

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

Mid-Pacific Region
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Project Name: Prosser Creek Dam Access Road Rehabilitation and Extension, Nevada County, California.

CEC Number: LO – 2010 - 1027

Cost Authority: A40-1912-8602-322-00-0-0

Date: July 12, 2010

Exclusion Category: *516 DM 6 Appendix 9.4.C.3.* – Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.

Nature of Action: The Bureau of Reclamation proposes to rehabilitate and extend an unimproved access road that connects the top of Prosser Creek Dam and the outlet works located at the base of the dam. Reclamation's Operations & Maintenance staff uses the road regularly and road improvements are needed to provide access for long-wheeled based trucks to perform maintenance tasks necessary for the continued safe operation of the dam. Prosser Creek Dam was constructed in 1962 as a feature of Reclamation's Washoe Project and is located in Nevada County, California. (See Map 1 for general location.)

Reclamation proposes to rehabilitate and improve 0.47 mile of National Forest Transportation System (NFTS) road # 78712, a roughly graded road that the U.S. Forest Service maintains for high clearance vehicles. The existing footprint for the road would be used and then expanded in some sections to provide a wider turning radius at a hairpin curve, control road grade, install drainage features, and widen road shoulders to improve safe travel. An OHV trail connecting NFTS road #78712 and the Prosser Pits OHV area will be modified and improved. Project activities, including ground disturbance from clearing, excavation, stockpiling, including staging and access areas would affect approximately a total of 2.4 acres. The road is designated as "open to all vehicles" including off highway vehicles (OHV's).

Reclamation also proposes to extend a 0.06 mile long spillway access road that joins NFTS road #78712 near the base of the dam. This spur road would be extended around the Prosser Creek Dam outlet works another 650 feet to allow service vehicles to reach the spillway stilling basin below the dam.

The NFTS road #78712 crosses National Forest System lands managed by the Forest Service and lands withdrawn from the public domain, managed by Reclamation. The spillway access road is entirely on lands managed by Reclamation. Each agency would authorize any proposed roadwork within their respective jurisdiction. The same resource protection measures would be

applied to the entire project area, regardless of land ownership.

Within the area managed by Reclamation (Reclamation Zone), approximately 1,550 feet (0.29 mile) of NFTS road #78712 would be rehabilitated and improved. See Maps 2 and 3 for proposed road rehabilitation and improvements. Below the hairpin curve, an existing 18 inch culvert would be relocated and replaced with a 24 inch culvert, with a drop inlet structure and rock outlet protection. Two (2) new 24 inch culverts with rock outlet protection would be installed to improve road drainage. The road grade would be controlled and corrected to eliminate steep pitches.

Reclamation would also extend the spillway access road another 650 feet. The spillway access road would skirt the top of the Prosser Creek Dam outlet works structure and drop down onto the peninsula between the spillway and outlet works. This would allow service vehicles to reach the spillway stilling basin below the dam. All new road construction on the spillway access road would occur in areas previously disturbed during construction of the dam. A 24 inch culvert with rock outlet protection would be added near the junction with NFTS road #78712 to improve road drainage and a metal gate flanked by boulders would be installed to control access to the spillway. The spillway access road would be surfaced with 4 inches of gravel on the first portion of the road and no surfacing from the outlet works to the end of road.

Any excess fill material generated would be used to construct a small parking and turn-around area, within the Reclamation Zone. Since NFTS road #78712 is open to the public, the parking area could be used by fishermen and other recreationists.

Reclamation would complete the work through a contractor. In order to insure public safety during construction, traffic control signage would be posted. Resource protection measures, including all Best Management Practices approved in the NPDES permit would be utilized to insure water quality standards are met. Measures to prevent the spread of noxious weeds would require that all road construction and maintenance equipment be cleaned before it arrives on site.

The road rehabilitation and improvement work would be completed in the spring of 2011 over a period of approximately 4 weeks. Reclamation and the Forest Service would develop and approve a road use agreement and Reclamation would assume future maintenance responsibility for the road, following installation of the proposed improvements.

Reclamation's contractor would apply for a Clean Water Act Section 402 permit (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit (NPDES)) to address construction storm water from this project on National Forest lands. No wetlands or waters of the United States would be affected by the proposed project. Resource protection measures, including all Best Management Practices approved in the NPDES permit would be utilized to insure water quality standards are met.

