

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Santa Barbara County's Lake Cachuma Disk Golf Course

CEC-16-003

Prepared by:

Kate Connor

Kate Connor
Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 12/19/2016

Concurred by:

See Attachment A

John Fogerty
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 8. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

Date: See Attachment A

Concurred by:

Ned Gruenhagen

Ned Gruenhagen
Wildlife Biologist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 12/19/2016

Concurred by:

Rain L. Emerson

Rain L. Emerson
Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

Date: 12/20/2016

Approved by:

Michael P. Jackson

Michael P. Jackson
Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 12/20/2016



Background

Santa Barbara County (County), under Agreement No. 11-LC-20-0223 with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), manages recreation land and facilities at Lake Cachuma.

Nature of the Action

The County, on behalf of Reclamation, proposes to construct an 18-hole disc golf course at the Lake Cachuma recreation area in Santa Barbara County, California (Figure 1).

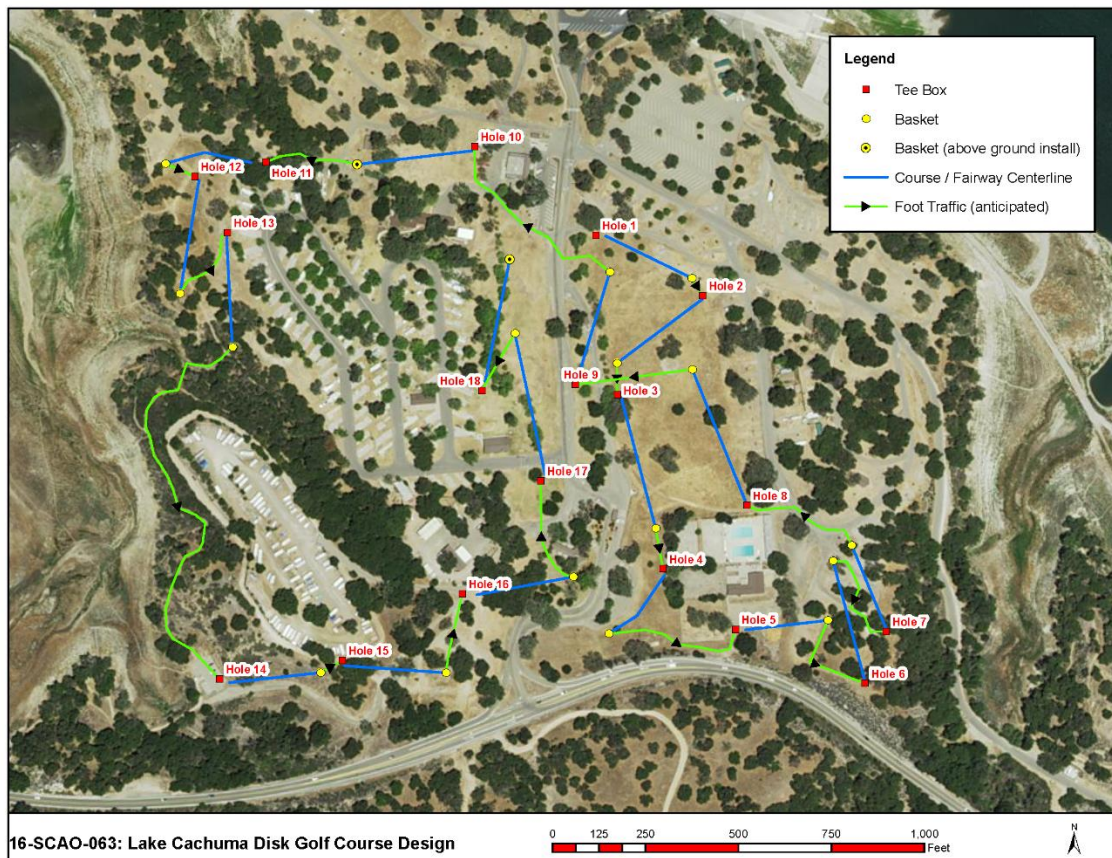


Figure 1 Detailed Project Design

Each hole for the disc golf course will consist of a “tee pad”, “signage”, and a “basket” as shown in Figures 2 and 3. Ground disturbing activities for the project are limited to these three locations at each hole.

The 18 concrete tee pads (see Figure 2) will measure 5 feet wide by 12 feet long by 3 inches thick. No grading will be required for placement of the concrete pads. Thirteen of the tee pads are co-located in previously disturbed areas such as graded road shoulders, abandoned camp sites, parking lots, or storage areas. Equipment used for installation at these 13 locations will include a backhoe with a post hole auger. The other five tee pads are in less disturbed areas that will require hand tools such as Pulaski’s or shovels for installation. Concrete will be mixed and transported to the sites using wheelbarrows.

