

Central Valley Flood Protection Board Meeting
June 25, 2021

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

Lower San Joaquin River & Delta South Regional Flood Management Plan

(Chris Elias, San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency; Mike Rossiter, Peterson Brustad Inc.)

BRIEFING SUMMARY

Informational briefing on the status of the planning efforts for the Lower San Joaquin and Delta South Regional Flood Management Plan (RFMP). Mr. Elias and Mr. Rossiter, representatives from the Lower San Joaquin/Delta South RFMP, will provide an overview of the recent accomplishments in their Region, the challenges the Region has been facing, and the near-term priorities for the Region moving forward.

Lower San Joaquin River & Delta South Regional Priorities

The Lower San Joaquin and Delta South (LSJ/DS) Region is composed of distinct urban and rural/agricultural areas in San Joaquin County. The RFMP effort is being led by the San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) who is representing its member agencies of the City of Stockton, City of Lathrop, City of Manteca, and San Joaquin County as well as the 29 reclamation districts in the Region. The region has an urban population of about 400,000 with the remaining area of the region being primarily rural/agricultural.

As part of the third phase of the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Regional Flood Management Plan (RFMP), the Lower San Joaquin and Delta South (LSJ/DS) region has developed a number of regional flood management priorities to be considered by DWR during preparation of the 2022 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP). Specifically, the Region will have compiled lists of: (1) flood management accomplishments over the past five years; (2) challenges to regional flood management; and (3) the priority actions that the region would like to implement in the near future.

During the past five years, the region has organized and accomplished a variety of projects and activities to reduce flood risk.

- Updates to SJAFCA Governance
- SJAFCA Climate Change Adaption Policy
- Construction of Smith Canal Closure Structure
- Initiation of PED Phase for USACE Lower San Joaquin River Project
- Construction of RD17 Levee Seepage Repair Project
- Mossdale Tract Urban Flood Risk Reduction (UFRR) Study

There are several challenges that impact future improvements in regional flood management. These could delay, complicate, or prevent flood management progress. Some of these issues have already slowed or otherwise impacted progress on the accomplishments listed above.

- Raising Local Revenues
- Planning for Climate Change
- Advancement of the Mossdale Project
- Identifying Betterments for the USACE Lower San Joaquin River Project
- Developing Multi-benefit Projects
- Addressing Land Rights Issues & Encroachments
- Addressing Transfer of Risk
- Evolving Standards for Levee Maintenance
- Increased Transient Population
- Securing Adequate Staffing and Equipment for LMAs

The actions listed below are LSJ/DS regional priorities for near-term implementation over the next five years.

- USACE Lower San Joaquin River Project Implementation
- Additional Flood Risk Reduction Projects for North/Central Stockton
 - New Hogan Reservoir Climate Resiliency and Multi-Benefit Flood Risk Reduction Feasibility Study
- Improve Analyses and Planning for Climate Change
- Mossdale Tract ULOP Improvements
 - Mossdale Federal Feasibility Study
- Formation of Local Funding Programs
- Mormon Slough Bank Repair and Channel Restoration
- Feasibility-level Studies
 - Expansion of Paradise Cut Bypass
 - New Hogan Reservoir storage modifications
 - Mormon Slough System Climate Resiliency
 - Levee Improvements for tributary streams
 - FloodMAR projects

Since the 2017 CVFPP, the LSJ/DS Region has made huge strides toward reducing flood risk to its local communities. Significant challenges lie ahead and need to be addressed in order to continue this progress. The Region's near-term priorities range from implementing large-scale capital improvement projects, to securing local financing along with State/federal funding to implement these projects, to advancing refinements to climate change projections on the San Joaquin River. Making significant progress with our regional priorities will require an extraordinary amount of support and coordination amongst our partners at the local, State, and federal level and is a challenge that this Region is equipped to successfully manage.