

Appendix B: Reclamation's Cultural Resources Determination

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153)

MP-153 Tracking Number: 18-SCAO-064

Project Name: Reclamation Approvals Associated with Harris Farms' and Shows Family Farms' Multiyear Banking and Transfer Program

NEPA Document: EA-18-004

NEPA Contact: Rain Emerson, Environmental Compliance Branch Chief

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Gary Scholze, Archaeologist



Date: February 7, 2018

Reclamation is proposing to approve a series of water transfers of up to 15,000 acre-feet (AF) per year of available Central Valley Project (CVP) water supplies over a 9-year period. Under this proposal, CVP contractors would transfer CVP water to the Harris Farms' and Shows Family Farms' either for direct agricultural use on their lands located within Westlands, San Luis, and Semitropic Water Districts or for water banking in the Semitropic and/or Kern Water Bank for later use on their lands within those same districts. Conveyance of water under the Proposed action would occur through existing facilities. No construction or modification of facilities would be needed in order to complete the Proposed Action.

Reclamation determined that the proposed action is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties, should such properties be present, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1). As such, Reclamation has no further obligations under 54 U.S.C. § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Reclamation cultural resources staff has reviewed the draft Environmental Assessment for this project and agrees the current language in the EA is sufficient for cultural resources analysis. No additional language will be provided.

This document is intended to convey the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. I concur that this action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to this project, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.