

APPENDIX J

Public Involvement

[Notices]

[Page 26194-26195]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent and Notice of Preparation for a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for a Proposed Flood Reduction Investigation in Yolo County, California

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The action being taken is the development of a joint draft EIS/EIR to identify and assess the significance of potential measures that would reduce flood damages to the city of Woodland, adjacent unincorporated areas, and agricultural lands of Yolo County, and improve the conveyance of the hydraulic system for the Lower Cache Creek area. The intent of the draft EIS/EIR is to describe and evaluate the potential effects of the proposed alternatives on environmental resources in the study area.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed action and draft EIS/EIR can be answered by Patti Johnson at (916) 557-6611 or by mail at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, ATTN: CESP-K-PD-R, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2922.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 1. Proposed Action.--The Corps in cooperation with the non-Federal sponsors (The Reclamation Board of the State of California and the City of Woodland) is conducting a cost-shared feasibility study on alternative flood damage reduction measures to the city of Woodland, Yolo County, California, adjacent unincorporated areas, and agricultural lands. The study is authorized by section 209 of the Flood Control Act of 1962 (Public Law 87-874). A reconnaissance study of flooding problems in the westside tributaries, including Putah and Cache Creeks, and the Yolo Bypass was conducted in 1993-1994 under the authorization of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1993. Information resulting from this reconnaissance report is providing some data for the present feasibility study.

2. Alternatives.--The feasibility study's draft EIS/EIR will address a combination of one or more flood control measures including setback levees along Cache Creek, stream channel improvements, a north Woodland floodway, and a no-action alternative. Mitigation measures for any significant adverse effects on environmental resources will be identified and incorporated into the alternatives in compliance with various Federal and State statutes.

3. Scoping Process.--a. The study plan provides for public scoping, meetings, and comment. The Corps has initiated a process of involving concerned Federal, State, and local agencies and individuals. The City of Woodland Task Force has held periodic public meetings to discuss issues and solicit public comment.

b. Public involvement during the reconnaissance phase of the study

included the "Notice of Initiation of a Reconnaissance Study, Westside Tributaries to Yolo Bypass, Flood Control Investigation, California," that was sent to Federal, State, county, and city agencies and other interested groups and individuals in May 1993. The Corps participated in a number of meetings with the Yolo County Board of Supervisors and the Yolo-Solano Flood Control Task Force to brief participants including other public agencies, organizations, and interested individuals on the proposed alternatives. Comments received focused on flooding along Cache Creek, land subsidence, gravel mining, and effects of the alternatives on the Cache Creek Settling Basin. On April 15 and May 6, 1996, the Corps held public workshops in Woodland to present the study result and discuss the procedures to complete the reconnaissance phase and initiate the feasibility phase of the study.

c. Issues that will be analyzed in depth in the draft EIS/EIR include effects on vegetation and wildlife, special-status species, water quality, air quality, socio-economic conditions, and cultural resources. Other issues may include geology, soils, topography, noise, esthetics, climate and recreation.

[[Page 26195]]

d. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report.

e. A 45-day review period will be allowed for all interested agencies and individuals to review and comment on the draft EIS/EIR. All interested persons are encouraged to respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be contacted about the draft EIS/EIR.

4. A public scoping meeting will be held on May 30, 2000, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Heidrick Ag History Center at 1962 Hays Lane in Woodland, Yolo County, California.

5. Availability. The draft EIS/EIR is scheduled to be available for public review in August 2001.

Dated: April 17, 2000.

Robert A. O'Brien III,
LTC, EN, Acting Commander.

[FR Doc. 00-11294 Filed 5-4-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-EZ-M

Copy To County De
Jun 6/2

Appendix I
NOTICE OF PREPARATION

Office of Planning and Research

To: State Clearinghouse

From: The Reclamation Board

1400 10th Street
(Address)
Sacramento, CA 95814

1416 Ninth Street, Room 1641
(Address)
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: **Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report**

The Reclamation Board will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials. A copy of the Initial Study (is is not) attached.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to Annalena Bronson at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title: Lower Cache Creek - Yolo County - Woodland Area Flood Control Project

Project Applicant, if any: _____

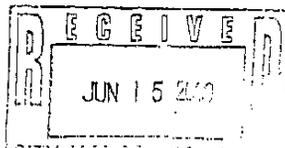
Date June 11, 2000

Signature Ricardo S. Lincoln for PDRabbon

Title General Manager, The Reclamation Board

Telephone (916) 653-5434

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.



Lower Cache Creek – Yolo County – Woodland Area – Flood Control Study

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal sponsor, The Reclamation Board of the State of California is the nonfederal sponsor, and the City of Woodland is the local sponsor for the Lower Cache Creek, Yolo County, Woodland Area General Investigation Feasibility Study. This Study will investigate the feasibility of improving flood protection for the urbanized area in the City of Woodland, the town of Yolo, adjacent unincorporated areas, and agricultural lands in Yolo County. The City of Woodland participates in the Study as the local sponsor and as the cost-sharing partner with the State for the nonfederal portion of the cost.

USACE, lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Board, lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, have determined that an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report will be necessary and will prepare a joint draft EIS/EIR. An Initial Study was not prepared.

The joint draft EIS/EIR will identify potential measures that would reduce flood damages in the Study area. Measures currently contemplated for evaluation include setback levees along Cache Creek, stream channel improvements, and a floodway north of Woodland. The measures will be combined into several alternatives that could achieve the goal of providing at least 100-year flood protection to the Study area. A "without project" alternative will also be evaluated.

Setback Levees

The existing levee would be set back on one side of the channel to increase the floodflow capacity between the levees. This measure may adversely impact farmlands but would avoid impacts to habitat adjacent to Cache Creek. Mitigation requirements would likely depend on whether farming continues within the setback levee or the area is used for environmental restoration.

North Woodland Floodway

A new levee would be constructed to the south of Cache Creek at the north edge of the City of Woodland. The levee would intercept floodflows before they reach the City. Under this measure, floodgates would be required across Highway I-5, the railroad, and county roads. Flood easements would be necessary for the area between the old and new levees. This measure would minimize impacts to vegetation and wildlife but would adversely affect farming in the floodway area.

Channel Improvements

The existing levees would be improved and the channel deepened and widened. New levees would be constructed in upstream reaches to prevent overbank flooding. Construction would require placing riprap or constructing concrete floodwalls for bank stability and the clearing of vegetation and dredging of silt in the channel to deepen and widen it. This measure would have greater adverse impacts to vegetation and wildlife

than the setback levees or the floodway measures but would have the least impact to farmlands.

The setback levee and channel improvement measures would adversely affect the Cache Creek Settling Basin by allowing more water and silt to enter the Basin during large flood events than enters it under existing conditions. The Basin would potentially receive twice as much floodwater during large flood events, which would bring additional sediments into the Basin, thereby shortening its useful life.

The specific environmental impacts of the proposed project, and the significance of those impacts, cannot be determined at this time and will depend on which combinations of measures are selected for study and ultimately on which alternative will be preferred by the sponsoring agencies for implementation. In general, the project would be expected to adversely impact esthetics, agricultural resources, vegetation and wildlife, and land use. Mercury is present in sediments in Cache Creek. (The joint EIS/EIR will investigate whether the project would increase the exposure of people and wildlife to toxic forms of mercury.)

Although already developed for industrial use, the project would remove a large area from the 100-year floodplain and eliminate the requirement for flood insurance. The possibility of being in the 100-year flood zone, as defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, may deter development. The removal of this requirement will therefore facilitate further development in the Woodland area. Therefore, the project may have a growth inducing impact.

The project may also adversely affect cultural or archaeological resources; infrastructure such as roads, railroads, and bridges; threatened or endangered species or species of special concern; air and water quality, and socioeconomic conditions. Specifically, Swainson's hawk, listed as threatened by the California Endangered Species Act, Giant gartersnake, listed as threatened by the federal Endangered Species Act and CESA, and the valley elderberry longhorn beetle, listed as threatened by ESA, could be affected by the project. Cache Creek was habitat for steelhead in the past and may be in the area needed for recovery.

cc: (See attached list.)

The NOP should be sent by certified mail to the following:

Honorable Mary Nichols, Secretary
The Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Darryl Young, Director
Department of Conservation
801 K Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Banky Curtis, Regional Manager
Region 2
Department of Fish and Game
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of Historic Preservation
Post Office Box 942896
Sacramento, California 95814

Native American Heritage Commission
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364
Sacramento, California 95814

Air Resources Board
Post Office Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
901 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Regional Water Quality Control Board
Region 5
Central Valley Region
3443 Routier Road
Sacramento, California 95827-3098

Department of Transportation
District 3
Post Office Box 95901
Marysville, California 95901-0911

Federal Highway Administration
California Division
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, California 95814

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825

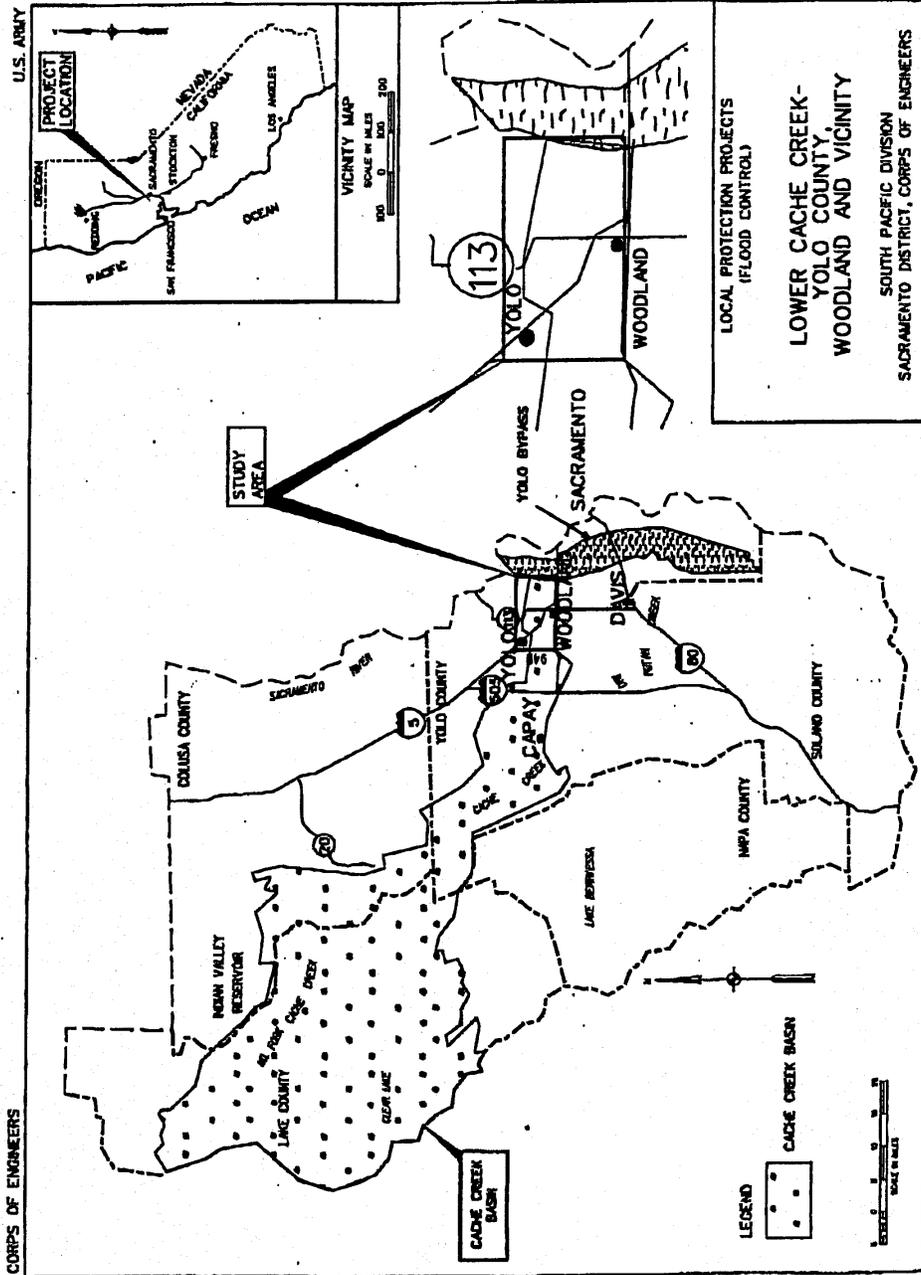
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

National Resources Conservation Service
West Regional Office
430 G Street, Suite 4165
Davis, California 95616

Mr. Steve Borchard, Chair
Flood Control Task Force
300 First Street
Woodland, California 95695

Mr. Richard Kirkwood, City Manager
City of Woodland
1300 First Street
Woodland, California 95695

Mr. David Morrison
Planning and Public Works Department
County of Yolo
292 West Beamer Street
Woodland, California 95695



U.S. ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

PROJECT LOCATION



VICINITY MAP
SCALE IN MILES
0 50 100

113

YOLO

WOODLAND

LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECTS
(FLOOD CONTROL)

LOWER CACHE CREEK-
YOLO COUNTY
WOODLAND AND VICINITY

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION
SACRAMENTO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

STUDY AREA

COLUSA COUNTY

SACRAMENTO RIVER

YOLO COUNTY

YOLO BYPASS

SACRAMENTO

WOODLAND

DAVIS

SUTTER COUNTY

SOLANO COUNTY

INDIAN VALLEY RESERVOIR

CACHE CREEK

LAG COUNTY

CLEAR LAKE

LAKE BERTHESNA

YOLO COUNTY

YOLO

YOLO

YOLO

YOLO

YOLO

YOLO

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YOLO

YOLO

LEGEND

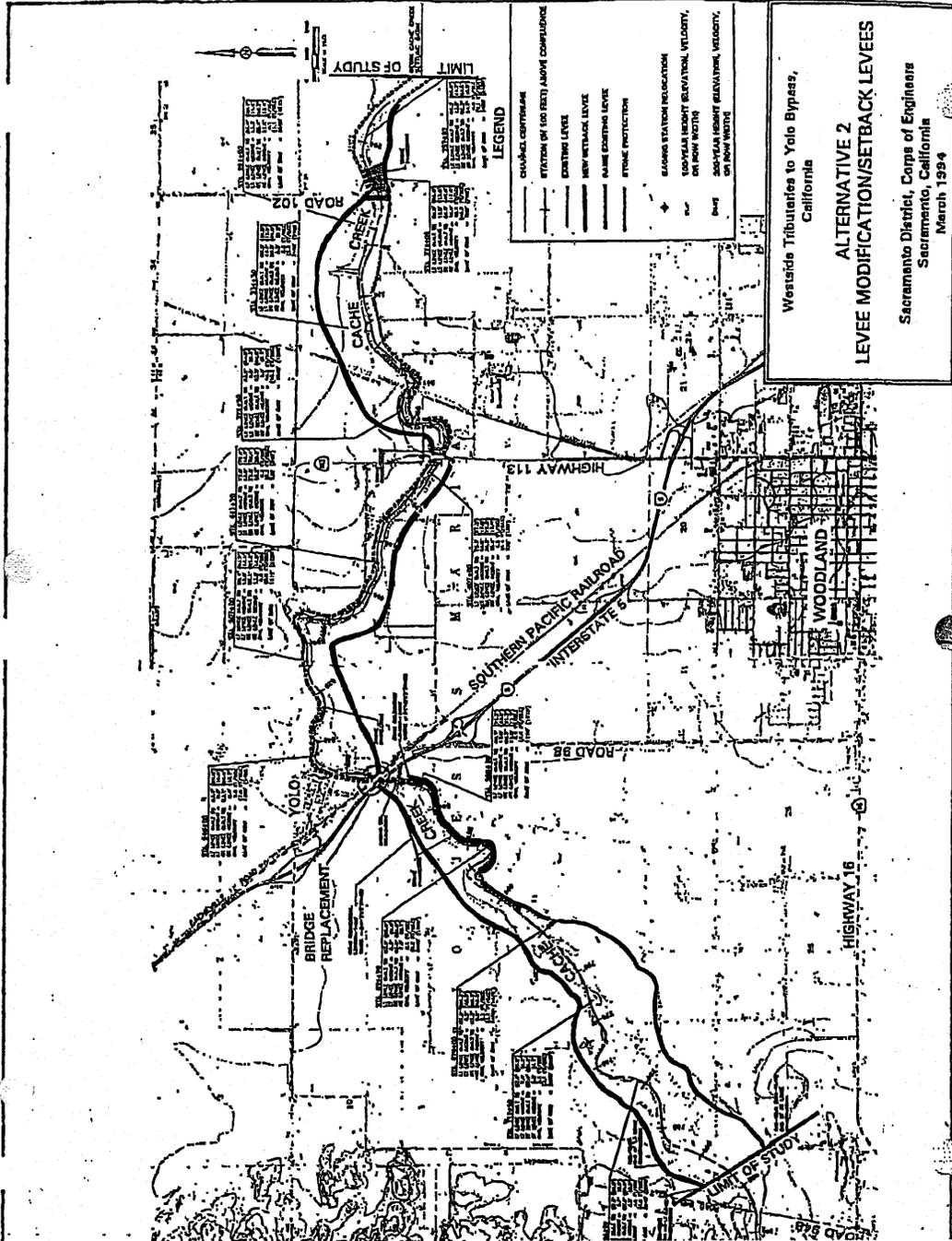


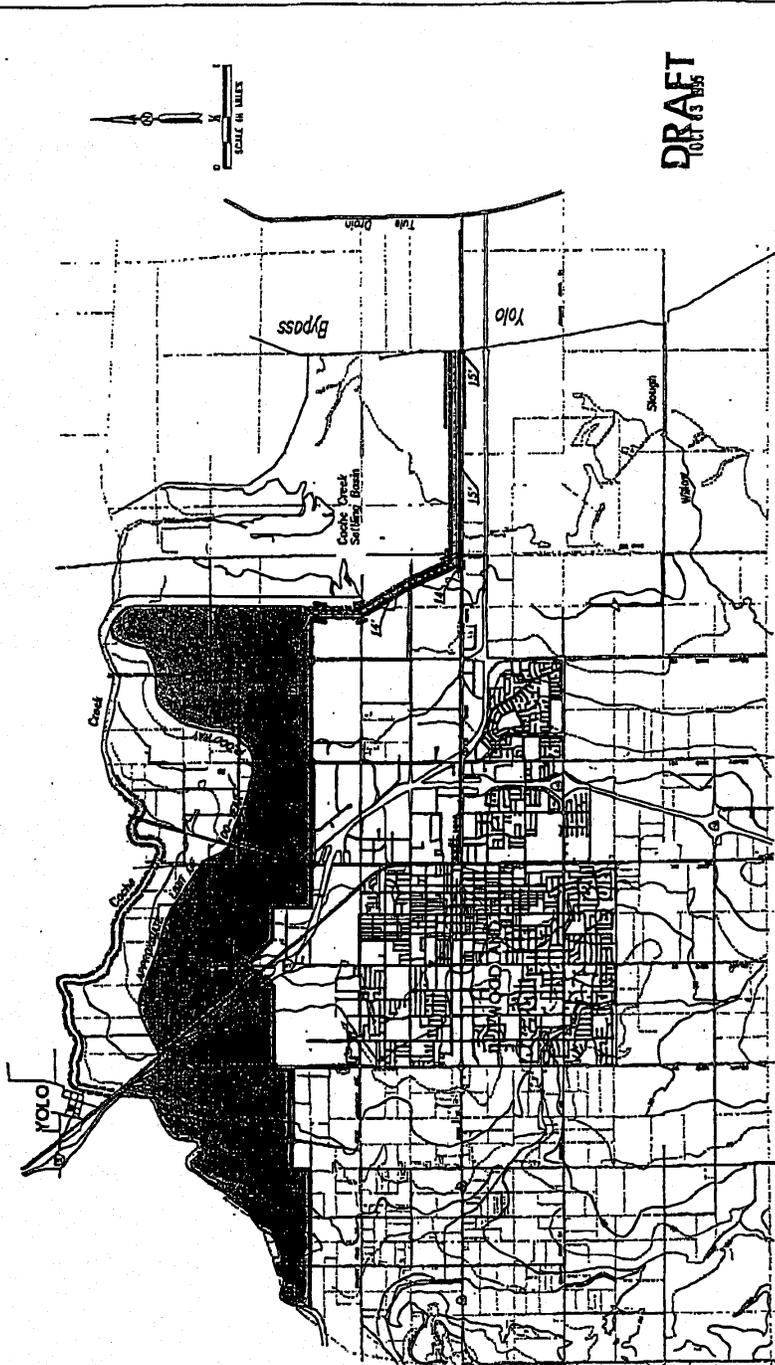
CACHE CREEK BASIN



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DRAFT
10/17/95

Cache Creek Environmental Restoration,
California
NORTH WOODLAND FLOODWAY
Sacramento District, Corps of Engineers
Sacramento, California
December 1995

- LEGEND**
- Proposed Levee
 - Improved Existing Levee
 - Existing Levee
 - Proposed Channel
 - Floodgate
 - Levee Height
 - Breaker Control
 - City Limits

PRESS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: May 10, 2000 - For Immediate Release
CONTACT: Gary Wegener, Public Works Director
(530) 661-5961

"LOWER CACHE CREEK INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING SESSION"

Share your ideas and learn about plans for Flood Control, Environmental, and Cultural Resources issues along Lower Cache Creek.

