

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West


Categorical Exclusion Checklist


GCID Turnout Facility Improvements - Tehama-Colusa Canal Milepost 85.47L – Colusa County, CA

NCAO-CEC-18-04

Prepared by: Attachment 1 Date: April 17, 2018
Megan Simon
Northern California Area Office Designee for
Tribal Trust Assets

Concurrence by: Attachment 2 Date: July 18, 2018
Mark Carper
Archeologist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Concurrence by:  Date: 7/22/18
Paul Zedonis
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist/
Environmental and Natural Resources
Division Manager
Northern California Area Office

Approved by:  Date: 7/23/2018
Donald Bader
Area Manager
Northern California Area Office



Proposed Action

Reclamation will issue a temporary encroachment permit and Turnout Agreement to Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) to facilitate infrastructure improvements at an existing turnout within Reclamation's right-of-way along the east side of the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) at TCC Milepost 85.47L (Figure 1). The turnout is used to supply water to GCID's water conveyance system that irrigates well over 2,000 acres of mixed crops, most of which are almond orchards, using drip irrigation or micro sprinkler systems.

The purpose of the work is to improve water use efficiency by installing a motor to the existing gate frame that will allow for remote operation. Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) elements will be installed to enable remote operation of the gate.

The infrastructure improvements include:

- A belt-driven motor and platform will be mounted to the existing gate frame, along with a support arm bolted to the concrete foundation to secure the motor.
- Installation of approximately 65 linear feet (ft) of electrical lines to connect the electric motor with an existing 240-volt power source. The power source is located inside an existing electrical enclosure, located on a 10 ft x 12 ft concrete pad. The size of the new electrical lines has yet to be determined. GCID will install the electrical lines in an existing ¾-inch (in) diameter conduit. If the ¾-in conduit is too small, GCID will replace the old conduit with a new 1½-in conduit to be installed in the same 6-in wide by 2-ft deep trench.
- Installation of two 2-ft x 2-ft x 8-in above-ground enclosures to house the SCADA and electrical equipment. The enclosures, and 20-ft antennae mast, will be mounted on poles bolted to the existing 10 ft x 12 ft concrete pad.

A backhoe or similar excavating equipment and shovels will be used to re-open the trench dug to install the existing lines to a depth of approximately two feet below ground surface to expose the existing conduit and install the new electric lines (Figure 2).

The work area will be accessed, and equipment staged, within and along the TCC right-of-way and access road. The work will not involve the removal of vegetation. No excavation of native soil is involved with construction activities.

GCID's work will take approximately 14 days to complete and will begin immediately upon approval from Reclamation. Reclamation's engineering representative and the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) Operations and Maintenance Supervisor reviewed the work plan and have no objections.

The project location is in Section 31, Township 15 North, Range 3 West, Mount Diablo Meridian, Colusa County, CA, approximately 4.5 miles southwest of the town of Williams. A topographic map (USGS Sites quad), aerial photograph, and GCID's engineering drawings of the site layout are included as Figures 1 and 2: Project Location Figures. Photographs of the work area are included as Figure 3.

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.

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

Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01; and 43 CFR 46.215 (g)).

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 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 environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <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). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <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)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 8 (email attached).

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11 (email attached).

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:

Reclamation researched the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), maintained by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and its Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) mapping complement, as well as the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Official Species List, obtained from the Service's Information, Planning, and Conservation System (IPaC) application, to determine the potential for the presence of species protected by the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) within the work area. Species Federally-listed as Threatened or Endangered under the ESA with the potential to inhabit the work area, according to the Official Species List, were limited to the California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*), Delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*), Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*) and giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*). Species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act may also have the potential to inhabit the work area include the burrowing owl.

No Critical Habitat for Federally-listed species is located in the work area, according to the Official Species List. The California red-legged frog is widely accepted as extirpated from the Valley floor. No contiguous forest that would function as habitat for the Northern spotted owl, or trees that would function as nesting habitat for migratory birds, are present within or around the work area. There will be no exposed electrical conduits that could present a risk of electrocution for raptors and other migratory birds.

The TCC is screened at the point of diversion from the Sacramento River: the Red Bluff pumping plant. Additional fish screens are located on the pump intakes. Therefore, listed fish species would not be affected by the action. No elderberry trees or shrubs (that would function as habitat for the Valley elderberry longhorn beetle) are located within 100 feet of the work area; The TCCA conducts a weed abatement program along the TCC right-of-way.

Sitings of Federally-listed species reported in the BIOS output within a three-mile radius of the site were limited to the burrowing owl and giant garter snake (GGS). The nearest reported occurrence of the burrowing owl is approximately 1,900 feet east of the site. No burrow holes that would function as habitat for the burrowing owl have been observed in the vicinity of the proposed work area. The nearest BIOS reporting of the giant garter snake is approximately 2.75 miles north of the work area along a different canal running perpendicular to Highway 20 at its junction with E. Camp Road. Rice fields that would serve as GGS habitat were identified on aerial photography of the GGS location. The nearest rice field is located 2.25 miles north east of the project. The TCC itself is concrete lined and is surrounded by orchards and dry pasture in the vicinity of the site. No earthen embankments that would function as over-wintering habitat or vegetative cover that would function as supplemental upland habitat, for GGS are located within the work area. Suitable GGS habitat is considered absent from the site.

Construction activities can be categorized as short-term and minor and are not anticipated to result in significant air emissions and would not result in discharge of sediment to the TCC.

Figure 1. Project Location Figures

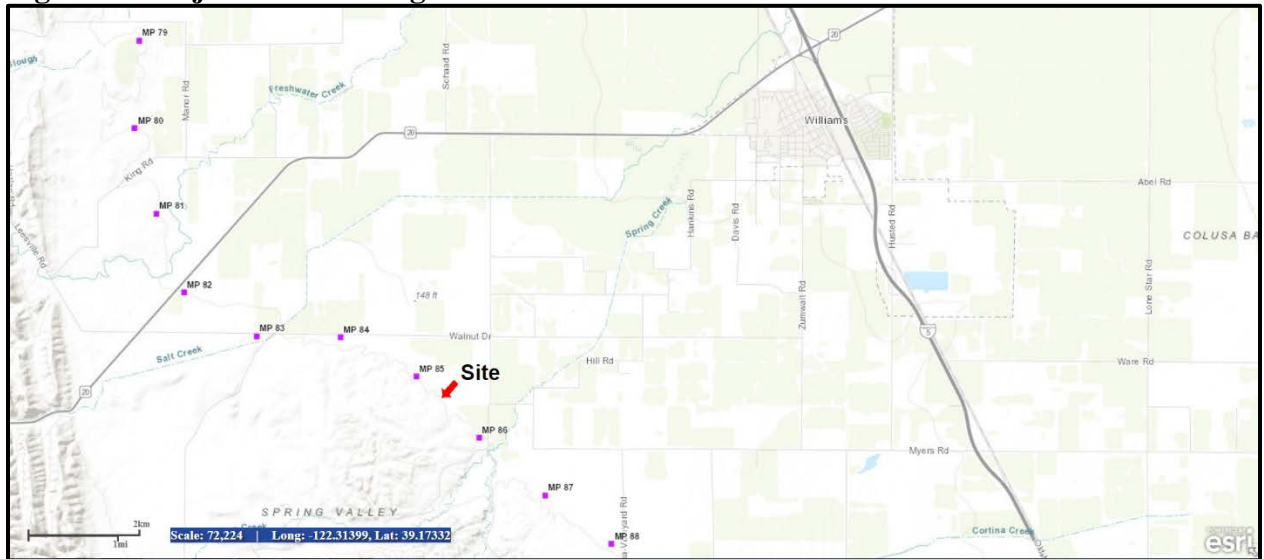


Figure 1A: Vicinity Map



Figure 1B: Site Map (courtesy GCID)

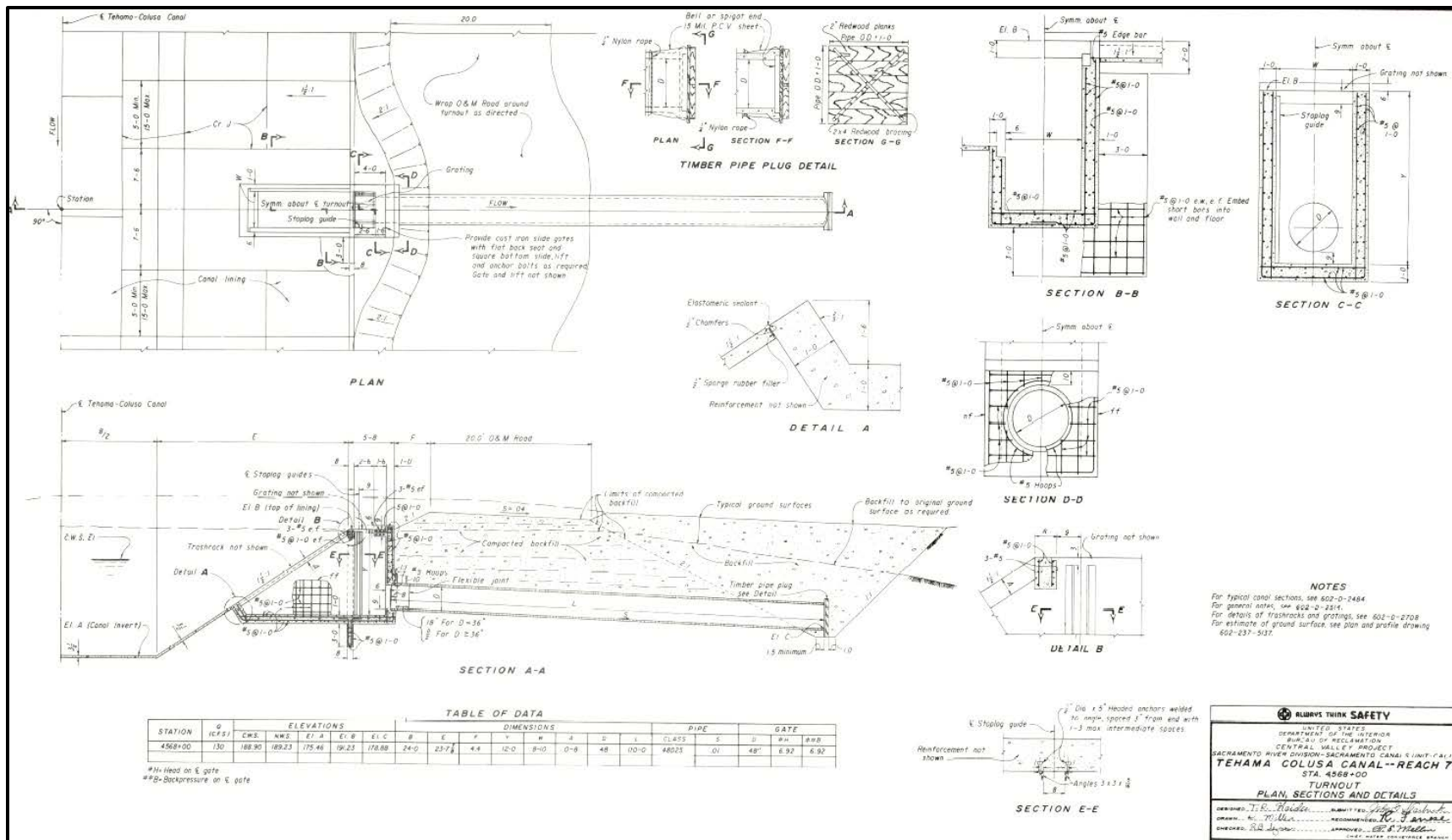


Figure 2: As-Built of Current Turnout Facility

Figure 3: Pre-Project Photographs with Post-Project Overlay

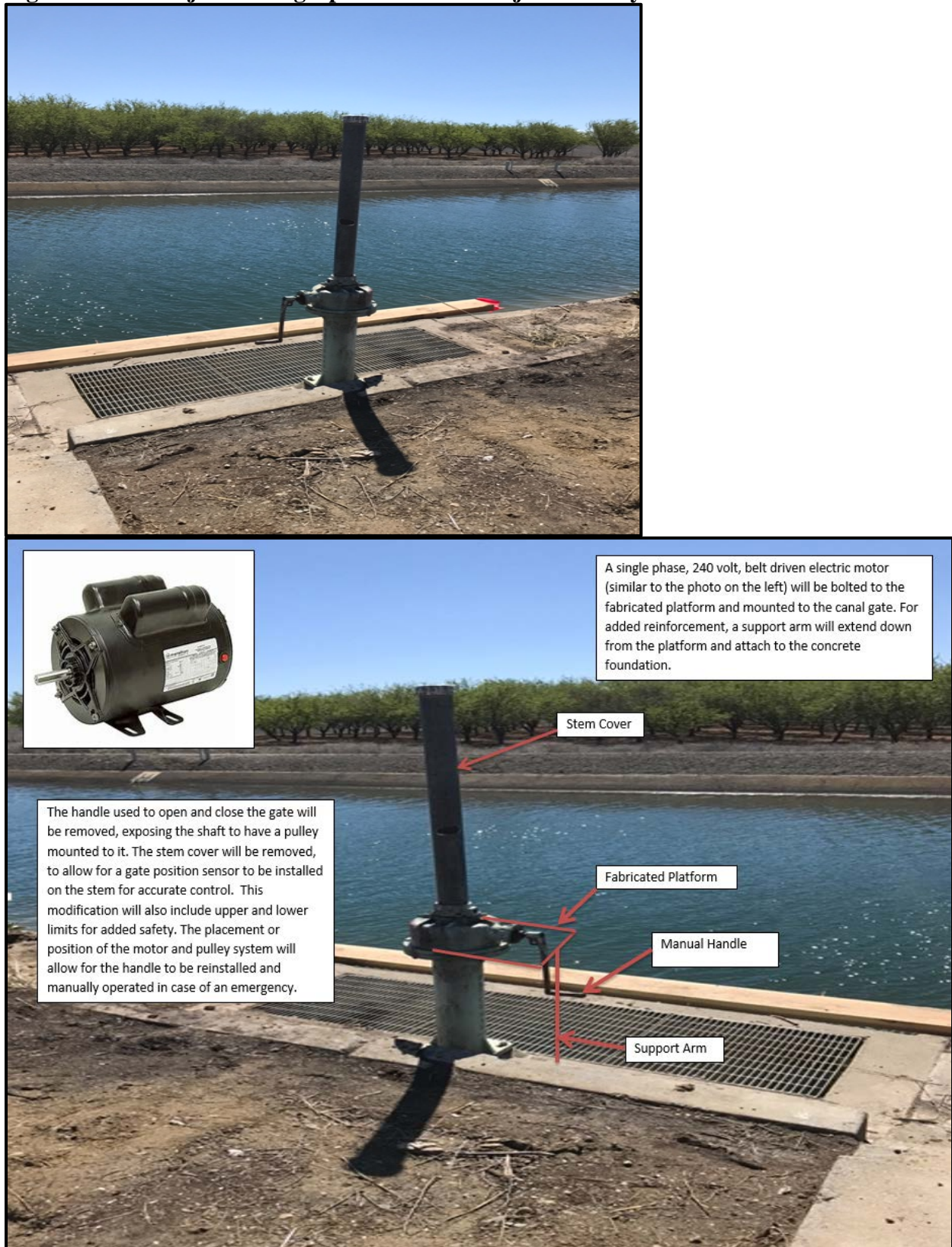


Figure 3A: Pre-and Post Project Site Conditions at Turnout. View to west.

Figure 3, Cont.

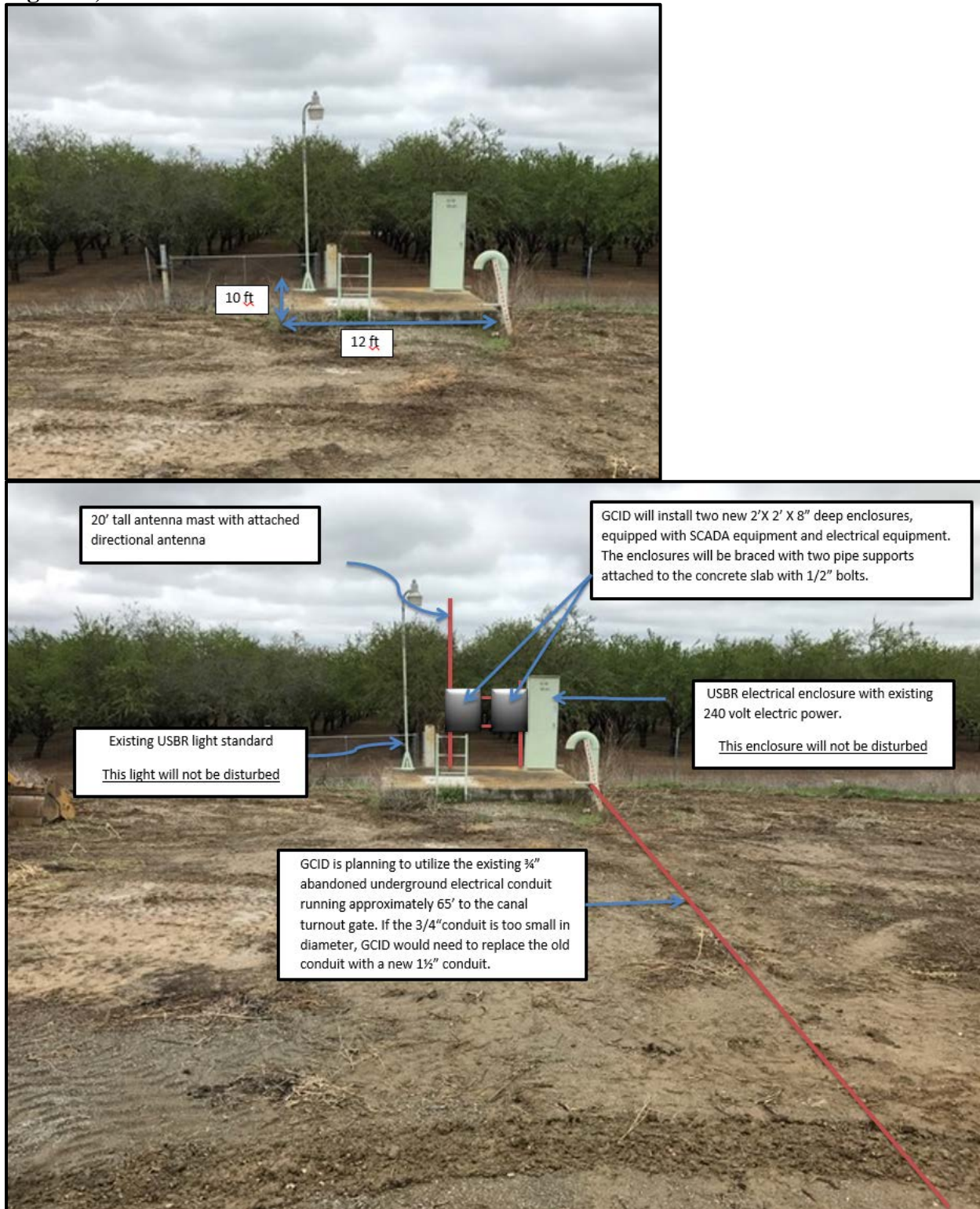


Figure 3B: Pre-and Post Project Site Conditions at Support Facility. View to east.

