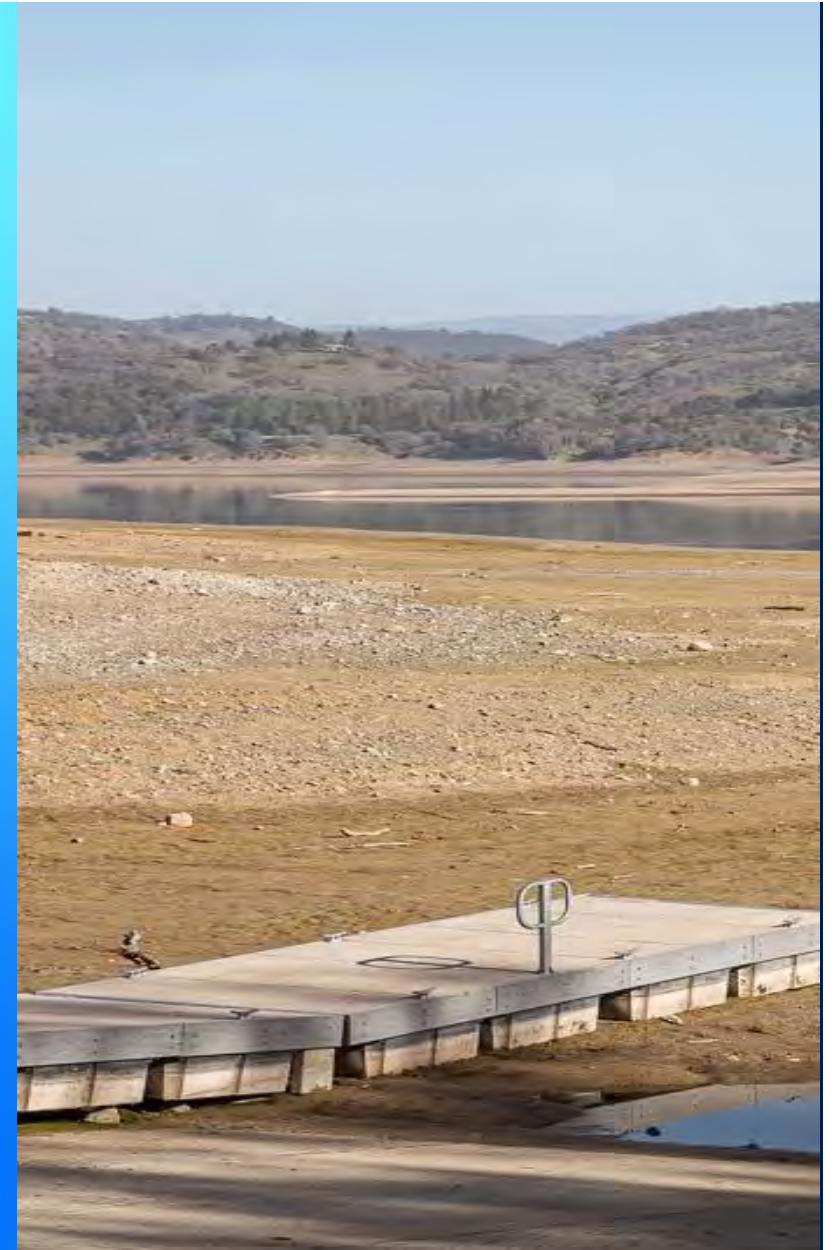


# Sonoma Water Resiliency Study

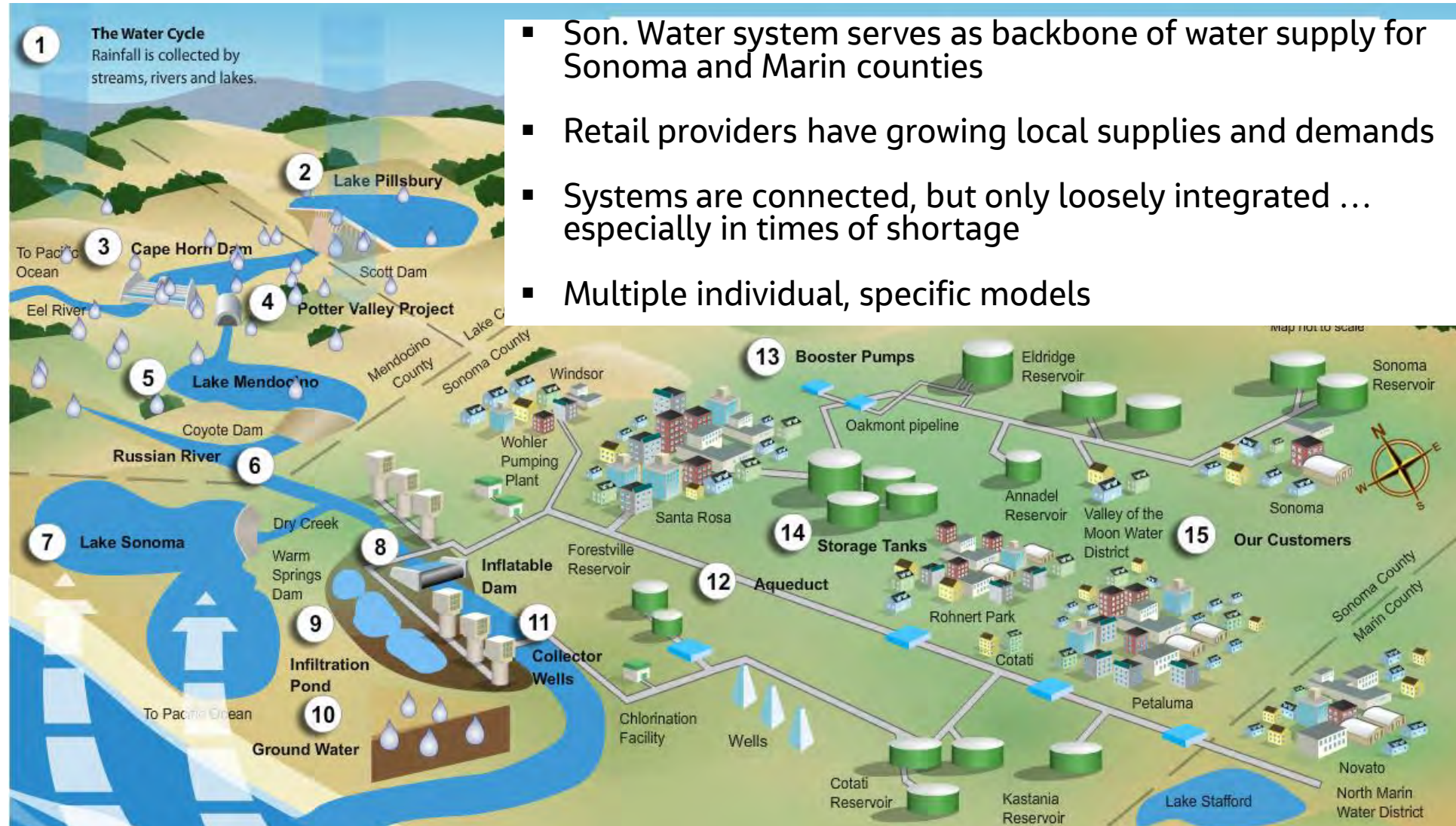
Drought Management Option Updates  
WAC Briefing  
February 7, 2022



# Meeting Agenda

- Resiliency Study Background
  - Decision Support Model
  - Drought Management Options
  - Summary and Recommendations
-

