

Central Valley Flood Protection Board Meeting

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

Yolo Bypass and Cache Slough Partnership

(Andrea Buckley, Chief of Environmental Service and Land Management Branch (Board staff); Kristopher Tjernell, Deputy Director for Integrated Watershed Management (DWR) and Mary Jimenez, Supervising Engineer (Division of Flood Management, DWR))

BRIEFING SUMMARY

Description of Presentation

Board staff and DWR will provide a joint presentation to the Board describing the recent activities of the Yolo Bypass and Cache Slough Partnership (Partnership). Andrea Buckley, Chief of Environmental Services and Land Management Branch, will introduce the agenda item and begin the presentation on behalf of the Board staff, followed by remarks from Kris Tjernell, DWR Deputy Director for Integrated Watershed Management, and Mary Jimenez, DWR Supervising Engineer in Division of Flood Management.

Summary of Presentation

The Yolo Bypass & Cache Slough Partnership of fifteen federal, State and local agencies was formed in 2016 as a vehicle to promote discussion, prioritization, and resolution of policy and other issues critical to the success of various planning efforts in the region, including the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP), the 2014 Lower Sacramento/Delta North Regional Flood Management Plan, and activities described in the 2008 and 2009 Biological Opinions (BiOps) for enhanced fish habitat.

In the years since the formation of the Partnership, many important developments have occurred, including Board adoption of the 2017 CVFPP Update, implementation and further planning of several projects pursuant to the BiOps, initiation of the Lower Elkhorn Basin Levee Setback Project, and advancement of several multi-objective projects that could meet BiOp requirements and provide flood risk reduction, such as the Lookout Slough Project.

The multitude of activities in the region inspired State and local Partnership agencies to begin work on a draft road map document for continued implementation. The road map has three primary objectives:

1. Description of a program of projects that are either currently being implemented or are proposed in to be implemented in both near term (3 to 7 years) and long term (7+ years).
2. Approach to resolving barriers to project implementation, including development of action plans on key issues, such as agricultural sustainability, development of a USACE multi-phased 408, water infrastructure and other topics.
3. A structure for maintaining institutional alignment.

The presentation will largely focus on describing the draft road map, and next steps for continued development of the draft road map and associated action plans. These next steps are critical to support continued success of the Partnership.