

WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS UPDATE 3/7/23

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



Lake Mendocino, March 4, 2023 by CJ Watt

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

Water supply information below and **attached** provided by Sonoma Water.

National Weather Service updates **attached**.

[Abacela monthly weather-climate summary and forecast](#)

[Rain to continue this week. Here's what to expect each day in Sonoma County, 3/6/23](#)

Lake Mendocino

3/6

Current Storage (acre-feet)	84,470
Target Water Supply Storage Curve (acre-feet)	71,198
% of Target Water Supply Storage Curve	118.64%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+2,793

Lake Pillsbury

3/4

Current Storage (acre-feet)	57,433
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)	53,280
7-day change (acre-feet)	+688

Lake Sonoma

3/6

Current Storage (acre-feet)	253,449
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)	245,000
% of Water Supply Pool	103.45%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+7,165

National Groundwater Awareness Week, March 5-11, 2023

Plenty of ways to improve GW awareness:

- Find out more [on the National Groundwater Awareness Week website](#).
- The CA Water Education Foundation has made [Groundwater](#) the word of the week.
- [Introduction to Groundwater, Watersheds, and Groundwater Sustainability Plans - An Online Shortcourse](#)

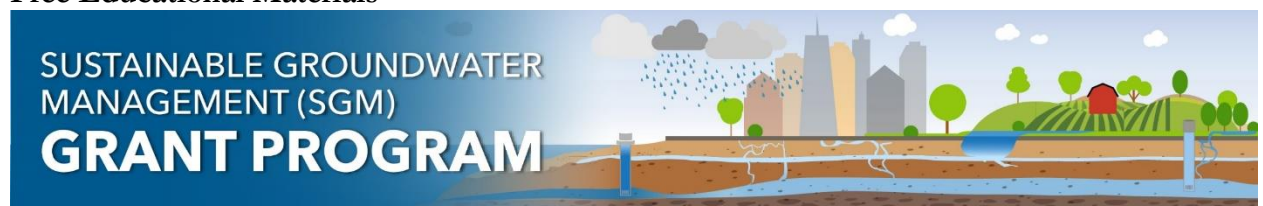
Understanding groundwater and watersheds and how we monitor, assess, and sustainably manage these resources is critical and integral to California Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) and other water management programs. Private citizens, professionals, decision makers, executives, agency employees, and stakeholders with diverse backgrounds and in a wide variety of private, non-profit, and government responsibilities are increasingly engaged in the sustainable management and assessment of groundwater and surface water. This online short course will review the fundamental principles of groundwater and watershed hydrology, water budgets, water quality, and water law and regulation in an intuitive, highly accessible fashion. Through real world examples, participants learn about the most common tools for measuring, monitoring, and assessing groundwater and surface water resources. We then review the key steps and elements of planning for groundwater sustainability.

Registration: <https://registration.ucdavis.edu> Fees: \$100/\$60 (includes [textbook](#))

- **Department of Water Resources Releases Groundwater Sustainability Plan Decisions to 12 Critically Overdrafted Basins** [DWR Bulletin here](#).
- **The Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency** will be holding a hybrid Board meeting on Thursday March 9 from 1:30 - 3:00 pm. Find the agenda and packet on the [website](#).
- Summit and workshop: [Draft Agenda for the June 2023 Summit](#)

