

THIS ISSUE

In The News [P. 1](#)

Delta Islands & Levees Feasibility Study [P. 2](#)

CALFED Levee Stability Program [P. 3](#)

Delta Long Term Management Strategy (Delta-LTMS) [P. 4](#)

Lower San Joaquin Feasibility Study [P. 5](#)

SF Bay to Stockton Navigation Improvement Project [P. 6](#)

Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel Project [P. 7](#)

Delta Events [P. 8](#)

P. 1



A look at Corps activities and other news affecting the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

In the News

Environmental Report for Suisun Marsh Oil Spill Complete

By the DFG
DFG News- August 10, 2010

Plans to help restore sensitive Suisun Marsh wetlands to compensate for a 124,000-gallon diesel spill in 2004 have gained final approval. State and federal agencies completed the final environmental damage assessment and restoration plan for the Suisun Marsh oil spill, where on April 27, 2004 a pipeline owned by Kinder Morgan Energy Partners ruptured and discharged thousands of gallons of diesel fuel. The release resulted in death and injury to a variety of birds, reptiles, fish, invertebrates, and small mammals, including the salt marsh harvest mouse - an endangered species.

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/news/news10/2010081001-Environmental-Report-Suisun.html>

Study: Cut in delta water use needed for fish

By Kelly Zito
SF Chronicle- August 4, 2010

The amount of water pumped out of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta would have to be cut in half if vulnerable fish populations are going to be preserved for future generations, a state report declared Tuesday.

The 190-page study by the State Water Resources Control Board is nonbinding, but it could shape how communities from the Bay Area to San Diego divvy up California's most precious resource. The document, issued by the five-member board after nine months of scientific study, determined that 75 percent of runoff from snowpack and rainfall would need to funnel through the delta to San Francisco Bay and the ocean in order to sustain the estuary's most important wildlife and habitats, known in legal parlance as "public trust" resources.

http://articles.sfgate.com/2010-08-04/news/22201145_1_public-trust-resources-water-rights-two-largest-rivers

California water bond delayed until 2012

By Queenie Wong
Sacramento Bee- August 10, 2010

State lawmakers on Monday sent Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger a measure to delay an \$11.1 billion water bond from the Nov. 2 ballot until the November 2012 vote.

Schwarzenegger and supporters of the water bond asked weeks ago for the measure to be delayed because they're concerned voters will reject it in the face of a \$19 billion budget deficit and a struggling economy.

Supporters say the delay will help lawmakers eliminate any imperfections in the bond, called Proposition 18, which would fund programs for drought relief, groundwater protection, water recycling and water conservation.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2010/08/10/2947982/california-senate-votes-to-delay.html>

Farm interests: Delta report distracts from reality

By Wes Sander
Capital Press- August 12, 2010

California ag-water interests say a report calling for greater Delta flows is distracting attention from the state's realistic water-supply goals and is too narrow in scope to be of real use.

The report, approved on Aug. 3 by the State Water Resources Control Board, said the water pumped from, and diverted before reaching, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for farmers and cities must be reduced by around half in order to sustain the fish currently under protected status in the estuary.

The report was required by the Delta-centered bill package that lawmakers approved last fall. The data was considered necessary for crafting a new management plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

<http://www.capitalpress.com/california/ws-delta-water-081310>



US Army Corps of Engineers®
Sacramento District

Delta Islands & Levees Feasibility Study

Sacramento District, USACE (SPK)

Current Work

The Corps team members are meeting regularly with study partners from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). Draft problem and opportunity statements focus the team on the authorized study purposes of **Ecosystem Restoration, Flood Risk Management**, and other related water resources purposes. Meetings were held in June 2010 to capture goals, constraints, and objectives that will lay the groundwork to identify data and information gaps.

On July 26th, the Project Delivery Team (PDT) conducted an inter-agency meeting with other Federal, State, and local agencies in order to get additional input on draft problems, opportunities, objectives, goals, and constraints. This agency coordination meeting is now planned to be held quarterly, with the next meeting in October. These and other planning components will guide revisions to the existing PMP, signed in 2006 with DWR, the non-Federal project sponsor.

Project Purpose

This feasibility study is the Corps' mechanism to participate in a cost-shared solution to a variety of water resources needs for which we have the authority. Results of state planning efforts will be used to help define problems, opportunities, and specific planning objectives. The feasibility study will address ecosystem restoration and flood risk management, and may also investigate related issues such as water quality and water supply. A feasibility cost-sharing agreement (FCSA) was executed May 26, 2006 with the DWR, our non-Federal sponsor.

Funding

- The total cost of the feasibility study is currently \$12,000,000; cost shared 50/50 with the DWR
- FY 08 appropriations at \$859,000
- FY 09 appropriations at \$478,000
 - Reprogrammed additional \$150,000
- FY 10 appropriations at \$394,000

Milestones

- √ Delta Site Visit—March 2009
- √ Funds Reprogrammed—June/July 2009
- √ Problems & Opportunities PDT Session—September 2009
- √ Extend meeting invitation to other Federal, State, and Local agencies—July 26, 2010
- Public Workshops—FY2011

CALFED Levee Stability Program

Sacramento District, USACE (SPK)

Current Work

The Corps team has completed draft PMPs for four LSP projects, including **McCormack-Williamson Tract, Bacon Island, Walnut Grove, and River Junction**. Final review and certification of PMPs and discussion of FCSAs with non-Federal sponsors is ongoing. The Corps team is preparing a draft PMP for the **Brannan-Andrus Levee Maintenance District** project for review in August. The team will begin preparing draft PMPs for the next group of projects in the program in September.

The Draft Program Management Plan (PgMP) is currently being revised based on comments and additional information from the Corps team. The Draft PgMP will include templates for Project Management Plans (PMPs) and Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreements (FCSAs) developed for projects in the LSP.

To date, the Kleinfelder-Geomatrix Joint Venture (K-G JV) contractors have submitted 30 Preliminary Draft Project Implementation Reports (PDPIRs) that will provide information for future PMPs.

Bethel Island Project

On July 13th, the **FCSA for Bethel Island – Horseshoe Bend was signed** by the Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District (BIMID) and the Corps. With the FCSA and PMP signed, BIMID and the Corps have begun hydraulic and hydrologic (H&H) modeling of alternatives to determine the feasibility of the crosscut channel. Due to the limited summer in-water work window, BIMID has begun in-water and landside geotechnical borings concurrently with the H&H modeling. Information from these efforts will be used by the PDT to determine the viability of the crosscut channel in future alternatives analyses. The approved FCSA and PMP will be templates for future projects under CALFED LSP. With this approved template, the Corps will move forward with the FCSAs and PMPs for the next group of LSP projects.

Emergency Response Planning

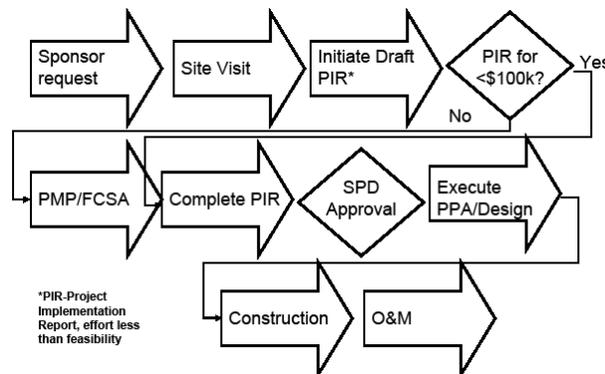
A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between USACE and DWR, allowing the Corps-DWR to initiate GIS Flood Contingency Mapping and Phase 1 of an Emergency Response Plan for the Delta region. The team has begun meeting with Delta counties to get input on the GIS products, response plan, and related data. The Corps/DWR team is also investigating next steps toward Phase 2 of the response plan.

Project Purpose

The CALFED Act (PL 108-361) directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to deliver a report that identified and prioritized potential levee stability projects in the Delta that could be carried out with the authorized \$90 million in Federal funds. An additional \$106 million was authorized to be appropriated by Section 3015 of WRDA 2007. To quickly identify critically needed projects with active non-Federal support, the USACE invited Delta stakeholders to submit project proposals with letters stating their willingness to participate as cost-sharing sponsors. In response, Delta area Reclamation Districts and flood management agencies submitted 68 project proposals totaling more than \$1 billion in estimated costs. USACE evaluated proposals and prioritized potential projects according to how well they met USACE environmental, economic, and other implementation criteria. The USACE short-term strategy is to move quickly to construction on high priority levee reconstruction projects identified in that report. The authorized \$196 million of Federal funds, plus the required non-Federal funds, would be an important first step to address Delta-wide levee system needs. The long-term strategy will be developed through the Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study process. The project delivery process includes: PMP/FCSA development; Project Implementation Report (PIR); SPD approval; Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) execution; design & construct; and operate & maintain.

Funding

- Authorized appropriations of \$90M; additional WRDA 07 add of \$106M for a total of \$196M authorized to be appropriated.
- FY 08: Received \$4,920,000
- FY 09: Received \$4,784,000
- FY 10: Received \$4,814,000



Delta Long Term Management Strategy (Delta-LTMS) San Francisco District, USACE (SPN)

Current Work

A Delta LTMS Technical Work Group meeting (TWG) was held on July 20 and was attended by representatives from USACE San Francisco and Sacramento Districts, USEPA, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control (CVRWQCB), USFWS, Port of West Sacramento, Port of Stockton Contra Costa County, Solano County, Bay Planning Coalition and other stakeholders.

The group discussed the various meetings attended and lessons learned. Updates were given on the progress of the Sacramento and Stockton Deep Water Ship Channels, CAL-FED Levee Stability Program, Delta Islands Feasibility Study, and the Bethel Island Project. For Sacramento DWSC there were updates given on the status of the draft SEIS, sediment testing report, hydrodynamic modeling and placement sites/beneficial use report. The RWQCB gave an update on the status of the general order.

USACE, dredgers, and RWQCB staff had met within the past few months to discuss methyl Hg and have been conducting a monitoring study since last year. USACE has also drafted a list of practical field methods to reduce methylation. The use of credits and total Hg vs. methyl Hg are still issues to be determined.

Additional updates, including past agendas and meeting minutes, can be found on the project website, <http://www.deltaltms.com>.

Funding

FY 05:\$ 133,558
 FY 06:\$ 450,187
 FY 07:\$ 591,692
 FY 08:\$ 440,633
 FY 09:\$ 273,403
 FY 10:\$ 100,000
 Total cost of the study: \$6,440,000

Delta LTMS was approved to receive reprogrammed funds of \$150,000.

Project Purpose

The Delta Long-Term Management Strategy (LTMS) is a cooperative planning effort to coordinate, plan, and implement beneficial reuse of sediments in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Delta (Delta). Five agencies (USACE, USEPA, DWR, CBDA, and CVRWQCB) have begun to examine Delta dredging, reuse, and disposal needs. The Delta LTMS will explore ways to coordinate and manage dredging, planning, regulatory approval, and implementation to protect and enhance Delta functions, ecosystem, and water quality. The goals of the LTMS are to manage dredging activities to:

- Support and maintain Delta channel functions for navigation, flood control, water conveyance, and recreation
- Maintain and stabilize Delta levees that protect land-based activities, water conveyance, and terrestrial ecosystems
- Protect and enhance water quality for Delta water supply and ecosystem function

Milestones

- Interagency Working Group (IWG) March 25, 2010 – teleconference
- Technical Working Groups (TWG) April 15, 2010—Sacramento
- Formulate Management Alternatives: July 2010
- Programmatic EIS/EIR for Alternatives: FY11
- Adopt Sediment Management Plan: FY12

Lower San Joaquin Feasibility Study Sacramento District, USACE (SPK)

Current Work:

- Geotechnical
 - Executed kick-off meeting July 30, 2010 with URS to determine baseline objectives for preliminary geotechnical analysis.
- Hydrology:
 - Request for Proposal (RFP) issued for the reoperation study of New Hogan Dam
 - Methodical approach for coincidence analyses of the Lower San Joaquin River, 13 tributaries and surrounding areas are under development. Coincidence analyses are scheduled for completion in 2012.
- Hydraulic Modeling:
 - Contracting efforts continue to extend the Adaptive Hydraulic Model of the Bay-Delta to assess the impact of the sea-level rise for use in the planning and design of LSJR project features. Contract award is anticipated by August 2010.
- Planning Initiatives:
 - Stakeholder meeting held with River Islands, Project Director Susan Delosso and City of Lathrop, Mayor Keaten. Stakeholder meetings will continue through 2011.
- Upcoming Meetings:
 - Brigadier General Donahue visit to San Joaquin County August 16 – 17, 2010
 - Project Delivery Team Meeting August 26, 2010
 - Hydraulic Partnership Meeting September 2, 2010

Project Purpose

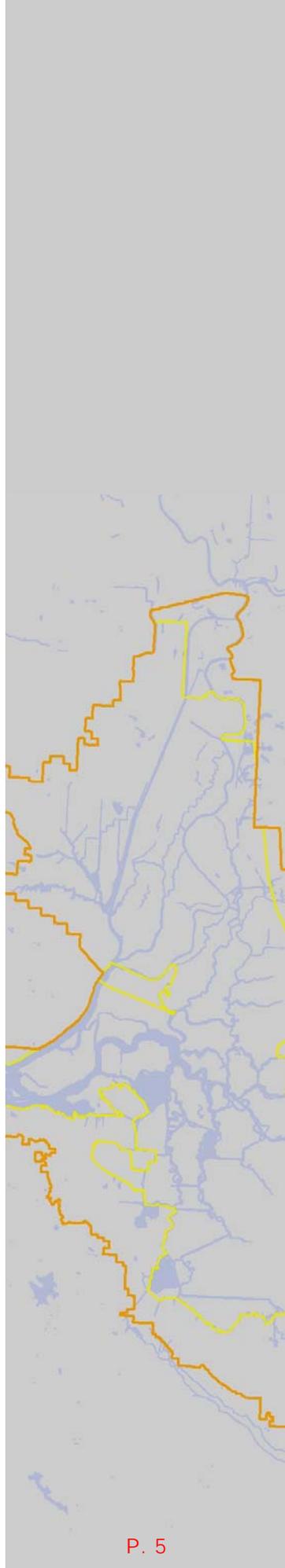
The purpose of this feasibility study is to determine if there is a Federal interest in providing flood risk management and ecosystem restoration improvements along the Lower (northern) San Joaquin River. The Lower San Joaquin River study area includes the San Joaquin River from the Mariposa Bypass downstream to, and including, the city of Stockton. The study area also includes the channels of the San Joaquin River in the southernmost reaches of the Delta: Paradise Cut and Old River as far north as Tracy Boulevard and Middle River as far north as Victoria Canal. The floodplains of the lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries are also included in the study area.

Funding

Prior to FY 2008	\$125,000
FY 2008	\$129,000
FY 2009	\$454,000
FY 2010	\$897,000

Milestones

- FY 10: Public Scoping Meetings & Workshops
- FY 10: H&H Modeling
- FY 12: Feasibility Scoping Meeting



SF Bay to Stockton Navigation Improvement Project

San Francisco District, USACE (SPN)

Current Work

Work continues for studying existing conditions for the EIS/EIR. In June, USACE hosted a 3D hydrodynamics and salinity modeling presentation that was attended by resource and regulatory agencies in the Bay Delta. Comments and suggestions from agencies will be considered in the ongoing salinity model. The ongoing beneficial reuse survey has identified preliminary levee rehabilitation, habitat enhancement, and stockpile sites for the placement of dredged material. Other technical studies that will be initiated this fiscal year include a utilities survey and a baseline conditions report (part of the EIS/EIR). Habitat mapping commenced on August 14 and a draft report is due this fall. Another mapping effort to verify plant species will take place in Spring 2011. The Economics team also plans to begin their analysis for projecting future commodities and uses at the Port of Stockton. In addition, USACE will continue to work with participating agencies in the Delta LTMS to approve a Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plan for the proposed project.

