

Folsom Dam Raise Project



Public Scoping Meetings Summary Report

April 2014



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
Sacramento District

General Information About This Document

What's in this document?

This document is a summary report of the public scoping meetings held for the Folsom Dam Raise Project. The report describes the communications program that was implemented to engage interested stakeholders, partners, and the general public into the environmental process.

If there are any further questions regarding either this summary report or the project, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District.

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Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

The purpose of scoping is to obtain information on significant issues associated with a project to guide an agency's environmental review. As part of scoping, agencies hold public meetings to provide the public with information and encourage participation and input in the environmental review process.

Agencies conduct public scoping meetings to involve the public in the preparation of environmental documents. Scoping is not limited to public meetings; however, public meetings allow interested persons, tribes, organizations, and agencies to listen to information about a proposed project or action and express their concerns and viewpoints to the implementing agencies. The agencies can provide information regarding how additional information or status reports on the process can be obtained.

During scoping meetings, the lead agency generally will outline the proposed project, identify alternatives to the project, define the area of analysis, propose issues to be addressed in the document, and solicit public comments. The agencies then consider those comments during development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR).

1.2 National Environmental Policy Act

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 CFR 1501.7) require scoping to determine the scope of the issues to be addressed in the environmental review and to identify significant issues. Scoping should occur early on in the environmental review process and should involve the participation of affected parties. The lead agency of the proposed action is required to:

1. "Invite the participation of affected Federal, State, and local agencies, any affected Indian tribe, the proponent of the action, and other interested persons (including those who might not be in accord with the action on environmental grounds);

2. Determine the scope and the significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the environmental impact statement;
3. Identify and eliminate from detailed study the issues which are not significant or which have been covered by prior environmental review narrowing the discussion of these issues in the statement to a brief presentation of why they will not have a significant effect on the human environment or providing a reference to their coverage elsewhere;
4. Allocate assignments for preparation of the environmental impact statement among the lead and cooperating agencies, with the lead agency retaining responsibility for the statement;
5. Indicate any public environmental assessments and other environmental impact statements which are being or will be prepared that are related to but are not part of the scope of the impact statement under consideration;
6. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements so the lead and cooperating agencies may prepare other required analyses and studies concurrently with, and integrated with, the environmental impact statement; and
7. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of environmental analyses and the agency's tentative planning and decision making schedule" (40 CFR 1501.7).

Public involvement activities are required by Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR 1506.6(a)), which state: "Agencies shall: Make diligent efforts to involve the public in preparing and implementing their NEPA procedures." Public scoping meetings help to satisfy this requirement. CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1508.22, 516 DM 2.3D) require the implementing agency to notify the public that it is preparing an EIS for a project under consideration. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued an NOI in the Federal Register on February 6, 2014. Appendix A of this scoping report includes a copy of the NOI.

1.3 California Environmental Quality Act

Although California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not require public meetings, it encourages early consultation (or scoping) with affected parties. This early consultation often

solves potential problems before they turn into more serious problems further on in the process. CEQA describes two other benefits for early consultation:

1. “Scoping has been helpful to agencies in identifying the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant impacts to be analyzed in depth in an EIR and in eliminating from detailed study issues found not to be important.
2. Scoping has been found to be an effective way to bring together and resolve the concerns of affected federal, state, and local agencies, the proponent of the action, and other interested persons including those who might not be in accord with the action on environmental grounds” (CEQA Section 15083).

1.4 Purpose and Goals of the Public Scoping Meetings

The purpose of the scoping meetings was to present an overview of the Dam Raise, the basis of alternative development, the involved agencies’ decision making processes, and to solicit information from the public on the range of issues relevant to the scope and content of the Draft EIS/EIR. The public scoping meetings were scheduled to take place during the public scoping process and comment period for the EIS/EIR that will be prepared for the Dam Raise. The meetings provided the public the opportunity to ask questions about the Dam Raise and provide comments as part of the formal record. All public scoping comments will be included in the Draft EIS/EIR.

1.5 Scoping Comment Process

The formal comment period concluded on March 9, 2014 and all interested parties were encouraged to provide comments at the meetings and/or in writing during the comment period. However, as indicated in the Scoping Guidance provided by the CEQ (1981), scoping is a process, not an event or a meeting. It continues throughout the planning for an EIS. The scope of an EIS occasionally may need to be modified later if a new issue surfaces; and the lead agency has the responsibility to assess each significant effect even if one is found after scoping.

Chapter 2 Project Background and Alternatives

2.1 Background

Folsom Dam and its associated structures were constructed in 1955 as a multipurpose facility providing water supply, power, recreation, as well as flood control for the greater Sacramento metropolitan area. The Dam and its facilities are the joint responsibility of two federal agencies, Reclamation and the Corps. One of the principal reservoirs of California’s Central Valley Project, Reclamation operates Folsom Dam to provide water, power, and recreational opportunities. The Corps supports operations for the purpose of flood control protecting people, residences, and businesses along the lower American River.

The Sacramento Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) are preparing a Supplemental Joint EIS/EIR to analyze alternatives to improve flood risk management, specifically by increasing the height of the right and left wings of the main Folsom Dam, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam, and dikes 1-8

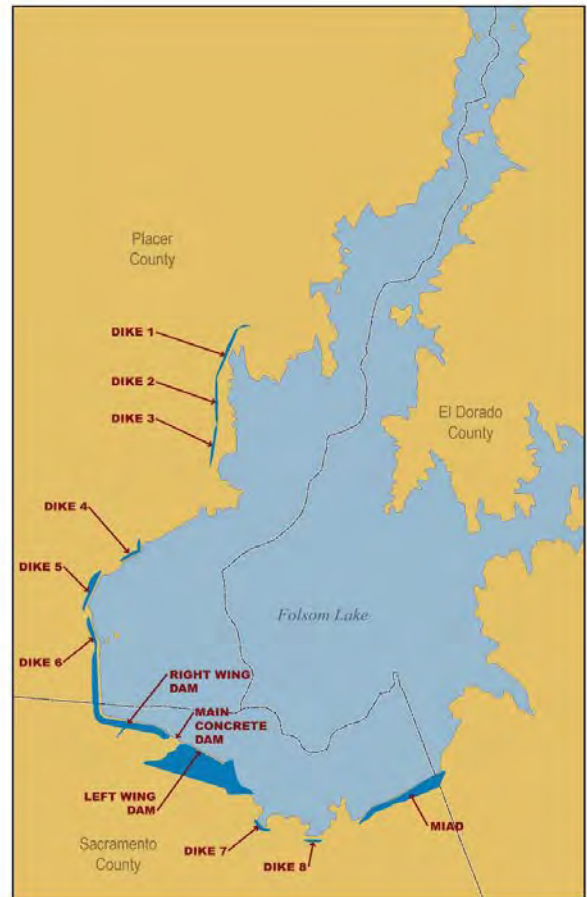


Figure 1. Folsom Dam Facility

by 3.5 feet and refining the three emergency spillway gates on the main concrete dam to withstand probable maximum flood conditions (Figure 1). The purpose of the Dam Raise is to enhance the utilization of the existing Folsom Dam surcharge flood storage space, as well as increase the surcharge (temporary water storage space utilized during rare flood events) flood storage capacity of the reservoir.

2.2 Alternatives

Emergency Spillway Gate Modifications Alternatives

1. No Action: Under the No Action Alternative, the Federal government would not implement the emergency spillway gate modifications and improved flood risk management benefits would not occur. Figure 2 below shows 5 service gates on the left and 3 emergency spillway gates on the right of the main concrete dam.



Figure 2. Existing Emergency Spillway Gates (3 on the right)

2. Replacement of Emergency Tainter Gates: Complete replacement of the existing three emergency gates with newly fabricated, taller tainter gates and associated pier modifications.
3. Vertical Top Seal Bulkheads with Existing Emergency Tainter Gates: Make use of existing strengthened gates (due to Reclamation’s structural improvements) and incorporate a top seal bulkhead feature that allows the emergency spillway bays to hold back a higher flood pool.
4. Horizontal Top Seal Bulkheads with Existing Emergency Tainter Gates: Adds a top seal feature similar to the “Vertical Top Seal Concept,” but with a different configuration and includes removable steel bulkhead elements with the most significant segment mounted horizontally.

5. Refined Emergency Gate Replacement: Complete replacement of the existing three emergency gates, with newly fabricated, larger tainter gates; the gate geometry for this concept would not require extensive pier modifications such as those required for the original replacement concept.

3.5 Foot Dam Raise Alternatives

1. No Action: Under the No Action Alternative, the Federal government would not implement the 3.5 foot raise and improved flood risk management benefits would not occur.
2. Earthen Raise: Raise the dams and dikes 3.5 feet through placement of fill derived from the auxiliary spillway excavation and/or from other borrow sources (Figure 3).



Figure 3. 3.5 Foot Earthen Raise

3. Concrete Floodwall: Construct a 3.5-foot high reinforced concrete floodwall that would be placed near the waterside edge of the existing embankment crests (Figure 4).



Figure 4. 3.5 Foot Concrete Floodwall

4. Combination Earthen Raise and Concrete Floodwall: Dams and dikes would be raised 3.5 feet by either an earthen raise or a concrete floodwall, depending on location and feasibility of either option.
5. Various Additional 3.5 Foot Raise Options: As the 3.5 foot dam raise is further studied, various other options may be analyzed for technical feasibility.

Chapter 3 Public Scoping Meetings Proceedings

3.1 Folsom Dam Raise Project Public Scoping Meetings

Two public scoping meetings with identical formats and materials for the Folsom Dam Raise Project (Dam Raise) were held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at Folsom Community Center (52 Natoma Street, Folsom) and on Monday, February 24, 2014 at the Sacramento Library Galleria (828 I Street, Sacramento). Roles of the participating agencies are as follows:

- USACE Sacramento District—as the lead NEPA agency;
- Bureau of Reclamation – as a Federally-involved agency
- California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on behalf of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB)—as the lead CEQA agency; and,
- Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA)—as a responsible CEQA agency

3.2 Promotion of the Public Scoping Meetings

The public scoping meetings were advertised in February 2014 in the Sacramento Bee and the Folsom Telegraph. Mail and e-mail announcements were also sent to stakeholders and other interested parties. In addition, a Notice of Intent was filed with the Federal Register on February 6, 2014. A copy of notices, e-mail announcements, and mailing lists are included in Appendix A.

3.3 Meeting Agenda and Content

All three public meetings were held in an open house forum. Attendees were asked to sign in and all names were entered into a database for the exclusive purpose of keeping participants up-to-date on future activities, meetings, and project information. Meeting materials included handouts outlining the information displays, information displays, and comment cards.

