

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY  
CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-04

AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED COMMON FEATURES PROJECT, CALIFORNIA  
FINDINGS AND APPROVAL  
FOR THE GENERAL REEVALUATION REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

**WHEREAS**, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board, formerly known as the Reclamation Board of the State of California) is the non-federal sponsor and the Lead Agency under Section 21100 of the California Public Resources Code (California Environmental Quality Act or CEQA) for the American River Watershed Common Features Project General Reevaluation Report (GRR), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the federal sponsor and Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency is the local sponsor and responsible agency under CEQA; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress authorized levee improvements known as the American River Watershed Common Features Project in Section 101(a)(1) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996, (Public Law 104-303); and

**WHEREAS**, the State authorized the American River Watershed Common Features Project in 1997 under California Water Code Sections 12670.10, 12670.11, 12670.12, 12670.14 and 12670.16; and

**WHEREAS**, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the GRR was circulated for public review from March 20, 2015 to May 4, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, comments on the Draft EIS/EIR have been received, and responses have been prepared and included in a Final EIS/EIR; and

**WHEREAS**, a Statement of Findings has been prepared for each potentially significant environmental effect that would result from the project has been prepared in conformance with Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan has been prepared which summarizes the effects, lists adopted mitigation measures, identifies timing of implementation, and establishes responsible party(ies) for implementation to avoid, minimize, or reduce any potentially significant environmental effects identified during the analysis in conformance with Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the final EIS/EIR is a programmatic level document for CEQA purposes prepared to determine the feasibility of the GRR and to obtain Congressional approval for the American River Watershed Common Features Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has independently reviewed and considered the EIS/EIR and finds, on the basis of the record as a whole, including comments and written responses received on the draft document and mitigation measures, that the EIS/EIR reflects the independent judgement and analysis of the Board in conformance with Section 15090(a)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15091, changes and alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effects identified in the EIS/EIR; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that specific overriding economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits of the GRR Recommended Plan outweigh the potentially significant and unavoidable effects on the environment in compliance with Section 21081(b) of CEQA; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED:**

**Findings of Fact**

- 1 The Board hereby adopts as findings the facts set forth in Attachment 1.
- 2 The Board has independently reviewed and considered all Attachments listed in the Staff Report.
3. The Board finds that the final EIS/EIR is a programmatic level document for CEQA purposes and that further project level supplemental environmental analysis is required prior to beginning any construction.

**Approval of American River Watershed Common Features General Reevaluation Report  
Recommended Plan**

- 4 The Board adopts the CEQA Statement of Findings attached to this Resolution and Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan, attached to the Staff Report, and incorporated herein by reference, and
- 5 Based on the foregoing, the Board hereby certifies the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the American River Watershed Common Features Project General Reevaluation Report prepared in compliance with CEQA.
6. The Board approves the Recommended Plan.
7. The Board delegates to the Executive Officer the authority to execute the Notice of Determination under CEQA in substantially the form submitted.

Attachment 1: Findings and Statement of Overriding Consideration

PASSED AND ADOPTED by vote of the Board on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

William H. Edgar

William H. Edgar  
President

Jane Dolan

Jane Dolan  
Secretary

Approved as to Legal Form and Sufficiency

Kanwarjit Dua

Kanwarjit Dua  
General Counsel