

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 2023

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) activities that occurred in the previous month. This report is organized by the five DWR mega-programs:

- Flood Emergency Response
- Floodplain Risk Management
- Flood Management Planning
- Flood Risk Reduction Projects
- 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.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact Eric Nichol, Assistant Manager, Division of Flood Management (DFM) at Eric.Nichol@water.ca.gov.

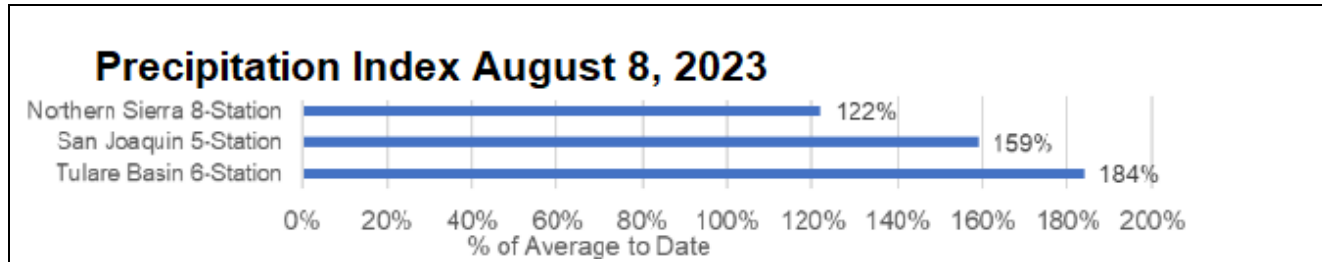
FLOOD EMERGENCY RESPONSE (FER)

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

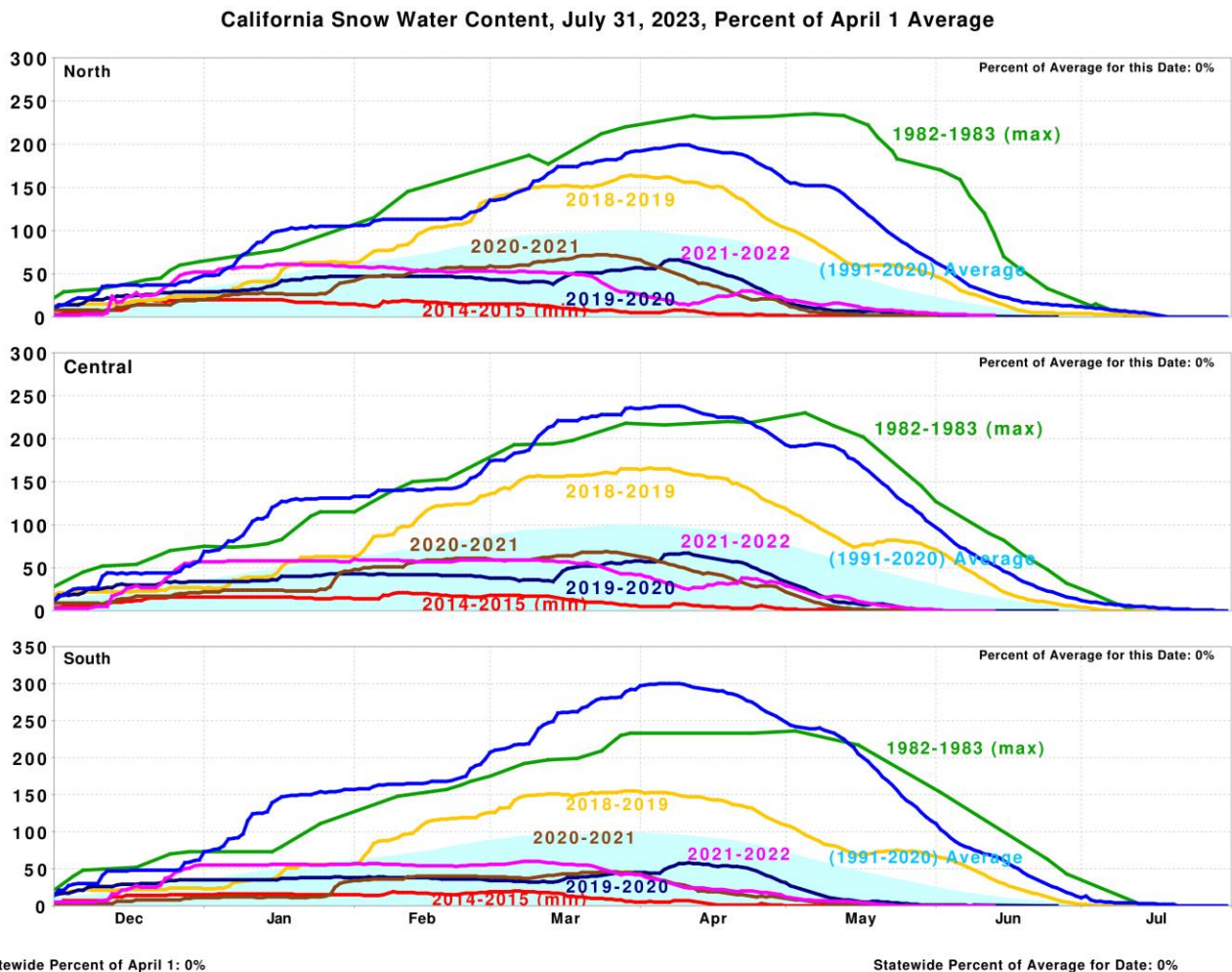
- On July 6, two Flood Fight Specialist (FFS) met with San Benito County to provide technical assistance, on potential flood fight methods/preparedness for 3 different sites along Pacheco Creek, should a future weather event occur requiring it. Also advised on how to better prepare levees for future high water.
- On July 12, two FFS were sent to Kings River Conservation District in Fresno County to assess and give recommendations for an erosion site on Kings River downstream from the Lemoore Diversion Weir.
- During July, Flood Project Inspection Unit (FPIU) inspectors performed 21 structures inspections; a total of 25 out of the 69 structures have been inspected for 2023.
- During July, FPIU inspectors performed the first four channel inspections; a total of 4 out of the 26 channels have been inspected so far this summer.
- During July, Local Maintaining Agency Assessment Unit (LMAAU) staff inspected 96 utility crossings for the 2023 Utility Crossing Inspection Program (UCIP). The LMAAU group has completed a total of 487 (100%) pipe inspections of the UCIP. Data entry has been completed for 290 of those pipes (60% complete).
- During July, LMAAU staff finalized 44 records out of the 2,101 pipes inspected in 2022. Of those pipes, detailed updates have been performed on 666 (32%), and 164 (8%) are QA final for the 2022 QAP.
- In July, LMAAU, and Technical Assistance Unit of the Floodplain Management Branch, with collaboration from the Division of Engineering's Geomatics Section, performed real-time water stage and highwater-mark surveying of James Bypass and Kern River.

FER // HYDRO-CLIMATE DATA COLLECTION & PRECIPITATION / RUNOFF FORECASTING

- During the month of July, California was warmer and drier than average. The monthly precipitation total was 0 inches in the Northern Sierra, the San Joaquin, and the Tulare Basins.
- National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center long-range, 1-month outlook for August 2023 suggests:
 - Equal chance of above or below average temperatures throughout all of California.
 - Equal chance of above or below average precipitation throughout all of California.



The Precipitation Index bar chart for August 8, presents the yearly total precipitation to date as a percentage of normal for three major basins: Northern Sierra 122% (64.1 inches to date), San Joaquin 159% (62.7 inches to date), and Tulare 184% (51.4 inches to date).



The California Snow Water Content graph for July 31 plots the current snow water content as a percent of April 1 average for the Northern, Central, and Southern Sierra Nevada. As of the morning of July 31, the snowpack in Northern, Central and Southern Sierra were at 0 inches, or 0% of the April 1 average.

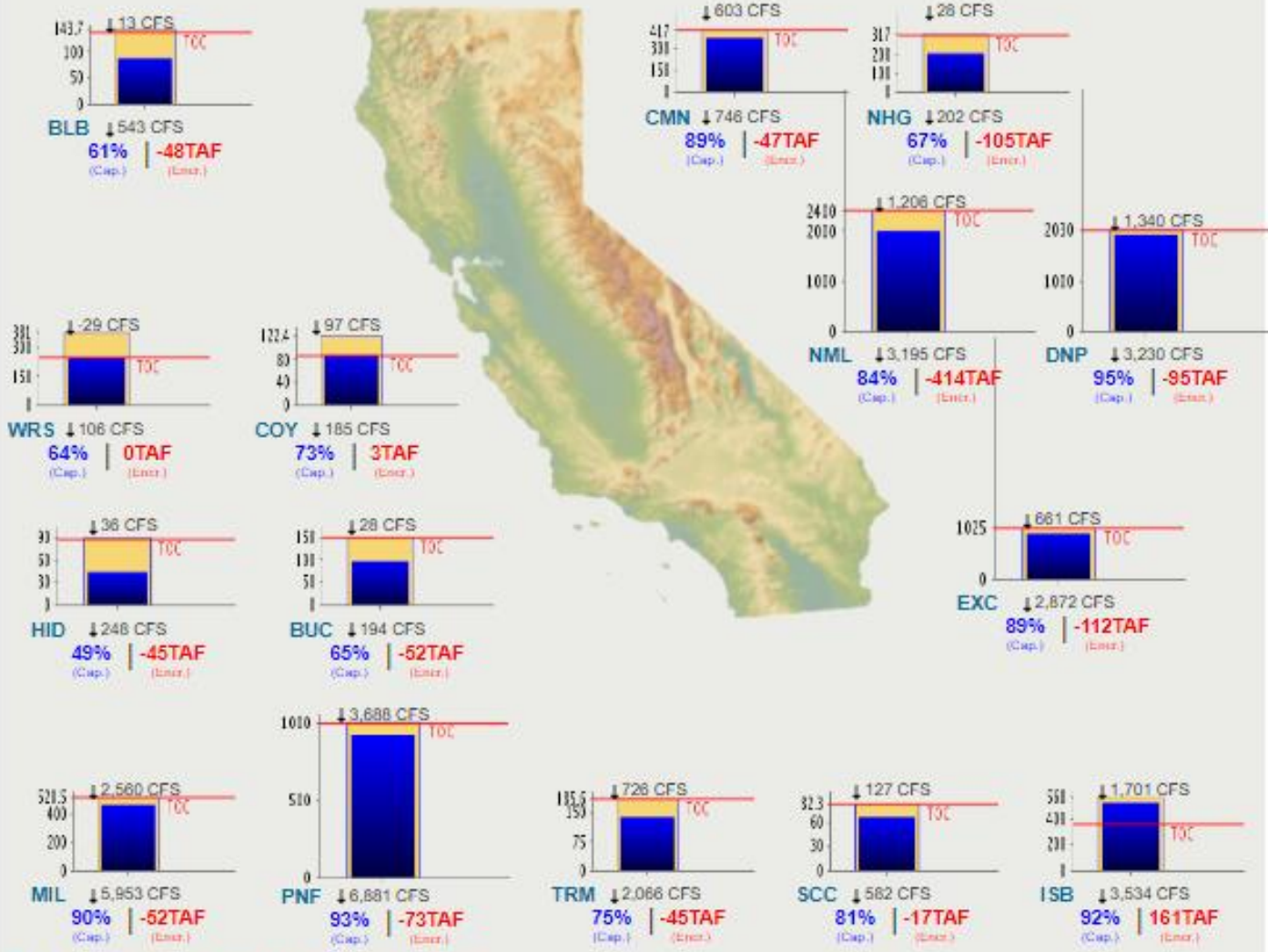
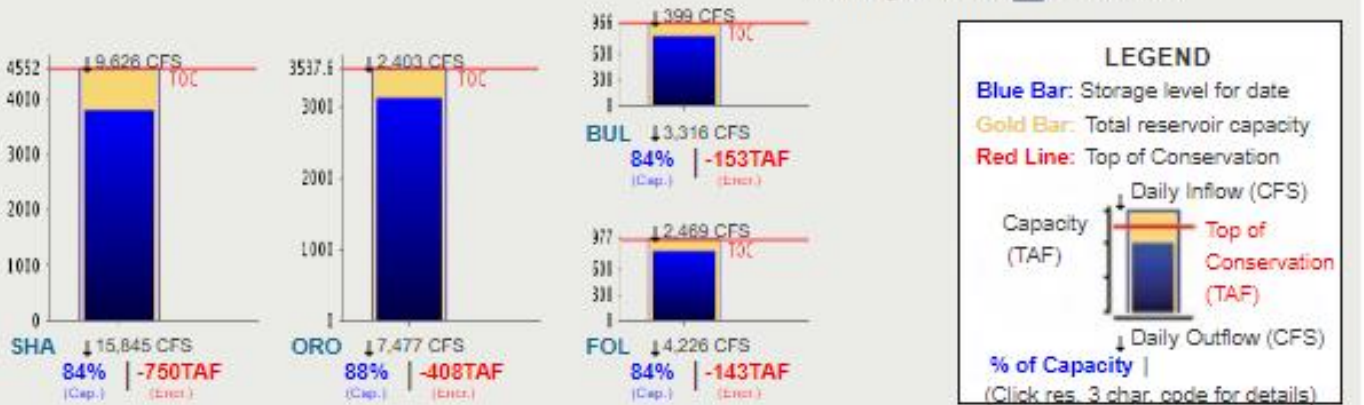
FER // RESERVOIR OPERATIONS & RIVER FORECASTING

TOP OF CONSERVATION CONDITIONS:

CENTRAL VALLEY AND RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL RESERVOIRS: 07-AUG-2023

Midnight: 07-Aug-2023

Change Date: 07-Aug-2023



Click for printable version of current data.

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The TOC for the Central Valley and Russian River Flood Control Reservoirs figure, dated August 7, shows reservoir storage ranges from 61 percent of capacity at Black Butte Lake (BLB) to 95 percent of capacity at Don Pedro Reservoir (DNP). Shasta Reservoir is at 84 percent of capacity and Lake Oroville is at 88 percent of capacity.

FER // FLOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & OPERATIONS

- Flood Operations Section (FOS) staff continued to execute contracts and oversee repairs for the Stockton-Weber Emergency Materials Transfer Facility, which was vandalized and damaged last year. The perimeter fence installation is ongoing and currently identifying post locations for three switch boxes.
- On July 7, FOS staff participated in the monthly Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee Meeting. Agenda items included updates on activities related to Delta levees and Delta flood protection, including flood emergency preparedness and operations.
- On July 12, FOS staff participated in the Region IV Mutual Aid Region Advisory Committee Meeting held in-person. Other agencies included several Inland Region County emergency managers, law enforcement, Cal OES, and Cal FIRE.
- On July 18, FOS staff participated in the Cal OES Pre-Fire Season Alignment meeting to discuss procedures, processes, and program updates ahead of fire season. Staff from Flood Project Inspection and Assessment Section and Security and Emergency Management Program were also in attendance.

FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT (FRM)

FRM // RISK ASSESSMENT & MAPPING SECTION

- **July 9 - 14:** Staff participated in a high-water survey at James Bypass (Fresno County) and Kern River Canyon (Kern County).
- **July 24:** As part of the California Silver Jackets team, staff co-hosted the Nonstructural Flood Risk Mitigation Options public workshop in Grayson, California. The purpose of the workshop was to share nonstructural options for managing floods and answer questions asked by community members.
- **July 25:** As part of the California Silver Jackets team, staff co-hosted the Nonstructural Flood Risk Mitigation Options workshop in Modesto for policymakers and community leaders. The workshop was preceded by a tour of the Dos Rios Preserve floodplain restoration project – a nonstructural flood management project which includes lands that will soon be designated as Dos Rios Ranch State Park. The workshop presentations included the Dos Rios project, as well as the upcoming Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) update.

FLOOD PLANNING (FPL)

FPL // PLAN FORMULATION & COMMUNICATION SECTION

- **July:** Following the execution of all six regional flood management planning agreements, staff met with each of the regions. Meeting topics included: administrative updates, follow-up on the analyses of the Seepage Evaluation program, underrepresented community representation in each region, and the Division of Flood Management's outlook for the 2027 CVFPP update.

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROJECTS (FRRP)

GENERAL INFORMATION

USACE Sacramento Basin Flood Improvement Event (USACE)

- USACE is tentatively planning to have an onsite event at the Sacramento Weir in mid-November to showcase all the recent flood improvement projects happening in the Sacramento Basin, including ARCF 2016, ARCF Natomas, Folsom Dam Raise, West Sacramento Project, and the Yolo Bypass Comprehensive Study. Invitations have not been sent out yet, but USACE is planning to have Congressional members, the Assistant Secretary of the Army, USACE Headquarter staff, the State, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, and media. State invites are anticipated to include the Governor, Secretary Wade Crowfoot, Director Karla Nemeth, and CVFPB President Jane Dolan.

FRRP // USACE PROJECTS

American River Common Features – 2016 Project (USACE)

- USACE has scheduled the ARCF Comprehensive EIR/S Document second draft review period for July 31 to August 2.

Marysville Ring Levee Improvement Project

- The contractor for Phase 2B mobilized to the jobsite on July 10, 2023. Initial work included fence and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan installation, along with staging area preparations. Full site clearing and grubbing began on July 17, 2023.
- The construction cost contract for the PG&E utility relocations has been executed by DWR and sent to PG&E on July 31, 2023. PG&E now needs to execute the contract but has indicated they can simultaneously start the process of getting a contractor in place to do the work.

- AT&T is scheduled to begin construction of a utility crossing at Sta 320+00 (Phase 3) on August 7, 2023. AT&T anticipates a 2-week construction period. DWR staff is in coordination with CVFPB and AT&T on environmental, cultural, and real estate requirements.
- During construction of Phase 2B, the contractor discovered old railroad tracks that go across/thru the levee. The tracks were found at approximately Sta 260+00 and encroach into the area of the proposed realigned levee. Exact location and impact to construction is being evaluated.

Sutter Basin California Project

- USACE constructed a portion of the Sutter Basin Project, which included installation of a cutoff wall requiring the removal and replacement of several permitted water supply encroachments. The final inspection was conducted in February 2021 where deficiencies associated with the vaults that were part of the replacement were identified. USACE conducted an independent technical evaluation classifying the grout placed between the pipes and vault walls as poor workmanship and deficient. USACE informed the non-federal sponsors on July 6, 2023, that all facilities associated with the Feather Water District have been reclassified as Land, Easements, Rights of Way, Relocations and Disposal, and therefore, the non-federal sponsors are 100% financially responsible. Additionally, USACE released the contractor and can therefore no longer hold the contractor responsible for the vault leakage. The non-Federal sponsors are working with USACE to release excess non-Federal sponsor funds (previously paid to USACE) so that the non-Federal sponsors can contract to remedy the deficiency.
- USACE has submitted the Comprehensive Plan, requesting the transfer of credit from Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency to San Joaquin Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA), to USACE headquarters on July 23.

Lower San Joaquin River California Project (USACE)

- The public draft for the Supplemental EIR and Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) comment period was completed and closed at 5:00 p.m. PST on July 17, 2023. USACE did not receive any comments on the SEA and there were two comments received on the SEIR.
- The quarterly SJAFCA Leadership Coordination Meeting is scheduled for August 22, from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. Attendees will include DWR management/executives, CVFPB staff and management, and SJAFCA.

West Sacramento Levee Improvement Project (USACE)

- On August 10, 2023, USACE will hold a kickoff meeting for the Sacramento River West North Levee (SRWNL) Segments 1 and 2 Design effort. SRWNL Segments 1 and 2 consist of 2.5 miles of slurry walls along the Sacramento River west bank levee from the Sacramento Bypass south to the confluence of the American River and the Sacramento River.

- On September 28, 2023, USACE will hold a design charrette meeting for the Stone Lock element of the project. The Stone Lock element physically separates the Sacramento River from the Deep Water Ship Channel (DWSC) and consists of 12 horizontal members stacked vertically, installed using a derrick crane in the Stone Lock Facility (no longer operational). The Stone Lock was originally constructed by USACE in the 1950's & 1960's as part of the DWSC & Stone Lock Facility improvements. The Stone Lock Facility has since been deauthorized by USACE in 1996 and was quitclaimed to the City of West Sacramento in 2007. Currently, water seeps under/around the bulkhead structure due to it not being seated properly.

FRRP // USACE STUDIES

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

- On July 13, 2023, USACE opened contractor bids for the Yolo Bypass East Levee (YBEL) North project. The apparent low bid was Odin-Maloney Awarding of the project is scheduled for August 18, 2023, with construction anticipated to begin in November 2023.

Yolo Bypass Comprehensive Study (USACE)

- Request for approval of the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) is on the CVFPB Agenda as an Action Item at the July 28, 2023, board meeting. Upon approval the Self-Certifications of Financial Capability, Certificate of Authority and the Local FCSA will be signed immediately following the board meeting. A signing ceremony (and study kick-off) for the FCSA is scheduled for September 12, 2023, after USACE completes their final processing of the FCSA. The signing ceremony location is TBD. Currently it is planned that DMI executives will represent DWR at the signing ceremony.

FRRP // SYSTEMWIDE FLOOD RISK REDUCTION (SFRR)

Lower Elkhorn Basin Levee Setback (LEBLS) Project

- The interior drainage and pump station are essentially complete. The LEBLS contractor will be completing the setback levee line of protection components of the project in the next two months. They started work on resolving contaminated soil from historical ag operations in the levee footprint. They are working on the tie-ins to the existing levee and have continued work removing the existing levee. AT&T is installing a temporary fiber optic line before removing an existing line that followed along portions of the existing levee.

Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project

- The 45-day public scoping period for the Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project closed on July 28, 2023. Fourteen written comments were received, in addition to comments collected at the three public scoping meetings. DWR is also hosting topic-focused project meetings throughout September. For more details on these meetings, please send an email to littleegbertmbp@water.ca.gov.

FLOOD SYSTEM OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Flood Maintenance and Operations Branch (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 funded by reimbursable accounts and through the assessments of property owners protected by the MA levees and facilities.

State Maintained Areas (SMAs):

- Levees: 142 miles
- Channels: 1,200 miles
- Flood Structures: 41 (weirs, gate structures, pumping plants, bridges, etc.)
- Collecting Canals: 44 miles

Maintenance Areas (MAs):

- MAs: MA01, 03, 04, 05, 07, 09, 12, 13, 16, and 17
- Levees: 148 miles
- Structures: 2 (1 pumping plant and 1 diversion weir)

CHANNEL MAINTENANCE & EVALUATIONS

Activities related to evaluating SPFC channels under DWR O&M responsibility to identify any deficiencies, and prioritizing (emergency, critical, serious, monitor) them for repair or rehabilitation. The following channel activities are currently being conducted:

- No updates.

FLOOD CONTROL FACILITIES & STRUCTURES

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

Structural Rehabilitation

- **Sutter Pumping Plants Rehabilitation Project:** On May 17, DWR awarded the construction contract to low bidder Syblon Reid. The Notice to Begin Work was issued on June 5.

LEEVE EVALUATIONS & REPAIRS

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 (SDDER):** DWR has awarded a contract for a seven-site repair project to address erosion in Reclamation District 2060 Hastings Island. Repairs are anticipated to be completed by November, 2023.
- **2023 Storm Damage Emergency Rehabilitation (SDER):** DWR continues to work on the evaluation of sites submitted to USACE for Sacramento River Basin PL 84-99 Rehabilitation Assistance to assess possible flood contingency and permanent repair needs.