Attachment 1. Indian Trust Asset Review



Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>

ITA Review - Turnout Improvements - TCC MP 85.47L

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

Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 3:06 PM

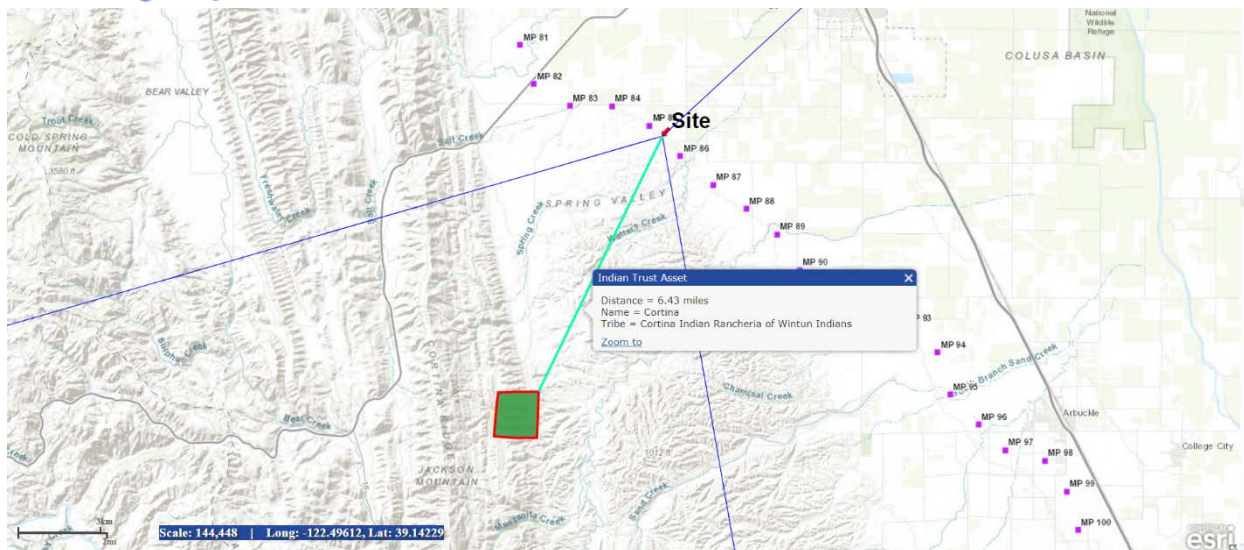
I have examined the referenced proposal and have determined that the facility is located at least 6 miles from the closest Indian Trust Asset.

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



Attachment 2. Cultural Resources Review

**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch**

MP-153 Tracking Number: 18-NCAO-099

Project Name: GCID Turnout Facility Improvements - Tehama-Colusa Canal Milepost 85.47L

NEPA Document: NCAO-CEC-18-04

NEPA Contact: Megan Simon

MP-153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Mark Carper, Archaeologist

Date: July 18, 2018

This proposed undertaking by Reclamation is to authorize Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) to construct a turnout facility improvements project along the Tehama-Colusa Canal (TCC) in Colusa County. The proposed project will be constructed on Reclamation-owned land. We determined that the approval of construction on Reclamation property is an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y) and a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties under 36 CFR § 800.3(a).

The purpose of the work is to improve water use efficiency by installing a motor to the existing gate frame that will allow for remote operation. Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) elements will be installed to enable remote operation of the gate.

