

Mendocino County

Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District

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

A G E N D A

Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting of Monday, August 4, 2025 at 5:30 PM

IN PERSON: 304 North State Street, Ukiah at District office

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda *Urgent items added may be discussed immediately. Time suggestions to the right of item title.*
3. Public Expression- See End of Agenda for Information on Public Expression

CLOSED SESSION (5:35 PM – expected to last at least an hour)

4. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54956.8)
*Property: Potter Valley Project | Agency negotiator: General Manager, General Counsel, Board Members
Negotiating parties: Agency, Inland Water & Power Agency, PG&E | Under negotiation: Purchasing Entity*
5. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
(Paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Gov. Code § 54956.9) Significant exposure to litigation: One Case

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION (6:45 PM)

6. Proposed Annexation of the Redwood Valley County Water District Complete Service Area
Board will receive an update and consider directing Staff to place final approval of the Annexation Application to the Local Agency Formation Commission on a future Board Meeting agenda.
7. Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Update & Representative Appointments
Board will consider approval of Resolution #25-06 Updating Appointments to the Ukiah Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Technical Advisory Committee.
8. Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) 2026-2027 Term Elections
Board will consider candidate information and provide feedback on selection and direction to GM to submit vote.

REGULAR BUSINESS, INFORMATION, AND REPORT ITEMS (6:45 PM)

9. General Manager Report & Correspondence
10. Water Supply Conditions Update

(Continued...)

11. Consent Calendar

- a) Acceptance of the July 2025 Financial Reports
- b) Approval of July 7, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes
- c) Comment letter on USACE Draft Environmental Assessment for the Coyote Valley Dam-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual Update.

12. Trustee & Committee Reports

- o LAFCo MSR/SOI & Annexation Ad Hoc

13. Direction on Future Agenda Items

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION ITEMS – All agenda items are potential action items unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION – The Board welcomes public participation in its Board meetings. Comments shall include any item not on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction and authority of the District. No action may be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda; however, the Board may direct such items to be placed on the agenda of a future meeting or may request additional information on any such item. The Board may limit testimony to three (3) minutes per person and not more than ten (10) minutes for a particular subject. All items on the agenda are considered action items unless otherwise noted. All times and the order of business are approximate and subject to change.

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

STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item 6: Proposed Annexation
of the Redwood Valley County Water District Complete Service Area
Monday, August 4, 2025**

The Strategic Plan relevant priority is **Use** by maximizing beneficial use of water under the District's water right license including consideration of a boundary change application to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo.)

- Annexation is a crucial step for future water supply security in the Redwood Valley community.
- Annexation will allow RVCWD to use RRFC water throughout the Redwood Valley service area.
- Redwood Valley would not be relegated to only surplus water, which can be in short supply in certain conditions.
- A more stable water supply to agricultural users can contribute to the economic health of the greater Ukiah Valley area.
- A supplemental source for municipal water will safeguard human health and safety supplies.
- Annexation supports regional coordination to optimize our water resources and build resilience in the community.
- RRFC is seeking to make the District boundary and District water right license place of use coterminous.

Background:

The Russian River Flood Control District (RRFC) proposes to annex the remaining portion of the Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) service area, with no dissolution of RVCWD and no consolidation of services.

The Redwood Valley Community was not originally fully included in the RRFC boundary, believing Redwood Valley would not need to utilize RRFC's water right to Russian River East Fork flows or stored water from Lake Mendocino.

Over time, conditions changed, and arrangements were made for RVCWD to purchase surplus water from RRFC. When the State Water Resources Control Board approved RRFC's licensed water right, the RVCWD service area was included in the place of use but only for use of water surplus to the needs of RRFC. Because RVCWD's entire service area is not within the RRFC boundary, RVCWD can only purchase RRFC's surplus water for use on its service area outside of RRFC. Surplus water can be short supply, especially in times of drought. During the 2021 and 2022 drought, all surplus sales were halted by RRFC, and the Redwood Valley agricultural community had no water deliveries. RVCWD municipal customers were also on restricted water amounts for several years.

The proposed annexation would allow RVCWD to join other water retailers within the RRFC boundary who currently purchase water from RRFC to provide throughout their respective service areas. These retailers include Millview County Water District, Willow County Water District, Hopland Public Utility District, Calpella County Water District, Rogina Mutual Water Company, and River Estates Mutual Water Company.

(Continued...)

Annexations are regulated by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) which was created by State law in 1963 to oversee the logical and orderly formation and development of local government agencies including cities and special districts in each county. The objectives of LAFCo are to encourage the orderly formation of local government agencies and promote the efficient provision of public services, preserve agricultural land and open-space resources, and promote orderly growth and discourage urban sprawl. LAFCo has the authority to establish and reorganize cities and special districts, change their boundaries and authorized services, allow the extension of public services, perform municipal service reviews, and establish spheres of influence. Some of LAFCo's duties include regulating boundary changes through annexations or detachments and forming, consolidating, or dissolving local agencies.

The two districts wish to find a lasting water supply solution for the Redwood Valley community. RRFC has worked to include Redwood Valley within its boundary for many years including over the past 4 years with focus on annexation of Redwood Valley's entire service area without consolidation of the two districts. Both districts passed Resolutions of Commitment in 2024 and formed Ad Hoc Committees that have worked together to further the proposed annexation.

RRFC has established a page on its website for the Proposed Annexation where documents and resources can be found (see link below.)

Discussion

At the September 8, 2025 meeting, the RRFC Board will consider approval of the LAFCo Application Form, Plan for Services, Initial Study and Negative Declaration, legal written boundary description and map of the proposed annexation area, Resolution of Application to LAFCo, and payment of the required fees in order to begin the process of annexing Redwood Valley's entire service area into the boundaries of RRFC.

This agenda item is to provide an update on the Proposed Annexation and an opportunity for comments and questions. Staff will answer as many questions of the Board and public as possible during the meeting, following up by developing a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document to publish on the District's webpage, if needed.

The **attached** Public Notice of Intent to Adopt Proposed Negative Declaration was issued on June 18, 2025. The notice was published in the Ukiah Daily Journal on Sunday, June 29, 2025, provided to the County of Mendocino Clerk Recorder on July 11, 2025, published with the State Clearinghouse on June 24, 2025, and provided to other interested parties. The notice period for the Initial Study/Negative Declaration was June 29, 2025, through July 29, 2025, and invited the public to submit comments to the District which the RRFC Board will consider at this Board Meeting and direct Staff to make any relevant changes to the Initial Study/Negative Declaration. The RRFC Board will then consider adoption of the proposed Negative Declaration and consider approving submittal of the Proposed Annexation to Mendocino LAFCo at its September 8, 2025, Board meeting.

The DRAFT Plan for Services is **attached**. This document summarizes the proposed project, history of RRFC's water delivery to RVCWD, etc. and is a substantial component of the annexation application.

Recommended Actions:

- Receive an update from Staff and provide feedback on draft documents.

Attachments:

- Press Release: Proposed Annexation
- DRAFT Plan for Services for Proposed Annexation
- DRAFT Map of Proposed Annexation Area
- Public Notice of Intent to Adopt Proposed Negative Declaration

Links:

- RRFC Webpage: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/proposed-application-for-annexation-of-redwood-valley-county-water-district-2025>
- Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission: <https://www.mendolafco.org/>

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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

For Immediate Release

July 10, 2025

**Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District
Proposed Annexation
of Complete Service Area of Redwood Valley County Water District**

The Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District and the Redwood Valley County Water District are collaborating to find a lasting water supply solution for the Redwood Valley community.

The Russian River Flood Control District (RRFC) proposes to annex the remaining portion of the Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) service area into the RRFC boundary, with no dissolution of RVCWD and no consolidation of services. RRFC will not take over RVCWD operations, management, or governance. The RVCWD Board will remain as the governing body of the RVCWD.

RRFC wholesales water from the Russian River and Lake Mendocino under the terms of its State Water Board issued water right license. RVCWD would join other water retailers within the RRFC boundary who hold water contracts with RRFC to provide RRFC water throughout their respective service areas. These retailers include Millview Water, Willow Water, Hopland Public Utility, Calpella Water, Rogina Mutual Water, and River Estates Mutual Water.

Originally, the Redwood Valley Community was not fully included in the RRFC boundary, believing Redwood Valley would not need to utilize stored water from Lake Mendocino.

Over time, conditions changed, and for several decades RRFC has sold RVCWD surplus water, which can be in short supply in times of drought. Under 2021 and 2022 drought conditions, surplus sales were halted, and the Redwood Valley agricultural community had no water deliveries. RVCWD municipal customers were also on restricted water amounts for several years.

Annexation into RRFC is a crucial step for future water supply security in the Redwood Valley community. It will allow RVCWD to use RRFC water throughout the Redwood Valley service area. A supplemental source for municipal water will safeguard human health and safety supplies during emergencies and a more stable water supply to agricultural users contributes to the economic health of the greater Ukiah Valley area.

RRFC has issued a public notice period on the proposed Negative Declaration from June 29 – July 29, 2025. The RRFC Board will hold an Agenda item on August 4 to receive updates on the application. The Board is expected to consider approval of the annexation application at its September 8, 2025 Board meeting.

More information can be found on the RRFC website: www.rrfc.net

Contact: Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager

DistrictManager@rrfc.net 707-462-5278

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DRAFT 6-18-25

Annexation Plan for Services

Summary of proposal

The proposal before LAFCo is the annexation of the remaining portion of the Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) boundary and service area into the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RRFC) boundary with no dissolution of RVCWD or consolidation of services.

RRFC wholesales water from the East Fork Russian River and Lake Mendocino under the terms of its State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued water right license 13898. RVCWD would join other water retailers within the RRFC boundary who currently purchase water from RRFC under a Uniform Water Sale & Purchase Agreement. These retailers include Millview County Water District, Willow County Water District, Hopland Public Utility District, Calpella County Water District, Rogina Mutual Water Company, and River Estates Mutal Water Company.

RVCWD services provided within the proposed annexation area consist of domestic water service to 1,105 equivalent dwelling units and 197 agricultural customers. Currently, RVCWD can only enter a UWS&PA (“Agreement”) for the small portion of its service area that falls within the RRFC boundary. RVCWD can receive RRFC surplus water, when available, for the remainder and majority of its service area. Annexation would provide an opportunity for RVCWD to expand the place of use in the Agreement to the entire RVCWD service area and provide a more stable water source, primarily for the agricultural customers but asl as an emergency municipal backup.



Lake Mendocino, September 2022 by Russian River Confluence

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District profiles

The Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (RRFC) was formed in 1956 to serve, along with the Sonoma County Water Agency, as the local sponsor for the development of Coyote Dam and Lake Mendocino. RRFC encompasses approximately 51,000 acres from the south end of RVCWD to just north of the Sonoma County line (Figure X).

RRFC provides wholesale water under a State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued water right license 13898. RRFC is authorized to divert 7,940 acre feet a year from the East Fork Russian River and Lake Mendocino for domestic, municipal, and irrigation purposes within this RRFC licensed place of use.

The District offers water sales contracts to water users within its boundaries through a Uniform Water Sale & Purchase Agreement (Agreement) for delivery of the District's licensed direct diversion and stored water through authorized points of re-diversion. The water is diverted and sold as raw water to customers for municipal water service uses, private agricultural entities for irrigation and frost protection purposes, and to others for industrial and domestic use. The Agreement between District and Customer specifies the amount of water that can be diverted annually, from what locations (or points of diversion), the purpose of use, and where the contracted water may be used. The Agreement defines terms for purchasing surplus water, measuring and reporting use, and responsibilities of each party to comply with all relevant laws and regulations by third parties. The term of the Agreements is twenty (20) years with an option to renew.

Lake Mendocino at Coyote Valley Dam, 2024 by CJ Watt



The quantity of water contracted to RRFC Customers remains relatively steady. Annually, any remaining uncontracted water supply is made available as surplus, first to RRFC customers as per the Uniform Water Supply and Purchase Agreement, and then to RVCWD, as per the conditions of the 1980 Stipulated Judgement between the two entities. On an annual basis, RRFC customers may offer to make some or all of their contract quantity available to other District customers and RVCWD as surplus through a transfer agreement, providing RVCWD with much-needed additional water supply.

RRFC has a five-member Board of Trustees elected at large to serve staggered four-year terms and District operations are performed year-round by the full-time General Manager, the District's only employee. The District obtains additional operational and planning support by engaging consultants and legal services. The District does not own or operate any facilities or infrastructure other than meters; its contractors are responsible for their own treatment, infrastructure, and delivery systems.

RRFC is recently underwent a Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) update in coordination with this annexation application. The extent of the proposed annexation area is the RVCWD boundary which is within the RRFC SOI. There are no changes being requested in the SOI.

The Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) was established on January 16, 1964 under Sections 30322 and 30323 of the Water Code. RVCWD has a dual distribution system; irrigation water service began in April 1979; domestic water service began in November 1979. RVCWD's service area is roughly 15 square miles and is located north of the Ukiah Valley area (Figure X), with only a small area in the southern portion within the RRFC boundary. RVCWD serves a total of 1105 equivalent dwelling units and 197 agricultural customers.



