# San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Hydrological Conditions Report August 2025

B. Barry, C. Graham, H. Forrester, L. Stewart Prepared September 2, 2025



Mount Lyell (elevation: 13,114 feet) in the Upper Tuolumne River Watershed. Isolated thunderstorms in August generated above normal precipitation for the month.

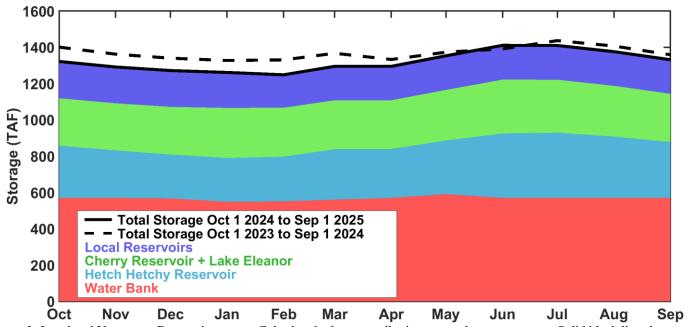
## **System Storage**

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

	Current Storage		Maximu	m Storage	Available	Percentage	
	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	acre-feet	millions of gallons	of Maximum Storage
<b>Tuolumne System</b>	_						
Hetch Hetchy Reservoir <sup>1</sup>	307,949		360,360		52,411		85%
Cherry Reservoir <sup>2</sup>	242,139		273,345		31,206		89%
Lake Eleanor <sup>3</sup>	23,914		27,100		3,186		88%
Water Bank	570,000		570,000		0		100%
Tuolumne Storage	1,144,002		1,230,805		86,803		93%
Local Bay Area Storage		-					
Calaveras Reservoir	74,461	24,263	96,670	31,500	22,209	7,237	77%
San Antonio Reservoir	48,372	15,762	52,506	17,109	4,134	1,347	92%
Crystal Springs Reservoir	47,605	15,512	68,743	22,400	21,139	6,888	69%
San Andreas Reservoir	15,430	5,028	18,898	6,158	3,468	1,130	82%
Pilarcitos Reservoir	1,808	589	3,118	1,016	1,310	427	58%
Total Local Storage	187,676	61,154	239,935	78,183	52,260	17,029	78%
Total System	1,331,678		1,470,740		139,063		91%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maximum Hetch Hetchy Reservoir storage with drum gates activated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Maximum Lake Eleanor storage with flashboards installed.

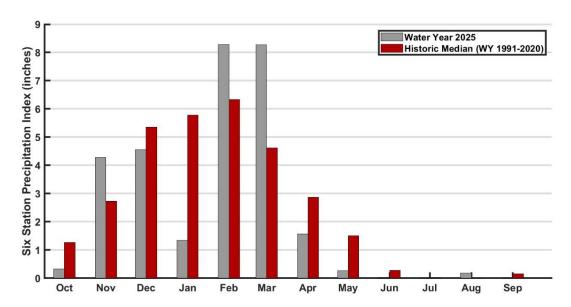


**Figure 1:** Local and Upcountry Reservoir storage. Color bands show contributions to total system storage. Solid black line shows total system storage for the past 12 months. Dashed black line shows total system storage the previous 12 months.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Maximum Cherry Reservoir storage with flashboards installed.

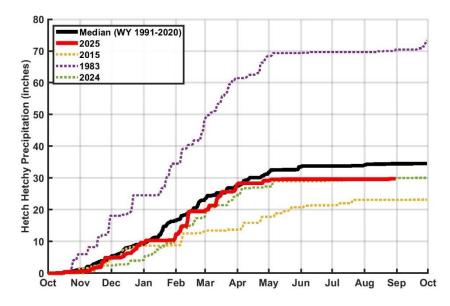
### **Hetch Hetchy System Precipitation Index**

Current Month: The August 2025 six-station precipitation index was 0.19 inches.



**Figure 2:** Monthly distribution of the six-station precipitation index relative to the monthly precipitation medians as of September 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) 2025 is 29.06 inches, which is 94% of the median to-date. The Hetch Hetchy Weather Station received 0.17 inches of precipitation in August resulting in a total of 29.76 inches for WY 2025, or 86% of the WY to-date median. The cumulative WY 2025 Hetch Hetchy Weather Station precipitation is shown in Figure 3 in red.



