



CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY
FLOOD CONTROL
ASSOCIATION

CCVFCA'S Flood Flash

June 20, 2016

Send news tips, feedback, and subscription requests to cindy@floodassociation.net

CALENDAR ALERTS

****June 28-30**

WEF's International [Groundwater Conference](#), San Francisco Airport Hyatt.

July 21

Delta Protection Commission Meeting, 5:30pm, Jean Harvie Community Center, Walnut Grove.

Sept. 6

[FMA Annual Conference](#) & Extreme Precipitation Symposium, Sacramento Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Sept. 6-9

Floodplain Management Association [Annual Conference](#), Sacramento Hyatt

****Oct. 3**

Deadline to submit Prop. 1 [Urban Rivers Grant](#) applications

** = [New Calendar Alert](#)

FEATURED ASSOCIATE MEMBER

[Downey Brand](#) was founded in California's capital city in 1926.

Sacramento office continues today with over 90 attorneys serving clients throughout the region and beyond.

DOWNEY BRAND

KEEPING UP

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

Recent Victories on CCVFCA's Legislative Agenda

On June 14th, [SB 554](#) (Wolk), relating to the [Delta Levee Subventions Program](#), was approved by the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee on a 10-3 vote and now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The bill will make the current cost-share formula for levee maintenance permanent. The Subventions Program considered by many to be one of the few true successes in the Delta, has funded levee projects under the current formula for the past 20 years.

The Association has been successful in obtaining amendments to bills that allow CCVFCA to remove its opposition: [AB 2801](#) (Gallagher) specifying how long [written protests](#) must be maintained by agencies and [AB 2476](#) (Daly) regarding [public notification](#) of new parcel taxes.

Assemblyman Gomez has also agreed to accept amendments proposed by the Association to [AB 2651](#) that are intended to ensure flood plans and facilities are considered when developing [greenway easements](#).

The Legislature met their constitutional June 15th deadline for passing the annual state budget when they approved a \$122.5 billion General Fund budget ([SB 826](#)) that [funds state government](#) for Fiscal Year 2016-17. The [spending bill includes](#) \$100 million for deferred maintenance for flood control facilities and projects, with about \$60 million dedicated for Central Valley and the remainder to be allocated statewide. In addition, the budget for [State Plan of Flood Control](#) (SPFC) maintenance has been increased about \$11 million for the coming fiscal year, \$1.45 million is provided to the Delta Stewardship Council for [development of water conveyance and storage policies](#) for the Delta Plan, and DWR will be able to hire several [new real estate positions](#) to work on eminent domain actions associated with property needed in the Delta to construct the CA WaterFix project. Lawmakers still have another 11 trailer bills that must also be approved, containing regulatory and program changes for each of the agencies, including the Natural Resources Agency.

The Governor and Democratic leaders additionally agreed to place \$3.3 billion into the rainy day fund, \$2 billion more than required by the state constitution. The rainy day fund now totals \$6.7 billion with about \$2.7 billion into other reserve accounts.

Central Valley Flood Protection Board Launches a Newly Revamped Website

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board announced that their [newly revised website](#) is up and running. The updated version is intended to improve the ease by which the public can navigate and access information on Central Valley flood control issues, including ability to click on a link to watch live [board meetings](#) or past webcasts, a [calendar of events](#) that will be updated frequently, and recent news/activities highlighted on the main page.

If you have any comments regarding the newly revamped website or suggestions for additional improvements, please send to Lorraine.Pendlebury@water.ca.gov.

Tribal Consultation Policy Adopted by the Central Valley Flood Protection Board

Pursuant to Governor's [Executive Order B-10-11](#), the CVFPB has [adopted](#) the Natural Resources Agency's Tribal [Consultation Policy](#) to provide guidance on effective coordination for activities under the board's jurisdiction that affect Native American lands and artifacts. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also has a [federal policy](#) on tribal consultation.

