Revised Draft Environmental Assessment for Renewal of the Long-Term Contract for the Feather Water District

Central Valley Project, California



Revised August 2004

Bureau of Reclamation Mid-Pacific Region 2800 Cottage Way Sacramento, California 95825-1898



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section

Page

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY			ES-1
1.	Purp	1-1	
	1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4	Introduction Purpose and Need for Action Public Involvement Related Activities	1-1 1-4 1-6 1-6
2.	DESC	RIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES	2-1
	2.1 2.2 2.3	Introduction Long-term Water Service Contract Negotiations Process Issues Considered as Part of Long-term Contract Renewals 2.3.1 Needs Analyses 2.3.2 Changes in Water Service Areas 2.3.3 Water Transfers	2-1 2-1 2-2 2-2 2-3 2-3 2-3
	2.4	Development of Alternatives 2.4.1 No Action Alternative 2.4.2 Alternative 1 2.4.3 Alternative 2	2-3 2-3 2-5 2-6
	2.5 2.6	 Alternative 2 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated 2.5.1 Nonrenewal of Long-Term Contracts 2.5.2 Reduction in Contract Amounts 2.5.3 Greater or Lesser Water Deliveries Selection of the Preferred Alternative 	2-0 2-7 2-7 2-7 2-7 2-8 2-8
	2.7	Summary of Conclusions	2-8
3.	AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES, AND Environmental Commitments		
	3.1 3.2	 Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement 3.1.1 Localized Impacts of PEIS on Preferred Alternative Agricultural Economics 3.2.1 Affected Environment 3.2.2 Environmental Consequences 3.2.3 Cumulative Impacts 	3-1 3-2 3-2 3-2 3-5 3-11
	3.3	 Water Resources 3.3.1 Affected Environment 3.3.2 Environmental Consequences 3.3.3 Cumulative Impacts 	3-12 3-12 3-19 3-24
	3.4	Land Use Resources 3.4.1 Affected Environment 3.4.2 Environmental Consequences 3.4.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-24 3-24 3-27 3-28
	3.5	Biological Resources 3.5.1 Affected Environment 3.5.2 Environmental Consequences 3.5.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-28 3-28 3-39 3-42

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

Secti	on		Page
	3.6	Social Conditions and Environmental Justice	3-43
		3.6.1 Affected Environment	3-43
		3.6.2 Environmental Consequences	3-46
		3.6.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-47
	3.7	Recreational Resources	3-47
		3.7.1 Affected Environment	3-47
		3.7.2 Environmental Consequences	3-48
		3.7.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-49
	3.8	Indian Trust Assets	3-49
		3.8.1 Affected Environment	3-49
		3.8.2 Environmental Consequences	3-50
		3.8.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-50
	3.9	Cultural Resources	3-50
		3.9.1 Affected Environment	3-50
		3.9.2 Environmental Consequences	3-57
		3.9.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-59
	3.10	Geology and Soils	3-59
		3.10.1 Affected Environment	3-59
		3.10.2 Environmental Consequences	3-60
		3.10.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-60
	3.11	Air Quality	3-60
		3.11.1 Affected Environment	3-60
		3.11.2 Environmental Consequences	3-62
	2.4.0	3.11.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-63
	3.12	Visual Resources	3-63
		3.12.1 Affected Environment	3-64
		3.12.2 Environmental Consequences	3-64
	_	3.12.3 Cumulative Impacts	3-65
4.		ULTATION AND COORDINATION	4-1
	4.1	Introduction	4-1
	4.2	Public Involvement	4-1
		4.2.1 Public Scoping	4-1
		4.2.2 Public Participation During Contract Negotiations	4-2
		4.2.3 Public Comment on the Draft EA	4-3
	4.3	Consultation and Coordination with Other Agencies	4-3
		4.3.1 National Environmental Policy Act	4-3
		4.3.2 Endangered Species Act	4-3
		4.3.3 Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act	4-3
		4.3.4 National Historic Preservation Act	4-3
		4.3.5 Indian Trust Assets	4-4
		4.3.6 Indian Sacred Sites on Federal Land	4-4
		4.3.7 Environmental Justice	4-4
		4.3.8 State, Area-wide, and Local Plan and Program Consistency	4-4 4 E
		4.3.9 Flood Plain Management	4-5 4 F
		4.3.10 Wetlands Protection4.3.11 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	4-5 4-5
			4 -3

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

Section	Section		
		4.3.12 Farmland Protection Policy Act and Farmland Preservation	4-5
		4.3.13 Clean Air Act	4-5
		4.3.14 Safe Drinking Water Act	4-6
		4.3.15 Clean Water Act	4-6
5.	REFER	ENCES	5-1
6.	GLOS	sary of Terms and Acronyms	6-1
	6.1	Glossary of Terms	6-1
	6.2	Acronyms	6-8

APPENDICES

App	endix	κA	List o	f Pre	par	ers	
	1.	•	-				

- Appendix B Economic Analysis
- Appendix C Distribution List
- Appendix D Special Status Species

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure

Figure		
1-1	Feather Water District – Regional Location	1-2
1-2	Feather Water District Service Area	1-3
3-1	Comparison of Natural Runoff and Water Delivered to Feather Water District as a	
	Percent of Contract Amount	3-18
3-2	Feather Water District – Vegetative Habitat	3-30
3-3	Known Occurrence of Special Status Species in the Project Area	3-36

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1-1	Related Activities	1-6
2-1	Comparison of Contract Provisions Considered in Alternatives	2-9
2-2	Summary of Potential Impacts	2-14
3-1	Water Rates Paid by the Feather Water District for Selected Years	3-3
3-2	Feather Water District Irrigated Acreage	3-4
3-3	Feather Water District Acreage, Revenue, and Water Use Estimates	3-4
3-4	Sutter and Yuba County Employment Breakdown	3-5
3-5	No Action Alternative Acres, Water Use, and Water Rates	3-6
3-6	Alternative 2 Water Rates and Usage Following Average, Wet, or Dry Five-year Periods	
	Compared to No Action	3-8
3-7	Alternative 2 Applied Irrigation Water Changes Following Average, Wet, or Dry Five-Year	
	Periods Compared to No Action (Acre-feet)	3-8
3-8	Alternative 2 Changes in Irrigated Acres Following Average, Wet, or Dry Five-Year	
	Periods Compared to Average, Wet, or Dry No Action	3-9
3-9	Alternative 2 Value of Production Following Average, Wet, or Dry Five-Year Periods	
	Compared to Average, Wet, or Dry No Action (Thousand \$)	3-10
3-10	Alternative 2 Changes in Net Revenue Following Average, Wet, or Dry Five-Year Periods	
	Compared to Average, Wet, or Dry No Action (Thousand \$)	3-10
3-11	Regional Impacts of Alternative 2 on the Sacramento Valley Economy	3-12
3-12	Summary of Water Needs Assessment Quantities	3-20
3-13	Feather Water District Irrigated Crops 1996, 1998, 1999	3-27
3-14	Special Status Species Listed by the Service as Potentially Occurring in the Gilsizer	
2.4.5	Slough Quad	3-33
3-15	Sutter County Population Estimates, 2000	3-43
3-16	County Population Totals and Projections	3-43
3-17	Employment Projections for Sutter County	3-44
3-18	Farms and Farm Workers in Sutter County	3-44
3-19	County Population Totals and Projections with Race/Ethnic Detail	3-45
3-20	Per Capita Income by Ethnic Group for 1989 (Dollars)	3-45
3-21	2002 Census Tract Data for Feather Water District	3-46

SUMMARY SHEET

1.	Proposed Federal Action:	Approve long-term water service contract for the Feather Water District through, 2029.
2.	Date Filed:	, 2004
3.	Applicant:	Bureau of Reclamation Mid-Pacific Region 2800 Cottage Way Sacramento, CA 95825 Attention: Buford Holt Telephone: (530) 275-1554 FAX: (916) 275-2441
4.	Authority:	Section 3404(c) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Title XXXIV of Public Law 102-575)
5.	Reclamation Facility:	Central Valley Project
6.	Nearest City:	Yuba City, California
7.	County:	Sutter, California