

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
SUTTER BASIN WATERSHED, SUTTER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

ACTION: Notice of Availability for Draft Environmental Impact Statement & Public Meeting

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 1500), and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Regulations (7 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 650), the U.S. Department of Agriculture NRCS gives notice that a draft environmental impact statement has been prepared for the McGriff Lakes-Sutter Basin Watershed Flood Control and Flood Safety Project. Unique Identification Number: EISX-005-53-006-1107702473.

To provide comments and/or further information regarding this notice, you can email commentsCAwatersheds@usda.gov or you can contact Richard Rivas, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 430 G Street Davis, CA 95616, by telephone and leave a voicemail at (530) 792-5600 (Attn: Small Watershed Program, McGriff Lakes-Sutter Basin Watershed Flood Control and Flood Safety Project.). A public meeting will also be held at 15094 Cranmore Road, Robbins, CA. 95676, in RD 1500 Board room, from 9:00 am to 10:00 am on June 30, 2026 to provide an additional opportunity for public comment.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An Environmental Impact Statement was required to be completed for this project due to Federal Small Watershed Program Requirements.

The purpose of this Project is to provide reliable and long-term flood control and damage reduction for the Sutter Basin and to protect public safety and emergency access. The need for this Project is to provide at least the current level of flood protection to the Sutter Basin that is provided by the existing Karnak Drainage Facility, which has provided flood prevention for the Sutter Basin for over 100 years but is antiquated and nearing the end of its useful life, to maintain protection of the social and economic activities in the benefitted area, including local housing and industry, agriculture and transportation across a critical evacuation route. Without intervention, the existing Karnak Drainage Facility will eventually fail and no flood protection would be provided, therefore modernization is needed.

The notice of availability of the draft McGriff Lakes-Sutter Basin Watershed Plan and Environmental Impact Statement has been forwarded to various federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties. The draft Watershed Plan and Environmental Impact Statement is available for review in hard copy form at the NRCS Yuba City Service Center, 1511 Butte House Rd, Suite B, Yuba City, CA 95993 and the Reclamation District No. 1500 office at 15094 Cranmore Road, Robbins, CA. 95676 or can be downloaded from the following links: www.rd1500.org. Basic data developed during preparation of the environmental impact statement are on file and may be reviewed through coordination with NRCS by calling (530) 792-5600 (Attn: Small Watershed Program, McGriff Lakes-Sutter Basin Watershed Flood Control and Flood Safety Project). Comments of Federal, State and local agencies, Native American Tribes, or other interested persons will be made available for public inspection after receipt.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 45 days after the date of this notification.

Richard Rivas, Environmental Compliance Specialist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
June 18, 2026

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with state and local officials.)