RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 2064 BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING

5:30 p.m. on October 15, 2024

J.B. WILSON'S GARAGE 5129 East Division Road Manteca, California

AGENDA

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Roll Call:

<u>Public Comment and Attendance:</u> Please observe a three-minute time limit. Members of the public may address the Board regarding any item not on Agenda which is within the district jurisdiction. No action will be taken by the Board at this meeting because of items presented during public comment. Members of the public may address any item on the agenda at the time it is taken up by the Board.

Note: District's General Counsel and Engineer(s) may attend by Zoom or Teams Meeting.

Engineer's Report: The Engineer's Report will be made part of the Agenda and presented at the meeting including an oral report on Flood Maintenance Assistance Program (FMAP) 2024, condition of levees, emergency repairs, past repairs, and future needs. Said written part of the Engineer's Report shall be incorporated as part of the Minutes. The Board may also consider action items as set forth in the Engineer's Report including, but not limited to FMAP, FSRP, CalOES and FEMA matters, as well as encroachment applications or modifications to encroachment agreements during this portion of the Agenda which then may be added as an action item below.

<u>Manager's Report:</u> To be presented at meeting including report on condition of levees, patrol roads, siphons and encroachments on levee. Said written part of the Manager's Report, if any, shall be incorporated and made part of the Minutes.

<u>Trustee's Report:</u> To be presented at the meeting including discussions with Federal, State and local officials (DWR, CVFPB, etc.) and landowners regarding District matters including encroachments. Trustees may offer copies of the annual Agenda and Minutes for Brett Harte Water Users.

<u>General Counsel's Report:</u> To be presented at Meeting. Said written part of the General Counsel's Report, if any, shall be incorporated and made part of the Minutes. The Board may consider action items as set forth in said Report including, but not limited to the action to scan, destroy, and/or continue storing historical files.

<u>Action Items</u>: Note: The Board may consider and discuss all Action Items before universal Motion to Approve or Reject any or all of Action Items.

1. Minutes: Discuss and consider approval of the Minutes for June 2024 meeting; and

- 2. Consideration of and Action approving submittal of attached FSRP Application and then approving and granting discretion and authority to the "Designated Representatives" consistent with this Action to execute documents necessary for proposed FSRP Project ("Critical area Repair 2024/Levee Repair", herein "Project") including, but not limited to, the following or similarly designated documents/agreement: Project Funding Agreements and Standard Conditions; Exhibits A (Overall Project Work plan); B (Standard Conditions); C (Work Plan and Report Formats); D (Operating and Maintenance Agreement); D-1 (Standard Conditions and Draft Resolution Accepting Funds; Cost Share attachments; and appropriate Resolutions together with granting discretion to designated representative(s) within the funding and contribution limits as determined by the Board.
- 3. Consideration and Action regarding Paradise Cut Expansion Project ("Project"). Please see attached information and note that updated information yet to be received from San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) and Project facilitator, Conserosolutions. Requested action is in furtherance of earlier resolution authorizing and granting discretion to staff and designated trustee regarding initial review and participation during the "engagement" and "needed studies" part of the Project development.

<u>Informational and Future Agenda Items</u>: Discuss Draft District Calendar and consideration of Agenda Items for next meeting.

<u>Closed Session:</u> Pursuant to posting requirements of California Government Code §§54954.2 and 54954.5, District announces Closed Session as follows: Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing and Potential Litigation. Government Code §54956.9 and other potential actions regarding encroachments.

DATE: October 15, 2024

Sierra Renter, Secretary

Persons needing disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. should contact the Secretary of the Board at (209) 483-5895 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. (Government Code section 54954.2(a)]. The Agenda Package material may be reviewed at 400 E Kettleman Lane, Suite 20-K. Lodi. CA during normal business hours. Please contact the office in writing to obtain a copy of the Agenda Package. Persons requesting a copy may be charged a small fee for copying the Agenda Packet. The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by RD 2064 is governed by section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitations period is specified by any other provision. Under section 1094.6. any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by RD 2064 must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge. which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. Persons wishing to challenge the nature of the above section in court, may be limited to raising only those issues that were raised at the meeting described in this notice, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies.



PARADISE CUT BYPASS EXPANSION AND MULTI-BENEFIT PROJECT

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

The Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project (Project) will improve flood protection for local communities, restore habitat, and improve water supply reliability in the South Delta. The Project will expand the existing Paradise Cut Bypass, restore capacity in South Delta channels, and increase habitat for species of state and local importance. By significantly lowering flood stage along nearly 30 miles of the San Joaquin River between Vernalis and Stockton, the Project will greatly increase public safety, as well as protect property and farmland from uncontrolled flooding.

PROJECT PARTNERS

A diverse group of interested parties are working together to advance this pragmatic, multi-benefit, regional solution — a shared vision for cities, farms, and wildlife. The San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency is leading an effort with the California Department of Water Resources to advance a feasibility study and further develop the Project in partnership with an Advisory Committee and reclamation districts as follows:

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- American Rivers
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board (non-voting)
- City of Tracy
- California Department of Water Resources (non-voting)
- RD 1/2/544/2089
- RD 1007 / 2058
- RD 2095
- RD 2062
- South Delta Water Agency
- San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency
- Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (nonvoting)

OTHER RECLAMATION DISTRICTS

- RD 17
- RD 828
- RD 2094

- RD 404
- RD 2064
- RD 2094
 RD 2096

- RD 524
- RD 2075
- RD 2101

- RD 684
- RD 2085
- RD 2107

• RD 733

PROJECT GOALS

- Increase flood system resiliency in the South Delta.
- Restore habitat and ecosystem functions necessary for climate change resilience.
- Improve water supply reliability and resilience to climate change by supporting more flexible water supply management.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Reduce catastrophic flood risk for communities including Lathrop, Manteca, and Stockton.
- Protect farms from uncontrolled flooding.
- Restore and improve the quantity,
 diversity and connectivity of riverine,
 floodplain, riparian, and wetland
 habitat for native fish and wildlife.
- Improve irrigation intake reliability and waterway navigability.



Existing Paradise Cut Weir

PROJECT SITE MAP



BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH PUBLIC INVESTMENT

The Project will require significant public investment for development and construction. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy funded Phase 1 and Phase 2 with over \$350.000 in grants. California Department of Water Resources funded Phase 3 with a \$3 million investment from the Systemwide Flood Risk Reduction Program. Local agencies will need to secure additional state and federal funds to complete the project.



MILESTONES



CONTACT US

Questions, comments, or concerns? Contact the Project Manager:

Glenn Prasad | Deputy Executive Director

San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency | Glenn.Prasad@sjafca.org

For more information, visit

https://www.sjafca.org/projects/paradise-cut-bypass-expansion-multi-benefit-project

Study Area Considerations

Water Supply Reliability & Channel Capacity Study Extent

Recommendation: Use the same extents as the 2021 Anchor QEA Planning Guide

South and central sections of the Delta, within San Joaquin County, south of Bouldin Island, and north of the Pescadero RD including the following channels:

- Middle River
- Old River (West)
- Old River (South)
- Old River (East)
- Old River Side Channel
- Fabian & Bell
- Paradise Cut
- Tom Paine Slough



Source: Anchor QEA (2021) Planning Guide for the Channel Depth Restoration Program for the South Delta Channels

Flood Risk Reduction Study Extent

Recommendation: Project footprint and,

- Manteca
- Lathrop, including Stewart Tract
- Stockton, south of French Camp Slough