The infrastructure improvements include:

- A belt-driven motor and platform will be mounted to the existing gate frame, along with a support arm bolted to the concrete foundation to secure the motor.
- Installation of approximately 65 linear feet of electrical lines to connect the electric motor with an existing 240-volt power source. The power source is located inside an existing electrical enclosure, located on a 10 foot by 12 foot concrete pad. The size of the new electrical lines has yet to be determined. GCID will install the electrical lines in an existing 0.75-inch-diameter conduit. If the 0.75-inch conduit is too small, GCID will replace the old conduit with a new 1.5-inch conduit to be installed in the same 6-inch-wide by 2-foot-deep trench.
- Installation of two 2-foot by 2-foot by 8-inch above-ground enclosures to house the SCADA and electrical equipment. The enclosures and 20-foot antennae mast will be mounted on poles bolted to the existing 10-foot by 12-foot concrete pad.

Attachment 2, Cont.

CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch

A backhoe or similar excavating equipment and shovels will be used to re-open the trench previously excavated to install the existing lines to a depth of approximately two feet below ground surface in order to expose the existing conduit and install the new electric lines.

The project is located in Section 31, T. 15 N., R. 3 W., Mount Diablo Meridian, as depicted on the Cortina Creek, California, 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map. The area of potential effects (APE) will be approximately 100 square feet (0.002 acres), and contain all construction elements and equipment modifications. The vertical extent of the APE is approximately 3 feet deep for the conduit trench and is confined to the constructed fill of the TCC berm.

Due to the nature and scope of the undertaking, with all proposed project activities being entirely limited to the existing constructed berm within the built environment of the TCC, pedestrian survey was unwarranted. Reclamation conducted an internal archival review in an effort to identify historic properties within the APE. The TCC is the only identified cultural resource within the APE. The TCC was constructed between 1965 and 1980 as part of the Sacramento River Division Canals Unit of Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP) to convey irrigation water south from the Red Bluff Diversion Dam through Tehama, Glenn, and Colusa Counties. The TCC is approximately 110 miles long and terminates in Yolo County approximately 2 miles south of Dunnigan, California. Recording and evaluating the entirety of the TCC is outside the scope of this project.

For the purposes of the current undertaking, Reclamation is treating the TCC as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) under Criterion A as a contributing element of the CVP. The CVP, treated as a historic property by Reclamation, is an extensive network of dams, reservoirs, power plants, and water conveyance systems that cover approximately 400 miles from northern California near Redding south to near Bakersfield. The TCC is considered significant under the theme of development, construction, and operation of the CVP as a water conveyance component of the CVP that has contributed to northern California's economic and agricultural development and growth.

Since this undertaking is narrowly confined to the built environment of the TCC and its constructed elements with no potential to affect sites of religious or cultural significance to Native Americans, consultations with Indian tribes were not considered necessary for this undertaking.

Attachment 2, Cont.

**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch**

The TCC is the only historic property within the APE. Reclamation applied the criteria of adverse effect and determined that measures to install the new replacement pole within the existing berm will not alter any of the characteristics that would make the TCC eligible for National Register listing. Access to the project will occur via existing roads without improvement, and all proposed construction activities are limited to an area previously disturbed and constructed for the TCC. The proposed pole replacement is consistent with existing turnouts along the TCC, resulting in no other changes to the TCC or the larger CVP. As such, Reclamation made a determination of no adverse effect to historic properties for this undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

Reclamation initiated consultation with the California State Preservation Office (SHPO) by letter dated June 22, 2018 requesting concurrence with a finding of no adverse effect to historic properties for the proposed project. SHPO responded by letter dated July 16, 2018 expressing no objection to the proposed APE nor the determination.

Reclamation has concluded the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. After reviewing NCAO-CEC-18-04 for the proposed project Reclamation concurs with item #8 and finds that this action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places

This memorandum 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.

Attachment 2, Cont.



