



Natomas Levee Improvement Program (NLIP) Update
Recent State and Federal Actions
July 31, 2009

NLIP construction is currently in full swing along the Natomas Cross Canal, the northernmost portion of the Natomas Basin. In June, the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) committed \$100 million in funding to the project for 2009 construction and planning activities, \$42.5 million of which was immediately received by SAFCA.

With the funding received and commitment of additional funding from DWR, SAFCA was able to award the contract for the next phase of construction. This contract calls for Sacramento River East Levee work in Project Reaches 2-4B in Sutter County as well as Elkhorn Irrigation Canal and Giant Garter Snake canal relocation work. The contract was awarded to low bidder Independent Construction for \$20.7 million, \$14 million less than engineering estimates.

On the federal level, the U.S. House of Representatives this week passed legislation that would modernize FEMA A-99 criteria (see Doris Matsui June 29, 2009 Press Release). Most importantly, the new criteria would count the full value of our community's historic investment in our levees, not just progress on the current project, in calculating when fifty percent of the work is completed. Because we have done so much in the past, this change may help Natomas meet FEMA A-99 criteria sooner. Achieving an A-99 rating will lift the de-facto building moratorium in the Basin, but it will not change flood insurance requirements.

The SAFCA Board and staff continue to work closely with our State and Federal partners to achieve 100-year flood protection to Natomas as quickly as possible.