

Attachment 3

Finding of No Significant Impact



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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Regional Planning and Environment Division North

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Corps of Engineers, the St. Paul District, has assessed the environmental impacts for the following:

DESIGN MODIFICATIONS TO THE FARGO MOORHEAD METROPOLITAN AREA
FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is proposing modifications to the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project, which was previously the subject of a Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement. A Record of Decision was signed on April 3, 2012. The proposed modifications include shifts in the alignment of the diversion channel to include the elimination of Storage Area 1 adjacent to the inlet of the diversion channel, the addition of gates on the diversion inlet structure, and the elimination of the structure on Wolverton Creek; modification of the diversion channel cross section which includes the addition of permanent and temporary easements to the footprint area; construction of levees/floodwalls in downtown Fargo; and the construction of a ring levee around the towns of Oxbow, Hickson, and Bakke, North Dakota. The Project is located in Cass County, North Dakota, and Clay County, Minnesota, with some impacts in Richland County, North Dakota, and Wilkin County, Minnesota.

This Finding of No Significant Impact is based on the following factors, as discussed in the attached Supplemental Environmental Assessment: the proposed modifications would produce a minor short-term adverse effect on noise levels and aesthetic values. The proposed modifications would have a minor long-term adverse effect on, prime and unique farmland, aquatic habitat, upland habitat/riparian habitat, and wetlands. The proposed modifications would have a minor long-term positive effect on fish passage, business and home relocations, flooding effects, tax revenue, and geomorphology. Impacts to cultural resources have been or will be identified and will be mitigated for. The modifications would not result in impacts appreciably different in type or magnitude from what was described in the Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement.

For the reasons stated above, the proposed modifications do not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the environment. Therefore, a supplemental environmental impact statement for the proposed modifications will not be prepared.

19 SEP 13

Date

Daniel C. Koprowski
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer