

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Finding of No Significant Impact

El Camino Irrigation District – Pump 1 Conveyance Efficiency Upgrade Project

NCAO-19-01

Prepared by:



Date:

3/4/19

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Date:

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Date:

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Background

In accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to the affected environment associated with Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) providing funding to support El Camino Irrigation District's (ECID; District) infrastructure improvement project in Tehama County, CA.

Proposed Action

Reclamation's Proposed Action (Project) is to provide a WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant for the District to upgrade aged concrete pipeline on their Pump 1 system with PVC pipe. ECID will replace 2,020 feet of original concrete mainline and associated hub gates and air vents on the Pump 1 system and install a direct flow meter to improve water management capabilities.

System upgrades will include excavation, removal and disposal of existing discharge equipment, installation of new discharge pipe with a flow meter, and installation of hub gates, overflow valves and air vents. Excavations would be limited to 3 ft wide by approximately 4 ft in depth and completed in disturbed areas.

Construction activities would be performed by ECID's employees, landowners and volunteers, intermittently over the course of approximately 24 months, beginning in spring 2019. ECID would manage and maintain the new infrastructure components following installation.

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 minor and temporary due to the limited nature of the physical disturbances associated with the Proposed Action, the siting of construction activities in previously-disturbed areas and the relatively limited use of heavy equipment involved. 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 will not have significant effects on 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).

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Environmental Assessment

El Camino Irrigation District – Pump 1 Conveyance Efficiency Upgrade Project

EA-19-01



Mission Statements

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and manage the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provide scientific and other information about those resources; and honor its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

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Section 1 Introduction

This Environmental Assessment (EA) examines the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to the affected environment associated with Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) providing a WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Project grant to support the El Camino Irrigation District's (ECID) Pump 1 Conveyance Efficiency Upgrade in Tehama County, CA (Figure 1). Under the grant, ECID will upgrade portions of its existing infrastructure installed circa 1920 via a cost share with Reclamation (Figure 2).

1.1 Background

ECID provides groundwater for irrigation (primarily) and domestic supply via pumping from 23 of the 31 irrigation wells in its jurisdiction. The groundwater is pumped through a 67-mile long network of buried concrete pipelines and through hub gates and /or surges to 5,500 of the approximate 7,450 acres of irrigable lands within the district.

1.2 Need for the Proposed Action

The goal of the project is to update aged infrastructure to improve conservation of irrigation water, thereby increasing groundwater storage and reduce the impacts of seasonal groundwater fluctuations in an aquifer also used for domestic water supply; increase energy use efficiency by reducing pumping needs, and; reduce the amount of effort expended on system repairs. ECID projects for the Proposed Action to reduce water loss from an average of 31 miner's inches (MI) to 26 MI, resulting in a water savings of 34.6 acre-feet annually.

Section 2 Alternatives Including the Proposed Action

This EA considers two possible actions: the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative reflects future conditions without the Proposed Action and serves as a basis of comparison for determining potential effects to the human environment.

2.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Reclamation would not provide the grant funding. This alternative assumes that ECID does not secure an alternative funding mechanism and the project is foregone.

2.2 Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, Reclamation would provide grant funding for ECID to replace 2,020 feet of original concrete mainline and associated hub gates and air vents on the Pump 1 system and install a direct flow meter to improve water management capabilities (Figure 2). The intent of replacing the portion of the mainline closest to the pump with PVC is to eliminate the leaks that affect the most system users. Pipelines to be replaced are located to the north, south and east of Pump station 1, as indicated in purple on Figure 2. An engineer's drawing of a typical new irrigation line for the Project is included as Figure 3. Excavations would be limited to 3 ft wide by approximately 4 ft in depth.

Construction activities would be performed by ECID's employees, landowners and volunteers, intermittently over the course of approximately 24 months, beginning in spring 2019. ECID would manage and maintain the new infrastructure components following installation.

Construction equipment is anticipated to include an excavator for digging, a dozer for backfill and an end dump truck to transport removed pipe to a local recycling plant. There will be no on-site staging of equipment or materials. There will be no tree trimming or removal or vegetation grubbing performed in preparation of work activities.

The detailed scope of work activities and schedule by location are as follows:

Pump 1 Site

- Remove existing discharge equipment
- Install new discharge pipe with flow meter
- Install one (1) 12-inch hub gate
- Install one (1) 10-inch air vent

The Pump 1 Site work would be completed in spring of 2019.

Miller Property

- Excavate and re-install 740 feet of 12-inch 80 psi PVC on the south portion of the Miller property. The existing pipe will be bypassed and left in the ground. The landowner will take possession of the abandon line for private use.
- Fit 340 ft of the Miller's south pipeline with 11, 8-inch overflow valves in 30 ft increments.
- Install two (2) hub gates.
- Install one (1) air vent.
- Remove and replace 460 ft of 12-inch concrete pipe that is the east line on the Miller property with 12-inch, 80 psi PVC.
- Fit 300 ft of the east line with 10, 8-inch overflow valves.
- Dispose of east line concrete pipe at local recycling plant.

All work on the Miller property would be performed by the landowner with ECID supervision within one year of the start of construction.

Burson Property

- Replacement (excavation, installation and disposal) of the first 460 feet of concrete pipe located at the east side of the Burson property
- Install 460 feet of 12" 80 psi PVC
- Install three (3), 8-inch overflow valves
- Install one (1), 10-inch overflow valves
- Install one (1) air vent

The work on the Burson property will commence in spring of 2019 and be completed in fall 2019.

Barison and Faria Properties

- Excavate and disposal of the final 360 ft of concrete pipe to be replaced.
- Install 360 ft of 12-inch, 80 psi PVC
- Install two, 12-inch overflow valves
- Install one air vent

The work on the Barison and Faria properties will be completed in fall 2020.

Section 3 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

This section identifies the potentially affected environment and the environmental consequences involved with the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative, in addition to environmental trends and conditions that currently exist.

3.1 Project Setting

ECID is in the northern Sacramento Valley, which is bounded to the east by the Sierra Nevada mountain range and Cascade Range and to the west by the Coastal Range. The District is located approximately equidistant from Red Bluff to the north and Corning to the south, and four miles west of the Sacramento River (Figure 1). The Project area is located within the boundaries of the Sacramento Valley and Tehama West watersheds/management subregions of the Sacramento River Basin. The main aquifer system that underlies the District is the Tehama Formation (Figure 4). Land use in the area of the Proposed Action is classified as Valley Floor Agricultural, as depicted in Figure 5.

3.2 Resources Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

Reclamation analyzed the affected environment and determined that the Proposed Action did not have the potential to cause direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse effects to the resources listed in Table 1.

Table 1 - Resources Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

Resource	Reason Eliminated
Recreation	No parks, recreation areas or other public facilities would be affected by the Proposed Action. All construction activities would occur on privately-owned lands.
Environmental Justice	Although located in an area designated by the CA Department of Water Resources a disadvantaged community, the Proposed Action would not cause dislocation, changes in employment, or increase flood, drought, or disease nor would it disproportionately impact economically-disadvantaged or minority populations. The Proposed Action would result in a minor benefit to the community in the way of a minor increase in the reliability of groundwater supply.
Indian Sacred Sites	The Proposed Action is not located on Federal lands and would not limit access to ceremonial use of Indian Sacred Sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. Therefore, there would be no impacts to Indian Sacred Sites as a result of the Proposed Action.
Indian Trust Assets	The Proposed Action would not impact Indian Trust Assets (ITA) as there are none in the Proposed Action area. The nearest ITA is located approximately 5 miles southeast of the Project location.
Cultural Resources	Reclamation concluded that, although the Proposed Action is considered an undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1), there would be No Historic Properties Affected. (See Appendix A).
Land Use	The Proposed Action would not change the area's land use designation, as the footprint for new infrastructure and facilities is sited within an area previously disturbed and used for agricultural production. There would be no impact to land use as a result of the Proposed Action.
Air Quality	The US EPA promulgated the General Conformity Rule (40 CFR 93 Subpart B) to ensure that Federal actions are consistent with a State Implementation Plan's purpose of eliminating or reducing the severity and number of violations of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for criteria air pollutants and achieving expeditious attainment of those standards. The general conformity regulations apply to a proposed Federal action in a non-attainment or maintenance area if the total of direct and indirect emissions of the relevant criteria pollutants and precursor pollutants caused by the Proposed Action equal or exceed certain <i>de minimis</i> amounts, thus requiring the Federal agency to make a determination of general conformity. Although Tehama County is designated a non-attainment zone for some criteria pollutants, a qualitative comparison of the equipment list and construction schedule for the Proposed Action to other projects for which emissions were modeled and determined not to exceed the <i>de minimis</i> amounts determined that project emissions would not exceed the threshold for which a conformity analysis is required.
Climate Change	The equipment list and construction schedule for the Proposed Action would not produce a volume of greenhouse gases that would be significant in terms of the potential to contribute to climate change.

3.3 Water Resources

3.3.1 Affected Environment

The main aquifer system that underlies the district (ECID 1995) is in the Tehama Formation (Figure 4). Groundwater flow is generally from the foothills in the west toward the Sacramento River to the east. Groundwater occurs in an unconfined zone (90 to 120 ft) and a confined zone (200 ft +) within the Tehama Formation. The unconfined zone provides the majority of the domestic and irrigation water supply to the district. Wells in ECID average in depth at approximately 500 feet with a discharge rate of about 1,000 gallons per minute (gpm) and 75 gpm per ft drawdown. Approximately 6,500 acre feet of groundwater are extracted from the ECID wells for the purposes of irrigating crops and fields: predominantly orchards, alfalfa, grains and pasture.

Annual precipitation averages 20 to 25 inches in the project area (Tehama County 2012). Recognized water management issues within the district include water supply availability and the potential for saltwater intrusion. (ECID 1995)

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, water use is expected to remain consistent with no savings that could be applied to other uses or result in reduced draws from the aquifer.

Proposed Action

The Project is anticipated to result in a five MI reduction in irrigation water usage, resulting in a water savings of 34.6 acre-feet annually which would marginally increase the availability of water in ECID for other uses such as potable water supplies.

Disturbances related to the infrastructure improvements would be minor, short term, temporary and located in previously-disturbed areas. These disturbances would not be large enough to generate erosion and sedimentation in runoff that could impact surface water quality.

3.4 Biological Resources

3.4.1 Affected Environment

No aquatic habitat is located on or immediately adjacent to the work locations for the Proposed Action. Terrestrial habitat within the work locations for the Proposed Action is previously-disturbed, agricultural land.

The Central Valley's agricultural crops, including row crops, irrigated fields, rice, and orchards were established on the watershed's most fertile soils and once supported an abundance of wildlife species. Though the species richness has been reduced over time, species that have adapted to agricultural crops as habitat in Tehama County include black-tailed deer, wild pigs and various species of rodents and birds, including yellow-billed magpie, American crow, and many species of waterfowl and shorebirds. In all, approximately 240 species of wildlife are estimated to use the Tehama West Watershed's croplands at some time of the year, including: 6 amphibian, 10 reptile, 163 bird, and 57 mammal taxa. (Vestra 2006)

Reclamation obtained an official list of species protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 for the Proposed Action area from the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service 2019) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website on April 5, 2017; updated lists were obtained on November 13, 2017 and February 1, 2019. Additional information on the listed species' habitat and range was obtained elsewhere on the Service's Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS) website and in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB 2017).

Reclamation researched the CNDDDB, and its Biographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) mapping complement, for recorded sightings of Federally-listed species near the Project. The information obtained from the Service and CDFW websites was supplemented with other information in Reclamation files to complete Table 2 below.

Table 2 - Federally-Listed Species and Critical Habitat

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Effects	Potential for Species Occurrence In Action Area and Habitat Requirements and Availability
California red-legged frog	<i>Rana draytonii</i>	T, X	NE (No Effect)	
giant garter snake	<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	T	NE	Absent. No species occurrences reported in CNDDDB in Tehama County. Habitat consists of rice fields or managed marshes with emergent wetland vegetation for cover and foraging, grassy banks for basking and upland burrows for refuge in inactive season. No Critical Habitat established. No suitable habitat is located at the sites of the system upgrades.
yellow-billed cuckoo (YBCU)	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	T, XP	NE	
Delta smelt	<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>	T, X	NE	
Central Valley steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	NMFS T, X	NE	
Conservancy fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta conservatio</i>	E, X	NE	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Effects	Potential for Species Occurrence In Action Area and Habitat Requirements and Availability
Invertebrates				
vernal pool fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	T, X	NE	Possible. Known to occur in vicinity of Proposed Action. Habitat consists of vernal pools and similar ephemeral wetlands, most commonly grassed or mud bottomed pools or basalt flow depression pools in unplowed grasslands. May also inhabit alkali pools, ephemeral drainages, stock ponds, roadside ditches, vernal swales, and rock outcrop pools. Designated Critical Habitat is outside the action area. No suitable habitat is located at the sites of the system upgrades.
vernal pool tadpole shrimp	<i>Lepidurus packardii</i>	E, X	NE	Possible. Known or believed to occur in Tehama County. Habitat consists of vernal pools, swales, ephemeral drainages, stock ponds, reservoirs, ditches, backhoe pits, and ruts caused by vehicular activities. Designated Critical Habitat is outside the action area. No suitable habitat is located at the sites of the system upgrades.
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle	<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	T, X	NE	Possible. Known to occur in Tehama County. Habitat consists of red or blue elderberry trees and shrubs, with stems greater than one-inch diameter at ground level, along riparian woodlands and upland terraces. Designated Critical Habitat is outside the action area. No suitable habitat is located at the sites of the system upgrades.
Key: (E) Endangered - Listed as being in danger of extinction (T) Threatened - Listed as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future (X) Critical Habitat designated for this species (XP) Critical Habitat is proposed for this species				

No Critical Habitat has been designated by the Service for any species in the area of the Proposed Action. Documented occurrences of species listed in Table 2 that have been recorded in the CNDDDB or BIOS in the vicinity (three miles) of the site are limited to vernal pool fairy shrimp and vernal pool tadpole shrimp.

3.4.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, current conditions would not change. Therefore, there would be no impact to biological resources from the No Action Alternative.

Proposed Action

Protected species with the greatest potential to occur in the action area are VELB and vernal pool species (Conservancy fairy shrimp, vernal pool fairy shrimp, and vernal pool tadpole shrimp).

No VELB habitat (red and blue elderberry trees or shrubs) were identified in the action area during the site visit on April 3, 2018.

The Proposed Action is located within the Northwestern Sacramento Valley vernal pool region but outside the Red Bluff core area (Service 2004). No permanent or ephemeral wetlands are denoted on-site or in the immediate vicinity of the proposed construction-related disturbances on the National Wetlands Inventory map corresponding to the site area. The nearest mapped ephemeral wetland is located on the Faria property to the north of the area proposed for disturbance. The nearest occurrence of a vernal pool species to the Proposed Action reported in the CNDDDB is approximately 700 feet south of the project.

No vernal pools were identified in the action area during the site visit on April 3, 2018. ECID indicated that the agricultural fields in which construction-related disturbances would occur have been fallow for at least two years (C. McKenzie, personal communication). According to the Service (J. Hanni personal communication), vernal pools can occur on current and previously cultivated land. Disking of agricultural fields when cultivated shallows depressions that may serve as vernal pools making indicator plant species more difficult to observe. However, the hardpan can remain intact and functional.

Reclamation used the US Geological Survey (USGS) online soil mapper to determine the makeup of the soils in the areas proposed for disturbance and confirm the absence of their potential to support vernal pools. Except for the area in the northwest corner of the site near the intersection of El Camino Avenue and Reno Avenue mapped Arbuckle gravelly loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, the site is composed of Tehama loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes soils. Both soil types present on-site are well-drained with no frequency of ponding or flooding. Therefore, Reclamation determined that suitable habitat for vernal pool species is not present in the locations of the infrastructure improvements or on immediately adjacent land; neither general nor critical habitat for Federally-listed species is present in the action area or immediate vicinity. The potential for impact to species from the Proposed Action is further limited by the following project conditions:

- The siting of the construction/physical disturbances in previously-disturbed areas.
- The limited, short-term and temporary nature of the physical disturbances associated with the Proposed Action
- The relatively limited use of heavy equipment that could cause a visual or noise disturbance to protected species

Therefore, the Proposed Action is anticipated to have no effect on Federally-listed species or their habitat.

3.5 Cumulative Effects

According to Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA, a cumulative impact is defined as the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

No individual impact was identified when evaluating the Proposed Action or No Action Alternative that would incrementally contribute to any cumulative effect on resources comprising the human environment.

Section 4 Consultation and Coordination

4.1 Endangered Species Act (16 USC § 1531 et seq.)

Section 7 of the ESA requires Federal agencies, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, to ensure that their actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of the critical habitat of these species.

Reclamation determined that there would be no effect to species Federally-listed as endangered or threatened from the Proposed Action; therefore, the US Fish and Wildlife Service was not consulted.

Section 5 References

CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2017. California Natural Diversity Database, Government Version. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Updated November 2017.

Dudley, Spangler, Fulton, Staton, Lawrence, Ehorn and Ward. 2005. Seeking and Understanding of the Groundwater Aquifer Systems in the Northern Sacramento Valley: An Update. September.

ECID (El Camino Irrigation District). 1995. El Camino Irrigation District Groundwater Management Plan. 18 pp. December.

ECID. 2017. Grant Proposal: Pump 1 – Conveyance Efficiency Upgrade– WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants. Prepared for Reclamation Financial Assistance Operations. Denver, Colorado. April.

PMC. 2008. Tehama County General Plan Update 2008-2028. 248 pp. September.

Service (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). 2004. Draft Recovery Plan for Vernal Pool Ecosystems of California and Southern Oregon. Portland, Oregon. xxii + 574 pp. October.

Service. 2019. Official Species List obtained on February 1, 2019. Website: <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>.

Vestra. 2006. Tehama West Watershed Assessment prepared for Tehama Co. Resource Conservation District. Section 9: Wildlife

Appendix A: Cultural Resources Determination
CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch

MP-153 Tracking Number: 17-SCAO-199.001

Project Name: Cooperative Management WaterSMART Grant for the El Camino Irrigation District (ECID) Pump 1 Conveyance Efficiency Upgrade Project

NEPA Document: EA-17-14

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Mark Carper

NEPA Contact: Megan Simon

Determination: No Historic Properties Affected

Date: October 1, 2018

The ECID has requested grant funding from Reclamation to conduct a conveyance efficiency upgrade project in Tehama County, California. Reclamation determined that the expenditure of Federal funds is an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y) and involves the type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties under 36 CFR § 800.3(a).

The project will entail: (1) trenching for the installation of 2,040 feet of new 12-inch, 80-pounds-per-square-inch polyvinyl chloride pipeline with irrigation valves, gates, and vents; (2) extraction of an existing concrete pipeline in a portion of the new pipeline route (the remainder of the existing pipeline will be abandoned in place), and; (3) installation of replacement equipment on existing Pump 1, also located along the proposed new pipeline route. Proposed pipeline trenches would be 3 feet wide by approximately 4 feet deep. Construction equipment for the project is anticipated to include an excavator for digging, a dozer for backfilling, and an end dump truck to transport removed pipe to a local recycling plant. There will be no on-site staging of equipment or materials. There will be no tree trimming or removal or vegetation grubbing performed in preparation of work activities.

In an effort to identify historic properties in the APE, the ECID contracted SubTerra Consulting (STC) to conduct a cultural resource investigation of the proposed APE. The investigation included a records search, the generation of a targeted cultural context, a pedestrian survey, Native American coordination, and limited hand-augering. The effort did not identify any archaeological resources within the APE but did identify portions of the pipeline (the Miller Property north-south pipeline) and the El Camino Pump #1 as being just shy of 100 years in age at the time of their recording; however, the resources were determined to lack integrity of design,

Appendix A, Cont.**CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE****Mid-Pacific Region****Division of Environmental Affairs****Cultural Resources Branch**

materials, and workmanship, and further, all research potential was exhausted by the historical context statement presented herein. Therefore, additional research will not likely recover new or important information necessary for addressing regional research issues in settlement, land use, cultural chronology, and subsistence. STC recommended that neither of the cultural resources within the APE are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) under any of their criteria. Reclamation agreed with these recommendations.

Pursuant to the regulations at 36 CFR § 800.3(f)(2), Reclamation identified the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians as an Indian tribe who might attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties within the APE. Reclamation sent letters to the tribe on April 5, 2018, inviting their participation in the Section 106 process, and requesting their assistance in the identification of sites of religious and cultural significance or historic properties that may be affected by the proposed undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(a)(4). To date there have been no responses from this tribe.

Reclamation consulted with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) notifying the office of Reclamation's determination of no historic properties affected by sending a consultation package on August 31, 2018. SHPO concurred with all this finding on September 28, 2018. The proposed action would have no significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.

This memorandum is intended to convey the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. 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.

Appendix A, Cont.



State of California • Natural Resources Agency

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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September 28, 2018

In reply refer to: BUR_2018_0831_001

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Anastasia T. Leigh, Regional Environmental Officer
 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Regional Office
 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

Subject: Section 106 Consultation: for the Cooperative Management WaterSMART Grant
 for the El Camino Irrigation District (ECID) Pump I Conveyance Efficiency Upgrade
 Project, Tehama County, California (17-NCAO-199.001)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) received on August 31, 2018 your letter initiating consultation on the above referenced undertaking to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as currently amended) and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to provide grant funding to ECID, under the Cooperative Watershed Management, WaterSMART conservation and efficient water use program, for a proposed conveyance efficiency upgrade project in Tehama County near the town of Gerber. Reclamation requests concurrence with a finding of no historic properties affected. Documentation is:

- *Enclosure 1: Maps: Figure 1-Project Location (overlaid USGS Quad); Figure 2- Area of Potential Effects (APE) (overlaid Aerial Photo map).*
- *Enclosure 2: Report: Cultural Resource Investigation for the El Camino Irrigation District Pump #1 Project, Near Gerber, Tehama County, California, March 03, 2018 [By: G. White, Ph.D., Sub Terra Consulting, Chico, CA][For: C. McKenzie, District Manager, El Camino Irrigation District, Gerber, CA] [White 2018]*

The project will entail:

1. trenching to install 2,040 feet of new 12-inch, polyvinyl chloride pipeline with irrigation valves, gates, and vents;
2. removal of an existing concrete pipeline in a portion of the new pipeline route (the remainder of the existing pipeline will be abandoned in place), and;
3. installing replacement equipment on existing Pump 1, also located along the proposed new pipeline route.
4. Proposed pipeline trenches will be 3 feet wide by about 4 feet deep.
5. Construction equipment for the project is anticipated to include an excavator for digging, a dozer for backfilling, and an end dump truck to transport removed pipe to a local recycling plant. There will be no on-site staging of equipment or materials. There will be no tree trimming or removal or vegetation grubbing performed in preparation of work activities

The area of potential effects (APE) comprises all proposed work locations (Figure 2). Access into the APE will be from existing roads. The combined APE is less than one acre and vertical disturbances will be around 4 feet deep.

For historic properties identification efforts, ECID contracted with Sub Terra consulting for cultural resource investigations (White 2018). Field work included a pedestrian survey on January 06, 2018 and field auger testing on February 07, 2018. No cultural resources were

Appendix A, Cont.

Ms. Anastasia T. Leigh
September 28, 2018
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identified within the APE, but it was determined that a section of the pipeline (Miller property north-south pipeline) and the El Camino Pump #1 are almost 100 years of age, both being initially constructed in 1920. In evaluation, it was determined that these resources have been modified over time repeatedly and lack integrity of design, materials and workmanship and the historic context statement and recordation (DPR 523) adequately encompasses their research potential. The report concludes that neither resource is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under any of the criteria and Reclamation states that it agrees with this evaluation and determination.

Reclamation identified the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians as an Indian tribe who might attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties in the APE and sent letters on April 5, 2018, inviting participation in the Section 106 process, and requesting assistance in the identification of sites of religious and cultural significance or historic properties that may be affected by the proposed undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(4). Reclamation reports that, to date, there have been no responses from this tribe. Reclamation will address any concerns that may arise in the future and will make any required notifications.

Based on a review of past land use, a field investigation, the evaluation of the cultural resources and the scope of current project activities, Reclamation finds that the project is a *no historic properties affected* outcome and requests review and comment on APE delineation, efforts to identify historic properties, and seeks concurrence with its effect finding for this undertaking. After OHP review of the submitted documentation and of Reclamation's conclusions, the following comments are offered.

- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), there are no objections to the APE as defined;
- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(b), Reclamation has documented a reasonable and good faith effort to appropriately identify historic properties within the area of potential effect;
- Reclamation finds that the proposed undertaking will result in *no historic properties affected*. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)(i), **I do not object**.

Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, Reclamation may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800 (as currently amended). Should you require further information, please contact Jeanette Schulz at Jeanette.Schulz@parks.ca.gov or her desk phone is: (916) 445-7031.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer

Appendix B: Indian Trust Asset Determination ITA Review - City of Yuba City Irrigation Systems Upgrade Project

1 message

Simon, Megan <msimon@usbr.gov>
To: "Zedonis, Paul" <pzedonis@usbr.gov>

Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 4:09 PM

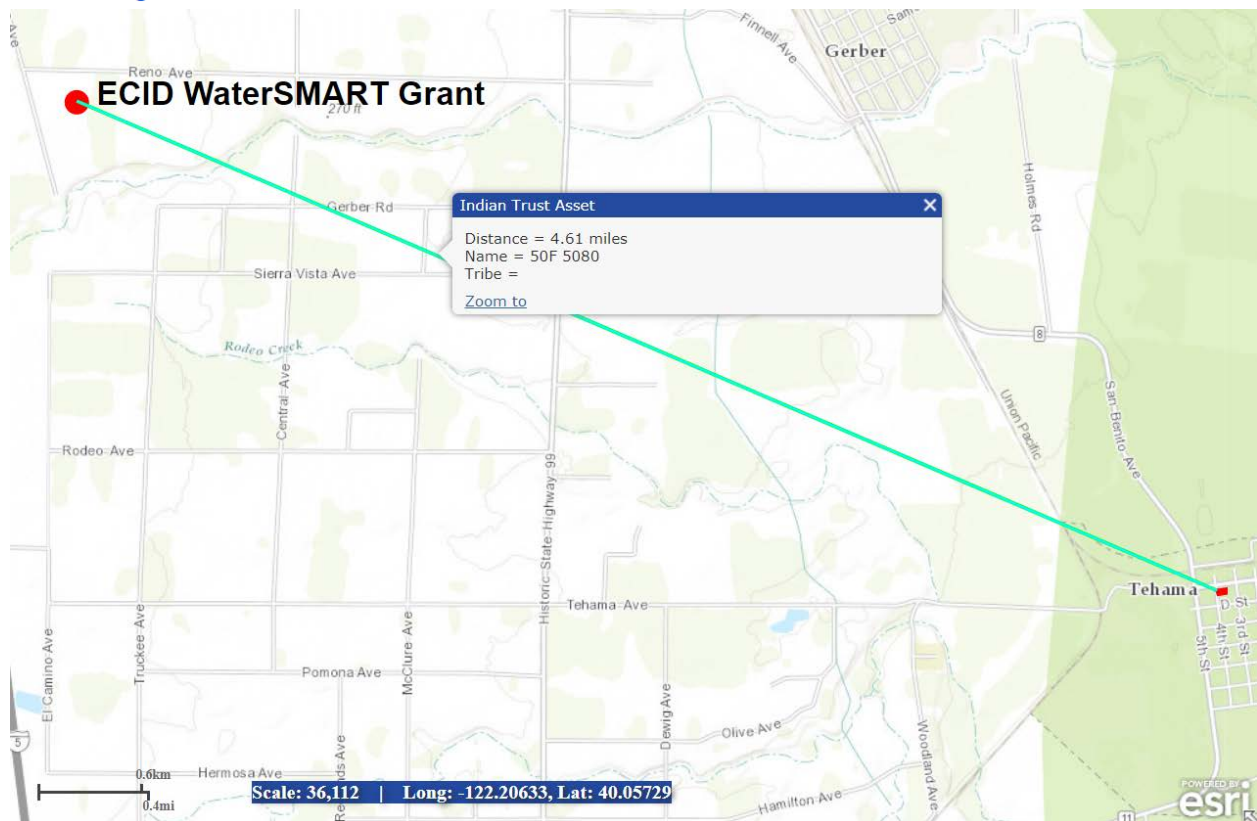
I have examined the referenced proposal and have determined that the facilities are located at least 15.5 miles from the closest Indian Trust Asset.

I have determined that there is no likelihood that this action will adversely impact Indian Trust Assets.

--

Megan K. Simon

Natural Resources Specialist
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Northern California Area Office
16349 Shasta Dam Blvd.
Shasta Lake, CA 96019
(530) 276-2045
msimon@usbr.gov



Appendix C: Figures 1- 5

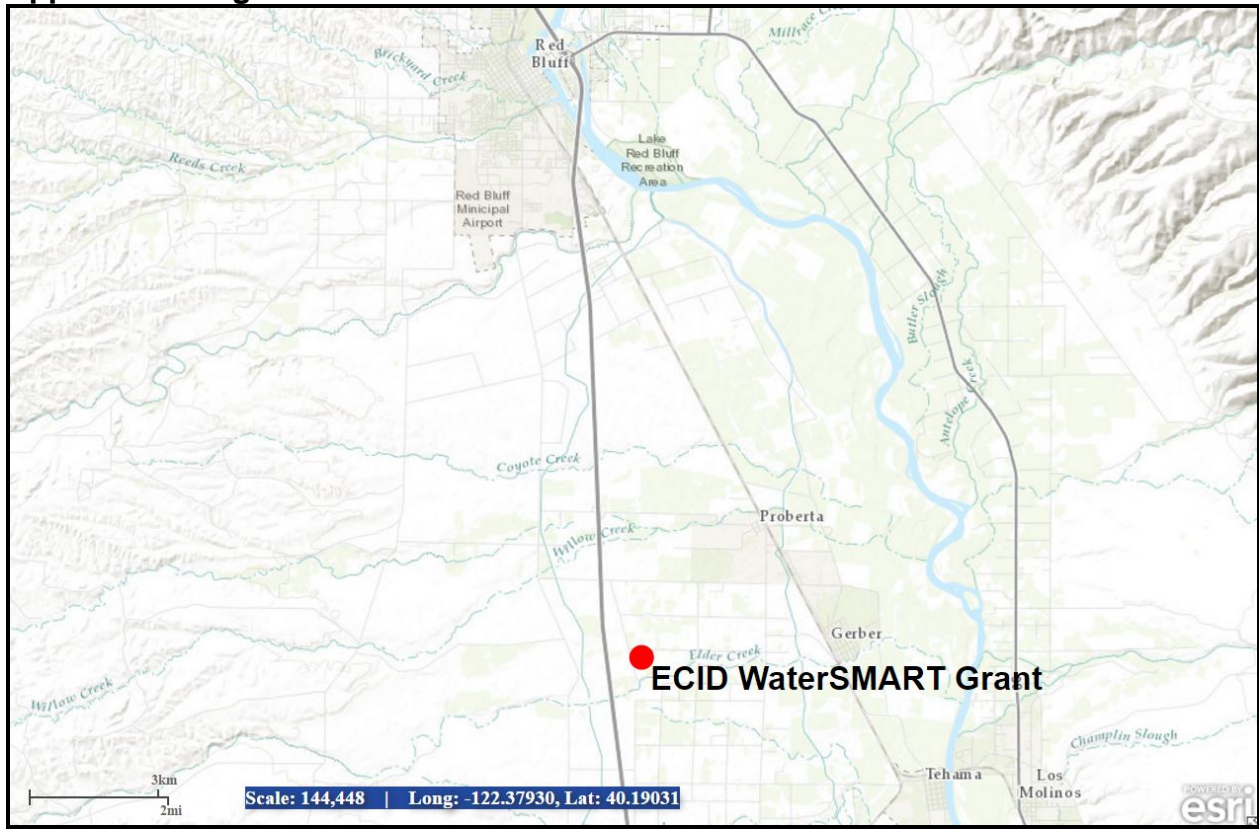


Figure 1 - Vicinity Map



Figure 2 - Approximate Location of Irrigation System Upgrades

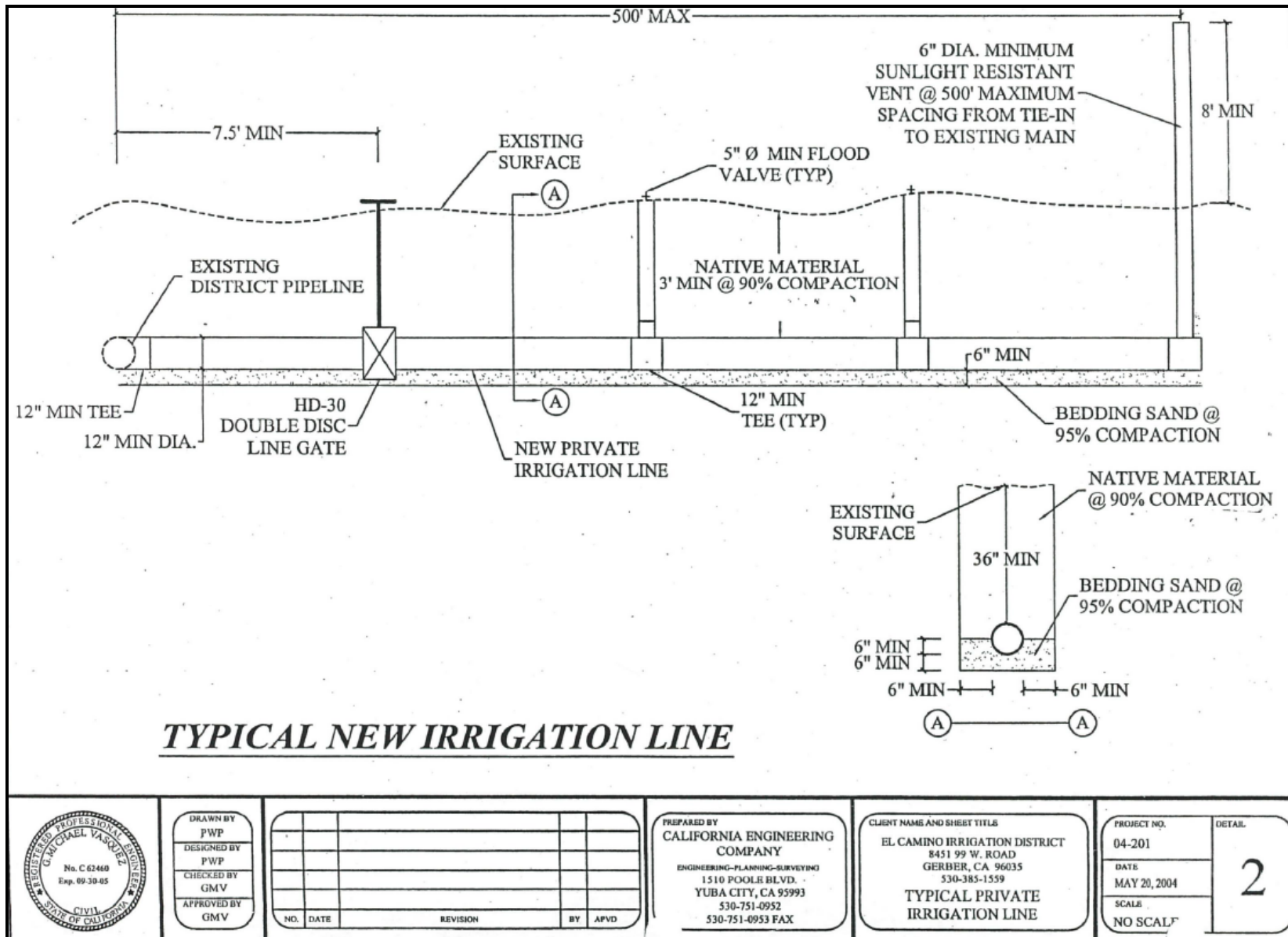


Figure 3 - Engineer's Drawing of Typical New Irrigation Line

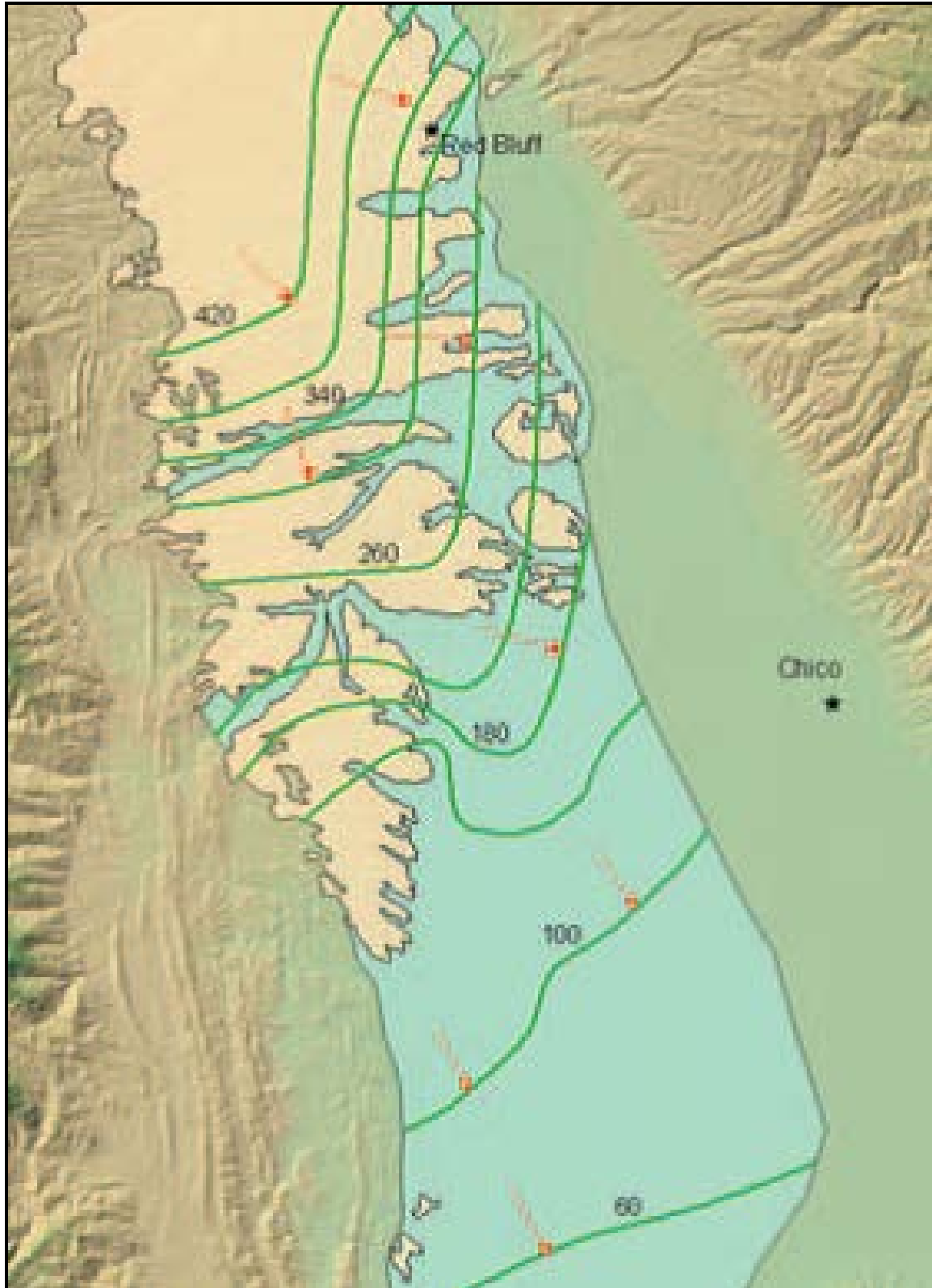


Figure 4 - Tehama Formation Aquifer. Beige areas indicate locations where the formation is exposed at the ground surface; blue indicates buried extent of formation (Dudley et al).

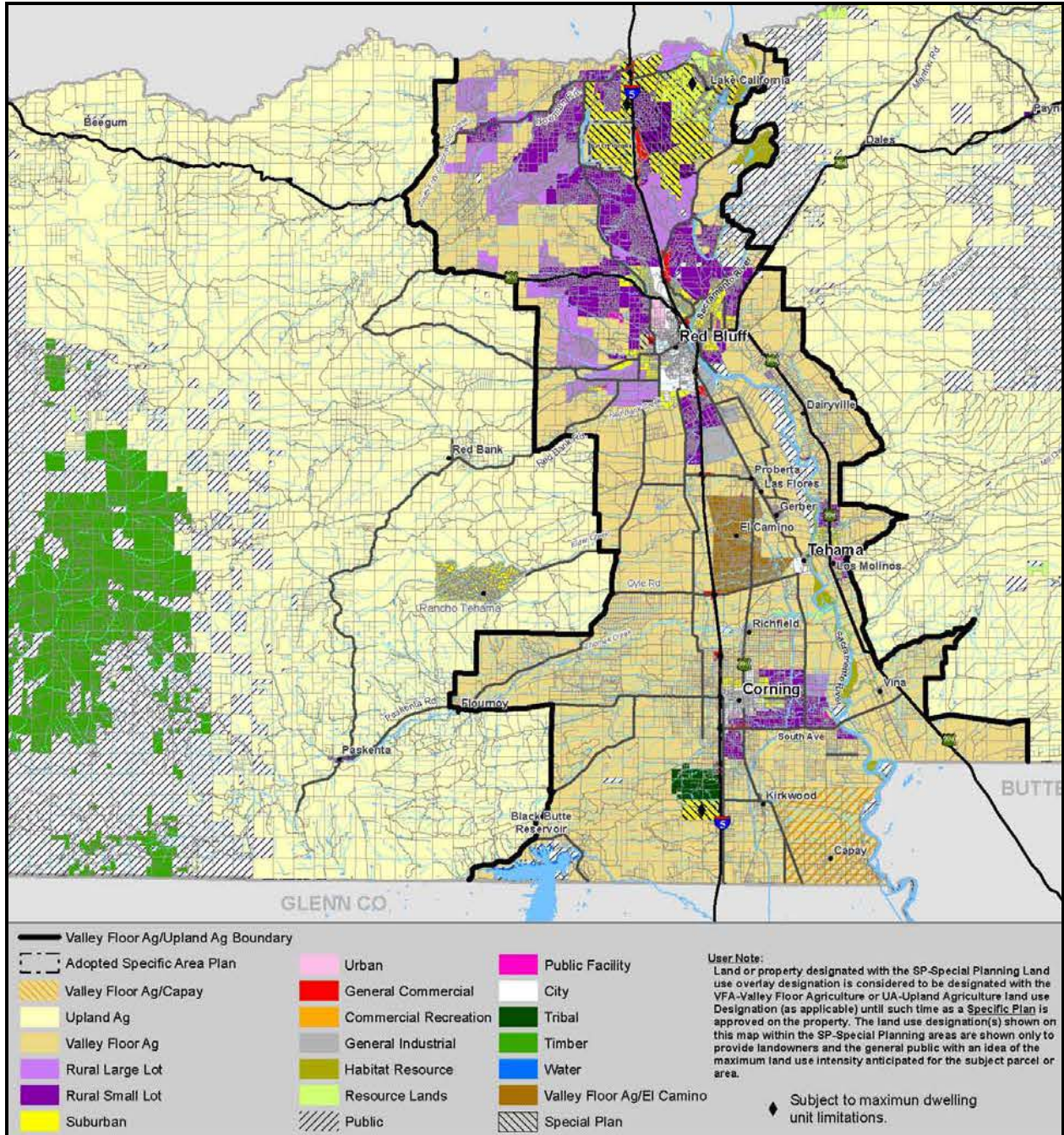


Figure 5 - Tehama County Land Use (PMC 2008)