

Lower San Joaquin Levee District

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Secretary-Manager

Shane Swartz

Superintendent

Jody McClellon

March 21, 2023

Re: 2023 Flood Season Update

Dear Landowner within the Lower San Joaquin Levee District,

Given the precipitation and runoff our area has experienced in the recent weeks and months, the Lower San Joaquin Levee District (the “District”) would like to give neighboring landowners an update regarding the 2023 flood season.

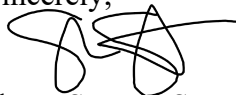
The District is currently patrolling the levees of the Lower San Joaquin River Flood Control Project in response to the flood releases from upstream reservoirs. The need for District patrolling is driven by the release amounts determined and approved by the Bureau of Reclamation (the “Bureau”) for Friant Dam and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the “USACOE”) for Pine Flat Dam. The District does not determine the release rates—the Bureau and USACOE do.

On March 8, 2023, the Bureau approved flood releases from Friant Dam on the San Joaquin River at 9,000 cubic feet per second (“cfs”), which is 1,000 cfs over channel capacity. On March 8, 2023, the USACOE approved flood releases from Pine Flat Dam on the Kings River at the channel-capacity. To avoid being over channel capacity upstream of the City of Firebaugh at the Mendota Pool, which could cause flooding in the City of Firebaugh, the District is monitoring flows going through the San Joaquin River gates before the release water reaches the Mendota Pool, and may have to close them completely. This diverts the release of water flows to the Chowchilla Flood Bypass. These actions have been taken to protect life and property. The Bureau and the USACOE have stated that the above flow rates will continue into the summer of 2023.

The District continues to work with its local network of agencies and landowners to keep all parties informed of the District’s patrolling efforts and to determine landowner assistance needs. The District is also in communication with the Counties and Central Valley Flood Protection Board regarding the District’s actions and efforts to route flood waters and to assure the safety of the public and property in the flood project area.

If you have any questions regarding this update, or for more information regarding the District’s flood season activities, please visit the District’s website at <https://lsjld.specialdistrict.org/> or call the District office at (559) 400-2077.

Sincerely,



Shane Swartz, Secretary-Manager
Lower San Joaquin Levee District