

Environmental Commitment Program

This form must accompany all Federal discretionary action approvals that require compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other applicable environmental laws.

Approval document¹: Grant Agreement

Environmental Document²: FONSI/EA-09-080

On January 14, 2011 the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued guidance for Federal agencies to implement, monitor and evaluate environmental commitments identified in Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements completed for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This guidance also pertains to Categorical Exclusions when environmental commitments have been identified in order to meet the requirements for exclusion.

The Bureau of Reclamation's NEPA Handbook provides guidance on the establishment of an Environmental Commitment Program (ECP) to meet the CEQ guidance. The ECP is a system designed to implement, monitor and evaluate the environmental commitments identified in the NEPA document. These commitments fall under one or more of the following categories:

1. Commitments where no construction or ground disturbance is involved

These commitments are typically associated with water transfers, exchanges, Warren Act contracts and similar actions.

Required ☐ Not Required ☒

2. Commitments where construction or ground disturbance is involved

These commitments are typically associated with short-term construction impacts resulting from modifications to Federal facilities or modifications to non-Federal facilities where there is a Federal nexus such as Federal funds or approvals.

Required ☒ Not Required ☐

3. Long-term commitments

These commitments are typically associated with larger construction or ground disturbing activities where impacts to resources such as wetlands, special status species habitat or water quality may occur that require long-term mitigation and monitoring.

Required ☒ Not Required ☐

Note: If the "Not Required" boxes are checked on all three commitment categories, no further action is required. If any of the required boxes are checked please refer to the following Environmental Commitment table for a summary of the commitments required for environmental compliance. Please direct any questions or comments regarding the Environmental Commitment Program to:

Chuck Siek, Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist
Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
1243 "N" Street, Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 487-5138 email at csiek@usbr.gov

¹¹ Approval document types include but are not limited to: contracts and agreements, permits, licenses and grants.

² Environmental Document types include: Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision



RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Environmental Commitment Table

South-Central California Area Office

Approval document: Grant Agreement

Environmental Document: FONSI/EA-09-080

To be completed by Reclamation [Rain Healer, rhealer@usbr.gov , 559-487-5196] [Jennifer Lewis, jllewis@usbr.gov , 559-487-5197]						To be completed by [proponent]		
Resource	Commitment Category ³	Summary of Environmental Commitments ⁴	Timeframe for Implementation ⁵	Verification of Compliance ⁶		[Proponent] Point of Contact ⁷	Verification of Compliance (Authorizing Official)	
				Initials	Date		Initials	Date
Air Quality	2	Dust Control Measures including: - All disturbed areas, including storage piles, which are not being actively utilized for construction purposes, shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water, chemical stabilizer/suppressant, or covered with a tarp or other suitable cover or vegetative ground cover. - All onsite unpaved roads and offsite unpaved access roads shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant. - All land clearing, grubbing, scraping, excavation, land leveling, grading, cut and fill, and demolition activities shall be effectively controlled of fugitive dust emissions utilizing application of water or by presoaking. - When materials are transported offsite, all material shall be covered or effectively wetted to limit visible dust emissions, and at least six inches of freeboard space from the top of the container shall be maintained. - All operations shall limit or expeditiously remove the accumulation of mud and dirt from adjacent public streets at the end of each workday. - Following the addition of materials to, or the removal of materials from, the surface of outdoor storage piles, said piles shall be effectively stabilized of fugitive dust emissions utilizing sufficient water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant.	During construction or ground-disturbing activities					

³ List category numbers checked on first page

⁴ Summarize environmental commitments from environmental document completed for action

⁵ List when environmental commitments must start/end

⁶ Verification by Reclamation that all environmental commitments have been implemented and a summary report has been completed as required

⁷ Proponent point of contact may be the individual responsible for a specific commitment or the Authorizing Official responsible for overall environmental compliance



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South-Central California Area Office

