

Notice of Determination

Form C

To:

Office of Planning and Research
 For U.S. Mail: Street Address:
 P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Public Agency: Department of Fish and Game
 Address: 2545 Zanella Way, Suite F
Chico, CA 95928
 Contact: Tracy McReynolds
 Phone: 530-895-5111

County Clerk

County of: Butte
 Address: One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965
 County of: Glenn
 Address: 526 W. Sycamore Street
Willows, CA 95988

Lead Agency (if different from above):

Address: _____
 Contact: _____
 Phone: _____

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 200782036

Project Title: M&T Chico Ranch/Llano Seco Rancho Pumping Plant Maintenance of Channel Alignment River Mile 192.5

Project Location (include county): Glenn and Butte Counties on the Sacramento River at River Mile 192.5

Project Description: See Attachment

This is to advise that the Department of Fish and Game has approved the above described project on

10/16/07 Lead Agency or Responsible Agency
 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final mitigated Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at: Butte County Library, Chico Branch, 1108 Sherman Avenue, Chico, California; City of Willows Library, 201 North Lassen Street, Willows, California

Signature (Public Agency) [Signature]

Title Acting Regional Manager

Date 10/16/07

Date Received for filing at OPR _____

Project Description:

The proposed action would be to temporarily place 1,520 feet of rock and tree revetment on the west side of the Sacramento River and remove gravel on the east side of the river. The primary objective of placing a longitudinal stone toe with tree revetment is to stabilize the site for five years, thereby protecting the M&T Chico Ranch/Llano Seco Rancho pumping facility and the outfall for the City of Chico's Waste Treatment Plant while planning for a permanent long-term solution is concluded. Approximately 9,120 tons of rock would be placed to about half of the bank height to an elevation of about 120 feet above mean sea level and the base of the revetment would be about 30 feet in width. Backfilling behind the stone toe will thicken the toe and provide a medium for revegetation. The top of the bench would be an average of approximately ten feet. Woody brush material would be incorporated into the revetment by anchoring the material with cables and partially sunken large boulders to prevent loss during overtopping flows. The brush portion of the revetment will consist of multiple alternative clusters of trees spaced approximately 10 to 15 feet apart at two elevations to provide instream and object cover at a range of flows.

The rock and tree revetment will be removed at the end of the five-year planning period unless it is incorporated into the long-term project. Independent environmental review of the long-term project will address impacts associated with the long-term habitat removed.

A gravel bar adjacent to Bidwell-Sacramento River State Park would be excavated to about five feet below the fall low flow (4,000 cfs Sacramento River Flow) water surface elevation. A temporary stream crossing over Big Chico Creek would be constructed to provide heavy equipment access. During excavation a five- to ten-foot berm would be left on the outer edge of the dry bar to separate the Sacramento River and Big Chico Creek from construction activities. Winter flood flow would capture the excavated area and scour the outer berm completing the reconfiguration of the bar. Approximately 156,000 tons of material would be expected to be removed once within the five-year project implementation period. The proposed depth of excavation is approximately 109 feet. Gravel removed from the bar would be relocated to an existing spoil area within the flood plain of the river. Gravel and sands from the bar would be dispersed evenly over the storage area and sloped toward the water to alleviate any ponding and eliminate low areas that may pond after flooding.