

Dear Homeowners and Businesses:

It's that time of year again when we prepare for the winter season. Your assistance in keeping the levees clean and safe is appreciated.

Please contact Joe Bryson, District Superintendent, if you notice any dead/fallen trees or any other vegetation or floating debris along the District's levee. In addition, please contact him immediately if you observe any animal activity that is damaging the levees or any suspicious human activity/acts of vandalism.

With the approach of the rainy season, please keep bushes, trees and vegetation on your property properly trimmed to provide clear and unobstructed levee inspectability.

Thank you for helping to keep our levees clean and safe for each of you, your families, your neighbors, and our community.

Sincerely,
Board of Trustees
Reclamation District 1608

Encroachment of Vegetation onto Levees

Your individual efforts to remove vegetation contribute to your safety and to the safety of all, as well as help to comply with District Levee Encroachment Standards for lots with part of the District's levee on it. If you need direction on how to maintain the vegetation on your property, please contact Joe Bryson, District Superintendent, who will let you know what you need to do.



Nutria: A Triple Threat to California's Future

You have probably already heard that an animal called a nutria has been spotted in parts of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Delta. A nutria is a non-native animal that is considered an agricultural pest that destroy wetlands and can seriously damage and burrow into levees. While often confused with beaver and muskrat, nutria have these distinguishing characteristics:

- White whiskers
- Round, rat-like tail
- Dark black ears with lighter-colored fur below
- Large blocky head, often with orange teeth
- Body length up to 24 inches
- Weight up to 22 pounds
- Partially webbed hind feet
- Prolifically reproduce up to 40 offspring annually.

Other animals, such as rats, beavers, gophers, and squirrels, are also a constant threat to the integrity of the levees. If you notice any animal activity on or near the levees, please contact Joe Bryson, Levee Superintendent.

Sediment Removal

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the District plans to remove several feet of sediment in Fourteen Mile Slough between the Lincoln Village Marina and Grupe Park. Though work on the project was originally scheduled to commence this last summer, due to delays involving the sediment disposal site, work on the project is anticipated to start in the Fall of 2019.

The project will remove approximately 60,000 cubic yards of sediment from the Fourteen Mile Slough to deepen the slough to enable access to the levees for routine maintenance, repairs, and rapid emergency access by barge in a flood crisis.

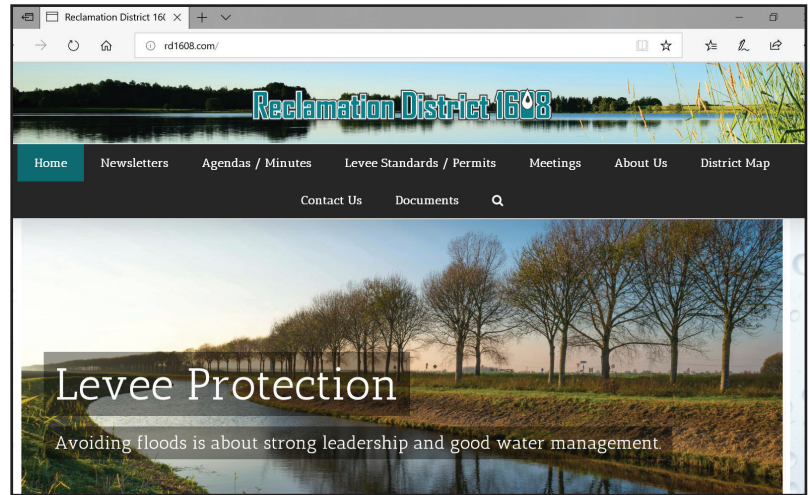
Dredged sediments will be removed using hydraulic dredge equipment. The dredging equipment will be mounted on a small barge that can be maneuvered within the project area under its own power or by use of small work boats. The dredged material will be pumped via a pipeline to a placement facility outside of District 1608. Dredging operations will only occur during daylight hours.

Once all logistical issues are resolved and necessary permits are received, the removal of sediment in the slough can commence. Sediment removal work will require between six to eight weeks to complete.

Questions? Comments?

Feel free to call the District Hotline at (209) 298-3307 with any questions, comments, or suggestions.

You are also welcome to attend the District Board of Trustees meetings, which are held the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. in the offices of Neumiller & Beardslee, 509 West Weber Avenue, 5th Floor, Stockton. An opportunity for public comment is offered at each Board meeting.



www.RD1608.Com

The District's web site is active and available to you. At www.RD1608.com, you will find the district's newsletters, agendas and minutes of board meetings, the District Engineer and District Superintendent reports, levee encroachment standards, and permit application information. You will also find a listing of current board members, a district map, and information on how to contact the district.

Thank you for your individual efforts to keep our levees safe and well maintained.

CONTACT INFORMATION

DISTRICT TRUSTEES
Michael Panzer, D.D.S., President
Dan MacDonnell
Brett L. Tholborn, C.P.A.

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT/
HOTLINE**
Joe Bryson (209) 298-3307

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ENGINEER FOR THE DISTRICT
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