



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SACRAMENTO DISTRICT
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO CA 95814-2922

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA)
American River Watershed Common Features (ARCF)
Project, Sacramento River Erosion Contract 2,
Sacramento County, California

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has conducted an environmental analysis of the proposed project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. Sacramento River (SR) Erosion Contract 2 is part of a portfolio of measures comprising the ARCF Project designed to help alleviate flood risk in the Sacramento Region. The ARCF Project was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (Pub. Law 114-322) and other related authorities.

SR Erosion Contract 2 will address erosion and levee failure risk to the Sacramento River east levee through the placement of rock revetment adjacent to the Pocket neighborhood of Sacramento. The SR Erosion Contract 2 SEA analyzes the environmental effects of elements of Contract 2 that were not considered in the 2016 ARCF General Reevaluation Report Final Environmental Impact Statement/Final Environmental Impact Report (2016 FEIS/FEIR) because the detail design of those elements were not completed until 2021.

The SEA evaluated a No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action. The No Action alternative assumes that levee improvements have been constructed as described under Alternative 2 in the 2016 FEIS/FEIR and as described in the Proposed Action analysis of the following associated supplemental environmental documents: SREL C1, C2 & C3 SEA/SEIR, Sacramento Weir SEIS/SEIR and SR ERO C1 SEA/SEIR.

The Proposed Action is limited to the location of haul/access routes and staging areas, two modified methods for placement of rock revetment, removing and replacing municipal drainage systems at Sump 63, and refinements to barge traffic estimates and logistics on the Sacramento River and through the Delta. All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were considered and incorporated into the Proposed Action.

All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials has been completed. The potential effects of the Proposed Action are catalogued in Table 1, below. Mitigation measures detailed in the SEA will be implemented, as appropriate, to offset anticipated impacts.

The Government has determined that the Proposed Action would likely affect the following four resources: Air Quality, Water Quality, Vegetation and Wildlife, Federal Special Status Species and Fisheries. These anticipated effects are summarized below.

Air Quality: SR Erosion Contract 2, including the Proposed Action, would cause air quality impacts that would be more severe than those addressed in the 2016 FEIS/EIR. An air quality general conformity analysis has been completed for the entire ARCF program that addresses the annualized emission effects from implementation of the entire program, including the Proposed Action, on a compressed 5-year schedule versus the 10-year construction period analyzed in the 2016 FEIS/FEIR. The Corps will purchase adequate emissions credits, evaluated on an annual basis, to ensure that the air quality impacts from SR Erosion Contract 2, including the Proposed Action, would be less than significant with mitigation.

Water Quality: The effects of the Proposed Action to water quality and groundwater resources would be less than significant as a result of mitigation. A programmatic Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification was issued for the ARCF Project and a notice of intent will be filed separately for this contract. A consistency review under Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA was conducted, as set forth in Appendix E of the ARCF GRR FEIS/FEIR. The contractor will be required to obtain a Construction General Permit from the State Water Resources Control Board to comply with storm water regulatory requirements under CWA Section 402 (NPDES) and to have in place a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan (SPCCP). With these certifications and permits in place, and implementation of the avoidance, minimization and mitigation measures summarized in the SR Erosion Contract 2 SEA, the Proposed Action would have only temporary and negligible effects to water quality. No effect to groundwater resources is anticipated.

Vegetation and Wildlife: Effects of the Proposed Action to vegetation and wildlife would be less than significant as a result of mitigation. The approximately 2.44 acres of tree canopy removed by SR Erosion Contract 2 will be mitigated for both on and offsite, as outlined in the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report. Offsite mitigation will be located with special status species, near the mainstem of the Sacramento River within 50 miles of the project impacts. Woody vegetation will be trimmed or removed over the winter to avoid encounters with nesting migratory birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act prior to construction commencing. The tree canopy habitat also overlaps with western, yellow-billed cuckoo habitat that is discussed in the US Fish & Wildlife Service Biological Opinion.

Federal Special Status Species and Fisheries: Effects of the Proposed Action to special-status species would be less than significant as a result of mitigation. The USFWS BO covers delta smelt, valley elderberry longhorn beetle and western yellow-billed cuckoo. The approximate 11.15 acres of delta smelt habitat impacts from rock placement will be mitigated for at a dedicated mitigation site or at a conservation bank. Offsite mitigation will be located near the mainstem of the Sacramento River, where habitat types would provide multispecies benefits, within 50 miles of the project impacts. SR Erosion Contract 2, including the Proposed Action, would not cause impacts to valley elderberry longhorn beetle. The National Marine Fisheries Service BO covers salmonid species and green sturgeon. Green sturgeon and salmon habitat overlap, and USACE is estimating approximately 30.86 acres of impact to this shared habitat from the construction proposed under SR Erosion Contract 2. Planting benches would be

constructed and instream woody material would be installed below the ordinary high water mark of the SR to provide onsite mitigation, while remaining impacts would be offset by construction of a dedicated mitigation site, or purchase of an adequate number of appropriate credits at a conservation bank.

Cultural Resources: Effects of the Proposed Action to cultural resources will be less than significant as a result of mitigation. USACE has consulted with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other parties and has executed a Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the SHPO. The PA establishes the process USACE must follow for compliance with Section 106, taking into consideration the views of the signatory and concurring parties.

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Proposed Action

	Sacramento River Erosion Contract 2 Less than significant effects	Sacramento River Erosion Contract 2 Less than significant effects as a result of mitigation ¹	Sacramento River Erosion Contract 2 Resource unaffected by action	Sacramento River Erosion Contract 2 Resource would be significantly impacted and the effect is unavoidable	Program Level Program elements beyond the scope of this contract disclosed in the 2016 FEIS/FEIR as likely to cause significant adverse effects
Visual Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vegetation and Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Special-Status Species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous Wastes and Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology and Hydraulics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Utilities and Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socioeconomics and Population	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ 40 CFR 1505.2(C) all practicable means to avoid and minimize environmental harm are adopted.

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Environmental Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mineral Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water Quality and Groundwater Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Public review of the draft SEA concluded on 29 May 2022. [[Will be updated when Public Comments are received.]]

Based on the evaluation of the effects from the Proposed Action as described in the final Supplemental EA, the reviews by other Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, I find that the Proposed Action will cause no significant environmental impacts not already disclosed in the 2016 FEIS/FEIR. Accordingly, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date

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