

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Placer County Water Agency

Project No. 2079-024
California

ORDER APPROVING SITE PLAN DRAWINGS

FEB 15 1995

On November 22, 1994, Placer County Water Agency (licensee) filed site plan drawings and documentation of agency consultation showing proposed improvements to be made at the recreation facilities and campgrounds for the Middle Fork American River Project.¹ These site plan drawings and documentation of consultation were required by ordering paragraph D of Order Approving Revised Recreation Plan with Modification and Amending License (1992).² Ordering paragraph D of the 1992 order requires the licensee to consult with the U.S. Forest Service (FS) and California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) prior to the installation of the spurs at various recreation areas and campgrounds.

Background and Consultation

Specific site drawings were submitted to the appropriate FS office for consultation and comments incorporated into the site plans.

The El Dorado National Forest was consulted concerning the Big Meadows Campground. The Forest Supervisor approved the plans in a letter dated September 15, 1994, with three modifications: 1) Sites #35 and #41 on drawings 214222 and 214223 will be changed to indicate the contractor is to carefully remove pavement; (2) archaeological monitoring will be required at each site; and (3) the barrier posts will also be cut off as close to the ground as possible with a chainsaw. The licensee agreed to these modifications.

The Tahoe National Forest was consulted concerning all the campgrounds and recreation facilities in the French Meadows area. The Forest Supervisor approved the site drawings for the French

¹ See Order Issuing License (Major Project), 29 FPC, 460 (1963).

² See Order Approving Revised Recreation Plan with Modification and Amending License, 59 FERC, ¶ 62,084 (1992).

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Meadows, Lewis, Gates, Coyote, Black Bear, and McGuire facilities.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the FS consulted with the SHPO concerning potential impacts on cultural resources in two of the campgrounds. At Big Meadows Campground the El Dorado National Forest made a determination that the proposed improvements could be carried out with a No Adverse Effect determination. The SHPO concurred with this determination and a copy of this documentation was sent to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council). In a letter dated February 7, 1994, the Council did not object to the finding of no adverse effect.

Concerning the campgrounds in the French Meadows area the Tahoe National Forest made a determination that an archeological deposit located in the area is ineligible for inclusion in the National Register. The SHPO concurred with the FS conclusion that the archeological deposit discovered is ineligible for inclusion in the National Register in a letter dated August 31, 1994.

Discussion and Conclusion

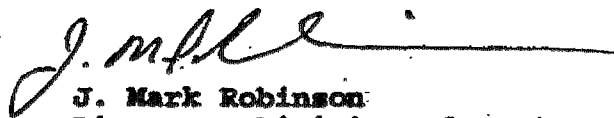
The requirements of ordering paragraph D of the Order Approving Revised Recreation Plan with Modification and Amending License have been met. The requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act have also been met. The final site plans consisting of 24 site drawings should be approved.

The licensee is reminded that ordering paragraph C of the Order Approving Revised Recreation Plan with Modification and Amending License requires the completion of the ordered recreation facilities not later than October 31, 1996. Within 90 days of completing the improvements to the project recreation facilities, the licensee shall file as-built drawings of the facilities as constructed.

The Director orders:

(A) The licensee's site plan drawings, filed November 22, 1994, showing proposed improvements to be made at the recreation facilities and campgrounds for the Middle Fork American Rivers Project fulfill the requirements of ordering paragraph D of the Order Approving Revised Recreation Plan with Modification and Amending License and are approved.

(B) This order constitutes final agency action. Requests for rehearing by the Commission may be filed within 30 days of the date of issuance of this order, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §385.713.



J. Mark Robinson
Director, Division of Project
Compliance and Administration