RVCWD pump & intake at Lake Mendocino, by E Salomone

RVCWD has three sources of water supply. Treated municipal supply is purchased from Millview County Water District surplus groundwater supply via an intertie. Untreated water is purchased from RRFC, pumped by RVCWD from its Lake Mendocino pump station into the agricultural supply lines and to a holding reservoir. Water can be routed through the water treatment plant then stored in tanks for municipal supply. Untreated water can be routed from the reservoir to the irrigation distribution system. RVCWD also holds a largely unexercisable right to divert up to 4,900 acre feet a year directly from Lake Mendocino between November 1 and April 30 of each year. Water diversions under this right can only occur in instances when stream flows in the Russian River main stem (as measured at the confluence of the East and West forks) exceed 150 cubic feet per second and Lake Mendocino storage is within the flood pool. This represents a relatively narrow window of opportunity and RVCWD has not exercised this right in the last 5 years. Additionally, in order for this winter-diverted water to be useful to RVCWD, it must be stored and the District's only pond is grossly insufficient in size.

RVCWD is currently under a court-ordered moratorium for domestic connections and a district board initiated moratorium on irrigation connections. The proposed annexation will not meet the requirements to lift this moratorium.

RVCWD has a five-member Board of Directors elected at large to four-year staggered terms. In 2024, RVCWD joined the Ukiah Valley Water Authority (UVWA), a newly consolidated water management joint powers agency committed to providing efficient and reliable water services to residents and businesses within the greater Ukiah Valley. The formation of this joint powers authority unifies the formerly independent water agencies of the City of Ukiah, Calpella County Water District, Millview County Water District, Redwood Valley County Water District, and Willow County Water District, creating coordination which aims to modernize water infrastructure and governance while maximizing water access and resilience. The day-to-day operations of UVWA are managed by City of Ukiah employees and as of January 1, 2025, all RVCWD operational services were transferred to the City of Ukiah. UVWA is actively working with the SWRCB to obtain funding under the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) program to enhance and secure municipal water supplies which will include improving the municipal water supply services to RVCWD. UVWA is a functional consolidation of water agencies and while not an actual reorganization/consolidation under LAFCo, UVWA intends to move forward with formal LAFCo applications for reorganization/consolidation over the next few years.

History

The concept of consolidating water services has been discussed off and on in the greater Ukiah Valley for well over 30 years and has been the subject of numerous reports and studies.

In 2011, RRFC and RVCWD signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in pursuit of consolidation. In 2014, progress was made toward an annexation and dissolution of RVCWD before the Districts jointly concluded it was not a viable option.

In 2019, RRFC once again began to explore how to elevate the customer status of RVCWD from surplus only. An Agreement to Terms of Service was developed by a joint Ad Hoc Committee and approved by both Districts. The agreement lays out the terms under which RRFC provides surplus water to RVCWD.

In early 2024, RVCWD and RRFC resumed the collaboration toward annexation. On April 1, 2024, RRFC adopted Resolution No. 24-01, a *Commitment to Collaborate with Redwood Valley County Water District in Developing a Local Agency Formation Commission Annexation Application* and on April 18, 2024, the RVCWD adopted Resolution No. 24-01 of the same title. On August 1, 2024, RRFC and RVCWD entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding the development of an annexation application to LAFCo including a cost sharing agreement. This latest attempt has successfully resulted in this annexation application to LAFCo.

In April 2025, RVCWD submitted an application for a Uniform Water Supply & Purchase Agreement to serve the overlap area of the two Districts. The Board approved the application, allocating 328.85 acre feet of water annually effective May 5, 2025. Upon successful completion of the annexation, RVCWD can request expanding the contractual place of use to its entire service area.



Lake Mendocino 2019, by Bobby Cochran Photography

Description of current services

RRFC is restricted from providing a stable water supply source to the entirety of the RVCWD service area under a Uniform Water Supply & Purchase Agreement because RVCWD is not fully within the current RRFC jurisdictional boundary. There is only a small overlap of the southern portion of the RVCWD boundary within RRFC.

RRFC holds a State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued water right license 13898 authorizing it to divert 7,940 acre feet a year from the East Fork Russian River and Mendocino Lake for domestic, municipal, and irrigation uses within the RRFC licensed place of use. This water right memorializes the approved delivery to RVCWD of up to 4,000 acre feet of the total 7,940 acre feet licensed to RRFC, under the condition that the water is surplus from within the RRFC current boundary. This provision in the water right license was based on the 1980 Superior Court of the State of California No 42059 Stipulated Judgement between the two Districts which specifies only surplus water may be supplied outside of the RRFC boundary and is still in effect.

RRFC surplus water supply is determined by the amount of uncontracted water under this water right license. Additionally, RRFC Customers can offer to make some or all of their contract quantity available to other District customers and/or RVCWD as surplus through a transfer agreement on an annual basis.

Terms in the RRFC Uniform Water Supply & Purchase Agreement (Agreement) restricted the availability of surplus water to customers, which would limit the amount of water RVCWD was able to obtain from RRFC as a Customer once annexation is complete. In May 2025, RRFC addressed this limitation by updating the Agreement to remove these restrictions for all Customers.

Currently, RVCWD purchases water from both Millview CWD and RRFC that has been determined to be surplus to the ongoing needs of the two respective organizations. Millview CWD provides RVCWD with groundwater, which is not regulated by the SWRCB and has no assigned place or purpose of use. The amount of water that can be delivered by Millview CWD to RVCWD is limited by the size of the infrastructure, amounting to approximately 55 gallons per person per day to RVCWD municipal customers. With the recent formation of the Ukiah Valley Water Authority (UVWA) JPA, the expectation is that the UVWA will use State funding from the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) program to enhance and secure municipal water supplies through consolidation of the JPA member water rights and expanding groundwater pumping and delivery. Infrastructure improvements will include the delivery lines for the RVCWD municipal water supply.

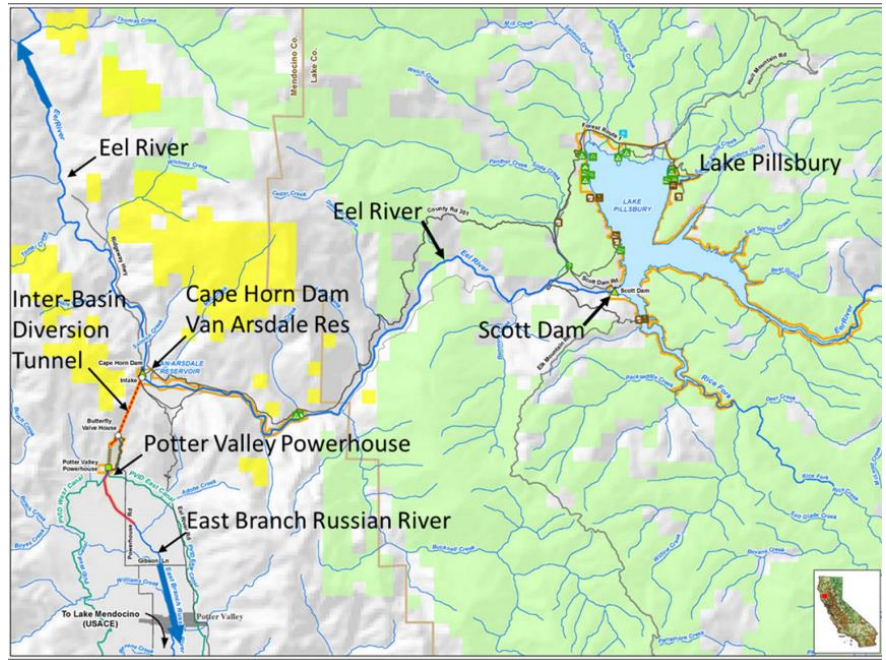
RVCWD has purchased an annual average of 850 acre feet of surplus water from RRFC since 2016, which includes times of supply restriction. This water is used to serve RVCWD's agricultural customers and as a supplement to the surplus water from Millview CWD for municipal supply. This supplementation will remain important to RVCWD until the improvements in infrastructure from UVWA are complete. Afterwards, the RRFC water will provide a redundant source in place for emergencies. RVCWD agricultural customers depend on the RRFC surplus supply, only augmented by those few and far between times RVCWD can exercise its own water right. The Redwood Valley agricultural community also relies on surface water storage ponds and groundwater, where available. During a drought, both ponds and wells are at high risk of going dry and farmers then rely solely on water stored in Lake Mendocino under RRFC's water right. Additionally, during years with extreme, prolonged frost events, access to RRFC water is critical to the RVCWD agricultural community.

While under the RRFC water right, RVCWD is allowed up to 4,000 acre feet of surplus annually, it historically has not needed that quantity. Increased use of RRFC water will be restricted by water supply availability from climate change impacts and the restrictions of the Potter Valley Project.

Service Challenges

The primary challenge in providing water in the Russian River watershed is reliable water supply due to both intensifying drought conditions and the impending changes to the Potter Valley Project.

The Potter Valley Project (PVP) has been rerouting water from the Eel River to the Russian River for over a century, growing and sustaining the economy in communities through agriculture, drinking water, and even recreation with additional water supplied as a byproduct of power generation. Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) as the current owner the PVP has determined in the last few years that the PVP is no longer a viable project to maintain and has issued a public draft application for surrender and decommissioning of the PVP. The final application will be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) by July 29, 2025.



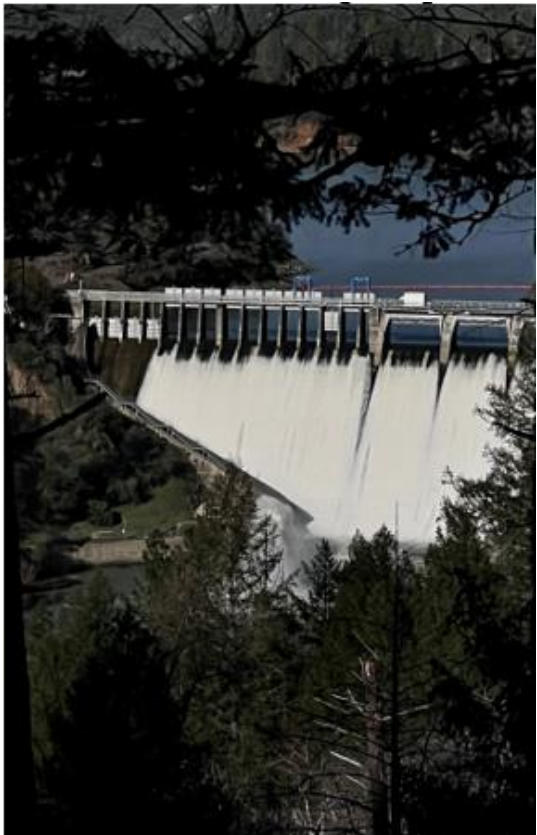
Potter Valley Project map by PG&E

The Russian River Watershed has been active for years in an effort to continue this trans basin diversion. Prior to 2019, a group of organizations representing both Eel and Russian River water user interests attempted to purchase the PVP with intent to relicense the entire project through FERC. Being unsuccessful, Russian River representatives reorganized and formed the Eel Russian Project Authority (ERPA) to develop solutions under the scenario of the PG&E decommissioning. ERPA met with Eel River Watershed interests, forming the Two-Basin Partnership and entered into talks to develop a proposal to submit to PG&E for a new diversion facility on the Eel River.



Lake Pillsbury by CJ Watt

In February 2025, the Two-Basin Partnership members established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to advance a water diversion agreement associated with PG&E’s decommissioning of the Potter Valley Project. The MOU details how Russian River water users can continue to divert water, without harming the recovery of salmon species on the Eel River. It commits the parties to support the removal of the two dams on the Eel River, restoration in the Eel River watershed, developing water supply reliability and self-reliance in the Russian River, and sets terms for the proposed continued diversion. Under the current plan, a new water diversion facility will be designed to mimic a free-flowing Eel River and diversion to the Russian River will occur mostly in the wintertime and under strict rules designed to protect Eel River biological resources and ecological processes. These diversions are dependent on hydrological conditions in the Eel River and not guaranteed. It is expected that intensifying drought conditions will impact the ability to divert water in some years and the current lack of storage capacity in the Russian River watershed is another obstacle to addressing the significant deficit of diverted water.



Scott Dam at Lake Pillsbury by CJ Watt

Russian River water users will have to wait for several years as the decommissioning approval process moves through FERC. In the meantime, significant funding will need to be obtained to move forward with the plans. Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) is the local joint powers agency leading the effort in both the continued trans basin diversion and the feasibility of modernizing Coyote Valley Dam to, among other things, provide additional storage space in Lake Mendocino. Both RRFC and RVCWD are members of IWPC and contribute financially to the ongoing efforts.