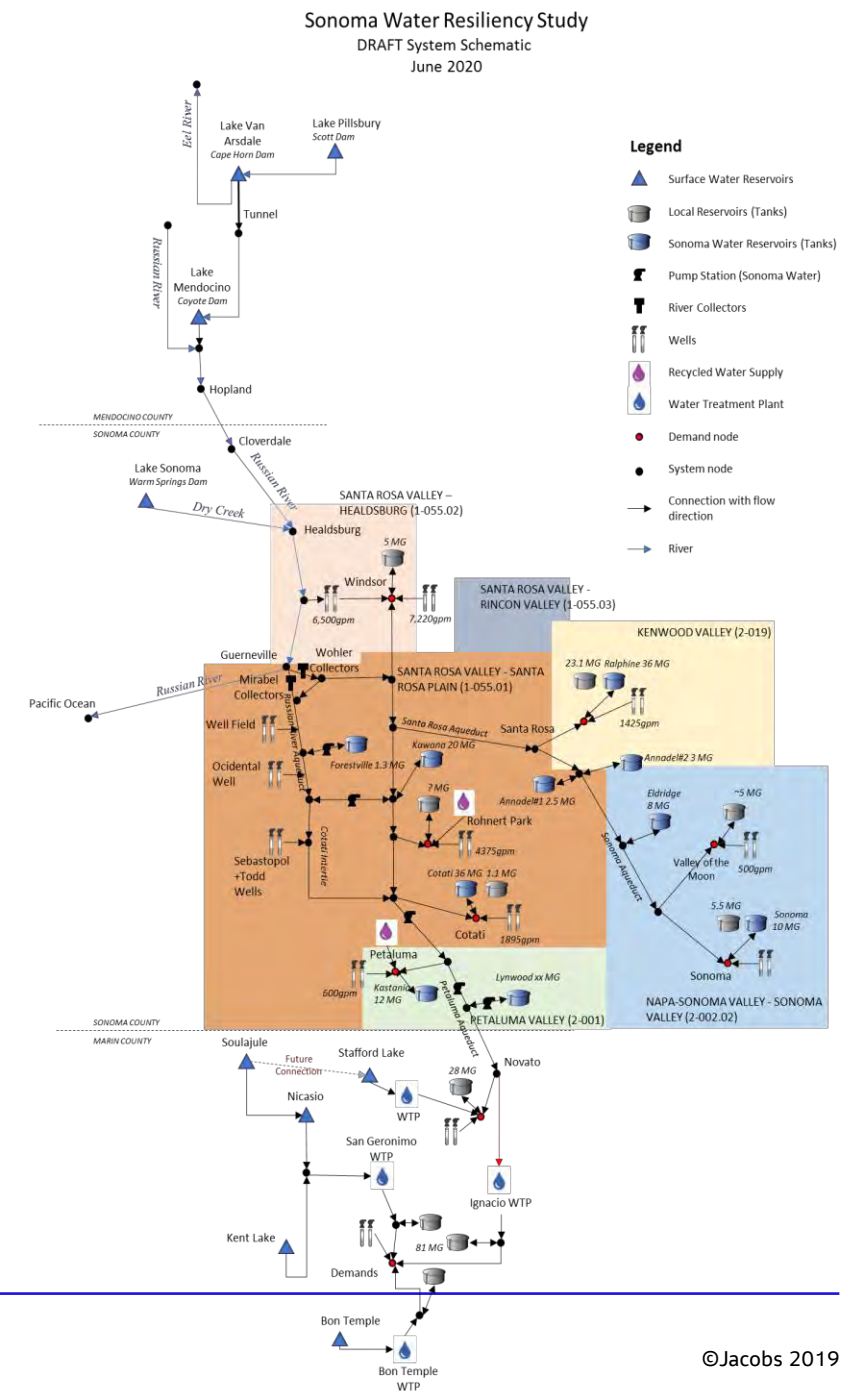
# Complex Inter-Connected System





# Sonoma Water Resiliency Study

- Resiliency Study seeks to:
  - identify the key factors impacting regional water supply resiliency,
  - evaluate the current levels of resiliency,
  - develop a decision support framework model and process, and
  - identify promising opportunities for Sonoma Water and its retail customers to improve regional resilience in the future
- First of a kind look at the Integrated Regional System
  - Russian River & Potter Valley Project (Eel River)
  - Sonoma Water “backbone” system
  - 9 retail customer systems
  - 6 groundwater basins
  - local supplies and recycled water
  - multiple risk drivers
  - decision support model



# Resiliency Study Project Overview

**PHASE 1:**  
Work Plan and  
Scoping Document

**PHASE 2:**  
Development and  
Implementation  
of Decision Support Tool

**PHASE 3:**  
Modification and Maintenance  
of Decision Support Tool

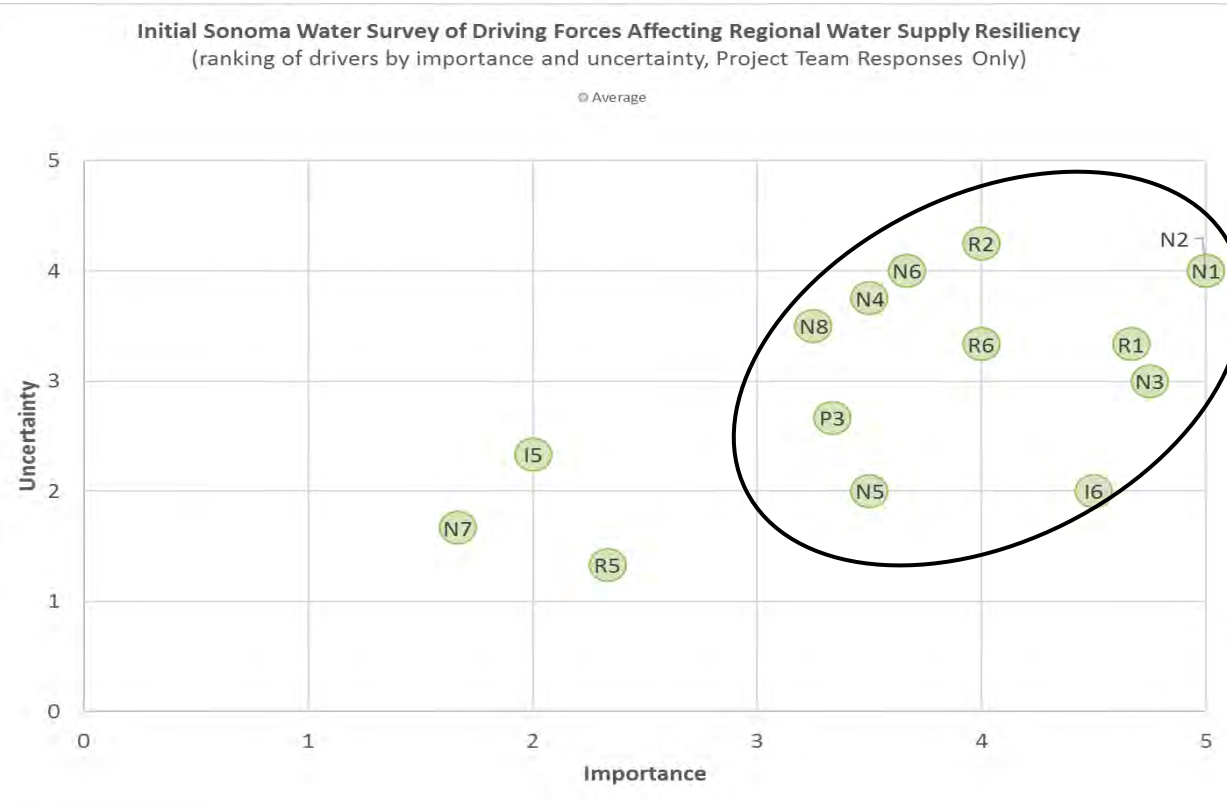
6 -9 months

18 months

24 months



## Ranking Risk Drivers



**Figure 4. Average Results for the Risk Driver Survey Conducted by Project Team Members**  
(Note: I11 and I12 risk drivers were not included in the initial survey and are thus not shown in the graphic).

No.	Risk Driver	Risk Type	Phase of Study
N1	Wildfire	Sudden	Phase 2
N2	Earthquake	Sudden	Phase 2
N3	Drought	Sudden/Gradual	Phase 2
N4	Russian River Water Quality Contamination	Sudden	Phase 2
N5	Power Loss	Sudden	Phase 2
N6	Flooding	Sudden	Phase 2
N7	Sea Level Rise	Gradual	TBD
N8	Local Source Water Quality Contamination	Sudden	Phase 2
P3	Rapid Demand Growth	Sudden/Gradual	Phase 2 (TBD)
R1	Potter Valley Project Uncertainty (seismic/regulatory)	Sudden/Gradual	Phase 2
R2	New Russian River Treatment Regulations	Gradual	TBD
R5	SGMA Impacts on Groundwater Supply (City of Sonoma/VOMWD)	Gradual	Phase 2 (TBD)
R6	Changing Biological Opinions	Gradual	TBD
I5	Groundwater Well Operational Failures	Sudden	Phase 2
I6	Aging Infrastructure	Sudden/Gradual	Phase 2
I11	COVID 19 Workforce Response	Sudden/Gradual	TBD
I12	Operational Control Systems Disruption	Sudden	Phase 2

# Decision Support Model Update

# Decision Support Model Scope and Operational Overview

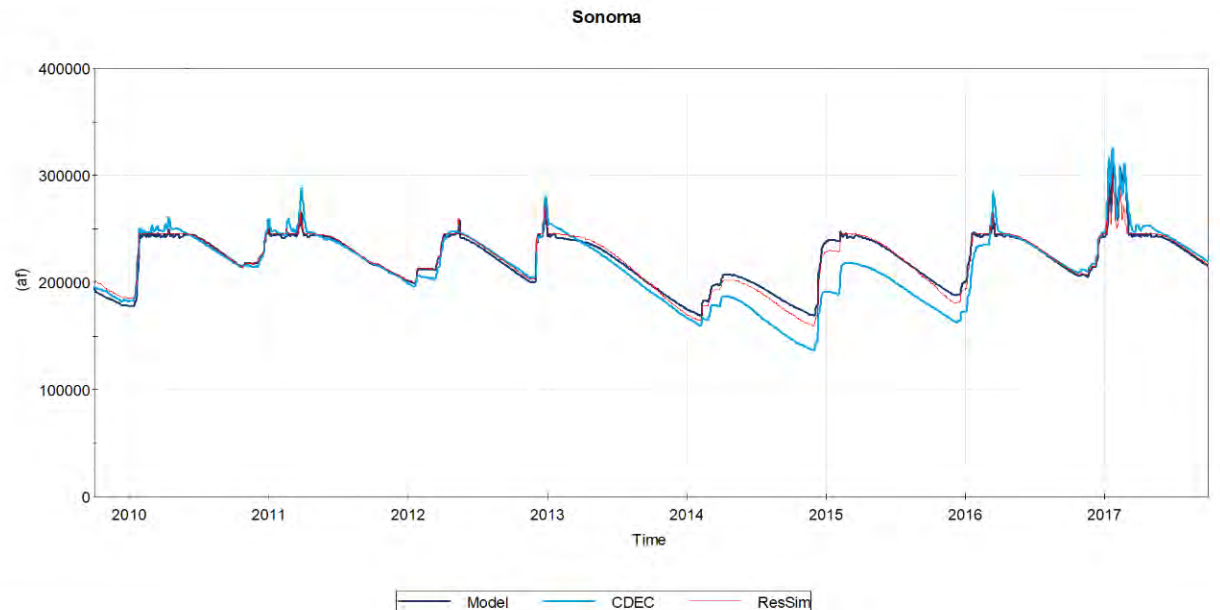
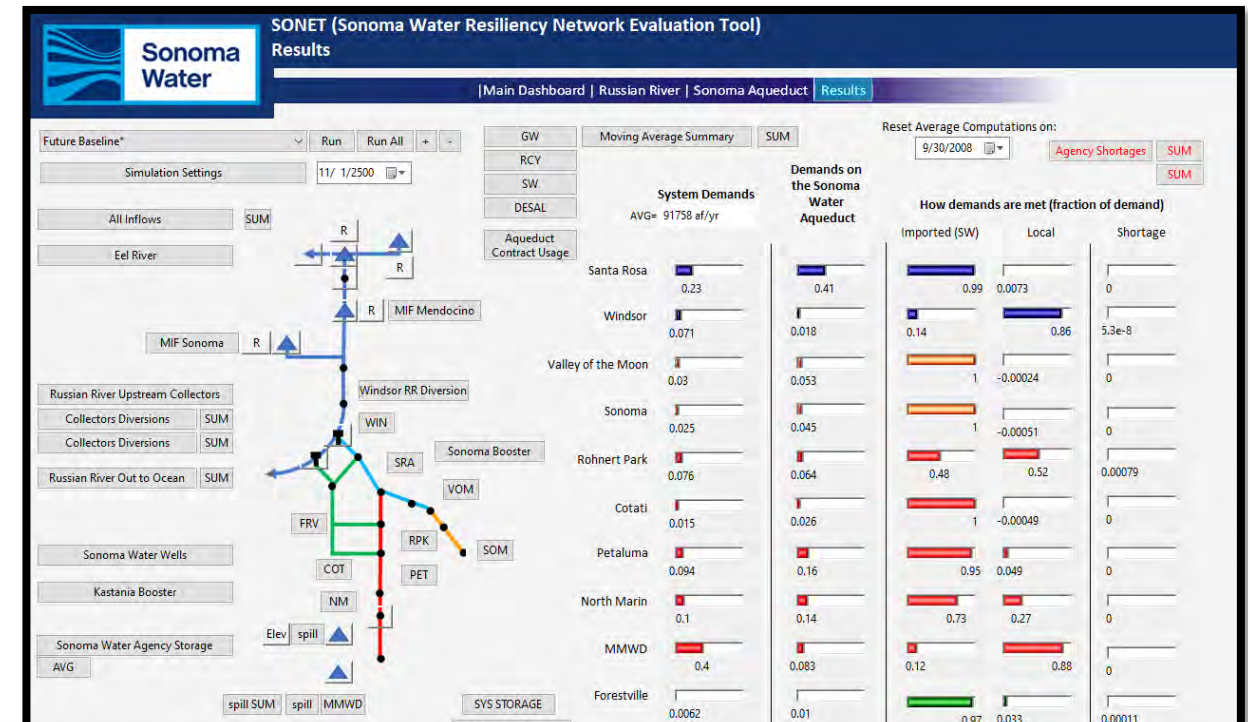
- Model that Integrates 3 major systems,
  - Russian River and Potter Valley Project
  - Sonoma Transmission System
  - Retail Customer Systems
- Main Model Inputs
  - Reservoir and river flows
  - Member agency demands
  - Maximum Member Agency local supplies available
- Model rules deliver supplies to member agencies
  - Rules decide priority of supplies used by member agencies





# DSM Validation

- Validation period 2009 – 2017
- Member agencies local **supplies** (groundwater, recycled water) were set to what was **delivered**
- Historical inflow to the system provided by HEC-ResSim model and MMWD GoldSim Model
- Historical member agencies deliveries used as model demands
- Validation of storage, diversions, and deliveries

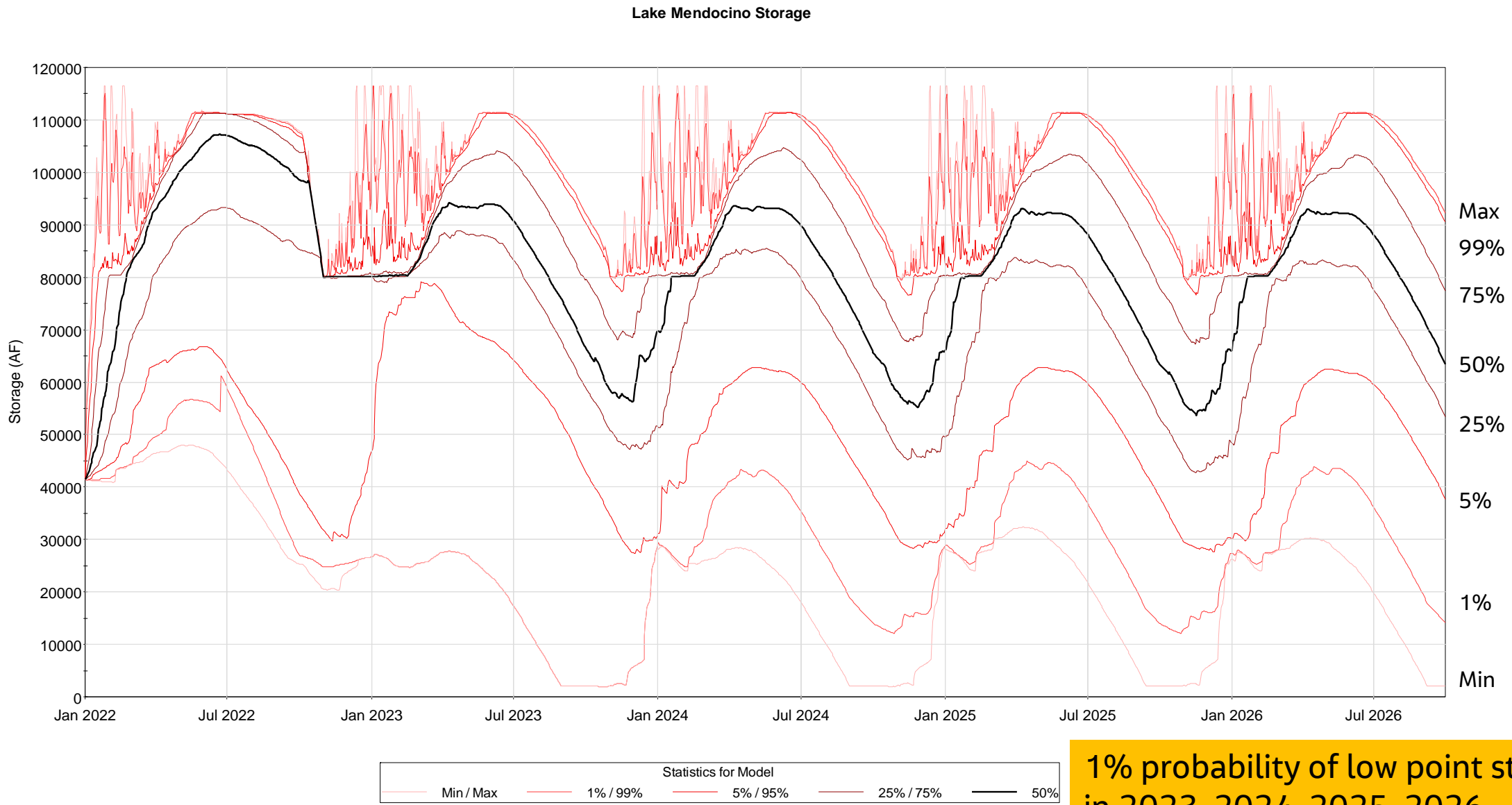


# **Future Baseline Projections**

# Future Baseline Simulations

- Assumptions
    - Conditions as of Nov 1, Dec 1, and Jan 1
    - No Actions taken to mitigate drought impacts
    - UWMP demand assumptions
    - Historical hydrology 1910-2017
    - 5-year future simulations: WY 2022-2026
  - Stochastic Simulations
    - Simulations using 108 traces of historical hydrology
    - Index sequential method maintains the hydrological sequences of the past
    - Probabilities of storage and shortage conditions derived from traces
  - Stress Test Hydrology
    - WY 1976-980 hydrology represents the most severe conditions in the historical record
    - Represents a severe 2-year drought following the current drought
    - Used as stress test hydrology for evaluating the resilience of the system and management actions
-

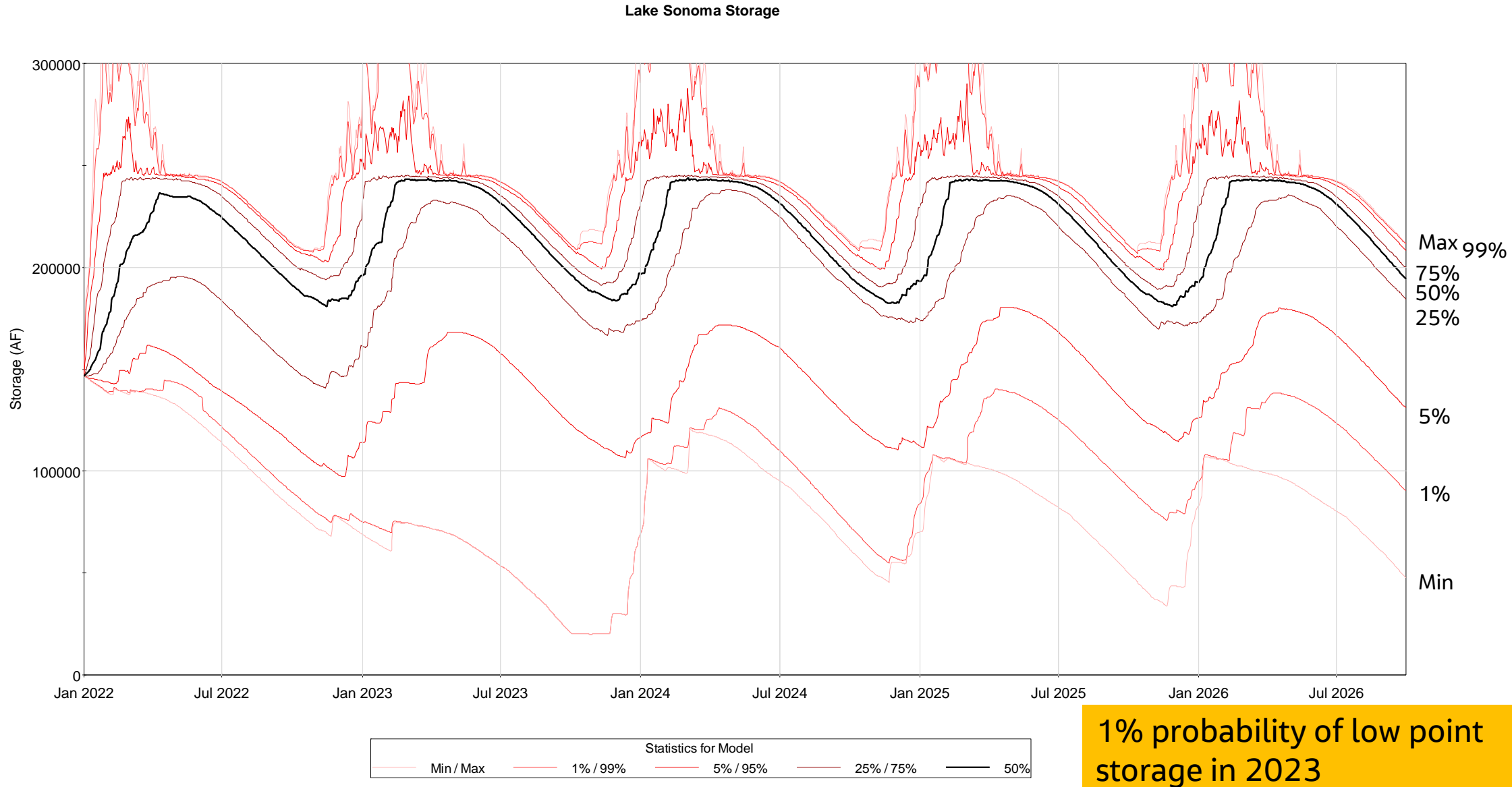
# Lake Mendocino Storage – Probabilities from 108 Historical Hydrological Traces



1% probability of low point storage in 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026



