

WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS UPDATE 2/27/23

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

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

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

National Weather Service updates **attached**.

Lake Mendocino

2/27

Current Storage (acre-feet)	80,571
Target Water Supply Storage Curve (acre-feet)	68,400
% of Target Water Supply Storage Curve	117.79%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+570

Lake Pillsbury

2/25

Current Storage (acre-feet)	56,745
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)	46,938
7-day change (acre-feet)	+11

Lake Sonoma

2/27

Current Storage (acre-feet)	245,147
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)	245,000
% of Water Supply Pool	100.06%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+1,554

Sonoma County Water Agency Board holds a Sonoma Water Day

The Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) Board of Directors will meet Monday, Feb. 27, to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the region's aging water, wastewater, and flood protection systems in a changing climate. The Board will receive presentations on key issues impacting Sonoma Water's drinking water supply and transmission system, regional flood management, initiatives to keep our water clean, and the water agency's efforts to address the effects of climate change.

Board members and the public will also be briefed on efforts to maintain and modernize systems that are 40 to 70 years old and their ability to withstand earthquakes, more frequent droughts, and extreme storms. This informational board meeting is slated to begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors chambers, 575 Administration Dr., Room 102A. The meeting will be livestreamed on Zoom and there will be an opportunity for public comment. For details go to <https://sonoma-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. The meeting will also be recorded and available in the same fashion as regular board meetings.

Join the Consortium in celebrating National Groundwater Awareness Week with California Department of Water Resources on March 6th.

The California Water Data Consortium will be hosting a booth on March 6th with live demos of the Groundwater Accounting Platform - an open-source tool that helps California water managers, landowners, and water users track water budgets and usage more easily in near real-time. You can attend the [March 6 Workshop virtually on YouTube](#) or in person at the California Natural Resources building in Sacramento, CA. Come and learn more about the importance of groundwater in California! See flyer below for more information. Please note that only the presentation portion of the workshop will be broadcast virtually, approximately 9:00 am to 10:30 am.

Groundwater Awareness Week:

Join the California Department of Water Resource, the Water Education Foundation and others to kick off Groundwater Awareness Week with a [special event](#) on Monday, March 6, from 9 a.m. to noon at the California Natural Resources Building Main Auditorium, 715 P St., in Sacramento. The event will include presentations, informational stations and demonstrations. The presentations will be available to view remotely for those who cannot attend the in-person event.

Lake Mendocino & FIRO Featured in the Press:

[Yale Environment 360 - How Weather Forecasts Can Help Dams Supply More Water, 2/23/23](#)

“The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is testing ways to use improved weather forecasts to manage some of the nation’s largest dams to store more water and prevent floods. This new approach could help officials respond to new precipitation patterns brought on by climate change.”



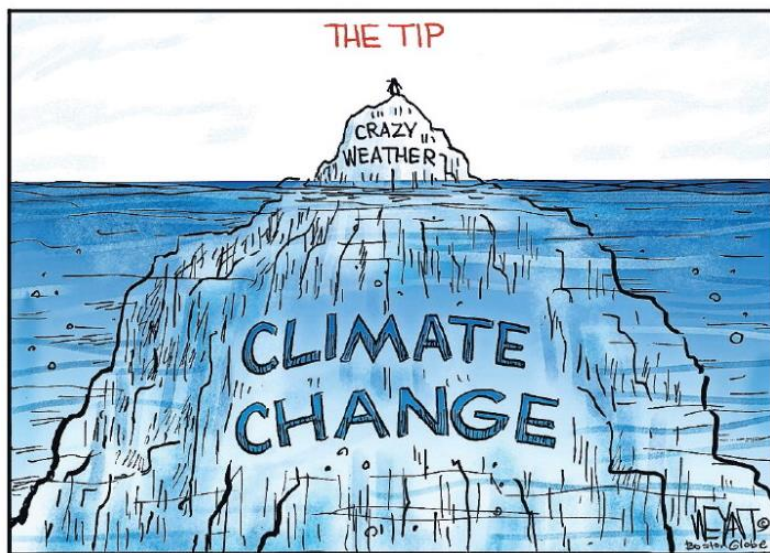
Water being released last month from Lake Mendocino in California following heavy rains. KENNETH JAMES / CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

“Patrick Sing sits at the controls of Lake Mendocino, a reservoir on the Russian River near Ukiah, in northern California. Like reservoirs across the state, Lake Mendocino has seen years of extreme swings between wet and dry — it almost emptied after a dry stretch in 2021 and was near empty when the first atmospheric river let loose on December 26. Sing watched as the reservoir filled up, first topping off the zone reserved for water supply, then quickly rising into the flood zone.”

In the press:

- [CA Water Plan eNews Feb 22, 2023](#)
- [Maven's Notebook, Feb 19-24, 2023](#)

- [Ukiah Daily Journal - The Oak and The Reed, 2/26/23](#)
“As we look to adapt to our changing climate and world, two symbols emerge to guide our work here at the University of California (UC) Hopland Research and Extension Center (HREC): the mighty oak and the enduring reed. “
- [Ukiah Daily Journal - The Oak and The Reed, 2/26/23](#)
- [NBC news - How Climate Change May Be Impacting California's Recent Winter Storm 2/22/23](#)



From the Press Democrat, 2/24/23

Other resources & information:

