


RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

DRAFT Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC)

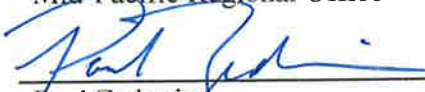
Colusa County Water District – Discharge Facility – Tehama-Colusa Canal, Milepost 97.48L – Central Valley Project, California

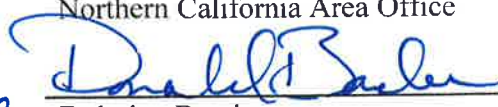
NCAO-CEC-15-19

Prepared by:  Date: 1/21/2016
Irene Hobbs
Realty Specialist
Northern California Area Office

Concurrence by: See Attachment 1 Date: _____
Megan Simon
Northern California Area Office Designee
for Tribal Trust Assets

Concurrence by: See Attachment 2 Date: _____
Mark Carper
Archaeologist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:  Date: 1/21/2016
Paul Zedonis
Environmental and Natural Resource
Division Manager
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:  Date: 1/21/2016
for Federico Barajas
Area Manager
Northern California Area Office



Proposed Action

Colusa County Water District (District) is requesting permission to install, operate and maintain a 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 97.48L, a 10-inch PVC pipeline will extend above ground from a well located on land owned by Jim Mumma Farms, run along the Salt Creek bank approximately 1,710 feet, and turn east approximately 110 feet where it will be connected to a new 10" steel pipeline to run south 30 feet through Reclamation's right-of-way (ROW) and into the TCC. The steel pipeline to be installed on Reclamation's ROW will be buried a minimum of three (3) feet under the Canal Road with two (2) feet of cover. A backhoe will be used to dig the trench for the steel pipeline. A plan and a cross sectional view of the project area is depicted in Figure 2. A photograph of the action area is provided in Figure 3. The discharge facility is located in Section 3, Township 13 North, Range 2 West, M.D.M.&M. in Colusa County.

The Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) and Reclamation reviewed the location on September 22, 2015 and determined that the proposed facility will not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the TCC. This action will take place as soon as the District receives approval from Reclamation. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CA DFW) has reviewed and approved the District's request and determined that no streambed alteration agreement is needed (See Attachment 3). The PVC pipe will be placed on top of the creek bank outside of Salt Creek.

The ROW 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 ROW 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, 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 ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐
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:

In its letter to the applicant dated July 20, 1025, included as Appendix 3, the CA DFW states that the project “will not substantially adversely affect an existing fish or wildlife resource”.

Cost Authority Number to review this request: 15XR0680A2 RX.0214965E.2300174

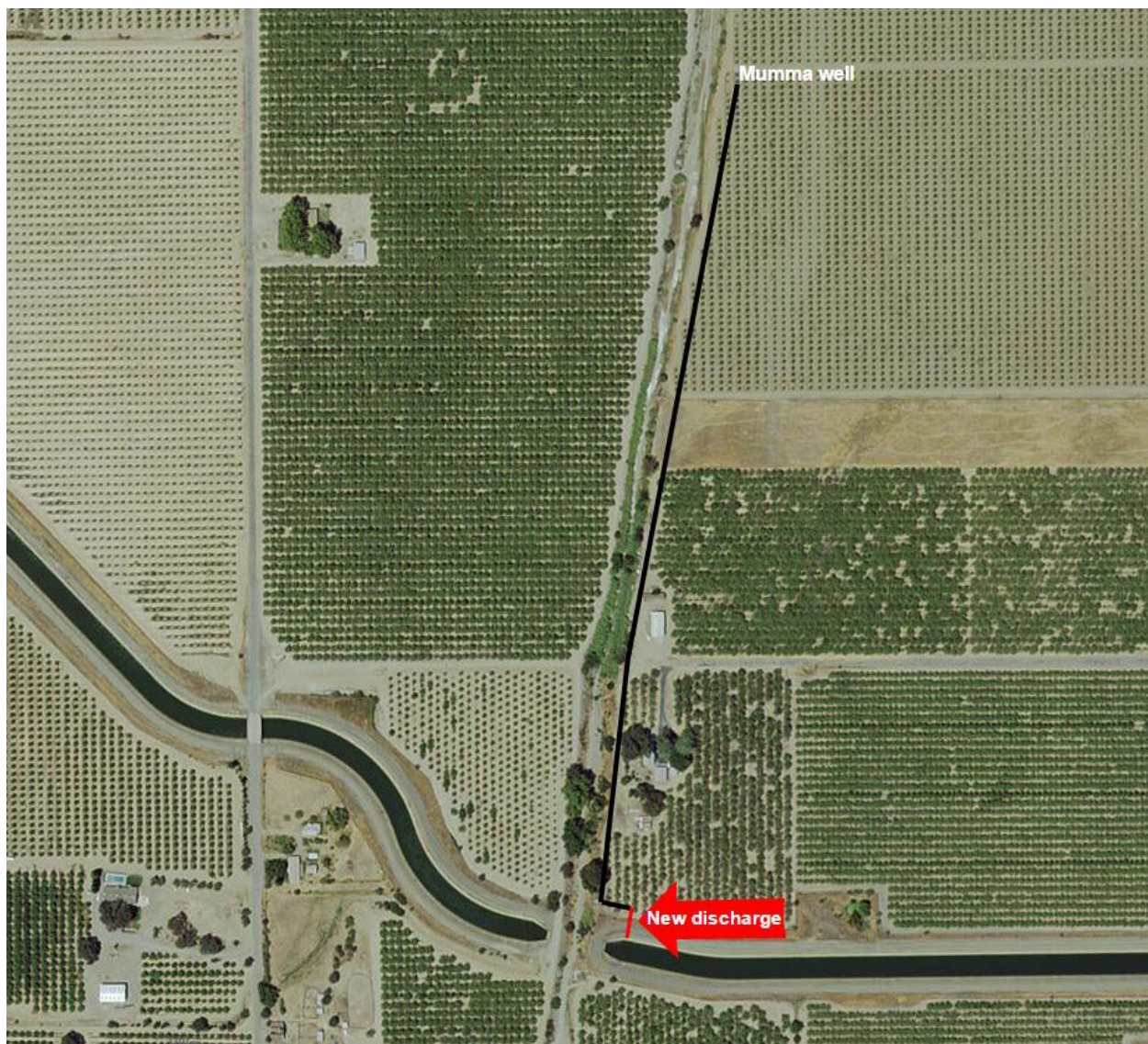


Figure 1. Aerial view of the pipeline from the groundwater well to the proposed discharge facility at MP 97.48L.

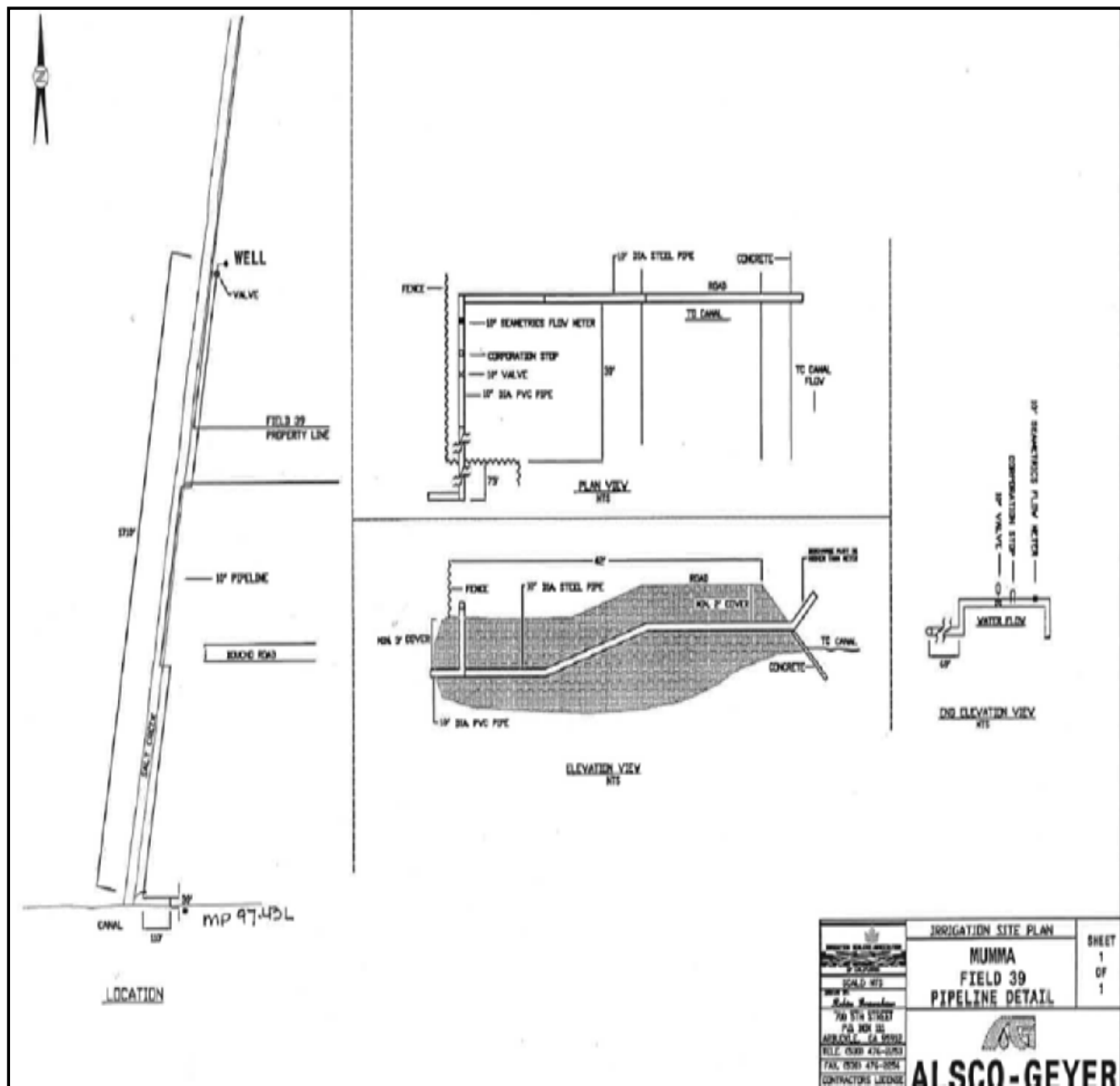


Figure 2. Cross-sectional view showing pipeline placement and elevations.



Figure 3. Image looking from the O&M road along the Tehama Colusa Canal at Milepost 97.48L towards Reclamation's boundary fence at Mumma's Orchard, where the District's proposed discharge facility will be installed.

