

Flood Risk Notification Program

The Flood Risk Notification Program (FRN Program) is part of the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) FloodSAFE California Initiative. The program's key goal is to increase flood risk awareness by effectively communicating that risk to individual property owners, the public, and local, state, and federal agencies. This includes encouraging people to understand the levee system that protects them; be prepared and aware of their flood risk; and take appropriate actions before, during, and after flooding to protect themselves, minimize damage to their property or personal possessions, and facilitate recovery.

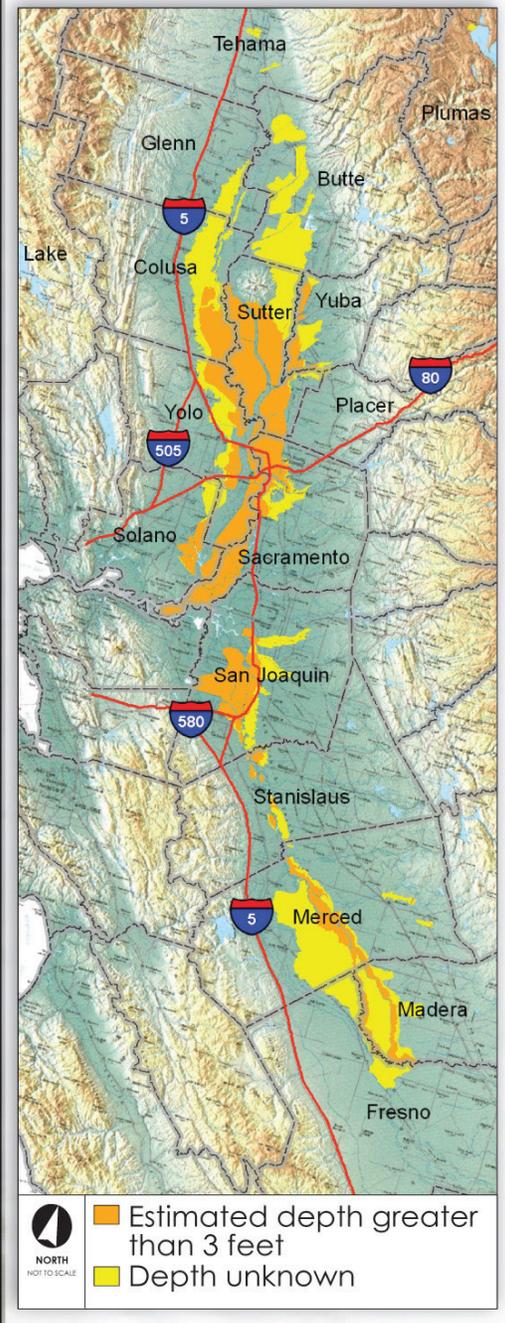
To achieve this goal, the FRN Program is:

- Sending out an annual notice to property owners whose property is at risk of flooding
- Maintaining accurate Levee Flood Protection Zone (LFPZ) maps and an associated parcel information database (please note: these maps are different from Federal Emergency Management Agency regulatory maps)
- Providing people with useful ways to assess risk and reduce flood loss
- Establishing outreach and educational projects with public involvement
- Expanding its interactive Flood Risk Notification website
- Collaborating with federal agencies, local agencies, and communities

Notification of Flood Risk

In September 2010, DWR provided the first annual written notice of flood risks to each landowner whose property is protected by State Plan of Flood Control levees and is within an LFPZ. The notice informs recipients of their property's potential flood risks and potential sources of flooding, and offers flood emergency planning and preparedness tips. It encourages recipients to take preventative actions such as purchasing flood insurance, elevating or "floodproofing" their buildings, and preventing blockage of channels, drains, and ditches.

Levee Flood Protection Zone Map



Even if a levee is designed for the FEMA standard of a 1% annual chance flood, there is a 1-in-4 chance of a larger flood occurring within any 30-year period (the life of a typical home mortgage).

Residual Flood Risk?

If levees or other flood protection facilities are present, the frequency of flooding may be reduced. However, even if levees have been effectively maintained, they can fail or be “overtopped,” with devastating consequences. For example, some urban areas in the Central Valley may experience flood depths of 20 feet or more if a levee fails, resulting in loss of homes, businesses, and possibly life. In other words, though risk of flooding can be significantly reduced by levees and other flood protection facilities, it cannot be entirely eliminated. Some residual risk will remain. Increasing public awareness and understanding of this residual risk are key goals of the annual notifications.

