

**Meeting of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board
December 18, 2015**

Informational Briefing Summary

Conservation Strategy Advisory Committee Update
(Andrea Buckley, CVFPB Staff)

1.0 – BACKGROUND

At the August 22, 2014 meeting, the Board heard from stakeholders expressing the desire that the Conservation Strategy and the Plan include metrics for analyzing the Water Code § 9616(a)(9) requirement that the Plan, “Increase and improve the quantity, diversity, and connectivity of riparian, wetland, flood plain, and shaded riverine aquatic habitats, including the agricultural and ecological values of these lands.” The stakeholders requested that the Board activate the Advisory Committee (Committee) denoted in Resolution 2012-25 Resolved 11(d) to advise the Board on measurable objectives from conservation being drafted as part of the Conservation Strategy.

At the September 26, 2014 meeting, the Board activated the Advisory Committee and appointed Board representatives Vice President Emma Suarez and Clyde Macdonald, with President Bill Edgar and Secretary Jane Dolan as alternates. The purpose would be to provide expertise to the Board on how to review the 2017 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan update and how the Conservation Strategy and its measurable objectives relate. The Advisory Committee’s final report would serve as a guiding document for the Board as it considers the 2017 Flood Plan. To date, there have been two meetings of the Advisory Committee, November 13, 2015 and December 4, 2015.

The purpose of this briefing is to report on the December 4th, 2015 Advisory Committee meeting to the Board.

2.0 – CURRENT STATUS

- A presentation on the Conservation Strategy by Ron Melcer (DWR FESSRO staff) kicked off the second meeting of the Committee and provided clarification to the group on the language use and intent of the document. A discussion over how the Conservation Strategy was developed and what it requires DWR to accomplish occurred.

- Suggestions were made by the Committee for future meetings to include small group brainstorming sessions to identify issues and outline individual problem definitions.
- Further discussion on the following themes continued: Implementation, Permitting, Funding, and Integration. Discussion also included the inclusion of Operations and Maintenance to the central themes.

3.0 – NEXT STEPS

The Advisory Committee will continue to meet monthly, or at such intervals as determined by the Committee necessary to carry out its duty. Board staff will continue to support the Committee and report to the Board at such intervals as determined by the Board's Executive Officer or at the request of the Executive Committee. The next Advisory Committee will commence within the first two weeks of January 2016.