

www.rd799.com

## Reclamation District 799

925-684-2398

May 29, 2014

Attn: Levee Property Owners who live along Sandmound Slough & Dutch Slough

Re: Levee Patrol Assistance and Trimming of Vegetation for Levee Inspection

Levee patrols go into full force as winter and the flood season approach. Levee patrols continue as necessary based on high water, wind, heavy rain, changing weather patterns and other elements that are detrimental to the levee system. Reclamation District 799 (RD 799) is seeking volunteers that are willing to help out on an on call basis to do levee patrols and other possible emergency work. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact our office at 925-684-2398 and the District Secretary will add your name and phone numbers to our list of emergency volunteers.

In order to help keep the levee and the levee slopes visible for emergency patrols during the flood season, RD 799 is asking property owners to bring your property into conformance with our vegetation guidelines. This will assist in providing flood protection for everyone in the district. Our goal is for patrol personnel standing on the crown of the levee to be able to visibly identify signs of levee distress, such as seepage boils and soil sloughing on the landside toe or erosion on the waterside slope. This is recommended by the California State Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The following guidelines are for acceptable vegetation on the crown, on the landside slope, 10 feet beyond the landside toe and on the waterside slope.

- Large trees and bushes must be trimmed of branches within 5 feet of the ground.
- Small trees and bushes, (less than 6 feet tall), must be trimmed of branches within 3 feet of the ground.
- Trees must be trimmed to provide 15 feet of vertical clearance over the crown and to provide horizontal clearance across the full levee crown width.
- Low growing ground covers such as grass is desirable.
- Fences along the levee crown must be clear of vines and vegetation.
- No thorny plants are allowed, such as cactus, blackberry, roses, century plants, etc. These can scratch or tear the clothing of personnel during patrolling and flood fighting.
- No bamboo, pampas grass, broom, horsetail, honeysuckle, ivy, periwinkle, perla grass, ice plants or large bunch grasses are allowed because they are too large and invasive.
- No debris piles, boards, tree trimmings, boats, or storage of items are allowed on the crown or slopes of the levee. Any of these items left on the levee will be hauled off at the landowner's expense.
- No parking of cars, trucks, boat trailers, and travel trailers, etc. on the waterside edge of the levee along Dutch Slough Road and Wells Road. No parking at all on

www.rd799.com

**Reclamation District 799**

925-684-2398

- No parking of cars, trucks, boat trailers, and travel trailers, etc. on the waterside edge of the levee along Dutch Slough Road and Wells Road. No parking at all on the levee along
- Sandmound Blvd. during flood season. (Vehicles in violation will be towed at the owner's expense).
- No locked gates in fences along the levee crown that prevent patrol personnel from inspecting the levee slopes and toe.
- No ponds or fountains containing water are allowed on the levee. Please turn them off and empty them. After the flood season ends on March 15th please apply for a permit at the RD799 office to have the ponds or fountains removed and the holes in the levee filled.
- No planting of any trees on the levee because, if the tree blows over it can leave a dangerous hole.

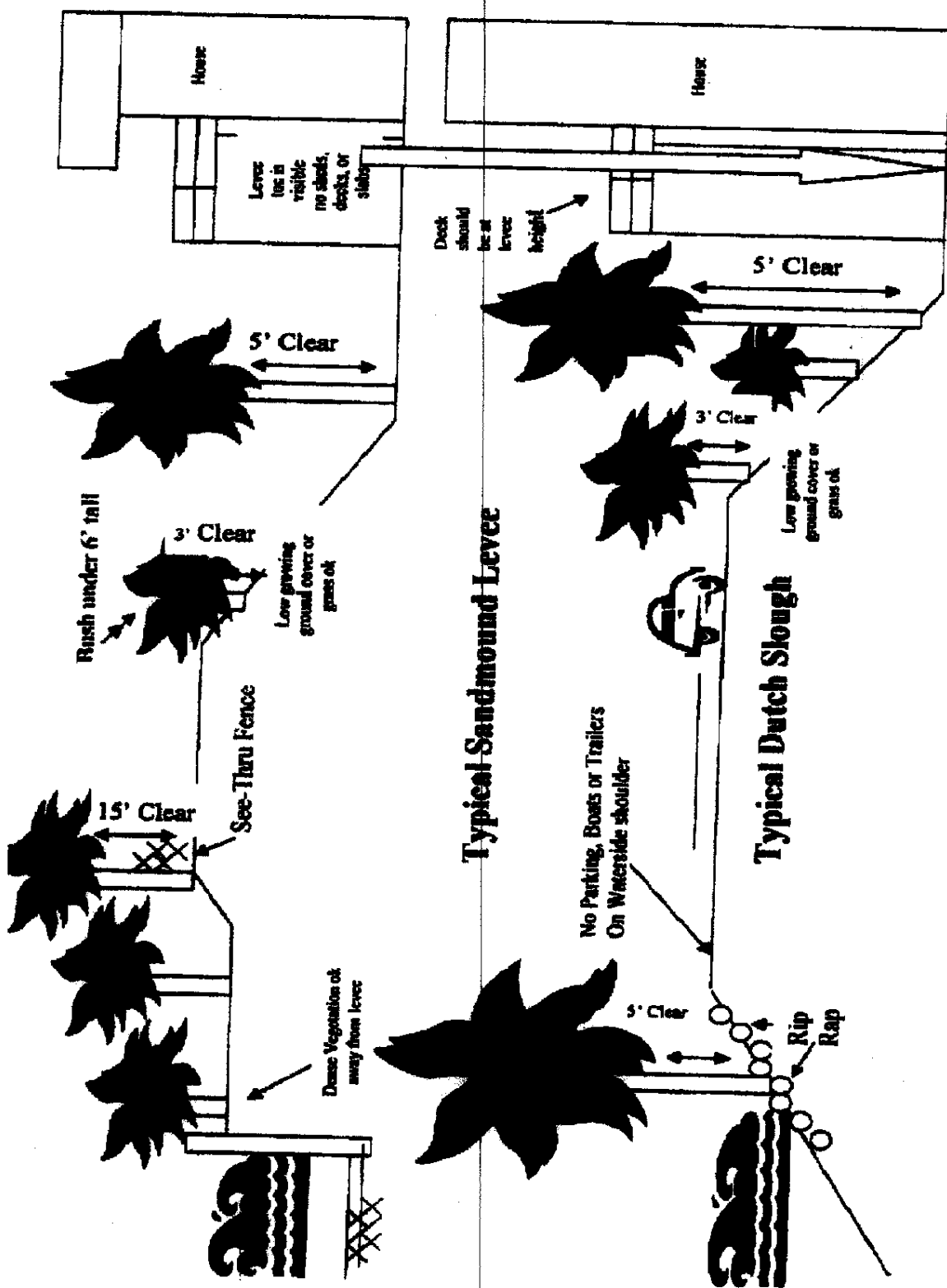
A sketch is included with this letter to help demonstrate appropriate trimming of vegetation to comply with RD 799's guidelines. Our goal is not to have you strip your entire yard of its vegetation. The vegetation needs to be trimmed to improve visibility. RD 799 is willing to help with the disposal of the vegetation. Please place your trimmings at the street edge and give us a call at 925-684-2398 and RD 799 will arrange to have it picked up and hauled away. We will not haul any junk or items considered not to be vegetation. These things will be left behind. The ONLY items we will haul away will be the cuttings/trimmings of the items pertaining to our guidelines. If the district personnel feel there are other non-relative items, these will be left behind.

If while undesirable plants and ground covers are removed, a potential erosion problem may be created, please call our office and RD 799 will supply you with jute netting.

RD 799 is committed to eliminating encroachments that inhibit levee inspection, such as decks, sheds, solid board fences, and concrete slabs located on the slopes or at the toe. As the risk of flooding increases, so must our level of flood protection efforts. RD 799 will be increasing efforts to remove non-conforming encroachments and to prevent their repair or reconstruction.

You are hereby notified that, the levee slopes on your property must be in compliance with these guidelines by 8:00 a.m. on June 30, 2014. After this date and upon completion of an inspection, if your home does not comply with the guidelines, our office will arrange for the California Conservation Corps to perform the work and RD 799 will bill you directly.

Please don't hesitate to call our office and speak with the Levee Superintendent regarding any levee issue. Also, if you need to have some clarification on the guidelines, you are welcome to call and ask questions. RD 799 would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and continuing support in helping to keep our levees safe.