<http://www.sfbaytostockton.org>

Funding

FY 08: Received \$403,000 Federal
 FY 09: Received \$1,340,000 Federal
 FY 10: \$1,093,000 in FY09 carryover funds

Project Purpose

The SF Bay to Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel Project is a congressionally authorized project being implemented by USACE and the Port of Stockton and the Contra Costa County Water Agency. A joint EIS/EIR will evaluate the action of navigational improvements to the John F. Baldwin and Stockton Deep Water Ship Channels. A General Reevaluation Report is being prepared to determine the feasibility of modifying the current dimensions of the West Richmond, Pinole Shoal, Suisun Bay, and Stockton Ship Channels, which are currently maintained to -35 feet MLLW and provide access to oil terminals, industry in Pittsburg, and the Port of Stockton

Milestones

- Feasibility Scoping Meeting (F3 Milestone) – March 2011
- Draft EIS/EIR – February 2012 (assumes adequate funding is available)



Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel Project San Francisco District, USACE (SPN)

Current Work

The Project Delivery Team for the SRDWSC is moving forward with work on the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/SEIR), including ongoing coordination with resource agencies to assess potential project impacts to habitat. Biologists from the USFWS and USACE collected field data for the Habitat Evaluation Procedure from dredged material placement sites. USACE San Francisco and Sacramento Districts are also working with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control on methylmercury as it pertains to dredge activities.

Preliminary results of salinity modeling and beneficial reuse survey will be presented at the upcoming Delta LTMS meeting. Additional habitat mapping of potential beneficial reuse sites and levees took place in July and the associated report is being finalized. Geotech investigations of select placement sites also took place this month. These technical studies support completion of the Limited Reevaluation Report and the Draft SEIS/SEIR.

Funding

FY 09: Combined Federal and non-Federal share: \$1,276,000

FY 10: Combined Federal and non-Federal share: \$2,000,000

Project Purpose

The Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel Project (SRDWSC) is a congressionally authorized project being implemented by USACE and the Port of West Sacramento. Currently, USACE and the Port are conducting a Limited Reevaluation Study to recommend navigation improvements for Federal funding and preparing a joint SEIS/SEIR to evaluate the action of resuming construction of navigational improvements to the SRDWSC.

Milestones

- Alternative Formulation Briefing (F4/F4A Planning Milestone) – August 2010
- Draft SEIS/SEIR – September 2010

Delta Links

Delta Initiatives, Official Sacramento District, Corps of Engineers site:

<http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/projects/civil/Delta/News.html>

Delta LTMS: <http://www.deltatms.com/>

Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS): <http://www.drms.water.ca.gov/>

Delta Vision: <http://www.deltavision.ca.gov/>

CALFED Bay Delta Program: <http://calwater.ca.gov/>

Delta Protection Commission: <http://www.delta.ca.gov/>

DWR, Delta Initiatives: <http://www.water.ca.gov/deltainit/>

Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP): <http://baydeltaconservationplan.com>

Bay-Delta Office (BDO), DWR: <http://baydeltaoffice.water.ca.gov/>

California Delta Chambers & Visitors Bureau: <http://www.californiadelta.org/>

SacDelta.com, an interactive guide to the Delta: <http://www.sacdelta.com/>

SF Bay to Stockton Navigation: <http://www.sfbaytostockton.org>

Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel: <http://www.sacramentoshipchannel.org>

Subscription Info

Delta News is a monthly publication by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento and San Francisco Districts. To subscribe, please send an email with 'Subscribe' in the subject line to: DeltaNews@usace.army.mil

Upcoming Delta Events

August

- 24: Bethel Island Horseshoe Bend PDT Meeting
- 25: Delta Regional Initiatives Team Meeting
- 25: Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study PDT Meeting
- 26 & 27: Delta Stewardship Council

September

- 8: Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study PDT Meeting