

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

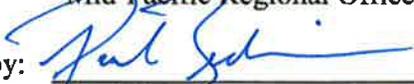
Orland-Artois Water District Discharge Facility – Tehama-Colusa Canal, Milepost 33.5L

NCAO-CEC-14- 1

Prepared by:  Date: 1/21/2014
Irene Hobbs
Realty Specialist
Northern California Area Office

Concurrence by: See Attachment 1 Date: Jan 14, 2014
Patricia Rivera
Native American Affairs Program Manager
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by: See Attachment 2 Date: Jan 21, 2014
TBD
Cultural Resource Specialist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:  Date: 1/22/2014
Paul Zedonis
Natural Resource Specialist
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:  Date: 1/23/14
for: Brian Person
Area Manager
Northern California Area Office



Proposed Action

Orland-Artois Water District (District) is requesting permission to install, operate and maintain a new discharge facility at Milepost 33.5L on the Tehama Colusa Canal (TCC) (Figure 1). This new discharge facility is located adjacent to an existing discharge facility and would facilitate discharging well water into the TCC in accordance with the District's Warren Act Contract No. 04-WC-20-2867. The existing pipe will be capped off but remain in place for future use if needed. The new 12-inch pipeline will be installed parallel to the existing 8-inch pipeline and will tie into the existing pipe located on land owned by Mr. John Erickson onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross through the berm and access road and extend into the canal through the embankment. A backhoe would be used to dig the trench. Soils extracted by trenching would be prevented from entering the canal and would be reused to cover the new pipeline. The pipeline over the U.S. right of way and access road shall have a minimum of 2-feet of cover. A cross sectional view of the project area is shown in Figure 2. This action would occur in late winter or early spring in preparation for the irrigation season. The license period will be for no longer than ten years. Photos of the action area are provided in Figures 3.

The Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) has reviewed the District's request and an onsite inspection was conducted on January 6, 2013, with TCCA, the District, Reclamation personnel and the landowner present. It was determined the proposed facility will not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the TCCA.

The right-of-way and area to be used for this action does not provide habitat for any threatened or endangered species. The canal itself is concrete lined, and the TCCA regularly maintains the area and engages in a weed abatement program along both the right-of-way and in the canal. A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB, Rarefind, V5, 01/10/14) revealed there were no observances of any federally listed species in the Orland quad. Additionally, a search of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online database for the same quad identified potential habitat for several invertebrates, fish, and the re-legged frog; however, all these species would not be affected by this action because their habitat does not exist in the work area.

The discharge facility is located in Section 35, Township 22 North, Range 3 West in Glenn County

Exclusion Categories

Bureau of Reclamation Categorical Exclusion – 516 DM 14.5, D(10): Issuance of permits, licenses, easements and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau of Reclamation lands where the action does not allow or lead to larger public or private action.

Extraordinary Circumstances

Below is an evaluation of the extraordinary circumstances as required in 43 CFR 46.215.

1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3). No Uncertain Yes

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 Uncertain Yes
3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). No Uncertain Yes
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 Uncertain Yes
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 Uncertain Yes
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 Uncertain Yes
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 Uncertain Yes
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; and 43 CFR 46.215 (g)). No Uncertain Yes
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 Uncertain Yes
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; and 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 (email attached).

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11 (email attached).

NEPA Action Recommended

CEC – This action is covered by the exclusion category and no extraordinary circumstances exist. The action is excluded from further documentation in an EA or EIS.

Further environmental review is required, and the following document should be prepared.

