

Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP)

Summary: The Central Valley Flood Protection Act of 2008 directed the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to prepare the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP). The CVFPP is a flood management planning effort which addresses flood risks in an integrated manner. It specifically proposes a systemwide approach to flood management for the areas currently protected by facilities of the State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC).

Background

DWR was required by the Central Valley Flood Protection Act to prepare the CVFPP by January 1, 2012. This Plan will be considered for adoption by the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) by July 1, 2012, and it is expected that the Plan will be updated every 5 years thereafter (in years ending in 7 and 2). As the first edition of this long-term planning document, the 2012 CVFPP describes a broadly supported vision for improving integrated flood management in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley for those areas currently protected by the SPFC.

The CVFPP proposes a systemwide approach to address:

- Physical improvements in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River basins
- Urban flood protection
- Small community flood protection
- Rural-Agricultural area flood protection
- System improvements
- Non SPFC levees
- Ecosystem restoration opportunities
- Climate change considerations

The CVFPP also addresses the development of feasibility studies, funding strategies, and implementation challenges that the proposed approach faces in its initial implementation. Mike Mierzwa, DWR, will provide the Council an overview of the CVFPP.

It should be noted that the geographic scope of the coverage of the CVFPP only covers those portions of the Delta covered by the SPFC. Thus, approximately 2/3rds of Delta levees are not addressed within the CVFPP. The effects of systemwide improvements directed by the CVFPP and the potential of redirected impacts to areas within the Delta are of interest to the Delta Stewardship Council.

Next Steps

The Delta Reform Act, in Water Code Section 85306, provides:

The council, in consultation with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, shall recommend in the Delta Plan priorities for state investments in levee operation, maintenance, and improvements in the Delta, including both levees that are a part of the State Plan of Flood Control and nonproject levees.

The Council staff has been consulting with DWR throughout the drafting of the Delta Plan, and many key recommendations of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan are already reflected in the Delta Plan's 5th staff draft. Staff is continuing to coordinate with DWR as we review the CVFPP, including soliciting Central Valley Flood Protection Board's recommendations about how to respond to its planning for the SPFC.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1: The Central Valley Flood Protection Plan can be accessed at:
http://www.water.ca.gov/cvfm/docs/2012_CVFPP_FullDocumentHighRes_20111230.pdf

Contact

Eric Nichol, P.E.
Delta Stewardship Council

Phone: (916) 445-5339