

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

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9/16/98

To: CALFED Bay Delta Program, Attention: Gary Bardini
From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director
Subject: Draft North Delta Flood Control Scenarios, July 15, 1998

I have reviewed the draft North Delta Flood Control Scenarios and have the following comments. Please note the Commission itself has not had the opportunity to review the report so these are staff comments only.

1. The Levee Profiles included in the model are out of date, even though they are identified as "new data". Current information should be available from DWR's Central District office, or from the Reclamation Districts (page 2).
2. The current channel capacities for the various waterways should be included.
3. The modeled channel capacities for the various waterways after dredging should be included.
4. The watershed should include the entire area in the Cosumnes River watershed.
5. If data is available, model the second 1997 storm. The second storm includes a flooded McCormack Williamson Tract, and would be similar to McCormack Williamson Tract enhanced as tidal habitat and operated as described in #6 below.
6. The models including a tidal McCormack Williamson Tract should include one intake on the east levee, and two outlets managed to minimize flood impacts of flow on nearby levees.
7. Evaluation of the benefits of retrofitting the existing Miller's Ferry Bridge on Walnut Grove-Thornton Road to remove the physical structure in the middle of the channel which would reduce the channel constriction at that location.

8. All scenarios involving dredging should reflect dredging starting from the San Joaquin River, south of the southern confluence with Georgiana Slough; this lower area is not shown on the maps as an area to be dredged. If dredging of this reach is included in the modeling, the maps should be corrected.
9. The Delta Protection Commission's policies seek to protect existing privately-owned agricultural land from conversion to habitat. There is consensus in the North Delta that McCormack-Williamson Tract (1,650 acres) is a key parcel that may be needed to be operated as a floodway to reduce the volume/quantity of water that ponds to the east of McCormack Williamson Tract in large flood events. To the extent feasible, other privately-owned agricultural lands in this area should not be retired or used as floodways, plains, or flood storage areas or as habitat restoration.
10. Additional scenarios should be modeled:
 - An expanded Scenario 4, with dredging starting at the San Joaquin River and continuing upstream to the confluence of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers, and use of McCormack Williamson Tract as a floodway.
 - A dredging only alternative, with dredging of both North and South Forks and no flooding of McCormack Williamson Tract.
 - A dredging only alternative, with dredging of both North and South Forks and a setback levee along the Mokelumne River on McCormack Williamson Tract.
 - A variation on Scenario 5, with dredging from the confluence of the Cosumnes and the Mokelumne, flooding of McCormack Williamson Tract, dredging of the North Fork only.
11. As possible, issues associated with flooding on the Upper Cosumnes River should be described and addressed.

cc: Chairman Patrick N. McCarty
Vice Chair Steven Mello