

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

### Hamilton City Glenn County, California Project PG&E Utilities Relocation and Bridge Abutment Protection

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 Environmental Assessment (EA) dated 7 August 2019, for the Hamilton City Glenn County, California Project, PG&E Utilities Relocation and Bridge Abutment Protection, addresses proposed design modifications to the project that was authorized for construction in Title I, Section 1001(8) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (WRDA 2007) (Pub. L. No. 110-114, Title I, §1001(8), 121 Stat. 1041, 1050).

An Integrated Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Impact Report (IFR/EIS/EIR) was finalized in July 2004, with a Record of Decision (ROD) signed by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works in December 2006.

Construction of the authorized project's setback levee and floodplain restoration have already been completed for Phase 1. The setback levee has also been partially completed for Phase 2A. Design refinements for Phase 2B of the project have resulted in modifications that required additional analysis of environmental effects. These modifications, identified as the Proposed Action in the EA, consist of removal of approximately 4,300 feet of an existing natural gas pipeline and installation of 4,600 feet of new pipeline, relocation and removal of approximately 5,600 feet and 9,000 feet of power line, respectively, and placement of additional erosion protection features at the Gianella Bridge east bank abutment.

The potential effects of the proposed action were evaluated in the EA, in addition to a "no action" plan. A summary assessment of the Proposed Action is listed in Table 1.

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the Proposed Action. Best management practices (BMPs) as detailed in the EA will be implemented, as appropriate, to minimize effects. No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the design refinements.

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, on 30 August 2019 the National Marine Fisheries Service concurred with the Corps' determination that the Phase 2B design refinements may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the following federally listed species or their designated critical habitat:

- Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) Endangered
- Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*) Threatened
- Central Valley steelhead (*O. mykiss*) Threatened
- Southern Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of North American green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*) Threatened

**Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Proposed Action**

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by action
Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources/wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened/Endangered species/critical habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other cultural resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traffic and circulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tribal trust resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps determined that historic properties may be adversely affected by the authorized project. The Corps, the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation entered into a Programmatic Agreement (PA), dated 15 September 2010. All terms and conditions resulting from the agreement shall be implemented in order to minimize adverse effects to historic properties. Consistent with the requirements of the PA, the Corps has implemented a Historic Property Treatment Plan to guide responses to unanticipated discoveries and mitigate for adverse effects to known historic properties.

For the Proposed Action, the majority of the pipeline and power pole work, as well as all of the additional erosion protection features at the Gianella Bridge, are located within the established Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the authorized project; however, three work areas have been added to the original Phase 2 APE. Although there are no historic properties in the APE additions, no change was made to the 7 April 2017 finding of adverse effect for Phase 2 due to effects expected from setback levee construction. The SHPO concurred with this updated finding in letters dated 25 April 2019 and 26 June 2019. Mitigation comprised of controlled data recovery excavations at four archaeological sites and development of an interpretive banner for use by the Mechoopda Tribe of Chico Rancheria (Mechoopda) has already been implemented for Phase 2.

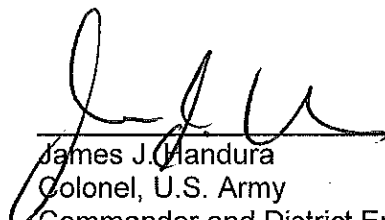
The Corps has consulted with the Mechoopda, the Grindstone Indian Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki Indians of California, and the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians regarding APE delineation, inventory, evaluation, eligibility, and other matters according to the requirements of the PA. Consultation is ongoing with Native American tribes through a series of in-person meetings, written communication, and phone calls as the project progresses. If potential historic properties of tribal significance are disclosed by tribes during the consultation process, the Corps will ensure that they are addressed in accordance with the PA.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, the discharge of dredged or fill material associated with the Proposed Action has been found to be compliant with section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 CFR 230). The Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines evaluation found in the 2004 EIS/EIR was updated as necessary to capture the placement of additional erosion protection along the Gianella Bridge abutment. A water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act will be obtained from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) prior to construction. A general permit for stormwater discharges associated with construction and land disturbance activities will also be acquired by the construction contractor prior to the start of ground disturbing activities. In an email dated 3 September 2019, the CVRWQCB stated that the Proposed Action appears to meet the requirements of water quality certification, pending further review of information provided in the permit application. All conditions of the water quality certification will be implemented in order to minimize adverse effects to water quality.

Public review of the draft EA and FONSI was completed on 23 August 2019. No comments were received during the public review period.

Technical, environmental, and cost effectiveness criteria used in the formulation of alternatives were those specified in the Water Resources Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on the EA, the reviews by other Federal, State and local agencies, Tribes, public review, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the Proposed Action would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

9/6/19  
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Date

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