ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT UPDATE
MARYSVILLE RING LEVEE PROJECT
PHASE 2B
MARYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA

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<td>Above Mean Sea Level</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Aboveground Storage Tank</td>
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<td>ASTM</td>
<td>American Society for Testing and Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA FID</td>
<td>California Facility Inventory Database</td>
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<tr>
<td>CA ML</td>
<td>Sacramento County Master List</td>
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<td>CERCLA</td>
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<td>CESPK</td>
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<td>CHMIRS</td>
<td>California Hazardous Material Incident Reporting System</td>
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<td>Department of Toxic Substance Control</td>
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<tr>
<td>WDS</td>
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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The methodology of ASTM 1527-13 is used to conduct an Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to identify Recognized Environmental Conditions in order to establish the presence or likely presence of hazardous substances or petroleum products under conditions that indicate a likely release, a past release, or a material threat of a release of those substances. This practice permits the user to qualify for the innocent landowner, contiguous property owner, or bona fide prospective purchaser limitations on Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act liability. The ESA also provides background information for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and can be included in the appendix of NEPA documents or included by reference.

In 2010, USACE performed an ESA for the complete Marysville Ring Levee project which is broken down in separate phases. The ESA project site in 2010 comprised the entire 7.2-mile levee system including a buffer zone extending outward 200 feet from either side of the levee centerline.

Project delays have necessitated ESA updates in 2014 and 2017 to meet the requirements of the ASTM standard. The ESA updates were only conducted for Phase 2A North/South and 2C portions of the levee. No Recognized Environmental Conditions were identified during the 2010 original ESA or the 2014 and 2017 ESA updates.

The purpose of this update to the ESA are due to changes in the project footprint for Phase 2B to include a larger staging area for new material to be used during construction, and the Non-Federal Sponsor Real Estate requirements that a report must be dated within six months of the first lease offer to the property owner for the additional staging area. The ESA update contained herein was conducted in accordance with ASTM E1527-13 and ER1165-2-132. No Recognized Environmental Conditions were identified at the project site during completion of this ESA update.

During the research conducted for this report, it was discovered that tunnels at B and D Streets were "partially filled with refuse from old gas plant". While not considered a Recognized Environmental Condition, this debris may contain hazardous material and should be tested if the tunnel is found under the proposed set-forward levee at this location."
2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 PURPOSE

The Environmental Design Section (ED-ED) of the Environmental Engineering Branch of the USACE in Sacramento, California, has prepared this report for the Marysville Ring Levee Phase 2B project site in the Marysville Basin in Yuba County, California. This report is known as an update to the Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) or a Phase I ESA update.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the USACE regulations require that an Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) be performed on a construction project site and its surrounding area. The purpose of the ESA is to identify and document Recognized Environmental Conditions that may have adverse impacts on the proposed construction project. ASTM 1527-13 defines Recognized Environmental Conditions as “…the presence or likely presence of any hazardous substances or petroleum products in, on, or at a property; (1) due to any release to the environment; (2) under conditions indicative of a release to the environment; or (3) under conditions that pose a material threat of future release to the environment.”

In 2010, USACE performed an ESA for the Marysville Ring Levee (MRL) project, in accordance with ASTM 1527-05. The ESA consisted of reviewing regulatory lists of Hazardous, Toxic and, Radioactive Waste (HTRW) sites, historical literature, aerial photographs, websites and conducting interviews with people who are knowledgeable about the project, the project site and the surrounding area. A site reconnaissance was also conducted as part of the ESA process.

This update to the ESA is required due to changes in the project footprint to include a larger staging area for new borrow material to be used during construction, and the Non-Federal Sponsor Real Estate requirements that a report must be dated within six months of the first lease offer to the property owner for the additional staging area.
2.2 DETAILED SCOPE-OF-SERVICES

The ESA project site (the site) resides within the area created by the limits of construction for the MRL Phase 2B project (See Section 13.2 for a map showing the limits of construction). The ESA is concerned with identifying and documenting Recognized Environmental Conditions as defined by ASTM 1527-13 on this site and the adjacent properties using commonly known and reasonably ascertainable information, such as historical records, regulatory databases, and aerial photographs.

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ASSUMPTIONS

Since the areas surrounding the levees have been used extensively for agricultural purposes in the past, it is likely that there may be chemical fertilizers and pesticides present on farmlands located adjacent and near the site. Because many of the substances that were legally applied in the past (e.g. DDT) also remain in the environment, it is also likely that some concentration of these substances are present today in the soils near and on the site.

2.4 LIMITATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

The ESA does not include any sampling or testing of soil, air, water or building materials. The interiors of buildings and structures were not inspected.

2.5 SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The current MRL project does not involve purchase of property for commercial purposes, and as such, the conditions for the ASTM specifications are not completely applicable. The ASTM standard is used as a guide and sections that are not applicable are ignored to meet the requirements of the project. Where applicable, the format and guidance recommended by ASTM is followed as stated in standard ASTM 1527-13.

2.6 USER RELIANCE

There has been no contradictory information provided.
3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

3.1 LOCATION AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION

The Marysville Ring Levee (MRL) consists of approximately 7.5 miles of levee surrounding and protecting the City of Marysville, California. Planned levee improvement address underseepage, through-seepage, embankment slope stability, utility penetrations, constructability, settlement and geometrical corrections to the levee embankment. The 2010 MRL Engineering Documentation Report (EDR) and MRL Environmental Assessment (EA) address the engineering aspects and the environmental aspects respectively of Phase 1 through 4 levee improvements for the entire Marysville area flood protection system. A Final Alternatives Analysis was completed in 2012 that specifically addressed Phase 2B of the project.

Phase 2B of the Project is located along the right bank of the Yuba River (relatively close to the Confluence of the Feather River and Yuba River), on the east side of Highway 70, between Highway 70 (located at the South end of Phase 2B) and Simpson Lane (located at the North end of Phase 2B).

3.2 SITE AND VICINITY GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

The levees were originally constructed beginning in 1862 and by 1868 a levee system completely encircled the city of Marysville. The levee heights range from an elevation of 16 to 28 feet above sea level, having been elevated from the original 5 feet during several periods of construction. The levees protect Marysville from Jack Slough in the north, the Feather River in the west, and the Yuba River in the south.

The Geotechnical Appendix of the EDR identifies Phase 2B as a critical reach requiring levee improvement. The reach was identified as critical due to past performance, and past repairs (potentially inadequate by current standards). Additionally, penetrations and encroachments in the levee embankment and foundation dating to the mid-19th Century, include abandoned underground construction with the potential for voids to be present that may cause instability and/or seepage. The Sacramento District geotechnical engineer’s opinion is that this site may have serious defects due to these conditions.

A Final Alternatives Analysis was completed in 2012 that specifically addressed Phase 2B of the project. This ESA will be included in the 90% submittal version of the Engineering Considerations and Instructions for Field Personnel (ECIFP) for Marysville Ring Levee, Phase 2B. Contents of the ECIFP reflect design and calculations performed as of December 15, 2016.
3.3 CURRENT USE OF THE PROPERTY

The site is currently used for levees that protect the city of Marysville from flooding. The top of the levee is used as a recreational trail for cyclists and joggers as well as a maintenance road. The landside of the levee contains an active railroad line that is adjacent to the levee, where it crosses the levee at the south end of A Street and runs the entire length of A Street, but is not included in the project. A homeless encampment exists water side of the levee from the railroad crossing north to about 5th Street. While the encampment is not in direct conflict with the project, entry and egress from the encampment may be impacted during construction. For the purposes of public safety, the City of Marysville should inform those at the encampment of the coming construction and encourage them to vacate the area. The proposed staging area on the waterside of the levee is an open field.

3.4 DESCRIPTIONS OF STRUCTURES, ROADS, OTHER IMPROVEMENTS ON THE SITE

The site contains a paved surface on top of the levee for the entire length. The site is crossed by the Highway 70 Overpass on the south end and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) midway through the sight, both of which connect the City of Marysville with Yuba City.

Overhead electrical lines and other various underground utilities run parallel and across the levee for a portion of the site, as well as a Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) substation on the north end landside.
3.5 CURRENT USES OF THE ADJOINING PROPERTIES

Land use in the Marysville area is mostly developed residential. There are a few light industries to the west. Outside the Marysville Basin is mostly agricultural use, except that Yuba City lies to the west across the Feather River and South Yuba City and Linda lie to the south across the Yuba River. The confluence of the two rivers is south and slightly west of Marysville.

Adjacent to the site on the north end there is a PG&E substation and maintenance yard. There are multiple power poles that run parallel to the levee, some that will have to be relocated.

Midway through the site the UPRR cuts across the levee and runs adjacent to A Street on the west side of the levee. From 2nd Street to 4th Street the railroad is elevated.

On the land side of the levee, site usage consists mostly of small shops, light industry, other various commercial and residential uses.
4.0 USER PROVIDED INFORMATION

4.1 TITLE RECORDS

Title records were not obtained as they were not required to develop a history of the previous uses of the site, per ASTM 1527-13.

4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL LIENS OR ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATIONS

There are no environmental liens or activity and no use limitations within the project site (EDR, 2017). The records used to ascertain this information include: the National Priority List, Federal Superfund Liens, Federal Institutional Controls/Engineering Controls Registries, State and Tribal Equivalent NPL - State Response Sites, State and Tribal Registered Storage Tank Lists – Active UST Facilities, Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank Facilities and USTs on Indian Land, US Clandestine Drug Labs, CERCLA Lien Information, Land Use Control Information System, Environmental Liens Listing, Military Cleanup Sites Listing, Department of Defense Sites, and Formerly Used Defense Sites.

4.3 REASON FOR PERFORMING PHASE I

The use of ASTM 1527-13 is to identify Recognized Environmental Conditions in order to establish the presence or likely presence of hazardous substances or petroleum products under conditions that indicate a likely release, a past release or a material threat of a release of those substances. This practice permits the user to qualify for the innocent landowner, contiguous property owner, or bona fide prospective purchaser limitations on CERCLA liability.

4.4 OTHER

This ESA update will follow the environmental industry practice of using the guidelines set forth in the USEPA rule concerning “All Appropriate Inquiries,” the ASTM E 1527-13 standard, and USACE Engineering Regulation (ER) 1162-2-132. ASTM E 1527-13 was designed to protect persons purchasing property from liability arising from adverse environmental conditions, but also may be used for other situations per section 4.2.1 of the standard.
5.0 RECORDS REVIEW

5.1 STANDARD ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD SOURCES

A records review was completed March 2017; this EDR report is included in Section 13.5. The standard environmental records review is summarized in Section 13.4. The sites found in the standard records review are investigated using publicly available information. Due to the nature of contaminant at each site, the cleanup status, or the distance away from Phase 2B, none of these sites represent a REC.

The EDR report includes additional environmental records. A review of these records did not reveal any RECs associated with MRL Phase 2B.

1. Historic Data includes the following findings, none of which presented Recognized Environmental Conditions within the project site, therefore the data is given for information only:
   a. Shell Oil (501 5th St, ~0.4 miles from site) – Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) site remediation, case closed in January 2014.
   b. Daoust Chevrolet (529 5th St, ~0.35 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed in 2003.
   c. Arrow Mfg. (1st and F Streets; ~0.2 miles from site) – Site screening completed 1987.
   d. Lube Stop (923 5th Street, ~0.1 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed in 1996.
   e. Chevron (929 5th Street, ~0.1 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed 2012.
   f. Hurst Brothers (710 3rd St; ~0.1 miles from site) – LUST site investigation; case closed in 1996.
   g. SaveMart (828 J St; ~0.1 miles from site) – Ruptured truck fuel tank in August 1994 caused an estimated 150 gallons of diesel release to the storm drain.
   h. Marysville Plaza (401 E St; ~0.4 miles from site) – LUST site investigation with corrective action currently underway.
   i. Mobil 04-GPE (229 E St; ~0.3 miles from site) – LUST site investigation with corrective action currently underway. Site is listed as eligible for closure as of 9/22/2015.
   j. Sierra Central Credit Union (422 4th St; ~0.35 miles from site) – LUST site investigation with corrective action currently underway. Regulator has accepted Low-Threat Closure Application as of May 2015; administrative tasks are required to obtain closure.
   k. Rideout Hospital (726 4th St; ~0.2 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed in 1998.
   l. Sewage Lift Station (1st & F St; ~0.2 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed in 1996.
m. Yuba County Government Center (915 8th St; ~0.1 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed in 2004.

n. Econo-Gas (704 10th St; ~0.35 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed in 2014.

o. Marysville Auto Body (525 1st St; ~0.2 miles from site) – Cleanup site currently under investigation.

p. 3rd and H St (~0.15 miles from site) – Transformer failure caused ½ gallon of PCB- containing oil to be released in 2000.

q. PG&E Gas Plant (2nd St between Elm and B St; ~0.4 miles from site) – Site does not qualify for the NPL and no further remedial action is planned.

r. Yuba City Steel Production (526 Stevens Ave; ~0.85 miles from site) – Contaminated soil was removed from the site in 1992. Site is listed as a Brownfield property.

s. 1st Stop (248 Bridge St; ~0.45 miles from site) – Corrective action currently underway for a leaking UST.

A listing of historical environmental record sources for Phase 2B was provided in the Radius Map Report with GeoCheck, Environmental Data Resources, Inc., March 2017. The sites found in the standard records review are investigated using publicly available information. Due to the nature of contaminant at each site, the cleanup status, or the distance away from Phase 2B, none of these sites represent a REC and are not expected to adversely affect the project.

5.2 HISTORICAL USE INFORMATION ON THE PROPERTY AND ADJOINING PROPERTIES

ASTM E 1527-13 requires that an ESA consist of diligently conducting a reasonable search of all available information, performing a site reconnaissance, and interviewing people who are knowledgeable about the current and past uses of the project site and surrounding area, its waste disposal practices, and its environmental compliance history.

Specifically, the current search consisted of information from the following sources:

1. A reconnaissance of sites along the entire Phase 2B project boundaries was performed to fulfill the requirements of ASTM E 1527-13 on July 6, 2017. Photographs of significant or typical observations were made to document the reconnaissance and to provide additional visual information. These photographs are included in Section 13.3. This site reconnaissance revealed no Recognized Environmental Conditions.

2. A search of the available records as provided by the “The EDR Radius Map™ Report with GeoCheck®” dated March 2017, is included as Section 13.4. Additional searches were conducted in the Environmental Records Search, Marysville Ring Levee Project, Marysville, Yuba County, California in 2009, and a new search was conducted for the 2014.
(3) Interviews of appropriate personnel that might have knowledge of recognized environmental conditions were conducted in 2009, 2014 and 2016. Additional interviews were deemed not necessary for this update since they did not contribute any significant information about past or present hazardous substances on the sites.

(4) Two historic tunnels were identified in the Report of Supplemental Data for a Hazards Assessment of Historic Tunnel Features within or Beneath the Marysville Levee, Unit 3, Reaches K1 & K2 (Tremaine & Associates). The Tremaine Report described the alignment and depth of the tunnels based on historic photographs that exposed the tunnels during the rehabilitation of the existing levee in 1956 and 1960. Basic information regarding the tunnels at D Street and B Street described in the Tremaine Report is summarized below.

**D Street Tunnel:** The alignment of the tunnel is in line with the east gutter of D Street. The depth to the bottom of the tunnel is approximately 14 feet below D Street or approximate elevation 49 feet NAVD 88. The downstream limit of the tunnel is assumed to coincide with the excavation limits of the inspection trench constructed in 1956. The approximate dimensions of the interior of the tunnel are 4 feet wide at the widest point and five feet high. The interior of the tunnel at the exposed outlet was filled with debris. Debris at the outlet of the tunnel was removed and the outlet was plugged with 14 cubic yards of concrete. The tunnel conveyed both sewage and stormwater runoff from gutters along the street discharging to the Yuba River.

**B Street Tunnel**
The alignment of the tunnel was not documented but it is assumed to be in line with the east gutter of B Street. The depth to the top of the tunnel is approximately 6 feet below the 1862 street grade for B Street or approximate elevation 52 feet NAVD 88. The tunnel was “partially filled with refuse from an old gas plant.” The exposed end of the tunnel was sealed with a concrete plug before backfilling. The tunnel conveyed both sewage and stormwater runoff from gutters along the street. The sewer tunnel at B Street is described as extending “from Third to Front.”

The Tremaine Report states that the tunnels at B and D Streets were “partially filled with refuse from old gas plant.” The location of the old gas plant was on Fourth Street, between A Street and the levee, and is now the site of the PG&E station. This debris may contain hazardous material and should be tested if the tunnel is found under the proposed set-forward levee at this location.

### 6.0 SITE RECONNAISSANCE

#### 6.1 METHODOLOGY AND LIMITING CONDITIONS

The extent of the July 6, 2017 site reconnaissance by Bruce VanEtten of Environmental Design Section was conducted based on previously available information as well as with the updated project limits of construction (see Section 13.2). The site reconnaissance involved walking along the top of the levee over the Phase 2B portion of the project. The scoping and the time factor prohibited obtaining access to building interiors during the site visit. Photographs taken during the site visit
6.2 GENERAL SITE SETTING

The adjacent properties on the landside of the Phase 2B levee system is generally light industrial/commercial or residential properties; an active railroad line as well as Highway 70 cross the levee in Phase 2B.

6.3 EXTERIOR OBSERVATIONS

The levees were generally clean and well maintained despite the floods of this winter. There were no hazardous substances observed at these sites.

The objective of the site reconnaissance is to obtain information indicating the likelihood of Recognized Environmental Conditions in connection with the site. The following items were noted:

1) There are some areas of the adjacent railroad lines that appear to have evidence of small petroleum spill. The long history of the rail corridor in this area increases the chances that contaminants such as creosote, petroleum products, fossil fuel combustions products, pesticides/herbicides and metals are present in the soil along and adjacent to the railroad track.
2) There were several electrical service boxes observed on the site. No apparent issues were observed.
3) There is no evidence of releases of hazardous substances or petroleum products to the environment along the project area. None of the persons interviewed in the past recalled any releases or incidents. Once a year during the summer months, drip torches are used to burn off the grass on the levee. The fuel used is a mixture of diesel and gasoline. Environmental impact of this activity is assumed to be minimal.
4) The levee has had history of gophers burrowing in its side, potentially compromising the integrity of the levee. Squirrel bait stations are used to poison the gophers in an attempt to reduce their population.
5) The history of the Marysville area dates back to the 19th Century. There may be historic abandoned septic systems, underground storage tanks, water/utility distribution systems and wells. No potential sites were observed in the project site.

Non-Scope Issues

The following issues are listed as non-scope issues in ASTM 1527-13. They were observed during the site reconnaissance, and are being noted for completeness. There is no REC associated with any of these items.

1) Due to the age of the levees and surrounding areas, there is potential for discovery of cultural or historic resources.
6.4 INTERIOR OBSERVATIONS

Interiors of structures were not inspected since they were not part of the project scope and per section 4.5.2 of the ASTM 1527-13, time limitations prevented obtaining access from each owner of every structure.

7.0 INTERVIEWS

The purpose of conducting interviews is to obtain up-to-date information and confirm known information about Recognized Environmental Conditions in connection with the site. Since interviews conducted for the 2009, 2014 and 2016 ESA, additional interviews were deemed unnecessary for this update. In general no new information was added from the interviews than what was known from the data report.

