

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**Temporary Delivery of Central Valley Project Water – APN 021-130-001 - Colusa
County, CA**

FONSI 17-03-NCAO

Prepared by:



Date: 11/2/16

Megan K. Simon
Natural Resources Specialist
Environmental and Natural Resources Division
Northern California Area Office

Recommended by:



Date: 11/2/16

Paul Zedonis
Division Chief
Environmental and Natural Resources Division
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:



Date: 11/2/2016

Don Bader
Area Manager
Northern California Area Office



Background

In accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46) to approve Colusa County Water District's (District) request to provide temporary Central Valley Project (CVP) water service to Colusa County Tax Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 021-130-001, located just outside the District's service boundary (Project).

The District proposes to provide up to 80 acre-feet (AF) from its water service Contract Total for the 2016 Contract Year to the property for irrigation purposes, during the period from approval of the request through February 28, 2017.

In accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the NEPA, the Northern California Area Office of the Bureau of Reclamation, has determined that an environmental impact statement is not required for further review of the proposal. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is supported by Reclamation's Environmental Assessment (EA) Number EA-17-03-NCAO, *Temporary Delivery of Central Valley Project Water - APN 021-130-001 - Colusa County, CA*, which is incorporated by reference and attached.

Alternatives Including Proposed Action

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would consist of Reclamation not consenting to the District's temporary delivery of CVP water to Colusa County APN 021-130-001 for the purposes of post-harvest irrigation and fertilizing while the groundwater well that permanently services the property is under repair. The property owner would need to limit their water use to that acquired from rainfall, find an alternate water source, or forego the irrigation and fertilizing until the well is repaired, which may result in crop failure or idling.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is Reclamation's consent to the District's request to provide temporary CVP water service of up to 80 AF to Colusa County APN 021-130-001 for crop irrigation and fertilization purposes from approval of the request through February 28, 2017.

The water would be served through the District's existing distribution system, diverted through an existing metered diversion and private lines, and applied to the northern 1/3 of the subject parcel, which constitutes approximately 170 acres of cropland.

The temporary service would also be subject to the following parameters:

- Use existing facilities and operations
- Maintain existing land uses
- Provide water for lands irrigated within the last three consecutive years
- Have adequate drainage facilities
- Be outside the jurisdiction of any CVP contractor
- Comply with all applicable Federal laws and requirements imposed for the protection of the environment and Indian Trust Assets (ITAs)
- Occur between the willing buyer and the willing seller

Findings

Reclamation's determination that implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in significant impacts to the quality of the human environment is supported by the attached EA and is summarized in the following:

1. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)).
2. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such as proximity to 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 (Executive Order (EO) 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1 508.27(b)(3) and 43 CFR 46.215(b)).
3. There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
4. The Proposed Action will not have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
5. The Proposed Action will neither establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
6. The Proposed Action will not have cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
7. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect historic properties (40

CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).

8. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect listed or proposed Threatened or Endangered species, or habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)).
9. The Proposed Action will not threaten a violation of Federal, State, tribal or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)).
10. The Proposed Action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993).
11. Implementing the Proposed Action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).
12. The Proposed Action will not limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian Sacred Sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007 and 512 DM 3).