



**Sacramento  
Area Flood  
Control  
Agency**

Date: April 1, 2015  
To: Interested Parties  
From: Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency  
Subject: Notice of Availability and Intent to Consider Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Site 18A Culvert Replacement and Fish Passage Enhancement Project

Enclosed for your review is an Initial Study/proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) evaluating the potential environmental effects of the proposed Site 18A Culvert Replacement and Fish Passage Enhancement Project (proposed project), which is located in Sacramento, California, within the Sacramento East U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle in Sacramento County. The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) has prepared this IS/MND in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines.

SAFCA proposes to reduce the potential for fish stranding, further reduce predation by fish-eating (piscivorous) birds, and increase rearing and feeding habitat for juvenile salmonids at Site 18A, a seasonal wetland complex in the American River Parkway adjacent to the Natomas East Main Drainage Canal (NEMDC)/Steelhead Creek. The proposed project would involve replacing the existing culvert with a larger, wider culvert to improve the exchange of flows into and out of Site 18A, and modifying the gradient of the interior swales and increasing the extent of seasonally submerged vegetation and overhead cover within the Site 18A floodplain.

The IS/MND identifies potentially significant impacts related to the proposed project. All impacts are reduced to less-than-significant levels with implementation of mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study.

The IS/MND is being circulated for public review and comment for a 30-day period beginning on April 2, 2015 and ending on May 1, 2015. The IS/MND may be reviewed at SAFCA's Web site, [www.safca.org/Protection/Environmental\\_Public\\_Review.html](http://www.safca.org/Protection/Environmental_Public_Review.html).

Please send written comments on the IS/MND to John A. Bassett, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, 1007 7th Street, 7th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, fax (916) 874-8289. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to [bassettj@SacCounty.net](mailto:bassettj@SacCounty.net). For e-mailed comments, please include the project title in the subject line, attach comments in MS Word format, and include the commenter's name and U.S. Postal Service mailing address. All written comments must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2015.

The SAFCA Board of Directors intends to consider adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration at its regularly scheduled board meeting on May 21, 2015, after 3:00 p.m., to be held at the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors' Chambers located at 700 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. This meeting will be open to the public.