



16 April 2026

To: Assessee
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 City, State Zip_1

**DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND
 PROPOSED DITCH MAINTENANCE FEE INCREASE**

Public Hearing Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 12:00 NOON
 District Conference Room (Suite 109) at 1170 N. Lincoln St., Dixon, CA 95620

Dear Assessee,

Dixon Resource Conservation District (District) is proposing to increase its ditch maintenance fees to make rates fair and equitable under the requirements of Proposition 218 (California Constitution Article XIII D, Section 6) (“Prop 218”). Ditch maintenance fees provide funding for ongoing maintenance and repair activities as well as replacement of aging infrastructure. The current rate of \$4.00/acre does not cover the costs incurred by the District to complete these activities.

Proposed Ditch Maintenance Fee Schedule

	Current Fee	Recommended Rate					Average Fee
		2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	
Drainage Fee (\$/Ac)	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$7.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$ 7.40
	% Change	50.0%	16.7%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	

Historically, the District has allowed annual ditch operations expenses to significantly exceed ditch operations revenues. The District cannot sustain this into the future.

The primary reasons a ditch maintenance fee increase is needed:

- Increased ditch maintenance costs
- Increased costs for District to respond to proposed development
- Need to return to adequate District reserves
- Reduced offsets from professional services revenues

As part of the rate study, the District Board of Directors (Board) directed staff to analyze the prior five years and the current year costs and revenues, as well as plan for the next five years. The Board received this information over the last few months and looked at different ways to minimize the rate increase. After a draft rate study was presented to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting on March 10, 2026, the District invited the landowners to a March 30th workshop on the rate study. This provided an informal way to gather feedback from our rate payers. If you were unable to attend this meeting or would like a full copy of the rate study, all materials can be found at <https://www.dixonrcd.org/proposed-ditch-maintenance-fee-increase-2026-march-30th-meeting> Upon request District will mail copy of the Final Rate Study to ditch rate payers.

Under Prop 218, the District cannot increase the current ditch maintenance fee, a property-related fee, without completing the public voting process. The Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed rate adjustments on **Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 12:00 NOON** at the District Conference Room (Suite 109) located at 1170 N. Lincoln St., Dixon, CA. Public participation is welcomed and encouraged.

In addition, as the owner, or customer of record of a parcel affected by the proposed ditch maintenance rate increase, you have the right to submit a written protest. Under Prop 218, a property-related fee may not be increased if a majority of property owners submit written protests. To be counted, a written protest must contain a written statement in opposition of the proposed fee, the name of the owner/customer of record submitting the protest, parcel identification (physical address or parcel number), an original signature, and a legibly printed name of the signer. Courtesy protest forms are available at the District Office, however your own template can be used as long as it includes all information above.

Protests must be received by the close of the Hearing on June 9th to be counted. Protests may be mailed to **Attn: Ditch Fee Protest** to 1170 N. Lincoln St, Ste 110, Dixon, CA 95620 or hand delivered to the District office or to the **Public Hearing: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 12:00 NOON** at the District Conference Room (Suite 109) located at 1170 N. Lincoln St., Dixon, CA. Emailed, faxed or photocopied ballots will not be counted. Only one ballot per parcel will be counted. If a majority of property owners or customers of record do not protest the increase, then property owners will receive an official ballot in the mail to vote YES or NO on the proposed adjustments to the fees.

The District Board and Staff will continue to seek ways to balance property tax revenues and fees with the costs of essential operations and services so that the District ditches are operated and maintained in the most cost-effective manner possible.

Please visit our website at <https://www.dixonrcd.org/drainage-services> or contact me at 707.678.1655 x102. Thank you, in advance, for your participation in this public process.

Sincerely,



Kelly Huff
District Manager

Encl: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)