DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, 95814-2922

CESPK-PD

APR 23 2019

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the final Supplemental Environmental Assessment/Initial Study/Finding of No Significant Impact/Mitigated Negative Declaration (EA/IS/FONSI/MND) is now available for your information. The document was prepared for the American River Watershed Common Features (ARCF) 2016 Project, Sacramento River, Reach D, Contract 1 (RDC1) Front Street Stability Berm.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Sacramento District, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA), and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) is proposing to construct a levee improvement consisting of an approximately 400-foot long stability berm against the landside slope of the Sacramento River east levee in Sacramento County, California. The purpose of the RDC1 stability berm is to reinforce and reduce seepage through this section of the Sacramento River east levee. The proposed action is a component of the ARCF 2016 Project, which was authorized by WRDA 2016, Pub. L. No. 114-322 §1322, 130 Stat. 1707. The December 2018 Draft EA/IS/FONSI/MND served as a supplemental NEPA and CEQA document to the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) prepared for the ARCF General Reevaluation Report (GRR) in 2016. The Corps is the NEPA lead agency and the CVFPB is the CEQA lead agency.

The Sacramento River east levee does not currently meet Corps criteria for seepage and slope stability. The approximately 400-foot-long stability berm would be constructed with a base width of 20 feet, a top width of 12 feet, and an average height of 16 feet. The stability berm would be constructed by trimming the landside slope of the levee to the design excavation lines and by placing an engineered fill section with internal drainage against the landside slope. The final EA/IS/FONSI/MND describes the existing environmental conditions in the project area, evaluates the environmental effects of the alternatives on these conditions, and identifies measures to avoid or reduce environmental and cultural effects to a less-than-significant level.

Responses to comments received during the review period ending January 28, 2019, are included in Appendix D of the final EA/IS.

Based upon the conclusions in the EA/IS, a Final FONSI and MND is appropriate and included with the Final EA/IS. The final EA/IS/FONSI/MND is now available for download at the websites below:

https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Sacramento-Area-Levees/

http://cvfpb.ca.gov/public-notices/

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mario Parker, Biological Sciences Study Manager, at 916 557-6701 or email him at mario.g.parker@uace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Mark T. Ziminske
Chief, Environmental Resources Branch