Information displays were set up to walk the public through the issues, impacts, agency roles, and opportunities for public involvement. A staff person was assigned to each display and invited the public to ask questions and voice concerns regarding each respective topic. Appendix B contains a copy of the displays and the handout provided to all meeting participants. The displays included the following information:

2.2.2 Welcome/Comment and Scoping Process

This board briefly discussed the scoping process and encouraged comments. It provided comment due dates and contact information for both USACE and CVFBP representatives.

2.2.3 Project Background

This board described Folsom Dam and authorized purposes of the dam, authorities, the proposed action, project purpose, and previous scoping efforts.

2.2.4 Emergency Spillway Gate Modification Alternatives

This board described 5 emergency spillway gate modification alternatives: 1) No action alternative, 2) Replacement of emergency tainter gates, 3) Vertical top seal with existing emergency tainter gates, 4) Horizontal top seal with existing emergency tainter gates, and 5) Refined emergency gate replacement.

2.2.5 3.5 Foot Raise Alternatives

This board described 5 3.5 foot raise alternatives: 1) No action alternative, 2) Earthen raise, 3) concrete floodwall, 4) Combination earthen raise and concrete floodwall, and 5) Various additional 3.5 foot raise options.

2.2.6 Effects Analysis

This board presented an overview of the effects analysis and the potential impacts at Folsom Reservoir. The effects analysis in the EIS/EIR will focus on local environmental impacts as a result of construction of the project, not changes in operation that will result from completion of construction, which will be addressed in a subsequent NEPA/CEQA document. A few additional boards showed the location of recreational trail detours that will be in place during construction.

2.2.7 EIS/EIR Process

This board defined the NEPA/CEQA process and the phases of the report. It stated that the EIS/EIR will disclose to the public potential environmental effects of all feasible alternatives considered and proposed measures to avoid or reduce significant environmental effects.

2.2.8 Related Projects

Related projects included: the Joint Federal Project/Auxiliary Spillway Project, the Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam, the Folsom Dam Water Control Manual Update, and American River Common Features. Each project was briefly described and a link to each website was provided.

2.3 Personnel on Hand (Both Meetings)

2.3.1 Corps Staff

LTC. Braden LeMaster

CPT. David Vasquez

Kyle Keer

Art Ceballos

Lisa Eckert

Rhiannon Kucharski

Jeff Qunell

Melissa Montag

Susan Kelly

Cheuk Wan

Brad Call

Tyler Stalker

Scott Clark

David Thomas

Brandon Muncy

Benjamin Dorsinvil

2.3.2 Staff from Other Agencies

Bureau of Reclamation

Mark Curney

Chelsea Stewart

Department of Water Resources/ Central Valley Flood Protection Board (DWR/CVFPB)

Ruth Darling

Kyle Bickler

David Martasian

SAFCA

Pete Ghelfi



Chapter 4 Public Input

3.1 Written Comments Submitted

The Corps and CVFBP received 17 written comments during the public scoping comment period. See Appendix C for copies of the actual comments submitted. Comments were submitted at the scoping meetings, via e-mail transmission, and by US mail. Requests were also received by e-mail and phone to be added to the Folsom Dam Raise mailing list.

3.2 Response to Comments

Listed below is a response to the comments received during the public comment period.

Commenter	Question/Comment	Response
Tom Kelly, EPA	What lead the Army Corps to conclude a 7 foot dam raise might not be necessary?	A 7 foot dam raise was originally proposed in 2002, but in 2007 the dam raise was refined to a 3.5 foot raise due to the additional flood risk management capabilities of the Joint Federal Project auxiliary spillway currently under construction. Because of the auxiliary spillway, the 3.5 foot raise will be able to provide equivalent flood risk management benefits to the 7 foot raise.

	<p>The EDR & DDR (Engineering & Design Documentation Reports) sound like more detailed plans to modifying the dam, not a refinement of the .01 or .005 maximum annual flood.</p>	<p>The Engineering Documentation Report (EDR) is an engineering refinement and technical implementation document to support design refinements to the Emergency Spillway Tainter Gate (ESTG) Replacement concept associated with the Folsom Dam Raise Project. The Design Documentation Report (DDR) consists of designs, plans, and specifications for increasing the height of Folsom Reservoir Dikes 1-8, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam, and the right and left wings of the main dam by 3.5 feet.</p>
<p>Jeremy Jordan, Folsom Resident</p>	<p>I'm opposed to the 3.5 foot raise to the elevation of dikes around Folsom Lake. However, if there is going to be a raise, I would strongly prefer an "Earthen Raise" rather than a 3.5 foot "Concrete Floodwall". Here are some reasons I am against a concrete floodwall.</p>	

Environmental Impact—Habitat Fragmentation: The animals of the area would suffer from a decrease to the accessibility of their habitat. An earthen rise could be traversed far easier than a 3.5 foot wall. Deer, Coyotes, Jack Rabbits, Field Mice, snakes of all species, and Turkeys would all suffer decreases in habitat accessibility. While adult animals may be able to traverse a 3.5 foot wall, young animals, such as a doe traveling with a faun, could encounter extreme difficulty. This difficulty would be amplified if the wall were placed at the edge of a dike. The edges of dikes are steep and frequently rocky. Leaping from or onto steep rocky terrain would in practice create the affect of an even higher wall from the perspective of the animal trying to pass. In the case of a doe with her faun, both would suffer an increased likelihood of wandering onto roads and being hit by motor vehicles if they were forced to abandon their established migration routes. Even if they avoided being hit by a car, they would still be less likely to return to the area in the future. Every animal that is killed or fails to return to their previous habitat subtracts from the vitality of the ecosystem and the appeal and purpose of Folsom Lake SRA.

There is the potential for this project to temporarily affect wildlife in the area during construction. The Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) will analyze adverse affects to wildlife, vegetation, special-status species, and various other environmental resources. The Corps will be working closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to identify any significant affects and, whenever possible, to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any affects to the environment.

<p>Appearance When New: I am of the opinion that a plain concrete wall, even when new, in excellent condition, would detract from the scenery. When walls are necessary, homeowners and businesses routinely go out of their way to disguise the inherent unsightliness of concrete walls through costly landscape design. Common solutions include planter boxes with irrigations systems for planting climbing vines or imitation and natural stone veneers. The proposed wall would have nothing to disguise or break-up its unsightly appearance. So I believe the wall would look bad even at its best.</p>	<p>Although a 3.5 foot raise alternative has not yet been selected, a concrete wall is a potential option. If the concrete raise option is selected, measures may be taken to minimize the impacts graffiti by the project.</p>
<p>Appearance When Not New: I have every reason to believe a series of concrete walls around Folsom Lake would be a significant target for vandalism. Taggers love walls and these walls would be particularly attractive to taggers for two reasons. One, the walls would be located where there is exceptionally limited law enforcement present at night and two; the walls are located in the MOST visited state park in all of California. I was previously employed by the California State Parks at the Folsom Lake SRA location and I can tell you there are already recurring gang problems during the high seasons at these parks. Every State Park Ranger at Folsom Lake SRA can attest to this. Presently I am employed as a Law Enforcement Officer and I know that tagging causes an escalation of gang activity, which in turn contributes to an escalation in crime--particularly violent crimes and other anti-social behavior. Again this would negatively impact the appeal and purpose of Folsom Lake SRA.</p>	<p>If the concrete raise option is selected, measures may be taken to minimize the impacts of graffiti by the non-Federal sponsor.</p>

	<p>Concealment Opportunities for Transients and Assailants: A 3.5 foot wall would pose a continuing threat to lone walkers, runners and even law enforcement officers. Assailants can hide behind walls quietly waiting for their target to go past and then attack their target from behind. Even for law enforcement officers a low wall is particularly challenging and dangerous. To clear the wall of a potential threat one would have to dangerously peek his or her head over the wall. A hiding attacker could be to the left or right and only a few feet away. The most recent Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department officer killed in the line of duty was Deputy Sheriff Vu Nguyen. Deputy Nguyen was pursuing a gang member when the gang member jumped over a fence. When Deputy Nguyen looked over the fence in pursuit, he was shot in the neck.</p>	<p>Public safety in the Folsom Lake State Recreational Area will be discussed in the EIS/EIR. There are security cameras installed at dikes 4-6, MIAD, and the left and right wings of the main dam. Sheriffs and park rangers patrol the dikes to ensure public safety. Additionally, the Bureau of Reclamation has an agreement with state park rangers to respond promptly to all new incidents in the area. Sheriffs and park rangers will be notified of any additional threats to public safety and may adjust their patrols as necessary.</p>
<p>Comments from online survey created by Folsom resident Jeremy Jordan</p>	<p>Very strong preference voiced for earthen raise over concrete flood wall</p>	<p>A 3.5-ft raise alternative has not yet been selected. The earthen raise is one of a few viable alternatives. A complete analysis of alternatives will be included in the EIS/EIR.</p>

<p>Melissa Green</p>	<p>To store more water, why don't "we" remove dirt and rocks instead?</p>	<p>Dredging as a viable solution was initially analyzed and screened out in the 2002 American River Watershed Long-Term Study. The geology of Folsom Reservoir is rocky hills with a very thin (3-4 foot) soil veneer. The only major quantities of removable soil are found in the American River streambed, which is underwater most of the time. Thus, the removal would require soil and rock dredging which is an expensive and environmentally and culturally damaging process. Because of its very high cost, this measure was not considered further and will not be considered in the current EIS/EIR. The environmental affect of disposal is also very high due to potential mercury content and would further increase the cost.</p>
<p>Steve Ruland</p>	<p>I do not understand why we are not seeing earth movers out there now increasing the capacity of the lake bed, it should cost less and increase capacity.</p>	<p>See above dredging response.</p>
<p>No name</p>	<p>I live in Folsom and saw the article about the raising of height the Folsom Dam. I was wondering why no one has talked about dredging the lake bed instead. I think it would be cheaper and faster and safer!! I am sure that there has been displacement over the 60 years that the dam has been here. The lake is so low it would be a perfect time and safer for those of us who live down from the dam.</p>	<p>See above dredging response.</p>

Laura Groat	I don't believe that the dam was designed to have it added on to. I believe that the engineers of old did a great job on the original dam. I don't have confidence in the engineers of today to do a good enough job to have it be a safe dam. I think dredging is the way to go. I have noticed people have been writing the editor of the Sac.Bee about that too. Why can't that be done????	The main concrete dam is not being raised, the left and right wings of the main dam, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam, and dikes 1-8 will be. See above dredging response.
Marc Monroe	In regards to the tainter gates, I favor the top seal alternative. It seems that the ease of construction would present a reduced air quality and water quality impact.	Based on a preliminary environmental analysis, gate refinement alternatives may present less air and water quality impacts than a gate replacement alternative due to a shorter construction period. Environmental impacts will be analyzed and taken into consideration while selecting a final alternative.
	I also favor an earthen raise for the dikes for similar reasons.	A 3.5 foot raise alternative has not yet been selected. Both the earthen raise and concrete wall have been identified as viable alternatives.
Brady Nations	1. Embankment raise would be better than the wall.	A 3.5 foot raise alternative has not yet been selected. Both the earthen raise and concrete wall have been identified as viable alternatives.
	2. Hopefully the Manual Project will lead to more water retention.	The Folsom Dam Water Control Manual Update is a separate, but related, effort to the Dam Raise project. The completion of the auxiliary spillway will give Folsom Dam operators more flexibility in downstream releases and could potentially lead to releasing water later, thereby holding more water in the reservoir during a flood event.

