

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC)

Oak Bottom Temperature Curtain Removal, Whiskeytown Reservoir, California

NCAO-CEC-14-18

Prepared by:


Paul Zedonis

Natural Resource Specialist
Northern California Area Office

Date:

12/10/2014

Concurrence by:

See Attachment 3

Native American Affairs Program Manager
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date:

12/08/14

Concurrence by:

See Attachment 4

Archaeologist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date:

12/10/14

Approved by:


for Brian Person

Area Manager
Northern California Area Office

Date:

12/10/2014



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

December 2014

Proposed Action

The Bureau of Reclamation's Northern California Area Office (NCAO) is responsible for operating and maintaining water-related structures in Whiskeytown Reservoir located approximately 13 miles west of Redding in Shasta County, CA (Section 7, T32N, R6W; Attachment 1). Specifically, the Oak Bottom Temperature Curtain (OBTC), originally installed in 1993, is one structure that has been identified as having exceeded its useful lifespan and needs to be removed. Presently this structure is in a state of disrepair and no longer provides the water temperature benefits for which it was designed (Attachment 2). In addition, in its present state, it has been determined to be a boating safety hazard by the National Park Service. In support of this action, Reclamation will contract to have the majority of the curtain structure removed beginning mid-December 2014.

The process of removal will include use of boats to transport personnel and equipment to the curtain location for extraction of all materials associated with the curtain except for the anchors and large buoys that will remain. All staging areas will be on existing paved parking lots or existing concrete boat ramps. No new ground disturbance will be needed. The dismantling of the curtain for removal would occur from the water by boat. Existing cement boat ramps at either Brandy Creek or Oak Bottom Marina would be used in support of launching boats and unloading associated deconstruction materials.

The contractor shall provide management, supervision, administration, labor, tools, transportation, equipment, materials, and supplies and obtain all necessary permits to remove the temperature curtain and all associated pieces, with the exception of the four surface stabilizing tanks and concrete anchor blocks that will be used in support of a future new structure. All aspects of the debris disposal would occur in accordance with Federal, State, and local requirements, with the most stringent of regulations applying. Materials removed as part of the demolition will be recycled and salvaged to the extent possible with waste going to a registered landfill. The contractor will provide receipts or certificates of disposal for these materials to Reclamation. All work will be performed in accordance with Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, and in a manner that protects existing facilities of the National Park Service (e.g. docks etc.) and the environment. Greater detail on the process is available in the Performance Work Statement (dated Apr 23, 2013).

Exclusion Categories

Bureau of Reclamation Categorical Exclusion – 516 DM 14.5, D(1): Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which may involve a minor change in size, location, and/or operation.

Extraordinary Circumstances

Below is an evaluation of the extraordinary circumstances as required in 43 CFR 46.215.

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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on 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 principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01; and 43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. This action would violate a Federal, Tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | |
|--|--|
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898; and 43 CFR 46.215 (j)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. 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 (EO 13007; 43 CFR 46.215 (k); and 512 DM 3). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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; EO 13112; and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |

Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 8 (email attached).

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11 (email attached).

NEPA Action Recommended

☒ CEC – This action is covered by the exclusion category and no extraordinary circumstances exist. The action is excluded from further documentation in an EA or EIS.

☐ Further environmental review is required, and the following document should be prepared.

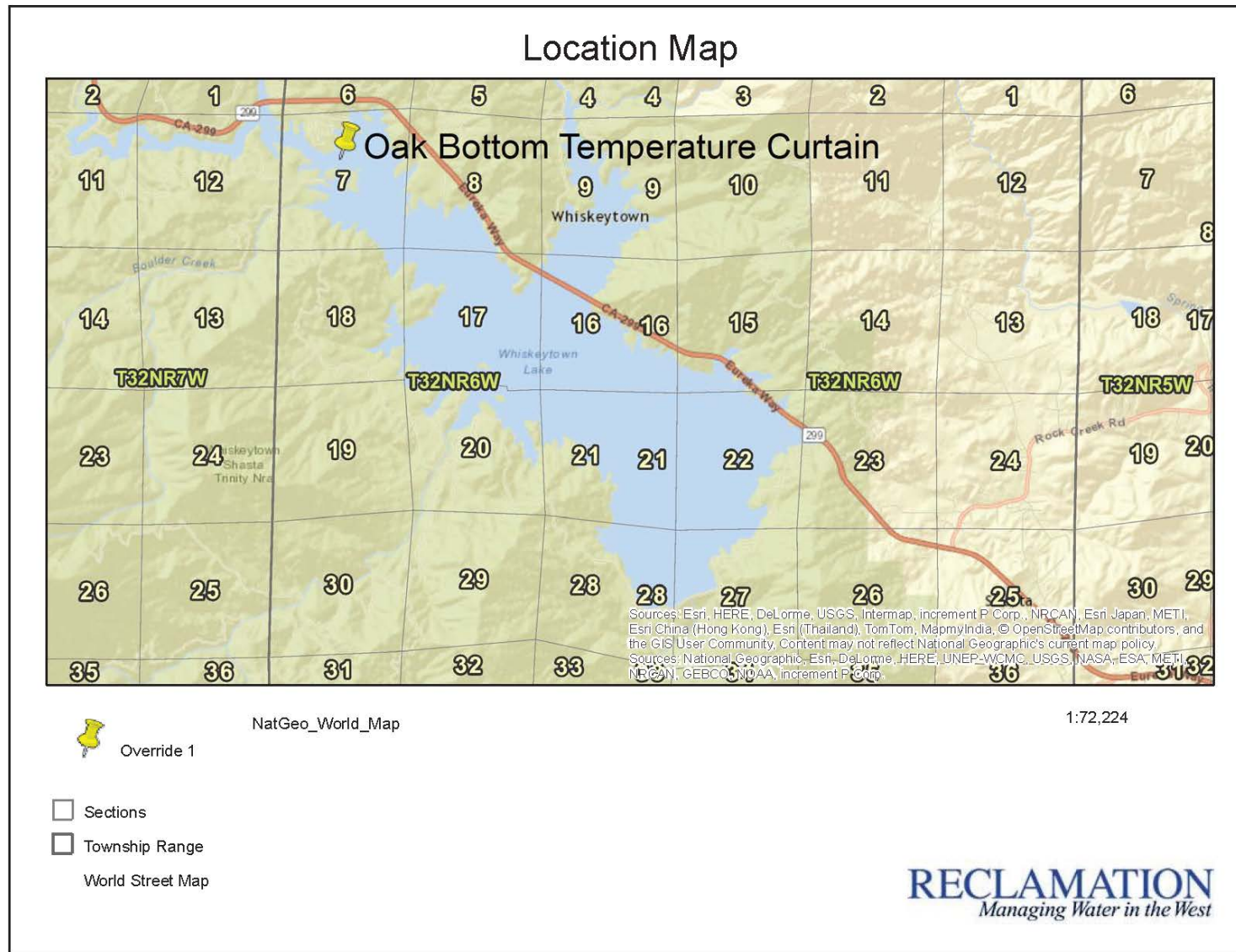
☐ EA

☐ EIS

Environmental commitments, explanations, and/or remarks:

This activity has been coordinated with the National Park Service at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.

Attachment 1 . Project location



Attachment 2. Photo of the existing Oak Bottom Temperature Curtain in a dilapidated state. Note: the yellow boom is to highlight the partially sunken floatation tubes as safety hazards.



Attachment 3. Indian Trust Asset concurrence



Zedonis, Paul <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

CR and ITA Review: NCAO-CEC-14-18

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov>
To: Paul Zedonis <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

Mon, Dec 8, 2014 at 10:15 AM

Paul,

I reviewed the proposed action noted below and determined there are no potential impacts to Indian Trust Assets as a result of this proposed project. The nearest Indian Trust Asset is a Public domain allotment approximately 11 miles east of the project location.

Proposed Project:

Beginning in mid-December, the contractor will embark on demolition of the existing water temperature curtain structure that was originally placed in 1993. The contractor shall provide management, supervision, administration, labor, tools, transportation, equipment, materials, and supplies and obtain all necessary permits to remove the temperature curtain and all associated pieces, with the exception of the four surface stabilizing tanks and concrete anchor blocks that will be used in support of a future new structure. All aspects of the debris disposal would occur in accordance with Federal, State, and local requirements, with the most stringent of regulations applying. Materials removed as part of the demolition will be recycled and salvaged to the extent possible with waste going to a registered landfill. The contractor will provide receipts or certificates of disposal for these materials to Reclamation. All work will be performed in accordance with Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, and in a manner that protects existing facilities of the National Park Service (e.g. docks etc.) and the environment. Greater detail on the process is available in the Performance Work Statement (dated Apr 23, 2013).

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

Attachment 4. Cultural Resource concurrence

**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch**

MP-153 Tracking Number: 15-NCAO-34

Project Name: Oak Bottom Temperature Curtain Removal, Whiskeytown Reservoir, CA

NEPA Document: NCAO-CEC-14-18

Project Manager/NEPA Contact: Paul Zedonis

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Adam Nickels *AN*

Date: 12/04/15

The proposed undertaking to approve and fund the removal and dismantling of the Oak Bottom Temperature curtain at Whiskeytown Reservoir, CA has no potential to cause effects to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1)

The proposed action to remove the temperature control curtain will be conducted using boats and/or barge to detach the curtain from its anchors. Once detached the curtain will be dismantled over water and brought back to developed areas for disposal. All staging for the project will be on existing paved surfaces and all the anchors will remain in place. The curtain itself was installed in 1993 and is not yet old enough for consideration as historic property pursuant to 36 CFR 60.4(g). The proposed action result in no ground disturbance and will not alter any facilities eligible or potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

After reviewing the project description in the CEC NCAO-CEC-14-18 titled "*Oak Bottom Temperature Curtain Removal, Whiskeytown Reservoir, California*" dated December 2012 I concur with line 8.

The Section 106 conclusion statement is intended to convey the conclusion of the Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy of this conclusion statement with your files. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.