

**Ulster County**

Spring Glen Synagogue, Old NY 209, Spring Glen, 98001622

**SOUTH CAROLINA****Greenville County**

Davenport House, 100 Randall St., Greer, 98001623

Turner, R. Perry, House, 211 N. Main St., Greer, 98001624

Turner, Robert G., House, 305 N. Main St., Greer, 98001625

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program, Lower Mokelumne River, California**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact report/ environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (as amended) Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to participate in a joint Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/ EIS) for the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program. Woodbridge Irrigation District (WID) will be the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is intended to provide NEPA and CEQA clearance for implementing fish passage improvements at Woodbridge Dam and fish screen improvements at Woodbridge Canal and the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District diversion. Programmatic clearance is being sought for the riparian restoration and riparian diversion screening elements of the program. This work is being funded through a Category III grant provided by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (CALFED) and administered by Reclamation.

**DATES:** Reclamation will seek public input on alternatives, concerns, and issues to be addressed in the EIR/EIS through scoping meetings to be held in January 1999. The schedule of the scoping meetings is as follows:

- Thursday, January 7, 1999, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Lodi, California.
- Wednesday, January 6, 1999, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Sacramento, California.

If special services are needed at the meetings, contact Mr. Anders Christensen at the address or telephone number listed below no later than December 30, 1998.

Written comments on the scope of alternatives and impacts to be considered should be sent to WID at the address below by [insert date 35 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**]. Reclamation estimates that the draft EIR/EIS will be available for public review in summer 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Meeting locations are: Lodi—Carnegie Forum at 305 West Pine Street in Lodi, California Sacramento—Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc., Auditorium at 2600 V Street in Sacramento, California.

Written comments on the project scope should be sent to Anders Christensen, Woodbridge Irrigation District, 18777 N. Lower Sacramento Road, Woodbridge, CA 95258.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anders Christensen at (209) 369-6808 or Buford Holt of Reclamation at (530) 275-1554.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** WID provides irrigation water for approximately 40,000 acres of farmland near the city of Lodi. WID's rights are based on riparian use before 1914 and other appropriative rights. Flashboards are placed in the WID dam (Woodbridge Dam) in late February or early March to begin filling Lodi Lake and to allow water to flow into Woodbridge Canal for delivery to WID customers. The flashboards are usually removed from the dam when the irrigation season ends in early November.

The Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program (LMRRP) was developed to implement important elements from resource management plans prepared by CALFED, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG). The goal of the LMRRP is to substantially increase fall-run chinook salmon and steelhead populations, enhance critical and limiting aquatic habitats, and restore riparian ecosystem integrity and diversity. The LMRRP comprises four major elements:

- Element 1: Improve fish passage.
- Element 2: Improve fish screening at Woodbridge and North San Joaquin Water Conservation District diversions.
- Element 3: Install or upgrade fish screens on riparian diversions.
- Element 4: Enhance riparian corridor.

WID and the city of Lodi applied for a CALFED Category III grant to fund the LMRRP. CALFED has provided preliminary funding for final design and for environmental clearance and permitting for Elements 1 and 2 of the LMRRP. WID and Reclamation will prepare the EIR/EIS using this funding.

Because final design for Elements 3 and 4 has not yet been funded, it is anticipated that only programmatic environmental clearance will be sought for these two elements.

**Element 1: Improve fish passage**

The LMRRP fish passage element seeks to improve upstream and downstream fish passage on the Lower Mokelumne River and to provide the opportunity to pass water of varying temperatures and pulse flows downstream of WID's diversion while maintaining WID's access to its water rights. Proposed alternative methods for implementing Element 1 are described below under "Alternatives Being Considered."

**Element 2: Improve fish screening at Woodbridge Canal and North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Diversions**

Improving fish screening at Woodbridge Canal and North San Joaquin Water Conservation District diversions would upgrade the fish screening facilities at the two largest diversions on the Lower Mokelumne River below Camanche Dam. New screens would be designed to meet all applicable DFG and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) criteria to ensure effective fish passage and minimize entrainment and impingement.

**Element 3: Install or Upgrade Fish Screens on Riparian Diversions**

The riparian fish screening element would provide state-of-the-art fish screens at 58 unscreened or underscreened riparian diversions on the Lower Mokelumne River between Camanche Dam and its confluence with the Cosumnes River near Thornton. All new screens would be designed to meet all applicable DFG and NMFS criteria to ensure effective fish passage and minimize entrainment and impingement.

**Element 4: Enhance Riparian Corridor**

The riparian corridor enhancement element includes bank erosion control, riparian plantings, the creation of buffer zones, and other techniques to restore and protect riparian vegetation to provide shaded riverine aquatic habitat for fish, reduce water temperatures, increase food production, and serve as a barrier between the river and adjacent land uses.

**Alternatives Being Considered**

The project sponsors are considering alternatives to improve fish passage while maintaining WID's access to its

water rights. A first-phase screening process was conducted to narrow a list of 14 alternatives to a list of 5 feasible alternatives to be analyzed in the EIR/EIS. These alternatives include:

1. *No action.* Under the No-Action Alternative, no physical changes to the structure or functions of Woodbridge Dam or the Woodbridge fish screen and bypass system would be made. The dam, fish screen, and bypass system would continue to operate as they currently operate.

2. *Build new fish passage facilities at Woodbridge Dam and replace fish screen bypass at Woodbridge Canal.* Under this alternative, the problems with Woodbridge fish passage facilities would be corrected. Because upgrading existing facilities to state-of-the-art specifications is not feasible, new facilities would be built on the right abutment (facing downstream) of the dam. Another element of this alternative is the construction of a predator-isolation berm. This berm would extend east to west across the channel that connects the river to the oval, static portion of Lodi Lake. The berm would assist in separating predator species in the static portion of Lodi Lake from salmon and steelhead in the river.

3. *Remove Woodbridge Dam and pump water into Woodbridge Canal.* Under this alternative, Woodbridge Dam would be removed and water to serve WID customers would be obtained by pumping water from the Mokelumne River into the Woodbridge Canal. A pump station with a state-of-the-art fish screen would be constructed near the existing diversion structure. Additionally, a river control structure would need to be constructed to direct river flows toward the pumps and to keep the pumps submerged.

4. *Replace Woodbridge Dam with a new dam incorporating state-of-the-art fish passage facilities (proposed project).* The proposed project involves removing the existing Woodbridge Dam and constructing an adjustable weir dam immediately upstream. This dam would include new state-of-the-art fish passage facilities, a downstream hydraulic control system to manage tailwater elevations at the entrances to the fish ladders, a gated system for the downstream release of water from different strata for temperature control, and the capability of providing releases across a wider spectrum of flow levels (0–800 cubic feet per second [cfs]) without spillage across the dam face to improve responsiveness to fish flow needs. It would also include the predator-isolation berm described under Alternative 2.

5. *Shorten period of flashboard placement in Woodbridge Dam and install diversion pumps.* This alternative is based on the assumption that significant improvements to fish migration can be achieved by removing the flashboards at Woodbridge Dam from March through June to improve downstream migration of juvenile salmon and steelhead. To accommodate WID's need to divert water during that period, diversion pumps would be installed and a river control structure would be constructed to direct river flows toward the pumps and to keep the pumps submerged. This alternative would also include the predator-isolation berm described under Alternative 2.

The project sponsors are also considering the following option which could be implemented with any of the alternatives that include a dam.

*Construct a stratification sill in front of the WID diversion structure and a new deepwater discharge outlet in the dam.* This option is based on the assumption that a shortage of cool water below Woodbridge Dam is a limiting factor for salmon during their smolt migration life stage and that such cool water is available in Lodi Lake. The intent is to provide warm water for the Woodbridge Canal and to allow cool water to flow downstream of Woodbridge Dam. The cool water would also be used to guide fish away from the diversion to the bypass canal that would lead them to the river below the dam.

#### Scoping Process

Scoping is an early and open process designed to determine the significant issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EIR/EIS. Following are significant issues that have been identified: fisheries, riparian and wetland habitats, wildlife, water quality, aesthetics, recreation, and public health and safety.

#### Special Services

If special services are required at the meeting, contact Anders Christensen. Please notify Mr. Christensen as far in advance of the meetings as possible but no later than December 30, 1998, to enable WID to secure the needed services. If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified. A telephone device for the hearing impaired (TDD) is not available.

Dated: December 22, 1998.

**Jeffrey McCracken,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

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## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

### Agency Form Submitted for OMB Review

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** The U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) has submitted the following information collection requirements to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requesting emergency processing for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (44 U.S.C. Chap. 35). The Commission has requested OMB approval of this submission by COB January 5, 1999.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 22, 1998.

#### PURPOSE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION:

This information collection is for use by the Commission in connection with investigation No. 332–401, Pianos: Economic and Competitive Conditions Affecting the U.S. Industry, instituted under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)), following receipt of a request from the Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Commission expects to deliver the results of its investigation to the Committee on May 12, 1999.

#### SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL:

(1) *Number of forms submitted:* two.

(2) *Title of form:* A Study of the Economic and Competitive Conditions Affecting the U.S. Piano Industry—Questionnaires for U.S. Producers and Importers.

(3) *Type of request:* new.

(4) *Frequency of use:* single data gathering.

(5) *Description of Respondents:* U.S. firms which produce or import pianos.

(6) *Estimated number of respondents:* 8 (Producer questionnaire); 22 (Importer questionnaire).

(7) *Estimated total number of hours to complete the forms:* 1,500 hours.

(8) Information obtained from the form that qualifies as confidential business information will be so treated by the Commission and not disclosed in a manner that would reveal the individual operations of a firm.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENT:

Copies of agency submissions to OMB in connection with this request may be obtained from David Lundy, Project Leader, 5M Division, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436 (telephone no. 202–205–3439). Comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for U.S. International Trade Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs,