APPENDIX A

SCOPING REPORT
DELTA ISLANDS AND LEVEES FEASIBILITY STUDY
SCOPING REPORT

Introduction

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) initiated the Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study at the request of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the non-Federal sponsor for the study. USACE is the lead agency in the Feasibility Study, with USACE taking the lead under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA).

Numerous agencies, organizations, and individuals participated in the study including the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Sacramento County, San Joaquin County, Contra Costa County, Yolo County, Alameda County, Solano County, numerous levee maintaining agencies, local landowners and residents.

Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study

The feasibility report will present details on the USACE and non-Federal sponsor (California Department of Water Resources) participation needed to implement the selected plan. The report will conclude with a recommendation for Congressional authorization of a project, if justified. It is anticipated that the planning efforts will result in an integrated planning document discussing plan formulation and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which analyzes the alternatives. The EIS would be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Notice of Intent/Preparation

In compliance with the requirements set forth in NEPA, USACE prepared a Notice of Intent (NOI) describing its intent to prepare an EIS, the possible alternatives, and relevant scoping meeting and contact information. The NOI was posted in the Federal Register, the United States Government’s official noticing and reporting publication, on January 31 2013 (Federal Register, Vol. 78, No. 921). The official comment period for the NOI was January 31 2013 to March 15, 2013.

Mailings

USACE developed a postcard which was sent to interested stakeholders and agency contacts. Additionally a previously developed mailing list of interested stakeholders and agency contacts was sent by email notification encouraging attendance at the scoping meetings.

Notifications

Notices briefly introducing the lead agencies, the proposed projects and associated environmental review processes, and the scoping meetings were placed in the Sacramento Bee.
and Lodi News newspapers on February 6, 2013. Newsprint releases were published to reach a local and regional public audience that residents routinely rely upon to keep them abreast of local issues. A media release was also emailed out to a number media contacts within the region on February 6, 2013. Attachment A contains copies of the following:

- Notice of Intent
- Notice of Preparation
- Federal Register Publication
- Postcard
- Media Release
- Email Notification

**Public Meetings**

In February 2013, two scoping meetings were held for the project study. The meetings were held to educate the public about the study efforts and to garner input on the proposed scope, in accordance with NEPA. Refer to Table 1-1 for the USACE planning and NEPA process.

The meetings were held at two different times over the course of two days. On February 19, 2013, the first meeting was conducted from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Old Sugar Mill in Clarksburg. The second meeting was conducted on February 19, 2013 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento.

The meeting locations were chosen because they are central to the region. The meeting times were chosen to accommodate both the workday schedules of public agency representatives and the general public, including residents and business owners.

The meetings were open-house style workshops in which attendees could read and view the information about the two projects and interact with project staff, including representatives of USACE and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The views expressed in the scoping meeting are summarized as follows:

USACE staff was stationed at display boards to interact with public attendees and provide additional detail or answer any questions. A Power Point presentation was on-going to provide a brief introduction to the including objectives, schedule, environmental compliance, and related flood control work in the region. A fact sheet, providing an overview of the Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study including purpose and goals, maps of the corresponding study areas, an overview of the environmental compliance process and timeline, was also made available. Comment cards were prepared so that meeting attendees could provide feedback on the projects. These cards could be filled out during the meeting and given to a project team member. Attachment B contains copies of the following:

- Sign In Sheet
- Meeting Overview
- Display boards
- Power Point presentation
- Fact sheets
- Comment cards
Public Feedback

The views expressed by members of the public at the scoping meeting are summarized as follows:

- Clarifications on data and history of the Delta
- Concerns of siltation in Delta channels
- Recommendation for coordination with other agencies and efforts in the Delta
- Recommendation to evaluate environmental effects of alternatives to water supply, water quality, and aquatic and terrestrial biology

Next Steps

A similar open-house format will be used when this draft integrated feasibility report and EIS are made available for public review and comment. USACE will ensure all agencies, organizations, and individuals who provide comments will be provided a copy of the final integrated feasibility report and EIS.
ATTACHMENT A
MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. Army Records Management and Declassification Agency, Army Federal Register Liaison (AHRC-PDD-RP/Ms. Bowen), 7701 Telegraph Road, Casey Building Room 102, Alexandria, VA 22315-3860

SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study

1. Enclosed are three copies of our Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study. Please place the NOI in the Federal Register at the earliest possible time.

Encl

WILLIAM J. LEADY, P.E.
COL, EN
Commanding

CF: Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Pacific Division, 333 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94105 (w/encl)
BILLING CODE: 3720-58

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Army Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The action being taken is the preparation of an environmental impact
statement (EIS) for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility
Study (Delta Study). The EIS will be prepared in accordance with the National
Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) will
serve as lead agency for compliance with NEPA. The Delta Study will evaluate
alternatives to meet the study goals of restoring sustainable ecosystem functions and
improving flood risk management in the Delta, Suisun Marsh, and adjacent areas.

DATES: Written comments regarding the scope of the environmental analysis should be
received at (see ADDRESSES) by March 15, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning this study and requests to be included on
the Delta Study mailing list should be submitted to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Sacramento District, Public Affairs Office, Attn: Delta Study Scoping, 1325 J Street,
Sacramento, CA 95814.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Affairs Office via telephone at (916) 557-7461, e-mail at spk-pao@usace.army.mil, or regular mail at (see ADDRESSES).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action. The Corps is preparing an EIS to analyze the environmental effects associated with various alternatives for restoring sustainable ecosystem functions and improving flood risk management in the Delta, Suisun Marsh, and adjacent areas.

2. Alternatives. The EIS will evaluate alternatives for achieving the purpose and need of the proposed action. To be developed through the Corps plan formulation process, the alternatives analyzed may include various combinations of ecosystem restoration and flood risk management measures designed to meet the dual objectives of restored ecosystem functions and improved flood risk management. The array of potential measures and possible combinations into alternatives will be determined based in part on information received during the scoping process.

3. Scoping Process. a. Two public scoping meetings will be held to present an overview of the Delta Study and the EIS process, and to afford all interested parties with an opportunity to provide comments regarding the scope of analysis and potential alternatives. The first public scoping meeting will be held at the Old Sugar Mill, 35265 Willow Ave, Clarksburg, California, on February 19, 2013, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The study presentation is scheduled to begin at 5:30. The second public scoping meeting will be held at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento, 1230 J Street, Sacramento, California, on
February 20, 2013, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. The study presentation is scheduled to begin at 2:30.

b. Potentially significant issues to be analyzed in the EIS include programmatic, project specific, and cumulative effects on aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems.

c. The Corps will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to comply with the Endangered Species Act (16 USC § 1536). The Corps will also coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. sec 661). Other resource agencies will be consulted with as applicable.

d. A 45-day public review period will be provided for all interested parties, individuals, and agencies to review and comment on the draft EIS. All interested parties are encouraged to respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be notified of the draft EIS circulation.

4. Availability. The draft EIS is currently scheduled to be available for public review and comment in early 2014.

Date: 25 Jan 2013

William J. Leady, P.E.
COL, EN
Commanding
• Testimony from representatives of the military criminal investigation organizations.
• Testimony from subject matter experts on the military justice system.
• Receipt of public comments—3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Availability of Materials for the Meeting: A copy of the agenda for the February 15, 2013 meeting and the tasking for the Subcommittee may be obtained at the meeting or from the Board’s Staff Director at StaffDirectorDefenseLegalPolicyBoard@osd.mil.

Public’s Accessibility to the Meeting: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b and 41 CFR 102–3.140 through 102–3.165, and the availability of space, part of this meeting is open to the public. Seating is limited and is on a first-come Basis.

Special Accommodations: Individuals requiring special accommodations to access the public meeting should contact the Staff Director at StaffDirectorDefenseLegalPolicyBoard@osd.mil at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Procedures for Providing Public Comments: Pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140, and section 10(a)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the public or interested organizations may submit written comments to the Board about its mission and topics pertaining to this public session. Written comments must be received by the Designated Federal Officer at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting date so that the comments may be made available to the Board for their consideration prior to the meeting. Written comments should be submitted via email to the address for the Designated Federal Officer in FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT in the following formats: Adobe Acrobat, WordPerfect, or Microsoft Word. Please note that since the Board operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, all written comments will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection. If members of the public are interested in making an oral statement, a written statement must be submitted as above along with a request to provide an oral statement. After reviewing the written comments, the Chairperson and the Designated Federal Officer will determine who of the requesting persons will be able to make an oral presentation. Five minutes will be allotted to persons desiring to make an oral presentation. Oral presentations by members of the public will be permitted from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in front of the Board. The number of oral presentations to be made will depend on the number of requests received from members of the public.

Committee’s Designated Federal Officer: The Board’s Designated Federal Officer is Mr. James Schwenk, Defense Legal Policy Board, PO Box 3656, Arlington, VA 22203. Email: defenselegalpolicyboard@osd.mil. Phone: (703) 697–9345. For meeting information please contact Mr. David Gruber, Defense Legal Policy Board, PO Box 3656, Arlington, VA 22203. Email: StaffDirectorDefenseLegalPolicyBoard@osd.mil. Phone: (703) 696–5449.

Drafted: January 25, 2013

Aaron Siegel, Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2013–02032 Filed 1–30–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Army Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; DoD.

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4. Availability. The draft EIS is currently scheduled to be available for public review and comment in early 2014.


William J. Leady,
Professional Engineer, Colonel, U.S. Army, Commanding.
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands & Levees Feasibility Study
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to attend our public scoping meetings for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study.

Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2013
5 – 7 p.m.
Old Sugar Mill
35265 Willow Ave, Clarksburg, CA

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2013
2 – 4 p.m.
Sheraton Grand Sacramento
1230 J St, Sacramento, CA

The public scoping meetings will provide an update on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study, and the opportunity to speak with representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Please call the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (916) 557-5100 for more information.
Corps to discuss Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study at public meetings

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District is set to host two public meetings this month on its ongoing Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study, a cost-shared study with the state of California to address critical water resources issues in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The public meetings, scheduled for Feb. 19 at the Old Sugar Mill in Clarksburg and Feb. 20 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento, are intended to provide a public forum to explain the Corps’ feasibility study process and what the Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study aims to achieve.

The Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study will inform the Corps’ and state of California’s efforts to address a variety of critical issues in the Delta, including flood risk management, ecosystem restoration, water quality, water supply conveyance, emergency flood water storage and, emergency response.

The draft environmental impact statement outlining the potential impacts of proposed solutions is scheduled to be available for public review and comment in 2014. The array of potential measures and program alternatives will be determined based on information received during the scoping process and other associated studies.

In addition to providing comments at the public scoping meetings, written comments can be submitted by mail to 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814 or by e-mail to spk-pao@usace.army.mil. Additional public comment periods and public meetings will be conducted throughout the course of the study as part of the environmental impact statement development process.

The Corps and its local partner, California Department of Water Resources, plan to attend local government, state agency and other Delta-related meetings through the year to engage affected stakeholders and keep the public apprised of progress on the study.

Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study Public Meetings

Feb. 19, 2013
5 p.m. - 7 p.m. (presentation at 5:30 p.m.)
Old Sugar Mill
35265 Willow Avenue, Clarksburg, CA

Feb. 20, 2013
2 p.m. - 4 p.m. (presentation at 2:30 p.m.)
Sheraton Grand Hotel
1230 J Street, Sacramento, CA

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Please refer to attached meeting notice regarding upcoming public scoping meetings.
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<td>Michelle Krenner</td>
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<td>John Webber</td>
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<td>Bill Hinesler</td>
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<td>George</td>
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<td>Susan Lane, 21, Woodland, CA</td>
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<td>William Winning</td>
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<td>Mike Gagne</td>
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<td>Steve, USA</td>
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Clarksburg and Sacramento, CA
February 19-20, 2013
Public Scoping Meetings
Delta Islands & Levees Feasibility Study
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>E-mail Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Green</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john@green.com">john@green.com</a></td>
<td>12345 Green St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mary@brown.com">mary@brown.com</a></td>
<td>6789 Brown Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Davis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:emily@davis.com">emily@davis.com</a></td>
<td>10112 Davis Ave.</td>
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Clarksbury and Sacramento, CA
February 19-20, 2013
Public Scoping Meetings
Delta Islands & Levees Feasibility Study
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Doe</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john.doe@email.com">john.doe@email.com</a></td>
<td>12345 Oak St, Anytown USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Smith</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jane.smith@email.com">jane.smith@email.com</a></td>
<td>6789 Pine St, Othertown CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.brown@email.com">michael.brown@email.com</a></td>
<td>1111 Walnut St, Otherville CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Johnson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.johnson@email.com">sarah.johnson@email.com</a></td>
<td>2222 Maple St, Yetiland CA</td>
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Clarkburg and Sacramento, CA
February 19-20, 2013
Public Scoping Meetings
Delta Islands & levees Feasibility Study
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta
Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study
Public Scoping Meeting – Open House
February 2013

Background

- Cost Share Agreement between Corps and DWR to conduct study
- Focus of the study is Flood Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration
- Intent is to be compatible with other planning efforts, but standalone
Open House Meeting

- Sign-in to stay informed about the study
- Visit the poster stations and talk with team members
- Comment on the scope of the study
  - What flood risk management problems should be considered?
  - What ecological problems should be considered?

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Process</th>
<th>NEPA Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify Problems and Opportunities</td>
<td>Publish Notice of Intent</td>
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<td>Conduct scoping process</td>
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<td>30-day scoping period</td>
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<td>Inventory and Forecast Conditions</td>
<td>Describe existing and future without project conditions</td>
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<td>Alternative Formulation, Evaluation, and Comparison</td>
<td>Identify and compare impacts of identified alternatives</td>
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<td>Identify Tentatively Selected Plan</td>
<td>Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)</td>
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<td>45-day public review</td>
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<td>Select Recommended Plan</td>
<td>Final EIS: Respond to comments and concerns</td>
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<td>30-day public review</td>
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<td>Record of Decision</td>
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The Delta System: What’s at Stake?

- Legacy towns
- Working landscapes
- Recreation
- Fisheries
- Water
- Natural Habitat
- Endangered Species
- Agricultural production
- Commercial Navigation

Why is the Delta System at Risk?

- Levee Fragility
- Ecosystem Loss
- Subsidence
- Saltwater Intrusion
- Climate Change
- Seismicity
- Competing Uses
Public Comments

- **What flood risk management problems should this study consider?**
  - For Example - Population centers at X Location are located behind levees that are subject to flooding due to stability, seepage, and overtopping concerns which could result in loss of life and flood damages.

- **What ecological problems should this study consider?**
  - For Example - Levee construction in close proximity to X Channel has resulted in separation of historic floodplains from natural hydrologic flooding events through channels within the Delta.

Contact Information

- E-mail: spk-pao@usace.army.mil
- Phone: 916-557-7461
- Mailing Address:
  1325 J Street, Room 1513
  Sacramento, CA 95814
DESCRIPTION
The Delta Study area includes the legal Delta, Subsidiary Marsh, and adjacent floodplains.
Study Overview

Study Area
The Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta is a web of channels and reclaimed islands, covering about 738,000 acres, at the confluence of five rivers protected by a network of 1,100-plus miles of levees constructed over the last 150 years.

Home to hundreds of species of fish, birds, mammals and reptiles, the Delta is part of the largest estuary on the west coast, and was named an Ecosystem of National Significance by the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act in 2011.

The Delta is also the largest single source of California’s water supply, providing 25 million Californians with drinking water, and irrigating millions of acres of farmland in the Central Valley. With nearly three-fourths of the Delta producing agriculture, it directly impacts not only the livelihood of the more than 500,000 people who live within the Delta, but the entire U.S as the Delta contributes billions of dollars in production to the nation annually.

Study Focus
Flood Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration (not water supply)
STUDY OVERVIEW

Ecological
There are a number of factors contributing to the ecological decline of Delta species and habitats, each of which has the capability to produce adverse impacts independently and/or in combination with each other.

Identified contributors of adverse impacts to the ecological health of the Delta ecosystem include:
- pesticides
- channelization
- exotic and non-native invasive species
- water supply diversions
- agricultural and urban runoff
- wastewater discharges

Specifically, channelization of rivers and streams through the construction of levees has resulted in the widespread loss of tidal marsh, shaded riverine aquatic habitat, and the disconnection of floodplains from waterways.

If this loss of Delta habitats and disconnection from floodplains continues, the current substantial declines in the Delta’s fisheries could result in the extinction of culturally and economically critical species. Many of the defining characteristics of the pre-channelized ecosystem (spatial extent, habitat heterogeneity, and dynamic storage) have either been lost or substantially altered as a result of land use and water management practices during the past 100 years in California. Nearly 95 percent of the historic wetland habitat in the Delta has been converted to agricultural and urban uses.

Flood Risk
Delta levees protect critical infrastructure such as:
- state highways
- rail lines
- natural gas fields
- gas and fuel pipelines
- drinking water pipelines
- businesses
- towns

While portions of Sacramento and Stockton are located within the Delta, most of its inhabitants are located amongst six Delta islands. As a result, the Delta Islands & Levees Feasibility Study is closely coordinating with Sacramento and Stockton-related flood risk reduction studies to ensure assumptions, scopes, and alternative plans are compatible.

Problems associated with in-Delta flood risk are largely due to the potential for levee failure and overtopping during flood events. These risks are increased as a result of climate change, sea level change, subsidence (as much as 25 feet below sea level) and seismic risk.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
The ultimate purpose of NEPA is to assist decision makers and the public in considering environmental amenities in the decision-making process

- Identification of significant environmental resources in the proposed project area
- Consideration of a full range of reasonable alternatives
- Assessment of potential impacts
- Full disclosure of potential impacts
- Mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for adverse impacts

"To declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation..."

—Preamble to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

Meeting Purpose and Goals
The goal of this meeting is to give the public an opportunity to provide input on the study and help determine its scope.

The study team is seeking input on the scope of the study, to include identification of flood risk management and ecosystem restoration problems and opportunities, and the team is available to answer any questions about NEPA or the Corps Planning Process.

The team’s goal is to ensure that the most economically and environmentally justified project is recommended.
We want to hear from you.

