

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Environmental Assessment

MU5 Farms Lateral 32.2 Turnout and Irrigation Pipeline Project on the Madera Canal

15-08-MP



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

December 2016

Mission Statements

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and provide access to our Nation's natural and cultural heritage and honor our trust responsibilities to Indian Tribes and our commitments to island communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.



List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

APE	area of potential effects
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CVP	Central Valley Project
EA	Environmental Assessment
MID	Madera Irrigation District (district)
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO _x	nitrogen oxides
O ₃	ozone
PM ₁₀	particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter
PM _{2.5}	particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
ROG	reactive organic gases
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SJVAB	San Joaquin Valley Air Basin
SJVAPCD	San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
VOC	volatile organic compounds
GHG	greenhouse gases

Section 1 Introduction

In conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and DOI Regulations (43 CFR Part 46), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) to disclose potential environmental effects associated with granting MU5 Farms LLC (MU5 Farms) an MP-620 encroachment permit for construction of a turnout that will connect to one half mile of new irrigation pipeline along Lateral 32.2 in Madera County, California (Project). This EA examines the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the affected environment associated with the Project.

The Project will be constructed approximately 8.5 miles east of the City of Chowchilla (Figure 1), south of the Madera Canal on Lateral 32.2 between Road 24 and Road 26 (Figure 2) (latitude 37° 06' 44.93"N, longitude 120° 06' 7.04" W).

