

## California Building Standards Code Update

### FloodSAFE VISION

*A sustainable integrated flood management and emergency response system throughout California that improves public safety, protects and enhances environmental and cultural resources, and supports economic growth by reducing the probability of destructive floods, promoting beneficial floodplain processes, and lowering the damages caused by flooding.*



Pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code Section 50465 (HSC §50465), the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is developing recommendations for building code updates that reduce the risk in areas in the Central Valley. These proposed building code updates are being prepared for facilities of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, where the anticipated flood exceeds 3 feet during a 200-year event. This project is called the Building Standards Code Update Project (BSCUP).

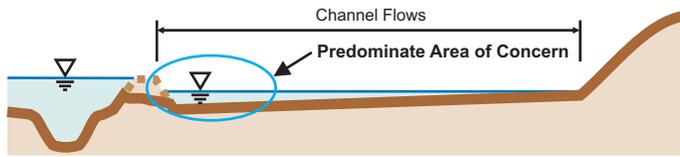
The BSCUP is an important element in the comprehensive multi-faceted FloodSAFE California initiative, established in 2006, to improve public safety through enhanced integrated flood management state-wide. The project formulation is closely coordinated with other programs and projects conducted under FloodSAFE, and focuses on improvements that can be realized by amending the California Building Standards Code. In addition, HSC §50465 also requires DWR to closely coordinate with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, the Division of the State Architect, and the Office of the State Fire Marshall.

DWR has developed a comprehensive strategy and team of experts for developing the required recommendations and plans to submit the recommendation package to the Building Standards Commission by July 2009. The comprehensive strategy includes extensive research on flood threats in California and other states; the engagement of a Technical Advisory Committee with a broad representation of expertise, interested parties, and regulatory agencies; a systematic approach for developing potential building code amendment design for identified key flood threats, and an inclusive public engagement process for information sharing and public input.



For more information, visit [www.water.ca.gov/floodsafe](http://www.water.ca.gov/floodsafe) and [www.water.ca.gov/BuildingCodeUpdate](http://www.water.ca.gov/BuildingCodeUpdate)

### Channel Flows

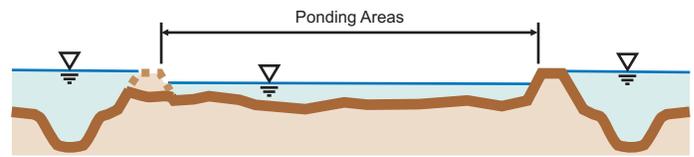


Areas where a levee break would produce flow running predominantly parallel to the stream.

Flooding by channel flows may occur adjacent to streams with or without levees.

Primary concerns are deep flooding areas adjacent to the stream, including overbank areas.

### Ponding Areas



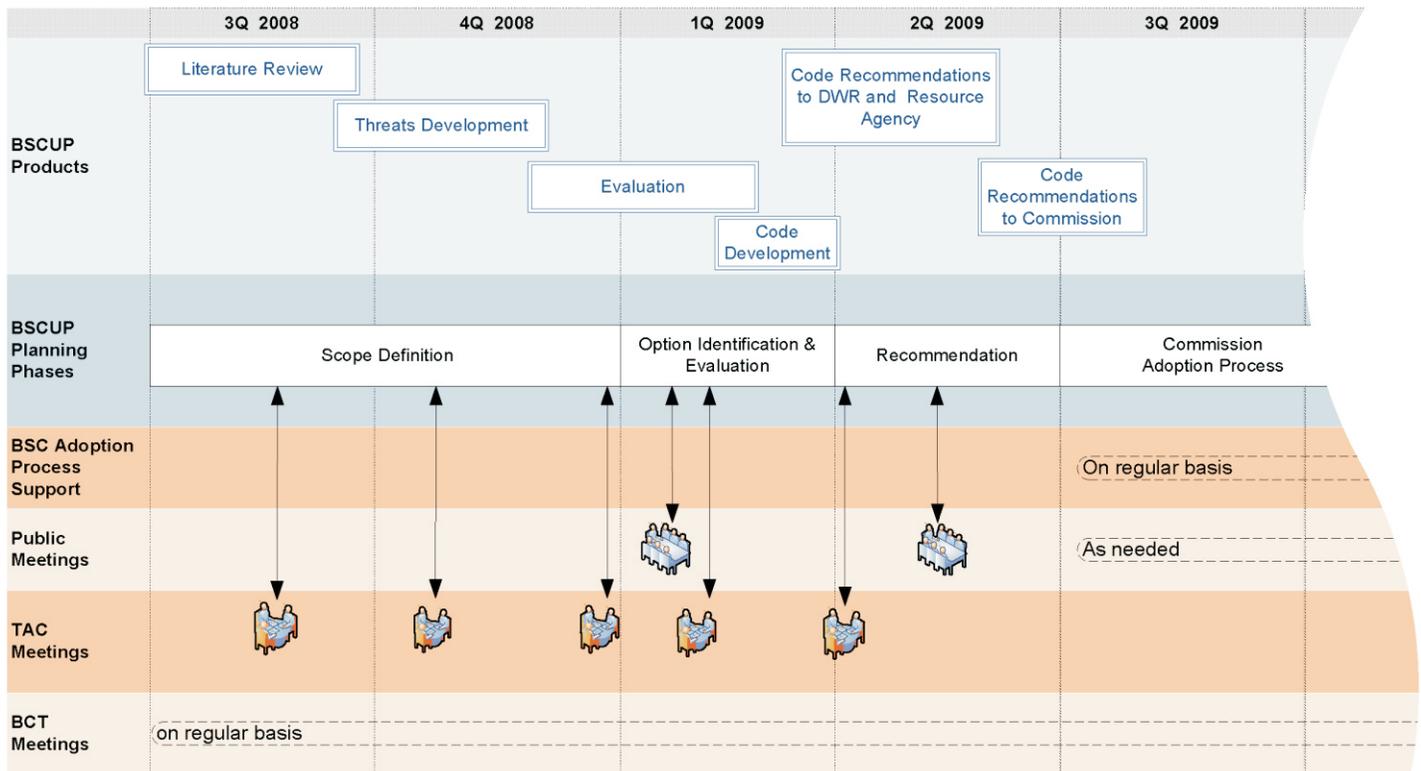
Where levees surround a portion of the floodplain (ring levees) where a levee break would flood portions of the surrounded areas.

Areas where levees partially surround a portion of the floodplain (such as at the confluence of two streams) with maximum water elevations limited by the lowest crest elevation in the levee system.

Deep flooding anticipated and primary concern.

**If adopted by the California Building Standards Commission, the code updates would apply predominantly in areas subject to the two types of flooding shown above. The Department of Water resources will prepare maps to show these areas and other areas protected by the facilities of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan where levels are anticipated to exceed 3 feet for the 200-year flood event.**

## Building Standards Code Update Process



### Legend

- BSCUP Major Milestone
- BSCUP Product Delivery Team Activity
- Public Meeting
- BSCUP Communication Team Activity
- TAC Meeting