



August 5, 2024

**Via Electronic Submittal (E-File)**

Debbie-Anne Reese, Acting Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

**RE: Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 77-CA  
2024 Temporary Minimum Instream Flow Variance  
July Storage and Temperature Report**

Dear Acting Secretary Reese:

This letter presents the Lake Pillsbury monthly storage report and water temperature monitoring related to the 2024 temporary minimum instream flow variance for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) No. 77.

On June 27, 2024, FERC released an order approving the temporary variance request PG&E submitted on February 21, 2024. The FERC order required that PG&E submit monthly storage reports for the duration of the temporary variance.

The storage and temperature data report for July is included with this letter as Enclosure 1.

Should you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Chadwick McCready, senior license coordinator for PG&E, at (530) 685-5710.

Sincerely,

Chadwick McCready  
Senior License Coordinator, Hydro License Compliance

Enclosure:

1. Monthly Storage and Water Temperature Report for July 2024

# **ENCLOSURE 1**

# Potter Valley Drought Variance Working Group

## Monthly Meeting

### Water Management Report

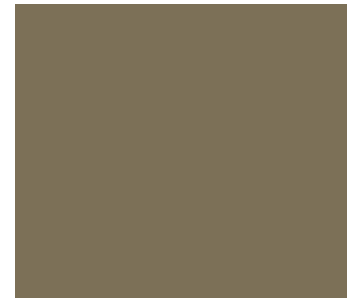
July 24, 2024





We have a short agenda as follows:

- Welcome/Roll Call – Chadwick
- Variance Conditions Review- Michelle
- Water Management Report- Michelle
- Discussion/Round Table – All



# Meeting Ground Rules

Listen	Listen to and Respect Each Other
Act	Act in Good Faith
Open	Open Discussion by All
Seek	Seek Collaborative Solutions
Silence	Silence Your Cellphone
Identify	Identify Yourself with Name and Org when Commenting
Mute	Please Mute your line if not commenting

# Variance Conditions

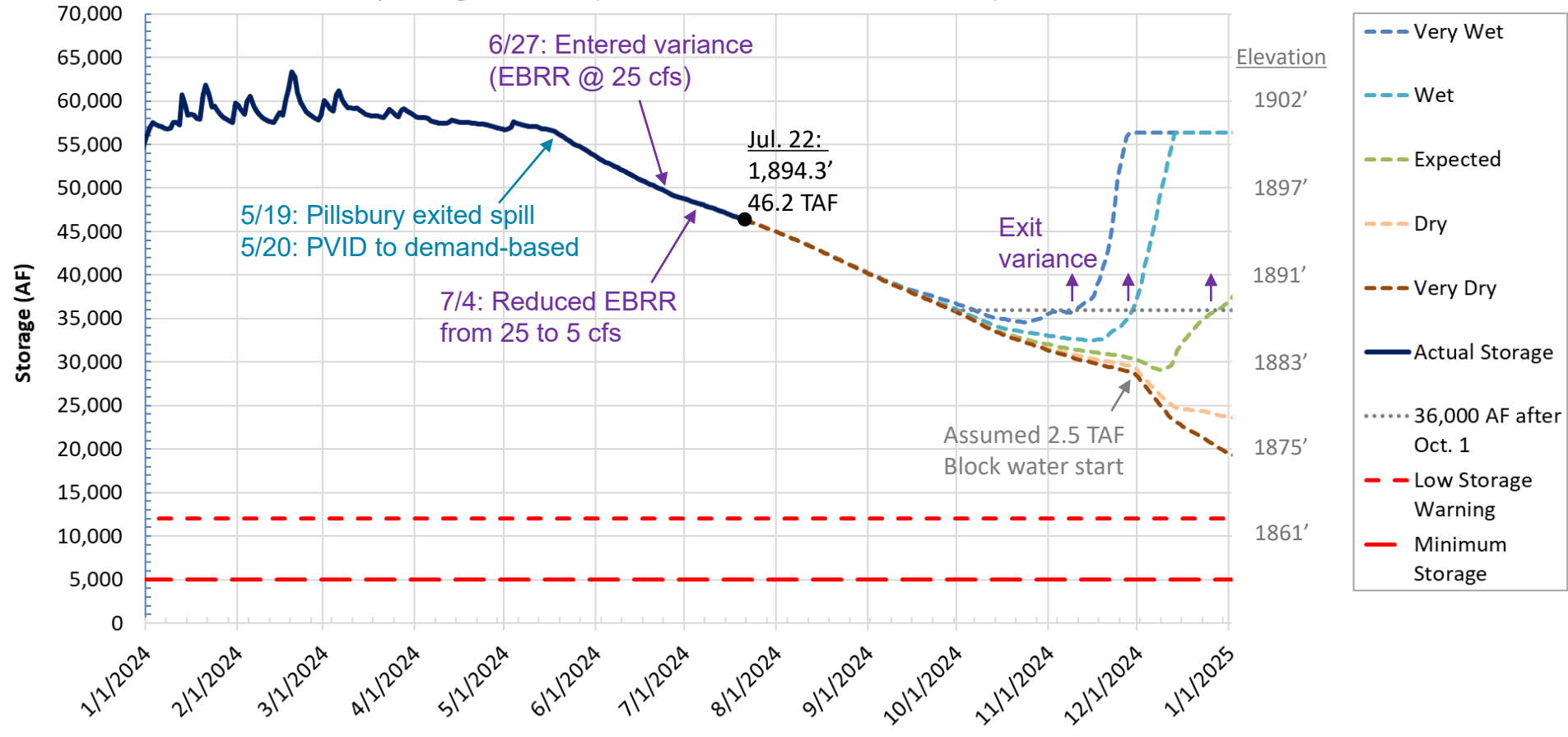
The following applicable flow variance conditions will be in effect:

- **E-16 (EBRR) will initially be reduced to 25 cfs (Dry WYT) with the ability to further decrease these flows as low as 5 cfs** if daily average Lake Pillsbury release water temperatures exceed 15° C or as needed based on PG&E and resource agency determinations. **After September 30, minimum flows in the East Branch Russian River would remain at 25 cfs for the remainder of the temporary variance** barring the reservoir storage forecast indicating a lower release is necessary to avoid the reservoir reaching concerning levels later in the year.
- **Gaging Station E-2 will be reclassified as a Critical WYT. In practice, the E-2 flows will be the combined releases for E-11, E-16, and PVID**, with a floor set by the minimum opening of the low-level outlet (approximately 35 cfs).
- **The drought variance will end when Lake Pillsbury storage exceeds 36,000 AF following October 1, 2024, or is superseded by another variance or long-term variance.** This 36,000 AF storage threshold would allow the reservoir to meet minimum flow obligations, including a possible block water release, through January 2024 in the event of extremely low inflow in early winter.
- **Flows will be calculated at a 24-hour average measured at E-11 rather than instantaneous.** This will allow for a tighter compliance buffer on minimum E-11 flows.



# 2024 Storage Forecast

Lake Pillsbury Storage Forecast (EBRR @ 5 to 25 cfs, PVID @ 35 cfs) - issued 7/22/2024

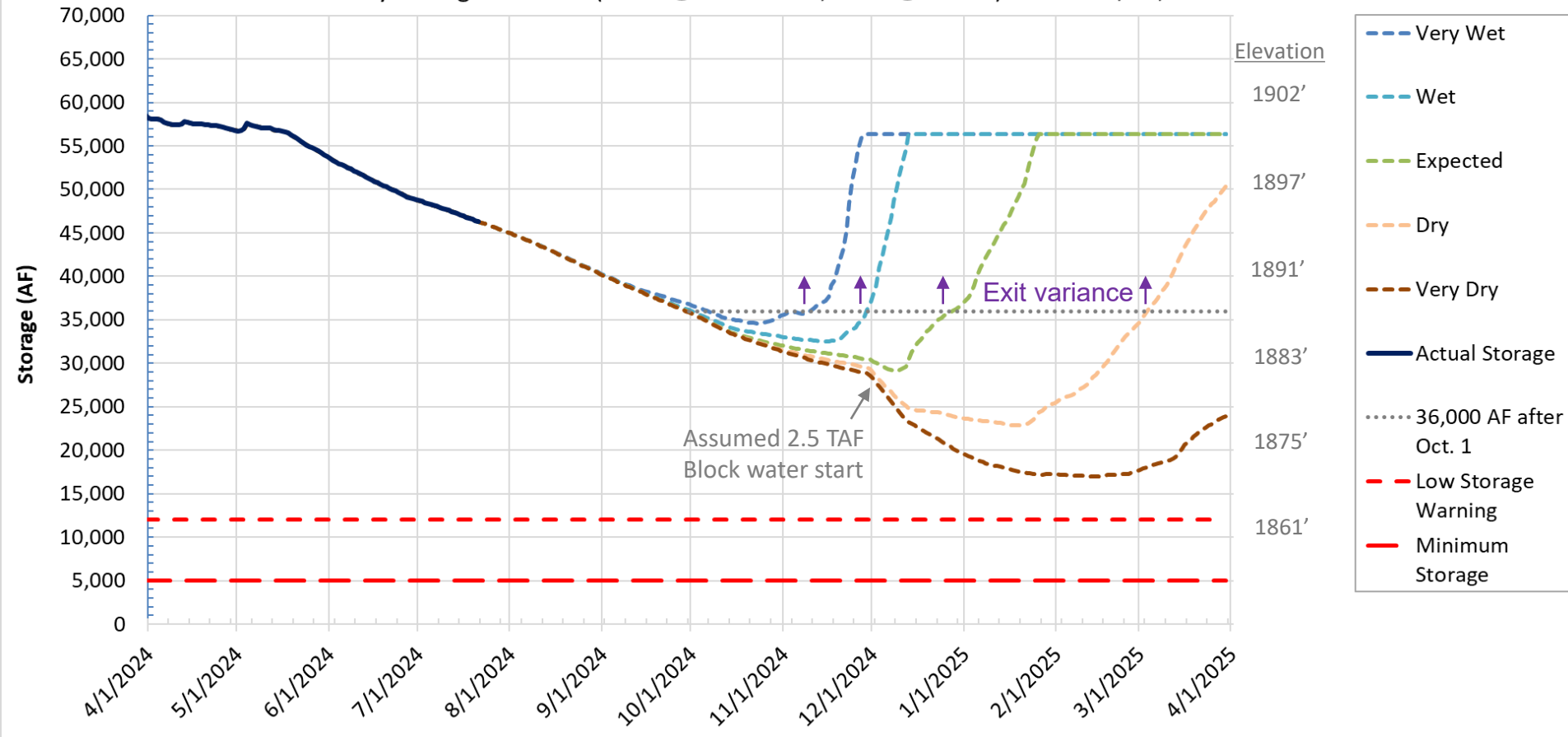


Assumptions: EBRR @ 5 cfs until Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, then 25 cfs for remainder of variance; Block water release: 2.5 TAF starting Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>; Post-Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, Variance ends >36 TAF



# 2024/2025 Storage Forecast (winter look-ahead)

Lake Pillsbury Storage Forecast (EBRR @ 5 to 25 cfs, PVID @ 35 cfs) - issued 7/22/2024



Assumptions: EBRR @ 5 cfs until Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, then 25 cfs for remainder of variance; Block water release: 2.5 TAF starting Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>; Post-Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, Variance ends >36 TAF





Variance was approved June 27<sup>th</sup> and implemented that same day

# June 2024 - Storage and Flow (Preliminary Data)

Date	PVPH Precip [in]	Lake Pillsbury Storage [AF]	Change in Storage [AF]	Lake Pillsbury Inflow (cfs)	E2 Flow (cfs)	E11 Flow (cfs)	E16 Flow (cfs)	PVID Request (cfs)	PVID Irrig. Season Cumul. (AF)	PVID Demand-Based Cumul. (AF)	EBRR IFR (cfs)	Calpella Flow (cfs)
6/1/2024	0	53,552		157	277	180	96	16	3,777	305	75	93
6/2/2024	0	53,333	-219	159	269	175	96	16	3,808	337	75	97
6/3/2024	0	53,133	-200	160	260	168	96	16	3,840	369	75	91
6/4/2024	0	52,934	-199	146	247	155	96	16	3,872	401	75	98
6/5/2024	0	52,861	-72	193	230	139	96	16	3,904	432	75	95
6/6/2024	0	52,681	-181	130	221	125	99	20	3,943	472	75	88
6/7/2024	0	52,500	-180	126	217	120	100	20	3,983	512	75	92
6/8/2024	0	52,339	-162	126	208	112	100	20	4,023	551	75	92
6/9/2024	0	52,141	-197	96	195	103	100	20	4,062	591	75	89
6/10/2024	0	51,979	-162	102	184	95	100	20	4,102	631	75	92
6/11/2024	0	51,817	-162	98	180	86	103	25	4,151	680	75	98
6/12/2024	0	51,655	-162	93	174	96	105	25	4,201	730	75	106
6/13/2024	0	51,476	-179	79	169	94	103	20	4,241	770	75	98
6/14/2024	0	51,297	-179	77	168	76	100	20	4,280	809	75	81
6/15/2024	0	51,101	-196	63	162	74	100	20	4,320	849	75	81
6/16/2024	0	50,923	-178	69	159	71	100	20	4,360	889	75	76
6/17/2024	0	50,745	-178	67	157	69	100	20	4,399	928	75	78
6/18/2024	0	50,586	-159	72	152	66	100	20	4,439	968	75	87
6/19/2024	0	50,427	-159	67	147	62	100	20	4,479	1,008	75	78
6/20/2024	0	50,286	-141	74	145	59	100	20	4,518	1,047	75	77
6/21/2024	0	50,126	-159	63	144	59	97	15	4,548	1,077	75	81
6/22/2024	0	49,967	-159	63	143	57	99	20	4,588	1,117	75	82
6/23/2024	0	49,808	-159	61	141	52	100	20	4,628	1,156	75	89
6/24/2024	0	49,632	-176	51	139	51	100	20	4,667	1,196	75	80
6/25/2024	0	49,509	-123	79	141	47	103	25	4,717	1,246	75	83
6/26/2024	0	49,334	-175	54	142	46	105	25	4,766	1,295	75	89
6/27/2024	0	49,142	-192	37	134	52	93	40	4,846	1,375	75/25	86
6/28/2024	0	49,037	-105	58	111	51	70	40	4,925	1,454	25	47
6/29/2024	0	48,915	-122	41	102	43	70	40	5,004	1,533	25	51
6/30/2024	0	48,794	-122	38	99	38	70	40	5,084	1,613	25	54



# July 2024 - Storage and Flow (Preliminary Data)

Date	PVPH Precip [in]	Lake Pillsbury Storage [AF]	Change in Storage [AF]	Lake Pillsbury Inflow (cfs)	E2 Flow (cfs)	E11 Flow (cfs)	E16 Flow (cfs)	PVID Request (cfs)	PVID Irrig. Season Cumul. (AF)	PVID Demand-Based Cumul. (AF)	EBRR IFR (cfs)	Calpella Flow (cfs)
7/1/2024	0	48,690		48	100	38	70	40	5,163	1,692	25	54
7/2/2024	0	48,603	-87	56	100	39	70	40	5,242	1,771	25	50
7/3/2024	0	48,481	-122	38	100	36	70	40	5,322	1,851	25	47
7/4/2024	0	48,360	-122	33	95	38	64	50	5,421	1,950	25/5	45
7/5/2024	0	48,256	-104	39	92	37	60	50	5,520	2,049	5	44
7/6/2024	0	48,152	-104	36	89	37	60	50	5,619	2,148	5	43
7/7/2024	0	48,030	-121	25	86	35	60	50	5,718	2,247	5	38
7/8/2024	0	47,927	-104	31	84	33	60	50	5,818	2,346	5	36
7/9/2024	0	47,806	-121	22	83	32	60	50	5,917	2,446	5	35
7/10/2024	0	47,686	-121	22	83	32	60	50	6,016	2,545	5	37
7/11/2024	0	47,582	-103	31	83	32	60	50	6,115	2,644	5	34
7/12/2024	0	47,454	-129	18	83	32	60	50	6,214	2,743	5	34
7/13/2024	0	47,342	-111	28	84	32	60	50	6,313	2,842	5	37
7/14/2024	0	47,206	-137	14	82	31	60	50	6,413	2,942	5	39
7/15/2024	0	47,086	-119	21	82	31	60	50	6,512	3,041	5	38
7/16/2024	0	46,950	-136	13	81	30	59	50	6,611	3,140	5	39
7/17/2024	0	46,814	-136	12	81	30	58	50	6,710	3,239	5	42
7/18/2024	0	46,677	-137	12	81	31	58	45	6,799	3,328	5	48
7/19/2024	0	46,541	-136	9	78	31	56	45	6,889	3,418	5	41
7/20/2024	0	46,405	-136	11	79	33	56	45	6,978	3,507	5	38
7/21/2024	0	46,269	-136	13	81	28	56	45	7,067	3,596	5	37
7/22/2024	0	46,151	-119	20	79	26	56	45	7,156	3,685	5	35
7/23/2024	0	46,016	-135	11	79	25	56	45	7,246	3,775	5	35
7/24/2024	0	45,864	-152	8	85	26	57	50	7,345	3,874	5	30
7/25/2024	0	45,713	-151	11	87	27	60	50	7,444	3,973	5	34
7/26/2024	0	45,561	-151	10	86	27	60	50	7,543	4,072	5	30
7/27/2024	0	45,411	-151	8	84	26	60	50	7,642	4,171	5	31
7/28/2024	0	45,244	-167	0	84	26	60	50	7,742	4,270	5	35
7/29/2024	0	45,110	-134	15	82	26	60	50	7,841	4,370	5	34
7/30/2024	0	44,960	-151	6	82	24	60	50	7,940	4,469	5	29
7/31/2024	0	44,826	-134	15	82	24	60	50	8,039	4,568	5	31

### Lake Pillsbury Water Temperature Profile - 2024

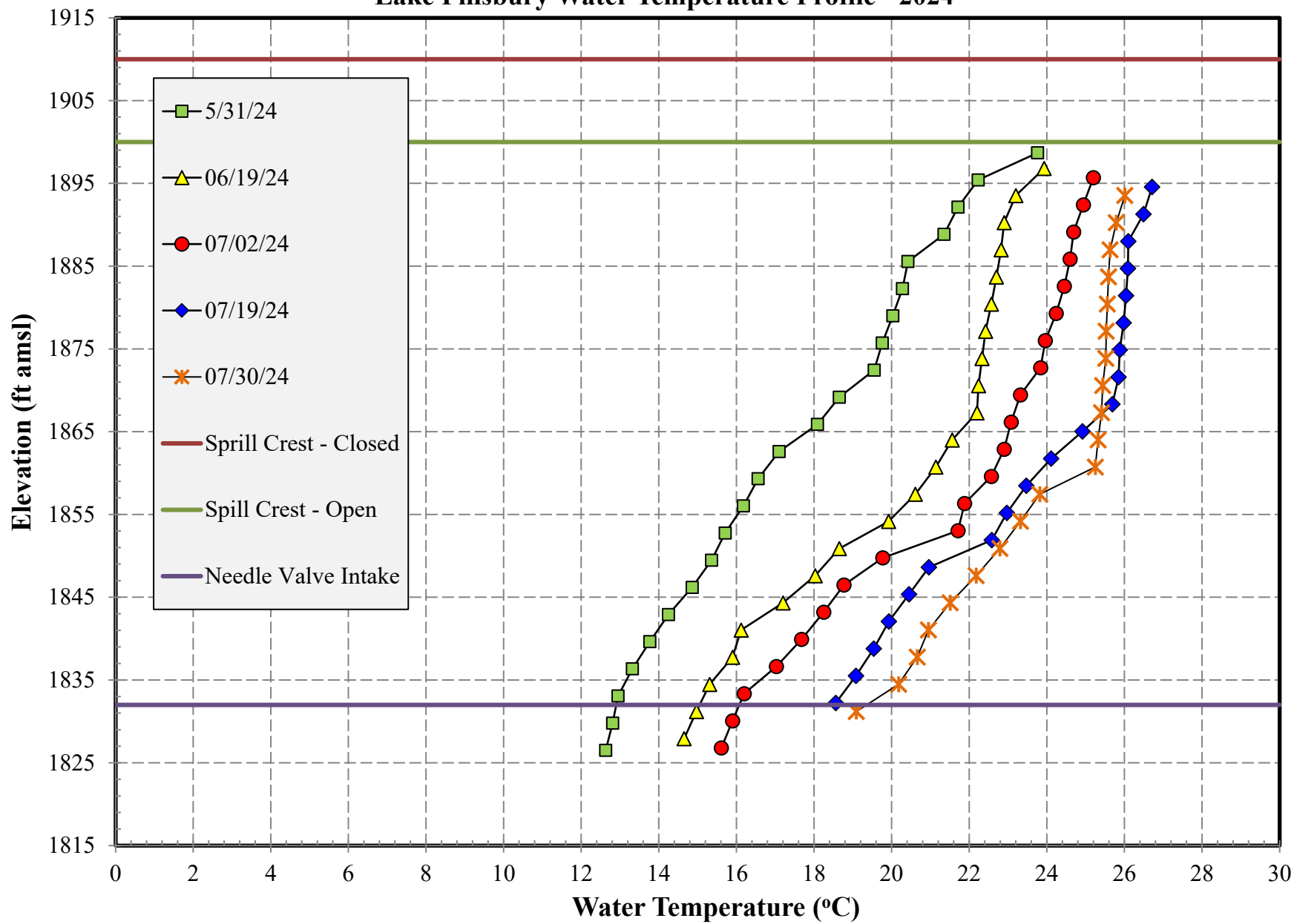


Figure 1. Mainstem Eel River water temperatures, 2024, Eel River above Benmore Creek

Recorder ID: Combo 20401455-20401451

MWAT [1]: 19.9°C

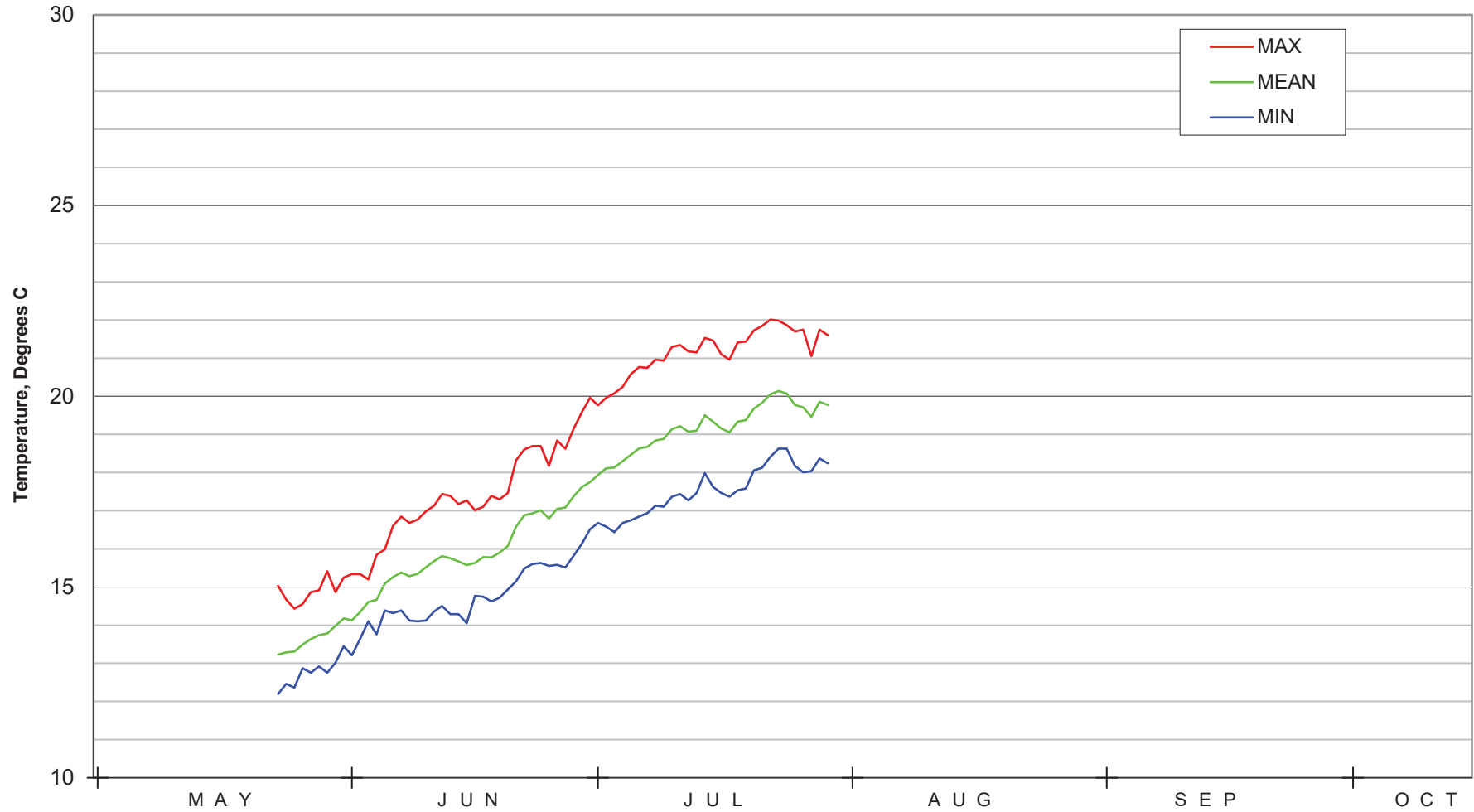


Figure 2. Mainstem Eel River water temperatures, 2024, Eel River above Trout Creek

Recorder ID: Combo 20462170-20361816

MWAT [1]: 22.1°C

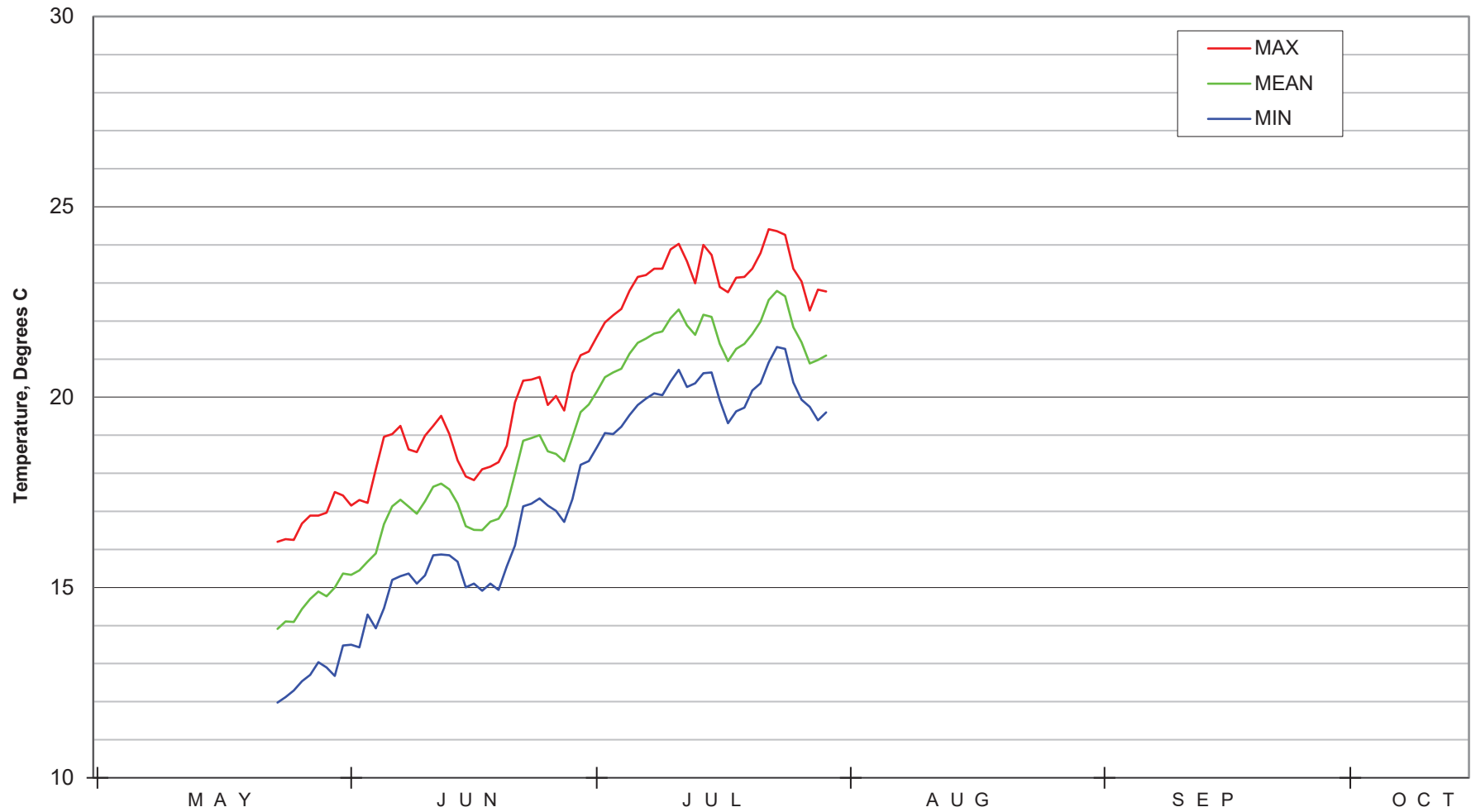


Figure 3. Difference between Mainstem Eel River daily maximum, mean and minimum water temperatures at Benmore Creek (river mile 166.4) and Trout Creek (river mile 160.8), 2024 WY.