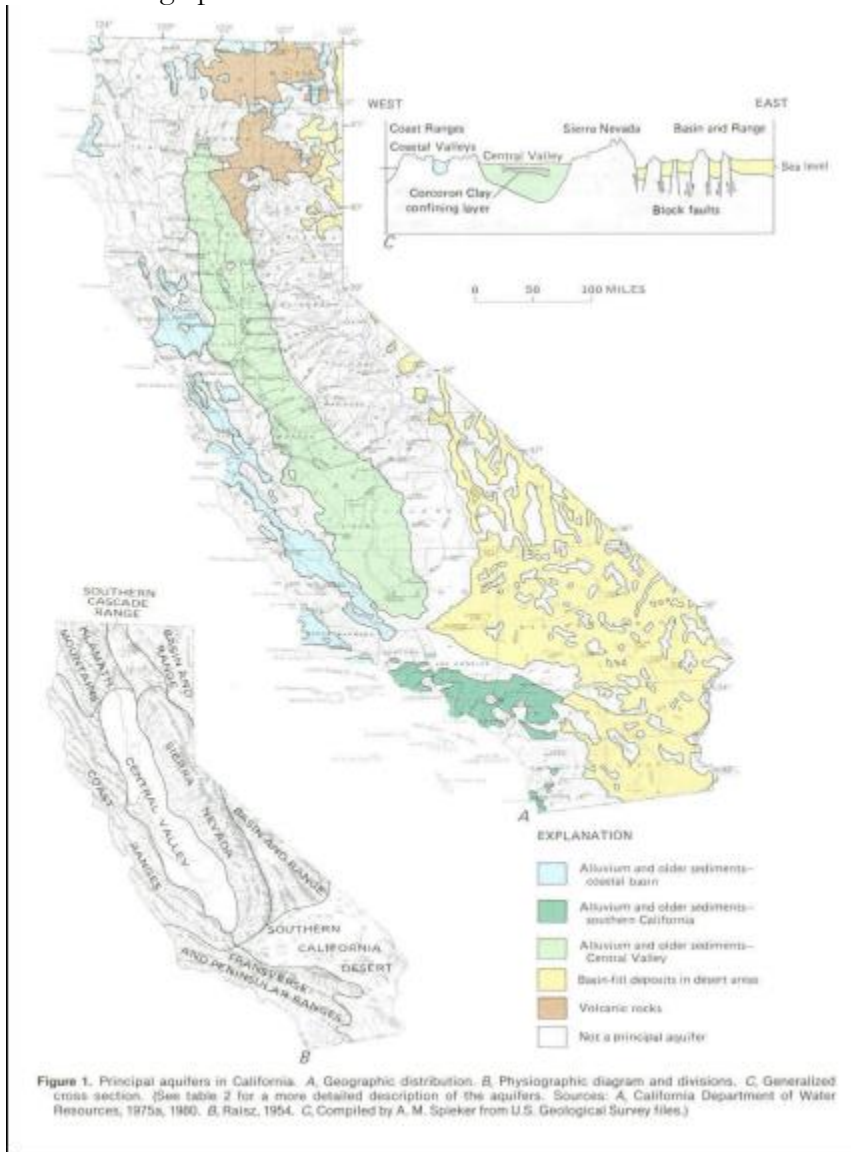


- **Free Educational Materials**



Greetings Educators, Decision Makers, Water Leader, and Interested Water Folk, Are you looking for engaging K-12 educational materials that will support your students' understanding of the importance of water, water conservation and water resources in California? The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has prepared free educational materials for all 10 hydrological regions in the state. The materials include lessons and activities that are easily adaptable to a variety of school and classroom settings while conforming to the 2016 Science Framework for California schools, STEM education standards and California's Next Generation Science Standards. Access the new educational materials in English are now on DWR's [Underrepresented Communities Technical Assistance Program webpage](#). Spanish versions are on the way!

- The graphic below is also **attached**.



State Water Resources Control Board - Conservation

On March 22, 2023, the State Water Board will hold a public workshop on the Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life regulation. Interested persons can participate virtually or in-person.

The Water Conservation legislation of 2018 (SB 606 and AB 1668) established a new foundation for long-term improvements in urban water supplier conservation and drought planning in order to adapt to climate change and the longer more intense droughts in California.

Later this year, the State Water Board will begin the formal rulemaking process for the regulation, which will set efficiency standards and performance measures for urban retail water suppliers. At the workshop, Board staff will provide an overview of the proposed regulatory framework. The State Water Board will also take public comments and may provide guidance and direction to staff.

Supporting materials will be made available on the rulemaking webpage:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/regs/water_efficiency_legislation.html.

Any inquiries pertaining to this workshop should be addressed to ORPP-WaterConservation@Waterboards.ca.gov.

Testimony: Adapting California's Water Rights System to the 21st Century Climate

On Tuesday, February 28, 2023, the State Assembly Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife held a hearing on water rights modernization. Watch the [February 28, 2023 hearing on water rights modernization](#).

Read more in the [Blog Post by Public Policy Institute of California, 2/28/23](#)

2023 Wildlife Film Festival

The Redwood Valley Outdoor Education Project (RVOEP) is proud to again host an engaging selection of award-winning films from the International Wildlife Film Festival (IWFF) of Missoula, Montana. Screenings begin are held at the Ukiah Civic Center, 300 Seminary Avenue Friday March 10th and 17th. For more information visit the [RVOEP website](#).

In the press:

- [CA Water Plan eNews March 1, 2023](#)
- [Maven's Notebook, Feb 26 - Mar 3, 2023](#)

- [Center for Western Weather & Water Extremes - Drought Attribution Studies and Water Resources Management, 2/28/23](#)
- [Reuters - Drought in CA, 3/2/23](#)
- [MendoFever - The storm breaks, the moon shines on the quiet waters of Lake Mendocino, 1/11/23](#)
- [MendoFever - Bureau of Land Management, Wiyot Tribe, and UC Berkeley partner to improve Eel River fishery, 2/28/23](#)
- [Associated Press - Half of California freed from drought thanks to rain, snow, 3/2/23](#)

- [Press Democrat - You say California's drought is over? Not so fast, water managers say, 3/4/23](#)
- [ENR - EPA Sends \\$2.4B to States to Boost Water Infrastructure, 3/7/23](#)
- [Wine Enthusiast - Rivers Have Sustained Vineyards for Centuries, Now It's Time to Return the Favor 2/23/23](#)
- [CBS Bay Area - Napa wineries adapting to changing weather conditions, 2/28/23](#)
- [NBC Los Angeles – Map: See How California's Drought Conditions Improved After a Wet February, 3/2/23](#)
- [Yahoo! News - How climate change is making California's weather more extreme, 2/27/23](#)
- [CA Water Blog - Will more wildfire and precipitation extremes mussel-out California's freshwater streams?, 2/26/23](#)

