



Sonoma
Water

Drought, climate change and long-term water supply

March 10, 2022

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Sonoma Water

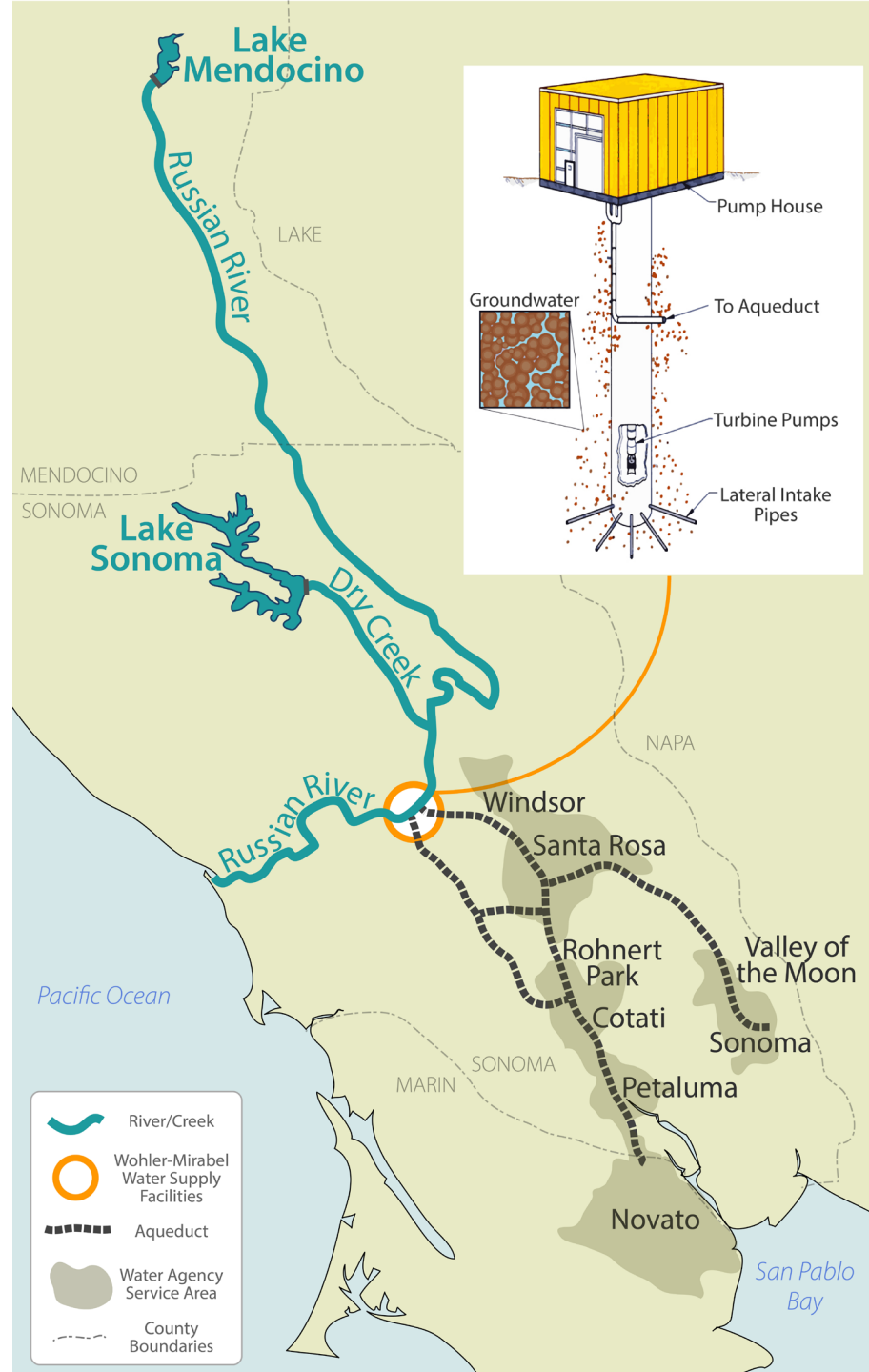


Russian River Water Supply

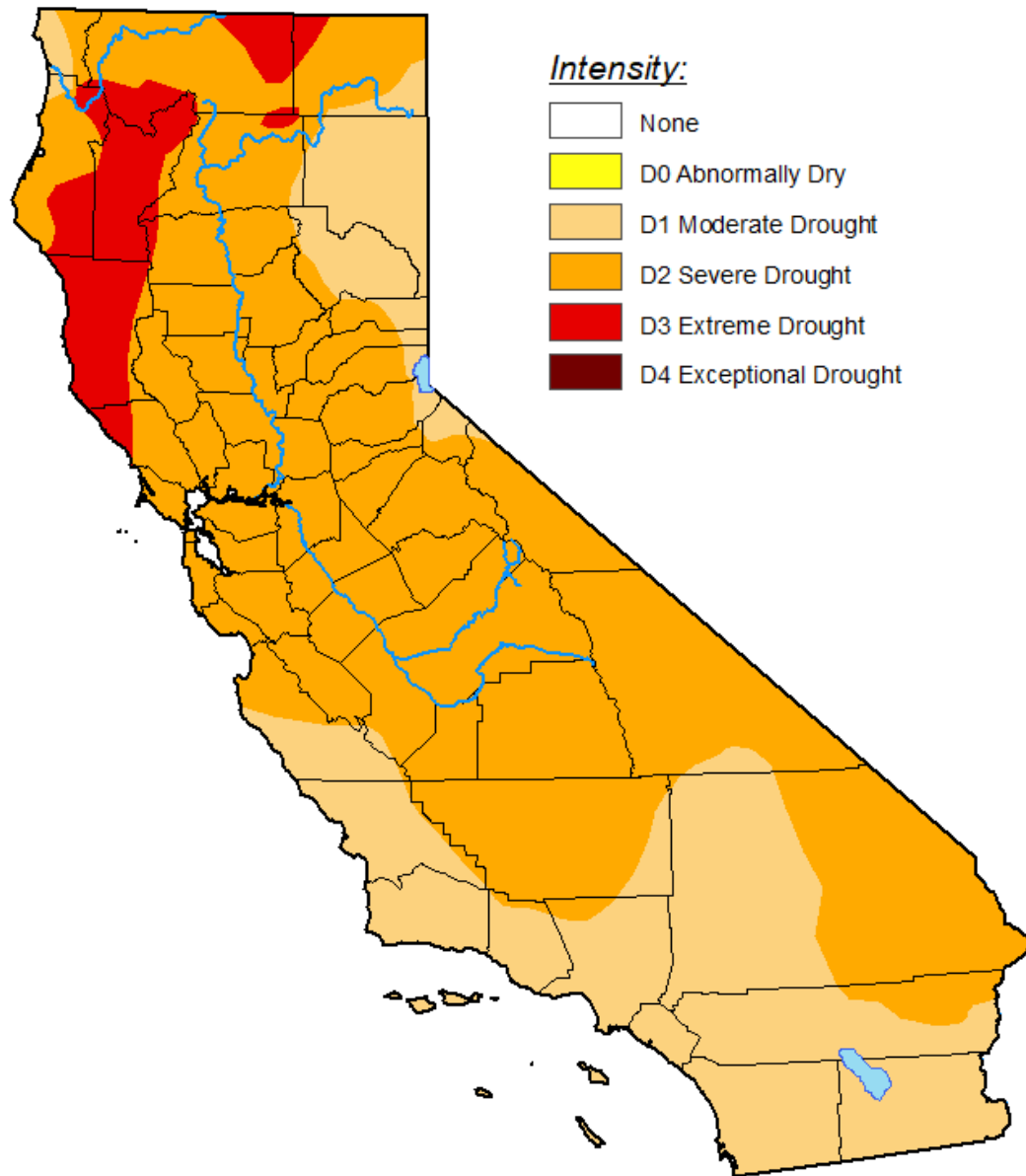
- Supplies water to more than 600,000 residents
- Naturally filtered through sand & gravels



Water Transmission System



The current drought enters its third year



Sonoma Water Drought Activities

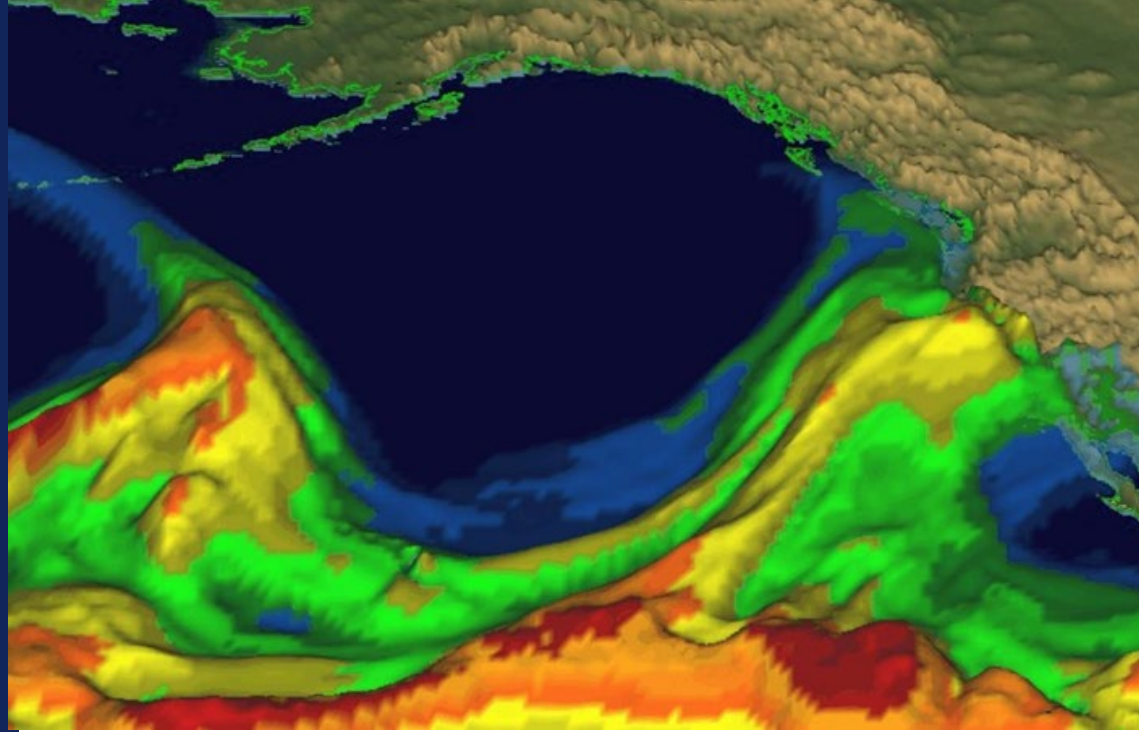
- \$6.9M: Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project
- \$2M: Russian River Watershed Water Supply Resiliency Project
- Climate Adaptation Plan
- Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge project in the Alexander Valley



Research into Atmospheric Rivers

Atmospheric rivers (ARs) are narrow bands of enhanced water vapor which provide about half of the major rainfall in the Russian River watershed, and cause about 70% of the flooding.

- Sonoma Water works with the Scripps Institute of Oceanography on research into ARs which will be used to assist in the Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations.



Drought Information and Public Engagement

Website information updated daily:

- sonomawater.org

Additional drought town halls:

- May (Russian River flows, water quality, drought update)
- July (Water conservation update, drought update)
- September (Weather forecast, water conservation, Russian River flows update)



The screenshot shows the Sonoma Water website's "Current Water Supply Levels" page. The page features a navigation bar with the Sonoma Water logo and social media icons. The main content area is divided into two columns for Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino. Each column displays current storage, total water supply capacity, and a yearly comparison for March 3. Lake Sonoma's current storage is 148,859 acre-feet (60.8% of capacity), while Lake Mendocino's is 42,651 acre-feet (61.3% of target). The yearly comparison shows that in 2022, Lake Sonoma is at 60.8% of capacity, down from 90.8% in 2020. Lake Mendocino is at 61.3% of target, down from 108% in 2020. The page also includes a "Current Water Supply Update" section with links to drought condition updates, California Water Watch, and conservation requirements. A "Rainfall, Weather, and Streamflow Data" section provides links to weather forecasts, streamflow gauges, and precipitation maps.

Current Water Supply Levels

Lake	Current Storage	Total Water Supply Capacity	Yearly Comparison for March 3
Lake Sonoma	148,859 acre-feet (60.8%)	245,000 acre-feet	2020: 90.8%, 2021: 63.5%, 2022: 60.8%
Lake Mendocino	42,651 acre-feet (61.3%)	69,531 acre-feet	2020: 108%, 2021: 47.1%, 2022: 61.3%

Current Water Supply Update:

- Our region is still in a drought. [Read drought condition updates here.](#)
- Visit the [California Water Watch website](#) and enter your address to see how much rainfall your local area has received to date.
- Conservation requirements are still in place in cities and water districts. [Please visit your local water retailer to learn more about your conservation requirements.](#)

Rainfall, Weather, and Streamflow Data

- [National Weather Service weather forecast for Santa Rosa](#)
- [Current streamflow gauge reading for Russian River and tributaries - Sonoma OneRain website](#)
- [Sonoma OneRain - Real-time Rainfall, River-Stream, and Reservoir Data](#)
- [Scheduled releases - Lake Mendocino on CA Data Exchange Center Website](#)
- [Scheduled releases - Lake Sonoma on CA Data Exchange Center Website](#)
- [Precipitation map for the current Water Year \(October 1 - Present\)](#)

Drought Outreach

Drought public education campaign is ongoing with partnership with the County of Mendocino

Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership continues with its drought education efforts



URGENT DROUGHT ALERT

Rain Helps, Saving Water Helps More.

Storage level goal after **30+** inches of rain

Current storage **42,835** acre-feet

70k
60k
50k
40k
30k
20k
10k
0k

Rainfall received to date has increased Lake Mendocino's storage to **59.9%**, or **42,835** acre-feet. **Conserve water now** to help keep rainwater for future needs.

Rainfall Totals 10/01/21-3/06/22: 15.49"

Sonoma Water

Drought is here.
Save water.
www.sonomawater.org

The graphic features a red top-left corner with a white warning triangle containing a blue exclamation mark and a blue water drop. Below this is the text "URGENT DROUGHT ALERT". To the right, the headline "Rain Helps, Saving Water Helps More." is written in white. The central part of the graphic shows a blue reservoir with a grey dam on the right. A vertical scale on the right side of the reservoir is labeled from "0k" to "70k" in increments of 10k. The water level is shown as a blue area within the reservoir, reaching approximately the 43k mark. A dashed line points from the text "Current storage 42,835 acre-feet" to the water level. Another dashed line points from the text "Storage level goal after 30+ inches of rain" to a higher level on the scale, around 60k. Above the reservoir, there are blue clouds, and a purple cloud is shown raining into the reservoir. At the bottom, there is a red banner with white text stating "Rainfall Totals 10/01/21-3/06/22: 15.49\"". Below the banner are the logos for the County of Sonoma and Sonoma Water, followed by the text "Drought is here. Save water. www.sonomawater.org".