

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*


## Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC)

### City of Shasta Lake – Water Treatment Plant Backwash Separation Tank Project Shasta County, California

NCAO-CEC-17-15

Prepared by: See Attachment 1 Date: January 15, 2017  
Megan Simon  
Northern California Area Office Designee  
for Tribal Trust Assets/Natural Resources  
Specialist

Concurrence by: See Attachment 2 Date: August 10, 2017  
Lex Palmer  
Historian  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:  Date: 8/11/17  
Paul Zedonis  
Environmental and Natural Resources  
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist/  
Division Manager  
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:  Date: 8/11/2017  
Don Bader  
Area Manager  
Northern California Area Office



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

August 2017

## Proposed Action

Reclamation will approve the City of Shasta Lake's (COSL) request to install and maintain a 20,000-gallon backwash separation tank and an associated foundation and pipeline and connections at its existing water treatment plant in Shasta County, California. The water treatment plant is located on Reclamation land, southeast of the junction of Lake Boulevard and Shasta Dam Boulevard, approximately 600 feet south of Shasta Lake and 900 feet east of the Shasta Dam Visitor Center (Figure 1). The new backwash separation tank will support the existing solids dewatering centrifuge, installed in May 2017 (Figure 2-A). The Project Area is surrounded by wooded land consisting of black, blue and canyon live oaks, foothill pines and dense shrubs including white-leaf manzanita, buckrush and Western redbud.

The approximate 24-feet tall, 12-feet diameter tank will be installed with a crane. The majority of the 4-inch diameter, 80-feet pipeline alignment will be installed underground at a depth of approximately 2 feet below ground surface, above the depth of existing lines. Above-ground connections will be installed at each end between the existing homogenization tank and the new backwash separation tank. Installation of a foundation for the tank, also at a depth of approximately 2 feet below ground surface, and the lines will involve trenching to an approximate depth of 2 feet below ground surface and width of 1.5 feet, with a wheeled backhoe. As with the centrifuge previously installed, the area of work activities was disturbed in leveling the site for installation of the original water treatment plant. The purpose of the project is to increase the efficiency of the previously constructed solids dewatering centrifuge and prevent sludge build-up in the existing backwash basin.

Construction is anticipated to initiate in August with excavation work. Foundations would be laid immediately following. Crane work/the installation of the tank is not anticipated to occur until fall 2017 due to contracting and fabrication time.

A plan of the Project Area is depicted in Figure 2. Photographs of the action area are provided as Figure 3. The Water Treatment Plant is located in Township 22 North, Range 5 West, Section 15 of the Mount Diablo Baseline & Meridian.

Reclamation engineers will review the City's Project plans, prepared by a Professional Engineer, once completed in June 2017 to confirm that the proposed facility will not compromise existing infrastructure or interfere with current operations at the water treatment facility.

## Exclusion Categories

Bureau of Reclamation Categorical Exclusion – 516 DM 14.5, D.1. Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which may involve a minor change in size, location, and/or operation.

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

environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).

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 ☐

***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:**

Regional Historian concurred with Item 8 (email attached). ITA Designee concurred with Item 11 (email attached).

Any excess soil generated during construction activities will be removed by the contractor performing the work and transported off-site for proper disposal in a permitted facility, as applicable. The contractor will prepare a best management plan schedule for site controls. Excavation work will be conducted outside of the wet season.

On August 10, 2017, Reclamation reviewed the US Fish & Wildlife Service's Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS) database, via the Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) application, to determine the potential for species Federally-listed as Threatened or Endangered, or Candidate species for listing, under the Federal Endangered

Species Act or their habitats to occur at the site. The IPaC reported generated for the site returned a list of 13 Federally-listed or Candidate species, none of which were reported as having Critical Habitat in the project area: the California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*), Delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*), Longfin smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*), gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), Hoover's spurge (*Chamaesyce hooveri*) and slender orcutt grass (*Orcuttia tenuis*). Reclamation also queried the California Native Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for Federally-listed and Candidate species on August 10, 2017. The CNDDDB query produced reportings of additional Federally-protected species in Shasta County: The West Coast fisher (*Martes pennanti*), Central Valley steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*), Central Valley spring and winter-run salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), Shasta crayfish (*Pacifastacus fortis*), California wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) and Sierra Nevada red fox (*Vulpes vulpes necator*), and Greene's tuctoria (*Tuctoria greenei*).

Reclamation used the Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) map viewer complement to the CNDDDB and the Spotted Owl Viewer therein to refine the information obtained from the CNDDDB and IPaC report. The BIOS query produced no reported occurrences of any Federally-listed species within a three-mile radius of the project site, with the exception of the West Coast fisher, which was determined in consultations for other Reclamation projects to be a different population segment than that proposed for listing as Threatened under Section 7 of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Habitat requirements of the majority of the listed species involve wetlands, waterways, vernal pools or poorly-drained features that function as vernal pools, which are absent from the site, including habitat for: California red-legged frog, Conservancy fairy shrimp, vernal pool fairy shrimp, vernal pool tadpole shrimp, Delta smelt, longfin smelt, Central Valley steelhead, bull trout, Central Valley spring and winter-run salmon, Shasta crayfish, Hoover's spurge, slender orcutt grass and Greene's tuctoria.

No elderberry trees or shrubs were reported on-site. Therefore, habitat for the Valley elderberry longhorn beetle is assumed absent. Project activities would not remove trees. Crane work would be completed outside the nesting season. No disturbance to birds that may be nesting in the canopy of the adjacent trees is anticipated. Therefore, no impacts to migratory birds are anticipated. Likewise, activities would not alter contiguous forest cover. Therefore, species dependent on continuous forest habitat (Northern spotted owl and fisher) would not be impacted by project activities. The construction and staging areas were previously disturbed and developed. Any noise or other disturbance of potential habitat for other avian and terrestrial species (gray wolf, California wolverine, and Sierra Nevada red fox) in the surrounding area is considered short term and temporary.

Reclamation concluded that the area to be used for this action does not provide habitat for any species Federally-listed as Threatened or Endangered.



