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Current Water Supply Conditions

Daily Reservoir Operation Status

Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) is the local cost-sharing partner for Lake Mendocino and Lake Sonoma, and determines the amount of water to be released when the lake level is in the water supply pools. The US Army Corps of Engineers determines the amount of water to be released when the lake level is above the water supply pools and in the flood control pools.

The Russian River is a managed river system with reservoir releases controlling river flows, especially throughout most of the summer and fall. When tributary stream flows are low, SCWA releases water stored in the reservoirs to supplement the natural flows in the Russian River to provide adequate flows for water supply, recreation and aquatic habitat. A release from a reservoir can be categorized as being of 'pass-through water' or 'stored water'. The term 'project water' is often used instead of stored water and is used to describe water that is present because of the dam and reservoir project. Pass-through water is water flowing into the reservoir that is not stored in, but passes through, the reservoir. Project water releases to supplement the natural flows in the Russian River and Dry Creek are necessary to meet mandatory minimum streamflow requirements that exist for both of these watercourses.

Current status of reservoir and river operations:

Last Update: 12/30/2009 @ 10:00	Operational Control	Agency is Releasing Project Water to Meet Instream Flow Requirements
Lake Mendocino	Water Agency	No
Lake Sonoma	Water Agency	No
Lower Russian River (Dry Creek to Hacienda Bridge)	-	No

Monthly Summary Data

Reservoir Levels and Releases

Last Update: 12/29/2009 @ 10:00	Water Supply Pool Capacity (acre-feet)	Current Water Supply Pool Storage (acre-feet)	Water Supply Storage % Full	Reservoir Release (cfs)	Required Minimum Instream Flow (cfs)	Instream Flow Regulatory Region
Lake Mendocino	68,400	33,337	49%	102	75	Upper Russian River
Lake Sonoma	245,000	182,306	74%	115	105	Lower Dry Creek

*cfs—cubic feet per second

- [Real-time Data for Lake Sonoma Reservoir](#)
- [Real-time Data for Lake Mendocino Reservoir](#)

Russian River Flow Data

Last Update: 12/28/2009 @ 10:00	Flow (cfs)	Required Minimum Instream Flow (cfs)	Instream Flow Regulatory Region
Hacienda Bridge	392	125	Lower Russian River

*cfs—cubic feet per second

- [Real-time Flow Data for Russian River](#)

PG&E Potter Valley Project Data

Last Update: 12/28/2009 @ 24:00	Water Supply Pool Capacity (acre-feet)	Current Water Supply Pool Storage (acre-feet)	Water Supply Storage % Full	Reservoir Release (cfs)	Cumulative Inflow as of Oct 1 st (acre-feet)
Lake Pillsbury (Eel River Watershed)	78,901	27,235	36%	209	14138

Last Update: 12/28/2009 @ 24:00	Reservoir Release to Eel River (cfs)	Potter Valley Project Diversion (cfs)
Lake Van Arsdale	172	46

*cfs—cubic feet per second

- [Real-time Data for Potter Valley Project](#)

Disclaimer: The above data is based on provisional data that is subject to revision.