

# Media Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DATE:**  
October 26, 2001



**Comprehensive Study**

*Our mission is to develop a system-wide comprehensive flood management plan for the Central Valley to reduce flood damage and integrate ecosystem restoration.*

## **STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES SPONSOR WORKSHOPS FOR CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PLAN**

*Starting Point Master Plan Updates Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins*

SACRAMENTO – The Reclamation Board of California and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold eight workshops to solicit public input on a draft initial master plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River basins that addresses flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration in the Central Valley.

The Starting Point Master Plan was developed by the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study, a multi-agency team authorized by Congress and the California legislature in response to massive Central Valley flooding in 1997. The Starting Point Master Plan is the result of an extensive public involvement effort among federal, state and local government agencies, as well as local stakeholders to identify and address flood management, public safety and ecosystem restoration issues in the 43,000-square-mile Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds.

“The Sacramento and San Joaquin River basins feed much of California’s economy and is home to a diverse ecosystem,” said Pete Rabbon, general manager of The Reclamation Board of California. “The Starting Point Master Plan is a programmatic approach for flood management that contributes to reducing flood risks and implementing ecosystem restoration.”

Scheduled through Nov. 14 in the Central Valley communities of Chico, Colusa, Fresno, Los Banos, Merced, Modesto, Red Bluff and Sacramento, the workshops include interactive stations tailored to address questions about the proposed vision for flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration in the watershed, the draft Starting Point Master Plan and proposed implementation principles.

Workstations will describe problems, technical studies, plan formulation, the draft Starting Point Master Plan, implementation issues, potential initial projects and future actions.

Each workshop will offer an opportunity for area landowners, flood management representatives, water users, environmental experts and other interested parties to offer suggestions for flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration elements to refine the program. Recommendations for policies, programs and projects will be integrated into the Locally Preferred Master Plan, slated for completion in mid-2002. It is anticipated that future public workshops will be conducted to present the changes to the Master Plan based upon the input received during these workshops.

For more information about the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study and workshop locations, please visit [www.compstudy.org](http://www.compstudy.org), or call Merritt Rice, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project manager for the Comprehensive Study at 916-557-5140.

#### **San Joaquin River Workshops**

Merced City Office  
Sam Pipe Room  
Friday, November 2, 2001  
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
678 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, Calif.

San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority  
Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2001  
1 – 4 p.m.  
842 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Los Banos, Calif

Fresno County Agricultural Commission  
Wednesday, November 7, 2001  
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.  
1730 S. Maple Avenue  
Fresno, Calif

Modesto Irrigation District  
Friday, November 9, 2001  
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
1231 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Modesto, CA

#### **Sacramento River Workshops**

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers  
Sacramento District  
Friday, October 26, 2001  
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
1325 J Street, Suite 814 (8<sup>th</sup> floor)  
Sacramento, Calif

Red Bluff Library  
Thursday, November 1, 2001  
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
645 Madison Street  
Red Bluff, Calif

Chico Area Recreation District  
Thursday, November 8, 2001  
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
545 Vallombrosa Avenue  
Chico, Calif

Atwood Hall- Colusa County Fairgrounds  
Wednesday, November 14, 2001  
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Hwy 20  
Colusa, CA