



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Ephrata Field Office

P.O. Box 815

Ephrata, Washington 98823



APR 20 2017

EPH-2223

LND-6.00

Ms. Lisa Wood
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way
Olympia, WA 98501

Subject: Categorical Exclusion/ Winchester/ Dodson

Dear Ms. Wood:

The Winchester Wasteway/ Dodson Road Boat Launch relocation project was determined to be a NEPA compliance (Level 1) Categorical Exclusion. The actions of this project do not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the human environment.

Exclusion Category: 516 DM Chapter 14.5 D (1) Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which involve a minor change in size, location, and / or operation.

CE# PN-EFO-CE-2017-07 / Signed: 1/23/2017

Mitigations: A silt fence will span the entire project area prior to conducting any onsite work.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter please contact Mr. Richard Cornett at rcornett@usbr.gov or 509-754-0228.

Sincerely,

J.E. Ted Benson
Natural Resources Supervisor

cc: Mr. Joseph Graves
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
1550 Alder St. NW
Ephrata WA 98823

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

CC: PN-6515
~~EPH-2220~~
 EPH-2223
 EPH-2002

PROJECT: Winchester wasteway Boat Launch Relocation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Grant County Washington, January 12, 2017

EXCLUSION CATEGORY: 516 DM Chapter 14.5 D. (1) Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which may involve a minor change in size, location, and/ or operation.

NATURE OF ACTION: Reclamation proposes to allow Washington Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to relocate and replace the existing boat launch on Winchester Wasteway.

EVALUATION OF EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (516 DM 2 Appendix 2: 43 CFR 46.215)

Extraordinary Circumstances Exist For This Action Which May:		No	Uncertain	Yes
1.	Have significant impacts on public health or safety.	x		
2.	Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	x		
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E)].	x		
4.	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	x		
5.	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	x		
6.	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	x		
7.	Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.	x		
8.	Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.	x		
9.	Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	x		
10.	Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	x		
11.	Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal land by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	x		
12.	Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).	x		

Additional compliance reviews	No	Uncertain	Yes
--------------------------------------	----	-----------	-----

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

PROJECT: Winchester wasteway Boat Launch Relocation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Grant County Washington, January 12, 2017

This action will affect Indian trust assets (ITAs) To be completed by ITA designee	x		
This action will adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation And Management Act	x		

NEPA ACTION RECOMMENDED:

- Categorical Exclusion
- Environmental Assessment
- Environmental Impact Statement

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRUST ASSET COMMITMENTS, EXPLANATION AND/OR COMMENTS:

The WDFW has proposed to Reclamation the replacement and relocation of the existing primitive boat launch on Winchester Wasteway located off the Dodson Road and Winchester Wasteway access. The current launch site has poor access and is in a shallow/ silted in area. The new location would have better access and ease of maintenance. A silt fence will span the entire project area prior to cutting the 300'x16' graded road and turn around. Six inches of quarry spalls will laid for the base of the road, rolled and packed, followed by 6 inches of, rolled and packed, ¾" crushed rock for the top course. The boat launch base layer would be constructed of quarry spalls covered by attaching ramp plank. The total length of the boat launch would will use 30-35 of the ramp planks.

Location, Section 15, Township18N, Range 26E, Quincy Columbia Basin Irrigation District, Columbia Basin Project, Grant County, Washington

National Historic Preservation Act

Any identified cultural resources and Indian trust assets would not be impacted by this project. Should cultural resources be discovered during any construction activities, all ground disturbing activities in the area of the archeological resource will stop and the Ephrata Field Office Archeologist will be contacted at (509)-754-0257. Construction will not resume until all mitigative measures developed in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer have been completed.

T&E Species Review Reclamation concludes that a Biological evaluation, under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), is not required for this action. Reclamation has determined that this Federal action will have no effect on Threatened or Endangered Species.

Environmental Justice

In evaluating environmental justice, there would be no adverse or significant impacts to minority or low-income populations or communities.

EO 13007

This Federal action will not adversely impact access to or ceremonial use of any identified Indian sacred sites, and will not adversely affect the physical integrity of any such sacred sites.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

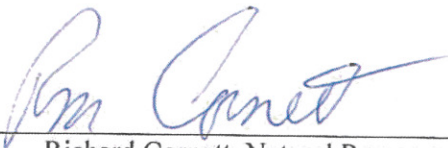
PROJECT: Winchester wasteway Boat Launch Relocation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Grant County Washington, December 22, 2016


Environmental Justice

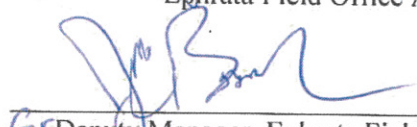
In evaluating environmental justice, there would be no adverse or significant impacts to minority or low-income populations or communities.

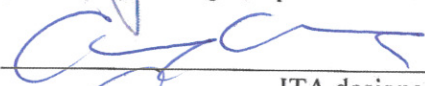
EO 13007

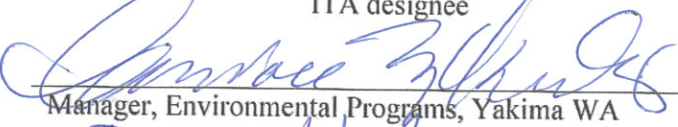
This Federal action will not adversely impact access to or ceremonial use of any identified Indian sacred sites, and will not adversely affect the physical integrity of any such sacred sites.

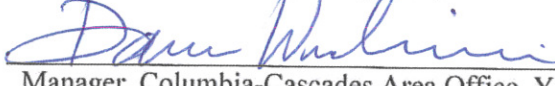
Preparer's Signature:  Date: 1/12/17
Richard Cornett, Natural Resource Specialist

Concurrence with Item No. 7:  Date: 10 JAN 17
Ephrata Field Office Archeologist

Concurrence:  Date: 1/12/17
for Deputy Manager, Ephrata Field Office, Ephrata WA

Concurrence:  Date: 1/20/17
ITA designee

Recommend:  Date: 1/20/17
Manager, Environmental Programs, Yakima WA

Approved:  Date: 1/23/17
Manager, Columbia-Cascades Area Office, Yakima WA

Categorical Exclusion No. PN-EFO-CE-2017-07 Date: 1/23/17

Winchester Wasteway boat launch relocation proposal:

Purpose of relocation:

Sediment and vegetation growth has encroached the existing site, making the launch extremely difficult to use. Summer months it is very difficult to launch and retrieve watercrafts and practically impossible during winter months. The shallow and virtually, non-moving water (at the launch) freezes up early in the winter and under normal conditions stays frozen till early spring.

Proposed new site will give improved water access for:

- Vegetation management staff
- WDFW enforcement
- WDFW research biological staff
- Search and rescue
- Public recreation

Operation and maintenance:

The new site would be minimal maintenance. O&M will consist of annual herbicide application along the road side and the occasional garbage removal.