



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, Idaho 83706 • (208) 373-0502
www.deq.idaho.gov

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
John H. Tippetts, Director

June 16, 2016

The Honorable Walter C. Nelson, Mayor
City of Gooding
308 Fifth Avenue West
Gooding, Idaho 83330

RE: Draft finding of no significant impact for the City of Gooding Drinking
Water Improvements (DWG-126-2012-7)

Dear Mayor Nelson:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the environmental information document for the City of Gooding Drinking Water Improvements. The potential impacts on a number of environmentally sensitive resources were evaluated in the environmental review. The City of Gooding's project engineer consulted with a number of appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant issues. The project meets state and federal criteria for issuance of a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) since the environmental review process indicated no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project.

A FONSI legal notice will be published in the *Times-News*, newspaper of record for the city. DEQ has requested the *Times-News* publish the legal notice one time, on one day, on June 22, 2016. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain a copy of the full FONSI for review and will give instructions on how they can submit comments. A 30-day public comment period will follow the FONSI legal notice publication. If public comments and concerns arise related to the project or FONSI, DEQ may ask your help in preparing responses.

Following the 30-day public comment period, any significant comments or concerns will be considered and incorporated as appropriate into the final FONSI determination for the referenced project. After issuance of the final FONSI, and with approval of all technical considerations in the planning document, DEQ will close the DEQ planning grant.

Brian Reed at the DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office, (208) 737-3870, is your local DEQ contact on the referenced project. Please keep him informed of progress on the project.

The Honorable Walter C. Nelson, Mayor
City of Gooding
June 16, 2016
Page 2

Refer comments regarding the environmental review to Mike May in the State Office at (208) 373-0406 or via Michael.May@deq.idaho.gov.

Sincerely,



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

BNB:MLM:dls

Enclosures

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office (TRIM)
Charlie Parkins, DEQ State Office (TRIM)
Todd Bunn, Gooding Public Works Director (tbunn@goodingidaho.org)
Brian Reed, P.E., DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office (TRIM)
James P. Mullen, P.E., Keller Associates (jmullen@kellerassociates.com)
Oksana N. Roth, Keller Associates (oroth@Kellerassociates.com)
Carol Garrison, USDA-RUS (Carol.Garrison@id.usda.gov)
Noel LaRoque, P.E., USDA_RUS (Noel.LaRoque@id.usda.gov)

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Date: June 16, 2016
To: All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals
Subject: Environmental determination for the City of Gooding Drinking Water Improvements

In accordance with the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), “Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities” (IDAPA 58.01.22), and “Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program” (IDAPA 58.01.20), an environmental review has been performed and a draft finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is hereby issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Project:	City of Gooding Drinking Water Improvements
Location:	Gooding, Gooding County, Idaho
DEQ Grant Number:	DWG-126-2012-7
DEQ Grant Costs:	\$20,000

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF IMPACTS:

Purpose of Project: The purpose of the proposed project is to decommission the existing deteriorated irrigation system and provide for irrigation demand via the drinking water system, as well as increasing drinking water supply.

Description of the Project: The proposed project involves:

- Replacement of approximately 9,300 feet of water mains;
- Installation of 2 wells, with well houses and appurtenances, and
- Decommission existing gravity irrigation system and diversion of the existing surface water right to ground water recharge.

Direct and Indirect Impacts: An environmental information document (EID) was prepared by Keller Associates (Keller), consulting engineer for the City of Gooding. Keller and DEQ consulted with the appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant environmentally sensitive resources. Based on consultation with agency experts, Keller and DEQ evaluated the potential short-term and long-term impacts, and the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the drinking water project. The evaluation emphasized site-specific components of the environment that are most likely to be impacted by the construction and operation of the proposed improvements. The results of the project evaluation indicate there will be environmental effects from the referenced project as described below.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the distribution system, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for managing the temporary disruptions of the system as follows:

- Air Quality: Temporary dust pollution impacts will be controlled as a condition of the construction specifications in accordance with the “Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho” (IDAPA 58.01.01.651). IDAPA 58.01.01.651 states that reasonable precautions shall be taken for dust control and suppression by using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, DEQ recommends that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes best management practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control.
- Cultural Resources: If archeological artifacts (such as beads, arrow heads, pottery, fabric, grave goods, glass, metal fragments, or other human-made objects that appear to predate 1960) or human remains (such as bones, bone fragments, or teeth) are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO), Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, and Shoshone-Paiute Tribe shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the tribes, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent.
- Stormwater: Stormwater runoff shall be handled through an Environmental Protection Agency Stormwater Construction General permit and the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP and stormwater BMPs will be implemented prior to, during, and after project construction to reduce the potential for erosion from runoff.
- Wetlands: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has identified two potential jurisdictional wetlands within the project area: the Clover Creek crossing on 4th Avenue W and a wetlands crossing on Arizona Street. USACE must be consulted regarding the crossing designs, and permit obtained, as determined by USACE.
- Noise impacts from the project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.
- Implement any other appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

The following permits will be required for this project:

- Section 404 permit or Nationwide Permit 12 for encroachment of wetlands from USACE.
- Any other local, state, or federal permit required for activities taking place during project construction.

Beneficial Impacts: Overall, the completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects through improving the reliability of the drinking water system and providing additional aquifer recharge.

Finding: The review process did not indicate significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Consequently, a preliminary decision has been made that an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared for the proposed project. Instead, a FONSI is hereby issued by DEQ. This decision is made following a careful review of the May 6, 2016 *City of Gooding, Idaho*

Water Facilities Planning Study, and May 24, 2016 City of Gooding Water System Improvements Environmental Information Document.

AVAILABILITY OF COPIES:

Copies of the notice of a FONSI, the May 6, 2016 *City of Gooding, Idaho Water Facilities Planning Study*, and May 24, 2016 *City of Gooding Water System Improvements Environmental Information Document* are available for public review on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or at the following locations:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706
Grant/loan SERP contact: Mike May (208) 373-0406

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Twin Falls Regional Office
650 Addison Avenue West, Suite 110
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
Regional Office contact: Brian Reed (208) 737-3870

City of Gooding
308 Fifth Avenue West
Gooding, Idaho 83330
Contact: Public Works Director Todd Bunn (208) 934-5669

The public will be informed about the proposed project and their opportunity for comment through the *Times-News*, one time in the June 22, 2016 publication.

Public Comments: Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on DEQ's website www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or addressed to the following contact:

Mike May
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division, Grant and Loan Program
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

All comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before Friday, July 22, 2016. After an evaluation of public comment, DEQ will make a final decision. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after publication of the draft FONSI notice.



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Date: June 16, 2016
To: All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals
Subject: Environmental determination for the City of Gooding Drinking Water Improvements

In accordance with the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), “Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities” (IDAPA 58.01.22), and “Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program” (IDAPA 58.01.20), an environmental review has been performed and a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the following project:

City of Gooding Drinking Water Improvements
Gooding County
City of Gooding, Idaho

This environmental determination was made as a result of the review process indicating no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project. There may be several environmental effects from the referenced project as described below.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the distribution system, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for managing the temporary disruptions of the system as follows:

- **Air Quality:** Temporary dust pollution impacts will be controlled as a condition of the construction specifications in accordance with the “Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho” (IDAPA 58.01.01.651). IDAPA 58.01.01.651 states that reasonable precautions shall be taken for dust control and suppression by using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, DEQ recommends that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes best management practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control.
- **Cultural Resources:** If archeological artifacts (such as beads, arrow heads, pottery, fabric, grave goods, glass, metal fragments, or other human-made objects that appear to predate 1960) or human remains (such as bones, bone fragments, or teeth) are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO), Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, and Shoshone-Paiute Tribe shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the tribes, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent.
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- Noise impacts from the project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.

- Implement any other appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

The following permits will be required for this project:

- Section 404 permit or Nationwide Permit 12 for encroachment of wetlands from USACE.
- Any other local, state, or federal permit required for activities taking place during project construction.

Beneficial Impacts: Overall, the completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects through improving the reliability of the drinking water system and providing additional aquifer recharge.

Description of the Project: The proposed project involves:

- Replacement of approximately 9,300 feet of water mains;
- Installation of 2 wells, with well houses and appurtenances, and
- Decommission existing gravity irrigation system and diversion of the existing surface water right to groundwater recharge.

Copies Available: Copies of the full FONSI, the May 6, 2016 *City of Gooding, Idaho Water Facilities Planning Study*, and May 24, 2016 *City of Gooding Water System Improvements Environmental Information Document* are available for public review on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or at the following locations:

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650 Addison Avenue West, Suite 110
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City of Gooding
308 Fifth Avenue West
Gooding, Idaho 83330
Contact: Public Works Director Todd Bunn (208) 934-5669

Public Comments: Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or addressed to the following contact:

Mike May
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division, Grant and Loan Program
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

Such comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before Friday, July 22, 2016. Public comments will be considered in finalizing the planning phase of the project. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days from the date of publication.

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator