

# CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

April 22, 2016

---



### PROJECTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL BRANCH

#### Status Report and Work Activities

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

- **Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency (SBFCA), Feather River West Levee Project (FRWLP)**
  - Project Area C Gaps – staff is in coordination with the USACE and SBFCA to complete reviews of the proposed gap projects that will complete all of the Project Area C construction for the FRWLP. Board and USACE staffs have coordinated to issue a revised Board permit and USACE Letter of Permission that will supersede all previous project Area C approval documents and stand alone as one complete permit, Record of Decision, and Letter of Permission. Staff anticipates a May 20, 2016 Project Alteration Permit hearing. (Moricz)
  
- **Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA)**
  - Sacramento River East Levee (SREL) Improvement Project – Staff provided comments on a revised foundation and embankment memo prepared by the project design team. (Biswas)
  
  - North Sacramento Stream (NSS) Levee Improvement Project - Staff met with project consultants on March 25 to discuss the 90% plans and specification for the NSS levee improvement project. Staff will provide comments by late April. (Biswas).
  
- **SAFCA 408 Monthly Coordination Meeting**
  - Staff attended a monthly coordination meeting on April 5, 2016. A key topic was discussion of design water surface elevations used to evaluate impacts at the urban level of flood protection and to develop the geotechnical basis of design for the Pocket levee improvement project. Staff is working with the project team to develop a common understanding of this matter. (Biswas).
  
- **Folsom Dam Modification Project**
  - Board and DWR staff plan to bring the Folsom Dam Modification Project to the April 22 Board Meeting to certify the Phase V 2016 Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment/ Environmental Impact Report for site restoration and related mitigation activities. (Biswas / Brabec)

- **American River Common Features – General Reevaluation Report**
  - Board and DWR staff plan to bring American River Common Features – General Reevaluation Report to the April 22 Board Meeting to approve the American River Common Features General Reevaluation Report, and to adopt the final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Biswas / Zelazo)
  
- **Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA)**
  - Western Pacific Interceptor Canal Levee Improvements – Staff is working with TRLIA, USACE and their stakeholders to prepare a permit hearing for the portion of this project under review by the USACE Sacramento District. The hearing may be scheduled for as early as the May Board meeting, pending the USACE 408 decision. (Biswas)
  
- **Yolo Bypass Core BiOp Planning**
  - Staff participated in a Yolo Bypass Planning and Environmental Compliance meeting on April 7 focusing on the progress of Early Implementation Projects related to Wallace Weir, Agricultural Crossings, and the Fremont Weir Adult Fish Passage Improvement Project. (Buckley)
  
- **Folsom Dam Raise Project**
  - Board member Joe Countryman and staff attended the Folsom Dam Raise Project meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> with DWR/DOSD and SAFCA. DWR/DOSD and USACE used different tools to model the anchor design, a critical component controlling the proposed radial gate. The use of different modeling tools have resulted in different outcomes. The plan is to arrange a strategy meeting with the USACE to allow State and Federal technical staff to work together for the anchor design, and to create decision-making governance for the whole project. (Porbaha)

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

- **Smith Canal Closure Structure**
  - Staff attended the first Smith Canal Project Independent Panel of Experts (IPE) / Safety Assurance Review (SAR) panel meeting in Stockton on March 17th to discuss technical aspects of the project. A permit application for this project is anticipated by late 2016. Several CEQA related lawsuits are in process by property owners who oppose the project. (Porbaha)
  
- **Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy**
  - Staff received a request from the Delta Conservancy to participate with State agencies and local interests on a Regional Restoration Planning process in the Cache Slough Complex. The intent of the process is to collectively define where restoration can occur providing the greatest ecological value with the least amount of impact to current land uses and interests defined as agriculture, flood protection and water supply. Staff will provide guidance on encroachment permitting within the Board's jurisdiction. (Herota)

## **Other Branch Activities**

- **CVFPP Regional Flood Management Plan Follow-up Meetings**
  - Board staff representatives have participated in several follow-up meetings to discuss local management action revisions and incorporation into the 2017 CVFPP update. DWR envisions the RFMPs to be living documents; however, the list of projects and management actions should be finalized by May/June 2016 to allow incorporation into the 2017 CVFPP update. For the Upper San Joaquin River RFMP specifically, stakeholders are concerned that the USACE's recent decision to exclude the Lower San Joaquin District levees from the federally authorized flood project would result in District levees to be ineligible for DWR grant funds. (Herota, Moricz, Butler, Porbaha)
  
- **Conservation Strategy Advisory Committee**
  - Staff continues to support the Advisory Committee meetings and development of draft recommendations based on workgroup input on the following topics: 1) Flood Projects and Prioritization; 2) Permitting for Projects, and Operations and Maintenance (O&M); and 3) Regional Buy-in and Interest Group Buy-in. (Herota)
  
- **Delta Levee Investment Strategy (DLIS)**
  - Staff attended a DLIS interagency meeting with the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC), DWR and the Delta Protection Commission (DPC). The DSC presented a new schedule that shows the products (including methodology, strategy and a decision support tool) that were initially planned for 2016 to be delayed until mid-2017. DSC is negotiating with DWR for additional funding to complete the project. (Porbaha)
  
- **Lathrop and Manteca Urban Levee Design Criteria (ULDC) Compliance Meeting**
  - Staff attended a "Reclamation District 17 ULDC Independent Panel of Experts (IPE)" meeting in Lathrop to discuss the Engineers Report and IPE report as required by the Urban Level of Protection (ULOP). In June 2016 Lathrop and Manteca will be submitting their ULOP Adequate Progress Reports to the Board per SB-5 requirements. (Porbaha)
  
- **Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study (LSJRFS)**
  - Staff submitted a signed LSJRFS State letter of support and the Non-Federal Sponsor's Self-Certification of Financial Capability to the USACE on March 4th. Staff is also participating in weekly coordination meetings with USACE. The team plans to submit the Feasibility Report to USACE South Pacific Division for review by a Civil Works Review Board in July. (Porbaha)

Prepared By: Deb Biswas, Andrea Buckley, James Herota, Nancy Moricz and Ali Porbaha  
Compiled By: Ali, Porbaha, PE, Senior Engineer  
Reviewed By: Eric Butler, PE, Supervising Engineer and Branch Chief  
Jit Dua, Legal Counsel  
Leslie Gallagher, Executive Officer