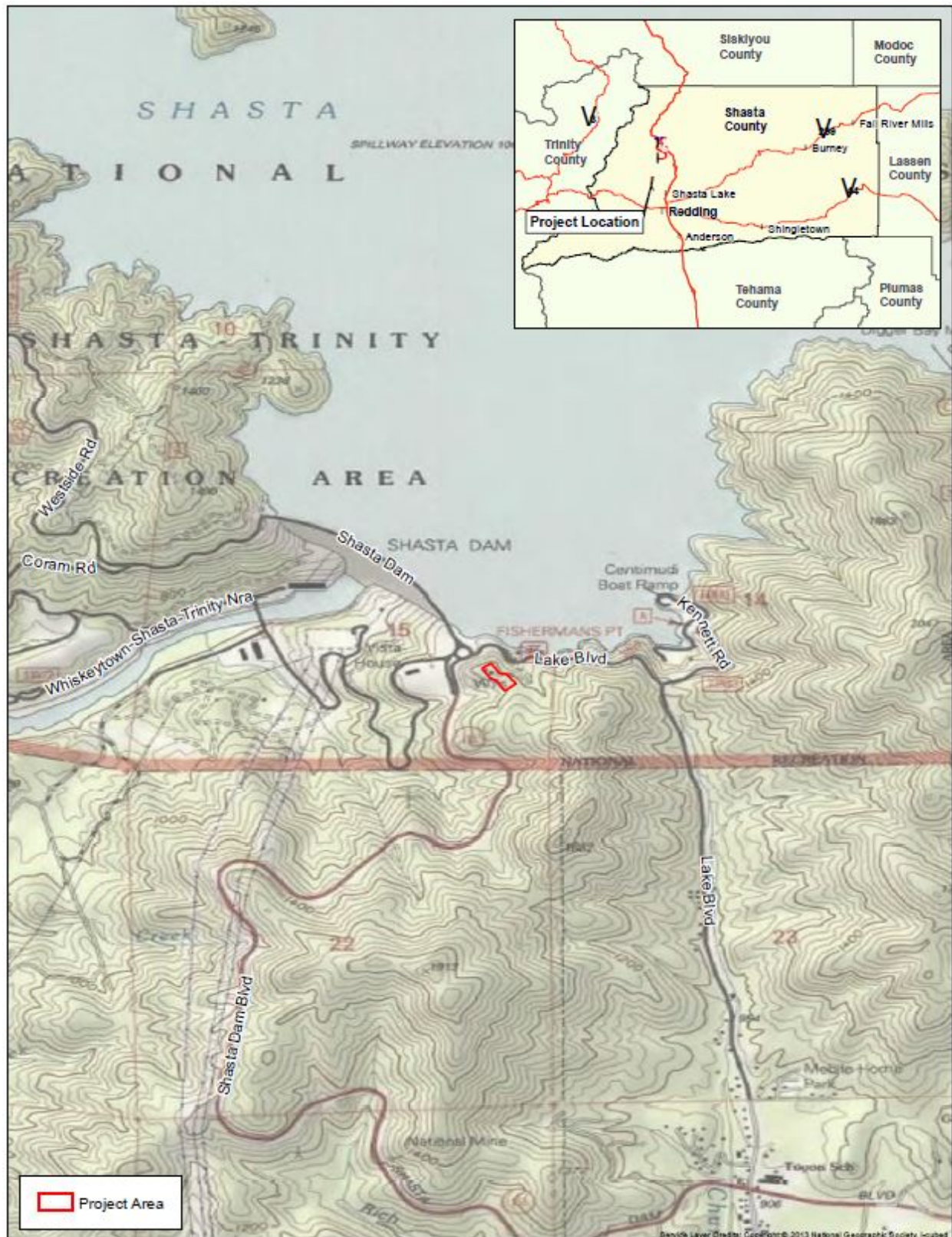


Figure 1. Vicinity Map courtesy Quercus Consultants, Inc. 2015, via COSL.



**Figure 2A. Aerial view depicting proposed facilities in relation to existing facilities, courtesy Waterworks Engineering via COSL.**

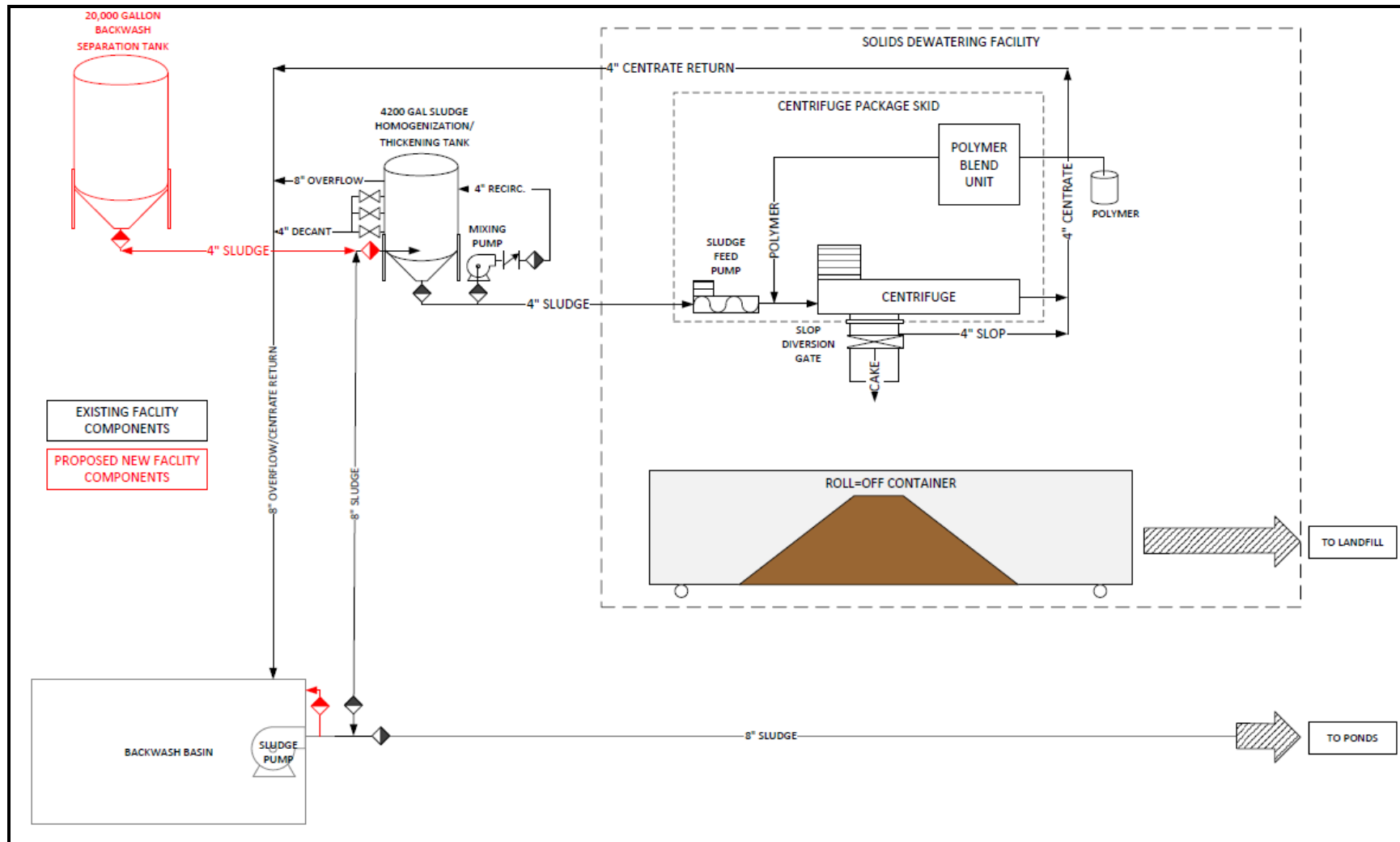


Figure 2B. Plan details, courtesy Waterworks Engineering via COSL.





**Figures 3A and B. Photographs of location for proposed backwash separation tank to west and east, respectively. The white circle indicates the future footprint of the tank. The spike and flag denote the center of the tank.**



## Attachment 1. Indian Trust Assets Review

### ITA Review - Fisherman's Pt Water Treatment Facility - Replacement Retaining Wall

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

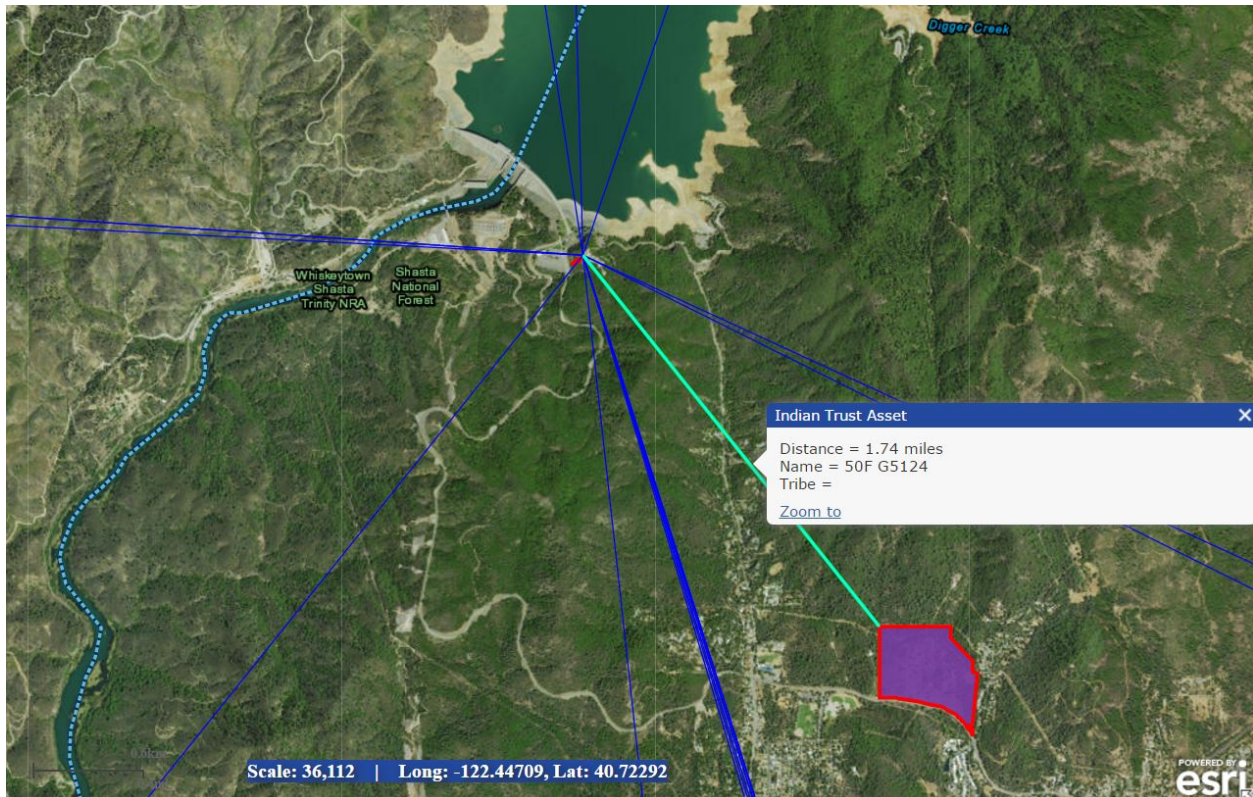
Sun, Jan 15, 2017 at 3:41 PM

I have examined the referenced proposal and have determined that the facility is at least 1.7 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)



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

**MP-153 Tracking Number:** 15-NCAO-246.002

**Project Name:** City of Lake Shasta Residuals Dewatering Water Treatment Facility Project,  
Shasta County, California (15-NCAO-246.001)

**NEPA Contact:** Megan Simon, Natural Resource Specialist

**MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer:** Lex Palmer, Historian

**Date:** August 10, 2017

---

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to approve a Federal permit requested by the City of Lake Shasta for a Residuals Dewatering Water Treatment Facility Project located on Reclamation lands in Shasta County. This action constitutes an undertaking with the potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming such properties are present, requiring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) as amended.

Based on historic properties identification efforts conducted by Quercus Consultants, Inc., Reclamation consulted with, and received concurrence from, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on a finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR §800.4(d)(1). 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.

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.

Attachments:

Letter: SHPO to Reclamation dated August 10, 2017

## Attachment 2, Cont.

**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



August 10, 2017

In reply refer to: BUR\_2015\_1026\_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 Continuing Consultation for the Proposed City of Shasta Lake (City)  
Residuals Dewatering Water Treatment Facility Project, Shasta County, California  
(15-NCAO-246.001)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) received on July 14, 2017 your letter continuing consultation on the above referenced undertaking under Section 106 of the NHPA (as amended), and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The City has received Community Development Block Grant funding through the California Housing and Community Development Department to install a dewatering facility at the City of Shasta Lake Water Treatment Plant, which is located on Reclamation-owned lands. Reclamation has previously consulted for a finding of no historic properties affected for approving the construction activities, receiving OHP concurrence (November 24, 2015, and March 30, 2017). Changes in proposed project activities have occurred since then.

Reclamation is reentering consultation and making notification for a no historic properties affected finding for the new work. Documents included with this submittal are:

- *Enclosure 1: Figure 1: Project Location Map; Figure 2: Expanded Area of Potential Effects;*
- *Figure 3: Plans for new Separation Tank and appurtenances*
- *Enclosure 2: Previous Section 106 Correspondence*
- *Enclosure 3: On Computer Disk (CD): Archaeological Survey Report City of Shasta Lake Water Treatment Plant Dewatering Centrifuge Project, Project Number 15-NCAO-246 Shasta County, California: September 2015 (By: Quercus Consultants, Inc., Redding, CA) [Prepared For: City of Shasta Lake, Shasta Lake, CA 96019]*

The original undertaking includes all activities needed to build a new structure to house new centrifugal solids dewatering equipment, the placement of associated underground utilities and retaining wall work at the existing City of Shasta Lake Water Treatment Plant. Subsequently, new engineering design refinements now include proposed installation of a 20,000-gallon backwash separation tank, an associated tank foundation, a pipeline and associated connections (Figures 2 and 3). This will support the existing solids dewatering centrifuge installed in May 2017. The 24-feet tall, 12-foot diameter tank is to be installed on a new foundation 24-inches deep. Above-ground connections will be installed between the existing tanks. A pipeline will run between the tanks and will require excavation of an 80-foot-long trench that will be 2 feet deep and 18 inches wide. This excavation will be in engineered fill, from when the hillside was originally leveled in 1982 for the existing water tanks.



**Attachment 2, Cont.**

Ms. Anastasia T. Leigh  
August 10, 2017  
Page 2

BUR\_2015\_1026\_001

The additional backwash separation tank and pipeline requires the Area of Potential Effects (APE) to be revised and expanded to the west. The revised APE is 295 feet long and 145 feet wide with a maximum depth of 15 feet for a total project area of 0.76 acres. Given that the proposed project is located in the previously disturbed water plant area it is considered that there is a low probability to encounter intact subsurface resources during construction.

In 2015, Quercus Consultants, Inc. conducted historic properties identification efforts related to the original project scope. Reclamation believes that those efforts were comprehensive and are sufficient for this additional work. No historic properties were identified in the earlier APE during either the records search or intensive pedestrian survey of 2015 and the expanded APE overlaps the area that was surveyed in 2015.

Reclamation has determined that consultation with Indian tribes is not necessary for the expanded APE as it is within previously disturbed, engineered fill from initial 1982 construction and is shielded by surrounding vegetation. Due to a lack of potential for direct or indirect effects to any properties of religious or cultural significance, Reclamation did not pursue Native American input on potential project effects.

Based on the information above and in the enclosed report, Reclamation has reached a no historic properties affected finding for the overall combined proposed undertaking and requests comments on the delineation of the APE, appropriateness of the historic properties identification efforts and seeks concurrence with its finding.

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 expanded APE as described and illustrated;
- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(b), Reclamation has documented a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the expanded area of potential effects.
- Reclamation's required clause, as described in the Quercus Report (2015: pp. 15-16), should be included as a condition of project implementation for the expanded APE.
- 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](mailto:Jeanette.Schulz@parks.ca.gov) or her desk phone is (916) 445-7031.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco  
State Historic Preservation Officer