8.0 FINDINGS

The ESA yielded the following results:

1. No Recognized Environmental Conditions were observed along the MRL Phase 2B limits of construction. All of the adjacent properties on the land side appeared well maintained and clean during the site visit.

2. The private industries along the levees do not appear to use significant amounts of hazardous materials; hence the threat of releases from industrial operations is negligible. There are some reports that Union Pacific Railroad transports hazardous materials along railroad tracks adjacent to the project. No documentation of spills was located.

9.0 OPINION

The inquiry has adequately identified conditions that may be indicative of possible releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances on, at, in, or to the site. The material threat of hazardous substances release is small. The records research report indicates that there are no Recognized Environmental Conditions within the Phase 2B project area.

Additional investigations in areas where hazardous materials (including petroleum products) are currently or were historically used may be warranted if it is likely that the construction work may be impacted by such uses.

10.0 CONCLUSIONS

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was performed in conformance with the scope and limitations of ASTM Practice E 1527-13 for the Phase 2B levee surrounding the City of Marysville in Yuba County, California. Any exceptions to, or deletions from this practice are described in Section 2.4 of this report. This assessment has revealed no Recognized Environmental Conditions in connection with the site.
The Tremaine Report states that the tunnels at B and D Streets were “partially filled with refuse from old gas plant”. The location of the old gas plant was on Fourth Street, between A Street and the levee, and is now the site of the PG&E station. This debris may contain hazardous material and should be tested if the tunnel is found under the proposed set-forward levee at this location.

11.0 DEVIATIONS

11.1 MULTIPLE OWNERS

Since the property in question is largely public lands or waterways, the previous year’s interviews with one exception, were all government (Federal, state and local) officials.

11.2 DATA GAPS

No data gaps as defined in 40 CFR Section 312.10 were identified.

12.0 REFERENCES

(1) ASTM, E 1527-13 Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process (Phase I ESA)

(2) Environmental Records Search Marysville Ring Levee Project Marysville, Yuba County, California, Youngdahl Consulting Group, Inc., December 2009.


(7) USACE, Environmental Site Assessment, Marysville Ring Levee Project, Phase 2A, 28 February 2014.

(8) USACE, Environmental Site Assessment, Marysville Ring Levee Project, Phase 2A, 01 February 2016
(9) USACE, Environmental Site Assessment, Marysville Ring Levee Project, Phase 2C, March 2016

(10) USGS, Yuba City, CA 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Topographic Map, 2012.
13.0 ATTACHMENTS

13.1 MARYSVILLE, CA VINICITY MAP
13.2 **PHASE 2B VICINITY MAP**
13.3 SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

PG&E Substation looking North
PG&E Substation looking South
PG&E maintenance yard
Elevated Union Pacific Railroad looking North
### 13.4 HISTORICAL RESEARCH DOCUMENTATION

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<sup>1</sup> From ASTM 1527-13  
<sup>2</sup> Only open sites are examined in detail
ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT UPDATE
MARYSVILLE RING LEVEE PROJECT
PHASE 3
MARYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA

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Approved By:  

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District

Date:
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ACRONYMS

AMSL  Above Mean Sea Level
AST   Aboveground Storage Tank
ASTM  American Society for Testing and Materials
CA FID California Facility Inventory Database
CA ML  Sacramento County Master List
CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CESPK US Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
CHMIRS California Hazardous Material Incident Reporting System
DTSC  Department of Toxic Substance Control
ED-ED Environmental Design Section
EDR  Environmental Data Resources Inc.
ER   Engineering Regulation (US Army Corps of Engineers)
ERNNS  Emergency Response Notification System
ESA  Environmental Site Assessment
HIST Historical UST Registered Database
HTRW  Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste
IAW  In accordance with
LUST  Leaking Underground Storage Tank
NEPA  National Environmental Policy Act
NFA  No further Action
NPL  National Priority List (Superfund Site)
RCRA  Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SLIC  Spill, Leaks, Investigation and Cleanup Cost Recovery
SWF/LF Solid Waste Facilities/Landfill Sites
SWIS  Solid Waste Information System
SWRCB State Water Resources Control Board
TSCA  Toxic Substance Control Act
USEPA US Environmental Protection Agency
USGS US Geological Survey
UST  Underground Storage Tank
VCP  Voluntary Cleanup Program
WDS  Waste Discharge System
1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The methodology of ASTM 1527-13 is used to conduct an Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to identify Recognized Environmental Conditions in order to establish the presence or likely presence of hazardous substances or petroleum products under conditions that indicate a likely release, a past release, or a material threat of a release of those substances. This practice permits the user to qualify for the innocent landowner, contiguous property owner, or bona fide prospective purchaser limitations on Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act liability. The ESA also provides background information for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and can be included in the appendix of NEPA documents or included by reference.