Figure 1: Regional Action Location

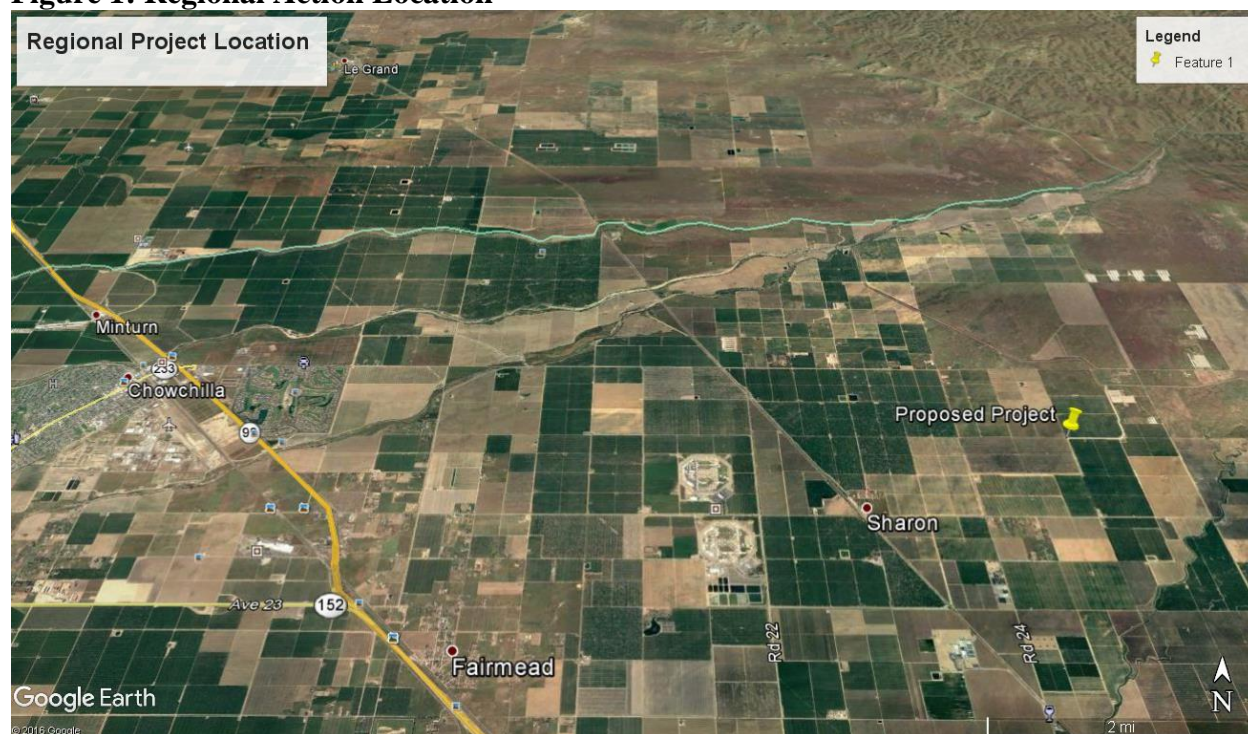


Figure 2: Proposed Action Location



1.1 Need for the Proposed Action

During above average water years when surface water is available via the Madera Canal to Lateral 32.2, MU5 Farms plans to divert surface water for irrigation by constructing a turnout connecting to an irrigation pipeline. As a result, MU5 Farms needs an MP-620 encroachment permit for construction within Reclamation right-of-way.

Section 2 Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Reclamation would not issue an MP-620 encroachment permit to MU5 Farms for implementation of the Project and MU5 Farms would continue to operate using existing groundwater to irrigate and would not have the flexibility to transfer surface water into the irrigation system.

2.2 Proposed Action

Reclamation proposes to issue an MP-620 encroachment permit to MU5 Farms for construction of a turnout and irrigation pipeline on and adjacent to Lateral 32.2. The turnout structure and pipeline will provide irrigation water to MU5 Farms' property. The turnout will be located at the intersection of Road 25 and Avenue 25 in Madera County about 10 miles north of the City of Madera, 9 miles east of the City of Chowchilla, and 1.25 miles northwest of Berenda Creek. The turnout will have a concrete headwall, floor, and sidewalls. A steel canal gate will be bolted to the headwall to control the amount of water that will enter the 24-inch PVC pipeline that will be connected to the canal near the turnout. The pipeline will extend from a connection at the turnout to a standpipe located at the southeast corner of MU5 Farms' property approximately a half mile west of the turnout (latitude 37° 06' 44.93" N, longitude 120° 06' 7.04" W). Staging of equipment used for the Project will take place in, and immediately adjacent to, the proposed work areas.

Construction elements of the turnout include:

- Excavating a 48-inch wide by 48-inch long cavity in the existing canal bank;
- Forming a reinforced headwall, floor, and sidewalls for flow control;
- Setting of rebar in the form;
- Installing a 20-foot long joint of 24-inch diameter PVC pipe;
- Inserting the pipe into the forms to penetrate the back of the headwall form and stopping at the front of the headwall form;

- Hanging the canal gate on the headwall;
- Grading around the structure to transition the bank to match the structure; and
- Placing concrete rip rap around the structure to protect the bank and structure.

Construction elements of the half mile pipeline include:

- Excavating a 5-foot wide by 6.5-foot deep trench away from the turnout;
- Placing the pipeline into the trench;
- Backfilling the trench with stabilized and native material that will be compacted to match the existing ground surrounding the trench; and
- Building a 36-inch diameter reinforced standpipe with a 6-foot base at the receiving end of the pipeline.

All excavation, trenching, and grading will be done with an excavator. Installation of the half mile pipeline will extend from the turnout and continue northwesterly across vacant ground and turn west at Avenue 25, primarily through non-Reclamation land. The pipeline will then continue to the standpipe that will be built and located on MU5 Farms' land on Road 25. Backfill of the trench will be done with a loader and then compacted with moisture-conditioned native material with a compactor head on the excavator and with a smaller compactor.

Construction of the turnout will start as soon as all environmental review of the Project is completed and will occur when the canal is dry. Installation of the pipeline will occur in the fall or winter months. The end of the pipeline will be temporarily plugged and backfilled with excavated materials as construction of the end of the pipeline may occur at a later time depending on funding and seasonal farming operations. The surface will be made to match the existing ground conditions.

