

CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

July 28, 2023



FLOOD SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT BRANCH

Status Report and Work Activities

1.0 Operational Program: Flood System Improvement Projects

The Flood System Improvement Projects Operational Program manages the technical and regulatory review of projects to be constructed by the State, local, or other non-federal entities without federal sponsorship that would reduce the flood risk or otherwise strengthen the existing federal flood control system. These projects require authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to Title 33, United States Code Section 408 (Section 408) and a permit from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board). Projects are categorized into phases that group specific project activities: Pre-Application Review, Permitting, Pre-Construction/Construction, and Post-Construction.

Pre-Application Review

Pre-application activities include the development of alternative designs, initial requests to the USACE, and coordination on funding agreements and environmental compliance.

- *Colusa Bypass Improvement* – A pre-application meeting was held in June with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the USACE to discuss wave wash protection and erosion repair, construction and funding timelines, and the application package requirements.
- *Tudor Flood Risk Reduction Project* – The Board approved the initial Statement of No Objection letter at the June Board meeting. Staff is now preparing the USACE Transmittal package for submittal.
- *Climate Resiliency Project* – A pre-application meeting was held this month to engage the USACE on a plan to separate the project into two requests for Section 408 permission. Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA) is considering revising the minor alteration request for a geotechnical investigation along the Feather River East Levee to include borings expected during construction and an approach to a programmatic Section 408 permission for drilling activities.

Permitting

The permitting and project-review phase begins once an application is submitted to the Board and includes technical and environmental review, as well as continue coordination with the USACE.

- *Lower San Joaquin Eastside Bypass (Application No. 19527)* – DWR is back from the flood activation and is working on establishing a needed easement for the project.
- *Butte Slough Outfall Gates (Application No. 19529)* – DWR is planning to have 65% design drawings by the end of the month. DWR will then coordinate with staff and the USACE to determine what is (and is not) considered O&M for the project and will then determine how to proceed with the application process.
- *Tisdale Weir Rehabilitation and Fish Passage (Application No. 19621)* – DWR continues to address technical comments on the project design. DWR plans to submit a revised biological assessment to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that will inform the final design of the project and is also working on obtaining State agency permits.
- *Black Rascal Creek Flood Control (Application No. 19643)* – Merced Co. is addressing technical comments on the 60% design documents and is expecting to submit 90% design documents by the end of this month. Staff plans to present the final Statement of No Objection for approval at the July Board meeting. The USACE is reviewing the Environmental Assessment and coordinating with the Natural Resources Conservation Service on obtaining federal permits and approvals. Merced Co. is developing a plan on acquiring land rights consistent with the design.
- *Natomas Cross Canal Channel Enhancement (Application No. 19699)* – RD 1001 is almost complete addressing comments from the USACE. They are also hoping to speed up the environmental review because the consultations with cultural and wildlife resources agencies aren't expected to be complete until later this year, and it could delay construction up to a year. Staff is coordinating with the USACE on the 65% design documents.
- *Grimes Floodplain Restoration and Levee Resiliency (Application No. T2022060)* – The Sacramento River West Side Levee District (District) submitted a revised 60% design in April 2023. The USACE is reviewing the cultural report. The District is preparing biological assessments and documents pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

- *SR 70 Expansion/Marysville Railroad Bridge Rehabilitation (Application No. T2018093)* – Caltrans provided information to support the transmittal to the USACE. Staff is preparing a response to the USACE incomplete letter.

Construction

Construction activities occur after a permit is issued and include activities such as attending pre-construction conferences and monitoring construction methods for compliance with the issued permit and USACE conditions.

- *Lower Elkhorn Basin Levee Setback (Permit No. 19153)* – DWR is constructing the seepage berms to remediate the hydraulic fracture caused by the installation of the underground AT&T fiber optic line. Staff is reviewing a request to remove a surface preparation requirement for the tied-concrete block mat installation to avoid risk of erosion and failure to establish vegetation. AT&T is constructing the temporary aerial alignment. DWR is coordinating with the State Water Resources Control Board on remediating soil contamination near the landside seepage berm at Sta 156+00 identified in February 2023. Asphalt removal on the remnant levee is underway as part of the degrade effort. DWR is conducting a site visit on July 13 to inspect the embankment and confirm the results of a report documenting the impact of the winter rains. Staff expects to issue a permit update this month to include an amended USACE letter of permission and revised plans.
- *Smith Canal Gate (Permit No. 19233)* – Construction of the cofferdam continues as well as the land operations at Dads Point.
- *Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvements (Permit No. 19477-1)* – Staff is reviewing emergency operations plans for RD 2068 and RD 2098. DWR provided revisions to the federal O&M manual and expects to breach the Shag Slough levee in Fall 2024. DWR also provided a revised plan to remove the Shag Slough bridge that includes removal of a pair of abutments. The plan is being reviewed by staff as a maintenance action and will consult the USACE on any Section 408 requirements.
- *Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage (Big Notch) (Permit No. 19523)* – DWR is constructing walls for the headworks area and completing dewatering of the transport channel for construction of the pedestrian bridge. Temporary fill was placed near the cofferdam embankment at the south end of the transport channel to prevent rising water in Tule Pond from inundating the site.
- *Phase III 100-Year Levee Seepage Repair Project (Permit No. 18980)* – RD 17 started construction of Element VI cutoff wall in late June and construction is estimated to take approximately three months.

- *Old Sutter Pumping Plant Rehabilitation (Permit No. 18533-1, 18534-1, and 18535-1)* – The pre-construction process has already begun and the equipment mobilization for construction will start August 7.

Post-Construction

Post-construction activities include reviewing project completion reports, updating the federal operation and maintenance (O&M) manual, and acquiring real estate.

- *Phase III 100-Year Levee Seepage Repair (Permit No. 18980-1)* – Reclamation District (RD) 17 reviewed the USACE comments for the updated O&M manual and are waiting on the contractor for the final as-built drawings to complete the update.
- *Southport Levee Improvement Project–Floodplain Restoration (Permit No. 18313-4)* – The USACE approved the update to the supplemental O&M manual for the federal project. Staff will review the revised manual and transfer the O&M responsibilities to the local maintaining agency. Staff continues to review a request by the West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency to modify special conditions of the permit that conflict with environmental mitigation requirements.
- *Bear River Setback Levee (Permit No. 19486)* – RD 784 is working on a permit application to replace the irrigation pipe found downstream of the setback levee and proposed revisions to the federal O&M manual due by May 2023. RD 784 requested an extension through December 2023.

2.0 Operational Program: Federal Water Resources Studies and Projects

The Federal Water Resources Studies and Projects program manages the responsibilities of the non-federal sponsor for federal projects, including approving project agreements, project coordination, technical and environmental review, utility relocations, and updating operation and maintenance manuals. This section also includes projects authorized by Congress but implemented by a non-federal agency.

Sutter Basin Project

Staff is almost complete processing 12 pipe post-permission permits and will have them reviewed and approved by the Executive Officer (EO) in August. Staff is also almost complete processing 21 ramp post-permission permits and expects approval from the EO in September.

Marysville Ring Levee Project

Coordination on the relocation of utilities, cultural vibration studies, and other pre-construction activities continue for Phase 2B. The USACE completed final design

documents for the SR 70 gap segment. The USACE is working through post-construction items for Phase 3 and expects to submit as-built drawings by December 2023. Staff is reviewing requests from PG&E for utility relocations in Phase 3. Available funds for the project total \$41 million.

West Sacramento Project

Design documents are being developed for the Sacramento River West North Levee segment. The USACE will host a groundbreaking ceremony in October for the Yolo Bypass East Levee (YBEL) – South segment. Mobilization and site clearing began last month. All bids for the YBEL – North segment were due last month with award scheduled for August. A strategy discussion on the risk assessment for the Stone Lock project feature will be scheduled.

