

*Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District*

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item 11: Water Supply Conditions

Monday, May 4, 2026

The Strategic Plan relevant priorities are: **Water Supply Security** by ensuring reliable, resilient, and available sources of water through improved river and reservoir operations; and **Advocacy and Engagement** in support of improved public awareness and understanding of water issues.

Lake Mendocino and the Mainstem Upper Russian River

Storage level was 84,523 acre feet as of April 27, 2026, down from 86,388 acre feet on March 30, 2026.

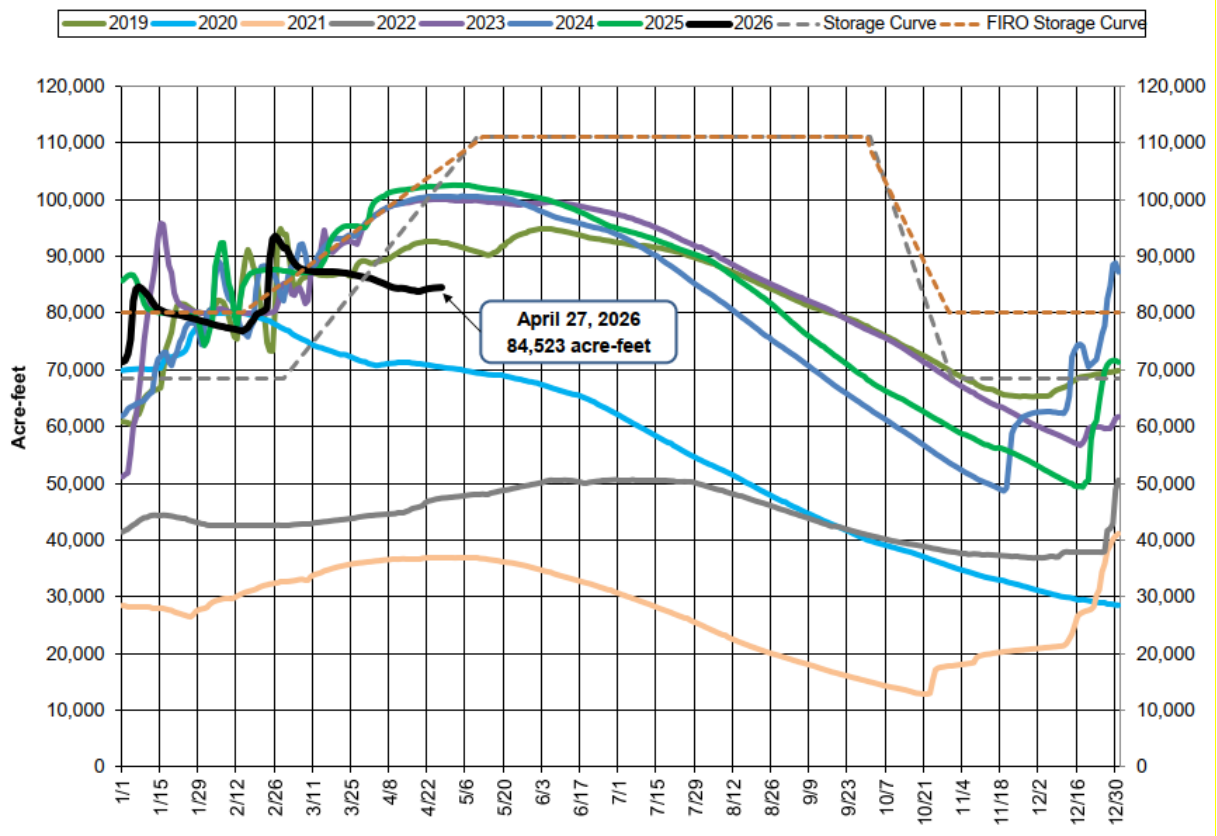
The Water Supply Condition shifted to a Dry condition on April 16th so the minimum instream flow requirements decreased from 185 cfs to 75 cfs on the Upper Russian River, from 75 cfs to 25 cfs on Dry Creek, and from 125 cfs to 85 cfs on the Lower Russian River. The April 16th Dry storage threshold values is 91,000 ac-ft in Lake Mendocino.

Lake Mendocino

4/27

Current Storage (acre-feet)	84,523
FIRO Storage Curve (acre-feet)	105,664
% of FIRO Storage Curve	79.99%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+505

Lake Mendocino Storage



(Continued...)

