

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

CALENDAR ALERTS

Dec 20 – DSC meeting, 980-9th St, Sacramento, 9:00 am

Jan 14 – Deadline to submit written comment on Delta Plan Mitigation Amdt regulations

KEEPING UP

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

Local Agency Turns 150-years Old

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board adopted a [resolution](#) commemorating the 150-year anniversary of the establishment of the oldest levee district, Levee District 1.

Feds Worried Oroville Dam Can't Withstand Large Flood

Just as DWR announced [completion](#) of main [spillway repairs](#) at Oroville, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) sent a letter to the State claiming the dam cannot handle a [mega-flood](#). Despite the spillway repairs costing more than \$1 billion so far, the federal letter may mean water agencies storing water in the dam will need to spend hundreds of millions more to construct upgrades and could be forced by federal regulators to store less water in the reservoir to accommodate flood waters. DWR is already conducting a needs assessment to determine if additional reinforcements to the dam's two spillways are warranted. This assessment will be completed in 2020. Local residents and environmental organizations critical of insufficient maintenance of the dam are heartened by the federal comments and hope they lead to water contractors either paying for reservoir upgrades are adjusting to less water deliveries.

On the legal front, the trial date is set for June 2020 for multiple damage claims against DWR that have consolidated into a coordinated proceeding.

Link in Marysville Ring Levee Completed

At the end of October, Phase 2A North of the [Marysville Ring Levee Project](#), located between the 10th Street and Fifth Street bridges, completed installation of 1,000 feet of [slurry wall](#). The next phases of levee improvements will continue through 2023.

DELTA DOWNLOAD

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

DSC Hearing on WaterFix Consistency Appeals

DWR Director Karla Nemeth submitted a letter to the Delta Stewardship Council requesting Supervisor Skip Thompson be [recused](#) as a decision-maker in the WaterFix consistency due to his "extensive public record of opposition to the California WaterFix Project." He proclaimed he would review all documents related to certification and appeals objectively and rejected DWR's request to recuse himself.

On November 8th DSC released a staff [draft Determination](#) concluding DWR has not provided sufficient evidence to support its findings of consistency for the WaterFix Project and [recommendation](#) that the Council sustain the appeals and [remand](#) the certification back to DWR for revision and resubmittal. The staff concluded there was no evidence that: 1) the WaterFix Project would be operated in a manner that meets Delta water quality standards; 2) DWR used best available science with regard to sea level rise; 3) the water contractors would reduce reliance on the Delta; and 4) project is compatible with local land use plans.

These staff findings and recommendations were presented at a two-day public workshop on [November 15-16th](#) followed by DWR and appellant presentations. Natural Resources Secretary John [Laird](#) and State Water [Contractors](#) sent letters to the Council disagreeing with the DSC staff recommendation to remand the WaterFix project back to DWR. Prior to public comments DSC Chairman Randy Fiorini said he agreed the certification submission was [premature](#) and recommended DWR withdraw the determination of consistency, which would allow ex parte restrictions to be lifted. The Council scheduled a [vote on the consistency determination](#) for December 20th.

DSC Proposes Amendment of Delta Plan Mitigation

The Delta Stewardship Council released a Notice of [Proposed Rulemaking](#) to officially adopt regulations for Delta Plan Amendments adopted in April 2018 requiring all mitigation measures incorporated into the Delta Plan apply to all covered actions. The public is provided a 45-day comment period that ends on January 14, 2019, but will also have the opportunity to give comments in person at the Council's regular board meeting on January 24-25, 2019.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

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

Legislators Demand Information Regarding Confidential Delta Negotiations

Delta legislators sent a letter to Governor Brown demanding information regarding confidential meetings between his Administration and President Trump's regarding future of the WaterFix project and the coordinated operations of SWP and CVP. The Legislators referenced recent Metropolitan Water District committee meetings that mention these private meetings and expressed concern with negotiation of an agreement without the input of Delta elected officials and communities.

Election Day Winners and Losers

Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom was [elected](#) to [replace](#) Jerry Brown as Governor. Post-election speculation swirled that the WaterFix project may be [circling the drain](#) with Governor Brown being replaced by Gavin Newsom and the loss of seniority in California's Congressional delegation due to retirements and defeat of incumbents.

On a 52%-48% margin, California voters [defeated](#) the \$9 billion water bond, Proposition 3. This defeat is significant because voters have not rejected a water bond since 1990 and have approved nine water bonds since that time.



CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY
FLOOD CONTROL
ASSOCIATION

CCVFCA'S Flood Flash



OCTOBER 2018



CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY
FLOOD CONTROL
ASSOCIATION

910 K Street, Ste 310
Sacramento, CA 95814

IN THE NEWS

Links are available to all news organization websites on our website, where you can read the full stories.

CCVFCA is not responsible for content on these external sites.

- [Officials: Oroville Dam Spillway Will Be Ready For Rain](#) - Capitol Radio
- [Deadly weather may rise 50 percent from ...](#) - National Geographic
- [Big Data Project Explores Predictability of Climate Conditions ...](#) - UCAR
- [Oroville Dam fixed and ready to go, officials say ...](#) - SF Chronicle
- [Is Oroville Dam ready for the rainy season? ...](#) - The Sacramento Bee
- [Officials: Oroville project meets construction ...](#) - Western Farm Press
- [OROVILLE SPILLWAYS CONSTRUCTION: D...](#) - Maven's Notebook
- [Oroville Dam workers donate \\$40,000 to Oroville Union High School District](#) - OrovilleMR
- [LA County to Vote on Tax for Stormwater Projects](#) - NBC Los Angeles
- [El Niño and what it means for the coming months](#) - High Plains Journal
- [With this dry forecast, we're starting to wonder, where is El ...](#) - ABC 10
- [When the levees fall down – what's their plan?](#) - No Delta Gates
- [Rain study in Ukiah helps convince Army Corps to store more water in Lake Mendocino](#) - Ukiah Daily Journal
- [El Niño has an 80% chance of forming this winter, scientists predict](#) - USA Today
- [Camp Fire: Oroville Dam officials keep close watch on approaching blaze](#) - SF Chronicle
- [El Nino holds weather uncertainty for California](#) - Western Farm Press
- [Updated winter outlook](#) - Weather Nation
- [Flood safety information for wildfire survivors. Sacramento residents](#) - ABC 10
- [Thousands of SF properties could come with flood risk warning for buyers, renters](#) - SF Examiner
- [Ross Valley dissenters push back on flood project](#) - Marin IJ
- [Lame-duck congressman sees payoff of 'Sites' efforts](#) - Manteca Bulletin
- [California Voters sink Prop. 3 bond](#) - Sun Gazette
- [Sites link gets federal loan](#) - Chico ER
- [Water rights fee challenges end](#) - Ag Alert