Cape Horn Dam at the diversion site by Cal Trout

Intensifying climate conditions are a major concern for water suppliers through California. The region has experienced several significant droughts in the last 20 years, with the most recent one in 2020-2022 burdening the region with a drought declaration by the Governor of California and State Water Resources Control Board emergency regulations resulting in curtailment of water rights. Lake Mendocino reached its lowest point since filling and many community members were under strict water rations.

Both RRFC and RVCWD have guidelines to address water supply shortages and a history of enacting these to prioritize human health and safety while making an effort to support sustainable agriculture.

RVCWD adopted a conservation ordinance in 2007 to deal with droughts such as those that occurred in 2007–2009. The ordinance includes six tiers, of which the most severe restrictions apply to Tier 6. Tier 4 was implemented in 2009 when Lake Mendocino water levels receded to record lows. At that time mandatory rationing was imposed by the SWRCB, which resulted in a 50 percent reduction in water use. During the 2013-2015 drought, Tier 4 was again implemented, resulting in limits of 50 gallons per person per day and no agricultural water deliveries. During the 2020-2022 drought, RVCWD had limited supply for agricultural customers, with no deliveries being made in all of 2021 and most of 2022. The physical limitations of the Millview CWD intertie required RVCWD to ration municipal supply to 55 gallons per person per day.



Lake Mendocino north boat ramp, January 2021 by E Salomone

RRFC has a Water Conservation Program outlined in District Ordinance #25-01 to enact when conditions limit the water supply available to its customers. In the 2013-2015 drought, RRFC implemented mandatory reductions on District customers and coordinated an emergency water supply for RVCWD. During the 2020-2022 drought, RRFC declared a Water Supply Emergency, when the District determined a major failure of supply and storage, including no surplus water supply to provide to RVCWD. RRFC customers were asked to voluntarily reduce water use and through resounding cooperation were able to continue accessing RRFC stored water in Lake Mendocino, though the SWRCB was close to curtailing that use.

In 2022, the District and Sonoma County Water Agency entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning Lake Mendocino Storage Planning and Russian River Management. The MOU was developed in response to SWRCB terms during the drought and establishes planning and management activities related to the shared water supplies in Lake Mendocino. This MOU established the amount of stored water available to the various parties and will be a critical tool in years with reduced water supply.

RRFC, Sonoma Water, and other regional water interests worked with the SWRCB beginning in 2020 to develop the Upper Russian River Voluntary Water Sharing Program. The Program allows collaboration to share limited water resources within the water rights priority system regulated by the SWRCB. Work continues to enhance this Program.

Expanded Services Under Annexation

Annexation of the remaining portion of the RVCWD service area into the RRFC boundary will make RVCWD eligible for the Uniform Water Supply & Purchase Agreement for water use under RRFC's State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued water right license 13898.

The Ukiah Valley Water Authority (UVWA) has a portfolio of water supply sources among its membership to meet municipal supply demand. This includes contracts for RRFC stored water in Lake Mendocino. As a member of UVWA, RVCWD will benefit from expansion of the municipal water supply infrastructure system and full access to these water supply sources once annexed into the RRFC boundary.

All infrastructure is already in place; there will be no interruption in the services provided to RVCWD. The annexation is not expected to increase RVCWD's historical use of RRFC or induce growth due to regional water supply challenges described above. RVCWD will continue to use RRFC water as it has, for agricultural customers and as an emergency backup for domestic supply until such time as the UVWA expands the groundwater supply and infrastructure.



Lake Mendocino 2019, by Bobby Cochran Photography

Financial or Fiscal Impact

RVCWD currently pays for surplus water used from RRFC as per terms of the 1980 Stipulated Judgement between the two entities. The purchase price of surplus water is determined by dividing RRFC's operational expenses by 7,940, the licensed amount in RRFC's SWRCB issued water right license 13898. RRFC does not budget revenue from the sale of surplus water since it is an unknown in any given year.

Once RVCWD obtains water from RRFC under the Uniform Water Supply & Purchase Agreement, (Agreement) the cost per acre foot will be the same as for all RRFC customers, determined by the Board of Trustees through the adoption of fiscal year budgets. RRFC will budget the revenue from RVCWD's Agreement but not any additional surplus water purchased. After annexation, RVCWD will have a more stable water supply for agricultural customers and more regular revenue from sales.

Summary

The Redwood Valley Community was not originally fully included in the RRFC boundary, believing Redwood Valley would not need to utilize RRFC's water right to Russian River East Fork flows or stored water from Lake Mendocino.

Over time, conditions changed, and arrangements were made for RVCWD to purchase surplus water from RRFC through a stipulated judgement. When the SWRCB approved RRFC's water permit to a license, the RVCWD service area was included in the water right place of use. However, because RVCWD is not fully in the RRFC Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) approved boundary, RVCWD can only purchase surplus water from RRFC, which can be in short supply especially in times of drought. In 2021 and 2022, all surplus sales were halted, and the Redwood Valley agricultural community had no water deliveries. RVCWD customers were also on restricted water amounts for several years.

The two Districts wish to find a lasting solution for the Redwood Valley community and have explored options for years. Most recently, there has been strong support for RRFC to annex the entire RVCWD service area, allowing RVCWD to use RRFC water to serve all Redwood Valley customers. The two Districts have collaborated on an annexation application to LAFCo.

Annexation is a crucial step for the future water supply in the Redwood Valley community. This annexation supports the work of consolidating services and water sources among municipal suppliers under UVWA. A more stable water supply to Redwood Valley agricultural users contributes to the economic health of the greater Ukiah Valley area.



RVCWD pump house and intake at Lake Mendocino, by CJ Watt

THIS MAP HAS BEEN PREPARED BY STEVEN J. KLEIN.

STEVEN J. KLEIN, P.L.S. 8155



ACCEPTANCE CERTIFICATE

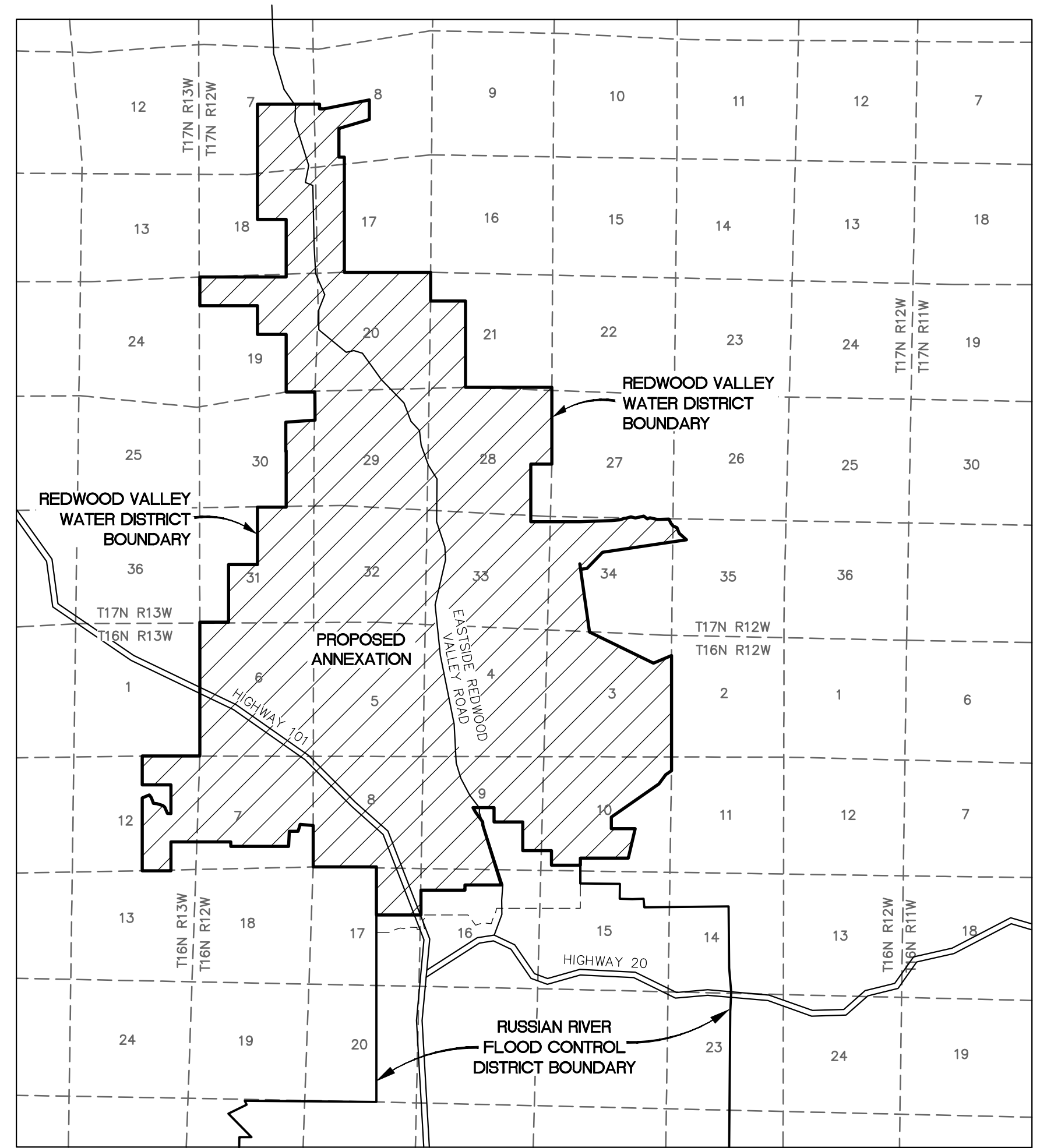
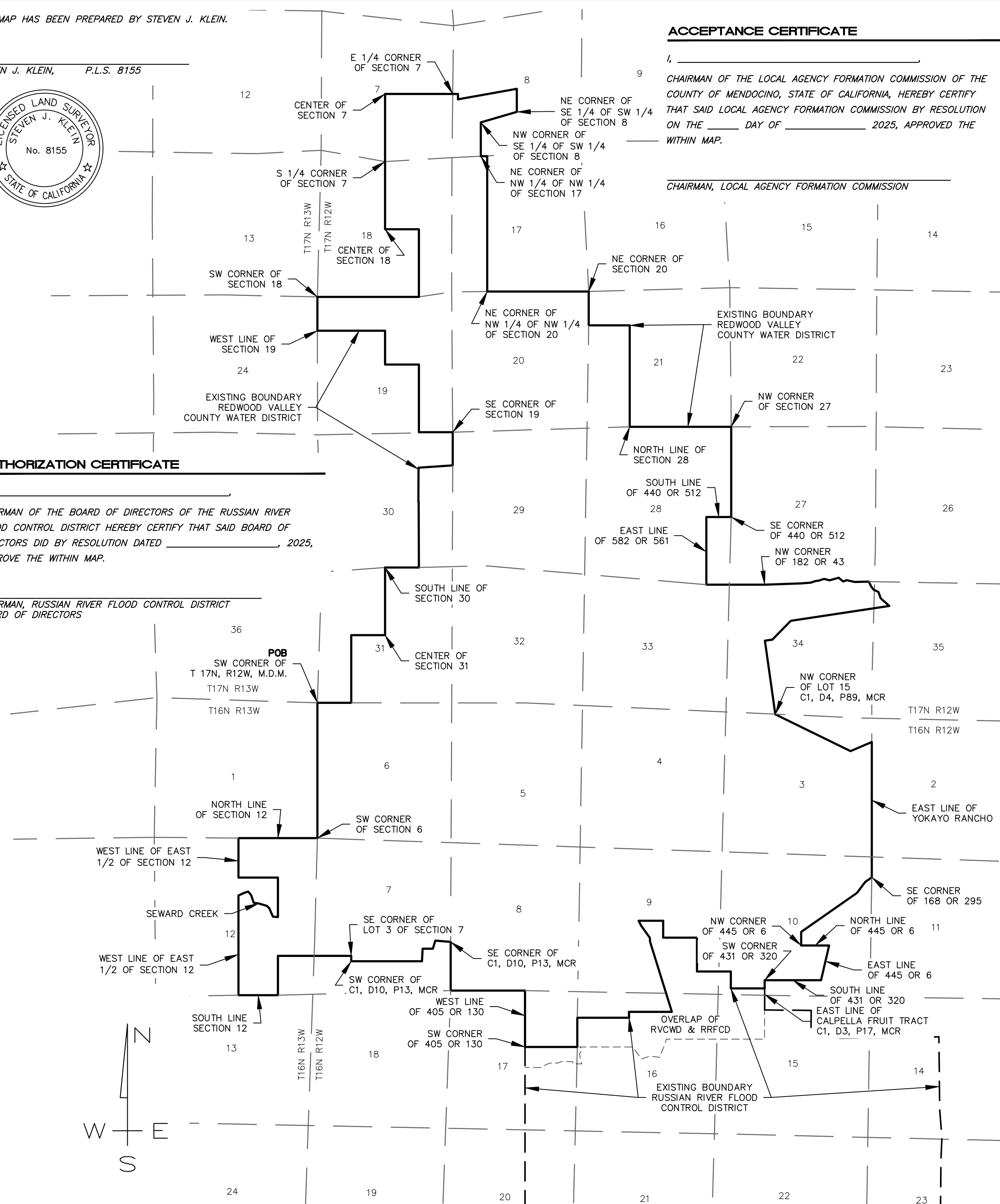
I, _____, CHAIRMAN OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT SAID LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION BY RESOLUTION ON THE _____ DAY OF _____ 2025, APPROVED THE WITHIN MAP.

_____, CHAIRMAN, LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

AUTHORIZATION CERTIFICATE

I, _____, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT HEREBY CERTIFY THAT SAID BOARD OF DIRECTORS DID BY RESOLUTION DATED _____ 2025, APPROVE THE WITHIN MAP.

_____, CHAIRMAN, RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



VICINITY MAP NO SCALE

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

RECORDED _____, 2025
INSTRUMENT NUMBER _____
MENDOCINO COUNTY RECORDS.

LEGEND

- BOUNDARY OF LANDS TO BE ANNEXED
- EXISTING BOUNDARY OF RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
- SECTION LINES
- OVERLAP OF RVCWD & RRFCD
- POINT OF BEGINNING



MUNSELLE CIVIL ENGINEERING
CIVIL ENGINEERING • LAND SURVEYING
513 CENTER STREET
HEALDSBURG, CA 95448
(707) 395-0968

EXHIBIT "B"
LAFCO FILE NO. L01-99
ANNEXATION OF REDWOOD VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT TO THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO STATE OF CALIFORNIA

MAPS
DRAWER _____
PAGE _____

**MENDOCINO COUNTY RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

The Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (“**RRFC**”) prepares, makes, declares and publishes this proposed Negative Declaration for the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District Redwood Valley Annexation (“**Project**”).

Project Description: Filing of an application with the Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission to annex the Redwood Valley County Water District (“**RVCWD**”) into the boundaries of the RRFC. The Project Description is more fully set forth in the Initial Study for the Project. The purpose of the annexation is to allow RVCWD to contract with the RRFC to receive surface water supplies available under the RRFC’s licensed water right.

Project Location: The Project is located within Mendocino County as shown on the map attached as **EXHIBIT “A”**.

Determination: The RRFC has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that the Project, as identified in the attached Initial Study, will not have a significant effect on the environment. An Environmental Impact Report is not required pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (Division 13 of the California Public Resources Code).

Public Review: The Initial Study/Negative Declaration has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and contains an environmental review of the potential impacts of the proposed Project. This Initial Study/Negative Declaration is being circulated for 30-day period from June 29, 2025, through July 29, 2025. Comments on the Initial Study/Negative Declaration may be sent by 12:00 noon on July 29, 2025, to the RRFC, Attention: Ms. Elizabeth Salomone, PO Box 2104, Ukiah, CA 95482, DistrictManager@rrfc.net. Comments will be reviewed by the RRFC, and the Initial Study/Negative Declaration will be revised, as appropriate, prior to the adoption of the proposed Negative Declaration by the RRFC, which is scheduled for September 8, 2025.

This environmental review process and Negative Declaration filing is made pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 6 of the California Administrative Code Section 15070.

A copy of the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration may be reviewed by appointment at the RRFC office at 304 North State Street, Ukiah, California, 95482.



Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager

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

STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item 6: Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Update & Representative Appointments
Monday, August 4, 2025**

The Strategic Plan relevant priority is **Collaboration** by working with partners to achieve aligned goals for regional water security.

- The UVBGSA continues to address DWR identified corrective actions to maintain sustainability goals and avoid undesirable results.
- Priorities comprise filling data gaps including those related to surface water beneficial uses that may be impacted by depletions of interconnected surface water caused by ground water pumping.
- The District considers understanding the interconnection between groundwater and surface water an important component to the future of water supply for its constituency.

Background:

The Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVBGSA) was created by a Joint Powers Agreement to serve as the official Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Ukiah Valley Basin required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGMA) Act of 2014.

SGMA seeks to provide sustainable management of groundwater basins, enhance local management of groundwater, establish minimum standards for sustainable groundwater management, and provide local groundwater agencies with the authority and the technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater.

The purpose of this Agency is to take actions deemed necessary to ensure sustainable management of the Basin, as required by SGMA. The Agency must implement the 20-year plan it has developed to ensure the sustainable use of groundwater within a groundwater basin called a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP.)

The District has been a member of the UVBGSA since inception, appointing one Trustee as a UVBGSA Board Member, one Trustee as an alternate UVBGSA Board Member, and one District representative to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to the UVBGSA Board. The TAC role has historically been assigned to the General Manager, but it is not required.

In addition to appointing representatives, the District has financially contributed \$167,500 over two years after the initial development of the GSP was grant funded through the Department of Water Resources (DWR.) In 2024, the UVBGSA began collecting fees from property owners, retail water suppliers, and agricultural users. The District no longer financially contributes to the UVBGSA.

(Continued....)

Discussion

Recently, the City of Ukiah contracted with the UVBGSA to provide administrative services including a General Manager, Clerk, and financial services. The UVBGSA Board continues to approve and oversee annual budgets including the collection of fees.

The UVBGSA was also awarded Facilitation Support Services fully paid by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to develop a strategic plan, conduct general and Tribal focused outreach, and update vital Agency documentation such as the Joint Powers Agreement.

Projects being undertaken by the UVBGSA now include a Well Inventory Study and an Interconnected Surface Water & Groundwater Study which will address some of the DWR recommended corrective actions in the GSP approval letter of July 27, 2023. Additionally, the monitoring network continues to be strengthened.

Recommended Actions:

- Receive an update from Staff; and
- Move to approve Resolution #25-06 Approving the Appointment of Representatives to the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Attachments:

- Resolution #25-06 Approving the Appointment of Representatives to the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Links:

- RRFC Webpage: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/sustainable-groundwater-management>
- Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency website: <https://ukiahvalleygroundwater.org/>

* * * *

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

Resolution #25-06

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

**Approving the Appointment of Representatives to the
Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

WHEREAS, groundwater in the Ukiah Basin is a vital resource to meet the water supply needs for customers of the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District (District);

WHEREAS, the County of Mendocino Water Agency, City of Ukiah, Upper Russian River Water Agency, and the District came together as Member Agencies to improve management of groundwater in the Ukiah Valley Basin under a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) creating the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA);

WHEREAS, each of the Member Agencies is a local agency as defined by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA), duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California with the ability to exercise powers related to groundwater management; and,

WHEREAS, Article 7 of the GSA Joint Powers Agreement provides for the appointment and re-appointment by Resolution of Directors and Alternate Directors on the Agency Board of Directors to serve as representatives of each Member Agency, including the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that effective immediately and until the District takes action otherwise, **Trustee John Bailey** will serve as the Director and **Trustee Christopher Watt** will serve as Alternate Director to represent the District on the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency in the event that the Director representing the District cannot attend a GSA Board of Directors meeting. **Trustee Christopher Watt** will also serve as the appointee to represent the District on the Technical Advisory Committee.

ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District on 4th day of August, 2025.

John Reardan	Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
Dave Koball	Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
John Bailey	Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
Tyler Rodrigue	Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
Christopher Watt	Yes / No / Abstain / Absent

Signed: _____

Christopher Watt, President

Attest: _____

Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager

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

STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item 8: Association of California Water Agencies
2026-2027 Term Elections
Monday, August 4, 2025**

The Strategic Plan relevant priority is to **Advocate** by influencing outreach, education, funding, regulation, and legislation in support of equitable water resource stewardship.

- ACWA provides leadership and a unified voice for California's public water agencies as they worked to provide a reliable water supply for communities, farms and businesses.
- More information on ACWA membership: <https://www.acwa.com/about/membership/>

Background:

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) is the leading voice on California water issues. ACWA provides comprehensive leadership, advocacy, and education to serve California public water agencies' infrastructure and other water management needs to ensure high quality, sustainable and reliable water supplies in an environmentally, socially and fiscally responsible manner. The District has been a member for over ten years.

Every four years, ACWA holds elections for President and Vice President of the statewide ACWA Board and elections for the Regional Boards. For the 2026-2027 term, the election process for officers and region boards is combined. Voting for both sets of candidates will be done electronically by the member agency's designated voter on a single ballot. GM Salomone is the designated voter for the District.

Members of the Regional Board determine the direction and focus of regional issues, activities, and fulfillment of ACWA's goals on behalf of members. The role of the Regional Boards is to help guide ACWA policies, especially those that impact the region. A Nominating Committee is formed in each region to pursue qualified member candidates within the region to run for the Region Board. The Nominating Committee is appointed by the region chair in concurrence with the Region Board during odd-numbered years. The Nominating Committee selects a recommended slate for each region. The 2025 nominating committee for Region 1 was Adam Gaska (Redwood Valley County Water District), Hannah Davidson (Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District), Terrence "TK" Williams (Humboldt Community Services District) and Tony Williams (North Marin Water District)

Recommended Board Action:

- Provide feedback to General Manager on candidate selection and direction to submit District vote.

Attachments:

- ACWA Election Ballots for President, Vice President, and Region 1 Board

* * * *

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

ACWA Ballot Information For President and Vice President

Board Officers' Election for President & Vice President and Region Boards for 2026-'27

Both questions below are optional.

Please vote for only **one** candidate for each seat.

To write-in your vote, select Write-in and then type out your choice. Write-in candidates must be an elected or appointed director of an ACWA member agency and must submit a nominating/support resolution from their member agency's board no later than September 19.

ACWA President



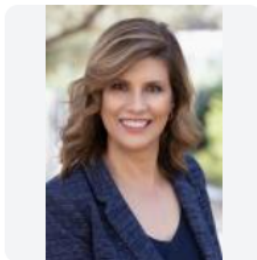
Ernesto A. Avila (Election Committee's preferred candidate)

As the current Vice-President of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), I am most proud of the thought, energy and...

[Show more](#)

Write-in:

ACWA Vice President



Carol Lee Gonzales-Brady (Election Committee's preferred candidate)

I am pleased to offer my Statement of Qualifications as a Candidate for ACWA Vice President. I'm passionate about delivering prudent...

[Show more](#)

Write-in:

ACWA Ballot Information For Region 1 Board

The Nominating Committee recommended slate:

Chair: David Rabbitt, Supervisor/Director, Sonoma County Water Agency

Vice Chair: Ranjiv Khush, Director, Marin Municipal Water District

Board Members:

- Peter Martin, Deputy Director Water Resources, City of Santa Rosa Water
- Dennis Mayo, Board Director, McKinleyville Community Services District
- Bruce Rupp, Director, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

If the Board does not concur with the Nominating Committee recommendation:

Candidates for Chair: David Rabbitt, Supervisor/Director, Sonoma County Water Agency

Candidates for Vice Chair:

- Ranjiv Khush, Director, Marin Municipal Water District
- Dennis Mayo, Board Director, McKinleyville Community Services District

Candidates for Board Members (select up to 5 of the following):

- Ranjiv Khush, Director, Marin Municipal Water District
- Peter Martin, Deputy Director Water Resources, City of Santa Rosa Water
- Dennis Mayo, Board Director, McKinleyville Community Services District
- Bruce Rupp, Director, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

Submitted board candidate bios and headshots are available on <https://www.acwa.com/elections>.

Deadline to submit ballots is Friday, September 19, 2025, at 5 p.m.

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

General Manager's Report for July 2025
Presented at Regular Meeting of Monday, August 4, 2025

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

(1: Improved river & reservoir operations. 2: Fair & reliable inter-basin. 3: Expanded water sources.
4: Increased storage capacity)

2-PG&E Public Draft Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan: On July 25, 2025, Pacific Gas and Electric Company filed its Final Surrender Application and Final Non-Project Use of Project Lands Application (NPUPL) for the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-77) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC.) On August 11, from 3 to 5 p.m., PG&E will host an online meeting (to share information on the Potter Valley Project Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan. During the town hall PG&E will discuss the overall regulatory process and note opportunities for public participation in the regulatory process. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please email Tony.Gigliotti@pge.com. More information including town hall meeting link 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>

2- PG&E FERC Filings for 2025 and Beyond: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has not yet approved the PG&E temporary license flow amendment (previously referred to as a temporary flow variance) for the Potter Valley Project 2025 operations, nor has it issued any updates other than denying several late-filed motions to intervene.