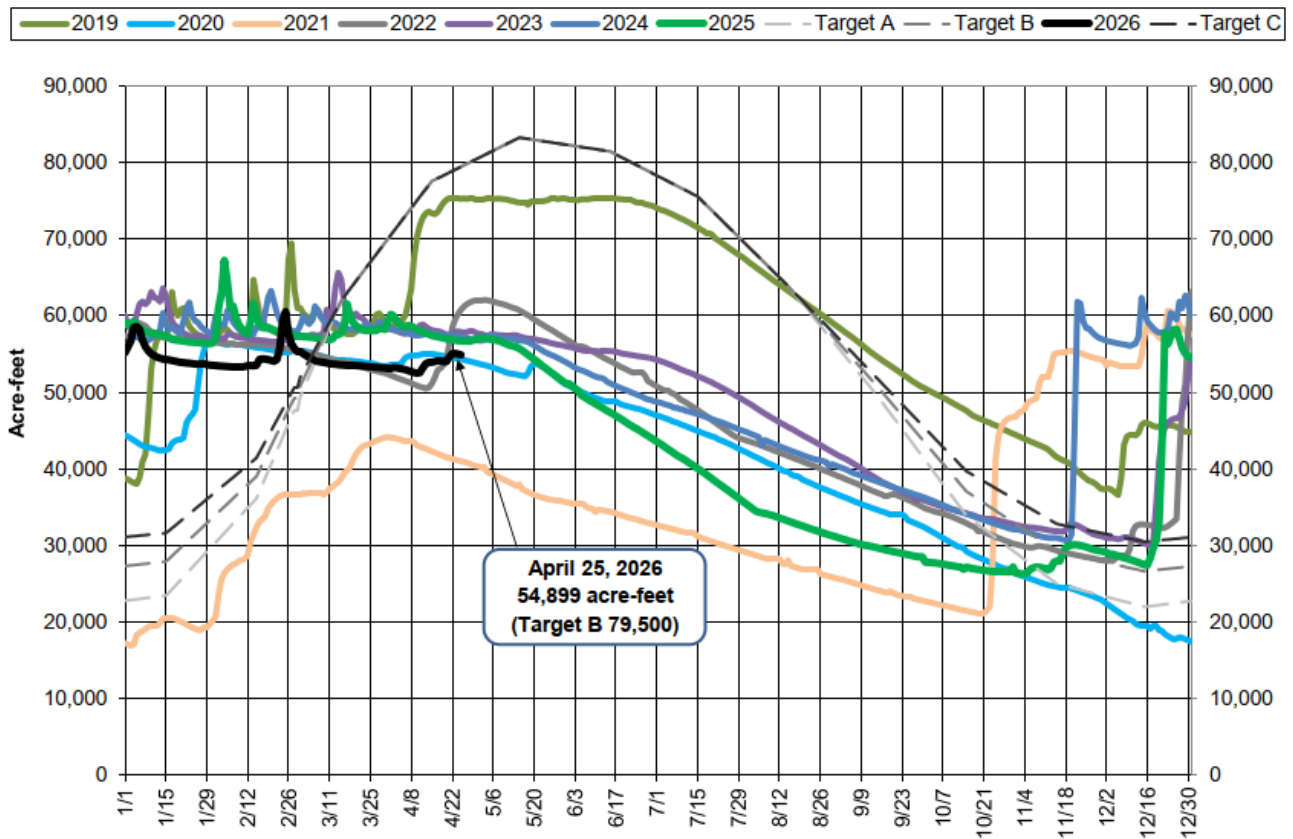
(Lake Mendocino and the Mainstem Upper Russian River Continued)

On March 19, 2026, Sonoma County Water Agency filed temporary urgency change petitions with the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights requesting approval of temporary changes to water right Permits in the Russian River watershed. The State Water Resources Control Board issued a comment period on the Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) that closed on April 27, 2026. For more information see: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/current-russian-river-and-lake-mendocino-operations> or Sonoma Water’s TUCP webpage: www.sonomawater.org/tucp.)

Operations of the Trans-Basin Diversion Through PG&E Owned “Potter Valley Project”

On January 30th, PG&E filed a request for a Temporary Flow Amendment (Variance) for the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC.) In February, PG&E filed supplemental information to the application and FERC issued notice of the public comment period which ended March 23, 2026. No order has been issued by FERC as of 4/28/26. For more information see: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/pg-e-2025-potter-valley-project-operations> for more information.

Lake Pillsbury Storage and Target Storage Scenarios



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Prepared and submitted to the Board of Trustees by: Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager