

# RECLAMATION

## *Managing Water in the West*

### Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC)

### **Cortina Water District - Discharge Facility – Tehama-Colusa Canal, Milepost 90.43L – Central Valley Project, California**

**NCAO-CEC-15 - 10**

Prepared by:



Irene Hobbs  
Realty Specialist  
Northern California Area Office

Date:

5/19/2015

Concurrence by:

See Attachment 1  
Richard Stevenson  
Native American Affairs Program Manager  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date:

May 8, ;2015

Concurrence by:

See Attachment 2  
BrandDee Bruce  
Architectural Historian  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date:

May 14, ;2015

Concurrence by:



Paul Zedonis  
Environmental and Natural Resource  
Division Manager  
Northern California Area Office

Date:

5/19/2015

Approved by:



Federico Barajas  
Area Manager  
Northern California Area Office

Date:

5/19/15



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

May 2015

## Proposed Action

Cortina Water District (District) is requesting permission to install, operate and maintain a new discharge facility along the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) for the purposes of discharging well water into the TCC in conjunction with the District's Warren Act Contract.

At Milepost 90.43L, a 12-inch PVC or steel pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Glenn Kelley. The pipeline would extend approximately 905 feet onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal access road and extend into the canal through the embankment (Figure 1), all of which have been previously disturbed. A backhoe would be used to dig the trench. Soils extracted by trenching would be prevented from entering the canal and would be reused to cover the new pipeline. The pipeline over the U.S. right of way and access road shall have a minimum of 2-feet of cover. A plan and cross sectional view of the project area is shown in Figure 2. Photo of the action area is provided in Figure 3. The discharge facility is located in Section 14, Township 14 North, Range 3 West, M.D.M.&M. in Colusa County.

The Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) and Reclamation reviewed the location on April 14, 2015, and it has been determined the proposed facility will not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the TCC. This action would occur in early spring in preparation for the irrigation season.

The right-of-way and area to be used for this action does not provide habitat for any threatened or endangered species. The canal itself is concrete lined, and the TCCA regularly maintains the area and engages in a weed abatement program along both the right-of-way and in the canal.

## Exclusion Categories

Bureau of Reclamation Categorical Exclusion – 516 DM 14.5, D(10): Issuance of permits, licenses, easements and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau of Reclamation lands where the action does not allow or lead to larger public or private action.

## 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 ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐
3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). No ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐

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|---|--|
| 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,   | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |

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).

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 ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐

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

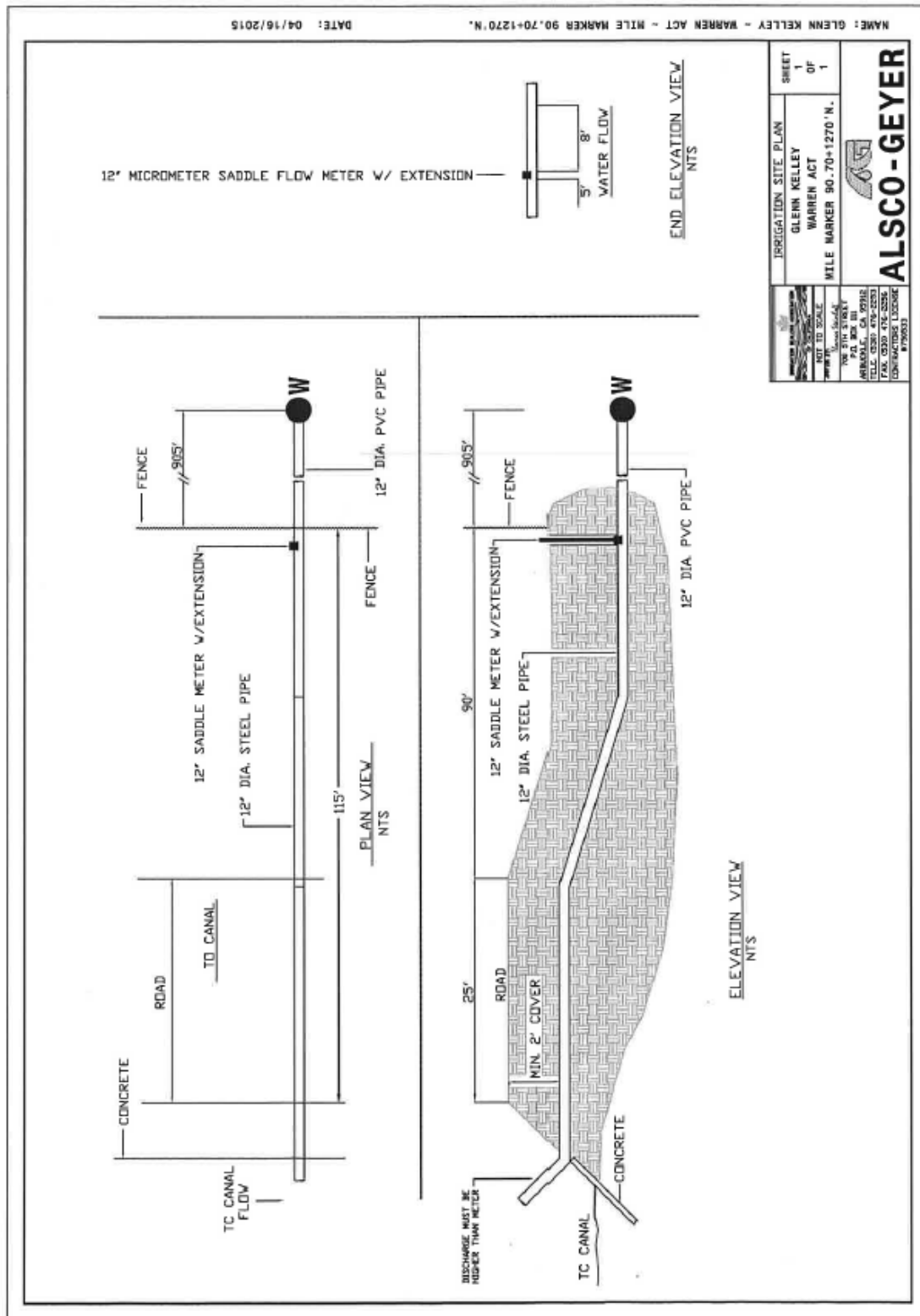
**Environmental commitments, explanations, and/or remarks:**

Cost Authority Number to review this request: 15XR0680A2 RX.0214965E.2300169

Figure 1. Aerial view of the proposed pipeline from the groundwater well to the new discharge facility at MP 90.43L.



Figure 2. Cross-sectional view showing pipeline placement and elevations.





**Figure 3. Image looking east from the Canal O&M Road over the embankment at location of well on Glenn Kelley's property.**



## Attachment 1. Indian Trust Asset



Zedonis, Paul <pzedonis@usbr.g

### CR and ITA review: CEC Cortina WD Discharge Facility @ MP 90.43L

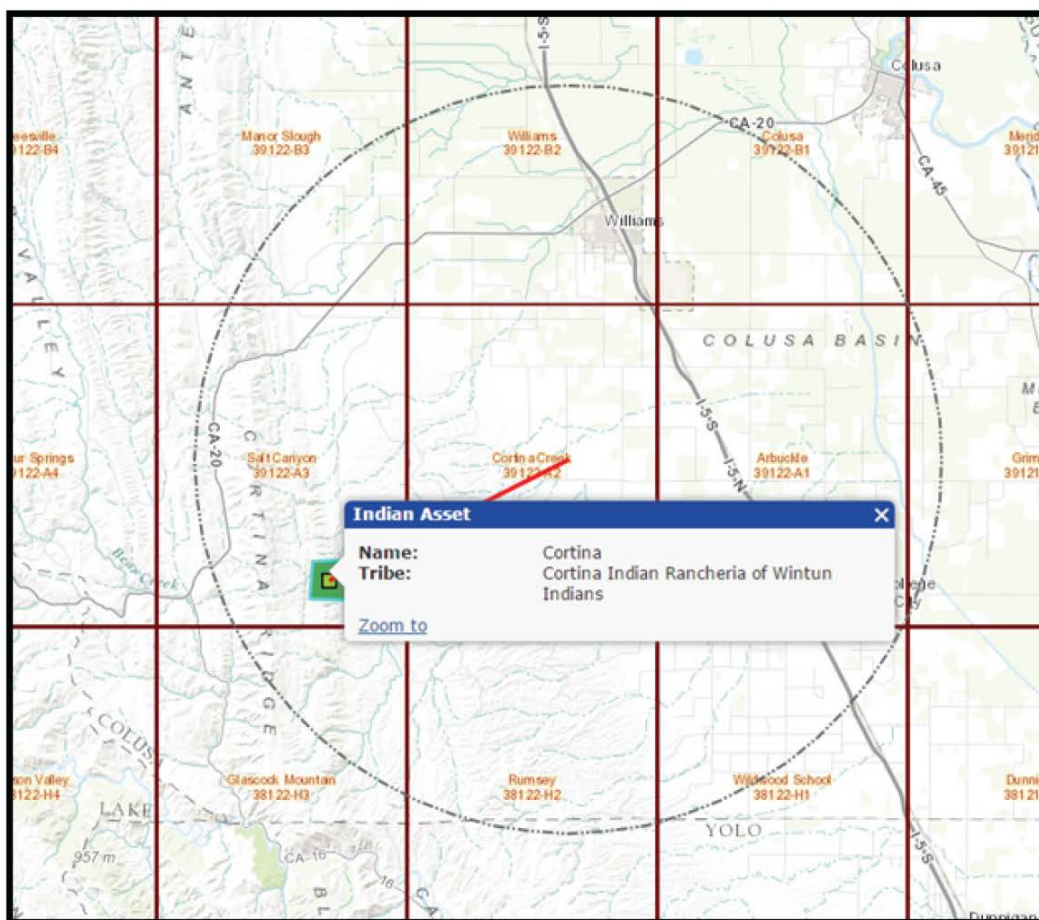
STEVENSON, RICHARD <rstevenson@usbr.gov>

Fri, May 8, 2015 at 4:40

To: "Zedonis, Paul" <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

Paul,

I have examined the proposal for the Cortina Water District discharge facility and have determined that this facility is at least 7.2 miles from the coset Indian Trust Asset. I have determined that there is no likelihood tha this facility will adversely impact Indian Trust Assets.



Richard Stevenson  
Deputy Regional Resources Manager



**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE  
Reclamation Division of Environmental Affairs  
MP-153**

**MP-153 Tracking Number:** 15-NCAO-139

**Project Name:** Cortina Water District Discharge Facility into Tehama-Colusa Canal Mile Post 90.43L

**NEPA Document:** NCAO-CEC-15-10

**NEPA Contact:** Paul Zedonis, Natural Resources Specialist

**MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer:** BranDee Bruce, Architectural Historian, and Laureen Perry, Regional Archaeologist

**Date:** May 14, 2015

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The undertaking by Reclamation is to grant permission to Orland-Artois Water District to install, operate, and maintain a new discharge facility on the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at MP 37.80L to discharge water into the TCC.

At Milepost 90.43L, a 12-inch PVC or steel pipeline will be installed from a well located on land owned by Glenn Kelley. The pipeline would extend approximately 905 feet onto Reclamation's right-of way, cross under Reclamation's canal access road and extend into the canal through the embankment, all of which have been previously disturbed from construction and maintenance of the canal. Soils extracted by trenching would be prevented from entering the canal and would be reused to cover the new pipeline. The TCC will not be modified. The discharge facility is located in Section 14, Township 14 North, Range 3 West, M.D.M.&M. in Colusa County.

After reviewing the materials submitted by NCAO, I concur with item 8 in NCAO-CEC-15-10 that this action would not have significant effects on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation. Under 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1) [implementing regulations for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act], this action is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, therefore Reclamation has no further Section 106 obligations. Should changes be made to this project, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary.