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## Delta Events

[P. 8](#)**A look at Corps activities and other  
news affecting the Sacramento-San  
Joaquin River Delta****In the News****Delta waterways cleanup costly, time-  
consuming for agencies**

By Brad Branan

The Sacramento Bee—July 1, 2012

A slough next to the Sacramento River contains an illegal dumping site. It's largely invisible to the naked eye.

Two abandoned cranes and a half-submerged boat hint at the waste in an area traveled by dozens of boats docked at a nearby marina.

Under the water, as shown on a radar screen, at least five other boats are sunk in a stretch running less than 300 yards.

The Sacramento County Sheriff's Department considers the abandoned boats an environmental and safety hazard. The department, with the help of a state agency, has been leading an effort to remove abandoned boats and other debris from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Todd Thalhamer, a waste management engineer for CalRecycle, said the agency has spent almost \$3 million cleaning the Delta since 2009. He estimates \$20 million more is needed to finish the work.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/07/01/4602522/delta-waterways-cleanup-costly.html#storylink=cpy>

**Garamendi and Northern California Congressional Leaders Send Letter Urging More Analysis of Bay Delta Conservation Plan Process**

July 16, 2012

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman John Garamendi (D-Fairfield, CA), a Member of the House Natural Resources Committee and former Deputy Secretary of the Interior, sent a letter to Interior Secretary Salazar, Acting Commerce Secretary Blank, California Governor Brown, and California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Laird encouraging them to undertake a more thorough statewide cost-benefit analysis in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDGP) process. Congressman Garamendi was joined in the letter by Representatives George Miller, Jerry McNerney, Mike Thompson, Doris Matsui, Lynn Woolsey, Pete Stark, Barbara Lee, Sam Farr, Jackie Speier, and Anna Eshoo.

Read the letter [here](#).

<http://garamendi.house.gov/2012/07/garamendi-and-northern-california-congressional-leaders-send-letter-urging-more-analysis-of-bay-delt.shtml>

**Commission in works to get Delta recrea-  
tional trails blazin'**

By Alex Breitter

The Stockton Record—June 25, 2012

San Joaquin and neighboring counties are crossed by thousands of miles of hiking trails and bike paths.

They dead-end at the Delta.

Still going, however, is the effort to build a network of trails around the estuary west of Stockton, creating a recreational corridor that could link with extensive public trail systems in the Bay Area and the developing Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail.

Six years after legislators agreed to build the Great California Delta Trail, planning efforts are shifting from the west Delta to the east Delta, including San Joaquin County. A meeting Tuesday will help the public understand what's been proposed.

[http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=%2F20120625%2FA\\_NEWS%2F206250307%2F-1%2Frss14&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+RecordEnvironmentHeadlines+%28Environment+Headlines%29&utm\\_content=Google+Reader](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=%2F20120625%2FA_NEWS%2F206250307%2F-1%2Frss14&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+RecordEnvironmentHeadlines+%28Environment+Headlines%29&utm_content=Google+Reader)

**Northern California lawmakers call for a re-  
turn to “policy before plumbing” on Bay Delta  
Plan**

June 25, 2012

Northern California lawmakers call for a return to “policy before plumbing” on Bay Delta plan. Warn that new proposal from state and federal officials leaves too many questions unanswered

Washington, DC – A dozen northern California lawmakers called on federal officials today to delay the imminent announcement of an expensive and potentially damaging water diversion project until more details of the plan are made available.

Read the letter [here](#).

<http://georgemiller.house.gov/2012/06/northern-california-lawmakers-call-for-a-return-to-policy-before-plumbing-on-bay-delta-plan.shtml>

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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 to capture goals, constraints, and objectives that will lay the groundwork to identify data and information gaps. In October through December 2010, the team developed “assumptions” that need to be made in order to refine the scope, schedule, and budget of the study. These assumptions included topics such as: report format, study boundary, future without project scenarios (future scenarios without the Delta Study in place), number of iterations (study refinements), etc.

The second multi-agency meeting with other Federal, State, and local agencies was held in January, 2011; the meeting focused on the Delta Study’s sustainability concepts, Project Management Plan “assumptions”, and next steps. In order to better scope the technical investigations necessary to complete the study, the PDT brainstormed conceptual “measures” which could be combined to create preliminary conceptual alternatives to be evaluated in the study. This information was presented at the third multi-agency meeting, held in July 2011.

In light of a new Corps planning paradigm the study is being re-scoped to be complete within three years and within the existing cost-share budget with DWR. The team will be focusing on utilizing existing data and information from studies such as the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan, the Delta Plan, the CA Department of Fish and Game Conservation Strategy, and the Delta Risk Management Strategy. Collection of new data is expected to be minimal.

The PDT will continue plan formulation work including: defining existing and future without project conditions; development of alternative plans; economic analysis to refine assessment of the Federal interest; and NEPA scoping.

#### Project Purpose

The Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study (Delta Study) is the Corps’ mechanism to participate in a cost-shared solution to address ecosystem restoration needs, flood risk management problems, and related water resources in the Delta and Suisun Marsh area. A Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) was executed on May 26, 2006 with the DWR, the non-Federal sponsor. The Corps-DWR study team meets regularly to move the study forward and holds periodic Agency Coordination Meetings with associated Federal, State, and local agencies. The study will culminate in a feasibility report that will make recommendations on construction projects and/or additional studies for authorization by Congress.

#### 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
- FY 11 appropriations at \$239,000
- FY 12 appropriations at \$971,000

#### Milestones

- √ Delta Site Visit—March 2009
- √ Funds Reprogrammed—June/July 2009
- √ Problems & Opportunities PDT Session—September 2009
- √ Second meeting with other Federal, State, and Local agencies—January 12, 2011
- √ Third meeting with other Federal, State, and Local agencies—July 13, 2011
- NEPA Public Scoping Meetings—2012
- Public Workshops—2012

# CALFED Levee Stability Program

## Sacramento District, USACE (SPK)

### Current Work

The Corps team is moving forward with the **McCor-mack-Williamson Tract** project and meeting with The Nature Conservancy/RD 2110 in order to finalize and sign the FCSA for the project. The FCSA package has been approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters office and is currently under final review by The Nature Conservancy/RD 2110.

The Corps team has completed draft Project Management Plans (PMPs) for three additional LSP projects, including **Bacon Island, Walnut Grove, and River Junction**. Final review and certification of PMPs and negotiation of Feasibility Cost Share Agreements (FCSAs) with non-Federal sponsors is ongoing. A Program Management Plan (PgMP) has been developed to capture program processes and procedures. The PgMP also includes templates for PMPs and FCSAs developed for projects in the LSP.

### Bethel Island Project

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, the FCSA for Bethel Island – Horseshoe Bend was signed by the Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District (BIMID) and the Corps. The PDT met on November 1st and tentatively selected a cost effective plan for recommendation. Engineering designs and cost estimates are underway. Documentation for an In-Progress Review has been reviewed by the District and is currently under Agency Technical Review.

### Emergency Response Planning

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between USACE and DWR, allowing the Corps-DWR to initiate Phase 1 of GIS Flood Contingency Mapping and Emergency Response Planning for the Delta region. A Final Phase 1 (95% complete) meeting was held on September 26th at the USACE Sacramento District offices to discuss deliverables and next steps. The final products for Phase 1 have been completed and delivered to participating counties. The final Phase 1 product includes:

- Standardized GIS database of Emergency Management data,
- Flood Contingency Map Books and large scale wall maps of the Delta region, and
- An accompanying report documenting the existing framework, existing data, and any potential data gaps.

For more information and final product visit:

[www.deltafloodemergencyplan.org](http://www.deltafloodemergencyplan.org)

### 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
- FY 11: Received \$598,700
- FY 12: Received \$0



## Lower San Joaquin Feasibility Study

Sacramento District, USACE (SPK)

### Current Work

- Hydraulic Modeling:
  - State of California Central Valley Flood-plain Evaluation and Delineation (CVFED) model schedule for use within the LSJRFS:
    - Revised schedule indicates final HEC-RAS and FLO-2D models release by September 2012
- Preliminary Screening:
  - The preliminary screening of the Lower San Joaquin River study area to initiate prioritization of flood damage areas is complete and recommendations for the refined study area were approved by the LSJRFS executive committee on June 28, 2012.
- Upcoming Meetings:
  - Project Delivery Team Meeting – July 16, 2012
  - Executive Committee Meeting – SMART (3x3x3) planning reset: draft scope, schedule and budget review: July 26, 2012
  - Hydraulic Partnership Meeting: TBD

### 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
FY 2011	\$519,000
FY 2012	\$300,000

### Milestones

FY 14: Feasibility Scoping Meeting

# Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel Project

San Francisco District, USACE (SPN)

## Current Work

Current Work: The Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Report (dSEIS/R) was published February 2011. A Revised dSEIS/R is scheduled to be published July 2012. The project website is [www.sacramentoshipchannel.org](http://www.sacramentoshipchannel.org).

## Funding

FY10: Federal \$2,000,000, Non-Federal \$746,666

FY11: Federal \$2,794,196, Non-Federal \$633,335

FY12: Federal \$2,800,000, Non-Federal \$171,349

## Milestones

- Publish Revised dSEIS/R - March- 2013
- Revised dSEIS/R comment period - April/May 2013
- Publish Final SEIS/R - November 2013
- Sign Record of Decision (ROD) - December 2013

## 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. USACE and the Port are conducting a Limited Reevaluation Study and corresponding SEIS/SEIR to resume deepening the channel from -30' to -35' (with selective widening) to realize significant transportation cost savings. Approximately 50% of the dredged material is targeted for beneficial reuse, providing a significant additional benefit to the CA Delta.



# Central Valley Integrated Flood Management Study

## Sacramento District, USACE (SPK)

### Current Work

The CVIFMS team is currently coordinating with the CVFPP team in approving the CVIFMS Project Management Plan (PMP) and associated Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FSCA) amendment that will lay out an adaptable and "living" strategy for the development of the CVIFMS and related products in close coordination with the evolving CVFPP process and efforts.

The CVIFMS team has begun work on the Programmatic Implementation Framework Document, also known as the Companion Document, which is anticipated to be completed in 2012. The team is also reviewing the public draft 2012 CVFPP.

### Background

The CVIFMS will be developed within an integrated water resource management context and will complement the CVFPP system-level planning strategy, with an emphasis on moving toward a Federal/State flood risk management (FRM) implementation process including possible immediate feasibility study implementation recommendations. The study will include two major efforts:

**Programmatic Implementation Framework Document.** This document will be developed in a format and context that clearly and directly corresponds to the 2012 CVFPP Report. The document's primary purpose will be to provide a status update and a strategy that defines how the CVIFMS will be coordinating with the CVFPP in moving toward a Federal/State flood risk management (FRM) implementation process for the CVFPP, including possible immediate feasibility study implementation recommendations. The targeted audience is Congress and the California State Legislature.

**Programmatic Feasibility Study.** This document will be a programmatic level study prepared within an integrated water resource management context. The study will incorporate CVFPP shared data and the content will be coordinated with the 2017 CVFPP Report. The study will provide an FRM evaluation of the Central Valley at a system level with a recommended process for Federal/State implementation and cost sharing. The strategy is for the focus of the study to be at the feasibility level, so that alternatives, inclusive of the CVFPP Preferred State Plan, can be evaluated and Federal recommendations can be implemented. It is anticipated that a joint National Environmental Policy Act/California Environmental Quality Act document will be developed in support of the study alternatives and recommendations.

### Project Purpose

In response to legislation signed by the Governor on 10 October 2007, the State of California, through the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board), initiated development of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP). This effort will culminate in a comprehensive analysis of flood management and related conditions in the Central Valley watershed as a system. The State is required to complete the first report of the CVFPP by 2012. This document is to be updated every 5 years thereafter. The State has requested Federal participation in preparing the CVFPP. This participation will be through the Central Valley Integrated Flood Management Study (CVIFMS). The CVIFMS is a continuation of the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins, California Comprehensive Study (Comp Study), which was authorized by Congress by section 209 of the Flood Control Act of 1962 (P.L. 87-874).



### Milestones

- √ Draft PMP and FCSA amendment, spring 2011
- Final PMP and FCSA amendment, early 2012
- Programmatic Implementation Framework Document, 2012
- Programmatic Feasibility Study, 2017

## SF Bay to Stockton Navigation Improvement Project

San Francisco District, USACE (SPN)

### Current Work

Work continues for studying existing conditions for the SEIS/R. The beneficial use survey has identified preliminary levee rehabilitation, habitat enhancement and stockpile sites for the placement of dredged material and a Sampling and Analysis Plan for the excavation. The utilities survey has been completed and the follow on Title search will be undertaken. Preliminary estimates of economic benefits have been prepared and will be updated with current information this year. USACE will continue to work with participating Delta LTMS agencies to approve a sediment sampling and analysis plan as well as other project considerations. On July 10th, the COE and the Port of Stockton hosted Ms Amy Sharp, OASA(CW), Management & Budget, Assistant for Fiscal Programs Management on a tour of the Port of Stockton. During the tour, overall port operations as well as planned expansions were discussed. The next step in the ongoing study will be additional hydrologic modeling.

### Funding

FY 08: Received \$403,000 Federal  
 FY 09: Received \$1,340,000 Federal  
 FY 10: \$1,093,000 in FY09 carry over funds  
 FY 11: \$0 (\$380,850 Fed and non-Fed carry over from FY10)  
 FY 12: Received \$800,000 Federal

### 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 (date TBD, funding dependent)
- Publish DEIS/DEIR (date TBD, funding dependent)
- Prepare Sampling and Analysis Plan— September, 2012
- Revise Project Economic Analysis— September, 2012

## Delta Long Term Management Strategy (Delta-LTMS)

San Francisco District, USACE (SPN)

### Current Work

A Technical Work Group (TWG) meeting was held on Monday, March 21, 2011. The meeting focused on the Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel deepening project.

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

### Funding

FY 05: \$ 467,000  
 FY 06: \$ 222,000  
 FY 07: \$ 497,000  
 FY 08: \$ 512,000 (includes reprogramming of \$50k)  
 FY 09: \$ 230,300  
 FY 10: \$ 249,000 (includes reprogramming of \$150k)  
 FY11: \$ 0  
 FY12: \$ 0

### 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

- Programmatic EIR/EIS for alternatives: FY 2014
- Adopt Sediment Management Plan: FY 2015

## Delta Links

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

<http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/SacramentoSanJoaquinDelta.aspx>

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

Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS): <http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/dsmo/sab/drmsp/>

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

Delta Stewardship Council: <http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/>

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

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

Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDGP): <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>

USACE Delta News is an unofficial public information communication tool authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1, para. 5 c. for the purpose of sharing information on Corps activities and other news affecting the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta with affected publics and Federal, state and local agencies interested in flood risk management and ecosystem restoration issues. Editorial views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Corps of Engineers or the Department of the Army. It is a product of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, in conjunction with the South Pacific Division. This publication is available on the Sacramento District, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta webpage and will be emailed to those requesting it.

Sacramento District Commander:  
Colonel Bill Leady

Public Affairs:  
Sacramento District Public Affairs Chief:  
DeDe Cordell- [DeDe.Cordell@usace.army.mil](mailto:DeDe.Cordell@usace.army.mil)

Sacramento District Planning Editors:  
Brooke Schlenker- [Brooke.E.Schlenker@usace.army.mil](mailto:Brooke.E.Schlenker@usace.army.mil)  
Matilda Evoy-Mount- [Matilda.L.Evoy-Mount@usace.army.mil](mailto:Matilda.L.Evoy-Mount@usace.army.mil)

USACE South Pacific Division Public Affairs Chief:  
Torrie McAllister- [Victoria.L.McAllister@usace.army.mil](mailto:Victoria.L.McAllister@usace.army.mil)

Previous editions and further information can be found at: <http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/SacramentoSanJoaquinDelta.aspx>

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[DeltaNews@usace.army.mil](mailto:DeltaNews@usace.army.mil)

## Upcoming Delta Events

### July

- 18: [California Water Commission](#)
- 26: [Delta Protection Commission](#)
- 29: [Courtland Pear Fair](#)