

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Finding of No Significant Impact

East Park Recreation Area Rattlesnake Point Boat Launch Facility Project

NCAO-17-07

Prepared by:



Date:

9/12/17

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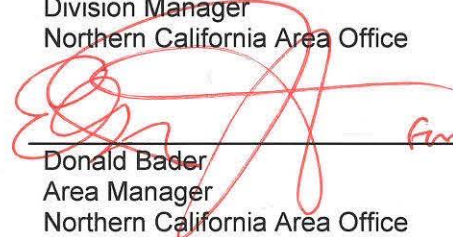


Date:

9/15/17

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Background

In accordance with section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Northern California Area Office of the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), has determined that constructing the recreational facilities at East Park Reservoir (Project) is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment; an environmental impact statement is not required. The purpose of the Project is to improve the recreational experience, meet current American with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations, and reduce shoreline erosion at East Park Reservoir (EPR). This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is supported by Reclamation's Environmental Assessment (EA) Number EA-17-07, *East Park Recreation Area Rattlesnake Point Boat Launch Facility Project*, and is hereby incorporated by reference.

Reclamation provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the draft EA from August 25, 2017 through September 11, 2017. Comments received were limited to those of a user who voiced his support for the Project but preference for the launch to be sited nearer to the Stonyford entrance along the west side of EPR. The location for this first launch facility was selected to accommodate the majority of recreational users who access EPR via the south park entrance nearer to Ladoga. The commenter's request will be considered in the event that needs and resources support Reclamation's installation of a second launch facility at a later date.

All changes to the draft EA were editorial, explanatory and/or non-substantive in nature.

Proposed Action

Reclamation's Proposed Action (Project) is to construct a boat launch facility at Rattlesnake Point along the east side of Reclamation's EPR, Colusa County, CA, with grant funding from the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways.

The Project includes construction of a single-lane boat ramp, ADA-compliant dock and paved parking and access road, sidewalk and associated amenities. The paved areas will accommodate approximately 18 vehicle and trailer parking spaces. Two parking spaces will be ADA-compliant and will provide closer, more accommodating access to the boat ramp from the parking area. The sidewalk will be ADA-compliant and connect the dock to the existing restroom and the ADA parking. Additional project amenities will include an information kiosk, directional signage, animal-resistant trash receptacles, and a project credit sign.

Pre-construction site preparations will include tree trimming, removal of up to one tree, grubbing and rough grading. Surficial sediment removal and/or in-water grading and placement of aggregate base material will be necessary to assure an adequate base to support the ramp. Any sediment removed from the location of the ramp construction will be spread on-site nearby.

Construction would begin in September 2018, following typical seasonal reservoir drawdown, and would take approximately two months to complete.

Findings

The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46). The EA found that any potential environmental impacts from the Proposed Action would be reduced or eliminated by the Best Management Practices and permitting conditions that will be implemented in conjunction with the action. As a result, Reclamation has determined that implementing the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment and therefore, does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Reclamation's determination is supported by the EA which describes the existing environmental resources in the Project area and evaluates the effects of the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative on those resources. The analysis provided in the EA is incorporated by reference and Reclamation's determination that the Proposed Action will not result in significant impacts is summarized in the following. References to sections of regulations, Executive Orders and agency policies defining "significant" are provided in parentheses, where applicable:

- The Proposed Action will not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3))
- The Proposed Action will not significantly impact natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; Wild and Scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order (EO) 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3) and 43 CFR 46.215(b)).
- The Proposed Action will not have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
- The Proposed Action will neither establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
- There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
- The Proposed Action will not have significant cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
- The Proposed Action has no potential to affect historic properties (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).
- The Proposed Action will have no effect on proposed or listed threatened or endangered species (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)).
- The Proposed Action will not violate Federal, state, tribal or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)).

- The Proposed Action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993).
- Implementing the Proposed Action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).
- The Proposed Action will not 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 (EO 13007 and 512 DM 3).