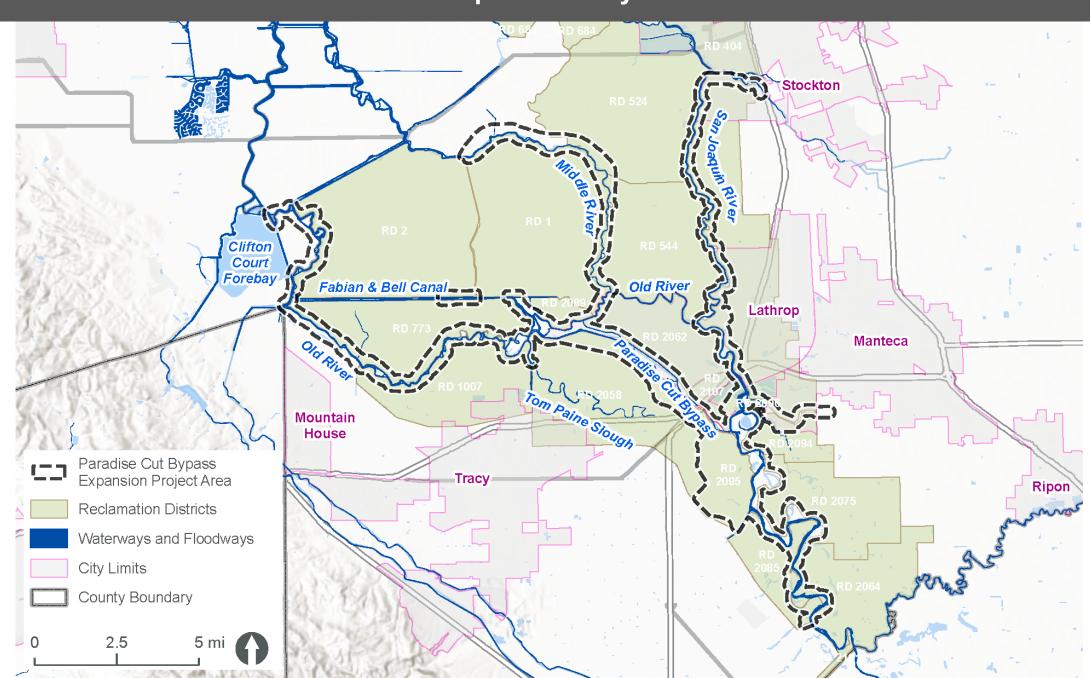
Ecosystem Restoration Study Extent

Recommendation: Project footprint and areas subject to hydraulic effects

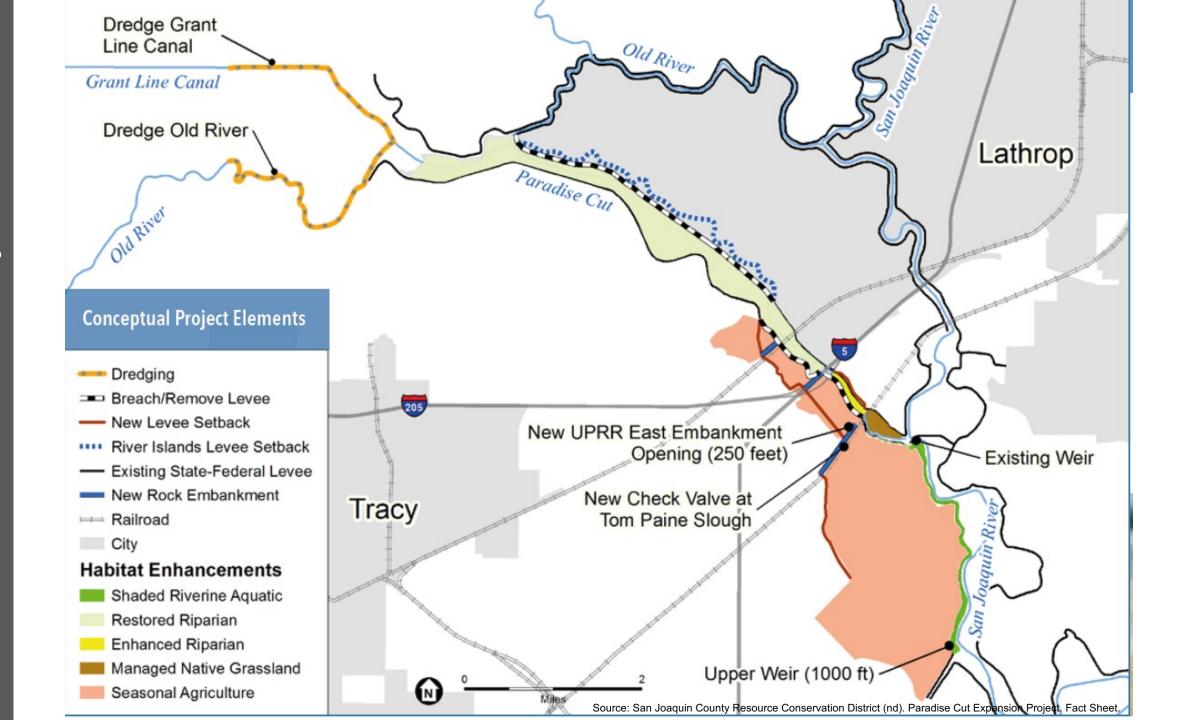


Source: San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District (nd). Paradise Cut Expansion Project. Fact Sheet.

Proposed Study Area



Extra Slides



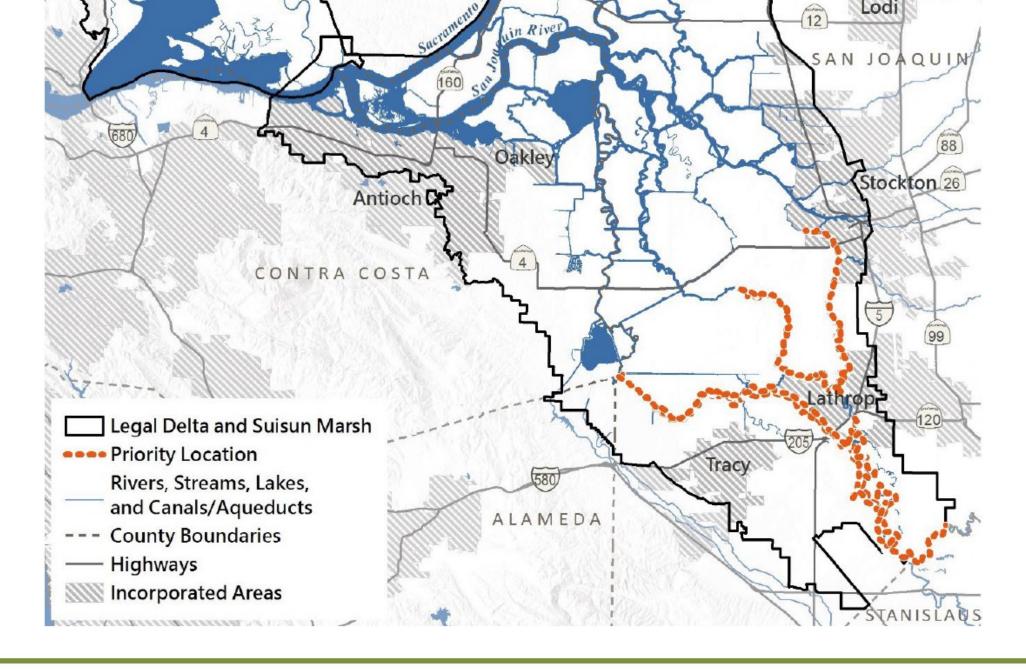


Figure 4-4. Priority Locations to Evaluate Physical Expansion of Floodplains

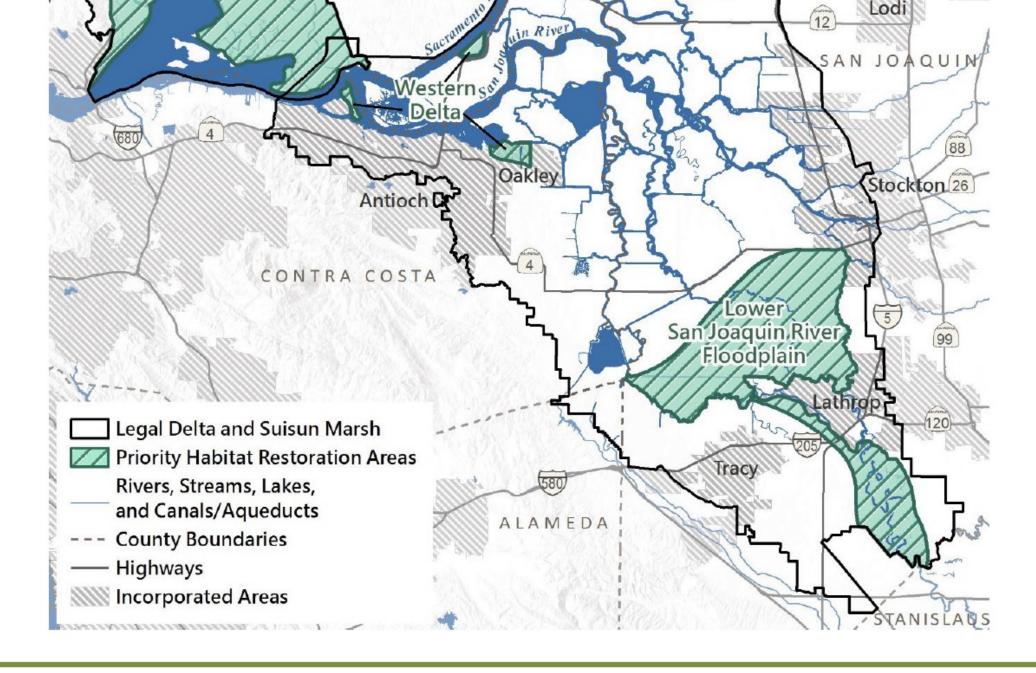


Figure 4-7. Priority Habitat Restoration Areas

Goals & Objectives

Phase 2 Project Goals

Project goals defined in the May 4, 2023 Memo from San Joaquin RCD to SJAFCA (Phase 2):

- Flood risk reduction: Reduce catastrophic flood risk to people and property in the South Delta.
- Habitat restoration: Restore riparian and other native habitats for Swainson's hawk, riparian brush rabbit, riparian songbirds, and other species.
- Channel restoration: Restore channel capacity in portions of the South Delta downstream of Paradise Cut.



- Which goals should be carried forward for the Feasibility Study?
- Should any goals be reframed or reworded?
- Are there other goals that should be added?

Current Project Objectives

Project objectives identified in the DWR grant agreement scope of work:

- Reduce catastrophic flood risk for communities including Lathrop, Manteca, and Stockton.
- Protect farms from uncontrolled flooding.
- Restore riverine, floodplain, riparian, and wetland habitat for native fish and wildlife.
- Improve irrigation intake reliability and waterway navigability.
- Improve water supply reliability and resilience to climate change by supporting more flexible water supply management.



- Should these objectives be carried forward for the Feasibility Study?
- Should any objectives be reframed or reworded?
- Are there other objectives that should be added?

PCMT Request for Additional Goals & Objectives

The following priorities are from the CVFPP 2022 Update, CVFPP 2022 Conservation Strategy Update, and DWR Agreement (2023):

Climate change resiliency goals:

- Increase flood system resiliency (CVFPP 2022 Update).
- Restore the landscape-scale ecosystem functions necessary for climate change resilience (DWR Agreement 2023).
- Improve water supply reliability and resilience to climate change by supporting more flexible water supply management (DWR Agreement 2023).

CVFPP flood and habitat goals:

- Improve flood risk management (CVFPP 2022 Update).
- Protect and enhance natural ecosystems and promote ecosystem functions (CVFPP 2022 Update).
- Increase and improve the quantity, diversity, and connectivity of riverine and floodplain habitats (CVFPP 2022 Conservation Strategy Update).
- Contribute to the recovery and sustainability of native species populations and overall biotic community diversity (CVFPP 2022 Conservation Strategy Update).

Recommended Goals

Based on the priorities identified in the DWR Agreement (2023), CVFPP 2022 Update, and CVFPP 2022 Conservation Strategy Update, the following updates to the project goals are recommended:

- Flood risk reduction: Increase flood system resiliency in the South Delta.
- Ecosystem restoration: Restore habitat and ecosystem functions necessary for climate change resilience.
- Water supply: Improve water supply reliability and resilience to climate change by supporting more flexible water supply management.

Recommended Objectives

Based on the priorities identified in the DWR Agreement (2023), CVFPP 2022 Update, and CVFPP 2022 Conservation Strategy Update, the following updates to the project objectives are recommended:

- Reduce catastrophic flood risk for communities including Lathrop, Manteca, and Stockton.
- Protect farms from uncontrolled flooding.
- Restore and improve the quantity, diversity and connectivity of riverine, floodplain, riparian, and wetland habitat for native fish and wildlife.
- Improve irrigation intake reliability and waterway navigability.

DRAFT

Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project (Phase 3)

ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

October 4, 2024











CONSEROSOLUTIONS

DRAFT

Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project (Phase 3) Engagement Strategy

The Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project (Phase 3) Engagement Strategy ("Engagement Strategy") will guide efforts to engage interested parties in the completion of a feasibility study, including development of a preferred alternative for the Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project (Project). The Engagement Strategy aligns with the requirements outlined in the Phase 3 agreement (2023 Agreement) between the San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), which provides funding for the feasibility study and associated community engagement. SJAFCA will oversee implementation of the Engagement Strategy with assistance from the Paradise Cut Management Team and the Paradise Cut Consultant Team, as described in the Project Recommendation Framework.

PROJECT TEAM

The Project Team consists of the Paradise Cut Consultant Team, the Paradise Cut Management Team, the Project Advisory Committee, SJAFCA, and DWR. SJAFCA also is contracting with Consero Solutions for facilitation services, Larsen, Wurzel, and Associates for project management support, and Wood Rodgers for completion of the Project feasibility study. Wood Rodgers is subcontracting with River Partners, MBK Engineers, ICF, HDR, Anchor QEA, and Environmental Science Associates. The Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project Recommendation Framework located on the SJAFCA web site further describes the Project Team.

ASSUMPTIONS

The engagement strategy assumes SJAFCA will work with the consultant team and the Advisory Committee to meet all goals and objectives, although this engagement strategy does not assign the work to a particular organization, company, or individual. The engagement strategy also assumes sufficient budget to complete this work. The engagement strategy is a living document, however, and SJAFCA will update the engagement strategy if budget constraints or other conditions necessitate changes.

AUDIENCES

The primary and secondary audiences are the focus of community engagement related to the Project, so the Engagement Strategy is tailored to ensure feedback from these audiences is integrated into key Project deliverables and they receive robust Project updates at regular intervals.

Primary Audiences

The Project Team will actively solicit feedback from primary audiences listed in Engagement Strategy and incorporate any reasonable feedback into the feasibility study, as well as provide regular Project updates.

- 1) The San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency
- The Project Advisory Committee, consisting of SJAFCA, the South Delta Water Agency, four representatives from RDs (three downstream of Paradise Cut and RD 2095), a representative from a local municipality, and American Rivers or another non-profit selected

by American Rivers, as well as three non-voting members, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, the California Department of Water Resource, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

3) The 21 reclamation districts affected by the Project, both upstream and downstream of the Project, organized into small groups by geographic location, as well as engineering firm/legal representation, as follows:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
RD 17	RD 1	RD 2058	RD 684
RD 404	RD 2	RD 2064	RD 1007
RD 524	RD 544	RD 2085	RD 2094
RD 773	RD 2062	RD 2095	RD 2096
RD 828	RD 2075		RD 2101
	RD 2089		
	RD 2107		

- 4) Landowners with property for which easements or fee title acquisition may be necessary to construct the Project
- 5) Tribal leaders and representatives of tribes with an affiliation to the Project site (in coordination with the California Department of Water Resources and Central Valley Flood Protection Board's Tribal Liaisons)
- 6) The California Department of Water Resources (the State Water Project Division, The Flood Projects Office, and the Integrated Water Resources Management Division)
- 7) The Central Valley Flood Protection Board, as the lead state agencies implementing the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan
- 8) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
- 9) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (permitting agencies which also are responsible for regulatory oversight responsibility of the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan)
- 10) San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- 11) Banta-Carbona Irrigation District
- 12) California State Water Resources Control Board
- 13) Union Pacific

Secondary Audiences

The Project Team will provide regular Project updates to secondary audiences, as well as answer questions.

- 1) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Sacramento District)
- 2) United States Bureau of Reclamation
- 3) Federal Emergency Management Agency
- 4) California Wildlife Conservation Board and other potential funding agencies
- 5) State and federal legislators
- 6) Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin Authority
- 7) Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Basin Authority
- 8) San Joaquin County, including the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Department, Office of Emergency Services, and the Water Resources Department
- 9) City of Manteca, including the City Council
- 10) City of Lathrop, including the City Council
- 11) San Joaquin Resource Conservation District
- 12) Greater San Joaquin County Regional Water Coordinating Committee (IRWM region)
- 13) Caltrans District 10
- 14) Delta Stewardship Council
- 15) Local non-profit or advocacy organizations with an interest in the Project, such as Restore the Delta
- 16) Educational institutions such as University of California, Davis/ Merced, Delta College, et.
- 17) Upstream water agencies such as Modesto Irrigation District, Turlock Irrigation District, Oakdale Irrigation District, South San Joaquin Irrigation District, Merced Irrigation District et.al.
- 18) General public, including local landowners and environmental stewards

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Community engagement goals and objectives ensure the Project Team agrees on and is held accountable for completing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound community engagement work.

GOAL 1: Establish shared understanding of the term "feasible" project with local and state decisionmakers prior to starting the feasibility study

Objective 1-1: Secure feedback from primary audiences on the engagement strategy, study area, Project goals, and Project objectives in October 2024.

Objective 1-2: Present suggested definition of "feasible" and refine "feasible" definition in collaboration with primary audiences in October 2024.

GOAL 2: Communicate Project updates consistently and with sufficient detail

Objective 2-1: Create an updated Project overview by September 2024.

Objective 2-2: Complete virtual newsletter every six months through December 2025 for primary and secondary audiences.

Objective 2-3: Update SJAFCA web site page with Project information every six months consistent with release of virtual newsletter for primary and secondary audiences.

Objective 2-4: Complete draft of Frequently Asked Questions by November 2024 and update document every six months or as needed.

Objective 2-5: Develop an environmental justice engagement process by winter 2024/2025.

Objective 2-6: Develop a Tribal engagement process in coordination with DWR and the CVFPB by winter 2024/2025.

GOAL 3: Secure feedback on preliminary and final Project alternatives

Objective 3-1: Implement Tribal and environmental justice related engagement process led by DWR and the CVFPB.

Objective 3-2: Send letters to reclamation districts encouraging them to comment on selected draft deliverables in December 2024 and March 2025.

Objective 3-3: Meet as needed with representatives from primary audiences in spring 2025 to secure feedback on the Draft Alternatives Formulation and Screening Technical Memorandum.

Objective 3-4: Present Draft Alternatives Formulation and Screening Technical Memorandum to the Advisory Committee and SJAFCA in May/June 2025.

Objective 3-5: Meet in person with reclamation districts in organized small groups to secure feedback on the Draft Alternatives Formulation and Screening Technical Memorandum in May/June 2025. These meetings will take place during the Advisory Committee review period.

Objective 3-6: Present final alternatives, including the preferred alternative, and the final Evaluation and Comparison of Alternatives Memo to the Project to the Advisory Committee and SJAFCA in August/September 2025.

Objective 3-7: Meet in person with reclamation districts in organized small groups to secure feedback on the final Evaluation and Comparison of Alternatives Memo, including the preferred alternative, in August/September 2025. These meetings will take place during the Advisory Committee review period.

Objective 3-8: Meet as needed with other representatives of primary audiences in late summer 2025 to secure feedback on the final Evaluation and Comparison of Alternatives Memo.

Objective 3-9: Host a public workshop for primary and secondary audiences to secure feedback on the final Evaluation and and Comparison of Alternatives Memo, including the preferred alternative, in September/October 2025.

Objective 3-10: Present the Draft Feasibility Report to the Advisory Committee and SJAFCA in late 2025.

Objective 3-11: Meet in person with reclamation districts in organized small groups to secure feedback on Draft Feasibility Report in late 2025. These meetings will take place during the Advisory Committee review period.

Objective 3-12: Host a public workshop for primary and secondary audiences to secure feedback on the Draft Feasibility Report in late 2025.

GOAL 4: Secure DWR, CVFPB, SJAFCA, and broad local reclamation district support for a preferred Project alternative, as well as Phase 4 funding requests

Objective 4-1: Communicate Engagement Goal 4 regarding support for a feasible project in all outreach materials.

Objective 4-2: Present to selected reclamation district Board of Directors once SJAFCA approves the preferred alternative to formally request their support for the preferred alternative and funding for Phase 4 by December 2025.

Objective 4-3: Secure letter of support or other official indicator of support from DWR, CVFPB, SJAFCA and reclamation districts for the preferred alternative and funding for Phase 4 by February 2026 (joint letter preferred, individual letters acceptable).

SCHEDULE

The schedule will ensure the Project Team engages the community and secures input on key deliverables consistent with the timeline in the 2023 Agreement.

- September 2024: Complete updated project overview
- October 2024: Introduce primary audiences to the Project and seek feedback on study area, goals and objectives, and engagement strategy

- November 2024: Complete Frequently Asked Questions
- **December 2024:** Send out letter to reclamation districts regarding comments on draft deliverables
- January/February 2025: First virtual newsletter
- January/February 2025: Update Project page on SJAFCA website
- March 2025: Send out letter to reclamation districts regarding comments on draft deliverables
- May/June 2025: Meetings with primary audiences regarding Draft Alternatives Formulation and Screening Technical Memorandum
- June/July 2025: Second virtual newsletter
- June/July 2025: Update Project page on SJAFCA website
- August/September 2025: Meetings with primary audiences regarding the final Evaluation and Comparison of Alternatives Memo
- **September/October 2025:** Public workshop #1
- December 2025: Meetings with primary audiences regarding Draft Feasibility Report
- **December 2025:** Public workshop #2
- December 2025: Third virtual newsletter
- December 2025: Update Project page on SJAFCA website