

Summary of Floodplain Encroachment Report

Location: Frick Springs Bridge, San Miguelito Creek, City of Lompoc

Project No.: CS-05-W-4 Bridge No. NA

Limits: San Miguelito Creek MP 4.57

Floodplain Description: San Miguelito Creek, at the project site, is a well established channel that runs north-east parallel to San Miguelito Canyon Road. The creek is perennial and the channel averages about 6 feet in width. The creek has a moderate gradient (7%) with glides, riffles, and infrequent series of shale bedrock and boulder step-pools. The riparian corridor is narrow but dense, almost completely shading the creek with the help of surrounding oak woodland. Water quality appears to be good.

- | | No | Yes |
|---|----------|----------|
| 1. Is the proposed action a longitudinal encroachment of the base floodplain? | <u>X</u> | ___ |
| 2. Are the risks associated with the implementation of the proposed action significant? | <u>X</u> | ___ |
| 3. Will the proposed action support probable incompatible floodplain development? | <u>X</u> | ___ |
| 4. Are there any significant impacts on natural and beneficial floodplain values? | <u>X</u> | ___ |
| 5. Routine construction procedures are required to minimize impacts on the floodplain. Are there any special mitigation measures necessary to minimize impacts or restore and preserve natural and beneficial floodplain values? If yes, explain. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 6. Does the proposed action constitute a significant floodplain encroachment as defined in 23 CFR, Section 650.105(q). | <u>X</u> | ___ |
| 7. Are Location Hydraulic Studies that document the above answers on file? If not explain. | ___ | <u>X</u> |

PREPARED BY:

Signature – Piedra Environmental Consultants

Date

Concur: – Bengal Engineering

Date

Concur: – City of Lompoc

Date

Summary of Floodplain Encroachment Report Continued

Special mitigation measures necessary to minimize impacts or restore and preserve natural and beneficial floodplain values:

The proposed project area supports a well defined riparian corridor, potential habitat for species of concern (California red-legged frog, Rainbow trout, Two-striped garter snake, Southwestern pond turtle, and Coast range newt) and wetlands. The following avoidance and minimization measures have been developed to minimize the potential for impact and to restore these natural and beneficial floodplain values associated with San Miguelito Creek:

CALIFORNIA RED-LEGGED FROGS

The following measures are from the US Army Corps of Engineers programmatic California red-legged frog biological opinion.

1. At least 15 days prior to the onset of activities, the applicant or project proponent shall submit the name(s) and credentials of biologists who would conduct activities specified in the following measures. No project activities shall begin until proponents have received written approval from the Service that the biologist(s) is qualified to conduct the work.
2. A Service-approved biologist shall survey the work site two weeks before the onset of activities. If California red-legged frogs, tadpoles, or eggs are found, the approved biologist shall contact the Service to determine if moving any of these life-stages is appropriate. In making this determination the Service shall consider if an appropriate relocation site exists. If the Service approves moving animals, the approved biologist shall be allowed sufficient time to move California red-legged frogs from the work site before work activities begin. Only Service-approved biologists shall participate in activities associated with the capture, handling, and monitoring of California red-legged frogs.
3. Before any construction activities begin on a project, a Service-approved biologist shall conduct a training session for all construction personnel. At a minimum, the training session shall include a description of the California red-legged frog and its habitat, the importance of California red-legged frog and its habitat, the general measures that are being implemented to conserve the California red-legged frog as they relate to the project, and the boundaries within which the project may be accomplished. Brochures, books, and briefings may be used in the training session, provided that a qualified person is on hand to answer any questions.
4. A Service-approved biologist shall be present at the work site until such time as all removal of California red-legged frogs, instruction of workers, and habitat disturbance have been completed. After this time, the contractor or permittee shall designate a person to monitor on-site compliance with all minimization measures. The Service-approved biologist shall ensure that this individual receives training outlined above in measure 3 and in the identification of California red-legged frogs. The monitor and the Service-approved biologist shall have the authority to halt any action that might result in impacts that exceed the levels anticipated by the Corps and Service during review of the proposed action. If work is stopped, the Corps and Service shall be notified immediately by the Service-approved biologist or on-site biological monitor.
5. During project activities, all trash that may attract predators shall be properly contained, removed from the work site and disposed of regularly. Following construction, all trash and construction debris shall be removed from work areas.
6. All fueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment and staging areas shall occur at least 20 meters from any riparian habitat or water body. The Corps and permittee shall ensure contamination of habitat does not occur during such operations. Prior to the onset of work, the Corps shall ensure that the permittee has prepared a plan to allow a prompt and effective response to any accidental spills. All workers shall be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measure to take should a spill occur.

7. A service-approved biologist shall ensure that the spread or introduction of invasive exotic plant species shall be avoided to the maximum extent possible. When practicable, invasive exotic plants in the project areas shall be removed.
8. Project sites shall be revegetated with an appropriate assemblage of native riparian wetland and upland vegetation suitable for the area. A species list and restoration and monitoring plan shall be included with the project proposal for review and approval by the Service and the Corps. Such a plan must include, but not be limited to, location of the restoration, species to be used, restoration techniques, time of year the work will be done, identifiable success criteria for completion, and remedial actions if the success criteria are not achieved.
9. Stream contours shall be returned to their original condition at the end of the project activities, unless consultation with the Service has determined that it is not beneficial to the species or feasible.
10. The number of access routes, number and size of staging areas, and the total area of the activity shall be limited to the minimum necessary to achieve the project goal. Routes and boundaries shall be clearly demarcated, and these areas shall be outside of riparian and wetland areas. Where impacts in these staging and access routes, restoration shall occur as identified in measures 8 and 9 above.
11. Work activities shall be completed between May 1 and November 1. Should the proponent or applicant demonstrate a need to conduct activities outside this period, the Corps may authorize such activities after obtaining the Service's approval.
12. To control erosion during and after project implementation, the applicant shall implement best management practices, as identified by the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board.
13. If a work site is to be temporarily dewatered by pumping, intakes shall be completely screened with wire mesh not larger than five millimeters to prevent California red-legged frogs from entering the pump system. Water shall be released or pumped downstream at an appropriate rate to maintain downstream flows during construction. Upon completion of construction activities, any barriers to flow shall be removed in a manner that would allow flow to resume with the least disturbance to the substrate.
14. A Service-approved biologist shall permanently remove, from the project area, any individuals of exotic species, such as bullfrogs, crayfish, and centrarchid fishes, to the maximum extent possible. The permittee shall have the responsibility to ensure that their activities are in compliance with the California Fish and Game Code.

TWO-STRIPED GARTER SNAKES, SOUTHWESTERN POND TURTLES, OR COAST RANGE NEWTS

1. The biologist performing pre-construction surveys for California red-legged frogs should relocate any two-striped garter snakes, southwestern pond turtles, or Coast Range newts encountered.
2. Erosion control mats or blanket with mesh or netting should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. If any erosion control or revegetation applications require mesh or netted material, they should include only natural-fiber, biodegradable mesh. Photo-degradable and biodegradable mesh products that are not made of natural fibers are known to entrap snakes, lizards, birds, and mammals.

WETLANDS

1. The project plans should delineate the project limits west of San Miguelito Creek, above the 846-ft elevation contour line, as an "environmentally sensitive area" and note that no earthwork shall be performed in that area.