

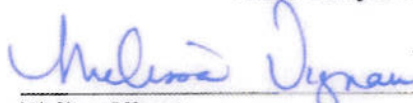
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region

Central California Area Office
Folsom, California

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Rehabilitation of North End Trail,
Lake Berryessa

Recommended:


Melissa Vignau
Natural Resources Specialist

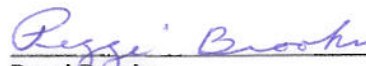
3/28/2011
Date

Recommended:


Lynn Pilgrim-Little
Park Manager, Lake Berryessa

3/28/2011
Date

Recommended:


Peggi Brooks
Chief, Recreation Management Division

3/29/2011
Date

Recommended:


Drew Lessard
Deputy Area Manager

Date

Concur:


Robert Schroeder
Chief, Resource Management Division

3/29/11
Date

Approved:


Michael Finnegan
Area Manager, CCAO

3/29/11
Date

Date: 3/29/11

FONSI No.: CCAO-FONSI-11-4

FINDINGS

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has determined authorizing the construction of the 7.3 mile North End Trail at Lake Berryessa will not have significant impacts on the quality of the human environment. Consequently, an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required. This decision is based on a thorough review of the North End Trail Environmental Assessment (EA) dated March, 2011. This decision is in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and the Department of the Interior regulations for implementation of NEPA (43 CFR Part 46).

DECISION

Reclamation has decided to approve the construction of the 7.3 mile North End Trail at Lake Berryessa, as described in the EA.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is supported by the following factors:

- The proposed action will have no adverse effect on such unique characteristics as resources, wilderness areas, wetlands, and riparian areas. Required permits under Section 404 and Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) will be obtained prior to construction to allow for fill to be added to waters of the United States.
- Reclamation has consulted with the California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding a determination of no adverse effects to historic properties resulting from the construction of the North End Trail. Reclamation's responsibilities under Section 106 of the NHPA have been fulfilled.
- The proposed action is not controversial and does not involve unique or unknown risk.
- The proposed action will have no adverse effect on species currently listed or proposed for listing as candidate, endangered, or threatened species, and no adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species.
- The proposed action will not affect Indian Trust Assets (ITA's). The nearest ITA is approximately 15 miles north of the proposed project location.
- The proposed action does not threaten to violate Federal, state, or local laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment, with all mitigation measures adhered to, (see mitigation measures on pages 6-1 – 6-3 of the EA).

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The expected environmental effects of the proposed action are described in Chapter 3 of the EA. Negligible effects will be caused to the human environment from the proposed action.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

Reclamation will ensure fulfillment of any environmental commitments prescribed to mitigate or eliminate impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed action. Mitigation measures described in Chapters 3 and 6 of the EA will be followed, and Reclamation will monitor construction and post-construction activities to ensure avoidance or minimization of effects to the environment. Some of the mitigation measures included in the EA are as follows:

1. As prescribed by US Fish and Wildlife Service, the elderberry plant located in the vicinity of the proposed project will be flagged or fenced to ensure easy identification. Construction and maintenance crews will avoid the elderberry plant. No vehicles will be allowed within a 20-foot buffer zone of the elderberry plant drip line. Construction activities within 100 feet of the elderberry shrub will only occur between July-February to avoid the valley elderberry longhorn beetle's season of emergence.
2. If construction is to occur during bird nesting season, (February-August), a bird survey may be conducted prior to the start of construction. If an active nest is found near the proposed project area, the nesting area will be avoided. In the event it cannot be avoided appropriate mitigation measures will be followed.
3. In the event cultural resources or human remains are encountered during implementation of the project, all work in the immediate project area will be stopped and a Reclamation archaeologist would be contacted immediately.
4. Appropriate permits would be obtained prior to construction to ensure protection of water quality.