

From: Rivera, Patricia L
Sent: Wednesday, June 06, 2012 1:16 PM
To: Siek, Charles R; Williams, Mary D (Diane); Robbins, Eleanor J (Ellie)
Subject: RE: Request for re-issuance of ITA determination---***ELLIE THIS IS ADMIN

Chuck,

I reviewed the proposed action to issue a license to the District for the use of dredged spoils stored on the Fabian Tract. Once the license is issued, the District could remove the spoils (not to exceed 15,000 cubic yards (cy) of material annually) to a maximum of approximately 50,000 cy, with an excavator and transfer them to diesel trucks for transport to levee maintenance areas. Once onsite, the spoils material would be spread and compacted by heavy equipment to reinforce existing levee sections. The reinforcement would widen the backside of the levee and reinforce the levee by compensating for fill materials that is lost via waterside erosion. Hauling and staging would occur in a 60 foot-wide strip of land connecting the existing dredge spoils area with the base of the District levee.

Equipment used during construction activities would include: Excavators, side dump tractors (for loading spoils materials), wheel loaders, wheel tractor-scrappers, motor graders, track-type tractor/bulldozers and similar equipment for loading, transporting, and compacting spoil/fill materials. Activities would occur beginning on March 1 through November 1 each year (40 working days total estimated), for a duration of no longer than 5 years (2017).

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and State Department of Water Resources are involved in a program to alleviate the inability of south Delta agricultural diverters to divert water of adequate quantity for agricultural purposes. This program includes the dredging of agricultural diversions on Grant Line and Fabian-Bell canals, Middle River, Old River, North Canal, and Victoria Canal. Spoils (i.e. dredged material that has been allowed to dry and settle on land) are placed on the western end of the Fabian Tract located approximately 8 miles northwest of the City of Tracy. To date, the spoils have not accumulated to an amount that needs removal however the spoils will eventually need removal to an offsite location to prevent excessive mounding of spoils materials.

Reclamation District 773 (District) has requested a license to remove/reuse spoils from the Fabian Track to stabilize their levees (Figure 2).

The District has determined the need for reinforcement of its existing levee system in the Fabian Tract. Problems observed during inspections include erosion, seepage boils, and drainage on the landside of the levee system. The District's financial analysis determined that purchase of commercial fill material would be costly and would require transportation to the construction site. Reclamation's spoils site is adjacent to most of the construction area and would provide an ideal fill source. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide the District fill for their needs while freeing up an equal amount of area at the spoils site for future drying and storage. The Proposed Action would also reduce emissions that would result from the longer transport from an off-site fill location.

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Assets.

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