

Mitigated Negative Declaration

San Joaquin County

Upper Mormon Slough Erosion Repair Project

Lead Agency:

San Joaquin County Public Works
1810 East Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, CA 95205

Introduction

This document provides California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance for San Joaquin County Public Works' (County) proposed Upper Mormon Slough Erosion Repair Project (proposed project). The County is the lead agency responsible for complying with the provisions of CEQA. The County proposes to construct the erosion repair project at the north and south banks of the upper segment of Mormon Slough near Escalon-Bellota Bridge in San Joaquin County, California.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Currently, the channel is eroding toward State Route 26 on its northern bank and toward neighboring structures and orchards on its southern bank. Field observations show that erosion and undermining of the existing slopes is leading to incremental collapse and/or oversteepening of the slopes, which is considered the most prevalent mode of failure of the system to be addressed by the repair design. Project activities include minor excavation for access and to remove compromised material in the channel, immediately followed by repair of the channel slope with a variety of materials including soil-filled rock slope protection (RSP), a coarse filter bed, earthfill, and launch rock. The purpose of the proposed project is to stabilize the channel alignment, preserve uniformity of the bank lines to preserve the function of the channel, and to reduce the potential for further lateral migration of the channel.

FINDINGS


As the CEQA lead agency, San Joaquin County finds that the proposed project would be implemented without causing a significant adverse impact on the environment. Environmental factors potential affected by the project are as follows: Aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, and hydrology and water quality. Mitigation measures for potential impacts associated with air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, and hydrology and water quality would be implemented as a part of the County's proposed project description.




DETERMINATION

On the basis of this evaluation, the County concludes the following:

- a. The proposed project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
- b. The proposed project would not achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
- c. The proposed project would not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
- d. The proposed project would not have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.
- e. No substantial evidence exists to demonstrate that the proposed project would have a substantive negative effect on the environment.



Signature



Date