No name	<p>I may not be able to make it to the Folsom meeting but I did want to voice my thoughts regarding Folsom Lake. Each Spring I watch the gates on the spillway open up full blast for hours and hours a day. This has gone on for years so it is no surprise that the lake reached a new low of 17% of capacity this year. There is no excuse for such a cavalier attitude when it comes to draining the very water that over half a million people in the area depends on for their drinking water.</p>	<p>Folsom Reservoir is operated for multiple purposes, including: flood damage reduction, water supply, fish and wildlife, water quality downstream, hydroelectricity, recreation, and navigation. Occasionally during a drought, water must still be released downstream for one of the above authorized purposes, including municipal water supply, irrigation for agriculture, maintaining wildlife habitat, and maintaining downstream salinity requirements. Reservoir operators must also take into consideration several guidelines including those developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requiring strict release rates at certain times of the year under normal operations to reduce the chances of stranding Chinook salmon and steelhead in the lower American River.</p>
Nanci Henning, Folsom Resident	<p>I have two suggestions that should remedy future predicaments such as we find ourselves in today with a severely short water supply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="401 987 1146 1170">1. The unnamed, unelected official in Washington who makes this decision each year without regard for the people the lake serves should be fired and; <li data-bbox="401 1170 1146 1317">2. While Folsom Lake is at a low point, use this opportunity to dig the lake deeper (it is currently a very shallow lake) which would provide more water storage going forward. 	<p>Folsom Reservoir is operated for multiple purposes, including: flood damage reduction, water supply, fish and wildlife, water quality downstream, hydroelectricity, recreation, and navigation.</p> <p>See above dredging response.</p>
SMAQMD	<p>Letter attached, see summary below:</p>	

Bo Grebitus	<p>I'm writing to oppose the cement wall around Folsom Dam.</p> <p>A good article in the Folsom Telegraph notes that the wall can deter wildlife, and invites gang tagging, as well as offer cover from undesirables. Our area law enforcement opposes the wall as it offers cover for criminal activity. I am aware of a cost increase to raise the dam level via earth, but feel it is a better alternative for the above mentioned reasons.</p>	<p>A 3.5 foot raise alternative has not yet been selected. Both the earthen raise and concrete wall have been identified as viable alternatives. All environmental impacts, including safety and law enforcement, will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR. Additionally, environmental impacts will be considered in selecting a 3.5 foot raise alternative.</p>
Adam Shelton	<p>Letter attached, see summary below:</p> <p>Issues with JFP disposal site at dike 8, particularly noise, air quality, and aesthetics</p>	<p>The Dike 8 disposal effort is part of the Joint Federal Project (JFP) auxiliary spillway effort, which is a separate project from the Dam Raise. Potential noise, air quality and aesthetic impacts resulting from the construction of JFP have been analyzed in the 2007 Folsom Dam Safety and Flood Damage Reduction Project EIS/EIR, and subsequent documents.</p> <p>Mitigation measures have been, and continue to be implemented to reduce the effects associated with construction. In addition, the disposal effort is fully in compliance with Federal, State and county laws. Phase 5 of the JFP effort, scheduled to be completed in 2017, will restore the area to more natural-looking conditions.</p> <p>For more information, please contact the Public Affairs Officer responsible for this project, Tyler Stalker, at 916-557-5107</p>

	<p>Concern expressed about ongoing construction at Folsom Reservoir combined with future construction of the Dam Raise.</p>	<p>A cumulative affects analysis will be completed for this EIS/EIR regarding ongoing related Folsom Dam projects that will address overall impacts on noise, air quality, aesthetics, water quality, and other environmental affects.</p>
<p>Stephanie Shvora</p>	<p>I loved reading the recent article in the Folsom Telegraph featuring Jeremy Jordan's concerns to Mayor Howell. I couldn't agree with him more, and agree that the inevitable problems this wall invites (tagging, concealment, habitat) are much more of a concern than the possible threat of flooding. If anything, I believe that Folsom residents would rather pay for an earthen raise as a much better long term solution than to invite the safety and environmental concerns that a concrete wall would bring. Safety for our human and animal population should be our first concern. Please use your power for good and do not allow a concrete wall to be placed around our lake!!</p>	<p>Sacramento is identified as one of the most at risk communities in the nation for flooding, therefore, public safety and flood risk management are top priorities for this project. The Corps and its partners are working with resource agencies to avoid/limit/mitigate any impacts to the environment to the extent possible.</p>
<p>Amber Aguilera, USFWS</p>	<p>1. Avoidance of any additional impacts to oak woodlands, riparian areas, and wetland areas to the extent possible as these habitats have been reduced in size (and value) by the ongoing construction activities of the Corps and Bureau of Reclamation for the dam safety and flood risk reduction work over the last several years.</p>	<p>Effects of all project alternatives will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR. Avoidance of impacts is always considered, followed by mitigation.</p>

<p>2. After avoidance we would like to work with the Corps to develop any feasible minimization measures for potential impacts to fish and wildlife resources and their habitats. We think this should be explored as soon as footprints for the alternatives are roughed out so that they can be groundtruthed.</p>	<p>See above avoidance response.</p>
<p>3. Assuming there will be unavoidable impacts, we will be proposing compensation measures. Our initial thinking is the habitat values in the area for the various cover-types has been documented in several applications of Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP) for the Bridge, Dam Safety Project, and past Folsom Dam Raise proposals. Many of the variables (dbh, % canopy cover, plant composition, tree height, etc) have likely not changed significantly to change the suitability index in the models that were used. We would have to verify what models and variables were used and do some groundtruthing to confirm no significant change. If this assumption is correct we could get the new acreages for impacted cover-types and come up with new compensation recommendations. This would also get around the issues of not having any "peer reviewed models" to use in a HEP per Corps policy.</p>	<p>New surveys and data searches will be performed as necessary for this project and will be included in the EIS/EIR.</p>
<p>4. The presence of elderberry shrubs should be documented. Any surveys 2 years old or greater would need to be re-done. We suggest getting GPS coordinates for the shrubs near the potential work areas and get stem counts etc per the 1999 Guidelines.</p>	<p>See above survey response.</p>

	5. The potential for impacts to migratory birds needs to be evaluated, with potential for nesting surveys during the breeding season (potentially February-mid August).	See above survey response.
	6. Documentation of any wetland areas which may be impacted.	See above survey response.
	7. Identification of staging areas, haul routes, batch plants, construction offices, etc. sufficient to identify potential impacts to fish and wildlife resources.	See above survey response.
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians	Letter attached, see summary below:	
	Although the tribe is not aware of any known cultural resources on this site, they would like to have continued consultation and updates throughout the life of this project and request copies of completed record searches and surveys, as well as environmental documentation.	Thank you for your comment and interest in the Corps' project. The Corps will provide cultural resources information, surveys, and reports as appropriate and when available. A copy of the EIS/EIR will be sent to the tribe for review and comment. The Corps has met with, and will continue to meet with, Shingle Springs Rancheria representatives to discuss the tribe's concerns and interests in the Corps' project as the project progresses.

Appendix A Letters and Notices

Following are copies of the Federal Register listing of the Notice of Intent, public notices that were advertised in the *Sacramento Bee* and *Folsom Telegraph*, and the scoping meetings invitation to all interested parties.

www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/index.jsp prior to the roundtable event.

B. Establishing Adequate Written Description Support in the Original Disclosure

Additionally, the Office seeks comments on whether there are mechanisms applicants can use to demonstrate that they had possession of designs claimed in future amendments/continuation applications at the time their original applications were filed. For instance, the Office seeks comments on whether use of a descriptive statement in the originally-filed application (e.g., that specifically identifies different combinations of elements which respectively form additional designs) could be a meaningful way for applicants to demonstrate that they had possession of designs claimed in future amendments/continuation applications. The Office's initial impression is that generic boilerplate statements would not adequately reflect what the designer had in his or her possession at the time of filing the application.

Dated: January 31, 2014.

Michelle K. Lee,

Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2014-02578 Filed 2-5-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: Vol. 79, No. 20, Thursday, January 29, 2014, page 4885.

ANNOUNCED DATE AND TIME OF OPEN MEETING: Wednesday, February 5, 2014, 9 a.m.–11 a.m.

CHANGES TO ANNOUNCED DATE AND TIME: Thursday, February 6, 2014, 1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: Briefing Matter—Infant Stroller Final Rule (Sec. 104).

For a recorded message containing the latest agenda information, call (301) 504-7948.

CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Todd A. Stevenson, Office of the Secretary, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 504-7923.

Dated: February 4, 2014.

Todd A. Stevenson,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014-02681 Filed 2-4-14; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-P

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

TIME AND DATE: Wednesday February 12, 2014, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

PLACE: Hearing Room 420, Bethesda Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

STATUS: Commission Meeting—Open to the Public.

MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: Decisional Matter: Section 1101 update (6(b)) NPR.

A live webcast of the Meeting can be viewed at www.cpsc.gov/live.

For a recorded message containing the latest agenda information, call (301) 504-7948.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Todd A. Stevenson, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 504-7923.

Dated: February 4, 2014.

Todd A. Stevenson,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014-02682 Filed 2-4-14; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Record of Decision for the Conversion of an Armor Brigade Combat Team to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team at Fort Carson, CO

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DOD.

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: The notice of a Record of Decision published in the **Federal Register** on January 30, 2014 (79 FR 4892) had an error for the email address listed under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. The email address is: USARMY.JBSA.AEC.MBX@mail.mil

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Environmental Command, at (210) 466-1590 or email USARMY.JBSA.AEC.MBX@mail.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Brenda S. Bowen,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014-02533 Filed 2-5-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Army Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report for the 2007 Folsom Dam Safety/Flood Damage Reduction Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; DOD.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District (USACE) intends to prepare a Supplemental Joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the 2007 Folsom Dam Safety/Flood Damage Reduction EIS/EIR (hereafter referred to as the Project). USACE will serve as lead National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) agency and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) will serve as lead agency for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Project was originally authorized in the 2004 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act (EWDAA) and was later reauthorized in the 2007 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). The Project is authorized for 4 components: (1) Emergency spillway gate modifications, (2) raising the right and left wings of the main dam, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam (MIAD), and the reservoir dikes (1–8) by 3.5 feet, (3) temperature control shutter automation and reconfiguration, and 4) downstream ecosystem restoration of Bushy Lake and Woodlake.

The Supplemental Draft Joint SEIS/ SEIR will address two components of the authorized project, specifically the emergency spillway gate modifications and the 3.5 foot raise. These flood damage reduction components of the Project enhance the utilization of the existing surcharge flood storage space (temporary water storage space utilized during rare flood events), as well as increase the surcharge flood storage capacity of the reservoir.

DATES: Written comments regarding the scope of the environmental analysis should be received by March 9th, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and suggestions concerning this project and requests to be included on the project mailing list may be submitted to Tyler Stalker, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, Attn: Public Affairs Office (CESPK-PAO), 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tyler Stalker via telephone at (916) 557-5107, email at Tyler.M.Stalker@usace.army.mil, or mail at (see **ADDRESSES**). Study information will also be posted periodically on the Internet at: <http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/FolsomDamRaise.aspx>

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. *Proposed Action.* The Corps is preparing a Supplemental Draft EIS/EIR to analyze Project alternatives to improve flood risk management, specifically by increasing the height of the right and left wings of the main dam, MIAD, and associated dikes by 3.5 feet and refining the three emergency spillway gates to withstand probable maximum flood conditions. The Project would improve flood risk management while also addressing certain dam safety issues associated with passing the probable maximum flood.

2. *Alternatives.*

Emergency Spillway Gate Modifications Alternatives

- No Action: Under the No Action Alternative, the Federal government would not implement the emergency spillway gate modifications and improved flood risk management benefits would not occur.
- Replacement of Emergency Tainter Gates: Complete replacement of the existing three emergency gates with newly fabricated, taller tainter gates and associated pier modifications.
- Vertical Top Seal Bulkheads with Existing Emergency Tainter Gates: Make use of existing strengthened gates (due to Reclamation's structural improvements) and incorporate a top seal bulkhead feature that allows the emergency spillway bays to hold back a higher flood pool.
- Horizontal Top Seal Bulkheads with Existing Emergency Tainter Gates: Adds a top seal feature similar to the "Vertical Top Seal Concept," but with a different configuration and includes removable steel bulkhead elements with the most significant segment mounted horizontally.
- Refined Emergency Gate Replacement: Complete replacement of the existing three emergency gates, with newly fabricated, larger tainter gates; the gate geometry for this concept would

not require extensive pier modifications such as those required for the original replacement concept.

Dam Raise Alternatives

- No Action: Under the No Action Alternative, the Federal government would not implement the 3.5 foot raise and improved flood risk management benefits would not occur.
- Earthen Raise: Raise the dams and dikes 3.5 feet through placement of fill derived from the auxiliary spillway excavation and/or from other borrow sources.
- Concrete Floodwall: Construct a 3.5-foot high reinforced concrete floodwall that would be placed near the waterside edge of the existing embankment crests.
- Combination Earthen Raise and Concrete Floodwall: Dams and dikes would be raised 3.5 feet by either an earthen raise or a concrete floodwall, depending on location and feasibility of either option.
- Various Additional 3.5 Foot Raise Options: As the 3.5 foot dam raise is further studied, various other options may be analyzed for technical feasibility.

3. *Scoping Process.*

a. Two public scoping meetings will be held to present an overview of the Dam Raise and the EIS/EIR process, and to afford all interested parties with an opportunity to provide comments regarding the scope of analysis and potential alternatives. The first public scoping meeting will be held at the Folsom Community Center, 52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA on February 19th, 2014, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The second public scoping meeting will be held at the Sacramento Library Galleria, 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA on February 24th, 2014, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

b. Potentially significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the Supplemental Draft EIS/EIR will include: Hydrology, water quality, air quality, special status species, fisheries and aquatic resources, terrestrial vegetation and wildlife, soils, recreation, transportation, noise, visual resources, utilities, and cultural resources. The document will also evaluate cumulative effects.

c. USACE will consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with the Endangered Species Act and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. USACE will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act.

d. A 45-day public review period will be provided for individuals, interested parties, and agencies to review and comment on the Draft EIS/EIR. All

interested parties are encouraged to respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be notified of the Draft EIS/EIR circulation.

4. *Availability.* The Draft EIS/EIR is scheduled to be available for public review and comment in Spring 2015.

Dated: January 24, 2014.

Michael Farrell,

Colonel, U.S. Army, Commander and District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 2014-02530 Filed 2-5-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3720-58-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Wind and Water Power Technologies Office

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of External Merit Review Meeting for the Atmosphere to Electrons Initiative.

SUMMARY: The Atmosphere to Electrons (A2e) Initiative within the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy intends to hold an External Merit Review in Washington, DC, on February 4-5, 2014. The External Review Panel will review the current program planning and provide suggestion on the formulation of A2e strategy, goals and implementation approaches. The review panel will also assess the initiative's potential impact on the wind power industry and identify additional research initiatives and resources that might be required in the future.

DATES: DOE will hold the External Merit Review on Tuesday, February 4, from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., and Wednesday, February 5, from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center, 775 12th Street NW., Washington, DC, 20005.

You may submit comments, identified by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [samantha.rooney@nrel.gov]. Include "A2e External Merit Review" in the subject line of the message.

- *Postal Mail:* [Samantha Rooney, 15013 Denver West Parkway, MS 3811, Golden CO, 80401] Due to the potential delays in DOE's receipt and processing of mail sent through the U.S. Postal Service, DOE encourages respondents to submit comments electronically to ensure timely receipt.



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®

Corps to discuss changes to Folsom Dam facilities at public meetings

Posted 2/6/2014

Release no. 14-004

Contact

Tyler Stalker 916-557-5107
tyler.m.stalker@usace.army.mil

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District will host public scoping meetings Feb. 19 and Feb. 24 to discuss and solicit comments for the Folsom Dam Raise Project.

The meetings are the first step in the preparation of a joint environmental impact statement/environmental impact report to evaluate potential impacts as a result of a dam raise project by the Corps in coordination with California's Central Valley Flood Protection Board, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Two of the project's four authorized components will be addressed in the document, including emergency spillway gate modifications and a three-and-a-half-foot raise of the right and left wings of the main dam, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam and dikes 1 through 8. These flood damage reduction components are expected to enhance the utilization of the reservoir's existing surcharge flood storage space, as well as increase the temporary water storage space that can be used during rare, extreme flood events.

The project's other two authorized components -- downstream ecosystem restoration and temperature control shutter automation and reconfiguration -- will be addressed in future reports.

Staff from the Corps, Reclamation, CVFPB, SAFCA and California's Department of Water Resources will be on hand at public meetings to address questions on the proposed project and accept comments.

The scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

Folsom Community Center
52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA
Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Sacramento Library Galleria
828 I Street, Sacramento, CA
Monday, Feb. 24, 2014
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Written comments may also be submitted to the Corps or DWR until Mar. 9, 2014 to either of the following:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District
Attn: Tyler Stalker
1325 J Street Room 1513
Sacramento, CA 95814
spk-pao@usace.army.mil

DWR Division of Flood Management
Attn: David Martasian
3464 El Camino Ave Room 200
Sacramento, CA 95821
david.martasian@water.ca.gov

Folsom Dam and Reservoir is a multipurpose project owned and operated by Reclamation as a part of the Central Valley Project. The Corps is responsible for prescribing operations pertaining to use of the storage allocated for flood risk management. The dam provides flood risk management benefits to the City of Sacramento and its surrounding areas by regulating runoff from approximately 1,860 square miles of drainage area.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, 95814-2922



TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District (Corps) and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) will be holding two public meetings to provide information on the Folsom Dam Raise (Project) and to solicit input from the public. The Corps and CVFPB will be preparing a Supplemental Joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/SEIR) for the 2007 Folsom Dam Safety/Flood Damage Reduction EIS/EIR to evaluate potential impacts as a result of the Dam Raise. The Corps will serve as lead agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and CVFPB will serve as lead agency for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Bureau of Reclamation is an involved party in the Project and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency is a Responsible Agency.

Folsom Dam and Reservoir is a multipurpose project operated by Reclamation as a part of the Central Valley Project. The Corps is responsible for prescribing operations pertaining to use of the storage allocated for flood risk management. The dam provides flood risk management benefits to the City of Sacramento and its surrounding areas by regulating runoff from approximately 1,860 square miles of drainage area.

The Project is authorized for 4 components: 1) emergency spillway gate modifications, 2) raising the right and left wings of the main dam, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam (MIAD), and the reservoir dikes (1-8) by 3.5 feet, 3) temperature control shutter automation and reconfiguration, and 4) downstream ecosystem restoration of Bushy Lake and Woodlake.

The Supplemental Draft Joint SEIS/SEIR will address two components of the authorized project, specifically the emergency spillway gate modifications and the 3.5 foot raise. These flood damage reduction components of the Project enhance the utilization of the existing surcharge flood storage space (temporary water storage space utilized during rare flood events), as well as increase the surcharge flood storage capacity of the reservoir.

Your input on the above topics and any associated items that are important to you will be used to:

- Further determine the scope of the analysis in the SEIS/SEIR.
- Provide input on the range of alternatives to be evaluated in the SEIS/SEIR.
- Obtain local knowledge or information to assist in the environmental analysis.

Project team staff will be on hand to accept comments and address questions regarding the Project. The public will be given the opportunity to provide written and verbal comments at the scoping meetings.

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS/EIR pursuant to NEPA will be published in the Federal Register. The notice will be available online at the Federal Register website (<https://www.federalregister.gov/>).

