

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

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1   **Abstract**

2

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

17

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

20   **1. Introduction**

21

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

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

30

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

42

43 The evaluation of irrigation technologies' impact and efficacy has emerged as a prominent  
44 research topic in the field of water saving (Yang et al., 2020; Zhou et al., 2021; Pronti et al.,  
45 2023; Zhao et al., 2023a). Guo et al. (2023) adopted energy synthesis to assess the input  
46 structure of protected vegetable production system, revealing that water-saving technologies  
47 and energy-efficient utilization can optimize the energy input structure in system. Hamidov et  
48 al. (2022) found a rebound effect resulting from increased agricultural water use due to

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

64

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

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

82

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

97

98 **2. Methodology**

99

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

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

107 
$$\underset{X}{\text{Max}} F_U(X, Y) \quad (1a)$$

108 Subject to:

109 
$$G_1(X, Y) \leq 0 \quad (1b)$$

110 where:

111 
$$Y \in \arg \underset{Y}{\text{Max}} f_L(X, Y) \quad (1c)$$

112 Subject to:

113 
$$g_1(X, Y) \leq 0 \quad (1d)$$

114

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

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

122 Upper level:

$$123 \quad \underset{X^\pm, Y^\pm}{\text{Max}} F_U^\pm = C_{T_1}^\pm X^\pm - \sum_{k=1}^K p_k D_{T_2}^\pm Y^\pm \quad (2a)$$

124 Subject to:

$$125 \quad A_m^\pm X^\pm \leq V_m^\pm, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, M \quad (2b)$$

$$126 \quad B_n^\pm X^\pm - C_n^\pm Y^\pm \geq W_k^\pm, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2c)$$

$$127 \quad x_t^\pm \geq 0, \quad x_t^\pm \in X^\pm, \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, t_1 \quad (2d)$$

$$128 \quad y_{tk}^\pm \geq 0, \quad y_{tk}^\pm \in Y^\pm, \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, t_2; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2e)$$

129 Lower level:

$$130 \quad \underset{X^\pm, Y^\pm}{\text{Max}} f_L^\pm = c_{T_1}^\pm X^\pm - \sum_{k=1}^K p_k d_{T_2}^\pm Y^\pm \quad (2f)$$

131 Subject to:

$$132 \quad a_m^\pm X^\pm \leq v_m^\pm, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, M \quad (2g)$$

$$133 \quad b_n^\pm X^\pm - c_n^\pm Y^\pm \geq w_k^\pm, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2h)$$

$$134 \quad x_t^\pm \geq 0, \quad x_t^\pm \in X_t^\pm, \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, t_1 \quad (2i)$$

$$135 \quad y_{tk}^\pm \geq 0, \quad y_{tk}^\pm \in Y_{tk}^\pm, \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, t_2; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K \quad (2j)$$

136

$$137 \quad \text{where } A_m \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{M \times t_1}, \quad B_n \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{N \times t_2}, \quad B_n \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{N \times t_2}, \quad B_n \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{N \times t_2}, \quad V_m \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{M \times 1},$$

$$138 \quad C_{T_1}^\pm \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{1 \times t_1}, \quad D_{T_2}^\pm \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{1 \times t_2}, \quad a_m^\pm \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{m \times t_1}, \quad b_n^\pm \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{n \times t_2}, \quad b_n^\pm \in \left\{ R^\pm \right\}^{n \times t_2},$$

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:

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

$$176 \quad \mu_{f_U^+} [f_U^+(x^+, y^+)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_U^+ > f_*^{U+} \\ \frac{f_U^+ - f_U^{+'}}{f_*^{U+} - f_U^{+'}}, & \text{if } f_U^{+'} \leq f_U^+ \leq f_*^{U+} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_U^+ < f_U^{+'} \end{cases} \quad (3j)$$

$$177 \quad \mu_{f_L^+} [f_L^+(x^+, y^+)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_L^+ > f_*^{L+} \\ \frac{f_L^+ - f_L^{+'}}{f_*^{L+} - f_L^{+'}}, & \text{if } f_L^{+'} \leq f_L^+ \leq f_*^{L+} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_L^+ < f_L^{+'} \end{cases} \quad (3k)$$

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:

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

188 Subject to:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

198 where:

$$199 \quad \mu_{x^-}(x^-) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^- - (x^{U^-} - r_1)}{r_1}, & \text{if } x^{U^-} - r_1 \leq x^- \leq x^{U^-} \\ \frac{(x^{U^-} + r_1) - x^-}{r_1}, & \text{if } x^{U^-} \leq x^- \leq x^{U^-} + r_1 \\ 0, & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4k)$$

$$200 \quad \mu_{f_U^-} [f_U^-(x^-, y^-)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_U^- > f_*^{U^-} \\ \frac{f_U^- - f_U^{-'}}{f_*^{U^-} - f_U^{-'}}, & \text{if } f_U^{-'} \leq f_U^- \leq f_*^{U^-} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_U^- < f_U^{-'} \end{cases} \quad (4l)$$

$$201 \quad \mu_{f_L^-} [f_L^-(x^-, y^-)] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f_L^- > f_*^{L^-} \\ \frac{f_L^- - f_L^{-'}}{f_*^{L^-} - f_L^{-'}}, & \text{if } f_L^{-'} \leq f_L^- \leq f_*^{L^-} \\ 0, & \text{if } f_L^- < f_L^{-'} \end{cases} \quad (4m)$$

202

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

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

205

206 **3. Case Study**

207

208 *3.1 Overview of the study system*

209

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

222 -----

223 Place Figure 1 here

224 -----

225

226 *3.2 Modeling formulation*

227

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

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

250 -----

251 Place Figure 2 here

252 -----

253

254 Objective function:

255 Upper level:

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

256

(5a)

257

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:

$$265 \quad Minf_L^{\pm} = \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A (p_k \times WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm}) + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^I (p_k \times WPI_{tki}^{\pm}) \quad (5b)$$

266

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

269

270 Subject to:

### 271 (1) Water consumption constraints:

$$272 \quad WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = WQA_{taz} - WLA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5c)$$

$$273 \quad WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = WQI_{ti} - WLI_{tki}^{\pm} - WSI_{ti} \quad (5d)$$

$$274 \quad WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5e)$$

$$275 \quad WPI_{tki}^{\pm} = PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5f)$$

$$276 \quad PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5g)$$

$$277 \quad PSGWI_{\text{tki}}^{\pm} \leq TWNI_{\text{tki}}^{\pm} \quad (5h)$$

$$278 \quad PUGWA_{k_{\text{tar}}}^{\pm} \leq UGWA_{k_{\text{tar}}} \quad (5i)$$

$$279 \quad PUGWI_{\mu}^{\pm} \leq UGWI_{\mu}. \quad (5j)$$

$$280 \quad PSA^\pm \equiv (WPA^\pm + WSA^\pm) \times I WPA^\pm \quad (5k)$$

$$PSI^{\pm} = \left( WPI^{\pm} + WSI^{\pm} \right) \times I \cdot WPI^{\pm} \quad (51)$$

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

286 combination of water deficit and water saving. Constraints (5e) and (5f) manifest that the  
 287 actual surface water and groundwater constitute the actual water composition. Constraints  
 288 (5g) and (5h) manifest that the actual surface water is obliged to satisfy the water rights held.  
 289 Constraints (5i) and (5j) manifest that the actual groundwater ought to be controlled by the  
 290 maximum total groundwater intake. Constraints (5k) and (5l) manifest that the actual  
 291 production scale equals the combination of actual water consumption and saving multiplied  
 292 by the production scale per unit of water. Constraints (5m) and (5n) manifest that the  
 293 combination of the actual water consumption and saving should be limited by the peak water  
 294 demand, and meet the fundamental water demand. Constraints (5m) and (5n) manifest that the  
 295 combination of actual water consumption and saving remains within the peak water demand  
 296 and the fundamental water demand.

297

298 (2) Water rights trading constraints:

$$299 \quad TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + BWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5o)$$

$$300 \quad TWNI_{tki}^{\pm} = WNI_{tki}^{\pm} + BWTI_{tki}^{\pm} - SWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5p)$$

$$301 \quad QWAmi_{taz} \leq WPA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWAmi_{taz} \quad (5q)$$

$$302 \quad TWNI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti} \leq QWI_{tzi} \quad (5r)$$

$$303 \quad WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \geq SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \quad (5s)$$

$$304 \quad WNI_{tki}^{\pm} \geq SWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5t)$$

$$305 \quad \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A SWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I SWTI_{tki}^{\pm} = \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A BWTA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I BWTI_{tki}^{\pm} \quad (5u)$$

306

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

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

314

315 (3) Price rule constraint:

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

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

318

319 Constraints [\(5v\)](#) and [\(5w\)](#) manifest that the post-trading advantages of the user are at least as  
 320 much as the pre-trading advantages.

