

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

**STAFF REPORT**

**Agenda Item 8: Water Supply Conditions**

**Monday, January 5, 2026**

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

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

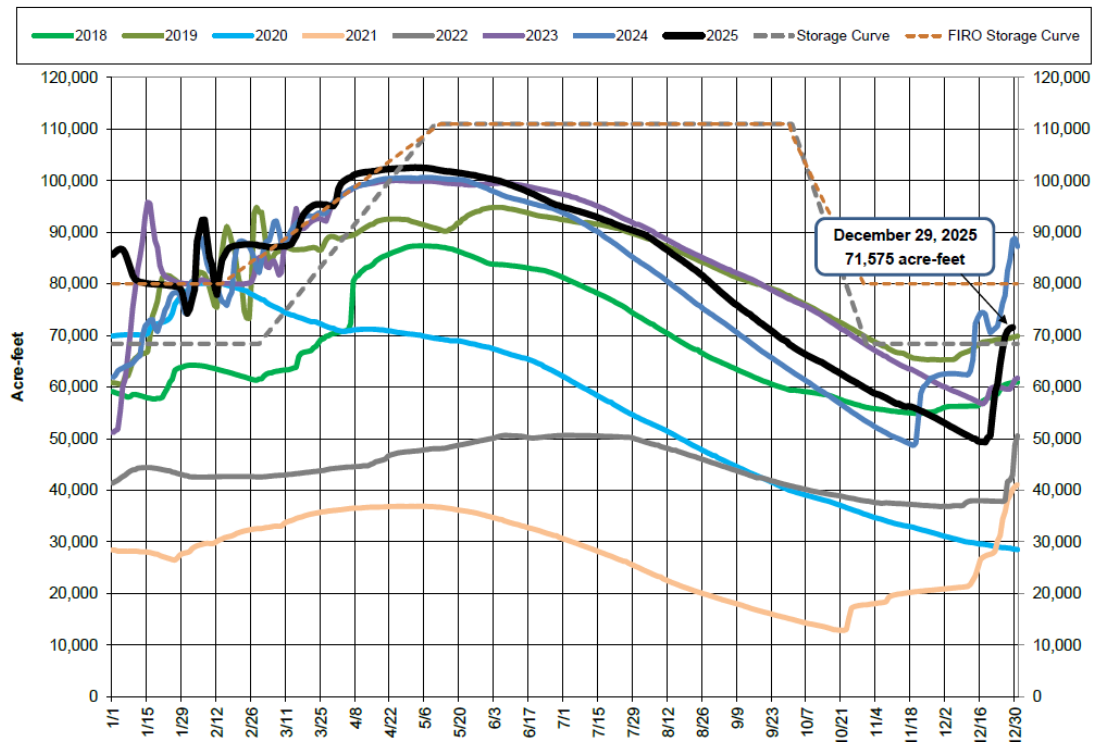
Storage level was 71,575 acre feet as of December 29, 2025, up from 55,135 acre feet on November 24, 2025. That is a 16,440 acre foot increase in one month. However, this only brings stored water in Lake Mendocino to the level it was in 2020 at the beginning of irrigation season (see graph below.) Another 30,000 acre feet would benefit water supply reliability for 2026.

<b>Lake Mendocino</b>		<b>12/29</b>
Current Storage (acre-feet)		71,575
FIRO Storage Curve (acre-feet)		80,050
% of FIRO Storage Curve		89.41%
7-day change (acre-feet)		+12,450

The State Water Resources Control Board approved the Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) filed by Sonoma Water in November 2025.

(For more information see <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/2025-2026-russian-river-and-lake-mendocino-operations> or Sonoma Water’s TUCP webpage: [www.sonomawater.org/tucp](http://www.sonomawater.org/tucp).)

**Lake Mendocino Storage**

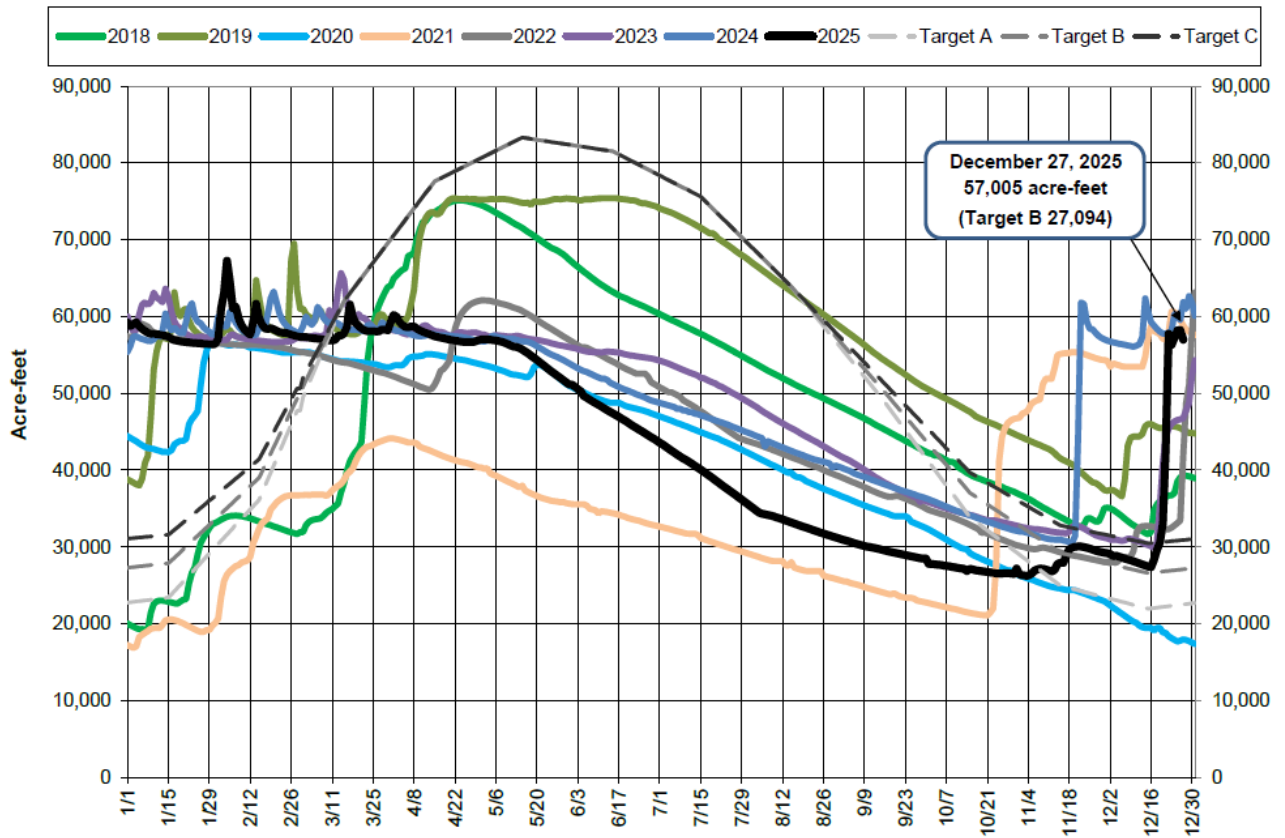


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**Operations of the Trans-Basin Diversion Through PG&E Owned “Potter Valley Project”**

As of 5:15 AM on Sunday, December 21, 2025, Lake Pillsbury reservoir reached the required 36,000 acre feet to end the 2025 flow amendment (previously referred to as a temporary flow variance) for the Potter Valley Project 2025 operations. See <https://rrfc.specialdistrict.org/pg-e-2025-potter-valley-project-operations> for more information The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved the.

**Lake Pillsbury Storage and Target Storage Scenarios**



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