

**Yuba City, CA July 1, 2022** – The Feather River West Levee Financing Authority (FRWLFA) announced that property owners in Live Oak, Yuba City, and unincorporated Sutter County approved an annual levee operations and maintenance assessment. The assessment will bridge the revenue shortfall necessary to operate and maintain 27 miles of west Feather River levee in Sutter County.

Property owners within the proposed assessment district boundary were mailed assessment ballots in early May. The 45-day balloting period closed on June 22, after which an independent, third-party consultant tabulated more than 6,300 returned ballots. Each ballot was weighted by the dollar amount of the proposed assessment (e.g., every \$1 of assessment is equal to 1 vote). Approximately 52.5 percent of returned weighted votes supported the proposed assessment.

“It is always difficult to ask for an assessment, particularly during these difficult times, but unfortunately this was necessary.” said FRWLFA Board Chair Charlie Hoppin. “Property owners did the right thing by voting to keep local levee districts solvent and avoiding the higher cost of State O&M. Keeping levee O&M locally controlled and prioritized by those who have the most to gain and the most to lose is critical to our public safety.”

As a next step, the FRWLFA Board will consider the assessment district formation during its regular meeting on July 13. Even if the FRWLFA Board approves the new assessment it won't appear on property tax bills until fall 2023. At that time, the assessment will replace existing Levee District 1 and Maintenance Area 3 assessments for those property owners who pay them.

For more information, please contact Levee District 1 & 9 General Manager Drew Stresser at (530) 673-2454 or the FRWLFA Hotline at (800) 401-8302.

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*The Feather River West Levee Financing Authority (FRWLFA) is a joint powers agency formed in 2020 by Levee Districts 1 and 9 and Sutter County to adequately finance ongoing operations and maintenance of 27 miles of west Feather River Levee. [www.frwlfa.org](http://www.frwlfa.org)*