

RECLAMATION

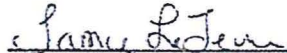
Managing Water in the West

Finding Of No Significant Impact

Maidu Bike Park Project

FONSI 17-07-CCAO

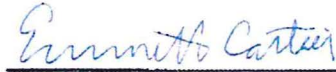
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Background

Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) has three facilities located on Reclamation land. The ARD operates these facilities under a Managing Partner Agreement with Reclamation. The Management Partner Agreement grants ARD non-exclusive right to construct and install, develop, manage, maintain and operate public recreation facilities on the real property in the Railhead Park, Overlook Park, and the Canyon View Community Center, located in Auburn California. The rights of ARD under the Managing Partner Agreement are subordinate to the rights of Reclamation's agents, employees, or assigns. Public use of any portion of the project area covered by the Managing Partner Agreement may be restricted by Reclamation whenever Reclamation determines that such restriction is necessary in the interest of the Central Valley Project, public health and safety, or national security.

Between 2012 and 2013, the ARD developed a list of potential recreational activities needed in the community and identified the need for a bike park. A bike park located in south Auburn would be in close proximity to schools and neighborhoods. The Railhead Park, Overlook Park, and lands around the Canyon View Community Center were evaluated by the ARD as potential locations for the proposed bike park. ARD determined the Canyon View Community Center area had potential to accommodate a bike park appropriate for various skill levels.

Alternatives Including the Proposed Action

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, Reclamation would not approve the proposed bike park project and the recreational demand for a bike park in the Auburn area would remain.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, Reclamation would approve the construction and operation of a bike park. The bike park would provide a variety of trails for different skill levels and activities. The project would also include an ADA-compliant picnic area, restrooms, and observation area adjacent to the existing Canyon View Community Center parking lot.

As part of the Proposed Action, the construction contractor and ARD would follow all environmental commitments and BMP's from the EA to avoid and minimize potential effects to the environment.

Consultation and Public Involvement

A Notice of Completion (NOC) of an environmental assessment/ initial study (EA/IS) for the Maidu Bike Park Project was submitted to the Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse by the ARD on June 2, 2017. Reclamation issued a press release of the project site

describing the project activities, where the document can be reviewed, and how to submit comments. ARD emailed interested parties that the EA/IS was available for public comment. Flyers about the project were made available at the Canyon View Community Center and at the proposed project site. Copies of the draft EA/IS were also posted on the Reclamation's and ARD websites.

Letters in response to the notifications were received from the Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition (FATRAC), Auburn Trails Alliance, Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association and 158 members of the public. Fifty one commenters expressed their support for the project, one hundred and six commenters expressed concerns over the project, and three requested the public review period to be extended. Support for the project was regarding having a family friendly recreational opportunity and the economic prospects that the bike park will bring to the area. Concerns were expressed on road maintenance, increase to noise and traffic, crime, emergency vehicle response times, potential presences of naturally occurring asbestos, bike park facility maintenance, and potential conflict with horse trails. Three people requested the public review period be extended for additional time to review the EA/IS. All written comments were considered in preparation of the final EA/IS and FONSI. Copies of the comment documents and responses to the comments are provided in the EA/IS.

Findings

Based on the attached EA/IS, Reclamation finds that the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The attached EA/IS describes the existing environmental resources in the Proposed Action area and evaluates the effects of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives on the resources. This EA/IS was prepared in accordance with NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46). Effects on several environmental resources were examined and found to be absent or minor. That analysis is provided in the attached EA/IS, and the analysis in the EA/IS is hereby incorporated by reference.

Following are the reasons why the impacts of the proposed action are not significant:

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 refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order (EO) 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3) and 43 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 action will not have significant cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
7. The proposed action will not adversely affect any districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)). Pursuant to 54 USC § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, Reclamation made a determination of no historic properties affected for this undertaking. The State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with Reclamation's determination in a letter dated January 19, 2016. Therefore, the proposed action will result in no significant impacts to cultural resources.
8. The proposed action will not significantly affect 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).
11. Implementing the proposed action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).
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).