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**Overview of Levee Vegetation Issues along the Sacramento River Levees in
Metropolitan Sacramento**

ABSTRACT

The Corps' Draft Final White Paper has significant cost and maintenance implications for local flood management agencies that operate projects with woody vegetation near their levees. Our presentation discusses the application of the Corps guidance and policy to the waterside of SAFCA's Natomas Levee Improvement Project and the Pocket Area levees. The results are based on field inventories of vegetation and general conditions along the Natomas and Pocket Area Levees conducted jointly by NHC and EDAW that describe the vegetation that would be removed to meet the guidelines, both in the vegetation free zone near the levee and in the root-free zone along the bank. The presentation also provides a brief discussion of vegetation management alternatives.

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Ken Rood is a geomorphologist and a principal with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants. Mr. Rood has 30 years experience with river management and restoration design along the west coast of North America, in British Columbia, Washington and California. Mr. Rood was the principal geomorphologist for the initial erosion evaluations along the Natomas Reach of the Sacramento River and for the levees surrounding West Sacramento and is the project manager for the design of bank protection designs along the Natomas Reach that incorporates self-mitigating aquatic and riparian habitat features.