In 2010, USACE performed an ESA for the complete Marysville Ring Levee project. The ESA project site in 2010 comprised the entire 7.2–mile levee system including a buffer zone extending outward 200 feet from either side of the levee centerline.

Project delays necessitated ESA updates for 2A, 2B and 2C to meet the requirements of the ASTM standard. No Recognized Environmental Conditions were identified during the ESA updates. No updates have been done for Phase 3 since 2010.

The purpose of this update to the ESA are due to changes in the project footprint to include a larger staging area for new material to be used during construction and conditions could have changed in the last eight years. The ESA update contained herein was conducted in accordance with ASTM E1527-13 and ER1165-2-132. No Recognized Environmental Conditions were identified at the project site during completion of this ESA update.
2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 PURPOSE

The Environmental Design Section (ED-ED) of the Environmental Engineering Branch of the USACE in Sacramento, California, has prepared this report for the Marysville Ring Levee Phase 3 site in the Marysville Basin in Yuba County, California. This report is known as an update to the Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) or a Phase I ESA update.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the USACE regulations require that an Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) be performed on a construction project site and its surrounding area. The purpose of the ESA is to identify and document Recognized Environmental Conditions that may have adverse impacts on the proposed construction project. ASTM 1527-13 defines Recognized Environmental Conditions as “…the presence or likely presence of any hazardous substances or petroleum products in, on, or at a property: (1) due to any release to the environment; (2) under conditions indicative of a release to the environment; or (3) under conditions that pose a material threat of future release to the environment.”

In 2010, USACE performed an ESA for the Marysville Ring Levee (MRL) project, in accordance with ASTM 1527-05. The ESA consisted of reviewing regulatory lists of Hazardous, Toxic and, Radioactive Waste (HTRW) sites, historical literature, aerial photographs, websites and conducting interviews with people who are knowledgeable about the project, the project site and the surrounding area. A site reconnaissance was also conducted as part of the ESA process.

This update for Phase 3 to the ESA is required due to changes in the project footprint to include a larger staging area for new material to be used during construction and to meet the requirements of the ASTM standard.

2.2 DETAILED SCOPE-OF-SERVICES

The ESA project site (the site) resides within the area created by the limits of construction for the MRL Phase 3 project (See Section 13.2 for a map showing the limits of construction). The ESA is concerned with identifying and documenting Recognized Environmental Conditions as defined by ASTM 1527-13 on this site and the adjacent properties using commonly known and reasonably ascertainable information, such as historical records, regulatory databases, and aerial photographs.

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ASSUMPTIONS

Since the areas surrounding the levees have been used extensively for agricultural purposes in the past, it is likely that there may be chemical fertilizers and pesticides present on farmlands located adjacent and near the site. Because many of the substances that were legally applied in the past (e.g., DDT) also remain in the environment, it is also likely that some concentration of these substances are present today in the soils near and on the site.
2.4 LIMITATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

The ESA does not include any sampling or testing of soil, air, water or building materials. The interiors of buildings and structures were not inspected.

2.5 SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The current MRL project does not involve purchase of property for commercial purposes, and as such, the conditions for the ASTM specifications are not completely applicable. The ASTM standard is used as a guide and sections that are not applicable are ignored to meet the requirements of the project. Where applicable, the format and guidance recommended by ASTM is followed as stated in standard ASTM 1527-13.

2.6 USER RELIANCE

There has been no contradictory information provided.
3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

3.1 LOCATION AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION

The MRL project aims to improve the approximately 7.2 mile earthen levee system encircling the 1,500-acre Marysville Basin, located in Yuba County. Levee improvements have been separated into seven phases of construction (Phases 1, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3, 4A, and 4B). The location of each project phase is shown in Section 13.2. Phase 3 is the focus of this ESA update.

3.2 SITE AND VICINITY GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

The levees were originally constructed beginning in 1862 and by 1868 a levee system completely encircled the city of Marysville. The levee heights range from an elevation of 16 to 28 feet above sea level, having been elevated from the original 5 feet during several periods of construction. The levees protect Marysville from Jack Slough in the north, the Feather River in the west, and the Yuba River in the south.

Phase 3 is located between the levee and the Feather River from 8th street to the intersection of Chem Blvd. and Olson Court. Refer to the boundary map in Section 13.2.

3.3 CURRENT USE OF THE PROPERTY

The site is currently used for levees that protect the city of Marysville from flooding. The top of the levee is used as a recreational trail for cyclists and joggers. The landside of the levee contains primarily residential and a few small businesses. The proposed staging areas consists of approximately 13 acres and be located 250 feet out from the waterside toe of the levee.

3.4 DESCRIPTIONS OF STRUCTURES, ROADS, OTHER IMPROVEMENTS ON THE SITE

The site contains a paved surface on most of the top of the levee for the entire length. The site is crossed by Ramirez Street at the southern end of the levee. Aside from the levees themselves, other improvements on the site include residential developments and small commercial, industrial or utility- oriented structures.

