

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

June 2021

THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT...

is to provide a brief update to Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) members on California Department of Water Resources (DWR) relevant activities that occurred in the previous month. This report is organized by the five DWR mega-programs:

1. Flood Emergency Response
2. Flood Management Planning
3. Floodplain Risk Management
4. Flood Risk Reduction Projects
5. Flood System Operations and Maintenance

Only programs with updates for this month have been included in this report. Programs not listed in this month's report may be included in future reports if updates are provided.

A full list of programs and program descriptions are available upon request. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact S. Greg Farley, Division of Flood Management (DFM) at (916) 764-7280 or email Stuart.Farley@water.ca.gov.
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FLOOD EMERGENCY RESPONSE (FER)

FER // REAL-TIME FLOOD CONDITIONS, STATUS, & WARNING

- On May 10, Flood Project Inspection and Assessment Branch (FPIAB) staff participated in a monthly United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and CVFPB Coordination meeting. This meeting provides USACE/CVFPB and DWR staff an opportunity to share information relevant to the flood control system.
- On May 12, staff participated in the Inspection Compliance Work Group meeting. The purpose is to provide a forum for CVFPB, DWR, USACE, and local representatives to collaborate and develop a path forward for Levee Maintaining agencies (LMA) to meet federal and state levee maintenance standards with the goal of achieving an active status in the USACE PL84-99 program.
- In May, staff completed the final 426 miles of the Spring Levee Inspections. All 268 of the Spring Levee Inspection Unit Reports consisting of 1,548 miles have been finalized.
- In May, staff closed 3 CVFPB permits. (All 3 were under the “Inspection Records Update Approved” status category).
- In May, staff inspected 103 utility crossings for the 2021 Utility Crossing Inspection Program (UCIP), completing a total of 2,134 inspections. Data entry has been completed for 1,594 of those pipe Inspections (75% complete).
- In May, staff completed the Levee Log update and posted the resulting levee logs on the California Data Exchange Center (CDEC) for general use.
- On May 26-27, the Local Maintaining Agency Assessment Section (LMAAS) held two Workshops for the AB156 Reporting Program. A total of 68 participants attended the workshops.

FER // FLOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & OPERATIONS

- On May 20, Flood Operations Branch (FOB) staff hosted the quarterly Yuba-Feather Flood ER Working Group meeting via Microsoft Teams. Yuba Water Agency presented on their flood program and on the New Bullards Bar Secondary Spillway Project, and Tom Engler with MBK Engineers gave an in-depth update on the Marysville Ring Levee Project. All attendees shared agency updates and current activities.

FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT (FRM)

- **May 4:** Staff provided a progress report on the Levee Flood Protection Zone (LFPZ) Update to partners and stakeholders at the H2F Floodplain focus team meeting.
- **May 17:** Staff coordinated with the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) on an available dataset of federally funded flood mitigation projects in California in relation to the loss avoidance pilot study.

- **May 17:** Staff provided Central Valley Flood Evaluation & Delineation (CVFED) LiDAR data to the City of Oroville to accompany the previously provided model for determining velocity impacts of the proposed bike crossing project.
- **May 18:** Staff participated in the Lower San Joaquin Preconstruction and Design (PED) meeting to assist with Hydrology and Hydraulics assumptions and approach.
- **May 24:** Staff disseminated Central Valley Floodplain Evaluation and Delineation (CVFED) Project LiDAR Data to San Juan Water Agency.
- **May 25:** Staff provided the 2017 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) 100-year and 200-year return period flood routing channel models of the American River to Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) staff.
- **May 28:** Staff participated in a workgroup coordination meeting organized by DWR Division of Planning to discuss similarities and differences between the data used for the California Water Plan (CWP), CVFPP, Conservation Strategy, and the Climate Change Program for a Data Alignment Draft Workplan. This meeting was in response to comments at May's RFMP meetings concerning the overall communications related to CVFPP technical work.

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROJECTS (FRRP)

GENERAL INFORMATION

United States Army Corps of Engineering (USACE) 2022 President's Budget

- The USACE 2022 Civil Works President's Budget was released May 2021 and Central Valley USACE Projects received \$190M of Federal funding. The proposed budget includes a "New Start" for West Sacramento, which would move all Central Valley Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) authorized projects into the construction phase.
- The President's Budget program funds the development, management, restoration, and protection of the Nation's water, wetlands, and related resources through studies, construction, operation, and maintenance of projects. The President's Budget is a proposal that will not be finalized until after Congress adjusts this budget in the Work Plan Process. The table below shows the proposed 2022 President's Budget for USACE in the Central Valley and the estimated Federal cost-share need for each project in FY 2022.
- No funds were identified for any new federal studies, including the Yolo Bypass Pilot Study.

Project Name	FY 2022 President's Budget	2022 Federal Cost-share Need
<u>Construction</u>		
American River Common Features - Natomas Basin	\$156,915,000	\$200,000,000
West Sacramento Project, New Start and Construction	New Start & \$17,900,000	\$20,000,000
San Joaquin River Basin, Lower San Joaquin	\$15,000,000	\$25,000,000
Sacramento River Bank Protection Project	\$ -	\$5,000,000
<u>Investigations</u>		
RD17 Feasibility Study (Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study–Follow-up Study)	\$ -	\$1,500,000
Cache Creek Settling Basin Feasibility Study	\$ -	\$1,500,000
Merced County Project (GRR), Investigation	\$ -	\$3,000,000

[FRRP // USACE PROJECTS](#)

American River Common Features – Natomas Basin (USACE)

- Construction continues on the Reach H, Reach B Riverside Canal, and Reach D Pumping Plant 4. Currently, along the west side of the basin, Garden Highway is closed to through-traffic from San Juan Road to Power Line Road to facilitate construction on the Reach B Riverside Canal Project, and for work on Pumping Plant 3. Along the east side of the basin, Natomas Levee Road is closed from Del Paso Road to the Natomas East Main Drainage Canal (NEMDC) Pump Station for Construction of Reach H. Construction is planned to begin in late June or early July for the Reach B I-5 Window.
- Reach A has reached the Ready-To-Advertise milestone and is slated to be solicited before September 30, 2021. Design milestones for Reaches E, F, and G have been delayed due to design decisions, personnel resourcing, and coordination needs; however, the overall schedules are being maintained.

American River Common Features – 2016 Project (USACE)

- The Supplemental Environmental Assessment/ Environmental Impact Report (EA/EIR) for the American River Contract 1 was approved on the consent calendar at the May CVFPB meeting.

Sutter Basin California Project

- The Comprehensive Plan for the transfer of excess non-federal sponsor credits has been submitted to USACE for review and comment. The plan requests the transfer of up to \$99.3M in excess credits to the USACE Lower San Joaquin River California Project.
- USACE has indicated that the Integral Determination Report (IDR) process will begin shortly to review the In-Kind Credit package submitted last year. The IDR is used to assess and value the credit package submitted by the non-federal sponsors.

San Joaquin River Basin, Lower San Joaquin River California Project (PED)

- USACE will be issuing a 65% take letter to begin the acquisition process after the 65% design is completed for the TS30L (Brookside 2074 levee). This will provide the State additional time to acquire the necessary right of way for the project.
- \$15M for project construction has been proposed in the FY 2022 President's Budget.

FRRP // USACE STUDIES

Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study (LSJRFS)

- The USACE is still reviewing the In-Kind Credit (IKC) package for the project. DWR is waiting to receive comments on the package.

West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (WSAFCA) – West Sacramento Project, Yolo Bypass East Levee Project (USACE)

- This project has been identified within the USACE's Fiscal Year 2022, Civil Works President's Budget as a New Start Construction Project. The amount of funding shown within the budget towards construction of the project, in the Flood Risk Management Business Line, is \$17,900,000.

FRRP // URBAN FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM (UFRR)

Lathrop Study and Preliminary Design – Mossdale Tract Study (UFRR)

- The final draft of the UFRR feasibility study and transfer of risk analysis is scheduled to be submitted for DWR review by June 2021. SJAFCA has proposed that the remaining UFRR funds be used to move forward with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) activities for the preferred plan.

San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) – Smith Canal Closure Structure Project (EIP & UFRR)

- The In-Kind Credit Package No. 1 for work completed through January 2020 (approximately \$10.5M) for the project design has been deemed complete by USACE, and they have started their review. USACE has also had design workshop meetings from May 25-27 to begin their review of the project design.
- The start of construction on Dad's Point has been delayed until June 15, 2021, due to nesting birds. On May 24, 2021, environmental clearance for the staging yard was approved, and mobilization of equipment and materials to the job site has started.
- Time Variance Request for Permit No. 19233 BD was approved by the CVFPB to begin work on June 15, 2021.

Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA)

- On May 14, TRLIA participated in a workshop with the CVFPB to present a virtual tour through the TRLIA projects and engage the participants in a discussion of implementation efforts, challenges, and solutions in creating a multi-benefit environment.
- Paul Brunner, the Executive Director of TRLIA, has informed DWR that he intends on retiring at the end of 2021. The TRLIA Board has decided to transfer the TRLIA Executive Director duties to the Yuba County administrator Kevin Mallen beginning January 2022.

[FRRP // SYSTEMWIDE FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM \(SFRR\)](#)

Lower Elkhorn Basin Levee Setback (LEBLS) Project

Construction on the Lower Elkhorn Basin Levee Setback project (LEBLS) continues with the levee contractor ramping up work for the season and the interior drainage and pump station contractors starting 2021 construction activities. Construction of the levee is accelerating as the contractor adds more staff for the season. Coordination with utility relocation work also continues and there continues to be strong coordination with different project partners. Real Estate acquisition is continuing.

[FRRP // DELTA LEVEE SYSTEM INTEGRITY \(DLSI\)](#)

Delta Levees Maintenance Subventions Program

Subventions Program FY 2019-20

- *72 applications for \$54 million were received and reviewed.*
- *72 work agreements executed.*
- *The CVFPB approved \$10 million for the FY 2019-20 Funding Plan.*
- *68 final claims received for \$12.8M.*
- *67 final claims are being processed for reimbursement (\$8.4M)*

Subventions Program FY 2020-21

- 72 applications for \$57 million were received and reviewed.
- The CVFPB approved \$12 million for the FY 2020-21 Funding Plan

Subventions Program FY 2021-22

- 73 applications for \$55 million were received.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANNING

CVFPP PLANNING

- During the first two weeks of May, the Regional Flood Management Planning (RFMP) team met with the following RFMP working groups to discuss their regional project list:
 - Mid Upper Sacramento River
 - Feather River
 - Mid San Joaquin
 - Lower Sacramento Delta North
- On May 12, the CVFPP team hosted the first Water Resilience Portfolio Action 25.4 stakeholder workshop focused on the San Joaquin Basin.
- On May 21, the CVFPP team hosted the second Water Resilience Portfolio Action 25.4 stakeholder workshop focused on San Joaquin Basin to continue discussions from the previous workshop.
- On May 26, CVFPP team presented at the coordinating committee on outcome-based planning and performance tracking system overview and an update on the Conservation Strategy
- On May 28, CVFPP team briefed the CVFPB on April coordinating committee presentations about Operation and Maintenance, Repair, Replacement and Rehabilitation (OMRR&R) and Performance tracking and outcome-based planning
- The Conservation Strategy was released to stakeholders and limited partners on Friday May 14, 2021.

FLOOD SYSTEM OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE (FSO&M)

Flood Maintenance Office (FMO) is responsible for two areas of State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC) facilities, State Maintained Areas (SMAs), which are authorized by CWC Section 8361, and ten Maintenance Areas (MAs), which are described in CWC Section 12878. SMAs are funded by state general fund, while MAs are on reimbursable accounts funded by property owners protected by the MA levees and facilities.

State Maintained Areas (SMAs)

- *Levees: ~145 miles*
- *Channels: ~1,200 miles*
- *Flood Structures: ~30 (11 weirs, 5 gate structures, 4 pumping plants, crossing bridges, etc.)*
- *Collecting Canals: ~60 miles*

Maintenance Areas (MAs)

Currently, FMO maintains ten MAs: MA01, 03, 04, 05, 07, 09, 12, 13, 16, and 17.

- *Levees: ~150 miles*
- *Structures: ~1 pumping plant and 1 diversion weir*

ROUTINE OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE (O&M)

Listed activities are mandated by O&M manuals for facilities in SMAs or MAs. This work is performed by two maintenance yards located in West Sacramento and Sutter with technical and environmental support from JOC.

- *Levee and channel vegetation management*
- *Access road and levee crown maintenance*
- *Debris and obstruction removal*
- *Rodent abatement*
- *Rodent damage repair*
- *Levee erosion repair*
- *Channel scour repair*
- *Minor sediment removal*
- *Pumping plant, weir, outfall gates, and bridge operation, maintenance, and repair*
- *Pipe/Culvert repair*

FMO has implemented the Flood Maintenance Assistance Program (FMAP) with annual funding to increase the level of maintenance in SMAs and support Local Maintaining Agencies (LMAs) and MAs.

State Maintained Areas (SMA) Activities

Sacramento Yard – Vegetation and Debris Management

- *Cache Creek Settling Basin Channel: 80 acres of vegetation mowing (complete).*
- *Cache Creek Settling Basin Channel: Woody Vegetation spraying (complete).*
- *Cache Creek Channel: Vegetation mowing (in progress).*
- *Cache Creek Channel: Vegetation spot spraying (in progress).*
- *Cache Creek Levees: Vegetation broadcast spraying (in progress).*
- *Cache Creek Levees: Vegetation burn piles (in progress).*
- *Cache Creek Levees: Vegetation cutting and limbing (in progress).*
- *Knights Landing Outfall Gates: Debris removal (in progress).*
- *Knights Landing Ridge Cut: Vegetation spot spraying (in progress).*

- West Yolo Bypass Levees Levee Units 1-4: Vegetation spot spraying (in progress).
- Willow slough Bypass: Vegetation mowing (in progress).

Sutter Yard - Vegetation and Debris Management

- Bear River Channel: 165 acres of vegetation mowing (complete).
- Colusa Bypass Channel: 700 acres of vegetation mowing (complete).
- East Levee Sutter Bypass: 60 cubic yards of debris removal (complete).
- Bear River Channel: Debris removal (in progress).
- Butte Creek Channel: Vegetation strip discing (in progress).
- Colusa Bypass Levees: Vegetation mowing (in progress).
- East Levee Sutter Bypass: Vegetation mowing (in progress).
- East Levee Sutter Bypass: Vegetation spot spraying (in progress).
- East West Interceptor Canal: Vegetation Mowing (in progress).
- Tisdale Bypass Levees: Debris Removal (in progress).
- Tisdale Bypass Levees: Vegetation spot spraying (in progress).
- Wadsworth Canal Levees: Vegetation mowing (in progress).
- Wadsworth Canal Levees: Vegetation spot spraying (in progress).
- Yankee Slough: Vegetation mowing (in progress).

Sacramento Yard – System Repair

- No Activities

Sutter Yard – System Repair

- Colusa Bypass Levees: 4.58 miles of road grading and minor repairs (complete).

Sacramento Yard – Rodent Control

- No activities

Sutter Yard – Rodent Control

- East Levee Sacramento River: Rodent control (in progress).
- East Levee Sutter Bypass: Rodent depredation (in progress).
- East West Interceptor Canal Levees: Rodent depredating (in progress).
- Tisdale Bypass Levees: Rodent baiting (in progress).

Maintenance Area (MA) Activities

Vegetation and Debris Management

MA01 – Vegetation mowing (in progress).

MA03 – 38 cubic yards of Debris removal (complete) and 1 mile of vegetation cutting and limbing (complete).

MA04 – 3 miles of vegetation mowing (complete).

MA05 – Vegetation mowing (in progress).

MA07 – 12.07 miles of vegetation mowing (complete).

MA09 – 19.06 miles of vegetation mowing (complete).

System Repairs

MA03 – Repair/replace signs and gates (in progress) and road grading/repair (in progress).

Rodent Control

MA01 – Rodent fumigating (in progress) and rodent burrow grouting (in progress).

MA05 – Rodent baiting (in progress) and rodent depredate (in progress).

MA07 – 60 rodent burrows grouted over 8 miles (complete), rodent baiting (in progress) and rodent depredate (in progress).

MA09 – Rodent baiting (in progress).

Flood Maintenance Assistance Program (FMAP)

- 51 FY 2019/20 FMAP agreements with LMAs and MAs have expired and are in the close-out process.
- 53 FY 2020/21 FMAP agreements and advances are being processed for Operations and Maintenance activities for calendar year January 1 through December 31, 2021. Total \$10.6M.
- FY 2021/22 FMAP Proposal Solicitation Packages have been sent to all participating LMAs. Proposal Solicitation Packages (PSPs) are being processed for approval of funds pending State budget approval.

CHANNEL MAINTENANCE

Activities related to evaluating all SPFC channels to identify any deficiencies, and prioritizing (emergency, critical, serious, monitor) them for repair or rehabilitation. These include channel capacity evaluations.

Colusa Bypass Channel Evaluation

- Preliminary hydraulic model (HEC-RAS 1D/2D) is being reviewed; the review expects to be finished by the end of June.

FLOOD CONTROL FACILITY MAINTENANCE

Activities related to evaluating all SPFC flood control facility facilities to identify any deficiencies, and prioritizing (emergency, critical, serious, monitor) them for repair, rehabilitation, or replacement. These include structure functionality evaluations.

Structural Rehabilitation

Butte Slough Outfall Gates

- Project is at 95% design and staff are working towards obtaining the environmental permits.
- The 408 process is underway with USACE/CVFPB/DWR coordination ongoing.

Knights Landing Outfall Gates Fish Barrier

- Review of the 100% plans is in progress.
- RD108 is planning on awarding the construction contract in July 2021.

Tisdale Weir Rehabilitation and Fish Passage Project

- The CEQA draft EIR preparation is complete and public comments are being reviewed.
- Pre-Coordination for the USACE 408 permit will begin shortly.
- A drilling plan for supplemental geotechnical data was submitted in June 2020 to the CVFPB for USACE approval. Expedited review and approval through the Categorical Permissions process is requested. CVFPB has transmitted the package to USACE.

LEVEE MAINTENANCE

Activities related to evaluating all SPFC levees to identify any deficiencies, and prioritizing (emergency, critical, serious, monitor) them for repair, rehabilitation, or replacement. These evaluations include:

- *Levee stability*
- *Levee penetrations, such as pipes and culverts*
- *Levee Tree Assessment*
- *Encroachments*
- *O&M right-of-way*

Levee Repairs

2017 Storm Damage DWR Emergency Rehabilitation

- 14 Serious levee repair sites were rehabilitated in Summer/Fall 2020.
- 9 Serious levee repair sites are anticipated for rehabilitation in Summer/Fall 2021.

Levee Evaluation

Pipe/Culvert Evaluation

- Phase 1 – Pipe video inspections:
 - 205 of 240 pipes passing through State maintained levees have been video-inspected by FMO.
 - Of a total of 32 LMA-led Deferred Maintenance Project (DMP), Phase 1, levee penetration evaluation projects, 27 are completed, 3 are in progress, and 2 have not begun because of COVID-19 and water impacts.
 - The inspected pipes have been rated based on the pipe's internal conditions. Pipes that are structurally deficient are designated for rehabilitation, such as cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP) lining, or replacement, depending on the severity and extent of defects.
 - The preliminary results of the DMP, Phase 1, have been made available to the LMAs.
- Phase 2 – Pipe rehabilitations:
 - 2 pipes with severe structural defects have been replaced.
 - 111 pipes with mild to moderate structural defects have received cured-in-place lining to prolong their service life, as a cost-effective proactive repair.

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAM

The San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) has just approved a change in the Restoration Flow schedule that will disconnect the San Joaquin River for the first time since the 2015 water year, a critical-low restoration year type. Though the 2021 Water Year is critical-high, which provides for continuous Restoration Flow releases, additional runoff information forecasts a worsening outlook that shows less total water volume behind Friant Dam that may not be sufficient to cover planned releases for the entire year. In order to retain cold water in the reservoir for use in the critical mid-September to mid-November spawning and early incubation period, the SJRRP has approved a plan to discontinue Restoration Flows through the summer. Restoration Flows will end June 3 that will allow “disconnection” of the river downstream of Gravelly Ford in early June, and subsequent “reconnection” by mid-November of 2021. The Lower San Joaquin Levee District has been alerted to the upcoming suspended flow to give them opportunity to schedule maintenance activities in the dry channel.