# Vegetation, Parking & Encroachment Compliance for RD 799

## Reclamation District 799 Mission Statement:

The existence and primary aim of a Levee Reclamation District is to maintain the integrity of existing levee(s) through means of repairs, design and conscientiousness maintenance with guidelines from government agencies and practical engineering practice derived from experienced and knowledgeable personnel.

A secondary expectation of service would be from stakeholders (property owners) who depends on the board members and their staff to carry out the above functions. In light of this expectation, RD799 personnel and those resources we contract with, will not only meet the core direction to the best of our ability but to do what it is necessary to accommodate those whose property(s) are in need of repairs or upgrades with available options that will satisfy the needs of property owners while conforming to the standards for levees as dictated by regulations and common sense.

Upon recommendations, RD799 board of trustees will have the final approval.

### District Permits:

**District permits are required. If you are planning on doing any of the following projects**

- **DECK & DOCK RAMPS:** Ramps used to access either a house, deck or dock from the levee crown may not exceed four feet in width and must be constructed in a manner to not block the access patrol road on the crown of the levee.
- **VEHICLE RAMPS:** Ramps used to access the patrol road on the crown of the levee will be considered for approval. The design of these vehicle ramps will be carefully evaluated and the District may require a soils report prepared by a Registered Civil or Geotechnical Engineer addressing the impacts of such a ramp on the structural integrity of the District's levee. Such report shall include adequate test borings or excavations, plus levee stability and seepage analysis. Additional design considerations will include provisions for a turning radius sufficient to accommodate a large rock carrying truck or large emergency vehicle. RD 799 requires that a minimum of one ramp be constructed per 20 lot subdivision, or one ramp per 35 lots in subdivisions of over 20 lots.
- **DECKS:** Decks, whether attached or unattached to a house on the landside of a levee, may not encroach more than ten (10) feet into the "structure setback" for a levee, provided that the deck is supported on posts or piling. Decks may not be roofed, have wing walls, or be enclosed below or above the deck surface. The support beams of a deck must have at least 12 inches clearance above ground. The house and house roof must be structurally independent from the deck, so that if a deck is removed, the house will remain structurally sound. Decks will not be permitted to be constructed over the waterside slope of a levee.
- **RETAINING WALLS OR BULKHEADS:** Retaining walls or bulkheads will generally be permitted on the lower half of the landside or waterside slopes of a levee if they do not encroach into the design levee and are three feet or less in height.
- **LANDSCAPE TERRACING:** Terracing for the purpose of landscaping on either the landside or waterside slope of a levee will generally be permitted if the retaining walls do not encroach into the design levee and are one foot or less in height.
- **PIPING AND/OR CONDUIT:** The invert of all pipes and conduit running through the levee must be 1 foot above the 100-year, base flood elevation of 7.0 feet (USGS Datum), and buried at least 12 inches below the surface of the levee-top roadway. Pipes carrying liquid or gas must have shutoff valves located at a minimum of ten (10) feet landward of the toe of the levee and clearly marked to show their location.
- **IRRIGATION PIPE & SYSTEMS:** Irrigation pipes or sprinkler systems installed in the District's levee are considered an encroachment and may only be placed along the landside edge of the access patrol road on the levee top. Any water applied to vegetation on the levee shall be controlled to prevent erosion of the levee slopes. No ditch shall be dug in a levee section for the purpose of irrigation of vegetation. Sprinkler pipes may not be buried deeper than eight (8) inches into a levee slope. An accessible shut-off valve shall be located a minimum of ten (10) feet landward from the levee toe, and clearly marked to show its location.
- **DOCKS AND/OR BERTHS:** Both fixed and/or floating docks or berths will be setback at least ten (10) feet beyond the mean lower low tide line.
- **DREDGING:** The design of any dredging project adjacent to a District levee will be carefully evaluated, and the District may require a soils report from a Registered Civil or Geotechnical Engineer addressing the impacts of such dredging on the structural integrity of the District's levee. All dredging applications must include the approval of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and any other concerned Local, State or Federal agencies.
- **FILLING AND/OR DISPOSING OF DREDGE SPOILS:** Filling and/or disposing of dredge spoils shall be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Dredging permit discussed above.
- **REMODELING OF STRUCTURES:** Remodeling of structures is considered construction and therefore must adhere to all the regulations set forth herein.
- **PERFORMANCE BONDS:** Performance bonds may be required as a condition of approval by RD 799 for developers and/or contractors.
- **FENCES:** Fences constructed on the District's levees must be of open construction to allow unrestricted levee inspections on either slope. Wire fences parallel to the levee-top must have an unlocked gate. If security demands a locked gate, Rd 799 must be provided a key to the locked gate. No fences will be allowed that are constructed perpendicular to the access patrol road on the levee-top. Access patrol roads on the levee top must remain open for use by all emergency and/or inspection vehicles.

### Ways to obtain a permit

- ✓ Email - Call 925-684-2398 and speak with the District Manager about having a permit emailed to you
- ✓ Website - Download the permit from the website at [www.rd799.com](http://www.rd799.com) (The formatting may be off)
- ✓ Pickup - 6325 Bethel Island Road Bethel Island, CA 94511 - Office is open from 10 AM - 2 PM Daily

www.rd799.com

# Reclamation District 799

925-684-2398

## Landowner Emergency Contact Information

Please complete this form and return it to:  
6325 Bethel Island Rd. Oakley, CA 94561

Or

Email it to:

Rd799\_angeliahope@yahoo.com

www.rd799.com

Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address:  
City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:  
City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to be added to our list for emails, please circle - yes or no

## No Trespassing Sign Order Form

Yes, I would like to order a sign

No, I would NOT like to order a sign

The signs are metal and say, "Private Property No Trespassing Calif. Penal Code 602".

The cost of the sign is \$27.50

Please make a check payable to Reclamation District 799

The signs are available for pickup at the District office located above.

During the following hours:

Monday – Friday from 10-2 PM

Wednesday's until 5 PM

## ~ Suitable Ground Covers For Levees ~

<b>Plant Name</b>	<b>Scientific name ~ Spp. = Species</b>
Aaron's Beard	<i>Hypericum Calycinum</i>
Alyssum	<i>Alyssum Spp.</i>
Basket-of-Gold	<i>Aurinia Saxatile</i>
Bermuda Grass	<i>Cynodon Dactylon "Tifgreen, Coastal, Tufcote"</i>
Blue-Eyed-Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium Bellum</i>
California Poppy	<i>Eschscholzia Californica</i>
Cape Weed	<i>Arctotheca Calendula</i>
Creeping Wild Rye	<i>Elymus Triticoides</i>
English Ivy, Miniature	<i>Hedera Helix, Hahni</i>
Garden Lippia	<i>Phyla Nodiflora – Lippia Nodiflora</i>
Gazania, Trailing	<i>Gazania Spp.</i>
Green Carpet	<i>Herniaria Glabra</i>
Lupine, Dwarf	<i>Lupinus Bicolor</i>
Mexican Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera Berlandieri</i>
Palestine Orchardgrass	<i>Dactylis Glomerotoa "Palestine"</i>
Red Apple	<i>Aptenia</i>
Salt Grass	<i>Distichlis Spicata</i>
Spring Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla Tabernaemontanii</i>
Stonecrop	<i>Sedum Spp.</i>
Trailing African Daisy	<i>Osteospermum Fruticosum</i>
Verbena	<i>Verbena Peruviana</i>
Yellow-Eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium Californicum</i>

These species have specific requirements for being cut back or otherwise maintained on a regular basis depending on the type of species it is.

## ~ Non-Suitable Ground Covers For Levees ~

<b>Plant Name</b>	<b>Scientific name ~ Spp. = Species</b>
Ice Plant, Rosea	<i>Drosanthemum Floribundum</i>
Ice Plant, Trailing	<i>Lampranthus, Spectabulis</i>
Bamboo	<i>Bambusa Spp.</i>
Blackberry/Raspberry	<i>Rubus Spp.</i>
Broom	<i>Cytisus Spp.</i>
Cactus	<i>Cactaceae Spp.</i>
Century Plant	<i>Agave Americana</i>
False Bamboo, Common Reed	<i>Phragmites Communis</i>
Freeway Iceplant	<i>Carpobrotus Spp.</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera Spp.</i>
Horsetail	<i>Equisetum Hyemale</i>
Ivy Algerian, Persian & English – Except mini drawf varieties	<i>Hedera "Canariensis, Colchica, Helix"</i>
Pampas Grass	<i>Cortaderia Selloana</i>
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca Spp.</i>
Perla Grass	<i>Phalaris Tuberosa Var. Hirtiglumis</i>
Rose	<i>Rosa Spp.</i>