

RECLAMATION


Managing Water in the West

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Green Valley Road Widening Project

FONSI 15-08-CCAO

Recommended by:


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Date: 10/6/16

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Date: 07 OCT 2016

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Date: 10/18/16



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

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Mission Statements

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and provide access to our Nation's natural and cultural heritage and honor our trust responsibilities to Indian Tribes and our commitment to island communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

Introduction

The City of Folsom (City), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), El Dorado County (County), and Reclamation, proposes to widen Green Valley Road from two lanes to four lanes with left turn channelization between East Natoma Street and Sophia Parkway (Proposed Action). The widening would occur from 0.15 mile northwest of East Natoma Street to 0.06 mile west of Sophia Parkway and totals approximately 1.2 miles in length. The portions of Green Valley Road on either end of this segment have already been widened to four lanes with a Class II¹ bicycle facility in each direction. This Proposed Action involves the execution of a temporary construction permit to the City to commence road construction activities on Reclamation lands prior to the issuance of a perpetual easement document. Upon execution of the perpetual easement, the temporary construction permit would terminate. The perpetual easement would grant the City the right to continue roadway Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities. Reclamation and the County would also provide technical assistance to the City on project design. The County would provide an encroachment permit to the City for construction within the County limits.

The Proposed Action would also include drainage improvements along Green Valley Road and along the Humbug-Willow Creek Trail to reduce the risks of flooding of Green Valley Road, as defined by the project reach, during storm events.

Reclamation prepared the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the effects of the Proposed Action. The EA was available for public review on June 9, 2016. The review period ended on June 24, 2016. No comments were received on the EA during this period.

Findings

Based on the attached EA, Reclamation has determined that the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The attached EA describes the existing environmental resources in the Proposed Action area, evaluates the effects of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives on the resources, and proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any potential adverse effects. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46). The analysis provided in the attached EA supports the following findings, and is incorporated by reference.

The following factors support this determination:

1. The proposed action will not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)).
2. The proposed action will not significantly impact natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and

¹ Class II bike lanes are any portion of roadway designated for bicycle use and defined by pavement marking, curbs, signs, or other traffic-control devices (City of Folsom 2007).

refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3) and 40 CFR 46.215(b)).

3. The proposed action will not have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
4. The proposed action will neither establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
5. There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
6. The proposed project will not have significant cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
7. The proposed action has no potential to affect historic properties (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).
8. The proposed action would not jeopardize the continued existence of listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)).
9. The proposed action will not violate federal, state, tribal or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)).
10. The proposed action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993), as there are none in the proposed project area.
11. Implementing the proposed action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898), as there are none within the proposed action area.
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12. The proposed action will not 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 and 512 DM 3). There were no sacred sites identified within the proposed action area.

Environmental Commitments

Reclamation is obligated to ensure fulfillment of any environmental commitments prescribed to mitigate or eliminate impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed project.

Environmental commitments and mitigation measures described in Section 3 of the EA will be

implemented. Reclamation will coordinate with the City throughout the duration of the proposed project to ensure avoidance or minimization of effects to the environment.