

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC)

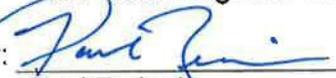
### Colusa County Water District - Three Discharge Facilities – Tehama-Colusa Canal, Mileposts 94.80R, 97.43R and 101.01L – Central Valley Project, California

**NCAO-CEC-14-7**

Prepared by:  Date: 3/20/2014  
Irene Hobbs  
Realty Specialist  
Northern California Area Office

Concurrence by: See Attachment 1 Date: 3/17/2014  
Patricia Rivera  
Native American Affairs Program  
Manager  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by: See Attachment 2 Date: 3/18/2014  
William Soule  
Archaeologist  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:  Date: 3/20/2014  
Paul Zedonis  
Natural Resource Specialist  
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:  Date: 3/21/14  
*for:* Brian Person  
Area Manager  
Northern California Area Office



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Mid Pacific Region

March 2014

## **Proposed Action**

Colusa County Water District (District) is requesting permission to install, operate and maintain three new discharge facilities along the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) for the purposes of discharging well water into the TCC in conjunction with the District's Warren Act Contract as follows:

1. At Milepost 94.80R, a 12-inch PVC pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Tom Charter and Family onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal 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 provided in Figure 1. The discharge facility is located in Section 29, Township 14 North, Range 2 West, M.D.M.&M. in Colusa County (Figure 2).
2. At Milepost 97.43R, a 12-inch PVC pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Doug Griffin onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal 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 provided in Figure 3. The discharge facility is located in Section 3, Township 13 North, Range 2 West, M.D.M.&M. in Colusa County (see Figure 4).
3. At Milepost 101.01L, a 12-inch steel pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Tom Charter and Family onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal 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 provided in Figure 5. The discharge facility is located in Section 24, Township 13 North, Range 2 West, M.D.M.&M in Colusa County (see Figure 6).

The Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) and Reclamation have reviewed the District's request and it has been determined the proposed facilities will not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the TCCA. This action would occur in late winter or early spring in preparation for the irrigation season.

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.

## 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:**

Cost Authority Number to review this request: 14XR0680A2 RX.07258947.3230000  
CC