Attachment 1. Indian Trust Assets



Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>

Colusa Co. WD - TCC MP 97.48L - ITA Review

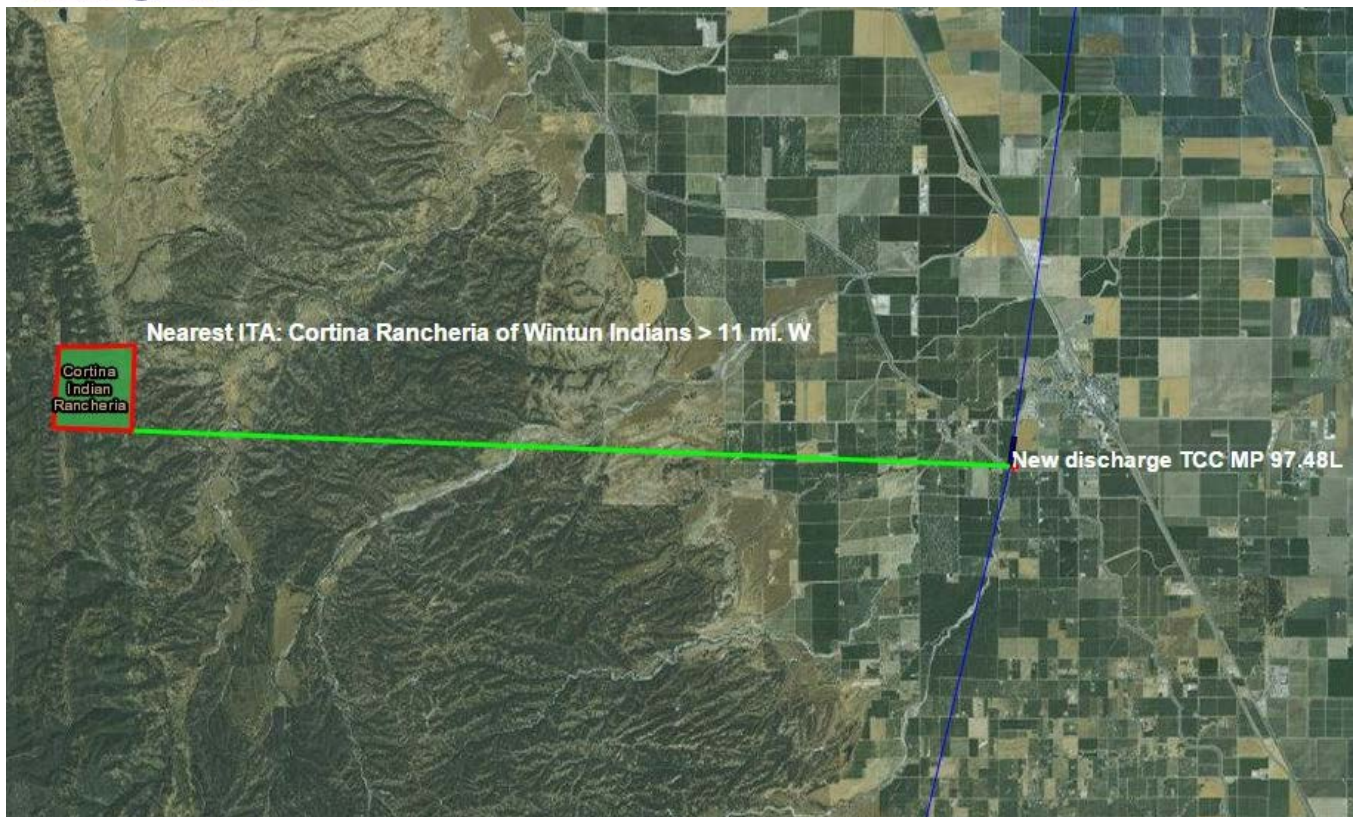
Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>
To: Paul Zedonis <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

Mon, Sep 28, 2015 at 12:29 PM

I have examined the proposal for the Colusa County Water District discharge facility and have determined that this facility is at least 11 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
16349 Shasta Dam Blvd.
Shasta Lake, CA 96019
(530) 276-2045
msimon@usbr.gov



Attachment 2. Cultural Resources Review

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

MP-153 Tracking Number: 15-NCAO-270

Project Name: Colusa County Water District (CCWD) Discharge Facility on the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at Milepost 97.48L Project

NEPA Document: NCAO-CEC-15-19

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Mark Carper

NEPA Contact: Megan Simon

Determination: No Adverse Effect

**MARK
CARPER**

Digitally signed by MARK CARPER
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government,
ou=Department of the Interior,
ou=Bureau of Reclamation, cn=MARK
CARPER,
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870287
Date: 2016.01.07 09:19:49 -08'00'

This proposed undertaking by the CCWD is to cross the Reclamation owned TCC right-of-way (ROW) and discharge groundwater into the TCC at Milepost 97.48L. Reclamation determined that the issuance of a Federal authorization constitutes an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y) and is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties under 36 CFR § 800.3(a).

CCWD proposes the installation of a 10-inch steel pipeline extending 30 feet through TCC ROW to discharge non-CVP groundwater from an existing well on adjacent private property into the TCC. Conveyance of water from the extant well will occur via approximately 1,820 feet of 10-inch PVC pipe atop ground surface, entailing no ground disturbing activities. The 30 feet of new discharge pipeline will be buried in a trench crossing the TCC berm and buried under the existing peripheral canal access road. The trench will measure approximately 2 feet wide, a maximum of approximately 3 feet deep, and will be backfilled with the excavated material following pipeline installation. A short section of exposed pipe will overhang the TCC and may rest on a concrete saddle measuring approximately 12 inches wide, 12 inches long, and 18 inches high. The concrete saddle will be located between 12 inches and 24 inches back from the edge of the existing canal liner, with the pipe extending approximately 5 feet over the TCC. Upon completion, the TCC ROW, embankment, and canal road will be restored to preconstruction form. Access and staging will occur within the existing TCC ROW and on adjacent orchard and field roads.

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Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch

Due to the nature and scope of the proposal—with all proposed project activities being entirely limited to the existing, constructed berm within the built environment of the TCC—pedestrian survey was unwarranted. Reclamation conducted an internal archival review in an effort to identify historic properties within the APE. The TCC is the only identified cultural resource within the APE. The TCC was constructed between 1965 and 1980 as part of the Sacramento River Division Canals Unit of Reclamation's CVP to convey irrigation water south from the Red Bluff Diversion Dam through Tehama, Glenn, and Colusa Counties. The TCC is approximately 110 miles long and terminates in Yolo County approximately 2 miles south of Dunnigan, California. The TCC has a bottom width of 24 feet and is 15 feet deep. The portion of the TCC within the APE is concrete-lined.

Recording and evaluating the entirety of the TCC is outside the scope of this project. For the purposes of the current undertaking, Reclamation is treating the TCC as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) under Criterion A as a contributing element of the CVP. The CVP—treated as a historic Property by Reclamation—is an extensive network of 20 dams and reservoirs, 11 power plants, and 500 miles of major canals, as well as conduits, tunnels, and related facilities that cover approximately 400 miles, from northern California near Redding south to near Bakersfield. The TCC is considered significant under the theme of development, construction, and operation of the CVP as a water conveyance component of the CVP that has contributed to northern California's economic and agricultural development and growth.

This undertaking is also narrowly confined to the modern built environment of the TCC and its constructed elements with no potential to affect sites of religious or cultural significance to Native Americans. No consultations with Indian tribes were considered necessary for this undertaking.

The TCC is the only historic property within the APE. Reclamation applied the criteria of adverse effect and determined that measures to install the pipeline through its existing berm will not alter any of the characteristics that would make the TCC eligible for National Register listing. Access to the project will occur via existing roads without improvement, and all proposed construction activities are limited to an area previously disturbed and constructed for the TCC. The proposed discharge pipeline into the canal is fully consistent with several similar existing discharges into the TCC, resulting in no other changes to the TCC or the larger CVP. Reclamation finds no adverse effect to historic properties for this undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

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Cultural Resources Branch

Reclamation initiated consultation with California the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on November 24, 2015 with a determination of no adverse effect to historic properties for the proposed project. SHPO concurred with the determination in a letter dated January 4, 2015.

Reclamation has concluded the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. After reviewing CEC NCAO-CEC-15-19 for the proposed project Reclamation finds that this action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places

This memorandum is intended to convey the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to this project, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



January 4, 2016

Reply in Reference To: BUR_2015_1207_001

Anastasia T. Leigh
Regional Environmental Officer
Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

RE: Colusa County Water District (CCWD) Discharge Facility on the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at Milepost 97.48L, Colusa County, California (15-NCAO-270)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

Thank you for the letter received on December 7, 2015, initiating consultation with me for the above-referenced project to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. § 300101), as amended, and its implementing regulation found at 36 CFR § 800. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is seeking my comments regarding the effects that the undertaking described below will have on historic properties.

Reclamation is proposing to issue a land use authorization to the CCWD to cross the TCC right-of-way (ROW) and discharge groundwater into the TCC at Milepost 97.48L. The CCWD proposes the installation of a 10-inch steel pipeline extending 30 feet through the TCC ROW. Conveyance of the water from the extant well will occur via approximately 1,820 feet of 10-inch PVC pipeline atop the ground surface. The 30 feet of steel pipeline will be buried in a trench crossing the constructed TCC berm and existing peripheral canal access road. A short section of exposed pipe will overhang the TCC by approximately five feet and may rest on a concrete saddle. Access and staging will occur within the existing TCC ROW and on adjacent orchard and field roads.

Reclamation's Area of Potential Effect (APE) measures 30 by 30 feet allowing for excavation, staging and temporary spoils, totaling approximately 0.02-acres, and includes the TCC embankment, Reclamation's ROW, and all project-related activity areas. The vertical extent of the APE is approximately 3 feet deep and confined to the constructed fill of the canal berm and peripheral disturbance apron from the canal's construction.

The only cultural resource identified in the APE is the TCC. Constructed between 1965 and 1980 as part of the Central Valley Project (CVP), evaluation of the entire canal is outside the scope of this undertaking. Reclamation is treating the TCC eligible as a contributing element of the CVP for the purposes of this project only. Reclamation has determined that the undertaking will not alter any of the characteristics that would make the TCC eligible as a contributor to the CVP, and found that the undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

After reviewing the information submitted with your letter, I offer the following comments:

- I concur that the Area of Potential Effect (APE) as represented in the attachments to your letter is appropriate.
- I concur that Reclamation's identification and evaluation efforts are sufficient for this undertaking.

JAN 6 2016

BUR_2015_1207_001

Ms. Anastasia Leigh
January 4, 2016
Page 2 of 2

- I concur with your finding and agree that pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b), a Finding of No Adverse Effect is appropriate for the undertaking as described.
- Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as an unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, you may have future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for seeking my comments and considering historic properties as part of your project planning. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kathleen Forrest, Historian, at (916) 445-7022 or by email at kathleen.forrest@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer

Attachment 3. CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Concurrence



State of California – The Natural Resources Agency

EDMUND G. BROWN, Jr. Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

North Central Region

1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-4599

916-358-2900

www.wildlife.ca.gov

JUL 20 2015

Date

Jim Mumma

7645 Mumma Road

Arbuckle, CA 95912

jimmumma@live.com

Subject: No Streambed Alteration Agreement Needed
Notification No. 1600-2015-0136-R2
Salt Creek

Dear Mr. Mumma:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has reviewed your Streambed Alteration Notification (Notification). We have determined that your project is subject to the notification requirement in Fish and Game Code Section 1602, including payment of the notification fee.

The Department has also determined that your project will not substantially adversely affect an existing fish or wildlife resource. As a result, you will not need a Streambed Alteration Agreement for your project. You are responsible for complying with all applicable local, state, and federal laws in completing your work. A copy of this letter and your Notification with all attachments should be available at all times at the work site.

Please note that if you change your project so that it differs materially from the project you described in your original Notification, you will need to submit a new Notification and corresponding fee to the Department.

Thank you for notifying us of your project. If you have any questions, please contact Kursten Sheridan, Environmental Scientist, at (916) 358-2950 or by email at kursten.sheridan@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,


Tina Bartlett
Regional Manager

cc: Kursten Sheridan, CDFW, kursten.sheridan@wildlife.ca.gov

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870