The State of California has undertaken several major initiatives to define the risk of levee failure and improve physical systems and response capabilities necessary to reduce the impact of levee failures. As part of this effort, California’s Department of Water Resources (DWR) has initiated the following:

**Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS)**

The focus of DRMS is to assess the potential risks to Delta resources from floods, climate change, seepage, subsidence, and earthquakes. The DRMS project is part of a strategy for Delta sustainability that assesses major risks to Delta resources from floods, climate change, seepage, subsidence, and earthquakes. The DRMS project is evaluating the consequences of levee failures and developing recommendations to reduce and manage the risk. The DRMS phase risk analysis development is essentially complete. The risk analysis and evaluation include the assessment of Delta assets and infrastructure, as well as preparation of detailed geographic maps. The second phase includes the development of an inventory of measures to reduce risk; this will be completed in November 2007. The resulting analyses will provide DWR with scenarios that can be used to identify desired response capabilities and gaps in capabilities and to develop recommendations for improvements.

**Development of an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)**

The EOP will provide procedures for emergency preparation and incident management. In developing the EOP, DWR will focus on decision making and recovery from a catastrophic levee failure event. DWR will develop an initial response strategy based on the potential impact of an earthquake that causes levee failures and test hydrodynamic and other quantitative modeling for use in response decision making. The EOP will consider short-term life safety requirements as well as long-term stabilization procedures. In developing the EOP, DWR will engage its partners in local, state, and federal government and in the private sector to ensure consistent regional and statewide procedures are implemented and to facilitate effective use of available resources during such an event.

**Emergency Response Pre-Event Early Implementation Actions**

DWR is committed to implementing pre-event activities that will significantly enhance response capabilities for Delta levee failure disasters. Through recent bond measures, up to $75 million have been earmarked to enhance DWR’s response capabilities through pre-event actions. For example, DWR is developing real-time modeling tools that will provide analytical capabilities for decision makers during the emergency response phase and facilitate long-range planning during the recovery phase. These modeling tools will allow for immediate response time, such as establishing material at key locations, installing physical measures to reduce impact, such as design of bypass projects, and implementing operational components, such as water management. Throughout the process, DWR may select improvements to pre-event actions as they are implemented depending on the challenges that implementers experience and risks associated with implementation.