



THREE RIVERS LEVEE IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

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STATE RELEASES FLOOD PROTECTION FUNDING FOR SOUTH YUBA COUNTY

YUBA COUNTY – Major levee improvement work kicks off today in South Yuba County, thanks to \$138.5 million in grant funding from the State’s Department of Water Resources. The grant covers the bulk of the funding necessary to provide 200-year flood protection to residents of Linda, Olivehurst and Plumas Lake, an area twice devastated by flooding since 1986. Key to that effort is the construction of a six-mile setback levee along the Feather River, a project that will break ground the last week in May.

“We are setting the model for flood control in the Central Valley,” said Yuba County Supervisor Mary Jane Griego, chair of the Authority’s Board. “The State’s been a great partner, helping us overcome funding and regulatory challenges that might otherwise impede our progress. We’ve proven that we’re tenacious, and we will not rest until we improve public safety for our community.”

According to County Supervisor and fellow Authority Board Member Dan Logue, the grant marks the largest-ever state funding award for Yuba County. “We’re grateful the Governor and his administration made fixing levees a high priority,” he said. “We’ve given a lot of blood, sweat and tears to make sure a Hurricane Katrina-like flood never happens here. We’re now in a position to protect tens of thousands of lives and save billions in taxpayer dollars.”

At its Board meeting on May 20, the Authority is expected to tap Teichert Construction as its lowest cost contractor for the Feather River Setback Levee segment. The timeline for completing that portion of the project is largely dependent upon the judicious issuance of remaining federal permits.

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The Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority, a joint powers agency, was established in May 2004 by the county of Yuba and Reclamation district 784 to finance and construct levee improvements surrounding the south Yuba county area. Four work phases have been identified with the goal of achieving 200-year flood protection.