
Natomas Campaign – Gear up for Action 2024

1 message

ECOS Office <office@ecosacramento.net>

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To: egthacher@gmail.com



Dear Colleagues and Friends –

The Natomas Basin is not the only area in the Sacramento region where important habitat is under the threat of development. There are similar threats in Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, Folsom and more. We must take a strong stand in Natomas to set a positive precedent that saves farmland, fights climate change and pollution, as well as promotes infill.

Take Action

Thank you for your interest in and concern about the wildlife, habitat and farmland in Natomas. Thank you for being on our mailing list and joining this fight.

1. [Speak at the City's Planning and Design Commission review of the General Plan Update \(GPU\)](#) on January 25 at 5 pm on protection of farmland and habitat in Natomas.

ECOS is asking that the Commission recommend that Council remove the Special Study Area in Natomas Basin and restore the protections to Biological Resources present in the 2015 GPU. The Special Study Area legitimizes the attempts to develop more in Natomas, affecting wildlife, farmland and those who already live there.

Here is the link to the ECOS letter re the General Plan Update:
<https://www.ecosacramento.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2023/08/2023-08-August-23-ECOS-LETTER-re-City-of-Sacramento-Draft-GPU.pdf>

You can attend the meeting on Zoom and submit comments electronically, but you cannot speak at the meeting unless you are in the room. If you would like to participate, please email Edith at

Egthacher@gmail.com. We are organizing both for the submission of comments and to speak.

2. EIR Reviewers Wanted!

If you have the skill and the time, please volunteer to help ECOS do Environmental Impact Report (EIR) review on projects seeking public approval that would directly impact habitat and farmland. Email Edith at Egthacher@gmail.com to volunteer for EIR review. These projects are all around the county though our immediate concern is Natomas.

A good example is WattEV, Sacramento County WattEV Innovative Freight Terminal (SWIFT), proposed as an electric vehicle (EV) charging facility on a 118-acres immediately south of Sacramento International Airport just west of the Airport South Industrial Project. It would be a solar charging station for semi-trucks. Sounds good right? But this project conflicts with the Natomas Habitat Conservation Plan, removes habitat from the Basin, and would have huge impacts on communities in North Natomas west of I-5. Land is available already permitted for industrial uses in Metro Airpark, east of the airport. The EIR for WattEV is due out in late January.

Information is available on the [County website](#).

Inside Sacramento Article

Gary Delsohn wrote a [great article](#) highlighting Former Mayor Heather Fargo's continuing role in the fight against excessive development in Sacramento. The article talks about the Airport South Industrial project and why Fargo is still fighting after all these years. It is another nice piece of publicity for our campaign.

Honor for the Natomas Basin Conservancy

This year's 50th Anniversary of the ECOS Environmentalist of the Year Awards dinner put a spotlight on the Natomas Basin and the preservation efforts underway. ECOS gave an award to the Natomas Basin Conservancy (NBC) Boards, Past & Present and both a video and several of the awardees spoke to the work of the NBC. Approximately 150 people attended and they included volunteers from our partner organizations and other environmental groups as well as elected officials, candidates for office, state and local employees.

Learn more about the [awardees, the event and the history of ECOS](#).

Airport South Industrial Project

The most critical of the development projects that we are tracking is the over six million square feet of warehouse proposed for the Airport South Industrial Project (ASIP).

The current City timeline says the DEIR will be released in spring of 2024 for public review and comment. Critical decision making

meetings (with opportunities for public comment) will occur in the fall of 2024 and later. Learn more about the [ECOS campaign](#) on the ECOS website and learn more about the [project and timeline](#) on the City website.

Want to start to learn the ropes of reviewing a DEIR? See #2 above. Start now to learn how it is done.

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