Written comments and suggestions about the Dam Raise may be submitted to Tyler Stalker, Corps Public Affairs Office, or David Martasian, Department of Water Resources (DWR) Division of Flood Management. For e-mailed comments, please include “Folsom Dam Raise” in the subject line, attach comments in MS Word format, and include the commenter’s U.S. Postal Service mailing address. Questions about the Project and the SEIS/SEIR should be addressed to:

Tyler Stalker,
Corps Public Affairs Office
1325 J St, Sacramento,
CA 95814
Phone - 916-557-5107
Fax - 916-557-7853
e-mail - Tyler.M.Stalker@usace.army.mil

David Martasian,
DWR Division of Flood Management
3464 El Camino Ave, Room 200,
Sacramento, CA 95821
Phone - 916-574-1442
Fax – 916-574-1478
e-mail – David.Martasian@water.ca.gov

The scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

Folsom Community Center
52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA
February 19th, 2014
5pm to 7pm

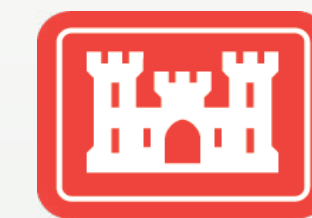
Sacramento Library Galleria
828 I Street, Sacramento, CA
February 24th, 2014
5pm to 7pm

For more information please visit the Folsom Dam Raise website at <http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/FolsomDamRaise.aspx>

Appendix B Display Materials

The following materials were on display or available for reading at the scoping meeting

Welcome - Please sign in



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



Folsom Dam Raise Project Public Scoping Meetings/Open House

No formal presentation - Please walk through stations, ask questions, provide public comment

February 19, 2014

5pm to 7pm

Folsom Community Center
52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA

February 24, 2014

5pm to 7pm

Sacramento Library Galleria
828 I Street, Sacramento, CA

We want to hear from you

Scoping Process

Scoping is done to gather public comments, insights and local information for the environmental document.

We want to hear your comments about:

- Any options that should be considered and evaluated
- Potential environmental issues and impacts
- Any local knowledge or information to assist with the environmental review that we may not be aware of
- When and how you would like to be informed of the project

Comment Process

When? Comments are due March 9, 2014

What happens to comments? Comments will be compiled in a scoping document and will be considered in the development of the EIS/EIR

How can I comment? Comment today on a comment card, or directly to the court reporter, or directly to:

USACE Representative: Tyler Stalker
tyler.m.stalker@usace.army.mil
US Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento
Attn: Public Affairs Office
1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814

CVFPB Representative: David Martasian
David.Martasian@water.ca.gov
Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Attn: David Martasian
3310 El Camino Avenue, Room 151,
Sacramento, CA 95821

Project Background

Folsom Dam Raise Project

The Folsom Dam and Appurtenant Facilities consists of 4 dams (Main Concrete Dam, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam, Right Wing Dam, Left Wing Dam, and Dikes 1-8), which impound flows on the American River forming Folsom Reservoir. Folsom Dam and its associated structures were constructed in 1955 as a multipurpose facility providing water supply, power, recreation, as well as flood risk management for the greater Sacramento metropolitan area. The Dam and its facilities are the joint responsibility of two federal agencies, The Bureau Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Folsom Dam is operated for water supply, flood risk management, municipal and industrial (M&I) water supply, power, fish and wildlife, recreation, navigation and water quality.

Folsom Dam Raise Authorizations

- EWDDA 2004: Congress first authorizes a plan to raise Folsom Dam. The initial authorization was for a 7 foot dam raise and the replacement of all 8 tainter spillway gates.
- WRDA 2007: A 3.5 foot dam raise, the replacement of three emergency gates, and three ecosystem restoration projects (automating/reconfiguring the temperature control shutters at Folsom Dam and restoration of the Bushy and Woodlake sites downstream) were authorized, in conjunction with the Joint Federal Project auxiliary spillway.

Proposed Action

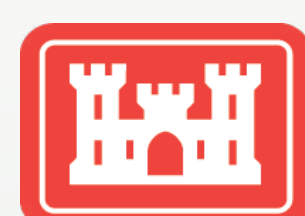
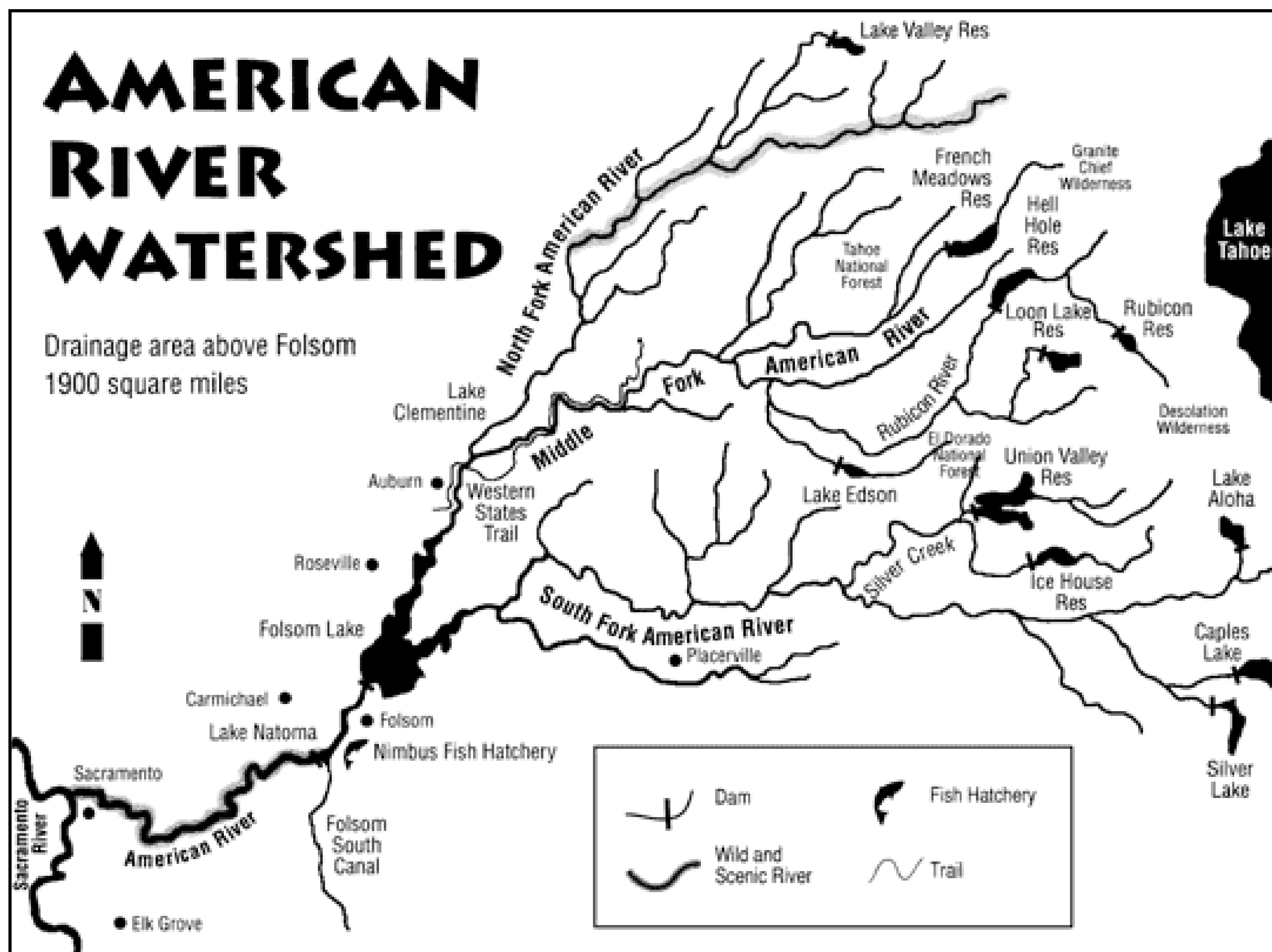
The Sacramento Army Corps of Engineers and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board are preparing a Supplemental Joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) to analyze alternatives to improve flood risk management, specifically by increasing the height of the right and left wings of the main Folsom Dam, Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam, and dikes 1-8 by 3.5 feet and refining the three emergency spillway gates to withstand probable maximum flood conditions.

Project Purpose

The Project will enhance the utilization of the existing Folsom Dam surcharge flood storage space, as well as increase the surcharge (temporary water storage space utilized during rare flood events) flood storage capacity of the reservoir.

Previous Related Public Meetings

- 2002 American River Watershed, California EIS/EIR: October 9TH, 10TH, 11th, and 24th, 2001
- 2007 Folsom Dam Safety/Flood Damage Reduction EIS/EIR: December 12, 14, 15 2005

