

CVFPP Revised Draft Principles Environmental Stewardship Scope Definition Workgroup September 30, 2009

The following principles provide a framework for successfully integrating environmental stewardship into the CVFPP. They describe key features of both the planning process and the natural environment that the CVFPP should incorporate for a successful plan. These principles are based on comments received from the ESSD work group members at, or following, the September 17 meeting. They are not presented in any priority order. CVFPP is also guided by a broader set of FloodSAFE planning principles that guide all aspects of the program.ⁱ

1. **Long-term Sustainability:** A sustainable flood management system provides a long-term vision of ecosystem integrity that provides long-term sustainability in terms of social, ecosystem, and economic perspectives, in the context of changing climate conditions.
2. **Multiple Ecological Levels:** Flood management planning and implementation provides ecological benefits at multiple levelsⁱⁱ, including:
 - a. promoting and improving natural dynamic hydrologic and geomorphic processes
 - b. improving habitat quantity, diversity, and connectivity, including the agricultural and ecological values of these lands; and
 - c. contributing to the recovery and stability of native species populations and overall biotic community diversity .
3. **Multiple Geographic Scales and Time Frames:** Flood management planning integrates environmental stewardship at multiple geographic scales (regional to local) and over multiple time frames (near to long-term).
4. **Early and Integrated Environmental Planning:** Effective flood management planning addresses and integrates environmental stewardship concepts early in all planning stages, including the initial project concept and design stages
5. **Broader Cost-Benefit Analysis:** The costs and benefits of flood projects include a variety of environmental costs and benefits, including long-term management costs as well as benefits from ecosystem services provided by rivers, wetlands, and riparian vegetation.
6. **Variety of Approaches:** Effective flood management includes using a variety of approaches for achieving goals, including structural and nonstructural means for enabling or improving system-wide riverine ecosystem functionⁱⁱⁱ
7. **Ecological Flow Regimes and Floodplain Processes:** Functional riverine ecosystems depend on maintaining natural or nature-mimicking river flow regimes that support natural flood processes including sediment transport, and ecosystem functions.
8. **Interdisciplinary Design Teams:** Flood management planning uses well-integrated and balanced interdisciplinary teams when defining problems, opportunities, and management actions and selecting preferred alternatives.

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9. **Science-based Solutions:** Effective flood and environmental planning uses the best available science, and seeks to continually improve the scientific basis of planning decisions.
10. **Ecological Monitoring and Adaptive Management:** Flood and environmental planning uses a structured monitoring and adaptive management system to assess progress and to seek more effective approaches to achieving goals.
11. **Interagency Environmental Coordination:** Coordination and integration of planning and permitting among agencies, including land use and infrastructure, is an essential key to successful flood management.

ⁱ The FloodSAFE Guiding Principles are described in the Strategic Plan

(http://www.water.ca.gov/floodsafe/docs/FloodSAFE_Strategic_Plan-Public_Review_Draft.pdf)

ⁱⁱ These multiple ecological levels are also part of the CVFP Act requirements (California Water Code Sec 9616)

ⁱⁱⁱ These variety of approaches are also part of the CVFP Act requirements(California Water Code Sec 9614)