321

322 (4) Wastewater discharge and treatment constraints:

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

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

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

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

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:

$$337 \quad \sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \sum_{a=1}^A TWNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times TWINI_{tki}^{\pm}) \right] \right\} \leq SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} \tag{5ab}$$

$$338 \quad SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSW_{wz} \times \begin{pmatrix} RNF_{tkz} + DIW_{tz} + ORDI_{tkz} \\ -ORDO_{tkz} - OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \end{pmatrix} \right] \tag{5ac}$$

$$339 \quad ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (OCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) \tag{5ad}$$

$$340 \quad RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} = \sum_{v=1}^V (IOCR_{wv} \times ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm}) \tag{5ae}$$

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

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:

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

353      
$$MBF_{tkm}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (WSM_{mw} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) + NRM_{tkm} \quad (5ah)$$

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:

362      
$$DWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm}, & \text{if } PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5ai)$$

363      
$$SWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm}, & \text{if } WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - PSGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5aj)$$

364      
$$DWI_{tki}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - WNI_{tki}^{\pm}, & \text{if } PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - WNI_{tki}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} - WNI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5ak)$$

365      
$$SWI_{tki}^{\pm} = \begin{cases} WNI_{tki}^{\pm} - PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm}, & \text{if } WNI_{tki}^{\pm} - PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } WNI_{tki}^{\pm} - PSGWI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (5al)$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$385 \quad WSI_{ti} = TIOV_i \times (PTVW_i - TIVW_i) + CICW_i \times \frac{\eta_p - \eta_c}{1 - \eta_p} \quad (5az)$$

$$386 \quad SFCI_{ti} = USFC_i \times WSI_{ti} \quad (5ba)$$

$$387 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 WSAS_{tkaz}^{\pm} = \sum_{a=1}^1 \left[ \varphi_a \times \left( SFRA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + SFBA_{tkaz} \right) \right] \quad (5\text{bb})$$

$$388 \quad WSIS_{ti} = \varphi_i \times SFCI_{ti} \quad (5be)$$

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

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

408

409 *3.3 Scenario design and data collection*

410

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

416 Therefore, to align with the refinement of water-saving activity planning, this study designed  
417 five scenarios of efficient water-saving irrigation area ratios and five scenarios of water-  
418 saving subsidy policy to examine the impact of different water-saving schemes on the water  
419 rights trading market under conditions of water scarcity (details are described in [Table 1](#)). The  
420 ratios of efficient water-saving irrigation area are set according to 2025 planning targets.

421 Agricultural users are free to choose efficient water-saving irrigation methods (as described  
422 by constraint condition [5ay](#)). Water-saving subsidy policy aims to examine the applicability  
423 of national policy at the local level and the impact of water-saving policy on Qingdao’s water  
424 rights trading (as described by constraint conditions [5bb](#) and [5be](#)).

425 -----

426 Place Table 1 here

427 -----

428

429 The study relies on data from reliable and valid sources, including statistical yearbooks, water  
430 resource bulletins, published papers, and expert consultations. Flow data of Nancun

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

447

#### 448 **4. Results and Discussion**

449

##### 450 *4.1 Initial water right allocation*

451

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

455 increase compared to dry years ( $k = 1$  and  $2$ ). For example, under Scenario S1, total initial  
456 water rights in wet years would increase by [18.08, 20.81]% compared to dry years in 2025.  
457 This is due to higher surface available water resource in wet years. Besides, the results show  
458 that, compared with non-subsidy scenarios (S1-S5), total initial water rights under full water-  
459 saving subsidy (S21-S25) would decrease. For example, under 70% efficient water-saving  
460 irrigation area, total initial water rights would decrease by [4.16, 4.29]%, i.e., [3.18, 3.30] ×  
461  $10^6 \text{ m}^3$ . This is because the costs incurred by operation and construction of water-saving  
462 irrigation technologies are offset under full subsidy, bringing about the tendency to adopt  
463 irrigation technology with higher water-saving capacity (as shown in [Figure 7](#)), leading to a  
464 decrease in surface water consumption for planting industry. From the results, with the  
465 increase of efficient water-saving irrigation area, the total initial rights would decrease. For  
466 example, the total rights under S25 would decrease by [6.97, 8.15]%, i.e.  $[55.06, 65.34] \times 10^6$   
467  $\text{m}^3$ , compared to S21. This is because the increase in efficient water-saving irrigation area  
468 leads to a decrease in water consumption of planting industry users. In addition, with the  
469 increase of efficient water-saving irrigation area, the initial water rights amount for planting  
470 industry would decrease, while those for enterprise would increase.

471 -----

472 Place Figure 3 here

473 -----

474

475 *4.2 Water rights trading process*

476

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

479 results indicate that water trading mainly occurs in special dry years ( $k = 1$ ), where enterprises  
480 are buyers, and agriculture (including planting industry, livestock, and fishery) are sellers.  
481 Notably, agriculture, especially planting industry, is the main seller, accounting for [66.36,  
482 71.54]% of total sales on average. This is because the benefits per unit water consumption of  
483 enterprises is higher than that of agriculture, and planting industry has a larger water basis, so  
484 water rights tend to flow to high-efficiency enterprises (Ma et al., 2020; Browne and Ji, 2023;  
485 Chen et al., 2024). Besides, the results show that, compared to non-subsidy scenarios (S1-S5),  
486 the trading amount under full water-saving subsidy (S21-S25) would decrease by [11.60,  
487 14.75]% on average, i.e.,  $[308.02, 455.64] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . This arises from the fact that water-  
488 saving subsidy would decrease enterprises' actual surface water consumption, as shown in  
489 Figure 5. And enterprises' demand for water rights would decrease by [12.63, 13.27]%. In  
490 detail, from the results in Figure 5, compared to non-subsidy scenarios, enterprises' actual  
491 surface water consumption under full subsidy would decrease by  $[371.60, 392.28] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ ,  
492 and the actual groundwater consumption would increase by  $[401.64, 498.02] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . This is  
493 because under scenarios with subsidy, enterprises would utilize more groundwater with higher  
494 water price to substitute for surface water. Surface water with lower price tends to flow to  
495 industries without subsidy such as fisheries, whose actual surface water use would increase by  
496  $[382.86, 502.99] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . These results imply that water saving subsidy alters enterprises'  
497 water consumption structure of surface water and groundwater, thereby impacts supply and  
498 demand dynamics and water trading processes. The results also show that with the increase of  
499 efficient water-saving irrigation area, the water trading amount would increase. For example,  
500 compared to S1, water trading amount under S5 would increases by [41.43, 67.02]%, i.e.,  
501  $[952.93, 1173.66] \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ . This is because the expansion of efficient irrigation area would  
502 raise planting industry's water-saving amount and reduce surface water consumption.

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

507 -----

508 Place Figures 4 and 5 here

509 -----

510

511 *4.3 Water resources allocation*

512

513 [Figure 6](#) illustrates surface and underground water consumption of multiple industries under  
514 water-saving schemes among hydrological year types. The results indicate that, compared to  
515 dry years, surface water consumption under wet years would increase, while the groundwater  
516 consumption would decrease. For example, in wet years under S1, the planting industry of  
517 surface water consumption would increase by [18.93, 22.09]% compared to dry years, while  
518 the groundwater consumption would decrease to 0. This results from the fact that groundwater  
519 price is higher than price of surface water that is abundant in wet years. In addition, the results  
520 show that the total surface water consumption under full water-saving subsidy (S21-S25)  
521 would decrease by  $[1.58, 2.41] \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$  on average compared with non-subsidy scenarios  
522 (S1-S5). This is because the water-saving amount under full water saving subsidy is [6.52,  
523 10.16]% more than that without subsidy. The results also show that the consumption of  
524 surface water by planting industry would decrease as the area of efficient water-saving  
525 irrigation increases. For example, the consumption of surface water by planting industry  
526 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

527 the increase of efficient water-saving irrigation area leads to an increase in water-saving  
528 amount by planting industry ([Pinto et al., 2023](#)). For example, the water-saving amount under  
529 70% efficient water-saving irrigation area (S5, S10, S15, S20 and S25) is increased by [19.16,  
530 19.60] on average, i.e.,  $[4.00, 4.05] \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ , compared to 60% efficient water-saving  
531 irrigation area (S1, S6, S11, S16 and S21).

