

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

MARYSVILLE RING LEVEE PROJECT, PHASES 2B AND 3 UTILITY RELOCATIONS YUBA RIVER BASIN, CALIFORNIA

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended The final Supplemental Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (SEA/IS) dated XX January 2021, for the Marysville Ring Levee Project, Phases 2B and 3 Utility Relocations. addresses utility relocations within the project area that were not previously analyzed in prior environmental reviews. The utility locations in the project area currently obstruct some levee repair locations and must be relocated before the construction for these levee improvements can proceed. Environmental review for levee improvements were originally documented in the Marysville Ring Levee Improvements, Yuba City Basin, California, Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS), dated April 2010 (2010 EA/IS) and the Final SEA/IS, Marysville Ring Levee Project, Phases 2B and 3, Yuba River Basin, Yuba County, California June 21, 2019 (2019 SEA/IS). The overall levee modifications will provide additional stability to the ring levee around the city of Marysville, California and allow enhanced flood protection opportunities. The Marysville Ring Levee improvements were part of he Yuba River Basin, California Project ("Authorized Project") that was authorized for construction in the Water Resources Development Act of 1998, Pub. L. 106-53, § 101(a)(10), 112 Stat. 269, 275, as amended by the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Pub. L. No. 110-114, § 3041, 121 Stat. 1041, 1116.

The Final SEA/IS, incorporated herein by reference, evaluated various alternatives that would achieve the utility relocations with the least impacts to resources in the study area. The recommended plan is Alternative 2 (Proposed Action) and includes:

- The PG&E relocation of existing electric transmission and distribution lines, as well as gas transmission and distribution pipelines in Phases 2B and 3. The Proposed Action also includes the AT&T and Sprint installation of new utility structures on the landside and waterside of the levee in Phase 3.
- Implementation of any required environmental compensatory mitigation, when applicable and appropriate. Any required environmental compensatory mitigation will be made through use of U.S. Fish and Wildlife (Service)-approved conservation banks and associated monitoring.

In addition to a "No Action" alternative, one additional alternative was evaluated. The additional alternative is the Proposed Action, discussed above and in further detail in Section 2.2 of the SEA/IS.

For all alternatives, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the recommended plan are listed in Table 1:

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of	Resource unaffected by action
		mitigation*	-
Aesthetics			\square
Air quality		\boxtimes	
Aquatic resources/wetlands	\boxtimes		
Invasive species			\boxtimes
Vegetation and wildlife		\boxtimes	
Special status species/critical habitat		\boxtimes	
Historic properties			\boxtimes
Other cultural resources			\boxtimes
Floodplains			\boxtimes
Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste			\boxtimes
Hydrology			\boxtimes
Land use	\square		
Navigation			\boxtimes
Noise levels	\boxtimes		
Public utilities		\boxtimes	
Socio-economics			\boxtimes
Environmental justice			\boxtimes
Soils			\boxtimes
Tribal trust resources			\boxtimes
Water quality	\boxtimes		
Climate change			\boxtimes
Agriculture and Prime and Unique Farmlands		\boxtimes	

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Recommended Plan

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the recommended plan. Best management practices (BMPs) as detailed in the SEA/IS will be implemented, if appropriate, to minimize impacts. These avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented, as described in chapter 3 in the Final 2020 SEA/IS, to reduce effects to the following resources: Public Utilities (section 3.2.1); Special Status Species and Migratory Birds (section 3.2.2); Air Quality (section 3.2.3); Vegetation and Wildlife (Woodland Habitat) (section 3.2.4); and Agriculture and Prime and Unique Farmland (section 3.2.6).

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the recommended plan.

Public review of the draft SEA/IS and FONSI was completed on XX January, 2021. All comments submitted during the public review period were responded to in the Final SEA/IS and FONSI.

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issued an amendment to the current biological opinion, dated XX January 2021, that determined that the recommended plan will not jeopardize the continued existence of the following federally listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitat: valley elderberry longhorn beetle. All terms and conditions, conservation measures, and reasonable and prudent alternatives and measures resulting from these consultations shall be implemented in order to minimize take of endangered species and avoid jeopardizing the species.

Pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps determined that historic properties would not be adversely affected by the recommended plan. The California State Historic Preservation Officer did not object to the finding on XX February 2021.

All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on this report, the reviews by other Federal, State and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the recommended plan would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date

James J. Handura Colonel, U.S. Army Commander and District Engineer