



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

DECISION TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT

Public Notice/Application No.: SPN-2014-00139S

Public Notice Date: December 3, 2015

SUBJECT: The purpose of this Public Notice is to inform the general public that the District Commander of the San Francisco District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has decided to accept and expend funds contributed by the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) pursuant to Section 214 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 for priority evaluation of its Department of the Army (DA) permit applications, subject to the limitations specified below.

BACKGROUND: On November 24, 2015, the San Francisco District Commander determined that acceptance and expenditure of such funds would be in accordance with Section 214 of the Federal Water Resources Development Act of 2000, Public Law 106-541 (WRDA 2000), as amended by Public Law No. 113-121.

A series of procedural safeguards has been adopted to ensure that use of the funds will not impact impartial decision-making. These include:

- a. All final permit decisions for cases where these funds are used must be reviewed at least by one level above the decision maker, unless the decision maker is the District Commander. For example, if the decision maker is the California South Branch Chief, then the reviewer would be the Regulatory Division Chief.
- b. All final permit decisions for cases where these funds are used will be made available on the San Francisco District web page.
- c. The Corps will not eliminate any procedures or decisions that would otherwise be required for that type of project and permit application under consideration.
- d. The Corps will comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

e. Funds will only be expended to provide priority review of the participating non-federal entity's permit application.

From April 14, 2014 through May 14, 2014, the San Francisco District circulated a Special Public Notice announcing its preliminary intent to accept and expend such funds. The Notice discussed the kinds of activities for which funds would be expended and solicited comments from the general public. No comments were received.

Information concerning WRDA, including documents referenced in this notice, may be found on our San Francisco District website at <http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/regulatory/WRDA.html>. If you have questions or need additional information please contact the South Branch Chief, Katerina Galacatos at (415) 503-6778 or by email: Katerina.Galacatos@usace.army.mil.