Signage (see Figure 2) at each location will consist of a 4 inch by 4 inch sign post placed in a 12 inch wide by 12 inch deep hole. The hole will be filled with concrete to secure the post.



Figure 2 Conceptualization of Tee Pad and Signage

There will be a total of 18 baskets (see Figure 3), one for each hole shown in Figure 1. A 12 inch wide by 12 inch deep hole will be dug to place the basket post. The hold will be filled with concrete to secure the post. Above ground baskets will be used at Holes 10 and 18, resulting in no ground disturbance for their placement.



Figure 3 Conceptualization of Disk Golf Basket

Construction would take approximately 4 weeks to complete.

Environmental Commitments

The County shall implement the following environmental protection measures to avoid and/or reduce environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action:

- Before initiating construction for the Proposed Action, the contractor or assign shall slowly walk the area where the tee pads, “golf basket,” and signage will be constructed and the immediate vicinity and shall visually search the area for frogs. Vegetation, litter, rocks or other material that could obscure a frog shall be inspected. If a frog is observed, it should be allowed to move away of its own volition. The length of the frog, from snout to vent, shall be estimated, general coloration and any distinguishing characteristics (i.e. pattern and distribution of spotting, coloration, particularly at base of hind legs, stripes or mask through eye, etc.) shall be noted and recorded. If possible, photographs shall be taken. If photographs are taken, an identifiable object near the frog and wholly with the frame of the photograph shall be measured with a ruler. Documentation for an observation shall be immediately transmitted to Reclamation environmental staff and no work shall commence until that information is reviewed and notification of permission to proceed is provided by a Reclamation biologist.
- If facilities are to be constructed during the bird nesting season (months of February through August), prior to work on the Proposed Action, the contractor or assign shall visually survey vegetation for the presence of nesting birds at areas where facilities will be constructed and in the immediate vicinity. If a nesting migratory bird is observed in the work area or in adjacent vegetation, the contractor or assign shall visually mark the general location so that the nest can be relocated. Work shall not proceed until a qualified biologist visits the site and determines whether or not work can proceed without take, or if the area needs to be avoided until nesting has been completed, or that the nest is no longer active. All documentation shall be submitted to Reclamation prior to the start of work on the Proposed Action.
- All signage shall be of a type that will not cause perching birds to become entrapped or harmed (take). If u-channel posts are used, measures such as capping the exposed end with an endcap or other measure, shall be used to avoid causing take.
- When constructing and maintaining facilities, burrows (e.g., of small mammals, etc.) shall be avoided and not be disturbed. Tee pads shall be placed where they do not cover burrows and “golf baskets,” tee pads and signage shall be located as far from burrows as practicable to minimize foot traffic in the vicinity of the burrow(s).

Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented.

Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 C (3). Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

- | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 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) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | No | Uncertain | Yes |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <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)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <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)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

NEPA Action: Categorical Exclusion

The Proposed Action is covered by the exclusion category and no extraordinary circumstances exist. The Action is excluded from further documentation in an EA or EIS.

Attachment A: Cultural Resources Determination

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

MP-153 Tracking Number: 16-SCAO-063

Project Name: Disc Golf Course at Cachuma Lake Recreation Area, Santa Barbara County, California

NEPA Contact: Michael Inthavong, Natural Resource Specialist

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: John Fogerty, Archaeologist



Date: December 16, 2016

Reclamation is proposing to authorize the Parks Division of the Santa Barbara County Community Services Department to access Reclamation lands in order to install an 18-hole disc golf course at Cachuma Lake Recreation Area. Development of the course will entail three construction elements for each hole: tee pads, associated signage, and a basket target. The tee pads will be constructed of concrete, and measure 5 ft. wide by 12 ft. long by 3 in. thick. Adjacent each tee pad, a 4 by 4 in. post with attached sign denoting the numerical designation of the Hole will be placed in a 12 in. diameter by 12 in. deep hole and secured with concrete. Excepting the basket targets for holes 10 and 18, which will be mounted upon immobile surface objects (e.g. log, large rock) to avoid ground disturbance, target posts will also be installed in 12 in. by 12 in. deep holes and secured with concrete.

Reclamation determined that numerous cultural resource investigations have been conducted within and near the proposed undertaking, providing complete survey coverage of the current Area of Potential Effects as recently as 2007. In addition, Reclamation conducted supplemental efforts to identify historic properties, including a pedestrian survey of the entire APE on February 18th, 2016, and additional investigations to clarify prior boundary delineation efforts at site CA-SBA-2464. Tribal consultation requests with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians were initiated August 15, 2016, and they have no concern with project implementation. On November 14, 2016, Reclamation submitted a finding of no historic properties affected to the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and received concurrence on the finding, dated December 15, 2016. Consultation correspondence between Reclamation and the SHPO has been provided with this cultural resources compliance document for inclusion in the administrative record for this action.

I concur with Item 8 of the Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC-16-003) prepared for this undertaking. 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) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). This document serves as notification that Section 106 compliance has been completed for this undertaking. Please note that if project activities subsequently change, additional NHPA Section 106 review, including further consultation with the SHPO, may be required.

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

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December 15, 2016

In reply refer to: BUR_2016_1114_002

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 Disc Golf Course at Cachuma Lake Recreation Area, Santa Barbara County, California (Project# 16-SCAO -063)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) received on November 14, 2016 your letter initiating consultation for the above referenced undertaking under Section 106 of the NHPA, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The Parks Division of the Santa Barbara County Community Services Department (County) is proposing to install an 18-hole disc golf course at Cachuma Lake Recreation Area (CLRA). The proposed project is located on lands owned by Reclamation, but administered by the County who entered into a long-term lease with Reclamation in 1953 to manage the 9,000 acre CLRA. Implementation of the proposed project on federal land requires approval by Reclamation. The following documentation was included with the submittal:

- *Disc Golf Course at Cachuma Lake Recreation Area, Santa Barbara County, CA. (Project Tracking No. 16-SCAO-063) (by: J. Fogarty, Archaeologist, Bureau of Reclamation Mid-Pacific Region, Sacramento, CA; October 2016). [Fogarty: 2016]*

Installation of the proposed 18-hole disc golf course requires three construction elements for each hole: concrete tee pads measuring 5 ft. wide by 12 ft. long by 3 in. thick, associated signage, and a basket target.

The area of potential effects (APE) includes the disturbance area associated with installation of the tee pads and baskets in addition to a 15 ft. buffer, a 25 ft. wide "fairway" corridor extending between each tee pad and basket, and a 25 ft. wide corridor for anticipated foot traffic between holes, totaling about six acres in all. The vertical APE is 12 inches deep where basket targets and signs will be installed utilizing a backhoe mounted auger, and 6 inches or less where ground surface preparations are deemed necessary for tee pads for five holes.

Reclamation's identification efforts included review of existing records compiled for a series of prior undertakings occurring in the CLRA vicinity. Results indicate that since 1986 numerous cultural resource investigations have been conducted within and nearby the proposed undertaking, providing complete survey coverage of the current APE as recently as 2007, and collectively identifying 12 archaeological sites in the vicinity of the APE (Fogarty: 2016, Appendix A-Figure 4). Of these, only site CA-SBA-2464 is located at the APE and required re-examination, particularly since sequential location information provided in recent reports showed discrepancies in delineating the overall site boundary (Fogarty: 2016, Appendix A-Figure 5). CA-SBA-2464, a prehistoric habitation site with midden, food refuse, and a diverse artifact assemblage, was tested and found to be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion D by consensus in 1995 (reconfirmed in 2007 and 2008).

Given the high archaeological sensitivity of the area because of the very close proximity of site CA-SBA-2464, Reclamation performed a pedestrian survey of the entire APE on February 18th, 2016, observing no surface artifacts, archaeological features, or anthropogenic soils. In addition, Reclamation conducted additional investigations (including subsurface shovel testing) on April 15, 2016 to clarify the several prior boundary delineation efforts at site CA-SBA-2464. As a result, Reclamation found the prior plottings of the site boundaries erroneous, and confirmed that the current site boundaries of CA-SBA-2464 are more compact than previous recordings and apparently terminate outside of the APE associated with the current undertaking (Fogerty: 2016, Appendix A-Figure 6).

Reclamation identified the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians (SYBCI) as an Indian tribe that might attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties within the APE. The SYBCI was invited to participate in the Section 106 process and their assistance was requested in the identification of sites of religious and cultural significance or historic properties that the undertaking may affect. Mr. Freddie Romero, SYBCI Cultural Coordinator, was present on April 15, 2016 to observe Reclamation's survey and testing efforts at CA-SBA-2464. Per Mr. Romero, the SYBCI has no concern with project implementation at present, and will coordinate with the County to provide a Native American monitor to observe the installation activities. Should any concerns be raised during project installation, Reclamation will work to address them and make notifications as required.

Based on the information provided, Reclamation has reached a finding of no historic properties affected because it has determined that the boundaries of site CA-SBA-2464, though very near, are outside the APE and therefore the site will not be affected by the undertaking. Reclamation invites comments on the APE and historic properties identification efforts, and is request concurrence with its finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1).

After OHP staff review of the documentation, the following comments are offered:

- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), there are no objections to the APE as defined;
- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(b), Reclamation has documented a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the area of potential effects.
- Reclamation has determined that the proposed undertaking will result in no historic properties affected. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), **I do not object.**

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 or (916) 445-7031.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer