

# Upper San Joaquin River Regional Flood Management Plan

Regional Flood Protection  
Now and in the Future

Kick-off Meeting

Wednesday May 8th  
Lower San Joaquin Levee District  
11704 Henry Miller Ave  
Dos Palos, CA 93620



# Agenda

- Introduction
- Regional Flood Management Plan (RFMP)
  - Overview of components
  - Process and Schedule
  - C&C Process
- Workshop 1 Preview

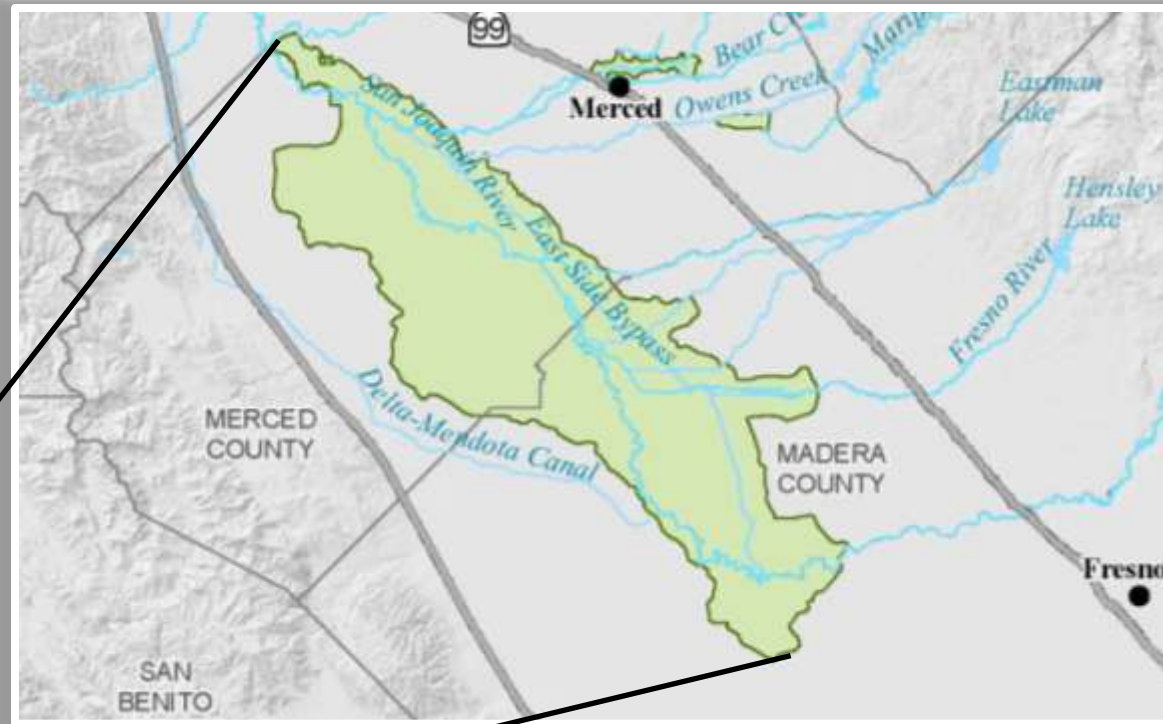
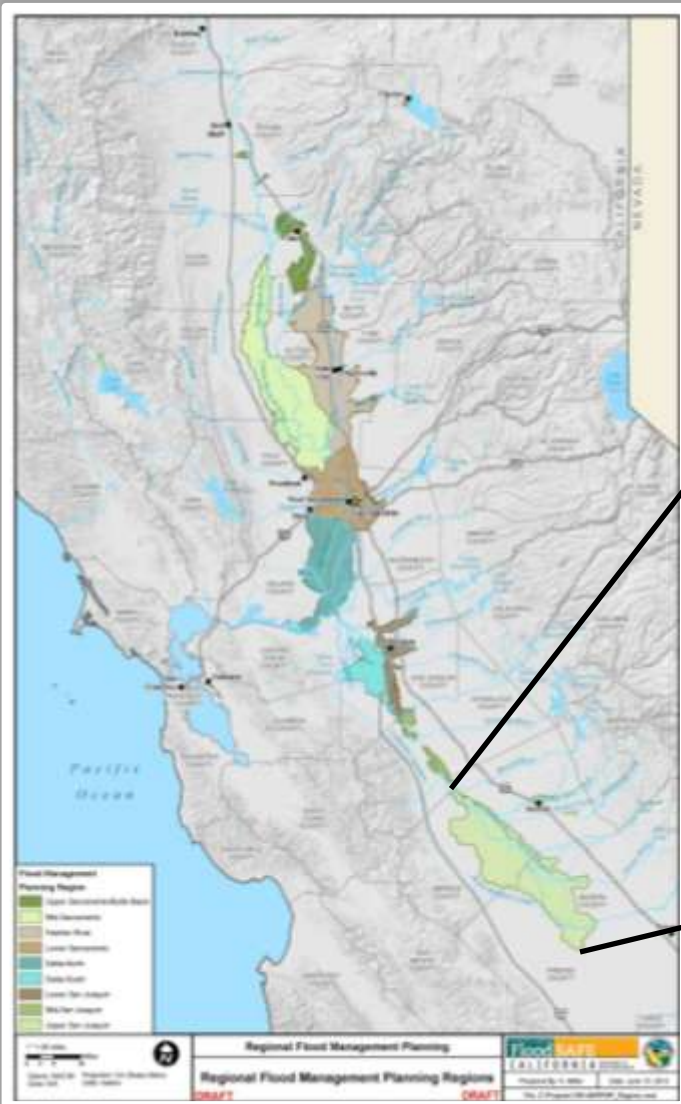
# San Joaquin River Flood Control Project Agency

**Joint Powers Authority (JPA) formed to lead the RFMP and represent regional interests**

**JPA consists of:**

- Lower San Joaquin Levee District
- San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
- County of Merced (auditor/controller services)

# Regional Flood Management Planning Areas



# RFMP Overview

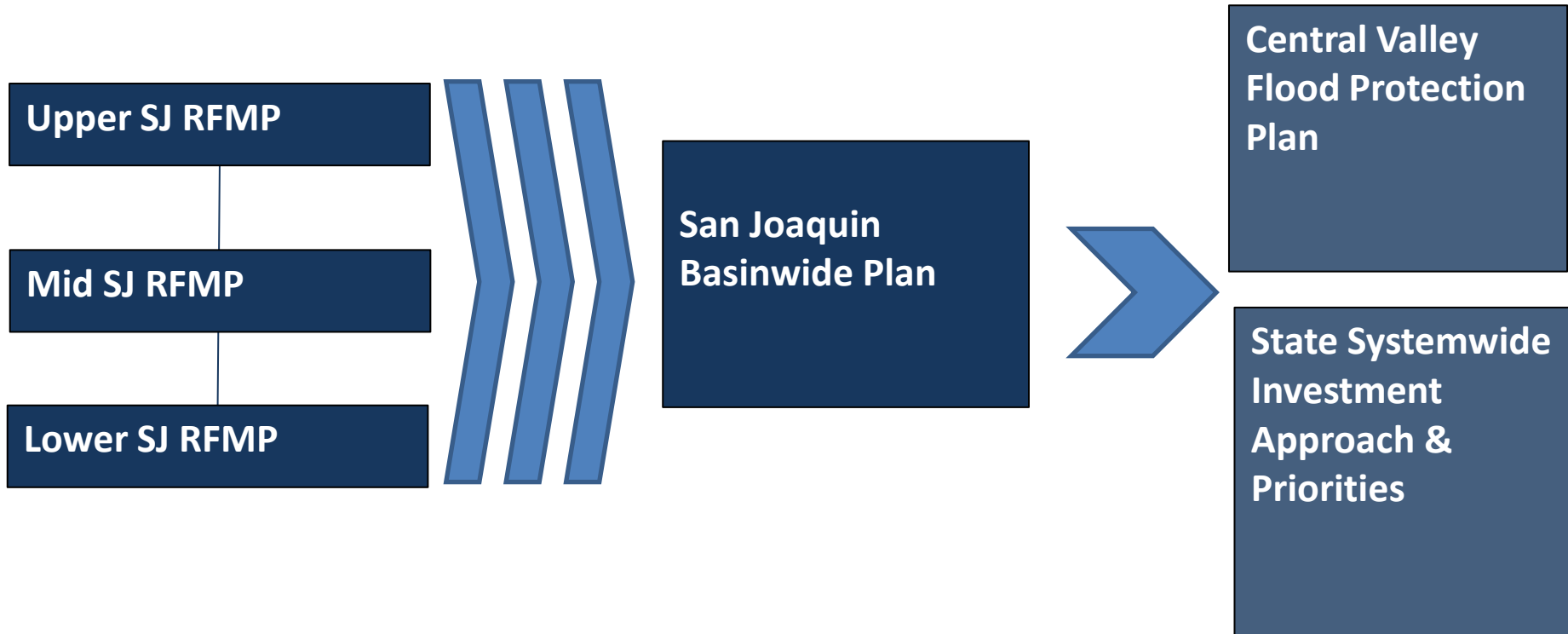
- Purpose:
  - Document existing flood risk conditions and management
  - Identify flood problems and issues
  - Develop prioritization criteria
  - Develop potential projects/actions and priorities
  - Develop financial plan with costs and financial strategies



# Why Participate in the RFMP

- Stakeholder driven - bottom- up effort
- Provides local vision for flood risk reduction priorities for next 25-years
- RFMP feeds into San Joaquin Basin Plan and CVFPP Financing Plan
- Regional Priorities provide basis for developing SSIA

# Overall Planning Process



# Upper San Joaquin River Region

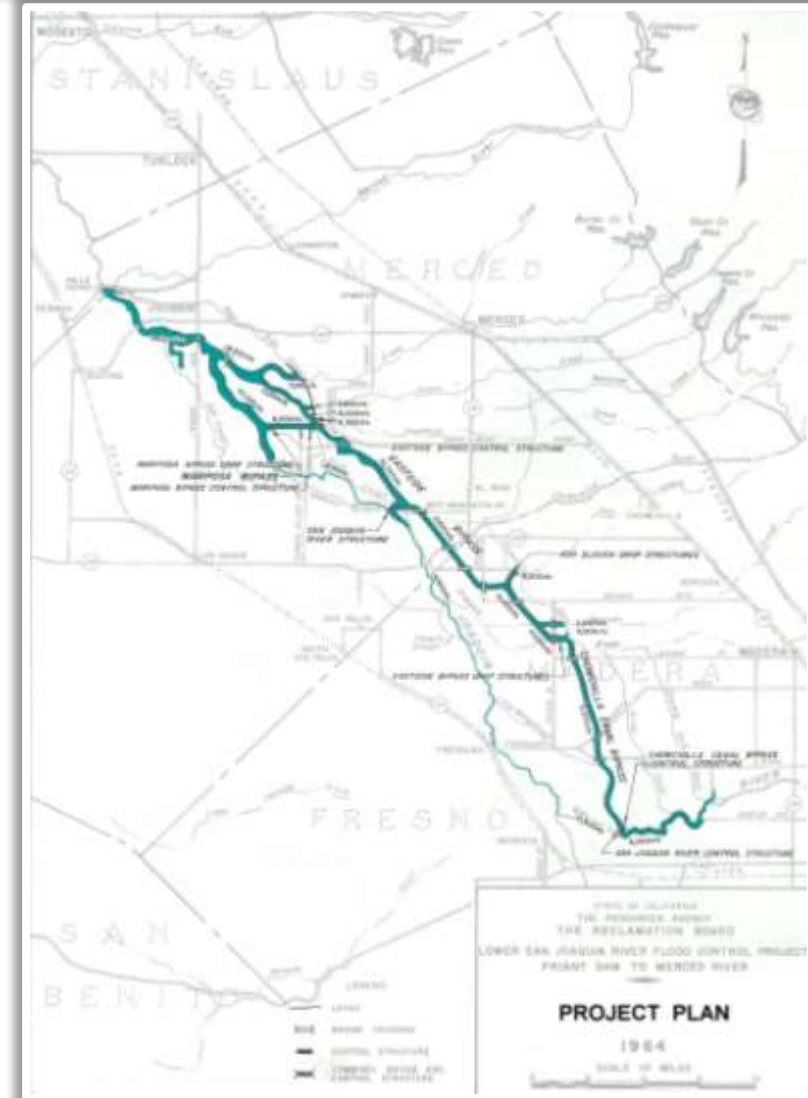
## Regional Characteristics

- Includes portions of Fresno, Madera, and Merced Counties
- 421,400 acres of land protected by State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC) facilities
- Predominately rural agricultural
- Includes cities of Dos Palos, Los Banos, Mendota, and Firebaugh
- Includes an area of SPFC facilities that protects a portion of the City of Merced

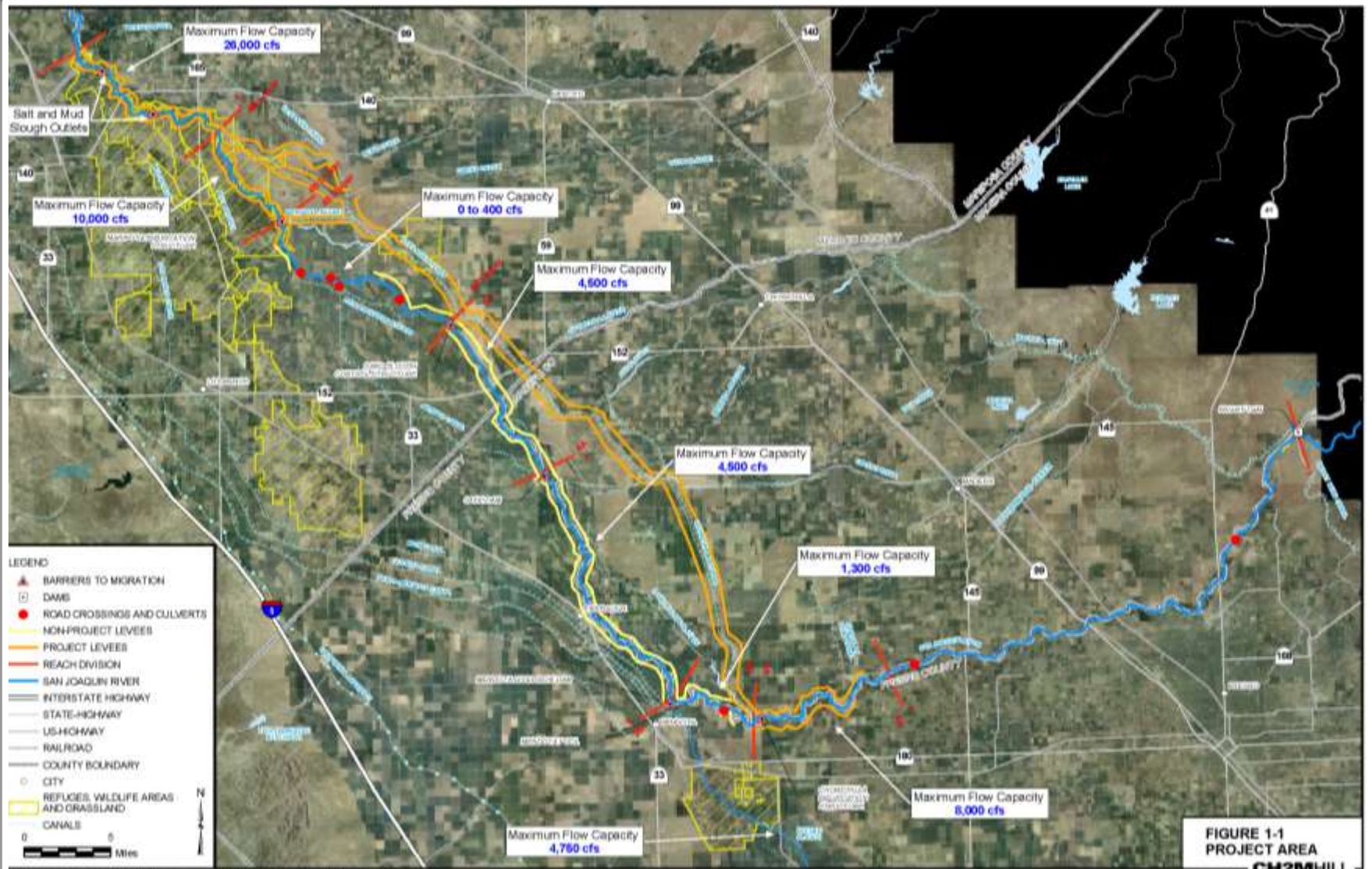


# Lower San Joaquin River Flood Control Project

- Accounts for majority of SPFC facilities in region
- Constructed between 1959 and 1967
- O&M by the Lower San Joaquin Levee District (LSJLD)
- LSJLD was created in 1955
- LSJLD funded by property assessments



# Existing Conditions



# Other Flood Control Related Agencies

## Major flood control facilities are maintained by:

- Madera County Flood Control and Water Conservation Agency
- Merced County Stream Group
- Merced Irrigation District
- San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
- Cities and water purveyors (including local drainage facilities)





# Major Flood Issues

- LSJLD maintains:
  - 191 miles of levees
  - Multiple facilities along the flood bypasses
  - San Joaquin River Channel in the project area
- O&M costs are rising while tax base is shrinking
- Facilities reaching end of expected service life
- Facilities need upgrades to meet current criteria
- Complex flood operations require coordination between multiple water districts, and local, state, and federal agencies



# Major Issues (Continued)

- Sedimentation and vegetation encroachment have reduced flood flow capacity below published design values
- Significant increase in recent subsidence rates along the bypass compromise flood flow capacity and operations
- Porous material used to construct the levees results in seepage problems to adjacent agricultural lands even during lower flows
- San Joaquin River Restoration Program poses special challenges for flood operations and management



# Major Issues (Continued)

- Significant portion of Merced area is subject to flooding
- Merced County Stream Group (MSG) project completed except for Haystack Dam
- Additional studies on-going to identify solutions to flooding
- Facilities need to be constructed to protect downtown Merced
- Numerous lawsuits over residential structural damage are due in part to lack of flood control improvements and reoccurring flooding





# Major Issues (Continued)

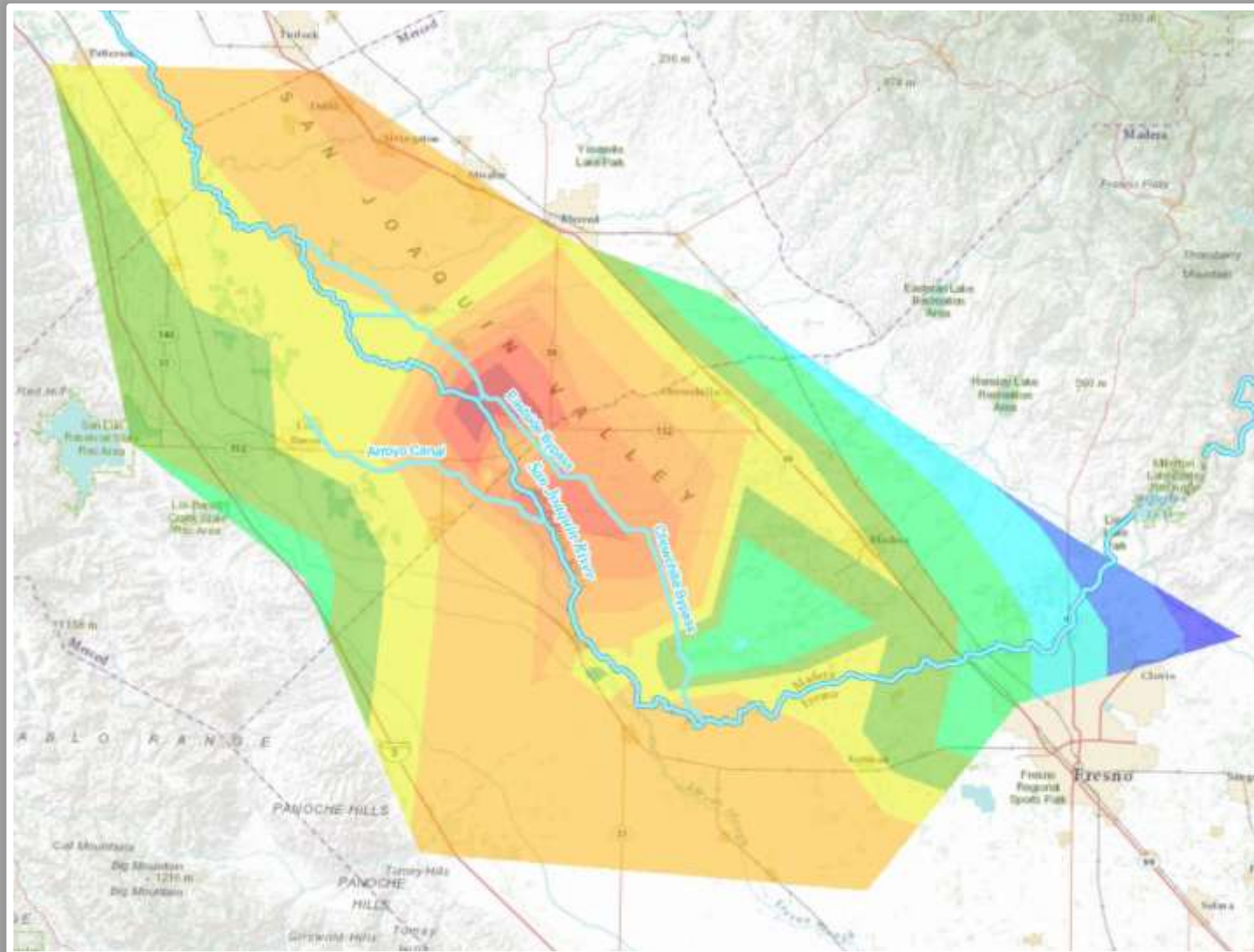
- Subsidence rate more than 0.75 ft/yr in Red Top Area
- Impacts water diversions, system operations, and flood management
- Deep well pumping, below the Corcoran Clay, is the likely cause of the subsidence
  - Pumping increased since 2005
  - Corcoran Clay is prevalent in the Red Top Area
  - Irrigation demand greater than groundwater replenishment



Gas well (above) and water well (below) in Red Top Area

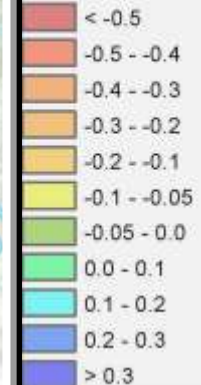


# Map of Subsidence Rates



## Subsidence Rates

Rate of elevation change (ft/yr)



**RECLAMATION**  
Managing Water in the West

Reclamation Subsidence  
NGS Stations  
December 2011 to July 2012

Subsidence rates calculated by comparing July 2012 survey values at NGS Stations with December 2011 survey values. Additional points that were surveyed between May 2012 and July 2012 were used along the Arroyo and Temple Santa Rita Canals to supplement the data around point 375 USE.



# Potential Action/Project Types



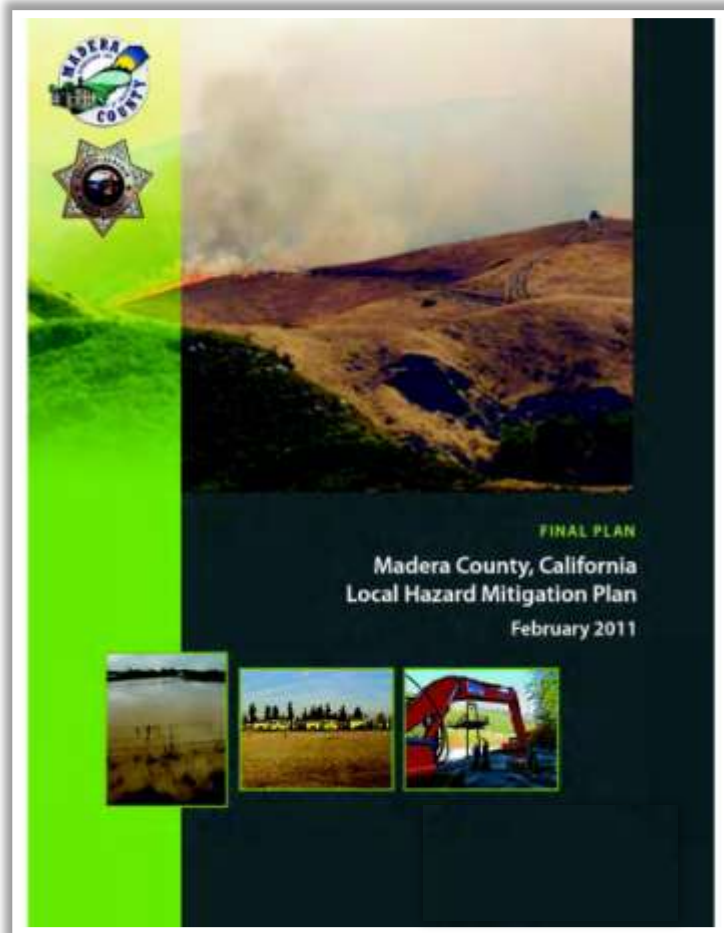
## Structural Actions

- Dam
- Levee
- Diversion
- Debris basin
- Floodwall
- Bypass and channel
- Operations and maintenance
- Natural floodplain systems

# Potential Project Types

## Nonstructural Actions

- Flood Warning System
- Flood Risk Awareness
- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Flood Insurance
- Emergency Response
- Coordinated Flood Forecasting
- Flood Proofing



# Project Prioritization Process

- Identify projects/actions including alternatives to integrate projects
- Use Multi-Criteria Decision Tool to score projects:
  - Provides formal decision-making process
  - Focus selection on key issues
  - Sets criteria to identify optimal projectsCriteria could include:
  - Flood risk reduction
  - Environmental benefits
  - Recreational benefits
  - Water supply/conservation benefits
  - Public safety
  - Others

# Finance Plan

- Identify high priority flood risk reduction solutions
  - Economically viable and implementable
- List of proposed improvements
  - Costs and benefits
  - Financing strategies
    - Mix of Federal vs. State vs. local
    - Need creative strategies to compete with other regions
    - Near- term and long-term financing strategies



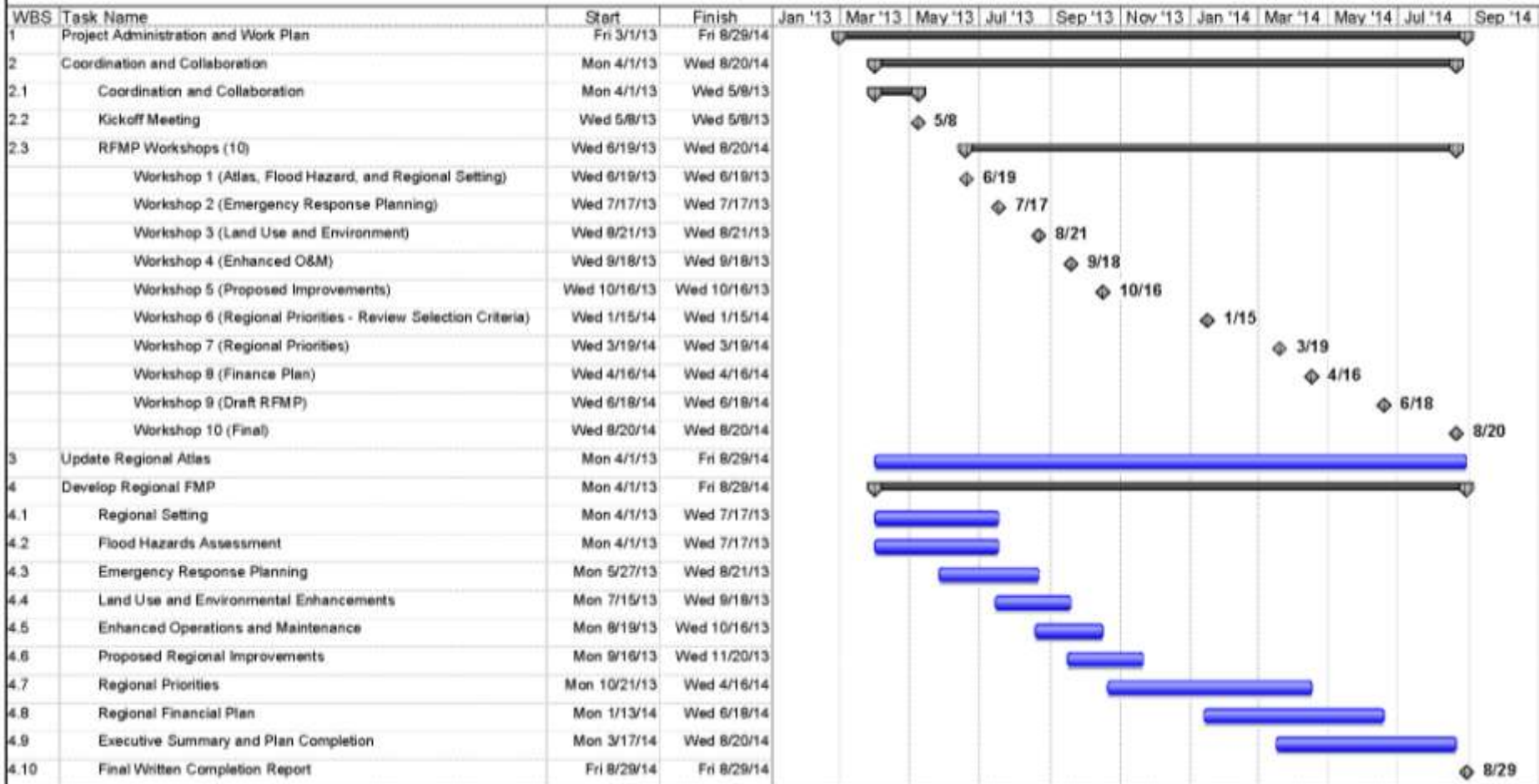
# RFMP Report Development Process

- Establish Work plan and Schedule
- Develop RFMP section by section using topic focused workshops
- Engage stakeholders through Communication and Collaboration Process
  - Data input
  - Workshops
  - Document Review

# Regional Flood Management Plan Schedule

## Draft - Upper San Joaquin River Region Flood Management Plan Schedule

May 8, 2013



# Deliverable Schedule

## Final Delivery Dates for the Technical Memorandums:

- Coordination and Collaboration Plan 05/08/13
- Updated Regional Atlas Maps 08/29/14
- Regional Setting 07/17/13
- Flood Hazards 07/17/13
- Emergency Response Planning 08/21/13
- Land Use and Environmental Enhancements 09/18/13
- Enhanced O&M TM 10/16/13
- Proposed Regional Improvements 11/20/13
- Regional Priorities 04/16/14
- Regional Financial Plan 06/18/14
- Executive Summary and Plan Completion 08/20/14

# Communication and Collaboration Plan

- **Goals**

- Create opportunities for input and engagement
- Develop communication partnerships

- **RFMP Team Responsibilities**

- Communicate needs and engagement opportunities
- Coordinate and conduct workshops
- Facilitate information and knowledge sharing
- Facilitate interregional coordination with other SJ RFMPs

- **Stakeholder Contributions**

- Share knowledge of challenges/opportunities
- Identify multiple benefits actions/projects
- Participate in solution oriented discussions
- Provide timely reviews and comments



# RFMP Workshop Schedule

## RFMP Workshops (10)

- Workshop 1 (Atlas, Flood Hazard, and Regional Setting) 06/19/13
- Workshop 2 (Emergency Response Planning) 07/17/13
- Workshop 3 (Land Use and Environment) 08/21/13
- Workshop 4 (Enhanced O&M) 09/18/13
- Workshop 5 (Proposed Improvements) 10/16/13
- Workshop 6 (Regional Priorities - Selection Criteria) 01/15/14
- Workshop 7 (Regional Priorities) 03/19/14
- Workshop 8 (Finance Plan) 04/16/14
- Workshop 9 (Draft RFMP) 06/18/14
- Workshop 10 (Final) 08/20/14

# Workshop Protocols

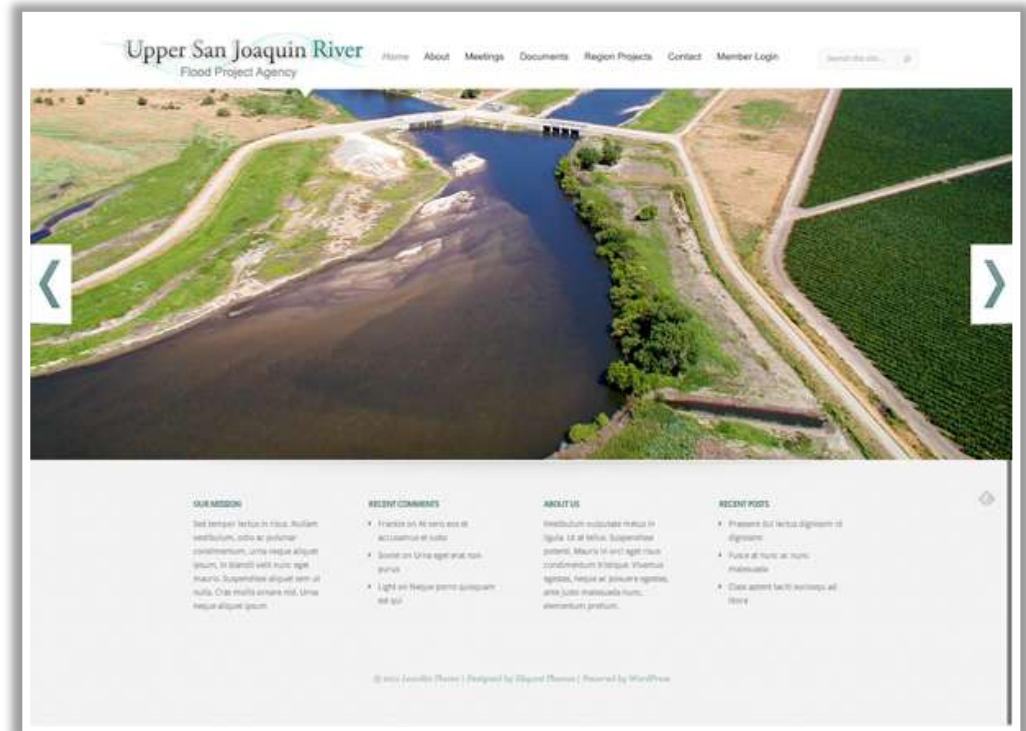
## Protocols

- Use common conversational courtesy
- Humor is welcome
- Be comfortable
- Spelling doesn't count
- Electronics courtesy
- Avoid editorials



# Communication and Collaboration Process

- Primary contact mechanism website: <http://www.usjrfflood.org>
- Meeting materials available online  
1 week preceding workshop
- RFMP Section Reviews
  - 2 week review timeframe
  - Information available online  
1 week before workshop
  - Comment submittal due  
1 week after workshop
  - Comments submitted using  
form available online



# RFMP Stakeholders

- Lower San Joaquin Levee District
- San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
- Merced County Streams Group
- Private Landowners
- Local cities
- Local irrigation districts
- Merced, Fresno, and Madera Counties
- United State Bureau of Reclamation
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
- San Joaquin River Restoration Program
- Non-governmental organizations



# Workshop 1 Preview – Regional Setting and Flood Hazards

- **General Description of the Region**
  - Demographics
  - Land Use
  - Natural Resources
  - Governance
- **Flood Hazards**
  - Flood Risk
  - Flood Assets/ Infrastructure
  - Flood Hazards
  - System Deficiencies
  - Issues/Challenges



# Workshop 1 Preview – Regional Setting and Flood Hazards

- List of compiled documents
- Types of Information needed:
  - Local planning studies – HMP's, emergency response plans, other plans/documents
  - Maps and Demographic information - Land use maps, agency jurisdictional maps, demographic information
  - Hydrology and hydrologic studies
  - Natural resources data/studies
  - Other information
- **Need information by May 31<sup>st</sup>**



**For more information please contact:  
Reggie Hill (209) 387-4545**

