Agenda Item 7

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

By

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FUNCTIONAL AREA 1FLOOD EMERGENCY RESPONSE

This functional area includes work to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from flood emergencies. A program for flood emergency response is a necessary part of flood management because California will always face flood emergencies, even when system improvements reduce the frequency of flooding. Program activities include inspection and assessment of flood projects' integrity; reservoir operations and river forecasting; flood data collection, management, and dissemination; precipitation and runoff forecasting; Delta flood preparedness, response, and recovery; and statewide flood emergency response functions.

REAL-TIME FLOOD CONDITIONS, STATUS, & WARNING

The purpose of the Real Time Flood Conditions, Status, and Warning element is to provide information needed to manage floods as they are occurring. This element supports flood operations by 1) inspecting, documenting, and assessing the integrity of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Flood Control Project levees, 2) storing and managing information so that it is accessible to flood managers and the general public, 3) providing emergency flood information and warnings based upon existing and forecasted conditions and field reports, and 4) developing information management tools to support emergency operations.

INSPECTIONS

Spring inspections are underway.

LOCAL MAINTAINING AGENCY ANNUAL REPORTING PROGRAM (CWC 9140-9141)

DWR presented the results of 2011 Local Maintaining Agency Annual Report to the Board on March 23, 2012 along with the 2011 Inspection Program results.

CLIMATE DATA COLLECTION & PRECIPITATION/RUNOFF FORECASTING

This Element supports Flood Emergency Response by providing information on current and forecasted water conditions, and by providing meteorological and climate information. Additionally, this Element includes evaluating and improving the data collection and exchange network and forecasting models, providing water supply and watershed runoff information and forecasting, and the development of a new generation of forecasting and data collection tools to improve the quality, timeliness, and length of watershed and river forecasts. Real-time data, its timely availability, and quantities and quality are all critical to improving forecasting quality and timeliness.

WATER CONDITIONS

As of March 31, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 70 percent of average to date; runoff, 50 percent of average to date; snow water equivalent, 50 percent of average for the date (50 percent of the April 1 average); and reservoir storage, 105 percent of average for the date. Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff observed through March 31, 2012 was about 5.7 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 52 percent of average. For comparison, on March 31, 2011,

the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through that date was about 12.6 MAF, or about 115 percent of average.

Precipitation in March was significantly above normal across Northern California and below normal in Southern California. On March 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 33.2 inches, which is about 80 percent of the seasonal average to date and 66 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During March, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 15.7 inches, which is about 228 percent of the monthly average. Last year on March 31, the seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 61.0 inches, or about 147 percent of average for the date.

On March 31, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 19.2 inches, which is about 57 percent of the seasonal average to date and 47 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During March, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 6.7 inches, which is about 110 percent of the monthly average. Last year on March 31, the seasonal total for the 5-Stations to date was 56.0 inches, or about 167 percent of average for the date.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 03/31/2012 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)					
City	Jul 1 to Date 2011 - 2012 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2010 - 2011 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg "Water Year" Jul 1 to Jun 30 2011- 2012
Eureka	33.17	96	38.34	111	82
Redding	20.02	68	30.26	102	58
Sacramento	9.65	59	21.40	130	52
San Francisco	12.77	60	25.19	118	54
Fresno	6.04	61	14.93	151	53
Bakersfield	3.30	58	9.81	172	51
Los Angeles	5.97	51	17.30	146	47
San Diego	7.08	76	11.97	128	68

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 03/31/2012								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	2,086	1,960	106	2,448	85	---	362
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	3,853	3,736	103	4,552	85	-331	699
Lake Oroville	Feather	2,943	2,754	107	3,538	83	89	595
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	817	695	118	966	85	21	149
Folsom Lake	American	664	626	106	977	68	19	313
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	1,982	1,486	133	2,420	82	-57	438
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,523	1,474	103	2,030	75	-167	507
Lake McClure	Merced	661	578	114	1,025	65	-74	364
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	295	360	82	520	57	-226	225
Pine Flat Res	Kings	641	560	114	1,000	64	-271	359
Isabella	Kern	171	195	88	568	30	-190	397
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	1,764	1,874	94	2,039	87	---	275

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for April 2012, issued March 31, 2012, suggests above average precipitation for Northern California and below average precipitation for Southern California. The outlook suggests no tendency for above or below average rainfall for the central part of the State.

HYDRO-CLIMATE ANALYSES

Good progress overall on the Feather, Yuba and Merced PRMS models.

For the Feather PRMS model – the team has researched the routing parameters of the model to make sure that no forecast errors are occurring from improper routing. The Feather model has been over-forecasting April-July runoff volumes this year and one theory is there may be some flawed logic in the Muskingum routing. Meanwhile, each sub-basin model is being re-evaluated to see if any new data can be added to the calibration period.

Progress remains good on the development of the Yuba and Merced models – existing CIMIS solar radiation data is being evaluated along with the existing FNF data. The tool that was originally built for the Feather PRMS model to automatically mine the required data from CDEC and format it in the proper input files for PRMS is being altered for use on the Yuba and Merced models. The team is exploring a way to make this tool available to our partner agencies that will also be running PRMS in the future.

REAL-TIME DATA COLLECTION NETWORK

Snow Surveys and Snow Course Maintenance:

As of April 6, 2012, the regional snow pack conditions as reported by the remote snow sensors are as follows:

- **Northern Sierra** - 23" of SWC for 81% of April 1 Avg. and 83% to date
- **Central Sierra** - 16" of SWC for 51% of April 1 Avg. and 51% to date
- **Southern Sierra** - 9" of SWC for 36% of April 1 Avg. and 36% to date
- **Statewide** - 16" of SWC for 56% of April 1 Avg. and 57% to date

This represents a 7 inch gain in snow water content for the Statewide value during the month of March. 13 inches of snow water content were gained in the Northern Sierra where the bulk of March's storms were focused.

The fourth round of snow surveys for this season was conducted on or around April 1, 2012. For the stations along Highway 50 near Echo Summit the manual readings were as follows:

Location	Elevation	Snow Depth	Water Content	% of Average
Alpha	7600'	44"	15.9"	48
Phillips Station	6800'	31"	11"	39
Lyons Creek	6700'	52.4"	19.1"	61
Tamarack Flat	6500'	44.9"	13.6"	50

Statewide, the measurements from the snow courses around April 1 revealed slightly drier snow pack conditions – largely due to the fact that many measurements were taken prior to the winter storm that hit the state at the end of March. Measurements in the Sacramento River Valley watersheds recorded a snow pack that is 57 percent of the historical April 1 average. Measurements in the San Joaquin Valley watersheds indicated a snow pack that is 43 percent of the April 1 average while the snow pack for the Tulare Lake region was 39 percent of the April 1 average. Statewide, the snow pack was measured at 52 percent of the April 1 average.

Special recognition goes out to the DWR snow gauging team and in particular snow gauger Nick Hartzell for his efforts to complete his duties along the Eastern Sierra Nevada and then travel to the Trinity watershed to help the US Forest Service conduct limited Trinity snow surveys for the first time in over 3 years. Nick's guidance and oversight ensured a smooth first survey and further solidified a growing partnership in a vital watershed. Prior to this month, the USFS had not measured snow in the Trinity for the past 3 seasons because of a no fly policy enacted in that watershed following a fatal helicopter crash in the summer of 2008. The snow surveys section has been working tirelessly since that summer to get the USFS to resume snow measurements and finally were able to convince the USFS to consider access via skis and where permitted snowmobile. After the surveys this month with Nick, the USFS has committed to a full survey for May 1 and moving forward.

The next snow course measurements will occur during a 10-day window surrounding May 1, 2012.

HYDROLOGIC DATA MANAGEMENT

The Snow Surveys section continues to collect, review, Quality Control, and enter Full Natural Flow (FNF), precipitation, snow, and reservoir storage data for thousands of locations statewide on a daily basis. With this data staff continues to issue daily, monthly, and seasonal water condition reports on CDEC. The extreme dry conditions have brought a lot of media attention and a lot of question from cooperating agencies. During the month Snow Surveys staff alone responded to over one dozen media requests. Thanks in large part to Mother Nature, the calls shifted this month from drought concerns and historical context of how dry it had been to questions related to a "miracle March." The media in particular remains very focused on carryover storage and defining if we are in a drought or not. Other calls were handled by other Hydrology Branch staff.

In an effort to provide more information to the public, the media and to executive, Hydrology Branch staff have been working on a new Hydrologic Conditions web page. The page will feature regional hydrologic conditions (current precipitation, snow pack, and reservoir information) and give the user the opportunity to drill down to more specific information for each hydrologic region such as river forecasts, selected city precipitation information, and flood alerts. This product is being developed with input from Public Affairs, Executive, and Jeanine Jones.

BULLETIN 120 AND WATER SUPPLY INDEX FORECASTS
From the April 1, 2012 Bulletin 120: The projected median April-July runoff in the major Sierra river basins ranges from 32 percent on the East Walker River to 105 percent on the Scott River. Forecasted median Water Year runoff ranges from 34 percent for the Cosumnes River to 74 percent on the Trinity River.

The gains in precipitation this month boosted the projected median April-July runoff by an average of 14 percent for all rivers considered in this forecast.

The WSI forecast can be summarized as follows:

Sacramento River Unimpaired Runoff Water Year Forecast
(10.6 MAF, 50 percent exceedance, 58 percent of normal)
Sacramento Valley Index (SVI)
(6.4, 50 percent exceedance, Dry)
San Joaquin Valley Index (SJI)
(1.9, 75 percent exceedance, Critical)

The SVI and SJI have both increased since the April 1 WSI forecast**,** however the water year classifications have remained the same.

Unimpaired flows for the month of March improved from last month for all forecasted rivers. The rivers ranged from 125 percent average on the Klamath to 40 percent of average on the Merced. Water year percent of average values for west side rivers ranges from 32 percent on the Cosumnes to 85 percent on the Kern River at Isabella.

Regionally, March runoff totals stood at 96, 54, and 52 percent of average to date in the Sacramento River Region, San Joaquin River Region, and Tulare Lake Region, respectively.

A Bulletin 120 Update for conditions on April 10, 2012 will be available Thursday, April 12. The May 1, 2012 Bulletin 120 forecast will be available on May 8, 2012.

The current weather outlook includes above normal precipitation for the entire Sierra Nevada through Friday, April 13. Beyond that, the 30-day climate outlook calls increased chances of above normal precipitation along the North Coast and the Oregon border. The seasonal outlook calls for a departure from La Nina conditions to El Nino/La Nina neutral conditions.

RESERVOIR OPERATIONS & RIVER FORECASTING
This element supports Flood Emergency Response through a coordinated effort with various agencies' operating reservoirs in the system to enhance reservoir operations. The goal of coordinated operation of the reservoirs will be to reduce peak flood flows downstream of the reservoirs. Additionally, this Element supports

Flood Emergency Response through river forecasting activities conducted in coordination with the National Weather Service River Forecast Center located at the Joint Operations Center in Sacramento. By conducting real-time and long-range hydrologic and watershed analyses, this Element provides accurate and timely runoff and river peak flow forecasts.

RESERVOIR FORECAST COORDINATED OPERATIONS

The Quarterly San Joaquin River System Forecast Coordinated Operations meeting was held on March 21, 2012 in the Kings River Water Association Board Room, Discussion focused on augmentation and enhancement of watershed gauging/real time data collection networks for improved runoff forecasting.

LIBRARY OF MODELS

Library of Models (LOM) update for the month of March included refinement of the LOM infrastructure based on the pilot testing results. Accordingly, an enhanced wizard based check-in/check-out feature has been conceived and is being implemented in the LOM web application. The enhanced web application will help make the model check-in/check-out process easier for the user. A LOM background presentation and development status update was provide to attendees of the Functional Area Cross Coordination Team 7 meeting on April 13th 2012.

RIVER FORECASTING

The official flood season ends Sunday April 15th. The weekly weather briefings have ended for the season. DWR forecasters along with the RFC staff will continue to forecast river flows and monitor conditions throughout the year.

FLOOD OPERATIONS EMERGENCY RESPONSE

This element includes all preparation and planning to execute flood fights, deploy teams, provide training, and coordinate local response needs and federal assistance in the event of a flood. This includes maintaining the readiness of the Flood Operations Center and all the staff that may have to staff it in the event of an emergency and assuring local response efforts can be integrated into the State response system.

FLOOD OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND EXERCISES

The Flood Operations Center (FOC) is currently developing various training courses. The FOC is developing position-specific training focused on Flood Information Specialists (FIS) within the Plans & Intelligence Section during emergency operations. The training is currently being reviewed and implemented within the Flood Operations Branch.

The FOC is collaborating with Federal, State, and local partners to develop the Levee Threat Monitoring Guidelines (LTMG). The purpose of the LTMG is to establish a set of “best practices” based on field-tested techniques used by Local Maintaining Agencies, their engineers, flood fight specialists, and levee inspectors to mark and monitor levee threats. A final draft booklet has been distributed and

comments are currently being incorporated. The final copy of the LTMG will be finalized and printed for distribution in late April.

The FOC is currently working with the Public Affairs Office to update maps of the San Joaquin Flood Control System, Delta Flood Control System, and Central Valley Channel Design Flows. All maps will be compiled into a mapbook to be disseminated out to emergency responders. These maps are scheduled to be completed by early August.

Now in the middle of the 2011/2012 flood season, the FOC is maintaining its situational awareness and is monitoring the flood control system as needed. River forecast recordings are now being recorded on weekends and holidays to disseminate information to the public.

FOC OUTREACH

Draft funding recommendations for the Flood Emergency Response Projects – Delta Communications Equipment grant were approved by Executive on April 2, 2012. The recommendations are now posted on the Department's website for a 4-week public comment period. The total amount of available funding is $5 million with no local match and the grant is limited geographically to the legal Delta. Awards can be expected this spring.

The FOC continues working on the grant guidelines for the Local Flood Emergency Response Projects grant. The goal of this grant program is to improve the effectiveness of, and reduce the time required for, emergency response by local agencies. The total amount of funding available in this round is $5 million. There is no local match required for this competitive grant. We anticipate the guidelines for the grant to be finalized in early 2012. Both of these grants are funded with Proposition 84 funds.

FOC staff is attending monthly meetings with the Delta Levees Habitat Advisory Committee and the Delta Working Group for emergency managers to facilitate additional communication on Delta issues. We are meeting regularly with FEMA Inland Region IX (Interagency Steering Committee). Outreach meetings between FOC staff and other branches within DWR continue monthly.

BASIC INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM TRAINING

Basic Incident Command System training is a requirement of all Department staff to prepare and aid in the Department's flood emergency response Basic ICS training includes FEMA IS-100 (introduction to Incident Command Systems), FEMA IS-200 (ICS for single resources and initial action incidents), IS-700 (introduction to national incident management systems (NIMS), and Intro to SEMS. Two classes were held on March 15th and 29th.

FLOOD FIGHT TRAINING METHODS CLASSES
The last scheduled Flood Fight Methods class of the 2011/2012 season was held Thursday, 3/29 at the CalFire Academy. For the season, 725 people were trained (by DWR) in 33 classes throughout the State. DWR training of California Conservation Corps instructors resulted in an additional 1,000 corps members and staff completing this training. The program continues to be a huge success.

COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE
On March 23, 2012 Incident Command Teams four and five (ICT4 and 5) met at the Joint Operations Center (JOC) compound to conduct communication drills utilizing our Emergency Command Communication Trailers (ECCTs). The satellite communications capabilities of the trailers were activated to provide an opportunity to test the transfer of data between the remote field access of the ECCT and the JOC. The test data was transferred via individual VPN devises to DWR's secured network through the ECCT.

RASS OUTREACH
The Emergency Flood Fighting Methods reference booklet, handed out during the Flood Fight Methods classes, has been reproduced in Spanish and is now available for handout. Our Spanish speaking flood fight emergency responders may request a copy by contacting Rick Burnett at rburnett@water.ca.gov.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SUPPORT
This element includes various efforts that will further the Departments understanding of the flood system interactions with water supply systems and conjunctive use programs. It also includes the update of the Central Valley hydrology for use in risk assessment and project development. Another component includes developing a comprehensive plan to response to flood events in the Delta.

CENTRAL VALLEY HYDROLOGY STUDY (CVHS)
Significant accomplishments over last month include:

- Completed development of unregulated flow time series for each basin.
- Work underway on development of flood-flow frequency analysis, regulated flow time series, unregulated-to-regulated flow transforms and stage-to-flow transforms and analysis of ungaged streams.
- Continued internal coordination with USACE.
- Development of a CVHS Factsheet for distribution to regional and local flood control and water management agencies.
- Improvements to the CVHS web based information sharing forum (cvhydrology.org).

FUNCTIONAL AREA 2 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Operations and Maintenance is a functional area under FloodSAFE established to ensure project facilities are operated and maintained in good working condition to function as designed. Although Operation and Maintenance has been a long-standing base program within DWR, FloodSAFE has expanded the program and provided additional funding. Historically, Operation and Maintenance projects were undertaken based on a backlog of deferred maintenance. Now, in addition to continuing to work on deferred maintenance, new projects are identified through a number of inspection programs. Operation and maintenance must continue indefinitely into the future, even after the FloodSAFE functional objectives have been achieved although the needs are expected to change over time as system upgrades and modifications are implemented.

CHANNEL MAINTENANCE

DWR is responsible for maintaining channel flow capacity for Sacramento River Flood Control Project channels and for performing channel-specific maintenance activities identified in the USACE Operations and Maintenance Manuals, including channel clearance if required to maintain design flow capacity. Channel Maintenance consists of inspection and evaluation, routine operations and maintenance, and implementation of corridor management projects.

- Clean up of fallen trees at Cache Creek Settling Basin is 75% complete (23 acres).
- Debris removal is on-going in seepage ditches in Sutter area – (50 miles).
- Beaver dam removal is on-going in seepage ditches in Sutter area – (50 miles).
- Sutter Yard is performing preventative maintenance on 4 mowers and is still ongoing.
- DFM is participating in the Open Water Workgroup along with other agencies to address the RWQCB's Delta Mercury Control Program TMDL requirements. The Open Water Workgroup is comprised of the Department of Water Resources, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, US Army Corp of Engineers, State Lands Commission, Central Valley Flood Protection Board, and State Water Contractors.

FLOOD FACILITIES OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

DWR operates, maintains, and repairs or replaces flood control structures located throughout the Sacramento River Flood Protection Project to ensure readiness in the event of emergencies and that facilities function as designed. Actions include inspection and evaluation, routine operation and maintenance, and non-routine maintenance. Facilities include pumping plants that transfer runoff and excess water from the land-side of levees in the flood system to flood channels; bridges providing access over and to flood facilities; flow gages; and water control structures such as weirs.

- Repair of gates and barricades is 50% complete in the Sacramento area (20 ea).
- Supply building remodel at the Sacramento Maintenance Yard is 95% complete.

- Pumping Plants 1 and 2 are pumping water into the Sutter Bypass and is ongoing.
- Debris removal is ongoing at all Sutter Area pumping plants.

LEVEE MAINTENANCE

This element maintains levees and roads under DWR jurisdiction (State-maintained Maintenance Areas and bypasses) in accordance with USACE Operations and Maintenance Manuals. Annually, after high water recedes, levees are evaluated and repairs are made as necessary. Routine and extraordinary maintenance are also performed as necessary to meet maintenance assurances provided to the federal government.

- Rodent Program (poison, trapping, grouting) for all areas in Sacramento and Sutter are ongoing.
- Spraying levee slopes are 100% complete on M.A. 5 (40 miles) and M.A. 13 (40 miles).
- Spraying levee slopes are 20% complete on M.A. 4, Putah Creek, and Cache Creek (20 acres).
- CDF vegetation control is ongoing at Colusa Weir North levee (10 Acres).
- Tree trimming is 40% complete on Cache Creek (3 miles) and 65% complete on MA09 (2.8 miles).
- Cleaning levee slopes on Cache Creek and Putah Creek are 45% complete (10 miles).
- Corps encroachment removal is ongoing on the East Levee of the Sutter Bypass (3 acres).
- Levee gate repairs are ongoing at M.A. 01, Wadsworth Canal, Interceptor Canal, McClatchy Road, and M.A. 07.
- Safety Assessment findings are ongoing at the Sutter Yard.
- Levee breach repaired at pond #12 at White Slough.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

DWR is responsible for planning projects in a way that avoids or minimizes environmental impacts, and for obtaining state and federal environmental permits and clearances for projects within the Operations and Maintenance Functional Area. Environmental Initiatives touches all aspects of this functional area and therefore is considered a close partner to the other maintenance elements and their activities. As such, it should be considered a part of each of the other major elements rather than a stand-alone element. Also, with DWR's established open collaborative process, various local, state, and federal agencies examine issues and develop integrated solutions to the complex environmental compliance requirements and resource opportunities as flood control maintenance activities are undertaken. Components include developing and managing environmental programs, and managing mitigation requirements for lands and habitats developed or acquired by the Department to mitigate for flood management maintenance and improvement projects.

- **Knight Landing Outfall Gates Rehabilitation Project**
  Construction for Knight Landing Outfall Gates Rehabilitation Project is scheduled to start in mid-April. The Flood Maintenance Office's environmental support staff conducted pre-construction surveys, including surveys for Swainson's hawk, in late March.
- **Sutter Maintenance Yard Vegetation Management and Routine Maintenance Activities**
  Maintenance Environmental Support Branch staff conducted nesting bird surveys in the Sutter Bypass in late March to support vegetation management and debris removal by the Sutter Maintenance Yard, authorized under the Streambed Alteration Agreement for Routine Maintenance with the California Department of Fish and Game. The vegetation management was needed to clear a path so equipment can access an area where debris buildup could impede conveyance in the southern portion of the East Borrow Canal of the Sutter Bypass.
- **San Joaquin River 71.5R Reclamation District 2064 Erosion Repair Project**
  The Flood Maintenance Office (FMO) is set to complete an erosion repair on the San Joaquin River at River Mile 71.5R in the fall of 2012. Due to high surface water elevation, construction was not completed in 2011. The benches were contoured, but mitigation features were not installed. FMO's Maintenance Environmental Support Branch (MESB) staff used the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) approved Standard Assessment Methodology (SAM) to assess temporal impacts and met with NMFS to discuss the results. NMFS determined that no further mitigation will be required and that an addendum to the original Biological Assessment detailing the SAM results would be sufficient.
- **Wadsworth Canal Erosion Repair Project**
  The Flood Maintenance Office (FMO) is acquiring additional Giant Garter snake (GGS) mitigation credits required for the repair of an erosion site located on the east bank of Wadsworth Canal, in Sutter County. During the 2011 construction, a design change was needed to address a sloughing issue that occurred on the waterside levee toe of the west bank where sediment and vegetation had been removed. All permits were amended to address the design change, and an additional 0.03 acres of GGS mitigation credits was required by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Construction was completed on September 28, 2011. Final authorization from USACE for the change in the project was received by FMO on March 13, 2012, and FMO is now working to acquire the additional credits.

LEVEE REPAIRS

The Levee Repairs Program repairs critically damaged levees and proactively repairs other damaged levees that cannot wait for system improvement projects and require rapid repair before the next flood season. Levee repair projects are implemented through collaboration with federal and state resource agencies, USACE, and local agencies. Levee repairs are done under three federal authorized programs; Sacramento River Bank Protection Project (SRBPP), Levee Stability Program (LSP), and PL84-99 Rehabilitation Assistance Program (PL84-99). In

addition, the State repairs flood project levees under the Sacramento-San Joaquin Erosion Repairs Project (SSJERP).

- **Sacramento River RM 57.2R setback levee project - SRBPP**
  Construction is on hold due to flood season. Construction is scheduled to resume on 16 April 2012 and be completed in 2012.
- **Sacramento River RM 26.0L, 41.9R, 130L – SRBPP**
  These are erosion repair sites scheduled for 2013 construction. Design is at 90% complete; DWR Real Estate Branch is working on right-of-way needs.
- **Cache Creek LM 3.9L & 4.2L setback levee projects – SRBPP**
  Design is complete; 408 permit target date is 7/30/2012; PG&E power line relocation has some complications that may put the 2012 construction schedule at risk.
- **San Joaquin River RM 71.5R – LSP**
  Rock Slope Protection (RSP) was placed along the 2,000 foot repair for the 2011-2012 flood season. Additional construction for the bench and other environmental mitigations to complete the project is scheduled in 2012.

FUNCTIONAL AREA 3FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT

The primary purpose of Floodplain Risk Management is to reduce loss of life and property caused by floods and to restore the natural resources and beneficial functions of floodplains by providing comprehensive guidance and technical support and assessing the floodplain management needs and issues of California communities in order to promote a comprehensive and system-wide flood management strategy.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Floodplain Management Technical Support provides statewide technical support to federal, state and local agencies, and the public for flood hazard maps, levee data and National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) activities, including the Community Rating System (CRS).

Staff has scheduled a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Exam to be held in West Sacramento on June 1, 2012. Furthermore, FPM staff scheduled a CFM refresher class for interested participants to take place on May 11, 2012. Staff attended the Butte County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) kickoff meeting on March 20, 2012 at the City of Oroville. Staff offered their assistance and available datasets to Butte County. In addition to answering questions, staff introduced the Best Available Map Program, California Levee Database Program, and Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program to the Butte County Office of Emergency Management Staff provided Hazard Mitigation Grants Assistance (HMGA) to Tulare County staff regarding the availability of federal grants for their interested projects.

As a part of the NFIP Community Assistance Program (CAP) contract, FPM staff is reviewing the current material for NFIP workshops. Concurrently, FPM staff is coordinating statewide 2012 NFIP workshops with regional offices and local officials. FPM staff prepared the CAP contract packet and submitted the 2012 CAP application through the FEMA eGrant system, as part of the contracting process. The proposed grant is a 75/25 cost share program with $471,255 federal and $157,085 state matching fund. As a part of the CAP grant partnership with FEMA, FPM staff provided continuing technical assistance for local officials and the public. Staff is currently working on activities for Phase 3 of the Community Rating System Implementation plan. Program components are being updated under Phase 3 to be consistent with FEMA's 2012 CRS Coordinator's Manual, due out later this year. Current activities include updating the "CRS Help from State Agencies" document and contacting the Southern California CRS Users Group for input on developing a list of new CA-based CRS training modules."

- Staff prepared a poster for the FEMA NFIP and Community Rating System and participated the Integrated Water Management Managers Offsite Poster Meeting.
- As part of the community assistance and public outreach effort, staff attended the Updating Butte County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) kickoff meeting on March 20, 2012 at the City of Oroville. As the Department's representative, FPM staff participated in conversations between representatives from the Cal EMA, local jurisdictions, special districts, and interested stakeholders to address a comprehensive list of natural and man-made hazards. In addition to answering

questions, FPM staff introduced the Best Available Map Program, California Levee Database Program, and Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program to the Butte County Office of Emergency Management staff members and offered assistance in the future as needed.
- Staff provided Hazard Mitigation Grants Assistance (HMGA) to Tulare County staff regarding the availability of federal grants for their interested projects.
- As a part of the NFIP Community Assistance Program (CAP) contract, staff is reviewing the current material for NFIP workshops. Concurrently, FPM staff is coordinating statewide 2012 NFIP workshops with regional offices and local officials.
- FPM staff prepared the CAP contract packet and submitted the 2012 CAP application through the FEMA eGrant system, as part of the contracting process.
- Staff is currently working on activities in Phase 3 of the Community Rating System implementation plan. Program components are being updated under Phase 3 to be consistent with FEMA's 2012 CRS Coordinator's Manual, due out later this year.
- Staff provided 25 hours of technical assistance to community officials and private citizens.

STATEWIDE FLOODPLAIN EVALUATION AND DELINEATION

Floodplain Evaluation and Delineation works to estimate the frequency, depth, and limits of potential flooding throughout the state providing building blocks in terms of floodplain assessments, standards, methodologies, tools, and analyses supporting multiple applications including FloodSAFE programs and projects and FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program.

Ventura County agreed to participate in a pilot study to develop approximate alluvial fan floodplains using DWR developed two dimensional modeling procedures. Under contract to DWR, the California geologic Service has complete quaternary geologic maps for large areas of Southern California. These maps will assist in the development of alluvial fan floodplain maps by making information on the age of alluvial fan deposits more readily available.

- Ventura County will participate in a pilot study for DWR's alluvial fan mapping program.
- The California Geologic Survey completed development of quaternary geologic maps for alluvial fan areas in Southern California.

CENTRAL VALLEY FLOODPLAIN EVALUATION AND DELINEATION

Floodplain Evaluation and Delineation works to estimate the frequency, depth, and limits of potential flooding in the Central Valley by providing building blocks in terms of floodplain assessments, standards, methodologies, tools, and analyses supporting multiple applications including FloodSAFE programs and projects and FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program.

No new information to report.

FLOOD RISK NOTIFICATION

The Flood Risk Notification Element focuses on communicating flood risk to the public, and local, state and federal agencies to increase flood hazard awareness for areas protected by the State Plan of Flood Control.

Staff are planning and working on the outreach activities using FEMA's grant. FRN staff finished the draft text of the 2012 FRN. FRN staff participated with other State and federal agencies to develop a message/theme for flood awareness week in October. To help raise flood risk awareness, USACE has committed to develop a $12,000 video for the Flood Risk Notification Program.

- Staff are planning on outreach activities using a FEMA grant
- FRN staff completed the draft text of the 2012 Flood Risk Notification
- The USACE has committed $12,000 to the FRN to develop a new flood video.

FLOOD RISK PLANNING

Flood Risk Planning is focused on incorporating flood risk management into statewide and local land use decision making to identify potential flood hazards and mitigation strategies to reduce flood risks through creating planning approaches and data sets that help agencies, communities, and individuals make better informed decisions.

On April 4th, DWR released the draft Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria for a 30-day public review period. As part of the floodplain management planning effort under the FloodSAFE California Initiative, DWR developed the *Draft Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria* through a collaborative process with stakeholders from cities, counties, other State and federal agencies, and associated professional organizations. The draft criteria were developed in response to the requirements from the Central Valley Flood Protection Act of 2008, enacted by Senate Bill 5, to strengthen the link between flood management and land use. DWR is currently accepting public comments on the *Draft Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria* through May 4, 2012.

- Draft Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria document released for 30-day public review on April 4th. This supports the Board in its need to take action on the CVFPP in June.

FUNCTIONAL AREA 4 FLOOD PROJECTS & GRANTS

Flood Protection Projects and Grants are responsible for the State's input to project selection and funding. The program is responsible for the majority of physical improvements to the flood management system and provides grant money in the Delta and Statewide. Flood Protection Projects and Projects Grants has been a long-standing DWR base program and is expected to continue indefinitely into the future due to the ongoing need for system improvements and the long-lead time to implement federal flood control projects. The work is based on the acknowledgement that the State will continue to be a significant partner in viable flood management projects in the Central Valley, Delta, and Statewide.

CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROJECTS

This element is responsible for the review of flood projects and cost-sharing on federal feasibility studies. It contains three components: Feasibility Studies, Early Implementation Program (EIP) Projects, and Flood Control Projects.

USACE/CVFPB STUDIES SECTION

The State participates and provides cost-share for feasibility studies with USACE and local partners. Several studies are underway and new ones are expected in the near future.

American River Common Features GRR

This study will provide flood improvements for the Lower American River downstream of the Folsom Dam, Sacramento River downstream of Natomas Cross Canal, and Natomas Cross Canal to a 200-year level of flood protection. The Post Authorization Change Report (PACR) evaluated alternative plans for the levee system around the Natomas Basin and acts as an interim general reevaluation study to the GRR.

- The American River Common Features Scoping meeting (F3) held in 2009 was considered sufficient by USACE Division and HQ, because there has been no change in the conclusions of the existing conditions analysis.

Frazier Creek Feasibility Study

This study will generate an EIS/EIR and feasibility study to evaluate federal, State, and local interests in planning, designing, mitigating, and improving existing levee system of Frazier Creek and Strathmore Creek in Tulare County.

- Nothing new to report this month.

Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study

This study is a coordinated effort by the State, USACE and San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) to investigate feasible 200-year level flood protection alternatives and opportunities for floodplain restoration and recovery, recreational enhancements, and ecosystem restoration for the City of Stockton and surrounding areas. The cost estimate for the study is $10.6 million with a projected 2016 completion date.

- On March 29, 2012, the State, USACE, and San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) met to discuss the Re-Scoping of the Study. Items addressed

included the revised Study process, scope and detail requirements, and schedule and resourcing changes. The goal of this Re-Scoping process is to bring the Study as close as possible to meeting the new 3x3x3 Rule directed by USACE HQ. The intent of the 3x3x3 Rule is to decrease the time, cost, and complexity of USACE's study process.

Merced County Streams Project-Bear Creek GRR
This project's purpose is to evaluate options to increase the level of flood protection from a 50-year event to 200-year event for the Merced Urban Area.

- Nothing new to report this month.

Rock Creek/Keefer Slough Feasibility Study
This study will generate an EIS/EIR and feasibility study to evaluate federal, State, and local interests in planning, designing, mitigating, and improving existing levee systems of Rock Creek and Keefer Slough in Butte County.

- Nothing new to report this month.

Sacramento River Flood Control System Evaluation
The Sacramento River Flood Control System Evaluation (SRFCSE) will concentrate on deficiencies in non-urban levees that may be a threat to small/rural communities due to levee instability as well as identify and prioritize sites that will be presented in a final report. There will be no formulation of projects to correct deficiencies during this study.

- Nothing new to report this month.

Sutter Basin Feasibility Study
This multipurpose study aims to address levee improvement measures for existing levee systems as well as environmental restoration and recreation opportunities.

- DWR and Sutter Basin Flood Control Agency (SBFCA) met with USACE on February 29, 2012, to discuss how to screen the remaining alternatives to produce the National Economic Development (NED) plan and the Locally Preferred Plan (LPP). USACE anticipates that this screening can be completed by July 2012. Once the NED and LPP have been determined, more detailed design and study will begin for those two remaining plans.

West Sacramento GRR
The General Reevaluation Report (GRR) is being conducted to study future work necessary to provide a minimum of 200-year level of protection for the City of West Sacramento.

- The Project Delivery Team (PDT) held the Feasibility Scoping Meeting (F3) on March 1, 2012. The F3 is a meeting held by USACE to present the analysis and conclusions of the F3 document which describes the without project conditions. The F3 meeting went well. USACE HQ agreed with the Division responses to their comments on the F3 Document. USACE District staff will address comments made as a result of the meeting and submit the revised document for USACE Division and HQ approvals.

West Stanislaus County - Orestimba Creek Feasibility Study
This study will evaluate feasible flood protection alternatives for the City of Newman and the surrounding agricultural areas to achieve a 200-year level of flood protection.

- Nothing new to report this month.

White River/Deer Creek Feasibility Study
This study will generate an EIS/EIR and feasibility study to evaluate federal, State, and local interests in planning, designing, mitigating, and improving existing levee system of White River and Deer Creek in Tulare County.

- Nothing new to report this month.

Woodland/Lower Cache Creek Feasibility Study
USACE will develop alternatives for a new feasibility study to determine if there is a National Economic Development (NED) plan that is federally justified. The study will continue efforts suspended in 2004 after local resistance to USACE-selected Flood Barrier Option alternative. USACE estimates that the new feasibility study will be complete in 2017 with design of a selected alternative to commence in 2017.

- The DWR, USACE, and City of Woodland are coordinating with the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) Deputy Director of Planning and Modal Programs, Marty Tuttle, on having Caltrans participate in the feasibility study. Caltrans' primary concern is the past flooding of Interstate 5 in the City of Woodland.

Yuba River Basin Project GRR
The Yuba River Basin Project General Evaluation Report (GRR) consists of increasing the level of flood protection in the Yuba River Basin communities of Marysville, Linda, Olivehurst, and Arboga.

- USACE District reported at the March 28, 2012 executive meeting that they revised the cost estimate for the GRR due to new information developed by the economics team. When they put in the revised cost, the entire perimeter levee system appears to be the National Economic Development (NED) plan, the plan recommended to be presented to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (ASA) for the Chief's approval. District is very concerned about moving forward with the NED being the entire levee system and wants us to consider moving forward with the current plan to secure the credits necessary for Marysville. DWR is scheduling a meeting with the Local Partner to discuss what action should be taken. District coordinated with USACE Division and had the following reactions:
    1. Division does not believe the ASA would be supportive of the revised NED because of the perception that it is a growth inducing action and concern with approving the full GRR when the credits greatly exceed what is currently allowed by law.
    2. There is a growing discussion within USACE that Executive Order (EO) 11988 is not functioning as intended and has no teeth. If we move forward with the revised GRR, it could be the impetus for USACE to draft new regulations for EO 11988 that would give it more "teeth".

3. USACE could decide that the project does not comply with EO 11988. Alicia reminded the Division that this would be difficult since they already made a determination of compliance as part of the 408 approvals.
4. Division supports moving forward with the current plan.

EARLY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (EIP) PROJECTS
EIP includes projects that are ready to proceed in advance of the CVFPP. An element of approval for these projects ensures that they do not eliminate opportunities or prejudice the flood risk reduction alternatives that would provide regional or system wide benefits.

Levee District 1 - Setback Levee at Starbend Feather River (LD-1)
Levee District 1 constructed a 3,400 foot long setback levee at Star Bend near RM 18.0 on the right bank of the Feather River. The setback levee provides increased flood protection for Yuba City and Feather River.

- No change since last month. DWR staff is waiting for LD-1 to provide closeout documents to begin the closeout process.

Reclamation District 17 - 100-Year Seepage Area Project (RD-17)
The RD-17 levees have unacceptably low factors of safety for under- and through-seepage. These issues are being addressed by constructing seepage berms, slurry walls, and a setback levee to increase the level of flood protection for South Stockton, Lathrop and Manteca communities.

- RD-17 presented their plans for 60% design in mid January.
- DWR is currently awaiting further results from the piezometers installed in June of 2011 to verify proper construction.

Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority – Feather River (TRLIA-FR)
This project will offer 200-year flood event protection for both Highways 65 and 70 benefiting the areas of Olivehurst, Linda, Plumas Lake, Marysville, and Yuba City. This project includes one of the largest setback levees west of the Mississippi River and creates 1600 acres for site mitigation, agricultural use and habitat.

- Permit No. 18690 to install chain link fencing, K-rails, and a maintenance road within the Sacramento San Joaquin Drainage District Right-of-Way, parallel to and on the landside of the Feather River east (left) bank levee and Yuba South Levee (Yuba County) was heard at the January Board meeting. Due to late notification of one of the lot owners, and the drainage issue, the CVFPB rescheduled all the hearing to a special Board meeting that took place in Marysville on March 2, 2012. The Board heard the individual lot owners' arguments but decided to render its decision on the next Board meeting.

Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority - Upper Yuba River (TRLIA-YR)
This project will complete a levee system designed to provide 200-year level of protection for 40,000 residents in South Yuba County.

- Minor erosion levee embankment areas have occurred following the latest storm and contractors are in the process of repairing the damaged locations.

Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency - Natomas Cross Canal (SAFCA-NCC)
This project, part of the Natomas Levee Improvement Program, would improve the level of flood control protection to the Natomas Basin by providing at least 200-year level of flood protection. This is accomplished by installing cutoff walls to prevent seepage, under-seepage, and raise the levee.

- SAFCA has submitted the NCC Project Completion Report, dated May 9, 2011, which was received on June 24, 2011. EIP has processed a 10% retention payment for Phases 1/1B in the amount of $404,991.
- SAFCA has submitted and DWR Staff is reviewing a SAFCA closeout request for the remainder of NCC 2, approximately $2.23 million.
- CVFPB staff request sampling of the NCC cutoff wall prior as part of the permit and SAFCA submitted a sampling plan. Sampling was completed in March and a report issued. EIP awaits comments from CVFPB staff. SAFCA submitted a closeout report on NCC Phase 2b which was returned to them by EIP staff as incomplete.

Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency – Sacramento River East Levee (SAFCA-SREL)
This project, a part of the Natomas Levee Improvement Program, would improve the level of flood control protection to the Natomas Basin by providing at least 200-year level of flood protection. This is accomplished by installing cutoff walls to prevent through seepage, under-seepage, and raise the levee. SAFCA plans to complete components to Element 12A (approximately RM 67) along the Sacramento River in 2012 and have USACE complete the remainder. This is estimated to occur in 2014.

- SUKUT has filed a claim with SAFCA for approximately an additional $6 million which is going to be settled by negotiations between the SAFCA and Sukut attorneys. DWR is not a party to these negotiations but we have asked for a detailed explanation of the settlement. No ground disturbing construction is currently in progress.
- Construction is continuing by Nordic Construction on Elements 6B to 9A (Teal Bend to I5) and is approximately 95% complete. The Board issued two Notice of Violations (NOVs) to Nordic for unacceptable work. SAFCA is working with Nordic, the Board, and EIP staff to resolve the NOVs quickly. EIP Program staff notified SAFCA that no payments will be made for this portion of the work until the work has been completed in compliance with the plans and specs to the satisfaction of the Board. GEI/Geo Probe has completed sampling activities and a report is due in March 2012.
- SAFCA is in discussions with EIP staff and management for an increase in the Funding Agreement amount of $193,270,000 by an additional amount not to exceed 10 percent. This increase is due to increased project costs. A Decision Memo is being prepared.
- EIP has processed a payment to SAFCA for approximately $11 Million for work completed and SAFCA has received these payments.

West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, North and Southport Improvement (WSAFCA)

The CHP Academy, the Rivers, and the I-Street Bridge projects are part of the North Area Plan and all major construction is complete for these sites. Contractors continue working on punch list items. All three projects are designed to provide 200-year level of protection for about 47,000 residents. The Southport Area, which may include a large setback levee, is currently under design.

- WSAFCA held the Board of Senior Consultant meeting on February 21-22, 2012. In the meeting WSAFCA and its consultants provided an overview of the design background and the preferred alternative. Additional they discussed the development of project basis of design.
- On April 2, 2012, DWR received the WSAFCA Southport Final Project report. This Report identifies one proposed alternative and one proposed alternate for development at the 15% design level.

Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency, Feather River West Levee Design Project (SBFCA)

The Feather River West Levee Project will be for the repair of approximately 35 miles of levee along the west bank of the Feather River from Thermalito Afterbay to the north end of Star Bend. The design will include the use of slurry walls and seepage berms to protect the communities of Gridley, Biggs, Live Oak, Yuba City and Sutter and Butte Counties.

- Design Funding Agreement for $9 million was executed on February 10, 2012.
- Design for the SBFCA project is projected to be at 65% complete in March 2012.
- A Decision Memo proposing a construction funding agreement for $56.78 million for critical levee improvements next to Yuba City is under management review and consideration.

USACE/CVFPB PROJECTS

The Board continues to participate with USACE on non-federal cost-share funding for projects to upgrade the State-federal flood management system in the Central Valley.

American River Common Features Project

The American River Common Features Project is improving the levee system along the American and Sacramento Rivers in Sacramento.

- DWR Real Estate is currently negotiating with Sacramento County and City for a programmatic approach to temporary easements for future Phase 2 and Phase 3 projects including Site L5A, L9A, R9, R10, L13, Jacob Lane C and NEMDC. Real estate acquisition request for Sites L5A, L13, NEMDC, R10 and Jacob Lane C received by State real estate.
- USACE is currently in negotiation with WAPA to de-energize power lines along FY12 site R6 during FY 13 construction season.
- Howe Ave Site and R6 to begin construction in the FY12 construction season.
- Work on the Natomas Basin & American River Design & Construction part of this project has decreased to a standstill, due to no Federal funding nor Federal authorization for the Natomas Basin part of the project.

- Currently, the State and locals are working on a LERRDS crediting package to submit to the USACE to prevent decreases in credit estimate from SPK Civil Works.

American River Watershed – Natomas Features Project
The Project was fully constructed in 1998 and increased flood protection by controlling flows and reducing flood stages in four creeks. The Federal Government approved a significant portion of the project for reimbursement eligibility, and in turn the State will reimburse SAFCA for the state share of the project.

- Staff completed this aged project review and concluded there are funds available to pay an additional $496,000 toward outstanding State-share obligations to SAFCA.
- Requested re-appropriation of $3.74 million in general funds for reimbursement to SAFCA toward approximately $4.1 million remaining in state-share obligations
- Amended the Local Project Cooperation Agreement with SAFCA, via the CVFPB, for authority to reimburse SAFCA the additional state-share obligation of $3.7117M.

Folsom Dam Raise and Bridge Element
The Folsom Dam Raise and Bridge Element Project provide Flood Damage Reduction and Dam Safety benefits to Sacramento.

- A Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) is scheduled for discussion and execution in 2014. The Temperature Control Shutters design is 35% complete and will be shelved to focus on updating the three existing emergency spillway gates.
- The State, locals and government will be meeting to formulate a Project Management Plan.

Folsom Dam Modifications (Joint Federal Project)
The purpose of the Folsom Dam Modifications Project (Joint Federal Project) is to construct an auxiliary spillway at Folsom Dam that will work in conjunction with ancillary projects to help the Sacramento region achieve a 200-year level of flood protection. The estimated completion for the JFP is October 2017.

- **Construction -** Phase III Common excavation is 100% complete (20,000 CY). Rock excavation is 93% complete (274,227 CY). Excavated material has been stockpiled to Dike 7 (98% complete, 138,200 yards).
- **Real Estate -** Lease with Folsom Prison (CDOC) for additional staging area is sent to DGS for execution. Staging area will be ready for development in July 2012.
- **Operations Study -** A Project Alternatives Solutions Study (value engineering) was performed in March to provide screened alternatives and guidance to the Corps to perform hydraulic modeling.
- **Design -** Phase IV Chute and Stilling Basin design is 65% complete. Approach Channel 65% design review conference is scheduled for 9 April 2012.
- **Environmental Impact -** Administrative Draft EIS/EIR was completed on March 1. Final EIS/EIR is expected to complete by April 2013.

- **FY12 Funding -** Federal 2012 work-plan included the full $28M capability. Project Cooperation Agreement Amendment No. 3, allowing partner acceleration of funds, has been fully executed as of 2 March 2012.

Lake Kaweah Enlargement Project (Terminus Dam, Kaweah River Project)
The Lake Kaweah Enlargement Project was completed in 2006 and remaining work is toward turning over the O&M to the local sponsors, finalize all financial balancing, and make final real estate documents.

- In March, DWR paid approximately $185,000 toward financial balancing with the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District. This brings DWR and KDWCD closer in balance to the State Share based on costs to date.
- DWR soon anticipates preparing a crediting package for LEERDs expenses. Initial estimates suggest upwards of $1,500,000 in creditable costs. DWR would expect to receive approximately $1,125,000 in credit or cash reimbursement from the USACE after approval of the crediting package.
- DWR also will sell its shared interest in the Davis Ranch mitigation site to the KDWCD, valued at approximately $135,000. Initial meetings with DWR counsel have been scheduled to discuss this transaction

Marysville Ring Levee Improvement Project
The Marysville Ring Levee Project provides 200-year or greater flood protection to the City of Marysville by constructing cut-off walls and levee strengthening and reshaping features to the existing levee system surrounding the Marysville urban area.

- Phase 1 construction and wall testing is scheduled to begin in June 2012. Wall evaluation will take place concurrently with construction of remaining Phase 1 slurry wall. Geotechnical investigation underway by Fugro and HDR for Phases 2B and 4.
- Phase 4 design at 90%
- Phase 2A on schedule for design completion in federal FY12.
- The State and local partners are currently undergoing funding negotiations with USACE to reduce cash contributions.

Mid-Valley Area Levee Reconstruction Project
The Mid-Valley Reconstruction Project extends from the Tisdale Bypass to the Sacramento Bypass and includes levees on Sacramento River, Feather River, Yolo and Sutter Bypasses, and Knights Landing Ridge Cut.

- The turnover letter for the O&M supplemental manual for RD 1500 has been received by the State, but the locals are questioning the location of some of the repairs as indicated in the turnover information.
- The Limited Reevaluation Report is scheduled to be completed in September 2012.
- The draft Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS) is scheduled to be completed April 2012, and the final EA/IS is scheduled for September 2012.

South Sacramento Streams Project
The South Sacramento County Streams Project will increase the level of flood protection for the urbanized area of South Sacramento County and an area to the south and east of the City of Sacramento. Portions of the project have been completed on the four creeks, and additional improvements are forthcoming.

- The State continues initial coordination with the USACE construction office and final coordination with UPRR for easement acquisition. Contract 2A will construct 2,850 feet of floodwall along Morrison Creek and UPRR tracks. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2012.
- SAFCA has awarded a design contract with a consultant engineer, and entered into a cost-sharing contract with the City of Sacramento to share in costs to design and construct improvements on Unionhouse creek upstream of Franklin Boulevard, apart from USACE. The Unionhouse Creek portion of this project will remain in the USACE authorized project for potential future improvements, however, for the immediate future; it is being handled by the local agencies.
- USACE is reprioritizing remaining funding and work on the remaining creeks based on updated floodplain information. Funding from the USACE has been stopped due to lack of an updated Benefit Cost Ratio. The USACE appears to be winding down to spend remaining available funds, but is likely to stop funding this project after existing funds are exhausted.
- DWR is in the process of preparing a crediting package for LEERDs expenses. Initial estimates suggest upwards of $800,000 in LERRDs creditable costs for DWR and over $2,000,000 for SAFCA.

West Sacramento Area Project, Slip Repair
The West Sacramento Area Project has raised and strengthened five miles of levees by a maximum of five feet on the east side of the Yolo Bypass and the south side of the Sacramento Bypass. Initial repairs were completed in 2001, but additional slips were identified during the high water event in 2006, and in March 2011.

- USACE has received the as-built drawings and are reviewing them. Copies will be sent to the State for review.

STATEWIDE FLOOD PROGRAMS

The Statewide Flood Programs provide financial support to local entities for flood and ecosystem restoration related projects throughout the State. These programs include Flood Control Subventions Program, Flood Corridor Program, Local Levee Assistance Program, and Yuba-Feather Flood Protection Program.

FLOOD CORRIDOR PROGRAM (FCP)
The Flood Corridor Program provides local assistance grants to local governments, special districts, and non-profit organizations for flood risk reduction projects using non-structural methods. Each project must also include an ecosystem restoration or agricultural land conservation component.

- The Program received the Director approval on March 23, 2012 and will announce its funding recommendations to release over $58 million in grants to 14 localities statewide to reduce flood risk in their communities while protecting

wildlife habitat and agriculture. The flood risk reduction projects will be funded by Propositions 84 and 1E and will benefit communities and resources from Siskiyou Country in the North to San Bernardino County in the South. The Flood Corridor Program anticipates that there will be $28.3 million in remaining funds available for future grant awards.

- The Program received the Director approval for an amendment on the Alamo Creek (Solano County) Detention Basin Project, enabling construction to proceed this summer.

FLOOD CONTROL SUBVENTIONS PROGRAM (FCSP)

The Flood Control Subventions Program provides financial assistance to local agencies cooperating in the construction of federally authorized flood control projects outside of the Central Valley and the State Plan of Flood Control.

- Four claims for total of $13.5 million were approved for payment.
- Thirteen claims for $47.6 million are currently being reviewed.
- No audit payments were processed.
- Twelve new claims for total of $2 million were received.
- In total, thirty eight claims for $90.8 million are pending review.
- Revision of Program Guidelines is pending review and comment.

LOCAL LEVEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LLAP)

LLAP provides financial assistance to local agencies to evaluate and perform urgent repair on their flood control facilities outside of the Central Valley and the State Plan of Flood Control.

- Contra Costa County's final invoice payment has been processed through the budget office.
- The Klamath Glen Levee Evaluation Project, a project with Del Norte County has been completed and all funds have been released. A project close out letter was sent to the grantee.
- Marin County continues to hold up project operations as it awaits information from USACE. An amendment to the contract, extending the termination date an additional 6 months has been signed and executed.
- City of Oroville submitted the first invoice for the City of Oroville Levee Project. The invoice was reviewed and approved and payment is being processed through the budget office.
- A Controlled Correspondence letter to Senator Loni Hancock was drafted to respond to her support letter for the Port of Oakland's three LLAP applications.

YUBA-FEATHER FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM (YFFPP)

YFFPP provides Proposition 13 financial assistance to local entities demonstrating non-structural flood management projects showing a potential significant reduction of peak flood flows, flood stage, flood risk (including wildlife habitat enhancement and/or agricultural land preservation) on the Yuba and Feather Rivers.

- A Decision Memo authorizing $2M in Proposition 13 funds for the TRLIA Goldfields High Ground Feasibility Study was signed by the Director.

PROGRAM SUPPORT

The program support function is designed to ensure the various programs and their projects receive sufficient technical and administrative support to be successful. These support functions are Grant Guidelines, Environmental Services, Technical Assistance, and Federal Coordination.

GRANT GUIDELINES & PROGRAM SOLICITATIONS

Local Levee Assistance Program (LLAP) finalized program guidelines and published a Program Solicitation Package in 2011.

- The Program Solicitation Package (PSP) application period ended on December 8, 2011. About 50 applications were received for a total of $87 million. Staff completed both the Acceptability and Completeness Review and Consensus Review of all applications. Staff prepared for Consensus Team Meetings on April 5, 6, 9, and 10, to finalize the rating and ranking of proposals. The Consensus Team consists of 18 members from various offices within DWR who have individually reviewed project proposals for geotechnical evaluations and critical repairs of flood control structures. A total of 50 projects are being scrutinized according to criteria laid out in the program's guidelines document.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT

FCP has a number of environmental resources that provide technical assistance to various FPO projects.

- Most activities are described under the individual project headings.
- The Lower Feather River Corridor Management Plan preparation is continuing. The prime consultant, AECOM, has submitted chapters 1-3 in draft for review. A draft Technical Memorandum on strategies for obtaining regulatory permits for flood system maintenance and compatible habitat enhancement was submitted as part of Phase I, and an expanded and updated version of that previous report is now under review by DWR.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

LLAP has resources to provide technical assistance in flood modeling, GIS, technical consultation, design criteria development, and databases to various programs in FPO.

- The final AB 1788 regulations package has been submitted to the Division Chief of Flood Management for approval.
- Staff has developed a draft issue paper on Easements and Right-of-Ways for Flood Projects.
- Staff developed GIS maps for Flood Corridor Program projects.

REGIONAL PLANNING

Regional Planning is a new initiative resulting from the drafting of the 2012 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan. LLAP is taking the lead in the data collection effort for the Regional Plans.

- Regional Flood Planning Teams have been formed.
- An orientation workshop for Regional Flood Planning Team members and support staff has been scheduled on April 10th.

- A Draft Direct Grant Solicitation Package for Regional Flood Planning has been completed.
- A Draft Communication and Engagement Plan has been completed.
- The Draft Dashboard for tracking Regional Flood Planning deliverables has been completed.

DELTA FLOOD PROJECTS

This is a grants program that works with more than 60 reclamation districts in the Delta and Suisun Marsh to maintain and improve the flood control system and provide protection to public and private investments in the Delta including water supply, habitat, and wildlife. The program, through its two major components; Delta Levees Maintenance Subventions Program and Delta Levees Special Flood Control Projects, works with the local agencies to maintain, plan and complete levee rehabilitation projects. One of the requirements to qualify for available funds is the project to result in no net loss of habitat in the Delta. Additional responsibilities under the Bay-Delta Levees Branch are in support of the levee system and habitat development; improve the flood fight capability of the Delta through planning, cooperative efforts, encouraging the development of emergency response plans for each Delta island, and conduct studies and contract efforts necessary for program purposes.

DELTA LEVEES MAINTENANCE SUBVENTION PROGRAM

DWR staff, on behalf of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, initiates and manages work agreements to fund levee maintenance and rehabilitation. To date, the status of work agreements is as follows

Work Agreements for FY 2009-2010

- DWR staff has completed 62 joint levee inspections and received DFG approval for 61 claims. Payments will be processed by staff as DFG approves the claims. Staff has received 62 final claims for the maintenance work totaling $13 million and, to date, and 61 reimbursements have been paid totaling $9.2 million.

Work Agreements for FY 2010-2011

- DWR staff has mailed work agreements to 68 reclamation district and has received signed work agreements from 65 reclamation districts.
- Final Claims have been received from 61 reclamation districts totaling $17.9 million.
- DWR staff has completed 55 joint levee inspections and received DFG approval for 45 claims.
- Reimbursements are being processed by staff as DFG approves the claims. To date, staff has initiated reimbursements totaling $4.2 million.

Work Agreements for FY 2011-2012

- The FY 2011-2012 funding allocation plan, presented to the Board on September 23, 2011, has been approved by the Board. The plan allocates the funding of $12 million to 66 reclamation districts.

- Staff mailed Work Agreements on October 25, 2011 to participating districts for signature.
- To date, staff has received 52 agreements back from the districts. Agreements signed by the districts will be routed to the Board's Executive Officer for final signature.

DELTA LEVEES SPECIAL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS

DWR initiates and manages project funding agreements in support of local agencies' levee rehabilitation, habitat, or other projects. DWR is executing agreements authorizing the work proposed under Project Solicitation Packages.

- The HMP Project Solicitation Package was released on January 20, 2012. The PSP is focused on HMP work, and allows local agencies to improve their levees to the HMP standard. The deadline for the local agencies to submit proposals is February 27, 2012.

Current information can be found at:

http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/dsmo/bdlb/spp/

FUNCTIONAL AREA 5 EVALUATION & ENGINEERING

Evaluation & Engineering is a FloodSAFE Functional Area established to address assessments of existing flood management facilities to identify deficiencies and needed improvements. This is a new Functional Area that is expected to continue after the FloodSAFE foundational objectives are met. Functional Area activities are performed in partnership with the USACE, which prior to FloodSAFE, conducted most evaluations and engineering for existing facilities. This Functional Area is based on the acknowledgement that changing conditions, new knowledge about system performance, and eventual facility deterioration will demand continued evaluation and engineering services.

URBAN LEVEE EVALUATION (ULE)

DWR is required to evaluate the current level of performance of the State-federal flood protection system in the Central Valley. Urban levees are levees that provide protection to developed areas with a population of at least 10,000 people. The evaluation of current urban levee performance is to include an estimate of the risk of levee failure, a discussion of the inspection and reviews performed, and recommendations regarding the levees and future work activities. The geotechnical engineering being performed will help flood managers understand the overall flood risks to populated areas in the Central Valley and consider alternative changes to the flood management system to better manage the risks.

ULE is evaluating 470 miles of urban levees for hidden defects. The 470 miles include State-Federal project levees as well as associated non-project levees that provide protection to urban areas receiving some protection from the State-Federal flood system. Urban levees are being evaluated to determine whether they meet defined geotechnical criteria and, where needed, identify remedial measures, including cost estimates, to meet the defined geotechnical criteria. The information being developed will be used in support of the Central Valley Flood Management Planning Program to inform development of two required documents: the Flood Control System Status Report and the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan.

Geotechnical Evaluation Reports			
Study Area	**% Complete**	**Study Area**	**% Complete**
Chico	**36**	**NEMDC East**	**46**
Marysville	**50**	**Natomas**	**18**
Sutter	**36**	**Bear Creek**	**31**
RD 784	**47**	**Calaveras River**	**31**
Davis	**17**	**RD 404**	**47**
Woodland	**18**	**RD 17**	**54**
American River	**47**	**Stockton Non-Project**	**38**
West Sacramento	**99**	**W. Sac. Non-Project**	**16**
Sacramento River	**53**	**South Sac. Streams**	**16**

Changes shown in bold.

- Overall, ULE is 72% complete.
- The West Sacramento GER (Volumes 1 and 2), the template for all GERs is planned to be finalized in April.
- Workplans and task orders for further drilling are being developed for South Sac Streams, RD 784 (WPIC), and RD 17. Some additional drilling may occur in Chico
- Schedules for completion of the Geotechnical Evaluation Reports (GERs) Program are continuing to be modified and tracked with the current delivery date of the GERs scheduled for the middle of 2013.
- All GER's except Bear Creek, Calaveras River, Davis, and Woodland, Deep Water Ship Channel, and South Sac Streams are underway.

NON-URBAN LEVEE EVALUATION (NULE)

DWR is required to evaluate the current level of performance of the State-federal flood protection system in the Central Valley. Non-urban levees are levees that provide protection to agricultural areas and developed areas with a population of less than 10,000 people. The evaluation of current system performance is to include an estimate of the risk of levee failure, a discussion of the inspection and reviews performed, and recommendations regarding the levees and future work activities. The geotechnical engineering being performed will help flood managers understand the overall flood risks to populated areas in the Central Valley and consider alternative changes to the flood management system to better manage the risks.

NULE is evaluating 1,620 miles of non-urban levees for hidden defects. The non-urban levees being evaluated include State-Federal project levees and associated non-project levees that also provide protection to non-urban areas receiving some protection from the State-Federal flood protection system. Non-urban levees are being evaluated to determine whether they meet defined geotechnical criteria and, where needed, identify remedial measures, including cost estimates, to achieve the defined geotechnical criteria.

The information being developed will be used in support of the Central Valley Flood Management Planning Program to inform development of two required documents: 1) the Flood Control System Status Report and 2) the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan.

- Overall, Non-Urban Levee Evaluations are 55% complete.
- No drilling were completed during this reporting period.
- Schedules for completion of the GORs are continuing to be prepared with the current delivery date of the GORs scheduled for the middle of 2013.
- GOR pilot studies are ongoing in the Woodland South and Gravelly Ford study areas.
- In support of the draft CVFPP, NULE effort is being redirected to prioritize support for the FMO critical repairs program and the FAXCT9 Regional Plans.

TECHNICAL REVIEW

Geotechnical analyses are being conducting on behalf of the CVFPB on an "as-needed" basis and to support proposed and ongoing capital improvement projects. Collaboration with the USACE is occurring with on-going geotechnical studies, including review of associated documents that may impact the CVFPP.

- Technical reviews are currently being performed for the Sutter Butte Area Flood Control Agency, the (LSJFS) Lower San Joaquin Feasibility Study, and RD 17.
- ULE/NULE provided additional supporting data to USACE for the LSJFS.

TECHNICAL POLICY

A statewide seismic policy is being developed for levee performance, emergency levee remediation, and long-term levee remediation. Urban Levee Design Criteria (ULDC) are also being developed to guide local urban levee improvement projects. Research is being conducted to resolve gaps in knowledge associated with the effects that woody vegetation growing on or near levees has on levee integrity; and provide technical support for the development of vegetation management policies as part of the CVFPP.

- Vegetation management policies and research continues.
- With the completion of the draft West Sacramento GER, seismic studies are continuing in the study area for an overall general cost estimate for seismic deficiencies and cost benefit analysis of these fixes.
- Participated in various FloodSAFE FAXCTs (Functional Area Cross Coordination Teams).
- Continuing support for Version 5 of the Urban Levee Design Criteria was provided.

FUNCTIONAL AREA 6 FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Flood Management Planning and Conservation Strategy Functional Area refer to the planning and analysis necessary to evaluate flood systems as *complete* systems *consistent with the intent of the FloodSAFE Implementation Plan rather than a set of individual, isolated projects. This functional area consists of three elements: Central Valley Flood Management Planning (CVFMP) Program, Statewide Integrated Flood Management Planning, and Conservation Strategies.*

CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANNING (CVFMP)

The CVFMP Program is one of several programs being managed within FloodSAFE California. The CVFMP Program addresses most of the flood-related planning activities that were authorized by the Legislature during the 2007/2008 session within much of the Central Valley. The CVFMP Program consists of two primary projects - State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC) and the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP).

STATE PLAN OF FLOOD CONTROL (SPFC)

The SPFC primarily includes: (1) SPFC Descriptive Document and (2) Flood Control Systems Status Report (FCSSR). The SPFC Descriptive Document and FCSSR were completed and provided to Board in November 2010 and December 2011, respectively.

CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION PLAN (CVFPP)

The CVFPP reflects a system-wide approach to protecting lands currently protected from flooding by the SPFC. Legislation required that an initial plan be completed by January 1, 2012, and updated every five years thereafter.

- A Public Draft of the 2012 CVFPP was provided to the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board) on December 30, 2011, formally presented to the Board at their January 27 meeting, and released to the public for review on January 2, 2012.
- DWR released the *Public Review Draft Program Environmental Impact Report* (DPEIR) for the 2012 CVFPP on March 6 for a 45-day public comment period, ending on April 20, 2012. The DPEIR was formally presented to the Board on March 23, 2012. The DPEIR will inform the public and decision makers about potential program-level environmental effects and mitigation measures that may result from implementation of the CVFPP.
- DWR and the Board held four joint public hearings to receive comments on the 2012 CVFPP and the DPEIR in early April at locations in Sacramento, Marysville, Stockton, and Woodland. The CVFPP and the DPEIR hearings were separate and scheduled for different times during the day with DPEIR hearing to occur after completion of the Board's CVFPP hearing. DWR staff has begun formulation of responses to comments received on both documents in anticipation of certification of the final PEIR and adoption of the CVFPP in late June.

- DWR will participate in a workshop with Board members on April 20 to consider comments received during the early April joint public hearings and discuss potential Board recommendations for the plan. DWR and the Board will also determine the process needed for CVFPP adoption and DPEIR certification. Additional workshops may continue into May.
- DWR has posted for public download, 13 Program Fact Sheets on topics related to the CVFPP at their website http://www.water.ca.gov/cvfmp/documents.cfm.
- These 13 fact sheets concisely summarize the following topics:

  - State Plan of Flood Control Descriptive Document
  - Flood Control System Status Report
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan: Geographic Scope
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Organization
  - 2012 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan: Maps of Levee Conditions, Proposed Improvements, and Assets Protected
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan: Communications and Engagement
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan: Major Physical and Operational Elements of Preliminary Approaches and State Systemwide Investment Approach
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan: Levee Vegetation Management Strategy
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and Bay Delta Conservation Plan
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and the Delta Plan
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan: Rural-Agricultural Community Sustainability
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and San Joaquin River Restoration Program
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Plan: Draft Program Environmental Impact Report

- DWR staff gave briefings on the 2012 CVFPP to editorial boards of various Central Valley publications in early April; to the *California Water Plan Public Advisory Committee* on April 4; to Resource Agency Deputy Director, Gerald Meral on April 4; to the Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency Board on April 11; to Colusa County interests on April 12, and at DWR's *Quarterly Grants Coordination Meeting* on April 12.
- Coordination continued between the DWR staff and USACE for the *Central Valley Integrated Flood Management Study* (CVIFMS). However, DWR is awaiting a USACE determination on the consistency of the CVIFMS Feasibility Cost Share Agreement with newer USACE study guidelines.

Update on the Urban Levee Design Criteria and the Draft Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria

The Central Valley Flood Protection Act of 2008 (Senate Bill 5) promotes prudent land use decisions by requiring cities and counties in urban and urbanizing areas of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley to make findings related to an urban level of flood protection before approving land uses in flood hazard areas identified by the

Federal Emergency Management Agency. SB 5 also charges DWR with developing the criteria for urban level of flood protection, defined as the level of protection that is necessary to withstand flooding that has a 1-in-200 annual chance of occurring in any given year. To this end, DWR has been developing Urban Levee Design Criteria (ULDC) since 2007 and has used the ULDC in its Urban Levee Evaluations Program, Early Implementation Program, and in federal and State planning studies, including the Draft Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP). The most recent public draft of the ULDC was released in November 2011. Release of the completed ULDC is scheduled for late April 2012. DWR has been developing Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria (ULOP) since 2010 and released the Draft ULOP on April 4, 2012 for 30-day public review. Both documents are incorporated by reference in the CVFPP.

Both the ULDC and Draft ULOP were developed in collaboration with representatives from cities and counties, as well as reclamation districts, levee districts, professional organizations, State agencies, and federal agencies. Board members and staff have participated in some of the work group meetings and public meetings for the ULDC and Draft ULOP, and have provided written comments on the draft documents that were considered in developing the current versions.

The Draft ULOP provides a systematic approach for cities and counties to make findings related to the urban level of flood protection, including evidential requirements to support those findings. The Draft ULOP reflects existing legislative requirements. During the development of the Draft ULOP, several implementation challenges were identified, resulting in potential legislative amendments that have been initiated by cities and counties. Consequently, DWR has agreed with ULOP work group members to defer finalizing the ULOP until there is more clarity with respect to legislative amendments.

The ULDC is incorporated by reference into the Draft ULOP. The ULDC provides engineering criteria and guidance for design, construction, operation, and maintenance of levees and floodwalls that are intended to provide an urban level of flood protection. The ULDC also provides criteria and guidance for computing design water surface elevations along leveed and unleveed streams. Exceptions to the engineering criteria in the ULDC may be authorized in accordance with one of the procedures provided in the Draft ULOP.

DWR intends to convert the ULDC and ULOP into regulations that will be contained in Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. This process is expected to take around two years, or longer based on when the ULOP is finalized.

STATEWIDE INTEGRATED FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANNING

The Statewide Integrated Flood Management Planning Program (SFMP) will assess the flood risk to life and property statewide, and develop recommendations to guide the state's flood risk management strategic policies and investment decisions. The program will inventory existing and future flood management needs in the state's

regions, identify opportunities for integrated flood management, and formulate potential integrated flood management solutions. The program will publish a report titled "Report on Flood Future: Recommendations for Managing California's Flood Risk" (Flood Future Report). In addition, SFMP includes integration of flood-related information into the California Water Plan.

Flood Future Report

- Nothing new to report this month.

Integrated Flood Management in the California Water Plan

- Nothing new to report this month.

CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

The Conservation Strategies Element is designed to provide support and integrate environmental stewardship into the CVFMP Program. Therefore, major progress, such as the status of key documents, progress on major milestones, and upcoming events, is described under the Central Valley Flood Management Planning section above.

CONSERVATION FRAMEWORK AND STRATEGY

Conservation Strategy

- Staff is awaiting further direction from CVFPB and transitioning from working on the Conservation Framework to focusing on developing the Conservation Strategy.
- FESSRO expanded the Conservation Strategy Team to include staff from regulatory and resource agencies. During the March meeting, this Team discussed the Strategy's purpose, goals, scope, and species selection process. The next two meetings will discuss approaches for developing measurable objectives and adaptive management.

Vegetation Management

- Staff posted a fact sheet on Levee Vegetation Management to the CVFPO website.

Conservation Strategy Funding Guidelines

- The approved Final Conservation Strategy Funding Guidelines were posted on the FESSRO website. These guidelines authorize DWR to spend Proposition 1E money on projects and activities that advance the goals of the Conservation Framework and that will provide mitigation for improvements to State Plan of Flood Control facilities.
- DWR expects to release its first Request for Concept Proposals (RFP) under these guidelines in April 2012. In addition to competitive bids, DWR will be considering direct expenditures with authorized partners; direct expenditures will be required to meet the same criteria as applicants submitting competitive bid proposals in response to the RFP.

Conservation Strategy Outreach

- FESSRO is developing an approach for informing and engaging a variety of interests groups in the development of the Conservation Strategy. This will build on recent outreach to agricultural interests.
- Staff worked with CVFPO staff to give joint presentations on the CVFPP and the Conservation Framework. These included presentations at the California Central Valley Flood Protection Association's annual forum, to the Yolo Bypass Working Group, and with members of the California Farm Bureau Federation.

REGIONAL CONSERVATION PLANNING

Regional Advanced Mitigation Planning (RAMP)

- Staff met with the USACE Regulatory Office and DFM to discuss how DWR-funded advance mitigation could be properly credited by the Corps Civil Works Division within planning for federal cost-share projects. Both agencies are continuing to explore possible solutions to some of the existing challenges.
- Staff continues to work with RAMP partners to improve several draft documents, including a draft brochure on the Statewide Framework, the draft Regional Assessment for the pilot area, and a prel**i**minary draft outline of an Action Plan.
- Staff has drafted an outline for a RAMP Communication Strategy and it is currently being reviewed by RAMP partners. Staff gave presentations on RAMP to Sacramento Area Council of Governments and staff from the San Joaquin County HCP/NCCP.

Regional Permitting

- Staff is working with regulatory agencies, as part of the IAC Permitting Subcommittee, to develop a system-wide approach to regional permitting. During March, staff met with this Subcommittee to discuss potential CVFPP activities that may require ESA/CESA permits and to identify species and habitats that could be impacted by potential project activities. The group also discussed a variety of permitting mechanisms that could be applied in different situations across the CVFPP planning area. Staff from the USACE provide valuable context about their permitting need and options related to the CVFPP.

Corridor Management Strategies (in coordination with DFM):

- Lower Feather River Corridor Management Plan: Consultants briefed DWR staff on flood modeling results related to proposed ecosystem enhancement (sediment removal and restoration plantings). Generally, proposed ecosystem enhancement activities will serve to lower velocities and water elevations within the project planning area below Board approved baseline conditions. UCD contractors are starting work on a meander migration model of the lower Feather River.

SCIENTIFIC AND PLANNING INFORMATION

- **Medium-scale vegetation mapping:** The medium scale data set has been posted to the DFG website. Links have been provided to CVFPO/MWH.
- **Fine-scale vegetation mapping:** Chico State, Geographic Information Center (GIC) staff is continuing work on map and polygon classification.

FUNCTIONAL AREA 7 LEGISLATION, BUDGETS, AND COMMUNICATION

The primary goal of the Legislation, Budget, and Communication functional area is to facilitate legislation, budget, and communication matters to aid the efficient work of all functional areas in improving flood safety. This functional area will work to secure sustainable funding to implement the FloodSAFE initiative and to secure legislative support for all other functional areas that must continue indefinitely into the future. It is also responsible for coordination and public outreach consistency.

FUNDING ADVOCACY & AGENCIES' ALIGNMENT

Effective coordination between State, federal, and local agencies will be required at all stages from project concept through completion of construction. FloodSAFE implementation will not be possible without federal funding. Proposition 1E requires that the State secure the maximum feasible amounts of federal and local matching funds. This group will, in coordination with DWR Executive Office, serve as the primary State advocate for securing the necessary federal funding. Primary federal partners also include USACE and FEMA.

On March 23, 2012, Appropriations Requests were sent to Senators Feinstein and Boxer for 23 cost-shared flood control projects in the Central Valley. Similar requests were sent to Representatives Thompson, Herger, Lungren, Matsui, Miller, Garamendi, McNerney, Honda, Farr, Cardoza, Costa, and Calvert (who is on the Appropriations Committee) for the projects in or near their Districts.