

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST
License Agreement Amendment for Replacement of a Portion of the Martinez Pipeline

South-Central California Area Office

April 5, 2012

Background: The Contra Costa Canal (CCC) is a part of the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Central Valley Project (CVP) and began delivering water in 1940. The CCC is owned by Reclamation and operated and maintained by the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD).

On August 15, 1948, the City of Martinez entered into a License of Agreement with Reclamation for right-of-way (ROW) use of lands for their raw water treatment plant and untreated water pipeline located at the Martinez Reservoir at milepost 47.77 on the CCC (Figures 1 and 2). The agreement has been amended several times. The last amendment (November 19, 2004) extended the authorization for existing use by the City of Martinez through August 14, 2029. The existing untreated water pipeline under this license is nearing the end of its useful life and is in need of replacement. The City of Martinez proposes to construct a new 1,350-foot long, 30-inch diameter underground steel pipeline to replace the existing underground pipeline. The existing pipeline would be abandoned in place and plugged with a minimum one-foot thick section of cellular concrete. The City of Martinez filed a California Environmental Quality Act Categorical Exemption for the Proposed Action on May 19, 2009 with the Contra Costa County Clerk. The City of Martinez has also applied to the California Department of Fish and Game for a Streambed Alteration Agreement for the construction of the aboveground section of pipeline that would cross the Martinez Reservoir spillway and unnamed creek within Reclamation ROW.

Purpose and Need for Action: The City of Martinez needs to replace an aged untreated water pipeline. The purpose of this action is to approve CCWD amending the License Agreement so that an aged untreated water pipeline could be replaced.

Proposed Action: On behalf of Reclamation, the CCWD proposes to issue an amendment to the License Agreement for the replacement of the 500-feet of 30-inch diameter polyvinyl chloride pipeline that lies within Reclamation ROW. The section of proposed pipeline within Reclamation ROW extends from the existing Pump Station at Station 12+57.39 to approximately Station 7+96.86 (Figure 3).

Specific construction details within Reclamation ROW include:

- A 9-foot long by 4.5-foot wide by 9-foot deep section, near Station 12+48.24, would be excavated to expose the existing pipeline. This would be plugged with a minimum one-foot thick section of cellular concrete and abandoned in place.
- The majority of the new pipeline would be installed underground via open-cut methods in 4.5-foot wide trenches that would vary in depth between 7 and 12 feet.
- An approximately 61-foot long section of pipeline would be installed above ground from Station 8+58 to Station 7+00, where the pipeline would cross the Martinez Reservoir spillway and unnamed creek. The aboveground pipeline across the spillway would be placed on two 24-inch diameter concrete piers placed 22 feet deep on both sides of the spillway. Concrete piers would be placed at least three feet away from the creek

embankment so as not to disturb the spillway. It is expected that dewatering would be required as the pier depth is greater than the bottom of the creek.

- Barbed wire security barriers would be attached to the pipeline at both ends of the pipeline crossing the spillway. The security barrier would extend 3.5 feet beyond the circumference of the pipe and run on top and 30° below the horizontal of the pipe centerline.
- A 3.5-foot wide concrete slab would be constructed in two pieces to fit between 1) the pier and embankment and 2) the pier and 90° vertical pipe bend. The slab lengths would vary between a minimum of 2 feet to approximately 3.5 feet.
- A minimum 4.5-foot long section of fence would be removed near Station 7+60 for installation of the pipeline.
- Some piping within the existing pump station vault box would be replaced. A hole would be drilled through the concrete wall of the vault for installation of the pipeline. The hole would be sealed once installation is complete.
- Metal tracer wire would be placed on top of the new underground pipeline for detection of the pipeline. The tracer wire is then connected to a terminal box and housed within a 10.25-inch diameter concrete box with a cast iron lid (connection station). These connection stations are placed at a maximum of every 1,000 feet and generally located directly above or adjacent to the pipeline.

Total amount of disturbance would be approximately 2,000 square feet. Photographs of the above grade portion of the pipeline are shown in Figures 4-7.

Construction would take approximately 12 weeks. Construction methods would involve open-cut trenching throughout the pipeline sections except for the section of aboveground pipeline crossing the spillway. All removed soil would be hauled off site for disposal. All trenches would be filled with Class 2 aggregate base. Construction equipment would include augers, dump trucks, pick-up trucks, backhoes, cranes, and flatbed trucks. Staging would occur outside of Reclamation ROW.

Exclusion Category: 516 DM 14.5D (10). Issuance of permits, licenses, easements, and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau lands where action does not allow for or lead to a major public or private action.

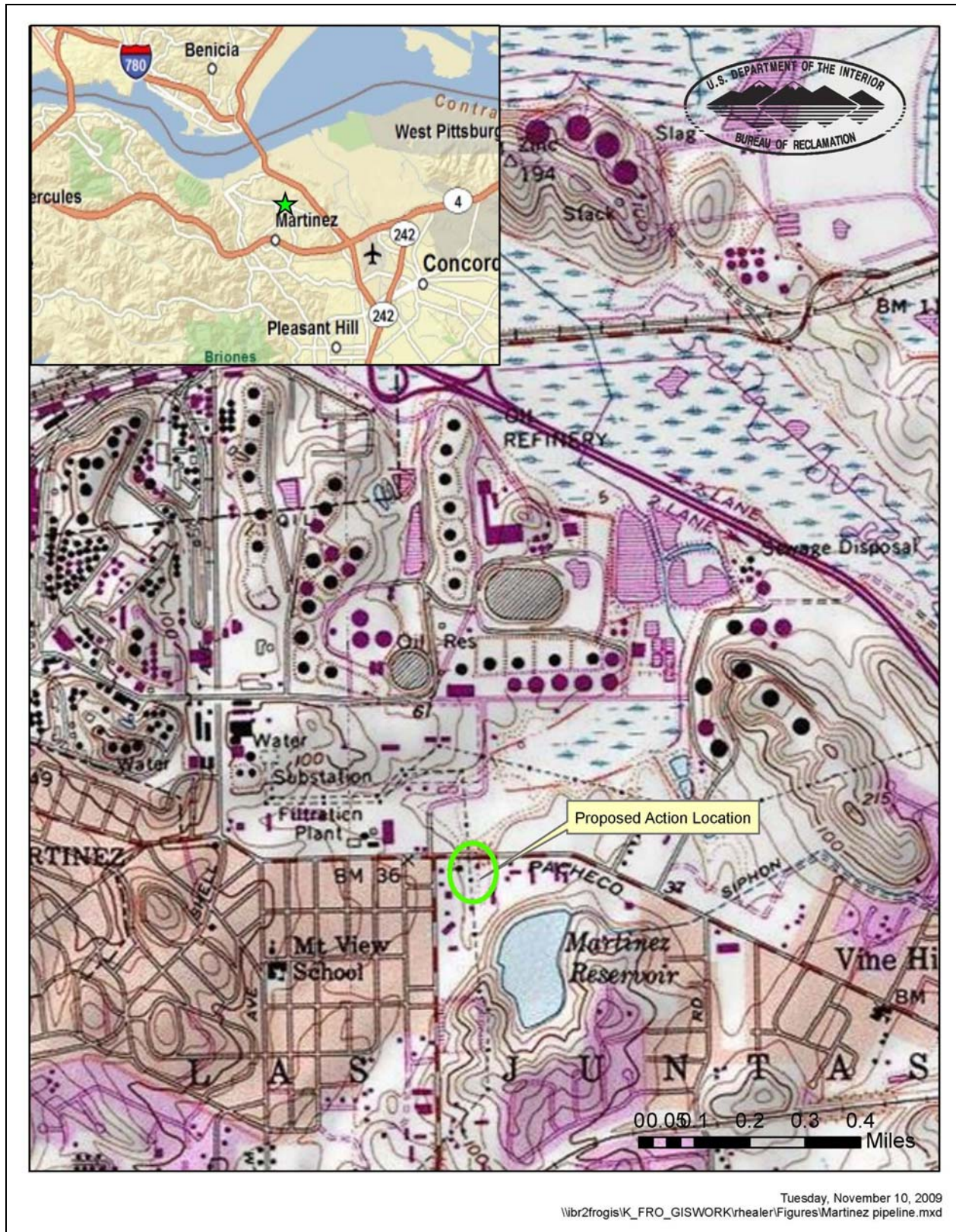


Figure 1. Proposed Action Area



Figure 2. Overview of Proposed Action Area

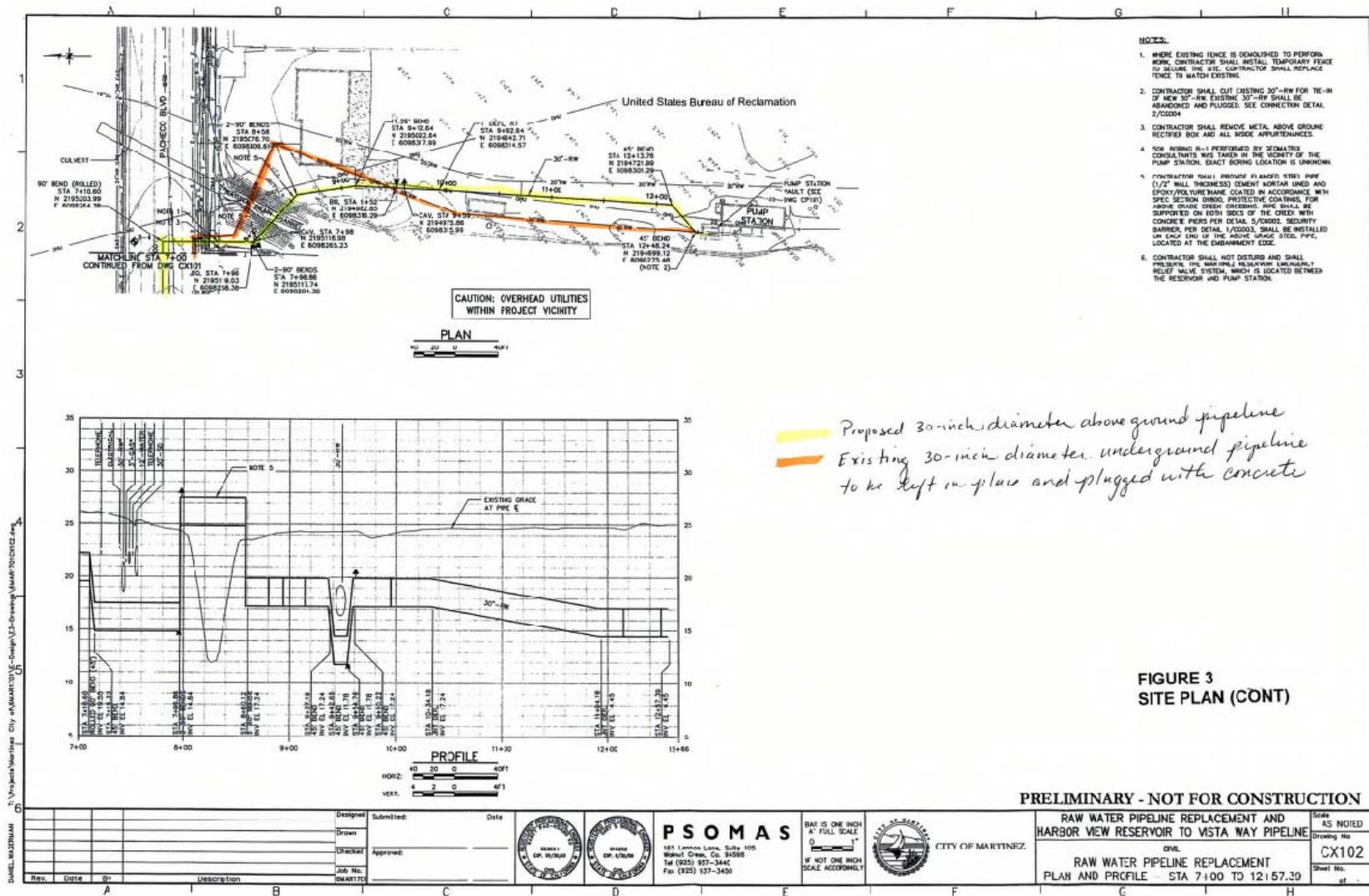


Figure 3. Location of Existing and Proposed Pipelines



Figure 4. View of creek at approximate above grade crossing location (looking west).



Figure 5. View of approximate above grade crossing location (looking south).

