

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Additional Point of Delivery for up to 10,000 Acre Feet of Westlands Water District's 2017 Contract Supply

CEC-17-015

Prepared by:



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

Date: 04/24/2017

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

Concurred by:

See Attachment A

Scott A. Williams
Archaeologist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: See Attachment A

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

Concurred by:



Lisa Buck
Wildlife Biologist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 04/24/2017

Approved by:



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

Date: 04/24/2017



Nature of the Action

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to approve the request from Westlands Water District (Westlands) to deliver up to 10,000 acre-feet (AF) of its Central Valley Project (CVP) water supply at an alternate point of delivery. The alternate point of delivery will be Contra Costa Water District's (CCWD) Old River Intake (ORI) and/or Middle River Intake (MRI), north of Jones Pumping Plant. The 10,000 AF is limited to the CVP water supply made available in the 2017 Contract Year pursuant to Contract #14-06-200-495A-IR5 (Contract). Article 3(c)(1) of the Contract allows for changes in points of delivery in or north of the Delta in conjunction with Article 5(a). All Project Water delivered to Westlands under the terms of the Contract at the ORI and/or the MRI will be conveyed to Los Vaqueros Reservoir for storage. At this time there is no plan to remove Westlands CVP water from storage. Additional review and approval from Reclamation will be required prior to release of Westlands CVP water supply from storage in Los Vaqueros Reservoir.

Environmental Commitments

The Proposed Action shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements of all existing biological opinions governing the operation of the intakes in the delta and diversions to Los Vaqueros Reservoir.

Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 D (4). *Approval, execution, and implementation of water service contracts for minor amounts of long-term water use or temporary or interim water use where the action does not lead to long-term changes and where the impacts are expected to be localized.*

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

Below is an evaluation of the extraordinary circumstances as required in 43 CFR 46.215.

Extraordinary Circumstance	No	Uncertain	Yes
1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Extraordinary Circumstance	No	Uncertain	Yes
farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); 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)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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)).	<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: 17-SCAO-134

Project Name: Additional Point of Delivery for up to 10,000 Acre Feet of Westlands Water District's 2017 Contract Supply

NEPA Document: 17-015

NEPA Contact: Rain Emerson, Natural Resource Specialist

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Scott Williams, Archaeologist



Date: April 18, 2017

Reclamation proposed to approve the request from Westlands Water District (Westlands) to deliver up to 10,000 acre-feet (AF) of its Project Water at an alternate point of delivery. This is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, should such properties be present, pursuant to the NHPA Section 106 regulations codified at 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1). Reclamation has no further obligations under NHPA Section 106, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1).

Westlands would deliver up to 10,000 acre-feet (AF) of its Project Water at an alternate point of delivery. The alternate point of delivery will be Contra Costa Water District's (CCWD) Old River Intake (ORI) and/or Middle River Intake (MRI), north of Jones Pumping Plant. The 10,000 AF is limited to the supply made available in the 2017 Contract Year under Contract #14-06-200-495A-IR5 (Contract). Article 3(c)(1) of the Contract allows for changes in points of delivery in or north of the Delta. All Project Water delivered to Westlands under the terms of the Contract at the ORI and/or the MRI will be conveyed to Los Vaqueros Reservoir for storage. The water will be pumped from the Delta into Los Vaqueros through existing facilities. No ground disturbance or modification of facilities will be needed to move this water into storage.

This document 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.