



News for Immediate Release  
December 20, 2004

**Contacts:**

- [Don Strickland](#), Information Officer, (916) 653-9515
- [Ted Thomas](#), Information Officer, (916) 653-9712

**DWR Completes Jones Tract Pumpout**

SACRAMENTO – Department of Water Resources officials report that the agency’s involvement in the Jones Tract floodwater pumpout project was completed and DWR personnel began demobilizing on Saturday, December 18, 2004.

Any remaining water on the Island will be addressed by Reclamation Districts 2038 and 2039.

The 19-square mile tract 10 miles west of Stockton was inundated June 3 when part of the Middle River levee protecting Upper Jones Tract unexpectedly gave way. When pumpout operations began July 12, approximately 160,000 acre feet of water covered the 12,000 acre island to an average depth of about 12 feet.

DWR continues to perform fill and shaping work on the interior side of the levee at the breach site. The estimated completion date for that work is the third week in January.

Also continuing is work on the Trapper Slough levee. Fill material purchased from the Port of Stockton during the flood emergency is being pulled back from contact with the slough. The levee road is being reshaped so that rainwater runoff flows to the inward side of the levee. Lime is also being applied to raise the pH level of the fill material. The local reclamation districts may add a new “cap” to the levee at a later date.

The cause of the Jones Tract levee failure will likely remain unknown. Overall costs relating to the disaster are placed at approximately \$90 million.

---

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

---

Visit [Archived News Releases](#) or return to the [DWR Home](#)

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.