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CALENDAR ALERTS

June 21 — Deadline to comment on Lower Elkhorn Basin [setback](#) levee

June 25 — Floodplain Management Association Global Warming [Symposium](#)

Sept 3-6 — Floodplain Management Association's [annual conference](#), San Diego

FEATURED ASSOCIATE MEMBER



STORM WATCH

Federal Storm Declaration Signed

In response to emergency proclamations issued by Governor Newsom, federal disaster [declarations](#) for Northern California were signed by President Trump. The USACE also announced opening of the PL 84-99 program for damage claims to be submitted.

Oroville Lake Level Remains High

Despite the above-average water year and late spring storms arriving in mid-May, DWR was not using spillway as it is able to [manage Oroville](#) Lake level through [releases](#) from the powerplant. But due forecasted inflows, by the end of May DWR announced their intent to use the main [spillway](#) in June.

KEEPING UP

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

Setback Levees Proposed

The Yuba Water Agency has authorized expenditure of \$2.1 million to help Reclamation District 817 to design, permit and construct a 2,800-foot [setback levee](#) on the north bank of the Bear River near [Wheatland](#). Two miles upstream of the Carlin Bridge along Pleasant Grove Road this location has experienced seepage and been identified by DWR as a critical erosion site. DWR is providing 90% of the \$11 million project and completion is anticipated in June 2023.

A levee setback is being proposed in the [Lower Elkhorn](#) Basin immediately north of the Sacramento Bypass. The new 7.2-mile levee would be 27-feet high and 244 feet wide at the base. Approximately 4,500 linear feet of the existing levee will become upland habitat. The deadline to submit comments on the Army Corps permit is June 21, 2019.

Sacramento County Receives FEMA Grant Funding

FEMA has provided \$2.6 million flood mitigation [grant funding](#) to Sacramento County for implementation of non-structural flood risk reduction projects such as floodproofing or elevating houses.

Homeless Camps Damaging Levees

Levees protecting residents and businesses in Natomas are being compromised by [trenches](#) being dug into them by the [homeless](#) building multi-unit tent encampments. These temporary structures are also preventing local reclamation districts from inspecting levees for structural integrity and would interfere with floodfighting in the event of a levee breach. Reclamation District 1000 board of directors voted to send letters to local police agencies to request their assistance, however a federal court ruling in September 2018 prevents homeless from being cited for sleeping outdoors if no shelter bed is available to them. The city of Sacramento formed a [task force](#) to seek solutions to address RD 1000's situation.

California Levees Receive "D" Grade

In the annual Infrastructure [Report Card](#), the American Society of Civil Engineers gave California a ["D" grade](#). The report acknowledges the recent investment and levee improvements, but claims this is just the down payment on the \$45 billion they estimate is needed for levee rehabilitation.

Court Prevents Flood Insurance in California Floodplains

In mid-May a federal judge in San Francisco issued a ruling declared FEMA is [prohibited](#) from issuing flood insurance to property owners in the 100-year floodplain until analysis of environmental impacts of development in the floodplain is analyzed.

Climate Vulnerability Analyzed

Phase III of the DWR's [Climate Action Plan](#) is a [Vulnerability Assessment](#) to serve as the foundation for developing an Adaptation Plan to prioritize DWR's resiliency efforts.

DELTA DOWNLOAD

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Clarksburg Flood Risk Reduction Report Completed

Yolo County staff presented a flood risk reduction feasibility study for [Clarksburg](#) to the County Supervisors that rates the area as moderate to high risk based on potential flood depth and proximity to the river. The recommended structural fix is a series of seepage berms or cutoff walls estimated to cost between \$44-\$52 million. Additional non-structural projects are also recommended such as levee relief cuts, emergency evacuation warning system, and the elevation and floodproofing of homes.

Nutria Presence Confirmed in the Delta

On May 14, 2019 the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) staff confirmed the presence of a single [nutria](#) in a Delta slough between Rough and Ready Island and the Stockton Wastewater Treatment Facility. CDFW immediately initiated efforts to trap and identify the sex and reproductive status of the rodent.

LEGISLATIVE LATEST

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

Legislative Informational Hearing on Flood Preparedness

The Assembly Governmental Organization and Water, Parks & Wildlife Committees held a joint informational [hearing](#) on [May 9th](#) to discuss flood management and emergency preparedness. After the hearing, Assemblyman Adam Gray (D-Modesto) issued a [statement](#), "We cannot afford to be caught flat-footed. We need to ensure our emergency plans are up-to-date, and fully consider the consequences flooding has on lifeline systems such as fuel, power, communications, drinking water, and transportation."

Legislative Analyst Outlines Funding Options for Water Projects

A short April 2019 [report](#) outlining local and state funding options for water-related projects was presented by the Legislative Analyst's Office to the Assembly Water, Parks, & Wildlife Committee.

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.)

- [Editorial: Oroville Dam is fine, despite what the internet says](#) - Oroville MR
- [A Reservoir Rising: How DWR is Managing Lake Oroville in an Above-Average Water Year](#) - DWR

- [California is already drenched. Now three 'atmospheric rivers' may unload two months' worth of rain.](#) - Washington Post
- [Spring Storms Concern Residents Living Near Oroville Dam](#) - CBS Local
- [Spillway concerns? DWR, Sheriff Kory Honea say no](#) - Chico ER
- [WEF releases first-ever stormwater needs analysis revealing major funding gap](#) - Water Finance & Management
- [States at Risk from Climate Disasters Rank Low in Emergency Readiness](#) - E&E News
- [Civil Engineers Grade California's Infrastructure with a C](#) - Fox 40
- [WATER STORAGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM: Informational Meeting – Administration of Public Benefits](#) - Maven's Notebook
- [Legal Corner: The Good and Bad News about EPA's Proposed WOTUS Rule](#) - Water Finance & Management
- [Record floods worsened by warming and levees. 'How idiotic'](#) - E&E News
- [Environment Report: From the Twin Tunnels to an Only Child](#) - Voice of San Diego
- [Editorial: Governor sets new course on Delta](#) - Mercury News
- [Water and Climate Update](#) - USDA
- [What's Up With All the Late-May Rain? Atmospheric Science Suggests Answers](#) - CBS
- [With large Sierra snowpack, DWR could soon release water over the Oroville Dam spillway](#) - Oroville MR
- [California sees biggest June snowpack in nearly a decade thanks to spring storms](#) - LA Times
- [Lessons From the Past Can Help Us Improve Dam Safety](#)—DWR
- [Sierra snowpack is 202 percent of average for this time of year](#) - SF Gate
- [Court sides with WOTUS foes as legal fight gets messier](#) - E&E News
- [2019 Report Card for California's Infrastructure](#) - Infrastructure Report Card
- [Nutra Eradication Efforts Moving Ahead In Delta](#) - Escalon Times
- [CDFW's Nutria Eradication Operations Expand with \\$8.5 Million Award; Nutria Now Found in Stockton](#) - California Water News Daily
- [As late-season wet weather hits Northern California, snowpack and reservoir levels soar](#) - Sacramento Bee
- [Sierra Valley flood hazard restudy signed by supervisors](#) - Plumas News
- [Floods and droughts: What it's like to live in communities hit hard by climate change](#) - Yale Climate Connections
- [Reclamation district proposes flood risk assessment for South Yuba County](#) - Appeal Democrat
- [Butte County concerns over lake levels](#) - Chico ER

California Central Valley Flood Control Association
 910 K Street, Suite 310
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 446-0197
www.floodassociation.net