

WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS UPDATE 1/3/23

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

Atmospheric Rivers in the Russian River Watershed

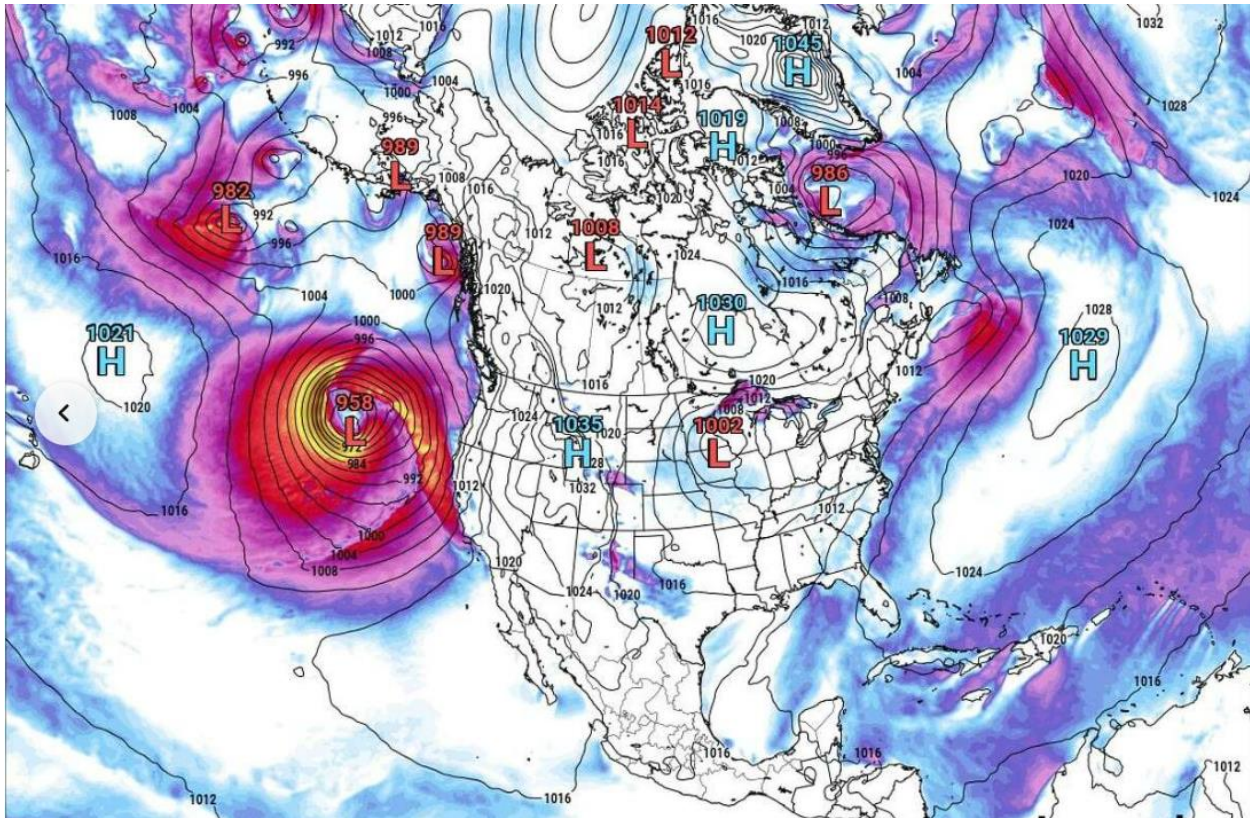
Lots of rain in the region last week and another one on the way. [CA Water Education Foundation's collection of articles on this week's storm, 1/3/23](#)

CA Water Education Foundation's Word of the Week:

Amid California's record drought, a series of atmospheric rivers has drenched the state, soaking parched watersheds, busting levees and fostering hope that the winter will be a wet one. Reservoirs are already rising and the Sierra Nevada snowpack is deepening by the day. As parts of the Central Valley lie feet underwater, another tropical torrent of airborne moisture is approaching the West Coast. So [Atmospheric Rivers](#) is our Water Word of the Week. For more of the vibrant vocabulary of California water check out [Aquapedia](#), our free online water encyclopedia.

For more information on atmospheric rivers, read this article in [Scientific American - Better Atmospheric River Forecasts Are Giving Emergency Planners More Time to Prepare for Flooding, 9/1/22](#).

THE NEXT STORM – A BOMB CYCLONE EXPECTED WEDNESDAY NIGHT/THURSDAY MORNING



From [San Fran Chronicle-'Brutal' storm hitting Northern California on Wednesday could be worse than New Year's Eve deluge, 1/2/23](#)

Check out the Mendocino Action News Facebook Page for more photos like these:



Mainstem Russian River in Hopland on Saturday, 12/31/22 posted by Anna Beuselinck



West Fork Russian River Redwood Valley, 12/30/22 posted by Sam Manka

DON'T DO THIS:



West Fork Russian River in Redwood Valley, 12/31/22 posted by Kippi Buschhorn Cummins

But don't be fooled - the drought isn't over!

“The moisture that we're getting now is a big help, but we need more — a lot more — to really put a major dent in the drought,” said Richard Heim, a meteorologist with the National Centers for Environmental Information and one of the authors of the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#). “A few months of really wet weather, well, it's not going to make much of a dent in these deficits that have accumulated over the years and are reflected in the low reservoirs,” Heim said.

[quote from LA Times - Miracle or mirage? Atmospheric rivers end California drought year with heavy snow and rain, 12/30/22](#)

Water Supply Availability in the Russian River Watershed

Update on Russian River Curtailments:

Due to recent precipitation in the region, the Division of Water Rights has posted an updated Curtailment Status List on the [Russian River Drought Response webpage](#) that takes effect on December 29, 2022. With this update, there are no water right curtailments in place through at least January 16, 2023. Curtailments are lifted for all appropriative water rights in the watershed. Riparian claimants diverting under a Statement of Diversion and Use are not subject to correlative reductions. Division staff will reassess supply conditions in January and will post a revised Curtailment Status List for the remainder of January. Right holders must continue to monitor the Curtailment Status List for the latest curtailment statuses.

If you received this notice in a forwarded message or are not otherwise subscribed to the Russian River Drought email list and would like to receive future emails related to this and similar efforts, please subscribe to the State Water Board's "Russian River Drought" email subscription list under "Water Rights" at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Water Rights at RussianRiverDrought@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5318.

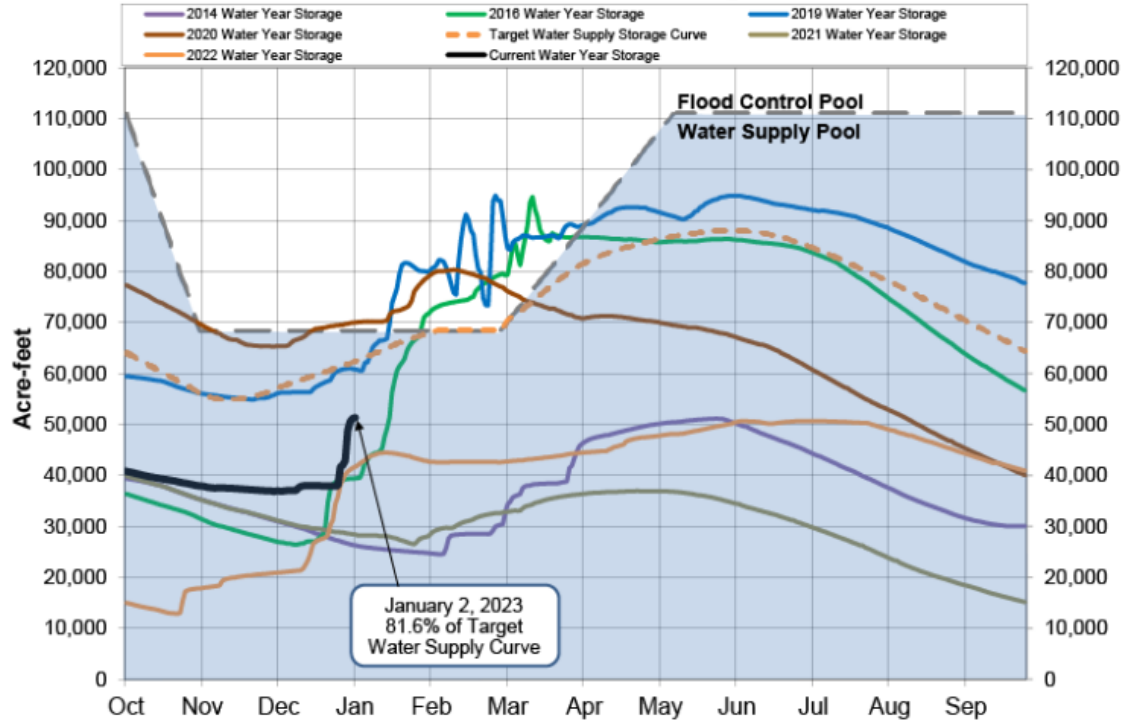
Reservoir Storage & Operations([More info here](#)):

Water supply information below and attached provided by Sonoma Water.

National Weather Service updates **attached INCLUDING A SLIDE SHOW FROM BRIEFING ON THE EXPECTED ATMOSPHERIC RIVER.**

Link to: [Abacela Weather and Climate Summary and Forecast, January 2023](#)

Lake Mendocino Storage



Lake Mendocino

1/2

Current Storage (acre-feet)	51,294
Target Water Supply Storage Curve (acre-feet)	62,370
% of Target Water Supply Storage Curve	82.24%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+13,318

Lake Pillsbury

1/2

Current Storage (acre-feet)	60,021
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)	27,341
7-day change (acre-feet)	+26,576

Lake Sonoma

1/2

Current Storage (acre-feet)	117,027
Target Storage Curve (acre-feet)	245,000
% of Water Supply Pool	47.77%
7-day change (acre-feet)	+19,176

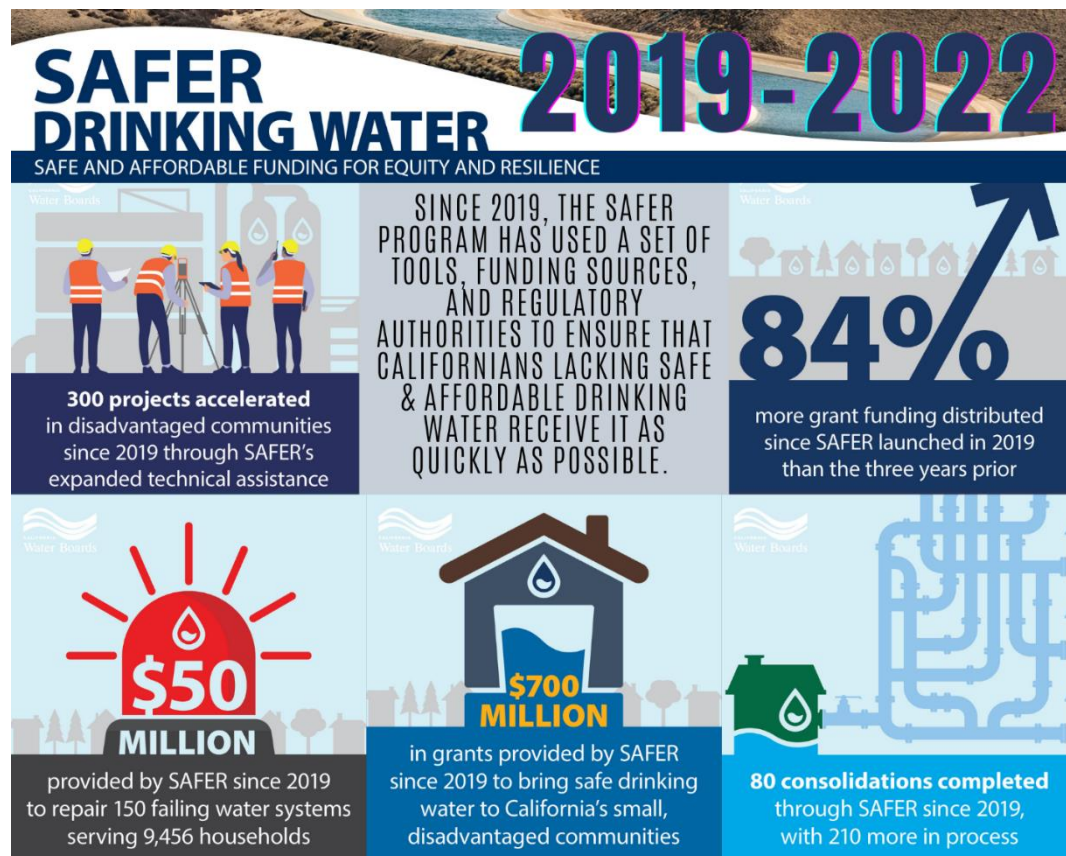
Read the Most Recent Mendocino County Resource Conservation District Newsletter

Mendocino County RCD Newsletter



Celebrating Efforts to Bring Safe and Affordable Drinking Water to all Californians

Established in 2019, the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) drinking water program was designed to ensure Californians who lack safe and affordable drinking water receive it as quickly as possible and that the water systems serving them establish sustainable solutions. The SAFER drinking water program is helping water systems achieve this goal through a set of tools, funding sources, regulatory authorities, and community outreach and education.



We are proud of what we achieved over the past three years to advance the Human Right to Water. We are most grateful for the local, regional, state, and federal partnerships that supported this work. We look forward to continued partnership in 2023 and beyond.

Stay Engaged: Visit the SAFER drinking water program website and attend events: waterboards.ca.gov/safer

In the press:

- [2 CA Water Plan eNews, 12/28/22](#)
- [Maven's Notebook, Dec 26-30, 2022](#)

- [CalMatters Commentary - What California can learn from wave of storms, 1/3/23](#)
- [Redheaded Blackbelt - NEW TWIST FOR POTTER VALLEY PROJECT, 12/29/22](#)
- [WaterWorld- California developing groundwater accounting platform, 12/29/22](#)

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](#).

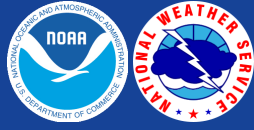
Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager

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





Active Weather Pattern Continues Through the Week

KEY POINTS

- **Very Strong Gusty Winds Wednesday and Thursday**
- **Main Stem River Flooding - Wednesday, Thursday**
- **Flooding of low lying areas and small streams - Wednesday, Thursday**
- **Additional rain, wind and mountain snow Saturday and Sunday**

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

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

	Tue 1/3	Wed 1/4	Thu 1/5	Fri 1/6	Sat 1/7	Sun 1/8	Mon 1/9
Lake County Clearlake, Lakeport	Rain	Rain Wind Flooding	Wind Rain Flooding	Rain	Rain Wind Flooding	Mountain Snow Rain	Wind Rain
Del Norte County Crescent City, Gasquet	Rain	Rain Wind	Wind Rain Flooding	Wind Rain	Rain Wind	Rain	Rain
Mendocino County Ukiah, Fort Bragg	Rain	Rain Wind Mountain Snow Flooding	Wind Rain Mountain Snow Flooding	Rain Mountain Snow	Snow Rain Wind Flooding	Mountain Snow Rain	Wind Rain Mountain Snow
Trinity County Weaverville, Hayfork	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Wind Mountain Snow Flooding	Wind Rain Mountain Snow Flooding	Mountain Snow Rain	Snow Rain Wind Flooding	Rain Snow	Wind Rain Mountain Snow
Humboldt County Eureka, Fortuna, Willow Creek	Rain	Rain Wind Flooding	Wind Rain Flooding	Wind Rain	Rain Wind Flooding	Rain	Wind Rain

Risk Levels

Little to None

Minor

Moderate

Major

Extreme

DETAILS

Trinity, Mendocino, Humboldt, Lake Counties



Snow

Impacts:

- Mountain travel delays and chain controls possible.
- Hazardous travel conditions due to slick, snow covered roads

Timing:

- Monday and again on Wednesday through Thursday.

- Light to moderate snow may impact highway passes on hws 3, 36, and 299.
- Snow levels Wednesday will be 4000 to 5000 feet, and rising by Thursday.

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



Wind

Impacts:

- Hazardous crosswinds, especially for high profile vehicles.
- Loose or unsecured objects may be blown away.
- Dangerous winds may cause widespread power outages as well as downed trees and powerlines.

Timing:

- Wednesday afternoon through Thursday, and again Saturday.

Confidence:

- Low but potential for gusts up to 70 mph on ridges and exposed areas.

Mendocino, Humboldt Counties



River Flooding

Impacts:

- Significant rises on main stem rivers.

Timing:

- Heavy rain will start on Wednesday and continue through Thursday.

Confidence:

- For the latest info and current hydrographs with the river levels, visit www.cnrfc.noaa.gov.

Lake County, Mendocino County, Trinity County, Humboldt County



Flooding

Impacts:

- Moderate to heavy rain leading to minor nuisance flooding
- Water flowing in normally dry washes, flood channels, and low water crossings.
- Roads may become impassable due to flooding or flood damage.

Timing:

Wednesday afternoon through Thursday.

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

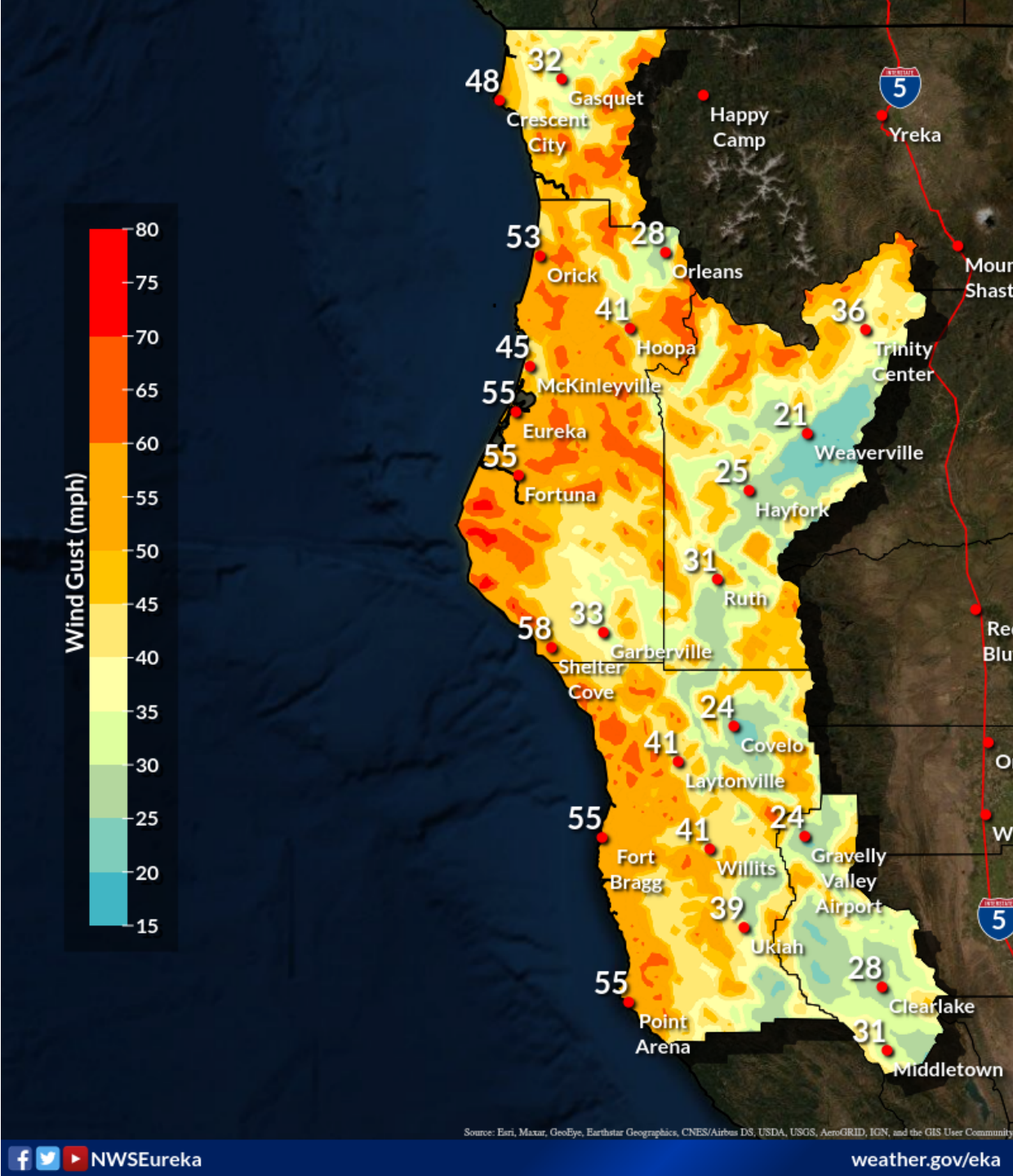
Max Wind Gusts

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Wednesday Through Thursday

Issued Jan 02, 2023 11:29 PM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

NWSEureka

weather.gov/eka

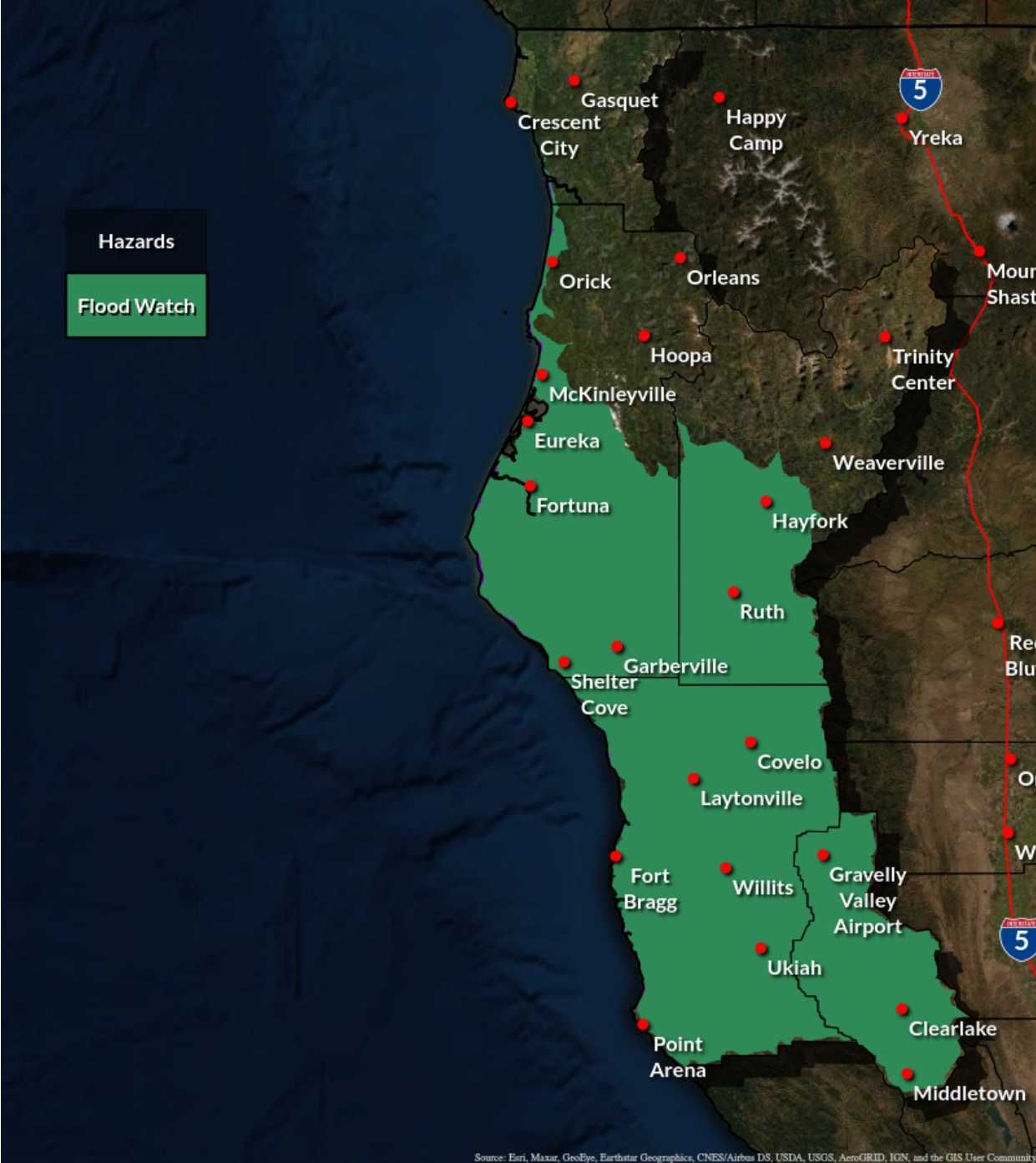
Max Wind Gusts

Flood Watch

Wednesday Through Thursday

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Jan 02, 2023 11:34 PM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

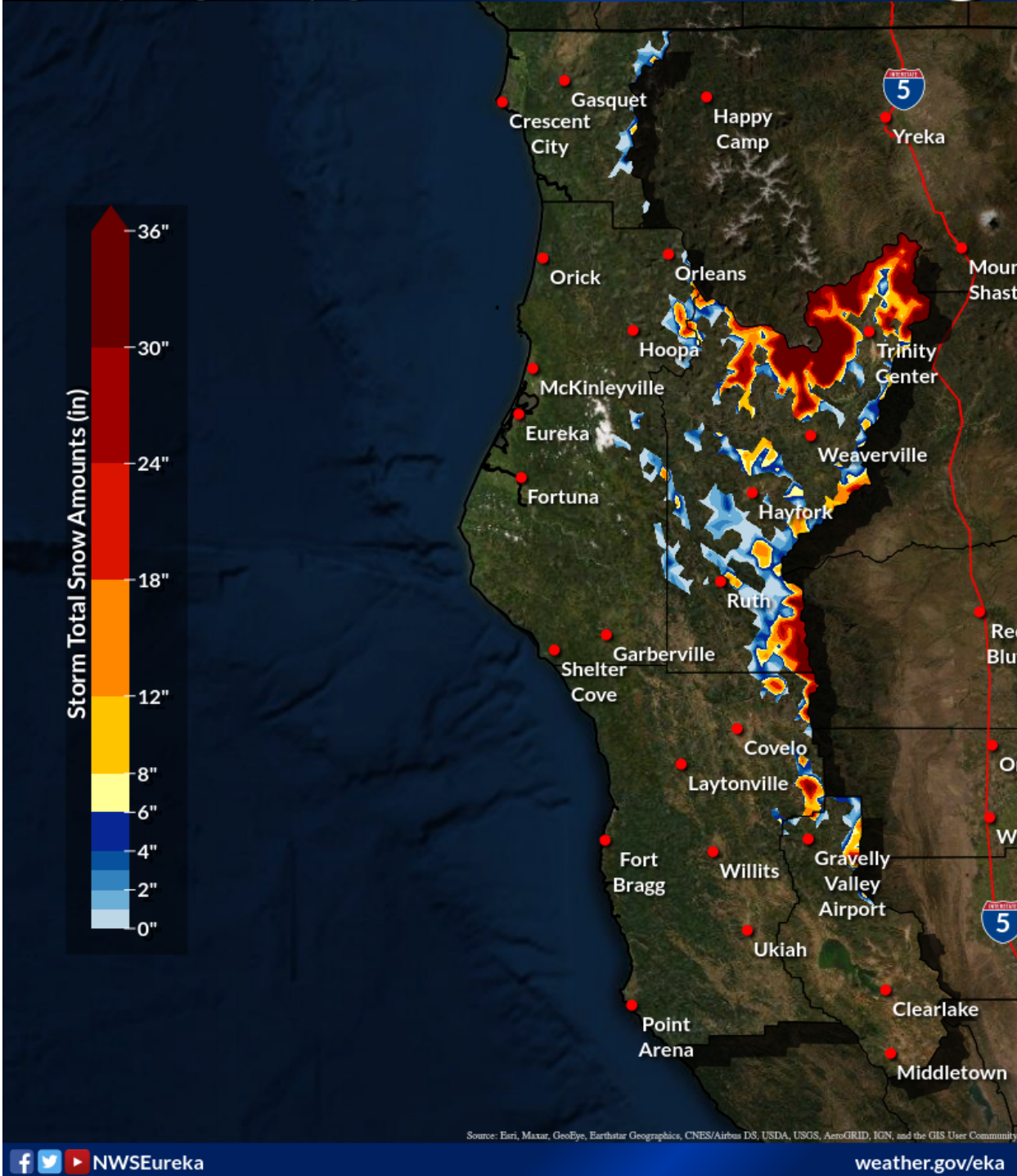
Flood Watch

Storm Total Snowfall

Wednesday Through Thursday Night

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Jan 02, 2023 11:26 PM PST



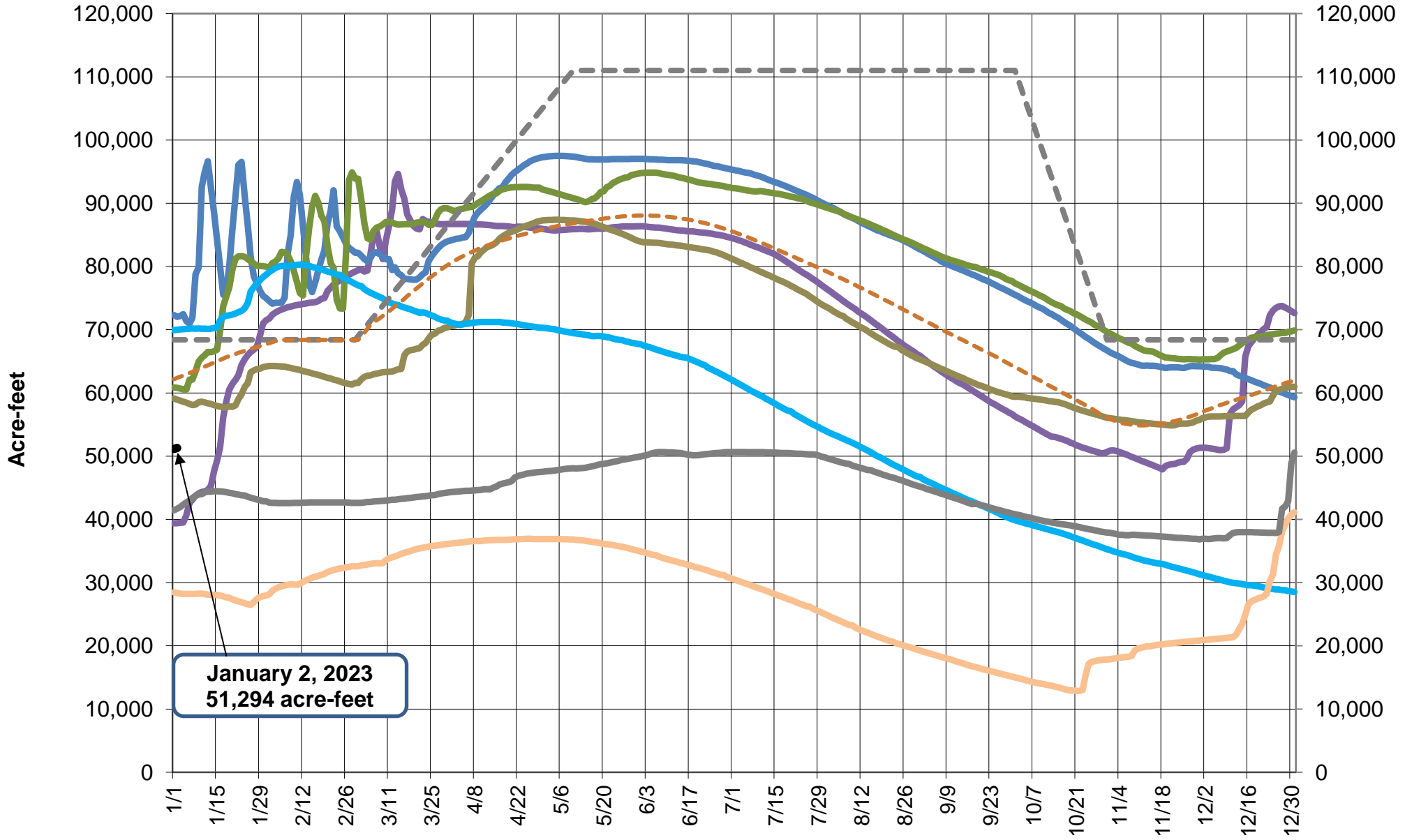
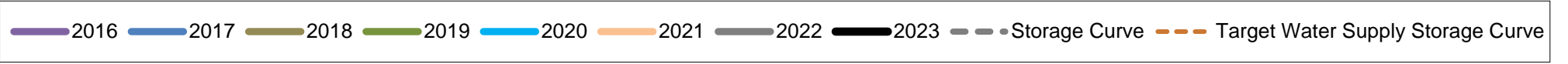
Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

NWSEureka

weather.gov/eka

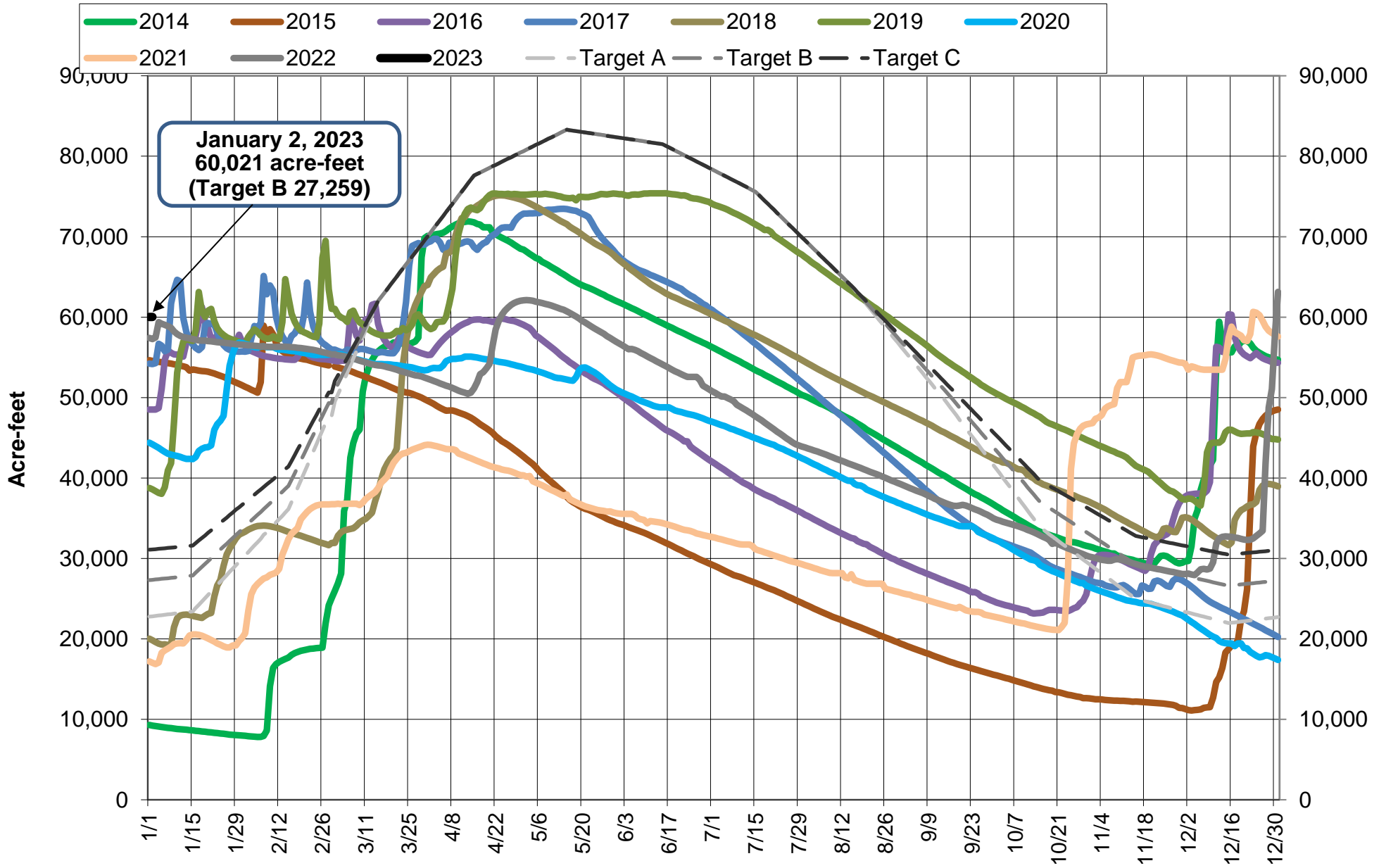
Storm Total Snow

Lake Mendocino Storage

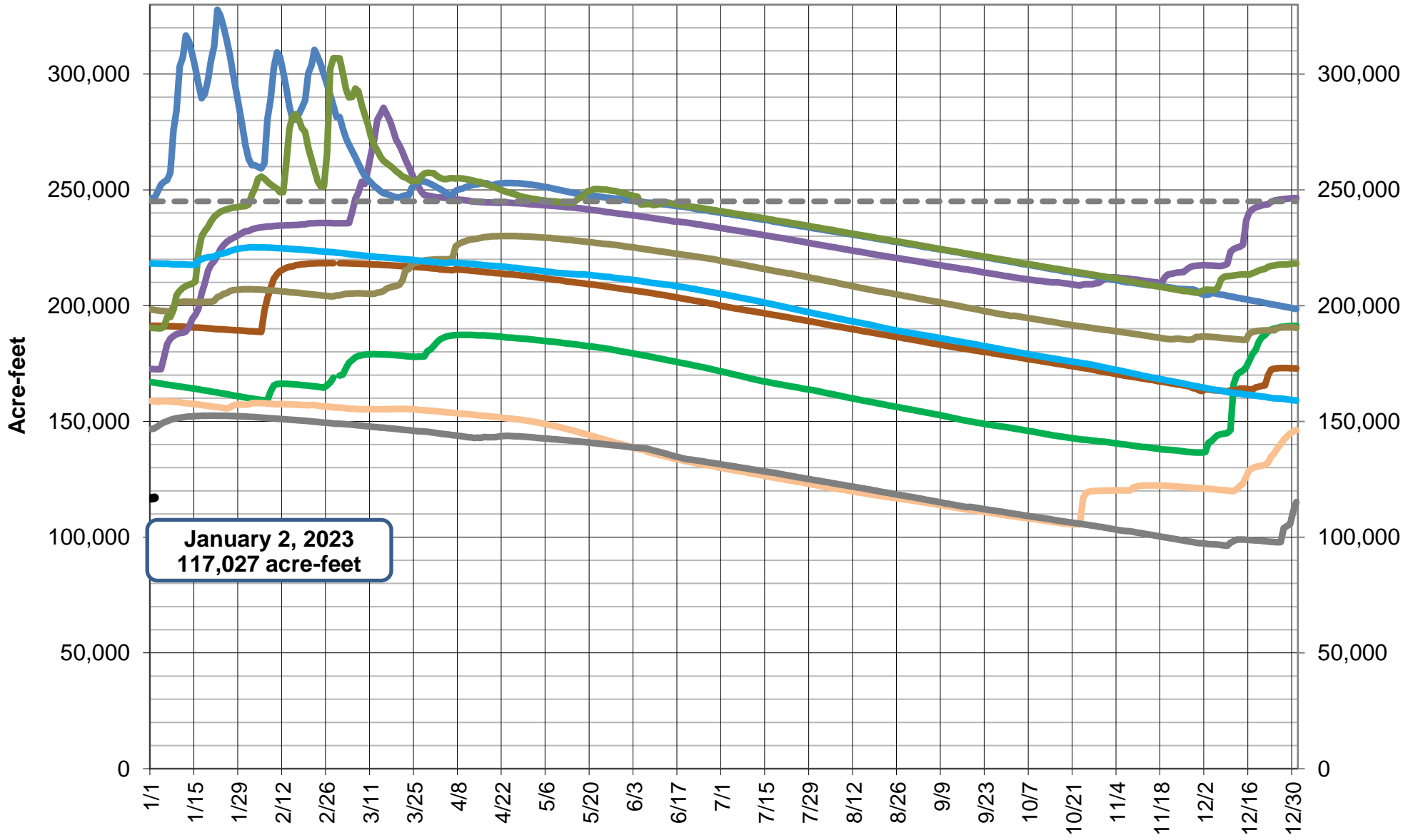


January 2, 2023
51,294 acre-feet

Lake Pillsbury Storage and Target Storage Scenarios

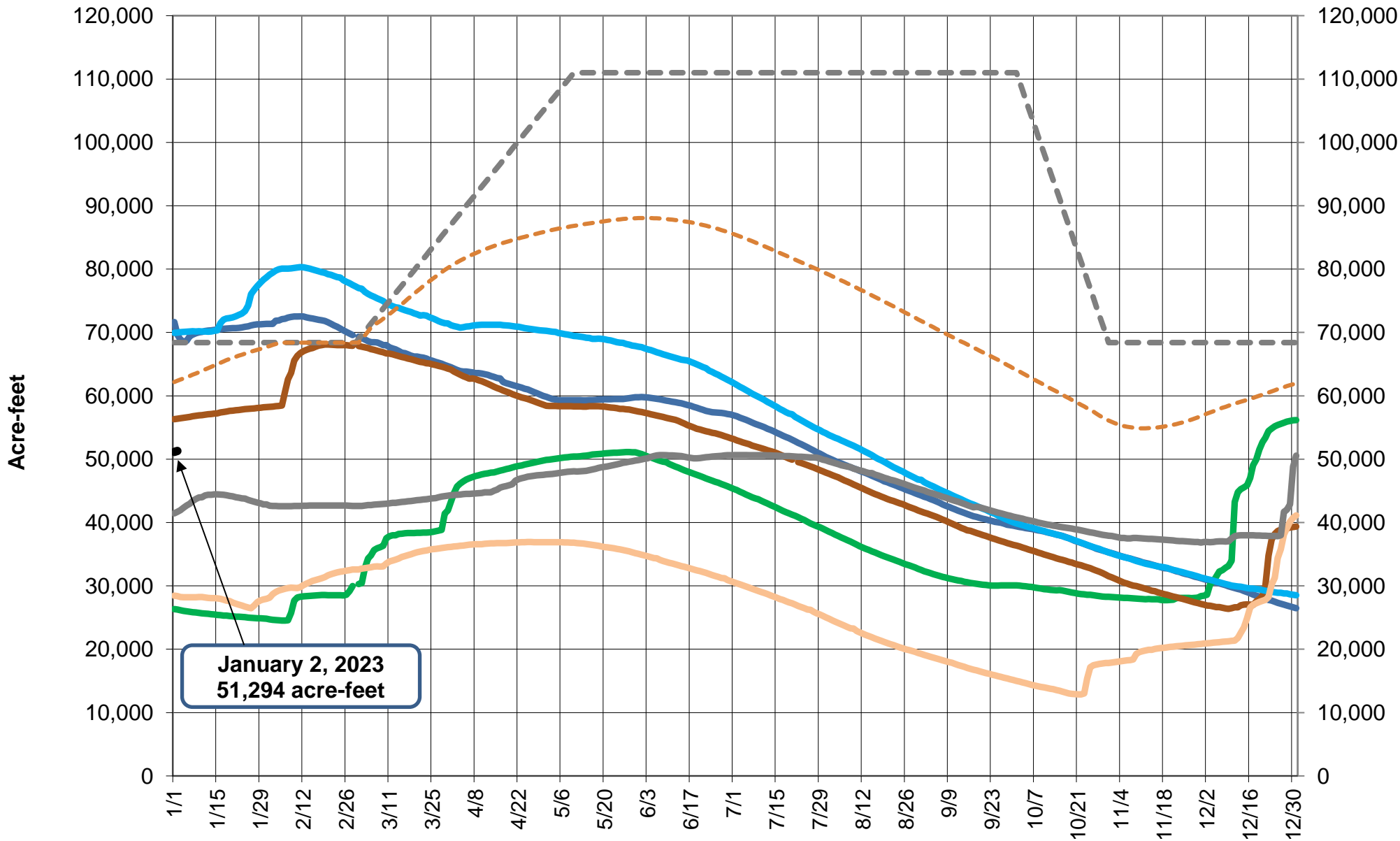


Lake Sonoma Storage



Lake Mendocino Storage - Drought Years

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

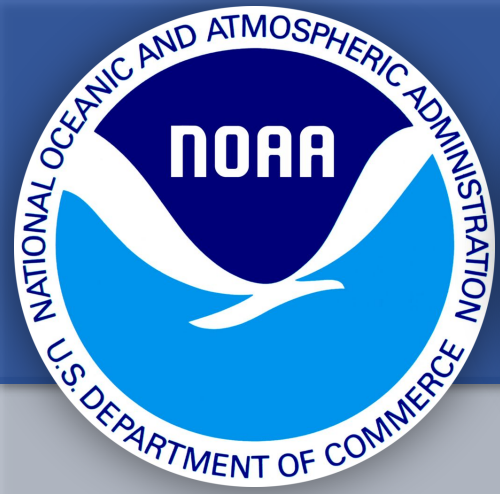


January 2, 2023
51,294 acre-feet



Presentation valid at 01-03-2022 at 11AM

**For more up to date information see weather.gov/eka or
call us at 707-443-6484**



Strong Atmospheric River

January 4 - 5 2023

Presenter : James White

Weather Forecast Office

Eureka, CA

Tuesday, January 3

Presentation Start 11:00 AM





WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

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

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Del Norte County Crescent City, Gasquet	Rain	Rain Wind	Wind Rain Flooding	Wind Rain	Rain Wind	Rain	Rain
Mendocino County Ukiah, Fort Bragg	Rain	Rain Wind Mountain Snow Flooding	Wind Rain Mountain Snow Flooding	Rain Mountain Snow	Snow Rain Wind Flooding	Mountain Snow Rain	Wind Rain Mountain Snow
Trinity County Weaverville, Hayfork	Rain Mountain Snow	Rain Wind Mountain Snow Flooding	Wind Rain Mountain Snow Flooding	Mountain Snow Rain	Snow Rain Wind Flooding	Rain Snow	Wind Rain Mountain Snow
Humboldt County Eureka, Fortuna, Willow Creek	Rain	Rain Wind Flooding	Wind Rain Flooding	Wind Rain	Rain Wind Flooding	Rain	Wind Rain

Risk Levels

Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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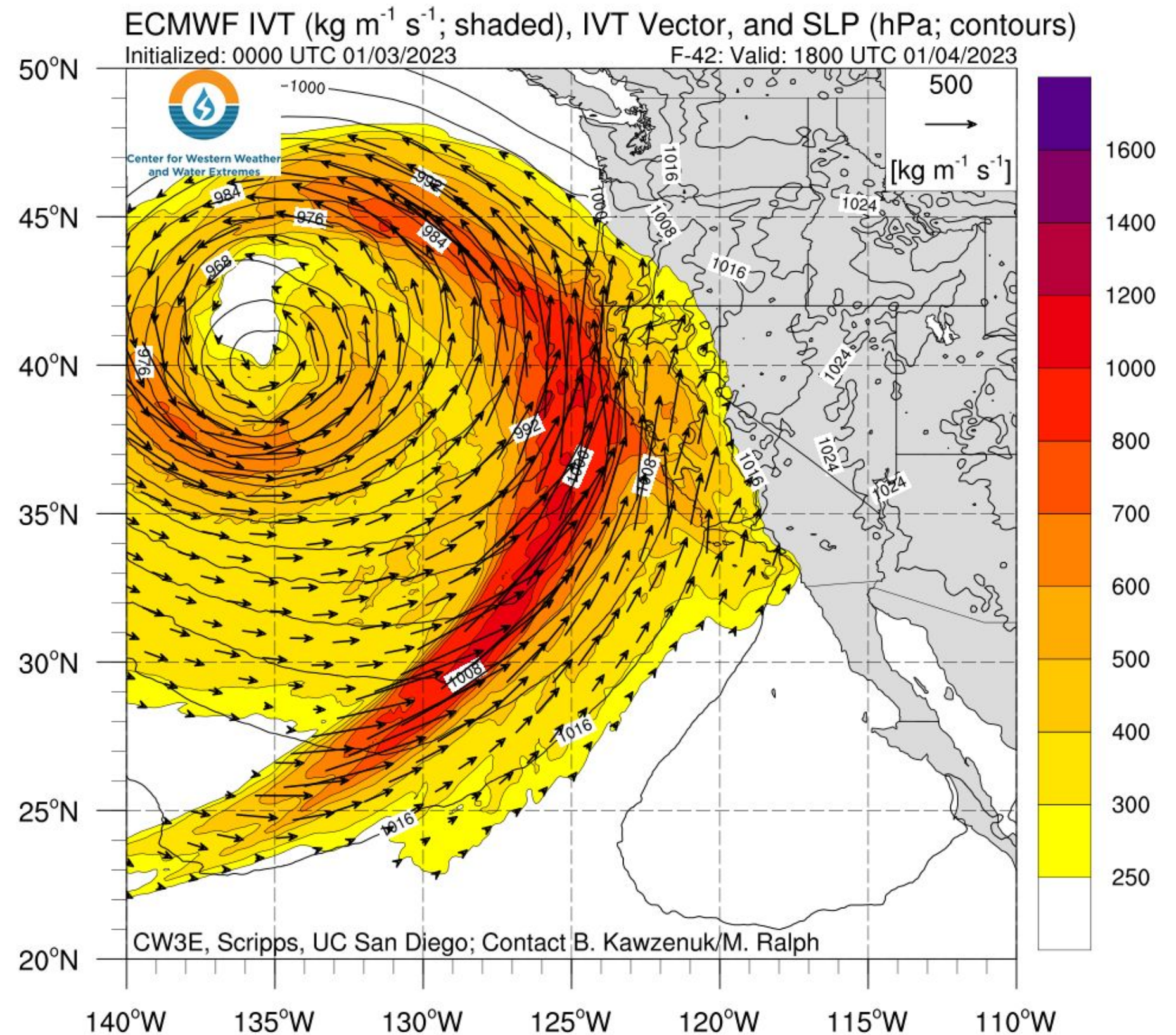


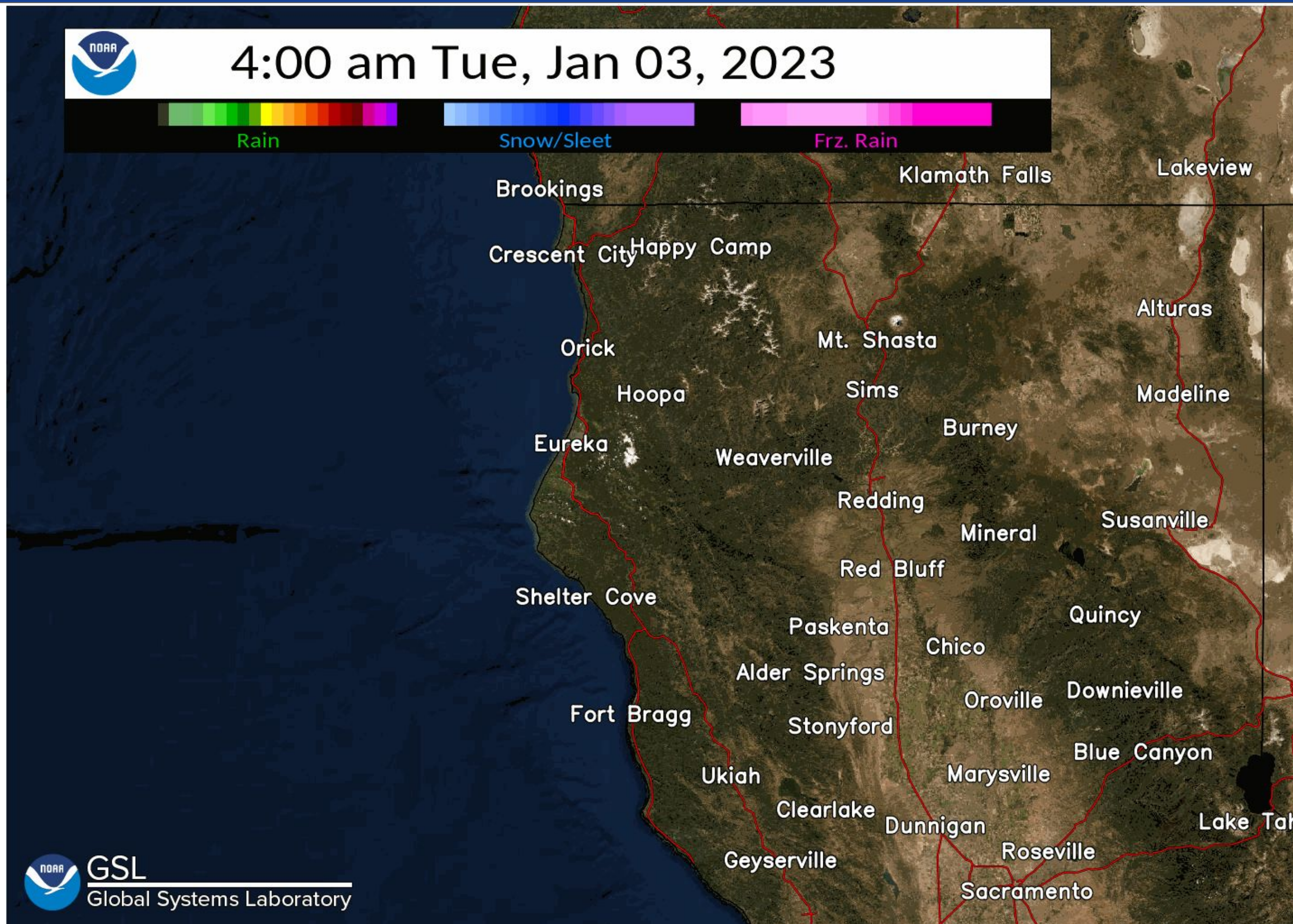
Key Points

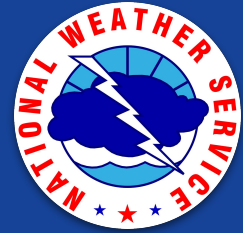
- **High winds gusting 60 to 75 mph on coastal ridges and headlands in Mendocino and Humboldt**
- **4 to 6 inches of rain in Mendocino and Lake, high risk of rock and landslides**
- **High risk of small stream flooding and along the Russian, Navarro, and Eel rivers**
- **Storm force winds and high surf along the coast**

**Very strong pacific cyclone
approaching the coast
tomorrow**

**Will bring a “river” of topical
moisture to the area**







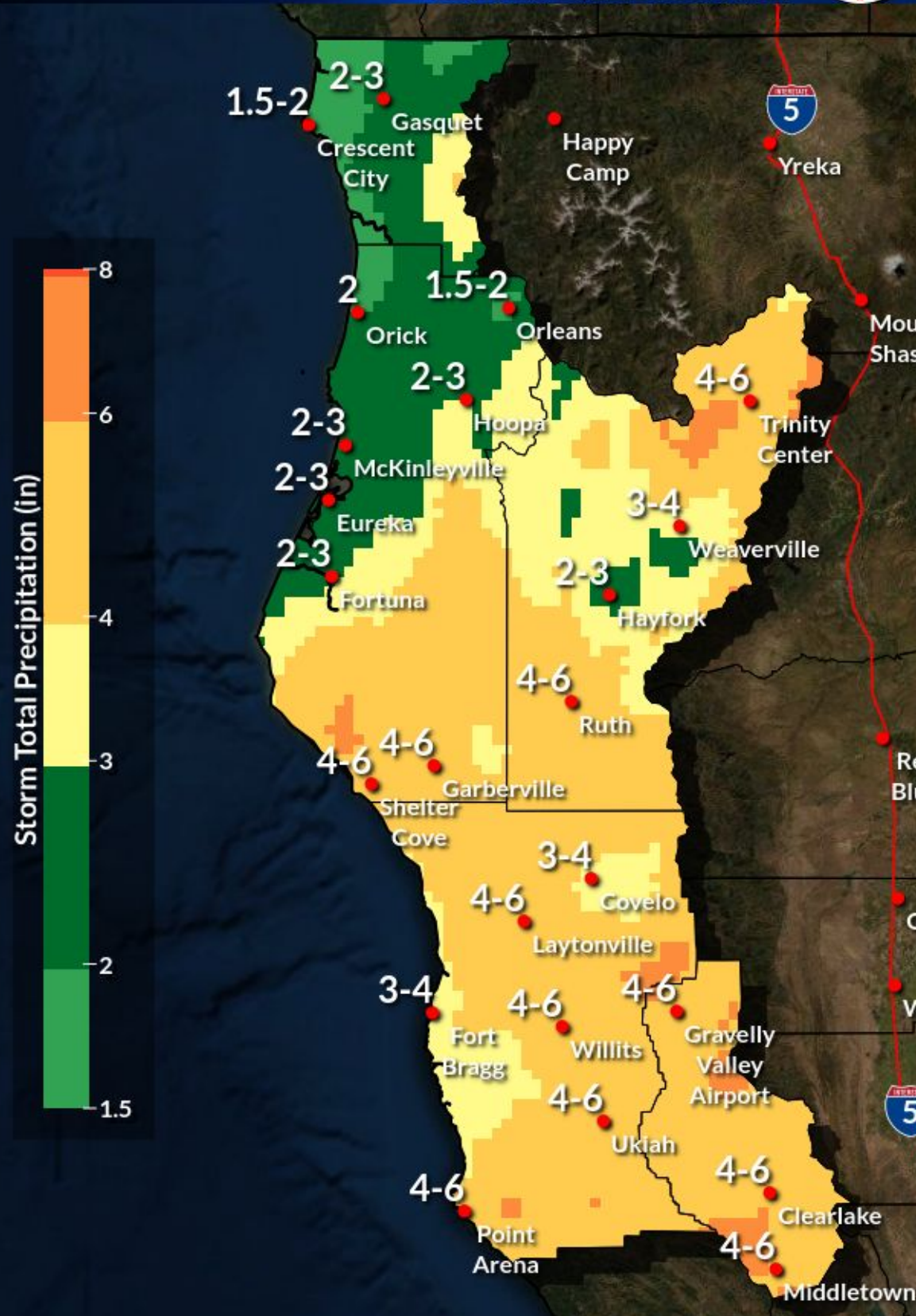
Storm Total Rain

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Wednesday - Thursday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 9:08 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

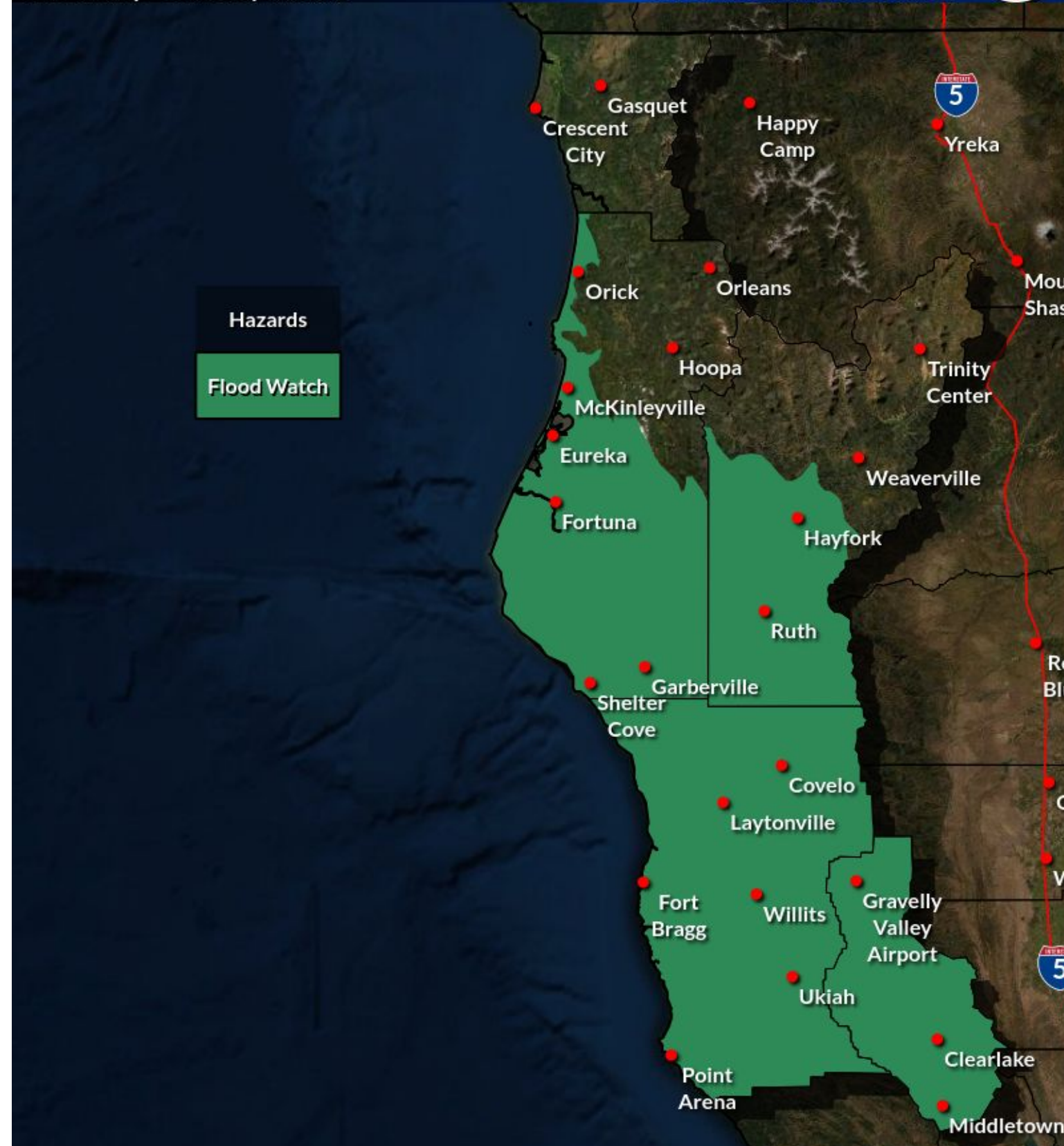
Midweek Atmospheric River

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Wednesday - Thursday Hazard

Issued Jan 02, 2023 1:36 PM PST



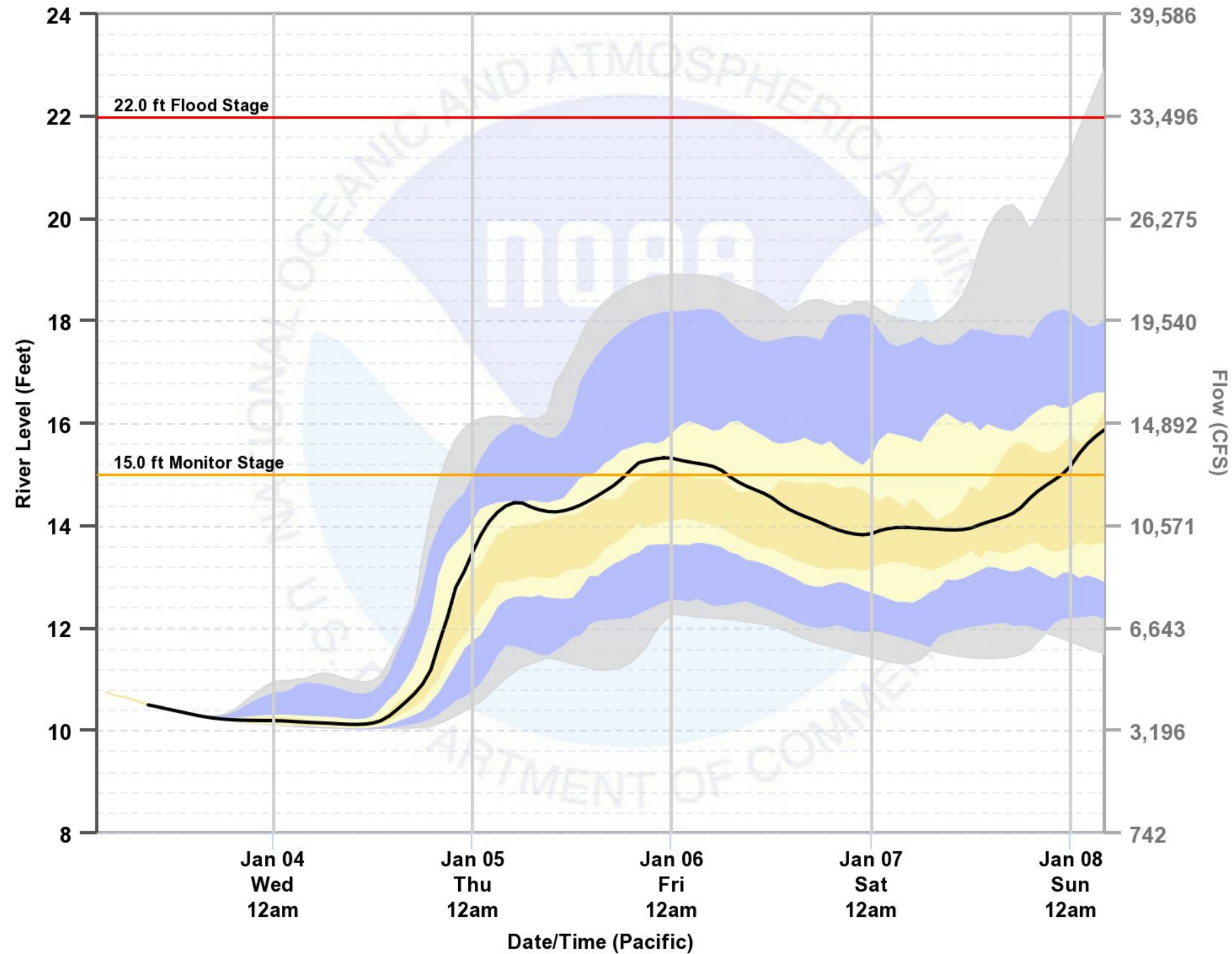
Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



Mad River at Arcata

Hourly River Level Probabilities MAD RIVER - ARCATA (ARCC1)

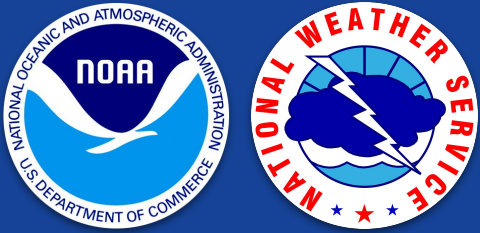
Created: 01/03/2023 at 9:19 AM PST



Chance of River Level Exceedance (Feet)
Forecast Period: 01/03/2023 4 am - 01/08/2023 4 am

Max	22.90	Flood Stage 22.0 ft < 2%
5%	20.18	
10%	18.40	
25%	17.66	
50%	16.26	
75%	14.45	15.0 ft 69% Monitor Stage
90%	13.44	
95%	12.98	
Min	12.58	

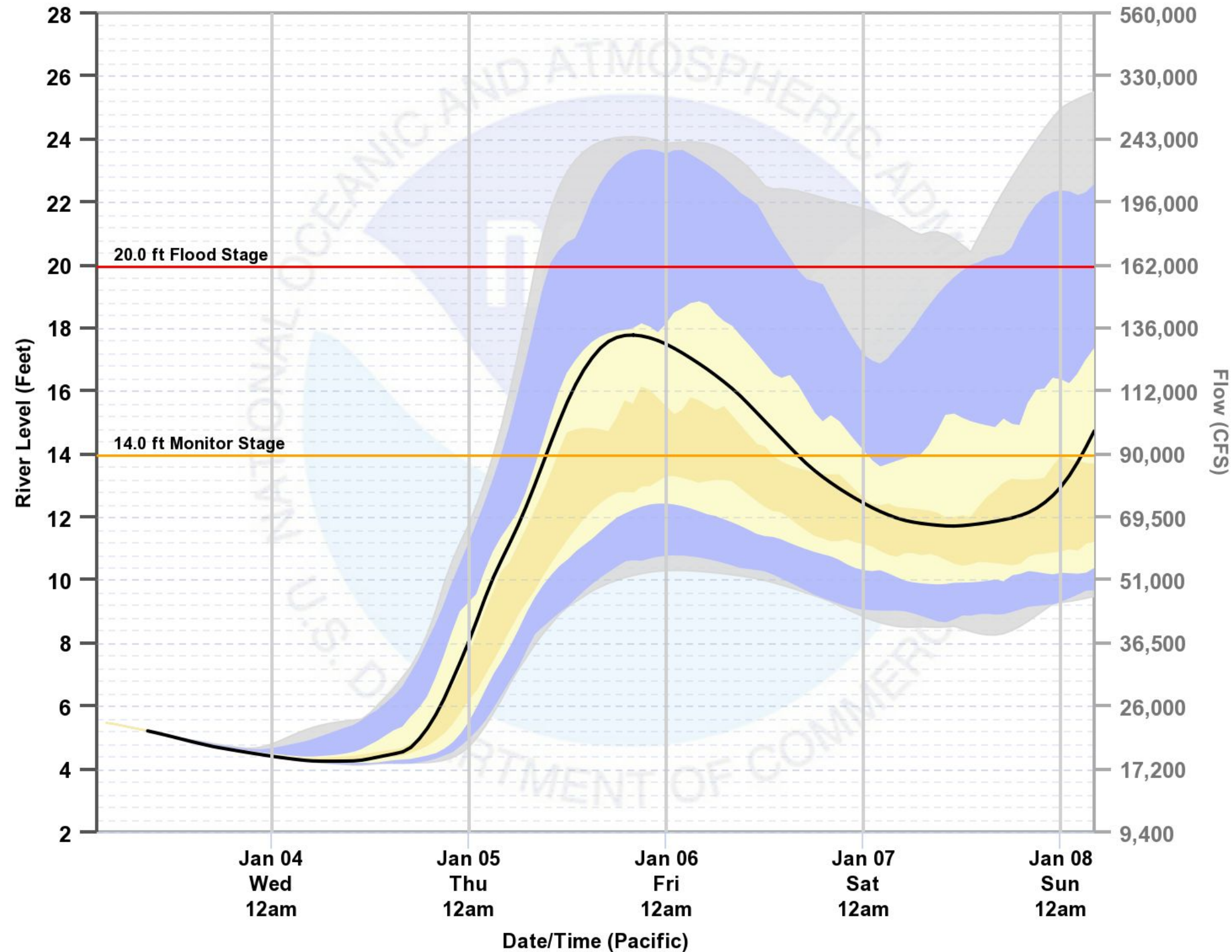
- Official Forecast (Deterministic)
- Ensemble Mean
- Model Traces
- Hourly Probabilities
 - 0-5% chance
 - 5-25% chance
 - 25-40% chance
 - 40-60% chance



Eel River at Fernbridge

Hourly River Level Probabilities EEL RIVER - FERNBRIDGE (FRNC1)

Created: 01/03/2023 at 9:19 AM PST



Chance of River Level Exceedance (Feet)
Forecast Period: 01/03/2023 4 am - 01/08/2023 4 am

Max	25.49	
5%	24.04	
10%	23.72	
25%	21.68	Flood Stage 20.0 ft 38%
50%	17.91	
75%	13.16	14.0 ft 71% Monitor Stage
90%	11.28	
95%	10.85	
Min	10.30	