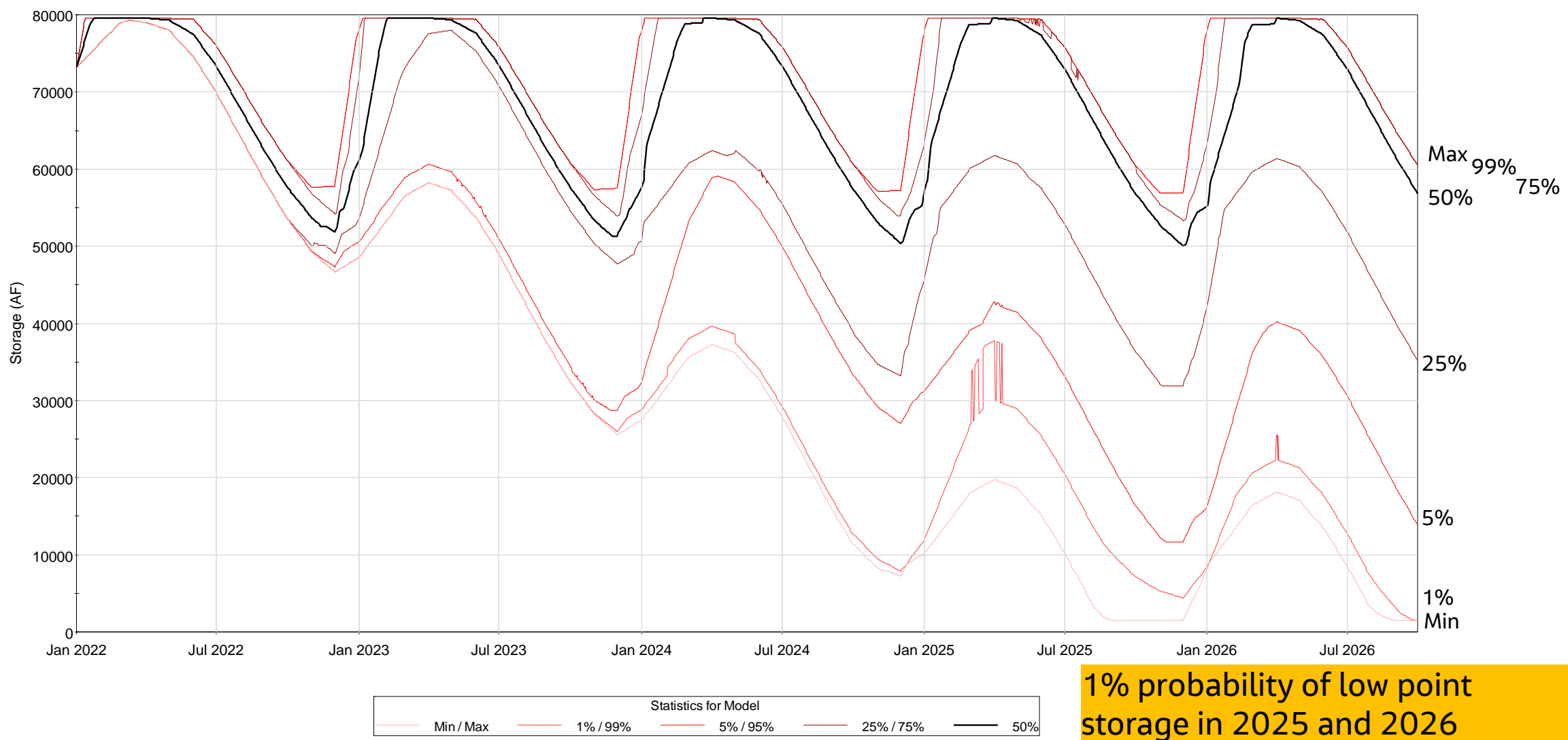
# Lake Sonoma Storage – Probabilities from 108 Historical Hydrological Traces



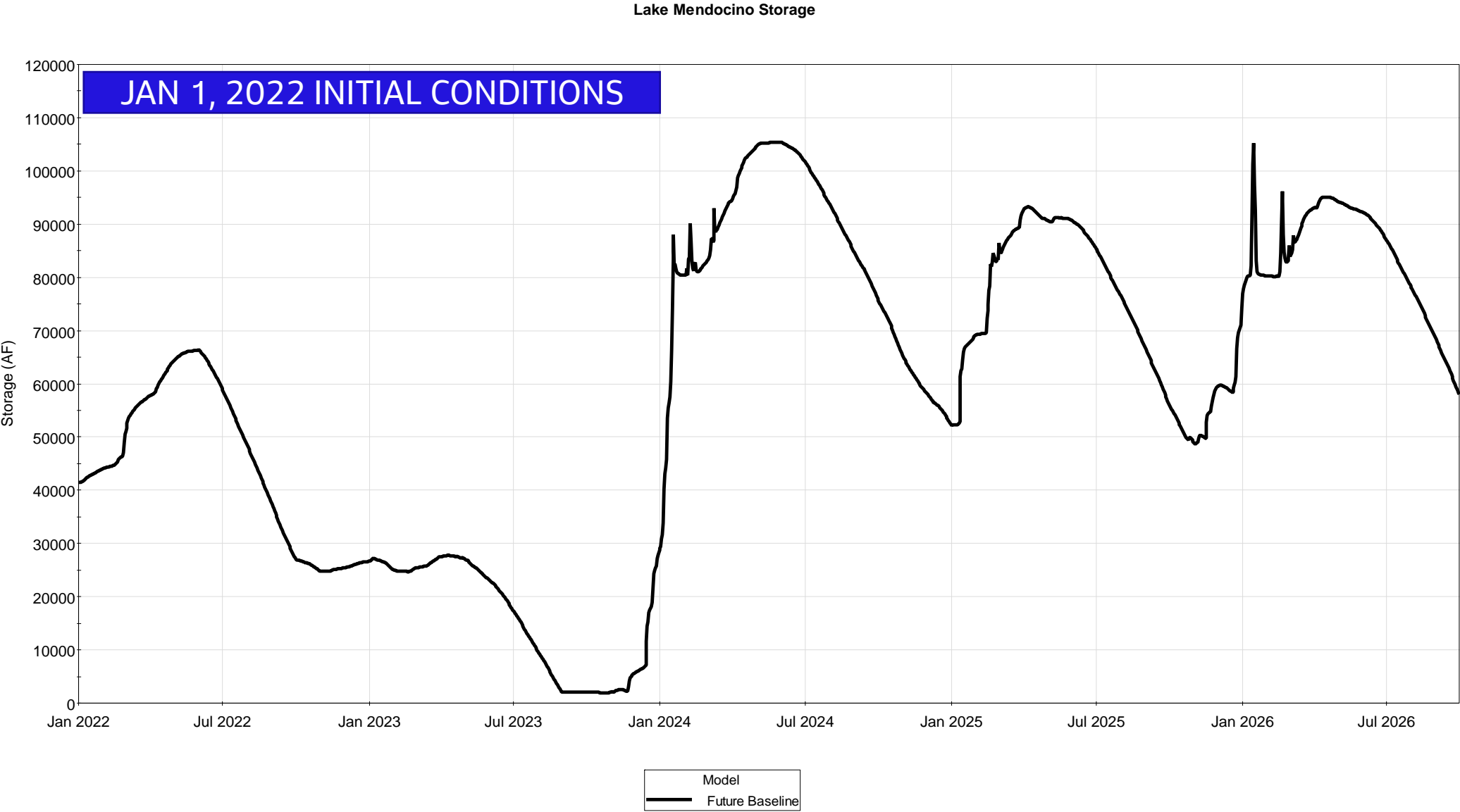
1% probability of low point storage in 2023

