

PRO-FONSI-09-001

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**Contributed Funds Act Funding
For Provo Reservoir Canal Enclosure and Increased Capacity**

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Upper Colorado Region
Provo Area Office
Provo, Utah**

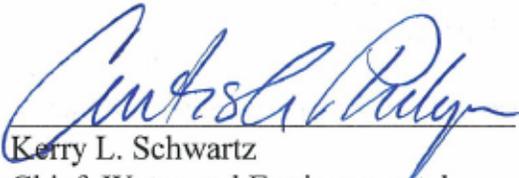
Recommended by:



Beverley C. Heffernan
Chief, Environmental Group

2/5/10
Date

Concur:



Kerry L. Schwartz
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Resources Division

2/5/2010
Date

Approved by:



Bruce C. Barrett
Area Manager, Provo Area Office

2/5/10
Date

Finding

The Bureau of Reclamation has determined that authorizing the use of the Contributed Funds Act (43 U.S.C. 395) to enlarge and enclose the Provo Reservoir Canal (PRC) will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment, and that an environmental impact statement is not required. This decision is based on a thorough review of the Central Utah Project Completion Act Section 207 and Contributed Funds Act Funding for Provo Reservoir Canal Enclosure and Increased Capacity Environmental Assessment (EA) dated July 2009 and public comments received in response to the publication of the draft EA in February 2009. This decision is in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), and the Department of the Interior regulations for implementation of NEPA (43 CFR Part 46).

Decision

Reclamation has decided to authorize use of the Contributed Funds Act to accept and use funds from non-Federal sources for enclosure of the Provo Reservoir Canal, a feature of the Provo River Project, at the capacity specified in the EA.

Reasons for the Decision

A finding of no significant impact is based on the following:

1. The proposed action will have no adverse effect on such unique characteristics as cultural resources, wilderness areas, wetlands, and riparian areas.
2. The environmental effects of the proposed action are neither controversial nor do they involve unique or unknown risks.
3. The proposed action will have no adverse effect on species either currently listed or proposed for listing as candidate, endangered, or threatened species, and no adverse effect on designated critical habitat for these species.
4. The proposed action does not threaten to violate Federal, state, or local laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment.

Reclamation has analyzed the environmental effects, public comments, and the alternatives in detail and believes that the proposed action meets the purpose and need described in the EA with negligible effects to the human environment.

Public Involvement

Preparation of this EA included issuing it in draft form on February 27, 2009, for a 30-day public comment period which ended on March 27, 2009. Two comment letters were received and were considered in finalizing the EA and preparing this FONSI.

Summary of Environmental Impacts

The expected environmental effects of the preferred action alternative are described on pages 5-6 of the EA. The environmental analysis indicates that the proposed action is environmentally benign.

Environmental Commitments

Reclamation is obligated to ensure fulfillment of any environmental commitments prescribed to mitigate or eliminate impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed action. In this case, implementation of the proposed action directly relates to enclosure of the Provo Reservoir Canal, which was analyzed in PRO-EA-03-006 (incorporated by reference into EA-09-001) and approved in 2003. Therefore, the Best Management Practices and construction procedures described on pages 2-10 to 2-20 of that 2003 EA are still applicable, and Reclamation will monitor construction and post-construction activities to ensure avoidance or minimization of effects to the environment. Additionally, as final design for the canal enclosure project proceeds, the Provo River Water Users Association is expected to continue close coordination with municipalities and the affected public in order to resolve any technical difficulties associated with relocation of utilities, if such issues arise due to depth of excavation in specific locations.