A fire plan would be developed by the contractor and approved by both agencies. A parking area located on the north side of the dam would be used by the contractor for staging equipment and would be closed to the public during construction activities. Part of this parking area is on the National Forest.

Location: The proposed project is located on the Hobart Mills, California 7.5' Quad. The road is located about 5 miles northeast of Truckee, California and the legal description is the W½SW¼ of Section 30, T 17N, R 18E, Mount Diablo Base Meridian.

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

1. -This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. (40 CFR 1502.3).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain__ Yes__
2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E) and 43 CFR 46.215 (c)].	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain__ Yes__
3. This action will have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain__ Yes__
4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O. 11990); floodplains (E.O. 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain__ Yes__
5. The action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk (43 CFR 46.215 (d)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain__ Yes__
6. This action would establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain__ Yes__
7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain__ Yes__

8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau (in coordination with a Reclamation cultural resources professional, RM LND 02-01 D(1)(a)) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
10. This action would violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
11. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (E.O. 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
12. This action would 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 (E.O. 13007 and 43 CFR 46.215 (k)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
13. This action would affect Indian Trust Assets. (To be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITAs) (S.O. 3175; Policy Memorandum dated 12/15/93).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, E.O. 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

NEPA Action Recommended: Categorical Exclusion EA ___ EIS ___

Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:

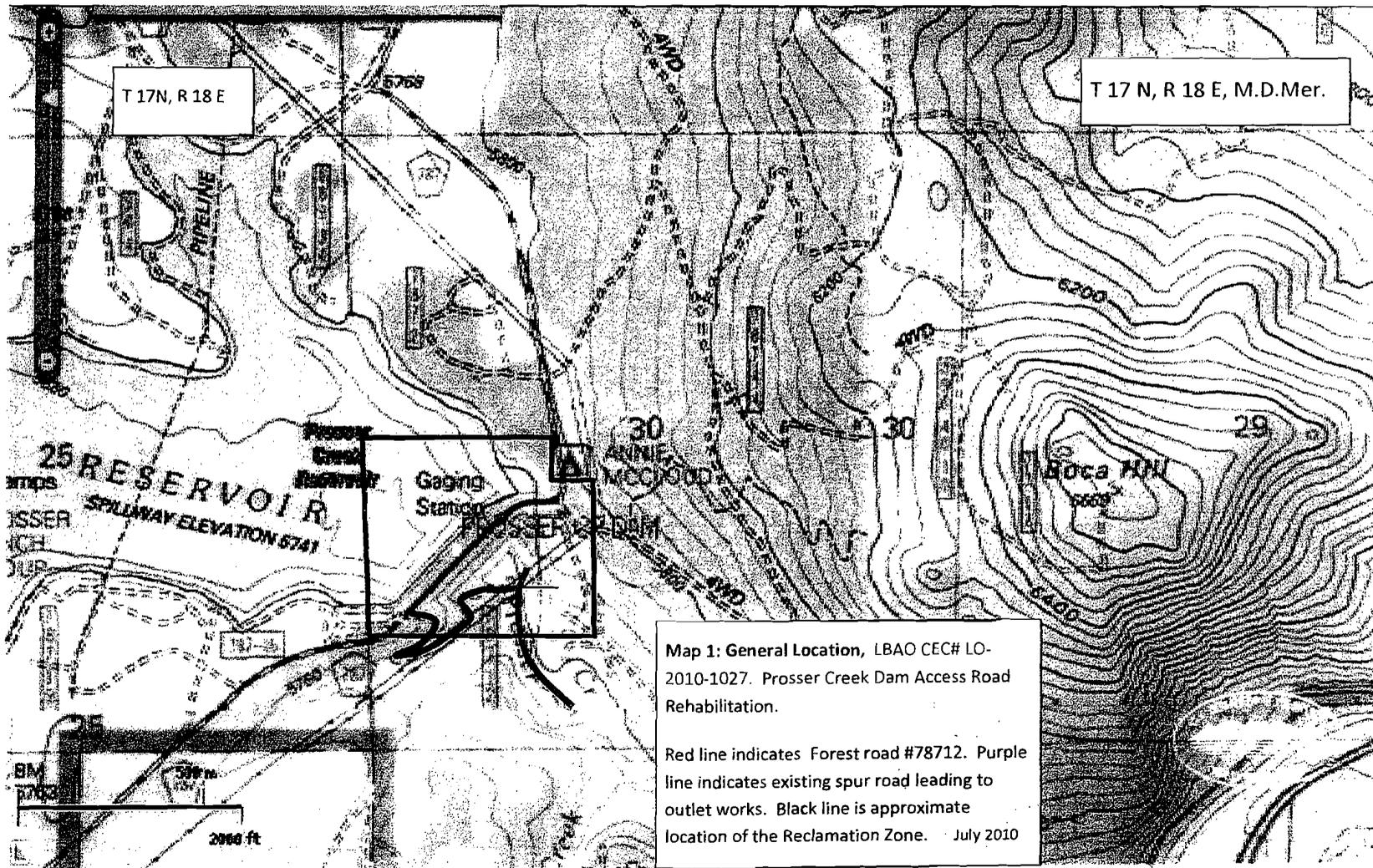
See the attached correspondence from the Mid-Pacific Region Cultural Resources Division regarding concurrence with Item 8 (cultural resources), and from Patricia Rivera regarding Item 13 (Indian Trust Assets).

