



Joint Operations Center

Overview

The Joint Operations Center (JOC) is home to both the federal operation of the [Central Valley Project](#) (CVP) and the State of California, Department of Water Resources (DWR) operation of the [State Water Project](#) (SWP). Reclamation's [Central Valley Operations office](#) (CVO) is within the JOC in Sacramento.



Tulare Canal, part of the Central Valley Project

Coordinated Operations Agreement

A Coordinated Operations Agreement between the United States and the state of California defines the project facilities and operations. It sets forth procedures for coordination of operations; identifies formulas for sharing joint responsibilities for meeting Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta standards and other legal water uses; identifies how unstored flow will be shared; sets up a framework for exchange of water and services between the CVP and SWP; and provides for periodic review every five years. The last update to this agreement was made on December 14, 2018.

The CVP and SWP use the Sacramento River and the Delta as common conveyance facilities. Reservoir releases and Delta exports must be coordinated to ensure that each project achieves its share of benefit from shared water supplies and bears its share of joint obligations to protect beneficial uses.

The CVO manages the federal portion of this joint

responsibility in close coordination with DWR's SWP management. CVO's Water Operations Division provides reservoir and water release management, flood operations, and operations forecasting and coordination with partner agencies.

CVO's Power Operations Division provides power generation management and facility Operations and Maintenance reviews, and coordination of data exchanged with the Department of Energy's Western Area Power Administration. The Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Engineering and Operations Support Division provides automated control system engineering, Information Technology system and network support, and system data acquisition and reporting.



Central Valley crops

California-Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC)

The CNRFC at the JOC is a field office of the National Weather Service (NWS). NWS is an agency of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under the U.S. Department of Commerce. The CNRFC supports the mission of the NWS Hydrologic Services Program by:

- Providing river and flood forecasts and warnings for the protection of lives and property.
- Providing basic hydrologic forecast information for the nation’s environmental and economic well-being.



CVP operator at the controls

The location of the CNRFC at the JOC, and the joint tenancy of key agencies allows for close coordination with, and analysis of real-time data from, Reclamation’s CVO, the State of California’s Division of Flood Management, and DWR during critical flood seasons in the Northern and Central California regions.

State-Federal Flood Operations Center

The mission of the state’s [Division of Flood Management](#) is to prevent loss of life and reduce property damage caused by floods and to assist in recovery efforts following any natural disaster.

The state-federal [Flood Operations Center](#) (FOC) located at the JOC in Sacramento is the focal point for gathering, analysis, and dissemination of flood and water-related information. During emergencies, the FOC provides a facility from which DWR can centrally coordinate emergency response.

Coordination and cooperation between co-located JOC tenant agencies, as well as local state and federal agencies, and local media allows for flood alerts and mobilizations independent from local, state, or federal emergency declarations. The inclusion of local media assures timely dissemination of public information.

[The California Data Exchange Center](#) operates a data exchange program with state, federal, and other public



American River

agencies. This data exchange program involves the automated transfer and receipt of data and information via network connections.

Data is exchanged with the NWS, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Geological Survey, and Reclamation’s CVO, which provide federal data and staffing to support flood operations.

The state’s Division of Flood Management, DWR’s SWP, Forestry and Fire Protection, Conservation Corps, National Guard, and the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services bring state of California data and resources to support flood operations. Local agencies throughout the state also receive or provide critical flood control data and information essential for protecting its residents.



Pelicans; many waterfowl frequent Reclamation sites

Additional Information

View more about the CVP at this webpage: <https://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvp/>.