

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**Yuma Arizona Welcome Center Parking Lot and Future Welcome Center**

**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Reclamation**  
**Yuma Area Office**

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and based on the following, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has determined that implementation of the Proposed Action (Alternative B) to develop a parking lot for the future Yuma Arizona Welcome Center, would not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human and natural environment. The attached Environmental Assessment (EA) provides a detailed description of the Proposed Action and a thorough description of potential impacts for Reclamation to make a determination of granting a right-of-use authorization to the City of Yuma (COY) for the use of federal lands. The EA should be used as a companion document to this Finding of No Significant Impact.

The purpose of the proposed project is to make land improvements on federal property for the benefit of the local Yuma, Arizona community. Construction of a parking lot and related project components will support the Yuma Welcome Center facility by providing a designated parking area within close proximity to the COY historic downtown area which is also accessible to Interstate 8. Please visit Section 2.2.2 Alternative B – Proposed Action of the EA for a more detailed description of the Proposed Action.


The analysis presented in the EA focused on the resource areas identified to have potential for impacts from the proposed project, as well as the No Action alternative. Those resources were noise, air quality, hazardous and solid waste, water resources, land use/ownership, biological resources, cultural/historic resources, geology and soils, Indian Trust Assets, socioeconomics, and environmental justice. Based on the location and nature of the project, Reclamation determined that the proposed project had no potential to affect prime/unique farmlands, wild or scenic rivers, or wetland/riparian zones. The potential for impacts to noise, air quality, biological resources, and cultural/historic resources were considered negligible because of the stringent regulatory and best management practices (BMPs).

Reclamation has identified many BMPs to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects that may result from the Proposed Action. A brief summary of the environmental commitments and practices Reclamation has committed to are listed below.

- Adhere to the COY Noise Limitation Standards
- Minimize equipment idling and employ proper vehicle maintenance to minimize emissions
- Use mufflers and other noise suppression technology
- Employ all BMPs as described in the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
- Follow the guidance of a site specific spill contingency plan to include training and reporting guidelines

- A qualified biological monitor would be on call to identify the presence of burrowing owls. If burrowing owls are found within the work area, the monitor will mark burrows for avoidance during project construction and arrange for the relocation of the owls.
- Relocate one residential unit to the north end of the project site to minimize impacts to the house which is eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- If previously unidentified archaeological or historic resources are discovered during the relocation of the house, work shall stop and immediately notify the Reclamation Environmental Program Manager and Regional Archaeologist. All reasonable steps will be taken to secure the preservation of those features
- Archaeological sensitivity training shall be required for all contractor employees conducting ground disturbing activities

Based on the analysis of the environmental impacts, BMPs, and environmental commitments, as presented in the EA, Reclamation has concluded that implementation of the Proposed Action (Alternative B) does not pose a significant adverse impact to the quality of the human and natural environment.

  
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Jennifer McCloskey, Area Manager  
Yuma Area Office

  
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