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



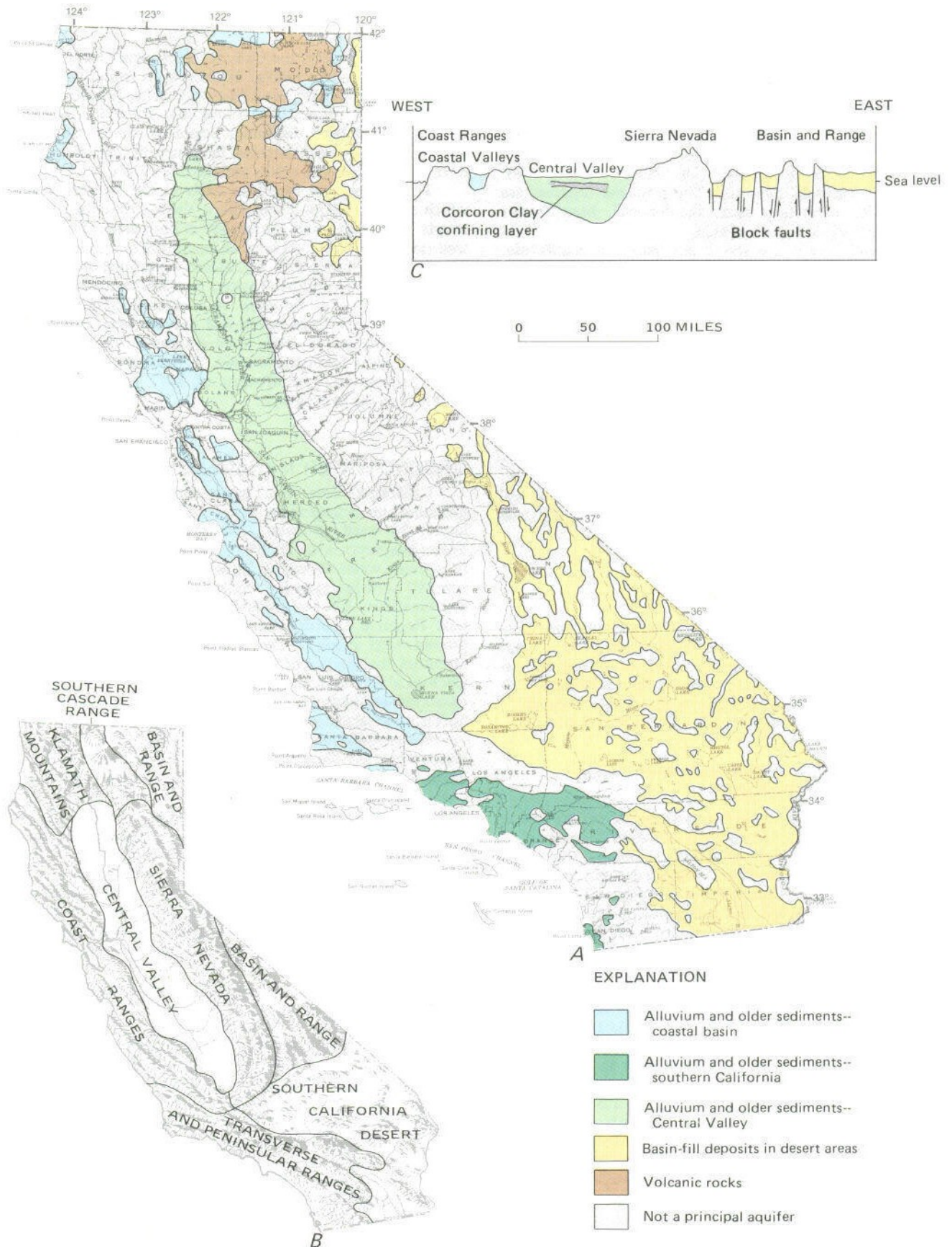
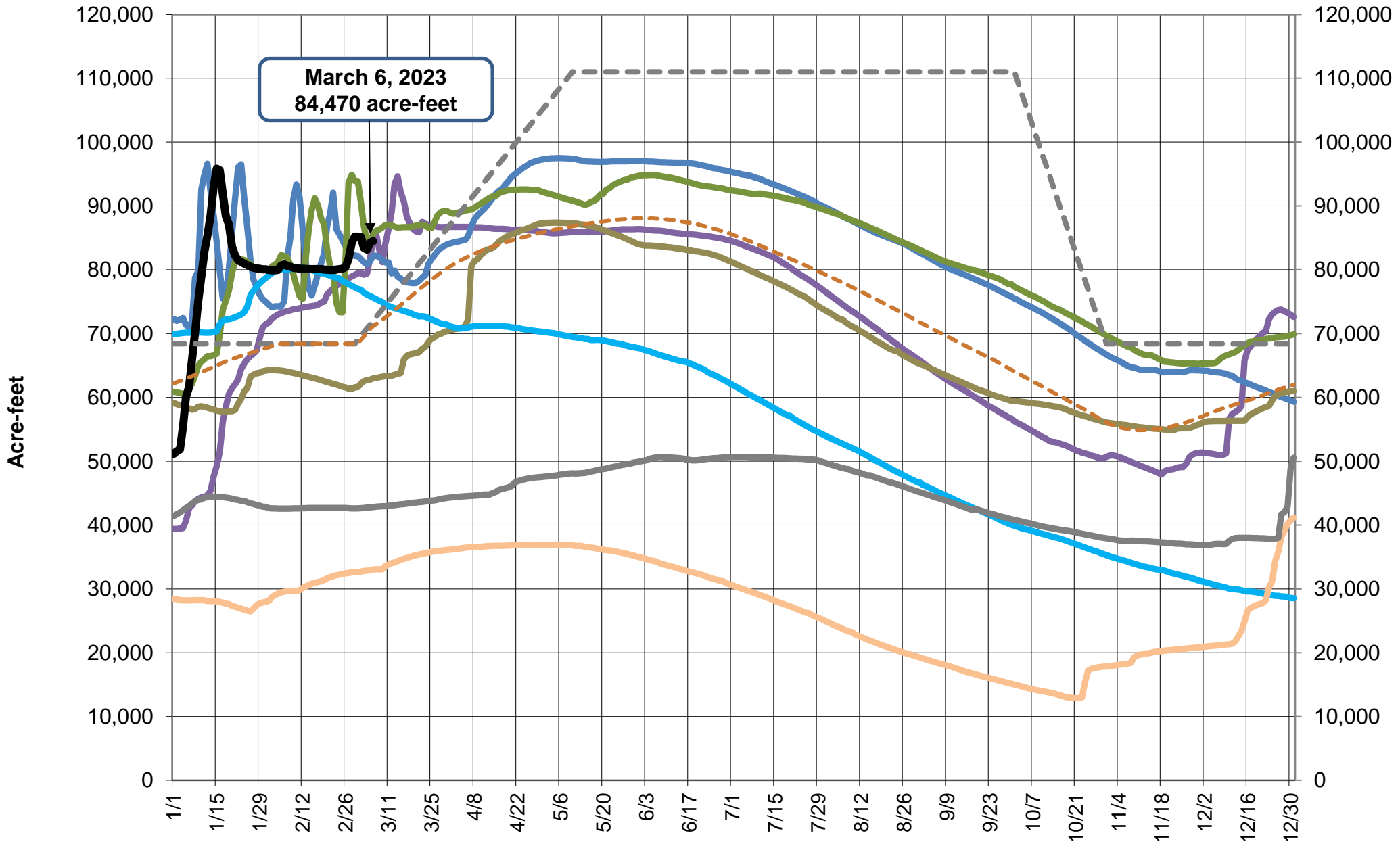