ECP Tracking Form
Updated 10/25/2011

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Biological Resources	2	Per Terms and Conditions #1 of the USFWS Biological Opinion, contractors shall incorporate Terms and Conditions #2b into their contract.	During all construction activities.					
Biological Resources	2	At least thirty calendar days prior to ground breaking, Buena Vista Water Storage District (BVWSD) shall (a) purchase five acres of compensation land, place a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) approved conservation easement on that land, and arrange for USFWS approved management and endowment, or (b) purchase and endow five acres of compensation land with a USFWS approved conservation bank.	At least thirty calendar days prior to ground-disturbance.					
Biological Resources	2	Biological monitor(s) shall be present during all Project activities to satisfy take avoidance criteria and implementing project avoidance and minimization measures. See Appendix G and Appendix K for the complete list of requirements.	During all ground-disturbing activities					
Biological Resources	2	Preconstruction surveys and implementation of avoidance and minimization measures for burrowing owl (CDFG 1995; see Appendix D).	14 to 30 days before construction begins.					
Biological Resources	2	Preconstruction surveys and implementation of avoidance and minimization measures prior to and during construction activities for San Joaquin kit fox per the 2011 <i>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Standard Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance</i> (USFWS 2011, see Appendix D).	Survey: 14 to 30 days before construction begins. Avoidance and minimization measures during construction activities.					
Biological Resources	2	Preconstruction surveys would be completed to identify and flag small mammal burrows within the construction zone. See Appendix G and Appendix K for the complete list of requirements.	Flagging must be done before construction begins. If burrows are found, see the USFWS biological opinion (Appendix G of the Final EA)					
Biological Resources	2	Tipton kangaroo rat Relocation Plan approved by the USFWS and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). See Appendix G and Appendix K for the complete list of requirements.	Prior to construction activities					



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Biological Resources	2	If practical, construction activities would be done outside of the Le Conte's thrasher breeding/nesting season (late January through early June). However, if construction would commence during the breeding/nesting season, a preconstruction survey of the Action Area will be performed by a USFWS-approved biologist or ornithologist within 30 days prior to ground disturbing activities. If active nest are located within the Action Area, CDFG must be consulted before construction activities can precede.	At least thirty calendar days prior to ground breaking if construction activities are not done late January through early June.					
Biological Resources	2, 3	Conditions of Approval for CDFG Incidental Take Permit (ITP, No. 2081-2011-056-04) must be complied with and implemented (see Appendix K of the Final EA).	Before, during, and after construction. See ITP in Appendix K of the Final EA.					
Biological Resources	2	Three inches of extracted topsoil will be set aside during construction activities. Upon completion of construction, the salvaged topsoil, and its accompanying seedbank, will be redistributed over the construction site in order to disseminate the original seedbank over the construction area.	Soil to be removed during construction. Redistribution of soil would be done when construction is complete.					
Biological Resources	2	All construction activities would be restricted to daylight hours only. See Appendix G for the complete list of requirements	During construction.					
Biological Resources	2	To prevent inadvertent entrapment of species, any excavation for pipeline and back fill will be limited to the amount which can be completed in a workday. If this is not possible, all open holes and trenches shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar material or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks (wooden planks will be no less than 10 inches in width and will reach the bottom of the hole/trench). Before any hole or trench is filled, they will be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals.	During construction.					
Biological Resources	2	BVWSD shall comply with the biological opinion (08ESMF00-2011-F-0040) issued by USFWS.	Before, during, and after construction. See biological opinion in Appendix G of Final EA.					



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Existing environmental documents: Reclamation would continue to require compliance with all commitments imposed by existing environmental documents, such as Biological Opinions and Programmatic Agreements.

Funding: The project proponent is responsible for all direct costs to implement, monitor and evaluate the environmental commitments described in the following table. The project proponent is also responsible for the costs incurred by Reclamation staff to monitor and evaluate the environmental commitments.



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