

**Central Valley Flood Protection Board Meeting  
December 20, 2015**

**Informational Briefing Summary**

**Update on the Coordinated Activities of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
(USACE) and the Department of Water Resources under the  
Memorandum of Understanding Executed August 15, 2015**

***(George Qualley, DWR)***

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**Background/Overview:**

For the past few years, water resources managers in California and across the nation have been embracing an integrated approach to all aspects of water management. USACE's Sacramento District (SPK) and DWR, within their respective authorities, have significant responsibilities for managing water and reducing flood risk in California. Coordination and collaboration between the two agencies is key to ensuring the effective planning, implementation, and operation of system improvements. DWR worked with SPK to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to reinforce the already strong working relationship with USACE, our key federal partner in flood risk management, and help DWR fulfill its integrated water resources management responsibilities under the Governor's California Water Action Plan.

**Current Status:**

The MOU was executed on August 15, 2015, and defines the working relationship for effective and efficient planning and management of California's water resources within the context of specific agency authorities, appropriations, missions, and goals. The respective staffs of DWR and the Sacramento District are currently closely partnering on the new Sacramento River Flood Control Project General Re-evaluation Report (Sac River GRR), for which the scoping charrette was held in late September 2015. Some SPK and DWR technical staff are co-locating at each other's workplace, and are utilizing available technical data and analyses -- including DWR's Sacramento River Basinwide Study -- in order to facilitate study progress. Expectations are that results of this effort will be foundational to a paradigm shift, leading to management of the State Plan of Flood Control Facilities for broad public values.

In addition to Central Valley Flood Protection Implementation, it is anticipated that additional ongoing and prospective work efforts guided by the spirit of this MOU will result in numerous Shared Work Plans and products in coming years. Other Work Plans that DWR and USACE will develop in order enhance their ongoing cooperation and collaboration are in System Resiliency, Statewide and Regional Flood Risk Management, and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This MOU also facilitates collaboration sustainability in light of future anticipated organizational leadership challenges.

Attachment: 2015-08-14 USACE/DWR Memorandum of Understanding



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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SACRAMENTO DISTRICT  
AND THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
FOR COLLABORATING ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**

I. INTRODUCTION. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District (Corps) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), within our respective authorities, have significant responsibilities for managing water and reducing flood risk in California. Coordination and collaboration between the two agencies is key to ensuring the effective and efficient planning, implementation and operation of system improvements. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) frames and confirms our intent to work collaboratively to achieve sustainable and integrated management of California's water resources.

II. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY. This MOU provides the framework for defining the working relationship for effective and efficient planning and management of California's water resources within the context of specific agency authorities, appropriations, missions and goals. Coordinated programs and projects occur at the state and regional (e.g., Sacramento San Joaquin Delta) scales.

III. BENEFITS. The Corps and DWR agree that the ability to achieve common water resource goals for California can be significantly enhanced under the coordinated approach outlined in this MOU. Leveraging Federal and State resources accelerates the planning and implementation of water resources in the most effective and efficient manner.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES. The Corps and DWR acknowledge:

- The desire to work together to facilitate planning and implementation of water resources programs and projects in California;
- Certain laws, regulations and policies govern the actions of the agencies, their personnel, and contractors; and
- Agencies' involvement is based on the timing of authority and availability of funding.

Considering the above, the Corps and DWR intend to:

- Work together to facilitate communication and coordination regarding the planning, permitting, and implementation of programs and projects throughout the state.
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- Identify and commit personnel resources at all levels (management to staff) to conduct the work through existing and new authorizations and appropriations; and
- Communicate and coordinate on development and implementation of Federal and State policies and legislation affecting flood management in California.

Moving forward, the two agencies will develop a joint implementation plan to describe respective roles and responsibilities in conducting this work.

#### V. MODIFICATION, TERMINATION, AND OTHER CONDITIONS.

This MOU may be modified or amended at any time by mutual agreement of both parties in writing and may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days prior written notice.

This MOU in no way restricts the parties from participating with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals. All parties recognize the importance of continuing cooperation and participation with the government and non-governmental organizations and institutions in programs of mutual interest.

The Corps and DWR intend to conduct activities contemplated in this agreement in accordance with existing authorities and subject to the availability of funds. If provisions of this MOU are determined to be inconsistent with existing laws or regulations or directives governing the signatories, then the provisions of this MOU not affected by a finding of inconsistency shall remain in full force and effect.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION. This MOU becomes effective when signed by both signatory parties and remains in effect until modified or terminated.

SIGNATORS:

 8/14/2015

Michael J. Farrell (Date)  
COL, EN  
Commander  
Sacramento District

 8/14/2015

Gary B. Bardini (Date)  
Deputy Director, Integrated Water  
Management  
State of California Department of  
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