
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (13-007)

*SUPPLEMENT TO THE SOUTH-OF-DELTA ACCELERATED WATER TRANSFER
PROGRAM TO INCLUDE WATER ACQUISITIONS FOR REFUGES*

Appendix A
Reclamation's Environmental Determinations
(Cultural Resources and ITA)

June 2013



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

IN REPLY
REFER TO:
MP-153
ENV-3.00

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

March 5 2013
MEMORANDUM

To: Rain Healer
SCAO

From: Scott Williams
Archaeologist – Division of Environmental Affairs

Subject: Supplement to the South-of-Delta Accelerated Water Transfer Program to Include Water Acquisitions for Refuges (11-SCAO-003.1)

Rain

The proposed supplemental undertaking to include water Acquisitions for Refuges to the original “*Accelerated Water Transfers and Exchanges Central Valley Project Contractors South of Delta Contractors 2011-2015*” has no potential to cause effects to historic properties pursuant to the Section 106 implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1).

On 10/04/2010, our office reviewed the 2010 Accelerated Water Transfers and Exchanges Central Valley Project Contractors South of Delta Contractors. The original EA outlined a proposed action and no action alternative to continue to implement an accelerated water transfer program (AWTP) that facilitates efficient water management by allowing contractors within the same geographical areas to conduct annual transfer of the type historically carried out under an accelerated program which streamlines the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)’s approval process. We determined that both the no action and proposed action alternatives have no potential to effect historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1).

The current action for review is the “*Accelerated Water Transfers and Exchanges Central Valley Project Contractors South of Delta Contractors 2011-2015*”. Within this accelerated (streamlined) program, the No Action alternative was a continuation of annual transfers that would not occur under an action, but does not change our original finding. In addition, the action to supplement the water acquisitions for Refuges does not change our original finding. Reclamation has provided water to these same refuges from other sources under other agreements in the past. Existing water conveyance structures will be used to transfer the water. There would be no change in land use, nor will there be any ground disturbance resulting from the proposed action.

This email memo is intended to convey the conclusion of the Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy of this memo with the EA file. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this action.



Healer, Rain <rhealer@usbr.gov>

Re: Project Description for Supplemental EA-13-007---KRISTI this is ADMIN

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov>
To: "Healer, Rain" <rhealer@usbr.gov>
Cc: Kristi Seabrook <kseabrook@usbr.gov>

Mon, Mar 4, 2013 at 9:16 AM

Rain,

I reviewed the proposed action to implement an accelerated water acquisition program for wildlife refuges pursuant to Section 3406(d)(2) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Title 34 of Public Law 102-575). Reclamation would purchase Central Valley Project (CVP) water annually from willing South of Delta CVP contractors and/or Cross Valley contractors as described in EA-10-051 for the refuges. Purchased water would be delivered to the refuges through existing facilities. No construction or modification of facilities would be needed for delivery of this water.

The Proposed Action would allow Reclamation to acknowledge the annual acquisition of CVP water for refuges without any additional environmental analysis for the period March 1, 2011 through February 29, 2016. The cumulative amount of water transferred, exchanged, or purchased under the water acquisition program annually would be limited to 150,000 acre-feet as described in EA-10-051, *Accelerated Water Transfers and Exchanges between Central Valley Project Contractors South of Delta Contractors Years 2011-2015*. Prior to acknowledgement, each proposed acquisition would be reviewed by the Contracting Officer for consistency with the project description with this Supplemental EA, EA-10-051, and all applicable permits, laws and regulations.

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

Patricia Rivera
Native American Affairs Program Manager
US Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Sacramento, California 95825
(916) 978-5194

On Mon, Mar 4, 2013 at 9:00 AM, Healer, Rain <rhealer@usbr.gov> wrote:
Patricia,

I have attached the project description for Supplemental EA-13-007 for your review.

--

Rain Healer, M.S.
Natural Resources Specialist
Bureau of Redamation
South-Central California Area Office
Ph: 559-487-5196