2-FERC Requests Additional Information on PG&E's Request for License Amendment (Long-Term Flow Regime): In its request for changes to the Potter Valley Project flow requirements from now until the proposed decommissioning, PG&E stated the overall goal of the proposed license amendment is to maintain storage in Lake Pillsbury through the spring and summer, maintain the safety of the facility, and support colder water temperature flow releases from Scott Dam into the Eel River during late summer. In a letter dated March 28, 2023, FERC staff anticipated that prior to acting on this amendment proposal, an analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act will be completed by PG&E. In January 2025, PG&E filed supplemental information, and this most recent letter responds, requesting information under five points, the first being to identify any users that may be affected by the proposed reduction in flow diversions to the East Branch Russian River and characterize their location and estimated amounts (quantity and percentage) under reduced flows. This may include operators of Commission-licensed hydropower projects that rely on powerhouse releases and agricultural users that are located downstream of Potter Valley Irrigation District's diversions. PG&E is also asked to describe and address any potential effects of the proposed amendment on storage and/or releases from Lake Mendocino through analyses of the last ten years of data displaying the percent contribution of Potter Valley Powerhouse releases made to Lake Mendocino yearly storage, and address any effects to environmental resources below Lake Mendocino (including but not limited to water quantity, water quality, and listed salmonids of the East Branch Russian River) that may result from the proposal. More information can be found on the District's website: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/potter-valley-project-license-amendment>

(Continued...)

4-Lake Mendocino's Coyote Valley Dam General Investigation Study: Throughout June and July 2025, two background meetings, one environmental interagency meeting, and four mini-charettes were held by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE.) Topics included problems and objectives, opportunities, constraints and considerations, existing and future conditions, management measures, and building the plan: strategies. More information can be found on the District's website: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/lake-mendocino-s-coyote-valley-dam-general-investigation-study>

Priority 2: Collaboration ~ Work with partners to achieve aligned goals for a common benefit.

(1: Trusted relationships with community partners for regional water security. 2: Improved diversity, equity, and inclusion in the stewardship of water resources. 3: Expanded relationships with non-traditional partners and stakeholders in pursuit of enhanced Environmental Stewardship.)

1-Water Sharing Program: The Working Group met to continue discussions of the 10,000 acre foot reserve pool in Lake Mendocino for Sonoma County, public engagement and outreach tactics, and adaptations to the Program for future implementation.

Priority 3: Advocacy ~ Influence outreach, education, funding, regulation, and legislation in support of equitable water resource stewardship.

(1: Improved public awareness and understanding of the importance of water issues. 2: State and Federal governmental policy and funding support for the region.)

1/2-ACWA: The SGMA Implementation Sub Committee met and discussed 5 yr updates of Groundwater Sustainability Plans and a future meeting with Department of Water Resources staff.

2-State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Funded Telemetry Pilot: I asked the question from the June Board meeting regarding paying for infrastructure to implement the pilot. SWRCB Response: If the infrastructure is minor (some pipes, a few feet deeper on an existing well), then the Telemetry Study will pay for it. If the infrastructure is major (an entirely new pumphouse and pump) it would probably (but not absolutely) make the site ineligible for participation.

2- State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Water Data Consortium Telemetry Technical Advisory Committee: The Committee met several times to develop project scope and deliverables, discuss obstacles to data monitoring, and SB88.

2-Assemblymember Chris Rogers meeting: A group of water representatives from Mendocino and Sonoma County met with Rogers and two staff members, providing updates on various water supply and farming issues.

Priority 4: Use ~ Ensure effective and beneficial use of water as a public resource.

(1: Maximum beneficial use of water under District water right license. 2: Strategic use of water by customers.)

1-Annexation of Redwood Valley County Water District Service Area: See Agenda Item 6 of this meeting. More information can be found on the RRFCD website: <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/proposed-application-for-annexation-of-redwood-valley-county-water-district-2025>

1-Change Petition: After the Board approval of the application on June 7th, there were some additional mapping edits as expected and clarifying language was added for points of diversion/diversion and irrigated lands. Required agency consultations were requested on July 11, 2025 and the full petition package was submitted on July 15, 2025.

(continued...)

Priority 5: Administration ~ 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 and human resources to execute the strategic plan. 4: Sound and sustainable management of District finances.)

1: Executive Leadership: Attended: (1) attended Charting California's Future in AI Governance: A conversation with the co-leads of the Joint California Policy Working Group on AI Frontier Models report. (2) Website Administration training

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.

City of Ukiah (7/2/25): Council considered adoption of a resolution authorizing SAFER grant through the Ukiah Valley Water Authority.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) 7/7/25: It was a short meeting with no water or District related items.

Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) (7/18/25): The Commission held an extensive closed session. A Water Diversion Agreement for the trans basin diversion was approved. RRFC Trustee Reardan read out the **attached** letter from RRFC to IWPC regarding the Potter Valley Water Reliability Study cost share and the Commission approved the Cooperative Agreement to Provide Funding for Overhead Services for Water Supply Reliability Study with Sonoma Water. IWPC is responsible for a cost share of \$67,280.82 for the Potter Valley Study which was not included in the annual budget. Legal Counsel Eric Nagy provided an update on the USACE General Investigation Study for Coyote Valley Dam at Lake Mendocino. A series of meetings have been held to cover background, scope, and receive feedback from the local sponsors (IWPC and Lytton Band of Pomo Indians.) RRFC reported on the Petition for Change of its main water right and an update on the Proposed Annexation of the Complete Service Area of Redwood Valley County Water District. The Eel Russian Project Authority is holding a meeting on Monday and RRFC Staff shared that proposed ERPA Executive Director David Manning was asked by RRFC to provide regular updates on ERPA issues at IWPC meetings. During the discussion of ongoing IWPC funding, RRFC recommended an IWPC ad hoc committee for budget development and discussion was held regarding RRFC's letter in a previous item. No Ad Hoc was formed.

City of Ukiah (7/16/25): The following consent calendar items were passed:

8a: service agreements with Hopland PUD, River Estates Mutual Water, and UV Sanitation District

8b: Application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund for Riverside Park Regeneration Project

Eel Russian Project Authority (ERPA) (7/21/25): The Water Diversion Agreement was approved. Additionally, authority was delegated to Sonoma Water to continue providing staff support to ERPA including the appointment of David Manning (Sonoma Water) as the Executive Director of ERPA. More information on the meeting: <https://www.eelrussianauthority.org/meetings>

Ukiah Valley Water Authority (UVWA) (7/24/25): Staff reported on the status of the SAFER Planning Grant application and received many comments from members and the public.

* * * *

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

July 17, 2025

MC Inland Water & Power Commission
PO Box 1247
Ukiah, CA 95482

Dear All Member Agencies of MCIWPC,

RE: Financial Contribution Request for the Potter Valley Water Reliability Study

The Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation District (RRFC) held an agenda item on the Potter Valley Water Reliability Study at its July 7, 2025 Board Meeting to discuss the request from IWPC for member agencies to consider a payment of \$67,280.82 toward expenses not covered in the grant funding.

The RRFC Board discussed what information and procedures it requires from IWPC to sufficiently plan for current and future financial contributions and to continue financial support to IWPC. The RRFC Board requests in the future that IWPC preapprove any proposed service agreements, execute the agreements, include project costs within the annual budget, and issue annual contribution invoices at the beginning of each fiscal year based on the approved budget. Additionally, if IWPC contracts for services, ongoing briefings to the Commission on the work are expected, including the benefits of the work to the IWPC constituency and how the work is promoting the mission of the IWPC membership.

In the case of the Potter Valley Water Reliability Study specifically, the RRFC Board requires the Cooperative Agreement to Provide Funding for Overhead Services for Water Supply Reliability Study (Agreement) between Sonoma Water and Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission be finalized and approved by IWPC prior to RRFC financially contributing to the Study. This Agreement was drafted in November 2024 laying out terms for Sonoma Water to undertake the work and IWPC to pay Sonoma Water staff costs not covered by the funding.

In its discussion, the RRFC Board emphasized that a publicly transparent process matters. IWPC project expenses are expected to increase dramatically, based on presentations made by IWPC legal counsel and consultants at the IWPC All Members Joint Meeting on May 29, 2025. At this time, it is not known what member contribution amount IWPC will request next, nor when that request will be received. It is vital that the Commission be prepared to develop this information to provide member agencies adequate information and time to continue financial contributions.

The RRFC Board supports IWPC as a coalition working to safeguard regional water supply throughout the IWPC constituency and believes supporting IWPC member agencies is within the spirit of the Commission. Therefore, RRFC is willing to financially contribute toward the Potter Valley Water Reliability Study when the stated requests are met.

Sincerely,

John Reardan

John Reardan
RRFC Representative on IWPC

President
Christopher Watt

Vice President
Tyler Rodrigue

Treasurer
John Bailey

Trustee
John Reardan

Trustee
Dave Koball

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

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item 10: Water Supply Conditions

Monday, August 4, 2025

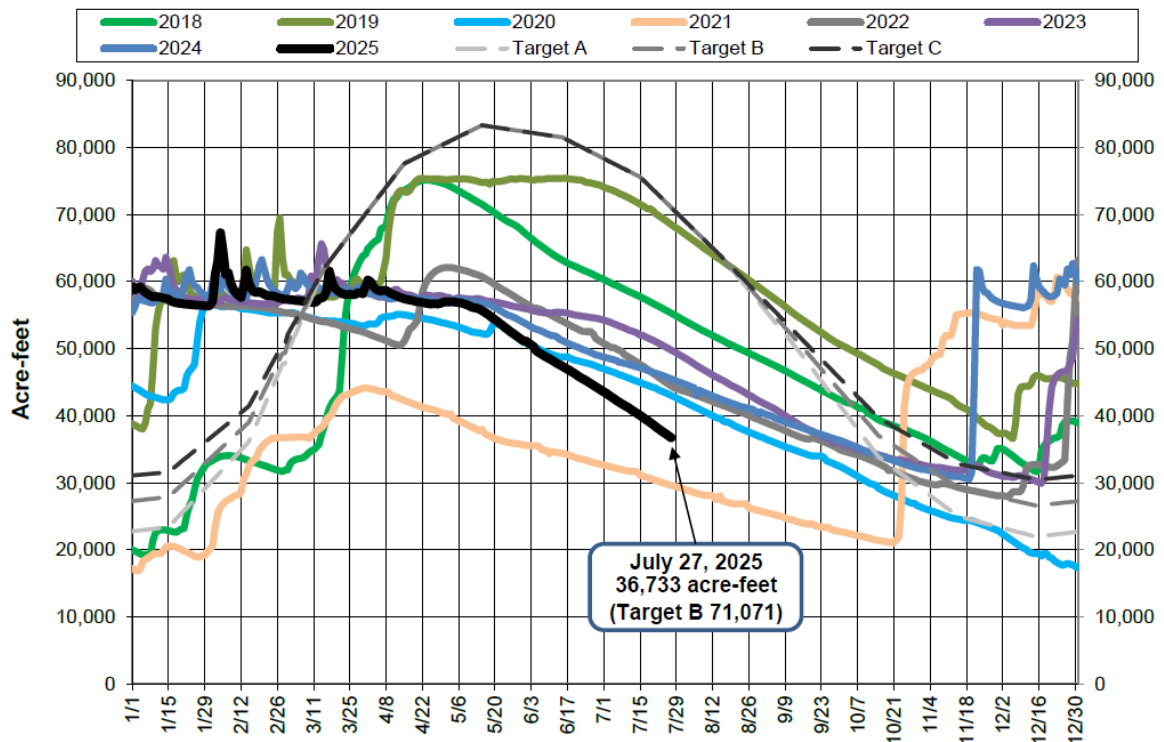
The Strategic Plan relevant priorities are: **Security** through ensuring reliable, resilient, and available sources of water; **Advocacy** in support of equitable water resource stewardship; and **Use** of water in effective and beneficial ways as a public resource, all in alignment with the District’s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

Operations of the Trans-Basin Diversion Through PG&E Owned “Potter Valley Project”

There are currently no Federal Energy Resources Commission (FERC) approved flow variances in place, though one has been filed and FERC received numerous comments, motions to intervene, and protests. See <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/pg-e-2025-potter-valley-project-operations> for more information. Minimum instream flow in the East Branch Russian River is currently 75 cubic feet per second.

Lake Pillsbury		7/27
Current Storage (acre-feet)		36,733
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)		71,071
7-day change (acre-feet)		-1,945

Lake Pillsbury Storage and Target Storage Scenarios



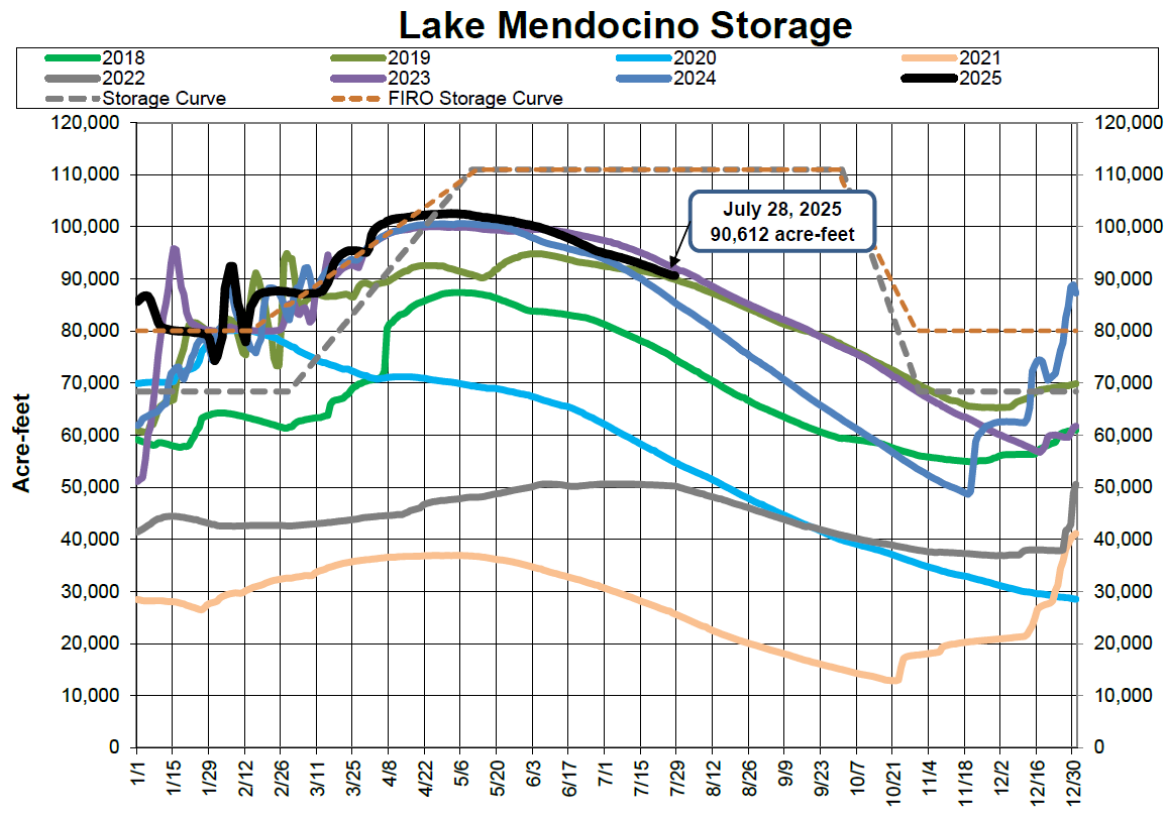
(Continued...)

Lake Mendocino and the Mainstem Upper Russian River

Storage level was 90,612 acre feet (af) as of July 28, 2025, down from 95,077 af on June 30, 2025.

Lake Mendocino		7/28
Current Storage (acre-feet)		90,612
FIRO Storage Curve (acre-feet)		111,000
% of FIRO Storage Curve		81.63%
7-day change (acre-feet)		-1,091

Sonoma Water Agency’s Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) filed on April 10th to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) was approved. (For more information see <https://www.rrfc.net/updates-on-russian-river-and-lake-mendocino> or Sonoma Water’s TUCP webpage: www.sonomawater.org/tucp.)



* * * *

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

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

STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item 11a: July 2025 Financial Report
August 4, 2025**

Revenue

June 2025: Additional revenue not shown on previous report: none

July 2025: \$1,820.87 in CA Class interest (NOTE: \$10,621.20 in outstanding customer invoices for 2024.)

Expenses

June 2025: Additional expenses not shown on previous report: \$ 19,622.93
(Due mostly to end of fiscal year allocations)

- \$489.60 Legal Counsel-water rights
- \$1,417.80 License Change Petition-legal counsel
- \$10,598.15 License Change Petition-engineering
- \$3,253.80 LAFCo Applications-legal counsel
- \$ 1,755.42 Trans Basin Diversion-legal counsel
- \$146.25 Consulting-Accounting
- \$ 840.00 Consulting-legal counsel
- \$1,121.91 Property Tax Administration Fees to County

July 2025: \$32,460 ordinary expenses, notably:

- \$5,022 for Change Petition (petition filing fees)
- \$400 for proposed annexation (mapping)
- \$7,858.92 Liability Insurance
- \$1,350 Trustee stipends

NOTE: Annual Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Reports tentatively scheduled for the September 8, 2025 meeting.

Other

- Financial reports subject to change after corrections and adjustments by Accountant and Auditor.
- Reconciliations are up to date as of the end of **May 2025**.
- Additional reports or information available upon request.

Recommendation:

- Move to accept and file the financial reports for July 2025.

Attachments:

1. Profit & Loss Report – July 2025 only
2. Income & Expense / Budget Vs Actual Report – Fiscal Year to date
3. Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison Report– Fiscal Year to date
4. Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison Report– Fiscal Year to date
5. Monthly Payment Detail Report– July 2025
6. Contracted Water Worksheet as of August 1, 2025

* * * *

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

Profit & Loss

July 1 - 29, 2025

	<u>Jul 1 - 29, 25</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4082 · Interest-CA CLASS	1,820.87
Total Income	<u>1,820.87</u>
Expense	
Payroll Expenses	16,627.00
Water Supply Expenses	
5040 · Channel Maintenance	675.00
5050 · Projects	
5056 · License Change Petition	
5056.03 · Chg Pet - Fees	5,022.00
Total 5056 · License Change Petition	<u>5,022.00</u>
5057 · LAFCo Applications	
5057.02 · LAFCo Apps - Engineering	400.00
Total 5057 · LAFCo Applications	<u>400.00</u>
Total 5050 · Projects	<u>5,422.00</u>
Total Water Supply Expenses	6,097.00
General & Administrative Exp	
5120 · Vehicle	98.95
5130 · Insurance	
5131 · Insurance, Liability	7,858.92
Total 5130 · Insurance	<u>7,858.92</u>
5160 · Office Operating Expenses	33.43
5161 · Rent, Utilities	375.00
5170 · Training & Conferences	19.50
5180 · Stipends, Meetings	1,350.00
Total General & Administrative Exp	<u>9,735.80</u>
Total Expense	<u>32,459.80</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-30,638.93</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-30,638.93</u></u>

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control District

Income & Expense / Budget vs. Actual

Cash Basis

July 2025 through June 2026

	<u>Jul '25 - Jun ...</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
4001 · Contract Water Sales	0.00	524,040.00
4050 · Property Taxes	0.00	65,000.00
4080 · Interest-LAIF	0.00	18,000.00
4082 · Interest-CA CLASS	1,820.87	9,000.00
	<u>1,820.87</u>	<u>616,040.00</u>
Total Income	1,820.87	616,040.00
Expense		
Payroll Expenses	24,468.91	207,000.00
Water Supply Expenses		
5020 · Water Rights	0.00	28,000.00
5030 · USGS, streamflow gage	0.00	15,000.00
5031 · JPAs	0.00	10,000.00
5040 · Channel Maintenance	675.00	20,000.00
5050 · Projects		
5051 · Grants/Funding Analysis-gen...	0.00	5,000.00
5056 · License Change Petition		
5056.03 · Chg Pet - Fees	5,022.00	
5056 · License Change Petition - ...	0.00	10,000.00
Total 5056 · License Change Petition	5,022.00	10,000.00
5057 · LAFCo Applications		
5057.02 · LAFCo Apps - Engineering	400.00	
5057 · LAFCo Applications - Other	0.00	10,000.00
Total 5057 · LAFCo Applications	400.00	10,000.00
5058 · Demand Mgmt Pilot	0.00	2,000.00
5059 · Trans Basin Diversion	0.00	110,000.00
5060 · Coyote Valley Dam Moderniz...	0.00	100,000.00
Total 5050 · Projects	5,422.00	237,000.00
Total Water Supply Expenses	6,097.00	310,000.00

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control District
Income & Expense / Budget vs. Actual

Cash Basis

July 2025 through June 2026

	<u>Jul '25 - Jun ...</u>	<u>Budget</u>
General & Administrative Exp		
5100 · Consulting	0.00	43,000.00
5120 · Vehicle	98.95	2,000.00
5130 · Insurance	7,858.92	14,000.00
5140 · LAFCO Apportionment Fee	0.00	1,500.00
5150 · Memberships	0.00	7,000.00
5160 · Office Operating Expenses	33.43	7,000.00
5161 · Rent, Utilities	375.00	5,000.00
5170 · Training & Conferences	19.50	5,000.00
5180 · Stipends, Meetings	1,350.00	13,000.00
5190 · Property Tax Admin Fees	0.00	1,500.00
Total General & Administrative Exp	<u>9,735.80</u>	<u>99,000.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>40,301.71</u>	<u>616,000.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-38,480.84</u>	<u>40.00</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-38,480.84</u></u>	<u><u>40.00</u></u>

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control District
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

Cash Basis

July 2025 through June 2026

	Jul '25 - Jun 26	Jul '24 - Jun 25	\$ Change	% Change
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4001 · Contract Water Sales	0.00	421,507.62	-421,507.62	-100.0%
4002 · Surplus Water Sales	0.00	67,130.94	-67,130.94	-100.0%
4050 · Property Taxes	0.00	66,553.84	-66,553.84	-100.0%
4080 · Interest-LAIF	0.00	18,309.10	-18,309.10	-100.0%
4081 · Interest-SBMC	0.00	35.11	-35.11	-100.0%
4082 · Interest-CA CLASS	1,820.87	9,791.76	-7,970.89	-81.4%
4100 · Other Income	0.00	121.00	-121.00	-100.0%
Total Income	1,820.87	583,449.37	-581,628.50	-99.7%
Expense				
Payroll Expenses				
5001 · Gross Wages	11,691.00	136,764.00	-125,073.00	-91.5%
5002 · CalPERS Employer Expense	930.60	10,763.36	-9,832.76	-91.4%
5003 · CalPERS Employer 457 Expense	701.48	5,574.92	-4,873.44	-87.4%
5004 · Health Insurance	1,350.56	16,324.58	-14,974.02	-91.7%
5005 · Medicare	189.10	2,219.79	-2,030.69	-91.5%
5006 · FICA	808.57	9,491.49	-8,682.92	-91.5%
5007 · CalPERS 1959 Survivor Billing	71.60	91.60	-20.00	-21.8%
5009 · Unfunded Pension Liability	8,726.00	7,872.00	854.00	10.9%
Total Payroll Expenses	24,468.91	189,101.74	-164,632.83	-87.1%
Water Supply Expenses				
5020 · Water Rights	0.00	21,159.35	-21,159.35	-100.0%
5030 · USGS, streamflow gage	0.00	13,070.00	-13,070.00	-100.0%
5031 · JPAs	0.00	3,513.00	-3,513.00	-100.0%
5040 · Channel Maintenance	675.00	13,034.96	-12,359.96	-94.8%
5050 · Projects				
5056 · License Change Petition				
5056.01 · Chg Pet- Legal Counsel	0.00	21,774.96	-21,774.96	-100.0%
5056.02 · Chg Pet - Engineering	0.00	27,489.40	-27,489.40	-100.0%
5056.03 · Chg Pet - Fees	5,022.00	0.00	5,022.00	100.0%
Total 5056 · License Change Petition	5,022.00	49,264.36	-44,242.36	-89.8%
5057 · LAFCo Applications				
5057.00 · RVCWD reimbursement	0.00	-11,184.25	11,184.25	100.0%
5057.01 · LAFCo Apps - Legal Counsel	0.00	8,445.60	-8,445.60	-100.0%
5057.02 · LAFCo Apps - Engineering	400.00	9,483.15	-9,083.15	-95.8%
5057.03 · LAFCo Apps - Consultant	0.00	10,067.50	-10,067.50	-100.0%
5057 · LAFCo Applications - Other	0.00	6,855.20	-6,855.20	-100.0%
Total 5057 · LAFCo Applications	400.00	23,667.20	-23,267.20	-98.3%
5059 · Trans Basin Diversion	0.00	74,848.13	-74,848.13	-100.0%
5060 · Coyote Valley Dam Modernization	0.00	24,351.88	-24,351.88	-100.0%
Total 5050 · Projects	5,422.00	172,131.57	-166,709.57	-96.9%

	Jul '25 - Jun 26	Jul '24 - Jun 25	\$ Change	% Change
Total Water Supply Expenses	6,097.00	222,908.88	-216,811.88	-97.3%
General & Administrative Exp				
5100 · Consulting	0.00	40,688.94	-40,688.94	-100.0%
5120 · Vehicle	98.95	1,224.19	-1,125.24	-91.9%
5130 · Insurance	7,858.92	10,530.55	-2,671.63	-25.4%
5140 · LAFCO Apportionment Fee	0.00	1,160.41	-1,160.41	-100.0%
5150 · Memberships	0.00	6,485.00	-6,485.00	-100.0%
5160 · Office Operating Expenses	33.43	7,181.99	-7,148.56	-99.5%
5161 · Rent, Utilities	375.00	4,875.00	-4,500.00	-92.3%
5170 · Training & Conferences	19.50	491.46	-471.96	-96.0%
5180 · Stipends, Meetings	1,350.00	3,900.00	-2,550.00	-65.4%
5190 · Property Tax Admin Fees	0.00	2,132.42	-2,132.42	-100.0%
5200 · Election	0.00	323.26	-323.26	-100.0%
Total General & Administrative Exp	9,735.80	78,993.22	-69,257.42	-87.7%
Total Expense	40,301.71	491,003.84	-450,702.13	-91.8%
Net Ordinary Income	-38,480.84	92,445.53	-130,926.37	-141.6%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense	0.00	7,703.27	-7,703.27	-100.0%
Net Other Income	0.00	-7,703.27	7,703.27	100.0%
Net Income	-38,480.84	84,742.26	-123,223.10	-145.4%