2.2.1 Avoidance and Minimization Measures

As part of the Proposed Action, MU5 Farms will implement the following measures to avoid and minimize potential effects to the affected environment:

- Dust control will be done using water trucks around and on all disturbed soil;
- Excess spoil, materials, forms, concrete, and trash from construction will be lawfully disposed of at a landfill site with dump trucks;
- Backfill material will be from the Project area and not from an outside source; and
- Construction equipment and any material delivery vehicles shall be maintained properly so as to not leak any oil, gas or lubricants in or around the Project.

Section 3 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

Department of the Interior Regulations, Executive Orders, and Reclamation guidelines require a discussion of the following items when preparing environmental documentation.

- **Indian Trust Assets (ITAs):** are legal interests in property or rights held in trust by the United States for Indian Tribes or individual Indians. Indian reservations, Rancherias, and Public Domain Allotments are common ITAs in California. The nearest ITA is a Public Domain Allotment approximately 21 miles east of the project location. The Proposed Action does not have a potential to affect ITAs (see Appendix A).
- **Indian Sacred Sites:** Executive Order 13007 (May 24, 1996) requires that federal agencies accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners, and avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites. No Indian sacred sites have been identified on Reclamation lands associated with the Proposed Action.
- **Environmental Justice:** Executive Order 12898 requires each Federal agency to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects, including social and economic effects of its program, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. There would be no adverse human health or socio-economic effects to any population, consequently there would be no disproportionate adverse human health or socio-economic and environmental effects on minority or low-income populations.

3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would consist of Reclamation not providing an MP-620 encroachment permit to implement the Project. Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to existing conditions and the affected environment would remain the same with the existing land uses. MU5 Farms would continue to use ground water to irrigate.

3.2 Proposed Action

3.2.1 Water Resources

The closest natural waterway is Berenda Creek which is 1.25 miles southeast of the Proposed Action. Berenda Creek headwaters drain from the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and continue west into Berenda Slough until its terminus with the Chowchilla River. The major waterway in the area is the Chowchilla River, approximately 4 miles north of the Proposed Action. The Chowchilla River headwaters are located on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and flow west into Eastman Lake. The Chowchilla River continues west where the majority of the water is used for agricultural purposes prior to its terminus with the San Joaquin River. There are no natural surface water features in the Proposed Action area. The Madera Canal runs east to west and is approximately 1 mile north of the Proposed Action. Lateral 32.2 ties into the Madera Canal approximately 1 mile to the north of the Proposed Action. Lateral 32.2 zigzags southwest past the Proposed Action and continues southeast past highway 99.

Construction of the Proposed Action will occur when Lateral 32.2 is dry. As a result, construction within the canal to allow for the connection of the new 24-inch PVC irrigation pipeline will not result in elevated sedimentation or turbidity levels within the canal. Additionally, construction of the irrigation pipeline would be backfilled and graded resulting in no potential for sediment laden runoff to effect the canal or any change in drainage patterns. MU5 Farms or their contractor will follow the Avoidance and Minimization Measures included in section 2.21 to ensure no effects to water resources.

3.2.2 Air Quality

The Proposed Action is located in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB) and is subject to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD). This air basin is currently in extreme non-attainment for ozone (O₃), and inhalable particulate matter between 2.5 and 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀) under both the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS). As a result, the emissions of most concern are O₃ (which includes precursors such as volatile organic compounds [VOC] and nitrogen oxides [NO_x]), PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}. Table 1 contains the attainment status and *de minimis* threshold for general conformity for the criteria pollutants of concern.

Table 1: SJVAB Attainment Status and *De Minimis* Thresholds for Federal Conformity Determinations

Pollutant	Attainment Status ^a	(tons/year)
VOC (as ozone precursor)	Nonattainment ^d	10 ^b

NO _x (as an ozone precursor)	Nonattainment ^d	10 ^b
PM ₁₀	Nonattainment (CAAQS) Attainment (NAAQS)	15 ^c
PM _{2.5}	Nonattainment	100 15 ^c
^a Source: http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/adm/adm.htm ^b 40 CFR 93.153 ^c SJVAPCD Threshold		

