

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
City of Ione
Storm Drain Improvement Project
FEMA-1008-DR-CA; HMGP #1008-6040

The City of Ione, through the California Office of Emergency Services, has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding to divert overland storm water runoff into a storm drainage and detention system. During heavy rains, overland runoff enters the city from surrounding hills and floods streets and properties. The city has identified the need to protect public health, safety, and property from damage related to future flood events.

Under the Proposed Action, the city would construct a diversion berm and a ditch with an associated berm (ditch/berm) to divert overland runoff to a detention facility to be constructed in Howard Park, just south of downtown Ione. The diversion berm would be approximately 300 feet long and 100 feet wide. The ditch/berm would be approximately 1,600 feet long. The ditch would be up to 8 feet wide at the bottom and 3 to 6 feet deep with 2 to 1 side slopes. The berm would have 2 to 1 side slopes and a top width of 3 feet. The detention facility would be constructed in the area currently occupied by the baseball fields in Howard Park. The area subject to water detention would be approximately 780 feet by 780 feet. A berm would be constructed around the west and south sides to tie the facility into the higher topography on the north and east. The facility would have a maximum storage capacity of 30 acre-feet and would drain completely within 48 hours once the rain event ceases. An 800-foot long diversion pipe would carry low flows from small rain events to an existing detention pond within the south end of the racetrack, bypassing the new detention facility so that use of the baseball fields will not be curtailed during and after these events. Once the detention facility is completed, the city would reconfigure the baseball fields so that four fields (instead of the existing two fields) would fit into the bottom. The detention facility would drain to an existing drainage ditch that runs from the west side of the race track to a natural drainage swale on the west side of State Route 124. The drainage ditch would be graded to a bottom width of 8 feet and lined with facing grade rock. The final channel would be approximately 2.5 feet deep with 3 to 1 side slopes.

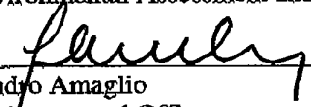
In-flow and out-flow conduits for the detention facility would be sized to convey the projected flows. All excavated material would be used on-site. Two areas along the entrance road to Howard Park would be used for construction staging. The total staging area would be less than 2 acres. Following completion of construction activities, the baseball field area, including the berm, would be seeded with a turf grass mixture. All other disturbed areas would be seeded with a dry pasture mix of native grasses.

The Supplemental Environmental Assessment that was prepared for the City of Ione Storm Drain Improvement Project tiers from the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Typical Recurring Actions Resulting from Flood Disasters in California as Proposed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA-1203-DR-CA (PEA; April 16, 1998). The PEA resulted in a Finding of No Significant Impact (April 16, 1998).

Based upon the conditions and the information contained in the Programmatic Environmental Assessment and the Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the City of Ione Storm Drain Improvement Project (February, 2002), and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 CFR Part 10 (Environmental Considerations) and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice), the following is concluded:

A Finding of No Significant Impact. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared, based on the fact that there will be no long-term adverse impacts to the natural environment resulting from this project.

This Finding of No Significant Impact is based upon the conditions contained in the Programmatic Environmental Assessment and the Supplemental Environmental Assessment.



Sandro Amaglio
Environmental Officer

02/19/03
Date