

Central Valley Flood Protection Board Meeting  
August 22, 2014

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

**UNACCEPTABLE DWR LEVEE INSPECTION RATINGS**

*(Michael C. Wright, CVFPB Staff)*

**BRIEFING SUMMARY**

**Overview**

As part of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board's (CVFPB) 2013-17 Strategic Plan, staff is in the process of developing a program to hold Local Maintaining Agencies accountable for meeting their operation and maintenance objectives as outlined in Goal 1, Objective 1.3, Strategy 1.3.2, Action 1.

**Current Status**

Staff has coordinated with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Flood Projects Integrity and Inspection Branch (FPIIB) to develop a list of 22 areas and LMAs that have received unacceptable inspection ratings over the last several years as determined by FPIIB. Using this list, staff then developed a standard letter to issue to LMAs regarding the unacceptable ratings. Staff has issued 10 letters, with approximately 8 more letters to be issued. It has been determined that it would be inappropriate to issue letters to four of the areas / LMA's due to one of the following reasons:

- a. The area has no LMA to issue a letter to
- b. The area is in the process of turning into a State Maintained Area
- c. The area is currently in the process of being transformed into a habitat restoration project
- d. Unclear direction as to what maintenance work is necessary

**Continued Correspondence**

Staff has attempted to contact all 10 LMAs that have been issued a letter. As of August 12, 2014 staff has discussed the letters and maintenance issues with five LMAs and has scheduled future phone calls with two LMAs. Staff continues to reach out to the three remaining LMAs that have been issued a letter to schedule a conversation. Staff expects at least three LMA representatives will attend the August 22, 2014 CVFPB meeting.

**Future Correspondence**

Staff continues to research the existing assurance agreements between the Reclamation Board (now known as the CVFPB) and LMAs as well as assurances given to the United States Army Corps of Engineers from the Reclamation Board. Not all

agreements and assurances have been located, and it appears in some cases that agreements may never have existed. Some LMAs receive operation and maintenance responsibility through the California Water Code. Staff is researching these responsibilities to determine if new operation and maintenance agreements will be necessary for the LMAs for which agreements do not exist or cannot be found.