3.5 CURRENT USES OF THE ADJOINING PROPERTIES

Land use in the Marysville area is mostly developed residential. There are a few light industries to the west and south. The portions of the site immediately adjacent to the levee area consist of mostly of shops, light industry, and residential use. Outside the Marysville Basin is mostly agricultural use.
4.0 USER PROVIDED INFORMATION

4.1 TITLE RECORDS

Title records were not obtained as they were not required to develop a history of the previous uses of the site, per ASTM 1527-13.

4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL LIENS OR ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATIONS

There are no environmental liens or activity and no use limitations within the project site. The records used to ascertain this information include: the National Priority List, Federal Superfund Liens, Federal Institutional Controls/Engineering Controls Registries, State and Tribal Equivalent NPL - State Response Sites, State and Tribal Registered Storage Tank Lists – Active UST Facilities, Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank Facilities and USTs on Indian Land, U.S. Clandestine Drug Labs, CERCLA Lien Information, Land Use Control Information System, Environmental Liens Listing, Military Cleanup Sites Listing, Department of Defense Sites, and Formerly Used Defense Sites.

4.3 REASON FOR PERFORMING PHASE I

The use of ASTM 1527-13 is to identify Recognized Environmental Conditions in order to establish the presence or likely presence of hazardous substances or petroleum products under conditions that indicate a likely release, a past release or a material threat of a release of those substances. This practice permits the user to qualify for the innocent landowner, contiguous property owner, or bona fide prospective purchaser limitations on CERCLA liability.

4.4 OTHER

This ESA update will follow the environmental industry practice of using the guidelines set forth in the USEPA rule concerning “All Appropriate Inquiries,” the ASTM E 1527-13 standard, and USACE Engineering Regulation (ER) 1162-2-132. ASTM E 1527-13 was designed to protect persons purchasing property from liability arising from adverse environmental conditions, but also may be used for other situations per section 4.2.1 of the standard.
5.0 RECORDS REVIEW

5.1 STANDARD ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD SOURCES

A records review was completed November 2018; this EDR report is included in Section 13.5. The standard environmental records review is summarized in Section 13.4. The sites found in the standard records review are investigated using publicly available information. Due to the nature of contaminant at each site, the cleanup status, or the distance away from Phase 3, none of these sites represent a REC.

The EDR report includes additional environmental records. A review of these records did not reveal any RECs associated with MRI Phase 3.

1. Historic Data includes the following findings, none of which presented Recognized Environmental Conditions within the project site, therefore the data is given for information only:
   
   a. Econo-Gas (704 10th St; ~0.35 miles from site) – LUST site investigation, case closed in 2014.
   b. Yuba City Steel Production (526 Stevens Ave; ~0.85 miles from site) – contaminated soil was removed from the site in 1992. Site is listed as a Brownfield property.
   c. 1st Stop (248 Bridge St; ~0.45 miles from site) – corrective action currently underway for a leaking UST.

A listing of historical environmental record sources for Phase 3 was provided in a Corridor search with GeoCheck, Environmental Data Resources, Inc., November 2018. The sites found in the standard records review are investigated using publicly available information. Due to the nature of contaminant at each site, the cleanup status, or the distance away from Phase 3, none of these sites represent a REC and are not expected to adversely affect the project.

5.2 HISTORICAL USE INFORMATION ON THE PROPERTY AND ADJOINING PROPERTIES

ASTM E 1527-13 requires that an ESA consist of diligently conducting a reasonable search of all available information, performing a site reconnaissance, and interviewing people who are knowledgeable about the current and past uses of the project site and surrounding area, its waste disposal practices, and its environmental compliance history.

Specifically, the current search consisted of information from the following sources:

(1) A reconnaissance of sites along the entire Phase 3 project boundaries was performed to fulfill the requirements of ASTM E 1527-13 on November 2018. Photographs of significant or typical observations were made to document the reconnaissance and to
provide additional visual information. These photographs are included in Section 13.3. This site reconnaissance revealed no Recognized Environmental Conditions.

(2) A search of the available records as provided by the “The EDR Radius Map™ Report with GeoCheck®” dated November 2018, is included as Section 13.4.

(3) Interviews of appropriate personnel that might have knowledge of recognized environmental conditions were conducted in 2009, 2014 and 2016. Additional interviews were deemed not necessary for this update since they did not contribute any significant information about past or present hazardous substances on the sites.

(4) From the review of topographical maps, COE concludes that, since 1888, there were no noticeable changes on the project site.

(5) From review of the aerial photographs, COE concludes that there were no noticeable changes.

6.0 SITE RECONNAISSANCE

6.1 METHODOLOGY AND LIMITING CONDITIONS

The extent of the November 2018 site reconnaissance by Bruce VanEtten of Environmental Design Section was conducted based on previously available information as well as with the updated project limits of construction (see Section 13.2). Site reconnaissance involved walking along the top of the levee over the Phase 3 portion of the project. The scoping and the time factor prohibited obtaining access to building interiors during the site visit. Photographs taken during the site visit are located in Section 13.3.