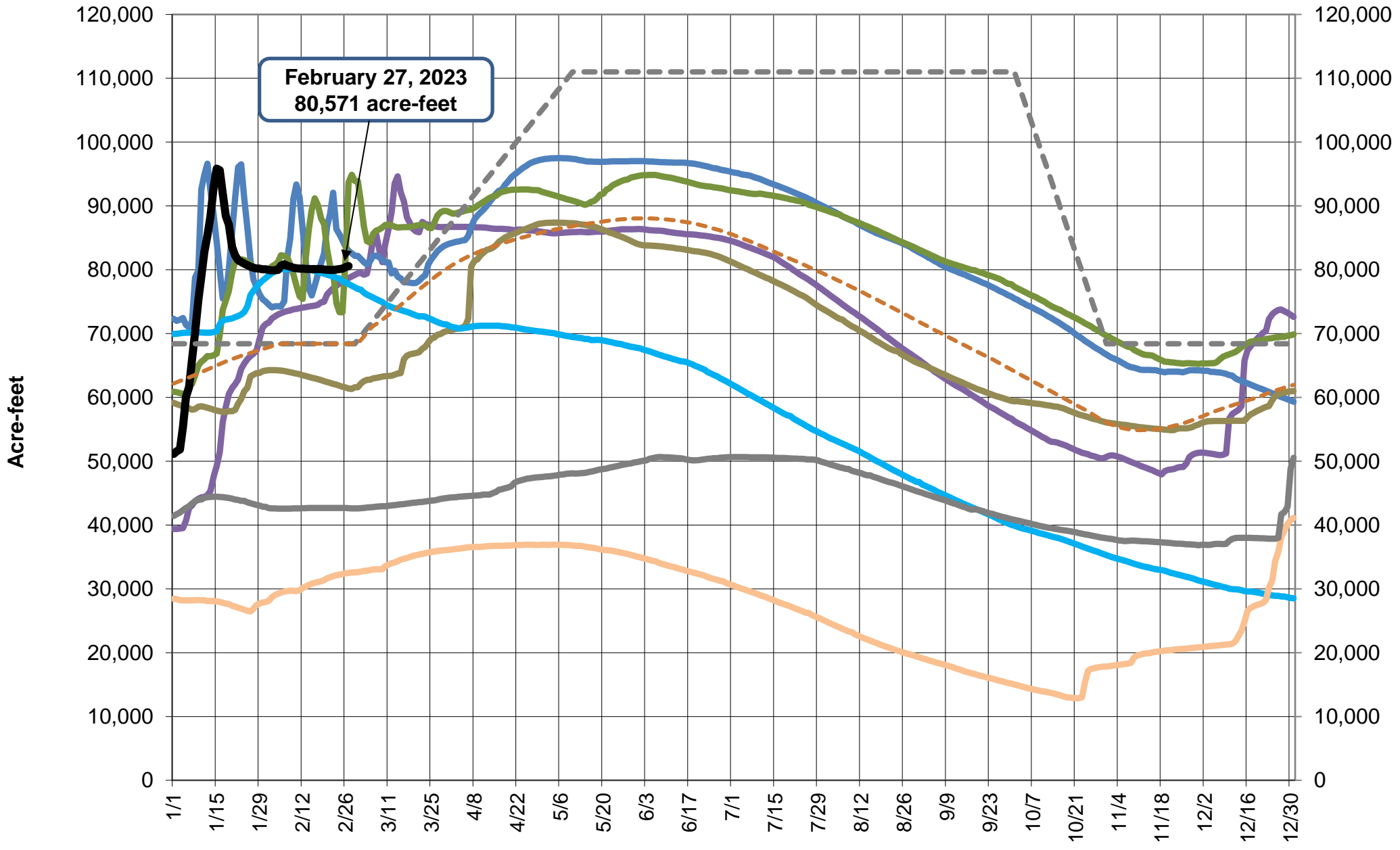
- [Mendocino County Water Agency Drought page](#)
- [SWRCB Russian River drought information page](#)
- [SaveOurWater.com](#)
- [SaveWater.ca.gov](#) to report water waste, such as leaks and overwatering.
- [Water Rights Enforcement Complaints Program](#) and/or [Cal EPA Complaint System](#) to report 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



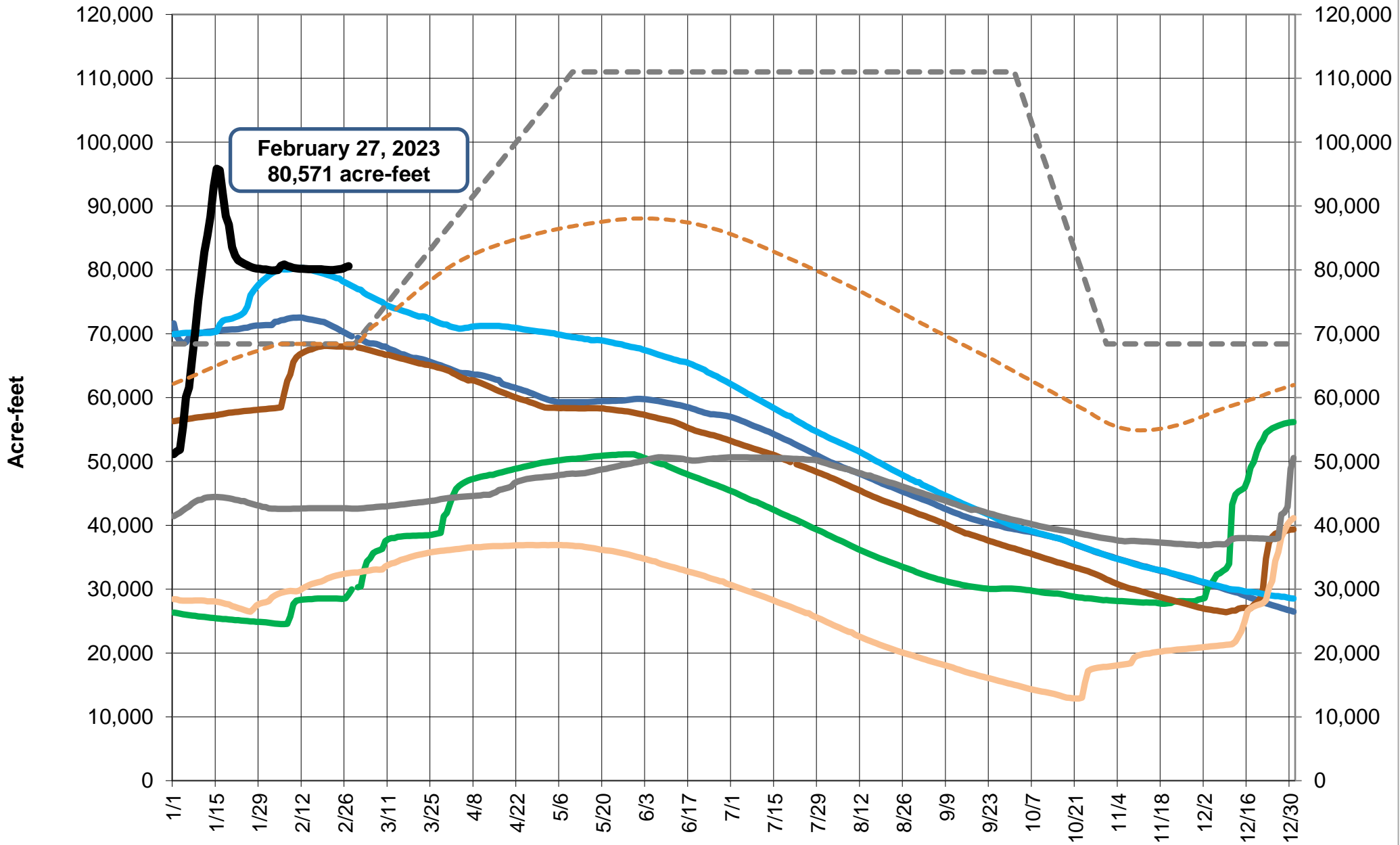
Lake Mendocino Storage

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

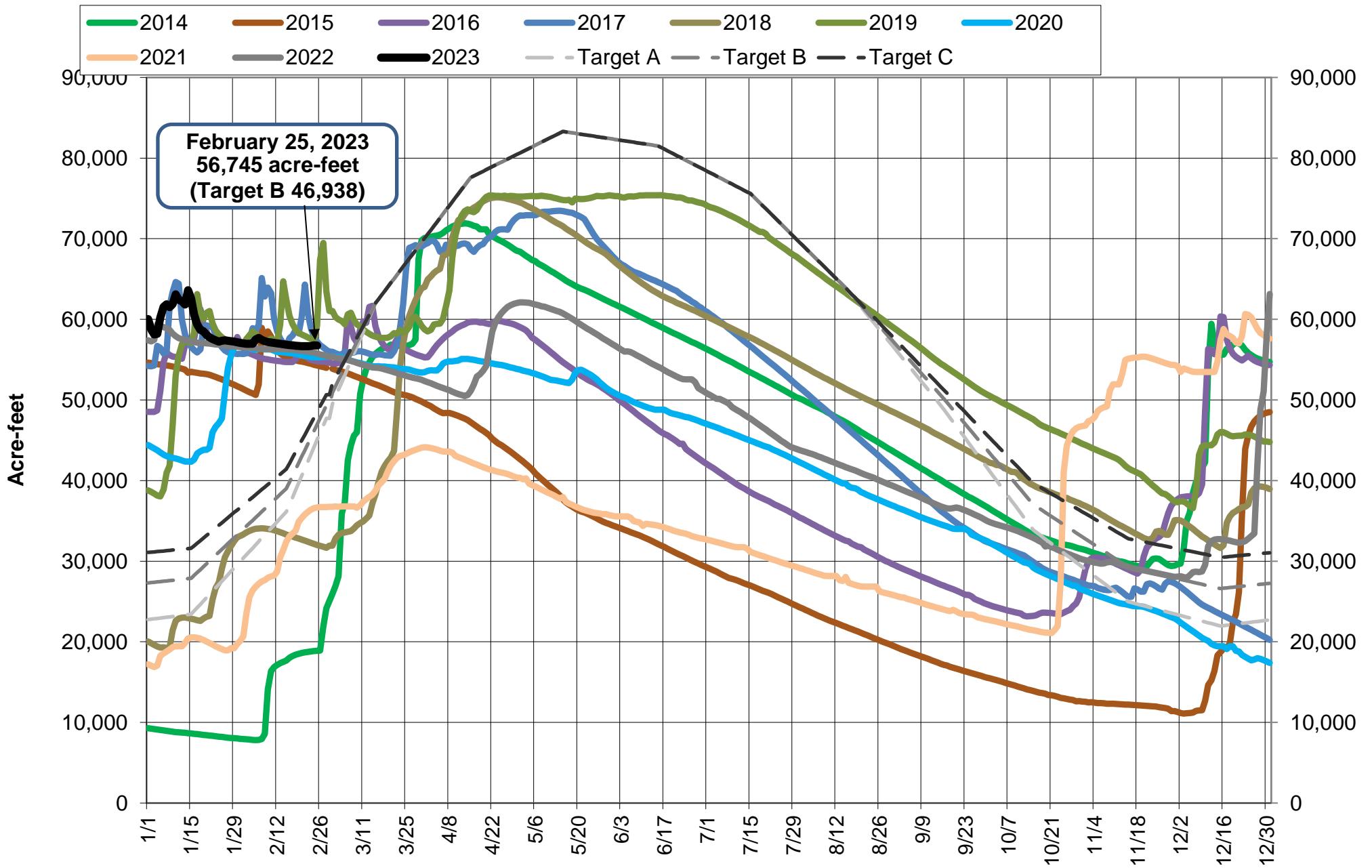


Lake Mendocino Storage - Drought Years

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

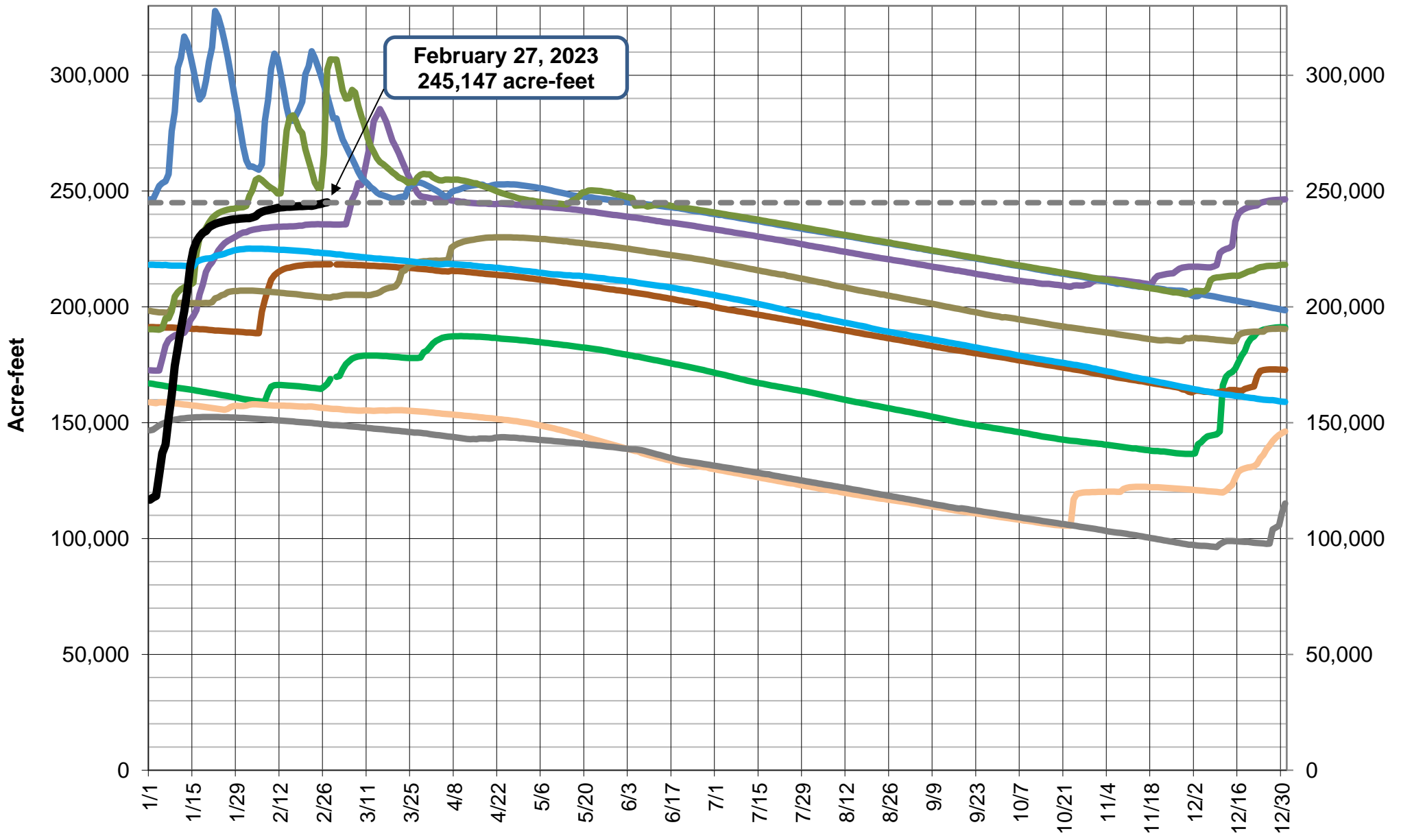


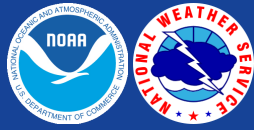
Lake Pillsbury Storage and Target Storage Scenarios



Lake Sonoma Storage

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





Winter Storm through Tuesday. Coastal Small Hail Today. Another Winter Storm for the Weekend.

KEY POINTS

- Moderate to heavy snow above 1500 feet Today through Tuesday.
- Gusty winds on exposed coastal ridges and headland Today.
- Coastal small hail Today.
- Chilly temperatures Wednesday and Thursday morning.
- Another winter storm expected for the weekend.

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

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

	Mon 2/27	Tue 2/28	Wed 3/1	Thu 3/2	Fri 3/3	Sat 3/4	Sun 3/5
Lake County Clearlake, Lakeport	Rain Snow Gusty Wind	Rain Snow	Rain Cold Snow	Cold	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Snow	Rain Snow
Del Norte County Crescent City, Gasquet	Rain Small Hail Snow Gusty Wind	Rain Snow	Rain Cold Snow	Cold Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Snow Gusty Wind	Rain Snow
Mendocino County Ukiah, Fort Bragg	Rain Small Hail Snow Gusty Wind	Rain Snow	Rain Cold Snow	Cold	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Snow	Rain Snow
Trinity County Weaverville, Hayfork	Snow Gusty Wind	Snow	Cold Snow	Cold	Mountain Snow	Rain Snow	Rain Snow
Humboldt County Eureka, Fortuna, Willow Creek	Rain Small Hail Snow Gusty Wind	Rain Snow	Rain Cold Snow	Cold	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Snow Gusty Wind	Rain Snow

Risk Levels

Little to None

Minor

Moderate

Major

Extreme

DETAILS

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



Snow

Impacts:

- High elevation pass will be difficult to impossible to travel as low as 1000 feet.
- Elevated risk of power outages, particularly during heavy snow Monday.
- Dangerously low visibility while driving, especially at night.

Timing:

- Today into Tuesday.
- Friday through Sunday.

Confidence:

Moderate

- See graphics for location details

Today into Tuesday

- Snow levels generally near 1,000 to 2,000 feet, lower in Northeastern Humboldt and Trinity County.
- Uncertainty exists for snow levels; snow could be even lower.
- Heaviest snow expected this morning.
- 1 to 2.5 feet possible at highway pass area. Highest snowfall in Del Norte and Humboldt Counties.

Friday through Sunday

- Snow level generally near 1,000 to 2,000 feet, lower in Northeastern Humboldt Interior, Interior Del Norte and Trinity Counties.
- Significant uncertainty exists for snow levels: snow could be even lower.
- Heaviest snow on Saturday.

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



Strong Wind

Impacts:

- Large profile vehicles may be difficult to control.
- Increased risk of falling trees and debris on roadways.
- Increased risk of power outages.

Timing:

- Today
- Saturday

Confidence:

Moderate

Today

- Strongest gusts on coastal ridges of Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.
- Peak gusts of 50 to 60 mph in exposed areas.
- At lower elevations such as Humboldt Bay, peak gusts of 35 to 45 mph.

Saturday, February 4th, 2023

- Strongest gusts coastal ridges of Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.
- Peak gusts of 30 to 40 mph in exposed areas.

Del Norte County, Mendocino County, Humboldt County

Small Hail

Impacts:

- Accumulating small hail can cause dangerous driving conditions.
- Hail can damage small plants.

Timing:

Monday

Confidence:

Moderate

- Greatest chance of small hail and Thunder along the immediate coast throughout the day Today.

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

A graphic with a dark, textured background. The title "Black Ice" is in large, white, outlined letters. Below it, a paragraph explains that black ice is difficult to see and makes roads slippery, especially on bridges and overpasses. To the right is a yellow diamond-shaped warning sign with a black car icon and a black squiggly line representing a skid. In the bottom left corner is the NOAA logo and the URL "weather.gov/winter".

Black Ice

Black ice is difficult to see and makes roads very slippery, especially bridges and overpasses

 weather.gov/winter

Watch for Black Ice

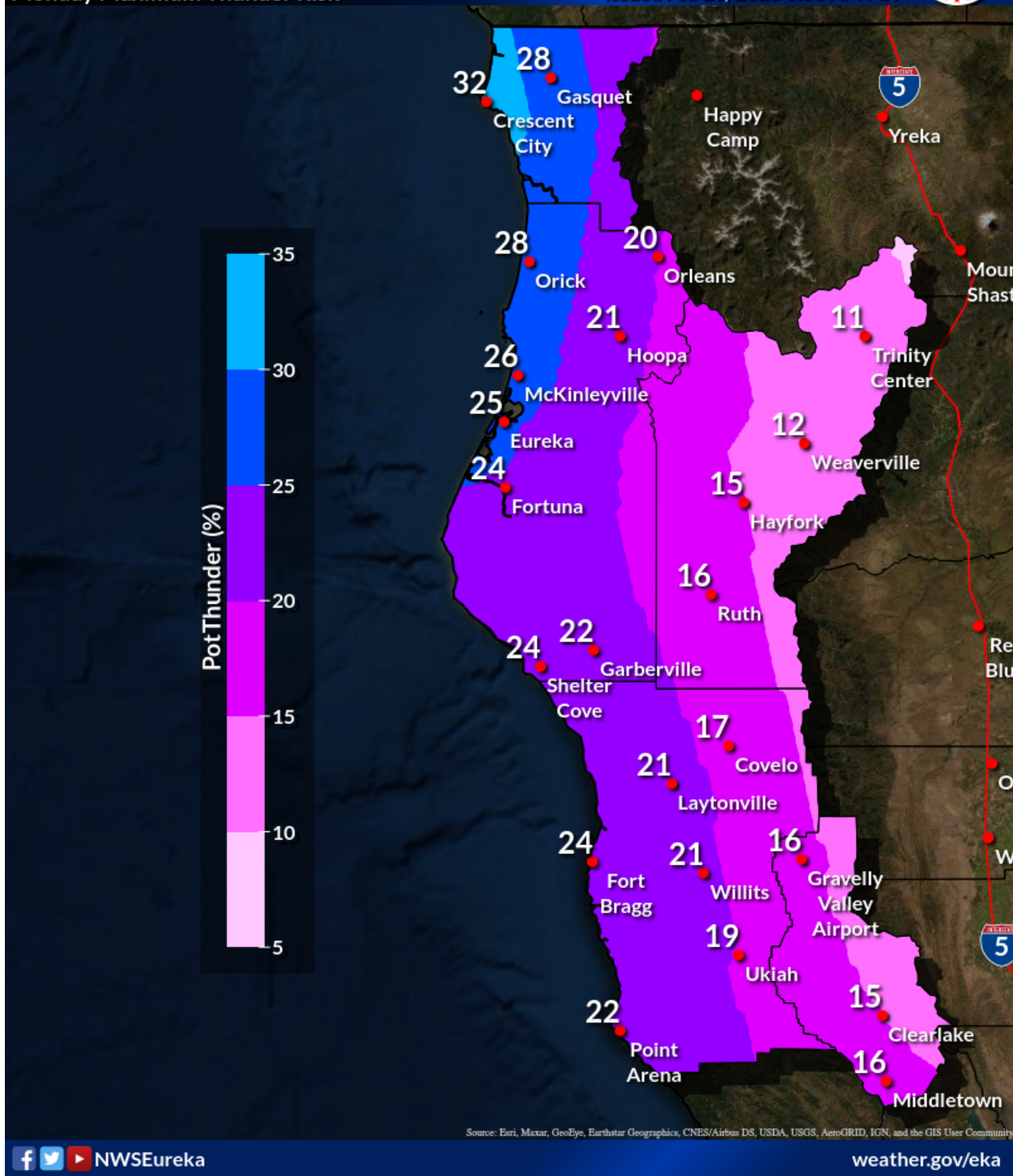
Coastal Thunderstorm Hail

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Monday Maximum Thunder Risk

Issued Feb 26, 2023 6:56 AM PST



Chance of Small Hail Monday

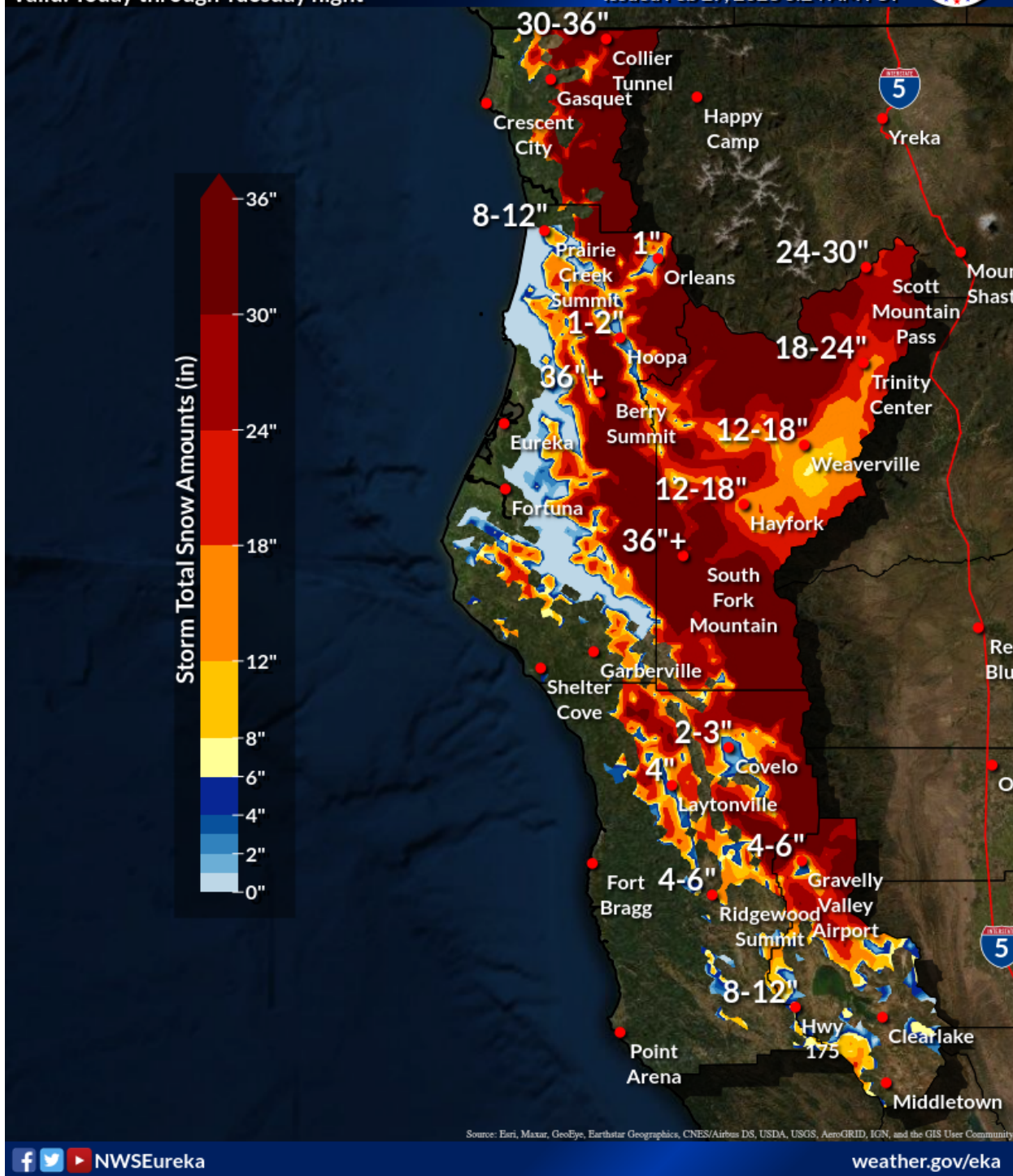
Storm Total Snow

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Valid: Today through Tuesday night

Issued Feb 27, 2023 6:24 AM PST



Storm Total Snow through Tuesday night

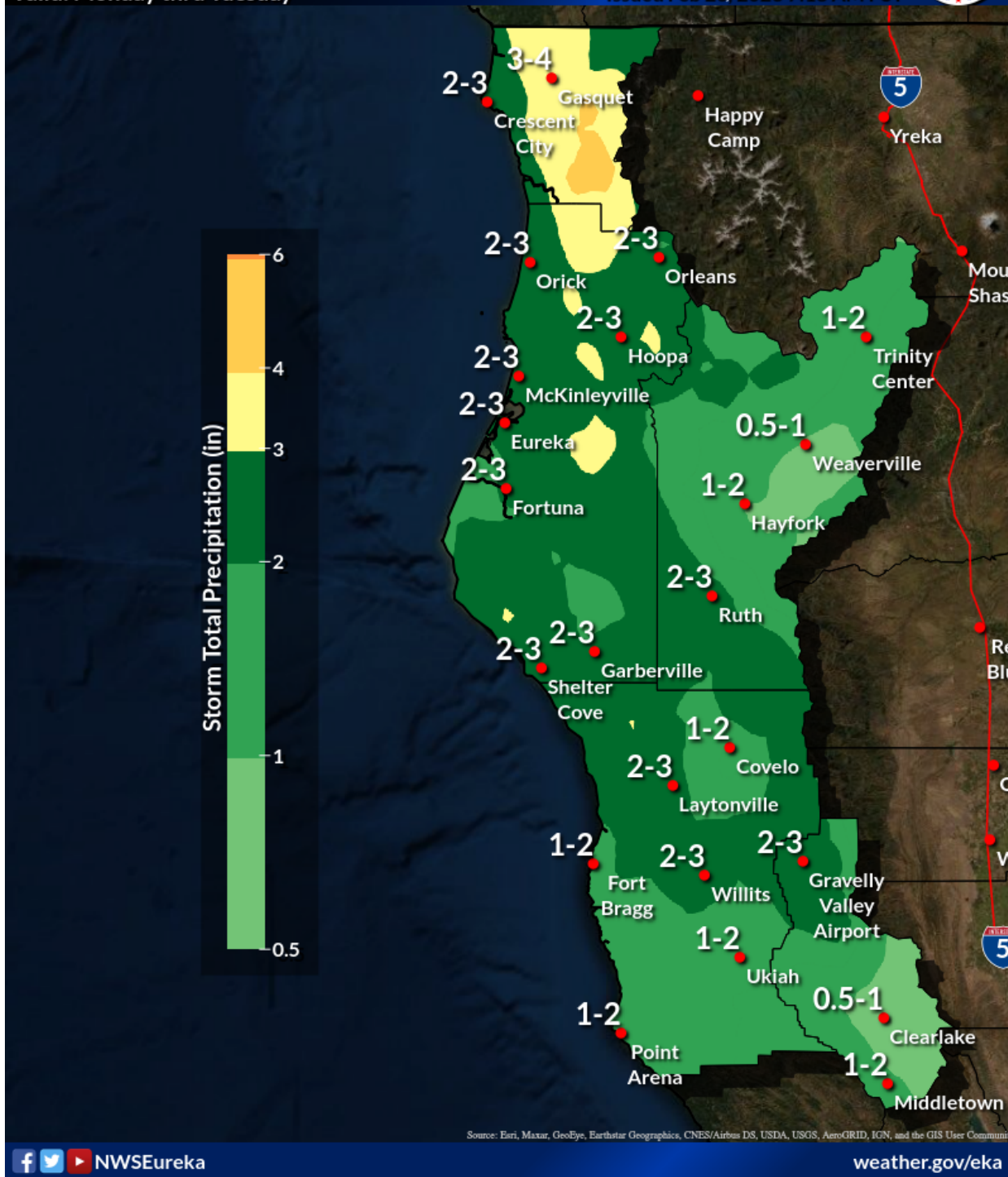
Storm Total Precipitation

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Valid: Monday thru Tuesday

Issued Feb 26, 2023 7:18 AM PST



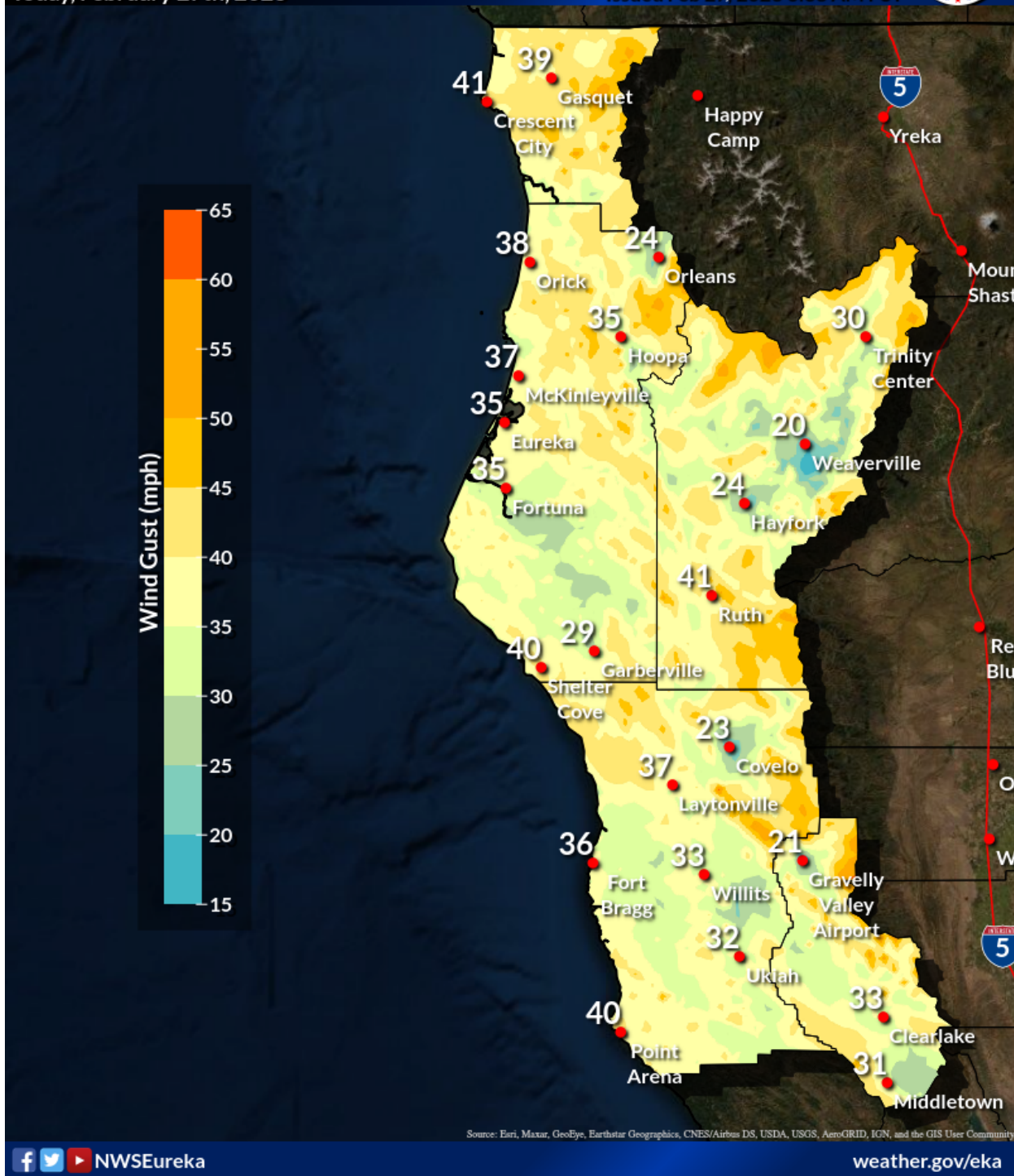
Storm Total Rainfall through Tuesday night

Wind Gusts Today

Today, February 27th, 2023

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Feb 27, 2023 6:38 AM PST



Gusty winds for Today

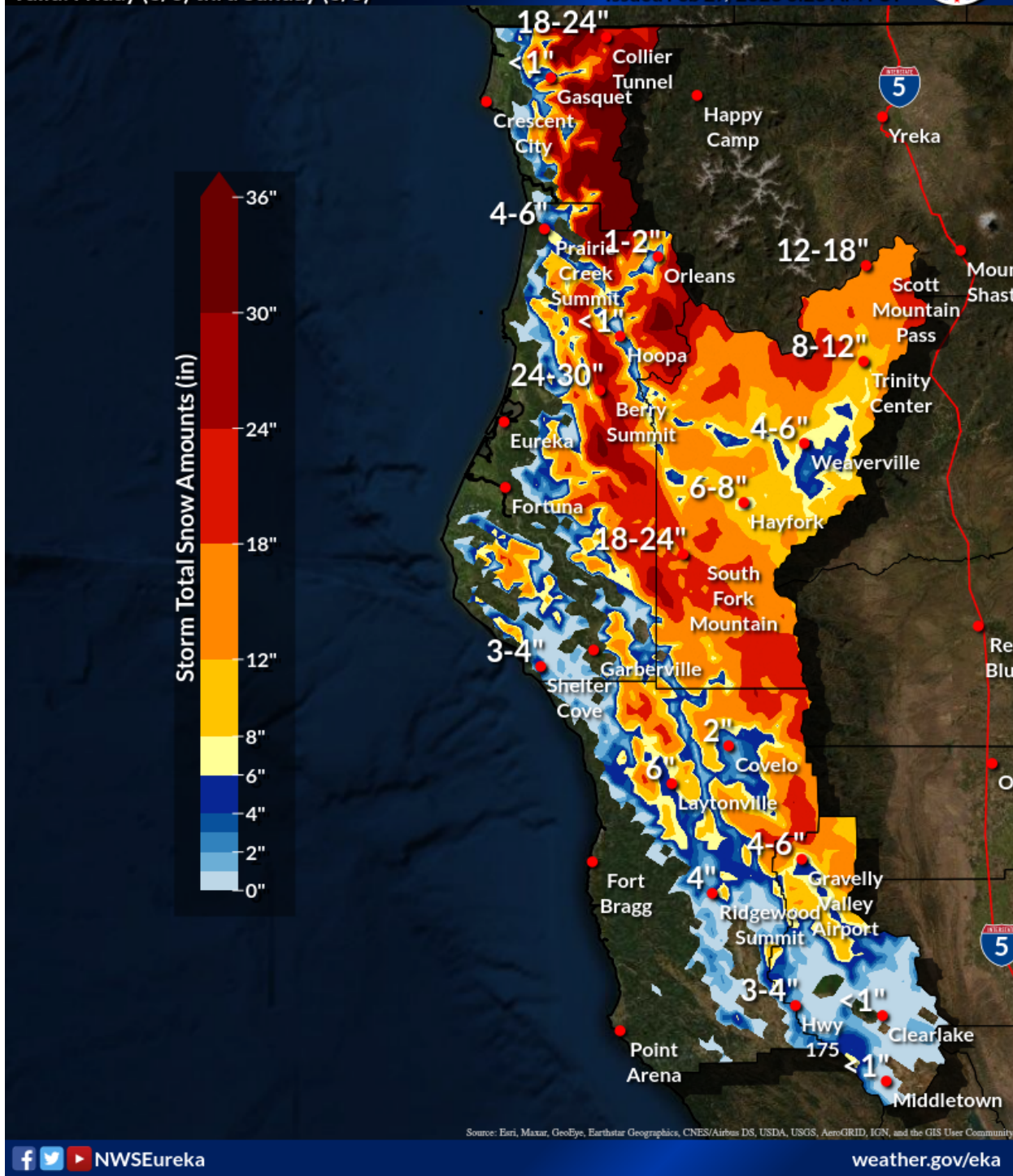
Storm Total Snow for Weekend

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Valid: Friday (3/3) thru Sunday (3/5)

Issued Feb 27, 2023 6:28 AM PST



Storm Total Snow for the Weekend

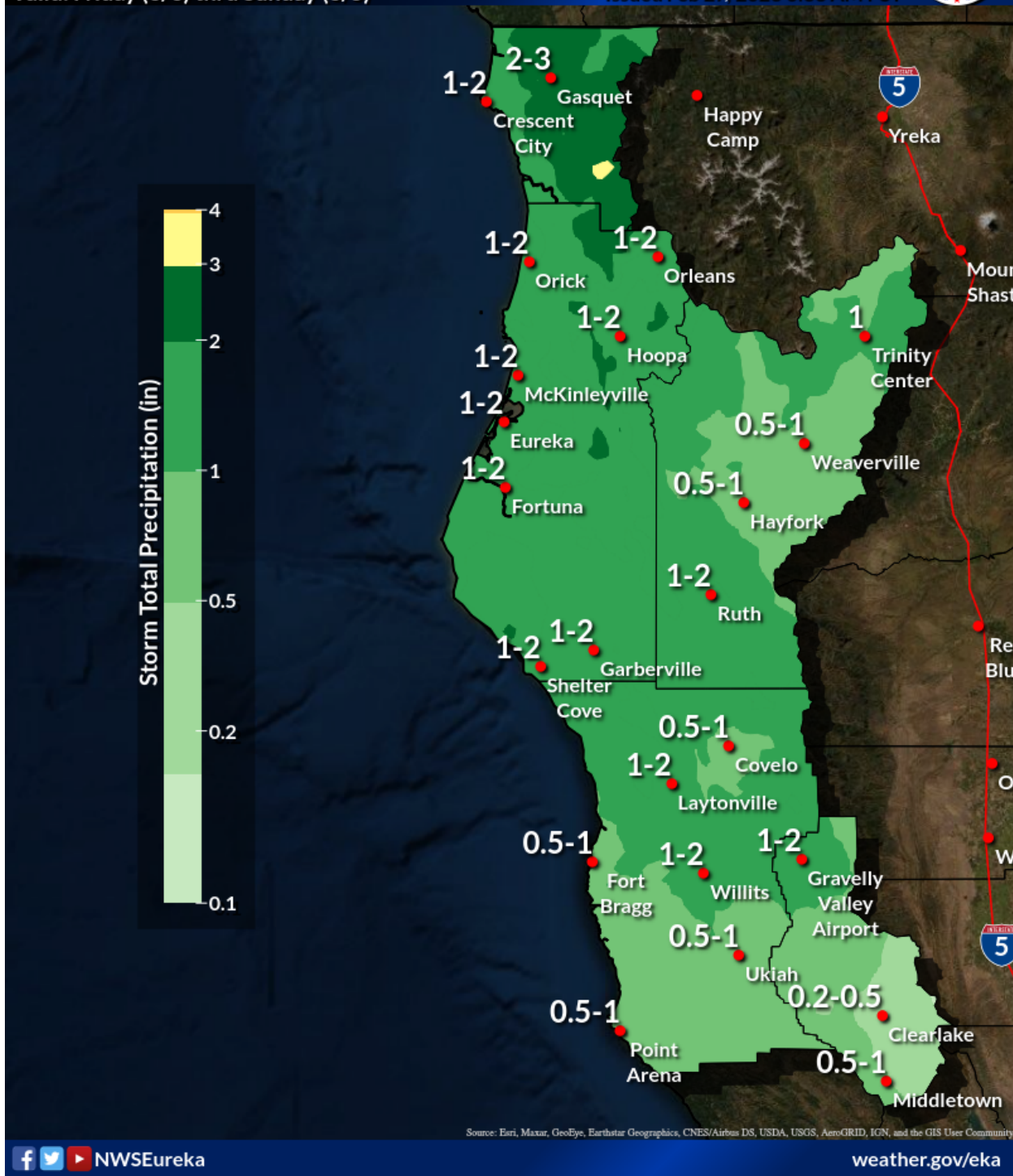
Forecast Total Rainfall

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Valid: Friday (3/3) thru Sunday (3/5)

Issued Feb 27, 2023 6:33 AM PST



Total Rainfall for the Weekend

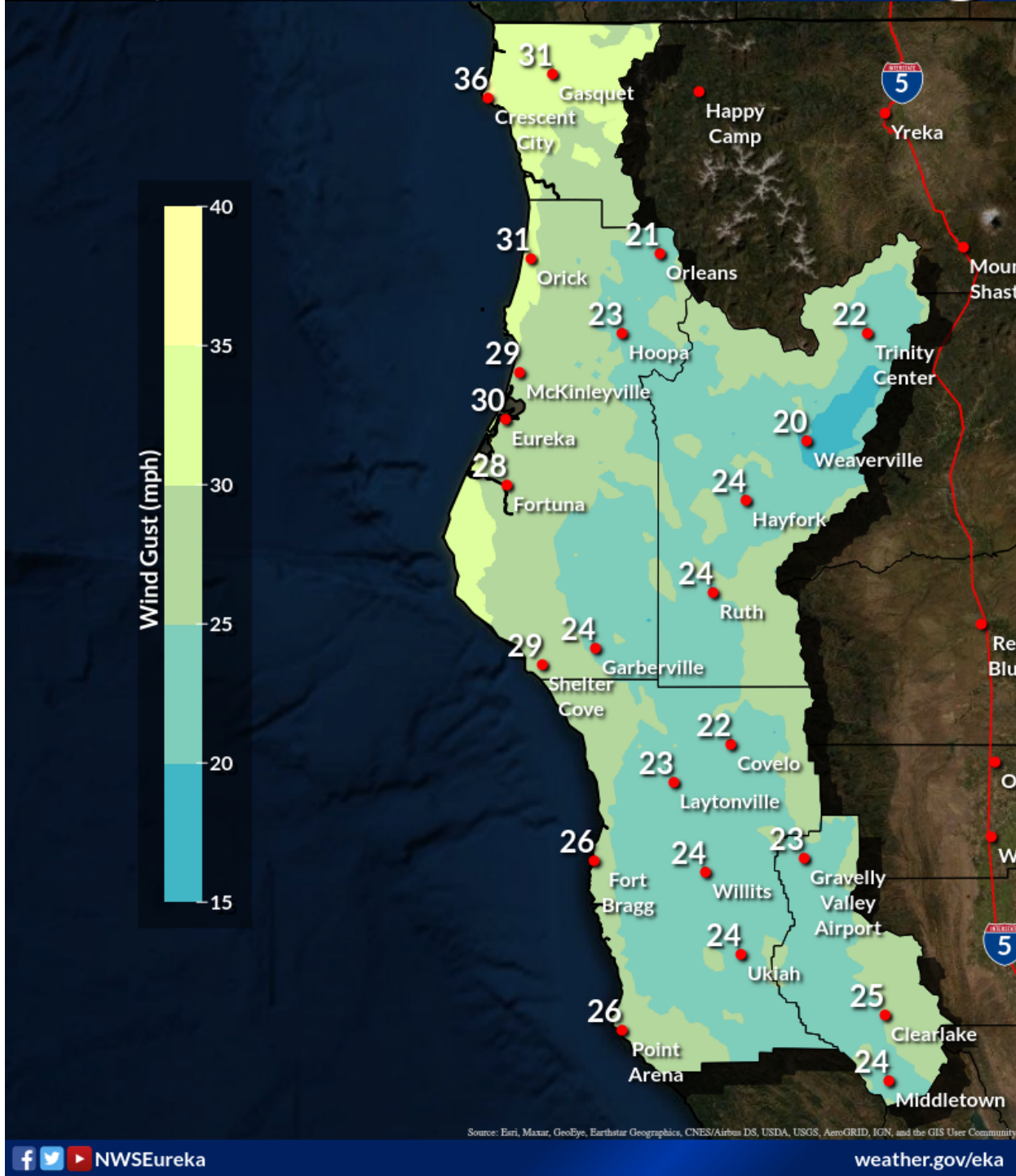
Gusty Winds

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Valid: Saturday, March 4th, 2023

Issued Feb 27, 2023 6:41 AM PST



Gusty winds on Saturday