532 -----

533 Place Figure 6 here

534 -----

535

536 *4.4 Water-saving facilities construction*

537

538 [Figure 7](#) illustrates construction area of three facilities among hydrological year types (NIPS:  
539 sprinkler construction area; NIPM: micro-irrigation construction area; NIPL: low-pressure  
540 pipe construction area). The results indicate that, in special dry years ( $k = 1$ ), micro-irrigation  
541 is the predominant type of efficient water-saving irrigation facility construction, accounting  
542 for [91.58, 92.44]% of total construction area on average. For other hydrological years, the  
543 predominant type of facility construction is low-pressure pipe. It accounts for [80.00, 88.78]%

544 for  $k = 2$ , [80.00, 88.78]% for  $k = 3$ , [80.16, 92.91]% for  $k = 4$ , and [87.39, 93.77]% for  $k = 5$   
545 on average, respectively. This is because the water-saving ability of micro-irrigation is nearly  
546 twice that of low-pressure pipe irrigation; but the water-saving cost of micro-irrigation is  
547 high. Thus, micro-irrigation technology is more applicable during special dry years. Low-  
548 pressure pipe irrigation with lower cost would be adopted when surface water resources is  
549 increased. Besides, the results show that the micro-irrigation facility construction area under  
550 full water-saving subsidy would increase by nearly 7 times compared to non-subsidy

551 scenarios. This is because water-saving subsidy alleviates the cost; users would be more  
552 inclined to choose irrigation facility with high water-saving capabilities. The result implies  
553 that with suitable water-saving subsidy, the agricultural sector will progressively lean towards  
554 utilizing irrigation systems with greater water-saving capacities, such as micro-irrigation,  
555 fostering high-quality water-saving advancements in the region (Zhao et al., 2023b). The  
556 results also show that the increase of low-pressure pipe irrigation area is the largest with the  
557 construction of efficient water-saving irrigation facility (Figure 7 (a)-(e)). For example, under  
558 70% efficient water-saving irrigation area (i.e., S5, S10, S15, S20 and S25), construction area  
559 for water-saving facility would be  $[12.67, 13.30] \times 10^3 \text{ hm}^2$  for low-pressure pipe irrigation on  
560 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  
561 irrigation. This is because low-pressure pipe irrigation facility has lowest construction cost.  
562 -----

563 Place Figure 7 here

564 -----

565

566 *4.5 Bi-objective function values*

567

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

575 benefit under full subsidy would increase by  $[157.24, 172.76] \times 10^6$  RMB¥, and the total  
576 water consumption would decrease by  $[1.38, 2.27] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup> on average. This is because the  
577 subsidy makes up for the cost of water saving, and planting industry tends to invest in micro-  
578 irrigation water-saving facility (see [Figure 7](#)), leading to increased water-saving amount and  
579 reduced total water consumption ([Li et al., 2023](#)). The findings also indicate that, with the  
580 increase in efficient irrigation area, the total water consumption would decrease. For example,  
581 compared to 60% of the irrigation area, the total water consumption under 75% would  
582 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  
583 planting industry increase the area of efficient water-saving irrigation, water-savings amount  
584 would increase, consequently decreasing total water consumption.

585 -----

586 Place Figure 8 here

587 -----

588

589 *4.6 Optimal water saving scheme*

590

591 The optimal water-saving scheme is ascertained relying on Technique for Order Preference by  
592 Similarity to an Ideal Solution (TOPSIS) ([Shih et al., 2007; Ghazali et al., 2018; Wang et al.,](#)  
593 [2022](#)). This study comprehensively considers the system benefits (deduction of water-saving  
594 subsidy), water consumption, water-saving amount, and water use efficiency to evaluate the  
595 performance of multiple water saving scenarios. The evaluation results are presented in [Table](#)  
596 [2](#), regarding the results, the largest Euclidean distance is 0.7936 (S15), succeeded by 0.7842  
597 (S5) and 0.7402 (S10). It indicates that S15 that corresponds to 50% of the subsidy rate and  
598 70% of efficient irrigation area is the optimal water-saving scenario under SB-WSTM. [Table](#)

599    3 presents the optimal decisions under optimal water saving scheme. The results can be  
600    displayed as follows: (a) The actual production scales of planting industry in Pingdu county is  
601    the largest among all counties in each year. The production scales would respectively be  
602     $[148.81, 150.31] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Pingdu),  $[127.85, 129.15] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Laixi),  $[104.28,$   
603     $105.34] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Jiaozhou) and  $[81.17, 81.99] \times 10^3$  ha/year (Jimo). (b) The agricultural  
604    water consumption of Laixi county is the largest. The agricultural water consumption would  
605    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,  
606     $[7.26, 7.26] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup>/year in Jimo and  $[15.85, 15.87] \times 10^6$  m<sup>3</sup>/year in Jiaozhou. Table 4  
607    presents the optimal water-saving scheme. The results show that: (a) The main water-saving  
608    facility of each county is, with an area of  $[43.62, 44.43] \times 10^3$  ha/year in Laixi,  $[14.40, 14.42]$   
609     $\times 10^3$  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  
610    Jimo. (b) The area of each water-saving facility in the main county is listed as follows: the  
611    area of sprinkler irrigation facility in Jiaozhou is  $[1.92, 1.97] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the area of micro-  
612    irrigation facility in Laixi is  $[1.99, 1.99] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the area of low-pressure pipe irrigation  
613    facility in Laixi is  $[43.62, 44.43] \times 10^3$  ha/year. (c) The main hydrological year type of water-  
614    saving facility in each county is listed as follows: the construction area of Laixi is  $[13.68,$   
615     $14.56] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the construction area of Pingdu is  $[5.91, 7.16] \times 10^3$  ha/year, the  
616    construction area of Jimo is  $[1.32, 1.32] \times 10^3$  ha/year, and the construction area of Jiaozhou  
617    is  $[4.43, 4.61] \times 10^3$  ha/year under special dry year. (d) The water-saving subsidy for Laixi  
618    county is the largest. The subsidy would be  $[165.40, 171.30] \times 10^6$  RMB/year (Laixi),  $[6.66,$   
619     $13.86] \times 10^6$  RMB/year (Pingdu),  $[0.99, 1.05] \times 10^6$  RMB/year (Jimo) and  $[2.16, 3.00] \times 10^6$   
620    RMB/year (Jiaozhou), respectively. (e) The main hydrological year type of water-saving  
621    subsidy in each county is listed as follows: the subsidy of Laixi is  $[209.57, 222.67] \times 10^6$   
622    RMB/year, the subsidy of Pingdu is  $[13.92, 21.57] \times 10^6$  RMB/year, the subsidy of Jimo is

623  $[0.49, 0.49] \times 10^6$  RMB/year, and the subsidy of Jiaozhou is  $[1.14, 4.52] \times 10^6$  RMB/year  
624 under special dry year.

625 -----

626 Place Tables 2, 3 and 4 here

627 -----

628

629 **5. Conclusions**

630

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

639

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

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

665

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667

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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 $^3$ )	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 $^3$ )	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)

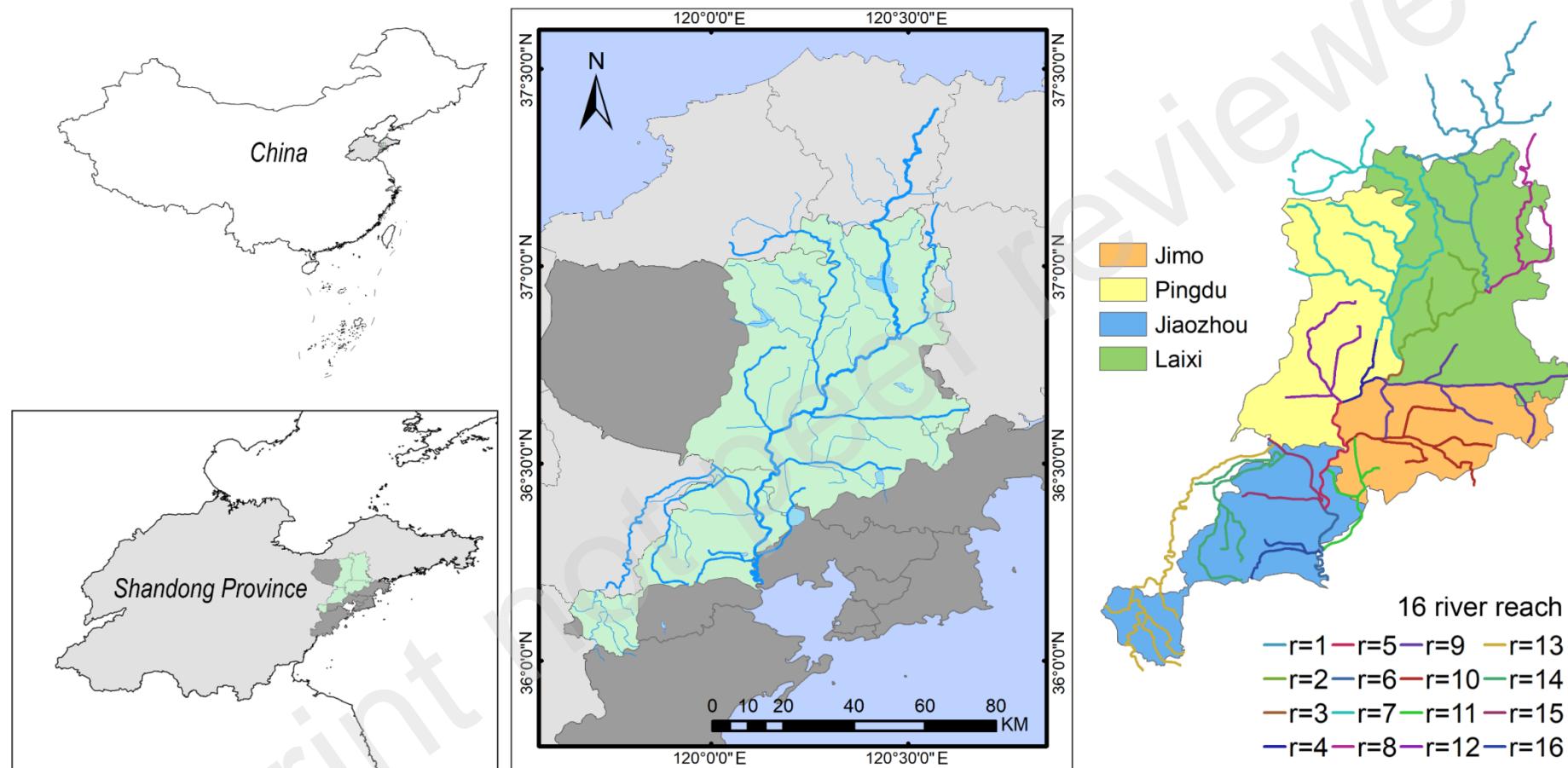
885 Figure 4 Water rights trading in five hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios  
886 (PL: planting industry; LI: livestock; FI: fishery; EN: enterprise)

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

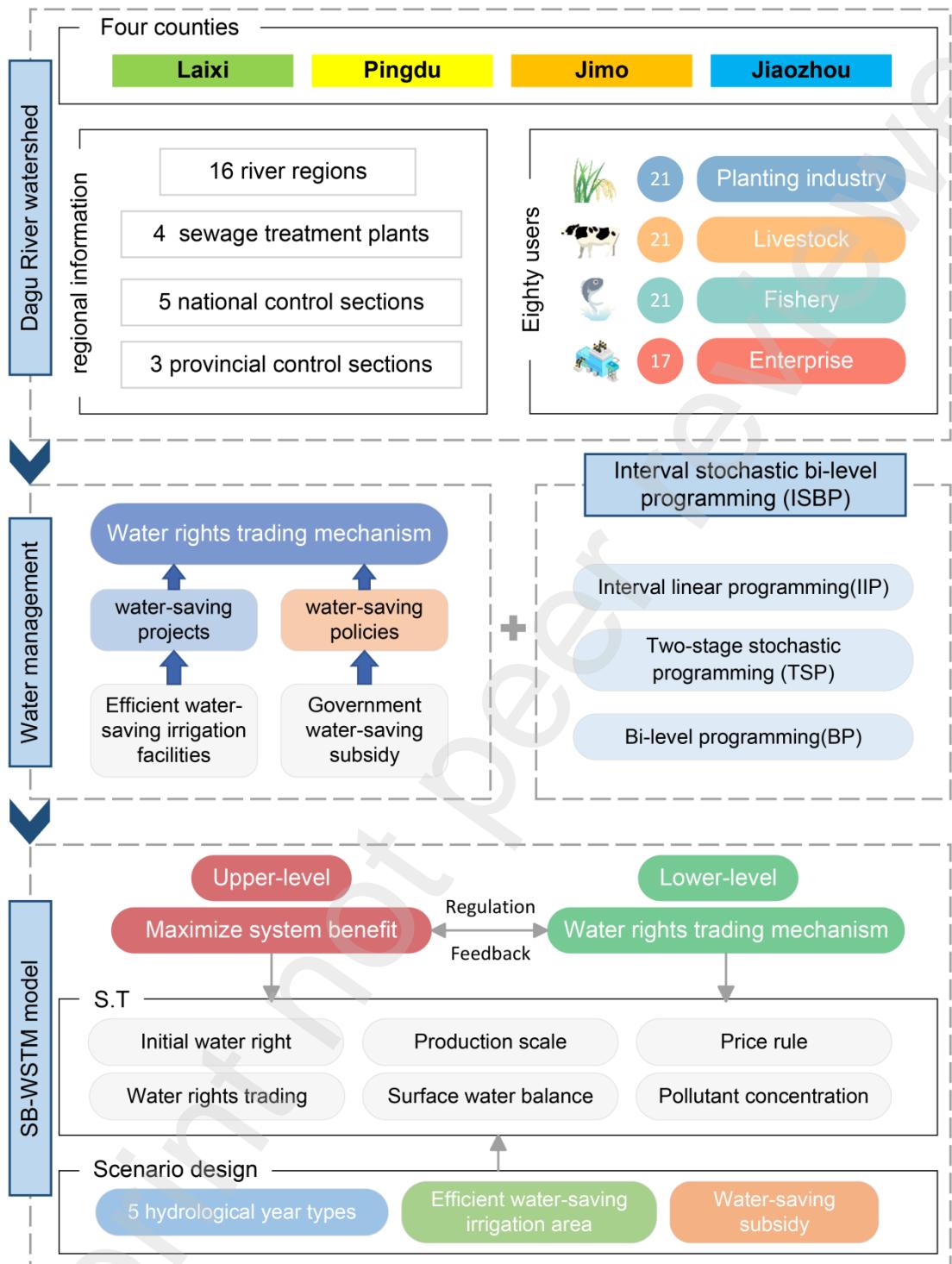
889 Figure 6 Surface and underground water consumption of multiple industries in five  
890 hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios

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)

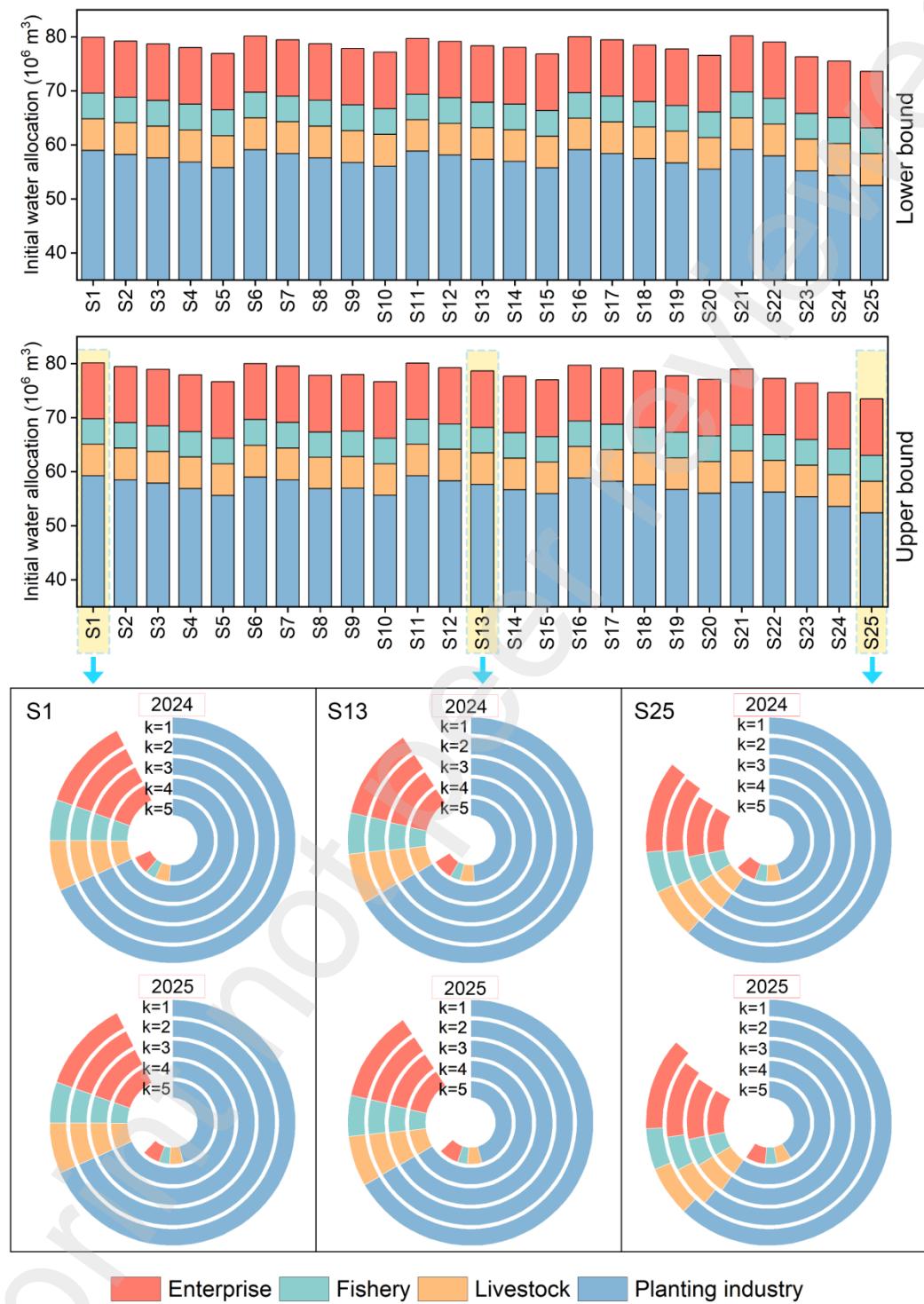
898 Figure 8 System benefits and total actual water consumption under five hydrological year  
899 types under water-saving scenarios



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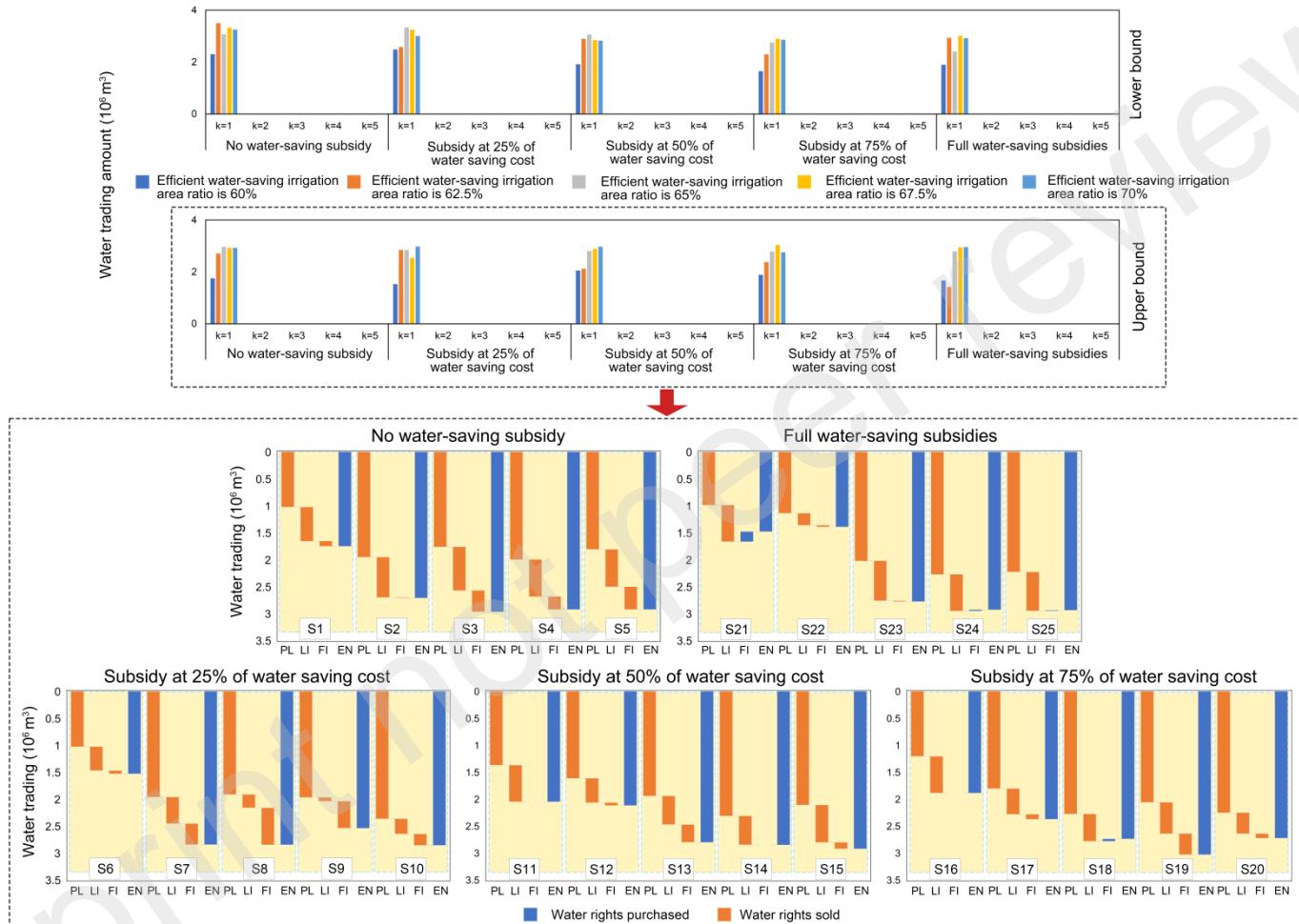


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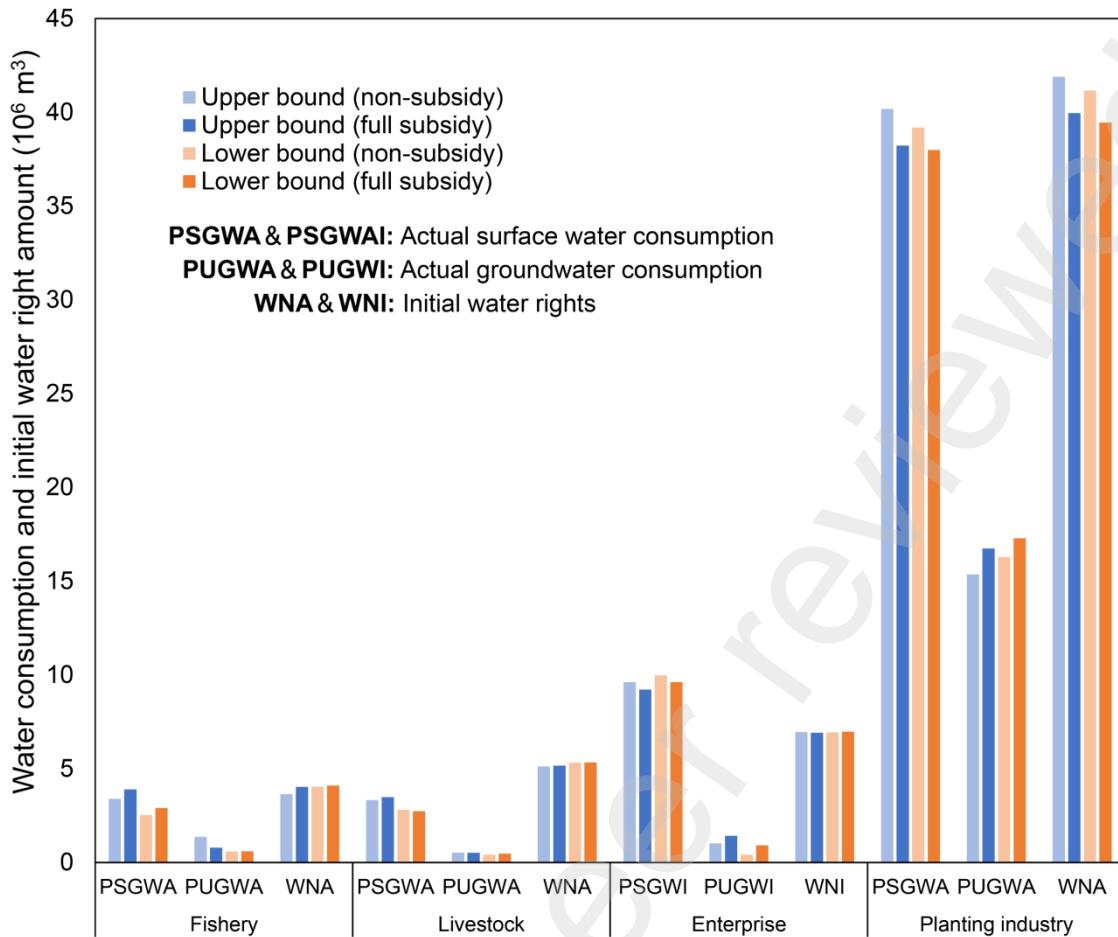


903

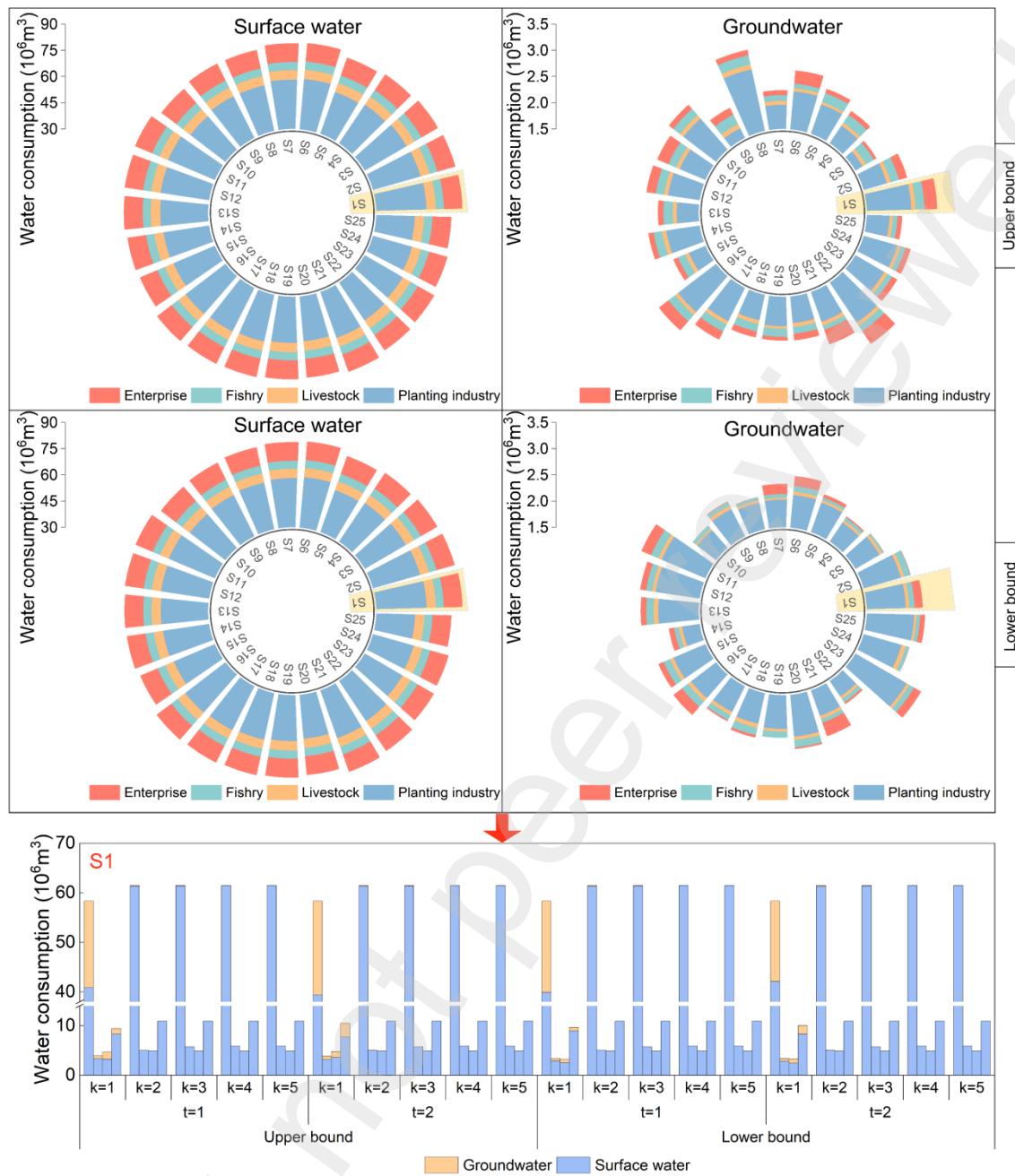
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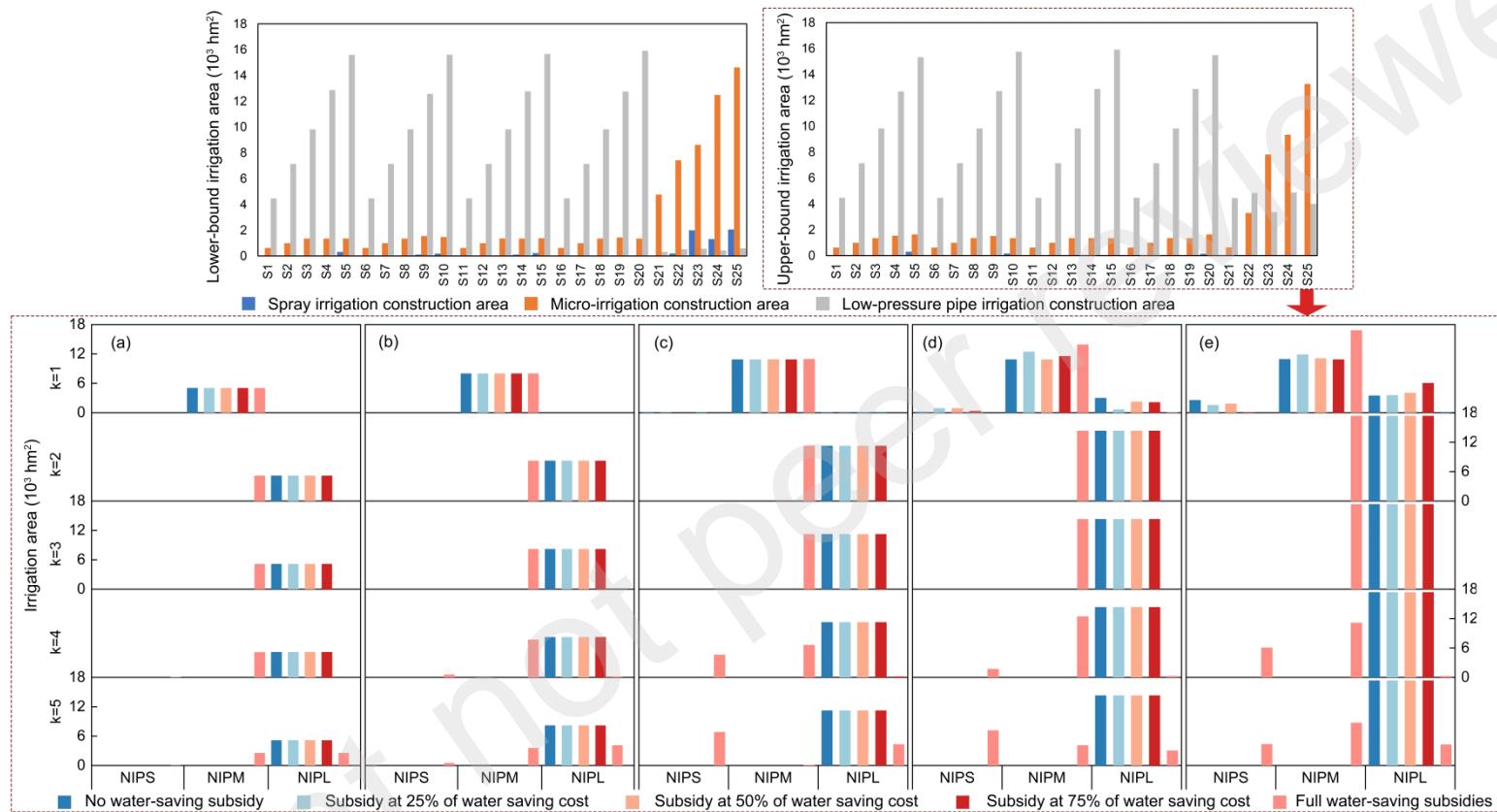
907 Figure 4 Water rights trading in five hydrological year types under water-saving scenarios (PL: planting industry; LI: livestock; FI: fishery; EN:  
908 enterprise)



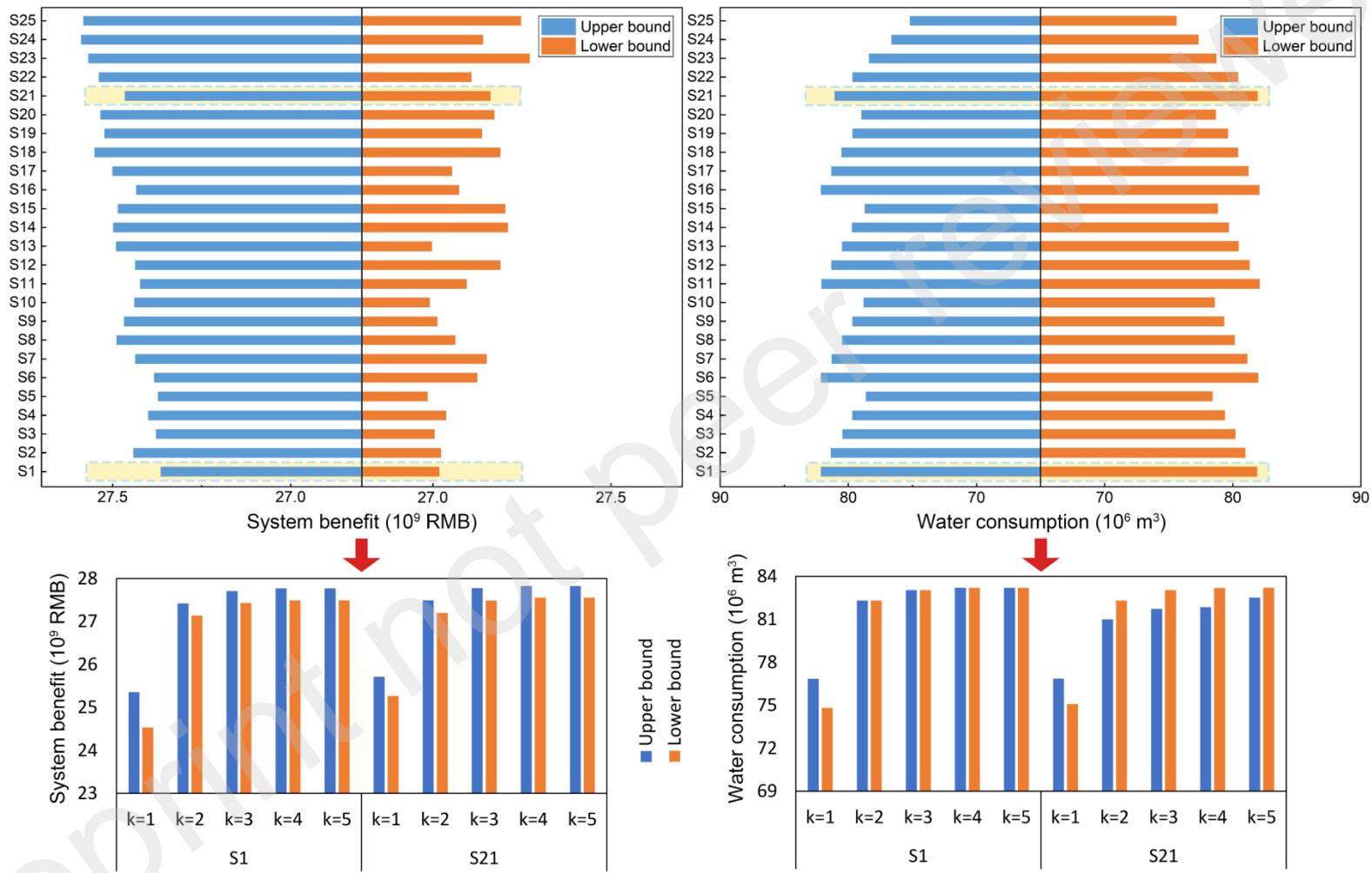
909 Figure 5 Actual surface and underground water consumption and initial water rights of  
910 different industries in special dry year







913 Figure 7 The construction area of different water-saving facility for planting industry in five hydrological year types under water-saving  
 914 scenarios (NIPS: sprinkler construction area; NIPM: micro-irrigation construction area; NIPL: low-pressure pipe construction area; (a): 60% of  
 915 the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (b): 62.5% of the efficient water-saving irrigation area; (c): 65% of the efficient water-saving irrigation  
 916 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

919 **Appendix A. Reconstruction of natural runoff with SWAT**

920

921 *A.1 Methodology*

922

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

927 
$$SW = SW_0 + \sum_{i=1}^t (R_i - Q_{surf,i} - E_{a,i} - w_{seep,i} - Q_{gw,i}) \quad (\text{A.1})$$

928

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

933

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

940 
$$W_{nr} = W_m + W_c + W_i + W_{ff} + W_{td} \pm W_{rf} \pm W_{re} \pm W_d \pm W_{fd} \pm W_o \quad (\text{A.2})$$

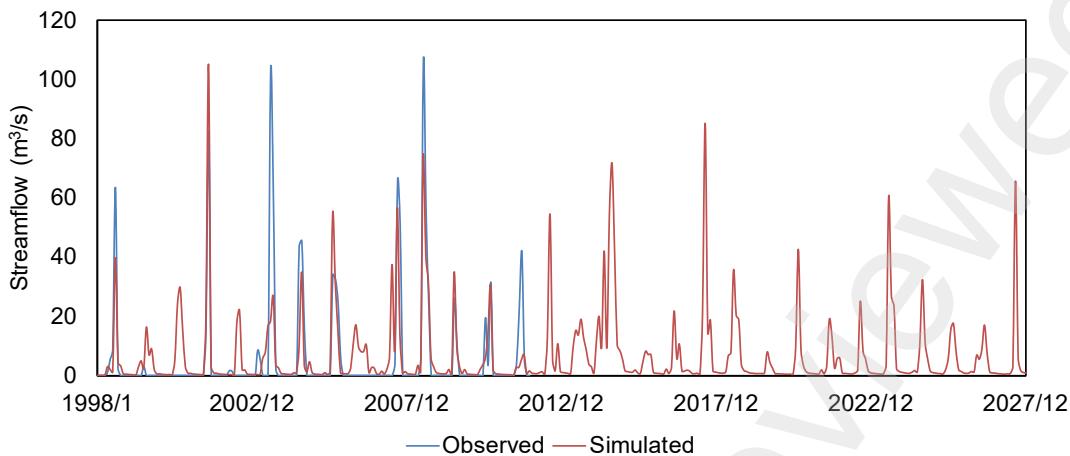
941

942 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  
943 consumption of surface water for agricultural irrigation ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_i$  represents the net water  
944 consumption of industrial surface water ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{ff}$  is the net water consumption of  
945 surface water in forest and fishery ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{td}$  is the net water consumption of urban  
946 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  
947 difference between reservoir water surface evaporation and land surface evapotranspiration  
948 response ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_d$  is the quantity of water diversion across the watershed ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_{fd}$   
949 is the quantity of flood diversion in the river ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ );  $W_o$  denotes other runoff ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{a}$ ).  
950

#### 951 *A.2 Results*

952

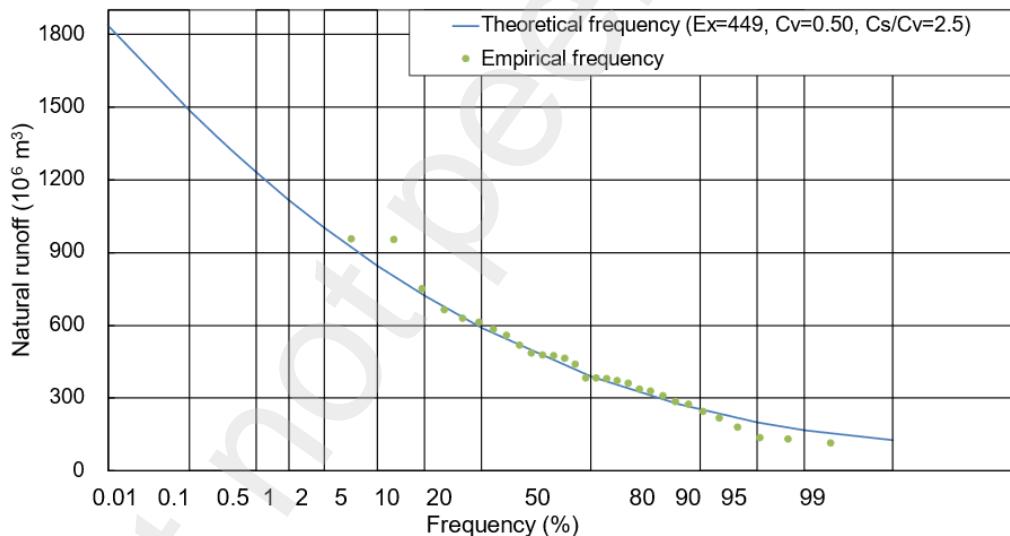
953 Figure A1 displays the streamflow simulation results of Dagu River watershed based on the  
954 SWAT model. The Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE) value is 0.58, indicating satisfactory  
955 simulation of surface runoff. The natural runoff of Dagu River watershed is then  
956 reconstructed utilizing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



962

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

964



965

966 Figure A2 Natural runoff frequency curve diagram

967

968 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 ( $10^6$ m $^3$ )	173.44	273.83	390.85	551.91	852.57
Distribution probability (%)	0.125	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.125

969

970

971 **Appendix B. Initial water rights model**

972

973 Objective function:

974 
$$\text{Max } f = \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K (p_k \times HD_{tk}^\pm) \quad (\text{B.1})$$

975

976 The objective function is to maximize harmonious degree.

977 Subject to:

978 (1) Harmonious degree.

979 
$$HD_{tk}^\pm \leq HDP_{tk}^\pm \quad (\text{B.2})$$

980 
$$HD_{tk}^\pm \leq HDW_{tk}^\pm \quad (\text{B.3})$$

981 
$$HD_{tk}^\pm \leq HDE_{tk}^\pm \quad (\text{B.4})$$

982

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

986

987 (2) The principle of fairness.

988 
$$\frac{\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSD_{dz} \times \sum_{a=1}^A (WNA_{tkaz}^\pm + WSA_{tkaz}^\pm) \right] \\ + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSD_{dz} \times \sum_{i=1}^I ISZ_{zi} \times (WNI_{tki}^\pm + WSI_{ti}^\pm) \right] \end{array} \right\} \div POP_{td}}{PCWT_{td}} \geq HDP_{tk}^\pm \quad (\text{B.5})$$

989      
$$PCWT_{td} = \left[ \sum_{z=1}^Z \sum_{a=1}^A QWAma_{taz} + \sum_{i=1}^I QWIma_{ti} \right] \div \sum_{d=1}^D POP_{td} \quad (B.6)$$

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

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

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.

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

FMAX<sub>tk</sub><sup>±</sup>

1005

1006

1007 Constraint (B.9) reflects that ratio of system benefit of water saving participation to maximum  
 1008 system benefit under different planning periods and hydrological year types (the calculation  
 1009 of maximum system benefit is shown in constraint C.2 in [Appendix C](#)).

1010

1011 (5) Water consumption constraints:

$$1012 \quad WPA_{tkaz}^\pm = WQA_{taz} - WLA_{tkaz}^\pm - WSA_{tkaz}^\pm \quad (B.10)$$

$$1013 \quad WPI_{tki}^\pm = WQI_{ti} - WLI_{tki}^\pm - WSI_{ti} \quad (B.11)$$

$$1014 \quad WPA_{tkaz}^\pm = PSGWA_{tkaz}^\pm + PUGWA_{tkaz}^\pm \quad (B.12)$$

$$1015 \quad WPI_{tki}^\pm = PSGWI_{tki}^\pm + PUGWI_{tki}^\pm \quad (B.13)$$

$$1016 \quad PSGWA_{tkaz}^\pm \leq WNA_{tkaz}^\pm \quad (B.14)$$

$$1017 \quad PSGWI_{tki}^\pm \leq WNI_{tki}^\pm \quad (B.15)$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

1024

1025 (6) Initial water rights constraint:

1026  $WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + PUGWA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + WSA_{tkaz}^{\pm} \leq QWAmi_{taz}$  (B.22)

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

1028

1029 (7) Price rule constraint:

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

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

1032

1033 (8) Wastewater discharge and treatment constraints:

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned}
SDW_{tks}^{\pm} &= \sum_{i=1}^{15} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\
1037 \quad &+ \sum_{i=17}^{17} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right] \\
&+ LSW_{ts}^{\pm} + OSW_{ts}^{\pm} \leq MSDW_s^{\pm}
\end{aligned} \tag{B.29}$$

1038

1039 (9) Surface water balance constraint:

$$1040 \quad \sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \left[ \sum_{a=1}^A WNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} + \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times WNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \right] \right\} \leq SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} \tag{B.30}$$

$$1041 \quad SAWR_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left[ ZSW_{wz} \times \begin{bmatrix} RNF_{tz} + DIW_{tz} + ORDI_{tz} \\ -ORDO_{tz} - OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \end{bmatrix} \right] \tag{B.31}$$

$$1042 \quad ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm} = \sum_{w=1}^W (OCR_{ww} \times ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm}) \tag{B.32}$$

$$1043 \quad RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} = \sum_{v=1}^V (IOCR_{vv} \times ROBF_{tkv}^{\pm}) \tag{B.33}$$

$$1044 \quad ROBF_{tkw}^{\pm} = RIBF_{tkw}^{\pm} + \sum_{z=1}^Z \left\{ ZSW_{wz} \times \begin{bmatrix} RNF_{tz} + DIW_{tz} + ORDI_{tz} - ORDO_{tz} \\ -OZW_{tz} - REW_{tz} \\ -\sum_{a=1}^A TWNNA_{tkaz}^{\pm} - \sum_{i=1}^I (ISZ_{zi} \times TWNI_{tki}^{\pm}) \\ + DWWP_z \times \left[ \sum_{s=1}^S (SSZ_{zs} \times SDW_{tks}^{\pm}) \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{i=16}^{16} (ISZ_{zi} \times DISW_{tki}^{\pm}) \right] \end{bmatrix} \right\} \tag{B.34}$$

1045

1046 (10) Pollutant content level constraints of river monitoring sections:

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

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

1049

1050 (11) Water-saving rule constraints:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1068

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

1070

1071 Objective function:

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

1073

1074 Subject to:

1075 (1) Constraints for obtain the maximum value of system benefit under different planning  
1076 periods and hydrological year type.

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

1078

1079 (3) Water consumption constraints:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1091  $QWI_{ti} \leq WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti} \leq WQImi_{ti}$  (C.14)

1092

1093 (4) Initial water rights constraint:

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

1095  $WNI_{tki}^{\pm} + PUGWI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{tki}^{\pm} \leq QWI_{ti}$  (C.16)

1096

1097 (5) Wastewater discharge and treatment constraints:

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

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

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

1101 
$$SDW_{tks}^{\pm} = \sum_{i=1}^{15} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right]$$
  

$$+ \sum_{i=17}^{17} ISS_{si} \times \left[ (WPI_{tki}^{\pm} + WSI_{ti}) \times IWDR_i \right] \quad (C.20)$$
  

$$+ LSW_{ts}^{\pm} + OSW_{ts}^{\pm} \leq MSDW_s^{\pm}$$

1102

1103 (6) Surface water balance constraint:

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

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

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

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

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

1109

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

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

1112 (C.26)

$$1113 \quad MBF_{tkm}^\pm = \sum_{w=1}^W (WSM_{mw} \times ROBF_{tkw}^\pm) + NRM_{tkm} \quad (C.27)$$

1114

1115 (8) Water-saving rule constraints:

$$1116 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFBA_{tkaz} = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} SIFC_{az} + NIPM_{tkaz} MIFC_{az} + NIPL_{tkaz} LIFC_{az}) \quad (B.37)$$

$$1117 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SFRA_{tkaz}^\pm = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^\pm SIRC_{az} + MIA_{tkaz}^\pm MIRC_{az} + LIA_{tkaz}^\pm LIRC_{az}) \quad (B.38)$$

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

$$1119 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 EFIA_{tkaz}^\pm = \sum_{a=1}^1 (SIA_{tkaz}^\pm + MIA_{tkaz}^\pm + LIA_{tkaz}^\pm + NSA_{tkaz}^\pm) \quad (B.40)$$

$$1120 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 NSA_{tkaz}^\pm = \sum_{a=1}^1 (PNSA_{tkaz}^\pm - NIPS_{tkaz} - NIPM_{tkaz} - NIPL_{tkaz}) \quad (B.41)$$

$$1121 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 SIA_{tkaz}^\pm = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPS_{tkaz} + PIPS_{tkaz}^\pm) \quad (B.42)$$

$$1122 \quad \sum_{a=1}^1 MIA_{tkaz}^\pm = \sum_{a=1}^1 (NIPM_{tkaz} + PIPM_{tkaz}^\pm) \quad (B.43)$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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), Ouliyou (OLY), Xijie (XJ), Aikang (AK),

1140 Julian (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 Liuha 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, Liuhsia 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 Liuhalo 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	$FAWA_{az}$	cost per unit of surface water used of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in planning period $t$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1214	$FAUA_{az}$	cost per unit of groundwater used of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in planning period $t$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1215	$FAWI_{ti}$	cost per unit of surface water used of enterprise users $i$ in planning period $t$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1216	$FAUI_{ti}$	cost per unit of groundwater used of enterprise users $i$ in planning period $t$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1217	$SC_{ts}^{\pm}$	the operating cost of unit wastewater volume in wastewater treatment plant $S$ (RMB¥/m <sup>3</sup> ).
1218	$UGWA_{tkaz}$	the maximum total quantity of groundwater intake in the control range of the total quantity of groundwater intake of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1219	$UGWI_{tki}$	the maximum total quantity of groundwater intake in the control range of the total quantity of groundwater intake of enterprise users $i$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ ( $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> ).
1220	$LWPA_{az}^{\pm}$	production scale of unit water consumption of agricultural user $a$ in area $z$ (ha/ $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> (planting industry), head/ m <sup>3</sup> (livestock), ha/ $10^4$ m <sup>3</sup> (fishery))

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

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

1273	$OZW_{tz}$	surface water resources used for the other in area $z$ in planning period $t$ ( $10^4$ m $^3$ ).
1274		
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 $\mathcal{W}$ . If the area
1282		$z$ is in river region $\mathcal{W}$ , $ZSW_{wz} = 1$ ; Conversely $ZSW_{wz} = 0$ .
1283	$OCR_{wv}$	coefficient that determines whether river region $\mathcal{W}$ is river region $\mathcal{V}$ . If river
1284		region $\mathcal{W}$ is river region $\mathcal{V}$ , $OCR_{wv} = 1$ ; If river region $\mathcal{W}$ is not river region
1285		$\mathcal{W}$ , $OCR_{wv} = 0$
1286	$IOCR_{wv}$	coefficient that determines whether river region $\mathcal{W}$ is upstream of river region
1287		$\mathcal{V}$ and next to river region $\mathcal{W}$ . If river region $\mathcal{W}$ is upstream of river region $\mathcal{V}$
1288		and next to river region $\mathcal{W}$ , $IOCR_{wv} = 1$ ; If river region $w$ is not upstream of
1289		river region $\mathcal{V}$ or next to river region $\mathcal{W}$ , $IOCR_{wv} = 0$ .
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 $\mathcal{W}$ and monitoring section

- 1293                    $m$ . the monitoring section  $m$  above the river region  $\mathcal{W}$ ,  $WSM_{mw} = 1$ ;
- 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 planning period $t$ (ha).
1315	$PIPS_{tkaz}$	the original irrigation area based on sprinkler irrigation water-saving facility under area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ (ha).
1316	$NIPS_{tkaz}$	new added irrigation area based on sprinkler irrigation water-saving facility under area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ (ha).
1317	$PIPM_{tkaz}$	the original irrigation area based on micro-irrigation water-saving facility under area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ (ha).
1318	$NIPM_{tkaz}$	new added irrigation area based on micro-irrigation water-saving facility under area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ (ha).
1319	$PIPL_{tkaz}$	the original irrigation area based on low-pressure pipe irrigation water-saving facility under area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ (ha).
1320	$NIPL_{tkaz}$	new added irrigation area based on low-pressure pipe irrigation water-saving facility under area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ (ha).
1321	$SIRW_{\alpha z}$	water saving per unit area based on sprinkler irrigation water saving facility in area $z$ ( $10^4 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ ).
1322	$MIRW_{\alpha z}$	water saving per unit area based on micro-irrigation water saving facility in area $z$ ( $10^4 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ ).
1323	$LIRW_{\alpha z}$	water saving per unit area based on low-pressure pipe irrigation water saving facility in area $z$ ( $10^4 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ ).
1324	$EFA_{tkaz}^{\pm}$	total irrigation area of agricultural user $\alpha$ in area $z$ in hydrological year type $k$ in planning period $t$ (ha).

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

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

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

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

