

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Serpentine Soils Grazing Implementation at Santa Teresa County Park, San Jose, California

FONSI 12-17-MP

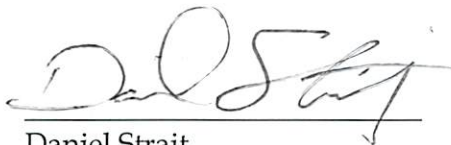
Recommended by:



Date: 12/10/12

Douglas Kleinsmith
Natural Resource Specialist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

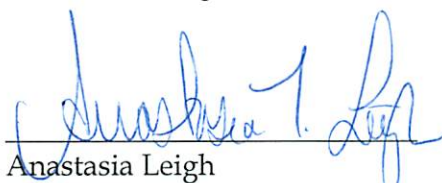
Concurred by:



Date: 12/11/12

Daniel Strait
Manager, Central Valley Project
Conservation Program
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Approved by:



Date: 1/11/2013

Anastasia Leigh
Regional Environmental Officer
Mid-Pacific Region

Approved by:



Date: 1/15/13

Cesar Blanco
Chief, Project Implementation Division
Pacific Southwest Region



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

December 2012



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
Sacramento, California

Background

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will provide \$641,326 from the Central Valley Project Conservation Program (CVPCP), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) will provide \$224,057 from the Central Valley Project Improvement Act Habitat Restoration Program (HRP) to the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department (County Parks) for a project that would facilitate managed grazing on serpentine soils at Santa Teresa County Park (Park) in San Jose, California.

The Park contains serpentine soil and annual grasslands that provide potential habitat for the federally threatened bay checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha bayensis*) (BCB), and other listed, rare, and special status species whose habitats and populations have been reduced as a result of the construction and operation of Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP). The Park is within an area designated by the FWS as BCB Critical Habitat. The restoration and improvement of habitats that would occur through the project are in keeping with the goals and priorities of the CVPCP and HRP.

The Proposed Action would provide funds to County Parks to install infrastructure that would allow for the reintroduction of cattle grazing on 492 acres of the Park, approximately 205 acres of which contain serpentine soil habitats with the potential to support BCB and other CVP impacted species that would not otherwise occur without FWS and Reclamation funding. Cattle grazing would be used as a management tool to enhance and manage habitats for BCB and other listed, rare, and special status species; help prevent wildfire and improve the quality of annual grassland habitats by reducing excess vegetation; manage invasive/nonnative plants through the use of grazing; and enhance riparian areas through protective, exclusionary fencing.

Alternatives Including the Proposed Action

No Action: Reclamation would not contribute \$641,326 of CVPCP funds and FWS will not contribute \$224,057 of HRP funds (total of \$865,383) to County Parks for the installation of grazing infrastructure at the Park. County Parks would be required to obtain the \$865,383 from other private and public sources. If no other funding is obtained, infrastructure needed to reintroduce grazing to the Park would not be installed, cattle would not be reintroduced, and benefits to CVP impacted species from managed grazing would not occur.

Proposed Action: Reclamation will contribute \$641,326 of CVPCP funds and FWS will contribute \$224,057 of HRP funds to County Parks to help fund the installation of infrastructure to reintroduce cattle grazing to 492 acres of the Park to facilitate restoration of approximately 205 acres of serpentine soil habitats with the potential to support BCB and other CVP impacted species.

To undertake the project, County Parks would install grazing infrastructure at the Rocky Ridge, Pueblo, and Hidden Springs pastures to facilitate the reintroduction of grazing to the Park. Infrastructure to be installed includes water systems (piping, troughs, water tanks, etc.), exterior fencing (5-strand barbed wire with T-posts and steel bracing), interior fencing (a more "wildlife friendly" combination of 3-4 strands of smooth and barbed wire, with bracing and T-posts), and gates for cattle and public access.

