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**FLOOD CONTROL AGENCY'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BIDS FAREWELL**

YUBA CITY, CA – After taking an aggressive plan to repair the west Feather River levee from concept to reality in record time, Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency Executive Director Mike Inamine announced on Friday that he's moving on. Starting in February, Mr. Inamine will join the DWR's Division of Engineering in a role focused on Oroville Dam and subsidence of the California Aqueduct.

"There is never a good time to leave," stated Inamine in a January 4 letter to SBFCA Board members. "However... today there are 37 miles of improved levees that did not exist in 2011. With the Corps starting 5 miles of levee work, Oroville Wildlife Area [Flood Stage Reduction Project] successfully underway, and planning efforts just beginning for the rural basin, this is as good a time as any to depart."

Inamine took the helm of SBFCA's engineering program in July 2011 after providing key leadership for the California Department of Water Resources. "We were confident that Mike had the expertise to successfully guide all aspects of the levee repair program," said former SBFCA Executive Director Bill Edgar. "As evidenced by the results, his hire was clearly the best decision we made."

Inamine took on the Executive Director role in early 2012 following Edgar's appointment as President to the Central Valley Flood Protection Board. While Edgar is credited with creating and organizing SBFCA and leading the charge on local funding, it is Inamine who is heralded for overseeing the design, state and federal financing, and implementation of \$350 million in levee improvements.

"Mike's leadership, experience and expertise helped us overcome significant challenges – such as funding, permitting, and cultural resources issues, to name a few -- that should have derailed the project," said Steve Lambert, SBFCA Board Chair and Butte County Supervisor. "Thanks to his tireless efforts and 'never take no for an answer' approach, we received more state bond funding than we anticipated, finished 37 miles of levee repairs in four years, supported an expedited federal feasibility study that resulted in an upcoming \$77 million federal project, and rapidly completed the Yuba City emergency repair immediately following the Oroville Spillway Crisis. His mark on this community is indelible and he will be missed."

SBFCA's Director of Engineering Michael Bessette will assume acting executive director duties. The Board is expected to discuss the Executive Director position at its February 13 meeting. For more information, visit SBFCA's website at [www.sutterbutteflood.org](http://www.sutterbutteflood.org), or call the hotline at (530) 870-4425.

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*The Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency – a joint powers authority of Sutter and Butte Counties, the cities of Biggs, Yuba City, Gridley, and Live Oak, and Levee Districts 1 and 9 – was formed in September 2007 to finance and construct regional flood risk reduction projects. The Agency is governed by a 13-member board of directors comprised of elected officials from each of the member agencies.*