Need more information?

Website: www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk

Call: 1 (877) 769-7475 (English or Español)

E-mail: myfloodrisk@water.ca.gov

FloodSAFE:

The Department of Water Resources launched FloodSAFE in 2006 to address the increasing flood risks throughout California. FloodSAFE is a multi-faceted initiative designed to improve flood management in the state, using a system-wide approach while also carrying out regional projects, and enhancing DWR’s core flood management programs already in place. FloodSAFE has five primary goals:

- Reduce the chance of flooding
- Reduce the consequences of flooding
- Sustain economic growth
- Protect and enhance ecosystems
- Promote sustainability of the flood management system

For more information, visit www.water.ca.gov/floodsafe

Dear Property Owner

This water year is tracking to be one of the 10 driest on record. It follows two previous years of below-normal and dry conditions; however, even during dry years and droughts, floods can occur. Your property is located behind a State-Federal project levee (even if you cannot see the levee). According to our records, your property located at [leave space here for the property address variable data] may be exposed to potential flood risk from the [leave space here for flood source(s)]. Your property may be at risk for flooding from other sources not identified in this notice, such as creeks and local storm drains. Visit www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk and enter your property address to find the areas subject to flooding if State-Federal project levees should fail, and to get information about State-Federal levees in your area.

Flood Risk Notification Program
California Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Be aware of your flood risk and Be Prepared

Living with Levees
Know your Flood Risk
Flood Risk Notice 2014

Partners with: FEMA, CAL FIRE, CAL OES, CAL SWRCB

Consider these facts:

- › Levees may reduce, but do not eliminate, the risk of flooding.
- › Even if a levee meets the FEMA standard of 100-year flood protection, there is at least a 1-in-4 chance of a larger flood occurring within any 30-year period (the life of a typical home mortgage).
- › Flood damage is not covered by most standard home, renter, and business owners' insurance policies.
- › The State recommends that you obtain flood insurance for your property. Contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-888-435-6637, or visit www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk

What's your RISK?
Find out now! Visit www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk

DID YOU KNOW?
90% of California counties have had at least one flood during the four droughts since 1976.

40% of California counties have experienced five or more floods during the four droughts since 1976.

T/F
If your home is destroyed in a flood, you are still responsible for the mortgage.
At True
You can live in your home while it is being repaired.
At False
A false property value is being reported. It cannot be occupied.

Remember >>> This simple >>> 3-step plan

PREPARE
Prepare an emergency kit that includes: flashlights, radio, batteries, candles, matches, blankets, water, food, first-aid kit, and a list and supply of all medications.
Keep important documents and valuable possessions on an upper level of the structure, or as high as possible.
Make a list of items to take with you and have a plan for your pets.
Know how to safely shut off your utilities.
Listen to authorities for emergency instructions.
Establish a family meeting place.

PREVENT
Keep storm drains, gutters and ditches clear.
For your property: check with your local flood control agency to see if a permit is required if you plan to build on, fill, alter, or re-grade your property.
For levees: never excavate, grade, modify or build anything on any levee or flood control easement without permits from the appropriate local, state, and federal agencies.

PROTECT
Never drive through flooded streets or roads; more people are trapped and die in their vehicles than anywhere else during floods.
Never try to escape rising floodwater by going into the attic unless you have roof access, or if there are no other safe options.
Consider buying flood insurance. It is a wise investment.
For more ideas about protecting your property against floods, go to www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk and click on "Protect Your Property"

Get a list of your local emergency contacts and more local, state, and federal information at:
www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk
myfloodrisk@water.ca.gov 1-877-7MY-RISK (1-877-769-7475) TTY: 711 (contact 1-877-769-7475)
Please share this important notice with your tenants. Have it translated if necessary.

ESTA NOTIFICACIÓN CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE.
Por favor compartarla con sus inquilinos. Tradúzcala si es necesario.
Para preguntas llame al 1-877-769-7475 o visite:
www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk

A PDF of the 2014 flood risk notice is available on the flood risk notification website: www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk.