

# RECLAMATION

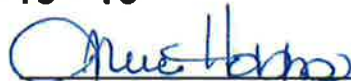
*Managing Water in the West*

## Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC)

### Cortina Water District - Discharge Facility – Tehama-Colusa Canal, Milepost 90.65R – Central Valley Project, California

NCAO-CEC-15 - 16

Prepared by:



Date:

8/11/2015

Irene Hobbs  
Realty Specialist  
Northern California Area Office

Concurrence by:

See Attachment 1

Date:

August 6, 2015

Megan K. Simon  
Northern California Area Office Designee  
for Tribal Trust Assets

Concurrence by:

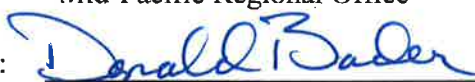
See Attachment 2

Date:

August 6, 2015

Mark A. Carper  
Archaeologist  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:



Date:

8/12/2015

Donald Bader  
Deputy Area Manager  
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:

  
for

Date:

8/12/2015

Federico Barajas  
Area Manager  
Northern California Area Office



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

August 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 90.65R, a 10-inch PVC or steel pipeline will be installed to connect a well located on land owned by Grimmer Farms to Reclamation's canal. Existing pipeline on private property extends approximately 35 feet to Reclamation's right-of way. From the Reclamation fence line, the pipeline will follow the Reclamation right-of-way, crossing under Reclamation's canal access road and extending into the canal through the embankment (Figure 1), a total of 42 feet, 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 two feet of cover. A plan and cross sectional view of the project area are depicted in Figure 2. A photograph of the action area is provided as 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 May 28, 2015. It has been determined the proposed facility will not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the TCC. This action would occur as soon as possible 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. The TCCA regularly maintains the area and engages in a weed abatement program both along 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 ☐

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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.

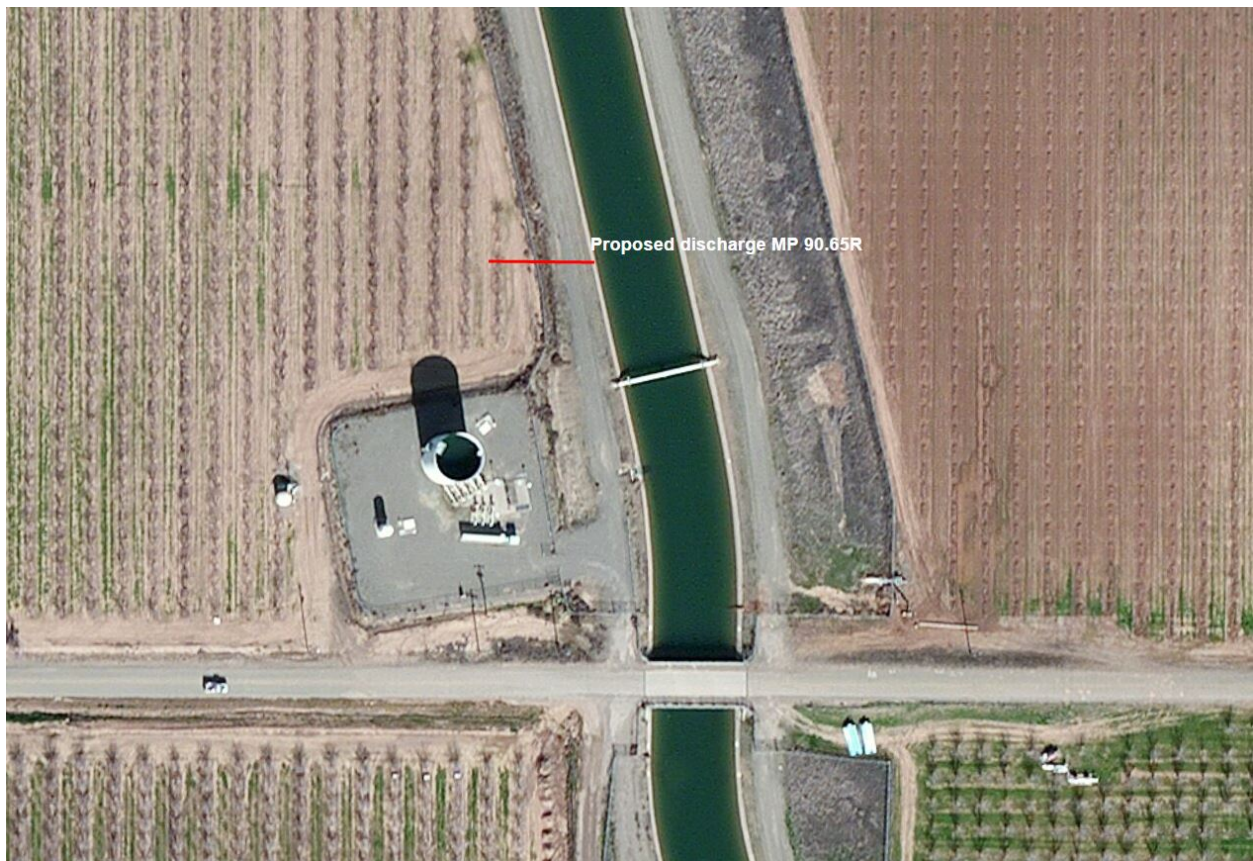
☐ Further environmental review is required, and the following document should be prepared.

☐ EA

☐ EIS

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

Cost Authority Number to review this request: 15XR0680A2 RX.0214965E.2300170



**Figure 1. Aerial view of the proposed pipeline from the groundwater well to the new discharge facility at MP 90.65R.**







**Figure 3. Image looking east from the Canal O&M Road at the location of well on Chuck Grimmer Farms.**

Attachment 1. Indian Trust Asset



Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>

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**Cortina WD Tehama-Colusa Canal MP 90.65R**

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Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>  
To: Donald Bader <dbader@usbr.gov>  
Cc: Paul Zedonis <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

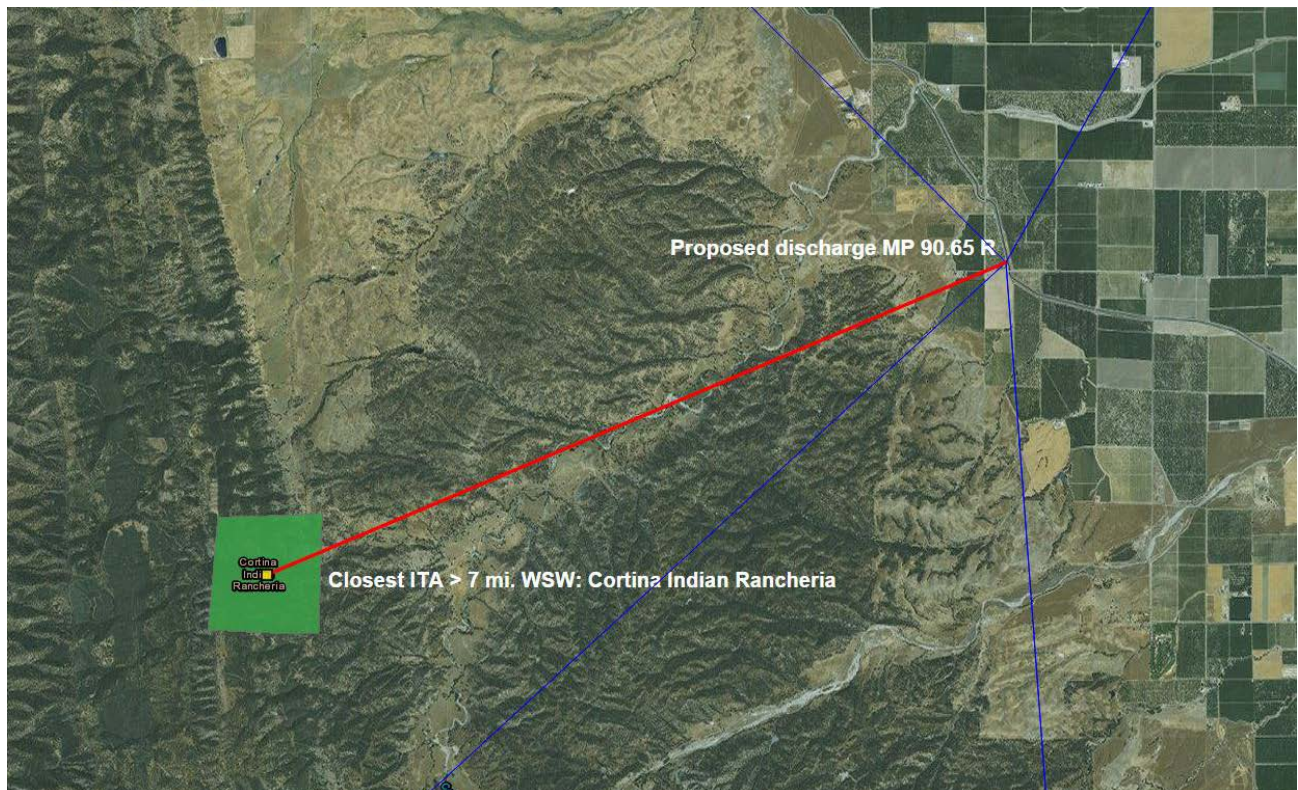
Thu, Aug 6, 2015 at 4:22 PM

I have examined the proposal for the Cortina Water District discharge facility and have determined that this facility is at least 7 miles from the closest Indian Trust Asset. I have determined that there is no likelihood that this facility will adversely impact Indian Trust Assets.

—

*Megan K. Simon*

Natural Resources Specialist  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Northern California Area Office  
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Shasta Lake, CA 96019  
(530) 276-2045  
[msimon@usbr.gov](mailto:msimon@usbr.gov)





## Attachment 2. Cultural Resource Review



Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>

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### Tehama-Colusa Canal Discharge Project - NCAO-CEC-15 – 16

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**Carper, Mark** <mcarper@usbr.gov>

Thu, Aug 6, 2015 at 3:23 PM

To: Megan Simon <msimon@usbr.gov>

Cc: Irene Hobbs <ihobbs@usbr.gov>, Paul Zedonis <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

For the proposed Tehama-Colusa Canal Discharge project (NCAO-CEC-15 – 16):

Reclamation initiated consultation with California the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on July 17, 2015 with a determination of No Adverse Effects for the proposed project. Consultation with SHPO is ongoing.

After reviewing the CEC for the proposed project Reclamation agrees with item #8 of the CEC that this action would not 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)).

Please keep a copy of this email for the administrative record. At the completion of the 106 process a subsequent memorandum detailing the 106 process will be provided to be included in the administrative record as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Regards,

—

Mark A. Carper - Archaeologist - M.A.

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