

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Hydrological Conditions Report

April 2026

B. Barry, H. Forrester, L. Stewart, R. Walters
Prepared May 4, 2026



View of East Fork Cherry Creek looking northeast towards Huckleberry Lake showing waning snow-covered area below approximately 8,000 feet and preferential melt on south-facing slopes. Photo taken May 1, 2026. Persistent cloudy conditions, slightly below normal temperatures, and episodic light to moderate precipitation throughout April have decreased the rate of snowmelt and maintained Tuolumne basin snowpack, particularly at higher elevations.

System Storage

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

Table 1. Current System Storage as of May 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	353,284		360,360		7,076		98%
Cherry Reservoir ²	260,900		268,811		7,911		97%
Lake Eleanor ³	25,681		27,100		1,419		95%
Water Bank ⁴	610,172		610,172		0		100%
Tuolumne Storage	1,250,037		1,266,443		16,406		99%
Local Bay Area Storage							
Calaveras Reservoir	63,548	20,707	96,670	31,500	33,122	10,793	66%
San Antonio Reservoir	44,597	14,532	52,506	17,109	7,909	2,577	85%
Crystal Springs Reservoir	46,386	15,115	68,743	22,400	22,357	7,285	68%
San Andreas Reservoir	15,707	5,118	18,898	6,158	3,192	1,040	83%
Pilarcitos Reservoir	1,940	632	3,118	1,016	1,178	384	62%
Total Local Storage	172,178	56,104	239,936	78,183	67,758	22,079	72%
Total System	1,422,215		1,506,379		84,163		94%

¹ Maximum Hetch Hetchy Reservoir storage with drum gates activated.

² Maximum Cherry Reservoir storage with flashboards removed.

³ Maximum Lake Eleanor storage with all flashboards installed.

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

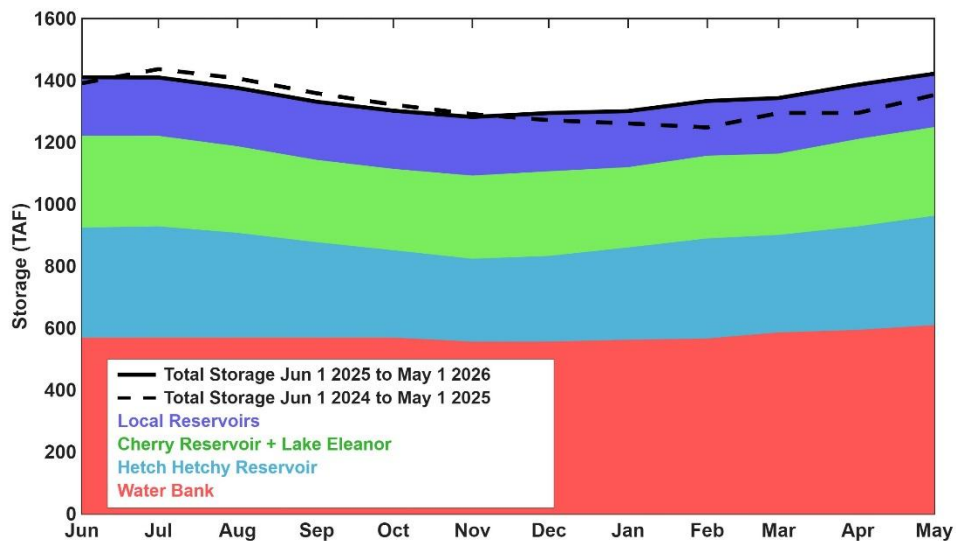


Figure 1: Local and Upcountry Reservoir storage. Color bands show contributions to total system storage. Solid black line shows total system storage for the past 12 months. Dashed black line shows total system storage for the previous 12 months.

Hetch Hetchy System Precipitation Index

Current Month: The April 2026 six-station precipitation index was 5.43 inches, or 189% of the 1991-2020 April median.

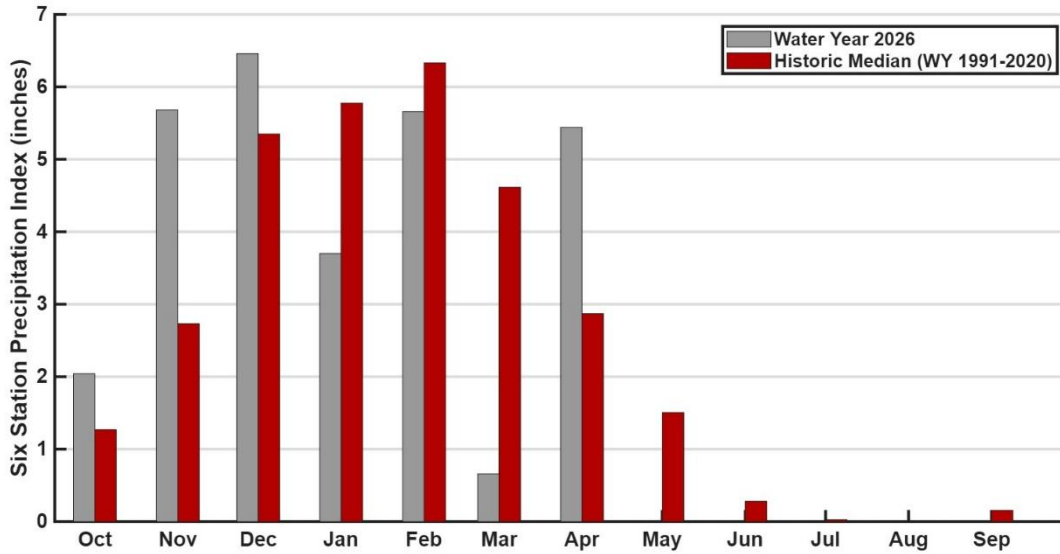


Figure 2: Monthly distribution of the six-station precipitation index relative to the monthly precipitation medians as of May 1. The precipitation index is computed as the average of six Sierra precipitation stations and is an indicator of the overall basin wetness.

Cumulative Precipitation to Date: The cumulative six-station precipitation index for Water Year (WY) 2026 is 29.57 inches, which is 102% of the median to-date. The Hetch Hetchy Weather Station received 6.13 inches of precipitation in April resulting in a total of 30.01 inches for WY 2026, or 92% of the WY median to-date. The cumulative WY 2026 Hetch Hetchy Weather Station precipitation is shown in Figure 3 in red.

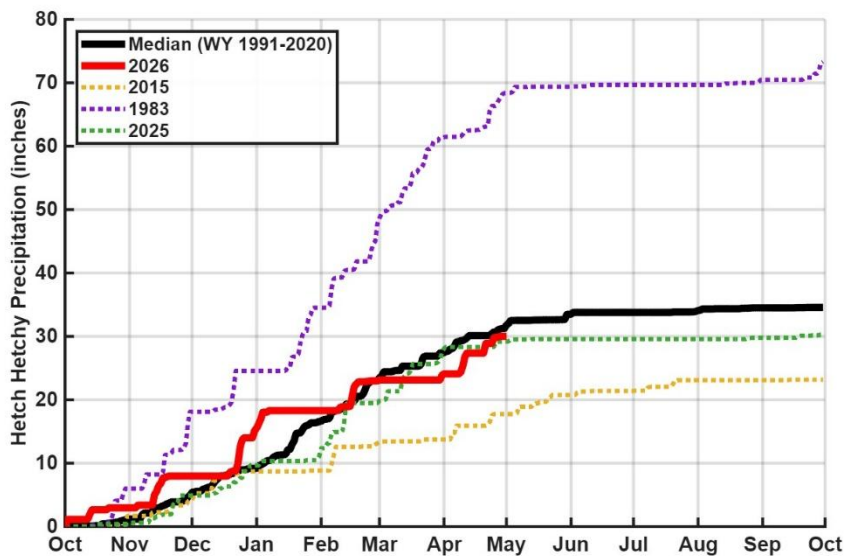


Figure 3: Water Year 2026 cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station as of May 1. Median cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station and example wet and dry years are included with Water Year 2025 for comparison purposes.

Tuolumne Basin Unimpaired Inflow

Unimpaired inflow to SFPUC reservoirs and the Tuolumne River at La Grange for April 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	April, 2026				October 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026			
	Observed Flow	Median ¹	Mean ¹	Percent of Mean	Observed Flow	Median ¹	Mean ¹	Percent of Mean
Inflow to Hetch Hetchy Reservoir	102,422	99,383	102,046	100%	373,061	232,271	247,718	151%
Inflow to Cherry Lake and Lake Eleanor	75,705	85,278	84,860	89%	321,735	238,994	257,647	125%
Tuolumne River at LaGrange	244,911	277,191	298,503	82%	1,057,489	803,288	983,352	108%
Water Available to City	53,256	92,777	116,214	46%	359,105	236,654	402,185	89%

¹Hydrologic Record: 1991-2020

Hetch Hetchy System Operations

Water deliveries via the San Joaquin Pipeline (SJPL) remained at 156 MGD throughout April.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 83,417 acre-feet during the month of April. Required minimum instream release during April was 75 cfs (Year Type A) plus 64 cfs when Canyon Tunnel power draft exceeded 920 cfs. The required minimum instream release during May is 100 cfs (Year Type A).

Cherry Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 47,181 acre-feet during the month of April. The required minimum instream release for April was 5 cfs and remains 5 cfs for May.

Lake Eleanor stream release totaled 24,492 acre-feet during the month of April. 4,721 acre-feet of water was transferred to Cherry Reservoir via the Cherry-Eleanor Pumping Station. Required minimum instream release for April increased from 10 cfs to 20 cfs on April 15 and will remain at 20 cfs during May.

Regional System Treatment Plant Production

The Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 29 MGD. The Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 32 MGD.

Regional System Water Delivery

The average April delivery rate was 203 MGD which is a 2.5% increase compared to the March delivery rate of 198 MGD.

Local Precipitation

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

Weather Station Location	April 2026		October 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026	
	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Month	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Year-To-Date
Pilarcitos Reservoir	6.92	236%	36.65	112%
Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir	4.99	287%	26.04	121%
Calaveras Reservoir	3.64	246%	21.41	122%

*Mean Period = WY 1991-2020

Snowpack, Water Supply and Planned Water Supply Management

Air temperatures in the Tuolumne River Basin were slightly below normal and precipitation was above normal during April. Four light to moderate storm systems passed over the Tuolumne Basin in April, providing approximately twice the median historical April precipitation. These storms were punctuated by brief periods of clear, warm weather among otherwise cloudy conditions. Due to the persistent cloudy conditions and periodic modest snowfall, the rate of snowmelt runoff and the quantity of upcountry snowpack remained relatively stable throughout April. 53,256 acre-feet of Water Available to the City (WAC) was observed in April (Figure 4).

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is drafting via elevated instream releases and Kirkwood powerdraft to manage the reservoir as it rises to full pool. Cherry Reservoir is drafting via instream releases and elevated Holm powerdraft to manage the reservoir as it rises to full pool. The Cherry-Eleanor Pumps were active April 1st to 11th and April 15th to 19th. They are expected to remain off until Cherry Reservoir inflows subside below Holm powerdraft capacity. Powerdraft at all powerhouses is expected to remain elevated throughout the end of runoff in late May or June. 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.

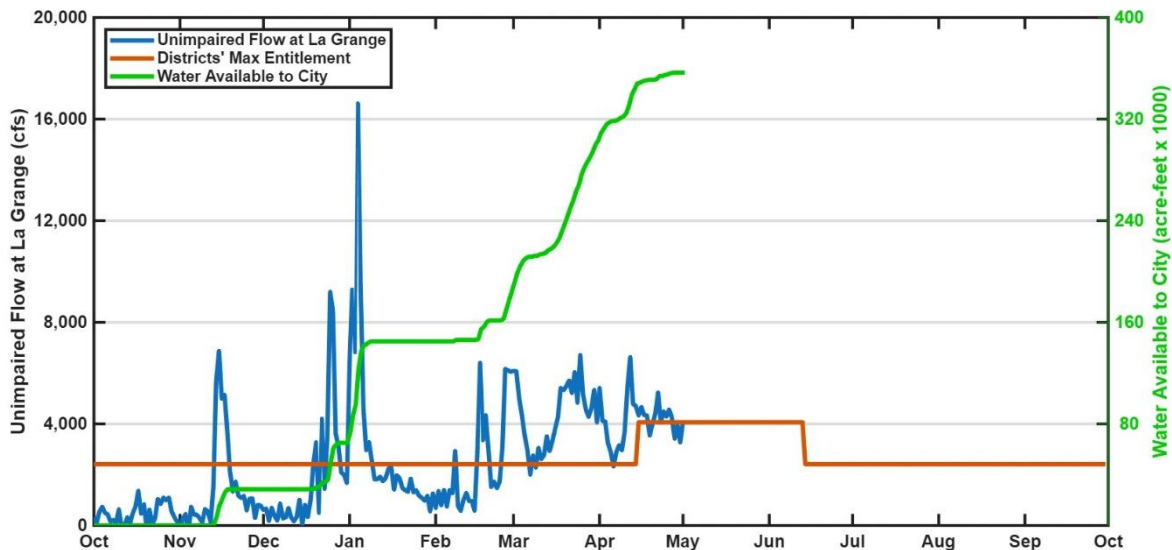


Figure 4: Calculated unimpaired flow at La Grange and the allocation of flows between the Districts and the City.

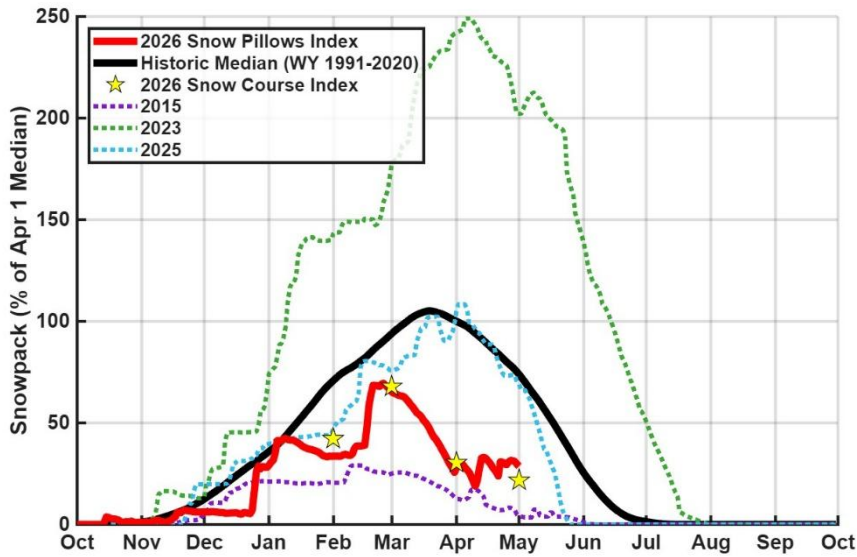


Figure 5: Current water year 10-Station Snow Pillows Index as of May 1 (red line), based on real-time snow water equivalent measurements in the Tuolumne Basin. Historic median, wet and dry years, and previous water year are included for comparison purposes.

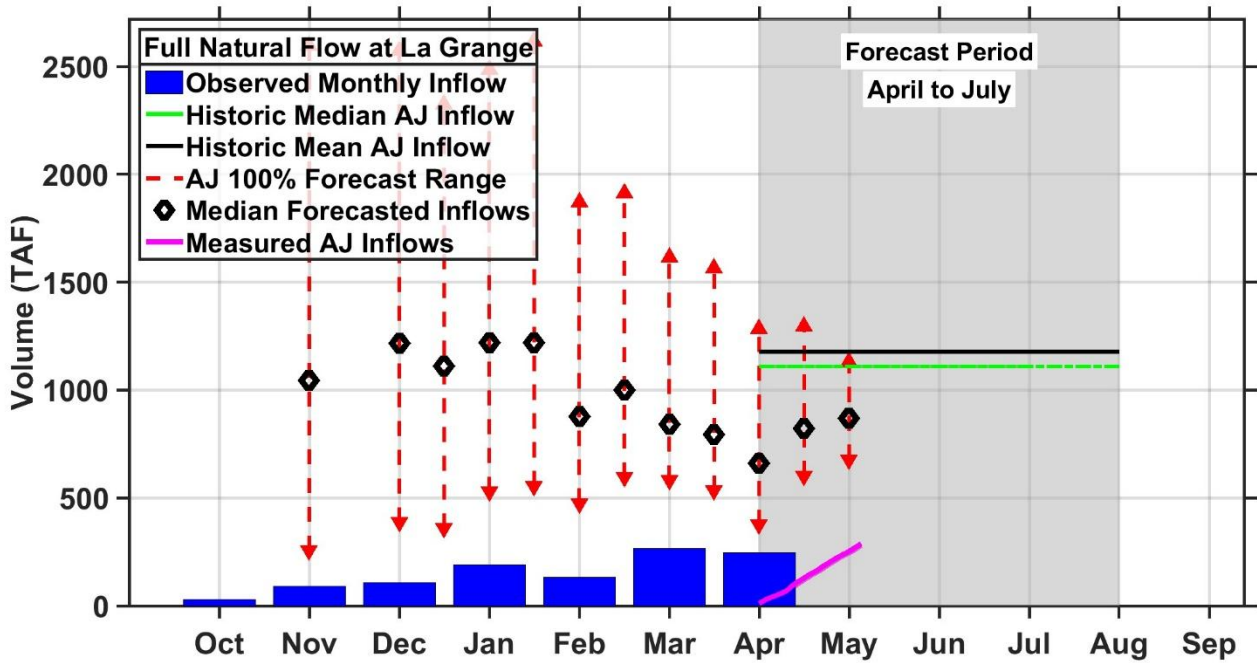


Figure 6: Water Supply Forecast Model of runoff (April to July) on the Tuolumne River at La Grange. This model is driven by precipitation from October to February, and by snow survey data from February through June. The forecast range decreases as time passes due to reduced potential future precipitation.

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Prepared June 1, 2026



Hetch Hetchy reservoir reached maximum capacity on May 16th and maintained spill through the end of May. Warm, clear conditions with waning high elevation snowpack and receding reservoir inflows signal the end of spring runoff is imminent in early June. Photo taken June 1st.

System Storage

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

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	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	
Tuolumne System							
Hetch Hetchy Reservoir ¹	360,360		360,360		0		100%
Cherry Reservoir ²	266,350		268,811		2,461		99%
Lake Eleanor ³	26,726		27,100		374		98%
Water Bank ⁴	610,665		610,665		0		100%
Tuolumne Storage	1,264,101		1,266,936		2,835		100%
Local Bay Area Storage							
Calaveras Reservoir	61,271	19,965	96,670	31,500	35,399	11,535	63%
San Antonio Reservoir	44,444	14,482	52,506	17,109	8,062	2,627	85%
Crystal Springs Reservoir	46,165	15,043	68,743	22,400	22,578	7,357	67%
San Andreas Reservoir	16,173	5,270	18,898	6,158	2,725	888	86%
Pilarcitos Reservoir	1,940	632	3,118	1,016	1,178	384	62%
Total Local Storage	169,993	55,392	239,936	78,183	69,943	22,791	71%
Total System	1,434,094		1,506,872		72,778		95%

¹ Maximum Hetch Hetchy Reservoir storage with drum gates activated.

² Maximum Cherry Reservoir storage with flashboards removed.

³ Maximum Lake Eleanor storage with all flashboards installed.

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

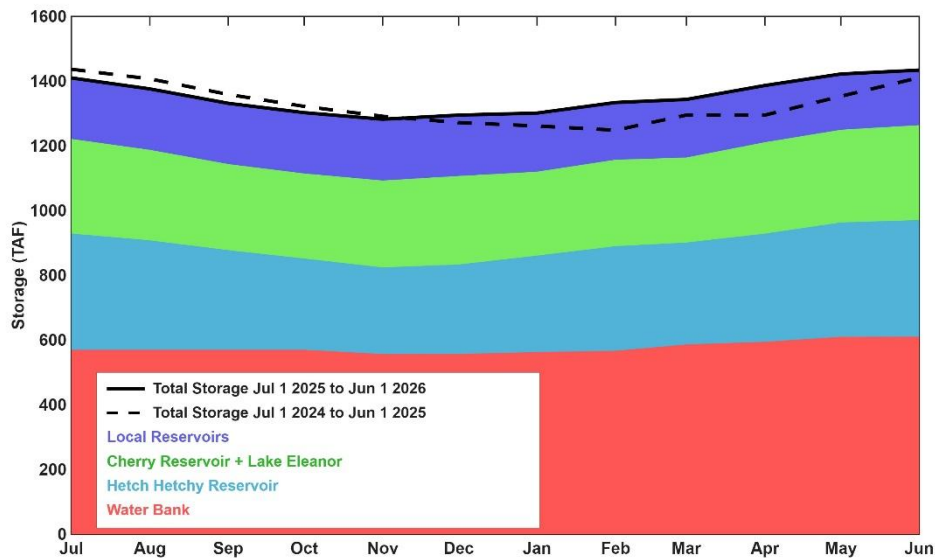


Figure 1: Local and Upcountry Reservoir storage. Color bands show contributions to total system storage. Solid black line shows total system storage for the past 12 months. Dashed black line shows total system storage for the previous 12 months.

Hetch Hetchy System Precipitation Index

Current Month: The May 2026 six-station precipitation index was 0.65 inches, or 43% of the 1991-2020 median May precipitation.

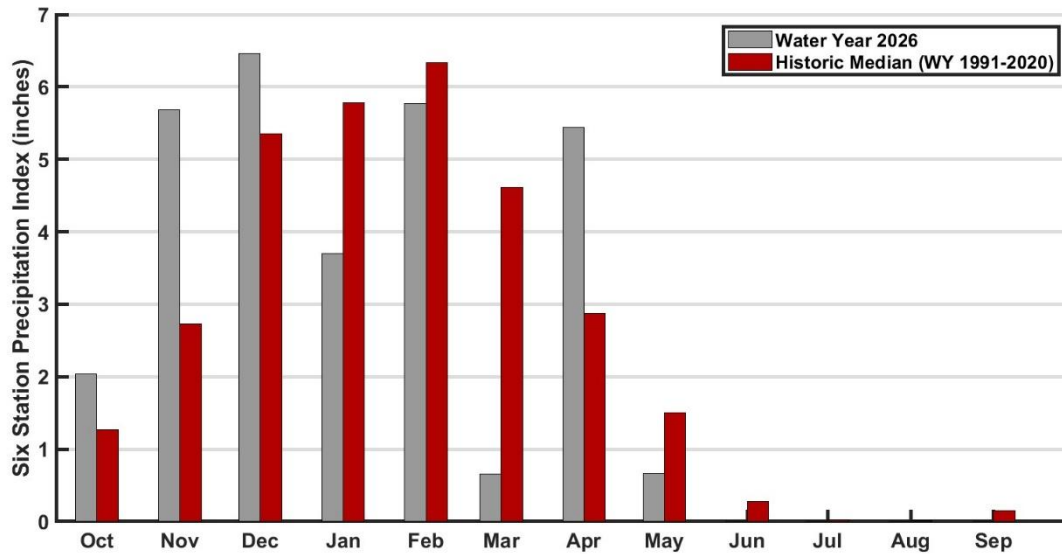


Figure 2: Monthly distribution of the six-station precipitation index relative to the monthly precipitation medians as of June 1. The precipitation index is computed as the average of six Sierra precipitation stations and is an indicator of the overall basin wetness.

Cumulative Precipitation to Date: The cumulative six-station precipitation index for Water Year (WY) 2026 is 30.36 inches, which is 89% of the median to-date. The Hetch Hetchy Weather Station received 0.79 inches of precipitation in May resulting in a total of 30.80 inches for WY 2026, or 88% of the WY median to-date. The cumulative WY 2026 Hetch Hetchy Weather Station precipitation is shown in Figure 3 in red.

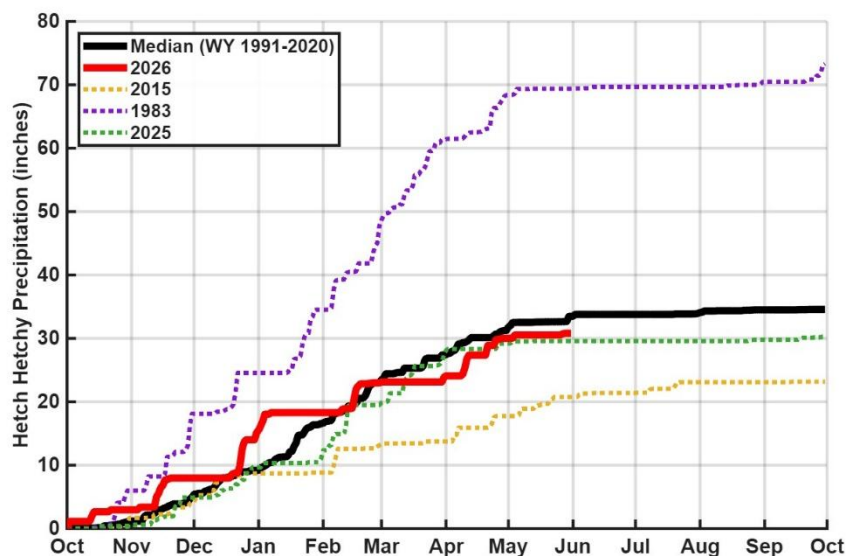


Figure 3: Water Year 2026 cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station as of June 1. Median cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station and example wet and dry years are included with Water Year 2025 for comparison purposes.

Tuolumne Basin Unimpaired Inflow

Unimpaired inflow to SFPUC reservoirs and the Tuolumne River at La Grange for May 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	May, 2026				October 1, 2025 through May 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	138,059	214,740	218,132	63%	511,121	462,650	465,850	110%
Inflow to Cherry Lake and Lake Eleanor	66,657	115,014	125,164	53%	388,391	378,983	382,811	101%
Tuolumne River at LaGrange	248,426	400,953	444,403	56%	1,305,915	1,267,528	1,427,755	91%
Water Available to City	34,428	156,297	208,902	16%	393,533	459,193	611,087	64%

¹Hydrologic Record: 1991-2020

Hetch Hetchy System Operations

Water deliveries via the San Joaquin Pipeline (SJPL) increased from 156 MGD to 185 MGD on May 11th, and again to 220 MGD on May 18th.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 130,984 acre-feet during the month of May. Required minimum instream release during May was 100 cfs (Year Type A) plus 64 cfs when Canyon Tunnel power draft exceeded 920 cfs. The required minimum instream release during June is 125 cfs (Year Type A).

