

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

**STAFF REPORT**

**Agenda Item 10: Water Supply Conditions**

**Monday, March 2, 2026**

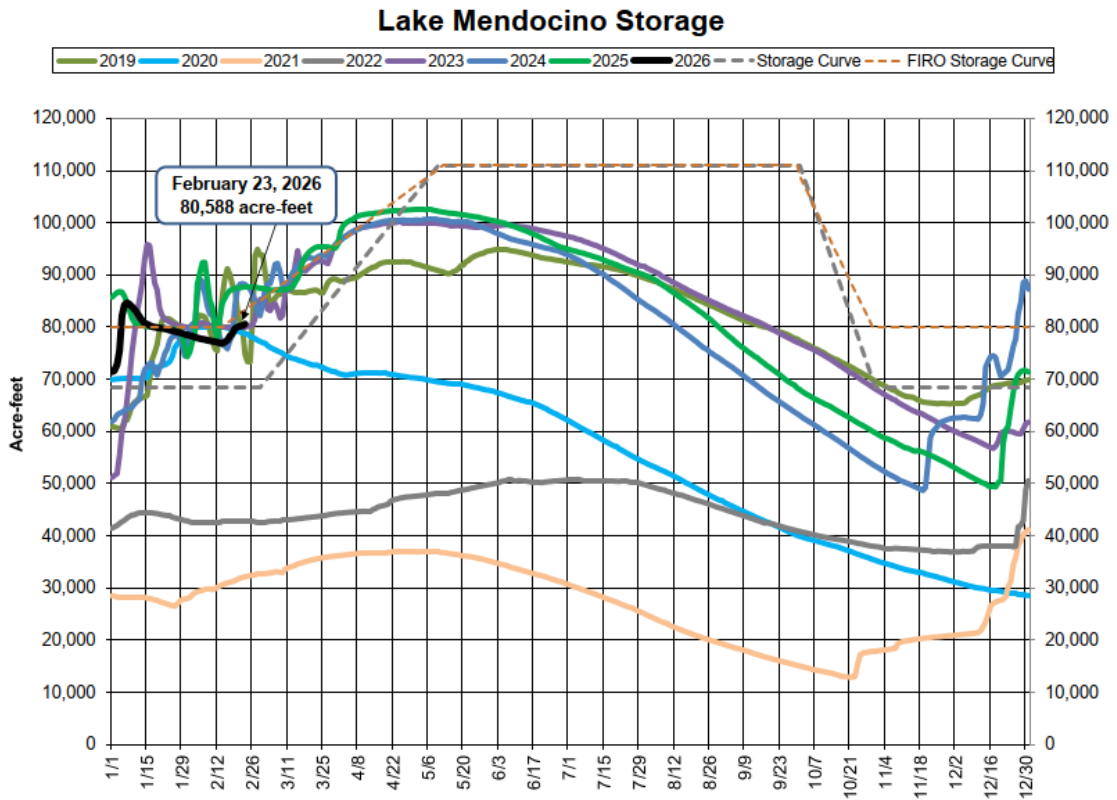
**The Strategic Plan** relevant priorities are: **Security** through ensuring reliable, resilient, and available sources of water; **Advocacy** in support of equitable water resource stewardship; and **Use** of water in effective and beneficial ways as a public resource, all in alignment with the District’s Mission to steward water resources for the benefit of people and the environment.

**Lake Mendocino and the Mainstem Upper Russian River**

Storage level was 79,278 acre feet as of January 26, 2026, up from 71,575 acre feet as of December 29, 2025. This is the maximum amount allowed under the recently approved Water Control Manual, which was revised to include the Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO.) To maximize reservoir storage, additional precipitation is needed throughout the spring months as the flood control maximum increases (see graph below.)

<b>Lake Mendocino</b>	<b>2/23</b>
<b>Current Storage (acre-feet)</b>	80,588
<b>FIRO Storage Curve (acre-feet)</b>	83,252
<b>% of FIRO Storage Curve</b>	96.80%
<b>7-day change (acre-feet)</b>	+3,113

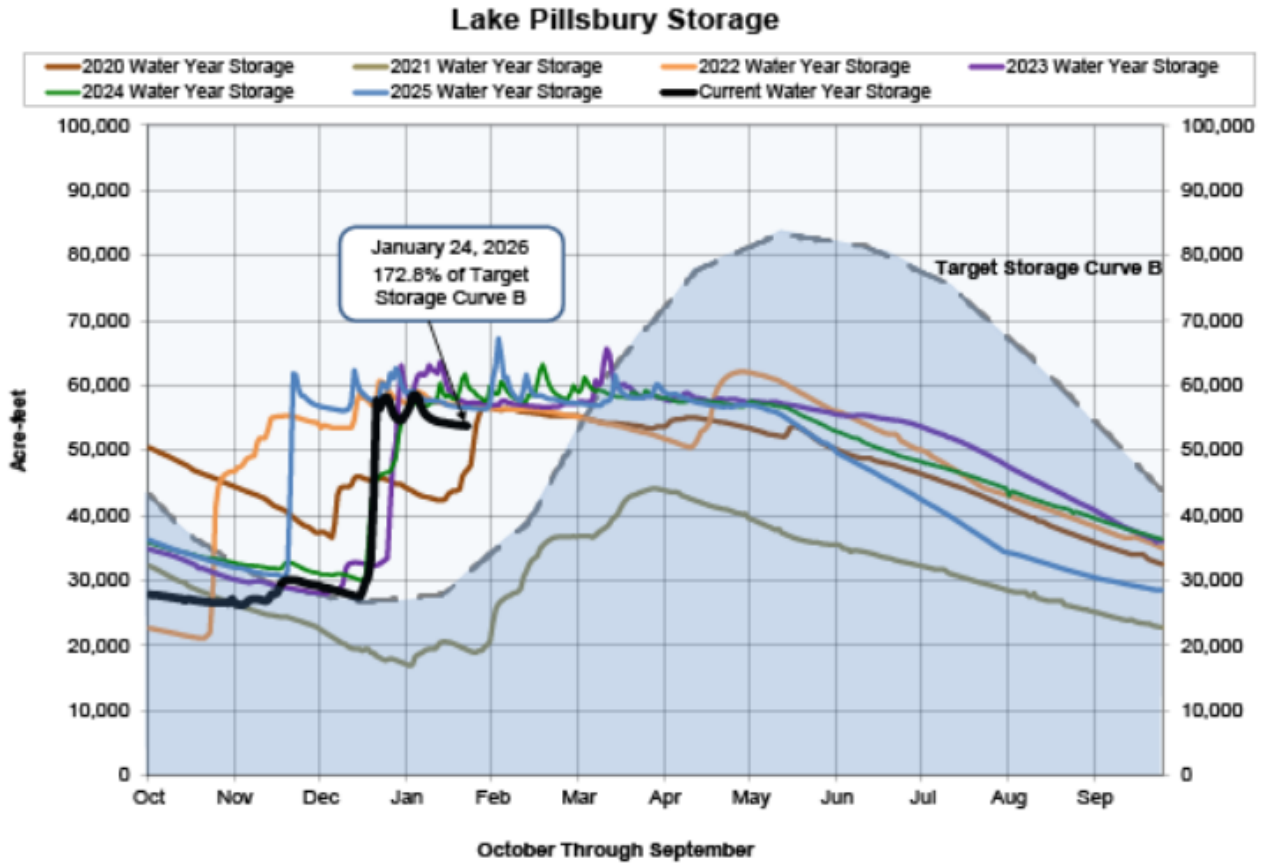
The State Water Resources Control Board approved the Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) filed by Sonoma Water in November 2025. For more information see: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/2025-2026-russian-river-and-lake-mendocino-operations> or Sonoma Water’s TUCP webpage: [www.sonomawater.org/tucp](http://www.sonomawater.org/tucp).



(Continued...)

**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) No. 77. In February, PG&E filed supplemental information to the application and FERC issued notice of the public comment period which ends March 23, 2026 5 PM Eastern Time. 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*