

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

Project Name: TCID-Truckee Canal Turnout Project, Gravel Extraction-Gopher Pit/Sec. 30

CEC Number: LO – 2011-1043

Cost Authority: A20-1912-4999-100-00-00

Date: January 9, 2012

Exclusion Category: *516 DM 14D (9)*. – Issuance of permits for removal of gravel or sand by an established process from existing quarries.

Nature of Action: TCID is requesting permission to use an existing gravel pit located southwest of Hazen, Nevada. The material from the pit would be used in conjunction with the Truckee Canal Turnout Project (CEC; LO-2011-1006). The District estimates they will need up to 10,000 tons of gravel for the conduit replacements.

The steps involved in mining the material are as follows;

- Process previously stockpiled material in the identified location in Section 30, see attached map.
- Dig and extract good material, and transport material to processing plant.
- Process material to separate different types of material (such as C-33 gravel, sand, etc)
- Usable material for conduit project transported to construction sites as needed along Truckee Canal.
- Unused materials transported back from processing plant to Section 30 and stockpiled in already disturbed areas for future Newlands Project needs.

Equipment needed for project are excavators to dig and load material into trucks, dump trucks to transport material to and from the processing plant a gravel processing plant and front end loaders to load material into trucks at processing plant. The processing plant is an active operation owned and operated by A&K Earthmovers, located on private land in Section 3, Township 19 North, Range 26 East. Material from Section 30 would be transported to and from the processing plant by existing established roads. Material used for the conduits would also be transported to construction sites via existing established roads.

Location: The gravel pit is located on Reclamation withdrawn land in the Northwest Quarter, of Section 30, Township 20 North, Range 26 East. This proposed project is located on the USGS Hazen, Nevada, quadrangle map. See attached maps for detailed locations.

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

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 ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
3.	This action will have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
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 principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O. 11990); floodplains (E.O. 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
5.	The action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk (43 CFR 46.215 (d)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
6.	This action would establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
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 ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
8.	This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau (in coordination with a Reclamation cultural resources professional, RM LND 02-01 D(1)(a)) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___

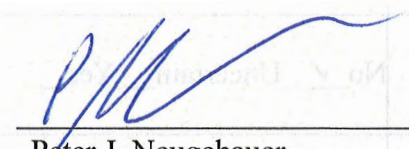
9.	This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
10.	This action would violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
11.	This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (E.O. 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
12.	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 (E.O. 13007 and 43 CFR 46.215 (k)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___
13.	This action would affect Indian Trust Assets. (To be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITAs) (S.O. 3175; Policy Memorandum dated 12/15/93).	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, E.O. 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)).	No ☒ Uncertain ___ Yes ___

NEPA Action Recommended: Categorical Exclusion ☒ EA ___ EIS ___

Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:

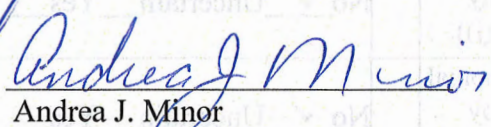
See the attached correspondence from the Mid-Pacific Region Cultural Resources Division regarding concurrence with Item 8 (cultural resources), and from Patricia Rivera regarding Item 13 (Indian Trust Assets).

Prepared by:


Peter J. Neugebauer

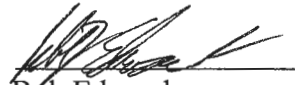
01/10/2012
Date

Recommended:


Andrea J. Minor
Natural Resource Specialist

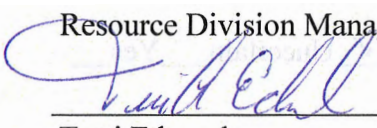
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Date

Concurrence:

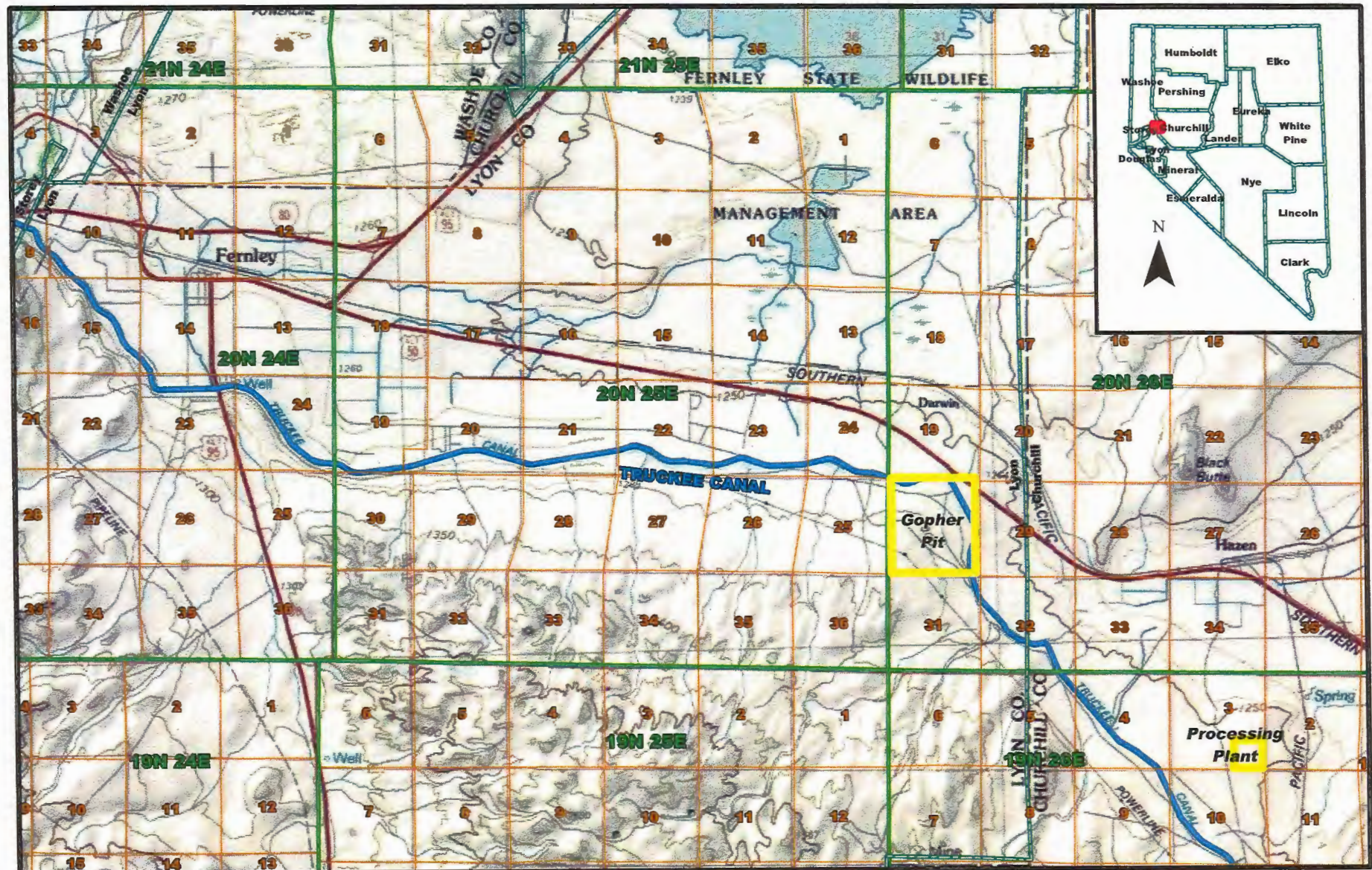

Bob Edwards
Resource Division Manager

1/10/2012
Date

Approved:


Terri Edwards
Deputy Area Manager

1/10/2012
Date



RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Lahontan Basin Area Office
705 N. Plaza Street, Carson City, NV 89701



**TCID-Truckee Canal Turnout Project
Gravel Extraction-Gopher Pit / Section 30**

Location Map

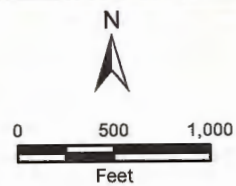
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RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Lahontan Basin Area Office
705 N. Plaza Street, Carson City, NV 89701



**TCID-Truckee Canal Turnout Project
Gravel Extraction-Gopher Pit / Section 30**

Gopher Pit Area (2010 NAIP Aerial)

LO-2011-1043

Neugebauer, Peter J

From: Overly, Stephen A
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 4:59 PM
To: Minor, Andrea J; Neugebauer, Peter J
Cc: Perry, Laureen (Laurie) M; Bruce, Brandee E; Barnes, Amy J; Nickels, Adam M; Goodsell, Joanne E; Williams, Scott A; Soule, William E; Fogerty, John A; Dunay, Amy L; Leigh, Anastasia T
Subject: Truckee Canal Fernley Reach Turnouts Repair Project (Gopher Pit Gravel Revision) NHPA Review Complete

11-LBAO-088.1

Andrea,

Thank you for submitting CEC LO-2011-1043 regarding the minor project description change for the repair of a number of takeouts on the Fernley Reach of the Truckee Canal. This project was originally submitted to MP-153 for Section 106 review in 2011 under CEC LO-2011-1006 with the expectation that TCID would use a commercial source for the gravel needed for construction.

2011 Section 106 Consultation Status and Summary

Reclamation consulted with the SHPO and the Pyramid Lake Tribe via the process outlined in the regulations at 36 CFR Part 800. Reclamation reached a determination that the project would result in no adverse effect on historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5(b). Reclamation submitted a report supporting this determination to the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) by e-mail on April 4th, 2011 seeking concurrence on the findings. On April 11th 2011, SHPO concurred with Reclamation's finding that the project would result in no adverse effect to historic properties. Reclamation also consulted with the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe on the same basis as the SHPO for the activities on tribal lands pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.(c)(2)(i)(B). The consultation with the Tribe started early by e-mail and was followed up by letter on April 6, 2011. The Tribe formally responded in September 2011 that they had no objection to Reclamation's finding. At this point the Section 106 review process was complete for the project as originally configured under CEC LO-2011-1006.

Current Section 106 Status

On December 28, 2011 TCID requested to use gravel from Reclamation's existing stockpiles at the "Gopher Pit" in Section 30 of Township 20 North, Range 26 East instead of the commercial source previously proposed. LBAO prepared CEC LO-2011-1043 describing this minor project change under Exclusion Category 516 DM 14D (9). – *Issuance of permits for removal of gravel or sand by an established process from existing quarries.*

This complete CEC was submitted to MP-153 on January 9, 2012 for additional Section 106 review. As described in the CEC text and exhibits, The gravel to be used for the conduit repair project will be limited to previously stockpiled material in an existing facility in the northern portion of Section 30. The material will be processed at an existing off-site commercial processing plant.

Due to these unique circumstances, the change in gravel sources in this case does not comprise a change to the area of potential effects (APE) as originally defined. The Section 106 status for the project therefore remains unchanged and the previous consultation results are still valid. This completes the Section 106 review for this project. Please retain a copy of this e-mail with the administrative record. If the project is subject to further revision, please note that it may become necessary to conduct further Section 106 review (including possibly additional consultation).

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Stephen (Tony) Overly, M.A. Archaeologist
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region

Minor, Andrea J

From: Rivera, Patricia L
Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2012 9:47 AM
To: Rivera, Patricia L; Minor, Andrea J
Subject: RE: ITA request for CEC Gopher Pit---Ellie already responded

From: Rivera, Patricia L
Sent: Saturday, December 31, 2011 10:49 AM
To: Minor, Andrea J
Subject: RE: ITA request for CEC Gopher Pit—inserted location of nearest ITA for your records.
Andrea,

I reviewed the proposed action to approve TCID's request to use an existing gravel pit located southwest of Hazen, Nevada. The material from the pit would be used in conjunction with the Truckee Canal Turnout Project (CEC; LO-2011-1006). The District estimates they will need up to 10,000 tons of gravel for the conduit replacements.

The steps involved in mining the material are as follows;

- Process previously stockpiled material in Section 30 and use until exhausted.
- Remove overburden and process for any potential usable material for future projects. Potential new ground disturbance for gravel extraction could be as much as 20 acres.
- Usable material for conduit project transported to construction sites as needed along Truckee Canal.

Unused materials transported back from processing plant to Section 30 and stockpiled in already disturbed areas for future Newlands Project needs.

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is Pyramid Lake Reservation approximately 9 miles nw of the project location.

Patricia

