

Notice of Availability of Recirculated Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for American River Watershed Common Features Project, Water Resources Development Act 2016, American River Contract 3A (Project) Sacramento, CA

Project Location: The Project is located in the City of Sacramento and in Sacramento County, California, along the left bank of the American River in the same location as Interstate Business 80 (also known as the Capitol City Freeway) and upstream of the City of Sacramento's Sutter's Landing Park in the American River Parkway.

Project Description: The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB), and Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) propose to construct an approximately 3,000-foot-long bank stabilization project at Site 1-1 which is located on the left bank of the Lower American River (LAR) between river mile 3.8 and river mile 4.2. Most of the levee improvements included in the Project were analyzed in the 2016 American River Watershed Common Features General Reevaluation Report Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (ARCF GRR EIS/EIR). The SEA addresses modifications and refinements since publication of the ARCF GRR EIS/EIR.

Updates From Previously Circulated SEA: USACE released the Draft SEA for public and agency review in accordance with NEPA requirements from April 13 to May 27, 2022. On April 20, 2022, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued a final rule to amend certain provisions of its regulations for NEPA (87 FR 23453), addressing the purpose and need of a proposed action, agency NEPA procedures for implementing CEQ's NEPA regulations, and the definition of "effects" (40 CFR 1508.1). These updates were put into effect May 20, 2022 (87 FR 23453). The definition of effects in the new rule includes direct, indirect, and cumulative. Though not defined in the Draft SEA as being direct or indirect, both direct and indirect effects were assessed in the Draft SEA. Cumulative effects were not assessed in the original Draft SEA. To meet the requirement of the new CEQ rule, a cumulative effects section has been prepared and added to the Draft SEA. It is anticipated that USACE will make a finding of no new significant impact based on the analysis in the SEA under NEPA.

Comments on the Draft SEA will be accepted from July 8, 2022 to July 23, 2022. The Draft SEA will be made available electronically at <u>www.sacleveeupgrades.com</u>. Hardcopies can be made available upon request. Please email <u>ARCF_LARC3A@usace.army.mil</u> for questions about access to the Draft SEA. Please include "American River Contract 3A SEA" in the subject line when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses of commenters, will become part of the official administrative record and may be available to the public. Written comments may be submitted by mail or e-mail to:

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