

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

Agenda Item 9: General Manager's Report for October 2026

Presented at Regular Meeting of Monday, November 2, 2026

Priority 1: Water Supply Security ~ Ensure reliable, resilient, and available sources of water.

(1: Improve river & reservoir operations. 2: Advance fair & reliable trans basin diversions. 3: Increased storage capacity. 4: Ensure effective and beneficial use of District water as a public resource.)

1-Eel River & Reservoir Operations: The PG&E Drought Working Group met and reviewed most recent reports which will be submitted to FERC later in the month. See Agenda Item 10: Water Supply Conditions Update.

1-Russian River Biological Opinion: The Russian River Reservoir Operations Workgroup meets regularly to review updates and discuss emerging issues. <https://www.sonomawater.org/2025rrbiopresops>

1-Sonoma Water's Water Year Wrap-up Webinar: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/russian-river-water-year-2026-update-rainfall-and-supply-levels>

2-Future of the Trans Basin Diversion: See Agenda Item 6: Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) Updates. More information can be found on the District's website: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/future-of-the-eel-river-to-russian-river-trans-basin-diversion-potter-valley-project>

3-US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Coyote Valley Dam General Investigation for Increased Storage Capacity at Lake Mendocino: See Agenda Item 6: Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) Updates. More information can be found on the District's website: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/lake-mendocino-s-coyote-valley-dam-general-investigation-study>

4-Redwood Valley County Water District Annexation into the RRFC Boundary: The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) approved the annexation application unanimously on Monday October 5, 2026. Next steps: (1) Reconsideration 30 day period. A successful petition for reconsideration would have to present new information and would be heard at the next LAFCo meeting after the 30 day period. (2) LAFCo issues letter to Redwood Valley voters and property owners with a 21 day protest period. Only those in the annexed area can protest. (3) A protest hearing will be held by LAFCo, conducted by Executive Officer and does not need to be at a LAFCo meeting. This will be only to receive protests, no public comments, presentations, etc. (4) If insufficient protests are received, LAFCo will consider the final resolution in January 2027.

4-Uncontracted District Water: The District was able to meet all District Water requests in the annual offering of uncontracted water totaling 83 acre feet. Contracts and updates have been issued. The current uncontracted water supply amount for water year 26-27 is 31 acre feet which will be offered as surplus and then offered for contract next year, as per the new policy. See Item 11c: Consent Calendar Financial Reports for the final water year 2025-2026 and the current water year 2026-2027 Water Year Worksheets for more information.

(Continued...)

Priority 2: Strategic Partnerships ~ Collaborate with partners to achieve aligned goals for a mutual benefit. (1: Cultivate trusted relationships with community partners for regional water security. 2: Expanded relationships with non-traditional partners and stakeholders in pursuit of enhanced Environmental Stewardship. 3: Promote clarity on shared goals and initiatives with our strategic partners.)

1-Water Sharing Program: The Working Group held its monthly meeting and discussed how to draft a written plan for the management of the 10k acre feet reserve in Lake Mendocino for Sonoma County. More information on the District's webpage: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/upper-russian-river-voluntary-water-sharing-program>

3-Russian River Regional Monitoring Program (R3MP): The first Implementation Workgroup Meeting was held with approximately 20 participants from various regional organizations. Workgroup purpose is to guide the R3MP monitoring implementation including reconciling Plan priorities, current opportunities, and available funding.

3-Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission Recruitment for an Executive Director: See Agenda Item 6: Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) Updates.

Priority 3: Advocacy & Engagement ~ Be an influential voice for our region through outreach, education, funding, regulation, & legislation. (1: Improve public awareness and understanding of the importance of water issues. (2) Pursue State and Federal governmental policy and funding support.)

1&2-North Coast Resource Partnership Quarterly meeting: This organization is focused on bringing legislative support, particularly funding, to the region. Mike McGuire, Chris Rogers, James Gallagher, Damon Connolly, Heather Hdwick, and press secretary for Megan Dahle all attended, offered comments, and took questions.

1: Sonoma Water Public Tours: If interested, sign up to receive notices about tours. The next one is November 7th. <https://www.sonomawater.org/tours>

2-State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Funded Telemetry Pilot: New equipment continues to be installed and monitored. Plans are underway to remove and store some equipment for the rainy season. Data is being collected for annual reporting.

Priority 4: Governance and Operational Excellence ~ Foster sustainable leadership and management of agency resources. (1: Capable and high quality executive leadership. 2: Engaged, diverse, and knowledgeable Board leadership. 3: Effective systems, administration, and human resources to execute the strategic plan. 4: Sound and sustainable management of District finances.)

1-Executive Leadership: Attended or watched: (1) NOAA Drought Seminar Series: Drought, El Nino, and California. Recording will be available on the NOAA website soon: www.psl.noaa.gov/drought/seminarseries (2) Sonoma Water's 2026 Water Year Wrap-up Webinar <https://www.sonomawater.org/water-year> (3) SDRMA Member Webinar: Introduction to KYND, a free service to help identify, assess, and remediate cyber vulnerabilities. (4) Streamline website host webinar: Portal, Payments & Site Preferences. (5) CalPERS Social Security Webinar (6) Website Accessibility & Compliance Checkup: Preparing for 2027. (6) CSDA Building Public Trust Through Financial Transparency. (7) ACWA hosted Sonoma Water Tour - From Source to Storage: A Field Day at the Russian River on October 28th.

(Continued...)

2-Local Agency Formation Commission: Notice has been issued of upcoming vacancies and a call for Nominations to the Regular and Alternate Special District Member seats. Nominations are due December 14, 2026. Both terms will be from January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2030.

2-District Board of Trustees: The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors approved the appointment of John Bailey to the Russian River Flood Control District in October.

Community Meetings

Mendocino County Supervisors (9/29/26): The County of Mendocino proclaimed a Local Emergency on September 29, 2026, due to the developing 2026-2027 El Niño Event and in response to the Governor’s proclamation.

Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission (10/5/26): The Commission held a hearing on the RRFC application to annex RVCWD. It was approved unanimously.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHtmsNfdDNk&t=3593s>

Ukiah Valley Water Authority (10/1/26): A recording of the meeting is not available on the City meeting portal. <https://cityofukiah.com/meetings/>

Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Technical Advisory Committee (GSA TAC) (10/7/26): ED Simerson reported that RRFC did not approve the proposed updated GSA Joint Powers Agency Agreement and staff is working on drafting proposed updated language. An presentation was made on the first periodic evaluation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. A number of staff updates were provided.

<https://ukiahca.portal.civicclerk.com/event/4573/overview>

City of Ukiah (10/7/26): Nothing to note. <https://cityofukiah.com/meetings/>

Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission (10/8/26): Chair Pauli provided a report on a recent trip to Washington DC. During the Biden administration, a grant of \$15 million toward Eel River restoration efforts and New Eel River Facility development was allocated. However, with the change in Federal administration, the grant was frozen. Chair Pauli described the ongoing efforts to release this funding, sharing that the Department of the Interior is interested in how the grant funds could be used for increasing storage in the Potter Valley community, though it has concerns with regards to timing of the Potter Valley Project decommissioning. The Commission approved develop a letter of support regarding the funding. Eel River Project Authority Executive Director provided updates including an upcoming Board meeting, design progress, etc. The Executive Director Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee presented its staff report. Alternate Commissioner Mulheren spoke regarding recent public education and outreach efforts. The Commission approved the staff recommendation to engage Pehling & Pehling CPA to conduct the 2025-26 audit. Staff provided an update on early development of the multi-year budget which will be discussed at the Finance & Budget Ad Hoc Committee the following day. A presentation of principles for an “Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement” was provided and feedback requested. A lengthy discussion was held regarding how to structure future member agency contributions in relation to benefits. A draft document will return to the Commission for review prior to being issued to member agencies for consideration of approval. The US Army Corp of Engineers General Investigation Study Ad Hoc Committee reviewed the staff report. Flood Control representatives announced the approval of the Redwood Valley County Water District annexation application at LAFCo on Monday.

(Continued...)

North Coast Resource Partnership (10/25 & 10/16/26): In addition to six legislatures who spoke, the event covered breakout session to dive deeply into key topics, updates from partners and agencies, honored outgoing leadership, and welcomed new appointees. Mendocino County Supervisor Madeline Cline was appointed the new Co-Vice Chair. <https://mailchi.mp/63302dff5e05/octoberstrategyworkshopandmtg>

City of Ukiah (10/7/26): City Council received a presentation on winter weather preparedness and approved a proclamation of a local emergency for the 2026-27 El Niño Event. Commissioner Rodin announced that LAFCo approved the Flood Control's annexation application, noting the outstanding lawsuit. <https://cityofukiah.com/meetings/>

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (10/20/26): The Board approved both the appointment of John Bailey to the Russian River Flood Control District and the District's updated Bi-annual Conflict of Interest Code on the consent calendar. Supervisor Cline made note of IWPC's work on expanding storage at Lake Mendocino and the update to the JPA Agreement replacing RVCWD with the Water Authority. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_YLl28FX2s&t=11161s

City of Ukiah (10/21/26): Nothing to note.

Mendocino County General Government Standing Committee (10/21/2026): This committee holds the mandatory Drought Resilience Plan meetings within its regular meetings. An end of water year update was provided with presentations from the National Weather Service and Department of Transportation Department. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9U9z0B53uo>

* * * *

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