Construction emissions would vary from day to day and by activity, depending on the timing and intensity of construction. Generally, air quality impacts from the Proposed Action would be localized in nature and decrease with distance. The ground disturbing activities would result in the temporary emissions of dust and vehicle combustion pollutants during the following activities:

- Excavation for the turnout and trench for the half mile pipeline
- Backfilling the trench after completion of the pipeline
- On-site construction equipment and haul truck engine emissions

Concrete for creation of the turnout and standpipe will be delivered to the Project area using ready-mix trucks. PVC pipe for the pipeline will be delivered to the Project on flatbed semi-tractor trailer trucks and pickup trucks and unloaded from the trucks with a forklift. All construction work would occur within the existing canal and turnout or adjacent to the canal. Calculated emissions from the Madera Irrigation District Water Conservation, Telemetry Upgrade and Improvement (Available: http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/documentShow.cfm?Doc_ID=16881) Project in Madera County were of greater magnitude with higher emission sources estimated using the 2013 California Emissions Estimator Model (version 2013.2.1) for reactive organic gases (ROG)¹, NO_x, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5} in March of 2014 (USBR 2014). Total project emissions from this project are presented in Table 2. Because the current project is similar in nature, but smaller in magnitude, emissions associated with the Proposed Action would not be expected to exceed these emission volumes.

Table 2: Estimated Comparable Project Emissions^a

Pollutant	Unmitigated (tons/year)	Mitigated (tons/year)
ROG/VOC	0.066	0.066
NO _x	0.58	0.58
PM ₁₀	0.17	0.070
PM _{2.5}	0.047	0.037
Carbon dioxide equivalents	49.58	49.58

^a Source: CalEEMod Version 2013.2.1

¹ The term “volatile organic compounds” are synonymous with “reactive organic gases” for the purposes of this document since both terms refer to hydrocarbon compounds that contribute to ozone formation.

The previous project was estimated to emit less than the *de minimis* threshold for NO_x and ROG/VOC as O₃ precursors, PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀; therefore, a federal general conformity analysis report was not required. The Proposed Action would also comply with the SJVAPCD’s Regulation VIII (SJVAPCD 2012) control measures for construction emissions of PM₁₀. One of these control measures includes the use of water with all excavation, land leveling, grading, and backfill for fugitive dust suppression, as noted in Section 2.2.1. However, if dust suppression measures are not implemented, the estimated PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ emissions from the Proposed Action are still expected to be well below the respective SJVAPCD thresholds.

3.2.3 Special Status Biological Resources

A biological assessment was prepared by Halstead & Associates for the Proposed Action and was received by Reclamation in 2014 to help determine if the Proposed Action would have the potential to affect special status species within the action area (Halstead & Associates 2013). This assessment included a search of California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s California Natural Diversity Data Base for the Kismet 7.5 minute Quadrangle map and the eight surrounding quadrangle maps (Le Grand, Raynor Creek, Raymond, Berenda, Daulton, Bonita Ranch, Madera, and Gregg) to review records of sensitive species and habitats in the action area. Biological surveys were conducted on November 22, 2013 to determine if sensitive species, habitats, or any other biological issues occur on or near the Proposed Action. These surveys encompassed the turnout area, pipeline route, and surrounding lands. No evidence of special status species or suitable habitat was found during these surveys.

Additionally, a list of federally threatened or endangered species was received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on November 9th, 2016 from the IPaC information portal. The IPaC list of species was more comprehensive than the list of species generated from the database search completed by Halstead & Associates and is included in Table 3 below. Note that all species included in the Halstead & Associates search are also included in the IPaC list below. There is no evidence of special status species or suitable habitat within the Proposed Action area.