6.2 GENERAL SITE SETTING

The adjacent properties on the waterside of the Phase 3 levee system are mostly used for agriculture adjacent to the entirety of the Phase 3 site. The levee is approximately 2 miles long and located in the southern part of the MRL. This section is covered with asphalt and parallel with the Yuba River. The landside of Phase 3 is generally residential housing and some light industrial or commercial properties.

6.3 EXTERIOR OBSERVATIONS

The levees were generally littered with debris on primarily the waterside due to recent floods. A few locations along the landside appeared to have been used as illegal dumping grounds for household trash during last year’s site visit but have since been cleaned up. There were no hazardous substances observed at these sites.
The objective of the site reconnaissance is to obtain information indicating the likelihood of Recognized Environmental Conditions in connection with the site. The following items were noted:

1) The USACE has one monitoring well located on the crown of the levee. The well is used to monitor the groundwater elevation.

2) There is no evidence of releases of hazardous substances or petroleum products to the environment along the project area. None of the persons interviewed in the past recalled any releases or incidents. Once a year during the summer months, drip torches are used to burn off the grass on the levee. The fuel used is a mixture of diesel and gasoline. Environmental impact of this activity is assumed to be minimal.

3) The levee has had history of gophers burrowing in its side, potentially compromising the integrity of the levee. Squirrel bait stations are used to poison the gophers in an attempt to reduce their population.

4) The history of the Marysville area dates back to the 19th Century. There may be historic abandoned septic systems, underground storage tanks, water/utility distribution systems and wells. No potential sites were observed in the project site.

Non-Scope Issues

The following issues are listed as non-scope issues in ASTM 1527-13. They were observed during the site reconnaissance, and are being noted for completeness. There is no REC associated with any of these items.

1) Due to the age of the levees and surrounding areas, there is potential for discovery of cultural or historic resources.

6.4 INTERIOR OBSERVATIONS

Interiors of structures were not inspected since they were not part of the project scope and per section 4.5.2 of the ASTM 1527-13, time limitations prevented obtaining access from each owner of every structure.

7.0 INTERVIEWS

The purpose of conducting interviews is to obtain up-to-date information and confirm known information about Recognized Environmental Conditions in connection with the site. Since interviews conducted for the 2009, 2014 and 2016 ESA, additional interviews were deemed unnecessary for this update. In general no new information was added from the interviews than what was known from the data report.
8.0 FINDINGS

The ESA yielded the following results:

1. No Recognized Environmental Conditions were observed along the MRL Phase 3 limits of construction. All of the adjacent properties on the land side appeared well maintained and clean during the site visit.

2. The private industries along the levees do not appear to use significant amounts of hazardous materials; hence the threat of releases from industrial operations is negligible.

9.0 OPINION

The inquiry has adequately identified conditions that may be indicative of possible releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances on, at, in, or to the site. The material threat of hazardous substances release is small. The records research report indicates that there are no Recognized Environmental Conditions within the Phase 3 project area.

Additional investigations in areas where hazardous materials (including petroleum products) are currently or were historically used may be warranted if it is likely that the construction work may be impacted by such uses.

10.0 CONCLUSIONS

A Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment was performed in conformance with the scope and limitations of ASTM Practice E 1527-13 for the Phase 3 levee surrounding the City of Marysville in Yuba County, California. Any exceptions to, or deletions from this practice are described in Section 2.4 of this report. This assessment has revealed no Recognized Environmental Conditions in connection with the site.

11.0 DEVIATIONS

11.1 MULTIPLE OWNERS

Since the property in question is largely public lands or waterways, the previous year’s interviews with one exception, were all government (Federal, state and local) officials.
11.2 DATA GAPS

No data gaps as defined in 40 CFR Section 312.10 were identified.

12.0 REFERENCES

(1) ASTM, E 1527-13 Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process (Phase I ESA)

(2) Feasibility Level Design Report Marysville Ring Levee Yuba River Basin, California, USACE, Sacramento District, October 05, 2009.


(5) USGS, Yuba City, CA 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Topographic Map, 2012.
13.0 ATTACHMENTS

13.1 MARYSVILLE, CA VINICITY MAP
13.2 PHASE 3 VICINITY MAP
13.3 *SITE PHOTOGRAPHS*

Photo 01:

South end of Marysville Ring Levee Phase 3
Photo 02:

Cal Trans maintenance yard
Photo 03:

PG&E substation at the southeast corner of Phase 3
An abandon house and sheds on the water side of the levee
INTRODUCTION

This appendix provides responses to public and agency comments on the Marysville Ring Levee (MRL) Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA)/Initial Study (IS) received during the public comment period. The draft SEA/IS would be circulated at least
30-days for review by Federal, State, and local agencies; organizations; and members of the public. A public involvement workshop is currently scheduled for February 2019 to provide additional opportunities for comments on the draft SEA/IS.