

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

MID-PACIFIC REGION
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE (CCAO)
FOLSOM, CALIFORNIA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

2011 Interim American River Division Water Service Contract Renewals for the City of
Roseville (Roseville) and Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), Central Valley Project
(CVP)

CCAO-FONSI-10-5

Recommended:  Date: 12/30/10
David B. Robinson
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Concur:  Date: 12/30/10
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Approved:  Date: 12/30/2010
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CCAO Area Manager

2011 Interim American River Division Water Service Contract Renewals for the City of Roseville (Roseville) and Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), Central Valley Project (CVP)

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the execution of interim water service contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and the City of Roseville (Roseville), and PCWA has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). Reclamation's Central California Area Office has found that the Proposed Action will not significantly affect the quality of the environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 3404(c) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), Reclamation will execute two interim water service contracts. Interim renewal contracts are undertaken under the authority of the CVPIA to provide a bridge between the expiration of the original long-term water service contract and the execution of a new long-term water service contract. The two water service contracts proposed for interim renewal are with Roseville and PCWA. The interim contracts would be renewed for a 26 month period. The term of the Roseville interim contract would extend from January 1, 2011 through February 28, 2013. The term of the PCWA contract would extend from January 1, 2012 through February 28, 2014.

Roseville and PCWA are two of seven contractors within the American River Division of the CVP. Environmental documentation covering the long-term renewal of American River Division water service contractors was completed in June 2005. In addition to Roseville and PCWA, this documentation evaluated the effects of renewing long-term contracts for Sacramento County Water Agency, San Juan Water District, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, El Dorado Irrigation District, and East Bay Municipal Utility District. The Record of Decision for the American River Division long-term renewals was signed on February 28, 2006, 1 day prior to the beginning of a new contract year. Three of the seven American River Division contractors, San Juan Water District, El Dorado Irrigation District, and East Bay Municipal Utility District were able to execute the long-term contracts prior to the beginning of the new contract year. The remaining Division contractors including Roseville and PCWA had existing contracts in place that allowed for the continued delivery of water in the 2006 water year. Interim contracts are needed as Roseville and PCWA long-term contracts expire.

An Environmental Assessment (EA), distributed for public review in September 2010, and incorporated by reference, has been prepared to disclose potential environmental impacts pursuant to NEPA. The following discussion identifies why any potential effects of the Proposed Action are not considered significant.

FINDINGS

Water Resources: The interim renewal of these contracts would not result in any change or impacts to water supply, reservoir storage, river operations, or additional groundwater pumping. The interim contracts will provide for the continued delivery of the same quantities of CVP water to the same lands for the same municipal and industrial uses that are provided for under existing contracts. Water deliveries will be made through existing CVP facilities. The action does not require the construction of any new facilities, the installation of any new structures, or the modification of existing facilities. The water will be placed to beneficial use within the authorized place of use for CVP water from the American River. As a result, there would be no impact on water resources in the lower American River with the implementation of the Proposed Action.

Land Use: The interim renewal of contracts will not provide for additional water supplies that could act as an incentive for conversion of native habitats for human uses. Roseville fully utilizes their supply and PCWA would require an additional environmental documentation and review to authorize the construction of infrastructure to take full delivery of their contract supply. For these reasons, renewal of interim contracts will not result in any growth-inducing impacts that will increase water demand during the 2-year durations of these contracts.

Biological Resources and Listed Species: The Proposed Action would not result in any changes in flows or impacts to fisheries or terrestrial and other aquatic resources. The action will not have any impacts on cold water resources in Folsom Reservoir that are needed for summer downstream temperature control for steelhead. Existing minimum instream flow policies would remain in effect.

Reclamation completed a review the effects of the proposed action on sensitive species listed pursuant to the Endangered Species Act with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and determined that the proposed action was not likely to adversely affect any listed or sensitive species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with this finding in their letter dated December 30, 2010 and the NMFS agreed in a letter dated December 30, 2010.

Terrestrial and Riparian Resources: The Proposed Action would not have any growth inducing impacts of resulting in any changes to river flows of project operations. Therefore, the interim renewal of contracts would not result in impacts to terrestrial and riparian resources.

Recreation: The proposed action would not result in impacts to recreation.

Cultural Resources: The proposed action would not result in impacts to cultural resources.

Cumulative Impacts: The proposed action would not result in any changes from the existing condition so there are no cumulative incremental impacts identified.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources: No irreversible commitments of resources associated with implementation of the Proposed Action have been identified.

Indian Trust Assets: The proposed action would have no effect on Indian Trust Assets.

Environmental Justice: The proposed action would have no effects associated with Environmental Justice.

DECISION

Based on the analysis of the environmental impacts as described in the final EA, Reclamation has determined that implementing the proposed interim contracts will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment or the natural resources of the area. A Finding of No Significant Impact is justified for the proposed action. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed guideline.