

## CALENDAR ALERTS

- Mar. 3rd** - DSC [workshop](#) on [Delta conveyance](#), 50 E. Sixth St, Tracy, 1:00-5:00 pm
- Mar. 3rd** - [Deadline](#) to comment on [O&M EIR](#) for SRFCP
- Mar. 7th** - Senate Committee [hearing](#), water/flood bond ([SB 5](#)), Capitol Room 113, 9:30 am
- Mar. 9th** - DSC [workshop](#) on Delta conveyance, Sheraton Hotel, 1230 J St, 8:30 am
- Mar. 9th** - Woodland hearing, draft 2017 CVFPP, 2001 East St., 6:00-8:00 pm
- Mar. 14th** - Senate [hearing](#) on water/flood bond bill, State Capitol Room 112, 9:30 am
- Mar. 15th** - CCVFCA Annual [Flood Forum](#), 10:00 am - 1:30pm @ Holiday Inn Sacramento Downtown, 300 J Street, Sacramento.
- Mar. 19th** - Stockton hearing, draft 2017 CVFPP, 2101 E. Earhart Ave., 10:00 am - Noon
- Mar. 31st** - [Comments due](#) for Draft Central Valley Protection Plan Update and EIR.
- April 5th** - EPA [workshop](#), funding stormwater projects, 1515 Clay St., Oakland, 9am-5pm

\*\* = [New Calendar Alert](#)

## FEATURED ASSOCIATE MEMBER

### DOWNEY BRAND

### KEEPING UP

\*\*Check [CCVFCA Website](#) for more information on topics in Flood Flash

#### **Not Too Late to Register for the 2017 Flood Forum**

Big Benefits. Big Price Tag. This year's annual CCVFCA Flood Forum will focus on the long-term investment strategies being developed by state agencies to fund the long-term maintenance and improvement of the Delta and State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC) levee systems.

DWR will describe the mix of bonds, general fund, and new fees proposed in the 2017 update of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) to generate the estimated \$17-\$21 billion necessary to implement a portfolio of management actions to rehabilitate, repair, improve, and maintain the SPFC flood protection infrastructure over the next 30 years. Additional funding mechanisms being evaluated in a Delta Protection Commission (DPC) feasibility study will also be discussed.

A local perspective on the challenges, opportunities, and general feasibility associated with generating revenues for flood risk reduction projects will be provided by three panelists representing local flood control agencies.

The panel of speakers will be followed by a luncheon. [Registration](#) is as easy as click of your mouse.

#### **Governor Announces Budget Proposal to Fund Flood Control Projects**

As a follow-up to two Emergency Proclamations in [January](#) and [February](#), a request to President Trump for [federal aid](#) due to storm damage across the state, and the Oroville dam situation, on Friday, February 24, 2017 Governor Brown held a press conference to [announce actions](#) his Administration would be taking to secure funding for emergency levee repairs and dam safety. The Governor released a [4-point plan](#) to allocate all of the \$395 of flood control funding designated in Prop. 1 and redirecting \$50 million appropriated last for deferred maintenance of State Plan of Flood Control facilities.

He also [sent a letter](#) to the Chairs of the Legislative Budget Committees notifying them that he is using his emergency powers to accelerate flood control funding and released a document with [more details](#) regarding the allocation of the funding.

The [funding package](#) does not include any funding for the repair of the Oroville dam spillways, because that is the financial responsibility of the [State Water Contractors](#). The cost of those repairs is still being developed and may not be fully known as the main spillway continues operating through the next few months of snowmelt.

Local levee maintaining agencies have been on patrol and flood fighting since the relentless series of storms started in January. Most are scrambling to keep up with the repairs of levee slippage and slumping occurring due to oversaturated soils, and keeping a close eye on numerous seepage sites. Based on the water content of the snowpack being close to 200%, these conditions are not likely to abate for a while. When the river does finally go down, the districts will have a chance to see the additional erosion damage that is occurring on the water side.

While the Governor's announcement is welcomed, it appears to prioritize communication, supplies, and non-emergency regional flood control projects rather than paying for the ever-expanding list of levee repair sites in the Delta and project levee systems. The Association is communicating with the Administration officials about the scope and severity of the damage the levees are experiencing and informing them of the importance of ensuring that the funding is allocated quickly to local agencies in order to implement repairs as damage appears.

An important fact for the Administration and Legislators to understand and address is the reality that many of the project levees are no longer eligible for levee repair funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' [PL 84-99](#) program. If the State wants to prevent levee failures then it need to focus funding the millions of dollars of recent and ongoing repairs.

#### **New Secretary of the U.S. Interior Sworn into Office**

Ryan Zinke, a congressman from Montana and former U.S. Navy SEAL, was sworn in on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 as [Secretary of the Interior](#). His appointment was confirmed earlier in the day by a 68-31 vote in the U.S. Senate. He was [appointed](#) by President Trump back in December 2016.

#### **Brown Administration Official Testifies to Congress About Flood Infrastructure**

John Laird, Secretary of the CA Natural Resources Agency, [testified](#) to the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee this week about flood control infrastructure. He fielded questions from California Senator Kamala Harris and other members about what is needed to address the repairs of flood control facilities. He of course updated them on the status of the Oroville Dam and responded to Senator Harris' [inquiry](#) about the flood vulnerability of the Sacramento-San Joaquin region.

#### **DWR Finally Able to Start Removal of Extensive Debris Below Oroville Spillway**

Now that the rain has abated and the Oroville reservoir is below the 851-foot elevation required by USACE flood rules, DWR [announced](#) that it would reduce releases down the main spillway so it can focus on cleaning out 1.5 million cubic yards of [debris](#). This will allow the Hyatt hydroelectric plant to restart operations, including the ability to discharge about 13,000 cfs from Lake Oroville. A joint [Incident Report](#) by DWR and USACE provides more details on the status of operations and repairs at the dam and power plant. An [Incident Overview](#) by DWR also has a graphic of the timeline showing the inflows and rising reservoir levels over a three week period in February.

#### **Don Neudeck Passes Away**

On Monday, February 27, 2017 [Don Neudeck](#), 91, passed away at his home. Many of you know him from his career at DWR, including serving as Chief of Flood Management when he retired in 1988. A docent at the CA Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento, a celebration of his life will be held there this evening from 6:00-9:00 pm, 111-I St., Sacramento.

## IN THE NEWS

(Clicking the links will take you to news organization websites, where you can read the full stories. CCVFCA is not responsible for content on these external sites.)

- [Rural California levees besieged by pounding wet winter](#) - Seattle Times
- [Shasta Dam makes history as water flows from top gates for first time in 20years](#) - LA Times
- [Governor Tours Damaged Oroville Dam](#) - Fox 40 News
- [Oroville Dam's lake below maximum level of reservoir](#) - East Valley Times
- [Ignored Oroville warning raises huge questions about levees and earthquakes](#) - Napa Valley Register
- [Fears that California's huge Oroville Dam will fail have subsided—for now](#) - The Economist
- [California's San Joaquin River Levee Breached Post Rains: Thousands in Area Evacuated](#) - andnowuknow.com
- [Thousands return home as flood waters recede in California](#) - Fox News US
- [California Needs Atmospheric Rivers. But Like, Not This Many](#) - Wired
- [Flooded California town fights to keep its only restaurant](#) - LA Times
- [California Conservation Corps Continues Levee Work in Manteca](#) - Fox 40
- [Can Oroville Dam's badly damaged spillway hold up through rainy season?](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [California dam spillway water shut off to clear debris](#) - KRISTV.com
- [Editorial: In aftermath of evacuation, state owes Oroville](#) - Chico ER
- [Brown calls for infrastructure spending in storm battered California](#) - Court House News
- [Jerry Brown shouldn't squander the Oroville Dam crisis](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Gov. Brown announces plan to deal with weakening water, flood control systems](#) - ABC 7
- [Gov. Jerry Brown seeks \\$437 million for flood control](#) - KCRA
- [The true legacy of Gov. Jerry Brown](#) - The Orange County Register
- [What lessons should we learn from Oroville Dam drama?](#) - The Sacramento Bee
- [California leaders need to invest in infrastructure needs](#) - Vida en el valle
- [After rains soak California, Gov. Brown seeks \\$437 million for flooding repairs](#) - ABC 30
- [DWR, Caltrans to start fixing roads in Oroville](#) - KRCR
- [Beauty and danger: New images show Lake Oroville and Dam](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Soggy winter shows no mercy on rural California levees](#) - Las Vegas Review Journal
- [Aerial Photos of California's Winter 2017 Floods, Storm Damage](#) - NBC Los Angeles
- [San Jose floods: City's failure to raise alarm contrasts response to crisis at Oroville Dam](#) - The Mercury News
- [Levee Patrols: First line of defence against floodwaters](#) - Recordnet
- [OROVILLE DAM, Monday afternoon: DWR prepares to reduce flows over spillway to zero cfs](#) - Maven's Notebook
- [Local levees holding strong in wake of recent storms](#) - The Davis Enterprise
- [Don Pedro told to cut releases by Army Corps](#) - Manteca Bulletin
- [SJ River flood challenge](#) - Recordnet
- [Rural California levees besieged by pounding wet winter](#) - AP News
- [Levee Managers: Need Five Miles Of Repairs To Feather River](#) - Capital Public Radio
- [San Joaquin Rivers stops rising](#) - Recordnet
- [Oroville Spillway Incident](#) - DWR
- [Faced with crisis, California water managers stepped up](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Outflows from Lake Oroville spillway completely shut off](#) - KCRA
- [California dam spillway water shut off to clear debris](#) - ABC News
- [Giant chasm revealed as water stops flowing at Oroville Dam](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [With Climate Change, California Is Likely To See More Extreme Flooding](#) - NPR
- [Senate GOP probe California's Dam disaster](#) - Washington Examiner
- [California Governor Brown announces four-point plan to bolster dam safety and flood protection](#) - Hydroworld.com
- [California storms wreak havoc](#) - EDM Digest
- [Lessons learned floods and misguided priorities](#) - Western Farm Press
- [Water bond money to go to fixing deteriorating infrastructure across the state](#) - Bakerfield Now.com
- [Flood seen from the air](#) - esanjoaquin.com
- [How does California move forward after historic storm season?](#) - Modesto Bee
- [California's water system build for a climate we no longer have](#) - KQED
- [Agencies play blame game after San Jose Flooding](#) - Court House News
- [California's flood of 2017 so far -- California Water Blog](#)
- [Dramatic new images show scale of damage to Oroville Dam](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Atmospheric rivers leave California dried out and the flooded](#) - New Scientist
- [Trump directs EPA to begin dismantling clean water rule](#) - LA Times
- [CA WATER LAW SYMPOSIUM: Chuck Bonham on going big in the Delta](#) - Maven's Notebook
- [Gov. Brown prioritizes California's water and transportation infrastructure spending](#) - Planning Report
- [Defining Snow Drought and Why It Matters](#) - EOS
- [California by the numbers, millions needed as drought ends](#) - The Weather Network
- [Reaction to Trumps rollback of the Clean Water rule](#) - Maven's Notebook
- [Oroville Dam spillway devastation, ruined hillside, clogged river revealed after water flow is stopped](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Oroville Dam spillway photos](#) - SF Gate
- [DWR: Progress at Oroville Spillway continues](#)—KRCR TV
- [Record January-February rain total for Sacramento](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Sen. Harris welcomes CA Sec. Laird to discuss flood risks at DC hearing](#) - KCRC TV
- [North State Voices: Negligence of Oroville shows inconsistency, irony](#) - Chico ER
- [Official: Califor. Faces \\$50b price tag for flood control](#) - Hanford Sentinel
- [Flooding Threat: Too much water filling a system with too little capacity](#) - Fresno Bee
- [What we've learned from California's 2017 flood so far](#) - News Deeply
- [California flood control called a life and death crisis, but federal funding is uncertain](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Timely start to hyacinth fight in Delta](#) - Recordnet.com
- [SJ River falls, but flood fight drags on](#) - Recordnet.com