



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**180 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 700**  
**ST. PAUL MN 55101-1678**

Regional Planning and Environment Division North

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

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

**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 (Project). The Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Project was completed in July 2011 and a Record of Decision was signed on April 3, 2012. Detailed engineering and design studies resulted in several modifications to the Project which were addressed in a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) completed in September 2013, with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) signed September 19, 2013. Additional modifications are again proposed for the Project. The proposed modifications include changes to the alignment of the Project's Southern Embankment and the passage of more flow through the benefitted area during Project operation. The Project with all proposed modifications is referred to as "Plan B". A second SEA was prepared to address the proposed modifications and evaluate potential impacts of Plan B.

This Finding of No Significant Impact is based on the following factors, as discussed in the attached SEA. Compared to the proposed alternative in the 2013 SEA, Plan B would have similar effects on noise levels, air quality, aesthetics, community cohesion, water quantity, and threatened and endangered species. Compared to the proposed alternative in the 2013 SEA, Plan B would reduce adverse effects to transportation upstream of the Southern Embankment and have minor adverse effects in the benefitted area; Plan B would also reduce adverse effects to business and home relocations upstream of the Southern Embankment but have minor adverse effects to business and home relocations in the benefitted area. Compared to the proposed alternative in the 2013 SEA, Plan B would reduce adverse effects to fish passage, geomorphology, aquatic habitat, and wetlands; would have minor adverse effects to upland habitat and prime and unique farmland; and would have a minor reduction in beneficial effects to public health and safety. Impacts to cultural resources have been or will be identified and will be mitigated. The modifications would not result in effects substantially different in type or magnitude from what was described in the FEIS.

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.

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Date

Samuel L. Calkins  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer