



THREE RIVERS LEVEE IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

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LEVEE PROJECT TO CONTINUE DESPITE FREEZE IN STATE FUNDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

SOUTH YUBA COUNTY, CA – A \$360 million project to provide 200-year flood protection in South Yuba County is moving forward, despite the state's announcement that funding for many infrastructure projects has been frozen.

Earlier this year, the Department of Water Resources committed nearly \$139 million in Prop 1E grant funding toward the final phase of the program, which involves nearly \$200 million in improvements along the Feather River. Of the \$200 million then remaining, Yuba County and the Yuba County Water Agency are jointly contributing \$46.5 million, while contributions from Reclamation District 784 and a local landowner round out the balance.

“The state has already invested \$80 million in forward funding,” stated Paul Brunner, Executive Director for the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA). “We’re just about wrapping up construction for the winter months and are in a good position to meet our financial obligations into March of next year without any further advances in State funding.”

The Feather River Levee Improvements broke ground in May, with completion scheduled for mid-summer 2009. “We’ve worked extremely hard to fast-track these improvements and provide our residents with unparalleled levels of flood protection,” said Yuba County Supervisor Mary Jane Griego, who also chairs TRLIA’s board. “We will work with our legislative delegation to find a budget solution that provides the resources we need to get the job done.”

The Feather River Levee Improvement Projects are located along the east bank of the Feather River between the Bear and Yuba River confluences. Regionally, the project is expected to lower water elevations by more than a foot during significant flood events, easing pressure on both the Yuba and Feather River Levees and providing increased flood protection to South Yuba County, as well as the cities of Marysville and Yuba. The region suffered devastating flooding from the floods of 1955, 1986 and 1997, causing hundreds of millions of dollars in damages and resulting in dozens of deaths.

For more information, please contact Paul Brunner, TRLIA Executive Director, at (530) 749-5679.

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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 in south Yuba County. Four work phases were identified with the goal of achieving 200-year flood protection. www.trlia.org