

CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

February 23, 2018



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND LAND MANAGEMENT BRANCH Status Report and Work Activities

- **2017 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Conservation Strategy Implementation Advisory Committee**
 - The Advisory Committee met on January 24, 2018. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided an update on the Feather River Habitat Conservation Plan, presentations on Multiple Objective Operations and Maintenance case studies and the Bear River Corridor Management Plan. Information was provided on opportunities and constraints for ongoing operations and maintenance activities. DWR also presented on the Tracking System development carried out to track changes to the CVFPP outcomes created by projects and management actions that occur within the statewide planning area. Board staff has developed a webpage on the Board's website dedicated to the Advisory Committee (<http://cvfpp.ca.gov/cvfpp/advisory-committee/>). The webpage will detail meetings schedules, agendas, notes and meeting materials. The next Advisory Committee meeting will be held in March 2018.
- **Lower Elkhorn Basin Levee Setback Project - Yolo and Sacramento Bypasses**
 - DWR plans to release the Lower Elkhorn Basin Levee Setback Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/EIR) for public review in March 2018. The Draft EIS/EIR will have a 45-day public review period. Board staff are continuing to participate in the Project Delivery Team meetings for early and ongoing coordination for design and environmental planning activities.
- **Yolo Bypass Core Biological Opinion (Bi-Op) Planning**
 - Board staff continues to participate in the Yolo Bypass Core Bi-Op Planning effort. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) is the lead agency in accordance with NEPA and DWR is the CEQA lead agency for the preparation of the Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Draft EIS/EIR. Board staff are continuing to work with DWR and USBR to identify issues related to permitting and consistency with the CVFPP. A Draft EIS/EIR was released in November 2017 for public comment. A Final EIS/EIR is expected to be released in October 2018.

- **Marysville Ring Levee Project**
 - DWR and the USACE have prepared the Marysville Ring Levee (MRL) Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment/Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (EA/IS/MND) to address potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed design refinements for the MRL project. The Draft Supplemental EA/IS/MND will be released for public review from February 16 through March 18, 2018 providing a 30-day public review and comment period. DWR and the USACE will host a public meeting on February 28, 2018 at the Yuba County Government Center in Marysville from 4-7pm. The public meeting is intended to present the proposed project elements and the Draft Supplemental EA/IS/MND to the public, and to receive public comments. DWR environmental staff are planning to give an informational briefing to the Board at the April 2018 Board meeting. The Draft Supplemental EA/IS/MND will be posted on the Board's website during the comment review period. Board staff continues to coordinate with DWR staff regarding the MRL project, the Draft Supplemental EA/IS/MND, and upcoming public meeting.

- **Western Pacific Interceptor Canal (WPIC) Culvert Replacement Project - WPIC**
 - Board staff are coordinating with DWR regarding scheduling and budget planning for the WPIC culvert replacement project. Board staff are securing the necessary environmental permits prior to the 2018 construction season.

- **Encroachment Permitting Assistance**
 - Board staff are assisting encroachment permit applicants by conducting pre-application meetings to discuss compliance with the Board's regulations under Title 23 and Title 33, USC Section 408.
 - On February 1, 2018, Board staff conducted a pre-application meeting at the request of Yolo County for the Knights Landing Boat Launch Facility. The proposed project would rehabilitate the existing boat launch facility which includes the construction of a two-lane boat launch ramp and other facility improvements.
 - On February 7, 2018, Board staff participated in a pre-application meeting with Caltrans Headquarters on a project to remove and replace the existing State Route 20 Bridge over Wadsworth Canal in Sutter County.

- **Delta Levee Habitat Advisory Committee Meeting**
 - Board staff attended the Delta Levee Habitat Advisory Committee Meeting on Friday, February 2, 2018. Attendance included Randy Fiorini, Chair of the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC), Cindy Messer, Chief Deputy Director, DWR and Board Member Clyde Macdonald. Discussions included the Delta Levee representatives inquired on the future of Delta Levee Maintenance Subventions Program. DWR discussed developing a five-year plan that would improve LMA's ability to identify needs and obtain future funding for necessary maintenance.

- **Delta Levees Investment Activity Interagency Coordination Group**
 - Board staff are continuing to participate in meetings with the DSC/DWR/CVFPB Delta Levees Investment Activity Interagency Coordination Group. A total of eight meetings have been attended by Board staff. The group continued to discuss Delta Stewardship Council's DLIS prioritization and the Delta Levees Special Projects guidelines and proposal solicitation packages. DWR explained that it invests funds under several different programs as more of an investment framework rather than a single investment strategy. DWR staff plans to include DSC's criteria/list in their decision-making and proposal solicitation packages. DWR also presented their current working concept based on an ability to pay methodology.

- **San Joaquin River Restoration Program**
 - An informational briefing on the San Joaquin River Restoration Program was planned for the February 23, 2018 Board Meeting Agenda. The briefing has been rescheduled at the request of Elizabeth Vasquez (U. S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) who is now replacing Alicia Forsythe. Due to Elizabeth's scheduling conflict, she will not be available on February 23, 2018 to present the informational briefing and requested to reschedule for March 23, 2018. Paul Romero, DWR Fresno Office will also be providing an overview of DWR efforts on project implementation.

RIGHT-OF-WAY AND REAL ESTATE SUPPORT

Status Report and Work Activities for Sacramento-San Joaquin Drainage District (SSJDD) Leases and Land

- **Local Assessments**

- Lake County Department of Water Resources – Board staff are working on annual assessment invoices for local flood fighting, levee maintenance and levee patrolling of Zone 8 levees. Lake County reports that the CVFPB is 17 years in arrears. CVFPB Real Estate staff is working to resolve the discrepancy. Current annual assessment rate is \$30.84.

- **State Lands Commission (SLC)**

- Work is ongoing with the SLC for the development of a scope of work to manage CVFPB-owned oil and gas leases.
- Work is ongoing to renew the CVFPB's leases (Term 30-years) from SLC for levee construction, bank protection, and maintenance at six locations: Sacramento River, Feather River, American River, Georgina Slough, Steamboat Slough, Cache Slough.

- **Fair Market Value Lease Renewals**

- Board Staff are determining the best option for obtaining fair market value for SSJDD leases. Considerations include use of contracted appraisals or Department of General Services (DGS) drafted appraisals. Property descriptions, updated maps and exhibits for SSJDD leased properties for appraiser(s) are in progress.
- Board staff are developing a public bid process that is in conformance with DGS public bid procedures for SSJDD lease renewals.

- **Real Property Conveyances and Real Estate Transactions for Board Encroachment Permits**

- Acquiring flood control levee easements (or licenses) as a special condition of the following Encroachment Permits (EP):
 - EP No. 18313 - West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (WSAFCA), West Sacramento, CA;
 - EP No. 18257 - Atlas Tract Reclamation District (RD) 2126, Stockton, CA;
 - EP No. 17858 - Mossdale Marina, Lathrop, CA;
 - EP No. 15178-1 - Marysville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) easement;
 - EP No. 14455 - License Renewal for gas line in Sutter Bypass.
 - EP No. 14389-1 - The Rivers Development (Formerly West Levee Lighthouse Marina): Seven of nine acquisitions are fully executed and recorded; seven Litigation Guarantees were acquired and reviewed; the last remaining two easements are in process for recordation.

- **Property Access, Easements and Parcel Acquisitions**

- Property Access – Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD): Entry access has been requested for 12 SSJDD parcels located in Sutter County. The access is necessary to perform environmental studies and determining the locations for the installation of a new transmission line across these parcels. The studies are estimated to take three years to complete.
- SSJDD Property Descriptions – Board staff are verifying existing SSJDD flood control property rights, reviewing legal descriptions for state standards, and providing exhibits. DWR's Geodetic Branch work is ongoing to resolve out-of-date SSJDD land surveyor drawings and tracings. DWR is creating geographic information system (GIS) shape files that will include existing SSJDD leased parcels, clarify map details and improve storage and retrieval of CVFPB property holdings (deeds, documents, maps).
- Easement Acquisition – Negotiations are ongoing to acquire an easement from the City of Sacramento for a water line in the Garden Highway levee near Orchard Lane and for an existing water line the City recently acquired. The City is working to provide the necessary legal description documents for staff's review.
- Easement Acquisition – USBR has requested an encroachment permit (EP) to construct a four pump water-lift station and water pipeline system that will provide federal water to the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge Area. The water lift station and pipeline will be located at the East Borrow Ditch levee of the Sutter Bypass. Board staff are working with USBR and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to provide an easement for the construction.
- Easement Acquisition – Board staff are coordinating with Caltrans to allow entry on to SSJDD parcels for the replacement of the Wadsworth Canal Bridge on Highway 20. Caltrans has proposed the use of a Memorandum of Agreement to allow entry.
- Parcel Acquisition – Work is ongoing to acquire a parcel in fee from the American River Flood Control District (ARFCD) on La Rivera Drive at Howe Avenue on the left bank of the American River for establishing a staging area to support emergency flood-fights. ARFCD will be responsible for O&M of the parcel. ARFCD's land surveyor is drafting a legal description for DWR Geodetic Branch's review.