WHEN: Tuesday, May 30, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: Heidrick Ag History Center, 1962 Hays Lane, Woodland, CA

Increased flood protection along Lower Cache Creek is being studied by the City of Woodland, The Reclamation Board of the State of California, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

The Open House is divided into two parts. From 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., you are invited to visit exhibits on all aspects of the study and talk with experts from the City, State, FEMA, and Corps. From 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. there will be a group participation exercise to more formally gather your thoughts on the issues, your insights, and your advice.

For additional information, call Jason Phillips, Corps of Engineers at (916) 557-6671; Gary Wegener, City of Woodland, (530) 661-5961; or Jacob McQuirk, California Department of Water Resources (916) 653-9508.

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*City of Woodland*

FEMA FLOOD MAPS AND FLOOD PROTECTION ALTERNATIVES
PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Thursday, May 31, 2001 7-9 PM
Heidrick Ag Center - 1962 Hays Lane, Woodland

The City of Woodland, the Department of Water Resources, and the Corps of Engineers is hosting a workshop to update the public on the pending FEMA 100 year Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and the status of the Feasibility Study on flood protection alternatives. The alternatives being carried forward for detailed analysis are the Setback Levee alternative and the Cache Creek Overflow Barrier alternative. Proposed alignments are available on the City website (www.ci.woodland.ca.us) or can be viewed at the Public Works counter, City Hall.

The workshop starts at 7 PM with an overview of the FEMA process, including flood insurance issues, a presentation on the Feasibility Study process, real estate issues, and funding. This will be followed by a question and answer period, then the display tables will be open for more focused public discussion with the individual subject matter experts.

Questions, call City of Woodland Public Works, 661-5960

**Meetings on Scoping of the Lower Cache Creek Feasibility Study and
Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report**

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>	<i>Agency & Public Involvement</i>
City of Woodland Flood Control Task Force meeting	4/06/99 4/14/99 8/26/99 9/23/99 2/17/00 3/30/00 4/27/00 5/25/00 2/08/01 5/10/01 6/28/01 9/13/01 10/24/01 bimonthly meetings	Woodland City Council Chambers	FEMA flood plain maps; Discussions/Planning regarding Feasibility Study	The Rec Board, DWR, Corps of Engineers, City of Woodland, Yolo County, Association of General Construction, Cache Creek Conservancy, Chamber of Commerce, citizens, Farm Bureau, Industrial Developer, Residential real estate, Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, other technical advisory experts, FEMA, Parsons Brinkerhoff and EPS
Standing Weekly Technical Review meetings	Weekly since 9/13/00	CDM, Sacramento		Coordinating Agencies, City of Woodland, MBK Engineers, CDM, DWR, COE
Cache Creek FS Team Meetings	monthly since 2/9/00	Sacramento Corps Office		Project Team: DWR, US Fish & Wildlife Service, City of Woodland
Lower Cache Creek Issue Resolution Conference	10/18/01	Corps Offices	Corps presented powerpoint re: flood issues, raising houses, and fixing existing system	Corps, City of Woodland, MBK Engineers, DWR, Rec Board
Environmental & Engineering Design Meeting	10/30/01	CDM Offices	Discuss real estate, environmental effects, drainage	Corps Appraisal, City of Woodland, MK, CDM

Lower Cache Creek Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report Related News Articles

<i>News Article</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
Press release by City of Woodland	3/25/00	Woodland requests Congress for continuation funding for FEMA Cache Creek Study
Woodland Daily Democrat News Articles	6/3/00	<i>Cache Creek Flood Management - Flood Control Projects Explored</i> , Justin Anderson
The Davis Enterprise News Article	6/1/00	<i>Flood Protection Topic of Meeting</i> , Elisabeth Sherwin
Woodland Daily Democrat News Articles	9/9/01	<i>Flood Fight</i> , Robert Young
Woodland Daily Democrat	10/04/01	<i>Woodland setback levee vs. flood barrier debated by city</i>
Davis Enterprise	10/25/01	<i>Woodland tax extension may fund flood barrier</i> by Elisabeth Sherwin
Woodland Daily Democrat	10/28/01	<i>Flood protection decision near</i> by Kathleen Stinson
The Flatlander	Fall 2001	<i>The Wall, Flatlander Woodland Bureau</i>
Woodland Daily Democrat	11/3/01	<i>New flood maps out. The new Federal Emergency Management Agency maps which take effect April 2002 will place nearly 3,000 of Woodland's homes in a 100-year flood plain</i>
Daily Democrat	1/15/02	<i>Split opinions for city flood protection</i> , Kathleen Stinson