

**Yuba County Flood Stakeholders
Meeting Notes
February 6, 2013**

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

Agenda items are shown in Bold.

1. Introduction - The purpose of the meeting is to bring Yuba County entities involved in flood protection together for education on local, State, and Federal activities of interest with the objective of maintaining and improving flood protection in Yuba County. The intended audience is staff, consultants, and board members of RD 817, RD 2103, RD 784, MLD, D10, Yuba County, Marysville, Wheatland, and YCWA.

2. Summary of Flood Control Activities in Yuba County

a. **Marysville** – This is a 4 phase project being implemented by the Corps currently estimated at \$90 million. Phase 1 was substantially completed in November and Phase 4 is currently scheduled to be constructed this year. Full project completion, assuming adequate appropriations, is 2016 and will provide approximately 300-year protection to the City of Marysville. Project will receive credit towards the non-Federal share of costs from advance construction completed by TRLIA, and credit should be available later this year. Credit was dependent on a General Re-evaluation Report by the Corps, but that has been revised to a Post Authorization Report and an Integral Determination Report to expedite credit availability for previously authorized portions of the project.

Comstock Article – Aikens reported that there was a recent article in Comstock regarding Section 104 credit. It was a negative article and YCWA is not sure why the author took the stance that he did by reporting that YCWA’s request is the reason why the Corps will no longer consider Section 104 credit. Credit is needed to leverage State and local investments, and both YCWA and DWR continue to work with the Corps and Congress on this issue.

b. TRLIA

i. **Goldfields** - TRLIA has completed actions to help protect against a 100-year flood. They are currently working on a permanent 200-year solution. Alternatives 12 or 12A on the provided handout (attached) are most cost effective. Project is a complicated assortment of land use issues and permitted mining actions that constantly change the landscape. TRLIA is currently working with Corps on land use issues and Section 7 consultation for impacts to Elderberry Beetle habitat (VELB). Project will not be a levee, but will be a substantial embankment of existing aggregate to connect high ground and will be completed with cooperation from mining companies. Project will likely be 2014/15 construction.

ii. **ULDC Determination of RD 784 Levees** – State law requires that, for urban areas with populations of 10,000 or more, the area make adequate progress by 2016 on a plan to provide 200-year protection and complete the 200-year improvements by 2025. TRLIA has commissioned a team to evaluate whether RD 784 meets the ULDC criteria. Some modest work will likely be required since

the ULDC have more stringent requirements than the TRLIA project designed to in the early phases.

3. Draft YCWA Flood Management Strategic Plan

a. **Purpose** – The Flood Management Strategic Plan is part of YCWA’s overall Strategic Plan. Water Supply reliability is the Number 1 priority and Flood Control is the second highest priority. Flood Control is part of YCWA’s Mission and the agency will continue to coordinate the community role and provide financial support for planning efforts to improve urban and rural flood protection in Yuba County.

b. **Summary of Content** – Some key points and activities underway in the attached plan include financial support for rural levees, including development of appropriate project criteria, taking an active role in funding AFMA (see discussion below) to address FEMA impacts, support and planning for system-wide projects including feasibility of structural and operational improvements to New Bullard’s Bar, operational improvements to Oroville, and support of DWR’s System-wide Feasibility Studies.

Agricultural Floodplain Management Alliance (AFMA) – Group of agricultural interests and land use agencies that started in Northern California and are working with other regions to address the impacts of FEMA remapping on agricultural communities in the floodplain. Development in agricultural areas is different than any other area. If FEMA regulations are too strict it could force agricultural communities to disappear or convert land to development to financially support levee improvements. Current FEMA updates are that rates are being converted to actuarial rates which, as currently proposed, could increase flood insurance rates in levee’d areas by 2 – 10 times current rates and be financially burdensome to agricultural communities.

c. **Discussion**

d. **Timeline for Finalizing** – YCWA is working to finalize the overall Strategic Plan, which will include this flood portion, in the coming months.

4. **Implementation of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan** – Implementation of the CVFPP to achieve State’s goals of 200-year protection for urban communities, protection for small communities, investments in rural areas, feasibility studies for System-wide improvement projects, as well as improvements to emergency operations, operations and maintenance (O&M), all weather patrol roads, and support for AFMA to assist rural areas.

a. **Regional Flood Management Planning Process** – The State was divided into 9 regions (now consolidated to 6) that are being provided 100% State funding to identify, preliminarily evaluate, and rank projects within the regions. The regional plans are being completed in parallel with the State’s System-wide studies which will evaluate projects that benefit large portions of the system, i.e. bypass widening, reservoir improvements, opportunities for storage, etc.

b. **Basin-wide Feasibility Studies** - The Regional process will inform the State’s Basin-wide feasibility studies which will determine which regional projects meet the CVFPP goals and objectives and will be implemented with State support.

c. **2017 Update of the CVFPP** - The intent will be to complete the Basin-wide studies in 2015/16 to inform the 2017 CVFPP update. DWR is working to develop a financing plan later this year to provide options for plan implementation.

DWR reported that the CVFPP implementation effort described above is independent of investing the remaining bond funds. Several programs are underway and/or will soon be released as follows:

- Flood Emergency Grant final guidelines and PSP expected to be released today. Elements in this grant, such as emergency plans, O&M improvements, etc. will likely help increase State cost-shares for future grant programs.
- Rural Levee Critical Repairs Program - This program includes \$150 million of direct funding for rural levee critical repairs. Letters of intent will be sent to the LMA in February/March for each of the Critical projects as identified by the State.
- The Urban Repair Program will replace the EIP Program to fund the urban projects.
- DWR working towards programs for developing rural levee design criteria and implementing small community protection projects.

5. Feather River Regional Flood Management Plan

- a. Scope** – The application scope, schedule, and budget are attached. The basic strategy in the Feather River Region will be for smaller group meetings instead of large public meetings in order to try and receive honest discussion from local maintaining agencies, landowners, and other interested groups.
- b. Schedule** – The schedule in the application shows a January 1st start date, the funding letter was received on February 1st so all dates are 1 month off.
- c. Discussion** - The Feather RFMP team will be contacting all Local Maintaining Agencies and stakeholders to start meeting with them over the next 30 days. Stakeholders should be prepared to discuss historic problem areas and/or projects that would improve their protection or O&M activities.

****Next Meeting will be around the first deliverable in the Feather River Regional Planning process, likely in the May timeframe.**

Yuba Flood Stakeholders Meeting

Sign In Sheet

2/6/13

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