

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

# Lake Berryessa Recreation Areas Development

FONSI CCAO 17-09

Recommended by:



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Date: 12/12/17

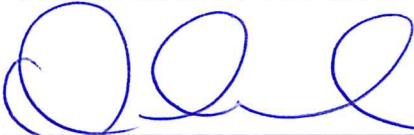
Concurred by:



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Date: 12/12/2017

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Date: 12/21/17



## **Background**

The Bureau of Reclamation manages five Recreation Areas (RAs) at Lake Berryessa in northeastern Napa County, California. Reclamation is proposing to redevelop the RAs, known as Putah Canyon, Monticello Shores, Berryessa Point, Spanish Flat, and Steele Canyon, with a variety of permanent recreation facilities for short-term uses.

In accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, Reclamation prepared the Lake Berryessa Recreation Areas Development Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose any potential environmental impacts associated with installing the infrastructure necessary for redevelopment of the RAs. The EA concluded that installing the infrastructure necessary for redevelopment of the RAs will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required and will not be prepared for this Proposed Action.

This Finding of No Significant Impact is supported by Reclamation's EA Number CCAO 17-09, which is hereby attached and incorporated by reference.

## **Alternatives Including the Proposed Action**

### **No Action**

Under the no-action alternative, new facilities would be constructed or installed at the RAs only if they are authorized under existing interim concession contracts and implemented in compliance with the EA/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for interim recreation services (Reclamation 2013a), the EA/FONSI for the installation of RV dump stations (Reclamation 2014a), and the EA/FONSI for installation, repair, and enhancement of water distribution systems (Reclamation 2014b) at Lake Berryessa. The interim facilities and services at some of the RAs would continue to be available to the public as long as the interim concession contracts remain in place. Facilities associated with previous developments at the RAs (e.g., launch ramps, paved roads) would continue to be used at Reclamation's discretion.

### **Proposed Action**

The Proposed Action considered in this FONSI consists of implementation of the following:

- Detailed plans for the core, essential infrastructure needed to support the management direction in the Visitor Services Plan (VSP) and Reservoir Area Management Plan (referred to hereinafter as "infrastructure plans"). This infrastructure consists of water supply, wastewater treatment and disposal, stormwater control, electricity, and access elements to support recreational uses. The infrastructure is needed to support the recreation facilities and implement the management direction in the VSP/Future Recreation Use and Operation of Lake Berryessa Environmental Impact Statement and VSP Record of Decision.

## Lake Berryessa Recreation Areas Development

- Less detailed conceptual plans for the redevelopment of areas within the RAs, but generally outside the limits of the infrastructure plans, within which concessionaires would locate recreational and ancillary facilities upon specific approval by Reclamation.

## Public Comment

Reclamation provided agencies and the public an opportunity to comment from September 11, 2017 through October 11, 2017. Reclamation received no comments on the EA. Reclamation received a request for clarification of information in the EA concerning rescinded areas (at the Putah Canyon and Berryessa Point RAs). In response to this request, Reclamation made changes to the acreage of rescinded areas and their depiction on corresponding maps, as described in Chapter 1 of the EA.

## Findings

Based on the attached EA for the Lake Berryessa Recreation Areas Development, Reclamation finds that the Proposed Action is not a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508); and Department of the Interior regulations (43 CFR Part 46). Effects on several environmental resources were examined and found to be absent or minor. That effects analysis is provided in the attached EA, and the analysis in the EA is hereby incorporated by reference.

Following are the reasons why the impacts of the Proposed Action are not significant:

1. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)).
2. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such 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; floodplains (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)).
3. The Proposed Action is not likely to result in effects to the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
4. 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)).
5. Effects of the Proposed Action have no potential to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).

## Lake Berryessa Recreation Areas Development

6. The Proposed Action will not have significant cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
7. The Proposed Action has no potential to affect historic properties (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).
8. The Proposed Action and environmental commitments herein will not affect listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)). In addition, the Proposed Action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle as per the biological opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on June 2, 2016.
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)).
10. The Proposed Action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993), as none are known to exist at the RAs.
11. Implementing the Proposed Action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).
12. 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). No sacred sites are known to exist at the RAs.