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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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Edward Wallace, P.E. is a principal with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants. Mr. Wallace has 30 years of experience in water resources engineering, including extensive experience evaluating and improving flood management infrastructure on the Sacramento, American, Feather, and San Joaquin Rivers in California's Central Valley. Mr. Wallace has been the principal in charge for detailed erosion evaluations in the Sacramento metropolitan area to determine the risk of erosion to levee integrity, prioritize needed improvements, and develop concepts for a comprehensive bank erosion management program. He has also led interdisciplinary design teams to develop and implement bank protection designs on the American and Sacramento Rivers that incorporate self-mitigating aquatic and riparian habitat features.