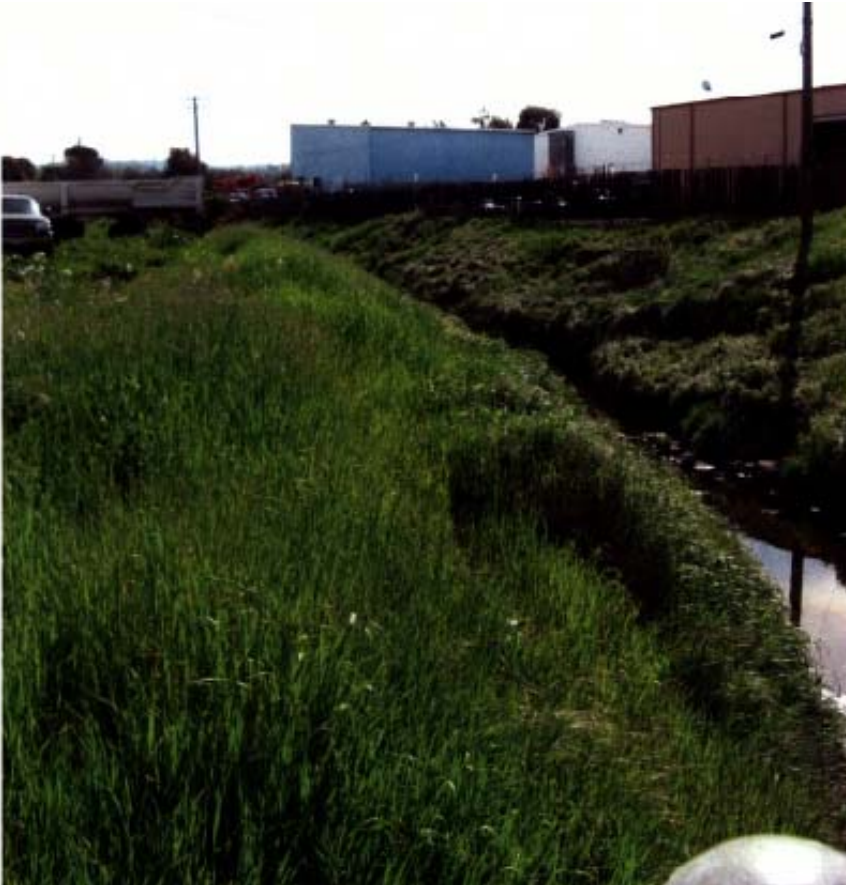


Figure 6. Upstream of the above grade creek crossing (looking south).



Figure 7. View of Pacheco Boulevard and culvert headwall, downstream of the above grade creek crossing (looking west).

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

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| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |

Evaluation of Exemptions to Actions within Categorical Exclusion

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|--|-------------|----------------|-----|
| 1. This action would have significant adverse effects on public health or safety. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 2. 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; floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 3. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 4. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |

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| 5. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 6. 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). | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 7. 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. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 8. This action would violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 9. This action would affect Indian Trust Assets (ITA) (To be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITA). | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 10. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 11. 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. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |

12. 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. No X Uncertain ____ Yes

NEPA Action: Categorical Exclusion X

Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:

☒ Yes ☐ No Environmental commitments are required and attached.

- ☐ San Joaquin Kit Fox Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☐ Giant Garter Snake Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☐ California Tiger Salamander Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☐ California Red-Legged Frog Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☒ Other: CCWD shall provide Reclamation with a copy of the Streambed Alteration Agreement prior to start of construction.
- ☒ Other: There are no indications that hazardous materials are present within the area to be excavated; however, if hazardous materials are detected, work shall cease until a treatment and disposal plan for excavated hazardous materials is in place and all applicable worker safety requirements are met. The contractor shall contact CCWD and Reclamation immediately if hazardous materials are detected.

Prepared by:

Rain Healer

Date: April 5, 2012

South-Central California Area Office

Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 6. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

Area Office Biologist concurred with Item 7. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

ITA Designee concurred with Item 9. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

Concur:

Shanna McDonald

Date: 4/5/12

Wildlife Biologist, South-Central California Area Office

Concur:

C. J. A.

Date: 4/5/12

Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist, South-Central California Area Office

Approved:

David J. Engle

Date: 4/23/12

Chief, Resources Management Division, South-Central California Area Office