

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

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item 11: Water Supply Conditions

Monday, April 6, 2026

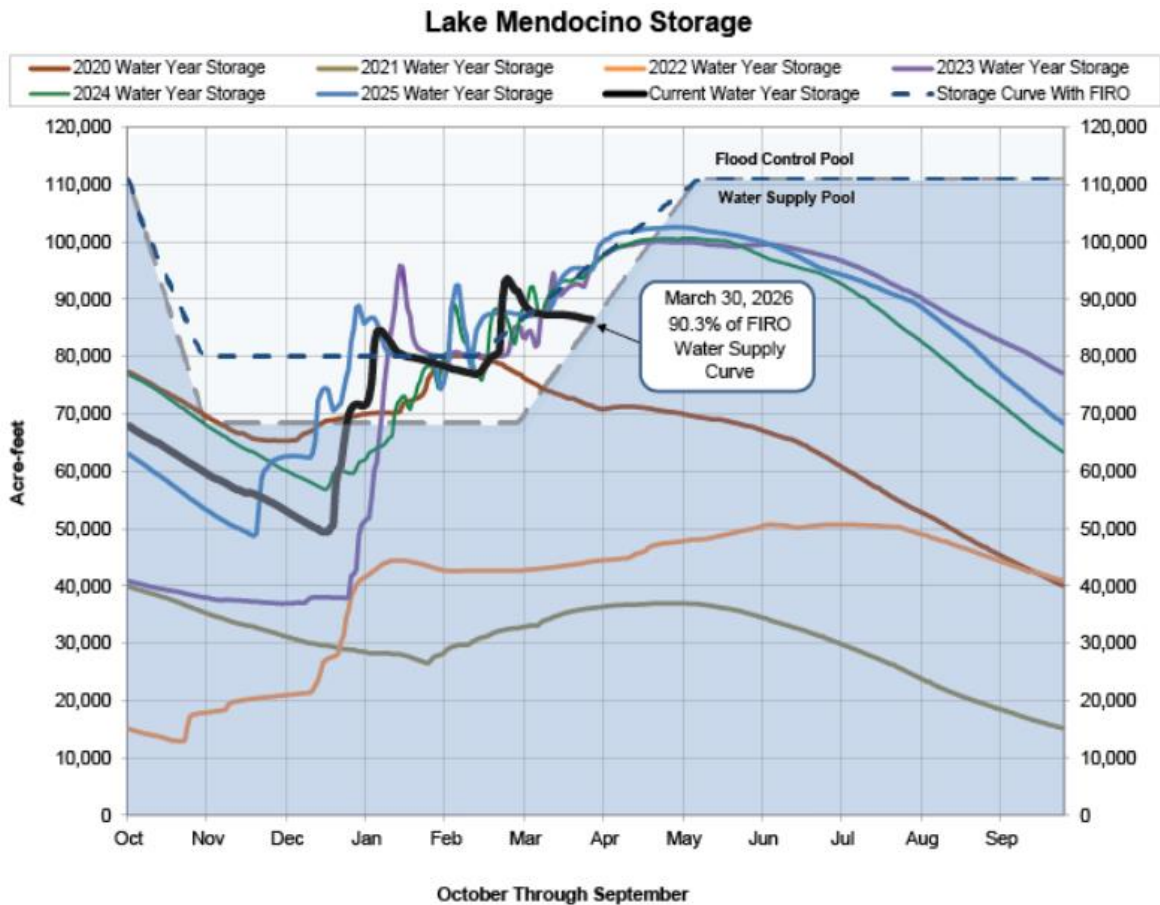
The Strategic Plan relevant priorities are: **Water Supply Security** by ensuring reliable, resilient, and available sources of water through improved river and reservoir operations; and **Advocacy and Engagement** in support of improved public awareness and understanding of water issues.

Lake Mendocino and the Mainstem Upper Russian River

Storage level was 86,388 acre feet as of March 30, 2026 up from 79,278 acre feet on January 26, 2026.

The Water Supply Condition will remain Normal through April 15th but will likely shift to a Dry condition on April 16th unless multiple storms are received. Lake Mendocino storage was very close to the April 1st Dry storage threshold, missing it by about 200 acre fee. The April 1st and April 16th Dry storage threshold values are 86,000 and 91,000 ac-ft in Lake Mendocino. Minimum instream flow requirement thresholds changed on April 1st to 185 cfs for the Upper Russian River and 75 for the Lower RR, as per D1610.

Lake Mendocino	3/30
Current Storage (acre-feet)	86,388
FIRO Storage Curve (acre-feet)	95,703
% of FIRO Storage Curve	90.27%
7-day change (acre-feet)	-664



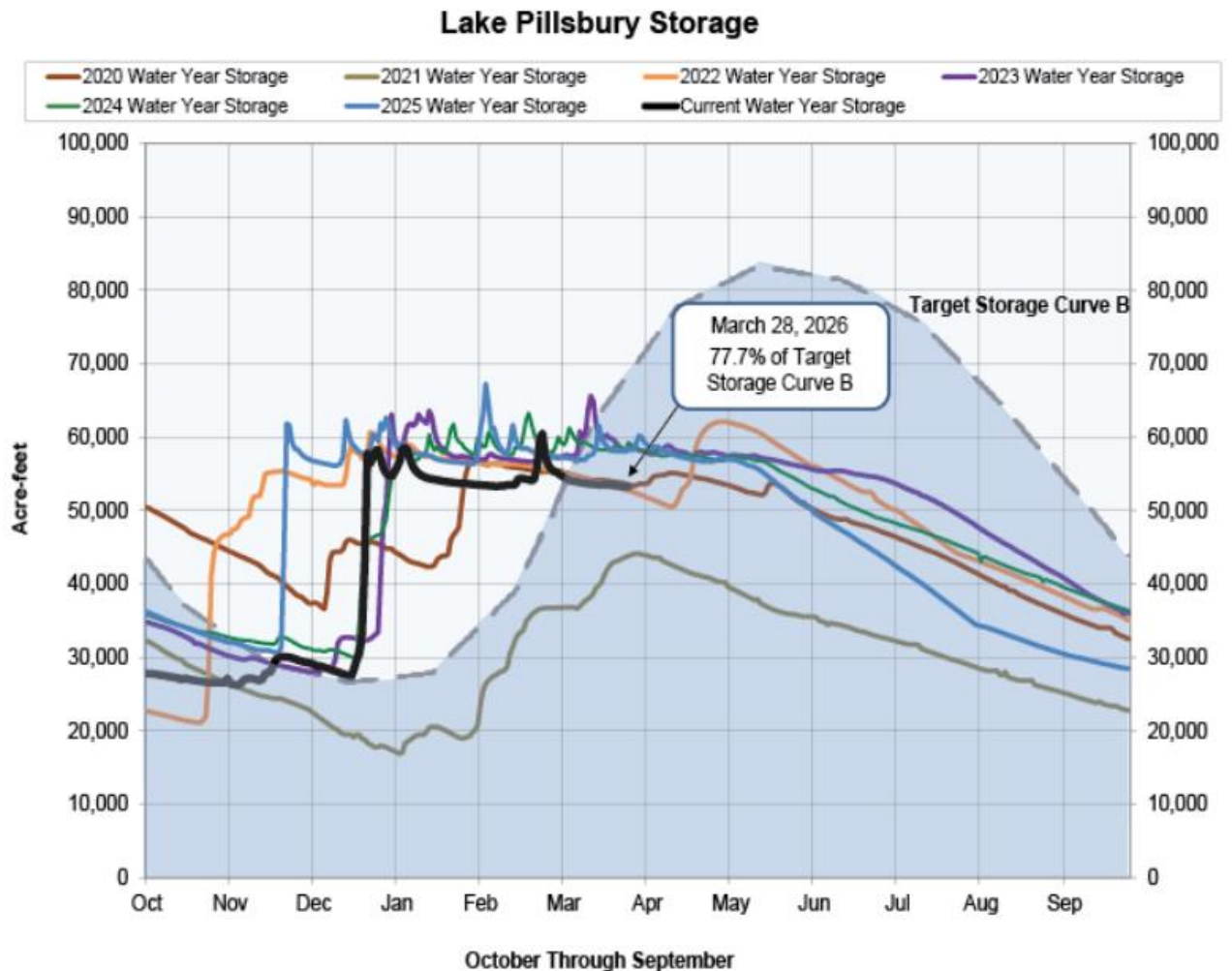
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(Lake Mendocino and the Mainstem Upper Russian River Continued)

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 closes by **4:30 pm 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 3/31/26. For more information see: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/pg-e-2025-potter-valley-project-operations> for more information.



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