Cherry Reservoir power draft and stream release totaled 45,227 acre-feet during the month of May. The required minimum instream release for May was 5 cfs and will remain 5 cfs for June.

Lake Eleanor stream release totaled 14,938 acre-feet during the month of May. 3,511 acre-feet of water was transferred to Cherry Reservoir via the Cherry-Eleanor Pumping Station. The required minimum instream release for May was 20 cfs and will remain at 20 cfs during June.

Regional System Treatment Plant Production

The Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 16 MGD. The Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant production rate for the month was 21 MGD.

Regional System Water Delivery

The average May delivery rate was 212 MGD which is a 4.4% increase compared to the April delivery rate of 203 MGD.

Local Precipitation

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

Weather Station Location	May 2026		October 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026	
	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Month	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Year-To-Date
Pilarcitos Reservoir	0.57	86%	37.22	112%
Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir	0.39	87%	29.43	134%
Calaveras Reservoir	0.39	80%	21.80	121%

*Mean Period = WY 1991-2020

Snowpack, Water Supply and Planned Water Supply Management

Precipitation was slightly below normal during May. Two brief, seasonally cool low-pressure systems near the beginning and end of the month provided modest precipitation and temporarily slowed snowmelt-driven runoff. Otherwise, conditions through May were clear with air temperatures undulating between seasonal normals and moderate heat waves. A majority of the remaining upcountry snowpack melted during May leaving waning snowpack above approximately 9,500 feet. 34,428 acre-feet of Water Available to the City (WAC) was observed in May (Figure 4).

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is drafting via instream releases and Kirkwood powerdraft to maintain the reservoir at full pool through the end of runoff. Cherry Reservoir is drafting via minimum instream releases and elevated Holm powerdraft to maintain near full pool through the end of runoff. The Cherry-Eleanor Pumps were active from May 19th through the end of the month. The pumps are planned to be incrementally deactivated as needed to balance Lake Eleanor inflows and maximize carryover storage. Powerdraft at all powerhouses is expected to remain elevated throughout the end of runoff in June. Water Bank is expected to remain full through the end of runoff. As spring runoff ends, upcountry powerdraft and releases will be adjusted to optimize water conservation. In all Water Bank scenarios, Kirkwood powerdraft will reduce to match San Joaquin Pipeline deliveries, and Holm powerdraft will reduce to target 230,000 acre-feet of Cherry Reservoir storage on October 1st while meeting recreational flow needs.

