

Public Workshop: Central Valley Flood System Conservation Strategy Funding Guidelines

FloodSAFE Environmental Stewardship and Statewide
Resources Office (FESSRO)

CA Department of Water Resources (DWR)



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Workshop Objectives

- Present an overview of the Draft Central Valley Flood System Conservation Strategy Funding Guidelines
 - Provide update on proposed revisions to the Guidelines
- Receive public comments and feedback on the Draft Guidelines
- Provide an overview of the anticipated schedule for release of solicitation for funding

Workshop Agenda

Time	Agenda Item
15 min	Open House
10 min	Welcome, Agenda Review, Introductions
30 min	Presentation – Draft Guidelines
35 min	Questions and Comments
30 min	Open House - Opportunity for discussion with FESSRO Staff
	Adjourn

Introductions

- Name
- Affiliation

Ground Rules

- Honor the agenda
- Everyone is encouraged to participate
- Ask questions to clarify and understand
- Respectful interaction
- Listen actively; don't just prepare to speak
- Avoid side conversations
- Cell phones off/silent

Presentation Outline

1. FloodSAFE Environmental Stewardship and Statewide Resources Office (FESSRO)
 - A. Role in Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP): development of Conservation Strategy
2. CVFPP background information
3. Central Valley Flood System Conservation Strategy (2017), and Conservation Framework (2012)

Presentation Outline

4. Funding Guidelines
 - A. Eligibility Criteria
 - B. Update: proposed revisions to the Guidelines
5. Next step: Direct Expenditures and Issuance of Request for Proposals (RFP)
 - A. Ecosystem enhancement/environmental stewardship/mitigation activities to benefit State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC)
 - B. Regional Advance Mitigation Planning (RAMP)

FloodSAFE Environmental Stewardship and Statewide Resources Office (FESSRO)

About FESSRO

- Created in July 2009 to provide a focus for integrating environmental stewardship into DWR's FloodSAFE California initiative and related programs.
- Mission Statement: *“Implement integrated environmental stewardship and flood management statewide, through collaboration, sound science, and innovative engineering”*

Floodway Ecosystem Sustainability Branch

Floodway Ecosystem Sustainability (FES) Branch of FESSRO implements two activities:

- Development of the **Central Valley Flood System Conservation Strategy** (Conservation Strategy) to support implementation of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP)
- Coordination of **Regional Advance Mitigation Planning** (RAMP)

Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP): Background Information



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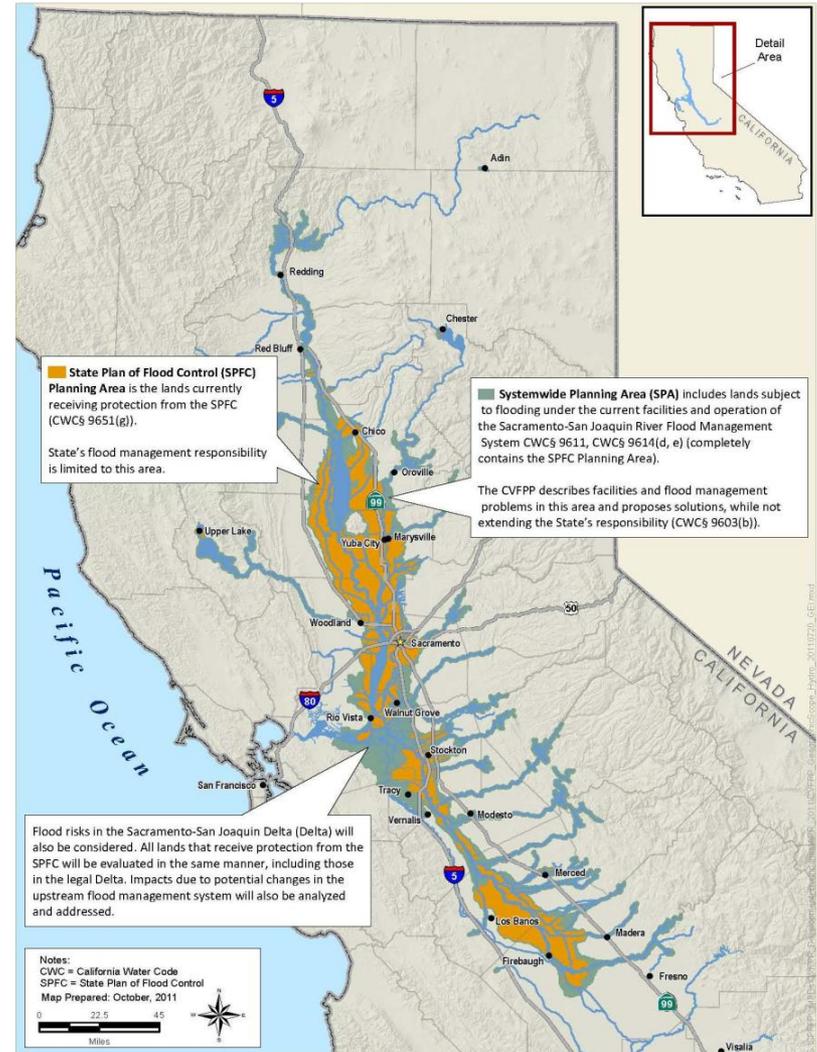
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Central Valley Flood Management Planning Program

- Central Valley Flood Protection Act (2007)
- Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP)
- Focus on State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC)
- Systemwide approach for flood risk reduction in the Central Valley
- State's long-term investment plan with a 5-year update cycle



CVFPP Goals

- **Primary Goal: Improve Flood Risk Management**
- **Supporting Goals:**
 - **Improve Operations and Maintenance**
 - **Promote Ecosystem Functions**
 - **Improve Institutional Support**
 - **Promote Multi-Benefit Projects**

Central Valley Flood System Conservation Strategy



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Conservation Strategy Purpose

Long-term strategic approach for DWR to:

- Achieve environmental goals
 - CVFP Act, FloodSAFE, CVFPP
- Assist with implementation of DWR's Environmental Stewardship Policy
- Integrate conservation and mitigation actions
- Address public environmental expectations
- Provide multiple benefits

CVFP Act (2007) Environmental Objectives

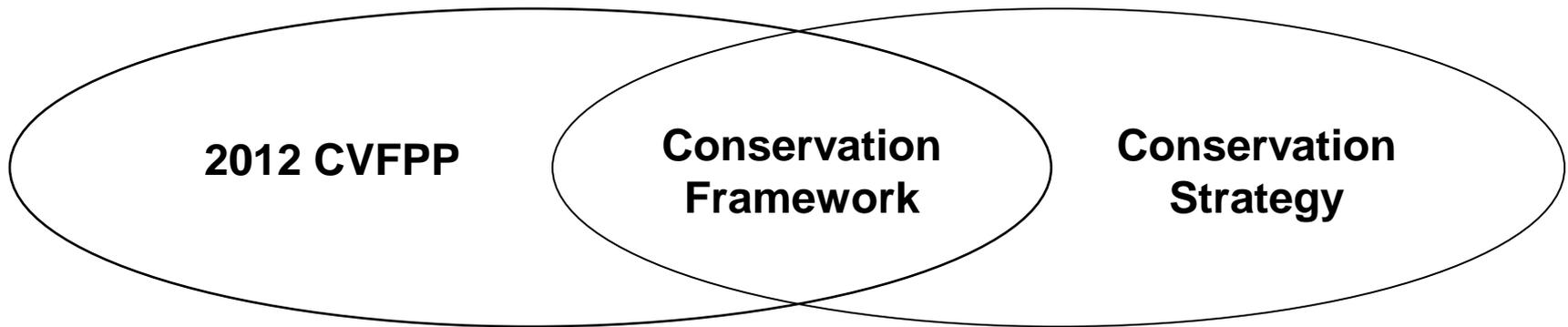
(Water Code 9616)

- Promote natural dynamic hydrologic and geomorphic processes
- Increase and improve the quantity, diversity, and connectivity of habitats, including the agricultural and ecological values of these lands
- Build on existing environmental benefits provided by agriculture
- Minimize flood management system operation and maintenance requirements
- Promote the recovery and stability of native species populations and overall biotic community diversity

Conservation Strategy Goals

- Improve public safety, reduce flood risk and consequences while achieving environmental objectives
- Restore, enhance and maintain environmental conditions and trends
- Improve scientific basis for planning
- Provide multiple benefits and reduce land use conflicts
- Improve public support and partnerships

2012 Conservation Framework



- Preview of long-term Conservation Strategy
- Environmental guide for CVFPP reader
 - Describes Environmental Stewardship integration
 - Directs reader to relevant CVFPP sections
 - Provides environmental detail

Funding Guidelines



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Basis for Funding Guidelines

From Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act (Proposition 1E) (Section 5096.821(a)):

- the evaluation, repair, rehabilitation, construction, or replacement of levees, weirs, bypasses, and facilities of the SPFC;
- mitigation for the evaluation, repair, rehabilitation, construction, or replacement of SPFC facilities pursuant to this subdivision; and
- to fund participation in a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)

Funding Guidelines

DWR is allocating its Proposition 1E funding to direct expenditures for:

- Ecosystem enhancement/environmental stewardship/mitigation; and
- Regional Advance Mitigation Planning (RAMP)

DWR may also solicit projects through a competitive bidding process: Request for Proposals (RFP)