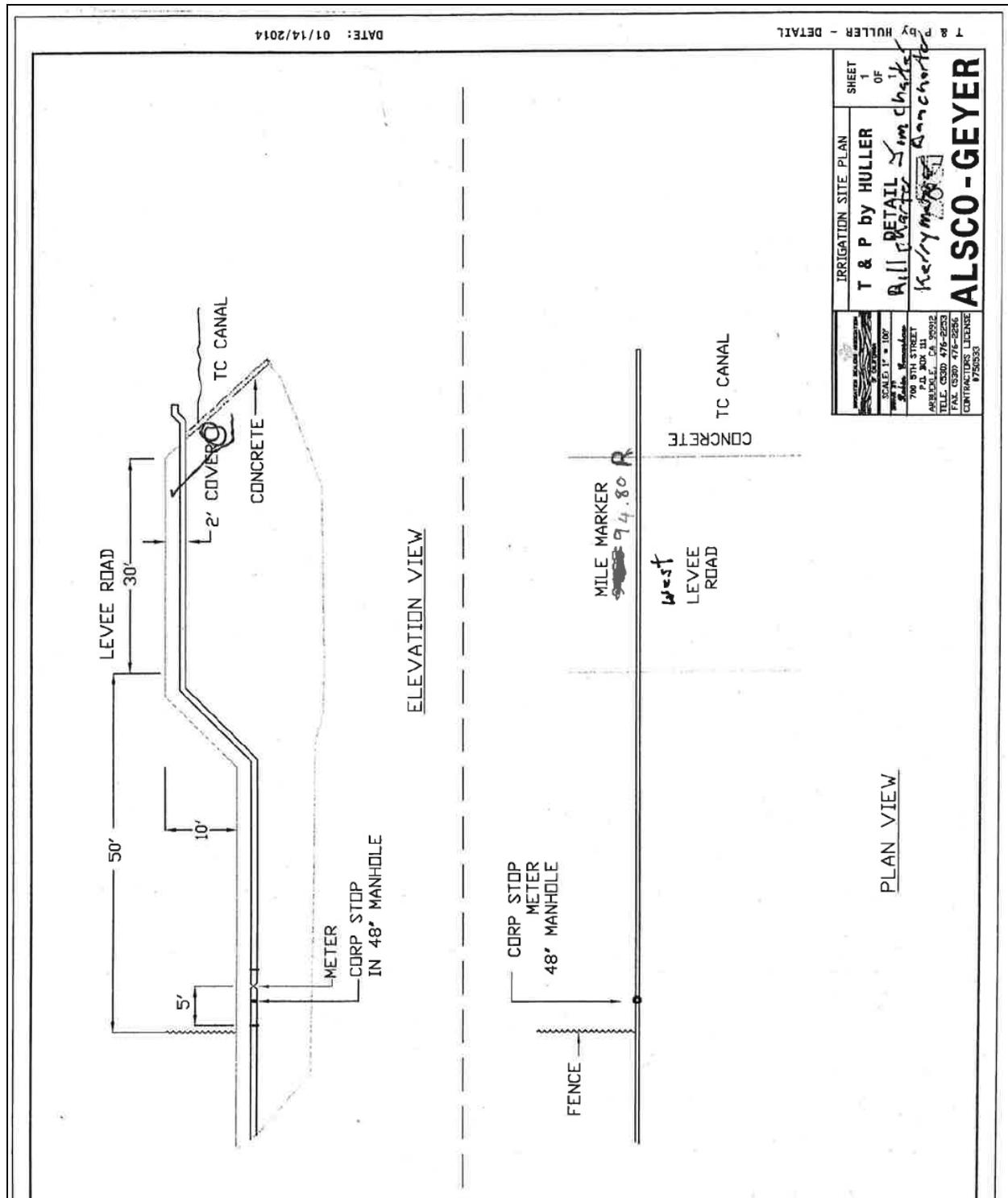


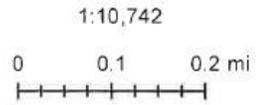
Figure 1. Cross-sectional view of the new discharge facility at MP 94.80

# Tom Charter MP 94.80R



Disclaimer: This map is a representation and is intended only for general reference.

- |                                 |                                         |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Restored/Sold Lands Text Labels | <input type="checkbox"/> Sections       |
| Owned Lands Text Labels         | <input type="checkbox"/> Township Range |
| Plat Index Labels               | World Imagery                           |
| Restored or Sold                | Low Resolution 15m Imagery              |
| Easement                        | High Resolution 60cm Imagery            |
| Acquired Land                   | High Resolution 30cm Imagery            |
| Withdrawn Land                  |                                         |



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Figure 2. Location of the discharge facility for Tom Charter MP 94.80R.

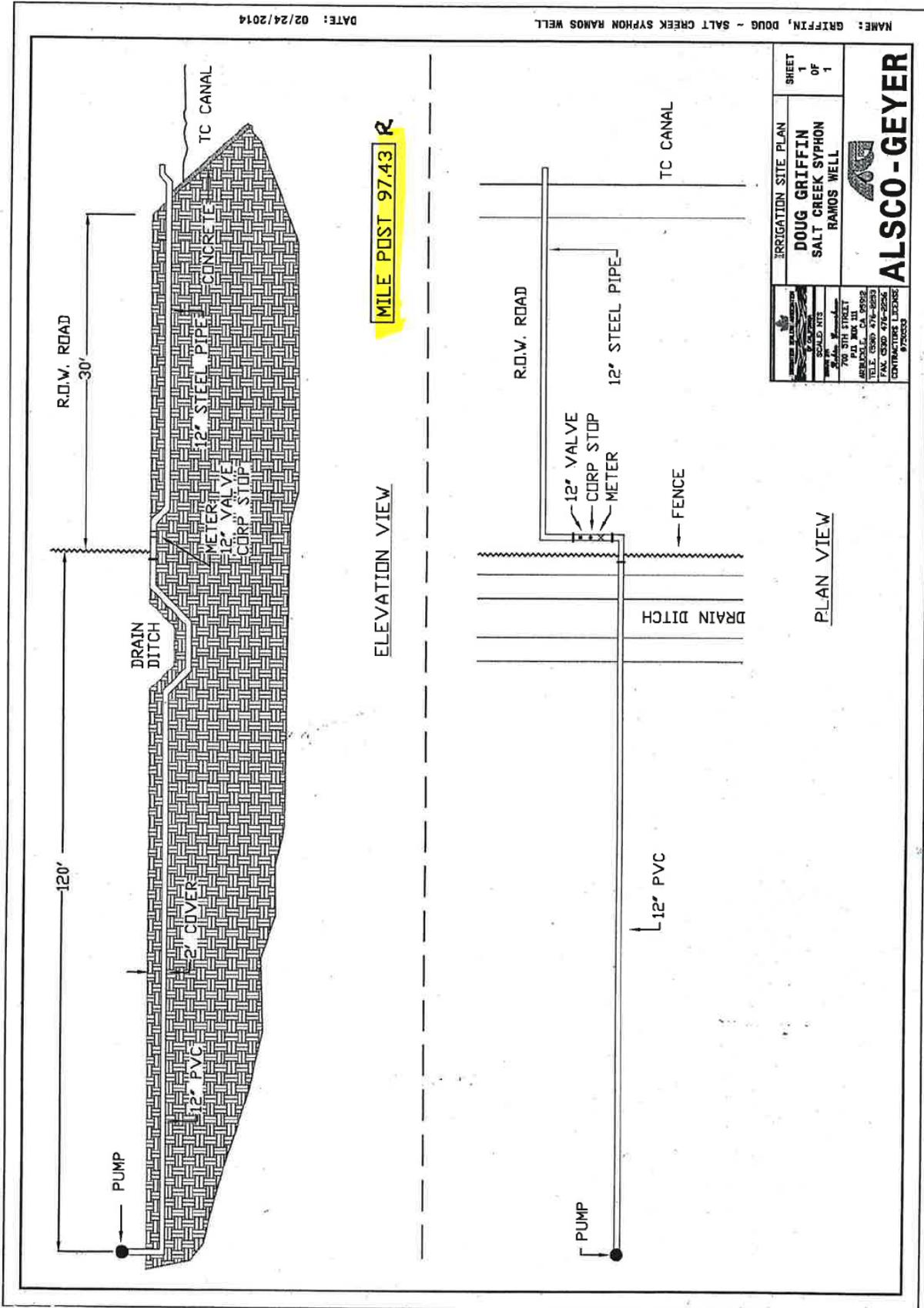


Figure 3. Cross-sectional view of the new discharge facility at MP 94.80

Doug Griffin CCWD MP-97.43R



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, IGN, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Disclaimer: This map is a representation and is intended only for general reference.

- Sections
- Township Range

World Imagery

Low Resolution 15m Imagery

High Resolution 60cm Imagery

High Resolution 30cm Imagery

1:4,248

0 0.055 0.11 mi

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Figure 4. Location of the discharge facility for Tom Charter MP 97.43R.

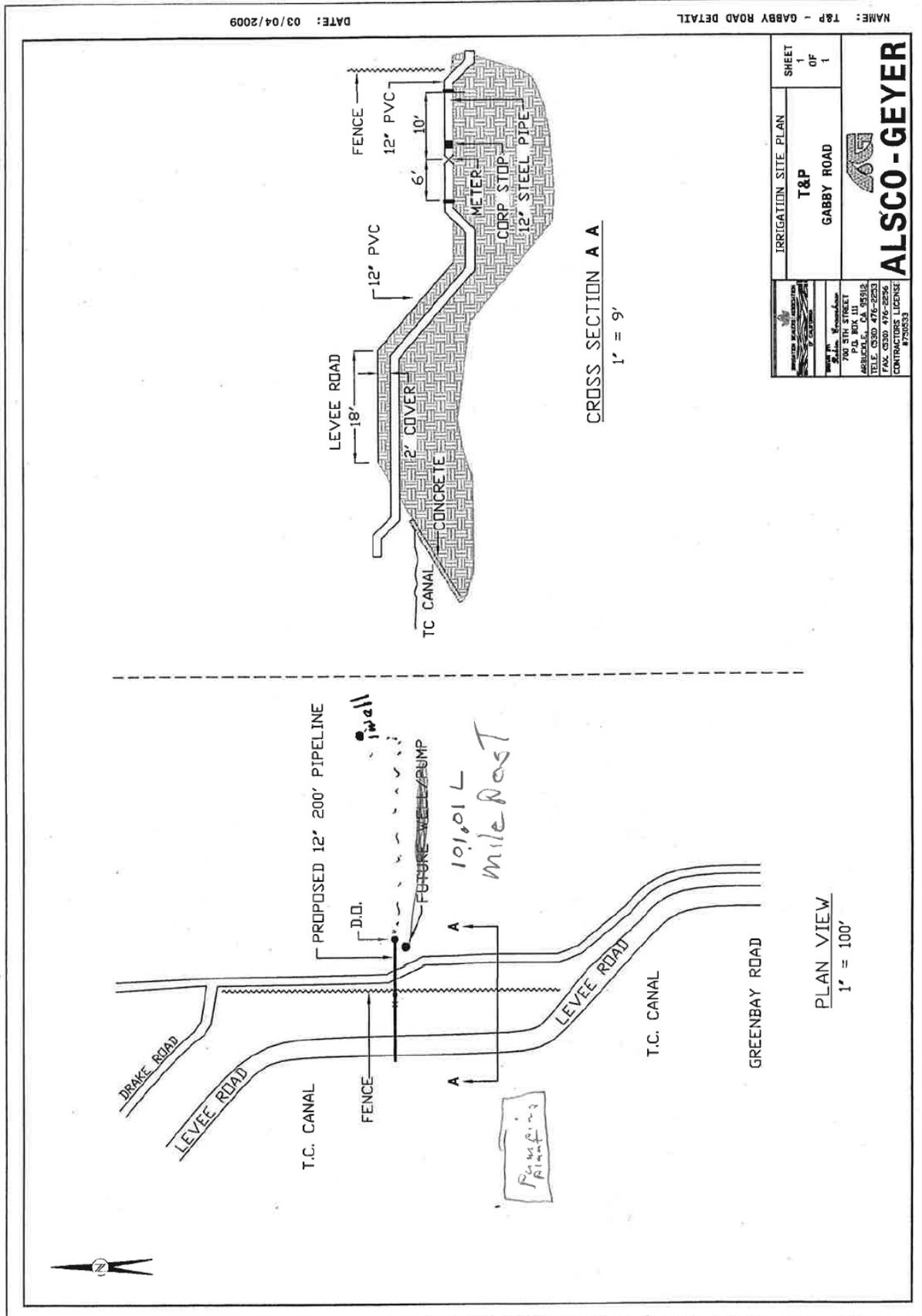


Figure 5. Cross-sectional view of the new discharge facility at MP 101.01

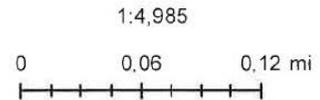
# Tom Charter MP 101.01L



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, iSat, USDA, USGS, AEX, Geomatics, AeroGrid, IGN, IOP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Disclaimer: This map is a representation and is intended only for general reference.

- Restored/Sold Lands Text Labels  Sections
- Owned Lands Text Labels  Township Range
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- Aquired Land  High Resolution 30cm Imagery
- Withdrawn Land



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Attachment 1. ITA Concurrence



Zedonis, Paul <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

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**CR & ITA Review: CEC CCWD Discharge Facilities, 94.80R, 97.43R, and 101.01L 03/17/14**

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

Mon, Mar 17, 2014 at 4:03 PM

Paul,

I reviewed the proposed action to approve Colusa County Water District's (District) request to install, operate and maintain three new discharge facilities along the Tehama-Colusa Canal for the purposes of discharging well water into the TCC in conjunction with the District's Warren Act Contract. These would occur at mileposts 94.80R, 97.43R, and 101.01L.

The proposed action does not have a potential to impact Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria approximately 9 miles NW from 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 Resources Concurrence

**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE**  
**Reclamation Division of Environmental Affairs**  
**MP-153**

**MP-153 Tracking Number:** 14-NCAO-137

**Project Name:** Colusa County Water District – Three Discharge Facilities – Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at Mileposts (MP) 94.80R, 97.43R, and 101.01L, Central Valley Project, California

**NEPA Document:** NCAO-CEC-14-7

**NEPA Contact:** Paul Zedonis, Natural Resources Specialist

**MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer:** William Soule, Archaeologist

**Date:** 03/18/2014

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The undertaking by Reclamation is to grant permission to CCWD to install, operate, and maintain three new discharge facilities along the TCC for the purposes of discharging well water into the TCC in conjunction the District's Warren Act Contacts. 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).

At Milepost 94.80R, a 12-inch PVC pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Tom Charter and Family onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal 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. The discharge facility is located in Section 29, Township 14 North, Range 2 West, M.D.M.&M. in Colusa County (Figure 2).

At Milepost 97.43R, a 12-inch PVC pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Doug Griffin onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal 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. The discharge facility is located in Section 3, Township 13 North, Range 2 West, M.D.M.&M. in Colusa County (see Figure 4).

At Milepost 101.01L, a 12-inch steel pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Tom Charter and Family onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal 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

**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE**  
**Reclamation Division of Environmental Affairs**  
**MP-153**

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. The discharge facility is located in Section 24, Township 13 North, Range 2 West, M.D.M.&M in Colusa County (see Figure 6).

After reviewing the materials submitted by NCAO, I concur with item 8 in NCAO-CEC-14-7 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)