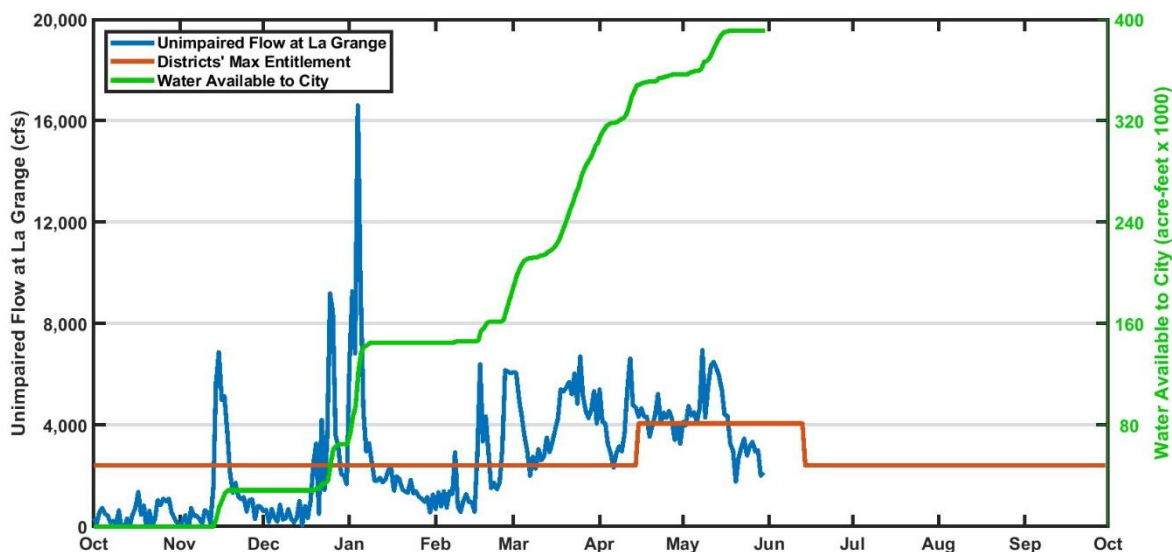


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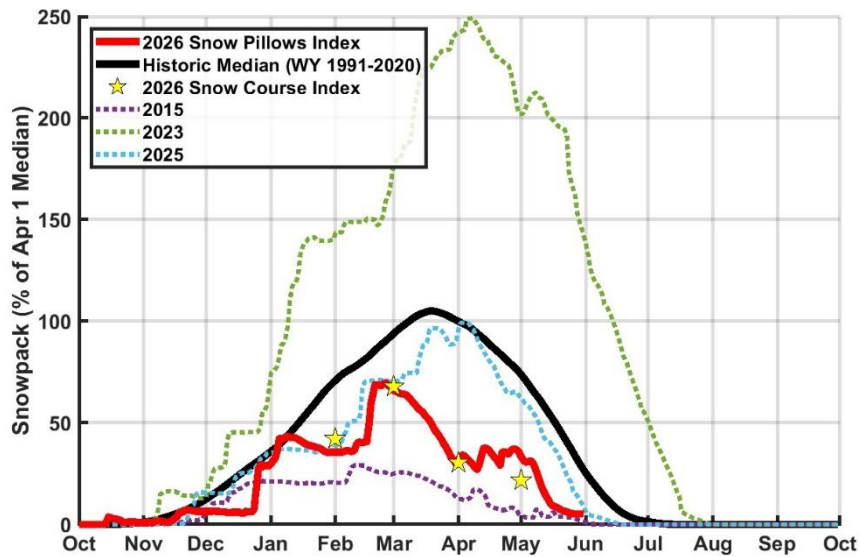


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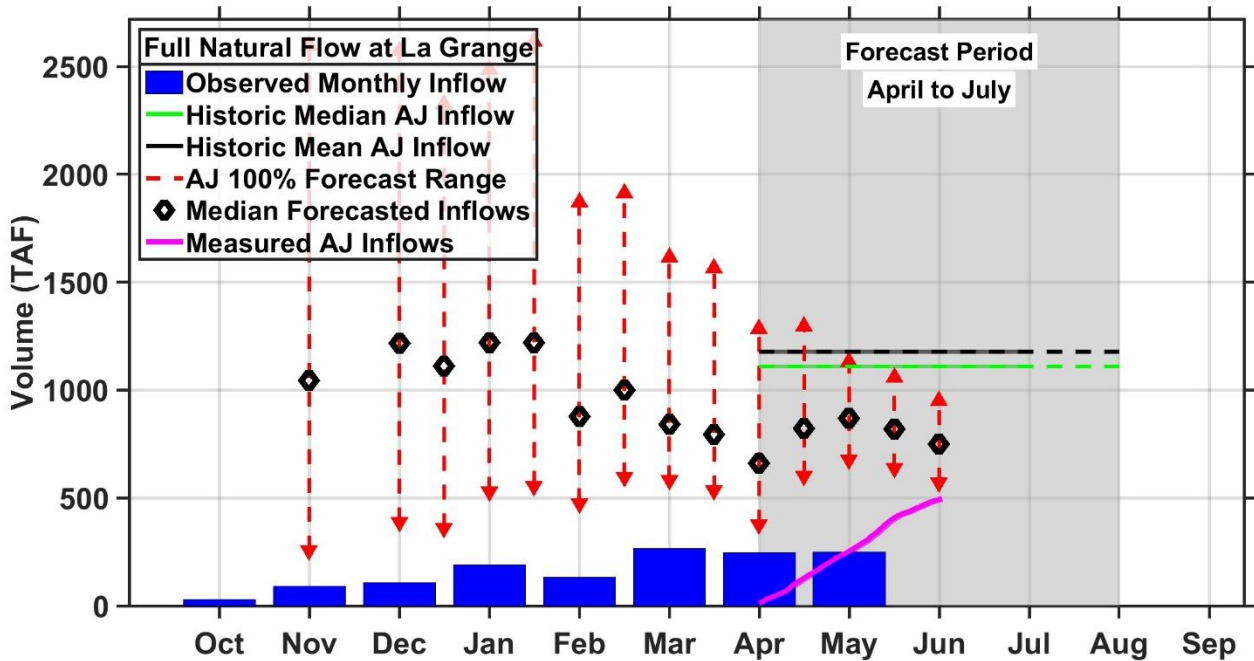


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