


RECLAMATION

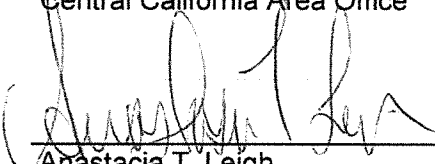
Managing Water in the West

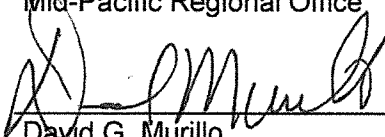
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

2018-2020 American River Division 24-month Interim Renewal Water Service Contract for the Placer County Water Agency

Central California Area Office, Folsom California
FONSI CCAO 17-05

Recommended by: 
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Background

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the 2018-2020 American River Division 24-month Interim Renewal Contract (Contract) between the United States and Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) examines the environmental effects of renewal of a Contract between U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and PCWA. The Proposed Action assumes full delivery of PCWA's 35,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of Central Valley Project (CVP) water. Although PCWA currently does not divert CVP water per their CVP contract, the EA assumes full delivery of PCWA's CVP water for use in their CVP service area, and the analyses for potential impacts to biological resources are assumed by the diversion of 35,000 AFY of CVP water at Folsom Reservoir.

Alternatives Including Proposed Action

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the interim renewal contract between PCWA and Reclamation would expire on February 28, 2018. There would be no contract between Reclamation and PCWA to deliver CVP water.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action assumes full delivery of PCWA's 35,000 AFY of CVP water. Although PCWA currently does not divert CVP water under their existing CVP contract, the EA assumes full delivery of PCWA's CVP water for use in their CVP service area, and the analyses for potential impacts to biological resources are assumed by the diversion of 35,000 AFY of CVP water at Folsom Reservoir.

In the event a long-term CVP contract is executed, the proposed Contract, then-in-effect, would be superseded by a long-term CVP contract. The long-term CVP contract would undergo separate analysis to meet National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. For purposes of this EA the following requirements are assumed under the Proposed Action:

- A twenty-four month period is considered in this analysis.
- Reclamation would continue to comply with commitments made or requirements imposed by applicable environmental documents, such as existing biological opinions (BOs) including any obligations imposed on Reclamation resulting from re-consultations.
- Water associated with this action would be delivered at the point of diversion for PCWA's CVP water (35,000 AFY) at Folsom Reservoir. The point of diversion is an approved CVP point of diversion. Any new points of diversion would require additional environmental analysis.

Findings

This EA was prepared in accordance with 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 was made available for public review from November 3, 2017 to December 4, 2017 and Reclamation received no comments. Based on the attached EA, Reclamation finds that approval of the Proposed Action is not a major federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment, and preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required. Analysis in the attached EA is hereby incorporated by reference.

The following list describes why impacts from the Proposed Action are not significant:

1. Indian Trust Assets (ITA) - There are no known ITA's or treaty rights exercised by tribes, nor are there any reservations or trust lands located within or adjacent to the Proposed Action that will be affected. The Proposed Action does not have a potential to affect ITA. (512 DM 2 Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993)
2. Indian Sacred Sites - There are no identified Indian Sacred Sites within the action area and therefore this project will not inhibit use or access to any Indian Sacred Sites. (EO 13007 and 512 DM 3)
3. Environmental Justice - The Proposed Action will not have any disproportionately negative impact on low-income or minority individuals within the project area. Conditions under the Proposed Action will be identical to conditions under the No Action Alternative. (EO 12898)
4. Cultural Resources - The Proposed Action does not involve the types of activities that have the potential to affect historic properties pursuant to the regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.3(a) (1). Land use would remain unchanged and no new construction or new ground disturbing activities would occur in the Contract water service area. Impacts to cultural resources in the American River Division counties within the Proposed Action's area of potential effect are defined in the Long-Term Contract Renewals in the American River Division EIS (BOR, 2005). (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10))
5. Biological Resources - Biological resources under the Proposed Action will be identical to conditions under the No Action Alternative. The Contract provides for the continued delivery of the same quantity of CVP water to the same lands for the same municipal and industrial (M&I) uses that are provided for under the existing Contract. The Contract quantity is included in the analyses and consistent with those presented in the 2008 and 2009 BOs from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fishery Service (NMFS), respectively on the Continued Long-term Operations of the CVP and State Water Project (SWP). Reclamation will continue to comply with commitments made or requirements imposed in the 2008 and 2009 BOs. The Proposed

Action will not have any adverse effect on species either currently federally listed or proposed for listing as candidate, endangered, or threatened species, and have no adverse effect on designated critical habitat for these species that were not already considered in the 2008 and 2009 BOs. (40 CFR 1508.27(b) (9))

6. Public health and safety -The Proposed Action will not significantly affect public health and safety. (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3))
7. Important natural resources - The Proposed Action will not significantly impact natural resources and unique geographic 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 wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant areas. (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3) and 43 CFR 46.215(b))
8. Uncertain or unknown risks - The Proposed Action will not have effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks. (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5))
9. Precedence - 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))
10. Highly controversial effects -There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial. (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6))
11. Cumulative effects -The Proposed Action will not have significant cumulative impacts. (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7))
12. 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)).