

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

STAFF REPORT

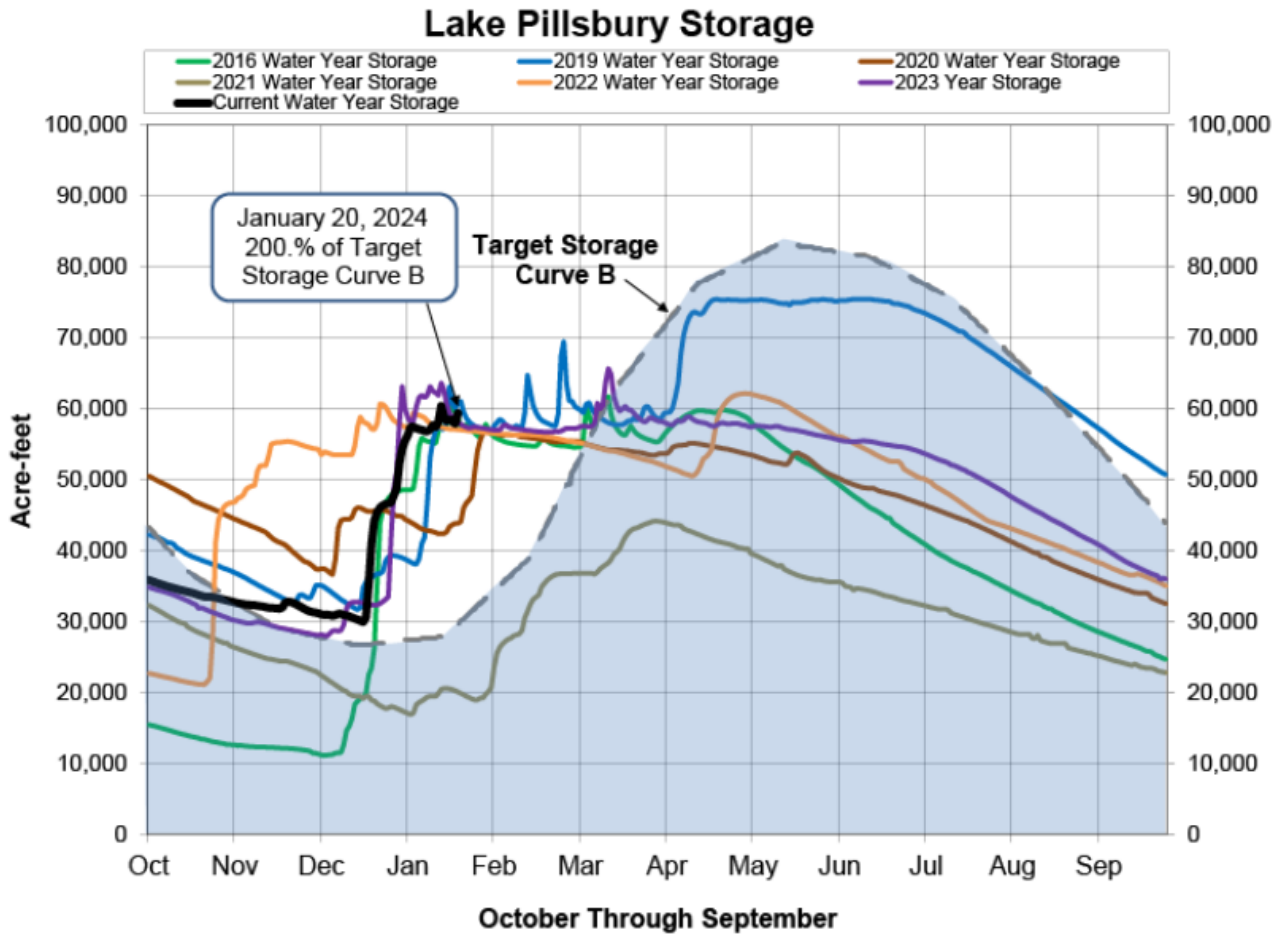
Agenda Item 8: Water Supply Conditions

Monday, February 5, 2024

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.

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

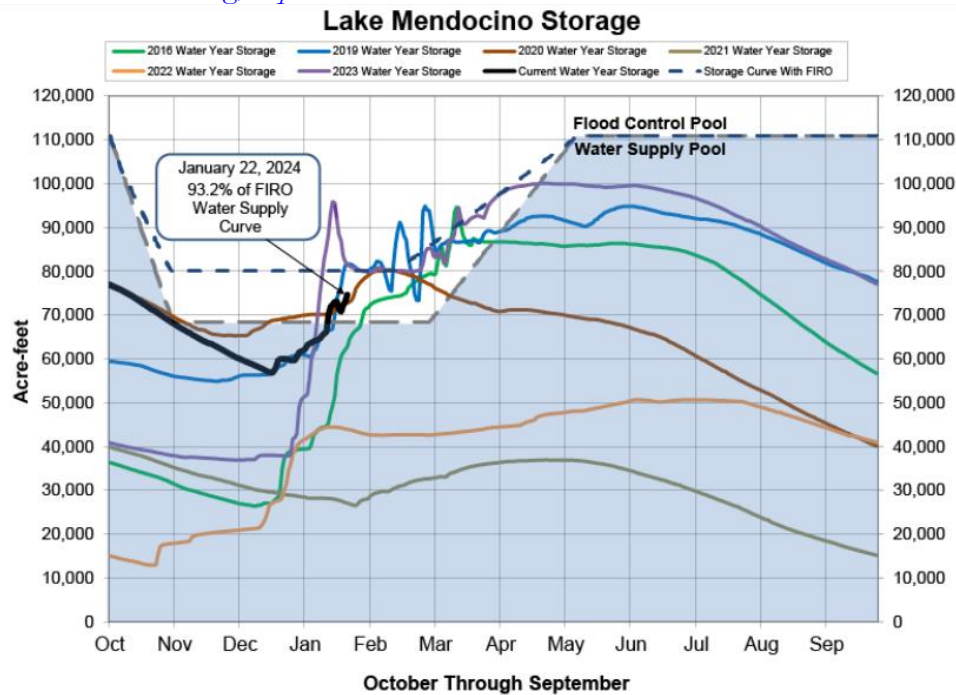
On December 19, 2023, the October 2, 2023 FERC issued order approving PG&E’s Temporary Variance of Flow Requirements ended at approximately 2:30 pm when Lake Pillsbury’s storage level exceeded the 36,000 acre-feet threshold. PG&E cancelled future drought working group meetings linked with the 2023 Flow Variance. PG&E has not made it known yet when it will file the next flow variance though previously PG&E staff stated the submission was expected “in early 2024.” This is the variance that will likely be implemented in the summer of 2024 and impact Russian River water right holders.



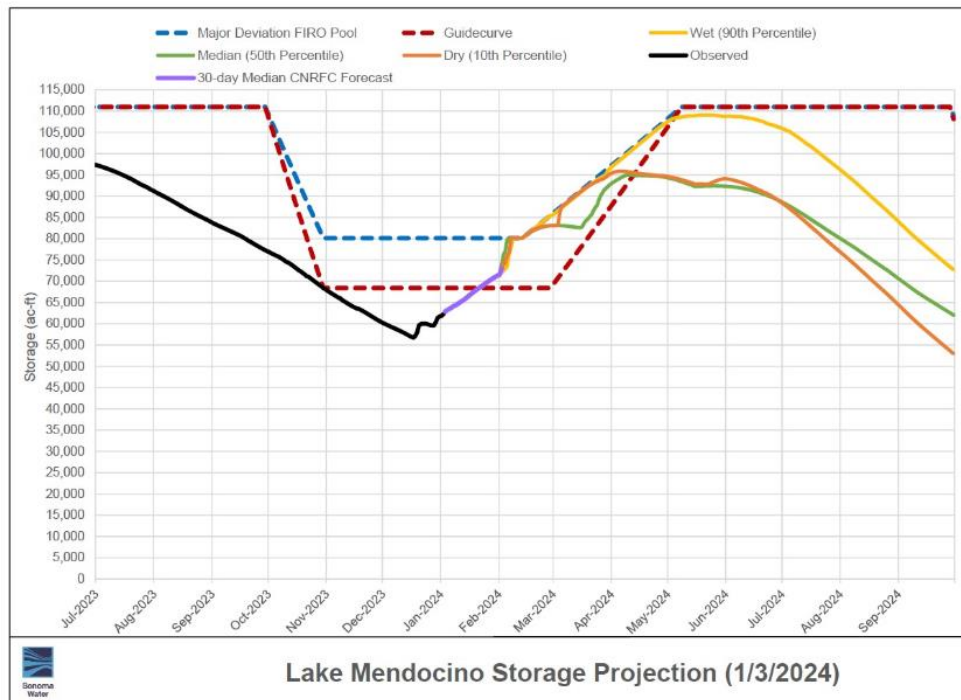
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Lake Mendocino and the Mainstem Upper Russian River

Lake Mendocino storage level was 74,590 acre feet (af) on January 22, 2024, up from 59,666 af on December 4, 2023. On December 27th, 2023, the State Water Resources Control Board issued the Order approving Sonoma Water’s Temporary Urgency Change Petition (filed 10/12/2023) on water-right Permits 12947A, 12949, 12950, and 16596 (Applications 12919A, 15736, 15737, and 19351) to modify the hydrologic index used to set minimum instream flows in the Upper Russian River, Lower Russian River, and Dry Creek. Under the Order, the water supply conditions in the Russian River are established based on storage thresholds in Lake Mendocino instead of cumulative inflow into Lake Pillsbury. For additional information visit Sonoma Water’s TUCP webpage: www.sonomawater.org/tucp.



LAKE MENDOCINO



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