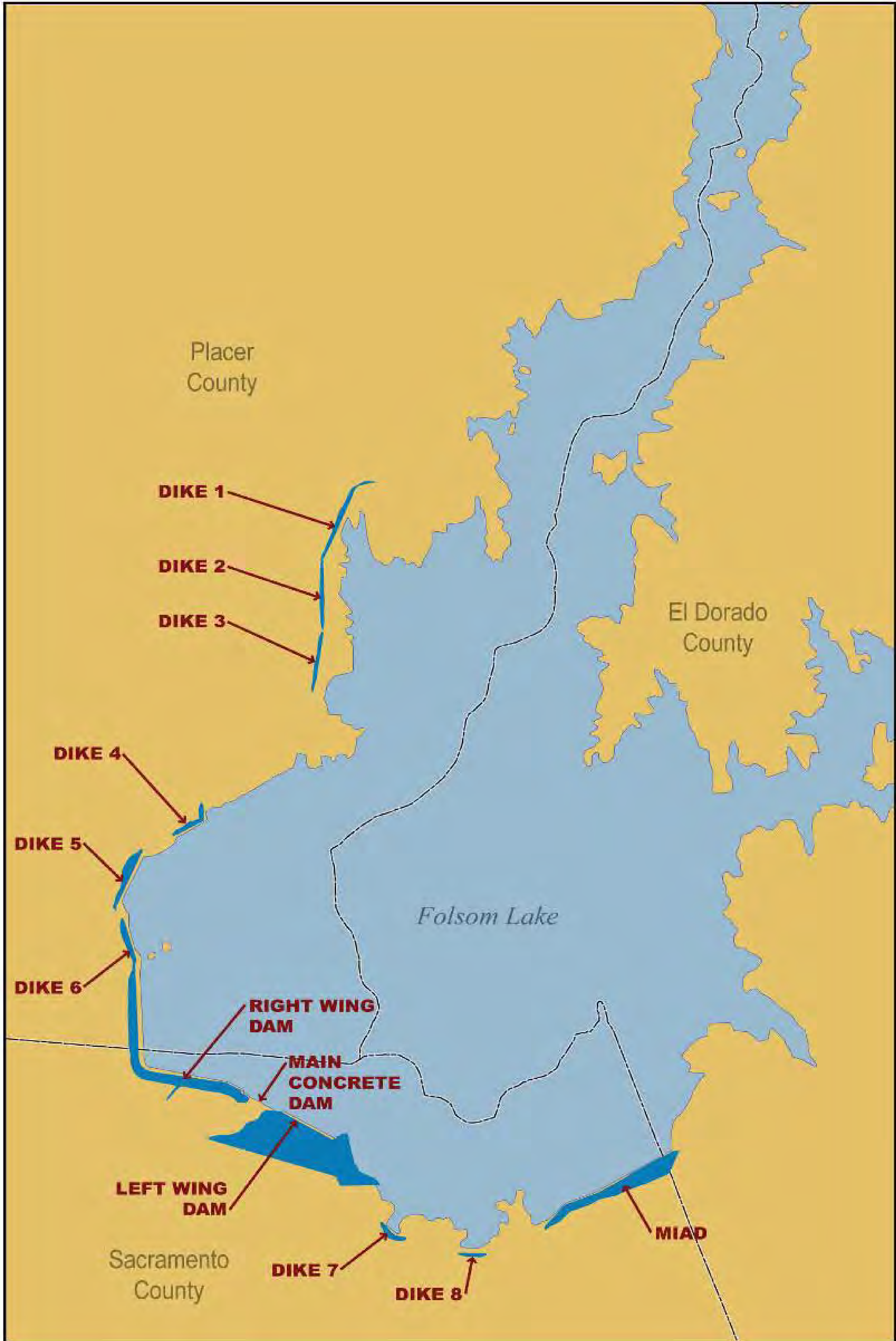


US Army Corps of Engineers



Folsom Dam Facility

Folsom Dam Raise Project



US Army Corps of Engineers



Alternatives

Emergency Spillway Gate Modifications

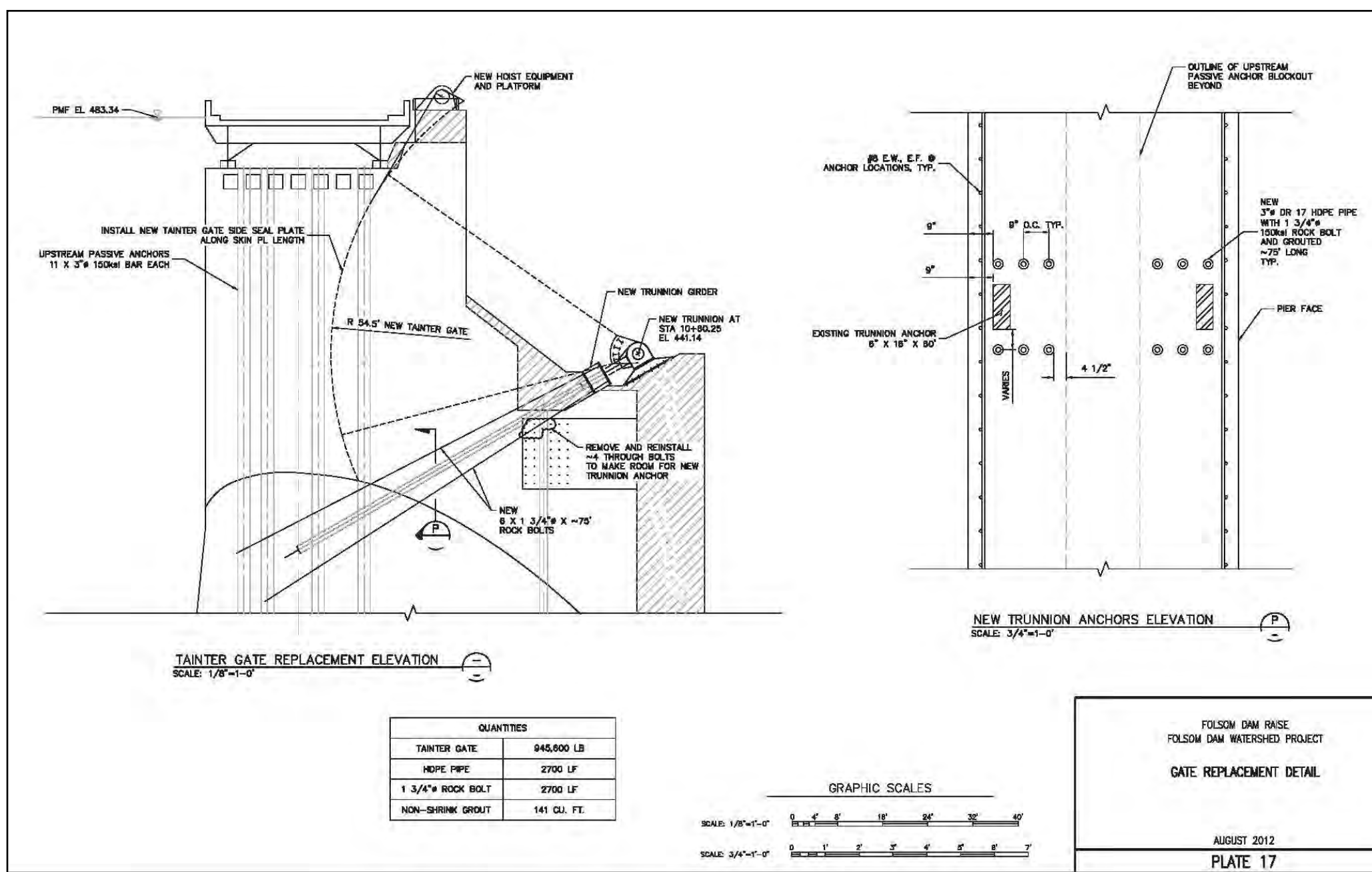
Folsom Dam Raise Project

No Action:

The Federal government would not modify the emergency spillway gates

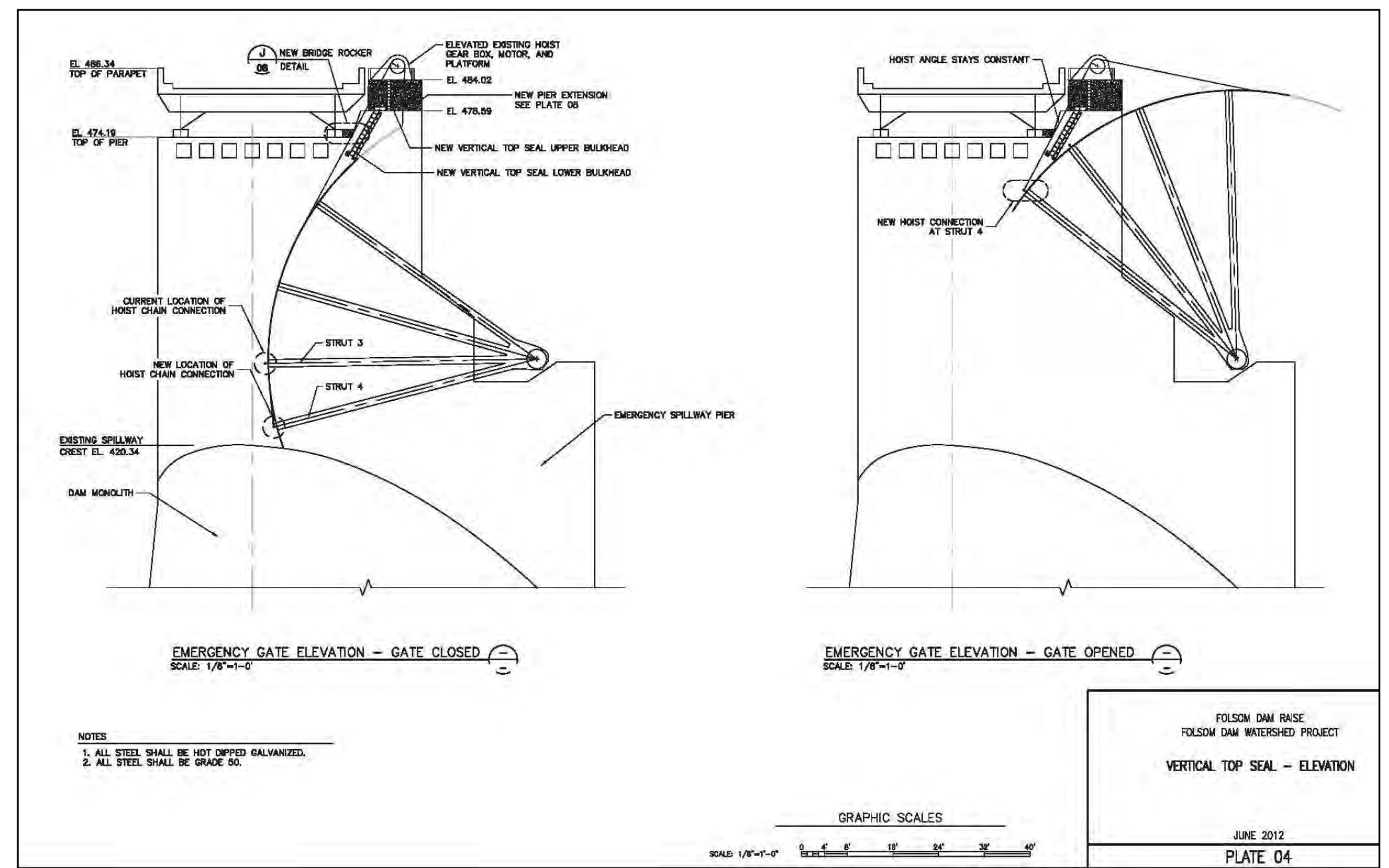
Replacement of Emergency Tainter Gates:

Complete replacement of the existing three emergency gates with newly fabricated larger tainter gates



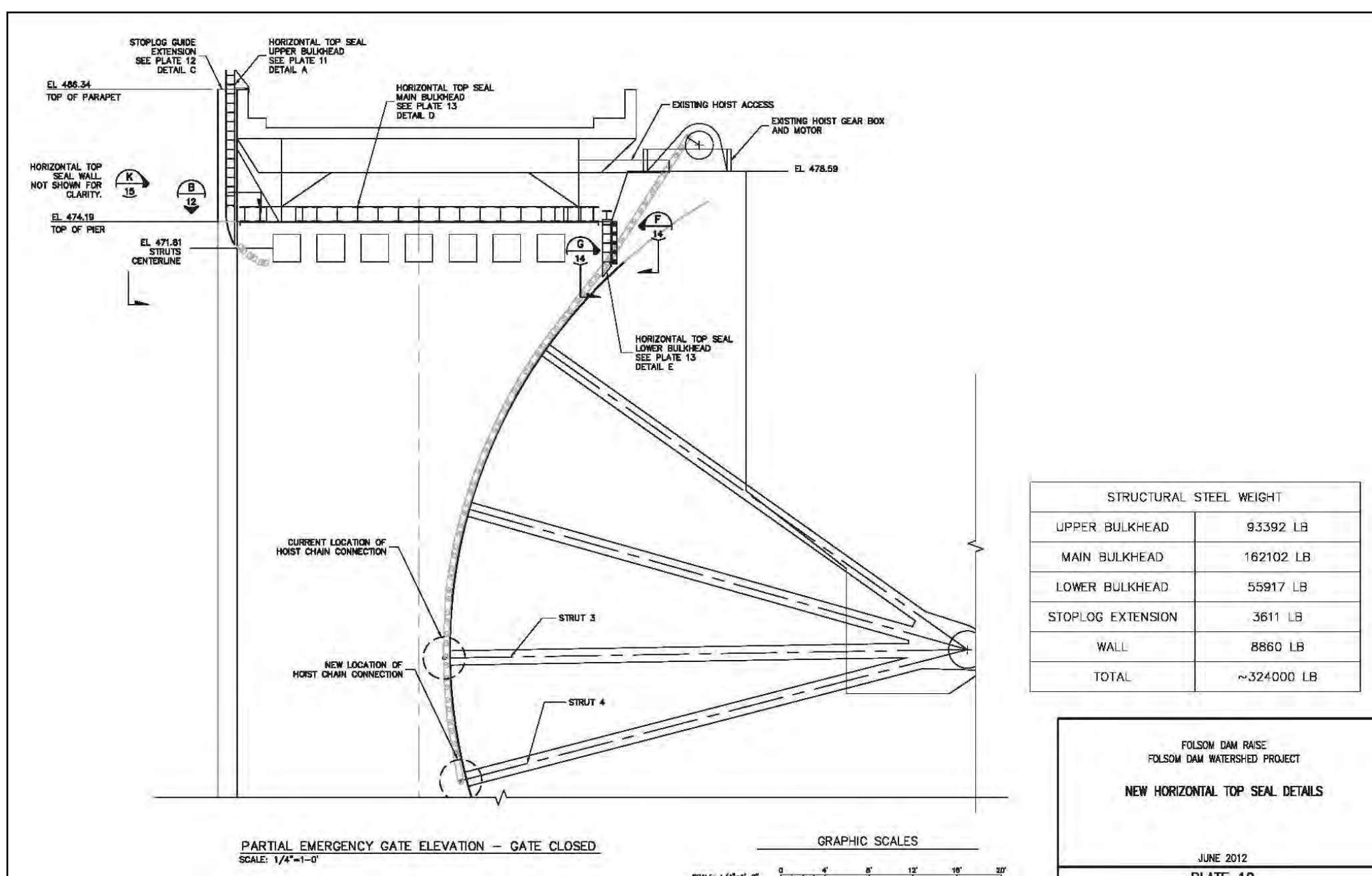
Vertical Top Seal with Existing Emergency Tainter Gates:

Make use of existing strengthened gates and incorporate a top seal feature that increases the height in which the emergency spillway bays can hold back a flood pool before requiring gate opening



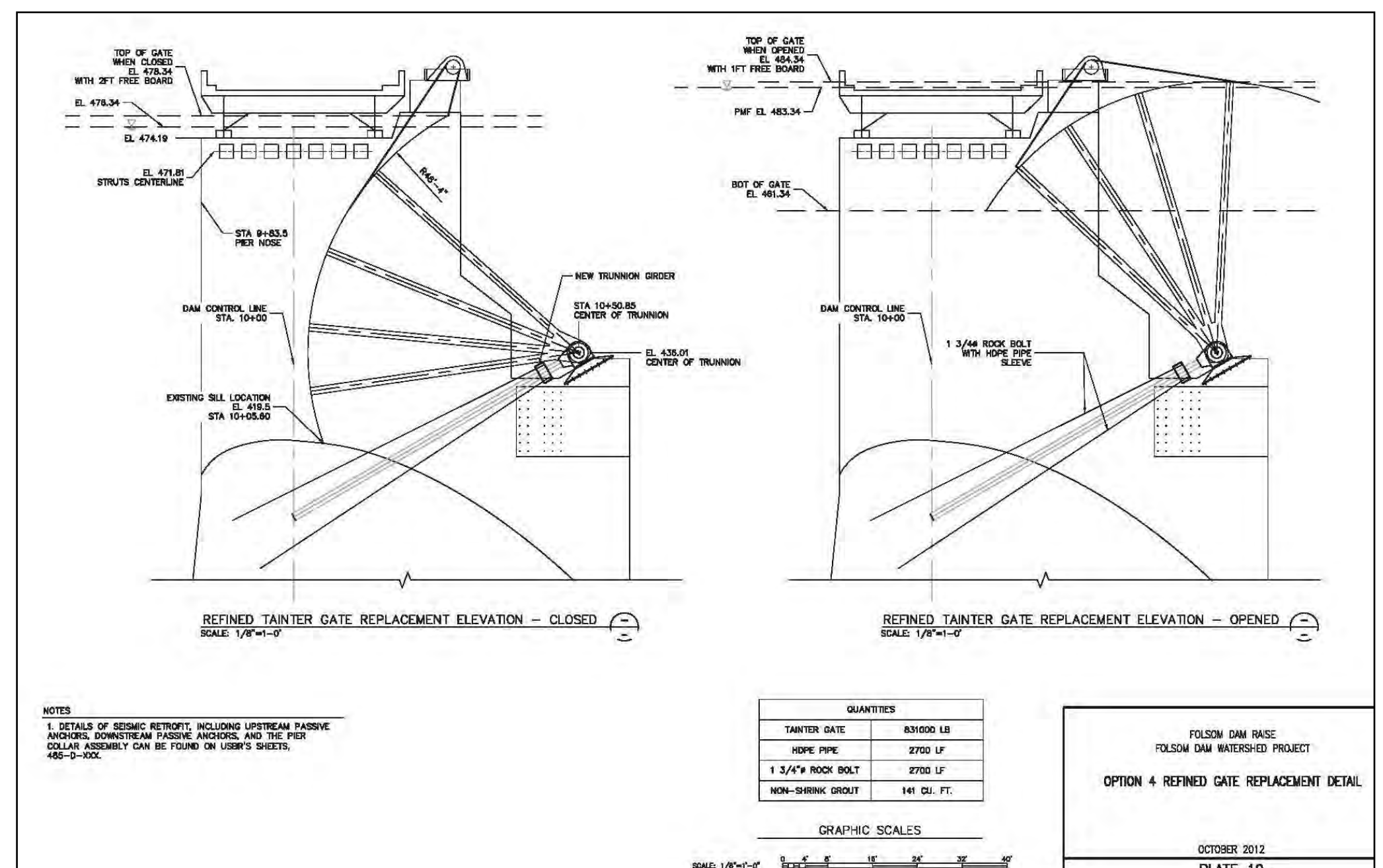
Horizontal Top Seal with Existing Emergency Tainter Gates:

Adds a top seal feature similar to the "Vertical Top Seal Concept," but with a different configuration and includes removable steel bulkhead elements with the most significant segment mounted horizontally



Refined Emergency Gate Replacement:

Complete replacement of the existing three emergency gates, with new larger tainter gates, but without extensive pier modifications such as those required for the original replacement concept



Alternatives

3.5-foot Raise

Folsom Dam Raise Project

No Action:

The Federal government would not raise wing dams or dikes three and a half feet



Earthen Raise:

Raise the earthfill dikes three and a half feet through placement of fill derived from the auxiliary spillway excavation and/or from other borrow sources.



Concrete Floodwall:

Construct a three-and-a-half-foot-high reinforced concrete floodwall that would be placed near the waterside edge of the existing embankment crests.



Combination Earthen Raise and Concrete Floodwall:

Wing dams and dikes would be raised three and a half feet by either an earthen raise or a concrete floodwall, depending on location and feasibility of either option.

Various Additional 3.5 Foot Raise Options:

As the three-and-a-half-foot raise is studied further, various other options may be analyzed for technical feasibility.



US Army Corps
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SARCA
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

Effects Analysis

Folsom Dam Raise Project

The Folsom Dam Raise Project EIS/EIR will focus on local environmental impacts as a result of the construction of the gate refinements and the 3.5-foot raise, not changes in operation, which will be addressed in a subsequent NEPA/CEQA document.

Potential Impacts at Folsom Reservoir Include:

Hydrology: Water levels will not be impacted during construction on the gates, dams or dikes; therefore, the construction of any of these alternatives in itself would not alter the hydrology of the American River nor current reservoir operations

Water Quality: Construction on the gates would have the potential for water quality impacts because much of the work will be done over the river and stilling basin, or immediately adjacent to the reservoir.

Air Quality: Exhaust and fugitive dust emissions from construction and hauling equipment may cumulatively produce a significant air quality impact.

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources: Vibration of construction equipment and over-water work have the potential to impact fisheries and aquatic resources.

Terrestrial Vegetation and Wildlife: Construction on the dams and dikes may have the potential to adversely affect special status plant or animal species, protected oak woodlands, native vegetation, and wetlands.

Soils: Construction activities on the dams and dikes may result in the loss of topsoil resources.

Visual Resources: The 3.5-foot raise of the dikes and dams, and construction activities may impair visual resources.

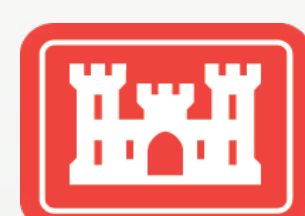
Noise: Noise may increase at residential receptor areas.

Recreation: Although contractor staging would emphasize use of areas with no current public access and away from residential areas, there may be temporary impacts to recreation access. In an attempt to maintain as much public access to recreation areas and trails throughout the construction period as possible, traffic control measures, grade separated vehicular and/or pedestrian crossings, and/or temporary alternate public access detours will be used.

Traffic: The hauling of materials and supplies to the project sites may have an impact on the level of service for local roadways.

Utilities: Construction planning and sequencing would be performed so that existing utilities would not be impacted by construction activities.

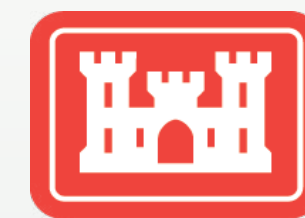
Cultural Resources: Cultural resources may exist at locations proposed for staging and facility construction, and could be disturbed or destroyed under any of the action alternatives. Cultural resources staff would identify cultural resources within the area of potential effects (APE) for the action alternatives, evaluate identified cultural resources for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), prepare a determination of potential effects to historic properties, and resolve potential adverse effects to historic properties in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), American Indian tribes, and other interested parties.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**



Proposed MIAD Trail Detour



US Army Corps of Engineers



Folsom Dam Raise Project

Legend

- MIAD Bike Trail Detour
- Streets



Copyright:© 2013 Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Proposed Dike 4-6 Trail Detour

Folsom Dam Raise Project



US Army Corps of Engineers



EIS/EIR PROCESS



Folsom Dam Raise Project

A joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) will be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The EIS/EIR will disclose to the public potential environmental effects of all feasible alternatives considered and proposed measures to avoid or reduce significant environmental effects.

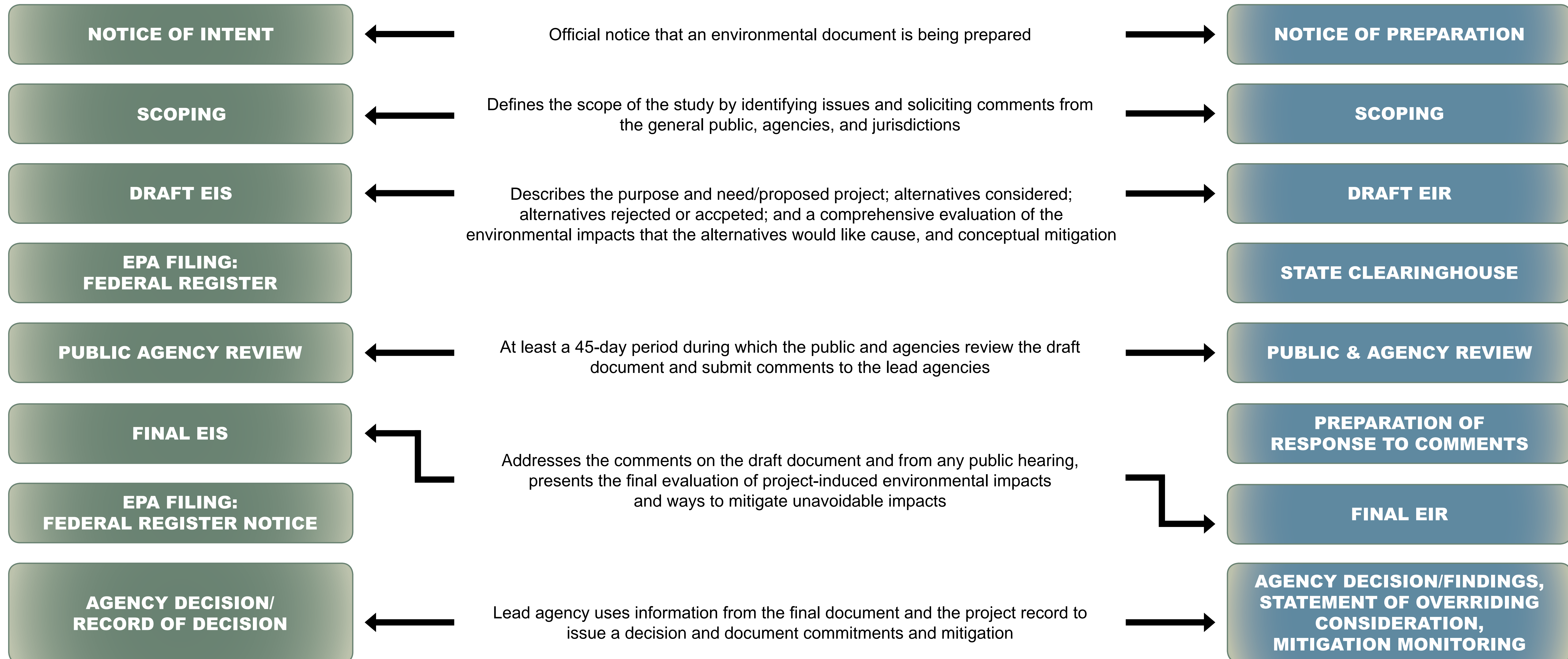
All public comments received will be considered prior to making a final decision on the action to be taken.

NEPA

Environmental Impact Statement

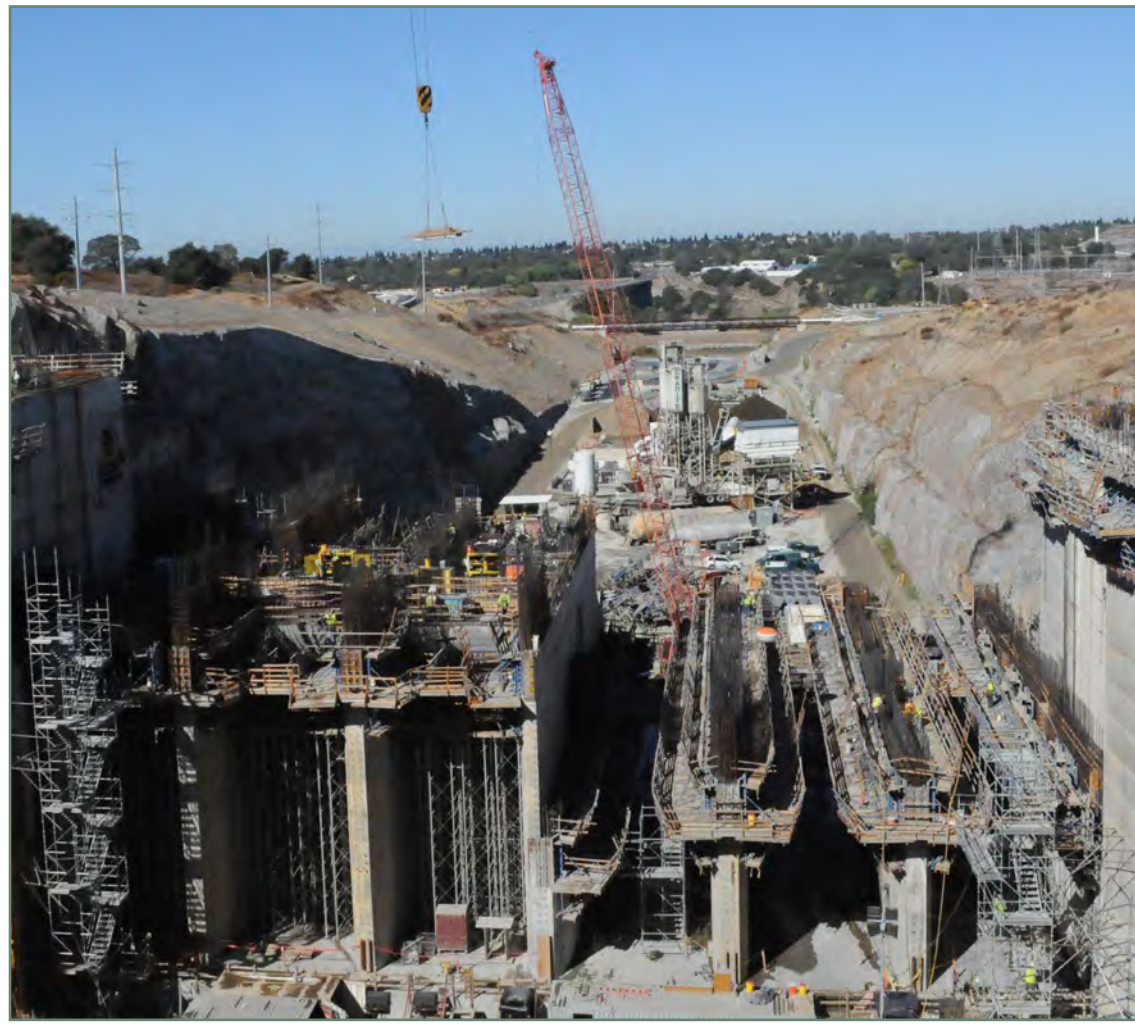
CEQA

Environmental Impact Report



Related Projects

Folsom Dam Raise Project



Joint Federal Project - Auxiliary Spillway Project

The Folsom Dam Joint Federal Project is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation that will help the Sacramento region achieve 200-year level of protection, meaning there will be a one-in-200 chance for flooding in any given year.

The project will construct an auxiliary spillway to compliment the functions of the main Folsom Dam. It will allow water to be released earlier and more safely from Folsom Lake during a high water event.

For more info visit:

www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/FolsomDamAuxiliarySpillway.aspx



Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam

Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam (MIAD) is an earthfill embankment dam built in 1956 that is 110 feet tall and 4,820 feet long at the crest. MIAD is part of the "Folsom Facility," which includes Folsom Dam and eight earthfill dikes that impound Folsom Reservoir.

Phase 2 of the Safety of Dams modifications to MIAD is underway. The work includes the overlay of material on MIAD's downstream embankment and the installation of filters and drains to provide a more earthquake-resistant embankment and a filter system. Work began in fall 2013 and will be completed in spring 2016. For more info visit:

www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_projdetails.cfm?Project_ID=3472



Folsom Dam Water Control Manual Update

The purpose of the WCM Update effort is to identify, evaluate, and recommend changes to the flood management operation rules of Folsom Dam and Reservoir that would reduce flood risk to the Sacramento area. The WCM will be updated by:

- Utilizing the new auxiliary spillway (Joint Federal Project) currently under construction
- Incorporating an improved understanding of the American River watershed upstream of Folsom Dam
- Developing the technical information required to update the existing WCM

The findings of the evaluation will be used to help define the Dam's new flood operations plan, with the intention of meeting flood risk management objectives in a manner that conserves as much water as possible and maximizes all authorized Folsom Dam project uses to the extent practicable.

For more info visit:

www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/FolsomDamAuxiliarySpillway.aspx

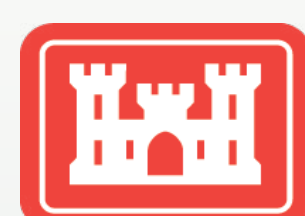


American River Common Features

The ARCF program consists of features that include strengthening and raising levees, installation of telemetry stream flow gages, and improvements to flood warning systems. So far, the ARCF work has focused on seepage, stability, and height remediation on the lower American River. In 2013, the district will be managing five construction projects for more levee fixes along the American River, totaling more than \$16.2 million with completion slated for 2013.

For more info visit:

www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/SacramentoAreaLevees.aspx



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