

In early February 2010 Lake Mendocino reached the conservation pool level of 68,400 acre feet. This is great news but does not mean we can relax our conservation efforts. This level in the lake means that the Corps of Engineers will release additional water to provide flood control storage in the event of storms.

Starting March 1 the conservation pool level gradually increases to 86,400 acre feet by the end of the month. If we don't get more rain, we will be better off than we were last year, but not by enough to drop our conservation habits.

The ideal situation would be to get lots of rain in March and April so the lake can fill to its capacity of more than 100,000 acre feet. This would allow all water users to operate normally and still have plenty of water for fish releases later in the year.

It is too early to project what the year will be like but we are hoping that we will have enough water for domestic and agricultural users.