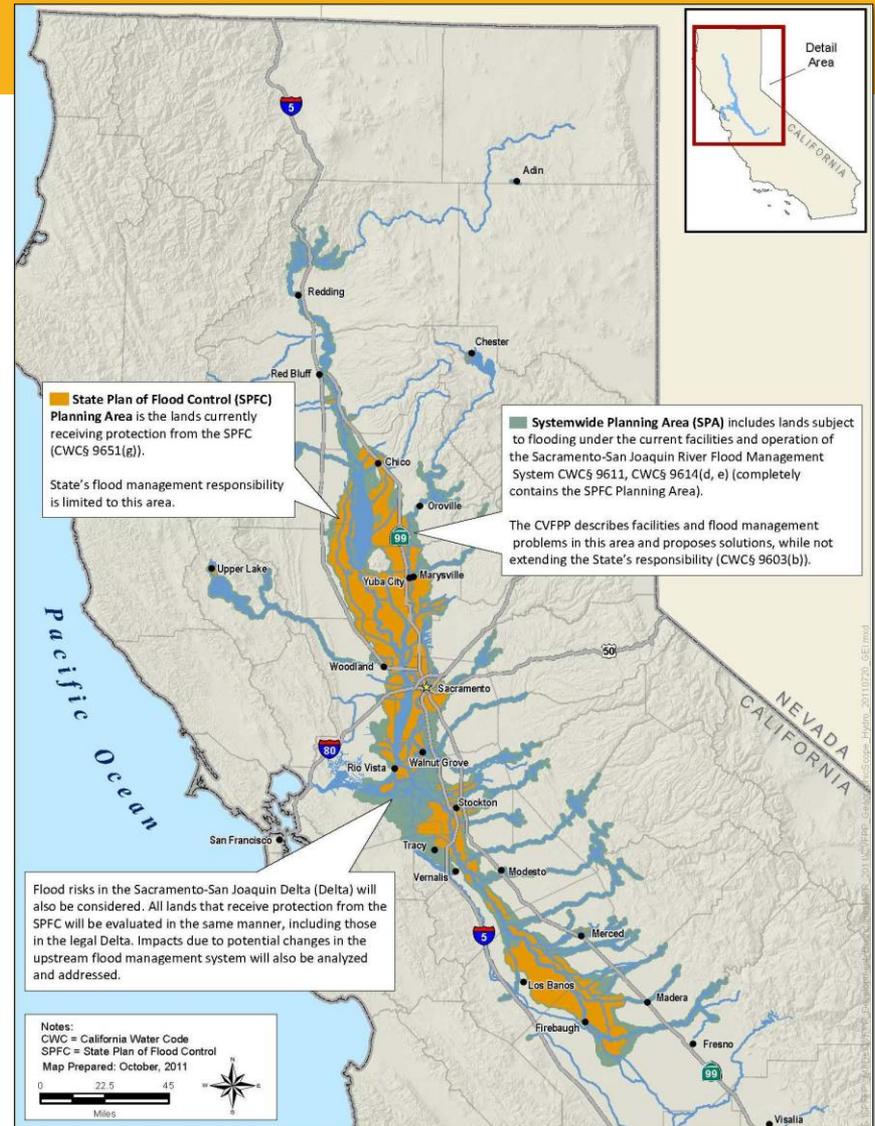
Funding Guidelines

Typical projects include:

- Funding activities that restore natural fluvial and biological processes, and vegetation, in floodplains and provide benefit to the SPFC
 - Purchasing from willing sellers rights to real property that is subject to periodic flooding, while preserving and enhancing agricultural use
 - Providing funding assistance to other entities
- Funding protection, restoration, and enhancement of habitat
- Funding conservation activities that benefit species

Geographic Area

- CVFPP's Systemwide Planning Area
- Projects that accrue mitigation credits to SPFC facilities



General Content of the Guidelines

- Section 1: Introductions and Definitions
- Section 2: Application for Funding
- Section 3: Eligibility Criteria
- Section 4: Proposal Completeness Criteria
- Section 5: Project Evaluation and Selection
- Section 6: Administration of Funding Allocations
- Section 7: Audits and Record Keeping
- Section 8: Guidelines Amendments

Eligibility Criteria

Any proposed project should meet the following criteria:

- Provide ecological improvements
- High likelihood of achieving intended results
- Reasonable cost, with budget detail aligned with individual tasks
- It shall demonstrate that it does not negatively affect flood conveyance on a regional or system-wide scale
- It shall describe how ecological improvements will accrue to mitigation obligations of State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC) facilities

Update: Proposed Revisions

- Addition of clarifying language for the use of both direct expenditures and a competitive bidding process
- Clarify that Proposition 1E requires that funded projects support mitigation to SPFC facilities
- Replacement of the words “operation and maintenance” with the words “evaluation and repair”

Funding Guidelines - Schedule

- Draft Guidelines posted November 3, 2011
 - Initiation of 45-day public review & comment
 - Workshops: Dec. 6, Modesto; Dec. 7, West Sacramento; Dec. 14, Chico; Dec. 19 – WebEx
- Comment period closes December 21
- Final Guidelines approved by Director and posted to FESSRO website (*expected late January or early February 2012*)

Next Step: Direct Expenditures and Request for Proposals

Estimate of Funding Available

- Funding for Conservation Strategy activities is allocated through Fiscal Year 15/16.
- Conservative estimate: approximately \$25 million total for both the ecosystem enhancement/environmental stewardship/mitigation and the RAMP components.

RFP Evaluation Criteria

In general, applicant submissions will be scored against the following criteria:

- Suitability as mitigation for SPFC facilities
- Type and extent of ecological improvements generated by the project;
- Technical and political feasibility; and
- Cost

Specific details on criteria, schedule, and decision-making process will be included within each RFP.

RFP Schedule

- First RFP (ecosystem enhancement/environmental stewardship/mitigation component) issued when Final Guidelines have been approved: expected early 2012.
- Following the first RFP, the Department expects to continue issuing RFPs for the ecosystem enhancement/environmental stewardship/mitigation component annually.

RAMP Documents In Progress

Document Type	Purpose
Statewide Framework	Set overarching goals and create a structure for multiple regional assessments
Regional Assessment	Establish the opportunities and constraints in a region
Action Plan	Select a course of action to get advance mitigation established in the region

Questions?

To submit written comments:

Send an e-mail to lchew@water.ca.gov, with “Guidelines comments” in the subject line

Mail them to DWR, ATTN: Lori Chew, 901 P Street, Room 411A, Sacramento, CA 95814

Drop them off at the lobby of 901 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, ATTN: Lori Chew, Room 411A