There are three ways you can provide comments:

1. Complete and submit a comment card during today’s meeting.

2. Write and submit through post mail to:
   U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento
   Attn: Tyler Stalker (CESPK-PA)
   1325 J St., Room 1513
   Sacramento, CA 95814
   Or

3. Write and submit through e-mail to:
   spk-pao@usace.army.mil

Comment Period Ends
DATE

What we’re looking for:

What ecological problems should this study consider?
For example - If levee construction in close proximity to channels has resulted in separation of historic floodplains from natural hydrologic flooding events through channels within the Delta, then let us know.

What flood risk management problems should this study consider?
For example - If population centers at X Location are located behind levees that are subject to flooding due to stability, seepage, and overtopping concerns which could result in loss of life and flood damages, then we want to know.
In light of the various planning efforts throughout the Delta, the study will be driven by two rules:

1. Recommendations must not be dependent upon the implementation of other planning efforts
2. Recommendations must not hinder other planning efforts
Open House Public Scoping Meeting

Delta Islands & Levees Feasibility Study

Please Sign In Here

Your Input is Welcome

Comment cards available at Welcome Station and Comment Station
Please return comment cards to comment station or any Corps employee

Comments may also be sent to:
Mr. Tyler Stalker
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
1325 J Street, Room 1513, Sacramento, CA  95814
E-Mail:  spk-pao@usace.army.mil
For Assistance, Telephone:  (916) 557-5100
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta
Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study
Public Scoping Meeting – Open House

February 2013
Background

- Cost Share Agreement between Corps and DWR to conduct study
- Focus of the study is **Flood Risk Management** and **Ecosystem Restoration**
- Intent is to be **compatible** with other planning efforts, but **standalone**
Open House Meeting

- Sign-in to stay informed about the study
- Visit the poster stations and talk with team members
- Comment on the scope of the study
  - What flood risk management problems should be considered?
  - What ecological problems should be considered?
# PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Process</th>
<th>NEPA Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify Problems and Opportunities</td>
<td>Publish Notice of Intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conduct scoping process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30-day scoping period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory and Forecast Conditions</td>
<td>Describe existing and future without project conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Formulation, Evaluation, and Comparison</td>
<td>Identify and compare impacts of identified alternatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify Tentatively Selected Plan</td>
<td>Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45-day public review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final EIS: Respond to comments and concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30-day public review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select Recommended Plan</td>
<td>Record of Decision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Delta System: What’s at Stake?

- Legacy towns
- Working landscapes
- Recreation
- Fisheries
- Water
- Natural Habitat
- Endangered Species
- Agricultural production
- Commercial Navigation
Why is the Delta System at Risk?

- Levee Fragility
- Ecosystem Loss
- Subsidence
- Saltwater Intrusion
- Climate Change
- Seismicity
- Competing Uses
Public Comments

- **What flood risk management problems should this study consider?**
  - For Example - Population centers at X Location are located behind levees that are subject to flooding due to stability, seepage, and overtopping concerns which could result in loss of life and flood damages.

- **What ecological problems should this study consider?**
  - For Example - Levee construction in close proximity to X Channel has resulted in separation of historic floodplains from natural hydrologic flooding events through channels within the Delta.
Contact Information

- E-mail: spk-pao@usace.army.mil
- Phone: 916-557-7461
- Mailing Address:
  1325 J Street, Room 1513
  Sacramento, CA 95814
**Purpose**

**Authorization**

Senate Resolution, 1 June 1948; Sec. 205 Flood Control Act, 17 May 1950 (P.L. 81-516); Conference Report 108-357 dated 7 Nov 2003 of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act (EWDA), 2004

**Location/Description**

The study area is located in Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, and Yolo counties, California and extends from Sacramento south to the cities of Stockton and Tracy, and west to and including Suisun Bay. The Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta consists of about 740,000 acres of land segregated into some 80 tracts and islands and 1,100 miles of levees.

The Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study (Delta Study) is the Corps’ mechanism to participate in a cost-shared solution to address ecosystem restoration, flood risk management, 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.

**FEDERAL INTEREST**

The CA Bay-Delta Ecosystem of National Significance is home to over 750 plant and animal species including over 35 species listed under the Endangered Species Act. Delta levees protect 500,000 inhabitants and protect the water supply of 25,000,000 Californians and a $28B agriculture industry (10% of the nation’s output). This study will develop the long-term strategy for Corps projects in the Delta region. The study will assess existing and future flood risks in the Delta, as well as opportunities for ecosystem restoration, and develop a comprehensive roadmap for Corps involvement in a wide range of water resources needs.

**SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>FY 07</td>
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<td>$971,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 13</td>
<td>$1,015,000 (President’s Budget)</td>
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**PARTNERSHIP FUNDING**

The cost share between the Corps and DWR for the Feasibility Study is 50/50.

**FY 11/12 ACTIVITIES**

The Corps/DWR Project Delivery Team (PDT) identified problems, opportunities, goals, constraints, objectives, and preliminary measures in order to focus the study. Multi-agency coordination meetings were held to solicit additional input and answer questions on the study. A Planning Rescoping Charette was conducted in August 2012.

**FY 13 ACTIVITIES**

The PDT will continue plan formulation work: finalize the revised PMP; conduct a second Planning Rescoping Charette (Dec 2012); continue to define existing and future without project conditions; continue to hold multi-agency coordination meetings; hold an In Progress Review meeting (Feb 2013); conduct public scoping meetings (Feb 2013); and reach Alternatives Milestone 1 (April 2013).

**TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS**

NEPA/CEQA compliance, Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment, and biological assessment and habitat constraints analysis/biological evaluation; existing data and information will be used to the maximum extent practicable.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

This study will incorporate the results of the State’s Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS) and other relevant planning efforts.
California Delta

US Army Corps of Engineers

CALFED Levee Stability Program (LSP)

Purpose

Flood Risk Management

Authorization

Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act (P.L. 108-361), Section 103 (f)(3); as amended by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007 (P.L. 110-114), Sec. 3015; and the Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-85), Section 210.

“(iv) develop a Delta Levee Emergency Management and Response Plan that will enhance the ability of Federal, State, and local agencies to rapidly respond to levee emergencies.”

Location/Background

The study area is located in Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, and Yolo counties, California and extends from Sacramento south to the cities of Stockton and Tracy, and west to and including Suisun Bay. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta consists of about 740,000 acres of land segregated into some 80 tracts and islands and 1,100 miles of levees. Delta levees protect 500,000 inhabitants and protect the water supply of 25,000,000 Californians and a $28B agriculture industry (10% of the nations output). The Emergency Response Planning efforts for the Delta will work in conjunction with existing plans at the Federal, State and local level to better coordinate a response to potential Delta levee failures.

Summarized Financial Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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Phase 1 Emergency Response Planning

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Federal Cost</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated Non-Federal Cost</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Estimated Project Cost</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Phase 2 Emergency Response Planning

Scope is currently under development; initiation is pending available Federal funds.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), allowing the Corps-DWR to initiate Phase 1 of GIS Flood Contingency Mapping and Emergency Response Planning for the Delta region. The team met with Delta counties in August 2010 to get input on concepts for the GIS products, response report, and related data. The Corps held several additional rounds of meetings with local entities to validate data collected throughout the process, and gather additional information from County and RD representatives.

Final products for Phase 1 include:

- 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.

Phase 1 was completed in September of 2011. Printed documents will be provided to DWR and the Delta counties prior to the 2011-2012 flood season. Electronic data available at: www.DeltaFloodEmergencyPlan.org
US Army Corps of Engineers

CALFED
Levee Stability Program

Counties (Congressional District):
- Alameda (10 & 11), Contra Costa (7, 10 & 11), Sacramento (10), San Joaquin (11 & 18), Solano (1), and Yolo (1 & 2) Counties

Congressional Interest:
- 1/Thompson (D), 2/Hyder (R), 3/Lungren (R), 7/Miller (D), 10/Garamendi (D), 11/McNerney (D), and 18/Cardoza (D)
- Senators Boxer (D) and Feinstein (D)

Non-Federal Sponsor:
- California Department of Water Resources and Multiple Local Agencies

Purpose:
Flood Risk Management

Authorization:
- Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvements Act (Public Law (PL) 108-361), Section 103 (f) (3); as amended by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007 (PL 110-114), Section 3015; and the Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2010.

Location/Description:
The study area is located in Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, and Yolo counties, California and extends from Sacramento south to the cities of Stockton and Tracy, and west to and including Suisun Bay. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta consists of about 740,000 acres of land segregated into some 80 tracts and islands and 1,100 miles of levees. Title I of PL 108-361, the CALFED Bay Delta Authorization Act of 2004 (CALFED Act), provided for Corps participation in the CALFED Program by authorizing the Secretary of the Army to undertake the construction and implementation of levee stability programs or projects for such purposes as flood control, ecosystem restoration, water supply, water conveyance, and water quality as described in the 2000 Record of Decision for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Study/Report on the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. The primary purpose of levee improvement projects is flood risk management, although it is recognized that incidental benefits for other purposes may accrue as a result of levee improvements in the Delta.

Federal Interest:
Delta levees protect 500,000 inhabitants, the water supply of 25,000,000 Californians, several Federal navigation/transportation projects, and a $28B agricultural industry (10% of the nation’s output). The Delta is home to over 750 plant and animal species including over 35 species listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Summarized Financial Data:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorized Federal Limit</th>
<th>FY 08 Appropriations</th>
<th>FY 09 Appropriations</th>
<th>FY 10 Appropriations</th>
<th>FY 11 Appropriations</th>
<th>FY 12 Appropriations</th>
<th>FY 13 Appropriations</th>
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<tr>
<td>$196,000,000</td>
<td>$4,920,000</td>
<td>$4,784,000</td>
<td>$4,814,000</td>
<td>$598,700</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Partnership Funding:
Up to $100,000 is available at full Federal expense to initiate Feasibility Phase activities, including preparing a Preliminary Draft Project Implementation Report (PDPIR), a Project Management Plan (PMP), and to negotiate the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) for each project that proceeds through the program. The cost share between the Corps and a non-Federal sponsor for Feasibility Phase activities in the LSP beyond the initial $100k is 50/50. The cost share for design and construction is 65% Corps and 35% non-federal sponsor.

FY 10 & 11 Activities:
The Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District was the first non-Federal sponsor to sign a Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) with the Corps on 13 July 2010 for the Bethel Island-Horseshoe Bend Project. The Corps team completed draft Project Management Plans (PMPs) for four additional Levee Stability Program projects, including McCormack-Williamson Tract, Bacon Island, Walnut Grove, and River Junction, and began development of a PMP and FCSA for Brannan-Andrus Levee Maintenance District. In 2010 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. Phase 1 was completed in September 2011 and includes standardization of GIS database of Emergency Management Data, Flood Contingency Maps, and a large-scale wall maps of the Delta region; and an accompanying report documenting the existing framework, existing data, and any potential data gaps.

FY 12 & 13 Activities:
The Bethel Island-Horseshoe Bend Project Feasibility Phase Study is currently underway; a completed PIR and initiation of a Project Partnership Agreement is anticipated in FY14. The McCormack-Williamson Tract PMP and FCSA have been approved by the Corps’ Headquarters office.

USACE PM/PLANNER
- Dennis Clark: 916.557.7963
- Brooke Schlenker: 916.557.5299
- Matty Evoy-Mount: 916.557.5299

Emails:
- Dennis.G.Clark@usace.army.mil
- Brooke.E.Schlenker@usace.army.mil
- Matilda.L.Evoy-Mount@usace.army.mil

Flood Risk Management

Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvements Act (Public Law (PL) 108-361), Section 103 (f) (3); as amended by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007 (PL 110-114), Section 3015; and the Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2010.
March 15, 2013

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Public Affairs Office
Attn: Delta Study Scoping
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) and State Water Contractors, Inc. (SWC), on behalf of and with each of their member agencies,¹ (herein “Public Water Agencies”), appreciate this opportunity to provide comments on the scope of the environmental analysis to be included in the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study (Delta Study). The Delta Study will assess existing and future flood risks in the Delta as well as opportunities for ecosystem restoration and will develop a comprehensive roadmap for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ (Corps) involvement in a wide range of resource management needs in the region. The Delta Study will evaluate alternatives to meet the dual study goals of restoring sustainable ecosystem functions and improving flood risk management in the Delta, Suisun Marsh, and adjacent areas.

The Corps is initiating preparation of the DEIS and will serve as the lead agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Corps has entered into a Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) for preparation of the Delta Study with the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the non-Federal sponsor. This letter contains Public Water Agencies’ response to the Notice of Intent (NOI) as entities that would be potentially affected by a long-term strategy for Corps projects in the Delta region.

Specific comments on potential issues for the Corps’ consideration and incorporation into the DEIS are listed below:

- The NOI states that Delta Study alternatives may include various combinations of ecosystem restoration and flood-risk management measures designed to meet the study goals. The DEIS for the Delta Study should evaluate the environmental effects of the project’s alternatives on water supply, water quality, and aquatic and terrestrial biology, among other resource categories.

¹ See Attachment 1 for a description of the SWC and SLDMWA.
March 15, 2013
Page 2

- The DEIS for the Delta Study should be closely coordinated with adopted and on-going planning and policy initiatives in the Delta including:
  
  - The Bay-Delta Conservation Plan, which considers an integrated water supply and environmental enhancement strategy in the Delta,
  
  - The DWR Central Valley Integrated Flood Management Study, which identifies opportunities to reduce flood risk and protect environmental values of the region, and
  
  - The Delta Flood Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Plan, which provides emergency response strategies addressing up to and including catastrophic multiple-island failures from earthquake or flood emergencies.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input into your scoping process for the Delta Study DEIS. Please include us on the mailing list to receive future notifications about this process. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Brenda Burman at bburman@mwdh2o.com or Greg Zlotnick at Greg.Zlotnick@sldmwa.org.

Sincerely Yours,

Daniel G. Nelson
Executive Director
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

Terry L. Erlewine
General Manager
State Water Contractors
Attachment 1

The SWC organization is a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation that represents and protects the common interests of its 27 member public agencies in the vital water supplies provided by California’s State Water Project (“SWP”). Each of the member agencies of the State Water Contractors holds a contract with the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) to receive water supplies from the SWP. Collectively, the SWC members deliver water to more than 25 million residents throughout the state and more than 750,000 acres of agricultural lands. SWP water is served from the San Francisco Bay Area, to the San Joaquin Valley and the Central Coast, to Southern California. The SWC’s members are: Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Zone 7; Alameda County Water District; Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency; Casitas Municipal Water District; Castaic Lake Water Agency; Central Coastal Water Authority; City of Yuba City; Coachella Valley Water District; County of Kings; Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency; Desert Water Agency; Dudley Ridge Water District; Empire-West Side Irrigation District; Kern County Water Agency; Littlerock Creek Irrigation District; Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Mojave Water Agency; Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; Oak Flat Water District; Palmdale Water District; San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District; San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency; San Luis Obispo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District; Santa Clara Valley Water District; Solano County Water Agency; and Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District.

The Authority is a joint powers authority, established under California’s Joint Exercise of Powers Act. (Gov. Code, § 6500 et seq.) The Authority is comprised of 29 member agencies, 27 of which hold contractual rights to water from the federal Central Valley Project (“CVP”). The Authority member agencies have historically received up to 3,100,000 acre-feet annually of CVP water for the irrigation of highly productive farm land primarily along the San Joaquin Valley’s Westside, for municipal and industrial uses, including within California’s Silicon Valley, and for publicly and privately managed wetlands situated in the Pacific Flyway. The areas served by the Authority’s member agencies span portions of seven counties encompassing about 3,300 square miles, an area roughly the size of Rhode Island and Delaware combined. The Authority’s members are: Banta-Carbona Irrigation District; Broadview Water District; Byron Bethany Irrigation District (CVPSA); Central California Irrigation District; City of Tracy; Columbia Canal Company (a Friend); Del Puerto Water District; Eagle Field Water District; Firebaugh Canal Water District; Fresno Slough Water District; Grassland Water District; Henry Miller Reclamation District #2131; James Irrigation District; Laguna Water District; Mercy Springs Water District; Oro Loma Water District; Pacheco Water District; Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency; Panoche Water District; Patterson Irrigation District; Pleasant Valley Water District; Reclamation District 1606; San Benito County Water District; San Luis Water District; Santa Clara Valley Water District; Tranquillity Irrigation District; Turner Island Water District; West Side Irrigation District; West Stanislaus Irrigation District; and Westlands Water District.
NAME: Rogene Reynolds
PHONE: (209) 992-8090
ADDRESS: 4444 W. Unpice Rd. Stockton, CA 95206
E-MAIL: sail240@clearwire.net

COMMENT/QUESTION:

In the S. Delta - we have a severe siltation problem in our channels. Designing would be an improvement of silted channels increase flood risk.

Also: This program should be brought to the South Delta!
NAME: Mary

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

COMMENT/QUESTION:

p 33 - Sac Southern RR no longer a place

- being converted to trail

RD 0551 - Pearson District not "Pierson"

[Signature]

[Handwritten Notes]
NAME: Gilbert Labrie

ADDRESS: 

E-MAIL: 

COMMENT/QUESTION:

This study needs to address the process of pre-meeting to unify the federal interests in permitting. This will allow ongoing maintenance, improvement, restoration of critical structures and facilitate Delta as Place.
NAME: Debbie Elliot
ADDRESS: 12336 Army 160
E-MAIL: debliot@cutlink.net

COMMENT/QUESTION:

Page 35 of map book
no fire station on Holland Rd -
it is in Clarksburg
NAME: Kristal Faethke  PHONE: 916-375-4994
ADDRESS: 1450 Halyard Dr. Suite 10, West Sacramento
E-MAIL: Kmdavis@deHaconservancy.ca.gov

COMMENT/QUESTION:

Will the Corps engage stakeholders in review of alternatives prior to the release of the feasibility report/krafft EIS?

Earlier engagement of Delta stakeholders can help ensure the feasibility study is consistent or complementary to Delta planning efforts and helps address stakeholder needs in the Delta.