**Figure 3:** Water Year 2025 cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station as of September 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 August 2025 and Water Year 2025 is summarized below in Table 2.

Table 2. Calculated reservoir inflows and Water Available to City									
All flows are in		Augus	t, 2025		October 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025				
acre-feet <sup>1</sup>	Observed Flow	Median <sup>1</sup>	Mean <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Mean	Observed Flow	Median <sup>1</sup>	Mean <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Mean	
Inflow to Hetch Hetchy Reservoir	1,061	5,262	13,011	8%	549,972	701,700	756,455	73%	
Inflow to Cherry Lake and Lake Eleanor	383	2,325	4,561	8%	368,146	464,076	503,655	73%	
Tuolumne River at LaGrange	14,456	16,872	28,918	50%	1,341,444	1,653,577	1,930,331	69%	
Water Available to City	0	0	1,636	0%	378,561	580,260	870,168	44%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Hydrologic Record: 1991-2020

### **Hetch Hetchy System Operations**

Water deliveries via the San Joaquin Pipeline (SJPL) increased from 245 MGD to 248 MGD on August 5.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir power draft and stream releases totaled 31,240 acre-feet during the month of August. Required minimum instream release during August was 110 cfs (Year Type B). The required minimum instream release during September is 80 cfs (Year Type B).

Cherry Reservoir power draft and stream releases totaled 12,823 acre-feet during the month of August. The required minimum instream release from Cherry Reservoir from July 1 until September 30 is 15 cfs.

Lake Eleanor stream releases totaled 1,311 acre-feet during the month of August. No water was transferred to Cherry Reservoir via the Cherry-Eleanor pumping station. Required minimum instream release from April 15 through September 15 is 20 cfs. Required minimum stream release will reduce to 10 cfs on September 16.

### **Regional System Treatment Plant Production**

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

#### **Regional System Water Delivery**

The average August delivery rate was 226 MGD which is a 3.1% increase compared to the July delivery rate of 219 MGD.

### **Local Precipitation**

The rainfall summary for August 2025 and Water Year 2025 is presented in Table 3.

Table 3 Precipitation Totals at Three Local Area Reservoirs								
	Augu	ıst 2025	October 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025					
Weather Station Location	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Month	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Year-To-Date				
Pilarcitos Reservoir	0.02	67%	35.18	105%				
Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir	0.00	100%	22.05	100%				
Calaveras Reservoir	0.00	100%	18.36	102%				

<sup>\*</sup>Mean Period = WY 1991-2020

### Snowpack, Water Supply and Planned Water Supply Management

Above-average air temperatures persisted in the Tuolumne River Basin throughout much of August. Widespread thunderstorm activity and associated episodic runoff occurred during the end of the month. Otherwise, dry conditions continued and inflows at all upcountry reservoirs receded to baseflow conditions. No Water Available to the City (WAC) was observed in August (Figure 4), and no additional WAC is expected for the remainder of WY 2025.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is drafting via SJPL deliveries, Moccasin Fish Hatchery flows and minimum instream releases. Cherry Reservoir is drafting via minimum instream releases. Scheduled recreational releases ended on Labor Day, and Holm Powerhouse is now scheduled offline until an increase in reservoir inflows occurs. The Cherry-Eleanor Pumps were activated September 2. Lake Eleanor is drafting via minimum instream releases. Water Bank is expected to remain nearly full until significant runoff occurs, as minimum stream releases meet or exceed Districts' Entitlements.

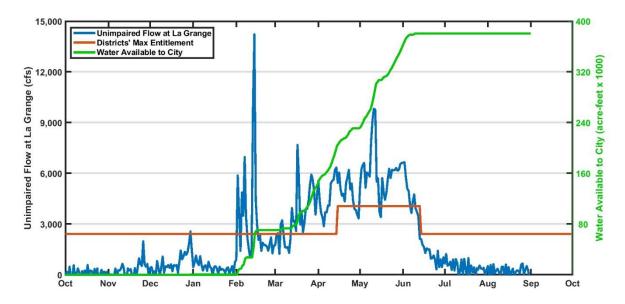


Figure 4: Calculated unimpaired flow at La Grange and the allocation of flows between the Districts and the City.

# San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Hydrological Conditions Report September 2025

B. Barry, H. Forrester, L. Stewart, R. Walters Prepared October 1, 2025



Storm clouds over Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Widespread thunderstorms in September generated above normal precipitation for the month.

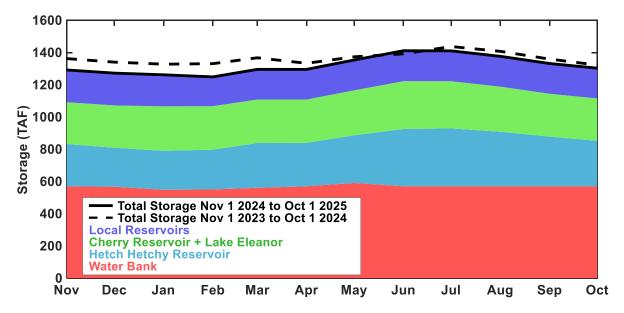
## **System Storage**

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	of Maximun Storage	
Tuolumne System								
Hetch Hetchy Reservoir <sup>1</sup>	281,986		360,360		78,374	]	78%	
Cherry Reservoir <sup>2</sup>	244,541		273,345		28,804		89%	
Lake Eleanor <sup>3</sup>	18,428		27,100		8,672		68%	
Water Bank	570,000		570,000		0		100%	
Tuolumne Storage	1,114,955		1,230,805		115,850		91%	
Local Bay Area Storage		•						
Calaveras Reservoir	73,341	23,898	96,670	31,500	23,329	7,602	76%	
San Antonio Reservoir	47,970	15,631	52,506	17,109	4,536	1,478	91%	
Crystal Springs Reservoir	49,087	15,995	68,743	22,400	19,656	6,405	71%	
San Andreas Reservoir	15,707	5,118	18,898	6,158	3,192	1,040	83%	
Pilarcitos Reservoir	1,746	569	3,118	1,016	1,372	447	56%	
Total Local Storage	187,851	61,211	239,935	78,183	52,085	16,972	78%	
Total System	1,302,806		1,470,740		254,913		89%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maximum Hetch Hetchy Reservoir storage with drum gates activated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Maximum Lake Eleanor storage with flashboards installed.

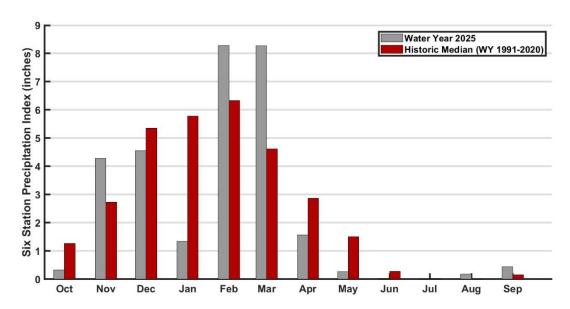


**Figure 1:** Local and Upcountry Reservoir storage. Color bands show contributions to total system storage. Solid black line shows total system storage for the past 12 months. Dashed black line shows total system storage the previous 12 months.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Maximum Cherry Reservoir storage with flashboards installed.

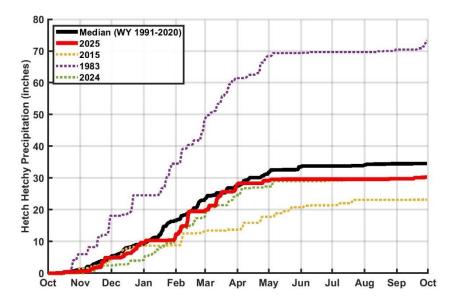
### **Hetch Hetchy System Precipitation Index**

Current Month: The September 2025 six-station precipitation index was 0.43 inches.



**Figure 2:** Monthly distribution of the six-station precipitation index relative to the monthly precipitation medians as of October 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) 2025 is 29.49 inches, which is 95% of the median to-date. The Hetch Hetchy Weather Station received 0.55 inches of precipitation in September resulting in a total of 30.31 inches for WY 2025, or 88% of the WY median. The cumulative WY 2025 Hetch Hetchy Weather Station precipitation is shown in Figure 3 in red.



**Figure 3:** Water Year 2025 cumulative precipitation measured at Hetch Hetchy Weather Station as of October 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 September 2025 and Water Year 2025 is summarized below in Table 2.

Table 2. Calculated reservoir inflows and Water Available to City									
All flows are in		Septemb	per, 2025		October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025				
acre-feet <sup>1</sup>	Observed Flow	Median <sup>1</sup>	Mean <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Mean	Observed Flow	Median <sup>1</sup>	Mean <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Mean	
Inflow to Hetch Hetchy Reservoir	926	1,669	3,314	28%	550,898	703,970	762,304	72%	
Inflow to Cherry Lake and Lake Eleanor	100	1,537	1,969	5%	368,246	465,619	508,322	72%	
Tuolumne River at LaGrange	11,576	8,681	12,079	96%	1,353,020	1,664,299	1,942,410	70%	
Water Available to City	0	0	5	0%	378,561	580,260	870,173	44%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Hydrologic Record: 1991-2020

### **Hetch Hetchy System Operations**

Water deliveries via the San Joaquin Pipeline (SJPL) decreased from 248 MGD to 227 MGD on September 18.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir power draft and stream releases totaled 26,888 acre-feet during the month of September. Required minimum instream releases were 80 cfs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> and 65 cfs from September 15<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> (Year Type B). The required minimum instream release during October is 50 cfs (Year Type B).

Cherry Reservoir power draft and stream releases totaled 1,595 acre-feet during the month of September. The required minimum instream release from Cherry Reservoir from July 1 until September 30 is 15 cfs. The required minimum instream release from October 1 to June 30 is 5 cfs.

Lake Eleanor stream releases totaled 978 acre-feet during the month of September. 4,532 acre-feet of water was transferred to Cherry Reservoir via the Cherry-Eleanor pumping station. Required minimum instream release from April 15 through September 15 was 20 cfs. Minimum instream release decreased to 10 cfs on September 16 and will remain there throughout October.

### **Regional System Treatment Plant Production**

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

#### **Regional System Water Delivery**

The average September delivery rate was 217 MGD which is a 4.2% decrease compared to the August delivery rate of 226 MGD.

### **Local Precipitation**

The rainfall summary for September 2025 and Water Year 2025 is presented in Table 3.

Table 3 Precipitation Totals at Three Local Area Reservoirs									
	Septem	nber 2025	October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025						
Weather Station Location	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Month	Total (inches)	Percent of Mean for the Year-To-Date					
Pilarcitos Reservoir	0.60	600%	35.78	106%					
Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir	0.46	1533%	22.51	102%					
Calaveras Reservoir	0.03	300%	18.39	102%					

<sup>\*</sup>Mean Period = WY 1991-2020

### Snowpack, Water Supply and Planned Water Supply Management

Above-average air temperatures persisted in the Tuolumne River Basin throughout much of September. Episodic thunderstorm activity and associated wildfire and runoff occurred throughout the month. Otherwise, dry conditions continued and inflows at all upcountry reservoirs remained near baseflow conditions. No Water Available to the City (WAC) was observed in September (Figure 4), and no additional WAC is expected until significant runoff occurs during WY 2026.

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is drafting via SJPL deliveries, Moccasin Fish Hatchery flows and minimum instream releases. Cherry Reservoir is drafting via minimum instream releases. Holm Powerhouse is scheduled offline until an increase in reservoir inflows occurs. The Cherry-Eleanor Pumps were intermittently active during September. Additional pumping transfer is planned during October. Lake Eleanor is drafting via minimum instream releases. Water Bank is expected to remain nearly full until significant runoff occurs, as minimum stream releases meet or exceed Districts' Entitlements.

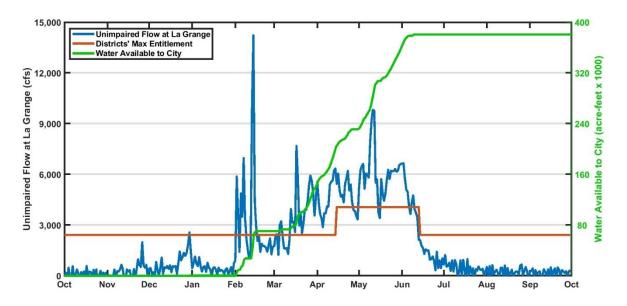


Figure 4: Calculated unimpaired flow at La Grange and the allocation of flows between the Districts and the City.