As a consequence of the proposed action of installing grazing infrastructure, County Parks would implement the Santa Teresa County Park Grazing Management Plan (Plan). The Plan is a site specific, phased approach to introduce cattle grazing to the Park to manage serpentine habitat, habitat for other sensitive species, fuel loads, and pest plant encroachment, balanced with recreational access and enjoyment. Management of the serpentine habitat is aligned with the FWS' Recovery Plan for Serpentine Species of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Findings

Based on the attached environmental assessment (EA), Reclamation and the FWS find that the proposed action is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The attached EA describes the existing environmental resources in the area of the proposed action, and evaluates the effects of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives on the resources. The EA was prepared in accordance with National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46). Effects on several environmental resources were evaluated and found to be absent or minor. The analysis is provided in the attached EA, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Following are the reasons why the impacts of the proposed action are not significant:

1. The introduction of cattle grazing will improve the condition of serpentine soil and annual grassland habitats at the Park to benefit listed and special status species including bay checkerspot butterfly, most beautiful jewelflower, fragrant fritillary, and Santa Clara Valley dudleya.
2. The proposed action will not adversely affect listed or proposed threatened or endangered species.
3. The proposed action will have no effect on historic properties.
4. The proposed action will not affect Indian Trust Assets.
5. Implementing the proposed action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities.
6. The proposed action will not have significant cumulative impacts.
7. There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial.

Environmental Assessment

Serpentine Soils Grazing Implementation, Santa Teresa County Park, San Jose, California

December 2012



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



**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Pacific Southwest Region
Sacramento, California**

Mission Statements

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and provide access to our Nation's natural and cultural heritage and honor our trust responsibilities to Indian Tribes and our commitment to island communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

The mission of the Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

Section 1 Introduction

1.1 Background

In conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and DOI Regulations (43 CFR Part 46) the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) have prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose any potential environmental impacts associated with providing \$641,326 from the Central Valley Project Conservation Program (CVPCP) and \$224,057 from the Central Valley Improvement Act Habitat Restoration Program (HRP) to the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department (County Parks) for a project that would facilitate grazing management on serpentine soils at Santa Teresa County Park in San Jose, California. County Parks would install infrastructure to reintroduce cattle grazing to 492 acres of the Park, approximately 205 acres of which contain serpentine soil habitats with the potential to support threatened and endangered species. The Park is located near the juncture of Bernal Road and Heaton Moore Road in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Range (Santa Teresa Hills) of western Santa Clara County (Figure 1).

1.2 Need for the Proposed Action

The Park has serpentine soil and annual grassland habitats with the potential to support the federally threatened bay checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha bayensis*), (BCB) and other listed, rare, and special status species whose habitats and populations have been reduced as a result of the construction and operation of Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP). The Park is within an area designated by the FWS as BCB Critical Habitat. The restoration and improvement of habitats that would occur through the proposed action are in keeping with the goals and priorities of the CVPCP and HRP.

The proposed action would allow County Parks to reintroduce cattle grazing as a tool to enhance and manage habitats for BCB and other listed, rare, and special status species; help prevent wildfire and improve the quality of annual grassland habitats by reducing excess vegetation; manage invasive/nonnative plants through the use of grazing; and enhance riparian areas through protective, exclusionary fencing.

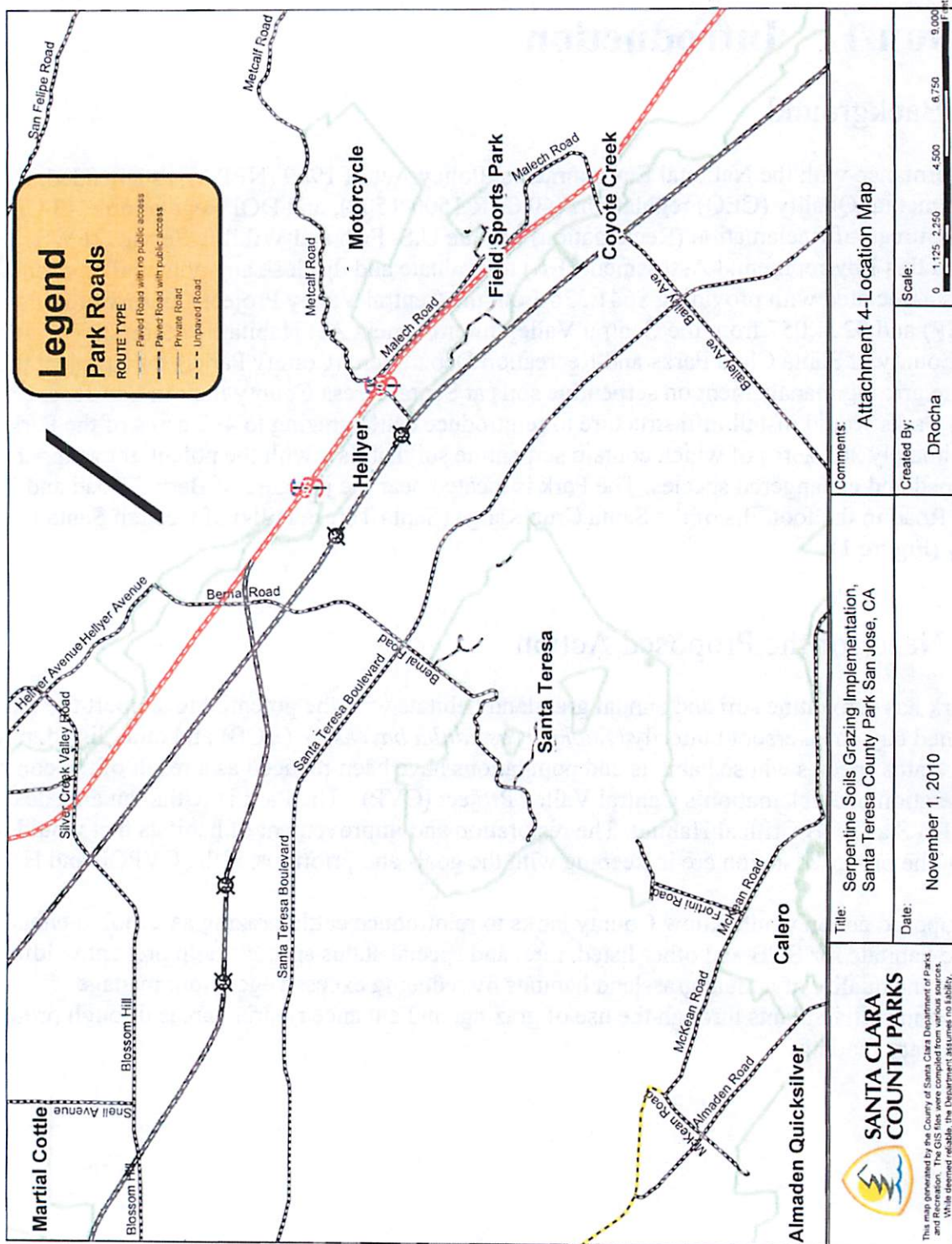


Figure 1. Location of Santa Teresa County Park

1.3 Potential Resource Issues

This EA analyzes the affected environment of the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives in order to determine potential impacts and cumulative effects to Biological Resources.

1.4 Resources Not Analyzed in Detail

Effects on several environmental resources were examined and found to be minor. Because of this, the following resources were eliminated from further discussion in this EA: Air Quality; Groundwater; Water Quality; Aesthetic Resources; Geology; Global Climate Change; Soils; Seismicity; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Land Use and Agriculture; Noise; Socioeconomics, Population and Housing; Recreation; Transportation and Circulation; and Utilities and Public Services.

The proposed action would result in minor, or no, impacts to the following resources, but are described here due to Department of the Interior and Reclamation concerns:

1.4.1 Cultural Resources

Reclamation's efforts to identify historic properties included a records search and pedestrian archaeological survey conducted by Architectural Resources, Inc. of San Francisco, California, and documented in a May 2012 report by Pacific Legacy, Inc. of Berkeley, California, and Native American consultation completed pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(a)(3). Reclamation initiated consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on August 8, 2012, inviting the SHPO's comments regarding our delineation of an area of potential effects (APE) and the appropriateness of Reclamation's efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties within the APE. Reclamation also requested the SHPO's concurrence regarding our determinations of ineligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) of 18 cultural resources located within the APE. Lastly, Reclamation requested the SHPO's concurrence that our finding of no historic properties affected was appropriate in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1). The SHPO did not respond with either comments or objections within the 30 day time limit as prescribed in 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), nor have they provided any feedback to date.

As a result, Reclamation has fulfilled its Section 106 responsibilities for this undertaking. Reclamation will continue to seek the SHPO's concurrence on our NRHP eligibility determinations and finding of effect and in the event that the SHPO re-enters consultation, Reclamation shall attempt to resolve any objections while the undertaking is allowed to proceed. (See Appendix A.)

1.4.2 Indian Trust Assets

Indian Trust Assets (ITAs) are legal interests in property or rights held in trust by the United States for Indian Tribes or individual Indians. Indian reservations, Rancherias, and Public Domain Allotments are common ITAs in California. The nearest ITA is Lytton Rancheria approximately 58 miles

northwest of the area of the proposed action. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not adversely affect ITAs. (See Appendix B).

1.4.3 Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898 requires each Federal agency to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects, including social and economic effects of its program, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. The proposed action would not impact any populations, and therefore there would be no adverse human health or environmental effects to minority or low-income populations.

Section 2 Alternatives Including Proposed Action

2.1 No Action Alternative

Reclamation would not contribute \$641,326 of CVPCP funds, and FWS will not contribute \$224,057 of HRP funds (total of \$865,383) to County Parks. County Parks would be required to obtain the \$865,383 from other private and public sources. If no funding were available, infrastructure needed to reintroduce grazing to Santa Teresa County Park would not be installed, cattle would not be reintroduced to the Park, and benefits to CVP impacted species through managed grazing at Santa Teresa County Park would not occur.

2.2 Proposed Action

Reclamation would contribute \$641,326 of CVPCP funds to County Parks to help fund the installation of infrastructure to reintroduce cattle grazing to 492 acres of the Park to facilitate restoration of approximately 205 acres of serpentine soil habitats to support BCB and other CVP impacted species. The FWS would contribute \$224,057 to the proposed action through the HRP.

To undertake the project, County Parks would install grazing infrastructure at the Rocky Ridge, Pueblo, and Hidden Springs pastures to facilitate the reintroduction of cattle grazing to the Park. Infrastructure to be installed includes water systems (piping, troughs, water tanks, etc.), exterior fencing (5-strand barbed wire with T-posts and steel bracing), interior fencing (a more “wildlife friendly” combination of 3-4 strands of smooth and barbed wire, with bracing and T-posts), and gates for cattle and public access (Figure 2). Construction is scheduled to begin in 2013.

As a consequence of the proposed action of installing grazing infrastructure, County Parks would implement the Santa Teresa County Park Grazing Management Plan (Plan). The Plan is a site specific, phased approach to introduce cattle grazing to the Park to manage serpentine habitat, habitat for other sensitive species, fuel loads, and pest plant encroachment, balanced with recreational access and enjoyment. Management of the serpentine habitat is aligned with the FWS’ Recovery Plan for Serpentine Species of the San Francisco Bay Area.

The goals of the Plan are:

1. Maintain rangeland conditions conducive to the long-term persistence of the existing and potential sensitive biological resources: special-status plants and wildlife, and sensitive natural communities.
2. Maintain the health of the rangeland ecosystem, including soil integrity, water quality, biodiversity, and resilience.
3. Maintain recreational access, public enjoyment, and appreciation.

4. Reduce the fire hazards associated with the mass of dry herbaceous vegetation in the grasslands during the summer and autumn seasons, and associated woody fuels in the scrub, chaparral, and woodland communities.
5. Minimize the impacts of invasive non-native “pest” plants.
6. Maintain forage, infrastructure, and other conditions to sustain a livestock operation and healthy livestock.
7. Provide working conditions for the County Parks and Livestock Operator to maintain a cooperative and productive relationship.
8. Maintain cooperative relationships with adjacent property owners.
9. Protect pre-Columbian and historic cultural resources.
10. Improve wildflower displays and oak regeneration.
11. Reduce shrub encroachment into grassland habitats and maintain an optimum grass/shrub mosaic.

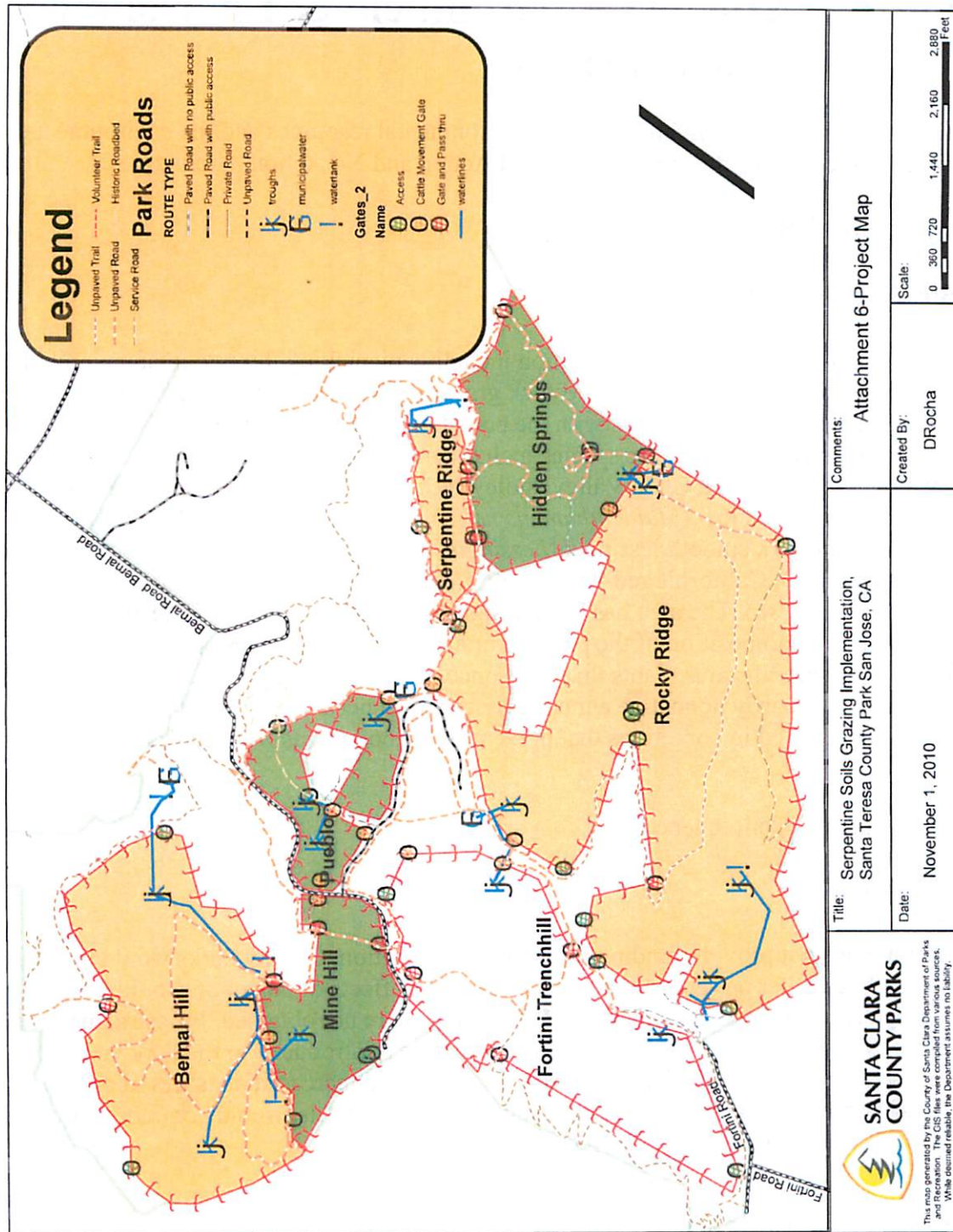


Figure 2. Proposed Project, Santa Teresa Park Serpentine Soils Grazing

Section 3 Affected Environment & Environmental Consequences

This section identifies the potentially affected environmental resources and the environmental consequences that could result from the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives.

3.1 Biological Resources

3.1.1 Affected Environment

The Park is a 1,688-acre area open to recreation including picnicking, hiking, mountain biking, equestrian trail riding, and other uses. Livestock grazing was discontinued in the 1970s. The Park contains unique serpentine soil habitats with the potential to support a number of serpentine endemic Federal and State listed and other rare species including the BCB, Mount Hamilton thistle (*Cirsium fontinale* var. *camplyon*), Santa Clara Valley dudleya (*Dudleya setchellii*), Loma Prieta hoita (*Hoita strobilina*), Hall's bush mallow (*Malacothamnus hallii*), most beautiful jewelflower (*Streptanthus albidus* ssp. *peramoenus*), smooth lessingia (*Lessingia micradenia* var. *glabrata*), western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), and California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*). The area has been designated by the FWS as BCB Critical Habitat. However, the current composition of the plant community at the Park does not provide adequate habitat for BCB or special status plants that were once present at the site. The presence of dense stands of invasive plants, primarily nonnative annual grasses which became dominant after grazing was discontinued, has resulted in conditions that prevent BCB food plants from subsisting at the Park.

