

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Mendocino County Russian River Non-Main Stem Diverters Water Demand Management Program

Introduction

The Water Demand Management Program (WDMP) for the Mendocino County Russian River Non-Main Stem Diverters was submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on February 1, 2015. The SWRCB approved this WDMP on February 13, 2015. The Governing Body, the California Land Stewardship Institute (CLSI), completed a 2025 inventory of vineyards and orchards that use water for frost control that was submitted to the SWRCB on March 14, 2025. This is the eleventh annual report for this WDMP.

Frost Water Reporting

Appendix 1 lists the frost water reporting for sites using water for frost control in the Mendocino County portion of the Russian River watershed not including main stem Russian River diverters. Only sites who are participating in this WDMP are included. As required by the frost regulation, the rate of diversion, hours of operation and the volume of water diverted per frost event are listed. In 2025 there were 78 diverters who did not use water for frost control out of a total of 116 diverters participating in this WDMP. There were 14 farms that did not report their water use, and 5 farms that are no longer obligated to participate in the WDMP program (Appendix 1).

Table 1 lists the growers who use water for frost control but chose not to participate in this WDMP either by not reporting or by not paying their fees. The State Water Resources Control Board Enforcement Division sent letters to all the sites listed in the 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 annual reports. We have included the status of those sites in Table 1 as well. Most of the diverters in Table 1 are not in compliance with the frost regulation. When diverters do not report their water use, we cannot determine the effects on stream flows. A number of the diverters in Table 1 have purchased the listed vineyard site in the last few years. CLSI sends a letter to the new owner as listed in the County Assessor's listing for the APN. The letter explains the frost regulation, the WDMP and to please contact us. We also include an invoice for their fees. In several instances, we have heard from the new owner and they have paid their fees and reported water use. However, we never hear from many of the new owners.

Table 1 Diverters who have stopped participating in the WDMP

Vineyard name	APN of diversion	Year dropped out of WDMP	Notes
Vittorio Vineyards- Kathryn Testa-Grieve	16523006	2024	Has not reported since 2024. Paid fees in 2024 but not 2025
Lolonis Family Vyds and Winery	16315002, 16316001, 16326001	2018	Has paid all fees from 2018 and has reported for 2023. Has not reported for 2024 or 2025.
Whispering Oak Burke Hill	18607025	2019	Has paid all fees from 2019 but has not reported since 2019.
Mohawk Vineyard (was Galvez)	16015001	2020	Has paid all fees since 2020 and has reported in 2024. Did not report in 2025

Table 1 (cont.). Diverters who have stopped participating in the WDMP

Vineyard name	APN of diversion	Year dropped out of WDMP	Notes
Valley Oaks Ranch	04832012, 04832017, 04832022	2021	No fees paid since 2023 and no reporting. Sent 2 letters and multiple emails to owner and contacts on file, no response
A & J Vineyards (was Tomki Vineyards)	16117010, 16125008	2021	Has paid all fees since 2021 and reported in 2024. Did not pay or report in 2025
Bednar Vyd	16129007	2021	Removed from Tributary. Has other means of frost protection or are no longer farming
8775 Colony	163170040	2024	Removed from Tributary. Has other means of frost protection or are no longer farming
Dooley Creek Ranch LLC FKA Bien Vie LLC- Reed Ranch	04826026	2022	Fees paid but no reporting
Dharma Realm (was Rosewood vyd #2)	18120004, 18121006, 18119001, 18118032, 18118034	2024	Removed from Tributary. Has other means of frost protection or are no longer farming
Seabiscuit Ranch Vineyard	10614605	2024	Paid fees from 2022-2023. Did not pay fee or report for 2024 or 2025
East Road River Vineyard (was H&W River ranch)	161-070-03	2023	New owner contacted, paid fees and reported in 2024. Did not pay fees or report in 2025
Holliday Vineyard	18108022	2023	New owner contacted, paid fees and reported in 2024. Paid fees but did not report in 2025
Firebrick Hill Vineyard	16615006	2023	Removed from Tributary. Has other means of frost protection or are no longer farming
Rosewood Vineyards- Site 2	163-120-5200	2024	Removed from Tributary. Has other means of frost protection or are no longer farming
The Oak FKA Split Rock Ranch	18311007	2025	Paid fees but did not report in 2025
Souza Properties- Gobbi	17911001	2025	Did not pay fees or report in 2025
Thurston Vineyard	183-180-04	2025	Did not pay fees or report in 2025
Vittorio Vineyards	165523006	2025	Did not pay fees or report in 2025
Scully/Hooper Grace Ranch	183-080-01, 183-070-01	2025	Did not pay fees in 2025

Chase Vineyards	16603002, 16612009	2025	Did not pay fees in 2025
Chance Creek Vineyards	161-260-21	2025	Did not pay fees in 2025
Thomas F. Johnson	160-120-12	2025	Did not pay fees in 2025

Stream Stage Monitoring

In accordance with the approved WDMP, in 2025 we monitored stream stage on McNab Creek using a network of three gages (Figure 1), on Dooley Creek using a network of four gages (Figure 2), on Feliz Creek using a network of three gages (Figure 3), on York Creek using one gage (Figure 4) and on the West Fork Russian River/Salt Hollow Creek using a network of four gages (Figure 5). Each continuous recording gage records water stage at 15-minute intervals. There is an outside staff gage at each station for visual measurement of water levels to provide QA/QC to the instrument readings. The date/time/stage readings for these gages are contained in Appendix 2.

The storms of the winter of 2024 - 2025 damaged a number of gages. Feliz 4 and Salt Hollow 1 were lost after high flows, but were able to be reestablished. West Fork Russian River (CLSI), Dooley 2, 3, 5, Feliz 2, and 3 were lost and could not be reestablished. All gages will be reinforced and missing or damaged gages replaced before the 2026 frost season.

Frost Diversions

West Fork Russian River

Frost water use occurred on 4 days on farms in the West Fork Russian River watershed. The Army Corps of Engineers gage (Figure 5) showed a change in stage greater than .1 feet (0.15 feet) on 4/5/2025 (Table 2). Flows recorded at the Army Corp of Engineers gage changed from 168 to 165 cfs on 4/5/2025. Despite this drop in stage, flow was adequate for fish passage.

Salt Hollow Creek

No diversions were made for frost use in 2025 on the Salt Hollow Creek watershed. (Table 3)

McNab Creek

Frost water was used on 1 night in the McNab Creek watershed (Table 4). The three CLSI gages showed no changes in stage of 0.1 ft. or greater. (Table 4)

York Creek

Frost water was used on 1 night in the York Creek watershed (Table 5). The three CLSI gages) showed no changes in stage of 0.1 ft. or greater. (Table 5)

Feliz Creek

No diversions were made for frost use in 2025 on the Feliz Creek watershed. (Table 6)

Dooley Creek

Frost water was used on 4 nights in the Dooley Creek watershed (Figure 2). There was no stage change that exceeded 0.1 ft or greater (Table 6).

Appendix 3 has graphs of stage data for the gages in each tributary for the nights when water was used for frost control.

Figure 1
Streamflow
Gaging Sites
McNab Creek

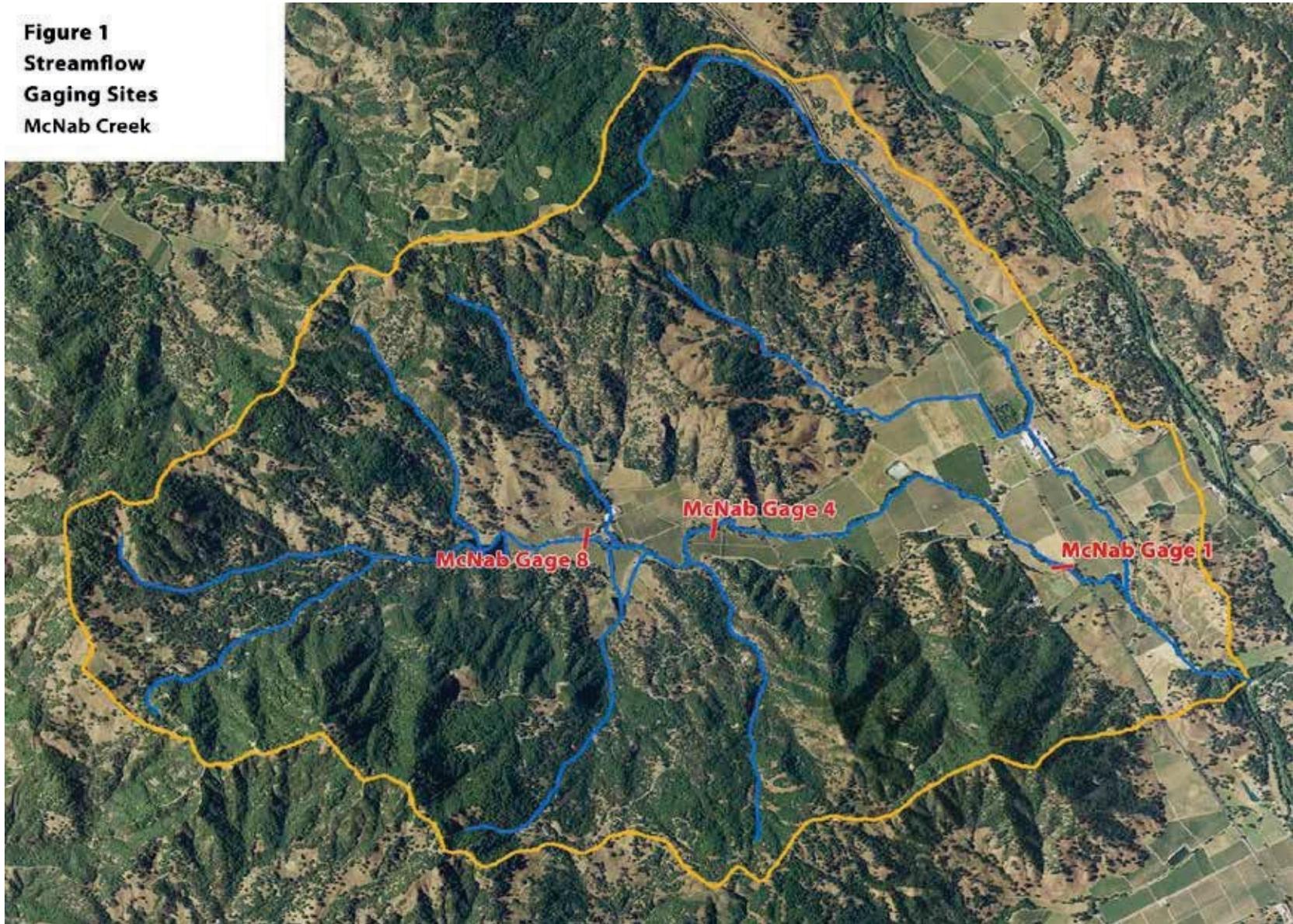


Figure 1. McNab Creek Gaging Network

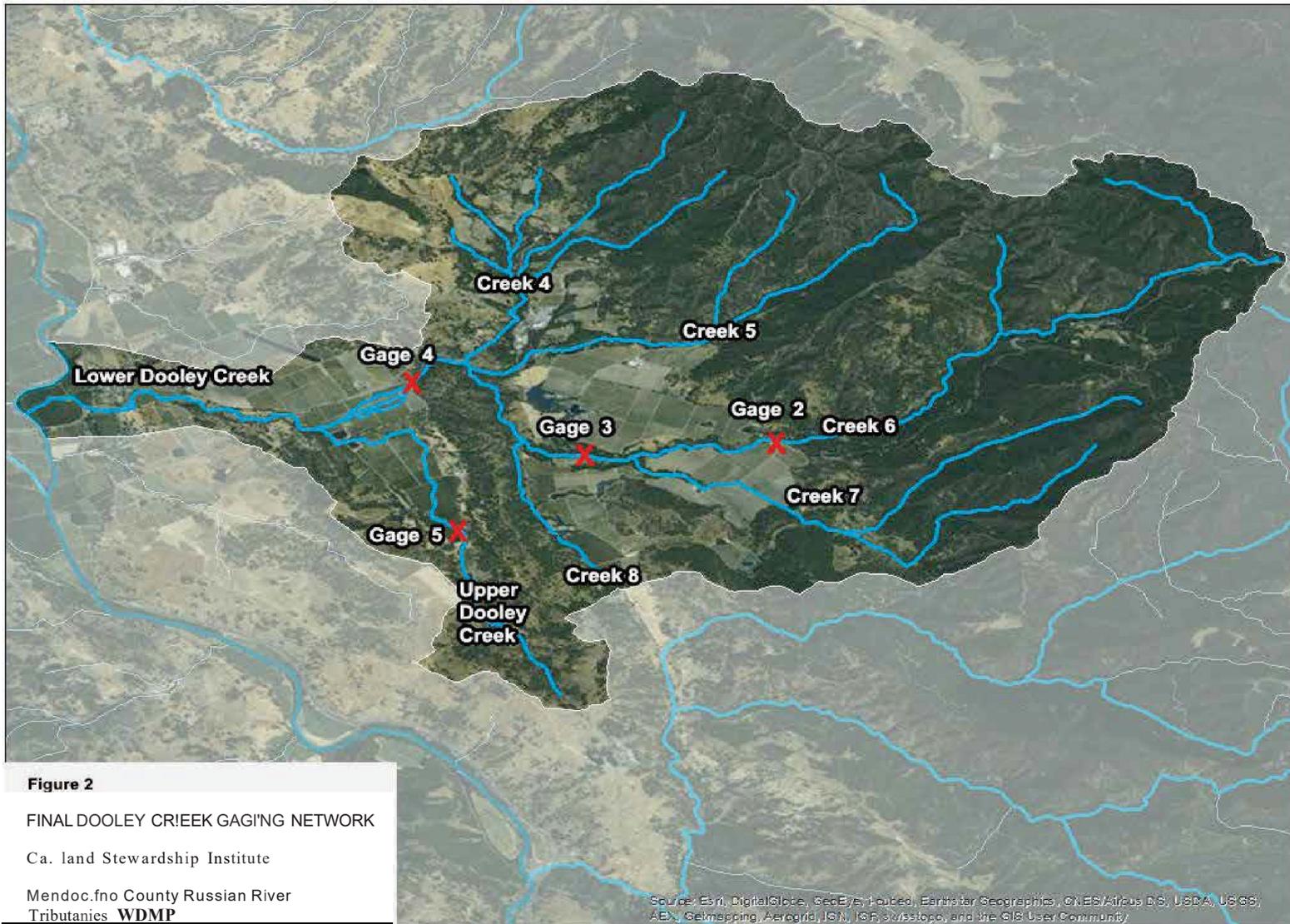


Figure 2. Dooley Creek Gaging Network

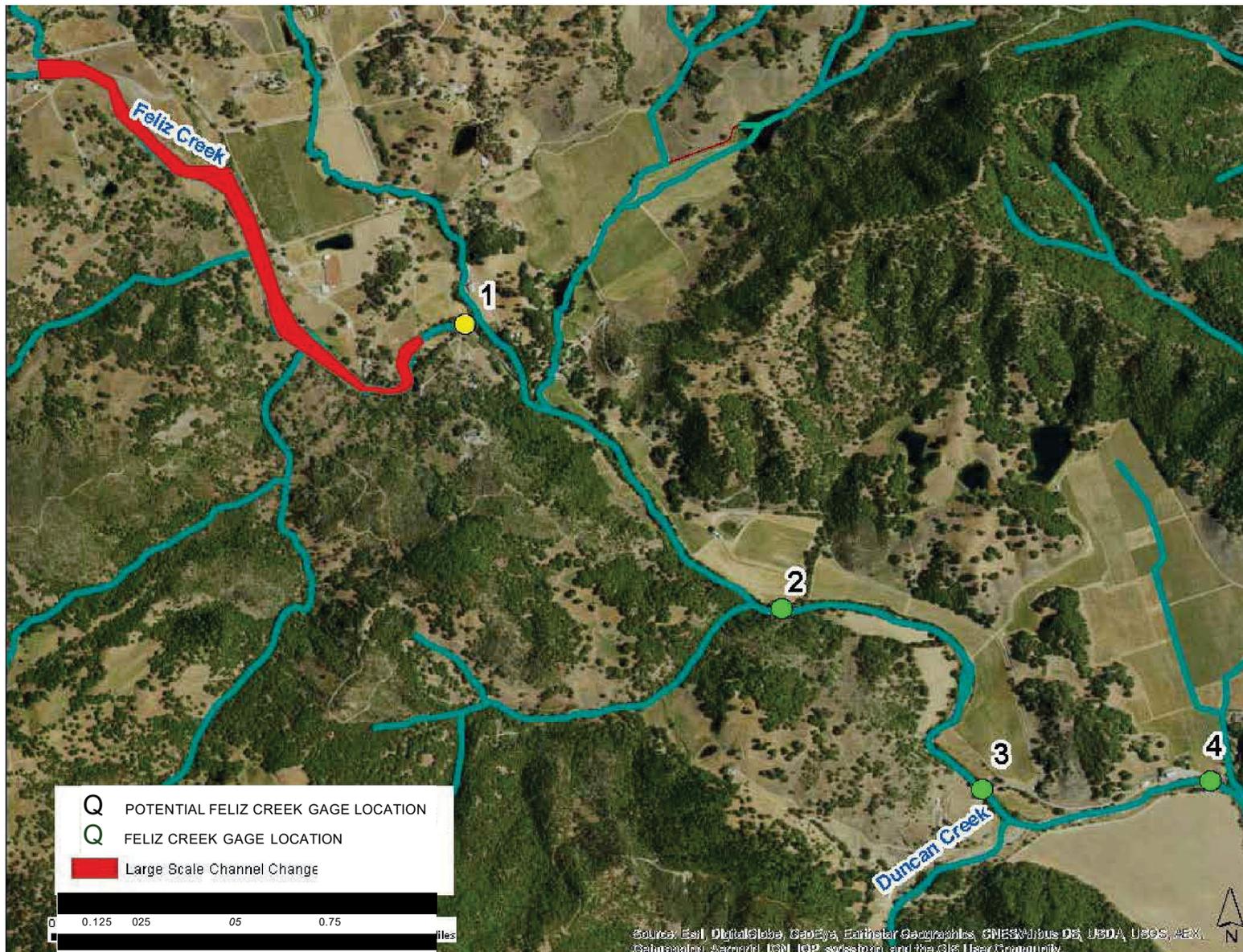


Figure 3. Feliz Creek Gaging Network.



Figure 4. York Creek Gage

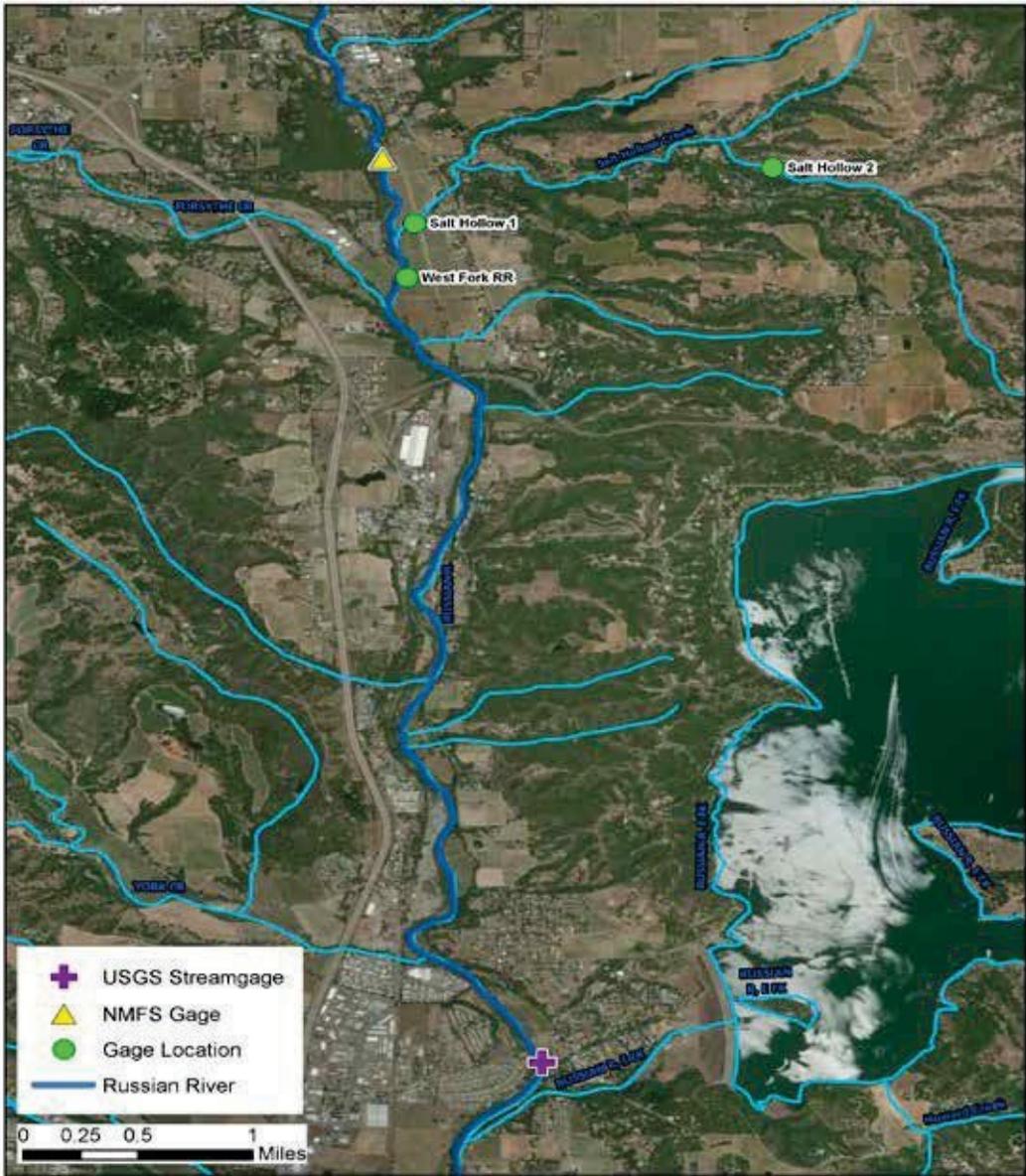


Figure 5. West Fork Russian River Gage Network. NMFS gage was removed

Table 2. West Fork Russian River Streamflow Gaging			CLSI gage stage in feet			Army Corp of Engineers gage stage in feet		
Date of Frost Water Use	time on	time off	on	off	Difference*	on	off	Difference*
4/2/2025	2:00 AM	9:00 AM	---	---	---	5.75	5.70	0.05
4/3/2025	2:00 AM	9:00 AM	---	---	---	5.55	5.54	0.01
4/4/2025	5:00 AM	8:00 AM	---	---	---	5.46	4.47	+0.01
4/5/2025	4:00 AM	8:00 AM	---	---	---	6.13	5.98	0.15

*The + sign indicates the stage/flow increased during frost diversions

Table 3. Salt Hollow Creek Streamflow Gaging			Gage 1 stage in feet			Gage 2 stage in feet		
Date of Frost Water Use	time on	time off	on	off	difference	on	off	difference
None	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

*The + sign indicates the stage/flow increased during frost diversions

Table 4. McNab Creek Streamflow Gaging			Gage 1 stage in feet			Gage 4 stage in feet			Gage 8 stage in feet		
Date of Frost Water Use	time on	time off	on	off	difference	on	off	difference	on	off	difference
4/3/2025	3:00 AM	8:00 AM	4.72	4.65	0.07	1.47	1.41	0.06	0.82	0.79	0.03

*The + sign indicates the stage/flow increased during frost diversions

Table 5. York Creek Streamflow Gaging			Gage stage in feet		
Date of Frost Water Use	time on	time off	on	off	difference
3/18/2025	3:00 AM	8:00 AM	2.50	2.33	0.17

Table 5. Feliz Creek Streamflow Gaging			Gage 4 stage in feet			Gage 3 stage in feet			Gage 2 stage in feet		
Date of Frost Water Use	time on	time off	on	off	difference	on	off	difference	on	off	difference
None	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	None	---	---

Feliz Creek Gage 4 was swept away and then reestablished. Feliz Creek Gage 3 was unable to be reestablished.

Table 6. Dooley Creek Stream Flow Gaging			Gage 2 stage in feet			Gage 3 stage in feet			Gage 5 stage in feet		
Date of Frost Water Use	time on	time off	on	off	difference	on	off	difference	on	off	difference
3/20/2025	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	0.33	0.32	0.01	0.69	0.68	0.01	0.67	0.62	0.05
3/29/2025	6:00 AM	8:00 AM	0.12	0.11	0.01	0.68	0.69	+0.01	0.74	0.74	0.00
4/3/2025	6:00 AM	8:00 AM	0.55	0.53	0.01	0.68	0.69	+0.01	0.83	0.82	0.01
4/24/2025	7:00 AM	9:00 AM	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.62	0.65	+0.03

Risk Assessment

The National Marine Fisheries Service has identified stage changes of 0.1 ft during a frost event as representing a risk of stranding to salmonids in a creek. There were no instances of changes in stage greater than 0.1 ft associated with frost diversion in the reported watersheds. All flows were adequate for salmonids.

Corrective Action Plan

No corrective action plans are needed.

Instances of Non-Compliance

There were 14 farms that did not report their water use and are listed in Appendix 1.

There are a number of diverters who simply do not participate in this WDMP as required by the Frost Regulation. They do not report their frost water use, do not pay their fees and do not respond to any communications. These diverters are not in compliance with the frost regulation. These diverters and the APN of their diversion are listed in Table 1. We appreciate that the SWRCB contacted the diverters who are out of compliance and we request that the SWRCB follow up with the diverters who continue to not respond and be out of compliance

Consultations

Our consultation with NMFS and CDFW are outlined below:

3/12/2025 - Conference call with Rick Rogers of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and Monty Larsen of Ca. Dept of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). CLSI updated both agencies on the 2024 annual report and discussed concerns or issues.

Revisions or Changes to WDMP

No changes or revisions to the WDMP are recommended.

APPENDIX 1
FROST WATER REPORTING 2-24 MENDOCINO COUNTY RUSSIAN RIVER NON-MAIN STEM DIVERTERS
WATER DEMAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

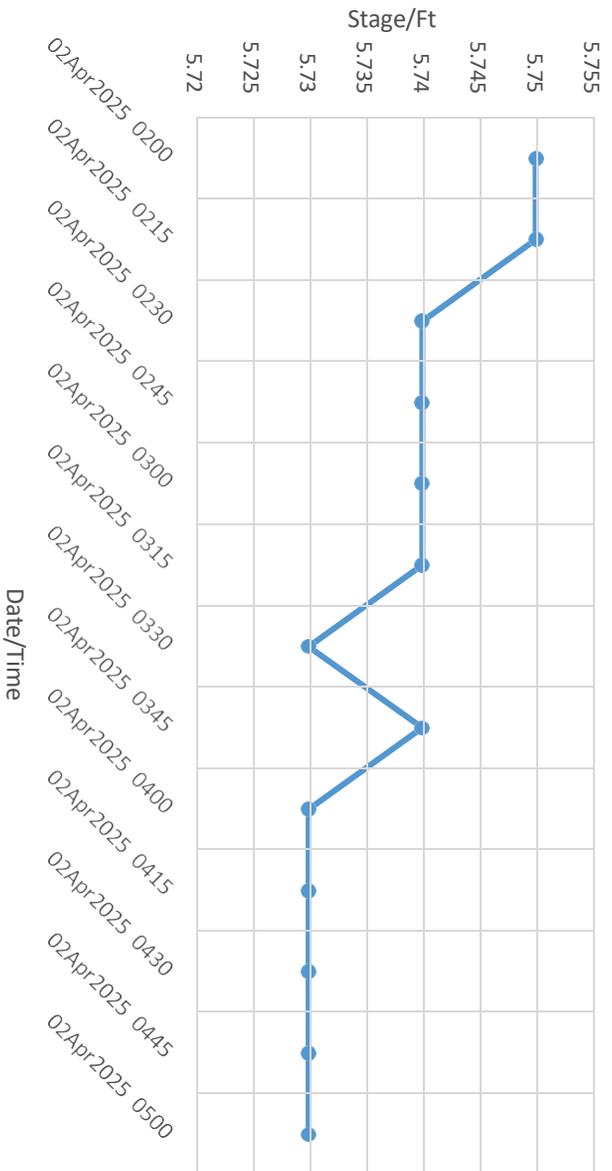
Appendix 1 Frost Water Reporting 2024 Mendocino County Russian River Non-Main Stem Diverters Water Demand Management Program

Divertor ID	Location of diversion - APN #	Date	Time frost water turned on	Time frost water turned off	Source of water	Rate of diversion (in gallons per minute)	If using off stream pond: when was pond refilled? At what diversion rate? And from what water source?	Total volume of water used for frost event on this date (in gallons)	Total volume of water used for frost event on this date (in acre feet)
1	18108001	No water use							
2	16822202	No water use							
3	16305004	No water use							
5	04707036	No water use							
6	185-22-01,04	No water use							
7	167-270-0300	3/18/2025	3:00	8:00	unnamed stream	1650		8250	0.025
8	181-060-01200	No water use							
9	18204001	No water use							
10	186 250 02	No water use							
11	16521012	No water use							
12	04838028	No water use							
13	16015001	Did not report							
14	10614610	No water use							
16	16615006	4/4/2025	5:30	7:45	on-stream pond	600		90000	0.280
17	18002002	4/3/2025	3:15	7:00	well	300	N/A	67500	0.210
18	18211001	No water use							
19	4805003	No water use							
20	166-090-0800	No water use							
22	4833010	No water use							
23	181-070-11, 181-070-01	No water use							
24	18217003, 18217019	No water use							
25	050-030-14	No water use							
26	182-13-008	No water use							
27	18311007	Did not report							
29	183-110-03	Did not report							
30	16903004, 16904004	No water use							
31	4815002	No water use							
32	163-210-12, 163-210-11,	4/2/2025	2	9	off stream reservoir	3000	4-2-25 at 1500 g.p.m. fr	1257781	3.860
32	163-210-12, 163-210-11,	4/3/2025	2	9	off stream reservoir	3000	4-8-25 at 1500 g.p.m. fr	1257781	3.860
32	163-210-12, 163-210-11,	4/4/2025	5	8	off stream reservoir	3000	4-8-25 at 1500 g.p.m. fr	540000	1.657
33	183-100-070	No water use							
34	162-130-02	No water use							
35	18219015	No water use							
36	047-210-0200	No water use							
37	18003001, 18004010	No water use							
40	16603006, 16603005	No water use							
41	10721008, 10721013	Did not report							
42	050-180-44 RES. A, 050-0	3/29/2025	6	8	Pond 98	642		770000	2.363
42	050-180-44 RES. A, 050-0	3/29/2025	6	8	Pond 97	1625		195000	0.598
43	048-090-0300	No water use							
44	167-060-1400	No water use							
45	04832012, 04832017, 04	Did not report							
46	050-410-31	No water use							
47	048-380-40	No water use							
48	160-180-11	No water use							
49	047-250-0200	No water use							
51	050-030-21-00	3/20/2025	10	12	Off-stream Crawford Rese	550	was filled from McDowell Cre	5300	0.016
51	050-030-21-00	4/24/2025	7	9	Off-stream Crawford Rese	233	was filled from McDowell Cre	10500	0.032
52	047-420-03	No water use							
53	04821017, 04825021	No water use							
54	16016011, 16104003	Did not report							
55	48010130	No water use							
56	161-300-13	No water use							
57	18309001, 18309002	No water use							
59	16709003	No water use							
60	04718026, 04724009	No water use							
61	18012006	No water use							
62	16104002	Did not report							
63	161-240-13, 161-250-02	No water use							
64	10614605	No water use							
65	1800200100	4/3/2025	3:15	7:00	well	300	NA	67500	0.210
66	16901010	No water use							
67	05018006	4/3/2025	6:00	8:00	off stream reservoir	1983	rain water	238000	0.730
68	04708023 04705031	No water use							
69	16316001	Did not report							
70	04712042, 04712043	4/3/2025	3:00	8:00	On stream reservoir	422		116480	0.380
71	16129020	Did not report							
72	160-230-01	4/3/2025	4	8	off stream pond	800	pond filled on 4-4-2025,	192000	0.589
74	4838018	No water use							
75	181-180-03	4/3/2025	4	8	Off stream pond	2265	03/23/2025 to 03/25/20	475608	1.460
75	182-220-01	4/3/2025	4	8	Off stream pond	173	Sheet flow and several	36309	0.111
76	04838006	No water use							
77	18409006	No water use							
78	4717037	No water use							
79	16001135	Did not report							
81	047-450-10	No water use							
83	183-150-0300	No water use							
84	18317003	No water use							
85	163-170-03-00	No water use							
86	165-190-0800	No water use							

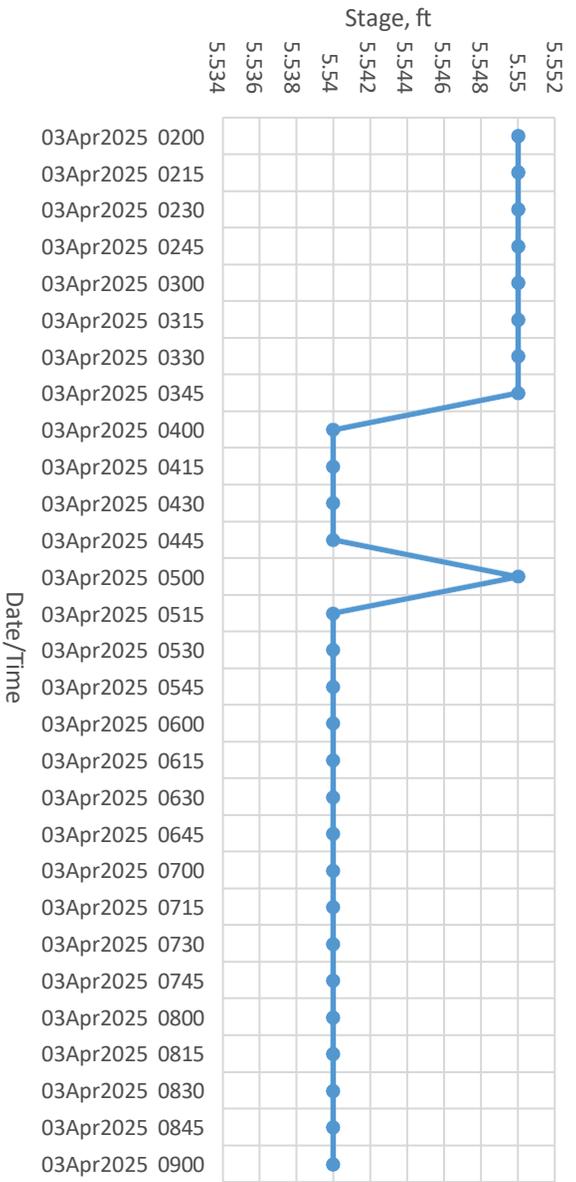
87	161-240-13	No water use							
88	162-020-17, 162-020-15	No water use							
89	16914001	No water use							
90	04832004, 04832007	No water use							
92	18108022	Did not report							
93	185-050-0900	No water use							
94	17817180	No water use							
95	160-110-03	4/5/2025	4	6	off stream reservoir	3500	After frost season from sprin	470000	1.442
95	160-110-03	4/5/2025	4	5	off stream reservoir	3500	After frost season from sprin	162000	0.497
96	169-020-02	No water use							
97	183180200, 183180100,	No water use							
98	16112032, 16116018	4/3/2025	3:00	7:00	pond	1000	rain water	240000	0.740
100	17911001	Did not report							
103	16608001	No water use							
105	04813003, 04819008	No water use							
107	04826026	Did not report							
108	4810006	4/3/2025	6:00	8:00	off stream reservoir	1191	Water moved from Blue hero	143000	0.440
109	16109005, 16110001, 16	No water use							
110	183-080-01, 183-070-01	No water use							
113	16603002, 16612009	No water use							
114	183-030-02, 182-080-03, 182-080-02, 182-100-02, 182-100-03, 183-060001, 183-04-01	No water use							
115	050-110-3700	No water use							
117	1820803000	No water use							
118	161-260-21	No water use							
119	160-12-11	4/5/2025	4	8	off stream reservoir	3500	Pond refilled with spring	788000	2.418
119	160-12-11	4/5/2025	4	6	off stream reservoir	3500	After frost season from	431000	1.323
119	160-12-11	4/5/2025	4	6	off stream reservoir	3500	After frost season from	436000	1.338
120	18218032	No water use							
122	16702010	No water use							
123	160-120-12	No water use							
125	1831004	No water use							
126	162-130-02	No water use							
127	183-180-04	Did not report							
128	18322027	No water use							
130	163-050-06	No water use							
133	165523006	Did not report							

APPENDIX 2
2025 STREAM STAGE MONITORING RECORDS FOR TRIBUTARIES TO THE RUSSIAN RIVER IN
MENDOCINO COUNTY

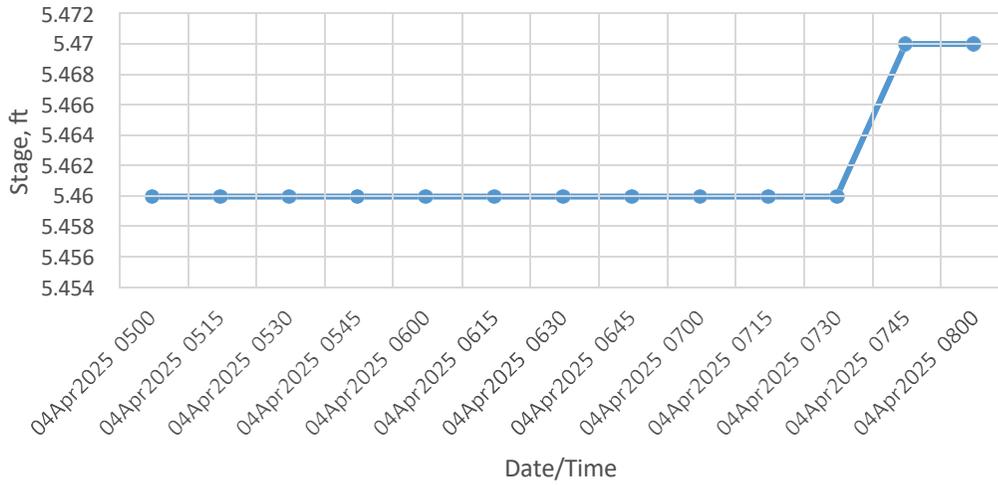
West Fork Russian River (COE) April 2 2025
2:00 AM to 5:00 AM



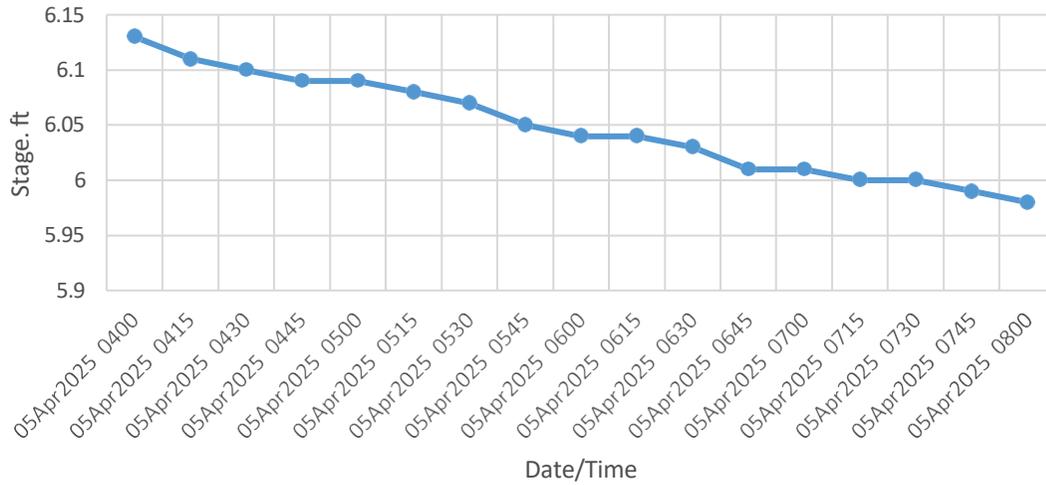
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2:00 AM to 9:00 AM

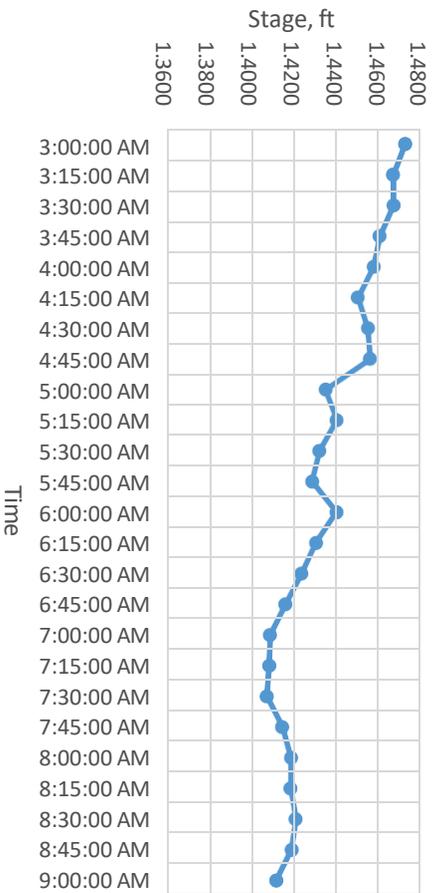


West Fork Russian River (COE) April 4 2025
5:00 AM to 8:00 AM

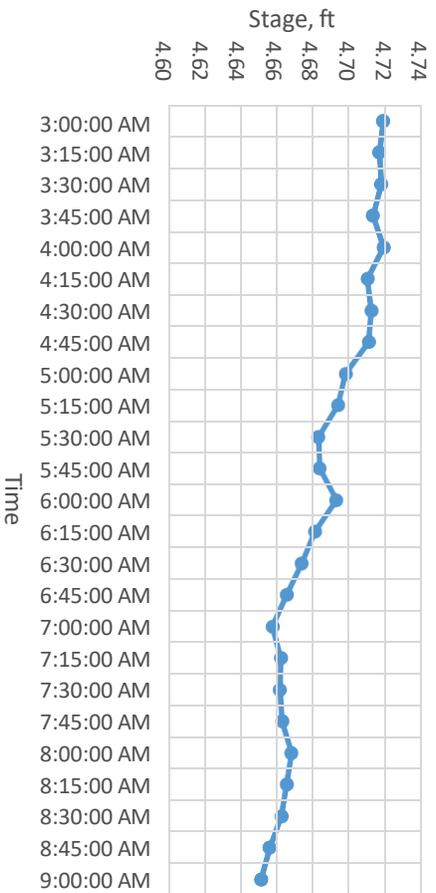


West Fork Russian River (COE) April 5 2025
4:00 AM to 8:00 AM

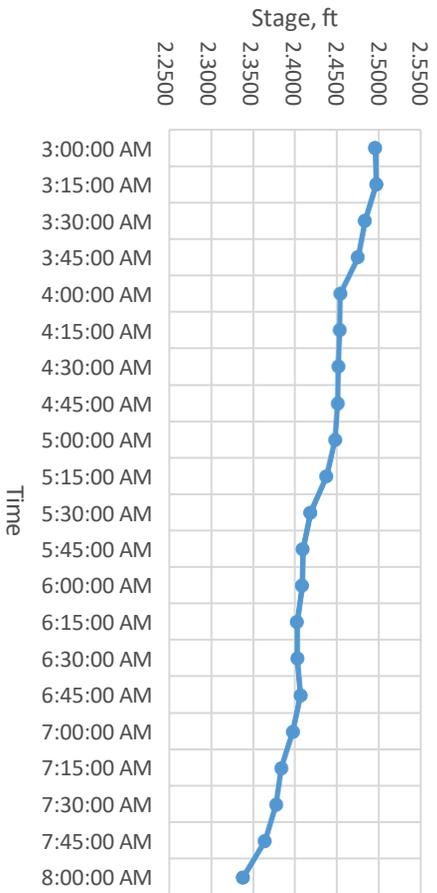




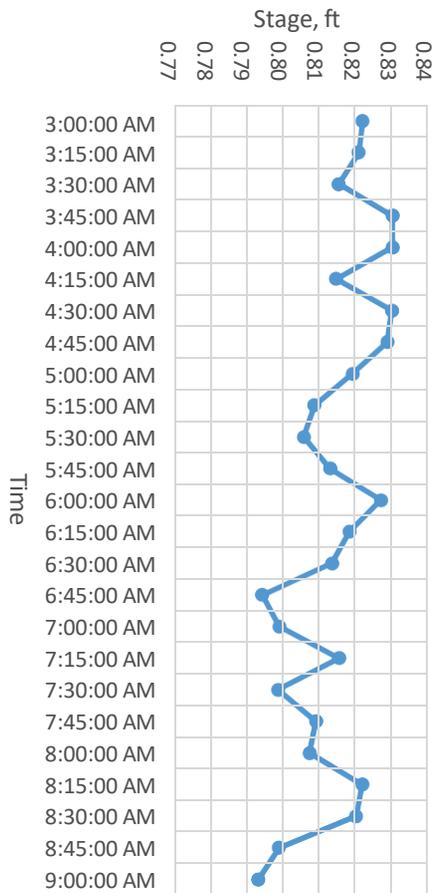
McNab 4 April 3 2025
3:00 AM to 9:00 AM



McNab 1 April 3 2025
3:00 AM to 9:00 AM

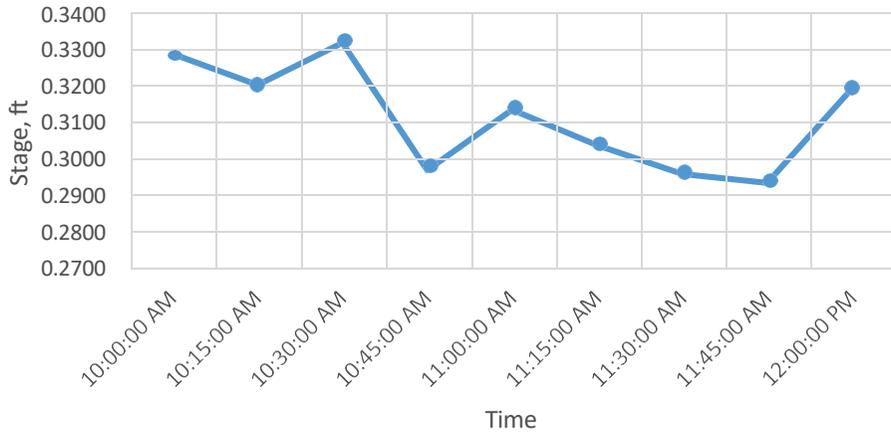


York March 18 2025
3:00 AM to 8:00 AM

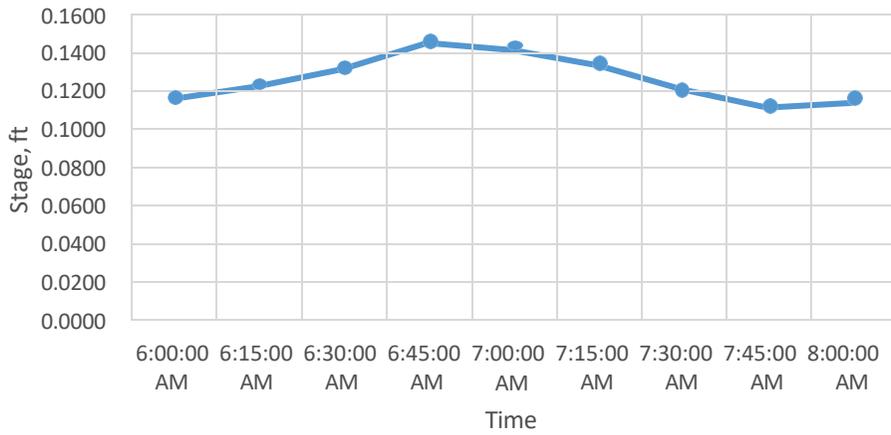


McNab 8 April 3 2025
3:00 AM to 9:00 AM

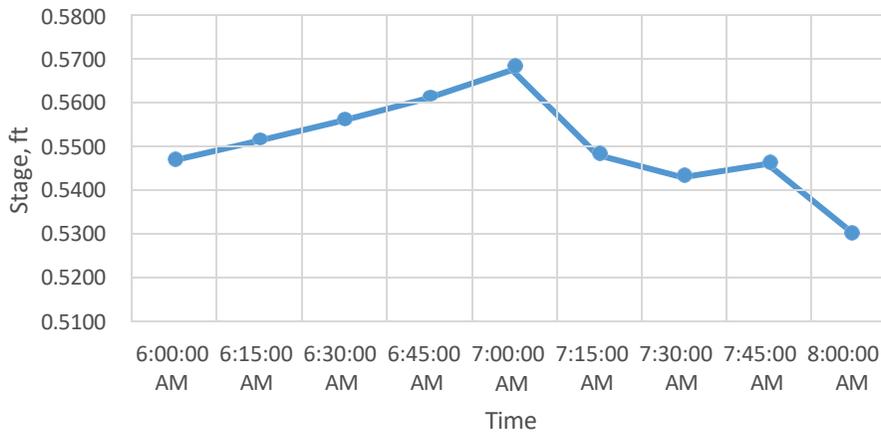
Dooley 2 March 20 2025
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



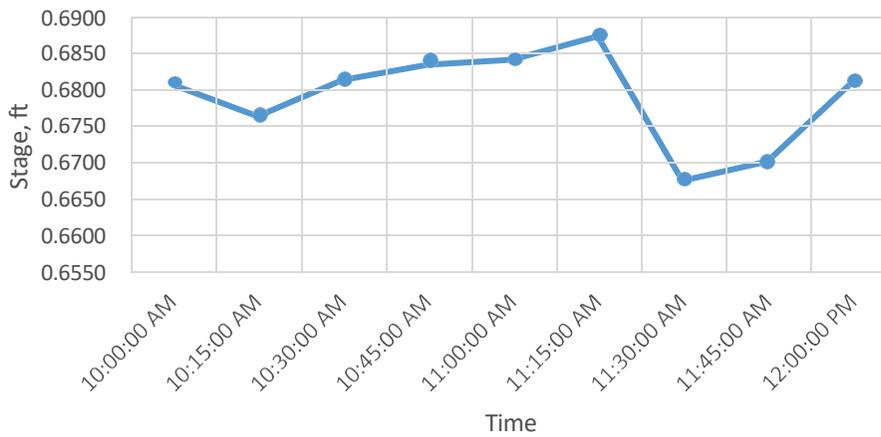
Dooley 2 March 29 2025
6:00 AM to 8:00 AM



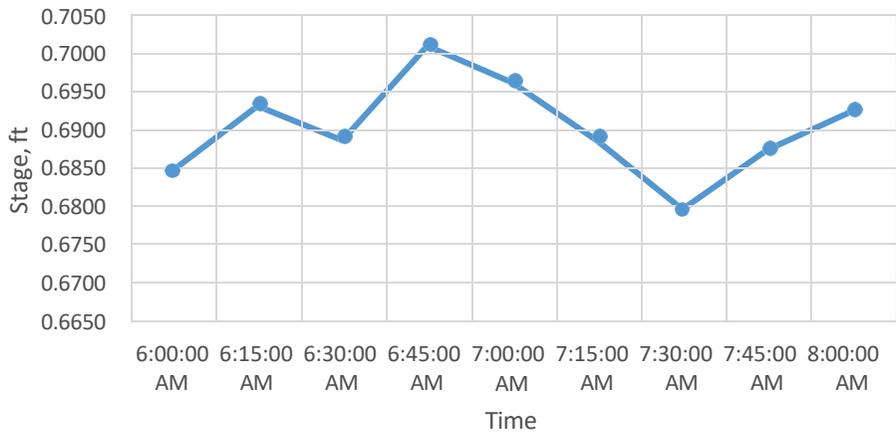
Dooley 2 April 3 2025
6:00 AM to 8:00 AM



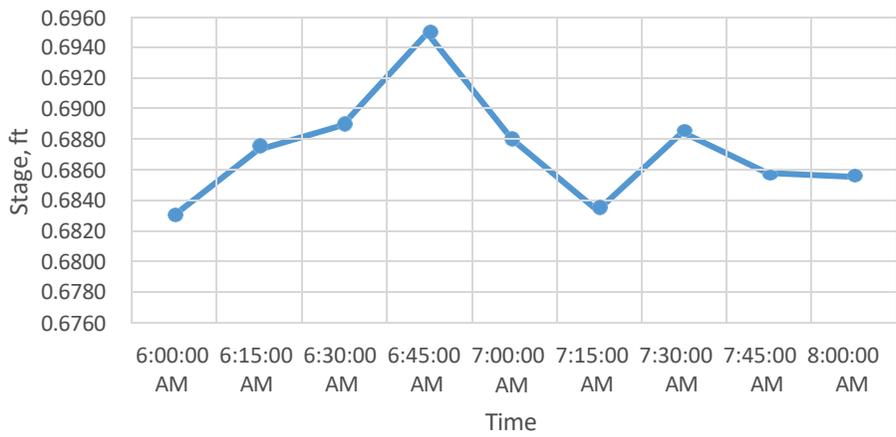
Dooley 3 March 20 2025
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



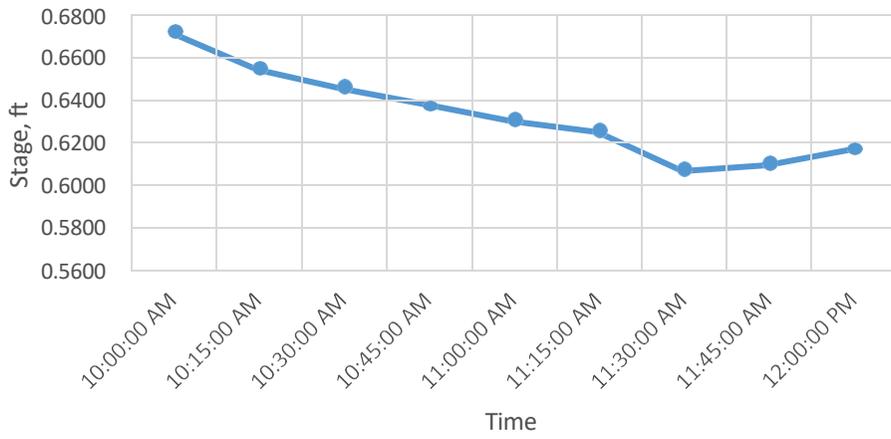
Dooley 3 March 29 2025
6:00 AM to 8:00 AM



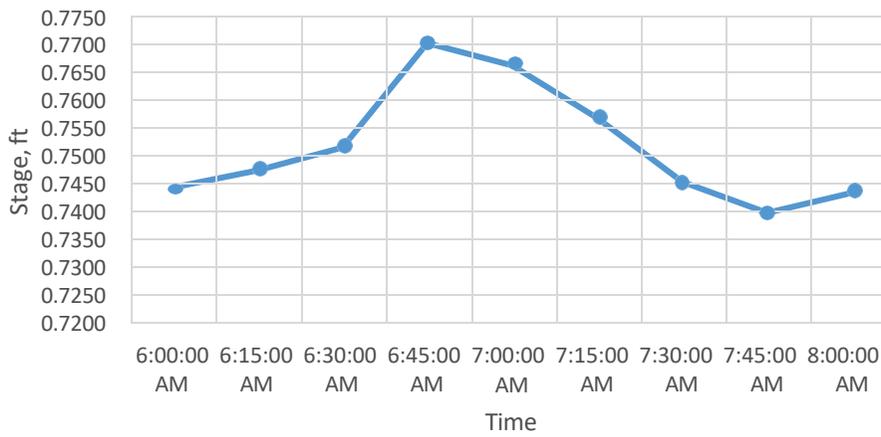
Dooley 3 April 3 2025
6:00 AM to 8:00 AM



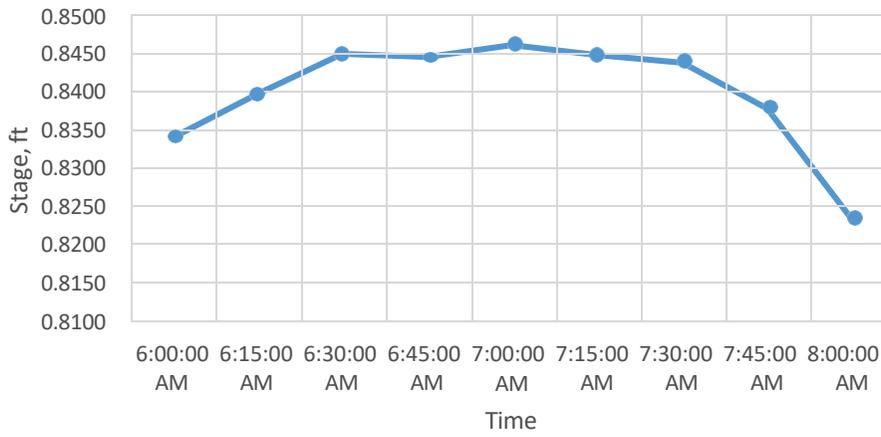
Dooley 5 March 20 2025
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



Dooley 5 March 29 2025
6:00 AM to 8:00 AM



Dooley 5 April 3 2025
6:00 AM to 8:00 AM



Dooley 2 April 3 2025
7:00 AM to 9:00 AM

