

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Hydrological Conditions Report

February 2026

B. Barry, H. Forrester, L. Stewart, R. Walters
Prepared March 2, 2026



In late February, Moccasin Reservoir was drained via Gate 3 (foreground right) to facilitate a Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) inspection, work on Moccasin Gate Tower (background center), and to cycle the water in Moccasin Reservoir prior to returning to service. Moccasin Reservoir has refilled and returned to regular service, and deliveries to the SJPL have resumed, marking the end of the 2025/2026 Hetch Hetchy Winter Shutdown.

System Storage

Current Tuolumne System and Local Bay Area storage conditions are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Current System Storage as of March 1, 2026							
	Current Storage		Maximum Storage		Available Capacity		Percentage of Maximum Storage
	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	
Tuolumne System							
Hetch Hetchy Reservoir ¹	314,882		340,830		25,948		92%
Cherry Reservoir ²	239,737		268,811		29,074		89%
Lake Eleanor ³	23,076		23,355		279		99%
Water Bank ⁴	586,587		586,587		0		100%
Tuolumne Storage	1,164,282		1,219,583		55,301		95%
Local Bay Area Storage							
Calaveras Reservoir	68,835	22,430	96,670	31,500	27,835	9,070	71%
San Antonio Reservoir	44,367	14,457	52,506	17,109	8,139	2,652	85%
Crystal Springs Reservoir	49,787	16,223	68,743	22,400	18,957	6,177	72%
San Andreas Reservoir	14,565	4,746	18,898	6,158	4,333	1,412	77%
Pilarcitos Reservoir	1,863	607	3,118	1,016	1,255	409	60%
Total Local Storage	179,417	58,463	239,935	78,183	60,519	19,720	75%
Total System	1,343,699		1,459,519		115,820		92%

¹ Maximum Hetch Hetchy Reservoir storage with drum gates de-activated.

² Maximum Cherry Reservoir storage with flashboards removed.

³ Maximum Lake Eleanor storage with two rows of flashboards in spillway log chute.

⁴ Additional Water Bank storage is derived from flood storage encroachment in Don Pedro

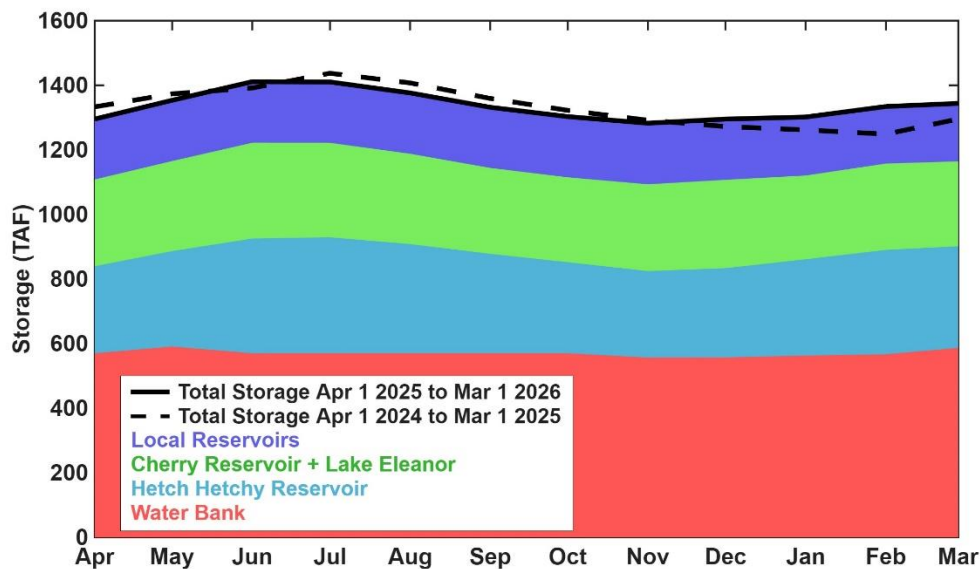


Figure 1: Local and Upcountry Reservoir storage. Color bands show contributions to total system storage. Solid black line shows total system storage for the past 12 months. Dashed black line shows total system storage for the previous 12 months.

Hetch Hetchy System Precipitation Index

Current Month: The February 2026 six-station precipitation index was 5.62 inches.

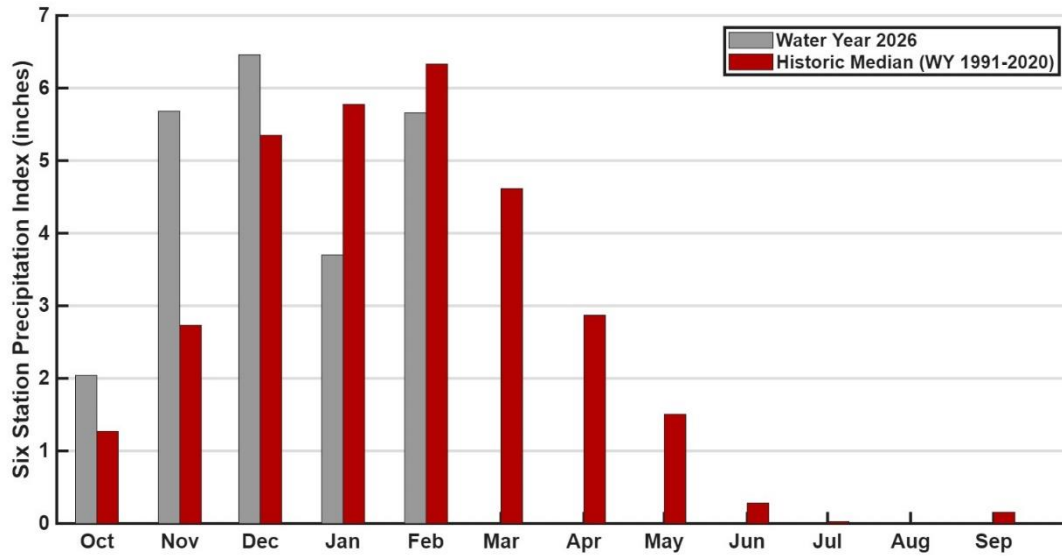


Figure 2: Monthly distribution of the six-station precipitation index relative to the monthly precipitation medians as of March 1. The precipitation index is computed as the average of six Sierra precipitation stations and is an indicator of the overall basin wetness.

Cumulative Precipitation to Date: The cumulative six-station precipitation index for Water Year (WY) 2026 is 23.48 inches, which is 109% of the median to-date. The Hetch Hetchy Weather Station received 4.70 inches of precipitation in February resulting in a total of 23.00 inches for WY 2026, or 98% of the WY median to-date. The cumulative WY 2026 Hetch Hetchy Weather Station precipitation is shown in Figure 3 in red.

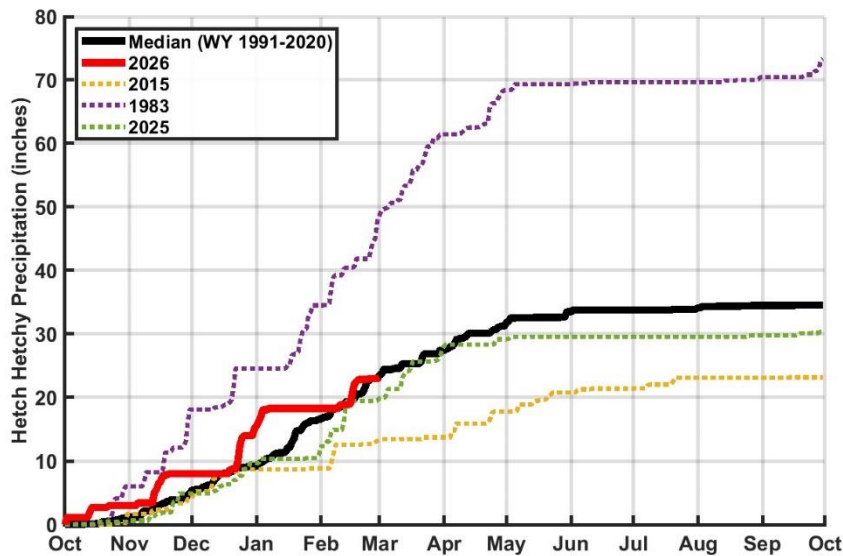


Figure 3: Water Year 2026 cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station as of March 1. Median cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station and example wet and dry years are included with Water Year 2025 for comparison purposes.

Tuolumne Basin Unimpaired Inflow

Unimpaired inflow to SFPUC reservoirs and the Tuolumne River at La Grange for February 2026 and Water Year 2026 is summarized below in Table 2.

Table 2. Calculated reservoir inflows and Water Available to City								
All flows are in acre-feet ¹	February, 2026				October 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026			
	Observed Flow	Median ¹	Mean ¹	Percent of Mean	Observed Flow	Median ¹	Mean ¹	Percent of Mean
Inflow to Hetch Hetchy Reservoir	34,479	24,955	28,507	121%	149,568	80,560	94,642	158%
Inflow to Cherry Lake and Lake Eleanor	30,506	28,202	34,090	89%	167,687	105,331	117,924	142%
Tuolumne River at LaGrange	131,256	110,828	157,781	83%	546,492	321,388	453,206	121%
Water Available to City	42,265	21,977	65,803	64%	187,243	57,889	187,922	100%

¹Hydrologic Record: 1991-2020

Hetch Hetchy System Operations

Water deliveries via the San Joaquin Pipeline (SJPL) increased from 0 MGD to 144 MGD on February 22.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 42,801 acre-feet during the month of February. Required minimum instream release during February was 60 cfs (Year Type A) plus 64 cfs when Canyon Tunnel power draft exceeded 920 cfs. The required minimum instream release during March is also 60 cfs (Year Type A).

Cherry Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 29,712 acre-feet during the month of February. The required minimum instream release for February was 5 cfs and remains 5 cfs for March.

Lake Eleanor stream release totaled 5,399 acre-feet during the month of February. 5,940 acre-feet of water was transferred to Cherry Reservoir via the Cherry-Eleanor Pumping Station. Required minimum instream release for February was 5 cfs and increases to 10 cfs in March.

Regional System Treatment Plant Production

The Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 33 MGD. The Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 86 MGD.

Regional System Water Delivery

The average February delivery rate was 169 MGD which is an 11.7% increase compared to the January delivery rate of 151 MGD.

Local Precipitation

The rainfall summary for February 2026 and Water Year 2026 is presented in Table 3.

Weather Station Location	February 2026		October 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026	
	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Month	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Year-To-Date
Pilarcitos Reservoir	6.47	90%	29.54	118%
Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir	4.34	90%	20.93	126%
Calaveras Reservoir	5.27	146%	17.76	138%

*Mean Period = WY 1991-2020

Snowpack, Water Supply and Planned Water Supply Management

Air temperatures in the Tuolumne River Basin were slightly above normal and precipitation approximately normal during February. Most of the month's precipitation fell in mid-February during an anomalously cold low-pressure event, which delivered 4 to 7 inches of precipitation throughout the basin. The snow level of this storm lowered from approximately 5,000 feet to below 2,000 feet, delivering patchy snow to Priest Reservoir and significantly augmenting upcountry snowpack. This heavy snow event was followed by a modest, warm rain event, which accelerated low-elevation snowmelt. The mid-February storm and subsequent snowmelt resulted in elevated flows on the Tuolumne River, producing 42,265 acre-feet of Water Available to the City (WAC) in February (Figure 4).

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is drafting via minimum instream releases and discretionary power draft at Kirkwood to manage the reservoir toward seasonal targets. Cherry Reservoir is drafting via minimum instream releases and Holm power draft to manage toward seasonal targets. The Cherry-Eleanor Pumps were active through most of February except for an eight-day outage resulting from a loss of line power. The Pumps are expected to remain online through the end of spring runoff. Lake Eleanor remained nearly full throughout February and is now full and spilling. Power draft at all Powerhouses is expected to remain elevated throughout the end of runoff. All upcountry reservoirs are projected to reach maximum storage by the end of runoff with spill expected from Hetch Hetchy Reservoir and Lake Eleanor. Water Bank is expected to remain nearly full throughout spring.

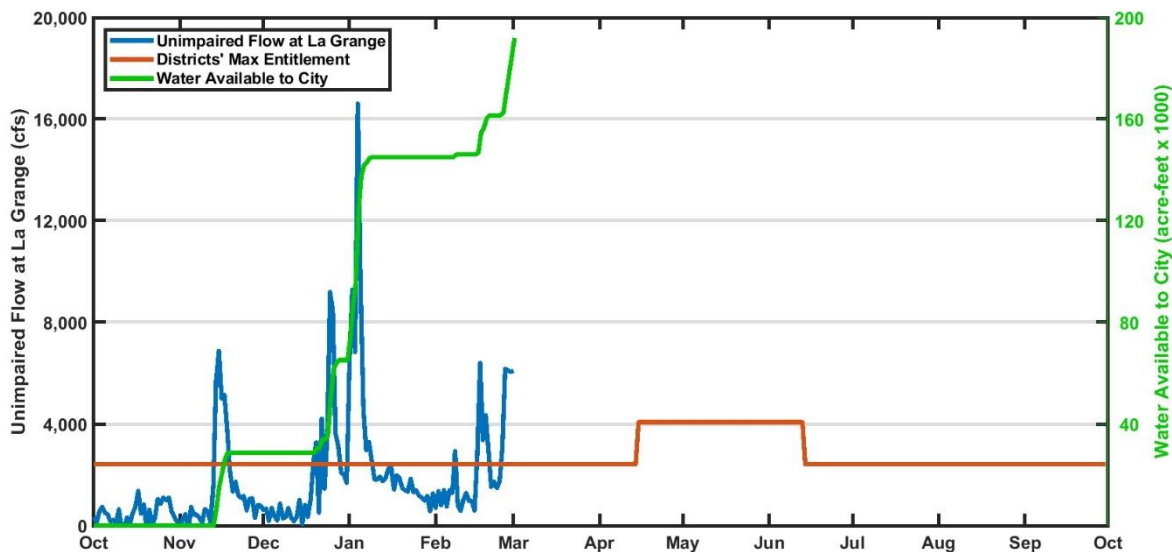


Figure 4: Calculated unimpaired flow at La Grange and the allocation of flows between the Districts and the City.

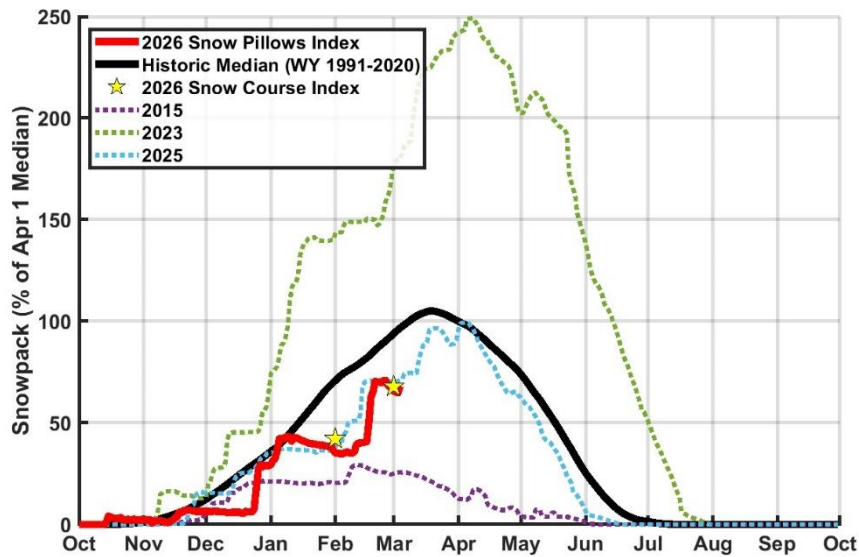


Figure 5: Current water year 10-Station Snow Pillows Index as of March 1 (red line), based on real-time snow water equivalent measurements in the Tuolumne Basin. Historic median, wet and dry years, and previous water year are included for comparison purposes.

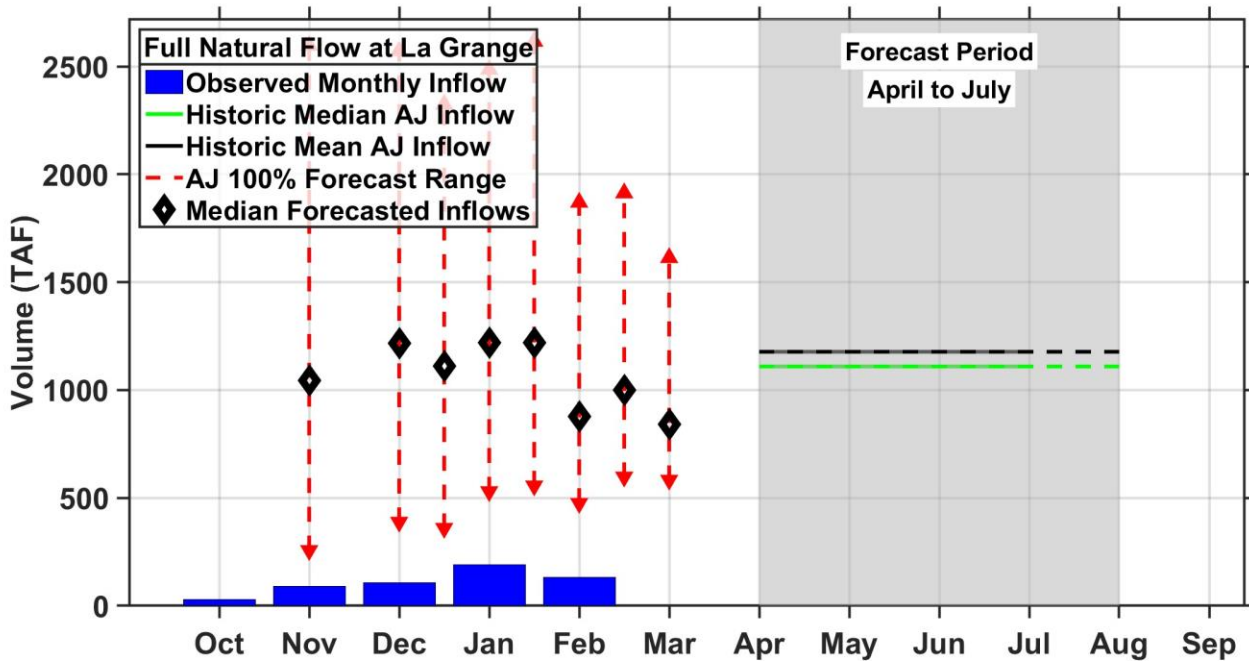


Figure 6: Water Supply Forecast Model of runoff (April to July) on the Tuolumne River at La Grange. This model is driven by precipitation from October to February, and by snow survey data from February through June. The forecast range decreases as time passes due to reduced potential future precipitation.

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2026 Upper Tuolumne Ecosystem Program (UTREP) releases from O'Shaughnessy Dam peaked at approximately 5600 cubic feet per second for five hours on March 26th. These valve releases were aligned with a period of snowmelt-driven elevated runoff during a historic March heatwave. March 2026 was among the driest and hottest Marches on record. Upcountry reservoirs have seen multiple weeks of elevated inflows and rapid decline in watershed snowpack, prompting unusually early reservoir storage increases and the UTREP release pictured above.

System Storage

Current Tuolumne System and Local Bay Area storage conditions are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Current System Storage as of April 1, 2026							
	Current Storage		Maximum Storage		Available Capacity		Percentage of Maximum Storage
	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	
Tuolumne System							
Hetch Hetchy Reservoir ¹	334,282		360,360		26,078		93%
Cherry Reservoir ²	258,263		268,811		10,548		96%
Lake Eleanor ³	24,286		25,216		930		96%
Water Bank ⁴	594,610		594,610		0		100%
Tuolumne Storage	1,211,441		1,248,997		37,556		97%
Local Bay Area Storage							
Calaveras Reservoir	66,104	21,540	96,670	31,500	30,566	9,960	68%
San Antonio Reservoir	44,444	14,482	52,506	17,109	8,062	2,627	85%
Crystal Springs Reservoir	47,605	15,512	68,743	22,400	21,139	6,888	69%
San Andreas Reservoir	15,246	4,968	18,898	6,158	3,652	1,190	81%
Pilarcitos Reservoir	1,912	623	3,118	1,016	1,206	393	61%
Total Local Storage	175,311	57,125	239,936	78,183	64,625	21,058	73%
Total System	1,386,752		1,488,933		102,181		93%

¹ Maximum Hetch Hetchy Reservoir storage with drum gates activated.

² Maximum Cherry Reservoir storage with flashboards removed.

³ Maximum Lake Eleanor storage with two rows of flashboards in spillway.

⁴ Additional Water Bank storage is derived from flood storage encroachment in Don Pedro

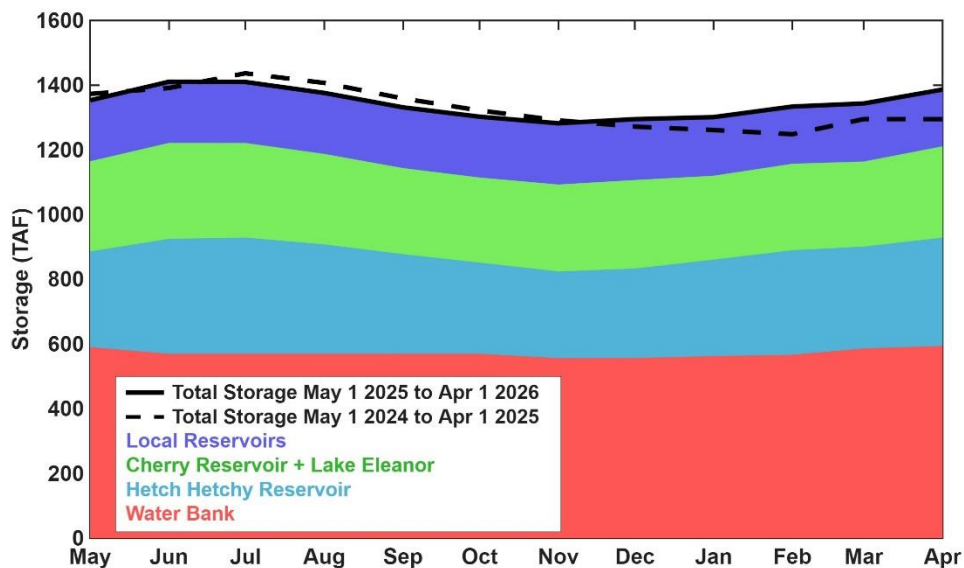


Figure 1: Local and Upcountry Reservoir storage. Color bands show contributions to total system storage. Solid black line shows total system storage for the past 12 months. Dashed black line shows total system storage for the previous 12 months.

Hetch Hetchy System Precipitation Index

Current Month: The March 2026 six-station precipitation index was 0.67 inches.

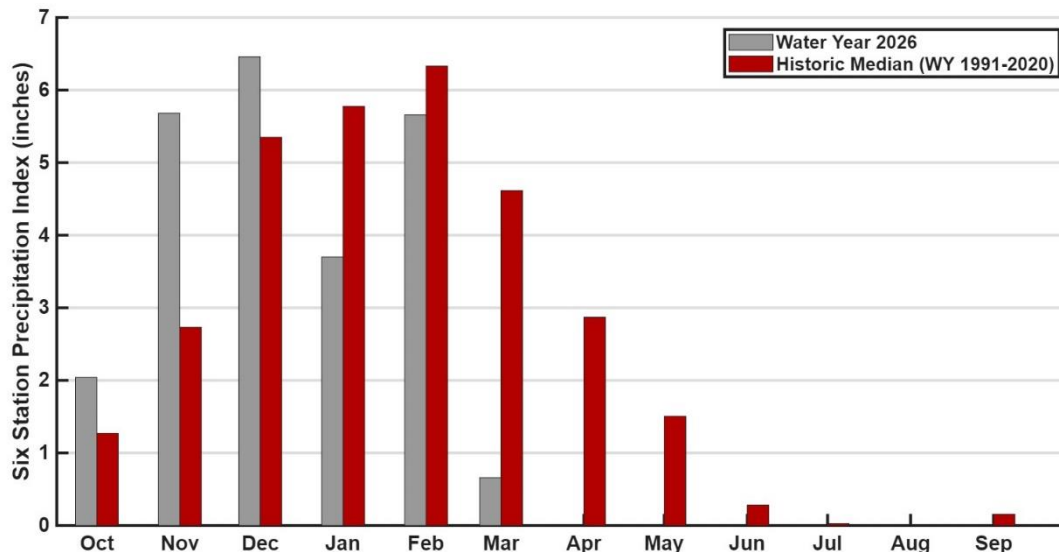


Figure 2: Monthly distribution of the six-station precipitation index relative to the monthly precipitation medians as of April 1. The precipitation index is computed as the average of six Sierra precipitation stations and is an indicator of the overall basin wetness.

Cumulative Precipitation to Date: The cumulative six-station precipitation index for Water Year (WY) 2026 is 24.15 inches, which is 93% of the median to-date. The Hetch Hetchy Weather Station received 0.88 inches of precipitation in March resulting in a total of 23.88 inches for WY 2026, or 87% of the WY median to-date. The cumulative WY 2026 Hetch Hetchy Weather Station precipitation is shown in Figure 3 in red.

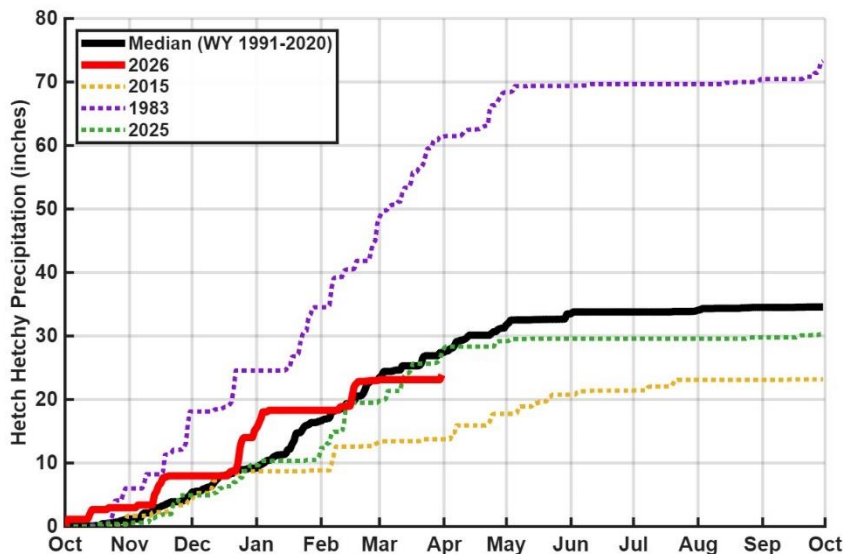


Figure 3: Water Year 2026 cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station as of April 1. Median cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station and example wet and dry years are included with Water Year 2025 for comparison purposes.

Tuolumne Basin Unimpaired Inflow

Unimpaired inflow to SFPUC reservoirs and the Tuolumne River at La Grange for March 2026 and Water Year 2026 is summarized below in Table 2.

Table 2. Calculated reservoir inflows and Water Available to City								
All flows are in acre-feet ¹	March, 2026				October 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026			
	Observed Flow	Median ¹	Mean ¹	Percent of Mean	Observed Flow	Median ¹	Mean ¹	Percent of Mean
Inflow to Hetch Hetchy Reservoir	121,071	43,608	51,029	237%	270,639	122,770	145,672	186%
Inflow to Cherry Lake and Lake Eleanor	78,343	52,608	54,863	143%	246,030	157,675	172,787	142%
Tuolumne River at LaGrange	266,087	209,444	231,643	115%	812,578	538,755	684,849	119%
Water Available to City	118,606	75,668	98,048	121%	305,849	152,587	285,970	107%

¹Hydrologic Record: 1991-2020

Hetch Hetchy System Operations

Water deliveries via the San Joaquin Pipeline (SJPL) increased from 144 MGD to 150 MGD on March 17.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 101,667 acre-feet during the month of March. Required minimum instream release during March was 60 cfs (Year Type A) plus 64 cfs when Canyon Tunnel power draft exceeded 920 cfs. The required minimum instream release during April is 75 cfs (Year Type A).

Cherry Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 40,901 acre-feet during the month of March. The required minimum instream release for March was 5 cfs and remains 5 cfs for April.

Lake Eleanor stream release totaled 17,702 acre-feet during the month of March. 8,926 acre-feet of water was transferred to Cherry Reservoir via the Cherry-Eleanor Pumping Station. Required minimum instream release for March was 10 cfs and increases to 20 cfs on April 15.

Regional System Treatment Plant Production

The Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 12 MGD. The Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 35 MGD.

Regional System Water Delivery

The average March delivery rate was 198 MGD which is an 17.2% increase compared to the February delivery rate of 169 MGD.

Local Precipitation

The rainfall summary for March 2026 and Water Year 2026 is presented in Table 3.

Weather Station Location	March 2026		October 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026	
	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Month	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Year-To-Date
Pilarcitos Reservoir	0.19	4%	29.73	100%
Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir	0.12	4%	21.05	106%
Calaveras Reservoir	0.01	0.3%	17.77	111%

*Mean Period = WY 1991-2020

Snowpack, Water Supply and Planned Water Supply Management

Air temperatures in the Tuolumne River Basin were far above normal and precipitation far below normal during March. Modest precipitation events occurred at the beginning and end of the month. Otherwise, the month was dominated by unseasonably warm and dry conditions, accelerating spring snowmelt. Multiple consecutive days of record-setting high temperatures and the 28 consecutive days without observed rainfall in March demonstrate the historic abnormality of this month's weather conditions. The unusually early seasonal snowmelt fueled elevated Tuolumne River flows, producing 118,606 acre-feet of Water Available to the City (WAC) in March (Figure 4).

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is drafting via elevated instream releases and Kirkwood powerdraft to manage the reservoir toward seasonal targets. Cherry Reservoir is drafting via minimum instream releases and elevated Holm powerdraft to manage toward seasonal targets. The Cherry-Eleanor Pumps were active through most of March except for a one-day outage to accommodate scheduled line work. The Pumps are expected to remain on through the end of runoff. Lake Eleanor remained nearly full throughout March. Powerdraft at all powerhouses is expected to remain elevated throughout the end of runoff. All upcountry reservoirs are projected to reach maximum storage by the end of runoff with spill expected from Hetch Hetchy Reservoir and Lake Eleanor. Water Bank is expected to remain full through runoff.

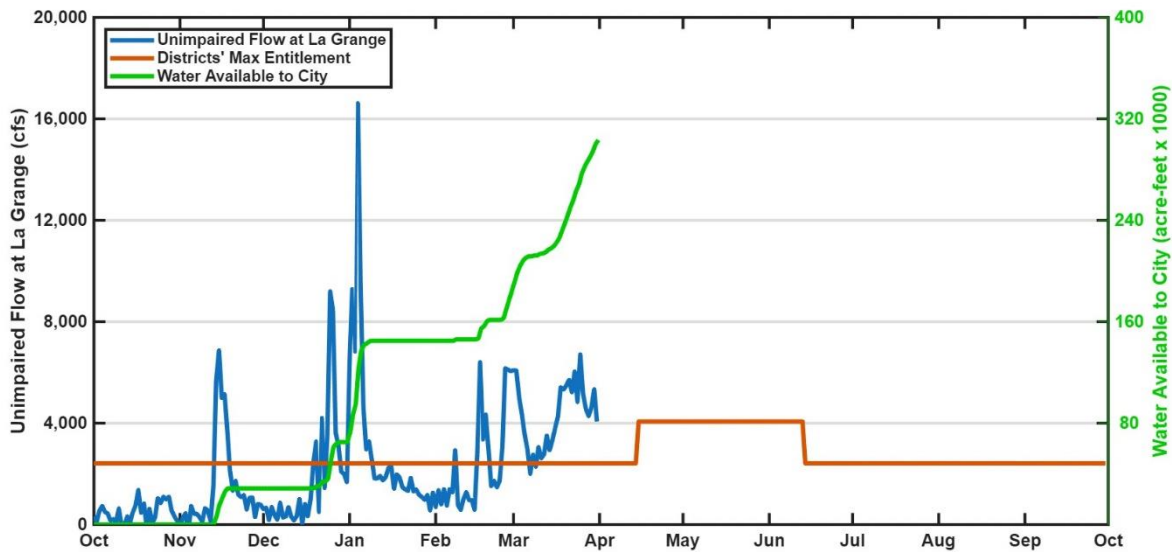


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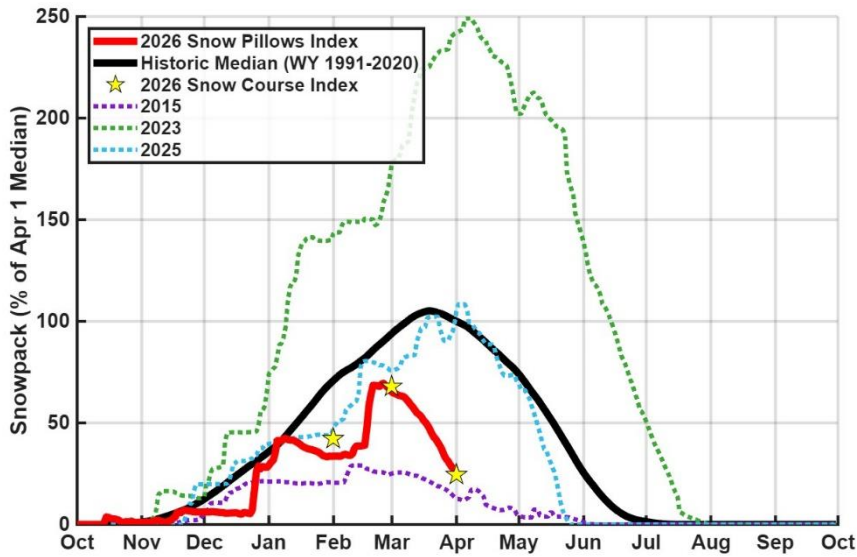


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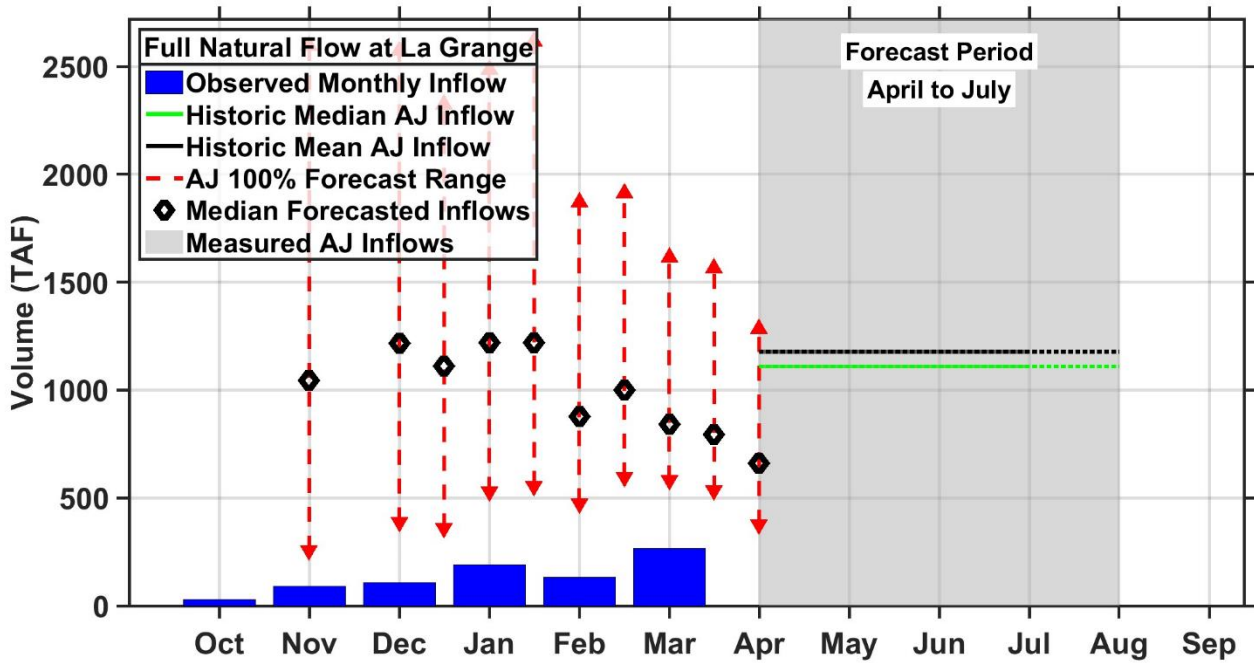


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