

**Central Valley Flood Protection Board Meeting  
December 16, 2016**

**INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING – Sacramento River General Reevaluation Report**

**BRIEFING SUMMARY**

**Background**

The Sacramento River General Reevaluation Report (Sac River GRR) is a multipurpose study focused on Ecosystem Restoration (ER) and Flood Risk Management (FRM) that assesses opportunities to restore ecosystem function and achieve flood risk reduction within the Sacramento River Flood Control Project (SRFCP) conveyance system originally constructed in 1917. The study seeks to identify federal interest in improvements to the existing flood management system through ER and FRM dual purpose improvements.

The Sac River GRR was initiated after the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board) approved the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) at the February 2015 Board Meeting, which was executed on June 19, 2015. The Sac River GRR utilizes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) SMART Planning 3x3x3 Rule. It is focused on reducing flood risk and restoring degraded ecosystems within the Sacramento River Flood Control Project (SRFCP) area.

Due to the large geographic extent of the system, and the associated technical, physical, biological, and social complexities, the Sac River GRR is initially focusing on the lower portion of the Sacramento River Watershed extending from Knights Landing, upstream of the Fremont Weir, to the downstream end of the SRFCP at Collinsville (Figure 1).

**Study Authority**

The SRFCP was authorized through the Flood Control Act of 1917. A continuing construction project to preserve the integrity of the SRFCP levee system was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1960 and called the Sacramento River Bank Protection Project Phase I. Phase II was authorized by the River Basin Monetary Authorization in 1974 and amended by WRDA 2007. Phase III is the General Reevaluation Report which is being undertaken through the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement between USACE and CVFPB. The Sacramento River Bank Protection Project covers the main stem of the Sacramento River from Chico Landing to Collinsville and its tributaries including portions of the American River, Feather River, Delta Sloughs, Bear River, Cache Creek, and bypasses in the system.

**Study Budget**

<b>Cost Share</b>	<b>Original</b>	<b>Waiver Increase</b>	<b>Total</b>
Total Study Cost	\$2.8 M	\$3 M	\$5.8 M
Federal Share (includes IEPR*)	\$1.5 M	\$1.525 M	\$3.025 M
Non-Federal Share	\$1.3 M	\$1.475 M	\$2.775 M

*\* Independent External Peer Review*

**Study Schedule**

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Original</b>	<b>Waiver</b>
Alternative Milestone	December 2015	April 26, 2016 (actual)
Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone	November 2016	August 2017
Agency Decision Milestone	June 2017	August 2018
Civil Works Review Board	February 2018	January 2019
Chief's Report	June 2018	May 2019

### **Study Accomplishments**

- Scoping Charrette – October 2015
- NEPA/CEQA Public Scoping Meetings – November 2015
- Stakeholder Coordination – January to March 2016
- Identified future without-project conditions; problems, opportunities, objectives, and constraints in the study area; and FRM and ER measures
- Alternatives Milestone 1 – April 2016
- Currently evaluating and refining ER and FRM measures, and working towards formulating a final array of alternatives.
- Identified study risks and have been coordinating with USACE vertical team to ensure policy compliance.

### **Agency Engagement and Coordination**

Project Delivery Team (PDT), comprised of USACE and DWR staff, coordinates with on-going efforts to ensure consistency between planning efforts. This includes coordinating with the BiOp Programs, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Delta Stewardship Council on the plan formulation progress, formulating site-specific ER measures, and exploring potential BiOp/ Sac River GRR synergies.

A representative from FloodProtect has also regularly participated in PDT meetings.

### **Stakeholder Outreach**

PDT informed FloodProtect on the plan formulation progress and alternatives, future without-project conditions, and discussed the regional Locally Developed Plan. The PDT also informed and discussed with Yolo Basin Foundation, Nature Conservancy, River Partners, and California Farm Bureau Federation the potential measures being considered during plan formulation.

### **Waiver Request**

The large study area encompasses a complex, but dated, flood management system and a unique, but degraded, ecosystem with many ongoing and planned programs and projects at the Federal, State, and local level. This adds a layer of complexity and increased risk for the development of the future without-project conditions, development of FRM and ER measures and alternatives, and analysis of the measures.

USACE Sacramento District has requested a SMART Planning 3x3x3 Rule exemption (Waiver) for increased schedule and study costs for the Sac River GRR. If approved, the Waiver will require an amendment to the current (FCSA) between USACE and the Board. Approval of an amendment to the FCSA will require Board Action.

### **Next Steps**

- Amend FCSA to reflect Waiver.
- Complete refinement of alternatives and identify final alternatives in December 2016.
- Analyze final alternatives for identification of National Ecosystem Restoration (NER) Plan in March 2017.
- Conduct Stakeholder Outreach during analysis of final alternatives.
- Convene at Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone in August 2017.

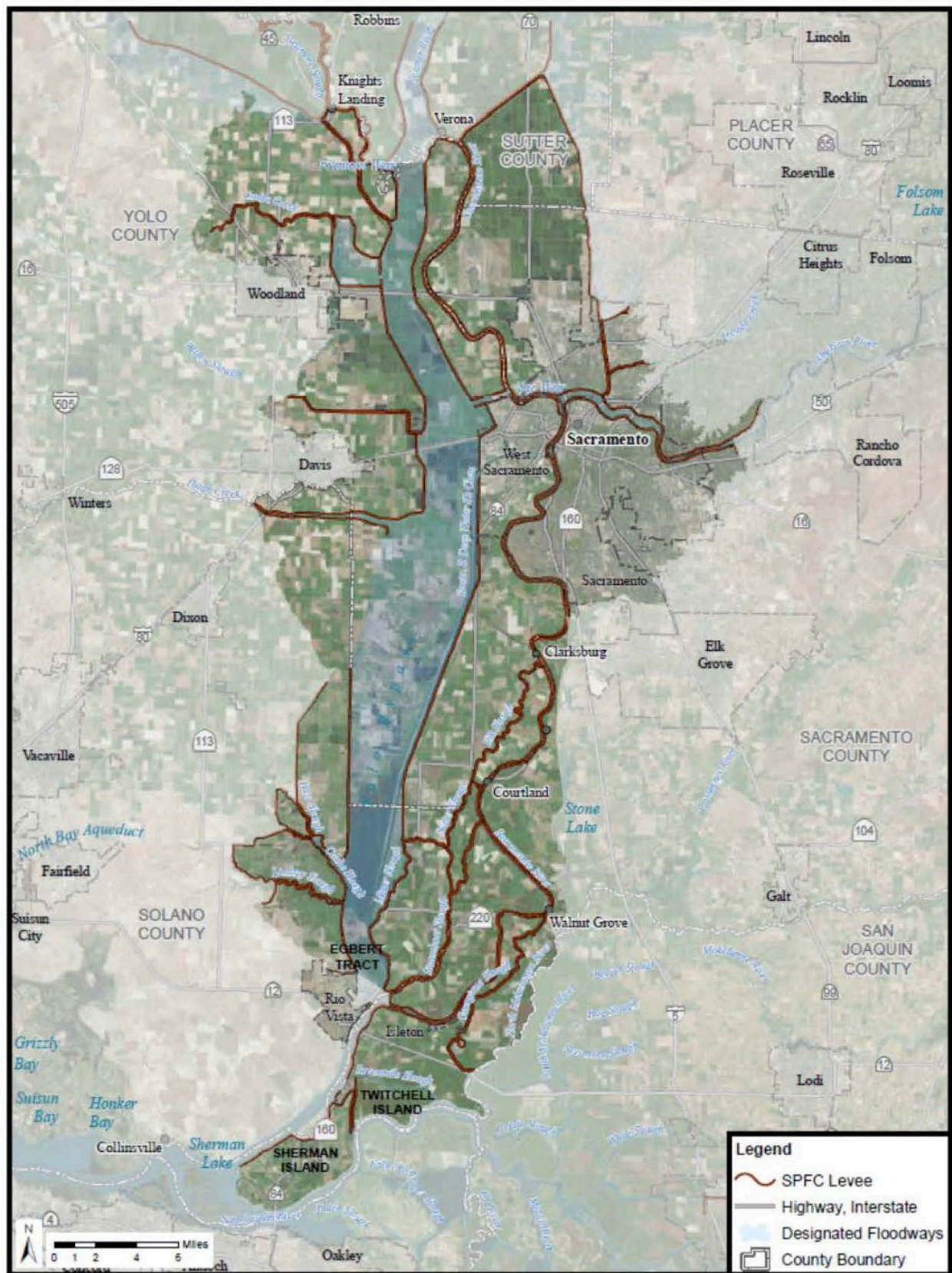


Figure 1: Sacramento River GRR Study Area