


RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist


Assignment of Sacramento River Settlement Contract No. 14-06-200-5211A-R-1

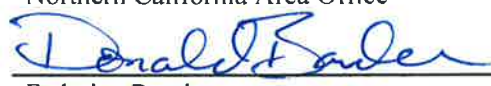
NCAO-CEC-16-05

Prepared by:  Date: May 5, 2016
Jake Berens
Water Conservation Specialist
Northern California Area Office (Willows)

Concurrence by: Attachment 2 Date: May 4, 2016
Megan Simon
Northern California Area Office Designee for
Tribal Trust Assets

Concurrence by: Attachment 3 Date: May 4, 2016
Joanne Goodsell
Archaeologist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:  Date: 5/11/2016
Paul Zedonis
Environmental and Natural Resources
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist/
Division Manager
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:  Date: 5/11/2016
for Federico Barajas
Area Manager
Northern California Area Office



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

May 2016

Proposed Action

On October 23, 2015, by Grant Deed recorded in the Official Records of the County of Colusa, California as Document No. 2015-0003526, Green Valley Corporation and Joseph L. Wucher and Jenny B. Wucher voluntarily conveyed all interest of the land within the Contractor's Service Area delineated in Exhibit B of Sacramento River Settlement Contract No. 14-06-200-5211A-R-1 to Swenson Farms, LLC.

At the request of the new property owners, Reclamation will assign the interests in Sacramento River Settlement Contract No. 14-06-200-5211A-R-1 from Green Valley Corporation to Swenson Farms, LLC to correspond with the change in property ownership. Reclamation's authority for the action is granted by Article 33 of the Settlement Contract.

The property is located in a portions of Township 17N, Range 2W, Sections 1, 2, & 3 (Attachment 1), Colusa County, CA. The latitude/longitude is approximately 122°2'49.89"W, 39°21'33.58"N. The property is in agricultural production and will remain so for the foreseeable future.

Exclusion Categories

Bureau of Reclamation Categorical Exclusion - 516 DM 6 D. 14: Approval, renewal, transfer, and execution of an original, amendatory, or supplemental water service or repayment contract where the only result will be to implement an administrative or financial practice or change.

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); No ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐

national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)).

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

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)).

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.

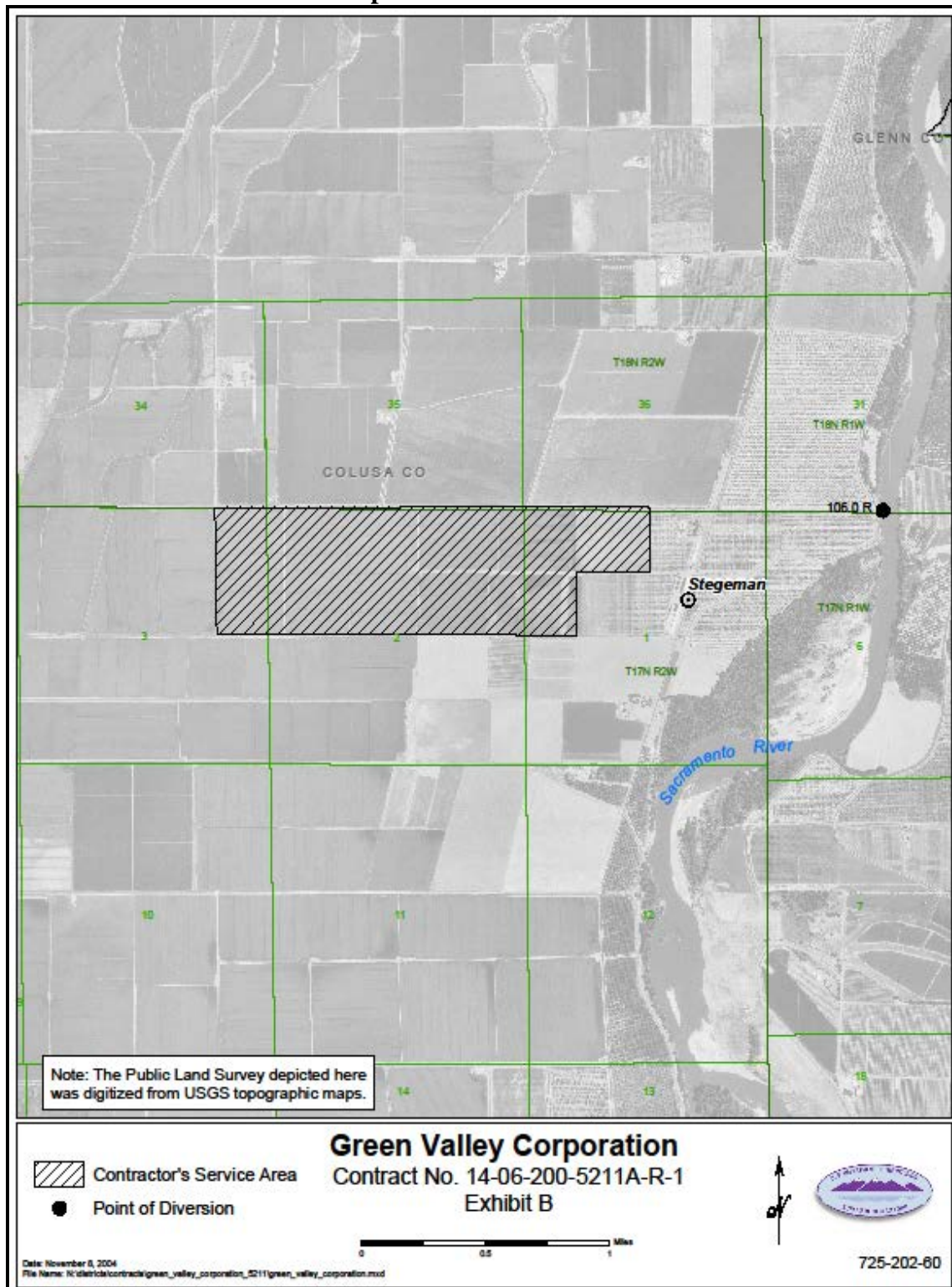
☐ EA

☐ EIS

Environmental commitments, explanations, and/or remarks:

The action is purely administrative. No construction or change in land use is associated with the action.

Attachment 1. Site Location Map



Attachment 2. Indian Trust Asset Review



Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>

ITA Review - Green Valley Corp. to Swenson Farms, LLC Assignment

1 message

Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>

Wed, May 4, 2016 at 11:03 AM

To: Paul Zedonis <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

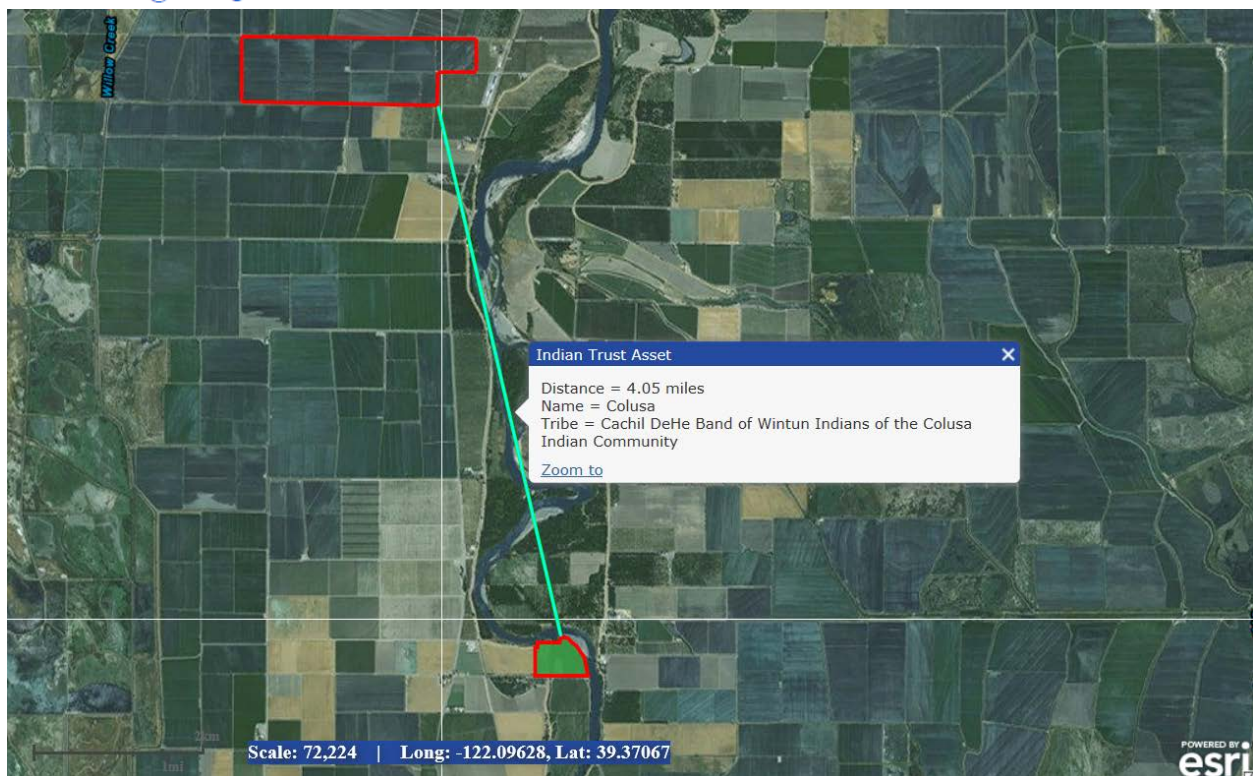
I have examined the proposal for the assignment of Sacramento River Settlement Contract No. 14-06-200-5211A-R-1 from Green Valley Corporation to Swenson Farms, LLC and have determined that this project is at least four (4) miles from the closest Indian Trust Asset.

I have determined that there is no likelihood that this project will adversely impact Indian Trust Assets.

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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 3. Cultural Resources Review

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE Division of Environmental Affairs Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153)

MP-153 Tracking Number: 16-NCAO-127

Project Name: Assignment of Sacramento River Settlement Contract No. 14-06-200-5211A-R-1

NEPA Document: NCAO-CEC-16-05

NEPA Contact: Megan Simon, Natural Resource Specialist

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Joanne Goodsell, Archaeologist

Date: May 4, 2016

JOANNE GOODSSELL

Digitally signed by JOANNE GOODSSELL
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=Department of the Interior, ou=Bureau of
Reclamation, cn=JOANNE GOODSSELL, 0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=14007000645482
Date: 2016.05.04 13:35:55 -0700

Reclamation proposes to assign the interests in Sacramento River Settlement Contract No. 14-06-200-5211A-R-1 from Green Valley Corporation and Joseph L. Wucher and Jenny B. Wucher to Swenson Farms, LLC to correspond with a change in property ownership by Grant Deed recorded in the Official Records of the County of Colusa, California on October 23, 2015 as Document Nos. 2015-0003526. Reclamation's authority for the action is granted by Article 33 of the Settlement Contract.

Reclamation has determined the proposed action constitutes a Federal undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties, should such properties be present, pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 regulations codified at 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1). As such, Reclamation has no further obligations under Section 106 of the NHPA.

This document conveys the conclusion of the NHPA Section 106 process for the proposed undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to the proposed action, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be required.