

**CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD**

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1701	✓	



July 21, 2010

Michelle Banonis  
 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
 San Joaquin River Restoration Program Office, MP-170  
 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-1727  
 Sacramento, California 95825-1898

Dear Ms. Banonis:

Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment  
 Draft Finding of No New Significant Impact  
 Interim Flows Project – Water Year 2011 San Joaquin River Restoration Program

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board) is responsible for flood safety within California and maintains the integrity of the existing flood control system and designated floodways through the Board's regulatory authority by issuing permits for encroachments. Development projects within the jurisdiction of the Board are required to meet standards for the construction, maintenance, and protection of adopted plans of flood control that will protect public lands from floods. The jurisdiction of the Board includes the Central Valley, including all tributaries and distributaries of the Sacramento River and the San Joaquin River, and designated floodways (Title 23 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 2). Working with the Board's staff early in the project planning will help Board staff and other interested parties to identify potential project impacts, appropriate mitigation measures, and thereby improve the safety of floodways.

Board staff has reviewed the Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the project and provides the following comments:

#### Significant Impacts

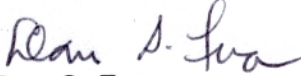
The draft document concludes that the proposed project would not result in any significant impacts to flood management and would have less than significant impacts in flood management operations of the affected flood control project. The draft document based these conclusions on the fact that the proposed interim flows are below the design flow capacities of the river channel and bypasses. Even though these flows are below the design flow capacities, interim flows are in addition to what normally would be present without this project. The draft document should provide additional analysis and evaluation of the potential impacts and mitigation measures of these additional flows to the operations and maintenance of the flood control system and to the system's functioning. For example, the draft document should include engineering solutions for seepage problems in the levees of the flood control facilities and mitigation measures that provide compensation for easements, increased operations, and maintenance costs associated with the additional flows in the flood control channels and bypasses.

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Project	214
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Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have any questions in this matter, please contact James Herota, Staff Environmental Scientist, at (916) 574-0651, or by e-mail at [jherota@water.ca.gov](mailto:jherota@water.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Dan S. Fua  
Supervising Engineer  
Flood Projects Improvements Branch  
(916) 574-0698

cc: Mr. Reggie Hill, Secretary and Manager  
Lower San Joaquin Levee District  
11704 West Henry Miller Avenue  
Dos Palos, California, 93620