# MMWD Storage – Probabilities from 108 Historical Hydrological Traces

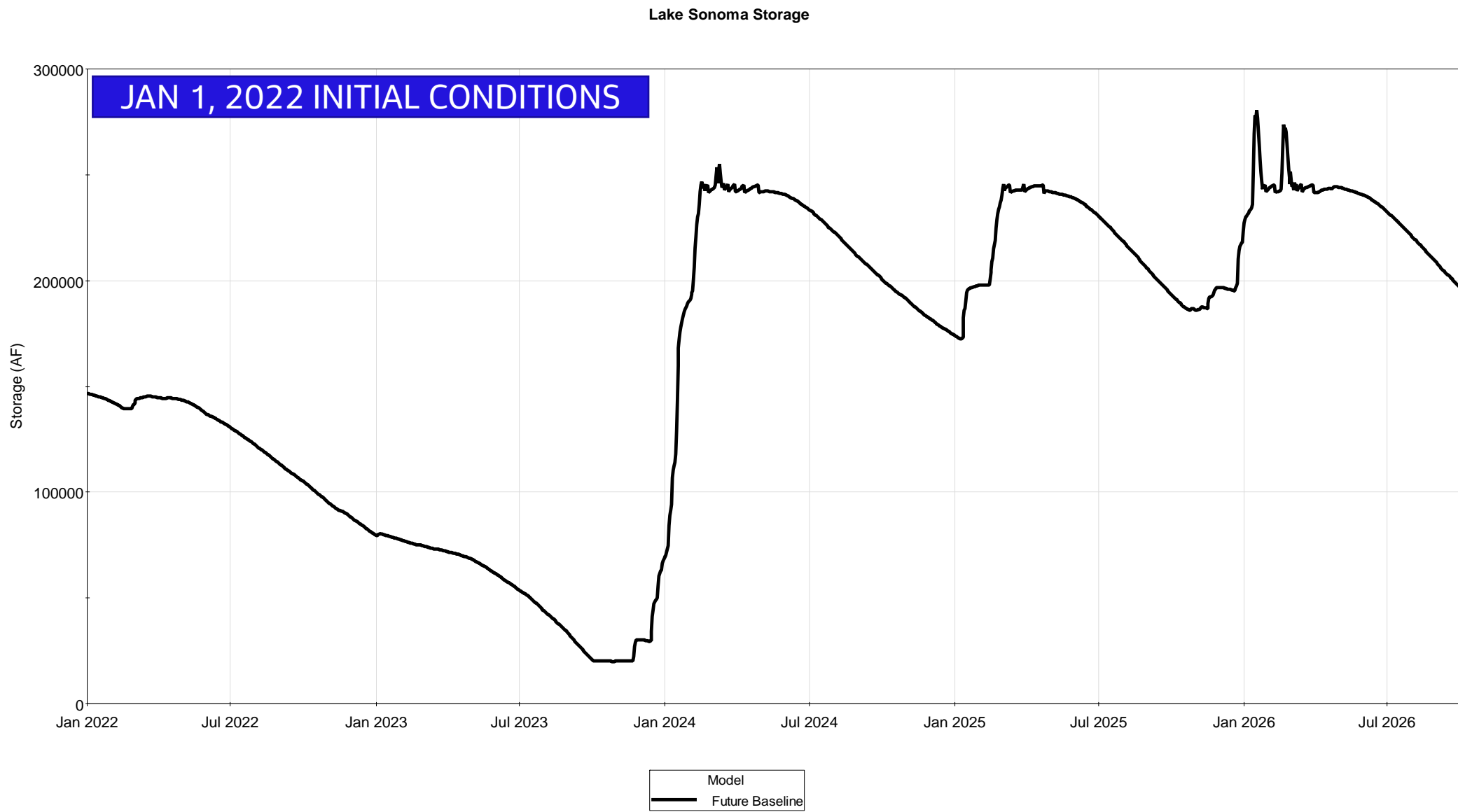
MMWD Reservoir Storage



# Lake Mendocino Storage – WY 1976-1980 Stress Test Hydrology

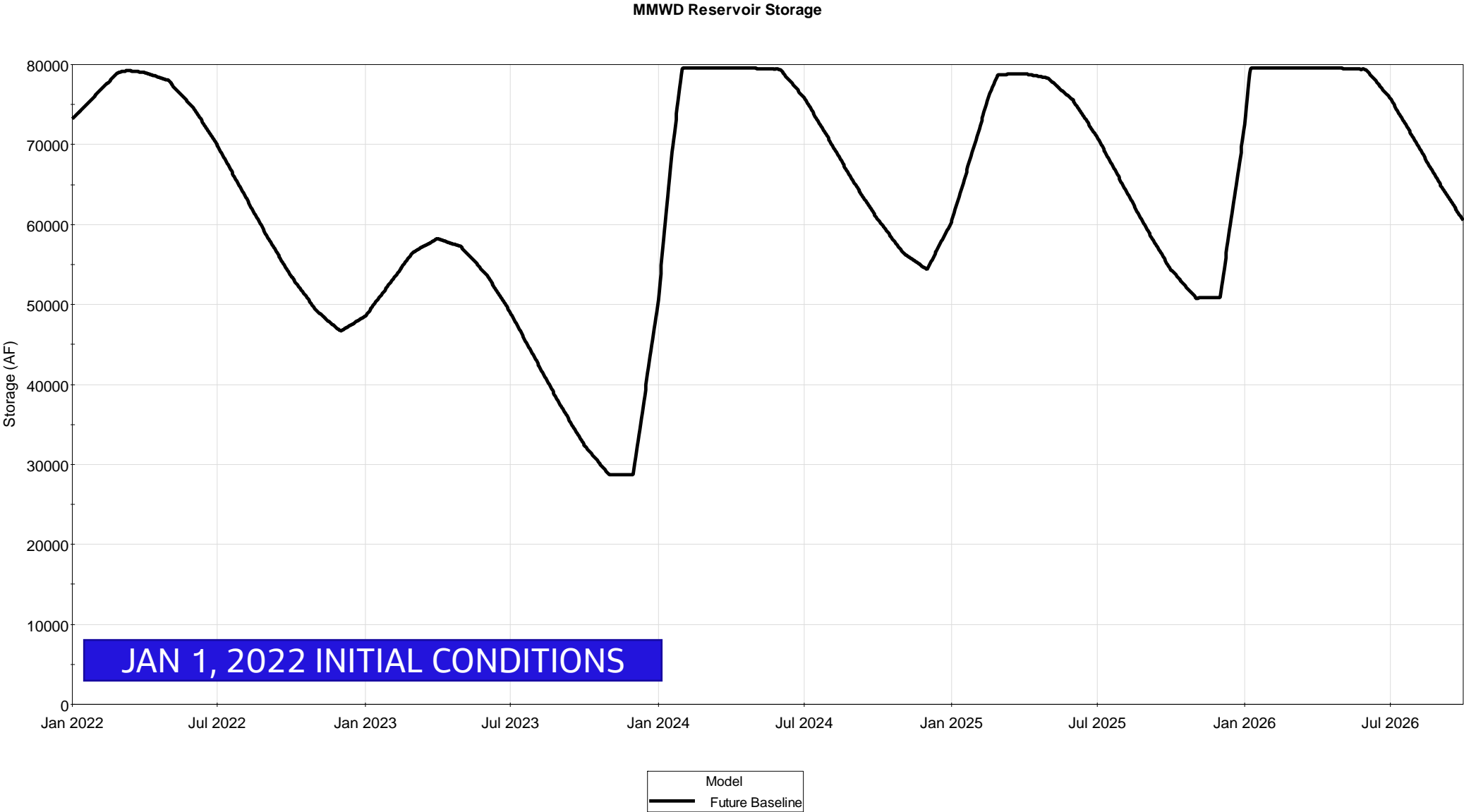


# Lake Sonoma – WY 1976-1980 Stress Test Hydrology





# MMWD Storage – WY 1976-1980 Stress Test Hydrology



# Near-Term Drought Risk has Lessened, but Not Eliminated

- Outlook improved with December storms, but dry January and likely continual dry conditions in February suggest drought risk is still a possibility
- Action is still needed to address residual risks of a continued dry seasonal outlook

Initial Storage Conditions	NO ACTION Projected 5-Year Shortage Total	Shortage as % of Sonoma Water Delivery*	Shortage as % of Total Water Demand*
Nov 1, 2021	25,600 AF	25%	13%
Dec 1, 2021	23,200 AF	23%	12%
Jan 1, 2022	6,900 AF	7%	4%

# **Drought Management Options**

# Survey of Range of Drought Management Options

- Jacobs met with most retail customers to develop ideas on range of drought management options
- Synthesized options into 4 major categories
  - Increase supply
  - Reduce demand
  - Improve operations
  - Modify policy and regulations





# Synthesis of Drought Water Management Options

## ▪ **Increase Supply**

- Increase groundwater production (new or rehabilitated wells)
- Winter water diversion
- Regional groundwater bank (Santa Rosa Plain, Sonoma Valley, Petaluma)
- Alexander Valley FloodMAR
- Sonoma Developmental Center water supply and forebay for groundwater recharge
- Expand recycled water supply
- Ocean desalination and/or brackish water desalination
- Interconnection with Bay Area supplies (water transfers)

## ▪ **Reduce Demand**

- Water conservation and water use efficiency in agricultural, municipal, and CII sectors

## ▪ **Improve Operations**

- Kastania Pump Station improvements
- Expand surface storage (Lake Stafford weir, sediment removal)
- Lake Sonoma Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO)
- Increase recycled water storage
- Storage operational management levels
- Lake Mendocino variable gates and outlet channel improvements

## ▪ **Modify Policy and Regulations**

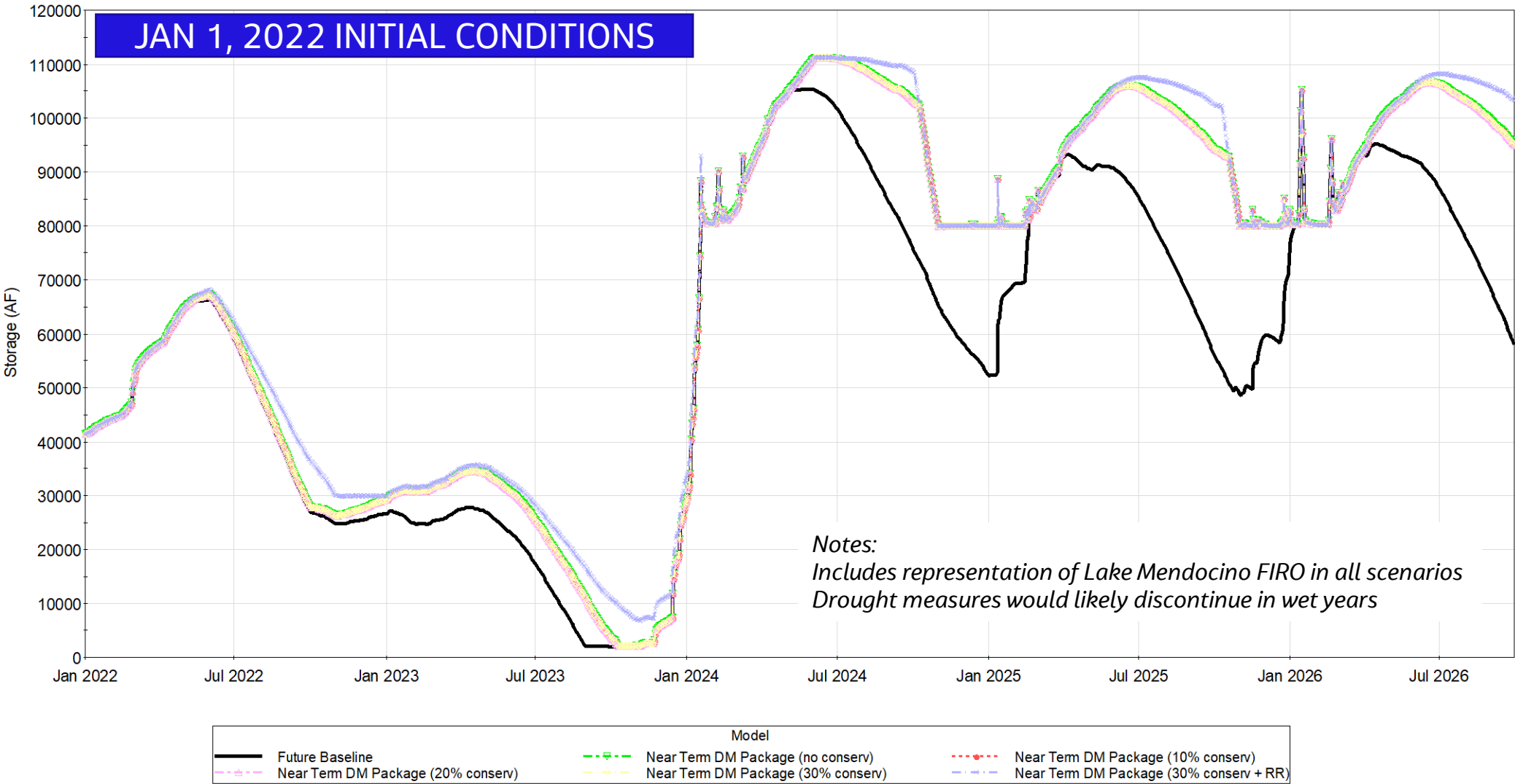
- Regulatory flexibility through TUCPs

# Near-Term Drought Resiliency/Response Actions

- Maximize delivery of natural flows from Russian River system
- Kastania Booster Station rehabilitation
- Increase groundwater production (Sonoma Water)
- Increase groundwater production (Retail Customers)
- Regulatory flexibility through TUCPs
- Water conservation and water use efficiency (Retail Customers and diverters)

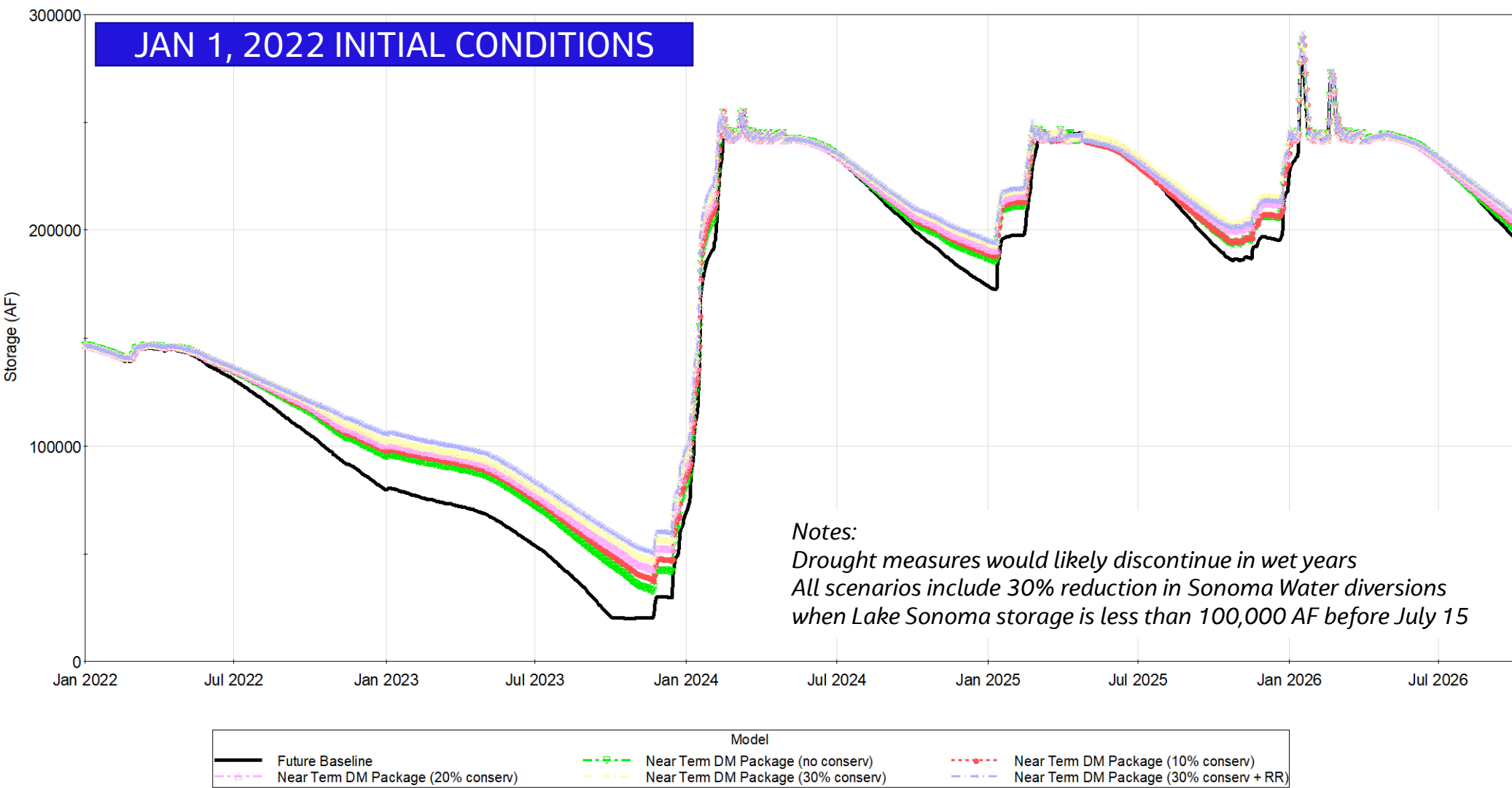
# Lake Mendocino Storage – WY 1976-1980 Stress Test Hydrology

Lake Mendocino Storage



# Lake Sonoma – WY 1976-1980 Stress Test Hydrology

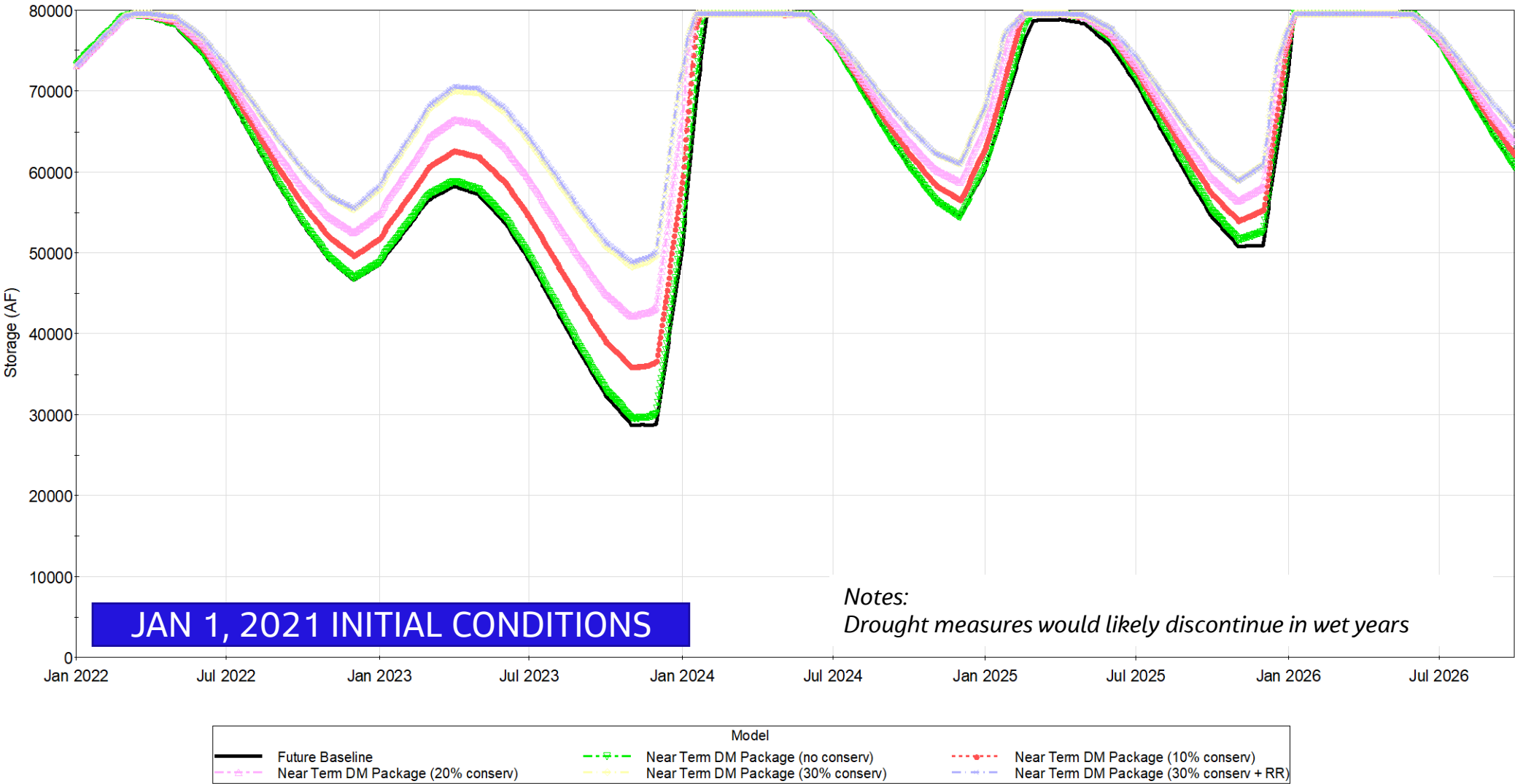
Lake Sonoma Storage





# MMWD Storage – WY 1976-1980 Stress Test Hydrology

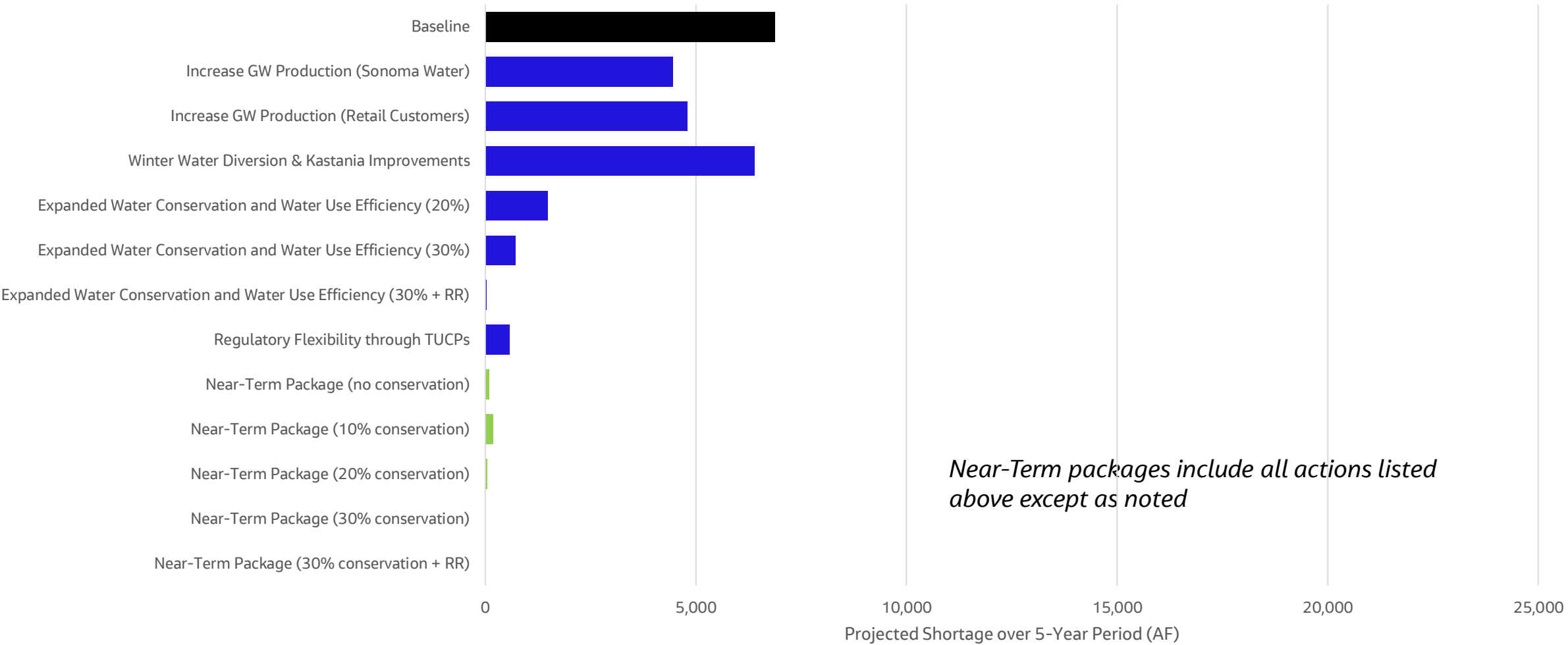
MMWD Reservoir Storage



# Simulation Results – Near-Term Package Resolves Stress Test Shortages

JAN 1, 2022 INITIAL CONDITIONS

Summary of Projected Shortages over Period 2022-2026 Using 1976-80 Stress Test Hydrology



# Planning for Longer-Term Droughts

- Early Actions Offer Immediate Opportunities for Resiliency Benefits
  - Water conservation
  - Flexibility through TUCPs
  - Increasing groundwater production (Sonoma Water and Retail Customers)
  - Kastania Pump Station improvements
- Longer-Term Actions Offer Potential for Resiliency during Prolonged, Extreme Droughts
  - Lake Sonoma FIRO
  - Regional groundwater bank
  - Expand winter water diversion
  - SDC water supply
  - Ocean and brackish Desalination
  - Water transfers with Bay Area water agencies
  - Expand surface storage
  - Expand recycled water supply
  - Alexander Valley Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge

# Summary and Recommendations

- **DSM Model**
  - Russian River, Transmission System, and Retail Customer Systems have been interconnected
  - DSM has been validated for system water supply and operations
  - Representation of retail customer systems is adequate for this level of analysis
  - DSM can simulate individual years or stochastic simulations involving ensemble of hydrology
- **Drought Risks**
  - Existing hydrologic conditions continue to be challenging
  - December storms have altered near-term drought outlook
  - Unlikely, but possible risk to Lake Mendocino storage and Lake Sonoma storage (2023), and delivery (2023-24)
  - Stress test hydrology of WY 1976-1980 is used to test drought options
- **Drought Management Options**
  - Near-term package of options resolves stress test shortages
  - *Winter water diversions* and *groundwater production* helps resolve shortages
  - *Conservation* and *regulatory flexibility under TUCPs* is most important in bolstering Lake Sonoma and Mendocino storage
  - Longer-term actions of *regional groundwater bank* and *Lake Sonoma FIRO* will provide benefit for future droughts but require initial wet period to begin storage phase

**Next Steps**



## Next Steps

- Technical memorandum on drought assessment
  - Continued updates to the WAC/TAC
  - Further review of long-term drought management strategies
  - Continue with assessment of resiliency in response to other identified risks (seismic, wildfire, power, water quality, etc)
-