Goldfields 200-Year Levee Improvement Project

The Board approved an amendment to the 1953 Memorandum of Understanding at the June 2023 Board meeting. Staff provided comments regarding the construction documentation report responses from TRLIA.

Lower San Joaquin River Project

Phase 1 - California Project

Staff continues to support the monthly Project Leadership Board (PLB) meetings. The current focus is looking at the overall schedule for the many phases of the 35% designs.

Phase 2 - Lathrop and Manteca Feasibility Study

Staff is meeting regularly with the multiple study design teams including Hydrology and Hydraulics, Economics, and Engineering, in addition to regular PDT meetings, and supporting DWR for the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement budget change addendum.

Lower Cache Creek/Woodland Flood Risk Reduction Project

The project delivery team continues work on in-kind credit contributions along with construction scheduling and project budgeting. A project kick-off meeting is being scheduled.

Sacramento River Bank Protection Project

The Board approved the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) for the supplemental authorization to Phase II to allow construction of an additional 80,000 linear feet of bank protection at the June 2023 Board meeting. The PPA will be reviewed by USACE

District and Division offices with a scheduled completion date of September 2023. The USACE continues efforts to close out completed work and issue notices of completion under the original authorization of Phase II.

Mid-Valley Area, Phase III, Levee Reconstruction Project

Construction crews will complete levee fill, profile surveys, road construction activities at Sites 9 and 10 this month before a final inspection planned for July 14, and degrade of the emergency levee fill material placed during the recent winter storms and place permanent fill for Sites 9 and 10. Board staff issued the final Statement of No Objection to the USACE that was approved by the Board in May for Site 11.

3.0 Sacramento Levees Section

The Board and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency coordinate on projects authorized under the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 through the Sacramento Levees Section (SLS). Staff assists with enforcement, permitting, and inspection of encroachments within the USACE's project footprint to allow construction projects to move forward without any major delays.

American River Common Features 2016 Project

- *Sacramento Bypass and Sacramento Weir Expansion* –Construction is anticipated to begin in August 2023. Staff participated in PDT and real estate meetings.
- *Seepage / Stability – Sacramento River East Levee (SREL)* – The last phase of the SREL Seepage/Stability Project, SREL C4, is currently underway and expected to be completed in late 2023. **Attachment 1** provides the July monthly progress update for the work along the SREL. Staff participated in PDT and real estate meetings. Staff also worked on Public Records Act requests related to encroachments in the Pocket Area.
- *Erosion – American River* – Erosion work Contract 1 and 2 (AR C1 & C2) 2022 construction was substantially completed, and remaining construction continues. **Attachment 2** provides the July monthly progress update for the work along the American River.

Erosion – Sacramento River – Contract 2 construction began in early July 2023 and is expected to be completed in 2024. Contract 4 is scheduled to start construction in 2024. Staff worked closely with the design team to address numerous boat docks (permitted and unpermitted) identified within the construction footprint. Staff has sent formal notification letters to homeowners notifying them about the upcoming

construction, removal of their boat docks and pilings, and possible permit revocation proceedings. Staff participated in PDT and real estate meetings.

South Sacramento County Streams Construction Project

No significant activities to report for the period of this report.

American River Common Features WRDA 96/99 Project

No significant activities to report for the period of this report.

Natomas Basin Project

Improvements to the levees surrounding the Natomas Basin are ongoing. **Attachment 3** provides the quarterly April progress update for the levee construction in the Natomas Basin. The entire project is anticipated to be completed in 2024 or 2025.

Staff participated in utility relocations and real estate meetings to facilitate the utility relocations permitting related to the project.

Folsom Dam Modifications (Joint Federal Project)

No significant activities to report for the period of this report.

Folsom Dam Raise Project

The Folsom Dam Raise project is currently underway and scheduled for completion in 2027.

4.0 Operational Program: Adequate Progress

The Adequate Progress program reviews reports by cities and counties on adequate progress towards achieving the Urban Level of Flood Protection, which is equal to or greater than the level of protection in urban or urbanizing areas.

There are no activities to report for the period of this report.

5.0 Operational Program: Safety Element Review

The Safety Element Review program evaluates flood safety in general plan updates for agencies within the Board’s jurisdiction.

There are no activities to report for the period of this report.

6.0 Operational Program: Special Projects

Special projects are areas of focus that fall outside of our regular operational programs.

Designated Floodway Modernization Program

Staff meets with the consultant team bimonthly to analyze newly modeled channels within the Designated Floodway (DF) to determine the new extents of the DF boundary. Staff also participates in brainstorming sessions to create a Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions document to help justify the need for the DF program and necessary funding.

Staff held a workshop on June 14, focused on the future scope of the DF modernization program, alignment and integration with other State programs and initiatives, and the formation of a steering committee focused on potential regulation and policy changes

Non-Federal Projects

- *High-Speed Rail Project, Fresno to Bakersfield (Permit No. 18956-1 et seq.)* – The Kings River crossing portion continues construction with the columns and abutments and is continuing to work on the trestle. Work on the Cross Creek and Dutch John Cut Bridge crossings consist of BMP maintenance and vegetation removal. Staff is also supporting two additional waterway crossings that will require future Board permits.
- *Yuba River North Training Wall Project–Phase 2* – Staff has deemed the permit application complete and will begin the technical and environmental review.

Delta Conveyance Project

DWR is preparing the Final Environmental Impact Report. DWR will complete geotechnical investigations along the Sacramento River east levee between Courtland and Clarksburg this month. Staff will provide an environmental update this month.

Chester Diversion Dam Emergency Action Plan (EAP)

Nothing new to report. Staff updated the EAP in June and sent revised copies to the book holders.



Erosion Contract 2 Before Construction



American River Common Features 2016 Sacramento River Levees Monthly Update

Attachment 1

July 2023

Highlights (last 30 days)

2023 construction is underway and SREL Contracts 3 and 4 are in progress. We'll begin Erosion Contract 2 - Season 1 early this month. We completed the majority of the tree clearing in preparation for Erosion Contract 2 - Season 1 on June 29. Eight remaining trees will be removed around August 15 when we expect an active nest of Osprey juveniles to have developed enough to leave the area. Design efforts are on track for construction in 2024 (Erosion C4) and, 2025/2026 (Erosion C3).

Looking Ahead (next 30+ days)

What can I expect?

Cutoff wall test section construction, evaluation of post-storm related damage, batch plant mobilization, material deliveries, and tree removal/site preparation for 2023 erosion with appropriate environmental monitoring.

Hours of Operation: Mon – Sat from 7am-7pm.

Garcia Bend Park Staging

- ◆ Boat ramp closed during construction at the request of the City with intermittent vehicle traffic during construction.
- ◆ 10-20 truck loads of material for approximately 10 consecutive days
- ◆ Following the construction of a test section, Garcia Park will have light traffic in and out until mid to late July.

Sump 132

- ◆ Work anticipated to continue through December
- ◆ Batch plant operations
- ◆ 2-3 cement deliveries daily

Benham Way Staging Area/North Point Way Access Point

- ◆ Completed and reopened

Zacharias Park

- ◆ Completed and reopened

Cliff's Marina

- ◆ Temporary fencing installation. Construction activity beginning mid-May and continuing until December. The levee is closed from the Freeport Water Tower to Cliff's Marina.
- ◆ Haul trucks entering/existing

Westin

- ◆ Levee work continues through December
- ◆ Batch plant mobilization and the begin of test wall construction
- ◆ Deep Mixed Method drilling moving south from Sump 132

Broadway

- ◆ We don't anticipate work starting until late summer/early fall

Question of the Month

Where and when will Erosion Contract 2 occur and what construction method will be used?

Contract 2 consists of erosion control and bank stabilization improvements at six sites along a 3-mile stretch of the Sacramento River's East Levee from the Pioneer Bridge to the Pocket. We'll construct sites 2, 3 and 6 this year and sites 1, 4 and 5 in 2024 (see construction map on page 3). In-water construction will begin this month and our crew will work from tug and barge on the waterside of levee, which may affect boating traffic.

Information Resources:

Project Webpage:

www.sacleveeupgrades.com



Sacramento District Homepage:

www.spk.usace.army.mil

Contact Information:

For questions or concerns, please contact our Public Affairs Office at
916-557-5100
spk-pao@usace.army.mil

Upcoming Milestones

Seepage/Stability/ Overtopping

SREL Contract 3

Construction

March 2022 - September 2023

SREL Contract 4

Construction

April 2023 - December 2023

Erosion

Contract 2

Construction

July 2023 - October 2024

Contract 3

Construction award

anticipated January/February
2025

Contract 4

Construction award

anticipated January/February
2024

Additional information can be found on
our project web page at
www.sacleveeupgrades.com

*All Dates Subject to Change



American River Common Features 2016 American River Erosion Monthly Update

Attachment 2

July 2023

Highlights (last 30+ days)

The 2023 construction season is well underway at site 2-3 on the right bank near Campus Commons. Flows are declining to summertime averages.

Contract 1 (Site 2-1)

All construction work is complete.

Contract 2 (Site 2-3 & 2-2, Season 2, H St. bridge to Howe Ave)

At site 2-3, the contractor has completed striping, grubbing and bench excavation. In the process, we've been hauling off a lot debris and cleaning up the work site.

CAUTION: Haul trucks are now using the access point at University Park. For your safety, please respect all signage and flaggers where the haul route crosses the bike path beneath Howe Ave.

Mitigation Contract C (Rio Americano and Rossmoor West sites)

Installation of irrigation and placing additional plantings completed within the Rio sites and supplemental plantings started in Rossmoor West.

Mitigation Contract E1A (Paradise Bend)

Hand watering of transplanted elderberry shrubs continued.

Looking Ahead (next 30+ days)

Current Activity - What can I expect?

Work hours: Monday-Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Contract 1 (Site 2-1)

Revegetation for Site 2-1 will begin late July now that high water conditions are subsiding.

Contract 2 (Site 2-3 & 2-2, Season 2, H St. bridge to Howe Ave)

At site 2-3, the contractor will begin excavating trenches and placing riprap for launchable spurs and tiebacks.

At site 2-2, the contractor will begin stripping and grubbing vegetation and preparing the bank for placement of riprap and other material.

Note: The Great American Triathlon on July 15 will transition from run to bike within the Contract 2 footprint at the Guy West bridge. *Please respect all signage and security fencing.*

Mitigation Contract C (Rio Americano and Rossmoor West sites)

We will complete the placement of the additional plantings at Rossmoor West and the mitigation sites will be monitored for performance.

Mitigation E1A (Paradise Bend)

Locust stump removal should begin followed by installation of the irrigation and additional plantings within the site.

Question of the Month

Why are the new plants so small?

As we start establishing the native plants in our erosion and mitigation sites, you may notice that they seem rather small. While it may seem counterintuitive, planting smaller plants has several advantages. Smaller plants generally have an easier time establishing themselves in new environments. They can quickly extend their roots and establish a strong foundation, leading to better overall growth and survival rates. The plants also have less leaf area to lose water through. Additionally, smaller plants are generally less expensive to purchase than more mature plants. At the scale of our plantings (nearly 30,000 between LAR erosion contract 1, 2 and the VELB mitigation sites), this adds up. Within 2-3 years after planting, they will be as big as plants that start out in 5 gallon containers. By starting with smaller plants, we imitate the natural processes of colonization and succession, leading to a more resilient and self-sustaining site.



Information Resources:

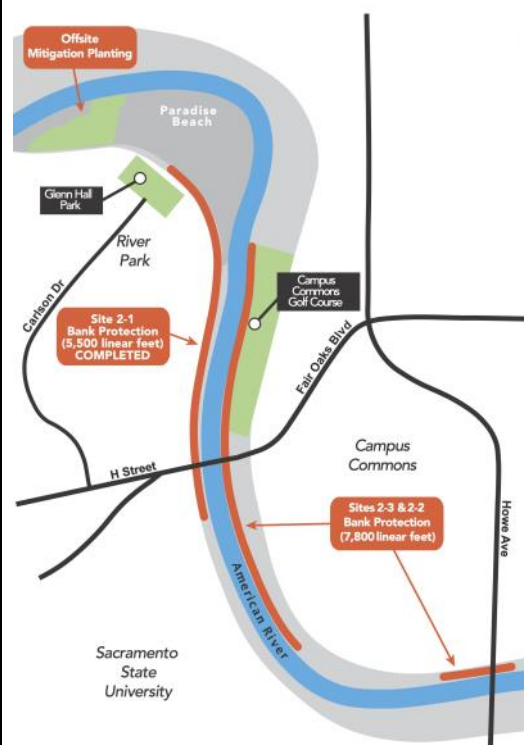
Project Webpage:

www.sacleveeupgrades.com



Contact Information:

For questions or concerns, contact
Public Affairs: 916-557-5100
spk-pao@usace.army.mil



Upcoming Milestones

LAR Contract 1 & 2 season 1

Revegetation
July 2023

LAR Contract 2

Construction (Season 2)
May - November 2023

Mitigation E1A

Final Vegetation Clearing
November 2023

Additional information regarding this project can be found at
www.sacleveeupgrades.com

*All Dates Subject to Change

American River Common Features Natomas Basin

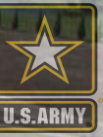
APRIL 2023

Levee Improvement Project Monthly Update

Attachment 3



US Army Corps of Engineers



U.S. ARMY

REACH SCHEDULE

- Levee construction to resume Spring of 2023 along Garden HWY starting at Farm Rd. and extending to I-80.
- Additional tree removal resuming Spring 2023.
- Overhead Utility relocations ongoing, estimated completion Fall 2023.
- Improvements to Pumping Plant 1B, City Sump 160 and Pumping Plant 1A anticipated to begin in 2024.

Visit **Reach A** website for the latest project news: [Click here](#)

- Levee construction began July 2020; Adjacent Levee Construction is 95% complete. Final completion, including seepage berm, is expected in the Summer 2023.
- Irrigation canal improvements are completed.
- Lift station is operational but will require installation of a new air release valve in Spring 2023.
- I-5 Window - Construction began Summer 2022 and was declared substantially complete in January 2023.
- Pumping Plants:
 - Pumping Plant #3 – Construction completed, and plant is operational. Relief well work is ongoing and expected to finish Spring 2023.
 - Pumping Plant #5 - Construction expected to begin Summer 2024
 - Riverside Pumping Plant Replacement to begin Summer 2022 with discharge pipe relocation to begin 2024.
 - Elkhorn Pumping Plant construction to begin 2024.

- Levee construction was completed in 2008/2009 by Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency.
- Pritchard Lake Pumping Plant to begin construction in 2025.

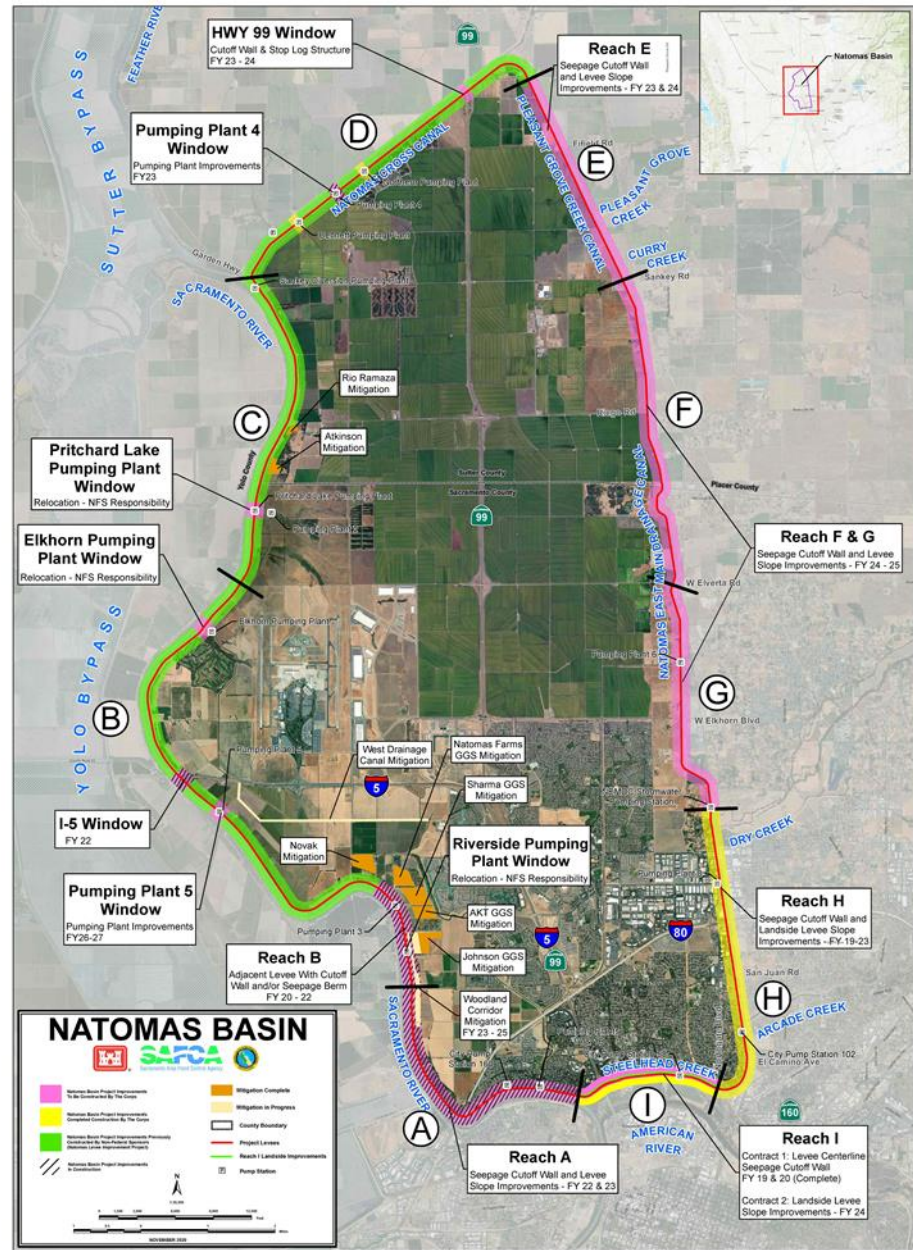
- Levee construction was completed in 2008/2009 by Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency.
- Highway 99 Window – Construction expected to begin Spring 2024.
- Pumping Plant #4 – Construction began August 2021; expected to be completed Fall 2023.

- Levee construction expected to begin Spring 2023.
- Utility Relocations to be completed Spring 2023.
- Tree Removal completed.

- Levee construction and improvements to the levee slope and Pumping Plant #6 expected to begin Spring 2025.

- Levee construction and improvements to Pumping Stations #8 and #102 began 2018; expected to be completed Spring 2024.
- Seepage berm construction to begin later Summer 2022; completion expected in the Spring 2024.
- Installation of concrete staircase, monitoring wells, and retaining walls underway.

- Contract 1: Levee construction and improvements to Pump Station #58 completed Fall 2022.
- Contract 2: Landside levee improvements and installation of maintenance road expected to begin Summer 2024.
 - Tree Removal efforts ongoing.
 - Utility Relocations expected to begin in 2023.



Get the Latest Natomas Updates Here



Project Website

www.natomaslevees.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or concerns, please contact USACE Public Affairs
916.557.5100 / spk-pao@usace.army.mil



US Army Corps of Engineers



American River Common Features Natomas Basin

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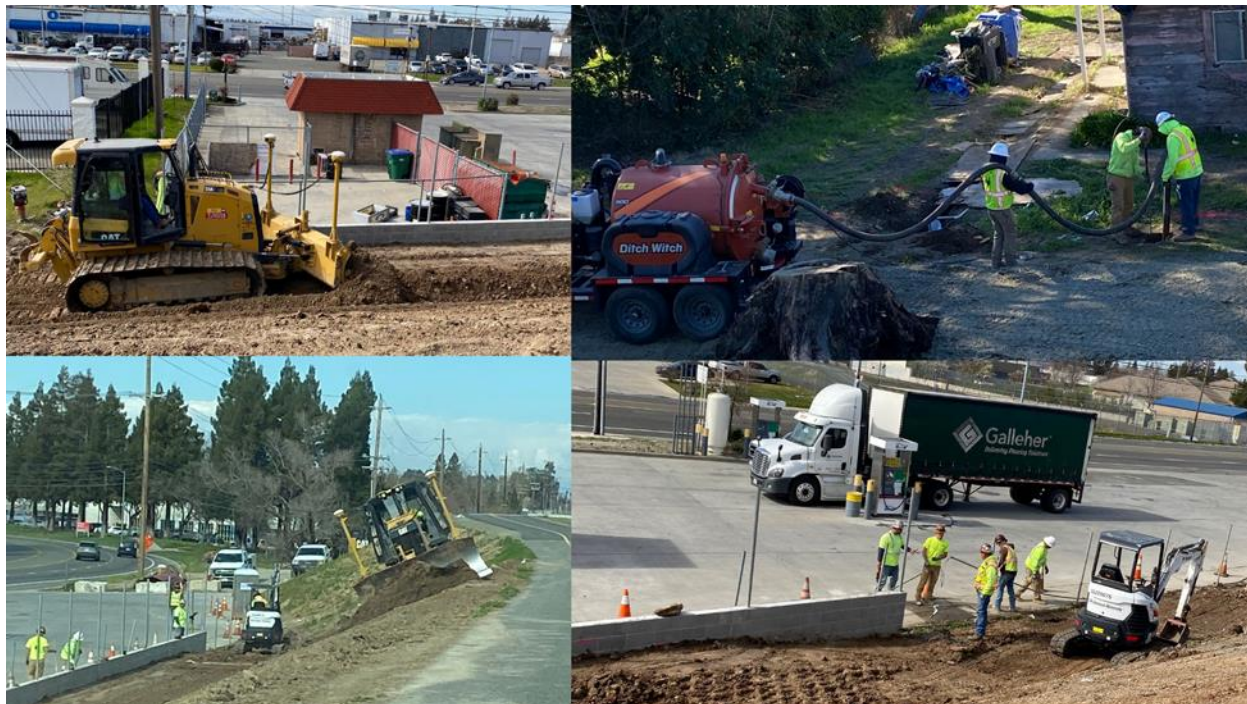


U.S. ARMY



Reach B:

Pumping Plant No. 3 Relief Well Controlled Low Strength Material
backfill



Reach H:

Levee improvements and Seepage Berm construction



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