Federal Regulatory Jurisdiction for Wetlands Still Subject to Judicial Review

Downey Brand reports that the U.S. [Supreme Court upheld](#) an 8th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling (*U.S. Army Corps of [Engineers v. Hawkes Co., Inc.](#)*) regarding disputes that landowners may have with their property being designated as federal wetlands under the Clean Water Act. The case addresses whether a determination by the USACE that property has Waters of the U.S. is a final action that can be [challenged by property owners](#) in court or not. Ultimately the Supreme Court Justices disagreed with the USACE's assertion that a Jurisdiction Determination is merely a type of informal advice or information, and instead ruled that these are binding determinations that should be subject to immediate judicial review if landowner objects to the wetlands designation.

DSC and USBR Appointments Announced

[Randy Fiorini](#), a member of the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) since 2010 and chairman since 2014, has been [reappointed by Governor Brown](#). He is also a managing partner and farmer at Fiorini Ranch since 1975. This position, which includes a \$153,936 salary, requires confirmation of the CA State Senate.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that [Paul Souza](#) will be the agency's new Regional Director for the Pacific Southwest Region (California, Nevada and Klamath Region of Oregon) beginning in August 2016. He will be replacing Ren Lohofener who is retiring at the end of the year, but will remain an advisor to the new Regional Director on water issues.

After serving in several key positions in the Mid-Pacific Region, [Federico Barajas](#), with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), has been promoted to Deputy Regional Director. Starting with the USBR in 1991 as a Project Manager in the Mid-Pacific Region, he has held various positions with oversight of a number of complex projects dealing with sensitive water resource issues, including the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDGP).

Three-Day International Groundwater Conference to Focus on Achieving Sustainability

The Water Education Foundation and U.C. Davis are teaming up to host an international [groundwater conference](#) in San Francisco on June 28-30th: "[Toward Sustainable Groundwater in Agriculture](#)." [Registration](#) is \$695 for the [3-day program](#) that includes several plenary sessions and four concurrent tracks offering policy and technical presentations on topics such as groundwater overuse, salinity, nonpoint source pollution, and other issues associated with agriculture activities.

Registration is Open for the Floodplain Management Association Symposium

If you are unable to attend the entire FMA annual conference in Sacramento this fall, it is holding a standalone one-day "[2016 California Extreme Precipitation Symposium](#)" at the downtown Hyatt Hotel on Tuesday, September 6th. This year's theme is "[Future Directions of Weather Forecasting and Reservoir Operations](#)." [Registration](#) is officially open, so sign-up today.

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.)

- [Still waiting for a monster El Niño storm? Forget it - LA Times](#)
 - [El Niño is dead. Long live La Niña! - USA Today](#)
 - [El Niño Is Dead And California Could Be "In A Drought Forever" -Buzz Feed](#)

 - [Will the \\$500 Million 'Save the Bay' Bill Restore California's Wetlands - San Jose Mercury News](#)

 - [Phil Isenberg: What's Next for the Delta? - News Deeply](#)

 - [Sacramento candidate Steinberg advising major Southern California water district - Sacramento Bee](#)

 - [Water board moves to dismiss record fine against irrigation district - Los Angeles Times](#)

 - [House moves on California water bills, but to what end? - The News Tribune](#)
 - [House rejects bid to strip California water provision from appropriations bill - Los Angeles Times](#)

 - [Guest View: 'No twin tunnel,' but legislation would help temper many concerns - Record.net](#)

 - [Despite dramatic rise, Folsom Lake not expected to fill - KRCA 3](#)

 - [News Worth Noting, DC edition: House passes Senate energy legislation with California water provisions; Valley Republicans defeat efforts by Reps. Garamendi and McNerney to stop the twin tunnels; Senator Feinstein's legislation will destroy sport fishing in the Delta, say fishing groups - Mavens Notebook](#)

 - [Metro LA's Water Supply Increasingly Relying on Management of Stormwater - The Planning Report](#)

 - [San Francisco Bay: \\$12 parcel tax for wetlands has big financial backers - The Mercury News](#)
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