



FLOOD PROTECTION TEAM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Team Leaders: Eric Nagy, Larsen Wurzel & Associates, eric@larsenwurzel.com
Scott Shapiro, Downey-Brand LLP, sshapiro@downeybrand.com
Ric Reinhardt, MBK Engineers, reinhardt@mbkengineers.com
Chris Elliott, ICF International, chris.elliott@icfi.com

MODERNIZATION OF FEMA'S NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) FOR AGRICULTURE

Requested Action: Support modification of the NFIP to eliminate financial disincentives to agricultural operations in the floodplain and actively engage with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to implement recommendations of the Agricultural Floodplain Management Task Force (AFOTF).

Summary of Background: FEMA's revised flood insurance rate maps have become a significant problem for agriculture in the Sacramento Valley. Changes are needed to the NFIP to promote a vibrant agricultural economy in the Sacramento Valley. The AFOTF issued a report in December 2016 making nine recommendations for changes that FEMA can make within their discretionary authority that need to be acted upon.

OPTIMIZING THE UNITED STATE'S ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEER'S (CORPS) SECTION 408 DECISIONS

Requested Action: Active engagement by the Corps to clarify the headquarter and regional office roles, and to consider the use of nationwide permits like Section 404 permits.

Summary of Background: The Corps is updating Engineering Circular 1165-2-214 which provides guidance for processing Section 408 requests for alteration of federally authorized levees. The interim guidance delegates decisions for some 408 requests to the regional office to streamline the process. This is a significant step but more clarity is needed so that streamlined approvals occur.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS TO REDUCE FLOOD RISK IN CALIFORNIA'S CAPITAL REGION

Requested Action: Accelerated investment for construction of ongoing flood risk reduction projects and new start appropriations for three recently authorized flood projects.

Summary of Background: These actions are necessary for the continued reduction of flood risk in California's Capital Region. Projects in the planning, design, and construction phases are critical to reduce life safety risk for more than one million people living in the floodplain, protect tens of billions of dollars of existing infrastructure, sustain the region's rich agricultural productivity, and support economic growth.