



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
450 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3406

17 July 2025

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Coyote Valley Dam (CVD)-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual (WCM) Update

Dear Interested Parties,

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq), as amended, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District (USACE) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Coyote Valley Dam (CVD)-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual (WCM) Update.

Current operations of the CVD-Lake Mendocino are governed by the existing WCM which was revised in 1986 and last updated in 2011 without the benefit of modern weather and streamflow forecasting information. The draft EA provides an evaluation and description of the proposed action to update the CVD-Lake Mendocino WCM to allow discretionary encroachment into Flood Control Space based on the 5-day deterministic streamflow forecasts provided by the National Weather Service as per Lake Mendocino Forecast-informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) procedures that have been vetted and tried through a series of USACE-approved major deviations during Water Years 2019, 2020 and 2021-2026. The encroachment would provide water storage of up to 11,650 acre-feet into the flood control space, and USACE reservoir operators retain full operational control and authority.

The USACE is providing this notice of availability of the draft EA for public review and comment. The public comment period will run until August 16, 2025. We invite your review and feedback!

The Draft EA and associated appendices can be accessed by navigating your web browser to the website below and clicking on the "Draft Environmental Assessment" under the title called "Coyote Valley Dam-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual Update" in the left-hand side of the page to open the report document.

Website: <https://www.spn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/>

Please send electronic comments to CESPN-CVD-WCM-Update@usace.army.mil. If you wish to mail your comments, please address them to Ms. Jamie You at the address in the letterhead above. All comments must be received prior to the close of the comment period on August 16, 2025. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tami C. Church'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Tami' being the most prominent.

Tami C. Church
Section Chief, Environmental Planning
San Francisco District, USACE