**Notice of Preparation and Intent to Prepare an
Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report for the
Folsom Dam Water Control Manual Update**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District (USACE) and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) are preparing a Joint Environment Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Folsom Dam Water Control Manual Update (WCM Update). The USACE will serve as the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the CVFPB will serve as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is acting as a NEPA cooperating agency and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) is acting as a CEQA responsible agency.

Folsom Dam and Reservoir is a multipurpose project operated by the Reclamation as a part of the Central Valley Project (CVP). The USACE is responsible for prescribing operations pertaining to use of the storage allocated for flood risk management. The dam provides flood risk management benefits to the City of Sacramento and its surrounding areas by regulating runoff from approximately 1,860 square miles of drainage area.

The Folsom Dam Joint Federal Project (JFP), currently under construction, consists of a new auxiliary spillway with a spillway crest elevation 50 feet lower in elevation than the current gated spillways on the main dam. The JFP will improve the ability of Folsom Dam to manage large flood events by allowing more water to be safely released earlier in a storm event, resulting in more storage capacity remaining in the reservoir to hold back the peak inflow when it arrives. The JFP will also meet Reclamation’s dam safety goal to pass the probable maximum flood (the most severe possible flood in this drainage area) without causing failure of Folsom Dam. In order to fully realize the benefits of the new auxiliary spillway, the current Folsom Dam and Reservoir Water Control Manual must be updated.

The purpose of the WCM Update effort is to identify, evaluate, and recommend changes to the flood management operation rules of Folsom Dam and Reservoir that would reduce flood risk to the Sacramento area by utilizing the new auxiliary spillway and by incorporating an improved understanding of the American River watershed upstream of Folsom Dam and by developing the technical information required to update the existing WCM. The findings of the evaluation will be used to help define the Dam’s new flood operations plan, with the intention of meeting flood risk management objectives in a manner that conserves as much water as possible and maximizes all authorized Folsom Dam project uses to the extent practicable.

The USACE and the CVFPB will be holding a series of scoping meetings to provide the public with information on the array of measures currently being considered for the WCM Update and EIS/EIR. Staff from USACE, CVFPB, the Department of Water Resources (DWR), Reclamation, SAFCA, and other members of the project team will be on hand to address questions regarding the WCM Update. The public will be given the opportunity to provide written and verbal comments at the scoping meetings.

Scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

Sacramento Library Galleria Folsom Communities Center

828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA

October 15th, 2012 October 22nd, 2012

4pm to 7pm 4pm to 7pm

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIR/EIS pursuant to NEPA will be published in the Federal Register and a Notice of Preparation (NOP) to prepare an EIR/EIS pursuant to CEQA will be submitted to the State Clearinghouse. The notices are available online at the Federal Register website (<https://www.federalregister.gov/>) and on the CVFPB’s website at (<http://www.cvfpb.ca.gov/PublicNotices/>).

Written comments and suggestions about the WCM Update may be submitted by November 11th, 2012 to Tyler Stalker, USACE Public Affairs Office, or Michael Mierzwa, DWR Division of Flood Management. For e-mailed comments, please include “WCM Update” in the subject line, attach comments in MS Word format, and include the commenter’s U.S. Postal Service mailing address. Questions about the WCM Update and the EIS/EIR should be addressed to:

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For more information about the Folsom Dam WCM Update please visit the following website http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/JointFederalProject.aspx