Table 3: Federally Threatened or Endangered Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	Effects	Potential habitat utilized by species in Proposed Action Area
AMPHIBIANS				
<i>Rana draytonii</i>	California Red-Legged Frog	T	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	California tiger salamander	T	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this

				species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
CRUSTACEANS				
<i>Branchinecta conservation</i>	Conservancy Fair Shrimp	E	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp	T	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
FISHES				
<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>	Delta Smelt	T	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
<i>Onchorhynchus (=Salmo) mykiss</i>	Steelhead	T	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
FLOWERING PLANTS				
<i>Tuctoria greenei</i>	Green's Tuctoria	E	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
<i>Orcuttia pilosa</i>	Hairy Orcutt Grass	E	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
<i>Orcuttia inaequalis</i>	San Joaquin Orcutt Grass	T	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
MAMMALS				
<i>Dipodomys nitratoides exillis</i>	Fresno Kangaroo Rate	E	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
<i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i>	San Joaquin Kit Fox	E	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.

				suitable habitat would be disturbed.
REPTILES				
<i>Gambelia silus</i>	Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard	E	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.
<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	Giant Garter Snake	T	NE	Absent. The Project occurs within the general range of this species. No suitable habitat in the Proposed Action area. No suitable habitat would be disturbed.

Key:

- (E) Endangered– Listed in the Federal Register as being in danger of extinction
- (T) Threatened – Listed as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future
- (NE) No Effect – Proposed Action will have no effect on the species

3.2.4 Cultural Resources

MU5 Farms, contracted with Sierra Valley Cultural Planning to conduct a cultural resources inventory and historic properties identification efforts in the area of potential effects (APE) for this undertaking. In addition, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(f)(2) and § 800.4(a)(4), Reclamation identified and sought information from Indian tribes that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties in the APE. Lateral 32.2 was the only cultural resource identified in the APE through these efforts.

Reclamation evaluated Lateral 32.2 for National Register of Historic Places (National Register) eligibility and determined it was not eligible for National Register inclusion either as an individual property or as a contributing element to the Madera Canal and CVP (See Appendix B). To fulfill the requirements of 54 USC § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Reclamation consulted with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on a finding of no historic properties affected, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1). The SHPO responded, with no objection to Reclamation’s finding. No significant cultural resources would be impacted by the Proposed Action.

3.3 Cumulative Impacts

According to CEQ regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA, a cumulative impact is defined as *the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time* (40 CFR 1508.7).

Section 3.2.2 Air Quality analysis shows that the Proposed Action would conform with thresholds for Federal and State conformity determinations for ROG/VOC, NO_x, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀. However, the Proposed Action has the potential to impact air quality through cumulatively combined construction related emissions of surrounding projects in the SJVAB. Since the SJVAB encompasses seven counties in addition to Madera County, emissions from projects occurring in those counties within the same general time period as the Proposed Action could lead to a cumulative significant impact.

With the exception of some planned Madera County projects that don't have a detailed construction schedule, there are four known projects that will be under construction in a relatively similar timeframe as the Proposed Action. The projects include the following:

- Central California Irrigation District – Orestimba Creek Groundwater Recharge Project;
- Merced Irrigation District Drought Protection Water Management Model Project;
- McCoy Lateral Rehabilitation and Atwater Drain Bypass Project; and
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) State Route 99/233 Interchange Project in the City of Chowchilla.

The estimated cumulative emissions from the above listed projects are included in Table 4 below. Note that the same comparative analysis was used for the McCoy Lateral Rehabilitation and Atwater Bypass Project as with the Proposed Action.

Table 4: Estimated Cumulative Project Emissions

Pollutant	Central California Irrigation District - Orestimba Creek Groundwater Recharge Project (tons) ¹	Merced Irrigation District Drought Protection Water Management Model Project (tons) ²	McCoy Lateral Rehabilitation and Atwater Drain Bypass Project (tons) ³	Caltrans State Route 99/233 Interchange Project in the City of Chowchilla (tons) ⁴	Proposed Action Comparative Analysis (tons)	TOTAL (tons)
VOC	0.15	1.58	0.66	NA	0.66	3.05
NO _x	1.57	5.87	0.58	NA	0.58	8.6
PM ₁₀	0.2	1.18	0.17	NA	0.17	1.72
PM _{2.5}	0.13	0.7	0.047	NA	0.047	0.924
CO ₂	0.99	NA	49.58	NA	49.58	100.15

Notes: Data was not available for the Caltrans Project. However, operation of the project will result in a drastic reduction in GHG overtime (see the following paragraph). The reason why the McCoy Lateral project has such high CO₂ emissions is due to an operational component of the project.

Sources:

¹Reclamation 2016a.

²Reclamation 2016b.

³Reclamation 2016c.

⁴Caltrans 2016.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to improve the State Route 99/233 interchanges in the City of Chowchilla, west of the Proposed Action. Although construction would be temporary, the cumulative use of construction equipment with the Proposed Action may collectively result in a significant impact to air quality. The Caltrans Initial Study for the project did not calculate construction related air quality impacts because the operation of the project is expected to drastically decrease emissions over time by allowing better circulation. One of the project proponents involves construction of a roundabout, and according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, roundabouts can reduce fuel consumption by 23 to 34 percent, and CO₂ emissions by approximately 23 to 37 percent (IIHS, 2016).

Although the construction related emissions from the Caltrans project are unknown and could result in construction related nonattainment of NO_x emissions, the likelihood of nonattainment of VOC, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and CO₂ from construction of the project is considered low. As shown in Table 4, the Proposed Actions combined cumulative total emissions are estimated to emit less than the *de minimus thresholds* for NO_x, VOC, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}.

In addition to air quality impacts, greenhouse gases (GHG) are considered in the context of cumulative effects since any increase in greenhouse gas emissions would add to the existing inventory of gases that could contribute to climate change. In considering when to disclose projected quantitative GHG emissions, the EPA has provided a reference point of 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions on an annual basis below which a GHG emissions quantitative analysis is not warranted unless quantification below that reference point is easily accomplished (EPA 2014). In California, Assembly Bill 32 established 25,000 metric tons/year as the threshold for mandatory emissions reporting for stationary sources (CEPA, 2016). However, California did not establish a threshold for cumulative emissions from temporary mobile sources such as construction equipment, which would be lower than permanent stationary sources. As shown in Table 4, the cumulative total CO₂ emissions are just over a 100 metric tons, which is substantially under the 25,000 metric ton/year reporting threshold.

Section 4 Consultation and Coordination

4.1 Agencies and Persons Consulted

Reclamation consulted and coordinated with SHPO, MID, MU5 Farms, LLC, Blair, Church, and Flynn Consulting Engineers, Sierra Valley Cultural Planning, Halstead & Associates Environmental/Biological Consultants.

4.2 Endangered Species Act (16 USC § 1531 et seq.)

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act requires Federal agencies, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, to ensure that their actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of the critical habitat of these species.

Reclamation determined that the project would have no effect on federally-listed as endangered or threatened species. Therefore, no consultation is needed.

Section 5 References

- California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMOD). 2013. Windows Version 2013 2.1. October 28, 2013.
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2016. Chowchilla Interchange Improvement Project IS/MND. Available: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist6/environmental/envdocs/d6/sr99--20160122--chowchilla_interchange_improvement_project_initial_study_201602--06-0p910.pdf. Accessed 11/16/2016.
- California Environmental Protection Agency. 2016. Air Resources Control Board. Assembly Bill 32 Overview. Available: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/ab32/ab32.htm>. Accessed: 11/22/2016.
- Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. 2016. Available: <http://www.iihs.org/iihs/topics/t/roundabouts/qanda#cite-text-0-19>. Accessed: 11/16/2016.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 2014. Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program. <http://www.epa.gov/ghgreporting/>.
- Halstead & Associates. 2013. Biological Assessment for MU5 Farms' Turnout and Pipeline Project on Bureau of Reclamations Lateral 32.2 (Near Madera, Madera County, California).
- Reclamation. 2016a. Draft Central California Irrigation District – Orestimba Creek Groundwater Recharge Project.
- Reclamation. 2016b. Draft Merced Irrigation District Drought Protection Water Management Model Project.
- Reclamation. 2016c. Draft McCoy McCoy Lateral Rehabilitation and Atwater Drain Bypass Project.
- SJVAPCD. 2012. Rules and Regulations. Regulation VIII. Rule 8021. Available: <http://www.valleyair.org/rules/currnrules/r8021.pdf>. Accessed: July 24, 2013.
- United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). 2014. Environmental Assessment: Madera Irrigation District Water Conservation, Telemetry Upgrade and Improvement Project. Available: http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/documentShow.cfm?Doc_ID=16881. Accessed: November 3, 2015.

Appendix A: ITA Concurrence

11/17/2014

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - Re: ITA form for MU5 Farms EA



MAYVILLE, MYRNE <mmyville@usbr.gov>

Re: ITA form for MU5 Farms EA

1 message

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov>
To: MYRNE MAYVILLE <mmyville@usbr.gov>

Mon, Nov 17, 2014 at 3:01 PM

Mymie,

I reviewed the proposed action to issue a permit to MU 5 Farms (or Madera Irrigation District (MID) to construct a reinforced concrete turnout structure in the Lateral 32.2 canal that is owned and operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The turnout is located at a bend in the Lateral 32.2 at what would be intersection of the alignments of Road 25 and Avenue 25 in Madera County (latitude 37° 06' 43.90"N and longitude 120° 05' 33.01"W). The turnout structure will consist of a headwall, a floor and sidewalls that slope from the top of the headwall to the foot of the floor. A steel canal gate will be bolted to the headwall and will provide control of the entry of water from the canal into a 24-inch inside diameter pipeline that penetrates the headwall. The 24-inch pipeline will be installed from the turnout to a standpipe located at the southeast corner of the applicant's property located one-half mile west of the turnout (latitude 37° 06' 44.93"N and longitude 120° 06' 7.04"W).

The proposed action does not have a potential to impact Indian Trust Assets. The nearest Indian Trust Asset is a Public Domain Allotment, approximately 21 miles east of the project location.

Patricia Rivera
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US Bureau of Reclamation
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<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=2cc5624d9c&view=pt&search=inbox&th=149bffd8c2a16059&siml=149bffd8c2a16059>

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Appendix B: NHPA, Section 106 Concurrence

**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch**

MP-153 Tracking Number: 14-SCAO-039

Project Name: MU5 Farms Lateral 32.2 Turnout and Irrigation Pipeline Project

NEPA Document: EA

Project Manager/NEPA Contact: Josh Black, Natural Resources Specialist

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Joanne Goodsell, Archaeologist

Date: August 17, 2015

Reclamation proposes to approve a request by MU5 Farms to construct a reinforced concrete turnout on Lateral 32.2, a Reclamation-owned water conveyance feature that delivers water from the Madera Canal, a component of the Central Valley Project (CVP), to lands within the Madera Irrigation District. The turnout project would also include an associated pipeline to deliver water from Lateral 32.2 to privately-owned MU5 Farms. Reclamation determined that the proposed action constitutes a Federal undertaking requiring compliance with 54 U.S.C. § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

To assist in meeting Section 106 compliance requirements, the project proponent contracted with Sierra Valley Cultural Planning to conduct historic properties identification efforts in the area of potential effects (APE) for this undertaking. In addition, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(f)(2) and § 800.4(a)(4), Reclamation identified and sought information from Indian tribes that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties in the APE. Lateral 32.2 was the only cultural resource identified in the APE through these efforts. Reclamation evaluated Lateral 32.2 for National Register of Historic Places (National Register) eligibility and determined it was not eligible for National Register inclusion either as an individual property or as a contributing element to the Madera Canal and CVP. Through correspondence dated July 15, 2015, Reclamation notified the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) of a finding of no historic properties affected for the undertaking, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1). Through correspondence dated August 14, 2015, the SHPO responded, indicating concurrence with Reclamation's eligibility determinations and no objection with Reclamation's finding of effect.

With receipt of the SHPO response, Reclamation has concluded the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. The proposed action will have no significant impacts on cultural resources. Please retain a copy of this document with the administrative record for this action. Should the proposed action change, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including further consultation with the SHPO, may be required.