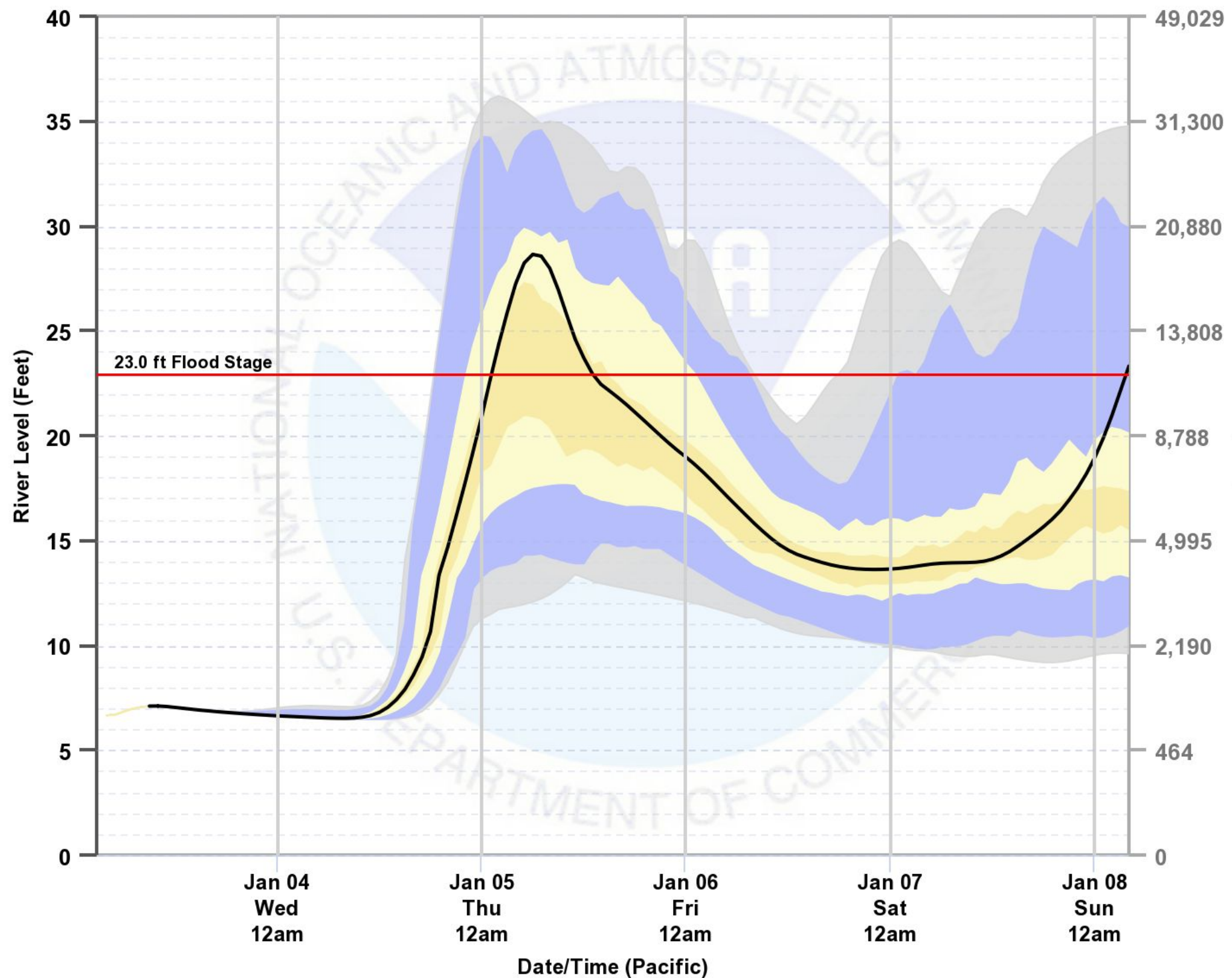
- Official Forecast (Deterministic)
- Ensemble Mean
- Model Traces
- Hourly Probabilities
 - 0-5% chance
 - 5-25% chance
 - 25-40% chance
 - 40-60% chance



Navarro River

Hourly River Level Probabilities NAVARRO RIVER - NAVARRO (NVRC1)

Created: 01/03/2023 at 9:07 AM PST



Chance of River Level Exceedance (Feet)
Forecast Period: 01/03/2023 4 am - 01/08/2023 4 am

Max	36.19
5%	35.68
10%	34.74
25%	32.06
50%	28.67
75%	21.67
90%	17.27
95%	14.82
Min	14.65

Flood Stage 23.0 ft 71%

- Official Forecast (Deterministic)
- Ensemble Mean
- Model Traces
- Hourly Probabilities
 - 0-5% chance
 - 5-25% chance
 - 25-40% chance
 - 40-60% chance

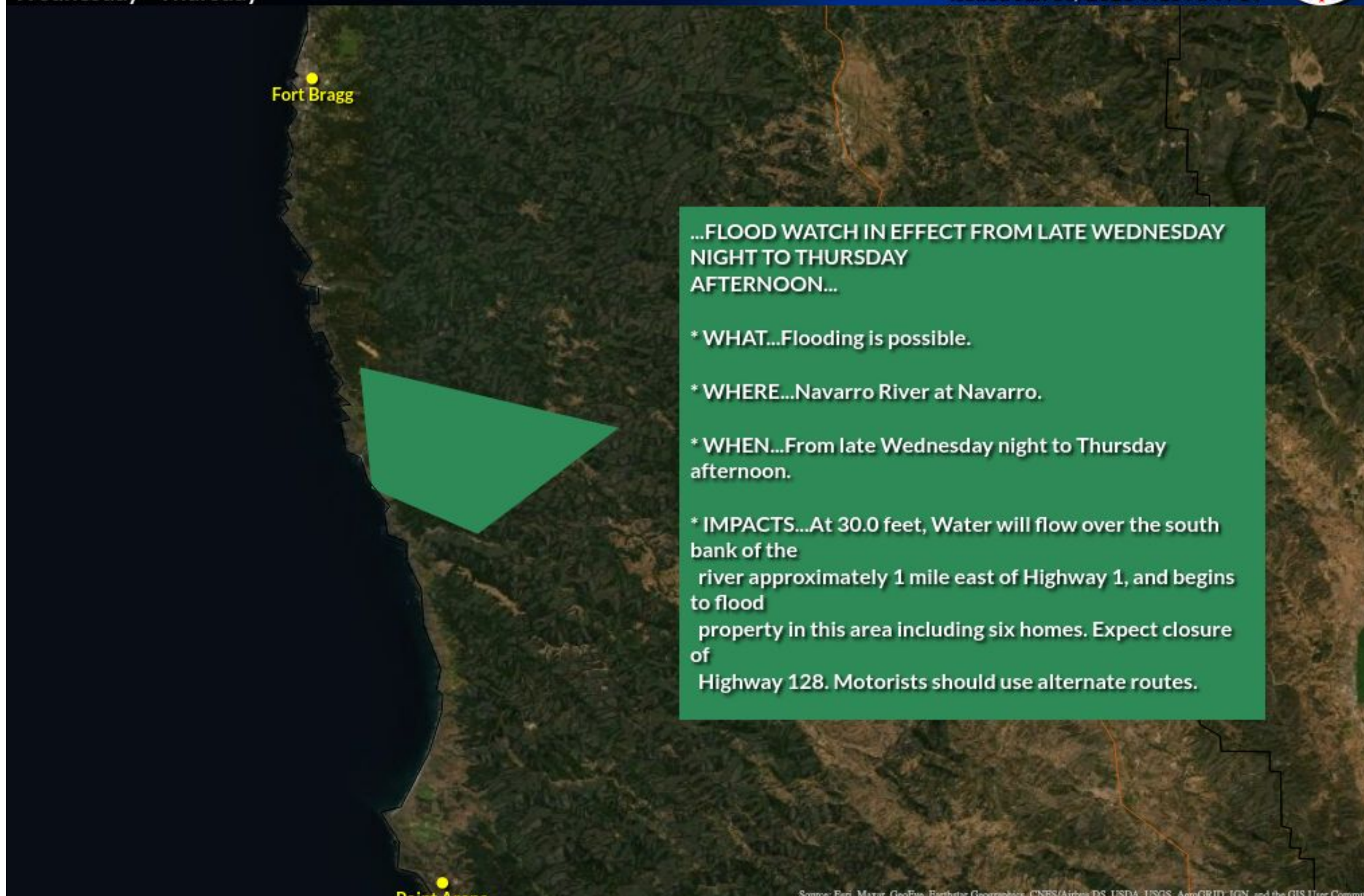


Navarro River at Navarro

Wednesday - Thursday

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Jan 03, 2023 9:15 AM PST



...FLOOD WATCH IN EFFECT FROM LATE WEDNESDAY NIGHT TO THURSDAY AFTERNOON...

- * WHAT...Flooding is possible.
- * WHERE...Navarro River at Navarro.
- * WHEN...From late Wednesday night to Thursday afternoon.
- * IMPACTS...At 30.0 feet, Water will flow over the south bank of the river approximately 1 mile east of Highway 1, and begins to flood property in this area including six homes. Expect closure of Highway 128. Motorists should use alternate routes.

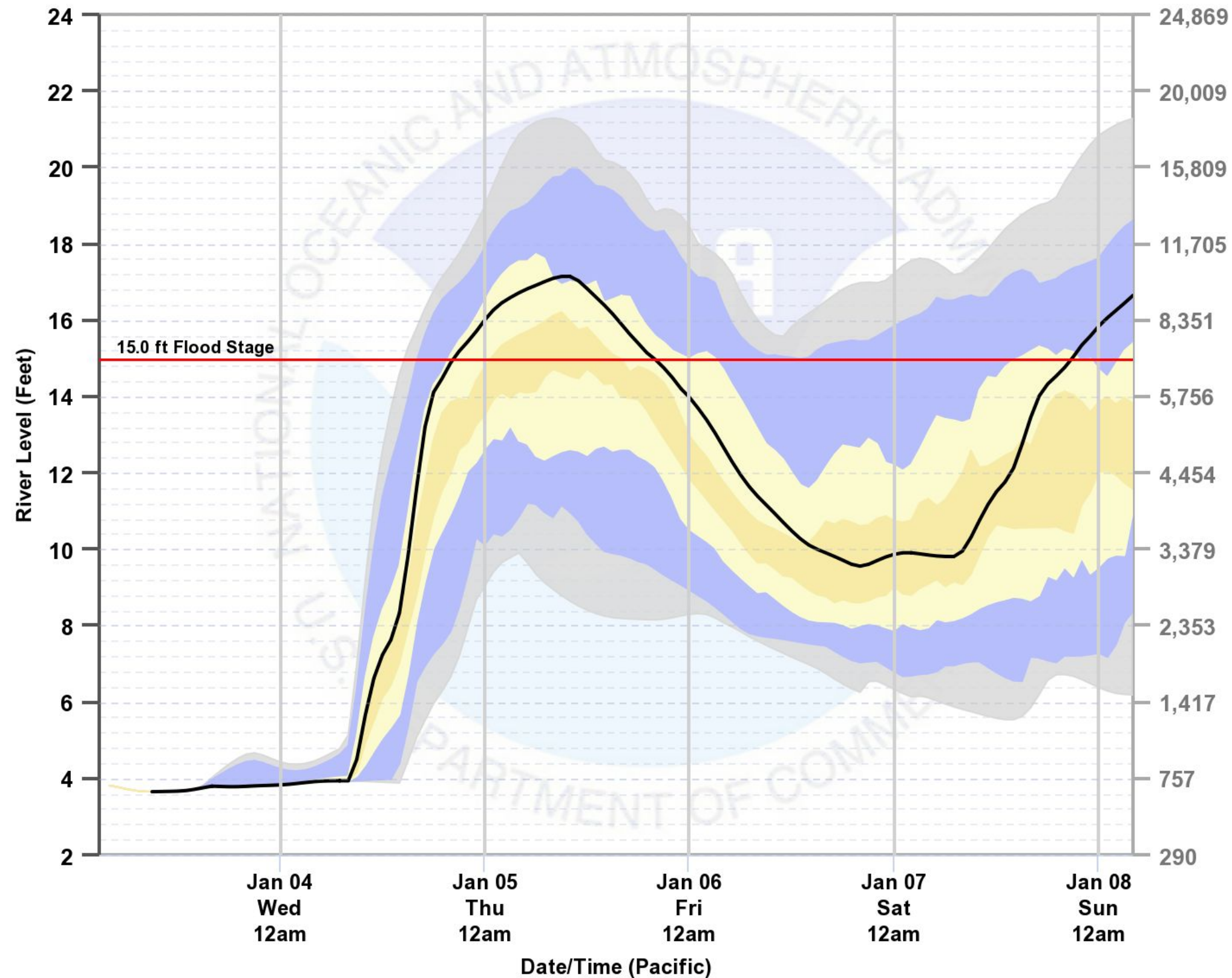
Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



Russian River at Hopland

Hourly River Level Probabilities RUSSIAN RIVER - HOPLAND (HOPC1)

Created: 01/03/2023 at 9:06 AM PST



Chance of River Level Exceedance (Feet)
Forecast Period: 01/03/2023 4 am - 01/08/2023 4 am

Max	21.29
5%	21.21
10%	20.13
25%	18.64
50%	17.31
75%	15.05
90%	13.24
95%	12.94
Min	11.25

Flood Stage 15.0 ft 76%

- Official Forecast (Deterministic)
- Ensemble Mean
- Model Traces
- Hourly Probabilities
 - 0-5% chance
 - 5-25% chance
 - 25-40% chance
 - 40-60% chance

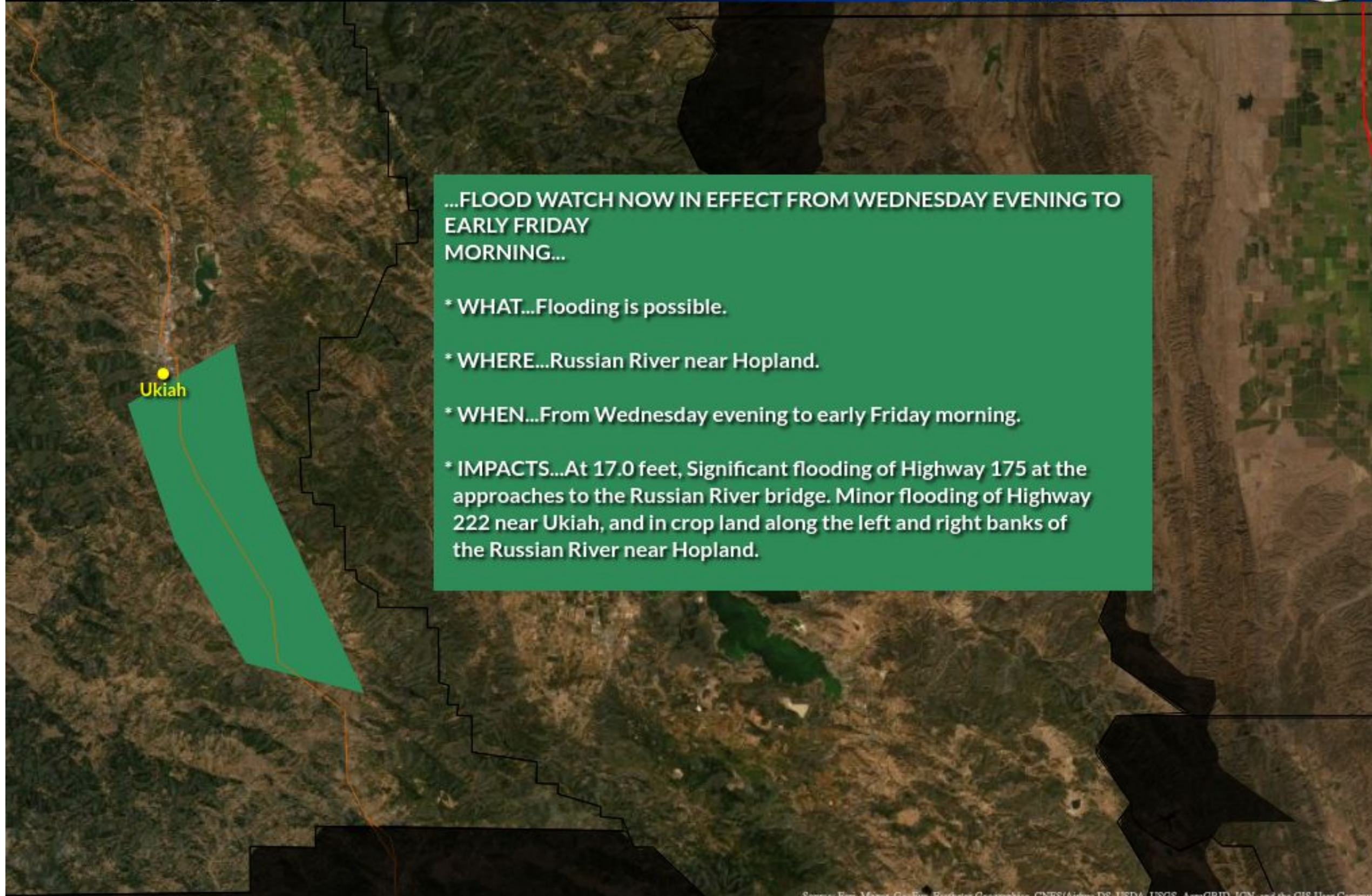


Russian River at Hopland

Wednesday - Friday

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Jan 03, 2023 9:13 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



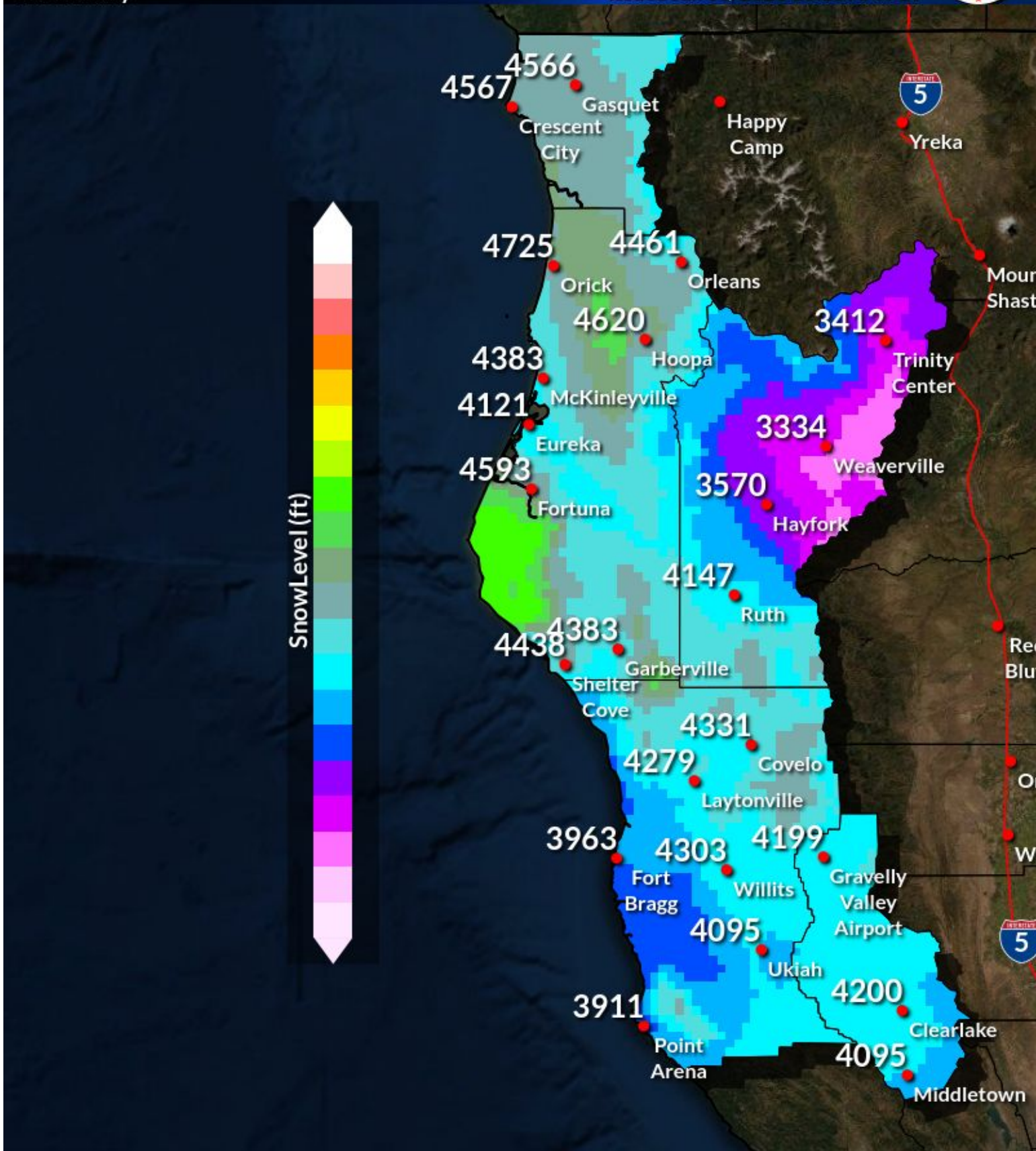
Minimum Snow Level

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Wednesday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 10:18 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

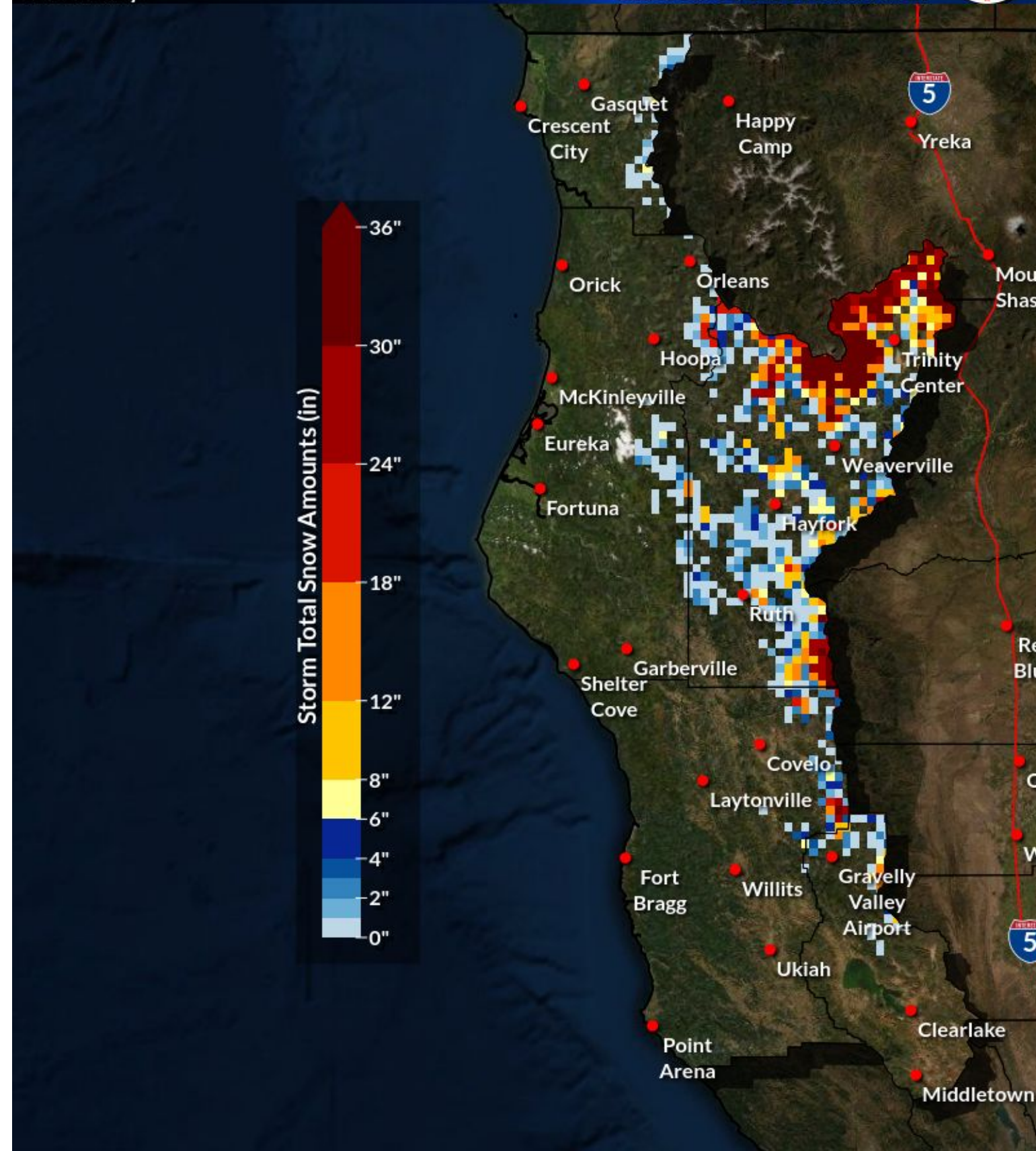
Storm Total Snow

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

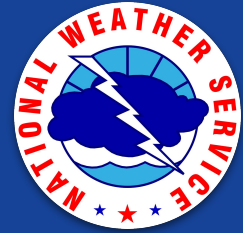


Wednesday

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Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

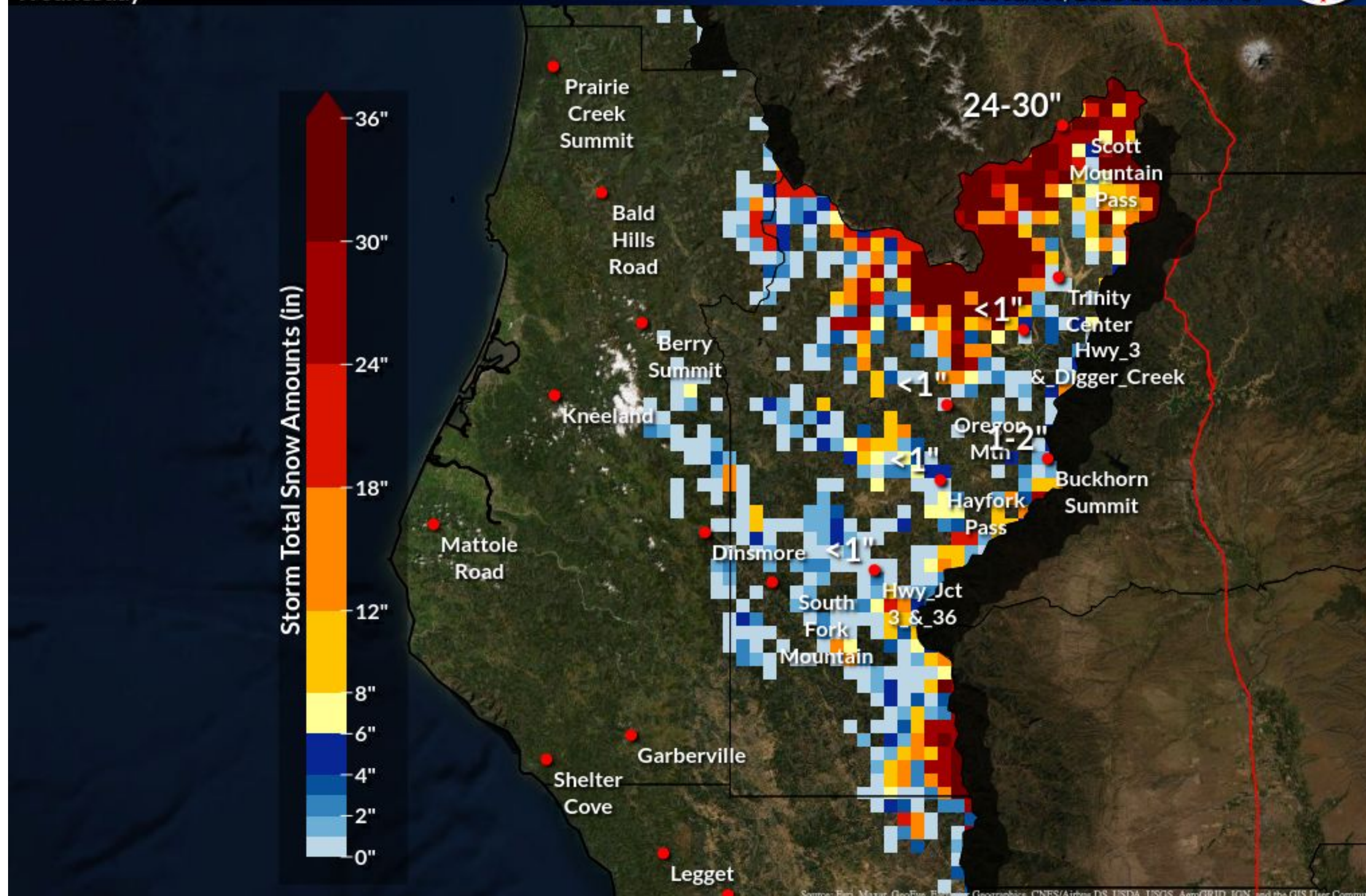


Storm Total Snow

Wednesday

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

Issued Jan 03, 2023 10:19 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



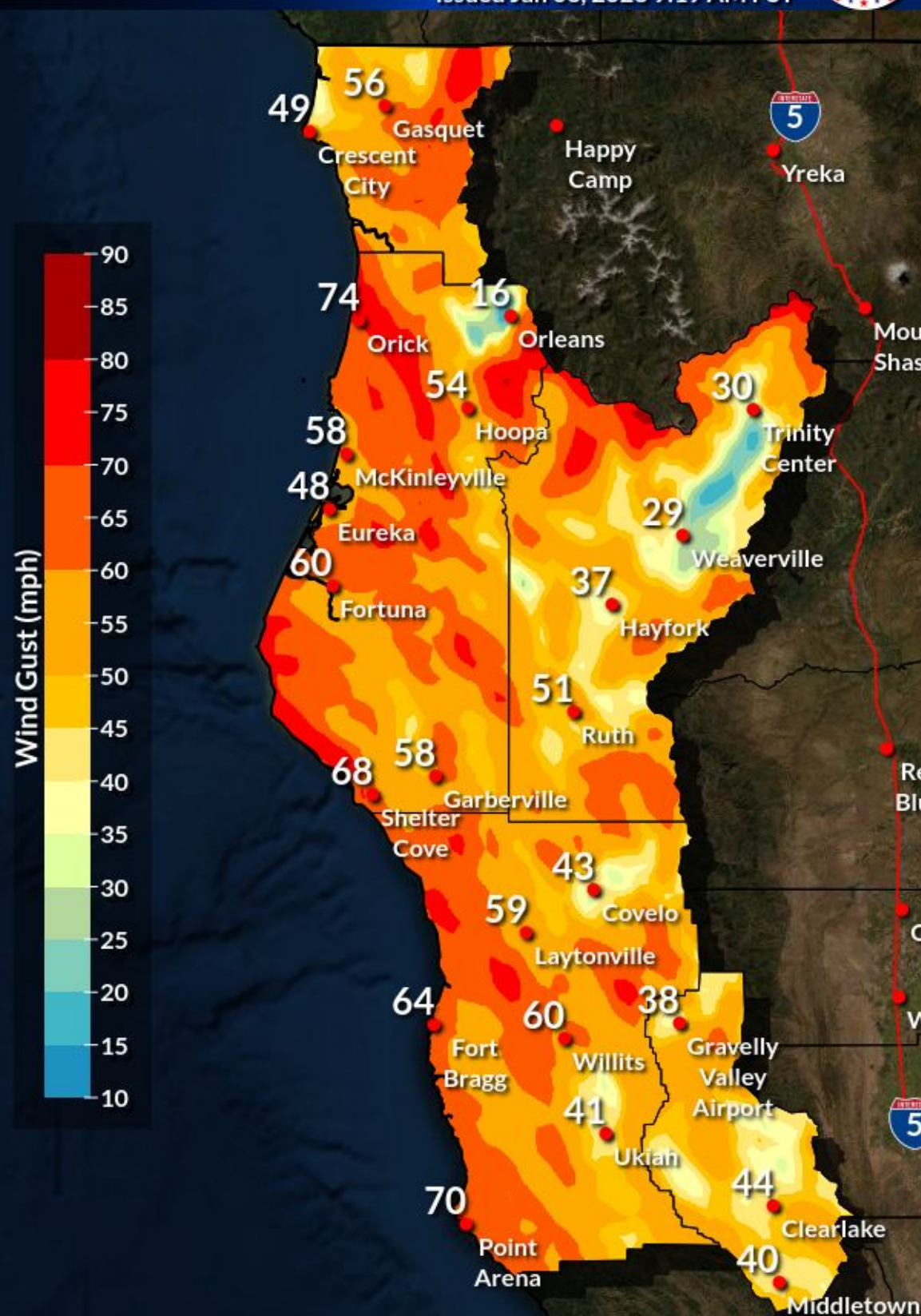
HRRR Peak Gusts

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Wednesday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 9:19 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

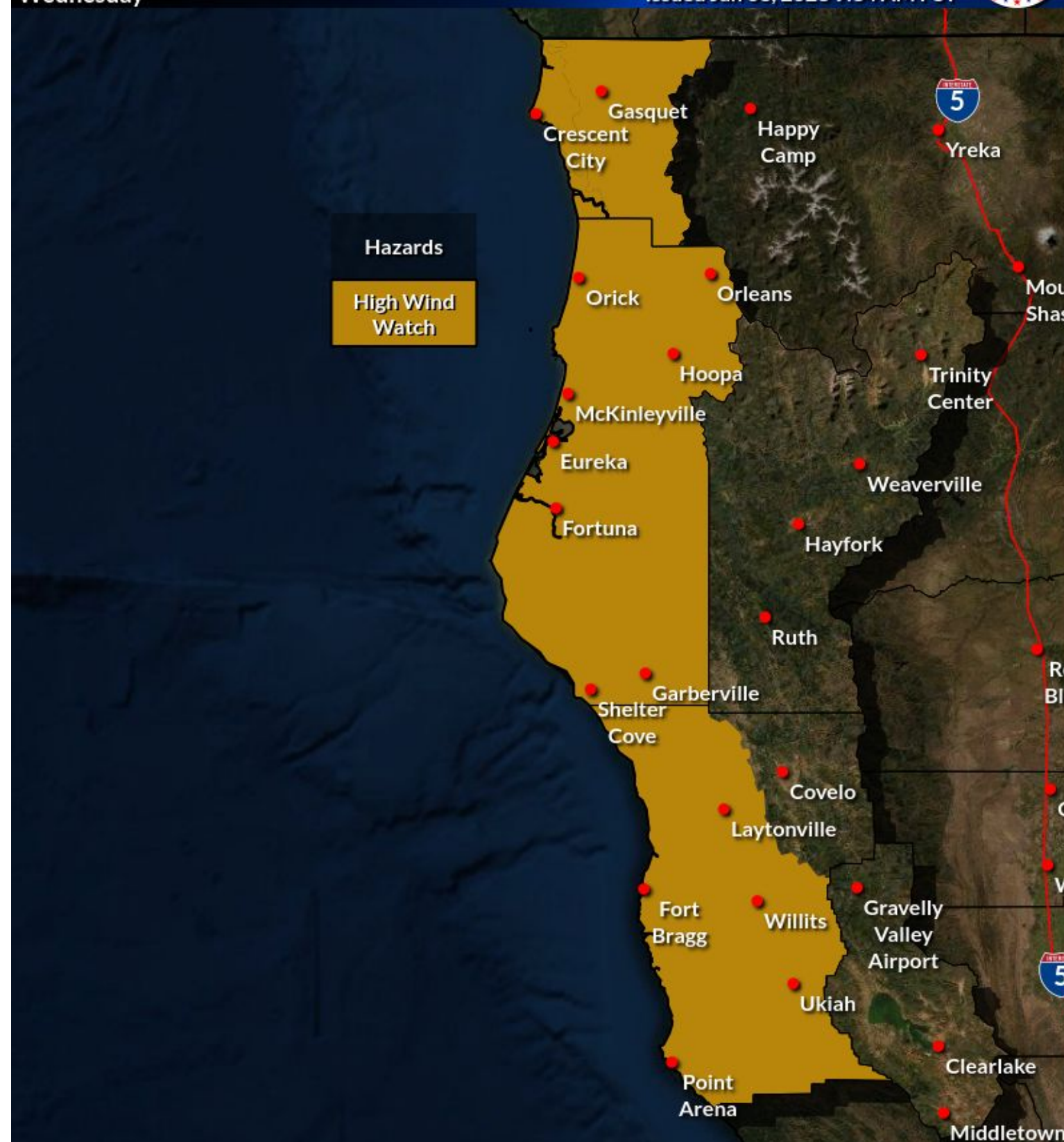
High Wind Hazard

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Wednesday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 9:34 AM PST

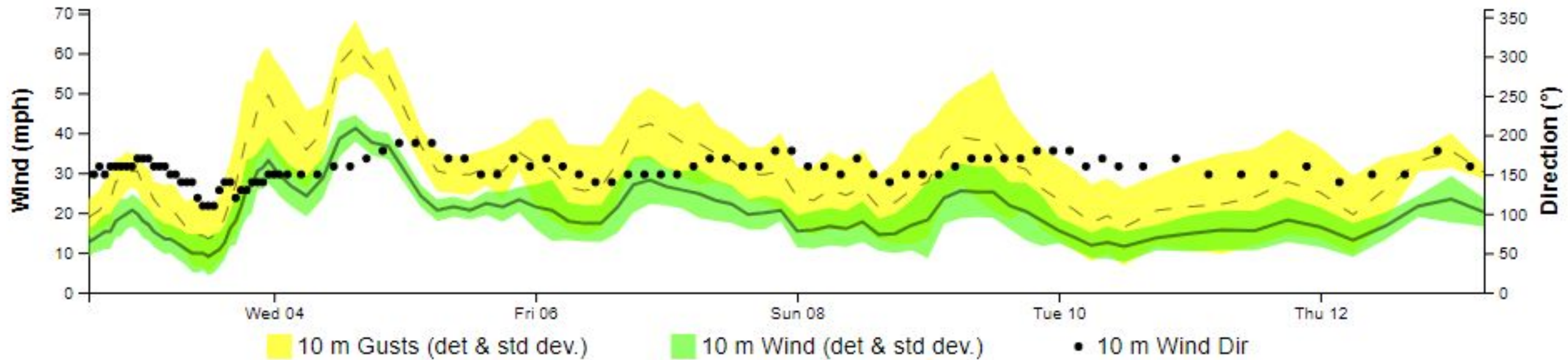


Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



Crescent City Winds

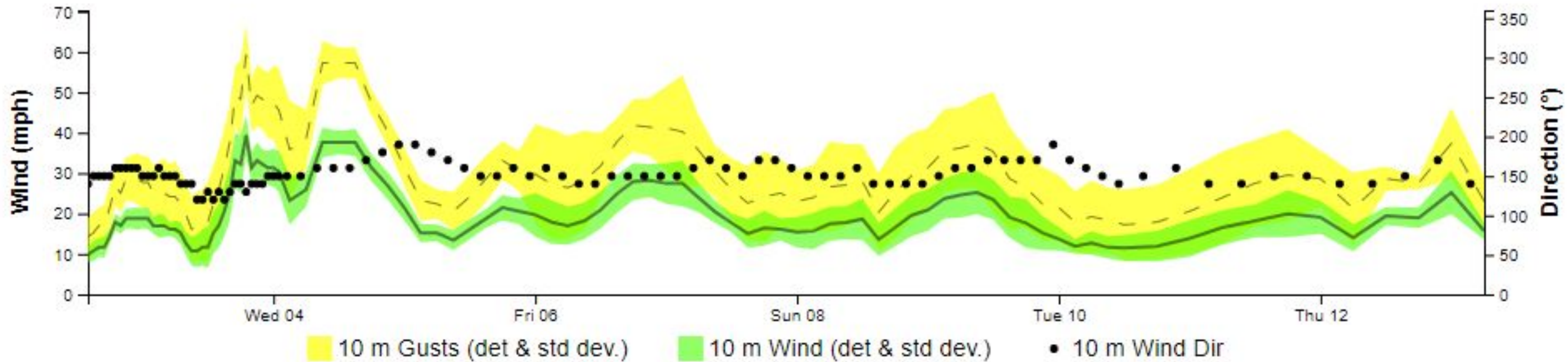
Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Tuesday, January 3





Eureka Winds

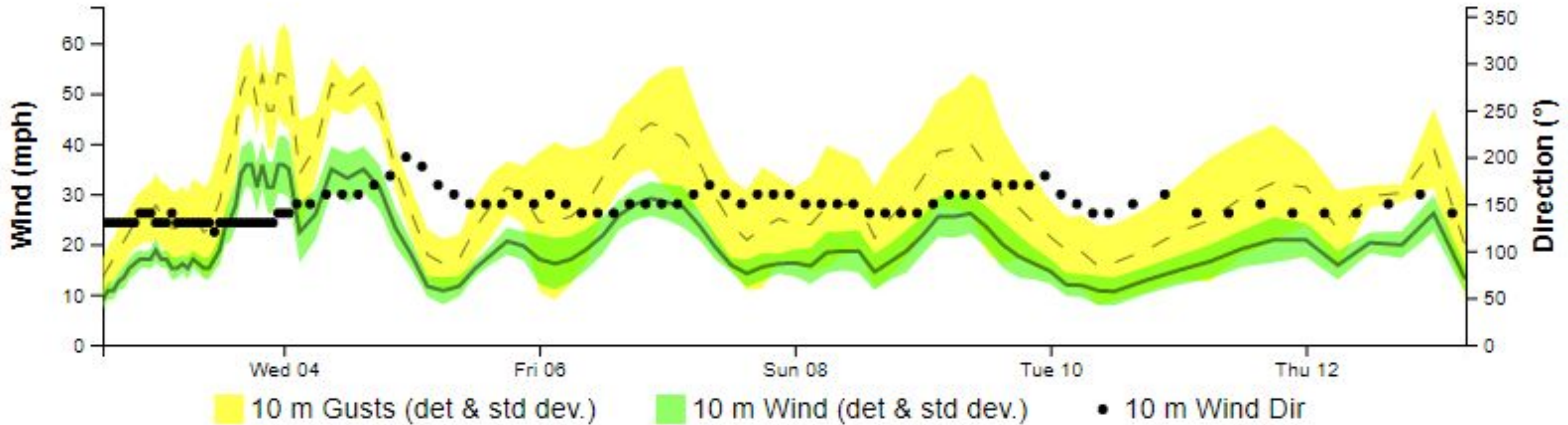
Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Tuesday, January 3





Fortuna Winds

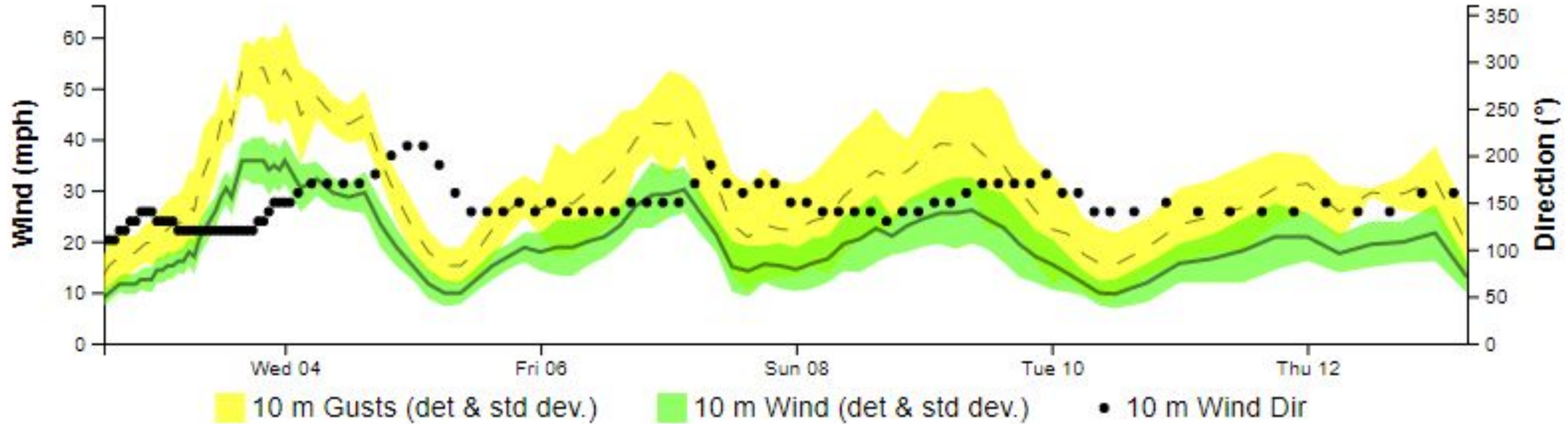
Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Tuesday, January 3





Fort Bragg Winds

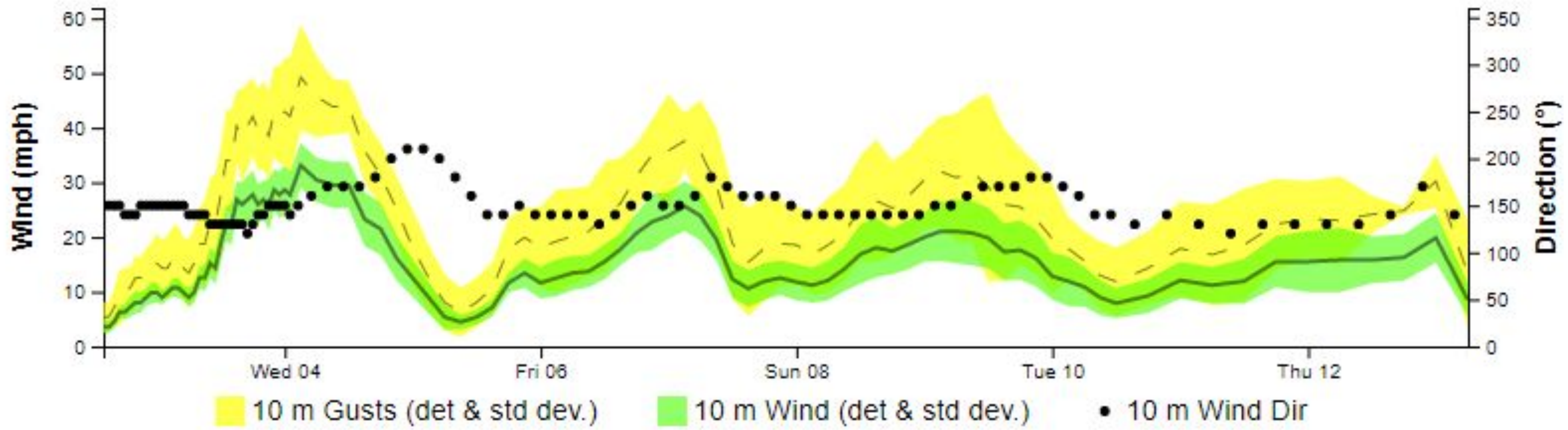
Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Tuesday, January 3





Ukiah Winds

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Tuesday, January 3





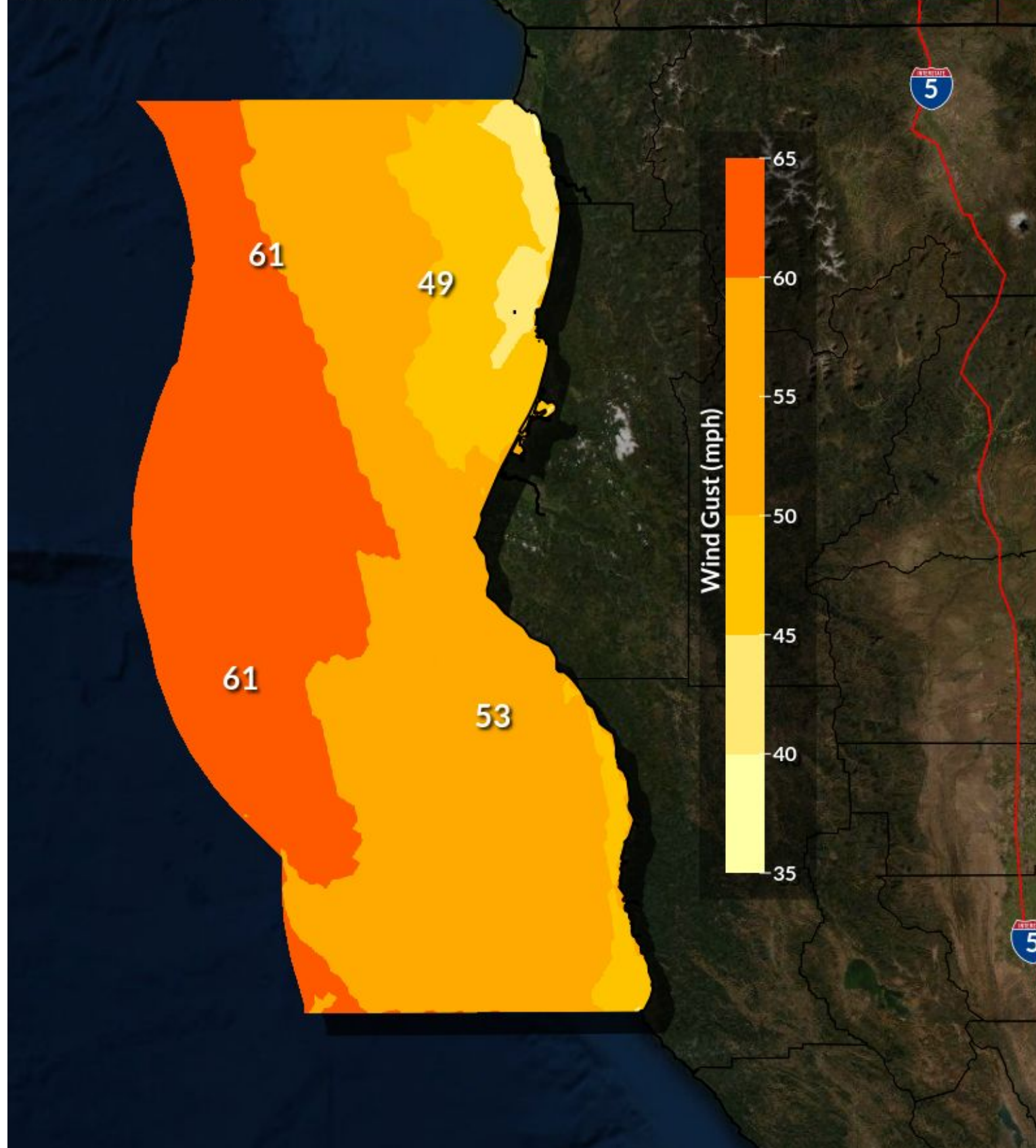
Marine Storm Gusts

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Wednesday - Thursday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 10:04 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

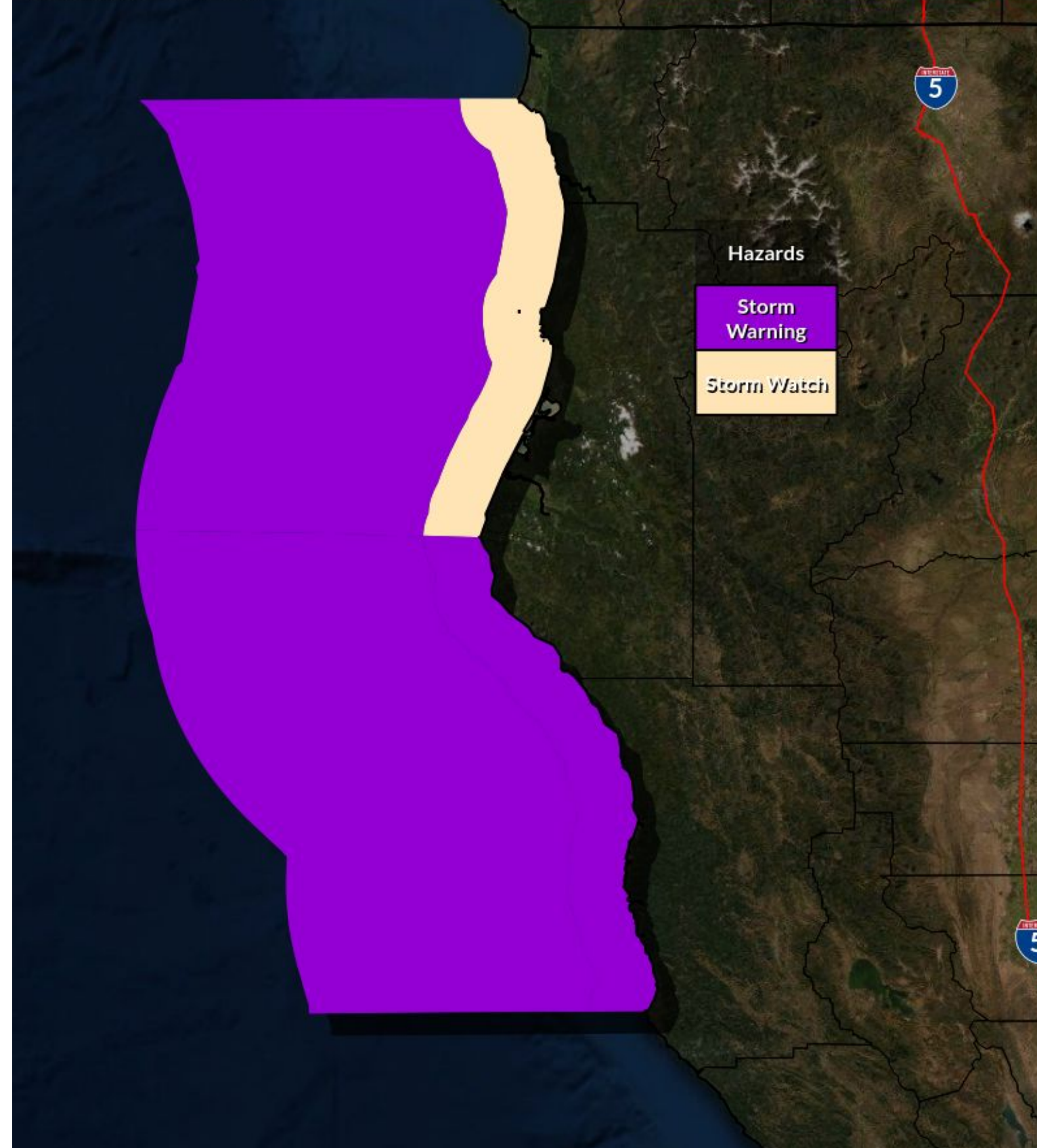
Marine Storm Hazards

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA

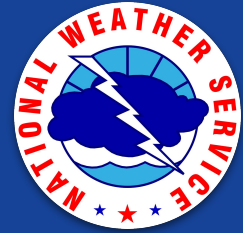


Wednesday - Thursday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 10:05 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



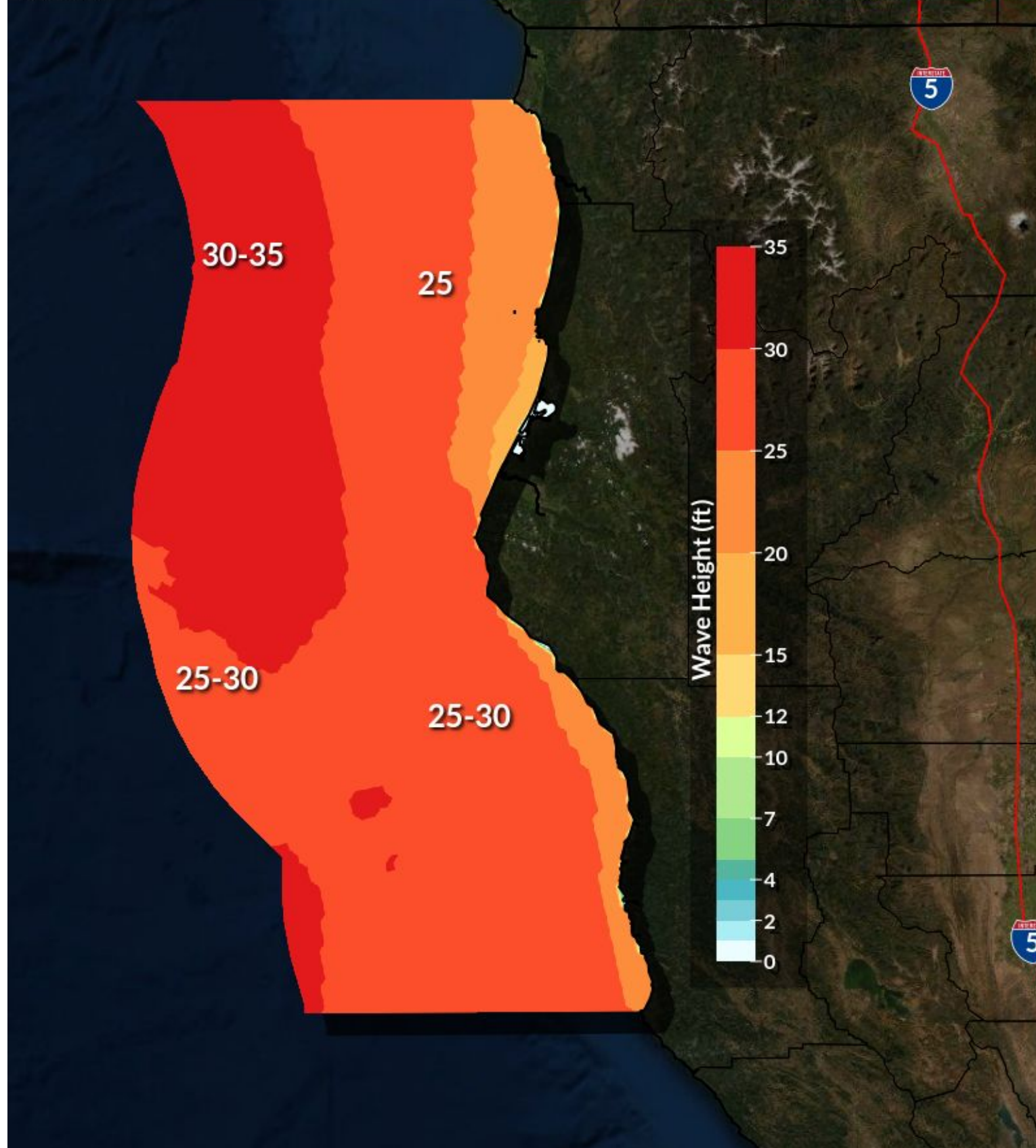
Large After Storm Swell

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Thursday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 10:09 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

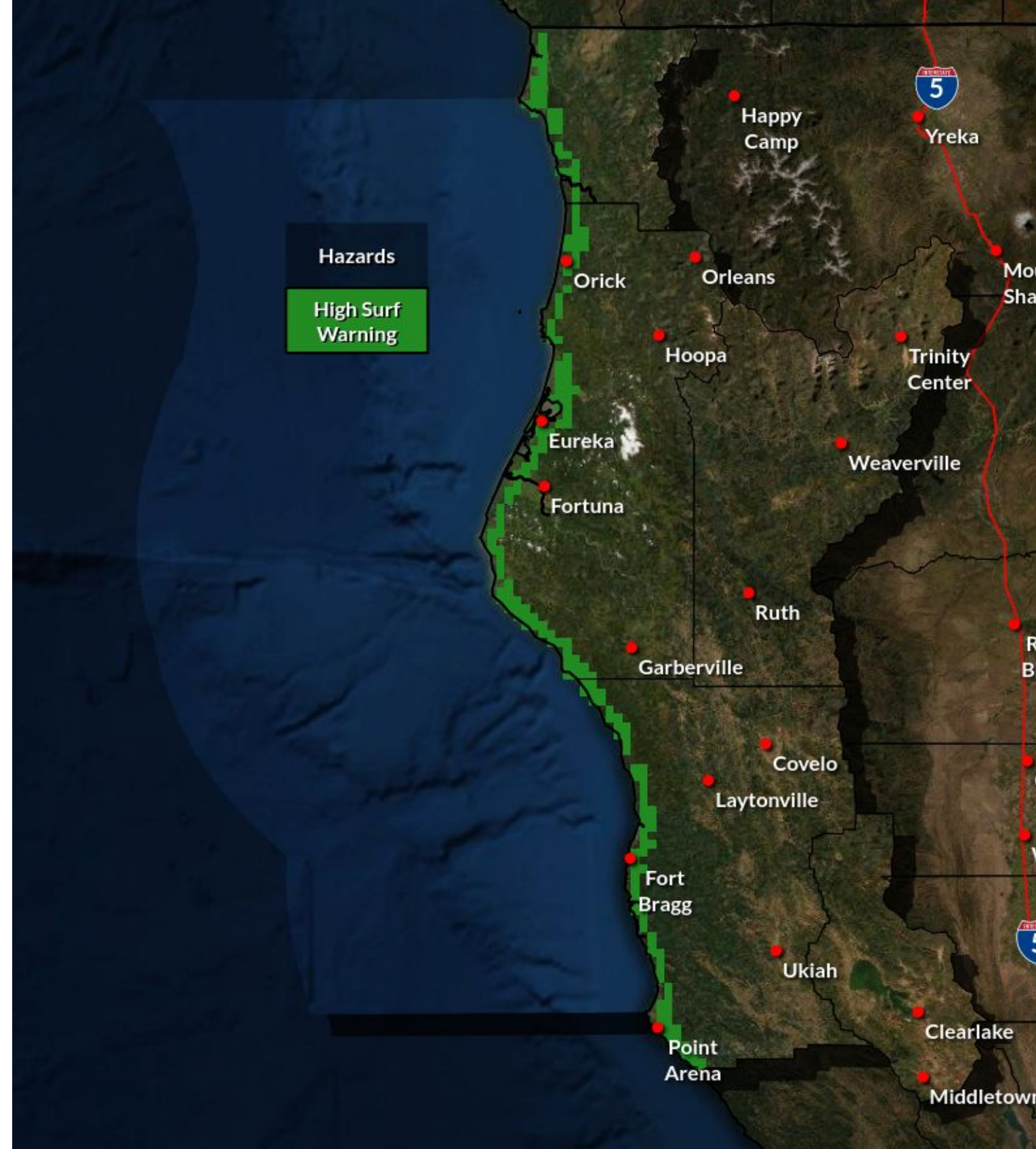
Large After Storm Swell

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA



Thursday

Issued Jan 03, 2023 10:14 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

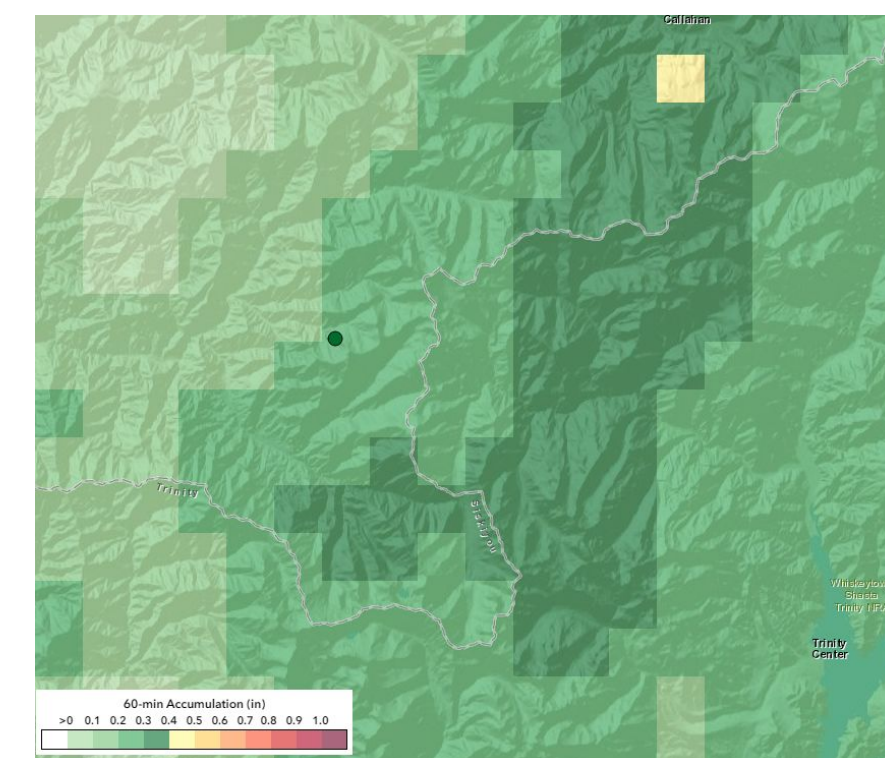
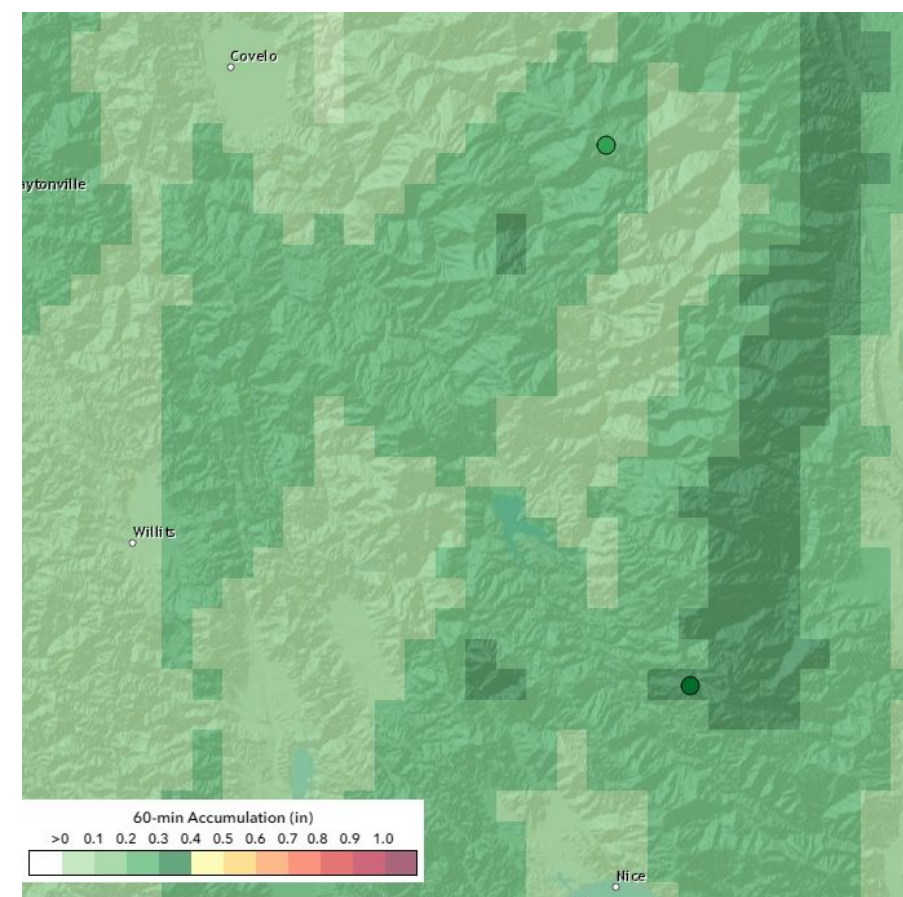
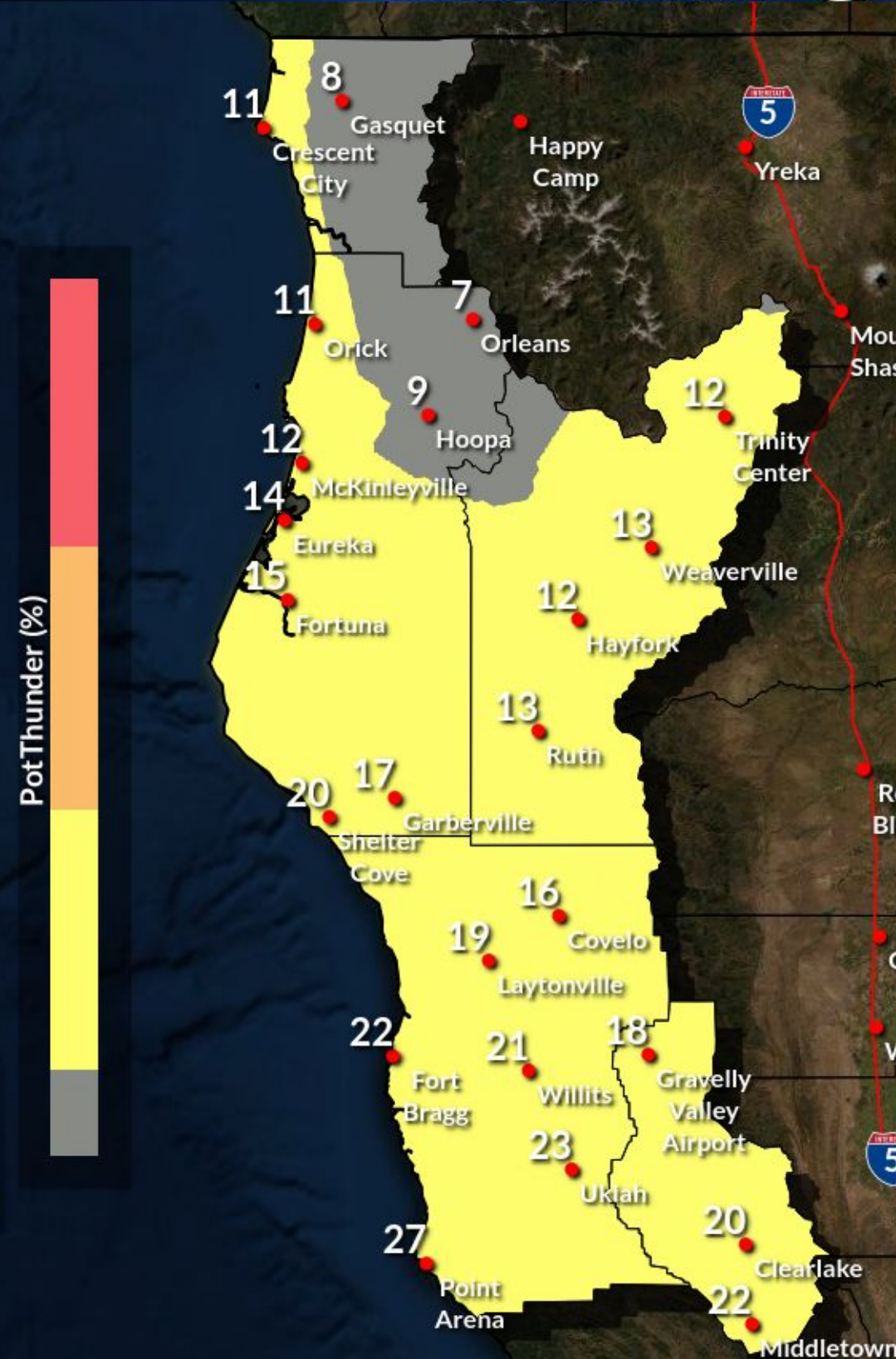


Thunder and Debris Flow Risk

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Tuesday, January 3

Thunder Risk Late Wednesday - Thursday

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Issued Jan 03, 2023 10:33 AM PST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



Summary

Weather Forecast Office
Eureka, CA
Tuesday, January 3

- **High winds gusting 60 to 75 mph on coastal ridges and headlands in Mendocino and Humboldt**
- **4 to 6 inches of rain in Mendocino and Lake, high risk of rock and landslides**
- **High risk of small stream flooding and along the Russian, Navarro, and Eel rivers**
- **Storm force winds and high surf along the coast**



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