

# **Bosque Management Update**

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## **Fall/Winter 2026 Work Plan and Review of Active Projects**

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**MRGCD**



## **Bosque Stewardship Mission**

MRGCD is committed to restoring and managing the Bosque to reduce wildfire risk, improve water conveyance, reduce depletions, enhance wildlife habitat, and create safer, more accessible spaces for the community to enjoy.

Through ongoing restoration and maintenance efforts, MRGCD is working to create a healthier, more resilient Bosque that supports native ecosystems, provides recreational opportunities, and benefits future generations.



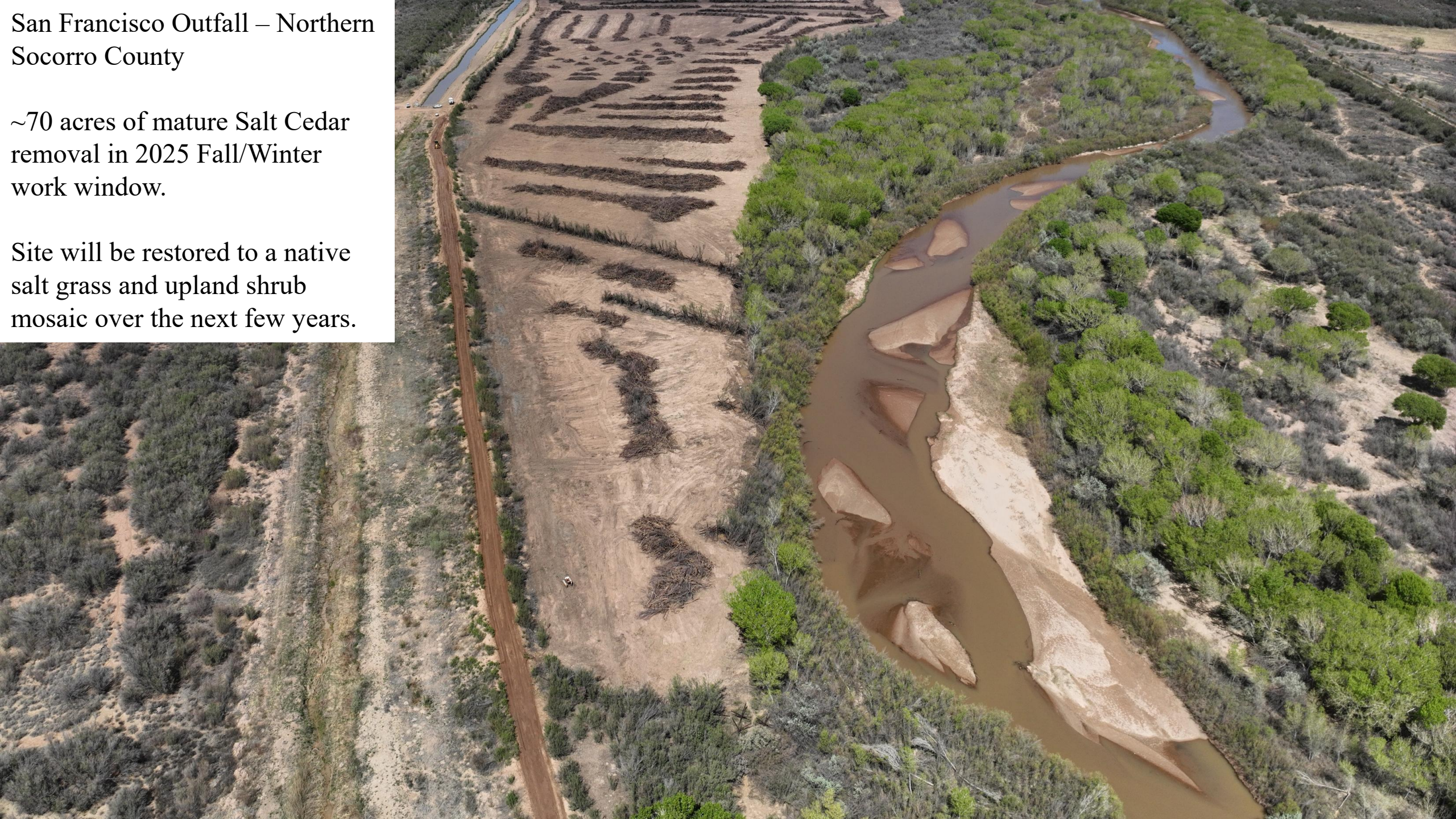
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|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Bosque FY2027 Projection |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

[illegible]

## San Francisco Outfall – Northern Socorro County

~70 acres of mature Salt Cedar removal in 2025 Fall/Winter work window.

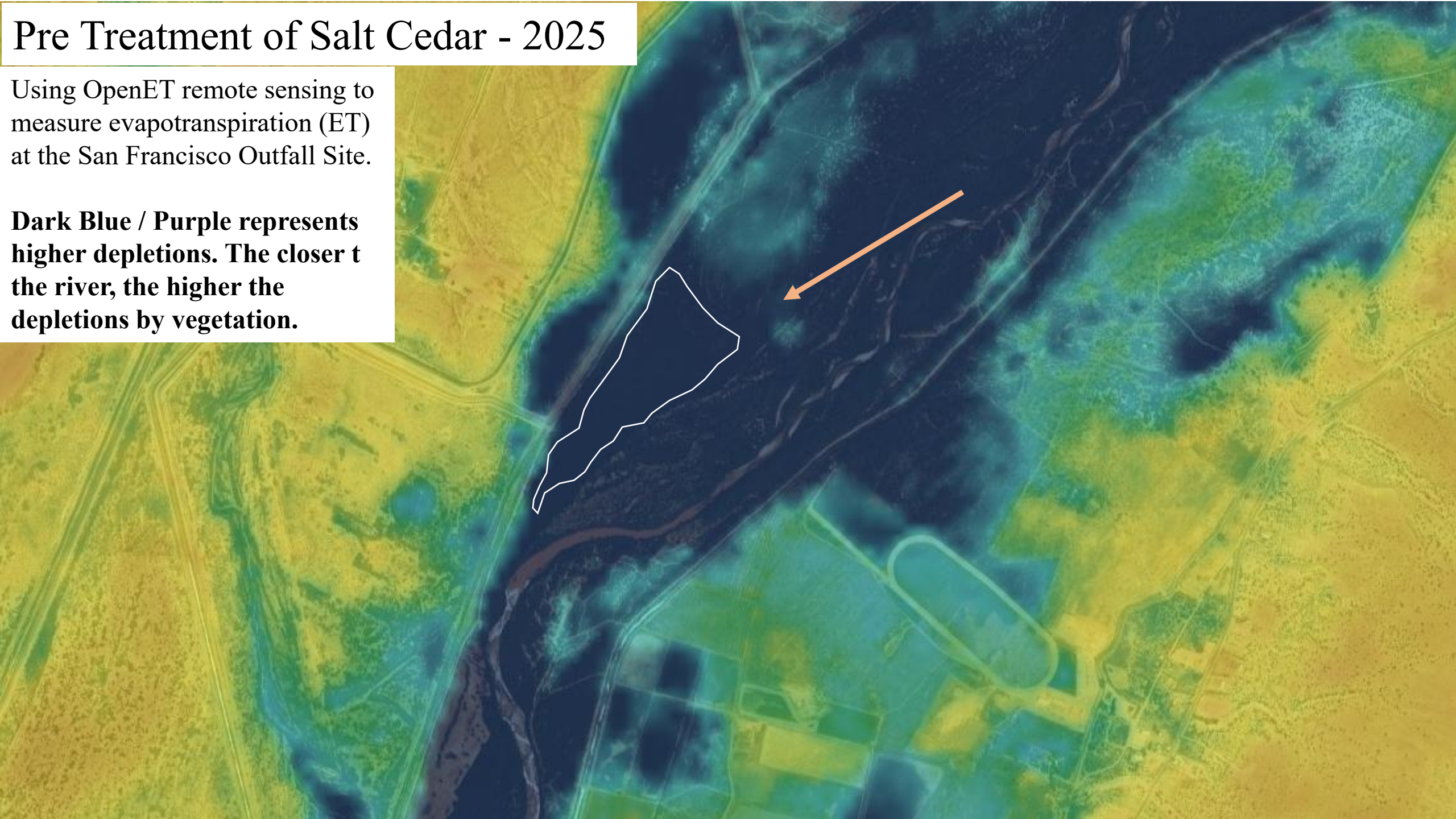
Site will be restored to a native salt grass and upland shrub mosaic over the next few years.



# Pre Treatment of Salt Cedar - 2025

Using OpenET remote sensing to measure evapotranspiration (ET) at the San Francisco Outfall Site.

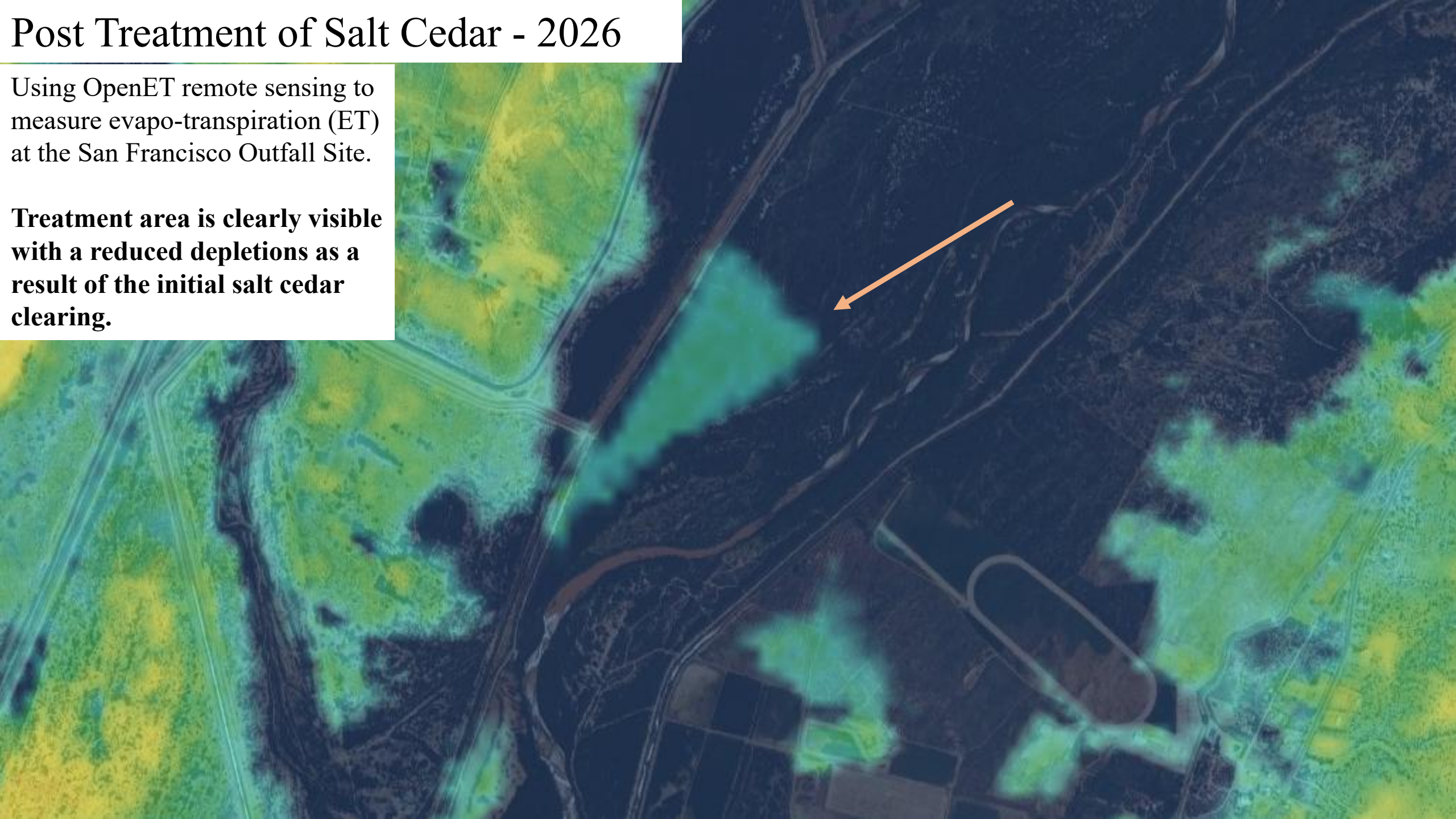
**Dark Blue / Purple represents higher depletions. The closer t the river, the higher the depletions by vegetation.**

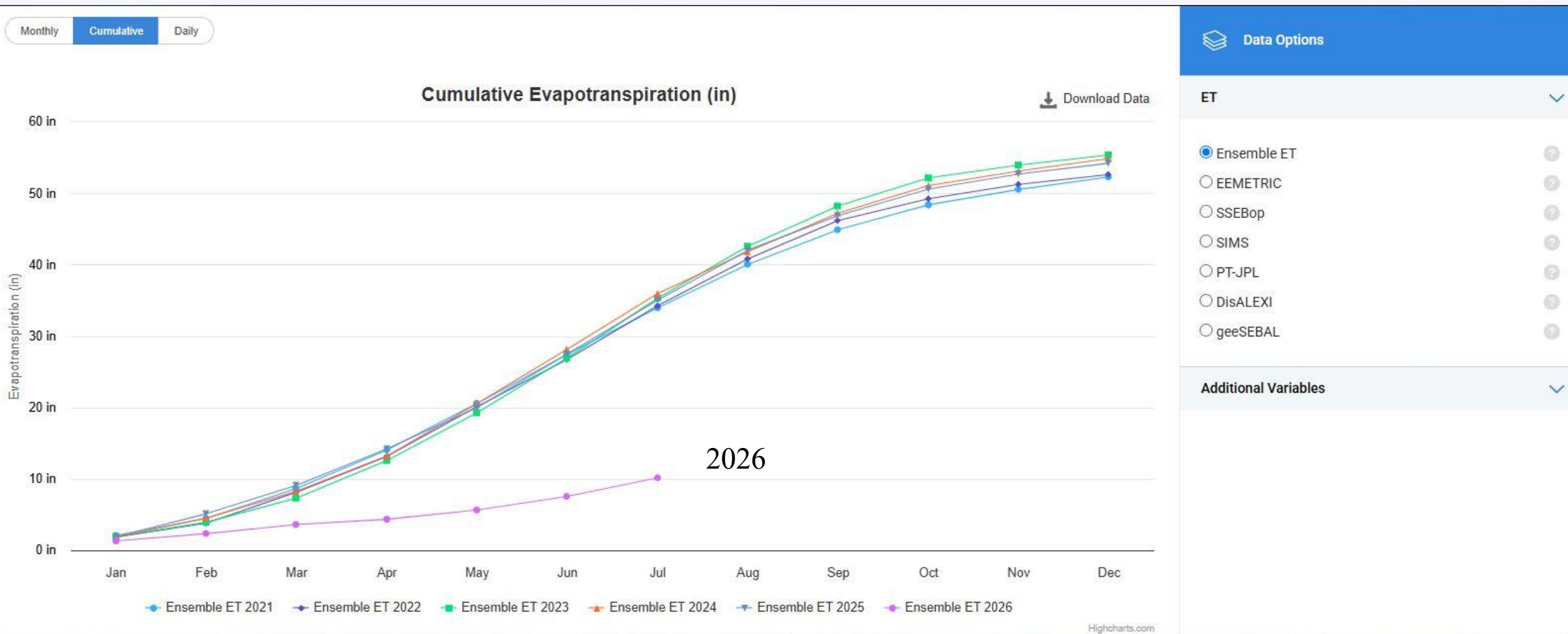


# Post Treatment of Salt Cedar - 2026

Using OpenET remote sensing to measure evapo-transpiration (ET) at the San Francisco Outfall Site.

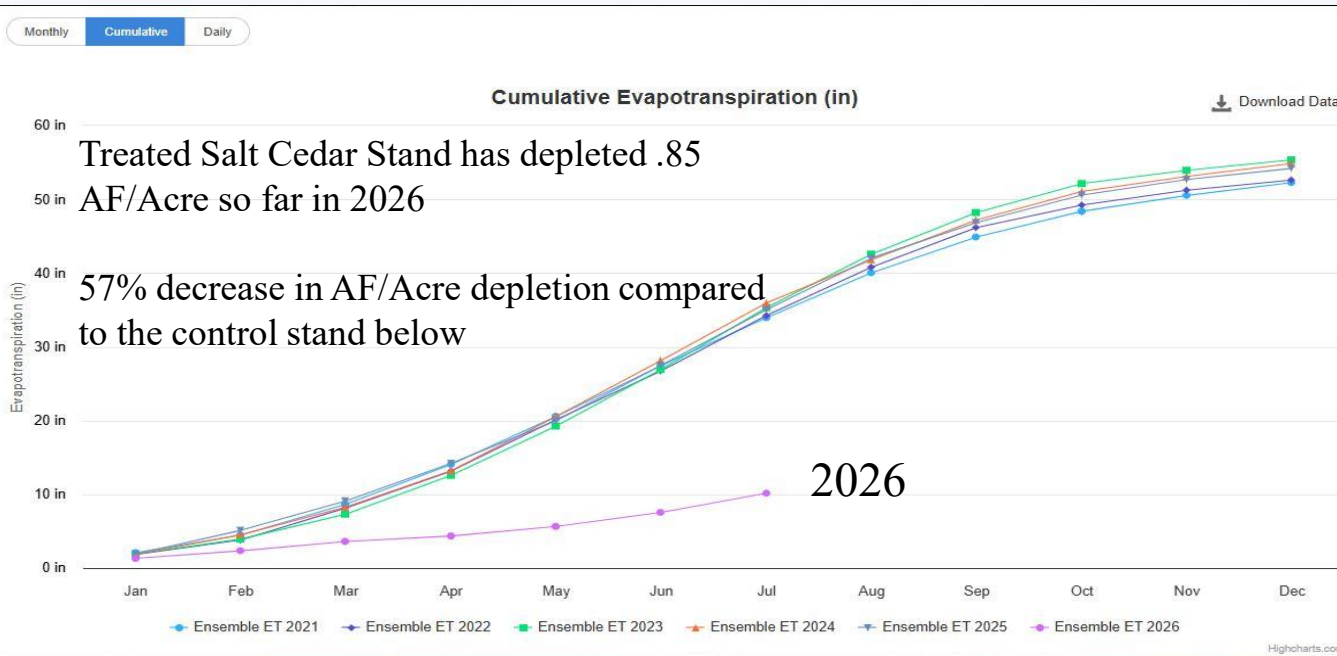
**Treatment area is clearly visible with a reduced depletions as a result of the initial salt cedar clearing.**





Using OpenET data, per acre, the average cumulative evapotranspiration (ET) for years 2021-2025 is ~ 4.57 AF/A at the San Francisco Outfall Site. If we compare the 2026 cumulative trend in July with the 2021-2025 in July, the 2026 line has a cumulative ET of .85 AF/A so far for the year (post salt cedar removal), while the other 4 years would already be approaching 2.95 AF/A for the year (pre salt cedar removal).



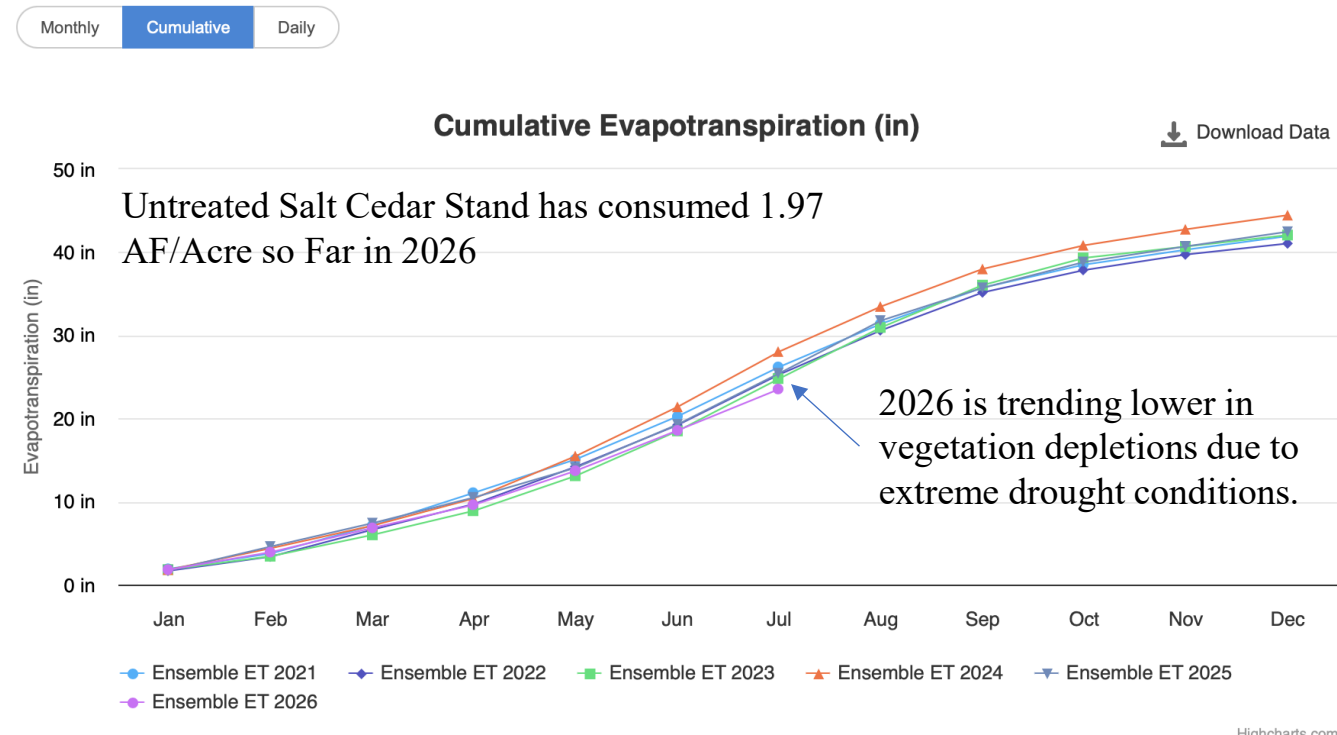


#### Data Options

ET

- ☒ Ensemble ET
- ☐ EEMETRIC
- ☐ SSEBop
- ☐ SIMS
- ☐ PT-JPL
- ☐ DisALEXI
- ☐ geeSEBAL

Additional Variables



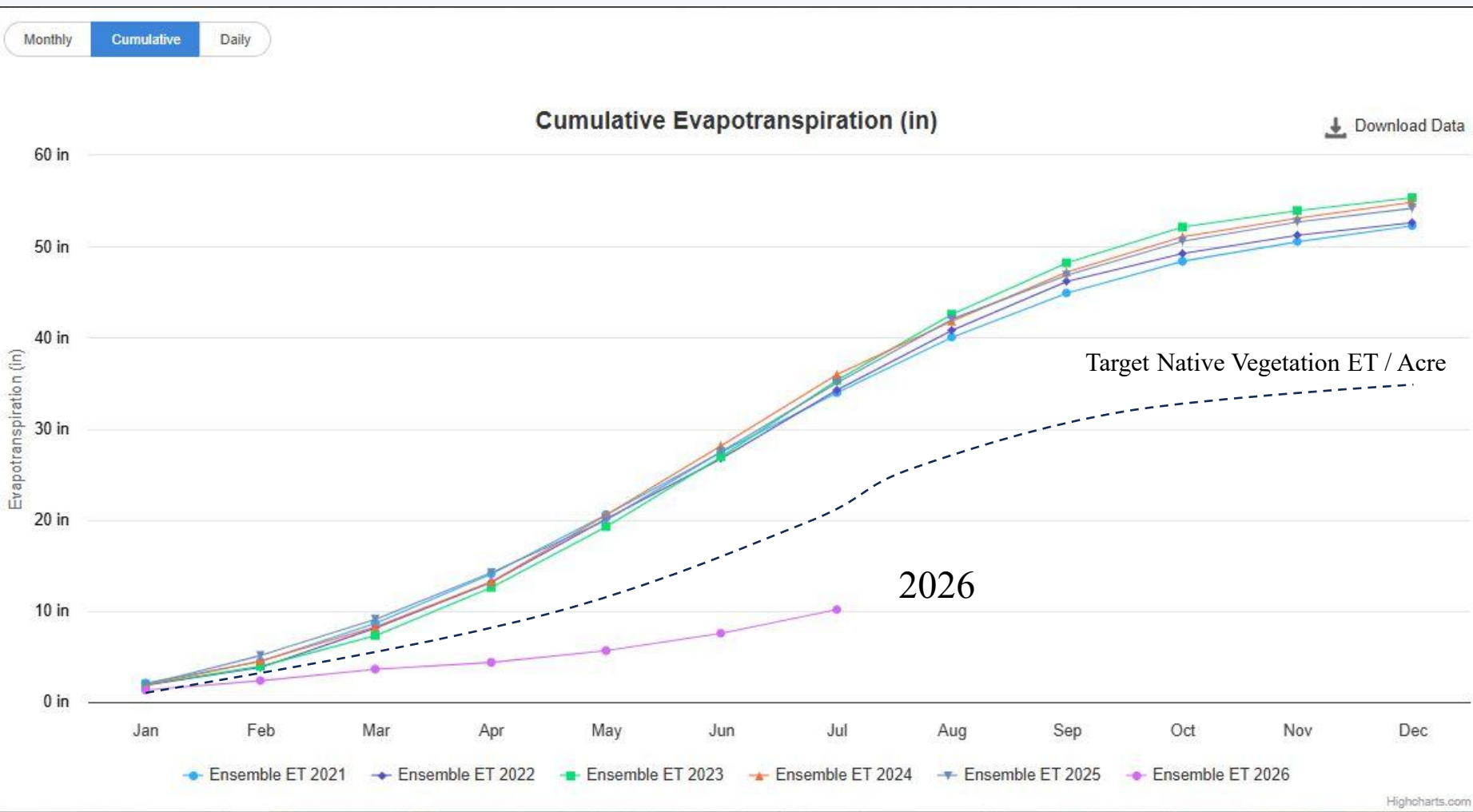
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Additional Variables





Data Options

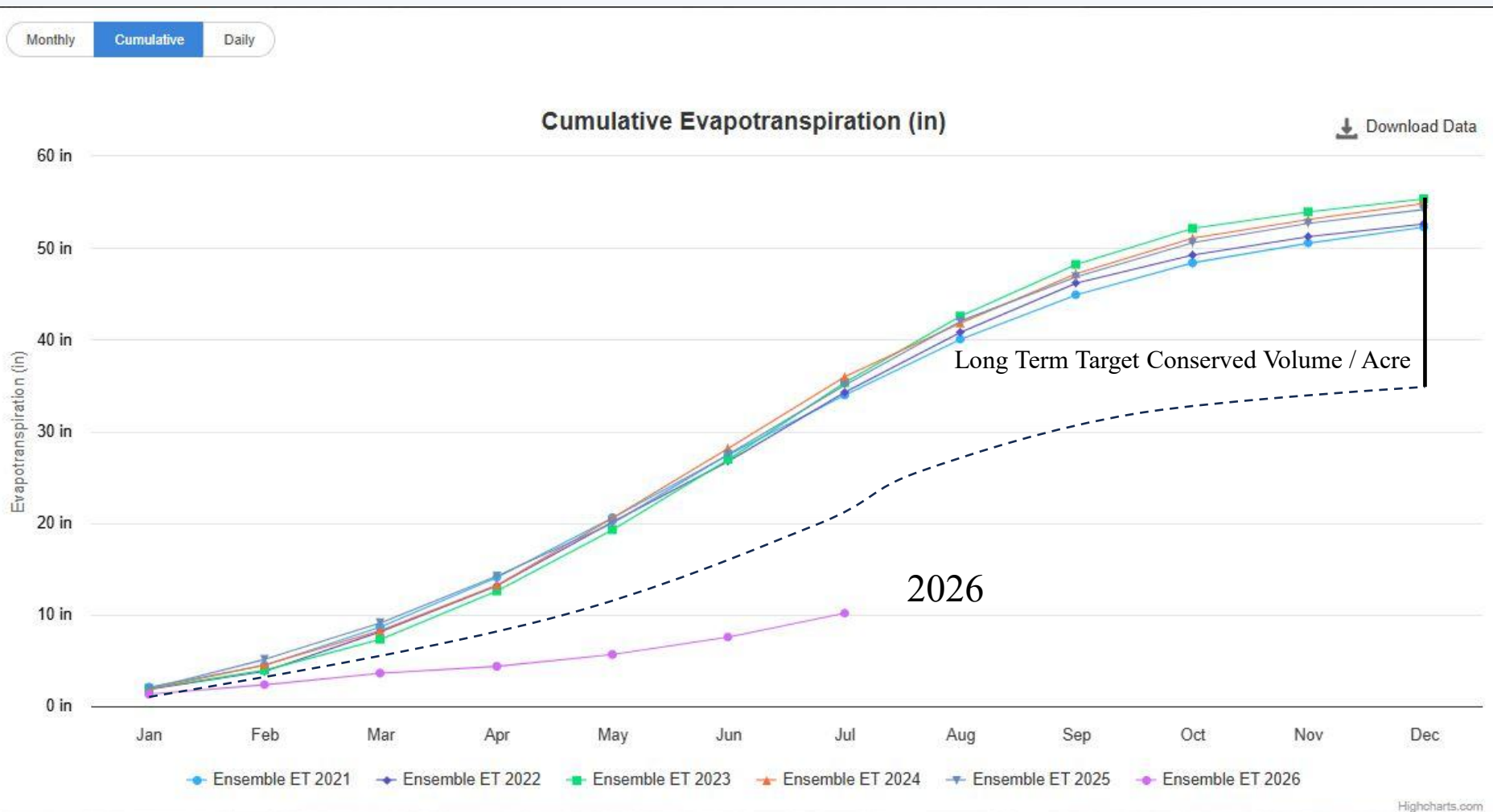
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Additional Variables

Target ET / Acre of riparian habitat is going to range from 2.5-3 AF/Acre annually is represented here by the dashed line. **This is the long term “Bosque Mosaic” depletion range target per acre per year.**





Data Options

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Additional Variables

Maintaining reduced ET / Acre requires recurring funding and long-term partnership. **Without recurring funds, portions of treatment areas will eventually revert back to unwanted and thirsty vegetation.**

MRGCD is actively planning new treatments and re-treatments of the bosque in pursuit of a more balanced and sustainable riparian corridor.



- Effective Bosque Management Accomplishes Multiple Objectives:
  - **Reduces risk of fire for adjacent communities**
  - **Reduces water depletions to the benefit of MRG water users and the Rio Grande Compact**
  - **Restores a critical habitat corridor to a native vegetation mosaic that is resilient**
- MRGCD is a willing partner to the State on this generational challenge.
- **If the State can sustain the funding, MRGCD can sustain the work.**
- Bosque Management is a cornerstone activity for how New Mexico complies with the Compact and improves water supply for all uses along and below the Middle Rio Grande Valley.

**Thank you for your support and continued interest and investment in this important work.**

