

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## Categorical Exclusion Checklist

# Lake Woollomes Boating Amendment

CEC-12-087

Prepared by:



Nick Kilb  
Natural Resources Specialist  
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 3/19/13

Concurred by:



Shauna McDonald  
Wildlife Biologist  
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 3/19/13

Concurred by:



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

Date: 3/20/13

Approved by:



Michael Jackson  
Area Manager  
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 3/25/13



## Background

Lake Woollomes (Lake) is an equalizing reservoir for the Friant-Kern Canal, and is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). The Lake is located approximately four miles southeast of the town of Delano, in Kern County, California (Figure 1). In addition to its primary purpose, the Lake and surrounding grounds are also used for recreation, which is managed by the Kern County Parks Department according to a 1973 agreement with Reclamation.

In order to enhance recreational opportunities, Kern County has requested a change in the agreement to allow limited power boating on the Lake.

## Need for the Proposed Action

Kern County has a need to expand the outdoor recreational experience for the visiting public at the Lake by allowing for limited power boating.

## Proposed Action

Reclamation would amend the “Management Agreement Between the United States of America and Kern County for the Development, Administration, Operation, and Maintenance of Recreation and Other Purposes at Lake Woollomes” (U.S. Contract No. 14-06-200-7183A) to allow for limited power boating. Specifically, power boats with electric engines with a maximum of 3 horsepower would be allowed to operate under a speed limit of 3 miles per hour on the Lake.

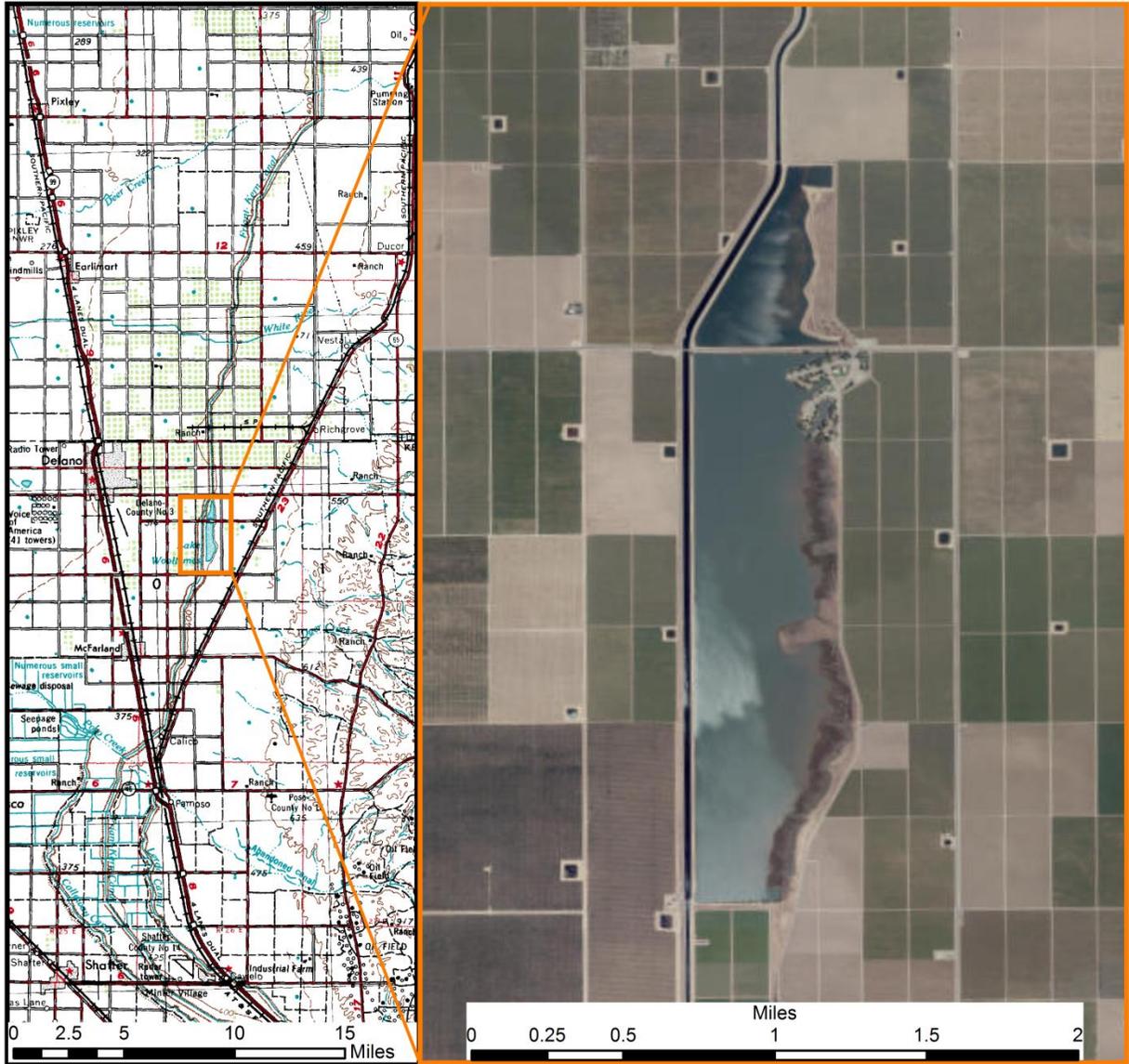
## Environmental Commitments

In order to avoid any potential impacts, Kern County and Reclamation have agreed to implement the following environmental protection measures. Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented.

Resource	Protection Measure
Air / Water / Biological / Safety	Motors would be restricted to electric engines with a maximum of 3 horsepower.
Air / Water / Biological / Safety	The maximum speed limit on the Lake would be 3 mph.

## Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 paragraph D (2): *Transfer of the operation and maintenance of Federal facilities to water districts, recreation agencies, fish and wildlife agencies, or other entities where the anticipated operation and maintenance activities are agreed to in a contract or a memorandum of agreement, follow approved Reclamation policy, and no major change in operation and maintenance is anticipated.*



**CEC-12-087 Lake Wollomes Boating Amendment**

**Figure 1 Location Map**



Topographic Map: USGS (2012)  
Aerial Photo: USDA, NAIP (2012)

## 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"/> |

## Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion:

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 attached.

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11. Their determination has been attached.

# **Attachment A Cultural Resources Determination**



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

IN REPLY  
REFER TO:  
MP-153  
ENV-3.00

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

March 18 2013  
MEMORANDUM

To: Nicholas Kilb  
SCAO

From: Scott Williams  
Archaeologist – Division of Environmental Affairs

**Subject:** Lake Woollomes Boating Amendment (13-SCAO-120)

Nicholas

The proposed undertaking for the Lake Woollomes Boating Amendment has no potential to cause effects to historic properties pursuant to the Section 106 implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1). Lake Woollomes (Lake) is an equalizing reservoir for the Friant-Kern Canal, and is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). The Lake is located approximately four miles southeast of the town of Delano, in Kern County, California

The proposed action would amend the “Management Agreement Between the United States of America and Kern County for the Development, Administration, Operation, and Maintenance of Recreation and Other Purposes at Lake Woollomes” (U.S. Contract No. 14-06-200-7183A) to allow for limited power boating. Specifically, power boats with electric engines with a maximum of 3 horsepower would be allowed to operate under a speed limit of 3 miles per hour on the Lake.

I concur with Item 8 of the CEC 12-087, for this action.

This concludes the Section 106 review process. Please retain a copy of this Memo with the administrative record for this action. If the project activities change or circumstances are altered after this review, there may be additional Section 106 review responsibilities up to and including consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer.

# **Attachment B Indian Trust Assets Determination**



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**Re: Request for Determinations: Lake Woollomes Boating Amendment--  
\*\*\*KRISTI THIS IS ADMIN**

1 message

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**RIVERA, PATRICIA** <privera@usbr.gov>  
To: "Kilb, Nicholas" <nkilb@usbr.gov>  
Cc: kseabrook@usbr.gov, marywilliams@usbr.gov

Mon, Mar 18, 2013 at 10:15 AM

Nick,

I reviewed the proposed action to amend the "Management Agreement Between the United States of America and Kern County for the Development, Administration, Operation, and Maintenance of Recreation and Other Purposes at Lake Woollomes" (U.S. Contract No. 14-06-200-7183A) to allow for limited power boating. Specifically, power boats with electric engines with a maximum of 3 horsepower would be allowed to operate under a speed limit of 3 miles per hour on the Lake.

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

Patricia Rivera  
Native American Affairs Program Manager  
US Bureau of Reclamation  
Mid-Pacific Region  
2800 Sacramento, California 95825  
(916) 978-5194

On Fri, Mar 15, 2013 at 3:39 PM, Kilb, Nicholas <nkilb@usbr.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

Attached is a request for determinations. I've also attached a Draft CEC, with a more detailed project description and maps. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

- Request Date: March 15, 2013
- Requesting Office: SCCAO
- Requestor: Nick Kilb
- Project Name: CEC 12-087 Lake Woollomes Boating Amendment
- Target Date for Completion: April 30, 2013
- Cost Authority: A20-1785-4997-00-0-0

- Reclamation Point(s) of Contact: Jack Collins

- Project Description/Reclamation's Role:

Reclamation would amend the "Management Agreement Between the United States of America and Kern County for the Development, Administration, Operation, and Maintenance of Recreation and Other Purposes at Lake Woollomes" (U.S. Contract No. 14-06-200-7183A) to allow for limited power boating.

Specifically, power boats with electric engines with a maximum of 3 horsepower would be allowed to operate under a speed limit of 3 miles per hour on the Lake.

See attached Draft CEC for more information.

- Other Agencies Involved: Kern County Parks Department
- Level of NEPA Anticipated: CEC
- Project Location: Sections 016, 021, 028, T25S R26E MDB&M. See attached draft CEC for maps.
- Supplemental Information: See attached draft CEC for more information

Thank You,  
Nicholas (Nick) Kilb  
Natural Resources Specialist, NEPA Team

Bureau of Reclamation  
South-Central California Area Office  
1243 "N" Street  
Fresno, CA 93721-1813

559-487-5044

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