NEPA/CEQA

Understanding the environmental review processes NEPA CEQA (Environmental Impact Report) (Environmental Impact Statement) **Notice of Intent Notice of Preparation** document is being prepared. Solicits comments from public and agencies on scope and content of Scoping Scoping environmental report, and seeks input on alternatives to be considered Describes the purpose, need and objectives of proposed project; alternatives considered or rejected; **Draft EIS** Draft EIR and a comprehensive evaluation of the environmental impacts that the proposed action and/or alternatives would likely cause, and proposed mitigation. **EPA Filing:** State Clearinghouse Federal Register A 45-day period during which the **Public and Agency Public and Agency** public and agencies review the Review draft document and submit Review comments to the lead agencies. Preparation of Preparation of **Responses to Comments Responses to Comments** Addresses the comments on the draft document and from any public hearing, presents the final evaluation Final EIS Final EIR/ of project-induced environmental **Mitigation Monitoring** impacts and ways to mitigate impacts. **EPA Filing:** and Reporting Program Federal Register Notice A 30-day period during which the public and agencies review the final document and submit comments to **Public and Agency** Review the lead agencies. **EIR Certification** Lead agency uses information from final **Agency Decision/** document and the project record to **Record of Decision** report and issue a decision; document conditions, commitments and/or mitigation associated with approval. NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act EIS = environmental impact statement CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act EIR = environmental impact report ROD = record of decision

Environmental Topics Addressed:

Air Quality, Noise, Traffic and Water Quality

- Temporary effects during construction.
- Best management practices and environmental commitments for construction will reduce localized construction effects.

Biological Resources

- Compliance with Corps Levee Safety policy requires vegetation to be removed from the levees, however:
 - Acquisition of a variance from the policy would allow vegetation to remain on the lower waterside slopes to protect habitat for listed species.
 - Locals will implement a Systemwide Improvement Framework (SWIF), to allow vegetation to be addressed on a "worst-first" basis.
 - Vegetation will only be impacted in the construction footprint; approximately the upper half of the levee slope.
- Vegetation removal could adversely impact listed species, such as the valley elderberry longhorn beetle and Swainson's hawk.
- Other construction activities could adversely impact giant garter snake, vernal pool crustaceans, and listed fish species such as salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, and Delta smelt.

Cultural Resources

- Potential effects on archaeological resources. A Programmatic Agreement between the Corps, the CVFPB, and State Historic Preservation Officer will govern the phased approach to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Ongoing coordination with tribal representatives will continue throughout implementation of the Programmatic Agreement.