State of California • Natural Resources Agency

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

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

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, Director

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95816-7100
Telephone: (916) 445-7000 FAX: (916) 445-7053
calshpo.ohp@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

July 16, 2018

In reply refer to: BUR_2018_0622_002

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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 Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID)
Turnout Facility Improvements, Tehama Colusa Canal (TCC) Milepost 85.47L,
Colusa County, California (Project # 18-NCAO-099)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) received on June 22, 2018 your letter initiating consultation on the above referenced undertaking to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as currently amended) and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to approve construction upgrades to an existing turnout facility on Reclamation-owned lands at the Tehama-Colusa Canal. Reclamation has arrived at a finding of *no adverse effects to historic properties* and seeks concurrence. Along with the consultation letter, the following documentation was provided:

- *Enclosures: Figure 1 Project Location (overlaid USGS Quad map); Figure 2: Area of Potential Effects (overlaid aerial photo map).*

The goal of the undertaking is to improve water use efficiency by installing a motor to the existing gate frame, allowing for remote operation. Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) elements will be installed to enable remote signaling to the gate.

Work scope items are: a gate frame-mounted belt driven motor and platform with a bolted support arm; about 65 linear feet of electrical lines to an existing power source to be laid in conduit within a 6-inch wide by 2-foot deep trench; installation of two, 2-by-2-foot by 8-inch above ground enclosures for the electrical equipment; and a 20-foot antenna mast to be bolted to an existing 10-by-12-foot concrete pad. Mechanical excavators will be used.

The area of potential effects (APE) is about 100 square feet (0.002 acres), and contains all construction elements and equipment modifications. The APE vertical extent is around 3 feet deep for the conduit trench and is confined to the constructed fill of the TCC berm. Access and staging will be on existing maintenance roads and prior disturbed ground. Because all work is confined to the existing constructed berm, no pedestrian survey was done. After an internal archival review, Reclamation determined that the TCC is the only identified cultural resource within the APE. It was built between 1965 and 1980 as part of the Sacramento River Division Canals Unit of Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP) to convey irrigation water south from the Red Bluff Diversion Dam through Tehama, Glenn, and Colusa Counties. The TCC is circa 110 miles long and terminates in Yolo County about two miles south of Dunnigan, California. Reclamation has decided that recording and evaluating the entirety of the TCC is outside the scope of this project.

Attachment 2, Cont.

Ms. Anastasia T. Leigh
July 16, 2018
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BUR_2018_0622_002

For the purposes of the current undertaking, Reclamation is treating the TCC as eligible for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listing under Criterion A as a contributing element of the CVP. The CVP, treated as a historic property by Reclamation, is an extensive network of dams, reservoirs, power plants, and water conveyance systems that cover almost 400 miles from northern California near Redding south to near Bakersfield. The TCC is considered to be a significant contributor, under a theme of development, construction, and operation of the CVP, as a water conveyance component of the CVP that has contributed to northern California's economic and agricultural development and growth.

Reclamation concluded that consultation with Indian tribes was not necessary for this undertaking because of the limited APE and minimal visual effects. No sites of religious or cultural significance are expected to be present given the major construction activities that occurred during building of the canal and development of surrounding agricultural orchards.

Reclamation applied the criteria of adverse effect for the undertaking, at 36 CFR 800.5(a), and finds that the proposed project will result in no adverse effect to historic properties due to the proposed modification taking place on the existing berm. None of the significant engineering characteristics or materials of the TCC, or the larger CVP, will be affected or diminished by the proposed equipment and pole installation modifications.

After OHP 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), it is considered that Reclamation has made a reasonable and good faith effort to appropriately identify historic properties within the APE.
- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(c)(2), **I do not object** that, for the purposes of this undertaking only, Reclamation will treat the Tehama-Colusa Canal water conveyance system as an eligible contributor to the larger CVP, under Criterion A for the theme of development of irrigated agriculture and related economic growth in northern California.
- Reclamation finds that the proposed undertaking will result in no adverse effect to historic properties. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(b), **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 currently amended). Should you require further information, please contact Jeanette Schulz at Jeanette.Schulz@parks.ca.gov or her desk phone is: (916) 445-7031.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer