

# **CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD**

## **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**June 24, 2016**

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### **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE BRANCH**

#### **Status Report and Work Activities**

#### **Sacramento River Basin Flood System Alteration Projects and Planning Activities**

- **Department of Water Resources (DWR) Yolo Bypass (Elkhorn Basin) Flood System Improvements**
  - Branch and other Board staff are meeting regularly through several sub-teams of DWR's Yolo Bypass Implementation Team to collaborate with DWR, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and local stakeholders to plan and design proposed 408 flood system alterations in the Yolo Bypass. The next Board action will be to request USACE 33 USC Section 408 (Section 408) review as early as September 2016. (Butler)
  - Branch staff participated in Geotechnical Working Group meetings to strategize and plan various geotechnical exploration methods including drilling, cone penetration testing soundings, and soil resistivity surveys. The staff anticipates receipt of a permit application(s) for geotechnical exploration(s) in the coming months. (Biswas)
- **Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) -** Branch staff met with the USACE Sacramento District, SAFCA, and consultants on the SAFCA North Sacramento Streams and Sacramento River East Levee project updates on May 23, 2016.
  - Sacramento River East Levee (SREL) Improvement Project – The 65% design is underway and is scheduled for completion by mid-July 2016 for SAFCA and Board of Senior Consultants respective reviews. Board permits may be required to conduct cultural site investigations, which will also provide information on soil conditions needed to design and install relief well systems. SAFCA plans to deliver an administrative draft of the Environmental Impact Statement in mid-June 2016. Construction is presently scheduled for 2018 or 2019. (Biswas)
  - North Sacramento Stream (NSS) Levee Improvement Project – USACE District staff have concerns with the One Pass Trench method proposed to construct project cutoff walls, and will require the construction contractor to submit a proposed work plan for USACE review. USACE is also reviewing the 404 permit application. Board staff is working with a consultant on proposed utility relocations, needed prior to project construction, which are critical for timely project completion. The project team is developing a cultural and historic resource consultation submittal and a project biological assessment. Construction is presently scheduled for 2017. (Biswas)

- **American River Watershed Joint Management Group issues**
  - Branch staff is working with DWR Division of Flood Management (DFM) staff to seek Board adoption of California Environmental Quality Act findings, and to enter into Project Partnership and Local Project Partnership Agreements, prior to USACE construction of the American River Watershed Project, Natomas Basin. A Board action is scheduled for the June 24 Board meeting. (Jawanda [DFM], Biswas)
- **Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency (SBFCA), Feather River West Levee Project (FRWLP)**
  - Project Area C Gaps Closures Amendment – The Board conditionally approved amending Permit. No. 18793-1 at the May 20 Board meeting to close gaps in Project Area C cutoff wall construction. USACE Section 408 approval is anticipated by late June. (Moricz)
  - Laurel Avenue Repair Project – This project, consistent with the goal to achieve 100-year protection for rural communities, would address critical through- and under-seepage deficiencies along 4,900 linear-feet of the Feather River west levee south of Yuba City. The Board will consider approving a flood system alteration permit at the June 24 Board meeting. USACE Section 408 approval is anticipated by mid- to late-July. (Moricz)
- **Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA)**
  - Western Pacific Interceptor Canal (WPIC) Levee Improvements – The Board approved two Section 408 flood system alteration permits, 19020 and 19020-1 on May 20. Staff issued Permit 19020-1 to construct landside improvements on June 9, and anticipates USACE Section 408 approval of Permit 19020 by mid-July to construct cutoff walls. (Biswas)
- **West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (WSAFCA)**
  - Southport Improvement Project – Branch staff, DWR and USACE have reviewed the 100% plans and specifications for proposed construction of the Southport project. A hearing has been tentatively scheduled for the July Board meeting to consider approval of the Section 408 flood system alteration permit. (Moricz)

#### **USACE Interim Operations and Maintenance (O&M) manual for the South Sacramento County Streams project**

- Staff is coordinating with USACE, DWR DFM, and SAFCA staffs to transfer Interim Operation and Maintenance responsibilities for the South Sacramento Streams Project to the Local Maintaining Agencies (LMAs). A stakeholders meeting is scheduled in late June to address any outstanding issues. A Board action is planned for the August 26 Board meeting to transfer interim O&M duties to the LMAs. (Biswas)

## **San Joaquin River Basin and Delta Flood System Alteration Projects and Planning Activities**

- **Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study**
  - Branch staff attends weekly USACE coordination meetings to prepare a Feasibility Report for USACE South Pacific Division approval in advance of a Civil Works Review Board currently anticipated to be held in September. (Porbaha)
- **High Speed Rail Authority Projects**
  - Staff received an application for the San Joaquin River viaduct project, a component of High Speed Rail Construction Package 1. (Porbaha)

## **Other Branch Activities**

- **Merced County Streams Reevaluation Report**
  - Staff met with DFM staff to determine the next steps needed for a Board Letter of Intent in support of the Merced County Streams Project Reevaluation. The group determined that the current Joint Powers Agreement needs to be amended by participating local agencies to describe local sponsor obligations. (Porbaha)
- **Delta Levee Investment Strategy (DLIS)**
  - Staff attended a Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) DLIS special meeting on June 1 for flood managers that included DWR, USACE and some local flood control agencies. DSC staff presented an update on its decision-support tool. The DSC consultant announced that the methodology used to develop the tool would be released in the next few weeks. (Porbaha)

## **Section 408 Flood System Alteration Projects Summary**

Table 1 presents a summary of 408 flood system alteration projects in which the Branch staff is actively engaged in either pre-application coordination with the applicant and USACE, or review of a submitted permit application. (Butler)

<b>Table 1: Status of 408 Flood System Alteration Permit Applications</b>				
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Board Review</b>	<b>USACE</b>	
			<b>Review</b>	<b>Level</b>
DWR	Yolo Bypass Lower Elkhorn Basin	Pre-app coordination began Mar 2016	USACE engagement request as early September	HQ
RD 17	Phase III Project	408 request to USACE Sep 2014	revised 65% design review in progress	HQ
SAFCA	North Sac Streams levee accreditation	408 request to USACE Nov 2015	design work in progress, construct in 2017	HQ
SBFCA	Project Area C Gaps	Permit conditionally approved May 20	408 decision anticipated late June	District
SBFCA	Laurel Avenue Repair Project	Permit hearing on June 24	408 decision anticipated mid- to late July	District
SBFCA	Oroville Wildlife Area	awaiting draft environmental docs	awaiting draft environmental docs	To be determined
TRLIA	WPIC 200-Year (cutoff walls)	Permit conditionally approved May 20	408 permission anticipated mid-July	HQ
TRLIA	WPIC 200-Year (berms, roadway)	Permit issued June 9	408 decision received May 13	District
WSAFCA	Southport	Permit hearing on July 22	408 decision anticipated July	HQ

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