

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
County of Sonoma
Fire Road Restoration at Helen Putnam Regional Park
FEMA-1628-DR-CA, PW #2482

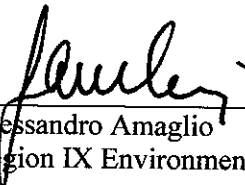
The County of Sonoma (COS) has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) for assistance to re-grade and armor an existing park trail for use as a fire access road in Helen Putnam Regional Park in Petaluma, California. The trail was washed out during the flood event of winter 2005 to 2006 (FEMA-1628-DR-CA).

The Proposed Action would leave the damaged fire road in its current state and re-grade and armor an existing hiking trail, the Panorama Trail, to vehicle-grade conditions so that it may be used as an alternate fire access road. This would involve the re-grading of 2130 linear feet (ft) of the Panorama Trail to a width of 12 ft and the installation of cover to 3 inch (in) depth along this section. It would also require the grading of four 20 ft x 12 ft rolling drain dips covered to 3 in depth, the grading of two armored 20 ft x 12 ft rolling drain dips covered with compacted 2 in minus blue shale, the grading of a 700 square feet (sq ft) Hammerhead fire access turn-around cover, the removal of one existing 4 in x 4 in post, and the relocation of one existing trail maker on a 4 in x 4 in post. The ingress/egress and project lay-down area would occur on the existing Paved Ridge Trail Road, a paved road between the Panorama Trail and the parking lot.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), FEMA has prepared a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Proposed Action (August 2008) to address its impacts on the environment. The SEA tiers from the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Typical Recurring Actions Resulting From Flood, Earthquake, Fire, Rain, and Wind Disasters in California (December 2003) as proposed by FEMA. The SEA and PEA have been prepared in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulation [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and FEMA's implementing regulations (44 CFR Part 10). The PEA and SEA are available online at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region9.shtm>.

Based upon the conditions and the information contained in the PEA and SEA, and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 CFR Part 10 (Environmental Consideration) and Executive Orders (EOs) 11998 (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 environment resulting from the Proposed Action. For more information, contact the undersigned at (510) 627-7027. No action will be allowed to occur until 15 days after publication of this Finding of No Significant Impact.


Alessandro Amaglio
Region IX Environmental Officer

08/08/08
Date