

**Central Valley Flood Protection Board Meeting  
November 18, 2016**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**Conaway Levee Setback Briefing Summary**

Conaway Ranch Setback Levee and Transitory Storage:

Increased flood protection and conveyance capacity in the Bypass – Elisa Sabatini, Yolo County; Brent Meyer, City of Woodland; Jay Punia, Wood Rodgers

**Background**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Water Resources (DWR), City of Woodland, City of Davis, Yolo County and City of West Sacramento are contemplating several regional projects in the area of the Yolo Bypass and Conaway Ranch to address existing flood and transportation related problems. The projects are currently at the planning level and seek to do the following:

1. Increase the frequency of late winter inundation of the Yolo Bypass.
2. Identify opportunities to increase the capacity of the Yolo Bypass.
3. Protect the City of Woodland and surrounding areas from flooding.
4. Rehabilitate the west levee of the Yolo Bypass.
5. Remove the Sierra Northern Railroad Trestle across the Yolo Bypass.
6. Relocate rail facilities regionally between the Cities of West Sacramento, Davis, and Woodland.

In addition, by way of recent initiatives and grant-funded programs, DWR has identified a goal of increasing transitory storage (areas where floodwaters can be stored in an extreme flooding event) within the Sacramento River Flood Control Project. DWR is also seeking to advance new aquifer storage and recovery projects to enhance groundwater recharge in the region. Lastly, restoring ecosystem functionality and enhancing environmental habitat remains a high priority for the CVFPB and DWR. In light of these interests, City of Woodland, Lower Sacramento River/Delta North Regional Flood Management Planning (RFMP) team and Conaway Ranch have developed a conceptual project identified as the Conaway Ranch Levee Setback and Transitory Storage.

The Transitory Storage Project seeks to set back the west levee of the Yolo Bypass to provide transitory storage, enhance flood protection for the City of Woodland and potentially provide groundwater recharge within Conaway Ranch. The project could also enhance existing environmental restoration areas located within Conaway Ranch. The Lower Sacramento River/Delta RFMP and local stakeholders are requesting DWR and the Board that this conceptual project be included in the 2017 CVFPP for further study as an option for west side expansion of the Yolo Bypass.