

WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS UPDATE 4/3/23

You can now access Updates on our website: <https://www.rrfc.net/weekly-water-supply-conditions-update>



Mendocino County, March 30, 2023 by CJ Watt

Curtailment Orders Rescinded for the Russian River Watershed

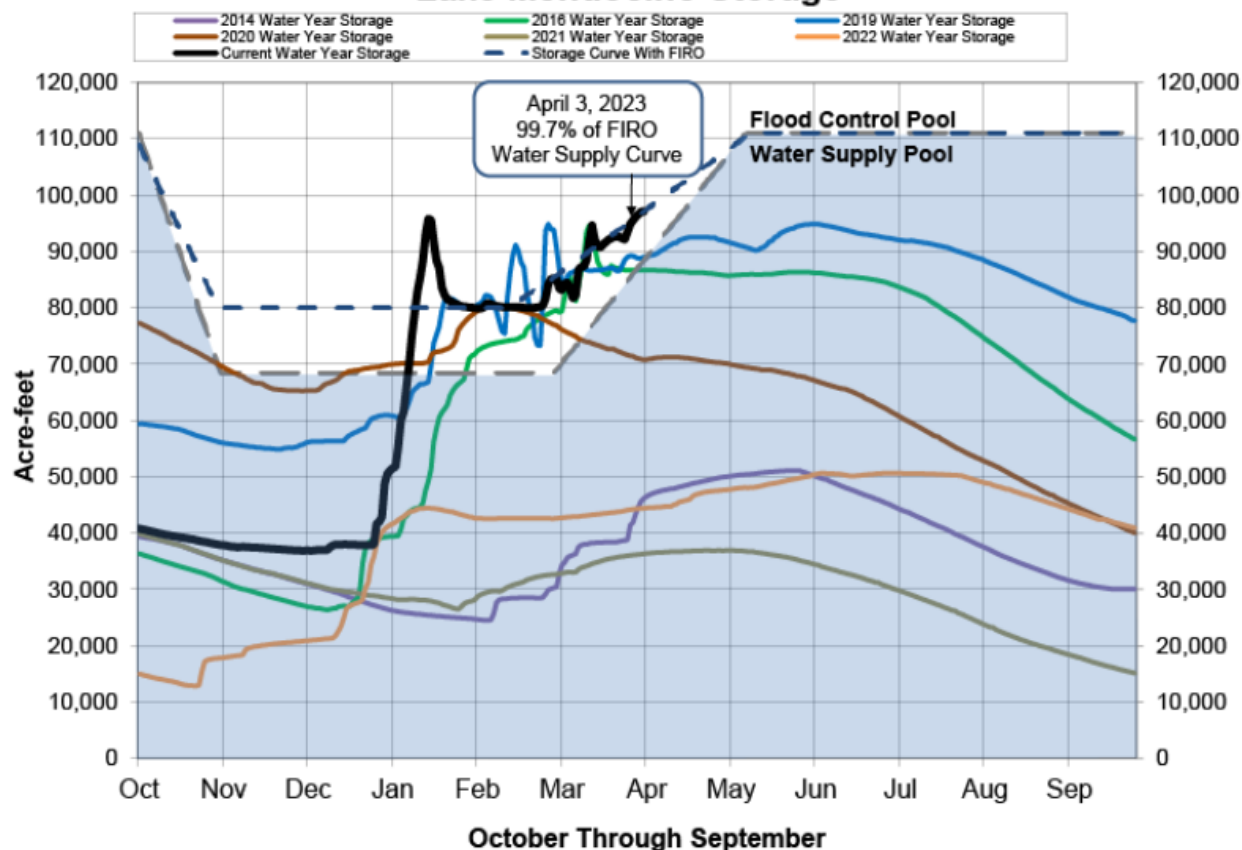
Effective immediately, the Deputy Director for the Division of Water Rights (Division) is rescinding all curtailment orders issued pursuant to the drought emergency regulation in the Russian River watershed. In June 2022, the Division of Water Rights issued “Orders Regarding Curtailment Status” to each water right holder in the Russian River watershed. The orders required water right holders to monitor a “Curtailment Status List” and stop or reduce diversions when the list showed their water right was curtailed. Following the Governor’s recent Executive Order ([N-5-23](#)), and in consideration of reservoir storage conditions and continued precipitation throughout the region, the curtailment orders are no longer needed in the Russian River Watershed.

As a result of this rescission, water right holders will no longer be subject to the curtailment requirements under the drought emergency regulation, such as checking curtailment status, restrictions on riparian diversions, and reporting for human health and safety exceptions. Please note that this rescission does not eliminate or pause ongoing or pending enforcement actions and related settlements.

Reservoir Storage & Operations([More info here](#)):

Water supply information below and **attached** provided by Sonoma Water. National Weather Service updates **attached**.

Lake Mendocino Storage



Lake Mendocino

4/3

Current Storage (acre-feet)	97,153
FIRO Storage Curve (acre-feet)	97,126
% of FIRO Storage Curve	100.03%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+4,992

Lake Pillsbury

4/2

Current Storage (acre-feet)	58,173
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)	71,058
7-day change (acre-feet)	-117

Lake Sonoma

4/3

Current Storage (acre-feet)	270,759
Minor Deviation Curve (acre-feet)	264,000
% of Minor Deviation Storage Curve	102.56%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+2,448

FROM: [Sonoma Water's Current Water Supply Levels webpage](#). More on [FIRO](#).

Learn more about Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO)

“We’re holding more water in our reservoirs than ever before and we are finally moving away from the post-World War II infrastructure system of risk management,” said [James] Gore, a Sonoma County supervisor and NACo second vice president. “We effectively have built the new system to allow more water to be there, the water to be managed effectively, but in these boom-and-bust cycles.”

[NACo - Atmospheric rivers offer opportunity for Sonoma County reservoirs, 3/27/23](#)

Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Workshop on Well Permitting

The County of Mendocino and the UVB GSA are co-hosting a [Well Permitting Workshop Part 2 on April 17 at Barra of Mendocino Winery](#) where they will share with the community how they incorporated feedback provided at the last workshop in November into a new and revised process to comply with the Executive Order. They will also share an update on timing for the GSA to adopt an interim policy to proceed with reviewing well applications that require our review and other relevant updates from the County.

Russian River Water Forum Updates

[MendoFever - A sense of urgency at Mendocino Russian River Forum as leaders consider continued water release at Lake Pillsbury, 3/31/23](#)



New website: <https://russianriverwaterforum.org/>

SGMA Implementation Presentation

The State Water Board will be discussing implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) at its April 4, 2023, public Board Meeting. The Board will not take any formal actions related to SGMA at this Board Meeting. During the Board Meeting, staff from the State Water Board and the Department of Water Resources will present:

- The Department’s recent inadequacy determinations for six groundwater basins’ Groundwater Sustainability Plans, and
- A general overview of the State Water Board’s process for state intervention under SGMA.

[For more information about what will be presented, please click here.](#)

UC Ag & Natural Resources – Hopland Research & Extension Center

Join the UC Hopland Research and Extension Center to celebrate science and nature at this spectacular site. Enjoy hands-on field experiences, a delicious farm to table lunch, live music, and auction at this unique event. For more information, visit [UC Hopland Research & Extension Center webpage here.](#)

Yield Giving’s Open Call for Grant Applicants

Yield Giving has an open call for non-profits and tribal governments “working with people and in places experiencing the greatest need in the United States.” They plan to award unrestricted grants of \$1 million each to 250 community-led, community-focused organizations working with people and in places experiencing the greatest need in the United States: communities, individuals, and families with access to the fewest foundational resources and opportunities.

<https://www.leverforchange.org/challenges/explore-challenges/yieldgivingopencall/>

University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources Job Opportunity in Mendocino County

For more information on the recruitment for a UC Cooperative Extension Area Water Quality, Quantity and Climate Change Advisor, visit [the recruitment info page on the website](#).

March is Women's History Month - Celebrating Women in Santa Rosa Government

The City of Santa Rosa is highlighting the stories of the women who work in our local Santa Rosa city government.

In the press:

- [CA Water Plan eNews, March 29, 2023](#)
- [Maven's Notebook, March 26-31, 2023,](#)

- [RR Watershed Assoc - You Deserve a Cleaner Life, but so do our Creeks, 4/1/23](#)
- [Press Democrat - Golis: Climate change keeps finding ways to mess with us, 4/2/23](#)
- [Phys.org - Drought, heat waves found to worsen West Coast air pollution inequality, 3/23/23](#)
- [Reuters -California farmers flood their fields in order to save them, 3/24/23](#)
- [USA Today via Yahoo- Trillions of gallons have soaked California. Is this the state's wettest winter ever? 3/29/23](#)
- [Legal Planet - Proposed Legislation Would Make Groundwater Adjudications More Fair, 3/27/23](#)
- [CalMatters- Education is vital for California Latinos affected most by water crisis, 2/28/23](#)
- [PPIC - Reservoirs Are Full, But Let's Not Celebrate Just Yet, 4/3/23](#)
- [AP News - Congress approves measure to toss Biden's water protections, 3/29/23](#)
- [CA Water Data Consortium , 2/15/23](#)

And a special California Water Blog on April 1, 2023: [New Methods Emerging for Water Management in CA](#)

Other resources & information:

- [Mendocino County Water Agency Drought page](#)
- [SWRCB Russian River drought information page](#)
- [SaveOurWater.com](#)
- [SaveWater.ca.gov](#) to report water waste, such as leaks and overwatering.
- [Water Rights Enforcement Complaints Program](#) and/or [Cal EPA Complaint System](#) to report concerns of unauthorized diversions, violations of water rights, diversions impacting fisheries, etc. Reports can be made anonymously.
- Visit Sonoma Water's website for information on [current water supply levels](#) and [Temporary Urgency Change Petitions](#).

Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District

NEW ADDRESS: 304 N. State Street, #2, Ukiah, CA 95482

Cell: 707-462-5278 www.RRFC.net





Unsettled Weekend Weather

KEY POINTS

- Gusty winds as high as 40 mph late Friday and early Saturday
- Light show showers through Tuesday, mostly above 2000 feet
- Moderate risk of small hail along the coast Sunday afternoon through Monday
- Cold morning temperatures next week

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

Risk levels incorporate potential impacts from weather hazards and likelihood of occurrence for a reasonable worse case scenario.

	Fri 3/31	Sat 4/1	Sun 4/2	Mon 4/3	Tue 4/4	Wed 4/5	Thu 4/6
Lake County Clearlake, Lakeport		Light Rain	Gusty Wind	Cold	Cold	Cold	
Del Norte County Crescent City, Gasquet	Gusty Wind	Rain Gusty Wind	Rain Mountain Snow	Cold Small Hail Mountain Snow	Cold Light Rain Mountain Snow	Cold	
Mendocino County Ukiah, Fort Bragg		Light Rain	Light Rain	Cold Mountain Snow	Cold Light Rain	Cold	
Trinity County Weaverville, Hayfork		Light Rain Mountain Snow	Light Rain Mountain Snow	Cold Mountain Snow	Cold Light Rain	Cold	
Humboldt County Eureka, Fortuna, Willow Creek	Gusty Wind	Rain Gusty Wind	Rain Mountain Snow	Cold Small Hail Mountain Snow	Cold Light Rain Mountain Snow	Cold	

Risk Levels

Little to None

Minor

Moderate

Major

Extreme

DETAILS

Humboldt County, Del Norte County, Lake County, Trinity County, Mendocino County



Impacts:

- Loose objects may be blow around
- Increased risk of falling trees and debris

Timing:

Round 1: Friday night and early Saturday
Round 2: Monday into Tuesday

Confidence:

High

Round 1: Strongest winds along the coast in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties with gusts 35 to 45 mph.
Round 2: Strong winds on ridges in Lake and Mendocino Counties with gusts to 30 to 40 mph.

Del Norte County, Humboldt County, Trinity County

**Impacts:**

- Difficult travel on high mountain passes.
- Most impactful snow on highways 299 and 36 in eastern Humboldt County.
- Heaviest snowfall will be restricted to high mountain peaks.

Timing:

Light snow showers all weekend.

Heaviest showers late Sunday afternoon and early Tuesday morning.

Confidence:

Moderate

Less than a 20% chance of more than 8 inches of snow on any highway pass over 4 days.

Less than a 20% chance of more than 2 inches of snow anywhere along highway 101 over 4 days.

Between a 40 and 60% chance that Berry Summit will see at least 4 inches over 4 days.

Humboldt County, Del Norte County

**Impacts:**

- Accumulating hail can lead to unexpectedly slippery roads

Timing:

Sunday afternoon through Monday

Confidence:

Moderate

Greatest risk of small hail along the Humboldt and Del Norte coast, along the 101 corridor.

Humboldt County, Del Norte County, Lake County, Trinity County, Mendocino County

**Impacts:**

- People without shelter can be exposed to freezing conditions
- Sensitive plants and animals may be damaged or killed

Timing:

Early morning hours Monday through Wednesday

Confidence:

Moderate

Near freezing temperatures along the coast each morning

Between a 20% and 40% chance of freezing temperatures along the Humboldt and Del Norte coasts.

Freezing temperatures in the interior, especially Trinity County.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For the latest forecast updates, visit [weather.gov/eureka](https://www.weather.gov/eureka).

If you have questions or would like to submit weather reports, photos, or to unsubscribe from these briefings, email nws.eureka@noaa.gov or call (707) 443-6484.

GRAPHICS

Sat, Apr 1, 2023, 5 AM to
Tue, Apr 4, 2023, 5 AM

Amount of Snowfall

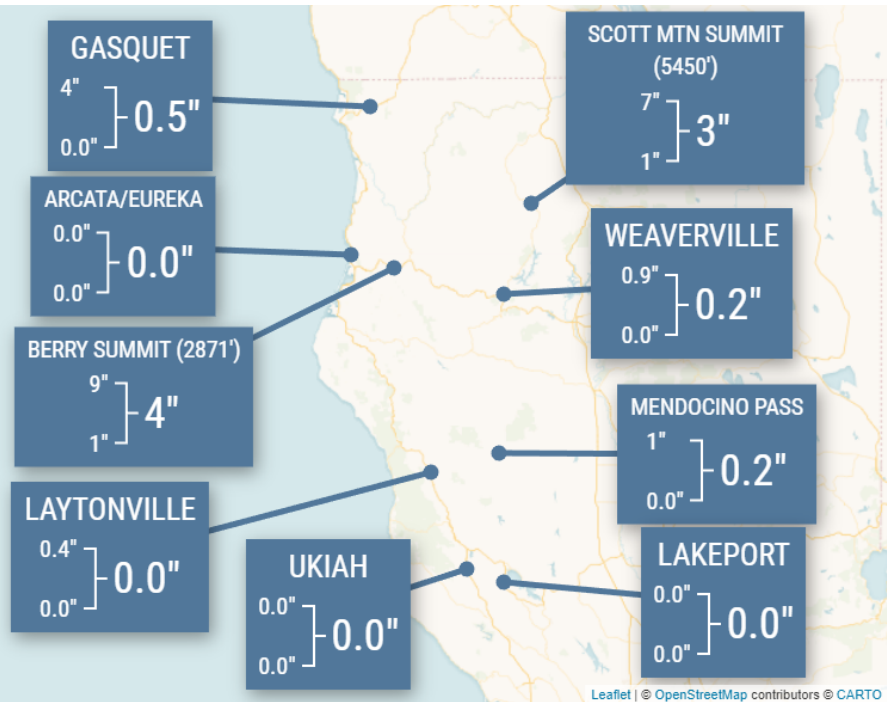
80% of the time the amount of snowfall at the displayed location will fall between the given range. A wider range represents less certainty in the forecast.

Location

Range Forecast } Best Forecast



Issued: Fri, Mar 31, 2023, 7 AM



prob-graphic-2023040412Z-snow72.png

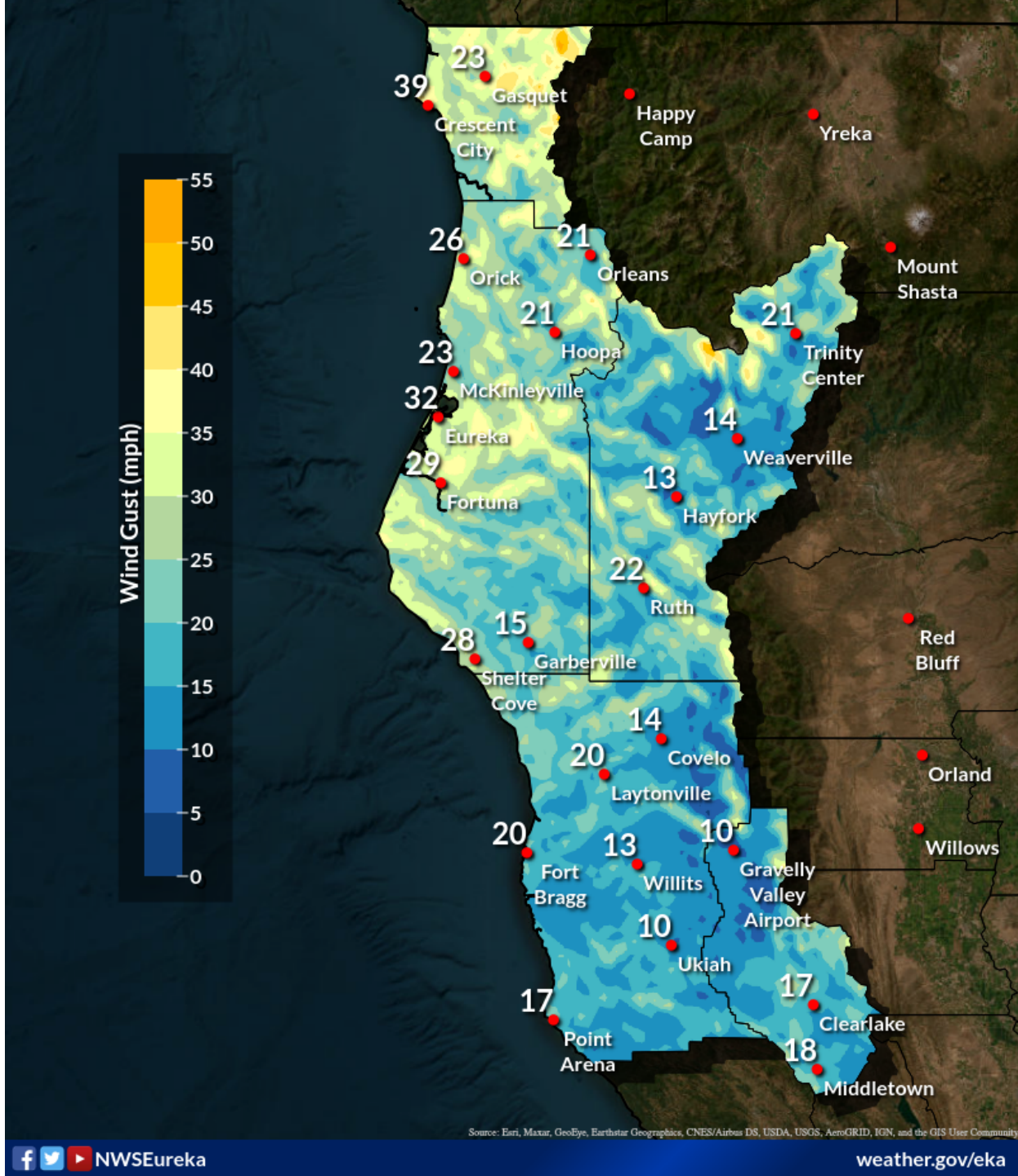
Gusty Weekend

Friday - Saturday Peak Wind Gusts

Weather Forecast Office

Eureka, CA

Issued Mar 31, 2023 1:23 PM PDT



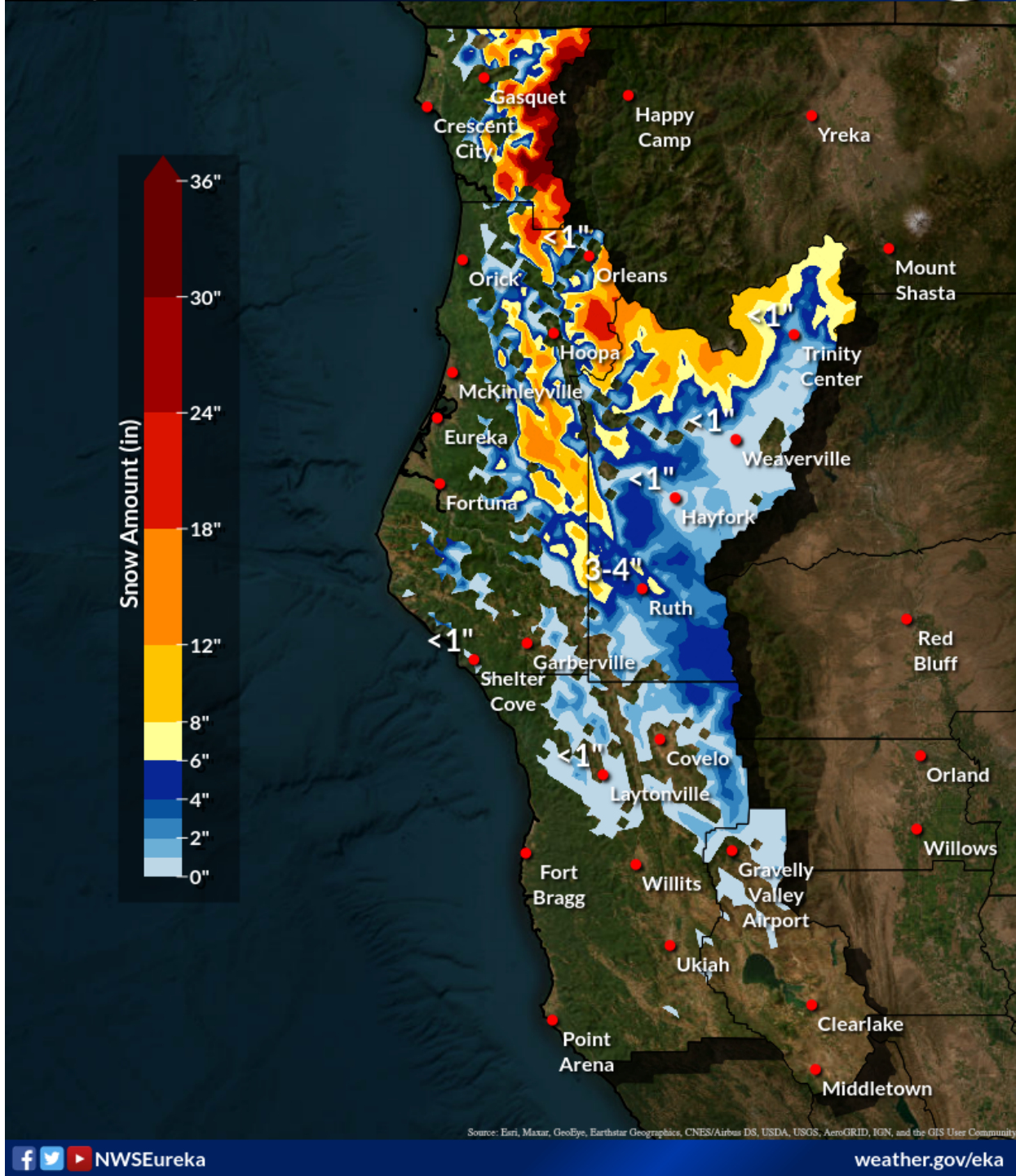
03_31_CWA_PWG1.png

Weekend Snow

Saturday - Tuesday Total Snow

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Mar 31, 2023 1:15 PM PDT



03_31_CWA_STS2.png

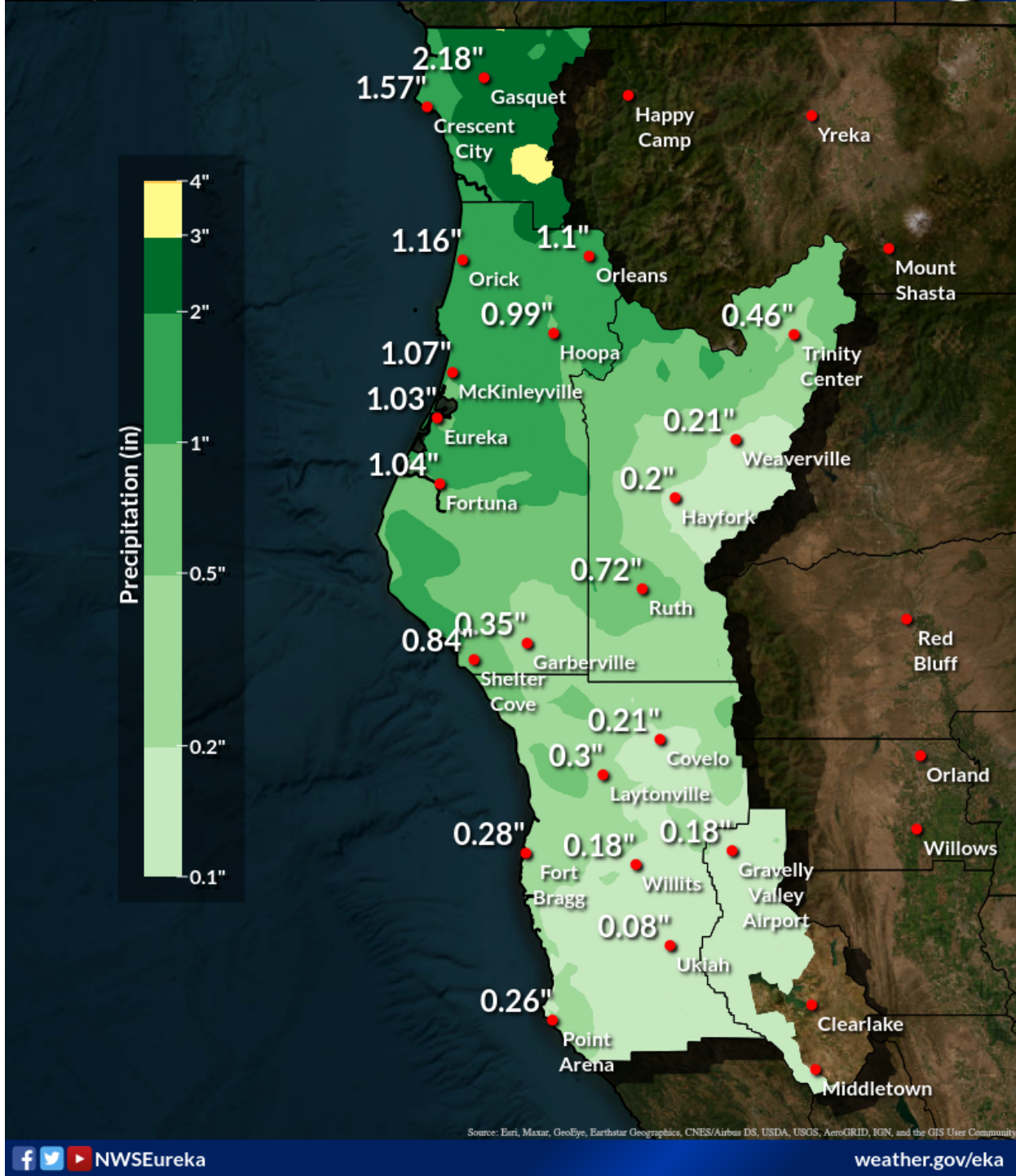
Weekend Rain

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Saturday - Tuesday Total Precipitation

Issued Mar 31, 2023 1:17 PM PDT



03_31_CWA_QPF.png

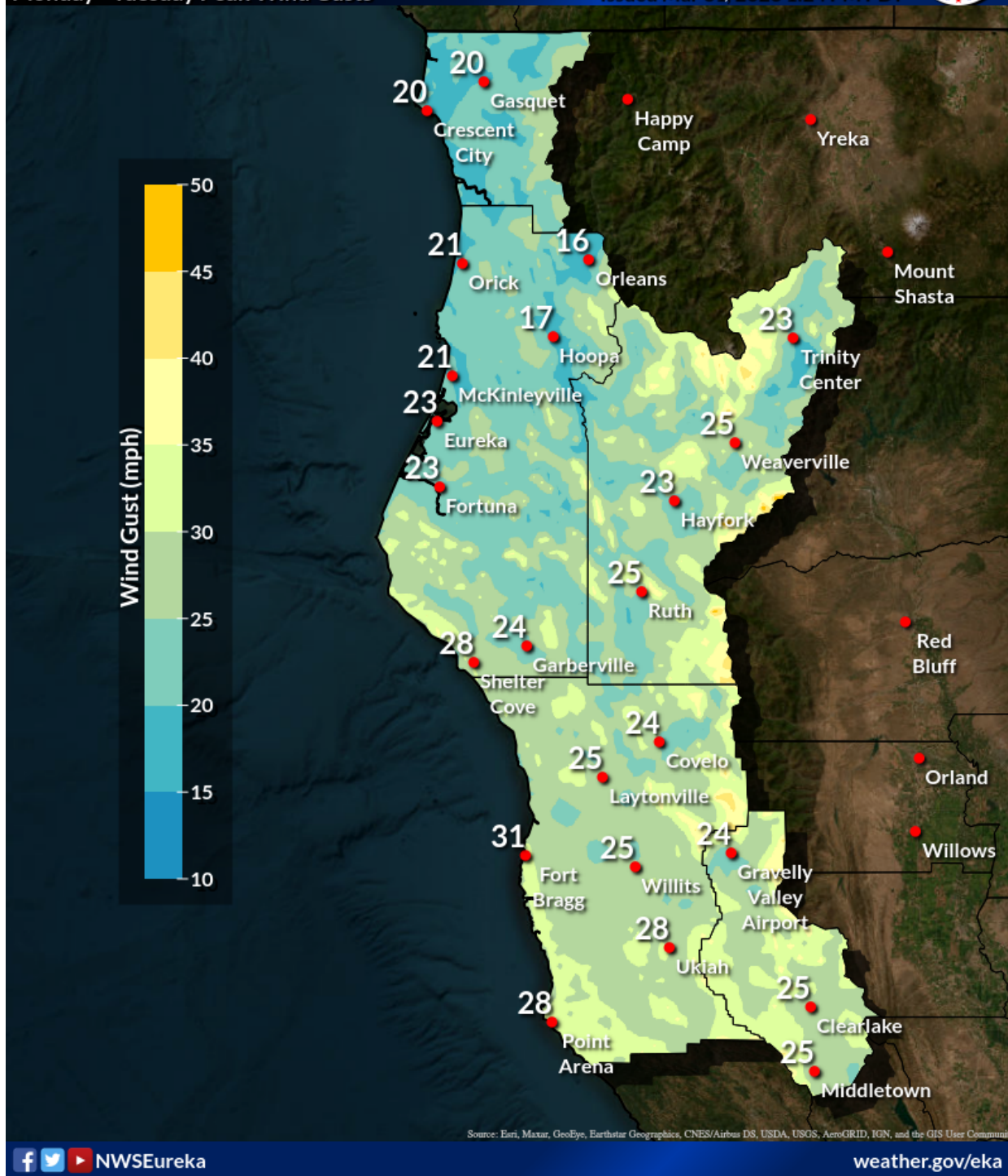
Gusty Early Next Week

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Monday - Tuesday Peak Wind Gusts

Issued Mar 31, 2023 1:24 PM PDT



03_31_CWA_PWG2.png

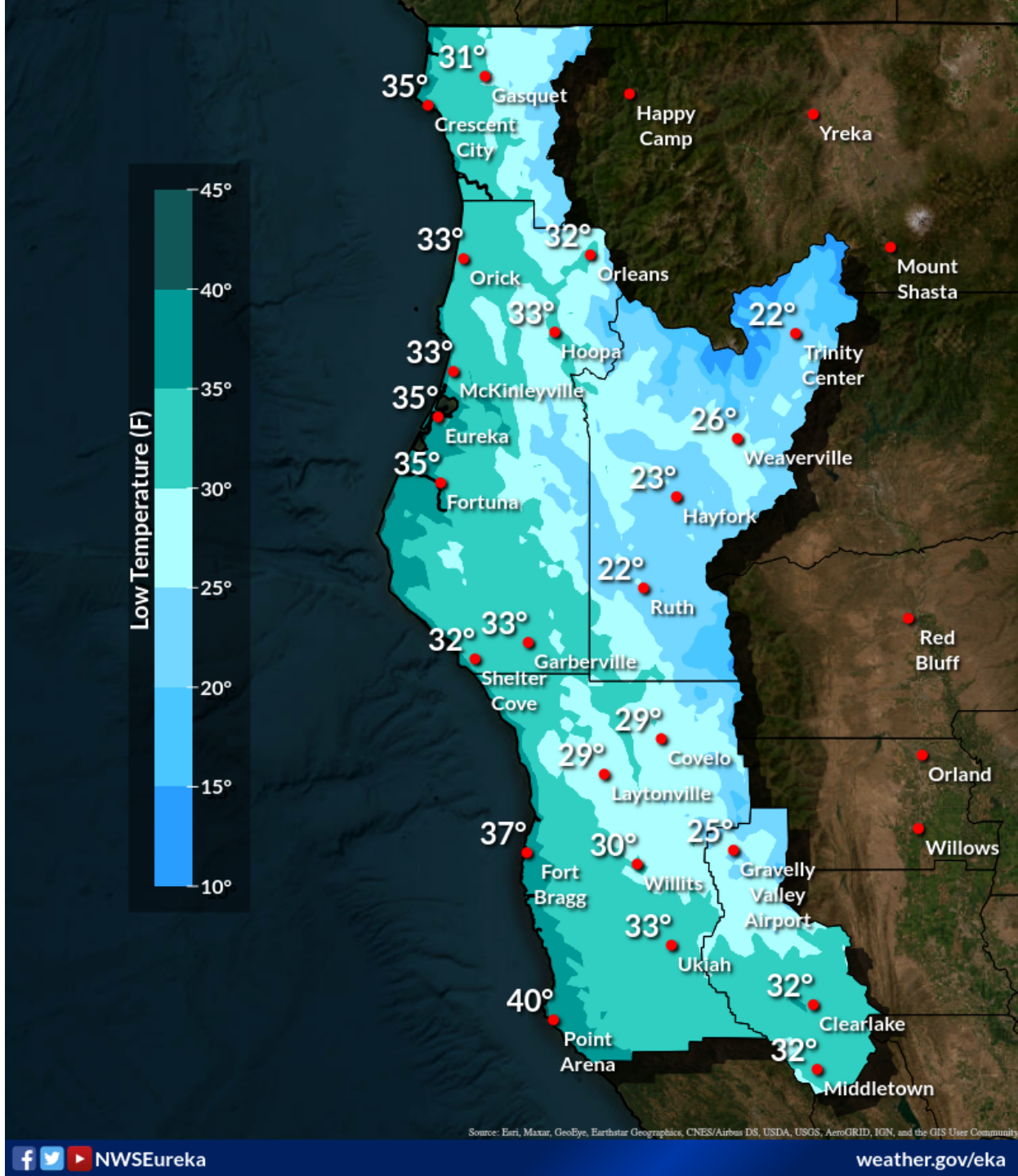
Next Week Cold

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



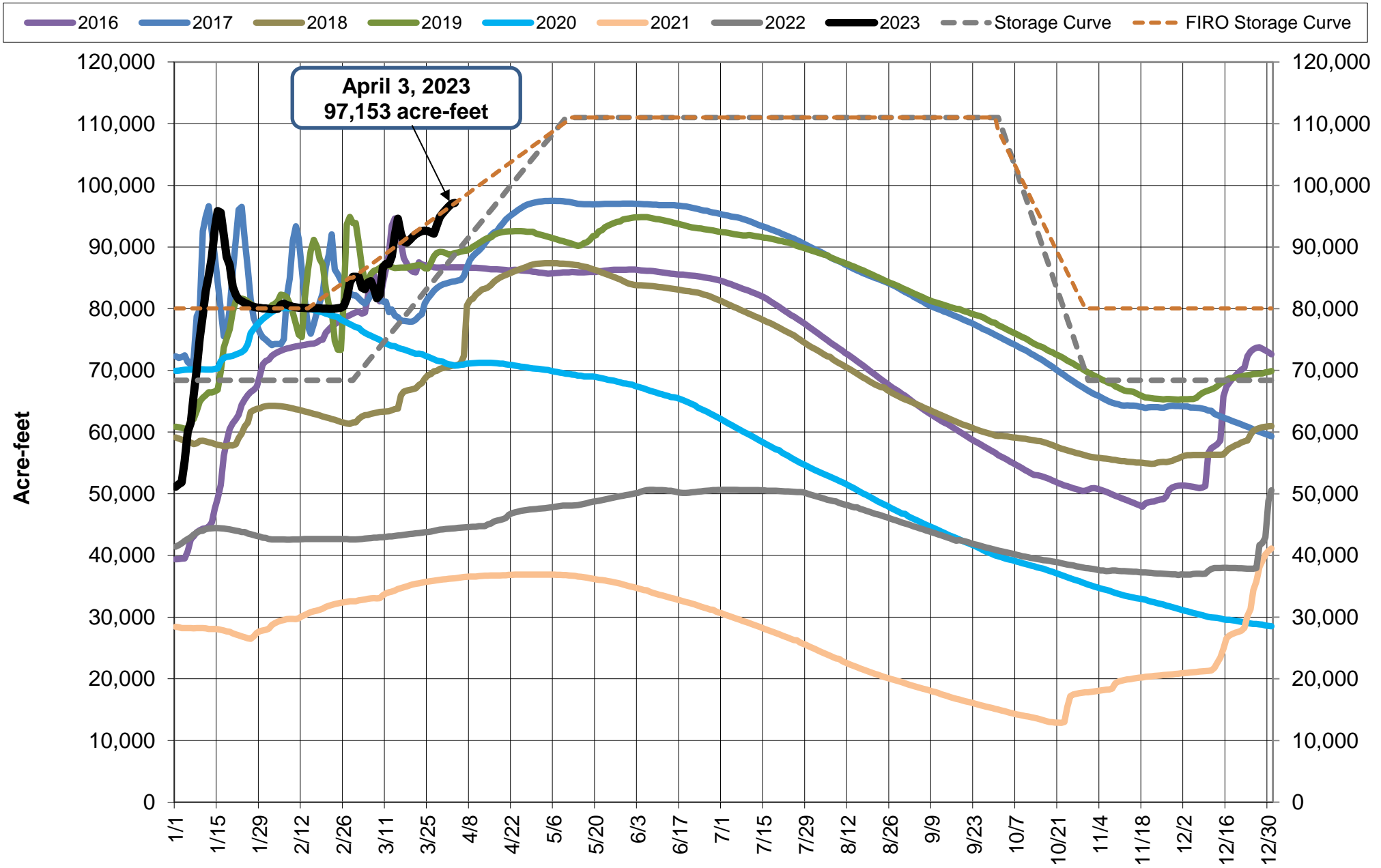
Monday - Wednesday Morning Low Temperatures

Issued Mar 31, 2023 1:14 PM PDT

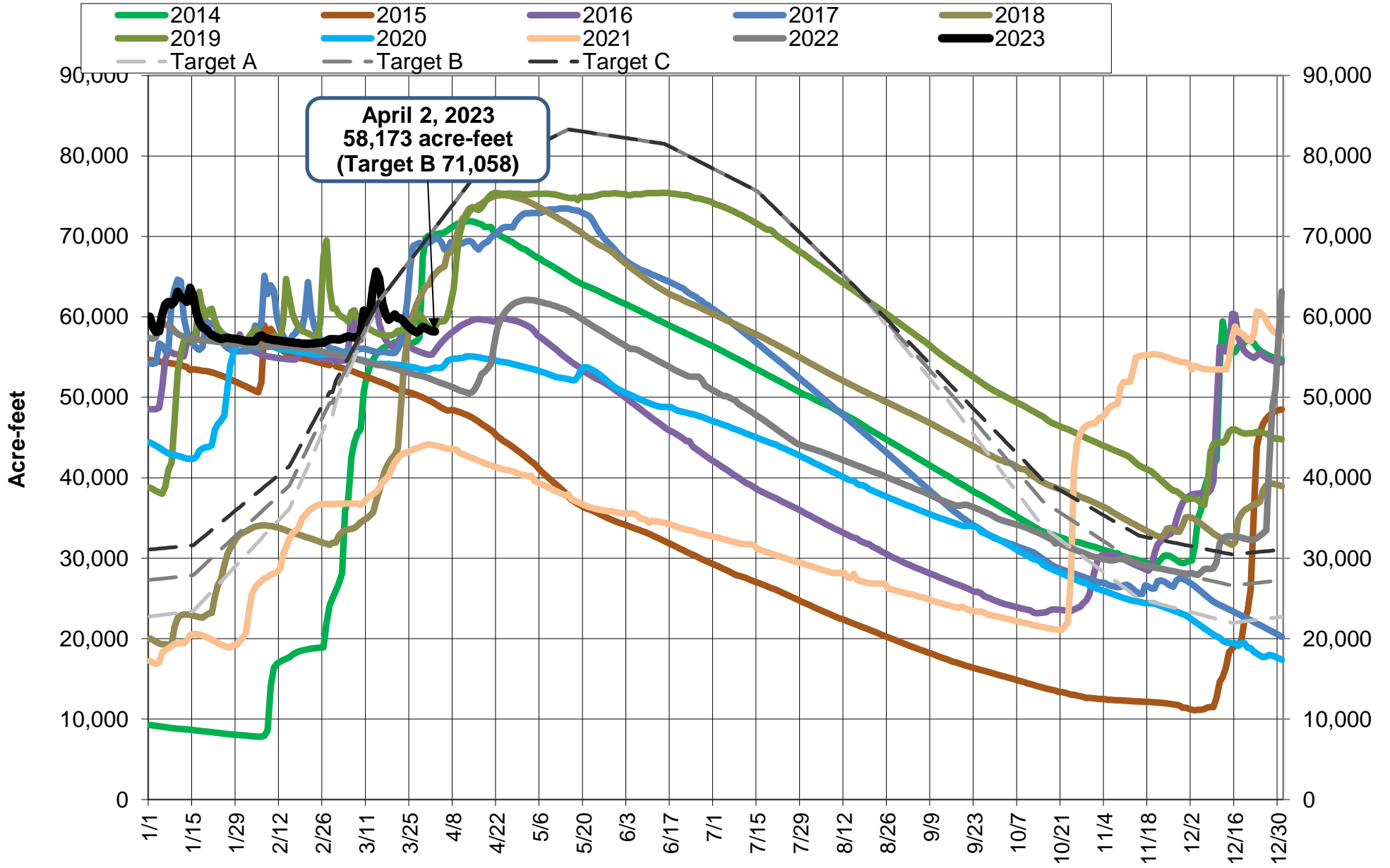


03_31_CWA_MNT2.png

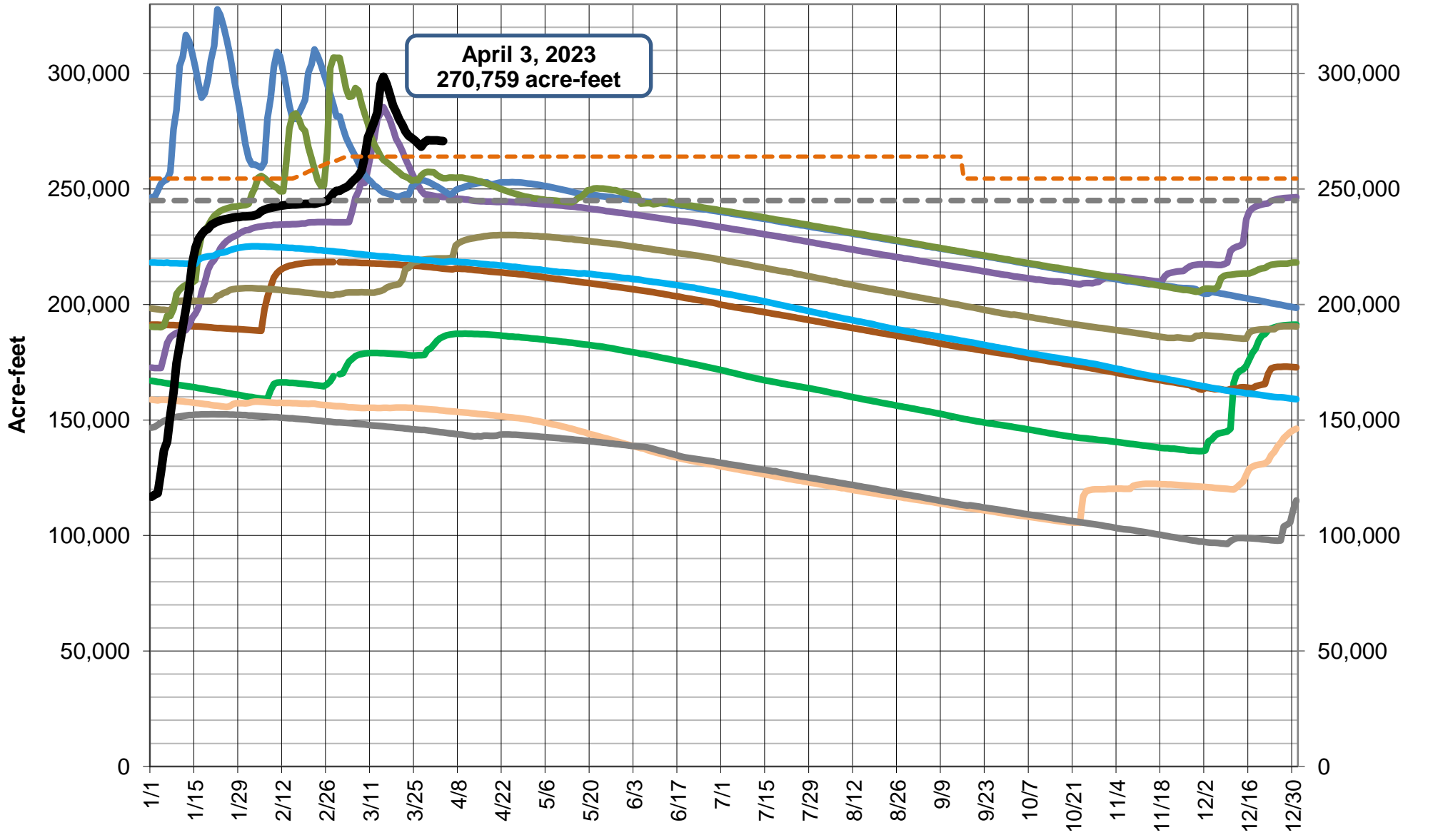
Lake Mendocino Storage



Lake Pillsbury Storage and Target Storage Scenarios



Lake Sonoma Storage



Lake Mendocino Storage - Drought Years

