



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF WATERSHED PROJECT PLAN-EA

THE U.S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (USDA-NRCS) HAS PREPARED A DRAFT WATERSHED PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (PLAN-EA) FOR THE BLACK RASCAL CREEK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Merced, on **July 11, 2023, at 10:00 AM**, or soon thereafter, in the Board Room, Third Floor, County Administration Building, 2222 "M" Street, Merced, California, will hold a public hearing and public informational meeting as part of the Black Rascal Creek Flood Control Project Watershed Project Plan and Environmental Assessment as per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality, and USDA NEPA implementing regulations.

The Proposed Black Rascal Creek Flood Control Project Watershed Project Plan and Environmental Assessment are to construct a new embankment system to create a flood control detention basin that includes habitat restoration. The detention basin proposed as part of the Project would temporarily detain a 200-year storm event and limit flow in the diversion channel to 3,000 cubic feet per second, reducing peak flows in Bear Creek and flooding along the old Black Rascal Creek channel that flows through the City of Merced. The Project is designed to contain up to the 200-year flood event in compliance with the Central Valley Flood Protection Act of 2008.

All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting and will be given an opportunity to be heard. The full text of the Plan-EA is posted in the Office of the Clerk, Board of Supervisors, Third Floor, County Administration Building, 2222 "M" Street, Merced, California and available for download at <https://www.countyofmerced.com/754/Creeks>. Please refer to the posted agenda (which will be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting) for further details on how to participate.

Comments on the Plan-EA will be accepted during the minimum 30-day public comment period from June 28, 2023 to July 27, 2023. Submit comments and inquiries on the Plan-EA to:

Carlos Suarez
State Conservationist, USDA/NRCS
Attn: Black Rascal Creek Watershed Plan EA
NRCS-CA State Office
430 G Street Davis, CA 95616

Comments and inquiries on the Plan-EA may be emailed to Steve.Hill@usda.gov or call and leave a voicemail at (530) 792-5642. Please refer to Black Rascal Creek Watershed Plan-EA in your message.

If you have any questions, please call Oscar Ortiz, Administrative Engineer, Department of Public Works, at (209) 385-7602.

Publish Date: June 29, 2023
Board of Supervisors Office, by Angie Ruiz, Deputy Board Clerk.