

**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST**

Mid-Pacific Region
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Project Name: Prosser Creek Dam Spillway Maintenance, Nevada County, CA

CEC Number: LO – 2010-1039

Cost Authority: A40-1912-8602-322-00-0-0

Date: July 12, 2012

EXCLUSION CATEGORY

516 DM 14.5 D.17 – Minor safety of dams construction activities where the work is confined to the dam, abutment areas, or appurtenant features, and where no major change in reservoir or downstream operation is anticipated as a result of the construction activities.

NATURE OF ACTION

Reclamation proposes to perform routine maintenance activities on two components of the spillway at Prosser Creek Dam during the summer of 2012. All work areas are contained within the Bureau of Reclamation maintenance easement (Reclamation Zone).

Spillway Inlet Maintenance

The first component of the spillway requiring maintenance is the spillway inlet channel located between the top of the dam and the reservoir. Sediment has collected within this channel and must be removed in order to re-establish the original designed cross-section and hydrology for proper operation of the spillway. An excavator would be used to scoop out the fines/material and place it in a rock truck. The excess soil will be stockpiled east of the left spillway wall cut slope within the Reclamation Zone. The stockpile area is approximately 2.3 acres in size and is delineated on the west by a drainage swale, on the south and east by an existing undesignated United States Forest Service (USFS) Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) trail, and on the north by a proposed exclusion zone. Steeper slopes at the southern portion of the 2.3 acre area will most likely not be utilized for soil stockpiling but is included in this analysis to cover the maximum

area of potential disturbance. The stockpiled material will be roughly graded to match surrounding topography and scarified to encourage recruitment of native vegetation upon project completion.

All maintenance activity within the spillway inlet will occur when conditions are dry (spillway water elevation below 5730 feet), and when the spillway is not in use. See Figure 2 and 3.

During this component of maintenance activities, the public use parking area and the existing access road that leads to Prosser Reservoir will need to be closed for approximately 3 days. Traffic control will be required at the intersection of Prosser Creek Dam Road and the access trail to the Reservoir.

Spillway Chute Sloughing and Slope Restoration

The second component of the spillway requiring maintenance is an area adjacent to the spillway channel between the top of the dam and the stilling basin. Loose rock and soil from the slope above has slid downhill and piled up against the spillway east wall. An excavator would be used to scoop out approximately 625 linear feet of soil material along the spillway chute wall. This material will be placed in a rock truck and will be stockpiled in the same location as the soil removed from the spillway inlet (mentioned above, on page 1).

The slope above the spillway chute will be restored to a 1.5:1 or less ratio (42 degree slope angle) to prevent future hillside sloughing. The slope and the stockpile area will be hydroseeded with a native seed mixture upon completion of maintenance activities. It is possible geotextile fabric may be used for slope stabilization and seed establishment.

Access

Access would be obtained from the top of the dam. At the location of the bend in the dam road, a designated OHV trail leads south and forks to the east. An undesignated OHV trail continues south which parallels the spillway. Equipment will only utilize the northern section of the designated OHV trail and the portion of the undesignated trail that parallels the spillway wall. A temporary maintenance road will be pioneered along the left, downstream groin of the dam toward the left spillway wall, continue next to the spillway wall down to the spillway stilling basin, and exit the maintenance area to the existing undesignated OHV trail. Some minor improvement of these roads may be necessary to allow equipment access. See Figure 5.

The northern most section of the designated OHV trail will remain open during maintenance activities and signs will be posted for recreational users to use extreme caution while recreating in the area. Recreation users must ensure their own safety and temporarily share this portion of

the OHV trail with construction equipment. The lower, undesignated OHV trail will be closed during maintenance activities. See Figure 5 for posted areas and intersections. After maintenance activities are complete, both sections of the OHV trails will be graded to their original condition.

Equipment

Heavy equipment will include one D6R Dozer, one 320L excavator, and two 725 articulated rock trucks. Equipment will be staged within the maintenance area and will not block designated trails.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PERMITTING

Best Management Practices (BMPs) and mitigation measures will be deployed to the maximum extent practicable to minimize any potential soil erosion/or surface runoff problems. One or more of the following will be utilized to prevent sediment transport: straw waddles, geotextile fabric, and silt fence.

It has been determined that this project will have *No Effect* to any threatened or endangered species or their designated critical habitats protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 therefore, no review or consultation by the USFWS is required.

The proposed action will have *No Effect* to the American Bald Eagle. Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, no review or consultation by the USFSW is required.

This project is exempt from obtaining a Section 404 permit of the Clean Water Act, because geotechnical activities will not be conducted within waters of the United States and material will not be discharged into Navigable waters of the United States.

This project is exempt from obtaining a Section 401 permit of the Clean Water Act, because there will be no discharges of pollutants to surface waters.

This project is exempt from obtaining a Section 402 permit of the Clean Water Act, because project activity is routine maintenance required to maintain original hydraulic capacity of the facility and an Erosivity Waiver has been approved by the State Water Resources Control Board and a Facility Identification Number or WDID has been assigned.

During maintenance activities, all straw wattles and straw bales will be certified weed seed free. To prevent the spread of invasive species, heavy equipment will be power washed before

entering the maintenance site.

FIRE SUPPRESSION

USFS required fire suppression equipment will be provided on-site during maintenance activities. Minimum equipment will include:

- 300 gallon water tank
- Generator and pump
- 100-foot spray hose
- Spray nozzle

Reclamation's on-site personnel will call the USFS fire hazard information line each day prior to starting work. All work will be in compliance with applicable USFS regulations. "Restricted work hour days" and "no work days" will be observed when in effect.

TIMELINE

Implementation is proposed to begin mid-July through August 2012. The crew will be working three shifts, 10 days on, 4 days off, of 10 hour days. All work will be conducted during daylight hours only.

LOCATION

Prosser Creek Dam and Reservoir are located approximately 5 miles northeast of Truckee, California on Prosser Creek, 1.5 miles above the Truckee River. The legal description is Section 30, T18N, R17E M.D.M of Hobart Mills USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle.

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 ☒ 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 will have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	No ☒ Uncertain__ Yes
4. This action would have significant impacts 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 principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O.11990); floodplains (E.O. 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)).	No ☒ Uncertain__ Yes
5. The action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk (43 CFR 46.215 (d)).	No ☒ Uncertain__ Yes__
6. This action would establish a precedent for future actions 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 the bureau (in coordination with a Reclamation cultural resources professional, RM LND 02-01 D(1)(a)) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)).	No ☒ Uncertain__ Yes__

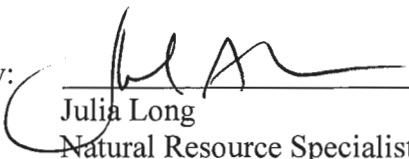
9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).	No ☒ Uncertain___ Yes___
10. This action would violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).	No ☒ Uncertain___ Yes___
11. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (E.O. 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)).	No ☒ Uncertain___ Yes___
12. 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 (E.O. 13007 and 43 CFR 46.215 (k)).	No ☒ Uncertain___ Yes___
13. This action would affect Indian Trust Assets. (To be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITAs) (S.O. 3175; Policy Memorandum dated 12/15/93).	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, E.O. 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)).	No ☒ Uncertain___ Yes___

NEPA Action Recommended: Categorical Exclusion ☒ EA ___ EIS ___

Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:

See the attached correspondence from the Mid-Pacific Region Cultural Resources Division regarding concurrence with Item 8 (cultural resources), and from Patricia Rivera regarding Item 13 (Indian Trust Assets).

Prepared by:


Julia Long
Natural Resource Specialist

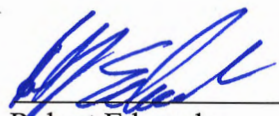
7-12-12
Date

Recommended:


Locke Hahne
Manager, Operations & Maintenance
Division

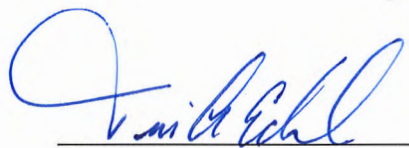
7/12/12
Date

Concurrence:


Robert Edwards
Resource Division Manager

7/13/2012
Date

Approved:


Terri Edwards
Deputy Area Manager

7/16/12
Date



RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Lahontan Basin Area Office
705 N. Plaza Street, Carson City, NV 89701