Prepared by: Jane Schmidt Feb. 25, 2011
Jane Schmidt
Natural Resource Specialist
Date

Recommended: Locke E. Hahne 2/25/2011
Locke Hahne
Manager of Operations and Maintenance
Date

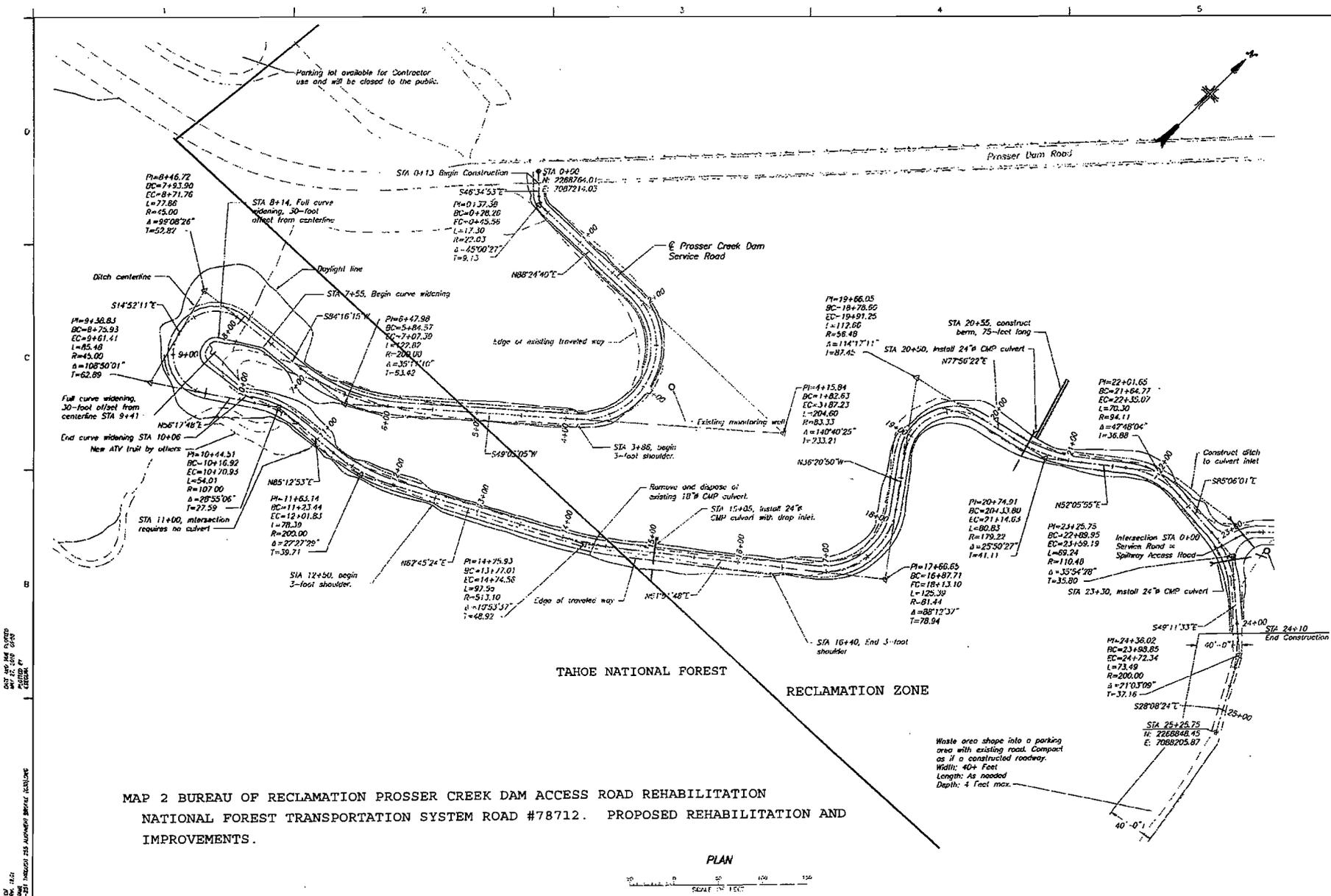
Concurrence: P/N 02/25/2011
Peter Neugebauer
Acting Resource Division Manager
Date

Approved: Kenneth L. Parr 2/25/11
Kenneth L. Parr
Area Manager
Date



Map 1: General Location, LBAO CEC# LO-2010-1027. Prosser Creek Dam Access Road Rehabilitation.

Red line indicates Forest road #78712. Purple line indicates existing spur road leading to outlet works. Black line is approximate location of the Reclamation Zone. July 2010



RECLAMATION
 Always Doing Better in the West

Notes
 1. For construction limits see CMB, No. 320-208-251

ALWAYS THINK SAFETY
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
 SOUTHERN DIVISION - CALIFORNIA
 PROSSER CREEK DAM
 SERVICE ROAD
 PLAN

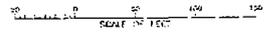
DESIGNED BY: JAMES HENNINGER
 DRAWN BY: JAMES HENNINGER
 CHECKED BY: JAMES HENNINGER
 DATE: 10/10/12
 APPROVED BY: JAMES HENNINGER
 RECLAMATION, 2016/08/12

PROSSER CREEK DAM
 SERVICE ROAD
 PLAN

320-208-251

MAP 2 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROSSER CREEK DAM ACCESS ROAD REHABILITATION
 NATIONAL FOREST TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ROAD #78712. PROPOSED REHABILITATION AND
 IMPROVEMENTS.

PLAN



DATE: 10/10/12
 DRAWN BY: JAMES HENNINGER
 CHECKED BY: JAMES HENNINGER
 DATE: 10/10/12
 APPROVED BY: JAMES HENNINGER
 RECLAMATION, 2016/08/12

Notes
 1. STA 3+50 to 4+00, remove existing riprap in roadway and stockpile near STA 1+00 as directed by GCR.

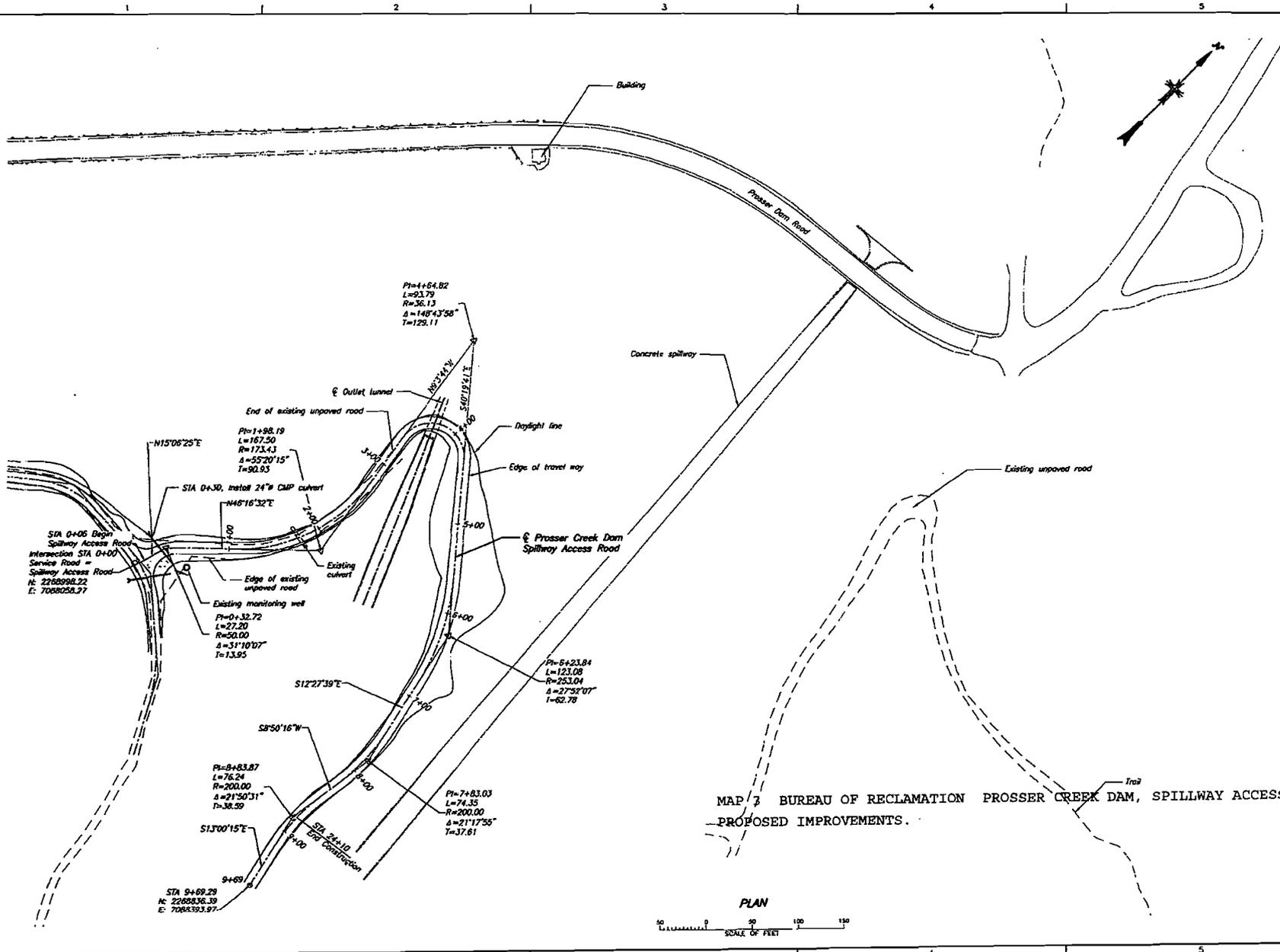
ALWAYS THINK SAFETY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 WATER PROJECT
**PROSSER CREEK DAM
 SPILLWAY ACCESS ROAD
 PLAN**

DESIGNED BY: JOHN G. HENNING
 DRAWN BY: JOHN G. HENNING
 CHECKED BY: [Signature]
 FIELD DATA BY: [Signature]
 APPROVED BY: [Signature]
APPROVED FOR THE PROJECT BY THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, DENVER, COLORADO, 1914-06-12

**PROSSER CREEK DAM
 SPILLWAY ACCESS ROAD
 PLAN**

320-208-254
 SHEET 1 OF 1



MAP 3 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROSSER CREEK DAM, SPILLWAY ACCESS ROAD.
 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS.



DATE: 12/17/14
 DRAWN BY: JOHN G. HENNING
 CHECKED BY: [Signature]
 FIELD DATA BY: [Signature]
 APPROVED BY: [Signature]

From: Barnes, Amy J
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 12:58 PM
To: Schmidt, Jane C
Cc: Perry, Laureen (Laurie) M; Nickels, Adam M; Overly, Stephen A; Bruce, Brandee E; Goodsell, Joanne E; Ramsey, Dawn
Subject: Prosser Creek Dam CEC LO-2010-1027, CEC LO-2010-1039, and CEC LO-2010-1040 (10-LBAO-171, 10-LBAO-237, and 10-LBAO-238)
Attachments: 10-LBAO-171-237-238 Prosser Creek Dam SHPO reply 10-14-10.pdf
Categories: ACTION

Tracking #10-LBAO-171, 10-LBAO-237, and 10-LBAO-238

Project: CEC LO-2010-1027, CEC LO-2010-1039, and CEC LO-2010-1040

Location: Nevada County; Hobart Mills 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle.
sec. 30, T. 17 N., R. 17 E., Mount Diablo Meridian

Exclusion Category: 516 DM 6 Appendix 9.4.C.3

The activities associated with Reclamation performing three maintenance projects at Prosser Creek Dam (dam) will result in no historic properties affected. Reclamation proposes to rehabilitate a portion of U.S. Forest Service National Forest Transportation System (NFTS) Road 78712, which leads to the base of the dam; extend an existing road around the dam outlet to access the spillway; clear rock, soil, and other debris from the spillway inlet and channel; and remove vegetation from the face of the dam. No physical modifications to the dam will occur.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Reclamation reviewed its archaeological site index and project data. A Reclamation archaeologist completed an intensive Class III pedestrian survey of a 4-acre area within the APE on June 8, 2010, which included the new road construction and improvement areas, new parking area and gate, staging areas, and access routes. One cultural resource, Prosser Creek Dam, was identified. Prosser Creek Dam is less than 50 years old and does not meet the age criteria for consideration as a historic property pursuant to 36 CFR Part 60.4. Additionally, Reclamation determined that the dam does not appear to possess exceptional significance in its association to events or people that are important in the history of agricultural development and flood control in the Truckee River drainage system, nor does it seem to possess exceptional significance for its design and construction as a zoned earth fill structure.

Reclamation consulted with SHPO September 14, 2010 regarding a finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1). SHPO concurred with Reclamations' findings and determination on October 14, 2010.

As the proposed action will not affect historic properties, and SHPO has concurred, Reclamations' responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act are fulfilled. I concur with Item 8 of CEC LO-2010-1027 (dated July 9, 2010), CEC LO-2010-1039 (dated May 25, 2010), and CEC LO-2010-1040 (dated May 25, 2010).

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed action. Please place a copy of this concurrence and attached correspondence with each CEC administrative record.

Amy J. Barnes
Archaeologist
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region, MP-153
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825
916-978-5047
abarnes@usbr.gov

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION OFFICIAL FILE COPY		
OCT 15 2010		
CODE	ACTED	APPROVED DATE
150	✓	10/15/2010

October 14, 2010

In Reply Refer To: BUR100945A

Michael A. Chotkowski
Regional Environmental Officer
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA-95825-1898

Re: MP-153, ENV-3.00; Three Maintenance Projects at Prosser Creek Dam, Nevada County, California (Tracking #10-LBAO-171; 10-LBAO-237, and 10-LBAO-238)

Dear Mr. Chotkowski:

Thank you for consulting with me regarding the above noted undertaking. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Bureau of Reclamation (BUR) is the lead Federal agency for this undertaking and is seeking my comments on the effects that the proposed project will have on historic properties. The BUR proposes to perform maintenance projects at Prosser Creek Dam in Nevada County, California.

The undertaking will involve the rehabilitation and improvement of 2480 feet of NFTS Road 78712 and the replacement of an existing 18 inch culvert with a 24 inch culvert. Additionally an existing OHV trail will be moved 25 feet east into existing road fill. Also an existing spillway access road at the base of the dam will be extended 650 feet and another culvert will be installed. Excess fill material will be used to construct a small public parking and turn-around area. Also rock and debris will be removed from the spillway channel of the dam, the stilling basin dewatered, and a temporary access route developed from the end of the new spillway access road. BUR also plans to remove vegetation from the face of the dam using hand tools and the slash will be piled on site to be burned under appropriate conditions. The total Area of Potential Effects is approximately 12.9 acres and includes all project activities and staging. You have submitted in addition to your letter of September 14, 2010, the following documents as evidence of your efforts to identify historic properties in the APE:

- *Archaeological Investigation for Three Maintenance Projects at Prosser Creek Dam, Nevada County, California* (Amy Barnes, Bureau of Reclamation, September 2010)

Identification efforts included a records search and a search of BUR records. The records search identified that no previous studies have occurred within a mile of the APE. One cultural resource, Prosser Creek Dam was located within the APE by the records search. The APE was surveyed in five meter transects, with negative results beyond Prosser Creek Dam itself. Prosser Creek Dam was found not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Native American consultation has been undertaken

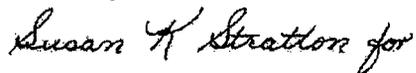
Classification	ENV-3.00
Project	320
Control No	10076255
Folder ID	105601
Date input & initials	10/15/2010 J.

by the BUR for this undertaking through letters sent to the Washoe Tribes of California and Nevada on August 12, 2010. No responses have been received to date.

The BUR has determined that the Prosser Dam is not eligible and that a finding of No Historic Properties is appropriate. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(c), I concur with the BUR determination that Prosser Creek Dam is not eligible for the NRHP. Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), I have no objection to your finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

Be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, especially for contamination mitigation if necessary, the BUR may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800. Thank you for seeking my comments and for considering historic properties in planning your project. If you require further information, please contact Trevor Pratt of my staff at phone 916-445-7017 or email tpratt@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

Schmidt, Jane C

From: Rivera, Patricia L
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 8:34 AM
To: Schmidt, Jane C
Subject: RE: ITA request for concurrence - LBAO CEC LO-2010-1027 Prosser Dam Access Road Rehabilitation

Jane,

I reviewed the proposed action to rehabilitate and extend an unimproved access road that connects the top of Prosser Creek Dam and the outlet works located at the base of the dam. Reclamation's Operations & Maintenance staff uses the road regularly and road improvements are needed to provide access for long-wheeled based trucks to perform maintenance tasks necessary for the continued safe operation of the dam. Prosser Creek Dam was constructed in 1962 as a feature of Reclamation's Washoe Project and is located in Nevada County, California.

Reclamation proposes to rehabilitate and improve 0.47 mile of National Forest Transportation System (NFTS) road # 78712, a roughly graded road that the U.S. Forest Service maintains for high clearance vehicles. The existing footprint for the road would be used and then expanded in some sections to provide a wider turning radius at a hairpin curve, drainage features, and road shoulders to improve safe travel. Project activities, including ground disturbance from clearing, excavation, stockpiling, including staging and access areas would affect approximately 2.4 acres. The road is designated as "open to all vehicles" including off highway vehicles (OHV's).

Reclamation also proposes to extend a 0.06 mile long spillway access road that joins NFTS road #78712 near the base of the dam. This spur road would be extended around the Prosser Creek Dam outlet works another 650 feet to allow service vehicles to reach the spillway stilling basin below the dam.

Within the area managed by Reclamation (Reclamation Zone), approximately 1,550 feet (0.29 mile) of NFTS road #78712 would be rehabilitated and improved. Below the hairpin curve, an existing 18 inch culvert would be relocated and replaced with a 24 inch culvert, with a drop inlet structure and rock outlet protection. Two (2) new 24 inch culverts with rock outlet protection would be installed to improve road drainage. The road grade would be controlled and corrected to eliminate steep pitches.

Reclamation would also extend the spillway access road another 650 feet. The spillway access road would skirt the top of the Prosser Creek Dam outlet works structure and drop down onto the peninsula between the spillway and outlet works. This would allow service vehicles to reach the spillway stilling basin below the dam. All new road construction on the spillway access road would occur in areas previously disturbed during construction of the dam. A 24 inch culvert with rock outlet protection would be added near the junction with NFTS road #78712 to improve road drainage and a metal gate flanked by boulders would be installed to control access to the spillway. The spillway access road would be surfaced with 4 inches of gravel on the first portion of the road and no surfacing from the outlet works to the end of road.

Any excess fill material generated would be used to construct a small parking and turn-around area, within the Reclamation Zone. Since NFTS road #78712 is open to the public, the parking area could be used by fishermen and other recreationists.

Reclamation would complete the work through a contractor. In order to insure public safety during construction, traffic control signage would be posted. Resource protection measures, including all Best Management Practices approved in the NPDES permit would be utilized to insure water quality standards are met. Measures to prevent the spread of noxious weeds would require that all road construction and maintenance equipment be cleaned before it arrives on site. The road rehabilitation and improvement work would be completed in the fall of 2010 over a period of 4 weeks. Reclamation and the Forest Service would develop and approve a road use agreement and Reclamation would assume future maintenance responsibility for the road, following installation of the proposed improvements.

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Asses. The nearest ITA is a Public Domain Allotment which is approximately 20 miles NNE of the project location.

Patricia