

## ITEM 1

Agenda of December 15, 2011

**TO: Board of Directors  
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency**

**FROM: Richard M. Johnson, Executive Director  
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**SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER 15, 2011**

We are bringing a number of items to the Board this month including:

- Ammendment to the Project Cooperation Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State of California for the Folsom Dam Joint Federal Project;
- Contract action in support of Folsom Dam projects (Joint Federal Project and Folsom Dam Raise);
- Contract action in support of administering the assessment districts;
- Contract action in support of meeting SAFCA's conservation, monitoring, mitigation and management requirements for the North Area Local Project;
- Contract actions in support of the South Sacramento Streams Group Project; and
- Contract actions in support of the Natomas Levee Improvement Program.

### **Washington D.C. Update**

Currently the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is operating their FY 2012 program under a Continuing Resolution Authority which expires December 16, 2011. At this time, Congress is actively pursuing an Omnibus Appropriations Act, which hopefully will be passed by December 16<sup>th</sup> to keep our projects funded. We are hopeful that our final funding levels will be close to those presented in the President's Budget. The status of this legislation will become much clearer over the next week.

**Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)**

ACWA held its 2011 Fall Conference in Anaheim November 29<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approximately 1,500 stakeholders in the water community generally attend these conferences. On November 30, 2011, ACWA held a Statewide Issue Forum entitled “Major Flood Events in California...Ready or Not?” There was a panel of five who spoke and then answered questions. Mark Cowin, Director of California Department of Water Resources spoke about flood control efforts from a State perspective, in particular explaining the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan being developed. Scott Shapiro, a partner in Downey Brand LLP then addressed flood control efforts from a regional perspective. I spoke for SAFCA, representing a local community perspective and described our projects and efforts. John Cain, Director of Conservation for California Flood Management, American Rivers spoke of flood control from an environmental aspect. Lewis Bair, General Manager for Reclamation District #108, served as moderator and represented the rural perspective on flood control.

**California Levee Vegetation Research Program (CLVRP)**

On December 13 and 14, SAFCA staff and CLVRP team members will participate in an invitation-only workshop with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Head Quarters and scientists from their Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) to address levee vegetation research needs and management tools. A newsletter summarizing CLVRP results to date will be imminently released, with links to that research being posted on SAFCA’s and DWR’s websites. Additionally, a committee has been formed with CLVRP participants and sponsoring agencies to plan an August 28-30, 2012 symposium in which CLVRP and other researchers from around the world will present their results on levee vegetation research and discuss the incorporation of science into policy.