Prosser Creek Dam Spillway Maintenance, Nevada County, CA
Section 30, T18N, R17E M.D.M

Map 1



Figure 1 – Prosser Creek Dam Spillway Inlet



Figure 2 – Prosser Creek Dam Spillway Inlet



Figure 3 – Prosser Creek Dam Spillway Chute Sloughing and Slope Restoration



Figure 4 – Prosser Creek Dam Spillway Chute Sloughing and Slope Restoration

Barnes, Amy J

From: Barnes, Amy J
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 12:58 PM
To: Schmidt, Jane C
Cc: Perry, Laureen (Laurie) M; Nickels, Adam M; Overly, Stephen A; Bruce, Brandee E; Goodsell, Joanne E; Ramsey, Dawn
Subject: Prosser Creek Dam CEC LO-2010-1027, CEC LO-2010-1039, and CEC LO-2010-1040 (10-LBAO-171, 10-LBAO-237, and 10-LBAO-238)
Attachments: 10-LBAO-171-237-238 Prosser Creek Dam SHPO reply 10-14-10.pdf

Tracking #10-LBAO-171, 10-LBAO-237, and 10-LBAO-238

Project: CEC LO-2010-1027, **CEC LO-2010-1039**, and CEC LO-2010-1040

Location: Nevada County; Hobart Mills 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.
sec. 30, T. 17 N., R. 17 E., Mount Diablo Meridian

Exclusion Category: 516 DM 6 Appendix 9.4.C.3

The activities associated with Reclamation performing three maintenance projects at Prosser Creek Dam (dam) will result in no historic properties affected. Reclamation proposes to rehabilitate a portion of U.S. Forest Service National Forest Transportation System (NFTS) Road 78712, which leads to the base of the dam; extend an existing road around the dam outlet to access the spillway; clear rock, soil, and other debris from the spillway inlet and channel; and remove vegetation from the face of the dam. No physical modifications to the dam will occur.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Reclamation reviewed its archaeological site index and project data. A Reclamation archaeologist completed an intensive Class III pedestrian survey of a 4-acre area within the APE on June 8, 2010, which included the new road construction and improvement areas, new parking area and gate, staging areas, and access routes. One cultural resource, Prosser Creek Dam, was identified. Prosser Creek Dam is less than 50 years old and does not meet the age criteria for consideration as a historic property pursuant to 36 CFR Part 60.4. Additionally, Reclamation determined that the dam does not appear to possess exceptional significance in its association to events or people that are important in the history of agricultural development and flood control in the Truckee River drainage system, nor does it seem to possess exceptional significance for its design and construction as a zoned earth fill structure.

Reclamation consulted with SHPO September 14, 2010 regarding a finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1). SHPO concurred with Reclamations' findings and determination on October 14, 2010.

As the proposed action will not affect historic properties, and SHPO has concurred, Reclamations' responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act are fulfilled. I concur with Item 8 of CEC LO-2010-1027 (dated July 9, 2010), CEC LO-2010-1039 (dated May 25, 2010), and CEC LO-2010-1040 (dated May 25, 2010).

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed action. Please place a copy of this concurrence and attached correspondence with each CEC administrative record.

Amy J. Barnes
Archaeologist

From: Rivera, Patricia L
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 9:03 AM
To: Long, Julia A
Cc: Williams, Mary D (Diane); Robbins, Eleanor J (Ellie)
Subject: RE: ITA Request ---*****#LLIE THIS IS ADMIN

Julia,

I reviewed the proposed action to perform routine maintenance activities on two components of the spillway at Prosser Creek Dam during the summer of 2012. All work areas are contained within the Bureau of Reclamation maintenance easement (Reclamation Zone).

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Access

Access would be made from the top of the dam and from an existing OHV trail that parallels the spillway. A temporary maintenance road will be pioneered along the left, downstream groin of the dam toward the left spillway wall, continue next to the spillway wall

down to the spillway stilling basin, and exit the maintenance area to an existing United States Forest Service (USFS) OHV trail. Some minor improvement of these roads may be necessary to allow equipment access.

TIMELINE

Implementation is proposed to begin mid-July through August 2012. The crew will be working three shifts, 10 days on, 4 days off, of 10 hour days. All work will be conducted during daylight hours only.

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

Patricia