

Cosumnes River Task Force

Sacramento County

Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

Amador County Resource Conservation District

Florin Resource Conservation District

Sacramento County Farm Bureau

Lower Cosumnes Resource Conservation District

Reclamation District 800

The Nature Conservancy

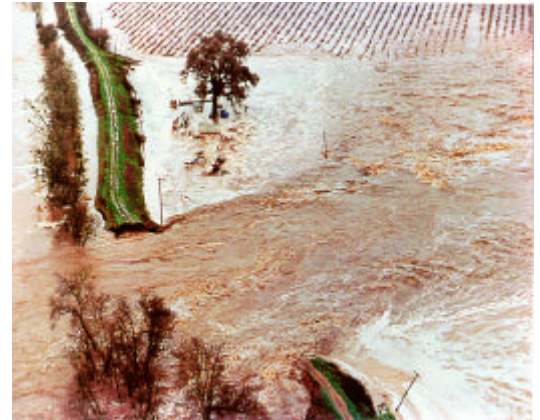
Sacramento-El Dorado-Amador Cattleman's Association

El Dorado County Resource Conservation District

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Background

In 1997 the Cosumnes river experienced a record breaking flood event. This event caused 24 levee breaks which lead to the inundation of eighty homes and over 24,000 acres of agricultural land. Since the floods, land-owners, the county, and federal agencies have been working hard to explore opportunities for improved flood management in the Cosumnes River Watershed. In May of 1997 Governor Wilson's Flood Emergency Action Team recommended that the County of Sacramento and the Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (RCD) form a Task Force to explore options for management of floods and associated impacts within the watershed. In Response the RCDs, the county, and other land owner groups officially formed the task force in December of 1997.



The 1997 flood event caused 24 levee breaks and flooded over 24,000 acres

The Task Force is now developing a coordinated resource management plan for the watershed.

In This Issue:

- * Watershed Issues
- * Up coming workshops
- * What is a one hundred year flood event?

Our Mission

"The mission of the Cosumnes River Task Force is to develop a long term strategy that will encourage restoration of watershed health and improve flood management"

The task force intends to develop a coordinated resource management plan by which stakeholders can identify resource concerns, plan and implement improvements, and collaborate

on common goals to improve watershed health. The plan will include a comprehensive watershed description, an analysis of issues, and recommendations for

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Some other projects in the watershed:

-The US Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a Lower Cosumnes & Mokelumne Rivers Feasibility Study. They will evaluate the feasibility of several alternatives by which to rehabilitate and restore riparian and flood plain ecosystem functions of the river basins and to optimize the incidental flood attenuation capacities of the flood plain ecosystems. The Nature Conservancy and EBMUD are the local sponsors for this project. This study will take place between Dillard Rd. and where the Cosumnes meets the Mokelumne.

-The Natural Resources Conservation Service will be conducting a resource inventory and assessment of the upper Cosumnes River Watershed.

-CALFED will be studying the lower portions of the watershed including the McCormick-Williamson tract and below.

***The Task Force will use the information gathered in these studies during the planning process.

Watershed Issues

Landowners and agencies have already identified several issues that will be considered in the watershed management plan.

1. Flooding

Flooding is the primary concern in most sections of the river. The private levees along the Cosumnes no longer provide adequate flood protection for the growing communities, businesses, public roads, and public infrastructure in the watershed.

2. Erosion

Stream bank erosion and undercutting are serious problems in several sec-

tions of the watershed. Undercutting threatens levee reliability in several locations.

3. Sedimentation

Sediment is threatening structures such as the Dillard Rd. bridge and reducing water quality.

4. Recreation & Wildlife

The watershed management plan will include a wildlife inventory and attempt to address wildlife needs. Recreation opportunities and issues will also be considered.

The task force mission

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management alternatives.

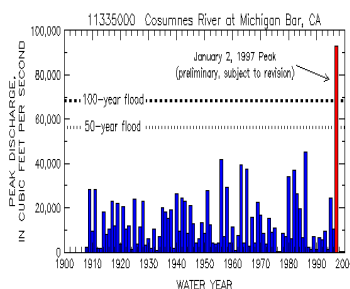
A major objective of the Task Force is to provide a forum for discussion, education and understanding regarding the complex issues surrounding watershed management. Ultimately the task force will function not

only as a planning group but also as a collector and distributor of information. Stakeholders are encouraged to learn about the watershed process and take part in the planning. The March Workshops will be an excellent chance for stakeholders to voice their opinions about what watershed improvements need to be made.

What is a one hundred year flood event?

A flood that has a one hundred year recurrence interval is an event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year. Recurrence intervals are determined by studying historic flow data for a river. A one hundred year flood is expected to occur only once in a century, however there is a small chance that such an event could occur during any year.

The USGS determined that a one hundred year event on the Cosumnes (at Michigan Bar) has a peak flow of approximately 82,900 cubic feet per second. During the 1997 flood event, the Michigan Bar gauge recorded the largest peak flow since the it's start of operation in 1907, 93,000 cubic feet per second.



Work shop Information - Get Involved!

In March the Task Force will host three workshops within the Watershed. This will provide the public with an opportunity to be a part of the planning process. At each meeting participants can let us know about issues and solutions we may have overlooked.

The Sloughhouse-Wilton Area meeting will be at the Dillard School in Wilton on March 9th from 6pm-9pm.

The Amador county meeting will be on March 23rd from 9am-noon at the Plymouth city hall.

The Delta meeting will be at the Jean Harvie Center in Walnut Grove on April 3rd starting at 6pm.

If you'd like to attend any of these meetings please let us know on the enclosed response form. For more information contact Jenny at 916-714-1104 ext. 3

"A Strategy for study and collaboration"

Wilton-Sloughhouse Area
Workshop
3/09/2000
6pm-9pm
Dillard School

5:30pm Registration

6:00 Welcome & Introductions
Don Nottoli, Supervisor Sacramento County 5th District

Bill Mosher, Sloughhouse RCD
Rick Bauer, RD 800

6:20-7:30
Speakers from:

- UC Davis
- USGS

7:30 Issues & Opportunities
Discussion

9:00 Adjourn

Amador County Workshop
3/23/2000
9am-noon
Plymouth City Hall

8:30am Registration

9:00 Welcome and Introductions
Don Nottoli, Sacramento Co. Supervisor 5th District

Valerie Klinefelter, Amador
County RCD

9:30– 10:30
Speakers from:

- USGS
- USFS

10:30 Issues & Opportunities
Discussion

12:00 Adjourn

Delta Area Workshop
4/03/2000
6-9pm
Jean Harvie Center

5:30pm Registration

6:00 Welcome and Introductions
Don Nottoli, Supervisor Sacramento County 5th District

Doug Chan, Lower Cosumnes
RCD

6:30– 7:30
Speakers from:

- The Nature Conservancy
- CALFED
- USGS

7:30 Issues & Opportunities
Discussion

9:00 Adjourn

Cosumnes River Task Force
C/O Sloughhouse RCD

9701 Dino Drive Suite 170
Elk Grove CA 95624-4042

Phone: 916-714-1104 ext.3
Fax: 916-714-1117
Email: jenny.pickel@ca.usda.gov

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www.cosumnesriver.org
