

## **Upper Sand Creek Basin Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Program Preferences**

### **Program Preferences Addressed by Project**

The Upper Sand Creek Basin Project (USCB) will prevent flooding along the lower reach of Marsh Creek between Sand Creek, in Brentwood, and the Marsh Creek outfall into the Sacramento-San Joaquin River at Big Break in Oakley. Local stormwater runoff and stormwater generated in the watershed will be conveyed by Sand Creek to the basin where it will be stored and released slowly through the basin outlet, reducing peak flows downstream and reducing the potential for flooding downstream properties. This project meets the following Program Preferences:

- **Regional Project:** This project meets several of the regional criteria as defined by CWC §10537, including: Improve Water Quality; Improve Resource Stewardship; and Improve Flood Management.
- **Integrates Water Management:** This project integrates several water management strategies including: Ecosystem Restoration; Habitat Protection and Improvement; Flood Management; Stormwater Capture and Management; Water Quality Protection and Improvement; NPS Pollution Control; and Pollution Prevention.
- **Contributes to CALFED Objectives:** This project addresses the following CALFED program objectives: Water Quality, Ecosystem Restoration, and Levee System Integrity.
- **Statewide Priorities:** This project addresses several statewide priorities, including Practice Integrated Flood Management and Protect Surface and Groundwater Quality.

### **Certainty, Breadth and Magnitude of Preference Being Met**

USCB addresses these preferences with a **HIGH degree of certainty**. Planning and environmental documentation for the project are already complete, and the project is nearing the end of the design phase. The project is a high priority at a regional level, as it will attenuate peak flows from Sand Creek into Marsh Creek for a 100-year storm event.

***Water Quality Improvement Benefits.*** This project provides a **LOCAL, REGIONAL, and STATEWIDE benefit** to water quality by reducing /eliminating overland flooding events to surrounding areas, preventing surface contaminants from entering the Delta.

***Groundwater Management/Resource Stewardship Benefits.*** USCB will replace a highly degraded, overgrazed, and incised creek with more natural wetland and riparian system planted with native plants and trees. This restoration will provide habitat for native species and will filter stormwater runoff from urban areas upstream, providing **LOCAL and REGIONAL benefits**.

***Flood Protection.*** By limiting peak flows, USCB will reduce water levels in Marsh Creek and on the levees that protect local communities downstream. USCB will reduce the likelihood that the levees along Marsh Creek will be overtopped by a large flood event, providing **LOCAL and REGIONAL benefits**.