS_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
1122 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPM_{tkaz} + PIPM_{tkaz}^{\pm})
\end{aligned}
\tag{B.42}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
1122 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} &= \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPM_{tkaz} + PIPM_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \\
& \hspace{15em} (B.43)
\end{aligned}$$

$$1123 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPL_{tkaz} + PIPL_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.44)$$

$$1124 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times SIRW_{az}) \quad (B.45)$$

$$1125 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times MIRW_{az}) \quad (B.46)$$

$$1126 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 LIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \times LIRW_{az}) \quad (B.47)$$

$$1127 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIPW_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.48)$$

$$1128 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 (\sigma_a \times EFA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + MIA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + LIA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) \quad (B.49)$$

$$1129 \quad WSI_{ti} = TIOV \times (PTVW_i - TIVW_i) + CICW_i \times \frac{\eta_p - \eta_c}{1 - \eta_p} \quad (B.50)$$

$$1130 \quad SFCI_{ti} = USFC_i \times WSI_{ti} \quad (B.51)$$

$$1131 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 [\varphi_a \times (SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz})] \quad (B.52)$$

$$1132 \quad WSIS_{ti} = \varphi_i \times SFCI_{ti} \quad (B.53)$$

## 1133 **Appendix D. Nomenclature**

1134

1135 Subscripts:

1136  $a$  types of agriculture with  $a=1, 2, 3$  for planting industry, livestock, fishery.

1137  $d$  type of county with  $d=1, 2, 3, 4$  for Laixi, Pingdu, Jiaozhou, Jimo.

1138  $i$  type of enterprise with  $i=1, 2, \dots, 17$  for Haoda (HD), Xinxiwang (XXW),

1139 Nongxin (NX), Fuji (FJ), Donglin (DL), Ouliyu (OLY), Xijie (XJ), Aikang (AK),

1140 Jiulian (JL), Fenhuang (FH), Dahan (DH), Qili (QL), Yongchang (YC), Hansheng  
 1141 (HS), WanfuT (WFT), WanfuS (WFS, enterprise directly discharging pollutants),  
 1142 Naikesen (NKS).

1143  $k$  hydrological year type with  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  for special dry year, dry year, normal  
 1144 year, wet year and special wet year.

1145  $m$  type of monitoring section with  $m = 1, 2, \dots, 8$  for Malian village, Zaochao village,  
 1146 Jiangjia village, Houshawan village, Yifeng dam, Qingping highway bridge,  
 1147 Mawan bridge, Xiela bridge.

1148  $s$  type of wastewater treatment plant with  $s = 1, 2, 3, 4$  for Laixi wastewater treatment  
 1149 plant (in Zhu River region), Laixi wastewater treatment plant (in Wugu River  
 1150 region), Pingdu wastewater treatment plant, Jiaozhou wastewater treatment plant.

1151  $t$  type of planning period with  $t = 1, 2$  for the first planning period (2024 years), the  
 1152 second planning period (2025 years).

1153  $w$  type of river region with  $w = 1, 2, \dots, 16$  for River region from beginning of Dagu  
 1154 River in Qingdao to confluence point of Zhu River (wDZ), River region from  
 1155 confluence point of Zhu River to confluence point of Xiaogu River (wZX), River  
 1156 region from confluence point of Xiaogu River to confluence point of Wugu River  
 1157 (wXW), River region from confluence point of Wugu River to confluence point of  
 1158 Luoyao River (wWL), River region from confluence point of Luoyao River to  
 1159 confluence point of Nanjiaolai River (wLN), River region from confluence point of  
 1160 Nanjiaolai River to entrance to the sea (wJH), Xiaogu River region in Qingdao city  
 1161 (wXG), Zhu River region in Qingdao city (wZR), Wugu River region (wWG),  
 1162 Lihao River region (wLH), Taoyuan River region (wTY), Luoyao River region  
 1163 (wLY), Jiao River region in Qingdao city (wJR), Moshui River region in Qingdao

1164 city (wMS), Nanjiaolai River mainstream river region in Qingdao city (wNJ),  
 1165 Yunxi River region (wYX).  
 1166  $v$  type of river region with  $v=1, 2, \dots, 16$  for wDZ, wZX, wXW, wWL, wLN, wJH,  
 1167 wXG, wZR, wWG, wLH, wTY, wLY, wJR, wMS, wNJ, wYX.  
 1168  $r$  type of river reach with  $r=1, 2, \dots, 16$  for River reach from beginning of Dagu  
 1169 River in Qingdao to confluence point of Zhu River, River reach from confluence  
 1170 point of Zhu River to confluence point of Xiaogu River, River reach from  
 1171 confluence point of Xiaogu River to confluence point of Wugu River, River reach  
 1172 from confluence point of Wugu River to confluence point of Luoyao River, River  
 1173 reach from confluence point of Luoyao River to confluence point of Nanjiaolai  
 1174 River, River reach from confluence point of Nanjiaolai River to entrance to the sea  
 1175 (wJH), Xiaogu River reach in Qingdao city, Zhu River reach in Qingdao city  
 1176 (wZR), Wugu River reach, Liuhao River reach (wLH), Taoyuan River reach (wTY),  
 1177 Luoyao River reach (wLY), Jiao River reach in Qingdao city (wJR), Moshui River  
 1178 reach in Qingdao city (wMS), Nanjiaolai River mainstream River reach in Qingdao  
 1179 city (wNJ), Yunxi River reach.  
 1180  $z$  type of area with  $z=1, 2, \dots, 21$  for Laixi county in river region from beginning of  
 1181 Dagu River in Qingdao to confluence point of Zhu River (DZ), Laixi county in river  
 1182 region from confluence point of Zhu River to confluence point of Xiaogu River  
 1183 (ZX), Laixi county in river region from confluence point of Xiaogu River to  
 1184 confluence point of Wugu River (LXW), Pingdu county in river region from  
 1185 confluence point of Xiaogu River to confluence point of Wugu River (PXW), Jimo  
 1186 county in river region from confluence point of Wugu River to confluence point of  
 1187 Luoyao River (JWL), Pingdu county in river region from confluence point of Wugu

1188 River to confluence point of Luoyao River (PWL), Jimo county in river region from  
 1189 confluence point of Luoyao River to confluence point of Nanjiaolai River (LN),  
 1190 Jiaozhou county in river region from confluence point of Nanjiaolai River to  
 1191 entrance to the sea (JH), Laixi county in Xiaogu River region (LXG), Pingdu  
 1192 county in Xiaogu River region (PXG), Laixi county in Zhu River region (ZR), Laixi  
 1193 county in Wugu River region (LWG), Jimo county in Wugu River region (JWG),  
 1194 Jimo county in Liuhao River region (LH), Jimo county in Taoyuan River region  
 1195 (TY), Pingdu county in Luoyao River region (LY), Jiaozhou county in Jiao River  
 1196 region (JR), Jiaozhou county in Moshui River region in Qingdao city (MS),  
 1197 Jiaozhou county in Nanjiaolai River mainstream river region in Qingdao city (PNJ),  
 1198 Pingdu county in Nanjiaolai River mainstream river region in Qingdao city (JNJ),  
 1199 Jiaozhou county in Yunxi River region (YX).

1200

1201 Coefficients:

- 1202  $BA_{az}^{\pm}$  net benefit of unit target water consumption of agricultural user  $a$  in area  $z$   
 1203 (RMB¥/m<sup>3</sup>).
- 1204  $BI_i^{\pm}$  net benefit of unit target water consumption of enterprise users  $i$  (RMB¥/m<sup>3</sup>).
- 1205  $DA_{az}^{\pm}$  cost per unit of water deficit of agricultural user  $a$  in area  $z$  (RMB¥/m<sup>3</sup>).
- 1206  $DI_{zi}^{\pm}$  cost per unit of water deficit of enterprise users  $i$  (RMB¥/m<sup>3</sup>).
- 1207  $p_k$  probability for occurrence of scenario in hydrological year type  $k$ .
- 1208  $TCA_{az}$  management cost for water trading of agricultural user  $a$  in area  $z$   
 1209 (RMB¥/m<sup>3</sup>).

1210	$TCI_i$	management cost for water trading of enterprise users $i$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1211	$TRA_{az}$	price of water rights of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1212	$TRI_i$	price of water rights of enterprise users $i$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1213	$FAWA_{l az}$	cost per unit of surface water used of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in planning
1214		period $l$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1215	$FAUA_{l az}$	cost per unit of groundwater used of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in planning
1216		period $l$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1217	$FAWI_{li}$	cost per unit of surface water used of enterprise users $i$ in planning period $l$
1218		(RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1219	$FAUI_{li}$	cost per unit of groundwater used of enterprise users $i$ in planning period $l$
1220		(RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1221	$SC_{ts}^{\pm}$	the operating cost of unit wastewater volume in wastewater treatment plant $S$
1222		(RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1223	$UGWA_{l kaz}$	the maximum total quantity of groundwater intake in the control range of the
1224		total quantity of groundwater intake of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in
1225		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1226	$UGWI_{l ki}$	the maximum total quantity of groundwater intake in the control range of the
1227		total quantity of groundwater intake of enterprise users $i$ in hydrological year
1228		type $k$ in planning period $l$ (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1229	$LWPA_{az}^{\pm}$	production scale of unit water consumption of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$
1230		(ha/10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> (planting industry), head/ m <sup>3</sup> (livestock), ha/10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> (fishery))

1231	$LWPI_i^{\pm}$	production scale of unit water consumption of enterprise users $i$ ( $m^3/m^3$ ).
1232	$QWAmi_{laz}$	the minimum water requirement of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in planning
1233		period $l$ ( $10^4 m^3$ ).
1234	$QWAm_{laz}$	the maximum water requirement of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in planning
1235		period $l$ ( $10^4 m^3$ ).
1236	$QWImi_{ti}$	the minimum production scale of enterprise users $i$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$
1237		$m^3$ ).
1238	$WQIma_{ti}$	the maximum production scale of enterprise users $i$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$
1239		$m^3$ ).
1240	$IWDR_i$	drainage rate of enterprise users $i$ ( $m^3/m^3$ )
1241	$UPEA_{az}^{\pm}$	COD emission per unit production scale of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$
1242		(ton/ha (planting industry), ton/ head (livestock), ton/ha (fishery)).
1243	$UPEI_i$	COD emission per unit production scale of enterprise users $i$ (ton/ $10^4 m^3$ ).
1244	$LSP_{ts}$	COD concertation of domestic wastewater treated by wastewater treatment
1245		plant $S$ (ton/ $10^4 m^3$ ).
1246	$OSP_{ts}$	COD concertation of other wastewater treated by wastewater treatment plant $S$
1247		(ton/ $10^4 m^3$ ).
1248	$DPMA_{maz}$	influence of pollutant emission of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ on monitoring
1249		section $m$ (ton/ton).
1250	$DPMS_{ms}$	influence of pollutant emission of wastewater treatment plant $S$ on monitoring
1251		section $m$ (ton/ton).

1252	$CSM_m$	surface water quality standards of monitoring section $m$ (ton/10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1253	$OCS_{tkm}$	the quantity of pollutants outside the city to monitoring section $m$ in
1254		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ (ton).
1255	$NRM_{tkm}$	natural runoff from upstream river regions to monitoring section $m$ in
1256		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1257	$LSW_{ts}^{\pm}$	domestic wastewater treated by wastewater treatment plant $S$ in planning
1258		period $l$ (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1259	$OSW_{ts}^{\pm}$	other wastewater treated by wastewater treatment plant $S$ in planning period $l$
1260		(10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1261	$MSDW_s^{\pm}$	the maximum wastewater treatment of wastewater treatment plant $S$ (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1262	$UPES_s$	pollutant treatment rate of wastewater treatment plant $S$ (ton/ton).
1263	$RNF_{tkz}$	natural runoff of river region $w$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in
1264		planning period $l$ (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1265	$DWWP_z$	area $z$ is allowed to discharge wastewater, $z = 1$ is dischargeable, $z = 0$ is not
1266		dischargeable.
1267	$DIW_{tz}$	inter-watershed diverted surface water resources in area $z$ in planning period $l$
1268		(10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1269	$ORDI_{tkz}$	surface water resources from diversion of water within the watershed in in area
1270		$z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ (10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).
1271	$ORDO_{tkz}$	water transferred of area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$
1272		(10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ).

- 1273  $OZW_{tz}$  surface water resources used for the other in area  $z$  in planning period  $t$  ( $10^4$   
1274  $m^3$ ).
- 1275  $REW_{tz}$  basic ecological runoff of area  $z$  in planning period  $t$  ( $10^4 m^3$ ).
- 1276  $SSZ_{zs}$  the corresponding relationship between wastewater treatment plant  $S$  and area  
1277  $z$ . If the wastewater treatment plant  $s$  is in area  $z$ ,  $SSZ_{zs} = 1$ ; Conversely  
1278  $SSZ_{zs} = 0$ .
- 1279  $ISZ_{zi}$  the corresponding relationship between enterprise users  $i$  and area  $z$ . If the  
1280 enterprise users  $i$  is in area  $z$ ,  $ISZ_{zi} = 1$ ; Conversely  $ISZ_{zi} = 0$ .
- 1281  $ZSW_{wz}$  the corresponding relationship between area  $z$  and river region  $W$ . If the area  
1282  $z$  is in river region  $W$ ,  $ZSW_{wz} = 1$ ; Conversely  $ZSW_{wz} = 0$ .
- 1283  $OCR_{wv}$  coefficient that determines whether river region  $W$  is river region  $V$ . If river  
1284 region  $W$  is river region  $V$ ,  $OCR_{wv} = 1$ ; If river region  $W$  is not river region  
1285  $W$ ,  $OCR_{wv} = 0$ .
- 1286  $IOCR_{wv}$  coefficient that determines whether river region  $W$  is upstream of river region  
1287  $V$  and next to river region  $W$ . If river region  $W$  is upstream of river region  $V$   
1288 and next to river region  $W$ ,  $IOCR_{wv} = 1$ ; If river region  $w$  is not upstream of  
1289 river region  $V$  or next to river region  $W$ ,  $IOCR_{wv} = 0$ .
- 1290  $ZSM_{mz}$  the corresponding relationship between area  $z$  and monitoring section  $m$ . the  
1291 monitoring section  $m$  above the area  $z$ ,  $ZSM_{mz} = 1$ ; Conversely  $ZSM_{mz} = 0$ .
- 1292  $WSM_{mw}$  the corresponding relationship between river region  $W$  and monitoring section

1293	$m$	the monitoring section $m$ above the river region $W$ , $WSM_{mw} = 1$ ;
1294		Conversely $WSM_{mw} = 0$ .
1295	$SIFC_{az}$	construction cost per unit area of sprinkler irrigation water-saving facility in
1296		area $z$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥/ha).
1297	$MIFC_{az}$	construction cost per unit area of micro-irrigation water-saving facility in area
1298		$z$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥/ha).
1299	$LIFC_{az}$	construction cost per unit area of low-pressure pipe irrigation water-saving
1300		facility in area $z$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥/ha).
1301	$SIRC_{az}$	operating cost per unit area of sprinkler irrigation water-saving facility in area
1302		$z$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥/ha).
1303	$MIRC_{az}$	operating cost per unit area of micro-irrigation water-saving facility in area $z$
1304		( $10^4$ RMB¥/ha).
1305	$LIRC_{az}$	operating cost per unit area of low-pressure pipe irrigation water-saving
1306		facility in area $z$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥/ha).
1307	$SICW_{az}$	water consumption per unit area based on sprinkler irrigation water-saving
1308		facility in area $z$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> /ha).
1309	$MICW_{az}$	water consumption per unit area based on micro-irrigation water-saving facility
1310		in area $z$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> /ha).
1311	$LICW_{az}$	water consumption per unit area based on low-pressure pipe irrigation water-
1312		saving facility in area $z$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> /ha).
1313	$NSCW_{az}$	water consumption per unit area under non-water saving in area $z$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> /ha).

- 1314  $PNSA_{tkaz}$  the original total irrigation area under area  $z$  in hydrological year type  $k$  in  
1315 planning period  $l$  (ha).
- 1316  $PIPS_{tkaz}$  the original irrigation area based on sprinkler irrigation water-saving facility  
1317 under area  $z$  in hydrological year type  $k$  in planning period  $l$  (ha).
- 1318  $NIPS_{tkaz}$  new added irrigation area based on sprinkler irrigation water-saving facility  
1319 under area  $z$  in hydrological year type  $k$  in planning period  $l$  (ha).
- 1320  $PIPM_{tkaz}$  the original irrigation area based on micro-irrigation water-saving facility  
1321 under area  $z$  in hydrological year type  $k$  in planning period  $l$  (ha).
- 1322  $NIPM_{tkaz}$  new added irrigation area based on micro-irrigation water-saving facility under  
1323 area  $z$  in hydrological year type  $k$  in planning period  $l$  (ha).
- 1324  $PIPL_{tkaz}$  the original irrigation area based on low-pressure pipe irrigation water-saving  
1325 facility under area  $z$  in hydrological year type  $k$  in planning period  $l$  (ha).
- 1326  $NIPL_{tkaz}$  new added irrigation area based on low-pressure pipe irrigation water-saving  
1327 facility under area  $z$  in hydrological year type  $k$  in planning period  $l$  (ha).
- 1328  $SIRW_{az}$  water saving per unit area based on sprinkler irrigation water saving facility in  
1329 area  $z$  ( $10^4 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ ).
- 1330  $MIRW_{az}$  water saving per unit area based on micro-irrigation water saving facility in  
1331 area  $z$  ( $10^4 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ ).
- 1332  $LIRW_{az}$  water saving per unit area based on low-pressure pipe irrigation water saving  
1333 facility in area  $z$  ( $10^4 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ ).
- 1334  $EFLA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$  total irrigation area of agricultural user  $a$  in area  $z$  in hydrological year type

1335		$k$ in planning period $l$ (ha).
1336	$USFC_i$	process cost of enterprise $i$ unit water saving (RMB¥/ $m^3$ ).
1337	$TIOV_i$	enterprise $i$ current annual value added ( $10^4$ RMB¥).
1338	$PTVW_i$	the water consumption of ten-thousand-yuan industrial added value under the
1339		current situation of enterprise $i$ ( $m^3$ ).
1340	$TIVW_i$	the water consumption of ten-thousand-yuan industrial added value under the
1341		planning index of enterprise $i$ ( $m^3$ ).
1342	$CICW_i$	enterprise $i$ current water consumption ( $10^4 m^3$ )
1343	$\eta_p$	industrial water reuse rate under the planning index of enterprise $i$ (%).
1344	$\eta_c$	industrial water reuse rate under the current situation of enterprise $ii$ (%).
1345	$\varphi_a$	planting industry water-saving subsidy rate (%).
1346	$\varphi_i$	enterprise water-saving subsidy rate (%).
1347		
1348	Decision variables:	
1349	$WQA_{laz}$	objective water consumption of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in planning
1350		period $l$ ( $10^4 m^3$ )
1351	$WQI_{ti}$	objective water consumption of enterprise $i$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4 m^3$ )
1352	$WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	water deficit of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in
1353		planning period $l$ ( $10^4 m^3$ ).
1354	$WLI_{ti}^{\pm}$	water deficit of enterprise $i$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4 m^3$ ).

1355	$BWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	purchase for water rights from other users of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in
1356		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1357	$SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	sale for water rights to other users of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in
1358		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1359	$BWTI_{tki}^{\pm}$	purchase for water rights from other users of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year
1360		type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1361	$SWTI_{tki}^{\pm}$	sale for water rights to other users of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year type $k$
1362		in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1363	$SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	operating costs of agricultural user $a$ using water-saving facility in area $z$ in
1364		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥).
1365	$SFCI_{ti}$	water-saving process cost of enterprise $i$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥).
1366	$SFBA_{tkaz}$	construction costs of agricultural user $a$ using water-saving facility in area $z$
1367		in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥).
1368	$WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	government water-saving subsidy of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in
1369		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ RMB¥).
1370	$WSIS_{ti}$	government water-saving subsidy of enterprise $i$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$
1371		RMB¥).
1372	$PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	actual surface water consumption of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in
1373		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1374	$PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm}$	actual surface water consumption of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year type $k$ in
1375		planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).

1376	$PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	actual groundwater consumption of agricultural user $\alpha$ in area $z$ in
1377		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1378	$PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm}$	actual groundwater consumption of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year type $k$ in
1379		planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1380	$SDW_{tks}^{\pm}$	wastewater treatment of wastewater treatment plant $S$ in hydrological year
1381		type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> )
1382	$WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	actual water consumption of agricultural user $\alpha$ in area $z$ in hydrological year
1383		type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> )
1384	$WPI_{tki}^{\pm}$	actual water consumption of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year type $k$ in
1385		planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> )
1386	$WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	water-saving amount of agricultural user $\alpha$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type
1387		$k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> )
1388	$WSI_{tki}$	water-saving amount of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning
1389		period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> )
1390	$TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	water rights after trading of agricultural user $\alpha$ in area $z$ in hydrological year
1391		type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1392	$TWNI_{tki}^{\pm}$	water rights after trading of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year type $k$ in
1393		planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1394	$PSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	actual production scale of agricultural user $\alpha$ in area $z$ in hydrological year
1395		type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).

1396	$PSI_{tki}^{\pm}$	actual production scale of enterprise $i$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning
1397		period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1398	$DISW_{tki}^{\pm}$	actual wastewater emission of enterprise indirectly discharging pollutants $i$ in
1399		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1400	$SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm}$	available surface water resources of river region $W$ in hydrological year type
1401		$k$ in planning period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1402	$RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm}$	inbound runoff of river region $W$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning
1403		period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1404	$ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}$	outbound runoff of river region $W$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning
1405		period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1406	$ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm}$	outbound runoff of river region $V$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning
1407		period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1408	$MBF_{tkm}^{\pm}$	streamflow of monitoring section $m$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning
1409		period $l$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1410	$SLA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	irrigation area based on sprinkler irrigation water-saving facility of agricultural
1411		user $a$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ (ha).
1412	$MIA_{tkaz}$	irrigation area based on micro-irrigation water-saving facility of agricultural
1413		user $a$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ (ha).
1414	$LIA_{tkaz}$	irrigation area based on low-pressure pipeline irrigation water-saving facility
1415		of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period
1416		$l$ (ha).

1417	$NSA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	irrigation area based on non-water-saving of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in
1418		hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $l$ (ha).
1419	$PCWT_{td}$	per capita water consumption in planning period $l$ (m <sup>3</sup> /capita).
1420	$HDP_{tk}^{\pm}$	harmonious degree about population in hydrological year type $k$ in planning
1421		period $l$ .
1422	$HDW_{tk}^{\pm}$	harmonious degree about water consumption status of users in hydrological
1423		year type $k$ in planning period $l$ .
1424	$HDF_{tk}^{\pm}$	harmonious degree about system benefit in hydrological year type $k$ in
1425		planning period $l$ .