

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## Categorical Exclusion Checklist

# Recycling Facility Construction on Reclamation Property in Martinez

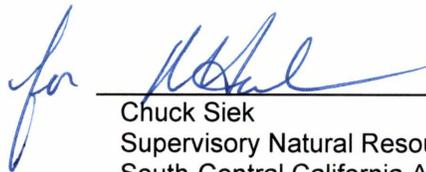
CEC-12-037

Prepared by:

  
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Ben Lawrence  
Natural Resources Specialist  
South-Central California Area Office

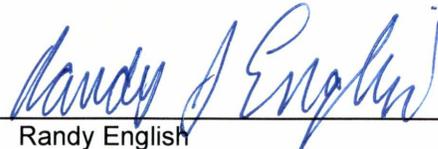
Date: 8-8-12

Concurred by:

for   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chuck Siek  
Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist  
South-Central California Area Office

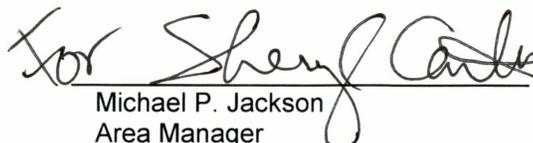
Date: 08/08/2012

Concurred by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy English  
Chief, Resources Management Division  
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 8/8/12

Approved by:

for   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael P. Jackson  
Area Manager  
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 8-9-12



### Background

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) owns property adjacent to the Martinez Reservoir in Martinez, California. It is located at 3300 Pacheco Boulevard in Martinez, and totals 1.47 acres in size (see Figures 1 and 2). In the past the property was operated as a truck yard and warehouse, but it is currently not in use. A private operator has proposed redeveloping the lot with a new recycling collection facility.

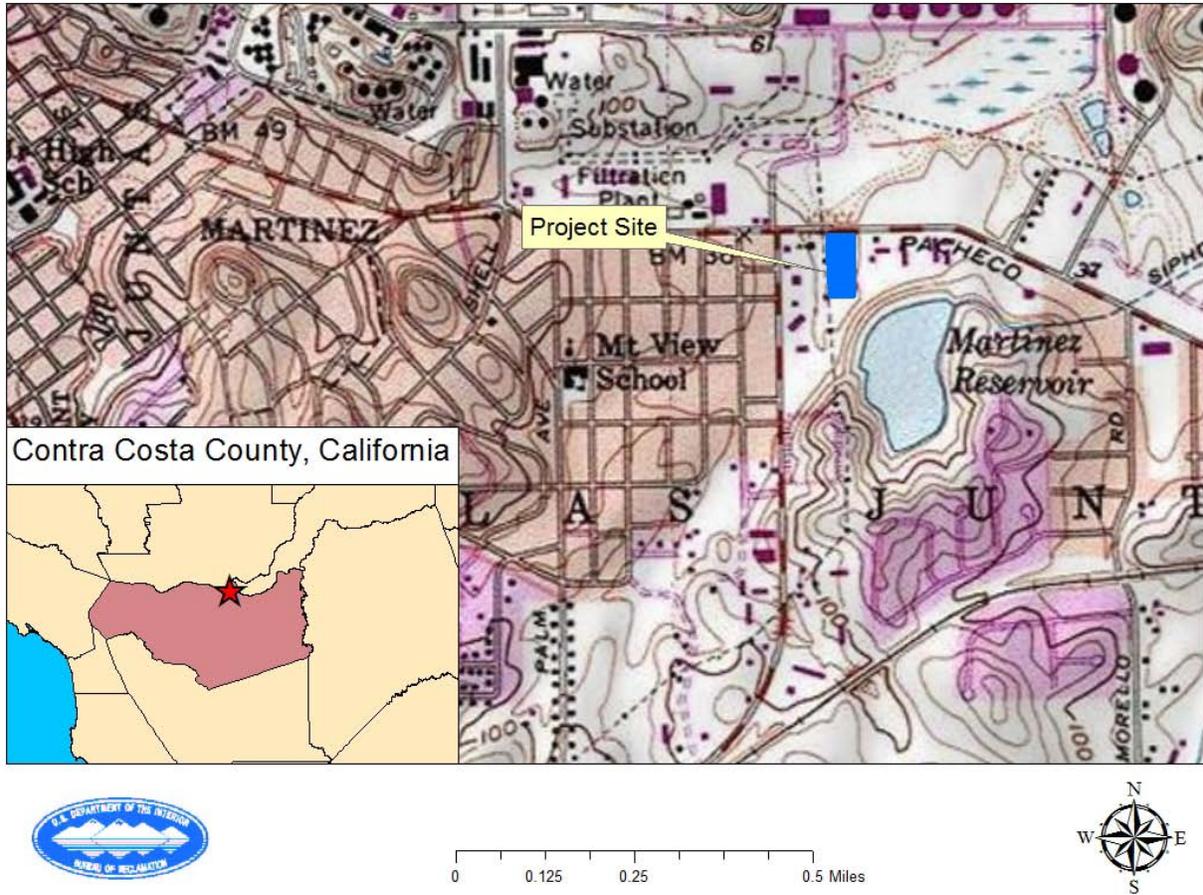


Figure 1 - Project Location (Topographic Map)



**Figure 2 - Project Location (Aerial Photo)**

### **Purpose and Need for Action**

A need has been identified to provide space for a recycling facility in the area, and this property is not currently in use. The purpose of this action is to allow the property to be redeveloped and increase recycling opportunities for the community.

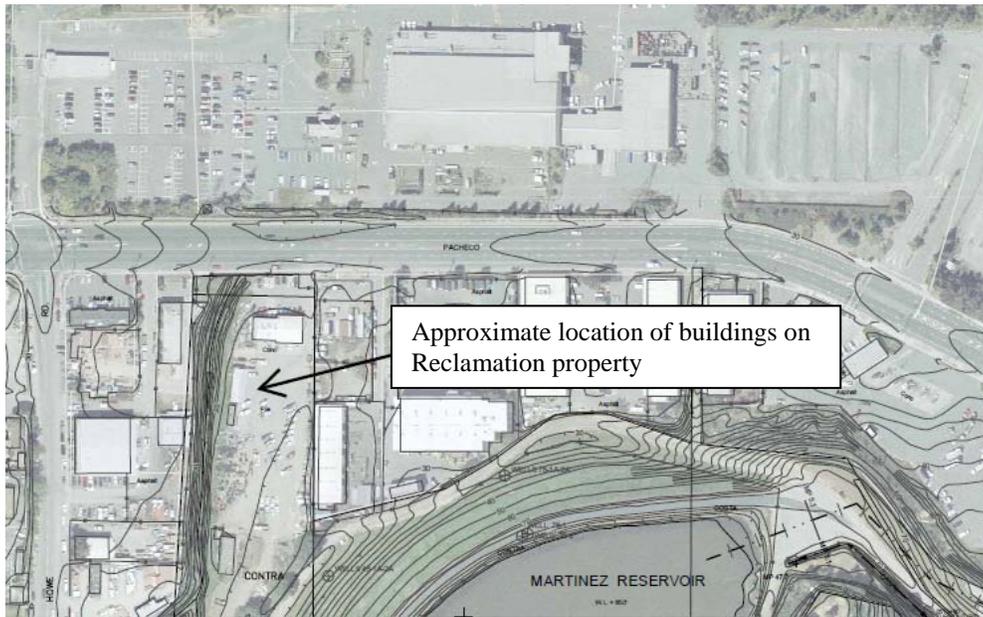
### **Proposed Action**

Through their Operations and Maintenance agreement with Reclamation, Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) proposes to allow the private contractor to construct and operate a recycling facility on Reclamation property in Martinez, Contra Costa County.

Once approval is granted, the city of Martinez would prepare the site by removing an existing building, shown in Figures 3 and 4. The contractor would then construct a 60 foot by 80 foot open-sided, covered metal storage facility with a foundation, a 4800 square foot customer parking area and a truck scale. Improvements would also include a 5000 square foot canopy covered area for recyclable materials to be stored in uncovered bins. Minor earthwork would be required to prepare the site, including the following:

- Grading to ensure drainage to an existing storm drain

- Excavation to a depth of one foot for installation of the truck scale
- Construction of a building foundation 5 inches in total height, 2 inches below grade



**Figure 3 – Location of Building to Be Demolished**



**Figure 4 – Building to Be Demolished, Front View**

The total construction time is estimated at 90 working days, following environmental clearance, and would require graders, backhoes, paving equipment and dump trucks. The following restrictions would be observed during construction:

- All work would take place within previously-disturbed areas, outside of the Martinez Reservoir spillway
- All soil removed from the site would be taken to a facility which is permitted to receive it
- A 15-foot setback would be observed from side and rear property lines

Following construction, the site would be operated as a recycling center. Operations would involve purchase and resale of California redemptive containers, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, e-waste and building materials. No hazardous waste would be permitted. The public would be permitted to drop off waste materials between 7 AM and 5 PM, six days per week. Trucks would visit the site one to two times per week to deliver empty waste bins and collect full bins for transport to a licensed off-site waste processing facility.

Although another construction project is proceeding on the site to replace a portion of the Martinez pipeline on the east side of the property (SCCAO CEC 09-148: Martinez Pipeline), which also required Reclamation approval, the two actions serve different needs and have independent utility. Cumulative effects from the two actions were considered and determined to not require additional analysis. CCWD is encouraged to coordinate these two projects to avoid conflicts.

### ***Environmental Commitments***

The City of Martinez, on behalf of Reclamation, shall implement the following environmental protection measures:

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Protection Measure</b>
Water Resources	All work will take place outside of the Martinez Reservoir Spillway.
Water Resources	No hazardous waste will be accepted by the facility.
Water Resources	All soil removed from the site will be taken to a facility which is permitted to receive it.
Neighboring Properties	A 15-foot setback will be observed from property lines.
Biological Resources	Before any ground disturbing activities for the proposed project are begun, the person in charge of work at the site shall slowly walk the area that is subject to potential disturbance (including areas where heavy equipment or vehicles may operate) and the adjacent land within 25 feet of all such areas, visually canvassing it for frogs. If any litter, debris or rocks could obscure a frog, the area shall be inspected. If any frog is observed, its length from snout to vent shall be estimated, general coloration and distinguishing characteristics (i.e. pattern and distribution of spotting, coloration, particularly at base of hind legs, stripes or mask through eye, etc.) shall be noted and recorded. If possible, photographs shall be taken. If photographs are taken, an identifiable object near the frog and wholly within the frame of the photograph shall be measured with a ruler. Documentation for an observation shall be transmitted to Reclamation environmental staff and no work shall commence until that information is reviewed and notification of permission to proceed is provided by a Reclamation biologist.
Biological Resources	No more than 30 days prior to construction, a qualified biologist shall survey the project area for Alameda whipsnakes. If an Alameda whipsnake is found, documentation of the observation shall be transmitted to Reclamation environmental staff and no work shall commence until the information is reviewed and notification of permission to proceed is provided by a Reclamation biologist.

Resource	Protection Measure
Biological Resources	No more than 30 days prior to construction, a qualified biologist shall survey the project area for burrowing owls, their burrows and other sign. If any occupied burrows are found, no ground disturbing activities shall occur within 164 feet (50 m) of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) or within 246 feet (75 m) during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31). All survey information shall be documented and submitted to Reclamation.
Biological Resources	Before any ground disturbing activities for the Proposed Project are begun, a qualified biologist shall conduct a nest survey for the tri-colored blackbird. If any occupied nests are found, work shall be postponed until the young have fledged or until it is determined that the nest is no longer active. All survey information shall be documented and submitted to Reclamation.

Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented.

### Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 paragraph C (3): *Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.*

**Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion:**

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |    |                                     |           |                          |     |                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |

10. This action would violate a Federal, tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). No  Uncertain  Yes
11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). No  Uncertain  Yes
12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)). No  Uncertain  Yes
13. This action would limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007, 43 CFR 46.215 (k), and 512 DM 3)). No  Uncertain  Yes
14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, EO 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). No  Uncertain  Yes

Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 8. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

Area Office Biologist concurred with Item 9. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11. Their determination has been placed within the project file.