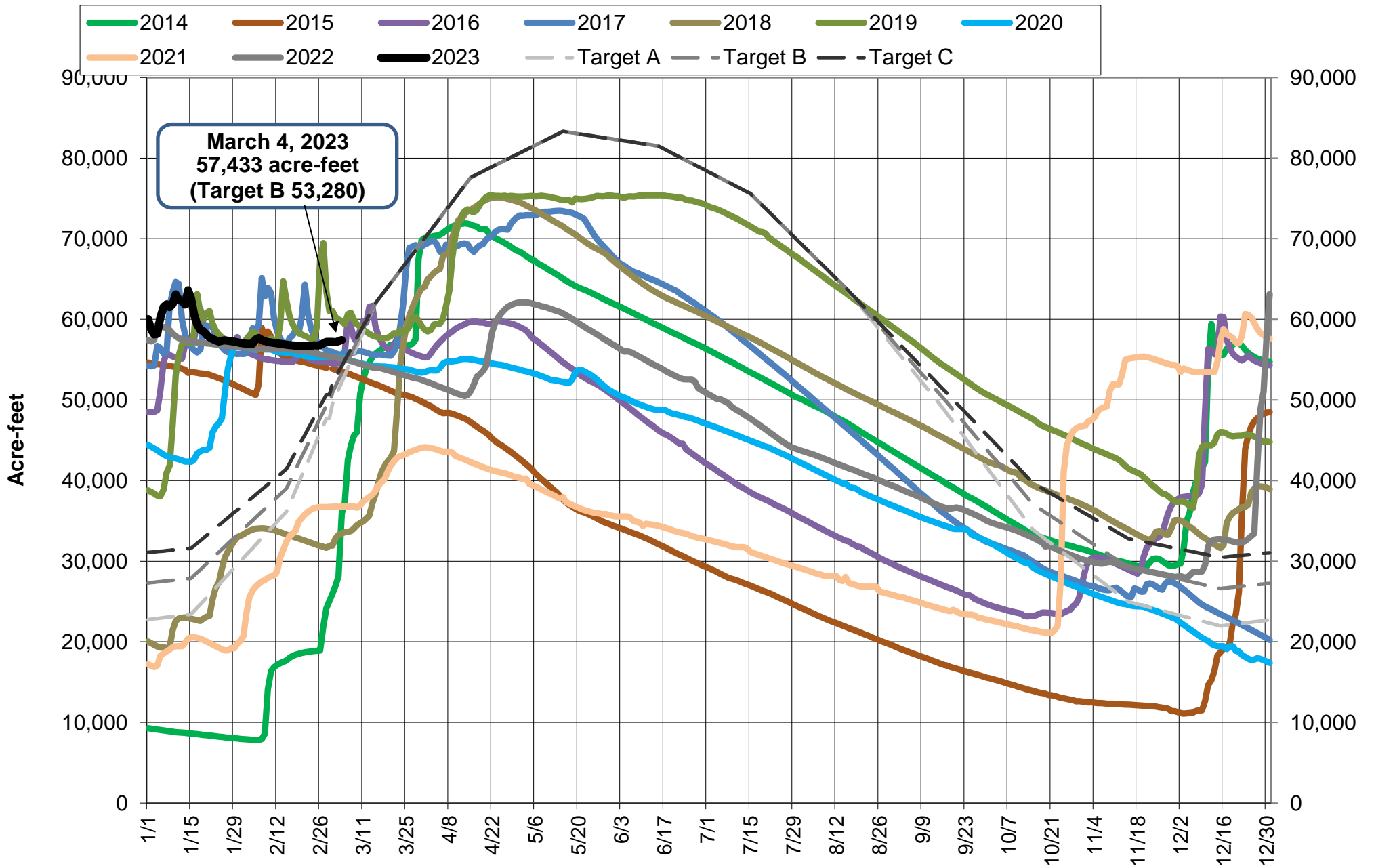
Figure 1. Principal aquifers in California. *A*, Geographic distribution. *B*, Physiographic diagram and divisions. *C*, Generalized cross section. (See table 2 for a more detailed description of the aquifers. Sources: *A*, California Department of Water Resources, 1975a, 1980. *B*, Raisz, 1954. *C*, Compiled by A. M. Spieker from U.S. Geological Survey files.)

Lake Mendocino Storage

— 2016 — 2017 — 2018 — 2019 — 2020 — 2021 — 2022 — 2023 — Storage Curve — Target Water Supply Storage Curve

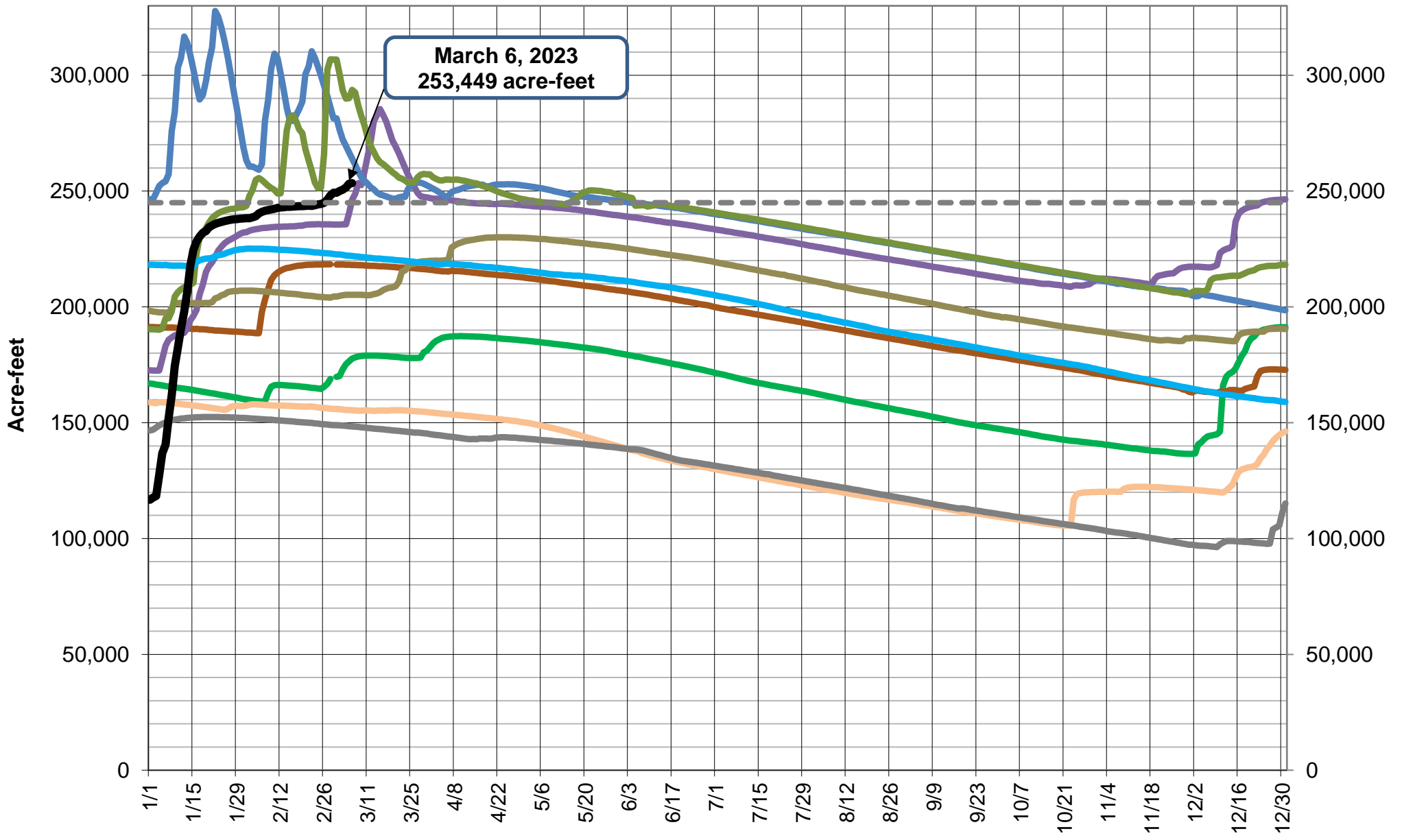


Lake Pillsbury Storage and Target Storage Scenarios



Lake Sonoma Storage

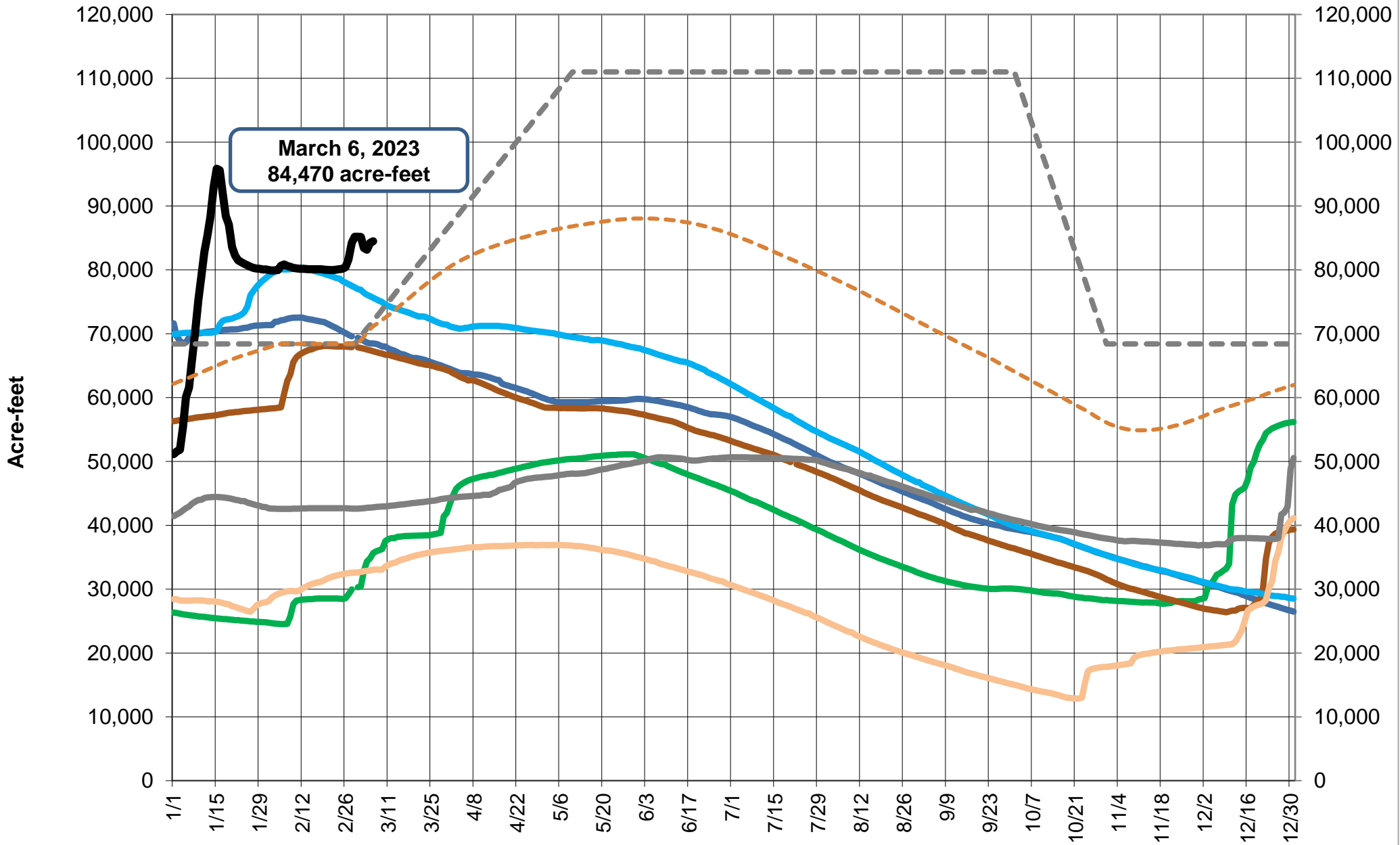
— 2014 — 2015 — 2016 — 2017 — 2018 — 2019 — 2020 — 2021 — 2022 — 2023 — - - - Storage Curve



March 6, 2023
253,449 acre-feet

Lake Mendocino Storage - Drought Years

— 2013
 — 2014
 — 2015
 — 2020
 — 2021
 — 2022
 — 2023
 - - - Storage Curve
 - - - Target Water Supply Storage Curve



March 6, 2023
84,470 acre-feet



Mountain Snow & Coastal Small Hail Today and Tonight; Heavy Rain and Strong Winds Thursday and Friday

KEY POINTS

- Moderate to heavy snow Today and Tonight over 1500 feet.
- Coastal hail possible Today through Tonight.
- Atmospheric River storm to bring higher snow levels, heavy rain and strong winds Thursday and Friday

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS BRIEFING

Added graphics for peak wind gusts and total rainfall Thursday through Friday

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

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

	Tue 3/7	Wed 3/8	Thu 3/9	Fri 3/10	Sat 3/11	Sun 3/12
Lake County Clearlake, Lakeport	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Snow	Gusty Winds Heavy Rain	Gusty Winds Heavy Rain	Rain	Rain
Del Norte County Crescent City, Gasquet	Rain Mountain Snow Small Hail	Rain Snow	Gusty Winds Rain	Gusty Winds Rain	Rain	Rain
Mendocino County Ukiah, Fort Bragg	Rain Mountain Snow Small Hail	Rain Snow	Gusty Winds Heavy Rain	Gusty Winds Heavy Rain	Rain	Rain
Trinity County Weaverville, Hayfork	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Snow	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Mountain Snow
Humboldt County Eureka, Fortuna, Willow Creek	Rain Mountain Snow Small Hail	Rain Snow	Rain Gusty Winds	Rain Gusty Winds	Rain	Rain

Risk Levels

Little to None

Minor

Moderate

Major

Extreme

DETAILS

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



Impacts:

- Difficult driving conditions during periods of snow.

Timing:

- Heaviest Today and Tonight

Confidence:

- Moderate

- Snow levels near 1500 feet, occasionally lower to 500 feet.
- Heavy snow expected this afternoon and tonight with 6-14 inches over 1500 feet in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Trinity counties. 3-6 inches over 1500 feet in Mendocino and northern Lake counties. 1-3 inches near Cobb.

Del Norte County, Humboldt County, Mendocino County

Small Hail

Impacts:

- Accumulating small hail can cause dangerous driving conditions.

Timing:

- Best chances this afternoon and tonight

Confidence:

- Moderate

- Greatest chance of small hail and thunder along the immediate coast tonight.

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

Rain

Impacts:

- Much higher snow levels (above 4000 feet), heavy rainfall and strong gusty winds with an atmospheric river storm.
- Heavy rain on deep snow could lead to heavy snow loads on roofs in the mountains.
- Chance of areal flooding.
- The Russian River at Hopland could reach flood stage of 15 feet.

Timing:

- Thursday Night into Friday

Confidence:

- Moderate

- Details remain uncertain at this time but confidence is high in this pattern shift to warmer and wet conditions late this week into early next week.

Wind

Impacts:

- Hazardous crosswinds, especially for high profile vehicles.
- Reduced visibility due to blowing snow.
- Loose or unsecured objects may be blown away.
- Temporary fences and structures may be damaged or destroyed.
- Tree damage is possible.
- Power outages possible.

Timing:

- Thursday night

Confidence:

- Moderate

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For the latest forecast updates, visit 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

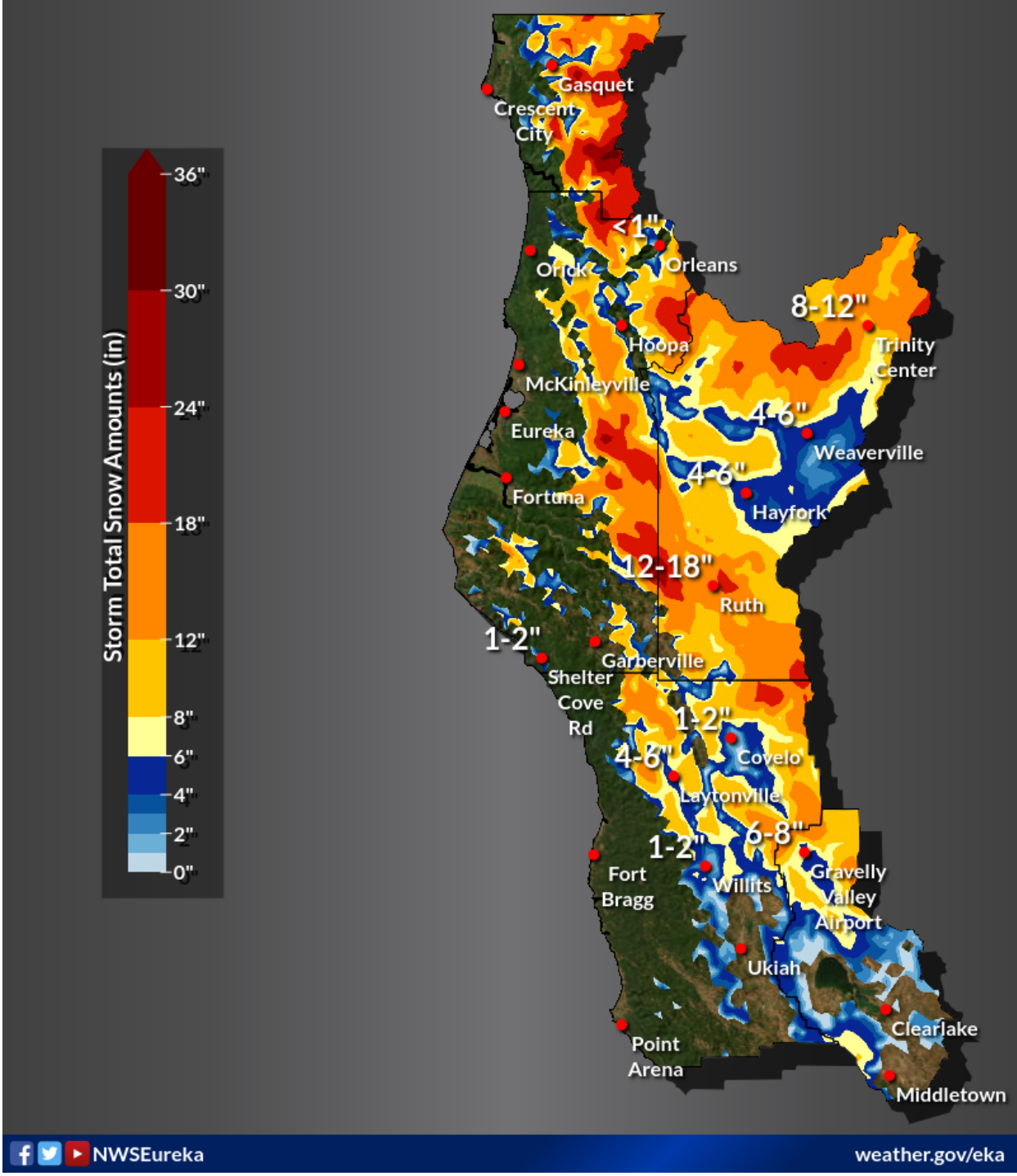
Total Snow Accumulation

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



4 AM Tuesday to 4 AM Wednesday

Issued Mar 07, 2023 5:15 AM PST



NWSEureka

weather.gov/eka

Total snowfall today and tonight

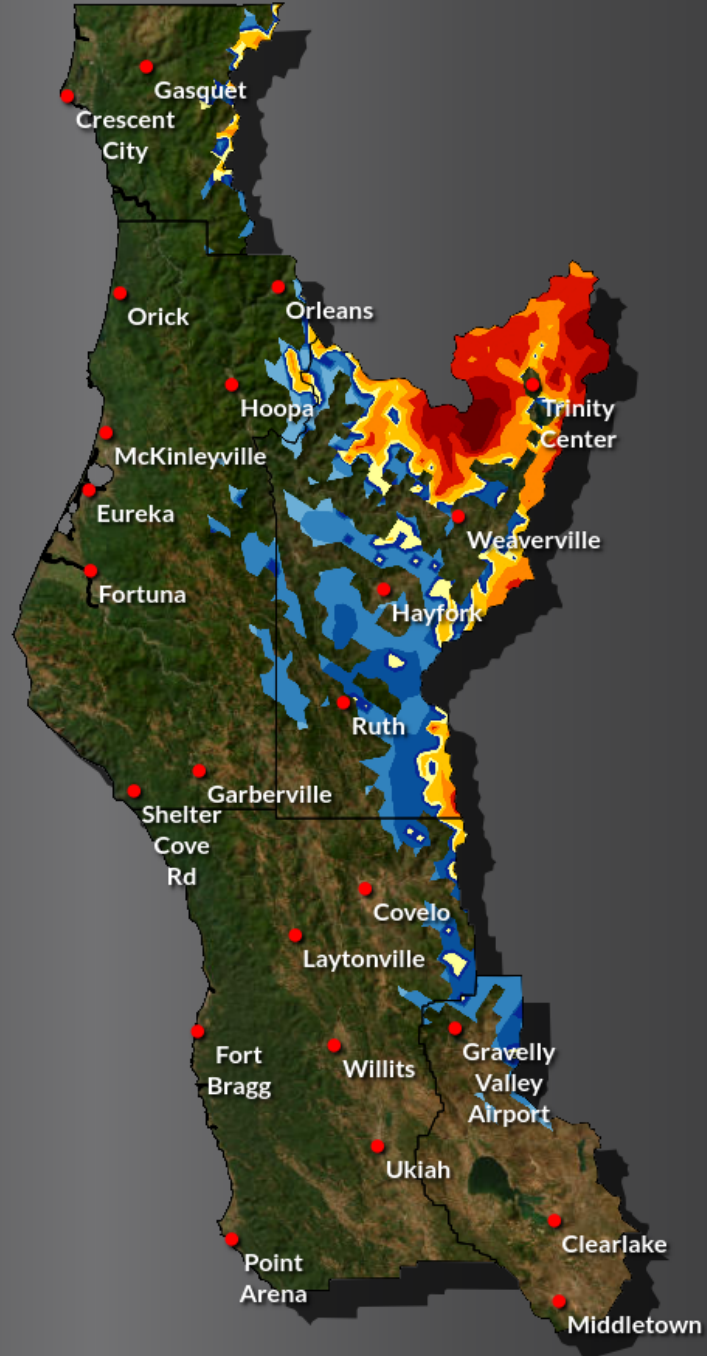
Total Snow Accumulation Thu and Fri

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



10 AM Thursday to 4 PM Friday

Issued Mar 07, 2023 5:18 AM PST



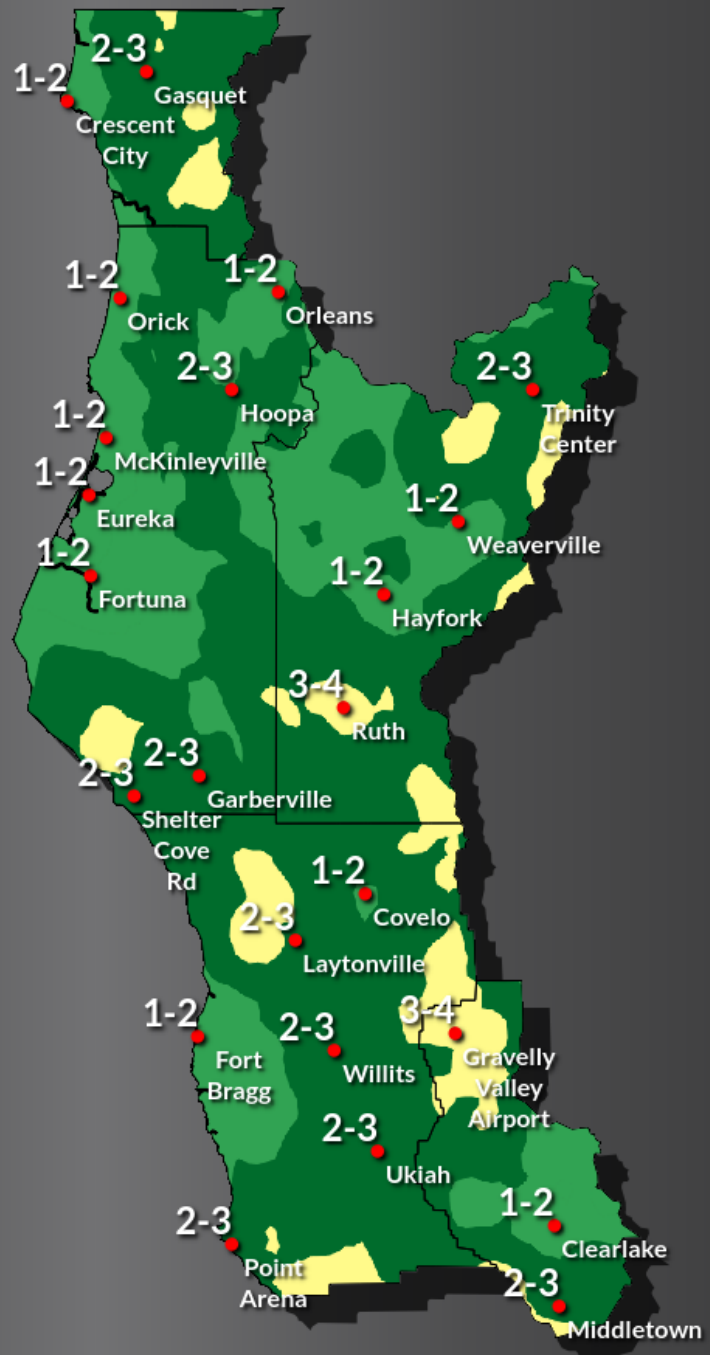
Total snowfall Thursday and Friday

Total Rainfall

10 AM Thursday to 4 PM Friday

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Mar 07, 2023 5:23 AM PST



Rainfall totals expected Thursday and Friday

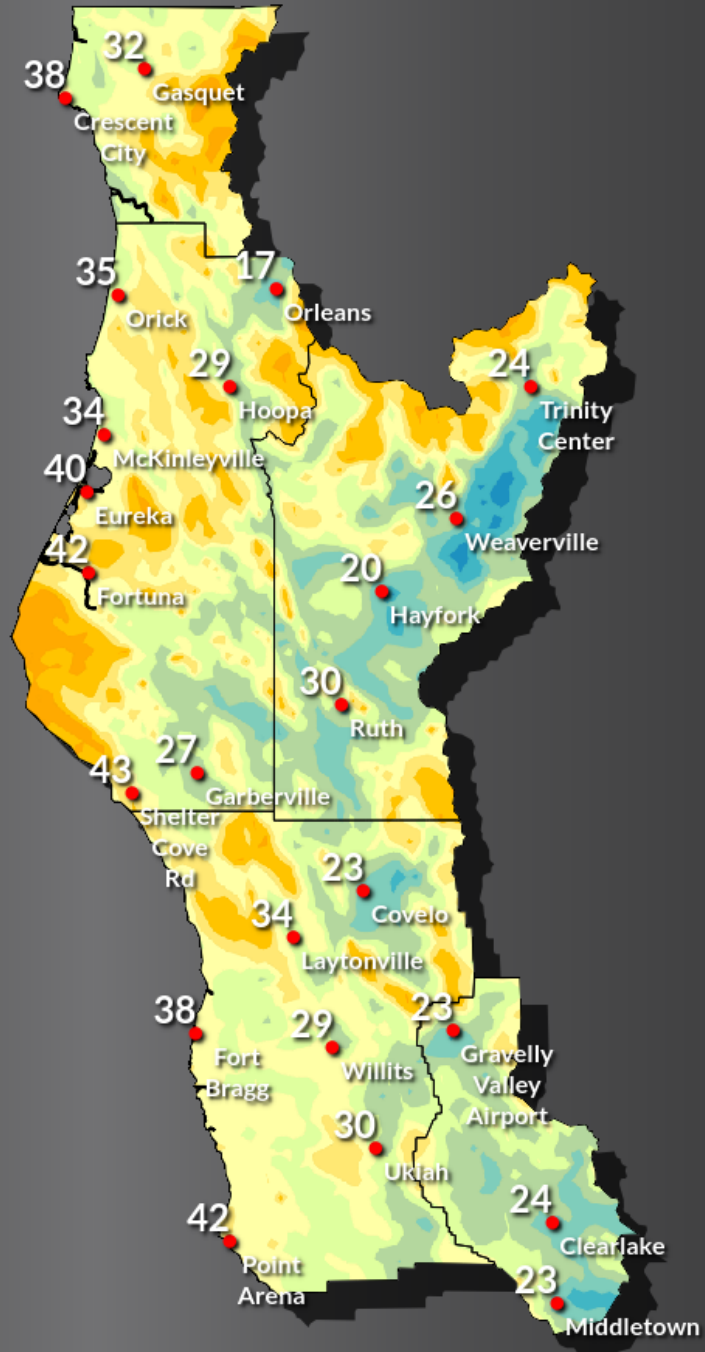
Wind Gusts

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Thursday afternoon through Thursday night

Issued Mar 07, 2023 5:30 AM PST



Peak Wind Gusts Thursday night