

Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Board Meeting June 23, 2023

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

10E. Tulare Basin Hydrology and Flooding

BRIEFING SUMMARY

Background

Record precipitation caused extensive flooding in the Tulare Basin in March 2023. Record snowpack in the Southern Sierra-Nevada mountains is holding an equivalent volume of water that can fill multiple times of the four major reservoirs above the four major rivers that drain to the basin floor. Since April, snowmelt runoffs have made through the floodways to the basin floor and eventually the Tulare Lake without much of flood damages, attributed to coordinated efforts among local, state, and federal entities, as well as favorable temperatures. The remaining snowpack, however, still poses flood risk to the basin for the remainder of flood season.

Presentation

Staff will provide an informational briefing on the basin's conditions related to precipitation, reservoir storages, and snow melt projection using the latest information from the Department of Water Resources' California Data Exchange Center and California-Nevada River Forecast Center. The purpose is to raise awareness, exchange thoughts and ideas, and generate dialogues and discussions that can help identify planning strategies and solutions to address the looming flood concern to this region.