



## Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) 2017 Update

### Background

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) – formerly known as the State Reclamation Board – has been in existence since 1911.

“The CVFPB regulates the facilities of the State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC), a document that details the infrastructure and operation of the flood management system that includes 1600 miles of levees, five major weirs, four dams, six pumping plants, floodways, bypasses, and drainage facilities. SPFC facilities influence flooding and flood management on more than 22 million acres in the Central Valley, stretching from Red Bluff to Fresno. SPFC facilities include many flood control projects along the mainstem and tributaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, which have been built incrementally since the project was first federally authorized in 1917. SPFC facilities are those for which the CVFPB or the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has provided assurances of cooperation to the federal government. These state-provided assurances are an important distinction as to what comprises the State-federal flood protection system. There are other flood protection facilities in the Central Valley that are not covered by State assurances and are not part of the State-federal system.” (Source: [Maven's Notebook](#))

Water Code section 9612 requires DWR to prepare, and CVFPB to adopt, the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan. The Plan must include the following elements:

- (a) A description of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Flood Management System and the cities and counties included in the system.
- (b) A description of the performance of the system and the challenges to modifying the system to provide appropriate levels of flood protection using available information.
- (c) A description of the facilities included in the State Plan of Flood Control (with descriptions to include specific information).
- (d) A description of each existing dam that is not part of the State Plan of Flood Control that provides either significant systemwide benefits for managing flood risks within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley or protects urban areas within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley.
- (e) A description of each existing levee and other flood management facility not described in subdivision (d) that is not part of the State Plan of Flood Control and that

provides either significant systemwide benefits for managing flood risks within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley or protects an urban area.

(f) A description of the probable impacts of projected climate change, projected land use patterns, and other potential flood management challenges on the ability of the system to provide adequate levels of flood protection.

(g) An evaluation of the structural improvements and repairs necessary to bring each of the facilities of the State Plan of Flood Control to within its design standard. The evaluation shall include a prioritized list of recommended actions necessary to bring each facility not identified in subdivision (h) to within its design standard.

(h) The evaluation shall include a list of facilities recommended to be removed from the State Plan of Flood Control.

(i) A description of both structural and nonstructural methods for providing an urban level of flood protection to current urban areas. The description shall also include a list of recommended next steps to improve urban flood protection.

(j) A description of structural and nonstructural means for enabling or improving systemwide riverine ecosystem function, including, but not limited to, establishment of riparian habitat and seasonal inundation of available flood plains where feasible.

The Plan must also include a description of structural and nonstructural means of improving the performance and eliminating deficiencies of levees, weirs, bypasses, and facilities, and wherever possible, meet multiple objectives (such as reducing the risk to human life, linking the flood protection system with the water supply system, and increasing the quantity and connectivity of riparian and wetland habitat).

The CVFPB released the first Plan in 2012, which included a “State Systemwide Investment Approach” (SSIA)—essentially a road map for Central Valley flood risk management. [The 2017 Update](#) included refinements to the SSIA based on new information, physical changes to the flood system, and policy changes since 2012. The 2017 Update also described progress in implementing the SSIA, and recommended investments and additional policy changes to achieve the Plan goals. In particular, the 2017 Update identified needed investments in flood management totaling \$17 to \$21 billion over the next 30 years. Eighty four percent of this investment is expected to be funded by local agencies, while the State and federal shares are 12 and 4 percent, respectively. The CVFPB also published [Highlights of the CVFPP 2017 Update](#), which summarizes the contents of the update.

Darren Suen, Principal Engineer and Advisor to the Executive Officer, will brief the Commission on the 2017 CVFPP update and the CVFPB’s role in advocating for federal funding for flood risk management. He will also address the CVFPB’s interest and role in Flood-Managed aquifer recharge.

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This is an informational item.

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