

# RECLAMATION

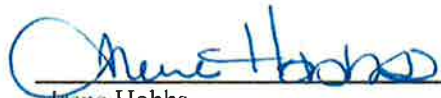
## *Managing Water in the West*

### Categorical Exclusion Checklist

## Dunnigan Water District - Discharge Facility – Tehama-Colusa Canal, Milepost 105.83L – Central Valley Project, Yolo County, CA

NCAO-CEC-13

Prepared by:



Date:

9/26/2016

Irene Hobbs  
Realty Specialist  
Northern California Area Office (Willows)

Concurrence by:

Attachment 2

Date:

July 19, 2016

Megan Simon  
Northern California Area Office Designee for  
Tribal Trust Assets

Concurrence by:

Attachment 3

Date:

September 21, 2016

Mark Carper  
Archaeologist  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:



Date:

9/27/2016

*for*  
Paul Zedonis  
Environmental and Natural Resources  
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist/  
Division Manager

Approved by:



Date:

9/27/2016

Don Bader  
Area Manager  
Northern California Area Office



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

September 2016

## Proposed Action

Reclamation will amend the license with Dunnigan Water District (District) in order for the District to install, operate and maintain portions of a new discharge facility along the Tehama-Colusa Canal (Canal) at Milepost 105.83L. The discharge facility will be installed approximately 10 feet (ft) north of an existing District discharge facility, authorized in 2014. The District will use the facility to discharge additional water from a well located on the Driver property into the Canal in conjunction with the District's Warren Act contract.

An existing 12-inch aluminum pipeline traverses the ground surface from the well on the Driver property, approximately 260 ft south to Road 1A, then turns west and travels approximately 800 ft along the north side of Road 1A. From there, the pipeline turns south and continues for 584 ft, then turns west and continues for approximately 200 ft. From there, the pipeline turns south for 448 ft to Reclamation's fence line where it will connect to a newly-installed 14-inch steel pipe and continue onto Reclamation's right-of-way (ROW). The new 14-inch steel pipe will continue approximately 100 ft from the fence line, crossing under the Canal access road and extending through the embankment and into the Canal, approximately 10 ft north of the existing discharge facility. The location of the new construction (Figure 1) has been previously disturbed. A backhoe will be used to dig the trench to install the underground portion of the pipeline for the new discharge facility. Soils extracted by trenching would be prevented from entering the Canal and would be used as backfill for the underground portion of the new pipeline, which will have a minimum of 2 ft of cover under the access road. A plan and cross sectional view of the project area is provided as Figure 2. A photograph of the discharge location is provided as Figure 3. The discharge facility is located in Section 6, Township 12 North, Range 1 West, M.D.M.&M. in Yolo County, CA. The existing discharge facility to the adjacent south will remain in place and may be used as a secondary facility, if needed.

The Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority and Reclamation reviewed the location for the proposed facility and determined that the facility would not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the Canal.

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. 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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐
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 ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐
11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). No ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐
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 ☒ Uncertain ☐ Yes ☐
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:**

Cost Authority Number to review this request is: 16XR0680A2 RX.07258947.3230000

## Appendix A. Site Location Information

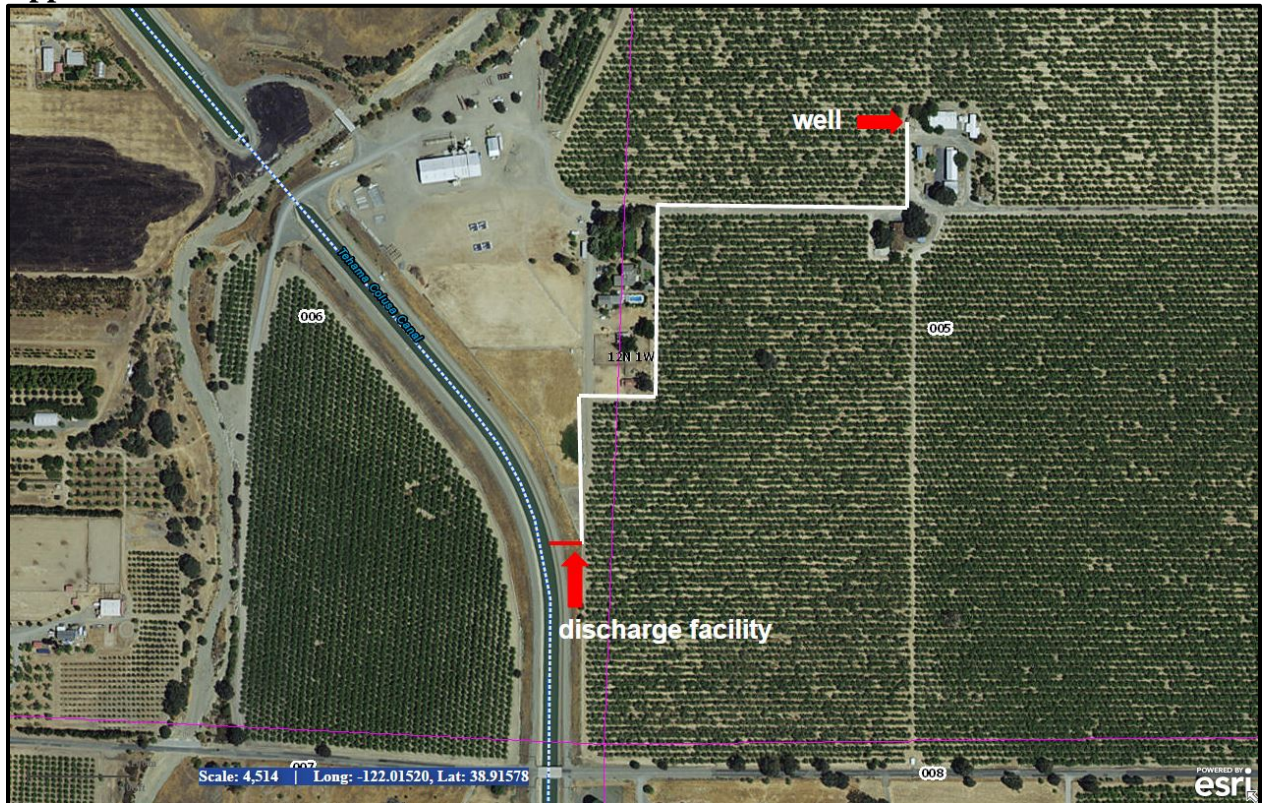
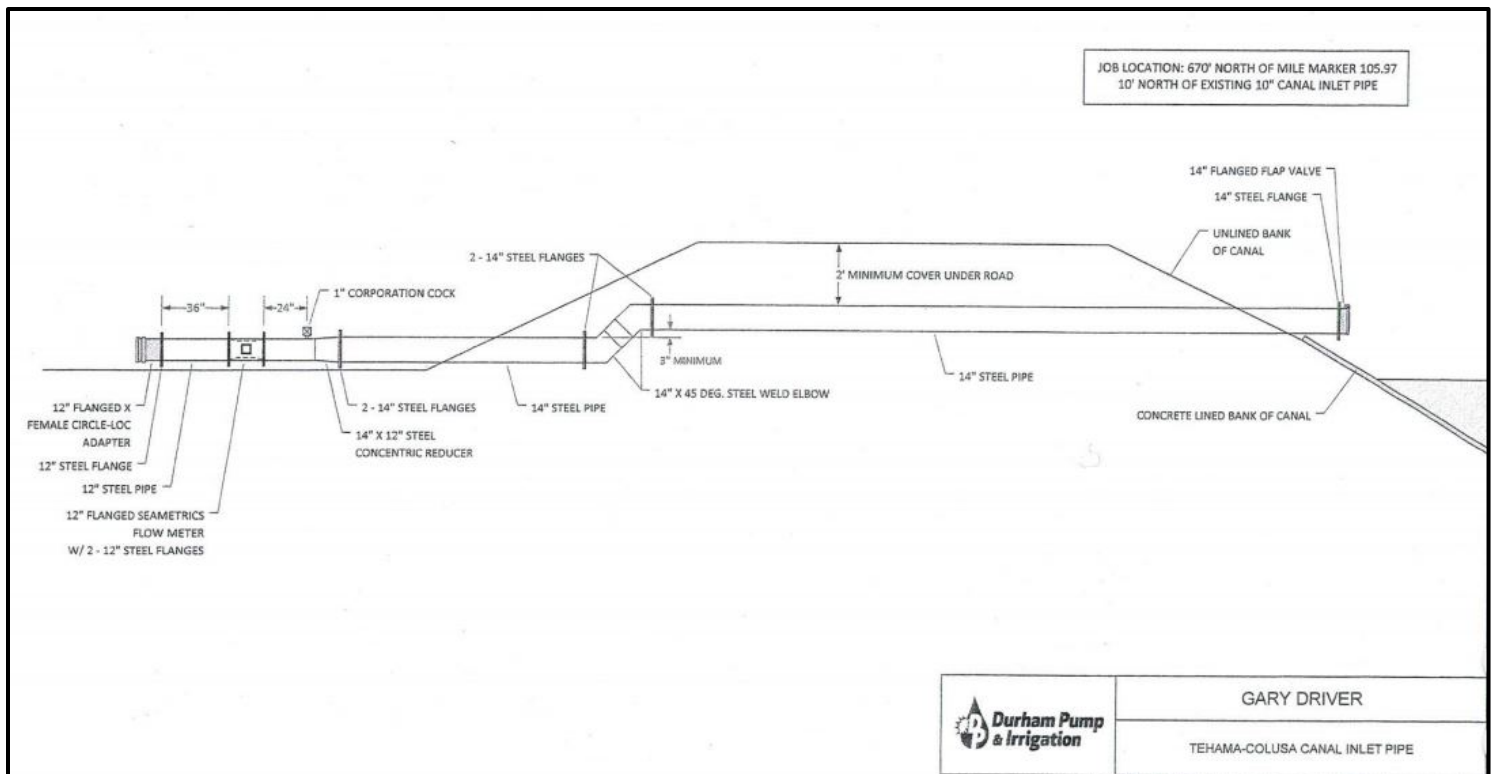


Figure 1. Location Map depicting well to discharge facility. The portion of the project located on Reclamation property is outlined in red.



**Figure 2. Engineer's Drawing of aluminum pipeline portion of proposed discharge facility.**



**Photo of existing discharge and location of new dishcarge.**

## Appendix B: Indian Trust Asset Review



Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>

### ITA Review - Dunnigan Water District discharge facility - TCC MP 105.83L

1 message

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

Tue, Jul 19, 2016 at 2:34 PM

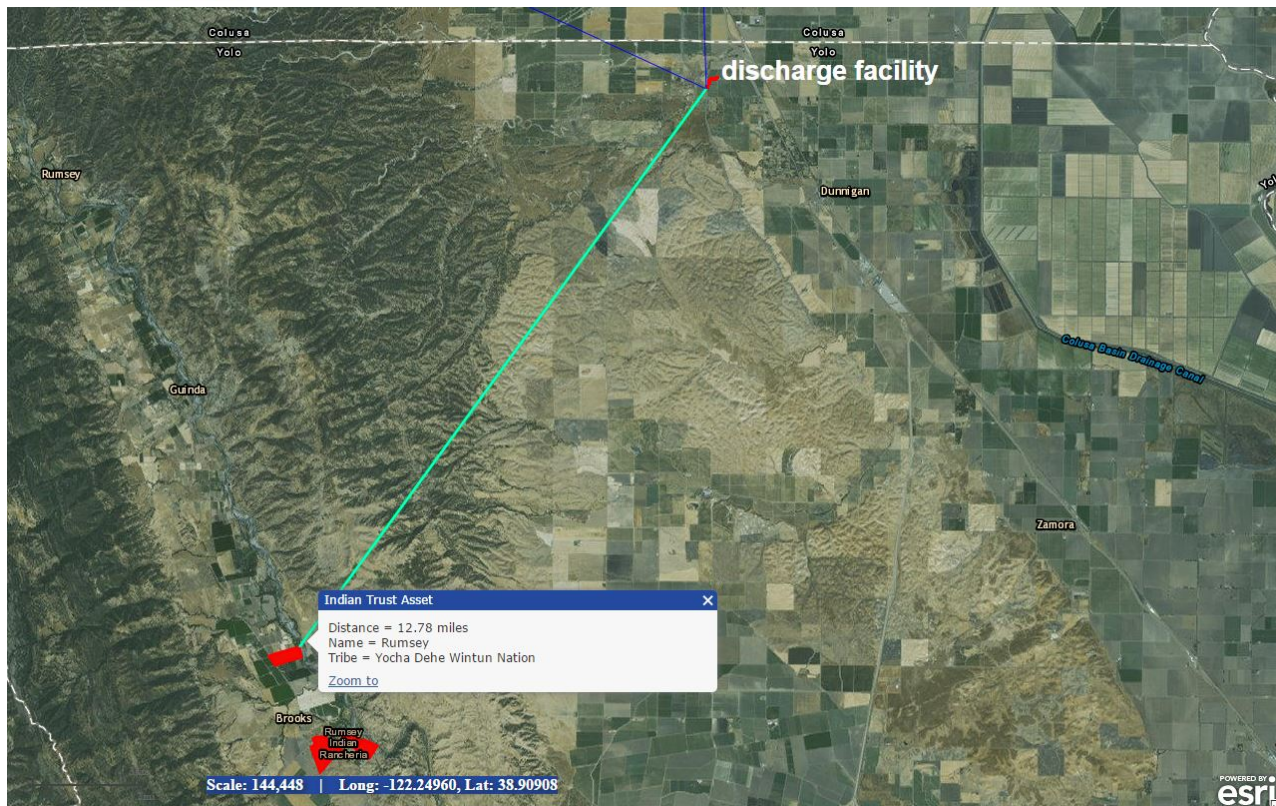
I have examined the referenced proposal and have determined that the proposed facility is at least 12.75 miles from the closest Indian Trust Asset.

I have determined that there is no likelihood that this action 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](mailto:msimon@usbr.gov)



## **Appendix C: Cultural Resources Review**

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

**MP-153 Tracking Number:** 16-NCAO-193

**Project Name:** Dunnigan Water District (DWD) Discharge Facility on the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at Milepost 105.83L Project

**NEPA Document:** NCAO-CEC-13

**MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer:** Mark Carper

**NEPA Contact:** Megan Simon

**Determination:** No Adverse Effect

**Date:** September 21, 2016

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This proposed undertaking by PG&E is the installation of a permanent point of discharge into the TCC at milepost 105.83L in Yolo County, California. The TCC is a Reclamation owned and managed federal land. Reclamation determined that authorization of the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y) and a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties under 36 CFR § 800.3(a).

DWD proposes the installation of a 12-inch aluminum pipeline extending approximately 20 feet through TCC ROW to discharge non-CVP groundwater from an existing well on nearby private property into the TCC. Conveyance of water to the TCC will be through surface pipe. Ground disturbance will be restricted to the trenching through the crown of the canal berm to enable the pipeline to be placed 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. 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.

In an effort to identify historic properties in the APE, Reclamation conducted an internal review of archival records and past project data. 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. Additionally, since the undertaking is confined to the modern built

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

environment of the TCC and its constructed elements, consultation with Indian tribes was not conducted for this undertaking.

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.

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 found no adverse effect to historic properties for this undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

Reclamation initiated consultation with California the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on August 22, 2015 with a notification of a determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed project. SHPO concurred with the determination in a letter dated September 20, 2016.

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

I concur with Item 8 on NCAO-CEC-13. The proposed action would have no 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 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100  
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053  
calshpo@parks.ca.gov  
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



September 20, 2016

In reply refer to: BUR\_2016\_0822\_001

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

Subject: Section 106 Consultation for the Dunnigan Water District (DWD) Discharge Facility on the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at Milepost 105.83L, Yolo County, California (16-NCAO-193)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) received on August 22, 2016 your letter initiating consultation on the above referenced undertaking under Title 54 USC § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the NHPA, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The Dunnigan Water District (DWD) proposes to install a permanent point of discharge at milepost 105.83L into the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) managed by the TCC Authority and which is a component of Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP) Sacramento River Division Canals Unit. Reclamation proposes to issue a land use authorization to DWD to cross the TCC right-of-way to install a new 12-inch aluminum pipeline extending about 20 feet in a trench to facilitate additional groundwater discharge into the TCC and is requesting concurrence on a finding of no adverse effect to historic properties.

Reclamation has determined that the area of potential effects (APE) encompasses the TCC embankment, Reclamation's right-of-way, and all project-related activity areas associated with the new discharge point. The APE measures approximately 6 feet wide by 25 feet long for excavating the 2-foot-wide trench, pipe installation, and temporary spoils; access is by existing roads. The vertical extent of the APE is about 3 feet deep and is confined to the constructed fill of the canal berm and the peripheral disturbance apron from the canal's construction.

Due to the very limited nature of the project, identification efforts were confined to internal review of archival records and past project data. The TCC is the only identified cultural resource within or near the APE. Constructed between 1965 and 1980 as part of the Central Valley Project to convey water south from Red Bluff, the canal is about 110 miles long and terminates just south of Dunnigan, California. For purposes of the current undertaking, Reclamation is treating the TCC as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a contributor to the larger Central Valley Project under Criterion A as a component of the development and operation of water conveyance systems that contributed to northern California's agricultural and economic expansion. The design of the discharge pipeline is consistent with other existing discharge features along the length of the canal.

Reclamation determined that consultation with Indian tribes was not necessary for this undertaking because of the limited APE, its location within developed agricultural fields and because ground disturbance is completely within the previously constructed berm and canal.

Reclamation applied the criteria of adverse effect for the undertaking, at 36 CFR § 800.5(b), and has determined that the proposed project will result in no adverse effect to historic properties due to the proposed modifications taking place within the existing canal footprint. None of the significant construction characteristics or materials of the TCC that contribute to its eligibility will be affected by the proposed new discharge pipeline modifications.

Reclamation is requesting review and comment on the delineation of the APE, efforts to identify historic properties, and is seeking concurrence with its effect finding. Following staff review of the submitted documentation, the following comments are provided:

- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), there are no objections to the APE as defined.
- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(b), I find that Reclamation has made a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the area of potential effects.
- **I do not object that**, for purposes of this project only, Reclamation considers that the Tehama-Colusa Canal, built between 1965-1980, is eligible under Criterion A as a contributor to the greater Central Valley Project based on its status as part of the development and operation of water conveyance systems that had an important role in northern California's agricultural and economic expansion.
- Reclamation has determined that the proposed undertaking would result in no adverse effects to historic properties. Pursuant to 36 CFR §800.5(b), **I concur.**

Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, Reclamation may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended). Should you require further information, please contact Jeanette Schulz at [Jeanette.Schulz@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Jeanette.Schulz@parks.ca.gov) or (916) 445-7031.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco  
State Historic Preservation Officer