

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

General Manager's Report for March 2026
Presented at Regular Meeting of Monday, April 6, 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.)

1-2026 Potter Valley Project Operations: FERC held a public comment period with a deadline of March 23rd and numerous comments and Motions to Intervene were filed, including the **attached** from the District. PG&E is asking for approval before May 15th which would result in reduced diversions 2 months sooner than last year. More information can be found on the District's website: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/2026-pg-e-potter-valley-project-operations>

2-Future of the Trans Basin Diversion: A Technical Advisory Group has been formed to support the New Eel Russian Facility (NERF) Revenue Strategy study phase 1. The goal of the revenue strategy is to determine feasible approaches to pay for capital costs, bond financing costs, and ongoing maintenance and operation costs of the project over the debt repayment period, based on beneficiary pays principles. 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 the **attached** progress report. The District submitted a letter of support to Congressman Huffman for consideration to fund. Huffman's office recently confirmed the study is one of 20 projects he is advancing for funding consideration to submit to the House Committee on Appropriations as a Community Project for consideration in this fiscal year's Appropriations bill. Submission does not guarantee funding for the project. More information can be found on the District's website: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/lake-mendocino-s-coyote-valley-dam-general-investigation-study>

4-Water Measuring & Reporting: The District purchased 6 new meters that were delivered and distributed to customers for installation.

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 continues to build consensus on recommendations for management of the Sonoma County 10k Reserve from Lake Mendocino in the format of a memo to the State Water Resources Control Board and for engagement efforts. This group welcomes additional participants; contact DistrictManager@rrfc.net for more information.

1-Russian River Watershed Resilience Study: The Watershed Network Technical group met for the final time under grant funded portion of the pilot. Sonoma Water announced it will continue to fund the Network while lobbying to get a cost share from State funding. The Technical Group is reviewing the draft plan.

(Continued...)

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.)

3-Telemetry Pilot: Several site visits occurred over the month to establish specifications for installation selection.

3-Sacramento Legislative Advocacy Day: By invitation from Sonoma Water, GM joined a cohort from Sonoma and Marin Counties for a full day of meeting with legislators, regulators, and other representatives on Russian River water issues. A follow up meeting is scheduled in April. Meetings held with: Laurel Firestone, State Water Resources Control Board. Genevieve Wong, Water Policy Consultant, Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee. Les Spahnn – Legislative Director to Senator Josh Becker, Chair of Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee. Kristopher Tjernell, Cottonwood Strategies. Katie Chavez and Logan Pitts, Legislative Aide/Director to Assemblymember Chris Rogers. Assemblymember Diane Papan, Chair of Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee and Pablo Garza, Chief Consultant. Assemblymember Damon Connolly. Senator Mike McGuire. Keith Wallace, Assistant Deputy Director, Sustainable Water Management, DWR.

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) California Public Records Act Update 2026; (2) Webinar by website host on Doc Access ADA compliant tool; (3) Audit preparation and understanding webinar; (4) Mandatory SB 827 Fiscal & Financial Training. (5) CalPERS Webinar: How to Fill Out the Annual Information Request. (6) UC Cooperative Ext Open House.

3-Website: See **attached** ADA accessibility report for documents posted on the website as of March 2026.

4-Financial: FY 2024-2025 Audit finalized and posted to website.

Community Meetings

Note: District Board members and GM will no longer be attending all community meetings and reporting here. Please contact the individual organizations for more information on public meetings and updates.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) (3/2/26): Cancelled

City of Ukiah (3/4/26): On the Consent Calendar, Jared Walker was appointed to the GSA TAC representing the City.

Ukiah Valley Water Authority (UVWA) (3/5/26): Water rates were adopted for UVWA member agencies. Staff provided an update on the SAFER application including updating the newly appointed project manager at the SWRCB. RVCWD Board Member Adam Gaska provided an update on RRFC's LAFCo application to annex RVCWD.

(Continued...)

Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVB GSA) (3/12/26): Maya Simerson was appointed as the new General Manager of the GSA under the service contract with the City of Ukiah. GM Simerson provided updates on significant work on the transition including financial, communications, administration, grant management, consultant management, and plans for website upgrades. Directors Gaska and Bailey were appointed to an Ad Hoc Committee to work with the GM on financial matters. Larry Walker & Associates presented on the Water Year 2025 annual report which showed no occurrences of undesirable results. Larry Walker & Associates presented on the ongoing Upper Russian River Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems and Interconnected Surface Water Study. They are currently looking for appropriate sites for monitoring. The City has submitted billing for the period since it began providing services and asked for clarification on future billing expectations. The Board agreed to quarterly set payments as per contract with an option to reassess at a later date

Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) (3/12/26): Commissioner Rodin requested to have the consultant invoices included in future packets. Vice Chair Reardan proposed he be added as an approved signor for County accounting which was approved. Commissioner Cline reported on a recent trip to DC on behalf of the County where she was able to bring additional attention and information to the future of the trans basin diversion from the Eel River to the Russian River, including seeking support for funding. Cline also reported on the County's recent budget allocation of \$500,000 to the County Water Agency from one-time funds. This allows more flexibility and nimble response for contributions to IWPC and other water supply issues in the County. Chair Pauli reported on her recent trip to DC with ERPA representatives, providing briefings to USDA, Bureau of Reclamation, Dept of the Interior, and Office of Management and Budget, Congressman Thompson, Congressman Huffman's staff, and others. Alternate Commissioner Koball reported that he took initiative to meet with members of the agricultural community to aid in information sharing and improved communication. Legal Counsel Scott Shapiro presented a legal opinion memo regarding the Round Valley Indian Tribes water rights that will be shared on the IWPC website. Eel Russian Project Authority (ERPA) Executive Director David Manning provided an update on the CA Fish & Wildlife grant funding of which approximately \$9 million will help with the CEQA, design, permitting, and additional supporting work for the New Eel Russian Facility (NERF.) A consultant contract to conduct the CEQA on NERF has been signed. He briefed the Commission on the ongoing ERPA Revenue Study phase 1. A lengthy discussion was held on the preliminary budget. The outreach ad hoc led a discussion on public facing document. Consultant Eric Nagy provided an update on the USACE General Investigation Study to increase storage capacity at Lake Mendocino. IWPC is awaiting results of additional federal funding to continue the work and Nagy described efforts toward obtaining earmarks and budget allocations. A new progress report will be issued in the next few weeks.

City of Ukiah (3/18/26): The Council could not consider item "Re-Adoption of a Resolution Approving a Zero Tax Share Agreement Between the City of Ukiah and the County of Mendocino for the Ukiah Corporation Yard Annexation (1 Carousel Lane), Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) File No. A-2025-06" due to an insufficient number of Councilmembers present.

* * * *

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

Mendocino County

Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District

P.O. Box 2104 Ukiah, CA 95482 707.462.5278 Website: RRFC.net DistrictManager@rrfc.net

March 4, 2026

By electronic filing

Debbie-Ann A. Reese, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Secretary Reese,

**Re: NOTICE OF INTERVENTION
Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project No. P- 77-334 - Application for Temporary Variance of
Flow Requirements
Applicant: Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Notice of filing MOTION TO INTERVENE by the Mendocino County Russian River
Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District**

The Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (“District”) submits this Notice of Intervention for P-77-334 in response to FERC’s Notice of Application for Temporary Flow Modification Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Comments, Motions to Intervene and Protests re PG&E’s Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project issued February 20, 2026.

The District was formed primarily to manage and put to beneficial use the approximately 8,000 acre feet of water allocated to Mendocino County from the East Fork Russian River and Lake Mendocino. The District has substantial water supply contracts with County Water Districts and Mutual Water Companies for municipal supply, as well as agricultural, commercial, and industrial users within our service area. Diversions from the Eel River through the Potter Valley Project (PVP) provide a substantial portion of this water. Therefore, the District wishes to become a party to this proceeding to ensure the interests of the District’s constituency are represented.

Please include the following person on the official service list for any matter relating to these proceedings:

Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager
MCRRFC&WCID
PO Box 2104, Ukiah, CA 95482
DistrictManager@rrfc.net

With respect,



Elizabeth Salomone
General Manager

President
Christopher Watt

Vice President
Tyler Rodrigue

Treasurer
John Bailey

Trustee
John Reardan

Trustee
Dave Koball



Coyote Valley Dam General Investigation Study April 2026 Update



• USACE Activities

- USACE paused study on October 20, 2025. Waiting for additional funding.

• Sponsor Activities

- IWPC & Lytton exploring opportunities for shared federal messaging and advocacy.
- IWPC & Lytton met with Rep. Huffman on March 10th . The Congressman reaffirmed his support for the project and committed to help pursue additional funding.
- Next CVD Ad Hoc Committee Meeting – April 27th.

• Funding Outlook

- Energy & Water Development Appropriations Bill passed and signed by the President on January 23rd.
 - Includes \$7.5M for USACE General Investigations (GI) Workplan.
 - Deadline to release list of projects funded is March 24th but will likely be delayed until release of the President's Budget.
- FY27 President's Budget is due anytime, currently expected by April 3rd.
- IWPC submitted FY27 Community Project Funding Requests through Rep. Huffman, Sen. Schiff, and Sen. Padilla.
 - Congressman Huffman confirmed the study is one of 20 projects he is advancing for funding consideration.



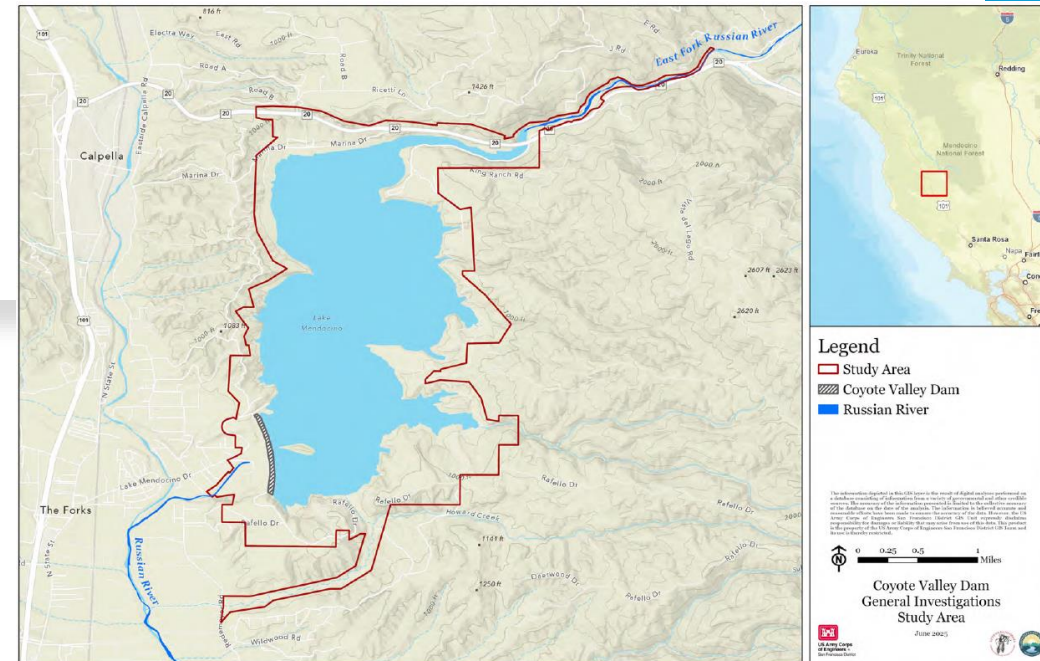
Coyote Valley Dam General Investigation Study Background



Last Updated: 3/24/2026

- Study authorized by Section 1201(3) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (PL 114-322).
- Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement signed March 31, 2025
 - MCIWPC and Lytton Rancheria are joint non-Federal sponsors
 - Includes \$658,000 credit for Tribal participation.
 - Establishes \$3,000,000 budget cost-shared 50% Fed / 50% Non-Fed minus Tribal credit.
 - Local Agreement between MCIWPC and Lytton signed March 19, 2025.
- Federal Appropriations History:
 - FY 2024 = \$500,000
 - FY 2025 = \$0
 - FY 2026 = TBD
- Completed Activities:
 - NEPA interagency kickoff meeting conducted June 26, 2025; additional scoping will resume once additional federal funds are received.
 - Series of meetings (charettes) held July 2025 to identify study problems and opportunities and begin documenting existing and future conditions.
 - Coyote Valley Dam site visit occurred August 5, 2025.

Study Area



Document Accessibility Report

Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District



Compliance Score

1,285 documents protected by DocAccess

ADA COMPLIANCE STATUS
Protected by DocAccess

1,285

DOCUMENTS
PROTECTED

2

NOT YET PROTECTED

1,287

TOTAL DOCUMENTS