**SO FAR, SO GOOD, AS BIMID AND BETHEL ISLAND WEATHER THE STRONGEST STORM WE’VE EXPERIENCED IN SOME TIME**

**01/11/2017 –** We are pleased to announce that Bethel Island has fared well during the rather intense storm conditions that we and rest of the Bay Area have just experienced. Consistent with its mission, BIMID has been carefully monitoring conditions and conducting levee inspections throughout this storm event, including the possibility of a “perfect storm” situation of intense rain, King Tides, and high velocity wind (and waves) all converging. Although of course unavoidably saturated from the heavy rain, the integrity of the levee has held up against Mother Nature’s fury and remains intact, and there are no sinkholes, boils, rodent holes, or other levee weaknesses in evidence.

This is of course what BIMID is all about in its ongoing levee maintenance and DWR Subventions program, and such DWR funded Special Projects as its recent HMP Project to raise all levees to at least that FEMA standard, its current DWR funded Horseshoe Bend Levee Upgrade Project getting underway, and its Northwest Levee Improvement/Stone Road Levee Seepage Project application now under review by DWR, all of which have been enhanced and/or made possible by BIMID’s new Assessment District revenue.

We of course realize that given the onslaught of this substantial storm, there has been considerable concern on the part of Bethel Island residents and property owners as to the potential danger to life and property should our levee breach. But again, that’s why we’re here, and we trust that going through this major storm event with all of you with no major impacts or levee failures helps impart more confidence in BIMID’s ongoing efforts to protect Bethel Island, and the forthcoming major levee upgrade projects that will further fortify Bethel Island against such extreme conditions.

 **MOTHER NATURE CALLS IT A SEASON: LEVEE ROCK PLACEMENT TO GET BACK UNDERWAY IN THE SPRING!! MEANWHILE, STORM SANDBAGS AVAILABLE AS INDICATED BELOW…**

**Rock Placement Program**

**01/6/2017** – Already well into what promises to be a wet winter, our enhanced rock placement program has finally had to be called to a halt for this season. Once levee conditions again enable it to get back underway in earnest this coming Spring, you’ll see more of the same (as represented in the photos posted at the Post Office) of 2016 rock placement activity (which shall therefore serve the purpose of future “coming attractions” in 2017).

Meanwhile, above all else, beginning this Spring please also keep an eye out for our customary 2-week notice of our doing work along your portion of the levee (posted below), and take serious heed to follow its instructions to:

* trim back or remove all vegetative or other items from the levee that would obstruct passage of BIMID vehicles; and
* once again, turn off your sprinklers well before we arrive on site to give the levee ample time to dry out, and to therefore help prevent our heavy equipment from damaging your or anyone else’s property!

**Winter Storm Preparations**

We meanwhile wish all of you a great New Year, and also remind everyone that during storm conditions, sandbags and sand are once again available at:

* *2 loads each to be located outside the gates on the Bethel Island Road and Piper Road sides of the BIMID Mitigation Site, with at least 50 sandbags (covered with visquine) and 2 shovels available to be replenished as needed at each site.*
* *1 load, covered and with 2 shovels, to be located on Ranch Lane between Delta Coves property and Scout Hall*
* *I load, covered with 2 shovels, to be located in the North Taylor Road vicinity of the BIMID pumping station near New Life Marina and/or Donnelly property*