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control District
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison

Cash Basis

As of June 30, 2026

	<u>Jun 30, 26</u>	<u>Jun 30, 25</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
1020 · CA CLASS				
1024 · Water Reliability Res...	255,257.78	255,257.78	0.00	0.0%
1020 · CA CLASS - Other	256,354.85	254,533.98	1,820.87	0.7%
Total 1020 · CA CLASS	511,612.63	509,791.76	1,820.87	0.4%
1000 · SBMC Checking	113,475.41	155,942.23	-42,466.82	-27.2%
1001 · SBMC Savings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
1010 · LAIF				
1011 · Capital Reserve	70,000.00	70,000.00	0.00	0.0%
1012 · Emergency Reserve	37,000.00	37,000.00	0.00	0.0%
1013 · Operating Reserve	250,000.00	250,000.00	0.00	0.0%
1014 · Water Reliability Res...	161,652.92	161,652.92	0.00	0.0%
1010 · LAIF - Other	24,161.05	24,161.05	0.00	0.0%
Total 1010 · LAIF	542,813.97	542,813.97	0.00	0.0%
1019 · LAIF - Fair Market Value	-1,910.70	-1,910.70	0.00	0.0%
Total Checking/Savings	1165991.31	1206637.26	-40,645.95	-3.4%
Total Current Assets	1165991.31	1206637.26	-40,645.95	-3.4%
Fixed Assets				
1401 · Meters & Vehicles	126,795.66	126,795.66	0.00	0.0%
1499 · Accumulated Depreciation	-118,369.47	-118,369.47	0.00	0.0%
Total Fixed Assets	8,426.19	8,426.19	0.00	0.0%
Other Assets				
1600 · Deferred Outflows	46,819.00	46,819.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Assets	46,819.00	46,819.00	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>1221236.50</u></u>	<u><u>1261882.45</u></u>	<u><u>-40,645.95</u></u>	<u><u>-3.2%</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
2030 · Vacation/Sick Accrual	31,108.41	31,108.41	0.00	0.0%

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control District
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison

Cash Basis

As of June 30, 2026

	Jun 30, 26	Jun 30, 25	\$ Change	% Change
2050 · Payroll Liabilities	2,013.21	4,178.32	-2,165.11	-51.8%
Total Other Current Liabilities	33,121.62	35,286.73	-2,165.11	-6.1%
Total Current Liabilities	33,121.62	35,286.73	-2,165.11	-6.1%
Long Term Liabilities				
2600 · Deferred Inflows	2,265.00	2,265.00	0.00	0.0%
2700 · Net Pension Liability	59,381.00	59,381.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Long Term Liabilities	61,646.00	61,646.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Liabilities	94,767.62	96,932.73	-2,165.11	-2.2%
Equity				
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	541,116.95	541,116.95	0.00	0.0%
3001 · Retained Earnings	623,832.77	539,090.51	84,742.26	15.7%
Net Income	-38,480.84	84,742.26	-123,223.10	-145.4%
Total Equity	1126468.88	1164949.72	-38,480.84	-3.3%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1221236.50	1261882.45	-40,645.95	-3.2%

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control District
 Monthly Payment Detail

Cash Basis

As of July 31, 2025

Date	Name	Memo	Paid Amo...
1000 · SBMC Checking			
07/09/2025	CalPERS	Pre pay annual unfunded liability	-8,726.00
07/09/2025	CalPERS	CalPERS 1959 Survivor Billing	-69.60
07/15/2025	Cardmember Service	Credit card 3/13-4/10/25	-268.98
07/01/2025	Christiansen Properties	Office rent for August 2025	-375.00
07/14/2025	Christopher Watt	Board Stipend Jan-June 2025	-1,350.00
07/14/2025	Deborah Edelman Consulting	Channel Maintenance Project research	-675.00
07/08/2025	Intuit	Monthly payroll subscription	-7.00
07/22/2025	Munselle Civil Engineering	Proposed RVCWD Annexation map & description	-400.00
07/08/2025	Special District Risk Management	Invoices #78119, Member # 6950, Program year...	-7,858.92
07/14/2025	State Water Resources Control B...	Chg Pet fee \$4,172 (SWRCB) +\$850 (CDFW)	-5,022.00
Total 1000 · SBMC Checking			<u>-24,752.50</u>
TOTAL			<u><u>-24,752.50</u></u>

Project Water Worksheet as of August 1, 2025

*Note: all water now contracted
No changes from previous month*

Current 2025 totals
in Acre Feet

Project Water Licensed to MC RRFC & WCID:	7940
2025 Contracted Non-Retail Suppliers:	4972
2025 Contracted Retail Suppliers:	2634

Calpella CWD	85
Henry Station Mutual Water Co	8
Hopland PUD	222
Millview CWD - All Use	1171.15
Rogina Water	200
Redwood Valley CWD	328.85
River Estates Mutual Water Company	26
Willow CWD - All Use	593
Contracted Retail Suppliers Total:	2634

2026 Contract Changes (effective 1-1-2026):	334
Contracted Total:	7940

Current Uncontracted Water Supply in 2025 available as surplus: 0

Redwood Valley County Water District 2025 Surplus Use Totals:

Month	2024 Water diverted, in acre feet	2025 Water diverted, in acre feet
January	13.89	13.39
February	0.00	14.86
March	14.46	14.69
April	59.75	6.98
May	46.47	68.76
June	116.91	
July	265.15	
August	179.06	
September	117.76	
October	82.13	
November	0.00	
December	0.00	
Totals:	895.58	118.68

Surplus water OFFERED FOR TRANSFER from customers in 2025:	406.00
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Note: additional available surplus water can be made available.

* some of this water may be allocated under the RVCWD Uniform Water Supply & Purchase Agreement

5 **DRAFT MINUTES**
6 **Regular Meeting of July 7, 2025**
7 **At District Office: 304 N. State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482**

8 **1. Roll Call**

9 Vice President Rodrigue called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

- 10
11 Trustees Present: Tyler Rodrigue, Vice President
12 John Reardan, Trustee
13 Dave Koball, Trustee
14
15 Trustees Absent: Christopher Watt, President
16 John Bailey, Treasurer
17
18 Staff: Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager
19 Jeanne Zolezzi, Legal Counsel

20 **2. Approval of Agenda**

21 Trustee Koball moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Reardan seconded the motion. The motion was
22 approved by the following vote:
23 Ayes: 3 (Koball, Reardan, and Rodrigue)
24 Absent: 2 (Bailey and Watt)
25

26 **3. Public Expression**

27 None.

28
29 **CLOSED SESSION**

30 **4. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54956.8)**

31 *Property:* Potter Valley Project | *Agency negotiator:* General Manager, General Counsel, Board Members
32 *Negotiating parties:* Agency, Inland Water & Power Agency, PG&E | *Under negotiation:* Purchasing Entity
33

34 The Board entered closed session with legal counsel at 5:22 PM. The Board returned to open public session
35 at 5:50 PM. No reportable action was taken.
36
37

38 **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

39 **5. Proposed Annexation of the Redwood Valley County Water District Complete Service Area**

40 GM Salomone opened the item, noting it was informational only and no action would be taken. At the June 2,
41 2025 Regular Board meeting, two members of the public attended and provided public comment on the proposed
42 annexation. The District will respond to these comments at the August 4, 2025 Board meeting.
43

44 Public Notice of Intent to Adopt Negative Declaration for Redwood Valley Annexation was published on
45 June 29, 2025 and is open until July 29, 2025. GM reported the Notice was also sent to Redwood Valley
46 County Water District, Ukiah Valley Water Authority, Mendocino County, and seven local Tribes. No
47 comments have been received to date.
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GM Salomone provided an update on the next steps. At the August 4, 2025 RRFC Board Meeting, the Board will be updated and consider approval of some of the required documents. Consideration for approval of the final annexation application to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) is scheduled for September 8, 2025. GM is coordinating closely with LAFCo for submission and processing of the application.

It was noted that there is a frequently updated page on the RRFC website (www.rrfc.net) for the proposed annexation.

Public comment was made by Redwood Valley County Water District Board Member Bree Klotter.

The Board directed GM Salomone to issue a press release on the proposed annexation and support local journalists to report on the matter noting its support for public engagement and transparency.

6. Petition for Change to the State Water Board on District License 13898

GM Salomone presented the staff report, noting the main points being requested in the change petition:

- (1) Remove the acreage cap on the place of use within the District for irrigation purposes to authorize use anywhere within Petitioner’s service area.
- (1) Remove the acreage cap on the place of use within the Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) for irrigation purposes to authorize use anywhere within the service area of RVCWD.
- (2) Expand the licensed place of use to make the boundaries of the District’s place of use coterminous with the boundaries of water suppliers to which the District supplies water and to meet existing agricultural demands;
- (3) Remove the condition that only surplus water be supplied to RVCWD on satisfaction of the condition that RVCWD be annexed into the District.
- (5) Add additional points of diversion, abandon existing licensed points of diversion, and update existing licensed points of diversion.

GM Salomone addressed questions and comments regarding the development and process.

Public comment was made by Redwood Valley County Water District Board Member Bree Klotter.

Trustee Reardan moved to approve Resolution #25-05 approving the Petition for Change Application Package for Submittal to State Water Resources Control Board. Trustee Koball seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

- Ayes: 3 (Koball, Reardan, and Rodrigue)
- Absent: 2 (Bailey and Watt)

The Board directed the General Manager and Legal Counsel to submit the complete petition to change the application package to the State Water Board with the required fees, allowing for minor edits to the points of diversion and place of use by GM Salomone and Legal Counsel.

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7. State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Telemetry Pilot

GM Salomone presented the staff report and addressed questions and comments regarding the development and implementation of the Telemetry Pilot. Trustee Koball asked who will be responsible if any infrastructure upgrades are needed for installation of pilot equipment? GM Salomone will consult with the SWRCB for a clarifying answer.

Trustee Reardan moved to approve District participation in the State Water Board Russian River Telemetry Pilot by directing General Manger to sign and submit the Equipment Access and Project Participation Agreement and the Russian River Telemetry Study Alternative Compliance Plan. Trustee Koball seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

- Ayes: 3 (Koball, Reardan, and Rodrigue)
- Absent: 2 (Bailey and Watt)

The Board directed GM Salomone to coordinate with the State Water Board to identify specific points of diversion and coordinate with Customers to complete the Land Access and Project Participation Agreement for participation in the Russian River Telemetry Study.

8. Potter Valley Water Supply Reliability Study

GM Salomone presented the staff report and addressed questions and comments. IWPC Chair Pauli requested all IWPC member agencies consider an additional contribution toward a cost share on the Potter Valley Water Supply Reliability Study. While the staff report explores the District’s ability to financially contribute, it should be noted that IWPC project expenses are expected to increase dramatically, based on presentations made by IWPC legal counsel and consultants at the IWPC All Members Joint Meeting on May 29, 2025. (<https://ukiahca.portal.civicclerk.com/event/2298/overview>) It is not known what member contribution amount IWPC will request next, nor when that request will be received.

GM Salomone also clarified that while Potter Valley Irrigation District (PVID) has been contributing to IWPC financially, it is unknown to what degree PVID has committed to continuing financial contributions in the future or PVID’s position on contributions being allocated to the Coyote Valley Dam Study.

The Board discussed what information and processes it requires from IWPC to sufficiently plan for current and future financial contributions. The RRFC Board would prefer in the future that IWPC preapprove any proposed service agreements, execute the agreements, include project costs within the annual budget, and issue annual contribution invoices at the beginning of each fiscal year based on the approved budget. Additionally, if IWPC contracts for services, RRFC would prefer the Commission be briefed on the work, including the benefits of the work to the IWPC constituency and how the work is promoting the mission of the IWPC membership. In the case of the Potter Valley Water Reliability Study, the RRFC Board requires the Cooperative Agreement to Provide Funding for Overhead Services for Water Supply Reliability Study (Agreement) between Sonoma Water and Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission drafted in November 2024 laying out terms for Sonoma Water to undertake the work and IWPC to pay Sonoma Water staff costs not covered by the funding be finalized and approved by IWPC prior to RRFC financially contributing to the Study. The Board emphasized that a publicly transparent process matters.

Board consensus was in agreement with the staff report that IWPC is a coalition working to safeguard regional water supply throughout the IWPC constituency and supporting IWPC member agencies is within the spirit of the Commission. The Board directed GM Salomone to draft a letter to IWPC outlining RRFC’s requirements to continue financial contributions including toward the Potter Valley Water Reliability Study.

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152 **REGULAR BUSINESS, INFORMATION, AND REPORT ITEMS**
153

154 **9. General Manager Report & Correspondence**

155 GM presented the report and noted the opportunity to rent an office in the building recently purchased by the
156 Mendocino County Farm Bureau. Board consensus supported the move.
157

158 **10. Water Supply Conditions Update**

159 GM presented the report. Trustee Koball remarked that mainstem Russian River water quality was very poor
160 with significant turbidity. GM Salomone noted the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has not
161 yet approved the PG&E filed flow variance which asks for a reduction in water being diverted from the Eel
162 River to the Russian River. This results in more water available to divert under appropriative water rights on
163 the mainstem Russian River. GM also noted that due to a recent public records request, seismic reports were
164 made public on the Scott and Cape Horn Dams on the Eel River and can be found on the District's website.
165

166 **11. Consent Calendar**

- 167 a) Acceptance of the June 2025 Financial Reports
168 b) Approval of May 29, 2025 Special Board Meeting minutes
169 c) Approval of June 2, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes
170 d) Approval of Resolution 25-03 Adopting an Agreement for Surplus Water Service approved by the Board
171 on June 2, 2025
172 e) Approval of Resolution 25-04 Adopting a Temporary Addendum to the Uniform Water Sales & Purchase
173 Agreement
174

175 Trustee Koball moved to approve the consent calendar. Trustee Reardan seconded the motion. The motion
176 was approved by the following vote:

177 Ayes: 3 (Koball, Reardan, and Rodrigue)
178 Absent: 2 (Bailey and Watt)
179

180 **12. Trustee & Committee Reports**

181 *LAFCo MSR/SOI & Annexation Ad Hoc*: no update outside of Item 5 of this meeting.
182

183 *Change Petition Ad Hoc*: GM Salomone reported that the Ad Hoc is no longer required with the approval of the
184 change petition application and Vice President Rodrigue dissolved the Ad Hoc Committee with Board consensus.
185

186 *Trustee Koball* reported on the recently initiated United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Coyote Valley
187 Dam General Investigation (GI) Study meetings. Representatives from IWPC have been attending the meetings as
188 one of the non-Federal sponsors of the project. Meetings so far have focused on background including a
189 presentation by IWPC on the Potter Valley Project history and projected changes. Trustee Koball noted a
190 question was raised in one of the meetings regarding water rights to additional stored water if Coyote Valley Dam
191 was raised in height and the Board discussed briefly.
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193 **13. Direction on Future Agenda Items**

194 Proposed Redwood Valley Water District annexation, financial reports.
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(Continued...)

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ADJOURNMENT

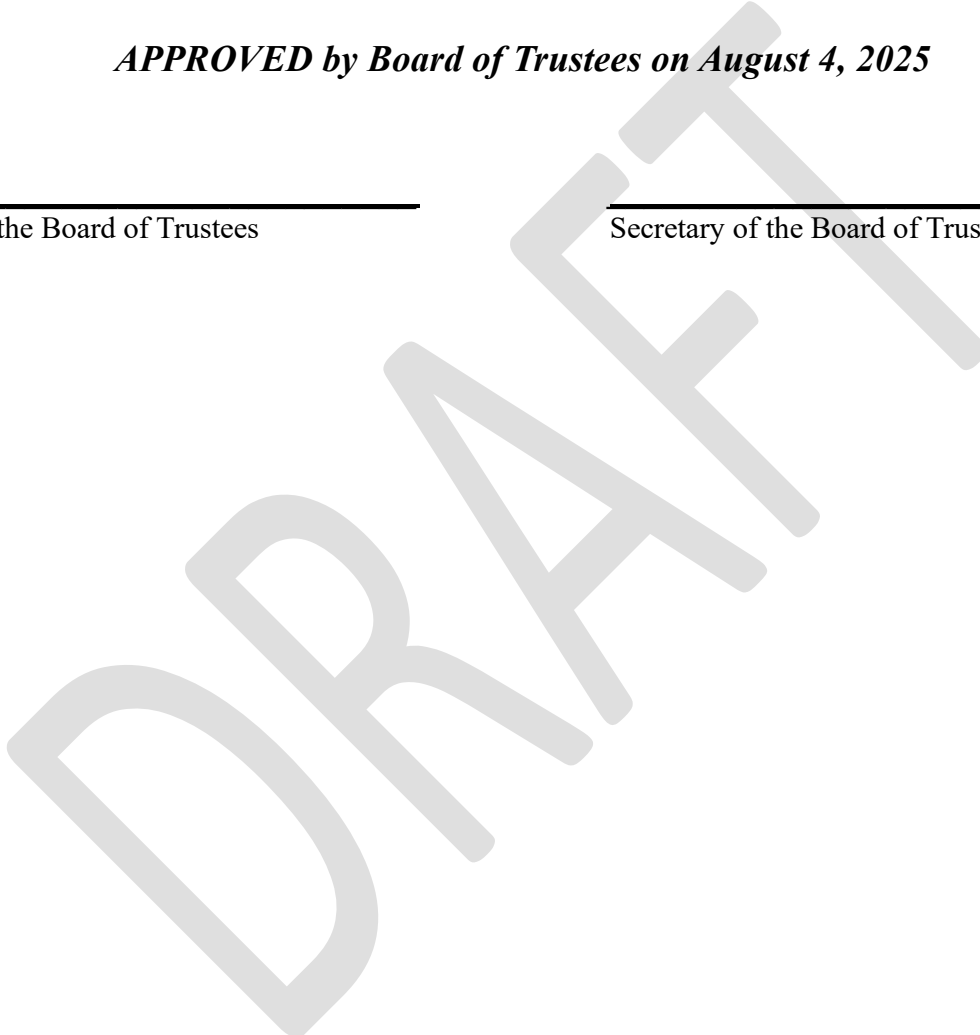
Trustee Koball moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 PM. Trustee Reardan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

- Ayes: 3 (Koball, Reardan, and Rodrigue)
- Absent: 2 (Bailey and Watt)

APPROVED by Board of Trustees on August 4, 2025

President of the Board of Trustees

Secretary of the Board of Trustees



President
Christopher Watt

Vice President
Tyler Rodrigue

Treasurer
John Bailey

Trustee
John Reardan

Trustee
Dave Koball

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

STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item 11d: USACE Draft Environmental Assessment
for the Coyote Valley Dam-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual Update
Monday, August 4, 2025**

The Strategic Plan relevant priority is Security through improved river and reservoir operations.

- The goal of FIRO at Lake Mendocino is to update the 1950s-era Water Control Manual by applying forecasting advancements to increase water supply reliability without reducing - and while possibly enhancing - the existing flood protection capacity of Lake Mendocino and downstream flows for fish habitat.
- More information on updating the Water Control Manual and FIRO:
<https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/forecast-informed-reservoir-operations-firo>

Background:

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.

The Draft EA and associated appendices can be accessed by navigating a 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/>

Recommended Board Action:

- Approve the comment letter and direct GM to submit.

Attachments:

- District comment letter on USACE Draft Environmental Assessment for the Coyote Valley Dam-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual Update

* * * *

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

August 4, 2025

Department of the Army
San Francisco District, US Army Corps of Engineers
450 Golden Gate Avenue, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102-3406
CESPN-CVD-WCM-Update@usace.army.mil

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District,

Comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (July 14, 2025) for the Coyote Valley Dam-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual Update

The Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District (the District) appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the Coyote Valley Dam-Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual Update, dated July 14, 2025. The District plays a critical role in managing flood control and water supply for the communities and agricultural lands within the Russian River watershed, and as such, we have a significant interest in the proposed changes to the Water Control Manual.

We recognize the complexity of balancing water supply, flood control, and environmental needs within the Russian River system. Our comments herein are offered with the aim of ensuring the final Water Control Manual update is robust, sustainable, and adequately addresses the potential impacts on the diverse resources and stakeholders reliant on Lake Mendocino and the Russian River.

General Comments:

1. **Clarity and Specificity:** While the DEA provides a good overview, certain sections could benefit from greater detail regarding operational flexibility, specific triggers for operational changes, and the anticipated magnitude and duration of impacts under various hydrological conditions.
2. **Cumulative Impacts Analysis:** The DEA should strengthen its analysis of cumulative impacts, considering the proposed manual update in conjunction with other ongoing or reasonably foreseeable projects and stressors within the Russian River watershed, particularly regarding water quality, instream flows, and biological resources.
3. **Adaptive Management Framework:** The DEA mentions adaptive management; however, a more detailed framework describing the specific triggers for adaptation, the responsible parties, monitoring protocols, decision-making processes, and funding mechanisms would enhance the robustness of the proposed action.

(Continued...)

President
Christopher Watt

Vice President
Tyler Rodrigue

Treasurer
John Bailey

Trustee
John Reardan

Trustee
Dave Koball

Specific Comments:

1. Water Supply Reliability:

- * The DEA needs to clearly articulate the potential impacts of proposed operational changes on the reliability of water supply for municipal, industrial, and agricultural users within the District's service area. This includes potential changes in available yield during drought periods or restrictions on diversions due to instream flow requirements.
- * We request additional modeling data and analysis demonstrating how the updated manual would affect carryover storage and the ability to meet water demands under a range of hydrological scenarios, including extreme dry years, considering climate change projections.

2. Flood Control Management:

- * The District requires explicit confirmation that the primary flood control function of Coyote Valley Dam and Lake Mendocino will not be compromised or diminished by the proposed manual update.
- * We seek further clarification on how the updated manual will integrate with downstream flood management strategies and infrastructure, and if there are any anticipated changes to flood release protocols that could impact downstream communities or land use.

3. Russian River Turbidity (Referencing Appendix A: Russian River Turbidity Assessment and Proposed Plan):

- * Appendix A is critical. The District is highly concerned about turbidity levels, as they directly impact water quality and the operational costs of water treatment plants. The DEA must thoroughly assess the potential for increased or prolonged turbidity events resulting from altered release schedules, especially during storm events or reservoir drawdowns.
- * We request more detailed information on the proposed "Turbidity Assessment and Proposed Plan." This should include:
 - * Specific thresholds for turbidity that would trigger operational adjustments.
 - * A robust monitoring plan with clearly defined sampling locations, frequency, and parameters.
 - * Contingency plans for managing extreme turbidity events.
- * Analysis of the long-term effectiveness of the proposed plan in mitigating turbidity impacts on downstream water users and aquatic ecosystems.
- * Consideration of the economic impacts of turbidity on water treatment facilities.

4. Biological Resources (Referencing Appendix B: USFWS IPaC Species List & Appendix C: Russian River Biological Assessment (Aug. 23, 2023)):

- * The DEA must fully integrate and respond to the findings of the Russian River Biological Assessment (Appendix C). We are particularly interested in how the proposed operations will impact critical life stages of federally listed anadromous fish species, including Central California Coast coho salmon and Northern California steelhead.
- * Specific concerns include:
 - * Water Temperature: Analysis of how altered releases might affect downstream water temperatures, especially during critical summer rearing periods for juvenile salmonids.
 - * Spawning and Rearing Habitat: Assessment of how flow variations could impact habitat availability, gravel scour, and fine sediment transport.
 - * Migration Barriers: Evaluation of whether proposed minimum flows are sufficient to facilitate fish passage throughout the river system.
- * The DEA should detail specific mitigation measures proposed to offset any adverse impacts identified in the Biological Assessment and outline the monitoring plan for biological effectiveness.

5. Interagency Coordination (Referencing Appendix D: Interagency Coordination):

- * The District acknowledges the record of interagency coordination presented in Appendix D. We emphasize the importance of continued, robust coordination with local water agencies, flood control districts, and other stakeholders throughout the implementation phase and any future adjustments to the Water Control Manual.
- * We recommend that the DEA include a commitment to regular stakeholder engagement meetings to ensure ongoing communication and problem-solving as the manual update is implemented and adapted over time.

Recommendations:

1. Further Hydrologic Modeling: Conduct additional hydrologic modeling to refine predictions of water availability, flood risk, and environmental flows under various climate change scenarios.
2. Turbidity Mitigation Enhancements: Develop more specific and actionable turbidity mitigation strategies, including clear operational triggers and an enhanced monitoring network.
3. Detailed Adaptive Management Plan: Provide a comprehensive adaptive management plan outlining specific indicators, thresholds, and decision-making processes for adjusting operations in response to monitoring data.
4. Economic Impact Analysis: Include a qualitative or quantitative analysis of the economic impacts of potential water supply changes and turbidity increases on local water users and treatment facilities.
5. Continued Stakeholder Engagement: Formally commit to establishing a stakeholder advisory group or similar mechanism for ongoing collaboration and input post-manual adoption.

The Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District is committed to working collaboratively with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of the Russian River watershed. We believe that incorporating these comments will result in a more comprehensive and effective Water Control Manual update that better serves the needs of both the environment and the communities.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. We look forward to continued engagement on this vital project.

Sincerely,

Christopher Watt
Board President