



TEAM: FLOOD PROTECTION

Issue Experts:

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SUBJECT: INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS TO REDUCE FLOOD RISK IN THE CAPITAL REGION

REQUESTED ACTION:

Reliable annual Energy and Water appropriations are essential to reducing flood risk for urban centers and rural agricultural areas that are critical to the Capital Region, the national economy, and food security. We request support for FY 2027 funding to protect more than 2.3 million residents across 50 communities and over \$250 billion in property.

HOW THIS SUPPORTS BUSINESSES:

Located at the confluence of two major rivers draining a 26,000 square mile watershed, the Capital Region faces significant flood risk during winter storms. High flows regularly approach flood stage, threatening communities, key infrastructure, and the State Capitol. Reducing this risk is essential to regional economic stability and requires continued investments to modernize levees, bypasses, and water conveyance systems.

HOW THIS SUPPORTS RESIDENTS OF OUR REGION:

After receiving no federal funding in FY 2025 or FY 2026 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Construction Account – the first such gap in the region’s history – annual appropriations remain urgently needed.

Current planning, design, and construction activities are vital to reducing life-safety risks for more than one million residents living in the floodplain and to protecting tens of billions of dollars in infrastructure, agricultural productivity, and supporting economic growth.



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CAP TO CAP

The Sacramento Valley has a long history of flooding and relies on an elaborate flood management system. Originally built by local farmers and communities, the system was expanded and strengthened following Congress's authorization of the Sacramento River Flood Control Project (SRFCP) in 1917. The SRFCP consists of approximately 1,100 miles of levees, in addition to overflow weirs, pumping plants, and bypass channels that protect more than 2.3 million people within 50 communities, 800,000 acres of land, and nearly \$80 billion worth of infrastructure. The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) serves as the non-federal sponsor and is responsible for the operations, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation of the SRFCP. The CVFPB relies on local maintaining agencies to care for the system and share in the cost of Federally authorized improvements.

Flood protection needs to extend far beyond major urban areas. Many rural agricultural communities and operations rely on levees that do not currently meet USACE standards. As construction progresses on levees serving larger population centers, federal investment will be required to address the remaining levees that protect approximately 13,000 residents in 17 small agricultural communities.