3.1.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

If Reclamation does not provide funding for the proposed action, County Parks would be required to obtain funding from other private and public sources. The effects of no action would be the same as the proposed action if other funds are obtained. If other funds are not obtained, infrastructure needed to support grazing would not be installed, cattle would not be reintroduced to the Park, and habitats for CVP impacted species would not be improved. Invasions and increased densities of annual grasses and shrubs, and associated reductions in the quality of BCB habitats, would continue. Fire hazards from excessive vegetation would not be reduced.

Proposed Action

The introduction of managed cattle grazing to the Park through the proposed action would provide the following benefits to serpentine soil and annual grassland habitats at the Park:

- Habitats for CVP impacted species would be restored and maintained by reducing and maintaining the height and mass of grasses and shrubs that compete with federally listed and other special status plant species and host plants for the BCB;
- Improvement of oak regeneration by reducing excess vegetation that provides conditions favorable to rodents that can damage oak seedlings and saplings;
- Reductions of shrub encroachment into grassland habitats, and maintenance of an optimal grass/shrub mosaic through cattle browsing and trampling;
- Reductions of the height and mass of fuel loads to minimize fire hazards.

Livestock grazing can be ecologically beneficial if careful strategies and grazing prescriptions are implemented through adaptive management to achieve specific conservation objectives, and when done in a manner that minimizes negative impacts in response to conditions found at grazed sites. Habitats for many special status animals and plants are improved through vegetation management that reduces the height and mass of annual grasses which compete with native plants for space, water, sunlight, and nutrients. The proposed action will facilitate such improvements by providing funding for the installation of grazing infrastructure that will allow County Parks to establish a cattle grazing program at the Park.

Impacts on the environment by the construction and maintenance of livestock fencing through the proposed action would be temporary. These include access to remote areas using a skid-steer tractor for installing fencing; digging post holes and installing fence posts; trenching for installing water systems; development of a rocked surface for vehicles used to deliver cattle to the Park; development of springs to provide water for cattle; and adding rock to trails to protect soil from cattle impacts during the rainy season.

Impacts from grazing at the Park would be avoided or reduced by measures defined in the Plan. Certain areas would be excluded from grazing, such as recreational use areas, interpretive sites and historic/cultural resource areas; habitat for special-status species, sensitive natural communities, or other sensitive natural resource areas that could be adversely impacted by grazing; as well as areas that are potentially hazardous to cattle. Areas to be excluded from grazing include:

- Recreational trails (where possible) and other recreation sites,
- Steep and potentially unstable slopes and potentially hazardous areas
- Woodlands and forests on north facing slopes;
- Riparian zones;
- Spring and seep areas and wetlands; and
- Sites containing vulnerable rare plants.

Grazing at the Park would be managed to minimize or avoid negative impacts to both habitat quality and water quality (e.g. sedimentation or the introduction of pathogens and excessive nitrogen loads) at riparian areas, springs, seeps, wetlands, and ponds.

Water quality impacts would be reduced by several different management options including:

- Fencing cattle out of streams, wetlands and other waterways;

- Reducing impacts to waterways and riparian zones by allowing nearby fields to be grazed only during cool, green-grass periods. Such timing reduces the incentive for cattle to graze in waterways and riparian zones.
- Locating food supplements, watering troughs, etc. away from waterways and riparian zones;
- Limiting the number of animals grazing in areas with high rainfall runoff, and/or leaving an ungrazed or lightly-grazed grass buffer along each side of waterways and riparian zones.

A biological monitor would qualitatively evaluate riparian areas to which cattle have access to ensure that no erosion, excessive trampling, and/or herbivory problems arise. Habitat quality would be evaluated by the biological monitor. If damage occurs in a riparian area, exclusionary fencing might be required. Monitoring efforts would ensure that there are no impacts on special-status wildlife associated with unfenced waterways and riparian zones.

On June 17, 2011, Reclamation initiated informal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the FWS's Sacramento, California, Fish and Wildlife Office on project activities to be funded by the CVPCP and HRP in Fiscal Year 2011. FWS concurred on November 8, 2011, that the projects, including the proposed action, are not likely to adversely affect federally- listed species.

Cumulative Effects

According to the CEQ regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA, a cumulative impact is defined as *the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions*. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

There are few adverse impacts associated with implementing the proposed action, and therefore there are no cumulative effects to consider.

Section 4 Consultation and Coordination

On February 14, 2011, CVPCP and HRP Managers met with County Parks staff at the site of the proposed action. During the meeting the parties discussed the potential benefits and impacts of the proposed action on CVPCP/HRP priority habitats and species. Discussions centered on how negative impacts would be avoided and benefits enhanced.

Appendix A

Cultural Resources Compliance

From: Soule, William E
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 1:07 PM
To: Strait, Daniel H
Cc: Kleinsmith, Douglas H; BOR MPR Cultural Resources Section
Subject: 11-SCAO-144 Serpentine Soils Grazing Implementation Santa Teresa County Park

Dan:

Re: 11-SCAO-144 Serpentine Soils Grazing Implementation for Santa Teresa County Park

Reclamation's proposal to provide funds through the Central Valley Project Conservation Program and the Central Valley Project Improvement Act Habitat Restoration Program to the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department (CSCP&R) to construct this project was determined to be the type of action that could cause effects to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.3(a). The project will involve the installation, by CSCP&R of grazing infrastructure (fencing, water troughs, water tanks, well and solar pump, and irrigation facilities) to introduce cattle grazing to 492 acres within a gross area of 907 acres of the Santa Teresa County Park in Santa Clara County, California. This use of Federal funds constitutes an undertaking in accordance with Section 301(7) of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470).

Reclamation's efforts to identify historic properties included a records search and pedestrian archaeological survey conducted by, and documented in a report by, Pacific Legacy (May 2012), and Native American consultation completed pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(a)(3). In a letter dated August 07, 2012 (date stamped at SHPO on August 08, 2012), Reclamation initiated consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), inviting the SHPO's comments regarding our delineation of an area of potential effects (APE) and the appropriateness of our efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties within that APE. Reclamation also requested the SHPO's concurrence regarding our determinations of ineligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) of 18 cultural resources located within the APE. Lastly, Reclamation requested the SHPO's concurrence that our finding of no historic properties affected was appropriate in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1). The SHPO has not responded with either comments or objections within the 30 day time limit as prescribed in 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4).

As a result, Reclamation has fulfilled its Section 106 responsibilities for this undertaking. We will continue to seek the SHPO's concurrence on our NRHP eligibility determinations and finding of effect and in the event that the SHPO re-enters consultation, Reclamation shall attempt to resolve any

objections while the undertaking is allowed to proceed. This email is intended to convey the conclusion of the Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please coordinate with me regarding the completion of the cultural resources section of the EA and retain a copy of this email in the administration record for this NEPA action. Be aware that additional Section 106 review and consultation with the SHPO may be necessary if there are changes in project design or if, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.13, historic properties are discovered during the implementation of this undertaking.

Sincerely,

William E. Soule, M.A., Archaeologist
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way, MP-153
Sacramento, CA 95825
Phone: 916-978-4694
Email: wsoule@usbr.gov

Appendix B

Indian Trust Assets Compliance

From: Rivera, Patricia L
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 6:29 AM
To: Kleinsmith, Douglas H
Subject: FW: ITA request for all 6 2011 CVPCP projects

Doug,

I reviewed the proposed actions and determined that there are no potential affects to Indian Trust Assets as a result of any of the actions.

1. **Panorama Vista Preserve Habitat Restoration**
2. **Riparian Brush Rabbit Propagation, Reintroduction and Monitoring**
3. **Merced Vernal Pool Education Program Santa Theresa County Park Serpentine**
4. **Soils Grazing**
5. **Peek Ranch Conservation Easement**
6. **Kelsey Ranch Conservation Easement**

1. Restoration of alkali shrub and riparian woodlands on 20 acres of degraded Kern River floodplain and adjacent upland at the Panorama Vista Preserve in Bakersfield. The nearest ITA is a Public domain Allotment approximately 33 miles E of the project location.

2. Complete the controlled propagation and reintroduction of riparian brush rabbits onto the San Joaquin River NWR and adjacent lands. The nearest ITA is Chicken Ranch Rancheria approximately 41 miles NE of the project location.

3. Create a vernal pool outdoor education program in Merced County based on the award-winning Sacramento Splash curriculum. Pilot the program in classrooms and in the field. The nearest ITA is a Public Domain Allotment approximately 25 miles NE of the project location.

4. Installation of grazing infrastructure (fencing, water troughs, water tanks, well and solar pump, etc.) to introduce cattle to three pastures containing 492 acres at Santa Teresa County Park for management and enhancement of serpentine grasslands and associated species. The nearest ITA is Lytton Rancheria approximately 58 miles NW of the project location.

5. Acquisition of a conservation easement on the 2,407-acre Peek Ranch. The property is actively grazed. The native habitats on the property are primarily grasslands containing vernal pools, along with riparian habitats along Deer Creek. The nearest ITA is Paskenta Rancheria approximately 9 miles SW of the project location.

6. Acquisition of a conservation easement on the 6,148-acre Kelsey Ranch north of the town of Snelling. The property is actively grazed, and contains some farmed crops. The native habitat on the property is primarily

grasslands containing vernal pools, along with a year-round creek and some land in active agriculture. The nearest ITA is a Public Domain allotment approximately 21 miles east of the project location.

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RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West