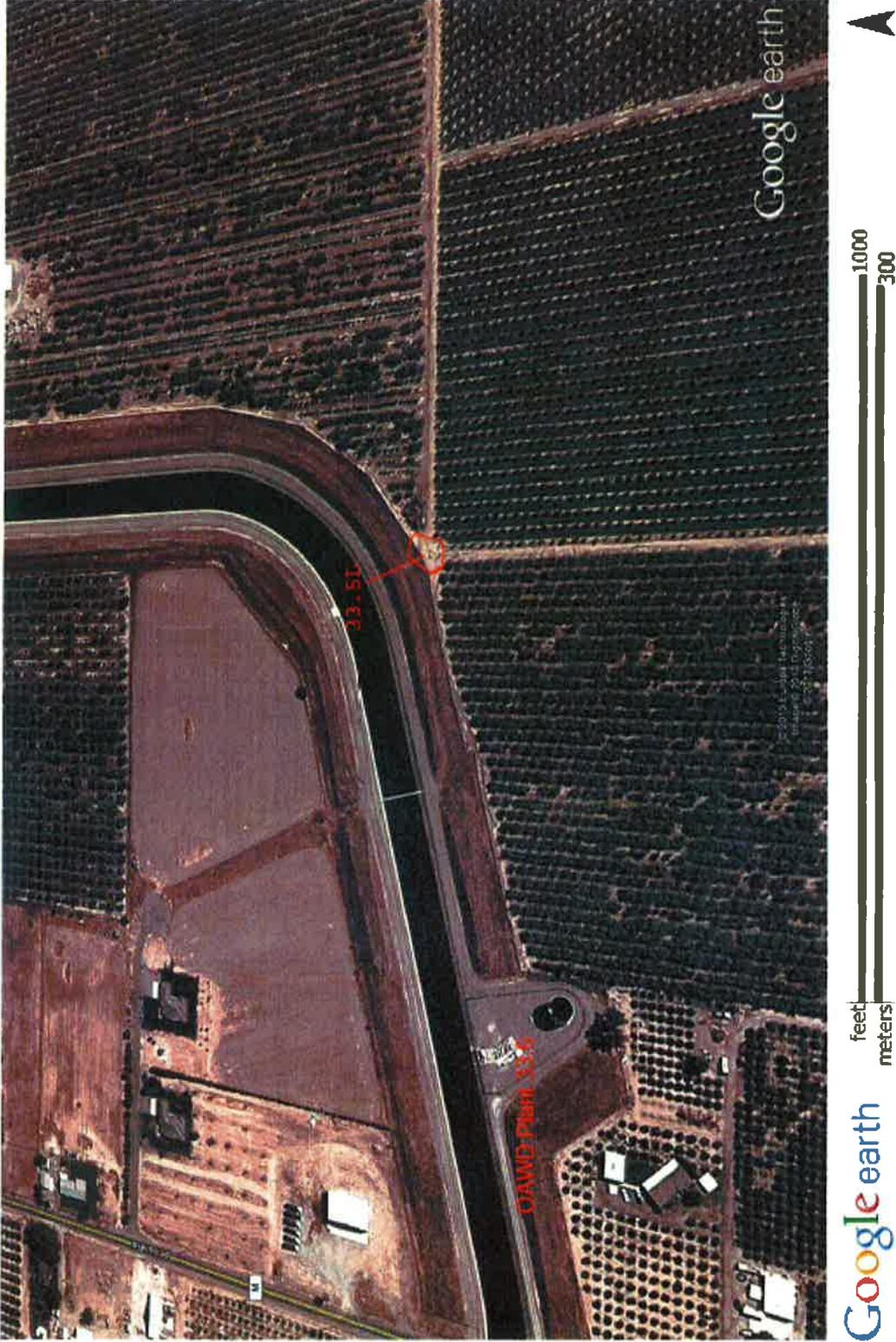
EA

EIS

Environmental commitments, explanations, and/or remarks:

Explanation and/or remarks:

The area that will be temporarily disturbed represents land that was disturbed from the time when the 8" pipeline was installed.



feet
meters

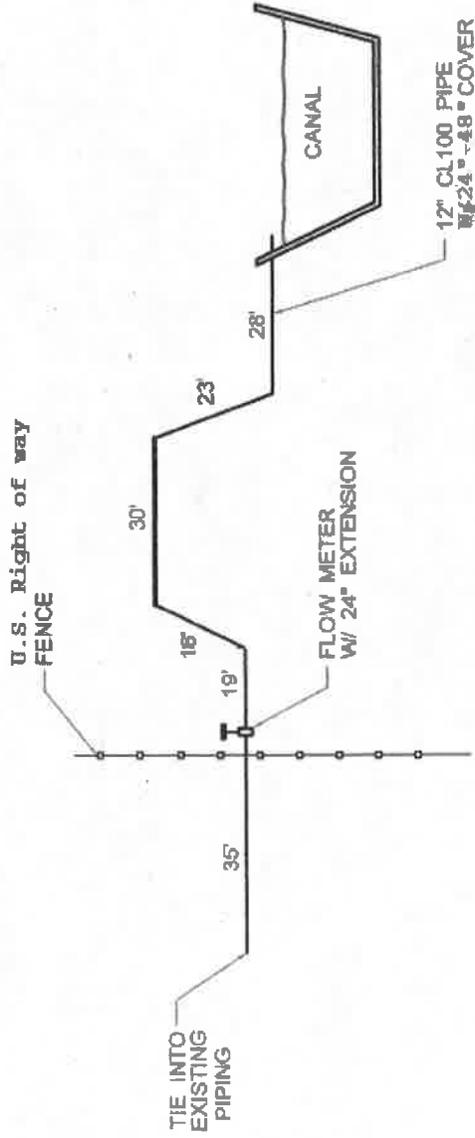
1000
300

Section 35 Township 22N Range 3W

Figure 1. Location of the mile post 33.5L where the new discharge pipeline will be placed as part of the proposed action.

ORLAND ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT
JOHN ERICKSON

Tehama-Colusa Canal Milepost 33.5L



NOT TO SCALE

FILE: JOHN ERICKSON 12062013

Figure 2. Cross sectional view of the existing land contours and dimensions of the action area.



Existing 8"
discharge
pipeline

Figure 3 Images of the area to be disturbed by the project: The temporary disturbance area between the tie-in location and the top of the TCC berm is shown in "A"; the top of the berm to the TCC, including the existing 8 inch discharge pipeline, is shown in "B".

Attachement 1.



Zedonis, Paul <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

CR & ITA Review: NCAO CEC OAWD Discharge Facility - TCC

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov>
To: Paul Zedonis <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

Tue, Jan 14, 2014 at 3:42 PM

Paul,

I reviewed the proposed action to approve Orland-Artois Water District's (District) request to install, operate and maintain a new discharge facility at Milepost 33.5L on the Tehama Colusa Canal (TCC).

The proposed action does not have a potential to impact Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is the Paskenta Rancheria approximately 10 miles North of the project location.

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

Attachment 2.

CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Reclamation Division of Environmental Affairs
MP-153

MP-153 Tracking Number: 14-NCAO-068

Project Name: Orland-Artois Water District (OAWD) Discharge Facility – Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) Milepost 33.5L

NEPA Document: NCAO-CEC-14-1

NEPA Contact: Paul Zedonis, Natural Resources Specialist

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: William Soule, Archaeologist

Date: 01/21/2014

The undertaking by Reclamation is to grant permission to the OAWD to install, operate, and maintain a new discharge facility at Milepost 33.5L on the TCC. This is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, should such historic properties be present, pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1).

This new discharge facility will be located in disturbed soils adjacent to an existing discharge facility and would facilitate discharging well water into the TCC in accordance with the District's Warren Act Contract No. 04-WC-20-2867. The existing pipe will be capped off but remain in place for future use if needed. The new 12-inch pipeline will be installed parallel to the existing 8-inch pipeline and will tie into the existing pipe located on land owned by Mr. John Erickson onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross through the berm and access road and extend into the TCC through the embankment.

After reviewing the materials submitted by NCAO, I concur with a statement in NCAO-CEC-14-1 that this action would not have significant effects on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation. With this determination, Reclamation has no further NHPA Section 106 obligations. This memorandum is intended to convey the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to this project, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

CC: Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153), Anastasia Leigh – Regional Environmental Officer (MP-150)

